



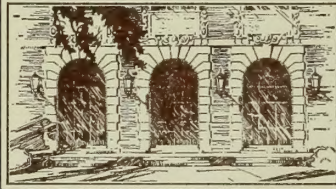


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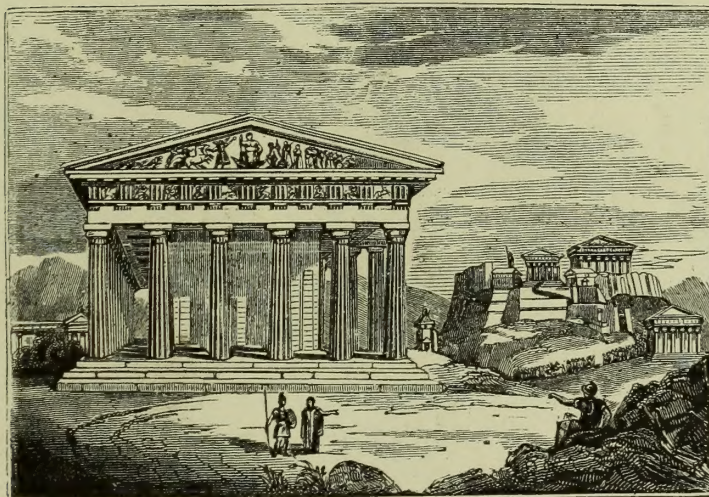
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# THE ATENÆUM

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No. 1158.

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CHAS. C. ATKINSON, Secretary to the Council.

January 3, 1850.

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Queen's College, Belfast.

Dec. 17, 1849.

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The PROFESSORSHIP of LATIN in this College is now VACANT. Candidates for the appointment are requested to send testimonials, select rather than numerous, to the Chairman of the Council, on or before Thursday, the 10th inst.

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8. **Columbus and his Companions.** By Washington Irving. New Edition. Maps. 3 vols. 8vo. 31s. 6d.

9. **The Heiress in her Minority.** By the Author of 'Bertha's Journal.' 2 vols. 12mo. 18s.

10. **Life of John Calvin.** By Thomas H. Dyer. Portrait. 8vo. 15s.

11. **Hungary and Transylvania.** By John Pagel. New Edition. Plates. 2 vols. 8vo. 24s.

12. **Aunt Ida's Walks and Talks.** A Storybook for Children. Woodcuts. 16mo. 5s.

13. **The Prayer Book, Illustrated with Borders, Initials, and Historical Engravings from the Old Masters.** A New Edition, 1,000 Illustrations. 8vo. 21s. cloth; 31s. 6d. calf; 42s. morocco.

14. **The Invisible World.** By Dr. Mantell. New Edition. Plates. 16mo. 6s.

15. **The Arabian Nights, Illustrated with 600 Woodcuts.** A New Edition. 3 vols. Post 8vo. 18s.

16. **A Visit to Egypt and the Holy Land.** By Rev. J. A. Spencer. With Illustrations. 8vo. [January.]

17. **On the Causes of the Success of the English Revolution of 1640—1688.** By M. Guizot. 8vo. [On January 15th.]

18. **A New Classical Dictionary, for Colleges and Schools.** By Dr. Wm. Smith. One Volume, 8vo. [February.]



LONDON, SATURDAY, JANUARY 5, 1850.

## REVIEWS

*Sir Francis Chantrey, R.A. Recollections of his Life, Practice, and Opinions.* By George Jones, R.A. Moxon.

WHEN the author of this volume—which contains a biographical sketch rather than an amplified history of a life—sat down to his occupation, he was influenced, he informs us in his half-page of Preface, by “respect and affection.” His notes were written, he says, “with no other view than to offer a slender record of exalted merit.” No idea of self-reference, it would seem, entered into Mr. Jones’s labours; he sought merely to put on record facts which his long friendship with the deceased sculptor had given him peculiar means of knowing, and publishing his estimate of a character which had come familiarly under his view. The pride of authorship, it may then be presumed, is no part of the gratification which Mr. Jones proposes to himself from his “labour of love”:—and it will probably give him no concern to be told that had he possessed more of the author’s craft his facts might have been better arranged and his intentions more effectively produced. Mr. Jones has been for the greater part of his life an artist and an able teacher;—and the graces of style cannot fairly be required at his hands. The book has no air of pretence—and the author preludes by apology for its faults.

Sir Francis Chantrey adds another name to the list of those who have exhibited the capacity of native power, little assisted by the help of acquired knowledge and little adorned by adventitious aids, to take a marking position among men. Strong inherent common sense,—great sagacity,—shrewd observation of men and things,—and the tact so to employ these qualities in society more cultivated than himself as not to exhibit his inferiority—were distinguishing qualities of the deceased sculptor. Brought into contact with the larger number of the most powerful and cultivated minds of his time and country, he stood his ground by the force of his native address.—The range of his professional talent was of the like condition. If his aspirations were not of the highest order,—if he was content to deal with the delineation of facts rather than of ideas,—it must be acknowledged that on his own ground he is unsurpassed. A career like Chantrey’s offers little that is striking or novel for the use of the biographer. Like that of other of the acknowledged masters of portraiture, his history is one of personal intercourse, as we have said, with the chief of the land,—and his occupation was the otherwise dull and monotonous one of chronicling individuality of feature and caprice of manners. There are no conflicts of body or mind to relate of him,—none of the vicissitudes and heart-burnings which have chequered the lot of many of his brethren,—none of the “spurns that patient merit of the unworthy takes.” A history of temper, prudence, policy, and perseverance is that with which Mr. Jones has had to deal in his memoir of Francis Chantrey.

We are not detained by Mr. Jones with the earlier and more trifling portions of the history of the sculptor:—so well known by the memorials which appeared in the *Sheffield Iris* in 1805. He brings us at once to the commencement of that career which ended in making Chantrey the great portrait-sculptor of the day. From the execution of his bust of Horne Tooke may be dated the rise of his fame and fortunes. To the advice as well as the introduction into society of this individual he was much indebted for his success; and his sentiments on the subject are recorded in the course of the following

anecdotal quotation, which we make from Mr. Jones’s pages.—

“It would be difficult to overrate Chantrey’s elevated feelings with respect to the completion of that character which in this country is denominated a gentleman; he gave due respect to rank, and willingly acknowledged its precedence, but his devotion was to those by whom human intellect is cultivated for the promotion of virtue and general benevolence, and also those engaged in the investigation of nature, and in the illustration of the wonders and beauties of creation. He cautiously, and sometimes humorously, avoided debates upon all subjects of controversy; and to show his readiness to get rid of implication in any discussion, the following anecdote is a fair example. Chantrey dining with a large party where a royal personage, fond of being thought free in more than political opinions, was talking in his jocose tone of the religious principles entertained by various men, and of the different sects into which they were divided, his eye happening to catch that of Chantrey, he said, ‘What do you think about all this, Mr. Chantrey? and of what sect shall we call you?’—‘Why, sir,’ said Chantrey, ‘When I lived in the North, my friends used to call me Derbyshire;’ which occasioned a laugh, and terminated the discussion. For the advantages he received from Horne Tooke, his feeling of gratitude continued to the end of his life. About a year previous to Horne Tooke’s death, he desired Chantrey to procure for him a large black marble slab to place over his grave, which he intended should be in his garden at Wimbledon. This commission Chantrey executed, and went with Mrs. Chantrey to dine with Tooke on the day that it was forwarded to the dwelling of the latter. On the sculptor’s arrival, his host merrily exclaimed, ‘Well, Chantrey, now that you have sent my tombstone, I shall be sure to live a year longer,’ which was actually the case. The marble was placed in the garden to await the termination of the earthly career of its owner, and Chantrey’s sensibility made him regret that Horne Tooke’s will was not completely complied with, for whether prudently or imprudently, his feeling of duty to a friend was not to be shaken by conditions or circumstances.”

The unpunctuated character of Chantrey’s art is thus set forth by Mr. Jones.—

“Chantrey’s monuments and monumental statues were always touching and replete with sentiment, whilst his statues of children went to the heart of every mother, and delighted every parent. He was accustomed to laugh at what he called the classic style, though no one came so near to it as himself; for his works are free from every extraneous ornament or decoration, and he rejected everything that called the attention from the simple dignity of the subject represented. He objected to modern warriors in the Roman cuirass, and statesmen with bare arms and legs, yet he did not fail to develop the noblest forms through his drapery. Chantrey soon had several commissions for works in bronze; and, although he always disliked and contemned that class of statuary, yet, as it became his duty to follow the wish of his patrons, he intended to employ some of the great founders in brass of the metropolis to cast his figures; but as he could not succeed in that respect as he desired, he determined to render his work as perfect as possible, and built a large foundry in Eccleston Place, which was conveniently near to his residence. The equestrian statue of Sir Thomas Munro, now at Madras, which excites the wonder of every Indian, and the esteem of those more advanced in taste for Art, the statue of George the Fourth, in Trafalgar Square, and that of the Duke of Wellington in front of the Royal Exchange, were founded in the new building. He thought that in these statues he would endeavour, if it were possible, to take a position for the horse which had not been adopted by former artists; and the simplest, and certainly the most reasonable presented itself, namely, that of standing: in this intention he was encouraged by Lord Egremont and others. Before he commenced these equestrian statues, he sought every information he could as to what had already been done—and what might be done of a novel character; he searched and examined all the casts and prints of figures on horseback and seemed more struck by the equestrian statue by Verrocchio,

which he had seen when at Venice, from the spirited character of the rider, which is unlike any other: and if he had lived to execute any more statues of this class, he would be consistent with the subject, have attempted something of the kind.”

A general summary of the character of his art is thus given.—

“The remark has been often made that Chantrey’s art was simple imitation, which is in part true, though far from entirely so, for the paths of all his figures was the result of his own reflection or imagination. He never saw Grattan speaking, yet he introduced the energy of attitude which he thought would result from the mind of that orator; in Canning and Pitt the firmness of the men, in Jackson the repose, and in all his figures he contemplated the fitting result of the mental character of the individual; to all he contrived to give grandeur, without deducting from likeness. His mind was more turned to the tender than to the violent or heroic, and his treatment of sepulchral subjects indicated this feeling; in the memorials of children and females his success was pre-eminent, and when he told the spectator of the death of the head of a family by a wreath of lilies, in which the principal flower was broken from the circle, he did as much as any poetic metaphor has ever accomplished; the fading form of the flower to signify the consumptive, and the drooping for the sorrowful, were all touches of that deep, affectionate, and sympathizing spirit with which he was so sensibly imbued. \* \* He was always desirous to give expression to his busts, even beyond accuracy of feature; and this feeling often induced him to invite his sitters to breakfast, that he might observe their habitual appearance. In many instances he changed an over-serious expression to one of cheerfulness, by observing his sitters when telling a story, or elated by conversation. Sir Robert Peel’s portrait was one in which a great change was made after the Right Honourable Baronet had told the sculptor an amusing anecdote. \* \* Chantrey cast aside every extrinsic recommendation, and depended entirely on form and effect. He took the greatest care that his shadows should tell boldly, and in masses. He was cautious in introducing them, and always reduced them as much as might be compatible with the complete development of the figure. He never introduced a fold that could be dispensed with, rarely deviated from long lines, and avoided abrupt foldings. His dislike to ornament in sculpture was extreme; in marble he thought it intolerable, and reluctantly admitted it in bronze, for it was long before he could consent to decorate the royal robe of George the Fourth, on the bronze statue at Brighton, and he would not have done so, if he had not been assured of the good effect produced by ornament in the bronze figures at Inspruck.”

As a critic, Chantrey was slow to pronounce on the works either of antiquity or of his contemporaries.—

“It was not easy to get Chantrey to speak of the collection of antique figures in the Vatican; for excepting general approbation of the ‘Laocoon’ and the ‘Apollo,’ little could be gained from him with respect to his opinion; but he looked curiously and with assiduity into many things that were unheeded by others; and he often pointed out simple beauties which no other eye seemed to observe. He might say with Cicero, ‘In minimis rebus sæpe res magnas vidi.’ Probably he found so much of the sculpture had been the work of restoration, and so much of a doubtful character, that he did not like to hazard a remark, particularly as he was always unwilling to disparage any works, if they gave pleasure to the owners or to the public. He did not think very highly of the busts; his continued practice in that branch of the art rendered it almost impossible that his judgment respecting them should not be elicited.”

When, however, Chantrey did deal in criticism, a common-sense character pervaded his opinions. He subscribed to few of the conventional canons of criticism; his own works were admired not for classical reminiscence, but for their merit as works of simple Art. He drew a nice distinction, notwithstanding, between the old high examples and the mediæval school of sculpture:—and of Michael Angelo’s works he



justly preferred the 'Madonna' and the Medici Chapel to more frequently-lauded specimens of the great Florentine sculptor's art. To estimate correctly the value of such independent views, and often capricious treatment, as Buonarroti indulged in, presupposes in the critic a large acquaintance with the practice of the mediæval sculptors who preceded him, from the end of the thirteenth and beginning of the fourteenth centuries,—from the days of the Pisani, the Donatellos, the Ghibertis, and others, to the palmy days of the tenth Leo. As a specimen of Chantrey's criticisms, the following, on one of Raphael's works, may suffice.—

"Christ delivering the Keys to Peter" is probably the most difficult subject of the seven cartoons in England, and the artist has succeeded to an extent, that objection would almost become a wanton vice. The separation of the great actor from the attendant group, the humble attitude of the distinguished apostle, the affection and admiration of the remainder, may satisfy the critical artist and the pious Christian. But merely to show that these opinions result from close attention to the work, a more graceful line than that which terminates the composition, by the figure in red, might be chosen, and the artist himself probably felt this objection, and was therefore induced to introduce the dark boat in such a situation, to conduct the composition to the end of the picture."

In recording the opinions of the sculptor as to the necessity of great caution in adopting the views entertained by the modern German school, Mr. Jones has the following remarks.—

"The English school has advanced in many of the great qualities necessary to a fine picture, and it will be dangerous to adopt a style subversive of these qualities, and abandon brilliant and harmonious colouring, with great breadth and union of parts, for a drier style, unsuited to the established practice of the country; and it would be better to attend to the admirable remark in one of Mr. Eastlake's distinguished works, namely, 'If we are to look to the German, the first quality that invites our attention is their patriotism.'"

Among these very loose and detached hints and memorials, our readers may be glad to have Chantrey's opinion as to the value of a column as a monumental testimonial.—

"He was often requested to recommend able artificers; and in such cases he made his friends' interest his own. He was always consulted by the heads of the Government on the propriety of public testimonials; among others he was desired to send his opinion as to the propriety of erecting a column, with a statue on the top, to the memory of Lord Nelson; he seriously and reasonably objected to a column, for a column ought to be part of a building, or if it be used as a monument, it should be treated as a biographical volume, with the acts of the hero sculptured on the shaft of the pillar on the capital of which he stands, similar to those of Trajan and Antoninus. Chantrey also wished to see the useful united with the commemorative, and would have preferred an architectural edifice, adapted to accommodate (with dwellings rent-free) the veteran officers of the navy, and the site adorned by a fine statue of Nelson, forming altogether a memorial worthy of the hero, and indicative of the gratitude, generosity and benevolence of the nation."

To competition he had a great dislike.—

"He objected on the principle, that in consequence of so many being disappointed, the temptation became injurious; he also doubted the competency of the judges; and still more, the all-influencing and unavoidable effect of partiality;—for who with a kindly heart can resist a disposition towards friends, or assisting the needy? This mode has often been objected to, and may be avoided, and still leave a fair field for the exertion of talent. If a national work be required, let a number of artists be requested to make sketches, and receive a named sum for each; and let that which is most approved be adopted as the design, from which the large work is to be executed. This would be no hardship to any one by whom this sort of competition might be undertaken, and would be made a source of profit, practice and

notoriety to all; instead of occasioning examples of failure, distress, despair, sickness, consumption, and even self-destruction."

The origin of the design for the equestrian statue of George the Fourth will be read with interest.—

"When George the Fourth was sitting to Chantrey, he required the sculptor to give him the idea of an equestrian statue to commemorate him, which Chantrey accomplished at a succeeding interview by placing in the Sovereign's hand a number of small equestrian figures, drawn carefully on thick paper, and resembling in number and material a pack of cards; these sketches pleased the king very much, who turned them over and over, expressing his surprise that such a variety could be produced; and after a thousand fluctuations of opinion, sometimes for a prancing steed, sometimes for a trotter, then for a neighing or starting charger, his Majesty at length resolved on a horse standing still, as the most dignified for a king. Chantrey probably led to this, as he was decidedly in favour of the four legs being on the ground; he had a quiet and reasonable manner of convincing persons of the propriety of that, which from reflection he judged to be preferable. \* \* When he had executed and erected the statue of George the Fourth, on the staircase at Windsor, the king good-naturedly patted the sculptor on the shoulder, and said, 'Chantrey, I have reason to be obliged to you, for you have immortalized me; and this was said with reason, for in defiance of all difficulties attendant on the representation of royal robes in sculpture, that statue develops an appearance dignified and graceful, without being encumbered by the decoration of royal habiliments.'"

In these pages we meet with an interesting trait respecting the monument to Mrs. Jordan.—

"The King dwelt on Mrs. Jordan's amiable qualities till he burst into tears. Chantrey, not having known her, asked what was her characteristic trait, and was answered, that she was most distinguished by her maternal affection, which the sculptor commemorated by a figure of a beautiful mother surrounded by her children."

It is here, also, that we learn for the first time of the desire to raise a monument at St. Helena in memory of Napoleon.—

"Among other projects to which Chantrey was privy, he remembered with pleasure many conversations with this monarch [William the Fourth] respecting a monument to Napoleon, which his Majesty was solicitous to raise at St. Helena, whenever he might have the means to defray the expense; and numerous were the plans suggested on both sides, for the sovereign was as fertile in projects as the artist, and if the King's career had been prolonged, some work would have been produced creditable to the country and the royal projector."

An anecdote of the late Lord Egremont reveals the cordial nature of the intimacy subsisting between the Patron and the Sculptor.—

"His intimacy with Lord Egremont was confiding and generous on both sides, without reserve, and free from restraint in every particular; he saw the sculptor at all times and in all places, at the festive table, in the library, and even in his bed-room; he consulted him on his projects in adorning his house, and he assisted in arranging that room, in which there are two pictures, by Jones, of the battles of Victoria and Waterloo, with the bust of the Duke of Wellington between them. When the Earl asked him about the best light for the pictures, he told the kind peer that the most favourable was occupied by three large whole-length portraits, fixed in the panels; upon which his lordship said, 'Well, I will put them there, and your bust of the Duke in the centre.' Chantrey then observed that the three portraits must in that case be removed. 'No,' said the Earl, 'I have no place for them.'—'What, then, is to be done?' was the natural question; to which the Earl answered, 'I will cut off their legs, I do not want their petticoats; their heads shall be placed in three small panels above, and the battles with the marble bust of the Duke shall be placed below them; and this was done.'"

An excellent instance of Chantrey's independence of character and liberality occurs in reference to Northcote's monument.—

"Northcote left a sum in his will for a monument

to himself, to be executed by Chantrey. On the sculptor being asked what the monument was to be, he replied, 'It is left entirely to me; I may make merely a tablet if I choose; the money is too much for a bust, and not enough for a statue; but I love to be treated with confidence, and I shall make a statue and do my best.' And probably Chantrey never executed anything more characteristic, or more like, than the face and figure of Northcote; for every one to whom that painter was known started at the resemblance, and the work only wanted colour to make the spectator believe that he saw the veteran artist in his studio."

Chantrey's days of relaxation were for the most part passed in the country among friends with whom he was celebrated.—An anecdote or two taken at random may interest the general reader.—

"Mr. Leslie relates the following anecdote:—'Chantrey told me, that on one of his visits to Oxford, Professor Buckland, now Dean of Westminster, said to him, 'If you will come to me, you shall hear yourself well abused.' He had borrowed a picture of Bishop Heber from the Hall of New College, to make a statue from, and having kept it longer than he had promised, the woman, who showed the Hall, was very bitter against him. 'There is no dependence,' she said, 'to be placed on that Chantrey. He is as bad as Sir Thomas Lawrence, who has served me just the same; there is not a pin to choose between them.' She pointed to the empty frame, and said, 'It is many a shilling out of my pocket the picture not being there; they make a great fuss about that statue of—(mentioning one by Chantrey, that had lately been sent to one of the colleges); but we have one by Bacon, which, in my opinion, is twice as good. When Chantrey's statue came, I had ours washed. I used a dozen pails of water, and I am sure I made it look a great deal better than his.' He took out a five-shilling piece, and putting it into her hand, but without letting go, said, 'Look at me, and tell me whether I look like a very bad man.'—'Lord, no, sir.'—'Well, then, I am that Chantrey you are so angry with.' She seemed somewhat disconcerted; but quickly recovering herself, replied, 'And if you are, sir, I have said nothing but what is true,' and he resigned the money into her hand.'"

"On one occasion, at a dinner party, he was placed nearly opposite his wife at table, at the time when very large and full sleeves were worn, of which Lady C. had a very fashionable complement, and the sculptor perceived that a gentleman sitting next to her was constrained to confine his arms, and shrink into the smallest dimensions lest he should derange the superfluous attire. Chantrey observing this, addressed him thus; 'Pray, sir, do not inconvenience yourself from the fear of spoiling those sleeves, for that lady is my wife; those sleeves are mine, and as I have paid for them, you are at perfect liberty to risk any injury your personal comfort may cause to those prodigies of fashion.' Also, noticing a lady with sleeves 'curiously cut,' he affected to think the slashed openings were from economical motives, and said, 'What a pity the dressmaker should have spoiled your sleeves! it was hardly worth while to save such a little bit of stuff.'"

"A lady, one of his guests at dinner, wore a cameo brooch of the head of Michael Angelo; he said to her, 'Always wear that brooch at my house, for it prevents me from growing conceited,' and he always had a flow of lively and good-natured trifles that made him agreeable to everybody."

To understand fully the nature of the munificent intentions which Chantrey had with reference to leaving "his wealth for the benefit of his art" and his understanding with Mr. Vernon, it is necessary to consult the pages of Mr. Jones's book.—Having already partially explained these matters to our readers [*ante*, p. 626,] we will here only regret that the original intentions of Mr. Vernon should have been departed from.

They who are not acquainted with the essence of the constitution of the Royal Academy will find an epitome of the history of that establishment, and much information on the subject in



these pages.—In Mr. Jones's views and apprehensions respecting the probable sacrifice of much that has now become *national* in English Art, and again for the revived art of fresco painting, we should agree if we could believe our artists so unintelligent as to recur in their practice to the dead letter of a particular time—the accidents of an age—rather than to its spirit. We do not share in his fears:—but his remarks may be taken as a salutary warning.

A few of Chantrey's letters are printed towards the end of the volume:—but they are for the most part of a merely social character.—His letter to Sir Robert Peel on the subject of the bust of Sir Walter Scott is interesting.—

Belgrave Place, 26th January, 1838.

"Dear Sir Robert,—I have much pleasure in complying with your request, to note down such facts as remain on my memory concerning the bust of Sir Walter Scott, which you have done me the honour to place in your collection at Drayton Manor. My admiration of Scott as a poet and a man induced me, in the year 1820, to ask him to sit to me for his bust. The only time I ever recollect having asked a similar favour from any one. He agreed; and I stipulated that he should breakfast with me always before his sitting, and never come alone, nor bring more than three friends at once, and that they should be all good talkers. That he fulfilled the latter condition you may guess, when I tell you that on one occasion he came with Mr. Croker, Mr. Heber, and the late Lord Lyttleton. The marble bust produced from these sittings was moulded, and about forty-five casts were disposed of by me among the poet's most ardent admirers—this was all I had to do with casts. The bust was pirated by Italians, and England and Scotland, and even the colonies, were supplied with unpermitted and bad casts to the extent of thousands, in spite of the terror of an act of Parliament! I made a copy in marble from this bust for the Duke of Wellington; it was sent to Apsley House in March, 1827, and it is the *only* duplicate of my bust of Sir Walter Scott that I ever executed in marble. I now come to your bust of Scott. In the year 1828, I proposed to the poet to present the original marble as an heir-loom to Abbotsford, on condition that he would allow me sittings sufficient to finish another marble from the life for my own studio; to this proposal he acceded, and the bust was sent to Abbotsford accordingly, with the following words inscribed on the back: "This Bust of Sir Walter Scott was made in 1822 by Francis Chantrey, and presented by the sculptor to the poet as a token of esteem, in 1828." In the months of May and June in the same year, 1828, Sir Walter fulfilled his promise, and I finished from his face the marble bust now at Drayton Manor—a better sanctuary than my studio, else I had not parted with it. The expression is more serious than in the two former busts, and the marks of age more than eight years deeper. I have now, I think, stated all that is worthy of remembering about this bust, save that there is no fear of piracy, for it has never been moulded. Under all these circumstances, I assure you, my dear sir, that it would have been very gratifying to me to be allowed to deposit this bust in your gallery on other terms than those of an ordinary commission, a gratification, however, which your liberality has denied to me.—I have the honour to be, dear sir, &c. F. CHANTREY."

With this contribution to the anecdotal history of Art we must bring our notice to a close.

*Adventures of a Medical Student.* By Robert Douglas, Surgeon, R.N.; with a Memoir of the Life of the Author. Tegg & Co.

WHEN and where these adventures were written we are not informed,—but we have the impression of having seen some of them before. Whoever shall take up the volume expecting to find the narration of a series of consecutive events, real or fictitious, will be disappointed. Its pages comprise a variety of tales written evidently at different periods in the lifetime of the author, and exhibiting very different degrees of merit. Nor is their medical

character so exclusive as to give them a claim to be regarded as merely medical adventures. They are a collection of papers, the production of an author who died at the early age of twenty-four; and though he was an assistant-surgeon in the Navy at the time of his death, the principal portion of these narrations seems to have been composed whilst he was a medical student. The fate of the author is one pregnant with interest at the present time:—for we cannot forego the impression that the cock-pit of a man-of-war was of all places one of the most unfitted for the welfare of an individual with a cultivated and susceptible mind. How long the Admiralty intend to continue the injustice of sending their assistant-surgeons, who have important duties to perform and studies to pursue, into the cock-pit amongst the noisy midshipmen, we know not: but sure we are that they cannot long expect to find men of intelligence and accomplishments submitting, in addition to the necessary hardships of a life at sea, to the indignities and disquiet to which they are now exposed.

As artistic productions, these tales have great defects. They want taste and refinement,—but frequently exhibit force and power. The author is fond of the marvellous and terrible—and sometimes deals with his materials with novel effect. We give an extract or two: the first from a day's excursion of two medical students—during which they meet with a whistling pedlar.—

"'Hillo!' cried Bob; 'where did you pick up that melody, may I ask? Just whistle it over again—I'd give anything to learn it.' The pedlar repeated the air till he could whistle it with considerable accuracy. 'Weel,' quoth the latter, 'that's gay and gude, but I se be bail ye'll forget it again before you come to the cross o' Drittenbrook.'—'I'll bet you a bottle of ale I don't.'—'I'll bet you a bottle of the very best Edinburgh ale, that ye'll no stan' at the cross and whistle the same tune.'—'Dane!' cried Bob. 'I agree wi' you there; ye're dane if you do.' This was spoken *aside* by the vagabond, not so much so, however, but that I heard him, and doubted much and feared as I heard. \* \* The prime assemblage was at the stone cross. Here the young men were met to put the stone, pitch the bar, sling the hammer, and perform other rustic feats, whilst the big-wigs of the place stood by spectators, arguing now on points of the game, and now on points of politics as intricate and important, a thin, wavy vapour of tobacco smoke hovering above the groups. The public-house, too, was hard by, and from the open windows of the tap-room leant, idly lounging and occasionally putting in a word or a joke from a distance, several sturdy tradesmen, taking their evening relaxation after their labours. All the while we had been marching along, I had heard Bob whistling away at the marvellous *aria*, evidently anxious to prevent its escaping his memory, and to secure the pedlar's bottle of ale, which, from the warm and dusty travelling, was become now rather a desirable object of speculation. Hurriedly did he wend his way among the honest folk till he reached the stone cross, placing his back against which he began to pipe his whistle, loud, clear, and richly toned as throstle's melody, while the upper part of his visage, with his too funfraught eyes, beaming a smile of triumph and delight—to appearance taking no thought but of the pedlar's discomfiture. But the latter had popped himself quietly into the public-house, and now from the open window stood regarding his proceedings with a gloating grin of satisfaction that was anything but to be looked for on the face of a man who saw himself 'let in' for a bottle of the best ale. Right slapdash into the tune did Bob launch, entering with his whole art into its spirit, nodding with his head to the time, and drumming with his cudgel upon the end of his box. The effect was instantaneous, and most miraculous. It acted like a talisman. The whole doings around came at once to a stop, and every eye was bent upon him with an expression of astonishment and indignation, while every ear was erected at his extraordinary warbling. For half a minute this lasted, and then the charm was broken. The

Vulcan of the place, a fellow like a bronze colossus, had just been in the act of slinging his ponderous sledge-hammer, when the sound arrested him. He stood motionless like the rest at first, till satisfied he heard aright. Swinging the tremendous weapon thrice round his shoulder, he hurled it, with a terrible imprecation after it, by way of feather to guide its course, right at the audacious whistler's head. The latter saw the fearful missile coming, and had but time to duck his crown when over him it flew, and, hurtling through the air, went crash like a thunderbolt through the roof of a neighbouring pigsty, the hideous screeching that immediately arose from the inmate of which told that, if Bob's timely stoop had saved his bacon, it was at the expense of other people's. Thereupon arose from every lip loud cries of—'Down with him!'—'Kill him!'—'Murder him;'—'Fell him!'—with oaths, curses, and denunciations of divers strength and quality, all mingled into one confused roar of a most valour quelling description. Then I could see folks rushing from every door, eagerly inquiring the cause of the affray, and immediately swelling the hostile multitude that was advancing, a wrathful and most formidable phalanx, upon the daring but now devoted Bob."

The adventurous whistler got well paid out:—but some time after had his revenge. One of the professors, with the two medical students to assist, delivered a lecture in the village on galvanism. The latter two resolved to be revenged on Bob's former assailant: whom they accordingly persuaded to form a circle and take a galvanic shock.—

"Mr. Whyte, when he had them all nicely arranged about the instrument, at the handle of which I was officiating, and when they had for some moments, with faces expressive of satisfaction, remarked upon the strange and peculiar sensation they were experiencing, on a sudden made with his off eyelid a signal which I was immediately on the alert to obey. At once I slipped the crooked wire into the two cups, and whirled the wheel with my whole strength and activity. Thereupon, the unfortunate victims began to cut the most surprising and original capers, flinging their limbs out at an amazing rate, and twisting their frames about into all sorts of contortions. The group of Laocoon gives but a faint idea of their attitudes or their distress. They struggled and plunged about as if seven devils possessed them; threw out their arms and legs; puffed and panted, and made convulsive attempts to cry out for help or mercy, which came to the ear only as inarticulate gasping roars. The water gushed into their starting eyes, the sweat poured over their faces, but, with an enduring remembrance of our own bruises, I turned the crank with only increased vigour and good will. But all this time my companion was anything but idle. He got hold of a cloth, which he made dripping wet with the acid I have alluded to; then, going round behind them whilst they were unconscious of anything save the racking of their joints, thoroughly damped all their black coats with the colour changing liquid. Then, flying to me with an appearance of the utmost anxiety and concern, he stopped my operations just as the burley grocer fainted away from exhaustion. He was profuse in his apologies for the untoward circumstance, laying the whole blame upon the little bit of wire, which he assured them had completely deranged the machine. He could not sufficiently express his regret at the accident, and severely chide me for my carelessness, while I stood by with aspect contrite as became one corrected. As for the poor creatures, they dropped into the nearest seats, and began to wipe the perspiration from their faces and hands. But he, with the most attentive politeness, immediately directed them to a basin hard by, which might be supplied from a jug beside it, containing a clear liquid, quite like water. This was a strong solution of nitrate of silver (the substance which constitutes marking ink), and the result was, that four of them washed their faces, and all of them their hands in the jet producing compound. As soon as they had recovered themselves from the stunning effects of their experiment, they got up, took their hats, and, wishing us a humble 'Good Night,' went hastily away, with gait marvelously dejected, remarking that we and our machines were anything but 'canny' for honest folks to have



to deal with, taking in with heedless ears our repeatedly urged apologies and expressions of regret."

Our readers will perceive that these narratives are not recommended by any charm of originality or grace of style:—but the volume may add something to the fireside amusement of the coming winter evenings.

*The London Prisons; with an Account of the more Distinguished Persons who have been confined in them, &c.* By Hepworth Dixon. Jackson & Walford.

Mr. Dixon has collected into this volume a series of papers which have appeared at intervals in the *Daily News* in the course of the last twelve months, on the chief prisons of the metropolis. He has, however, done something more than merely reprint the original essays. He has in great measure re-written the whole of each paper—and he has extended the scope of his inquiry so as to include political as well as common prisons. Even in the fugitive form in which the substance of the information contained in this volume was first laid before the public it obtained a large share of attention. Its matter, the Preface informs us, has been translated into French and German—and collected into a separate publication in America. We have no difficulty in now adding our testimony to the judgments thus expressed in favour of the more incomplete work. The volume before us is written with care—and with no small degree of that rare kind of ability which imparts to the discussion of painful subjects an interest lively without being unduly excited. Mr. Dixon has the merit of describing the scenes that have come before him in a style spirited and precise: and though we should be sorry to adopt all his views or to acquiesce in all his reflections, we can accompany him with gratification and profit in his tour throughout the prisons of this country.

To the functions of a visitor Mr. Dixon has added, in some measure, the duties of a historian. He confesses, however, that the scope of his design did not permit any extensive or systematic prosecution of this second portion of his plan. The historical facts and anecdotes which he has collected are introduced with considerable skill; but they do not increase materially the existing knowledge or the existing number of authorities relating to this curious branch of historical investigation. The chapter which treats of the employment of the Tower as a political prison has engaged the largest share of his attention and industry as a historical student; but we find in the narrative only a few facts which will be new to the readers of English history. Mr. Dixon justly observes, that the materials for a history of the great national prisons—such as the King's Bench, the Fleet, the Marshalsea, and Newgate—are "widely scattered in plays, poems, letters, biographies and sermons." This is a sufficient reason why in the compass of a single volume we cannot reasonably expect to find the systematic results of so extensive and laborious an investigation. What the author has done he has done well; and if the success of his present effort should induce him to prolong his investigations in the same direction, we believe that he would have little reason to regret the time and labour bestowed on a future comprehensive history of the great civil and political prisons of London and the provinces.

Mr. Dixon seems to be an enemy to transportation as a punishment. We are not certain whether his aversion extends to the principle, or only to the practice as at present carried out. If he merely objects to the clumsy and mischievous expedient of confining the destination of transports to one limited locality

—as in Van Diemen's Land—few people, we fancy, will now be found to differ from him. But we are by no means so certain that reasons equally valid can be urged against the employment of criminals in due proportions, and under careful management, in the performance of those kinds of labour required in the extension of a colony. There is good reason to believe that the main error of our transport system has not been the deportation of criminals, but the deportation of criminals to a single colony of small extent. If the enormous congregation of felons in Van Diemen's Land or in New South Wales had been divided among ten or twelve new settlements at various points on the continent of Australia, the results would have been very different from those which have actually arisen. There would have been no undue excess of criminal population at any of the selected spots; the forced labour of the convicts would have smoothed the path and hastened the arrival of free settlers; and if common care had been exercised the penal gangs might always have been kept sufficiently in advance of the regular colonists to perform many of the rougher kinds of labour required by the new portions of wilderness taken into cultivation. We do not believe that the expense of these dispersed stations would have greatly exceeded the cost of the great central depots erected under the present system; and the lapse of a few years, instead of placing before us an entire community disgraced and over-run by the most odious forms of vice, would have opened to us new fields of colonization where the value of the partially reclaimed land would have gone far to repay the expenses of the convict establishment by which the functions of pioneer had been performed.

There is another, and a very powerful, reason in favour of adopting such a mode of secondary punishment as is here pointed out,—quite irrespective of the aids which it may be made to furnish to a profitable extension of the colonies. We are not sure that one of the principal inferences to be derived from a perusal of Mr. Dixon's volume may not be expressed in the form of such a proposition as this:—That, amongst the greatest difficulties of prison discipline is the introduction of profitable labour of such a kind that, while it shall fully occupy the convicts, it shall not interfere with the ordinary trades of the country. It seems to be quite certain that labour of some kind must be exacted. The old device of the treadmill has been given up by nearly all prison reformers as inefficient and mischievous. Breaking stones, picking oakum, and similar employments, are little better than purely unprofitable kinds of labour,—demoralizing to the prisoners and expensive to the State. But it is by no means easy to provide a substitute for these defective plans. It is manifestly unjust and inexpedient that the labour of prisoners should be brought into competition with the labour of the virtuous poor. We have seen enough of the evil consequences of such a competition already, in the unnatural depression which has taken place in the wages of most of those classes of labourers—needle-women and slop-makers, for example,—who are exposed to the influence of prison, work-house, and charity-school supplies. To anticipate in the prison the labours of the uncriminal poor is to open up a new path into the prison itself. In his chapter on the "West Riding Old Gaol," Mr. Dixon alludes to what must be regarded as perhaps the best plan hitherto suggested for overcoming the difficulty in question. In France, the produce of the labour of prisoners is withheld from the general market,—and is taken by the State for the supply of its own wants in the various services of the army, navy,

and police. Such an arrangement would be an immense improvement on the present system. But even against this French plan there are several grave objections. It is to be doubted whether the kind of articles needed by the State, and for the production of which the economy of the prisons presents the requisite facilities, can be required in such quantities as will afford the needful amount of employment; and it is to be also doubted whether the quality and cost of the articles will correspond with the requirements of a sound economy. There remains a further and still more serious objection. So far as the labour of criminals is substituted for the labour of honest persons in the production of such articles as are required by the departments of Government, to that extent free labour is superseded by convict labour,—and to provide labour for the convict, the wages of the honest artisan are restricted in the degree that the field for his employment is restricted. All these reasons furnish strong grounds why the labour of convicts should be employed, in all practicable instances, in precisely that sphere where it can do the most good and the least harm; and we believe that the further the question is investigated the more obvious it will become that, for a country to send out its criminals to the frontiers of its civilization, and employ them in clearing away the first asperities of the wilderness, is at once the most equitable justice to them and the most salutary course for the society whose laws they have violated.

The distinguishing features of the several schools of prison economy at present in operation in this country are explained by Mr. Dixon with much success in his description of the several prisons where they respectively prevail. The old indiscriminate, clumsy and vicious plan of dealing with prisoners against which most reasonable men since the days of Howard have steadily set their faces, is in force—very naturally—under the sanction of the authorities who uphold Smithfield Market and raise obstacles in the path of sanitary reform. This exploded practice is called the "City System;" and is in operation in the prisons of the London Corporation,—Newgate and Giltspur Street Compter. The "Separate System" is carried out at Pentonville, Reading, and Wakefield. The "Silent System" works at Coldbath-fields, Tothill-fields, and the New Bailey, in Manchester. The "Mixed System" prevails at Millbank, and at Preston. Mr. Dixon is a convert to none of these plans. His theoretical preference is given to what is called the "Mark System"—chiefly originated by Capt. Maconochie: but of the Mark System as a practical experiment we have hitherto no example in England. Mr. Dixon has stated the nature of the Mark System very clearly in the following passage.—

"The Mark System may be conveniently divided into two parts: the science of public punishment, and the art of public punishment. These parts are so far independent of each other, that one of them may be admitted by men who are unable to accept both. So far as the philosophy is concerned, the merits of the scheme belong more to the old jurists than to Capt. Maconochie; the praise of having reduced general and long-overlooked notions to a practicable and consistent system is entirely his own. Beccaria taught the doctrine, that the offender who breaks the law does a certain amount of injury to society—the value of which may be estimated and expressed in figures. There is no doubt of this. All administrative justice is based upon it. One man steals a watch, another man filches an apple; the first is transported for seven years, the second is sent to the House of Correction for seven days. No one can sit and see the trials of a single session without being made aware that crime is even now appraised in a rude way, and punished according to its value. So far the doctrine of Beccaria is acted upon. But



the Italian jurist would have the valuation regular and uniform. There is no measure of the enormity of a crime, he says, but the injury done to society. The attempt to value the injury sustained would be sometimes rude, no doubt—but by means of a jury such an approach might be made as would generally satisfy the sense of public justice. It is an obvious part of such a scheme that the value of crime should not be expressed in time but in labour. To sequester a man's time is to sequester that which is partly not his own. Labour is a man's personal property. Time is a thing quite outside of him. He has a beneficial interest in it; but it is not his. To lose it, to have it taken away—is, no doubt, a great privation. It is so much advantage lost; but the loss is only negative. Sequester a man's labour, and you sequester himself. This is the first great feature of the Mark system: it substitutes labour sentences for time sentences. Instead of condemning a man to fourteen years' imprisonment, Capt. Maconochie would have him sentenced to perform a certain quantity of labour. (For convenience the labour is represented by marks instead of money, and hence the name of the system.) The whole of this labour he would be bound to perform before he could regain his freedom—whether he chose to occupy one year or twenty years about it."

We have on former occasions shown that this ingenious and apparently philosophical scheme of Capt. Maconochie's is, in our opinion, assailable by several objections of more or less weight. Its leading principle seems sound, however, and of great value. It has yet to be tried in practice on an extensive scale; and there can be little doubt that ere long it will be subjected to that ordeal. The systems already in force are at best but mitigated failures; and the necessity of doing something to amend that which every observer perceives to be erroneous will sooner or later procure the introduction of the Mark system into our prisons.

Mr. Dixon writes under the influence of feelings which render him eloquent when he comes now and then to speak of the political prisoners who have been confined at different periods of our history in the Tower. We acquiesce too completely in the general tenour of his reflections to be desirous of taking exception to many parts of the second chapter. There is, however, one general observation to be made with reference to the cruel and abominable incarcerations which disgrace the history of our State prison. Mr. Dixon must remember that, atrocious as many of these arrests unquestionably were, their violence and injustice arose much less from the personal malignity of the reigning prince or minister—always with the exception of Henry the Eighth and the first, second and fourth of the Stuart kings—than from the inherent ruthlessness of all political persecution, and especially of political persecution by a weak government or a transitory faction. It is the custom to speak of our own annals as furnishing more instances than those of almost any other country of personal proscription and punishment for political offences. We very much question the soundness of this opinion. The occasions have been sadly too frequent among us when the leaders of hostile parties have been cut off by a speedy or a tardy exercise of vengeance; but the effect produced on our minds by the recital of these events is rendered disproportionate by the absence of an equally minute acquaintance with the political persecutions of other countries,—and by the greater degree of vividness with which we recall the sufferings of men who have belonged to the same country and spoken the same language as ourselves. The political persecutions which have taken place in Italy, in the Peninsula, and in France certainly exceed in atrocity those committed by all the governments of England since the Conquest put together. Besides, in

many of those countries, the predominant party had not the same excuse of fear which was so often the principal motive with the English Privy Councils. For example,—the dreadful slaughter perpetrated by Sir George Bowes in the counties of York and Durham, when the rebellion in 1569, called the "Rising of the North," had been put down, was manifestly suggested by extreme fear. The government of Elizabeth seemed to be in the most imminent jeopardy; and in the rough logic of that time her Privy Council conceived that the surest means of rendering themselves secure was to hang at least one man out of every village within the circle of the disaffected country. Stowe says that he learnt from Sir George Bowes himself that some of the rebels were executed in every market town and every public place, from Newcastle to Wetherby, a distance of at least sixty miles by forty broad, "which must needs destroy great numbers of these wretches."—a concise inference very detestable, but not to be denied. It is one of the greatest blessings of our present civilization that we are beginning to see the perfect futility of all harsh political persecutions. So true is it that no government can neglect the great virtue of tolerance to its enemies without incurring dangerous consequences, that the disastrous issue of all violent administrations is one of the best attested truths in the history of every people. Among ourselves this instructive moral has never been so strikingly illustrated as in the case of the Stuarts; and it is quite certain that if it were possible at this time of day—a hundred and seventy years after the expulsion of the last prince of that dynasty—to revive a Stuart party in this country, its greatest difficulties would arise out of the memory of the persecutions of James the First and of his son and grandson. This very book of Mr. Dixon's may furnish an example in point. He is recounting the names and exploits of the noble, the great, and the wicked men and women who lie buried in the low melancholy church of St. Peter-ad-Vincula, which stands at the margin of the fatal green in the Tower; and after pausing over the graves of many victims and martyrs, he comes to the resting-place of John Eliot. We do not quite agree with the reflection on the character and fate of Monmouth with which the passage opens; but the reasons of our dissent cannot now be stated.—

"Here, too, [says Mr. Dixon] under the communion-table rest the ashes of James, Duke of Monmouth. His was the crime of mere vulgar ambition; he played for a high stake—his head against a crown, and he lost. He has our pity, but neither our sympathy nor our respect. Not so another tenant of this melancholy sepulchre—John Eliot, the wit, the orator, the patriot, the friend of Hampden, and the foe of Charles. Sir John Eliot was one of the first and firmest assertors of public liberty against the tyrannous proceedings of Charles Stuart and his minions: even in a camp which held such men as Pym and Granville, Hampden and Digges, Selden and Holles—all men of great learning and eloquence,—Eliot still held the foremost place. \* \* Eliot, with Selden, Hollis, and many others, was thrown into the Tower, and ordered to be kept in close confinement, relieved only by his examinations before the Council; but neither solitude nor privation could bend the pride of his lofty soul. When questioned as to his doings in Parliament, he boldly replied, 'Whatever was said or done by me in that place, and at that time, was performed by me as a public man, and as a member of that house; and I am, and always shall be, ready to give an account of my sayings and doings there, whenever I shall be called unto by that house, where, as I take it, it is only to be questioned.' Hollis answered with equal intrepidity, as did the others. Such men were worthy to be the champions of English rights. \* \* After a trial, which was a mockery, the patriots were sen-

tenced to be confined until they acknowledged themselves in the wrong, and gave security for their good behaviour. Some of them, after various periods of imprisonment, gave way, paid their fines, found sureties to answer for them, and made submission. Hollis paid 1,000 marks, Valentine 500*l.*: Selden and Eliot refused to admit the justice of their sentences, and remained in prison. When the latter was told that he had been sentenced to pay a fine of 2,000*l.*, he remarked, 'I have two cloaks, two suits, two pair of boots and galochees, and a few books—that is all my present substance, and if they can pick out of that 2,000*l.*, much good may it do them.' When it became evident the captive would never make submission, the court, thinking that it had got him secured for life, relaxed its cruelties so far as to allow him books and writing materials, which he employed in composing his vigorous treatise called 'The Monarchy of Man'; and in writing to Hampden and other friends, as also to his children. All this prison-born literature is profoundly interesting. The correspondence with his sons is described as truly noble and pathetic. He exhorted them to stand firmly by the principles for which he was gradually falling a sacrifice—a trust lay upon them as upon himself. He says no enemy had ever been able to 'wound his mind'; and so long as his children remained true to their political faith, he could hold the last grief at a distance. For himself, his health was suffering severely from the wretchedness of his cell, the monotony of the scene, the want of air and generous diet: he was growing faint and feeble; but still he says he should not bate a jot of heart or hope. That the nation was not indifferent to its champion's fate is certain. His native county petitioned in his favour; and the whole country beheld his fortitude in so trying a time with enthusiastic admiration. Now, when he was dying beyond all hope, the king put forth his royal arts to induce him to submit and accept a pardon. With this view, it seems to have been hinted to him, that he had only to ask his life at his master's hands to receive it. He accordingly wrote a manly application to the Lord Chief Justice. That functionary replied, 'Though brought low in body, Sir John is as high and lofty in mind as ever!' and that he must write to the king. Eliot thereupon wrote an equally manly letter to His Majesty; to which he returned for answer, 'It is not humble enough!' It was then changed as to its phrase; but nothing was said in it which could be construed into a triumph by the court. No answer was vouchsafed. His fate was then sealed. Charles had promised himself the pleasure of humbling his republican virtue; and when he found all the arts employed to that end completely baffled, his resentment knew no bounds. Sir John lingered a few months more, and then died, as he had lived, with the expression of an unconquerable love of freedom on his lips. I am sorry to relate what followed. When the patriot was no more, it might have been expected that the hatred of his murderer would have been appeased; but it was not so: the Stuarts never knew what it was to forgive. When his children begged to be allowed to inter the ashes of their father in the same vault with his ancestors, the ruthless king replied, 'Let him be buried where he died:' and so he was. But the unsated tyrant missed his object. He thought to heap indignities on the name of his great subject; instead of this he added a new and paramount interest to the place of his burial. Few men can stand by that simple grave without feeling their pulses quicken and a generous glow about the heart; even in death, the tyrant-hater is a conqueror. The sight of his tomb still nerves the mind and inflames the patriot zeal of every man worthy of the liberties he gave his life to vindicate."

Now, the moral which is visibly expressed in this striking narrative is of the highest moment. We see that an act of wanton persecution, in spite of the lapse of more than 200 years, can still call forth an expression of the strongest sentiments even from men who, like Mr. Dixon, are not accessible to common or vulgar excitements.

Close upon the grave of Eliot is the resting-place of the last offenders on whom the ancient punishment of treason was inflicted in this country.—

"A stone marked with three circles and a line



drawn through them—significant emblem—indicates the grave in which repose the bodies of the last traitors who died for their crimes in the neighbourhood of the Tower and were buried in this church—the Earl of Kilmarnock, Lord Balmerino, and Simon Lord Lovat,—leaders of the Scotch rebellion of 1745."

Mr. Dixon has very happily brought to notice some of the more obscure inscriptions of the prison-rooms of the Tower: as will be seen from the following passage.—

"It is a curious subject to seek into the motives which impel men to write their names on the stones of their prison-houses. Men of all ranks and characters do it:—the noble in the Beauchamp Tower, the felon in the house of correction, the murderer in Newgate. Perhaps it is the mere instinct of activity, denied every other mode of expending itself. When political offenders were most numerous, the greatest hardships and indignities were heaped upon them in the Tower. Except as a special grace, no books, paper, or pens were allowed to the prisoners; no visitor, no friend, wife, or child, no physician, no minister of religion, could obtain admission without an order in council; and this was granted very sparingly. The original orders still lie in the Record-office, and they make but a small handful of papers for two centuries, during which time many hundreds of wretched beings inhabited the dungeons of the Tower. Then there was what was termed close confinement. Under orders of this nature prisoners were not suffered to leave their narrow dungeons for air, rest, exercise, or the wants of nature. As a sample of this may be quoted the act of commitment of the Marquis of Argyle, Marquis of Antrim, Sir Henry Vane, and Sir Arthur Haselrig. They are ordered to be kept in close confinement, no person to have access to any of them, except one servant, to be shut up in the same room with each of them respectively, and to be strictly debarr'd from receiving letters, or using pen, ink or paper. The story of the sufferings borne by the great Duke of Norfolk serves still better as an illustration of the condition of prisoners confined in the Tower in the days of the Tudors. Norfolk was the first nobleman in England; he was uncle to Catherine Howard, and therefore nearly related to the king; he had served his country by his wisdom in the council chamber and at foreign courts—by his valour at sea—and on the field of Flodden. He had even been appointed by Henry as one of his executors during the minority of Prince Edward. His son, Lord Surry the poet, was one of the most graceful and accomplished men of the age, and one of the writers of whose fame England is still proud. Father and son were both arrested in one day, and unknown to each other, sent to separate dungeons in the Tower. The crime laid to their charge was, that they had quartered on their shields the arms of Edward the Confessor. This they justified, by showing that their ancestors had done the same without challenge, and by producing a decision from the Herald's College. Not being a peer of the realm, Surry was tried at Guildhall; where, in spite of the clearest evidence, the court obtained, by its foul practices, a verdict of guilty,—and the brilliant young noble was conducted at once to the block. A dark day in the annals of England was the day of his execution. The same fate was intended for the father; but being a peer of the realm, it was necessary to get a judgment against him from his peers. This was not difficult with a king like Henry the Eighth, and ministers like the Seymours; but it was a work of time. Parliament was called together, and a bill of attainder hurried through the houses with indecent haste. On the 27th of the month—eight days after the death of Surry—it received the royal assent, and orders were despatched to the Tower to have the Duke executed next morning. But during the interval the tyrant died; and in the confusion caused by that event Norfolk was forgotten. During the whole reign of Edward the Sixth he languished in prison. A letter written by him during this reign is still extant, in which he humbly craves permission to have some books, which were laid up at Lambeth, sent to him; for he says most pathetically he cannot keep himself awake—he is always dozing, and yet never able to sleep, nor has he ever done so for a dozen years! He also

beseeches his masters to allow him to walk in the daytime, in the outer chamber, for the sake of his health, which has suffered very severely by his close confinement. With a touching simplicity he observes that they can still lock him up, as at present, in his small dungeon at night. He also begs that he may be allowed sheets to lie on!—Such was the economy of an English State prison: such the usage to which the first baron of the realm was subjected, at a period when the laws did not even pretend to be impartial towards the great and the obscure!—Look round the walls of this Beauchamp Tower. Most of these inscriptions were made by men of whom no other trace is left. Like the beings of an older order of creation, they have completely passed away; a few marks in the granite alone remaining to tell the brief story of their lives. Yet, read by the light of such memorials as Fisher and Howard have left behind, how full of saddest eloquence they seem.—How strangely laden with a sense of desolation, of heart-weariness, of abandoned hope, are those rudely-cut old Italian words in the shield on the right-hand of the first recess in the wall:—'Dispoi: che: vole: la: fortuna: che: la: mea: speranza: va: al: vento: pianga: ho: volio: il: tempo: perduto: e: semper: stel: mea: tristo: e: disconteto:' which may be thus rendered into English;—'Since Fortune has scattered all my hopes to the winds, I wish that Time itself were no more; my star being ever sad and unpropitious.' The signature appended to these words is, 'Willm. Tyrrel, 1541.' But history has left us no clue to the person or crime of any so named. Fancy will picture him in various guises. From the genuine agony of his utterance, one could readily believe he was lying at the time under sentence of death. Another unknown, of the name of William Rame, has left his wisdom printed on the wall under date 1559, in the following pious proverbs;—'Better is it to be in the house of mourning than in the house of banqueting. It is better to have some chastening than over much liberty. There is a time for all things: a time to be born and a time to die; and the day of death is better than the day of birth. There is an end of all things; and the end of a thing is better than the beginning. Be wise and patient in trouble; for wisdom defendeth as well as money. Use well the time of prosperity, and remember the time of misfortune.'—These lessons are among the commonplaces of our great store of verbal wisdom; but no one can read them on the stones of Beauchamp Tower as commonplace. They seem to come like drops of blood distilled from a lacerated heart. In the third recess, part of an inscription runs thus:—

'Unhappy is that man  
Whose acts doth procure  
The misery of this house,  
In prison to endure.  
1576. THOMAS CLARKE.'

Who was Thomas Clarke? No one knows. Under it we read:—

'Thomas Minch, which  
Lieth here alone,  
That faine would from hence begone.'

And the verse goes on to say that he has been put to the rack in vain; but is still kept a close prisoner. An inscription, consisting of a pair of scales and the following words, catches the eye:—'1585. Thomas Bawdewin, Juli. As virtue maketh live so sin causeth death.'—These men have sent their names down to posterity,—but nothing more. In everything else they have perished, and the memory of their offences with them, as entirely as if they had never lived and provoked the jealousy of this world's rulers."

The following is a capital story of a very remarkable man,—Akerman, the governor of Newgate.—

"Boswell tells an anecdote of his esteemed friend Akerman, characteristic of the prison-world at that time. A fire broke out in that part of Newgate in which the officers lived: this was before the present buildings were erected. The prisoners, seeing the flames, became alarmed for their own safety, and rushed to the gate, shouting, 'Down with it! We shall be burnt!' It was a moment of great excitement, and the men were about to carry their shouts into effect, when Akerman appeared at the grill, and commanded silence. After a little confusion, they allowed him to speak. He told them, with great

calmness, that the gate must not go down; that they were under his care, and not a man of them should be suffered to escape. But he could assure them that the fire was not in the prison, properly so called, which was built entirely of stone; and there was no danger. If they would behave quietly, he said he would come into them, and remain with them until they were convinced that the danger was past. To this they agreed. He then ordered them to fall back from the gate: it was lowered, and he stepped in. Then, turning to the under-keeper, who now stood on the other side of the grill, he commanded him, in a resolute tone, not to open the gate on any account, not even if the prisoners should compel him to give the order for it. Having shown them in this manner that he would die with them rather than allow a general escape, he conducted them by passages, of which he carried the keys, to a part of the gaol farthest from that where the fire was raging; and having brought them into a place of safety, addressed them—"Gentlemen," he said, 'you are now convinced that I told you true. I have no doubt the engines will soon extinguish this fire; if they do not, a guard will come, and you shall all be taken out, and lodged in the Compter. I assure you, upon my word and honour, that I have not a farthing insured. I have left my house that I might take care of you. I will keep my promise and stay with you, if you insist upon it; but if you will allow me to go and look after my family and property, I shall be much obliged to you.'—This appeal went home, and they all cried out for him to go. Happily no further mischief was done by the fire."

With this extract we must conclude:—cordially recommending to our readers a volume from which we have derived both profit and amusement.

*A Second Gallery of Literary Portraits.* By George Gilfillan. Edinburgh, Hogg; London, Groombridge & Sons.

MUCH labour and pains must have been taken by the most patiently-laborious writer to produce such a piece of hard reading as this volume. In his first 'Gallery,' if we recollect rightly, Mr. Gilfillan was sketchy, anecdotal, personal; doing his best to emulate Mr. N. P. Willis and others who have "pencilled" literary men, women, and angels.—In his present essays the "obscurely wise" has been the style aimed at. In one page we are reminded of Galt's gorgeous life of Byron,—in another of the picture-language of Carlyle,—in a third of the transcendentalism of Emerson. In no page, be it ever so grandiose or mystical, are we secure against outbreaks of a most huck-a-back and colloquial familiarity, which startle as much as they edify and amuse. Who, for instance, but Mr. Gilfillan could thus, in a serious essay, find it expedient to illustrate the miserable smallness of the sum for which Milton sold his epic?—

"Let us not imagine that in our day it would have met with a different reception. We can well fancy Adam Black, or John Murray, saying to Milton, 'Splendid poem, sir—great genius in it; but it won't sell, we fear—far too long—too many learned words in it—odd episode that on sin and death. If you could rub it down into a tragedy, and secure Macready for Satan and Helen Faucit for Eve, it might take; or, if you could write a few songs on the third French Revolution, or something in the style of 'Dombey and Son.' Good morning Mr. Milton.'"

Lord Byron stands second in the 'Gallery,' and Mr. Gilfillan conceives that he is making "some small contribution towards a future likeness" of the poet. Smaller the boon of thought or acumen could hardly be;—though the pages glitter with tropes and metaphors. After many spasms of effort to say something new in the sublime style, Mr. Gilfillan on a sudden thus relapses into his confidential and jocose manner. How felicitous is the following parcel-pathetic parcel-sprightly allegory!—

"His name has been frequently but injudiciously



coupled with that of Shelley. This has arisen principally from their accidental position. They found themselves together one stormy night in the streets, having both been thrust out by the strong arm from their homes. One had been kicking up a row and kissing the servant maids; the other had been trying to rouse the family, but in so awkward a fashion, that in his haste he had put out all the lustras, and nearly blown up the establishment. In that cold, desolate, moonless night, they chanced to meet—they entered into conversation—they even tried, by drawing close to each other, to administer a little kindly warmth and encouragement. Men seeing them imperfectly in the lamp-light, classed them together as two dissolute and disorderly blackguards. And, alas, when the morning came that might have accurately discriminated them, both were found lying dead in the streets. In point of purpose—temperament—tendency of intellect—poetical creed—feelings—sentiments—habits—and character, no two men could be more dissimilar."

It is rarely that we find Scott slighted by a Scottish author; but in his agonies after novelty Mr. Gilfillan manages to "indulge" the Great Unknown with an awkward kick while executing a fancy dance in honour of Crabbe.—

"Sir Walter Scott, who seldom grappled with the gloomier and grander features of his country's scenery (did he ever describe Glencoe or Foyers, or the wildernesses around Ben-mac-Dhui?), had (need we say?) the most exquisite eye for all picturesque and romantic aspects, in sea, shore, or sky; and in the quick perception of this element of the picturesque lay his principal, if not only, descriptive power."

Mr. Gilfillan cannot have read 'Old Mortality,' with its picture of *Burley's* lair,—or, in 'The Bride of Lammermoor,' recollect *Wolf's Crag*,—while 'The Pirate,' we suppose, goes "north of his comprehension" of scene-painting. But he will stray up and down in search for novelty, at all price; as, for instance, in his very next page, when, with the low populations of Glasgow and Edinburgh almost under his nose, he talks of the "gin-gendered quarrels of the outlawed members of English society," for the sake of an antithetical attempt at geniality in favour of "Poosie Nancy's"!

Let us be thought invidious in our gleanings, we will make room for a few more of Mr. Gilfillan's fine things. "Macaulay's ballads sound in parts like the thongs of Bellona."—"Dr. Croly has not altogether escaped the pervasive gloom of his country's literature. This speaks in the choice of his subjects and the lofty ambitious tone of his manner."—Emerson's lecture "was the portable essence of Napoleon."—"The 'Last Days of Pompeii'" is "calculated to enchant classical scholars, and the book glows like a cinder from Vesuvius, —and most gorgeously are the reelings of that fiery drunkard depicted." Here we cannot but take breath to fancy Mr. Grote, or the Lord Bishop of London, or Dr. Hawtreys, enjoying alone or in classical converse the enchantments of such an orgy!—"To call" Mr. George Dawson "a cockney Carlyle, a transcendental bagman, were to be too severe."—"Leigh Hunt always dips his pen in a reservoir compounded of (!) warm blood and the milk of human kindness. This element, indeed, bathes his whole being and person. It swims in his restless eye,—it throbs in his hot hand,—it, and not age's winter, seems to have whitened his locks,"—&c. &c.

There can surely be no need to offer further specimens of Mr. Gilfillan's style. And yet he tells us in his Preface that "he has aimed at a tone somewhat more subdued" than in his former efforts; and "might well," he adds, "have husbanded his enthusiasm, having committed himself to one of the greatest of critical tasks—a review of 'the Bards of the Bible.'" This, like Hood's lion, is "to come out next spring."—If the present work indicates what

Mr. Gilfillan can do when he is sparing of enthusiasm, we cannot but look forward to his expenditures upon the Psalmist and the Prophets with awe and apprehension.

*History of the United States of America, from the Discovery of the Continent to the Organization of Government under the Federal Constitution.* By Richard Hildreth. 3 vols. New York, Harper; London, Low.

THIS is, we believe, the first attempt at a complete history of the United States. "No other work on American History," says the author in his Preface, "except mere compends and abridgments, embraces the same extent of time; none comprehends the same circuit of inquiry or has anything like the same plan and objects. Nowhere else can be found in the same distinct completeness the curious and instructive story of New England theocracy,—the financial, economical, and political history of the colonies and the revolution,—the origin and shaping of our existing laws and institutions, state and national,—the progressive social and intellectual development of our people." The three large volumes already published bring down the narrative to the establishment of the Republican Constitution,—that is, to 1788-9. In two more volumes the author is to continue it to the present time. Mr. Bancroft's well-known work, therefore, overtakes but a small portion of the ground traversed by Mr. Hildreth.

One great fault in Mr. Hildreth's work is, the method of its arrangement. Instead of dividing it, in the first place, into books or sections, each book or section comprising some specific portion of the history capable of being detached from the remainder,—and then subordinately into chapters,—Mr. Hildreth lets the narrative straggle on as it best can through no fewer than forty-eight chapters continued in unbroken series over the three volumes. Such a plan may be suitable in certain cases,—as, for example, where some short portion of history is to be treated very fully; but in a history of the United States, where the distracting multiplicity of petty contemporaneous details renders it so difficult for the reader to pursue the main thread for any length of time, the author ought the more assiduously to keep this thread in view by cutting it across at well defined intervals. Thus, had Mr. Hildreth adopted a division into books in his History, we should have been spared much of the confusion that arises—in the first and second volumes especially—from the fact of our having at the close of almost every chapter (say a chapter on Virginia) to go back in order to bring up a long arrear of occurrences that had in the mean time been accumulating somewhere else (say in New England or New Netherland):—thus advancing, not in a straight line, but by a series of circuits. Nor could a division into books have been so difficult. Anglo-American history prior to 1788-9 very readily breaks itself up into three periods, each having a kind of independent unity:—the period of primitive colonization, commencing with the discovery of the American continent and terminating in the early part of the eighteenth century,—the period of the intercolonial wars, as Mr. Hildreth calls them, that is, of the wars between the English and the French in America, extending from about 1690 to 1760, when Canada was annexed to the British dominions,—and the period of the struggle for independence, extending from 1760 or thereabouts to 1783, or, more properly, to 1789. Had Mr. Hildreth adopted such a division as the basis of his arrangement, his work would have been pleasanter reading than it is.

Perhaps the best portion of the work, as it stands, is that which goes over the ground of the first of the three periods above mentioned. This appears to have been the most carefully written. The author's style is bald and meagre in the extreme; and never once does he rise into anything like fervour, or exhibit the slightest capability of the graphic and picturesque. But the story is conscientiously—and, as far as details go, thoroughly—told. Punctual accounts are inserted of the various constitutions and codes of laws enacted in the several colonies; the prominent individual characters among the early settlers—the Smiths, the Williamses, the Eliots, the Mathers, &c.—duly appear and disappear; and, though no attempt is made to sketch their portraits,—possibly because, as Mr. Hildreth himself tells us, there was not a single portrait-painter in America till the year 1732,—yet by the help of the ample extracts laudably given from their speeches and writings we are able to figure them tolerably well, and to take an interest in them. The spirit in which the story is told is also remarkably fair. The Puritans—"often rude, hard, narrow, superstitious, and mistaken," as Mr. Hildreth thinks them, "but always earnest, downright, manly, and sincere"—are treated with evident respect and liking; and only now and then, when in duty bound as a modern and an American,—as, for example, in behalf of representative freedom, religious toleration, and such matters—does the author put in any protest of his own. On the question of Negro slavery his leanings are plainly enough in favour of abolition. On this, however, as on every other subject treated of, his expressions are as customary and commonplace as may be. Wherever, in short, the facts recorded are not such as to move the reader by some indelible force of their own, there is not the slightest chance of a lively sensation being communicated from Mr. Hildreth's pages. Hence, great portions of his work are provokingly insipid. There is, notwithstanding, occasionally, a bit of interesting writing:—take, for example, the account of the trials for witchcraft in Massachusetts, in 1688-92.—

"While Andros was still governor, shortly after Increase Mather's departure for England, four young children, members of a pious family, in Boston, the eldest a girl of thirteen, the youngest a boy not five, had begun to behave in a singular manner, barking like dogs, purring like cats, seeming to become deaf, blind, or dumb, having their limbs strangely distorted, complaining that they were pinched, pricked, pulled, or cut; acting out, in fact, the effects of witchcraft, according to the current notions of it, and the descriptions in the books referred to. The terrified father called in Dr. Oakes, a zealous leader of the ultra-theocratic party, who gave his opinion that the children were bewitched. The oldest girl had lately received a bitter scolding from an old Irish indentured servant, whose daughter she had accused of theft. This same old woman, from indications no doubt given by the children, was soon fixed upon as being the witch. The four ministers of Boston and another from Charlestown having kept a day of fasting and prayer at the troubled house, the youngest child was relieved. But the others, more persevering and more artful, continuing as before, the old woman was presently arrested, and charged with bewitching them. She had, for a long time, been reputed a witch, and she even seems to have flattered herself that she was one. Indeed her answers were so 'senseless,' that the magistrates referred it to the doctors to say if she were not 'crazed in her intellects.' On their report of her sanity, the old woman was tried, found guilty, and executed. Though Increase Mather was absent on this interesting occasion, he had a zealous representative in his son Cotton Mather, a young minister of twenty-five, a prodigy of learning, eloquence, and piety, recently settled as colleague with his father over Boston North Church. \* \* Cotton Mather had taken a very active part in the late case of witchcraft;



and, that he might study the operations of diabolical agency at his leisure, and thus be furnished with evidence and arguments to establish its reality, he took the eldest of the bewitched children home to his own house. His eagerness to believe invited imposture. His excessive vanity and strong prejudices made him easy game. Adroit and artful beyond her years, the girl fooled him to the top of his bent. His ready pen was soon furnished with materials for 'a story all made up of wonders,' which, with some matters of the same sort, and a sermon preached on the occasion, he presently published under the title of 'Memorable Providences relating to Witchcrafts and Possessions,' with a preface, in which he warned all 'Sadducees' that he would regard their doubts for the future as a personal insult. Cotton Mather was not the only dupe. 'The old heresy of the sensual Sadducees denying the being of angels either good or evil,' says the commendatory preface to the book, signed by the other four ministers of Boston 'died not with them,' nor will it, whilst men, abandoning both faith and reason, count it their wisdom to credit nothing but what they see or feel. How much this fond opinion hath gotten ground in this debauched age is awfully observable; and what a dangerous stroke it gives to settle men in atheism is not hard to discern. God is, therefore, pleased, besides the witnesses borne to this truth in sacred writ, to suffer devils sometimes to do such things in the world as shall stop the mouths of gainsayers, and extort a confession from them.' The ministers add their testimony to the truth of Mather's statements; which they commend as furnishing 'clear information that there is both a God and a devil and witchcraft.' The book was presently republished in London, with a preface by Baxter; who pronounced the girl's case so 'convincing' that 'he must be a very obdurate Sadducee who would not believe it.' \* \* The bewitched girl, as she ceased to be an object of popular attention, seems to have returned to her former behaviour. But the seed had been sown on fruitful ground. After an interval of nearly four years, three young girls in the family of Parris, minister of Salem village, now Danvers, began to exhibit similar pranks. As in the Boston case, a physician pronounced them bewitched, and Tituba, an old Indian woman, the servant of Parris, who undertook, by some vulgar rites, to discover the witch, was rewarded by the girls with the accusation of being herself the cause of their sufferings. The neighbouring ministers assembled at the house of Parris for fasting and prayer. The village fasted, and presently a general fast was ordained throughout the colony. The 'bewitched children' thus rendered objects of universal sympathy and attention did not long want imitators. Several young girls, and two or three women of the neighbourhood began to be afflicted in the same way; as did also John, the Indian husband of Tituba, warned, it would seem, by the fate of his wife. Parris took a very active part in discovering the witches; so did Noyes, minister of Salem, described as a learned, a charitable, and a good man. A town committee was soon formed for the detection of the witches. Two of the magistrates, resident at Salem, entered with great zeal into the matter. The accusations, confined at first to Tituba and two other friendless women, one crazed, the other bed-ridden, presently included two female members of Parris's church, in which, as in so many other churches, there had been some sharp dissensions. The next Sunday after this accusation Parris preached from the verse 'Have I not chosen you twelve, and one is a devil?' At the announcement of this text, the sister of one of the accused women rose and left the meeting-house. The two were accused immediately after, and the same fate soon overtook all who showed the least disposition to resist the prevailing delusion. The matter had now assumed so much importance that the deputy governor proceeded to Salem village, with five other magistrates, and held a court in the meeting-house."

The remainder of the history of this delusion, which spread over all Massachusetts, and involved the deaths of many persons of both sexes, occupies several pages. It is in detailed casual sketches of this kind that Mr. Hildreth succeeds best.

Among the miscellaneous points of information contained in the part of Mr. Hildreth's

work devoted to the early history of the various colonies, are such facts as these:—that, numerous as were the tribes of Indians with whom the early settlers came into contact, the total number of Indians inhabiting the whole territory of the United States east of the Rocky Mountain can at no time within European record have exceeded 300,000 individuals; that the oldest town by many years in the United States is St. Augustine, in Florida, founded by a Spanish colony in 1564,—the second being Santa Fé, founded also by the Spaniards in 1582; that the first college in America was Harvard College, Cambridge, endowed by John Harvard, a clergyman, with a sum of about 800*l.*, in the year 1639; that the first printing press in America was set up in the same town in 1640 by Stephen Day, whose first production was a metrical version of the Psalms, "not very remarkable for tunefulness"; and that the total population of the various Anglo-American colonies as lately as 1715, when Franklin was a boy of nine years of age, was only 434,600 souls. The following passage relating to the early currency of New England is not uninteresting,—

"Such coin as the emigrants to New England brought with them quickly went back again in payment for imported goods; but so long as the emigration was kept up, the inconvenience was little felt. \* \* The sudden stop put to immigration, occasioned by the political changes in England, caused a great fall of prices, and a corresponding difficulty in paying debts. Taxes had all along been paid in grain and cattle at rates fixed by the General Court; and grain, at different prices for the different sorts, was now made a legal tender for the payment of all new debts. To prevent sacrifices of property in cases of inability to pay, corn, cattle, and other personal goods,—or, in defect of such goods, the house and lands of the debtor, when taken in execution,—were to be delivered over to the creditor, at such value as they might be appraised at by 'three understanding and indifferent men,' one chosen by the creditor, another by the debtor, and a third by the marshal. \* \* Beaver skins were also paid and received as money; and, from their value as a remittance, they held the next place to coin. Musket balls, at a farthing each, were at one time a legal tender to the amount of a shilling. A more available currency was found in the wampum or peage—cylindrical beads, half an inch long, of two colours, white and bluish black, made by the Indians from parts of certain sea shells. The people of Plymouth first learned the use and value of this article from the Dutch of Manhattan, and they soon found it very profitable in trade with the Eastern Indians,—the shells of which it was made not being common north of Cape Cod. Presently it came to be employed as a circulating medium, first in the Indian traffic, and then among the colonists generally. Three of the black beads, or six of the white, passed for a penny. For convenience of reckoning they were strung in known parcels—a penny, three-pence, a shilling, and five shillings in white; two-pence, sixpence, two-and-sixpence, and ten shillings in black. A fathom of white was worth ten shillings, or two dollars and a half; a fathom of black, twice as much; but, as the quantity in circulation increased, the value presently depreciated, and the number of beads to the penny was augmented."

It is as a repertory of such facts as these, rather than as a historical view of the primitive condition of the Anglo-American settlements, that the first and second volumes of Mr. Hildreth's work are to be considered valuable. As the author is deficient in power of graphic conception and delineation, so also is he deficient in that other preventive against dullness in history, the power of philosophic generalization. From first to last, there is scarcely a reflection of any depth or scientific value in his book. Such a general conception, for example, of primitive Anglo-American society as the following—a conception so obvious that one would have thought it could not have been missed,

and a vigorous grasp of which is above all necessary in the author who would sketch out the origin of the great Transatlantic civilization—Mr. Hildreth, with all his laborious research into the early Puritan constitutions, &c. of his country, appears hardly to have arrived at: to wit, that that society was, and derived all its strength and peculiarity from being, a *collection of the banished social anomalies and extreme tendencies* of the various countries of Western Europe. A glance at the facts of the case will verify this observation. Puritans denied a resting-place in England, adventurers in search of wealth, persecuted Catholics, Quakers, Anabaptists, and all sorts of social exiles, both noble and ignoble,—such were the original elements of the Anglo-American civilization. Transplanted into a new soil, these social and intellectual anomalies, these extreme *isms*, according to a common phrase of Western Europe, took root and flourished collectively;—one set in the south, and a somewhat different set in the north, of the great territory that now constitutes the United States. On the whole, and especially in the north, Puritanism predominated. Hence the peculiar theocratic constitution of the New Englanders; their identification of citizenship and church-membership; their severe laws against sabbath-breaking, blasphemy, swearing, and other "breaches of the First Table." But within Puritanism itself there were germs of all varieties of doctrine; and, stern as was its discipline, it could not arrest the growth of those other singularities of faith and practice which had sought refuge in the same land as itself. The development then, as it is, of a transplanted assemblage of the most extreme tendencies of Europe in the seventeenth century,—no wonder that American civilization should now be, in one sense at least, the most *advanced* in the world.

The social condition of the American colonies during the second great era of Anglo-American History—that of the Intercolonial Wars—was not the same as it had been during the first. Regarding New England in particular, Mr. Hildreth says:—

"In the century since its settlement New England had undergone a great change. The austere manners of the Puritan fathers were still indeed preserved; their language was repeated; their observances were kept up; their institutions were revered; forms and habits remained,—but the spirit was gone. The mere ordinary objects of human desire and pursuit, the universal passion for wealth, political squabbles with the royal governors, land speculations, paper-money jobs, and projects of territorial and personal aggrandizement, had superseded those metaphysical disputes, that spiritual vision, and that absorbing passion for a pure theocratic commonwealth, which had carried the fathers into the wilderness."

It was among a colder set of influences, therefore, than those which had tended the planting of the colonies, that their destined heroes and defenders—the Franklins and the Washingtons of the eighteenth century—passed their youth and manhood. Enthusiasm was extinct; and a prudent, formal indifference had succeeded. So decided was the change—or as it appeared to many, the degeneracy—that one or two men in whom the old spirit lingered or was rekindled made it the aim of their lives to renew and propagate it. Of these by far the most distinguished was Jonathan Edwards; the greatest thinker, perhaps, that America has yet produced,—but of whom we defy the most quick-sighted reader to obtain the slightest notion from Mr. Hildreth. Assistants of his, in this Herculean attempt to bring back religious fervour and sincerity among a population of half a million of persons, were the two Wesleys and Whitfield: the Wesleys, it is true, rather through their disciples than directly,—for



during their residence in America in 1736-7 they did not exert much influence. The "Great Revival," however, was but temporary in its effects; and Anglo-American society preferred to advance in its own more spontaneous direction. Franklin, rather than Jonathan Edwards, was the type of the growing American character in the period of the intercolonial wars.

Of these wars there were four: the first lasting eight years, or from 1690 to 1698,—the second twelve years, or from 1701 to 1713,—the third eight years, or from 1740 to 1748,—and the fourth six years, or from 1754 to 1760. The second volume of Mr. Hildreth's work is in great part taken up with an account of these wars and of the progress of the colonies during the seventy years over which they extended. Here, even more than in the preceding part of the work, have we to complain of the extreme insipidity and dullness of his narrative. Details about military manœuvres are at no time very interesting to the general reader,—who usually finds it difficult to provide conceptions at all answering to the military phrases made use of by writers; nor of all the campaigns fought in modern times would it be possible to select any about which readers, on this side of the Atlantic at least, care less to be informed than about these same campaigns of the old Canada wars in general. Still, we have a shrewd suspicion that by competent hands something like a decent story could be made even of these obsolete occurrences. The death of Wolfe and the conquest of Canada are phrases that have yet some power to stir us. In Mr. Hildreth's pages the conquest of Canada is the poorest affair imaginable; and, but that we know beforehand to regard the death of Wolfe as a fine historic effect, we might pass it, as Mr. Hildreth tells it, without caring a fig for the whole matter. This obdurate dullness is all the more provoking that it is accompanied by an evident desire to be truthful and accurate.

The same kind of objections lie against the remaining portions of the work; in which Mr. Hildreth relates the struggle of the colonies for independence, and completes the third great section of Anglo-American history. Here, however, owing to the unity of the subject, the interest is better kept up; and we should suppose that the reader who desires to inform himself in all the particulars, military or political, of the American revolution, would find that they had been scrupulously collected for him by Mr. Hildreth. More than this we cannot say. For masterly portraits of the men of the revolution,—Franklin, Washington, Jefferson, &c.—or for profound appreciations of its worth and its historic consequences, the reader must go elsewhere.

Altogether, the perusal of Mr. Hildreth's book leaves with us an impression unfavourable to the possibility of a continuous history of the United States. In the first place, any history of them prior to their union is, in fact as well as in name, a nonentity; such a work can at best be only a collection of the parallel and independent histories of some twelve or thirteen distinct colonies. It is as if some one, desiring to write the history of a club, were to begin his book, not with the formation of the club, but from the scattered births of all its several members, keeping the biographies going on together, in team as it were, until they merged in the body corporate of the club. In short, a history of the American colonies jointly prior to their union can properly be treated no otherwise than as an episode of British history, under some such title as 'A History of the Colonization of America.' Individually, however, the colonies may have histories strictly American from the beginning; and we shrewdly suspect that it is

from such individual histories, taken in connexion with topographical memoirs and with biographic sketches of the more remarkable of the pilgrim fathers and their immediate successors, that the clearest and most interesting views of early Anglo-American society will always be obtained. Again, as regards the really possible history of the United States,—that which commences with their first display of united action in the struggle for independence—even here the subject is not the most promising for the historian. We question, for example, if any movement so important in reality as the revolt of the American colonies ever furnished so meagre a collection of materials for a story. We admire the struggle chiefly for its result; and we revere Washington while remembering scarcely a single saying of his or a single anecdote regarding him worthy of being quoted. As compared with other national struggles, the American revolution is like a problem worked out algebraically; the result is notable, but the process unpicturesque. When that struggle was over, the States relapsed much into their former condition as distinct territories:—the whole presenting a rich field for political and social observation rather than an apt subject for narrative. In short, as, prior to the Union, Anglo-American history is best contained in histories of New York, Boston, &c., and in memoirs and sketches of individual personages and scenes,—so, subsequently to that Union, it seems naturally to disperse itself into abstract social disquisitions, like those of De Tocqueville, connected only by an indispensable chronological thread.—This very fact, far from being discreditable to American civilization, is, if rightly understood, one of the most remarkable and characteristic things about it.

*History of the Inquisition. From its Commencement to the Present Era, &c. Ward & Co.*

THE aim of this work seems to have been simply to present, in a compendious form, a summary of the contents of those voluminous works and numerous detached narratives which describe the history and acts of that monstrous birth of darker ages—miscalled the Holy Office. It does not appear that behind this object there lurks any special design of converting the impression which a display of its abominations must create to the use of the religious polemics of this day,—as is often the case with modern sketches of the cruelties done in former times in the name of Religion. This must be counted in favour of the work: the compiler of which may be more safely followed on ground like this in so far as he enters on it with the composure of an historian instead of the heated temper of a zealot. He has, moreover, taken fair pains to collect the materials for his abridgment from the best treatises on the subject,—among which, of course, Llorente, Puigblanch, and Limborch have been largely drawn on,—as well as from notices of a more limited or personal character, like those of Geddes, Lithgow, Blanco White, and others. In respect of the latter class, indeed, we rather observe the editor's diligence in collecting than his critical judgment in testing the worth of his evidence:—not a few of the personal narratives extracted being of very doubtful accuracy. Among these are some stories dressed up for effect by French authors in the last century, and the suspected later accounts of Van Halen.

With regard to the performance as a whole,—it may be remarked that, as presenting an epitome of the annals and a view of the chief features of its repulsive subject, the composition cannot in any sense be classed among works of entertainment; while it does not pre-

tend to those qualities which might give a serious value to an essay on this painful theme. The Inquisition as an object to be feared and assailed exists no longer. The impulses which gave it motion have been checked by the universal current of European tendencies in the very opposite direction; and we are now more likely to run into excesses of indifference than to endure any revival of the old zeal:—to the reaction against the hateful excesses of which our present leaning towards a contrary extreme may partly be ascribed. As this circumstance excludes the idea of any practical end to be gained by calling popular attention to the enormities of a condemned system,—so, on the other hand, is it impossible that any wholesome appetite in the popular mind can be fed by details of the torture-chamber, the dungeon, and the stake;—which as mere objects of moving description, unimproved by sufficient deductions of the grave truths implied in this dark chapter of human annals, one could wish to see consigned to eternal oblivion, as things intolerable to the sight of man. In short, a popular work on the Holy Office, in the sense of such a current outline of its history and doings only as is here attempted, may be termed a mistake. There is nothing, we say, that can now render its naked horrors a desirable object of notice for those who take up books solely for pastime:—and to the more studious class of readers a work thus slenderly composed will not afford the instruction that might redeem the painful features of the subject.

We can, indeed, imagine a commentary of the deepest interest on this black chapter in the history of our race:—but it must be something more profound and considerate than any mere compilation of ugly matters of fact. The writer who would do it justice must possess capacities as eminent, perhaps, as could be required for any subject whatever of historical philosophy. The moral of persecution in the matter of religious opinion is not to be summed up in any of the random sentences thrown out from one or the other of the rival partisans of authority and of liberty. These have been applied to the subject with all the emphasis required for the purposes of the moment; but neither the one nor the other can be said to have exhausted it, or even to have done much more than touch its superficial bearing at either extreme. There is still a large task to be undertaken by the mind that can bring insight, diligence, and a conscientious love of truth to a discovery of the heart of this question. It would be a mixed labour, claiming at once the ripe knowledge of history and a clear view of moral and mental science:—inasmuch as the matter that lies waiting to be analyzed has interwoven through all its texture threads of some of the most potent spiritual principles, not only entangled by perversions of their proper working, but crossed also with the play of merely secular aims and of the passions and vices of individuals, with the hostilities of race, and with the subservience to political motives. To eliminate these several powers, assigning to each its due part in the sway of this fearful engine,—to trace the various influences that acted upon it, and the reaction from these on the generations exposed to its sway,—to go down to those roots of its main strength that lay in circumstances involving the general history of the nations in which it was planted,—and to follow out its effects on the condition, manners and destinies as well of these as of others lying beyond its immediate influence:—this, we say, would be a task including a demonstration of some main problems of the moral as well as of the material structure of mankind, together with the solution of some of the hardest



enigmas of its history and social relations. It would be no work for pleasure or pastime; indeed,—but one full of mournful instruction: no task, in short, likely to invite any compiler of popular treatises,—nor, indeed, lying within the compass of such writers as usually undertake them.

Without pretending to close with the pregnant matters involved in this subject, we may briefly throw out a hint or two of the species of inquiries which must precede any due approach to its real bearings. It is, for instance, easy enough in speaking of the Inquisition, to say—with the writer of the volume before us—that “the system on which it was based was originated and upheld by the Romish Church.” But how much nearer does this bring us to a right understanding of the matter? That Church, when the Holy Office was instituted by the Council of Toulouse (in 1229), represented, with scarcely an exception, the religion, such as it was, of all the nations of Europe. Its dogmas were accepted and its authority was obeyed with a degree of undoubting faith and devotion far more catholic (in the primary sense of the word), if not more intense, than any belief of the present time. That the original edifice of the Church had been largely built over with human devices is asserted,—and may be safely allowed. But this very circumstance of its transformation, combined with its continued and universal acceptance the while, can be explained only by conditions that must have prevailed during that period over the whole surface of human life in its relation to spiritual things. The Church was not a mere creation of the artifice of a single class standing beyond the limits of society at large. It became what it was by the operation of influences springing directly out of the heart of that living aggregate. So that, to describe this or that institution merely as an offspring of the Church—situated as the Church then was—will merely give a phrase, where we want an explanation of the causes that promoted the act, favoured its operations, and obtained for them the aid of the secular arm. We must get some measure of the impulses and powers that determined the spiritual convictions of all men in those ages, in order to affix the least significance to the words of any such reference to the Church.

Again, any full discussion of the principles on which the pursuit of heresy is sustained or attacked leads directly into some of the widest and most insoluble questions that can occupy the human mind. It has been argued, for instance, on the one hand, that the extirpation of doctrinal error, *quoad sacra*, is an inevitable consequence of any real belief in the truth of a given creed. If I am bound, it is said, to chastize the malefactor who kills the body,—that can at best but live for a few years,—is it not a far more urgent duty to punish those who teach a false doctrine that condemns its victims to eternal death? Between this and the opposite extreme, of a moral indifference such as prevailed in a certain school of the last century,—which grounded the rule of toleration on the assumption that nothing beyond the sphere of the physical senses is certain enough to justify any censure or check on matters of opinion,—how vast is the interval! In some intermediate space of that interval the point of reconciliation between vital convictions and just liberty of conscience still remains, we apprehend, to be authentically settled.

Once more, as to the history of the Inquisition. The first scheme of this terrible engine was drawn in a spirit, under circumstances, and with modes of operation wholly different from those of the so-called modern Inquisition that arose in Spain under Ferdinand and Isabella.

In this latter, also, many essential changes took place within the course of three centuries; its activity the while being promoted by a combination of influences in which the element of clerical bigotry was by no means always the predominant one. Llorente has sufficiently proved the large share which political motives had at all times in directing its operations;—and has hereby explained the otherwise unaccountable latitude granted to its agents by such jealous and absolute monarchs as Philip the Second. These chief tendencies again were crossed by a number of minor impulses that partly sprang, as consequences, from the play of the machine itself. Among these may be noted, the anxiety which it fostered in all classes, and the fear of censure that produced denunciations of which the Tribunal, even had it not sought them, could not have refused to take notice,—the growth of a wolfish delight in mere severities for their own sake, which the exercise of its powers could not fail to engender in progress of time,—the abuse that private revenge could easily make of the power of secret denunciation,—the temptation which it held out, on the other hand, to the avarice or other vile passions of the familiars and officials. All these, it will be seen, though involved, in fact, in the machine as it existed—and it may be, in part inseparable from the practical working of any such engine,—had, nevertheless, while they aggravated the evils of the Holy Office, no essential connexion with its fundamental principle of “inquiry into heretical pravity.” So, whether the spirit of this device as a means of religious discipline or the actual circumstances of its application be considered, the subject will be found to branch out into many channels of great depth and complexity:—and in both of its main divisions many difficulties must be unloosed, and their results in some measure first cleared, adjusted and expressed in their respective proportions, before any sufficient reading can be presented of this dark page in human history.

The editor of the volume before us, we have said, makes no pretensions to the office of thus commenting,—had probably no idea that any such commentary was needed,—is certainly not very likely to have undertaken it with success. What he has attempted is on the whole fairly accomplished:—as far at least as the display of such a subject can be deemed fair in any sense. We hope it would not please our readers—it would certainly be far from pleasant to us—to dwell at much length on the matter contained in this compilation: still less are we tempted to exhibit in the way of summary or extract the rise and progress of error and cruelty,—outlines of a procedure in which prejudice usurped the seat of justice,—exhibitions of torturing engines and flaming autos *da fé*,—or the painful stories told by the few sufferers who escaped from such terrible persecutions. Those who have a morbid longing for such details will find enough to satisfy them in this book. The first page, indeed, gives a taste of what the reader may expect in the others, by a frontispiece, representing some principal methods of applying the “question,” that will be apt to deter the owners of sensitive nerves from proceeding to a further examination.

#### NEW NOVELS.

THE tales noticed below belong to the past rather than to the present year:—giving no prophecy of what may be put forth in the March or the May-day, or the Midsummer or the Michaelmas of Fiction for 1850. There is need of some fresh inspiration,—and, moreover, room for it. The first of the four books before us is a memento that “the year that’s

awa” was a merciless thinner of the ranks of Literature and Art.

*Country Quarters. A Novel.* By the Countess of Blessington. *With a Memoir by her Niece, Miss Power.*—This is a tale of light-hearted Irish girls and light-heeled red-coats; which latter, in place of “loving and riding away,” for the most part stop and “propose”—greatly to the profit and delight of the little town where the scene is laid. Rich gifts and comfortable entertainments make its pages glad; and allowing for the selfishness of one or two hardened women of quality, and for a little mess-room frivolity, we do not often encounter so shining a display of the beauties, the virtues and the luxuries which brighten and smooth this “vale of tears.” There is not a single prophetic sign of exhaustion or decay in its pages;—not a trace of anxious brain or of weary heart, such as might have been looked for in the latest invention of one whose last earthly days were troubled by vicissitude. The vivacity and cordiality of Lady Blessington’s disposition brought with them the power of enabling her to amuse and to cheer herself. Few felt more warmly—few could act more energetically (above all, when some kind office was to be done) than she; yet she was never too sick or too sorrowful to be beyond the reach of “Imagination’s beguillings.” To the last hour, a poem which touched her or an anecdote which “drew mirth” exercised over her their olden power:—and thus, when she sat down to write, she lost herself in her story. This remark, besides being warranted by the style of this novel, is, further, not impertinent, inasmuch as ‘Country Quarters’ is prefaced by Miss Power’s graceful and affectionate Biographical Sketch.—The tale itself is equal to any of the series which it concludes. It is full of incident: its cheerfulness is relieved in places by a due admixture of sentimental passages. Its comic characters (as in Lady Blessington’s former works) are not innocent of farcical exaggeration: while its evil-doers are too apt to think aloud, in place of conversing or of indicating their mean and mischievous propensities by their deeds. ‘The Victims of Society’ is unquestionably Lady Blessington’s best novel,—but ‘Country Quarters’ is by no means her worst. Originally, it appeared in the columns of a weekly journal,—which fact necessarily limits our notice of its republication.

*King’s Cope: a Novel.* By the Author of ‘Mr. Warrenne,’ and ‘Margaret Capel.’—‘King’s Cope’ is a pretty novel. Were the dictionary ransacked from A to Z we could not find an epithet more precisely expressive of our judgment. It is, however, in some respects too artless. The arrangement of the story has an air which is accidental rather than natural. The characters are strewn about rather than disposed in groups—and the disproportions which make up so large an amount in daily life and daily intercourse are not harmonized and balanced as they should be by every well-skilled craftsman who undertakes to mould and combine even the most commonplace features, figures and incidents of our most commonplace daily-life into works of Art. Again, the dialogue is, generally, too trivial. Long pages—nay, whole chapters—are filled with conversations which lead to nothing,—and which have not even the value of adding to our knowledge of the characters so briskly set a-talking. The above blemishes are obvious, and precisely of a quality to repel the frivolous reader,—since he, strange to say, is sure to be the most fastidious and to complain the loudest of frivolity. But wiser folk who hold the scales of analysis, the standard of excellence, and the tables of experience (amongst whom critics, of course, modestly rate themselves) will find in ‘King’s Cope’ much better things than these: life, gaiety, some humour, and a certain delicacy of tone, the taste of which it may be hoped has not altogether perished in these our hard-driving days. Lady Orrington and her family are characters;—the eccentricities of Clavering are possibly referable to some living model. What we like least in the tale is, the second apparition of Hardwicke with its solution. This passage made us doubt whether Anne Scawen, the heroine, was really as much in love as she is described to have been. But the old dramatists perpetually resorted to similar devices,—and so in loving reverence to their trap-doors, dark lanterns, masks and other disguisings, we will not too sharply reckon with the new author for her (?) mistake. Briefly—to



the genuine thorough-going novel reader, who can detect the grains of gold even though the superincumbent weight of chaff be somewhat considerable, 'King's Cope' may be safely recommended as a cheerful arm-chair companion for a mid-winter evening.

*Ned Allen; or, the Past Age.* By David Hannay, Esq.—This is rather a scrap-book than a connected story:—giving the impression of a work which has been written to be broken up. In one page the reader is treated to sketches of Scottish life, in emulation of Galt:—in another chapter to marine pictures and West Indian scenes such as *Tom Cringle* revelled in. We confess to have found the land-work rather heavy ploughing—and the voyage a case of making very little way; and judging from 'Ned Allen,' are inclined to fancy that Mr. Hannay is most successful in sketches and fragments, &c. &c.

*Tales and Sketches for Fireside Reading.* By Charles Fleet.—Mr. Fleet, in his preface, says that "the absence of a preface may justly raise the charge of pride against him who, like the hero of Corioli, will neither stoop to canvass for just praise or deprecate just anger,"—and therefore he prefatorily expresses his hopes of pleasing. By way of comment upon this, it may be observed that there are audiences of many kinds. Some years ago, in the catalogue of a musical publisher, a certain *Rondo* or *Fantasia* was advertised as "very popular at York." Remembering this assurance, it would be rash to assert that Mr. Fleet has no chance of pleasing some local circle, albeit in our busy world of Babylon his voice may be too small to get him a hearing.

#### OUR LIBRARY TABLE.

*The Natural History and Habits of the Salmon.* By Peter Young.—Of all fish, the salmon is invested with most interest. As a prize for the fisherman and a healthy article of food, it claims the attention of large classes of the community. The distinction of its various species, and its history from its first development in the ovum till it attains its maturity, are questions that have specially agitated the mind of the naturalist; and it so happens that the laws which ought to regulate the taking of this fish and affect the abundance of its supply for food, depend on those questions which the naturalist has to decide. To those who wish to see how the practical points about salmon fisheries are connected with scientific inquiries we commend this unpretending brochure by Mr. Young. They will find here that the magistrates and town council of Dundee, who may be said to represent all legislators about salmon, have fallen into gross errors with regard to the history of the fish,—and that, in consequence, the laws which they enforce for its preservation are the very ones that are leading to its destruction. All these matters are told in a plain, straightforward Scotch way; but with a constant eye to the pleasant thoughts that ever arise by river banks, and make anglers poetical. Mr. Young's book thus affords amusement whilst it instructs.

*The History of Alexander the Great.* By Jacob Abbott.—This work has an illuminated title-page, and is illustrated with engravings. In other respects, it possesses the usual merits belonging to similar productions by the same author:—an adherence to authorities easily accessible; and a familiar style well calculated to impart elementary instruction to the young.

*Illustrations of the Natural Orders of Plants, arranged in Groups.* By Elizabeth Twining.—This is the first number of a great illustrated work on the natural orders of plants. The orders represented in this part are Ranunculaceæ, Dilleniaceæ, Papaveraceæ and Anonaceæ. The drawings are well executed, and bring before the mind faithful representations of the species which are taken as types of the orders to which they belong. The work is evidently intended rather to group artistically together the several flowers of an order than to supply to the botanist the various figures of the species drawn,—or we should complain that the large orders Ranunculaceæ and Papaveraceæ have but few more species to represent them than the very small orders Dilleniaceæ and Anonaceæ.—To those who are anxious to possess a work for the drawing-room table in which the favourites of our gardens and greenhouses are tastefully exhibited according to their natural relations, we can cordially recommend Miss Twining's work. The plates are

accompanied by a description of the orders,—which gives a popular account of their structure and properties, and of the more remarkable plants that are to be found amongst them.

*A Plea for Ireland; or, a Proposal to form an Association for the Purchase and Improvement of Irish Lands, and the Re-sale thereof, on the Freehold Assurance Principle or otherwise.* By a Member of the Manchester Corporation.—In humble imitation of the gigantic project started some months ago in the London Corporation. The Manchester councillor proposes to form a joint-stock company, with a large capital, to be raised in an unlimited number of shares of 20*l.* each, to carry out his scheme.

*A Railway Caution! or Exposition of the Changes required in the Law and Practice of the British Empire; to enable the poorer districts to provide for themselves the benefits of Railway Intercourse; and to forewarn the Government and Capitalists of British India.* By Major J. P. Kennedy.—The foregoing is barely half the title of this pamphlet, but enough for our purpose. The observations have especial reference to railways for Ireland; but Mr. Kennedy, being military secretary to Sir Charles Napier, is now in Hindostan on duty. His pamphlet has been written on the route, and is printed at Calcutta. Some of the remarks on the cost and delay of travelling in the East come in very seasonably in illustration of the advantages of railways. With all the resources of Government at his disposal, he says, it took the Commander-in-chief twenty-two days to move from Calcutta to Umballah—a distance of little more than 1,000 miles; the cost to an ordinary traveller would be from 50*l.* to 70*l.* A moderate train would travel the distance in forty hours, and the fares would be not more than 5*l.* or 6*l.* To carry goods from one point to the other three months are required,—cost, 12*l.* to 15*l.* a ton. A goods train would carry merchandise in forty hours, and at about 4*l.* a ton freight. A railway on this tract of country would not only secure our military supremacy, but would create a new civilization amongst the natives.

*Sewerage of London: a Communication addressed to the Commissioners of Sewers, conveying a Proposal for the improved Drainage of the Metropolis, and an improved Supply of Water to its Inhabitants.* By L. Bailey Denton.—Mr. Denton proposes to supply London with water from the Thames above Boulter's Lock, and from the Colne, near Feltham.

*Development of Difference the Basis of Unity.* By A. W. Williamson.—Whatever is unquestionably true and good in Dr. Williamson's brochure is not his own. That progress comes most surely out of conflict—that moral order results most certainly from the equilibrium of forces mutually poised—are doctrines almost as old as civilization itself. In England they have been preached again and again—by Puritans and Quakers, Catholics and Presbyterians; indeed, they have become a part of the popular mind, and form the bases of all those more tolerant laws which have been added to the statute book for two centuries. The credit, such as it is, of the illustrations of these doctrines drawn from history, ethnology, and the social characteristics of nations, is more particularly the writer's own. These illustrations, sometimes apt, often enough trivial, are not unfrequently altogether false, or beside the question. We can accept neither Dr. Williamson's facts nor his inferences. In what sense can the English "middle classes" be said to owe their "development" to "the protection of the aristocracy"? Where did the writer hear that a "capitalist" is looked upon in Spain as an "extraordinary phenomenon"? In what system of ethnology is the German character "described as connecting the French and English"? These are new facts to us. But Dr. Williamson is not less original in his philosophy. "France," he says, "is the type of powerful centralization;" from which fact he infers a great ethnical characteristic—forgetting that the same race and nation a century or two ago were as remarkable a type of "provincial" government as they are now of "central,"—that the absence of "unity" was one of the chief grievances of the age of Louis XVI., and "centralization" the chief conquest of the Revolution. It is here asserted that the "Norman Conquest laid the foundation of our present Constitution;" when every tyro in history knows very well that the

principal parts of it were all in active operation in the Saxon period—the hereditary monarchy, the national representation, the trial by jury, the administration of justice. We might carry these objections to greater length were it desirable,—but have said enough to characterize the production. We ought to add that the brochure is a reprint of a discourse delivered at University College during the past year.

We find that we have a few more titles to string together in a general paragraph, in order to bring this form of our notices up to the close of the year which has departed from us since last we wrote.—*A Guide to the Daily Service of the Church of England.* By Thomas Stephen, is a reprint from the Episcopal Magazine.—*The Reviewer Reviewed; or, a Letter to the Right Hon. Stuart Wortley, on the New Marriage Act.*—Remarks on Naval Courts Martial. By Sir Frederick Nicolson, Bart.—*Repentance and Prayer, the only sure Remedy for a National Visitation.* By the Rev. W. B. Hawkins, M.A.—*The Book of the Prophet Joel.*—*The Practice of Poor Law Removals as regulated by the Recent Statutes, 9 & 10 Vict. c. 66, and 11 & 12 Vict. c. 31.* By Edward W. Cox.—*The Statutes and Parts of Statutes of the Session of Parliament 1849 relating to Magistrates, Parochial and Municipal Law, with Introduction, Notes and Copious Index.* By A. Bittleston and Edward W. Cox.—*An Exposition of the Church Catechism.* By the Rev. John Booker.—*The Fly Sheets, now first collected from the Originals.*—*The Finchley Manuals of Industry: No. I.—Cooking.*—*The Illustrated Year-Book of Wonders, Events and Discoveries,* a record in line and letter of the events of 1849.—*Winding of the River of the Waters of Life.* By George B. Cheever.—*A Literal Translation of the Gospel according to St. John, on definite Rules of Translation.* By Herman Heinfetter.—*Additional Matter to John Coad's Memorandum;* a few paragraphs of material omitted in the recent publication reviewed by us [No. 1156, p. 1301] because wanting in the MS. from which it was printed, but since found, and now given to complete the work.—*Livy,* a new and literal translation. By D. Spilman and Cyrus Edmonds,—and *A Christmas Gift for Thoughtful People*—must all be dismissed with this mere mention. The publication of *The Posthumous Works of Dr. Chalmers* has reached the ninth volume. *The National Cyclopædia* from the press of Charles Knight has come to the eighth volume. *Illustrations of the Divine in Christianity.* By the Rev. T. R. Beard, D.D.—*The Comprehensive Class-Book; or, English Grammar.* By Thomas Halliwell.—*A Glossary of Provincial Words used in Teesdale, in the County of Durham.*—*A Discourse of Matters pertaining to Religion.* By Theodore Parker.—*Exercises in Attic Greek for the Use of Schools and Colleges.* By A. R. Carson, L.L.D.—*Eclogæ Horatiane,* advertised as containing nearly all the writings of Horace. By Edward Woodford, L.L.D.—*Révélation Scientifique, suivie d'un Catechisme Physique, Métaphysique, Théologique et Moral.* By J. A. Durau.—*On a Formula for Calculating the Expansion of Liquids by Heat.* By W. J. M. Rankine.—*The Book of Bible History.* By Charles Baker. Gradations 1, 2, 3.—*The Book of Bible Characters.* By the same Author.—*The Necessity of Separation from the Church of England proved by the Non-conformists' Principles.* By John Canne. Edited for the Hanserd Knollys Society by the Rev. Charles Stovel.—*The Wesleyan Conference; its Duties and Responsibilities.* By Thomas Jackson.—*A Disputation on Holy Scripture, against the Papists; especially Bellarmine and Stapleton.* By William Whitaker, D.D.—*Rudimentary Dictionary of Terms used in Civil and Naval Architecture, Building, Art, Engineering, Mining and Surveying.* By John Weale.—*Cyclopædia of Biblical Literature.* By John Kitto, D.D. Abridged from the larger Work by the same Author.—*Exercitationes Iambicæ.* By E. R. Humphreys.—*Ten School Addresses.* Edited by J. P. Norris, M.A.—*Short Conclusions from the Light of Nature.*—*The Day of Prayer and the Day of Thanksgiving.*—*The Acknowledged Doctrines of the Church of Rome.* By Samuel Capper.—*A Dictionary of the Holy Bible for the use of Young Persons.* Edited by John Eadie, L.L.D.—*Twelve Short Sermons for Family Reading.* By the Rev. J. G. Howson, M.A.—*Principal Points of Difference*



between the Old and the New Churches. By Mrs. William Turner.—*Genuine and Spurious Religion*. By the Rev. John Mühleisen.—*The Comprehensive Pocket Bible, with Explanatory Notes and Maps*. By D. Davidson.—have all reached us.—The Messrs. Chambers have added to their Educational Course a new edition of *Cicero, with Notes*.—Messrs. Simms & McIntyre have published a translation of George Sand's *Andrew the Savoyard*, as the 32nd issue of their "Parlour Library."—*The Bankrupt Law Consolidation Act, 1849, with Introduction, Explanatory Notes and Forms*. By Edward Wise.—*The Hebrew People; or, the History and Religion of the Israelites, from the Origin of the Nation to the Time of Christ*. By George Smith.—*Orations and Occasional Discourses*. By George W. Bethune.—*Brewing and Distillation*. By Thomas Thomson, M.D., with *Practical Instructions for Brewing Porter and Ales, according to the English and Scotch Methods*. By William Stewart.—*The Decades of Henry Bullinger, Minister of the Church of Zurich*. Edited for the Parker Society, by the Rev. Thomas Harding.—have come to hand. Mr. Bohn has added to his *Classical Library* a reprint of the Oxford translation of *Sophocles*:—and Mr. Machen, of Dublin, has issued a new edition, with copious notes, of the first three Books of *Kings*. Of reprints and new editions we have before us, Mr. Bentley's re-issue of Prescott's *History of the Reign of Ferdinand and Isabella*, in 3 vols.—the "standard" edition of Lady Dacre's *Tales of the Peerage and the Peasantry*,—new and cheaper issues of Mr. Hosking's *Guide to the Proper Regulation of Buildings, Streets, Drains, and Sewers*, Chepmell's *Short Course of History*, and Clark's *New Process of Purifying the Waters*,—reprints of *The Memoirs of Fowell Buxton*, forming Nos. 72, 73, and 74 of the "Home and Colonial Library,"—and of *The Wilfulness of Sin, a Course of Sermons*. By John Jackson, —a second and amended edition of *Heads of an Analysis of English and French History*. By Dawson W. Turner, —the third volume of Bohn's reprint of Menzel's *History of Germany*,—the re-issue of *The Gipsy*, by Mr. James, in the "Parlour Library,"—*Cottage Cookery*. By Esther Copley, reprinted from 'The Family Economist,'—the first number of a second edition of the *Encyclopædia Metropolitana*, in weekly and monthly parts, —*An Essay on the Principle of Population, in refutation of the Theory of the Rev. T. R. Malthus*. By W. E. Hickson, reprinted from the *Westminster Review*, —third edition of *Medical Ethics*. By the late Thomas Percival, M.D., —a re-issue of Capt. Marryat's *Travels of M. Violet*, —and a new edition of an *Inquiry into the Rise and Growth of the Royal Prerogative in England*. By John Allen.—Becker's *Gallus* has reached a second edition.—We find on our table, also, the first two volumes of the new and collected edition of the works of M. Lamartine,—Bohn's reprints of Schlegel's *Lectures on History* and Lamartine's *History of the Girondists*. We have, too, the cheap edition of Bulwer's *Last of the Barons*, and the first volume of Mr. Bellingham's translation of Sismondi's *History of the French*.

We add a few notices at random. Mr. Sharpe's *Corresponding Maps*, engraved on steel by Mr. J. Wilson Lowrie, are completed, in 27 Numbers, and 54 Maps, with a copious consulting Index.—There is a new edition of Mr. Sidney Hall's *General Atlas*, revised and corrected from the best authorities, including the Government Surveys, and other official documents.—Messrs. Nisbet & Co. have published a *Chart of the Sacred History of the World, from the Creation to the Birth of Christ*; being a synchrocal arrangement of the leading events of sacred and profane history,—subdivided into periods, and accompanied by a concise introductory sketch and notes.—Mr. Tallis is publishing, in Parts, an edition of Mr. R. Montgomery Martin's *British Colonies*.—We have before us in a neat volume, under the title of *Christmas Tyde*, a collection from poets, ancient and modern,—chiefly the former—of sacred songs and poetical pieces relating to the season,—and a small duodecimo edition of the *Poetical Works of William Cullen Bryant*.—*High-ways and Dry-ways*—a reprint from the *Quarterly Review* of the article on the Britannia and Conway Tubular Bridges, by the author of 'Bubbles from the Brunells of Nassau'—is answered by Mr. Fairbairn in a pamphlet which imitates the alliteration of the former under the

title of *Truths and Tubes*.—Mr. Leigh Hunt has appealed to the anti-war spirit which is now abroad by a reprint (third edition) of his *Captain Sword and Captain Pen*, with a new preface, remarks on war, and notes detailing the horrors on which the poem is founded.—Messrs. Longman & Co. have issued a new edition of the *Songs, Ballads, and Sacred Songs of Thomas Moore*.—A new edition of Mr. Thomas Sheldon Green's *Greek-English Lexicon to the New Testament*, with additions and alterations, has appeared in a small convenient form.—Mr. Bohn is issuing an octavo edition of Lodge's *Portraits of Illustrious Personages*, with a view of bringing the work within the means of those to whom it has been inaccessible in its more expensive forms. The heads are, so far, effectively engraved, and the book is neatly printed and portable.—A sheet just published called *The Circuiter* is a map whereon the principal buildings, streets and squares in London and its environs are laid down; and a method is given, by division of the whole surface into circles of half a mile diameter each, of finding the distance between any two given points at a glance. It is intended as a check upon cabmen.

## LIST OF NEW BOOKS.

Alison's History of Europe, Vol. X. library edition, 8vo. 15s. cl.  
Barker's (J.) Poems, 12mo. 2s. cl.  
Bohn's Standard Library, Vol. XL. 'Junius,' Vol. I. 12mo. 3s. 6d. cl.  
Bohn's Classical Library, 'Aristotle,' 12mo. 5s. cl.  
Bohn's Illustrated Library, 'Lodge's Portraits,' Vol. III. 12mo. 5s. cl.  
Bulion's (T.) Management of a Country Bank, 12mo. 5s. cl.  
Brown's Philosophy of the Mind, 4 vols. 8vo. 23s. cl.  
Brook's Ethics, cr. 8vo. 6s. cl.  
Companion to a Cigar, by a Veteran, 32mo. 2s. 6d. cl.  
Church Goer (The), Rural Rides, 2nd series, 12mo. 6s. cl.  
Crossley's Comprehensive Spelling, 18mo. 1s. cl.  
Crossley's Comprehensive Reader, 12mo. 1s. 6d. cl.  
Crossley's Comprehensive Catechism, 12mo. 2s. 6d. cl.  
Dallais (Rev. A.) Castleskerke, 2nd ed. cr. 8vo. 4s. cl.  
Educational Outlines, by a Lady, 8vo. 5s. cl.  
Emerson's (R.W.) Representative Men, Seven Lectures, cr. 8vo. 5s. cl.  
Gallie Gleanings, a Series of Letters by a Lady, cr. 8vo. 2s. 6d. cl.  
Hamilton's (R.W.) Leeds Memoir, by Dr. Stowell, 8vo. 10s. 6d. cl.  
Hume's (D.) Life, 2 vols. 8vo. 15s. cl.  
Ingli's (J.) Sabbath School and Bible Teaching, fc. 2s. 6d. cl.  
James's (J. A.) The Olive Branch and the Cross, 18mo. 1s. cl.  
Jackson's (F.) The Sinfulness of Little Sins, 3rd ed. 12mo. 3s. 6d. cl.  
Jubal, a Book for 1850, fc. 2s. 6d. cl.  
King of the Hurons, cr. 8vo. 6s. cl.  
Kitto's (Dr. J.) Daily Bible Readings, Vol. I. 12mo. 6s. cl.  
Lee's (J.) Digest of the New Navigation Act, 12mo. 6d. swd.  
Little Boy's Own Book, by Elsie Charles, sq. 2s. cl.  
Manual of Bookkeeping for Booksellers, &c. 12mo. 6d. swd.  
Markham's (Mrs.) History of England, new ed. 12mo. 7s. 6d. cl.  
Martin's (Mrs. of Whitfield Chapel) Memorial Letters, 2s. 6d. cl.  
Midland Florist, Vol. III. 1849, 12mo. 4s. 6d. cl.  
Nills's Sportsman's Library, 8vo. 9s. cl.  
Nichol's (J. P.) Architecture of the Heavens, 2nd ed. royal 8vo. 1l. 1s.  
Norman's Bridge, by Author of 'Emilia Wyndham,' fc. 3s. 6d. cl.  
Oliver & Boyd's New Edinburgh Almanack for 1850, 18mo. 4s. bds.  
People's and Howitt's Journal, Vol. I. new series, royal 8vo. 4s. 6d. cl.  
Pictures from French History, square, reduced to 2s. 6d. cl.  
Punch, Vol. XVII. 4to. 8s. cl.  
Slater's Shill. Ser. Vol. 12. Tuckerman's 'Thoughts on the Poets,' 1s.  
Slater's Universal Series, Vol. III. Sand's *Uscusque*, 18mo. 1s. cl.  
Sophisms of Free Trade, by a Barrister, 2nd ed. fc. 4s. 6d. cl.  
Tindal's (Mrs.) Lines and Leaves, royal 18mo. 6s. 6d. cl.  
Tyler's History of Scotland, 7 vols. 8vo. reduced to 2l. 12s. 6d. bds.  
Wison's Christ Revealed, new ed. 18mo. 1s. cl.  
Wilmington (The), by author of 'Emilia Wyndham,' 3 vols. 31s. 6d.  
Wise's (Lieut.) Los Gringos, Mexico and California, post 8vo. 5s. cl.  
Wordsworth's Poetical Works, Vol. III. 24mo. 2s. 6d. swd. 3s. 6d. cl.

## NEW YEAR'S THOUGHTS FOR 1850.

BY THE AUTHOR OF 'THE PATRICIAN'S DAUGHTER.'

Unconquered Time! who know'st nor halt nor bourn,—

With unretarded wing, unnoting eye,  
Thou near'st the land-mark where the nations turn  
Their gaze on half an age of destiny.

Another fifty years!—The dust of thrones  
Falls scattered from thy pinion. Fame and death—  
Their dissonant cry of pæans of groans—  
Are drowned within the eddies of thy breath.

What wilt thou leave us?—Shall the hearth survive  
When realms are shaken? Shall the tendril-grace  
Of private love withstand the storms that rive  
The forests and upheave them from their base?—

Masked was thy visage, Time, in early hours;  
"ONWARD!"—we, thoughtless, cried—"convert to noon

This dawn of life, these budding hopes to flowers,  
Fulfil thy promise!"—It was kept too soon.

The germ enfolds fruition; that—decay,  
Hunger insatiate swells upon its store;  
The zenith of our fate obscures its day,  
For all is ours—and yet we pine for more!

Then comes the after strife when need grows strong,  
And wealth grows scarce, and Love, bowed down  
By loss—

Love, to whom "riches fineless" did belong—  
Counts grains for hoards and finds that half are dross.

No more we cry "Speed Time!"—in our extreme;  
But, "Time, RETURN!"—if all we still possess  
Must perish, yet give back the power to dream,  
And that than cold fulfilment more shall bless!

"Give back the days when life's untravelled wave  
Broke on a bright horizon we thought land,  
And, smiling, put to sea;—nor knew the grave,  
And not the glory, was indeed the strand!"

"Give back the days when Springs were prophecies,  
Give back the vision, in the autumnal year,  
That but beheld the gold leaf on the trees,—  
For that which now sees nothing but the sere!"

Thou heededst not! the sun goes down:—the chill  
Of night creeps round the hearth where smoulder-  
ing lay

Our ember comforts; and, with mute appeal,  
Our upraised eyes implore thee but—to STAY!

They droop and all is ashes; silence all.—  
Not silence; list, those accents borne from far!—  
Does Time too late make answer to our call?  
No, from a realm beyond the farthest star

That strain descends!—"Demand thy dower, sad spirit!

Ask not from Time what Time can ne'er bestow;  
Who would unchanging blessedness inherit  
Must seek it in the Changeless,—not below.

"Not from the encircling air do planets draw  
Their inborn lustre,—space, else void and dun,  
Themselves illumine; substance gives the law  
To shade; 'tis ever daylight to the sun!"

"O stream that lingerest for thy banks are fair,  
They fade when thou art stagnant!—Own thy tide!

Flow on,—and know, though all thy bounds be bare,  
By thine own current verdure is supplied!

"O heart, that when love's objects fail dost pine,  
Admit love's essence! 'Tis the glory thrown  
From the bright soul that makes its pathway shine,—  
The chiefest beam to cheer thee—is thine own.

"Where Summer comes, are flowers,—where kind-  
ness, friends;

Your fate reflects yourselves where'er ye roam;  
One fireside crumbles; but, where love extends  
To all that live,—the universe is home.

"And shall the dear and vanished be forgot?—  
Can God forget them, when his creatures thrill  
With deathless memories by Himself begot?—  
Your taken treasures are your treasures still!"—

O blessed Voice! sow in our hearts the seed  
Whose fruits increase by gathering,—faith sublime,  
Love that fulfils its own in others' need,  
And ripens by its winters.—ONWARD, TIME!

## GREAT EXHIBITION OF THE WORKS OF INDUSTRY OF ALL NATIONS.

Another important step in the history of preparation for the great Industrial Exhibition of 1851 has been at length taken. Last night's *Gazette* contains the Royal Commission nominating the persons who are to have charge of the necessary measures for carrying out the scheme, and be responsible to European opinion for the due constitution of the juries who are to apportion the prizes between a Universe of competitors. The Royal Commissioners are,—with the Prince Consort at their head,—The Duke of Buccleuch, the Earl of Rosse, Earl Granville, the Earl of Ellesmere, Lord Stanley, Lord John Russell, Sir Robert Peel, Henry Labouchere, Esq., William Ewart Gladstone, Esq., the Chairman of the East India Company for the time being, Sir Richard Westmacott, the President of the Geological Society of London for the time being, Thomas Baring, Esq., Charles Barry, Esq., Thomas Bazley, Esq. (President of the Chamber of Commerce at Manchester), Richard Cobden, Esq., the President of the Institution of Civil Engineers for the time being, Charles Lock Eastlake, Esq., Thomas Field Gibson, Esq. (well known in the Spitalfields silk trade), John Gott, Esq. (of Leeds), Samuel Jones Loyd, Esq., Philip Pusey, Esq., and William Thompson, Esq. (iron-master and Alderman of London). The joint secretaries appointed to the commission are Stafford Henry Northcote, Esq. and John Scott Russell, Esq.—By the same instrument, Henry Cole, Esq., Charles Wentworth Dilke, jun. Esq., George Drew, Esq., Francis Fuller, Esq., and Robert Stephenson, Esq. are appointed the Executive Committee for carrying the exhibition into effect, under the directions of the Prince Consort—with Matthew Digby Wyatt, Esq.



for their secretary.—By the terms of the commission, the twenty-four Commissioners have power to appoint local commissioners in all parts of the United Kingdom and in all places abroad. This portion of their duties it is important that they should proceed to exercise without delay, in order that measures of organization may be proceeding simultaneously over the world. England is now formally committed to her trial of industrial strength with the nations; and, that the issue may be complete, it is desirable that her champions as well as her rivals should everywhere be got into immediate training.

## PUBLIC LIBRARIES.

THE reply of Mr. Edward Edwards in your last, to my three letters on the subject of public libraries, appears to me to demand a few observations in answer,—which I will make as brief as regard to clearness will allow.

Mr. Edwards is quite mistaken if he supposes, on the ground of my having taken the trouble to point out some of the numerous errors and omissions in his 'Approximative View,' that I am adverse to the extension of public libraries in England. It would be as logical to infer that a person was opposed to the improvement of the drainage of London, from his denying assent to the assertion that Paris and Edinburgh were remarkable for the excellence of their sewerage. There are some persons—and I am one of the number—who are of opinion that even the best of causes should not be furthered by statements at variance with facts.

Mr. Edwards is pleased to announce that he is preparing a new edition of the 'Approximative View.' I am sorry to hear this, because I am fully convinced that there have been too many editions of that publication already; and I see little likelihood that the next will prove a material improvement on the preceding. It has been shown, in my previous letters, that Mr. Edwards has displayed a fatal facility in committing new errors when endeavouring to amend the old, and this propensity seems to increase upon him. In this very reply, while affecting to treat the corrections I have pointed out as a mass of insignificant pedantry, he shows a singular misapprehension as to what the gist of some of them consists in. "I shall have," he says, "to restore Alcobaça to Portugal, and Mentz to its right Hesse—to transform Vich to Vicq, and the dates 1836-37 into 1835-36; in short, to make many other corrections of similar calibre." Mr. Edwards is quite mistaken. He will not have to restore Alcobaça to Portugal, but to erase it altogether; for I have shown, by reference to his own authorities, that the library of Alcobaça has ceased to exist, in common with many other convent libraries, which no longer have either a "local habitation or a name," except in the 'Approximative View,' where they serve to prove that Portugal is superior in public libraries to England. Again, he will not have to alter Vich into Vicq; but, as I have proved in a previous letter, "Vich, France," into "Vich, Spain." In his 'Approximative View,' he states that there is "an episcopal library" at Vich, and describes it as being in France. I then informed him that Vich was in Catalonia, and this is his answer. There is, however, no such episcopal city in France as Vicq, and no library at any of the insignificant places so named, which occur in the French Gazetteers. The city of Vich, in Catalonia, on the other hand, has an episcopal library, which, according to the 'Diccionario Geográfico Universal,' of Barcelona (vol. x. p. 580), contains a collection of 15,000 volumes. I hope that after this second explanation, Mr. Edwards will take care that the article Vich shall, if possible, be right in his new edition.

These are certainly minutiae, but they are not the minutiae that the compiler of a statistical table should affect to disdain. It is on the accumulation of such minutiae that all Mr. Edwards's airy hypotheses rest; and when the foundation is removed, down these hypotheses fall. Mr. Edwards appears to assume that I have carefully examined all the particulars in his table, and that the errors I have pointed out are the sum total of all I was able to discover. This is by no means the case. I found the task of sifting mistakes a tedious one, and when I had satisfied myself that the 'Approximative View' was valueless, I pursued that task no further. There are several parts of the table yet unexamined—those relating to

Sweden and Denmark, for instance, in which I feel certain, from a general acquaintance with the subject, that a careful scrutiny would detect some serious errors; but I must own I am not inclined to spend my leisure in ascertaining if they arise from Mr. Edwards's having made use of bad authorities, or having misquoted those he professed to refer to.

"But," says Mr. Edwards, in continuation of what I have already quoted, and in a tone which he evidently intends his readers to take for that of triumph, "I shall not have to add to my enumeration of the public libraries of London, a long list of libraries to which the public have never been admitted, nor to deny the free and unrestricted accessibility of the libraries of Germany, the official regulations of which secure such unrestricted access by express enactments." The list which I supplied of the libraries of London included that of the East India Company, for admission to which no one pays any fee whatever, and where foreign and native scholars are allowed not only to read, but to borrow either printed books or manuscripts; the City or Guildhall Library, the admission to which is also without fee or reward,—to mention no other instances. If Mr. Edwards does not insert these establishments in his forthcoming list, he must renounce his own definition of a public library and any other that I have ever seen;—if he does intend to insert them, what is the meaning of the passage just quoted? Will he endeavour to escape from the dilemma by asserting that the list to be given is not a long list? When he speaks so emphatically of the official regulations of the libraries of Germany, he recalls to remembrance the following questions and answers before the Committee with regard to the libraries of Munich.—

"74. Are those libraries open to every one?—Answer. The first regulation of the Royal Library of Munich is that the admission to it is freely open for literary and scientific purposes but not for reading for mere amusement. The University Library is not freely open; it requires an introduction either from a professor at the University or some person of known standing at Munich.

"75. Is there no library in Munich into which a stranger might enter for the purpose of reading?—Answer. I do not believe that the limitation is really enforced; though I have quoted it from an official publication.

"76. You think that any person can have free access to the library?—Answer. I think so."

The witness, who before the Committee treats as of so little weight the authority of German official publications when they contradict his own preconceived notions, is the same Mr. Edwards who now refers to them as such inrefragable testimony. If he finds liberal measures in these regulations he quotes them against all opponents; if he finds illiberal ones he thinks they are a dead letter. But while Mr. Edwards, who has never been in Germany, thinks there are no restrictions enforced, Dr. Meyer, who is a German and has frequented the libraries at Munich and elsewhere, states that there are. I might refer to the other regulations I have quoted, in my second letter, from the 'Allgemeine Auskunft,' of Baron Lichtenthaler,—but surely it is needless.

Mr. Edwards proceeds in the same strain. "Nor need I take the pains to compute what proportion the aggregate number of volumes in the libraries of the Oxford University may bear to the aggregate number of inhabitants of Oxford city,—to whom the books would be of as much utility if they were preserved in the University of Serampore." This strange assertion, that the Bodleian and other libraries at Oxford are absolutely of no use whatever to the inhabitants, may safely be left to the judgment of every reader of sense and information. But can it be that it is the compiler of the 'Approximative View' himself—the whole and sole principle of which is to compare the number of volumes in libraries with the number of inhabitants in towns,—who thus sweepingly derides the whole notion as a piece of palpable absurdity? Strange as it may appear it is even so. Of course, if it be not worth the pains to compute the proportion at Oxford, it is just as useless to compute it at Cambridge, or at Göttingen, or at Munich, where we have just been told that the 'University Library is not freely open,' or at St. Petersburg, where a large proportion of the books

in the Imperial Library is still in cases waiting to be unpacked. Of the system thus abandoned by its introducer we can only say, "*Requiescat in pace.*"

On Catalogues Mr. Edwards is brief but decisive—my answer will be no less so. "The judgment of the Committee with respect to catalogues would," he says, "have been little enlightened by my answering to the question 'Are you aware of any of the first-class libraries of the Continent which possesses a printed catalogue?' 'I know there is not one' in a letter which itself enumerates several such catalogues, with their titles and dates of publication." The letter Mr. Edwards refers to is his own, printed at page 243 of the Report of the Committee of the House of Commons. That letter takes for its text, not the question "Are you aware of any of the first-class libraries on the Continent which possesses a printed catalogue?" but this question (No. 3366), "Are you able to say whether there is in all Europe a printed catalogue of any library containing 200,000 volumes?" That letter does not enumerate several such catalogues,—in it Mr. Edwards mentions the Bodleian as one such, and I have shown in a former letter that in mentioning that he has committed an error. In short, in answer to Question 3366, Mr. Edwards states that he has "certainly seen catalogues" of libraries of 200,000 volumes. I said, and I repeat, that "certainly" he has never seen one such, because none exists,—and again call upon him to mention a single one that he has seen.

After this I have little to add. Mr. Edwards refers to M. Alexandre Vattemare,—since I wrote my last letter I have had an opportunity of examining some pamphlets issued by M. Vattemare in America, and I find his so-called scheme of "international exchange" even more futile than I had supposed,—the question however is too extensive to be discussed in this letter. I am bound also to add, that M. Vattemare seems to have been more successful in enlisting the sympathies of the Americans than I was aware of. For eight years the Library Committee of Congress neglected to do in his favour what they were "authorized" but not "directed" to do; but by an act passed last year they were authorized to appoint an agent for international exchange, and they have appointed M. Vattemare himself.

I have now touched upon all the points Mr. Edwards has controverted. There are some that occupy a conspicuous place in my letters to which he makes no allusion. I hope that in the forthcoming edition of his 'Approximative View,' he will explain how it occurred that—

1st. He referred to Werlauff's 'Efterretninger om det store Kongelige Bibliothek (2nd edition) pp. 333 sqq.,' for the number of volumes in the Copenhagen Library, which cannot be found in Werlauff's book either at that page or any other:

2nd. He referred to Lichtenthaler's 'Allgemeine Auskunft über die Bibliothek zu München,' for the number of volumes in the library of Munich, while in point of fact Lichtenthaler makes no statement whatever on that head:

3rd. He referred to Wittich's article on the libraries of Portugal in Zimmermann's 'Zeitschrift für Alterthumswissenschaft' as his authority for stating that the National Library at Lisbon contained 80,000 volumes, while Wittich in fact states that it contains 300,000.

There are several similar cases, which he will find mentioned in my first letter. These errors cannot surely be assigned either to the "ignorance or negligence of the author, or the difficulties inseparable from his task."

Yours, &c. VERIFICATOR.

## FOREIGN CORRESPONDENCE.

Panticosa.

I must send you a letter from these remote and strangely-situated Spanish baths, were it only to invite the further inquiries of your medical readers to the extraordinary accounts current here of their wonderful efficacy,—especially in cases of *far-gone* consumption. If half that is related, not by interested parties, but by patients and ex-patients, of the cures performed here be true, the virtues of these waters ought to be far more widely known than they are. At Jaca, a gentleman was pointed out to me who had been carried to Panticosa so far



gone in consumption that on his arrival there no time was lost in administering to him the last sacraments of the Roman church. Seven years had elapsed since then; and he is now to all appearances and according to his own testimony in complete health. And yet, despite many such recorded cases, I was assured that Panticosa and its springs are but very partially known, even among the faculty at Madrid.

Before attempting, however, to describe the position of Panticosa, the difficulties to be surmounted in reaching it, and the accommodations it offers to any invalids who may be tempted to try the power of the waters,—the order of time and place requires that I should give you some account of a visit we paid the Monastery of San Juan de la Peña. Much as we needed rest during the two days which we were to spend, as I said in my last letter, at Jaca, we could not refrain from devoting the second of them to this excursion.

The convent of San Juan de la Peña—St. John of the Peak, that is to say,—is a remarkable spot, both naturally and historically. The plain lying around the city of Jaca, which once constituted a little Moorish kingdom of that name, is entirely shut in by lofty mountains,—to the north by the main chain of the Pyrenees, and to the south by a range of subordinate but still very considerable hills, richly covered with wood, and rising into very picturesquely shaped peaks. Situated on one of the most remarkable summits of this latter range, at a distance of some four hours of mountain mule-path from Jaca, are the remains of two convents, as is often the case in similar positions,—the one the original hermitage, awe-inspiring from its strange and savage site, venerable from its remote antiquity, and hallowed to the popular mind by the miraculous legends of its foundation,—the second, the vastly enlarged and splendid habitation of the fraternity at a later day, built when the convent had grown too rich on the credit of its old sanctity and asceticism to be any longer content with the scant accommodation and rude situation of the original house. Both are now hastening to decay, with every prospect of the more recent building being the first to arrive at entire dissolution. This latter occupies at San Juan de la Peña a wide and smiling turf plateau, surrounded by a forest of pines thickened with a luxuriant undergrowth of box and holly. The convent has long since been secularized; and nearly the whole of its vast buildings are in a state of premature and unpicturesque dilapidation. Enormous cloisters, two separate quadrangles, huge masses of dwellings, a large church, all built of brick, without any pretension to architectural beauty, are still standing, for the most part with their roofs on, but untenanted and well-nigh abandoned.

One priest, formerly one of the brethren of the convent, has been permitted to continue in the building and to say a daily mass in the church. Of course, the strange position and fate of this last solitary monk of San Juan struck our imaginations not a little. We had pictured to ourselves some magnificently silver-locked and flowing bearded octogenarian, whose step might probably be often heard pacing at midnight the long, desolate corridors, and whom we should most likely find sitting on the tombstone of some former abbot, in deep, pensive meditation on his departed brethren and the days which were gone. But it was not altogether in such wise that the solitary of San Juan presented himself to our observation. On riding out from the cover of the forest on to the open turf which surrounds the convent, we espied an individual, in a sort of long black great coat and slouched broad-brimmed white felt hat, lying at his length on his back in the shade thrown over the soft turf by a huge gable, and snoring most majestically. He started to his feet as we neared him; and different as the apparition was from that which our fancy had anticipated, it was impossible to doubt that the jolly, red-faced, and comfortably portly gentleman who cheerily saluted us and begged us to come into his dwelling and partake of such fare as he could offer in the absence of his maid,—gone into Jaca for the day—was in truth that last monk of the convent “left blooming alone”—very unmistakably blooming—whom we had wisely chosen to figure to ourselves under so different an aspect. A pretty little child and some half-dozen cats were the only members of his

family that we found at home when we entered the corner of the immense pile which he had chosen for his habitation. Nevertheless, he bestirred himself to set such refreshment as he could lay his hands on before us; and seemed quite determined to have a little talk before accompanying us to the older convent. The more recent building, as may be gathered from what I have already said, has nothing beyond the beauty of its site to interest a visitor:—and we were in a hurry to be off to the original storied spot where the first Roman mass ever said in Spain was celebrated. It was impossible, however, to accomplish this before satisfying our host's eager inquiries respecting the progress and prospects of the Catholic faith in England and the nature and particularities of cock-fighting as practised there. He had been taught to believe that the complete restoration of our island to the church of Rome from an apostasy which he attributed wholly to the evil influence of that daughter of Satan, “Anna Bolena,” was very shortly to be expected. And he took infinite delight in comparing the cock-fighting, which he considered as our national and indispensable amusement, to the bull-fights of Spain,—much in the tone that an inhabitant of Brobdingnag might use in discussing the curious ways of the Lilliputians.

At length he arose to lead us to the spot miraculously pointed out as the site of the original convent, by the suspension of a hunter and his horse over an abyss down which they must have plunged but for this supernatural intervention. The story is an often recurring one; but the position of this cradle of the Arragonese Church is truly unique. Ordinarily in such cases of mountain monasteries, the older and ruder building is the upper one. The reverse, however, is the case at San Juan. Our guide led us by a well-cut path through the forest on the mountain side, descending gradually from the sunny open meadow occupied by the modern convent on the summit, till suddenly, at a turn, we found ourselves in front of a most singular semi-circular wall of rock almost in the shape of a horse-shoe. The height of this perpendicular cliff may be from three to four hundred feet, and its material is a hard reddish pudding-stone. Above, around, and below, all is forest; but this curved red wall is quite naked. At its foot a few yards of level ground intervene before the mountain side again dips, not perpendicularly, as above, but at as rapid a declivity as is compatible with the growth of forest. These few feet would by no means have been sufficient for the buildings which exist in this gloomy spot. But at the deepest part of the curved recess, at the foot of the rock, is a huge cavern; and it is almost wholly within this that the buildings of the convent have been erected. Besides other edifices, there is a charming little cloister, with round highly ornamental Romanesque arches and quaintly sculptured capitals. This is completely roofed over by the naked red pudding-stone of the cavern projecting almost horizontally above it. A small strip of blue sky is seen across the mouth of the cavern, which thus admits a dim faint light. There is also a large chamber similarly vaulted over, and similarly lighted, containing the tombs of a considerable number of early Arragonese nobles and prelates. A variety of curious arms and symbols are carved on the stones which shut them into the rock. In a small inner chamber, still within the cavern, but vaulted over, are the sepulchres of the early kings of Arragon,—Sanchos, Ramirez, and Pedros—in long array. This chamber and its contents have been recently “beautified,” churchwarden fashion. New tombstones have been served out to all the royal remains, of a tidy uniform pattern, with their names and those of their wives inscribed thereon in bran-new gilt letters; and every one is fitted into his place in the wall of the building as exactly and neatly as so many drawers in a cabinet. By a strange oversight, however, whether from carelessness or ignorance, the “churchwarden of this parish,” whoever he may have been, has omitted to add any dates to his inscriptions. The restorers of this ancient sepulchral chamber, however, have added two objects of modern Art, which make it ungrateful to find fault with their care. These are two statues, about half the size of life, placed on the altar which occupies one end of the vault! One represents Christ on the Cross, and the other St. John. They are both of great beauty and

of a very high order of merit; and were executed for this place by a Genoese artist, whose name the worthy priest, our guide, could not tell me. There is also a figure of the Virgin,—but of very inferior merit.

On quitting the convent, we bethought ourselves of executing a commission intrusted to us by the Spanish ladies who had been our fellow-travellers from Saragossa. This was, that we would bring them back from a certain cave near the convent a pebble a-piece picked from the pudding-stone rock of which the mountain is in great part formed. These stones, it seems, are of sovereign efficacy in child-birth. I must confess that the faith of our fair Andalusian friend in the virtue of the charm appeared to be of a very slender kind. But the Saragossan lady believed in it most religiously; and assured us very earnestly that the following case occurred within her own knowledge at Saragossa. A certain lady lying in imminent danger, her husband was in the utmost distress,—when a female friend came running to the house with a stone from San Juan de la Peña. The mode of using the remedy is, to immerse the pebble in water and administer the liquid to the sufferer. But in this case, the husband in his agitation and hurry so gave the potion to his dying wife that she swallowed stone and all. The result, however, was at the same time most satisfactory and most wonderful. For immediate relief ensued; a fine infant was shortly born, and—in its clenched hand was found the miraculous stone. How could I account for this otherwise than on the supposition of supernatural agency? The argument was triumphant. At all events, it was easier to promise one of the coveted stones than to attempt a refutation—and as useful. So, the pebbles were duly gathered, and presented to the fair devotees.

On the morrow of our return from San Juan, our little cavalcade—if, indeed, a string of mules may be so termed—once again set forth. The ride from Jaca to Panticosa requires eleven or twelve hours, exclusive of the time given to the mid-day halt. This was fixed at Biescas, a village at the foot of the defile by which the Gallego comes forth from the mountains into the plain. Our route thus far was not very interesting. But the remainder, which followed the course of that river up to the cataract in which it leaps from the bosom of the glacier immediately above the baths, passes through scenery of a very high order. The path is by no means dangerous, though in places a little difficult,—and sufficiently trying to weak nerves unused to anything of the sort, to keep the Saragossan lady in tears of terror for much of the distance. It must be borne in mind, however, that many mountain paths which a Swiss guide would not dream of calling difficult even, are very much so, and often really dangerous in Spain. In the one case the men are active, intelligent and conscious of responsibility, the horses are good and admirably trained to the work, and the tackle—a very important part of the matter—is sound. In Spain, on the other hand, the guides are negligent, stupid and careless, the cattle generally good for little, and the tackle always good for nothing. The vaunted never-failing sure-footedness of the mule is not to be too much relied on. Two have fallen under me between Saragossa and this place, and a third under another of the party. It is true, they generally pick themselves up more cleverly than a horse does;—but this is a consolation scarcely applicable to a fall in a bad place. Even on the French side of the Pyrenees, the guides consider places bad enough to make a lady dismount which would be thought nothing of in Switzerland.

Rarely have travellers in a civilized land arrived at their destination with so keen a perception of the blessings of decent bed and board as we did at Panticosa. Good mutton and potatoes, with knives and forks and a clean table-cloth, for supper! Soft, clean beds to stretch our aching backs on! Here was luxury to have turned Diogenes' self into an epicurean. We went to bed feeling as if we should surely remain there a week. It was not very late, however, the next morning before the “good drowsiness” had sufficiently done its restorative office to make us ready to get up and look about us. A more desolate scene than that which surrounds the baths of Panticosa it is impossible to conceive. All wood, and with it most of the beauty



of the scenery, ceases before the traveller reaches this high valley,—more than 5,000 feet above the level of the sea. At the spot where the baths stand at the head of the valley, there is a small lake formed by the cascades which, five or six in number, come tumbling down the mountain sides to form the infant Gallego. Around this the granite precipices rise on all sides save that of the narrow entrance by which the path enters from the lower valley. The produce of the country, to speak statistically, is granite, water and trout. A north wind was blowing strongly during the first days of our stay there, and the cold was so sharp as to make it seem a very strange place of resort for consumptive patients. Little or nothing has been done for the amusement or luxury—English visitors would probably say—even for the comfort of invalids resorting here. The bedroom accommodations consist of a clean bed, a deal table, a wash-hand basin, jug and glass, a cupboard, and some half-a-dozen rush chairs, all good and clean. The board consists of a small cup of chocolate and a morsel of bread, Spanish wine in your room in the morning, a plain but cleanly-served dinner in the “comedor”—i. e. *Salle à manger*—at one, and a similar but rather lighter meal at 8 p.m. The charges for this are three francs for the bedroom, plus one franc for each person sleeping in it. The rooms are comfortably large enough for two; who are thus charged two francs and a half each. This appears an outrageous price to Spaniards. But when the nature of the locality and the difficulty of transporting things thither are taken into consideration, it is cheap enough. The board is five francs a day. Doubtless, extra payment might procure the food to be served in private,—but it is very doubtful whether any extra comfort would arise from this. Certainly, better food could not be had; for the public table is served with the best there is. Every bedstead in the establishment was brought hither on mules’ backs over the very difficult pass—eight hours—from Caunteretz in France. It may be easily supposed, therefore, that any of the more cumbrous comforts or elegancies of social life—such as a pianoforte, for instance—would be vainly expected here. You might as well ask for Aladdin’s lamp at once as for a carpet or a curtain. It is right, however, to add, that we are assured the north wind rarely blows,—and that, when it does not, the climate is mild.

The shortest way to reach the baths of Panticosa is from Caunteretz—a ride of eight hours. But it is extremely difficult to ascertain whether this route ought to be recommended to ladies or not. I had fully determined on returning with my wife by this pass into France. But the master of the establishment at Panticosa, an apparently intelligent and athletic man in middle life, told me that he had often passed, but did so no more because he feared the danger. This has decided me to take the pass by Sallent to Eaux Chaudes in France—a ride, I am told, of little or no difficulty, of about ten hours. The ride might be shortened to eight by going to Eaux Chaudes from the village of Gabas, in a carriage. We shall, however, ride to Eaux Chaudes—and that ere many days be passed. For Panticosa is, in truth, soon seen sufficiently to gratify the curiosity of the most inquiring. T.A.T.

#### OUR WEEKLY GOSSIP.

The Editors of the ‘Annals and Magazine of Natural History’ having allowed R. T. after our warning to commit them once more to his extraordinary assumptions, they can no longer shift from themselves their portion of the responsibility which he has incurred. Had this not been so, and had the offence rested wholly on Mr. Taylor’s head—whom we take, as we have said, R. T. to be—we should not have suffered ourselves to make a reply to a gentleman who so far forgets what is due to himself and us as to repeat his assertion, that the paragraph in dispute was the contribution of an anonymous correspondent, when we had distinctly informed him that the statement was our own. With one whose temper leads him to such a breach of the courtesies and proprieties of discussion, argument is alike unbecoming and inconclusive. But as he has colleagues who join him in the absurdity of applying what they do know as the necessary rule of what they do not—in the teeth of direct

evidence, too—and who have the presumption to assert that that cannot be possible which has not been communicated to them—we reply once more. We re-affirm the correctness of the paragraphs in our columns which have so entangled them through the awkward handling of R. T. There is a strong feeling among the Fellows in favour of a biennial election to the Presidency; and it was mooted as a possibility that Mr. Brown might be induced to accept the office for a year or two, though he might decline to be elected unconditionally.—We recommend R. T. to make some inquiry into the variety of opinions prevailing in the body to which we assume him to be assistant-secretary, before he jumps to the conclusion that the views of R. T. are necessarily the views of L. S. in the aggregate:—and we recommend his colleagues in editorship to be very cautious in accepting the statements of a gentleman who feels justified in declining the positive averments of a brother-journalist on matters necessarily within his knowledge.

Intelligence of the death of the enterprising African traveller Mr. John Duncan, on board Her Majesty’s Ship Kingfisher, in the Bight of Benin—has reached England. Mr. Duncan is one more of the victims to African discovery. In early life he served as a private in the Life Guards; and after his discharge from that corps he joined the ill-fated Niger Expedition. By means of the Geographical Society, he was afterwards enabled to return to Africa; where he explored a great extent of country hitherto untrodden by European foot—as our readers know from his Narrative in two volumes published in 1847. By these labours his constitution was early broken down: and he has died in sight of his reward—on his way to Whydah, at which place he had been appointed Vice-Consul for the British Government.

A Special Court of Governors and Proprietors of King’s College was held on Saturday last, on an interesting occasion. The Council having received anonymously the munificent offer of 5,000*l.* towards the building of a new hospital, the Court was assembled to determine on the spirit in which this munificence should be met by themselves. The result was the following resolution:—“That in pursuance of the recommendation of the Council, this Court do sanction a grant of 5,000*l.*, to be paid to the Committee for the building and permanent endowment of King’s College Hospital, on such conditions as the Council shall see fit.”—It is the intention of the Council, if they can raise the necessary funds, to erect a new building capable of containing at least two hundred beds.

We must make room for a rejoinder to a note in last week’s *Athenæum* which we have received from a “mysterious and hieroglyphical” correspondent.—

Zadkiel’s compliments to the editor of the *Athenæum*, and begs to hand him a copy of the *Twenty-Sixth Thousand* of his Zadkiel’s Almanac for 1850. Zadkiel hopes this may satisfy the editor that he is mistaken as to the sale being about a thousand! The printers are very respectable men, and will satisfy any one that there have been 26,000 printed already.

Dec. 29.

Now, let us return such compliments as are due to Zadkiel *Tao Sze*; whether this name indicate one or many persons—a single Dalai-Lama of the star-gazers or a galaxy of old ladies who, like Hood’s sorceress, “study in a cup” fortune and misfortune. But we must tell him, her, or them, that his, her, or their note is as far from being explicit as the announcement in the printed “Notice to Correspondents” which says, that “Mr. Smith is not Zadkiel himself, as some persons suppose.” Zadkiel refers to the respectability of his printers as guarantee for his statement;—but there being no printer’s name to the almanac, that we can find, we have as yet only an anonymous writer’s word to vouch for the twenty-six thousand copies. Supposing the numbers to be, however, as above stated,—the result is a multiplication by twenty-six, not of our belief in the spread of astrological science, but of our shame and regret that there should yet exist in England so many dupes to swallow noxious trash, whether it be administered as a dose of terror or one of teaching. Such a waste of ignorance and superstition as is indicated by the asserted size of the flock feeding on it, offers a field for anxious care and immediate tillage to every educator.—For the good of some of this forlorn twenty-six thousand, we will quote one of Zadkiel’s own voices “of the stars,” for February

next. “*The fourteenth of this month*,” say the celestial bodies, “*is evil for the Queen Dowager: danger of some feverish disease and perhaps accident to the arms, blood-letting will be injurious!!!*” Can planets, comets, nebulae, or other luminaries be more impudently ignorant than those who are chargeable with the foregoing lying voice? If such exposures of Zadkiel’s familiars do not touch some of the six-and-twenty thousand with remorse over their wasted six-pences, we really think that theirs becomes a case for some Colonization Society’s interference, who should at once send them to Gotham, Deseret the Mormon state or—Burton-upon-Trent.

Lord Ashley, as Chairman of the Committee of the Ragged School Union, has put forth a “special appeal” to the benevolent on behalf of those children of the streets who come under his more immediate notice. The words are simple, but the subject is eloquent in social meaning. He points to the fact that while Government highly approves of the deportation of these unfortunates, it refuses to charge itself with the responsibility of sending them out. This refusal is an argument to urge private charity to take up the abandoned good work; but the willingness of private persons to come in aid is no justification of the State for its neglect of duty. Private charity, as we have already said, can never hope to meet the evil as it should be met,—with large and comprehensive measures, carried out with such means of action as lie at the disposal of a powerful State.

By a small paragraph which occasionally finds its way into the waste corner of a morning journal, we are reminded that the Welsh Festival called the Eisteddfod is to be shortly held at Rhuddlan Castle, under royal patronage. Few of our readers, notwithstanding our occasional notices of these meetings, probably know much of the Eisteddfod. It is a festival which, in the language of its promoters, has for its object “the elevation of the character of the natives of the Principality by encouraging Welsh arts, manufactures, agriculture, and promoting the literature and music of the country.” We have no objection, of course, to “the elevation of the character of the natives.” We know not if there be any Welsh arts:—the manufactures and agriculture certainly require to be improved. The objection to this sort of celebration is, that under cover of a patriotic aim it seeks to perpetuate old traditions, old manners, old machineries of action, in the face of a world in which such things can have no chance of existence. If the influence of such celebrations extended no farther than to the “lords and ladies” who take part in them—like the Eglintoun Tournament or the Holland House Fête—we should have nothing to say on the subject; but we fancy they are intended to set the example of a love of adhering to the old language,—and in the eyes of an ignorant peasantry to give a fictitious air of value to those ancient habits which, if obstinately retained in an age of progress like the present, can lead only to increasing poverty and ruin. Arts, manufactures and agriculture such as the Welsh possess have been carried to the highest perfection of non-productiveness. What they require is cutting up root and branch to make room for newer arts, manufactures, and agriculture. The “literature and music of the country” may be safely left to those who have time and educational means to bestow on their cultivation; but the artisan or peasant of the Principality can hardly have a greater enemy to his future prosperity than the man who encourages him by prizes, precepts, and example to set a higher store on the rude knowledge of his ancestry than on the arts, the language, and the literature of England.

A Dublin correspondent informs us that at a meeting of the Committee for the Repair and Restoration of St. Patrick’s Cathedral in that city, held on Tuesday, the 6th of December last, the Duke of Leinster being in the chair,—the Dean called the attention of the Members to the tottering condition of the great south wall of the nave, and of the east wall of the choir. In consequence of the insufficiency of the funds of the Chapter to meet such an outlay as the circumstances demand, the meeting came to the resolution that the best way to raise the sum especially required for the present peculiar emergency would be, by means of collecting cards to gather small subscriptions from as many as possible,—and thus endeavour to preserve this ancient building,



the noblest specimen of ecclesiastical architecture in Ireland, and justly renowned for the consistent beauty of its early pointed style.—The sum absolutely necessary, it is stated, to save the Cathedral from ruin is calculated at about 3,000*l*.

The case of the Boston Grammar School, it is reported in the local papers, is about to be compromised on a basis which will only partially remove the evils that had crept into its administration. Like most endowments of the kind, this school was intended for the especial benefit of children of the poorer classes of artisans; but instead of now so reforming this institution as to admit these parties, the compromise is so arranged as to exclude them altogether. The yearly tax to be levied on each scholar in this "free" grammar school is sixty shillings!—a sum which mechanics and small shopkeepers, whose children really need the assistance of these public foundations, will be unable to pay; and the pupils will be thus kept down at one, instead of five, hundred. This "arrangement" has been made between the two corporate bodies,—that of the town and that of the charity. A liberal member of the town council urged a reduction in the capitation fees; but he was overruled with the argument that "the school would in such case be inundated with scholars;"—an argument which people less peculiar in their wisdom than the corporation of the Bœotian Boston of the Fens would have used in favour of the reduction. The inundation of scholars is the very thing contemplated by the founder,—desirable now as an atonement for past neglects and as a safeguard against future evils. If the artisans of Boston submit to be excluded from the benefits of their own institution, it is the more incumbent on the powers which rule in Parliament by a searching inquiry to restore to them their rights of a public education for their children.

From Paris, we have to announce the death, at the age of 95, of M. Quatremère de Quincy, the oldest member of the Institute. M. de Quincy was a member of the Academy of Inscriptions and Belles Lettres, and perpetual honorary secretary to the Academy of Fine Arts.

A French journal gives some particulars of the estate recently bestowed by the Sultan on M. de Lamartine. The domain lies in the immediate vicinity of Smyrna, and is nearly as large as the Isle of Wight,—being about fifty-four miles in circumference. It has hitherto belonged only to the Crown,—as we should say in England. The soil is described as wonderfully fertile, like most of the land in the neighbourhood of Smyrna,—as being well planted with oranges and olives, and as capable of every variety of cultivation. The chateau, built for the residence of an imperial officer, is commodious beyond the usual run of Turkish houses; and under the windows lies a fine lake of more than a mile across, which is described as well stocked with fish. The estate includes five villages. M. de Lamartine, it is said, goes to Asia Minor in the spring, to take possession in person of his territorial gift.

A correspondence from Bogota, New Granada, informs us that an attempt will be made in the congress which is about to meet, to have the two ports on the opposite shores of the Isthmus of Panama declared free and open to the commerce of all nations. This is a point in the early settlement of which all European powers have an interest more or less—but England more than any. The passage by Panama—owing to the geographical distribution of her empire—will become, as soon as it is traversable by steam, the nearest and most direct road to some of the more important seats of her colonies and commerce. Now or hereafter, a right of way, at all seasons, in peace or in war, across this isthmus,—a right of entry for her ships into the harbours of Panama and Chagres,—is what Great Britain must assert and maintain at any and every risk: so that, should the settlement of the question not take place now, the seeds of future misunderstanding between Europe and America will be left to grow under the influence of tropical passions into fruits which may prove hurtful to peace and civilization. Once, already, a project has been entertained by European statesmen of taking possession of the narrow strip of land which divides ocean from ocean, and holding it as a neutral territory in the joint-name and at the common-expense of the Five Powers, if any attempt were made to deny one

nation those rights of access which are ceded to another. There must be no monopoly of the "right of way" at Panama.

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#### SOCIETIES

**GEOLOGICAL.**—Dec. 19.—Sir Charles Lyell, President, in the chair.

A paper was read 'On Craters of Denudation, with Observations on the Structure and Growth of Volcanic Cones,' by Sir C. Lyell.—In the first edition of his 'Principles of Geology,' the author considered that those large bowl-shaped cavities, like Palma, Santorin, and others, named "elevation craters" by L. von Buch, had been chiefly formed by engulfment. In the second edition of that work, the deep gorge in the wall of these craters was ascribed to the denuding action of the tide during the gradual emergence of the volcanic islands from the sea. The influence of this agent was not extended farther at that time; but the author has now come to the conclusion that the origin of a great part of the Caldera of Palma, and of the corresponding hollow in Tenerife and many other volcanic islands, has been due to denudation. It is now admitted that many of the volcanoes with such craters have been formed beneath the sea, and the matter supposed to have been removed is by no means great when compared with the extent of denudation in the Wealden or the Valley of Woolhope. During the gradual emergence of a volcanic crater the sea would continue to flow into it on its lowest side, and the circular basin thus alternately filled and emptied by the rise and fall of the tide, would be scoured out and the passage kept open. This action is illustrated by the Basin of Mines, in the Bay of Fundy, and by Lulworth and other coves on the coast of Dorsetshire, the latter as perfectly circular as any volcanic crater. Many valleys and bays on the coast of New Holland, with lofty precipitous walls and narrow openings are illustrations of the same mode of origin. The formation of the dome-shaped volcanic mass, forming the boundary of these denudation craters is principally ascribed, with Mr. Scrope, to matter ejected from a central orifice, but some of the broad uniform beds of lava have probably been formed at a lower inclination, and have subsequently acquired a steeper outward dip during the successive fracturing, distension and upheaval of the central parts of the cone. In proof of these views of the origin of cones and craters of denudation, the author refers to Von Buch's account of the structure of Palma, and its single deep *baranco*, or narrow ravine, extending from the sea-coast to the central cavity, through which the matter once filling the interior may have been removed. But he calls attention more particularly to the new Admiralty Survey of Santorin, executed under Capt. Graves, as confirming the denudation theory. The three islands forming the circular gulf of Santorin consist chiefly of volcanic matter, and are joined to each other by a ridge or shoal only a few fathoms below water. This ancient rim of the crater is continuous, except on "the northern entrance," where a remarkable submarine channel has been traced by soundings, and found to be no less than 195 fathoms or 1,170 ft. deep. Through this ravine, when the island stood at more than 1,000 ft. higher level, the matter filling the vast

interior bowl is supposed to have been gradually swept out, the greatest depth in the centre being 213 fathoms. The walls encircling the crater are nearly precipitous, so that were it again emptied, the observer looking down into it from the cliffs of Merivali would behold an abyss 2,449 ft. deep. In the middle of this circular cavity the islands of the Kaimenis would be seen to form a single volcanic mountain with five summits, the highest about 1,600 ft. above the base. Sir C. Lyell, therefore, considers the islands and gulf of Santorin as the remains of a volcanic cone, of which the central crater has been greatly enlarged by denudation, and which has since become half submerged beneath the sea; and he observes, that the existence in this and so many other instances of one, and one only, deep and narrow chasm, communicating with a central cavity, is wholly unexplained by the popular theory of "craters of elevation."

**BOTANICAL.**—Nov. 29.—J. E. Gray, Esq., President, in the chair.—The Secretary read the report of the Council; from which it appeared that fifteen new members had been elected since the last annual meeting—and that the Society now consisted of 249 members. The distribution of the British duplicates had given great satisfaction to the members; and increased exertions had been made this year to obtain the rarer and more interesting specimens,—which had been attended with success. The donations to the library had been considerable.

A ballot took place for the Council; when the President was re-elected,—and he nominated J. Miers, Esq. and E. Doubleday, Esq.† Vice Presidents. Mr. J. Reynolds, Mr. G. E. Dennes, and Mr. T. Moore were respectively re-elected as Treasurer, Secretary, and Librarian. Mr. J. Coppin, Mr. G. Luxford, and Mr. J. Z. Lawrence were elected new Members of the Council, in the room of Mr. A. H. Hassall, Dr. Cooke, and Dr. Ayres.

#### MAKING ICE.

Collingwood, Dec. 24.

Without wishing to detract from the merits, or in any way to interfere with the claims of Dr. Gorrie, of Florida, in relation to his process for making ice by the expansion of highly compressed air (previously reduced to the ordinary temperature), as described in your *Athenæum* of Saturday the 15th inst.,—I could wish to place on record, as a matter of scientific history, that on more than one occasion within the last four or five years I have explained orally to friends a process identical in principle, as *practically applicable to the manufacture of ice for sale on the great scale*—the only question being that of remunerative cost as compared with that of importation.

The annexed note, which I have received from my valued friend Mr. May, will bear me out in this statement, so far back as February 11, 1848;—long prior to which, were it worth while, I could cite other testimony.

I am, &c.

J. F. W. HERSHEY.

P.S.—An old steam-boiler, buried some twenty or thirty feet under ground in well rammed earth, and furnished with a condensing pump (worked above ground), and one eduction pipe opening by a stop-cock through a rose into water, would in all probability supply ice *ad libitum* for the use of a family in the country:—the condensation being performed over night.

Ipswich, 12 mo. 20th, 1849.

"Dear Friend,—I have a very clear recollection of our conversation on the subject of forming ice and cooling water for drinking purposes, and of thy suggesting that advantage might be taken of the re-absorption of heat, by the expansion of condensed air that had been cooled to ordinary temperature in its compressed state.

"We agreed as to the possibility of its being done, but the probable cost appeared to me a difficulty in bringing it into practice.

"This conversation took place either at the anniversary dinner of the Royal Astronomical Society, in the early part of 1848,—or at the Greenwich Visitation a few weeks afterwards:—but I think it was at the former." [It was so.]

"Believe me, thine very truly,

(Signed)

CHARLES MAY.

"Sir J. F. W. Herschel, Bart."

† Since dead.



"P.S.—Whilst discussing this question, I remember repeating an account of a little experiment I made when a boy with one of Newman's condensed air vessels—then just introduced for blow-pipes. I had an idea that if a stream of condensed air were suddenly thrown upon sulphur, it would inflame the latter. Accordingly, a vessel was filled with air almost to the limit of safety, and a roll of sulphur cautiously held to be ready for the opening of the stop-cock:—when, lo! instead of inflaming the sulphur, a small cone of ice was formed!—This was in 1816 or 1817."

[The Chemnitz fountain has long since settled the practicability of so producing ice. The useful application of the principle is the point in question.—H.]

**SCIENTIFIC GOSSIP.**—Some experiments have been lately made by M. Fizeau on the velocity of light, which are of exceeding interest as affording a very close approximation to the results which have been obtained by the observations of the satellites of Jupiter, and other astronomical methods. The apparatus employed by M. Fizeau is characterized by remarkable ingenuity. The results obtained are so interesting, as giving the velocity with which artificial light travels,—and the means by which this is arrived at is so satisfactory,—that we shall endeavour to explain, as clearly as is possible in words, the form of the experiment. The experiment is essentially to ascertain the time required by a ray of light to pass from Suresnes to a certain spot on the heights of Montmartre and back again to Suresnes. The distance between these two stations is 8,633 metres—about two leagues,—consequently, the ray of light traverses 17,266 metres. The mode of effecting this is as follows:—A point of intense brightness, produced by the oxy-hydrogen light, is concentrated by a lens placed in the window of an apartment on a terrace at Suresnes, and being received upon a mirror at Montmartre, is reflected back again, along the same line, to Suresnes. This is effected with such exactness by the arrangements of M. Fizeau, that scarcely any deviation of the line of the ray can be detected;—the rays going and returning are seen one within the other. Behind the point of light at Suresnes is placed a wheel, which carries 720 teeth, and this is so adjusted that the light shines through the opening, between two of the teeth. An eye placed behind the wheel, when it is at rest, receives the impression of the full ray of light. If the wheel is moved, so that  $12\frac{1}{2}$  of the openings pass before the eye in a second, the teeth of the wheel appear continuous, the edge seems semi-transparent, and a moiety of the light is obstructed. The wheel having 720 teeth, each opening occupies  $\frac{1}{720}$ th part of the circumference; and as the first interruption or eclipse of the light is produced by the above rate of rotation, it is proved that the light has traversed 17,266 metres, whilst the wheel has performed  $\frac{1}{720}$ th of a revolution. If the speed is increased, more light is obstructed;—these eclipses, it appears, are accordingly relative to the numbers 1, 3, 5, 7,—the rates of rotation being each time increased uniformly. It will be evident by this, that eventually a rapidity is obtained by which all the light is cut off, and that rate gives the value of the time necessary for a ray of light to pass from Suresnes to Montmartre and back again,—the observer seeing, it must be remembered, only the returning ray. By these experiments, M. Fizeau has determined that a ray of artificial light travels at the rate of 70,000 leagues in a second of time. Astronomers have given the rate of solar light at 192,500 miles in a second. This agrees exceedingly near with the results obtained by M. Fizeau,—the differences between French and English measures being taken into account. Although desirous of giving every praise to M. Fizeau for his most ingenious and conclusive experiments, we must not forget that the principle of employing rotating machinery to measure the velocity of bodies in rapid motion is due to Prof. Wheatstone,—as will be seen on reference to his paper in our Philosophical Transactions, and, as was admitted by M. Arago, in a paper published some years since in the 'Comptes Rendus.' In fact, we find that in July 1835 he proposed to the Royal Society to extend his experiments on the velocity of electricity—"to measure the velocity of light in its passage through a limited portion of the terrestrial atmosphere."

Dr. Wollaston examined the cubic crystals obtained from the slags of iron blast furnaces, and regarded them as metallic titanium. M. Wöhler has analyzed these crystals; and has proved that they are formed of a cyanide and nitruet of titanium, containing 18 per cent. of nitrogen and 4 per cent. of carbon. The titanium obtained by M. Rose is also shown to be a nitruet of that metal, containing 28 per cent. of nitrogen. These results go to prove that nitrogen may be fixed at the high temperatures of an iron blast furnace:—a fact which has not hitherto been even suspected.

#### MEETINGS FOR THE ENSUING WEEK.

- Mon. Pathological, 8.—General Meeting.  
 — British Architects, 8.  
 — Entomological, 8.  
 Tues. Institution of Civil Engineers, 8.—Mr. F. Lawrence, 'An Account of the Blackfriars Landing Pier.'—Mr. J. S. Valentine, 'A Description of a Timber Bridge erected on the line of the Lynn and Ely Railway.'  
 — Zoological, 9.—Scientific Business.  
 Wed. Geological, half-past 8.—Mr. Fletcher 'On Dudley Trilobites.'—Mr. Brodie 'On the Inferior Oolite near Cheltenham.'  
 — Ethnological, 8.  
 — Literary Fund, 3.  
 — London Institution,—Soirée, 7.—Mr. Grove 'On Some Recent Discoveries in Physical Science.'  
 Thurs. Antiquaries, 8.  
 — Royal Society of Literature, 4.  
 — Royal, half-past 8.  
 — Royal Academy, 8.—Architecture.  
 Fri. Astronomical, 8.

#### FINE ARTS

##### NEW PUBLICATIONS.

*Ancient and Modern Architecture.* By M. Gailhabaud. Parts 115—128.

Little recommendation is required for a work the fourth series of which is now in progress. It will be found to be a most useful ally and companion to such architectural histories as those of Hope, Fergusson and Freeman:—the last of which contains no illustrations at all. Still, it would have been more generally serviceable, and more interesting both to the amateur and to the professional student, had there been less of what must be *caviare* to all but the archaeologist, and more numerous examples of those styles which, either directly or indirectly, are connected with architectural design and practice at the present day. Of the eighty-one Cathedrals—some of them most glorious fabrics—which France possesses, only one has as yet been represented in this publication—and that by no means the choicest—viz. Notre Dame, at Paris. One German cathedral has been given;—one which is so universally extolled that we may be deemed arrogant when we give it as our opinion that, however wonderful Cologne may be as a fabric, its general architectural quality and details are not of the very first order. The exterior is marked by a multiplicity of parts, even to confusion—whereby a certain appearance of richness is produced; yet the parts themselves are meagre and wiry. However, the celebrity of the edifice, and the circumstance of its intended completion, fully justify its being introduced into the present work.—But we should certainly have excluded 'The London Docks,' as a subject devoid of both architectural and pictorial interest. Surely, some of our club-houses or railway buildings, or such a structure as St. George's Hall, Liverpool, would have been more suitable as specimens of modern architecture in England.

*Buildings and Monuments, Modern and Medieval.*

Edited by G. Godwin. Parts I.—IV.

The idea of republishing in a separate and handsome form some of the best architectural subjects that have been given in 'The Builder' was a good one. Besides being thus brought together within a comparatively small and convenient compass, separated from miscellaneous matter of only technical or temporary interest,—the woodcuts are so greatly improved in appearance that they scarcely seem to be from the same blocks as before. The same illustrations, or the same number of them, could not have been brought out at the same price had not the blocks been already executed, and had they not served their purpose in a periodical having an assured sale. As now shown, the woodcuts of Bridgewater House and Sir Benj. Heywood's Bank at Manchester are admirable specimens of that mode of engraving,—and make manifest what it is possible to effect for architectural illustration. They are most accurate as to drawing, and tasteful as to execution: so far superior to all the other illustrations, that it will behove the editor of 'The Builder' to endeavour to

keep up in future to their point of excellence,—he himself having let us see that it is attainable.

#### THE NEW PALACE AT WESTMINSTER.

We made a careful inspection the other day of the new House of Commons in Mr. Barry's new Houses of Parliament. It is a noble room sixty-two feet broad by forty-five long, and forty-five high,—as small as is possible for the requirements of the House. Compared with the House of Lords, it is almost quaker-like in its decorations. The lights are from windows at the sides, that rise from about the middle of the wall to within a foot of the ceiling. At either end there are three noble arches filled with perpendicular tracery, to correspond with the windows. The walls are panelled with oak two-thirds up; carved with the well-known linen pattern, and on certain tiers surmounted with rows of shields for armorial bearings. The galleries for members, reporters, and strangers give boldness and effect to the whole composition. The Speaker's chair is at the north end, near his own apartments. The windows are filled at present with plain glass; but it is the intention of the architect to introduce a stained glass of a very simple character, in order to subdue the oppressive glare of light that floods the building from the plain glass of such noble windows. It is impossible to burn the house down:—you might set fire to it and destroy the whole of the furniture and fittings, but the flooring and walls and even the roof, we believe, would remain intact and fit to receive another assembly with no other aid than that of the upholsterer. It is said that the building will be found to answer one of the first requirements of such a structure,—that of allowing the voice to be heard distinctly throughout. The House might be made ready for the reception of members in a very short time,—this session, we believe; but the works, thanks to an impoverished Exchequer and an unwilling Chancellor, advance less rapidly than the paymaster—the public—would wish. We trust that the miscellaneous estimates of the Chancellor will include this session a heavier item for the New Houses than has been granted on any previous occasion. Ten years will have passed on the 27th of April next since the first stone was laid,—and at the present pinched scale of parliamentary grants there is very little hope of completing the building within the next six years.

It is impossible to survey the noble elevation which the genius of Mr. Barry has called into existence,—to walk through the spacious quadrangles and the stately halls,—without an earnest desire to see the completion of the works. It is pleasant to contemplate from the river, from Poets' Corner, or from Old Palace Yard, what form the whole structure will take when the architect shall have done his work,—to build for one's self the Victoria Tower rising to the immense height of 340 feet, or 64 feet less than the height from the ground of the cross of St. Paul's Cathedral,—to raise the Central Tower to the architect's height of 300 feet while preserving the just proportions of the two structures,—to carry the light and graceful Clock Tower into the clear blue sky of a London spring, to a middle height between the Central and the Victoria Towers. Or, if we loiter and muse throughout the vast maze of building which Mr. Barry has reared with so much tact and talent—it is pleasant to people the House of Commons with orators as eloquent as Chatham and Burke and members as honest as Marvell or Shippen; pleasant, if we walk within, from corridor to hall, from hall to committee-room, to cover the walls with frescoes which shall place the English School of painting on the same level with the English School of poetry.—Despite, however, the penuriousness of the Chancellor, the hammer is not altogether silent in the New Palace at Westminster. There is still a little army of masons and carpenters at work to supply the immense mass of carving required for the decorated character and extent of the building. The Queen's Robing-room has advanced considerably since our last visit:—the Central Hall and St. Stephen's Hall, as far as masons are concerned, are nearly completed. St. Stephen's Porch, at the south end of Westminster Hall, is filled with a hive of workmen, carving figures and bosses and coats of arms appropriate to the place. The fresco-painters are at work. The six compartments in the Lords are already filled, as our readers know; and in the Poets' Hall, Cope, Herbert and Horsley have illustrated



Chaucer, Shakspeare and Milton.—Mr. Tenniel is at work, with taste, feeling and judgment on Dryden's 'St. Cecilia'.—Mr. Herbert is trying his hand on a passage in Spenser,—and other artists as yet unnamed are to represent Pope, Byron and Walter Scott. Alterations, too, are in progress; and by the time the Parliament meets, the Reporters' Gallery in the Lords will have been advanced six feet into the body of the building. This alteration, though it interferes with the just proportions of the room, will make it the better adapted to the requirements of its frequenters.

There is nothing more striking throughout the whole building than the dwarf appearance which Westminster Hall makes after the eye has been accustomed to the Victoria Porch,—and to the lofty proportions of the Central Hall and of St. Stephen's Hall. Lowering the floor has been attempted, without removing the disfigurement in any degree proportionate to the necessities of the case. Mr. Barry, we are told, contemplates raising the roof; not by taking it to pieces and then rejoining it, but by some contrivance in mechanics that will secure the whole woodwork intact, and yet enable the masons to build upon the walls on which it rests. We confess, after weighing the matter with an antiquarian prejudice, that we should like to see this done. The noble roof deserves a better elevation; and after the tubular bridge at Conway, to raise the entire roof of Westminster Hall would, it seems, be an easy contrivance. Mr. Barry has already lengthened the Hall by carrying the south window further out:—let him raise "Rufus's Roaring Hall" still nearer to the skies, and thus add to the uniform nobility of the whole edifice.

#### WINTER EXHIBITION OF WATER-COLOUR DRAWINGS.

For the benefit of sight-seers at this holiday time and the advantage of visitors to the metropolis during the winter months, when other Art Exhibitions are closed, Mr. Grundy has opened his rooms in Regent Street with a collection of water-colour drawings by some of our principal artists. The major part of the series is new, or fresh from the artists' easels; and many have been made expressly for the occasion. Others which have been seen before were so only in private houses, where access was not general. Of the latter class may be named some masterly emanations from the pencil of Mr. Edwin Landseer,—slight, yet containing the essence of truth pronounced in a species of stenography; making the means of pronunciation an equal marvel with the pronunciation itself. *Napoleon's Eagle*, numbered 63 in the Catalogue, is a masterly sketch from nature; invested with a touch of the sublime by a poetic allusion to the hero himself,—whose finely-formed profile is seen in the solemnity of death within the disc of the departing orb. This and the *Coming Events* (64), a sketch for the engraved picture, are masterpieces of suggestive art.—A study of *A Canary* (65) is astonishing for its power of imitation. These, together with the *Portrait of Miss Power* (72)—a delicate and elegant specimen of its class, by Maclise—having been presents from their respective authors to Lady Blessington, it is painful to find them here. Two other sketches by Edwin Landseer, in pen and ink—*Huntsman and Hounds* (62) and *Group of Cow and Calf, Man milking* (66)—are things which some future collector will treasure up as witnesses of the artist's power.

The original drawing of *Leonora* (71) gives no very high idea of Ary Scheffer in this way. It is to the elaboration of his thoughts in his oil pictures that we must look for the pathos for which he is so remarkable. The drawing made from his picture of *Christus Consolator*, by M. Dupont (73), is a good example of the proper preparation for the engraver's translation.

Of three little drawings by Mr. Stanfield, *Berwick Law* (95) is a fine romantic scene,—*St. Peter's, Guernsey* (96), one of those descriptions of a street with which the artist has made us so familiar. These, and the *Landscape* (97) all present the artist in a more than usual silvery style.

From the hands of Mr. David Roberts we have many rich illustrations of the East. *The Temple of Kalabsha, Nubia* (41), though slight, is very masterly. *A General View of the Island of Philæ, Nubia* (14) is the study for the well-known picture of the same.

There are here, also, the transverse view of the *Portico of the Temple* in the same island (27), a bold architectural design,—a capital drawing of the *Colossal Statue in Front of the Temple of Wady Sababa, Nubia* (26),—the *Temple of Amada, at Hassage in Nubia* (30),—and a *View on the Nile,—Hager Selselis, or the Rock of the Chain* (31),—besides many other successful fruits of the artist's Oriental journeyings.—There is an abundance of studies of single figures of gipsies and other picturesque characters by Mr. Poole: of which the best are, *The Gleaner* (32), a very pretty figure,—*The Reaper* (34),—*Gipsy Girl going to Market* (39),—*Girl with Sheaf* (45),—and *Rustic Innocence* (46).

There are no drawings here more to our taste than those which testify to Mr. Cattermole's imaginative power and his varieties of reading. His principal drawing here is, *Columbus propounding to the Prior of the Franciscan Convent of Santa Maria de Rabida his theory of a New World* (5),—an excellent exemplification of his peculiar power. *The Knight relating his Adventures* (10) is one of those scenes, presented by him with so much of identity, which carry the spectator back to distant days. The religious discourse in *The Chapel* (21) is spiritual and solemn. The impressiveness of this last drawing makes it a worthy subject for the engraver's art. *The Knight's Departure* (29) is one of his touches of romance:—as his *Mill Scene at Rowsley, Derbyshire* (25) is of nature. The larger figures of *The Mother and Child* (47) are perhaps less in his line. *The Sacking of Basing House* (132) is full of vigour and of incident.

Mr. Sidney Cooper's two drawings,—*Morning—Landscape and Cattle* (6), an excellent group of animals, and—*Evening—Landscape with Cattle and Figures* (11), very Cuyppish in effect—have more refinement in air and in surface than his oil pictures.

Among coast scenes the truth of the *Coast of St. Leonard's, Sussex* (16), by Mr. T. M. Richardson, is most striking. Mr. J. D. Harding's *Highland Moors, Isle of Arran—Grouse Shooting* (37) is a specimen of a character of scenery and occupation with which we have hitherto been made acquainted chiefly through the instrumentality of Mr. Evans, of Eton.

Mr. Frost has contributed two small subjects: the *Ladye from Comus* (33), a single figure,—and a very poetical conception of *Day chasing Night* (40).—By Mr. Frederick Pickersill there are, *The Murder of the Innocents* (151), and a *Dance of Nymphs* (152); both more luxuriant in colour than correct in design.—No one can mistake the authorship of *The Windmill* (36), or of the *Landscape, with Bridge and Figures* (38). The name of David Cox is stamped in their execution.

*Solicitude for the First-born* (67) is the chief in size of Mr. F. W. Topham's contributions,—as it is in merit. It is full of taste and good colour. Of the four sketches by the late Sir A. Callcott, the *Muleteer guiding Two Females* (68) is of most importance. It has the most of character and best expression of incident.

*The Female Head* (99), by the late Mr. John Wright, is remarkable for its truth of colour:—as is *Italian Boys at Prayers* (116), by Mr. Oakley, for truth of character. Mr. Hunt's boy *Blowing his own Trumpet* (135) is one of his admirable humorous juvenile studies: and *The Head of a Rabbi* (139) shows him capable of more serious matters.

Of the many views of Venice, so called, Mr. C. Vacher's *Palazzo Foscari* (134) is the best. The painter has given the very air as well as the local tinting.—One of Mr. J. H. Mole's largest works is *Bark Cleavers, near Dongelly, North Wales* (139). It is highly finished, yet effective.—Two little works must close our notice: a fresh-looking drawing of the *Bridge over the Caversham Road, near Reading* (140), by Mr. C. Davidson—and Mr. C. R. Stanley's *Notre Dame, Paris* (143), remarkable for its truth. There are, however, many other works well worthy of observation in the numerous portfolios which the rooms contain: but to particularize them would demand more space than we can spare. The Exhibition is altogether one which will well repay the attention of visitors.

**FINE-ART GOSSIP.**—The Council of the Society of Arts have, we hear, appointed a sub-committee to consider the character of their Exhibition for the present year. We believe we are correct in saying

that the Committee have decided that a Collection of Works of Art connected with the middle ages is to be made, to be exhibited about March; and we hear, further, that they propose to form a joint committee for conducting the necessary arrangements, composed of well-known archaeologists,—and that invitations have already been sent to the members of the Society of Antiquaries, and those of other similar Societies, requesting their co-operation.

The *Événement*, a Paris paper, gives an account of a sword of honour presented to General Changarnier as the testimonial of a body of subscribers. The blade is embossed, and bears the inscription—"The Defenders of Order to General Changarnier." The sheath, of shagreen, with an arabesque of gold, terminates by a figure in massive gold representing a single Laocoon. The handle is formed by a demi-god overthrowing the Hydra of Anarchy. The drapery which floats from the shoulders of the demi-god is adorned with two brilliants, given, one by the President of the Republic, the other by the Princess Matilda. The monster wears the bonnet-rouge, terminated by a magnificent ruby. His tail, which forms the guard, is adorned with three emeralds. In the knob, or button, of the ring, are three large stones representing the tricolor,—a ruby, a brilliant, and a sapphire. The design of this sword is by M. Nieuwerkerke—the sculpture by M. Klagmann.

In the little town in Roumelia which gave birth to Mehmet Ali, the small house in which he first saw the light is religiously preserved. The French papers state that in the garden of this house a superb mosque, of marble and alabaster, is now erecting by Abbas, in conformity with the directions of the deceased Pacha.

The Roman correspondent of the *Times* states that the statue of the Athlete lately found in the Trastevere has been established in the Vatican, in the same room with the Mercury and adjoining that which holds the Belvedere Apollo. It appears that the doctors of Art are beginning to disagree about its merits—the foreign sculptors lowering the rank which the Romans assign to their new possession. The latter maintain that it is of the highest rank; and the writer in the *Times* says:—"I consider it to be a first-rate specimen of a class not appertaining to the *beau idéal*, but to man as he really is, trained by regular exercise, and prepared in the full force of animal vigour for a mortal combat."

#### MUSIC AND THE DRAMA

##### NEW PUBLICATIONS.

*The Court Theatre and Royal Dramatic Record; being a complete History of Theatrical Entertainments at the English Court from the time of King Henry the Eighth down to the termination of the series of Entertainments before Her Most Gracious Majesty Queen Victoria, His Royal Highness Prince Albert, and the Court, at Windsor Castle, Christmas, 1848-49.* With Illustrations on Steel by Finden, from Designs by Messrs. T. Grieve, Telbin, and John Absolon. Edited by John K. Chapman.—There is no world so odd in its phenomena as "the wooden O" in which *King, Queen* and (it may be hoped) *Knave* are alike make-believe. Take a truth or two as regards England. Every enlightened person agrees in the fact of the decline of the Drama. Pamphleteers pamphletize on the subject "loud and sore"—prefaces preface almost every new play by dressing up the doleful tidings, like Prologue, with a "cocked hat." Yet we believe that a certain English operatic enterprise is, at this moment of mourning, hindered by the difficulty of finding a theatre. We further may assert that never was the number of Shakspeare's plays played in London so great as now, nor their variety so wide. Thirdly, we will match the new plays produced during this death-time, against the tragedies by Jephson and Hannah More which Garrick produced,—or against the "*England's glory*" comedies which showed up hob-nailed rustic virtue in arms and alarms against city wickedness—or against the melo-dramatic *Iron Chests*, *Pizarros*, and *Mountaineers*, which the world ran to see some forty years ago. Other perplexing results might be yielded by comparison. The gains honourably gathered by the Author of '*The Lady of Lyons*,' if set against the monies which accrued to Sheridan for his '*School for Scandal*' or to the heirs of poor Tobin for his '*Honeymoon*,' make a feature of the case not un-



worthy of cogitation. From appearances so utterly discrepant we will not theorize, preach, or prophesy. Still less will we call in the aid of *Zadkiel*, of 'Charles Rasme,' or of the Mysterious Lady in Leicester Square—to interpret to Mr. *Harmony* or to Mr. *Croaker* what may be portended by the appearance of a volume so superb as the one before us. Mr. Pepys had none so "mighty fine" to handle in his play-going days;—Madame D'Arblay's "sweet Queen," who enjoyed a reading from Mrs. Siddons (enacted by that Lady on foot) and who loved play-going and talking over plays, never set eyes on so costly a record of her own pleasures.—The illustrations are simply the most artistic and best executed theatrical pictures that we recollect to have seen. The antiquarian notices seem pleasantly put together. The type, paper, and binding are superb. "What would you more" than such description, melancholy or hopeful reader? Criticisms upon the criticisms here ventured?—The *Athenæum's* "more last words" touching the *Hamlet*, the *Portia*, the *Bassanio*, the *Baron Steinfort*, &c. &c. &c. or Shakspeare, Kotzebue, Jerrold, and Oxenford?—in short, fresh tastings of the several components of "the dainty dish" commanded by the Queen, with the kindest intentions towards "*Her Majesty's Servants*"?—Any such retrospect or comparison would but lead us towards the never-ending, still-beginning, maze of controversy in which sundry devout and erudite drama-worshippers love to pass their lives. Let them—let others wiser and more infallible than we—give the solution of the puzzle thrown down in this gorgeous book: meanwhile, its gorgeousness entitles it to all manner of success,—especially among those who do not despair of the Drama, or who court Court influences.

#### THE BACH SOCIETY.

ALL lovers of the best music will do well to lend a helping hand to this Society, which is now beginning to take form and to order its proceedings. A Committee has been assembled,—as it seems to us, most judiciously constituted,—under the chairmanship of Mr. W. S. Bennett; and a prospectus has been issued, possessing the rare merit of abstinence from undue profession,—which runs as follows.

"The primary objects of this Society are:—I. The collection of the musical works of John Sebastian Bach, including as far as practicable all the various editions extant; also copies of all available authentic manuscripts, and all biographical works relating to him and his family,—with a view of forming a library of reference for the use of members. II. The furtherance and promotion of a general acquaintance with the numerous vocal and instrumental works of this great and comparatively unknown Master, chiefly by performances—the frequency and extent of which must be governed by the means at the Society's disposal.

To the above we have but to add, that the moderation of the annual subscription—half-a-guinea—brings a membership within reach of every one who is more than lip-earnest with regard to a composer much talked about but little known; and to offer our best New Year's wishes to the Bach Society as one among many evidences of "a good time coming."

MR. WILLY'S CHAMBER CONCERTS.—An optimist could not more auspiciously open a new chronicle of concert-performances than by recording the excellent music given at the third of these meetings; for which Herr Ernst was engaged, and at which he performed one of Beethoven's Duets with Mr. W. S. Bennett, and led Mendelssohn's Quartett in E minor. Our climate, or his steadily-increasing popularity here, seem to agree with Herr Ernst—since his fire, strength, and certainty have of late been constant; and they were never in greater perfection than on Monday evening. Nor can they ever have been more cordially relished. At a time like the present when great artists are so few—while a public so vast as ours is on every side wakening up to intelligence and pleasure in Music—it is not possible too strongly to insist on the pre-eminent value of a player like Herr Ernst, who, with every modern technical accomplishment, combines a solidity, delicacy, and intensity of expression, always to be aimed at, but very rarely met with. We know of no other living instrumentalist who so richly satisfies heart, mind, and fancy, whether in music of parade or in the most select and poetical forms of composition. It is very gratifying, too, to see an audience so numerous, so attentive, and so enthusiastic as the audience assembled by Mr. Willy.

DRURY LANE.—'The Road to Ruin' has been revived,—for the purpose, it would seem, of introducing to the London public some members of the company with whom we were previously unacquainted. A Mrs. Winstanley appeared in the *Widow Warren*, and gave great promise,—having a good voice and person, and exhibiting much histrionic skill in her delineations of the character. But a Mr. Basil Baker as Mr. *Dornton* and a Miss Baker as *Sophia*, though they achieved respectability, did little to warrant expectation of more. Mr. Anderson himself was the *Harry Dornton*, Mr. Emery *Silky*, and Mr. F. Vining *Goldsmith*. Of the three, only the last-named acted the character according to the accepted intention of the author and the traditions of the stage. The other two gentlemen substituted their own individualities for the persons they were supposed to represent.

On Wednesday, Miss Vandenhoff made her first appearance for several years; her re-advent having been expected with interest by those who remembered her five seasons ago in *Antigone*. The part chosen for the occasion was *Pauline*, in Sir Edward Bulwer Lytton's play of 'The Lady of Lyons.' We could have wished that she had chosen some part more classical in style and sentiment: the present, nevertheless, furnishes many opportunities for histrionic display—and it must be confessed that Miss Vandenhoff availed herself of them with remarkable skill. This lady's form has much improved for stage purposes; and she is now evidently qualified to support the dignified as well as the pathetic. Her training for the stage has been first-rate; and such a performance, so finished and artistic in all points, as her *Pauline* is not often witnessed. Her return to the boards will be hailed by all true lovers of the drama. Mrs. Winstanley as *Madame Deschappelles* acquitted herself well. Mr. Anderson in *Claude Melnotte* wanted variety and passion. With a fine organ, he is slow in action and monotonous in speech. The house was crowded;—and at the end of the play Miss Vandenhoff was called before the curtain.

SADLER'S WELLS.—On Monday, the tragedy of 'The Gamester' was revived,—with especial reference, we suppose, to the presumed taste of a Christmas audience. Mr. Phelps performed *Beverley*—though the part is as little suited to him as possible; and Miss Glyn was *Mrs. Beverley*—to which character she sought to give the poetical elevation that naturally belongs to her style. Mr. Bennett was *Stukeley*, and performed it in his best and most forcible manner. The rest of the play was inadequately filled.

SURREY.—Maturin's tragedy of 'Bertram' has been put up here during the week for the benefit of the holiday-folk. With many stage-effective points, this drama is repulsive to true taste; and it was by the late Mr. Coleridge, in his 'Biographia Literaria,' exposed to just, though somewhat merciless, ridicule. It has never maintained a firm hold upon the stage, and is now seldom performed.—Mr. Creswick's *Bertram* seized all the available points of the character; and in many he was very effective. Madame Ponisi was not equal to *Imogene*,—but Mr. Mead was excellent in *The Prior*.

OLYMPIC.—Mrs. Mowatt made her first appearance at this new theatre on Monday in the part of *Beatrice*, in 'Much Ado about Nothing.' She was received with marked welcome.

STRAND.—Mrs. Glover's services, owing to a disagreement with Mr. Anderson, are still retained at this theatre. Mr. Charles Dance's *petite* comedy of 'The Country Squire' was revived on Monday; in which we were glad again to witness the performance of this veteran actress in the part of *Mrs. Temperance*. The *Squire* himself and his *Two Nephews* were personated by Mr. Farren and his sons. Miss Rebecca Isaacs supported the dashing character of *Fanny Markham* with neat spirit. The acting throughout was lively and truthful.

#### PIRATES IN THE PLAYHOUSE.

A capture has just been made, the importance of which, and the singularity of some attendant circumstances, entitle it to a place among the *memora-*

*bilis* of 1849-50. It is true that those who sweep the seas may at all times find plenty of paper warfare to occupy them, caused by some unauthorized snatching of a piece of stage-carpentry (or ship-building), or some theft by main force of a cargo of new foreign manufactures or of old "home" jokes. But this week the piratical craft brought into port is a veritable *Red Rover*. To come on shore:—we have now to record a device in dramatic authorship so new and fearless as to merit a place in the century of literary inventions.

It is well known in dramatic circles that the Lord Chamberlain's licence has been more than once refused to a five-act comedy, 'Richelieu in Love,' by the author of 'Whitefriars,' and that the play has been published,—the right of representation having been made over to Mr. Webster. The other day, the author of this play received accidental (not official) intimation that a three-act drama, entitled 'Love's blind, they say,' had been accepted and licensed, and was in rehearsal at the New Strand Theatre,—such production being confessedly the aforesaid 'Richelieu in Love,' altered, without its parent's knowledge, by Mr. Grenville Fletcher. Mr. Farren was immediately requested not to perform this contraband drama,—on which Mr. Fletcher entered into negotiations, the aim of which was, that the author of 'Richelieu' and Mr. Webster should cede their rights, and absolutely accredit this piracy by consenting to the production of the piece thus surreptitiously altered.—Mr. Fletcher pleading, as claims, the licenser's objections to the drama in its original form, and "the best attention" and labour bestowed by the adapter upon its appropriation and amendment! These overtures, it is almost needless to say, have been rejected,—and Mr. Fletcher intimates that he may try to carry through his usurpation by appealing to law. Now, such a receipt for original authorship may have been followed in former instances. What is new, is the tone of Mr. Fletcher's defensive indignation. Not a notion has he that such literary "conveyances" are not "lawful as eating;"—nay, they are bolstered up as praiseworthy. Such callousness on the one hand, and such fine feeling under prohibition on the other, make this case worthy of being noted as what Hood's Horticulturist would have called "a rare specimen of the specious."

MUSICAL AND DRAMATIC GOSSIP.—It is said that the first sacred work performed by Mr. Hullah's Chorus at the opening of St. Martin's Hall will, possibly, be the Psalm by Mr. Henry Leslie, of which favourable mention was made on the occasion of its private trial some months ago.

Mr. Sims Reeves appeared at the last of the *Wednesday Concerts*, and is, by our contemporaries, said, in his singing, to have shown evidences of study since he was last heard in London.—'St. Paul' is to be given by the *Sacred Harmonic Society* on Friday next; the solo singers being Miss Catharine Hayes, Miss Dolby, Mr. Lockey, and Herr Formés.

The *Royal Society of Musicians* has been recently distributing the sum of 57l. to distressed members of the profession beyond the reach of its provisions. This was well done;—and such a dole amounts to a tacit confession that the circle of beneficence commanded by the existing statutes of the Royal Society is far too narrow. But that body, as we last year pointed out [*Athen. No. 1114*], is empowered by its Charter to reconsider and amend its constitution; and we trust that the measure recorded may be preliminary to the raising of such power from a dead letter into a living spirit.—The King's Scholars just elected at the *Royal Academy of Music* are Mr. W. Cusins and Miss Martha Street.

Eighteen hundred and forty-nine, of chequered memory, was last week characterized as having been the year of Auber in England. The composer's 'Gustavus' is announced as selected for the opening of our Royal Italian Opera. This is tantamount to a musical novelty; since, sixteen years ago, when the *Masquerade* ran its hundred nights at Drury Lane and the Peerage figured on the stage in domino, all such portions of every foreign opera as resisted ballad-organization ran the risk of being cut away with a most simplifying readiness.

Those who abet the *Athenæum* in discountenancing all prodigious exhibition as a relic of the times



of barbarism, and who further think with us that Art should not join company with Literature and Science save in the genuine as distinguished from the empirical forms of its manifestation, will understand with what vexation we transcribe into columns which announce the opening of another year's campaign an advertisement like the following.—

Marylebone Literary and Scientific Institution.—This evening, —, the Minstrel Fairies will give their Recital of Classical Music, entitled the Fairy Entertainment, as performed by command before Her Majesty and the Royal Family. Performers: —, the eldest fairy, 10 years; —, second fairy, 8 years; —, third fairy, 6 years; —, fourth fairy, 3½ years.

The literary and scientific persons who support the above Institution may—and we hope will—feel shocked on being reminded that in the above advertisement they are offering a premium to the race of monster-manufacturers,—whether such own the proprietorship of erudite pigs, spaniels who dance most doleful dances in remembrance of the plates of hot iron on which they learned the “polka step,”—or fairy-victims “aged 3½ years”! The law which limits infant labour in factories might be wholesomely applied to such painful and demoralizing exhibitions as the one here denounced.

Madame Felix Miolan, a pupil of M. Duprez, who distinguished herself the other night at his benefit, has been since engaged at the *Opéra Comique* of Paris, to make her first appearance—it is added—in a new opera by M. Adam. There seems no limit to the Parisian power of producing cleverly trained *soprani* fit for a moderately-sized theatre. “Your Tenor” is the rarity all the world over.—*Apropos* of tenors in France, we perceive that Signor Ferrari, mentioned not long since in the *Athenæum*, has thought a V a better initial than an F,—and is about to appear under the auspices of Signor Ronconi as Signor *Verrari* in ‘Nabucco.’ The manager has been just condemned by the French tribunals to pay considerable damages to Signor Flavio—another tenor, not long ago dismissed from the theatre for refusing to appear as *Nemorina* to Mdle. Vera’s *Adina*—without rehearsal: the part being one which Signor Flavio had never before performed.

A German musical celebrity died a few weeks since at Riga in the sixty-seventh year of his age—we mean Herr Conradin Kreutzer. He was a native of the Duchy of Baden,—was educated as a choir-boy in the Monastery of Zwytlingen, near Rüdlingen,—brought himself into notice by composing at Vienna an opera, ‘Conradin of Suabia,’ which was represented there in 1814 with such success as to give its author the name by which henceforward he was distinguished from the many other Kreutzers who have written, played, and sung,—“*Lodoiska*” Kreutzer especially not forgotten. A more recent opera from the same source, the ‘*Nachtlager*,’—now a stock-piece in all the German opera-houses—is the composition by which Herr Conradin Kreutzer is best known. Of the meagre and insipid prettiness of this music we have had too often occasion to speak in wonder at its German popularity. In England the opera has been more than once tried, but has never taken root.

The plight of Italian Opera seems month by month to become odder and odder—more and more anomalous—sufficient to justify even in persons less gloomy than the *Raphaels* who thrive upon famines and similar disasters—the idea that we may live to see its utter extinction. Think of ‘*Der Freischütz*,’ with the recitatives of M. Berlioz, being transmogrified into ‘*Il Franco Arciere*’—for the public of Berlin! It is enough to set a-walking the ghost of poor Weber, whose Italian Opera-phobia has been described as extravagant. To make the strangeness complete, the *Agatha* of this strange performance was the Spanish-English lady trained in London whom we have already mentioned—we mean Signora Fiorentini.—A French lady, Mdle. de Roissy, is about to appear at *La Scala* at Milan—though contemporaneously, foreign journals inform us that the Lombard opera-goers will not endure a new French ballet-master because of his country—and a writer in the *Spectator* has just been telling us how another young French *débütante* has been treated at Turin,—advertisements having absolutely been posted up in the streets, calling upon the Piedmontese violently to resist such “intervention.”—To the above let us add a fact from the other corner of

the Peninsula stated by M. de la Fage in a letter to the *Gazette Musicale*. This is the sum given to Verdi for a new opera just finished by him for the *Teatro San Carlo*—510l.—the sum M. de la Fage adds (but we will not vouch for his accuracy), for which Rossini consented to remain at Naples during two years of his prime—years when ‘*Otello*’ and ‘*Mosé*’ were written. The new opera, just given by Madame Gazzaniga, Signor Malvezzi (the weakest first tenor probably ever heard in *San Carlo*) and Signor de Bassini—is called ‘*Luisa Miller*,’ the story being, apparently, an imitation from Schiller’s ‘*Kabale und Liebe*.’ M. de la Fage credits Signor Verdi with some intention of changing his style in its music—but while the manner of the change is not clearly described, the want of freshness and colour is insisted upon. An unaccompanied Quartet in the second act is specified as the best *morceau*. The opera is said to have been very coldly received—and its composer to have left Naples for Genoa.

The *Dramatic and Musical Review* states that a version of Schiller’s ‘*Robbers*’ is to be produced at *Drury Lane*.—We perceive that a comedy by Mrs. Mowatt is forthcoming at the *Olympic*.—A new five-act play also may possibly be shortly given under the management of Messrs. Creswick & Shepherd, at the *Surrey*.

M. Ponsard’s new tragedy,—with the appetizing title of ‘*Charlotte Corday*,’ has been accepted at the *Théâtre Français* of Paris.—An aged actress who retired from the same establishment on a pension in 1819—is only just dead, at the age of ninety-three. This was Madame Thénard, who began her career some years before Le Kain’s death. To what a far distance in the past of Art do such a name and notice transport us! Madame Thénard’s experiences must have been little less curious than those of the old Papal singer Casali, who lived in the reigns of Corelli and of Beethoven—or of Miss Cecilia Davies, who was known as ‘*L’Inglesina*’ in the opera-houses of Italy, before Mozart began to write, and who died, in London, not very many years since—after Rossini, and even Bellini—had ceased!—It is heavy news for the lovers of the best French acting that M. Bouffé is compelled to retire from the stage for a time, because of ill health. In the “card” announcing this, he distinctly expresses a wish and hope of return. Meanwhile, the visitor to Paris will grievously miss the least mannered, the most pathetic, the most natural, and the most highly-finished actor whom it has been ever our good fortune to look upon—an artist to be classed with Mars and Pasta.

#### MISCELLANEA

*Forty Days’ Maize.*—To Mr. William Keene, “Engineer of mines and member of the Royal Academy of Bordeaux,” as we learn from himself, has been reserved the honour of seriously reviving Cobbett’s folly. He has persuaded the Commissioners of Woods and Forests to let him try some experiments in St. James’s Park:—a good move on his part, inasmuch as simple people will therefore imagine that his scheme is viewed with official favour. Both London and country newspapers have puffed his operations. A corps of seedsmen has undertaken to vend the learned gentleman’s “new hybrid,” at the modest price of 10s. 6d. a bag,—which is only eight guineas an acre for seed:—and he has himself published a pamphlet on the subject, in which he thanks the Royal Agricultural Society for the attention he received from their council, quotes a *New Theatre of Agriculture* published in 1713, says that “the reason for maize succeeding so rarely in England is that the cleansed seed only is sown, whereas the writer sows it with the rough pellicle as gathered”—a piece of information which is much too recondite for the comprehension of simple men; and, finally, by way, we presume, of really astonishing his readers, he suggests that “every farmer will find it advantageous and satisfactory to have maize bread in his house and at his table.” The only difficulty is how to make it eatable. Mr. Keene does not, however, pretend that the maize which is to make the fortunes of all the fortunate purchasers of his half-guinea bags is any common maize. Quite the contrary. His is a new hybrid, obtained from the maize of the Pyrenees; a sort which “has been the food of the

Basques from time immemorial, and in all probability is as ancient with them as their possession of the country.”—a very original conjecture, certainly, considering that maize is a native of America. We should like to know how this new “hybrid” was obtained:—a point upon which Mr. Keene is not so communicative as might be expected. We should have thought all this beneath notice, and unfit to bring before men of intelligence, but that the Woods and Forests have patronized Mr. Keene, and patrons give nonsense plausibility. We shall therefore say a few words, and a few only, in seriousness respecting this notable project of introducing half-guinea maize-bags into fashion—we beg pardon—of introducing to John Bull the “new hybrid,” of unknown parentage, but cultivated in the Pyrenees before its discovery in America, whence it was originally imported. The existence of dwarf and early varieties of Indian corn in some European countries, is no very notable discovery. *Mais quarantain* and *Mais à poulet* are names with which we have been familiar from our boyhood,—little early sorts cultivated in Lombardy and some of the more northern maize districts of France. Cobbett’s corn is another of the same race. These varieties ripen very well in England in gardens, in such summers as the last; and so will others of a larger growth. Ripe specimens of Forty-day Maize and of Cobbett’s corn were recently exhibited to the Horticultural Society by Mr. Charlwood, the eminent seedsman in Covent Garden; they had been sown in a garden at Putney, in the middle of May, and raised without heat. This has been done before,—and may be done again. Every gardener of the least experience knows that. But what then? Will any sane man pretend that such experiments show the cultivation of maize in England to be profitable; that corn, of far better quality than the English growth, being quoted in Mark Lane at 27s. per quarter? Can any reasonable being believe that a crop which required at least 120 days of hot dry weather, and a rich soil, can be grown profitably in a climate like ours,—the finest climate in the world, and the richest land, with scarcely rent or taxes to encumber it, being in the field against us? The notion is preposterous. There are pitfalls enough for farmers without baiting a new one with Indian corn. But possibly Mr. Keene would have it *protected*. The nature of Indian corn is well known. Boussingault’s description of it is one of the latest and best. “Maize,” says this great authority, “succeeds in all kinds of soils, provided they are suitably manured; I have seen excellent fields in sandy land and in the heaviest clay. The treatment which it requires is such as is necessary to other cereal crops; it is climate alone which determines its fitness for a given locality; it must have a proper amount of heat, and more especially security against too low a temperature. The susceptibility of maize in regard to climate appears to me to be exactly analogous to that of the vine, and I doubt the wisdom of attempting to cultivate it on a large scale in places where grapes do not regularly ripen.”—*Gardeners’ Chronicle*.

*Italian Antiquities.*—A vessel arrived in the Docks from Leghorn has brought, in addition to a very considerable quantity of marble in statues and other manufactures, as well as in a rough state, several cases of antiquities, consigned to a party in this country. It will be interesting to remark that the arrivals of statuary and works of Art from the Italian States *via* Leghorn to this country appear to have lately been of a more than usually extensive character.—*Morning Paper*.

*Destruction of Books.*—The destruction of books at various times exceeds all calculation. The earliest fact on record is related by Berosus: Nabonassar, who became King of Babylon 747 years before the Christian era, caused all the histories of the kings, his predecessors, to be destroyed; 500 years later Chioang Ti, Emperor of China, ordered all the books in the empire to be burnt, excepting only those which treated of the history of his family, of astrology, and of medicine. In the infancy of Christianity many libraries were annihilated in various parts of the Roman empire; Pagans and Christians being equally unscrupulous in destroying their respective books. In 390 the magnificent library contained in the Temple of Serapis was pillaged and entirely dispersed. Myriads of books have been burnt in the frequent conflagrations at Constantinople; and when the Turkish troops



took possession of Cairo, in the eleventh century, the books in the library of the Caliphs (1,600,000 volumes) were distributed among the soldiers instead of pay, "at a price," says the historian, "far below their value." Thousands of the volumes were torn to pieces and abandoned on the outskirts of the city, piled in large heaps. The sand of the Desert having been drifted on these heaps, they retained their position for many years, and were known as the "hills of books."—*Sun*.

**The Medical Profession.**—With a view to raise the standard of professional education, the Council of the Royal College of Surgeons have decided that in future candidates for the Fellowship of the institution shall undergo additional examinations in mathematics, and in the Greek, Latin, and French languages. In prosecution of this desirable object, the Council have just elected Mr. George Gabriel Stokes, M.A., of Pembroke College, Cambridge, an examiner in mathematics, Mr. Godwin Smith, M.A., of University College, Oxford, examiner in classics, and Professor Brasseur, of King's College, London, examiner in the French language. The Council have also elected Mr. Caesar Henry Hawkins, surgeon of St. George's Hospital, to a seat at the Court of Examiners, in the vacancy occasioned by the decease of Mr. John Goldwyer Andrews, late of the London Hospital. This election causes a vacancy in the office of examiner in surgery at the London University.—*Times*.

**Improvements in Kensington Gardens.**—In these new works, the Honourable Commissioners would seem to have taken seriously in hand the Augean task of purifying the Serpentine. In the first place, they have cleared out the fetid bed which the previously ill-arranged sewage system at the head of that piece of water had so deeply deposited. Their next and more recent proceedings have been to bring a supply of pure water to the rustic bridge head at the Bayswater end, by a line of metal pipe communicating with the Artesian well at Charing Cross. This, together with a contribution from the Chelsea waterworks, which have hitherto given to that strange caricature of a fountain by which this scene has been, but is no longer, disfigured its aquatic gush—will replenish for the future our metropolitan lakelet. Their united current will be brought through the archways of the bridge; and as their volume cannot, at best, be very copious, its flow being unfortunately a drain of incessant expenditure, measures seem to have been judiciously taken to give it as much strength as possible. These consist in raising the bed where the waters break forth by a gradual ascent to the mouth of the arches,—and, at the same time, drawing in the banks on each side, till narrowed to the breadth of the bridge. This is at once simple and obviously effective.—*Architect and Building Operative*.

**Electro-Telegraphic Progress.**—Some experiments have been made at Norwich, with a new apparatus, which seems by the description to be either that of Mr. Baker's ingenious autographic telegraph or some modification of the same principle. Sixty letters were by this means legibly written in what we may fairly call long hand, stretching from London to Norwich; and it is expected that when the invention is fixed and ready to work without interruption, at least 200 letters a-minute will be worked off at once, thus doing away with all transcription, and insuring secrecy of correspondence.—The Americans are still going ahead with their lightning news-conductors. Between New York, Washington, and Baltimore, the charges are to be reduced for long messages; between 500 words and 1,000 to half-rates, (4s. being the charge for the first 500), above 1,000 words to one-third only. Mr. Bain is said to have much improved his printing telegraph; and can not only transmit 1,000 letters a-minute, dispensing altogether with the perforated paper, but can give to any number of the 500 machines scattered over the Union a simultaneous movement, which enables him to multiply intelligence at one and the same moment throughout the whole circuit of termini. Mr. Green, of New Jersey, also, as the *Mining Journal* notices, has invented a mode of coating the wires by rotating and stationary brushes, with portable paint, or other coating receptacle. A Mr. Pratt, of New York, has patented a plan for stretching wires over great distances, such as rivers, &c.,

by suspending strong gum elastic band, cord or tube, to the posts, which, drawn out in the first instance, always, by their elasticity, keep the copper wire stretched. Mr. Curtis, of Ohio, has patented an improved mode of constructing indicating telegraphs.—*Builder*.

**Electric Telegraph between France and England.**—The concession, signed by Louis Napoleon and the Minister of the Interior, M. Dufaure, granting to Messrs. J. Brett, Touché & Co. the right to establish an electric telegraph line between France and England, by a submarine communication across the Channel, arrived in town on Monday. The company propose to establish, by means of the electric telegraph, an instant communication between the two countries. The patentee guarantees that this telegraph shall, by the aid of a single wire, and of two persons only (the one stationed in France and the other in England) be capable of printing, in clear Roman type, on paper, 100 messages, of fifteen words each, including addresses and signatures, all ready for delivery in 100 consecutive minutes.—*Standard*.

**The Cradle for Her Majesty.**—We have seen with much pleasure the progress of this important specimen of the art of wood-carving, and augur most favourably of the effect the whole will produce in a state of completion. The sides, which are finished, are carved in the choicest box,—the difficulty of procuring which wood has been one of the causes of delay attending the work. In the upper portion are friezes in relief, having an alternate introduction of roses and poppies, designed and executed with the purest feeling of Italian taste. Beneath them is a bold torus moulding with pinks, inserted in fluted hollows. The two ends remain to be produced, and to them the utmost delicacy of finish will be imparted. The interiors of the rockers are ornamented with foliated dolphins, and even the flat edges of the foot and head are elaborately carved into scroll-work. This cradle is the work of Mr. Rogers.—*Art-Journal*.

**The Tax on Paper.**—The infamy of this tax consists in the multitude of persons who are injuriously affected by it. Authors, publishers, artists, newspaper proprietors, printers, stationers, type-founders, copperplate and lithographic printers, card-makers, paper-stainers, paper-hangers, &c., are all directly injured by this duty. Other classes it affects in a less, though no inconsiderable, degree. The paper manufacture creates a considerable demand for the labour of millwrights, machinists, smiths, carpenters, iron and brass founders, wire-workers, woollen manufacturers, and others concerned in the machinery and apparatus of a mill. But these are far from being all the ramifications of trade into which the business of the paper-manufacturer extends itself. With the rag-merchant the paper-maker has extensive dealings: it will, perhaps, surprise many persons to learn that with the Manchester manufacturer his dealings are nearly co-extensive. Formerly the sweepings of flax and cotton mills, owing to the grease and dirt with which they were mixed up, were of no value except as manure. But, means having been discovered of rendering them clean and white, they are made available for the manufacture of a paper which, from the cheapness of the raw material, can be sold at an exceedingly low price. Talk of the golden dreams of the alchemist: what were they to the process of paper-making, by which the vilest and most worthless materials are converted into such an admirable substance as paper,—the manufacture to which the world is indebted for its information, the instrument which may be said to be to the mind of man that which the sunshine is to his mother earth?—*Daily News*.

**The Marbles of Paros.**—The Government of Greece have, by contract, made S. Cléanthes the sole possessor, for the period of thirty years, of all the quarries of marbles in the commune of Naoussa, at Paros. The proprietor has commenced extracting the marble, and has sent several blocks of large size to Rome and Florence.—*Builder*.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.—C. H. H.—Vedova—J. P. A.—J. L.—J. V.—C. R.—received.

J. H. should address his correction to the periodical which has fallen into the error.

P. Q.—The principal point which is urged by this correspondent has been under consideration again and again:—and there are insuperable objections.

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Date of Policy.	Sum Insured.	Original Premium.	Bonuses added subsequently, to be further increased annually.
1806	£2500	£79 10 10	Extinguished
1811	1000	33 19 2	ditto
1819	1000	34 16 10	ditto

Examples of Bonuses added to other Policies.

Policy No.	Date.	Sum Insured.	Bonuses added.	Total with Additions, to be further increased.
521	1807	£900	£9 2 12 1	£1832 12 1
1174	1810	1200	1169 5 6	2369 5 6
3362	1820	2000	3338 17 8	5338 17 8

Prospectuses and full particulars may be obtained upon application to the Agents of the Office, in all the principal towns of the United Kingdom, at the City Branch, and at the head Office, No. 50, Regent-street.

**PELICAN LIFE ASSURANCE COMPANY,**  
 Established in 1797.  
 For Granting Assurances on Lives and Survivorships.  
**OFFICES,**  
 70, Lombard-street, City, and 57, Charing-cross, Westminster.  
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**John Haggard, Esq. D.C.L.**

**SECURITY.**  
 In the Policies granted by this Company there is no clause limiting the liability of the Shareholders to the amount of their respective Shares.  
 The Assured have the guarantee of a subscribed and accumulated Capital of upwards of One Million sterling in addition to which, the private fortune of every individual Shareholder in the Company is responsible for its engagements.

**LOW RATES.**  
 The Assured on the *Non-participating Scale* are charged THE LOWEST POSSIBLE RATE OF PREMIUM.  
**ROBERT TUCKER, Secretary.**

**SPECIAL NOTICE.—ANNUAL DIVISION OF PROFIT.**  
**CITY OF GLASGOW LIFE ASSURANCE COMPANY.**  
 Established in 1838, and constituted by Act of Parliament.  
 The next annual investigation of the affairs of this Company will take place on the 19th of January 1850; and Policies of the participating class opened on or before that date will be entitled to the Bonus then to be declared.  
 By order of the Board.  
**HUGH BREMNER, Secretary.**  
 Office in London, 120, Pall Mall.

**SUN FIRE OFFICE, Established 1710.**  
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**Harry Chester, Esq.** **George Warde Norman, Esq.**  
**Samuel Pepys Cockerell, Esq.** **Brice Pearce, Esq.**  
**Raikes Currie, Esq. M.P.** **Charles Richard Pole, Esq.**  
**John Drummond, Esq.** **Lambert Pole, Esq.**  
**Russell Ellice, Esq.** **Henry Rich, Esq. M.P.**  
**William Franks, Esq.** **Henry Stuart, Esq. M.P.**  
**Capt. H. G. Hamilton, R.N.** **C. George Thornton, Esq.**  
**Joseph Hoare, Esq.**

All persons insured in this Office, the Premiums on whose Policies fall due at the Christmas quarter, are hereby reminded to pay the said Premiums, either at the Offices in Threadneedle-street; Craig's-court, Charing-cross; at No. 65, Welbeck-street, Cavendish-square; or to the Agents in the Country, on or before the 10th day of January 1850, when the fifteen days allowed by this Office over and above the time for which they are insured will expire.

Insurances may be made for more years than one by a single payment, and in such cases there will be a discount allowed on the premium and duty for every year except the first.

**RATES OF PREMIUM.**  
**FIRST CLASS.** **SECOND CLASS.** **THIRD CLASS.**  
 1s. 6d. per cent. 2s. 6d. per cent. 4s. 6d. per cent.  
 This Office insures property in foreign countries, and the rates are regulated by the nature of the risks.  
 Sun Duty—1846, 182,798s.; 1847, 184,484s.; 1848, 181,270s.

**ARGUS LIFE ASSURANCE COMPANY,**  
 39, Throgmorton-street, Bank; and 14, Pall Mall.  
**The Right Hon. the LORD MAYOR, Chairman.**  
**WILLIAM LEAF, Esq. Deputy-Chairman.**  
**Richard E. Arden, Esq.** **J. Humphrey, Esq. Ald. M.P.**  
**William Banbury, Esq.** **Rupert Ingleby, Esq.**  
**William Bates, Esq.** **Thomas Kelly, Esq. Ald.**  
**Thomas Camplin, Esq.** **Terence Fisher, Esq.**  
**James Clift, Esq.** **Lewis Pocock, Esq.**

**Auditors—Professor Hall, M.A.—J. B. Shuttleworth, Esq.**  
**Physician—Dr. Jefferson, 2, Finsbury-square.**  
**Surgeon—W. Coulson, Esq. 2, Frederick's-place, Old Jewry.**  
**Consulting Actuary—Professor Hall, M.A. of King's College.**  
**Standing Counsel—Sir John Romilly, M.P. Solicitor-General.**  
**Solicitor—William Fisher, Esq. 19, Doughty-street.**

**ADVANTAGES OF ASSURING WITH THIS COMPANY.**  
 In addition to a large subscribed capital, Policy-holders have the security of an Assurance fund of more than a quarter of a million, and an income approaching 70,000l. a year, arising from the issue of 6,500 policies.

**Bonus, or Profit Branch.**  
 Persons assuring on the Bonus system will be annually entitled to 80 per cent. of the profits on this branch (after payment of five yearly premiums); and the profit assigned to each Policy may be either added to the sum assured, or applied in reduction of the annual premium.

**Non-Bonus, or Low Premium Branch.**  
 The Tables on the non-participating principle afford peculiar advantages to the assured, not offered by any other office,—for where the object is the least possible outlay, the payment of a certain sum is secured to the Policy-holder, on the death of the assured, at a reduced rate of premium.

Premiums to Assure £100.				Whole Term.	
Age.	One Year.	Seven Years.	With Profits.	Without Profits.	
20	£0 17 8	£0 19 1	£1 15 10	£1 11 10	
30	1 18	1 2 7	2 5 5	2 0 7	
40	1 5 0	1 6 9	3 0 7	2 14 10	
50	1 14 1	1 19 10	4 6 8	4 0 11	
60	3 2 4	3 17 0	6 12 9	6 0 10	

One-half of the Whole Term Premium may remain on credit for seven years, or one-third of the Premium may remain for life as a debt upon the Policy at 5 per cent., or may be paid off at any time without notice.  
 Claims paid in one month after proofs have been approved.  
 Loans upon approved security.  
 The Medical Officers attend every day at Throgmorton-street at a quarter before 2 o'clock.  
**E. BATES, Resident Director.**

**LONG EVENINGS MADE SHORT.**  
**MECHI'S FAMOUS BAGATELLE TABLES** Manufactured upon the premises, 4, LEADEN HALL-STREET, LONDON, make long evenings appear short, and combine calculation with amusement, price 3s. 10s., 4s. 10s., 5s. 10s., up to 12s. Sold also by his Agents, Speirs & Son, Oxford; Powell, and Lounge, Leeds; Eastee, Liverpool; Woodfield, Glasgow; Fratt, Bradford; Thompson, Nottingham; Stephenson, Hull; Squires, Dover; Steel & Rix, Norwich. None are genuine without MECHI'S name.

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**T. COX SAVORY & CO.'S Pamphlet "c" Prices,** with outlines, may be had gratis, or will be sent post free if applied for by a paid letter. The contents are the prices, weights, and patterns of new and second-hand Silver Spoons and Forks; new and second-hand Tea and Coffee Services, Waiters, Silver-plated Goods, the new plated on white metal Spoons and Forks, Watches, Clocks, Ladies' Gold Neck Chains, and Jewellery.—**T. COX SAVORY & Co., 47, Cornhill** (seven doors from Gracechurch-street, London).

**DENT'S IMPROVED WATCHES & CLOCKS.**  
 —E. J. DENT, Watch and Clock Maker by distinct appointment to the Queen, H.R.H. Prince Albert, and H.I.M. the Emperor of Russia, most respectfully solicits from the public an inspection of his extensive STOCK of WATCHES and CLOCKS, embracing all the late modern improvements, at the most economical charges. Ladies' Gold Watches, with gold dials, jewelled in four holes. 8 guineas. Gentlemen's, with enamelled plates, 6 guineas. YOUTH'S Silver Watches, 4 guineas. Warranted substantial and accurate going Lever Watches, jewelled in four holes, 6 guineas.—**E. J. DENT, 82, Strand, 33, Cockspur-street, and 34, Royal Exchange (Clock Tower Area).**

**GUTTA PERCHA TUBING.**—May be buried in damp or marshy ground for years, without injury. Acids, alkalis, and grease are without action upon it, and it is therefore valuable for conveying gas, water, chemicals, &c. It is peculiarly valuable for liquid manure, drain, and soil pipes. In case of any stoppage, an incision can be made with a sharp knife, and readily secured again, by means of an iron wire. Being a non-conductor, it is not affected by the frost of winter, and does not become brittle, metal or leather. Its strength is extraordinary; the small half-inch diameter tubing having resisted a pressure of 250lb. on the square inch, without bursting. The smaller sizes may be had in 100 feet, and the larger in 50 feet lengths. The joints are easily made. The power which Gutta Percha tubing possesses, as a conductor of sound renders it most valuable for conveying messages, in lieu of bells. Every variety of articles manufactured by the Gutta Percha Company, Patentees, 18, Wharf-road, City-road, London; and sold by their wholesale dealers.

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**ROOFE'S IMPROVED RESPIRATOR** (Patent), for Consumption, Asthma, &c., has separate channels for the inspired and expired air; warms and purifies the atmosphere without becoming clogged; neither requires cleaning nor repairing, and has no unsightly appearance. Testimonials to be seen, and descriptions sent, on application. Depot, 138, Strand, near Norfolk-street.—Also the improved Injection Tube, for removal of costiveness without the use of water, little larger than a pencil-case.

**SEASONABLE FESTIVITIES.**—At this festive period of the year, when friends and lovers assemble at the social board, or join in the mazes of the dance, a more than usual anxiety is created for PERSONAL ATTRACTION, and the following requisites, discovered for the Toilet are called into increased requisition, namely—

**ROWLANDS' MACASSAR OIL,** for creating and sustaining a luxuriant head of hair,  
**ROWLANDS' KALYDOR,** for rendering the Skin soft, fair, and blooming,  
**ROWLANDS' ODONTO,** OR PEARL DENTIFRICE, for imparting a pearl-like whiteness to the Teeth.  
 The Patronage of Royalty throughout Europe, and the high appreciation by Rank and Fashion, with the well-known infallible efficacy of these articles, give them a celebrity unparalleled, and render them a peculiarly Elegant and Seasonable Present.  
 Beware of imitations.—The name of the article bears the name of "ROWLANDS" preceding that of the article on the wrapper or label, with their signature at the foot, in red ink, thus—  
**A. ROWLAND & SONS.**  
 Sold by them at 20, Hatton-garden, London, and by respectable Chemists and Perfumers.

**IMPROVEMENTS IN DRESS.**—**J. STOVELL** invites gentlemen to inspect his improvements in the make of Coats. THE PATENT SELF-ACTING SLEEVE combines utility with elegance and extreme simplicity.—It can be applied to every description of Coat, Plain or Regimental; also to Ladies' Riding Habits. THE PATENT DOUBLE-FRONTED OVER-COAT is the perfect protection from wet when walking, riding or driving, and forms a complete covering for the knees in a railway or other carriage.—These improvements may be obtained through any respectable Tailor, or of the Patentee, 158, New Bond-street.

**THE TEETH.**—A very curious invention connected with Dental Surgery has been introduced by Mr. HOWARD, of 17, George-street, Hanover-square. It is the introduction of an entirely new description of ARTIFICIAL TEETH, fixed without springs, wires, or ligatures. They so perfectly resemble natural teeth, as not to be distinguished from the originals by the closest observation. They will never change colour or decay, and will be found very superior to any teeth ever before used. This method does not require the extraction of roots, or any painful operation, and will support and preserve the teeth that are loose, and is guaranteed to restore articulation and mastication. The invention deserves the notice of the scientific, and is of importance to many persons; and those who are interested in it cannot do better than avail themselves of Mr. Howard's skill as a dentist.

**AN EXTRAORDINARY CASE of an ABSCISS in the ARM CURED by HOLLOWAY'S OINTMENT and PILLS.**—Mrs. Howden, the wife of a carpenter residing at Rivington, noticed about two years ago a small swelling on the upper part of her arm, which, though not painful at first, ultimately gave her intense suffering; whilst under medical treatment a wound appeared, which it was found impossible to heal, and she was advised to go to the infirmary without any other hope of cure than by amputation; declining this, she consulted a friend on giving Holloway's Pills and Ointment a trial, and these had the happy effect of soundly curing her in a month.—Sold by all druggists; and at Professor Holloway's establishment, 244, Strand, London.



## New Weekly Illustrated Periodical for Ladies.

PUBLISHED EVERY SATURDAY,

THE  
LADIES' COMPANION

At Home and Abroad.

EDITED BY MRS. LOUDON,

ASSISTED BY THE MOST EMINENT WRITERS AND ARTISTS.

THE want of a First Class Periodical adapted to the Tastes and Pursuits of Women having been constantly urged upon me, I have projected, with an earnest desire for the Improvement and Elevation of the Female Character, and in conjunction with some of the best names in Literature and Art—

## THE LADIES' COMPANION AT HOME AND ABROAD.

The first point will be to enforce the necessity of Mental Cultivation. In educating female children, we too often give an undue importance to accomplishments, forgetting that they are the adjuncts, and not the principal object; only the garnishing to the solid food; useful to make girls agreeable in society; but not enough to make them good wives and mothers, or, at any rate, valuable members of the community.

The Influence of Women in Society, and the necessity for their mental cultivation, are now generally acknowledged; and the old fancy, that learning must make women pedantic and disagreeable, is rapidly passing away. It is true that there are some pedantic women, who are exceedingly disagreeable; but are there not also pedantic men, who are just as much so? And yet no one, I believe, ever yet proposed to deny the benefit of mental cultivation to all men, because the brains of some few are found too weak to bear it.

To make women agreeable social companions to their husbands and other male relations, it is necessary for them to be acquainted with many Matters of General Information, continually recurring in books and conversation, which are not usually taught in girls' schools; and it will be endeavoured, in the present work, to give young persons such a Knowledge of the Arts and Sciences, and of Ancient and Modern Literature, as will enable them to take an interest in subjects constantly spoken of, without penetrating into the depths of profound learning.

Next to mental cultivation we place those Household Duties, and Useful and Elegant Occupations, in which women ought particularly to excel. It is not enough for a woman to be the companion of her husband; she must be his helpmate; the tutelary genius of his house: she must

watch over his domestic comforts while he is engaged in the fatiguing duties of active life; and above all, she must make home comfortable to him, whether she does it merely by the careful performance of her household duties, or adds to them the graces of elegant accomplishments.

It is not only the poor man's wife who must attend to her Household Duties; every woman has household duties to perform, though they vary according to her rank in life; and in no one can we see the arduous duties of wife and mother more admirably carried out to their fullest extent than in the bright example held out to us by the Greatest, the Noblest, the most Honoured, and most Beloved Lady in the realm.

One important feature of this work will be to Advocate the Causes of those Females who are Compelled to Labour, either mentally or bodily, for their daily bread; and to suggest some Means of Employment for the Orphans of Clergymen, Artists, Officers, &c., who are, perhaps, more to be pitied than any other class; as to them the privations and mortifications they undergo are doubly embittered by recollections of the delicacy with which they were reared, and by the refined tastes and sensitive feelings which are almost inseparable from the education they have received.

There are, of course, many minor points to be attended to, as, the Garden; the Poultry-Yard; Designs for Furniture, Fashions, and Work; Reviews of Books; In-door Occupations and Amusements, and many other incidental topics arising from circumstances, or from the wants or wishes of our readers. The illustrations will have frequent reference to the subjects just enumerated, but they will also include delineations of whatever may be considered distinguished for interest or beauty.

It must not, however, be supposed that the present publication is to take entirely a serious character; on the contrary, the aim will be to combine amusement with instruction, and to make the lighter parts as entertaining as the more important parts are solid and valuable.

BAYSWATER,  
December 30th, 1849.

J. W. LOUDON.

## CONTENTS OF NO. I.

Red Riding Hood's Doll.  
The Little Girl's Lament. By DORA GREENWELL.  
The Work-Basket—La Frivolité.  
Dropping into Tea! or, Household Troubles. From Sad Experience.  
New-Year Festivals and Commemorations.  
Calendar for the Ensuing Week.  
Address. By the Editor.  
Mornings in the British Museum. By J. W. L.  
A Few Words about Governesses. By TOM TAYLOR Esq.

## Illustration.—Sculptures from Nineveh.

Christmas-Day in 'The Bush.' By MARK LEMON, Esq.  
Letters on the Chemistry of Every-Day Life. By E. SOLLE, F.R.S.  
Dress and Fashion. With an Illustration.  
Play-Hours.—The 'What-Not.'—My Letter-Bag.

## CONTENTS OF NO. II.

A Thimble-full of Romance. By RED RIDING HOOD.  
'Tis better not to Know. Song. By SAMUEL LOVER.  
Music as an Accomplishment. By GEORGE HOGARTH, Esq.  
Fancy Costume. With an Illustration.  
On the Influence of Female Taste. By J. W. L.  
Crossing the Ferry. From the German of Uhlend. By DORA GREENWELL.  
A Few Words about Governesses. By TOM TAYLOR, Esq.  
Letters on Physical Geography. By PROFESSOR ANSTED.  
Scientific Mode of Boiling Meat. (Taken from Liebig). By J. W. L.  
New Year's Day in Scotland.

## Illustration.—The Infant St. John the Baptist.

Shakespeare-Studies of Woman. By MARY COWDEN CLARKE.  
The Work-Basket—La Frivolité. With Illustrations.  
Dress and Fashion. Illustrated.  
Play-Hours.—The 'What Not.'—My Letter-Bag.

## NOTICES OF THE PRESS.

"The object of it is to afford amusement and instruction to those to whom it is dedicated. It contains a number of light agreeable tales and anecdotes written in a style calculated to make them popular. There are also a variety of well-executed pictorial illustrations."

"Mrs. Loudon's *Ladies' Companion*, a new weekly periodical addressed chiefly to ladies. The contents of the first number are not only lively and varied, but have a generally instructive and practical tone; and it is printed and illustrated with much elegance and taste. The undertaking appears to be of excellent promise."

—*Examiner*.

"A handsome-looking quarto journal, containing about as much type as the literary weeklies that of yore were published at eightpence: while Mrs. Loudon offers a better-looking paper with wood-cuts for three pence. Her papers in the present number are all original, but reviews of books appropriate to the objects of the journal are to appear hereafter. The objects seem to combine the utility in

matter with the *dulce* in mode. 'Red Riding Hood's Doll' is a pleasant little fairy tale, a commendatory of Mr. Sidney Herbert's emigration plan, and descriptive of the distresses of women in London; the ideas well embodied, the story well told, both in the reality and the fancy, and closing with an admirable moral for those who have fifteen pounds or can only subscribe their mite towards it. The 'Work-Basket,' illustrated by plates, gives a clear and lively account of a new style of ladies' work now fashionable in Paris. 'Mornings in the British Museum, No. I.' illustrates both by words and wood-cuts the Assyrian sculptures of Dr. Layard. 'Tom Taylor, Esq.' begins a series of sensible papers on Governesses, in which, without losing sight of the *feeling* of the subject, something is said about qualification and the fair claims of parents. There are also notices and cuts on the 'fashions,' several pieces of poetry, the commencement of a series of papers on the chemistry of every-day life, and a variety of miscellanea, besides an explanatory leader from the Editor."

—*Spectator*.

LONDON: BRADBURY &amp; EVANS, 11, BOUVERIE STREET, AND ALL BOOKSELLERS AND NEWSMEN.

New Weekly Illustrated Periodical for Ladies.



# THE ATHENÆUM

Journal of English and Foreign Literature, Science, and the Fine Arts.

No. 1159.

LONDON, SATURDAY, JANUARY 12, 1850.

PRICE  
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For the convenience of Subscribers residing in remote places, the weekly numbers are reissued in Monthly Parts, stitched in a wrapper, and forwarded with the Magazines.—Subscriptions for the Stamped Edition for the Continent, for not less than Three Months, and in advance, are received by M. BAUDRY, 3, Quai Malaquais, Paris, or at the Publishing Office, 14, Wellington-street North, Strand, London. For France and other Countries not requiring the postage to be paid in London, 28fr. or 11. 2s. the year. To other Countries, the postage in addition.

## KING'S COLLEGE, LONDON.—GEOLOGY.

—Professor ANSTED will COMMENCE his COURSE on TUESDAY, February 26, 1850, at 9 o'clock a.m., which will be continued every succeeding Thursday, Saturday, and Tuesday at the same hour.—Particulars as to fees, &c., may be obtained at the Secretary's Office.  
January 11, 1850. R. W. JELF, D.D., Principal.

## KING'S COLLEGE, LONDON.—LECTURES ON PUBLIC HEALTH.

—During the ensuing Term a COURSE OF EIGHT LECTURES ON PUBLIC HEALTH, with special reference to the Parochial Functions of the Clergy, will be delivered by Professor GUY, M.B.

These Lectures will commence on Saturday, the 25th of January, at 12 o'clock, and will be continued once a week, on the same day and at the same hour. The Lectures will be open to any gentleman presenting his card.—Fee for the course, 12s.

For cards of admission application must be made at the Secretary's Office.  
January 8, 1850. R. W. JELF, D.D., Principal.

## UNIVERSITY COLLEGE, LONDON.—

—An INTRODUCTORY LECTURE to a Course on the ANGLO-SAXON LANGUAGE will be given by ALEXANDER J. SCOTT, M.A., Professor of the English Language and Literature, on WEDNESDAY, January 16, at Three o'clock.

The Second Lecture will be in the following week.  
Fee, for the Course of 20 Lectures, 10s.; or 40 Lectures, 3l. Free Admission to the Introductory Lecture.

A COURSE of about forty Lectures to Junior Students, for the Elementary Study of the English Language, for Composition, and for the Rhetorical and Analytical Study of the English Classics, will be commenced on Monday, 14th of January, at Three o'clock.  
Fee 3s.

ALEXANDER J. SCOTT, Dean of the Faculty of Arts.  
CHAS. C. ATKINSON, Secretary to the Council.  
January 3, 1850.

## GEOLOGY.—Professor RAMSAY, F.R.S., will

commence his Course by an INTRODUCTORY LECTURE, on the NATURE OF GEOLOGICAL EVIDENCE, on THURSDAY, January 17, at Three o'clock.

The Course will consist of Twenty-five Lectures, to be delivered on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays, from quarter-past Twelve to quarter-past One o'clock. Fee, 2s.

Free Admission to the Introductory Lecture.

WALTER H. WALSH, M.D. Dean of the Faculty of Medicine.

ALEXANDER J. SCOTT, A.M. Dean of the Faculty of Arts.  
CHARLES C. ATKINSON, Secretary to the Council.  
University College, London.  
January 9, 1850.

## UNIVERSITY COLLEGE, LONDON.—

FACULTY OF MEDICINE.—THE SECOND DIVISION OF the LECTURES in this Faculty commences on the 21st of January. Instruction in Clinical Medicine and Surgery, at the University College Hospital, by the Medical Officers, Professors at the College. Prospectuses and further particulars may be obtained at the Office of the College.

WALTER H. WALSH, M.D. Dean of the Faculty.  
CHARLES C. ATKINSON, Secretary to the Council.  
January 9, 1850.

## ROYAL INSTITUTION OF GREAT BRITAIN, Albemarle-street.—The WEEKLY EVENING

MEETINGS of the Members of the Royal Institution will COMMENCE for the Season, on FRIDAY, the 18th of January, at half-past Eight o'clock, and will be continued on each succeeding Friday Evening, at the same hour, till further notice.

ARRANGEMENT OF THE LECTURES BEFORE EASTER.  
Eight Lectures on HYDROSTATICS and PNEUMATICS, by the Rev. M. O'Brien, M.A. To commence on Tuesday, January 23, at Three o'clock, and to be continued on each succeeding Tuesday at the same hour.

Twelve Lectures on the CIRCULATION OF the BLOOD, and on the MULTIPPLICATION, DEVELOPMENT, and METAMORPHOSES OF ORGANIZED BEINGS, by Dr. W. W. Gull, F.R.S., F.R.C.P., Professor of Physiology, B.I. To commence on Thursday, January 24, at Three o'clock, and to be continued on each succeeding Thursday, at the same hour, till further notice.

Ten Lectures on the METALS, by W. T. Brande, Esq. F.R.S., Professor of Chemistry, B.I. To commence on Saturday, January 19, at Three o'clock, and to be continued on each succeeding Saturday at the same hour.

Twenty-five Lectures on CHEMICAL PHILOSOPHY, To be delivered in the Laboratory, by W. T. Brande, Esq. F.R.S., on Mondays and Wednesdays, commencing Monday, January 22, at Four o'clock each day.

Subscribers to the Theatre Lectures only, or to the Laboratory Lectures only, pay two guineas; subscribers to both pay three guineas for the season; subscribers to a single Course of the Theatre Lectures pay one guinea. JOHN BARLOW, M.A. Sec. R.I.

## MODEL DRAWING.—EXETER HALL, Strand.

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## WHITTINGTON CLUB, and METROPOLITAN ATHENÆUM, 189, Strand.

THE SECOND ANNUAL SOIRÉE will be held on TUESDAY, Jan. 15. The Entertainments of the Evening will be opened by

CHARLES LUSHINGTON, Esq. M.P. President; who will be supported by the VICE-PRESIDENTS and other Patrons and Friends of the Institution. A SELECTION OF VOCAL and INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC will then be performed, under the direction of J. ALFREDO NOVELLO, Esq., assisted by Miss Rainforth, Miss Messer, Miss Anne Romer, Miss Eyles, and Messrs. Carte, Rockstro, and others.

The spacious Rooms of the Club-house will be thrown open for an EXHIBITION OF PICTURES AND WORKS OF ART, of which a large Collection has been made.

At Ten o'clock the GRAND BALL-ROOM will be prepared for Dancing.

Refreshments and Supper in the course of the Evening.

Members may obtain Tickets for themselves and Friends in the Secretary's Office, for which early application should be made, as the supply is limited.

WILLIAM STRUDWICKE, Secretary  
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## LONDON COMMITTEE for REPEAL OF THE

ADVERTISEMENTS DUTY. Offices, 16, Salisbury-street, Strand.

Chairman.—PETER BORTHWICK, Esq. Morning Post.

G. F. Smith, Esq. Daily News.  
R. Souter, Esq. Morning Advertiser.  
J. Francis, Esq. Athenæum.  
D. Pratt, Esq. Patriot and the Banner.  
James Ponsford, Esq. Railway Times.  
J. P. Pittman, Esq. County Chronicle.  
E. Miall, Esq. Nonconformist.

Treasurer.—William R. Spicer, Esq. New Bridge-street.

During the late session of Parliament several Meetings of the Committee were held for the purpose of considering the best means of effecting the abolition of the Advertisement and Paper Duties. After an unanimous wish of the Exchequer on the subject, the Committee, upon mature deliberation, resolved to confine the present effort exclusively to the abolition of the Advertisement Tax, believing that to include the Paper Duty would endanger the success of both measures, while a reasonable hope exists that an energetic effort for the repeal of the Advertisement Duty alone will, during the coming session of Parliament, be attended with success—a result that would enable the Committee to concentrate its energies for effecting the future removal of the remaining impost.

The injurious effects of the Advertisement Duty upon trade and labour seeking a market through newspaper publicity are so disproportionate to the amount of revenue derivable from the impost—about 150,000l. per annum—that a wise Government would gladly forego so inconsiderable a source of income in consideration of the national benefits arising from its abolition. To enforce this view of the subject on the attention of the Government will be an especial object of the Committee.

The almost unanimous combination of the metropolitan press for the abolition of the Advertisement Duty will, when assisted by the powerful aid of its provincial contemporaries, offer an agency so efficient for the end sought to be attained, that success can scarcely fail to repay an earnest and well-organised effort.

The Committee have reason to anticipate that a moderate subscription from such of the provincial journals as are in favour of the movement will, with the amount subscribed by the metropolitan press, be sufficient to cover the expenses attendant on the prosecution of the proposed object. Such subscriptions are therefore solicited by the Committee, to be made payable from the editor or proprietor of the subscribing journal to the Honorary Secretary, by Post-office order, receivable at Charing-cross, London.

All resolutions and documents of importance emanating from the Committee will be forwarded to the editors of newspapers in favour of the movement, in order to effect that unity of action so necessary in extended operations to insure success.

\* \* \* The proprietors of the provincial journals are respectfully requested to give publicity to this advertisement.

By order of the Committee.

January, 1850. THOMAS MONTGOMERY, Hon. Secretary.

Subscriptions already received:	
Daily News.....	£10 10 0
Morning Post.....	10 10 0
W. R. Spicer, Esq.....	10 10 0
Athenæum.....	5 5 0
Illustrated News.....	3 3 0
Patriot and British Banner.....	2 2 0
Standard of Freedom.....	2 2 0
Commercial Daily List.....	2 2 0
Douglas Jerrold's News.....	2 0 0
County Chronicle.....	2 0 0
Worcester Chronicle.....	1 1 0
Suffolk Chronicle.....	1 1 0
Gateshead Observer.....	1 1 0
Nonconformist.....	1 1 0
Bent's Literary Advertiser.....	1 1 0
Gardeners' Chronicle.....	5 5 0



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#### Sales by Auction.

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**BY MESSRS. CHRISTIE & MANSON,** at their Great Room, King-street, St. James's-square, on MONDAY, February 4th, and two following days, the valuable LIBRARY of the late Right Hon. Sir GORE OUSELEY, Bart., removed from Hall Barn Park; comprising Merceri Lexicon Hebraicum—Pleat's Cérémonies Religieuses—Ashmole's Order of the Garter—Galerie de Florence—Museum Worsleyanum—Murphy's Antiquities—Duhalde's China—Diderot, Encyclopédie—a large Collection of Voyages and Travels—Acta Academiæ Scientiarum Imperialis Petropolitanae, from 1726 to 1802, 55 vols.—Carli's Topographical Dictionary—Works on Oriental Literature, and Modern Standard Works.

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*The Beautiful Collection of Pictures, Drawings and Prints of that celebrated Amateur FRANCIS DUROVERAY, Esq. deceased.*

**BY MESSRS. CHRISTIE & MANSON,** at their Great Room, King-street, St. James's-square, on FRIDAY, February 2nd, and seven following days (by order of the Executors), the valuable and very interesting COLLECTION of PICTURES, DRAWINGS by Ancient and English Masters, ENGRAVINGS and BOOKS, of that well-known Amateur FRANCIS DUROVERAY, Esq.; comprising 'Apollo,' in a Landscape, by Andrea Mantegna—'Jupiter and Io,' by Correggio, from the Collection of Westall, R.A.—a beautiful finished Sketch by P. Veronese of a landscape, by Berghem—Interiors by Teniers and Jan Steen—'The Garden of Love,' by Rubens, &c. In the English School are capital Works of Sir Joshua Reynolds, Gainsborough, West, Fuseli, Howard, Hoppner, Barry, Hamilton—a series of beautiful Compositions by Stothard and Smirke—Illustrative of Shakespeare, &c. The valuable Collection of Drawings comprises the Works of the great Italian, Flemish, Dutch and French Masters, and of the best English Artists; particularly rich in the Works of Cipriani and Bartolozzi. The Engravings comprise fine proofs of the beautiful Works published by Mr. Duroveray, and of Bartolozzi. Also the small Library of Books, a few Bibles, &c. &c.

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*Charming Cabinet of Dutch Pictures, Engravings, Books of Prints, and a few Bronzes.*

**BY MESSRS. CHRISTIE & MANSON,** at their Great Room, King-street, St. James's-square, on FRIDAY, March 15th, and following day, at 1 precisely (by order of the Executors), the beautiful COLLECTION of chiefly Dutch Pictures, of RICHARD WINSTANLEY, Esq. deceased; consisting of charming specimens of chiefly Dutch Masters, selected from different great Collections. Among the Books of Prints and Engravings are Galleries and subjects from celebrated Pictures. Also a few Bronzes.—Further notice will be given.

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**BY MESSRS. CHRISTIE & MANSON,** at their Great Room, King-street, St. James's-square, in APRIL next, about fifty fine ETRUSCAN VASES, some of them of singular beauty and interest; together with Bronzes and other Antiquities from the Cemeteries of Etruria,—the property of that celebrated Connoisseur Dr. BRAUN, of Rome.—Further notice will be given.

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**MESSRS. CHRISTIE & MANSON** respectfully give notice that they will SELL, in MAY (by order of the Executors), the whole of the remaining WORKS of that celebrated English Poetical Painter, WILLIAM ETTY, Esq. R.A.—Further notice will be given.

*Books of Prints, Autograph Manuscripts, Stereotype Plates, Bookbinding Materials, &c.*

**MR. L. A. LEWIS** will SELL, at his House, 125, Fleet-street, on FRIDAY, Jan. 18, the LIBRARY of a GENTLEMAN, including Macklin's splendid edition of the Bible, 7 vols. russia—Lodge's Illustrations, 4 vols. folio edition, in green morocco, with joints—Angus's South Australia Illustrated, 80 plates, coloured—Forster's British Gallery of Engravings—Hogarth's Works, folio edition, complete in 52 numbers—Coney's Foreign Cathedrals—Record Newspaper, 1828 to 1848—Gerhard's Herbal—Border Antiquities, 2 vols.—Art Union Journal, 1845 to July 1848—Beattie's Switzerland, Waldens, and Scotland, 5 vols.—1848—Orders of Knights—Not often present Cyclopædia, 27 vols.—Mallet's Geology of Sussex—Knight's Pictorial Shakespeare—Knight's Pictorial History of England, 6 vols.—Hall's Ireland, 3 vols.—Bridgewater Treatises, 12 vols.—Lardner's Cyclopædia, 80 vols.—Correspondence of the Albemarle Family, manuscript, in 4 quarto vols.—Autograph Letters—Stereotype Plates to Maundrell's Little Lexicon, Little Gazetteer, Little Classic, and Little Linguist, 4 vols.—also Bookbinding Materials, including a capital Standing Press, with iron screw and iron uprights, Cutting Machine, Arming Press, &c. &c.

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No. CLXXXIII., is published THIS DAY.

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3. ORANGE PROCESSIONS.
4. GROTE'S HISTORY OF GREECE.
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**THE QUARTERLY REVIEW, No. CLXXI.,**  
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- I. NATURAL HISTORY OF MAN.
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- III. AGRICULTURE—DRAINING.
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4. NEW NOVELS. 'THE CAXTONS'—SHIRLEY.
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cluding chapter, which is also explanatory of the author's views.—

“Alchemy, Astrology, and Magic to us appears as a dream: yet are they the dreams of philosophers, decorated with much that is grand and gorgeous, filled with the imaginings of the highest poetry, and bearing the impress of those splendid minds that shadowed forth such wild, yet such mighty phantasms. They have yet stronger claims on our attention than their beauty: though false themselves, they have materially aided the progress of true science. Had it not been for Alchemy—for the ideal wealth which a pretended science held out as a bait for investigation, Chemistry—that glorious search into the nature of the works of God—would not this day have stood on so proud an eminence; and even the sublime, the independent Astronomy, is the sister, and, we must be allowed to say, the younger sister, of the delusive Judicial Astrology. These sciences flourished in great splendour in the earlier ages of the world, and as to their real origin are wrapped in great darkness. There are, however, two conjectures, the one, which reckons among its adherents many of the fathers of the Church, and many of the learned among the laity, in all ages, is that at a very early period there existed persons who, either by a profundity of research and a depth of science unknown even in this age of light and inquiry, or by actual compact with unholy spirits, had acquired supernatural power; that they could suspend at their pleasure the otherwise immutable laws of nature, and had discovered, by some means or other, a science by which the elements, and the very spirits supposed to inhabit and govern them, were subjected to the will of the mortals. \* \* The second, which attributes these extraordinary effects to ingenious and ably concealed imposture, operating upon ignorance and gross superstition.”

Throughout these volumes there is constant evidence that the leaning of the author's mind is with those “fathers of the Church” who, admitting their piety and virtue, were not always best fitted to form opinions on matters either of science or of history. Under this bias Mr. Christmas starts with the hypothesis that Adam “was endowed with a full understanding of the works of the Creator.” This opens a “vexed question” which can have little to do with the subject of his work. Whether or not we regard the primitive unit of humanity as all-wise and all-pure, we have still to start in our consideration of the birth of our *Twin Giants* from those periods of ignorance when the full indulgence of merely animal passions and appetites kept the mind in the chains of sensuality, and man groped on without a purpose in the sullen darkness.

Among such communities all the grand phenomena of Nature must have excited feelings of wonder or of terror; and described under these influences, they would naturally be invested with extravagance. In this way the traditions of Science and History have become savagely wild and strangely romantic. But they have a value as showing the peculiar mental conditions of those countries in which they have passed as matters of belief. Every fragment of the Folk-Lore which has from time to time appeared in our columns may be regarded as portions of that material which is necessary to the philosopher who would carefully study the psychological phenomena of the races of mankind. Every superstition reports of some passage in the history of humanity—and every tradition is but a truth in disguise, from which light may be eliminated to guide us in our search for the birth-place of our *Twin Giants*.

As an illustration of the kind of interpretation which natural facts received in the ages of “Superstition's reign” we may adduce the legend of the Ammonites as given by Sir Walter Scott:—

Of these and snakes each one  
Was changed into a coil of stone  
When holy Hilda prayed.

Again, the fossil remains of Ecnurines are known in the North as “St. Cuthbert's beads,”—and superstition connects them by one of its strange tales with that saint. As a modern illustration of the process by which the mind, in its desire to realize the wonderful, lends itself to self-deception, we may quote the remains of the great American Hydrarchos—which was supposed to be a realization in a fossil state of the sea-serpent. The sceptics of the practical science of our day were induced to examine this monster with care; and it was then discovered that the bones of several fossil, and some comparatively recent, animals had been ingeniously adapted to each other, to build up this monster to which the ordinary Saurians were as puny lizards. By a similar process to that which has given rise to these traditions, we find in every part of the United Kingdom strange stories of the prowess of giants as connected with our rock formations. Mr. Christmas gives us in connexion with the subject of giants the following tale of Og, king of Bashan.—

“The traditions of the Jews tell us that Sihon, king of the Amorites, and Og, the king of Bashan, were brethren; that Og was born before the Deluge; that his father was the angel Schamchiel and the giants were the posterity of the fallen angels. ‘Now Og,’ says the Talmud, ‘perished not in the Flood, but rode upon the ark, and was as a covering thereof; and he was fed with the provisions which Noah gave him; for Noah bored a hole in the side of the ark, and handed out to him his daily food, to wit, one thousand oxen, one thousand of every kind of game, and the same number of measures of liquid for drink. And this did Noah give Og, and Og consented to be the servant of Noah and his children after him.’ This very much tends to increase our notion of the capacity of the ark, and the prodigious bulk of Og. We find Og pursuing his agreement, and acting in his capacity of servant to the descendants of Noah with laudable fidelity for some ages; and Eliezar, the servant of Abraham, was, we are told, the same personage. As to his size, the Talmud writers very much differ: one tells us that the soles of his feet were forty miles long, and he hid Abraham in the hollow of his hand. ‘And it came to pass that when Abraham did one day rebuke Og, that Og greatly trembled, and by reason of his exceeding fear a tooth fell out of his head; so Abraham made an easy chair of the tooth, and sat thereon all the days of his life.’”

May not extraordinary relations like these have had their origin in the discovery of such enormous bones, the remains of extinct animals, as have been found by Major Cautley and Dr. Falconer in the Sewalik Hills, and beautifully illustrated in the ‘Fauna Antiqua Sivalensis’ published under the direction of the latter? It would not be matter of much difficulty to show that a very intimate connexion could be traced between the traditions of the Brahmins and the interpretations which an ignorant people would give to such strange remains as those that have been dug from the mountains of Asia, and now form an important addition to our National Museum. Again, we would venture to suggest that some interpretation of the wild legends of “Dragons white and red” which are mixed up with the story of Merlin and other Enchanters, may be sought for in the fossil forms of those gigantic saurians which reigned at one time the tyrants of our own islands. If we study the myths of antiquity—particularly such as involve those curious compound beings, the martichore, the griffon, the sphinx, and the monoceras—the translation of a novel fact into a fiction, exalting all its characteristics and giving not unfrequently a savage grandeur to a simple phenomenon, will be apparent.

Mr. Christmas has dwelt at some length with the questions of an occult medicine, occult na-



tural history, and occult natural philosophy; and has given us many exceedingly curious passages from ancient writers showing the extent of belief in these things at different periods of man's history. The following is from the *Æthiopics* of Heliodorus.—

"The circumambient air penetrating our bodies through our eyes, and mouth, and nostrils, and infinite porous passages, carries with it the same qualities itself is endowed with, and produces effects in human bodies answerable to these qualities. Now, when people disposed to envy espy good in others, they taint the air about with noxious vapours, and breathe a sort of poisonous infection upon them they behold, which being of a subtle spirituous nature, pierces into the very bones and marrow; and from thence envy becomes the cause of that disease which is not improperly called fascination or bewitching. And consider how usual it is for people to catch blear-eyes and pestilential distempers without touching any person infected; without lying in the same bed, or so much as sitting at the same table with them; but only by drawing in the same air. We have a notable instance of these spreading infections in the case of love; which is usually engendered by sight, the parties affected darting beams of contagion to each other from their eyes, as may easily be conceived, because the sight, being the most quick and fiery of any sense, becomes susceptible upon that account of every, the least, impression; and through its hot quality absorbs the effluvia of love."

We have numerous anecdotes in these volumes illustrative of the belief in astrology, magic, alchemy, divination, sorcery and demonology; but, by some strange oversight, we have no examination of the bearings of the popular belief in these subjects on the speculations of men devoted to the study of Nature. In the works of the most able of the alchemists, from Basil Valentine to Von Helmont, and onward through those periods when truth is seen struggling with error in the writings of Glauber, of Boyle, of Stahl and even to the time of Kirwan, might have been found ample illustrations of the subject. Again, in physical science, the voluminous works of that most industrious and painstaking observer, Kircher—particularly his '*Magnetism*' and his '*Subterranean World*'—should have been studied, as they afford numerous examples of the tenacity with which the mind clings to the superstitious. The strange and extensive writings of Aldrovandus, and even his curious illustrations of objects of natural history, would have afforded great assistance to our author in solving the problem which he has proposed. But we have scarcely a notice of any one of these; and there are many others whose position as searchers after truth gave them the highest claim to the attention of our author who are not even named.

The following passages fully embody the prevailing ideas in our author's mind.—

"Man, saith the inspired penman, has sought out many inventions; and we have just glanced at times when the light of Revelation illuminated but a small portion of the human race. In a moral and in a religious point of view, it is interesting, though melancholy, to look back to that time, to see the veil of superstitious ignorance, drawing deeper and deeper, and enclosing still more of the family of Adam in its gloomy circuit. It is interesting, though awful, to note the progress of idolatry, and the flood of vice and wickedness, which came in and overwhelmed the benighted world; and in so doing we shall notice the gradual change which took place in the nature of the ideas of man concerning religion and the objects of religious worship. The first step appears to have been to regard the sun, the moon and the stars, as deities; and this among men whose gradual declension in the knowledge of the truth had at length brought them into complete ignorance, seems at once natural and poetical. The Chaldaic shepherd, watching by night on his mountains and beholding above him the clear and cloudless sky of Asia, studded with a thousand suns, may almost be excused if he bowed the knee before these most glorious of

the Creator's works. In the darkness of that age it is something to have selected such sublime representations of the Divinity: and we have good reason to believe that there existed in the minds of the well disposed and contemplative, a conviction of the unity of the great Supreme. Such men *did* consider these beautiful worlds as His Ministers—as high spirits of power and benignity, and as mediators between an awful and inaccessible Deity and his frail and perishing creatures."

Hence the imposing fiction of Astrology had its rise:—and of its influence the following is an example.—

"Tiberius was not the only Roman emperor who placed implicit faith in the art. It continued to increase, both in professors and patronage. Manilius, in the reign of Augustus, had rendered it the subject of melodious and majestic verse; and imperial favour had now rendered it fashionable. Horace speaks of it as a thing constantly practised, and dissuades his friends from its use, evidently in rather a serious mood. If this was the case when Augustus reigned, one may conceive how greatly must it have been followed when the edict against it no longer existed. The son of Thrasylus succeeded to the skill and science of his father; and of him Tacitus says that 'he foretold the empire to Nero.' No very difficult task, one would think, considering the characters of Claudius, of Agrippina, of Britannicus, and of Nero himself. We likewise find that Agrippina was warned that Nero's exaltation would in the end be fatal to her, and that she would fall by the hand of her son. 'Let him kill me (was the reply of the extraordinary woman) provided he does but reign.'"

The examination proceeds thus discursively until we come to the time of Catherine de Medici, noted as an adept—and to the reign of James the First, in England, whose '*Demonology*' attests the popular belief in the occult sciences. From Lilly and Sibly we rapidly pass on to the Worthy who now rejoices in the name of 'Raphael.'—In this "recapitulation" alchemy and magic have but an incidental notice; and Mr. Christmas thus concludes.—

"Science is now freed from her superstitions, and History from her fables. The Twin Giants are no longer in the Cradle, and the Serpents are dead."

With this we cannot agree. Madame de Staël, a more close observer of human Nature than Mr. Christmas has here proved himself to be, says:—"It is a melancholy fact that while the human race is continually advancing by the acquisitions of intellect, it is doomed to move perpetually in the same circle of error from the influence of the passions."—The cradle is deserted and the swaddling clothes are thrown aside,—but the serpents are not strangled. The chapters on Mesmerism, Clairvoyance, and Homeopathy, with the author's remarks thereon, are sufficient proof that the human mind has still to guard itself against their powers,—and that in pursuit of Truth, both Science and History have yet to proceed with caution in the attempt to subdue the snakes which, though "scotched," are certainly not "killed."

*The Wilmingtons.* A Novel. By the Author of 'Two Old Men's Tales.' 3 vols. Colburn. THOUGH this tale is more tedious in its preamble—more precipitous in its conclusion than can be accredited—though it may be divined that more than one character elaborately introduced was originally destined to play a part subsequently altered or retrenched,—'The Wilmingtons' contains scenes which no living author save the lady who personates the 'Two Old Men' could have written so well. Few will be able to escape from her new story when they have once entered on it: few will question the vitality of some of its characters, and the force of some of its situations.

The head of the Wilmington family—a showy, vain, unscrupulous man, who, though a coward and feeble, finds it more easy to brave

the commission of a forgery than to submit to retrenchment,—is a daw in peacock's feathers,—the like of which is encountered in every world of action or enjoyment—and so far the portrait may be warranted as true to universal human folly. In the scene which we are about to extract, the miserable nature of the pretender is shown in all its misery. A few preliminary lines will explain it. In a crisis of the most perilous nature Mr. Wilmington had been supported by the money of Mr. Craiglethorpe, an old bosom friend of his, a rich merchant in India. This money had been gambled away in ruinous speculations: and on Mr. Craiglethorpe's return to England being announced, it became necessary to take measures for replacing it. But the ship in which the Indian merchant embarked was lost: it was believed that he had perished. On receiving this news, Mr. Wilmington availed himself of a moment's chance to commit a forgery, whereby he became possessed of an enormous property which would otherwise have belonged to Mr. Craiglethorpe. The shipwrecked man, in whose loss no reader believed, did get home at last; and, in a fit of desperate audacity, Mr. Wilmington and his wife agreed to dispute his identity. The wanderer (beggared, let us add, by his shipwreck) made his way to their sumptuous villa at Wimbledon: the following being his second attempt to extort recognition.—

"The old man re-entered the front hall; looking round in a sort of imploring, piteous manner. \* \* You must pity the man. Remember, he had never been taught better things. One generous, disinterested, tender affection he had cherished in his bosom;—it was being cruelly crushed. You must pity his pangs. Then he went to the window and looked out. How the trees were grown and changed—they were now, from small shrubs become large plantation trees; but he could not look at them, changed as they were, without a rush of memories of what he had been in that house in times gone by. The footman was long in returning; at last he came, and brought the scrap of paper in his hand. 'Master knows nothing about you.—Doesn't know what you mean by the things here on the paper.—Sorry he can't see any one—positively is busy—is going out.' But this time Mr. Craiglethorpe was too quick for the servant; he did not wait to hear the sentence finished, but passing him, hastily mounted the stairs with hurried steps, laid his hand on the well-known dressing-room door, opened it, and entered. The valet had left the room, but in his place Mrs. Wilmington was standing, talking earnestly to her husband. The door opened; they both turned round: she gave a faint shriek; he turned deathly pale, but stood still. 'Wilmington! is it you who refuse me an entrance into your house?' Craiglethorpe began, with an accent of melancholy rather than angry reproach.—'You, Wilmington!'—'Who are you, sir?' cried Lizzy, placing herself between him and her husband, casting a glance, as she did so, at the latter, which said—'Now be firm, or you are lost for ever.'—'Woman! stand by,' said Craiglethorpe, advancing; 'how dare you put yourself between him and his old friend? Why, Wilmington, holding out his hand, 'you have not surely forgotten me.'—But Wilmington was silent. He looked nervous, hurried, confused, uncertain; but he made not a movement to accept and clasp the hand thus offered.—'Wilmington!' and he went close up to him.—'old friend!' and he laid his hand upon his shoulder.—'Nay, lad, what's the matter; for, sure I am, you know me?'—'He does not, sir,' interrupted Lizzy; 'he's petrified at your audacity. To be sure, loving Mr. Craiglethorpe as he did, it can't but be very painful to have an impostor—'—'Impostor! D—n you, woman! you know me as well as I do myself.'—Passion was awakened at last. He shook the shoulder he held, and cried,—'Come to your senses—speak out. Let us have done at once. . . . If—May heaven forgive me, if I am unjust!—If—Good God!—what am I saying?—if—Wilmington! Wilmington! . . . If—if—speak, only speak; say you won't—say you daren't. What! after all—all—'—'Can't you speak—won't you speak, Mr.



Wilmington?' cried Lizzy angrily. 'What do you stand there for as if you were turned to stone? Speak, tell this old man....'—He could not speak; he could only turn away to release his shoulder from the grasp of his friend, and cover his face with his hands.' His wife followed him, whispering her remonstrances in his ear, urging every suggestion she could think of to confirm him in her purpose. There was a door which opened to her bed-room. She took hold of his arm, and led, or rather pushed him through it. He suffered her to do as she would; and she closed the door after him.—'There,' she said, returning with something very like triumph in her face, 'there—I hope this scene is ended; and now, sir, that you see how excessively painful this farce, which you are pleased to play, proves to my husband's feelings, perhaps you will be good enough to put an end to it.'—He was a stout-hearted, hard-nerved man. He had never in his life, perhaps, known what it was not to be perfectly master of himself under the most trying circumstances; but he stood there now perfectly bewildered—amazed—confounded—his ears tingling, and his spirit faltering—something rose to his eyes—the unwonted visitor—he dashed it away with the back of his hand. Then he glared, rather than looked, upon that hard-hearted, beautiful, bad creature—then he stopped to listen. He thought to have heard his friend's returning steps—there was only that little door between them—but they were severed, oh! far more widely than if it had been a hemisphere—will he relent and come back?—can he have the heart to stay away? He resisted the urgency with which she kept pressing, commanding, insisting upon his going. He kept pushing her aside impatiently with his elbow, which said, as plain as elbow could, 'Be quiet, hold your noise,'—then he stood stock-still and listened again. The expression of his face was strangely touching. At last he approached the door. She would have prevented him; but he shook her off. 'Wilmington,' he said, and laid his hand upon the lock. The key turned within. 'Wilmington,—you are there. Speak.' Silence. 'Wilmington, speak. It is the third and last time. Speak now,—or I swear this is the last time I will ever speak to you more, till we meet together at the day of judgment.' Silence. He still stood and listened; but he had sworn, and would not speak again. He seemed unwilling to take his hand from the lock; unwilling to sever this tie—so close—so strong. His face worked strangely—his colour changed: now a dark lurid red—now deadly pale. He hesitated—he shook the lock. At last he knelt down and looked through the key-hole. The key was in. He would not be satisfied. It seemed as if he could not bear to believe that Wilmington was still in the room; that he could have heard him—that he had not escaped by some other door. But she set him right as to that.—'You need not make any doubt about that,' said she, seeming to understand him; 'for he is there. The other door is fastened. And I think the best thing you can do is to take yourself away.' Again he shook the lock with violence. Again he listened,—but he would not speak. Then he looked round the room, as if taking leave of everything there. Upon the dressing-table stood a very rare piece of Japan china, a present in former days from himself. This was the only article connected with the memory of former days that was still in the room. He took it up, and, before she could interfere, threw it out of the window, and then, without turning his head again, went out of the room and down stairs, crossed the two halls, and so out of the house. He was seen to look up at the house again as he walked slowly down the gravel-road. And I have been told his eye lowered, as if a blast came from it. I fear that in the bitterness of his spirit, he cursed it and its inmates,—and them and theirs, whosoever they might be."

Of course, after a time, the forgery which led Mr. Wilmington to so desperate an exhibition of ingratitude is detected; but suspicion in place of falling on himself lights on his son. Throughout the tale we have been invited to study Henry Wilmington as a noble and worthy contrast to his father:—a reserved ungraceful man, but with a mind of the highest tone and affections of the most generous warmth. These are centred on one

of those exquisite and devoted women, whom no one imagines more delicately or paints better than the 'Two Old Men.' Having become painfully alive to his father's hollowness and want of principle, Henry had withdrawn with his wife to a remote corner of England. Accused of the forgery, it at once flashes across his mind who the real culprit must have been: and in naming this culprit lies his solitary chance of acquittal from the punishment of death, and of restoration to his admirable Flavia,—the wife who had displeased her proud and worldly family by insisting on marrying him!—All such considerations, however, and, still more, that sense of truth and falsehood which makes it a sin to connive at a false accusation by omission or commission, are forgotten by this virtuous son of a vicious father, in the enthusiasm of what is called "filial duty." Henry Wilmington refuses to clear himself, is found guilty, and sentenced to be executed.

On the false morality and false feeling of the above course of action, which, without being exhorted to imitate it, we are certainly invited to admire, we will not trust ourselves to lecture. The workings of the heart are strongly, passionately portrayed by our author,—up to the point when, as has been told, the catastrophe is suddenly huddled together with more than her usual recklessness, and with more than her usual defiance of the reader's interest to excite which such strength has been set in motion.—Be her faults what they may, however, the author will become weary of writing novels, we suspect, ere we shall become indisposed to read them.

*Herman and Dorothea.* Translated into English Hexameters from the German Hexameters of Goethe, with an Introductory Essay. Smith & Son.

WE appreciate the difficulty, while disputing the success of this attempt to clothe one of Goethe's best productions in an English costume. In weighing all such performances there are two main points to be considered—each the head of several minor specialities determined by the particular conditions of the case in question. The first inquiry is—how far the original can be effectually reproduced at all by any possible means of translation? The next, how far the translator has done or failed to do what was possible according to the nature of his task? To discuss these fully would require an investigation too large for the limits we are bound to observe. In the former, for instance, the principles which determine the essence of a poetical work must be established before we can rightly inquire how much of the essential can be preserved, how much will inevitably be lost in a change of idiom. Then, supposing the prime elements of poetry as regards this object to have been settled, the application to the case in hand of the critical test—a task of all others the most liable to appeal on points of individual taste—would require a kind of analysis, to sustain its conclusions, which cannot be conducted by a few summary formulas. Without, therefore, presuming to give law on this subject, we shall here only attempt to state, as briefly as we can, the result of some thoughts on the limits of poetical translation generally, before coming to the particular translation before us.

If every true poet's work be—as surely it is—a living whole,—if it consist, not merely of the bare thoughts which it embodies, nor of the words and numbers only in which they are clothed,—but if each and all are so many commingled vital elements of the organic creation of genius which we call a poem—not one of them accidental or indifferent, but each alike

indispensable, and imbued with the pervading spirit that animates the whole:—if this, we say, be true of every such production, it follows—as it seems to us—that to transfer it completely into another language is all but impossible. The translator can only give us some fractional part of that which exists in the original as a perfect unity. On the choice of the part which he may try to preserve, judgments will differ; but it seems evident that whatever can be so preserved must be the result of a decomposing process,—and it follows as a consequence of applying such a process to any living creation, that the first step must be to destroy its vitality. This will appear, whatever class of the many different modes of translation we may examine. One will give a literal version of the original in prose—i. e. the naked thoughts alone, so far as these can be extracted from their clothing in a different language; deprived, of course, of all the character derived from the tone and colour of their own numbers. This no one will deny to be the mere skeleton of a poem,—or at best a dried preparation, to which the freshness of the original can by no device be restored. Another proceeds from an opposite extreme; and will present his poet with such changes in expression or costume as he deems fit to insure his welcome in a new idiom. Here, at best, the result is but an arbitrary imitation or paraphrase; in which the peculiar character of the author is expressly taken from him, and replaced by something else—more or less like what he might have assumed in another language or time, according to the capacity of the translator who undertakes to create him afresh. A third will attempt to clothe his very form and substance with the poetical flesh and blood of a new language; and this if ill done, as it often is, merely defaces the original, without making a new being of what is taken from it. If well done, it may, indeed, be a living work—but its life is then the result of a new organism, in which certain elements of the original, assimilated by the translator, are brought forth again in another—if a kindred—being; it may be one of equal beauty and strength—but still another, not the same as the former existence. This last-named process, however, we believe to be the only one which allows of any virtual transfer of poetry from one language to another. If the translator have himself genius and feeling enough to re-create something of a character as nearly akin to the original as the difference of idioms will permit,—and, with this, sufficient self-control to restrain the impulses of individual creation, which must to some extent be exercised, within the limits of obedience to the author whom he represents,—he will give the best transcript that a foreign language can afford. But as the union of these qualities is a very rare gift, and as those who possess both will rarely bind themselves to a task which fetters their own creative energies, it is seldom, indeed, that such translations are produced. Yet even these, we repeat, are not—cannot give us—the very originals; and this being true of the best, while the greater part of those which are produced neither preserve the foreign work alive nor give in its place one that has any poetical life of its own, it may be said that the full enjoyment of such works of genius, the flowers of literature, is unattainable except at the price of gathering them on their own soil, in their native fragrance, colour and proportion. For scientific purposes, it may be worth while to import either sketches of their original forms, or the specimens themselves, in some approved mode of preparation,—all, by the nature of the process, dead and dry. But for any complete and genial knowledge of the originals as the



poet made them—for the taste of their proper freshness and flavour—no mediation will suffice. We must imbibe their spirit from the lips of the poets themselves.

As to the work now before us, the disadvantage to which all versions are subject is increased by the translator's determination to English it in the metre of the original, the so-called hexameter; a spurious kind of verse, which the German language has not very kindly adopted, and which is quite uncongenial to our own. In spite of all attempts to naturalize this alien in England, from Sidney's day to Southey's, the national ear has refused, and always will refuse, to accept it; and, we apprehend, on very sufficient grounds. It must be remembered that it is not the *true* classical hexameter that has ever been offered us; but merely a copy of its form, which by the very nature of the case must be radically a false one. The basis of the old metres was quantity; the verse of all modern European languages, of our own perhaps above all, is founded on accent: between such totally different principles no alliance is possible. In lines determined by accent, the syllables, being in most cases made to rise or fall by their position merely, cannot be said to have either length or shortness in the sense in which those qualities have fixed values in classical prosody. Now, in the latter the whole musical system of its unrhymed verse depends on the means by which these values are determined, and on the uniformity with which they are observed: the allowed exceptions being too strictly limited to impair the general effect. If this rule be abolished,—if we take away the weight of the vowel before its double mute consonants, and rob it of its natural levity, when open and uninflected,—the metre which was fluent, sonorous, and distinct in its cadence, becomes a mere succession of rude sounds, in which heaps of jolting consonants and vowels gaping with the direst *hiatus* are forced into lines, that may indeed be scanned on the fingers, but that have lost all properties essential to the melody of classical rhythm. It is, however, in this manner only that they can be applied to languages in which, whether by habit or by the force of a certain native instinct, the cadence of metrical feet has come to depend on accented utterance: and the actual repugnance of these to a system which cannot be perfectly adopted without an entire change in all that determines the tones of their poetical gamut, sufficiently accounts for the failure of attempts to restore the classic measures in modern Europe. The Germans have indeed gone further in this process than any other nation: and their language in some respects,—by the general constancy of its pronunciation, the length of its words, and its many true dactylic endings,—has allowed of a nearer approach to the classical rhythm than is possible in English. But the German hexameter itself, after all, will satisfy no ear sensible of the proper music of that metre in Greek or in Latin. It perpetually sins against quantity, in a way that no art of pronunciation can deprive of its harsh and barbarous effect. In spite of the genius that has tried to naturalize the classical metres, and of the beautiful works—of which 'Herman and Dorothea' is perhaps the most beautiful—that have been produced in imitation of them, they still remain virtually exotic, even in German. Such works are admired, not because, but in spite of their alien dress. The hexameter will never be chosen,—and this is the magisterial test of what will and what will not harmonize with the genius of any language,—for the popular utterance of poetry, which keeps to the accent and rhyme of the national measures. The masterpieces in the foreign style merely

show that by great talents reluctant elements may be forced to unite with a certain degree of success.

That the hexameter has ever reached the point of reviving the classical measures, or of producing by accented feet any equivalent for the music of their syllabic quantity, we must take leave to deny. Klopstock, who first set this fashion, will of course be put aside by its advocates, as a beginner; and well he may,—for his hexameters are of the most jaw-breaking roughness. Take, for instance, the following lines, found on opening the 'Messias' at random. We mark the dactyls (!) in *italics*.—

Sie sich | *ragten*, und | was sie sich | nicht zu | sagen ver-  
mochten.  
Und die *ge*segete | Dess der Dich | schuf, Du | warest so |  
schon nicht.

Goethe is smoother; yet many lines no better than the following will be found in 'Herman and Dorothea'.—

Dissen | nimmt man nur | so auf | Glück und | Zufall ins |  
Hans ein.  
Blicke still | vorsich | hin, und | sah die | Freunde nicht |  
ehier.

In Schiller, who seldom errs, a minute's search discovered this knotty distich.—

Kauft hier! | geb ich each | *Munzen*, vom | mächtigen | Titus  
gel'prägt.  
Auch noch die | Wage lieg[hier]: | schet! es | fehlt kein  
Gewicht.

Even Voss—confessedly the master in this style—now and then gives such tasks as these to his reader.—

Hochzeit | bell und Um|armung, ge|trennt von | bitterer |  
Feindschaft.  
Scheinen; auch | mich ja ge|bar nicht | ganz un|kriegerisch  
die | Mutter.

Can a classic ear perceive in such lines—in which no elision is allowed to soften the dreadful clash of consonants—any, the least, echo of the measures of Homer or of Ovid? However they are helped by reading, can any metrical reason be given why such syllables as we have marked should make dactyls,—or, if so, why shorter ones should be stretched out into spondees? It may be added, that in the poems which the authors quoted have written in the native German measures, it would be hard to find such rude combinations of sounds as their attempts at the classical style have produced.

If this be the case with the best German poets, the process in our language—abounding in monosyllables, and abrupt as well as fickle in their accentuation—is still more unsatisfactory. There is not a single essential feature in English prosody which does not "make mouths," as it were, against the rules of classic quantity; while the consonantal endings of most of our words, the paucity of double liquid endings, the close vowels, and the number of short verbs and particles, make the effect of pressing our language into any resemblance even of the ancient metres incurably painful to a nice ear. This has prevented, and will always prevent, them from taking place among established poetical forms in this country. In no modern language, we repeat, can the true prosodic canon—on which the charm of classical versification depends—be observed. In our own, its frame and pronunciation make it impossible to observe any one of the absolute conditions of ancient prosody; so that English may indeed be tortured into a show of obedience to its laws,—but sins against all its essential rules, while losing its own natural melody, in the process.

In any such process—painful at the best—there are of course degrees of more or less painful. It was, we think, a mistake *ab initio* to cast the translation now before us into English "hexameters;"—but allowing their use at all, we should have to declare that these are not by many degrees the best hexameters that could be produced in English. Nothing, indeed,

can give the effect of quantity which this metre wants; but the possessor of a correct ear would have come nearer to it than the writer of this version has usually done; and would have altogether avoided the licence which he has taken in instances where he violates—we do not say the classic canon—but the utmost freedom even of accidental licence. Of such we note, with the scansion, a few specimens, for the faults of which the natural defect of our language is not responsible.—

Für your | mother's | wishes æ|córd with my | nátür! |  
témper,  
Whóm hénce | forth to | sèrve with my | whóle heart and |  
mind I'm dis|posed.  
By the | sólemn | glóom of | lóftig | lindens sür|rounded.  
Híther háve | come to sèek | rífuge and | shéltér in | this  
fértile | válléy.  
För in thése | unséttléd | times thé | mán whóse | mind is  
ón|settled.

The feet marked with italics are not merely false in quantity,—they cannot be scanned at all by any mode of English pronunciation. The lines are rougher than well-written prose: and equally good hexameters might be taken from any newspaper by merely ranging in rows the requisite number of syllables. The writer is clearly not chosen by nature to make hexameters popular in English poetry.

Of the original 'Herman and Dorothea' therefore—composed on the whole in far more musical verses—this translation will give but a distant idea. The outline of the story and the merely literal substance of its filling up may be collected here; but its colour, warmth and motion—all that really makes it a poem of the first class—will not be found in this English text. To give any adequate version would at best be no very promising endeavour. There is so much that is peculiar in tone in its kindly gravity, its fluent breadth, and graceful homeliness—so much of that nameless charm which results from a perfect mastery and the nicest use of all that is strong, sweet, and expressive, in the language of its author,—the life it depicts is so alien to us, and we are so far estranged from that simplicity of speech which is still allowed to a German poet,—that on the whole there is little hope of seeing an effectual copy of the original made in English. But we can imagine a much nearer approach to some likeness of it than will be found in the translation now published.

Of the work itself we shall not here speak. To those of our readers who know German it must be familiar; those who have to make acquaintance with this masterpiece in an English dress will hardly thank us for dwelling on beauties and characteristics in the original which they will vainly seek in the present version. It brings a work of the choicest poetry down to a level of common prose: and, after what has been already said of translations in general, we need scarcely observe that this would not be a very fit text on which to discourse of qualities that have escaped from the work in the process of changing its language.

The introductory essay is a long one. It gives, as it professes, a history of the work, discusses its poetry, frame and method, and concludes with a dissertation on the hexameter as a measure suited to English use generally and to this poem in particular. To the views of the writer we cannot quite assent, on other points than the last mentioned. We may, however, state that he seems to have set about his task with praiseworthy diligence; and we are bound to acknowledge what he is pleased to say of our lucubrations in German literature. But a plain duty constrains us to add, that if we have rightly understood Goethe's mind, and especially his manner of composition, neither the one nor the other can have been quite correctly apprehended by the writer,—although



he may have been "a disciple of Goethe for nearly twenty years." The points, however, on which we think he has misconstrued the evidences that he quotes, could hardly be discussed with profit to our readers at the close of a paper: in which we have desired rather to offer some general hints on the subject of translation, and on attempts to classicize modern poetry, than to dispute the criticism of an essay which might have been examined more closely could we have said more in its praise. It may, however, be as well to mark some errata on matters of fact, for the use of those who may consult it. The 'Louise' of Voss was *not* the parent of Goethe's poem:—this is negated by the testimony of Schiller, a witness whose authority on this point will not be disputed. In the "Correspondence with Körner," lately published, he expressly states (Oct. 1796) that Goethe's poem was "not occasioned by the 'Louise,' although roused into life" (*geweckt*) by its appearance:—and that "he had for several years been meditating on the idea"; whereas Voss's *Idyl* came out in 1795 only. The 'Musen Almanach' was *not* "brought out" by "Schiller and Goethe," because they felt themselves bound to notice the attacks upon their "coalition." It was a literary speculation planned wholly by Schiller himself in 1795, as a source of profit:—long enough before the 'Xenien' had been thought of. The idea of these epigrams first arose after the opening number of the almanack had already been sent to the press; and they were printed in the next year's volume. They were severe enough on "persons" as well as on "actions";—this the terrible distich on poor Manso might be quoted to prove. Wieland was *not* "the head" of "the Romantic school," either at the time of the appearance of the 'Xenien' or at any other time; but had founded a manner of his own on principles altogether different,—forming, as readers of his works may see, a species of Gallo-Græcism varied with elements borrowed from the serio-comic poets of Italy. Finally, 'Werther' was *not* written "to counteract the false sentiment so common among the readers of Rousseau": the author himself has told us how it arose, and certainly the desire of curing Rousseau's readers has no place in his account. It was thrown off by an effort of nature to get rid of a morbid state of his own mind, caused by far other influences, which he brought to a crisis by giving a distinct form to its turbid emotions. These from thenceforth lost their power over him:—as evil spirits were supposed to do when called by their proper names.

Here we must end.—The eminence of the subject will be accepted, we hope, as our excuse for not having ended sooner.

*The Life and Correspondence of the late Robert Southey, &c. &c.* Vol. II. Longman & Co.

THIS second volume confirms our regret that the task of composing and compiling the Biography of the author of 'Thalaba' has not fallen into the hands of one better qualified than the Rev. Charles Cuthbert Southey appears to be. His taste in selection of material is capricious, not to say questionable. While in one page he apologizes for reprinting the letter concerning the long-deceased Bampfylde of Exeter, on the plea of indiscretion,—in others he does not scruple to record the baby-talk of a living celebrity, the principal of St. Mark's College, Chelsea. We understand neither the plea of omission nor the reason for commission. Then, we discern signs of a fault less excusable than caprice or want of taste,—to wit, editorial carelessness. It would have cost the editor no great labour to ascertain the precise year in which the Aber-

gavenny was wrecked (*vide pp. 256-7, 321*): failing such verification, the laziest possible collation of the two letters dated Feb. 11, 1804 and April 3, 1805, must have suggested that the latter was the correct date,—since, whereas in the former, Southey owns to having laid it by for two or three weeks (far into March) and since he may even later, possibly, have added the allusion to the shipwreck—in the latter he describes himself as having been "grievously shocked this evening." With such examples before us of want of judgment and of supineness—we cannot acquiesce in the perpetual cases of *hiatus* in the correspondence. We cannot but fear that due diligence may have been withheld on other unsettled and debateable points—such as must abound in a life extending over so many years as Southey's: and we proceed the more uneasily from a feeling of fancying that full justice has not been done to the subject. It may be partly owing to the biographer's inertness and obtuseness that the character of his hero fails to brighten upon us as we advance. More instances of the petulance, vanity and hasty judgments of the Laureate are given than we love to dwell on. Why was Southey's father's son so delicate about the Bampfylde letter when he could admit without hesitation the vulgar paragraph concerning "that ugly-nosed Godwin" (during the lifetime of Godwin's daughter)—or the silly nickname of Mrs. Bare-bald (for Barbauld) fixed on the clever poetess by Southey in revenge for a review written by her on Charles Lamb's 'John Woodvil'? Then, we have self-laudation enough and to spare touching 'Thalaba,' 'Madoc' and other performances and plans of the zealous literary worker. Southey's asperities and his littlenesses, in short, "come out" unpleasantly; whereas a competent biographer (and one who comprehended the real nature of his original, if universal testimony lieth not), though he would not have concealed these traits, would have shown them in their real worth and proportion—merely like so many tiny scales of mica, the glittering of which does not interfere with the grave and noble impression produced by "the face of the rock." This, Southey's son fails to do: and the reader must be contented to grope his way onward, through a mass of ill-digested material—rich enough in anecdote, but poor in the endeavour to do justice to the character of one whom his large number of surviving friends concur in mourning as the most virtuous of men!

To this subject we shall not again return;—but we shall pass through the volumes as they appear, in a desultory fashion, content to cater for the reader's amusement, without any attempt at completing a character left so curiously unfinished, or at effacing specks allowed to stand out so prominently. In a former notice we pointed out how Southey, too, had his "lunes" of dramatic ambition, which seem at one time or other to have visited every narrative poet,—Crabbe and Sir Walter Scott, perhaps, excepted. But in the first pages of this second volume it appears as if he had lingered longer in them than might be expected from a man so energetic, who was ultimately to prove unproductive. In 1799 we find him writing to Mr. John May as follows.—

"My dear Friend,—Since my last my dramatic ideas have been fermenting, and have now, perhaps, settled—at least, among my various thoughts and outlines there is one which pleases me, and with which Wynn seems well satisfied. I am not willing to labour in vain, and before I begin I would consult well with him and you, the only friends who know my intention. The time chosen is the latter part of Queen Mary's reign: the characters,—Sir Walter, a young convert to the Reformation; Gilbert, the man who has converted him; Stephen, the cousin of Sir Walter,

and his heir in default of issue, a bigoted Catholic; Mary, the betrothed of Walter, an amiable Catholic; and her Confessor, a pious excellent man. Gilbert is burnt, and Walter, by his own enthusiasm and the bigotry and interested hopes of his cousin, condemned, but saved by the Queen's death. The story thus divides itself:—1. To the discovery of Walter's principles to Mary and the Confessor. 2. The danger he runs by his attentions to the accused Gilbert. 3. Gilbert's death. 4. Walter's arrest. 5. The death of the Queen. In Mary and her Confessor I design Catholics of the most enlarged minds, sincere, but tolerating, and earnest to save Walter, even to hastening his marriage, that the union with a woman of such known sentiments might divert suspicion. Gilbert is a sincere but bigoted man, one of the old reformers, ready to suffer death for his opinions, or to inflict it. Stephen, so violent in his hate of heresy as half to be ignorant of his own interested motives in seeking Walter's death. But it is from delineating the progress of Walter's mind that I expect success. At first he is restless and unhappy, dreading the sacrifices which his principles require; the danger of his friend and his death excite an increasing enthusiasm; the kindness of the priest, and Mary's love, overcome him; he consents to temporise, and is arrested; then he settles into the suffering and steady courage of a Christian. To this I feel equal, and long to be about it. I expect a good effect from the evening hymn to be sung by Mary, and from the death of Gilbert. From the great window, Mary and the Confessor see the procession to the stake, and hear the *Te Deum*: they turn away when the fire is kindled, and kneel together to pray for his soul; the light of the fire appears through the window, and Walter is described as performing the last office of kindness to his martyred friend. You will perceive that such a story can excite only good feelings; its main tendency will be to occasion charity towards each other's opinions. The story has the advantage of novelty; the only martyrdom-plays I know are mixed with much nonsense—the best is Corneille's 'Polyeucte'; in English we have two bad ones from Massinger and Dryden. When I see you I will tell you more; the little thoughts for minute parts, which are almost too minute to relate formally in a letter."

Those, however, who remark how the student a page or two later confesses that he is "truly and actually learning Dutch, to read Jacob Cats," may, possibly, in such a direction of his zeal and industry, find the *rationale* of Southey's non-fulfilment of his dramatic dream, cherished as it was. That which is recondite and out-of-the-world seems all his life to have attracted him with a factitious temptation,—or else that which was puerile, prosy and familiar. The pendulum which swings betwixt two such points will hardly stop at the sign of "Drama" on the poet's dial. 'Thalaba,' 'Madoc,' an 'Old Woman of Berkeley,' a 'Pauper's Funeral,' or a nursery jingle about the "Way in which the Water comes down at Lodore," may be naturally swung or struck out during the oscillations of the machine; but no 'Venice Preserved,' no 'Wallenstein,' no 'Sardanapalus,' no 'Hunchback.'

As we proceed, we find notices of the satisfactory growth of 'Thalaba' and 'Madoc'; indications, too, of vicissitudes of purpose regarding the author's future life (which he had not yet exclusively devoted to literary projects),—and mention of new friends. Among these must be specified Mr. Basil Montagu, who generously tendered assistance in case Southey should decide on working out his legal career, and Mr. Rickman. Sickness, however, peremptorily interposed to plan for the projector. A nervous affection rendered change of air necessary for him,—and Southey's relationship to Mr. Hill and his own designs upon a historical work pointed out Portugal as the scene of his cure. To Lisbon, accordingly, he went, accompanied by his wife, and there sojourned for a considerable period. Many letters from the



south are given from which a few passages, characteristic alike of their writer and of his theme, may be extracted.—

“An acquaintance of mine (Tennant, well known for some famous chemical experiments on the diamond) met an Irishman in Switzerland, who had been at Rome. He said it was the most *laineant* government in the world: you might kill a man in the streets, and nobody would take the *laist* notice of it. This also is a *laineant* government: a man stabs his antagonist, wipes the knife in his cloak, and walks quietly away. It is a point of honour in the spectators to give no information. If one servant robs his master, it is a point of honour in his fellow-servants never to inform of him. Both these points of honour are inviolable from prudence, for a stab would be the consequence. One method of revenge used in the provinces is ingeniously wicked: they beat a man with sand-bags. These do not inflict so much immediate pain as a cane would do, but they so bruise all the fine vessels, that unless the poor wretch be immediately scarified, a lingering death is the consequence. \*\* On Sunday, some boys, dressed like blue-coat boys, went under our window, with baskets, begging provisions or money. A man has set up this charity school on speculation, and without funds, trusting to chance alms. The ‘Emperor of the Holy Ghost’ also passed us in person: his flags are new, and his retinue magnificent in their new dresses of white and scarlet; his musicians were all negroes: before him went a grave and comely personage, carrying a gilt wand of about ten feet high. The Emperor is about six years old, exceedingly thin, dressed like a man in full dress, silk stockings, large buckles, a sword, and an enormous cocked hat, bigger than yours, edged with white fringe. On either side marched a gentleman usher, from time to time adjusting his hat, as its heavy corners preponderated. The attendants carried silver salvers, on which they had collected much copper money: few poor people passed who did not give something. Lately a negro went along our street with a Christ in a glass case, which he showed to every one whom he met. They usually kissed the glass and gave him money. Pombal, in his time, prohibited such follies. These images have all been blessed by the Pope, and are therefore thus respected. I was in a shop the other day waiting for change, when a beggar-woman came in. As I did not give her anything, she turned to an image of Our Lady, prayed to it and kissed it, and then turned round to beg again. \* \* One of the new convent towers is miserably disfigured by a projecting screen of wood. The man who rings the bell stands close by it, and the ugly thing is put there lest he should see the nuns walking in the garden, or lest they should see him, for a nun has nothing but love to think of, and a powder magazine must be guarded warily. A million sterling has been expended upon this convent; it is magnificent within, wholly of marble, and the colour well disposed. A million sterling! and the great square is unfinished, and the city without flagstones, without lamps, without drains! I meet the galley-slaves sometimes, and have looked at them with a physiognomic eye to see if they differed from the rest of the people. *It appeared to me that they had been found out, the others had not.* The Portuguese face, when fine is very fine, and it rarely wants the expression of intellect.”

The italics in the last extract are ours: having been added to call attention to the distinction, which is fine to a fineness rare in these letters.

Those who are fond of landscape description may like to compare the following picture with others of the same district bequeathed to the world by Mr. Beckford.—

“My Cintra memorandums must be made; and more than once have I delayed the task of describing this place from a feeling of its difficulty. There is no scenery in England which can help me to give you an idea of this. The town is small, like all country towns of Portugal, containing the Plaza or square, and a number of narrow crooked streets that wind down the hill: the palace is old—remarkably irregular—a large, rambling, shapeless pile, not unlike the prints I have seen in old romances of a castle,—a place whose infinite corners overlook the sea; two white towers, like glass houses exactly, form a

prominent feature in the distance, and with a square tower mark it for an old and public edifice. From the Valley the town appears to stand very high, and the ways up are long, and winding and weary; but the town itself is far below the summit of the mountain. You have seen the *Rock of Lisbon* from the sea,—that rock is the *Sierra* or mountain of Cintra: above, it is broken into a number of pyramidal summits of rock piled upon rock; two of them are wooded completely, the rest bare. Upon one stands the Penha convent,—a place where, if the Chapel of Loretto had stood, one might have half credited the lying legend, that the angels or the devil had dropped it there—so unascendable the height appears on which it stands, yet is the way up easy. On another point the ruins of a Moorish castle crest the hills. To look down from thence upon the palace and town my head grew giddy, yet is it farther from the town to the valley than from the summit to the town. The road is like a terrace, now with the open heath on the left, all purple with heath flowers, and here and there the stony summits and coombs winding to the vale, luxuriantly wooded, chiefly with cork trees; descending as you advance towards Colares, the summits are covered with firs, and the valley appears in all the richness of a fertile soil under this blessed climate. The cork is perhaps the most beautiful of trees: its leaves are small, and have the dusky colour of evergreens, but its boughs branch out in the fantastic twistings of the oak, and its bark is of all others the most picturesque;—you have seen deal curl under the carpenter’s plane—it grows in such curls,—the wrinkles are of course deep, one might fancy the cavities the cells of hermit fairies. There is one tree in particular here which a painter might well come from England to see, large and old; its trunk and branches are covered with fern—the yellow sun-burnt fern—forming so sunny a contrast to the dark foliage—a wild vine winds up and hangs in festoons from the boughs, its leaves of a bright green, like youth,—and now the purple clusters are ripe. These vines form a delightful feature in the scenery; the vineyard is cheerful to the eyes, but it is the wild vine that I love,—matting over the hedges, or climbing the cork or the tall poplar, or twisting over the grey olive in all its unpruned wantonness. The chestnut also is beautiful; its blossoms shoot out in rays like stars, and now its hedge-hog fruit stars the dark leaves. We have yet another tree of exquisite effect in the landscape—the fir,—not such as you have seen, but one that shoots out no branches, grows very high, and then spreads broad in a mushroom shape exactly—the bottom of its head of the brown and withered colour that the yew and the fir always have, and the surface of the brightest green. If a mushroom serves as the Pantheon Dome for a fairy hall—you might conceive a giant picking one of these pines for a parasol—they have somewhat the appearance in distance that the palm and cocoa has in print. \* \* The fire flies were abundant when we first came here; it was like fairy land to see them sparkling under the trees at night; the glow-worms were also numerous,—their light went out at the end of July; but we have an insect which almost supplies their places,—a winged grasshopper, in shape like our own; in colour a grey ground hue, undistinguishable from the soil on which they live, till they leap up and their expanded wings then appear like a purple: we hear at evening the grillo—it is called the cricket, because its song is like that animal, but louder; it is, however, wholly different,—shaped like a beetle, with wings like a bee, and black:—they sell them in cages at Lisbon by way of singing birds. We ride asses about the country: you would laugh to see a party thus mounted; and yet soon learn to like the easy pace and sure step of the John burros. At the south-western extremity of the rock is a singular building which we have twice visited,—a chapel to the Virgin (who is omnipresent in Portugal), on one of the stony summits, far from any house: it is the strangest mixture you can imagine of art and nature; you scarcely, on approaching, know what is rock and what is building, and from the shape and position of the chapel itself, it looks like the ark left by the waters upon Mount Ararat. Long flights of steps lead up, and among the rocks are many rooms, designed to house the pilgrims who frequent the place. A poor family live below with the keys. From this spot the coast lies

like a map below you to Cape Espichel with the Tagus. ‘Tis a strange place, that catches every cloud, and I have felt a tempest there when there has been no wind below. In case of plague it would be an excellent asylum. At the north-western extremity is a rock which we have not yet visited, where people go to see fishermen run the risk of breaking their necks, by walking down a precipice. I have said nothing to you of the wild flowers, so many and so beautiful; purple crocusses now cover the ground; nor of the flocks of goats that morning and evening pass our door; nor of the lemon venders,—of these hereafter.”

We must now leave the section of these letters relating to Portugal; after having cited (in justification of our remarks above offered) Southey’s criticism upon his own ‘Thalaba,’ which was completed during this foreign residence.—

“Thalaba has certainly and inevitably the fault of Samson Agonistes,—its parts might change place; but, in a romance, epic laws may be dispensed with; its faults are now verbal: such as it is, I know no poem which can claim a place between it and the Orlando. Let it be weighed with the Oberon; perhaps, were I to speak out, I should not dread a trial with Ariosto.”

In 1801 we find Southey writing from Bristol to Coleridge about Drummmond’s “translation of Persius,” his correspondent’s ‘Christabel,’ and Wordsworth’s ‘Brothers.’ *Apropos* of the last poem, here is a criticism upon ‘the Lakers,’ with a somewhat complacent *finale*, which merits a place among ‘The Curiosities (or conceits) of Literature.’—

“By the by, there is a great analogy between hock, laver, pork pie, and the Lyrical Ballads,—all have a *flavour*, not beloved by those who require a *taste*, and utterly unpleasant to dram-drinkers, whose diseased palates can only *feel* pepper and brandy. I know not whether Wordsworth will forgive the stimulant tale of Thalaba,—‘tis a turtle soup, highly seasoned, but with a flavour of his own predominant. His are sparagrass (it ought to be spelt so) and artichokes, good with plain butter, and wholesome.”

Shortly after this we find Southey in the new position of private secretary to Mr. Corry, the then Chancellor of the Exchequer for Ireland. The weariness of the voyage across the Channel was beguiled by the presence of a character in his day as famous as Mr. Morison the Hygeist.—

“He is not above five feet; but, notwithstanding his figure, soon became the most important personage of the party. ‘Sir,’ said he, as soon as he set foot in the vessel, ‘I am a unique; I go anywhere, just as the whim takes me: this morning, sir, I had no idea whatever of going to Dublin; I did not think of it when I left home; my wife and family know nothing of the trip. I have only one shirt with me besides what I have on; my nephew here, sir, has not another shirt to his back: but money, sir, money,—anything may be had at Dublin.’ Who the devil is this fellow? thought I. We talked of rum,—he had just bought 100 puncheons, the weakest drop 15 above proof: of the West of England,—out he pulls an Exeter newspaper from his pocket: of bank paper,—his pocket-book was stuffed with notes, Scotch, Irish, and English; and I really am obliged to him for some clues to discover forged paper. Talk, talk, everlasting;—he could draw for money on any town in the United Kingdom; ay, or in America. At last he was made known for Dr. Solomon. At night I set upon the doctor, and turned the discourse upon disease in general, beginning with the Liverpool flux—which remedy had proved most effectual—nothing like the Cordial Balm of Gilead; at last I ventured to touch upon a tender subject—did he conceive Dr. Brodum’s medicine to be at all analogous to his own?—‘Not in the least, sir; colour, smell, all totally different: as for Dr. Brodum, sir,—all the world knows it—it is manifest to everybody—that his advertisements are all stolen, *verbatim et literatim*, from mine. Sir, I don’t think it worth while to notice such a fellow.’”

The following glance at Irish humanity and unlimited Irish expectation of official favour will, we imagine, be warranted by every writer, old or young, who knows the Emerald Isle.—



"It will be difficult to civilise this people. An Irishman builds him a turf sty, gets his fuel from the bogs, digs his patch of potatoes, and then lives upon them in idleness: like a true savage, he does not think it worth while to work that he may better himself. Potatoes and butter-milk,—on this they are born and bred; and whiskey sends them to the third heaven at once. If Davy had one of them in his laboratory, he could analyze his flesh, blood and bones into nothing but potatoes, and butter-milk, and whiskey; they are the primary elements of an Irishman. Their love of 'fun' eternally engages them in mischievous combinations, which are eternally baffled by their own blessed instinct of blundering. The United Irishmen must have obtained possession of Dublin but for a bull. On the night appointed, the mail coach was to be stopped and burnt, about a mile from town, and that was the signal; the lamplighters were in the plot; and oh! to be sure! the honeys would not light a lamp in Dublin that evening, for fear the people should see what was going on. Of course alarm was taken, and all the mischief prevented. Modesty characterises them as much here as on the other side of the water. A man stopped Rickman yesterday,—"I'll be obliged to you, sir, if you'll please to ask Mr. Abbott to give me a place of sixty or seventy pounds a-year."—Favours, indeed, are asked here with as unblushing and obstinate a perseverance as in Portugal. This is the striking side of the picture—the dark colours that first strike a stranger; their good qualities you cannot so soon discover. Genius, indeed, immediately appears to characterize them; a love of saying good things—which 999 Englishmen in a thousand never dream of attempting in the course of their lives. When Lord Hardwicke came over, there fell a fine rain, the first after a long series of dry weather; a servant of Dr. Lindsay's heard an Irishman call to his comrade in the street—"Ho, Pat! and we shall have a riot,"—of course, a phrase to quicken an Englishman's hearing—"this rain will breed a riot—the little potatoes will be pushing out the big ones."

Southey's connexion with Mr. Corry did not last long. About this time we have notices of an edition of Chatterton's Poems, superintended, in defiance of Sir Herbert Croft, by Southey for the benefit of the ill-starred poet's sister;—afterwards, a glimpse at one or two of the celebrities, small and great, then circulating in London. The chasms in the following extract are alike tantalizing and (at this period) unnecessary.—

"Bloomfield I saw in London, and an interesting man he is—even more than you would expect. I have reviewed his Poems with the express object of serving him; because if his fame keeps up to another volume, he will have made money enough to support him comfortably in the country: but in a work of criticism how could you bring him to the touchstone? and to lessen his reputation is to mar his fortune. \* \* I saw a number of notorious people after you left London. Mrs. Inchbold,—an odd woman, but I like her. Campbell . . . who spoke of old Scotch ballads with contempt! Fuseli . . . Flaxman, whose touch is better than his feeling. Bowles . . . Walter White, who wanted to convert me to believe in Rowley. Perkins, the Tractorist, a demure-looking rogue. Dr. Busby,—oh! what a Dr. Busby!—the great musician! the greater than Handel! who is to be the husband of St. Cecilia in his seraph state. . . . and he set at me with a dead compliment! Lastly, Barry, the painter: poor fellow! he is too mad and too miserable to laugh at."

Here, too, is an opinion which is interesting when one of the last tasks of him who vented it is recollected.—

"Cowper's Life is the most pick-pocket work, for its shape and price, and author and publisher, that ever appeared. It relates very little of the man himself. This sort of delicacy seems quite groundless towards a man who has left no relations or connexions who could be hurt by the most explicit biographical detail. His letters are not what one does expect, and yet what one ought to expect, for Cowper was not a strong-minded man even in his best moments. The very few opinions that he gave upon authors are quite ludicrous; he calls Mr. Park,

that comical spark,  
Who wrote to ask me for a Joan of Arc,  
'one of our best hands' in poetry. Poor wretched man! the Methodists among whom he lived made him ten times madder than he could else have been."

And here is a judgment on Scott;—and yet another on Southey himself as ballad-monger.

"June 9, 1803.

"I have just gone through the Scottish Border Ballads. Walter Scott himself is a man of great talent and genius; but wherever he patches an old poem, it is always with new bricks. Of the modern ballads, his own fragment is the only good one, and that is very good. I am sorry to see Leyden's good for so little. Sir Agrethorn is flat, foolish, Matthewish, Gregoryish, Lewisish. I have been obliged to coin vituperative adjectives on purpose, the language not having terms enough of adequate abuse. I suppose the word Flodden-Field entitles it to a place here, but the scene might as well have been laid in Eldorado, or Tothill Fields, of the country of Prester John, for anything like costume which it possesses. It is odd enough that almost every passage which Scott has quoted from Froissart should be among the extracts which I had made. In all these modern ballads there is a modernism of thought and language—turns, to me very perceptible and very unpleasant, the more so for its mixture with antique words—polished steel and rusty iron! This is the case in all Scott's ballads. His Eve of St. John's is a better ballad in story than any of mine, but it has this fault. Elmsley once asked me to versify that on the Glenfinlas—to try the difference of style; but I declined it, as waste labour and an invidious task. Matthew G. Lewis, Esq., M.P. sins more grievously in this way; he is not enough versed in old English to avoid it: Scott and Leyden are, and ought to have written more purely. I think if you will look at Q. Orraca you will perceive that, without being a cento from our old ballads, it has quite the ballad character of language."

The aforesaid 'Queen Orraca,' we are assured by Mr. Lockhart, was one of Scott's most favourite pieces of ballad-rhyme. But he could also cordially praise, 'Madoc' without "if" or "I,"—and this his brother bard seems to have been little capable of doing by any brother bard's poems, save, perhaps, 'Gebir.'

The letters from Coleridge are always interesting. The following adds another to the list of "castles in the air" built by "the noticeable man." The vastness and glory of these dreams make them at once melancholy and engaging. Who that reads the following will doubt its being written in sincerity?—

"S. T. Coleridge to R. Southey.

"Keswick, July, 1803.

"My dear Southey,—I write now to propose a scheme, or rather a rude outline of a scheme, of your grand work. What harm can a proposal do? If it be no pain to you to reject it, it will be none to me to have it rejected. I would have the work entitled *Bibliotheca Britannica*, or an History of British Literature, bibliographical, biographical, and critical. The two last volumes I would have to be a chronological catalogue of all noticeable or extant books; the others, be the numbers six or eight, to consist entirely of separate treatises, each giving a critical biblio-biographical history of some one subject. I will, with great pleasure, join you in learning Welsh and Erse: and you, I, Turner, and Owen might dedicate ourselves for the first half-year to a complete history of all Welsh, Saxon, and Erse books that are not translations, that are the native growth of Britain. If the Spanish neutrality continues, I will go in October or November to Biscay, and throw light on the Basque. Let the next volume contain the history of English poetry and poets, in which I would include all prose truly poetical. The first half of the second volume should be dedicated to great single names, Chaucer and Spenser, Shakespeare, Milton and Taylor, Dryden and Pope; the poetry of witty logic,—Swift, Fielding, Richardson, Sterne: I write *par hazard*, but I mean to say all great names as have either formed epochs in our taste or such, at least, as are representative; and the great object to be in each instance to determine, first, the true merits and demerits of the books; secondly, what of these belong

to the age—what to the author *quasi peculium*. The second half of the second volume should be a history of poetry and romances, everywhere interspersed with biography, but more flowing, more consecutive, more bibliographical, chronological, and complete. The third volume I would have dedicated to English prose, considered as to style, as to eloquence, as to general impressiveness; a history of styles and manners, their causes, their birth-places and parentage, their analysis. . . . These three volumes would be so generally interesting, so exceedingly entertaining, that you might bid fair for a sale of the work at large. Then let the fourth volume take up the history of metaphysics, theology, medicine, alchemy, common, canon, and Roman law, from Alfred to Henry the Seventh; in other words, a history of the dark ages in Great Britain. The fifth volume—carry on metaphysics and ethics to the present day in the first half; the second half comprise the theology of all the reformers. In the fourth volume there would be a grand article on the philosophy of the theology of the Roman Catholic religion. In this (fifth volume), under different names,—Hooker, Baxter, Biddle and Fox,—the spirit of the theology of all the other parts of Christianity. The sixth and seventh volumes must comprise all the articles you can get, on all the separate arts and sciences that have been treated of in books since the Reformation; and, by this time the book, if it answered at all, would have gained so high a reputation that you need not fear having whom you liked to write the different articles—medicine, surgery, chemistry, &c. &c., navigation, travellers, voyagers, &c. &c. If I go into Scotland shall I engage Walter Scott to write the history of Scottish poets? Tell me, however, what you think of the plan. It would have one prodigious advantage: whatever accident stopped the work, would only prevent the future good, not mar the past; each volume would be a great and valuable work *per se*. Then each volume would awaken a new interest, a new set of readers, who would buy the past volumes of course; then it would allow you ample time and opportunities for the slavery of the catalogue volumes; which should be at the same time an index to the work, which would be in very truth, a pandect of knowledge, alive and swarming with human life, feeling, incident. By the bye, what a strange abuse has been made of the word encyclopedia! It signifies properly, grammar, logic, rhetoric, and ethics and metaphysics, which last, explaining the ultimate principles of grammar—log., ret., and eth.—formed a circle of knowledge. . . . To call a huge, unconnected miscellany of the *omne scibile*, in an arrangement determined by the accident of initial letters, an encyclopedia, is the impudent ignorance of your Presbyterian bookmakers. Good night! God bless you! S. T. C."

About this point of the narrative we arrive at Southey's settlement at Keswick: which makes a good halting-place,—matter enough and to spare being left in this second volume for another notice.

#### BOOKS FOR THE YOUNG.

THE age at which children cease and "young gentlemen and ladies" commence to be, is a point which persons the most formally devoted to statistics, and the most resolutely bent against all prodigies, must consent to adjust by "a sliding scale"—not according to the standard of the Medes and Persians. But be it fixed early, or be it fixed late, the advocates of the forcing and the preachers of the repressing systems seem alike to have made progress in their ideas with regard to the training of the young. Life is now admitted to be short, and character to be various—*ergo*, everybody is no longer expected to learn everything. Work and play, again, are not now mixed up with that indiscriminate and catechetical tyranny which, when we were young, put its finger into every pie, and demanded mathematical proof for every rhyme and jingle. Nay, there is some danger—thanks to the changes of fashion and to the implicit demands of "reverence,"—that we may come round again to an unreasonable deference to coral and bells. Meanwhile, in proportion as relaxation and instruction are kept separate, both old and young have a right to expect that each shall be of the best possible quality:—and thus they may claim from "searchers"—*alias* critics—the utmost exercise



of zeal and diligence. At all events, it is with fancies and convictions like the above that we begin the labours of another year.

*The Heiress in her Minority; or, the Progress of Character.* By the Author of 'Bertha's Journal.'—This book contains very nearly as much matter as a three-volume novel and a half. A more substantial piece of reading, therefore, has not often been provided for ladies' schools or colleges. This superabundant length might have been fancied as an objection; but the author of 'Bertha's Journal' has taken brevet rank among writers for the young, and probably knows better than her critics how much is found acceptable and digestible. Three objects appear to have presented themselves to the writer in her present essay: first, to show how a self-willed yet not unamiable girl is lessened by good counsels and better examples into patience, self-sacrifice, and evenness of spirits—secondly, to illustrate in what manner the poor peasantry of Ireland (Evelyn being an Irish heiress) may be best benefitted—thirdly, to accumulate a large number of facts in natural history. By this peculiarity of plan, which is wrought out with elaborate consistency, 'The Heiress in her Minority' is rendered, as a tale, totally unreal:—though as a work for school-reading it appears to us full of carefully selected matter and good principles wisely expounded.

Next come two books "some degrees younger" than the above. The first before us, *Success in Life, the Merchant*, by Mrs. L. C. Tuthill, is of American origin, one of a series of six; the other subjects being Lawyer, Mechanic, Artist, Physician, Farmer. In these, all honourable ways of "getting on" are illustrated by "biography, anecdotes, maxims," &c. The specimen before us appears carefully executed, and to stand half way betwixt a volume of the Percy Anecdotes and one of Miss Edgeworth's prudential tales. But, while on the subject of morals for the young, it must be observed that one and all such books as these—from the elaborate novel 'Patronage' down to the penny version of Whittington's story proposed as model—too systematically exclude provisions for strength, hopefulness, and happiness in failure. They are excellent manuals for prosperity, but we are not satisfied that they contain due indication of the uses of adversity. It is well to preach that man is stronger than circumstance,—but we would have the strength of resigned acquiescence sometimes insisted on in the child's homily-book, as well as the strength of victorious endeavour.—*Truth is Everything: a Tale for Young Persons*, by Mrs. Thomas Geldart, contains its argument in its title—leaving us to add only, that the text propounded appears to be strictly and consistently illustrated, without extravagance or injudicious severity.

It remains for us to deal with a few matters more fantastic, romantic, and poetical than the above; beginning with *Walks and Talks; or, Aunt Ida's Tales for Young Persons*. By a Lady. With Illustrations.—Here are twenty-two stories, set in a pleasant and natural framework (in these days not a thing very easy to devise), which accompanies every tale with a glimpse at some foreign scene obviously taken from the life. Such connecting matter is rendered in some measure more harmonious and befitting by the circumstance that seventeen of the tales are adapted and translated from the German and the Swedish,—the five English stories alone being original. The miscellany altogether is much to our liking.—Another fairy tale is *Utric and Lilian*. Translated from the German of Philip von Dept.—This is rather heavy reading: and heaviness in a fairy tale is inexcusable. In *Miranda; or, Three Steps—and which is the best?*—the sound of the Schoolmaster is never out of our ears. Availing himself of the old-fashioned form of printing revived in 'Lady Willoughby's Diary,' the author garnishes his legend with little marginal scraps of black-letter morality, such as—"A slight tincture of knowledge is needed to allure people on to the pursuit of knowledge"—and "The wonders of geology and antiquarian research unfold themselves before *Miranda*." Now, supposing that the above "hints to edification" were as clear as copy-book adages, which they are not, their being thus thrust in is a sad violation of the conventions agreed upon by Discretion and Indulgence, which were indicated in our opening paragraph. Therefore we do

not admire 'Miranda.'—Lastly, in this division comes *A Treasury of Pleasure Books for Young Children*.—A gift not to be overlooked among the books of the Christmas season. The strange unmeaning rhymes of the 'House-that-Jack-built' class which made the lore of our childhood—and were, we suppose, considered useful as strengthening the memory—are here collected into a volume whose large type makes an easy appeal to the childish eye, and accompanied with more than a hundred illustrations by John Absolon and Harrison Weir. We think the childish mind of to-day is better catered for than by these old rhymes; but, supposing the literary food to be nutritious, the form here given will make its administration very attractive.

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#### THE LORD OF GLYNWOOD.

BY THE AUTHOR OF 'THE PATRICIAN'S DAUGHTER.'

Lord of Glynwood's broad domain where Gothic turrets rise,  
 Where oaks, like columns, lift for dome the shade of centuries,  
 Where the stately deer are arching their tall necks by the lake  
 Whose ripple on that feudal shore seems reverently to break,

Proud Glynwood is thy home, Lord,—though not thy native soil!  
 It is thine own, the recompence for years of care and toil;  
 What do'st here, Lord Glynwood? These humble cottage walls  
 Have nought that may compare with the splendour of thy halls.

This was thy childhood's home; but it is long since then,  
 And thy head has been exalted o'er the heads of other men,

And the humble folk who knew thee in thy first lowly state  
 Are sleeping where the mean man is mighty as the great.

The October winds are sighing; the brown and golden leaves  
 Are strewn upon the earth or lingering on the eaves;  
 The winds are very musical, spirits of beauty sing  
 A strain to lull to sleep sweet Nature till the Spring.

Lord of Glynwood, by that hearth stood thy Father's elbow chair!  
 He had little but uprightness of which to make thee heir;  
 He was a kind and just man, a simple and a brave,  
 Old men—his age's young men—rest musing by his grave.

'Twas here thy Mother sat on many a winter night,  
 While her plying fingers paused in the pleasant candle light,  
 As she thought—"I saw adornings for thy form, my first-born joy!  
 With what robes shall Fortune grace thy future,  
 O my boy?"

And when thy blossoming thoughts revealed the fertile mind,  
 "We must nurse this shoot,"—she said,—while her arm around thee twined;—  
 "Our needs are few, dear husband; and though God has willed us poor,  
 For our loved one we can yet spare comforts from our store!

"We will bribe the gates of knowledge to let in the worker's child,  
 Smooth and green shall be his path, though ours was bleak and wild;  
 Though we may not lean upon him when our steps with years wax slow,  
 If the road he treads be fairer, 'tis well to let him go!"—

'Twas here, in after days, unto thy kindling eye  
 Thought's sorcery raised the dead whose deeds can never die,  
 Free states whose bulwarks oft were the bodies of the free,—  
 Attest it, King Leonidas, and thy Thermopylae!

'Twas here to God's free children the mitred despot spake,  
 And cast in scorn his gauntlet down; they raised it—at the stake!  
 Bards, heroes, martyrs girt thee, and to thine ear, by heaven  
 A sacred sense to apprehend the inner voice was given.

There sweeps the London road:—didst thou arm thee for life's field  
 With love's high resolve for weapon and conscience for thy shield?  
 Didst thou whisper to the maiden who stood beside thee then,—  
 "He alone is worthy woman whose spirit strives for men!"

'Tis shame, 'tis bitter grief that men for worldly good  
 Should sell the virtue from their hearts,—deem'st thou not so, Glynwood?  
 Appraise their souls by gold or stray smiles from courtly eyes,  
 For a parchment on the earth rend a charter from the skies!

Rejoice! thy coffers fill; the wherefore do not scan,  
 Thy name at least is noble, though the price it cost was man!  
 Steals the light through sheets of crystal as they were but dungeon bars!  
 Nay, laugh! thy roof is lofty, though it shuts thee from the stars.

Round thy board and in thy walks the great and high-born meet,—  
 Though the lips be curved that hail thee, their tones are low and sweet;  
 Does some hidden fever scorch thee? Seek thine oak shades,—do not start  
 As the sap of those old trunks were the life-blood of thy heart!

Walk proudly through thy hall! why deem beneath its floor  
 Lie, chill as its own stones, the better hopes of yore?



Gaze on thy waving arras:—thou couldst not more  
in ruth  
If its haunting figures bore the hatchments of thy  
Youth!

Does the world, that once was masked, and arrayed  
in shows of grace,  
Drop her vizor and appal thee with her worn and  
scoffing face?  
Didst thou barter love and genius for the bride that  
greeted thee now?  
Clasp her!—though the cheek be shrivelled, there  
are jewels on the brow.

Canst thou not recall the past if the present please  
thee not?  
See! Sire, Mother, and Betrothed stand again within  
this cot;  
By the hearth thy love disowned, lies the insult of  
thy gold,  
And tears that gush from warm hearts sleep frozen  
in the cold!

The leagued winds rouse and shout!—Like squadrons  
in dismay,  
The clouds are hurrying on, ebon hosts with banners  
gray;  
Yet, through the rift, on graves the twilight star doth  
shine;—  
Peace to the pulseless bosom!—*What* whispers peace  
to thine?

O, veil on natural beauty! O, blight on inward  
feeling!  
Seared heart, blind eye, deaf ear,—save when re-  
morse is pealing!—  
These are thy portion, Glynwood: "WHO TO THE  
FLESH HAVE SOWN,  
OF THE FLESH SHALL REAP CORRUPTION!"—That  
harvest is thine own.

#### EPITAPH ON LADY BLESSINGTON.

WE have received the following from Mr. Walter  
Savage Landor.—

The honour of literature, and of literary men,  
never was indifferent to you. Knowing this, I ven-  
ture to solicit a small, but perhaps undue, place in  
the *Athenæum*. I find in Miss Power's 'Memoir of  
Lady Blessington' an epitaph ascribed to me, which  
a verger or a gravedigger would be ashamed to have  
written; such are its bald latinity and trivial common-  
place. It is only by placing in juxtaposition the  
true and the fictitious—the favour which I am now  
requesting—that the reasonableness and the necessity  
of my appeal will be quite evident.—

#### The Original.

Infra sepulvrm est id omne quod sepeliri potest  
mulieris quondam pulcherrimæ.  
Ingenium svvm svmmo studio colvit,  
aliorvm pari adjvvit.  
Benefacta sva celare novit; ingenium non ita.  
Erga omneis erat largâ bonitate;  
peregrinis egiante hospitibus.  
Venit Lvvetiam Parisiorvm Aprili mense:  
qvarto Jvnnii die svpremvvm svvm obiit.

#### The Submitted.

Hic est depositum  
Quod superest mulieris  
Quondam pulcherrimæ  
Benefacta celare potuit  
Ingenium svvm non potuit  
Perigrinos quoslibet  
Gratâ hospitalitate convocabat  
Lutetiæ parisorum  
Ad meliorem vitam abiit  
Die iv mensis Junii

MDCCCXLIX.

Permit me, sir, here to remark.—not for the ob-  
servance of such conceited and incorrigible fools as  
this iconoclast, but for the benefit of other readers  
and writers of Latin epitaphs—that the word *deposi-  
tum*, which occurs in the greater part of them, is not  
Latin in this signification. To specify all the blunders  
in this patchwork would be tedious. But, *benefacta  
celare potuit*, omitting *sua*, and putting *svvm* in the  
next line, would leave for interpretation that she  
could conceal another's beneficence, but could not  
her own talents. The *quoslibet* would infer that she  
was not very choicé; and the *convocabat* that she  
sounded a gong to bring people in promiscuously.  
The last two lines, properly construed, would inform  
us that she left Gore House for a better life at Paris.

Your lady readers may perhaps wish to see my  
English of the epitaph.—

#### To the Memory of Marguerite, Countess of Blessington.

Underneath is buried all that *could* be buried of a  
woman once most beautiful. She cultivated her  
genius with the greatest zeal, and fostered it in others  
with equal assiduity. The benefits she conferred  
she could conceal,—her talents not. Elegant in her  
hospitality to strangers, charitable to all, she retired  
to Paris in April, and there she breathed her last on  
the 4th of June 1849.

It may be thought superfluous to remark, that  
epitaphs have certain qualities in common; for in-  
stance, all are encomiastic. The main difference  
and the main difficulty lie in the expression, since  
nearly all people are placed on the same level in  
the epitaph as in the grave. Hence, out of eleven  
or twelve thousand Latin ones, ancient and modern,  
I find scarcely threescore in which there is originality  
or elegance. Pure latinity is not uncommon, and  
is perhaps as little uncommon in the modern as in  
the ancient, where certain forms exclude it, to make  
room for what appeared more venerable. Nothing  
is now left to be done but to bring forward in due  
order and just proportions the better peculiarities of  
character composing the features of the dead, and  
modulating the tones of grief.

WALTER SAVAGE LANDOR.

#### THE NEW ARCTIC EXPEDITION.

ONCE more, an Expedition has sailed, by direction  
of the Admiralty, to bring relief, it is hoped, to—or,  
at the worst, to solve the problem of—the long-lost  
Arctic voyagers. The interest which this new adventure  
represents is one which the late disappointment  
has but deepened; and it is important to see that  
this interest, while it expresses itself strongly, ex-  
presses itself also wisely by this form of its utterance.

The new Expedition, our readers know, takes  
different ground from that which has been hitherto  
followed for the same objects. It consists of the  
Enterprise and Investigator, which were lately under  
the command of Sir James Ross in the Arctic Seas;  
and the new commander, Capt. Collinson, is directed  
to enter Behring's Straits, and proceed to the west of  
Melville Island,—where, in the opinion of Sir James  
Ross, and other eminent Arctic officers, traces of Sir  
John Franklin will be met with. It is argued by  
these authorities, that as no vestige of the Erebus  
and Terror was discovered during the late Expedi-  
tion of Sir James Ross, which penetrated Barrow's  
Straits as far as Cape Bunny,—therefore, those ships  
must have made a great westing, and be now (if in  
existence) frozen up in a longitude of at least  
110 degrees west.

It cannot be denied that the proposed voyage  
from Behring's Straits to Melville Island is beset by  
formidable difficulties,—even if it can be effected  
at all. The distance between Icy Cape and the  
western shores of Melville Island is little short of  
900 miles; and the entire tract, excepting as far as  
Elson Bay, a short distance to the east of Barrow's  
Straits, has never been explored. The characters  
of all that space are precisely what remain unrevealed  
of the so earnestly sought secret of centuries. In  
sending an Expedition to Melville Island from Beh-  
ring's Straits, for the ostensible purpose of relieving  
Sir John Franklin, it is assumed *a priori* that a  
passage for ships exists through those undiscovered  
seas. Should this be ascertained to be so, by the  
actual carrying of the Enterprise or Investigator to  
the western shores of Melville Island, the problem of  
the north-west passage will be solved. The pre-  
sent Expedition, therefore, clothes itself with a  
double interest, no doubt:—but we must frankly  
express our opinion, that the more pressing object of  
the two is not pursued by the means most likely to  
lead to a successful issue.

We know that Melville Island can be reached  
through Barrow's Straits,—but have yet to learn that  
it is to be got at from the west. As all are agreed  
in looking for Sir John Franklin in that direction—  
to which his instructions tended—we would follow  
him thither by a path already known, rather than  
launch at once into the unknown on the vague hope  
of meeting him amid the scientific darkness. Another  
Expedition on the track of the last mariners, proceed-

ing from the east along those seas, is the indispens-  
able supplement of this one coming from the west,  
if it be intended to make such a final effort for the  
recovery of the missing ships as shall hereafter satisfy  
the heart and the conscience of England. An Ex-  
pedition at this last moment taking the wrong course  
is as regards the particular object professed an  
Expedition in pure waste—whatever discoveries it  
may bring home other than those which it is said to  
go in search of.

There is, as our readers know, some talk of a pri-  
vate Expedition being organized to search for Frank-  
lin. The more hunters on the track, the better:—  
but we would warn the Government not to suffer any  
economical arguments to which they may be inclined  
to be reinforced by a rumour so doubtful, and a  
project (if the rumour be true) so uncertain as to its  
efficient execution.

During a visit which we paid last week to the  
Enterprise and Investigator, we learned that they  
have suffered scarcely any injury from the terrible  
pressure of the ice to which they were subjected  
during their late voyage. This proves their strength  
of build; and now that they have undergone thorough  
over-hauling and refitting, they leave our shores in  
the best possible condition for voyaging in the Arctic  
seas. Accumulated experience has shown that the  
auxiliary power of steam applied to boats is not as  
useful as was anticipated,—while its excessive weight  
is a serious evil; consequently, the launches attached  
to the Enterprise and Investigator are unprovided  
with steam machinery.—Some curious experiments  
have, however, been performed to test the power of  
steam jets on ice. Six blocks of ice, each 2½ inches  
thick and a yard square, were placed over each other,  
—making altogether a thickness of about 14 inches.  
A flexible hose, an inch and a half in diameter, was  
adjusted to a steam-boiler in Woolwich Dockyard,  
and a jet of steam was directed upon the block of  
ice. With a pressure of about 50lb. to the square  
inch, the entire substance was severed in about fifty-  
five seconds. As the ships are provided with boilers  
for the purpose of melting snow, it would, of course,  
be practicable to generate steam, and use it in the  
above manner; but as the fuel of each ship is neces-  
sarily limited to 100 tons of coal, and as the ice to  
be operated on in the Arctic regions is of enormous  
thickness, it is not to be expected that any beneficial  
results can arise out of these experiments.

Each vessel carries a much larger quantity of gun-  
powder than has heretofore been supplied to Arctic  
ships; it being supposed that it may be employed  
with great success in blasting the ice, instead of the  
old and tedious process of sawing. We should have  
thought that gun-cotton might be used with even  
greater advantage than powder for this purpose.

It does not appear, so far as we can learn, that  
Lieut. Gale's desire to take a bird's-eye view from  
his balloon of the North Pole is likely to be gratified.  
There is no doubt, however, that an immense range  
of vision would be enjoyed by ascending even to the  
height of 1,000 feet; and the density of the atmo-  
sphere in the Polar regions would greatly assist  
aeronautic operations, as a comparatively small  
amount of hydrogen would suffice. The safety of  
the aeronaut might be almost entirely insured by  
making the balloon captive. On this subject the  
following remarks have been handed to us.—"It  
seems very clear that a balloon sent out with the  
Arctic Expedition might be of the most essential  
service under certain circumstances. Perhaps the  
best method would be to send up small pilot balloons,  
attached by a cord, with a self-regulating thermo-  
meter in them, to find exactly the degree of tempera-  
ture at certain heights, and what effect the cold  
would have upon the gas, &c. Then, if possible,  
send up a small balloon to contain one or two persons,  
—or a very large one for a great height, to support  
the weight of rope,—with a parachute, and also a  
buoyant and elastic car, with a rope attached, that  
it may be elevated only to the height necessary for  
observations. If elevated to—

Fect.	Nautical miles of 6,108 feet.
100	you would see 1½
200	— " — 16·2
300	— " — 19·9
400	— " — 23
500	— " — 27·7
600	— " — 28·1
700	— " — 30·4
800	— " — 32·5



Feet.	Nautical miles.
900 you would see	34.5
1,000	36.3
1,500	44.5
2,000	51.4
2,500	57.4
3,000	63
4,000	72.7—about 84 English miles.

—The only difficulty in the matter, as it appears to us, is that of carrying a sufficient quantity of coal, or of zinc and sulphuric acid.

The ships now sent out are provisioned for three years. They are provided with forty ice sledges, and a vast number of ice saws, poles, hatchets, &c. The *Enterprise*, besides her captain, carries three lieutenants and sixty-six men; and the *Investigator*, commanded by Commander McClure—who was first lieutenant under Sir James Ross in his late expedition,—carries two lieutenants, a mate, and sixty-five men.

The ships will be towed clear of the Channel by the *Niger* steam-screw sloop. They will then proceed to the Falkland Islands; where they will find a steamer to tow them through Magellan's Straits,—thus avoiding the tedious difficulties of rounding Cape Horn. As soon as they have cleared the Straits, the officers and crews will receive double pay, which will be continued during their period of service. The vessels will touch at the Sandwich Islands, to receive fresh instructions from the Admiralty; and should no intelligence have been received in the mean time of Sir John Franklin, they will then proceed to Behring's Straits, and commence their searching operations.

It has been insinuated as a charge against the Royal Society by a correspondent of the *Times*—whose letters on the subject of these Expeditions have our warm and hearty concurrence—that that body has taken no steps to aid in the search for the lost party, to whose safe restoration to England it has nevertheless been long anxiously looking for valuable scientific returns. We do not very well see what the Royal Society could do in the matter beyond giving the weight of its influence with Government to keep alive the spirit of the search, which the recent disappointment might have caused to flag. This we know that they have done. Immediately after Sir James Ross's return, the Council passed a resolution strongly urging the Admiralty to renew in the early part of the year the interrupted search for Sir John Franklin. This resolution was duly transmitted to the Admiralty,—and by the Admiralty forthwith acknowledged; and it may be presumed that it counts among the influences which have determined the new Expedition.

Since the above was written, the American mail brings from the Pacific, *via* the Isthmus of Panama intelligence of interest in reference to the search for Sir John Franklin:—which, as the *Times* justly observes, has arrived most opportunely before the sailing of the new Expedition. The *Plover*, relief ship, had penetrated as far as 73° 10' latitude in search of the lost ships: and, in company with the British yacht *Nancy Dawson*, the boats of the same ship penetrated also along a vast extent of the coast of North America, extending from Behring's Straits to the mouth of the Mackenzie River. "It appears," says the *Times*, "that no traces of the missing navigators were discovered; and it is stated that the boats of the *Plover* consequently determined, in accordance with their instructions, to winter on the spot,—attempting to reach one of the nearest traders' stations in the vicinity." The *Plover* took up her winter quarters in Behring's Straits,—and the *Nancy Dawson* returned to Mazatlan. The commander of the *Plover*, it is stated, entertained great hopes of Sir John Franklin's safety,—although the grounds are not given on which that expectation is based.

It is painful to learn that Mr. Sheddon, the philanthropic owner of the *Nancy Dawson*—who turned aside from his original intention of circumnavigating the globe for the purpose of joining the *Plover* in the search for Sir John Franklin—has died at Mazatlan. Long ago, we pointed out what a noble field of enterprise was open to our first-class private yachts in the seas where the *Erebus* and *Terror* were to be sought;—and, deploring as we do the melancholy result of Mr. Sheddon's well-directed

zeal, we rejoice, nevertheless, to find that in one instance at least our hint has probably not been thrown out in vain.

#### EBENEZER ELLIOTT.

The following Memoir of the life of the late Ebenezer Elliott, written by himself, in the middle of the year 1841, has been obligingly furnished to us for publication. Here and there we have omitted certain passages, to be found in the manuscript; which omission may perhaps appear occasionally to disturb the continuity of the narrative. But various reasons have suggested these several suppressions:—which, after all, sacrifice nothing that is material or essentially characteristic in the autograph.

#### AUTOBIOGRAPHY.

SOON after my *Corn-law Rhymes* had made me somewhat notorious, I was strongly urged by sundry persons to write a history of my life; which I then refused to do, because I had nothing remarkable to relate of myself, and because I knew not that I had done aught that could reasonably induce any person to ask, six months after my death, "What sort of man was Ebenezer Elliott?" I placed, however, in the hands of my friend G. C. Holland, M.D., a series of letters, in which I narrated some incidents of my early life, that had probably influenced the formation of my mind and character,—and which might form the basis of a posthumous narrative, if wanted. I embody in the succeeding narrative the substance of those letters now, following the advice which I rejected several years ago—reluctantly, for the same reasons;—not that this is "a world to hide virtues in," but that I have none to hide. I have another reason for my reluctance. The portion of my history which I am about to publish is not that portion of it which would be most instructive were it written as I alone could write it; that is, if I were brave and honest enough so to write it,—which I am not. Even that portion of it, however, would not be more instructive than the history of almost any one person out of millions of the Queen's subjects, if truly written; nor could I write it at all without saying to dead sorrows, "Arise, and weep afresh,"—and to errors and failings that would fain sleep forgotten, "Be ye remembered!" Two men alone in our time, Rousseau and Byron, told the truth of themselves; and how have they been requited? Yet the time may come when my present unwillingness to look back on days of trouble will be lessened; for there is might and majesty in the tale of the honest battle for bread, and of the strength which the struggle gives to weakness.

Of my birth no public registry exists. My father, being a Dissenter, baptized me himself, or employed his friend, and brother Berean, Tommy Wright, the Barnesly tinker, to baptize me. But I was born at the New Foundry, Masbro', in the parish of Rotherham, on the 17th day of March, in the year of our Lord 1781; and I narrate the fact thus particularly that about an event of such importance there may be no contentious ink shed by historians in times to come. Robert Elliott, my father's father, was a whitesmith, of Newcastle-upon-Tyne; a man in good circumstances, or he could not have given to his son Ebenezer, my father, what was then considered a first-class commercial education, and put him apprentice to Landell & Chambers, of that great city, wholesale ironmongers, who received with him a premium of 50*l*. His wife, who rejoiced in the pastoral name of "Sheepshanks," was a Scotsman,—and, speaking metaphorically, wore breeches: a circumstance which does not seem to have lessened the love her husband bore her,—for he lamented her with tears long after she had been laid in the grave, even until the day of his death,—especially when he was drunk. The ancestors of my grandfather Elliott, I have been told—and have the honour to believe—were thieves, neither Scotch nor English, who lived on the cattle they stole from both. That my grandmother Sheepshanks had ancestors is probable; but of what they were neither record nor tradition hath reached me,—which is the more pity, because my great difficulty in writing this narrative is want of materials. Famous men are fated to have wants; but ask yourselves, ye Famous! who could write your histories, if all the children of want were famous? After my father left Landell &

Chambers, he became one of the clerks of the Walkers of Masbro', where he lodged with a surgeon called Robinson; under whose roof he first saw my mother,—one of the daughters of a yeoman, at Ozzins, near Penistone, where his ancestors had lived on their fifty or sixty acres of freehold time out of mind!! I think, then, I have made out my descent, if not from very fine folks, certainly from respectables, as (getting every day comparatively scarcer) they are called in these days of "ten dogs to one bone."

If famous men are fated to have wants, so are they to have misfortunes, truly such—and some of mine were born before me; for the whole life of my mother was a disease,—a tale of pain, terminated by death—one long sigh. Yet she suckled eleven children, and reared eight of them to adult age. From her I have derived my nervous irritability, my bashful awkwardness, my miserable proneness to anticipate evil, that make existence all catastrophe. I well remember her sending me to a dame's school, kept by Nanny Sykes, the beautiful and brave wife of a drunken husband,—where I learned my A B C. I was next sent to the Hollis School; then presided over by Joseph Ramsbotham, who taught me to write,—and little more. In those days the science of monitorship was undiscovered; and as he had seldom fewer perhaps than 150 scholars,—of course none but the naturally clever made much progress. About this time, my poor mother, who was a first-rate dreamer, and a true believer in dreams, related to me one of her visions. "I had placed under my pillow," she said, "a shank-bone of mutton to dream upon; and I dreamed that I saw a little, broad-set, dark, ill-favoured man, with black hair, black eyes, thick stob nose and tup-shins: it was thy father."

And a special original my father was:—a man of great virtue, not without faults. One of the latter had its origin probably in some superstitious reverence for the cabalistic number "three." I allude to his bad habit of ducking his children thrice, and keeping them the third time some seconds under water when he bathed us in the canal; which produced in me a horror of suffocation that seems to increase with my years. To avoid this cruel kindness, I was obliged to show him that I could do without his assistance, by bathing voluntarily; a consequence of which was, that on one occasion I narrowly escaped drowning:—"the more the pity!" I have often said since. I never knew a man who possessed the tythe of my father's satiric and humorous powers: he would have made a great comic actor. He also possessed uncommon political sagacity, which afterwards earned for him the title of "Devil Elliott,"—a title which is still applied to him, I am told, by the descendants of persons who then hated the poor and honoured the king. He left the Messrs. Walker to serve Clay & Co. of the New Foundry, Masbro', for a salary of sixty or seventy pounds a year, with house, candle, and coal! Well do I remember some of those days of affluence and pit-coal fires,—for glorious fires we had; no fear of coal bills in those days. There, at the New Foundry, under the room where I was born, in a little parlour like the cabin of a ship, yearly painted green, and blessed with a beautiful thoroughfare of light—for there was no window-tax in those days—he used to preach every fourth Sunday to persons who came from distances of twelve and fourteen miles to hear his tremendous doctrines of ultra-Calvinism (he called himself a Berean) and hell hung round with span-long children! On other days, pointing to the aqua-tint pictures on the walls, he delighted to declaim on the virtues of slandered Cromwell and of Washington the rebel; or, shaking his sides with laughter, explained the glories of "The glorious victory of His Majesty's forces over the Rebels at Bunker's Hill!" Here the reader has a key which will unlock all my future politics. If ever there was a man who knew not fear, that man was the father of the *Corn-law Rhymers*. From his birth to his last gasp I doubt whether he knew what it was to be afraid, except of poverty; about which he had sad forebodings,—ultimately realized, after he had become nominal proprietor of the Foundry of Clay & Co.—the partners having sold him their shares on credit.

I have left some earlier incidents for after-narration, that I may found on my father's peculiarities a claim to speak now of my own—or rather of certain phy-



sical or constitutional weaknesses, to which, I fear, all that is poetical in me or in my doings is traceable.

"Oh blessed are the beautiful!" says Haynes Bailey, uttering for ever a sentiment to which I can feelingly and mournfully respond; for in my sixth year I had the small-pox, which left me frightfully disfigured, and six weeks blind. From the consequences I never recovered. To them quite as much as to my poor mother's infirm constitution, I impute my nerve-shaken weakness. How great was that weakness I will endeavour to show the reader. When I was very young—I might be twelve years old,—I fell in love with a young woman called Ridgeway,—now Mrs. Woodcock, of Munster, near Greasbro',—to whom I never spoke a word in my life, and the sound of whose voice, 'to this day, I have never heard; yet if I thought she saw me as I passed her father's house, I felt as if weights were fastened to my feet. Is genius diseased?—I cannot remember the time when I was not fond of ruralities. Was I born, then, with a taste for the beautiful? When quite a child,—I might be seven or eight years old,—I remember filling a waster frying-pan with water, placing it in the centre of a little grove of mugwort and wormwood that grew on a stone-heap in the foundry yard, and delighting to see the reflection of the sun, and clouds, and the plants themselves, as from the surface of a natural fountain; for I so placed the pan that the water only was visible, and I seldom failed to visit it at noon, when the sun was over it. But I had also a taste for the horrible—a passion—a rage, for seeing the faces of the hanged or the drowned. Why I know not; for they made my life a burden,—following me wherever I went, sleeping with me, and haunting me in my dreams. Was this hideous taste a result of constitutional infirmity? Had it any connexion with my taste for writing of horrors and crimes? I was cured of it by a memorable spectacle. A poor friendless man, who, having no home, slept in colliery hovels and similar places, having been sent, one dark night, from the glasshouse for a pitcher of ale, fell into the canal, and was drowned. In about six weeks his body rose to the surface of the water,—and I, of course, ran to see it. The spectacle which by that time it presented was daily and nightly, whether I was alone or in the street, in bed or by the fireside, for months my constant companion. Had this morbid propensity any relation to my solitary tendencies? Healthy man is social; but in my childhood I had no associates. Although the neighbourhood swarmed with children, I was always alone; and this is perhaps one reason why I was deemed rather wanting in intellect, and why I might really have had fewer ideas than other children of my age, for I cut myself off from communication with theirs. But though I was alone, I have no recollection that my solitude was painful. On the contrary, I employed my time delightfully in swimming my little fleets of ships, and repairing my fortresses on the banks of the canal between the Greasbro' and Rawmarsh bridges. My early fondness for carpentering is no proof that if I had been bred an engineer I should have made any improvements in machinery,—for all children are more or less fond of knicknackery; but I certainly excelled in handicrafts. I was the best kitemaker and the best ship-builder. Most captains of sloops and other vessels possess a model of a ship of some sort. By borrowing such models, I completed, when I was about thirteen years old, a model of an eighteen gun ship. I gave it, many years afterwards, to a boat-builder of Greasbro', called Woffendin, who begged it of me, that it might obtain for him the office of boat-builder to Earl Fitzwilliam. He gave, or sold it to Lord Milton, the present Earl Fitzwilliam, then a youth; and it was, I believe, a few years ago still at Wentworth House. But my imitative talents won me no respect; nor is this very surprising. Placed beside my wondrous brother, Giles, who was beautiful as an angel, I was ugliness itself; and in the presence of his splendid abilities, I might well look like a fool, and believe myself to be one. As I grew up, my fondness for solitude increased; for I could not but observe the homage that was paid to him, and feel the contempt with which I was regarded. But I am not aware that I ever envied or at all disliked him.

When I look back on the days of rabid torism through which I have passed, and consider the then

almost universal tendency to worship the powers that were, and their worst mistakes,—I feel astonished that a nerve-shaken man, whose affrighted imagination in boyhood and youth slept with dead men's faces,—a man, whose first sensation on standing up to address a public meeting is that of his knees giving way under him,—should have been able to retain his political integrity, without abjuring one article of his fearless father's creed. But even in those days, I find, I was a free-trader—though I knew it not. So barbarous were some of the deeds done in that time in the name of law, and so painful was the impression which they made on me when I was about sixteen years old, that I should certainly have emigrated to the United States had I possessed sufficient funds for that purpose; nor should I, I fear, have been very scrupulous as to the means of obtaining them,—so fully had the idea of emigration obtained possession of me, so passionately had my mind embraced it, and so poetically had I associated with it Crusoe notions of self-dependence and isolation. It is not improper to blush for uncommitted offences. Even now, after forty-five years have been added to my previous existence, I shudder if I chance to meet an expedience-monger who tells me "that the end justifies the means"—a false doctrine and fatal faith, which have wrought the fall of many an all-shunned brother, and of ill-starred sisters numberless, once unstained as the angels. Oh, think of this, ye tempted and ye tempters, even if ye be magistrates! but let no man believe that good effected by evil can be aught but evil done, and an apology for more!—I must return from these digressions.

My ninth year was an era in my life. My father had cast a great pan, weighing some tons, for my uncle, at Thurstone, and I determined to go thither in it, without acquainting my parents with my intention. A truck, with assistants, having been sent for it, I got into it, about sunset, unperceived, hiding myself beneath some hay, which it contained,—and we proceeded on our journey. I have not forgotten how much I was excited by the solemnity of the night and its shooting stars, until I arrived at Thurstone, about four in the morning. It is remarkable that I never in after life succeeded in any plan which I did not execute in a similar way. If I ask advice, either the plan is never executed or it is unsuccessful. I had not been many days at Thurstone before I wished myself at home again,—for my heart was with my mother. If I could have found my way back I should certainly have returned; and my inability to do so (though my having come in the night may in some degree account for it) shows, I think, that I really must have been a dull child. My uncle sent me to Penistone school, where I made some little progress. At this school, one of the boys, who had a bad breath, took a liking to me. He would always sit close to me, and almost poisoned me; yet if at any time he happened to be absent I felt as if I could not live:—so necessary has it ever been to me to have some kind bosom to lean upon. When I got home from school I spent my evenings in looking from the back of my uncle's house to Hoyland Swaine, for I had discovered that Masbro' lay beyond that village; and ever, when the sun went down, I felt as if some great wrong had been done me. At length, in about a year and a half, my father came for me:—and so ended my first irruption into the great world. Is it not strange, that a man who from his childhood has dreamed of visiting foreign countries, and yet, at the age of sixty, believes that he shall see the Falls of Niagara, has never been twenty miles out of England, and has yet to see, for the first time, the beautiful scenery of Cumberland, Wales, and Scotland?

On my return from the land of the great pan I was again sent to Hollis school; where, as was my wont in all cases, I took the shortest ways to my objects;—and the easiest way to get my sums done was, to let John Ross do them for me. This practice, in its consequences, added not a little to my reputation for duncery at home. Yet I have an impression that I was looked up to by my schoolfellows.—I cannot tell why; for I never fought, and I think they must have suspected me to be rather wanting in certain learned accomplishments. I say, I never fought,—and yet my brother Giles, when in danger, always took me out to defend him. How all this

happened I am at a loss to conceive, for I took no pains to bring it about.—But having got into the rule of three, without having first learned numeration, addition, subtraction, and division, I was sent by my despairing parents to Dalton school, two miles from Masbro'; and I see at this moment, as vividly as if nearly fifty years had not since passed over me, the kingfisher shooting along the Don as I passed schoolward through the Aldwark meadows, eating my dinner four hours before dinner-time. But, oh! the misery of reading without having learned to spell. The name of the master was Brunskill,—a broken-hearted Cumberland-man,—one of the best of living creatures,—a sort of sad-looking, half-starved angel without wings; and I have stood for hours beside his desk, with the tears running down my face, utterly unable to set down one correct figure. I doubt whether he ever suspected that I had not been taught the preliminary rules. I actually did not know that they were necessary, and looked on a boy who could do a sum in vulgar fractions as a sort of magician. Dreading school, I absented myself from it during the summer months of the second year—"playing truant" about Dalton, Deign, and Silverwood, or Thrybergh Park, where I stole duck eggs, mistaking them for the eggs of wild birds, and was brought before Madam Finch. She, seeing what a simpleton I was, released me, with a reprimand.

Let it not be supposed that these were happy days. I was utterly miserable. I trembled when I drew near home, for I knew not how to answer the questions which I feared my father would put to me. Sometimes I avoided them by slinking to bed without supper,—which to a lad who took care to eat his dinner soon after breakfasting could not be convenient. It was impossible, however, to prevent my father from discovering that I was learning nothing but vagabondism,—or from suspecting that my slow progress was owing more to idleness than to want of ability to learn. He set me to work in the foundry, as a punishment. But working in the foundry, so far from being a punishment to me, relieved me from the sense of inferiority which had so long depressed me; for I was not found to be less clever there than other beginners. For this there was a sufficient reason: I had been familiar from my infancy with the processes of the manufactory, and possibly a keen though silent observer of them. The result of his experiment vexed the experimenter,—and he had good cause for vexation; for it soon appeared that I could play my part at the York-Keelman with the best of its customers. Yet I never thoroughly relished the rude company and coarse enjoyments of the alehouse. My thoughts constantly wandered to the canal banks and my little ships; and—I know not why, but—I always built my fortresses, aye, and my castles in the air, too, where the flowers were the finest. The "yellow ladies' bed-straw" (I did not then know its name,) was a particular favourite of mine; and the banks of the canal were golden with it. At this time I had strong religious impressions; and (when there was service) I seldom missed attending the chapel of parson Allard—a character who might have sat for Scott's picture of Dominie Sampson. But I sometimes went to the Masbro' chapel, (Walker's, it was then called,) to hear Mr. Groves, one of the most eloquent and dignified of men, but hated by my father (who was a capital hater) for some nothing or other of discipline or of doctrine. I was on my way, I believe, to hear him, when I called, one Sunday, on my aunt Robinson,—a widow, left with three children and about 30*l.* a year, on which (God knows how!) she contrived to live respectably, and to give her two sons an education which ultimately made them both gentlemen. I thought she received me coldly. She did not, I think, know that I had been tipsy a night or two before; but I was conscience-stricken. After a minute's silence, she rose, and laid before me a number of 'Sowerby's English Botany,' which her son Benjamin, then apprenticed to Dr. Stainforth, of Sheffield, was purchasing monthly. Never shall I forget the impression made on me by the beautiful plates. I actually touched the figure of the primrose, half-convinced that the meanness on the leaves was real. I felt hurt when she removed the book from me,—but she removed it only to show me how to draw the figures, by holding them to the light, with a thin piece of paper before them. On finding that I could so draw them correctly, I was lifted at once



above the inmates of the alehouse at least a foot in mental stature. My first effort was a copy from the primrose; under which (always fond of fine words) I wrote its Latin name, *Primula veris vulgaris*. So, thenceforward, when I happened to have a spare hour I went to my aunt's to draw. But she had not yet shown me all the wealth of her Benjamin. The next revealed marvel was his book of dried plants. Columbus when he discovered the New World was not a greater man than I at that moment; for no misgiving crossed my mind that the discovery was not my own, and no Americo Vesputius disputed the honour of it with me. But (alas, for the strength of my religious impressions!) thenceforth often did parson Allard inquire why Eb. was not at chapel?—for I passed my Sundays in gathering flowers, that I might make pictures of them. I had then, as now, no taste for the science of Botany; the classifications of which seemed to me to be like preparations for sending flowers to prison. I began, however, to feel mannish. There was mystery about me. People stopped me with my plants, and asked what diseases I was going to cure? But I was not in the least aware that I was learning the art of poetry, which I then hated—especially Pope's, which gave me the head-ache if I heard it read aloud. My wanderings, however, soon made me acquainted with the nightingales in Basingthorpe Spring,—where, I am told, they still sing sweetly; and with a beautiful green snake, about a yard long, which on the fine Sabbath mornings, about ten o'clock, seemed to expect me at the top of Primrose Lane. It became so familiar, that it ceased to uncurl at my approach. I have sate on the style beside it till it seemed unconscious of my presence; and when I rose to go, it would only lift the scales behind its head or the skin beneath them—and they shone in the sun like fire. I know not how often this beautiful and harmless child of God may have "sate for his picture" in my writings—a dozen, at least; but wherever I might happen to meet with any of its brethren or sisters—at Thistlebed Ford, where they are all vipers, black or brown—or in the Aldwark meadows, on the banks of the Don, with the kingfisher above and the dragonfly below them—or on Boston Castle ridge—or in the Clough dell, where they swarm—or in Canklow Quarry—or by the Rother, near Hail-Mary Wood,—whatever the scene might be, the portrait, if drawn, was sure to be that of my first snake-love.

I had now become a person of some note; and if I let my wondering adorers suppose that I copied my figures of plants, not at secondhand, but from the plants which they saw I was in the habit of collecting—pardon me, outraged spirit of Truth! for I had been so long a stranger to the voice of praise, and it sounded so sweetly to my unaccustomed ears, that I could not refuse to welcome it when it came. But my dried plants were undeniably my own; and so obvious was their merit, that even my all praised and all able brother sometimes condescended to look at and admire my "*Hortus Siccus*"—as I pompously named my book of specimens. It was about this time that I first heard him read the first book of Thomson's Seasons; and he was a capital reader,—well aware, too, of that fact. When he came to the description of the polyanthus and auricula, I waited impatiently till he laid down the book; I then took it into the garden, where I compared the description with the living flowers. Here was another new idea—Botany in verse!—a prophecy that the days of scribbling were at hand. But my earliest taste in poetry was like that of Bottom the weaver, who of all things liked best "a scene to tear a cat in." Accordingly, my first poetical attempt was an imitation in rhyme of Thomson's blank-verse thunderstorm. I knew perfectly well that sheep could not take to flight after having been killed, but the "rhyme" seemed to be of opinion that they should be so described; and as it doggedly abided by this perversity, there was nothing for it but to describe my flock "scudding away" after the lightning had slain them. I read the marvel to my cousin Benjamin; from whom I received infliction the first of merciless criticism. God forgive him!—I never could. Neither could I help perceiving the superiority which his learning gave him over me; and never was I so happy as when listening to his recitations of Homer's Greek, of which I did not understand a word,—and yet,

after the illapse of nearly half a century its music has not departed from my soul.

Willingly, too, would I have shared the praises showered on my brother Giles:—but, alas, how was that to be accomplished? Hitherto, I had been fat and round as a ball,—I now became pale and lean. My health visibly suffered: but I had inly resolved to undertake the great task of self-instruction. I purchased a grammar; but proved unable to remember a single rule, however laboriously committed to memory. About a year afterwards, I added the "Key" to my grammar, and read it through and through a hundred times. I found, at last, that by reflection, and by supplying elisions, &c., I could detect and correct grammatical errors. The pronouns bothered me most,—as they still do. At this moment I do not know a single rule of grammar; and yet I can now, I flatter myself, write English as correctly as Samuel Johnson could, and detect errors in a greater author, Samuel Bailey. Flushed with success, my enthusiasm knew no bounds. To the great joy of my father, I resolved to learn French. But though I could with ease get and say my lessons, I could not remember a word of them; I, therefore, at the end of a few weeks gave up the attempt. For once, however, I was lucky in calamity; for my French teacher not understanding the language himself, I was allowed to throw the blame on him,—which I did gloriously.

It would seem that my poetical propensities are traceable to certain accidents; but that about the end of my fourteenth year my mind began to make efforts for itself. Those efforts, however, were favoured by an accident of importance in the history of my education. A clergyman, called Firth, who held a poor curacy at a desolate place called Middlesmoor, bequeathed to my father his library, containing, besides scores of Greek and Latin books, Barrow's 'Sermons,' Ray's 'Wisdom of God,' Derham's 'Physico-Theology,' Young's 'Night Thoughts,' Hervey's 'Meditations,' Henepin's 'Travels,' and three volumes of the 'Royal Magazine,' embellished with views of Bombay, Madras, the Falls of Niagara, Pope's Villa at Twickenham, and fine coloured representations of foreign birds. My writings owe something to all these books; particularly to Henepin, who carried me with him from Niagara to the Mississippi. I was never weary of Barrow; he and Young taught me to condense. Ray also was a favourite. The picture of Pope's Villa induced me to buy his 'Essay on Man,'—but could not enable me to like it. In the 'Royal Magazine' I found the narrative of a shipwreck on a South-Sea island; on which I made a romance in blank verse, twenty years before Scott printed his 'Lay of the Last Minstrel.' My next treasure was Shenstone; I could repeat all the mottos, translated from the Greek and Latin, which he has prefixed to his poems. I think he is now undervalued. Then followed Milton,—who held me captive long. I have said, I always took the shortest road to an object: this tendency led me into some errors, but is the principal cause of my ultimate success as an author. I never could read a feeble book through: it follows that I read master-pieces only, the best thoughts of the highest minds,—after Milton, Shakespeare—then Ossian—then Junius, with my father's Jacobinism for a commentary,—Paine's 'Common-sense,'—Swift's 'Tale of a Tub,'—'Joan of Arc,'—Schiller's 'Robbers,'—Bürger's 'Leonora,'—Gibbon's 'Decline and Fall,'—and, long afterwards, Tasso, Dante, De Staël, Schlegel, Hazlitt, and the *Westminster Review*. But I have a strange memory. Sometimes it fails me altogether,—yet when I was twelve years old, I almost knew the Bible by heart; and in my sixteenth year I could repeat, without missing a word, the first, second, and sixth books of 'Paradise Lost'! If, then, I possess that power which is called genius, how great must be my moral demerits,—for what have I written that will bear any comparison with the least of my glorious models? But I possess not that glorious power. Time has developed in me, not genius, but powers which exist in all men and lie dormant in most. I cannot, like Byron and Montgomery, pour poetry from my heart as from an unfailing fountain; and of my inability to identify myself, like Shakespeare and Scott, with the characters of other men, my abortive 'Kerhoney,' 'Taurepdes,' and similar rejected failures, are melan-

choly instances. My thoughts are all exterior,—my mind is the mind of my own eyes. A primrose is to me a primrose, and nothing more:—I love it because it is nothing more. There is not in my writings one good idea that has not been suggested to me by some real occurrence, or by some object actually before my eyes, or by some remembered object or occurrence, or by the thoughts of other men, heard or read. If I possess any power at all allied to genius, it is that of making other men's thoughts suggest thoughts to me which, whether original or not, are to me new. Some years ago my late excellent neighbour, John Heppenstiel, after showing me the plates of Audubon's 'Birds of America,' requested me to address a few verses to the author. With this request I was anxious to comply; but I was unable to write a line, until a sentence in Rousseau suggested a whole poem, and coloured all its language. Now, in this case, I was not like a clergyman seeking a text that he may write a sermon; for the text was not sought, but found,—or it would have been to me a lying and a barren spirit.

From my sixteenth to my twenty-third year I worked for my father at Masbro' as laboriously as any servant he had, and without wages except an occasional shilling or two for pocket-money; weighing every morning all the unfinished castings as they were made, and afterwards in their finished state, besides opening and closing the shop in Rotherham when my brother happened to be ill or absent. Why, then, may not I call myself a working-man? But I am not aware that I ever did so call myself;—certainly never as an excuse for my poetry if bad, or if good as a claim for wonder. There are only two lines in my writings which could enable the reader to guess at my condition in life. I wrote them to show that, whatever else I might be, I was not of the genus "Dunghill Spurner,"—for in this land of castes the dunghill-sprung with good coats on their backs are not yet generally anxious to claim relationship with hard-handed usefulness. But as a literary man I claim to be self-taught; not because none of my teachers ever read to me or required me to read a page of English grammar; but because I have of my own will read some of the best books in our language, original and translated, and the best only,—laboriously forming my mind on the highest models. If unlettered women and even children write good poetry, I, who have studied and practised the art during more than forty years, ought to understand it, or I must be a dunce indeed.

I have laid before the reader a history of my boyhood and youth. What excuse can I plead for troubling him with these common-place incidents in the history of a common-place person? That I write not for the strong but for the weak; who may learn from this narrative that as by the mere force of will such persons can write poetry, no honest man of good sense need despair of accomplishing much greater because more useful matters. The history of my manhood and its misfortunes (your famous people have a knack of being unfortunate, and of calling their faults misfortunes,) remains to be written. It would not, I have said, even if honestly written, be more instructive than an honest history of almost any other man; but when I said so, I forgot that it would be, in part, a history of the terrific changes of fortune, the alternations of prosperity and suffering, caused by over-issues, or by the sudden withdrawal, of inconconvertible paper-money, in those days "when none but knaves thrive and none but madmen laughed—when servants took their masters by the nose, and beggared masters slunk aside to die—when men fought with shadows, and were slain—while, in dreadful calm, the viewless storm increased, most fatal when least dreaded, and nearest when least expected." I am not yet prepared—not yet sufficiently petrified in heart and brain, by time and trouble,—to tell a tale, in telling which I must necessarily live over again months and years of living death.

When I made the astounding assertion many years ago (in *Tail's Magazine*) that the food-taxes were costing, or destroying, or preventing the earning of more than a hundred millions sterling a year,—I knew well that in a short time the truth of that assertion would be confirmed by the wisest and best informed of my countrymen. It has been objected to my political poems that I sometimes repeat in



them the same thoughts and words. Why should I not repeat the same thoughts and words, if they are wanted and I cannot find better? My countrymen were robbed of knowledge as well as food; and it is not my fault that, born dull and slow, I find thoughts and words with difficulty. I husband my materials because I am intellectually poor. No man can, "by taking thought" add an inch to his stature; but any man may do the best he can with the means in his power—and he who would usefully live in his deeds "must fight for eternity with the weapons of time." Newspaper-taught as I am, and having no ideas of my own, I can only seize those of others as they occur, earnestly applying them to current occasions. If I have been mistaken in my objects I am sorry for it; but I have never advocated any cause without first trying to know the principles on which it was based. On looking back on my public conduct—thanks to that science which poor Cobbett, ever floundering, yet great and brave, called in scorn "Poetical Economy"—I find I have had little to unlearn. And when I shall go to my account, and the Great Questioner whose judgments err not shall say to me, "What didst thou with the lent talent?" I can truly answer, "Lord, it is here; and with it all that I could add to it—doing my best to make little much." EBENEZER ELLIOTT.

Sheffield, 21st June, 1841.

#### GREAT EXHIBITION OF THE WORKS OF INDUSTRY OF ALL NATIONS.

THE first meeting of the Royal Commissioners for promoting this object was held yesterday, at the New Palace, Westminster; His Royal Highness the Prince Albert presided, and the attendance was very numerous. We understand, the main business transacted related to the preliminary contract which has been entered into between the Society of Arts and the Messrs. Munday. The Commissioners were of opinion that the contract which had enabled the proposal to be brought to its present state, and had guaranteed the carrying into effect of the proposed Exhibition, was of a strictly reasonable—and, indeed, of a very liberal—character; but, in accordance with what appeared to be the wishes of the public, they decided to give notice of its termination, and to place the whole undertaking upon the basis of a general subscription:—public feeling having been so strongly expressed in support of the Exhibition, as to render any such contract now quite unnecessary.

#### OUR WEEKLY GOSSIP.

A strong effort will be made in the coming session of Parliament to obtain a repeal of the tax on advertisements. Looked at from any point of view, this tax is perhaps the pettiest and most mischievous on the Chancellor's list. Its advantage as a source of revenue bears no tolerable proportion to its disadvantages in other respects. Bringing into the Exchequer the comparatively inconsiderable sum of 150,000*l.* a year, it acts on the convenience of the public more mischievously than would ten times the amount levied in a different manner. Its effect is, to impede to an immense extent advertisement in journals. In America, every man who wishes to lend or to hire—to buy or to sell—announces his wish to his townsmen for a shilling: the same announcement in England would cost him five shillings at the least. But this difference in cost is the smallest part of the evil. In consequence of the freedom from taxation, the American journals are cheap,—everybody reads them. The advertiser is therefore sure of his market. There is scarcely any single thing that one man has to offer which there is not some other man who wants, if the means of finding the latter by a medium of universal communication were established. The English journals are dear—and are read by a comparative few. The advertiser is therefore driven to seize on waste walls, the doors of empty houses, the arches of bridges, the insides of omnibuses, the outsides of travelling vans,—and whatever surface is certain to meet the public eye, and can evade the tyrannical letter of the advertisement duty. Even thus, the announcement that would be effectively made in New York in a dozen newspapers, for as many shillings, must be pictured on the walls of London at a cost of as many pounds to insure an equal amount of publicity—the stamp office losing its tollage, notwith-

standing. The wrong galls both ways. By the exaction of the duty the newspaper is kept down in circulation, and thus rendered a worse advertising medium,—and the buyer and seller are forced on a mode of soliciting the public attention which involves yet more cost and trouble. In the case of literary works striving at cheapness the case is peculiarly hard,—the cost of the needful advertisement sometimes amounting to more than the whole profit of author and publisher on works which are successful!—We have heretofore pointed out other evils which grow under the forcing process of this duty. This and the penny stamp are among the most fruitful causes of that popular ignorance which statesmen affect so much to deplore.

Our obituary for this week contains the name of Lieut. Waghorn—a name known to all our readers as honourably connected with the history of the overland routes to our eastern possessions. Mr. Waghorn returned from Malta a fortnight ago—whither he had gone for the benefit of his health. His disease was a general break-up of the system, caused at the early age of forty-nine by the waste of a life of stirring adventure and vicissitude. Of the pension recently bestowed on him by Government he has lived to receive only the first quarterly payment; and his widow is said to be left in very straitened circumstances. It is not to be imagined, however, that the reward so recently recognized as due to Lieut. Waghorn's exertions in a cause of great public utility will be suffered to be lost to his family now that life is known to have been the price expended in the labour that earned it. The early death of this enterprising gentleman increases at once the claim to a recompense and the need of it.

The Paris papers report the death, in his 73rd year, of M. Thiébaud de Bernaud, assistant conservator of the Bibliothèque magazine, the compiler of various large autograph folio volumes of Catalogue of its Contents, and author of a variety of works chiefly on botany and on agricultural economy. M. Thiébaud is said to have left in manuscript, amongst other things, a translation of Theophrastus, some researches on the subject of geological revolutions, and a work on the institutions and literature of ancient Scandinavia.

From Munich, is reported the death of Dr. Philip Francis de Walther, private physician to the King of Bavaria, and eminent for forty years as at once a professor and a writer in the field of the medical sciences.

We have received more than one letter respecting a statement which we published a fortnight ago on the great trade-sales of Mr. Murray and the Messrs. Longman. Our daily and weekly contemporaries who copied our statement have been troubled with communications on the same subject. There are, we are told, other houses than those of the Messrs. Longman and Mr. Murray that have after-dinner sales of books.—We did not need that our contemporaries should tell us this. Of the large number of the principal publishing houses (those of Messrs. Longman & Co., Mr. Murray, Mr. Colburn, Mr. Bentley, Messrs. Blackwood, Messrs. Rivington, Mr. Hatchard, Mr. Moxon, Mr. Parker, Messrs. Chapman & Hall, Mr. Pickering, and Mr. Bogue), the first two only have annual sales of the kind to which we drew attention.—The Messrs. Rivington, we are informed, have not had an independent dinner-sale for six years until this season. We were aware that Mr. Charles Knight (who, we believe, has two sales in the year), Mr. Cadell, Messrs. Tegg & Co. and Mr. Bohn had independent sales; sales, however, almost exclusively confined to cheap editions of standard books, or to what is technically termed *remainders*. Nor were we ignorant that other houses, as Messrs. Seeley's, Messrs. Taylor & Walton's, &c., had *joint sales*:—but we informed our readers of the interest that attaches to the annual sales of the Messrs. Longman and Mr. Murray, owing to the fact that *new works* are then for the *first time* shown to the trade, by which an indication is afforded of the prospects of literature for the coming year.

Mr. Edward Berwick, late Vice-President of the new Queen's College in Galway, has been appointed to succeed as President the Rev. Dr. Kirwan,—whose death has succeeded thus early to his entering on the duties of his charge. Mr. Berwick, who is a Protestant, is followed in the office of Vice-President

by a Roman Catholic clergyman, the Rev. Mr. O'Toole.

The men of Salford have set earnestly to work to realize for their town and neighbourhood some of the best suggestions thrown out by the Committee on Public Libraries. On the probabilities of the case, the reporter to that Committee expressed his belief that the great thing wanting in all the more populous towns was—a home for books; a place of shelter for such donations as might be offered by private liberality and public spirit towards the formation of local libraries. Fortunately, the people of Salford had a large house, in one of the new parks, lying waste. By the help of the corporation, this building was at once set aside for the uses of a permanent public library and natural history museum; and a very few months have brought such an amount of success to the experiment as to warrant its originators in formally opening the new institution to the public. Had the building been erected for the purpose, it could scarcely, it is said, have been better adapted to its ends. It is a fine mansion, nobly situated, on the most picturesque and pleasant spot perhaps, near Manchester—yet within ten minutes walk of a district filled with a dense factory population. The library already consists of 5,300 volumes, and the museum of several thousand specimens of natural productions. The promoters have, moreover, a sum of nearly two thousand pounds, the unexpended surplus of previous subscriptions, in hand. The corporation of the town have contributed the fund for endowing the young institution with a librarian; and there are large promises of books, pictures, works of Art, and objects of natural history constantly coming in. Such facts are both gratifying in themselves and encouraging as example. The institution in question is to be open to the public freely—in their own park—from ten in the morning till nine at night; and as soon as the machinery has got to work on a large scale, it is in contemplation to lend out the books to be taken home to the cottage and the garret. We can well imagine what a boon such a library and museum must prove to that band of humble but earnest cultivators of science for which the vicinity of Manchester has long been honourably distinguished.

The Paris papers state that at the sitting of the French Academy on Tuesday last, a crowded audience had assembled to hear M. Guizot read a historical fragment on the restoration of the Stuarts!

The new Museum at Basle has been opened with a grand *fête*, at which the chief cities of Switzerland were represented by deputies. The collections of natural philosophy, &c. have been brought under one roof, as well as the collection of Holbein's paintings; and the library of the University has derived a great accession of strength by this concentration of scattered forces.

The Woolwich correspondent of the *Times* gives an account of an experiment which took place on Wednesday at the principal entrance of the dockyard, with the view of testing a plan submitted by Mr. Shephard, for sending despatches to a great extent over the country in the vicinity of the North Pole. The plan consists in sending up a small balloon, to which is attached a slow-match about a foot in length, and round the slow-match several hundred pieces of coloured paper attached by a thread surrounding about one hundred of the pieces of paper in each packet.—The pieces of paper sent up in this experiment were each five inches long by two inches broad, all of blue, red, yellow, drab and various shades of brilliant colours—without any white amongst them, as the latter colour would be comparatively useless on the snows of the northern regions. Capt. Collinson, the commander of the new Arctic Expedition, expressed an earnest desire that any person or persons who might find any of the papers after they fell from the balloon would communicate the time and place where they were found to the Superintendent or at the Dockyard. It is said that 150 similar or larger balloons will be supplied to each of the vessels of the searching Expedition, with a supply of sulphuric acid and zinc to generate gas for inflating them. "As it would take considerable time to write on 500 or 700 of these aerial despatches, and as writing-ink on such soft description of paper might soon be obliterated, a small hand-press, with a moderate quantity of



legible type, would be a very desirable addition to each of the vessels. Had the plan now submitted been thought of before the departure of Sir John Franklin's Expedition, some of the papers must have been met with; as the high elevation to which they are carried before they are detached would carry them during a strong breeze over a vast extent of country—and even if they fell into the sea, or on pieces of floating ice, it would be a considerable time before they were all destroyed, and many chances would occur of some of them being found, if not by whalers, by the Esquimaux."

**THE NILE.—RE-OPENED AT THE EGYPTIAN HALL, PICCADILLY.**—The new and splendid MOVING PANORAMA of the NILE, showing all the stupendous Works of Antiquity on its Banks, from Cairo the capital of Egypt to the Second Cataract in Nubia. Painted by Henry Warren and James Bailey from drawings made by Joseph Bonomi during many years' residence there. —Morning 3; Evening 8 o'clock.—Stalls 3s., Pit 2s., Gallery 1s.

**THE WINTER EXHIBITION OF WATER-COLOUR DRAWINGS AND SKETCHES IN OILS,** comprising Works by the most eminent living Artists, is OPEN from Ten till Dusk daily. Admission (including Catalogue), 1s.; Season Tickets, 5s. each.

A cabinet collection of real gems of British Art.—*Times*, Dec. 21, 130, Regent Street. J. L. GRUNDY, Manager.

#### ROYAL POLYTECHNIC INSTITUTION.

The First of a Series of ILLUSTRATED LECTURES, by Dr. Bachofner, on the PHILOSOPHY OF SCIENTIFIC RE-CREATION, Daily at Two o'clock, and in the Evenings at Eight.—AN ENTIRELY NEW SET OF DISSOLVING VIEWS OF LONDON IN THE SIXTEENTH CENTURY AND AS IT NOW IS, with a Descriptive Lecture, Daily at Half-past Four, and in the Evenings at a Quarter to Ten.—THE VIEWS OF ROME, including New Views of the Interior and Exterior of ST. PETER'S, with DIORAMIC EFFECTS, are shown Daily at One o'clock.—LECTURES ON CHEMISTRY, with brilliant Experiments, by Mr. Ashley.—Experiments with the DIVER and DIVING BELL.—NEW EXHIBITION OF CHROMATOPES.—THE MACHINERY, MODELS, &c. EXPLAINED.—Admission, 1s.; Schools, half-price.

#### SOCIETIES

**ROYAL.**—Dec. 21.—Dr. Roget, V.P., in the chair.—The Bakerian Lecture 'On the Diffusion of Liquids' was delivered by Prof. Graham.—The characters of liquid diffusion were first examined in detail with reference to common salt. It was found, first, that with solutions containing 1, 2, 3 and 4 per cent., the quantities of salt which diffused out of an open phial of 1.25 inch aperture, properly filled, into the water of a large jar, in which the phial was entirely immersed, in a constant period of eight days, were as nearly in proportion to these numbers as 1, 1.99, 3.01, and 4.00; and that in repetitions of the experiments the results did not vary more than  $\frac{1}{4}$  part. The proportion of salt which diffused out in such experiments amounted to about  $\frac{1}{3}$  of the whole. Secondly,—that the proportion of salt diffused increases with the temperature, an elevation of 80° Fahr. doubling the quantity of chloride of sodium diffused in the same time. The diffusibility of a variety of substances was next compared, a solution of 20 parts of the substance in 100 water being always used. Some of the results were as follows, the quantities diffused being expressed in grains:—chloride of sodium 58.68, sulphate of magnesia 27.42, sulphate of water, 69.32, crystallized cane sugar 26.74, starch sugar 26.94, gum arabic 13.24, albumen 3.03. The low diffusibility of albumen is very remarkable, and the value of this property in retaining the serous fluids within the blood vessels at once suggests itself. It was further observed that common salt, sugar and urea, added to the albumen under diffusion, diffused away from the latter as readily as from their aqueous solutions. Urea itself is as highly diffusible as chloride of sodium. In comparing the diffusion of salts dissolved in ten times their weight of water, it was found that isomorphous compounds generally had an equal diffusibility: chloride of potassium corresponding with chloride of ammonium, nitrate of potash with nitrate of ammonia, and sulphate of magnesia with sulphate of zinc. The most remarkable circumstance is, that these pairs are "equi-diffusive,"—not for chemically equivalent quantities, but for equal weights simply. The acids differed greatly in diffusibility, nitric acid being nearly four times more diffusive than phosphoric acid; but these substances also fell into groups,—nitric and hydrochloric acids appearing to be equally diffusive; so also acetic and sulphuric acids. Soluble sub-salts and the ammoniated salts of the metals present a surprisingly low diffusibility. The quantities diffused in similar circumstances of the three salts, sulphate of ammonia, sulphate of copper, and the blue ammonio-sulphate of copper

being very nearly as 8, 4 and 1. When two salts are mixed in the solution cell, they diffuse out into the water atmosphere separately and independently of each other, according to their individual diffusibilities. This is quite analogous to what happens when mixed gases are diffused into air. An important consequence is, that in liquid diffusion we have a new method of separation or analysis for many soluble bodies, quite analogous in principle to the separation of unequally volatile substances in the process of distillation. Thus it was shown that chlorides diffuse out from sulphates and carbonates, and salts of potash from salts of soda; and that from sea-water the salts of soda diffuse out into pure water faster than the salts of magnesia. The latter circumstance was applied to explain the discordant results which have been obtained by different chemists in the analysis of the water of the Dead Sea, taken near the surface. The different salts diffusing up into the sheet of fresh water, with which the lake is periodically covered, with unequal velocity. It was further shown that chemical decompositions may be produced by liquid diffusion: the constituents of a double salt of so much stability as common alum being separated, and the sulphate of potash diffusing in the largest proportion. In fact the diffusive force is one of great energy and quite as capable of breaking up compounds as the unequal volatility of their constituents. Many empirical operations in the chemical arts, it was said, have their foundation in such decompositions. Again, one salt, such as nitrate of potash, will diffuse into a solution of another salt, such as nitrate of ammonia, as rapidly as into pure water; the salts appearing mutually diffusible, as gases are known to be. Lastly, the diffusibilities of the salts into water, like those of the gases into air, appear to be connected by simple numerical relations. These relations are best observed when dilute solutions of the salts are diffused from the solution cell, such as 4, 2, or even 1 per cent. of salt. The quantities diffused in the same time from 4 per cent. solutions of the three salts, carbonate of potash, sulphate of potash and sulphate of ammonia, were 10.25 grains, 10.57 grains and 10.51 grains respectively, and a similar approach to equality was observed in the 1, 2, and  $\frac{6}{5}$  per cent. solutions of the same salts. It also held at different temperatures. The acetate of potash appeared to coincide in diffusibility with the same group, and so did the ferrocyanide of potassium. The nitrate of potash, chloride of potash, nitrate of ammonia, chloride of potassium and chloride of ammonium formed another equi-diffusive group. The times in which an equal amount of diffusion took place in these two groups appeared to be as 1 for the second to 1.4142 for the first, or as 1 to the square root of 2. Now, in gases the squares of the times of equal diffusion are the densities of the gases. The relation between the sulphate of potash and nitrate of potash groups would therefore fall to be referred to the diffusion molecule and diffusion vapour of the first group having a density represented by 2, while that of the second group is represented by 1. These were named the solution densities of the salts in question. The corresponding salts of soda appeared to fall into a nitrate and sulphate group also, which have the same relation to each other as the potash salts. The relation of the salts of potash to those of soda in times of equal diffusibility appeared to be as the square root of 2 to the square root of 3; which gives to them solution densities of 2 and 3. Hydrate of potash and sulphate of magnesia were less fully examined; but the first presented sensibly double the diffusibility of sulphate of potash, and four times the diffusibility of the sulphate of magnesia. If these times are all squared, the following remarkable ratios are obtained for the solution densities of these different salts, each of which is the type of a class of salts: hydrate of potash 1, nitrate of potash 2, sulphate of potash 4, sulphate of magnesia 16, with nitrate of soda 3, and sulphate of soda 6. In conclusion, it was observed that it is the diffusion molecules of the salts, having such densities, which are concerned in solubility, and not the Daltonian atoms or equivalents of chemical combination; and the application was indicated of a knowledge of the diffusibilities of different substances to the study of endosmosis, in which the proper function of the membrane would be distinguished from that of the salt.

#### MEETINGS FOR THE ENSUING WEEK.

- Mon. Geographical, half-past 8.—Mr. W. Bollaert, 'Observations on the Geography of Texas.'—Visit of H.M.S. *Mariner*, Commander Mathison, in 1890, to Japan, with Notes on Japan, by Mr. A. Palmer and Mr. R. M. Martin.  
—Chemical, 8.  
Tues. Linnean, 8.  
—Horticultural, 2.  
—Civil Engineers, 8.—Mr. F. Lawrence, 'A Description of the Blackfriars Landing Pier.'—Mr. J. S. Valentine, M. Inst. C. E., 'Description of a Timber Bridge on the Lynn and Ely Railway.'  
Wed. Society of Arts, 8.  
—Microscopical, 8.  
Thurs. Royal, half-past 8.  
—Antiquaries, 8.  
—Royal Academy, 8.—Architecture.  
Fri. Royal Institution, half-past 8.—The Dean of Westminster 'On Artesian Wells.'  
Sat. Asiatic, 2.

#### MUSIC AND THE DRAMA

**WEDNESDAY CONCERTS.**—At the last of the *Wednesday Concerts*, Herr Ernst produced his new *fantasia* on themes from 'Le Prophète,'—those chosen by him being the *Complainte of Fides*, the *Pastorale of Jean*, and the final *Baccanale*. The first melody was played as only Herr Ernst can play such things; the last was craved by the ear oftener than we were allowed to have it,—since a longer trarriance on the simple subject would have greatly enhanced the effect of the very brilliant passages with which the *fantasia* is wrought up. Altogether, this work, interesting though it be, must be looked on as a *pièce d'occasion*, springing out of the newest opera, rather than as a stock addition to the stores of the violinist. It was admirably executed.—On Wednesday, too, we heard, for the first time this season, Miss Lucombe; who is in firm, excellent voice, and sang with great spirit. One or two of her changes in the great songs from 'La Sonnambula' were a little out of "measure;"—a fault which may possibly have been contracted by singing with unsteady provincial orchestras, and which need only be mentioned to disappear. Mr. Sims Reeves is obviously taking great pains: drawing more largely on his *falsetto* than he used to do,—a device which it will require some practice to perfect him in, seeing that the natural and factitious tones of voices so robust as his have an essential difference in *timbre*, which it requires much art and experience to harmonize. But his articulation of English has greatly improved. Herr Formes sang 'Largo al Factotum' very much as the ophicleide stop on an organ capable of pronouncing Italian in a German fashion could have done. Mrs. A. Newton romped through—rather than executed—'Una voce poco fa.'—We must go back to the instrumental part of the Concert for a moment, to state that M. Thalberg is playing with his known perfection. Will he never change his manner as a writer,—never attempt concert-music differing in form from the *fantasias* which he executes so incomparably?

**ST. JAMES'S.**—In some matters of considerable importance to the well-going of Opera, that best of managers, Mr. Mitchell, has made improvements upon last year. His chorus is stronger than it was in 1849,—and he has now a scene painter who can "rhyme and twirl" matters (to borrow Walpole's phrase descriptive of Pope's gardening) so as to give an appearance of space and intricacy to the small stage of his theatre, which we, at least, are not classical enough to despise,—especially on the present occasion, since, of all the operas with which we are acquainted, M. Halévy's will the least bear slovenly handling. 'Le Val d'Andorre,' with which Mr. Mitchell's season commenced on Monday, was the most successful performance of one of these works, out of Paris, at which we have been present.

The story has been already arranged for the English stage [*Athen.* No. 1129, p. 629]; and therefore we need not once again narrate on what pretext *Rose de Mai* (Madame Charton) abstracts the money belonging to her mistress, the rich widowed farmer, Teresa (Madame Guichard)—what comes of the gallantry of *Lejoyeux*, the recruiting sergeant (M. Chollet),—what means the mysterious knowledge of *Jacques Sincere* (M. Nathan)—with which of the three heroines the beloved of two among them, *Stephan* (M. Lac), is made happy,—or how *Georgette* (Mlle. Cotti) and *Saturnin* the anti-warlike (M. Leroy), after much mutual teasing in the 'L'Elisir d'Amore' fashion, end in taking each other for better for worse. The music, also, of 'Le Val d'Andorre' has been discussed in the *Athenæum*



[No. 1111, p. 147], so that the reader is spared the labour of following a second specification of its principal parts and features. As much as this, however, must be added, in cautionary amendment of former notices. When once the aridity of tone of M. Halévy's writings is accepted,—much ingenuity, elegance and expressive propriety remain to be discovered and enjoyed. The delicacy and skill of his orchestral treatment cannot fail at once to entertain the ear and to gratify the understanding:—his being a style of art calculated to address the intelligence rather than to excite enthusiasm. These gifts and qualities enable M. Halévy to take "a stand" in his own country, and entitle him to all attention and kindly welcome elsewhere,—though strangers may probably to the end persist in rating him as a man of high talent rather than of genius.

Let us now speak of the execution of 'Le Val d'Andorre'—or rather of the artists appearing in it who are new to the public of London. Foremost amongst these, of course, stands M. Chollet. It seems but yesterday that we were sitting in the *Théâtre de la Bourse*, in 1836, enjoying his last successful "creation" for the *Opéra Comique*, which was *Chapelou* in 'Le Postillon.' Even then, the fickle French were busy over their almanacs, &c. &c. &c.; but the thirteen years which have since elapsed have given singularly little occasion for any new references to such unkindly mementoes. We can hardly speak of M. Chollet's organ as a voice:—indeed, it is one of the nicest puzzles in Music to admire how the tenors of French comic opera (M. Roger always excepted, in right of his vocal powers) can "get on" provided only they have three or four *falsetto* tones, and a register besides of a few notes possessing some sound, it little matters what,—how much *esprit* they throw into their trifling music,—how admirably they act,—and how gentlemanly is their general stage demeanour! Their whole style of performance is, generically, so infinitely agreeable as to excite wonder that its charm is so little coveted by tenors who happen to possess voices—Italian, German or English. M. Chollet's "ways" as "le joli recruteur," seconded by his power of displaying to its utmost advantage every shred of power remaining, won him a deservedly warm welcome. He is next week, we perceive, to sing and act his great part of 'Zampa.' This is occupation calculated to try the veteran artist severely,—since it brings him into tragic opera, where fulness and quality of tone cannot be dispensed with. The two other tenors, M. Lac and M. Leroy, are sufficient, look well on the stage, and act with propriety. M. Nathan, the bass, is a fairly good *Jacques Sincere*, even for those who have seen the excellent original sorcerer of Andorre—M. Bataille. The *Georgette* is not equal to her comrades: since to give effect to a part written for Mdle. Lavoye, great vocal lightness, flexibility and piquancy are required.—On the whole, this may be pronounced a very interesting beginning of the operatic year 1850.

**DRURY LANE.**—This theatre continues to be crowded. On Monday Shakspeare's pastoral drama of 'As You Like It' was performed; with Mrs. Nisbett as *Rosalind*, Mr. Vandenhoff as *Jacques*, and Mr. Anderson as *Orlando*. A better cast than this the present state of the stage cannot supply. Mr. N. H. Angel was *Touchstone*,—a character which we have often seen better represented. Old *Adam* was effectively rendered by Mr. Cooper. In Mr. Vandenhoff's *Jacques* there were multiplied beauties. Perhaps he shows too much of the cynic in the part; nevertheless, it is a conception abounding in point. On the whole the revival was very successful.

**OLYMPIC.**—Mrs. Mowatt's comedy of 'Fashion, or Life in New York,' was produced on Wednesday, with a powerful cast, and with decided success. It must be considered, not as a new piece, but as an importation. It was written in 1845, and then produced in New York; and has since, it is stated, gone the round of the United States. The Americans have declared it to be a true picture of their life and manners. Such a work scarcely appeals to criticism,—it simply asks for appreciation. The provincial tone of transatlantic manners is the main subject of the drama. Behind Europe in literature and in fashion, what may be called aristocratic society in America eagerly seizes on any importation of old-world opinions or

manners, and is liable to all sorts of imposition. The New York merchant, whose extravagant wife is the heroine of this comedy, comes before us as a *parvenu*, who, to cover the expenses of his household, resorts to forgery, and is subjected in consequence to the insolence and ambitious demands of his confidential clerk. Mr. Johnstone as the former and Mr. Scharfe as the latter were good representatives of the respective characters. Mrs. *Tiffany* was ably supported by Mrs. Marston; who contrived to blend the vulgarity and affected refinement of the character with great cleverness. Her bad French, learnt from her waiting-woman, *Millinette*, and her regard for whatever she thinks to be Parisian, were the prominent materials of humour. The part of *Millinette* was admirably played by Mrs. Wigan; as was a correspondent one of a pretended French Count *Jolimaitre*—her former lover and a cook out of place—by her husband. This impostor is the great object of attraction in the merchant's family. The daughter falls in love and runs away with him; while he makes love to everybody, including the governess, *Gertrude*,—charmingly played by Miss Fanny Vining. This young lady, a supposed orphan, contrives a plan to expose the real character of the adventurer; but she is defeated in it, and her own reputation is brought into discredit by the attempt. Fortunately for her, her grandfather is near in the person of *Adam Trueman* a farmer from Caterangus (Mr. Davenport),—a stern republican, who despises the fine doings of which he is an unwilling witness, and ultimately delivers his grandchild from the snares by which she is surrounded. This character was both admirably played and, by the dramatist, skillfully antagonized with a female "original," purely American,—one *Prudence*, described as a maiden lady of a certain age (Mrs. Parker). The part was well suited to the actress. Mrs. Parker, we suppose, must herself be an American. Puritanic and precise in her attire, she was gifted with a provincial drawl that was quite edifying, and a habit of delivery that had as much of verisimilitude as of drollness. All the characters seem to be drawn from the life by a person well accustomed to the state of society depicted. Accordingly, the freshness and originality of the piece are its chief recommendations. Zeke, a coloured servant, was well acted by Mr. Herbert. Throughout the cast was judicious. Many points of the dialogue come out with marked effect.—The management deserves credit for the costly manner in which in all respects the comedy has been put upon the stage,—and which no doubt contributed to the triumph of the evening. At the conclusion, the authoress was called for and appeared before the curtain.

**SURREY.**—Mr. Creswick has appeared every evening in *Alfred Evelyn*, in Sir E. B. Lytton's comedy of 'Money,'—and has sustained the part with talent. Mr. Mead is *Lord Glosmore*, Madame Ponisi is *Clara*, and *Georgina* is Miss R. Malcolm. The last-named lady has lately been engaged here,—and promises well.

**MARYLEBONE.**—The melo-drama of 'Nicholas Nickleby' has been acted here throughout the week.

**MUSICAL AND DRAMATIC GOSSIP.**—A prospectus forwarded to us announces that among other features in St. Martin's Hall, now on the eve of completion, the formation of a "Library of Music and Musical Literature" has begun; a lending library accessible to the public at the rate of an annual guinea subscription and a guinea entrance,—and to the members of Mr. Hullah's singing schools on somewhat easier terms. No establishment of the kind exists in London; and scarcely any question can exist regarding its value and interest. The power of home-reference for purposes of study becomes almost indispensable when the work is of any extent; and yet more so when the conviction which the mind receives by the eye must needs be checked and tested by the ear,—a condition of music never to be escaped from, and some disregard of which has led many enthusiastic and imaginative persons irretrievably into crudity and extravagance. From the time when Beethoven's deafness became a real disqualification, began the eccentricity of his compositions. The means of extending such a library as this one by Mr. Hullah are countless, and the number of private collectors is com-

paratively few; so that, with a fair amount of public support there can be no reason why this Library should not ere long become a most valuable addition to the too few resources possessed by the student of music in London.

Since we transcribed from the *Gazette Musicale* M. de la Fage's criticism upon Verdi's 'Luisa Miller,' we have been for a moment startled by learning from another French musical oracle not merely that the opera is magnificent as a composition, but that its production has been triumphant, &c. However, reasoning by analogy, we felt small fear that injustice had been committed. Our Parisian contemporaries are even now describing as among the current Lions of London who create the "liveliest sensation" here, M. de Kontski! To enter into pleading with writers who hazard so much would be wasted pains and patience; but how are they to be believed for the future? While the answer to this question is in suspense, let us confirm last week's notice of 'Luisa Miller' by a letter from a Naples correspondent; who prefaces his remarks by a character of Verdi in which we cannot acquiesce, and is therefore not predisposed to blame Verdi's last opera,—the less since that work was produced (he tells us) at a juncture when the *Teatro San Carlo* was in *extremis* for some novelty which could be made successful. After narrating the story, and mentioning that Signor Cammarano has "done" Schiller's tragedy into Italian, our friend turns to the music. "The introduction," says he, "is full of promise; giving some signs of originality. The *stretta* for tenor, soprano, and baritone is perhaps the gem of the opera. From this point to the end of the first act we have nothing but some clever instrumentation. The second act opens with a chorus of country girls, which is but tame and uninteresting. Perhaps Verdi requires a heroic subject to inspire his genius. Much, however, might have been made of that portion of the story where the honest girl is compelled to listen to the traitor; yet this music might have been written for any situation, any country, any period, by any one who knew how to manage a large orchestra. I will not go on recording failures. When I mention a *quartette* executed without orchestral accompaniments, I have specified the only piece worthy of remark. If the opera is worthless, the artists did their utmost to support it. The tenor, Malvezzi, executed his task with care. The performance of the *prima donna*, Mdle. Gazzaniga, was quite worthy of herself;—so were the performances of the *bassi*, Selva and Arati. Indeed, the little applause which the disappointed public bestowed was as much for the singers as for the *Maestro*. Yet the latter was called out on several occasions. Such a compliment, however, means little; and I found on a third hearing, that the public had nearly ceased to applaud the few *morceaux* which had been welcomed on the first night. I am told that Verdi was disgusted by the revision to which the poetry was subjected. One fact is pretty clear,—the subject is not fitted to the author of 'I Lombardi.'—Let us add what seems more probable, that the author of 'I Lombardi' is not fitted to his subject.—One *erratum* in last week's notice may possibly require correcting. Our friend does not include Signor de Bassini in the cast of 'Luisa Miller.'

The French journals give a piece of Norway news which, if its accuracy, may be relied on, establishes another case of musical munificence, to be recorded by the side of Mdle. Jenny Lind's foundation of the singing school in her native city. "Our town," writes a correspondent from Bergen, "which till now has had no theatre, has just been endowed with one of ample size, built, decorated and fitted up at the sole cost of M. Ole Bull, the famous violinist; who further has engaged for one year a sufficient company of artists, undertaking to pay their salaries for that period. The first performance given consisted of Holberg's three-act comedy, 'Henry and Petronilla,' preceded by Mehul's overture to 'Le Jeune Henri.' The entertainments were terminated by M. Ole Bull,—who played his own *fantasia* on Norwegian airs. The municipality of Bergen awarded to M. Bull an honorary freedom of the town on the occasion.

The "newest news" concerning the movements of Mdle. Jenny Lind announce that she is going to give a series of concerts at Berlin.—Our English



contemporaries tell us that Miss Miran, who has been studying in Milan, is expected to return to England for the season.

### MISCELLANEA

*Humboldt's 'Cosmos.'*—I have lately been reading the recent publication of Baron Humboldt, and, in common, I doubt not, with most who have read the pages of 'Cosmos,' have become gradually more and more impressed with the apparently almost infinite resources of its author. My object, however, in troubling you with the present communication is, to call your attention to one or two passages which appear to me of rather an objectionable tendency. The first, and perhaps the most important point is, the variance in the chronology of M. Humboldt from that universally received in the present day. For instance, vol. 2, p. 112—"Such was Egypt five thousand years before our era;" and again—"This dynasty commenced thirty-four centuries before the Christian era;"—and throughout the work the same data are reiterated. Now, were such assertions ventured in some theoretical disquisition, where a few ages more or less are of but little consequence, they might be passed over without comment; but in the present instance they are gravely put forward in a historical summary, and it will no doubt prove a source of perplexity to the ordinary student to meet with data vouched for on the one hand by so high an authority and yet totally irreconcilable with any extant table of chronology.—Again: in treating on the origin and causes of winds, the rarefaction and ascension of heated air are but vaguely alluded to, and land and sea breezes and other similar phenomena still remain according to Baron Humboldt to be accounted for. To those who have read McCulloch's work on the British Empire, such assertions would appear strange. With regard to the original formation of the earth, the subject is doubtless an obscure one; but I think that the attempted solution in the present work proves little more than the literary courage of the author.—There is also an error in vol. 2, p. 240, which mars the beauty of an eloquently written passage. The part to which I refer runs as follows: "The expedition steered confidently onward to the west through the gate which the Tyreans and Colæus of Samos had opened." Now, Columbus in his first voyage sailed from Palos, a port westward of Gibraltar; and, therefore, did not pass through the gate, as he did in sailing from Barcelona in his after voyage.—Again, in treating on temperature, the author remarks:—"And the vine (to produce drinkable wine) avoids islands, and in almost all cases proximity to coasts." Without going into the numerous instances to the contrary, the wines from the Island of Madeira (the best of which are produced by the sea-side) are a sufficient contradiction. I remain, &c. R.K.S.  
Jan. 7.

*The Tindal Statue.*—It is at last arranged that the site of this monument to the memory of Chief Justice Tindal shall be in front of the Shire-hall, and a portion of ground outside of the stone pillars encircling that building has been set apart for the purpose. The persons to whom the casting of the bronze statue has been intrusted have been unable to fulfil their engagements in consequence of the completion of the bas-reliefs for the Nelson monument; but, the site having now been definitely fixed, the statue will no doubt be erected as speedily as possible.—*Essex Standard.*

*Forty Day Maize.*—The article copied into your columns from the *Gardeners' Chronicle* on the subject of the forty-day maize received a rebuke from one of that journal's own subscribers and correspondents, who is unknown to me.—As this is the first notice I have taken of the article in the *Gardeners' Chronicle*, I take the opportunity to say, that the assertion, that I advise to sow maize in its pellicule is a creation of the fancy of the writer. There is no such thing said in my pamphlet. I have, &c. W. KEENE.  
54, Great Queen Street, Lincoln's Inn Fields, Jan. 8.

*Art-Archæology in Rome.*—Another highly interesting discovery has been made in the Vicolo delle Palme, in Trastevere, where the bronze and marble statues already mentioned in my previous letters were found. The present treasure consists in a fragment (a hind quarter) of a bronze bull, of colossal dimensions and of a fine style of Art. Strong hopes are entertained of the remainder being brought to light in the course of the excavations now going on; and learned antiquarians have already hazarded an opinion that the bull in question may probably be no other than the one alluded to by Tacitus in the passage "*In foro Boario, ubi nunc est æneus taurus.*"—*Correspondent of 'Daily News.'*

*Views in the Arctic Regions.*—Perceiving that several Exhibitions are open purporting to show views of the Arctic or Polar Regions, I shall feel greatly obliged by the insertion of my statement, that I was the only officer or person in the Enterprise who took any drawings of those regions during the late Expedition under Sir James Ross, and which drawings the Admiralty have allowed Mr. Burford of Leicester Square to use.—I am, &c. W. H. J. BROWNE, (Late Lieutenant of the Enterprise).  
Birkenhead, Cheshire.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.—T. B.—M. R.—H. M.—P. B.—N.—An Admirer of the English Language—received.

AN OLD SUBSCRIBER.—Both the works have been received:—but both belong to a class formally excluded from notice in the *Athenæum*.

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20th Nov. 1836	616	£8,021 12 2	£10,736 3 0
— 1837	435	14,600 0 0	31,592 10 3
— 1838	439	19,824 19 4	46,855 0 10
— 1839	490	25,457 4 2	64,959 10 10
— 1840	494	31,091 10 10	90,545 13 3
— 1841	357	36,367 1 4	114,993 2 4
— 1842	364	39,360 9 7	139,806 1 7
— 1843	703	44,219 10 0	167,079 11 3
— 1844	729	55,057 9 2	202,162 1 0
— 1845	911	70,819 14 5	241,460 13 3
— 1846	1005	88,400 8 2	289,675 12 4
— 1847	1234	111,118 13 0	367,172 10 3
— 1848	1423	126,233 7 6	440,028 15 3
— 1849	1736	151,976 4 7	517,243 7 1
Total Number	10,949		

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LONDON, SATURDAY, JANUARY 19, 1850.

## REVIEWS

*The Political Movements in Austria during the Years 1848 and 1849.* By Baron Pillersdorf. Translated by George Gaskell. Bentley.

*Scenes of the Civil War in Hungary in 1848 and 1849; with the Personal Adventures of an Austrian Officer in the Army of the Ban of Croatia.* Shoberl.

THESE two works, though both proceeding from German pens and from the extreme Austrian point of view, are very dissimilar in character. The writer of the first—Baron Pillersdorf, a civilian, and in some respects the Necker of the Viennese revolutions—is a complete bureaucrat of the Metternich school of policy, but with a dash of rose-water liberalism as an additional stock-in-trade. The author of the other is a mere soldier, to take him at his own estimate, whose proper place in creation is at the head of a company of foraging Red Mantles. The statesman is grave, cautious, unimpassioned—his tone is that of an advocate who defends a cause of the merits of which he is doubtful. The soldier is hot and hasty, free of speech, ready to applaud or to censure, and both without reason. The first book is the most important—the second the most interesting.

Yet neither of these works furnish much new material for history. The Baron, as the reader may recollect, played a prominent, if not a distinguished, part in the ministries which succeeded to power in Vienna on the flight of Metternich. In his account of the difficulties with which these first constitutional advisers of the Emperor of Austria had to contend in the course of gradual reform which they proposed to themselves to effect—difficulties traced to the bad faith and senseless fear of their predecessor in office—lies the chief use of this little work. It is the history of the revolution written from the red-tape platform; and is interesting to the political reader, as it expresses very generally the ideas of the bureaucratic class on the causes and course of events in a country still subject to red-tape dominion. The ex-premier of Austria traces the revolution to its causes. He finds its beginnings in the reign of Maria Theresa—at the same period as that in which the first signs of approaching convulsion revealed themselves to careful observers in France. The Empress-Queen stirred up discontent by reforms; her son, Joseph the Second, still further fostered the spirit of innovation. But he was a thorough despot at heart, and was disgusted when he found his people wanted liberty as well as material well-being. Baron Pillersdorf thinks he made three capital mistakes:—in failing to foster municipal institutions in Austria—in denying to his subjects the benefits of representation—and in refusing to call together the Hungarian Estates, according to the law and constitutional practice of Hungary. In these errors lie the germs of all the events of 1848-9. To faults of policy succeeding statesmen add breach of faith. When the war with France had bowed the Austrian Court to the dust, promises were made to all the populations of the empire: liberties, nationalities, constitutions, responsible government—everything which could be desired was to be granted, if the people would only rise and expel the legions of Napoleon. When the work of “liberation” was effected, not a single promise was redeemed. Metternich was afraid of revolution:—in his mind, our author says, reform and revolution were synonymous terms. He foresaw that the tempest would come,—but hoped it would not be in his day. Baron Pillersdorf makes an important admission, consi-

dering the quarter from which it comes, when speaking of the system of *espionnage* adopted by the Prince. He states it as his belief, that a perfectly free press would have done for the minister all the work of his secret agents, and rendered more service to the Government, without costing the state a farthing. This is a truth patent enough in London; but it has yet to be naturalized in the climate of nearly every other European capital.

Into the details of those difficulties which beset the Pillersdorf cabinet we will not enter. Its mission failed because, to use the words of its leader, it had to do in a day the work of years—with the whole population against it. The incidental admissions of the ex-minister are of the highest value to the historian. “We must not,” he observes, “conceal the fact, that the revolution in Austria was premeditated and executed by a class of the population prominent from its intelligence;”—and again, “The most enlightened, respectable and accredited men of society took part in this enterprise.” It was a knowledge of these facts which caused so much vacillation in the Imperial Cabinet. The red-tape men could not bring themselves either to abandon the old routines or to vigorously oppose reforms so influentially demanded. At length the military crisis came,—and power passed out of the hands of the civilians into those of Windischgrätz and Welden.

With respect to the Hungarian question the Baron affords little or no information. Of course, he thinks the Magyars in the wrong; though he admits the fact of their historical independence. —“The Austrian ministers had never been called upon to exercise any influence in Hungarian affairs.” In another place he says, that the sympathies of the majority of the Austrian people were with the Hungarian leaders, because they “pretended to see” in their quarrel with the Camarilla hope for the advancement of general freedom. Of the particulars of that extraordinary double-dealing with Jellachich and the Presburg Cabinet which in one and the same day proclaimed the Ban of Croatia a rebel and ordered him to march with his Red-mantles against the Prince Palatine of Hungary, Baron Pillersdorf says not one word:—nor of the course of after-events (except very cursorily) which took place in that country.

Nor does Jellachich’s “Officer” afford us any information which can be called historical. His letters are without names and dates. They are said to have been written in pencil, and so sent to a German newspaper. They have not the slightest value as a narrative of events. They do not profess to give any connected views; but the narrow professional prejudices of their author often induce him to express opinions which are as extravagant as they are unjust. He was taken prisoner in Italy, and liberated on condition of not serving in that country for three months.

Yet, in spite of his bigotry, his obstinacy and his boasting, we have been interested in this “Officer’s” letters. Under the genius of the Magyar he felt rebuked. He finds himself, when sick and driven as a resource to a file of the *Pesti Hírlap*—the journal formerly edited by Kossuth—compelled to admit the extraordinary powers of his great enemy. His rough and brief sketches are vivid and distinct. Here is a specimen.—

“In the pursuit of the routed enemy, when the mass was dissolved into separate fights, I witnessed a scene which made a very deep impression upon me. As something about my saddle-girth was broken, I stopped to mend it, and was thus left behind in a small meadow, through which ran a wide ditch, that could not be leaped with a horse, the edge being so slippery with the frost. All at once,

I saw one of the enemy’s hussars, closely pursued by two cuirassiers, rush from among the brushwood at a little distance on the other side of the ditch. As this ditch parted me from them, and I had a loaded pistol, I continued to stand quietly by my horse, awaiting the issue of the affair. When the hussar came nearer, I recognised in him a man who was formerly a subaltern, and had long been in my company. He was a fine, handsome fellow when he enlisted, six years ago, into our regiment, a genuine Cumane from the environs of Debreczin, wild, disposed to all sorts of mad pranks, but brave and trusty in service, at the same time a particularly excellent horseman; not wholly uneducated, for he was the son of the overseer of an estate—in short, an ideal of the Hungarian Hussar. \* \* Iwanka, on his part, recognised me, and lowered his sword as he galloped past, by way of saluting me. Obstructed by the ditch, he faced about resolutely against his two pursuers. Then ensued a fight than which nothing finer or more picturesque could be exhibited in a circus by an equestrian company, only that it was bitter earnest, and for life or death. The hussar, who rode a handsome stallion of the best Hungarian breed—and many of the insurgents were extremely well mounted—managed his swift steed with wonderful dexterity. He turned him so short upon his hind legs, and dodged so quickly to the right or left, that for a long time the cuirassiers, on their clumsey horses, could not come at him, though they had dealt many a tremendous blow. The Hungarian, too, had aimed many a one at them, with his glistening blade; but it had always glided with a loud droning sound from the impenetrable breast-armor. At length the hussar’s *tschako* was struck off, and he was covered with blood from a wound on his forehead. ‘Nimm pardun!’ (take quarter!) repeatedly cried the cuirassiers in their Bohemian German; but raising himself upright in the saddle, he replied, ‘En Magyar wagych!’ (I am an Hungarian!) and levelled fresh blows at his antagonists. His very horse seemed to participate in his master’s ardour for fighting. His black hide was dotted with white flakes of foam; his red nostrils were widely distended; his long mane flickered wildly in the wind; his large eye seemed to flash. \* \* As the hussar dashed past, and prepared himself for a desperate blow, one of the cuirassiers, seizing the right moment, thrust the long, pointed, glistening blade of his *pallasch* into the right arm-pit of his antagonist with such force, that it came out on the other side. With a loud exclamation of *Jesus Maria!* the hussar sank from his horse, and was instantly dead.”

The first striking feature of this war, was the frequency with which men who had formerly been friends and comrades met in the deadly *mêlée*. These scenes were, however, so common as at length to lose a portion of their horror. As our author observes, “the value of human life declines prodigiously when one has been fighting for a whole year.”—Let us transfer another scene from this panorama to our pages.—

“It was nearly dark when, with my troop, some of whom were killed, others severely wounded, I reached the main body. Scarcely had we un-saddled and, tired to death, I was about to stretch myself by the watch-fire, fed with the ruins of houses which had been pulled down, when an infantry soldier, appointed to hospital duty, came to inform me that an officer of the insurgents, dangerously wounded and taken prisoner, having heard my name, wished to speak to me. In spite of weariness, I immediately followed my guide to the hurdle-shed, which was fitted up for an hospital. Dismal was the appearance of this dark, low place, scantily lighted by the hand-lanterns of the surgeons and attendants, who, with their blood-striped sleeves tucked up high, and with aprons equally bloody, were busily engaged. The wounded lay close to one another upon dirty straw, which in places was quite wet and slippery from the blood upon it. Loud and gentle sighs, moans, groans, gnashing of teeth, mingled at times with curses, in the Bohemian, Polish, Hungarian, German and Croatian languages. I was obliged to rally my courage, lest I should be scared back. In the furthest corner of the long building, on a bed of



straw, lay the wounded prisoner, who wished to speak to me. How was I shocked when the light of the attendant's lantern fell upon his face, and I recognised Count St. —! On our march through Croatia to Vienna, I had passed two days at his mansion; had seen him in the society of two charming women—his wife and his sister—in the full enjoyment of happiness; and now, in what a state was I doomed to find him! St. —, a Magyar to the inmost fibre of his heart, had indeed then told me that he should take up arms for Kossuth, but thus to meet him again I was not at all prepared. Kneeling by the side of my pale friend, whose noble countenance bore the evident impress of speedy death, I grasped his cold hand, and asked in what way I could be serviceable to him. 'Thank you for coming,' he replied in a voice scarcely audible, and this effort manifestly caused him great pain; 'I heard that you were here, and I sent for you. I am dying; my chest is shattered. When I am dead, take the pocket-book out of my uniform, and send it to my wife, who lives at K—: it contains my will and other papers.' Here he made a long pause, during which I strove to cheer him. 'Don't talk thus—'tis of no use—we part as friends—I have fought for my country—you are faithful to your colours.' I pressed his hand in silence. 'Where is your sister Helene?' I at length asked. 'With the army,' he answered, 'she is fighting for Hungary.' It was now a considerable time before St. — could utter a word. He moaned gently; and a regimental surgeon, who came to us, significantly made the sign of the cross with his finger. At length, after a full hour, he suddenly raised himself and said, 'So—now 'tis all over—salute Marie (the name of his wife)—Marie!' and with that he stretched himself out, his eye-strings broke, and his spirit fled."

The Countess Helene was also killed during the war, while serving on the staff of her uncle. Hungarian damsels were not the only females engaged in this sanguinary war; the wives and daughters of the Croats went with them into the field of battle, and sometimes fought at their sides like Amazons. A bit of comedy is told of one of these fair maids in the camp before Vienna, when the civil partisans of the Kaiser joined the Croat corps.—

"On the first day after our arrival, and still more frequently afterwards, we received numerous visits from inhabitants of Vienna, who had fled from the city and other places round about, still further off. There was no end to their complaints and wailings about the insurrection. Their lamentations and bursts of anger were often highly comic. To these Philistines and Money-bags it was the greatest of hardships, that they were obliged to forego their domestic conveniences, their seat at the theatre, their visits to the coffee-house; and yet their want of firmness, their cowardice, were the principal causes of all the mischief. Had the numerous burgher guard possessed courage at first, and displayed energy, the *Aula* and the rabble of the suburbs would never have got the better of them; and the storm, which began to burst over Vienna on the 6th of October, might have been prevented. Indeed, had not the honour of Austria been at stake, these street-loungers might for me have regained their comforts as they could. Now that we were there and going into fire for them, they had wonders to tell about the heroic deeds which they had already performed, or meant to perform. One of those drawing-room heroes, an *élégant*, such as every great city produces in abundance, in yellow gloves, and with the *lorgnette* at his eye, strutted about among us, and enlarged upon the feats of courage and loyalty which he purposed to achieve for the Emperor; but one day I very soon silenced him. I took the old, greasy, fur cap of a Seressan's, which happened to be lying there, and clapped it upon his befrizzled head, saying, 'That fits admirably. If you want to fight against the insurgents, you can enter at once among my Red-mantles; there is a vacancy at this moment;' and, while I was thus speaking, a comrade threw an old red cloak over his shoulders. He stood quite confounded, and knew not what to say; while my men greeted their new companion with roars of laughter. The handsome Croatian and Slavonian women who were with

the borderers attracted the particular notice of these Vienna coxcombs, who considered them as piquant beauties. But they met with anything but a favourable reception from them. Those bold, fiery maidens have a very different taste from that of the ladies of Vienna. My handsome Seressan damsel, whom I mentioned in my last letter, gave one of these puppies, who had probably made rather too close approaches to her, such a *watsche*, as the people of Vienna call it, that he came to me rubbing his tingling cheek, and complained of the girl. I laughed heartily at him, but offered him my horse and my sword, if he was disposed to fight his antagonist and in that way to obtain satisfaction; but he manifested no inclination to do so, saying that would be beneath him."

We select another illustrative incident for extract. After the reduction of Vienna, the armies marched forward under Windischgrätz and the Ban. The Hungarians retired on every side, and even abandoned their capital without a blow. The Red Mantles were delighted. They lived on the fat of the land—there was only just enough of peril to make their march interesting,—every night, as they gathered round their camp fires, they poured forth their exultation in patriotic songs. But now comes the reverse. Kossuth had organized his power—Dembinski formed his plans. The Hungarians advanced from Debreczin; and in a series of brilliant actions which have no parallel in modern history, except in the Italian campaign of Bonaparte, drove Jellachich beyond the Drave and Windischgrätz beyond the Leitha. It is during this disastrous retreat that we will look in upon the Red Mantles again,—and see how the victorious Magyars behave to them.—

"I looked rather disconsolate when I saw my men cooking the everlasting *mamaliga* (Indian meal porridge) at the watch-fire. This is of itself rather insipid food; but when you are confined to it for weeks together, with scarcely any variation, it becomes absolutely disgusting; and I shall think of this *mamaliga* as long as I live. Neither was there much *sklikowitz* in our *tchuttur*as; and so we sat in no very good humour around our slender watch-fire, swallowing our meal porridge, and washing it down with bad water. Our adversaries must have been, as they generally were, better supplied with provisions of all kinds. The sounds of their laughter and singing rang in our ears like derision. I saw two hussars waving a white cloth, as a signal for us to come to them. Curious to learn what they meant, I approached, and recognized in them two soldiers of my old squadron. On my coming up to them, they saluted me respectfully; said they had excellent provisions, a cask of wine, and a fat hog; and, as they knew that we had not much that was good, they came to ask me to accept part of their store. As I perceived that I had before us genuine Magyars, who, when not excited, always act honourably, I thankfully accepted their offer, and sent a couple of hussars over to them. The hussars soon returned laden with about forty quarts of good Hungarian wine and a quarter of a pig; and it was not long before my soldiers were feasting with high glee, quite forgetting that they had received this treat from an enemy, with whom in a few hours they might be fighting for life and death."

Struck with this courtesy, our "Officer" took a packet of tobacco, and went towards the bivouac fire of the enemy.—

"As soon as I approached the fire, the whole of the men on guard, about fifty hussars of my former regiment, rose respectfully, saluted me in the same manner as if I was still their officer; and were delighted when I acquainted them with the object of my visit, and delivered the tobacco to the grey-bearded veteran who acted as commander. I conversed for a few moments with the hussars, most of whom I personally knew, and asked them why they had left their colours to fight against their king. 'That we do not,' replied they very seriously; 'Ferdinand is still our king, and we would have him remain so; but the country must not be divided among Croats and Germans, such as the Ban Jel-

lachich and Windischgrätz choose to give it to.'—I laughed, and assured them that nobody had ever thought of such a thing; but they declared that Kossuth had said so; that what he said was true; that they would do anything that he commanded; and that their captain and colonel also had enjoined them to do all that Kossuth directed. I asked them whether I had not formerly treated them as kindly as the captain, who had dispensed so many floggings.—'Better, much better,' they exclaimed! 'You are an excellent man, but you are a German, and the Captain is an Hungarian, and so we had rather do what he orders.' One of them said: 'You have been a good officer, and, when we take you prisoner, we will use you well.'—I laughed, and replied, 'You may be sure that I shall not let you take me prisoner, but be cut in pieces first.' The old soldier acting as commandant of the watch patted me familiarly on the shoulder, and said gravely: 'You are right; whoever has had the honour to command us formerly as officer, must now not let us catch him.' On departing many of them extended their hands to me, and they shouted a thundering *Eljen! eljen!* as I withdrew. In a few hours, a detachment of the Polish legion relieved the Hungarians, and attacked us the same evening with such fury that we could scarcely keep our ground."

The "Officer" was shortly afterwards wounded; and fell into the hands of a Magyar family, who treated him with extraordinary kindness—and when he was sufficiently recovered allowed him to escape.—We will not pursue his adventures further. His descriptions seem to have the marks of reality about them, though the form in which they are conveyed to the English public is so suspicious.—The historian of these times will carefully lay up the volume of the Baron Pillersdorf for future use:—the general reader will probably find an hour's amusement in turning over the pages of the passionate but picturesque Officer of the Ban of Croatia.

#### *The Tragedy of Galileo Galilei.* By Samuel Brown. Groombridge.

It is seldom that we meet with a first essay in dramatic composition possessing such genuine claims on attention as the work before us.—This tragedy, as the writer intimates, must be accepted less as a poetical history of the great astronomer than as embodying those struggles of genius, under certain conditions, which his career suggests. Besides that conflict with old usage and authority which every original mind has in some degree to maintain, Dr. Brown has chosen in these pages to depict the more subtle strife which results from discordant elements in the natures of pioneers themselves. The warfare here recorded is chiefly that between intellectual freedom and spiritual bondage existing in the same personality. Galileo, according to the author, is a character but partially enfranchised:—free in the realm of scientific perception, but shackled as regards the moral sense by the prescriptive dogmas of the Church. It is to the superstitious faith of the discoverer, not to his personal cowardice, that his recantation is ascribed. This conception is, of course, purely theoretical; but it is developed with unusual art, and symbolizes a too frequent condition in the experience of genius. A fine point is made of the superior faith and heroism of Marina (Galileo's daughter),—indicating that a wider moral scope belongs to the poetic mind than to that which is simply scientific. These and other aims have been evolved by the writer with much justness of insight, and are often rendered with great dignity and felicity of style. The fault of the drama is, that its premises and inferences, though agreeing with each other, need more obvious connexion for the general reader. This is peculiarly the case in the recantation scene, where the opposing forces in Galileo's mind should have been more distinctly brought out. For want of such treatment, the climax will fail



of due effect with every reader, and to many its very meaning will be obscure. It is to be regretted, too, that Dr. Brown, who has a fine ear for rhythm, should sometimes be careless as to his measure, and thus deny to his verse the last grace of finish.

Subject to these reservations, our extracts will warrant the praise which we have given to the entire work. The following soliloquy strikes the key-note of Galileo's character:—his struggle for mental independence, and his thralldom to superstitious doubts.—

*Galileo in his library, poring over an astrological folio by Michael Scot at a side-table.*

*Galileo (rising and striding across the floor).* Jove! Can it be these mystic fools were right? Do constellation and conjunction and eclipse Govern our disposition and our fate? Is man,—am I composed of paltry wheels, That cannot choose but turn when stars go round?— Poor nonsense. I rebel and I am free!

*(Returning to the folio, he lays his hand upon it.)* Yet it is deadly strange! This Scot foretells— The man, born under Mercury, (day, hour, Minute, second exact,) before red Mars With flushing Venus doth conjoin his orb, What time the sun with his obedient train Plunges from out the far-lit House of Joy Down those sad skies where that of Sorrow reigns, Shall love, think, speak and live against the tide Of kindly custom, and be chafed withal: Loved too, by such as love him, dangerous well, The peril theirs, not his—not his, but theirs. That man am I in every circumstance. Creator! Am I then a soulless thing, My child a compound and my friend a stuff, Crystalline dust beneath the foot of Force, Complicate, full of law and full of light, But only dust, and must to dust return? If so, I do not thank thee for such life. Take, take it back: I spurn the niggard gift.— Ha, Galileo, whence this idle rage, This curse, this prayer, this mighty sense of self! Are these ground out of thee by star or atom? Father, forgive me! *(He sinks down into his chair.)* O this truth to fathom!

In a charming serenade, addressed to Marina by Agostino, her betrothed, and the pupil of her father, we have an example of the author's lyrical faculty.—

"Sweetest eyes were ever seen,"  
Fiery, loving, but serene:  
Eyes like planets, planets though  
Shedding light and lovelit glow  
O'er the dark yet solar star,  
Whence they never run afar.

Sweetest lips two lips could kiss,  
Tender, fragrant, spilling bliss  
On the lips that dare to sip  
Love's wine from them, lip to lip.  
Lips caressing and caressed,  
Four are satisfied and blest.

Smoothest cheek for cheek to touch,  
Peachy, glowing, young, and such  
Paris might have envied me:  
Helen's cheek could never be  
Fresher on the heights of Troy,  
She a woman, he a boy.

Fairest head was ever made,  
Brow for light and hair for shade;  
Shapely, delicate and small,  
Knowing little, feeling all:  
All its thoughts are mine and love's,  
Lovelust as a turtle-dove's.

Prettiest throat that ever sung,  
Singing always Love is young:  
Veiny, flexible, and round,  
Living well of gladsome sound,  
Running over with delight  
For the ear 'can listen right.

Softest bosom ever pressed  
To a lover's happy breast:  
Breathing, dewy, lilted place,  
Let me nestle there my face:  
Milky, fragrant, blissful home,  
Never from this nest I'll roam.

Daintiest form Love ever folded,  
(Let me sing it and be scolded,)  
Soft and warm from top to toe:—  
Do not shut thy sweet eyes so;  
Sweetest eyes were ever seen,  
Fiery, loving, and serene!

Our next quotation exhibits much poetical imagination and dramatic passion. Agostino has been assassinated, and his death is imputed by Marina to an emissary of the Inquisition. Her father, in whom she glories, is at the same time on trial before that tribunal. Her exalted despair, succeeded by passionate outbursts and that decisiveness of action which is the attribute of misery when it braves consequence, are ren-

dered with true tragic feeling. One Ugo enters disguised as a priest,—a character which, from its association with her sufferings, is of course hateful to the bereaved girl; and the following dialogic ensues.—

*"Mine errand is for thee. [Jacopo withdraws.]*

*Art thou prepared to know thy daughter, say,*  
*Marina. Yes, were it Nature's doom or leave—*

*Ugo. Our Galileo dieth.*

*Mar. When?*

*Ugo. To-morrow.*

*Mar. God bless thee, Rome, for this! Our glorious light*

*Doth hang above the world a quenchless star,*

*His everlasting place infix at length:—*

*His daughter free to hasten where she will.*

*Ugo. Wilt thou repair to Rome and share his doom!*

*Mar. No, let him die alone: my lover died alone!*

*A victim like my father to your rage.*

*Ugo. Mine, madam!*

*Mar. Yes, you hooded filthy owls,*

*That lurk in houses you have never built,*

*That hoot and tear your slumbering prey by night,*

*That gorge yourselves on virtue in the dark,*

*The dark, the night of mind. That hate the light,*

*Shutting it out with horrid-winking lids,*

*And screeching, "Night eclipses day!"*

*Beware:—*

*Your sacrificial fires arise to heaven,*

*Waking the dull horizon till the morn*

*Shall hail them from the east, and put them out*

*With quenchless ray, but pour condign contempt*

*And dire confusion o'er you birds of night!*

*Ugo. A dreadful sentence, lady, for a friend.*

*Mar. No friend have I:—Nor never had but two,*

*And these were none, they were myself in mirrors.*

*My mirrors broke, I am indeed alone,*

*Nor cannot see nor find myself again,*

*Until I break this prison-house of flesh.*

*Ugo. Thyself, Marina Gamba?*

*Mar. Ay, myself!*

*Kind nature hints the only honest way,*

*For savage widows sing among the flames—*

*That wing their flight to nuptial bowers on high.*

*Ugo. Thou art not like thy sex—*

*Mar. Nor thou thy cloth.*

*Hear me: Either thou art no priest at heart,*

*Perhaps no priest at all, or else, O strange!*

*Thou art a kind and serviceable soul?*

*Ugo. I love thy father, lady; loved thy husband,—*

*My pupil once; and therefore am I here.*

*Mar. My husband!*

*Priest, thou know'st the hidden way*

*That winds within a tearless virgin's heart.*

*Ugo. Thou dost mistrust me, daughter: benedictio.*

*Mar. Stay, art thou kind or cunning only?*

*Ugo. Both.*

*Mar. A priest, as I have heard my father tell,*

*In name not nature, circumstance not will;*

*A freely-thinking, worldly-minded monk?*

*Ugo. Granted; but I would aid a braver man.*

*Mar. The churchman's conscience dead within thee?*

*Ugo. Yes.*

*Mar. Ay, and the man's one only half alive,*

*Else thou hadst never skulked beneath a hood.*

*Ugo. Confessed.*

*Mar. Come, thou art honest!*

*I will trust thee*

*To do a thing, although my heart misgives me:—*

*Art thou remorseful? Wilt thou swear to do it?*

*Ugo. By Jove and all the ancient Gods I swear.*

*Mar. Creation gather up to crush thee, worm,*

*Prove thou untrue to Galileo's child!—*

*A thing thou wilt not do.*

*[She draws a phial from her bosom.]*

*Convey my duteous love to him with this,*

*A pleasant slow-sure poison which he knows,*

*But swift enough to cheat to-morrow's fire.*

*Tell him some hostile fiend hath robbed the world*

*Of all that made it beautiful to me:—*

*And pray, be he the first, he'll check his wing*

*And hover o'er the land until I come.*

*See to thine oath, away!*

*Ugo. This welcome task,*

*And deed of mercy too, brooks no delay.*

*Mar. Strange heaven is cruel, kind; severe, yet mild,*

*Gentle, though harsh; all opposites in one.*

*To think how soon we murdered three will run*

*And sing along the flowery tops of bliss!*

*For him who started first, a minute's pain;*

*For him who was the hero of our life,*

*A week or two's contention with the Church,*

*Subsiding in a sleep; for me, some woe,*

*A year of woe condensed within a day,*

*To end in flight where woe can never come!*

*They say the soul descends through Cancer's sign,*

*But goeth up mid Capricorn's blaze:*

*O to be climbing those celestial heights*

*With him who strips to go and him who waits!*

*Galileo returns, humiliated and heart-broken*

*by his recantation. Marina, meanwhile, has*

*taken poison. After a few agonized words with*

*her father, she makes her way to the obser-*

*vatory, whither the body of Agostino has been*

*removed, and expires as that of Galileo is borne*

*in. This concluding scene is remarkable for its*

*solemnity and suggestiveness. The stars look*

*down on the unroofed observatory where lie the*

*victims of their lore. The various types of*

humanity group themselves around the dead. The Duke enters as the representative of temporal power doing homage to the supremacy of Genius;—the warfare between natural impulse and the abstract domination of the Church is symbolized in the conventional moralizings of the Cardinal;—feminine sympathy with mental greatness is impersonated in the grief of the higher minds exercised under understood magic which pressed in the honest lamentations of Marina, Jacopo, and Lucia. In the gentle irony which thus depicts the frequent relation of the world to its benefactors, and yet reconciles our feelings to the inevitable, we are reminded even of our Great Dramatist in his spiritual moods. There is a mournful dignity in the concluding lines, addressed by the Duke to the Princess, who has throughout been the devoted friend of the astronomer, his daughter, and Agostino.—

*Sister, there's no succession in this reign,  
Else were a triple crown thy portion now,  
For thou art next-of-kin to those three there:—  
The Galileo purple waits on heir.*

Altogether, Dr. Brown has displayed faculties which with more obviousness of development might produce high results in the drama. We are not sure that the purest qualifications in this walk are those which at present find the warmest encouragement on the stage. But, with such discipline as we have suggested, the author has the power of appealing not unsuccessfully to that selecter tribunal whose suffrage, though it may not confer immediate popularity, insures ultimate fame.

*Inaugural Address delivered at the Opening of Queen's College, Cork. By Sir Robert Kane, President of the College, &c. Dublin, Hodges & Smith.*

THE Queen's Colleges in Ireland are the complement of the national school system in that country. The extension of the principle of united education irrespective of creed, from the humbler to the middle and higher classes of the community, was necessary to complete this great social concordat.

The propagation of knowledge is the fundamental condition of unanimity, and its pursuit in common the appointed means to accelerate the process. In a merely negative sense it is so, by the fact of its breaking up the existing forms of a sectarian classification of society. But its positive agency, likewise, by cementing the social bond in youth, and merging the passions of clan and creed in the more elevated rivalries of the intellectual Palæstra, gives a tenfold velocity to the progress of national concord.

These truths are, in fact, truisms to all who have not contracted moral *strabismus* from dis-united education. Those, however, who look away at the subject, if not now very considerable in number, are very vociferous in their opposition to a cause which militates against the prejudices imbibed by them from an opposite system, or against the interests that they have vested in it. The mere habit of feud, derived from the previous *régime* of party and cabal, cannot, besides, be laid by in a day. The "faction fight" is only intermitted in order to join forces against the promulgation of that law of general enlightenment which—however sure in the end to make both combatants pass, not under the spear but under the olive branch—is meanwhile compelled to do battle on its own account.

In the recent Inauguration, therefore, of the College of Cork, by its President, Sir Robert Kane, it is no matter of surprise that the grating sounds of the polemical camp,

With busy hammers closing rivets up,  
Should more than divide with the peaceful



strains of the groves of Academus the tone of his opening Address. It, in fact, simply represents that stage of education militant in Ireland which must of necessity precede education triumphant.

On the whole, this Address fully corroborates the author's well-earned reputation. Here and there, some slips of the pen in construction and some few exaggerated expressions are to be abated: but its general merits,—which are many and striking. There is an earnest and thoughtful spirit throughout it, that soon enlists the confidence of the reader, and shows him that it is a reality—a momentous one too—not mere speech-making, to which his attention is summoned. No ambition after fine writing—the besetting sin of Irish pens—interferes or jostles with the development of the subject; though, when its course becomes more elevated, the manner, ascending with the matter, satisfies the true requirements of style. In consequence of this sincerity, the argument is at once lucid and forcible,—boldly put, yet with that discretion which the handling of polemical questions—a species of spiritual *phlogiston* in Ireland—demands.

The controversial portion of this Address being unfortunately the gist of the matter, and that which of necessity exacted most of the author's attention—we proceed to furnish an extract or two from it.

Having shown the perfect security for the faith and morals of the student provided by the statutes of the Cork College, and by the appointment of deans of residence—clergymen selected from the different creeds and persuasions—to personally carry out these provisions,—and having shown that in the three Universities of Oxford, Cambridge, and Dublin, whilst these guarantees are amply supplied for the students who are members of the State Church, there are none whatsoever for the Roman Catholic or Dissenter,—the author finally proceeds to contrast the spiritual economy of the Cork College, in these particulars, with that of the Universities of the most Catholic countries in Europe, Belgium and Bavaria, and to exhibit the manifest superiority of the former. This is put with considerable force in the following observations.—The story of these new collegiate institutions and the question of their success are of so much importance, in many respects, that we go somewhat out of the lines which we habitually prescribe to ourselves, to keep the progress of the principles involved historically in view.—

“Let us examine what are the provisions that exist for the security of faith and morals in Catholic countries on the Continent. I shall not take France nor Prussia,—countries of which it has been the popular cry to say that education is not free, and that the tendency of education is adverse to morality and religion,—but I shall take the two countries in which religion is most powerful, to which reference has been made in describing what sort of colleges we ought to have in Ireland. I shall take Belgium and Bavaria. After the revolution which rendered Belgium an independent kingdom, the question of university education occupied the attention of its government, as one of the gravest moment. The heads of the Belgian church were fully consulted, and they surely deserved to be, from their right to co-operate in every measure of public welfare. The result has been the institution of three great colleges. One at Louvain, formed in the buildings of the old university, and hence popularly called by the name of the University of Louvain; the second college situated at Liège, and the third in Ghent. Students follow their studies in any of these colleges, but they do not there get their degrees. The degrees are given in Brussels by a commission, who yearly examine the students who present themselves, and who may come indifferently from those colleges. Now, how

are those colleges constituted? What course did the Belgian authorities take, when, after the revolution, they had in their own hands the power of giving to all those colleges a code of securities for faith and morals, which might have served us here as a model? They demanded to have Louvain absolutely and exclusively under their control, and consented to laws of government, absolutely without any provisions for moral discipline or religious instruction. What is the result? It is most fatal. It is such a result as every friend of education must deplore. It is a perpetual contest between the one which is a purely ecclesiastical institution and the others, which, patronized by the government, are placed in a condition of constant antagonism to the church authorities. What is the practical result? The college of Louvain contains only the university faculties, conducted on mediæval models, and educating only after the forms of old established universities. The colleges of Ghent and Liège contain the practical branches, to which the majority of the young men attach themselves. The schools of mines and engineering are at Liège. The schools of mechanics and of practical chemistry are at Ghent. There are great schools of medicine at both colleges. Hence the practical education is conducted at those colleges where there is no religion and no discipline. Would it not have been much better if, in Belgium, in place of one of the three colleges being exclusively religious, and the other two being thrown by antagonism into a state of apparent irreligion, that in every college there had been established a prudent and carefully-framed system of moral discipline and religious teaching, so that whilst no lay student should be forced to those observances which belong properly to those who are intended for the ecclesiastical state, there should be enforced from all students an observance of what their respective churches deem expedient, so that a high and pure condition of moral conduct and religious faith should be inevitable. But then we arrive absolutely at our own condition. That which, if done by the Belgian authorities, would have avoided so much dissension and so much rancour, has been done here—done with the approval and with the cognizance of the most exalted and most competent judges. In Belgium there are three colleges,—one with ultra-ecclesiastical discipline, attended generally by Catholic foreigners, whom the traditional fame of the Mediæval University brings to Louvain. The other two are colleges without religion, to which the majority of Belgian students are driven for practical education. We also have three colleges, none of them ecclesiastical in their constitution, none of them made over exclusively to a sect, but in them all there are by statute, and there will be strictly enforced a code of laws for securing faith and morals, which has been pronounced by most high authority of each of the leading churches, to afford all that the most scrupulous parent should desire. Now, as to the most Catholic part of Germany, as to Bavaria. In that country the control of education has been placed, as far as possible, under the church authorities. And what has been done? In the theological faculties, of course, strictly ecclesiastical discipline prevails; but in the faculties of law, of medicine, and of philosophy, and in the practical schools of engineering and of agriculture, what are the regulations? The students, before entering into the university, pass through gymnasia, like our preparatory schools, and in those gymnasia moral and religious discipline is strictly enforced. But in the university it is not thought of. It is a great misfortune; for in those universities of Bavaria, the students, although of an age when compulsory regulations would only provoke resistance, might yet be weaned by gentle advice from many deplorable irregularities. All here who are read in the literature of the Roman Catholic Church will recognize the name of Döllinger, the author of the most celebrated history of the church, who, chaplain of the king, represented the university of Munich in the Bavarian parliament; whose zeal for the church and for religion is beyond comment. What did he say when I explained to him the nature of the securities we propose to have for faith and morals in these colleges? He said he wished he could see any probability of their getting such discipline for their universities.”

The moral of the above is also thus happily expressed.—

“Yes, these colleges are founded for this country and for its people; not for a party nor for a class—not for an ascendancy nor for a creed; but that, in the pure and soul-enobling paths of intellectual glory, all ranks, all sects, all parties of the Irish people may unite—may learn to know and love each other—may soften down the recollections of those points on which they differ, by mutual recognition of the far larger field of faith and charity, and love of fatherland, in which they join; and whilst they struggle fairly and honourably to excel in their respective classes, they may keep alive the sacred common love of man to man, and learn to act in harmony and concert. Such is the directing principle of this college. To this great object every provision must be subordinate. Aught that could wrest this institution from the country and from the people, and could throw it into the hands of any exclusive section, would prove its doom. We do not want exclusive institutions. From age to age we have been forced to see the different elements of our population reared up in mutual ignorance, separated by barriers of social instinct—strengthened by misdirected education. Let us have done with this. Let us, at least, in the calm retreats of literature and of science, here so happily realized, render available to our general people those privileges of study from which they have been so long debarred, and diffuse widely and freely those humanizing influences before which the roughness of our imperfect civilization must give way.”

It may be hoped such appeals from men placed in educational authority for distinguished merit will, along with the agency of the system itself from which they emanate, contribute largely to accelerate that political and social amalgamation of the Irish people which, despite the inevitable agitations and fortuitous calamities of a state of transition, has been in sure though silent process since the era of Catholic emancipation.

### *The Life and Correspondence of the late Robert Southey, &c. &c. Vol. II.*

[Second Notice.]

It was mentioned at the close of our last notice that Southey took up his abode at Keswick early in 1803. This step was decided in part by the bad times,—which induced Mr. Longman to postpone the scheme of a *Bibliotheca Britannica*, a work projected to be superintended by Southey, and which would have rendered his residence near London indispensable. There is a sort of comfort in turning back to the contemplation of straits through which England has passed; and therefore we will give a glance towards the complaints of authors and tradesmen at the beginning of our century.—

“Amadis is most abominably printed; never book had more printer's blunders: how it sells is not in my power to say,—in all likelihood, badly; for all trade is suspended to a degree scarcely credible. I heard some authentic instances at Bristol. Hall, the grocer, used to have tea and sugar weighed out in pounds and half pounds, &c., on a Saturday night, for his country customers. Thirty years' established business enabled him to proportion the quantity to this regular demand almost to a nicety. He has had as much as twenty pounds' worth uncalled for. Mrs. Morgan on a Saturday used to take, upon the average, 30l. in her shop; she now does not take 5l. But this will wear away. I am quite provoked at the folly of any man who can feel a moment's fear for this country at this time.”

The following picture,—of totally different quality,—a lake landscape, is so brightly coloured as to be worth separate admiration.—

“The mountains, on Thursday evening, before the sun was quite down or the moon bright, were all of one dead-blue colour; their rifts, and rocks, and swells, and scars had all disappeared,—the surface was perfectly uniform, nothing but the outline distinct; and this even surface of dead blue, from its unnatural uniformity, made them, though not trans-



parent, appear transvius,—as though they were of some soft or cloudy texture through which you could have passed. I never saw any appearance so perfectly unreal. Sometimes a blazing sunset seems to steep them through and through with red light; or it is a cloudy morning, and the sunshine slants down through a rift in the clouds, and the pillar of light makes the spot whereon it falls so emerald green that it looks like a little field of Paradise. At night you lose the mountains, and the wind so stirs up the lake that it looks like the sea by moonlight. Just behind the house rises a fine mountain, by name Latrigg; it joins Skiddaw; we walked up yesterday,—a winding path of three quarters of an hour, and then rode down on our own burros in seven minutes. Jesu-Maria-Jozé! that was a noble ride! but I will have a saddle made for my burro next time. The path of our slide is still to be seen from the garden—so near is it. One of these days I will descend Skiddaw in the same manner, and so immortalize myself."

Here is a notice of one or two Lake guests and residents.—

"Hazlitt, whom you saw at Paris, has been here; a man of real genius. He has made a very fine picture of Coleridge for Sir George Beaumont, which is said to be in Titian's manner; he has also painted Wordsworth, but so dismally, though Wordsworth's face is his idea of physiognomical perfection, that one of his friends, on seeing it, exclaimed, 'At the gallows—deeply affected by his deserved fate—yet determined to die like a man;' and if you saw the picture you would admire the criticism. We have a neighbour here who also knows you—Wilkinson, a clergyman, who draws, if not with much genius, with great industry and most useful fidelity. I have learnt a good deal by examining his collection of etchings. Holcroft, I hear, has discovered, to his own exceeding delight, prophetic portraits of himself and Coleridge among the damned in your Michael Angelo."

We shall next quote from a letter addressed to Lieut. Southey, H.M.S. Galatea, which pleasantly illustrates the Poet's eagerness and universality as a collector.—

"I think it possible, Tom, that you might collect some interesting information from the negroes, by inquiries of any who may wait upon you, if they be at all intelligent, concerning their own country; principally what their superstitions are—as Whom do they worship? Do they ever see apparitions? Where do the dead go? What are their burial, their birth, their marriage ceremonies? What their charms or remedies for sickness? What the power of their priests; and how the priests are chosen, whether from among the people, or if a separate breed, as the Levites and Bramins? You will easily see with what other questions these might be followed up; and by noting down the country of the negro, with what information he gave, it seems to me very likely that a very valuable account of their manners and feelings might be collected. Ask also if they know anything of Timbuctoo, the city which is sought after with so much curiosity as being the centre of the internal commerce of Africa. This is the way to collect facts respecting the native Africans and their country. I would engage, in twelve months, were I in the West Indies, to get materials for a volume that should contain more real importancies than all travellers have yet brought home. Ask also what beasts are in their country; they will not know English names for them, but can describe them so that you will know them: the unicorn is believed to exist by me as well as by many others—you will not mistake the rhinoceros for one. Inquire also, for a land crocodile, who grows to the length of six, eight, or ten feet, having a tongue slit like a snake's; my Portuguese speak of such animals in South Africa—they may exist in the western provinces."

To this follows a memorandum of a commission offered to Southey by Mr. Thomson, the friend of Burns, for songs to be written to Welsh airs:—which was discreetly declined. Rarely, indeed, has there been poet less of a song-writer than Southey, albeit he was not unmusical in his cadences. On the contrary, even Milton himself, though skilled in the art and an organ-player, has not left better models for recitative than he did in his 'Thalaba' and 'Kehama,'

The versification of these is richly worthy the study of any one seriously contemplating the improvement of opera-text, as containing specimens of high thoughts and graceful fancies, arranged in harmonious periods such as would furnish "stuff" for the musical composer to work upon,—rich but not too cumbrous, simple but never meagre.

The next item in this *cento* of miscellaneous extract refers to far different topics;—being the commencement of a letter to Coleridge, characteristic both of its writer and of the friend addressed.—

"I am not sorry that you gave Godwin a dressing, and should not be sorry if he were occasionally to remember it with the comfortable reflection '*in vino veritas*'; for, in plain truth, already it does vex me to see you so lavish of the outward and visible signs of friendship, and to know that a set of fellows whom you do not care for and ought not to care for boast everywhere of your intimacy, and with good reason, to the best of their understanding. You have accustomed yourself to talk affectionately and write affectionately to your friends, till the expressions of affection flow by habit in your conversation and in your letters, and pass for more than they are worth. The worst of all this is, that your letters will one day rise up in judgment against you, (for be sure, that hundreds which you have forgotten are hoarded up for some Curl or Philips of the next generation,) and you will be convicted of a double dealing, which, though you do not design, you certainly do practise. And now that I am writing affectionately *more meo*, I will let out a little more. You say in yours to Sara, that you love and honour me; upon my soul I believe you: but if I did not thoroughly believe it before, your saying so is the thing of all things that would make me open my eyes and look about me to see if I were not deceived. Perhaps I am too intolerant to these kind of phrases; but, indeed, when they are true, they may be excused, and when they are not, there is no excuse for them. \* \* Your feelings go naked—I cover mine with a bear-skin. I will not say that you harden yours by your mode, but I am sure that mine are the warmer for their clothing. . . . It is possible, or probable, that I err as much as you in an opposite extreme, and may make enemies where you would make friends; but there is a danger that you may sometimes excite dislike in persons of whose approbation you would yourself be desirous. You know me well enough to know in what temper this has been written, and to know that it has been some exertion; for the same habit which makes me prefer sitting silent to offering contradiction, makes me often withhold censure when, perhaps, in strictness of moral duty, it ought to be applied. The medicine might have been sweetened perhaps; but, dear Coleridge, take the simple bitters, and leave the sweetmeats by themselves."

Then comes the passage abusing the author of 'St. Leon,' referred to in our last, succeeded by this hearty little codicil.—

"I am never ashamed of letting out my *dislikes*, however, and, what is a good thing, never afraid; so let him abuse me, and we'll be at war."

Not less hearty than the above outpouring of a tiny phial of gall is the following outbreak of delight, in which every book-collector will join cordially.—

"You would rejoice with me were you now at Keswick, at the tidings that a box of books is safely harboured in the Mersey; so that for the next fortnight I shall be more interested in the news of Fletcher than of Bonaparte. It contains some duplicates of the lost cargo; among them the collection of the oldest Spanish poems, in which is a metrical romance upon the Cid. I shall sometimes want you for a Gothic etymology. Talk of the happiness of getting a great prize in the lottery! What is that to the opening a box of books! The joy upon lifting up the cover must be something like what we shall feel when Peter the Porter opens the door up-stairs, and says, Please to walk in, sir. That I shall never be paid for my labour according to the current value of time and labour, is tolerably certain; but if any one should offer me 10,000% to forego that labour,

I should bid him and his money go to the devil, for twice the sum could not purchase me half the enjoyment. It will be a great delight to me in the next world, to take a fly and visit these old worthies, who are my only society here, and to tell them what excellent company I found them here at the lakes or Cumberland, two centuries after they had been dead and turned to dust. In plain truth, I exist more among the dead than the living, and think more about them, and perhaps, feel more about them."

We shall conclude the present notice with glances at metropolitan society. The following was written by Southey after returning from a visit to London in the year 1804,—the person addressed being Coleridge.—

"I was worn to the very bone by fatigue in London,—more walking in one day than I usually take in a month; more waste of breath in talking than serves for three months' consumption in the country; add to this a most abominable cold, affecting chest, head, eyes and nose. It was impossible to see half the persons whom I wished to see, and ought to have seen, without prolonging my stay to an inconvenient time, and an unreasonable length of absence from home. \* \* I went into the Exhibition merely to see your picture, which perfectly provoked me. Hazlitt's does look as if you were on your trial, and certainly had stolen the horse; but then you did it cleverly,—it had been a deep, well-laid scheme, and it was no fault of yours that you had been detected. But this portrait by Northcote looks like a grinning idiot; and the worst is, that it is just like enough to pass for a good likeness, with those who only know your features imperfectly. Dance's drawing has that merit at least, that nobody would ever suspect you of having been the original. \* \* I dined with Sotheby, and met there Henley, a man every way to my taste. Sotheby was very civil, and as his civility has not that smoothness so common among the vagabonds of fashion, I took it in good part. He is what I should call a clever man. Other lions were Price, the picturesque man, and Davies Giddy, whose face ought to be perpetuated in marble for the honour of mathematics. Such a forehead I never saw. I also met Dr. — at dinner; who, after a long silence, broke out into a discourse upon the properties of the conjunction *Quam*. Except his quumical knowledge, which is as profound as you will imagine, he knows nothing but bibliography, or the science of title-pages, impresses and dates. It was a relief to leave him, and find his brother, the captain, at Rickman's, smoking after supper, and letting out puffs at the one corner of his mouth and puns at the other. The captain hath a son,—begotten, according to Lamb, upon a mermaid; and thus far is certain, that he is the queerest fish out of water. A paralytic affection in childhood has kept one side of his face stationary, while the other has continued to grow, and the two sides form the most ridiculous whole you can imagine; the boy, however, is a sharp lad, the inside not having suffered."

Here is a judgment "in little" of some "men of mark" belonging to Modern Athens, A.D. 1805.

"Elmsley will have told you of our adventures in Scotland, if the non-adventures of a journey in Great Britain at this age of the world can deserve that name. I am returned with much pleasant matter of remembrance; well pleased with Walter Scott, with Johnny Armstrong's Castle on the Esk, with pleasant Tiviotdale, with the Tweed and the Yarrow: astonished at Edinburgh, delighted with Melrose, sick of Presbyterianism, and, above all things, thankful that I am an Englishman and not a Scotchman. The Edinburgh Reviewers I like well as companions, and think little of as anything else. Elmsley has more knowledge and a sounder mind than any or all of them. I could learn more from him in a day than they could all teach me in a year. Therefore I saw them to disadvantage, inasmuch as I had better company at home. And, in plain English, living as I have done, and by God's blessing still continue to do, in habits of intimate intercourse with such men as Rickman, Wm. Taylor, Wordsworth, and Coleridge, the Scotchmen did certainly appear to me very pigmies,—literatuli. \* \* My trip to Edinburgh was pleasant. I went to accompany Elmsley. We staid three days with Walter Scott, at Ashiestiel, the name of his house on the banks of the Tweed. I



saw all the scenery of his Lay of the Last Minstrel, a poem which you will read with great pleasure when you come to England. And I went salmon-spearing on the Tweed, in which, though I struck at no fish, I bore my part, and managed one end of the boat with a long spear."

It subsequently appears that Mr. Jeffrey's review of 'Madoc' was displeasing to the author of the epic; who permitted himself—after the fashion of the Ettrick Shepherd when talking of "huz Teviotdale Poets"—to write of himself as a poet in one and the same paragraph with "Homer, Shakspeare, and Milton,"—and who promised Mr. Rickman "that he would like 'Madoc' better if ever he read it again." Scott's 'Lay' was "flipped off" in a much more summary and patronizing fashion.—

"I have read Scott's poem this evening, and like it much. It has the fault of mixed language which you mentioned, and which I expected; and it has the same obscurity, or to speak more accurately, the same want of perspicuousness as his Glenfinlas. I suspect that Scott did not write poetry enough when a boy, for he has little command of language. His vocabulary of the obsolete is ample; but in general his words march up stiffly, like half-trained recruits,—neither a natural walk, nor a measured march which practice has made natural. But I like his poem, for it is poetry, and in a company of strangers I would not mention that it had any faults. The beginning of the story is too like Coleridge's Christobell, which he had seen; the very line, 'Jesu Maria, shield her well!' is caught from it. When you see the Christobell, you will not doubt that Scott has imitated it; I do not think designedly, but the echo was in his ear, not for emulation, but *propter amorem*."

It remains to be seen whether the *Icaria Review of Anno Cabet 500* will pronounce the epic or the ballad-romance to be after its kind the better and the more interesting to those who sit down to read poetry. Meanwhile, the above comparisons, confessions, and criticisms are characteristic—and as such interesting, if not very engaging.

*Representative Men. Seven Lectures.* By Ralph Waldo Emerson. Chapman.

We suppose it is necessary for the race of prophets to speak in symbols. The modern oracles are at least equal to the ancient in obscurity. From those old sounds which issued from the cave of Trophonius down to the voice which floats to us from the savannahs of the West the same mysteries have been pronounced in all ages in the same mysterious language.—If the book before us contain prophecies, they have the appropriate quality of being unintelligible. Can any of our readers interpret the following.—

"Each man seeks those of different quality from his own, and such as are good of their kind; this is, he seeks other men and the *otherest* [!]. The stronger the nature, the more it is reactive. Let us have the quality pure. A little genius let us leave alone. A main difference between men is whether they attend their own affairs or not. Man is that noble endogenous plant which grows like the palm from within outward. His own affair, though impossible to others, he can open with celerity and in sport. It is easy to sugar to be sweet and to nitre to be salt."

Is this inspiration or folly? If the reader understand or delight in it, there is a pleasure in store for him,—for the first three of Mr. Emerson's lectures contain a good deal more to match. This unintelligibility is a thing to be seriously lamented in a writer who has a vein of pure and original thought underlying his verbal phantasies. The oracle might with advantage take to heart one of his own lessons. Every thought, Mr. Emerson says, which is clearly conceived can be clearly expressed. We think so too.

Of the last four lectures in this volume we can

speak in terms of higher praise. Therhapsodies on "The Uses of Great Men," on "Plato," and on "Swedenborg," are for the most part out of our region. Even where we fancy we understand the oracle—and we are rarely certain of that—we can seldom accept its dogmas. With "Montaigne," with "Shakspeare," with "Napoleon," and with "Goethe" we are more at home:—our guide is also more at home, and all the better for it. What he sees clearly he expresses well, and with the freshness and energy of an unworn mind.

The idea of this series of lectures is a good one; though there are of necessity exceptions to be taken to the way in which it is realized. The idea is, to expose the course, the varieties, of human life, as exhibited in the world's great men. The subject is one of vast dimensions. Every great race which has contributed its quota to civilization—every great system of theology or philosophy—should send a representative to such a congress. All actions, all ideas should find exposition. The biographies, so to speak, of art, of morals, of legislation should be given. But as on a canvas necessarily limited only a few figures can be drawn,—then comes in the difficulty of selection. What are the greatest elements of man, of society, of civilization? Those chosen by Mr. Emerson for exposition are,—Philosophy, Mysticism, Doubt, Poetry, Action, Culture. Many will deny that these things adequately represent the living world. Faith is omitted, though "Doubt" has a place, in the category. Love is away. Mysticism is there,—but no place is found for Religion. The category is at least defective. Countries are ill represented. Rome and Palestine ought surely to have had representatives. Nor are the men themselves free from objection. If the six "foremost men of all this world" are to be marked off, Plato and Shakspeare would of course be retained; but would Swedenborg, Montaigne, or Goethe? Many sound objections might be taken to Mr. Emerson's plan:—but let us rather pass on to consider what has been done.

Mr. Emerson has a cordial love for "old Montaigne;" a love which leads him to assign a greater importance to the "skeptical" than he stands for in history. We share this weakness too far ourselves not to feel an interest in the story of how the prophet became acquainted with the writings of the unbeliever.—

"A single odd volume of Cotton's translation of the Essays remained to me from my father's library, when a boy. It lay long neglected, until, after many years, when I was newly escaped from college, I read the book, and procured the remaining volumes. I remember the delight and wonder in which I lived with it. It seemed to me as if I had myself written the book in some former life, so sincerely it spoke to my thought and experience. It happened, when in Paris, in 1833, that in the cemetery of Père la Chaise, I came to a tomb of Auguste Collignon, who died in 1830, aged 63 years, and who, said the monument, 'lived to do right, and had formed himself to virtue on the Essays of Montaigne.' Some years later, I became acquainted with an accomplished English poet, John Sterling, and in prosecuting my correspondence, I found that, from a love of Montaigne, he had made a pilgrimage to his chateau, in Perigord, and, after 250 years, had copied from the walls of his library the inscriptions Montaigne had written there. That journal of Mr. Sterling's, published in the 'Westminster Review,' Hazlitt has reprinted in the *Prolegomena* to his edition of the Essays. I heard with pleasure that one of the newly-discovered autographs of William Shakspeare was in a copy of Florio's translation of Montaigne. It is the only book which we certainly know to have been in the poet's library. And, oddly enough, the duplicate copy of Florio which the British Museum purchased with the view of protecting the Shakspeare autograph (as I was informed in the Museum), turned out to have the autograph of Ben Jonson on the fly-leaf. Leigh Hunt relates of Lord Byron, that Montaigne

was the only great writer of past times whom he read with avowed satisfaction. Other coincidences, not needful to be mentioned here, concurred to make this old Gascon still new and immortal for me."

Prefixed to the essay on Montaigne is a quaint account of what may be called the sceptical element in man's mind and in society; from which we will transcribe a passage.—

"Things always bring their own philosophy with them, that is, prudence. No man acquires property without acquiring with it a little arithmetic also. In England, the richest country that ever existed, property stands far more compared with personal ability than in any other. After dinner, a man believes less, denies more; verities have lost some charm. After dinner, arithmetic is the only science: ideas are disturbing, incendiary, follies of young men, repudiated by the solid portion of society: and a man comes to be valued by his athletic and animal qualities. Spence relates that Mr. Pope was with Sir Godfrey Kneller, one day, when his nephew, a Guinea trader, came in. 'Nephew,' said Sir Godfrey, 'you have the honour of seeing the two greatest men in the world.'—'I don't know how great men you may be,' said the Guinea man, 'but I don't like your looks. I have often bought a man much better than both of you, all muscles and bones, for ten guineas.' Thus the men of the senses revenge themselves on the professors, and repay scorn for scorn. The first had leaped to conclusions not yet ripe, and say more than is true; the others make themselves merry with the philosopher, and weigh man by the pound. They believe that mustard bites the tongue, that pepper is hot, friction-matches are incendiary, revolvers to be avoided, and suspenders hold up pantaloons; that there is much sentiment in a chest of tea; and a man will be eloquent if you give him good wine. Are you tender and scrupulous, you must eat more mince-pie. They hold that Luther had milk in him when he said,—

Wer nicht liebt wein, weib, und gesang,  
Der bleibt ein Narr sein Leben lang;

and when he advised a young scholar perplexed with foreordination and free-will, to get well drunk. 'The nerves,' says Cabanis, 'they are the man.' My neighbour, a jolly farmer in the tavern bar-room, thinks that the use of money is sure and speedy spending: 'For his part,' he says, 'he puts his down his neck, and gets the good of it.' The inconvenience of this way of thinking is, that it runs into indifference, and then into disgust. Life is eating us up. We shall be fables presently. Keep cool: it will be all one a hundred years hence. Life's well enough, but we shall be glad to get out of it, and they will all be glad to have us. Why should we fret and drudge? Our meat will taste to-morrow as it did yesterday, and we may at last have had enough of it. 'Ah,' said my languid gentleman at Oxford, 'there's nothing new, or true,—and no matter.' With a little more bitterness, the cynic moans. Our life is like an ass led to market by a bundle of hay being carried before him; he sees nothing but the bundle of hay. 'There is so much trouble in coming into the world,' said Lord Bolingbroke, 'and so much more, as well as meanness, in going out of it, that 'tis hardly worth while to be here at all.' I knew a philosopher of this kidney who was accustomed briefly to sum up his experience of human nature in saying, 'Mankind is a damned rascal;' and the natural corollary is pretty sure to follow,—'The world lives by humbug, and so will I.' And again.—

"There is much to say on all sides. Who shall forbid a wise scepticism, seeing that there is no practical question on which anything more than an approximate solution can be had? Is not marriage an open question, when it is alleged, from the beginning of the world, that such as are in the institution wish to get out; and such as are out wish to get in: and the reply of Socrates to him who asked whether he should choose a wife still remains reasonable, 'That whether he should choose one or not, he would repent it.' Is not the State a question? All society is divided in opinion on the subject of the State. • • Remember the open question between the present order of 'competition' and the friends of 'attractive and associated labour.' The generous minds embrace the proposition of labour shared by all; it is the only honesty; nothing else is safe. It is from



the poor man's hut alone that strength and virtue come: and yet, on the other side, it is alleged, that labour impairs the form, and breaks the spirit of man, and the labourers cry unanimously, 'we have no thoughts.' Culture, how indispensable! I cannot forgive you the want of accomplishments: and yet culture will destroy that chiefest beauty of spontaneousness. Excellent is culture for a savage; but once let him read in the book, and he is no longer able not to think of Plutarch's heroes."

In all these facts and inferences Mr. Emerson finds the historical basis for the sort of scepticism which he brings Montaigne forward to represent.

Of Shakspeare and Napoleon—poetry and action—Mr. Emerson has a number of pointed and epigrammatic things to say,—but little that is novel. The ground was pre-occupied. Coming after Coleridge and Channing, a writer, be he prophet or prosy, will have no easy task if he undertake to fix attention by mere speculation and ingenious rhetoric. Yet these essays abound in picturesque passages; and the "Shakspeare" contains more than one paragraph which might be advantageously added to the notes in a Variorum edition of the poet.—We add a character of Goethe, by way of conclusion.

"I dare not say that Goethe ascended to the highest grounds from which genius has spoken. He has not worshipped the highest unity; he is incapable of a self-surrender to the moral sentiment. There are nobler strains in poetry than any he has sounded. There are writers poorer in talent whose tone is purer, and more touches the heart. Goethe can never be dear to men. His is not even the devotion to pure truth; but to truth for the sake of culture. He has no aims less large than the conquest of universal nature, of universal truth to be his portion: a man not to be bribed, nor deceived, nor overawed; of a stoical self-demand and self-denial, and having one test for all men, *What can you teach me?* All possessions are valued by him for that only; rank, privileges, health, time, being itself. He is the type of culture, the amateur of all arts and sciences and events: artistic, but not artist; spiritual, but not spiritualist. There is nothing he had not a right to know; there is no weapon in the armoury of universal genius he did not take into his hand, but with peremptory heed that he should not be for a moment prejudiced by his instruments. He lays a ray of light under every fact, and between himself and his dearest property. From him nothing was hid, nothing withholden. The lurking dæmons sat to him; and the saint who saw the dæmons; and the metaphysical elements took form. 'Piety itself is no aim,' he said, 'but only a means whereby through purest inward peace we may attain to highest culture.' And his penetration of every secret of the Fine Arts will make Goethe still more statuesque. His affections help him, like women employed by Cicero to worm out the secret of conspirators. Enmities he has none. Enemy of him who may be, if so you shall teach him aught which your good will cannot,—were it only what experience will accrue from your ruin. Enemy and welcome, but enemy on high terms. He cannot hate anybody; his time is worth too much. Temperamental antagonisms may be suffered, but like feuds of emperors who fight dignifiedly across kingdoms. \* \* He is fragmentary; a writer of occasional poems, and of an encyclopædia of sentences. When he sits down to write a drama or a tale, he collects and sorts his observations from a hundred sides, and combines them into the body as fitly as he can. A great deal refuses to incorporate: this he adds loosely, as letters of the parties, leaves from their journals, or the like. A great deal still is left, that will not find any place. This the bookbinder alone can give any cohesion to: and hence notwithstanding the looseness of many of his works, we have volumes of detached paragraphs, aphorisms, *Xenien*, &c."

We have said and quoted enough to show that this is not an ordinary book. It is remarkable as a suggestion of what its author *may* do hereafter when he descends from his tripod and walks the common earth. The true ore is in this American:—its uses ought not to be lost to

mankind through a fantastic and wayward fancy for wasting it in unsubstantial filagree work.

#### NEW TALES.

THE tales noticed this week are all a little out of the common range of novels, not merely in form, but in subject. Number One is a bulky single volume of classical romance. Number Two is a substantial though slenderer tome, containing an autobiography claiming to be admitted among the mysterious and romantic confessions which have stirred the world in considerable numbers since the days when Byron first stirred the fire of sympathy by his violent and gloomy self-expositions.—Number Three is the most slight in bulk, but perhaps the highest in pretension, being a transcendental (not to say mysterious) and instructive allegory.

*Mina: a Tale of the Days of Nero and the Early Christians!* By the Rev. Andrew Ross, Minister of the United Presbyterian Church, Pitcairn.

This story was completed, says an epilogue, at the instance of the "manly and generous encouragement of the Rev. George Gilfillan." The Reverend manly encourager has something to answer for, if the above "be a true bill." He has "cheered on" yet one more victim who has mistaken his vocation to disappointment and to the trunk-shops! This may sound harsh; but harsher in the ear of every real lover of literature is the roar of the flood of trashy fiction and pompous pretence,—and the families of Messrs. *Worldly-Wiseman* and *Praise-All* are they who open the sluices and let out the devastating waters. Fancy a "Tale of the Days of Nero" garnished with allusions to 'The Ancient Mariner'!—to Cowper's worn-out antagonism of 'Country and Town'!—with a quotation from Haydon's lectures!—from 'Hamlet'!—from Dr. Eadie's 'Essay on the Catacombs'!—from 'The Merchant of Venice'!—from Pollok!—from Byron's stanzas on the Sea!—from Campbell's 'Ye mariners'!—to say nothing of allusions to John Milton, 'Gertrude of Wyoming,' Lady Morgan, &c. &c.!—Fancy the flow of a story concerning "the early Christians" interrupted for thirty closely-printed pages in order that the reverend author may "thump his cushion" against intellect-worship, especially in the persons of MM. Fourier, Cabot and Proudhon,—and deliver his wise saws touching the future destinies of America and France! Such wonders are to be found in 'Mina;' and we only wonder that their number is not greater,—since Mr. Ross seems alike perplexed how to get rid of his Tyrant in a passion and of his Christians under persecution,—and since there are abundant topics and names and books extant which have as much relation to his style, and as close an affinity with his subject, as the above.

Happily we are out of "the shallows," if not precisely in deep water, when dealing with *St. Leger; or, the Threads of Life*. The fault of this story—tried by the rules of its class—is, that too many of the "threads" are loose threads, which might have been neatly fastened, knotted or otherwise intertwined,—thus rescuing the web from a fragmentary (not to say ragged) appearance. We are perpetually expecting relief from misgivings, the solution of mysteries, some occupation found for the characters hurried past us which shall justify their tantalizing introduction and withdrawal. Probability there is none; but this, as we have a hundred times said, we care not to find, if only the improbability be grappled with boldly and arranged with a due attention to the theory of discords. Here, however, we begin in an old Warwickshire mansion under the shadow of a prophecy; thence we are whirled to Scotland—to the Western Isles—to Leipsic—with a disdain of

coherence which is vexatious. For "here, there, and everywhere" the author of 'St. Leger' gives indications of passionate and romantic power, such as renders us recusant on finding the same devoted to merely doing the bidding of aimless extravagance. The story of Wolfgang Hegewisch ought to have convinced its writer's self that he is most effective when he is most connected in his narrations. To trace a meaning or a purpose in this curious yet not unpromising book (supposing it the work of a young writer) is to us so difficult as to be next to impossible.

*The Poor Artist; or, Seven Eyesights and One Object*. The moral of this thoughtful and ingenious little tale is stated, we apprehend, in its closing words,—which set forth "the wonderful fact in Nature, that there are as many different worlds as there are different organs of sight; and that the Creator has thus made for each different species an infinity out of one set of objects."—This is not very clearly propounded, it must be confessed. Neither is the story of the Poor Artist—beginning with his struggles to obtain fame, money and a wife, and continuing with his colloquies with Cat, Bee, Ant, Fish and other critics, who perplex him with their conflicting philosophies while he is painting in the open air—told in so neat and intelligible a manner as is demanded to set off the invention. Nevertheless, the tale contains an idea systematically wrought out;—and is thus rendered better worth perusal than the generality of its family.

*Notitia Cestriensis; or, Historical Notices of the Diocese of Chester*. By the Right Rev. Francis Gastrell, D.D., Lord Bishop of Chester. Now first printed from the original Manuscript, with illustrative and explanatory Notes, by the Rev. F. R. Raines, M.A., F.S.A. Vol. II. Part I.—*The Coucher Book or Chartulary of Whalley Abbey*. Edited by W. A. Hulton, Esq. Vol. IV.—*The Diary of the Rev. Henry Newcome, from September 30, 1661, to September 29, 1663*.—Published for the Chetham Society.

It has been said that every Society, political, literary, or social, whatever merits or demerits it may otherwise possess, is marked by some one peculiar characteristic. In the case of the Society whose last three publications are now before us, we have little hesitation in saying that its peculiar characteristic (with some exceptions) is unmitigable dullness. Again and again, in successively turning over these well-bound volumes, have we been vexed to think that so much excellent printing and paper must early come "to base household uses," or increase the already redundant stores of the trunk-maker. Here is first, 'Notitia Cestriensis;'—from its second title, 'Historical Notices of the Diocese of Chester,' might not the reader conclude that he should meet with some right pleasant and amusing, though perhaps gossiping, notices of that ancient county palatine, whose ecclesiastical as well as local history so abounds in subjects of interest? But what do we find?—mere dry entries of matters that have long ceased to interest any one. "Ashton-under-Line, anno 1557, Crown presented, Hugo Griffith, in Decretis Doctor."—"Leave to build a new Gallery, and add to y<sup>e</sup> old one, anno 1719."—"Anno 1662. Faculty to Vicar of Bolton to execute the office of a Preacher on ye usuall dayes appointed for Lectures in that Church. The Clerk is chosen according to the 91st canon, and his salary is 9*l.* per annum, besides Church dues."—"Milnrow. Certified, 13*l.* 13*s.* 6*d.*; viz., 3*l.* 6*s.* 8*d.* paid by the Impropriator, 8*l.* 18*s.* 6*d.* out of y<sup>e</sup> seats, and 1*l.* 8*s.* 4*d.* from a Loft or Gallery." Such are specimens taken at random from the book before us; and however



interesting they might have been to Bishop Gastrell a hundred years ago, we think even the inhabitants of the diocese of Chester will feel little interest in them now. The text occupies but a small portion; the notes taking up full three-fourths of the volume. These notes have evidently cost the reverend editor much pains; they, however, partake of the general dullness. Indeed, ecclesiastical subjects, although occasionally relieved by lighter matter respecting new churches and repaired steeples, "votive" stained glass windows, and "votive fonts" duly graced with inscriptions in black letter and "with covers,"—can have little interest for either the literary world or the general reader. We may remark, also, that this is a second volume, and that we are promised a third.

The next volume before us is 'The Coucher Book,' or rather a continuation of the Coucher Book of Whalley Abbey. Of this, two hundred and fifty pages are occupied with grants and releases, and such like documents, of various lands and tenements belonging to the Abbey, all printed in their original Latin. Appended are, the survey of the abbey possessions, taken soon after the dissolution, and the inventory of the furniture, plate, and vestments belonging to it. The inventory alone is rather interesting; and the description of the copes and vestments adorned with their quaint embroidery must be most pleasant to fair ladies meditating church needlework. Here is a vestment of green velvet, "with an Image of Sainte Michael imbroidered on the bak;"—"a cope of white damaske bawdekyn with an image of Sainte Martin on the breste;"—one of red velvet adorned with flowers; and "a payer of knett gloves with a roose of gold imbroydered, sett with perle and ii. small safes in eyther of them." The mention of knit gloves here is curious; since it has generally been believed that knitting was not invented until about the close of the 16th century. With the single exception of this inventory, the book is utterly valueless, save to the searcher for legal documents;—and we pass on to the third.

The title of this, 'The Diary of the Rev. Henry Newcome,' is calculated to awaken attention,—since any memoranda of the Nonconformist minister who not only occupies a page of commendation in Calamy, but who was so highly esteemed by Baxter and—as we learn from the contemporary lives of Philip and Matthew Henry—was considered the leading man at the period of the Revolution among the Lancashire and Cheshire Dissenters, could scarcely, we think, but possess some interest. This 'Diary,' ample enough as it is—for it fills more than two hundred pages with the record of only two years—is, however, as valueless as a record of the times as it is unfitted for general perusal. Indeed, the daily memoranda of a family man in straitened circumstances, in ill health, and continually troubled with fears—fears which the sad changes of the times rendered natural enough—could scarcely be expected to afford subjects on which the minds of men, almost two hundred years after, could dwell with much interest. And then, these very memoranda are evidently made for no eye but his own; and we feel as though admitted to a privacy to which we have no claim, when the inmost thoughts and feelings of the good man's heart—his struggling endeavours to do what he deems to be right, his regretful sorrow for what he feels to be wrong, his earnest aspirations for guidance, for light where all seems dark before him,—the natural promptings, be it remembered, of every mind that has looked solemnly on the mystery of life—are all paraded in letter-press before us.

Much of this 'Diary' consists of mere pocket-book entries. What possible advantage in the year 1850 can we have in the fact, "Set y<sup>e</sup> glasier on worke. Went after to Strangways w<sup>th</sup> I staid an houre or 2, and found them prety well, after a g<sup>t</sup> crosse & loss about the Mills, now lately taken from them;" or, "I visited M<sup>rs</sup> Ryland's childe y<sup>t</sup> was weake & ready to dy, and it soone after dyed. In y<sup>e</sup> after-noon I spent a deale of time seekeinge y<sup>t</sup> same paper. My wife had readied my studdy whilst I was out & it was gone. I sought it 2 or 3 houres, & could not finde it?" But other entries are even less fitted for publication. Why, because in 1661 poor Henry Newcome finds that tobacco takes him off his studies, and he makes a private memorandum to be more sparing in its use, should the Chetham Society take pains duly to publish it to the world; together with the equally unimportant facts to the general reader, that in rebuking his servant he fell into an undue passion, and that when intending to study hard at his sermon he was "stupid"? We were certainly inclined to smile at many entries, had we not remembered how few of us could pass equally well through the severe test of having our most private memoranda thus exposed to the world. There is a naive feeling and conscientiousness about the following, that makes us respect the man.—

"The last night iust as I went to bed wee received a doleful letter from my sister Anne Manw: to borrow £5 to save her cow y<sup>t</sup> is iust taken from her. I know not w<sup>t</sup> to do in y<sup>e</sup> case. Y<sup>r</sup> are y<sup>e</sup> thgs.—Cons: 1, My owne unsettled maintenance.—2, Y<sup>t</sup> I have noth: beforehand.—3, Y<sup>t</sup> I must as good as borrow it mys.—4, Y<sup>t</sup> y<sup>e</sup> is little hopes ever to receive it ag: from her.—Pro: 1, If I should turne my eare from her cry, how shall God heare mee.—2, Wee are of kin & so have some ty to helpe her.—3, 2 places of scripture say much to mee. Prov. iii, 27, 28.—Jam. ii, 16.—4, If it is somewh: difficult to mee, it is an extremity unto her.—5, God can soone make it out to mee. He will repay it if I doe it for him.—6, I doe doe it for his sake: i, To supply her crying necessity. ii, To prevent her sin, for I beleive she would g<sup>tly</sup> offend by impatience if wee doe not doe it.—7, If I had some bargain of bookes I should goe nigh to straine mys: to doe it, & shall I not doe as much for X<sup>t</sup> & his members? I resolve y<sup>r</sup>fi: to doe someth: herein as well as I can."

"So," he adds in a note, "I lent 40<sup>s</sup>. not looking for it again; and three years after when I thought not of it, it came again and did me some special pleasure just at y<sup>e</sup> time."

The various notices of the persons who formed part of his congregation, and were in sickness, want, or any trouble, exhibit Newcome as an affectionate friend, and will go far to illustrate and account for the strong attachment which, in almost every case, bound the severed congregation to their silenced Nonconforming minister. There are many entries recording Newcome's fears of separation from his people, and which abundantly prove that a maintenance had no share in his anxieties. Here and there we find a few traits that bring the Nonconforming minister rather pleasantly before us; such as his frequent enjoyment of a game of bowls and billiards, his interest in new books, and his many pleasant visits to his friends "when we were very merrie," and where, on one occasion it appears they drew valentines. Many mistakes respecting Puritan opinions on these matters seem to us to have arisen from not distinguishing between secular and religious observances; and some of these the editor, Mr. Heywood, has fallen into. "The drinking of healths" (of toasts, it should rather be called) was certainly opposed by the Puritans; but the reason was

that these were drunk *upon the knees*, and the good feeling of the present day would join with the Puritans in censuring so unseemly a custom. That they, as well as Episcopalians, drank healths, in the old English way, one to another, we have an amusing instance in that very curious book, 'Clark's Lives,' where we are told that the wife of a Puritan minister was so scrupulously polite that she never drank her husband's health without a courteous bow. Bell-ringing, which Mr. Heywood thinks was an abomination among the Puritans, we can assure him was a favourite amusement. Milton, a Puritan and the son of a Puritan, recognizes "the merry bells" as an appropriate adjunct to the village holiday; and in the news-letters during the Parliamentary war, we repeatedly find that the Lords Generals Essex, or Fairfax, or Cromwell, were duly welcomed on their entrance into friendly towns, not only by the blue banner of the Parliament floating from the steeples, but by merry peals from the bells. It was "the passing bell" only that the Puritans denounced, because the departing spirit was superstitiously believed to be aided by its knell.

We regret that, instead of the 'Diary' before us, the 'Abstract' which Mr. Heywood mentions in the Introduction could not have been given. From this it appears that,—

"when the Five Miles' Act was passed, (1665), he removed, (just without the prescribed distance,) to Ellenbrook, where at Thomas Topping's, a trusty disciple, Newcome found a refuge until 1670,—when he returned to Manchester. The severance from the Manchester congregation was deeply felt, but complete silence was not observed, for our minister preached at London, Wigan, &c. He sustained little persecution; the justices at Manchester were not hostile to him; and the Abstract, from 1665 to 1670, is chiefly, we regret to say, occupied with family details, relating to Daniel Newcome's misadventures as a London apprentice; otherwise, there is much in this autobiography showing that the time of banishment had its pleasures. The banished divine made many excursions, took his daughter Rose behind him on a pillion, and in three days they were transferred to their relations in Bedfordshire. In London he had 'sweet days' with Lord Delamere, and Sir Thomas Wilbraham; had high conference with Richard Baxter, and with Ashmole dropped in upon the King and Queen; visited Tradescant's rarities; went to Bedlam, 'a sumptuous place of sad residents;' viewed Windsor Castle and Eton, and admired Hampton Court, hitherto unadorned by the Dutch taste of William."

We cannot see why the detail of Daniel Newcome's misdoings might not be left out; and then the narrative of this journey to London would be a valuable addition to our information as to the state of the metropolis at a period of which we have but comparatively few contemporary notices. It would be curious, too, to compare Newcome's visits and sight-seeings with those of Pepys,—and thus be introduced to another and very opposite phase of "Life in London" in the days of Charles the Second. The persons, too, whom Newcome visited were important men in their day, and some light might be thrown even on the political struggles of that feverish time. While we cannot, as we have said, but regret that a private record of inmost thoughts and feelings should thus have been dragged forth to the cold, perhaps contemptuous, gaze of a distant and in many respects different age,—we still felt as we turned over these pages, that if Henry Newcome exhibits in many instances the infirmities of our common nature, he always displays uprightness of heart and an earnest striving after higher attainments.



ALMANACS, &amp;c. FOR 1850.

OUR notice of this class of publications has yet to be completed by some account of a few which have reached us since the new year set in.—Amongst the Almanacs of the season we must by no means omit to mention a very remarkable specimen of printing in colours from a design made, on stone, by the house of Mac-lure, Macdonald & Macgregor. A rich arrangement of armour and other chivalric properties—singularly aided by a shred of ribbon here, a mantle there, the gilt edges of some volumes scattered on the floor, the stained glass of a rose window above, with other ingenuities of effect—is made to inclose the table of the months—which is crossed by the lights and shadows belonging to its place in the picture. The result is gorgeous in the extreme. The white plumes nod to the motion of the caparisoned steeds, the spear-heads shine in the upper light, the collar of the hound and the kirtle of the dame are gleams of gold. We know not if the design—in which a knight hands forth a lady, whose crimson train is held by pages—be a merely fanciful one, for the sake of the effects—or intended to represent a particular scene. But we imagine the former to be the case.—*Who's Who for 1850?*—This is a convenient little book for the esquire, something between a peerage and an almanac. It contains lists of the royal family, of the two branches of the legislature, the courts of law, and so on, and is compactly and prettily got up.—*The Post Magazine Almanack, and Court and Parliamentary Register.* 1850.—Besides an ample supply of all that class of information which is the common property of such works, the 'Post Almanack' presents its public with a list of all the new and projected insurance and assurance companies. This list is not a little curious. It would seem as if the mania for speculation which formerly fed itself on South Sea bonds and on Haarlem tulips had now rushed into the realms of the actuary and the statistic. Assurance is certainly a growing principle with us—as any one who casts his eye over the names and claims of the *sixty-three* (!) new schemes will hardly fail to be convinced. Some of the names are curiosities in their way. There is a *Homœopathic Assurance*,—but what is to be assured in this case is not very clear. If it means that the professors of this science are to have their assurance guaranteed, we confess it seems to us an unnecessary institution. If it intends to insist that all the members must trust to infinitesimal globules for the maintenance of their health, all we can say is that it shall receive none of our money. There are also such titles as 'The Lycurgus Legal Title,' 'The Railway Assurance Company,' 'The Gas Protectors,' who the Gas Protectors are we can form no conception,—of railway assurance the world has had pretty nearly enough. Perhaps the most novel is the 'Solvency Guarantee,' which undertakes to protect its members from debt: we apprehend this concern will find plenty of business in its peculiar line. We notice also an 'Athenæum' for assuring the lives of "authors, artists, musicians"—described as having no place of business. We beg to say that this is not our *Athenæum*.—*Oliver & Boyd's New Edinburgh Almanac and National Repository for the Year 1850* maintains its useful character as the 'British Almanac' of Scotland.—*The Threepenny Almanac* of the same publishers, and *Rees's Improved Diary and Almanac* for 1850, both made to slip under the hand of the pocket-book, contain the usual amount of information.—*Bradshaw's General Railway Directory, Shareholder's Guide, Manual, and Almanac* for 1850. This volume contains a great amount of information, interesting to the class of persons to whom it is addressed, on the progress and present state of railway property.—*The Official and Legal Directory and Diary* for 1850, a handsome volume full of information connected with the law, is the *ne plus ultra* of an office almanac and diary.—*The Om-brological Almanac*, composed by Mr. Peter Legh of Knutsford, appears for the eleventh year, and as usual ventures its daily predictions as to the state of the weather.—*Dod's Peerage, &c.* is reprinted for 1850, with additions to bring it down to the present time, and a few novelties of arrangement, especially as to the order of precedence. It is a book of very useful reference,—and bound so as to be an ornament to the drawing-room table.

With these additions to the works which we have already associated under the above common heading,

we in all probability take leave of the class for the present season. Few of the social interests are uncatered for by the Almanac-makers in the multitudinous publications of the kind which we have brought under the notice of our readers.

## OUR LIBRARY TABLE.

*Little Herbert's Midsummer Holidays, and their Amusements; or, Conversations on Ornithology.* By E. E. Willement.—Miss Willement has an easy and gracious way of attracting the attention of little ones to her lessons on birds and animals by stories, dialogues and anecdotes suited to their capacities. The present little book deals with the subject of Birds; and whether she lectures the young idea on the mysteries of the farm-yard, carries the imagination across the desert in pursuit of the ostrich, or scales the mountain side in search of the lordly eagle, the effect is all the same; the attention is kept up by variety and appositeness of remark. If Miss Willement would but restrain her passion for preaching—for "improving," as the cant is, every little incident which occurs—she would be an excellent caterer for the young.

*Notes of Experiments; with Thoughts on Electricity, &c.* By Charles Chalmers.—It is to be regretted that the author of these 'Notes' did not, before he arranged them for the press, make himself acquainted with the experiments of Sir H. Davy and Dr. Faraday. Had he done so, he would have saved himself the annoyance of finding, on more careful examination of his subject, that he has committed errors which prove him to be in utter ignorance of the elementary principles of the science in which he seeks to be an instructor.

*New South Wales; its Past, Present, and Future Condition.* With Notes upon its Resources and Capabilities. By a Resident of Twelve Years' Standing.—The author of this book claims no merit for it but that of being true,—a great merit, and one which we think he may not unjustly assert. It is written with care and good temper,—the last no slight or usual thing in a colonial partisan,—with graphic force and a fidelity which never seems to be sacrificed to his party interests. Of the many books which have of late years issued from the press on the affairs of Australia, this is one of the best in every respect.

*An Epitome of the Military Geography of Europe.* By Charles R. Maxwell.—A useful little book for the soldier and for the reader of military movements; being concerned only with those natural and artificial features of the country which affect the march of armies—mountains and mountain passes, the great roads, rivers, lakes, bridges, fortresses, and so forth. The fault of the work is that it is too brief. It does not contain a tenth part of the information necessary to enable a person at a distance to create for himself the details of a campaign.

*History of the Discovery of America, written expressly for Children.* Translated from the French of Lamé Fleury.—A translation which may have been expressly made for "babies,"—but which intelligent "children" of six or seven would very "expressly" repudiate.

*Letter and Spirit: a Discourse on Modern Philosophic Spiritualism in its relation to Christianity.* By Robert Vaughan, D.D.—A vigorous and eloquent discourse on a topic of much interest to thoughtful minds. We are far from sharing all Dr. Vaughan's thoughts on philosophy and religion, but we cannot fail to admire his solid learning, his earnest seeking after truth, his sustained and manly style of disquisition.

*Sophisms of Free Trade and Popular Political Economy examined.* By a Barrister.—For one who talks the language of science and who affects the precision of logical discourse, we have rarely met with a writer so far out in an unknown sea as our "Barrister." Only partially catching the sense of a passage in Adam Smith, on the half-understanding he proceeds to erect a theory which leads to an extravagance of assertion that might have alarmed any man who used his logic for the discovery of truth and not for the purposes of party. The solution of the great problem of interchanges, as he has worked it out on misunderstood data gathered out of 'The Wealth of Nations,' is this—all export is absolute dead loss to the exporting country! Thus reasons the analyst. The men of Leicester have a trade in

gloves and stockings with the men of Dover of half a million: suppose the men of Leicester, from change in price or otherwise, carry their custom to the men of Calais and exchange their half million of stockings against half a million of French gloves—clearly, then, says the assailant of Free Trade, England loses half a million by the transaction. We will adopt for an illustration his own case, and apply it to France: an abstract proposition is of course the same for one country as for another. Arras exchanges with Calais say half a million in value of stockings against the same value in gloves. The buyers of stockings at Calais are seduced by a reduction of price to go to the markets in Leicester for their supply. By this transaction France has lost half a million. So that England and France, by exchanging half a million sterling have actually lost between them a whole million. Such is the success of science! Exports, it seems by this ingenious explanation, are a curse not only to those who give, but also to those who receive them.—Trifling like this is unworthy of serious attention.

## LIST OF NEW BOOKS.

Adamson's (Rev. J. L.) Abraham, the Father of the Faithful, *sc.* 2s. 6d.  
 Adamsworth's (W. H.) Works, Vol. III. Crichton, *fc.* 1s. 6d.  
 American in Europe (The), No. I. 4to. 1s. 5d.  
 Baily's United Service East India Record, No. I. *cr.* 8vo. 2s. 6d. swd.  
 Blunt's (Rev. J. J.) Undesigned Coincidences in Scripture, 3rd ed. 9s.  
 Bogatzky's Golden Treasury, new ed. *fc.* 3s. cl. gilt.  
 Bridges's (Rev. C.) Exposition of Book of Proverbs, 3rd ed. 2 vols. 12s.  
 Breckenridge's (Rev. J. K.) The Neighbour, Vol. I. 18mo. 1s. cl.  
 Burke's Landed Gentry for 1850, 2 vols. royal 8vo. 2l. 2s. cl.  
 Castlereagh's (Viscount) Journey to Damascus, 2 vols. *cr.* 8vo. 15s. cl.  
 Cabinet Lawyer (The), 15th ed. *fc.* 10s. 6d. cl.  
 Campbell's (Dr. G.) Philosophy of Rhetoric, new ed. 8vo. 6s. cl.  
 Chatterbox's (Dr. J. B.) Port Phillip in 1849, 12mo. 3s. cl.  
 Cobden's Speeches delivered in 1849, 12mo. 2s. 6d. swd.  
 City of God (The), A Vision of the Past, post 8vo. 8s. 6d. cl.  
 Con Cregan's Confessions, Vol. II. post 8vo. 7s. 6d. cl.  
 Cumming's (Rev. Dr.) Apocalyptic Sketches, 2 series, new ed. 9s. cl.  
 Dancy's (J. G.) Contributions to Mental Pathology, post 8vo. 6s. cl.  
 Deane's (R. H.) Poems and Prose Verses, 2 vols. post 8vo. 18s. cl.  
 De Lara's (D.) Elementary Instruction in Illumination, *cr.* 8vo. 6s. cl.  
 Dixon's (H.) John Howard, and the Prison Model, 2nd ed. *fc.* 6s. cl.  
 Dod's (C. R.) Peerage and Baronage for 1850, 12mo. 10s. 6d. cl.  
 Fison's (Mrs. W.) Hints for the Earnest Student, *fc.* 7s. cl.  
 Hancock (H.) On Strangulated Hernia, 8vo. 4s. cl.  
 Houston's (Mrs.) Hesperos, or Travels in the West, 2 vols. *cr.* 8vo. 14s.  
 Hurwitz's (Prof.) Hebrew Grammar, 4th ed. 8vo. 13s. 6d. cl.  
 Hurwitz's (Prof.) Hebrew Etymology, 4th ed. 8vo. 9s. cl.  
 Illustrated London News, Vol. XV. July to December, 1849, 18s. cl.  
 Kitto's (Dr. J.) Bible History of the Holy Land, 8vo. 7s. 6d.  
 Krumpholtz's (H.) Elisha, new ed. by Bickerstaff, new ed. *fc.* 3s. 6d. cl. gt.  
 Land We Live In, Vol. III. imp. 8vo. 14s. cl.  
 Letters to a Niece, *fc.* 3s. 6d. cl.  
 Lushington (Mrs. S.), The Sea Spirit and other Poems, *fc.* 4s. 6d. cl.  
 Manning's (Archdeacon) Sermons, Vol. III. new ed. 8vo. 10s. 6d. cl.  
 Martineau's (J. F.) History of Thirty Years' Peace, Vol. II. 1l. 10s. cl.  
 Monroe's (Rev. E.) The Vast Army, 2nd ed. *fc.* 2s. 6d. cl.  
 National Cyclopaedia, Vol. IX. 8vo. 5s. cl.  
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 Newton's Mathematical Principles, by Chittenden, royal 8vo. 1l. 1s. cl.  
 Newton's (B. W.) Prospect of the Thirteen Kingdoms, *fc.* 5s. cl.  
 Olden's (J. H.) History of Old India, 3rd ed. 12mo. 1s. 6d. swd.  
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 Tasso's Life, by the Rev. R. Milman, 2 vols. post 8vo. 1l. 1s. cl.  
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 Trap to Catch a Sunbeam, 9th ed. 18mo. 1s. swd.  
 Vogel's (Dr. Karl) Illustrated Physical Atlas, imp. 8vo. 3s. 6d. cl.  
 Watson's (Rev. A.) Sermons for Children, 2nd ed. 18mo. 2s. 6d. cl.  
 Who's Who for 1850? new ed. 18mo. 2s. 6d. cl.  
 Worsley's (T.) The Province of the Intellect, Book V. 8vo. 7s. 6d. cl.  
 Yonge's (C. D.) Gradus ad Parnassum, post 8vo. 9s. roan.

## BACCHUS IN THE EAST.

Bacchus, with furious might,  
 All the East, before untamed, did over-ronne,  
 And wrong repressed, and establish right,  
 Which lawless men had formerly fordonne:  
 There Justice first her princely rule begonne.

Every Quene.

Halt, and be still, ye hot-cheeked bacchanals!  
 And ye, that rage about me like a storm,  
 Rough satyrs, barked by the woods ye haunt,—  
 And thou, unfathomable Intelligence  
 Of this discordant world, earth-ruling Pan,  
 Chaotic, wild, and multiform, and gross,  
 Yet fit for noblest purposes and ends,—  
 Fling your large limbs upon the grass, beneath  
 The dark untremulous shadow of these palms,  
 And dream of the Arcadian forests old!

Silenus,—thou who hast with patience mild  
 Gathered smooth wisdom from the rugged husk  
 Of daily search and questioning of things,  
 And meditation in the silent night,—  
 I pray thee, my most reverend teacher, stay  
 Still by my side, and temper with cool drops  
 From founts of magic virtue my hot zeal  
 When it would burn its master; for I err  
 Not seldom when the grape's blood boils in my own,  
 And trample in the fierceness of my will  
 The flowers that I would rear. And yet, methinks  
 I am not all a mortal; for at times—



Hushed times when the soul hearkens to itself—  
I feel such throbbings of immortal strength  
As madden me to action; and one night,  
Sleeping within a cave beside the sea,  
I saw rush over those untravelling waves  
An orb'd radiance, wherein dwelt a voice  
That hail'd me "Son!"—at which I leaped awake,  
And shouted to the stars tremendous words  
Whose sense I knew not; for it seemed as though  
A god was in my heart, who tore my lips  
To utterance of whatever sounds he pleased.

And now, the sultry deserts being past,  
We stand upon the verge of India,  
And view the mighty Future stretching out  
As vast and dim as seas when evening glooms.  
Our way grows perilous; for all the land  
Is girt with monstrous dragons interknit,  
The hiss of whose innumerable tongues  
Angers the lion in his forest den,  
And the reed-haunting elephant confounds,  
And flows for ever o'er the Indian fields  
Like an unresting wind. Within this zone—  
Which folds them round as with enchantment strong—  
Dwells a swart people, cruel, treacherous,  
Cowering in caves, and chasing with swift feet  
Less savage beasts for food; unblest with wine,  
And knowing not the god-like art which crowns  
The earth with poison. There, by doom perverse,  
The fiercest and most brutish solely rule,  
Piling the thrones of their fantastic pride  
Even on their kindred's necks.—Therefore must we  
First fight, then teach; for in this wrong-gone world  
Force must be met by force, till, in the end,  
Justice, the perfect birth of labouring Time,  
Shall hold the round heavens evenly for aye.

The earth is sick at heart;—sick with the false  
And insolent pretence of meanest things,  
And with her children's miseries and crimes,  
Strange cruelties and heavy ignorance.  
She sighs for the old days of simple truth  
When Saturn dwelt among the sons of men,—  
And turns, like feverish sleepers, every way  
For rest, which will not come. The snaky weeds  
Which the rank flood of ages has begot  
On its own slime, encumber her: she faints,  
And cries in fainting for some mighty hand,  
Armed with fierce love as with a fiery sword,  
To save her from that vast, entangling woe;  
Some glorious Destroyer, crowned with Life,  
Strong to cast down and to rebuild,—to tear  
Up by the roots, and to throw forth new seed.  
Such one am I; who, by the will of Fate,  
And by consent of the all-ruling spheres,  
Now move in solemn triumph o'er the globe,  
A burning energy—a light—a star!  
—Lo, how all things flush out at my approach!  
Lo, how the grass starts to Elysian green  
Beneath the pressing of my satyr's limbs,  
As though the Spring had kissed it! And behold!  
There where my tigers' lips have gathered food,  
A fountain of dark wine has bubbled up,  
Killing, with odours from rich depths, the air,  
That joys to be so slain.—The trees are full  
Of glancing lights that thrill like golden chords  
Touched by celestial fingers; and the large,  
Deep-bosomed, heavy oriental flowers  
Are kindled with a radiance new and strange.  
Nature, the universal soul of things  
Breathed into them by the immortal gods,  
Leaps from her sullen mood of many a year  
Into delirious gladness, and flings out  
This giant utterance:—"I am freed! The chains  
Of falsehood, and malignity, and guile,  
And sceptred violence, and victorious wrong,  
Are snapt by the great Bacchus!—Evoe!  
Justice is throned! Love is the lord of all!"

Up, then, ye satyrs, and ye higher shapes,  
Women and men, rough workers of my will!  
Rise like a tempest; and with dreadful clang  
Of your smote cymbals, and the gulf-like roar  
Of many voices sounding but as one,  
Strike mute the hissings of those clotted snakes  
That soon will bar our way. Before your path  
Shake silvery lightning from your javelins,  
That the wild people may exclaim—"A god  
Comes in his brightness and his thunder-noise!"  
And ever let the Muses speak of things  
That stand before Time's glances unabashed;  
And let old Pan talk to his tuned reeds,  
Laden with love and human memories.—  
Onward! I swoon with thoughts that find no voice!  
I'm wrapt as in a cloud of winged fire!  
I move upon a wind of ecstasies!  
My own words pierce my blood, and pass to my heart  
Like strange, sweet arrows of dissolving joy!  
The humming of far depths is in my ear!

I see the flowing of an endless stream  
Which spreads round the dark pyramids and towers,  
Temples and palaces of ancient lands,  
Making divine their greyness: and o'er all  
I hear the sound of an up-coming sun  
Rising through unborn ages,—and behold  
The morning's golden prophet, Phosphorus,  
Float in the sapphire orient of the world!

EDMUND OLLIER.

#### UNIVERSITY REFORM.

AN attempt has been once more made to enlarge the system of education pursued at our Universities. Some time since the University of Cambridge made a considerable enlargement in the routine of its academical studies;—and during the last month an effort in a similar direction has been made in the sister University. For some years past the public have been loud in their complaints of the narrow system of study pursued in these institutions. In Cambridge the mathematics, together with a moderate attention to the classics,—in Oxford the classics almost exclusively,—have hitherto formed the entire subject-matter of academical instruction. Every other portion of human knowledge has been excluded. Public opinion has long declared that the vast range of the modern sciences, modern history, and æsthetics, could no longer be excluded from a course of academical instruction,—and the force of public opinion has at last produced some efforts on the part of the Universities themselves to meet its demands.

I propose to lay before your readers a brief account of the results of the attempt made at Oxford, during last December, to enlarge the course of education in that University,—and hope to show that a reform far more general than anything which can be effected by the unassisted powers of the Universities themselves is necessary before they can be restored to anything like scientific vitality, or before literary men can there meet with their due encouragement and reward. This I am desirous to do at the present time, because it is understood that the friends of enlarged education are about to make a united effort during the ensuing session of Parliament to bring the course of instruction pursued at these institutions into conformity with the requirements of the time. Mr. Heywood, the member for North Lancashire, has given notice of a motion for a Commission to inquire into the state of their finances and the system of education which they pursue, and to suggest such improvements as the exigencies of the present times demand. The Universities have been so long unvisited by public authority, that there is little doubt the inquiries of such a commission would bring to light matters of the highest importance connected with the interests of literature and science.

The object of the recent movement has been directed, as I have said, to enlarge the course of education pursued at Oxford. This, at least in theory, has been partially successful. Three examinations have been substituted for two,—and the course of study has been extended. In the first examination which the student will have to pass little change will take place. There will be required, in addition to what was formerly necessary, a moderate knowledge of Arithmetic, Geometry, or Algebra. The second examination which the student will be required to pass will in some measure correspond with the present degree examination. In this examination honours will be awarded; but the minute details would not be interesting to your readers. By the third examination the most important changes will be effected.—and it is in this that the greatest concession is professedly made to the voice of public opinion. Four new schools are to be instituted; two of which must be passed by each student before he can obtain a degree,—and any student may become a candidate for honours in one or all of them at his option. In the first school, which must be passed by all students, the present subjects of examination on an enlarged plan retain their pre-eminence,—involving, however, a close attention to both Philosophy and History; and although the ancient writers are to be the text-books, permission is given to illustrate the different subjects out of modern authors. In the next school, is instituted an examination in Mathematics and Physics studied

mathematically—and there will be examinations for honours in both Pure and Mixed Mathematics. In the third school, are instituted examinations in Natural Science, embracing Mechanical and Chemical Philosophy and Physiology. In the fourth,—which has been made the subject of the warmest contest—are instituted examinations in Jurisprudence and Modern History. The details of this last measure have been rejected; and consequently the whole of these contemplated reforms are suspended until some understanding can be arrived at on the subject. I take it for granted, however, that the voice of public opinion will be irresistible, and that, on paper at least, the whole of these changes will be accepted by Convocation. Though these reforms are far from being so comprehensive as might be wished, yet supposing them to be carried out, they may be thankfully accepted as movements in the right direction.

I am of opinion, nevertheless, that while the other portions of the University system remain unchanged, it will be impossible that these proposed reforms should ever get into practical working. A system formed for the exclusive study of one narrow branch of subjects must be extensively modified ere it can be brought into harmony with a more extended course of instruction. The machinery of Oxford is specially adapted for the study of the classics,—and the classics alone. To the successful cultivation of those studies the rewards of the University are confined. Its whole influence is thrown into the same direction. That your readers may sufficiently appreciate the force of the difficulty to be thus encountered, they should remember that coeval with the present class list honours have been awarded in Mathematics,—but no machinery has existed for their study, and the rewards of the University have been withheld from them. What has been the result? Notwithstanding the admitted importance of Mathematics to qualify the candidate for holding the majority of public situations, the papers tell us that the number of candidates for Mathematical honours at the last examination at Oxford amounted to five only,—and the numbers who actually attained honours were below ten. It should be observed that no greater amount of proficiency is required for securing a fourth class—the usual honour—than ability to solve a quadratic equation. Notwithstanding the existence of honours, therefore, in this branch, the study of Mathematics at Oxford must be admitted to be a total failure:—and it may be inferred that if the other portions of the University system are to remain unchanged, the new Statute, however great an advance in theory, will have less chance of being effectually carried into practice than even the study of Mathematics. No machinery exists for the study of the new subjects,—no reward will be the consequence of success. The chief weight of existing influence will be exerted in a contrary direction.—To effect the changes requisite for a thorough reformation of the present system the University does not possess the necessary power. The interference of the Crown and Parliament—in former times sufficiently frequent, though it has been withheld now for upwards of two centuries—is absolutely required to bring the Universities into unison with the feelings and wants of modern times.—Let me lay before your readers the chief abuses which I think a Royal Commission is required to remedy,—and the changes which will be requisite before the present enlargement of the educational system can be beneficially worked.

In order that the new subjects of examination should have a fair chance of success, it will be necessary that a regard proportioned to their importance should be had to the new subjects in the distribution of the different rewards in the possession of the University. If the fellowships continue to be bestowed on the several grounds of proficiency in the classics, it is absurd to expect that other subjects will be studied to any good purpose. What is wanted is, not the mere opportunity to study such subjects if the student be desirous of doing so,—but that they should become part and parcel of what is held to be a sound education. The new studies ought to share, then, in all the advantages of the existing endowments. If the University is to use both its influence and its wealth in the support of one department of study to the disparagement of all others, it cannot be but that other subjects will be practically neglected,



and the apparent enlargement of the University course becomes, in fact, a mere dead letter.

The necessity of having regard to considerations beyond the mere knowledge of the classics in elections to fellowships is apparent, too, from the fact that the existing mode of election cannot possibly supply the students with tutors capable of giving instruction in the various departments of modern study, supposing such to be sought. One of the earliest effects of bringing the new Statute into effective operation must be the destruction of the existing college monopoly of tuition. Your readers are aware that the University itself gives practically no instruction to the students. The whole instruction is in the hands of the college tutors, unless the student has recourse to the expensive luxury of private tuition. Now, as the tutors are usually chosen from the Fellows, how I ask, are tutors on the different branches of science which will for the future form subjects of examination at Oxford to be found among the Fellows? The average number of Fellows in a college at Oxford is twenty-eight. As more than half of these are non-resident, this reduces the available numbers out of whom tutors must be elected below fourteen. The larger proportion of the colleges, however, have not the option of selecting the tutor out of half that number. The colleges which have the larger number of Fellows are precisely those which have the smaller number of under-graduates. Several of the colleges have forty Fellows: consequently, some of the colleges come down to an average of six or seven out of whom tutors have to be chosen. How, I ask, out of these six or seven individuals are persons likely to be found competent to instruct in the various branches of the *literæ humaniores*, with logic, ethics, politics, poetics, ancient history, and all their numerous adjuncts,—in addition to mathematics, mixed and pure, to the whole range of physical science, and to jurisprudence and modern history? He must be a hopeful person indeed who should expect to find efficient tutors on all these subjects among some six or seven, or even fourteen persons, with the usual qualifications of college Fellows. Yet, how is the new system of education to advance one step without provision being made for efficient instruction in the numerous branches of literature and science in which examinations are to be introduced? I have felt amazed at the coolness with which the authorities at Oxford are enacting Statutes for examination, without providing machinery for teaching. Do they really suppose that the present machinery can effect the new purpose? Or, are the present Statutes enacted merely to satisfy popular clamour, without any intention that they shall be practically worked?

If, however, the selection of tutors were always made out of an average number of fourteen Fellows, these being selected on the sole ground of their literary and scientific competency,—though we could not expect this office to be adequately filled, we might yet reckon on some moderate amount of instruction being conveyed. It is right, then, to examine a little further into the nature of these college foundations, as they exist at Oxford. Many of your readers being accustomed to Cambridge, are probably ignorant of the nature of the close fellowship system as it exists in the sister University. There are only two colleges at Oxford the elections to which, as practically conducted, are not restricted in respect of birth or of age. I say “practically conducted,” because though the great majority of the colleges are restricted by the Statutes of the founder, some are restricted by the mere good pleasure of the Fellows themselves in violation of their founders’ intentions. Of this All Souls, and probably Queen’s, are instances. The fellowships of All Souls are left open by the founder, with an exception in favour of his kindred; but the Fellows require among the candidates the qualification of aristocratic birth. The studentships of Christ Church, with the exception of those belonging to Westminster School, are unrestricted; but practically they are nominated to by the Dean and Canons in turn. They may be occasionally made the reward of merit,—but the elected parties are under-graduates. Practically, therefore, with the exception of nearly all the fellowships of Oriel and Balliol, the other fellowships are subject to restrictions of various degrees of stringency.

First, in ten out of the nineteen colleges in the University, the great majority of the fellowships are restricted in respect of birth. Candidates for them must be born, some in particular dioceses, others in particular counties—in some few cases on particular manors, and even in particular families. Now, any thing more destructive of the literary character of a university can hardly be imagined than restrictions of so arbitrary a nature. A public college is founded in a University—then the founder is permitted to restrict its public teachers to the natives of some one county, or even within more narrow limits. If a fellowship be considered a literary prize, how absurd to institute prizes in public institutions, like Universities, confined within some close conventional limit! But our present concern is with the question as it affects the possibility of supplying adequate instruction in the colleges. Not only must tutors be selected out of the narrow average number of fourteen individuals, but these individuals are not to be selected out of the university at large. I think your readers will agree with me, that until this mode of electing Fellows be altered, or some other mode of instruction instituted, the new Statute has little chance of getting into practical working. Nothing can well be more arbitrary in their nature than the restrictions in question; some localities being so well endowed that candidates for vacant fellowships can with difficulty be procured,—while others are endowed so slenderly that those born in them have a chance of election only to some one of the few open foundations. This state of things is attended with the additional evil of placing the government of the University in the hands of those who are little competent to exercise it.

Another class of restrictions, which make it necessary to elect a youth of from seventeen to nineteen years of age, either to a fellowship at once, or to a scholarship which leads to a fellowship, constitute an evil of scarcely less magnitude than those just considered. Eleven colleges are, to a greater or less degree, subjected to this restriction. Several of these colleges require, besides, that the candidates for fellowships or scholarships should have been educated at particular schools.—Here, attainment is made the result of mere school-boy proficiency. The reward is placed at the commencement, not at the end of the academic course. What inducement has a young man to diligence when his fortune is already made, and his fellowship can be procured with little or no exertion? With one or two exceptions, this class of Fellows is utterly unknown at Cambridge. Oxford’s largest colleges, and in other respects most open foundations, have Fellows of this description. How is it possible that the examination of a youth of from seventeen to nineteen years of age can be so conducted as to afford any pledge of the talents of the future man? The proof of the unsoundness of such a system is found in the fact, that many of the colleges best endowed with foundations of this description are precisely those which obtain the smallest amount of public honours. In the last public examination, not more than a quarter of those who attained honours were on the foundation of any college. I must especially enumerate, New College, Christ Church, Magdalen, St. John’s, Jesus and Pembroke—which, taken as a whole, are by far the wealthiest foundations in the University—as amongst the colleges in which the custom of electing youths to be Fellows at once, prior to their admittance into the University, or the nearly similar one of electing them to scholarships which lead to fellowships, prevails. The amount of resources which are squandered in this manner I will lay before your readers on a future occasion. Meantime, it is thus seen that in the majority of the colleges of Oxford the provision for the competency of the future tutor is founded on the qualifications which he possessed when a school-boy.

This state of things was mischievous enough under the old system,—but what shall we say of it with respect to the numerous range of subjects on which the tutor will be now expected to supply instruction? To recapitulate:—The present collegiate system requires its tutor to be selected out of the average number of fourteen individuals,—one half of whom have been elected into their eligibility as boys coming from school,—and the other half must

prior to election prove that they were born in some particular locality. The individuals thus selected will have to communicate to the students of the University all the instructions which they require in the subjects of Classics, Mathematics, Ancient and Modern History, Ethics, Rhetoric, Politics and Poetics, the various departments of Natural Philosophy, Jurisprudence, &c.! Can your readers, I again ask, bring themselves to believe that the recently-established system of examination can co-exist with the maintenance of the present system of collegiate tuition?

It will be asked,—what remedy is there for these evils? I answer at once,—throw open the fellowships, or establish a system of teaching by University professors wholly independent of the colleges.—In fact, I say, do both.—On the present occasion, let me confine my remarks to the former of these suggestions.

I am aware that great difficulties are felt by some persons as to the right of the State to interfere with the restrictions on the existing college fellowships, on the general ground that such interference is a violation of the wills of founders,—diverting the property from the purposes to which it was devoted by the donor. Now, with respect to this objection, I observe, in the first place, that colleges are institutions founded by public authority, and form integral portions of another public corporation, the University. The University, as a public institution, belongs to no private body whatever. It is strictly national property. Foundations, therefore, which interfere with the efficient working of the University cannot be allowed to exist in favour of any private interest,—nor can their original wrong be maintained on the ground of long sufferance.—If the present constitution of the colleges interferes with the working of the University, that constitution ought to be remodelled. The University existed and flourished before the colleges were established. The students were accommodated in numerous halls. Every Master of Arts enjoyed a free trade in tuition. The effect of the foundation of the colleges has been to sink the University in the colleges. The colleges, according to the original idea of their foundation, were not intended for the accommodation of a greater number of students than the members of their own several foundations. Gradually, however, they have encroached on the functions of the University. They have subverted all the existing halls except five, which are governed on strictly college principles. Five-sixths of the students are subject to their care and wholly dependent on them for tuition. The collegiate system, moreover, has thrown the whole government of the University into the hands of the college Fellows, by affording them a liberal maintenance on the spot, and thus making them always the majority of the resident governing body. The preponderance which the colleges have attained in the present University system is a sufficient warrant for expunging from their Statutes all provisions which are inconsistent with the well-being of the University.

The entire change of circumstances from those which existed in the time of the founders is another reason for remodelling their institutions. The state of things existing at the present day it was utterly beyond their powers to foresee and provide for. Arguing from the spirit of their benefactions, it is to be presumed, that had they lived at the present day they would have modified their institutions so as to meet the wants of existing times,—as they confessedly formed them to meet the wants of their own. Whatever the exigencies of the present times demand may be conceived to come within the scope of the founders’ intentions. The local feelings and the local wants which prompted the limitation of fellowships to the inhabitants of particular districts have passed away. England has become a great whole, united on common interests. To retain these restrictions is to grasp at the letter and abandon the meaning. Besides, in instituting these restrictions, I suspect that the founders were not unfrequently influenced by a regard to the comparative amount of monastic endowment existing in different districts. Without such a supposition, some of the restrictions are so extremely capricious as to be utterly unaccountable. If this be true, the reasons for maintaining the present system passed away with the Reformation.

But I am contending for the existence of a prin-



ciple which has for ages been decided in my favour. Scarcely one of the colleges is at present fulfilling the functions contemplated by its founder, and most solemnly enjoined in the Statutes of its foundation. To give an instance, which will be conclusive on the subject:—In all the colleges founded before the Reformation, the duty of saying masses is one of the most solemn injunctions of the founders. Several colleges, such as All Souls, were founded for this express purpose—as is testified in the preamble of its Statutes. I apprehend that in all of them the celebration of mass is enjoined, under penalties, and in such numbers as would occupy a considerable portion of the time of the Fellows. The Legislature, however, has interposed and forbidden these celebrations:—and that, without any regard to the strength of the founders' injunctions. If the Legislature had the right to interfere in so vital a point, there is no other point in which its right of interference can be disputed when that interference is demanded for the general good of the University. Three centuries have testified to the right:—it is a matter no longer of theory, but of law.—Again, several colleges have at different times received an entirely new body of Statutes. The plea, therefore, for maintaining the existing system on the ground of dutiful obedience to the founders' injunctions,—on the principle that they gave their money for such and such special purposes,—is already waived. No college, as at present constituted, obeys its founder's intentions. The attempt to put those intentions rigidly into practice would involve an endeavour to return to a state of things not only absurd, but absolutely impossible.

Such being the state of the case, the only question which any reasonable man will think of asking himself is this:—Is the present state of the colleges conducive to the interests of literature and science,—or by what system of reconstruction can it be made to advance those interests?

#### THE "GREAT LAKE" OF SOUTH AFRICA.

The following is from a correspondent, who vouches for his communication with his name.—

In a recent number of the *Athenæum* I observed an extract from the *South African Commercial Advertiser*, regarding the discovery of the Great Lake. As you give the information "only as a report," and state that little reliance can be placed on it,—I am sure the few particulars which I can furnish will prove acceptable to your numerous readers.

The discovery of this magnificent sheet of water has been justly designated as the "grandest geographical discovery of modern times." The long-contested problem has at length been solved, and the existence of the lake determined. The Mr. L. of whom mention is made in your extract is the Rev. Robert Livingston, the well-known and indefatigable missionary among the Bechuas, and son-in-law of the Rev. Robert Moffat, whose name must be familiar to all who are in any way interested in the conversion of the heathen. Mr. Livingston was accompanied by my friend and fellow-traveller, Mr. Oswell, of the Madras Civil Service, and Mr. Murray, of Lintrose, near Cupar Angus, in Scotland. These three are the adventurers who have at length set at rest the long-pending dispute as to the existence of the great freshwater sea in the interior of South Africa. The lake appears to lie in about 19° south latitude,—or 560 miles north-north-west of Kolobeng, the scene of Mr. Livingston's arduous and devoted labours, and the head-quarters of the Baquain tribe. Further particulars may be almost daily looked for; and before long, Messrs. Oswell and Murray will probably be among us. Their names (in conjunction with that of Mr. Livingston) will now head the list of recent South African travellers.

Surely an Expedition should be fitted out to follow up this brilliant discovery. What a field is here opened for the labours of the missionary, the botanist, the zoologist, and the man of science! The pioneers have cleared the way,—and no impediments now exist to those who are inclined to follow. On the banks of the splendid rivers flowing into and from the lake there are doubtless many beautiful trees and plants at present wholly unknown to us, wonders of the animal and vegetable kingdoms which have

never adorned our museums or menageries, and numerous mineralogical treasures which any one gifted with spirit and ability can easily bring to light.

I know not a finer field anywhere for the enterprising traveller than the interior of South Africa. At present our best maps of it are little more than blank sheets of paper. Something, however, has been done of late years; but it is to be regretted that the zeal of the man of science is so far behind that of the sportsman. The latter is your true pioneer in South African discovery,—but the philosopher should immediately follow in his steps and fill up the outline which he rudely though faithfully sketches.

The next desideratum in the geography of that unknown quarter of the globe is, the determination of the course of the Oori or Limpopo River. In company with Mr. Oswell, I followed this beautiful stream to a considerable distance beyond the farthest point attained by any white man; and when we reluctantly quitted it, we could distinctly (from the summit of a neighbouring mountain called Lingwāpā) trace its course some 30 or 40 miles to the north-east. The country was healthy and highly favourable for waggon travelling. Wood, water, and game abounded—and there was apparently no danger to be apprehended from the native tribes. What is there to hinder us from following this interesting river to the sea? During our travels, Mr. Oswell and myself were fortunate enough to discover the river Mokolwē, a tributary of the Limpopo, and flowing into it from the south-east. In the hottest season it is never dry, and its waters are as clear as crystal.

I hope we shall not hear of an Expedition being fitted out at an enormous expense, and then, after penetrating only a few hundred miles north of the Orange river (our colonial boundary), returning to England with the important discovery of a new species of stinging nettle (*Roadusidus Jonesii*, for instance), or some miserable cockchafer (*Scarabæus Smithii*, perhaps), to be named after its daring and scientific discoverer! We must take a bolder flight than this. Nothing short of the Lake or the termination of the Limpopo should be attempted.

Were some of our first-rate sportsmen aware of the immense field which lies untrampled before them, surely they would at once hasten to explore the wilds and deserts of South Africa, and become personally acquainted with her gigantic four-footed denizens. To me (an enthusiastic lover of sport and adventure) it is utterly incomprehensible that men of fortune, enterprise, and leisure should remain year after year in England, spending hundreds of pounds for the sake of a few days' shooting at half-tame hares and pheasants daily gorged with barley, beans, and boiled potatoes, when the elephant, rhinoceros, giraffe, and numerous others—the grandest specimens of animated nature—are now, comparatively speaking, within easy reach of us, offering to the sportsman and man of science, temptations which I should have deemed perfectly irresistible.—Should any one wish to visit these deeply interesting regions, whatever information I possess I will at any time most cheerfully afford. F.V.

#### THE ASTOR LIBRARY IN NEW YORK.

Two extensive libraries are now in course of formation in the United States,—the one from a legacy left by an Englishman, the other from a legacy left by a German. In the Report of the former, the Smithsonian Institution of Washington, laid before Congress in February of last year, the able librarian and assistant secretary, Mr. C. C. Jewett, mentions with some detail the steps which have been taken towards laying the foundation of a valuable collection of books; and specifies in particular that he has drawn up a catalogue of the best works in bibliography, to be brought together in the first instance in order to facilitate the measures to be taken hereafter. Dr. J. G. Cogswell, the manager of the Astor Library in New York, has gone a step further,—for on his return from a tour in Europe, in which he made very extensive purchases both in England and on the Continent, he has issued a "Concise classified list of the most important works on bibliography, being those selected in this department for the Astor Library."

In the Advertisement prefixed, which bears date

the 9th of November, 1849, Dr. Cogswell gives utterance to some opinions on the subject of the works desirable for a public library, which, though by no means novel, have not yet come to be hackneyed. The publication of the list will, he remarks, "serve another important purpose,—to make known the wants as well as the possessions of the library, for it wants every book it does not possess, and also point to the class of books which form especial objects of its attention,—those which are too voluminous, too costly, or of too little value in common estimation to be found elsewhere. Public documents and State papers of every kind—general, state, city, and corporation,—reports of public bodies, university and academic publications,—Transactions of learned and benevolent societies,—*almanacs, calendars*, and pamphlets on all subjects,—all things of this kind," he continues, "will be assiduously collected, and preserved in a way to render them easily accessible." By the first passage marked in italics, and by including *almanacs and calendars* in his list of desiderata, Dr. Cogswell decidedly gives in his adhesion to the new school of bibliographers,—those who are anxious to collect and preserve in public libraries not only works of value but also so-called "trash" and "lumber." Even to avow such a principle requires some courage,—to follow it up will demand both courage and constancy, especially after the librarian has acquired the melancholy conviction, which must soon force itself upon him, that the final result of years of labour in this direction is only to make many discontented and a few ungrateful. The inquirer into the rise and progress of our religious sects complains if he does not find on the shelves of a public library a full and unblemished set of the 'Arminian Magazine,'—the historian of the navy murmurs if he detects a chasm in the official 'List of Sea Officers,'—the historian of the turf cannot repress an oath if he finds the set of the 'Racing Calendar' imperfect. But not one of these cares an iota for the wants and wishes of the others,—not one takes into account the time and trouble that must be expended in gratifying or endeavouring to gratify his own; and when the task is achieved, if achieved it can be, the readers who find the 'Arminian Magazine,' the 'List of Sea Officers,' and the 'Racing Calendar' complete in the library will certainly take it for granted that they naturally grew on the shelves. It has been stated on good authority that when the Burney Collection was purchased in 1818 for the British Museum, some contrivance was necessary to induce the House of Commons to pass that portion of the grant which related to the newspapers,—while the Greek tragedies in folio, interleaved with quires of paper, containing here and there a note of Dr. Burney's on the metres, were considered as an acquisition of the first importance. The collection of newspapers at the Museum has since been taken, into favour, and has extended largely; but while the biographer and the historian frequently complain that they find the sets imperfect, the casual visitor, who is shown through the halls of the basement, is often heard to express a kind of contemptuous astonishment that he finds them there at all.

In another respect Dr. Cogswell has shown himself a disciple of the new school also. In making his collection of bibliographical works he has not overlooked the Northern languages, and we find in his pages a reasonable proportion of books both in and on the Swedish and Danish, the Dutch, and even the Russian. It was long the fashion in English libraries to regard these languages and literatures as non-existent,—and that the case was fully as bad in America is shown, not only by the catalogues of the American libraries, but by the strong complaints of the deficiency, in a speech made to Congress a few years ago, by the Hon. G. P. Marsh, of Burlington, the present Envoy of the United States to Constantinople. The fact appears to have been at length impressed upon the Chancellor of the Exchequer that the same sum that would purchase for the National Gallery a single Correggio, would furnish the Museum Library with a good collection of the literature of four or five of the European nations, all active in literary pursuits, and each issuing every year a fresh supply of materials for the historian, the geographer, the statistician, the political economist, and the student of natural history. It would, however, we believe, be in vain to search in any other British library than



that of the Museum, for even the elementary works of Bentkowski and Jöcher, on the literature of Poland—of Nyerup and Erslew, on that of Denmark—of Sopikov, Stroeve and Keppen on that of Russia. Dr. Cogswell has made a good beginning, and when it is considered that he has scarcely been in the field a twelvemonth, it is evident that the library under his superintendence is likely, in a very short time, to leave many of its elder rivals in Europe very far behind it.

We are sorry that the satisfaction with which we contemplate the formation of the Astor Library cannot be extended to the "Classified List" of a portion of its contents. The plan adopted by Dr. Cogswell is open to two or three serious objections. He has in every case, in giving the title of a book, confined himself to a single line, and thus gratuitously reduced himself to the necessity of presenting many of the titles in a very imperfect, and some in a completely enigmatical shape. Take as a specimen this line:—*Rome, Italy. Bib. Orient. Clem. Vat. MSS. Syriaci, &c. ab Assemani. 4 v. Fol.*

or this other a little lower,

*Do. Cod. Chal. s. Syr. Assem. auc. a. Maio. Nov. Coll.* It certainly requires an acquaintance with the books alluded to—one cannot say described—to perceive that what is meant in the first entry is the 'Bibliotheca Orientalis Clementino-Vaticana,' of Joseph Simon Assemani, and in the second the 'Codices Chaldaici sive Syriaci Vaticani Assemaniani,' the catalogue of which by Assemani is published by Cardinal Mai in the fifth volume of his 'Scriptorum Veterum Nova Collectio,'—in the same volume of which Mai gives the list of the Hebrew, Slavonic and Coptic manuscripts by the same author, and in the preceding one a list of the Arabic, of all of which Dr. Cogswell makes no mention. The line which succeeds is as follows:—

*Do. Typographus Rom. Sac. prof. erud. cultoribus,* which must, I conjecture be an abridgment of 'Typographus Romanus sacre profanaeque eruditionis cultoribus,' the heading of some address or advertisement on the purport of which Dr. Cogswell does not favour us with any information. With regard to catalogues the old observation holds especially good that "easy writing" is anything but "easy reading."

Another fault in the plan of the "classified list" is the omission of dates to the various publications it enumerates, the most unfortunate expedient that could have been adopted towards shortening the titles. As the places of publication are omitted also we are thus left in the dark as to whether the edition of Brunet's—or, as it is here printed, Bruvet's—'Manuel du Libraire' is the spurious one of Brussels or the genuine one of Paris. It is only from the indication of "2 vols." annexed to Peignot's 'Manuel du Bibliophile' that we perceive it is the amended edition that has been procured, and not the incomparably more amusing first one, published in 1800, when the author had everything to learn, and the reader finds 'L'Épouse du Marin' seriously given as the translation of Congreve's 'Mourning Bride.' How useless to the young student of bibliography to give him the bare titles of the two most comprehensive works on the manuscript libraries of Europe, Haenel's 'Catalogus MSS. in Bibliothecis Galliae, Helvetiae, &c.,' and Montfaucon's 'Bibliotheca Bibliothecarum MSS.' without informing him that Haenel was published in 1830, and Montfaucon in 1732.

The omission of dates and places of printing is systematic, that of the names of authors is occasional only and dictated apparently by the wish to "Procrusteanize" everything into the space of a single line. The catalogue of the Bübau Library by Franck is shortened into "Bib. olim Bübau," the name of the possessor curtailed of the two last letters, the name of the cataloguer summarily suppressed. Poor Barbier also loses the credit of his famous 'Catalogue de la Bibliothèque du Conseil d'État,' the collection that was afterwards transferred to Fontainebleau, which is thus recorded, "Bib. du Cons. d'État (trans. à Font.)" Perhaps this may be regarded as a "judgment" on the author of the great 'Dictionnaire des Anonymes' for having published his own catalogue anonymously; but there are other writers with regard to whom this justification is not pleasurable. Some authors are subjected through inadvertence to an indignity hardly less try-

ing:—Brunet, as we have seen, is turned into Bruvet, Mosel, the historian of the Vienna library, figures as Nosel.—Schoefflin is given for Schoepfin.—Solzmann for Sotzmann, to say nothing of J. Cotton for H. Cotton (whose 'Typographical Gazetteer' is apparently the book entered as a 'Dict. of Places where Printing has been Practised')—E. Molbeck for C. Molbeck, &c. &c. The correction of the press has, in general, been neglected. Few of the titles in Swedish and Danish, in Spanish and Italian, are printed with entire accuracy. This, it need hardly be observed, is a serious fault in a catalogue, which indeed requires to be watched in its progress through the press with as much care as a dictionary, and when on a very large scale, demands in its superintendents a considerable knowledge of fourteen or fifteen of the European languages. In the case of the Russian books Dr. Cogswell has resorted to the singular expedient of giving the titles in French. It is probable that no Russian types are to be had in New York, but the words might without much difficulty have been transcribed in Roman letters; or, if it was thought desirable to give the titles in another language than Russian, why were they not given in English?

In addition to the Catalogue, Dr. Cogswell throws in some particles of bibliographical information by way of enlivening his subject, but of these it is difficult to speak highly. He gives at page 20 a list of the "forty-eight libraries in Europe numbering 100,000 volumes and above,"—but as he says at page 14, "For the fullest and most accurate statistical details respecting public libraries, to be found in print, see 'The Report of the Select Committee of the House of Commons, July 1849,'" one is led to doubt the value of his critical opinion on this subject. The 'Report' appears to be considered a standard authority on the other side of the Atlantic, for in the *Literary World* for December 1st (a periodical issued at New York, which gives a more vivid moving panorama of the progress of American literature, art, and science than any three others), a series of papers 'On the Public Libraries of Europe' has been commenced by Mr. J. R. Bartlett, in which he announces his intention of drawing much of his information from that source.

Of the libraries of Europe, Dr. Cogswell says, "But two are provided with recently printed Catalogues, from which may be inferred the difficulty, if not the impossibility, of having printed catalogues for large and rapidly increasing libraries." Surely his inferences need not be carried so far, for if the existence of only two shows it to be difficult, the existence of those two still shows that it is not impossible.

Dr. Cogswell also gives a list of the bibliographical periodicals of Europe,—which is useful as far as it goes, but might easily be augmented and amended. In the French portion, he unaccountably omits the 'Bibliographie de la France,' edited by Beuchot,—which is much the same as if, in a list of the London newspapers, he omitted the *Times*. The Dutch 'Naamlijst van Boeken'—the standard periodical in Holland—is also passed over, and in its place we have a 'Lijst van boekwerken verkrijgbaar in der boekw. van L. van Bakkener,' or a monthly list of the works obtainable at a particular bookseller's shop. It might have been mentioned that the 'Svensk Bibliografi' has now a rival in the 'Bulletin' issued by the Stockholm bookseller Bagge. The 'Dansk Bibliographie' is stated to be a yearly periodical; but it is in fact published rather oftener than once a month. The most convenient manual of Scandinavian books is that in the 'Skandinavisk Forlags-catalog,' issued half-yearly at Copenhagen,—which includes all the new productions of Norway, as well as of Denmark and Sweden. The 'Jaarboekje van den Boekhandel,' published yearly at the Hague (I follow Dr. Cogswell's order of arrangement), is a work of a different class,—not containing, like the others, a complete list of new publications; but lists of bookselling firms, and occasional literary articles,—the plan, in fact, resembling that of the 'Bibliopolisches Jahrbuch,' published at Leipzig; of which, and of its competers, the 'Börsenblatt' and Burchardt's 'Organ des deutschen Buchhandels,' Dr. Cogswell appears not to be aware. The 'Boletino Bibliographico' ['Boletin Bibliografico'], published at Madrid, had, and perhaps still has, a rival in a similar periodical issued by the bookseller Monnier.

The 'Archivio Storico [Storico] Italiano' is a publication of a totally different class,—consisting of first editions of manuscript works illustrative of Italian history; and if, as Dr. Cogswell states, "in the Appendixes much bibliographical information is given," it is only in the same way that much is given in the publications of the Camden Society. There was a work which Dr. Cogswell does not mention—though it appears, by an entry in page 12, that he has some of its Indexes—the 'Bibliografia Italiana,' of precisely the same kind as the 'Bibliographie de la France,' published at Milan; and another, under the title of the 'Bollettino Bibliografico,' was commenced in 1845 at Leghorn. A periodical of the same kind—the 'Bibliographia Ertesitö'—was carried on in Hungary before the commencement of the late insurrection; but is probably now extinct. A very complete annual catalogue of the works published in Hungary was given, from 1834 to 1844, in the 'Tudománytár,'—a magazine and review issued by the Hungarian Scientific Society. A list of new books in the Slavonic languages—Russian, Polish, Bohemian, Servian—appears in the Bohemian 'Kivety,' and the Russian periodical, the 'Moskvitianin,' edited by Pogodin; but the best of all is in the 'Slavische Bibliographie,' appended to Jordan's excellent 'Jahrbücher für slawische Litteratur.'

Yours, &c. VERIFICATOR.

#### OUR WEEKLY GOSSIP.

By the cancelling of the contract with the Messrs. Munday, the great Industrial Exhibition is thrown on the public for the means of carrying it out in a manner worthy of the giant nature of the scheme. We are informed that the Queen and Prince Albert have put themselves at the head of the subscription, which must now be instituted without delay. The Queen gives 1,000*l.* we are told,—and the Prince-President 500*l.*—The Executive Committee acting under the instructions of Her Majesty's Commissioners for the Exhibition have addressed a circular to the mayors of all towns within the United Kingdom having municipal constitutions, to the Local Committees (where any have been formed) in towns not having municipal constitutions, and to the Presidents of all Chambers of Commerce,—in reference to the appointment of Local Commissioners to assist in the execution of the Commission.

The President and Council of the Zoological Society have issued a Report of their doings for the past year; and it is pleasant to see that the reforms which were strongly urged in these columns are working to such satisfactory results. There is an air of activity in the proceedings of this valuable educational body which is a comment on the changes introduced into its management that can be read without the aid of the scholiast. During the year, the number of Fellows has been largely increased. The number of visitors to the Gardens was 168,895,—an increase over the number in the previous year of 25,265, and 75,349 more than in 1847. The income has increased, of course, in a commensurate degree. To the collection of living animals additions of great importance have been made,—including sixty-five species which had not been previously exhibited. The total number in possession of the Society on the 31st of December amounted to 1,352:—namely, 354 mammalia, 853 birds, and 145 reptiles. The Council have received advice of various collections which are forming for them abroad:—the most interesting of which is announced in the following extract from their Report:—

"The Council have had the gratification of learning from the Hon. C. A. Murray, that his Highness the Viceroy of Egypt has presented to the Society a young living Hippopotamus, which arrived safely in Cairo on the 14th of November, and was thriving there up to the date of the last despatches. This most valuable and interesting gift was accompanied by a beautiful Lioness and Cheetah: and Mr. Murray was further informed by the Viceroy, that a party of his troops remained out on the White Nile expressly charged with the duty of securing a young female Hippopotamus, which was also destined for the Society. That expedition was commanded by his Highness in consequence of Mr. Murray's representation of the great interest with which the acquisition of this extraordinary animal in a living state would be regarded by the naturalists of Europe, and the credit which it would secure to this Society as promoters of the science of Zoology. The able manner in which Mr. Murray preserved the animals presented to the Society by his late Highness Ibrahim Pasha, and others collected by himself in the winter of 1848-9, until their embarkation in June last, induces the Society to look forward with confidence to the



probability of his surmounting the difficulties attendant on the maintenance and transport of the Hippopotamus; which without doubt will prove to be the most singular and attractive inmate ever introduced into the Menagerie. —It is proposed, if no unforeseen obstacles intervene, that the Hippopotamus shall be shipped in the beginning of May, with the view of its being displayed to the Society at the earliest period of the summer at which its removal can be attempted with safety."

The daily papers announce the death, on the 10th inst., of Mr. Edward du Bois, editor, in conjunction with "Tom Hill," of the *Monthly Mirror*, and author of 'My Pocket Book,' a clever satire on the travels of Sir John Carr. 'My Pocket Book' made a great hit at the time; and Carr, angry at the contempt thrown on his book by his clever antagonist, brought an action—which he lost—against Mr. Du Bois or his publisher, we forget which. Mr. Du Bois was also the editor of the reprint of 'Musarum Deliciæ,' or the poems of Mennes and Smith,—and a contributor to several publications and papers on subjects connected with the Fine Arts.

The papers report, also, the death of Mr. Daniel A. Sandford, author of 'Leaves from the Journal of a Subaltern during a Campaign in the Punjab.' He died in India, in his 21st year,—from excessive fatigue, as is supposed, arising out of his military duties.

Milton's copy, the edition of 1519, of 'Arati Solensis Phenomena et Diosema, cum Scholiis Gr.' (in the original binding) was sold last week by Messrs. Sotheby & Wilkinson to Mr. Pickering of Piccadilly, for the large sum of 40*l.* 10*s.* On the fly-leaf, in the handwriting of the great poet, is "Jo. Milton, pre 2*s.* 6*d.* 1631;" on the title is the following pentameter line,—

Cum sole et luna semp. Aratus erit;

and throughout are certain corrections and suggested emendations in the same handwriting. The book belonged at one time to Mr. Upton, the editor of *Epicætetus*. Its next ascertained possessor was Mr. Bindley, the great book collector; at the sale of whose library it was bought by Mr. Heber for 8*l.* 8*s.* At Mr. Heber's sale it brought 4*l.* 19*s.*,—having been bought, we believe, by Mr. Thorpe, and sold by him to Mr. Poynder (its last possessor) for very little more than the auction price. We may attribute the large advance in the present instance on former prices to the number of competitors for so rare a volume as any book that had belonged to Milton. It is said that the book was purchased for the British Museum, as a companion to the *Shakespeare Florio*, for which a much larger sum was paid by the Trustees a few years ago. —At the same sale, a copy of the first folio edition of *Shakespeare*, measuring twelve inches and three quarters in length by nearly eight inches and a half in width, was bought by Mr. Halliwell for 35*l.* 10*s.* The copy, though boasting a Russia cover and gilt edges from the cunning hand of Kalthoeber, was far from a good one. It was cheap, however, at the price given.

On Tuesday, last the second annual *souïrée* of the members of the Whittington Club was held at their club house (formerly the Crown and Anchor) in the Strand:—the President, Mr. Lushington, taking the chair. In a brief address he summed up the principles and practice of this valuable institution,—which offers to the young of both sexes, in the form of relaxation, teaching of very sound and varied kinds, and an admirable point of re-union for their unemployed hours, at an expense very little more than nominal. It is impossible to look over the list of lectures and entertainments which have been given at this institution in the course of the past year without feeling how excellently its management is directed to the attainment of the important objects which it has in view,—how well it is calculated, in the language of Mr. Lushington, to secure to its members "the most valuable advantages which must follow from their minds being habituated to the acquisition of useful knowledge, and from their being stimulated to soar far beyond the mere vulgar range of metropolitan amusements and their consequent temptations."

A correspondent of the *Daily News*, engaged at Prague in inquiries connected with the literary development of Czechism, imagines that he has made the discovery of an English (Latin) poetess, who figured in Prague two centuries and a half ago, under the name of Elizabeth Weston.—"I am not aware," he says, "that this interesting fact has been

announced in any English work." If the writer in the *Daily News* were also a reader of the *Athenæum* he might have found all the facts which he has gathered by inquiry at Prague, and many more relating to the same subject, long since disinterred and ready to his hand. They were communicated to our columns, by a correspondent from Carlsbad, so far back as in August, 1845.—[See *Athenæum*, No. 937]. He would there have read at length the epitaph which he gives only in part,—have learnt that the poems of "Westonia," as she was called by her contemporaries, went through five editions, instead of three as he states,—and have been made generally acquainted with the story of her life. He would there have seen, too, that this lady, so distinguished throughout Germany, was not so obscure in her native country as our own correspondent had supposed. As we stated in a note to the letter which communicated the above interesting particulars,—"Elizabeth Jane Weston has her appropriate niche amongst Fuller's 'Worthies,' and is commemorated in George Ballard's 'Memoirs of British Ladies.' 'She is,' says Chalmers, 'commemorated by Scaliger, and complimented by May in a Latin epigram. She is placed by Evelyn, in his "Numismata," among learned women,—and by Phillips among female poets. She is ranked by Farnaby with Sir Thomas More and the best Latin poets of the sixteenth century.'"

The Commissioners for inquiring into the state of the butcher-markets of London are proceeding rapidly with their labours. Their report, it is said, will contain a complete condemnation of Smithfield: on which, perhaps an Order in Council may issue for its abolition. Should matters proceed in this way, there is talk of railway cattle markets being formed at the following railway termini:—Euston Square, Paddington, Shoreditch, and London Bridge. These four great markets are, if made, to be connected with each other, and with such other points of the metropolis as may be found necessary, by means of the electric telegraph, with a view to keeping each of them well informed, from hour to hour, as to the prices of meat and the quantities of cattle sold in the others.

The Independent Dissenters, having disposed of their three Colleges in London,—Highbury, Homerton, and Coward, are making arrangements for opening one large and more efficient institution in their stead. A handsome building is about to be erected at St. John's Wood; and the Executive Committee have determined to have two faculties in the College, one of Theology, the other of Arts. The classes of the latter are to be open to pupils of all religious denominations. Under these new arrangements some of the professors in the old colleges retire; amongst others Dr. Pye Smith, who has been engaged in academical teaching for now fifty years. As a testimony of the esteem in which he is held, a subscription is in progress of being raised—as will be seen by our advertising columns—to provide him with an annuity during his lifetime, and afterwards to be appropriated to the founding of Divinity Scholarships in the New College. Dr. Pye Smith is known, not only as a scholar and as a divine, but also as a man of science, from his work on Scripture and geology, in which he manfully came forward to vindicate for science a right to be heard, when it was opposed by blind prejudice and unreasoning dogmatism.

The discovery of two extensive embezzlements by the working actaries of Savings Banks—at Rochdale and at St. Helen's—has created a panic among small depositors in such institutions, which will scarcely be allayed until Government shall have taken the matter in hand, and by means of a responsible and independent audit of accounts restored confidence. A great point would be gained if the directors of all savings banks would at once come forward voluntarily, and offer to submit their books to the scrutiny of persons appointed to that office by the Government. The very offer would restore the confidence so much needed. We observe, that the large Savings Bank in St. Martin's Place has, on the suggestion of its president, the Prince Consort, come to a resolution to accept an audit from any properly appointed person. The example will, no doubt, have its influence. But whether the work of inspection be done with or without the concurrence of boards of directors, it should at any rate be

done. The small depositors form one of the most valuable classes of society. For Government to show any indifference to its interests would be an error of policy not likely, we think, to be committed in this generation. It would be an undervaluing of the industry, sobriety and self-denial of the best portion of the working orders.

The managers of the "Ragged and Industrial Schools and Juvenile Refuge" of King Edward Street, Spitalfields—one of the most useful and deserving of our institutions for the castaway—have put forth an appeal to the public. The old stable in which the pupils meet is no longer adapted to the growing exigencies of the school. A wider space—arrangements formed on a larger scale than they were content with as a beginning—are now requisite. The lower classes begin to look on the school in its true light, and are pressing for admission for their children. To meet these daily increasing wants, the funds can be obtained only from the resources of private charity. The Corporation of the City have subscribed 50*l.*:—but as the managers wish to build an entirely new school, adapted in all its arrangements to the details of industrial teaching, several hundred pounds will be required. We assist in making public the facts of the case, because we look on these institutions—which operate at the social fountains, and are preventive instead of curative—as among the most important of our modern arrangements.

The Lord Lieutenant of Ireland having granted a sum of 5,000*l.* for the formation of an Agricultural School in the vicinity of Cork, a meeting was held at the Royal Institution a few days ago to determine on the mode in which the object of the grant could be best effected. It was ultimately resolved, that 100 acres of land should be attached to the school, and appropriated to the trial of experiments, with a view to the introduction into the sister country of the most approved methods of farming and general cultivation practised in England and Scotland.

In a recent number we stated, on the authority of the Galway papers, that considerable changes were about to be made in the programme of the Queen's College, in that town:—that it was intended to rearrange the fees so as to meet the necessities of a poorer class of students, and to adapt the curriculum to a lower order of acquirements. We are now informed from the best source that the slight changes which have been made to facilitate the matriculation and acquirement of scholarships are only temporary; and were adopted under the conviction that a large proportion of the candidates were not informed of the amount of preliminary acquirements expected by the college. In future no alteration will be made in the original programme.

From Berlin, it is stated that the Government has purchased the rich library of the illustrious Louis Tieck—containing a great number of rare or unique copies of old German works. It is to remain in Tieck's keeping while he lives,—and at his death will be incorporated with the Royal Library of Berlin. —In the same city, on the first day of the present year, were to be opened four People's Libraries; composed of works of general utility—especially designed for the gratuitous reading of the labouring classes. These libraries, which have been three years, it is said, in course of formation, contain each from four to five thousand volumes, partly purchased by subscription and partly the gifts of the booksellers and others.

Every now and then we receive fresh intimations of the disfavour in which every means of culture not connected with military science is held in Russia. The last few days have brought in a report that by a stroke of the pen two of the best schools in St. Petersburg—the Alexander Lyceum and the School of Jurisprudence—have been converted into military academies. Henceforth, the professors must be officers in the Imperial army, and are to receive their appointments from the Prince of Oldenburg.

It is an odd feature of the times, that the French in their *feuilletons* are beginning to borrow from the English. We have already adverted to the translation and publication of 'Jane Eyre.' A romance or two by Mr. Ainsworth, if we mistake not, have also thus appeared; and the publication in this form of 'Violet the Danseuse' has been only completed a week or two ago.

The French papers report a discovery at Ormoy,



in the department of the Oise, of interest to the antiquary. A piece of ground covered with large stones—apparently the remains of a mound or altar—was recently purchased by a M. Rénard, who commenced the removal of the stones. One of the largest he was obliged to blow up with gunpowder; when the entrance to a solidly constructed vault was laid open, and within two skeletons were found dressed from head to foot in bronze armour—with conical helmet and round buckler ornamented in the centre with a knob incrustated in gold, and wearing belts ornamented with silver plates. The quivers and lances were in bronze, like the armour. Near the stone which served as pillow to the heads of the skeletons were found six large vases of black earth, decorated with curious mythological figures (but what system of mythology they belong to, we have not seen stated) painted in white and sky-blue. The largest of these vases is about 18 inches in height; the smallest contained a thin gold leaf, on which were traced about 150 small characters that are said to resemble the inscriptions found on the Celtiberian medals:—which is natural enough. The inner walls of the vault were covered with traces of paintings—such as are still seen in Egyptian tombs—of a banquet, and of warriors, both horse and foot. On the roof has been painted the sun's disk, adorned with wings.—These interesting relics, it is said, will be presented to the Museums of Paris and Amiens.

**THE NILE.—RE-OPENED AT THE EGYPTIAN HALL, PICCADILLY.**—The new and splendid MOVING PANORAMA of the NILE, showing all the stupendous Works of Antiquity on its Banks, from Cairo the capital of Egypt to the Second Cataract in Nubia. Painted by Henry Warren and James Pahey from drawings made by Joseph Bonomi during many years' residence there. —Morning 3; Evening 8 o'clock.—Stalls 3s., Pit 2s., Gallery 1s.

**THE WINTER EXHIBITION OF WATER-COLOUR DRAWINGS AND SKETCHES IN OILS,** comprising Works by the most eminent living Artists, is OPEN from Ten till Dusk daily. Admission (including Catalogue), 1s.; Season Tickets, 5s. each. —A cabinet collection of real gems of British Art.—Times, Dec. 21. 139, Regent Street. J. L. GRUNDY, Manager.

**ROYAL POLYTECHNIC INSTITUTION.**  
The First of a Series of ILLUSTRATED LECTURES, by Dr. Baedeker, on the PHILOSOPHY of SCIENTIFIC RECREATION. Daily at Two o'clock, and in the Evenings at Eight.—AN ENTIRELY NEW SET OF DISSOLVING VIEWS of LONDON in the SIXTEENTH CENTURY and AS IT NOW IS, with a Descriptive Lecture. Daily at Half-past Four, and in the Evenings at a Quarter to Ten.—THE VIEWS of Rome, including New Views of the Interior and Exterior of ST. PETER'S, with DYNAMIC EFFECTS, are shown Daily at One o'clock.—LECTURES on CHEMISTRY, with brilliant Experiments, by Mr. Ashley.—Experiments with the DYER and DYEING BELLS.—NEW EXHIBITION of CHROMATOPOLIS.—THE MACHINERY, MODELS, &c. EXPLAINED.—Admission, 1s.; Schools, half-price.

## SOCIETIES

**GEOLOGICAL.—Jan. 9.**—Sir C. Lyell, President, in the chair.—The following communications were read:—‘Observations on Trilobites of the genus *Lichas*, from Dudley,’ by J. W. Fletcher, Esq.—‘Remarks on the Structure and Organic Contents of the Inferior Oolite near Cheltenham, with general observations on that formation in other parts of Gloucestershire,’ by the Rev. P. B. Brodie. The outer escarpments of the Cotswold Hills consist of the inferior oolite and lias, as is well seen in Leckhampton hill, of which a detailed section was described. This hill is 878 feet above the sea, and the oolite beds on the summit are about 230 feet thick. In one bed, named shelly freestone, many fossils are found, of which a large proportion again occur in the great oolite at Minchinhampton, which has a similar mineral character. It thus appears that these deposits, though of very distinct age, have been both deposited under similar conditions in a shallow sea, and that many of the species of animals had lived on from one period to the other. A list of the organic remains is given, which shows that among the molluscs the bivalves generally preponderate, and fifty-six species are noted as also occurring in the more recent formation.—Extract of Letter to Dr. Daubeny, from the late G. F. Ruxton, Esq., ‘On the Occurrence of Volcanic Rocks along the Chain of the Sierra Madre to its union with the Rocky Mountains, and thus in a more northerly part of Mexico than before observed.’—‘Notice of the Discovery of a nearly perfect Skeleton of the *Mastodon Angustidens*, near Asti, in Piedmont,’ in a letter to Sir R. I. Murchison, from Prof. Eugene Siemond. These remains occurred about six leagues from Turin, in a bed of plastic clay containing freshwater shells, and covered with sand. Many of the bones were much decayed; but the

skeleton, preserved in the Royal Museum of Turin, is perhaps the most perfect hitherto found in Europe.

**ASIATIC.—Jan. 5.**—Prof. H. H. Wilson in the chair.—The Secretary read a paper ‘On the City of Amritsar.’—Amritsar is the most wealthy and commercial town in Northern India. It owes its importance to a large tank, constructed by order of Ram Das, the fourth Guru, or spiritual leader of the Sikhs. The tank was filled up and desecrated by Ahmud Shah, of Cabul, but was afterwards opened again and repaired by the Sikhs. It is about 150 paces square; and the water, which is apparently supplied by natural springs, is extremely pure, notwithstanding the great number of bathers. In the centre is a temple of Vishnu, profusely adorned with gold and costly embellishments; and here the Guru of the Sikhs sits to receive the homage and offerings of his followers, attended by 500 or 600 Akalis, or priests attached to the temple. The most striking object in the place is the huge fortress of Govindghur, built by Runjeet Singh, the circuit of which is about two miles in extent, and is surrounded by a deep ditch. It is supplied with water by fifteen excellent wells; but the accommodation for the garrison is scanty, ill arranged and unhealthy; and does not afford suitable room for its present complement of 1,500 men. At the beginning of the war in 1848, the fort was seized by Colonel Mac Sherry for the British Government,—which gave a serious check to the proceedings of the disaffected; for the priests at the temple were using their utmost endeavours to excite a rising, but were effectually controlled by the Colonel, who threatened to blow their temple into the lake on the least appearance of an insurrection. These priests became, in consequence, the most servile adherents of the British; and at the annexation of the Punjab they illuminated the temple, and were loudest in the cry of “Long live the East India Company!” The city is larger than Lahore: it is of a compact circular form, about nine miles in circumference. A canal was constructed by Runjeet Singh from Amritsar to the Ravi, about thirty miles distance, and the city is well supplied with excellent water from 650 wells. The number of dwelling-houses is 19,015; those of the upper classes are lofty, commodious structures, but the mass are confined, filthy, and crowded into narrow and dirty streets. The number of shops is 8,272; and there are 399 Hindú and 49 Mohammedan places of worship. Government estimates the population at 92,000; but an account drawn up by an intelligent native makes it 115,000, of whom the Sikhs number only 9,000, the rest being Hindús and Mohammedans. The Sikhs are noted for their cleanliness; but are prone to indulge habits of intoxication from bhang and opium. The Cashmerian shawl weavers are filthy in the extreme, and are wan and emaciated in appearance. The staple manufactures are shawls, silks, and woollen and cotton cloths. Small-pox, cholera, fevers, and other diseases occasionally prevail; but the climate is cool and bracing, congenial to Europeans, and to physical development,—as shown in the superiority of the people of the Punjab over those of the south. Rain prevails in January; and thunder and dust storms in April: the winds are variable. To the east of the city there are numerous large gardens, superabundantly stocked with orange, lime, lemon, peach, apple, and other fruit trees. The soil is a fertile loam,—the subsoil clay. Agriculture is in a high state of perfection, particularly among the Játis, who are the best husbandmen in India. The crops are wheat, barley, maize, sugar-cane, turnips, carrots, pumpkins, &c. Supplies of every kind are abundant; but in consequence of increased demand, the prices have lately been high. The health of the troops at the station has been satisfactory; though the writer is of opinion that increased accommodation is necessary to keep the men, for a continuance, in the healthy and robust condition which they have hitherto exhibited.

At the conclusion of the meeting, it was announced that Major Rawlinson would at the next meeting, on the 19th instant, give some account of the progress made in the deciphering of the Assyrian and Babylonian monuments discovered on the banks of the Euphrates and the Tigris, and detail some of his own results, preparatory to their publication by the Society.

**ARCHÆOLOGICAL INSTITUTE.**—F. Ouvry, Esq. in the chair.—The Secretary read a paper by Mr. Edward A. Freeman ‘On the Anglo-Saxon Remains in Iwer Church, Bucks.’ Considerable interest has been created, our readers know, by the discovery, in the course of the repairs which this church has lately undergone, of some ancient masonry in the northern side of the nave, which bears unquestionable evidence of being some portion of an edifice that existed anterior to the Norman arches of the north aisle; and from the reddened surface of the stone, and other indications, there is strong ground for the presumption that the original building was destroyed by fire. Much difficulty, however, must always exist (in the absence of any record) in assigning a positive date to buildings erected either shortly previous, or immediately subsequent, to the Conquest. It is known that Edward the Confessor built in the Norman style prior to 1066,—but it may be fairly assumed that our Saxon forefathers continued to construct their sacred edifices (especially in the remoter districts) without much reference to the prevailing taste of that precise period.

The Hon. W. Stanley communicated an account of recent discoveries in North Wales relating to the working of the copper-mines of that district at a very early period. In October last an ancient working of great extent was broken into at the Llanderodro mine, Ormes Head. The roof and sides were coated with stalactites, exhibiting brilliant colours from admixture of metallic substances. A great number of stone hammers or mauls were found, supposed to have been used in crushing the ore. Large quantities of bones of animals lay in the cavern, which appeared to have been gnawed by wolves, but may have been left by the miners. Some of these, with the rude implements of stone, were sent by Lady Erskine, through Mr. Stanley, for exhibition; as also portions of bronze tools, of interest as indicating the character of these metallurgic operations in remote times,—regarding which very little has been ascertained.—The Rev. W. Haslam sent some notices connected with the same subject, in reference to the tin-works of Cornwall, accompanied by drawings of some blocks of the metal, considered to be of the times of the Phœnician traders with these islands.

A discussion took place on the early use of Arabic numerals in England,—to which allusion is made by Chaucer as a novelty in his time. They were used, however, at an earlier period in writing, being found frequently in works on science; but they are rare on buildings or in inscriptions till the fifteenth century. Examples were exhibited by the Rev. E. Venables and the Rev. W. H. Gunner; and reference was supplied to several, chiefly in the north of England, by Mr. Hunter and Mr. Ouvry.

The Rev. F. Dyson presented a plan of the recent discoveries at Great Malvern which have brought to light the foundations of a considerable part of the Abbey Church,—comprising the Lady Chapel, hitherto unknown, and some adjacent buildings. The remains of a crypt, of earlier date than the existing conventual church, were clearly to be distinguished.

Mr. E. Lees and Mr. Allies sent notices and a drawing of a diminutive British urn, found on the Worcestershire Beacon, in a cavity of the rock. The discovery was made in operations connected with the Ordnance Survey. Some human remains lay with the urn; and the spot is adjoining to a kind of cairn of loose stones.—Mr. C. E. Long presented fragments of a small urn found by him some years ago in a tumulus at Beadon, in Berkshire; together with a large collection of fac-similes from sepulchral brasses,—of which a variety of examples, English and foreign, were exhibited by Mr. Venables and Mr. Way. One—a figure of striking design, the portrait of the architect who erected the earlier portion of the Church of St. Ouen, at Rouen—excited much interest. The details sketched on the tablets in his hand are identical with the tracery and ornaments of the part of the structure reared by this unknown artist.

Some gold armillæ and ornaments found on the property of Lord Digby, in Dorsetshire, were sent for exhibition:—as were also some beautiful Limoges enamels by Mr. Magniac.—The table was covered with various examples of ancient art and manufacture.

**INSTITUTE OF BRITISH ARCHITECTS.—Jan. 7.**—T. Bellamy, V.P., in the chair.—R. M. Phipson,



Esq. was elected an Associate. — The Chairman announced that Mr. C. Lee had sent in his resignation as Fellow. — In reference to the paper 'On Glass,' read by Prof. Donaldson at the last meeting, Mr. Papworth stated that the largest plates of glass of which he knew were 20 feet by 12; some of which were now being delivered from a French factory by a Turkish order. The plates were an inch thick.

—Mr. Fergusson read a paper 'On the Architecture of Southern India.' He commenced by pointing out the existence of two distinct and separate races occupying the Peninsula of Hindostan: the one an Indo-Germanic race, coming across the Indus, and occupying the whole of the valley of the Ganges; — the other aboriginal, occupying the whole southern country, but more especially the southern extremity, where the temples were situated which formed the subject of the paper. Though neither æsthetically so beautiful nor ethnographically so interesting as those of the north, they were stated to be infinitely more extensive and numerous; forming a mass of buildings unsurpassed in any country of the world, and making up a distinct and separate style unallied to any other known form of architecture. Their parts were described as consisting of *vimanas*, or square towers, containing the cella or sanctuary, generally of granite, and surmounted by a tall pyramid of brick-work, divided in stories, each covered with miniature shrines and images, and always crowned by a small dome-like termination. Besides these, there were the *gopuras*, or gateways, very similar in design to the *vimanas*, but oblong in plan, instead of being square like these; each temple possessing three or four, generally seven, though sometimes as many as twenty or twenty-four of these colossal gateways. After these, were described the porticoes of the temple, consisting of an indefinite number of columns, generally square in plan, but always arranged so as to admit of a wide centre aisle, which was roofed by an arrangement of brackets, difficult to describe, but illustrated by diagrams on the wall. These porticoes, five aisles in width, were sometimes extended so as to form cloisters round the whole temple, as at Ramisseram, where they extended to near 4,000 feet in length. Besides these, there were the *choultries*, or great halls, frequently containing as many as 1,000 columns, each of one block of granite, all sculptured from the base to the capital, and generally all differing from each other in design. It was explained how these parts were arranged. In small or village temples, as a small *vimana*, in the centre of a square inclosure was one gateway: in larger ones were a second inclosure, with two gateways; and generally in large temples, with a third square inclosure, were four gateways, comprising the ten inner ones; the outer one being generally from 600 to 1,000 feet each way. Sometimes there were as many as seven such inclosing walls, and frequently two temples, each with its complement of inclosures and *gopuras*, were placed side by side. The lecturer then pointed out — though without insisting upon them — the similarities by some supposed to exist between these temples and those of Egypt and Jerusalem, and concluded with some general remarks on the style in which they were erected. — A discussion ensued on the similarity and apparent connexion between the architecture of Southern India and that of Yucatan.

**LINNEAN.** — Jan. 15. — R. Brown, Esq., in the chair. — A number of works were presented; amongst others, several volumes from Messrs. Reeve & Co., the publishers, in addition to a series of their more costly publications — as the 'Conchologia Iconica,' &c. — A paper was read by J. Curtis, Esq., 'On a new Species of Saw-fly.' It was originally discovered by Viscount Goderich on a plant of Solomon's seal, and called by its describer, in honour of its discoverer, *Selandria Robinsoni*. — A continuation of Mr. Huxley's paper 'On the Structure and Anatomical Relations of certain Families of the Medusæ' was read by the Assistant-Secretary. — Dr. Grindrod, J. D. Jones, Esq., C. M. Talbot, Esq., R. C. Gunn, Esq., and J. Mulligan, Esq. were elected Fellows.

**MICROSCOPICAL.** — Jan. 16. — G. Bush, Esq., President, in the chair. — A paper was read by P. H. Gosse, Esq., 'On the Architectural Instincts of *Meliceria virens*, a species of Freshwater Rotifer.' The most remarkable part of the author's observations was,

the announcement of the discovery of the function of a small rotatory organ placed below the disk of the animal, the use of which was not previously known. The animal lives in a case, which is made of small pellets of various kinds of matter; and it appears that the function of this small rotating organ is to collect the matter, form it into pellets, and apply them to the walls of the case. Ehrenberg supposed that the cases of this and allied species of Rotifers were formed of matter thrown out of the alimentary canal.

Mr. Woodhouse and the Rev. S. Brown were elected Members. — Messrs. J. S. Lister and J. Gratton were appointed auditors of accounts for the ensuing annual meeting.

**INSTITUTION OF CIVIL ENGINEERS.** — Jan. 8. — W. Cubitt, Esq., President, in the chair. — The proceedings commenced by an address from the President, on taking the chair for the first time after his election, in which he announced that the Council had acceded to the recommendation of the last Annual General Meeting, and had invited Mr. Walker, Sir John Rennie, and Mr. Field, the past Presidents, to take their seats at the Council table, in the Council-room, and in the Theatre, as "Honorary Councillors," — and that in future all those members who should fill the posts of Vice-President and President consecutively, holding the latter position for two years, should be considered "Honorary Councillors." He announced also, that, as the representative of the Institution, he had been nominated a member of the Royal Commission for the promotion of the Exhibition of the Works of Industry of all Nations, under the auspices of H.R.H. the Prince Albert, and requested the aid and cordial concurrence of all the members in that "real Peace Congress." He then noticed some of the principal engineering works which had been terminated, or had made great progress, during the past year; commencing with the Tubular Bridges across the River Conway and the Menai Straits.

The discussion on Col. Lloyd's paper 'On the proposed Ship Canal across the Isthmus of Panama' was continued.

Jan. 15. — W. Cubitt, Esq., President, in the chair. — Read, 'An Account of the Blackfriars Landing Pier,' by Mr. F. Lawrence, — and a 'Description of a Timber Bridge, erected over the River Ouse, on the line of the Lynn and Ely Railway,' by Mr. J. S. Valentine.

**SYRO-EGYPTIAN.** — Jan. 8. — D. W. Nash, Esq., in the chair. Dr. C. F. Zimpel read an account of his recent travels in Syria. Starting from Beyrut, he followed the coast to the Dog River, whence he took a north-easterly course to the ruins of Fokra. These ruins are situated in a valley surrounded by lofty mountains, and part of them occupy an elevated position at the margin of a deep and wild precipice. The ruins are extensive, but in a very dilapidated state. In the interior are small compartments, probably sepulchral chambers. Near to the ruins is a natural bridge, about 180 feet high and 100 feet in length. Hence the Doctor proceeded by the Vale of Kadisha to Hosrun, Kanobin, Aden and Bishewe, and thence back to Tripoli, to obtain horses for Hosn Sphyr (?), (commonly called Halaat el Hosn). Hence he visited Akkar; the Area of the Romans, who placed it in the northern part of Phenicia, and a leading stronghold in after times of the so-called "Assassins." After a visit to Safitta and the Island of Ruad; he proceeded from Tortisa, by the coast, to Latakiah, one day's ride from which he visited the Castle of Sahium or Sayum, which he believes not to have been previously described. This extensive fortification — in most parts as perfect as in olden times, excepting the buildings in the interior, which are mostly in a ruinous condition — is situated at the extreme point of a precipice several hundred feet in height, between two valleys with mountain streams, so that it forms the fork between them. The base of the triangle thus formed is separated from the continuous land by an artificial cutting in the solid rock, about 60 feet in breadth, by a depth of more than 100 feet. A pillar is left standing in the cut for the support of a bridge. The most perfect building in the interior was that which contained the well. It was a large hall, with vaulted roof, about 60 feet in length by 25 feet in breadth — a stone staircase leading

down to the water, which was excellent. The building and works of defence showed evidence of changes and of different epochs in history. From Latakiah, Dr. Zimpel proceeded to Suedia (Seleucia Piana), whence he made excursions into the Jibal Kaisenck and adjacent country. He next travelled by way of Daphne, Antioch, Jisr Hadid (Pontisfer of the Crusaders), Herem and Dana, to Aleppo, returning by Edlip, Rieha, Keft el Bara, Kalah el Medik (Apamca), Hamah, Homs, the sources of the Orontes, and Baalbek to Damascus. Dr. Zimpel dwelt particularly on the extensive ruins of towns, monasteries and churches of the early Christians to be met with in the mountains around Dana (Mount St. Simon, &c.), and near Edlip, Rieha and Keft el Bara, and which it is to be regretted have not as yet been visited by competent artists. He also states that at Apamca, at the west end of the city, he found a colonnade of from 18,000 to 12,000 feet in length, consisting of four rows of pillars, with the space of about 30 feet between each double row. The pillars were 30 feet in height — some standing, many tumbled down — of the Corinthian order. There appears to have been small edifices at intervals on each side of the colonnade, and at the extremity large and extensive buildings.

**SCIENTIFIC GOSSIP.** — MM. Malaguti, Durocher and Sarzeaud announce that they have detected in the waters of the ocean the presence of copper, lead and silver. The water examined appears to have been taken some leagues off the coast of St. Malo, and the fucoid plants of that district are also found to contain silver. The *F. serratus* and the *F. ceramoides* yielded ashes containing 1-100000th, while the water of the sea contained but little more than 1-100000000th. They state also that they find silver in sea salt, in ordinary muriatic acid, and in the soda of commerce; and that they have examined the rock salt of Lorraine, in which also they discover this metal. Beyond this, pursuing their researches on terrestrial plants, they have obtained such indications as leave no doubt of the existence of silver in vegetable tissues. Lead is said to be always found in the ashes of marine plants, usually about an 18-1000000th part, — and invariably a trace of copper. Should these results be confirmed by further examination, we shall have advanced considerably towards a knowledge of the phenomena of the formation of mineral veins.

#### MEETINGS FOR THE ENSUING WEEK.

- Mon. British Architects, 8.
- Pathological, half-past 7. — Meeting of Council.
- Statistical, 8.
- Tues. Civil Engineers, 8. — Rev. J. C. Clutterbuck 'On the Periodical Alterations and Progressive Permanent Depression of the Chalk Water Level under London.'
- Zoological, 9. — Scientific Business.
- Wed. Society of Arts, 8.
- Geological, half-past 8. — Mr. Prestwich 'On the Basement Bed of the London Clay.'
- Thurs. Royal, half-past 8.
- Antiquaries, 8.
- Royal Academy, 8. — Architecture.
- Royal Society of Literature, 4.
- Numismatic, 7.
- Fri. Royal Institution, half-past 8. — Prof. Brande 'On the Theory and Practice of the Manufacture of Sugar.'
- Philological, 8.

#### FINE ARTS

*A Treatise on the Rise and Progress of Decorated Window Tracery in England.* By Edmund Sharpe, M.A., Architect. 2 vols. Van Voorst.

ALMOST totally unknown to classical architecture — at least to its religious and monumental structures — and of little or no artistic value in the Byzantine and Romanesque styles, Fenestration is one of the most important characteristics of Gothic; — so important that its varieties are now classed according to windows and their tracery. Hence the terms *Decorated* and *Perpendicular*, which in themselves are so arbitrary as to be apt to mislead the uninitiated. These, understanding them literally, may be excused for fancying the New Palace of Westminster to be in the *Decorated* style, instead of in the *Perpendicular*; more especially as Mr. Barry's edifice is strikingly marked by horizontality of composition. Even with respect to windows the so-called *Perpendicular* exhibits a degree of horizontality unknown to the other styles of Gothic from which the name distinguishes it; the lights of the windows being divided into stages by transoms or cross-bars. Pannelling also contributes greatly to produce numerous horizontal



lines and mouldings:—a circumstance that has led Mr. Ruskin to vent his bitter dislike of that style altogether, by comparing it, more whimsically than elegantly, to “the reticulations of a mason’s sieve.”

With the exception of the first, or Lancet style of it, Gothic is infinitely more indebted to its windows for effect and distinctness of character than any other style whatever; since whereas, in others the window decoration is confined to external dressings around the aperture,—in Gothic, decoration is extended to the aperture itself, and so applied that the pattern, or tracery, exhibits itself distinctly whether beheld from without or from within the building. In modern church architecture, on the contrary,—that is, such as prevailed till within the last twenty years—the windows, or at least the apertures, are little better than so many eye-sores; the glazing itself being of the most ordinary description, and such as to produce a sullen and squalid appearance. The windows of St. Paul’s, for instance, are sad disfigurements of that noble pile; and we suspect that the decided superiority of Gothic in the matter of such essential features as windows has been one cause of that style being now reverted to for churches. It must be confessed, however, that the frequency of modern Early English does not favour such a notion; that first stage of Gothic being resorted to in order to get rid of mullions and tracery, rather than for the purpose of adopting its better characteristics and the artist-like spirit manifested in its details and embellishments. Modern meanness of execution is totally different from primitive rudeness. As regards traceried windows, too, modern work is, or has been, unsatisfactory, if not with respect to the general design of windows and the pattern of their tracery, for a certain feebleness and tameness. Much as is talked about “proportions,” little attention is paid to the proportions to be observed for mullions and tracery bars,—with respect to which it is infinitely better and safer to err on the side of too much than at all on the side of too little. The latter fault occasions a look of flimsiness and meagreness.

But it is time to say something of the publication which has given rise to our remarks. Mr. Sharpe is in one respect the direct opposite of Mr. Ruskin: the illustrations in his book being as admirable—as brilliant and luminous—as those in ‘The Seven Lamps’ are dismal. They are not only superlative in quality, but also abundant in quantity,—their entire number being 163. They possess the great recommendation of exhibiting effect as well as mere form and design; the subjects being fully shadowed instead of being in outline merely,—which latter less satisfactory mode is now the prevailing one for architectural engravings. Though no scales are drawn, that of each subject is expressed beneath it in the proportion of so many feet to an inch; besides which, the principal dimensions of each window are stated in the letter-press description,—a convenience so obvious that it ought to be adopted in all similar publications. Although all the examples here collected are of interest,—suggestive also, of other combinations of tracery, &c.—they are, as may be supposed, not all of equal merit. Among those to which we give the preference, not so much on account of their tracery as for their general composition and effect, are, the window from Wells Chapter-house, and those from Milton Abbey and St. Mary’s, Beverley. All these are remarkable for that in which some of the other examples are deficient,—boldness and richness in regard to the “window arch” and its joint mouldings and foot-splay.—For the last term we do not know if there be authority; but it may be allowed to stand as one that is useful, if not in use.

In case of another edition, we would suggest to Mr. Sharpe that there might be a second list of the subjects arranged according to the number of “lights” in the windows, varying from two to eight; and the size or extreme dimensions of each window might be expressed there also, in order to facilitate comparison between them in that respect.

We should like to see the same popular mode of illustration taken up for other styles of architecture:—that is, for those which are actually practised by us, but which Ecclesiologists ignore.

**FINE ART GOSSIP.**—On Wednesday last the annual distribution of prizes to the students of the Government

School of Design took place at Somerset House:—the Right Hon. Henry Labouchere being in the chair, supported by Lord Granville, Sir Richard Westmacott, and several other members of the Committee of Privy Council for Trade. The Report stated that the School was progressing favourably;—the number of students, that of attendances, and consequently the amount of fees, being on the increase. In reference to the “Grand Exposition” which is to take place in the year 1851, the masters of the school have expressed a hope that, since that scheme must influence design in all countries, and draw out the most earnest energies of our designers, all assistance which could be rendered would be brought immediately to bear on the studies of the present year. “Should it be determined that the Schools of Design shall contribute to that Exposition the *élite* of their productions, it would be desirable that early information thereof be communicated; and in such case they trust that their Lordships will extend with no sparing hand such pecuniary aid as may be thought adequate to the execution of designs otherwise too costly for individual means.”

There is little prospect, as far as the revelations of auctioneers’ advertisements go, of a good show of pictures at Christie’s, or at Phillips’s, or at Foster’s, during the present season. The few last years—what with deaths at home and revolutions on the Continent—have pretty well exhausted the collections likely to pass under the hammer of the auctioneer. But chance or caprice may make a change before the season is over. Meantime we see little of consequence announced beyond one or two choice things belonging to the late Du Roveray, whose name is honourably connected with illustrated books—the sketches after old masters which Mr. Bamard’s position at the British Institution enabled him to bring together,—and the finished or unfinished studies and pictures which Mr. Etty’s patrons suffered to pass unpurchased.

The Liverpool papers furnish a new example of the successful application of the modern discovery that the poor man may look at pictures without tearing them—and would like to look at them if you would let him. It begins to be pretty generally understood that the lower orders of Englishmen are not precisely the savages which the “fine old English gentleman” thought them,—but have a capacity which may be conveniently and prudently encouraged for apprehending even the higher signs and expressions of civilization. The social laws which kept men ignorant and then stigmatized them as such have fallen into discredit, and the long intellectual waste is in course of reclamation all over the country. An Exhibition of paintings which has been open in Liverpool during the last sixteen weeks has for the closing month been accessible to the working classes at twopenny each for adults and one penny for children. If the twopenny be a sum low enough to represent the ability, it is quite high enough among the working classes to represent also the desire. The result is, that the weekly receipts have been as great during the past month as when the admission was a shilling. The average weekly attendance during the month in question has been upwards of 3,250—six times greater than the attendance at the original charge. No doubt many persons availed themselves of the lower price who could have afforded the higher,—so that the twelve or thirteen thousand who have gone in under the popular arrangement do not exactly represent the gain out of the long proscribed class to the population of inquirers into matters of taste. But the inference is, that a large proportion of this number would be of the order intended to be benefited by the reduction in price—and the fact is stated to be so. The Liverpool papers do not report any social or artistic calamity in consequence.

At Cork, a School of Design was last week inaugurated in the Institution of that town. The Head Master is Mr. Willes. Mr. Roche, the President of the Cork Institution, a kind of literary patriarch in the town, occupied the chair of a meeting whose character and numbers presented a favourable omen for the success of the new school.

It was announced, some time since, in the journals of Vicenza, that in the assault on that city the picture of Paul Veronese representing ‘Christ in the Costume of a Pilgrim at the Table of Gregory the

Great’ had been cut in pieces by the sabres of Austrian soldiers. It is now said that all the scattered pieces—seven in number—have been found, and that an attempt is making to restore the picture.

## MUSIC AND THE DRAMA

### NEW PUBLICATIONS.

*Dix Mélodies*, par Pauline Viardot. *Album de Chant pour 1850.*—The other day M. Berlioz characterized this New Year’s book as an Album containing nothing good—save the music. To perfidious English eyes, also, its binding appears more tawdry than substantial. Its illustrations are common-place expositions of Sentimentality in a boat-cloak, Sentimentality with a Samson’s beard,—Sentimentality in a fancy peasant costume. But we further accredit the *mot* of our French friend and *camarade*,—and shall dwell emphatically on its saving clause, for more than one sufficient reason. These compositions by Madame Viardot are better than much which passes for good in music: they are individual in style—not assuredly Italian—not strictly German—not precisely French. Their originality does not reside in their “melodies” so much as in their entire structure. In many cases the accompaniment is not an accessory to the song, it is an essential. In ‘Marie et Julie,’ for instance, its vacillation and changes of modulation convey the indecision of the *Paris* who balances his admiration for the pair of divinities whom he worships,—voice and piano combining to produce one of the most complete illustrations of a mood of mind existing in music. We do not recollect a *lied* by Schubert more complete than this. We do not recollect any with so much *finesse*. Then, in ‘La Petite Chevière,’ quaintly pastoral as the *cantilena* is made by the recurrence of a certain interval, it is the accompaniment which gives freshness and animation to the call of the mountain girl. The same remark applies to ‘La Luciole,’ the pianoforte part of which is charmingly ingenious and fantastic. Other of the “melodies” are more purely vocal. ‘Solitude’ is a *Siciliana*, as simple as can be,—yet neither trite nor insipid. The ‘Villanelle’ is an invention in another style, and will, perhaps, prove the most enticing canvas for the singer among the half score here collected. The ‘Chanson de Loïc,’ again, is pastoral with a most wildly-sprightly burden, calling in its delivery for “humour” as well as for technical training. The best of the series (to our thinking) is the ‘Tarentelle,’ with which it concludes. As was remarked some weeks ago, to write a good ‘Tarentelle’ is no longer easy: especially to write one for the voice, of which the agility is necessarily limited. Here, however, the feat is done: that mixture of Southern glow and savagery which belongs to the dance is thrown into the song with an amount of novelty and spirit nothing short of masterly. The *coda* will tax to the utmost the most accomplished and ready vocalist. On the whole, there is no examining this collection of *Mélodies* (unpretending and ephemeral though the form be) without receiving the impression that Madame Viardot is capable of doing in her art what no woman before her has done, in more ways than one. To her we owe the highest manifestation of dramatic genius in musical tragedy as yet on record: for this, and nothing less—after due comparison and reflection—must her *Fides* be rated by the historian of Opera. In this ‘Album’ she throws out evidences of power to imagine and to complete works which, without indulgence or qualification, shall take their place amongst the best music of like form and order written by men.

*Seconde Grande Sonata, pour le Pianoforte.* Par Stephen Heller. Op. 65.—This is a noticeable production: full of thought, full of energy—original in style, and excessively difficult: as highly-finished an example of the new manner of composition applied to the old forms as occurs to us. There are chords in it which would have made the timid hearts of our grandfathers ache,—extensions of hand (to be commanded at a moment’s warning) such as the Mozarts, Clementis, and even Hummels never dreamed of,—passages of melody as richly laden with accompaniment as if every player possessed the composure, force, and tone of Thalberg; but also, throughout the entire composition there is that *je ne sais quoi* of



picturesque and romantic taste which reminds us that we are living in a time when Music runs some danger of being pushed across the boundaries which separate it from Poetry and Picture. To specify more precisely:—the first movement is an *allegro con fuoco*, in a minor  $\frac{3}{4}$  tempo, demanding power, readiness and precision, which shall never flag, and the effect of which is dependent on these conditions. The second movement is a *balade* in B major, tempo  $\frac{3}{4}$  *moderato*: in which there is as much melody as peculiarity of idea. It is full of new-fashioned touches. Throughout the first page, for instance, the obstinacy of the chord of B major in the accompaniment (producing an effect, though piquant, somewhat *bizarre*), belongs to our own audacious days. As the *balade* flows on the treatment becomes less mannered. The close is delightful, and the movement may be generally described as one of great beauty. We less like the following *intermezzo moderato* in E minor  $\frac{3}{4}$ . This appears to us to fall to the ground betwixt a *menuetto* and a *scherzo*: it is further relieved only in seeming, not in reality, by what may be called the *trio* in E flat major.—Lastly comes the *finale*, here miscalled an *epilogue*,—that is, a thing superfluous and appendical to the drama, a discourse after the curtain has fallen. Now, this *molto vivace* (in B minor common time) is the fiery energetic fourth act, exceeding in grandeur and interest all that has gone before it, which, according to old canonical rule, is demanded to bring the *Sonata* to its close. The difficulty of this *finale* is enormous, but its subject is large and bold, and it is excellent matter for practice to those whom no difficulty repels. As a whole this *Sonata* is too symphonic in style; and not merely so, but also, for a symphonic work, it is too little relieved by contrast and episode. This characteristic is generic to the new school of writers. When they arrange a score they never seem weary of the fullest orchestra. When they produce a *Sonata* they never appear to lose the notion that they are about a *Toccata*, or a *Study* in which time is lost and interest suspended,—should they fail for a single dozen bars to employ the eight fingers and two thumbs. Their works are apt to sound monotonous, owing to this false manner of loading every detail, of strangling every idea, of rendering climax impossible by beginning from the first with a full peal of thunder. To many of the new musical composers, or *dis-composers*, our speculations would be merely *caviare*,—but among these is not M. Heller. In this ambitious work (as also in the shorter essays by him recently noticed) so much genius and science are evidenced, such unmistakable traces of individuality present themselves, that he well merits strict truth and plain remonstrance conjointly with high praise.

**SACRED HARMONIC SOCIETY.**—‘*St. Paul*.’—The performance of this Oratorio under M. Costa’s direction is equivalent to its introduction in London. If we were merely to treat it as an isolated work, such an event would be one of more than ordinary musical importance; but the interest of the production is greatly quickened by natural desire to compare Mendelssohn’s first with his second Oratorio. So long a period has elapsed since former performances, and so imperfect was the best English one on which the *Athenæum* has ever reported, that we are not beating old ground in offering some general remarks on the work, with a view to determining its right place among its writer’s compositions.

It may be remarked, first, that throughout ‘*St. Paul*’ its then young composer’s science, if not positively obtruded, makes itself remarked more prominently than science should do, be the work ever so scientific. There is in no case here so rigorous an example of strict writing as Handel has given, for instance, in his chorus “Let all the angels of God,” in ‘*The Messiah*,’—yet some of the choruses of ‘*St. Paul*’ sound stiffer. So, also, the peculiar harmonies which Mendelssohn combined from his study of the ancients and moderns are here paraded: whereas, in his later works—the ‘*Lobgesang*,’ the ‘*Elijah*,’ the ‘*Lauda Sion*’—they fall into their places without any singularity arresting the ear. Whether (to instance two particular cases) Mendelssohn, at a later period of his life, would have scored the first page of his overture as it here stands with the peculiar harmonies given to the *corale*,—or would have been satisfied with the effect of the obstinate

pedal bass in the symphony to the magnificent chorus ‘*Arise and shine*,’—are matters which may be questioned. We observe, too, generally, how largely the composer had advanced in individuality, contrast and beauty of first ideas, in the interval betwixt ‘*St. Paul*’ and ‘*Elijah*.’ The latter work is from beginning to end a stream of melody, with very few sands interrupting or shallows slackening its flow. In the ‘*St. Paul*’ the felicitous first thoughts are fewer in number. They are almost catalogued in a list which includes the four songs one for each voice of the quartet,—the choruses, ‘*Stone him to death*,’ ‘*O happy and blest are they*’ (a specimen surpassed by no writer, ancient or modern, for devotional sweetness, funereal pathos, and originality),—the scene of the Conversion,—and, in the second act, the choruses, ‘*How lovely are the messengers*,’ and ‘*O be gracious*.’ Compared with these *numbers*—to use the orchestral term of specification—the other portions of ‘*St. Paul*,’ though grand, firmly elaborated, never chargeable with a secular taint, nor unworthy as vigorous parts of a solid work, are poor in their first inventions. We have been long convinced of the power possessed by every intelligent musician who does not early become intoxicated by vanity or by some notion of “writing on system” to nourish, deepen, and emancipate,—rather than exhaust,—his vein of melody by working it:—and in these two Oratorios, at least, we find a signal illustration of the fact, too precious to be cast aside without close scrutiny.

Another characteristic of ‘*St. Paul*,’ as distinguished from ‘*Elijah*,’ brings us upon the delicate ground of protest,—at which many of our German friends and fellow-thinkers on Music will part company with us. This is, the liberal introduction of the *Corale*, or Psalm tune,—an expedient which, in spite of the formidable authority of Sebastian Bach, we cannot but think a mistake, on clearly intelligible principles of art. To quote what was long ago published elsewhere on the subject,—“Considering, as we do, psalmody to be essentially Service-music, having its own place and purpose and emotions, there appears to us to be a certain heterogeneity in interpolating what is a direct breathing of prayer and praise into a work which, however religious in spirit, is narrative, dramatic, pictorial,—not purely devotional. In such a composition as the ‘*Lobgesang*,’ which is but a long hymn, a *Corale* is in its place. It may be dramatically used, too,—as when put into the mouths of the interlocutors at proper times: but, when generally employed as a medium of narration, it seems to us an introduction retarding interest, weakening effect, and confounding the impressions of one place with those of another.”—Be it insisted, however, that we put forth this objection with great deference to the high musical authorities who have waived it.

Once more—the distance betwixt ‘*St. Paul*’ and ‘*Elijah*’ may be in part measured by the inferior interest of the *solo* portion of the former Oratorio. This, perhaps, may be estimated by quantity rather than by quality; but it is a point not to be lost sight of when the two works are appraised. Thus, the *soprano* voice has to deliver the leading part in a *Corale*, certain fragments of recitative, and two airs, one of which is perhaps Mendelssohn’s weakest sacred song. The *contralto* has her solitary *arioso*,—which, however, is a gem of rare peculiarity; and the tenor a long accompanied recitative, a part in the concerted music, a duet, and his air,—which comes too near the close of the Oratorio to receive the justice deserved by its great beauty. Even in the principal part which, in ‘*St. Paul*’ as in ‘*Elijah*,’ is allotted to the *basso*, Mendelssohn’s full strength, originality, and that mixture of passion with devotional expression which colour his second work, are shown but once in his first Oratorio—being put forth in the air ‘*O God, have mercy*.’ There is hardly a bar of *Elijah*’s music which we can fancy deepened, heightened, or added to. As a last hint towards the settlement of precedence, we would point out that all the choral portions of ‘*St. Paul*’ are more difficult to execute, and therefore less purely written for the voice, than those of ‘*Elijah*.’ If it be true—as we entirely believe,—that what is essentially crabbed to sing can never be wholly pleasant to hear, because it cannot as a matter of certainty be comfortably executed with such self-abandonment as admits of

expression, *nuance*, &c.,—this characteristic is not the least important among those which have been here brought together.

To sum up, then:—As regards freedom, fancy, force, or felicity of design and execution, we find ‘*St. Paul*’ but as the morning; while ‘*Elijah*’ is the glowing noon, without a cloud, without a sharp air,—the radiant and complete expression of life in its maturity and power in its glory. But we have expressed ourselves ill if the above remarks be thought to imply disparagement of a composition which but for ‘*Elijah*’ is unparagoned in sacred music since the days when Handel ceased to write,—as being more serious in subject than Haydn’s *Cantatas*, less theatrical than Beethoven’s dramatic sacred scene, and possessing a power, solidity and variety which stamp it as made of more enduring metal than Spohr’s interesting but mannered and essentially flimsy Oratorios. Fanaticism implies as much of self-assertion as of true love;—and an attempt to range the works of a great and thoughtful writer, whose motto in deed as well as in word was ‘*Excelsior*,’ can be mistaken for irreverence only by persons irreverent to Truth.—On the occasion of the repetition of ‘*St. Paul*’ on the 25th, it is our intention to speak of the peculiarities, &c. of its present performance in London. During the last fortnight, the Oratorio has been carefully executed in Manchester; the *solo* singers being Miss Birch, Miss M. Williams, Mr. Benson, and Mr. H. Phillips—and the conductor, Mr. Benedict.

**ST. JAMES’S.**—During the nineteen years which have elapsed since ‘*Zampa*’ was first produced at the *Théâtre Feydeau*, the opera has been given here in every musical language except its own,—in English, in German, in Italian: the work being one of the very few French operas which have been accepted in Italy. On Wednesday we had, at last, the drama as it was originally composed; the part of *Zampa*, generally allotted to a *baritone*, was written for a mixed voice like M. Chollet’s, and if retrenched either of its high or of its low notes, loses much of its dash and brilliancy. This Hérold’s music cannot afford to do—seeing that he gives his hero only one really grand phrase to deliver (in the *stretto* of his final duet), the rest of *Zampa*’s occupation being musically frivolous, consisting of tunes in themselves totally beneath the dignity of serious drama. The latter remark applies to the *solo* portions of the heroine’s part—and it is these *solo* proportions, we believe, which prevent the opera from taking a rank deserved by its general vivacity, variety, and grace of melody. We may parenthetically add that a like drawback impairs the musical solidity of Auber’s ‘*La Muette*.’ But, to the matter in hand:—‘*Zampa*’ is very well given by Mr. Mitchell’s *troupe*. M. Chollet is, even now, more effective in his part than any successor. Madame Charton is graceful and sympathetic (to use the word as the Italians do) as *Camille*. The parts of *Ritta* by Madame Guichard—of *Daniel* by M. Soyer, whose “making-up” is a study,—and of *Dandolo* by M. Chateaufort, are excellently sustained. M. Killy Leroy, on the other hand, is totally unequal to *Alfonse*. Save for an occasional slackness of tempo which French music will not bear, however apt Belgian conductors are to permit or to encourage it,—the music, as a whole, went very well; the resources of the theatre taken into account.

**PLAYMARKET.**—At this house Mr. Buckstone has supplied a fund of humour and pathos in his drama of ‘*Leap Year*’; or, the Ladies’ Privilege—produced on Tuesday. The privilege alluded to is to be found in a pseudo ‘Act to amend the Laws of Courtship and Matrimony,’ published in 1601, which gives to the women “as every bissextile year doth return” the privilege of making love to the men. Of this privilege the heroine of the play avails herself under singular circumstances. Her husband has bound her by will to marry within two years after his decease, on pain of her estate passing to a kinsman:—which kinsman, indeed, within three days of the expiration of the limited time insists on taking an inventory of the property. Love resists compulsion; and the lady has not been able to select a husband, although her friend Miss Sally O’Leary (Mrs. Fitzwilliam) hunts up plenty of candidates for the situation. A *Captain Mouser* (Mr. Selby)—a fast man Mr. Dimple (Mr. Buck-



stone)—and a nervous valetudinarian Sir Solomon Solus (Mr. Keeley) are all introduced and rejected. Driven at length to extremities, Mrs. Flowerdew (Mrs. C. Kean) finds, to her horror, that she entertains an unsuspected passion for her own footman, William Walker (Mr. Charles Kean)—whose attentions to his mistress have been signally close. A long struggle between love and pride ensues; and after being guilty of many extravagancies, she is reduced to the necessity of proposing to him though a menial. It turns out that William is the kinsman in disguise, who had determined, if possible, to become himself her husband and save her fortune. The composition of this drama is elaborate and sustained, even to tediousness,—and its extravagance is produced to an extreme of the ludicrous scarcely supportable; but such are its indisputable merits, notwithstanding, such the skill and pains with which it is acted and put on the stage, that its success will probably be of long continuance. It is in pieces of domestic life that Mr. and Mrs. Kean peculiarly shine,—and in comedies like this, both are fast approaching to the finish of the French stage. The house was full, and the applause frequent,—as was also the laughter, both on and off the stage.

**SADLER'S WELLS.**—The tragedy of 'Calaynos' was given on Wednesday for the first time this season. The part of the hero is evidently a favourite with Mr. Phelps, and he plays it with judgment and effect. It is this which probably in his apprehension atones for the want of dramatic power and purpose in its general structure and subject. Since its former representation the tragedy has been revised; and the intermediate scene of the last act, which perilled its success on its original production, has received much and judicious alteration. It would yet be well to get rid of it altogether. The cast differs in two important particulars from the previous performances, the part of Donna Alda being now supported by Miss Glyn and that of Martina by Miss Fitzpatrick. Miss Glyn gave a very refined interpretation to the scholar's wife. Her acting relied wholly on delicacy and truthfulness, and abstained from theatrical points. Miss Fitzpatrick was a vivacious abigail, but neither boisterous nor vulgar. The house continues to be crowded.

**MUSICAL AND DRAMATIC GOSSIP.**—This has been rather a busy concert week, the time of year considered. On Monday were held Mr. Allcroft's,—and Mr. Willy's Fourth Chamber Concert. This series has been hitherto so successful as to lead its projector, we are told, to contemplate its extension.—On Tuesday, Mr. E. W. Thomas—our esteem for whom as a zealous musician and excellent player need not now be told—commenced a series of three Quartett and Solo Concerts at the Marylebone Literary and Scientific Institution,—on which occasion, among other works of interest, Mr. C. E. Horsley's Quartett No. 2 (of which, if we mistake not, we have already had an opportunity of speaking) was performed.—M. Alexandre Billet was to commence his series of three pianoforte Soirées on the same evening, at the Beethoven Rooms.—We are informed that the Society of British Musicians is about soon to give some chamber concerts in the Lecture Room, St. Martin's Hall.—The Society of Choral Harmonists will resume its performances in the City on Monday next.

It is understood in musical circles that Mr. Benedict and M. Vivier are engaged in the joint composition of an opera. We do not remember an instance of like collaboration in Music. For the opera-houses of Paris a libretto has more than once been divided into acts, to be set by different masters,—but rarely with happy result. M. Vivier's remarkable originality of melody, however, justifies us in expecting something interesting and beautiful.

This week we happen to be more than usually rich in illustrations of foreign humour as shown in Art. The French musical journals announce the death of Signor Romagnesi, long familiar to romance-singers as one who produced such gossamer ware in high perfection. The funeral service was performed over his remains in the Church of Notre Dame de Lorette, in a manner worth recording. "M. Panzeron," the well-known romance melodist, says the

*Gazette Musicale*, "made for the occasion a new application of the happy idea employed by him at the funerals of other composers. He arranged to Latin words; as a *Lacrymosa* and a *Pie Jesu*, the charming melodies of two romances, 'L'Angelus' and 'Depuis longtemps j'ai aimé Adèle.' This improvisation, well executed by some of the author's pupils, produced on those who were present an impression of sweet and religious melancholy which no other music could have equalled." Certainly, "we order things differently in England;" and should Mr. Balfe die,—which Music forbid for many a year! we should not bury him to the tune of his own 'Marble halls,'—nor even to his 'Light of other days'—forced into unison with the words of Tate and Brady.

M. Limnander, the composer of 'Les Monténégrins' [see *Ath.* No. 1120], a Belgian by birth, has been complimented at Antwerp and Mechlin with torch processions and serenades in the picturesque continental fashion; and has further, in the latter "drowsy old town," as M. Victor Hugo might call it, received, at the hands of the Burgomaster, the cross of the Order of Leopold, by royal order.

At a grand concert given at Charlottenburg, near Berlin, the other day, in celebration of the betrothal of the Princess Charlotte, the programme included copious selections from Mr. Balfe's 'Bondman.'—Among the other Berlin theatrical amusements during the winter, we read of transparencies reproducing the pictures of Raphael, Rubens, &c.,—such exhibition having been accompanied by vocal music selected from the compositions of ancient and modern masters.

—M. Gungl, whom we know but as coming after Lanner, Strauss and Labitzky, as a director of dance-orchestras and a composer of most provocative polkas,—has been nominated by the King of Prussia music-director: we hope director merely of dance-music; otherwise such a fact, taken in conjunction with the two other pieces of Berlin news which it here accompanies (to which the recently announced transmogrification of 'Der Freischütz' may be added) would justify grave fears that the same year which sees the rising of constitutional liberty in the pedantic Prussian metropolis may also witness the extinction of musical taste and sobriety. This cluster of *notanda*, at all events, may be fairly propounded to the Von Raumers and other high-flown German travellers who have been thrown into spasms of disdain at the predicament of Music in England, the low estate of public taste here, and the false direction of our aristocratic patronage.

French singers appear to be the rage in Spain; where, if we mistake not, Italian opera only is given. Madame Rossi-Caccia and M. Derivis are supreme at Barcelona; and M. Euzet, best known as the *Second Anabaptist* in the first cast of 'Le Prophète,' is gone to Madrid. Viewed from whichever side we please, what a revolutionary reel Music seems to be dancing just now!

While the *Grand Opéra* of Paris exists mainly on the works of one composer—Meyerbeer,—the *Opéra Comique* seems able to produce, in agreeably quick succession, one pleasant new work after another—many of which suffice to satisfy an audience naturally anxious for novelty. We note this fact, for the governance of all who interest themselves in operatic enterprises, home or foreign.—The last work produced at the *Opéra Comique* is 'Les Porcherons,' a three-act work, the music by M. Albert Grisar:—which, as described in the *feuilleton* of *Le National*, is an attractive work, showing a not unwelcome leaning towards the elderly—not old—style of classical Italian *buffo* music. To pass to the *Théâtre Ventadour*:—we hear from witnesses who may be relied on of the continued success of Mdlle. Vera at the Italian Opera there. It is even said that she may possibly essay characters no less ambitious than *Semiramide* and *Norma*. If this be true, such promotion should argue high expectations on the part of her manager. Rarely has artist on any stage had worse chances than befell Mdlle. Vera in London; whose past failure at once enhances our pleasure in her present success, and illustrates the intelligence of the management under whose auspices she here appeared,—or, to speak more correctly, was not allowed to appear.—The new *tenore*, Signor Lucchesi, does not appear to "make way" in Paris,—as all lovers of Opera must desire he should. It too often happens (as in this case we are told) that the vocalists

who have now the reputation in Italy of possessing executive power prove but unfinished when they are heard by the undeaftened ears of Parisian or Londoner.—Another correspondent from Paris writes in raptures of Madame Viardot's singing in the first act of the ever-green 'Il Barbiere,' recently given on the occasion of Madame Rose-Chéri's benefit.—Signor Mario's success at St. Petersburg in 'Lucrezia' is described as something extraordinary even in that land of theatrical excitement. We shall not be surprised to hear of his coming back with a Field-Marshal's *bâton*!

We are sorry to have to record the death of Mrs. Bartley, in her sixty-fifth year. She was an actress of satisfactory excellence rather than of original genius; but by way of determining her place, to her credit it must be recorded that she could keep the London stage as Miss Smith in the first tragic and comic parts even before Mrs. Siddons had utterly disappeared from it. In particular, she made an impression on the public by her admirable delivery of Collins's 'Ode on the Passions.' Subsequently she married the meritorious comic actor,—made, with him, a tour in the United States,—and retired some years ago from the stage upon an easy competence, the fruits of her professional exertions. Mrs. Bartley was an intelligent and accomplished lady,—whose society was cultivated by some of the most distinguished and select men and women of letters belonging to her time.

#### MISCELLANEA

**Public Funds and Public Works.**—It is now believed, in well-informed quarters, that the practice of annually voting large grants for public buildings will be abandoned, and that a fund, redeemable at a certain period, will be created specially for carrying on works sanctioned by Parliament; that it will be managed independently of the office of Woods, &c. The interest of the debt, and such further interest as will secure its redemption, will be annually voted by Parliament; thus securing a more complete check on estimate and expenditure. The impolicy of taxing the present generation for works intended for many ages is at length admitted. Under the new system, works to a large amount, giving employment to thousands of artisans, may be carried on, to the great benefit of the community at large, and with a burthen easy to be borne.—*Builder.*

**Continental Travelling.**—Arrangements that greatly facilitate our Continental travelling have been completed between the South-Eastern Railway Company and the administrations of the Boulogne and Amiens and the Great Northern of France lines,—and came into operation on the first day of the present year. Travellers may now book themselves through, and obtain direct tickets, from London to Paris, Brussels, Malines, Aix-la-Chapelle, or Cologne,—and there is to be no examination of luggage until the passenger arrives at his destination. The direct tickets issued at the London Bridge Station of the South-Eastern Railway are to be available by any of the South-Eastern Continental Steamship Company's steamers running between Folkestone and Boulogne, and by the English and French Government mailboats, as well as by the steamships of the South-Eastern and Continental Company between Dover and Calais. The through fares are as follows:—

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First-class passengers travelling by South-Eastern express trains have to pay an additional 2s., and second-class passengers, 7s. 4d.—*Times.*

**How the Lawyers came by their Patron Saint.**—And now because I am speaking of pettyfoggers, give me leave to tell you a story I met with when I lived in Rome. Going with a Romane to see some Antiquities, he showed me a chapel dedicated to one St. Evona, a lawyer of Britannie, who he said came to Rome to entreat the Pope to give the lawyers of Britannie a patron, to which the Pope replied, That he knew of no Saint but what was disposed of to other professions. At which Evona was very sad, and earnestly begged of the Pope to think of one for



him. At last the Pope proposed to St. Evona that he should go round the church of St. John de Latera blindfolded, and after he had said so many Ave Marias, that the first Saint he layd hold of should be his patron, which the good old lawyer willingly undertook; and at the end of his Ave Maryes he stopt at Saint Michels altar, where he layd hold of the Divell, under Saint Michels feet, and cryd out, This is our Saint, let him be our Patron. So being unblindfolded, and seeing what a patron he had chosen, he went to his lodgings so dejected, that in a few moneths after he die'd.—*Notes and Queries.*

*Wright's Patent Steam Generator.*—The principle of the invention consists in applying to the boilers of steam-engines an arrangement of what are called "cellular vessels," formed of malleable cast iron, one vessel being placed underneath the boiler and over the fire, while the other is placed within the boiler. They are connected by means of bent tubes, so as to have a free communication with each other, but are insulated as regards the water in the boiler. They are charged with water, which, except from any slight unavoidable waste, is never changed, and there is a small safety-valve connected with them which is so loaded that the temperature of the insulated water contained in the cellular vessels may, if necessary, be raised to 400° or 500° of Fahrenheit without forming into steam. The vessels, therefore, remain perfectly charged, and the insulated water in the lower vessel taking up the principal portion of the heat of the fire rises by its inferior gravity through the bent tubes, and is diffused through all parts of the cellular vessel within the boiler. The excess of heat is then instantly given off to the water in the boiler, and the insulated water descends by increased gravity to take up a fresh charge of heat. The result of the experiments recently made with this ingenious invention was an evaporation at the rate of 12 8-10ths of water to 1 lb. of coal, the rate given by the present construction of boilers being stated at 8 lb. of water to 1 lb. of coal. Besides the saving of fuel which would thus appear to be effected, there is also the obvious advantage that the flame hardly impinges upon the boiler from the intervention of the cellular vessel, and the boiler is thus saved from the rapid deterioration to which it is now exposed by the excessive heat which plays upon it. The principle of the invention is equally applicable to every boiling and evaporating process; but if after a more extensive practical experience it is found to answer, the economy which it secures will probably be most advantageously felt in the case of marine engines, the space required for the stowage of fuel in steam-vessels being at present so very large.—*Times.*

*Colouring Bricks.*—A patent has been granted at New York, to Mr. C. B. Doty, Cortlandt, Westchester County, N.Y., for a "peculiar process and manipulation of mixing colouring materials with the moulding sand for the surface of bricks, and the pressing the same upon and into the surface, so as to produce bricks of a uniform colour upon the surface, as well as of a uniform shape and smoothness, the same being effected with greater economy than by mixing a sufficient quantity of colouring matter to colour the whole body of the brick; and this, regardless of any particular colouring matter or special colour to be produced when the bricks are burned."—*Builder.*

*Hulne Abbey.*—Workmen have recently been engaged in removing the accumulated rubbish within the walls of Hulne Abbey, near Alnwick. The church, which was choked up with underwood, has been excavated to some depth, and the original flooring exposed to view,—a few monuments being uncovered. The foundations of the cloisters have also been reached; and it is expected that the removal of the debris will throw some light upon the history of this ancient monastery, besides improving the appearance of the ruins.—*Newcastle Chronicle.*

TO CORRESPONDENTS.—C. J. C.—R. A. K.—H. W. H.—G. C. C.—R. T.—W. H. W.—H. E. S.—A. L. X.—Miss C.—A. B.—received.

A SUBSCRIBER—who writes critically on Mr. Walter Savage Landor's Epitaph on Lady Blessington—is clearly wrong.

The TITLE-PAGE and INDEX to the volume for 1849 will be given with our next number.

Jan. 19, 1850.

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1811	1000	33 19 2	ditto	231 17 8
1818	1000	34 16 10	ditto	114 18 10

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Policy No.	Date.	Sum Insured.	Bonuses added.	Total with Additions, to be further increased.
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1174	1810	1200	119 5 6	2490 5 6
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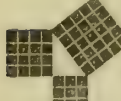
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## REVIEWS

*The Life of Torquato Tasso.* By the Rev. R. Milman. Colburn.

THE life of Tasso will always claim an interest of its own, beyond that which is due to all whose genius has won them lasting remembrance. In the harsh contrast which it shows between the misfortunes of the man and the glory of the poet, there lies one of the deepest marks of a certain tragic element in human destiny,—the appearance of which, always irresistible in its appeal to the feelings of men, is especially impressive when the victim is found among the foremost of our species. In contemplating this mournful side of Tasso's history, the emotion is heightened by the mystery in which the cause of his misfortunes is enveloped. It lies, now amidst glimpses of the fondest springs of human sorrow, now under shadows of the direst affliction that can befall a gifted mind,—whether in strife with a selfish world and a cruel patron, or biased by accidents of position and peculiarities of character: an enigma, inviting many suggestions, yielding to a certain point in various directions,—but destined for ever to evade any perfect and final solution. Thus, although a modern biographer can now add little to the ascertained facts of Tasso's story, in the attempt to trace out and explain its dubious passages there is still, and for ever will be, an unlimited scope for reflection, conjecture, and sympathy.

The writer of the present memoir—who, we may observe, is not to be confounded with the author of 'The Fall of Jerusalem'—began his work, as the preface states, under an impression that it would be the first complete English biography of the poet. Of the existence of Dr. Black's careful performance, we learn, not without surprise, that Mr. Milman "was not aware when he first completed his own account." His design, however, was not interrupted by the discovery of what had been done by that writer: whose view of some main points of Tasso's history—following Serassi's—Mr. Milman thinks erroneous; and with reason, as far as the more recent light thrown on the subject by Rosini has discredited the attempt to show that the poet's alleged love for Leonora d'Este had no real existence, and was no cause of his ill-treatment by Alfonso. Mr. Milman, however, goes further than the last Italian authority; and has framed, on the basis of facts ascertained by him, a theory of his own, which he conceives sufficient to explain all the obscurities in Tasso's story. This he undertakes to display with the effect of a more complete vindication of the poet's character than has heretofore been given; and he adds to this a hint of certain instructive results to be gained from the survey,—which appear rather as an after-thought of the Divine than as obviously suggested to the literary biographer. The moral of the tale, as we find it introduced in certain places, is not, indeed, so much a visible result of the narrative as a kind of arbitrary appendage to it.

The first thing which we observe at the outset of this essay is, that the author declines the task of portraying Tasso in his character of a poet,—and confines himself mainly to the course of his personal history. By this restriction Mr. Milman expressly renounces all claim to the merit of composing a complete biography; since the works that made his hero immortal are as much a part of his existence as the events that embittered or brightened his daily life. To the latter, at all events, we are confined on the present occasion: the fruits of his poetical genius

being only noticed where they are thought to render his personal adventures or feelings intelligible,—all detailed or even general criticism of his chief performances being, as we have said, avoided. This of course gives a certain tone of defect to the memoir. Those whom it may teach to feel a new interest in the poet, by pursuing his footsteps as a man, will have to seek elsewhere a critical account of his productions, with little more than the names of which these pages will have made them acquainted.

Where, as in Tasso's case, the main incidents of the story have long been fixed, the value of a performance thus limited to a part only of its due proportions will wholly depend on the clearness with which the known facts are set forth, or illustrated by well-chosen accessories—on the power wherewith their general result is thrown into a masterly and consistent picture,—and on the judgment which is applied to the explanation of the obscure features of the story. As regards the first of these requisites, we cannot highly praise Mr. Milman's workmanship. He does not pursue the chief thread of his story with so much skill as to keep it in view at all times as the principal object; and the details which he has compiled or imagined as illustrative of the times and position of the poet rather interrupt the view of his career than heighten its effect. The incidents of Tasso's story are carefully gathered; but they are given in an indigested manner, and without the just proportions and lively effect which would prove that the author had himself gained from these details a complete view of his subject. His manner of composition is unequal: now somewhat abrupt, meagre and conversational—now profuse and florid. Nor is it in either style quite free from inaccuracies of diction, and turns of expression that are scarcely consistent with elegant writing. From time to time the reader is invited to pause while a survey is taken of the poet's character and circumstances. But the view afforded on these occasions is composed chiefly of an enumeration of several virtues and defects, set down in a kind of inventory, and summed up with a certain tone of the pulpit which does not very well harmonize with the general tenor of the narrative. The figure of Tasso, in his variable and troubled existence and strangely mingled character, appears but dimly through the rhetoric which enlarges on his dispositions, or the less ambitious prose describing his changes, wanderings and sorrows. The effort, in short, to say something pathetic, picturesque or striking on the various passages of the history is more apparent than its success in bringing before us a lively representation of its ill-starred hero.

An extract or two will afford a pretty fair idea of the ornamental passages of the memoir. The explanation of Alfonso's severity to the poet—to which we shall presently advert further—is introduced with this florid preamble.—

"There is a room in Venice containing a curious and fearful collection. There are the rack, the horse, the boot, the wheel, the cord, the strangling-chair, arm-screws and thumb-screws, and many other contrivances for stretching or compressing, dislocating or crushing, the poor human body and its several members. There are other more ingenious, and almost more terrible, because more treacherous instruments; boxes, and vessels, and bottles, once full of strange and subtle, rapid or slow poisons; scent-boxes from which leaped a knife to gash the fair cheek, or split the beautiful nostrils, or otherwise mutilate the lovely face, as it bent over them to inhale the perfume; jewel-cases, from which some long, sharp needle should start, or some pungent mixture, or detonating powder should be suddenly cast to extinguish the bright eye, hastening to inspect her wedding ornaments or her lover's offering; necklaces which should

contract round the white neck; bracelets which should run into the snowy arm; helmets, breast-plates, gauntlets, secret pistols which should perform the same offices to the warriors of the age; implements of dreadful ingenuity, which conjure up dark scenes of horrible cruelty and subtle remorseless vengeance, not to speak of other guilt, too often acted in that time and country. Amidst these ingenious but abominable treasures of tyranny, whether royal, oligarchical or democratical, I doubt if Alfonso could have selected a more subtle and tremendous instrument of torture and revenge than that which he choose for the punishment of Tasso. He resolved to accuse him of madness; to wring from him first, if possible, an acknowledgment of his offence, and if that failed, a confession of madness; thus saving his honour in all points, he would have him at his mercy, to deal with him as he pleased. He appears, however, first of all to have done all he could to drive him really out of his senses."

The sudden apparition of Tasso at Sorrento is thus described.—

"Cornelia Sersale, Tasso's sister, a widow now, was sitting in her chamber in Sorrento, with her babies slumbering near her, her two elder boys having gone out to their studies. She was looking over the blue gulf toward the island, floating softly on the horizon in the warm purple haze of summer. The airs through the open window brought in the rich perfume of the orange flowers, the gentle murmur of the waters gurgling in the caverned bases of the rocks, or the faint songs of the birds dying down in the groves beneath the oppressive heat. She was mourning perhaps over her lost husband, or anxiously musing on the perils of her brother. A man, dressed in shepherd's clothes, asks admission to her presence, and gives her letters as from Torquato, describing his situation and danger, in lamentable terms. She questions the messenger, who confirms the painful tidings, and adds other heightening circumstances to the statement. Cornelia listens in tears, and at last, overcome by the sorrowful announcement, faints away. On her recovery, Tasso—for it was he—having been thus satisfied of her great affection, began to comfort her, and by degrees made himself known; excusing the artifice which he had used, and the pain which he had given her, by his fear of startling and alarming her by his sudden appearance, and by the necessity of concealing his arrival from every one."

A more favourable specimen of the same manner precedes the account of the poet's final liberation from the Hospital at Ferrara.—

"Ferrara is now a dark, heavy, half-deserted looking city, with broad streets, and great black palaces that resemble fortresses. They have lowering port-cullised gateways under high dingy towers, clamped and nailed gates, barred and grated windows. The Po, when not dry, rolls sluggishly by the walls in a brown muddy flood. The streets all have much resemblance to one another, a dull, still, sombre look. The Hospital of Santa Anna stands in the middle of the town. There is nothing remarkable about it except its reputation. It is a sad dingy-looking building. Its windows, grated and barred, like the rest, look out into one of those silent and desolate streets. The gratings and bars are at present worn and broken. In A.D. 1586, the streets were more thronged and noisy, and the gratings and bars were entire. At one of these windows, a face, handsome, but extremely sad, rather past middle life, but haggard beyond its age; the hair, though partially white, falling down in delicate curls from the high and somewhat wrinkled forehead; the cheeks, pale and ghastly, as of one just recovering from severe illness; thin lips anxiously parted from one another, and showing the white teeth set; eyes preternaturally bright, and fixed with an intense eager gaze down the street; might be seen day after day through the bars, re-appearing, like a pale phantom every morning; planted there during the long June day, and lost in the twilight at last without withdrawing from its post. Not a passer-by but paused, and turned to take a hurried glance at the window, and then swept rapidly on, as if afraid of observation. Tasso was looking from his prison window in heart-rending anxiety for the announcement of his release."



This, it will be seen, is rather an ambitious manner of writing—which will perhaps be more strongly felt in going through the whole work, from its contrast with passages of a style rather vernacular than elegant or correct. We shall not transcribe any of the ungraceful phrases that were marked as we read on: but it must be observed that they occur oftener than could be wished in a performance which attempts at intervals to rise from the proper tone of biography to the heightened colouring of romance.

We now turn to the explanatory theory of Tasso's misfortunes:—on the merits of which it will appear, from what has been already said, that the worth of these volumes must depend.

Mr. Milman has framed a theory of the cause of the poet's imprisonment as an alleged maniac, which he thinks will solve all the difficulties attached to this cardinal point of his destiny. It rejects the hypothesis of Serassi,—whom Rosini has, indeed, sufficiently convicted of wresting the facts known to him to a conclusion designed to please his patrons of the Este family; in addition to which, he has further proved his case by the MSS. brought to light since the time of the Abbé. Mr. Milman proceeds on the grounds of Rosini,—but goes somewhat further than that author in theorizing on Tasso's love for Leonora. As to the share which it had in determining his imprisonment, it must be remarked that the authentic proof of this is not so entirely new to English readers as Mr. Milman seems to imagine. The poems found by Mai among the Falconieri MSS., and published at Rome in 1827—as well as the explanation of others adduced by Rosini in his 'Essay on the Love of Tasso,' (Pisa, 1832),—have already been sufficiently noticed in more than one English publication; and a very full estimate of their weight will be found in the able article 'Tasso,' in Knight's Penny Cyclopædia, (1842). Among those who take an interest in the subject, there is now, we apprehend, little difference of opinion as to the bearing of the evidence thus afforded,—or as to the probability of the discovery by Alfonso of the pieces in question having been the *first* cause of his rigour towards the poet, who had dared to express with scarcely decent warmth his passion for the princess. On this position Mr. Milman builds a suggestion of his own, of an equal return by Leonora of Tasso's love,—in support of which he offers no proof of the slightest value; while the conjecture, we may add, is contradicted by all that is certainly known of the temper and conduct of that princess,—who was, as must be remembered, full *nine* years older than Tasso, and at the time when his incarceration took place had reached the mature age of forty!

The scheme of Alfonso's revenge on this double amour, as set forth by Mr. Milman, seems to exact more than either the facts or the probabilities of the case will bear. He has no doubt of the entire sanity of Tasso; and thinks the idea of imputing madness to him was merely a plan of a more exquisite vengeance than simply killing the offender. Now, in order to suppose this, we must first admit the complicity of Leonora to have been proved as well as known to Alfonso—a presumption contradicted by all the certain facts of the case. Then, admitting the offence and its discovery by Alfonso, it may be declared wholly incredible that he could have been satisfied to spare Tasso's life at all; still less that he would have allowed him considerable freedom in his prison, the means of writing to his friends, and of receiving their visits,—and that at length he should have released him from confinement. This is no picture of an Italian vengeance of the 17th century for an outrage such as Mr. Milman imagines; and Alfonso, it is well known, was the last among

Italian princes to have let it escape in this manner. In two notable instances he had taken a far more prompt and bloody revenge; and as he himself says, in the well-known letter quoted by Mr. Milman, "had he desired his life, there would have been no difficulty in taking it" by open or secret violence. The conduct of Alfonso, in short, will not agree with the supposition of any deadly resentment. His behaviour is that of a severe, haughty character offended by one whom he viewed as a dependent; but not that of an Italian prince towards an inferior, known to have sullied the honour of his family.

The more probable view seems to be, that the favours of which Tasso certainly boasts in the lately discovered poems were grossly exaggerated, if not altogether the fictions of a diseased imagination. It is likely enough that some industrious enemy of Tasso's favour brought the pieces in question to Alfonso's knowledge; and that the prince resented their free tone as an insult, without in the least believing the suggestions which they seemed to contain. The kind of displeasure which he thereupon showed to Tasso will pretty well agree with this degree of offence; which, as we know, was afterwards aggravated by the outbreak of the poet's impetuosity in injurious language and loud complaints against the conduct of the prince. Whereupon, the charge of insanity was for the first time severely urged against him.

As to that charge, if we weigh it in connexion with the previous indications that first break out at a very early period of Tasso's career, it is hardly possible to avoid the conclusion that his mind, if not essentially unsound, was, at all events, perpetually hovering near the verge of serious derangement, and apt to be thrown by any excitement into a state wholly ungovernable by reason, and probably requiring some degree of outward restraint. We have not space to exhibit the several proofs on this head which may be collected by a careful examination of the records of his life, and of his own writings, from his nineteenth year, when he suddenly fled from his studies at Bologna in resentment of an affront, whether real or only imagined is not quite certain. We need no other evidence than such as may be gathered from the pages of Mr. Milman's book to prove his temperament strongly marked at all times with tendencies known as pre-dispositions to insanity, if not signs of its presence. His incessant restlessness—proneness to suspicions—irritable and jealous pride—are, indeed, strongly insisted on by Mr. Milman; and they are hardly consistent with his notion of Tasso's perfect sanity. We do not see, especially, how he can reconcile to this theory the poet's strange panic—utterly groundless—on the subject of the Inquisition, his fancied conferences with unseen beings, or his returns to Ferrara, in spite of the dissuasions of his well-wishers; which we cannot explain, with Mr. Milman, by the attraction of Leonora's presence, since we find him longing to commit the same folly after his escape from the affliction which he had suffered there, at a time when Leonora herself had been long deceased.

Altogether there are plausible grounds for concluding that Tasso's condition verged so nearly at times to the very edge of madness, that it might give a colour, at least, to Alfonso's proceedings,—even if it did not lead him to count the poet mad in real earnest. The hypothesis of a fatal purpose in the Prince's conduct we must regard, at all events, as quite untenable. He appears to have been unduly irritated by the conduct of one who surely deserved a more kindly and generous treatment of what was certainly an unjustifiable indiscretion. The harsh

mode of Alfonso's displeasure no doubt aggravated any symptoms that may first have given a colour to it:—and he may have wished to punish or repress other aberrations of Tasso's tongue or pen, while pretending to deal with his imputed disease of mind only. But there is no sufficient ground for ascribing to him a scheme—at once diabolical in design and futile in its execution—such as Mr. Milman has engrafted on the argument of Rosini.

As the present essay, from the touching interest of its subject, is likely to be extensively read, it is of little consequence that we are unable to proceed to other details of a life, the main incidents of which, indeed, are pretty generally known. The memoir of Bernardo, the poet's father, with which the work begins, will be found an acceptable introduction to the career of his more illustrious son. In this sketch there are some amusing notices of the widely spread family of the Tassi,—and of their long connexion with the royal posts in most of the kingdoms of Europe;—still kept up, we believe, in Austria—unless broken by the late revolution—in the house of Thurn and Taxis.

Not a few extracts are made by Mr. Milman from those of Tasso's sonnets, madrigals, and canzoni which are supposed to contain authentic personal notices of his fortunes or his feelings. The translations of these convey the literal meaning pretty exactly, but make no claim to reproduce the poetical grace of the originals.

No references accompany the text:—an omission which would have been a more serious defect were the work calculated to take a permanent station as a literary performance, as well as to engage the popular notice of the day. The latter its subject, as we have said, will hardly fail to command: for the former, a larger handling of its theme,—a more masterly arrangement of the materials,—greater consistency in the reasoning on matters of fact,—above all, a genial account of the works of the poet,—and, we may add, a style somewhat more chaste and correct than Mr. Milman's—would seem to be indispensable.

#### *Silwood: a Novel.* 2 vols. Bentley.

RIGHTLY this novel 'Silwood' to review Demands a rounded consequential style, Too seldom won by those who write in prose. A tale more solemn we have rarely met. Its very "*How d'ye do*"s have muffled drum And gong accompaniments,—while its great scenes, Measured as music in an opera-air, Might be told off by "*One, two, three, four, five*—At six, kind reader, pause—at seven shed tears—At eight consider weightily—at nine Enjoy the wholesome moral—and at ten (If get to ten thou canst) lay down the tale. And marvel who hath written it!"—In proof, Read a few lines extracted. When was ever Sorrow set forth with more sonority Than in the following paragraph sublime?—

"Yes, wild and loud lamenting may exhaust, and scalding tears burn while they flow down misery's cheek, but there is yet another and a darker source, a deep, a dreadful, and destructive grief, 'tis still, 'tis calm, 'tis silent; but its motionless exterior is the surface of the raging torrents that flow too deep for mortal eye to see. Its tranquil and unruffled state is as the smooth road, over the volcano, beneath which fires of Etna glow; yea, even thus for ever shall it last among the sons of men. Shed tears with those that weep, time shall wipe them away; lament with those that rave in agony, the louder sounds the thunder's roar, even so the sooner shall the tempest end, but when you meet with silent anguish, bend your head: when you hear no complaints, and see no outward signs of grief, oh, know the soul is then on fire, the wounded heart bleeds inwardly, and nought can turn the stream to safer



channels, but He, the source of strength, and power of none shall profit but His, who ruleth all."

And lo! a snatch of simple dialogue!—

"Pray inform me where is Ross?"—"In Italy. I am not aware of his exact locality; but in a few days I expect a letter from him. I will forward any communication of yours to his next address as soon as possible. I assure you, Mr. Silwood, I despaired of finding you, but I called on Mr. Fentum yesterday, whom I had not seen for some time, and by chance he mentioned your name. A few enquiries elicited the fact that you were the object of my futile searches. I came to you as soon as possible, for I was most anxious to redeem my pledge."—"I am as well pleased as yourself," exclaimed Silwood. "How often have I longed to hear of my dear friend, but alas! we missed each other abroad, and since then I had no means of tracing him."

One Gordon, being asked to go abroad, Makes answer thus in high poetic phrase.

"Well, Gordon, won't you come and see me? Of course the student cannot, but you might, there would be an inducement too, for you would meet your sister."—"Oh, no, I prefer England," said Gordon, "the love of my country is my cherished feeling, never will I relinquish it with life! I cannot understand you, or follow you in your rhapsodies on far distant lands. I entertain for my country all the ardour of the ancient days of patriotism and glory, all the enthusiasm of the ages of chivalry. Speak not to me of Lebanon's cedars, or of Ceylon's groves, my thoughts are centered in the land of my birth. Yes, England's simplest spot, where virtue smiles, and mercy reigns, outweighs by far the marble palace of the eastern Sultan. Yes, brighter is it than India's sun ten times, reflected on her diamond thrones."

Let us now descend from the heights of blank verse to the safe and sober levels of work-a-day prose. This done, we have but to say that 'Silwood' might have been put forth expressly to test endurance, and to defy the impatience of those who, when reading a work, are rash enough to desire incidents which move and characters that are more than names. The *dramatis personæ* include Jessie, Julia, Florence, and Tretonia (who dies), Ross, Gordon, Silwood, Mr. Fentum, Mr. Maitland, Mr. Farquhar (who does mischief), and others; but beyond a general idea that these characters are employed in a game at cross-purposes—that everybody is in love with somebody—and that all are disarmingly rhetorical—we have not been able to gather more from 'Silwood.'

*Observations on the Government Scheme of Education, and on School Inspection, &c.* By the Rev. R. Dawes, Vicar of King's Somborne, Hants. Groombridge.

At different times we have made mention of the Rev. R. Dawes and his schools at King's Somborne. Another pamphlet from the indefatigable educator is now before us, and requires a more lengthened notice; partly on account of its remarks on the working of the Government plan of education, but also—and more emphatically—on account of the farther information which it brings respecting the result of Mr. Dawes's own experiments. Our readers know somewhat of that history,—making so small a show on paper, yet really so extraordinary and so fitted to shame the indolent and rebuke the desponding about National Education. As it cannot be too well understood, however, let us repeat that the King's Somborne schools have now been open seven years,—that they were commenced, not as schools for gentlemen's, nor even for farmer's, children, but simply as national schools, such as almost any clergyman might open in almost any parish, and certainly in many under more favourable appearances than those which presented themselves at King's Somborne. The turning point of difference—that which made Mr. Dawes's schools effective,

self-paying, and fitted to promote immediately the improvement of a neighbourhood—ultimately perhaps that of a country—is this, that everything taught there has been taught not merely so as to be "sufficient for the poor," but in the best possible manner. "Let me but have a school," Mr. Dawes argued, "far better than the average, and you will see that that school can be maintained." So, indeed, it has proved. The instruction was soon found to be capital; and farmers, and even some few gentlemen, began to think it a pity that plough-boys and milk-maids should run away with all the learning in the neighbourhood. Even from a distance came some, asking if it might not be possible for them, too, to partake of the benefit. Of course, Mr. Dawes was not the man to repel any; but he propounded his own terms,—and to these they seem to have readily assented. Upwards of 120*l.* per annum has been paid in schooling alone for the last two years,—for books upwards of 30*l.* per annum,—while the number of children under education averages two hundred. It is worth while to consider what would have been the result had the common idea of a national village school been realized here, as in most other places. In Mr. Dawes's opinion it would have been as follows.—

"The utmost amount of payment in both girls' and boys' schools would not have exceeded 35*l.* a year. This for master and mistress. Where was the rest to come from? The clergyman's pocket and a small number of annual subscriptions at first perhaps given unwillingly, but gradually becoming less and less until the whole dwindled into a state of things the most unsatisfactory—clergyman dispirited—master and mistress dissatisfied—school neglected—the children of all those immediately above the labourer not sent, but left to pick up scraps of education by fits and starts, a quarter now and a quarter then, and sent to some one who has taken up the business of schoolmaster in the neighbourhood without being in any way fitted for it. \* \* \* The difficulties [adds Mr. Dawes in another place], when you come to consult individual opinion, are infinite; and the only road to success is, by offering a good system and working it out well—not in a niggardly and narrow spirit, for that will be found in the end bad economy, but by providing all necessary school apparatus and efficient teachers, and looking forward to the rise of a more correct opinion of the usefulness of our parish schools. \* \* \* It will be found by all who take an interest in the subject, and watch its progress with those among whom they live, that there are in all parishes, in the lower strata of social life, a sort of Sauroid class, characterized by those habits which a low state of physical comfort induces, who are totally indifferent on the matter of education, and will not be at the trouble of sending their children to school decently clean, or even sending them at all. But it is surely better to try to lift these up, than to allow the school to go down to their level."

It is by looking mainly at this "Sauroid class," we doubt not, that so many of the clergy come to form so low an idea of what a country school should be. The class itself is complimented by having in a great measure the well-being of every other class subordinated to it; whereas it appears to us clearly that our strength would be spent to much better purpose if we worked in some measure irrespective of it. We do not believe that any members of this class who may come to the schools will learn less of the Scriptures because their minds may be opened in other directions; and as to the question of their short allowance of school years, or months, or even weeks making it specially important to fill them the fuller during this brief period with instruction purely religious, we can only say that our mode of action will produce what we desire, or not, far more according to the *spirit* than according to the *material* of our teaching. Years may pass—nay, do pass—over the heads of national

school girls and boys, devoted chiefly and laboriously to this task,—yet in many cases without making any true impression. In an incredibly short time the scholar has forgotten his learning; and when again presenting himself before the clergyman or the master who has formerly thought well of his progress, he is recognized only with mortification and regret. We appeal to the experience of country gentlemen and ladies with melancholy confidence on this point; and we do so, not because we think the case proves anything against education, but only that it renders at least questionable that sort of education which a boy or girl does not immediately connect with his life. In the training given by Mr. Dawes, though but for a very short period, a desire to learn is awakened and the faculties are exercised—not merely rendered recipient.—It does not occur to us at all to question the fact of a low amount of intellectual instruction having been sometimes compensated for by unusual vigour of heart and mind being thrown into the teaching. It is so, we know, occasionally: the school then becomes sometimes a place of actual and permanent reformation,—as is the case, we trust, in some of our ragged schools. But these instances we hold not to be the rule, but the exception.—Those who look most closely into the matter can hardly fail to see that the connecting links between childhood and middle life are best supplied by keeping always in view the alternate process of acquisition and application.

We pass on to another part of Mr. Dawes's 'Observations.' These have a two-fold object: first, to defend generally the scope and plans of the Committee of Council on Education,—secondly, to point out certain errors and suggest improvements. Mr. Dawes thinks the standard of attainment for masters and mistresses marked out by the Council by no means too high, and highly approves of pupil-teachers, &c. But he complains of insufficient inspection, and has a plan of his own for supplying the deficiency in part. He proposes that to every cathedral in England one canonry should be attached, coupled with the duty of inspector of schools in the diocese; that the nomination to such canonry should rest with the Lord President of the Committee of Council on Education, and that such nomination should be approved of by the archbishop of the province in which the particular cathedral was situated. This plan would, in the end, give thirty inspectors, at no expense to the country (for it is not the creation of a new canonry, but only the abolition of a sinecure). The canon-inspectors should, he says, not be allowed to hold livings at the same time, but have the power of vacating the inspectorship in favour of chapter livings, if they pleased. This notion of Mr. Dawes's we content ourselves with merely indicating as a prominent feature of his pamphlet.

*More Prose and Verse.* By the Corn-Law Rhymer. 2 vols. Vol. I. Fox.

AFTER the character of the mind of Ebenezer Eliott, as displayed in his writings, which we traced when recording the fact of his decease, and the interesting autobiographical fragment which appeared a fortnight since in the *Athenæum*—there remain but few general remarks to be made on the appearance of 'More Prose and Verse.' Welcome is the figure on the binding which announces this as only an instalment of what the poet has left; since there is no sign in these pages betokening age—no line which indicates decay. Neither rhyme nor reason—nor, we may add, wrath—failed the "Corn-Law" poet, to the last. This volume contains as many examples of wild music and genial enthusiasm, and fiery, fierce satire as any of its



predecessors. Like them, it is rich in its passages of local description whose beauty no contemporary could excel—like them, it is forcible in right of philippics and diatribes recalling the rough anger of Cobbett, and not outdone by the vituperations of that most merciful of modern philanthropists who has lately betaken himself to scold in honour of "the beneficent whip" and other such heroic implements of civilization. But—so far as writings bear intrinsic evidence within themselves—with Ebenezer Elliott the storm of political wrath and irony was not false and artificial thunder. Nor was the calm and holy love of Nature, music and beauty with which his ire was alternated, a sickly affectation. The poet shows us a rough, unequal, genuine man,—not a ranter who makes strange noises and uses violent phrases in order to keep a shifting auditory constant around the stage from which he holds forth.

Opening the new volume at its tenth page (our task being little more than to mark extracts) we find at once one of those touches by which every true poet knows how to reconcile Nature and Art. The plea for music in the cottage has rarely been better put—even in that famed anonymous quotation "Verse sweetens toil," which Johnson loved to quote, and the parentage of which remains unascertained to this day. The following is directed to be sung to the tune of 'Robin Adair.'—

When the pale worker faints,  
Making no moan,  
Though his unutter'd plaints  
Rise to God's throne,  
What from despair can keep  
Languor too tir'd to sleep,  
Sorrow too sad to weep?  
Music alone!  
Milton, poor, old, and blind,  
Fated to bear  
Worst woes that scourge his kind,  
Did not despair:  
What, behind curtains worn,  
Where his night knew no morn,  
Held up his heart forlorn?  
Music was there.  
Then, to the hopeless one,  
Thus, if you can,  
Sing, weary wife or son,  
Wasted and wan:  
"Though pain our portion be,  
High is our destiny:  
Born thrall of poverty,  
Still thou art Man!"

In writing new words to popular tunes, however, Ebenezer Elliott was not fortunate. Some of his unset lyrics, on the other hand, have the flow of the stream, and a harmony at once as fresh and monotonous as the winds of May when they breathe through the young leafage of the coppice. The following is an example.—

He does well who does his best;  
Is he weary? let him rest:  
Brothers! I have done my best,  
I am weary—let me rest.  
After toiling off in vain,  
Baffled, yet to struggle fain;  
After toiling long, to gain  
Little good, with mickle pain;  
Let me rest—But lay me low,  
Where the hedge-side roses blow;  
Where the little daisies grow,  
When the wind may blow;  
Where the footpath rustics plod;  
Where the breeze-bow'd poplars nod;  
Where the old woods worship God;  
Where His pencil paints the sod;  
Where the wedded thrush sing;  
Where the young bird tries his wings;  
Where the wailing plovers wail;  
Near the ruiet's rushy springs!  
Where, at times, the tempest's roar,  
Shaking distant sea and shore,  
Said I woe old Borne's tale o'er;  
To be heard by me no more!  
There, beneath the breezy west,  
Tir'd and thankful, let me rest  
Like a child, that sleepeth best  
On its gentle mother's breast.

And here are verses "written for music" at a friend's request—in which even the quaint provincial names (with their nursery jingle) are so managed as to give a character to the strain, rather than taint it with eccentricity.—

#### Farewell to Rivlin.

Beautiful River! goldenly shining  
Where with the cistus woodbines are twining;  
(Birklands around thee, mountains above thee,) Rivlin wildest! do I not love thee?  
Why do I love thee, Heart-breaking River?  
Love thee, and leave thee? Leave thee for ever?  
Never to see thee, where the storms greet thee!  
Never to hear thee, rushing to meet me!

Never to hail thee, joyfully chiming  
Beauty in music, Sister of Wiming!  
Playfully mingling laughter and sadness,  
Kibbledin's Sister, sad in thy gladness.

Why must I leave thee, mournfully sighing  
Man is a shadow? River undying!  
Dream-like he passeth, cloud-like he wasteth,  
E'en as a shadow over thee hasteth.

Oh, when thy poet, weary, reposes,  
Coffin'd in slander, far from thy roses,  
Tell all thy pilgrims, Heart-breaking River!  
Tell them I lov'd thee—love thee for ever!

Yes, for the spirit blooms ever vernal;  
River of Beauty! love is eternal:  
While the rock reeleth, storm-struck and riven,  
Safe is the fountain flowing from heav'n.

There wilt thou hail me, joyfully chiming  
Beauty in music, Sister of Wiming!  
Hom'd with the angels, hasten to greet me,  
Glad as the heathflower, glowing to meet thee.

We will give another "song" of a lustrier quality—which attests the truth of its own burden.—

#### Song.

They say I'm old; because I'm grey,  
The aged bard, they now call me!  
But grey or green, I boldly say,  
We're not old yet, but mean to be.

Though sixty years and ten may doom  
Tir'd men to rest with worms and me;  
With sixty gone, and ten to come,  
We're not old yet, but mean to be.

My eyes flash flame, my heart is glad,  
When poor men shake their sides with glee;  
And though they cry, "Come on, Old Lad!"  
We're not old yet, but mean to be.

While soars the skylark high and higher,  
And bids the mountains wake, to see  
How morn can fill my veins with fire,  
We're not old yet, but mean to be.

Thou brightening cloud, that sail'st afar  
Where screams the falcon, wheeling free!  
Tell, yonder fading, winking star,  
We're not old yet, but mean to be.

We have epigrams in this volume:—some, too plainly worded to be discreetly quoted, and these the most forcible. The following is of the gentler sort.—

Though Take's a rogue, and Give's a fool,  
Yet Give and Take mean Good for Good:  
Thus, Mine for Thine, is blessing doubled;  
It's pence for pence, it's cloth for wool,  
It's hay for steel—it's work for food!  
With two enrich'd, and no one troubled.

There are, also, one or two specimens of task-work, such as indicate that the Corn-Law Rhymer broke himself from time to time—as men of many mind often love to do—against the difficulties of his craft. The following sonnet is a curiosity; so far as its argument is concerned; leaving triumphant answer open to all "Jacks in Office" and others.—

JOKS. In the sound of that rebellious word  
There is brave music. Jack, and Jacobin,  
Are vulgar terms; law-link'd to shame and sin,  
They have a twang of Jack the Hangman's cord:  
Yet John hath merit which can well afford  
To be call'd Jack's. By life's strange odds and ous!  
Glory hath had great dealings with the Johns,  
Since history first awak'd where fable snored.  
John Cade, John Huss, John Hampden, and John Knox!  
Aye, these were names of fellows who had will.  
John Wilson's name, far sounded, sounds not ill;  
But how unlike John Milton's, or John Locke's!  
John Bright, like Locke and Milton, scorned paid sloth;  
And Johnson might have lik'd to gibbet both.

Ebenezer Elliott, like Southey and Longfellow, tried his hand on the Hexameter;—and, seeing that some interest has been excited by the discussion of the merits and possibilities of this classic metre as clothing British thoughts and fancies—the example left by one whose strength, as he himself has owned, did not lie in his scholarship can hardly fail to interest our readers.—

#### To Thomas Lister.

Friend, I return your English Hexameters, thanking you for them.

More than forty years since, I constructed such verses,  
Choosing a lofty theme, too often worded unsiply.  
Even now, I remember one stol'n line of the anthem:

"Thou for ever and ever, God, Omnipotent, reignest!"  
Though my verbiage pleas'd me, long ago did it journey  
Whither dead things tend. For Homer's world-famous metre

Cannot in English be pleasing. Saxon may write it in Saxon,  
Off' for dactyl and spondee using iambic and trochee,  
Pleas'd—and making a boast of his wasted labour and lost time;  
But with grace and simplicity none can write it in our tongue.

Though the sturdy Gothic oft' runs into it promptly,  
As it grandly does in these fine lines from the Bible:  
"How art thou fall'n from heav'n, oh, Lucifer, son of the Morn'!" and

"Why do the heathen rage, and the people imagine a vain thing?"  
Not unpleasing, always, mostly 'tis feeble, yet stilted,  
Wanting, in wanting ease, the might which is mightiest, beauty.

Yet can it finely paint the beauty of form and of colour;  
Skies, and the sea; or mountains cloud-like in distance, and stealing

Azure from heav'n; or the daisy fresh in the dew-gleam of dawn; or

Young June's blush-tinted hawthorn, that scatters the snow of its dropp'd flowers

Over the faded cowlisp, and roses embrac'd by the woodbine,  
Under the mute, or songful, or thunder-whispering forest;  
But from man's heart seldom it brings the tear, which the angels,

Knowing not sorrow, might almost in their blessedness envy.  
Slow or rapid, sweet or solemn, in Greek and in Latin,  
It is in English undignified, loose, and worse than the worst prose

One advantage it has—it must be utter'd as prose is;  
And as it may be wanted, if only as changes are wanted,  
I subjoin the rule for its fitting or modern construction:  
Every line must consist of six feet, dactyls and spondees,  
Dactyls and trochees, or dactyls and both: A dactyl the fifth foot

Must be; a spondee or trochee the sixth: Each line must contain not  
More than sixteen syllables, and not fewer than thirteen.

A half century of sonnets, written apparently as a current record of thoughts, fantasies, and events in 1848, and fantastically entitled "The Year of Seeds," contains many fine and nervous thoughts and beautiful images,—but few examples of that terse language, that closeness of structure, that completeness without superfluity, wanting which there is no salvation for the Sonnet. The political examples are the least felicitous;—the descriptive and meditative ones are better. Take the following.—

Rivers are torrents, vales and plains are lakes,  
When February draws her curtains down.  
Rain! rain! The universal snow forsakes  
Moorland and mountain, forest, farm, and town.  
Rain! Rain! it pours, it pours. Red land-floods drown  
Blue ocean's baffled tide. With calm cold frown,  
The cold grey rock, that saw death's cradle, wakes  
From his old dream of drowth, to find his home  
In cloud-hung deluge. The old forest shakes  
His wrinkled forehead o'er the whirling foam  
Of inland sea; and with the haste that takes  
Life's sad last blessing, down the revels come  
Of sky and upland, mix'd in extaract  
That rioteth in waste, like one who long hath lack'd.

Would they were written, (and in heav'n they are,)

The patient deeds of men of low estate!

Esteem'd so little, but how truly great!

When will their modest beams be hail'd afar,

And peacefully smile down the poms of war?

Oh, when will Labour's weary sons desecry,

Illuming with love an equal sky,

The honour'd rays of O'Connell's star?

I know that our Redeemer lives; I know

That well he marks our strife with word and fear;

Our long-assur'd inheritance of woe;

I know that his good angels love to write

Our humblest deeds in everlasting light;

But Here Men Toil For Man's Redemption Here!

The latter of the above, it will be seen, is but a quatuorain. Few, if any, of the series are legitimate; and in fact the first of the fifty may be called a protest against Wordsworth's defence of the sonnet

Nuns fret not at their convent's narrow gloom.

But though we abstain from touching Ebenezer Elliott's political poetry, we cannot resist half a page of his political prose, given among the notes to this 'Year of Seeds,' in which it will be seen that, after a series of vigorous and vitriolic "interpellations," he gets out of breath and "off his legs," and in feeble ire flounders among conceits at the close of a passage of strong invective.—

"If the foodtaxers in 1848 had Ninety Four Packs of hounds, twenty packs of harriers, and four of stag hounds; and if we suppose the yearly cost of each pack, with that of the horses, grooms, &c., to be only five thousand pounds; landlordism (in England



alone,) expends on one of its amusements half a million a year, and consequently could afford to have that sum added to its land tax. But we are told there is something particularly manly in their favourite amusement, because it is an image of war, and barbarian necessities! Perhaps, however, the manliness is all sham. Perhaps, they do not hunt lions. And, perhaps, insolence is the soul of the amusement, and no sham. Perhaps, they are preservers of vermin. Perhaps, their vermin devour the farmer's poultry. Perhaps, the farmer could get paid for the poultry devoured. Perhaps, he has no wish to be ruined! Perhaps, the worthies, being neck-preservers, too, gap his fences. Perhaps, they poach his rising wheat. Perhaps, they horsewhip him! Perhaps, the horse-whipp'd is a freeholder. Perhaps, he has a pitchfork in his hand, but prefers a lawsuit. Perhaps, he wins his suit, and loses one hundred pounds, for the honour of having been horsewhipped by a palaced-pauper, or the ape of one. Perhaps, Raggabash imitates Ruffian, and gets up a hunt of his own—when the scene between him and justice requires a Hogarth to paint it! And, perhaps free trade (if we get, and can keep it,) will rid these perhappes, and the vermin, too. In the meantime, (for even the vilest must pass away,) behold our landlords as they are—palaced gipsies! mousing on six legs, and in the bosom of refinement; like rats in a cupboard, cherishing the worst habits of wild beasts."

After the sonnets come "a choice" of ballads; more rough than "mischievous," but deficient in clearness of narration. The end of a somewhat vulgar ditty called "Tom and Bet" rises into a strain of poetry for the people, after its heterodox kind, so devotional that we cannot but invite gentle and simple to listen "to the quiring."

Lord! grant to poor o'er-laboured man

More leisure, and less pray'r;  
More church, less priest—and homes for inns!  
More libraries, and fewer sins;  
More music and less care!

And when the tardy sabbath dawns  
Bid townsmen leave behind  
The goldfinch, smother'd on his perch,  
Ginshop and chapel, jail and church,  
And drink the mountain wind.

Or teach the artisan to seek

Some village House of pray'r,  
And knell, (an apparition pale,  
Amid the rustics red and hale,  
And humbly worship there.

Or bid him (in the temple, built  
By Skill Divine for all),  
Expound to pallid listeners near,  
While rose-cheek'd pilgrims stop to hear,  
The words of Christ or Paul.

Oh, for the lightning's path, the wing  
Of steam or fire to bear  
Tir'd men to Edens yet on earth,  
Where mind may have its second birth,  
And hope baptize despair!

There, in lone shelter'd dales, amid  
Their patriarchal trees,  
Beneath the skylark's quivering wing,  
Let parents, sons, and daughters sing  
Great Handel's harmonies.

Then, to the dome of boundless blue,  
O'er-roofing sea and land,  
Triumphant hope and faith will rise;  
And with the anthems of the skies  
Mingle their anthem grand.

And sinners saved shall weep again  
For sins repented long,  
And broken-hearted, though forgiv'n,  
Repeat in music-hallow'd heav'n  
Earth's spirit-warbled song.

"The Gipsy" contains a picture of a storm so sublime, in its melodramatic fashion, as to blind us to the repulsive coarseness of the tawdry creature on whose head it bursts.—

But now she drew nigh to the river again,  
And the wood of moss'd birches so old;  
While black over Stangane, with hail and with rain,  
A tempest of April was roll'd:

Right and left, like a shaft-broken arrow of doom,  
Unheeded, its red lightning was sent;

And, Up! the broad curtain of fire-lifted gloom,  
From the summit, at intervals went:

Like many-tail'd snakes, with their heads on the ground,  
And their many tails pendent in air,

In skeleton grimness, the ag'd trees around,  
From the region of storms, and its black western mound,  
Lean'd motionless, silent, and bare;

But her heart heard no voice, when the damp hollow wind  
Through their dry branches drearily moan'd;  
Nor felt she his touch, when it wetted each rind,  
And the fast-coming thunder-cloud groan'd.

The above diversified passages will give a fair idea of the volume whence they are taken. We leave the last and the longest poem, 'Etheline,' untouched. This is one-third of "a story in three parts, each containing four books, each part as a story complete in itself,"—and elsewhere called by its writer his "unbated epic." To us it appears but an extravagant romance, clogged and cumbered with weighty words and innocent of character. In works of extended scope, and in dealings with incident, Ebenezer Elliott's strength did not lie:—and we think the reason was too well given by himself in his autobiographical notice to demand re-statement or re-examination.

*Hesperos; or, Travels in the West.* By Mrs. Houston. 2 vols. Parker.

Mrs. Houston is an amiable, intelligent, and to some extent, at least, a discreet traveller. Next to the pleasure of a personal run through the land of slavery and civilization, we would elect to travel vicariously with just such a person. Even in her temper, and well acquainted with the necessary evils incident to a constant change of quarters, she seldom indulges the reader with tirades against trifling personal annoyances, and never troubles him with details of her eating and drinking except when something characteristic of manners calls for the record. Being a woman, her attention is naturally directed to the social character and mental aspects of American society, rather than to that which makes the country so imposing to a European imagination—the gigantic nature of its material developement. Mrs. Houston gives no account of imports and exports—no statement of the number of American ships engaged in trade and fishing—no details of the miles of railway completed and of electric telegraph laid down. Indeed she gives no statistics at all. Figures interest her only in so far as they throw light on social problems:—on slavery, on liberty, on the stability of the republic, on the moral and intellectual developement of the inhabitants. She writes, however, from a purely English point of view. She never forgets that the people among whom she is sojourning are our rivals in trade and renown, and next year may possibly be our enemies in war. When she goes to see Bunker's Hill, she does not forget that we repulsed the rebels; she thinks the porter at the White House felt ashamed of the meanness of his country, and envious of the greatness and liberality of hers, when he confessed to her that the English Minister at Washington has a salary larger by a fourth than the President of the United States! We must confess, we read the remark of the republican in a very different sense. Mrs. Houston is far from being a democrat and a leveller; and is by no means pleased with the freedom of American servants, though she is generally too self-possessed to show a displeasure which would offend "public opinion." Once, however, she is provoked by a democratic stewardess to assert herself in behalf of herrank. The poor stewardess appeals to her against the airs of another passenger; when she crushes her with this tremendous argument:—"No; so long as she can afford to give you five dollars for being civil and respectful, and you are poor enough to be glad to earn them, you are not her equal." The democratic stewardess was extinguished, it is said,—and for the rest of the voyage was very respectful. We hope she got the money:—though we are not sure that Mrs. Houston's doctrine is sound. Syro and Zenocles are rich enough to pay for lessons in philosophy,—Plato is poor enough to sell them: are Syro and Zenocles superior to Plato? Stubbs and Styles are rich enough to go and see a play,—Shakspeare

is poor enough to exhibit Hamlet: are Stubbs and Styles superior to Shakspeare?

Mrs. Houston rather complains of the habit of self-assertion acquired by American women; but she admits that with all their defects the men are the very pink of chivalry. The old devotion to the sex, as she bewails, has almost disappeared from Europe,—but only to take up its abode in the cities and savannahs of the new world, as Gibbon and Byron have both predicted that freedom and civilization will do by and by. She remarked that wherever a piece of incivility to the sex came under her notice, it was always offered by an Englishman. The habit of giving *place aux dames* is not one of our most cherished virtues; and we certainly were amused by the way in which one of our unyielding countrymen received a lesson in politeness from a Yankee.—

"A stage was stopping to change horses, and when it drew up we perceived that in its interior was seated a solitary individual. This individual was a gentleman; and we saw, with half a glance, that he was English. He was busily engaged in reading a newspaper, and with his feet comfortably stretched out on the back seat, was paying no attention to external sights and sounds. He was not, however, allowed to enjoy his luxurious solitude long; for immediately after the stage stopped, the master of the inn opened the door of the carriage, and civilly requested him to move to the opposite seat, as some ladies were about to bear him company on the road. The Englishman's face of astonishment and disgust was highly amusing. He stared at his interlocutor, and looked anything but inclined to comply with his request. The innkeeper continued to assure him, in a bland but still peremptory manner, that the move must be made, for that 'the ladies' were, on all occasions, to be considered first. This doctrine seemed entirely new to the indignant traveller, who, after keeping silence for some minutes during the harangue, with a dignity and solemnity worthy of his country, at last broke out with a degree of violence truly insular. He insisted (quite forgetting the country he was in, and apparently carried away by the force of his imagination to his own *purse-ridden* land) that he had engaged the particular place he occupied at Cumberland, that he had paid for it, and would not give it up for any one living. It made him ill, he affirmed, to sit anywhere else, and being an invalid, he required consideration quite as much as any woman in the world. His opponent only grew the calmer as the Englishman waxed more violent; and I fear, I must add, *abusive expletives* of anything but a gentle and conciliatory nature, fell thick and fast from his lips, and, by this time, a considerable crowd was collected; among whom were the bones of contention,—namely, the three angular and locomotive females. We began to watch the contest with considerable interest, though we had little doubt as to what the result would finally be. Our countryman continued perfectly immovable; and it soon became evident that nothing but a forcible ejection would have any effect in causing him to quit his place. I quite pitied him; it was so difficult, after committing himself in this public manner, and with so many hostile eyes fixed upon him, to concede anything in this advanced stage of the business. He little suspected, poor man! the signal defeat that was in store for him. At length, the Yankee seemed to understand that there was no chance of concession on the part of his dogged opponent, so he quietly shut up the door of the carriage, saying—'Very well, sir, just as you please; you may stay there from this to eternity, for what I care.' Upon this the Englishman, evidently considering that he had obtained the victory, resumed his newspaper, perhaps his feet, and without condescending to cast even a look on the surrounding crowd, wrapped himself up in his studies. In the mean time, we, who were behind the scenes, looked on, and smiled at the ingenious device to which the innkeeper had recourse. Within an almost incredibly short space of time, another stage, which stood under a sort of open shed, was made ready for the journey, and the horses, which were to have been attached to the carriage in which sat the unsuspecting traveller, were affixed to the vehicle which it was evident was intended by the



treacherous innkeeper to take its place. The passengers were already seated in it, and there still sat the 'Britisher,' in the enjoyment of his dignified solitude, and perfectly unconscious of the absurdity of his position. A shout of laughter from the assembled bystanders at length compelled him to look up: the stage was on the very point of starting; already had the 'All right,' 'Go a-head,' been sung out, when perceiving that there was not a moment to be lost, the Englishman, with a degree of moral courage for which I honoured him, jumped out of his hiding-place, with his pride in his pocket, but with manifest confusion on his brow, and took his place in the contemned 'back seat,' amidst screams of laughter from the crowd, who were overjoyed that the Yankee had 'com 'possum' over the 'Britisher.' I did not envy him his drive with the 'women scorned,' during the tedious hours that must elapse before he could arrive at his journey's end."

The peculiar circumstance which renders society in America so unlike what it is in Europe, is the co-existence of two bloods, the darker of which is the sign of a degraded caste. Mrs. Houstoun first met with an example of this on the voyage out. The male passengers, extreme in their attention to the ladies generally, scrupulously avoided the best dressed, most beautiful, and elegant girl on board—because she had in her veins the supposed taint of negro-blood. Everywhere the same fact forced itself on her observation; the quadroon is not admitted into the society of the pure in blood,—even the prince of negro descent is treated as an outcast. The Emperor of Hayti would not be allowed to sleep for a single night, or sit at a *table d'hôte*, in any fifth-rate tavern in New York—if we may judge from the experience of Prince Boyer.—

"Boyer had been making a lengthened stay in Paris, where he had been received as a gentleman and a man of education. He had been a frequent guest at the Tuileries, and been received on familiar terms at the houses of the foreign ministers. But why recapitulate where he had been, and what description of reception he had met with. He was received as a gentleman—what more can I say?—and enjoyed himself in the best society of Paris. An unlucky fancy, however, seized upon Boyer, which was no other than to vary the pleasant monotony of his life by visiting the United States. The idea was no sooner conceived than acted on, and he and his sable suite took passage across the Atlantic, and in due time arrived at New York. In common with every one else who visits this country, he repaired to the 'City of Hotels,' the Astor House. When, lo! to his astonishment and dismay, he found the doors of the establishment closed against him and his! *They did not take in Niggers!* The poor prince next tried to gain admittance to two other hotels, with equally ill-success. There was no home in the free (?) city for the black man! At last, a despised liquor shop was pointed out to him, whose owner earned a wretched livelihood by affording nightly shelter to these contemned specimens of the human race; and there the man who was, in civilized Europe, a prince, and, what is a far more distinguished title, a gentleman, was glad to lay his head. At the theatre, similar slights and indignities were offered to him. Neither pit nor boxes opened to receive him, and the next day, indignant and disgusted at the manner in which he had been treated, Boyer and his suite took their departure, and shaking from off his feet the dust of the great republican city, declared that he must go elsewhere, if he hoped to find freedom, for that there it was not."

So rigidly are the two races kept separate that—so far as the law goes—a marriage of a respectable white man, especially in the slave States, with a creole is a thing almost unknown. When staying at New Orleans, Mrs. Houstoun heard of one such alliance, an account of which, with the necessary preface, is told in the following extract.—

"It is well known that marriage between a white man and the descendant of a negro, in however

remote a degree, is not legal in the Slave States: ingenious methods have been found of evading this law; but as a successful employment of such devices, not only subjects the individual so acting to great contempt, but also deprives him of his rights as a citizen, they are very seldom resorted to. Before a marriage can be legally solemnized between a white and a coloured person, the former is required to make oath that he has coloured or negro blood in his veins. The difficulty to a white man taking this oath, lies not only in its absolute falsehood, but in the melancholy fact, that by acknowledging the existence of such a stain in his escutcheon, he voluntarily shuts himself out of the pale of communion with his countrymen for ever. Great, however, as is the natural repugnance to this step, it was once taken, and that not very long ago, by a young American, who was resident in New Orleans. A rich merchant and sugar planter, of I believe Jewish extraction, had an only child, a daughter, and moreover a Quadroon, of great beauty and accomplishments—to use the most received term. The young lady was the acknowledged heiress of her father's vast wealth, but he refused to bestow either his fortune or his pretty Quadroon on any but a white man, and that in lawful marriage. In spite of the mighty bribe held out, there was found but one man who was daring enough to demand the hand of the lady in marriage, and to be willing to take the oath which was necessary to make that marriage valid in law. With a view, in some sort, to satisfy his scruples of conscience, the suitor of the maiden, previous to his appearing before the authorities, pricked the finger of his fair fiancée, and inserted some of the blood which trickled from the wound into a gash which he had previously made in his own hand. After performing this delicate operation, he fearlessly, and with an open front, took a solemn oath, that within his own veins, negro blood was flowing, and was then allowed to claim his bride. But after such an avowal, America was no longer a country for him, so he lost no time in carrying off his rich and lovely bride to far-off (and, in this case, more liberal) Europe, for there wealth always obtains consideration, and shades of colour are not too closely investigated."

Europeans have often a difficulty in perceiving the traces of negro descent in the Quadroon:—an American is never mistaken. Thin lips, fair complexion, bright brown ringlets, good eyes—these count for nothing, while the fatal sign can be easily discovered in the nails of the hands and feet.

To the question of slavery Mrs. Houstoun devotes a large share of her attention. In principle she states herself to be utterly opposed to slavery: but in the United States she finds many excuses and apologies for the system,—has no belief in its speedy termination,—nor indeed any wish to see it terminated. She says, from her own knowledge she can answer for it that the Negro is better off in the slave States of the Union than in Cuba under the Spaniards, in Jamaica under the English, or in the free States of the Union. Even were these assertions undoubted facts, they would not warrant an inference in favour of the continuance of slavery. Mrs. Houstoun tells us pretty boldly that the "abolition" question in America is a political capital and nothing more. She thinks that if Congress were seriously to propose a general enfranchisement of the slaves, ninety-nine in the hundred persons of the northern States would rise up against it—on the ground that such a measure would flood those States with negro labourers! By the practical men who seek to give the cue to public opinion, it is plausibly urged that the negro is only like a man in debt—a little behindhand with the world; that the means of procuring his freedom are in his own hands,—he need not labour and he will soon be free. This sophism implies that he has the power and the opportunity to labour for himself; but such cases are extremely rare, even if all the capacity for work were not extracted from him in his owner's behalf by aid

of the "beneficent whip." By the withdrawal of every means of culture, the negro is sunk to the lowest condition of the labouring animal; and then such writers as Mrs. Houstoun think he ought to remain a mechanical drudge because he is fit for nothing else!

#### LIST OF NEW BOOKS.

Architect and Building Gazette, Vol. I. 1849, folio, 17s. 6d. cl.  
Arnold's (T. K.) Henry's First Latin Book, 8th ed. 12mo. 3s. cl.  
Blakey's (R.) History of Philosophy of the Mind, 4 vols. 8vo. 37. cl.  
Blessington's (Lady) Conversations with Lord Byron, 2nd ed. 8vo. 7s.  
Brodie's (T.) Tax on Successions and Burials on Land, 8vo. 3s. 6d. cl.  
Burnell's (G. K.) Treatise on Limes, Cements, &c. 12mo. 1s. (Weale.)  
Caird's (J.) The Irish Plantation Scheme, 6vo. 6s. cl.  
Classical Museum, Vol. VII. 8vo. 11s. 6d. cl.  
Crosby's Builder's Price Book for 1850, 8vo. 4s. swd.  
Curzon's (Hon. R.) Visits to Monasteries in the Levant, 3rd ed. 15s. cl.  
Dawes's (Rev. R.) Hints on Secular Instruction, 4th ed. 12mo. 2s. cl.  
Douglass's (R.) Adventures of a Medical Student, 3rd ed. 10s. 6d. cl.  
Draper's Bible Story Book, 1st and 2nd series, in 1 vol. 32mo. 2s. cl.  
Educational Outlines, by a Lady, 8vo. 4s. cl.  
Edgeworth's (M.) Moral Tales, 3 vols. 8s. 6d. cl.  
Fry's (Rev. H. P.) System of Penal Discipline, 8vo. 6s. cl.  
Goethe's Herman and Dorothea, trans. by Winter, royal 12mo. 3s. cl.  
Green's (S.) Biblical Dictionary, 6th ed. 3s. 6d. cl.  
Grimaldi's Life and Memoirs, 12mo. 3s. 6d. cl.  
Hants of Spherical Trigonometry, 12mo. 1s. (Weale.)  
Hamilton's Universal Tune Book, 2 vols. 4to. 6s. swd. cl.  
History of Europe, ed. by the Rev. J. Sedgwick, 6s. 6d. cl.  
Jackson's (J.) The Day of Prayer, 2nd ed. 24mo. 1s. cl.  
Jackson's (J.) Sermons on Christian Character, 2nd ed. 12mo. 4s. cl.  
Kitts's (Dr.) The Tabernacle and its Furniture, 4to. 5s. 6d. cl.  
Latham's English Grammar for Commercial Schools, 1s. 6d. cl.  
London Catalogue of Periodicals, &c. for 1850, 8vo. 1s. swd.  
Low's (David) Appeal to the Country on Free Trade, 8vo. 3s. swd.  
More Verse and Prose, by the Corn-Law Rhymist, Vol. I. 1s. 6d. cl.  
Niebuhr's Lectures on History of Rome, by Schmitz, 2 vols. 8vo. 17. 4s.  
O'Connell's Life and Times, by W. Fagan, Esq., 2 vols. 12mo. 6s. cl.  
Palmer's (E.) The Land of Promise, with Map, 18mo. 4s. cl.  
Patent Primer, with Forty Pictures, 8vo. 1s. swd.  
Petrel (The) A Tale of the Sea, by a Naval Officer, 3 vols. 12. 11s. 6d.  
Procrastination, or the Vicar's Daughter, 3rd ed. 6s. 6d. cl.  
Pope's (J.) J. J. Emerson's Narrative Men, 12mo. 1s.  
Ramsay's History of War between United States and Mexico, 8s. cl.  
Rimbault's Musical Illustrations of Percy's Reliques, imp. 8vo. 10s. 6d.  
Sandham's (Miss) The Schoolfellows, a Moral Tale, new ed. 2s. 6d.  
Scott's (David) Memoir, by W. B. Scott, 8vo. 10s. 6d. cl.  
Smith's (Elizabeth) Five Years a Captive, 18mo. 1s. 6d. cl.  
Statham's (Rev. J.) The Cottager's Key to the Scriptures, 32mo. 1s. 6d.  
Susan Hopley, or the Adventures of a Maid Servant, 2s. 6d. cl.  
Tyas's (R.) Favourite Field Flowers, 2nd series, 12mo. 7s. 6d. cl.  
Virgilian Hours, by the Rev. F. E. Tappin, M.A. 4to. 6s. cl.  
Weir's (Rev. W.) The Highway of Holiness, 12mo. 2s. 6d. cl.  
White Jacket (The) by Herman Melville, 2 vols. post 8vo. 17. 1s. cl.  
Whisper to a Newly Married Pair, 8th ed. by Mrs. Balfour, 3s. 6d.  
Williams's (Rev. D.) Composition Simplified, 12mo. 3s. 6d. cl.  
Wilmot's Complete Dictionary of Signals, 18mo. 8s. 6d. cl.  
Year Book of Facts, 1850, by John Timbs, 12mo. 5s. cl.

#### LITERARY PIRACY.

I feel assured that your sense of justice will procure admission into the *Athenæum* for the following remarks on one of the grossest and most wholesale literary piracies that have been perpetrated by an author in Great Britain for many years. In 1843 I published a work entitled, 'Austria, its Literary, Scientific and Medical Institutions,' &c.,—Dublin, Curry & Co.:—containing the result of inquiries set on foot and information collected during a visit to Vienna in the years 1840 and 1841. While in the Austrian capital, I applied myself assiduously to collect the required information from the various sources by any means accessible to the foreigner. Several friends procured me a number of unpublished statistical documents and protocols, and I supplied myself with the several local works bearing on the different subjects treated in my book. I stated in my preface all the sources of information, and described at some length the different authorities I had quoted, in order to give credit where such was due, and to show what value was to be attached to the statistical tables which I published. To mention the names of all who assisted in furnishing me with unpublished information would then at least have been, and might perhaps still be, unpleasant to those persons; but I cannot under the present state of affairs omit mentioning two gentlemen to whom I was at the time particularly indebted—Baron von Hammer Purgstall, and Herr Leopold Neumann, who has since become connected with the Austrian Government.

My attention has just been called by a friend in England to a work, called 'Austria,' by Edward P. Thompson, Esq., author of 'Life in Russia; or, the Discipline of Despotism,' and of 'The Note Book of a Naturalist,' London, Smith, Elder & Co. In the first-named book—which was published in 1849—I find not merely gross plagiarisms, but positively wholesale piracy of entire chapters of my book above referred to. The author does not state in his preface when or for what object he visited Vienna; but says that "circumstances of a peculiar nature connected with the object of his visit threw him among men who could not only enlighten his ideas, but were themselves in some instances persons of authority and influence,—and he accordingly availed himself of the opportunity to collect through their means and assistance the information he was so anxious to obtain. To them, therefore, and to some anonymous writers (?)



to whom he was referred, he is indebted for much of the matter of this work, which he is induced to make public, partly because he knows that many of his countrymen labour under the same difficulties which he experienced, and partly because the subject is one of great interest at this moment when Austria is passing through the critical ordeal of reorganization." The latter portion of this paragraph explains the origin and design of the book:—public attention being directed to Vienna during the late convulsive struggles for independence in Europe, a work on Austria and its capital seemed to offer a good theme on which to speculate a book. So far, however, as Education, &c. is concerned, the author certainly need not have been absent from the British metropolis a single hour to have written that which has appeared under his name.

Mr. Thompson's fourth chapter is devoted to the subject of Education, and with scarcely the transposition of a sentence it is extracted from my book. The pirate goes to work in rather a subtle manner; but as he proceeds he throws off all reserve, ceases to practise the least ingenuity, either in the reconstruction or the transposition of sentences, and has evidently desired the printers to extract so many pages of my work—by which means the various typographical peculiarities existing in the one have been transferred to the other. To illustrate this, the last sentence at page 91 of Thompson begins differently, but ends in the same words as the last sentence at page 2 of my book. The sentence following that is a remarkable one, and as it begins a paragraph, the catch-word is omitted, thus: "In Austria" is left out; but all the following *six pages* are introduced almost verbatim, without either reference or quotation, and with such trivial alterations as "appointed" for "constructed," "chiefly" for "generally," "distinct" for "separate," &c. After the words "Great Britain," at page 86, an entire paragraph from my book is omitted; but after that the transcription goes on smoothly again, including the table showing the effect of race upon the reception of education, printed at page 11 in my work. After this, I have to thank Mr. Thompson for omitting, at least in this place, (for I cannot tell whether he may not have used the material elsewhere in his book,) four entire paragraphs, until he comes to a description of the Schools of Utility (*Realschulen*) and polytechnic institutions. Here he exhibits rather more intelligence than usual;—for he has transferred from the text of my book M. Saint-Marc Girardin's table of statistics of these institutions to his Appendix, and added to it the figures denoting the number of students and professors, &c., in the celebrated Mining School at Schemnitz, in Hungary, the particulars of which were given me in manuscript by Count Breuner, and which are not to be found in any other printed work. While alluding to Mr. Thompson's Appendix, I may remark that the four tables which follow that just alluded to, namely, those on the Gymnasiums and Universities, the General and the Ecclesiastical, and Military instructional Establishments, are all extracted without acknowledgment from my book; and that printed at page 405, together with the note appended thereto, is merely a transposition of the text of page 27 of my book, with two trifling omissions—that of 14s. in the reduction of Austrian into English money, and that of the date "in 1833." In fact, all the statistical tables in Mr. Thompson's book which purport to exhibit the present condition of the Austrian Empire are now inapplicable, as they are taken from a work written in 1840. The conclusion of the first paragraph at the words "The Academy of Fine Arts," page 91 of Mr. Thompson's book, finishes my first chapter, page 17.

Without wearying your readers, I may just remark as I pass along that Mr. Thompson has purloined pages 92, 93, 94, 95, and 96, down to the paragraph ending with "the latter being equivalent to Master of Arts in the English universities,"—which he is good enough to alter from "the latter being equivalent to the degree of Master of Arts in the British colleges,"—from page 22 to 29 inclusive of my book, but omitting in its proper place the table referring to the Austrian universities at page 28. This latter, however, he gives, minus the date (1839), at page 406 of the Appendix; and he also mixes up one of my notes with the text of page 96 of his book.

At page 117, Mr. Thompson has extracted, also without acknowledgment, Springer's tables showing the number of books published in Austria from 1832 to 1833; but if he had taken any pains to acquire information, he could have got several tables of the same kind of more recent date. On the subject of literature Mr. Thompson is rather less clumsy than in other parts of his book. From page 117 to the end of the chapter on Education, page 123, he has dealt most unscrupulously with my work beginning at page 99 to the end of chapter V., on "The State of Science in Vienna"; but he occasionally reconstructs a sentence,—as, for instance, when speaking of Hungarian literature, he has made the following alterations, from "its literature is said to have arisen during the second half of the last century in the numerous songs and airs which well suited the chivalrous and enterprising spirit of the Magyars," &c., page 101, to "in the course of the last half century Hungarian literature has raised itself considerably. The movement began with a multitude of glees and songs, which found an admirable concord in the lively spirit of the Magyars" (see page 119). This form of transposition of words is followed out in the two succeeding pages of his "Austria."

In Mr. Thompson's chapter on "The Social System of Austria," the information which he gives is entirely extracted from that published by me in 1843. Compare page 315 of his work with page 212 of mine. All the tables of births are extracted from my work.

Occasionally Mr. Thompson deals in what would at first appear to be original composition,—as, for instance, in his descriptions of places; but on a closer inspection it will be found that even this part of his book is of a very harlequin character, and composed of shreds and patches. In the commencement of his chapter on "Vienna and the Viennese," page 323, I detect a single sentence, beginning "Beyond is the glaciis, an open green space," &c., quoted from page 121 of another portion of my book not referring to the same subject,—and which shows either with what accuracy this author has investigated the writings of contemporaries, or what difficulty he finds in inventing language for the most commonplace subject. How much of the rest of this page belongs to other writers I cannot tell. Perhaps Mr. Murray might find some scraps of his Hand-book in it. At page 342 Mr. Thompson again has recourse to the scissors in his description of the Museums and the state of the Natural Sciences in Vienna, and quotes in succession *seven pages* from my book, commencing at page 80, with the exception of one word omitted at the beginning and a few trivial alterations and transpositions throughout the remainder; but he goes back to page 50 of my book for a description of the Zoological Collections.

I have no desire to make further comments on the mode of book-making pursued by this author,—nor on the imposition practised by him on the publishers, Messrs. Smith, Elder & Co., and on the public generally, by thus passing off as his own the labours and investigations of others. In no instance has he marked as a quotation the passages to which I have called attention; and in but one instance—that at page 343—has he mentioned the name of the author (and that merely in one word, as a foot note) whose work he has so grossly pirated. It would perhaps amuse some of your readers to examine further into this subject; and see how much of this book was really written by Mr. Thompson,—how much compiled from the works of others to meet a sale supposed to be created by the interest lately felt in the affairs of Austria.—I am, &c.

W. R. WILDE.

21, Westland Row, Dublin, Jan. 21.

#### THE BRITISH MUSEUM.

I like your correspondent "Verifier." He understands his subject—deals in facts. If right, he is not to be shaken in his position by mere words; if wrong, you have something to grapple with. I agree with him, and with Dr. Cogswell, that a National Library should contain those works which are "too voluminous, too costly, or of too little value in common estimation" to be found elsewhere, down even to "almanacs, calendars, pamphlets, tracts, and lumber." Every man engaged in historical inquiries is aware that such wind-blown trifles are often of the greatest importance—the key

to perplexing difficulties,—and that it is impossible to meet with one in five hundred of them at the moment required, or at any time except by the accidents of a life devoted to such researches. The modern newspaper, with its great gaping all-engulphing sheet, its endless reports of tedious talk and dull debates, now enables every man to weary the public at his own free will and free of cost: but a century since pamphlets were the barometer of public feeling, the index to public opinion—and they are invaluable, as Mr. Macaulay can testify. Yet, however historically important, they are of small pecuniary value, temporary in character and limited in interest; and are, almost as a matter of course, used as waste paper by the *chance* possessor. Up to this point I agree with your correspondent;—but here we must shake hands and part.

"To avow," he continues, "such a principle requires some courage—to follow it up will demand both courage and constancy; especially after the librarian has acquired the melancholy conviction, that the final result of years of labour in this direction is only to make many discontented and a few ungrateful."—"The biographer and the historian," he says, complain that the collection is imperfect: they do not give the librarian credit for "the time and trouble" expended in forming it, imperfect though it be: what is found on the shelves is assumed to have grown there—and reference in proof is made to certain labours of the officers of the British Museum.

This is a touching and tender picture, and seemingly from the life. If "true, 'tis pity"—but is it true? I will say nothing of the gaping "casuals." No doubt they "wonder:"—and this I suspect is one of the misleading influences at the British Museum. But "the biographer" and "the historian" ought to know better,—ought to have some sympathy with years of labour, and some respect for the performance of those humble but drudging duties which have no hopes to prick the sides of ambition. Let me tell the truth, after the fashion of "Verifier,"—by reference to fact.

In the progress of a late historical inquiry, I covered a sheet of paper with notes and questions that could be solved only by reference to contemporary tracts and pamphlets. On visiting the Museum, it appeared that *not five per cent.* of what I wanted were contained in that great national collection. Shortly after, Mr. Russell Smith published a catalogue of nearly 2,500 "tracts and pamphlets," which he offered for sale,—and I found therein half-a-dozen or more out of thirty-three which I had sought for in vain at the Museum. I assert, with some confidence, that hundreds of *lacunæ* in the Museum might have been filled from that catalogue alone, for twice as many shillings,—and yet so far as I could learn not a single copy was purchased for the Museum! Mr. Smith's shop is in Compton-street, within half-a-mile of the Museum:—are we to be grateful for the "time and trouble" expended in *not* going there? "Verifier" is unjust. If our biographers and historians are occasionally oblivious, it is no proof of ingratitude.

The truth I take to be this. The officers of the Museum are proud of the collection intrusted to their charge—they delight to hear it talked of and written about. This is natural,—and even commendable; but it has its mischievous tendencies, not to say consequences. A curious manuscript, a rare classic, a "perfect copy" of a Caxton, a "unique" anything, is sure to furnish its paragraph for European circulation, and is acceptable at three or four or five hundred pounds. So be it—no one objects to the purchase; but I do object, and the public will object in a voice potential, if the Museum be so poor that it cannot afford eighteen pence for a historical tract, or eighteen pounds for a sackfull of historical tracts, which it may never again have an opportunity of becoming possessed of—since, having satisfied the curiosity of the purchaser, they pass, with other waste paper, to the kitchen-maid to light fires. C.

#### THE ARCTIC EXPEDITIONS.

DESPATCHES have arrived from Capt. Kellett, of H.M.S. Herald, bearing the date of the 27th of November. They confirm the intelligence brought by the American mail, *via* the Isthmus of Panama, relative to the search in Behring's Straits by the Herald



and Plover for the missing Expedition,—and mention the departure of two whale boats for the Mackenzie. It appears that frequent communication was held with the natives along the coast, in the vicinity of Cape Lisburn and Wainwright's Inlet,—but no tidings of the missing navigators could be obtained.

The Herald and Plover reached the latitude of 72° 51' and the longitude of 163° 48',—which the despatches state to be the highest latitude yet reached by any English ships. This, however, is an error; for exploring ships have attained the latitude of 77°. Winter Harbour, in Melville Island, where Parry wintered, is 74° 47' latitude. What must be meant is, that no English ships have attained so high a latitude as 72° 51' on the meridian of 163° 48'. This latitude is considerably above the line of compact ice, as laid down by Capt. Beechey in 1827,—and affords another proof how greatly the position of the vast ice-fields in the Arctic seas is affected by meteorological and other local causes.

On the 1st of September the ships returned to Kotzebue Sound, where the Plover was to winter; and the Herald proceeded to Mazatlan, where she arrived on the 13th of November. The crew were suffering severely from scurvy,—having been living for nearly six months on salt provisions, without vegetables.

We have every reason to believe, that it is the intention of Government to send out an Eastern Expedition, to continue the search for the missing ships, interrupted by the forced return of Sir James Ross:—and we think that the barren and uncheering nature of the news from Behring's Straits will help to strengthen this intention.

Meantime, Capt. Collinson and his ships are fairly off from the English shores,—having left Plymouth Sound on Sunday last. With a spanking breeze from the north-east, they were soon out of sight. From Plymouth the Expedition sails direct to Valparaiso, where fresh provisions will be obtained. Thence it crosses the Equator, and proceeds to the Sandwich Islands; where the Commodore will wait for instructions from the Admiralty at home, prior to joining the Plover brig,—which is to accompany the Investigator and Enterprise to Behring's Straits.—In addition to the other provisions which we have already mentioned as being made on board the ships, we may state that they carry patent aerial telegraphs for use in the Arctic regions, by which exploring parties detached from the ships in different directions may communicate with each other, or with the ships. The gins made at the dockyard and sent on board last week are described by the Plymouth correspondent of the *Times* as being composed of iron, somewhat in the shape of a bulbous inverted cone, the point of which is of hardened steel, made very sharp. This instrument, which weighs 14 or 15 lb., is attached by a tackle and fall to the outer end of the bowsprit; and being worked on the ship's deck, is allowed to drop suddenly on the ice,—which it will penetrate when of ordinary thickness, and thus clear a passage for the ship.

The earnest good wishes of all Englishmen follow the adventurers into those unknown seas, which they are, it is hoped, to be the first to explore.

#### OUR WEEKLY GOSSIP.

THE subscription for the Great Industrial Exhibition of 1851, so auspiciously commenced, as we last week announced, by Her Majesty and Prince Albert, is, as might have been anticipated, progressing well in London. The Duchess of Kent follows up the royal munificence by a gift of 100*l*. Among other sums already subscribed, the two Messrs. Jones Loyd have each contributed 500*l*. Mr. J. Bates, Mr. Baring, M.P., two members of the family of the Rothschilds, the two Messrs. Abel Smith, and Mr. Gurney have, likewise, subscribed 500*l*. each. Messrs. Peto & Betts, Messrs. Morrison, Dillon & Co., and Mr. Robinson, of the Ebor Vale Works, each contribute 250*l*. Miss Burdett Coutts, Messrs. Barclay, Perkins & Co., and Messrs. Baker, Turner & Co., each appear on the list for 200*l*. Among subscribers for 100*l*. appear the names of Lords John Russell, Grey, Granville, Lansdowne, and Robert Grosvenor,—Sirs George Grey, C. Wood, J. C. Hobhouse, and E. Antrobus,—the Right Hon. H. Labouchere,—Messrs. W. Cubitt, M.P., Thompson,

M.P., T. Cubitt, and G. Peabody,—Messrs. Masterman, Glyn, Roberts, Smith Paine, Williams, Prescott, and Barnett, the bankers,—Messrs. Devaux, Dent, &c. Among subscribers for smaller sums appear the names of the Lord Mayor, Messrs. Grindlay, Mr. Fuller, Mrs. Fuller, Messrs. M. Forster, M.P., Caldecott, and Venables, Sir J. W. Lubbock, Messrs. Prescott, Hankey, Latham, W. Lindley, W. Cotton, Pilcher, Aldermen Salomons, Humphrey, Finnis, and Lawrence, Mr. Sheriff Nicoll, Mr. Bohn the bookseller, Mr. Apsley Pellatt, &c.

We are sorry to announce the death, on the 20th inst., of Mr. O. Rich, of Red Lion Square; well known in the bibliographical world for his collection of rare books relating to the histories of Spain and America, and for his '*Bibliotheca Americana*,' in 2 vols. 8vo.—a work of great labour and research, and of real service to the student of history. Mr. Rich was born in Boston, U.S. in 1783,—went to Spain when young,—resided there for many years,—and filled for some time at Valencia the situation of consul from the United States. He formed while in Spain a rich collection of rare and important works relating to Spanish America, and was the means of sending to this country the valuable library of Don J. A. Conde. Mr. Rich, like the late Mr. Rodd (whom he has so soon followed), was well acquainted with the contents of the books which had passed through his hands. Mr. Ticknor, in his '*History of Spanish Literature*,' makes honourable mention of his services and knowledge.

A library is about to be formed for the use of the clerks of the Bank of England. It is meant to be one of circulation, and to embrace productions of general interest,—not absolutely excluding novels, but preferring works which instruct while they amuse. It is believed that the Governors will assist its formation by a grant of money so liberal that a yearly subscription of a few shillings only from each of the *employés* will be sufficient. They will also appropriate, it is said, an apartment to the reception of the volumes, and for a reading-room after the hours of business.—It is pleasant to add, that the initiative in this matter was taken by those having authority.

The question of an international copyright between this country and the United States—so important to authors and publishers, and hardly less so in the general result to readers—is gradually arriving at that species of illustration which must ere long render it obvious to American authors, that *their* interests are as much involved in its speedy settlement as are those of their English brethren. The verdict given in the English Court of Exchequer last June, by declaring that "no alien can hold literary rights of property in these islands," settled the law of the case. It was only needful after this decision to see by practical tests the results that would arise out of it. Those tests have now been applied—and with the effect which we foresaw at the time. The American historian or novelist is placed now on precisely the same footing in England as the English historian or novelist is in the States:—a footing which is essentially wrong. It has, however, now acquired the negative merit of being equally unjust in the two cases. Mr. Prescott is as defenceless as Mr. Macaulay,—the MS. fictions of Mr. Fenimore Cooper are worth no more in London (to the author) than those of Mr. Charles Dickens are in New York. This is the distinct tangible result to the American author in the matter of money,—but by no means the whole of the case. He suffers something like a loss of caste in the reading world, besides. A publisher who has a right of property in the book which he sells consults his own interests as well as the tastes of a high class of readers by issuing it in the form most appropriate to the subject of which it treats; but where there is no security against cheap reprints, who will have the hardihood to spend money in ornament? The recent case of Washington Irving's '*Life of Goldsmith*' has given the *coup de grace* to the matter. Mr. Murray first brought out the book—a large one at the price—for six shillings; almost immediately afterwards Mr. Clarke reprinted it at half-a-crown; still more recently it has been issued in the Shilling Library. Mr. Murray has no remedy: but will he not be chary of publishing any other American work? Thus, the writers who have hitherto exhibited what we cannot but think so culpable an indifference to the interests of English men of letters

on the other side of the Atlantic, will find their own productions instead of lying in luxurious editions on the shelves of first-rate houses, cast by their own national injustice as a prey to the cheap publishers of Holywell-street.—This is the *argumentum ad hominem*. No doubt, we shall soon have as strong a feeling in New York and Philadelphia in favour of a copyright act as we already have in London.

The Council of the Geological Society of Dublin have offered three prizes, each of the value of 5*l*. in books, to be awarded for the three most valuable papers in the order of merit, that shall be communicated and read to the Society prior to the 31st of December 1850, on Theoretical or Descriptive Geology, or the application thereto of any of the kindred sciences. The competition is to be free to all persons, except to members of the Council of the Society. The Society does not bind itself to the publication of any papers presented for such competition,—nor to award any prize unless papers of adequate merit shall be presented.

We have been recently appealed to by another of those incidents which from time to time startle us into recollecting how much still remains for the educators of public opinion to do. This last memento ought by its excess of horror to excite every one to double diligence. We allude to the death of the poor girl known in Wombwell's menagerie as "*The Lion Queen*";—who was the other day destroyed by an infuriated animal, in the presence of holiday-folks assembled to "cheer on her performances," in its den. Can such a frightful tragedy call for comment in these days? Is it necessary once more to point out that, although the law be powerless to restrain proceedings so disgraceful and demoralizing, every person who witnesses any exhibition repulsive to taste, useless as not establishing any scientific fact, and tempting miserable beings to peril their lives, limbs, or reason for hire, is in part responsible for such catastrophes as these? Surely the case is one to be taken up by all humane and thoughtful persons who do not confound curiosity with cruelty, pastime with peril. These in private—and those who through the public press command larger audiences—are justified in denouncing as inconsistent all persons professing philanthropy, and as degraded all persons pretending to refinement, who countenance spectacles of this quality. The same universal disparagement and censure which have contributed to blot prize-fighting, bull-baiting, and the once beloved excitements of the cock-pit out of the list of the Englishman's sports should visit every Englishwoman witnessing such monstrous exhibitions as cost the poor "*Lion Queen*" her life, henceforward and for ever! But we must not confine the working out of a true principle within the limits of an antithesis. These things are bad and their tendency brutifying,—and as such to be abominated by *all*. Many of those who thoughtlessly flocked to the menagerie to be thrilled by the sight of a girl shut up among stupified, not subdued, brute beasts, will be shocked to be told that the Tiger which "*did the deed*" is sure to "*rise in the market*" as an attraction. Yet so it must be. Their vacant thirst for excitement has set the example which coarser curiosity may work out in forms more publicly offensive, but essentially not more unworthy for thinking and feeling human beings to participate in.—It is fair to add, that strict orders are said to have been issued by the proprietors of the menagerie that no more such exhibitions shall take place.

A statement of the affairs of the late "*Newspaper Press Benevolent Association*," in justification of the directors of that body, has been sent to us. After carefully reading the statements on which it relies, we feel that the explanation is *not* so satisfactory as we could have wished for the credit of all parties connected with the press. The Association was founded in 1837, for the relief of distressed members; the funds being raised by annual subscriptions of four guineas—for working printers a very large sum—and by donations from the benevolent. From causes which are not referred to in this exculpatory document, after a short period of great success the Association began to decline. The subscription was reduced to two guineas a year;—still, more and more of the members fell away. At length, only eighteen were left:—not enough to form a board of directors. But the Association was not without



funds at this time : on the contrary, it seems to have been rich, though the amount of assets is not stated. The few remaining members dissolved the Association—and divided the money amongst themselves.—These are the bare facts as set forth. On the legality of the last step taken we express no opinion; any one interested in the matter may ascertain by reference to the rules whether so small a number of members had power to dissolve the Association. But we are at a loss to understand how men can feel justified in privately dividing funds which were confessedly subscribed for public objects,—at least while those objects remain unachieved. A new institution with a view to the same results as the ex-association has recently come into life:—might not the surplus funds have been transferred, under proper guarantees of course, to this new body? There are not wanting charities enough in London to which any such surplus would have been extremely useful and acceptable. The course, in favour of which an expression of opinion is asked, seems to us the most open to the imputation of selfishness of any which the directors could have followed. It is not yet too late for them to retrieve the error.

A "local correspondent," uneasy at the shame and ridicule with which his town has for some time past been placarded as a haunt of old-world narrow-mindedness, (to call the thing by its gentlest name) enables us to set the intellect and liberality of Derby right with all such persons in England as do not hold with the Inquisition, or imagine that free discussion is to be hedged and ditched out by an *Index Expurgatorius*. The "mechanics," it will be seen in the following communication, have in true wisdom shamed the gentry, which (so far as the latter are concerned) is a pity.

Some time ago I called your attention to the fact of the Committee of the Derby Town and County Library having ejected Miss Martineau's 'Eastern Life' from their shelves, and I have since observed an occasional joke at the expense of our old notions in your columns. I think it right, therefore, to vindicate our reputation with you by informing you, that the Committee of the Derby Mechanics' Institution, (which possesses a library nearly, if not quite, equal to its more aristocratic compeer) have unanimously agreed to purchase the book.—I am, sir, &c. &c.

Derby, Jan. 22, 1850.

The Continental papers report the death of the eminent Italian architect, Pietro Bianchi,—the artist of the Church of St. Francisco di Paolo. He was a member of the Academies of Fine Arts at Florence, Bologna, Modena, Venice, Stockholm, and Copenhagen,—and a Knight of several orders.

It is instructive to watch the course of that mighty leveller—Steam, in the influence which it is silently but securely exerting over all the old habits of life here and everywhere.—

Tramp, tramp across the land, \* \*

Tramp, tramp across the sea,

goes the iron horse. In high places and in low places his power is equally felt—by prince and by peasant—by farmer and by citizen: there suggesting a new value to time—here invading the regions of first ideas, rousing, quickening, exciting the sluggish minds that might else have slumbered for ages in the true "children of the soil." The radius of observation is enlarged for all; there is more contact—conflict—of man with man. The very poorest have acquired some power of locomotion; and in England, Belgium, and the United States—countries in which railways and steamboats have acquired the largest development—there are probably not many persons to be found whose world is still bounded by the traditional "league from home." All this gives, at present, an air of hurry and impatience to our social movements; but the solid gain is too vast for us to quarrel with the accidental and temporary drawback. The ungraceful hurry will in time subside—and we shall learn to wear our new resources with proper dignity. Part of our present impatience arises from our powers not being yet co-ordinated. After travelling for three hours at "express" speed, we feel unduly fretted at a petty delay. We are impelled to relieve ourselves of all needless incumbrances by the way.—It is curious to watch the falling behind of ceremonials and formalities in the rush of the iron horse. The French Government, it is said, are preparing for the abolition of passports.—Queen Victoria has dispensed with the services of her Windsor guard of cavalry. Her Majesty finds the company of a troop of horse in passing from her residence to the railway station, quite superfluous—and she has ordered the barrack

to be taken down, and the regiment to be sent to Canterbury! The circumstance is not without its moral. As we become better aware how much our "seventy years" are capable of, we are the less inclined to waste any of it in trifling. "If I had my life to live again," said William Penn, at forty, "I could do all that I have done, and by an improvement of the mode have seven years to spare." The facilities of movement which we possess would have given him at least two or three years more. We increase the real area of life by removing its unproductive spaces.

BRITISH INSTITUTION, Pall Mall.—The GALLERY for the EXHIBITION and SALE of the WORKS of BRITISH ARTISTS will OPEN on Monday, the 4th of February next, and will continue OPEN DAILY, from Ten till Five.—Admission, 1s. Catalogue, 1s.

GEORGE NICOL, Secretary.

THE NILE.—RE-OPENED AT THE EGYPTIAN HALL, PICCADILLY.—The new and splendid MOVING PANORAMA of the NILE, showing all the stupendous Works of Antiquity on its Banks, from Cairo the capital of Egypt to the Second Cataract in Nubia. Painted by Henry Warren James Fahey from drawings made by Joseph Bonomi during many years' residence there.—Morning 3; Evening 8 o'clock.—Stalls 3s., Pit 2s., Gallery 1s.

THE WINTER EXHIBITION OF WATER-COLOUR DRAWINGS AND SKETCHES IN OILS, comprising Works by the most eminent living Artists, is OPEN from Ten till Dusk daily. Admission (including Catalogue), 1s.; Season Tickets, 5s. each.

"A cabinet collection of real gems of British Art."—Times, Dec. 21. 130, Regent Street. J. L. GRUNDY, Manager.

#### ROYAL POLYTECHNIC INSTITUTION.

The First of a Series of ILLUSTRATED LECTURES, by Dr. Bachhofer, on the PHILOSOPHY of SCIENTIFIC RE-CREATION, Daily at Two o'clock, and in the Evenings at Eight.—AN ENTIRELY NEW SET OF DISSOLVING VIEWS of LONDON in the SIXTEENTH CENTURY and AS IT NOW IS, with a Descriptive Lecture, Daily at Half-past Four, and in the Evenings at a Quarter to Ten.—THE VIEWS of ROME, including New Views of the Interior and Exterior of ST. PETER'S, with DIORAMIC EFFECTS, are shown Daily at One o'clock.—LECTURES on CHEMISTRY, with brilliant Experiments, by Mr. Ashley.—Experiments with the DIVER and DIVING BELL.—NEW EXHIBITION of CHROMATOPES.—THE MACHINERY, MODELS, &c. EXPLAINED.—Admission, 1s.; Schools, half-price.

#### SOCIETIES

ROYAL.—Jan. 10.—G. Rennie, Esq., V. P., in the chair.—The Lord Bishop of Manchester was admitted.—The following paper was read:—'Experiments and Observations upon the Properties of Light.' By Lord Brougham. The author states that the optical inquiries of which he here gives an account were conducted in the first instance under the most favourable circumstances, arising from the climate of Provence, where they were commenced, being peculiarly adapted to such studies; he further states that he subsequently had the great benefit of a most excellent set of instruments made by M. Soleil, of Paris; remarking, however, that this delicate apparatus is only required for experiments of a kind to depend upon nice measurements, and that all the principles which he has to note in this paper as the result of his experiments can be made with the most simple apparatus and without any difficulty or expense. His statement of the results of his experiments is thrown into the form of definitions and propositions, for the purpose of making it shorter and more distinct, and of subjecting his doctrines to a fuller scrutiny. He premises that he purposely avoids all arguments and suggestions upon the two rival theories, the Newtonian or Atomic, and the Undulatory.—The following are the author's definitions and propositions.—

Definitions:—1. *Flexion* is the bending of the rays of light out of their course in passing near bodies.—2. *Flexion* is of two kinds—*inflexion*, or the bending towards the body; *deflexion*, or the bending from the body.—3. *Flexibility*, *deflexibility*, *inflexibility*, express the disposition of the homogeneous or colour-making rays to be bent, deflected, or inflected by bodies near which they pass.

Proposition 1.—The flexion of any pencil or beam, whether of white or of homogeneous light, is in some constant proportion to the breadth of the coloured fringes formed by the rays after passing by the bending body. Those fringes are not three, but a very great number, continually decreasing as they recede from the bending body, in deflexion, where only one bending body is acting; and they are real images of the luminous body by whose light they are formed.

Prop. 2.—The rays of light when inflected by bodies near which they pass are thrown into a condition or state which disposes them to be on one side more easily deflected than they were before the first flexion; and disposes them on the other side to be

less easily deflected; and when deflected by bodies they are thrown into a condition or state which disposes them to be more easily inflected, and on the other side to be less easily inflected than they were before the first flexion.

Prop. 3.—The disposition communicated to the rays by the flexion is alternative; and after inflexion they cannot be again inflected on either side; nor after deflexion can they be deflected. But they may be deflected after inflexion, and inflected after deflexion, by acting on the sides disposed, and not by acting upon the sides polarized.

Prop. 4.—The disposition impressed upon the rays, whether to be easily deflected or easily inflected, is strongest nearest the first bending body, and decreases as the distance increases.

Prop. 5.—The fringes made by the second body acting upon the rays deflected by the first, must, according to the calculus applied to the case, be broader than those made by the second body deflexing those rays inflected by the first.

Prop. 6.—When one body only acts upon the rays, it must, by deflexion, form them into fringes or images decreasing as the distance from the bending body increases. But when the rays deflected and disposed by one body are afterwards inflected by a second body, the fringes will increase as they recede from the direct rays. Also, when the fringes made by the inflexion of one body, and which increase with the distance from the direct rays, are deflected by a second body, the effect of the disposition and of the distances is such as to correct the effect of the first flexion, and the fringes by deflexion of the second body are made to decrease as they recede from the direct rays.

Prop. 7.—It is proved by experiment that the inflexion of the second body makes broader fringes or images than its deflexion, after the deflexion and inflexion of the first body respectively; and also that the deflexion fringes decrease, and the inflexion fringes increase with the distance from the direct rays.

Prop. 8.—The joint action of two bodies situated similarly with respect to the rays which pass between them so near as to be affected by both bodies, must, whatever be the law of their action, provided it be inversely as some power of the distance, produce fringes or images which increase with the distance from the direct rays.

Prop. 9.—It is proved by experiment that the fringes or images increase as the distance increases from the direct rays.

These propositions are illustrated by particular instances, and their truth is shown by experiments and by some mathematical investigations. The author concludes his paper by a few observations tending further to illustrate and confirm the foregoing propositions, and for the purpose of removing one or two difficulties which had occurred to others until they were met by facts, and also of showing the tendency of the results at which he had arrived.

GEOGRAPHICAL.—Jan. 14.—Capt. Smyth, R.N., President, in the chair.—F. Galton and M. Parkyn, Esqs., both African travellers, were elected Fellows. The President announced that the report concerning the death of John Duncan, Esq., Vice-Consul at Whydah, had been officially confirmed.

Paper read.—'Notes on Texas,' by W. Bollaert, Esq. This paper commenced by stating that Texas, once a province of Mexico, was wrested from it by a handful of American farmers, who ultimately handed their conquest over to the United States. The exact boundary was given, the courses and other details of its rivers, the division of it, beginning at the coast, into alluvial, diluvial, and other strata, and then mountainous, where the primary rocks are found. The coast line, some 400 miles in length, is made up of recently formed sandy islets, very low, of a most unfavourable aspect, and backed up by prairies. The author entered fully into particulars of wind currents and other physical phenomena; and mentioned some particulars of the earthquake of 1812, which shook the greater part of the valley of the Mississippi, reaching even into Texas. He also alluded to a shock felt by himself on Galveston Island in 1842, and to the falling of a mass of meteoric iron near Red River in 1814. Mr. Bollaert illustrated his paper by sections, showing the distances travelled



over, their direction, elevations above the sea, latitudes, longitudes, &c.

Section 1, from Galveston to Austin.—The island of Galveston has only an average height of ten feet above the waters of the Gulf. After leaving the prairies of the coast, rich woodlands were entered, in which the live oak and magnolia abounded, together with deer and birds in great numbers, and occasionally a puma and jaguar. Houston was found to be only seventy feet above the sea. The course lay towards the Brazos, where fossil bones and large fossil teeth of the elephant were found at San Felipe de Austin, as well as other localities. At Austin, Mount Bonnell was described as being 700 feet above the sea, and composed of coral rock, oyster, and other shells; and in the vicinity ammonites, nautili, encrinurites, trilobites, &c. were found. The San Saba country was alluded to as containing indications of gold, silver, and lead.

Section 2, from Columbus to San Antonio, was over fine prairie and undulating lands, with rich surface soil above indurated sand; under the latter some of the cretaceous rocks. The author gave a description of the western prairies, with their multitudes of game, and spoke of San Antonio as the most interesting spot in Texas, first for the beauty of its position, and as having been the continual battle-ground of the old Spaniards with the Indians (many tribes of whom only exist by name), and more recently of the sanguinary frays between the Mexicans and the victorious Texans. Allusion was made to the old "Misiones," now in ruins, where formerly the jolly priest and his companion the soldier once revelled, and where now large bats have taken their places. The wild turkey was in great abundance in this section.

Section 3, was to the Guadalupe Mountains, where some fine grazing land was met with, much game, including bear and buffalo, and wild honey. It was, however, a wild-looking country, and no one laid himself on his pallet without having his bowie-knife ready, and his hand near to his rifle. There was found much cedar and cypress in this region.

Section 4,—to the Leona, the country was alive with deer and antelope, with no want of rattle-snakes, centipedes, red bugs, Spanish flies, &c. Mr. Bollaert mentioned that good grazing land might be found in this district. The mountains here are 2,000 feet above the sea.

Sections 5 and 6, take an easterly direction to Corpus Christi on the gulf. The lands are rather silicious, and one hill was found composed of pure quartz, and silicified wood was met with. Much of this country has dense thorny underwood, and here may be seen the cactus in many varieties, including the opuntias or prickly pears which have more than once afforded food for many days to armies traversing these regions. Towards the coast fine prairies, covered with rich grass (the musquito) occur, over which roam vast herds of mustangs or wild horses. Near San Patricio Mr. Bollaert and his small party were nearly taken by the Comanches, it requiring much caution to avoid them; no lighting of fires, no shooting; and in this way the party were many days with little or no food, one of his party dying in consequence of fatigue.

Section 7, Columbus on the Colorado to Trinity River, and thence to Galveston. Very rich alluvial country was passed over, where tobacco and indigo were grown. Montgomery country presented vast "pine barrens," with the vicinities of rivers fit for cotton, maize, &c. There were reports that good coal was to be found at Ocoola. Mr. Bollaert examined the locality with great care, but found no coal, and only slight indications of recently decomposed and slightly bituminized matter. Coal had been reported to exist in other parts of Texas, but it appeared to Mr. Bollaert to have as little foundation as the existence of it at Ocoola. The Trinity River was descended in a steamer, passing much well timbered land, cane brakes, cotton and maize plantations, to Galveston. Allusion was then made to researches on the Rio Grande, and the great salt lakes near it, to North-Eastern Texas, and a trip from Franklin to the Arkansas, showing that in the Wichita and Kiaway mountains there are indications of gold and lead, and reference was made to the "cross timbers" of Texas. As to climate, it was stated to be as varied as the productive qualities of

the soil; but the coast region extends 150 miles in some places inland, and cannot be recommended to European emigrants, but that section is filling up with planters and their negroes from the United States. In 1844 the population was—whites, 100,000; Indians, 25,000; negroes (slaves), 20,000. In 1847 the whites had augmented as well as the slaves. Public debt in 1848, 5,500,000 dollars; the State Government holding 180,000,000 acres of land, which, valued at three cents per acre, would pay off the debt. The revenue of Texas in 1847 was 42,000*l.*, the expenditure, 29,000*l.* The estimated area of Texas is put down at 203,502,000 acres, or nearly four times the size of France.

In commenting on the memoir of Mr. Bollaert, Sir R. Murchison gave great credit to the author for his clear and well-arranged description of the climatal and geological phenomena of Texas, and expressed regret that Sir C. Lyell should have been prevented from being present, because he would have seen how materially the observations of Mr. Bollaert illustrated his own views of the growth of deltas and new lands on the east coast of America. Although this region has no *productive* gold works, still, as Mr. Catlin (in giving a graphic sketch of all the relations of Upper Texas to California in the west, and South Carolina in the east) had suggested theoretically, that gold ore and quartz rocks might be found to have a continuous spread from *west to east*, he, Sir R. Murchison, felt bound to say that the facts did not sustain such a theory. On the contrary, the auriferous chain of the Rocky Mountains, with its subsidiary parallels in California, together with their prolongation in Peru and Chili, are more or less in a *meridian* direction. In the United States the Apalachian chain directed N.N.E. to S.S.W., and composed of the older palaeozoic rocks, becomes *auriferous in its southern prolongation*, where the sandstone has been converted into quartz and the shales into crystalline schists.—The subject of the distribution of gold ore, Sir R. Murchison observed, would be more fully explained by him in an evening lecture at the Royal Institution.

ASIATIC.—Jan. 19.—The Earl of Ellesmere, President in the chair.—Major Rawlinson commenced the reading of his long-expected communication 'On the interesting Monuments found on the site and in the vicinity of Nineveh.' He began with some remarks on the comparative geography of Assyria. He showed that the ruins of Nimrūd must represent the old Biblical city of Calah, or Halah; the latter form assimilating very closely to the cuneiform orthography of the name—and further proofs being afforded by the Greek title of Calachene belonging to the district, by the evident connexion of Lachisa (as the Samaritan version terms Calah), with Xenophon's Larissa, and by the absolute identity between Hadith, which is the Chaldee name for Calah, and the Haditha of the Arabs, a large town in the immediate vicinity. The true Nineveh, an older city probably than Halah, Major Rawlinson placed at Nebi Yunas, opposite to Mosul; and he spoke of Koyunjik as the suburb of Mespila; while he described Khorsabad as a city named especially after the king who founded it,—and suggested the possible identity of the king's name, read under one form as Sargon, with the title of Sar'un or Sarghun, which the Arabs apply to the ruins. The chronological question was next briefly noticed; and it was stated that although nothing positive had been yet elicited from the inscriptions as to the origin or duration of the Assyrian monarchy, there were still good grounds for assigning the earlier Nimrūd sculptures to the twelfth or perhaps the thirteenth century before the Christian era,—a date which would pretty well synchronize with the temporary depression of Egypt at the close of the eighteenth dynasty, and which would thus account for the sudden aggrandizement of Assyria.—Allusion was then made to the extreme difficulty of rendering the inscriptions of Nimrūd and Khorsabad available for the illustration of history, owing to the practice which the Assyrians followed of distinguishing their proper names by the sense, rather than by the sound; so that the form of a name could be varied, *ad libitum*, by the employment of synonyms, expressed either symbolically or phonetically. A further source of confusion was noticed in the multiplicity of names

attaching to the different divinities, any one of which might be employed in forming a king's name, without regard to phonetic uniformity. The paper then went on to examine the Assyrian inscriptions. It was stated that the Nimrūd kings were, undoubtedly, the most ancient of whom any records have yet been discovered on the Tigris or Euphrates. Six of these kings, who followed in a line of direct descent, were enumerated by name: they were Hevenk I. (a name suggested to be the same as the Evechius of Alexander Polyhistor, whom Syncellus identified with Nimrūd); Alti-bar; Asser-adan-pal, or Sardanapalus; Temen-bar; Hushiem; and Hevenk II. An earlier monarch, whom Major Rawlinson distinguished as Temen-bar I., and whom he conjectured to be the father of Hevenk I., was also spoken of as the original founder of the city of Halah, or Nimrūd. A brief account was given of Sardanapalus, the builder of the N. W. palace of Nimrūd, and the earliest Assyrian king whose inscriptions have come down to us. He was shown to be the warlike Sardanapalus whose tomb was described by Amyntas at the gate of the Assyrian capital, and whom Callisthenes took care to distinguish from the better-known voluptuary of historical romance. Portions of the dedicatory inscription which is repeated above one hundred times on his palace were read and explained. The gods whom he worshipped,—Assarac, and Beltis, the shining Bar, Ani and Dagon, were duly enumerated; and a special note was read on the subject of Assarac, the head of the Assyrian Pantheon, showing him to be the same as the Biblical Nisroch, and comparing him with the Chronos of the Greeks. A list was also given of the provinces tributary to Assyria at the period of the building of this palace by Sardanapalus. The list comprised many districts of Syria and Asia Minor, the country upon the Tigris, Armenia, the lands watered by the two Zabs, and the lower regions, as far as the shores of the Persian Gulf. It was remarked that Phœnicia, apparently, at this period had not come under the dominions of Assyria, though its conquest must have occurred very shortly afterwards; Sardanapalus having recorded on certain votive bulls and lions how, after having passed the great desert into Syria, he had received the tribute of Tyre and Sidon, of Akarra, of Gubul, and of Arvad. After some further observations on the extent and power of Assyria under Sardanapalus, Major Rawlinson proceeded to read the annals of Temenbar II.; who, it was observed, had commemorated his wars on the black obelisk now in the British Museum,—on the two large bulls in the centre palace of Nimrūd,—and also on the sitting figure discovered at Kileh Shergat. The obelisk inscription, it was stated, commenced with an invocation to the Assyrian gods, among whom the following names could be identified with some certainty:—Assarac, Ani, Nit, Artak, Beltis, Shemir, Bar; and, perhaps, also, Ammun and Horus, Nebe, Tal, and Set. Temen-bar then recorded his genealogy, naming his father, Sardanapalus, and his grandfather, Alti-bar; and afterwards went on to chronicle his wars,—describing the events of each regnal year with great exactness, and at the same time with remarkable simplicity. These wars appeared to be directed against all the nations contemporary with Assyria. In Syria Proper, the chief antagonists of the king were Hemithra and Ar-hulena, the rulers of Atesh, (which Major Rawlinson considered to be Hems, or Emessa) and Hamath, who were confederated with the Sheta, and the twelve tribes of the upper and the lower country. These Sheta, (or Khetta, according to the usual orthography at Khorsabad) were, Major Rawlinson observed, undoubtedly the same as the Khita of Egyptian history. They appeared to be a large tribe, holding the entire country between the Syrian desert and the Mediterranean; and it was suggested that the Hittites of Scripture were either an offshoot from, or a fragment of, the same nation. On one occasion, while the king was in this country of Atesh, or Hems, among the tribes of the Sheta, he received the tribute of Tyre and Sidon and Gebal.—The expeditions of the king, whether directed against Syria Proper or Asia Minor or Upper Armenia, were usually prefaced with the phrase "I crossed the Euphrates." Some hundreds of names were repeated of countries, of tribes and of nations, of which a few only could be identified.—In the ninth year



of the king's reign he led an expedition to the southward, to the land of Shinar, or Babylonia, raising altars to the gods in the cities of Shinar and Borsippa; and subsequently pursuing his march as far as the land of the Chaldees, who dwelt on the sea-coast. On two occasions, in his sixteenth and twenty-fourth years, the king led his armies to the eastward, crossing the lower Zab, and ascending the range of Zagros. He recounts his movements in this direction against the Arians (the Ario of Herodotus), the Persians, the Medes, and the Armenians of Kharkhar. On two other occasions he sent his general, Tetarrassa, to wage war on the same nations; and among the conquests of this chief is found the land of Minni, which was undoubtedly, as Major Rawlinson observed, the country of that name associated by the prophet Jeremiah with Ararat and Askhenaz, in his denunciation against Babylon; and which appeared to be the province of which Van was the capital, as the local title of the sovereigns recorded at that place very nearly corresponds with the Assyrian orthography of Minni. After following the record through the whole series of the thirty-one years of Temen-bar's reign, Major Rawlinson made a few remarks on the epigraphs attached to the figures sculptured on the obelisk. These he explained as describing the tribute brought in from different lands to the Assyrian king. The rare animals about which so much curiosity has been excited—that is, the two-humped camel, the elephant, the wild bull, the unicorn, the antelope, the monkeys and the baboon—were stated to appear among the tribute of a country named Misr; which there were grounds for supposing might be the same as Egypt, inasmuch as the sculptures of Khorsabad proved that Misr adjoined Syria, and as the same name, (that is, a name pronounced in the same manner, though written with a different initial character) was used at Persepolis and Behistun for the Persian Mudraya. It was further stated, that the only animals specifically mentioned in the epigraphs were horses and camels, the latter being called "beasts of the desert with the double back;" and, it was remarked, that if Misr should ultimately prove to designate Egypt, it would be necessary to suppose that these animals had been imported into the country as curiosities from India. In conclusion, Major Rawlinson alluded to the later inscriptions of Assyria. He stated his belief that an interregnum occurred between Hevenk II. and the king who built Khorsabad; but that this interregnum was of no great duration, for not only were the titles, the language, and the mythology of the two periods almost identical, but the Khorsabad king had recorded his residence in the palace of Nimrûd, built by Sardanapalus, "the fourth in descent from myself." If indeed, it was noticed, this last phrase were correctly rendered, it would show that as Hevenk II., Husi-hem, and Temen-bar II., exactly filled up the interval indicated between the Khorsabad king and Sardanapalus, the line was considered, notwithstanding the interregnum, to have been kept on in a continuous succession. At any rate, Major Rawlinson thought that all the inscriptions of Assyria yet discovered, whether found at Nimrûd or Khorsabad, or at Koyunjik, belonged to that line of kings known in history as the dynasty of Ninus and Semiramis. He did not believe that we had hitherto found any memorials of the lower dynasty, or of those kings mentioned in Scripture as contemporary with the kingdoms of Israel and Judah; and he almost expects that if such memorials should come to light, Assyria would be found during the period in question to have been in dependence on the lords paramount of Media. Before sitting down, Major Rawlinson engaged to read to the Society at an early date a *précis* of all the other inscriptions which he had had an opportunity of examining; observing that the Khorsabad inscriptions furnished the most valuable material yet discovered for the early geography of the East, and were of particular interest in showing that a strong Scythic element had been introduced into the population of Western Asia during the period which intervened between the eras of Nimrûd and Khorsabad.

ROYAL SOCIETY OF LITERATURE.—Dec. 13.—Mr. Hogg read a notice of a document purporting to

be an authentic record of the sentence pronounced on our Saviour by Pilate. It contains the sentence itself,—that Jesus should suffer death on the cross between two thieves,—the reasons of it, a prohibition forbidding all persons to hinder the execution, concluding with the signatures of four witnesses; the whole said to be engraved in Hebrew on a plate of brass discovered at Aquila in 1802, and now in the Chapel of Caserta. Notwithstanding the plausible formality both of the document and of the story of its preservation, Mr. Hogg pronounces it to be probably a forgery,—but thinks that sufficient interest belongs to it to justify further inquiry.

The Secretary read the beginning of a memoir on 'Athens under the Dominion of the Franks.'

Jan. 10.—The Secretary read a memoir 'On the Island of Cerigo,' by Mr. Calucci, senator for Cerigo at the Senate of the Ionian Islands; followed by a commentary on Mr. Calucci's remarks on the archæology of the island by Col. Leake.—The island of Cerigo, though about two-thirds of its soil is now under cultivation, and notwithstanding considerable recent improvements in the condition of the inhabitants, is unequal to the support of its population, the number of whom amounts to about 12,000; a portion annually going to the continent of Greece, to Asia Minor, or to Candia to earn a subsistence. The money these persons bring back and the payments received from Corfu for the military establishment supply the means of procuring the requisite imports, the chief of which is corn. The limited exports are confined to very small quantities of oil, onions, wine, cheese, and honey. The city of Cerigo, considering its small extent, has of late years been making considerable advances, both in its buildings—particularly as regards its schools—and in the civilization and improvement of the people. The most remarkable public works in the island are, however, the bridges built and the roads opened under the care of Capt. Macphail, the British resident. In the city are five schools of mutual instruction, a gymnasium or public school of a superior order, and a literary society. The clergy consist of an archbishop and one hundred and twenty priests in the whole island. The antiquities of Cerigo are of less interest than might have been expected, and are chiefly confined to two localities, Palaiocastron and Palæopoli. The former has rewarded the researches of archæologists only with a Greek inscription and some fragments of ancient architecture; but at Palæopoli they have been more fortunate. Numerous lachrymatories, as well of glass as of stone, with other vessels of various form and size, having been found in its tombs,—but especially coins, some of which—bearing a head on one side with a dove on the other, and the letters KYΘ—appear to point out that place as the site of the temple of Venus Urania, at the Phœnician colony, the Cythera of Thucydides and Xenophon, stated by Pausanias to have been the most ancient temple of the goddess in Greece. This testimony seems to be confirmed by the discovery, at the same spot, of a quadrangular seal, inscribed with characters similar to those which appear on the seals brought from Syria and the neighbourhood of Babylon. A remarkable difference occurs in regard to the situation of Cythera between the account given by Pausanias and the narratives of Thucydides and Xenophon; the historians placing it at Palæopoli,—the traveller at a very different spot, where the city of Cerigo now stands. It was chiefly for the purpose of clearing up this difficulty that Col. Leake, in a letter to the Secretary, added this valuable commentary. "I conceive," writes the learned chorographer, "that his [Pausanias's] description indicates the change that had taken place in this island during the great interval, nearly six centuries, which had elapsed between the time of the historians and that of the Greek traveller. In his time the ancient site at Palæopoli had probably long been abandoned; Scandeia being the only city which was called by Pausanias Cythera; and its former name, Scandeia, had been transferred to the harbour."

STATISTICAL.—Jan. 21.—Lieut.-Col. Sykes, V.P., in the chair.—Mr. Maclaren read a paper on the 'Origin and Spread of the Cholera in the Eighth District of Plympton St. Mary, Devon.'

INSTITUTION OF CIVIL ENGINEERS.—Jan. 22.—W. Cubitt, Esq., President, in the chair.—The paper read was, 'On the Periodical Alternations and Progressive Permanent Depression of the Chalk Water Level under London,' by the Rev. J. C. Clutterbuck.—The author began by defining the chalk water level to be, "the height to which the water rises at any point or continuous series of points in the chalk, or from the chalk in perforations, through the London and plastic clays, above the chalk." The term "Artesoid" was used to describe those wells sunk through the London and plastic clays, in which the water rose from the chalk, or the sands of the plastic clay formation, above the level of those strata, though it might not rise to, or overflow the surface of the ground. Reference was made to papers read before the Institution in 1842 and 1843, in which it was shown that the chalk water level was described by an inclined line drawn from the highest level at which the water accumulated in the chalk, to the lowest proximate vent, or outfall: a general rule which was found to hold good, not only where the water was found by sinking into a permeable stratum, but where, as in the London basin, the water rose from a permeable stratum, through perforations in any impermeable stratum above it. The example treated of in the paper was described by a line inclining at an average of about 13 feet in a mile, from the outcrop of the London and plastic clays, to mean tide level in the Thames, below London Bridge. The height to which water rose in the Paris basin, from the lower greensand, was adduced in confirmation of that rule. Before the Artesian well at Grenelle was bored, M. Arago calculated that the water would rise above the level of the soil at Paris, as it rose above that level at Elbeuf, near Rouen. The height at which the water was found in the lower greensand near Troyes being 100 mètres above Paris, and 131 mètres above the sea, the author found that a line drawn from that point to the level of the sea at Havre (where the greensand cropped out) passed over Paris and Elbeuf at the elevation to which the water actually rose in both places. A calculation based on the same principle (taking the level of the water in the lower greensand, at Leighton Buzzard, at 280 feet above the sea) showed, that if the chalk and gault were bored through in London, the water from the greensand would rise 150 feet above Trinity high-water mark. Passing from the natural to the actual condition of the chalk water level, under London, there was a general permanent depression of from 50 feet to 60 feet below Trinity high-water mark. Measurements of a well in London in which the level was seldom disturbed, showed periodical alternations, coincident with the exhaustion and replenishment of the chalk stratum by natural causes, to the amount of 4 feet 6 inches, and a permanent depression of 1 foot 6 inches per annum, or 12 feet in eight years. Again, referring to former calculations, it was shown that the margin of this depression was extending in a greater ratio towards the north than to the south or south-east. Since 1843, the level was permanently depressed at Hampstead Road, 10 feet; Camden Town, 19 feet; Kilburn, 20 feet; and Cricklewood, 10 feet. The limit of the depression being in 1843 between the latter places. Allusion was then made to the influx of water at the point where the Thames passed over the outcrop of the sands of the plastic clay formation, and the chalk, as a point to be determined by geological inquiry, and connected with observations as to the action of the tides on the level, and the chemical quality of the water, in that neighbourhood. The general conclusion drawn from all these facts was, that the rapidity of exhaustion from Artesian wells under London greatly exceeded the rapidity of supply; that the amount of defalcation was marked, and could be measured by the extension of a progressive permanent depression, proving that the supply of water from the chalk stratum became each year more precarious, and less to be depended on, even should there be no addition to the Artesoid wells in and around the metropolis.

In the discussion which ensued, it was shown, that only such a supply of water percolated annually through the chalk stratum as could be accounted for by the discharge from the rivers of the upper district. The results yielded by Dalton's Rain Gauge, as used by Mr. John Dickinson, were adduced in proof of this position. The chemical analysis of the water



from wells sunk into the chalk showed the probability of an influx of the tidal water of the Thames, to replenish the vacuum caused by the extent of pumping from the London wells. On the other hand, it was contended, that from the great extent of surface whence the chalk derived its supply, there might be such a surplus store of water as would warrant any amount of pumping for the domestic supply of the metropolis.

The discussion was announced to be continued at the meeting of Tuesday, January 29th.

ROYAL INSTITUTION.—Jan. 18.—W. Pole, Esq., V.P., Treas., in the chair.—Mr. Grove, V.P., 'On some recent Researches of Foreign Philosophers.' Mr. Grove first noticed the experiments of M. Regnault. He gave a short summary of the progress of knowledge respecting the effect of respiration on air from the days of Boyle to the investigations of Messrs. Allen and Pepys, and mentioned that the last-named philosophers tended to show that the amount of carbonic acid gas exhaled from the lungs was an exact equivalent to the amount of oxygen inhaled from the atmosphere; but in all experiments hitherto made the air inspired was, after the first inhalation, more or less deteriorated. The arrangements of M. Regnault have effected an uniformity not only of the quality, but also of the temperature and pressure of the atmosphere respired by the animal under experiment. A diagram of M. Regnault's apparatus, and the actual eudiometer employed by him to test the exhaled gases, were exhibited. The following may be taken as the most important results of many experiments:—1. Warm-blooded animals exhale nitrogen in proportion from  $\frac{1}{10}$  to  $\frac{1}{50}$  of the oxygen consumed by them in respiration. 2. Animals fed on farinaceous food exhale carbonic acid equivalent to the oxygen inspired, while animals fed on animal food absorb oxygen sometimes equal to 4 parts in 10 of that inspired. 3. Animals fed on leguminous food absorb a quantity intermediate between that occasioned by a flesh and a cereal diet. 4. The consumption of oxygen by animals varies directly with the surface and inversely with the bulk of their bodies, e.g., a sparrow consumes ten times more oxygen in a given time than a common domestic fowl; this arises probably from the cooling effect of the greater surface. 5. Hybernating animals when asleep in some cases assimilate the oxygen and nitrogen of the atmosphere which they inhale, and increase in weight by respiration alone. 6. Experiments had been tried on a dilution of oxygen with other gases. Mr. Grove showed a cage containing two small birds placed under a large bell glass containing an atmosphere of hydrogen and oxygen mixed in the proportions that constitute water. The carbonic acid formed by the respiration of the birds was absorbed by lime-water, and fresh supplies of oxygen and hydrogen were given by the decomposition of water by a voltaic battery. No inconvenience appeared to be experienced by the animals in consequence of the novel atmosphere in which they were placed, and in which they continued during the period of the discourse. Mr. Grove, however, remarked that (whatever might be the value of experiments tried with hydrogen, &c., as proving that they might be temporarily substituted for nitrogen in the atmosphere as diluents of oxygen), inasmuch as Nature did nothing in vain, there must be some yet undiscovered final cause in the selection of nitrogen for this purpose. In concluding this part of his subject, Mr. Grove mentioned, as a proof of the delicacy of M. Regnault's apparatus, that he was able to count the pulsations of the animal submitted to experiment by the number of bubbles of oxygen gas supplied to it by the apparatus. Mr. Grove also took occasion to suggest that all these experiments, as well as the more striking effects of chloroform and ether, pointed strongly to the probable efficiency of gases inhaled by the lungs as therapeutic agents. The subject had received much less consideration than its importance deserved. Small admixtures of certain gases with the ordinary atmosphere were known to produce peculiar effects on the animal economy, and such admixture he thought might be found in certain cases beneficial. Thus, as Nature gives us more carbonic acid gas in the atmosphere by night than by day, and as hybernating animals will in their dormant state live in an atmo-

sphere containing much more carbonic acid than they could bear in their wakened state, Nature seems to point out to us that the admixture of certain portions of carbonic acid with the air of invalids' rooms might be useful as a soporific agent and more natural and effective than those taken by the stomach. Other applications of the principle might be discovered by experiment.—Mr. Grove then spoke of a memoir on physiological electricity by Signor Matteucci, of Pisa, recently read at the Royal Society. Signor Matteucci believes that he has been able to trace a connexion between the direction of the electrical current and the influence of that current as affecting motion or sensation. Thus, for example, when the current passes from the anode to the cathode of the battery through the muscles of the animal, motion only is caused, and sensation only when the current is sent in the opposite direction. In illustration of these facts, Mr. Grove mentioned that, at the commencement of his own researches, he had been requested by a friend, whose lower extremities were paralyzed, to try the effect of electricity in restoring the voluntary motion that was lost; that, in compliance with this request, he subjected the leg and thigh to such currents as in a normal state of the body would have occasioned an involuntary contraction of the limbs without sensation, but that in the case of this gentleman, no movement of the limbs resulted, but violent pain was produced.—The last subject noticed by Mr. Grove was the experiments of M. Pasteur on the relation of crystalline forms to polarization of light. M. Pasteur in examining the salts of crystallized paratartronic acid had noticed two sets of oppositely hemihedral crystals, and on making separate solutions of these crystals he found that the solution of one class rotated the plane of polarization to the right, while the other class rotated it to the left; a mixture in proper proportion of the two solutions produced no effect on the plane of polarization. What makes this the more curious is, that the chemical constitution of the three solutions is identical. (Vide 'Annales de Chimie,' 3e série, 1848, t. xxiv. p. 442.)

SCIENTIFIC GOSSIP.—Our attention has been called by a contemporary journalist to an error in our description of Fizeau's experiment on the velocity of light [*ante*, p. 23]. We stated that the first observation was produced by the passing before the eye of 12.6 of the teeth of the wheel:—we should have said by 12.6 revolutions of the wheel itself. The obscure character of the notices in the French journals misled us.

#### MEETINGS FOR THE ENSUING WEEK.

MON. Geographical, half-past 8.—'Notes on Japan.'—On Sinking, by Dr. Gutzlaff.  
— Entomological, 8.—Anniversary.  
TUES. Civil Engineers, 8.  
WED. Society of Arts, 8.  
THURS. Royal, half-past 8.  
— Antiquaries, 8.  
FRI. Royal Institution, half-past 8.—Prof. Faraday 'On the Electricity of the Air.'  
— Botanical, 8.  
SAT. Asiatic, 2.

#### FINE ARTS

FINE-ART GOSSIP.—Mr. William Westall, the landscape painter, died on the 22nd inst. in the 69th year of his age. Though little celebrated for his oil pictures, he had a pleasant feeling for landscape nature (lake scenery more especially). He represented, however, what he saw before him with the fidelity of an artist not much alive to the poetry of his art. He worked largely for booksellers; and many volumes for which he supplied matter-of-fact illustrations, from his own drawings as well as from the slight sketches of artists and amateurs, evince his skill and the taste and readiness with which he worked. Mr. Westall was elected an Associate of the Royal Academy in 1813—and was the senior Associate at the time of his death.

Letters from Nimroud of November the 25th inform us of the progress of Dr. Layard's researches. A wall of admirably united large square blocks of limestone, without cement, has been discovered in the pyramid at Nimroud,—but as yet it has been impossible to ascertain what is behind it. It may probably be a chamber or tomb; or it may be only one side of a square mass supporting the pyramid of unbaked

bricks. What if it should turn out to be the true *busta Nini*? In the entrance of a gateway to the quadrangle opposite Mosul, Dr. Layard has reached a pair of enormous winged figures which appear to be entire, but have been cracked and injured by fire. A plan of this entrance would be interesting as illustrative of the architecture of the city. At Kouyunjik a pair of gigantic bulls back to back, separated by an enormous figure strangling a lion, like that at Paris, but still larger, have been discovered; but the upper parts of all have been destroyed. On the bulls are interesting inscriptions.—We are glad to hear that the colossal lions at Nimroud were nearly ready for removal. It was expected that they would be on their road to England early in December.—Dr. Layard has a party of men excavating at Baashickbah and in a mound near Khorsabad.

We have seen a series of models in card, elementary and progressive, designed to assist pupils in drawing in the useful practice of copying direct from nature. These models are so arranged as to be likely to insinuate themselves into the drawing-room as well as into the school-room. By a principle of folding applied to them, the entire set is made to occupy little more than a single ordinary model of wood or plaster; and they deal with familiar objects (not simply geometrical forms),—and have the further advantage over the models ordinarily in use of having the natural colours of the objects progressively introduced into the series. The set are inclosed in a handsome mahogany box; which by means of iron rods is erected into a stand on which the models may severally be set up for copying from.

In Paris, the Academy of the Fine Arts has filled up the vacancy in its body occasioned by the death of M. Granet, by the election of M. Robert Fleury.

The French journals are making loud lamentation over the death of M. Dominique Papety,—an artist whose archaeological researches in Greece and whose drawings brought from thence bore a high renown and value among our neighbours. M. Papety was born at Marseilles in 1815. At the age of twenty his picture of 'Moses striking the Rock' won for him the grand prize of Rome. M. Papety left behind him a very large collection of sketches, drawings and fac-similes, &c.; which, by this time, have been dispersed by auction among the connoisseurs and collectors.

The death of General Despinoy has recently brought into the market one of the two only authentic portraits of Molière known to exist. It was bought by Dr. Gendrin—after being, it is said, eagerly contended for by English dealers and amateurs: though we confess the sum—1740 francs (under 70*l.*)—scarcely represents a struggle so severe, with English capitalists in the field, as the French papers assert. The picture in question is well known by repeated engravings. It is the work of Noël Coypell,—and formed part of the celebrated collection of M. Denon, Director of the Museums under the Restoration. At his death it was withdrawn from the sale of the collection by his heirs,—and afterwards ceded directly to General Despinoy, the possessor of a curious gallery of historical pictures.

According to the Berlin papers, a prize of a singular kind has been proposed by the Prussian Minister of Public Instruction.—Considering, he says, that the money value of works of Art is essentially arbitrary,—that no certain basis exists on which to erect a scale of prices for them, even approximately,—he suggests a competition for the Essay which shall render the best account, on trustworthy authorities, of the sums which the most celebrated artists in all countries, ancient and modern, and in all categories of the arts of design, have obtained for their several works. The prices are to be given in present money of Prussia; and in reducing ancient or foreign coins to this common circulation, regard is to be had not merely to a comparison of the intrinsic and material values of the respective figures, but also to the comparative values of money at the different periods thus brought together. The competing works are to be sent in before the close of the present year—a commission jury is to be appointed *ad hoc*,—and the Government will publish the Prize Essay on its own account, unless the author shall desire to reserve the copyright.



## MUSIC AND THE DRAMA

**BLAGROVE'S CONCERT ROOMS**, 71, Mortimer Street, Cavendish Square.—MR. ARTHUR VALLANCE LUNN, (Author of "Tornatore Hall," "The Council of Four," &c.) will give a **LITERARY AND MUSICAL EVENING** at the above Rooms, on **TUESDAY**, January 29th, 1850, commencing at Eight o'clock and terminating at Ten. The whole written expressly for the occasion, by Arthur Wallage Lunn. The Music composed (also expressly for the occasion) by Henry C. Lunn and John Ashmore. Vocalist—Miss Thornton. Accompanist at the Piano-forte—Mr. Henry C. Lunn.—Admission, 2s.; no reserved seats.—Tickets to be procured of R. Addison & Co., Music Sellers, 210, Regent Street; and of C. Scocher, Piano-forte Manufacturer, 70, Mortimer Street, Cavendish Square (next door to Blagrove's Concert Rooms).

**CHAMBER CONCERTS.—HANOVER SQUARE ROOMS.**—**BENHARD MOLIQUE** begs respectfully to announce that his Three Concerts of Chamber Music will take place on Wednesday, the 6th and 20th of March and 3rd of April next, to commence at Eight o'clock.—Subscription to the three Concerts, or Family Ticket for three persons for each Concert, 1*l.* 1*s.*; Single tickets, 1*0s.* 6*d.*—Subscriptions taken by Messrs. Cramer & Co. 201, Regent Street, Ewer & Co. Newgate Street, and B. Molique, 9, Houghton Place, Amphil Square.

**MARYLEBONE LITERARY AND SCIENTIFIC INSTITUTION**, Edwards Street, Portman Square.—**MENDELSSOHN'S POSTHUMOUS QUARTETT MUSIC**, Op. 81, will be performed at the **SECOND QUARTETT CONCERT** on Tuesday next, January 29th.—Performers—Mr. Edward W. Thomas, N. Mori Westlake, and Guest. Piano-forte, Miss Kate Loder. To commence at Eight o'clock. Tickets, 2*s.* and 3*s.* each.—The Third Concert will take place on Tuesday, February 6th.

## MADAME GRASSINI.

Madame Grassini is announced as having died at Milan, since the year came in, at the advanced age of threescore and seventeen years. To many the notification of her death will be a surprise; not as having happened so soon, but as an event which it might have been fancied had happened some score of years earlier,—so entire is the disappearance of a stage-favourite from the public eye after the curtain has for the last time fallen on her closing *tirade* or *bravura*! But Madame Grassini's celebrity carries us back to an unusually long distance: as the reader will admit when we remind him that she was the Italian *prima donna* who in England filled the space betwixt Banti and Catalani. Madame Grassini was a native of Varese in Lombardy,—was educated at Milan, in the grand vocal school of Marchesi and Crescentini,—made her *début* at *La Scala* during the Carnival of 1794,—and became early distinguished alike for her great personal beauty and for her peculiar musical gifts. Her performance at a concert given after the battle of Marengo is said to have attracted the attention of Napoleon Bonaparte, who invited her to Paris. There for awhile she quened it in great private state and public popularity. In 1802, Madame Grassini appeared in London; and the circumstances of her appearance are pleasantly, and (so far as we can ascertain) distinctively, touched by Lord Mount Edgumbe in his "Musical Reminiscences."

"The event to which I allude," says he, "was the arrival of Grassini, who was engaged to sing alternately with Mrs. Billington. This very handsome woman was in everything the direct contrary of her rival. With a beautiful form, and a grace peculiarly her own, she was an excellent actress, and her style of singing was exclusively the *cantabile*, which became heavy *a la longue*, and bordered a little on the monotonous: for her voice, which it was said had been a high *soprano*, was by some accident reduced to a confined *contralto*. She had entirely lost all its upper tones, and possessed little more than one octave of good natural notes; if she attempted to go higher she produced only a shrill, quite unnatural and almost painful to the ear. Her first appearance was in 'La Vergine del Sole,' an opera of Mayer's, well suited to her peculiar talents; but her success was not very decisive as a singer, though her acting and her beauty could not fail of exciting high admiration. So equivocal was her reception, that when her benefit was to take place she did not dare encounter it alone, but called in Mrs. Billington to her aid; and she, ever willing to oblige, consented to appear with her. The opera composed for the occasion, by Winter, was 'Il Ratto di Proserpine,' in which Mrs. Billington acted *Ceres* and Grassini *Proserpine*. And now the tide of favour suddenly turned: the performance of the latter carried all the applause, and her graceful figure, her fine expression of face, together with the sweet manner in which she sang several easy simple airs, stamped her at once the reigning favourite. Her deep tones were undoubtedly finer, and had a particularly good effect when joined with the brilliant voice of Mrs. Billington; but though, from its great success, this opera was frequently repeated, they never sang together in any other. Grassini having attained the summit of the ladder, kicked down the steps by which she had risen, and henceforth stood alone. \* \* \* Grassini (subsequently) performed in 'Gli Orazi e Curiazi,' the *chef-d'œuvre* of Cimarosa (her acting in the last scene being most excellent), 'Zaira,' by Winter, 'La Morte di Cleopatra,' by Nascini, and the 'Camilla' of Paer. \* \* \* Grassini, (continues the same authority in a later chapter) returned in 1814; but she was no longer what she had been. Her beauty, indeed, was little diminished; but her acting was more languid and ineffective,—at least it appeared so, after the more energetic and animated manner of her predecessor (Catalani). Her voice, too, was changed: she had endeavoured to regain its upper part; but in so doing, she had lost the lower, and instead of a mellow *contralto*, it was become a hoarse *soprano*. Still, however, she displayed

much of her former grace and style, particularly in her favourite part of *Orazia*, and in a new opera of 'Didone,' by Paer. But on the whole, her performance did not satisfy the public, and after one season she departed unregretted." Little need be added to the above, save that Madame Grassini retired from public life about the year 1817,—and that she was the aunt of the sisters Grisi and of Mdlle. Carlotta, the second-best of dancing *danseuses*.

**DRURY LANE.**—Mr. Sheridan Knowles is just now in the ascendant. His play of 'The Hunchback' has been of late frequently repeated; and was, for the first time under Mr. Anderson's management, on Monday performed here, with Miss Vandenhoff as *Julia* and her father as *Master Walter*. The part of the latter was sustained with effective elocution; and in the last scene especially the situation was produced with touching power. The daughter's character was well conceived by the actress, and pleasingly rendered; but her want of recent practice leaves something to future development. Mrs. Nisbett was the *Helen*; and performed it with fulness, buoyancy, and the geniality of feeling which distinguishes this actress. The part of *Sir Thomas Clifford* was confided to Mr. C. Fisher,—Mr. Anderson being prevented from appearing by indisposition. Mr. J. Vining was *Modus*,—and Mr. S. Artaud, *Fathom*.

**STRAND.**—At this house, also, one of Mr. Knowles's plays has been acted during the week,—'The Love Chase.' Mrs. Glover was the *Widow Green*. It is announced that this venerable lady will make the present her final season,—and her performances at this theatre, therefore, are to be considered as her "farewell" ones. The spirit, freshness and vivacity which she yet throws into her assumptions are, at her age, marvellous. In the present character, all play-goers know that her acting is of great quality. Mrs. Stirling performed "neighbour" *Constance* with animation, tact and grace,—and with somewhat of a more natural manner than usual. Mrs. Leigh Murray as *Lydia* acted with judgment, delicacy, and an excellent appreciation of her text. The rest of the play was respectably cast.

**SADLER'S WELLS.**—'Henry the Eighth,' to the end of the fourth act, was repeated for the first time this season last Monday:—Miss Glyn performing *Queen Katherine*. In all respects it is a great improvement on her former rendering of this majestic character. It was more subdued in its general manner,—throughout self-possessed,—and in passages of vehemence more powerful. The dying scene was very touching. It combined in a remarkable manner the signs of physical weakness with those of spiritual aspiration.

**MARYLEBONE.**—A melodrama entitled 'The Road of Life' has been performed nightly, during the week, at this house.

**MUSICAL AND DRAMATIC GOSSIP.**—It is at the request of the executors and surviving relatives of Dr. Mendelssohn Bartholdy, that we announce their desire to collect his letters, to serve, at a future period, as materials for an authentic memorial of the deceased. It is to be hoped that this announcement—being formal—will preclude the publication of such letters in any other way; and will induce the many friends of Dr. Mendelssohn in England to communicate copies of the letters which they may possess to any of the members of his family:—such communications to be directed to the deceased's brother, Mr. Paul Mendelssohn Bartholdy.

That portion of St. Martin's Hall which is finished,—some two-thirds only of the great room as contemplated in the architect's plan being yet built,—will be opened, we perceive, on Monday fortnight, the 11th of February, with a miscellaneous concert,—consisting of an act of sacred and an act of secular music.

Two or three letters on the subject of the Bach Society have reached us,—to which we shall shortly give our best attention.

In our last week's enumeration of chamber concerts we made an error as to the date of Mr. E. Thomas's first Quartett *Soirée*,—which we merely announced, not reviewed. This took place on Tuesday last,—not on Tuesday week.—On Tuesday next we understand that a posthumous Quartett by Mendelssohn

will be played. If this be the complete one in *F* minor, we can accredit the composition as an attraction of the very highest and most precious musical value.—While returning for a moment to meetings so full of interest to all genuine lovers of art, we may mention with pleasure that at Mr. Willy's last *Chamber Concert*, also included in the former paragraph, a *Concerto* by Bach, played by Mr. W. S. Bennett, pleased so much as to be called for a second time. "This can be no trick," as *Benedick* hath it; but it is a truth which argues honest, sober, substantial progress in English taste for the "best and honourablest things" in Music.—Having begun this paragraph with the correction of one mistake, let us close it with the rectification of another, which reaches as far as Manchester. An error was made in specifying the cast of 'St. Paul' as there given: the leading bass part of which was sung *not* by Mr. Phillips, but by Mr. Joseph Robinson of Dublin.

We perceive with pleasure that among the rapidly increasing number of chamber concerts which attest our sound musical progress, Herr Molique is about to give three at the Hanover Square Rooms. It is natural to expect that a welcome individuality will be given to these by the performance of his own compositions.

Our contemporaries, we observe, in announcing a new Oratorio by M. Félicien David as forthcoming at Paris, also debit M. Meyerbeer with some uneasiness on the occasion,—since they state that the subject of M. David's sacred work had been selected by the *Maestro* for an opera, and that the latter has expressed discontent at the idea of being forestalled. We are glad to learn that M. Meyerbeer is about to undertake more new compositions for the stage;—aware, meanwhile, to our comfort, that 'L'Africaine' lies finished in his portfolio, though of the date of its production not a word has as yet been said. Aware, also, that M. Meyerbeer likes to mould what is strange and difficult into dramatic forms, and that he is, *qua* innovator and enlarger of boundaries, a great benefactor to Opera, we are still a little incredulous with regard to his manifested vexation,—which we rather imagine to have been first chronicled by a contemporary whose thousand and one tales of what happens [?] in Paris are as ingenious and exhaustless as if *Scheherazade* had contrived them.—Something more to the purpose, we believe, we may offer to our readers,—which is the chance of a new musical composer of the highest quality. A witness better to be relied upon than the oriental Lady whose business it was to keep her head on her shoulders by the beguiling exercise of her talents for fiction, and on whose musical science and foresight we have the highest reliance, assures us that such a treasure may possibly be ere long "unearthed" in the French metropolis. We are told of a young man of genius, who has been silently working for years in retirement, undreamed of by the *feuilletonists* or by those who buy paragraphs,—and whom his good stars have at last cast into the hands of friends able and willing to present to the world that which, we are assured, is very extraordinary. We may have more precise details to lay before the reader shortly; meanwhile, the promise is no "myth," but a reality qualified to quicken expectation in all who love to see new pleasures and gifts appearing in a world the forlorn and bereaved state of which is calculated to engender anxious misgivings.

It is said that Mdlle. Lind has signed an engagement to visit America in September, on terms of unprecedented magnificence. Thirty thousand pounds is the sum named as about to be placed in the hands of a London banker before her departure. Her expenses are all to be paid,—and her contingent gains on the other side of the Atlantic are estimated at as much as the sum deposited. It is added, that she is to sing only in concerts and oratorios,—and that she has expressly provided for the liberty of singing as often for charities as she shall choose. These are newspaper reports,—and, as such, open to revision and correction. It is certain, we believe, that Mr. Benedict proposes to go with her as her conductor and accompanist.—A true journal of this Progress would be as curious a book as could well be written.

We were not long since speaking of the paucity of musical collectors as compared with the number of those who gather books or pictures. The fact



may in part be accounted for by the spread of publication during late years; yet as this does not preclude value for the original MSS. of a composer, we must seek elsewhere the solution of what would otherwise appear strange. There are many valuable unpublished MSS. of Cherubini which we should be glad to know were in safe ward; and within a day or two has been placed in our hands a list of undoubted MSS. by Haydn, Mozart, and Beethoven, now in Berlin, the property of a deceased amateur, and which are understood to be "in the market." This list runs as follows:—By Haydn,—a *Concertante* for violin and orchestra in score, and the scores of *Sinfonias* in B, in G, in E, and in D. By Mozart,—the score of 'Il Ratto del Seraglio.' By Beethoven,—the two *finales* to 'Fidelio' in MS, the scores of the *Sinfonia* in B, those of six Quartetts, a book of sketches for 'Fidelio,' the Septuor, the overture to 'Fidelio,' notes and sketches, and airs from the 'Urania' of Tiedge.

Every now and then still comes an outbreak of feeling from Germany which tells that even in that harassed world poetry is not dead. There is, or is to be, a new hotel in Vienna—on the site of Mozart's house—called the *Hôtel Mozart*. In the midst of the court yard, "hard by a fountain," a marble statue of the composer is to be placed,—and around this, busts of Haydn, Gluck, Beethoven, Mendelssohn, Rossini, and Meyerbeer.

The earliest of the forthcoming dramatic novelties—

Like those blind motions of the Spring

Which show the year has turned—

will be Mr. Oxenford's classical tragedy with the taking title of 'Ariadne,' which will be performed on Monday next at the Olympic Theatre.

#### MISCELLANEA

*Cupid Crying*.—I shall be obliged if you, or any of your correspondents, can tell me who was the author of the epigram, or inscription, of which I subjoin the English translation. I am sure I have seen the Latin; but I do not know whose it was, or where to find it. I think it belongs to one of the Italian writers of the fifteenth or sixteenth century.—

*Cupid Crying.*

Why is Cupid crying so?—

Because his jealous mother beat him.—

What for?—For giving up his bow

To Cælia, who contrived to cheat him.

The child! I could not have believed

He'd give his weapons to another.—

He would not,—but he was deceived;

She smiled,—he thought it was his mother.

*Notes and Queries.*

[We give the above because of the extreme elegance of the epigram.]

*Gold in Russia.*—The value of the productions extracted from the gold mines of the Oural (Russia) for the first half year in 1849, amounts to 4,300,000 f. as regards the Government mines, and 10,190,000 f. on private account; total 14,490,000 f.,—which furnishes in comparison with the second half-year of 1848 an increase of upwards of 4,500,000 f., arising almost entirely from private enterprise. A similar and proportionally larger difference appears with reference to the platina mines; the quantity extracted being, for the last ten months in 1848, 23 kilogrammes, and for the first half-year of 1849, 66 kil., worth about 66,000 f.—*Brussels Herald*.

To CORRESPONDENTS.—J. R. E.—C. De M.—H. W.—D. W.—O micron—W. R. W.—received.

B. C.—If this correspondent had given her name we might perhaps have answered her inquiry privately. But we cannot suffer ourselves to be entrapped into an advertisement,—as is possible under the form of answer proposed.

A. L. X.—We cannot insert the communication of this correspondent. His experiment will not give the result supposed.

H. E. S.—The hexameters of this correspondent are perhaps as good as our language permits, so far as an approach to quantity is concerned. But in order to this—which is not easy—the words have been thrown out of their true accented pronunciation. The objection clearly is, that with such a language as ours we can make but poor and harsh lines as scanned by the rules of quantity,—while to scan them so, we must sin against our laws of accent in a way that the Latin or Greek could not require the speaker to do. This a moment's comparison of the respective languages will show.

*Errata.*—In Mr. Ollier's poem, 'The Advent of Bacchus,' which appeared in our columns last week, at P. 72, col. 1, l. 28, for "poison" read *foison*;—p. 75, col. 2, l. 3, for "Schoepfin" read *Schoepfflin*;—col. 3, l. 24, for "Kivity" read *Kwety*.

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It is requested that all Works proposed for exhibition be punctually sent to the Rooms of the Society of Arts, John-street, Adelphi, on or before the 20th of February, it being imperative that the Exhibition should open early in March.

Letters and Communications should be addressed to Augustus W. Franks, Esq., Honorary Secretary of the Committee, Society of Arts, John-street, Adelphi.

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LONDON, SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 2, 1850.

## REVIEWS

*On the Causes of the Success of the English Revolution of 1640—1688. A Discourse designed as an Introduction to the History of the Reign of Charles the First.* By M. Guizot. Murray.

THE subject of this work is one of paramount and universal importance. It appeals to England in the way of instruction—to France in the way of example. It professes to teach the former country by what means her career of revolution was checked,—how the violence of popular passion for change and innovation was controlled and subdued,—and how the dreams of theorists were made to yield to a scheme of well-defined obedience and well-regulated order. To the latter country M. Guizot's appeal is less direct, but not less clear. It holds up to admiration the example of a nation pausing in a revolutionary course as soon as it had acquired satisfactory guarantees, on the one hand for "the essential rights common to all citizens," and on the other "for the active and effectual participation of the country in its own government"; and it teaches, that "a people so ignorant of its highest interests as not to know that this is all which it needs, or ought to demand, will never be able to found a government or to maintain its liberties."

From this brief statement of M. Guizot's purpose it will appear that his book is partly historical, partly political. To France it is the latter,—to England the former; and it is in the former point of view alone that it falls under our consideration. Not that we would abdicate our right to enter on questions of political science,—to consider the laws and principles of that high philosophy which deals with the rights and wrongs of nations and their governors; but the points raised in the political portions of the present work are too closely allied to objects of present and party strife to be safely dealt with in our columns.

The historical purpose of his work is thus stated by M. Guizot:—

"The success by which the English Revolution was crowned has not only been permanent, but has borne a double fruit: its authors founded Constitutional Monarchy in England; and in America, their descendants founded the Republic of the United States. These great events are now completely known and understood; time, which has given them its sanction, has also shed over them its light. Sixty years ago France entered on the path opened by England, and Europe lately rushed headlong in the same direction. It is my purpose to show what are the causes which have crowned constitutional monarchy in England, and republican government in the United States, with that solid and lasting success which France and the rest of Europe are still vainly pursuing, through those mysterious trials and revolutionary struggles, which, according as they are well or ill passed through, elevate or pervert a nation for ages."

The causes which are thus proposed to be developed are rather left to be inferred than openly stated. They are announced somewhat enigmatically, in the concluding sentence, thus:—

"We see that the ultimate success or failure of governments is determined, in the last result, by the same laws; and that the policy which preserves a state from violent revolutions, is also the only policy which can bring a revolution to a successful close."

The author's meaning is explained more precisely in a previous passage, as follows:—

"From the time of the great revolutionary crisis which lasted from 1640 to 1660, the English people had the good fortune to profit by experience, and the good sense not to give themselves up to extreme parties. In the midst of the most ardent political struggles, and of the violences into which they alternately

urged and followed their leaders, they never failed, in critical and decisive circumstances, to remain or to fall back within the bounds of that steady good sense which consists in a clear recognition of the things which it is essential to preserve, and an unshaken adherence to them; in enduring the inconveniences attached to these essentials, and renouncing whatever wishes or projects might endanger them. It is from the reign of Charles II. that this good sense, which is the political intelligence of a free people, has presided over the destinies of England."

The doctrine of "good sense" manifested in a union of all parties in order to repress revolutionary—or, speaking more accurately, anarchical—disorders, is the key to M. Guizot's reasoning. On the death of Cromwell, we are told,—

"It was the memory of Cromwell which even now held the royalist party in a state of fear and inaction. He had so often frustrated their hopes, and had crushed their plots and their risings with so rude a hand, that they had lost all confidence in the success of their projects. Moreover, their long reverses had taught them good sense. They had learned not to take their wishes for the measure of their powers; and to understand that, if Charles Stuart was to regain the crown, it could only be by the general will and act of England, not by an insurrection of Cavaliers."

"Good sense" having penetrated even into the ranks of the Cavaliers, the Restoration became an easy task.—

"All the men of mark or influence who had brought about the revolution, or whom the revolution had raised into notice, had been repeatedly put to the proof. Though their attempts to govern the country had not been thwarted or obstructed by any external obstacle or national resistance, none of them had succeeded. They had destroyed each other. They had all exhausted in these fruitless conflicts whatever reputation or whatever strength they might otherwise have preserved. Their nullity was completely laid bare. Nevertheless, England was still at their mercy. The nation had lost, in these long and melancholy alternations of anarchy and despotism, the habit of ruling and the courage to rule, its own destinies. Cromwell's army was still in existence, incapable of forming a government, but overturning every one that did not please it. It was a stranger to political parties, a soldier highly respected by the army, a faithful servant of the Parliament and Cromwell, and of even Richard Cromwell at his accession, who perceived that there was but one conclusion of this anarchy possible, and endeavoured to lead his wearied country to that goal without conflict and without convulsion. There was nothing great in the character of Monk, but good sense and courage. He had no thirst for glory, no desire for power, no lofty principles or designs, either for his country or himself; but he had a profound aversion to disorder, and to those iniquitous excesses which popular parties clothe with fair promises. He was attached to his duties as a soldier and an Englishman, not ostentatiously, but with firmness and modesty. He was no charlatan and no declaimer; he was discreet even to taciturnity, and absolutely indifferent to truth or falsehood. He dissembled with imperturbable coolness and patience to bring about the result which seemed to him necessary to the welfare of England—the peaceable restoration of the only government which could be stable and regular. All the rest was, in his eyes, nothing more than a chaos of doubtful questions and party quarrels. He succeeded. All the fractions of the great monarchical party suspended their ancient animosities, their blind impatience and their conflicting claims, and united to support him. The Restoration came to pass like a natural and inevitable event, without costing either victors or vanquished a drop of blood; and Charles the Second, re-entering London in the midst of immense acclamations, could say with truth, 'It is certainly my fault that I did not come back before, for I have seen nobody to-day who did not protest that he had always wished for my return.'"

"Good sense," exhibited in the same way, brought about the resistance to the tyranny of James the Second.—

"There was no violent outbreak, and the country remained motionless; but its leading men changed their resolutions. The Church of England, goaded to extremity, entered on a system of positive resistance; the political parties, Whigs and Tories, concurred in a more decisive step. The Whigs had been taught by experience that they alone could neither rally the nation nor establish a government. Their conspiracies had been as unsuccessful as their cabinets. They had now the rare wisdom to perceive that they were of themselves insufficient to accomplish their own designs, and that an intimate union with their former adversaries was the only means of securing their success. The Tories, on the other hand, saw that every principle has its limits—every engagement and every duty its conditions. For forty years they had upheld the maxims of non-resistance to the Crown, and observed a punctilious fidelity to their kings. Placed in new circumstances, and subjected to a new trial, they felt that their country too had a claim on their fidelity; and that they were not bound by consistency to make a servile surrender of their liberties and faith to a prince inaccessible to reason. The most eminent men of both parties—Russell, Sidney and Cavendish for the Whigs; Danby, Shrewsbury and Lumley for the Tories—laid aside their divisions, and determined to act in concert. Halifax, the leader of the intermediate party, when sounded by them, declined all active participation in their design, but did not dissuade them from it."

The same principle of "good sense," again, led to a similar union of all parties in the selection of the new sovereign in 1688.—

"The same rare political good sense which had united the leaders of parties in a common resistance, guided them through the difficulties incident to a new government. They dismissed all absolute theories and all questions of no practical utility; they reduced the acts and the terms by which the new power was to be settled, to what was strictly necessary to give it a solid foundation; and they were only anxious to bring affairs as speedily as possible to a conclusion which might satisfy the higher and middling classes of the country. William, at first by his reserve and afterwards by his firmness, efficiently seconded the wisdom of the party leaders. He left a perfect latitude to every system and every project; betraying neither his wishes nor aversions, and keeping himself aloof from all debates. But when he felt the crisis approaching, he assembled the most considerable men of the two Houses, and declared to them in simple and brief language, which admitted of no reply, that though he was full of respect for the rights and liberties of the Parliament, he, too, had liberties and rights, and would never accept a mutilated power nor a throne on which his wife would be placed above him. This step was decisive: the two Houses came to an agreement; a declaration was adopted, proclaiming the vacancy of the throne, the fundamental rights of the English people, and the elevation of William and Mary, Prince and Princess of Orange, to the throne of England. On the 13th of February 1689, the official proclamation of the Act of Parliament was hailed with acclamations in all the principal parts of London."

And yet once more the fates of England and its government were determined in 1745 by the same "good sense" exhibited in the same union of parties.—

"The same social force which, in 1688, had accomplished the Revolution, defended and saved, in 1745, the government which it had founded. As soon as the danger became evident, the enemies of that government were encountered by the strong organization of aristocratic parties, and by the good sense of a people politically disciplined and deeply imbued with the Christian faith. The Whig leaders and many of the Tories considered their honour and their political fortune bound up with this cause. The parties were faithful to their leaders. The middle classes and the public at large forgot their discontents and disgusts, and the small hold of the government on their personal sympathy, and thought only of the welfare of the country and their own true interests. The Church and the Dissenters were animated by a common loyalty. Opposed by this



intelligent union of the aristocracy with the people, and of the political with the religious spirit, the triumph of the Jacobites was as short-lived as it had been sudden."

The example of the United States, which M. Guizot has introduced we do not exactly see why, is very remotely connected with his argument—and still less so with his principle. The struggle of a distant colony with its mother-country has little in it that is analogous with the revolutionary contests which have agitated England and France. M. Guizot admits that in shaking off the yoke of England what the Americans did was not "strictly a revolution. . . In respect of their local political institutions and their private law, they had no revolution to make. The colonial administration of a distant monarchy was easily transformed into a republican administration under a federation of States." The only way in which the American example applies to his argument is as an exhibition of the perfect union of a whole people who, in adopting the course they took, "did but accomplish the national wish, and develope, instead of overturning, their existing institutions."

In tracing the history of his principle of "good sense," M. Guizot has to deal with many memorable men and many incidents of never-dying interest. Three prominent and characteristic figures flit across his path:—Cromwell, William the Third, and Washington. Shadows as they are, there is a living reality about these names. They attract mankind as by the invisible influence of some mighty magnet—they awe us as it were through some potent magic which over-masters all. Again and again they have been sketched and delineated—and yet we turn with interest and curiosity to every new attempt to bring them up from the safe secrecy of their dread abode. M. Guizot has pictured them all—Cromwell twice; and these passages will be amongst the most interesting portions of his book. It is thus that he describes them.—

*Cromwell.*

"For extent and force of natural talents, Cromwell perhaps is the most remarkable of the three. His mind was wonderfully inventive, supple, prompt, firm, and perspicacious, and he possessed a vigour of character which no obstacle could daunt, and no conflict weary. He pursued his designs with an ardour as exhaustless as his patience, through the slowest and most tortuous, or the most abrupt and daring ways. He excelled equally in winning and in ruling men by personal and familiar intercourse; he displayed equal ability in leading an army or a party. He had the instinct of popularity and the gift of authority, and he let loose factions with as much audacity as he subdued them. But, born in the midst of a revolution, and raised to sovereign power by a succession of violent convulsions, his genius, from first to last, was essentially revolutionary; and even when taught by experience the necessity of order and government, he was incapable of either respecting or practising the immutable moral laws which are the only basis of government. Owing to the faults of his nature, or the instability of his position, he wanted regularity and calmness in the exercise of power; had instant recourse to extreme measures, like a man pursued by the dread of mortal dangers, and, by the violence of his remedies, perpetuated or even aggravated the evils which he sought to cure. The establishment of a government is a work which requires a more regular course, and one more conformable to the eternal laws of moral order. Cromwell was able to subjugate the revolution which he had so largely contributed to make, but not to build up a government in the place of that which he had subverted."

*William III.*

"William was an ambitious prince. It is puerile to believe that, up to the moment of the appeal sent to him from London in 1688, he had been insensible to the desire of mounting the throne of England, or ignorant of the schemes which had long been laid for

raising him to it. William followed the progress of these schemes step by step; though he took no part in the means, he did not reject the end; and, without directly encouraging, he protected its authors. His ambition was ennobled by the greatness and justness of the cause to which it was attached; the cause of religious liberty and of the balance of power in Europe. Never did man make a vast political design more exclusively the thought and purpose of his life than William did. The work which he accomplished on the field or in the cabinet was his passion; his own aggrandizement was but the means to that end. Whatever were his views on the crown of England, he never attempted to realize them by violence and disorder. To his well-regulated and lofty mind the inherent vice and degrading consequences of such means were obvious and revolting. But when the career was opened to him by England herself, he did not suffer himself to be deterred from entering on it by the scruples of a private man; he wished his cause to prevail, and he wished to reap the honour of the triumph. Rare and glorious mixture of worldly ability and Christian faith, of personal ambition and devotion to public ends!"

*Washington.*

"Washington had no ambition; his country wanted him to serve her, and he accepted greatness from a sense of duty rather than from taste; sometimes even with a painful effort. The trials of his public life were bitter to a man who preferred the independence of a private condition and tranquillity of mind to the exercise of power. But he undertook, without hesitation, the task which his country imposed on him, and, in fulfilling it, he made no concessions that could lighten its burthen either to his country or to himself. He was born to govern, though he had no delight in governing; and with a firmness as unshaken as it was simple, and a sacrifice of popularity the more meritorious as it was not compensated by the pleasures of domination, he told the American people what he believed to be true, and persisted in doing what he thought to be wise. Though the servant of an infant republic, in which the democratic spirit prevailed, he won the confidence of the people by maintaining their interests in opposition to their inclinations. The policy which he pursued while laying the foundations of a new government, was so moderate yet so rigorous, so prudent yet so independent, that it seemed to belong to the head of an aristocratic Senate ruling over an ancient State. The success with which it was crowned does equal honour to Washington and to his country."

We have allowed M. Guizot to speak for himself; and will only add a word to guard ourselves from being supposed to participate in all his opinions or to concur in the accuracy of all his assertions. On the contrary, we dissent from many of both. We will give one example of the latter in which M. Guizot's inaccuracy leads him to do strange injustice to the reformers in the time of Charles the First. It is a great glory to that party that, whatever they did in the way of reform anterior to the King's attack upon their independence by attempting to seize the five members, was done according to parliamentary or legal form. It may have been right or wrong:—certainly, it was not accomplished by force of arms, but entirely through the authority of a parliamentary majority and with the concurrence of the weak and foolish monarch himself. The only army that was then in existence was used by the King's creatures against the Parliament. This is so notorious, that we are astonished to find that M. Guizot represents the facts to have been as if those concessions had been procured from the King under the influence of an army which was at the control of the reformers. M. Guizot may well entertain favourable opinions respecting the King's cause if he thinks the royal concessions were extorted by force of arms. He is speaking of the difficulty of finding security for the reforms which had been effected.—

"The political reformers began to be perplexed.

Above them was the King, who conspired against them while he was making concessions:—he recovered the power in the government, still compatible with the reforms that had been effected, he would turn it against reform and the reformers. Around them were their allies, their army, and the religious innovators (Presbyterians or other sectaries) who would not rest satisfied with political reforms, but, in their hatred to the Church, would strive not only to throw off her yoke, but to trample her under foot and impose their own upon her. For the safety of their work and of their persons, the leaders thought fit to remain under arms; and even if they had not wished it, their soldiers would have compelled them to do so."

So far as this passage asserts that the Parliament had at that time an army at command, or leads to the inference that the King had yielded to the coercion of an armed power, it is altogether a mistake,—and a very important one.

*Lives of Mahomet and his Successors.* By Washington Irving. In 2 vols. Vol. I. Murray.

HAD Europe, by some strange anachronism, produced in the seventh century of our era a man gifted with the power of reading the signs of the times, we can fancy with what an utter absence of faith in the future he would have looked around him. On every side the clouds were gathering fast. Gradually, but surely the darkness which seemed to cover the whole world—to blot out all the past, to menace all the future—had come down. The long and dismal night of history had set in. Nowhere was there a gleam of hope on which the mind could seize. Intellectually, socially, politically, it was the same; in every one of those great spheres in which the human spirit, in its day of free and vigorous youth loves to develope, multiply, and reproduce itself, there reigned the one type of moral paralysis. There were no living arts, sciences or literature,—nothing but a few monuments and traditions, of which the beauty was unfelt and the value unknown. With the exceptions of Isidore of Seville and the Alexandrian chronicler—pitiful exceptions at best—those hundred years did not produce a single author, properly so called. This one fact is a history in itself. The only department of letters which received a partial cultivation was that of dogmatic controversy,—and even that was below contempt. The politics of the period looked quite as desperate as its literature. The Roman empire had fallen into fragments. A magnificent piece of the ruin yet lay on the shores of the Bosphorus;—but it was not the old empire, not supported by the old spirit, very partially governed by the same laws. The Goths had fixed their barbarism in Spain. The Langobards had settled on the fertile plains of Italy. North and west the barbarian hordes had seated themselves on the wrecks of a civil system infinitely more advanced and more corrupt than that which they had brought with them from their native steppes and forests. But the greatest danger of all lay in the East; whence the Parthian Khosru the Second threatened to overwhelm with his warlike idolaters not only the Eastern Empire, but with it Christianity and whatever remained of the antique civilization. This mighty chieftain had recently renewed the days of Cyrus. Advancing against the Grecian emperor, he conquered Armenia, Cappadocia and Palestine,—made himself master of Jerusalem, and carried off the Holy Cross to his Persian capital. He invaded Africa with similar success,—added Egypt and Libya to his mighty empire,—and carried his victorious standard into the neighbourhood of Carthage. These conquerors were of a haughty and intractable race,—barbarians and idolaters; but what was still worse, the germs of a vigorous



life were not in them. They had reached the apex of their power; and their overgrown empire, held together only by the sword, was already threatening to dissolve of itself. In the other half of the world society was far advanced in the earlier stages of decomposition. The canker had seized on every part of the body politic. Vices and luxuries of which the modern world can barely form a conception reigned in the court, the camp, and the city of Constantinople. Whatever remnants of the old arts, manners, politeness existed, were used for the servile purposes of adulation. Vain and preposterous titles were invented to conceal the absence of true merit:—nothing less than “your magnificence,” “your illustrious highness,” “your sublime and wonderful magnitudo,” would content the pettiest magistrate who prided himself on being the countryman of Pericles or of Scipio.\* Courtezans and murderers sat on the throne of the Cæsars. Crime and immorality, baseness and treachery, were the royal roads to eminence. The Church was nearly as far gone in corruption as the Court:—simony, avarice, worldly pride, the lusts of the flesh, a vain and disputatious spirit, disgraced its ministers. Under new names, the people were returning to the pantheism of their early forefathers. The saints and angels had become to them the inferior deities of the old Olympus, and the Christian God was but the chief personage in the celestial hierarchy. The Eastern and the Western Churches had alike returned—in spirit, if not in name—to the rites of Paganism. The man who stood apart and discerned the signs of the times—had there been such a man—might well have despaired for virtue, for morality, for civilization itself.

It was into the midst of a world thus decaying and dissolving in all its parts, that a voice came out of the depths of the wilderness of Arabia, saying in a strange tone, “There is no God but God—and Mohammed is the prophet of God.” The men who bore this message appeared in the two rival courts in the self-same year. Heraclius, who had never heard of Mohammed and knew very little of Arabia, treated the messengers with the grave respect due from a polite Greek to such strangers—made them handsome presents, and sent them home—having no distinct notion of what they or their master meant. Khosru received the messengers in a different manner,—but one equally characteristic. At the head of his victorious Golden Lances, in his day of success, they brought him a letter. The warrior called his interpreter to read it. “In the name of the most merciful God; Mohammed, son of Abdallah, and apostle of God, to Khosru, King of Persia,”—thus it began. “What!” cried the proud Barbarian, “does my slave dare to put his name before mine?” Then, he seized the letter, and tore it into fragments. The answer was sent to his lieutenant in Yemen, instead of Medina. “I am told there is in Medina a madman, of the tribe of Koreish, who pretends to be a prophet. Restore him to his senses. If you cannot, send me his head.”—When the messenger of Mohammed returned to Medina, and told him that the great monarch had torn up his letter without reading it, his master simply replied, “Even so shall Allah rend his empire in pieces.” And these few words spoke the oracle of destiny. In less than ten years from the scornful tearing of that letter by Khosru, the lieutenants of the unknown “madman” ruled in Jerusalem, Alexandria and Damascus, as well as in Mecca and Medina.

Mohammed Ibn Abdallah was born about

the year 571.\* He came of what was thought in the Desert an illustrious stock. His grandfather and great-grandfather were distinguished Patriarchs, and had deserved so well of their country that they had been suffered to hand down in their family the custodianship of the Kaaba—an office superior in importance to that of Pontifex Maximus in Rome. He belonged, however, to a junior branch of this family. His father, Abdallah, was said to be the handsomest man in all Arabia. The old chronicles declare that on the day of his marriage with Amina, a daughter of his own tribe, two hundred virgins died in Mecca of broken hearts. Mohammed was the only fruit of this union. Two months after he was born, Abdallah died, leaving for his son's inheritance his personal beauty and his poverty. One slave, five camels, and a few sheep, was the amount of that son's scanty fortune. He grew up in poverty, and in what we should now call ignorance: that is, he learned no reading. But the education of the Arab of that time was almost entirely oral, acquired in the tent and in the market-place, not in schools and colleges. He grew up, however, under the care of his uncle, Abu Taleb, a keen-witted, restless, far-seeing boy. He talked with the pilgrims who came to worship at the Kaaba, with the merchants who came from Syria and Egypt and Abyssinia to trade with the people of the Desert in the holy month,—of the wonders of foreign lands, of the people who dwelt in them, what they did and what they said; and by this means he acquired a passionate desire to travel.—

“The arrival and departure of those caravans, which thronged the gates of Mecca and filled its streets with pleasing tumult, were exciting events to a youth like Mahomet, and carried his imagination to foreign parts. He could no longer repress the ardent curiosity thus aroused; but once, when his uncle was about to mount his camel to depart with the caravan for Syria, clung to him, and entreated to be permitted to accompany him. ‘For who, oh my uncle,’ said he, ‘will take care of me when thou art away?’ The appeal was not lost upon the kind-hearted Abu Taleb. He bethought him, too, that the youth was of an age to enter upon the active scenes of Arab life, and of a capacity to render essential service in the duties of the caravan; he readily, therefore, granted his prayer, and took him with him on the journey to Syria. The route lay through regions fertile in fables and traditions, which it is the delight of the Arabs to recount in the evening halts of the caravan. The vast solitudes of the Desert, in which that wandering people pass so much of their lives, are prone to engender superstitious fancies; they have accordingly peopled them with good and evil genii, and clothed them with tales of enchantment, mingled up with wonderful events which happened in days of old. In these evening halts of the caravan, the youthful mind of Mahomet doubtless imbibed many of those superstitions of the Desert

\* The exact date cannot be fixed on account of the impossibility of reconciling Oriental with European systems of chronology. Arab writers say Mohammed was born on a Monday, in the third month of the Arabian year, the year itself being equivalent to the year 561 of the Seleucidian era, and the 126th of the era of Nabonassar. But whether the year thus indicated agrees with the Christian years 569, 570, or 571, is undecided. There is a note on this point in Milman's *Gibbon*. Ockley adopts the year 571, as does also Dr. Weil of Heidelberg (*Mohammed der Prophet, sein Leben und seine Lehre*), the best modern authority on the point. Mr. Irving does not hint that there is any difficulty in the matter; but adopts the old date of 569 without a word of doubt or of criticism; we presume because it is given thus in *Gibbon*, from whom he borrows many things besides dates. The Benedictine editors of the *Art de Vérifier les Dates* fix it on the 10th of November, 570. The historian of the ‘Decline and Fall’ probably made his calculation of the birth from the well ascertained date of his death, 632, and his reputed age at that period, 63, which would give 569. But as the Arabs reckoned by lunar months, the term must be reduced nearly two years, that is, to 61, when the year adopted by Dr. Weil results. An interesting paper on this subject will be found in the forty-seventh volume of the *Mém. Acad. Insc.* Gibbon, in his usual vein, remarks, “While we refine our chronology, it is possible the illiterate prophet was ignorant of his own age.”

which ever afterwards dwelt in his memory, and had a powerful influence over his imagination.”

Arriving in Syria, the caravan encamped near a Nestorian convent; at which the young Mohammed passed the greatest portion of his time, listening to the lore of a monk whom the orientals have called Bahira. He returned to Mecca, excited with the wild traditions of the Desert and the mysterious lessons which he had acquired in the convent. Had he been wealthy he would very probably have taken to reverie and grown up a mystic; but being poor, he was obliged to work,—to attend caravans and earn his dates and milk. In this employment, remarkable only for his perfect probity and his handsome face, he grew up to manhood; “endowed,” says Abulfeda, “with every gift necessary to accomplish and adorn an honest man,—so pure and sincere, so free from every evil thought, that he was commonly known by the name of ‘Al Amin, or The Faithful.’”

When his faithful services had raised him to the rank of Kadjah's husband, he abandoned work, and took to cogitation and intense self-communing. His mind wrought up to the highest state of excitement by bodily fasts and by lonely musings,—he at length received what he deemed a message from above.—

“It was in the fortieth year, of his age, when this famous revelation took place. Accounts are given of it by Moslem writers as if received from his own lips, and it is alluded to in certain passages of the Koran. He was passing, as was his wont, the month of Ramadhan in the cavern of Mount Hara, endeavouring by fasting, prayer, and solitary meditation, to elevate his thoughts to the contemplation of divine truth. It was on the night called by Arabs Al Kader, or the Divine Decree; a night in which, according to the Koran, angels descend to earth, and Gabriel brings down the decrees of God. During that night there is peace on earth, and a holy quiet reigns over all nature until the rising of the morn. As Mahomet, in the silent watches of the night, lay wrapped in his mantle, he heard a voice calling upon him; uncovering his head, a flood of light broke upon him of such intolerable splendour that he swooned away. On regaining his senses, he beheld an angel in a human form, which, approaching from a distance, displayed a silken cloth covered with written characters. ‘Read!’ said the angel.—‘I know not how to read!’ replied Mahomet.—‘Read!’ repeated the angel, ‘in the name of the Lord, who has created all things; who created man from a clot of blood.—Read! in the name of the Most High, who taught man the use of the pen; who sheds on his soul the ray of knowledge, and teaches him what before he knew not.’—Upon this Mahomet instantly felt his understanding illumined with celestial light, and read what was written on the cloth, which contained the decrees of God, as afterwards promulgated in the Koran. When he had finished the perusal, the heavenly messenger announced, ‘Oh Mahomet, of a verity thou art the prophet of God! and I am his angel Gabriel.’—Mahomet, we are told, came trembling and agitated to Cadjah in the morning, not knowing whether what he had heard and seen was indeed true, and that he was a prophet decreed to effect that reform so long the object of his meditations; or whether it might not be a mere vision, a delusion of the senses, or worse than all, the apparition of an evil spirit. Cadjah, however, saw every thing with the eye of faith, and the credulity of an affectionate woman. She saw in it the fruition of her husband's wishes, and the end of his paroxysms and privations. ‘Joyful tidings dost thou bring!’ exclaimed she. ‘By him, in whose hand is the soul of Cadjah, I will henceforth regard thee as the prophet of our nation. Rejoice,’ added she, seeing him still cast down; ‘Allah will not suffer thee to fall to shame. Hast thou not been loving to thy kinsfolk, kind to thy neighbours, charitable to the poor, hospitable to the stranger, faithful to thy word, and ever a defender of the truth?’”

The prophet found a revelation and two people ready to believe in it on the same day. The first convert out of his own family was his slave Zeid,

\* See the *Notitia Dignitatum* at the end of the Theodosian Code.



an Arab of the Kalb tribe. As a youth he had been captured in a predatory excursion, and came into the possession of Mohammed,—but whether by lot or purchase is not known. Some time afterwards, his father traced him out, and offered a large sum of money as a ransom for him. "If he chooses to go with thee, he shall depart without ransom," said Mohammed; "but if he chooses to remain with me, why should I not keep him?" Zeid would not leave his master:—he became one of his first disciples and most valiant generals.

But the mission of the teacher prospered slowly. To its promulgator it brought only mockery, scorn and persecution. His countrymen have been called by Ockley a "tragi-comic" race. Every third person was a poet—every man amongst them was a warrior and a humourist. Next to his lance, the offensive weapon most readily wielded by the Koreish was a sarcastic tongue. No people in modern times have an equal aptness for ridicule,—nor equal sensitiveness to it. For years after Mohammed announced his divine mission he continued to be the butt of the wits and satirists of his native city. He went on, however, converting a few:—and the few who were converted never relapsed. Though as ready as his neighbours with his tongue, he abstained from the use of sarcasm. The mob of his tribe only mocked at his eloquence,—his sarcasms might have drawn daggers from their sheaths. When he declared himself a prophet, they asked for a miracle. He pointed to the Koran. The poets admitted its eloquence and beauty; but the more matter-of-fact spirits would have no evidence but material signs and wonders. "You insist on miracles," said Mohammed; "God gave to Moses the power of miracles. Would ye risk the punishment of Pharaoh?"

One by one converts of importance came in. Amongst these was Omar, the most heroic of all the disciples, who a few years later carried the victorious standards of the Prophet over Egypt, Palestine, and Persia. Instigated by his uncle, Abu Jahl, this young Arab undertook to seek out Mohammed and strike a poignard to his heart. What followed Mr. Irving shall relate.—

"As he was on his way to the house of Orkham he met a Koreishite, to whom he imparted his design. The Koreishite was a secret convert to Islamism, and sought to turn him from his bloody errand.—'Before you slay Mahomet,' said he, 'and draw upon yourself the vengeance of his relatives, see that your own are free from heresy.'—'Are any of mine guilty of backsliding?' demanded Omar with astonishment.—'Even so,' was the reply; 'thy sister Amina and her husband Seid.'—Omar hastened to the dwelling of his sister, and, entering it abruptly, found her and her husband reading the Koran. Seid attempted to conceal it, but his confusion convinced Omar of the truth of the accusation, and heightened his fury. In his rage he struck Seid to the earth; placed his foot upon his breast, and would have plunged his sword into it had not his sister interposed. A blow on the face bathed her visage in blood.—'Enemy of Allah!' sobbed Amina, 'dost thou strike me thus for believing in the only true God? In despite of thee and thy violence I will persevere in the true faith. Yes,' added she with fervour, 'There is no God but God, and Mahomet is his prophet:—And now, Omar, finish thy work!'—Omar paused; repented of his violence, and took his foot from the bosom of Seid.—'Show me the writing,' said he. Amina, however, refused to let him touch the sacred scroll until he had washed his hands. \* \* The words of the Koran sank deep into the heart of Omar. He read farther, and was more and more moved; but when he came to the parts treating of the resurrection and of judgment, his conversion was complete. He pursued his way to the house of Orkham, but with an altered heart. Knocking humbly at the door, he craved admission. 'Come in, son of al Khatib,' exclaimed Mahomet. 'What brings thee

hither?'—'I come to enrol my name among the believers of God and his prophet.' So saying, he made the Moslem profession of faith. He was not content until his conversion was publicly known. At his request, Mahomet accompanied him instantly to the Caaba, to perform openly the rites of Islamism. Omar walked on the left hand of the prophet, and Hamza on the right, to protect him from injury and insult, and they were followed by upwards of forty disciples. They passed in open day through the streets of Mecca, to the astonishment of its inhabitants. Seven times did they make the circuit of the Caaba, touching each time the sacred black stone, and complying with all the other ceremonies. The Koreishites regarded this procession with dismay, but dared not approach nor molest the prophet, being deterred by the looks of those terrible men of battle Hamza and Omar; who, it is said, glared upon them like two lions that had been robbed of their young. Fearless and resolute in everything, Omar went by himself the next day to pray as a Moslem in the Caaba, in open defiance of the Koreishites. Another Moslem, who entered the temple, was interrupted in his worship, and rudely treated; but no one molested Omar, because he was the nephew of Abu Jahl. Omar repaired to his uncle. 'I renounce thy protection,' said he. 'I will not be better off than my fellow-believers.' From that time he cast his lot with the followers of Mahomet, and was one of his most strenuous defenders."

This important conversion still further increased the ire of the Koreish; and after ten years of scorn and personal suffering, Mohammed was obliged to fly from the city of his birth to preserve his life. From the date of this flight is reckoned the Mohammedan era; from it came a change in the position, and with it a change in the politics, of the Prophet. Altogether, it is one of the most memorable things in the history of the world.—

"Abu Sofian, his implacable foe, was at this time governor of the city. He was both incensed and alarmed at the spreading growth of the new faith, and held a meeting of the chief of the Koreishites to devise some means of effectually putting a stop to it. Some advised that Mahomet should be banished the city: but it was objected that he might gain other tribes to his interest, or perhaps the people of Medina, and return at their head to take his revenge. Others proposed to wall him up in a dungeon, and supply him with food until he died; but it was surmised that his friends might effect his escape. All these objections were raised by a violent and pragmatic old man, a stranger, from the province of Nedja, who, say the Moslem writers, was no other than the devil in disguise, breathing his malignant spirit into those present. At length it was declared by Abu Jahl, that the only effectual check on the growing evil was to put Mahomet to death. To this all agreed, and as a means of sharing the odium of the deed, and withstanding the vengeance it might awaken among the relatives of the victim, it was arranged that a member of each family should plunge his sword into the body of Mahomet. It is to this conspiracy that allusion is made in the eighth chapter of the Koran. 'And call to mind how the unbelievers plotted against thee, that they might either detain thee in bonds, or put thee to death, or expel thee the city; but God laid a plot against them; and God is the best layer of plots.' In fact, by the time the murderers arrived before the dwelling of Mahomet, he was apprised of the impending danger. As usual, the warning is attributed to the angel Gabriel, but it is probable it was given by some Koreishite, less bloody-minded than his confederates. It came just in time to save Mahomet from the hands of his enemies. They paused at his door, but hesitated to enter. Looking through a crevice, they beheld, as they thought, Mahomet wrapped in his green mantle, and lying asleep on his couch. They waited for a while, consulting whether to fall on him while sleeping, or wait until he should go forth. At length they burst open the door and rushed toward the couch. The sleeper started up; but, instead of Mahomet, Ali stood before them. Amazed and confounded, they demanded, 'Where is Mahomet?'—'I know not,' replied Ali, sternly, and walked forth; nor did any one venture to molest him. Enraged

at the escape of their victim, however, the Koreishites proclaimed a reward of a hundred camels to any one who should bring them Mahomet alive or dead. Divers accounts are given of the mode in which Mahomet made his escape from the house after the faithful Ali had wrapped himself in his mantle and taken his place upon the couch. The most miraculous account is, that he opened the door silently, as the Koreishites stood before it, and, scattering a handful of dust in the air, cast such blindness upon them, that he walked through the midst of them without being perceived. (This, it is added, is confirmed by the verse of the 30th chapter of the Koran: 'We have thrown blindness upon them, that they shall not see.' The most probable account is, that he clambered over the wall in the rear of the house, by the help of a servant, who bent his back for him to step upon it. He repaired immediately to the house of Abu Beker, and they arranged for instant flight. It was agreed that they should take refuge in a cave in Mount Thor, about an hour's distance from Mecca, and wait there until they could proceed safely to Medina: and in the meantime the children of Abu Beker should secretly bring them food. They left Mecca while it was yet dark, making their way on foot by the light of the stars, and the day dawned as they found themselves at the foot of Mount Thor. Scarce were they within the cave, when they heard the sound of pursuit. Abu Beker, though a brave man, quaked with fear. 'Our pursuers,' said he, 'are many, and we are but two.'—'Nay,' replied Mahomet, 'there is a third; God is with us!' And here the Moslem writers relate a miracle, dear to the minds of all true believers. By the time, say they, that the Koreishites reached the mouth of the cavern, an acacia tree had sprung up before it, in the spreading branches of which a pigeon had made its nest, and laid its eggs, and over the whole a spider had woven its web. When the Koreishites beheld these signs of undisturbed quiet, they concluded that no one could recently have entered the cavern; so they turned away, and pursued their search in another direction. Whether protected by miracle or not, the fugitives remained for three days undiscovered in the cave, and Asama, the daughter of Abu Beker, brought them food in the dusk of the evenings. On the fourth day, when they presumed the ardour of pursuit had abated, the fugitives ventured forth, and set out for Medina, on camels which a servant of Abu Beker had brought in the night for them. Avoiding the main road usually taken by the caravans, they bent their course nearer to the coast of the Red Sea. They had not proceeded far, however, before they were overtaken by a troop of horse, headed by Soraka Ibn Malec. Abu Beker was again dismayed by the number of their pursuers; but Mahomet repeated the assurance, 'Be not troubled; Allah is with us.' Soraka was a grim warrior, with shaggy iron-gray locks, and naked sinewy arms rough with hair. As he overtook Mahomet, his horse reared and fell with him. His superstitious mind was struck with it as an evil sign. Mahomet perceived the state of his feelings, and by an eloquent appeal wrought upon him to such a degree, that Soraka, filled with awe, entreated his forgiveness; and, turning back with his troop, suffered him to proceed on his way unmolested. The fugitives continued their journey without further interruption, until they arrived at Koba, a hill about two miles from Medina. It was a favourite resort of the inhabitants of the city, and a place to which they sent their sick and infirm, for the air was pure and salubrious. Hence, too, the city was supplied with fruit; the hill and its environs being covered with vineyards and with groves of the date and lotus; with gardens producing citrons, oranges, pomegranates, figs, peaches, and apricots; and being irrigated with limpid streams. On arriving at this fruitful spot, Al Kaswa, the camel of Mahomet, crouched on her knees, and would go no further. The prophet interpreted it as a favourable sign, and determined to remain at Koba, and prepare for entering the city."

At this place the converts to his faith joined him in great numbers. Already many of the great captains who afterwards played so prominent a part in the drama of history were with him,—Zeid, Ali, Omar, and others. These fiery youths longed to do something for their



Prophet and his faith. Preachers they were not:—to them the sword was the natural weapon. In their master's theology they had found a principle of union amongst themselves:—they soon began to express a wish that they might be allowed to use their weapon in the work of converting the idolaters. For a long time Mohammed held out against these suggestions:—for his nature was pacific and his aims were spiritual. But the bitter persecution which he suffered from the rulers of his native city, and the consciousness of power to punish his enemies, at last induced him to reveal the "mission of the sword;" and the first point against which he armed the zeal of his followers was the holy city of Mecca.

At this epoch there is a natural division in the history of the Arab prophet. Hitherto he has been a *reformer* in the full sense of the word; seeking to restore the purity of ancient worship, debased by gross idolatries from home and foreign sources,—and to unite the scattered children of Ishmael in a common bond of faith. Henceforth he is conqueror,—carrying in one hand the Koran in the other the sword. Flushed with success, his thoughts begin to wander beyond the boundaries of Arabia; and we find him sending mandates to distant princes. Here, then, is a convenient pause in the action of our story. Next week we shall resume and conclude it.—The few observations that follow refer to Mr. Irving rather than to Mohammed.

We agree with Mr. Irving that a new Life of Mohammed was wanted,—at least in English literature. The work of Dr. Prideaux has fallen into that contempt which its blunders and its rancorous spirit deserve. Pococke and Ockley, though more valuable than Prideaux, are too brief to give satisfaction to the historical reader; nor were either of these writers sufficiently clear of sectarian influences to estimate a character like Mohammed's with fairness. Gibbon's account of the rise and growth of the Moslem power is a magnificent piece of writing; but the historian's sources of information were second-hand and imperfect. In more than one place he has recorded his regret that his ignorance of Oriental languages prevented his going to the only uncorrupted and trustworthy sources. The same objection does not lie against Mr. Sale's 'Preliminary Discourse to the Koran,' but the life of Mohammed there given is a mere rough outline—not containing half of the known facts. It was the writer's object to analyze the opinions rather than to trace the career of the Moslem Prophet. Any tolerable life of Mohammed—free from the petty rancour of Prideaux—more connected and complete than Gibbon—can hardly fail to receive some sort of welcome from the public: and when we add our pleasure at finding Mr. Washington Irving's book on our table, we must be understood as speaking of relative rather than of absolute satisfaction. It is far from what could be wished; yet it is a very pleasant, and is likely to become a popular, work. The large acquaintance with Oriental literature, with Arabian manners and modes of thought—the spirit of careful research and collation of evidence—the critical tact which at once sees and separates what is trustworthy in fact and characteristic in legend,—these are qualifications which we here look for in vain. During a residence some years ago in Madrid, Mr. Irving says he conceived the idea of writing a series of works illustrative of the Arab dominion in Spain—beginning with a sketch of the founder of their faith; but he did not attempt to acquire the idiom through which alone the materials for such a work could be reached. The task which he contemplated was not undertaken at the time; and it has ultimately

assumed the shape of the present volume. The romance of Boulainvilliers rather than the laborious work of Dr. Weil is the model of the new biography: and 'The Story of Mohammed' would have been a more descriptive title for the work before us than the one by which it is called. Mr. Irving gives no references, and quotes only one or two authorities:—a convenient mode, no doubt, but one not likely to contribute to the lasting reputation of his book. Another serious fault which we should notice is, the absence of a proper historical framework to the subject. The reader is taken into the Arabian Desert, with no hint given him of what is going on in the rest of the world; and for anything he learns in this book, he is not aware that there is a world beyond the Track of the Caravan, until he finds Mohammed sending messages to Khosru and Heraclius. Nor is he told anything of them then, beyond the bare fact of their existence. Now, we suspect that a brief historical introduction—such as we have attempted to give at the commencement of this article—would be gladly accepted by nine out of every ten readers of the book, and not rejected by the tenth.

As a piece of literary work we can award high praise to this Life of Mohammed. It is skilfully constructed out of the material, such as it is; the style is mellow and musical; the narrative flows on without interruption from the first page to the last—and occasionally it is brightened by passages of unusual beauty of diction and pictorial effect in the grouping of ideas and of situations.

*White Jacket; or, the World in a Man-of-War.*  
By Herman Melville, Author of 'Typee,' 'Omoo,' 'Mardi,' and 'Redburn.' 2 vols. Bentley.

THOUGH it might have been thought that the world on shore has heard enough of the world in man-of-war or merchantman—and that the incidents and combinations of both have been practically, romantically and facetiously exhausted by such writers as Basil Hall, Cooper, Marryat, and the host of their imitators—'White Jacket' will probably tell another story; and find (since it deserves to find) many animated and interested readers. Mr. Melville stands as far apart from any past or present marine painter in pen and ink as Turner does from the magnificent artist vilipended by Mr. Ruskin for Turner's sake—Vandervelde. We cannot recall another novelist or sketcher who has given the poetry of the Ship—her voyages and her crew—in a manner at all resembling his. No ingratitude is hereby meant to the memory of *Tom Coffin*—no disrespect to the breathless *coup de théâtre* at the close of 'The Pirate,' when the huge man-of-war is seen cleaving the fog. But the personage and the picture referred to are both theatrical; whereas Mr. Melville's sea-creatures, calms and storms, belong to the more dreamy tone of 'The Ancient Mariner,' and have a touch of serious and suggestive picturesqueness appertaining to a world of art higher than the actor's or the scene-painter's. In 'Mardi' it will be recollected that this humour ran riot. Yet we felt as we read even that absurd *extravaganza* that to Melville (and not to Marryat) should the legend of Vandervecken, the Flying Dutchman, have fallen. In 'White Jacket' our author has brought his familiar into capital, practical, working order; and throwing, as his Jack o' Lantern does, a new light on the coarse, weather-beaten shapes and into the cavernous corners of a man-of-war, the author's pages have a tone and a relish which are alike individual and attractive.

Mr. Melville's "yarn" receives its baptismal appellation from a certain shirt which, owing

to necessity perhaps, he was obliged to "fit up" for duty in place of the rougher average *grego* which the sailor takes with him by way of blanket, watch-box, anti-fog, and what not, when he is bound for a voyage round "the Cape of Storms." Surely neither Mr. Nicoll's novelist nor the many minstrels of Moses ever threw a livelier interest around their *alpaca* wares, or other of the thousand pieces of clothing which they praise with so various a magniloquence, than the author of 'Typee' imparts to his garment.—

"It was nothing more than a white duck frock, or rather shirt; which, spreading on deck, I folded double at the bosom, and by then making a continuation of the slit there, opened it lengthwise—much as you would cut a leaf in the last new novel. The gash being made, a metamorphosis took place, transcending any related by Ovid. For, presto! the shirt was a coat!—a strange-looking coat, to be sure; of a Quakerish amplitude about the skirts; with an infirm, tumble-down collar; and a clumsy fullness about the wristbands; and white, yea white as a shroud. And my shroud it afterward came very near proving, as he who reads further will find. \* \* With many odds and ends of patches—old socks, old trowser-legs, and the like—I bedarned and bequilted the inside of my jacket, till it became, all over, stiff and padded, as King James's cotton-stuffed and dagger-proof doublet; and no buckram or steel hauberk stood up more stoutly."

And here (not yet to doff the "white jacket") is another piece of extravagance and accumulation, no more to be hit off by the average dull scribes who describe costumes than could have been *Miss Kilmansegg's* wondrous golden christening by *Rosa Matilda*.—

"In sketching the preliminary plan, and laying out the foundation of that memorable white jacket of mine, I had had an earnest eye to all these inconveniences, and resolved to avoid them. I proposed, that not only should my jacket keep me warm, but that it should also be so constructed as to contain a shirt or two, a pair of trowsers, and divers knick-knacks—sewing utensils, books, biscuits, and the like. With this object, I had accordingly provided it with a great variety of pockets, pantries, clothes-presses and cupboards. The principal apartments, two in number, were placed in the skirts, with a wide hospitable entrance from the inside; two more, of smaller capacity, were planted in each breast, with folding-doors communicating, so that in case of emergency, to accommodate any bulky articles, the two pockets in each breast could be thrown into one. There were, also, several unseen recesses behind the arras; inasmuch, that my jacket, like an old castle, was full of winding stairs, and mysterious closets, crypts and cabinets; and like a confidential writing-desk, abounded in snug little out-of-the-way lairs and hiding-places, for the storage of valuables. Superadded to these were four capacious pockets on the outside; one pair to slip books into when suddenly startled from my studies to the main-royal yard; and the other pair, for permanent mittens, to thrust my hands into of a cold night-watch. This last contrivance was regarded as needless by one of my top-mates, who showed me a pattern for sea-mittens, which he said was much better than mine. It must be known that sailors, even in the bleakest weather, only cover hands when unemployed; they never wear mittens aloft; since aloft, they literally carry their lives in their hands, and want nothing between their grasp of the hemp and the hemp itself. —Therefore, it is desirable, that whatever things they cover their hands with, should be capable of being slipped on and off in a moment. Nay, it is desirable that they should be of such a nature, that in a dark night, when you are in a great hurry—say, going to the helm—they may be jumped into indiscriminately; and not be like a pair of right-and-left kids; neither of which will admit any hand but the particular one meant for it. My top-mate's contrivance was this—he ought to have got out a patent for it—each of his mittens was provided with two thumbs, one on each side; the convenience of which needs no comment. But though for clumsy seamen, whose fingers are all thumbs, this description of mitten might do very well,



White-Jacket did not so much fancy it. For when your hand was once in the bag of the mitten, the empty thumb-hole sometimes dangled at your palm, confounding your ideas of where your real thumb might be; or else, being carefully grasped in the hand, was continually suggesting the insane notion that you were all the while having hold of some one else's thumb. No; I told my good top-mate to go away with his four thumbs, I would have nothing to do with them; two thumbs were enough for any man. For some time after completing my jacket, and getting the furniture and household stores in it, I thought that nothing could exceed it for convenience. Seldom now did I have occasion to go to my bag, and be jostled by the crowd who were making their wardrobe in a heap. If I wanted anything in the way of clothing, thread, needles or literature, the chances were that my invaluable jacket contained it. Yes, I fairly hugged myself, and revelled in my jacket; till alas! a long rain put me out of conceit of it. I, and all my pantries and their contents, were soaked through and through, and my pocket-edition of Shakspeare was reduced to an omelet. However, availing myself of a fine sunny day that followed, I emptied myself out in the main-top, and spread all my goods and chattels to dry. But, spite of the bright sun, that day proved a black one. The scoundrels on deck detected me in the act of discharging my saturated cargo; they now knew that the white jacket was used for a store-house. The consequence was, that my goods being well dried and again stored away in my pockets, the very next night, when it was my quarter-watch on deck, and not in the top (where they were all honest men), I noticed a parcel of fellows skulking about after me wherever I went. To a man, they were pickpockets, and bent upon pillaging me. In vain I kept clapping my pockets like nervous old gentlemen in a crowd; that same night I found myself minus several valuable articles. So, in the end, I masoned up my lockers and pantries; and save the two used for mittens, the white jacket ever after was pocketless."

As for accompanying so wondrous a wearable as this through all its adventures, we will attempt no such cruise. But having said something touching Cape Horn, we may as well show what may happen to those who double it.

"About midnight, when the starboard watch, to which I belonged, was below, the boatswain's whistle was heard, followed by the shrill cry for 'All hands take in sail! jump men, and save ship!' Springing from our hammocks, we found the frigate leaning over to it so steeply, that it was with difficulty we could climb the ladders leading to the upper deck. Here the scene was awful. The vessel seemed to be sailing on her side. The main-deck guns had several days previously been run in and lashed, and the port-holes closed; but the lee gunnades on the quarter-deck and fore-castle were plunging through the sea, which undulated over them in milk-white billows of foam. With every lurch to leeward the yard-arms seemed to dip in the sea, while forward the spray dashed over the bows in cataracts, and drenched the men who were on the fore-yard. By this time the deck was alive with the whole strength of the ship's company, five hundred men; officers and all, mostly clinging to the weather bulwarks. The occasional phosphorescence of the yeasty sea cast a glare upon their uplifted faces; as a night fire in a populous city lights up the panic-stricken crowd. In a sudden gale, or when a large quantity of sail is suddenly to be furled, it is the custom for the First Lieutenant to take the trumpet from whoever happens then to be officer of the deck. But Mad Jack had the trumpet that watch; nor did the First Lieutenant now seek to wrest it from his hands. Every eye was upon him, as if we had chosen him from among us all, to decide this battle with the elements, by single combat with the spirit of the Cape; for Mad Jack was the saving genius of the ship, and so proved himself that night. I owe this right hand, that is this moment flying over my sheet, and all my present being to Mad Jack. The ship's bows were now butting, battering, ramming, and thundering over and upon the head seas, and with a horrible wallowing sound our whole hull was rolling in the trough of the foam. The gale came athwart

the deck, and every sail seemed bursting with its wild breath. All the quarter-masters, and several of the fore-castle-men, were swarming round the double-wheel on the quarter-deck. Some jumping up and down, with their hands upon the spokes; for the whole helm and galvanized keel were fiercely feverish with the life imparted to them by the tempest. "Hard up the helm!" shouted Captain Claret, bursting from his cabin like a ghost, in his night-dress. "—you!" raged Mad Jack to the quarter-masters; "hard down—hard down," I say, and be damned to you!" Contrary orders! but Mad Jack's were obeyed. His object was to throw the ship into the wind, so as the better to admit of close-reefing their top-sails. But though the halyards were let go, it was impossible to clew down the yards, owing to the enormous horizontal strain on the canvass. "It now blew a hurricane." The spray flew over the ship in floods. The gigantic masts seemed about to snap under the world-wide strain of the three entire top-sails. "Clew down! clew down!" shouted Mad Jack, husky with excitement, and in a frenzy, beating his trumpet against one of the shrouds. But owing to the slant of the ship, the thing could not be done. It was obvious that before many minutes something must go—either sails, rigging, or sticks; perhaps the hull itself, and all hands. Presently a voice from the top exclaimed that there was a rent in the main-top-sail. And instantly we heard a report like two or three muskets discharged together; the vast sail was rent up and down like the Veil of the Temple. This saved the main-mast; for the yard was now clewled down with comparative ease, and the top-men laid out to stow the shattered canvass. Soon, the two remaining top-sails were also clewled down and close reefed. Above all the roar of the tempest and the shouts of the crew, was heard the dismal tolling of the ship's bell—almost as large as that of a village church—which the violent rolling of the ship was occasioning. Imagination cannot conceive the horror of such a sound in a night-tempest at sea. "Stop that ghost!" roared Mad Jack; "away, one of you, and wrench off the clapper!" But no sooner was this ghost gagged, than a still more appalling sound was heard, the rolling to and fro of the heavy shot, which, on the gun-deck, had broken loose from the gun-racks, and converted that part of the ship into an immense bowling alley. Some hands were sent down to secure them; but it was as much as their lives were worth. Several were maimed; and the midshipmen who were ordered to see the duty performed, reported it impossible until the storm abated. The most terrific job of all was to furl the main-sail, which, at the commencement of the squalls, had been clewled up, coaxed and quieted as much as possible with the bunt-lines and slab-lines. Mad Jack waited some time for a lull, ere he gave an order so perilous to be executed. For to furl this enormous sail, in such a gale, required at least fifty men on the yard, whose weight, superadded to that of the ponderous stick itself, still further jeopardized their lives. But there was no prospect of a cessation of the gale, and the order was at last given. At this time a hurricane of slanting sleet and hail was descending upon us; the rigging was coated with a thin glare of ice, formed within the hour. "Aloft, main-yard-men! and all you main-top-men, and furl the main-sail!" cried Mad Jack. I dashed down my hat, slipped out of my quilted jacket in an instant, kicked the shoes from my feet, and, with a crowd of others, sprang for the rigging. Above the bulwarks (which in a frigate are so high as to afford much protection to those on deck) the gale was horrible. The sheer force of the wind flattened us to the rigging as we ascended, and every hand seemed congealing to the icy shrouds by which we held. "Up—up, my brave hearties!" shouted Mad Jack; and up we got, some way or other, all of us, and groped our way out on the yard-arms. "Hold on, every mother's son!" cried an old quarter-gunner at my side. He was bawling at the top of his compass; but in the gale, he seemed to be whispering; and I only heard him from his being right to windward of me. But his hint was unnecessary; I dug my nails into the *jack-stays*, and swore that nothing but death should part me and them until I was able to turn round and look to windward. As yet, this was impossible; I could scarcely hear the man to leeward at my elbow; the wind seemed to snatch the words from

his mouth and fly away with them to the South Pole. All this while the sail itself was flying about, sometimes catching over our head, and threatening to tear us from the yard in spite of all our hugging. For about three quarters of an hour we thus hung suspended right over the rampant billows, which curled their very crests under the feet of some four or five of us clinging to the lee-yard-arm, as if to float us from our place. Presently, the word passed along the yard from windward, that we were ordered to come down and leave the sail to blow, since it could not be furled. A midshipman, it seemed, had been sent up by the officer of the deck to give the order, as no trumpet could be heard where we were. Those on the weather yard-arm managed to crawl upon the spar and scramble down the rigging; but with us, upon the extreme leeward side, this feat was out of the question; it was, literally, like climbing a precipice to get to windward in order to reach the shrouds; besides the entire yard was now engaged in ice, and if our hands and feet were so numb that we dare not trust our lives to them. Nevertheless, by assisting each other, we contrived to throw ourselves prostrate along the yard, and embrace it with our arms and legs. In this position, the stun-sail-booms greatly assisted in securing our hold. Strange as it may appear, I do not suppose that at this moment, the slightest sensation of fear was felt by one man on that yard. We clung to it with might and main; but this was instinct. The truth is, that, in circumstances like these, the sense of fear is annihilated, leaving the unutterable sights that fill all the eye, and the sounds that fill all the ear. You become identified with the tempest; your insignificance is lost in the noise of the stormy universe around. Below us, our noble frigate seemed thrice its real length—a vast black wedge, opposing its widest end to the combined fury of the sea and wind. At length, the first fury of the gale began to abate, and we at once fell to powdering our hands, as a preliminary operation to going to work; for a gang of men had now ascended to help us secure what was left of the sail; we somehow packed it away, at last, and came down. About noon the next day, the gale so moderated, that we shook two or three reefs out of the top-sails, set new courses, and stood due east, with the wind astern.

This, in its frantic manner, is tolerably powerful, it will be owned. On fine days, and in more amiable latitudes, our voyage was entertained by spectacles less tremendous, but hardly not less strange. One we must attempt to give in "White-Jacket's" language.

"While we lay in Rio, we sometimes had company from shore; but an unforeseen honour awaited us. One day, the young Emperor, Don Pedro II., and suite, making a circuit of the harbour, and visiting all the men-of-war in rotation, at last condescendingly visited the *Neversink*. He came in a splendid barge, rowed by thirty African slaves, who, after the Brazilian manner, in concert rose, upright to their oars at every stroke; then sank backward to their seats with a simultaneous groan. He reclined under a canopy of yellow silk, looped with tassels of green, the national colours. At the stern waved the Brazilian flag, bearing a large diamond and figure in the centre, emblematical perhaps of their mines of precious stones in the interior; or, it may be, a magnified portrait of the famous Portuguese diamond itself, which was found in Brazil, in the boog district of Tejuco, on the banks of the Rio Belmonte. At the gangway, the Emperor was received by our Commodore in person, arrayed in his most resplendent coat and finest French epaulettes. It was a fine sight to see this Emperor and our Commodore complimenting each other. Both wore *chapeaux-de-bras*, and both continually waved them. You have seen zones of crystallized salt. Just so, flashed these Portuguese Barons, Marquises, Viscounts and Counts. Were it not for their titles, and being seen in the train of their lord, you would have sworn they were eldest sons of jewelers all, who had run away with their father's bases on their backs. Contrasted with these lump-lustres of Barons of Brazil, how waned the gold lace of our barons of the frigate, the officers of the gun-room! and compared with the long, jewel-hilted rapiers of the Marquises, the little dirks of our cadets of noble houses—the middies—looked like gilded tenpenny



nails in their girdles. But there they stood! Commodore and Emperor, Lieutenants and Marquises, middies and pages! The brazen band on the poop struck up, the marine guard presented arms; and high aloft, looking down on this scene, all the people vigorously hurraed. A topman next me on the main royal yard removed his hat, and diligently manipulated his head in honour of the event; but he was so far out of sight in the clouds, that this ceremony went for nothing. \* \* \* Our royal visitor was an undoubted Braganza, allied to nearly all the great families of Europe. His grandfather, John VI., had been King of Portugal; his own sister, Maria, was now its queen. He was, indeed, a distinguished young gentleman, entitled to high consideration; and that consideration was most cheerfully accorded him. He wore a green dress-coat, with one regal morning-star at the breast, and white pantaloons. In his chapeau was a single, bright, golden-headed feather of the Imperial Toucan fowl, a magnificent, omnivorous, broad-billed, bandit bird of prey, a native of Brazil. Its perch is on the loftiest trees, whence it looks down upon all humbler fowls; and, hawk-like, flies at their throats. The Toucan once formed part of the savage regalia of the Indian caniques of the country; and, upon the establishment of the empire, was symbolically retained by the Portuguese sovereigns. His Imperial Majesty was yet in his youth; rather corpulent, if anything; with a care-free, pleasant face, and a polite, indifferent, and easy address. His manners, indeed, were entirely unexceptionable. The first reception over, the smoke of the cannonading salute having cleared away, and the martial outburst of the brass-band having also rolled off to leeward, the people were called down from the yards; and the drum beat to quarters. To quarters we went; and there we stood up by our iron bulldogs; while our royal and noble visitors promenaded along the batteries, breaking out into frequent exclamations at our warlike array, the extreme neatness of our garments; and, above all, the extraordinary polish of the bright work about the great guns, and the marvellous whiteness of the decks. "Que gosto!" cried a Marquis, with several dry goods samples of ribbon, studded with bright buttons, hanging from his breast. "Que gloria!" cried a crooked, coffee-coloured Viscount, spreading both palms. "Que alegria!" cried a little Count, mimically circumnavigating a shot-box. "Que contentamento he o meu!" cried the Emperor himself, complacently folding his royal arms, and serenely gazing along our ranks. *Pleasure, Glory, and Joy*—this was the burden of the three noble courtiers. And very pleasing indeed was the simple rendering of Don Pedro's imperial remark: "Ay, ay," growled a grim rammer-and-spolger behind me; "it's all devilish fine for you nob to look at; but what would you say if you had to holy-stone the deck yourselves, and wear out your elbows in polishing this cursed old irish, besides getting a dozen at the gangway, if you dropped a grease-spot on deck in your mess? \* \* \* In due time the drums beat the retreat, and the ship's company scattered over the decks. Some of the officers now assumed the part of cicerones, to show the distinguished strangers the bowels of the frigate, concerning which several of them showed a good deal of intelligent curiosity. A guard of honour, detached from the marine corps, accompanied them, and they made the circuit of the berth-deck, where, at a judicious distance, the Emperor peeped down into the cable-tie, a very subterranean vault. The Captain of the Main-Hold, who there presided, made a polite bow in the twilight, and respectfully expressed a desire for His Royal Majesty to step down and honour him with a call; but, with his handkerchief to his Imperial nose, His Majesty declined. The party then commenced the ascent to the spar-deck; which, from so great a depth in a frigate, is something like getting up to the top of Bunker Hill monument from the basement. While a crowd of the people was gathered about the forward part of the booms, a sudden cry was heard from below; a lieutenant came running forward to learn the cause, when an old sheet-anchor-man, standing by, after touching his hat, hitched up his waistbands, and replied, "I don't know, sir, but I'm thinking as how one o' them ere kings has been tumbin' down the hatchway." And something like this it turned out. In ascending one of the narrow ladders leading from

the berth-deck to the gun-deck, the Most Noble Marquis of Silva, in the act of elevating the Imperial coat-tails, so as to protect them from rubbing against the newly-painted combings of the hatchway, this noble Marquis's sword, being an uncommonly long one, had caught, between his legs, and tripped him head over heels down into the fore-passage.—"Onde ides?" (where are you going?) said his royal master, tranquilly peeping down toward the falling Marquis; and what did you let go of my coat-tails for?" he suddenly added, in a passion, glancing round at the same time, to see if they had suffered from the unfaithfulness of his train-bearer. "Oh, Lord!" sighed the Captain of the Fore-top, 'who would be a Marquis of Silva?'"

We had marked other passages, sad, serious and shrewd; some bearing a close coincidence to the revelations which gave Mr. Dana's real sea-journal so painful an interest—others further to exhibit the writer's peculiar manner of description—but no room is left to us. To conclude, then,—with a thousand faults, which it were needless here to point out, Mr. Melville possesses, also, more vivacity, fancy, colour and energy than ninety-nine out of the hundred who undertake to poetize or to prate about "sea monsters or land monsters;" and we think that, with only the commonest care, he might do brilliant service by enlarging the library of fictitious adventure.

*Junius, with New Evidence as to the Authorship, and an Analysis, by the late Sir Harris Nicolas.* By John Wade, Author of 'A Compendium of British History,' &c. Vol. I. Bohn.

Junius is once again in the ascendant,—and a new edition was a matter of course. This, under an honest, intelligent, and diligent editor, was much to be desired. A critical examination of Good's misleading volumes (1812) would at least have left us a Junius; whereas now we have a thing of threads and patches,—a man made up of contradictions and absurdities.

When we found that Mr. Bohn's edition was to be in two volumes,—that the first was to contain a simple reprint of the edition of 1772, and the second the Miscellaneous Letters,—that Mr. Wade, the editor, had so far profited by the hints of the *Athenæum* as to acknowledge that Dr. Good had inserted letters the authorship of which was not well authenticated,—and that he proposed hereafter to show (what, indeed, we thought had been shown already) that the letters of "Poplicola, Atticus, [Good's "incontestable" Atticus?] and others" had been too "unhesitatingly affiliated,"—we had hope that the Editor had some knowledge of the duties of the office which he had undertaken. But that hope faded before an examination of the volume itself. As we turned over the leaves it grew fainter and more faint,—and at last we closed the book in despair.

There are offences, too, in this volume out of the range of mere literary discipline,—which for the honour of "our order" we will not characterize,—but simply report on, leaving Mr. Wade as regards them to the judgment of the public.

The advertisement informs us that the present edition of Junius contains Woodfall's edition (meaning the edition of 1812) entire; and that "further illustrations" have been added. The first part of the statement we leave to be verified by others; merely observing, that even such simple matters must not be taken on trust,—for the celebrated note which has given rise to so many conjectures, and which is so elaborately reasoned on in 'Junius Identified' (p. 132)—a note inserted by Junius himself, and containing the quotation from Chatham's speech which Junius vouched for as "taken with exactness,"—is altogether omitted! This note we believe

is to be found in every other edition from 1772 to the present hour.

That "further illustrations"—if this mean illustrations not to be found in the edition of 1812—have been added, we freely admit;—and that such additions have their value. The book, therefore, may have its merit; whatever may be the demerit of the editor; and into the character of these "further illustrations" we shall now proceed to inquire.

There are three classes of notes here given:—notes from the edition of 1772, signed "Junius"—notes from the edition of 1812, by Dr. Good, given without a signature,—and notes signed "Editor," or "Ed.," which of course should go to the credit or discredit, as may be, of Mr. Wade.

We were at first startled at the apparent extent of the labours and ability of the new editor; for many of the contributions bearing his signature are elaborate essays rather than notes, and admirable examples of subtle and refined criticism. As we read on, however, we were strangely troubled with vague recollections! At last, we could bear our doubts no longer; and, with the Vicar's apology for interrupting so much learning, we dived down into the long-forgotten past, and brought up Robert Heron's volumes. Lo! there it was: "Sanconiaton, Manetho, Berossus"—all and every word of it. Of "the abundant materials placed at his disposal by the publisher," the only one of which the editor appears to have availed himself is the volumes of Robert Heron. To Heron the public are indebted for all the essays signed "Ed." prefixed to the several letters,—and Heron "cut into little stars," figures as "Ed." in the foot-notes.

As aids to the curious we have noted down the following facts. The Remarks on the Dedication, two whole pages of small type,—the critical foot-note to the Preface,—the character of Lord North, p. 107,—that of Lord Granby, p. 110,—on Corsica, p. 103,—the introduction to the 4th Letter,—four pages of small type introductory to Letter 8,—the introduction to Letter 9,—the note at p. 147,—another, about Nancy Parsons, at p. 143,—the introduction to Letter 12,—three pages, in small type, of introduction to Letter 15,—the critical note at p. 175,—the long critical note to the 23rd Letter,—the notes at pages 218, 219, 221, 222, 223,—the criticism on Draper's Letters, p. 224,—the note on the 28th Letter,—that on the 29th Letter,—the Memoir of Colonel Burgoyne, at p. 255,—the note on the State of Parties, p. 270,—the note at page 274,—that on the 39th Letter, p. 291,—the notes at pages 303, 305, 310, 311,—on the Falkland Islands, paraphrased and mutilated, p. 316,—three pages of small type, 328 to 330,—the note at page 347,—State of Parties on the Death of George Grenville, 350,—the notes at pages 397, 405, 408, 465,—in brief, all the Essays and Criticisms, without exception, and all the more important notes from 'Remarks on the Dedication' to the note signed "Ed." at p. 466, are "conveyed" from Heron, with only an occasional exception,—and those exceptions are appropriations from Dr. Good.

Let us be just, however,—no matter what the amount of provocation. The public are indebted to Mr. Wade for a few curious, and some original, notes,—curious as specimens of mosaic, and original as containing nothing but blunders. Thus (at p. 240), we have a long one on Junius's Letter respecting the arrest of General Gansell; the first paragraph being from Dr. Good, the second from Heron, the third from Almon! Mr. Wade was informed (by Good, and truly) that Gansell was arrested, and released by the soldiers at the Horse Guards; and by Almon (also truly), that he was afterwards tried for firing at the bailiffs, and acquitted. But Good



told Mr. Wade that the one arrest was in Piccadilly, for 2,000*l.*,—and Almon said that the other, when he fired at the bailiffs, was at his lodgings in Craven-street, for 134*l.*; and from the most simple research the Editor would have learned that the one took place on the 21st of September, 1769, and the other, four years later, on the 22nd of August, 1773. This will do as a specimen of the "mosaic." As a specimen of the "original," we may refer to a note (p. 155), wherein we are informed that Charles Townsend wrote 'The History of the Minority,'—and we are in consequence favoured with some biographical particulars respecting the said C. T. We always understood that this 'History' was written by Almon; and as Mr. Wade is pleased to follow Almon when he writes nonsense, he surely ought to have taken the same writer as authority when he speaks of matters certainly within his knowledge. In this instance, Almon has more than once declared himself to have been the author. Charles Townsend, it is true, wrote a 'Defence of the Minority':—and the M common to Macedon and Monmouth is a perilous snare to editors like the one before us. "Minority" in both titles—as "arrests" and "bailiffs" in both statements—have confounded the stream of narration. But a gentleman who "writes himself down" in his title-page as "Author of 'A Compendium of British History'" ought to be equal to the discrimination of such small matters:—and the Editor of Junius's Letters ought to have known that one half the Miscellaneous Letters—and one half the authorships—have been "affiliated" on authorities as fallacious as the above.

There may be other notes—they can be but few—to which the present editor may lay claim. Those, for example, wherein mention is made of Good's edition of 1813; which we had not before heard of—and of Good's Report on the state of the navy in 1814; which Report, assuming it was written before it was published, must refer to the state of the navy in 1811, or at latest in 1812. To admit the Editor's claims without careful examination, would be hazardous. We gave him credit for the following brief but pithy illustration (p. 145):—

"ton impudence,  
Téméraire vieillard, aura sa recompense."  
\* A quotation from Corneille, aptly introduced.—Ed."

—But even this note, short as it is, is taken from Heron.

What would be the use, after these specimens of the ability, integrity and diligence of the present editor, of saying more,—or of attempting to remove some of the stumbling-blocks which Dr. Good, in his "able and comprehensive" Essay, has laid in the way of the careless and the credulous? Light, as in the case of Gansell, only tends to mislead such an editor. But, as he tells us that "his most critical task is reserved for the second and concluding volume," we will offer a few words of comment, for the benefit of others, even though we may fail to benefit Mr. Wade.

Good's Essay is "comprehensive." It comprehends more assertions and assumptions than any other in the English language; and as the writer was a man of ability, these assertions and assumptions were strung together so ingeniously that they have hitherto, except in the *Athenæum*, passed unquestioned, as if they were plain and admitted truths. But the papers in the *Athenæum* [Nos. 1082-3] have, it appears, shaken Mr. Wade's faith in some of the Miscellaneous Letters. He is, nevertheless, evidently resolved to give up as few of these as possible. This will not do. Good's evidence must be either received or rejected:—it cannot be taken in part and so far as suits a purpose. We must further remind Mr. Wade that we are

not called on to prove that these letters were not written by Junius,—but he, the editor, is bound to prove that Junius was the writer. Further—we shall ask, if he affects to believe the evidence in favour of particular letters, why Good rejected other letters with the same signature? Thus, for example, Good was confident about Atticus. He knew, indeed, that the name was assumed "from the author's own opinion of the purity of his style." Suppose, for peace sake, we admit this—had other writers an equally good opinion of their own style? For we find other letters signed Atticus. True, says the Doctor,—"and 'excellent letters' they were, and 'tolerable judges' have attributed them to Junius; but, as they were not published until after the private letter of the 19th of January 1773, I knew they were not written by Junius,—and therefore omitted them. But many appeared before the 19th of January 1773: in 1772, 1771, 1770, 1769, 1768, 1767, 1766,—and that is as far back as we have searched for them. We have found no less than thirty-seven letters signed Atticus;—and if Mr. Wade publishes as by Junius the four selected by Dr. Good, we shall ask not only why the four are selected, but why he rejects the other thirty-three?"

Like questions must be answered as to 'Poplicola,' 'L. L.,' 'Q. in the Corner,' 'Lucius,'—with his "peculiar severity of reproach,"—'Moderator,' 'A Whig,' 'An Englishman,' and others. As to 'Brutus,' Dr. Good selected three letters with this signature;—two from 1768, and one from 1771 published in a note as doubtful. But as 'Brutus' published dozens of letters from 1765 to 1773,—as he was known as a regular hack so far back as our researches have carried us,—as a writer in the *Public Advertiser* itself, on the 8th of January 1766, spoke of him as one of a band of "desperate scribblers,"—we have surely a right, if in courtesy we allow these two or three letters to be received, to ask why more than as many dozens are excluded?

We will not trouble Mr. Wade with questions about 'Downright,' 'Vindex,' 'Nemesis,' respecting whom there are difficulties which we are sure he cannot clear up. But there are some inquiries relating to 'C.' which are curious and must be solved.

The first of the private letters attributed to Junius is signed 'C.' and dated 20th of April 1769. But Dr. Good, or Mr. George Woodfall, on turning over the leaves of the *Public Advertiser*, found amongst the notices to Correspondents one, on the 16th of September 1767, to 'Our Correspondent C.' and forthwith came to the conclusion that 'C.' of 1767 could be no other than the 'C.' of 1769;—therefore, Junius. We, on the contrary, incline to believe that the 'C.' of 1767 was but the initial of 'Corregio,' whose letter figures in that day's paper. Under the circumstances, it is the form by which an Editor of the present day would address his correspondent. It was the form then, as now. The Editor of the *Public Advertiser* observes on another occasion:—it is "a custom we always use, never to mention a correspondent so particularly as all may know who we mean, but to drop such a hint as he himself may understand;" and this notice to 'C.' we hold to have been a hint to Corregio. But if we waive the objection, we only vary our inquiry. If a notice to "Our Correspondent 'C.'" be conclusive in one case, why not in all? If conclusive in all, then we have proof that Junius was a contributor so far back as we have examined the *Public Advertiser*, and we should have no great difficulty in solving the Junius mystery;—for 'C.' is on occasions garrulous and good-humoured, prates of his antecedents and his whereabouts,—

although at times he is as bold, bitter, personal, political and haughty as Junius himself. Here is a specimen.—

"The herd of necessitous gentlemen, who subsist on places and pensions, are objects of pity as much as of contempt. They are obliged *jurare in verba magistri, iras et verba locant*. And the whole race of scribblers cannot whiten the wilful authors of public calamities and oppression, to whom age has added obstinacy; nor can they blacken by all the ink of the press youth, modesty, and virtue. Facts cannot be got the better of, and the impartial public (that curb to high-born scoundrels) will, ever judge for themselves. Tyranny, rapaciousness, avarice, and the accumulation of reversionary grants, do not necessarily evidence extraordinary abilities. When a man sees no one part well performed, he is not apt to conclude favourably of the busiest actor. And if a notorious blasphemer and adulterer, upon some little matter of party, impeaches publicly his companion of irreligion and fornication; and then to prove it breaks open his bureau to get at his writings, I do not think his own character for public or private virtue will rise the higher for the prosecution, although he should bribe a \*\*\*\*\* [Parson] to bless the act."

The writer concludes with some general reflections on the Ministry and on the Peace of Paris; but he says, I shall not say "one single syllable touching the fiery Duke or Jemmy,"—and he winds up by asking a question respecting "a long gentleman of many words and few ideas."

"In short, has the gentleman either invented any one beneficial tax, in order to discharge the heavy unfunded debt, which has so long kept down public credit, or has he even hit upon any better or less chargeable method for collecting the revenue? For if he has done neither, he may talk and dog's-ear books, and docket papers to eternity, and I shall never be convinced of his talent for administration."

Here are the very phrases of Chatham; but we do not say the letter was written by Chatham,—nor that it was written by Junius,—but that it is signed "C." And, we ask, if a notice to "Our Correspondent C." clearly "identifies Junius" at one time, why not at all times?—and if such mere notice be sufficient authority for our selecting any letter with any initial or name which may appear in that day's or the next day's paper; and "affiliating" it on Junius, why is it not sufficient to identify "C." himself? These questions are very simple,—but have important consequences. We will only add, that if Mr. Wade answers them "handsomely and to the point," he shall, in the words of Junius, "be our great Apollo."

There are many other questions arising out of Dr. Good's "able and comprehensive Essay" which Mr. Wade would do well to reply to; by anticipation, in "his most critical task."—We shall perhaps help to solve some of them in another article.

*Latter-Day Pamphlets.*—No. I. *The Present Time.* By Thomas Carlyle. Chapman & Hall.

THOUGH tricked out in the usual style of the modern prophets, Mr. Carlyle's prolusions on the "present time" are a trifle more explicit than any of his former outpourings. Otherwise, they contain nothing that is new—nothing original in itself or novel as proceeding from the present quarter. There are several pages of the old "cant about cant;" and some scores of lusty warnings to all the tribes of *shams* to get themselves removed out of the way—done decently to death, and so on end:—"Kings of men" and "phantasm captains" figure, as usual with the author, throughout these pages,—and no small amount of type and space are consumed by "the Immortal Gods," "the Immensities," "the Eternities," and such like personages. Of



a truth, this style begins to lose its power of conjuration.

The revolutions of 1848 are first dealt with by Mr. Carlyle as keys to the mysteries of the present time. The flight of European kings before the wrath of the aroused millions proves to him that the true kings of men are not seated on the thrones; and that Democracy is the fatal, inevitable, and universal fact of these days,—seen in all movements of the masses—heard in all speaking and writing—apparent in all thinking and acting. This fact to him is full of woe. Representation, emancipation, mental and political enfranchisement, are, according to him, the evil and misleading spirits of the world. The whole earth, he says, is filled with anarchy: its curse is, that it is ungoverned. The people are everywhere sick to death—dying of too much liberty. The want of the age is not universal suffrage, but a stern taskmaster—a veritable tyrant. Constitutions, liberty of speech, republics, and self-government—these are all delusions and snares—failures everywhere, and tending to unutterable chaos. The universe, Mr. Carlyle says, is properly one vast monarchy; and the only eternal right of the multitude is the privilege of being governed by the true king—the noblest of the race. “A Democracy is a lie on the face of it;” and he quotes the ancient republics in proof!—These were not democracies in the modern sense:—but then there is America! And so, he falls foul of America,—not for her great (anti-democratic) sin, the slave system,—but because she is content to grow corn and cotton. Democracy everywhere is a constituted anarchy:—the apparent peace and moral order of the United States is only “anarchy *plus* the street constable.”

We apprehend there is very little difference among men as to who ought to govern. The Red republic preaches the same doctrine as Mr. Carlyle. We all desire to see the wisest in the seat of power. The only real question is—how is the wisest to get into that seat? Two modes have been commonly resorted to:—Scrambling and Election. In the first method, the strong, the crafty, and the unscrupulous have usually won the seat. The other plan, in which the people quietly choose out the man they most approve, Mr. Carlyle denounces as absurd. How are the ignoble to choose the noble? He is evidently in favour of the first,—thinking that thereby the true King will find his place. He forgets that this plan of right by the strong arm has been tried, and has failed,—leading directly to the chaos of which he complains so much.—Mr. Carlyle is somewhat inconsistent. He confesses that the true King is not a man to *seek* power. How, then, is he to come by it in a scramble? For ourselves, we see no worse plan of getting a chief governor:—in preference, we would choose election, succession, or even mere lottery.

If we are compelled to object to Mr. Carlyle's mode of getting us a king, what shall be said of his programme of government? He has apparently but one notion of what the governor of men is to do. He is to set all his subjects to work, assign to each his task, and make him perform it under penalties. But what is work? In Mr. Carlyle's system it is draining the bog of Connaught or cultivating the moors of Argyle! If Milton or Laplace refuse to take a spade and dig at the command of his beneficent governor, what then? Hear the law-giver:—“Refuse to strike into it! shirk the heavy labour, disobey the rules,—I will admonish and endeavour to incite you; if in vain, I will flog you; if still in vain, I will at last shoot you,—and make God's earth, and the forlorn hope in God's battle, free of you. Understand it. I advise you!”

Mr. Carlyle scorns the idea of any sort of emancipation—especially of West Indian blacks. The thought of these poor wretches being free to work or play as they list, makes him merry and savage by turns. *Apròpos* of freedom to the black man, he speculates pleasantly on a time when *horses* will be emancipated—and on the results when all the grass shall be eaten up! We cannot deal seriously—and are almost ashamed to deal at all—with a book like this.

#### OUR LIBRARY TABLE.

*Letters to a Niece.*—There is a certain flavour in the style of the uncle who writes these letters, which makes them readable. But some of the counsels seem to us the veriest prejudice-crotchets that ever entered avuncular head. We will merely offer one specimen.—

“The present taste in painting is much too gaudy and glaring. It is for this reason that I generally wish that girls would not attempt to colour their drawings.” This preaching up of sepia, Indian ink, neutral tint, and “black lead,” as canonical for “girls,” is typical of the tone of a large part of this correspondence. Separately, when viewed from a right distance, no maxim contained in it may be untrue; but collectively, the uncle's wisdom seems to stop at the distance of so many years behind our own time, that, with every respect for his good intentions, we must be permitted to doubt the utility of his manual. We cannot represent to ourselves the class or order of “niece” to whom these epistles would be either sufficient or final.

*Evening Thoughts.* By a Physician.—This is a collection of detached thoughts on grave and deep subjects. It is true that the “gravities” in many cases do not appear to be fairly weighed—and that the depths in as many others are not, according to our apprehension, reached; but there is enough in the book to invite the dissident thinker to take out his own scales and plummet,—and therefore to furnish him also with matter for evening occupation of no light value or useless kind.

*Foreign Invasion; Considerations on the Present totally Unprotected State of the Coasts of Kent and Sussex, and a Proposition for their Protection from Foreign Invasion.* By Sir John Ross, R.N.—Shall we ever get to the end of the panic about this French invasion? The French have invaded England. Their princes occupy our palaces—their commoners our cottages. French uniforms have been seen in the park, and the ‘Marseillaise’ has been heard in the streets of London. These things ought to have contented the lovers of the marvellous. They came to pass, though the prophets had foretold them. In the name of reason, why are the “reverend seniors” not satisfied?—After “serving his country upwards of sixty years,” Sir John Ross has discovered the perilous condition of the “beautiful towns, villages, and watering-places” on the South Coast. Looking at a map, he has found that between Dover and Portsmouth the shore is all portless and rock-bound; while, on the opposite coast of France, between Cherbourg and Boulogne there are no less than six good ports, strongly fortified. The discovery fills him with consternation. Any day, “after a storm,” a couple of steamers may sally out of one of these ports, steam across the Channel, and blow up Brighton while the snug citizens of London lie dreaming of peace and goodwill to men! Sir John Ross evidently regards the French nation as a people of pirates and outlaws. We confess, we are little alarmed for the defence of the threatened coast. Has not Brighton the Royal Pavilion to protect it from land or sea? Very few Frenchmen can stand that: but should it fail, let the hosts of the Albion and the Bedford hang out their bills. There are limits even to heroic daring. Worthing is already amply defended by its “band,” the strains of which might put to flight any army of “foreigners.” Folkstone has its custom-house staff and their tedious and stupid proceedings, the efficacy of which in keeping away the French is somewhat proverbial.

*Jacob Abbott's Histories for Youth.*—Charles the Second—Marie Antoinette—Elizabeth, Queen of England—Julius Cæsar. Four short biographies adapted to the infant mind.—The leading title ought to be “stories,” not histories; for all those stern

realities, vices, crimes, and personal profligacies which characterize the personages of real life are softened down in these narratives into the sweetest of rose-water moralities. Of course, this is false and mischievous if gravely taught as history: it will all have to be unlearned, later. In other respects, we rather like this series. The more romantic and interesting incidents in the several biographies are brought out in a simple and amusing way, and the style is of that easy kind which gives children no trouble to interpret.

*Sanatory Economics; or, our Medical Charities as they are, and as they ought to be.* By Alexander P. Stewart, M.D.—This brochure contains a rather free discussion of some of the points of interest connected with dispensaries:—as to the subscriptions by which they are supported, the principles on which they are for the most part conducted, the position of the medical officers, and so forth. There is some truth, but also some unfairness, in Mr. Stewart's account of the wrongs of the young medical practitioner attached to these institutions. Though he does give a portion of his time to the public, he gives it for purposes of his own, to gain that practical skill which is the element of future success. If any means can be devised by which a certainty shall be acquired that the medicines dispensed to the poor are needed, and are *used*, it will be well. On every side charity has its little drawbacks; but we must not think of banishing charity from our family of duties because some men are found mean enough to abuse it.

*The History of the Mediterranean.* By the Rev. J. S. Howson.—A book of forty pages, containing the report of an hour's lecture delivered at the Collegiate Institution in Liverpool. We are unable to understand in what sense it is called a “history.” ‘History of the Mediterranean!’—the subject is one to fill the shelves of a great library. Herodotus, Livy, Guicciardini, Davila, Gibbon, Niebuhr—these writers have but taken up fragments of the vast topic. Mr. Howson is a man to crush the ‘Iliad’ into a nut-shell, and still call it Homer's. That the Mediterranean is a grand subject for eloquence, for romantic description, for profound moralizing, no one can doubt, even though Johnson has labelled it with one of his ponderous infelicities of description. It is curious to observe how fast some of our verbal grandiosities adhere to their subjects. Burke's famous apostrophe to Howard is tawdry in the extreme.—Johnson's dictum on the Mediterranean is not true,—yet they continue to be quoted. Of the “four empires of the world” two were not situate on the sea where Johnson has placed them. Austria might as well be described as seated on the Adriatic, Russia on the Straits of Kamschatka, as Assyria or Persia on the Mediterranean. But the empires of Sesostris, of Hannibal, of Saladin—these were situated on its shores: its history includes all their histories. Johnson's dictum is both redundant and defective.—Mr. Howson, we should say, promises other lectures when he shall have time to prepare them. A few pages from the common historians would serve the purpose, and save him some trouble.

*The Man in the Moon; or, the English Fortune Teller.* From the unique Copy printed in 1609, preserved in the Bodleian Library. Edited by J. O. Halliwell.—A little tract worthy the honour of a reprint, for its own sake and for its allusions to the manners and ideas of the time. The “English Fortune Teller” is not a man of the Zadkiel stamp: he is rather a reprove of sinners—one who preaches wholesome moral doctrines to the profligates who come to him for advice and forewarning. Some of his exhortations are remarkably terse and vigorous.

*Collections concerning the Early History of the Founders of New Plymouth, the First Colonists of New England.* By Joseph Hunter.—Mr. Hunter has succeeded, in this little tract, in tracing out and establishing a few dates and minute facts of some interest to the historical inquirer, especially to the New Englander. Hitherto it had not been known from what locality in England the “pilgrim-fathers” had been drawn. Bradford, the leader of the adventurers, had merely described them as of a place in the north of England, on the borders of Yorkshire, Lincolnshire and Derbyshire. With this vague locality for the source of their primitive church American historians have thus far been obliged to



rest satisfied. Mr. Hunter thinks he has been able to discover the precise spot,—at the village of Scrooby, about a mile and a half from the market-town of Bawtry. The evidence is in favour of this supposition. Bradford says, in a passage which had led no previous writer into the right track of inquiry, that the pastor of this "religious people," Brewster, lived in the bishop's manor. Scrooby Manor had been a private residence of the archbishops of York: Wolsey in his disgrace had lived in it for some time. When Edwin Sandys was raised to the see of York, he granted the manor to one of his sons, in whose family it long remained. Brewster, it would seem, rented it from one of the Sandys family, lived in it, and held his church in it. Mr. Hunter "can speak with confidence of the fact, that there is no other episcopal manor but this which at all satisfies the condition of being near the border of the three counties." Bawtry is on the border of York and Notts, and the edge of the county of Lincoln is about six miles distant. Local accounts have supplied Mr. Hunter with other proofs. He finds a family of Brewsters and a family of Bradfords on the spot, and a William Bradford born and christened at the proper time. These facts are reinforced by others of minor importance in themselves.

*A Rudimentary Treatise on Geology for the Use of Beginners.* By Lieut. Col. Portlock, R.E.—This is one of a series of rudimentary treatises on various branches of art and science published at a very low price by Mr. Weale. The value of such treatises when well written cannot be overrated,—as extending a taste for scientific pursuits, and for the application to practical purposes of scientific principles. With regard to the present treatise, we may say that it is well adapted for the object for which it was written. It is a plain statement of the elementary truths of geology, and will serve as a good introduction to the various systematic works on the subject found in our language. The book is illustrated with a number of woodcuts.

*Reminiscences of Poland: Her Revolutions and Her Rights.* By Isidore Livinsky.—The writer of this interesting tract is a Pole of Cracow, who took an active part in the movements which in February, 1846, led to the incorporation of that republican city with the Austrian empire:—whereupon he fled to England for safety. His little book contains a spirited sketch of the cause and progress of those revolutions, and attempts at revolutions, which have given to the recent history of Poland a character of such sombre and tragic solemnity; and it will be read with absorbing interest by all those who sympathize with long suffering and that patriotic ardour which knows of no decay from absence or lapse of time. Nor will the second object of the publication—the hope of raising a small sum to carry the wife and children to the asylum which the husband and father has found in England—diminish the interest which attaches to the story of the brave but unfortunate people of which the writer forms an item. On both grounds we commend these 'Reminiscences of Poland' to the notice of our readers.

*Analysis and Theory of the Emotions; with Dissertations on Beauty, Sublimity, and the Ludicrous.* By George Ramsay.—This is a metaphysical treatise having for its basis the Scottish school of philosophy, and ignoring all that the Continental systems contain. We find in it, therefore, little that is not obsolete. Much of these essays is well and gracefully written; but not falling into the channel of general doctrine on the different topics of which they treat, they partake too much of the character of merely private and insufficient judgment.

*The Thoughts on Religion, and Evidences of Christianity, of Pascal, newly translated and arranged, with large Additions from Original MSS. From the French Edition of M. P. Faugère. With Introduction, Notes, &c.* By George Pearce, Esq.—The volume before us forms the third and concluding one of Mr. Pearce's translation of Pascal's works.—In recommending it to the notice of our readers, we cannot do better than repeat the commendations which we gave to the former volumes of the series: especially remarking upon the great felicity of the translation, which—and this is indeed saying much—is well worthy of the original.

*The Bengal Obituary; or, a Record to perpetuate the Memory of Departed Worth; being a Compilation of Tablets and Monumental Inscriptions from various parts of the Bengal and Agra Presidencies. To which is added, Biographical Sketches and Memoirs of such as have pre-eminently distinguished themselves in the History of British India since the formation of the European Settlement to the Present Time.* By Holmes & Co.—Having transcribed this formidable title, we are relieved from the necessity of any description of the contents of the volume to which it belongs. We suppose it may be interesting to the friends of the dead whom it commemorates; but to the public its want of arrangement and classification robs it of the only interest which it could possibly possess—that of any series of mortality returns. Thus, in running our eye down the pages, we are painfully struck with the great number of deaths among the English children; now, it would have been well if an abstract of these deaths had been made out from the rough materials, showing how the climate of Bengal affects the health of Europeans at different ages, from infancy upwards.

#### LIST OF NEW BOOKS.

Allison's (A.) History of Europe, Vol. XI. library edition, 8vo. 15s. cl.  
Barry's Illustrations of New Palace of Westminster, 1st series, 11. 12s.  
Blunt's (Rev. J. J.) Four Sermons at Cambridge in 1849, 8vo. 5s. bds.  
Book of Common Prayer, illuminated, new ed. royal 8vo. 11. 1s. cl.  
Bohn's Illustrated Lib. for February, 'J. Lodge's Portraits,' Vol. 4, 5s.  
Bohn's Scientific Library for January, 'Handbook of Games,' 5s. cl.  
Bohn's Scientific Lib. for February, Humboldt's 'Views of Nature,' 5s.  
Bohn's Classical Library for February, 'Livy,' Vol. III. cr. 8vo. 5s.  
Bryce's (Dr. J.) Ten Years of the Church of Scotland, 2 vols. 11. 1s.  
Burritt's (Elihu) Sparks from the Avon, 12mo. 1s. 6d.  
Caulfield's (J. B.) Mathematical and Physical Geography, 12mo. 3s.  
Courtship and Wedlock, by Author of 'Cousin Geoffrey,' 3 vols. 31s. 6d.  
Crawford's (Mrs. A.) The Lady of the Bedchamber, 3 vols. 11. 12s. 6d.  
Darton's Holiday Library, Vol. VI. 'Paulina,' 18mo. 1s. bds.  
Davidson's Instrumental Gems, Vol. I. royal 8vo. 2s. 6d. swd.  
Dods (C. R.) The Parliamentary Companion for 1850, 4s. 6d. hd.  
Emerson's (R. W.) Poems, cr. 8vo. reduced to 4s. cl.  
Ellen Clayton, a Novel, by S. D. Hughgee, 3 vols. post 8vo. 11. 11s. 6d.  
Evadne, or an Empire in its Fall, by C. Rowcroft, 3 vols. 11. 11s. 6d.  
Evelyn's Diary and Correspondence, by W. Bray, new ed. Vol. I. 10s. 6d.  
Green's Sunday School Library, Vol. IV. 'Sargen's Plain Letters,' 1s.  
Green's Juvenile Library, Vol. IV. 'Grace and Clara,' 18mo. 1s. bds.  
Glenny's Handbook to the Flower Garden, 12mo. 6s. 6d. cl.  
Holy Thoughts from the Old Writers, 5th ed. royal 32mo. 2s. 6d.  
Lamb's Letters, with Life by Justice Talford, new ed. 1 vol. 12mo. 6s.  
Mahomet and his Successors, by Washington Irving, Vol. I. 18s. 6d.  
Maitland's (Mrs. Margaret) Passages in Life, of 2nd ed. 3 vols. 31s. 6d.  
Marryat's (Capt.) The Little Savage, 4th ed. 2 vols. 12mo. 10s. cl.  
Neal's (E.) The Life-Book of a Labourer, 2nd. ed. 1s. 5s. cl.  
Prescott's Works, Vol. V. 'Conquest of Mexico,' Vol. II. cr. 8vo. 6s. cl.  
Scene of the Civil War in Hungary, 2nd ed. royal 12mo. 7s. 6d. cl.  
Senior's Political Economy, or, 8vo. 4s. cl.  
Sketches of Cantabs, by John Smith, Gent. 2nd ed. royal 18mo. 3s. 6d.  
Slater's Shilling Series, Vol. 13, Longfellow's 'Voices of the Night,' 1s.  
Slater's Universal Series, Vol. IV. 'The Enchanted Lake,' 16mo. 1s. cl.  
Spence's (J. N.) Curiosities of Literature, 4th ed. 2 vols. 12s. cl.  
Socialism Unmasked, from the French of Gouard, 12mo. 1s. bds.  
Tennyson's (A.) Princess, new ed. 1s. 5s. cl.  
Tennyson's (A.) Poems, new ed. 1 vol. 1s. 9s. cl.  
Thompson's Natural History of Ireland, Birds, Vol. II. 8vo. 12s.  
Thoughts on Self-Culture, by Mrs. Grey and Miss Shirreff, 2 vols. 16s.  
Waller's (G.) The Soldier's Destiny, 1s. 5s. d.  
Webb's (Mrs. J. B.) The Martyrs of Carthage, 2 vols. 1s. 12s. cl.  
Winslow's Inner Life: its Nature, Release, and Recovery, 1s. 4s. 6d. cl.  
Winckelmann's Ancient Art among the Greeks, by Lodge, 8vo. 12s. cl.  
Wordsworth's Poetical Works, new ed. Vol. IV. 3s. 6d. cl., 2s. 6d. swd.

#### LORD JEFFREY.

Francis Jeffrey, editor of the *Edinburgh Review* and "one of the Judges of the Court of Session in Scotland," died at his seat called Craigerok, near Edinburgh, on Saturday the 26th of January, in his 77th year. His judicial appointment gave him what in Scotland is called the "paper title" of a lord,—in other words, a title by courtesy, one not recognized by the heralds, nor conferring any distinction on his issue, but restricted to himself. He will, however, be best remembered by his early name of Mr. Jeffrey—or as Lord Campbell would have written, plain Francis Jeffrey.

Thirty years ago—or even forty—the death of Mr. Jeffrey would have been a much more important subject for comment and conversation than it is now in a ripe old age. No critic ever filled—for good or for evil—a more important position in the world of letters than Mr. Jeffrey filled uninterruptedly for seven-and-twenty years in the literature of the nineteenth century. Whenever the history of English Literature shall be written his name must always find a place; less prominent, it is true, than that which he occupied in his lifetime, but still one of distinction,—not so much from the intrinsic value of his own contributions as from the particular influence which his writings exercised on the public mind, and on the destinies, for a time, of some of our greatest poets.

The history of his life may be briefly told. He was the eldest son of George Jeffrey, Esq., one of the Court of Session in Scotland, by his wife, the daughter of a Mr. Loudoun, of Lanarkshire,—and was born in Edinburgh on the 23rd of October 1773. He was educated at the High School of his native city,

and at Glasgow University, but completed his university education at Queen's College, Oxford. In 1794 he was called to the Bar, where he soon became distinguished for the vigour of his eloquence and the wit and boldness of his invective. He attended debating clubs—spoke with readiness and knowledge;—and with no other introduction than his own talents, formed the acquaintance, at the Speculative Society, of Sir Walter Scott, then a young man busy with his 'Minstrelsy,' and of the Rev. Sydney Smith and Lord Brougham, both ardent for distinction in the Church and at the Bar. Acquaintanceship soon ripened into intimacy; and at a late supper after a debate at the Speculative Society the *Edinburgh Review* was projected by Smith, and approved of by Jeffrey and Lord Brougham. Assistants were soon found; and in October 1802 appeared the first number of the new periodical, under the editorial care of the Rev. Sydney Smith,—its original projector, as he is called by Lord Jeffrey, "and long," he adds, "its brightest ornament."

The success of the new Review was beyond the expectation of its founders,—and after a few numbers beyond all precedent in publications of a similar nature. Nor is this to be wondered at when we look at the character and variety of its articles, and contrast its vigour and wit with the tame productions of any publication then at all approaching it in matter or in manner. The new Review contained the views and thoughts, most fearlessly expressed, of a young and vigorous set of thinkers on some of the most important subjects of the day connected with politics, religion, jurisprudence and literature. The writers flew at all kinds of game;—nor was it difficult to see from the first (what was indeed obvious afterwards) that the politics of the Whig school gave a turn and colour to the whole character of the Review. "The Review," said Jeffrey, "has but two legs to stand on: Literature, no doubt, is one of them—but its right leg is Politics."

Mr. Sydney Smith was the editor of the first three numbers; and would, no doubt, have continued his editorial care had not his views of promotion in the Church called him away from Edinburgh to London. On Mr. Smith's retirement, Mr. Jeffrey took his place; which he continued to fill without interruption till late in the year 1829, when he was elected to the office of Dean of the Faculty of Advocates—a judicial appointment of distinction at the Scottish Bar hardly to be held, it was thought, in conjunction with the editorship of a party Review. He continued, however, to write occasionally, not on politics it is understood—but on literary subjects, from which his judicial functions could not be held by any means to have excluded him.

His retirement from literature as a part of his profession gave him fresh opportunities of distinction in his original pursuit of the law, and in the line of politics to which he seems to have been especially partial. He was elected member of Parliament for his native city,—was listened to in the House more for his reputation's sake, and for what he might say, than for anything that he said, or for his manner of delivery;—and soon growing weary of attendance even in a "Reformed House" (to which he had so long looked forward, and which he had in a great measure contributed to bring about), he asked from Lord Melbourne (1834) what he had long coveted—a seat on the Scottish Bench—received the appointment, and retired to Edinburgh and the beautiful scenery of Craigerok.

A few further particulars of his life, in a notice brief as this must necessarily be, may not be thought unimportant. He was chosen in 1821 Lord Rector of the University of Glasgow; was twice married, first to the daughter of the Rev. Dr. Wilson, of St. Andrew's, and secondly, to the daughter of Charles Wilkes, Esq., of New York, grand-niece of the famous Wilkes "and Liberty." Let us add (what future ages will no doubt care to know) that he was swarthy in countenance and diminutive in stature.

Lord Jeffrey is to be looked on as an editor and as an author, not as a Dean of Faculty or even as a Judge. "Envy must own" that he conducted the *Edinburgh Review* with admirable tact and skill,—and that he showed great judgment as to the writers whom he brought about him. He was well supported by men like Sydney Smith, Mackintosh, Brougham, Horner, Allen, and Hazlitt. His subjects were well



\*chosen for the time, and generally maintained consistent principles both in politics and in taste; but his great object, it should not be concealed, was to attract attention and to draw readers. We are not, however, to tax him with all the editorial errors of the Review. Let us remember his own apologetical defence to Sir Walter Scott, that he was "a feudal monarch who had but slender control over his greater barons, and really could not prevent them from occasionally waging little private wars upon griefs or resentments of their own."

Lord Jeffrey's position as editor led him now and then into more than one unpleasant quarrel. Southey, Wordsworth, and Coleridge seldom spoke of him except in terms of hatred and contempt; and his memorable duel at Chalk Farm, in 1806, with Mr. Moore, partly occasioned by a clever application of a passage in Spenser to Tom Little's Poems, will long be remembered by the "Little's leadless pistol" of the 'English Bards and Scotch Reviewers,' and the contemporary epigram which ends

They only fire blank cartridge in Reviews.

The quarrels with the Lake School were never made up; but the author of Little's Poems and the editor of the *Edinburgh Review* were afterwards reconciled, and the critic even courted by a friendly dedication.

The great defect in Lord Jeffrey's editorship of the *Edinburgh Review* was his short-sightedness in appreciating the merits of Scott, Byron, Southey, Wordsworth, Coleridge, and others. He praised Scott for a time,—but a cold notice of 'Marmion' threw the future novelist into the arms of the *Quarterly Review*. The criticism on the 'Hours of Idleness,' though attributed to Mr. Jeffrey at the time, was, as is well known, written by Lord Brougham. Jeffrey himself afterwards praised Byron, and the noble poet was not ungrateful to the critic: witness his 'Don Juan'—

All our little feuds, at least all mine,  
Dear Jeffrey, once my most redoubted foe,  
(As far as rhyme and criticism combine  
To make such puppets of us things below,  
Are over: Here's a health to 'Auld lang syne!'  
I do not know you, and may never know  
Your face—but you have acted on the whole  
Most nobly, and I own it from my soul.

We cannot say of Byron on this occasion, what has been said with propriety of another great satirist of our nation, that he was wanton in his attack and mean in his retreat. Mr. Jeffrey in his capacity as editor had given the young and noble poet great ground of provocation; and the satirist repaid censure with ferocious scorn—as afterwards he did praise from the same quarter with appropriate panegyric.

We are now to look on Lord Jeffrey as an author:—and it is somewhat singular, we may observe, of one who has written so much, that he is not an author in any other sense than as a critic in a Review. This cannot be said of any of his leading associates, or of any of the opposition writers in the *Quarterly*,—or indeed of any other writer who has exercised one half the influence in literature that Mr. Jeffrey possessed. His legal as well as his editorial duties must, it is true, have left him very little time for anything else;—and we are not, perhaps, to suppose that he was without the ambition of being an author, or that he wanted leisure for the due consideration of any subject of importance. We may attribute more justly his not appearing as an author in his own person: to an unwillingness to endanger his high reputation by the production of a separate work, and to some fear of the "wounded great" who were ready to attack him on all sides and with every kind of weapon. He is, therefore, to be judged by the four volumes of his 'Essays,' or contributions to the Review, which he was induced to collect and revise in the year 1843. These volumes, he tells us, form less than a third of what he wrote in the Review; but they, no doubt, embrace his best productions—those, in short, by which he was willing to stand. His friends would have made a somewhat different selection: one that would have represented the history of his mind and opinion—and that would have thrown more light on the history of critical judgment in this country than can be gathered from his volumes as they at present stand.

It is much to his praise as a man, though little to his early discernment as a critic, that the bitter reviews of Southey, Coleridge, Wordsworth, and others were excluded from his 'Collected Essays;' while his eulogies on his favourite poets, Campbell, Crabbe and Rogers, were one and all admitted. He

had outlived the resentment or impetuosity of youth with which they were written, as the great writers themselves had outlived the injury which their injustice had done to them; to have inserted them would therefore have only been renewing an unprofitable contest,—and connecting his name even more lastingly than it is likely to be with the great names of the writers whose hostility he both courted and incurred.

These 'Essays,' it must be confessed—and we have just risen from a re-perusal of some of the best—are not very remarkable productions. They are little distinguished for subtlety of opinion, nicety of disquisition, or even for beauty of style. Though printed uniformly with the contributions to the same Review of Sydney Smith and Mr. Macaulay, they have not made the same impression on the public mind—nor been read with the same avidity. So that, while the Essays of Mr. Smith and Mr. Macaulay are now in fourth editions—the public have been content till very recently with a single impression of Lord Jeffrey. Yet his 'Essays' will more than repay perusal. His paper on Swift is the best elucidation of the Dean's character that we have yet received;—while his articles on Penn and the Quakers exhibit qualities of mind not easily to be found in authors of even greater celebrity.

One of the last acts of Lord Jeffrey's life was, to write a long—and, as we hear, a beautiful—letter of thanks to the widow of the Rev. Sydney Smith for the copy of Sydney Smith's Lectures delivered at the Royal Institution and privately printed by his widow. Lord Jeffrey, it will be remembered, dedicates his 'Essays' to his friend Smith.

#### THE NATIONAL GALLERY AND THE MUSEUM CATALOGUE.

Few of the buildings of the metropolis have had to run the gauntlet of more hostile criticism than the National Gallery in Trafalgar Square; and on the other hand, the public voice has pronounced with unusual unanimity an approval of the choice of its site. But, while on all sides it has been allowed that credit is due to the person by whom that site was proposed, that credit has usually been assigned to the wrong person. "The National Gallery," says a recent pamphlet, "owes its existence to a suggestion of Mr. Wilkins; who, when the old Charing Cross Mews was pulled down, and a range of shops was about to be erected on its site, waited on Lord Dover and Lord Aberdeen and suggested to them the expediency of erecting a National Gallery on the spot. His advice was most fortunately adopted; and for saving our pictures from being stowed away in the ornithological galleries of the British Museum,—and giving that department an independent existence, besides securing that site as national property, the nation ought to have voted him a statue. They have been more inclined to burn him in effigy."

It is very true that Mr. Wilkins laid claim, before a Committee of the House of Commons, to the honour here assigned to him; it is also true that he was left uncontradicted in the assertion that Lord Dover, Lord Aberdeen, and Earl Grey received the suggestion in 1830 as one originating with him, and took steps to carry it into effect; but it is no less true that the fifth triennial official Report of the Commissioners of Woods and Forests in 1826 contains the plan of Trafalgar Square as originally proposed by Mr. Nash,—and that in that plan a "National Gallery of Painting and Sculpture" appears as a main feature of the proposed improvement, to occupy the very situation that the National Gallery now occupies. It is to Mr. Nash that we are indebted for the proposal, the credit of which has been so unaccountably claimed by and given to Mr. Wilkins; and the laurels of Mr. Nash are not so plentiful that he can spare this, perhaps the greenest of them all.

The pamphlet from which I have quoted is entitled, "Observations on the British Museum, National Gallery, and National Record Office, with Suggestions for their Improvement, by James Fergusson, M.R.I.B.A., author of 'An Historical Inquiry into the True Principles of Beauty in Art.'" There is another passage in this pamphlet and one of some interest, on which, if you will permit me, I wish to offer a few observations, for the purpose—as in the preceding instance—of correcting some mistakes in matters of fact which may lead those who do not

sift the statements of the writer into errors of judgment. With Mr. Fergusson's opinions and projects it would be impracticable to deal without writing a pamphlet as long as his own; but it may be observed in passing that his proposals are in many cases no more original than that of Mr. Wilkins to erect the National Gallery in Trafalgar Square. The plan of building a Reading Room in the centre of the Museum quadrangle was mentioned many years ago in the *Mechanics' Magazine*—the proposal of forming a lending library of the Museum duplicates was brought forward in 1844 by Mr. Panizzi, and is printed at the end of his Report on the Museum desiderata laid before the House of Commons in 1846. The passage, however, to which I wish to call attention in these 'Observations on the British Museum' is that on the subject of the Alphabetical Catalogue of the Library; because I believe that the notions entertained by Mr. Fergusson on this head are, unlike many of his notions, shared by a large portion of the public, and because when this is the case any notions merit examination.

"I am convinced," says Mr. Fergusson, "that I am stating what is literally true when I assert that the formation of an alphabetical catalogue is the simplest and easiest operation in literature; and I am confirmed in this opinion by observing that there is not an auctioneer, or bookseller, or librarian in the three kingdoms who cannot make one, and one that answers all purposes for which it was intended,—which is simply to learn whether or not a certain work is in the library in question—which is the only purpose an alphabetical catalogue can answer. So far as my little experience goes, I do not recollect a single instance in which I could not ascertain the fact,—and if any one will take up the catalogues of a library for sale, or any bookseller's list of his works, or that of any public or circulating library, or such a catalogue as Brunet's, the probability is that in 999 cases out of 1000 he will find the book he wants on a first reference, if it is there. On a second reference, he ought not to fail once in 10,000 times; and I am mistaken if, in five minutes' search, he may not satisfy himself certainly as to whether the book in question is in the library or not."

Such is the result of Mr. Fergusson's little experience,—and he is convinced that he is "stating what is literally true." I must own that I am no less convinced—and unhappily from rather a large experience in the searching of catalogues—that he is entirely mistaken. In the first place, it is not correct to assume, as he does, that the "catalogues of a library for sale, or a bookseller's list of his works," are generally, in any strict sense of the word, alphabetical. In the large mass of booksellers' catalogues, as they are now issued, the general alphabetical order is interrupted by any other form of arrangement that the compiler thinks more likely to catch a customer. Most of the books, for instance, that in any manner relate, or may be thought to relate, to the United States are arbitrarily placed under the head "America," because it is believed that the large class of purchasers of books on that subject on the other side of the Atlantic will not take the trouble to look through a whole catalogue in search of the works they are in want of. In the sale catalogue of the stock of the late Mr. Thomas Rodd—which is now being disposed of, and which therefore occurs as the readiest to quote—a copy of Beaumont and Fletcher's 'Philaster' is put under 'Plays;' Steele 'On the Melody of Speech' under 'Poetical and Theatrical Tracts;' 'The History of Valentine and Orson' under 'Romance,'—and so on. In the next place, it is a most unfounded assumption to suppose that the books in these catalogues which are at all out of the common run of a bookseller's stock are as a whole correctly entered. In the catalogue of Mr. T. Rodd's stock, already alluded to, many of the entries are so ludicrously wrong, when foreign languages are concerned, that an author would sometimes be puzzled to discover his own book. The "Specimen-Translation," or "Proföfwersättning," of the Swedish Bible, made as an experiment in the last century, is separated by many pages from the other versions of the Scriptures, and entered under "öfwersättning (Prof.)"—as if it were the production of some Professor so called. In another case, the words "Andra Delen," or "Second Part,"



seem to have been taken as an author's name,—the Andra no doubt passing for Andrew; and the book is put under "Delen (A.)." A history of Bergamo, by Colleoni, a Capuchin—who styles himself, in the title-page, "F. Celestino, sacerdote Capuccino,"—figures under "Capuccino (F.S.)." It would certainly imply the power of divination in any one who, wishing to ascertain if this book was in a library succeeded in arriving at a correct conclusion from a catalogue like this in five or in fifty minutes. There is another point which Mr. Fergusson has overlooked—that when a catalogue is very large, it often demands a very minute knowledge of what he is looking for, on the part of the searcher, to escape a loss of time which otherwise is unavoidable. In case a person sees a reference to such a book as Smith's 'History of Missions,' or Müller's 'Dissertatio de Serpentina,' and looks in the catalogue of a circulating library, or of the College of Surgeons, he may satisfy himself without much delay, if the books be there; but with the thousand Smiths or twelve hundred Müllers of the Museum Catalogue, the task must in the nature of things be a little more tedious, and the result more difficult to arrive at. Still worse will it be if there be any error, even the most trifling, in the searcher's notion of the orthography of the name he looks for. To find a book which is correctly entered in a catalogue, it is indispensable that the search be correctly made, as an instance further on will show. If the search be thus difficult when an author's name is given, it may readily be conceived that with anonymous books all difficulties are augmented tenfold; and with an ordinary bookseller's catalogue, or any catalogue not constructed according to strict and definite rules, there are thousands of cases in which the searcher will not succeed in two, or three, or twenty or any number of times.

To return to Mr. Fergusson. After he has concluded his panegyric on the booksellers, "now this," he continues, "is not the case with the Museum Catalogues. An immense class of works is entered there under titles by which nobody knows them, and under which they never were entered in any other catalogue. To take one instance as an illustration. In the New Catalogue, the works of Voltaire are entered under the name of Arouet. I happen to know that this was his father's name;—but ask any bookseller if he has a copy of such an author's works, or any gentleman if he has ever read them, I feel certain they would answer, with me, that they never heard of such an author; and I am perfectly convinced that in opening any other catalogue in the world, and not finding Voltaire's name in it, I should have arrived at the conclusion that his works were not in the library. It never would have occurred to me to look under his father's name."

On looking for Voltaire's name in the New Catalogue of the Museum, Mr. Fergusson will, according to the rule of that catalogue, find a cross-reference informing him that the works of that author are entered under the heading 'Arouet.' The only inconvenience, therefore, that he, or any other reader, can be exposed to, is that of turning to another volume of the catalogue. It is very strictly provided for in the ninety-one rules of cataloguing, of which he has so small a knowledge, and so great a horror, that the works of every author shall be collected together under one form of his name, and cross-references made from every other form, so as, to guard against the fault so common in ordinary catalogues of cutting one person into two, three, or four, and, at the same time, to enable the reader, who looks for an author under any possible form, to find without delay or trouble, that under which he is entered. Mr. Fergusson says that he "happens to know" that the name of Voltaire's father was Arouet, and it is known to many other persons that his own name was Arouet also. But he informs us that Voltaire never was entered under that name "in any other catalogue," and a little further down talks still more forcibly of "any other catalogue in the world." This is relying too much on what he has told us is his "little experience." If he will take the trouble to consult Le Long's 'Bibliothèque Historique de la France,' the best edition by Fevret de Fontette, in five volumes, folio,—undoubtedly the greatest bibliographical authority on French names and books on France,—he will find, that there too,

Voltaire is entered under Arouet. And if he will also turn to the noble, though still imperfect Catalogue of the Royal, now the National, Library of Paris—published during Voltaire's lifetime, there also he will find that Voltaire is entered under Arouet. These two instances are of some weight.

Mr. Fergusson proceeds—"Once, however, the rule is known, a man may, by a little industry and reading up, generally get at the book he wants, but there is another class where this is not so easy. The Museum, for instance, acknowledges no man that writes with his pencil; unless his ideas are conveyed in words he is nobody; every one, for instance, knows Roberts's 'Syria,' but unless he can have access to the work before he goes to the Museum no wisdom will tell him to look for it under the name of Croly, or for the same artist's 'Egypt' under the head of Brockdon." If wisdom will not tell these facts, the advertisements will; and it seems not contrary to reason in a catalogue of printed books to place a work under the name of the author of what is printed. To proceed:—"If a man reads Dennis's 'Etruria,' he will see Byers's 'Tarquinian Sepulchres' quoted twenty times over, but 'Dennis' will not give him a hint that the name of the book in the Catalogue is 'Howard,' nor when he sees mention made in the same work of Stewart's 'Phrygian Remains,' will he tell him that it is entered under a name where neither reader nor librarian can trace it, though one copy I have seen in the antiquity department, and I believe there is no doubt but there is a second hiding itself in the Library." All this would be too minute and insignificant for notice, but for the curious illustration that it affords of the fact already pointed out, that the correctness of a catalogue is of no avail to those who do not search it correctly. Two names are here mentioned: the one which Mr. Fergusson spells Byers correctly Byres,—the one which he spells Stewart correctly Steuart. Under the head Byres in the Museum Catalogue is given a cross-reference to "Tarquinia;" another to the same heading is given from "Howard," and under "Tarquinia," not "Howard," is entered the book he was in search of,—under the head "Steuart" he did not find the 'Phrygian Remains,' for the plain reason that, as the Museum officials affirm, no such book is in the Library; and on this point they are, it is to be presumed, as good an authority as Mr. Fergusson.

"One perhaps of the most amusing entries I have come across," continues this merciless critic, "and one certainly utterly beyond my power of guessing, is the 'Museo Gregorio,' one of the best known and most valuable works on Etruscan antiquities. In the Catalogue it figures under the title of 'Maximis,' because it is dedicated to Prince Massimo in Latin, and this being the only text in the work, according to the rules, this is the title." The book on Etruscan antiquities referred to is sometimes styled for shortness by Italians the 'Museo Gregoriano,' but never, surely by one who understands Italian, the 'Museo Gregorio.' What is meant by asserting that the dedication "being the only text in the work, this is the title," it is hard to guess, for there is a regular title to the book—"Musei Etrusci quod Gregorius XVI. Pon. Max. in ædibus Vaticanis constituit Monumenta," &c. &c. and there are, moreover, some sheets of text besides the dedication. But the most "amusing" point of all is the assertion that the book is dedicated to Prince Massimo. It is now before me, and I copy these lines from the dedication:—"Gregorio XVI. Pontifici maximo . . . . Franciscus Xaverius De Maximis . . . opus absolutum an. XI. sac. princ. eius inscribit." I leave the decision with some confidence to those who are in the habit of construing Latin.

"I could go on," says Mr. Fergusson, "multiplying examples of this sort to any extent." I have no doubt of it, and it will be seen that all his further examples are precisely of this sort. "The above," he continues, "will suffice to illustrate the absurdity of a rule which renders a most valuable portion of the library inaccessible to the public. At one time, I believed it was intended for the purpose of preventing the *prophanum vulgus* from thumbing so valuable a class of works. I am assured this is not the case, but the effect is the same, for unless the reader has access to the works before he goes to

the Museum, he will not be able to find one of this class in the Catalogue. Another equally absurd rule is, that when the work is anonymous, it shall be entered under the *first substantive* of the title. It ought, of course, to be the *principal substantive*. Thus, a History of Ireland, or any other country, is entered among some thousands of Histories, through which the reader must wade to find the one he wants; while, if it should turn out to be an 'Abridgment' of the history, &c. he must wade through all the Abridgments in the library. If it should happen to be a 'Summary of the History,' or have any other subtypical affix, he must go through every conceivable variation before he is sure whether or not the work he wishes to refer to is in the library or not. If it was entered 'Ireland, Histories of, &c., Anonymous,' nothing of the class could be so numerous, but that the search would be easy and the result at all events would be certain."

From this elaborate passage, it distinctly appears that Mr. Fergusson, who is disposed to be so severe upon the "ninety-one rules" of the new Museum Catalogue, has not the slightest conception of what those rules enjoin, and in fact imagines them to be exactly the reverse of what they are. In the cases that he supposes,—the "History of Ireland," the "Abridgment" of the history, the "Summary" of the history, &c., will all, according to those rules, be catalogued under "Ireland," and not, as he asserts, under the first substantive. The following is part of Rule 33, "Anonymous publications relating to any act or to the life of a person whose name occurs in the title of a work, to be catalogued under the name of such person;" and the following of Rule 34, "When no such name of a person appears . . . then that of any country, province, city, town, or place so appearing, to be adopted as the heading." Instances of the carrying out of these rules are to be found in every page of the new Catalogue.

But our critic pursues his triumph. "Or, to take another instance," he continues, "suppose, in reading some book, I am referred to a curious account of the life of Prince Arthur and the Knights of the Round Table, printed by Caxton, in 1485. If this were entered under 'Arthur, Prince,' there would be no difficulty. But, unless a man sees the book, he may guess through his life before he finds it in the Catalogue. The book in question has two titles, 'Morte d'Arthur' is the popular one,—the true one being the 'Byrth, Lyf, and Actes,' &c. Even if told it is the 'Birth, Life, and Acts,' he must not look under 'Bi.' To whom would it occur to look under 'By'? If 'Lyf' happened to be the first substantive it would require a new search, and if 'Acts' a third, before there was any chance of finding the work in question."

The reader will have observed that by the thirty-third rule of the Catalogue, just quoted, it is provided that in the case of an anonymous work referring to the life or any act of a person, the book is to be catalogued under the name of that person. Of course, therefore, the life of King Arthur is placed under Arthur, and incredible as it may appear, in the first volume of the new Museum Catalogue this very book of the 'Byrth, Lyf, and Actes of King Arthur,' not indeed the edition of 1485 by Caxton which the Museum does not possess, but the reprint of 1817 edited by Southey—is chronicled at full length, in very legible print, under the very heading under which Mr. Fergusson so pathetically complains that no reader must ever expect to find it. Here end his instances of the blundering of the Catalogue,—and indeed it might be considered that they had reached a climax. Perhaps the most valid defence that he can offer will be that he has never read the rules and never examined the Catalogue he takes upon himself to condemn.

It must be remembered that the whole of the extracts I have made from Mr. Fergusson's observations on the Museum Catalogue are consecutive, and the reader will then be enabled to estimate the full value of his criticism. He does not sometimes hit and sometimes miss;—he makes a succession of remarks, and they are a succession of mistakes. It is on the faith of statements like these that a clamour has been raised against a great public undertaking.

On the subject of a classed catalogue, he expatiates at even greater length than on the alphabetical; but, after what has been said, it cannot surely be



necessary to follow him with equal minuteness. One or two extracts, and these very brief ones, will probably suffice. A scientific classification of literature, he says, at page 85, he looks upon as the "most important task allotted to men of genius and research in the present day—but" he says, in the same page, "a sufficient staff of sufficiently scientific men could not be obtained for the purpose in any country of Europe." He also says, in the same page, though in a different paragraph, "Indeed, if it were worth while, I believe I could furnish such a scheme for the Catalogue of the British Museum as would enable me to classify every work within its walls. But, supposing this done, there is no one but myself who could reduce my scheme to practice," &c. &c. &c. Mr. Fergusson surely is quite justified in doubting if it would be worth his while to favour the public with any further hints on the subject. Yours, &c. W.

#### THE ARCTIC EXPEDITIONS.

THE Admiralty instructions to Capt. Collinson have been published. They direct him to proceed to the Sandwich Islands, where he will find additional orders for his guidance; but if none should arrive,—or if, arriving, they do not in any way modify the present directions,—the ships are to be re-provisioned, and to sail without loss of time to Behring's Straits, in order to reach the ice before the 1st of August.

The Plover is to act as a store-ship, and to be secured in the most favourable position as far in advance as can be found,—as in Wainwright's Inlet or at Hope's Point; so that parties from the exploring ships may fall back upon her if necessary. The Plover is to remain in the Straits until the end of the summer of 1853, unless Capt. Collinson should return from Melville Island before that period. Capt. Collinson is charged to use every effort to penetrate as far as the north of Banks' Land; but should his search in the seas of that region prove fruitless, he is recommended to use the utmost precaution and care to withdraw in time, so as in no case to hazard the safety of the ships and the lives of those entrusted to his care.

As the express object of the Expedition is to relieve or obtain intelligence of the missing Expedition, Capt. Collinson is desired not to turn aside from his duty for the purposes of geographical or scientific research. This is as it should be. It would be a mere trifling with the pressing object of this new adventure to allow the attention of the officers to be directed to any subject foreign to the great purpose of their mission.

It is evident that the search for our lost countrymen on the side of Behring's Straits will be made as complete as possible. In some Admiralty papers with a copy of which we have been favoured, and which are to be laid before Parliament, we find that, through the kind mediation of Baron Bralow, the Russian Minister at our Court, the following paper is to be printed in the Russian language, and plentifully circulated along the northern coasts of Siberia and throughout the Emperor of Russia's American dominions.

"The Discovery ships under Sir John Franklin sailed from England in 1845, and were last seen in Baffin's Bay in July of that year, steering for Lancaster Sound. The ships not having returned at the time expected, search was made for them by two Expeditions, which found no traces of them to the eastward nor on the northern sea-coast of America between the Mackenzie and Coppermine Rivers. Hence it is inferred that the ships have been blocked up in the ice in the vicinity of Melville Island or the adjoining land; from whence neither Lancaster Sound nor the continental coast to the south could be reached with the means which the crews possessed.

"Further search will be prosecuted by the British Government in the summer of 1850. Two ships, the *Enterprise* and *Investigator*, commanded by Capt. Collinson and Commander McClure, are to enter Behring's Straits, and to penetrate, if possible, to the western extremity of Melville Island,—there to winter, and make further search in the spring of 1851 for the crews of the lost ships.

"The aid of the officers of the Russian Fur Company, and of all His Imperial Majesty's subjects, is earnestly solicited in the humane endeavour to rescue such of the missing crews as may succeed in reaching the shore of the continent.

"And it is conceived that this may be effectually rendered by offering to the Esquimaux and Tchutchis the promise of a liberal reward of kettles, axes, knives, beads, and such other articles of commerce as they covet, for any effectual relief afforded to any white men that may be cast on their coasts, and for conducting them in safety to a neighbouring fur post. The English Admiralty will defray the expense of such rewards, on application."

We find also, by these papers, that arrangements have been made with the Hudson's Bay Company to continue Mr. Rae in his exploring operations during the ensuing season, should his journey last summer to the northward of Victoria and Wollaston Lands have been unsuccessful. The result of that journey will be known to us about the middle of May next.

We have been requested to give insertion to the following.—

Somerset House, Jan. 31.

You have always exhibited so much devotion in the cause of our unfortunate missing Arctic voyagers, that I venture to ask for a small space in your journal to make a few observations on a leading article in the *Times* of this day relating to the Expeditions for relieving Sir John Franklin. In that article it is said:—"We cannot but feel that the Expedition which has lately sailed under Capt. Collinson is a last effort." "*By Barrow's Straits it is impossible to get through the ice.*" And it is added,—"*What remains?*" Simply such an investigation of the Polar Seas from the westward as may enable us to feel that we have done all that lay in human power for the relief of our gallant countrymen. Of what avail is it to continue a search when it has become absolutely impossible that it could be attended with any effect, or to direct Expeditions to points which the crews of the *Erebus* and *Terror* could by no possibility have reached?"

Surely never was argument more illogical than this. So far from Barrow's Straits being impassable, it is well known that this passage has been frequently seen clear of ice, and that Parry sailed up and down it more than once with open sea round his ships; and Sir James Ross's being unable to attain a greater westing than Leopold's Island furnishes no reason why other Expeditions on Franklin's track should halt there.

Compared with the darkness and mystery of the passage from Behring's Straits to Melville Island, that by Barrow's Straits is clear—because it is known; and it is evident that the search for the missing ships cannot be regarded as complete until an Expedition shall have followed them through Lancaster Sound and Barrow's Straits as far, at least, as Cape Walker. —I am, &c. C. R. WELD.

#### FOREIGN CORRESPONDENCE.

##### *Visit to the City of Hangchow-foo.*

ON the evening of the 22nd of October I approached the suburbs of Hangchow-foo,—the capital of the province of Chekiang, and one of the largest and most flourishing cities in the richest district of the Chinese Empire. The Mandarins have always been most jealous of foreigners approaching or entering this town. It is generally supposed that, in addition to the natural antipathy which they manifest for the "outside barbarians," they have a custom house here in which they levy duties on merchandise imported or exported by foreigners,—which duties are opposed to the terms of the treaty of Nanking. They know very well that if foreigners were allowed to come here this system of extortion would soon be exposed and broken up.

As I came near the city, everything which came under my observation marked it as a place of great importance. The Grand Canal was wide and deep; and bore on its waters many hundreds of boats, all engaged in an active, bustling trade. Many of these were sailing in the same direction as ourselves; whilst others were leaving the city, and hurrying onwards in the direction of Soo-chow, Hoo-chow, Kea-king, and other towns which are thickly scattered over this large and populous plain. Canals were seen branching off in all directions from the grand one, and forming the high-roads of the country.

When I reached the end of this part of the journey, my boatmen drew up and moored the boat amongst some thousands of the same class; and it being now nearly dark, I determined to rest there for the night. When next morning dawned, I found that we were moored on the edge of a large and broad basin which terminates the Grand Canal. After dressing with great care, we left the boat and proceeded to an inn for the purpose of engaging a chair. The Shanghae boatmen accompanied us,

carrying our luggage:—indeed I believe they recommended us to the inn at which we had now arrived. To my astonishment, they at once informed their friend the innkeeper that I was a foreigner. I now expected that some difficulties would be thrown in my way, either with the view of extorting money or through fear of the Mandarins. My fears, however, were groundless. The old man, who made his living by letting chairs and selling tea, took the matter very quietly; and evidently did not despise a good customer even if he was a foreigner. A chair was soon ready for me to proceed on my journey. I was bound for a place named Kan-tu, situated on the banks of the river Tchien-tang-kiang,—which here falls into the Bay of Hangchow.

Everything being arranged in a satisfactory manner, I stepped into the chair; and, desiring my servants to follow, we proceeded along the streets of the suburbs in the direction of the city. After travelling in this way for about a mile, we came to the gates and entered the city. It seemed an ancient place. The walls and ramparts are high; they appeared in excellent order, and the gates were guarded, as usual, by a number of soldiers. The main street of the city through which I passed is narrow when compared with streets in European towns; but it is nicely paved, and reminded me of the main street of Ningpo more than of anything else. Hangchow, however, is a place of much greater importance than Ningpo, both in a mercantile and in a political point of view. It is, as I have said, the chief town in the province,—and is the residence of many of the high mandarins and officers of Government, as well as of many great merchants. It has been remarked, not unfrequently, when comparing the towns of Shanghae and Ningpo, that the former is a place of trade and the latter a place of great wealth. Hangchow appears to have both of these advantages combined. Besides, it is a fashionable place,—and is to the province of Chekiang what Soo-chow is to that of Kiangsoo. Du-Halde quotes an old Chinese proverb which significantly says that "*Paradise is above, but below are Soo-chow and Hangchow.*"

The walls of this terrestrial Paradise are forty *le* in circumference,—or about eight English miles. There are a great many gardens and open spaces within this circuit; but as the suburbs are also of great extent, the place must contain a very large population. Du-Halde estimates it at a million of souls—and Sir George Staunton supposed it might equal that of Peking.

The houses bear a striking resemblance to those of Ningpo, Soo-chow, and other northern towns. I do not know how it is, but were I set down blindfolded in the main street of one of these northern towns—in one even which I knew well—and the bandage removed from my eyes, I should have great difficulty in saying where I was. There are, doubtless, distinctions with which the "Barbarian" eye is unacquainted, which would be plain enough to a Chinese.

Triumphal arches, monuments to great men and virtuous women, and gorgeous-looking Buddhist temples were observed in many parts of the city as I passed along; but although these buildings have a certain amount of interest about them, yet as works of Art they are not to be compared with buildings of the same class which we see at home.

The shops in the main streets have their fronts entirely removed by day; so that a passenger has an opportunity of seeing, and forming a good idea of, the wares which are exposed for sale. I observed many shops in which were gold and silver ornaments, and beautiful specimens of the celebrated jade stone. Old curiosity shops were numerous, and contained articles of great value amongst the Chinese:—such as ancient porcelain jars, bronzes, carvings in bamboo, jars cut out of the jade stone just mentioned, and a variety of other things of a like description. Some large silk shops were observed as I passed along; and judging from the number of people who wear this article here, these shops must have a thriving trade. Everything, indeed, which met the eye stamped the city of Hangchow-foo as a place of great wealth and luxury. Then, as usual in all Chinese towns which I have visited, there were a vast number of tea and eating houses for the middle classes and the poor. They did not seem to lack customers; for they were all crowded with hundreds



of the natives, who, for a few cash or *taen* can make a healthy and substantial meal.

Besides the mandarins, merchants, shop-keepers, and common labourers,—the city contains a large manufacturing population. Silk is the staple article of manufacture. Du-Halde estimates the number engaged in this operation at sixty thousand.

When we got about half way through the city, the chairmen set me down, and informed me that they went no farther. I got out, and looked around for my servants, from whom I expected an explanation; for I had understood that the chairmen had been paid to take me the whole way through. My servants, however, were nowhere to be seen. I was now in a dilemma,—and did not see my way out of it. Much to my surprise and pleasure, however, another chair was brought me, and I was informed that I was to proceed in it. I now understood how the business had been managed. The innkeeper from whom the chair had been hired had agreed to take me the whole way across, and had intrusted the first bearers with a sum of money sufficient to hire another chair for the second stage of the journey. Part of this sum, however, had been spent by them in tea and tobacco as we came along, and the second bearers could not be induced to take me on for the sum which was left. A brawl now ensued between the two sets of chairmen which was noisy enough; but as such things are quite common in China, it seemed, fortunately for me, to attract but little notice.

"Take things coolly, and never lose temper," should be the watchword of every one who attempts to travel in China. This is always the best way,—for the fact is, we cannot comprehend this wonderful people. I acted on this principle, not without some difficulty, in this instance:—and at last matters were arranged by my promising to make up the difference in the amount of the cash when we arrived at the end of our stage.

The distance from the basin of the Grand Canal to the seaport on the opposite side is 23 or 30 *le*,—between five and six miles. After leaving the city behind us, we passed through a pretty, undulating country for about two miles, and then entered the town of Kan-tu. This place is built along the banks of the Tien-tang-kiang river, which here, or a little below this, falls into the Bay of Hangchow.

This noble river has its sources far away amongst the mountains to the westward. One of its branches rises amongst the green-tea hills of Hwuy-chow,—another near to the town of Changsan, on the borders of Kiangsee,—and a third, on the northern side of the Bohea Mountains. These streams unite in their course to the eastward,—and passing within a short distance of Hangchow, fall into the bay of the same name. All the green and black teas destined for the foreign merchant at Shanghai are brought down this river. At Hangchow they are transhipped from the river boat into those which ply down the Grand Canal.

The importance of Hangchow-foo in a mercantile point of view, therefore, is very great. All goods from the south and westward must of necessity pass through this town on their way to the large and populous districts about Soo-chow, Sungkiang, and Shanghai. In the same manner, all foreign imports, and the productions of the low countries, such as silk and cotton, in going to the southward and westward, must pass through Hangchow-foo. It, therefore, appears to be like a great gate on a public highway, through which nothing can pass or repass without the consent and cognizance of the authorities.

The power which this place gives the Chinese Mandarins over our imports and exports through Shanghai is very great; and hence complaints of stoppages and illegal charges, or *squeezes*, have not been unfrequent. The day cannot be far distant when we shall be allowed to trade and travel in China as in other countries,—when all the foolish regulations regarding boundary lines shall be swept away; but in the event of these changes being brought about gradually, it might be a question whether our Government should not endeavour to open the city of Hangchow-foo,—or, at all events, have a Consular Agent there for the protection of our trade.

R.F.

## OUR WEEKLY GOSSIP.

THE genius which, for want of a proper means of making itself known, once lay neglected in all the nooks and corners of the world, is no longer denied a voice. At the font of type a new baptism may be found by all who seek it with true earnestness of spirit. No "gem of purest ray serene" need now lie buried in "the dark unfathomed caves" of the unknown,—the flower does itself a needless injustice that consents "to blush unseen, and waste its sweetness on the desert air," as in the day when printing presses were not. The race of modern prophets and projectors can at least command an audience,—and men who are born to set the times right have the comfort of knowing that if they continue "out of joint" it is not because of the non-revelation of the wisdom that is in them. We have before us the printed programme of an inspiration which undertakes to solve most of the social problems of the day—converting all its "incommodities" into gold, both moral and material. This sheet is headed "A Good Time coming; or, an Offer to the British People, by one of her Sons." In seven material points the author states it to be his belief, that he can correct the social machine, to the multiplication of important results,—and he holds it to be matter of conscience that he should no longer hide his light under a bushel. The first of the benefits which he conceives himself capable of conferring on his kind, is, that of "an improved rat-trap, which shall never require the care or the trouble of setting." If the reader suspects a dull joke here, he does great injustice to this inventive genius, who is as much in earnest as a maker of rat-traps can be. His second discovery goes to the question of drainage,—which in his hands is a matter rather easier to effect, it would seem, than to leave alone. His third offers, if anybody has the least wish for it, to "call into existence and create a new motive power" which shall make all existing powers ridiculous for their inefficiency,—his fourth proposal is to make men "walk on the wings of the wind." His fifth is somewhat inconsistent with itself. It assumes to make shipwrecks impossible,—and offers a plan of Lifters for raising vessels sunk at sea. His sixth undertakes to feed the world from the stores of the sea,—and his seventh propounds a scheme of universal irrigation. We do not think the scale of the projector's benefits is well kept. Such marvels should scarcely have a new and improved rat-trap in the van. The advertiser hints that if his countrymen fail to accept him as a conjuror, he will expatriate himself. He prints his name and address boldly to his pamphlet,—but we are afraid to copy them (for obvious reasons) into our columns.

The daily papers have recorded the sudden death, at Brighton, of Sir Felix Booth, who owed his baronetcy, and his right to a record in such columns as ours, to one of those acts of munificence which have made the title of British merchant illustrious over the world. The title, with its remainder over to the collateral branch, so that the record might not die with him,—was the fitting recognition of a pecuniary contribution to the cause of science such as has rarely been made by a private individual. Our readers will not need reminding how, when the Government hesitated on the path of Arctic discovery, Sir Felix Booth presented Capt. James Ross with a sum of 20,000*l.* to enable him to fit out a Polar Expedition.

The metropolitan committee for the establishment of evening classes on the plans of the Rev. C. Mackenzie, have published a first report of their proceedings. They state that the various classes have now been open for three terms; and that, in spite of the obstacles which always more or less stand in the way of a new scheme, such an amount of success has been realized as to warrant the hope that these Evening Colleges—as they may without impropriety be called—may become permanent institutions. The chief obstacle to their more complete prosperity is, the want of greater publicity:—a want which we have pleasure in meeting to the extent of our circle of readers. The thousands of half-educated young men in London cannot be too often reminded that in these evening classes they can pursue, at a mere nominal cost, a course of study analogous to the curriculum of a university.

We have received the following from a well-known hand.—

Will the correspondent of the *Notes and Queries* whose pretty epigram appears copied into your *Athenæum* of Saturday last, accept the following as a stop-gap, pending his discovery of the Latin original?—

*In Capidinem flentem.*

En lacrymosus Amor! Fidum quia perdidit arcum

Vapulat! Exultans Cœlia tela tenet.

Ast illam potuitne Puer donare sagittis?—

Subrisit.—Matrem credidit esse suam.

*Apophoreta.*

We notice the formation of a society having for its object the organization of means whereby the corpses of the dead may be reduced to ashes by fire, instead of the usual mode of sepulture—under such new forms as the requirements of modern life and modern feelings shall prescribe. There is a sentiment in the movement,—as there is one opposed to it; but it is an argument stronger than sentiment which is operating to suggest this change of practice. The long-neglected abominations of the London burial-grounds—by whose means the grave is made to feed itself, and the legend of the vampire is reversed—are turning men's thoughts back upon the ancient method. The new association has issued a prospectus of its objects and its plans.

Of the many philanthropic institutions which at this period of the year put forth their appeals to public charity, there is one which deserves a word of notice. The Female Philanthropic Society, Manor Hall, Little Chelsea, is an institution for the reception of such penitents as have served out a term of imprisonment—of those who have been discharged from service on suspicion of dishonesty but without prosecution—and of the ignorant and destitute who cannot obtain a living and are in circumstances of great temptation. It was founded in 1822 by Miss Neave, with the assistance and encouragement of Elizabeth Fry. Since then it has received within its protecting walls 750 of these outcasts; 300 of whom have been placed out in respectable service,—many have been restored to their friends and families, and are now doing well—the sick have been sent to hospitals. Generally speaking, all who have been admitted into the house have been suitably provided for. The removal of the Philanthropic Institution from St. George's Fields leaves this society alone in that neighbourhood of London for the reception of such inmates. At best miserably inadequate to the pressing demands on its accommodation, its limited action is yet further crippled, we understand, by the failure of means.

From a correspondent well known to us we have the following:—"Is it generally understood that the Gregorian elimination of ten days from the Calendar was insufficient, and that to bring back the commencement of the year to agreement with the vulgar era twelve ought to have been struck out:—that, in short, the current year 1850 commenced on Dec. 30, 1849?"

The following interesting piece of intelligence coming from a party well-informed, in Paris, has been communicated to us:—"I hasten to inform you," says the writer, "that, at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs here, they are getting up a treaty (it is in a state of great forwardness) which will effect the purpose of international copyright. The way they propose to deal with the question of the stock in hand of reprints, is to stamp all that exist at present, and to forbid the reprinting of any others. Whether the treaty is between England and France only, or whether it is to be general, I know not; but the draft of the treaty was communicated a few days ago to a person whom I know. Baudry and Galignani are already resigned to it." What is wanted, as our informant observes, is a reciprocal movement over here, in order that whilst the thing is doing it may be done effectually. This is absolutely necessary, because whilst the French copyright law relates to books exclusively, ours comprises music, engravings, sculpture, &c.—which fact renders the question more complicated and difficult to handle.

We see announced in the foreign correspondence of the *Daily News*, the death of the Danish poet Ehlerschlager. The fact is announced without any



equipment, and we have as yet no intelligence of our own on the subject.

The following bits of Norwegian literary gossip have been furnished to us by a distinguished writer from that country, now visiting England. There exists an ancient and very curious Norwegian (commonly, but wrongly, called Icelandic) MS., in a handwriting of from about 1230-1250, containing translations of the well-known '*Lais de Marie de France*.' The translations are expressly said to have been made by order of King Hakon IV., (1217-1263); and were no doubt intended for the benefit of those ladies and gentlemen at the court who did not understand French, in which language the poems themselves were sang, with accompaniments on organs, harps, fiddles, &c., as it is stated in this version. On comparing these translations with the edition of Roquefort, it appears that the text given by him has also formed the original of the Norwegian translation; which, however, is not at all stiff and servile, but easy and very elegant. It is, moreover, singular that the Norwegian translation never mentions Marie; in that place in which she names herself—Roquefort's edition—a circumscription is used in the Norwegian. It is a remarkable fact, that this translation, although not a few leaves are wanting, contains more *lais* than those known to De la Rue, or edited by Roquefort, and it may thus perhaps afford a good clue towards making the collection complete. One of those *lais*, wanting in Roquefort, is the '*Lai of Knight Down*,' who rode in one day from Southampton to Edinburgh, in order to win the heart of a fastidious lady residing there; another is that of the '*Strand*,' relating to some incident in the life of William the Conqueror. The MS., which in the beginning of the fourteenth century belonged to a well-known Norwegian nobleman, was, as it will appear, written during the lifetime of Marie de France, herself, or at least during the lifetime of King Henry the Third of England, to whom she dedicates her work. Afterwards the MS., through 'various causes,' came to Sweden, where it now belongs to the Library of Upsala. A very accurate edition is, however, preparing, or perhaps, already completed, at Christiania, by Messrs. Keyser and Unzer. This edition contains, also, a very learned apparatus of notes and literary and historical remarks. The title will be '*Strengleikar* or '*Ljotabók*.'

Another curious Norwegian book which is to be soon published in Christiania, is the Norwegian translation of the well-known tale of Charlemagne and his journey to the Holy Land. It has been doubted whether this tale existed in English or not. The doubt is solved by a notice in the Norwegian MS., which says,

"This tale was found written and told in English by Lord Biarni Erlingsson, of Blakrey, (Bernierius Erlingi de Berkereye, as he is styled in some records in Rymer about 1290-91), during his residence in Scotland the next winter after the death of King Alexander (III.), who was succeeded in the reign by his grand daughter Margaret, the daughter of King Eric of Norway. Lord Biarni was sent thither to secure and confirm the reign under the maiden. And that the tale might be more intelligible, and that people might have more enjoyment and profit by it, Lord Biarni had it translated from English into Norwegian."

In the old town of Setubal, in Portugal, the remains of ancient grandeur—columns, coins, statues, inscriptions—are very numerous; but, unfortunately, they are surrounded; it is said, by a race without culture, who know nothing of their value. For the investigation, classification, and care of these treasures, an archaeological society has just been formed in the town. The King-consort being its patron, and the Duke of Palmella its first president.

\* In another *Lai*, also given by Roquefort, the Norwegian version speaks of the *lanetic*, called '*russind*' in French, and '*rusind*' in English.

BRITISH INSTITUTION, Pall Mall. The GALLERY for the EXHIBITION and SALE of the WORKS of BRITISH ARTISTS is OPEN DAILY, from Ten till Five.—Admission, 1s. Catalogue, 1s. GEORGE NICOL, Secretary.

THE MUSE, RE-OPENED AT THE EGYPTIAN HALL, PICCADILLY. The new and splendid MOVING PANORAMA of the Nile, showing all the stupendous Works of Antiquity on its banks, from Cairo the capital of Egypt to the Second Cataract in Nubia. Painted by Henry Warren and James Fahey, from drawings made by Joseph Bonomi during many years' residence there. —Morning 7; Evening 9 o'clock. Stalls 2s. Pitt 2s. Gallery 1s.

THE WINTER EXHIBITION OF WATER-COLOUR DRAWINGS AND SKETCHES IN OILS, comprising Works by the most eminent living Artists, is OPEN from Ten till Duck daily. Admission including Catalogue, 1s.; Season Tickets, 5s. each. A cabinet collection of real gems of British Art.—Times, Dec. 21. 129, Regent Street. J. L. GRUNDY, Manager.

ROYAL POLYTECHNIC INSTITUTION. The First of a Series of ILLUSTRATED LECTURES, by Dr. Baedeker, on the PHILOSOPHY of SCIENTIFIC RECREATION. Daily at Two o'clock, and in the Evenings at Eight.—AN ENTIRELY NEW SET OF DISSOLVING VIEWS of LONDON in the SIXTEENTH CENTURY and AS IT NOW IS, with a Descriptive Lecture, Daily at Half-past Four, and in the Evenings at a Quarter to Ten.—THE VIEWS of ROME, including New Views of the Interior and Exterior of ST. PETER'S, with DIORAMIC EFFECTS, are shown Daily at One o'clock.—LECTURES on CHEMISTRY, with brilliant Experiments, by Mr. Ashley.—Experiments with the DIVING BELLS.—NEW EXHIBITION of CHROMATOPHES.—THE MAGICAL VERY MODELS, &c. EXPLAINED.—Admission, 1s.; Schools, half-price.

## SOCIETIES

ENTOMOLOGICAL.—Jan. 23. Anniversary Meeting.—G. R. Waterhouse, Esq., President, in the chair.—Messrs. Waterhouse, Yurrell and Douglas were respectively re-elected President, Treasurer and Secretary; and Mr. Stainton was elected Secretary in the room of the late Mr. E. Doubleday. Messrs. Westwood, Parry, Dallas, and Janson were elected into the Council, in the room of Messrs. E. Doubleday, Evans, Walton, and Weir.—The Treasurer made his report.—The President delivered an address, in which he commented on the increased spirit of activity that was visible among the members in exhibiting species new to our Fauna, and long series of variable species, by which species hitherto considered distinct were often proved to be only varieties. He adverted to the great addition to the Members of the Society, arising from the new class of Subscribers. He stated that the concluding Part of the fifth Volume of the Society's Transactions was on the table, and that this part contained an index to the whole five volumes.—it being intended to commence a New Series with the next party and that the price of the first four volumes having been considerably reduced, he hoped that many who had not entire copies of the Transactions would be induced to complete their series. In conclusion, he made a few remarks on the heavy loss which the Society had sustained by the death of Mr. E. Doubleday.

INSTITUTION OF CIVIL ENGINEERS.—Jan. 29.—W. Cubitt, Esq., President in the chair.—The discussion was renewed on the Rev. Mr. Chutterbuck's paper, 'On the Alternations and Depressions in the Chalk Water Level under London.' It was contended, that the water in the upper districts of the chalk accumulated in a proportion increasing with the distance from the river or vent, and fell off in a corresponding ratio during its periodical exhaustion, which usually took place between April and November of each year. This alternation of level, which in the upper districts exceeded fifty feet in perpendicular height, would be represented by a line from the lowest vent, rising at an angle to the highest point saturated with infiltrated water. This had been proved by constant observation on wells at given periods throughout a certain district; all the springs forming the river proceeded from that source. From these and other positions, it was argued, that if water be discharged from a shaft in the chalk by a power not capable of entirely exhausting it, the rapidity of the reduction of the level would gradually decrease, until it was exactly balanced by that of the supply. This would naturally produce a gradually extending depression of the water in the strata for some distance around; and it was shown to have been the effect produced by pumping from an experimental well in Bushy Meadows in August and September 1840.—It was urged that the real question to be determined was, whether a supply of water for London could be obtained from the deep springs in the sand or chalk. Sections and diagrams were exhibited, to show, by the former, that the supposed basin under London was not as had been shown by geologists, and by the latter, that from July 1837 to December 1840 there had been a gradual depression of full fifty feet in the water of the sand-springs under London; and in consequence of this serious action several of the wells had become tidal in some localities, and the water was rendered saline.

At the termination of the discussion, the attention of the members was directed to a case of legislative interference whereby the free exercise of the professional skill of the members of the Institution was, it was said, unwarrantably trammelled, and the public service materially interfered with. The introduction of wrought iron instead of cast iron into railway

bridges was a recent invention of great value, and of which the most celebrated examples were the Conway and Britannia Bridges. The same executive authority which had pronounced the erection of these two bridges to be impracticable, had recently declared that a railway bridge constructed on a similar principle, and of identical materials, was insufficient in strength, although it was much stronger, in proportion to its possible load, than either the Conway or the Britannia; and infinitely stronger than any of the east-iron girder bridges which had for years adequately performed the public service, and had been by the same authority pronounced to be perfectly safe. The public had, thus, already been for a month deprived of the use of an important line of railway by the application of an antiquated formula to a modern invention. For these reasons, it was considered that the members had a right to request the interference of the Council on the behalf of the profession at large; and they were urged to take such steps as appeared desirable for allowing the free development of engineering talent, and, in the words of the Report of a recent Royal Commission, removing from 'a subject yet so novel and so rapidly progressive any legislative enactments with respect to the forms and proportions of the iron structures' of railways, which could not fail to be 'highly inexpedient.' This proposition was received with acclamation.

Mr. E. Hopkins's great Geological Sections of the Three Branches of the Andes were exhibited in the library. They showed about 260 miles, from west to east, from Choco to the River Meta, in the eastern flanks of the eastern branch of the Andes.

ROYAL INSTITUTION.—Jan. 25.—W. Pole, Esq., V.P., in the chair. Prof. Brande, 'On the Theory and Practice of the Manufacture of Sugar.' The Professor commenced by succinctly noticing the two types of the saccharine principle:—Cane-sugar, and Grape-sugar. He adverted to the sugar-cane, the beet-root, the maple, the maize, and the palm, as the chief sources of the former; and stated that the latter was found in the juices of fruits—in honey,—and that it constitutes the sweetness of malt. The formula for cane-sugar is  $C_{12}H_{22}O_{11}$ , for grape-sugar,  $C_{12}H_{24}O_{14}$ . The ready and characteristic crystallization of cane-sugar was contrasted with the tardily formed and obscure crystals of the grape-sugar; and the exclusive property of grape-sugar to reduce copper from its salts was experimentally exhibited. Cane-sugar in its raw state is a peculiarly unstable substance, and every decomposition it undergoes deteriorates its qualities. Therefore, the great object of the sugar-refiner is to remove impurities without sacrificing in the process the material of the loaf-sugar which he manufactures. Heat is an indispensable agent for removing these impurities. A model of a sugar-boiler, and a boiler itself, with its air-pump and steam-pipes, in actual operation, were exhibited in order to show the method of boiling sugar *in vacuo*. The mode of taking samples without admitting air was explained. Extraneous substances being thus separated by boiling, the albumen in blood and the alkaline properties of lime were formerly employed,—the one to entangle, the other to neutralize, the thick and acid impurities and ultimately to separate them from the syrup; and charcoal was used to detach colouring matter. The new process by Dr. Scofield dispenses with the use of lime and of blood. It is based on the affinity of oxide of lead for colouring matters, as well as for the melassic and other acids, all of which have to be removed from the syrup. Dr. Scofield heats the syrup to 180° Fahr., and then mixes it with subacetate of lead,—a bulky precipitate of melassate of lead is formed, and the syrup, more or less contaminated with lead, passes through the filter. The lead is then separated in the form of an insoluble sulphite by a current of sulphurous acid gas sent through the syrup. After the removal of the metal has been proved by the test of sulphuretted hydrogen, chalk is added to neutralize the acetic acid, and then the syrup is thus sent to the vacuum pan for granulation. Returning to the precipitate in the filter, Mr. Brande showed how the melassic acid might be separated from it by solution in alcohol and subsequent precipitation by sulphurous acid. In conclusion, he noticed the recently adopted use of



sugar ground with water in place of clay to wash out the few remaining impurities which would otherwise tinge the colour of the lower part of the sugar loaf.

**SOCIETY OF ARTS.**—Jan. 16.—W. Tooke, Esq. in the chair.—Mr. Walls read a paper 'On California, its History and Prospects,' being the result of a recent visit to that country by Mr. Cross.—On the table were placed a few specimens of Californian gold, one of which was a large lump, weighing almost 7 lb., being the largest ever imported into England in a pure native state, and the property of Mr. Cross.—A few specimens were also exhibited by Prof. Tennant.

Mr. Walls commenced by stating the extent of the country and its population, which, including the recent accessions, amounted at the present time to 90,000 people. The country along the sea-coast is healthy; but fever is occasionally prevalent in the interior. After describing the situation of some of the principal stations, he proceeded to describe the valley of San Joachim, its extent and boundaries, every spot in which is stated to have produced gold of 20 carats fine. Several extracts from various sources were briefly alluded to in the paper; and from these the following matters were collected. Two young men had discovered gold in a place 500 miles north of San Joachim, and described their operations as having been attended with considerable success, having made in their best day 400 dollars, in their worst 150 dollars. As to the moral condition of the people, many of them became rich very quickly; but some expended their gains in profligacy and dissipation, so that the poorer class was fast increasing. The annual exports of gold from this country, according to Mr. Bryant's work on California, amounted to between 100 and 200 million dollars. Emigrants, as they arrived, passed beyond into the country, and were doing well. The general health of the community was excellent. The disparity of the produce of labour in various parts sometimes occasioned considerable confusion.

Mr. Tennant stated that the specimen of gold exhibited by Mr. Walls was evidently a water-worn fragment. The gold is usually found in small grains, which are obtained by washing the alluvial soil. He also exhibited a specimen of gold which at the time he had purchased it (about two months before) was the finest specimen of pure native gold he had seen; it contained 92 per cent. of pure metal. A reason he had for purchasing the specimen was, because it had some of the alluvial soil attached to it; and in that soil he imagined that one or two small diamonds might be detected, and was most anxious to ascertain that fact, as he had stated to the Society last session, in a paper, that diamonds and other precious stones might be found in the gold districts of California; and that such gems are being thrown aside, although the refuse diamonds sold to the lapidary to be broken up are worth 50*l.* per ounce, while gold is not worth more than 3*l.* 15*s.* He had not, however, been able to discover any diamond; but, on examining the soil with the microscope, he had detected some small crystals of garnet, two grains of platinum, and several of quartz, &c. In looking over a quantity of other gold specimens he had found quartz in great abundance, and it had evidently formed the original matrix of the gold. He next called attention to the fact, that gold is not generally found in the position in which it was originally deposited.

Jan. 23.—J. Walker, Esq. in the chair.—On Artificial Breakwaters, and the Principles which govern their Construction, by Mr. A. G. Findlay.—This paper commenced by stating that it was not wished to pronounce on the feasibility or impracticability of any of the numerous plans which have from time to time been proposed for the construction of breakwaters, but to submit some facts, drawn from natural effects, showing the forces to which such structures must be subjected. The paper, therefore, was naturally divided into two parts:—the first, which related to the action of the waves, and its collateral subjects; and the second,—which was postponed for a future evening, and which will relate to the various forms that have been given to sea-barriers, and the history of the progress of those now in existence. The principal difficulty in establishing a fixed breakwater was shown to be, the enormous force of the

waves. The form and nature of sea-waves generally were alluded to, and Mr. Scott Russell's system was described. Of the dynamic force exerted by sea-waves, it was stated that their greatest force was at the crest of the wave before it breaks; and its power in raising itself was measured by a number of facts. At Warberg, in Norway, it rose 400 ft., January 21, 1820: on the coast of Cornwall, it rose 300 ft. in 1843. Other examples, as the singular "souffleur" at the Mauritius, &c., were cited, showing that the waves have raised a column of water equivalent to a pressure of 3 to 5 tons per square foot; a result in accordance with Mr. T. Stevenson's observations with the marine dynamometer,—which was described. It was shown by a table that the velocity of waves was dependent on their length; that waves of 300 to 400 ft. in length from crest to crest, travelled with a velocity of 20 to 27½ miles an hour, and this whether they were 5 ft. or 54 ft. in total height; this velocity alone, should they become primary waves of translation, would give them a great percussive force. That waves travel very great distances was instanced by several facts. That they are raised by distant hurricanes and gales was noticed by their being felt simultaneously at St. Helena and Ascension, though 600 miles apart; and opinions quoted, that these rollers, or ground-swell, at times originated near Cape Horn, 3,000 miles distant; rendering it more than probable that tropical hurricanes will send storm-waves to our own shores. That it was not only at their surface that waves exerted great power, but that they reach in their action to the depth of eight fathoms and upwards, was shown by the operations for the recovery of the treasure from H.M.S. Thetis, which was wrecked and sunk at Cape Frio, Brazil, in 1831. The diving-bell was swung 4 ft. or 5 ft. laterally, in calm weather in these operations, much increasing their danger. Besides this, the guns and treasure were found covered by masses of rock of from 30 to 50 tons weight, moved by the action of the water, and weighed or turned over in the second operations by Capt. De Roos. From these facts, it was considered that floating breakwaters generally were not adapted to combat with the waves. Admiral Tayler's plan of timber frame-work sections,—Capt. Grove's iron cylinders with an attached grating; Capt. Pringle's frame, moored by its lower edge,—Capt. A. Sleight's floating sea-barrier,—Mr. Smith's plan, as submitted to the Society, were mentioned; and it was considered that the calculations of their resistance were understated,—that Admiral Tayler's section, instead of 25 tons' strain, might, if the waves exerted only one-third of their force as known, have to withstand upwards of 1,000 tons. This probably caused the failure of Admiral Tayler's experiment at Brighton, and Capt. Groves' at Dover. Major Parly's principle of the trumpet-mouth sea-weed was compared with the *fucus giganteus* of Dr. Solander, abundant on the Patagonian and Fuegian coasts, and 360 ft. in length, which is carried under water in currents, and torn up, and chokes all the bays during storms. The motion of shingle, an important consideration in establishing breakwaters, was shown to be governed by the direction in which the surf strikes the shore, and this is dependent on the direction of the wind. This, from fifteen years' observation by M. Nell de Bréauté, at Dieppe, was shown to be in the ratio of 229 days from western quarters to 132 days from eastern quarters, giving that preponderance to its eastward progress. The mode in which it was arranged on the sloping beach in the form of a paraboloidal curve, was explained. Sand, a more powerful agent than shingle in changing the character of a coast, was stated to be deposited by currents, thus rendering the eastern parts of the English Channel much more embarrassed by them than the western portion. The Goodwin Sands were cited as examples of the extent of accumulation and of the changeable character of sand deposits. The diagrams exhibited showed the progress of these alterations, and were drawn from perhaps the only authentic history we possess of the changeable character of a quicksand. The different periods, from Graeme Spencer's survey in 1795 down to Capt. Bullock's in 1850, showed that they had shifted miles in their position and area; evidently refuting the practicability of any principle which would apply to fixing them, and rendering them available more perfectly for breakwater pur-

poses, as was proposed by Capt. Vetch, R.E., to the Royal Commission, 1845.

#### MEETINGS FOR THE ENSUING WEEK.

- MON. Pathological, 8.
- British Architects, 8.
- Chemical, 8.
- Entomological, 8.
- TUES. Civil Engineers, 8.—Mr. W. T. Doyne 'On the Theory of Transverse Strain, with Rules for Calculating and Constructing the Strength of Cast Iron Beams of different forms.'
- Linnean, 8.
- WED. Society of Arts, 8.
- Geological, half-past 8.—Sir R. Murchison 'On Observations on Volcanic Phenomena in the Papal States and adjoining parts of Italy.'
- London Institution, 7.—Soirée.—Mr. Weld 'On Arctic Expeditions.'
- THURS. Royal, half-past 8.
- Zoological, 3.—General Business.
- Royal Academy, 8.—Architecture.
- Antiquaries, 8.
- FRI. Royal Institution, half-past 8.—Prof. Cowper 'On the Construction of Membranous Tubular Bridges.'
- Philological, 8.
- Astronomical, 3.—Anniversary.

#### FINE ARTS

Notices of some of the Illuminated Manuscripts contained in the "Additional" Collection in the British Museum.

[Second Notice.]

Nos. 15,254, 5, 6, 7, 8, are, a splendid copy of the whole Scriptures, comprised in five large folio volumes. The handwriting is very large and fine, and there is much ornamental penmanship in red, blue, and green inks. The style of this, though good, falls far below that of many of the English manuscripts,—and yet more below that of the Italian. The only illumination in these volumes is the frontispiece to the first,—a splendid page; but which has received much ill usage, many of the figures being almost obliterated. Seven medallions on the right-hand side exhibit the works of Creation; and these are supported by six angels, standing one above the other, very fairly executed, with pleasing features, but with intensely red hair. On the left side are two kings, robed and crowned, and a queen; but scarcely more than the outline remaining. At the foot, two bishops and two ecclesiastics are standing; and the delicate finish of these makes us regret that the whole picture has not been well preserved. It is Flemish work, probably of the fifteenth century,—and is from the Sussex collection.

No. 15,259 is also a Latin Bible of the largest folio, but closely written. It is highly decorated, and is thoroughly Flemish,—the borders and accessories very neatly finished, and often pleasing, while the figures present the homeliest characteristics, and in many instances very rude drawing. The frontispiece represents the Creation, in a series of small pictures. In one compartment the Creator, with compasses, is carefully marking out the three divisions of the earth on a globe. In the next he has a hammer in his hand, striking at a huge ball. In the Temptation we have a veritable serpent, but with a female head. The subjects from subsequent Scripture history are often quite ludicrous. We have Eve, a homely figure, spinning with the distaff; and Adam, with a three-cornered spade, in dress and bearing greatly resembling a modern "navvy." In the Translation of Elijah we find a cart, not much unlike a wheelbarrow, but drawn by two stout Flanders horses, with scarlet hangings,—who, far from mounting upward, are running with all their might into the river. The commencement of Chronicles affords a delectable picture:—an old man, comfortably wrapped in sheet and coverlid, his head resting on a pillow, while, from his wide-open mouth springs a huge tree with five branches and a little king perched on each. The Book of Judith presents us with Holofernes headless in his bed, upon which the artist has liberally bestowed splashes of vermilion, while Judith, with hair and mantle to match, stands contemplating with much satisfaction the grim head she holds in her hands. We have a delectable figure of Sathanas in Job,—black and yellow in the upper part, and the lower limbs in colour and form greatly resembling a boiled lobster. Almost the next picture to this presents, however, a graceful contrast. This is the frontispiece to the Canticles:—a female figure wrapped in a large green veil sitting disconsolately with her hand to her eyes, in a kind of porch. A bright beam of sunlight darts from the sky on a small ruby heart that hangs from her neck, and the languid, woe-begone expression of the half



reclining figure is very graceful. The background, as usual, is wretched—the poor artist, who had evidently never seen a mountain, having piled some half-dozen huge green pillows one on the other. The pictures of the four Evangelists and their emblems are most ludicrous. St. Mark's lion has a head as round as a ball, and his mane is hung to his chin; even the ox of St. Luke has the head of a rabbit. The introductory picture to the Epistle to the Romans presents us with St. Paul, sorely affrighted, clutching at the mane of his steed—a decidedly cream colour, indeed almost pink, with terribly gouty legs and a more than turnspit length of back—which is stumbling over a huge stone. But the climax is, the illustration of the Apocalypse. St. John staring, with uplifted hands, as well he might, at the beast with seven heads:—a most delectable monster, having seven yellow heads closely joined together, with goggle eyes, red tongues hanging out, and surrounded by a *chevaux-de-frise* of sharp horns. "The Beast" has a huge bloated lilac body, armed all over with huge prickles,—and legs like an elephant, duly garnished with enormous claws. For the ludicrously grotesque we think this picture is almost unrivalled; and to those who remember the outrageous play of fancy—may we not rather say whim—indulged in by the Flemish illuminators on such subjects, this is indeed saying much. The accessories of this Bible are, however, well worth notice. The borders are almost identical with those of the 'Talbot Book,' in the Royal Collection; but the flowers, which are beautifully finished, are in greater variety. We have the corn-bottle, the thistle, the larkspur; and some beautiful heartsease, together with the light serpentine pen-work relieved with gold dots, which, although rather stiff, displays much variety.

No. 15,260 is a handsome quarto volume, containing the Breviary. It is of Italian art, and bears the date of 1451. It was evidently executed for a cardinal; whose red hat surmounts the shield, the bearings of which have unfortunately been painted out. This is a most beautiful volume, both for penmanship and for exquisitely painted borders; but the figures are in rather an inferior style of Art. We, however, scarcely noticed the pictures, which are but few, as our eye passed along page after page adorned with the most delicate patterns drawn in red or deep blue ink,—or the still more beautiful wreaths of flowers and arabesques, filled in with pen-work so fine that at first sight it appears like a light shadow. The volume begins with the Almanac, and on the top of each page are flowers delicately painted and filled in with fine pen-work. The first page of the service presents a fine arabesque border, filled in with bright gold spots. The initial B is beautifully formed of flowers on a gold ground, and incloses a double picture of King David, delicately executed,—in the one, keeping his sheep,—in the other, writing the Psalms. On the side is a graceful medallion of St. Catherine with her palm, and her left hand resting on her wheel. Throughout the Psalter an ornamented border, exquisitely executed with the pen, goes down the outer margin, commencing with a graceful flower at top, and ending below the writing with a similar one. These borders are not pen flourishes—such as the reader acquainted with the marvels of calligraphy of the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries has been accustomed to see,—but beautiful pen drawing, firm and bold in the outline, and finished with most delicate touches. There are full two hundred of these; and it is an interesting task to observe how closely the general character is preserved, while the minor details are so constantly varied. In the second frontispiece, the flowers are on a rich gold pattern resembling fine mosaic,—a ground which we do not recollect having before seen. The flowers are in all cases beautifully painted,—and, softened off by the pen-work, seem almost raised from the page. On the last leaf is most appropriately inscribed, "explicit feliciter Breviarium;" and well may we imagine the delight of the artist as he contemplated his beautiful finished work. In regard to the pen drawing, it far surpasses any manuscript that we have hitherto seen; and we are informed on competent authority that it is in this respect the most beautiful in the whole collection. This Breviary was also purchased from the executors of the Duke of Sussex.

No. 15,265, from the same collection, is a small

volume entitled 'Hore Beate Virginis,' and is of very early Italian art. In the first picture, the Annunciation, the attitudes of the figures are solemn and graceful and the draperies are excellent. All the pictures are on separate leaves, and are painted on bright gold grounds. Like all of the Giotto school, they have little beauty of feature, but much ease and dignity of bearing. The backgrounds here are very bad; and in the painting of our Saviour entering Jerusalem there are trees the veriest green mops that a child with his box of penny colours could have daubed. The accessories are worthy of notice: for it is strange to think that while even our Saxon illuminations in this respect display much neatness, and those of the twelfth and thirteenth centuries are often really beautiful, this volume, though rather later, gives us nothing more than ill-formed stars, rude festoons, and large gold spots which are not even round; and yet, ere the close of this century,—the fourteenth,—we find Italian illuminations with the most delicate initials, and borders and penmanship of singular beauty.

No. 15,267 is, also, a book of 'Hours,' of Ghent manufacture, and amusing for its grotesque figures and still more grotesque borders. We should think it a good specimen of the common style of the fifteenth century, when similar books were manufactured literally by hundreds. There are much yellow chrome and vermilion, and much gold stuck about in a very gingerbread style. In the borders we have a dancing bear playing on the bagpipes, a swan exceedingly like a goose, a monkey in a blue hat, a mermaid with a blue tail, a very Dutch built dragon, a stout woman swinging on a bough and liberally displaying a pair of thick legs in blue stockings, and Sathanas himself, with horn and hoof, playing the bagpipes. Singular it is to remark, that while the Flemish school of Art has gained such high renown for its capital painting of animals, the Flemish illuminators are below their contemporaries in this respect. Indeed, even in cases where the human figures have been tolerably drawn and the flower patterns are actually beautiful, the animals, even the most common—oxen, asses, &c.—are the most wretched imitations imaginable.

The next thing that claims our attention is indeed a contrast to the preceding. Nos. 15,270, 1,2,3, 'Johannis Scoti Sententiarum,' and Nos. 15,274-5, 'Decretum Gratiani,'—six splendid folio volumes of beautiful writing, illustrated in a fine style of Italian art of about the close of the fourteenth century. The volumes of Scot, the celebrated logician, are but sparingly illuminated; but the initials are very beautiful, resembling ivory most delicately inlaid on a various coloured ground. Gratian's Decretals present equally beautiful writing, and many illuminations, curious for the illustrations of Middle-age customs which they present, as well as valuable for their beauty and exquisite finish. The text is large and fine, and ornamented with pen-drawing connecting light coloured flowers, and occasionally gold spots. The effect of this is very good, though not to be compared with the beautiful pen-drawings of No. 15,260. The frontispiece to the first volume is rather formal. It displays at the top a large picture, exquisitely finished, representing the Pope in Consistory. He wears the triple crown and a scarlet robe, and is a rather young man, fair complexioned and stout; and in the subsequent pictures, wherever the Pope is introduced, we find the same face:—it is therefore, we have little doubt, a portrait of the then living pontiff. He is seated in a chair of state, with two cardinals and two bishops on his right and four kings on his left. The first of these, with his close crown, probably represents the Emperor of Germany—the three others have the strawberry-leaf crown. At his feet are two scribes writing on their knee; doctors of law on the right of them, and three men, one in the parti-coloured dress of the period, on the left. The two initials beneath have, a monk writing at his desk, and a doctor of laws with an open book. The accessories are very neatly finished, but in strange keeping with the subject; for the ornament between the columns of writing is surmounted by a very pretty goldfinch,—while a handsome cock, but with a green tail, adorns the medallions below. Another has three quails on a golden ground; and there are, besides, a duck and a rabbit. For what purpose these zoological specimens are introduced it would be difficult to say; but a very well executed stag and lion at the foot may

probably have reference to some armorial bearing. The work, in addition to the marginal ornaments, has pictures at the beginning of each book; many of these are very valuable for the artist whose inquiries may have reference to ecclesiastical subjects. As Gratian's Decretals are decisions on the various points of canon law, almost every ecclesiastical function comes before us in these illuminations. We have the bishop on his death bed, the chapter choosing his successor, and the induction. There are also the contract, and the marriage, and the divorce; the making the will, the endowing the Church; and under the title "simony" is a very characteristic picture,—a gentleman and lady apparently being received at the convent door by a company of monks. The superior is respectfully bowing, and receiving a large money-bag from the gentleman; while two monks behind him are caressing a very little boy, for whom doubtless the ecclesiastical office is to be kept. There are some pictures of fighting, too:—one is remarkable for its representation of the belligerent bishop of the Middle Ages. He wears a scarlet surcoat, and his miter is most characteristically placed upon his steel cap. Altogether, these fine volumes are worthy much notice.

No. 15,281, also from the Sussex collection, has attracted some attention as King Sigismund's Prayer Book. It is a small quarto, but originally was larger,—for full two inches have been cut off the margin, to the irreparable injury of the beautiful borders. There is an interest, independently of its pictorial beauty, in this volume, arising from the numerous memoranda on the fly leaves. One or two entries in a clerk-like hand may have been made by the king's confessor, but others are most probably by himself,—while some are undoubtedly in the handwriting of his queen, Bona. A rude scrawl on the first leaf records the amount of the Queen's dowry; and as she is here simply termed Bona, this entry is most probably by Sigismund himself. The records of the births of their three eldest children are probably also by him; while the entries of the two younger daughters are in Bona's handwriting, with a memorandum of her mother's birth and death. There is also the signature of Sigismund the Third, the last of the Jagellons. This book, though beautifully executed, has been, we cannot but think, on the whole too highly praised. It is, however, well worthy notice as a fine specimen of elaborate Flemish art. We are aware it has been conjectured that it is by an Italian hand; but the style of the pictures, the faces, even the details of ornament confirm us in the opinion that it is of Flemish or German origin. There are four pictures in separate pages; but the writing, which is very good, displays little ornament. Each line of writing is divided by a line of gold, and three gold lines encircle each page. The initial letters are very neat; they are gold, on various coloured grounds, and these are ornamented with very minute patterns also in gold. The first picture exhibits St. Jerome in a red dress, seated writing; his attendant lion is remarkably well executed, and the effect of a green curtain in the background is good. A beautiful arabesque border on a dead gold ground encircles the page. The second presents us with King Sigismund kneeling; while our Saviour, crowned with thorns, presents the cup and wafer. Many of our readers have doubtless seen this picture in Mr. Westwood's interesting work, 'Palaeographia Sacra.' The border round this picture is exquisite,—but it is half cut away. The third is to us the finest picture,—'Our Lady,' clothed with the sun, and the crescent moon painted dark grey, with a very grim face, under her feet, and Sigismund, kneeling, addressing her. We are surprised that any one, with this picture before him, should doubt that the Prayer-book is German. Our Lady's features strongly resemble those which Albert Dürer assigns her; and she has the abundant (indeed superabundant) tresses which that school always gives her. The heavy, highly ornamented jewelled crown which she wears is another proof; while the two fat little cherubs which are very properly represented as supporting her ponderous diadem look as though they had come out of Dürer's print of 'The Assumption of the Magdalen,'—for their form and features are identical. The chief figure has, however, much sweetness; and the Infant, with his soft blue eyes, laughingly taking a



huge green apple which the mother holds to him, is very pleasing. The finish of this picture is exquisite. The fourth is merely a large blue shield, with an inscription in gold, and supported by two very Dutch-looking angels. With great want of taste, some miserable paintings of saints, on the coarsest drawing-paper, have been bound up with this beautiful volume;—which fell into the possession of the Sobieskis, and became the property of Marie Clementine, wife of the first Pretender, who bequeathed it to her younger son, Cardinal York. After his death, it was purchased for the Duke of Sussex, for 79l.

There are two or three other manuscripts to which, ere we conclude, we may direct our readers' attention.—No. 15,434, a French translation of Seneca, made previously to 1312, exhibiting very early Italian art. There is a curious frontispiece, and the initials display occasionally much spirit. No. 15,477 is deserving of more particular notice. This is an early version of Guido de Colonna on the Trojan War. It was in the Macarthy collection, and presented in 1845 by Mr. Uttersson. While the accessories are in bad style, the pictures, though very singular, have much spirit. They are at the bottom of each page in pen and ink outline, with the colours, which are poor, slightly washed in. The last touches appear to have been made with the pen, and the eyes being thus finished, have a curiously sharp look. The figures, unlike the Byzantine model, which mostly gives an unnatural length, are short and stout—indeed, rather aldermanic in their contours. In the battle scenes the horses are very well executed; but that which most struck us was the architectural perspective, which is excellent. We should think that this manuscript, which cannot be later than the middle of the fourteenth century, may be considered as one of the earliest specimens of strict attention to perspective, and on this account it is well worthy of notice.

With one other specimen we shall conclude. This is No. 15,513, "Missale secundum Rituum Monachorum Congregationis Cassinensis," purchased from Mr. Heitz in 1845;—a splendid specimen of Italian art of the fifteenth century, and belonging, we should think, to a convent dedicated to St. Justina of Padua. In the frontispiece two medallions represent a nun in the Benedictine dress, and a very fine old man with book and crosier. At the foot of the page, the latter person is pouring oil on the head of a young woman who, with streaming golden hair and folded hands, kneels before him. The whole book is highly ornamented, and no mere description can do justice to the borders. These sometimes consist of the richest arabesques in green and blue on a pale clay-coloured ground, or delicate flower wreaths on dead gold, which stand out in exquisite relief. One border is black,—the only one of that colour which we have ever seen; but it throws out the richly coloured arabesques most finely. The finish and veining of some of the leaves and flowers are well worthy notice, as are the grace and elegance with which the flowers are interwoven. The figures scarcely equal the accessories;—they have, evidently, too, been painted by different hands. About the middle of the volume there are two very fine leaves, facing each other, with the illuminations filling the whole page. The one is, the Crucifixion, with St. John and the Virgin on each side. This picture is within an arch, beautifully ornamented in *canaliculi grisei* and it is the outer border of this, that has the black ground. The smaller pictures which surround the principal are, our Lord being crowned with thorns, and bearing his cross;—and beneath, the Entombment. The opposite page has a rich border of dead gold, with strawberries, columbines and jasmine gracefully twining upon it,—a very rich initial letter, and medallions of the Descent of the Spirit. The initial letters that follow are beautiful, and mostly inclose heads of the respective saints. St. Philip and St. James are very fine; St. Peter and St. Paul have the usual traditional features well preserved; St. Michael, a fine figure, holds the scales, as the condemning angel, as well as the knightly spear. But to St. Justina (of Padua, as she is called, to distinguish her from St. Justina of Antioch) the first place is assigned. The page that commences her "office" is beautifully illuminated, and the figures are apparently by a superior hand. A beautiful half-length of the saint, almost miniature size, forms

the initial. She is crowned,—for she was, so says her legend, the daughter of King Vitalicino who dwelt at Padua,—and with her book and palm and uplifted eyes and rich yellow hair, might be taken at the first glance for St. Catharine. Medallions representing the chief circumstances of her legend surround this. At the top she is being anointed; next, on the side, she is taken out of a most un-regal-looking carriage, for it is literally a tilted waggon. In another, she is brought before the Pagan governor; then, an armed man plunges a sword in her breast; and, lastly, at the foot of the page, she lies, still robed in royal purple and wearing the crown, gracefully stretched on a bier with attendant priests around her. A beautiful border of pink and purple flowers most exquisitely finished on a ground of dead gold incloses this splendid page. The succeeding pages are worthy notice; especially a small picture on one representing a company of saints, all bearing palms, and with roses on their brows. The injurious effect,—injurious to the keeping, we mean,—of the advancing classical taste, is strongly shown here; for in the midst of the fine arabesques that inclose the page, we have two satyrs piping joyously. Satyrs and "All Saints!"

We trust that the descriptions which we have here given of a few of the beautiful later additions to the MS. Department of the British Museum will not be without their interest,—both to the artist, who may take many a hint, more especially in the decorative departments of his art, from these interesting remains,—and to the student of the middle ages, who may here not only trace the progress of mediæval art, but behold his forefathers in almost every circumstance of their social life placed vividly by the pencil of the illuminator before him.

**FINE-ART GOSSIP.**—For the following addenda to a paragraph in last week's *Athenæum*, we are indebted to Mr. Landseer.—"In your biographical sketch of Mr. W. Westall you have omitted the most noticeable circumstance of his life. He was a circumnavigator,—went round the world with Capt. Flinders; and they were shipwrecked; if I rightly remember, somewhere in Australia. Of the three painters who went round the world with Cook, Vancouver, and Flinders,—viz., Hodges, Webber, and Westall,—the last was the most accomplished; and his delineations of what he saw had most of the truth of portraiture,—as the engravings in Capt. Flinders's book will show. Being, however, a mild and unobtrusive man, whilst the others were pushing and solicitous, he remained an A.R.A., whilst they became Academicians. After his return he had an Exhibition in Brook Street; but it was insufficiently advertised, and had but few visitors. The day I was there, there were but three other persons in the room, and one of them was the artist's brother. But the exhibited drawings, consisting chiefly of joss houses, Indian forest scenes, with banyan trees, cavern temples, &c., were more effective and more richly coloured than the average of their draftsman's subsequent productions."

It has long been desired, says a correspondent, writing to us from Ipswich, "that a country which has given birth to a Gainsborough, a Constable, and other men of genius in the British School of Art, should prove itself worthy of such parentage "in a way, that may not only express a lively sympathy with, and an active interest in, the Fine Arts generally, but also foster and develop the talent of native living artists." Accordingly, it has now been decided to establish in that town, under the title of the "Suffolk Fine Arts Association," a society whose objects shall embrace an Annual Exhibition of works of Painting, Architecture, Sculpture and Engraving,—the formation of a permanent Gallery of works of Art, by purchase or by gift,—and the occasional delivery of lectures. The funds are proposed to be raised by donations and by moderate subscriptions.—The spread and success of similar institutions throughout the country are amongst the signs of progress which we watch with interest and recognize with pleasure.

The Paris papers state that M. Horace Vernet is about to set out for Rome, for the purpose of making sketches for a picture of the Siege of that city. This picture is to be on a scale beside which, in the somewhat peculiar language of these journals, the

'Capture of the Smala' will be "nothing more than the lid of a snuff-box."

From Florence, a correspondent announces to us the death of Bartolini, the sculptor, aged seventy-seven years, after a short illness of three days. "His funeral, from which I have just returned," says the writer, "has been attended by all the artistical and literary celebrities in Florence. At six o'clock in the evening, the procession started from Bartolini's house, in the Porta Pinti; all who took part in it, to the number of about three hundred, being provided with torches. The bier was carried by his pupils, Rossini, who was his bosom friend, bore the pall. Amongst the torch-bearers I observed Lord Vernon, Prince Poniatowski, the French Ambassador, the President of the Academy,—and in short, every person of notoriety here in the Fine Arts and in Literature. On passing by the Academy, a crown of laurel was placed on the bier by two of the deceased artist's favourite scholars." Bartolini is buried in the Chapel of St. Luke,—and a monument to his memory is to be erected in Santa Croce. He was the son of a dealer in charcoal. Having a strong desire to travel and see the world, he went to Paris in the capacity of servant with a French gentleman, who perceiving his talent for sculpture, sent him to the Academy of the Fine Arts in that city. There he studied,—became acquainted with M. Ingres,—and worked for Cardinal Fesch, at thirty sous a day. Afterwards he was sent to Carrara, and kept there studying his profession by the Grand Duchess Elisa. He soon after laid the basis of his extended reputation. He went to Florence in the year 1802, and resided there up to the moment of his death.

A most unwelcome rumour is given in the *Handelsblad*, to the effect that H.M. the Czar is negotiating with His Majesty of Holland for the purchase of the limited but choice collection of pictures in the Gothic Hall at the Royal Palace in the Hague.

"In turning over some old numbers of the *Journal des Débats*," says a correspondent, writing to us from Warsaw, "I observed, in the paper of the 20th of October last, a Report from the Director of the Fine Arts, in France, to the Minister of the Interior, on the subject of the sale of some models, statues, and casts which were formerly in Thorwaldsen's studio. Amongst other objects which, it appears, M. Charles Blanc bought for the French Government, he mentions the model of the statue of Poniatowski, which was to be erected at Warsaw, and he goes on to say: 'On ignore qu'est devenu ce monument, mais on le croit changé en St. George et transporté à la forteresse de Modlin.' Perhaps it may be interesting to such of your readers as are lovers of Art to learn the following particulars relative to the statue in question,—on the authenticity and correctness of which you may rely. The statue of the celebrated Polish Prince and warrior was to be erected in the capital of the present kingdom of Poland, by his admiring countrymen; and the necessary funds to carry out this intention were raised by private voluntary contributions. Thorwaldsen's model (as to the artistic merit of which there is a great variety of opinions) was sent to Warsaw, and the casting was made in that city by a Frenchman of the name of Gregoire, who is since dead. Before the statue could be put up, the disastrous events of 1830 and 1831 took place in Poland; and when tranquillity was again restored to that country, the Russian Government forbade the erection of the monument, which was so closely connected with Polish national glory and with the never-dying hopes of Polish national independence. The first orders given in regard to the disposal of the statue were, that it should be melted down. But these instructions were not acted on; and the different component parts of the statue, packed up in cases, were removed to the vaults of the Arsenal at Modlin,—in which place the writer of the present saw these *disjecta membra*, in the year 1842. Since that time the Emperor Nicholas has made a present of this monument of Art (which he considers, it is to be supposed, as a trophy of victory, although it be *bona fide* private property) to the Prince of Warsaw; and the statue has been put up at His Highness's estate, Homel, in the Government of Mohilew, in Russia.—The writer of these lines has not himself seen the statue at Homel; but he knows the person who placed it on its pedestal, and he has spoken to



several others who have seen it in that position,—amongst those, to more than one member of the Prince's family, who have all corroborated this little piece of Art Gossip."

## MUSIC AND THE DRAMA

MARYLEBONE LITERARY AND SCIENTIFIC INSTITUTION, Edwards Street, Portman Square.—The THIRD of the SERIES OF CLASSICAL CONCERTS will take place on Tuesday Evening next, February 26th. Commence at Eight o'clock.—Performers:—Messrs. Edwards, W. Thomas, N. Mori, Westlake, and Guest. Pianoforte, Miss Kate Loder. Tickets of Admission, 2s. and 3s. each, to be had in the Library.

### ST. MARTIN'S HALL.

The Portion of the GREAT HALL now ready for occupation will be opened on MONDAY EVENING, February 11th, with a GRAND CONCERT, when will be performed Mendelssohn's Cantata, LAUDA SION, and (for the first time) a new FESTIVAL ANTHEM, composed by Henry Leslie, for Two Choirs and Orchestra, with a MISCELLANEOUS SELECTION of Vocal and Instrumental Music.

Principal Performers:—Miss Birch, Miss Lucombe, Miss Rainforth, Mrs. A. Newton, Mrs. Weiss, Miss Eyles, Miss Dolby, Mrs. Noble, Mr. Sims Reeves, Mr. Lockey, Mr. Benson, Mr. Whitworth, Mr. Weiss, Mr. W. H. Secun, Herr Ernst, and Mr. W. Sterndale Bennett.

The CHORUS will consist of the Members of Mr. Hullah's First Upper Singing School. The ORCHESTRA will be numerous and complete in every department.—Leader, Mr. Willy.

Conductor, Mr. JOHN HULLAH.  
The Performance will commence at half-past Seven o'clock.  
Prices of Admission, 2s.; Reserved Seats, 5s. Tickets may be had of the principal Music sellers, and at St. Martin's Hall (Temporary Entrance, 89, Lomb Acre).

### NEW PUBLICATIONS.

"Let God arise." A Festival Anthem: the Words selected from the 68th Psalm. By Henry Leslie. Op. 5.—This is the Psalm to which allusion was made last year in the *Athenæum*; and which, as has been announced, will form a main feature in the performances inaugurating St. Martin's Hall. The work and its coming presentment may alike be accepted as among our English signs of very good promise for the year just entered on.

The Psalm is ample in its proportions, written for a double choir, with soprano and tenor soli—and comprising eight movements. As a whole, these are wisely contrasted, well laid out, and skilfully wrought: a trace or two of timidity being, here and there discernible which we will relieve our consciences by specifying at once. In three or four places, the device of literal reiteration is too largely permitted:—the most signal example, perhaps, being the close of the duet, No. 7. In other numbers we find a larger use of progression *alla Rosalia* than the less mechanical fancy of our age warrants. In one or two points we imagine that greater variety might have been given to the orchestral figures. This objection, however, is open to correction by the ear. The sum of what has been advanced does not amount to blame so much as to an imputation of youth against the composer. Reserving more minute remarks for another opportunity,—we will at present only mention what seems to us the best movements in the Psalm. These are, the chorus No. 1, *alla Capella*, of which the opening is Handelian and stately;—the chorus No. 4;—and very especially, the tenor solo No. 5, as lovely a sacred song as has often been written.—The management of the chorus No. 6, to the text "the Lord gave the word,"—a verse difficult to treat, inasmuch as it had been almost made household music by Handel—is grand, bold and ingenious:—so is the commencement of the *allegro* into which it leads. It is impossible by common perusal to decide how far the comparative plainness of the accompaniment as the chorus proceeds, and especially at its close, is judicious or otherwise. The jubilant words "Give thanks, O Israel," duet No. 7, may, possibly, have been set in a minor key for a musician's (rather than a poet's) reason, and Mr. Leslie will soon learn as he advances that the two are one;—but the duet as a piece of vocal writing is tuneable, full of colour, and pleasant to sing. The closing movement exhibits Mr. Leslie favourably as a fugue writer. In short, we can commend a mixture of solidity and simplicity in this Psalm,—a general propriety and an occasional beauty in the first ideas, and an absence of pedantic dryness or foppish audacity in their treatment, such as justify us in expecting valuable contributions to English music from its composer. We may have more to say of the Psalm on the occasion of its performance.

SACRED HARMONIC SOCIETY.—We must speak briefly of the execution of the "St. Paul," which

was repeated with increased effect and spirit yesterday week. The choruses went more brilliantly, firmly and delicately than ever *Sacred Harmonic Society* choruses went before Signor Costa took them in hand. Thus executed, the very striking beauty of our favourites 'O happy and blest are they!' 'Arise and shine,' and the characteristic Pagan movement, 'O be gracious,' would alone have sufficed to justify ourselves (were justification needed) for having recently placed Mendelssohn as an Oratorio writer next to Handel. The first, unique as a Christian burial-strain, would furnish the motto for its Poet's monument as fitly as 'I know that my Redeemer liveth' provided the device for the statue of Handel.—Let us now speak of the solo singers; principally of the two who are comparatively unfamiliar to a London audience. Miss Hayes, as principal *soprano*, pleased us more than she has hitherto done. Her voice "has drawn refreshment from success,"—her expression was good, her feeling true, and a devotional simplicity generally pervaded her performance. She has still not wholly laid by the habit of dragging her voice from note to note, after the whining sentimental fashion of modern Italy; but this is done less than formerly—and, at least in 'St. Paul,' she seemed to have laid by the disposition to slacken tempo which last year was so essential a drawback to our pleasure while hearing her. Her progress, in short, is most encouraging. Less meritorious was the performance of Herr Fornes; who sang the part of St. Paul more correctly than he did that of *Elijah*,—but toughly or else tamely, without due comprehension or feeling of either the words or the music which he had to utter. His want of scientific knowledge seems either to drive him into audacities not to be forgiven, or else to confine him to the hard, unlovely prison-ground of mechanical safety within which alone the imperfectly prepared can move without peril of accident. We have rarely heard a singer less considerate of his comrade than was Herr Fornes of Mr. Lockey in the duet 'For so hath the Lord himself commanded.' In this, the blending of the two voices was about as satisfactory as would be a glassful of rough, heavy juniper spirit mixed with a less quantity of milk of almonds. How is it that after hearing the Italians for a season, Herr Fornes has never divined that he has all the amenities of singing to learn? With his noble voice it would not be yet too late for him so to do; meanwhile, since he neither possesses these nor any compensating musical skill—in such impression as he produces on the public, we can only deprecate the triumph of natural force: and in proportion as we ourselves were subjugated thereby when we first met it on the stage are we bound to warn "all and sundry" against like mistake. Miss Dolby was the *contralto*. The Annual Report of the *Sacred Harmonic Society* was put into our hands yesterday week. This seems clear and satisfactory: certain considerations, however, arose while perusing it, which may be worth giving on another day.

CHAMBER CONCERTS.—The number of Chamber Concerts is increasing so largely in London that they are hardly to be dealt with as their musical importance demands. The difficulty of reporting on them is increased by the stir in quest of novelty on the part of their managers which seems happily at last to have been awakened. The musical reader must, therefore, be contented if from time to time we dip into this world: choosing the moment when compositions are to be mentioned of more recent origin than the honoured masterpieces of the great classical writers, which, however new to countless concert-goers in this enormous London of ours, are too familiar to others to claim fresh analysis or to demand fresh praise.

This day week the *Society of British Musicians*, at its first meeting, gave two British instrumental compositions:—an elegant *Sonata* for pianoforte and violin, by Miss Kate Loder—and a pianoforte Quintett with stringed instruments, by Mr. G. A. Macfarren. Three movements of the latter are welcome individual, if not above question. The opening *allegro* in *c* minor starts off in the large and animated style which often distinguishes Mr. Macfarren's commencements; and the movement proceeds well, till in its second part enters an episode which keeps back rather than introduces the original

theme—so abrupt is its effect. It is repeated a second time by way of coda—when, of course, it is felt to be less startling. The second movement is an elegant *barcarolle* in *c* minor—the third, in place of the obsolete *minuetto* or *scherzo* (rendered almost inaccessible to a new writer by Beethoven and Mendelssohn), takes the form of a *bolero*. This is a most commendable return to the classical practice of old times, which admitted the *allemande*, the *gavotte*, the *bourrée*, the *sarabanda*, the *ciaccona*, and other dancing measures, into the most stately and solid compositions by way of relief. Mr. Macfarren's *bolero* is effective, though variety and contrast are needlessly relinquished by the accompaniment being almost throughout allotted to the piano; whereas much gaiety, intricacy and contrast could have been produced by occasionally giving it to the stringed quartett. The final *Allegro* is so uncouth and disjointed, and the former portions of the Quintett are so meritorious—as to make it worth Mr. Macfarren's while to write a new close to his composition. The players were Mr. W. Dorrell, the Messrs. Blagrove, Messrs. W. L. Phillips and Severn.

On Monday evening, while Mr. Willy was holding another of his series of Concerts, with Signor Piatti as the new-comer, in St. Martin's Hall, our newest music-room,—Mr. Dando's Second Quartett Concert was going pleasantly on and giving much enjoyment in the ancient and picturesque Throne Room, Crosby Hall. Here it was a great treat to hear J. S. Bach's Duett (No. 2) in *A* major, for piano and violin, well given by Mr. Dando and Mr. L. Sloper; but the bait to ourselves, we confess, was the Trio by Lindblad, reviewed in the *Athenæum* a few weeks since [No. 1150].\* The effect of this was, in some respects better, in others less satisfactory, than we had expected. Though the feebleness of the *viola* (in spite of Mr. Hill's excellent playing) as compared with the *violoncello*, made itself felt,—certain of the surprises, suspenses and passages of climax came out with a *verve* and freshness which reminded us of Beethoven. On the other hand, more than one passage was chargeable with a crudity to the ear, for which perusal had not prepared us,—the work in this respect strongly recalling to us Weber's chamber-music, in which we are too often dragged, not led, from beauty to beauty. The slow movement was felt to be too long and somewhat deficient in enterprise, though charmingly melodious. All drawbacks summed up, the Trio is a very interesting work, to be heard again and again with pleasure:—such, also, appeared to be the feeling of the audience. Miss Dolby sang with great taste and finish a canzonet, by Miss Laura Barker, to words from the lovely lyric with which Crabbe closed his 'Sisters';—thereby opening a train of regrets in us that he wrote so few lyrics besides. The composition itself is pathetic, elegant, and flowing; the true spirit of the words "in which even Despair itself is mild" having been happily caught by the musician. A new stringed Quintett by Onslow, in *c* minor, was also to be performed.

We have not yet done with the Chamber Concerts of the week claiming notice under the rules laid down. On Tuesday evening at the second of Mr. E. W. Thomas's Quartett Concerts, at the Marylebone Institution, we heard some of Mendelssohn's posthumous quartett music: not the complete work in *c* minor adverted to last week,—but three movements—an *Andante*, being an *aria* varied with a sort of *intermezzo presto*, in *E* major,—a *Scherzo* in *A* minor,—and a *Cantabile* (why mis-named a "cappriccio" we cannot conceive) and *Allegro fugato*, in *E* minor. These, a note to the published copies tells us, were not meant to be taken in sequence: nevertheless, they have wondrously the air of the three last movements

\* Space becomes precious as "the season" draws near; and therefore we will avail ourselves of the present opportunity to mention two Duets for piano and violin by Lindblad,—these being his Op. 9 and Op. 11. Both works deserve a hearing for more than one reason. They are perfectly accessible to players of moderate attainments; a merit which bids fair to become obsolete. Both contain fresh, unborrowed, picturesque thoughts. The *Poco allegretto* in *E* flat (Op. 9), though too meagrely wrought, has a theme of great grace and sprightliness. Very elegant and new is the subject of the first *allegro* in Op. 11,—which, throughout, seems to be the more important and carefully-finished *Sonata* of the two. But both works are amenable to the same criticism as the Trio,—the fault, possibly, in all three being want of practice in writing. This is to be regretted; since, we repeat, this Swedish music is fresh in idea.



of a quartett;—and we put out this suggestion with less hesitation, from distinctly remembering that at Interlachen the composer, among other new works in progress, mentioned to us a new Quartett which only wanted its first *allegro*. Be this, as it may, the movements, whether severally or collectively considered, are full of interest. The *Andante* is particularly happy in a haunting and simply-melodious burden,—the *Scherzo* piquant, from the intricacy of its rhythm and the simple nature of its close,—the *Allegro fugato* based on a nervous, decided, brilliant subject. The new Quintett is still to be heard,—the new Quartett in F minor (a master-work of passion and grandeur) to be laid before the public. A *finale* to 'Loreley,' the only part of the opera which is complete,—possibly, a few *Lieder* and the 'Cedipus' Music,—and then we shall have all that is left of Mendelssohn! The movements now under notice had been carefully prepared; and were played in a large, expressive, animated style, by Messrs. Thomas, Mori, Weslake, and Guest. The first gentleman is now something like our best English leader, and (among first violins) reader of chamber music.

**ST. JAMES'S.**—Three most pleasant quarters of an hour are now to be insured to any one worth pleasing who will see and hear M. Chollet in the fragments from M. Paër's 'Maitre de Chapelle,'—which are given to exhibit that artist's comic powers in the personation of the somewhat hackneyed character "Il fanatico." M. Chollet, we perceive, is about further to appear in 'Le Roi d'Yvetot,' and also in 'Le Postillon.' We dare hardly promise half an hour's musical or dramatic entertainment to those who sit through 'Le Caïd,'—cleverly though M. Ambroise Thomas writes for his orchestra,—charmingly though Madame Charton looks *Virginie*, the stray Paris milliner gone to seek her fortune in Algiers,—sufficiently though she masters the *roulades*, *arpeggi*, and trills lavished over her part to display its original representative, Madame Ugaldé-Baucé,—and handsomely though Mr. Mitchell has placed this silly opera on the stage. Silly is the *libretto* to a degree which no panegyric can make seem wise. An Algerine functionary (M. Buguet), who gets nightly beaten in the dark by wicked marauders,—a Parisian perfumer (M. Lac), who tries to make his fortune on the Caïd's fears by promising him a detective talisman, and who nearly gets cheated into marrying the Caïd's daughter (Mlle. Dannhauser),—a French drum-major (M. Nathan), whom the Moorish maid has chosen for herself,—a guardian of the Harem (M. Chateaufort), whom *le gros Tambour* has bought over to his interest,—and a lively milliner, who is willing to open her shop for life in partnership with the scheming perfumer, and is proportionally disturbed at the idea of his marrying "a Mussulman,"—these are the principal characters and incidents. On a no less foolish *libretto* Rossini could build some of his most delicious music in 'Corradino'; but, alas! M. Thomas has not quite Rossini's alchemical power,—and, unable to turn trash into gold, his best skill has but wrought it up into tinsel, gay enough and ingenious in some of its flagee devices, but still obviously thin. We are sorry for the mishap,—having long had good hopes of M. Thomas; nor should these be given up till he has failed to do justice to a comedy in music much better than 'Le Caïd.' The opera, however,—mainly, we must think, for Madame Charton's sake,—has been kindly received.

**DRURY LANE.**—Mr. Anderson appeared on Monday in the character of *Othello*,—the part of *Iago* being performed by Mr. Vandenhoff. The latter personation is well known—the former has not before undergone the critical ordeal. Careful and elaborate in the extreme, it depends more on declamation than on passion. Miss Vandenhoff appeared as *Emilia*, and sustained the principal passages with vigour. Of Miss Addison's *Desdemona* we have spoken on previous occasions. This lady requires greater variety of intonation, to give full effect to her conceptions. The mannerism which she has contracted must be thrown off ere she can hope to realize the promise of her early appearances.

**OLYMPIC.**—T. Corneille's tragedy of 'Ariadne,' translated by Mr. John Oxenford, was placed on the stage of this theatre on Monday; with Mrs. Mowatt

as the heroine,—Miss F. Vining performing the part of *Phedra*, her sister. These characters are well contrasted by the French poet, and elaborately brought out in the usual rhetorical style of French dramatic art. For full three acts the same strain of declamation prevails;—and indeed throughout, so far as regards the loves of Ariadne and Theseus. But in the fourth act, the relation between the betraying and the confiding sister comes to be distinctly illustrated,—and the fact that they are rivals for the love of the same man is exhibited with terrible force. The remorse of *Phedra* was very pathetically rendered by Miss F. Vining. In expressing the conflicting passions of jealousy and despair, Mrs. Mowatt exhibited great energy, and displayed powers which characters less fertile in details have failed in illustrating. Mr. Oxenford has taken few liberties with the original text, beyond the omission of a scene and the general abridgment of the speeches. He has, however, altered the catastrophe. Instead of falling on the sword of Pirithous, Ariadne throws herself from a beetling rock,—thus dying the death of Sappho for her Phaon. The situation is highly stage-effective,—and the curtain fell with unanimous applause.

The play, as a whole, was judiciously cast. Mr. Davenport as *Theseus* and Mr. Ryder as *Cenarus*, were both well accomplished in the graces that become princes,—the former, besides, in that ardour which the real lover always and the stage lover so rarely possesses. The representation of the tragedy was varied by a change of place; three very beautiful scenes having been painted for the occasion. The costumes were rich and classical.

With questionable judgment, a new farce was put up to follow the new tragedy,—as usual in such cases, it proved a failure. It was by Mr. Holl—and entitled 'A Husband Wanted.' It depended on the acting of Mr. J. Reeve, who undertook the part of one of Wombwell's showmen of wild beasts. He was very nervous. The audience became impatient, and expressed unequivocally their condemnation.

**MUSICAL AND DRAMATIC GOSSIP.**—More French operas! Besides 'Le Caïd,' with Mr. Mitchell's troupe, done in its original language, we have this week had 'The Valley of Andorre,' sung through by Mr. Maddox's company (the cast being strong in ladies) and scraped through by his orchestra. Poor M. Halévy!—whose ears are used to a band complete "à quatre épingles," what would he think of our London connoisseurship were he to begin his experiences thereof on such a barn-travestie of the niceties demanded by him from wood and wire? Would not such a piece of insular murder send him home singing his animated anti-Gallican chorus in 'Charles VI.' with double diligence? The Parisians are generally slow to understand or to admit what we have individual in art or manners. The days when Madame de Bouffiers, in the midst of a grand dinner, ordered up hot rolls (with a tureen full of melted butter) "for the English," are not quite gone. Unless memory betrays us, *Lovelace* and his companions are discovered in 'Clarisse Harlowe' as holding high orgie over—a teapot! It is still by some persons supposed that a Briton must brook every question to its solution. We recollect a worthy French musical professor of some importance who for some days after his arrival in our metropolis showed strange signs of low spirits and disappointment. Yet everything had been done for his delectation. He had been taken to the Opera, to a Philharmonic Concert, to Exeter Hall, to choice private music,—for aught we know, to that most un-Gallican of all vocal things, a madrigal dinner. It mattered not; he continued restless and doleful,—none of these treats, obviously, was what he had crossed to England to hear! One day, however, Patience is aye rewarded at last—he came home beaming with smiles and satisfaction. He had caught a drayman at the corner of the street emitting a well-known vernacular exclamation, familiar in France as the Briton's cry and nickname even in the old times of *La Pucelle*! Till M. H.—heard this "street-music" England had not been "the England of his dreams." London had been considered by him merely as *Fata Morgana*,—a place in which sights and shows are got up to mystify unprotected strangers, while the real customs and

"noises of the isle" are astutely concealed from the pilgrim. Now, to apply our anecdote. Little wiser than good M. H.—have the French profession been in general as regards our sayings and singings. As, however, the *Athenæum* now has a reader or two in Paris, we beg to assure all whom it concerns, and especially M. Halévy, that as regards English orchestral accomplishment, Mr. Maddox's band occupies a place analogous to the drayman among our polite talkers.—We may speak of the Oxford Street performance of 'The Valley of Andorre' without apologetic or parable on some future day.

The dates of the Philharmonic Concerts are as follows:—March 4th and 10th; April 8th and 22nd; May 6th and 20th; June 3rd and 17th.

The managers of the *Wednesday Concerts* are so determined to be blamed that they must even have their own way.—Who can be silent under such an announcement as that of Herr Formes to sing 'The Bay of Biscay'—a boisterous tenor ditty worthless as music, at best only endurable on the score of such Wapping nationality and animated delivery of the English words as a Braham could throw into it?—Yet this was positively put forth as an attraction in last Wednesday's programme,—also a second-hand version of the trashy 'Trab, trab,' to the end of whose "trabs" the original songstress never seemed able to get. There are no terms to be kept with quackery such as the above.

Considering the endless variety of amusements, literary and musical, provided for the idle public in part of this great Babylonian city, it would be a hopeless and profitless labour to attempt to chronicle them all. We are therefore content to acknowledge ourselves indebted to the *Daily News* for the following notice of Mr. Wallbridge Lunn's 'Literary and Musical Evening.'—"This entertainment was given on Tuesday evening. It consisted of a *mélange* of literary sketches written by Mr. Lunn, and read by himself, intermixed with songs composed by Henry C. Lunn and Mr. Ashmore, and sung by Miss Thornton. Mr. Wallbridge Lunn is favourably known to the public as the author of 'Torrington Hall,' 'The Council of Four,' and other successful works; and the sketches read by him last evening were elegant little pieces, written with a quiet humour, good-natured satire, and genial feeling, which reminded us not a little both of Goldsmith and of Washington Irving. 'The Ghost at the White Lion,' in particular, was very much in the style of the American essayist. The sketches were read in an easy and colloquial manner, which was very pleasing. The lyrical pieces were not remarkable for novelty of thought; but they contained natural sentiments and feelings, expressed in graceful and musical verse. The music was of a similar character; not very original, but written in a pure style, extremely melodious, and perfectly in accordance with the spirit of the poetry. They were admirably sung by Miss Thornton,—a young lady who is rapidly rising in her profession; and were delicately accompanied on the pianoforte by Mr. Henry Lunn. We were especially pleased with the serenade 'Beneath thy casement,' composed by Mr. H. Lunn,—and with the ballad 'Let us be joyous,' by Mr. Ashmore, which last was loudly encored. The whole entertainment was received with warm applause by a numerous audience."

We have received the following note:—"Would you state as in answer to a correspondent, or in any other way, where the authority can be found for ascribing the words of Handel's *Serenata*, 'Acis and Galatea' to Gay, as is done in the printed *libretto* (Novello)? The tradition is borne out by the style; but it is not readily traced in books. Is it not said that Gay in this was aided by Pope and Garth? but where is the contemporary record?"

**MUSICAL.**  
The *Biographia Dramatica* makes no question concerning the matter. An earlier masque, 'Acis and Galatea,' by Motteux, set by Eccles, was performed in 1701. The 'English Pastoral Opera, in three acts, by John Gay,' with Handel's music, was "performed at the Haymarket, in 1732." The same authority gives 1782 as the date of the published edition of the *Serenata*, with Gay's name as author.

"When daffodils begin to peer," and our shop-windows are starred and spangled with valentines—then, also, is the chirping of Opera-rumour heard in Lane, Garden, Market, and Arcade. This February, however, the first report which has reached us is merely a linnet's note;—in every sense of the word being an *on dit* that Mr. Lumley is once again try-



ing to lure that "pretty warbler," Madame Ugalde-Baucé, from the *Opéra Comique* of Paris to *Her Majesty's Theatre*. This we hardly conceive probable, save on the hypothesis of Madame Sontag's departure; since, how the two ladies—both executive as distinguished from dramatic *soprani*—could be provided with occupation in the same theatre, it is hard to divine:—Madame Sontag, let us add emphatically, being the more attractive and available of the two for Italian opera, in spite of the piquant volubility [vide *Ath.* No. 1120] of the accomplished French lady. Once again, let us cry "loud as Cassandra," not for this, or for the other *roulade* singer, but for an opera-composer. Unless some such Phœnix can shortly be found and fostered, our Italian musical theatres at no distant date will virtually cease to exist. Would that our cry might reach some among the young *maestri*, as well as the managers.

Signor Beletti, it is said, will accompany Mdlle. Lind in her tour to the United States. The *entrepreneur*, by the way, on the occasion is, we believe, Mr. Barnum, who brought General Tom Thumb to England.—A correspondent of the *Gazette Musicale* informs us that Madame Favanti has been giving a sort of concert in costume (after the fashion of Madame Bishop) at Brussels.

### MISCELLANEA

*The Vernon Gift.*—It is known that when Mr. Vernon presented his collection of pictures to the nation, he included in the gift three pictures for which he had given commissions, but which were then upon the easels of the respective artists.—The picture by Eastlake is finished. It is a repetition of the subject of 'The Escape of the Carrara Family,' painted for Mr. Morrison, and exhibited in the Royal Academy in 1834. The picture is what the Italians would call a *replica*, not a copy of the original. \*\* The posthumous commission to Mr. Landseer is, we believe, nearly completed. There only remains that of Mr. Mulready, and then Mr. Vernon's intentions will be fulfilled.—*Art-Journal*.

*The Arctic Regions.*—It becomes a nervous thing to report a discovery of land in these regions without actually landing on it, after the unfortunate mistake to the southward; but, as far as a man can be certain who has 130 pair of eyes to assist him, and all agreeing, I am certain we have discovered an extensive land. I think, also, it is more than probable that these peaks which we saw are a continuation of the range of mountains seen by the natives off Cape Jakan (coast of Asia), mentioned by Baron Wrangell in his Polar voyages.—*Capt. Kellie's Report*.

*Mrs. Chalmers's Pension.*—By the death of Mrs. Chalmers, widow of the celebrated Dr. Chalmers, a small pension lapses to the Crown. The original sum was 200*l.*, but it appears to have been portioned out among the widow and her seven daughters.—*Guardian*.

*A New Moving Power.*—For some days past crowds have been collected on our quays, watching and commenting on the novel construction of a vessel which has suddenly made its appearance in our port, and is well calculated, we must own, by its appearance to excite the curiosity of which we speak. Figure to yourself a boat without masts, without chimney—with no trace of sails or of steam—with not even the shadow of an oar: and yet the vessel glides rapidly on as if some invisible spirit directed its movements! *Le Port de Marseille* (the name of this strange boat) is the invention of a French engineer of the name of M. Lientier. It is worked by means of a simple lever. If his promises be fully realized, who can estimate the vast results of this discovery to our navigation?—*Courier de Marseille*.

*Mr. Holbrook's New Life-boat.*—We have been much interested by the examination of a model of a newly constructed life-boat, the invention of Mr. L. N. Holbrook, of Hull. The hull of the boat is broad and substantial, and appears admirably adapted to resist the severest concussions of the waves. The framework of this hull is entirely composed of wrought iron, covered with net. The body of the vessel consists of six compartments, containing barrels or "floaters," perfectly air-tight, and so separated from each other that in the event of one or more of them being punctured, the buoyancy of the boat would be still preserved. The floaters are

warranted not to break, burst or rust. The peculiarity of the vessel consists in this, that—strange as it may sound to some of our readers—it has no "bottom," except a slight framework of cordage or netting; the object of this arrangement being to allow the water to rise within the boat to the level of that without, and so to secure a permanent ballast of water, which will preclude the possibility of the vessel being capsized in a heavy sea—the great problem hitherto unsolved by the inventors of life preservers. By the plan thus briefly and imperfectly described, the countervailing properties of buoyancy and steadiness are perfectly secured. The only objection that would oppose itself to the efficacy of Mr. Holbrook's life-boat is, the difficulty of manœuvring a vessel of such breadth of beam; but we understand that it is intended to be kept on board ship, and so constructed that it may be stowed away with great facility. Another objection, that the admission of the water would not be exactly conducive to the comfort of those inside the boat, would hardly be insisted on by the most fastidious with the alternative of an ocean grave before them. The internal arrangements are complete. They include contrivances for carrying fresh water, spirits, matches, wood, articles of wearing apparel, &c., with an apparatus for boiling coffee and broiling meat. The boat also carries a reflecting lamp, fire balls, blue lights, a rocket with 300 feet of line, a horn, and an alarm bell. It is steered by means of an oar. Additional or extra "floaters," used as bulwarks in smooth water, inclose masts, sails, and oars, which can be taken out and made use of at sea if occasion require. It has already been approved by the Lords of the Admiralty, the Masters of the Trinity House, and several eminent scientific authorities.—and been tested on the Humber, off Southend, and elsewhere. Mr. Holbrook is collecting a subscription to enable him to complete a larger model of his boat, which he purposes exhibiting on the river Thames.—*Times*.

*Captain Fitzmaurice's Rotary Engine.*—Several private trials have taken place at Taplow-on-the-Thames with a rotary engine, which has been brought to its present working condition by Captain the Hon. W. E. Fitzmaurice (late 2nd Life Guards) and his brother-in-law, Mr. Harford. The engine is very simple, merely consisting of two pieces so mathematically arranged that the interior part works in the outer with the greatest ease, being free from dead points, and without the slightest vibration, however great the velocity. It has no springs or packing, and the parts meet each other so harmoniously as only to give a humming noise like a spinning top, and is not in the least liable to get out of order, the wear being perfectly uniform throughout. The entire motion being a rolling instead of a cutting one, the engine will last long without repair, as the surfaces become case-hardened in a very short space of time. The trials took place in the presence of several scientific gentlemen and engineers of eminence in their profession, in a frigate's pinnace, the engine being constructed for the Government. The boat is of 10 tons burden, carrying a load of 5½ tons, and drawing 4 feet of water. She is 32 feet long and 8 feet breadth of beam, made for carrying men and cannonades, but not in any way calculated for speed, and yet the engine of 10-horse power, occupying a space 21 by 7 inches, drove a screw-propeller of 3 feet in diameter and 4 feet pitch with such velocity as to make 200 revolutions in a minute, the motion being given on the direct-action principle. Although the boat was not at all calculated for speed, she was propelled against the stream a distance of two miles in 20 minutes, equal, allowing for the strength of the current, to 8 miles an hour. The engine weighs considerably less than 1 cwt. to each horse-power, and requires much less fuel than the ordinary engines, and is so easily set in motion, graduated to any velocity, or stopped, that a boy of twelve years of age might manage it with one hand. It was made under the superintendence of M. Bulman, jun. of Croydon. Capt. Fitzmaurice makes no secret of the invention, but shows its interior freely, as it is intended for the public service. An engine of 100-horse power on Capt. Fitzmaurice's construction would only occupy a space of 6 feet by 2 feet.—*Times*.

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1811	1000	33 19 3	ditto
1815	1000	34 16 10	ditto

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Policy No.	Date.	Sum Insured.	Bonuses added.	Total with Additions, to be further increased.
521	1807	2000	£202 13 1	£1682 12 1
1174	1810	1200	1169 5 6	2369 5 6
2392	1820	5000	3558 17 8	8558 17 8

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30	1 1 8	1 2 7		2 5 5	2 0 7
40	1 5 0	1 6 9		4 0 7	2 14 10
50	1 14 1	1 19 9		6 5 8	4 0 11
60	3 2 4	3 17 0		6 12 9	6 0 10

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5,000	12 years	500 0 0	787 10 0	6,287 10 0
5,000	10 years	300 0 0	787 10 0	6,087 10 0
5,000	8 years	100 0 0	787 10 0	5,887 10 0
5,000	6 years	.. ..	450 0 0	5,675 0 0
5,000	4 years	.. ..	225 0 0	5,450 0 0
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# THE LANCET

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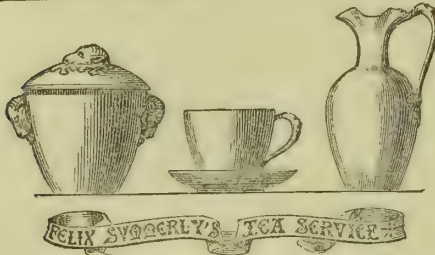
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LONDON, SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 9, 1850.

## REVIEWS

*The History of England during the Thirty Years' Peace.* By Harriet Martineau. Vol. II. Knight.

THE second part of this important work maintains the character which we assigned to the first [*Athenæum*, Nos. 1118 and 1119]. A conscientious judgment presides, throughout, in the treatment of the stirring subjects brought under review; and Miss Martineau has spared no pains in making herself perfectly acquainted with the details and principles of the measures which divided the opinions, and not unfrequently roused the passions, of both the legislature and the public. The conscientiousness of this work is, indeed, its great recommendation. It is as impartial a contemporary history as could be hoped for from any pen.

While the sex of the writer, and the fact of her not being a public actor in the times under consideration, exempt her from those passions and personal antipathies under which all historians of their own times, from Clarendon to Lamartine, have laboured,—we may observe that the same causes keep her from a full knowledge of the political drama of the time. In the first part of the work Miss Martineau had a copious supply of autobiographical authorities from which a variety of authentic and interesting incidents could be culled. The lives and correspondence of Lords Eldon and Sidmouth, of Wilberforce and of Mackintosh, of Romilly and of Horner, illustrate the first portion of her subject; but we miss in the second part the summoned testimony of such keen-sighted and observant actors and bystanders as those to whom we have referred. For want of this first-hand knowledge, the narrative of the Reform Bill, and of the public excitement of the period, reads rather coldly, and wants colour. Those who were present at the extraordinary scenes of that time in both Houses of Parliament, and who heard the animated debating of those days and watched its effects on the audiences, will feel some disappointment in finding little notice taken of the combat between the political chiefs on either side. In this respect it is very possible that graphic and vivid political history can be written only by one of the actors in the public drama,—or be composed only when time shall have accumulated a vast quantity of interesting materials for a future artistic mind to weave into a narrative.

The volume before us opens with the accession of King William the Fourth, and closes with the year 1846. The subjects treated of chiefly are—the Reform Bill—the Grey Ministry—Ireland and O'Connell—the New Poor Law—the economic condition of the country—the French Revolution of 1830, and its European consequences—Canada and Lord Durham—the Scotch Church—the Anti-Corn-Law League—and the Irish Famine. Of these various subjects, all discussed with great clearness of exposition, we think none is more ably treated than that of Canada and Lord Durham. The subject was familiar to the authoress. She was intimately acquainted with the characters and motives of the *dramatis personæ*,—and knew well how much the final close of the scene was influenced by the peculiar relations which had subsisted between Lords Brougham and Durham since the time of the Grey dinner at Edinburgh. The want of private knowledge of leading individuals is obvious in other portions of the volume:—for example, there is scarcely a passage in it to indicate the remarkable part played by Lord Lyndhurst from 1831 to 1841.

The calmness with which Miss Martineau judges of character, always estimating it by an ethical standard, gives great value to her portraits of public men. In this respect it is, that she is a gainer by her absence from the passionate arenas in which they contended;—and her estimates take the calm judicial tone which belongs to the verdicts of posterity. On the occasion of Mr. Brougham's return for Yorkshire, she takes occasion to draw his character in a passage which many of his old friends will not read without emotion.—

"There is something very affecting to those who were of mature years at that time in looking back upon these glories of the Harry Brougham who was the hope and admiration of so large a portion of the liberal body in the nation. As he himself said, he had now arrived at the pinnacle of his fame: he had attained an honour which could never be paralleled. When he said this, he did not contemplate decline; nor did those who listened to him; nor did the liberal party generally. Those who did were some close observers who had never had confidence in him, and who knew that sobriety of thought and temperance of feeling were essential to success in a commanding position, though they might not be much missed in one of struggle and antagonism. These observers, who had seen that with all his zeal, his strong spirit of pugnacity, his large views of popular rights and interests, Henry Brougham gave no evidences of magnanimity, patience, moderation, and self-forgetfulness, felt now, as throughout his course, that power would be too much for him, and that his splendid talents were likely to become conspicuous disgraces. This was what was soon to be tried: and in the interval, he stood, in these times of popular excitement, the first man in England;—called by the popular voice to represent the first constituency in England, in a season when constituencies and their chosen representatives were the most prominent objects in the nation's eye. Mr. Brougham had been twenty-one years in public life: his endowments were the most splendid conceivable, short of the inspiration of genius; and they had been, thus far, employed on behalf of popular interests. Men thought of his knowledge and sagacity on colonial affairs,—shown early in his career: they thought of his brave and faithful advocacy of the Queen's cause: they thought of his labours for popular enlightenment,—of his furtherance of Mechanics' Institutes, of the London University, and of the Society for the Diffusion of Useful Knowledge:—they thought of his plans for the reform of the law, and his labours in making justice accessible to the poor: they thought of his mighty advocacy of the claims of the slave, and of his thundering denunciations of oppression in that and every other relation; and they reasonably regarded him as a great man, and the hope of his country. It was so reasonable to regard him thus, that those who had misgivings were ashamed of them, and concealed them so anxiously that it is certain that Mr. Brougham had as fair a field as any man ever had for showing what he could do. But, though those who knew him best concealed their doubts, the doubts were there; doubts whether his celebrated oratory was not mainly factitious,—vehement and passionate, but not simple and heartfelt;—doubts whether a temper of jealousy and irritability would not poison any work into which it could find entrance;—doubts whether a vanity so restless and insatiable must not speedily starve out the richest abilities;—doubts whether a habit of speech so exaggerated, of statements so inaccurate, would not soon be fatal to respect and confidence;—doubts about the perfect genuineness of his popular sympathies—not charging him with hypocrisy, but suspecting that the people were an object in his imagination, rather than an interest in his heart—a temporary idol to him, as he was to them. These doubts made the spectacle of Henry Brougham at the head of the representation of Great Britain an interesting and anxious one to those who knew him well, whether from personal intercourse or from a close study of his career. With all the other liberals of England, it was an occasion of unbounded triumph. He has since publicly and repeatedly referred to this period as that of his highest glory; and there are now none,

probably, who do not agree with him. At this Yorkshire election, when four representatives were required, five candidates came forward, and Mr. Brougham stood next to Lord Morpeth, who headed the poll."

The scenes on the memorable 22nd of April 1831, when King William the Fourth prorogued Parliament with a view to its immediate dissolution, are described with so much animation and fidelity, that we will present the entire passage to our readers. They will recollect the circumstances of the time at which the following scene took place:—that Lord John Russell, on the 1st of March 1831, had introduced the Reform Bill, carried after eight nights' debating by a majority of one,—and that on the 19th of April General Gascoyne had put Ministers in a minority of eight on the question of reducing the number of the members of the House of Commons. Let Miss Martineau record the events of the 22nd of April.—

"Though other parts of that mighty struggle might appear more imposing, more dangerous, more awful, in the eyes of common observers, the real crisis lay within the compass of this day—the 22nd of April. The Ministers themselves said so afterwards. When, in a subsequent season, the very ground shook with the tread of multitudes, and the broad heaven echoed with their shouts, and the peers quaked in their House, and the world seemed to the timid to be turned upside down, the Ministers were calm and secure: they knew the event to be determined, and could calculate its very date: whereas now, on this 22nd of April, they found themselves standing on a fearful Mohammedan bridge,—on the sharp edge of chance, with abysses of revolution on either hand. The people were not aware of the exigency; and the Ministers were not, for the moment, aided by pressure from without. The doubt—the critical doubt—was whether the King could be persuaded to dissolve the parliament. The probable necessity of this course, and the King's repugnance to it, had been discussed throughout London for some days, and especially on the preceding day. The Administration and the cause were injured by the understood difficulty with the sovereign; and it was in a manner perfectly unprecedented that Lord Wharcliffe, on the night of the 21st, had asked Lord Grey in the House whether Ministers had advised the King to dissolve parliament. On Lord Grey declining to answer the question, Lord Wharcliffe gave notice that he should move to-morrow an address to the King, remonstrating against such a proposed exertion of the royal prerogative.—After what happened in the other House at a later hour, there was nothing to be done but to enforce upon the King the alternative of losing his Ministers or dissolving parliament; and the next morning, Lord Grey went to the palace for the purpose of procuring a decision of the matter. He and a colleague or two walked quietly and separately across the Park, to avoid exciting notice. For some hours there appeared little chance of a decision; but at length the perplexed sovereign began to see his way. He was yielding—had yielded—but with strong expressions of reluctance, when that reluctance was suddenly changed into alacrity by the news which was brought him of the tone used in the House of Lords about the impossibility that he would actually dissolve parliament, undoubted as was his constitutional power to do so.—What! did they dare to meddle with his prerogative? the King exclaimed: he would presently show them what he could and would do. He had given his promise; and now he would lose no time: he would go instantly—that very moment—and dissolve parliament by his own voice.—'As soon as the royal carriages could be got ready,' his Ministers agreed.—'Never mind the carriages; send for a hackney coach,' replied the King:—a saying which spread over the kingdom, and much enhanced his popularity for the moment. Lord Durham ran down to the gate, and found but one carriage waiting;—the Lord Chancellor's. He gave orders to drive fast to Lord Albemarle's—the Master of the Horse. Lord Albemarle was at his late breakfast, but started up on the entrance of Lord Durham, asking what was the matter. 'You must have the



King's carriages ready instantly.'—'The King's carriages! Very well:—I will just finish my breakfast.'—'Finish your breakfast! Not you! You must not lose a moment. The King ought to be at the House.'—'Lord bless me! is there a revolution?'—'Not at this moment; but there will be if you stay to finish your breakfast.'—So the tea and roll were left, and the royal carriages drove up to the palace in an incredibly short time.—The King was ready and impatient, and walked with an unusually brisk step. And so did the royal horses, in their passage through the streets, as was observed by the curious and anxious gazers. Meantime, the scenes which were taking place in the two Houses were such as could never be forgotten by those who witnessed, or who afterwards heard any authentic account of them. The peers assembled in unusual numbers at two o'clock to hear Lord Wharncliffe's motion for an address to His Majesty, praying that His Majesty would be graciously pleased not to exercise his undoubted prerogative of dissolving parliament; every one of them being in more or less expectation that his lordship's speech might be rendered unavailing by some notification from the throne, though few or none probably anticipated such a scene as took place. Almost immediately, the Lord Chancellor left the woolsack. Could he be gone to meet the King?—Lord Shaftesbury was called to the chair, and Lord Wharncliffe rose. As soon as he had opened his lips, the Duke of Richmond, a member of the Administration, called some of their lordships to order, requesting that, as bound by the rules, they would be seated in their proper places. This looked as if the King was coming. Their lordships were angry; several rose to order at the same time, and said some sharp things as to who or what was most disorderly; so that the Duke of Richmond moved for the Standing Order to be read, that no offensive language should be used in that House. In the midst of this lordly wrangling, and of a confusion of voices rising into cries, Boom! came the sound of cannon which announced that the King was on the way!—Some of the peeresses had by this time entered, to witness the spectacle of the prorogation. For a few minutes, something like order was restored, and Lord Wharncliffe read his proposed Address, which was as strong a remonstrance, as near an approach to interference with the royal prerogative, as might be expected from the occasion.—The Lord Chancellor re-entered the House, and, without waiting for a pause, said, with strong emphasis, 'I never yet heard that the Crown ought not to dissolve parliament whenever it thought fit, particularly at a moment when the House of Commons had thought fit to take the extreme and unprecedented step of refusing the Supplies.'—Before he could be further heard for the cries of 'Hear, hear!' shouts were intermingled of 'The King! the King!' and the Lord Chancellor again rushed out of the House, rendering it necessary for Lord Shaftesbury to resume the chair. Every moment now added to the confusion. The hubbub, heard beyond the House, reached the ear of the King—reached his heart, and roused in him the strong spirit of regality. The peers grew violent, and the peeresses alarmed. Several of these high-born ladies, who had probably never seen exhibitions of vulgar wrath before, rose together, and looked about them, when they beheld their lordships below pushing and hustling, and shaking their hands in each others' faces. Lord Mansfield at length made himself heard; and he spoke strongly of the 'most awful predicament' of the King and the country, and on the conduct of Ministers in 'conspiring together against the safety of the State, and of making the sovereign the instrument of his own destruction;' words which naturally caused great confusion. He was proceeding, when the shout again arose, 'The King! the King!' and a commanding voice was heard over all, solemnly uttering, 'God save the King!' Lord Mansfield proceeded, however. The great doors on the right side of the throne flew open: still his lordship proceeded. Lord Durham, the first in the procession, appeared on the threshold, carrying the crown on its cushion: still his lordship proceeded. The King appeared on the threshold; and his lordship was still proceeding, when the peers on either side and behind laid hands on him, and compelled him to silence, while his countenance was convulsed with agitation. The

King had a flush on his cheek, and an unusual brightness in his eye. He walked rapidly and firmly, and ascended the steps of the throne with a kind of eagerness. He bowed right and left, and desired their lordships to be seated while the Commons were summoned. For a little time it appeared doubtful whether even the oil of anointing would calm the tossing waves of strife: but, after all, the peers were quiet sooner than the Commons. That House too was crowded, expectant, eager, and passionate. Sir Richard Vyvyan was the spokesman of the Opposition; and a very strong one. A question of order arose, as to whether Sir Richard Vyvyan was or was not keeping within the fair bounds of his subject—which was a Reform petition; whereas he was speaking on 'dissolution or no dissolution.' The Speaker appears to have been agitated from the beginning: and there were several members who were not collected enough to receive his decisions with the usual deference. Honourable members turned upon each other, growing contradictory, sharp, angry—even abusive. Lord John Russell attempted to make himself heard, but in vain:—his was no voice to pierce through such a tumult. The Speaker was in a state of visible emotion. Sir Richard Vyvyan, however, regained a hearing; but, as soon as he was once more in full flow, Boom! came the cannon which told that the King was on his way; and the roar drowned the conclusion of the sentence. Not a word more was heard for the cheers, the cries—and even shouts of laughter—all put down together, at regular intervals, by the discharges of artillery. At one moment, Sir Robert Peel, Lord Althorp, and Sir Francis Burdett, were all using the most vehement action of command and supplication in dumb show, and their friends were labouring in vain to procure a hearing for them. The Speaker himself stood silenced by the tumult, till the cries took more and more the sound of 'Shame! shame!' and more eyes were fixed upon him till he could have made himself heard, if he had not been too much moved to speak. When he recovered voice, he decided that Sir Robert Peel was entitled to address the House. With occasional uproar, this was permitted; and Sir Robert Peel was still speaking when the Usher of the Black Rod appeared at the Bar, to summon the Commons to his Majesty's presence. Sir Robert Peel continued to speak, loudly and vehemently, after the appearance of the Usher of the Black Rod: and it was only by main force, by pulling him down by the skirts of his coat, that those near him could compel him to take his seat. The hundred members who accompanied the Speaker to the presence of the King rushed in 'very tumultuously.' There is an interest in the mutual addresses of Sovereign and People in a crisis like this which is not felt in ordinary times; and the words of the Speaker first, and then of the King, were listened to with extreme eagerness. The Speaker said: 'May it please your Majesty, we your Majesty's most faithful Commons approach your Majesty with profound respect;—and, Sir, in no period of our history, have the Commons House of Parliament more faithfully responded to the real feelings and interests of your Majesty's loyal, dutiful, and affectionate people; while it has been their earnest desire to support the dignity and honour of the Crown, upon which depend the greatness, the happiness, and the prosperity, of this country.' The King spoke in a firm, cheerful, and dignified tone and manner. The speech, which besides referred only to money-matters and economy, and to our state of peace with foreign powers—began and ended thus:—'I have come to meet you for the purpose of proroguing this parliament, with a view to its immediate dissolution. I have been induced to resort to this measure, for the purpose of ascertaining the sense of my people, in the way in which it can be most constitutionally and most authentically expressed, on the expediency of making such changes in the Representation as circumstances may appear to require, and which, founded upon the acknowledged principles of the Constitution, may tend at once to uphold the just rights and prerogatives of the Crown, and to give security to the liberties of the People.... In resolving to recur to the sense of My People, in the present circumstances of the country, I have been influenced only by a paternal anxiety for the contentment and happiness of my subjects, to promote which, I rely with confidence on your con-

tinued and zealous assistance.'—'It is over!' said those to each other who understood the crisis better than it was apprehended by the nation at large. 'All is over!' whispered the anti-reformers to each other. The members of both Houses went home that April afternoon hoarse, heated, exhausted—conscious that such a scene had never been witnessed within the walls of parliament since Cromwell's days. The Ministers went home, to take some rest, knowing that all was safe:—that is, that to the people was now fairly committed the People's Cause. A proclamation, declaring the dissolution of the parliament, appeared next day: and the new writs were made returnable on the 14th of June."

The late Mr. O'Connell is no hero of Miss Martineau's; and her portraiture of him throughout these volumes is anything but flattering to the Irish popular leader. We observed in our former notice, in reference to this subject, "that the authoress sketches O'Connell's character with a freedom and power which some of his admirers will never pardon." In the present volume the Irish tribune is condemned with grave reprobation. We think, in treating of O'Connell, that use might have been made of the very disagreeable revelations made by Lord Cloncurry in his Memoirs:—any reader of which will probably be of opinion that the following reflections on O'Connell are natural and just.—

"What a benefactor would O'Connell have been to his country, if he had now used patriotically the rights so hardly gained! If he, and the Irish members he had brought into the legislature with him, had used their imperial rights for the thorough realization of the Union, their country might by this time have been, not prosperous and peaceful and satisfied, for her troubles could not be annihilated so speedily, but advancing towards such a condition. He, and he alone, could control the impatient Irish temper: he set himself diligently to exasperate it. He could have won the peasantry to industry and conscientious thrift: he drew them off studiously from their labours to roam the country in attendance on his political agitation. He could have united their wills and voices in a calm and effectual remonstrance against their remaining wrongs, and demand for rights yet due; but he bade them spurn the benefits granted, and taught them to put a foul construction on every act of the government and people of which they were now a part, and trained them to a passionate contempt and hatred of the law, which was all they had to look to for security and social existence. To all this he added that worst and ultimate act of promising to those who would believe him the Repeal, and the speedy Repeal, of the Union, well knowing that that repeal was rendered impossible by the united will and judgment of England, Scotland, and the most enlightened and influential part of Ireland. He promised a federal allegiance to the British sovereign who would not receive such a partial and pernicious allegiance. He promised a parliament in Dublin where parliaments had never been anything but assemblages of jobbers and faction leaders. He promised Irish laws, while corrupting the people out of any capacity for obedience to law at all. He promised the exclusion of British commerce, while without British commerce the Irish could not live. He promised everything he could not perform, and that no sane and shrewd man (and O'Connell was sane and shrewd) would have performed if he could; and everything which could most effectually draw off the vast multitudes of the Catholic peasantry of Ireland from the remedy of their social hardships, from the duty to their own households, and their welfare in the State. Whether he gained any objects by threatening and annoying the governments of his day, we may see hereafter. Whether he and his companions in the legislature might not have gained more by honest political endeavours—gained more even in definite achievements, as well as in personal and national character, and in British sympathy for Ireland—there can be no question. Thus early, however, in the summer and autumn of 1830, O'Connell exhibited the programme of his political course. One of the troubles of the Wellington Ministry during this October was the state of Ireland, where the magistrates of Tipperary were obliged to apply for military force to put down outrage;



where one repeal association after another was prohibited by the Viceroy, the people believing their liberties assailed in each case; and where O'Connell (on all other occasions the partizan of the Bourbons) bade the people look to the Revolutions of France and Belgium for examples what to do, and counselled a run on the banks throughout Ireland, in order to show government the danger of resisting their demands."

In the next edition of this work, Miss Martineau, we repeat, should fortify her views of O'Connell by referring to the remarkable evidence in Lord Cloncurry's correspondence;—which contains, *inter alia*, a striking letter from the popular Catholic bishop, Dr. Doyle, who never prostituted his talents and influence to the Repeal delusion. In that letter the Catholic bishop writes:—"I thought that there was more virtue and intelligence amongst the middle classes of our people than now appears to be. Their conduct at the last general election (1832), and since, in suffering themselves to be bestrode by the basest tyranny that ever established itself in any length of time, compels me to doubt reluctantly whether there is sufficient soundness in the community to render it capable of profiting by any system of liberal legislation." Another striking testimony, from a popular quarter also, Miss Martineau will find in the correspondence of Mr. Foster, the essayist,—in which the writer says:—"O'Connell is doing his best to throw discredit on all sorts of reforms by the lawless manner in which he is ostensibly co-operating to promote them. Their more rational promoters are harassed and obstructed by his assistance. How unfortunate that such a man should contend with a Grattan, the prominent representative of Ireland, in English apprehension, as a true interpreter of the collective Irish character!" (*Foster's 'Letters,'* vol. ii. p. 189.)—Where censure so severe as that which Miss Martineau bestows on Mr. O'Connell is administered by a contemporary historian, it would be better for the writer to substantiate her views by authorities.

Next week we shall return to this able and interesting work.

*The Franklin Expedition; or, Considerations on Measures for the Discovery and Relief of our Absent Adventurers in the Arctic Regions.* By the Rev. W. Scoresby. Longman & Co. THE title of this pamphlet sufficiently sets forth the writer's object:—but we cannot congratulate him on having produced his ideas on the subject with great clearness.

Mr. Scoresby begins by asserting that the period for the abandonment of hope as to the recovery of our missing countrymen has not yet arrived,—that the crews of the two ships could not be summarily lost,—that Arctic Expeditions are attended with small comparative risk to human life, for "there are no heavy seas which could prevent escape from a shipwreck, nor could any imaginable catastrophe by the ice of these regions suddenly overwhelm two entire crews,"—and that therefore we are bound to make further researches for Sir John Franklin and his gallant companions. He conceives that the original scheme of the Admiralty—which, as will be remembered, consisted in sending out three distinct Expeditions, one to Behring's Strait, one to Barrow's Strait, and the third to the north coast of America,—should be now acted on, with certain modifications. The continuance of search in the direction of Behring's Strait is already secured by the despatch of the well appointed Expedition under the command of Capt. Collinson, which has recently left our shores. With respect to the renewal of the search in the direction of Baffin's Bay, Lancaster Sound and Barrow Straits, Dr. Scoresby observes:—

"The plan of search, in this hopeful direction, which I venture to submit, comprehends the employment of four vessels, together with one or two boats, or steam-launches, for detached parties in the proposed investigations. One of the vessels, the principal in magnitude and accommodations, I would propose for serving as a general depot, receiving ship, or place of retreat for parties, or crews, of the other vessels. For it has appeared to me, after every consideration which I could myself give to the subject, to be of vast importance, in its bearing on this research of humanity, to retain to the very last one effective ship, at least, at some safe position within the range of our former explorations to Melville Island. Port Leopold, however unfavourable for an early escape for vessels designed for active operations, appears to present many advantages for the head-quarters of exploring parties in this particular region—"a position" as described by Sir James Ross, 'of all others the most desirable, if any one spot had to be selected, for the purpose of wintering.' With such an arrangement for a *point d'appui*, vessels of an inferior class, two or three in number, might be safely and advantageously employed for pushing investigation westward of Cape Walker, as well as up the channels extending out of Barrow Strait northward. Vessels of the class or description of the dockyard lighters, being strongly built, and of small tonnage, might conveniently serve this purpose; or vessels of a like class, at present employed in the coasting trade, or in the trade with the continent of Europe, being of a burden of 100 to 150 tons (or even below 100 tons might do) and these fast sailers, could easily be found for sale, so as to be capable of being fortified and fitted up for the navigation of the Arctic ices, and for an early departure in the ensuing spring. Could a whaler or two be procured, either by purchase or hire as transports,—as to which I imagine there would, at the present time, be no difficulty,—an advantage might be gained in economy, as well as in the time that would otherwise be requisite for strengthening ordinary vessels for collision with the ice. A vessel of this class would have abundant capacity for the one suggested as a depot. A second vessel, as a depot, might advantageously be planted at Melville Island, which would serve as an additional security for the whole Expedition in this quarter, as well as being sufficiently well placed for active operations."

Presuming this plan to be adopted, it would follow that the three or four ships would be thus disposed:—

"The largest vessel of the series (which might be a whaler) would be appointed to take position in or not remote from, Port Leopold; another vessel—say the next largest—might take up a position as a second depot and place of refuge, at Melville Island. A third—a small vessel—would be directed to the west side of Cape Walker, for penetrating from thence, as far as she conveniently might, to the south-westward, should the position of the land and the condition of the ice permit an advance in that direction. The other small vessel would have assigned to her the search of Wellington Channel, and other inlets proceeding out of Barrow Strait northward; whilst the boat, being dropped, after the passage of the 'middle ice,' might undertake, with great advantage, the researches which are still requisite within the different indents of the upper part of Baffin Bay (principally that of Jones Sound, and secondarily that of Smith Sound, with any other penetrable channels which might be discovered), such indents seeming to promise additional outlets, westward, after the manner of Lancaster Sound."

Dr. Scoresby conceives that, independently of the tract of North American coast which has been examined by Sir John Richardson, between the Mackenzie and Coppermine Rivers, an Expedition starting from the mouth of the river Colville and proceeding northwards would be of considerable utility; and he recommends that another should proceed from Cape Bathurst in the direction of Banks' Land.

The author devotes a chapter to what he calls the passage of the middle ice, or the crossing of Baffin's Bay. This is generally effected by the northern passage; and the dates at which whalers

have cleared it are, as will be seen, so early in the year that searching expeditions should leave England before April.—

"Within the period from 1817 to 1849 inclusive, (lacking only 1820, 22, 24, 26, 41 and 42), in which I have records of the course taken by the leading ships employed in the fishery, or otherwise,—I find that, in twenty-three out of the twenty-seven years, the northern passage was effected by some vessel, and not unfrequently by the whole fleet of whalers. The earliest passages into the western water of which I have records, were, as to the leading ship of the year, effected by the St. Andrew, Captain Dring, of Aberdeen, June 12th, 1849; by the Neptune, Penny, of Aberdeen, June 13th, 1838; by the Bonaccord, Lee, the Abram Jackson, &c., June 21st, 1833; and by the Abram, Coultray, June 22nd, 1845. Various other ships, on most occasions, passed the barrier, at or near about the same time; the ship of Captain Parker was very early through on an occasion in which my records fail; and the main fleet in 1834 passed across by the 28th of June. The first ship ever known to have passed this barrier north-westward, since the time of Baffin, was the Larkins, of Leith, in 1817; she was followed by the Elizabeth, of Aberdeen. The latest period to which I find the leading whaler having persevered, by this course, to a successful issue, was early in August. The average period, as taken from my list of twenty-three years, in which the first ships succeeded in passing the barrier by the Melville Bay route, is July 13th. Baffin, it is worthy of remark, was, notwithstanding the entire newness of the adventure, and the comparative insignificance of his little vessel, in advance of the period at which the navigation is now ordinarily effected, under all the advantages of familiarity with these regions and strong and effective ships! For the gallant little 'Discovery,' as his vessel of fifty-five tons was named, came "into an open sea," in latitude 75° 40' N.—very near to the identical parallel in which the passage across is now usually effected,—on the 1st of July, or almost a fortnight before the average passage of the earliest ships of the present day!"

We were somewhat surprised, after reading the opening chapter, in which the author insists on the small amount of risk attached to Arctic Expeditions,—to find a long and detailed account of the total loss of twenty ships out of a fleet of whalers in the offing of Melville Bay, in 1830. The writer enters on this account, he says, to illustrate "the power of moving bodies of ice, as well as because of the interest naturally pertaining to a circumstance so strangely destructive;"—and truly, here is a picture terribly suggestive of danger!—

"In the afternoon of this day—the actual commencement of the eventful period—the storm came on from the south-westward as anticipated. The effect was immediately felt in its terrific results. The body of ice, seaward, came on a main. Floes now overrun floes; or where two equal edges met, they were mutually piled up in huge ridges. The power of the crush soon obliterated the docks that were the least deep or the most exposed. Signals of distress waved in the storm in all directions; but the demands of self-preservation allowed no man to help his neighbour. The first ships of the little group which 'suffered,' were the Princess of Wales and the Letitia; the ice ran through their broadsides! At the same time, others among them were forced into alarming positions,—some thrown upon their 'beam-ends,' some much raised by the pressure. The intermediate ice, especially that immediately within the ships, in relation to the shore, was animated with human beings,—about 300 men appearing scattered abroad in a state of distressful excitement, engaged for the most part in carrying off into a position of safety on the yet unbroken ice, their chests and hammocks, or beds, and other personal possessions, constituting, as to the greater part, 'their little all.'"

And a few pages on we read of "one ship being reared up by the ice, almost in the position of a rearing horse,"—of others "thrown fairly on their broadsides by the ice, and then, as in other cases mentioned, actually overrun by the ad-



vancing foe, and *totally buried by it*,"—and of one in particular of which in a few moments "there was nothing whatever to be seen but the outer end of her mizen-boom!"

The loss of life consequent on these fearful events is not stated,—but in general terms we are told that it "was not very great." It must be admitted, however, that Dr. Scoresby's narrative is not calculated to bear out his proposition of the safe navigation of the Arctic Seas.—But the dangers which he at once paints and denies are only additional reasons why we should put every means into action for going to the rescue of our missing countrymen.

*Life of Mahomet.* By Washington Irving.

[Second Notice.]

WE have hitherto seen Mohammed only as the patient sufferer for a great spiritual fact, which he believed himself sent into the world to preach to mankind. For thirteen years he had borne up against gibes and mockery; opposing meekness, eloquence, and the powerful argument of a retired and blameless life to the passionate scorn and even to the threats of his fellow-citizens. On no occasion had he returned evil for evil—blows for blows. Though an Arab of the Desert, his nature was, as we have said, pacific; and it was evidently his desire to bring about a religious revolution without bloodshed. But at length his patience was worn out. He had an army of devoted followers at his bidding; and a band of young and warlike spirits stood at his side, ever ready to suggest the appeal to force—at once to avenge his wrongs and to propagate his faith. The angel Gabriel, he announced, had at length commanded him to begin the "Holy War." Then, he sent forth his final mandates.—"The sword"—so ran the new gospel of the Prophet—"is the key of heaven and hell. All who unsheath it in the cause of religion shall be rewarded in time and eternity. Every drop shed of their blood—every peril and privation endured, on earth, in behalf of the faith—will be registered on high. If the true believer fall in battle, his sins will all be blotted out."

The Holy War at once commenced. The first expedition was sent out from Medina against a Koreish caravan. It was successful; and the booty acquired brought numerous converts from the predatory tribes of the Desert into the Prophet's camp at Medina. Daily strengthened by such accessions, Mohammed grew bolder in his plans, and determined to carry on the campaign with a spirit that should soon lead to a crisis. At this period, war in Arabia was never waged with large armies and so as to produce great political results. The tactics of the Desert were altogether desultory—inclined to petty skirmishes. Mohammed, whose genius was more that of a statesman than that of a military leader, followed at first the rules of war observed by his nation. It was only later on, when he grew confident of his power over the minds of his followers, that he dared to stake the existence of his empire and his creed on the issues of a regular engagement. The first, and consequently the most famous, battle fought by the Moslem converts against their idolatrous countrymen was at Beder.—Of this battle we transfer the account to our pages.—

"In the second year of the Hegira Mahomet received intelligence that his arch foe, Abu Sofian, with a troop of thirty horsemen, was conducting back to Mecca a caravan of a thousand camels, laden with the merchandise of Syria. Their route lay through the country of Medina, between the range of mountains and the sea. Mahomet determined to intercept them. About the middle of the month Ramadhan, therefore, he sallied forth with three hundred and fourteen men, of whom eighty-three were Mo-

hadjerins, or exiles from Mecca; sixty-one Awsites, and a hundred and seventy Khazradites. Each troop had its own banner. There were but two horses in this little army, but there were seventy fleet camels, which the troop mounted by turns, so as to make a rapid march without much fatigue. Othman Ibn Affan, the son-in-law of Mahomet, was now returned with his wife Rokaia from their exile in Abyssinia, and would have joined the enterprise, but his wife was ill almost unto death, so that he was obliged reluctantly to remain in Medina. Mahomet for a while took the main road to Mecca, then leaving it to the left, turned toward the Red Sea and entered a fertile valley, watered by the brook Beder. Here he lay in wait near a ford, over which the caravans were accustomed to pass. He caused his men to dig a deep trench, and to divert the water therein, so that they might resort thither to slake their thirst, out of reach of the enemy. In the meantime, Abu Sofian having received early intelligence that Mahomet had sallied forth to waylay him with a superior force, dispatched a messenger named Omair, on a fleet dromedary, to summon instant relief from Mecca. The messenger arrived at the Caaba haggard and breathless. Abu Jahl mounted the roof and sounded the alarm. All Mecca was in confusion and consternation. Henda, the wife of Abu Sofian, a woman of a fierce and intrepid nature, called upon her father Otha, her brother Al Walid, her uncle Shaiba, and all the warriors of her kindred, to arm and hasten to the relief of her husband. The brothers, too, of the Koreishite slain by Abdallah Ibn Jasch, in the valley of Naklah, seized their weapons to avenge his death. Motives of interest were mingled with eagerness for vengeance, for most of the Koreishites had property embarked in the caravan. In a little while a force of one hundred horse and seven hundred camels hurried forward on the road toward Syria. It was led by Abu Jahl, now threescore and ten years of age, a veteran warrior of the desert, who still retained the fire, and almost the vigour and activity of youth, combined with the rancour of old age. While Abu Jahl, with his forces, was hurrying on in one direction, Abu Sofian was approaching in another. On arriving at the region of danger, he preceded his caravan a considerable distance, carefully regarding every track and footprint. At length he came upon the track of the little army of Mahomet. He knew it from the size of the kernels of the dates, which the troops had thrown by the wayside as they marched,—those of Medina being remarkable for their smallness. On such minute signs do the Arabs depend in tracking their foes through the deserts. Observing the course Mahomet had taken, Abu Sofian changed his route, and passed along the coast of the Red Sea until he considered himself out of danger. He then sent another messenger to meet any Koreishites that might have sallied forth, and to let them know that the caravan was safe, and they might return to Mecca. The messenger met the Koreishites when in full march. On hearing that the caravan was safe, they came to a halt and held council. Some were for pushing forward and inflicting a signal punishment on Mahomet and his followers; others were for turning back. In this dilemma they sent a scout to reconnoitre the enemy. He brought back word that they were about three hundred strong; this increased the desire of those who were for battle. Others remonstrated. 'Consider,' said they, 'these are men who have nothing to lose; they have nothing but their swords: not one of them will fall without slaying his man. Besides, we have relatives among them: if we conquer, we will not be able to look each other in the face, having slain each other's relatives.' These words were producing their effect, but the brothers of the Koreishite who had been slain in the valley of Naklah, were instigated by Abu Jahl to cry for revenge. 'That fiery old Arab seconded their appeal. 'Forward!' cried he; 'let us get water from the brook Beder for the feast with which we shall make merry over the escape of our caravan.' The main body of the troops therefore elevated their standards and resumed their march, though a considerable number turned back to Mecca. The scouts of Mahomet brought him notice of the approach of this force. The hearts of some of his followers failed them; they had come forth in the expectation of little fighting and much plunder, and were dis-

mayed at the thoughts of such an overwhelming host; but Mahomet bade them be of good cheer, for Allah had promised him an easy victory. The Moslems posted themselves on a rising ground, with water at the foot of it. A hut, or shelter of the branches of trees, had been hastily erected on the summit for Mahomet, and a dromedary stood before it, on which he might fly to Medina in case of defeat. The vanguard of the enemy entered the valley panting with thirst, and hastened to the stream to drink; but Hamza, the uncle of Mahomet, set upon them with a number of his men, and slew the leader with his own hand. Only one of the vanguard escaped, who was afterwards converted to the faith. The main body of the enemy now approached with sound of trumpet. Three Koreishite warriors advancing in front, defied the bravest of the Moslems to equal combat. Two of these challengers were Otha, the father-in-law of Abu Sofian, and Al Walid, his brother-in-law. The third challenger was Shaiba, the brother of Otha. These, it will be recollected, had been instigated to sally forth from Mecca, by Henda, the wife of Abu Sofian. They were all men of rank in their tribe. Three warriors of Medina stepped forward and accepted their challenge; but they cried, 'No! Let the renegades of our own city of Mecca, advance if they dare. Upon this Hamza and Ali, the uncle and cousin of Mahomet, and Obeidah Ibn al Hareth, undertook the fight. After a fierce and obstinate contest, Hamza and Ali each slew his antagonist. They then went to the aid of Obeidah, who was severely wounded and nearly overcome by Otha. They slew the Koreishite, and bore away their associate, but he presently died of his wounds. The battle now became general. The Moslems, aware of the inferiority of their number, at first merely stood on the defensive, maintaining their position on the rising ground, and galling the enemy with flights of arrows whenever they sought to slake their intolerable thirst at the stream below. Mahomet remained in his hut on the hill, accompanied by Abu Beker, and earnestly engaged in prayer. In the course of the battle he had a paroxysm, or fell into a kind of trance. Coming to himself, he declared that God in a vision had promised him the victory. Rushing out of the hut, he caught up a handful of dust and cast it into the air toward the Koreishites, exclaiming, 'May confusion light upon their faces.' Then ordering his followers to charge down upon the enemy: 'Fight, and fear not,' cried he; 'the gates of paradise are under the shade of swords. He will assuredly find instant admission, who falls fighting for the faith.' In the shock of battle which ensued, Abu Jahl, who was urging his horse in the thickest of the conflict, received a blow of a scimitar in the thigh, which brought him to the ground. Abdallah Ibn Masoud put his foot upon his breast, and while the fiery veteran was still uttering imprecations and curses on Mahomet, severed his head from his body. The Koreishites now gave way and fled. Seventy remained dead on the field, and nearly the same number were taken prisoners. Fourteen Moslems were slain, whose names remain on record as martyrs to the faith."

This battle, the first of a long and brilliant series, is referred to more than once in the Koran. Henceforth, when the unbeliever laughed at the Prophet and demanded a miracle, Mohammed would reply "Beder": but whether he meant this in what in our day would be called the ratiocinistic sense,—that in which all great achievements won by the power of ideas working on masses of excited men may be considered as partaking of the nature of a miracle,—is somewhat doubtful. Casting dust in the eyes of an enemy is a common Oriental form of expression; and when in the Koran Mohammed says that 3,000 angels fought against the Koreish, it is reasonable to suppose that he is simply using the bold imagery of his native idiom to express the fact that his army was fighting in the cause of heaven and with its divine approval against the idolaters. If he meant the words of the Koran to be understood in their literal sense, he paid a very great compliment to the military prowess of his fellow-citizens and foes. With his usual inattention



to accuracy of details—even, as in this case, where details are most important—Mr. Irving forgets to tell his reader how many persons were engaged in the battle,—though the numbers might have been found in Abulfeda. On the side of the Koreish there were 200 cavalry and 750 foot; on the side of the Prophet, 313 in all:—a large difference of force, no doubt, but one which would hardly call for an auxiliary army of 3,000 angels:—more than three to one against the mortals! However, it is well to notice that—be the opinion of Moslem doctors what it may—the vulgar followers of the faith accept this miracle, as they do most miracles, in the purely literal sense. They even produce evidence of its occurrence. “I was with a companion on the fold of the mountain,”—a peasant and an idolater is made to say,—“watching the conflict, and wishing to join with the conquerors, and share the spoil. Suddenly, we beheld a great cloud sailing towards us, and within it were the neighing of steeds and braying of trumpets. As it approached, squadrons of angels sallied forth, and we heard the terrible voice of the archangel as he urged his mare, ‘Speed! speed! oh Haizum!’ At which awful sound the heart of my companion burst with terror, and he died on the spot. And I had well nigh shared his fate.”—This is, at least, graphic and picturesque. The peasant answers for the legion of angels:—but who shall answer for the peasant?

The careful Abulfeda, in his account of the battle, has no allusion to these miracles:—a fact which Mr. Irving ought to have stated in justice to his hero; who has suffered almost as much by the invention of his followers of later times as Christianity suffered from the ridiculous legends of the monkish chroniclers.

The power of Mohammed continued to increase; and in the eighth year of the Hegira he entered Mecca as a conqueror. How he punished the enemies who had so bitterly reviled and persecuted him, Mr. Irving shall tell us.—

“Mahomet took his station on the hill Al Safa, and the people of Mecca, male and female, passed before him, taking the oath of fidelity to him as the prophet of God, and renouncing idolatry. This was in compliance with a revelation in the Koran: ‘God hath sent his apostle with the direction, and the religion of truth, that he may exalt the same over every religion. Verily, they who swear fealty to him, swear fealty unto God; the hand of God is over their hands.’ In the midst of his triumph, however, he rejected all homage paid exclusively to himself, and all regal authority. ‘Why dost thou tremble?’ said he, to a man who approached with timid and faltering steps. ‘Of what dost thou stand in awe? I am no king, but the son of a Koreishite woman, who ate flesh dried in the sun.’ His lenity was equally conspicuous. The once haughty chiefs of the Koreishites appeared with abject countenances before the man they had persecuted, for their lives were in his power. ‘What can you expect at my hands?’ demanded he sternly.—‘Mercy, oh generous brother! Mercy, oh son of a generous line!’—‘Be it so!’ cried he, with a mixture of scorn and pity. ‘Away! begone! ye are free!’—Some of his followers who had shared his persecutions were disappointed in their anticipations of a bloody revenge, and murmured at his clemency; but he persisted in it, and established Mecca as an inviolable sanctuary, or place of refuge, so to continue until the final resurrection. He reserved to himself, however, the right on the present occasion, and during that special day to punish a few of the people of the city, who had grievously offended, and been expressly proscribed; yet even these, for the most part, were ultimately forgiven. Among the Koreishite women who advanced to take the oath, he desisted Henda, the wife of Abu Sofan; the savage woman who had animated the infidels at the battle of Ohod, and had gnawed the heart of Hamza, in revenge for the death of her father. On the present occasion she had disguised herself to escape de-

tection; but seeing the eyes of the Prophet fixed on her, she threw herself at his feet, exclaiming, ‘I am Henda: pardon! pardon!’ Mahomet pardoned her—and was required for his clemency by her making his doctrines the subject of contemptuous sarcasms. Among those destined to punishment was Wacksa, the Ethiopian, who had slain Hamza; but he had fled from Mecca on the entrance of the army. At a subsequent period he presented himself before the Prophet, and made the profession of faith before he was recognized. He was forgiven, and made to relate the particulars of the death of Hamza; after which Mahomet dismissed him, with an injunction never again to come into his presence. He survived until the time of the Caliphate of Omar, during whose reign he was repeatedly scourged for drunkenness. Another of the proscribed was Abdallah Ibn Saad, a young Koreishite, distinguished for wit and humour, as well as for warlike accomplishments. As he held the pen of a ready writer, Mahomet had employed him to reduce the revelations of the Koran to writing. In so doing, he had often altered and amended the text; nay, it was discovered that, through carelessness or design, he had occasionally falsified it, and rendered it absurd. He had even made his alterations and amendments matter of scoff and jest among his companions,—observing, that if the Koran proved Mahomet to be a prophet, he himself must be half a prophet. His interpolations being detected, he had fled from the wrath of the Prophet, and returned to Mecca, where he relapsed into idolatry. On the capture of the city, his foster-brother concealed him in his house, until the tumult had subsided, when he led him into the presence of the Prophet, and supplicated for his pardon. This was the severest trial of the lenity of Mahomet. The offender had betrayed his confidence; held him up to ridicule; questioned his apostolic mission, and struck at the very foundation of his faith. For some time he maintained a stern silence; hoping, as he afterwards declared, some zealous disciple might strike off the offender’s head. No one, however, stirred; so, yielding to the entreaties of Othman, he granted a pardon. Abdallah instantly renewed his profession of faith; and continued a good Mussulman. His name will be found in the wars of the Caliphs. He was one of the most dexterous horsemen of his tribe, and evinced his ruling passion to the last, for he died repeating the hundredth chapter of the Koran, entitled ‘The war steeds.’ Perhaps it was one which had experienced his interpolations. Another of the proscribed was Akrema Ibn Abu Jahl, who on many occasions had manifested a deadly hostility to the Prophet, inherited from his father. On the entrance of Mahomet into Mecca, Akrema threw himself upon a fleet horse, and escaped by an opposite gate, leaving behind him a beautiful wife, Omm Hakem, to whom he was recently married. She embraced the faith of Islam, but soon after learnt that her husband, in attempting to escape by sea to Yemen, had been driven back to port. Hastening to the presence of the Prophet, she threw herself on her knees before him, loose, dishevelled and unveiled, and implored grace for her husband. The Prophet, probably more moved by her beauty than her grief, raised her gently from the earth, and told her her prayer was granted. Hurrying to the sea-port, she arrived just as the vessel in which her husband had embarked was about to sail. She returned, mounted behind him, to Mecca, and brought him, a true believer, into the presence of the Prophet. On this occasion, however, she was so closely veiled that her dark eyes alone were visible. Mahomet received Akrema’s profession of faith; made him commander of a battalion of Hawazenes, as the dower of his beautiful and devoted wife, and bestowed liberal donations on the youthful couple. Like many other converted enemies, Akrema proved a valiant soldier in the wars of the faith, and after signalizing himself on various occasions, fell in battle, hacked and pierced by swords and lances. The whole conduct of Mahomet on gaining possession of Mecca, showed that it was a religious, more than a military triumph. His heart, too, softened toward his native place, now that it was in his power; his resentments were extinguished by success, and his inclinations were all toward forgiveness.”

From this period forth, the power of the

Arabian Prophet spread like an inundation. The secret of its rapid development lay in its marvellous intensity. Islam never lost a convert. Its founder had the art of attaching men to his person and fortunes in a wonderful degree. Numerous instances of this are related,—some of the more striking of which have been overlooked by his new biographer.—Abdallah Ibn Abu Solul, an unbeliever, of Medina, gave offence to Mohammed. His son, who was a recent convert, repaired to the Prophet. “O, apostle of God!” he said, “I am told you have some thoughts of putting my father to death; if so, order me, and I will lay his corpse at your feet.” The same spirit actuated all his disciples.—Their confidence in his wisdom and justice was equal to their attachment to his person. An Arab and a Jew had a quarrel which they agreed should be referred to Mohammed. The Prophet gave judgment in favour of the Jew; but his countryman was discontented with the award, and appealed to Omar,—from whose known hatred to the race of Israel he expected to receive some advantage. The young warrior was astounded when he heard that any one would dare to dispute his master’s judgment, and at a blow struck off the offender’s head.—An instance of Mohammed’s policy in the management of the fiery passions which existed in his camp may be added. When his daughter Rokaia died, her husband Othman bewailing her loss, Omar, his proved companion in arms, came to console him by the offer of his beautiful daughter Hafzah to wife. Othman declined the proffered match. Omar went to Mohammed, boiling with indignation. The politic statesman saw the danger to his interests of a quarrel between his two most powerful warriors, and at once leaped to the solution of the difficulty. “Be not grieved, Omar,” he said, “a better wife is destined for Othman and a better husband for thy daughter.”—and he soon after reconciled the chiefs, and bound them closer than ever to his person, by marrying Hafzah himself, and giving his own daughter Omm Kolthum to Othman.

One after another the Arabian princes sent in their submission to the ruler of Medina,—and one after another the tribes of the Desert became converts to his faith. But his greatest trouble was with the poets and satirists. For the first dozen years of his mission the verses of Amru did more mischief to his cause than all the persecutions of his tribe; and when the young poet was converted to the faith, Mohammed thought the event of more importance than a victory in the field, or the voluntary submission of a neighbouring prince. The Prophet was not only aware of the power wielded by the poets over his countrymen generally, but was himself highly susceptible to their charms. Mr. Irving shall relate a couple of illustrations.—

“Some difficulty occurred in collecting the charitable contributions; the proud tribe of Tamim openly resisted them, and drove away the collector. A troop of Arab horse was sent against them, and brought away a number of men, women and children, captives. A deputation of the Tamimites came to reclaim the prisoners. Four of the deputies were renowned as orators and poets, and instead of humbling themselves before Mahomet, proceeded to declaim in prose and verse, defying the Moslems to a poetical contest. ‘I am not sent by God as a poet,’ replied Mahomet, ‘neither do I seek fame as an orator.’ Some of his followers, however, accepted the challenge, and a war of ink ensued, in which the Tamimites acknowledged themselves vanquished. So well pleased was Mahomet with the spirit of their defiance, with their poetry, and with their frank acknowledgment of defeat, that he not merely gave them up the prisoners, but dismissed them with presents. Another instance of his susceptibility to the charms of poetry, is recorded in the case of Caab Ibn Zohair, a celebrated poet of Mecca, who had made



him the subject of satirical verses, and had consequently been one of the proscribed; but had fled on the capture of the sacred city. Caab now came to Medina to make his peace, and approaching Mahomet when in the mosque, began chanting his praises in a poem afterwards renowned among the Arabs as a master-piece. He concluded by especially extolling his clemency, 'for with the prophet of God, the pardon of injuries is, of all his virtues, that on which one can rely with the greatest certainty.' Captivated with the verse, and soothed by the flattery, Mahomet made good the poet's words, for he not merely forgave him, but taking off his own mantle, threw it upon his shoulders. The poet preserved the sacred garment to the day of his death, refusing golden offers for it. The Caliph Moawyah purchased it of his heirs for ten thousand drachmas, and it continued to be worn by the Caliphs in processions and solemn ceremonies, until the thirty-sixth Caliphate, when it was torn from the back of the Caliph Al-Most'asem Billah, by Holâgu, the Tartar conqueror, and burnt to ashes."

By conquest or conversion Mohammed had already rendered himself master of nearly the whole of Arabia, and was sending a mighty host against Syria, when death put an end to his career. The closing scenes of his life are finely painted by Mr. Irving:—but our space will not admit of further extract.

Considerable space is given in this volume to remarks on the character of the prophet, and on the chief elements of the moral and social system which he introduced into the Eastern world. The idea that Mohammed was a mere impostor, deluding men with fictions for purposes of his own, Mr. Irving rejects with scorn. The entire career of the man, he thinks, gives the lie to such an assumption. For twelve years his apostleship brought him neither riches, power, nor personal distinction. All these earthly goods he already enjoyed, and had to give up for his idea. But if not an impostor, what was he? Mr. Irving thinks that he was a man of mystic mental organization, wrought upon by physical disease until he fell into a state of temporary delirium, in which his disordered mind fancied it received a revelation. This interpretation given to the first fact in the spiritual mission,—all subsequent promptings and impulses would be construed by the same rule. There is no novelty in this assumption.—The account of the Islam religion given by Mr. Irving is tolerably accurate and impartial. He admits that the miracles attributed to Mohammed are the invention of later times;—but what we may reasonably object to is, his practice of quoting legends known to belong to this crop of after-growths without the proper cautions and criticism. This is a great defect. We will quote an illustration from pages 99—101; where Mr. Irving gives an account of the interview of Mohammed with Habib the Wise, and describes the miracles said to have been performed on the occasion.

The daughter of Habib was deaf and blind—the Prophet made her whole. Next, he ordered the moon to leave her place and rest on the Kaaba—the temple of the idolatrous Meccans. After this feat, says the legend, the moon passed through the flowing robes of the Prophet, divided into two parts—one of them moving towards the east, and the other towards the west, until they met again in the centre of the heavens, and reunited. After describing these miracles, Mr. Irving adds a note to say that such things are not to be found in the pages of Abulfeda and the graver Moslem writers. He should have told the reader what they mean; for all legends have some meaning if we could find it out. The two miracles spoken of are simply bold symbolical expressions. The daughter of Habib was "made whole" by conversion,—a usage of idiom common to all Oriental and enthusiastic nations and individuals. The moon—the sign

of Islam—coming down from heaven and resting on the Kaaba, is an obvious allegory. The taking of the orb under the Prophet's robe, and its division with his person and re-union above, are the typification of the great division of the Eastern and Western followers of Mohammed on earth and their union as true believers in heaven. This explanation—at once simple and satisfactory—is given by Moslem writers, and is accepted by all rational believers. The imputation of a miracle disappears; and all that remains is a bold symbolization of a historic fact. This explanation should have taken the place of the mere platitude—"They are probably as true as many other of the wonders related of the Prophet."—The Life of Mohammed has yet to be written for English and American readers.

*Abraham Aben Ezra's Commentary on the Book of Esther*—[*Va-yosef Abraham*].—Copied from an old MS. in the Harleian Collection, and edited, for the first time, by Joseph Zedner of the British Museum. Nutt.

THE editor of this little Hebrew work has made himself favourably known in Germany, his native country, by an interesting selection of historical pieces from Hebrew writers,—which ten years ago he published, with an elegant German translation. Having been engaged for the last three years in the Department of Printed Books at the British Museum,—as he informs us in the Hebrew Introduction to Aben Ezra's Commentary,—he has devoted his leisure moments, after the termination of his official duties, to an examination of the Hebrew MSS. preserved in the Museum. He found the collection to amount to the comparatively small number of two hundred:—all in excellent condition. Some he considers to be of the utmost value, and unique of their kind. Among these he discovered the hitherto unknown copy of the Commentary on the Book of Esther, by Aben Ezra:—which in the treatment of its subject differs entirely from the commentary by the same author inserted in the Rabbinical Bibles, as they were edited by Buxtorf and others.

Though the new publication occupies but a few printed pages, it will be received with pleasure by those conversant with the writings of its prolific author. Aben Ezra—who was born at Cordova, and flourished in the middle of the twelfth century—may be justly considered one of the richest minds that Judaism ever produced. A noble jealousy for pre-eminence in learning then subsisting between the Jew of Spain and his "Ishmaelite half-brother" the Arab had made a Jewish poet of that period characteristically exclaim, "Sarah will not be barren while Hagar is fruitful." It was such jealousy which led Aben Ezra to visit various countries—amongst others England—in order "to detect untasted springs" of knowledge, and which caused him to excel in his very numerous poetical, grammatical, exegetical, mathematical, astronomical and metaphysical works. All these bear the same stamp of genius, and exhibit acumen of judgment, exemption from prejudice, and an almost enigmatic conciseness of diction.

If such authors have once striven to raise the name of the Jew by the labours of the mind, it would well become the present generation of Jews to show their gratitude to the memory of their enlightened ancestors by forming Publication and Translation Societies, instead of leaving their literature to the enterprise of unaided students. The example of the present Editor may well stimulate the scholars of that nation to an examination of the stores which exist in the libraries of England for the illustra-

tion of their history and their literature. Of these two hundred manuscripts existing in the British Museum, some, as we have said, are declared by Mr. Zedner to be of great value. We hope to find some one with more leisure—if not Mr. Zedner himself—bringing them into a form which shall render them more available for public use.

*Junius; with New Evidence as to the Authorship, and an Analysis by the late Sir Harris Nicolas.* By John Wade.

[Second Notice.]

IN illustration of Dr. Good's "able and comprehensive Essay," the present Editor has favoured us with about half-a-dozen notes—the greater, or rather the better, part taken from the *Athenæum*. So far he is "an equal justicer";—and the 'Essay' is about as well illustrated as 'The Letters.' But we submit that this will not satisfy the public. There are questions arising out of that 'Essay' which must be answered—obscure points which must be cleared up. Therefore, we recommend Mr. Wade to include the subject—although a little out of place—among "the most critical" of his labours to be made manifest in the second volume.

Among the foremost of his duties will be, to adduce proofs of the many things which Good says are quite "clear,"—and more particularly of those which are declared to be "still clearer,"—and to determine for the purblind how clear that may be. He will have to verify (amongst others) Good's assertions, echoed by every subsequent writer, that Junius was a man of independent fortune—affluent—generous—courageous—who moved in the immediate circle of the Court—was intimately and confidentially connected with "all the public offices"—and that "the feature that particularly characterized him at the time of his writing, and that cannot even now be contemplated without surprise, was the facility with which he became acquainted with every ministerial manœuvre, whether public or private, from almost the very instant of its conception." Mr. Wade must also show how the cases of Amherst and Gansell and Swinney and Garrick, especially adduced by Good, can be urged in proof—and how such passages as the following can be reconciled with facts.—

"The secret intelligence respecting public transactions is as extraordinary. The accuracy with which he first dragged to general notice the dismissal of General Amherst from his government of Virginia has been already glanced at. 'You may assure the public,' says he, in a private letter, January 17th, 1771, 'that a squadron of four ships of the line is ordered to be got ready, with all possible expedition, for the East Indies. It is to be commanded by Commodore Spry. Without regarding the language of ignorant or interested people, depend upon the assurance I give you, that every man in administration looks upon war as inevitable.'"

This paragraph deserved a note of explanation. As to the first part of it,—Mr. Wade ought to have shown how a letter by 'Lucius,' in 1768, is proof that Junius (1769) dragged the affair to light, and why credit is not given to 'L. L.' who preceded both. If he be pleased to echo Good's opinion, and assert that Junius was Lucius,—we desire to know how information which was *not* true can be proof of secret intelligence. That Lucius was misinformed respecting the dismissal of Amherst he himself subsequently admitted. As to the second part of the paragraph,—if Mr. Wade be in a communicative humour, he will perhaps explain how it is that Good refers to a letter of the 17th, when the letter published by Good is dated the 16th? And this question suggests another—Whether the letter itself is dated at



all? Whether Good did not affix the dates to all, or nearly all, the 'Private Letters,'—and thus give them what application he pleased? We know that he did it in some instances, because we can prove that the dates are wrong.

But the letter thus incidentally brought forward is much too curious to be passed in silence. It is Junius all over; whose first great object in these "private" communications was, to "astonish" the Printer. This note, we are told, was written on the 17th of January; and we know that on the 22nd, only five days later, the Secretary of State officially informed the Lord Mayor that the Declaration had been signed by the Spanish Ambassador. It is true that on the 17th "ignorant people"—especially those who thought themselves well informed—did look on war as inevitable,—and paid the penalty; but surely those actually engaged in the treaty, ministers and others, must on the 17th have had some hope that peace was possible. That they had something more than hope was afterwards confidently asserted. On the 25th, when the Declaration was submitted to the House of Commons, Colonel Barré said,—

"The nation is a prey to jobbers and sharpers. \* \* A French Secretary *being in your secrets*, has made near half a million of money by gaming in your funds: and *some of the highest amongst yourselves* have been deeply concerned in the same traffic." On which the Reporter observes in a note—"This is true. The Spanish Minister had orders to sign the Declaration *at least six days* before he did it:"—that is, be it observed, on the very day or the day before Junius wrote his letter.—The natural inference would be, that Junius, if well informed, was one of the jobbers and sharpers,—and that he got the Printer to send forth the paragraph for stockjobbing purposes. This, of course, we do not believe; but if we acquit Junius of being one of "the interested," he must be content to plead guilty as one of "the ignorant."

This question has been raised incidentally:—let us look into some of Dr. Good's positive proofs, as he calls them. Take the case of Gansell, before referred to.—Good more than once mentions the wonderful "rapidity with which the affair of General Gansell reached Junius." Now, Gansell was arrested on the 21st of September, and released on the same day by the soldiers at the Horse Guards. The arrest and release are referred to in the newspapers on the 23rd; and we learn from contemporary authority, that, as "this military effort to elude justice" made some noise, Adjutant-General Harvey ordered the Sergeant and his men to be confined close prisoners to the Savoy, and Gansell surrendered to the civil power. On the 24th of September General Gansell was brought before the Court of Aldermen, and committed. "At the rising of the Court, Captain Cox, Adjutant of the first regiment of Foot Guards, with another officer, attended by order of some superior in commission, and acquainted the High Sheriffs in the Council Chamber that the Sergeant and his party who took the Sheriff's bailiffs prisoner at the Tilt Yard, whereby General Gansell effected his escape from a legal arrest, were confined, in order to receive due punishment for their offence." This of course made more noise; and the subject was again referred to in the newspapers. Yet Junius first mentions it on the 17th of October!—and Good adduces this case in proof of the wonderful rapidity with which information reached him! Why, if the Doctor had but referred to Junius's letter before he commented on it, he would have observed that Junius apologizes for his delay in noticing Gansell's release!—

"Had I taken it up at an earlier period, I should

have been accused of an uncandid, malignant precipitation."

Again, as to the "rapidity" in the case of Swinney. Junius wrote to the Printer,—

"That Swinney is a wretched, but a dangerous fool. He had the impudence to go to Lord George Sackville, whom he had never spoken to, and to ask him whether or no he was the author of Junius."

On this Good observes,—

"This letter is one of the most curious of the whole collection: if written by Lord George Sackville, it settles the point as to the authorship [of Junius's Letters] at once; and if not written by him, presupposes an acquaintance with his Lordship's family, his sentiments, and his connexions, so intimate as to excite no small degree of astonishment. Junius was informed of Swinney's having called on Lord George Sackville *a few hours* after his call, and he knew that before this time he had never spoken to him in his life."

Perhaps Mr. Wade will obligingly tell us where Good got the information that Junius was informed "a few hours" after Swinney's call. Junius says not one word about time:—which, be it observed, is the essential circumstance on which the mysterious superstructure is raised. As the story stands, it is Good's acquaintance with his Lordship's family that startles us. But Mr. Wade must remember that Good's memory was treacherous; that he had before referred to this same story and letter,—when he said that the visit "occurred but a day or two before the letter was written." This very particular information looked strange,—and the passages might be thought to contradict each other. Good himself was probably of this opinion; for in the second edition he altered *both* passages—into "a short period" and "very shortly":—phrases at once sufficiently vague and sufficiently in agreement. But as Good loved the dramatic and the imaginative,—loved to exaggerate the Junius mystery,—he stuck to the wonderful rapidity with which the intelligence was brought to Junius!

Again, Good tells us that Swinney "actually called upon Lord George Sackville and *taxed him with being Junius* to his face." To tax a man with being Junius is, in other words, to say, "There are strong reasons to believe that you are Junius,—and I do believe it." Now, why not keep to the literal truth? Junius's words are, that Swinney asked Lord George "*whether or no he was the author*"—which a man might do if he *disbelieved* the report; and few men would have ventured to ask such a question if they had not disbelieved it.

But Junius does say that Swinney had "never before spoken" to Lord George. The story in its most mitigated form has a taint about it of the exaggeration of the club, the coffee-house, or the bookseller's shop. It may have been picked up where Junius got his intelligence about the war; and Junius may merely have struck another blow at the Printer by the "never before" and all the "intimate knowledge" which, Good tells us, is thereby "presupposed." If so, the blow was effective. Good's comment is one proof,—and our questioning, three quarters of a century after, is another. But who was Swinney? Perhaps the new Editor will inform us. Good says, "A correspondent of the Printer's"; from which we infer that Good knew nothing about him, or he would have told us more. Mr. Butler was informed, on what he considered good authority, that he was a clergyman; and the late Mr. George Woodfall spoke of him more than once as Sidney Swinney. Now, there was a Rev. Sidney Swinney, D.D. admitted a Fellow of the Royal Society on the 23rd of February, 1764, and of the Society of Antiquaries, 19th of March, 1767:—"Your Lordship's friend," says Wray, writing to Lord Hardwick. This Dr. Swinney is said to have

been *chaplain to the British forces serving in Germany under Lord George Sackville*, and author of a poem called "*The Battle of Minden*." If it should turn out that the "Swinney" of Junius was this same Doctor, it would be strange indeed if he had never "spoken" to Lord George before 1769! But we leave such points to be cleared up by the new Editor: simply asking—"Who was Swinney?"

After all, there remains the great Garrick mystery; and the reader, we are told, "after witnessing the *rapidity* with which Junius became informed of Mr. Garrick's intimation to the King, and Swinney's visit to Lord George," will have no difficulty in conceiving that he "might have easily acquired a knowledge of secrets \* \* securely locked up."

As we have already disposed of the Gansell and Swinney's "rapidity," we will proceed at once to the Garrick.

To a Letter dated the 8th of November, 1771, Junius added the following postscript:—

"(Secret).—Beware of David Garrick. He was sent to pump you, and *went* directly to Richmond to tell the King I should write no more."

On the 10th, Junius inclosed a note to Woodfall, to be copied and forwarded,—from which the following is an extract:—

"To Mr. David Garrick.

"Nov. 10, 1771.

"I am very exactly informed of your impertinent inquiries, and of the information you so busily sent to Richmond, and with what triumph and exultation it was received. I knew every particular of it the next day."

First as to the *exact* information,—and then as to "rapidity." On the 8th of November, Junius asserts that Garrick had been sent to pump Woodfall, and *went* immediately to Richmond. Information could not have been less exact,—as Junius found out; for on the 10th he charges Garrick with having sent the information to Richmond. Woodfall knew that the other half of the statement was equally untrue, and wrote to inform Junius that Garrick had made no inquiries; but that he, Woodfall, had mentioned the circumstance in a letter. We might have inferred this, which we know to have been the truth, from Junius's answer, and his direction to alter "inquiries" into "practices." Here, then, is a note of only three lines, with two facts in it; and the proof of Junius's *exact* information is,—that *both were untrue*.

We come now to the miraculous "rapidity." Junius says—"I knew every particular the next day." This, as we have shown, is so much in the style of Junius's Private Letters, that it proves nothing. It was his policy to startle the Printer by affecting omnipresence and omnipercipience,—and he did it very effectively. Good, half a century after, writes with admiration and astonishment of his peculiar sources of information.

"Garrick," he tells us, "had received a letter from Woodfall just before the above note [8th of November] was sent to the Printer, in which Garrick was told, *in confidence*, that there were some doubts whether Junius would continue to write much longer. Garrick flew with the intelligence to Mr. Ramus, one of the pages to the King, who immediately conveyed it to his Majesty, at that time residing at Richmond; and, from the peculiar sources of information that were open to this extraordinary writer, Junius was apprised of the whole transaction on the ensuing morning."

Here we see how habitually Good deepens his mysteries. Garrick "flies with the intelligence" communicated to him "in confidence," and Junius hears of it "the next morning,"—whereas Junius himself says "the next day." We know, however, that he neither "flew" nor "went" with the intelligence,—and we doubt the "confidence." Let us hear Garrick's version of the story given in a letter to Woodfall, to be submitted to Junius, and to be found in the 'Garrick Correspondence.'—



"Mr. Woodfall informs me in a letter, without any previous impertinent inquiries on my part or the least desire of secrecy on his, that Junius would write no more. Two or three days after receipt of yours, being obliged to write a letter on business of the theatre to one at Richmond \* \* I mentioned that Junius would write no more." Garrick's letter, be it observed, is dated the 20th of November.

"This letter" [Junius's letter], he says, "I received last Monday night; and I am told in most outrageous terms, and near a month after the supposed crime was committed," &c.

Garrick, then, gave the information to his correspondent at Richmond "near a month" before the Monday preceding the 20th of November. Now Junius, though nervous at all times, was never so frightened as when he heard that Garrick was, as he supposed, intermeddling. It is fair, therefore, to assume that he immediately wrote to Woodfall. We know that he instantly changed his address, and gave emphatic instructions,—*"Let no mortal know the alteration;"* adding flatteringly, "I am persuaded you are too honest a man to contribute in any way to my destruction. \* \* I must be more cautious than ever. I am sure I should not survive a discovery three days." It is not to be believed that in this state of excitement he allowed a day, or an hour, after the fact had come to his knowledge, to elapse before he warned Woodfall and took precautions to guard against discovery. Yet the first reference to the subject is, the *Postscript* to a letter of the 8th of November—as if the report had just reached him—the importance of which is acknowledged by marking the postscript "secret;" and it is obvious from the silence in his Letter of the 5th of November, that he had not at that date heard a whisper on the subject. If these inferences be correct, the assertion that he "knew every particular the next day" was a mere flourish;—a style which Junius had found so effective with the Printer, that he thought well to try it on the player. So much for another of Dr. Good's especial examples!—No doubt there were rejoicings at Richmond when Garrick's report reached that place. We know that the report was further circulated by the King himself; and it was certainly a good subject for court and town gossip. We know that the report immediately became current:—and thus, what was known to everybody, became, "through his peculiar sources of information," at length known to Junius!

It may be said that—with the exception of the war story—the above facts refer to the Private Letters; letters often written for effect,—the effect itself being exaggerated by Dr. Good. This is true:—but they seriously affect the popular belief—the ideal Junius. A few more such would reduce Junius to mere middle-class mortality:—leave us a writer of extraordinary power, knowledge, and uncompromising political principles,—a man self-devoted to a cause,—who laboured without hope of reward in either place, pension, or peerage,—who could truly say "I have faithfully served the public, without the possibility of personal advantage,"—who had no "spur to prick the sides of his intent," no touch even of that weakness which Milton calls "the last infirmity of noble minds,"—who, if there be no proof of court, or official, or secret sources of information being open to him, we may believe to have belonged to that "order" whence such men have generally sprung; and not to have been either a minister, or an ex-minister, or a placeman, or a place-hunter, or a peer, or an M.P., or a dependent, or a sycophant, or a scoundrel who put himself up to sale and was silenced, as Lord Campbell says, "by a little provender."—[By the by, the "whirligig of Time" has in this instance brought round its

"revenges"; and we hope that the Scotch will be satisfied now that Lords Byron, Brougham and Campbell have each had a kick at the dead lion.]

To solve the question as to the "peculiar sources of information" open to Junius was, as we have said, the duty of the new Editor; and of this, as he has passed all the Letters without one word of comment or explanation, we must believe that he felt himself incapable. Possibly, however, he may have reserved this, with all his other duties, for the second volume. If he has any such intention, we submit that, for variety and novelty, he should favour us also with a chapter on "the peculiar" characteristics of Junius's ignorance, and the proofs of his want of private sources of information. It would be a not uninteresting chapter; and, if fairly written, make manifest, better than all the talk on the other side of the question, the vast power of the man who could produce such effects by his own unaided pen. Mr. Wade may take as his text the following passage in one of Junius's Letters to Wilkes:—

"In pursuing inquiries, I lie under a singular disadvantage. Not venturing to consult those who are qualified to inform me, I am forced to collect everything from books or common conversation."

In considering this question Mr. Wade must distinguish between Junius as a private and Junius as a public man. When Junius became known as the denouncer equally of men and of measures,—when the public said that of him which he afterwards said of himself; "What public question have I declined, what villain have I spared?"—we may be sure that information flowed in on him from all quarters,—as it does now on the editors of our leading journals when they have once shown a disposition to attack either an individual or an abuse. Junius was in his day the man of most mark and likelihood connected with the press. The notices in the *Public Advertiser* show that he constantly received communications from the Printer, the subjects of which cannot now be known, but may be inferred. In the few Private Letters which remain there is reference to "the paquet" with the Cavendish arms. He instructs Woodfall to "tell A.B.C. that his papers are received:"—and these there is no doubt were papers relating to Vaughan's case. "I return you the letters you sent me yesterday."—"I shall be glad to hear from your friend at Guildhall. \* \* I will make use of any materials he gives me."—"The large roll contained a pamphlet."—These are passages in proof of what our own experience would have predicated to be the sure consequences of Junius's position. It is difficult—perhaps impossible—to say how much information Junius received from others. A large political party rejoiced in his triumph, though unwilling publicly to avow their sympathy with one who disregarded the established courtesies of "His Majesty's opposition." Yet with all these aids and appliances, Junius often fell into strange errors. Mr. Butler—an excellent authority—says that Junius was wrong in his law: and we know that in the case of Eyre, he asked Wilkes to tell him "where the force of the formal legal argument lies." Good says, he was "mistaken as to the facts relative to Whittlebury Forest." Possibly, he was wrong in attributing the vindication of the Duke of Grafton to Mr. Weston. He acknowledges himself to have been wrong about the misrepresentations and the Bill of Rights Society. We have shown that he picked up much of his "secret" information from very public places. But as conclusive, we think, on these and other points, let us refer to a passage in the first Letter in the collected edition—21 January 1769. There we have Junius

himself—the unknown, the self-dependent. Let us hear what he says of the great events—the greatest—and of the great men of his day:—men, every fact in whose public life must have been known to all of either political position or political party.

"A series of inconsistent measures had alienated the colonies from their duty as subjects, and from their natural affection to their common country. When Mr. Grenville was placed at the head of the Treasury, he felt the impossibility of Great Britain's supporting such an establishment as her former successes had made indispensable, and at the same time giving any sensible relief to foreign trade, and to the weight of the public debt. He thought it equitable that those parts of the empire which had benefited most by the expenses of the war should contribute something to the expenses of the peace; and he had no doubt of the constitutional right vested in Parliament to raise that contribution. But unfortunately for this country, Mr. Grenville was at any rate to be distressed, because he was minister, and Mr. Pitt and Lord Camden were to be the patrons of America, because they were in opposition. Their declarations gave spirit and argument to the colonies; and while perhaps they meant no more than the ruin of a minister, they in effect divided one half of the empire from the other."

On this passage Junius observes, in a note to the edition of 1772, "Yet Junius has been called the partisan of Lord Chatham!" True:—and since said to have been Lord Chatham himself;—and the partisan of Mr. Grenville, (Good evidently inclines in that direction);—and Dr. Parr, and Mr. Barker, and others are resolute that Junius was Charles Lloyd, the secretary of Mr. Grenville. Lord Temple, too, has been named; and the Stowe MSS., about which there is such a ridiculous mystery, are said to prove that Junius was connected with the Grenville family. Mr. John Roberts, also—single-speech Hamilton—Leonidas Glover—Edmund Burke—Dunning, afterwards Lord Ashburton—Lord George Sackville—Lord Shelburne—Colonel Barré,—have all been fixed on as Junius. So have others in numbers numberless:—but we have enumerated the above, because, with the exception of Lloyd and Burke, they were all, at or about the period referred to, members either of the House of Lords or of the Commons (Burke certainly was present in the House),—and because, as we believe, the one sentence above quoted is conclusive against the claims of each and every one of those named, and of all who at that time occupied a like position.

The attempt by Mr. George Grenville to tax the Americans by means of the Stamp Act soon after became known as the marking feature of the history of the period; but so little did it excite public attention at the immediate time, that it is doubtful whether the intention to do so, announced on the 10th of March, 1764, gave rise to a single comment. We have Burke's own report of proceedings when, in March, 1765, the Stamp Act was passed.—

"I sat as a stranger in your gallery when the Act was under consideration. I never heard a more languid debate. No more than two or three gentlemen, as I remember, spoke against the Act, and that with great reserve and remarkable temper. There was but one division in the whole progress of the bill; and the minority did not reach to more than thirty-nine or forty."

This is not the style in which Burke would have characterized a debate wherein Pitt and Pratt (Chatham and Camden) had taken an active part, and by their denunciations giving "spirit and argument" to the colonists,—*"dividing the empire."* Besides, the "two or three gentlemen" who spoke are known:—Barré and Conway received the thanks of the Americans for their exertions on the occasion.

The remarkable circumstance connected with the above paragraph is this:—*Chatham did not*



say one word for or against the Stamp Act while Grenville was minister. We doubt, indeed, whether he was present in the House from February, 1764—when “he left,” being too ill “to stay for the division”—to the 14th of January 1766, when, months after Rockingham had been appointed minister, he made his celebrated “no confidence” speech. On that occasion he alluded to his long absence, and expressed his deep regret that he had not been present when the Stamp Act was under consideration.—“It is a long time, Mr. Speaker, since I have attended in Parliament. When the resolution was taken in the House to tax America, I was ill in bed. If I could have endured to be carried in my bed, so great was the agitation of my mind for the consequences, I would have solicited some kind hand to have laid me down on the floor, to have borne my testimony against it.”—*Parliamentary History*, vol. cxvi. p. 98.

The question so far as Camden is concerned may be even more briefly disposed of. He was appointed Chief Justice of the Common Pleas, and the new writ was moved for on the 25th of January 1762; and he was *not raised to the Peerage until the 16th of July 1765*,—so that by no possibility could he have spoken on the subject. Indeed, he was not raised to the Peerage until Grenville had retired, and Rockingham “reigned in his stead.”

Could any Minister or Minister's Secretary—or any leader of opposition—or any member of either House of Parliament—or any man belonging to any political party, or mixed up in the politics of the day, or even associating habitually with such parties or persons—have fallen into so gross a blunder respecting the conduct and proceedings of the two most remarkable men of the age, with reference to, as known in 1769, the most remarkable event of that age? Yet, important as this passage is towards enabling us to fix the position and the “order” to which Junius belonged, it has not, so far as we know, been noticed by any of the many editors from 1772 down to Mr. Wade.

Here we shall conclude,—and wait patiently for the revelation in the second volume to see how these and a hundred other mysteries are to be solved. As to the “new Essay on the Authorship,” we shall be agreeably surprised if Mr. Wade has anything “new” to tell us. His own impression as to the authorship is, he says, strong,—and “based,” he thinks, “on adequate testimony.” With his first volume before us, we can have no hope but that when his hero and his arguments shall appear, the one will turn out to be an old friend without a new face, and the other a new version of an old story. Probably, as such is the current popular belief, we may have an essay in favour of the claims of Sir Philip Francis, condensed from “Junius Identified,”—with such additional anecdotes as have become current since 1818.

#### OUR LIBRARY TABLE.

*History and Etymology of the English Language, for the Use of Schools.* By R. G. Latham, M.D.—An admirable little book, intended as a sort of index and introduction to the author's more voluminous works on the same class of subjects. The earlier chapters give an account of the geographical distribution of the English language in Europe, Asia, Africa, America and Australia—of its first appearance at each of these points, and its progress since in displacing the older tongues found prevailing where itself took root. This distribution is one of the most curious things in history. The Anglo-Saxon speech has never been driven—like French, from the banks of the Mississippi—like Spanish, from the Floridas—from any point on which it has once gained a settlement. Not only is it spoken at this time in every latitude under heaven,—but in less than a hundred years it will be the native tongue of more people than the whole of Europe will contain. These, however, are facts and inferences which belong rather to the

historian than to the philologist. An interesting little map prefixed to this work is coloured so as to show the distribution of languages in Europe to which English bears a nearer or more remote relation—Dutch, Frisian, Low German, High German, and the Norse; and is illustrated by a brief and succinct history of its rise, formation, changes and progress down to the days of Shakspeare when it became fixed. The second part contains the history and exposition of the alphabet; in which the author adopts the analysis and classification of the phoneticians, as explained in the *Athenæum* some months ago [No. 999, p. 1294]. The third part deals with what may be called the logic of grammar: the fourth part with the affinities which may be traced to the languages not of cognate origin—that is, not of the Gothic stock, such as Greek and Latin. Altogether, this little book on language and grammar is well adapted to answer its avowed purpose—that of enabling the young reader of the classics to understand his native Saxon with profit to himself and credit to his instructors.

*An Introduction to the Study of the Mind: especially designed for the Senior Classes in Schools.* By D. Bishop.—This is a book compounded of other men's ideas—and words. The author confesses, in his ingenuous preface, that he does not know his own from other people's,—much less is he able to mark off the property of the several contributors with inverted commas. The admission has the merit of novelty: and this is the only merit that we can discover in Mr. Daniel Bishop's book. A passage, quoted from the Père Gérard, which stands on the title-page, serves it at once for epigraph and epitaph:—“Here is a complete psychology for us to study—a book ever open, but, alas, how little read!”

*A Week in the South of Ireland.* By an Old Traveller.—A pleasantly written little guide-book for the use of persons taking the Killarney route from Dublin; with an especial view to the tourist of a few days only, in the excursions arranged by the North-Western and Irish Railways. The “old traveller” carries his *compagnon de voyage* from Dublin to Cork,—all the wonders of which, including the “Cove” and the “Giant's Stairs,” he exhibits; thence by way of Bantry to Killarney, Limerick, and the lower part of the river Shannon. The book slides easily into the waistcoat pocket, or fits in the pocket-book. It weighs about three ounces, and costs a few halfpence.

*Man and Society; or, an Essay on the Respective Rights and Duties of Man, and of Society.* By M. Portalis. [*L'Homme et la Société*, &c.]. Part II. *The Family.*—Another of the short treatises published by the Members of the French Institute against the doctrines of the Socialists. It is chiefly directed to a consideration of the moral order of the family circle, as it is determined by the institutions of marriage and monogamy; but as these institutions have never been placed in peril by English enthusiasts, the somewhat voluminous exposition of M. Portalis will possess but few attractions for readers on this side of the Channel.

*A Packet of Seeds saved by an Old Gardener.*—A little story of the life of a working gardener of the Old School,—full of good feeling and of a fine homely sort of wisdom which has its meaning for classes of society far above that which is claimed as his own by its author. Whether the tale be real we know not—for the form in which it is given to the world savours of the old tricks of the gentle craft; but the substance of it—the toil, the trial, the experience of men and women—that these have the stamp of actual life on them is unquestionable. More “seeds” from the old packet are promised if the present should find a market.

*Rocks and Rivers; or, Highland Wanderings over Crag and Corrie, Flood and Fell.* By John Colquhoun, Esq., Author of ‘The Moor and the Loch.’—This is a volume of very pleasant reading,—though the sporting scenes, characters, and adventures described be somewhat of the most familiar. Those who are eagerly expecting the details of Mr. Cumming's lion stalkings and ostrich battues, will but doggedly accept the cormorants of the Bass Rock, and the deer dear to Landseer, by way of substitute. Nevertheless, for the shooting-lodge or the yacht-cabin Mr. Colquhoun is a commendable companion.

*Railway and Commercial Information.* By Samuel Holt.—This little work, by the author of ‘Facts and

Figures,’ is equally full of curious matters with his last brochure,—culled from a great variety of sources not lying conveniently at hand to the general reader or speculator. We have derived much information from its pages,—and have been reminded of several points of interest to railway shareholders and to railway travellers which would have been otherwise laid out of the way among the miscellaneous stores of memory. The adoption of the half-fares for females on several lines is a startling novelty in railway management during the year; but we presume from its continuance that it is not unlikely to answer. At all events, it is another tax on bachelors:—a very proper direction for taxation to take, many of our readers will think.

#### LIST OF NEW BOOKS.

Aide-Mémoire to the Military Sciences, Part IV. Royal 8vo. 14s. bds.  
 Bible and Common Prayer Book, New Testament, Vol. 111. 7s.  
 Baxter's (W. E.) Impressions of Europe, 8vo. 12s. cl.  
 Bohn's Shilling Series, for Feb. Emerson's ‘Representative Men,’ 1s.  
 Castlereagh's (Viscount) Memoirs and Correspondence, by his Brother, 11. 8s.  
 Course of Sermons at St. Paul's Church, Brighton, 12mo. 3s. 6d. cl.  
 Cuijey's (J.) Plea for Right against Might, 1s. 6d. swd.  
 Daily Meditations, or Heart Communion, 2s. 6d. cl. plain, 3s. 6d. cl. gt.  
 Dibdin's sea Songs, with Memoir, new ed. 12mo. 5s. cl.  
 Forester's (T. T.) Norway in 1848-49, 8vo. 18s. cl.  
 Goodwin's Annals of Anatomy and Physiology, No. 1. 3s. 6d. swd.  
 Gover's Shilling School Atlas, 4to. 11. cl.  
 Guizot On Causes of Success of English Reformation of 1640-88, 6s. bds.  
 Guyot's (Prof.) The Earth and Man, by Felton, 12mo. 5s. cl.  
 Guy's Royal Victoria Spelling, new ed. 12mo. 1s. cl.  
 Hamilton's Edition of Select Psalms, 8vo. 5s. cl.  
 Haslam's (Rev. W.) The Cross and the Serpent, royal 12mo. 6s. cl.  
 Harvey and Spooner On the Sheep, 2s. 6d. 12mo. 6s. cl.  
 Hazlitt's (W. J.) Winterstow, Essays and Characters, 12mo. 5s. cl.  
 Hook's (Dr. W. F.) Ecclesiastical Biography, Vol. IV. 12mo. 6s. 6d. cl.  
 Horne's (Bp.) Arrangement of Psalms, by various Authors, Part 1. 5s.  
 Humphrey's Illuminated Books of the Middle Ages, folio, 164. 16s.  
 Humphrey's (W. G.) Hulsean Lectures, 1849, 8vo. 8s. 6d. cl.  
 Hussey's London Reading Book, 8vo. 1s. 6d. cl.  
 Johnstone's (W. H.) Israel after the Flesh, 8vo. 10s. 6d. cl.  
 Joyce's (J. J.) Hymns, with Notes, 12mo. 1s. cl. swd.  
 Kelly's (Rev. J.) Psalms and Hymns, selected and revised, 32mo. 1s. 6d.  
 Kitchin's (Rev. H.) The Teacher's Collect Book, 18mo. 2s. 6d. hf. bds.  
 Lewis's (Malte) Histoire pour les Enfants, 18mo. 2s. 6d. cl.  
 Lewis's (W.) Chess Board Companion, 32mo. 1s. 6d. cl.  
 McCosh's (Rev. J.) Method of Divine Government, 8vo. 12s. cl.  
 McFarlan's (Dr. P.) Vindication of Church of Scotland, cr. 8vo. 3s. 6d.  
 Newton's Principia, Sections 1. to 111. by G. L. Cooke, B.D. 8vo. 6s.  
 Noel's (Baptist W.) Essay on External Act of Baptism, 12mo. 2s. cl.  
 Rogers's (H.) Reason and Faith, their Claims and Conflicts, 1s. 6d.  
 Paccia's (Cardinal) Historical Memoirs, by Sir G. Head, 2 vols. 11. 1s.  
 Parolour Library, Vol. 37, James's ‘The Robber,’ 1s. bds. 1s. 6d. cl.  
 Phoenix Library, Vol. 1. Moore's ‘Utopia,’ 12mo. 2s. 6d. cl.  
 Port-Royal Logic, or Art of Thinking, trans. by Baynes, 12mo. 5s. 6d. cl.  
 Riggs's (J. H.) The Principles of Wesleyan Methodism, 12mo. 2s. cl.  
 Rogers's (H.) Reason and Faith, their Claims and Conflicts, 1s. 6d.  
 Ronalds's (A.) Fly Fisher's Entomology, 4th ed. 8vo. 14s. cl.  
 Scenes from the Life of Moses, Twenty designs, by Selous, 10s. 6d.  
 Scoresby (Rev. W.) The Franklin Expedition, 8vo. 6s. cl.  
 Sépree's Abridg. of Sacred History, French and English, 11th ed. 1s. 6d.  
 Sophisms of Free Trade, 3rd ed. 4s. 6d. cl.  
 Steill's Pictorial Spelling Book, 12mo. 1s. cl.  
 Thomson's (Rev. P.) The Soul, its Nature and Destinies, 4s. 6d. cl.  
 Tupper's (M. F.) Ballads for the Times, 12mo. 7s. cl.  
 Taylor's (Jeremy) Works, by Eden, Vol. VII. 8vo. 10s. 6d. cl.  
 Watts's Divine and Moral Songs, new ed. by J. C. Bin, 1s. 6d.  
 Wheel of Life, W. W. On a Liberal Education, Part II. 11. 3s. 6d. cl.  
 Woodward's (F. B.) Sermons at St. Stephen's, Dublin, 12mo. 7s. 6d. cl.

#### THE PEOPLE'S APPEAL.

LORDS of the Isles, ye have halls of pride,  
 And the shade of your woods lies green and wide;  
 Ye hold the stores of our hidden mines,  
 Our moorland wastes, and our mountain pines,—  
 And the wealth that each deep old river pours  
 Through a thousand valleys—all are yours:  
 Ye own the land, and ye claim the sea,  
 But hold—let the people's bread be free!

Free as the wide earth pours her store  
 From age to age and from shore to shore,  
 With a truth still found in the faithful soil,  
 For the sower's trust and the reaper's toil:  
 Free as waves in the summer light,  
 O'er sunny slope and o'er boundless plain,  
 The wealth of the yet ungathered grain,—  
 Growing in silence day and night,  
 As it grew in the world's far youth—ere yet  
 The spoiler's seal on its gold was set,—  
 And grows unchanged through the bonds and fears  
 That crowd on these weak and waning years.

We have seen the corn wave's golden swell  
 Where the pride of the forest's glory fell,—  
 We have heard the sweep of its breezy tone,  
 O'er stired temple and tower o'erthrown.  
 It waves where the battle's graves are green,  
 It grows where the peasant's hearth hath been;  
 And safe the light of your homes may be,—  
 But Lords of the Isles, let our bread be free!

There have been fair towers wrapped in flame  
 By brands that from dying homefires came,—  
 And blades have reeked with the reddest stain  
 In hands which the sickle plied in vain.—  
 Bread for the young! were they not born  
 To the hope of that first heritage!  
 Bread for the famine cry of age!  
 It hath gone up to the God of corn,  
 From hamlet huts and from crowded marts,  
 From weary hands and from withered hearts,  
 With a fearful tale of bar and ban  
 Laid on life's stores by brother man.

Bread for the living!—Fields have spread  
 Their harvest glory above the dead:



Let it gladden the homes of toiling men  
Till the light of their lost years comes again !  
—Lords of the Isles ! heap up your hoards  
From all that the mart or mine affords,—  
As wrecks are heaped in the gorgeless sea :  
But spare our bread,—let its course be free !  
Edinburgh. F. BROWN.

#### THE BRITISH MUSEUM LIBRARY.

I feel obliged to your correspondent "C." [see *ante*, p. 101] for the compliments he has paid me, and for the good-humoured tone of his observations in general,—but above all for the striking illustration he has supplied, however unconsciously, of the correctness of my remarks respecting the bias so often observable in those who write on the British Museum. In my letter on the New York Library which has elicited that from "C," I had incidentally remarked, that the critics of the great Library of London appeared in general to have no eyes but for the particular class of books in which each was specially interested,—and even in that class to take no notice of what had, but only of what had not been done. To this what does your correspondent reply ? He does not notice that the Museum collection has nearly doubled within the last twelve years,—that it has risen from an inferior to a high, indeed (as I believe) the second station among the collections of Europe,—that in many classes of literature in which it formerly presented a dismal blank it is now not only rich but overflowing;—but he inquires, "why has not the Museum bought some tracts from the Catalogue of Mr. Russell Smith, of Compton Street ?"—What after illustration of my remarks could I have desired ?

I referred in my letter on the Astor Library to the Museum Collection of newspapers and of works in the northern and eastern languages of Europe. I was fully aware at the time that it might be pointed out with perfect truth that though the Museum has had since 1818 a set of the London and since 1827 of the English country journals, it is still, with a few exceptions, woefully deficient in those of Scotland, Ireland, and the colonies ; and that though its shelves now contain a respectable proportion of Danish, Polish, and Hungarian authors, it cannot boast of its acquisitions in Wallachian. What then ? Would it have been reasonable, because these deficiencies exist, to overlook that other deficiencies have been filled up,—and that certainly of late years the tendency of the Museum, in any and every branch, has not been to get more behindhand ?

To return to Mr. Smith's Catalogue. It is hard to imagine from whom your correspondent could, in ordinary cases, anticipate an answer to such a question. A person who is not connected with the Museum can hardly be expected to know—a person who is, can seldom be able without a breach of duty to make public—the private transactions of the establishment, or the circumstances which in a particular case control its expenditure. In the present instance, it so happens that the necessity for delay in purchasing any collection or any selection of tracts, is obvious and apparent. No memory can be supposed to retain the title of the vast assemblage already in the Museum. For nearly every pamphlet the catalogues must be searched—not one, but several ; and that in all the varieties of shape under which it may have pleased any librarian to enter it,—for the new rules of cataloguing of course do not apply to the old, or to the King's, or to the Grenville catalogues. But in addition to all these obstacles, there is this,—that there are hundreds of pamphlets in the Museum which are not as yet catalogued at all. In the Bibliotheca Grenvilliana I find this entry under the letter C:—"Civil Wars, a curious collection of about five hundred tracts published during the Grand Rebellion." This is not quite so sweeping as the entry in the old Museum catalogues of 1787:—"Anglia. A large collection of pamphlets relating to the Civil War from 1640 to 1660, 4to.," a brief description, but all that was given at that time to the 30,000 pamphlets of the 2,000 volumes of the Thomason collection. Until, however, this single entry in the Grenville catalogue is expanded into "about five hundred," the Librarian of the Museum who purchases pamphlets on the Civil Wars runs the risk of purchasing five hundred duplicates.

To conclude.—Your correspondent "C." hints at a propensity in the officers of the Museum to buy

rare classics and "unique anythings" at the cost of neglecting the trash and lumber which he, with me, considers as eligible for a great collection. This supposition is not borne out by a reference to the facts and figures of the last official Report of the Museum to the House of Commons; in which I find that the purchases for the preceding twelve months amounted to 17,218 volumes, and 3,864 parts of volumes: making a total of 21,082 articles,—which gives rather less than eight shillings to each, out of the 8,572l. 7s. 7d. which is stated as the allowance that year for printed books. The more that "unique anythings," at the cost of four or five hundred pounds, as your correspondent suggests, are purchased out of this sum, the less will be left as an average for the remaining twenty-one thousand articles, in selecting and acquiring which it seems fair to suppose that some trouble must be taken. Yours, &c.,

VERIFICATOR.

#### THE LIBRARY CATALOGUE.

In your number of the 2nd instant [see *ante*, p. 129] there appeared a somewhat angry attack, by a correspondent, on some passages in a pamphlet which I recently published containing suggestions for the improvement of the National Gallery, British Museum, and other similar institutions. To this I would, as a matter of course, have submitted in silence under ordinary circumstances,—and certainly would have desired to do so. In the present instance, however, I fear I must not consult my own wishes on the subject; as, from the avowed object of the attack being to set the public right with regard to the Museum Catalogue and its impugners, it assumes a more serious and important aspect, and one which interests the public to such an extent as to justify me in asking you to admit the following reply into your columns.

In my pamphlet above alluded to, I spoke strongly regarding what I conceived to be the defects of the Catalogue, in pondering over which I had wasted many a weary hour in vain. As an answer to these strictures, your correspondent "W." asserts that I cannot spell proper names correctly nor write idiomatic Italian; and, with a few sneers at my abilities generally, concludes that he has proved the Catalogue to be an excellent one. It is to this Cuttle-fish kind of argument that I wish to direct attention. I may be much worse than "W." represents me to be; but my stupidity has, it appears to me, very little to do with the merits of the Catalogue, —and it must not be allowed to triumph on account of my faults.

I should have preferred very much that "W." had attacked some of the more important points in my work; which would have allowed me to draw attention to them, and to re-state my case. His remarks, however, are almost wholly confined to a note in the Appendix; and as I have no right to ask you to open your columns to me for the discussion of the general subject, I shall confine myself strictly to answering his attack. I will neither adduce new examples nor point out other deficiencies than those alluded to in "W.'s" letter:—and, that others may compare his statements with my answers, I will take up his strictures *seriatim* as they occur in his letter, and allude to them all.

Though the object of "W.'s" letter is, to defend the Catalogue,—by way of weakening his opponent's credit, he remarks on two passages in the body of my work which it is necessary that I should first allude to. The first is, that I make a statement regarding Mr. Wilkins which is not correct:—he admits, however, that it is correctly copied from a parliamentary report, where it has stood uncontradicted for twenty years. Is this very heinous ? May I not accept it as a compliment, that there is no worse error to be detected in my work by so keen-sighted an adversary ?—The other statement is, that two of my suggestions are not original. My own impression on this point was—and is,—that at least three-fourths of them, so far from being original, had long been loudly advocated by the public,—and "W." could render me no greater service than by showing that nine-tenths of them are in the same predicament. The truth is, that though I have no reason to doubt that the remedy which I proposed for the defects of the institutions I treated of was a good and efficient one, it was so novel that it has not found that echo

from the public which I expected,—and consequently has failed in doing the good that a less original scheme might have effected.

The remainder of "W.'s" remarks are confined to the subject of the Catalogue:—to which I therefore will also confine myself.

In the first elaborate paragraph of his letter I am told that Mr. Rodd's and other booksellers' catalogues are partly classed, partly alphabetical. I was not aware that I made any statement to the contrary. What I said was, that in such catalogues books were entered under well-known titles, by which they are easily recognized and found; and I stated,—and repeat—that this is not the case with the Museum Catalogue.

The next paragraph refers to my assertion that Arouet is not the proper title under which to enter Voltaire's works. To this, "W." replies that he has far greater experience in catalogues than I have:—which I am aware of, and admit. No man I know has more;—and this enables him to point out two in which the name is so entered. With even my little experience, I will undertake to point out at least two thousand in which the author's name is entered as Voltaire:—so I have at least the majority on my side.

There is, however, an admission in this paragraph which comes nearer the point. We are told that when the Catalogue is complete, there will be a cross-reference under Voltaire. This I presumed would be the case; but I maintain, that a Catalogue depending on its cross-references for finding a book is a very clumsy performance,—and in fact not an alphabetical Catalogue at all. Once the principle of double reference is admitted, why not let us have a printed Catalogue with manuscript supplement,—or, better still, a classed Catalogue with alphabetical Index?—which has long been demanded by the public, and refused because it was asserted that it would require double references,—and that nothing but a purely alphabetical one is admissible in such a library as that of the Museum. Once this is admitted, the advocates of a classed Catalogue have got over the greatest obstacle to their success.

But to proceed:—I asserted that Roberts's name ought to appear in the Catalogue as well, at least, as those of Croly and Brocckdon, to assist searchers for his beautiful works on Syria and Egypt. The answer is, that the *advertisements* will supply the requisite information. This is true,—and sharply said; but had I anticipated such an answer, I would have chosen as an example a work published 20 or 100 years ago, when this resource would have failed me. What are students to do some years hence when Mr. Moon shall have ceased to advertise ? At all events, it is something new for a librarian to refer searchers to the advertising columns of the *Times* or the *Athenæum* for the information which other catalogues supply. I hope "W." will embody this new light in a 92nd rule.

If "W.'s" assertions with regard to Byres's work were correct, they certainly would go far to prove me to be a very negligent searcher. Of course I assume and admit that they are literally correct as regards the present state of the Catalogue when "W." is writing; but I assert with confidence that they do not represent it at the time when I wrote. I have now before me my Museum note-book, in which the name is entered—correctly spelt,—with which I went to look for it. It was neither in the body of the Catalogue nor in the cross-references. I afterwards got a hint that Howard was the name. This I found in the cross-references. The book in the Catalogue is entered under 'Tarquini Hypogœi.' I am further confirmed in this statement by having before me the original ticket on which I obtained the book in question from the library. Howard's name and the description are on it; but not Byres's,—which it must have been had that name been in the Catalogue.

It is quite true that I wrote Stewart instead of Steuart. I did so because,—if I am not very much mistaken in his identity,—I knew his brother, and always believed that he spelt his name in this manner. But I was wrong. Had I, however, known better, it would not have helped me in this instance,—as it turns out that the book is not in the Library. But this does not alter the facts of the case as I stated them. The work is considered so important, that a copy was purchased for the use of the officers in the Antiquity Department of the Museum,—where they have only a very small and select library of first-class works. It was there I saw it; and on the



information so obtained I made the statement which, though sneered at, is not denied. Under these circumstances, there being no copy in the Library appears to me more discreditable to its managers than my not knowing how to spell the name.

In the next paragraph I am convicted of two errors to which I plead guilty. In this country we talk of the Fitzwilliam Museum, Taylor Institute, Radcliffe Library, and in the same breath of the Cottonian Library, Smithsonian Institute, Soanean Museum,—and had I a voice in the matter, I should always use the substantive. In Italian, now that it is pointed out, I see it is inadmissible;—and had I been attempting to speak that language I would probably have used the adjective. I was thinking in English,—and used an English idiom.

I was also wrong in saying that the book was dedicated *to* and not *by* Prince Massimo:—an inadvertence which I ought not to have fallen into, as I had read the dedication and was aware of the fact. But what has all this to do with the question at issue? What I argued was this:—Had this work been entered under its usual title, 'Museum Etruscum Gregorianum,' either in Latin or in Italian, and with substantives or with adjectives,—or with either of these titles first, the others as expletives,—any student could have discovered it in the Catalogue or cross-references after three minutes' search. Entered under Maximis only,—not one man in a hundred would know where to look for it. If as ignorant as myself, the searcher would never find it at all unless he read the Catalogue through from A to M. I certainly never heard it so called, and never saw it referred to under that title.

The answer to this will be, that there must be some rule, and it must be adhered to in all cases even at the expense of some inconvenience. Supposing we grant this:—will "W." explain why in the instance of Byres's work—so similar to this one in form and subject—neither the author's nor the editor's name is used—which would place it in B or in H? But we find it in T, classed according to its subject,—while a diametrically opposite course is pursued with regard to the Maximis work? Or, is it not a fact, after all, that the rules are so complicated and absurd, that even the librarians cannot either understand or apply them?

There remains only one other passage to allude to,—and in this "W." is right and I am wrong. There is a rule which specially provides for such works as the *Life, &c. of King Arthur*, which I overlooked. I can therefore only express contrition for my error. This brings me at once, however, to one of the main points at issue. Why enact these ninety-one new laws at all?—and why compile a Catalogue which is nearly useless unless the reader not only masters but commits to heart a long string of rules which have no explanation attached to them, and are illustrated by no examples,—and which, consequently, it is excessively difficult to understand or to apply. It is evident that no smattering of knowledge will avail; for if—as I did on the present occasion—you fancy you have found the rule which exactly applies to the book you are seeking, the librarian pounces down upon you with another which proves the case to be an exceptional one, and specially provided for elsewhere.

Not to travel beyond the walls of the Museum,—there is not a single rule attached either to the Catalogue of the King's Library or to the old Catalogue—at least not in the beginning of the first volumes or where I can find them, for I have just looked; but there may be somewhere else. Without rules these Catalogues are perfectly intelligible, and I never heard any complaint of them; while the contrary is almost universally the case with regard to the new one.

I have now gone through all "W's" criticisms and reasons. No one will of course expect that an angry man should give a correct and candid account of his adversary's case; and I need not say, therefore, that mine is distorted and garbled by him. But taking that account as it stands, I would ask—Is it sufficient to put me out of court and disqualify me for expressing an opinion on the subject,—or is it a complete and satisfactory exculpation of the Catalogue from the faults so often urged against it? Were I the only person who objected to the Catalogue, it might suffice to prove me incompetent,—and so settle the case; but, as "W." well knows, the columns of the *Athenæum* and other literary papers of the metropolis have long teemed with complaints on this subject. So

that my remarks are far from original; while—so far as my reading extends—this is the first defence that has appeared. I ask others to judge calmly how far it is a valid one.

To me it appears that the Museum officials are determined the public shall have no voice in the matter or control over the institution. For twenty-five years the same system was pursued regarding the building. The design was concocted within the walls,—a model, it is said, made, but never shown:—so that the first intimation which the public received of what it was to be, was by seeing it completed in stone and brick when complaints were of no avail. The consequence is, that, considering the money that has been lavished on it and the opportunities afforded, we have erected the worst building in Europe for the purposes for which it was designed.

So with the Catalogue.—The first intimation of what it is to be is a goodly instalment of eighteen volumes, with an intimation that the rest shall be executed on the same plan:—and if any one dares to complain, some one is employed to attack and misrepresent him as "W." does me.

By this system of secrecy and misrepresentation, the Trustees and their officers certainly have hitherto managed to set public opinion at defiance and escape public control. But how much longer the British public will submit to this, remains to be seen.—For myself, I do not despair of better days.

Be this, however, as it may,—the real question between the public and the Museum authorities appears to me to be this,—that a new nomenclature of books is introduced by them in their new Catalogue. I am far from asserting that such a reform may not be demanded. It is possible that all the world have been for centuries in error, and that nobody knows what is right but the Museum authorities; but surely before such a change was attempted, the plan of it should have been submitted to a committee of qualified persons outside,—or at all events an explanation might have been published of the reasons for believing all the rest of the world to be in darkness, and of the nature and value of the new light that was to be afforded them. Neither of these things has been done; and we are left to our own stupid imaginations to find out the why and the wherefore,—which I confess I am unable to do. Perhaps it may be said that the matter is of little importance. And except literary men, few are aware how all important it is. If the Museum authorities can induce all the authors of the world to accept their system of nomenclature, it will, of course, be of no importance for books printed after the date of such recognition; but for all those printed before this epoch—and their name is Legion—the difficulties remain; and it will be impossible to verify references or consult such works named by means of the Museum Catalogue,—unless, indeed, it be by a complicated system of cross-references, which will double the bulk of the work—already far too large—and increase the student's difficulties in even a greater ratio.

Your correspondent "W." concludes with a few remarks on my proposal regarding a classed Catalogue, sufficient to show the want of temper and of candour with which he writes,—but they neither show nor attempt to show that my plan is not feasible, or that any other is more so. I will not, therefore, trouble you with any remarks on this head,—or with any reply to the personalities exclusively directed at myself. I will conclude by requesting "W." if he again writes, to address himself to the subject-matter at once; I, and all the public, will be grateful to him for any information and explanation which he can afford on the subject of the Museum Catalogue. Personalities and personal squabbling will advance neither his cause nor mine; and I trust I may not again be forced to obtrude such a letter as this on the public,—though I shall be most happy to discuss the question on its own merits whenever an opportunity is afforded me.—I am, &c.

20, Langham Place.

J. FERGUSSON.

#### MR. THOMPSON'S 'AUSTRIA.'

I have chosen rather to submit to the temporary annoyance of the obloquy attempted to be thrown on me by Mr. Wilde, in his attack contained in your paper of the 26th ult. [*ante*, p. 100], than to weaken my position by any hasty or unsupported statement; but having now been favoured with a copy of Mr.

Wilde's book, and having obtained the other works which I required to corroborate my answer, I beg you will do me the justice of giving the same publicity to such answer as you afforded to Mr. Wilde for his charges. I might justly complain of the discourtesy of Mr. Wilde in not having made some inquiries, and in not having asked for some explanation before he committed himself or me by an ill-judged step; but as he has deliberately taken other grounds, he must pay the penalty of his indiscretion, and stand by the verdict he has chosen to appeal to.

The facts of the case are simply these as far as I am concerned. I was in Austria in 1847; and while there, so nearly completed my obnoxious work that I offered it to Messrs. Smith & Elder in the winter of 1847-48,—most certainly before March, 1848. This in answer to the dishonouring insinuation that, "public attention being directed to Vienna during the late convulsion in Europe, a work on Austria and its capital seemed to offer a good theme on which to speculate a book." Then, as regards the matter of piracy alleged against me,—I refer to my Preface as explaining my sources of information, and state most distinctly that until I saw Mr. Wilde's charges in the *Athenæum* I never either saw or heard of his book; and the fact of his name appearing at the foot of page 343, of which I was perfectly unconscious till he called attention to it, is singularly corroborative of the following statement. Wishing to procure every possible information while in Vienna, I asked a friend,—who unhappily fell during the insurrection, and to whose direct testimony I could otherwise have appealed (an admission which Mr. Wilde will, of course, distort),—to assist my views; and he did so by supplying me, to some extent, with various matter, which I interwove and applied as I pleased,—he having told me that he had aided his own knowledge by gleaning from Springer's 'Statistik,' a work "Sur l'Instruction Publique en Autriche, par un Diplomate Étranger," and some others whose names I cannot now recollect. If, to gain some credit with me, he supplied me largely, but, to save himself trouble—which I presume was the case—made extracts from Mr. Wilde's work,—which he doubtless was acquainted with as well as with the sources to which Mr. Wilde himself was indebted,—I can but regret the circumstance, while I repudiate all share in and knowledge of the transaction. The insertion of Mr. Wilde's name by me doubtless took place from my having copied it as I found it; and is evidence that I had neither the wish nor the thought to invade his or any other person's property. As regards the term "British Colleges," so unnecessarily dragged forward by Mr. Wilde, though it condemns me for looseness in writing, yet it stands me in aid,—for it is exactly such an expression as a foreigner would employ.

The animus of Mr. Wilde's attack is obvious from his having blended with it an impotent critique which requires no remark from me; and I am convinced that my explanation will satisfy every honourable mind. But having been in a manner thrown on my defence, I have been compelled, in my own vindication to substantiate my innocence by referring to the works mentioned above; and the discoveries which I have made enable me to take higher grounds, and to state most emphatically that, with the exception of some connecting sentence and now and then a remark, the whole of Mr. Wilde's first chapter—that on education—which he has the effrontery to tax me with having "extracted" from his book—has been literally translated by him, tables and all, from the above-named work, 'par un Diplomate Étranger,'—while the amount of probable original matter "pirated" by my late friend amounted to 108 lines!! "One halfpenny-worth of bread to this intolerable deal of sack!"—for which Mr. Wilde does not deign to make the smallest acknowledgment beyond a slight announcement in his Preface that such a work had been "consulted;" while, as if to divert attention from the true sources, he attributes his statistics to Springer,—from whom, on the contrary, he has taken the text to a very considerable amount, and so literally, that at page 111 he renders "schöne literatur" as *beautiful literature*! Now, as Mr. Wilde coolly lays claim to a variety of matter, and clings to "my book and my tables," I will venture to challenge his right to the property; and while I flatly contradict his statements, I charge him with having "purloined"



and appropriated extracts from other writers to so enormous an extent that his first 121 pages alone contain 35 pages of borrowed matter. Most of his tables, too, of which at page 21 he claims the *arrangement*, are copied verbatim; and others are altered just enough to suit his purpose, without the variation of a figure,—excepting at page 311, where he mangles Springer by turning 329,000 florins into 32,900, and 240,000 into 24,000. But in order that there may be no mistake I annex the following table of comparisons, made page by page, to enable the curious to satisfy themselves as to Mr. Wilde's originality of composition and his right to what he lays claim to: calling attention previously to the parts of his Preface which I have pointed to.

Perhaps my means of inquiry, notwithstanding Mr. Wilde's sneer, may have been as good as his, though I have not indulged in any self-complacency by dragging forth a few sounding names—the good taste of which I altogether question—to cover my delinquencies; and I have no doubt but that with further time and trouble I might add a little more to Mr. Wilde's appropriation of copyright. But enough has been done to prove that he had better have come into court with clean hands, at least.

Mr. Wilde.	Diplomate Étranger.	Springer.
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" 3	Page 6	
" 4	" 13	
" 5	" 17, 18	
" 6	" 18, 19	
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" 16	Pages 346, 347, 341, 342, 343	
" 17	" 343	
" 18	" 135	
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" Table 20	Table 152	
" 21	" ..	
" 22	" Page 162	
" 23	" 320, 319, 320	
" 24	" 319, 323, 324	
" 25	" 324, 325, 329	
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" Table 26	Table 162	
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" 62	" 250, 240, 249	
" 63	" 250	
" 69	" 251	
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" 105	" ..	" 343, 344, 345
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" 107	" ..	" 347, 348, 349
" 108	" ..	" 349, 350, 351
" 109	" ..	" 350, 321, 322
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" 115	" ..	" 327
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" 300	" ..	" 55
" 301	" ..	" 57, 56
" 302	" ..	" 57
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" 319	" ..	" 65
" 320	" ..	" 65, 66
" 321	" ..	" 66
" 322	" ..	" Table 67
" 323	" ..	" 69
" 324	" ..	" 136, 137

I am, &c.  
Newcastle-on-Tyne, Feb. 6.

EDW. P. THOMPSON.

#### OUR WEEKLY GOSSIP.

THE Government now stand pledged to send out another Expedition in search of Sir John Franklin through Lancaster Sound. It is probable that this will consist of *four ships* at least, and that they will be furnished with auxiliary steam power. By an official correspondence which has lately been received, there is every reason to hope that the United States will send out an Expedition. The President has strongly urged the appropriation of a sum of money for this object.

On Wednesday last a lecture was delivered by Mr. Weld at the Royal Institution on Arctic Expeditions in general—and particularly on that under the command of Sir John Franklin. Some interesting letters bearing on the subject were read; and it was stated that Lady Franklin had recently received a communication from America in which it was announced that a subscription had been set on foot, headed by a retired millionaire with the sum of 5,000 dollars, for a private Expedition to search for her husband. At the conclusion of the lecture, a messenger balloon on the plan adopted by the Admiralty was elevated in the theatre, and scattered a quantity of messages printed on slips of paper amongst the audience.

While on the subject of the Franklin mystery and of the efforts making for its solution, we may state that we have received a challenge from Zadkiel, which we are warned not to decline. By means of an Indian crystal bought at Lady Blessington's sale, Zadkiel has had a revelation,—which the Admiralty may think it right to make part of the instructions delivered to any Expedition sailing from the east. Zadkiel assures us that there are more things in heaven and earth than are dreamed of in our philosophy,—a proposition which we very freely concede: and he invites us, whether we believe or scoff, to put this vision on record, that it may be tested by the event even if scepticism shall prevent its being made useful for the present.—It seems, that the crystal in question having lately come into Zadkiel's hands, he determined to test its mystic power after the Egyptian fashion. He bade a young boy, who knew nothing of the direction in which his (Zadkiel's) own thoughts were travelling, look therein:—and the Polar mists at once gave up their long-sought secret. The safety of Sir John Franklin's party, and their whereabouts, became facts "crystalline clear,"—and the Admiralty have but to send and fetch them home. The crews were seen, Zadkiel says, "on the ice, having mostly left their ships, on the 14th of last month, in longitude '100 degrees West.'" On a subsequent occasion, the crystallized boy saw that the ships were in latitude 73°; and Zadkiel adds, that "if in the same longitude as above," they would be near Cape Walker. We confess, that if we were to have a Franklin vision ourselves, it would probably take us into the neighbourhood of Cape Walker, unless it carried us up the Wellington Strait. We think the crystal makes out a *prima facie* case,—and that out of the mouth of this illuminated boy proceeds a suggestion which wants only novelty to be wisdom.—Premising, however, that Zadkiel offers to us, or to Lady Franklin, or to any whom it may concern, full proof of the integrity of his facts,—we proceed, as required, to record the vision in the terms of the Seer.—

11 h. A.M., 14th January 1850.  
R. M. (aged 13) saw in Lady Blessington's Indian crystal a scene in the northern regions. "Mist and snow and rough ice; several parties of sailors on it, all walking in one direction; one party of six, with a tall and slender officer commanding them; a party in the distance with sledges, drawn by dogs, on which was luggage, bags and boxes, and furs, &c." "Another party distinct; three sailors waving their hats, as if hurraing. I could see their mouths moving. They seemed thin in the face; they were on the land. Saw writing in different places; could only distinguish 'Off G.' or 'C.'—not sure which; the last word had an 'ro' in it; then '100 degrees West.'—The above was taken down as the boy uttered it, in the presence of my daughter, aged 20.

ZADKIEL.

The boy afterwards saw the ships frozen up, and some men about them, and the latitude they are in was marked up "73°." On the night of the 29th of January, a farther vision of words was seen,—intimating that "Sir J. Franklin and his crew are safe, and will be found." The exact words were (in reply to the question, *Is Sir J. Franklin alive?*) "Yes, he is, and will be found, with his crew."

The properties of the crystal, it will be seen, are not limited to the conferring of supernatural vision. By its means the boy would seem to have enjoyed a free communication with Sir John Franklin by

more senses than one; that is, *Sir John* must have heard the inquiry as to his health ere he answered that he was pretty well, and obligingly wrote up his direction.—But having done the bidding of Zadkiel, let us add, that if Sir John Franklin and his crews shall happen to be discovered near Cape Walker—even if it shall be found that they are surrounded by "mist and snow and rough ice"—that "a party of six" did really at some time walk together—that "a tall officer" was with them—that "sledges drawn by dogs" have been a part of the incidents of the true scene—and that the party *have* got rather "thin in the face"—we shall still have no faith in the crystal. We have ourselves already seen all these things "as in a glass darkly."

A larger proportion than usual of our "Gossip" columns is this week claimed by obituary records. The *Bombay Times* announces the death, at Trevandrum, of Mr. John Caldecott, Astronomer to His Highness the Rajah of Travancore. Mr. Caldecott, our readers know, had the charge of planning, erecting, furnishing, and afterwards working the astronomical and meteorological observatory founded by that enlightened Indian Prince. The task, says the *Bombay* paper, of arranging and setting to work single-handed so large an establishment, was no easy one; and the admirable manner in which Mr. Caldecott accomplished it in an incredibly short space of time gave sufficient proof of his enthusiasm and of his ability. When, in 1836, adds the same journal, "the admirable system, of Sir John Herschel was promulgated, under the name of a report of the South African Association, the Astronomers at Madras and Trevandrum resolved to carry out the scheme of connected inquiry by means of hourly observations at least one day every month to its fullest extent. Mr. Caldecott had now taken a conspicuous place amongst the scientific men of India, and his name speedily became as well known in Europe as it had for some time been in the East. He contributed several papers on meteorology generally, and on temperatures underground in particular, to the British Association. He had from 1841, when the general scheme of magnetic and meteorological research was commenced all over the world, set himself with his usual zeal to the working out of the plan. It was not until 1845 that the Royal Society determined on the best mode of publishing the vast mass of matter that had up to this time been collected; and the Rajah of Travancore, scarcely appreciating the importance of economy of time, and little apprehending the calamity that was at hand, was naturally anxious that a mass of facts that had been gathered together at his own expense, and under his own directions, should reach the world through his own press. Mr. Caldecott had now become deeply engaged in preparations for publication, when his health began to fail him; and in January 1849 he came to Bombay, and for some time travelled about in the Concan, Deccan, and Ghauts, for change of air. He returned to Trevandrum, and resumed his labours in March; and was, up to the time of his demise, deeply occupied in passing through the press the results of the researches of the preceding ten years. He had for some time been complaining; when on the 16th he was cut off, deeply lamented by all who knew him,—by none more deeply than by the illustrious Prince whom he served."—The removal of the astronomer of Trevandrum, continues the *Bombay Times*, "completes the desolation accomplished in little more than a single year in all our observatories. Mr. Taylor, of Madras, died in March 1848,—Mr. Curmin, formerly of the Bombay Observatory, in July,—Col. Wilcox, Astronomer to the King of Oude, in November,—and within twenty months of the removal of the first of the four, the last follows his illustrious brethren to the grave."

As we announced hurriedly last week,—the Danish Oehlenschläger is dead:—the most fertile and famous dramatic poet that the Scandinavian kingdoms have produced. He died of apoplexy, in the seventy-first year of his age.—A poet counts for something in Scandinavia. Such marks of public mourning as we reserve here for the more material royalties have signaled the Danish loss and the people's sense of it. The three theatres of Copenhagen were ordered to be closed for a week,—and all other public



amusements were suspended for the same space of time.—The poet was accompanied to his tomb, in the Church of Fredericksburg, by the largest attendance that has been seen in Copenhagen since the funeral of Thorwaldsen. Upwards of twenty thousand persons—a sixth of the entire population of the capital—representing every class of the community, from the Crown Prince downwards—the ministers of State, with their president at their head, the diplomatic body, the council of State, the clergy, the professors and pupils of the University and of other schools, and those of the Royal Academy of Fine Arts—all waited on the dead Poet to his grave. The streets through which the procession passed were strewn with sand and green boughs,—and the houses hung out black flags hemmed with silver.—The deceased poet was born in 1773, at the royal residence of Fredericksburg, near Copenhagen,—of which his father was Intendant-General. He filled the chair of Æsthetics at the University of Copenhagen. It was the least of his personal distinctions,—but an honour to the country which conferred it,—that he was a knight of various orders of Scandinavian chivalry.

The Paris papers are lamenting the death of a distinguished physician, Dr. Prus; who took a leading part in the discussion on the Oriental plague which arose some years since in the Academy of Medicine,—and who is said to have died now of a disease which he had contracted during his mission into the East.

The American journals announce the death of the prophet Miller; whose annual predictions of the immediate end of the world from 1833 to 1843 disturbed the minds of thousands, notwithstanding their yearly falsification. Our readers will remember that his disciples, periodically persuaded that they had but a little longer to live, hastened, with curious inconsistency, to realize in money all that they possessed,—and further made their belief a plea for the repudiation of their debts. The last failure of the prophet in 1843 seemed to have shaken his credit,—and perhaps his faith, for he ceased to prophesy. To himself the end of the world has now come; but that fact will probably do more to discredit his memory and his mission with his disciples than its failures to come for them when formerly he did call it. For it was a part of his teaching that he, the prophet, and a few of the elect were to survive the catastrophe, for the purpose of pronouncing a funeral oration over the human race.—All that can be said is, that had he lived long enough he might have realized his prediction; and some other prophet, in that land of prophets, will in all probability undertake to do what he left unfinished,—and rally the disciples of Miller.

A more important addition to our Necrology of the week will be found recorded under our head of Fine-Art Gossip.

In reference to a paragraph which appeared in our "Miscellanea" columns last week,—we see it explained that no part of the pension granted to the widow and children of the late Dr. Chalmers lapses to the crown by the death of the former. The arrangement under which the provision was bestowed, preserves, it is said, the whole sum to the family,—what falls by the death of any one being cumulative towards the others.

One of the most frequented and one, at the same time, of the most disappointing exhibitions of the week has been the display and sale at Marlborough House, at appraised prices, of the effects of the late Queen Dowager. A more paltry exhibition of the effects of royalty in England has rarely been brought together. What former Queens divided among bed-chamberwomen and pages of the back-stairs are in the nineteenth century offered at prices much above their value. Of course we do not look on a service of plate as spoil of death for even a bed-chamberwoman or a groom in waiting; but half-worn-out parasols and other personal ornaments might surely have been given away to unpensioned servants—or if sold, disposed of without the parade which has been made of a very poor assortment of effects. How old Sarah, Duchess of Marlborough would have rejoiced, when once she had recovered the shock of a Hanoverian sovereign inhabiting her house—that the effects of a Guelph Queen Dowager should be sold off in this manner, and make after all so petty a display!

The meeting held at Wantage in October last, to

celebrate the thousandth anniversary of King Alfred the Great is announced as about to have a practical result. It was there determined that a Jubilee edition of all the works of King Alfred, with copious literary, historical and pictorial illustrations, should be immediately undertaken, to be edited by the most competent Anglo-Saxon scholars who might be willing to combine for such a purpose; that all subscribers to the amount of three guineas should be entitled to receive one copy of the work, and that the profits of it should be devoted towards certain literary and scientific purposes. This "Jubilee Edition" is now announced as being in preparation with introductory essays, notes, illustrations, coins, &c., and an English translation:—the editors being J. Y. Akerman, Esq., author of 'Coins of the Romans,' &c.; Rev. Dr. Bosworth, author of the 'Anglo-Saxon Dictionary'; J. Britton, Esq. F.R.S., author of 'Cathedral Antiquities,' &c.; J. S. Cardale, Esq., editor of Boethius; Rev. J. Erle, Professor of Anglo-Saxon, Oriel College, Oxford; Rev. S. Fox, editor of the 'Anglo-Saxon Poetical Calendar'; Rev. Dr. Giles, author of 'Life and Times of Alfred the Great'; J. M. Kemble, editor of 'Codex Dipl. Ang. Sax.,' &c.; Dr. Pauli, of the University of Berlin; B. Thorpe, Esq., editor of 'Ancient Laws, &c. of England'; M. F. Tupper, Esq., author of 'Proverbial Philosophy'; and T. Wright, Esq., author of 'Anglo-Saxon Biography,' &c.

The offer of the Pacha of Egypt to match Egyptian against English horses, for a long distance and on his own ground, is said to have been declined by the Jockey Club.

M. Kupffer, the director of the Astronomical Observatory at St. Petersburg, has announced, in a letter to the Royal Society, the establishment of a great central magnetical and meteorological observatory in that city, in which all the magnetical and meteorological observations made in the Emperor of Russia's dominions are to be reduced and printed.

BRITISH INSTITUTION, Pall Mall.—The GALLERY for the EXHIBITION and SALE of the WORKS of BRITISH ARTISTS is OPEN DAILY, from Ten till Five.—Admission, 1s. Catalogue, 1s. GEORGE NICOL, Secretary.

THE NILE.—RE-OPENED AT THE EGYPTIAN HALL, PICCADILLY.—The new and splendid MOVING PANORAMA of the NILE, showing all the stupendous Works of Antiquity on its Banks, from Cairo the capital of Egypt to the Second Cataract in Nubia. Painted by Henry Warren and James Fahey from drawings made by Joseph Bonomi during many years' residence there.—Morning 3; Evening 8 o'clock.—Stalls 3s., Pit 2s., Gallery 1s.

THE WINTER EXHIBITION OF WATER-COLOUR DRAWINGS AND SKETCHES IN OILS, comprising Works by the most eminent living Artists, is OPEN from Ten till Dusk daily. Admission (including Catalogue), 1s.: Season Ticket, 5s. "The Exhibition is altogether one which will repay the attention of visitors."—Athenæum, Jan. 5. J. L. GRUNDY, Manager.

BURFORD'S PANORAMA of the ARCTIC REGIONS, LECTURER-SQUARE, will be OPENED on MONDAY NEXT, showing as in Summer and Winter, from drawings taken by Lieut. Browne, R.N., of H.M. ship Enterprise, during the late Expedition under Sir James Ross in search of Sir John Franklin, and which drawings were presented to Mr. Burford by the Admiralty; including also Portraits of H.M. ships Enterprise and Investigator, and the sublime effects of an Aurora Borealis.—The Views of CASHMERE and POMPEII are also now open.—Admission, 1s. each View, or 2s. 6d. to the three. Schools, half-price.

ROYAL POLYTECHNIC INSTITUTION. The First of a Series of ILLUSTRATED LECTURES, by Dr. Bachhoffner, on the PHILOSOPHY of SCIENTIFIC RECREATION. Daily at Two o'clock, and in the Evenings at Eight.—A LECTURE, by Mr. Ashley, on COAL: its History and Formation. Daily, and in the Evenings.—AN ENTIRELY NEW SET OF DISSOLVING VIEWS of LONDON in the SIXTEENTH CENTURY and AS IT NOW IS, with a Descriptive Lecture, Daily at Half-past Four, and in the Evenings at a Quarter to Ten.—THE VIEWS of ROME, including New Views of the Interior and Exterior of ST. PETER'S, with DIORAMIC EFFECTS, are shown Daily at One o'clock.—Experiments with the DIVER and DIVING BELL.—NEW EXHIBITION of CHROMATROPES.—THE MACHINERY, MODELS, &c. EXPLAINED.—Admission, 1s.; Schools, half-price.

#### SOCIETIES

GEOLOGICAL.—Jan. 23.—Sir C. Lyell in the chair.—S. Clegg, Esq., F. C. S. Roper, Esq., and J. O. H. Matthews, Esq. were elected Fellows.—A paper was read, 'On the Structure of the Strata between the London Clay and the Chalk in the London and Hampshire Tertiary Systems,'—Part I. 'On the Basement Bed of the London Clay,' by J. Prestwich, Jun. Esq.—The position of the plastic clay formation, above the chalk and below the London clay, has been long well established. It has, however, been recently held doubtful how far the distinction between the London and the plastic clay series can be maintained,—and some even regard the latter as merely subordinate beds of the former. The object of the paper is to show that the lower English tertiaries form several

distinct subdivisions, each marked by different conditions,—indicating ancient hydrographical and palæontological changes of importance. For this purpose very numerous sections were described,—exhibiting the position and character of the lower part of the London clay. This deposit is a nearly homogeneous mass, several hundred feet thick, of tough clay of a predominating brown colour. At its outcrop it invariably rests on a conglomerate bed of round flint pebbles, mixed with yellow, green, or ferruginous sands, in variable proportions,—which the author names the basement bed of the London clay. Except where denuded on the chalk downs, this bed extends uninterruptedly from the Isle of Wight to Woodbridge in Suffolk. The materials composing it seem to have been derived by denudation from the inferior tertiary strata. This bed contains thirty known and eight or ten still undescribed species of testacea. In the western part of the London district the beds on which it rests contain no fossils; but at Woolwich, where it reposes on the fluviatile beds, six species of the estuary shells found in the latter also occur in the basement bed above, and four of them likewise in the freshwater series in the Isle of Wight. In the eastern district a few marine species are also introduced from the inferior tertiary beds. After deducting these, there remain twenty known species not found in the lower deposits, and constituting a distinct and well-marked group. Some of the species are very numerous and persistent through the whole range of the bed,—but others die out towards the east; whence the author infers that the sea became shallower in that direction. In Essex and Suffolk, also, fossils are almost entirely wanting. From a table of the fossils it appeared that the species were chiefly those of the London clay. It was, therefore, concluded that this bed forms a well-marked geological horizon dividing this formation from the older eocene deposits.

ENTOMOLOGICAL.—Feb. 4.—G. R. Waterhouse, Esq. President, in the chair.—The President nominated as Vice-Presidents for the ensuing year Messrs. Spence, Stephens and Westwood.—Mr. Stephens exhibited two specimens of a new British Noctua, which appeared to be *Orthosia ruficella* of Esper.—Mr. Douglas exhibited a new species of the family Tortricidæ, allied to *Redimitana Guenée*,—which he proposed to call *Weirana*, in honour of the indefatigable lepidopterist of that name. He also exhibited two specimens of a *Tinea* new to this country, the *Cosmopterix pinicolella* of Zeller.—Mr. S. Stevens exhibited new Lepidoptera which he had received from Mr. Bates,—who is at present investigating the entomological treasures of Para. He also exhibited a specimen of *Eurycantha horrida* from the South Seas,—and the specimen of *Lancia textor* exhibited at the October meeting, which was still alive.—Mr. Stainton read a paper on the genus *Micropteryx* of Zeller.

ROYAL INSTITUTION.—Feb. 1.—W. Pole, Esq. V.P., in the chair.—Mr. Faraday 'On the Electricity of the Air.'—The earth and the surrounding atmosphere have an extraordinary relation to electricity. The phenomena by which this relation is established may be referred either to *static* or to *dynamic* electricity. *Dynamic* electricity (or electricity in its current condition) occurs but rarely, as in the case of thunder-storms, &c. These are instances of great local disturbance; and there must be an enormous amount of this abnormal action to produce a sensible effect on the galvanometer. It is, however, extremely remarkable that these disturbances occur when the amount of atmospheric electricity is at a minimum. The *static* condition of atmospheric electricity is a subject of much higher philosophical interest. The late M. Peltier devised a process for ascertaining its amount; and this process has for five years been carried on by M. Quetelet at the Observatory at Brussels. The principle of the observation is to ascertain by induction at a given and exalted spot the quantity of electricity in the sky. The details of the process are simple:—a metallic ball-electrometer is raised, touched, then lowered, and the degree of electricity which it has derived from the atmosphere is examined. From observations made with this instrument M. Quetelet has ascertained that:—1. The amount of electricity at any given moment changes with a vertical displacement of the instrument, but not with a horizontal displacement. 2. That it increases



directly with the distance from the earth's surface.

—With respect to the annual and diurnal variation of electricity, M. Quetelet has constructed tables recording the mean of his observations for nearly five years, from which it appears—1. That the electricity is greatest in the coldest months. 2. That in the course of the day it is greatest at 2 o'clock A.M. and 9 o'clock P.M. With respect to the conditions of the atmosphere, it appears—1. That the electricity is always greatest when the sky is clear. 2. That the electricity of fog or snow is double that of rain, and equal to the mean maximum of the cold months. With respect to the quality of the electricity in the atmosphere, M. Quetelet observed in the course of five years but twenty-five instances of the atmosphere being in the negative state, and all these occurred either immediately before or immediately after rain or a storm. As to the dependence of electricity on the direction of the wind, it appeared to be greatest when the wind was at from S.E. to E.S.E. and from W.N.W. to N.W.; the interposed minima were at W.S.W. to W. and at N. to N.N.W.

These results having been briefly noticed as deduced from M. Quetelet's tables, Mr. Faraday concluded by reviewing some more comprehensive speculations of M. Peltier on the subject of atmospheric electricity. M. Peltier held peculiar views regarding the nature of negative and positive electricity, and also that the globe is permanently negative, and the celestial space surrounding it permanently positive. Mr. Faraday made some theoretical and some precautionary objections to these views, but not having time for the development of the matter, ended by wishing it to be understood that he did not accept these views at present, and stated that M. Quetelet had entirely refrained from including them in his investigation and account of the subject.

#### MEETINGS FOR THE ENSUING WEEK.

- MON. Geographical, half-past 8.—Messrs. Livingston, Murray, and Osawl, 'On Recent Discovery of the great Southern Lake of Africa,' dated the 20th of August.—Capt. Steele 'On the Banks of the Yona,'—Capt. Smyth, R.N. 'On late Travels in Abyssinia,' by Martin Bernatz, with illustrations.—Sir G. Hamilton, M.P., 'On Sin-keang,' by Dr. Gutzlaff.
- TUES. Civil Engineers, 8.—Mr. W. T. Doyne 'On the Theory of Transverse Strain, with Rules for Calculating and Constructing the Strength of Cast-Iron Beams of different forms.'
- Zoological, 9.—Scientific Business.
- WED. Society of Arts, 8.
- Microscopical, 7.—Anniversary.
- Ethnological, 5.
- Literary Fund, 3.
- THURS. Royal, half-past 8.
- Royal Society of Literature, 4.
- Antiquaries, 8.
- FRI. Royal Institution, half-past 8.—Rev. J. Barlow, M.A. 'On a Bank of England Note.'
- Geological, 1.—Anniversary.
- SAT. Asiatic, 2.

#### FINE ARTS

##### BRITISH INSTITUTION.

THAT truth should be told is a thing necessary, but painful when the language in which it is to be conveyed must be that of censure. Higher considerations than those of personal gratification,—the importance of restraining the licentiousness of bad art, exposing vitiated taste, and giving a better direction to diffuse and desultory views,—must, however, be the guides of the honest critic. We are bound to say, then, that tried by any high tests, the present Exhibition of Modern Art at the British Institution will be found lamentably deficient. It is so far below the average of even the last ten years—and they have not been remarkable for the excellence of their productions here,—that the casual visitor to the metropolis from our own provinces or from abroad must form a low opinion indeed of our Art-character if he be left to gather it from this display. Its mark of mediocrity extends over almost every variety of subject—from the ambitious in poetry or history to the lowliest imitation of objective truth—in nearly five hundred productions. The exceptional works are few. Platitudes of conception, vulgarity in treatment, and lowness of aim make the rule. The staple of the Exhibition is mainly contributed either by the unskilled portrait painter, whose travesties of character have taken fancy titles (since portraiture, strictly speaking, is denied entrance here),—or by the tourist who on his return from his autumnal ramble turns out the contents of his portfolio and devotes his ill-digested and imperfect sketches to the caricature of landscape.

The most ambitious picture in the collection—

conspicuous alike for its size and for its subject—is *Oliver Cromwell, Lord Protector of England, dictating to John Milton, his Latin Secretary, the celebrated Despatch in favour of the persecuted Protestants of the Valleys of Piedmont* (No. 16), by Mr. Newenham. In a quotation which we made last week from M. Guizot's summary of the Protector's character, it was stated that "his mind was wonderfully inventive, supple, prompt, firm and perspicacious, and he possessed a vigour of character which no obstacle could daunt, and no conflict weary." The best acknowledged portraits of the time verify this estimate,—and though the *physique* in these is that of scale, it is unalloyed by coarseness. A character combining contraries of feeling and antagonizing expressions is a great difficulty for the artist when it is to be presented under the movement of rapid passions.—The mind of the Poet is here expressed with more delicacy and with better sense of the internal working of sympathetic emotion,—carried to an extent that has not slightly emaculated the material conformation of the physiognomy so well known to us. The one figure is a presentment of active, the other of passive character,—in forms respectively carried to the confines of their physical representation. In the technical properties of the picture Mr. Newenham has shown readiness,—acquaintance with and mastery over the presentment of the several parts,—and a hand that bespeaks practice and determination of mechanical purpose. The temptation of pictorial machinery, in costume and accessory, on a scale somewhat larger than the truth, is one which neither the French nor the English painters in subjects of these dimensions have been able to resist,—though it has invariably the effect of attaching undue importance to trivial particulars. Without the most consummate skill in the painter to control and subdue such details, the effect is such as a Terburgh, or any picture of its class, seen through a powerful lens would present. From this tendency Mr. Newenham is more free than many who have ventured on subjects of these dimensions. The accessory particulars being in common, makes the allusion more in point—more obvious. In a very difficult subject Mr. Newenham has achieved much success,—and shown more of promise.

Mr. Linnell bears a name which is always a good augury. His range is wide,—his knowledge and observation are extensive,—and his style is powerful. *Opening the Gate* (133) is one of those true English scenes which this artist is in the habit of laying before us in a high yet sustained scale of colour—with a vigour of light and shade, a closeness of observation, and a brilliancy of effect which are not impaired by a peculiarity of execution often verging on the extreme of singularity, if not of mannerism. There are so constantly elegant passages, whether in the forms or in the colour of a bit of undulating road, a stray branch, a mantling pool, or a dank weed,—as fully to compensate for any peculiarity of touch. The gleam of light alone in *The Purchased Flock* (212) is a high testimony to the skill with which Mr. Linnell can impart interest to an ordinary and not very promising scene. The late Mr. Constable constantly held up to the student as an axiom, that by means of the phenomena of light and shade alone not only could the simplest and rudest forms in landscape be made of interest, but the various times of day in the same be made to show transformations so infinite as to produce almost new scenes—or, at least, a succession of pictures of corresponding variety. The interest of Mr. Linnell's landscapes is usually heightened by the introduction of such fitting incident as the situations demand.

We have never seen Mr. Frank Stone to greater advantage than in his *Sympathy* (129). This group of two girls is the very impersonation of his style; a style in which he has had many followers—there is more than one picture of this class here,—but in which he maintains his supremacy unimpeached. The story is so clearly told that a glance reveals its meaning. The group, while it denotes a very probable arrangement, exhibits at the same time the most artistic contrivance. There is great sense of beauty without convention,—excellence and facility of execution without parade and with taste,—above all, the valuable quality of suggestive art, giving the fancy and imagination full play, arresting attention and piquing curiosity. We have seen no picture of this class by Mr. Stone more to our taste:—and this is saying

much, considering that the class is one in which he has already achieved many successes in many seasons.

One of the many impotent affectations of Mr. Stone's style is *Medora* (2); which and *The Triumph of Venus* (156)—pictures brought too prominently before the eye—show the deficiencies and immaturity of Mr. Fisher's art. In the latter work the rankness of the materialism of Art is unredeemed by poetry of feeling or beauty of design,—while the flippancy of treatment awakens in us the recollection of what the world of Art has lately lost in the great colourist of his time, who knew so well how to dip his brush in roseate hues and make his canvas eloquent of mythologic fable or scriptural example. By what is left to us living, we learn to grieve over what is lost to us by death.

Nor will the mantle of the great colourist be said to have fallen on the shoulders of Mr. Salter. *Venus dissuading Adonis from the Chase* (413), and *The Toilet of Venus* (465), are evidences of ambition which has not calculated the limited nature of its resources. They have no essential constituent of Fine Art so prominently pronounced as to compensate for others that are absent.

An example of more profitable study is *The Departure of the Chevalier Bayard from Brescia* (317), by Mr. J. C. Hook:—a picture which well deserved a better place than has been here assigned to it. A residence among some of the best works of Giorgione has obviously inspired this painter to honourable emulation—and enabled him to produce some very harmonious and agreeable combinations of colour. The fascinations of chromatic display should, however, not abstract attention from the due consideration of character or of action. We are told that as the chevalier "quitted his chamber to take horse, the two fair damsels met him, each bearing a little offering which she had worked during his sickness. Greatly did the brave knight thank them for this last courtesy, saying that such presents from so lovely hands were worth ten thousand crowns. Then, gallantly fastening the bracelets on his arm, and the purse on his sleeve, he vowed to bear them both for the honour of their fair donors while his life endured." The picture is, as it were, a continuation of the story so ably illustrated by Mr. Hook in his picture of 'The Chevalier wounded at Brescia,'—which had our commendation when exhibited last year on the walls of the Royal Academy. In the present work the artist has been less fortunate in the presentment of his principal object. In the figure of the Chevalier we miss that noble and chivalric bearing which was rendered in the first picture; while the physiognomy lacks that impress of intelligence and confidence which were the known attributes of his character. There are, despite of this, much refinement of feeling and elegance of colour.

Mr. Linton's contributions of this year exhibit a deeper tone of colour and a look of more completion than usual. He has rarely ever surpassed, in these respects, his scene on *The Lagoon of Venice* (106). This is a picture which will be, though small, coveted as a charming reminiscence of a region ever fraught with poetic effect,—and for the simple and honest style in which that reminiscence is expressed. *Ruins of the Library in Hadrian's Villa* (182) is of a kind—the classic—to which we have been more accustomed from the same hand. Mr. Linton's selections are never of a commonplace order. There are always purpose and meaning in what he does,—and an exhibition of classical feeling, which alone can enable the painter of such subjects to lift them above the level of topographic description or dioramic display. Without such feeling as he evinces, that is just the condition into which the landscape art must degenerate amongst us:—as the walls of our many Exhibition-rooms but too abundantly testify.

Among the few figures of mark in this collection, Mr. Sant's *Astronomy* (30) may be numbered. Raffaele and Reynolds—the first in a figure in the Popolo Church at Rome, the last in his *Theory*—have probably contributed to the production of a well-drawn and well-painted figure,—conspicuous in this place for its picturesque combination of light and shade and colour and masterly execution. Mr. Sant's other contribution, *The Rivals* (149), is not happy, either as a thought or as a piece of executive skill. The contrast in feeling, as in subject,



with the former is great. The first picture breathes a high poetic intention—the last, one that might have been as well achieved in a coloured aquatint for one of the popular print-shops of the day.

The two views of *Pesth* (6 and 184), by Mr. Jones, will be received as welcome little contributions by an artist whom we have missed for some time from these walls, but who has on former occasions so often enriched them with larger pictures of Continental town scenes. These little ones before us are invested with more than ordinary interest from recent political events.

A very able artist, Mr. F. Goodall, has a large composition,—the subject, *The Post Office* (52). The contents of the morning mail have been just distributed; and the village tonsor—the arch-gossip of the place—having possessed himself of a late edition of the *Times* containing the Indian Mail, which has brought news of one of the victories of Hardinge and Gough on the Sutlej, retails the same to a group of wondering rustics, among whom a cobbler betrays a leading interest. The episodes that might be expected have furnished pleas for the introduction of the minor groups; and the background and accessories have all been selected with an eye to pictorial combination. On ground which has been already so eminently occupied by one, the chief of his line in England, and the successful rival of the Dutch school,—it is much to say that Mr. Goodall's composition has great merit. In the mechanical portions of his work he has shown much improvement. There is more truth than of old in his local tints and in his shadows; and his still-life accessories possess a resemblance and a degree of finish somewhat prejudicial to the more important passages of human character and expression,—which lose by comparison some of their emphasis.

**FINE-ART GOSSIP.**—The Berlin papers report the death, at the age of 86, of the oldest of the living sculptors of Germany—the celebrated J. G. Schadow,—Professor at the Academy of the Fine Arts in that capital since the year 1788, and since 1822 its Director-in-chief. Herr Schadow was born in Berlin in the year 1764; and while yet a boy was sent to Rome,—where he received his artistic education. All the most illustrious contemporary sculptors of Germany—Rauch and Tieck, of Berlin—Dannecker, of Stuttgart—Zauner, of Vienna—Ruhl, of Cassel—and Pozzi, of Mannheim—were of his school. Among the most famous of Schadow's works were—the monument of Count Van-der-Mark, in the Church of St. Dorothy, at Berlin—the equestrian statues of Frederick the Great, at Stettin, General Ziethen, Field-Marshal Blücher, at Rostock, General Taubien and Duke Leopold of Dessau, at Berlin, and Luther, at Wittenburg—a colossal group in marble representing the late Queen Louisa of Prussia and her sister the Duchess of Cumberland—and the quadriga on the Brandenburgh Gate, at Berlin.

We may announce to our readers that Sir Richard Westmacott, the Professor of Sculpture in the Royal Academy, will commence his course of lectures for the present year on Monday next—and continue them on the next five consecutive Mondays. Mr. Leslie will deliver his lectures on Painting on Thursday next and on the five Thursdays next following.

The *Journal des Débats* says—"The Mosaic of Autun has been transported to Paris. This mosaic, one of the largest in existence, is in the form of an oblong square. In the centre is a medallion two metres and a half in diameter—the field of which is occupied by Bellerophon bestriding Pegasus and overthrowing the Chimera. This group is admirable in composition as in execution. The principal figure—that of Bellerophon—has the character of calm and simple grandeur found in the finest specimens of the antique. Pegasus and the Chimera are both remarkably fine. The ornaments—in particular the laurel leaf which plays so gracefully around the medallion—are in exquisite taste." Discovered some years since at Autun, as our readers may remember, it is considered the finest ancient specimen of its kind now known—"this stone and marble picture"—as the *Journal* calls it—"as fresh to-day as a modern canvas, yet old as the Rome of Trajan—perhaps as that of Augustus."

## MUSIC AND THE DRAMA

MR. LUCAS respectfully announces the ANNUAL SERIES of MUSICAL EVENINGS for CLASSICAL CHAMBER COMPOSITIONS will take place at his residence, No. 54, BERNERS-STREET, on four alternate WEDNESDAYS, commencing March 6th.—Violins, Mr. Sainton and Mr. Biagrove. Viola, Mr. Hill. Violoncello, Mr. Lucas, assisted by other Artists.—Subscription, One Guinea. All applications to be made to Mr. Lucas, No. 54, Berners-street.

### ST. MARTIN'S HALL.

The Portion of the GREAT HALL now ready for occupation will be opened on MONDAY EVENING, February 11th, with a GRAND CONCERT, when will be performed Mendelssohn's Cantata, *LAUDA SION*, (for the first time) a new FESTIVAL ANTHEM, composed by Henry Leslie, for Two Choirs and Orchestra; and a MISCELLANEOUS SELECTION of Vocal and Instrumental Music.

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The CHORUS will consist of the Members of Mr. Hullah's First Upper Singing School. The ORCHESTRA will be numerous and complete in every department.—Leader, Mr. WILLY.

Conductor, Mr. JOHN HULLAH.

The Performance will commence at half-past Seven o'clock. Prices of Admission, 2s.; Reserved Seats, 5s. Tickets may be had of Mr. J. W. Parker, Publisher, 445, West Strand; of the principal Music Sellers, and at St. Martin's Hall (Temporary Entrance, 89, Long Acre).

**DRURY LANE.**—The production, on Monday, of Schiller's '*Fiesco*' was an honourable experiment. The more elaborate style of the German play has not yet been legitimated in this country; and the present example has been "extensively adapted," in order to its stage-exhibition. This task, we understand, was confided to Mr. Planché,—who certainly has made the most of his privilege. We do not think that it has always been judiciously exercised;—at any rate, the manner betrays more of the playwright than of the dramatist. One difficulty in the way of putting Schiller's '*Fiesco*' on the stage was, the nature of the catastrophe. Historically, it was nothing more than an accident. Fiesco fell from a plank into the sea, and was drowned. The poet judiciously assigned a cause to this "effect defective." One of Fiesco's fellow-conspirators, jealous of his power and dreading his ambition, in a spirit of ultrarepublicanism pushes him from the plank, and walks on. Something more striking is supposed to be demanded by the English public; and accordingly Mr. Planché makes *Verrina*, the conspirator alluded to, stab Fiesco in the back while crossing the plank, and then slay himself—a conclusion very unsatisfactory. The main dramatic element of Schiller's play lies in the character of its hero;—and in its moral idea, which is—that ambition and love cannot inhabit the same bosom, whether the love of liberty or that of beauty. *Fiesco* sacrifices the happiness of his wife without remorse; pretending, for his political ends, to a *liaison* with the sister of *Doria*, and allowing his own countess to suffer meanwhile all the anguish of a jealous suspicion. In league with republicans to overthrow the constitution of Genoa, his creed is monarchical; and he aims at the dukedom,—which, a few moments before his death, he actually obtains. With all this dissimulation, *Fiesco* is depicted as proud and generous. He takes into pay a Moor who had been hired to assassinate him, and by his generosity attaches him to his person:—ultimately, by his pride, he repels him, and turns him into a deadly enemy. But *Fiesco* dissembles either too much or too little:—he is now the wisest of men, and now a fool. The same man could scarcely have so successfully cajoled his fellow conspirators and the people, and fallen a victim through his ungarded straightforwardness of character to the malignant Moor. The inconsistency of this part of the plot was evidently felt by the audience, and the drama lost interest immediately on the conduct of the hero becoming doubtful. The play was written by Schiller in prose, and belongs to the three or four plays which compose "the first period" of his dramatic development. Superior as a work of art, though not in power, to his '*Robbers*,' it is in both respects much inferior to his '*Don Carlos*.' Mr. Planché has, we believe, effected his translation for the most part in blank verse,—which, though in general it sounded pleasantly enough, wanted weight.—The performance of '*Fiesco*' was signalized by great care. Due attention was paid to the *mise en scène*. The scenery was mostly new and good, and the costumes were rich. Mr. Anderson as *Fiesco* aimed at the impressive and emphatic in the delivery of the text,—but was monotonous and slow to a fault in his elocution. Moreover, he appeared to be suffering under a severe cold. As *Verrina* Mr.

Vandenhoff was frequently effective; and, indeed, partly owing to his style and partly to the situations in which he is placed, became the real hero, and carried away all the sympathy which the drama is capable of exciting. Miss Addison as *Leonora* is not to be commended. There was overmuch effort in her acting,—but the result was feeble, and even repulsive. The house was crowded, but not enthusiastic.

**OLYMPIC.**—A new farce, from the French, by Mr. Wigan, has been successfully produced here, entitled '*A Dead Take-in*.' It is in two acts; and turns on the ostentation of courage in a certain *Hector Poulet* (Mr. Compton),—who, though given to bragging, is when in the thick of a quarrel made brave by desperation. Being ambitious of the reputation of a duellist, this foible is taken advantage of by one *Captain Darcourt* (Mr. Wigan),—who, to prevent Hector's marriage with his own mistress, provokes him into giving an affront, and then demands immediate satisfaction. Hector soon feels his valour "oozing" out. Compelled to fire at his adversary, who signs to have been mortally hit, he is smitten with ludicrous remorse, and insists on burying the body of his victim; but in his terror he is fain to intrust the pious office to others. In the second act the supposed dead man appears again, as the notary charged to superintend the marriage settlement of Hector with the lady in dispute. The resemblance of the notary to the slain captain throws the expectant bridegroom into a fright. The situation is made the most of by Mr. Compton and Mr. Wigan himself. The notary subsequently professes to be the brother of the deceased. A new quarrel ensues, the lights are put out, and Hector has another supposititious murder on his hands—the victim pretending to fall out of the window. Mr. Wigan then appears the third time as the sister of the two *Darcourts*,—and again the resemblance perplexes and torments Hector. The lady, of course, is ultimately united to her Protean lover.

On Monday night, Mr. Gustavus Brooke reappeared on the stage of this theatre, in his old character of *Othello*. He performed it with his usual executive power. Mrs. Mowatt made a charming *Desdemona*; and Mr. Davenport as *Iago*, developed a vein of quiet sarcasm which told well on the audience. The house was fully attended.

**STRAND.**—Fielding's comedy of '*The Miser*' (adapted from the *Avare* of Molière) was performed on Monday. It has been reduced to three acts; but compression has not added to its effect. Mr. Farren in the hero, and Mrs. Glover in *Lappet* the chambermaid, exhibit their respective characters with strength and prominence:—but the *ensemble* is not attractive.—A series of papers in *Punch* has given the title to a little piece called 'Scene in the Life of an Unprotected Female'; but the drama is an independent production. A lady, imprisoned in her chamber by her uncle, a wig-maker, amuses her solitude by conversing with the lodgers in the house; whose voices are heard behind the scenes, sometimes engaged in ludicrous contest with each other. Failing these, the heroine gets up a dramatic scene for herself. She, thus, imitates Mrs. Glover as *Mrs. Heidelberg*,—and, by the aid of a wig-block, goes through the balcony scene in '*Romeo and Juliet*.' It is almost needless to add, that the part was intrusted to Mrs. Stirling. The piece was decidedly successful.

**HAYMARKET.**—The performances at this theatre have been occasionally varied by Mr. D. Jerrold's drama of '*Nell Gwynne*':—the heroine being very prettily interpreted by Miss Reynolds.

**SADLER'S WELLS.**—On Friday week '*The Honey-Moon*' was performed; the part of *Aranza* by Mr. Phelps,—that of *Juliana*, by Miss Fitzpatrick. The lady's performance was distinguished by much elegance.

**SURREY.**—Mr. Creswick appeared, on Monday, in '*Othello*.' The *Iago* was Mr. Mead.

**MUSICAL AND DRAMATIC GOSSIP.**—After having done our best in recommendation of the Sebastian Bach Society [*ante*, p. 25] we feel that the follow-



ing note from a correspondent may pertinently be given.—

I observe that the entire government of the Bach Society is, according to the prospectus issued, to rest permanently with the present self-elected Committee; all the other members being excluded from any control over the funds or any influence in the proceedings of the Society,—for any debts of which they would, of course, be individually responsible. However judiciously constituted the present Committee may be, I cannot but think this unusual regulation extremely ill advised, and quite unnecessary to preserve for the originators of this otherwise excellent scheme their due influence in the Society.—I am, &c. X.Y.Z.

Our own views with regard to the permanence of committees generally are well known. In the best of cases such an ordinance tends to breed despotism or to encourage supineness,—in the worst to nourish a taste for jobbing. In the present instance, however, the matter may be at its minimum as an evil to guard against. It would be easy to introduce a clause into the articles of the Society providing against debt being contracted;—failing which no one need enter into membership. It would not be easy annually to make and remake a committee for an institution of such peculiar character as the one projected.

From another quarter we have received the following, in reference to the same Society.—

Allow me through the medium of your columns to impress on the promoters of so excellent and desirable an association the absolute necessity of giving a more extended publicity to their plan than they have as yet done; for I feel sure that no organist, when fully acquainted with their intended arrangements, can refuse to join in this long-delayed tribute of respect to the memory of the great father of fugue, &c. &c. A LONDON ORGANIST.

There is reason in the above note; the publication of which, we hope, will tend to produce the desired effect. The *programme* of the Bach Society, as it stands, is too vague to attract the *lay* public; and by the above communication it would seem as if the "profession" will hold back from co-operation (which of course implies contribution) till some more definite statement of the Society's intended operations is submitted to it. This, we are aware, it may not be easy to give: but till it be given the Society cannot be said to have taken form or fallen into order.

While the London correspondent of the *Paris Gazette Musicale* is pleasantly acquainting its readers that, excepting the *Wednesday Concerts* (the Oratorios, of course, not counting), there is little or no music at present going on in this metropolis, we are obliged (as might be seen last week) to concentrate as closely as possible our notices of the entertainments really given—owing to their number. In addition to the Chamber Concerts last week noticed, we may now announce yet another entirely new series, promised by *Messrs. Cooper and Hancock*;—and may further state that *Mr. W. S. Bennett's Soirées* will recommence shortly;—at the first of which he will be assisted by Herr Ernst. The desire for this best music would seem to be spreading on every side,—since we are informed that the notable violinist is "retained" (as the lawyers say) for eight concerts at Manchester and Liverpool.

Curious and interesting is one opera-rumour which has arrived from Paris: to the effect that Mr. Lumley has committed the much-talked-of *libretto* written for *Her Majesty's Theatre* by M. Scribe, on the subject of Shakspeare's 'Tempest,' to be set by M. Halévy! An odd fate seems to attend this French 'Tempest;' which, it will be recollected, was announced as in progress of composition by Mendelssohn, with a view to its immediate production, before the master had even accepted the *libretto* to set, or named a period as possible. Nay, more,—this taken-for-granted opera was cast—the cast was published—and the portraits of the actors and actresses were set before the public ere the book was ready,—still more, ere a note of music was on paper!—It is said, on good authority, that the Covent Garden management has once more concluded an engagement with Signor (this time, however, not with Madame) Ronconi;—that Mdlle. Vera will possibly replace that best of *seconde donne* Signora Corbari, who henceforward intends to "set up" as a *prima donna*,—and that Signor Lucchesi will also, possibly, appear at Covent Garden. Meanwhile, Signora Ernesta Gripi has been tried at the Italian Opera in Paris as *Malcolm*, in 'La Donna del Lago;'—a proceeding somewhat odd, in a theatre notori-

ously unsuccessful, and which already possesses a competent *contralto* in Mdlle. Angri.

M. Alizard is dead: a singer from whom much was at one time expected at the Grand French Opera, and whose death leaves the place of *basso profundo* there open to contest, whenever M. Levasseur shall retire.—Mdlle. Cathinka Heinefetter has reappeared at the same theatre without success.—Half a hundred representations of 'Le Prophète' do not seem to have blunted Parisian appetite.—the opera being now established as a greater favourite even than 'Les Huguenots.' Having been present at a recent representation, it may be worth while to strike a balance betwixt the performances of the Rue Lepelletier and of Covent Garden. That the latter were better as regards chorus and orchestra there can be not a doubt. Miss Hayes, too, was more satisfactory as *Bertha* (a strictly secondary part) than Madame Castellan. Nor will M. Roger, in spite of his superior dramatic *finesse*, bear an instant's comparison with Signor Mario. The French tenor has not acquired—and now never will acquire—the ways of a large stage and grand drama; and much, therefore, of his acting which is meant to be impressive is little better than the obvious pantomime of a dancer, who must impress his audience by telegraphic signs. M. Roger's organ, too, has lost its sweetness of tone:—it is now a sound, no longer a voice. But the *Anabaptists* in Paris, headed by M. Gueymard, give to all the shadows of the music (so to say) a sharpness and decision, an intense contrast and character, which entirely distance "the doleful tidings" droned by the three black-gowned men in London! Till we can approach their perfection, as to clearness, force, and unity, it cannot be said that we are in case fairly to pass judgment on Meyerbeer's last work.

#### MISCELLANEA

*New Houses of Parliament.*—Mr. Ewart wished to ask the honourable Member for Lancaster what was the present state of the New House of Commons, and when that house was likely to be ready for the reception of Members?—Mr. T. Greene said, in reply to the first question, it was not very easy to define exactly the progress that had been made with the New House; but he supposed the principal object of the honourable gentleman was to ascertain whether it could be completed during the present session for the occupation of Members. He had no hesitation in saying that it would be perfectly possible to finish the chamber in which that house was to sit, so far as to render it fit for the reception of Members during the present session; but he apprehended that it would be utterly impossible for Members to use the New House with convenience or comfort to themselves until the refreshment-rooms, the library, and other apartments were completed. He had written to Mr. Barry to ascertain from that gentleman when he conceived it possible that the House would be ready; and in reply Mr. Barry said, speaking of the refreshment-rooms and other apartments necessary for the convenience of Members:—"These portions of the building are now so far advanced towards completion that, if a sufficient vote is taken shortly, the whole will be got ready for use by the commencement of the next session of Parliament."—*Parliamentary Debate.*

*British Institution.*—May I ask how it happens that the "private view" of this Gallery is always open to the Royal Academicians, who ought to have nothing to do with it, and closed to the exhibitors themselves, who are told to expect everything from it? If I mistake not, this Institution was founded to supply the deficiencies of the Royal Academy! If so, to be consistent, why not exclude all artists but those who support the Exhibition, and who are interested in being present on such occasions; instead of inviting an exclusive body (who have a "private view" of their own elsewhere) to meet governors and patrons of Art to discuss the merits and defects of those who can scarcely be said to command any other arena for the display and sale of their works than this little mysteriously-conducted establishment? Under this unfair arrangement, the exhibitors are virtually shut out from all chance of extending their professional connexion by meeting the purchasers of pictures.—I am, &c. AN EXHIBITOR.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.—R. A. K.—W. W.—M.—S. C.—S. B.—A Halting Student—E. E. W.—J. H. R.—received.

Erratum.—P. 132, col. 2, l. 69, for "James" Ross read John Ross.

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5,000	12 yrs	500 0 0	787 10 0	6,287 10 0
5,000	10 years	300 0 0	787 10 0	6,087 10 0
5,000	8 years	100 0 0	787 10 0	5,887 10 0
5,000	6 years	.. ..	675 0 0	5,675 0 0
5,000	4 years	.. ..	450 0 0	5,450 0 0
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A GENERAL MEETING OF THE GRADUATES OF THE University of London will be held at the Freemasons' Tavern, Great Queen-street, on the Evening of TUESDAY, the 26th of February.

F. SIBSON, Esq. M.D., in the Chair.  
The Chair to be taken at Half-past Seven o'clock precisely.  
ROBERT BARNES, M.D. } Hon. Secs.  
T. SMITH OSLER, L.L.B. }  
Graduates' Committee Room,  
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**UNIVERSITY COLLEGE, LONDON.**  
LECTURES ON JURISPRUDENCE.—Professor FOSTER will deliver an INTRODUCTORY COURSE of about TWELVE LECTURES, commencing on FRIDAY, the 22nd instant, at half-past 7 P.M., and continuing on Thursday and Friday Evenings. The Course will embrace the subject-matter of the Science and its relation to Moral Philosophy; its province as stated by Mr. Bentham and developed by Mr. Austin; the Theory of Natural Law; the Nature of Custom and of International Law, and the assertion of its claims to be considered as part of the subject-matter of Jurisprudence. Some account is also proposed to be given of the Law of Possession in connexion with Savigny's Treatise.—Fee, 3s.

ALEXANDER J. SCOTT,  
Dean of the Faculty of Arts and Laws.  
CHARLES C. ATKINSON, Secretary to the Council.  
February 7, 1850.

**GEOLOGICAL SOCIETY.**—The Council, having again had under their consideration the duties of their Assistant Secretary, have resolved, that the Assistant Secretary shall act as Editor of the Society's Journal, Curator of the Museum and Librarian; that he shall attend at the Society's Apartments every day (except on Sundays) from 11 o'clock forenoon to 5 o'clock afternoon, and that his salary shall be 200l. per annum. Candidates for the office to apply to the Secretaries, Geological Society, Somerset House.  
February 6, 1850.

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The SUMMER SESSION will COMMENCE on MONDAY, the 11th of March next, and end on Saturday, the 27th of July, 1850.

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**ARCHITECTS.—NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN,** that the Trustees appointed by Sir John Soane will meet at the Museum, No. 13, Lincoln's Inn-fields, on Monday, the 25th of March, at Three o'clock in the Afternoon, precisely, to DISTRIBUTE THE DIVIDENDS which shall have accrued during the preceding Year from the sum of 5,000l. Reduced 3 per Cent. Bank Ann. and the sum of 10,000l. So the various DISTRESSED ARCHITECTS, and the WIDOWS and CHILDREN OF DECEASED ARCHITECTS left in Destitute or Distressed Circumstances.

Forms of application may be had at the Museum, and must be filled up, and delivered there on or before Thursday, the 14th of March, after which day no application can be received.

**A LECTURE ON THE MUSIC AND MUSICAL INSTRUMENTS OF THE ANCIENT EGYPTIANS,** by Mr. W. H. GRATTAN, with VOCAL ILLUSTRATIONS by the Lecturer and MISS BESSANT. The Pictorial Illustrations, exhibited by means of the Prismatic Dioptric Lantern, to be delivered at the MARLBOROUGH INSTITUTION, 17, Edwards-street, Portman-square, on the Evening of Wednesday, February 20th, 1850, to commence at Eight o'clock.—Tickets of admission, 1s.; Reserved Seats, 2s. each; may be had at Beale and Chappell's, Regent-street; D'Almeida, Soho-square; Chappell, New Bond-street; Fuller's, Rathbone-place; and at the Institution.

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JOHN MURRAY, Albemarle-street.



LONDON, SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 16, 1850.

## REVIEWS

*The Life of John Calvin, compiled from Authentic Sources, and particularly from his Correspondence.* By Thomas H. Dyer. Murray.

PRIOR to the Reformation, Mr. Dyer tells us, Geneva, though nominally a fief of the German Empire, was in reality an independent little state, governed by a bishop, certain bodies of lay assessors, and the citizens at large. The unpopularity of Peter de la Beaume, who had succeeded to the bishopric in 1522, was one of the causes that facilitated the spread of the Reformed doctrines in the town. Driven into exile in 1527, he began to plot with the Duke of Savoy against the liberties of his see; and the Genevese, feeling themselves absolved from all duty towards such a ruler, took the government entirely into their own hands. The Protestant doctrines easily found their way into a city so situated.

It was not till 1532, however, that any very decided manifestations of Protestant spirit took place. "In the month of October in that year," says Mr. Dyer, "there entered Geneva a little man of mean appearance, with a vulgar face, a narrow forehead, a pale, but sun-burnt complexion, and a chin on which appeared two or three tufts of a red and ill-combed beard; but whose fiery eye and expressive mouth announced to the close observer a more remarkable character than his general appearance seemed to indicate." This was the celebrated French preacher, William Farel, who had been one of the first of his countrymen to embrace the Reformed faith. Born in 1489, he was forty-three years of age when he came to settle in Geneva; where by his fierce zeal he soon produced effects similar to those which he had already engendered in other parts of Switzerland. After three years of incessant dissension and turmoil, his disciples became so numerous as to effect a civic revolution. The Catholic system of worship was abolished—the convents were broken up and dispersed—and Geneva (August 1535) declared itself no longer an Episcopal See, but a Protestant Republic.

The Government of the new Republic was virtually in the hands of a municipal committee or magistracy called the Little Council, or the Council of Twenty-five. In this council, which had existed under the bishops, the highest rank belonged to four annually-elected dignitaries, called Syndics. Until the year 1457, the Little Council had been the only administrative body intervening between the bishop and the citizens. Subsequently, however, in order to render the General Assemblies of the citizens less frequent, two other councils had been created,—a Council of Sixty and an inferior Council of Two Hundred; both charged with deliberative functions, but both at the beck of the Little Council, with whom lay the right to nominate their members, and also the power of ordinarily convening them. Finally, under all these councils was the General Assembly of the citizens,—convened only on rare occasions. Its chief function was, the election annually of the four new syndics from a list of eight submitted to it by the Little Council. The constitution of Geneva was, therefore, it will be seen, a complex municipal oligarchy resting on a very slight democratic basis.

Such was the political machinery on which Farel had to act in order to carry out his views;—the moral material was even less hopeful. Mr. Dyer thus describes the state of Geneva under the episcopal rule.—

"Lively and excitable, the Genevese citizen indulged in an almost unbounded license. He loved

dancing and music, and when the season allowed of it, enjoyed those amusements in the open air. The doors of numerous wine-shops lay always invitingly open; and in rainy weather, or to those whose dancing days were over, offered, in addition to their liquor, the stimulus of a game of cards. Numerous holidays, besides Sundays, released the wearied tradesman from his warehouse or his shop, to seek recreation in the form most agreeable to him. Masquerades and other mummeries were frequent; but above all a wedding was the source of supreme excitement and delight. As the bells rung out a joyous carol, the bride repaired to church, surrounded by her female friends and companions, each adorned as fancy led, or as taste admonished that her charms might be set off to the best advantage; and, on returning home, the fête was concluded by feasting, music, dancing and revelry. \* \* The greatest dissoluteness of manners prevailed. Reckless gaming, drunkenness, adultery, blasphemy, and all sorts of vice and wickedness abounded. \* \* If the manners of the laity were corrupt, those of the clergy were as bad, or worse. The authentic documents just referred to bear frequent evidence of their profligacy."

Hard, indeed, was the discipline that was required to break such a people as this into the staid and strict rule of Protestant morality; and there were hundreds of the citizens who would have willingly been content with the mere change of ostensible system, leaving the old manners intact. But Farel was the very type of a true-hearted Puritan zealot; and no rest were the Genevese magistracy allowed to have till they had added a compulsory reformation of morals to the decreed reformation of creed and worship. Cards, dancing, plays, holidays, tavern suppers, questionable boddices and head-dresses,—all were cleared out of Geneva at one fell swoop. For awhile there was a mute submission. The young men of Geneva went regularly to sermon, and stayed at home in the evenings; but soon a sense of universal *ennui* seized the town,—and out of grumbled discontent arose attempts at open rebellion. Farel, with his few clerical colleagues, manfully withstood the tumult, and kept the reins as tight as ever. The probability is, however, that they would soon have been obliged to yield, had not Providence sent a coadjutor in the person of John Calvin.

Born at Noyon, in Picardy, on the 10th of July, 1509, Calvin—or, as the name was written in French, *Calvin*—was a type of the scholarly French mind of that period,—clear, severe, logical. In no two men have the respective qualities of the German and French nations been better contrasted than in Luther and in him: the German, disorganizing, ideal, creative,—the French, formalizing, scientific, positive. Whatever movement a German may have originated, one would desire to see a Frenchman come in his track to express the substance of that movement in definite propositions. Destined to hold exactly this relation to Luther, Calvin, who was his junior by twenty-six years, came exactly at the proper distance from him. In 1530, when young Calvin, then fresh from his studies in the classics and in law, first began to exhibit his Protestant tendencies, all the materials had already been accumulated that were necessary for a formal evolution of Protestant doctrine. The influence of the Reformation had spread over a large part of the Continent, France included; and all kinds of intellects and all kinds of interests had had time to declare themselves with regard to it. Accordingly, from the very first, Calvin appears to have recognized the logical expression of Luther's movement as his proper task. For a while, indeed, another great work seems to have attracted him—that of thoroughly overthrowing the Papacy in France, and re-enacting in that

country Luther's Reformation with a difference. But for this enterprise, the immense difficulty of which soon became more apparent than it had been at first, Calvin's temperament—shy, morose, and, though resolute in resistance, by no means bold in action—decidedly unfitted him. A weak-bodied and dyspeptic scholar, he had none of that Boanerges power that thundered over crowds of men and over-awed them in the manly presence of Luther. Luther's instinct was to beard danger and defy it:—Calvin, as soon as danger appeared in one town, quitted it for another. If Luther ever assumed a false name in any of his literary productions, it was by way of frolic:—Calvin wrote under five or six *aliases*. Localities infected with plague were scenes of activity to Luther:—in one of Calvin's letters, where he speaks of a clerical colleague who had gone to attend the sick in a pest-house, he expresses his "fear" that it may be his turn to go next. Of all this, visible to us now, when we can compare the two lives as wholes, Calvin must have been conscious from the first. Hence, if he ever entertained the idea of acting the part of a French Luther, he soon abandoned it; and devoted himself to that task for which his very tendencies as a Frenchman, his personal characteristics, and the especial nature of his past studies, so eminently qualified him. In the year 1535-6,—being then twenty-six years of age,—he published at Basle, both in French and in Latin, the first edition of his 'Theological Institutes';—a work that immediately made him known as, after Luther, Melancthon, Bucer, Zwingli and others, one of the most considerable men among the Protestants of Europe. After the publication of this work, the young theologian, whose place of residence had for some years been very uncertain, visited Italy; but, finding himself in danger there, he resolved to return to Basle or Strasburg,—and it was while proceeding on this journey, by a circuitous route, that he reached Geneva in the summer of 1536. Farel, hearing of his arrival, waited on him, and pressed him to remain. The prospect of a residence in Geneva was by no means agreeable to the young scholar; and it was not till Farel, laying aside the tone of entreaty, assumed that of command, and threatened him with God's wrath if he did not accept the call, that Calvin allowed himself to be overruled.

Reinforced by such an accession of strength, Farel continued his struggle with the sensual element in the society of Geneva. It proved too strong, however; and Calvin had hardly begun his labours as a preacher and teacher of theology, when (1538) he and Farel were driven from the town by a popular tumult. Farel went to Neuchâtel and Calvin to Strasburg,—where he accepted a ministerial charge, and resumed, in very straitened circumstances, his course of theological study. Here, too, he married, after the following characteristic fashion.—

"In spite of the distressed state of his pecuniary affairs, Calvin was at this time looking for a wife to help him to bear his burthens. Calvin in love is indeed a peculiar phase of his history. He had now arrived at the sufficiently mature age of thirty; and as his imagination had never been very susceptible, so, in the business of choosing a helpmate, he was guided wholly by motives of prudence and convenience. In fact, he left the matter entirely to his friends, just as one would buy a horse or any other thing; giving them instructions as to the sort of article he wanted. Writing to Farel on the 19th of May 1539, he says: 'I will now speak more plainly about marriage. I know not if any one mentioned to you her whom I wrote about before the departure of Michael; but I beseech you ever to bear in mind what I seek for in a wife. I am not one of your mad kind of lovers who doat even upon faults when



once they are taken by beauty of person. The only beauty that entices me is that she be chaste, obedient, humble, economical, patient; and that there be hopes that she will be solicitous about my health. If, therefore, you think it expedient that I should marry, bestir yourself, lest somebody else anticipate you. But if you think otherwise, let us drop the subject altogether.' \* \* From another letter to Farel, dated the 6th of February 1540, it appears that a young German lady, rich, and of noble birth, had been proposed to him. Both the brother of the lady and his wife were anxious that Calvin should espouse her. The latter, however, scrupled on two grounds; because the lady was unacquainted with French, and because he was afraid that she might think too much of her birth and education. If the marriage was to take place, he insisted that his bride should learn French; but on her requiring time to consider of this, Calvin dispatched his brother and a friend to fetch him home another lady, and congratulates himself on the escape he has had. He speaks in high terms of his fresh choice. \* \* It appears, however, from another letter to the same friend, dated on the 21st of June 1540, that this match, of which he had thought so highly, was also broken off. \* \* After these failures, Calvin expresses a doubt whether he should prosecute his matrimonial project any further. Soon afterwards, however, by the advice of Bucer, he married Odelette or Idelette de Bures, the widow of an Anabaptist at Strasburgh, whom he had converted. \* \* Idelette had several children by her former marriage, in whom Calvin seems to have taken some interest. By Calvin she had only one child, a son, who died shortly after his birth."

The attempts made by a faction to re-establish the Papal worship in Geneva led, in the year 1541, to Calvin's recall to that city; where, as Farel did not return with him, he assumed all the functions of the ecclesiastical leadership. He resided in Geneva, with scarcely an intermission, till his death, on the 27th of May, 1564, in the fifty-fifth year of his age.

During the twenty-three years over which Calvin's effective ministry in Geneva extended, that town served him in a double relation: it was a place of safe and honourable residence from which he could act his part as a theologian over the whole Protestant world,—and it was a sort of small model community, wherein, far more easily than over a large country like France, he could carry out and exemplify his ideas on Church government and Church discipline. We are not sure that in Mr. Dyer's book sufficient justice is done to the subject of Calvin's general influence as a theological luminary to the surrounding Protestant world. We hear of his correspondence, indeed, and of his successive theological publications; but there is no clear laying out of the great area of Protestant opinion in such a way as to exhibit the mutual bearings and tendencies of Luther, Melancthon, Cranmer, Zwingli, Knox, and Calvin, and the comparative extent of the spaces over which these diverse spirits acted. Sometimes, however, we have an interesting glimpse of the sentimental relations that subsisted between the other great reformers and Calvin:—as in the following appreciation of Luther by Calvin, on the occasion of an attack on the Swiss Churches by the vehement Reformer of Germany. In a letter to Bullinger, Calvin says:—

"I hear that Luther has at length published an atrocious invective, not so much against you as against us all. In these circumstances I can scarcely venture to ask for your silence; since it is unjust that the innocent should be thus attacked without having an opportunity to clear themselves: although it is at the same time difficult to decide whether that would be expedient. But I hope you will remember in the first place how great a man Luther is, and in how many excellent endowments he excels; with what fortitude and constancy, with what dexterity and efficacious learning, he hath hitherto applied himself both to overthrow the kingdom of Antichrist, and to propagate the doctrine of salvation. I have often said that though he should call me *devil*, I

should always be ready to give him due honour, and to acknowledge him as a famous servant of God: although, as he abounds in excellent virtues, so likewise does he labour under great faults. I wish he would endeavour to restrain the violence with which he boils over on all occasions; and that he would always direct the vehemence which is natural to him against the enemies of truth, and not brandish it also against the servants of the Lord. I should be glad if he took more pains in searching into his own defects. Flatterers have done him much harm, especially as he is by nature too much inclined to self-indulgence; but it is our duty, while we reprehend what is bad in him, to make due allowance for his excellent qualities."

If Mr. Dyer has failed to do justice to Calvin in his general connexion with the history of modern thought, he has in part made up for the failure by the great care and minuteness with which he has narrated the story of his special connexion with Geneva and its people. What Calvin was to the world at large,—what blank the subduction of all that he did would leave in human affairs as they now are,—what special elements Protestantism derived from him, and why these elements seized on some parts of the Protestant world and not on others,—to nothing so high as this does Mr. Dyer's reach extend. But of Calvin the preacher and citizen of Geneva,—of M. Jean Cauvin as he presided at clerical meetings, or plodded along the streets of the town on his way to see one of the Syndics on important business, or to lay a complaint before the Little Council,—a very distinct idea is to be obtained from Mr. Dyer's pages. This idea, it must be said, corresponds far more closely with the popular notion of Calvin's character than it is usual for the authentic images of remarkable men to correspond with the current conceptions of them. The Calvin we see in Mr. Dyer's pages is a severe, hard man, of resolute veracity and principle, and bent on great moral ends; but destitute alike of imagination and of sensibility, jealous to an extreme degree of his own rights and reputation, and under the dominion of what is usually called a very bad temper. However much the reader may strive to think otherwise, such is the impression that Mr. Dyer's mode of telling his story necessarily conveys. That Calvin should set himself to carry out the task of moral reformation which had been begun by Farel, and that thus he should have to be in perpetual conflict with the libertine or sensual element in Genevese society, were things of course; and any other man holding his opinions would have been obliged to act in the same manner. A so-called Consistory or Consistorial Court, consisting of six clerical and twelve lay members, with himself as president,—this court meeting once a week for the trial of all offences of doctrine and of morals, and punishing by admonition, by excommunication, or, in extreme cases, by surrender to the secular power—such was the machinery of ecclesiastical discipline set up by Calvin in Geneva; and it was strictly in accordance with precedents and with certain prevailing notions of ecclesiastical right. But in working this machinery, Calvin seems to have exceeded even the limits of Presbyterian rigour. According to Mr. Dyer,—

"The most trifling slights and insults, such as most men would have overlooked with contempt, Calvin pursued with bitterness and acrimony. The Registers of Geneva abound with instances, which grew more frequent and more severe as his power became more consolidated. In 1551 we find Berthelier excommunicated by the consistory because he would not allow that he had done wrong in asserting that he was as good a man as Calvin. Three men who had laughed during a sermon of his were imprisoned for three days and condemned to ask pardon of the consistory. Such proceedings are very numerous, and in the two years 1558 and

1559, alone, 414 of them are recorded! To impugn Calvin's doctrine, or the proceedings of the consistory, endangered life. For such an offence a Ferrarese lady, named Copa, was condemned, in 1559, to beg pardon of God and the magistrates, and to leave the city in twenty-four hours, on pain of being beheaded."

The inevitable impression produced by these and other such facts narrated in abundance by Mr. Dyer, is, that Calvin was what would now be called an ungenial man, whose bad temper carried him on many occasions far beyond what even his severe theories rendered necessary. Hence probably the circumstance that, while on the one hand his enemies accused him of never forgiving anybody who had offended him, he does not seem on the other to have had any friends of that intimate kind that affectionate natures are sure to gather round them. Everybody either feared or respected Calvin;—it would be difficult to point out any one who loved him. His life in Geneva, according to Mr. Dyer's account, was an almost constant succession of quarrels with private individuals,—who are described in his letters as "beasts," "scoundrels," &c.; and though his firmness carried him successfully through most of these affairs, and gave him in the end a virtual supremacy over every man and thing in Geneva from the Syndics downwards, he was often so unpopular that he could not go out without danger of being hustled in the streets. The burning of Servetus, so far from being a casual slip in his life, was a deliberate and characteristic action, of which he willingly assumed the full responsibility, and of which he never repented. "If he (Servetus) does come here, and my authority be of any avail, I will never suffer him to depart alive,"—such were Calvin's words in a letter to Farel written in 1546; and though it was nearly seven years before Servetus gave him the opportunity to carry them into effect, he did not forget them.—The whole story of the life and death of Servetus is minutely and clearly told by Mr. Dyer.

Altogether, Mr. Dyer's book is a careful, solid, and scholarlike performance. As will have been perceived, he is by no means a panegyrist of Calvin;—indeed, he seems on the whole to entertain a dislike to him. In the hands of a biographer having a higher reverence for the clear and systematic intellect, coupled with the severe in disposition, we doubt not the Reformer would have assumed quite other dimensions than those in which he is presented to us by Mr. Dyer. Instead of laying down the book, retaining as our final impression of Calvin the picture of a severe, acrid-looking valetudinarian walking slowly through the streets of Geneva, a terror to all the loose people of the place, we should probably have laid it down full of respect for a soul amongst the most earnest and influential that the world has contained.

*The Village Notary; a Romance of Hungarian Life:* Translated from the Hungarian of Baron Eötvös, by Otto Wenckstern; with Introductory Remarks by Francis Pulszky. 3 vols. Longman & Co.

Mr. Pulszky's preliminary notice of Baron Eötvös failed to interest us in its subject. It is natural that he should be able to regard the novelist in one point of view only,—as a partisan; but a sketch of the rise and progress of political ideas goes a short way to bespeak our favour for one whom we are about to meet as a tale-teller. Fit and fair prelude it may be to a controversial or historical work; but we long to escape into Fiction from "the question of questions," whatever that be,—and Mr. Pulszky's preface begot fears that we were



about to enter upon a political quarrel dished up in the guise of a work of entertainment. Luckily, however, 'The Village Notary' turns out to be merely a picture of manners and a drama of romantic incidents—not more political than Miss Edgeworth's 'Absentee' or Miss Rigby's 'Disponent.' By thus stating the fact in *limine*, we shall serve the romancer, though at the expense of his "master of the ceremonies."

It is true that oppression and iniquity—and those social injustices which end in out-lawry of the generous and fiery, and which drive the innocent into crime,—are the incidents on which the tale turns. We have the amiable Tengelyi family—intrigued against by a wicked aristocrat, Lady Rety, and her abominable tools. Weapons of annoyance are put in the hands of the oppressor, by the countenance which the daughter of the Village Notary bestows upon the wife and children of a certain high-minded Robber Viola:—but these incidents all belong to the stock in trade of the novelist, let him be ever so far removed from joining those merciless preachers who mix up dogmas and their incidents till we cease to care for either. Baron Eötvös has great descriptive power:—as the following scene will testify. The robber's wife is on the way to warn her husband, who is in peril of capture, and whose safety depends on her reaching his retreat in time.—

"It was dark when they started. The weak rays of the new moon were absorbed by a dense fog, and it required all the instinct of locality which characterises the Hungarian herdsmen to guide them over the vast plain, which offered scarcely any marks by which a traveller might shape his course. A heap of earth, the gigantic beam of a well looming through the darkness, the remains of a stack of straw, a ditch, or a few distant willows,—such were the only objects which might be discerned, and even these were few and far between. But the Gulyash drove his horses on, without once stopping to examine the country round him, for all the world as if he had been galloping along on a broad smooth road; and the very horses seemed resolved to do their best. They tore away as though they were running a race with the dragon of the wizard student, while Ishtvan, flourishing his whip, more in sport than because it was wanted, called out to them, 'Vertshe ne! Sharga ne! Don't they run, the tatoshes! They are the best horses in Hungary!' Willows and hills, well-beams and straw stacks, passed by them; the manes of the horses streamed in the breeze; the Gulyash, with his bunda thrown back, and his shirt inflated with the air, sat on the box as if he were driving a race with the Spirit of the Storm. The horses galloped away as if the soil were burning under their hoofs. 'Fear nothing, Susi!' cried the Gulyash; 'we are there before that cursed thief of a judge has left his house. Vertshe ne!'—And Susi sighed, 'God grant it!'—'Confound him, if we are too late. But now tell me, Susi, on your soul, did you ever ride in this way?'—'Never!' said she.—'I believe you. Sharga ne! Don't be sad, Susi; we've saved the better part of the road. At St. Vilmosh we'll call upon the Tshikosh. He'll give us a dish of Gulyashush; and if he has not got it, he'll find a filly, and kill it for our supper.'—Suddenly the horses jumped aside, and stood snorting and pawing.—'What's the matter?' cried the Gulyash, seizing his whip. 'What is it? Sharga! Vertshe! I see!' added he, as, straining his eyes in the darkness, he saw a wolf, which had crossed the road, and which stood a few yards off. 'Poor things! the vermin have frightened them. Never mind. Go your way to Kishlak, you confounded beast! where the dogs will tear the skin off your cursed bones. I trust Peti has kept out of its way; though, after all, there's not much danger. The very wolves won't eat an old gipsy. They are a tough race.'—Susi's anxiety for Peti's safety was far from yielding to the learned remarks of the Gulyash, but she was soon relieved by hearing the gipsy's voice. He called out as they overtook him on the road. They stopped, and he took his seat on the cart. 'We

are sure to be in time,' said he; 'the Garatsh road, on which the justice travels, is as heavy as can be.'—'I have no hope since I saw the vermin,' said Susi, sadly; 'they tell me it bodes one no good.'—'Don't be a fool, Susi!' said the Gulyash. 'Have I not seen lots of vermin in my life, and I am still here and in luck. What are you afraid of? My horses are not even warm.'—'Yes; but the cart may break. I am full of fears.'—'It won't break, Susi; you see it's not a gentleman's carriage. There is a vast difference between a gentleman's carriage and a peasant's cart, just as there is between gentlemen and peasants. Your carriage is vast, and roomy, and high-wheeled, and cushioned, and painted; in short, it's a splendid thing to look at; but take it out on a heavy road, and down it breaks with a vengeance! it's full of screws and such tomfoolery, and only fit for a smooth road. Now, a peasant's cart goes through anything; and mine is a perfect jewel. The wheels are of my own make, and Peti has hooped them.'—Peti was not quite so confident. 'I hope there's no water,' said he, scratching his head; 'we've had some heavy rains, and if the low country is full of water —.'—'Never mind, Peti, I'm sure it's all in good order; and you Susi, dear, don't be afraid! My brother Pishta, who lived on the other side of the river, died last week, when he was just about to leave the place. He got a passport and a landlord's discharge for the purpose. Those papers are of no use to his widow; but they are just the thing for you and Viola, for they will help you to get away. I know of a good place about a hundred miles from here, where you may earn an honest livelihood. You're not fit for the kind of life you're leading. I'll take you to the place with my own horses; you have not got much luggage. The great thing is to get out of the country; for it's a rum affair such a county, and the best of it is, that it is not too large. Don't you think so, Peti?'—But Peti made no reply, not even when Susi, catching at the faint ray of hope which fell into the gloom of her life, inquired whether the Gulyash's promise was not too good to be realised? The gipsy sat motionless, with his eyes staring into the darkness which surrounded them. They hurried on in silence, whilst the fog grew dense, and the sky blacker than before. No trace was left of either willows, mounds, stacks or well-beams; still they pressed forward until the splashing in water of the horses' hoofs stopped their progress. Peti's fears were but too well founded. The place where they halted was under water. The gipsy descended to reconnoitre the extent. As he advanced he beheld the plain like a wide lake, of which he could not see the end. He retraced his steps and walked to the right, but he found that the water stretched in every direction. At length he made his way to a dry place, to which he directed the Gulyash. 'Let us go on in this direction,' said he, as he took his place in the cart; 'there is some chance of reaching the forest. Be careful, Ishtvan, and keep close to the water, or else you'll lose your way. This here's the Yellow Spring.'—'Christ save us!' cried Susi. 'We are surely too late, and my poor husband —.'—'No!' said the gipsy, with ill-dissembled concern; 'unless the water has flooded the Frog's Dyke, we shall find the Black Lake dry, and if so we're safe. On with you, Ishtvan!'—'Confound the Theiss!' said the Gulyash, as he whipped his horses on.—'Nonsense; it's not the Theiss. 'Twas but yesterday I saw the river at Ret, it's as quiet as a lamb; but this water comes from the new ditch which the gentry have made. They make the water mad with their ditches and dykes.'—'A thousand thunders! there's water here!' and he pulled the horses back, one of which had slipped and fallen. Susi wrung her hands. Peti jumped down and walked through the water. He came back and led the horses onwards. It's not worth stopping for, my beauties,' said he, addressing the horses; 'you'll see some rougher work by and bye if you stay with the Gulyash Pishta.' They reached the opposite bank, and hastened on until they were again stopped by the water. The gipsy wrung his hands.—'The Black Lake is brimful. There's not a horse in the world can ford it;—Stop here,' said Susi.—'I'll walk through it!'—'Nonsense, Susi! the lake is full of holes. You are weak. If your foot slips you'll never have the strength to get up, and then you are done for,'—'Hands off! let

go my bunda; God will help me! but I cannot leave my husband in this last extremity; and she struggled to get down.—'Now Susi, be reasonable! What's to become of your children if they hang your husband, and you are drowned?'—Susi sat down by the side of the cart. She covered her face with both her hands, and wept bitterly.—'Don't be afraid, child!' said the Gulyash; 'either I go over or Peti does. You see the forest is just before us, and if there's not a road, confound it! we'll make one.'—'So we will, cried Peti. 'I'll cross the water, though the very devil were in it. Let me feel my way a little. Is not that the large tree we saw the other day?'—'May be it is, but I can't make it out on account of that confounded fog. There are lots of high trees in the forest.'—'To the left of the tree, about two hundred yards from it, there is a clearing in the wood. On the day I spoke of, we drove through it with the cart. Don't you remember?'—'How the deuce shouldn't I remember! There ought to be some reeds to the right of the tree.'—'So there ought to be! Now you go to the right and I to the left. If I can find the clearing, and if that's the tree I spoke of, I'll walk through the water; for it's a rising ground from that tree to the other bank of the Theiss.'—'I'll go with you,' said Susi, 'my heart beats so fast —there's a murmur in my ears—let me go! I'll die with fears if you tell me to remain here.'—'Susi, my soul, if I can cross the waters I'll come back, and carry you on my back. But stay where you are—stay for Viola's sake, if not for your own!'—They walked away and were lost in the darkness. Susi stood by the water, looking at the forest. 'Alas!' sighed she, 'I am so near him, and yet I cannot go to him!'—The poor woman was right. On the other side of the water, scarcely more than a thousand yards from the place where Susi trembled and prayed, we find Viola with his comrades, encamped in one of the few oak forests of which Hungary can boast."

Peti will be recognized by every one as the omnipresent and most cunning tinker already often used in romances,—and last, and not worst used in the 'Giselle' of Mr. Palgrave Simpson. Viola, the robber, is a freebooter according to the interesting pattern which Schiller, Scott, and, *longo intervallo*, Mr. James have successively followed. But his trial (a precious exposition, by the way, of Hungarian justice) is capitally described,—and his final fate is as affecting as if it had not been foreseen from the first moment in which he appears.—Among the lighter scenes, that of the election is wrought up with great spirit and obvious resemblance to the life. The strength, however, of 'The Village Notary' lies in its romantic portions. These, though not new in incident, are so forcibly wrought and so skilfully varied by touches of local colour as thoroughly to carry away and interest the reader.

*Diary of an Officer of the Brigade of Savoy in the Campaign of Lombardy.* By G. M. Ferrero. Translated by the Comtesse Fanny di Persano. Low.

*Extracts from Journals kept during the Revolutions at Rome and Palermo.* By the Earl of Mount-Edgumbe. Ridgway.

VOLTAIRE, who took a sardonic pleasure in tracing important events to mean or insignificant causes, would have been delighted with the opening scene in the Lombard revolution. It began about a cigar; and, after a series of most interesting and exciting events, literally ended in smoke. The whole movement of the Italian struggle for independence, nationality and free institutions is full of that mingled sort of interest which makes men laugh or weep as their natures may dispose them,—but to which no one can be totally indifferent. The drama begins with a note of the highest promise. The soul of the Peninsula seems really stirred: everywhere, from Palermo to Venice, from Lake Lemano to the Gulf of Tarento, the energies of the people are awakened,—feeling is exalted to



enthusiasm—the cry for unity, for the expulsion of the foreigner, goes forth. This excitement is hurled against the old organic bodies, and everywhere overwhelms them by the suddenness and weight of the attack. All Europe looks on the passing drama with wonder—much of all Europe with delight. At length, the day of promise seems to have come. For a moment, Italy appears to be free;—to be free, and by her own unaided efforts. Her exiles return to her from various lands. But the power which she has exhibited is the power of a chaos: nothing is organized. The fall of the revolutionary avalanche of passion is crushing—everything gives way before it; but the fall being accomplished, the compact organizations regain their old ascendancy. A few months of varying fortunes, and the armies are again victorious at all points. Venice, Rome, Palermo, Florence, Bologna, Milan, all receive their former masters within their gates. Nearly all of good that had been gained for a moment is now lost:—but not quite all. Some precious relics have been left;—left to cherish in the mind of Italy the promise of some more auspicious day, on which another blow for freedom may be ventured.

The two works under notice contain part of the material out of which the history of this unsuccessful, but not ignoble, drama must hereafter be written. Lord Mount-Edgumbe happened to be residing at Palermo when the first act of hostility to the King of Naples took place; and, being an English peer, thought he might intervene for the benefit of both parties before events should have arrived at a point whence an amicable arrangement would be impossible. With this intention, he entered into correspondence with the chiefs. Both parties seem to have trusted him more or less with the care of their interests. This position, though he bore no official character and could speak only the sentiments of a private person, is easy to understand. To the Sicilians it was enough that he was an Englishman; the confidence of the Neapolitans may be accounted for by the fact of his partisanship to King Ferdinand. This partisanship he carries so far as to insinuate an excuse for that objectless bombardment of Palermo which so roused the indignation of Europe,—and to propose to add a large portion of the territory of the Papal See to the hereditary domains of the monarch in question! His interference at all has been censured in high quarters at home; and he now publishes his memoranda, and copies of the letters written by and to him while engaged in the friendly negotiation, in his own defence. These papers bear on the face of them a warrant for their entire trustworthiness. They are calm, dispassionate and fair in their statements with regard to the Sicilians,—while the writer's avowed partiality to Ferdinand justifies the reader in accepting whatever he says against the Neapolitans without reservation. The cruelty and cowardice of the king's troops fill him with indignation. The way in which 10,000 soldiers and generals, supplied with all the munitions of war and protected by solid forts and bastions, ran away from a mob of ill-armed and unorganized civilians, is one of those curious feats to be paralleled only out of the history of the heroes who fled before the raw Roman recruits at Veletri, and valiantly slew the quiet citizens in the streets of Naples. We will borrow from Lord Mount-Edgumbe the statement of an incident which preceded their flight from Palermo.—

"One parting outrage must not be omitted, it being as flagrant an act as men in authority could be guilty of. Before quitting their barracks at Palermo, they let loose upwards of 2,000 forcats, confined in the adjacent prison, although they could not doubt that

any guard left to secure them would have been well treated by the people, and suffered uninjured to depart. That this was done in furtherance of their most nefarious desire to punish the inhabitants by the scourge of anarchy, is placed beyond a doubt, by their having subsequently sent on shore numbers of other convicts confined in the penal establishments on the Lipari Islands. This act of atrocity was little commented upon by the Palermians, because they found themselves in a great degree at the mercy of the scoundrels let loose upon them; and who, it is but justice to say, have in a great measure refrained from playing the game they were set free to perform. A great many, indeed, being organized, gave efficient aid on several occasions in the maintenance of order."

For such misdeeds of his servants, the writer holds the King of Naples blameless. The reader of Sicilian history will do well to read Lord Mount-Edgumbe's Journal along with the "Minto Blue-book" and Prince Granatelli's memoir.

From Palermo, Lord Mount-Edgumbe went to Rome,—where events were hastening to a still more serious crisis. But as yet attention was chiefly confined to the north of Italy; where Radetzky had been worsted in a series of engagements, and driven, with his Austrians, beyond the line of the Mincio by Charles Albert. A brief but lively sketch of the events of this unfortunate campaign is given in the journal of M. Ferrero. The whole weight fell on the little army of the Piedmontese. The writer no doubt has a prejudice in favour of the wisdom and valour of his own king and countrymen; but it is a prejudice in behalf of which much cogent argument might be urged. Charles Albert is no more, and the Italian campaign is history. We can stand apart from the passions of his trans-Ticino countrymen, and judge of his merits and his feelings as we would those of a hero in Plutarch. If he had once been false, as his enemies say, to the creed of his youth, the closing acts of his career went a long way to redeem that error. He struggled nobly for the liberation of Italy,—perilled his crown and his life on the event,—failed—and paid the penalty of his failure. No one lost more than he did by the ill-fortune of his country. This may teach charity for his memory. Nor can he be accused of so much want of good faith as falls to the lot of the usual run of sovereigns. Of all the constitutions won by the revolution, that of Piedmont is the only one which is still something more than a bundle of waste paper. The reverence expressed by the soldier who fought with him living, and mourns for him dead, is a feeling which English readers may regard with respect. In reading the daily entries made in his journal by this Sardinian officer, we are haunted by a perpetual fear that the exertions made will all come to nought. Everywhere we find the fatal indifference—the want of unity of purpose—which ever presage the failure of great enterprises. Here is a specimen, taken on the eve of success. The officer and his comrades are at Palazzuolo; where they go to take coffee in the—

"house of a certain Signor Fiorino, the man of business of several rich proprietors of the country, wine-merchant, inn-keeper, and, I rather think, somewhat of an usurer. This man unites in his person the cunning and spirit of intrigue of Brighella, joined to the love of gain and suppleness of character of Pantalone, two types of Venetian comedy, immortalized by Goldoni. Signor Fiorino wears a cinnamon-coloured coat, knee breeches, and shoe buckles: although more than seventy years old, he is extremely active, and does not shrink from any degree of fatigue when he may gain some advantage. He observed to us one day, in a good-natured manner, 'My dear gentlemen, I am delighted to see you; you like *vino santo* and good coffee; you have money, your soldiers pay for all they take: long live the

Piedmontese! I ardently hope that you may be victorious before the autumn . . . that we may make our vintage. One must, however, be just to all the world; the Austrians left us quiet, we sold our silk very well. . . .'" Then, fearful of having betrayed himself, he continued with rather an ironical expression, "Never mind! vive l'Italie! we are all brothers!" The country which extends between the Oglio and Mincio is very much behindhand, especially in all that concerns the comforts of life. The cooking is detestable; the interior of the houses badly distributed; rooms of which the doors and windows shut badly; bare walls, little or no furniture, immense beds to hold four mattresses stuffed with feathers, very uncomfortable in the summer; at the head of the bed one remarks everywhere a prodigious collection of images, crucifixes, and vessels of holy water; the panes of glass in the windows are cut in a lozenge shape; the doors are only fastened with clumsy bolts. Since the year 1400 the locksmith's trade has made no progress in this country. The land about Verona appears to have remained uncultivated for the last twenty years, and there is not a single forest tree! The common women, continually exposed to the heat of the sun, and their food being very unsubstantial, composed of maize soaked in water, are thin and brown, without that warm tint which gives such a charm to the people of the South: their costume is neither picturesque nor elegant. The peasants of Lombardy, in general, have no idea of their political rights: having always suffered much from war, their only desire is to enjoy peace at any price. Their patriotism fades before the fear of those evils, the sure consequences of war: as for the form of government by which they are ruled, they are completely indifferent."

When fortune changes sides and the tide of war begins to roll back, the Lombards grow still more lukewarm. The Piedmontese seem to be in an enemy's country. They can gain no intelligence. The Austrians sally out of Verona in two columns of 12,000; they march several hours, and encamp within a mile of the unsuspecting Sardinians. "However, there was not a single person generous enough, or sufficiently an *Italian*, to warn us of the danger." So it is on all hands. Want of spirit on the part of the Lombards—want of faith on the part of the Croats—such were the causes to which our author attributes the failure of Charles Albert. We have given an example of the first of these causes: we add one, of the second.—

"During the action, the Count d'Aviernoz, major-general commanding the brigade of Savoy, not having with him any officer of the staff to send to make observations, repaired himself, with a few rifles, upon a height called the Monte del Pino, between Sona and the Madonna del Monte. He immediately perceived an Austrian column, which presented itself at the mouth of the valley, headed by a white flag, and shouting 'Viva Italia! Viva i nostri fratelli!' The general hesitated a moment; but, seeing the head of this troop advance and embrace the officer of the 2nd regiment, who was on guard at the post with sixty men, he no longer doubted the loyalty of this demonstration, and hastened to meet the Imperialists: these exchanged fraternal greetings with our soldiers. But this harmony was not of long duration; the traitors soon changed their attitude, charged their muskets, and at the command of their chief fired upon our men. Then was renewed a scene worthy of the heroic combats of the Middle Ages: Count d'Aviernoz orders a charge with the bayonet; the battle is bloody, and he soon remains alone, with thirty men to struggle against two hundred. Notwithstanding, his courage does not fail, and three of his perfidious enemies fall under his blows; but finally, assailed on all sides, wounded by the bayonet in the abdomen, and by a ball in the knee, he is made prisoner. When his sword was demanded, transported with noble indignation, he cast it on the ground, exclaiming, 'I will not give up my sword to traitors!'"

There were two other causes, which the historian will have to take notice of, equally powerful with these—the Socialist insurrection



in Paris, and the recall of their troops by the Pope and the King of Naples. Lamartine had promised to give freedom to Italy if Italy would ask it at the hands of France, and with this view the army of the Alps was assembled on the frontiers. While this imposing force stood ready to descend into Lombardy, Radetzky kept to the defensive, and the cabinet of Vienna offered to surrender Italy on terms. With the June movement Lamartine fell, the army of the Alps retired on Lyons, and a portion of its force was recalled to Paris. At the same moment, the south Italians returned towards Florence, Rome and Naples. With an overwhelming superiority of numbers, the Austrians had only Charles Albert, with his few regiments, between them and the capital of Lombardy. The Piedmontese were crushed; but the recall of the Roman volunteers carried the elements of revolution from the Mincio to the Tiber. Lord Mount-Edgumbe was present in Rome when these men returned; according to his statement, the revolution may be said to have commenced the very moment they arrived in Rome.—

"These men showed their gratitude for their honourable reception by refusing to march to the quarters provided for them, and in open defiance of all the constituted authorities, taking forcible possession of the convent of the Jesuits, from which they expelled the students that still occupied it (the Jesuits had been long driven away). There they remained in spite of all orders to the contrary, exacting double or treble the pay received by the rest of the army. Every day the question 'are they gone?' was answered by 'not yet, but they are to leave Rome certainly on Monday.' For months the Monday never came. This circumstance has been hardly mentioned in any of the accounts given of the events here. The fact was, that the dread they inspired prevented any from publicly alluding to it, and shame made all in private shrink from any questions on the subject. Assuredly it would be difficult for a Government to suffer a greater outrage or indignity than that of having within a few hundred yards of the Palace a body of mutineers, holding like a fortress, with sentries at the gate, a building taken by violence, and while exacting exorbitant pay braving and contemning every authority of the State. Yet these men, I was told, at their final departure, had the face to seek the Pope's blessing, and may be now seen strutting about with medals *since given*."

Through the after events we will not follow the journalizer in detail. He speaks with great contempt, but with little logic, of the Republic and Signor Mazzini. He bears witness to the bombardment of the city. He also favours the reader with a proposal for settling the Catholic and Papal question;—which consists of the simple plan of stripping the Church of its territory, giving the northern provinces to Tuscany and the southern to Naples, and, by way of compensation, settling a pension on the Pope. We think the Romans are about as likely to object to a dismemberment of their domains as the Pope is to a diminution of his political importance.

*The History of England during the Thirty Years' Peace.* By Harriet Martineau. Vol. II.  
[Second Notice.]

THERE is a remark of Sismondi's, in his '*L'État des Peuples Libres*,' which is very applicable to the times treated of in this work. Speaking of the political destiny of England, he says,—"*England will examine all sides, and hear all sides pro and con; and whatever England wishes to be, that England will be.*" The perusal of the '*History of the Thirty Years' Peace*' leaves a strong impression of the vigour of the English public will and its triumphant power over all obstacles. In fact, this work illustrates the view of those German publicists who treated of the "*British Constitution*" as being "*the government of the British by them-*

selves, according to their national prejudices and legal precedents:"—a mode of interpreting the disputed term "*British Constitution*," to which many acute thinkers, especially Sir James Mackintosh and Madame de Staël, have given their sanction.

The fundamental idea of English society since the battle of Waterloo has been, social and political reform. The Criminal Law—the construction of the House of Commons—the New Poor Law—the various Colonial questions—all are mere phases of the animating principle of the time;—the difference between political parties being for the most part on the questions of "How much should be taken down or left standing?"—and "How soon must change be made?" Where the public mind was decided, there it was triumphant; and where it was irresolute, there party questions of mere factious importance occupied and distracted its attention without evoking its moral energy.

As in studying the history of the Revolution of 1688 it is necessary to have clear conceptions of the whole previous period from the Restoration,—so in examining the era of the Reform Bill it is requisite to bear in mind the long previous agitations on the Catholic question, the party contests between Whigs, Tories, and Canningites, and the peculiar position maintained by George the Fourth to his people. The effect of the French Revolution must also be taken into account,—and allowance must be made for its influence. These motive causes, however, we will not discuss,—as political questions are foreign to our vocation.

The History before us confirms, as we have said, many of the views which philosophic thinkers have taken of our English society. It exhibits very clearly the many-sided character of our social life. "Our aristocracy," says Mr. Macaulay, "is the most democratic, and our democracy the most aristocratic, ever seen." Every chapter in this work testifies to the antagonism of classes in our society, and to the fluctuating fortunes of our aristocracy and democracy.

As we have already remarked, it would have been well if more personal knowledge of the actors of the time had been shown in this work,—such as is exhibited in Wallace's '*History of the Reign of George the Fourth*,' or in Louis Blanc's '*History of Ten Years*.' The great success of Mr. Macaulay's graphic portraits, and of M. Lamartine's vivid pictures, has given readers generally a taste for life-like and animated historical *tableaux*. It is very possible that this taste has been carried too far, and that Plutarch and Sallust are likely to be taken by popular writers of history as models before Thucydides and Hume. But the '*History of the Thirty Years' Peace*' is on the whole too bald and devoid of striking incidents to illustrate the manners of the age.

In confirmation of these remarks, we might point to the very curious passage in politics which took place on the death of Earl Spencer at the latter end of 1834, and the consequent removal of Lord Althorp, the leader of the House of Commons, to the Peers. Our readers will remember the sudden dismissal of Lord Melbourne and the Whigs in a manner that has scarcely a parallel, (Lord Monteagle, Secretary for the Colonies, was told by a private friend whom he met in Regent-street that he was no longer a Cabinet Minister!)—and the sending to Rome for Sir Robert Peel. On this striking chapter the work before us gives, not only no new information, but much less of the published details than would be interesting to the reader. This want of knowledge of persons and of classes of politicians is to be regretted. Thus, again,—we find that though Ireland and Irish politicians

occupy a large portion of this second volume, the fact of the excessive personality in parliamentary debates introduced by the Irish Repeal members is not adverted to. Every one acquainted with the contemporary history of the House of Commons knows that Mr. O'Connell and the Irish members devoted to his interest brought a fierceness and scurrility into our political discussions almost unknown before; sometimes making a debate in St. Stephen's as shameful a scene as a riot in the Dublin Corporation. In the debates on the Irish Municipal Bill, during the time of Lord Melbourne's Government, we find an Irish member using this language:—"The right honourable baronet [Sir R. Peel] was not, like another leader of his party—he was not a needy, desperate adventurer—a man of yesterday, speculating in the public ruin for pelf or plunder." The effect on political manners of these odious scenes was very bad; and the speakers at the Anti-Corn-Law League at first did great injury to their cause by addressing their audiences in exaggerated language and with galling personality—a fault against which they were cautioned by Mr. Cobden.

The influence of the Reform Bill on the so-called "*Radical*" party was very remarkable—contradicting the fears of one extreme and the hopes of the other. The author's picture of the parliamentary Radical party is striking.—

"From the beginning of the Reform struggle, the number of Radical Reformers in the House had never been less than 70 or 80: and in the last parliament they had been 150. It was strange that they had not yet been a powerful party; and it would be stranger still if they did not become so now. Now was the time for them to show what they could do, when the Whigs were humbly asking alms of them—petitioning them for ideas, and measures, and the support without which they must sink. These Radical Reform members were men of conscience, of enlightenment, of intellectual ability, and moral earnestness, of good station, and, generally speaking, independent fortune. They were so unlike the vulgar Tory representation of them—so far from being destructives and demagogues—that the sober-minded of the community might more reasonably trust them for the conservation of property than either the Conservatives or the Whigs. Whig government under Lord Melbourne was a lottery: and all propositions of the time for shaving the fundholder, for tampering with the Debt, for perilling the land by a return to poor-law abuses, for interfering with the rights of property in its public investments and private operations, all such destructive schemes proceeded from the rankest Conservatives, and were exhibited in Quarterly Reviews—Tory newspaper articles—Tory speeches on hustings. Not only in this sense were the Radicals no demagogues, and therefore fit to be the guides of the sober middle classes—they were also no popular orators. They were as far removed from influence over the mob by the philosophical steadiness of their individual aims as from influence over the aristocracy by the philosophical depth and comprehensiveness of their views. They were as far from sharing the passion of the ignorant as the selfish and shallow nonchalance of the aristocratic. They perceived principles which the untaught could not be made to see; and they had faith in principles when Lord Grey preached in his place that no one should hold to the impossible: and thus, they were cut off from sympathy and its correlative power above and below. The aristocracy called them Destructives; and the non-electors knew nothing about them. All this should have been another form of appeal to them to make themselves felt in this gloomy time of crisis, when the fortunes of the nation were sinking at home, and storms seemed to be driving up from abroad, and the political virtue of Great Britain was in peril from a selfish powerlessness in high places, and despair in the lowest, and alternate apathy and passion in the regions which lay between. But there were reasons which prevented their making themselves felt.—They were not properly a party, nor ever had been. There



was not among them any one man who could merge the differences of the rest, and combine their working power, in deference to his own supremacy: and neither had they the other requisite—experience in party organization. They might try for it: and now they probably would; but it was not a thing to be attained in a day, or in a session. It was never attained at all, during this period of our political history. The chiefs moved and spoke; but they neither regenerated nor superseded the Whigs, nor could keep out the Conservatives, when at last public necessity overcame Whig tenacity of office, and the Queen's natural adherence to her first set of ministers, and brought in a new period marked by a complete dissolution and fresh fusion of parties. There was no other party which, in 1837, was known to include such men as Grote, and Molesworth, and Roebuck—and Colonel Thompson, and Joseph Hume, and William Ewart,—and Charles Buller, and Ward, and Villiers, and Bulwer, and Strutt:—such a phalanx of strength as these men, with their philosophy, their science, their reading, their experience—the acuteness of some, the doggedness of others—the seriousness of most, and the mirth of a few—might have become, if they could have become a phalanx at all. But nothing was more remarkable about these men than their individuality. Colonel Thompson and Mr. Roebuck could never be conceived of as combining with any number of persons, for any object whatever: and they have so much to do, each in his individual function, that it would perhaps be an injury to the public service to withdraw them from that function: and when we look at the names of the rest, reasons seem to rise up why they too could not enter into a party organization. Whether they could or not, they did not, conspicuously and effectively. They were called upon, before the opening of the new parliament, to prove betimes that they were not single-subject men—as reformers are pretty sure to be considered before they are compacted into a party;—but to show that the principles which animated their prosecution of single reforms were applicable to the whole of legislation. If Mr. Hume still took charge of Finance, and Mr. Grote of the Ballot, and Mr. Roebuck of Canada, and Sir W. Molesworth of Colonization, and Mr. Ward of the Appropriation principle, they must show that they were as competent to the enterprises of their friends, and of their enemies, as to their own. Many of them did this: but the association of their names with their particular measures might be too strong. They were never more regarded as a party during the period under our notice: and it may be observed now, though it was not then, that their failing to become a party in such a crisis as the last struggles of the Melbourne ministry was a prophecy of the disintegration of parties which was at hand, and which is, in its turn, a prophecy of a new age in the political history of England.”

The character of this party might be summed up in two words. The parliamentary Radicals were what our French neighbours would call “democratic doctrinaires.” They were not, properly speaking, a party of action, and their leaders were deficient in showy and popular qualities. Sir John Walsh, in his ‘*Chapters of Contemporary History*,’ has some remarks on the Radical party which tally with those in the work before us. “Had the metropolitan boroughs or the Scotch constituencies been then able to lay their hands upon a Mirabeau, I do not know where he might have carried us, but no such Coryphæus appeared, and the chords which might have responded to his touch remained mute.” Sir J. Walsh thinks there was a vital want of sentiment in the party. He says, “The case of the Dorsetshire labourers, if it could have found an English O’Connell to handle it, and to work upon the feelings by a few touches of simple pathos, and some descriptions in the style of Crabbe, would have had more effect than fifty such motions as the knowledge-tax repeal.” (‘*Walsh’s Chapters of Contemporary History*,’ page 58.)—We may remark that there is much in Sir John Walsh’s general testimony which corro-

borates Miss Martineau’s views on the Radical party; and in a future edition some corroborative quotations from the Tory writer’s remarks would strengthen the text of this ‘*History of England during the Thirty Years’ Peace*.’

If the want of a man of action, with pliancy and steadiness of purpose, with popular qualities and capacity for affairs, was severely felt by the Radical party, the presence of such a man as Sir Robert Peel was of vast consequence to the fortunes of the Conservatives. The part played with consummate dexterity by this statesman during the first session of the Reformed House is not sufficiently stated in this work. He found himself in presence of a hostile audience with only one hundred and thirty members behind him. In his opening speech in 1833 he touchingly alluded to the difference of his position then from that of the time when he stood at the head of triumphant majorities or powerful minorities. We well recollect the air of deference and of graceful submissiveness with which he asked for the attention of the reformed parliament. There was a certain pathos in the politics of the vanquished Tory leader, which gave him the sympathy even of many of his opponents; and though in a small minority, he brought prominently forward his personal qualities before the new reform members. We repeat that Sir R. Peel’s rôle at that time—from 1832 to 1834—is not stated with sufficient force or clearness by the authoress;—although he is made the hero of the second part, as Canning was of the first part of this work. Sir Robert’s conduct in reference to the Corn Laws is made especially his title to honour, and praise is abundantly bestowed on him for it.

Without knowing the internal motives of the leading characters in a political crisis, it is impossible to judge of their conduct. In her excellent account of the affairs of Canada, Miss Martineau rightly shows how powerfully affairs were influenced by the animosity of Lord Brougham to the Earl of Durham, which first visibly flared forth at the Grey dinner at Edinburgh in 1834. In fact, she commences her account of the Canadian rebellion by a sketch of the scene at the Grey banquet. Miss Martineau severely censures Lord Melbourne for his timorous abandonment of Lord Durham to the fangs of his “deadly enemy,” Lord Brougham. She writes:—“Lord Melbourne, with all his nonchalance and gaiety, had not spirit, activity and courage to stand by an absent friend under attack in the House of Lords; and especially when the attack came from Lord Brougham, who never had power at any time to unnerve him. All the ministers were aware of Mr. Turton’s intended appointment before he sailed, yet Lord Melbourne gave it up to censure as if it were a point new to him.” After recording the disallowance of Lord Durham’s famous ordinance, and the retirement of Lord Glenelg,—Miss Martineau thus proceeds to describe the final catastrophe of Lord Durham’s government, and the death of the noble leader of the English radical party.—

“It was on a fine September day, on returning from a merry drive, that Lord Durham and his family and advisers received the news of the disallowance of the Ordinance. His friend and best helper, Mr. Charles Buller, knew before dinner—knew by his countenance more than by words—that all was over—that their great enterprise was ruined. When they sat down in consultation, that adviser and friend would fain have persuaded himself and others that all was not over. That this was the result of an intrigue was to them clear. The Ministers and Lord Durham had a deadly enemy, who had given notice of what they might expect when he declared that he ‘hurled defiance’ at Lord Melbourne’s head: and Lord Melbourne and his comrades dared not withstand this enemy even while the first lawyers in

the empire disagreed as to whether the Ordinance of Lord Durham was legal or illegal. What Sir J. Colborne had done was approved or passed over; and when, in a most critical difficulty which Sir J. Colborne should never have thrown upon him, Lord Durham used powers which Sir J. Colborne had used without question, his watchful enemy seized his opportunity to scare his friends from supporting him, as they were pledged to do. Considering all this, and that Lord Durham was to blame in not having furnished the government at home with sufficient documentary material for his defence, Mr. Charles Buller earnestly desired to hold out, for the high prize of success in retrieving the colony, and forming a new and sound colonial system. But he soon saw that Lord Durham was right in proposing to return. The Governor-General had not health for such a struggle as this must now have been. Energy and decision were not always to be commanded in the degree necessary under such unequalled difficulties; and death in the midst of the work was only too probable. Again—the colony was still in too restive and unsettled a state to be governed by an enfeebled hand; and while unsupported at home, Lord Durham was a less safe ruler than Sir J. Colborne, whom he would leave in his place. Again—it was now clear that the true battlefield on behalf of Canada was in Parliament. With his present knowledge in his head, and his matured schemes in his hand, Lord Durham could do more for Canada in the House of Lords than he could do at Quebec, while the Lords made nightly attacks which drew rebuke even from the Duke of Wellington, and thwarted the policy which they did not understand. Thus, resignation was an act of sad and stern necessity; but, if not so, it was an act of clear fidelity to Canada. It was hastened by rumours of intended insurrection, which, under the circumstances, could be dealt with only by Sir J. Colborne. \* \* He did what he could to obviate to the colony the mischief done by friends and foes at home; and he did so much that he must ever be regarded as the originator of good government in the Colonies. Rarely has a greater work been done in five months than the actual reforms he wrought in Canada: but he did much more by means of the Report which he delivered after his return. By means of this celebrated Report, free and large principles of colonial government are exhibited in action, and endowed with so communicable a character that there are none of our more thriving colonies that do not owe much of their special prosperity to him; and probably few of the least happy that would not have been in a worse condition if he had not gone to Canada. By the utmost diligence in the completion of his measures during the few weeks that remained—by every effort of self-control, and by the quiet operation of his magnanimity—he averted as much as he could of the mischief done at home; but one fatal consequence was beyond his power. His heart was broken. No malice, no indifference, no levity can get rid of that fact; and it is one which should not be hidden.

“He held to his work to the last. On the night before his departure, a Proclamation settled the rights of squatters on Crown Lands. As he went down to the harbour, crowds stretched as far as the eye could see—every head uncovered, and not a sound but of the carriages. This deep silence of sympathy moved him strongly; and he believed that this was his last sight of an assemblage of men; for he had no idea that he could reach England alive. As the frigate, the *Inconstant*, was slowly towed out of harbour, heavy snow-clouds seemed to sink and settle upon her, while over the water came the sound of the cannon which installed his successor. Those of his Council who remained behind, to clear off arrears of business, were alarmed, during their sad and silent dinner, by a report of fire on board the frigate; and a fire there was; but it was presently extinguished. There was no intermission of storms up to the moment of the landing at Plymouth, on the 1st of December. While the ship was in harbour there, the weather was so boisterous that there was difficulty to the Queen’s messengers in finding any seagoers who would undertake to convey on board the *Inconstant* the packet of orders to land Lord Durham without the honours. It was done by a boat being allowed to drive so that the packet



could be thrown on board. He met honours in abundance, however, on his landing, and all the way to London—crowded public meetings—addresses—escorts—every token of confidence and attachment that could cheer his heart. There was great joy throughout the liberal party when his first words at the Devonport meeting were known. They referred to his 'declarations to the people of Scotland in 1834,' as his present creed. But he disappointed the liberals by his magnanimous determination to devote himself to the retrieval of Canada, and to listen to nothing else till that was effected. Lady Durham immediately on her return resigned her situation in the Queen's household. Great efforts were made to bring about a reconciliation between Lord Durham and the Whig government; and his generosity aided the attempt. He could afford to do it; for he had never spoken evil of his enemies. Nothing had throughout been more touching to those who knew him than his slowness to give up hope in Lord Brougham, and his quickness in seizing on favourable explanations of doubtful conduct. He now required of his friends silence in both Houses about his quarrel; and he kept silence himself. While the newspapers of all parties were commenting on the weakness of the Whigs, and declaring that they could not remain in power 'beyond Easter at furthest'—(a curious hit as to date)—Lord Durham devoted himself only the more to the support of a ministry which, with all its sins and weaknesses, professed a liberal policy. He was soon joined by his coadjutors from Canada; and they worked together at the celebrated Report. There was more cavil about small circumstances on the publication of the Report—worthy of mention only as showing how he was betrayed when he relied on the 'cordial support' of friends and the 'generous forbearance' of opponents. Much of his time and labour was devoted to the instruction of his successor, Mr. C. Poulett Thomson—afterwards Lord Sydenham—who wisely resolved to adopt the Durham policy with the utmost completeness. Many hours every day were spent in consultation, and preparation of measures; and to good purpose. Not only were Lord Durham's plans all adopted by Lord Sydenham, but his own best measures were planned in Lord Durham's house in London, prepared for introduction in Canada, and the agents informed and instructed. These duties done, but few months of life remained to the baffled Statesman. When he could give information about Canadian matters, or vindicate the principles of good government at home, or in the colonies, he was at his post in the House of Lords. But he was visibly sinking. In the summer of 1840, he was ordered to the south of Europe for his health; but he found himself so ill at Dover that he turned aside to Cowes, where he became too weak to leave his couch. Even then, and when he was unable to take any nourishment but a little fruit, there was so much life and animation in his countenance and conversation, that those who knew him best could not but believe that much work yet lay between him and the grave; but on the 28th of July he sank rapidly, and died in a few hours. He left his large estates and other property as much as possible at the disposal of his devoted wife—the eldest daughter of Earl Grey; but she followed him in a few months, leaving their young son to emulate the virtues of his parents as well as he might after the spectacle of their example was withdrawn."

Lord Melbourne's political reputation is dealt with severely in this work; but we observe no mention made of the celebrated trial in which he figured as defendant during his premiership.

Observing that the authoress paints a very agreeable picture of Queen Victoria, we are surprised that she does not recollect how much Her Majesty was indebted to Lord Melbourne. A witness beyond suspicion has borne testimony to the part acted by Lord Melbourne towards his youthful Sovereign. In a remarkable speech delivered in the House of Lords, the Duke of Wellington affirmed the admirable manner in which Lord Melbourne performed his office of private and political adviser to the young Queen.

We will add from ourselves that the first

place where the Queen made the personal acquaintance of her Prime Minister, was at the State dinner which, according to old custom, the Monarch gave to the chief functionaries (including the Archbishop of Canterbury and others) on coming to the throne. The late Lord Holland had a droll story about this dinner; the arrangements for which had been left to Lord Melbourne and Lord Holland himself. All was nearly arranged, when, about half an hour before the dinner, Lord Melbourne rushed up to Lord Holland with the exclamation "Oh! Holland, we're ruined. There's nobody to say grace before dinner!" The Archbishop of Canterbury had sent an apology, being confined by illness. "But," Lord Holland used to add—"we caught the Dean of Carlisle by good luck, and he got us out of the scrape." The other ministers knew scarcely anything of the Queen, and the first person whom Her Majesty condescended to notice was Lord Melbourne.

To a work containing such a variety of useful matter for reference as this, an Index would be of great value. The Table of Contents prefixed is not sufficiently copious. The obituary notices scattered throughout the work are not always correct;—as, for example, at page 695, where we are told that "Maturin was an Irish clergyman, who wrote two novels in a Byronic style, which became popular,—*'Bertram,'* and *'Melmoth the Wanderer.'*" But we readily allow for trivial blemishes in a work with such a multitude of detail; and in taking leave of the *'History of England during the Thirty Years' Peace,'* congratulate the writer on the moral equanimity and mental energy which she has displayed in executing on a large scale the fullest history that we possess of our own immediate age.

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#### FRANCIS LORD JEFFERY.

The old in fame go from us; and we start,  
Amid our common cares and busy ways,  
To find they too are mortal and depart  
Whose names have been their country's pride and praise:

Learned in her pages, from the storied days  
Of a dead generation, with whose powers  
And souls—that stood on earth like leaguered towers—  
They coped and conquered, gathering early bays  
On fields of thought their victories made ours:  
They whom great cities boasted as their wealth,—  
Whom strange and nameless pilgrims from far homes  
Sought out in work-day paths, to gaze by stealth  
Upon their earthly presence, ere they went  
Where glory may not change nor love lament.

FRANCIS BROWN.

Edinburgh, 1850.

#### UNIVERSITY REFORM.

The State of College Trusts and of College Revenues.

THE state of College trusts is a subject which I must now press on the attention of your readers. My former observations [ante, p. 72] were addressed to prove that it will be impossible to carry the new statute into effect without a corresponding change in the existing constitution of the colleges.—Let me now adduce a case in point, to show that the new reforms will become a dead letter unless such changes be introduced as those which I have suggested.

In the year 1841 a statute was passed constituting the Regius Professors connected with the subject of theology a board, with power to appoint examiners on theology. The candidates approving themselves to the examiners were to be made the subjects of honourable mention. Now, at Cambridge, the so-called "voluntary examination in theology" has succeeded, because it is practically involuntary. Though the University does not, the bishops do, enforce the passing it,—as a pre-requisite for holy orders. But what has been the success of the Oxford experiment? I think, unless I err greatly, that the first six years produced only three candidates,—and the last four years not one. The existence of the board in question is not even mentioned in the Oxford Calendar. So much for examinations at Oxford which have neither compulsion nor reward annexed to them,—only honour. In nine years nearly 3,000 undergraduates have become candidates for their degrees: out of these, three only have presented themselves as candidates for honorary distinction in what is supposed to be a favourite study at Oxford. Your readers can judge how far there is danger of the new statute sharing a similar fate, since it is an admitted fact that the new studies have a far less chance of success than that of theology.

I have been accused of a design to "throw utter disregard on the views of founders of colleges, and to misappropriate the funds provided by piety and charity for specific purposes." I doubt not that the parties making this charge are actuated by honest intentions; but I must take the liberty of telling them that they are in total ignorance of the real state of the college trusts. As the public are generally in the same condition, I must devote a little further space to the removal of this error. Your readers should be informed that the existing state of the great majority of the colleges in Oxford involves, as I have already hinted, a total violation of the trusts imposed by the founders.

I have lying before me the oaths and statutes of three important colleges in Oxford; and from the remarkable similarity that subsists between them, it cannot be doubted that they are a fair sample of the statutes of the colleges founded in Roman Catholic times,—which form no less than fifteen out of the nineteen colleges in Oxford, and include by far the richer and wealthier foundations.—The subject is painful, inasmuch as it brings before your readers the fact, that the Fellows of these colleges swear obedience to these statutes in their strictly literal and grammatical sense,—when in fact they can have no intention to obey a large proportion of their requirements. It is not my fault that this subject is dragged forward:—others compel me.

The oath is too long to quote verbatim,—but I pledge my word to your readers that what follows is an honest statement of its contents. Each Fellow swears to obey the statutes of the founder in their strictly literal and grammatical sense and meaning; and that not only he will so obey them himself, but that he will do his utmost to cause them to be so obeyed by others. He further swears, that every interpretation of them contrary to their literal and grammatical sense he will utterly reject and repudiate, and cause to be rejected by others.—The founder declares that no change shall be allowed in these statutes to all future time; and that neither Fellows, President, nor Visitor, nor all these united have any authority to alter the statutes, or to absolve from the obligation to obey them.—Now, in these statutes it is most plainly set forth, as I have already said, that one of the chief objects of the founders of these colleges was to have masses said in great numbers for their own souls and for those of their friends. The founder of All Souls expressly declares, *totidem verbis*, that he founded this college not so much for the promotion of literature as for the saying of mass



for the parties specified by him. I cannot trouble your readers to count the numbers of masses required to be said by the Fellows of Corpus and Magdalene, or give them an account of the prayers to be offered. No duty can be imposed with more solemn sanction than that of saying mass:—but, as I have already observed, the saying of mass is prohibited by law. The oath which I have described, however, is still administered to each Fellow. As the legislature has made the performance of this part of the trust illegal, it is idle to talk of the founders' intentions being obeyed.

It is no less certain that the colleges founded in Queen Mary's reign were founded expressly to promote Popery. My opponents are, doubtless, not prepared to advocate a return to these practices. I put it, however, to your readers to say, whether any change which I have recommended amounts to as large a deviation from the founders' trusts. On the contrary, I am satisfied that a candid perusal of the statutes will convince them that the proposals which I have made are a return to the intention of the founders, compared with the existing practice of the colleges. The founders of All Souls and of Magdalene solemnly assert that an object which they had in view in the foundation of these colleges was, the benefit of the poor. The Fellows of All Souls ought to be poor clerks:—the Fellows and demys of Magdalene ought to be persons totally destitute of wealth. The revenue of this latter college, we are told, is upwards of 30,000*l.* per annum:—that of the former upwards of 11,000*l.* In direct contravention of the founder's injunctions,—into All Souls College, it is well known, none have a chance of election who are not connected with an aristocratic family. Large numbers of the existing Fellows are allied to the peerage. It may be said that some of these owe their election to the founder requiring his kindred to be elected without let or hindrance. But there are no poor Fellows in the college—as the founder directs. All are members of the aristocracy; and I cannot believe that these aristocratical Fellows submit to the examination in “plain song” which the founder requires as a prerequisite for election. Although the founder is very precise in prescribing the amount of time to be devoted to study, and to the exercises to be performed (which are numerous),—the exercises are totally neglected; and, in their stead, hunting is a very favourite amusement among the Fellows, few of whom even reside,—in defiance of the strict injunctions of the founder. Among the Fellows there is scarcely a high-classman.—Merton is a college in which similar abuses prevail:—this college and All Souls exercising scarcely any salutary influence on the interests of literature. But the abuse of trust in Magdalene is far greater, inasmuch as its revenues are much larger. This wealthy college, founded expressly for the poor, has become the patrimony of the rich. Elections are a pure matter of interest. I know a gentleman who considers himself to have a promise of a demysip for his son:—in due time the demy thus elected will become a Fellow. The literary requirements for succeeding to a fellowship in this college are the very smallest. When I passed the examination called Responsions, a demy of Magdalene offered himself for examination. He was plucked,—and had been plucked at the previous examination. I think he subsequently became a Fellow. Nothing, however, can be clearer to any one who reads the statutes, than that the two most important trusts imposed by the founders are,—saying mass, and the election of the poor to the demysips and fellowships. To both obedience is promised on oath. The one is nullified by the authority of the Legislature; which, with the utmost inconsistency, permits the continued administration of the oath to obey, after it has forbidden the obedience. The other is disregarded without any authority but the pleasure of those whose oath of obedience is a necessary condition of admission to their fellowships.

All the founders order habitual residence in college, the daily performance of various academical exercises, and in due time the taking of specified degrees. The latter of these is performed to the letter indeed,—while the reality has ceased for ages. The influence of the Fellows in the University—of which, as I have said, they form a large majority of the resident ruling members—has abolished the necessity of any literary acquirements

whatever for obtaining any of the superior degrees. Degrees of M.A., B.D., D.D., B.C.L., D.C.L. are now proofs of nothing but money-payment and standing. When the founders required them to be taken by the Fellows, they were evidences of a gradually increasing proficiency. While adhering scrupulously to the letter, the University has abolished the spirit of this portion of the trust. The injunction of residence is disregarded by rather more than half of the Fellows of Oxford. The various academical exercises the daily performance of which is enjoined by the founder—of course included in the oath of obedience taken by the Fellows, and from the obligation to perform which the founder decrees that no power shall liberate them—are not heard of within the colleges. In fact, they have, with the old system of instruction, totally ceased to be performed within the University. It would be impossible to restore them to any practical purpose without restoring at the same time the scholastic system of philosophy.

This point has a very intimate bearing on one of my proposals:—that Fellowships should for the future be the reward of literary merit only; and consequently that youths under nineteen years of age should be no longer eligible at such elections. To those who think this a daring violation of the founders' wishes, I reply—the present practice is a more daring violation of both the spirit and the letter of their statutes,—and to return to ancient practice is an impossibility. The founders direct certain lectures to be daily attended by all the Fellows and Scholars—which lectures are now never given in the University. They also strictly enjoin the assiduous holding of disputations and the daily performance of other academical exercises within the college. Taking into consideration the saying of mass, the lectures, and the disputations,—the statutes make the most ample provision for the complete occupation of all the time of the Fellows. This circumstance explains why it was that founders directed the election for Fellowships to take place at such an early age. They got hold of a young man, and maintained him on the condition of his entirely devoting himself to saying mass, praying, and studying. They thought they had made ample provision by this means for his attaining a considerable and progressing proficiency in literary and scientific studies; and in the event of his not attaining that proficiency which would be indicated by the loss of the degree required by the statutes, they ejected him from his Fellowship. Let it be observed, too, that of the actual attainment of this proficiency the University—not the college—was to be the judge. Now, the degree is no longer proof of literary proficiency at all. All the exercises and lectures have ceased. The Fellowship once attained,—nothing prevents the Fellow from remaining idle all the rest of his life.—The Fellowships, besides, are become far more valuable than the mere subsistence which was contemplated by the founders. The times and their requirements are utterly changed. I put it to your readers to say,—who propose the greatest violation of trust;—they who advocate the maintenance of the present system, under cover of which a Fellowship is become a sinecure, in direct contravention of the intentions of the founder,—or they who call for the reform that I have suggested?—I might easily multiply proof of the violation of the statutes, and of the trusts imposed by them; but I forbear. I have already proved that a sound scheme of education at Oxford is entirely inconsistent with the maintenance of the present system pursued by the colleges.

A consideration of the funds possessed by the Universities and their colleges,—and of the enormous waste of these resources—will lead us to the same conclusion.

The two Universities of Oxford and Cambridge possess together about 1,000 fellowships,—which have been computed to average 200*l.* per annum each. Since that computation was made, the ruinous practice of granting leases on fines has been extensively abandoned by the colleges:—their revenues must therefore have received a very considerable increase. I am unable to form any correct estimate of the increase which might with propriety be expected from this source. The leases of church corporations have usually been granted on such principles, that fines and reserved rent together do not

make one-third of the real value of the property. The Church, however, seems to have had a special exemption from ordinary law, to squander its resources in useless prodigality. The colleges, being lay corporations, are probably subject to greater restraints in this particular. An inquiry, however, is absolutely necessary to ascertain the real value of college endowments. In the gift of these colleges is an amount of church preferment worth between 250,000*l.* and 300,000*l.* per annum,—to which Fellows invariably succeed. This clearly forms part of the stimulus which ought to be given to literature by these endowments,—for the expectation of obtaining a college living forms no small part of the value of a fellowship. Besides, there is a revenue of 33,400*l.* arising from college offices and tuition money:—all enjoyed by the Fellows. There are forty-one headships of colleges and halls; the average of whose incomes—including the church preferment held by the Heads in their official capacity, and their residences—may be well set down as 1,000*l.* per annum each. There are about eighty-nine professorships, very unequally endowed. Since the computations to which I have alluded were made, some of these have received a considerable accession to their income, and others have been founded. Including church preferment held by the professors, we may set them down as worth 16,000*l.* per annum. The rent of college rooms is supposed to produce 28,000*l.* per annum. Besides, there are endowments for building and for various other purposes,—and scholarships and exhibitions, including those which are possessed by colleges, companies, and grammar schools,—in such numbers, that no data can exist for enabling us even to approximate to their value. In addition to these resources, the Universities in their corporate capacity possess a revenue of about 38,000*l.* per annum. The Fellows of the colleges, too, enjoy nearly a monopoly of private tuition.

With resources like these, well may it be asked,—What fruit are our colleges bearing?—Cambridge teaches the mathematics, with some attention to the classics. Oxford the classics and theology,—with a very moderate portion of mathematics. The two Universities together do not contain more than 3,000 under-graduates; and in the midst of these endowments the expenses of a University education are enormously great. Of this state of things I must examine into the causes:—confining my observations chiefly to Oxford.

Oxford contains 550 fellowships. The only duty which the Fellow performs, as such,—is to attend the college meetings. Each of these Fellows admits no obligation imposed on him, in virtue of his fellowship, to contribute to the work of public instruction. Before he engages in that, he must be elected to a new office,—that of college tutor,—from which he receives a large additional emolument. If he act in the capacity of private tutor, his services can be procured only at the rate of 17*l.* 10*s.* a term. Although ordained under the plea that he has cure of souls in the students of the college,—unless elected to the office of dean the Fellow exercises little or no supervision over the moral conduct of the students,—who are too frequently betrayed into ruin for want of such supervision. The founders, however, clearly expressed their will that the time of these Fellows should be fully occupied; but the course of time has destroyed one portion of the occupation assigned them,—the saying of mass, as I have shown, has freed them from the other. Now, in place of these duties, let the duty of giving public instruction gratuitously, to the students be imposed on the Fellows,—and let none but men of high literary attainments be elected. This will be a much nearer approach to the fulfilment of the founders' wishes than the present practice.

Several of the Oxford colleges, with large and abundant accommodation, are virtually shut up against students. They consist of colleges of Fellows, or of Fellows and Scholars, mingled with a few Gentlemen Commoners. With the work of tuition these colleges altogether refuse to trouble themselves. It is to be lamented that these colleges possess the largest endowments in the University, as well as the most ample accommodation. New College, All Souls, and Magdalene cannot possess less than an income of 1,000*l.* per annum for every under-graduate whom they educate. All Souls, for instance, contains four under-graduates only. Its splendid courts are deso-



late. Its numerous suites of rooms are the property chiefly of non-resident Fellows. Its magnificent library is useless. New College and Magdalene between them may usually contain from fifty to sixty under-graduate members. If we have heard the income of Magdalene stated correctly at between 30,000*l.* and 40,000*l.* per annum, their joint annual income cannot be less than between 50,000*l.* and 60,000*l.*, exclusive of their church patronage. Corpus, with perhaps twenty-five under-graduates, possesses an income of 5,250*l.* per annum;—yet neither does this college, nor Magdalene, nor New College educate its under-graduates gratuitously. I have selected these as undeniably bad instances;—though the other colleges do nothing in the work of education in proportion to their endowments. Nor have we the consolation of believing that their prizes, entitling the possessor to a large income and to do nothing for it, are bestowed from considerations of literary merit. In each of these colleges, I repeat, with the exception of All Souls, a youth under the age of nineteen is elected either Fellow at once, or to a scholarship which leads as a matter of course to a fellowship. In New College, youths of this age are elected Fellows from Manchester school. In Magdalene they are usually elected to demys from pure favour,—and subsequently Fellows. In Corpus, these elections are managed so badly, that although one might well expect such prizes would allure a large collection of youthful talent to compete for them, the successful parties have seldom of late years obtained higher than third-class honours. In no less than 400 out of the 560 fellowships at Oxford, this evil system of electing under-graduates, and generally under nineteen years of age, is established by law. When a fellowship is elected to in this manner,—instead of its being the reward of industry, it acts as the incentive to idleness. I am going afresh over ground already touched on in my last letter,—but it is worth putting more strongly here. Colleges in which young men are thus elected Fellows ought to attract the great mass of the talent of the University. Is this the case? All I can say is, that if this be so, these talented youths abandon themselves to idleness in consequence of their premature success. Let us come to facts. Lincoln and Balliol are indisputably the most distinguished colleges in Oxford for the production of first-class men. The former never elects an undergraduate Fellow,—nor has it a single scholarship leading to a fellowship. The latter has only two scholarships which lead to fellowships. Oriel—a very distinguished college—has not one fellowship or scholarship of this description. Exeter—which frequently, though not necessarily, adopts the practice of electing undergraduate Fellows—seldom gets from them higher degrees than thirds or fourths. In Christ Church, its hundred students are all elected as undergraduates; and, although its number of undergraduate members is at least double that of any other college in the University, the first-class men which it produces are “few and far between.” This college, in addition, possesses a large number of valuable exhibitions. The dean, canons and students divide amongst them 22,000*l.* per annum, and possess Church preferment in their gift worth nearly 30,000*l.* I do not think that New College, all whose Fellows are elected as undergraduates, has produced a first-class man since the abolition of its monopoly of taking degrees without an examination. Magdalene, with its enormous endowments, is in very little better state; though sometimes, at rare intervals, a talented demy is appointed, to help to keep up the character of the college. Queen’s, St. John’s, Jesus, Pembroke, all with similar foundations, commonly produce among their scholars thirds, fourths and pass men. I believe that if a man is plucked for his degree in these colleges, it usually expels him from his fellowship. Of Trinity, Wadham, University, and Worcester I can speak with more commendation. But, it is evident that electing young men under the age of nineteen to a certain provision for life is ruinous to the intellectual character of the colleges which practise it. It cuts away at once every inducement to exertion. The public are foolish enough to think that these fellowships by themselves are literary honours.—Those colleges on which we are now animadverting swallow up four-fifths of the endowments of the University.

But if only the remaining 160 fellowships were open to the free competition of literary and scientific merit, something might be said in answer to the demands of reformers. Of these, however, no more than 30 are absolutely open. A few more, in Queen’s, Exeter, and University, are nearly so. The remainder are tied up under the most capricious restrictions. Nor is it even pretended in these cases that literary proficiency, united with irreproachable moral character, is the sole ground which determines the result of an election. The recent case in Queen’s College, which has been so severely commented on by the public press, is a flagrant instance in point. Moral fitness is made the pretence,—but the possession of Puseyist opinions, or the contrary, too frequently determines an election. A case in which the Fellows of Exeter are said to have elected a gentleman in his absence who had not offered himself as a candidate, is very suspicious.

From many of these evils I rejoice to believe that the sister University is happily free. Its fellowships are generally elected to on principles of fairness. In fact, a job which is hardly heeded at Oxford, if perpetrated at Cambridge would produce a universal commotion, and perhaps a desertion of the offending college. The great majority of the fellowships are open and unrestricted:—for which advantage Cambridge is indebted to the interference of public authority. Only one college there pursues the pernicious practice of electing undergraduate Fellows. Still, the fellowships at Cambridge are sinecures. The state of King’s, its richest foundation, loudly calls for public interference. That its members should insist on their privilege of taking their degrees without examination by the University, is disgraceful. Compare this college with Trinity,—and mark the contrast!

Again, Oxford compared with Cambridge, is contrasted most unfavourably in the particular of the persons who receive the appointment of Heads of colleges. Nearly all the Cambridge Heads are distinguished at least by the possession of the highest University honours. Several among them possess other high literary distinctions, and are eminent for attainments in Science. The majority of the Oxford Heads, on the contrary, have either taken no honours at all or very low ones:—nor do they redeem this defect by the possession of literary distinctions of any other kind. It seems strange indeed, that a person should be selected as Head of a college who is not distinguished by honours even in his own University! Five tenths of the Heads of the Oxford colleges are unknown in either the literary or the scientific world. Principles of the narrowest kind determine elections of this description. In several colleges, I believe on the next vacancy the contest will be whether Puseyism or the contrary shall distinguish its future Head. Unless I am misinformed, active preparations are already making for a contest of this description in colleges where an early vacancy is expected. The inefficiency of the Heads of colleges as a body is notorious. We seldom meet with an Oxford man who does not speak of the qualifications of the body with contempt. Nor will this be otherwise till effectual measures are taken to purify the mode of conducting these elections.

With a judicious arrangement of their finances, what a powerful influence might our Universities be made to exert on the literature and science of the country,—by rewarding distinguished merit in their several departments! How vast an interest might they exert in promoting the cause of sound education! By a simple re-distribution of their revenues, a state of things would be brought about far more in conformity with the donors’ intentions, and which at the same time would provide maintenance and reward for a thousand literary and scientific men whose labours would bring honour on their country. On the continent, men the most distinguished for literature and science are the professors in the Universities. In England, the Professors exercise the most inconsiderable influence on the Universities,—and the Universities on the nation.

How important an influence would a thousand individuals eminently qualified to teach produce on the general education of the country! Let properly qualified persons be elected to the Fellowships, and the duty of future teaching be imposed on them,—in place of those duties which are become either obso-

lete or impossible,—and tuition in our Universities might be either nearly or quite gratuitous. This would at once operate in the reduction of the expense of a University education; and thus enable vast numbers of the middle classes to enjoy a benefit from which they are now practically excluded. If the expenses of a University education could be reduced to 80*l.* per annum, numbers to whom it is now unattainable would joyfully avail themselves of its advantages. Let the Universities be made in reality what their name imports,—institutions in which the whole range of human knowledge is taught and strudied.—Fruits of this kind, one might expect, would be the result of a Royal Commission of Inquiry into the state of their revenues and condition. The object of every one interested in their welfare must be, to see the endowments of our Universities become the rewards of eminent literary and scientific proficiency,—their Professors be the leading characters of the day, in their respective departments of literature and science,—and themselves be the real instructors of the nation in both.

For the purpose of identifying myself with this and with my former letter, I now conclude by signing myself,  
A UNIVERSITY GRADUATE.

P.S.—Since the preceding article was written, my attention has been directed to the *Oxford Herald* of the 26th of January; in which an attempt is made to answer my former letter,—on the impossibility of working the new statute with the existing college machinery. The observations above made are a virtual answer to most of the arguments and assertions of the *Herald*;—and anything but the argumentative part of the question I pass over as unworthy of attention.—To a point or two stated by the *Herald*, however, I will reply in few words.

I beg to assure the *Herald* that I have not forgotten that there is a Visitor to each college:—but his authority is little more than nominal. At least, such is the case in All Souls, Corpus, and Magdalene Colleges. He can only interpret the strictest letter, as distinguished from the spirit, of the statutes. He cannot take into his consideration the contingencies of modern times, which could not have been foreseen by the founder. The visitation is either a mere formality, or never put in force. Has the *Herald* forgotten that there is a Visitor to Rochester Cathedral,—who, alas! never visits it? Has it forgotten that the same is the case with respect to St. Paul’s School,—and hundreds of other schools? Has it forgotten the observations of Judge Patteson on the Whiston case? I must beg to remind the *Herald* of the recent judgment of a celebrated Visitor of one of the Oxford colleges, to whose authority I am sure it will bow,—the Bishop of Exeter. That prelate asserted in a judgment of his, as Visitor, not eight years old,—that there were points in the conduct of Exeter College involving apparent gross injustice, on which an appellant did not unreasonably dwell, but which he, as Visitor, had power neither to redress nor to inquire into.—By the statutes before me, the Visitor is expressly precluded from inquiring into elections.

But the *Herald* tells us, that the Visitor, under certain limitations, has power to dispense with the observance of statutes,—and that such deviations as do exist are actually sanctioned by this authority. I could scarcely believe my own eyes when I read this passage! Doubtless, the writer in the *Herald* has access to excellent sources of information which are closed against me:—but I must inform him that he has overlooked three very important colleges,—Corpus, Magdalene, and All Souls,—the statutes of which are actually open before me. The founders expressly declare in these statutes, that the Visitors have no authority to dispense with any statute of theirs, or to enact any new one which the founder has not sanctioned,—and that in case of their attempting to do so, the founders, by their authority, expressly free the Fellows from all obligation!

The *Herald* boldly challenges the scrutiny of the whole scientific world as to the competency of the existing college Professors. The great burden of my lamentation was, that under the existing system Professors, however competent, cannot get a class. The competency, however, of some of the Professors is far from being beyond dispute. With regard to such men as Prof. Buckland, Prof. Senior, Prof.



Powell, Prof. Wilson,—it is deeply lamented that even the acknowledged proficiency of such men fails to command the attendance of a class. The very fact that these men are eminent in their attainments, but totally useless at Oxford, proves everything that I have desired to prove of the necessity of a searching inquiry into the system pursued at the University. They themselves no less deeply lament the false position in which the present system pursued by the colleges places them.—I complain, also, that under the existing system, numbers of other learned Professors either actually give no lectures at all, or give what are designated at the Universities "Wall Lectures:"—that is, lectures at which the walls and benches form the most numerous part of the auditory.

#### THE BRITISH MUSEUM CATALOGUE.

It would be paying a bad compliment to the readers of the *Athenæum* to suppose it necessary to make a formal reply to Mr. Fergusson's letter, in your last [see *ante*, p. 158]. No man, it is said, can be written down except by himself,—and certainly no observations of mine could have done so much damage to Mr. Fergusson as his own defence. He may claim at least the merit of surprising, if not of convincing, his antagonist.—I had pointed out, among other things, the futility of one of his charges against the Museum, which was founded on a book's being catalogued, according to him, "under the title of 'Maximis' because it was dedicated to Prince Massimi in Latin;"—and showed that it was dedicated to the Pope by Prince Massimi himself. I supposed, of course, at the time, that Mr. Fergusson could not have read, or could not have understood, the dedication he referred to. But what is his own statement on the subject?—"I was also wrong in saying that the book was dedicated *to*, and not *by*, Prince Massimi—an inadvertence which I ought not to have fallen into, as *I had read the dedication, and was aware of the fact.*" Most of his other statements are abandoned in a similar manner, and he goes on coolly to argue that the local reputation of his assertions, confirmed by his own confession, leaves the matter just where it was.

One of the points, however, on which he does not relinquish his position is, his old subject of panegyric, the excellence of booksellers' catalogues. It was in vain that I pointed out that in one of them 'Valentine and Orson' was entered under Romance,—and Beaumont and Fletcher's 'Philiaster' under Plays:—Mr. Fergusson is still positive that the books are "easily recognized and found,"—though by what process he does not favour us by explaining. It is only in the new Museum Catalogue that such books are undiscoverable; owing, I presume, to the ninety-one rules requiring that the one should be catalogued under Valentine and the other under Beaumont and Fletcher. Mr. Fergusson also informs us that he never "heard any complaint" of the old Museum Catalogue, or of that of the King's Library,—of which it has been my own experience to hear complaints almost every day for some years past. The difference, indeed, between the fate of catalogues appears to be, not that some are censured and others are not, but that some are censured with reason and others without.

On one point Mr. Fergusson disputes my statements,—and this I will mention as briefly as possible. Mr. Fergusson said, in his pamphlet, that a book which he called Byers's 'Tarquinian Sepulchres' was entered in the Museum Catalogue under the name of Howard,—which he represented as a flagrant absurdity. I pointed out that the book was entered under the head of 'Tarquinia,' and that a cross-reference was given from the name of Byres, correctly spelt. Mr. Fergusson now drops his assertion that the main entry is Howard, and affirms that it is 'Tarquinii Hypogæi.' I repeat that it is Tarquinia,—as any visitor of the Museum Reading-room may easily ascertain for himself. The word, "Hypogæi" is merely the first of the title which follows the heading.—Again, he asserts that there was no cross-reference in the Catalogue from Byres at the time when he wrote. He wrote last year:—the cross-reference from Byres, I have been told at the Museum by those who are certain to know, is in the handwriting of a person who has left the establishment for years. I supposed,—and still suppose,—that Mr. Fergusson looked for it under the erroneous

spelling of Byers, which would account for his failing to find it.

This, as I said, is the only instance in which Mr. Fergusson disputes my statements; and yet at the very moment when he is driven to acknowledge over and over how entirely he has been in the wrong, he talks vaguely of distortion, garbling, misrepresentation, personality, and want of temper,—and seems to wish to assume the air of injured innocence. As usual, in these complaints he is far from consistent. In one paragraph he says, that "the columns of the *Athenæum* and other literary papers of the metropolis have long teemed with complaints" on the Catalogue; but that, "as far as his reading extends," my letter in your number for the 2nd of February "is the first defence that has appeared." Within twenty lines of this he writes thus:—"If any one dares to complain" of the Catalogue, "some one is employed to attack and misrepresent him, as 'W.' does me." An assertion so thoroughly gratuitous as this last has a bad eminence even among those by which it is surrounded,—and even Mr. Fergusson, when his temper has cooled, will, I am confident, be ashamed of having made it.

Yours, &c. W.

#### OUR WEEKLY GOSSIP.

A special general meeting of the members of the Society of Arts was held in the Great Room of the Society's House, in the Adelphi, on Friday in last week,—for the purpose of ascertaining and considering the position of the Society of Arts with respect to the Industrial Exhibition proposed to be held in the year 1851. Mr. Scott Russell, the Secretary to the Society and to the Royal Commission, at the request of the chairman, gave a detailed report of all the preliminary proceedings which had conducted this project from its earliest conception to the day when it took substantive form before the public; and Mr. Wentworth Dilke, as a member of the Executive Committee, brought down the narrative of its operations to the present time. The registered names of the promoters of the undertaking already amount to 6,000,—which include upwards of fifty noblemen, and nearly one hundred and fifty members of Parliament.—Our readers have been made so fully acquainted with all the leading particulars of this great movement, that there is nothing else of novelty in these statements to report to them;—excepting the fact that the Executive Committee, after doing the work of establishment under circumstances of peculiar difficulty, have placed their functions at the disposal of the Royal Commission appointed to preside over the organization which they have procured. The motives by which they have been actuated towards taking this step will be best expressed in the terms of their own resolution.

"That the members of the Executive Committee are of opinion, that the dissolution by the Royal Commission of the contract which they had been appointed for the purpose of carrying out, has changed the nature of their functions, and even superseded many of them. They are of opinion, therefore, that it is desirable that the Royal Commission should be left as free to select the best organization for carrying their intentions into effect as if the Executive Committee had never been appointed. They feel, therefore, that they should not be acting in accordance with their sincere wishes of witnessing the perfect success of the Exhibition, if they did not come forward to express their entire readiness at once to place their position in the hands of His Royal Highness the Prince Albert and the Royal Commissioners." This step was taken on the 30th of last month.

After the above was written, the *Gazette* of last night reached us:—containing the announcements, that Mr. Robert Stephenson, a member of the Executive Committee, has been appointed one of Her Majesty's Commissioners for the promotion of the intended Exhibition of the Works of Industry of all Nations; and that Lieutenant-Colonel William Reid, of the Royal Engineers, is nominated one of the Executive Committee in his room,—and to be Chairman of the said Executive Committee.

Active measures have been taken by the Admiralty to render the search for Sir John Franklin on the eastern side of Melville Island as complete as possible. Two sailing ships and two small steamers will be fitted out at Woolwich, and will be despatched from England at least a month earlier than the last Expedition under Sir James Ross. Independently of these, Capt. Penny, who commanded the *Advice* whaler when she went in search of the missing ships, has received instructions from the Admiralty to fit

out two vessels at Aberdeen, which are to be placed under his command,—and he will be particularly charged with the examination of Wellington Channel. The Expedition from Woolwich will be commanded by Capt. Austen; who acted as first lieutenant of the *Fury* in Parry's third voyage in 1824 for the discovery of a North-West Passage,—on which occasion, it will be remembered, that vessel was wrecked. Capt. Penny will be accompanied by Mr. McCormack, who has paid considerable attention to the subject of boat expeditions. The appointments to the ships generally have not yet been made. On no occasion, however, have there been so many volunteers; and many of those now volunteering are officers of great zeal and experience.

In the House of Commons, Mr. Ewart obtained leave, on Thursday last, to bring in a bill, founded on the Report of his Committee of last year, for enabling Town Councils to establish Public Libraries and Museums. The Bill proposes to extend the provisions of the Museum Act from towns having not less than 10,000 inhabitants to all municipal boroughs without limit of population; and to authorize Town Councils to levy a small rate, not exceeding a halfpenny in the pound, for the object in question,—to purchase lands and erect buildings for the purpose, the property to be vested in the Town Councils for ever,—and to secure to the public gratuitous admission to both libraries and museums. Later in the evening, on the motion of the same member, the Committee on Public Libraries was re-appointed.

Mr. Heywood's motion in the House of Commons for an address to Her Majesty praying for the appointment of a Royal Commission to inquire into the Universities and Colleges of Oxford, Cambridge, and Dublin, stands for the 19th instant. We refer him and our readers to our columns of this day,—in continuation of those of the 19th of last month,—for some materials, furnished by a correspondent, which may help his argument and their interest in it.

Mr. Shepherd, the "Messenger Balloon" projector, liberated five balloons—such as are furnished to the Arctic ships,—on Wednesday last, from the Admiralty,—carrying between two and three thousand messages. All the balloons ascended well; and did not—as did those previously despatched—descend near London. They are probably now, with the high wind which has been blowing, scattered over the north of Europe.—The matches burn for sixty hours.

The Committee for promoting the establishment of Baths and Washhouses for the labouring classes has just issued a very useful publication, as the result of its experience. This is, *Suggestions for building and fitting up Parochial or Borough establishments; with detailed calculations of the working expenses and earnings of such establishments.*

The Royal Academy of Sciences at Stockholm has opened a subscription for a monument to be erected to the memory of the illustrious chemist, Berzelius. The King has subscribed 12,000 rix-dollars, upwards of 1,100*l.*—From the same capital we learn that the King has charged M. Lindshagen, Doctor in Philosophy at the University of Upsal, and M. Kloumann, Lieutenant in the Royal Corps of Norwegian Engineers, to continue this year as far as the North Cape the measurement of the meridian,—already executed from Smaël, in Bessarabia, to Torneo, in Finland.

Our readers will have perceived in our advertising columns of last week the prospectus of a new Institution for scientific exhibition, and for promoting discoveries in arts and manufactures,—which is supported by a powerful list of patrons, and sanctioned by a royal charter. This institution may be considered as in some measure ancillary to the great Industrial Exhibition of next year,—and originates in the same spreading spirit to which that monster enterprise owes its birth. To the modern genius of inquiry it is intended to present a permanent place of varied scientific recreation; and it offers itself also as a parent to the numerous mechanics' and other scientific institutions throughout the country which have been struggling unsuccessfully against the difficulties incident to their isolated positions and divided means. It has been found that the funds of such Societies are rarely sufficient to enable them to procure the apparatus and appurtenances proper for the illustration of their lectures. Besides, therefore, supplying to the London public daily demonstrations of the various manufac-



turing processes, it is proposed by the new institution to form a large collection of apparatus suitable to the illustration of lectures in every branch of natural and experimental science,—and to lend out any portion of it on hire, on very moderate terms. This funding of resources and centralizing of means is a very important feature in the new institution,—and one to which we have often called attention.—The promises of the prospectus are very large. The institution is intended to combine the chief features of a public Exhibition and a private Society.—The galleries are to be furnished with working models of machinery, and specimens of manufactures and of the Fine Arts; and it is announced to be one leading object of the undertaking, to obtain a complete series of the products of every staple manufacture in its successive processes,—so as to present a history of each of, and a Museum of all, the Industrial Arts. The lectures are promised to be of first-class character,—and competent assistants are, besides, to be continually engaged in the practical illustration of the various sciences. The laboratory is to be rendered practically efficient,—and under such direction as to insure the formation of a sound school of chemistry. Our readers will see, that the scheme is a vast one:—but the names engaged are a guarantee for the earnestness and integrity of the intention. The whole design bears emphatically on it the mark of the present age,—which has admitted all ranks to the knowledge-franchise—and before whose spirit the old entertainments that once fed the mental appetite of the people are all going out. Such a plan in the days of the intellectual Sarums and Gattos would have been a gigantic absurdity,—but it is the natural expression of our age, in which Harlequin has no chance against the steam-engine, and Ariel is far out-travelled by the electric telegraph.—The site secured for the Panopticon is central between all the varied interests that make up the sum of metropolitan civilization. It is in the neighbourhood of Exeter Hall,—on a plot of ground commanding fronts in the Strand, Exeter Street, Southampton Street, and Tavistock Street.—From the progress made, it is believed that the institution may be opened in twelve months.

BRITISH INSTITUTION, Pall Mall.—THE GALLERY for the EXHIBITION and SALE of the WORKS of BRITISH ARTISTS is OPEN DAILY, from Ten till Five. Admission, 1s. Catalogue, 1s. GEORGE NICOL, Secretary.

THE NILE.—RE-OPENED AT THE EGYPTIAN HALL, PICCADILLY.—The new and splendid MOVING PANORAMA of the NILE, showing all the stupendous Works of ANUBIS on its Banks, from Cairo the capital of Egypt to the Second Cataract in Nubia. Painted by Henry Warren and James Fahey from drawings made by Joseph Bonomi during many years' residence there. —Morning 3; Evening 6 o'clock.—Stalls 3s., Pit 2s., Gallery 1s.

THE WINTER EXHIBITION OF WATER-COLOUR DRAWINGS AND SKETCHES IN OILS, comprising Works by the most eminent living Artists, is OPEN from Ten till Six daily. Admission (including Catalogue), 1s.: Season Ticket, 5s. The Exhibition is altogether one which will grundy the attention of visitors.—*Athenæum*, Jan. 5.  
330, Regent Street. J. L. GRUNDY, Manager.

#### ROYAL POLYTECHNIC INSTITUTION.

SIR HENRY R. BISHOP'S LECTURES ON MUSIC will take place on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday Evenings at Eight, and on Tuesday, Thursday, and Saturday at Three o'clock.—LECTURES ON ASTRONOMY, by Dr. Bachhöfer, on Wednesday and Friday at One o'clock.—Dr. Bachhöfer's LECTURE on the PHILOSOPHY OF SCIENTIFIC RECREATION, Mornings and Evenings.—A LECTURE, by Mr. Ashley, on COAL: its History and Formation.—DISSOLVING VIEWS OF LONDON in the SIXTEENTH CENTURY and AS IT NOW IS, with a Descriptive Lecture; also a SERIES of VIEWS OF ROME.—Experiments with the DIVER and DIVING BELL.—THE MACHINERY, MODELS, &c. EXPLAINED.—Admission, 1s.; Schools, half-price.

#### SOCIETIES

**GEOLOGICAL.**—Feb. 6.—Sir C. Lyell in the chair. —Lieut.-Col. J. A. Lloyd and W. Pengelly, Esq. were elected Fellows.—A paper was read, 'On the Igneous and Volcanic Rocks of the Papal States and the adjacent Parts of Italy,' by Sir R. I. Murchison, V.P. One of the chief objects of the author is to show that nearly all the so-called volcanic rocks of the Papal States—including those between Radicofani and Rome and in the Campagna—were accumulated under water, and did not issue from true sub-aerial volcanoes. The oldest of the tephritic basalts or lavas have penetrated and overflowed the tertiary marine marls and sands of the sub-Apennine age; and if zeolites were substituted for their prevailing simple mineral leucite, they could not be distinguished from many British trap rocks. The tuffs, peperini and puzzuolane, which succeed, also afford unquestionable evidences of having been formed under waters,—pro-

bably for the most part brackish or fresh, since no marine shells occur in them; and from the porous and light character of many of them, it is presumed that the waters in which they were re-arranged were of slight depth. The so-called crater lakes of Bolsena, Baccano, Bracciano, &c., in and around the Colles Cimini, all come within this category,—in proof of which water-worn pebbles of Apennine limestone are associated with them. During all this condition of things, the Sabine and Volscian Hills of Apennine limestone (cretaceous) must have formed the coast of the waters,—Soracte being an island, in which volcanic materials, having been partially thrown up into the atmosphere, are supposed to have been recombined.

**Old Travertine.**—At or towards the close of the great volcanic epoch, enormous masses of travertine were accumulated,—which, as they repose upon volcanic tuffs, and contain nothing but remains of terrestrial plants and animals, indicate that they were formed in the lakes and marshes which prevailed shortly after the partial elevation and desiccation of the Campagna. Such is the broad tract of rocks around the Lake of Tartarus and the Solfatarra, out of which ancient Rome was in great measure built, and also the travertine of certain undulating hills between Ferentino and Val Montone, on the central road to Naples. The plateau of travertine on which ancient Tibur (Tivoli) was built must have been elaborated long anterior to the modern era,—for pebble beds of Apennine limestone are intercalated in it, and the whole stands out in a high bluff escarpment towards the Campagna, where no water-courses now descend from the Apennines. A very strong contrast is, therefore, drawn between those ancient travertines formed at the expense of the Apennine limestone when the great volcanic action of this region was in energy or dying away, and those feeble additions of travertine which have been made by the river Anio since the Temple of the Sibyl was built upon the old and ante-historical rock. The author here describes the effect of a great flood of the Anio in 1826, that carrying the cliffs of old travertine on which a church and thirty-six houses were situated, transported all the lighter materials down the falls. As on that occasion a rafter of the church stuck fast in the Grotto of the Syren, and remaining there, is now becoming cemented into the hollow of the rock by the accretion of newly-formed travertine, so he thinks, that if found in after-ages, it might lead antiquarians and geologists to conclude that the great mass of superjacent and subjacent travertine had been formed after the building of Christian churches. The partial desiccation of the old cascades by the new cut and tunnel through the Apennine limestone has, it is stated, much detracted from the beauty of the scene.

**Latian Volcanoes.**—The only true terrestrial volcano which the author admits may have been in activity—and this only in the very earliest portion of the modern period—is one which burst out in the centre of the Latian or Alban Hills, from the circular and crateriform cavity called Hannibal's Camp and the adjacent parasitic craters. The chief crater has a central cone (Monte di Vescovo), is surrounded by a brim of dejections of scoriaceous and volcanic materials, and exhibits *coulées* of basaltic and other lavas (including one called Sperone),—on the highest point of which (Monte Cavi), about 3,500 feet above the sea, stood the Temple of Jupiter Latiaris. It is, above all, in the broken-down sides of this crater and its parasites (towards Tusculum) that the author traces an analogy to the extinct sub-aerial volcanoes of Auvergne; but he believes that the fires burst forth when these Latian Hills had just emerged from beneath the waters, and when nearly all the Campagna was still submerged; for in the middle of the crater, in which Hannibal encamped, there is a lacustrine deposit in the shells of *Lymnæa* and *Planorbis*,—and therefore, for ages after its activity, this volcanic crater must have become a lake, which was desiccated before the time of historical records. In expressing the great obligations of science to Monsignore Medici Spada and Prof. Ponzì, of Rome, for the light they have thrown upon the mineral structure of the Latian volcanoes, Sir Roderick cannot assent to that part of their view by which the lakes of Albano and Nemi are also supposed to be craters formed in the atmosphere. Unacquainted with any-

thing resembling them in true atmospheric volcanoes, he regards the solid peperino, which flanks these and composes their cliffs, as having been formed under aqueous pressure. Nor can he, because the impressions of grassy vegetables have been found in some of this peperino, admit that it was a mud eruption which flowed upon land; since nothing is more common than that matted vegetable substances should be floated into waters adjacent to a coast, and there become imbedded in subaqueous dejections. Recent, then, as the eruption of the central volcano of the Latian hills is in the geological series, and linked on as it is to the historic era, the very high antiquity of that event as respects history is further proved by the fact, that certain minerals peculiar to that volcano and not occurring in the older rocks of the Papal States, have been found in the quaternary or post-pliocene marine deposits at Porto D'Anzo or Antium (25 miles distant from Monte Cavi) which have been raised up into land since the Mediterranean Sea was inhabited by its present animals.

**Rocca Monfina.**—This lofty tract in the kingdom of Naples, lying between Sessa and Teano, so remarkable in history as the seat of the ancient Aurunci, and so striking in its outlines from the grandeur of its crater (2½ miles in diameter), is referred by the author exclusively to a subaqueous origin, and is supposed to have been formed, like Graham Island or other submarine volcanoes, by ejections which, to a great extent, reaching the atmosphere, fell back into the waters and formed successive and surrounding scoriaceous layers. The great distinction between this crater and that of the Latian Hills is, that its centre is now occupied by a mountain of solid trachyte of very ancient appearance (between a porphyry and a greenstone), which it is contended could not have been formed under the atmosphere, but must have originated at considerable depth, and have been subsequently heaved up. On this point, indeed, the author begs to dissent from those writers who think that solid trachytes, including the domes of Auvergne, could ever have been formed under the mere pressure of the atmosphere; and in all cases where, as at Rocca Monfina, they have so risen as to plug up an ancient crater, whether subaqueous or subaerial, he argues that they must have thrown off a considerable mass of superincumbent materials. The trachytes of Ischia, for example, must all have been of pure submarine origin, since sea shells alternate with them to the height of upwards of 1,600 English feet.

In conclusion, Sir Roderick indicated to what extent his own observations tended to modify the extreme opinions of those who advocate the elevation-crater theory on the one hand, and those who would refer all dejections of quondam volcanic materials which dip away excentrically from a central dome or cavity, to the same mode of formation as that of existing volcanoes. He thinks, that the circuses and valleys of elevation in the sedimentary rocks of the British Isles illustrate how craters of elevation, strictly so called, may have been produced; and explains how, in the instances of Woolhope and Dudley, the igneous matter has found vent on the edges of these deposits, whilst the repressed heat and intumescence accompanying its evolution have raised up their centres so as to produce the ellipses and circuses in question. In like manner it is inferred, that wherever igneous dejections have been spread out by currents over very large areas in the bottoms of seas, and far removed from their sources of eruption, subsequent upheavals from beneath, whether accompanied by the outburst of fresh igneous matter or not, may have so arranged these former volcanic materials as to give them such a shape as will entitle them to the name of craters of elevation.

**ROYAL INSTITUTION.**—Feb. 8.—W. R. Hamilton, Esq., V.P., in the chair.—Professor Cowper 'On the Conway and Menai Tubular Bridges.' The Professor commenced by briefly distinguishing between the real tubular structure of Stephenson and certain foreign bridges from which, as has been alleged, that principle was taken. Thus, the wooden bridge at Schaffhausen, which was destroyed by the French in 1790, and which was supposed to have suggested the tubular form, is proved by a model



now in the museum of King's College to have been simply an arched bridge, having a roof as a shelter from rain. The same remark is equally applicable to a bridge at Wittingen and to wooden bridges in America, where the roadways are roofed. The Professor then read a brief notice of various proposals and estimates, by which it appeared that the attention of the Legislature had been directed to the urgent necessity of a safe transit over the Straits of Menai since the year 1783. The most elaborate report was furnished by the late Mr. Rennie, who supplied several designs and estimates for bridges, either of cast iron, or partly of cast iron and partly of stone. Prof. Cowper then proceeded to explain and to illustrate by models the principle of a bridge. He showed that the force exerted on the arch bridge is that of compression only—in the suspension bridge the force exerted is that of extension only; and that in the bow-and-string bridge both extension and compression are exerted. It was shown that the same forces are also exerted on the girder,—viz., extension on the under and compression on the upper side. This was demonstrated by the following experiment:—Wood, tin plate, and tin tubes were successively inserted in a space of about four inches, purposely cut for that purpose in the middle of a girder, where it was also jointed. When the tin plate was inserted in the upper side, it bent under the pressure of a few pounds; but when rolled up into a tube it supported more than 100 lb. Again, when the same piece of tin plate was fixed to the under side of the girder, where the force of extension was called into action, it would have required several hundred-weights to have torn it asunder. Mr. E. Hodgkinson's experiments on the best form of section for cast-iron girders were then adverted to. Small experimental girders, devised by that gentleman, were shown. They resemble the letter T. It was stated that the strength of this girder, when the flat side was uppermost, was to its strength when inverted,  $\frac{1}{2}$ , as 1 to  $\frac{3}{4}$ . Other forms of section showed that the distribution of the same quantity of material would give differences in strength varying as  $\frac{5}{11}$ , 11, 15, 19. It was then explained how wrought-iron tubes had been employed by Locke, Brunel, Fox, and Henderson in the bow of bow-and-string bridges, and by Fairbairn in girders. The insufficiency of ordinary suspension bridges to support railway trains was adverted to; and Mr. Cowper explained a perfectly novel and highly scientific design of a railway suspension bridge, the invention of his son, Mr. E. A. Cowper. This bridge, from the principle of its construction, is called "The inverted arch bridge." An arch of an ordinary cast-iron bridge (like the Southwark Bridge) is secure in whatever position the load is placed, because the lines of thrust are contained within the arch of plates. Now, imagine a similar arch of wrought-iron plates to be inverted, and a road-way hung to it, then, wherever the load may be placed, the lines of strain will also be contained within the inverted arch of plates, and consequently there will be no deflection of the road. This very original invention is worthy the attention of engineers. Prof. Cowper then explained Mr. Stephenson's original proposal to build, without interrupting the navigation by scaffolding, a bridge of two cast-iron arches, the centre pier being placed on the Britannia rocks. It was shown by a model how two half arches could be built on the opposite sides of a pier, each being tied to, and so balancing, the corresponding voussoir on the other side. Other conditions imposed by the Admiralty, but incompatible with the plan of the railway, induced Mr. Stephenson to adopt the plan of a vast tube. A section, made of rope, comprising the full size of the tube, was suspended from the ceiling of the theatre of the Institution: it was 15 feet wide and 30 feet high; and Prof. Cowper stated the length to be 460 feet (about twice the height of the Monument). After many experiments on cylindrical, elliptical, and other forms, Mr. Fairbairn adopted that of a rectangular tube, with rectangular cells at the top. Prof. Cowper illustrated, by experiment, the necessity of stiffness at the top of the tube, and demonstrated that this was obtained by the cellular form. The Menai tube is made with wrought-iron plates varying from  $\frac{1}{2}$  to  $\frac{3}{4}$  of an inch in thickness, firmly rivetted together with T or L iron at the joints. The rectangular cells at the upper side are eight in number, and are 1 foot

9 inches square; and there are six similar rectangular cells at the bottom of the tube. The method of putting the tube together, and of raising it by hydraulic presses, was explained and exhibited by a model. The bridge consists of two lines of tube, extending over two centre spans of 460 feet each, and two smaller spans of 230 feet each. These tubes, when in their places, were joined together by intermediate tubes of about 50 feet over the piers; thus, not only making the length of one entire tube to amount to 1,524 feet, but by the junction adding considerably to the strength. The weight of the tubes is about 10,570 tons. The Conway tubular bridge has been in use for some time, and it is found that an ordinary train deflects the tube about  $\frac{1}{2}$  of an inch; that hot sunshine causes the heated side to bow out about 1 inch; that the strongest wind deflects the tube about 1 inch. It is intended to put sliding stays between the up-train and the down-train tubes of the Britannia Bridge, so that they will support each other against the wind. The difference of temperature between summer and winter will expand the entire Britannia Bridge about 12 inches: this is provided for by fixing the middle of the tube on the Britannia pier, and allowing the ends to rest on forty-eight rollers, about 6 inches diameter in the abutments; the rails in those parts being allowed to slide by each other.—On the table were the works of Fairbairn and Dempsey; some plates of the tubular bridge by Mr. E. Clark, the resident engineer; and two models of the Conway and Britannia Bridges.

#### MEETINGS FOR THE ENSUING WEEK.

Mon.	Pathological, half-past 7.—Meeting of Council.
—	Statistical, 8.
—	Chemical, 8.
—	British Architects, 8.
Tues.	Civil Engineers, 8.—Mr. Richard Turner, 'Description of the Iron Roof over the Railway Station, Lime Street, Liverpool.'
—	Lancashire, 8.
—	Horticultural, 2.
Thurs.	Royal, half-past 8.
—	Antiquaries, 8.
Fri.	Philosophical, 8.
—	Royal Institution, half-past 8.—Mr. Carpmel 'On the Manufactures from the "Cocon-Nut."

#### FINE ARTS

##### BRITISH INSTITUTION.

Mr. Gilbert's combination of characters from *The Plays of Shakespeare* claims commendation more from the individual presentments of the leading personages of the principal dramas of the immortal bard than for any successful pictorial composition as a whole. The idea is not a new one. The attempt has been more than once made,—and with but partial success; and this will not be wondered at when the powerful creations of distinct characters, both tragic and comic, are remembered. The deficiency of harmony in the bringing together of such varieties cannot be compensated for by the greatest nicety of personification,—neither will any amount of technical excellence make amends for want of rationality of plan, of unity, or of dramatic development of design. *A Troop of Dragoons* (142) represents some cavalry soldiers under arms during a storm,—conveyed in a solemn and grave effect. *Aladdin's Present to the Sultan* (203) is a good study of oriental character.—There is sober sadness in Mr. H. W. Phillips's *Pilgrim, from 'All's Well that Ends Well'* (107):—a very solid and well-painted head.

Mr. Frederick Tayler, whose successes as a painter in water colours we have so often recorded, exhibits himself in a new material,—and with like powers. There are the same breadth of style and fluency of touch as is usual with him in *Harvest Time* (97) and *Gipsy Trampers* (120):—giving good presage that this artist will make himself no less conspicuous with the new means which he has adopted than he has done with his former medium.

Amongst Mr. A. Johnston's works, the preference will be given to No. 434—a scene of Scottish courtship illustrative of some anonymous lines:—whose effect is, however, too strong for open air truth. In *The Novice* (138), a powerfully painted single figure is made to look gigantic by the disproportioned architectural details of background and indifferent perspective.—One of the very carefully drawn little studies from the nude form by Mrs. Frost, entitled *Musidora* (143)—and a pretty study of infantine character, *The Gleaner's Child* (147), by Mrs. Carpenter—are the only two commendable pictures of

human form in the North Room remaining to be noticed.

Proceeding onwards, Mr. A. J. Woolmer's *Syrens* (161) is another of his poetical touches, abounding in fancy, but wanting in those traits of individual truth which strengthen the highest conceptions of the ideal,—and have never been disdained in the loftiest creations of a Dante or of a Milton. Mr. Woolmer would do well to be more attentive to particular truth,—and to take care that haste does not become with him habit.

Mr. Brocky is better known through the medium of his very pleasant drawings of character in chalks than on the walls of our Exhibition-rooms;—but he has here in two instances proved how well he can apply those studies of colour from old masters which his sojournings in some of the principal galleries of the Continent have given him the opportunity of making. *A Dutch Madonna* (179) gives a group of domestic felicity. *A Bacchante* (300) is of a much higher order of colour in the more difficult department of the representation of the nude female form. Mr. Brocky has in the last succeeded in the execution of passages of very beautiful colour,—and in a degree of relief which proves that he has not relied on memory or convention for the realization of his theme, but has derived from well-selected nature the source of his present inspiration. An artist who shows so much power for historic and poetic treatment will, it is to be hoped, not dissipate his time by occupation on the lower class of the more objective truths of the Dutch and Flemish schools.

Mr. J. Callcott Horsley's completion of *Lance reproving his Dog* (205)—a picture left unfinished by the late Sir A. W. Callcott—proves one of two things:—either how much more successful he can be when acting under the stimulus of competition with matured excellence, or how much he has improved. His present success will make his future works the objects of increased attention and scrutiny.

*The Desert Steed* (214), by C. Tschagggeny—representing one of those halts with which we have been made familiar by many travellers—has some good painting, but lacks the arid hue and hot atmosphere of the Desert. The truth of tone so observable in the oriental scenes of David Roberts is here missed.

A very excellent little study of a child, by Mr. Woolnoth, must not be overlooked:—*"Naughty Pussy! she has killed poor Robin"* (244). It has much feeling and is delicately painted.—Mr. R. M'Innes's *Detaining a Customer* (252) is a humorous picture of domestic life.—Mr. A. Fraser's *Scotch Shepherd saying Grace* (261)—the goodman reverentially doffing his bonnet before his repast, with becoming gesture—is better than the same artist's scene from the 'Heart of Mid-Lothian,'—*Jeanie Deans and the Laird of Dumbdickies* (278):—although in the latter he has exhibited much manipulative excellence.—*Studying Navigation* (261) is a little picture by Mr. H. Dawson, not without merit.

*The Myrrha* (311) of Mr. H. O'Neill will hardly be accepted as a just representation of what the artist can do. It is, at the same time, a recurrence to a type of form which having been repeated in other of the artist's works is likely to subject him to the imputation of mannerism.

In *Infant Baptism* (313), by Mr. G. E. Hicks, the painter, with some amount of ability, has given two compositions of this ceremonial: one an illustration of the year 110, from Origen,—the other of the year 626. They are more remarkable for attention to archæologic particular than for pictorial accomplishment.

Mr. J. D. Wingfield's *Rubbing off the Rust* (327)—a man polishing his armour—is one of those attempts at the delineation of the human form which is less in his way than a work like his *Interior—Royal Chapel, Hampton Court* (248). This last, however, will hardly be accepted as so successful an achievement as his scenes in the Duke of Sutherland's Gallery or the exteriors of Hampton Court of former years. *A Peep in the Palace of William the Third* (56) and *The Falconer* (452) are pictures by the same hand.—*An Interior of a Cottage, Kent* (333) is a very truthful little work by Mr. G. Hardy.—A very affected little composition is *The Fairy Ring* (351), by Mr. H. Bielfield,—after the manner of Huskisson and other imitators of the style of MacIise,



who led the way originally in such matters.—There is a gem by Miss E. Goodall, *Stepping Stones in Wales* (358), on the Secretary's screen.

Mr. U. C. Selous's picture, *The First Impression* (388), records an incident with which we are not acquainted. He tells us of *Gutenberg showing to his wife his first experiment in printing from moveable types; supposed to have been the Bible, printed in 1450-60*. The picture is indefinite in interest and in action. Although *The Missal* (393), by Mr. J. Stephanoff records no positive incident, there is in it a sense of picturesque combination. There is more of severity, and there is high intention in *Blind Bartimeus restored to sight* (406), by Mr. W. J. Grant: evidently the work of a young and timid hand,—containing some excellent parts, but wanting in depth and richness of colour.

Mr. J. Harwood betrays some good intentions in *Othello relating his Adventures* (450);—but he has not identified his subject with the locality, or realized the dignified aspect of such personages as he seeks to represent. Mr. S. West has been more attentive to accessorial particular in *Quentin Durward's First Interview with the Countess of Croye* (477). He succeeds, however, still better where he has a wider field for chromatic display,—as in his *Disgrace of Wolsey*, exhibited some years since. The character of the King is there in accordance with history and portraiture:—and there are other points of equal truth.

Among the painters of animals, Mr. Sydney Cooper bears away the palm. *A Group on a Common* (1) is a much more powerfully painted assemblage of sheep and donkey, more impasted and more brilliant, than is his wont. *A Group in the Meadows* (88) is excellently composed; and *Watering Cattle—Sunset* (430) is *Both*-like in sentiment, but exceptionable to our taste as being somewhat hot and foxy in the general hue.

Mr. J. F. Herring here shows himself more independent in practice than usual. He has relied on his own resources,—and the result is greater originality of style. In his principal work, *A Farm Yard* (3), the animals are injured in their force by the heaviness of the back-ground,—which, being painted up too minutely, and with approximating tints, divides attention with them, and injures an otherwise able performance. *A Study of Kids* wants variety of colour: there is too great a prevalence of the same negative hue. A few points of more positive colour in the accessories would have prevented this monotony. There are more breadth and power in *Domestic Ducks* (81). These pictures are all, however, eloquent of conscientious intention,—and reveal Mr. Herring's observation and mastery of pencil.

Mr. R. Ansdell has not been so fortunate either in his choice of subjects or in his treatment. His principal work here, *The Regretted Companion* (40)—an old man keeping watch over the companion of his toils, his dead donkey—required no ordinary powers to invest its subject with genuine pathos. Stépe made much of such a subject—but it is one which if not handled in a masterly way is likely to provoke a smile. Nor does Mr. Ansdell by the graces of execution or the power of art win our consent to the imitative features of his work. We remember many better things from his hands.—*South Downs* (123) will scarcely be more popular,—although aided in the landscape portions by the valuable co-operation of Mr. Creswick.

A promising scion of the house whose name he bears Mr. G. Landseer proves himself to be in a little picture, *A Study from Nature* (455). It represents a group of donkeys. Careful training is observable in the drawing and making up of the work. There is an entire absence of imitation or affectation of the style of his distinguished relative, while there is a simple and honest truthfulness in the rendering of Nature.—The remaining picture of animals to be noticed is that by Mr. T. Jones Barker, *The Review* (464). It represents horses,—horses on which we presume the artist intended it to be understood that the Queen and her Consort are mounted. As a picture of a review, there is want of military disposition in the elements of the piece,—and as a picture of the horse, we have seen many better representations of the creature from the same hand.

No less than eight examples of Fruit and Still-life

—each bearing testimony to the supremacy of the artist in this line—are from the pencil of Mr. Lance. The most conspicuous is *The Draught, with the Brown Jug, &c.* (429), one of the best of Mr. Lance's elaborations. *Rich and Rare* (21), a jewelled cup and a group of peaches, is as faithful and admirable as *The Jewels and the Gem* (102). The rose, carnation and convolvulus in the latter, however, prove that Mr. Lance yet wants the delicacy of touch and lightness of hand so essential to the true delineation of flowers.—*Nature and Art* (368) are two separate works: one a casket of jewels,—the other luscious fruit. *Spanish Produce* (403) is a deep-toned combination of Iberian fruit. The most powerful of these works for general effect and breadth of light and shade is *Remnants* (427):—probably one of Mr. Lance's most successful efforts in the attainment of these very desirable qualities.

In no spirit of imitation, but in that of honest emulation,—Mr. M. P. Jackson's *Still-Life* (431) testifies to his admiration of Mr. Lance. The latter must look well to his laurels if Mr. Jackson shall realize the promise which he has here given.

We shall conclude our present notice by observing on some singular renderings of the human form “divine”:—reserving the landscapes and sea views for next week.

There are first to be noticed two scriptural pictures, with portions of the figure of a size larger than nature. Mr. J. Franklin in *The Covenant of Judas* (92), and Mr. W. Bowness in *Samuel and Eli* (255), show more ambition than ability,—display a want of that acquaintance with the best treatments by the old masters, of their respective subjects, which should have either deterred them from grappling with such difficulties or better prepared them for the conflict. Mr. T. Brook's *Highland Gleaner* (17) is better fitted for a Greek Street picture-dealer's shop than for these walls. It is poor and common.—Mr. E. U. Eddis's *Youthful Fortune-Telling* (46) is unworthy of his better talents: and his *Girl with Water-cresses* (78), although better, wants truth and careful finish. *Venus and Cupid* (124), by Mr. G. G. Bullock, is one of the poorest works, full of pretension, ever shown in these rooms:—so is *Minna Troil* (135), by Mr. T. M. Joy.—*The Luna* (232) of Mr. J. G. Naish is no very successful imitation of Mr. Frost:—nor has Mr. K. Buckner done himself any justice in his *Shepherd Boy* (58). The rusticities of the portrait painter, unlike those of Sir Joshua Reynolds, savour always too strongly of the sitter's chair and the darkened room—instead of suggesting the mossy bank and the blue vault of heaven.—Mr. T. F. Dicksee in his picture of *Lady Macbeth* (279) has taken such revenge as lay in his power for the sins of that very questionable lady.—*The Rival's Wedding* (282), by Mr. H. M. Anthony, shows improvement,—though there is yet too much of singularity to please those who delight in the modesty of nature.—*Don Quixote and Sancho Panza in Pedro's Hut* (301) is another of those combinations in which grimace is mistaken for character.—Of a most ambitious order is the large picture by Mr. T. M. Joy, *The Interview between James the Fourth and the Celebrated Outlaw Murray, on Permain-core, on the Banks of the Yarrow* (425). They who are conversant with the requirements necessary for the proper representation of such a subject need no hint as to the extent of Mr. Joy's temerity and qualification:—we will therefore spare ourselves any analysis of his demerits.—*Milton reading to Cromwell the "Defensio Regis" of Salmasius* (443); by Mr. H. Murray, has some very good colour. The story is, however, not well told,—and the characters are not successful.—With the mere mention of Mr. A. T. Derby's picture of *Varney's Reception at Cannon Place, with Commands from Kenilworth* (456), we must close.

FINE-ART GOSSIP.—Mr. Burford has very judiciously selected for his new Panorama scenes in the Arctic regions:—possessing, as these do, at this moment the elements of more than ordinary interest. The picture has been divided into two distinct subjects; one representing the late Expedition under Sir James Ross, in Glacier Harbour, on the coast of Greenland, in the month of July, making its way through lanes of water in the ice, and surrounded by enormous icebergs, assuming the most fantastic shapes.—The other shows the ships *Enterprise*

and *Investigator* in their winter quarters in Port Leopold, firmly imbedded in ice. The sky is brilliantly illuminated by the aurora borealis; and the moon, which shines with peculiar brightness, presents one of those remarkable phenomena so frequently seen in polar regions.—Mr. Burford, who has been assisted by Mr. Selous, has succeeded in imparting the most happy aerial perspective to both scenes; which, combined with careful painting, renders the panorama one of the most successful that we have seen. It is due to Lieut. Browne of H.M.S. *Enterprise* to state that the panorama has been painted from his drawings made on the spot. We have seen these drawings; and we bear willing testimony to the accuracy with which Mr. Burford has rendered them in his panorama.

We have before us the first of a host of candidates which are likely, we presume, to be bidders for the honours that will belong to the edifice adopted for the great Industrial Exhibition next year. A small plan and an isometric view of a system of galleries has reached us, on a sheet of paper which bears no author's name. The plan of the whole is a circle; and at the heart is a circular central hall, 130 ft. in diameter—radiating from which are eight corridors, each 300 ft. by 50 ft.—of proportionate height—having at their several outer extremities, entrances, with attendants' rooms. These communicate right and left, according to the accompanying description, with eight corridors, each 200 ft. by 30 ft.—inclosing eight large covered courts, all receiving their light from above—thus providing a large mass of wall. The central hall is surmounted by a dome; and this part of the building is intended for models that require height—being 60 ft. high to the springing of the dome. The clerestory windows around its sides are intended to receive specimens of stained glass. The other parts of the building are arbitrarily, but not necessarily, appropriated, according to the views of the designer:—and the plan allows of extension to any scale.—It would not, however, suit the space at present supposed to be the probable site of the intended Exhibition.

Last week, a meeting was held in Edinburgh, to consider the propriety of erecting a monument to the memory of the late Lord Jeffrey. A series of resolutions were moved and carried, tending to the erection of an architectural monument in Edinburgh,—and for appointing committees in that city and in London for carrying out the object.

In the same city, after a long struggle with the authorities, an architectural document of great value in the eyes of those who look back with pride on the religious history of Scotland, is finally preserved, by means of a public subscription,—which, however, we believe, has not reached the amount that the committee of conservation desire for all the purposes which they have in view. The house of John Knox, which stood in the way of certain contemplated embellishments of the city,—and was therefore doomed to demolition, like any other material thing, before the law of progress,—has, in a spirit which strikes one curiously, in connexion with the particular object, as at once anti-reform and somewhat idolatrous, been snatched from the common doom, to be erected into a monument in honour of the great Reformer:—a Knox shrine. The house is to have a custodian, paid for showing the relic to the public; and, as we understand the matter, it is intended, with that thrift which makes an unflinching qualification of Scottish enthusiasm, that a portion of the house shall subserve certain purposes of general archaeology—the Reformer's study and the room in which he died being more particularly held sacred to his memory.

The senior Society of Painters in Water Colours held on Monday last their annual meeting for the election of Associates; and chose Miss Rayner, Mr. Paul Nafel, a native of Guernsey, and Herr Karl Haghe, a Prussian. A correspondent, who was himself a candidate, Mr. Niemann, admitting the undoubted worth of the candidates elected, is yet desirous that we should put on record, *quantum valeant*, his objections to the election,—and to certain other proceedings of the Society. We give the complaint as his own.—Among the candidates, he says, were English artists of equal talent. He was a candidate himself.—“competing,” he says, “on this second occasion on the nomination of Mr. George Catter



mole, and in consequence of having been officially invited to do so at the last election, when my name came before the Society. Now, my reason for troubling you with this apparently personal affair is, to inquire whether the English school of water-colour painters,—the only school in which we really, as a nation, excel,—requires strengthening by the election of Associates from among foreigners?—who in a little time will doubtless succeed to full honours, and then, as is the established rule in this Society,—hang each of them from twenty to fifty drawings, sold, unsold, dead stock, lessons to pupils, &c.—to the effectual and utter exclusion of rising young men. This Society is an English Society, not an open field of competition for all nations. It continually pleads its want of room: why then do its President and other old members set the laudable example of hanging a few drawings less each year, and thus make room for deserving works? Or, why do they not, for their own honour, hang only such works as they have for sale—or as have been recently sold to the true patrons of Art—instead of allowing dealers to make a popular shop of their Gallery, which is every year the case?—Our correspondent says, somewhat inconsistently, that he desires to guard himself against being “supposed to object to the election of these gentlemen on account of their being foreigners.”—“I will simply state,” he adds, “that, as the principal or working trustee of the Hyde Park Exhibition, and lessee of the new Galleries now building in Langham Place for that Society, I have myself recently originated and am carrying out a scheme for giving to foreign artists the opportunity of exhibiting their works from year to year by the side of our own, in the same Galleries, and at the same time. It is not, therefore, any the slightest objection to them as foreigners; but simply a conviction, that although entitled to exhibit with us, they are not entitled to carry off those limited honours and places which in English Societies are the English artist's by right,—or at any rate not until the claims of Englishmen have been fully examined and found wanting.”—We put the case as our correspondent states it:—merely observing, for the present, that it assumes equality of talent on the part of the candidates disappointed—which we presume is intended to be disputed by the election itself; and that it is somewhat opposed to that spirit of free competition which is more and more the spreading sentiment of the day.

A correspondent of the *Daily News* announces a new and interesting discovery which the excavations making in and about Rome have just brought to light. In the Villa Doria at Albano a fine statue of a Centaur has been discovered, after lying buried for ages in the ground. “It is,” says the writer, “of a pure style of execution, and in good preservation. The human part of the monster is of *rosso antico*, whilst the equine half is of grey marble, or *biggio antico*.”—In other respects, says the same writer, the Fine Arts feel the languid influence of Rome's present political situation. There are two public Exhibitions:—one of the productions of German painters, at the Palazzo Simonetti, which contains some good pictures by Törmér and Werner,—the other at the Piazza del Popolo, of which he tells a significant story. “M. Albuzzi—a very clever artist, and a pupil of Hauser—had some difficulty in getting one of his pictures admitted here, because it smacked too much of patriotism. It represented a young girl of Carthage cutting off and contributing her splendid black tresses amidst the offerings of gold and jewels made by richer citizens for the defence of their country against the arms of Scipio. He was obliged to quote the passage from Livy and place it under his picture in order to show that it was really an ancient and not a modern episode.”

#### MUSIC AND THE DRAMA

**ST. MARTIN'S HALL.**—Following what may be described as a most festive and genial social inauguration, which took place on Thursday week—St. Martin's Hall in its incomplete state was opened on Monday last, with high musical ceremony. When we describe the room as incomplete, it is not merely in point of cornices not put up, a gallery which is to come, &c. &c.—but as lacking yet a third of its

length. Meanwhile, we are not too sanguine in promising to the Londoner a more picturesque and effective music-room than any he has yet possessed,—judging from the portion already thrown open, in its unfinished and semi-decorated state. The old English wooden roof, with its arrangement of beams and pannels, proves to be most effective in point of sonority. More ripe the choruses could not sound,—more delicately and distinctly the *solo* voices could not be delivered, than they do and are in St. Martin's Hall. The orchestra appears to be judiciously contrived and arranged; the amount of light is sufficient without being either glaring or distracting to the eye. In short, leaving details for another day, we must state that the good performances of Monday last were placed in a most attractive frame-work. To follow one by one the items of the programme of this interesting Concert is impossible. The first act was sacred, the second secular. In the former, the features were the ‘Lauda Sion’ of Mendelssohn, and the new Psalm by Mr. H. Leslie, reviewed in the *Athenæum* [p. 137] on the occasion of its publication. Rarely has a young English composer been so advantageously introduced to the public: and the hearing yet more than the reading of Mr. Leslie's Psalm satisfies us that he needs only exercise himself in writing to take a high place among English composers. The defects of his work,—an occasional confusion, or else meagreness, in its orchestral effects, and a crudity in some of its vocal modulations,—are such as would be easily made to disappear before further practice of hand. This ought to bring largeness, ease, flow,—increase of spirit without increase of difficulty; and the Festival Anthem substantiates Mr. Leslie's claim to idea and to science. We do not fear that in his third grand vocal work our young composer will hazard such a difficulty as exists at the words “At the presence of God,” p. 23 (No. 4) of his Psalm—nor employ his horns, *tromboni*, and other such blatant instruments so profusely as he has here done. The *solos* were taken by Miss Stewart and Mr. Benson. The performance as a whole being excellent.—The other principal singers who appeared at this Concert were Miss Birch, Miss Lucombe, Miss Rainforth, Miss Dolby, Mrs. Noble, Mr. Locket, Mr. Sims Reeves, Mr. Whitworth and Mr. W. Seguin; Herr Ernst and Mr. W. S. Bennett lending their aid as instrumentalists. With regard to the secular act, we must comment on the March and Choral music from ‘Idomeneo’ which was performed. Since we have again and again begged to hear that opera in the theatre, we are bound as honest persons to express our disappointment, and also our conviction that much of what was executed is in style more obsolete than other operatic music which could be cited, fifty years antecedent in date. We are glad, however, to have had our longings set at rest.—One last word:—Mr. Hullah, who already has proved himself to be our best English conductor, is now in a fair way of obtaining such practice as will enable him to add the few last touches of finish to those broad lines of command without which there is no possible musical interpretation.—The days are happily past when any musician was thought competent at a moment's warning to attitudinize in front of an orchestra, while the same wandered on “at its own sweet will” in a state of democratic indifference to the *bâton* and its holder; but with this change the necessity for special moral qualities and for special artistic training has increased. There can be no doubt that St. Martin's Hall and its tenants make a valuable addition to the musical resources of this metropolis.

**SADLER'S WELLS.**—A new play by Mr. George Bennett, the actor, was successfully produced on Monday, entitled ‘Retribution.’ In it the author has made the bold attempt at a five-act melo-drama interspersed with poetic illustrations. Of the latter there are several passages highly creditable to his talent; and an occasional opulence of diction which, though borrowed from the old dramatists, indicates a successful study of the best models. In the plot of the play there is little novelty; the elements are to be found in almost any popular romance. The time is, the reign of Charles the First; and the incidents turn upon the villany of one Sir Baldwin Briarly (Mr. George Bennett),—who has secret transactions with both Royalists and Roundheads, and is ready to

betray either for the sake of his own interest. The great object of his present solicitude is to get rid of an ancient foe, *Ralph de Lacy*; for which purpose he engages one Blackbourn (Mr. Phelps) to assassinate him,—and which the latter professes to have done at the battle of Edgehill. Blackbourn affects to give in to all Sir Baldwin's plans, for the purpose of betraying him:—ultimately, indeed, he proves to be De Lacy himself. At a previous period of his life the latter had been seduced by Sir Baldwin into jealousy and the slaughter of his wife. His infant son, thus orphaned of one parent and abandoned by the other, is left at the gate of a Sir Robert Raby (Mr. Younge) on the day of his own marriage. Of this circumstance, advantage is subsequently taken by Sir Baldwin to impute the boy to Sir Robert, under whose roof he had been all along protected. Phillip is the name of the lad (Mr. Marston); and having grown up with the family, he of course falls in love with Raby's daughter, Alice (Miss Glyn). Sir Baldwin has a son Edwin (Mr. Dickinson), who, too, is in love with Alice. It is to enforce Edwin's claims that the unscrupulous Sir Baldwin impresses on the mind of Alice that Phillip may be her illegitimate brother. Herein is the real tragic interest of the plot. The doubts of Alice are allowed to grow and fluctuate up to the end of the fourth act; when, in an interview with Phillip, they rise to great agony. To her earnest questioning, which reveals the loving interest that she takes in the subject, he replies with so much of the truth as he is himself acquainted with from information only recently received from Blackbourn. This, as may be imagined, is the great scene of the play; and it was performed with striking power by Miss Glyn.—In the scene alluded to between Blackbourn and Phillip, and which concluded the third act, there is a recognition by Blackbourn of his son; but the former as yet conceals his paternity. This situation is wrought up with great skill, and was played by Mr. Phelps with so much energy that he was recalled between the acts to receive the plaudits of the pit. A scene occurs in which Sir Baldwin has Blackbourn in his power:—the latter being confined in a dungeon. But he extorts his liberty from his oppressor by a daring device. He professes to have a secret, and certain papers safely lodged elsewhere, which convict the latter of treason, but which he will not consent to deliver up on any other condition. Blackbourn, however, does not reappear with the promised documents until the catastrophe, when he arrives conducting the king's troops, who take the traitor into custody. Sir Baldwin's son has just died broken-hearted with hopeless love; but the headman at the same time is prepared to execute Sir Baldwin's deadly orders on the captive father and lover of poor Alice. De Lacy reveals his name and history,—and in so doing points the moral of “retribution.” The play throughout was carefully acted. Mr. Dickinson particularly, made quite a feature of the small part of Edwin, which he pronounced with equal delicacy and fervour. Mr. Bennett's *Sir Baldwin* was excellent:—the villany of the character, moreover, was relieved by certain poetic interpositions, which Mr. Bennett delivered with his usual elocutionary propriety. The part of *Sir Raby* is one of humour,—and Mr. Younge was not the man to make the least of his opportunities. He kept the audience in constant merriment. At the fall of the curtain the leading performers were successively summoned before it.

**HAYMARKET.**—The Windsor Castle theatricals have suggested to the different stages various representations of Mr. Planché's ‘Charles the Twelfth.’ The performance at this theatre is by the same actors who supported the characters before Her Majesty. To *Adam Brock* Mr. Wallack gave much hearty force; Mr. Webster as *Charles* was effective, though not original; and Mr. Tilbury as the *Burgomaster* was pompously amusing. *Endiga* was confided to Miss K. Fitzwilliam,—whose singing and acting are both admirable.

**DRURY LANE.**—The tragedy of ‘Julius Caesar’ was performed on Thursday, Mr. Vandenhoff being *Brutus*, Mr. Cathcart *Cassius*, and Mr. Anderson *Marc Antony*.

**STRAND.**—On Thursday, the comedy of ‘The Clandestine Marriage’ was acted. The engagement



of Mrs. Glover has given a vogue here to the five-act comedy.

**MARYLEBONE.**—The Adelphi melo-drama of 'Jane Lomax,' by Mr. Stirling, has been revived at this theatre,—and performed during the week.

#### MUSIC IN PARIS.

THE last days of the Parisian Carnival offered too many memorable pleasures and noticeable events to be passed over in silence by trusty chroniclers.—On Wednesday week we were present at what was announced as positively the last appearance of M. Duprez on the stage. It seems but as if it were yesterday that we were listening in the same theatre to his first triumphs at home,—a period of some dozen years having been the extent of his reign in Paris. Once again did the farewell performance of M. Duprez in the second duett, the *terzetto*, and the final *aria* from 'Guillaume Tell,' illustrate to us the impassable distance betwixt artist and mechanist. Of course the singer's voice was hoarse, uncertain, forced out with effort; yet, in spite of time and change, the closing utterance of M. Duprez was noble, and more interesting in a mere musical point of hearing than the first or mid-day exhibitions of most other tenors. Whereas they please or charm, he swept away his audience with that fire which no possible jealousy could have "put out," and with such force as the busiest hisses of *claqueurs* must have failed to stifle. This parting display of grand style, grand passion, grand vocal declamation (long-drawn and ponderous, it may be, but always grand), subdued us with the old charm, and proved to us that M. Duprez has left behind him in opera no tenor comparable with himself. In taking leave of this admirable and powerful singer, let it be once more stated, that, with the solitary exception of *Fernand* in 'La Favorite,' not one good part was written for M. Duprez during his whole French career,—but that he was compelled to establish his success in a repertory of "creations" devised to exhibit a predecessor to whom he was diametrically opposite as regarded voice, style, and stage-manner. If in this respect poor Nourrit was the most fortunate among tenors, assuredly M. Duprez was the least so. It is a matter for deep regret that 'Le Prophète' could not be produced during the season of his sovereignty.—There is no leaving the benefit-performance at which M. Duprez bade adieu to the stage, without adverting to one feature of it—the last act of 'Otello,' for the sake of the *Desdemona* of Madame Viardot Garcia. A piece of acting and singing more noble than this is not on our record. We had the grandeur of the sublimest school of tragedy, and the brilliance of the most consummate Italian vocalization, blended together with a touching, intense simplicity and pathos, which, while they raised the part to its highest—never belied or contradicted that feminine grace and tenderness which belong to

the gentle lady married to the Moor.

In the death scene especially this union of tenderness, force and temperance raised the personation above any that we recollect. As an exhibition of vocal power, too, the Willow Song and the opening of the final duett were unparagoned.—Madame Viardot's voice having gained in aptitude and *timbre* during her winter's career of operatic service. To see and hear that act alone were worth the time, trouble and cost of an old-fashioned journey to Paris.

A few lines will enable us to say, that what we heard of 'Les Porcherons,' by M. Grisar, was utterly disappointing. Such French critics as commend the opera, do so on the ground of its reproducing the elder Italian manner. We found merely the slightness of Cimarosa, none of his freshness,—little novelty in the melodies (which, however, are unaffected)—none in the treatment of the orchestra. Yet the work seems to please a larger circle than the enthusiastic knot in the middle of the *parterre* whose peculiar and disciplined delight after a very short experience becomes familiar to the ear of the play-goer in Paris.

There are compensations, however, everywhere. When, three weeks since, the probable appearance of a new composer of first-rate quality was mentioned on good report [*ante*, p. 107], we had little idea of being so soon able personally to verify a promise so full of

interest. Some means of forming a judgment have been afforded to us since the paragraph was written; and though (for discretion's sake) we forbear for the moment from advertising a name, we cannot refrain from trying to gladden others, as we ourselves have been gladdened, by the assurance of the existence of a new, ripe, healthy, noble and individual musical genius. We have never heard anything of French origin so little mannered, so largely melodious, as his compositions,—vocal works in every style and on every scale. We have never found the solid claims of science and the enchantments of poetical imagination more fairly conciliated, or more subtly combined, than in the case of M. —'s writings. There is grandeur in them, but not greatness on stilts,—there is sweetness without love-sick folly,—there is expression keeping close to the text and purpose of the writer without tormenting pedantry,—there is local colour without affectation,—there is a perfect practicability of execution without the slightest puerility or baldness. Most eminent of all is the nobility of their style,—in which the mind of a true and lofty artist speaks, if ever compositions indicated character. In short, the high expectations which rumour had led us to entertain have been borne out to the fullest extent; and we have once more something to expect without fear of disappointment, and to admire without drawback as yet to be discerned.

Great has been the stir in no less august place than the *Conservatoire* of Paris. The *salle* employed for these concerts, which from time immemorial has been refused to every Parisian artist and society on the plea of other location impeding practice, &c., has been by Government gratuitously granted to Mr. Lumley for a series of concerts at which Madame Sontag will sing in costume. Our manager has never been more bountiful in promises than on the present occasion,—since, quoting from an English contemporary, who seems to speak "by warrant," "Madame Sontag has already arrived in Paris, Jenny Lind is expected, and there will be a succession of other stars. Mr. Lumley intends to produce some of the most splendid productions of Gluck, Cherubini, Mozart, Palestrina, Spontini, and other masters; and also the celebrated choruses of the Sistine Chapel." This promise of the Sistine music by way of last charm recalls the flights of fancy which animated all London with hopes of Mendelssohn's 'Tempest' and Meyerbeer's 'Camp de Silesie,' and which drew out the programmes for the series of operatic concerts at Her Majesty's Theatre last spring! Where orchestra, chorus, Sistine singers, and conductor are to come from,—in what manner needful rehearsals are to be provided for,—are among the mysteries of Paris. Meanwhile, the French and Italian artists are as angry and as eager as if everything above paragraphed could really "come to pass" before Easter.—The authorities of the *Conservatoire* are menaced by a far more formidable rival in M. Berlioz at the head of the new Philharmonic Society,—which is to begin its operations in the *Salle St. Cécile* on Tuesday next,—and appears to have been planned on a width of basis and prepared with a deliberation that augur well for its prosperity. Good must come of these things, let the monopolists rail as they will,—in the form of increased activity in that old absolute body which so long has ruled with powerful but somewhat bigotted authority in the Rue Bergère.—The French are twenty years behind the English in their acquaintance with all—save theatrical—music.

**MUSICAL AND DRAMATIC GOSSIP.**—A "correspondent" of the *Morning Post* early in the week "opened the trenches" as far as regards the Opera campaign of Mr. Lumley by the following promises—which, though not officially accredited, are put forth without an "if" or "they say."—Quoting from the article in question, we may announce that "the season before Easter will begin with the 'Medea' of Simone Meyer, given for Mlle. Parodi. Madame Pasta will come over purposely to superintend the *mise en scène*."—The next opera given before Easter will be Ricci's 'La Prigione di Edimburgo.'—"the composer will visit London to place his opera upon the stage, and conduct it the first night."—Among the earliest operas given after Easter will be Auber's new five-act *opera seria* (founded on the scriptural

parable) 'L'Enfant prodigue,' which is about to be produced at the *Académie* of Paris (some time in April it was said a week since in the Rue Lepelletier). "M. Auber has consented to visit England during the production of this opera."—"Immediately afterwards, to contrast this work, (!) an *opera buffa* will be produced, entitled 'Il Burgomastro di Saardam.' "An invitation has been addressed to the celebrated author of this opera, Herr Lortzing," to "direct the production of his work on the stage of Her Majesty's Theatre."—After this follows the promise of M. Halévy's 'La Tempesta,' which "will be produced in May."—"M. Scribe and M. Halévy being engaged purposely to come to London on the occasion." Of this work Madame Sontag is to be the heroine, and Signor Lablache the *Caliban*.—(In the last cast of 'The Tempest'—the one drawn in a picture—our admirable *basso* was to be *Prospero* :—who knows but that before the opera is brought out he may be set down for *Ferdinand*, if not for *Ariel*?)—We are further to have 'Il Domino Nero,' an Italian version of 'Le Domino Noir.'—Rumour the last, however, is the most appetizing and remarkable. This sets forth that "in consequence of its immense success when lately executed in Paris by some of the principal *artistes* of Her Majesty's Theatre, it is in contemplation to produce the *chef-d'œuvre* of that great classic master, Gluck, entitled 'Ifigenia in Aulide.' "Now, as we happen to have been recently moving in the musical world of Paris, we should be glad to learn where was gained the "immense success" and by whom? The above programme—which we are fully aware, from past experience, can be disavowed at any moment as being no promise made by authority—proves its own impossibility. Without wasting time in pointing out the difficulty of casting, studying and producing, two grand and entirely new works in two months,—the list of persons "engaged to come over," to superintend, &c. must raise a laugh in every one acquainted with the functions of a resident musical director,—still more in all who have any experience of the *carte blanche* which such *Maestri* as MM. Halévy and Auber demand as to number of rehearsals, *mise en scène*, &c. At whose instance the correspondent of the *Morning Post* conjures up such a *mirage* as the above we do not inquire; it seems, however, to be a circular, and as such put forth with serious intentions :—but we dare assert, without fear of being proved unjust, that a *mirage* it is, and one too conspicuously visionary to deceive any save those who long to be deceived.—Meanwhile, rumours are current to the effect that the band and chorus of Her Majesty's Theatre are about to be reduced.

While announcing that M. Billet's chamber concerts are over, let us commend the excellent and wisely-varied choice of music performed by the concert-giver during the series of meetings. Good service to art and to the player's own reputation are done by the selection of such compositions as the *Sonata* by Pinto and Dussek's 'L'Invocation.' While we are on the subject, let us gratefully acknowledge that this welcome taste for revival was led by M. Moscheles some years ago; though, moving as he did in advance of his public, his efforts were less generally appreciated than they deserved.—Mr. Lucas's musical evenings and the morning performances of the *Musical Union* are still to come in addition to the Chamber Concerts announced.—The *Amateur Society* will commence its concerts on Monday week;—and Mr. Willy, we believe, a series of orchestral performances at St. Martin's Hall on the same evening. Here are life and energy enough, in all conscience, to satisfy the most exacting amateur. Yet, we have still to advert to the recent performance of 'Saul' by the *Sacred Harmonic Society*,—and to the coming presentment of 'Deborah' by Mr. Surman's rival body—as among the events of high interest marking this Lenten (!) period.

It must suffice us, for this week, simply to announce that M. Adam's 'Roi d'Yvetot' was produced on Monday last at the *St. James's Theatre*.

'The Noble Heart,' by Mr. G. B. Lewes, is to be brought forward at the Olympic Theatre on Monday next.—On the same evening a play, 'Old Love and New Fortune,' will be produced at the Surrey Theatre.—We perceive, too, that Mr. Bunn is advertised as about to present himself on the stage of



the St. James's Theatre,—in what form of entertainment is not mentioned.

### MISCELLANEA

*Singular Meeting of Thieves.*—Many of our readers have ere now made acquaintance with a remarkable series of papers which have been for some time past appearing in the columns of the *Morning Chronicle*, in which the pen of Mr. Henry Mayhew has made one of the most striking and important contributions to the social statistics of our time that can be conceived. With a skill into which both courage and perseverance have entered as conspicuous elements, he has gone to the very root of the social sores,—and brought up a set of facts from which it is our first impulse to turn away in hopeless pity and dismay. Our next impulse is, the strong feeling that something *must* be done,—and the comforting one that to a great extent it is possible. Rarely, that we remember, have figures been made so eloquent. The statesman and the philanthropist know from these more of the causes of crime and the means of sorrow in this busy and brilliant metropolis than ever they did before—and to know these is the first necessary step towards redressing them. The *Chronicle* and its Commissioners have done a holy work:—which has borne fruit already, and must bear more. Mr. Mayhew is a bold and determined labourer on a ground on which we have ourselves for years toiled as our opportunities have permitted. We shall hereafter have occasion, no doubt, to refer to his results and his methods of obtaining them; but meantime we take for our 'Miscellanea' an example of the novel and curious matter which he is obtaining—because it illustrates at once the courage with which he pursues his object, the mastery which he has obtained over his subject, and the important inferences which he contrives to evolve. The incident of the "sovereign," at the close of the following long quotation, contains a hopeful suggestion that cannot be missed. But the matter is suggestive throughout. We borrow from a contemporary, the *Inquirer*.—

A meeting of an unprecedented character was held at the British Union School-room, Shakspeare Walk, Shadwell, on the evening of Monday week. It was convened by the metropolitan Correspondent of the *Chronicle*, for the purpose of assembling together some of the lowest class of male juvenile thieves and vagabonds who infest the metropolis and the country at large; and although privately called, at only two days' notice, by the distribution of tickets of admission among the class in question at the various haunts and dens of infamy to which they resort, no fewer than 150 of them attended on the occasion. At first their behaviour was very noisy and disorderly, but before the close they became peaceable and even respectful in their demeanour. 19 had fathers and mothers still living; 39 had only one parent; and 80 were orphans in the fullest sense of the word, having neither father nor mother alive. Of professed beggars there were 50, and 66 who acknowledged themselves to be habitual thieves. The announcement that the greater number present were thieves pleased them exceedingly, and was received "with three rounds of applause."

When it was announced that one, though only nineteen years of age, had been in prison as many as twenty-nine times, the clapping of hands, the cat-calls, and shouts of "bravo," lasted for several minutes, and the whole of the boys rose to look at the distinguished individual. Some chalked on their hats the figures which designated the sum of the several times that they had been in gaol.

The boys were interrogated as to their manner of life, &c., and their answers should be read by all who are engaged in the work of ragged schools. Our limited space will not allow of much extract.

A lad about twenty was about to volunteer a statement concerning the lodging-houses, by which he declared he had been brought to his ruin, but he was instantly assailed with cries of "Come down!" "Hold your tongue!"—and these became so general, and were in so menacing a tone, that he said he was afraid to make any disclosures, because he believed if he did so he would have, perhaps, two or three dozen of the other chaps on to him. (Great confusion.)

The Correspondent of the *Chronicle*: Will it hurt any of you here if he says anything against the lodging-houses? (Yes, yes.) How will it do so?

A voice: They will not allow stolen property to come into them if it is told.

Correspondent: But would you not all gladly quit your present course of life? (Yes, yes, yes.) Then why not have the lodging-house system, the principal cause of all your misery, exposed?

A voice: If they shut up the lodging-houses, where are we to go? If a poor boy gets to the workhouse he catches a fever, and is starved into the bargain.

Correspondent: Are not you all tired of the life you now lead? (Vociferous cries of "Yes, yes, yes; we wish to better ourselves," from all parts of the room.) However much you dread the exposure of the lodging-houses, you know, my lads, as well as I do, that it is in them you meet your companions, and ruin, if not begun there, is at least completed in such places. If a boy runs away from home he is encouraged there and kept secreted from his parents. And

do not the parties who keep these places grow rich on your degradation and your peril? (Loud cries of "Yes, yes.") Then why don't you all come forward now, and by exposing them to the public, who know nothing of the iniquities and vice practised in such places, put an end to these dens at once? There is not one of you here—not one, at least, of the elder boys—who has found out the mistake of his present life, who would not, I verily believe, become honest and earn his living by his industry, if he could. You might have thought a roving life a pleasant thing enough at first, but you now know that a vagabond's life is full of suffering, care, peril and privations; you are not so happy as you thought you would be, and are tired and disgusted with your present course. This is what I hear from you all. Am I not stating the fact? (Renewed cries of "Yes, yes, yes.") and a voice: "The fact of it is, sir, we don't see our folly till it is too late." Now I and many hundreds and thousands really wish you well, and would gladly do anything we could to get you to earn an honest living. All, or nearly all your misery, I know, proceeds from the low lodging-houses—"Yes, yes, it does, master! it does"; and I am determined with your help, to effect their utter destruction. (A voice: "I am glad of it, sir—you are quite right; and I pray God to assist you.")

The elder boys were then asked what they thought would be the best mode of effecting their deliverance from their present degraded position. Some thought emigration the best means, for if they started afresh in a new colony they said they would leave behind them their bad characters, which closed every avenue to employment against them at home. Others thought there would be difficulties in obtaining work in the colonies in sufficient time to prevent their being driven to support themselves by their old practices. Many again thought the temptations which surrounded them in England rendered their reformation impossible; whilst many more considered that the same temptations would assail them abroad which existed at home.

During the course of the proceedings one of the most desperate characters present, a boy who had been twenty-six times in prison, was singled out from the rest, and a sovereign given him to get changed, in order to make the experiment whether he would have the honesty to return the change or abscond with it in his possession. He was informed, on receiving it, that if he chose to decamp with it no proceedings should be taken against him. He left the room amid the cheers of his companions, and when he had been absent a few moments all eyes were turned towards the door each time it opened, anxiously expecting his return to prove his trustworthiness. Never was such interest displayed by any body of individuals. Many mounted the forms in their eagerness to obtain the first glimpse of his return. It was clear that their honour was at stake; and several said they would kill the lad in the morning if he made away with the money. Many minutes elapsed in almost breathless suspense, and some of his companions began to say that so large a sum of money had proved too great a temptation for the boy. At last, however, a tremendous burst of cheering announced the lad's return. The delight of his companions broke forth again and again in long and loud peals of applause, and the youth advanced amidst triumphant shouts to the platform, and gave up the money in full.

*Curious Relic.*—The Duke of Devonshire on his late visit to his estate in Ireland brought back with him that very curious relic of antiquity, the crozier of the ancient Bishops of Waterford and Lismore, which came into his Grace's hands, we believe, with the property of the Boyles, Earls of Cork. It is of bronze, ornamented with enamel and beads; and if it do not belong (as some antiquaries contend it does) to the eighth or ninth century, it is certainly not of later manufacture than the very commencement of the twelfth century, the reign of Henry the First. It has been privately seen by not a few Irish antiquaries, who are of opinion that it is of the workmanship of that country; and the Duke has kindly consented to its Exhibition at the Society of Antiquaries in London, on an early occasion, in order to ascertain the decision of that learned body as to its precise age and the part of the world where it was made. It seems clear that it did not come originally from Italy.—*Globe*.

*Old Paintings Discovered.*—During the restoration of a chapel in the church of Saint-Eustache, at Paris, there were discovered, beneath the plaster, some paintings which are attributed to the eminent painter Philippe de Champagne; who was born at Brussels and died at Port-Royal,—at which place he executed some admirable portraits of the Arnauds. It is supposed that these pictures, which decorated the tomb of some great family, had been plastered over during the Revolution. They were discovered in a good state of preservation.—*Brussels Herald*.

To CORRESPONDENTS.—A Constant Reader—C. H. H.—H. D.—P. L. S.—Sagittarius—T. G.—received.

E. L.—The *Chronicle* mentioned has been received.

H. C. S.—We will procure the information which this and other correspondents seek on the subject of the Evening Colleges.

*Errata.*—P. 157, col. 2, last line. The name of the author of 'Railway and Commercial Information' is *Salt*, not 'Holt.'—P. 160, col. 2, l. 13, for "Royal" Institution read *London Institution*.

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\* \* \* Dedicated to Francis Lord Russell, Earl of Bedford.

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# THE ARDENNEUM

Journal of English and Foreign Literature, Science, and the Fine Arts.

No. 1165.

LONDON, SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 23, 1850.

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**CAVENDISH SOCIETY.**—The Members are hereby informed that the third ANNIVERSARY MEETING of the Society will be held at the house of the Secretary, 19, MONTAGUE-STREET, Russell-square, on FRIDAY, the 1st of March, at 3 o'clock in the afternoon, for the reception of the Report of the Council and the Election of Officers for the ensuing year. The Third Volume of GMELIN'S HANDBOOK OF CHEMISTRY is now in course of distribution; and Members not yet supplied are requested to apply to the Secretary.

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Signor and Madame Ferrari have VACANCIES for TWO INDOOR ARTICLED PUPILS.

**THE LATE LORD JEFFREY.**—A Meeting

of the Committee in London, appointed by the Subscribers in Edinburgh, towards the expense of PREPARING a MONUMENT to the memory of the late LORD JEFFREY, was held at Lord Brougham's House, in Grafton-street, on Saturday last. There were present The Marquis of Lansdowne, The Earl of Minto, Lord Brougham, Samuel Rogers, Esq., the Dean of St. Paul's, Henry Hallam, Esq., J. K. Mculloch, Esq., Charles Dickens, Esq., Dr. Holland, James Loch, Esq., M.P., John Richardson, Esq., and Leonard Horner, Esq. The Meeting was also attended by Lord Campbell, the Judge Advocate-General, M.P., and William Gibson Craig, Esq., M.P., a Member of the Edinburgh Committee. Lord Campbell agreed to act on the Committee. Several Members and others not present intimated their concurrence in the measures to be adopted.

The Meeting unanimously acquiesced in an expression of cordial approbation of the object of the Edinburgh Subscribers; and in a Resolution to co-operate with them in its promotion. Messrs. Coutts & Co. were appointed Bankers to receive the subscription to which the friends and admirers of Lord Jeffrey were invited to contribute. The following sums were then subscribed:—

The Marquis of Lansdowne	£50 0
The Earl of Minto	50 0
Lord John Russell	20 0
J. Richardson, Esq.	10 10
Lord Campbell	20 0
James Loch, Esq. M.P.	10 0
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Henry Hallam, Esq.	10 10
Lord Brougham	20 0
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The Right Hon. T. B. Macaulay	20 0

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To be treated in a popular as well as scientific manner. The Essay to be signed by a monogram or other distinctive mark, and forwarded to James Agard Gardner, Esq., Lord of the Manor of Cheltenham, on or before the 15th day of April, accompanied by a letter, with the monogram or other mark on the envelope, which letter will not be opened until the decision is made by the Committee of Selection.

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**MUSICAL UNION.**—The Tickets for 1850 are this day sent to the Residences of Members, with a copy of the Record of 1849. To prevent delay at the Concert Room, Members are requested to pay their Subscription to Cramer & Co., Regent-street, and to forward their nominations, at their earliest convenience, to J. ELLA, Director.

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**CURE OF STAMMERING.**—Mr. HUNT begs to announce that he has returned to his London Residence, No. 224, Regent-street, for the season. A Prospectus, containing Testimonials, &c. of Cures effected at different periods during the last twenty-three years, will be sent, on application, as above, to any part of the kingdom, free of expense.

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LONDON, SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 23, 1850.

## REVIEWS

*Turkey and its Destiny: the Result of Journeys made in 1847 and 1848 to examine into the State of that Country.* By Charles Mac Farlane, Esq., Author of 'Constantinople in 1828.' 2 vols. Murray.

Two things are required in the writer who would attempt to appreciate the condition of a foreign country, or to sketch out its fortunes—such a personal acquaintance with the country as can be obtained only by actual residence in it, and such an extent of general antecedent culture as may be necessary to turn this direct knowledge of facts to account. In Mr. Mac Farlane we have one of these qualifications,—but not the other. He has visited Turkey and travelled through it till he has familiarized his fancy with its scenery, its cities, its customs, its costumes, and in part its languages. He can shut his eyes and recall to himself the aspects of Turkish streets, villages and fields. But he is not on that account necessarily qualified to give an account of "Turkey and its destiny." The writer who would do this must bring to the task large views, a high moral purpose, and a decidedly speculative tendency. In Mr. Mac Farlane these are wanting. A certain lowness of tone pervades all that he writes; and such a thing as a proposition or speculation of any generality is not to be found in his pages. His specific mental peculiarity seems to be an abject and rabid antipathy to whatever goes by the name of Reform. To rail at "French philosophism," "revolution," "the Manchester school," and to say all the evil he can of that side of things, are his literary recreations. It is not a mind so constituted that is capable of grappling with the problem of a foreign state of society. Nevertheless, Mr. Mac Farlane has produced a pleasant, valuable and readable book,—far less objectionable than his recent work on Italy.

What the English public require in this matter is, a systematic view of Turkey and its civilization: a book which, laying out first the entire physical area of the Turkish empire, shall then exhibit that area clothed, as it were, with its proper moral and social features, covered with all that is Turkish. In such a work descriptions of local adventure would hold a subordinate place, and should be used only as illustrations of general statements respecting the constitution of Turkish society. Mr. Mac Farlane has not attempted any such systematic work; but has contented himself with a mere journal of his residence in Turkey, interspersed with political reflections and personal attacks and denunciations. His work may be not unaptly described as a very long pamphlet in the narrative form, written to prove this one proposition:—that Turkey, so far from being in a state of social progress and improvement, as some have of late represented, is in reality in a worse condition in all essential respects than it was twenty years ago. The following is a passage from his Preface.—

"I would not, knowingly, have made a long journey to witness the dying agonies of an empire. I never should have thought of going to Turkey in 1847 if I had not been induced to believe that, since my last sojourn there in 1827-8, the Government and the condition of the people has been greatly improved; that an equality of rights had been established between the Mussulmans and the Christian and the other Rayah subjects of the Sultan; and that the tyranny, oppression, and corruption, on the part of the men in office and power, which had been so revolting during my former residence, had almost ceased since the accession of Sultan Abdul Medjid, and the rise of his present Vizier Reschid Pasha.

Without believing all that was told to me by persons in the service of the Ottoman Government and closely connected with Reschid, I felt confident, from their assurances, that Turkey had made, and was then making, a considerable progress in order, justice, and civilization. I went honestly in search of this improvement; but to see and judge for myself. The state of things which I found is explained in these volumes. My wishes, my interests, would have been best served if I could have found the very opposite of that which I have described; but, finding things as they were, I could not report them otherwise,—nor would I have done so for all the diamonds the Sultan has ever given away in nishans and gold snuff-boxes."

Mr. Mac Farlane's book is, therefore, an attack upon Turkey and the Turks. All that he relates is, from first to last, an exposure of political and administrative abuses, and an argument in favour of the notion that the Turkish empire is on the eve of disintegration.

Mr. Mac Farlane arrived at Constantinople on the 7th of August 1847—remained there a month—then set out on an excursion into the Pashalik of Brusa, one of the great governments of Asia Minor—spent about three months and a half in this excursion, and returned to Constantinople on the 23rd of December 1847—undertook two subsequent excursions into Nicomedia and the European Pashalik of Adrianople—and finally quitted Constantinople on the 10th of July 1848. The narrative, therefore, extends in all over eleven months, and refers to various parts of the Turkish empire. At first Mr. Mac Farlane found considerable differences between the Turks as they now are and the Turks as he knew them in 1828.—

"The Turks over in Constantinople certainly looked much less like Turks, and were far more civil than in 1828. They were incomparably less picturesque and imposing in their outward appearance. The forced change of costume has transformed them into a rather mean, shabby-looking people. But for the glaring red fezz (a mean, ungraceful head covering in itself), they might pass for Franks who employed bad tailors and seldom got their clothes brushed. A blue frock-coat, buttoned up to the chin, and dirty duck pantaloons not wider than we wear them, were the prevailing fashion. In my time Sultan Mahmoud had made war on flowing, bright-coloured robes, and a fierce attack on the loose, baggy nether garments of the Mussulmans; but still the prejudice was strong in favour of an amplitude of trousers, and a shabby fellow continued to be designated as a 'tight breeches,' or 'narrow breeches;' but now every man's breeches were narrow in Stamboul except among the common people, Oulema, Dervishes, and a few old-fashioned country-people from the mountains in Europe or from the interior of Asia Minor. In many cases it cost me thought and trouble to distinguish between Mussulmans and Rayahs. Twenty years ago there was no possibility of confounding them; for, even without the then marked distinctions of dress, of head-gear, of boots or papushes, the Osmanlees were to be known by their swaggering gait, their overbearing looks, and their contemptuous insolent manners. The Turks now seemed to have lost their pride and their sense of importance. Over in the City they were the quietest and most modest part of the population. Their former swagger and rudeness appeared to be transferred to the Armenian Seraffs and their dependents. Where I had been repeatedly insulted and more than once spat at by the Turkish rabble, we certainly found nothing now but civility. In 1828 there was no going across the Golden Horn into Constantinople without being attended by one or two armed Turks; and the presence and guard of the faithful could not always screen one from the most gross and opprobrious language. We were now alone, my son and I. In the bazaars we met some Frank ladies, dressed in the French fashion, unveiled and unattended, walking about unconcernedly and making their purchases. They were constantly doing this, walking over by the Galata Bridge, which is about the best promenade here, and walking quietly

back in the midst of Turks, and not unfrequently in the midst of troops. Formerly it was a solemn and hazardous day that on which any European ladies ventured across the port to Stamboul!"

Such appearances disposed Mr. Mac Farlane at first, he says, to believe the common reports relative to the change for the better that had taken place in Turkey during the reign of the present Sultan. Gradually, however, even in Constantinople he found evidence that the supposed reforms had been more imaginary than real.—

"The internal workings of the reformed system of administration broke upon me by degrees, and most frequently through accidental observations. It was in this way I first learned that the government had fixed an *octroi* duty on all the provisions consumed in the Christian suburbs, and had at the same time established maximum prices for meat, fish, fruit, &c. &c. One morning, near the beautiful square fountain at Tophana, we saw a Greek gardener selling ripe fresh figs. The fruit in his basket looked so tempting that we were going to buy some, when two Turkish cavasses came up and seized the Greek in a savage manner. What had the gardener done? He had been selling his fruit for a few paras more the oke than the price fixed by the governor of Tophana. 'But my figs,' said the poor Greek, 'are figs of the best quality; are very fine figs; people willingly pay the price I ask for them. I cannot force them to buy. People will pay a poor man a few paras the more rather than eat the common figs. Where is my sin? Amaun! Amaun! What wrong have I done?' The cavasses told him that he had thrown dirt upon the law; that figs were figs, and all of one price; that he had taken more paras the oke than was fixed by the governor, and must go to prison for it; and making the gardener put his basket of luscious figs on his head, and giving him a kick behind to quicken his pace, they marched off with him to those filthy, abominable dungeons in Tophana, which are left unchanged, and are enough to give disease or death to the victim that is shut up in them for a short time. How long the poor grower and vender of figs remained there I cannot say; but I was assured, by one who well knew the usages of the authorities, and the secrets of the prison-house, that there was no chance of his being liberated until the Turks had eaten up all his figs, and had made him pay a fine in money."

But it was during his excursions into the Asiatic Pashalik of Brusa that the full truth was revealed to Mr. Mac Farlane. Villages and towns falling into wreck, and still the same nests of filth and malaria that they had always been,—huge tracts of land lying untilled or yielding the scantiest and most meagre crops,—industry of all kinds paralyzed by the injustice and extortions of the Turkish authorities,—religious persecutions still kept up, notwithstanding the famous Tanzimaut, or Bill proclaiming equality of civil rights between the Mussulman and the Christian subjects of the empire:—such were the facts that met his eye all over the Pashalik. In the Governor of the Pashalik, Mustapha Nouree, he found the type of a high Turkish official.—

"In Brusa the natives, and not a few of the Franks, spoke of him according to the bias of their interests; with some who had done business with him or for him, or who hoped to gain by him, or who had the art of managing him by means of his Kehayah Bey, or some favourite, he was the very flower of pashas; with others, who had not this art, or who had failed in its practice, or who had been thwarted in their projects by Mustapha, he was the greediest tyrant and the worst pasha they had ever known. I would take neither of these estimates as true. On our first arrival in the town I was induced by an appearance of order and tranquillity to incline rather to the favourable than to the unfavourable side, and for some time I shut my ears to evil reports; but evidence poured in from all quarters, and all parties, whether benefited by the pasha or not, agreed that his head man or Kehayah Bey was a very perfect scoundrel, corrupt, rapacious, cruel, remorseless, and



notorious for the most revolting vice of the country. We never could take a walk in the streets without seeing the tufekjees, or policemen, dragging unfortunate creatures to prison, sometimes for imputed offences, but far more frequently for debt, for real or pretended arrears in payment of taxes, for non-payment of the kharatch or poll-tax, &c. The prisoners were frequently bound with cords, at other times they were fettered and chained, nearly always they were brutally treated by the licensed savages who were conducting them. One day a poor Greek was found without his kharatch ticket. He said that he had paid his poll-tax, and that those who stopped him knew it was paid. This might be true or otherwise, but in either case what immediately followed was revolting. A tufekjee aimed a blow at his head with a heavy club; the poor Greek guarded his head by holding up his right arm, but that arm was broken by the force of the blow, and in that condition the Greek was dragged away to prison. The Rayahs fared worse, far worse than the Turks, and among the Rayahs the Greeks, who are feared as well as hated, fared the worst of all; but the Mussulmans were far from being exempt from this treatment. We often met Turks among the prisoners, and bound and chained, and for no other sin than that of debt. One night, in the bazaars, an old Turk had his arm broken like the Greek, and for still less provocation. The tufekjees could hardly ever arrest a man, or march him off to gaol, without first beating him to within an inch of his life. All this was in flagrant violation of the Tanzimaut, and of Reschid Pasha's declaration of Gul-Khané, called (facetiously one would think) the 'Turkish Bill of Rights'; but nobody dared speak of the Tanzimaut in Brusa. Morning, noon or sunset, we hardly ever passed the gates of the Pasha's Konack without seeing captives going in, or groups of distressed, woe-begone people—very frequently Turkish and Rayah women—crouching on the ground and waiting to have audience of the Kehayah Bey, or the terrible chief of the police, that they might use prayers and money arguments for the release of their husbands, or brothers, or sons."

Many instances of the oppressions that took place, either directly under the eye of the Pasha or through his subordinates, are related by Mr. Mac Farlane. Everywhere he met the same complaints and discontent. Thus, at Musal,—

"One old man began to tell how badly he was off, and how cruelly he had been treated by the tax-gatherers. Then another told his story, and then another, and the comments and lamentations went round the room. Of their own accord they entered upon the subject of their grievances. The Ushurjees had seized the carts and ploughs and the very seed of some, the little household furniture and cooking utensils of others. In one case they had taken copper utensils to the value of 400 piastres, for a debt which did not exceed 200; when the victim went and paid his debt in full, they would not give him back his property, and when he remonstrated and fell into a passion he was soundly bastinadoed. The man who told his story—and told it with tears of shame and rage—was one of the youngest of the party, and a very handsome fellow, with a frank countenance. He told the tale aloud, and all present concurred. A grey, sensible old man—the Odabashi himself—said that he had narrowly escaped the same treatment, and that too when he owed nothing at all. The Ushurjees cheated them in the corn, bringing measures of their own which were not fair measures, throwing aside the inferior grain, and taking their tithe only from the best, and making that tithe much more than a tenth by their unfair measures. The collectors of the Salané, or property-tax (which is not farmed but collected by the Pasha and the local Mudirs), were always taking advantage of their ignorance, and giving them papers and receipts which said one thing while the collectors with their lips had told them another. One man said he would do away with his vineyard, and root up his vines rather than be tormented by the Salané collectors, who had taken from him as much as the produce was worth. Another, who had a small mulberry plantation, said he would abandon it—and for the same reason. Another bitter complaint related to

the *corvées*. 'The forest,' said they, 'is our friend, giving us fuel and light; but the forest is also our enemy, for they cut great trees there for the Padishah's ships, and they take our oxen to drag them towards the coast. To-day there is a demand upon us for twenty pair of oxen, to drag a giant tree! We have not twenty yoke left in the village; we could not do the thing even if we left our fields all untilled, and the time for tillage is at hand. We cannot do it, but we shall suffer for it! When we work ourselves and our cattle to death, we are never properly paid. Yes! it is a bad fate to be born near a forest.'"

Besides the general fact that the mass of the Turkish subjects were in as bad a condition as ever, Mr. Mac Farlane was able in the course of his travels in Asia Minor to ascertain two very important points:—to wit, that in that part of the empire at least, and probably over the whole, the number of Turks proper was steadily diminishing, and the number of Rayahs, or non-Turkish inhabitants (especially of the Greeks) as steadily increasing,—and that, contemporaneously with this numerical diminution of the Turks, there was going on a diminution of their moral strength, in the shape of a progress towards religious indifference. On the first point Mr. Mac Farlane says:—

"It was becoming almost rare to find a poor Turkish family rearing more than one child. We seldom saw two in a poor Turkish house; three was a number altogether extraordinary. On the other side, the poor Greeks and Armenians had very generally large families. Many of the poor Turks did not scruple to say that they could not afford to bring up children; that daughters were a useless encumbrance, and that if they had sons the government tore them away, just as they were beginning to be useful at home, to make soldiers of them. The conscription was the dread and abhorrence of all the Turkish women. The Greek and Armenian matrons had nothing to fear from it, as acknowledged Christian Rayahs could not serve in the army. Again, though always borne down by a heavier weight of oppression, the Christian Rayahs, by superior industry and intelligence, can always command more of the necessities of life than the Osmanlee peasants, and will—speaking comparatively—thrive where their next-door neighbours, the Turks, are half-starving. It was no mystery at all, or a mystery only covered with the thinnest and most transparent veil, that forced abortion was a prevalent, common practice among these Turkish women."

On the subject of the growth of a sceptical spirit among the Turks, Mr. Mac Farlane, referring to two Turks with whom he had formed an intimate acquaintance during his travels, observes:—

"Our bold host, though so free of fanaticism and fond of Christian Franks, was yet thoroughly a Mussulman, and, as times went, a devout one. I cannot answer to his saying his prayers five times a day as enjoined by the Koran, but we never saw him miss his evening prayer. At the proper time he went out to the east end of his corridor or wooden gallery, knelt down, bent his forehead to the floor, stood up, with his face towards Mecca, and performed all that was enjoined, with every appearance of abstraction and heartfelt devotion. I had the more confidence in him for this. Halil, who was much younger than his brother, had been born or brought up in 'reform' or 'new-school' times. I never saw him at his prayers; he certainly said none all the days that he was travelling with us. Nor, in the course of all that tour, did we thrice see a Turk at his devotions. I did not expect this change; I could not imagine that the indifference of the capital had reached so far, or that old Mussulmans and peasants could have renounced the religious habits of their early life. It was certainly far different twenty years ago. Then I never made a day's journey in Asia Minor without seeing Mussulmans at their devotions, by the roadside, or on the lonely hill top."

On his return to Constantinople, Mr. Mac Farlane tells us, he put himself in communication with some of the ministers of the Sultan,—making them aware of the result of his researches in the Pashalik of Brusa, and urging

on them the adoption of measures of improvement.—

"Access to these magnates was not so very easy, for they nearly all lived across the water in Constantinople Proper, and the only time you could see them in their houses was between the hours of eight and ten in the morning. It was therefore necessary to rise very early and turn out in the cold, damp, raw air, and wade through the mud with a pair of mud-boots, or ride a miserable hack-horse at the risk of breaking your legs. The distances were often very considerable; the road was always detestable and dangerously slippery. One morning the snow lay so deep behind the Seraskier's Tower that it came over my knees. Then every great man had his regular and crowded levee; and one was sometimes kept to wait and shiver, among a strange motley crowd, in a cold saloon or ante-chamber. That I was never kept waiting long was, I believe, principally because the hungry attendants, who live upon such donations, always expected good backshish from Englishmen, and were seldom disappointed. Nor were these visits a light tax upon the purse. Wherever I went a dozen or so of servants followed me to the head of the stairs or to the foot of the stairs, enunciating the dissyllable '*backshish*.' From a very great man's house I could seldom get free under 50 piastres. Every time Lord Cowley went to visit Reschid Pasha, the Grand Vizier, it cost him 500 piastres. His Lordship was only Minister Plenipotentiary. From Sir Stratford Canning, who had the full rank of Ambassador, a higher *backshish* was expected."

The following is a lively account of Mr. Mac Farlane's interview with one of these magnates.—

"My first visit, on the 26th of December 1847 was to the second person in the Cabinet. I am not aware that I need conceal the name:—it was to the Minister for Foreign Affairs, who had been a short time previously so well known in London as Ali Effendi and the Sultan's Minister Plenipotentiary, and who, for writing some of the most wearisome state papers that ever were penned about the Greek Mussurus quarrel, was about to be advanced to the dignity of a Pasha. He had begun life in poverty and obscurity; he had been taken into the service of the Porte, as a little clerk, and had had greatness thrust upon him by Reschid Pasha, whose right-hand man he was. I had met him in London; I was the friend of some who had been his closet friends, and I was the bearer to him of a very particular letter of introduction from Prince Callimaki, who had succeeded him at the court of St. James's. Since the days of the witty Neapolitan Abbé Galiana, who called himself the *échantillon* of a diplomatist, there has never been so tiny a man employed in diplomacy as this Reis Effendi: he was a pigmy in height, and marvellously thin—he was what the Italians call a *comma* (*una virgula*); there was not substance enough in him to beat out into a semicolon. He spoke French with ease and even accuracy, so that even our *tête-à-tête* was not disturbed by the necessity of employing the distressing machinery of a dragoman. He understood every word I said to him as well as I understood all that came from his lips; there was no mistake or possibility of mistaking. I pin him to his own words. He received me very courteously in a wretchedly cold and miserable room, he wearing a warm furred mantle, and I having cast off my top-coat in the ante-room. \* \* He knew that I was a literary man, that I had written a work upon Turkey which had made some noise at the time; and he expressed a hope that I could now write another and a much more favourable one, seeing that civilization had made such progress in the Sultan's dominions since I was last here. I told him, with all suavity, that I should be too happy to report any real progress, that I had come from England with the hope of being able to do so, and that I had the greatest respect for Sir Stratford Canning, who had proved himself so good a friend to Turkey. He had heard that I had been residing and travelling more than three months in the great Pashalik of Brusa, and he wanted to know what I thought of the state of that country. '*Avec moi, vous pouvez parler, Monsieur, sans gêne—sans ménagement.*' I was certainly not *gêne*; but I told him the truth with as much politeness as was compatible with frankness



and honesty. I was not yet quite sure that the truth would not be acceptable to him. If it proved otherwise, I could have nothing more to do with him. \* \* My mind, too, was full of the wrongs and sufferings I had witnessed over in Asia, and I had not quite dismissed the thought that an honest statement might lead to some measure of redress, more especially as the greater part of these wrongs might be set right without pecuniary or other injury to the ruling powers. Wherever I could bestow praise, I gave it warmly; but I put no softening varnish upon the pictures of woe and horror. I told him of the miserable state of the peasantry, of the iniquitous proceeding of the Farmers of the Revenue, of the effects produced by the enormous rate of interest. \* \* He listened with an appearance of attention, and made some remarks which induced me to believe that he was sincere and in earnest. He rather frequently exclaimed, "That is bad!" "that is very unjust!" "that is contrary to the *Tanzimat* and our existing laws!" "that must be remedied!" He said he thanked me for my information, and felt assured that I gave it as a friend to the government. At my leave-taking the Minister for Foreign Affairs showed no lack of courtesy, inviting me to return to his house, telling me that he would introduce me to the Vizier whenever I chose. I never saw the little man's face again: he had seen quite enough of me! The next time I called he was engaged—was very busy—was just going to the Porte; and as I had the means of knowing to a certainty that all this was untrue, I never returned."

On the subject of the present attitude of Russia towards Turkey, Mr. Mac Farlane observes:—

"I know that Russia has received insults difficult to be borne by a mighty power when proceeding from so very weak, un-Christian, and wretched a country as Turkey; I am aware of the almost irresistible temptation which has been offered to the Emperor Nicholas for many years—three-fourths of the population of European Turkey (the Christians) praying for his coming, and the other fourth (the Turks) having no means or heart to withstand him—but I am not aware that the Tzar contemplates any invasion; I only know of a certainty that he cannot invade now or for months to come. \* \* The Tzar may yet contemplate an invasion of the expiring empire; I do not know that he does, nor do I believe that others in England have more knowledge on this point than I have; I only know that the temptation is irresistible, and the long forbearance shown by Nicholas a marvellous thing in history. No one who looks forward to the great event, the breaking up of the Ottoman Empire, as a blessing to humanity and civilization, contemplates for one moment that Russia is to possess all those unpeopled, but vast, productive, rich, and beautiful regions. The distribution must and will, at some not distant day, be left to the decision of some Congress of all Christendom. If such a Congress could be settled without being preceded by the horrors of a warfare among the Christian powers, the advantage would be unalloyed and the blessing complete. Wage war as you will, it must come to this at last—a Congress and the expulsion of the Turks, as a governing power, from Europe and the greater part of Asia Minor. If the world is now so unsettled, and if we all aim at a settlement, and one which shall be enduring, we must come to a decision on the Turkish question now. If it is left undecided, our settlement will be most incomplete, Turkey will be a standing *casus belli*, exposing every year the peace of Christendom to a sudden interruption. The Turks themselves seem generally to be convinced that their final hour is approaching—'We are no longer Mussulmans—the Mussulman sabre is broken—the Osmanli will be driven out of Europe by the ghiaours, and driven through Asia to the regions from which they first sprang. It is *kismet*! We cannot resist Destiny!'"

Although we doubt not that many of Mr. Mac Farlane's representations regarding the state of Turkey bear the marks of his own violent prejudices,—and although we conceive that a more profound appreciation of Turkey and its destinies might have been given than that with which his book presents us,—yet we are bound to say that his main conclusions appear correct.

Recent circumstances have produced an extraordinary amount of goodwill in Englishmen towards Turkey. Admiring the conduct of the Porte in the matter of the Hungarian and Polish refugees, we have perhaps hastily suffered this admiration somewhat to obscure the real question at issue:—namely, "Whether the Turkish empire is a good or bad thing,—whether the portion of this earth and the millions of creatures comprised in it are the better or the worse for its existence?" To this question, it would appear, there is but one answer. According to the united testimony of all who are acquainted with Turkey, there is not another portion of the earth's surface so blasted and oppressed by misrule. Mr. Layard and Mr. Macfarlane are here agreed. Although, in the words of an *Edinburgh Reviewer*, the Turkish empire has been in "its nominal agony" for five generations, there would seem to be signs, if we might believe all that is reported in addition to all that we know, that the catastrophe is now approaching. On the one hand, as we see, the Slavic provinces of Turkey are attaching themselves more and more closely to Russia,—on the other, as Mr. Mac Farlane informs us, the Turks Proper are everywhere dying out, and making way for the Greeks and Armenians. If the hour of dissolution be at hand, it will be one of the effects of Mr. Mac Farlane's book on its unquestioning believers to make them expect the catastrophe with little regret.

*Godcunde Lâr and Theôwdôm. Select Monuments of the Doctrine and Worship of the Catholic Church in England before the Norman Conquest: consisting of Ælfric's Paschal Homily and Extracts from his Epistles, &c., the Offices of the Canonical Hours, and three Metrical Prayers or Hymns. In Anglo-Saxon and partly in Latin. With English Translations revised or newly executed; Notes, Collation of Ancient Manuscripts, and an Introduction.* By E. Thomson, Esq. Lumley.

It is well known that Archbishop Parker was extremely anxious to prove that in one point at least, and that the very important one of transubstantiation, the English Church merely went back at the Reformation to the doctrine which was held amongst the Anglo-Saxons some years anterior to the Norman Conquest. The Archbishop supported himself in this opinion by the celebrated Paschal Homily of Ælfric, one of his predecessors in the see of Canterbury; and was so intent on enforcing his view upon the English people, that he procured his chaplain, John Joscelyn, to publish the Paschal Homily with an authentication to which were appended the signatures of Parker himself, of the Archbishop of York, and of thirteen English Bishops. To make the book more attractive, or to give it a greater appearance of authenticity, the Archbishop was at the expense of having cast a fount of Anglo-Saxon type, which was used in the publication; and thus, printed in Anglo-Saxon and English, edited by Joscelyn and authenticated by the bench of Bishops, two editions were published by old John Day, "dwelling over Aldersgate." They were both without date, but were issued, as is thought, in 1566 and 1567. John Foxe introduced the Homily into the second edition of his 'Acts and Monuments' in the same Anglo-Saxon type which had been used in the separate publication; and since that time the book has been reprinted whenever the Church of Rome has been thought to be gaining proselytes. Two editions, under the editorship of William L'Isle were published in London in 1623 and 1638; an edition edited by William Guild was published at Aberdeen in 1624; two editions edited by Leon Litchfield were published at Oxford in 1675 and 1688; and an-

other edition (of the English only) was published at Oxford in 1838. Besides these separate editions of this single Homily, it has been lately published in the collection of Ælfric Homilies set forth by the Ælfric Society under the editorship of Mr. Benjamin Thorpe.

The book now before us is another edition, with some additions, none of them altogether new, but probably all published here in a better form than any in which they have yet appeared. The editor is evidently competent to his work; Mr. Richard Taylor has printed the book with his beautiful Anglo-Saxon type; Mr. Westwood has supplied some lithographed fac-simile illustrations from undoubted Anglo-Saxon manuscripts; and the binder has been called upon to imitate ornaments of books bound in the ninth and tenth centuries. To these several claims upon public attention, the book adds two others of a somewhat unusual kind.—First. The publisher (Heaven save the mark!) dedicates the work to a private friend of his, whose initials will offer a delightful question to the antiquaries of the next century. The dedication is most affectionately puzzling. The second point of public attraction is this. 'The Testimonie of Antiquitie,' as Parker or Joscelyn called this book, has always been thought to be a stout anti-Roman-Catholic publication,—or, in the words of the present editor, "was judged to be wholesome and seasonable food for the Reformed Church of England in her early years," and "is not contra-indicated by the symptoms of her present condition." It is here put forth with a new "Catholic" title-page, and adorned with illustrations so apt and orthodox that they might deceive the Congregation of the Index, or even the Pope and all his Cardinals. This is ingenious. Who knows but that some Newman or Oakeley may be thus allured to forsake the errors of his way? Even if that desirable event should not ensue, it is possible that gentlemen of that class may be induced to buy the book:—which will answer the publisher's purpose just as well.

*Inigo Jones. A Life of the Architect. By Peter Cunningham, Esq.—Remarks on some of his Sketches for Masques and Dramas. By J. R. Planché, Esq.,—and Five Court Masques. Edited by J. Payne Collier, Esq. Printed for the Shakespeare Society.*

WE might with good reason have cried "what's in a name?" if on presentation we had not found the promissory note, drawn by the Shakespeare Society and indorsed by the three whose names figure on this title-page, "taken up" in a right spirit and satisfactorily repaying us for the expectation with which we had been waiting for its becoming due. In taking as their theme the great architect whose deep study of Italian art brought to our country the graces of the perfectly developed architecture of Palladio, and whose ready memory and dashing pencil enriched our stage with the refinements of Venetian, Florentine and Roman pageantry, Mr. Cunningham and his coadjutors have touched a chord to which it would be strange if educated Englishmen should fail to respond.

There is something exciting in reviving the fire in embers that have been so long spent,—in rescuing from the dark limbo of oblivion trifling details which, grouped by a skilful hand, bring the workers of our day into communion with the great spirits whose forms loom large, and with capricious figure, through the shadows of the past. In the "hero-worship" in which the least fanciful amongst us indulge our own "world" "is too much with us." We take a great monument of Art, and picture to ourselves the genius which produced it. We dress its author in our own particular livery,—and endowing



"with form our fancy," that it may "live a being more intense," we assume as an actual reality our self-created configuration, and often endeavour to pass on the world our involuntary forgery as a true and authentic document. Adopting "*ex pede Herculem, ex ungue leonem*" as their motto, the majority of modern biographers are apt to handle their disinterred "foot" or "nail" as all that is necessary towards recomposing some masterwork, the real component elements of which they take no pains to study. To this crew of mental but mistaken Cuviers Mr. Cunningham affords a happy contrast. With exemplary patience the son seems to have laboured to correct the inaccuracies of the father, and elaborate into a finished picture that which was bequeathed to him as a brilliant but imperfect sketch.

Our chief regret in studying this careful performance is, that its author did not select a larger canvas and relieve his principal figure on a more finished background. At present the very detail which has been bestowed on the portrait makes us the more sensitive to the slowness and want of definition in the accessories. For instance, Inigo himself, by the pen of his kinsman Webb, is quoted as declaring that,—

"Being naturally inclined, in my younger years, to study the arts of design, I passed into foreign parts, to converse with the great masters thereof in Italy, where I applied myself to search out the ruins of those ancient buildings which, in despite of time itself and violence of barbarians, are yet remaining. Having satisfied myself in these, and returning to my native country, I applied my mind more particularly to architecture."

Had the scale of the work been larger, we might naturally have looked for some little notice of the contemporary "great masters" with whom the young artist may have "held high converse," and whose example and instructions may have materially influenced if not altogether developed his nascent energies. We might have asked, on the study of what special "ancient buildings" the style of the great architect was formed; and when we set ourselves to rightly estimate the extraordinary changes which he effected in the graces of scenic representation in England, we might have hoped for some information as to how far these improvements were the original and brilliant devices of a fervid imagination or only an importation from Italy of the common practice of the favourite "*mascherata*," the then half-formed comedy, and the incipient opera.

It may afford some little help to our just appreciation of Inigo's peculiarities to remember that the date of his birth, 1573, corresponds with the year following the death of Vignola,—the year preceding the death of Giorgio Vasari,—that Palladio died when he was seven years old; and that his immediate Italian contemporaries,—such as Bernini, Borromini, Domenichino, Pietro da Cortona, &c.,—belonged almost exclusively to the "painter" school of architecture,—that school in which facility of drawing to a very great degree superseded the graces of refined proportion and the study of the antique. We have every reason, then, to believe that it was from the monuments rather than the living "masters" that our great artist derived his pure and noble style, which was free alike from the comparative clumsiness of his English predecessors and from the frivolity of the prevalent Italian practice.

It was in the year 1604, in the 32nd year of his age, that Master Inigo Jones made his first appearance in England in connexion with the courtly pageants of James the First. Mr. Cunningham informs us that Ben Jonson's description "of Inigo's portion of the work

contains the earliest notice we possess of the use of scenery in stage entertainments;" and as such its interest will doubtless warrant our reproducing it.—

"First for the scene (says the poet) was drawn a *landschap* [landscape], consisting of small woods, and here and there a void place filled with huntings; which falling, an artificial sea was seen to shoot forth, as if it flowed to the land, raised with waves which seemed to move, and in some places the billows to break, as imitating that orderly disorder which is common in nature. In front of this sea were placed six tritons, in moving and sprightly actions, their upper parts human, save that their hairs were blue, as partaking of the sea-colour: their desinent parts fish, mounted above their heads, and all varied in disposition. From their backs were borne out certain light pieces of taffeta, as if carried by the wind, and their music made out of wreathed shells. Behind these, a pair of sea-maids, for song, were as conspicuously seated; between which, two great sea-horses, as big as the life, put forth themselves; the one mounting aloft, and writhing his head from the other, which seemed to sink forward; so intended for variation, and that the figure behind might come off better: upon their backs Oceanus and Niger were advanced. . . . The Masquers were placed in a great concave shell, like mother of pearl, curiously made to move on those waters and rise with the billow; the top thereof was stuck with a chevron of lights, which, indented to the proportion of the shell, struck a glorious beam upon them, as they were seated one above another: so that they were all seen but in an extravagant disorder. On sides of the shell did swim six huge sea monsters, varied in their shapes and dispositions, bearing on their backs the twelve torch-bearers, who were planted there in several graces. . . . These thus presented, the scene behind seemed a vast sea, and united with this that flowed forth, from the termination or horizon of which (being the level of the state which was placed in the upper part of the Hall) was drawn by the lines of perspective, the whole work shooting downwards from the eye; which decorum made it more conspicuous, and caught the eye afar off with a wandering beauty: to which was added an obscure and cloudy night piece, that made the whole set off. So much for the bodily part, which was of Master Inigo Jones's design and act."

This description affords a lively idea of the nature of the stage arrangements in the series of subsequent entertainments, with pleasant notices of which Mr. Cunningham afterwards favours us. How many of these brilliant innovations on previous dramatic practice were derived straightway from Italy, it needs little penetration to perceive. When we remember the early celebrity of Brunelleschi's vivid representation of all the glories of the Annunciation, annually enacted during the early part of the fourteenth century in the great square of the town of Santo Felice,—when we recollect the stately manner in which the 'Orfeo' of Politian, written some hundred years previously, was performed,—when we recall to our memories the two grand temporary theatres erected by Palladio at Vicenza and Venice, and the permanent structures for the same purpose at Parma and Vicenza,—when we recognize in the interesting prints of costume fac-similes of Inigo's own sketches (most ably illustrated by Mr. Planché), the 'Moresco' and 'Scaramuccia' of Italian celebrity, we cannot fail to trace the influence of his travels on Inigo Jones's ability and labour. It appears, that it was especially in his capacity of "a great traveller" that he was hired to assist "in the due performance of three plays presented before the King on the 28th of August, 1605, in the present Hall of Christ Church, Oxford." Of his success on that occasion we are provided with the following contemporary account.—

"They hired one Mr. Jones, a great traveller, who undertook to further them much, and furnish them with rare devices, but performed little to what was expected. He had for his pains, as I have constantly heard, 50*l*. The stage," so runs the descrip-

tion, 'was built close to the upper end of the Hall, as it seemed at the first sight: but indeed it was but a false wall, faire painted, and adorned with stately pillars, which pillars would turn about; by reason whereof, with the help of other painted cloths, their stage did vary three times in the acting of one tragedy.'

This latter contrivance shows how largely Inigo had drawn on Palladio's studies of the theatrical arrangements of the ancients. If any doubt existed as to the perfection to which scenery of a kind precisely similar to that "invented" by "Master Inigo Jones" had been brought in Italy some time previously, a reference (*inter alia*) to Vasari's minute description of the "comedy" presented at Florence on the occasion of the great "festa" celebrating the marriage of Francesco de' Medici and Giovanna of Austria would set the matter completely at rest. The fable of Cupid and Psyche was given in so sumptuous a manner, that the author says,—“On the illumination of all the dazzling lights, and on the falling of the painted curtain, discovering the brilliant perspective, it indeed appeared as if Paradise with all the choirs of angels, opened in that moment.” The descending "cielo," with all its gods and goddesses,—the various songs, recitations, madrigals, and stage effects,—are emphaticized as such things should be, with the vivacity of, there is little doubt, the chief designer. The minute description given of the costume of the Four Seasons in that "commedia" would form an interesting comparison with any sketches which might be found of figures presented in the last Masque, printed by Mr. Collier, and entitled 'The Mask of the Four Seasons.'

Considering that foremost among the noblemen taking part in these costly entertainments we find the Lords Arundel and Pembroke, the great Italian *coscenti* of the day,—that Master Alphonso Ferrabosco provided the music,—and the close correspondence of the ordinary subjects of the Masks, such for instance as the Orpheus, with the favourite themes of Italian "commedia" and romance,—we must not, in justice to our own sincerity, assume an originality in these matters of scenic contrivance to which we cannot make good our title.

The labours of Inigo, in the preparation of these expensive luxuries no doubt served as the stepping-stone to his fortunes, and introduced him to a practice as an architect for which he might otherwise perhaps have pined in vain.

From the time of his taking possession, in the year 1610, of the emoluments of the office of Surveyor to Prince Henry, Inigo seems to have gradually abstracted himself from his practice of other accomplishments, and devoted himself to the most severe study of architecture. Shortly after the death of the Prince in 1612, he started for Italy; and of his observations and progresses on this his second tour we are fortunate in gleanings many more particulars than have been preserved to us of his first. From Mr. Cunningham we learn that—

"Inigo's income suffered considerably by the untimely death of the Prince of Wales. His prospects, too, were altered; but he was not without friends, or wanting in that self-reliance without which friends are of very little use. He was, moreover, a free man, with the means to travel, partly through his own exertions, but chiefly, there is reason to believe, by the patronage of the Earls of Arundel and Pembroke, now certainly vouchsafed to him. He made a second visit to Italy, taking books of authority with him, and making memoranda wherever he went. His copy of Palladio's (the folio edition of 1601), preserved at Worcester College, Oxford, contains an entry dated 'Vicenza, Mundaie, the 23rd of September, 1613; and one of his Sketch books (a thin octavo, in a parchment cover, with green strings, now in the possession of the Duke of Devonshire) exhi-



bits his name on the fly-leaf, with 'Roma, 1614,' written in his fine, bold hand, beneath it. The copy of Palladio is as rich with notes in Inigo's handwriting as the Langbaine, in the British Museum, is with the notes of Oldys. One of his entries commences thus: 'In the name of God, Amen. The 2 of January, 1614, I being in Rome, compared these designs following with the Ruines themselves. Inigo Jones.' At folio 64 he has written, 'The staires at Chambord I saw, being in France, and there are but 2 wayes to ascend, y<sup>e</sup> small hath a waal, w<sup>h</sup> windowes cut out, but this, y<sup>e</sup> seems, was discoursed to Palladio, and he invented of himself thes staires.' His Palladio was his inseparable companion, wherever he went; and contains the names of 'Andrea Palladio' and 'Inigo Jones,' coupled together in his own handwriting—such was his admiration, and such his ambition. At b. iv., p. 41, occurs the following entry: 'The Temple of Jove, vulgarly called frontispicio di Nerone, or a basilica, sum call it a Temple of the Sun, and that is likeliest.' The book was with him, as appears from his own entries, at 'Tivoli, June 13, 1614;' at 'Rome, 1614;' at 'Naples, 1614;' at 'Vicenza, 13 Aug., 1614;' and at London, '26 January, 1614;' i.e., 1614-15. Nor did he cease to carry his Palladio about with him even in his progresses in England, as Surveyor of the Works. The following is written on a fly-leaf.

"The length of the great court, at Windsour, is 350 fo, the breadth is 260: this I measured by paces the 5 of december, 1619.

"The great court at Theobalds is 159 fo, the second court is 110 fo square, the thirde court is 88 fo—the 20 of June, 1621.

"The front of Northampton Ho. is 162 fo, the court is 81 fo.

"The first court at Hampton Court is 166 fo square.

"The second fountaine court is 92 fo broad and 150 fo longe.

"The Greene Court is 108 fo broad and 116 fo longe, the walkes or cloysters ar 14 fo betwene the walles. September the 28, 1625."

Of the temple of Jove he thus writes, June 13, 1639. 'Clemente scoltor Romano tould mee that the ruines of this temple is pull all downe, to haue the marble, by the Constable Barbannos Collona, by the popes permission: this was the noblest thinge which was in Rome in my time. So as all the good of the ancients will bee utterly ruined ear longe."

On his return to England in 1615, Inigo took possession of the office of Surveyor of the Works; and, as Mr. Cunningham observes, "his new appointment found full employment for his time." His elevation in the world, and perhaps some little consequentiality incident thereon, were very probably the cause of the celebrated bickering between Ben Jonson and himself. Mr. Cunningham remarks that—

"The first occasion of their quarrel no one has told us; that it occurred, however, as early as 1619 is clear, from Jonson's Conversations with Drummond in that year. 'He said to Prince Charles, of Inigo Jones, that when he wanted to express the greatest villaine in the world, he would call him ane Inigo;' and on the same occasion he observed, that 'Jones having accused him for naming him, behind his back, a fool, he denied it; but, says he, I said, He was ane warrant knave, and I avouch it.' A reconciliation seems to have been effected, for they were again employed together as before. We shall see, however, that this reconciliation was not lasting; and that, after a short interval, there was a second and a fiercer quarrel."

It was about this time that the great event of Jones's life took place; and though our extract on the subject may be rather long, still we cannot refrain from inserting it, on the plea of the great interest of the matter, and as an illustration of the industry and taste with which Mr. Cunningham has collected and grouped some few out of the many new and valuable materials that he has brought to light.—

"The dispute with Jonson was varied by a piece of good fortune to Inigo. On Tuesday, the 12th of January 1618-19, while Jonson was in Scotland, the old Banqueting House at Whitehall was destroyed by fire, and Inigo was ordered to erect a new building, of the same character, on the same site. He was made for such an emergency, as Wren afterwards was for a still greater opportunity. Nor is there, in

the history of art, a more remarkable instance of successful rapidity than Inigo exhibited on this occasion. In less than six months after the fire which destroyed the whole building, the ground was cleared—Inigo ready with his design—and the first stone of the new Banqueting House laid. The latter took place on the 1st of June, in the same year (1619). What was thought of the design may be gathered from the following entry in the accounts of the Treasurer of the Chamber.—

To Inigo Jones, upon the Counsell's warrant, dated 27th June 1619, for making two several models, the one for the Star Chamber, the other for the Banqueting House

xxxvijli.

This payment to Jones escaped the researches of Vertue and the inquiries of Walpole; but a still more curious discovery, unknown to the same assiduous antiquaries, is the roll of the account of the Paymaster of the Works, of the 'Charges in building a Banqueting House at Whitehall, and erecting a new Pier in the Isle of Portland, for conveyance of stone from thence to Whitehall'—a singular roll preserved at the Audit Office among the Declared Accounts. The sum received by the Paymaster was 15,648*l.* 3*s.* The expense of the Pier was 712*l.* 1*s.* 2*d.*, and of the Banqueting House, 14,940*l.* 4*s.* 1*d.*; the expenditure exceeding the receipts by 5*l.* 0*s.* 3*d.* The building was finished on the 31st March 1622; but the account, it deserves to be mentioned, was not declared (i.e. finally settled) till the 29th of June 1633, eleven years after the completion of the building, and eight after the death of King James,—a delay confirmatory of the unwillingness of both father and son to bring the works at Whitehall to a final settlement. Inigo's great masterpiece is described, in this Account, as 'a new building, with a vault under the same, in length 110 feet, and in width 55 feet within; the wall of the foundation being in thickness 14 feet, and in depth 10 feet within ground, brought up with brick; the first story to the height of 16 feet, wrought of Oxfordshire stone, cut into rustique on the outside and brick on the inside; the walls 8 feet thick, with a vault turned over on great square pillars of brick, and paved in the bottom with Purbeck stone; the walls and vaulting laid with finishing mortar; the upper story being the Banqueting House, 55 feet in height, to the laying on of the roof; the walls 5 feet thick, and wrought of Northamptonshire stone, cut in rustique, with two orders of columns and pilasters, Ionic and Composite, with their architrave, frieze and cornice, and other ornaments; also rails and ballasters round about the top of the building, all of Portland stone, with fourteen windows on each side, and one great window at the upper end, and five doors of stone with frontispiece and cartoozes; the inside brought up with brick, finished over with two orders of columns and pilasters, part of stone and part of brick, with their architectural frieze and cornice, with a gallery upon the two sides, and the lower end borne upon great cartoozes of timber carved, with rails and ballasters of timber, and the floor laid with spruce deals; a strong timber roof covered with lead, and under it a ceiling divided into a fret made of great cornices enriched with carving; with painting, glazing, &c.' The master-mason was Nicholas Stone, the sculptor of the fine monument to Sir Francis Vere, in Westminster Abbey. His pay was 4*s.* 10*d.* the day. The masons' wages were from 12*d.* to 2*s.* 6*d.* the man per diem; the carpenters were paid at the same rate; while the bricklayers received from 14*d.* to 2*s.* 2*d.* the day. These were, I am inclined to believe, rather low rates of remuneration. The Crown, pinched in its expenditure, and ambitious of great undertakings, was often obliged to force men into its employment. This I gather from the Accounts of the Paymaster of the Works, which contain a yearly gratuity 'to the Knight Marshall's man for his extraordinary attendance in apprehending of such persons as obstinately refuse to come into his Majesty's Workes.' The gratuity was often eight, and occasionally ten pounds."

Within a space of little more than ten years from the commencement of Whitehall, Inigo Jones contrived to execute the majority of those works which have rendered his name so famous, —and concerning which Mr. Cunningham has got together a series of interesting details. His last work was St. Paul's, Covent Garden; and

from the period of its consecration, 1638, the great architect's sun "made haste unto its setting." The termination to the artist's great career is thus graphically sketched by Mr. Cunningham.—

"This was the last of his works; for, though he lived fourteen years longer, with his mind unimpaired, and his portfolio full of noble designs for palaces and private houses—the Civil War diverted men's thoughts and means from the peaceful employments of architecture, and found for the King and his nobility other and sterner occupations than superintending squares, or rebuilding palaces. The stones quarried to restore St. Paul's were taken, we have seen, to rebuild St. Gregory's: Whitehall was left unfinished: Greenwich was a mere fragment of a large design: and the masons and workmen in the squares of Lincoln's Inn and Covent Garden took to arms, and fought for King, or Commons, as interest or inclination led them. Poets, actors and engravers, were alike thrown out of their usual occupations. Davenant, the Poet-Laureate, became lieutenant-general of ordnance, under the King; Wither, Governor of Farnham, for the Parliament; while Robinson, the actor, Hollar, Peake, and Faithorne, the engravers, and one still greater, Inigo Jones himself, were taken with arms in their hands at the siege of Basing. The history of the last twelve years of his life, if authentically written, would be little more, there is reason to believe, than a history of anxieties and disappointments. He was not only imprisoned, but was fined for his disloyalty. His office of Surveyor was at the best but nominal; for he was neither employed as Surveyor, nor paid as one. But he had saved money, which in those perilous times he was at a loss how to preserve. There were others in the same difficulty; and Inigo, uniting with Nicholas Stone, the sculptor, buried his money in a private place near his house, in Scotland Yard. That he had all the fears which Pepys in a similar situation so well describes, it is not too much to imagine; and he had need for alarm. The Parliament published an order encouraging servants to inform of such concealments; and, as four of the workmen were privy to the deposit, Jones and his friend removed it privately, and with their own hands buried it in Lambeth Marsh. He had now survived the friends to whom he was indebted for his advancement, the poets with whom he had been associated, and the patrons to whom he owed his appointments. He had lived to see King Charles beheaded in the open street, before his own Banqueting House, at Whitehall—Ben Jonson and Chapman at rest, in Westminster Abbey and the churchyard of St. Giles in the Fields—and the Earl of Arundel and both the Earls of Pembroke, William and Philip, gathered to their ancestral vaults. Grief, misfortunes, and old age at last terminated his life. He died at Somerset House, in the Strand, on the 21st June, 1652, in his seventy-ninth year; and on the 26th of the same month was buried, by his own desire, by the side of his father and mother, in the church of St. Bennet, Paul's Wharf,—where a monument of white marble, for which he left one hundred pounds, was erected, with the following inscription:

Ignatius Jones, Arm.  
Architectus Reg. Mag. Brit. celeberrimus  
Hic jacet.

Aul. Alb. Reg. ædificavit  
Templum D. Pauli restauravit:  
Natus Id. Julii MDLXXII.  
Obiit xi. x. cal. Junii MDCLII. [1].  
Vixit Ann. lxxix Des. xxx iix.

Uxoris Patruo amatissimo  
Præceptoris suo meritissimo  
Hæres et Discipulus  
Posuit Moerens Johan. Webb.

It stood against the north wall, at some distance from his grave, and was destroyed in the great fire of 1666. I could wish that Wren, in rebuilding the church, had rebuilt the monument."

We must conclude our notice of this interesting volume by saying, that in it the Shakespeare Society have published one of their best volumes. Mr. Cunningham, Mr. Planché, and Mr. Collyer have all contributed to its sum of value; and in point of execution Mr. Holl's excellent engraving of the Vandyke portrait, (for which the Society are indebted to the liberality of Major Inigo Jones, a descendant of



the great architect), and Mr. Netherclift's facsimiles of the original sketches, leave scarcely anything to be desired.

*Norway in 1848 and 1849: containing Rambles among the Fjelds and Fjords of the Central and Western Districts; and including Remarks on its Political, Military, Ecclesiastical, and Social Organisation.* By Thomas Forester, Esq., with Extracts from the Journals of Lieut. M. S. Biddulph, R.A. Longman & Co.

WE have been disappointed with this book. Clad in an attractive garb, and adorned by pictorial representations of magnificent scenery—we expected the text to give us gleams at least of warm colouring and glimpses of graphic perspicuity.—“Land of the forest, the fell, and the fountain,”—with the exception of the East, we know of no region more calculated than Scandinavia to yield a set of brilliant pictures to the pen of an intelligent traveller possessing the happy art of communicating his impressions. Tours in Norway are not yet so numerous as to have exhausted all that is interesting in that country. The truth is, travelling there is no facile affair,—and tourists generally content themselves with a run through the main arteries, leaving the more inaccessible and wilder parts unvisited. Writing thus, we are not unmindful of the glimpses of Nature's thrones in Norway given to us by travellers whom its salmon rivers have allured into her deep seclusions; but ever since the days when Mr. Laing introduced us to the mystic treasures of the “Heimskringla,” we have longed to know more of the coast washed by the Northern Ocean, and of the land of those Skalds and Sea-kings who hold a conspicuous place in the early history of our own country.

Mr. Forester's original design was, to arrange his notes in the form of a regular itinerary; giving precise distances, &c.; but a new edition of Mr. Murray's ‘Hand-book for the North’ rendered this plan unnecessary; and he therefore determined to confine himself to such detached notices as he thought would be interesting to the general reader. Thus emancipated from the thralldom of topographical detail, our author was free to write of that which pleased him most; but if he has observed enthusiastically, his pen has failed to do full justice to his feelings. Our readers may take his passage of the Hardanger-Fjeld, which lies between Christiania and Bergen.—

“We were now making our true course by the east of north, and had already attained a great elevation; so that, after reaching the plateau of bare rocks, all vegetation disappeared, except that of lichens and mosses. These sometimes covered the entire surface for a considerable space, with a carpet softer than the richest production of the loom, and of the most brilliant and diversified colours. The Iceland and the rein-deer moss were pointed out to us. Herds of the deer, in their wild state, roam over the snowy regions of the fjeld, but we were not fortunate enough to have any of them cross our path. We were neither equipped for deer-stalking, nor would the circumstances of our present enterprise have admitted of any delay; but opportunities subsequently occurred of closely examining, and making familiar acquaintance with, the appearance and habits of this most interesting tribe. We saw numerous tracks of the Lemming, that singular little animal, peculiar, I believe, to the Scandinavian peninsula, whose ravages when, at irregular periods, they descend into the valleys, are to the northern farmer a source of apprehension, such as the passage of a cloud of locusts is to the cultivators of the south. In about four hours from commencing the ascent, we reached the region of perpetual snow. It capped the summits and spread in broad fields along the sides of the ridges, and filled the deep ravines and gullies

which lay in our track; but it was crisp and solid, and as yet gave no token of danger to be apprehended. We observed snow-shoes left at intervals on the path. The ‘good Gunnuf’ marched boldly in front; I generally followed his lead closely. The young farmer guided the horses; and my friend brought up the rear, often lingering as various objects attracted his attention. We had now gained the highest elevation of our route, which is estimated at nearly 4,000 feet above the level of the sea. The prospect around was as dreary as can be imagined. Nothing but the bare grey rocks,—slopes and hollows of a black barren soil, thickly strewed with blocks of stone, and broad streaks and patches of snow,—were to be seen. These presented themselves in seemingly interminable succession, and it is difficult to say over which of them our path was the most wearisome, and where our footing was the most secure. But desolate as all appeared, and difficult as was the progress, I had begun to experience those peculiar sensations which De Saussure somewhere finely describes in his ‘Voyages’ in the Alps, and which I had previously felt in ascending high altitudes. In such situations, the great purity of the air, the unbounded solitude, and the grandeur of the scale of the objects presented, concur in affecting the mind with feelings of serenity, of freedom, and of awe. One seems to be lifted above the turbid atmosphere in which the cares and turmoils of the world unceasingly estuate; to be emancipated from the thralldom of passion and all gross and sordid influences; at the same time that the spirit is bowed, in the presence of the majesty of nature, under a profound sense of one's own insignificance. Soon after passing these high ridges, descending for a while, we struck the shore of a lake, and the stern features of the scenery were relieved by the appearance of grassy slopes shelving to its banks, and a large herd of cattle browsing on the sweet herbage. But the face of the fjeld speedily resumed its dreary character. We had before us a wide expanse of complete desert, bounded by lumpy hills, partly covered with snow. The surface was undulating, and a chain of small mountain-lakes, or tarns, occupied the lower levels. On the banks of one of these we halted about noon at a hut or lager, such as I have mentioned; a sort of den, partly excavated in the steep bank, and built up in front with loose stones. Its appearance was so wretched, that we preferred to throw ourselves on the ground, under shelter of a projecting rock; and slept for a time, though it was miserably cold, while the horses were picking a meagre meal from the scanty herbage. Resuming our route, we now left the elevated plain, and, crossing the ridge above the lake, pursued a more northerly course. The further we proceeded, the more wild and desolate was the prospect, and more difficult the track. The snow which filled the ravines was softer than we had found it in the higher parts of the passage, and Gunnuf, proceeding in advance, carefully sounded it with a staff before he permitted us to follow. But worse than snow or morass were the spots at the edges of the snow-drifts, from which it had recently disappeared. They had become so rotten, that the horses floundered deeply, and we had often great difficulty in making the passage. We crossed innumerable torrents, and two streams of considerable breadth, running with so strong a current, that we stemmed it with some difficulty. One of the guides and myself forded them on horseback; my friend and the other on foot, up to their middle in the water. At last we struck the Normands-Laagen,—a considerable sheet of water, the bearings of which were nearly east and west. We traced the southern shore for several miles, following its windings, but frequently receding from it, to avoid the difficulties which the inequalities of the ground opposed to our progress. If the Mjös-Vand was the ‘ideal of seclusion,’ the Normands-Laagen was that of entire desolation.”

Bergen was of course visited by Mr. Forester and his travelling companion. This city still retains its pre-eminence for trade, although Christiania has outstripped its western rival in population since it has become the seat of the legislature. The great market in Bergen is that devoted to the sale of fish.—

“The traffic was carried on between the men in the boats, in which heaps of fish were continually

increased by additions from a coffin-shaped machine in which the fish were towed a-stern to keep them fresh, and the women reaching over the edge of the quay. Great was the clamour; Billingsgate seems to have the same type in every part of the world. But it was all on the side of the women, contending for priority and *hagging* with the fishermen, who preserved the utmost *sang froid*. One of the girls would cheapen a lot of fish; her offer in return, being unsatisfactory, received not the slightest attention. ‘*Diaval brand du,*’—D—l burn you—shrieked out the enraged damsel, accompanying every renewed and silently rejected proposal with fresh torrents of abuse, till she had raised her bidding to the price set on his wares by him below. Then, with the same imperturbable gravity, he coolly held out his boat-scoop, and receiving the coin, handed up the lot to the purchaser. Similar scenes were taking place the whole length of the quays, amid a strife of tongues, which our friend who accompanied us to the market, assured me could often be heard at our quarters, half a mile distant. The supply of fish is abundant, and the prices very moderate. Cod, I think, was about a penny, and salmon one penny halfpenny per pound, and a large turbot may be bought for sixpence.”

Mr. Forester journeyed from Bergen to Christiania by post. His companion made some excursions across the country to the frontier of Sweden; in the course of which he fell in with a herd of rein-deer.—

“A few minutes’ walk up the valley brought us in sight of the herd, about 200 yards off. They were standing on a slight eminence close to the glacier and an immense field of snow which filled up the end of the valley. The glimmer of these white masses in the growing dusk formed a fine relief to the outline of their heads and branching horns. The deer were grouped in all positions, with their heads turned towards us, keenly alive to our approach, presenting a spectacle singularly picturesque, heightened as it was by the grandeur of the background. I had promised myself no small pleasure in meeting with them; the whole of our search had been full of interest, and I was not disappointed. I lingered for some minutes in contemplation of the scene, but the guide was soon among them, and almost lost behind their tall heads and branching antlers. They were so tame, though suffered to roam at large in these boundless wastes, that they not only allowed him to approach them, but crowded round to receive handfuls of salt, which he doled out to them. Our coming had been announced by a wild and not unmusical call, with which they seemed familiar; but they were somewhat alarmed at the approach of a stranger, and stared at me with their bright full eyes, and with heads erect, presenting a show of antlers truly formidable. However, they were soon re-assured, and, finding that I had salt to give them, pressed round me to receive it. I had not imagined that the rein-deer were such noble animals as I found them. I could not cease admiring their beautiful eyes, their wide and branching horns of varied shape, covered at this season with skin and a soft down—their sleek bodies and fine clean limbs. There were at least 200, of all sizes, from the little fawns and the neatly shaped young does, to the majestic-antlered bucks, some of whose horns were not less than five or six feet across. One or two of the older ones had flat projecting branches over the eyes and forehead; and none were exactly alike. A curious cracking noise was produced by the joints of their legs and feet as they moved about. Some of them were yet partially covered with their winter coat, presenting a singular appearance, as the fur is about two inches longer than the summer coat, and of a much lighter colour. I pulled off handfuls of it. The perpetual changes of attitude and position of these graceful animals, some lying on the ground, some breaking into groups, gave endless variety to a scene which I scarcely knew how to quit. At last we leave them in full possession of their romantic resting-place; and, as I gaze back, I see them fast settling themselves for the night on the mossy ground. I learned that the herd is shared among the farmers of Fortun, who purchased it from a party of Finmarkers. I think the value of a rein-deer is about ten or twelve dollars.”



The latter portion of the work is devoted to Christiania and to the constitutional history and social condition of Norway.

#### OUR LIBRARY TABLE.

*Illustrated American Books.*—Our relations on the other side of the Atlantic seem resolved to be behind us in no article of luxurious taste. They will have their *Romeo and Capulet* Operahouses, as well as the "conventional" old English. They will cage "The Swedish Nightingale" within bars of gold such as even we have never been able to forge by way of retainer for any singing bird. They seem bent on challenging our Harveys, Gilberts, Doyles, (and the Etching Club) in the matter of book-illustration. Knickerbocker's '*History of New York*' and Irving's '*Tales of a Traveller*' are before us, handsomely printed, and carefully, humorously and appropriately graced with designs by Mr. Darley. In these there is at last a relish of what we have so long desired to find—a national manner. The artist has happily caught the humour of Geoffrey Crayon. His figures and fantasies are referable to no other original than the text which they illustrate. We are less satisfied with the hand-work of the interpreting engravers: in that we must complain of mannerism. To go no further than the frontispiece to the '*History*,'—the treatment of the stone-work by which the sitting figure is relieved does not please us. The shadow is shadow thrown upon turf, or self-generated by rising smoke,—an arabesque of intertwined and entangled waving lines, by its obtrusive peculiarity disturbing the effect of a natural and characteristic figure. Objections of like import may be laid against the flesh-tints in the face of the capital snoring figure of *Wouter van Twiller* ('*New York*,' p. 141). Nevertheless, these books (let the above blemish and conceit be rated at their fullest value) are goodly volumes, worth a place in the library of any collector.

"More exquisite" still, however, is this English edition of Mr. Longfellow's American hexametrical romance '*Evangeline*,'—which is illustrated with wood engravings, "from designs by Jane E. Benham, Birket Foster, and John Gilbert."—A more lovely book than this has rarely been given to the public. Mr. Foster's designs in particular have a picturesque grace and elegance which recall the pleasure we experienced on our first examination of Mr. Rogers's '*Italy*' when it came before us illustrated by persons of no less refinement and invention than Stothard and Turner. Any one disposed to cavil at our praise as overstrained is invited to consider the boat on the Mississippi (page 51)—which, to our thinking, is a jewel of "first water." We could specify, in justification of our praise, a score of similar specimens from among these forty-five designs: the volume however, needs but be opened to recommend itself, and must and will make its way to many a table on which no common art-manufacture is permitted to lie.

*Stories for Children.*—[*Histoires pour les Enfants*]. By Mlle. de Chabaud-Latour. — Good French books for children are so rare, that we welcome a valuable addition to their small stock from the pen of Mlle. de Chabaud-Latour. The '*Histoires pour les Enfants*' is reprinted in this country from a work which has had considerable circulation among the Protestants of France. An affectionate little address "To the Children of England" is prefixed to the edition. The narratives are agreeable and probable, —the conversations natural and animated. The style is perfectly exempt from the affectations and distortions which deface the French of the present day. It is pure, flowing and correct.—Our readers may learn with interest that this little book was written chiefly for the use of M. Guizot's children; to whom Mlle. de Chabaud-Latour has been attached from their infancy, and whom she accompanied to England in 1848:—"that noble England," she says, "where the exiles of all nations find a generous and consoling hospitality."

*Edna; or, the Tales of a Grandmother.*—This volume contains the second part of the historical story of Denmark; that is, from the death of Canute the Great (1035) until the accession of the Oldenburg dynasty in 1448.

*The Illustrated Year-book of Wonders, Events, and Discoveries.*—Professedly "an attempt to group in

a narrow space a series of picturesque narratives of the most marvellous events of the year" which is just past. The idea is good. The subjects, however, are not always well chosen,—and when well chosen, they are not always well arranged with respect to each other. Nor can all the subjects be called "events." Ragged Schools, the Nineveh Marbles, Constantinople, Emigration—none of these things come under such a designation. Topics of the year they may have been,—but not events in the proper acceptance of the term. Besides the subjects named, there are chapters on Californian gold, the Britannia Bridge, a coal mine on fire, the Franklin Expedition, the Queen's Visit to Ireland, and the French in Rome.

*An Essay on the Source and Constitution of the English Language, with a Review of the Origin, Construction, and Progress of Oral and Written Communication among the Ancients.* By Benjamin Clarke. —The reader is informed in a note that this essay was originally designed as a preface to a '*New Universal, Etymological, Technological and Pronouncing Dictionary of the English Language*.' This announcement rather astonished us: inasmuch as we had thought the gathering of words for a large dictionary would of itself have insured a certain familiarity with models of good and sensible English. Finding it impossible to go on reading such platitudes as are here gathered into a volume, we turned to the title-page again, when we found the following claims set forth by Mr. Clarke as his titles to a public hearing on the history and philosophy of language:—"Contributor to the '*British Gazetteer*,' translator of Lecomte's '*Book of Birds*,' and author of the '*History of Wonderful Inventions*.'" How Mr. Clarke can suppose that these various deeds or misdeeds give him a claim on the attention of the philologist we are at a loss to conceive:—fortunately, we are not bound to explain it.

*The Bye-Lanes and Downs of England; with Turf Scenes and Characters.* By Sylvanus. —We cannot regret that the previous publication of these sketches in a periodical absolves us from noticing them at length now that they are collected,—since, truth to say, they are not much to our taste. Sylvanus gives us but "brown snow" as compared with *Nimrod*. Indeed, by his own story it seems as if the world which his sketches and characters illustrate were fast dwindling into a world not so much of bye-lanes as of crooked paths,—that the "*ups and downs*" of Epsom and Newmarket were no longer controlled by chance so much as calculated by cheater,—that, in place of the jewel of fair play, manly sport had of late adopted the fashion of wearing the "paste" of the black-leg's manufacture. At all events, such graces as are left to our races make a poor disproportioned show in this book:—which we opine is one calculated to "perplex with fear of change" and decadence the Jockey Club.

*A Grammar of the English Language.* By William Stewart. —We fail to perceive either the necessity for a new school grammar conceived on a plan so wanting in novelty as this, or the author's ability to give lessons in the art of which it treats, seeing that he himself writes our mother-tongue so indifferently. The first line in his book proves a want of analytic power which must be fatal to any attempt to deal with the subtleties of language:—"English grammar is a knowledge of the rules, by observing which the English language is spoken and written correctly." Here is an entire confusion of thought. Grammar is a code of laws, like geometry. The "rules" constitute the "grammar":—the knowledge of them is a different thing. The definition is otherwise defective and redundant,—as the reader will observe.

#### LIST OF NEW BOOKS.

Abbott's '*Historical Queen Elizabeth*,' 1s. 6d. Marie Antoinette, 1s. 6d. Alison's '*Child's French Friend*,' 7th ed. 18mo. 2s. 6d. Adventures of a Goldfinder, by Himself, 3 vols. royal 12mo. 14. 11s. 6d. Anderson's (W. H.) '*Words from the Cross*,' 2nd ed. 3s. 6d. Angus's (G. F.) '*The Kaffirs Illustrated*,' folio, 94. half-bd. Bailey's (P. J.) '*The Angel's World, and other Poems*,' 4s. 6d. Bethell's (Bp.) '*General View of Baptismal Regeneration*,' 5th ed. 9s. Beames's (T.) '*The Rookeries of London*,' 2nd ed. 5s. 6d. Biot's '*Chapters in Astronomy*,' ed. by Rev. H. Goodwin, 8vo. 3s. 6d. Blunt's '*Sketch of the Reformation in England*,' 11th ed. 3s. 6d. Blunt's (S. F.) '*Chart of Chancery Practice*,' 8s. in cloth case. Brewer's '*Set of Read Books for Book-Keeping by Double Entry*,' 5s. Brasseur's (J.) '*Premières Lectures*,' 18mo. 1s. 6d. cl. swd. Bohn's '*Shilling Lib.* Vol. II. '*Mohammed's Life*,' 12mo. 1s. 6d. bds. Ciceron's '*De Senectute et de Amicitia*,' translated by Lewers, 3s. cl. Chambers's '*Industrial Library*,' '*Sanitary Economy*,' 12mo. 2s. 6d. cl. Chambers's '*Library for the Young*,' '*The Steadfast Gabriel*,' 18mo. 1s. 6d. cl. Dawson's (E. L.) '*Circassia, a Tour to the Caucasus*,' 8vo. 14s. cl. Edwards's '*Gton Latin Grammar*,' Accented, 24th ed. 12mo. 2s. 6d. cl. Ency. Met. Vol. VII. Hall's '*History of the Jews*,' cr. 8vo. 2s. 6d. cl.

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#### FOREIGN CORRESPONDENCE.

Naples, Feb. 8.

NEVER surely did the elements of confusion and combustion abound in any one place to such a degree as in Naples. For two years past have we been rocking backwards and forwards with political convulsions; and though we can now keep our seats, still we feel that we are on dangerous ground and that at any moment an explosion may take place.—At present, however, two rival destructive powers of a very different character have started up and are occupying the attention of all the inhabitants of this great city. On the evening of the 5th there burst forth an eruption of Vesuvius so brilliant and tremendous as has not been witnessed for many years. No one expected it, none of the usual signs had preceded it,—so that our astonishment and admiration were the greater. The mountain literally roared with the efforts which it made to disgorge itself,—the noise being not unlike that of the firing of cannon at sea; and at every discharge there was thrown up a mass of lava and of rocks which by night showed like balls of fire. It is impossible to describe the beauty of the scene; for the night itself was pitch dark,—yet so brilliant was the light from Vesuvius that every point was brought out in relief for miles round. Castella Mare, Sorrento, even over to Capri, were more distinctly visible than by day,—whilst the sea looked like a mass of liquid fire. The report of a guide who was on the mountain at the time, and which is now before me, is as follows:—"In the middle of the mountain towards Somma, in an instant a grotto was formed full of stalactites of salt and marine salt. I was about to gather some portion of it when the grotto began to open as if under the influence of an earthquake, and as I fled I found that my clothes were burnt upon my back. Had I not quickened my speed my life would have been sacrificed, for in the same moment there issued forth a current of lava forty palms in breadth,—whence, as also from the crater, were thrown up bombs and lightnings. In ten minutes the lava extended to the foot of Somma, forming a most wonderful and beautiful scene."—Some of the crystals of salt I have seen this morning —white in colour, lightly shaded with green, and extremely delicate and elegant in form.

Whilst standing in Santa Lucia, together with many thousands of persons, gazing on this stupendous object, beneath our very feet the elements of destruction were at work, and danger of a different kind threatened us. I must tell you that underneath this part of Naples,—on which stand the royal palaces, a portion of the Arsenal, Santa Lucia, Pizzifalcone, and no one knows what else (for their extent is a mystery)—are numerous vaults of great antiquity; and as His Majesty has taken it into his head of late years to be a great naval power, and has bought a number of war steamers from England, he has laid up in these vaults a goodly



provision of coals. In fact, at the very lowest statement there are 15,000 tons. In these close confined vaults, they have lain,—never having been turned,—until within the last few days it was perceived that fire-damp existed. His Majesty had been warned of the danger three months since,—but His Majesty laughed, and would not allow anything to be touched: so that, at length, the hour of danger came,—and Prince Leopold, the uncle of the King, and all his family were to be seen flying from the palace, whilst all the furniture was carried out rapidly in detail. The Neapolitan engineers at first adopted every method for excluding the air; and the consequence was, that a slight explosion took place, which shattered the beams of several rooms, and destroyed one which a short time before had been occupied. Seeing that this plan did not succeed, they began to form a variety of vents: but as in this country there is nothing like any continued principle of thought or action, the idea of one moment being thrown aside the next, nothing is, or will be, done. I have spoken to several English engineers who tell me that their suggestions are neglected, either from ignorance or from jealousy,—and that there must be a general “blow up” if the present plans are persisted in. A friend of mine, Mr. Nicholl, who had asserted that he could extinguish the fire at a small expense and in a very short time, was last night called in; when he suggested the introduction of a stream of carbonic acid gas (the method adopted, I believe, some time since in one of Lord Ashley’s coal mines with eminent success): but Col. Agostino, the Neapolitan engineer, denying the possibility of the thing, and expressing his wonder that foreigners should interfere, Mr. Nicholl had to retire. The Colonel has to-day sunk a shaft in Santa Lucia to communicate with the coal, and near it he has accumulated immense quantities of sand to be thrown down upon the fire! There are, at present, about 500 men at work (the galley slaves) in taking out the coals; but, though they have been more than a week actively engaged, as yet they have not taken out more than 500 tons of the 15,000,—and every moment increases the difficulty and the danger. At present the heat and odour are so intense that the workmen have to be continually changed; and the poor fellows may sometimes be seen coming out with the blood flowing from their noses and quite exhausted.—It is a remarkable proof of the invariable want of system in this country, that no plan exists of these vaults, though they extend half way under Naples. No one appears to know anything about them,—and thus it is that how or where or when to work no two men are agreed. Every sound is now listened to eagerly, as announcing, therefore, the explosion of a palace or of a mountain. Indeed, the roaring of the mountain has been so tremendous during the last night, that though the sea and the whole of the city intervene between us and it I have been unable to sleep. H. W.

#### OUR WEEKLY GOSSIP.

WE see by a document just issued from Her Majesty’s Commissioners for the promotion of the Exhibition of the Works of Industry of all Nations, that they have arrived at decisions on some of the many questions which stood for their consideration. As their decisions on other matters must depend entirely on the amount of pecuniary support which may be placed at their disposal,—as that must govern the scale on which the undertaking intrusted to their direction can be conducted,—and as the time is short within which that scale must be determined,—it is important that the Commissioners know at once on what amount of subscriptions they may ultimately rely. The Exhibition is fixed to open on the 1st of May 1851; and articles intended to be sent in will be received at the expense of the Commissioners from the 1st of January in that year until the 1st of March inclusive. The site granted by Her Majesty for this great show is, as we anticipated, that on the south side of Hyde Park lying between the Kensington Drive and the Ride known as Rotten Row;—and at present the Commissioners conceive that their building should cover a space of from sixteen to twenty acres. Colonial and foreign productions will be admitted without paying duty—for exhibition only. For obvious reasons, the Commissioners will

keep in their own hands a power of selection and rejection. The principles on which the prize fund of 20,000*l.* will be distributed have not as yet been determined. The important thing, we repeat, is that they who intend to contribute towards the success of this majestic movement shall lose no time in recording their support in its pecuniary expression. It is one feature of its majesty that the world shall take part in this great Congress by the presence of all its classes. To whatever amount, however, the subscriptions may fall short of the necessary expenses, the visitors must be taxed in the shape of an admission-fee; and should that rise to a sum which excludes the masses, the Exhibition will be deprived, by the lukewarmness of the better-endowed, of one of its most striking and valuable characteristics.

In addition to the royal contributions which have been already made to the fund for promoting the Great Industrial Exhibition—we may mention that the Council of his Royal Highness the Prince of Wales have authorized the payment on his part of a subscription of 250*l.*

Despatches have arrived from Sir George Simpson, dated Lachine, February 2, 1850; by which it appears that no intelligence of any kind has been received in the Hudson’s Bay territories respecting Sir John Franklin’s Expedition. The despatches inclose copies of letters addressed by Sir George Simpson to Mr. Rae and Chief Factor Ballenden, directing these gentlemen to organize an Expedition during the summer of 1850 to that portion of the Northern seas lying between Cape Walker on the east, Melville Island and Banks’ Land to the north, and the continental shore, or the Victoria Island, to the south. Simultaneously with this Expedition, one or two small parties are to be despatched to the westward of the Mackenzie, in the direction of Point Barrow. Their instructions will of course fall to the ground should Mr. Rae’s Expedition of last summer to the north-eastern part of Banks’ Land have been attended by any successful results.—Independently of the Government Expeditions now fitting out for the renewal of explorations in Barrow’s Straits, the Hudson’s Bay Company have signified their intention to assist Sir John Ross, who has made an appeal to them, with a subscription of 500*l.* That officer has long desired to go in search of the missing ships:—indeed, we believe he was the first to volunteer for this service. He estimates the equipment of a small ship at 3,000*l.*; a sum manifestly too small to enable her to remain out during a winter,—which all ship expeditions to high latitudes in the Arctic Regions should be prepared for.—But if Sir John can get up an Expedition, why should the amount be limited to 3,000*l.*? The interest now more than ever felt respecting our long-lost countrymen would, under judicious organization, very probably assume the substantial form of subscriptions,—which can be the only species of assistance offered by the public generally. The doors of the Admiralty are literally besieged by officers anxious to serve under Capt. Austin; and as only a very small proportion can go, there would be no want of efficient men to act in a private Expedition.—By recent letters we are given to understand that subscriptions to a very large amount have been collected in the United States of America, for the purpose of fitting out a private Expedition on that side, independently of the one proposed by Government.

The subscription for the support of the Rev. Mr. Whiston, on behalf of cathedral schools, against the misappropriation of the funds by deans and chapters, is progressing favourably. It already amounts, it is said, to upwards of 500*l.*

We noticed last year with much satisfaction the first Academical celebration in which the graduates of the University of London took part as a body. We had previously been in danger of forgetting that the University was anything but an examining board, instead of being the centre of an already large and important class of professional men and scholars which will become more perceptibly influential with every year. Even as a mere machine for conferring degrees, the University will succeed better the more it is enabled to give that publicity and dignity to its proceedings which the public expect from such an institution. This year, we understand, the Degrees

and Honours will be given publicly.—How long, however, is an English University now taking vigorous root, and founded expressly to supply to those excluded from Oxford and Cambridge the rank and position which that exclusion denies them, to live in chambers at Somerset House? Surely, it is time that the Metropolitan University should have a house of its own. At present there is not an inch of room available for libraries, museums, or any other appendages to a seat of learning with which the increasing class now interested in the University will, it may be expected, be anxious to endow it. The Irish Colleges had an *oufit*; why should the University of London have merely a contribution to its annual expenses, which amounts now to some 2,500*l.* and diminishes every year as graduates’ fees increase! A university must be in the first instance endowed from without:—it is only when it grows in fame and power that it can support itself. There has, if we be not mistaken, for some time been an understanding between the Government and the Chancellor of the University that the duty of providing a palace for the London Alma Mater was postponed only until it could be done on a scale commensurate with her dignity. At present there are crowds to whom the faces of University College and King’s are familiar, who have no idea that there is such a dignity as the above resident in the metropolis.—As the Exchequer seems to be just now in funds,—might not the matter be thought of?

We regret to announce, says the *Church and State Gazette*, “the death of the Rev. James Ford, M.A., of Trinity College, Oxford, and Vicar of Navestock, Essex. Mr. Ford was a gentleman of great research and literary attainments, and took a leading part in endeavouring to establish the Morant Society. In furtherance of that purpose, he had written a history of the Hundred in which he resided; the manuscript of which is in the hands of Mr. Landon, of Brentwood, the secretary *pro tem.* of the Morant Society, and one of his executors,—to whom he has bequeathed all his other manuscripts and books, &c., relating to Essex.”—By his will, Mr. Ford has left the sum of 2,000*l.* three per cent. reduced annuities to the Chancellor, Masters and Scholars of the University of Oxford, upon trust, to accumulate and invest the interest and dividends thereof, until a sum be raised in the said three per cent. reduced annuities sufficient to produce the clear annual sum of 100*l.*, and then, upon trust, to pay and apply the same for the founding and endowing of a Professorship in the said University, to be called “Ford’s Professor of English History,” according to certain directions appended to his will. This bequest is to take effect on the death of the last survivor of his brothers and sisters (five in number), who are at present between sixty and seventy years of age,—as well as various other legacies to Trinity College for augmenting its preferment and endowing certain studentships.

A very important movement has been commenced in Scotland, having for its object the institution of a thoroughly national system of education over that part of the island. From a document now before us, explaining the nature of this movement—and containing a list of the names of upwards of five hundred prominent persons throughout Scotland who have agreed to further it—we extract a sentence or two. “There can be no doubt,” say the subscribers to the document, “that as a people the Scotch have greatly sunk from their former elevated position among educated nations, and that a large proportion of their youth are left without education, to grow up in an ignorance miserable to themselves and dangerous to society.” The present system of parish schools, with their auxiliaries in the shape of private and casual schools, the subscribers hold to be quite inadequate to the educational wants of the country; besides that the parish schools are “objectionable in consequence of the smallness of the class invested with the patronage, the limited portion of the community from which the teachers are selected, the general inadequacy of their remuneration, and the system of management applicable to the schools, inferring as it does the exclusive control of church courts.” To remedy this state of things, a general national system of education is proposed—so organized, say the subscribers, as to include all the present parish schools, as well as all the other existing schools.



that may be willing to join, and at the same time to overtake those outlying portions of the community which neither the parish schools nor their voluntary auxiliaries have yet been able to reach. The general features of the projected scheme are thus sketched:—"That the teachers appointed should not be required by law to subscribe any religious test; that normal schools for the training of teachers should be established; that, under a general arrangement for the examination of schoolmasters, the possession of a licence or a certificate of qualification should be necessary to entitle a teacher to become a candidate for any school under the national system; and that provision should be made for the adequate remuneration of teachers." The peculiarity of the scheme as an expression of Scotch opinion lies, it will be seen, in the first of these clauses—in the dissociation of the proposed system from any plan of exclusive ecclesiastical control. The subscribers guard themselves against the idea that they undervalue the importance of religious teaching. Not only do they hold it "necessary that sound religious instruction be communicated to all the youth of the land by teachers duly qualified," but they are convinced that every enlargement of education in Scotland on a popular and national basis will necessarily "carry with it an extended distribution of religious instruction." They are of opinion, however, "with the late lamented Dr. Chalmers, that there is no other method of extrication from the difficulties with which the question of education in connexion with religion is encompassed in this country than the plan suggested by him as the only practicable one, namely,—that Government should abstain from introducing the element of religion at all into their part of the scheme, \* \* leaving this matter entire to the parties who had to do with the erection and management of the schools." Now, if, say the subscribers, the business of selecting masters and managing schools, at present vested by law in the heritors of Scotland and the presbyteries of the Established Church, were transferred to the people at large as represented in the heads of families throughout the country, all purposes would be answered. Under such a reformed system, the machinery would consist of two parts or gradations:—1st. Local educational boards, consisting of persons elected by the votes of all the male heads of families in every locality. 2nd. A general central board responsible to the country through Parliament. The power of selecting teachers and prescribing the general course of education (religious instruction included) would lie with the local boards, and thus each locality or district would be so far free to follow out its own views and tendencies; while by means of the supervision of the central board abuses would be prevented, statistics collected and published, and a certain homogeneity and similarity of procedure kept up over the whole country. Such, so far as we can gather it, is an outline of this important scheme—as yet but in the state of project, and which it will require all the strength of the Scotch shoulder to push forward into anything like success. It is a hopeful sign, however, that among the promoters of the scheme are some of the most eminent men in Scotland. The provosts of Glasgow and Aberdeen, magistrates of other cities, clergymen, of all denominations—Established Churchmen, Free Churchmen and Dissenters of various sects—professors of the universities, teachers of public schools, lawyers,—and men of all professions have here co-operated. Among well-known names we recognize those of Sir David Brewster, Prof. Blackie, Messrs. W. & R. Chambers, Mr. J. H. Burton, Mr. Cowan, M.P. for Edinburgh, the Rev. Dr. Begg, the Rev. Dr. John Brown, the Rev. Dr. Guthrie, Sir William Hamilton, Mr. A. Dunlop, Professors Kelland, Pillans and Fleming, Dr. L. Schmitz, Mr. Thomas de Quincey, the Rev. Dr. W. L. Alexander, &c. Such a conjunction augurs well.

In reference to two paragraphs which have appeared in the columns of this paper relative to the pension which was granted in her life-time to the widow of the late Dr. Chalmers, we are now informed by the family themselves that we were right in our first statement that it lapses to the Crown by Mrs. Chalmers's death. "The original pension of 200*l.*," writes Mr. David Chalmers, "was granted separately and individually:—50*l.* to Mrs. Chalmers, and 25*l.*

to each of her six daughters. These are each held irrespective of the other."

On Wednesday in last week the second tube of the Menai Bridge was lowered to its permanent seat on the Carnarvonshire side in the presence of its founder, Mr. Robert Stephenson. So successfully, it is said, was every part brought to bear on lowering the tube on the rock tower that an extension of three-sixteenths of an inch took place, denoting great rigidity. The gale of Wednesday did not affect the structure in the least. The only unfinished operations then were, the filling up of the gap on the near side, and the grand junction with the Carnarvonshire tower.—The line will be in readiness, it is said, within a month from this date.

A correspondent, M. Claudet, informs us that a subscription has been opened in France—to which it is hoped that English chemists and photographers will contribute—for the purpose of procuring a refuge from want and destitution for the widow of M. Courtois, celebrated for his discovery of iodine. "Without his genius and labour," says M. Claudet, "the beautiful discoveries of the Daguerreotype and Talbotype processes would probably never have been made:—for iodine is their fundamental principle."—M. Claudet adds, that "Courtois has been a benefactor to mankind by adding iodine to the list of substances usefully employed in the cure of diseases."—The object proposed is, to procure admission for Madame Courtois into the "Hospice des Ménages":—and the sum required for the purpose is 1,500 francs.

Amongst the number of explorers who seem just now to take the unexamined ground of Central Africa as their field, it is stated that the Austrian Government intends to send out a scientific expedition under the direction of Baron Müller, the well-known linguist who has already made two journeys in that country. Several names are mentioned as his companions in various departments of scientific research; and the northern portions of Abyssinia are mentioned as the principal object of their inquiries.

We have received from a Correspondent at Copenhagen further particulars respecting the death and last days of Oehlenschläger. "Denmark," says the writer, "has lately lost one of its greatest poets,—and one of the greatest poets of our day. He was seventy years old; and his death was, like his life, calm and beautiful. In his last hour one of his sons read to him some scenes from his tragedy of 'Socrates' in which the philosopher speaks of the Immortality of the Soul. He expressed himself more than ever convinced on that subject,—and while so speaking, died. His seventieth birthday, in November last, was celebrated by a grand banquet given by all the poets and literary men of Denmark,—and he was then in full vigour. In returning thanks he remarked that the feast was not his Parentalia—but so, in fact, it was. The ladies of his country had sent him on that occasion a crown of laurel:—he now lies crowned with laurel in his tomb. The people of Copenhagen in a body followed his coffin to the churchyard of Fredriksberg; a country place where he was born, and in the neighbourhood of which he passed his youth. The influence of his writings has been, and will be, immense. He was not only commonly called, but was in reality, the "Poet-king of Scandinavia." Sweden and Norway mourn his loss as much as does Denmark. It was owing to the effect of his writings, in which he had presented such glowing pictures of the past, that the inhabitants of the three great Scandinavian kingdoms, forgetting their ancient animosities and the wars which they had of old waged with one another, came forward and proclaimed themselves one people. Not by the people alone was his sovereignty as "Poet-king" acknowledged. Not only did his famous contemporary Tegner the Swedish poet crown him about twenty years since in the Cathedral of Lund as "the Poet-king of the North,"—the King of Denmark made him Grand Cross of the Danish Order of "Danebrog,"—and he was also a Grand Cross of the Swedish order of "Nordstar," and of the Norwegian order of "St. Olaf."—A public subscription has already been set on foot throughout Denmark, Sweden, and Norway for the purpose of erecting a statue of him at Copenhagen. Oehlenschläger was a fine looking man,—not tall, and rather inclined to be

stout. His eyes, notwithstanding his advanced age, gleamed with fire; and this, together with the fact of his hair not having been in the least silvered by age, gave him almost a youthful appearance. His personal beauty was always striking; while the beauty of his soul—his amiability of character in all the relations of life—was never surpassed.

BRITISH INSTITUTION, Pall Mall.—The GALLERY for the EXHIBITION and SALE of the WORKS of BRITISH ARTISTS is OPEN DAILY, from Ten till Five.—Admission, 1*s.* Catalogue, 1*s.* GEORGE NICOL, Secretary.

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LOVE'S ENTERTAINMENTS at Store Street.—VENTRILOQUISM EXTENDING to the MUSEUM, on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday, at the Music Hall, Store Street, Bedford Square.—Doors open at Half past 7, begin at 8 o'clock. Reserved Seats—Boxes, 4*s.*; First-Class Seats—Hall, 2*s.*; Second Class, 1*s.*; Private Boxes, 1*l.* 1*s.* 6*d.* Books to be had at the doors, price 6*d.* On Tuesday, Feb. 26, Mr. LOVE will give an ENTERTAINMENT at the Institution, 17, Edwards Street, Portman Square, on Wednesday, Feb. 27, at the Assembly Rooms, Horns Tavern, Kennington; on Tuesday, March 5, at Crosby Hall, 25, Surrey Street, Strand.

## SOCIETIES

ASIATIC.—Feb. 2.—Prof. H. H. Wilson in the chair.—The Secretary read an account of the travels of Lieut. H. Strachey in Tibet and the countries above the Himalayas, compiled from the letters of that officer by his brother, W. Strachey, Esq. After some preliminary observations, the writer states that the transfer to Golab Sing of the mountain territories of the Sikh Government, which followed immediately after the battle of Sobraon, in 1846, rendered it desirable to settle the boundary of the Ladakh territory where it adjoined that of Lhasa and Chinese Tibet. Communications were accordingly opened direct with the Chinese Government, as well as with the local authorities of Lhasa; and Capt. Cunningham, Mr. Thomson (of the Medical Service), and Lieut. Strachey were appointed Commissioners to examine and settle the boundary. A reluctant consent to these proceedings was with difficulty obtained from the Chinese Government; and the Commissioners, who left Simla in 1847, met with nothing but obstruction and opposition from the Lhasan authorities. Passing through Kunáwar to the end of Hangrang, they attempted to penetrate by a short route through a portion of the Lhasan territory to Le; but were driven back by the Gartokh rulers. They then turned into Pitti, and crossed into Rupshur, by the Parang Pass, at an elevation of 18,500 feet. At Chunuck, Lieut. Strachey left his colleagues for the purpose of penetrating as far eastward as possible; and crossing between Hank and Kunjul, he reached Demjyokh, on the Indus, where the Sikh and Chinese frontiers meet,—and from thence he descended the river to Le. He remained at Le during the winter, and there learned that the Kirghiz Tartars had, three months before, made an irruption into Turkistan, under Khojah Buzoorg Khan,—who defeated the Chinese garrisons at Kashgar and Yarkand, but failing to capture the citadels, was eventually obliged to retire. Lieut. Strachey found the climate of the valley of the Indus bracing and invigorating. Near Demjyokh, the thermometer was for two or three days in October as low as 6° and 7° Fahr.; and at Le, 11,600 above the sea, the mean temperature in November was below the freezing point, and at mid-winter is generally about 3° Fahr. The climate is dry, and scarcely any other moisture than snow falls. In April 1848 he left Le, and traversing the Lazgun Pass, at an elevation of 18,500 feet, reached the Shayuk river at Agam, and proceeded thirty miles



along the river to the town of Shayuk,—where it is joined by the Kamdan river, which flows from the Kara-Karam mountains. The elevation of the Shayuk increases from 10,800 feet at Agam to 13,000 feet just above Shayuk. From this point N.W. the Shayuk and the Indus run for a long distance nearly parallel; but they are separated by an immense ridge, of which all the passes above Le exceed 18,000 feet. He continued along the Shayuk as far as Durguk and Tanktsee, and from thence turned westward to the Pangong lake. Advancing onwards to Chushut, at the S.W. angle of the lake, in order to obtain an interview with the Zungpun, a Chinese officer at Radakh, he followed his messenger so rapidly that he arrived within thirteen miles of that place before he was stopped, and forced to return, by the Zungpun, who was greatly alarmed. On being forced to retire, he returned to Chushut, and from thence to Tanktsee,—around which place barley is extensively cultivated, at an altitude of 1,300 feet, but does not yield more than three to five-fold. After leaving Durguk, he crossed the dividing ridge to the Indus, by the Jungta Pass, at an elevation of 18,100 feet; and from thence proceeded, by way of Sukti and Hirnis, to Le. In July he again departed from Le, and proceeded to Tanktsee by the Hera Pass, 18,600 feet high; and, traversing part of his previous route, he arrived at Idata, a large and tolerably verdant valley N.W. of the Pangong lake. After providing supplies, he crossed the mountains into the valley of Jung Chemno by the Marsi Niglak Pass,—the most elevated he had ever traversed, being about 19,000 feet high. He entered the valley at Pandyal, which lies about 15,400 feet high. Here the shepherds take up their winter quarters; and it is in this and similar elevated spots that the shawl wool is produced in perfection. In August he turned eastward to Kyan, and thence into the salt valleys N.E. of Radakh by an unfrequented road. Continuing in a W.S.E. direction, he traversed the Kyungang Pass, and reached the Mitalp Kongma Valley, which is a summer resort of the shepherds, and which formed the most easterly point of his journey. From thence he went to Paushar Kongma, in the Jang-parma valley, parts of which are much frequented by shepherds, until he reached the Pangong lake at Kharmak. Having completed this part of his survey, he returned to Idata by way of Tarang Lango and Poprang, passing over in his course the Nurla-dasa Pass, 18,000 feet high,—thus having crossed over and measured the two highest passes ever traversed by Europeans. At Poprang he remained a fortnight, and then proceeded by a difficult route to Ladakh. Passing over the ridges of Burzi Lango and Kryptang Gyeptang Lango, 17,900 feet high, he went through the Pangchoche Valley, and then crossing the Ho-e-lango Pass, 18,600 feet high, he descended by a precipitous incline to Orototse, and and thence proceeded by a most fatiguing route to the valley of the Shayuk. The valley near Orototse he describes as the grandest he had ever beheld; being flanked for ten miles by stupendous precipices of granite, several thousands of feet high, so sheer that they seem cut out by art and so steep that no living thing can scale them. From Shayuk he returned by a route gone over by other travellers across the Nebuk Pass to Azam; and thence into Yarma, or North Nebra Valley, in which he observed an immense glacier. Continuing his journey through the valley, he reached Siska, the chief village, where the valley takes the name of Chorbat; and crossing the Chorbat Pass, he descended into the valley of the Indus, when the sudden approach of winter compelled him to return to Le. Here he arrived in sixteen days, after a journey of more than four months. Having, as far as possible, accomplished all the objects of his mission, he effected his return by an unexplored route from Tro-moreri, at the head of the Para River, through a portion of the Chinese territory to the Nite Pass, and thence to Almorah, in our own territories.

**INSTITUTION OF CIVIL ENGINEERS.**—Feb. 5.—J. Simpson, Esq., V.P., in the chair.—The discussion was renewed on the Rev. Mr. Clutterbuck's paper, 'On the Alternations and Depressions in the Chalk Water Level under London,' and continued throughout the meeting. It was contended that the area

of the chalk district subject to infiltration for the supply of the springs and streams uniting in the basin of the Colne could not possibly exceed the original published estimate of 113½ square miles, and that the proportion of water filtering through, for that purpose, was much less than had ever hitherto been estimated, inasmuch as records by Mr. Dickinson's gauge were to a much greater amount than those afforded by the gauges kept by other experimenters. It was also contended that the original position assumed in the paper had not been weakened by the subsequent discussion; that the observations of the chemists had tended to confirm the statement of the probability of an infiltration of water from the Thames. The practical conclusion to be drawn from the observations recorded in the author's several papers were:—That the natural drainage and replenishment of the chalk stratum might be traced and accounted for by observing the alternation of level in various localities and at different seasons. That any large quantity of water abstracted from the chalk stratum, at any given point, caused a depression of level around the point of such abstraction. That in the upper district any such abstraction of water would interfere with, and diminish the supply of, the streams by which the drainage of the district was regulated; and, lastly, that the depression of level under London, by pumping from artesian wells, had proved that the rapidity of demand already exceeded that of the supply, and that any attempt to draw a large additional quantity for public use would be attended with disastrous consequences. It was suggested that, considering the great works of drainage and water supply which were in contemplation for the metropolis, and looking to the essential importance of having accurate and authentic geological information, in order that those great works might be executed on a sound and certain basis,—the Geological Survey now being carried on by Government, in a remote district of North Wales, where no urgent need existed for early geological information, and where no new works of paramount importance were in progress or in contemplation, should be transferred at once to the metropolitan districts, with a view to throw light on the real structure, mechanical and chemical, of the deep water-bearing strata, on which opinions so varying and so conflicting had been advanced.

Inquiry was made whether any steps had been taken by the Council in consequence of the statement submitted at the last meeting, urging the consideration of the manner in which the interests of the public at large, and of the profession, were likely to be affected by the attitude recently assumed by the Railway Commission, in reference to the strength of the wrought-iron bridges used on railways. It was stated that the Council had not as yet taken any decided steps in the matter; but that a course had been suggested, which, being followed, would most probably lead to satisfactory results. The Chairman requested any communications on the subject to be made in writing to the Secretary, who would lay them before the Council.

The following candidates were elected:—R. S. Haggart, R. Murray, J. S. Peirce, G. Sibley, H. Smith, and W. Strode, as Associates.

**Feb. 12.**—W. Cubitt, Esq., President, in the chair.—The first paper read was, 'An Account of the Cast-Iron Lighthouse Tower on Gibb's Hill, in the Bermudas,' by Mr. P. Paterson.

The next paper read was 'A Description of Sir G. Cayley's Hot-Air Engine,' by Mr. W. W. Poingdestre. After entering briefly into the theoretical considerations of the expansion of heated aeriform bodies, and detailing the attempts made by Lieut. Ericson for employing hot air, instead of steam, as a prime mover,—the author proceeded to state, that in 1837 Sir G. Cayley applied the products of combustion from close furnaces so that they should act at once upon a piston, in a cylinder, similar in every respect to that of a single acting steam-engine. The engine consisted of a generator of heat, a working cylinder, and an air-pump or blower,—the air-pump being half the size of the cylinder, and blowing air into and through a fire perfectly inclosed within the generator. The doors of the furnace were made perfectly air-tight as soon as the fire was well got up: the first impulse being given to the engine by throwing

a few jets of water upon the fire, which caused the air-pump to work immediately, and continued so for hours,—the fire being replenished by stopping off the blast from the furnace, and opening the upper bonnet. After the air had passed through the fire, the gaseous products of combustion, generally at a temperature of 600° Fahrenheit, passed laterally through a chamber, used for separating them from any ashes or cinders, into the working cylinder before alluded to. The difficulty attending this description of engine was, the liability of the working parts to be deranged by the great sensible heat destroying the valves, pistons, and cylinders, and carbonizing the lubricating oil. It was stated, that Mr. A. Gordon had made a successful experiment on the application of the heated products of combustion for propelling a boat, without the intervention of any machinery between the furnace and the water to be acted on.

**Feb. 19.**—W. Cubitt, Esq., President, in the chair.—The paper read was a 'Description of the Iron Roof over the Railway Station, Lime Street, Liverpool,' by Mr. R. Turner. The area covered was described as being 374 feet in length, and 153 feet 6 inches in breadth, which was roofed over in one span. The roof consisted of a series of segmental girders, or principals, fixed at intervals of 21 feet 6 inches from centre to centre; these were supported, on one side upon the walls of the offices as far as they extended, and on the other upon cast-iron columns. From the end of the offices to the Viaduct over Hotham Street, a distance of 60 feet 4 inches, the principals were carried upon a "box beam" of wrought iron. The principals were trussed vertically, by a series of radiating struts, which were made to act upon them by straining the tie-rods and diagonal braces; they were trussed laterally by purlins and by diagonal bracing, extending from the bottom of the radiating struts to the top of the corresponding strut in the adjoining girder; these braces were connected with linking-plates by a bar of the same scantling, and also with the purlins already referred to. The girders were thus firmly knitted together, and a rigid framework formed upon which the covering of galvanized corrugated iron and glass was laid. The whole construction was minutely described, and the appendix contained an account of the experiments for testing the strength of the principals. These were made at the works of Messrs. Turner & Son, Dublin, under the direction of Mr. Locke, the engineer of the railway, when some improvements in the construction were introduced at his suggestion. The discussion on this construction was announced for the meeting of Feb. 26th.

**ROYAL INSTITUTION.**—Feb. 15.—W. R. Hamilton, Esq., V.P., in the chair.—Rev. J. Barlow 'On a Bank of England Note.' Mr. Barlow's object was to describe the characteristics of a Bank of England note, and to exhibit, as far as time and circumstances permitted, the details of its manufacture. For this latter purpose workmen and machinery were supplied from the Bank. The Bank of England note is simple in character, having altered very little in appearance since it was first issued at the end of the seventeenth century, but the quality of the paper and of the engraved writing have now been brought up to a high degree of excellence. In thus perfecting their note, the authorities of the Bank have had entirely in view the protection of the public from fraud and loss. Instead of defending themselves, as is the practice in some other countries, by secret marks on their paper money, the substance and printing of which are equally ill executed, the Bank of England accepts no security which may not be possessed by any one who will make himself acquainted with the following characteristics of the paper, the plate-printing, and the type-printing of the note. The paper is distinguished:—1. By its colour, a peculiar white, such as is neither sold in the shops, nor used for any other purpose.—2. By its thinness and transparency, qualities which prevent any of the printed part of the note being washed out by turpentine or removed by the knife, unless a hole is made in the place thus practised on.—3. By its characteristic feel. There is a peculiar crispness and toughness in Bank of England paper, which enables those who are accustomed to handle it to distinguish instantaneously, by the sense of touch alone, true from false notes.—4. Wire mark. The wire mark (or water mark) is



produced in the paper when in the state of pulp; consequently, a forger must procure a mould and make his own paper. But both the workmanship of the mould and the manufacture of the paper from its intricate surface require the skill of first-rate artisans. As these are not found in the haunts of crime, a spurious imitation of the water-mark has to be affixed by means of a metallic stamp upon the counterfeit paper *after it has been made*. A false mark of this kind was produced during the discourse, and its easy distinguishableness from the true one exhibited.—5. The three *deckle edges* of the Bank note. The mould contains two notes, placed lengthways; these are separated by the knife in a future stage of the manufacture. The deckle (or wooden frame of the paper-mould) produces that peculiar effect which is seen on the edges of uncut paper. As it is caused when this substance is in the state of pulp, it is as unlike any imitation attempted upon paper as the rent or hemmed edge of linen, &c. differs from the selvage. It will be evident from this that any paper purchased for purposes of forgery, inasmuch as it has to be cut into shape, can have but *two* natural (or deckle) edges at most, instead of *three*, and must bear, in consequence, a recognizable proof of falsity.—6. *The strength of the Bank note paper*. Being made, not from the worn fibres of old garments, but from *new* linen and *new* cotton pieces, the paper of the Bank note is extremely strong. Mr. Portal, the manufacturer, supplied a simply constructed machine for testing this. It was seen by trial that in its water-leaf (or unsized) condition, a Bank note will support 36lb., and that when one grain of size has been diffused through it, it will then lift half a hundred-weight.—The processes of the printing the Bank note were then adverted to. The bulk of the note is printed from a steel-plate, the identity of which is secured by the process of transferring. The paper is moistened for printing by water driven through its pores under the pressure of the atmosphere admitted into the exhausted receiver of an air-pump. This process was invented by the late Mr. Oldham about twenty-five years ago, who, at the same time, suggested its application to pickling meat. Mr. Payne's more recent patent for preserving timber is derived from the same principle. In the Bank of England 30,000 double notes are thus moistened in the space of an hour. The ink used in plate-printing is made at the Bank from linseed oil and the charred husks and vines of Rhenish grapes. This Frankfort black (as it is called) affords a characteristic velvety black very distinguishable in the left-hand corner of the note. Inks in forgeries have usually a bluish or brownish hue. The D cam invented by Mr. Oldham, perfects every impression when once drawn through the press. Several impressions were taken during the discourse from one of the Bank plates. The numbering and cipher printing are also executed in one of the presses in use at the Bank; and a large model was dissected to show with what certainty carriage to tens, hundreds, &c. was effected by means of an extra stud on the spur of the tenth wheel. The combination of plate with type printing is itself a great security against a successful forgery of a Bank note. All that now remains is the signature of the clerk. This is chiefly valuable as a moral restraint against counterfeiters. At the same time the nicety of adjustment in Bank paper manufacture is evinced by its being suited both to the printer, who requires the least, and to the penman who requires the greatest quantity of size in the paper to fit it for their respective purposes.—The process of splitting a Bank note was explained, and a large sheet of paper was split, having previously been pasted between two pieces of calico. The attraction of the calico to the paper being greater than that of the surfaces to each other, they separate under an equable pull in opposite directions. This practice never could be used for any fraudulent purpose in Bank notes, because the printed surface is that which receives the water-mark; consequently, the other unprinted surface could not retain more than the faintest trace of it. In conclusion, the great diminution of forgeries since the abolition of capital punishment for that crime was noticed; and a hope was expressed that the abatement of an offence which education was once supposed to promote might be attributed to the diffusion of useful instruction combined, as it generally is, with moral and religious influences.

SYRO-EGYPTIAN.—Feb. 12.—Dr. Lee in the chair. —“On the Connexion of the Ancient Egyptian and Hebrew Calendars in the dates of the first Passover,” by Miss F. Corbaux. After pointing out several peculiarities showing the author of the Pentateuch to have been familiar with the Egyptian divisions of the year and months, different from the primitive patriarchal custom of opening the year in spring with appropriate religious offerings, and of reckoning the months strictly from the new moons,—Miss Corbaux proceeded to explain how she had subjected to a decisive test her hypothesis, that in the date of the first Passover Moses referred to the Egyptian Calendar of his time and not to a lunar reckoning. By following the Hebrews in their outward march along a track of full eighty geographical miles, at the rate of about fourteen miles a day, it is seen that if they started from Rameses on the 15th, they must have arrived at the site of the passage of the Red Sea on the evening beginning the 21st day, and crossed before the next morning. The overthrow of the Egyptians took place before six o'clock in the morning, when the morning watch ends,—“The sea returned to its strength,”—i. e., the tide began to rise, having been depressed at low water several feet below its usual average level by an unusually violent wind,—“when the morning appeared,” which would be at the beginning of twilight, at about five. The rapidity with which the flood makes after the short pause following the strict time of low water, depending on the former depression of the waters and on the actual effect of the wind. From observations made expressly at Suez, from Miss Corbaux's instructions, it is found that on the day when the tidal phenomena agree with these particulars the moon is only eleven days old; whereas on her 21st, when they ought to occur if the reckoning of Moses were lunar, the coincidences are particularly unfortunate, for it is high water all the time the Hebrews ought to be crossing, and the tide begins to ebb just as day appears. The Egyptian reckoning of Moses being thus proved, shows that the 10th of the Egyptian month Abib, or Apep, was the *first new moon after the vernal equinox*, and the appointed time of the very ancient spring festival of the Hebrews, which they had made preparations to keep by the usual offerings of first fruits; but its celebration being obstructed by the contumacy of Pharaoh, and thus unavoidably deferred to four days after it had been due, the sacrifices were only offered in a hasty and unusual manner on the eve of the 15th, and were immediately followed by the departure. These circumstances being commemorated in the ordinance for the future observance of the Passover and associated Feast of First-fruits, explains Ex. xii. 2, 3, 6, and the transfer of the latter feast to the time of the *full* moon instead of the *new*. For the order to celebrate this religious memorial on the anniversary of its first occurrence was given irrespective of the Calendar to be used in fixing the anniversary; hence the Egyptian days of the lunar style when the Hebrews resumed it *after* their deliverance. This connexion of the two Calendars further affords an interesting proof of a point hitherto doubtful to Egyptian chronologists:—whether the rectified Egyptian year of 365 days, astronomically traceable up to the era of Menophres, 1325—22 B.C., was in use before that period or not? In that year the relative positions of the equinox and of the 1st of Thoth, on which Sirius rose heliacally, are such, that the Mosaic dates could only have agreed with it between one and two centuries *after*. Thus, the Egyptian year known to Moses could not be the year of 365 days, but the more ancient defective Egyptian year corrected in 1325 by the addition of five days; for had those five days been added before that time, as some contend, the dates of Moses, being Egyptian, must have shown it by agreeing with the position of the Calendar of Menophres at some period within the bounds of chronological probability.

Mr. Sharpe made a communication on Major Rawlinson's reading of the inscriptions from Nineveh, which he characterized as one of the greatest triumphs of ingenuity, and as the result of a rare union of learning, patience, sagacity, and that wise caution which is so particularly necessary while the force of many of the letters is doubtful. He had full reliance on his readings, but doubted the justice of his historical opinions. Major Rawlinson produces the names of seven or eight kings; some of these make

Tyre, and Sidon, and Egypt pay tribute, and carry on a long war against Aahdod. Perhaps even the name of Jerusalem is found among the conquered cities. These eight kings may occupy about two centuries; and Mr. Sharpe, exhibiting tables of chronology for Egypt, Palestine, and Assyria, argued that these circumstances in history could be true of no other two centuries than those within which Isaiah was writing,—and that these were the kings spoken of in the Bible, whose dynasty was put down by Nabopolassar,—for there was no other time in which Egypt and the Phœnician cities could have paid tribute to Assyria.

#### MEETINGS FOR THE ENSUING WEEK.

- MON. Geographical, half-past 8.—Dr. Bigsby, ‘Notes on the Topography of certain Portions of British North America.’  
— Institute of Actuaries, 7.  
TUES. Civil Engineers, 8.—Mr. W. Taylor, ‘Observations on the Street Paving of the Metropolis, with an account of a peculiar system adopted at the London and North-Western Railway, Euston Square.’  
— Zoological, 9.—Scientific Business.  
WED. Geological, half-past 8.—Dr. Mantell ‘On the Dinornis and other Fossils from New Zealand.’—Mr. R. N. Mantell, ‘Notes on the Organic Remains collected on the Wiltshire Railway, near Trowbridge.’  
THURS. Royal, half-past 8.  
— Antiquaries, 8.  
— Numismatic, 7.  
— Royal Society of Literature, 4.  
FRI. Royal Institution, half-past 8.—Sir R. I. Murchison ‘On the Distribution of Gold Ore in the Crust and upon the Surface of the Globe.’  
— Archaeological Institute, 4.  
SAT. Asiatic, 2.

#### FINE ARTS

##### BRITISH INSTITUTION.

AMONG the many manifestations of Art, no one is in its nature more extensive—more varied in its characteristics—more subtle in its effects—fuller of associations in its results, than that of the landscape painter. He has to deal with no less wide an area of subject than a large portion of the earth's surface; comprehending within its representation an infinite range of the subjects of creation which, taken together, form the subject in scientific order of man's whole life and labour. Climate, temperature, civilization or barbarism, are the modifying circumstances under which are exhibited the earth's natural products; and these are again subject in a greater or lesser degree to the never-ending successions of change which the seasons and the revolution of the system bring with them. The attainment of success in this branch of Art demands, in addition to its material and technical knowledge, extensive observation, acute perception, an analytic turn for tracing effects to their just causes, a hand obedient to render faithfully what the eye and the mind have gathered and quick to note down the evanescent or transient phases which succeed each other from day to day and from “rosy morn to dewy eve.”

That this extent of observation and attainment has been accomplished by any artist who has exercised this branch of art, it is not intended here to assert—the real range of the subjective matter for the employment of the landscape painter's pencil is intended merely to be pointed out. It is to the conscientious possession, however, of many of these constituent qualities that we owe the most celebrated examples of the landscape art. In landscape portraiture the higher truths of natural scenery are appreciated only by such fine spirits as those which in the field of human portraiture apprehend the high and intellectual secrets of animal form:—and there is as wide a difference between the common topographic scene delineator and the creative power of a Claude and a Turner, as between the common portrait-painter's version of the “human face divine” and the creations of the Stanze or of the Sistine Chapel.

To the natural susceptibilities of the most renowned in this art, adventitious circumstance is known to have lent no small influence. Claude, Gaspar Poussin, Domenichino, Titian, Salvator Rosa, and the Carracci,—each of these was actuated in his selection and controlled in his practice by local and other considerations. The personal character of each, reflected in his particular treatment, was formed amid various and marking conditions,—and hence the impress of originality on them all. “Savage Rosa” and “learned Poussin” are household words. With the landscape painters of our own day the case is somewhat different. There is less variety of circumstance to engender individuality of character and of thought,—or make a picture by one hand at



once distinguishable from that by another. Whole tribes of landscape painters produce works having such correspondence as the brothers of a large family bear one to another in their physiognomical relations. In France, the name of Vernet—the only one conspicuous,—is significant of little more than mediocrity; and Germany has as yet made no sign pictorial to show that she has ability for reading the physiognomy of her land.

In England the name of Richard Wilson is associated with a broad and philosophic view of nature.—The engravings alone from the works of Turner would convey to posterity the assurance at once of supremacy and of individuality among his countrymen. Earth, fire, air, sky and water have met at his hands with almost endless variety of treatment, from the topographic view to the poetic creation: exhibiting an extent of observation and a creative power that cannot be impeached by mere peculiarities of execution.

The works of the Italian and Flemish landscape schools and of the English artists whom we have mentioned above differ widely in their characters of conscientious observation from the vague and unmeaning combinations of colour without truth and effects without just causes which, after an autumnal ramble, are poured forth from the folios of so many of our modern landscape painters on the tables of the winter *conversazione*. With such specious and immature studies, it may be foretold what qualities of knowledge will be possessed by the completed works for which they furnish materials. The human memory is not sufficient to retain the specific differences of an infinite multitude of individual truths,—and superficiality and vagueness of the whole and of the parts result from trusting to it. A power to delineate merely is insufficient:—to these must be added, as we have said, the large and observing mind,—with great taste conjoined—if there is to be success. An absence of such elements is the cause of the failure of the majority of the landscapes in the present Exhibition,—and our observations on them will therefore be short.

In the realms of imagination since Mr. Turner has almost retired from their occupation, Mr. Danby may be pointed at as his worthy successor. In the phenomena of nature he finds sufficient of fact removed from commonplace wherewith to furnish him with the elements of poetic combination. His is not the diseased mind which takes refuge from the familiar in eccentricity,—exciting vulgar astonishment while it enlists no fine or real sympathy; but he selects for himself such truths as embody poetical conclusions. *A Golden Moment* (198) is an example. We have never known this artist more successful than here in the realization of the poetry of solar effulgence.

Mr. Creswick's facts are told always in most tasteful phrase. Here, in *The Miller's Home* (18) a true English scene,—*Noon; the Stream in the Valley* (71),—and in a Norwegian-looking subject, *Morning; the Stream in the Hills* (256), there is the stamp of conscientious truth-telling,—with an amount of success always proportioned to the capacities of the several subjects. Next to Mr. Creswick's, there is no landscape here more sincere and of greater general beauty than Mr. Sidney Percy's scene at *Undercliff, Isle of Wight* (361). It is the very perfection of day-light effect:—even better than his other work, *A Lane near Chiddington, Kent* (479).

Mr. Stark exhibits his usual excellence in the peculiar charms of the provincial school of which he is a chief:—witness *Eel Fishery on the Thames* (41),—*A Back Stream* (241),—and *Marlborough Forest* (303).

Mr. G. E. Hering, whose improvement has been so marked of late, exhibits here his largest work, *Porto Pesano, Gulf of Spezia* (228). It is excellently drawn, with water beautifully painted:—yet does not win our admiration so largely as his smaller picture of *Chiavara on the Riviera di Levante* (213). *Blenheim* (196), by the same hand, is too topographical and unpicturesque a matter for one who deals so ably with the rich beauties of southern climes.

*The Falls of Loupen. Valley of the Biers, Switzerland* (39), is a panoramic presentment by Mr. H. C. Selous,—and clever. *Evening, coming home to the Farm* (57), is the trite production of Mr. H. Jutsum, with a foreground executed in the *manière* style of

approved receipt:—the vegetation descriptive of no species—the sky representative of no truth. In the same category of conventional treatment may be enumerated *The Road round the Park* (108), by Mr. E. J. Cobbett, a repetition of one of Mr. Lee's avenues,—and a *Scene in the Forest of Arden, Warwickshire* (128), a good exemplar for young ladies in Berlin wool. *A Welsh Mill* (137), by Mr. H. J. Boddington, is an ordinary production:—as is also *Dover* (140), by Mr. Holland ("in shot-silk," as we heard remarked). *The Piazzetta di San Marco* (211), by the same hand, is untrue to the original, wrong in perspective, and meretricious in effect. *Kirby Lonsdale, and the Valley of the Lune* (297), by Mr. H. Jutsum, is insipid. *The Westmoreland Trout Stream* (314) is little better.—*Rain clearing off, a Study at Woolmer, Bucks* (387), is a tranchant though an effective example of Mr. Niemann's art.

*Mountains, Caernarvonshire, North Wales* (400) is a successful imitation of one of the younger Danby's pictures.—Cold grey and slaty is the view *On the Thames, below Waterloo Bridge* (416), by Mr. J. W. Carmichael. *The Old Gate House, Maxtoke Priory* (473) is wanting in quality of tone; and *The Woods in Autumn* (481), by Mr. J. Middleton, is commonplace in colour, effect, and execution.—These examples have been selected, because, while they are antithetic to the system and practice of the masters of old, their authors have shown talents worthy of better intellectual direction and more industry in their application.

We must not, however, overlook Mr. W. Parratt's *East Cliff, Dover* (4), very true.—*The Salmon-Trap at Lynmouth, North Devon* (54), by Mr. J. Uwins.—*Elizabeth Castle, Jersey* (77), by Mr. R. C. Leslie, very original,—the very chaste *Scene from the Bathing Cove, Torquay* (83), by Mr. W. Williams.—*The Watchful Shepherd* (96), by Mr. Redgrave, whose conscientious painstaking in details is here seen in a very capital little picture.—*The Ruins of Eberstein Castle, near Baden-Baden* (117), by Mr. P. H. Rogers,—the well-manipulated *Fécamp, Coast of Normandy* (118), by Mr. J. D. Harding,—*The View of Angers* (148), Callcott-ish in effect, by Mr. E. A. Goodall,—and *The Fruit-Shop at Angers* (210), by the same,—an effective view of *Hastings Castle*, by moonlight (230), by Mr. H. B. Willis.—*The Summit of the Esquiline Hill* (235), by Mr. H. Murch, hard, but like,—Mr. C. Brawwhite's *Frozen Lock* (245), a true effect of the sunset at such a season,—his *Enviors of an Ancient Garden* (296), poetic, though wanting in refinement of execution,—and his *Frozen Mill* (315).—*On the Medway, Kent* (277), by Mr. J. Dugardin, has merit:—as has also *A Water-Mill in North Wales* (298), by Mr. J. Wilson, jun.—*The Mouth of the Conway, North Wales* (305), is one of those flat coast scenes in which no one surpasses its author, Mr. A. Clint.—*The Distant View of Rye, from Romney Marsh* (344) is a good representation of Mr. E. Duncan's powers: as is Mr. E. W. Cooke's *Villa Borghese from the Walls of Rome* (369) of his. We must mention also *A Scene on the Eze, Topham-Morning* (377), by Mr. W. Williams, and the simple *Lock and Mill at Shiplake, on the Thames* (379), by Mr. J. Radford.—*Twilight; Scenery in North Wales* (390), by Mr. H. H. H. Horsley, is excellent in effect.—The sunny effect of *Mole Guest, near Port Madoc, North Wales* (412), is one of the few things to recollect here. It is by Mr. J. Danby. *The Smugglers' Halt on the Sierra Morena, Spain* (435), is an excellent picture by Mr. W. Wyld, entitled to a better situation. With a mention of the simple, sober, and truthful view of *Tor Vale, with the Dartmoor Hills in the Distance, from Upton, near Torquay* (483), by Mr. W. Williams,—we pass on to the few remaining subjects worth notice in the marine department.

Mr. T. Gudin takes the lead, in *Fishing Boats off the Coast of Holland* (51),—a work full of light, motion, and perspective truth. The drawing of the waves alone, without considering their transparent and fluid character, is masterly and sincere. This is one of the best pictures in the Exhibition.—Mr. E. W. Cooke's largest of four contributions here, *Dutch Pilots warping their craft out of harbour in rough weather* (45), is full of design, incident, and movement. Everything is carefully attended to:—yet the whole effect is not as luminous as we have seen in other of his works. No. 87, without a title,

is an excellent little picture of Italian coast scenery, breathing the Mediterranean atmosphere in the richness of its tinting.—*A Bit of Holland* (352) is quite a *bijou*, just what one of her native painters of old might have produced. *The Scene in North Holland* (33), by Mr. W. A. Knell, might have shown more refinement with advantage.—Mr. T. S. Robins in *Peter Boats returning to harbour—Sheerness in the distance* (113),—*San Lorenzo, Coast of Genoa* (178),—and *Scene on the Meuse, a Calm—the village of Brill in the distance* (461), exhibits the same qualities which have long distinguished his drawings in water colour; but there is want of colour and force,—and a general greyness, which is more especially inappropriate to his Italian coast scene.—*Laying-to for an anchor and cable—a gale of wind* (402), by Mr. C. A. Mornewick, jun., is emulative of Backhuysen.—A very fresh and elegant little picture of *Fishing Boats off the Coast of Holland* (442) is from the hand of Mr. J. Wilson, jun., an artist whose works are always meritorious. This instance is, perhaps, a little too white and wanting in tone.—With Mr. Bentley's *Edinburgh, from Inchkeith* (472), full of motion and bold painting, we close our notice; with regret in the reflection that amid such a mass of landscape and marine subject, notwithstanding the relative praise which we have been enabled to bestow, posterity will recognize no names as characteristic landscape painters save those of Danby, Creswick, Linnell, Linton, and Edward Cooke.

**FINE-ART GOSSIP.**—The preparations for the Exhibition of Ancient and Mediæval Art at the Society of Arts are proceeding very satisfactorily. The Board of Ordnance, the Society of Antiquaries, the Carpenters' Company, and a great many private possessors of beautiful relics have agreed to send them for exhibition. King John's cup is coming, or has been received, from Lynn; and many colleges have sent their grace-cups. Various articles from Windsor Castle will arrive, it is hoped, in a few days. The Exhibition will open early in March.

It may not be generally remembered that connected with the establishment of the Royal Academy there are certain honorary offices—such as the Professorships of Ancient Literature, History, Antiquity, and the Secretaryship for Foreign Correspondence,—which are usually filled up from without the ranks of the profession. The Professorship of Ancient History having become vacant by the death of the late Dr. Copplestone, the Bishop of Llandaff, the vacancy has just been filled up, we understand, by the appointment of Mr. T. B. Macaulay. Sir Robert Harry Inglis has, we further understand, been elected into the vacancy which has for some time existed in the Antiquarian Professorship.

There has been lately on view, at the rooms of Mr. Griffiths, in Pall Mall, a drawing in water-colours by Mr. John Lewis, sent by him from Cairo, and intended for the forthcoming Exhibition of the Old Society of Painters in Water Colours. Mr. Lewis has been engaged on this work for some considerable time past; and, not having exhibited any drawing at the Exhibitions of the Society of which he is so conspicuous a member for some years—since his large and powerful picture of the 'Papal Benediction' from the great window of St. Peter's—great expectations have been excited by the knowledge that he was thus at work. These will not be disappointed. The interior of a harem, in which a Turkish gentleman is surrounded by his wives, to whom is introduced an Egyptian slave, a recent acquisition,—is the subject of this drawing. They whose fastidiousness may reasonably be shocked by the mention of the subject, will find on inspection that their apprehensions are groundless. A sight of it at Mr. Griffiths's satisfies us how completely the painter has triumphed in his treatment over his elements—how he has banished everything like grossness and sensuality. The executive skill displayed, demands unqualified praise. It combines qualities of very opposite kinds; and is wrought with a degree of fidelity in the most minute details and trivial particulars, and generally with an amount of resource, which make it almost a phenomenon of its class. We know of nothing to which it can be likened.—The drawing was, we understand, made for Mr. Joseph Arden.

The Mosaic of Autun, whose transport to Paris we mentioned a fortnight since [p. 163], would seem to be



in the market, and the Paris papers are remonstrating against the possibility of its being lost to the national archaeology of which it forms an especial document. The more this masterpiece is examined as a whole and in its details, says the *Journal des Débats*, the stronger is the assurance that it belongs to the most brilliant period of Gallo-Roman civilization; to that period in which the city of Autun, the ancient Augustodunum, the capital of the ancient Eduens, was a centre of literature and the arts, and assumed to be the rival of Rome herself—*soror et amula Romæ*. "Thus the Mosaic of Autun connects itself by its origin with the cradle of our ancient country—and forms a true page of our national history. By this title it belongs to France,—and in France it should remain. We join earnestly in the hope that Government will take measures for securing the possession of this monument to ourselves, and assigning its possession to our national museums."

A commission, formed of military, civil and artistic notabilities, and presided over by Marshal Soult, has been for some time occupied on the subject of the erection of a statue at Bar-le-Duc, in honour of Marshal Oudinot, Duke de Reggio. M. Debay, the sculptor, was charged to make a model of the Marshal in his military costume; and it is stated by *Galignani* that the commission has just adopted the work of the artist. The bas-reliefs which are to be represented on the sides of the pedestal have been determined on. The four façades will represent—the departure of the volunteer Oudinot, named Chef de Bataillon by his fellow-citizens; the moment when, as General-in-Chief of the Grenadiers, he blew up the bridge over the Danube in 1805; the battle of Wagram, in consequence of his conduct at which Oudinot was named Marshal, and which procured him the remarkable notice in the 30th Bulletin, announcing the gaining of that battle—"the glory of it belongs entirely to Marshal Oudinot and his corps;" and, lastly, the Passage over the Beresina, where Marshal Oudinot was proclaimed the saviour of the army. The statue will be cast in bronze, and the base of it will be marble.

The *Courier d'Auvergne* mentions the discovery, in the sacristy of the chapter-house of the Cathedral of Clermont-Ferrand, of a curious monument of the art of the fourteenth century. This is, a large and fine fresco, representing Christ on the Cross, with the Virgin and St. John at its foot. The figures, the size of life, and the accessory ornaments are said to be skilfully executed,—and in good preservation, notwithstanding the three layers of plaster-of-Paris which covered them, and which had to be scraped away with great care and patience.

The intention of the Trappist fathers to establish an agricultural colony at Fontgombaud, in the Department of the Indre, is leading to the restoration of one of the oldest and most magnificent monuments of the county of Berri. Government having voted a sum for the repair of the church there, important works have already been executed on the edifice, under the direction of M. Mérimod, architect to the Ministries of the Interior and of Worship; and it is found that the walls and arches on which Time has marked so many suggestions of decay, are yet sound as in their youth. It appears, however, that the Government subsidy is wholly insufficient for the complete restoration of the Abbey of Fontgombaud; and means are taking to appeal to the archaeological spirit of France for aid towards the recovery from the spoiler, and reinstatement in its ancient splendour, of one of the finest of her ecclesiastical monuments.

#### MUSIC AND THE DRAMA

MR. HENRY NICHOLLS'S DRAMATIC READINGS OF SAKSPERE, on Tuesday Evenings at St. Martin's Hall, Long Acre, and Saturday Mornings at Blagrove's Rooms, Mortimer Street, Grosvenor Square. Tuesday Evenings, March 3, Julius Cæsar; March 12, Hamlet; March 19, Othello. Saturday Mornings, March 2, Julius Cæsar; March 9, As You Like It; March 16, Merchant of Venice. Admission, 1s. and 2s. To commence, Mondays at 8, Evenings at 8.

\* Communications respecting Private Readings, &c. to be addressed, 19, Howard Street, Strand.

#### ST. JAMES'S THEATRE.

O! O! O!—qu'il était beau!

Le Postillon de Longjumeau!

Half merrily, half sadly, rings this burden on our ears, as we heard it in the *Théâtre Feydeau* in 1836, when the gay circle which clustered round the kind-

hearted Duke of Orleans crowded the theatre, for some hundred nights, to enjoy M. Adam's lively music, MM. Lerwen and Brunswick's rather broad mirth, and M. Chollet's capital low comedy as the Knight of the Whip, and his more capital airs and graces as the owner of an irresistible "ut de poitrine." Following the theory of entire re-organization once in every seven years, the world has been twice made new since M. Chollet was *Chapelon* to the *Madelon* of Mdlle. Prevost;—yet here is the original, ever-green *Pride of Longjumeau*, if not as fresh in voice now, as nimble upon his feet, as he was then,—giving to the opera (of which more than one English *per-version* has been already offered) the vivacity and spirit of a work totally unfamiliar to the English. It would be superfluous to dwell on the "witching fable" of this opera, beyond pointing out that much of the dialogue would hardly escape the Licenser's "No" were it in English; and that if licensed, it would certainly be questioned in passing by the healthy taste of an English public. Neither is any analysis of M. Adam's music called for. This is his only opera which can be said to keep the stage; since, while he ranks as foremost among ballet composers, he is essentially too commonplace and slight to be treated with serious praise or dispraise. His is at best *soufflée* music—not seldom a *souffle* with all the "flavouring matter" left out.—The acting and singing at the St. James's Theatre are, on the whole, capital. Madame Guichard is equally good as the bride of Longjumeau and as the Court Beauty whom her aunt's legacy enables to "set up" as great lady. M. Buguet is a very comical *Biju*; M. Chateaufort is genteelly fatuous as the *Marquis de Corcey*. The concerted music goes with great smoothness, and with such a neatness of question and reply as is not yet to be got from English singers. The dresses and appointments are good. The audience was duly delighted; and, in its less refined way, the work bids fair to become as great a favourite in the St. James's Theatre as 'Le Domino Noir.' Yet, whether as regards drama or music, there is a world's distance between the two operas.

SURREY.—A new play, in five acts, entitled 'Old Love and New Fortune,' was successfully produced on Monday. It is by Mr. H. F. Chorley. The piece is written with remarkable care and point, and at times the dialogue rises into poetic fervour. Both in story and in treatment this play proceeds upon the principle of the novel. For a mere drama, the argument is somewhat extensive,—and accordingly too much action is supposed to pass in the intervals between the acts. That which passes on the stage consists of long and ingenious conversations, analytical in spirit,—rather than of stage situations in which, as in so many practical syntheses, both action and motive are at once involved and made apparent. The relations of cause and effect must be to some considerable extent supplied by reference to events which are supposed to have happened during the fall of the curtain. We state this as a fact,—not a censure. The style of drama thus enunciated has its novelty,—and the public are to decide for or against its acceptance. In the present instance, the scheme is ably and conscientiously worked out, in a production of much taste and beauty. A moral idea is developed and elaborated throughout the intricacies of the plot. A neglected school-girl meets her father for the first time at the age of maturity—finds him wealthy—and is tempted accordingly straightway to bear herself like a queen. Her very passions grow aristocratic, and she discards her former lover for the sake of a title though borne by age and mental imbecility. But she has mistaken her heart. The young dashing Templar whom she first affected contrives to throw himself in her way at every turn; and so manages matters that she is at last compelled, on the impulse of the affections, to take the initiative in breaking off her intended marriage with an aged and worthless Lord, and returning to her "old love" notwithstanding her "new fortune." The incidents chosen for the vehicles of this main interest are ingeniously contrived,—though they, and the motives, are not always produced with sufficient clearness. The part of the Templar *La Roque* (Mr. Creswick) is animated with a gaiety that lends brilliance to the scene,—where he is almost constantly present. To secure his desired interviews with the lady, *Sybil Harcourt* (Madame

Ponisi), he takes the characters successively of a postboy, the hanger-on of a nobleman, the substitute for a notary,—and at last, by a trick of fortune unexpected by himself, appears in his proper guise as the real nobleman whose dependency he had assumed. Much of this was excellently impersonated by the two performers whom we have named. Madame Ponisi was scarcely equal to the lighter scenes assigned to her, in which the mocking spirit of Sybil had to be produced; but in the passion of the part she played with earnestness and effect. In the character of her lover, the gay but deep-meaning Templar, Mr. Creswick showed himself to us in a new light, and much increased our faith in his versatility. The pseudo-nobleman *Lord Overbury* was supported by Mr. Collier, who skilfully exhibited a pleasing compound of vanity and inanity. His lordship is indebted for his social position to the suppression of the proofs of *La Roque's* legitimacy; the recovery of which by the latter makes them ultimately change places. Sybil's father, *Sir Archibald Harcourt*, found an able representative in Mr. Mead:—indeed, the part might have been written for him, so well its gusts of passion suited his peculiar style. These passionate expressions are due to *Harcourt's* early history. A disappointed lover in his youth, he had married for the sake of wealth; cheated of his wife's dowry, after two unhappy years of wedded life he was left a widower with two children, a son *Albert* (Mr. Raymond), and his daughter Sybil. These children he had domesticated in England, while in the New World he undertook to become the architect of new fortunes for himself as a merchant. Thence returning, he redeems his ancestral hall of Woodwells, and summons to his presence the children from whom he had so long been separated. He brings home with him one *Eve* (Miss R. Malcolm) as his ward,—the daughter of a lady who had died in attending him while suffering from pestilence. This child of his adoption he loves in secret; and he finally proposes marriage to her, in such agitated and clumsy terms, that she, mistaking the character of his proposals, flies from his manor-house to London,—where she supports herself awhile by embroidery. All mistakes are of course cleared up at last, and she marries her protector. The plot is essentially complicated by the consequences of an oath registered in heaven, or elsewhere, by *Sir Archibald* to pursue with vengeance the children of the woman by whom his first love had been betrayed. His son *Albert* has fallen in love with *Margaret* (Miss Laporte), the daughter of the said scornful lady; and is exposed to starvation by reason of his father's rash vow. The two main morals of the play consist in the rebukes administered to *Harcourt's* vengeance and to his daughter's levity,—and the final recantation of each. The "old loves" are all ultimately reconciled to the "new fortunes."—So many circumstances are with difficulty reconcilable in a five-act drama,—but Mr. Chorley has effected their agreement with considerable art. The entire play was well acted and well received:—and great credit, we should observe, is due to Mr. Creswick for the manner in which this drama has been got up. The audience were more than ordinarily attentive; and though the piece on the first night was long, they seemed never to grow weary. At its close, they summoned the chief performers before the curtain; and called for the author,—who, after some delay, made his acknowledgments from a private box.

We see by the bills, that in consequence of an unfortunate oversight, by which the management omitted to apply for the needful licence, the performance of this play has been necessarily suspended for a few days, until the defect can be cured.

OLYMPIC.—Mr. G. H. Lewes's drama of 'The Noble Heart' was produced here on Monday, strongly cast: Mr. Brooke being the *Don Gomez de la Vega*,—Mr. Davenport, *Leon*, his son,—and Mrs. Mowatt, *Juanna*. The merits of this drama surpass our expectation. Though in the earlier scenes there is too much mere talk about poetry and wine and women,—as also concerning the relative merits of the ascetic and the active life,—yet when the passion of the scene fairly sets in, we have strong writing and effective situations, such as rightly belong to the highest kind of drama.—Mr. Lewes has been fortunate in his performers. At no theatre could his characters have



been so well suited just now as at the Olympic.—The story is a brief one. Don Leon, the son of a Spanish noble, loves a merchant's daughter, whom he has wooed and won without disclosing his rank. His father, too, has seen and loved her, unknown to the young man. Don Gomez is called on by his king to go to the wars; but refuses personal attendance on a ground of private offence against the monarch. For the service of Spain, however, he sends his son with a body of five hundred lances. During Leon's absence, Juanna's father falls into insolvency; and for relief from his difficulties insists on Juanna's marrying the old and powerful nobleman,—who at this period formally proposes to her,—though informed by her that her heart is in the keeping of another. Forced to the altar with Gomez, the marriage is just completed when Leon returns. The lovers meet and have a passionate explanation,—in the tempest of which the father surprises them in each other's arms. His agony for awhile is extreme; but while at its height the nobility of his disposition comes out in one little characteristic act. His servant has also been a witness to this stain upon his honour; and him, by a fine suggestion of conflicting dignities, Don Gomez binds on the spot to silence,—interpreting the conduct of the lovers after an honourable fashion. A stormy interview then takes place between Gomez and his son,—in the height of whose passion Juanna enters; and the unhappy father discovers that the victim whom he had dragged to the altar was the affianced bride of his only child. To heal their breaking hearts, he determines on reparation. After a scene of powerful pathos, in which he breaks his sword in token of his severance from earthly interests—but which has the dramatic defect of being too much prolonged after the catastrophe has come into view,—the curtain falls on his resolve to procure a dispensation from the Pope, and retire from the world. Such are the materials which the poet has wrought into a form of abiding power and beauty. The drama is in three acts, and has been placed on the stage with great magnificence. The parts were all well played; but Mr. Brooke's acting was one of the finest impersonations that we have seen for years on the English stage.

**SADLER'S WELLS.**—On Friday week, a Miss Edwards made her *début* at this theatre in the part of *Mariana*, in Mr. Knowles's romantic play of 'The Wife.' At present this lady has some provincial habits which impair the elegance of her style; and her voice, which is not remarkable for sweetness, requires careful management. During the early part of the play, however, she manifested considerable intelligence and some power; but the demands made on the latter in the fifth act proved her to be unequal to the climax of the situation. Up to a certain point she is an efficient actress,—but the scope of her talent is evidently limited. The audience rewarded her exertions with much applause.

On Friday, Mr. Lovell's play of 'Love's Sacrifice' was performed, to afford Miss Edwards a second trial.

**MUSICAL AND DRAMATIC GOSSIP.**—For the moment there seems no limit to enterprise in the cause of classical music. The same fate that impends over the *Conservatoire* at Paris appears to menace our own Philharmonic Society—vigorous competition on the part of newer establishments. For some time past rumours have been current of grand orchestral concerts in projection for the winter of 1850. These are to be held in some spacious locality (say Exeter Hall), on a scale of greater magnificence and at lower prices of admission than the Philharmonic Concerts. Meanwhile, Mr. Stammers, in casting on a new series of Wednesday Concerts, has meritoriously announced a Grand Symphony as a feature of each performance. We have already adverted to Mr. Willy's new speculation at St. Martin's Hall. At the first of his concerts, on Monday next, we perceive that Signor Marchesi will be heard—an Italian gentleman, with a bass or baritone voice, from whose singing, it is said, that much may be expected. All good luck go with all good music and all good singers; but a caution or two may be thrown out for the guidance of the sanguine. Let it never be forgotten that there is a point beyond which an orchestra cannot be enlarged without danger to delicacy of effect,—

a thing as much provided for by all great symphonists as force. This consideration in some measure determines the number of the audience,—and, the last, again, the price of admission. It is, moreover, increasingly understood, that the engagement of musicians must imply a due amount of rehearsal behind the curtain, to insure spirited and intellectual performance of the highest master-works before it. We shall never be on the side of cheap classical music if it is to be coarse; the days are come when to diffusion refinement of taste should succeed. Hence it is needful to insist on the idea that the money spent on a few performances well prepared is more wisely bestowed than the same sum spread over a larger surface of more slovenly enjoyment.—We last week spoke of the large and liberal basis taken by the new Philharmonic Society of Paris. Among its other provisions, is a pledge every year to produce a work to be written by the prize musical pupil of the *Conservatoire* on his return from his studies at Rome. We are told, further, that the facilities of admission afforded to foreign artists are to be on the most ample scale.

The *Soirées* of Mr. W. S. Bennett commenced on Tuesday last, with an excellent selection of classical music, in the execution of which Herr Ernst took part, in the presence of a most numerous and attentive audience.

So late as the close of last week the conductor of Mr. Lumley's orchestra had still to be appointed:—Mr. Balfe up to that point having declined to take office save on a re-adjustment of the terms of his engagement. It may possibly have been to meet this difficulty that the successive arrivals of Madame Pasta, Signor Ricci, M. Auber, Herr Lortzing, MM. Scribe and Halévy, (every composer named, in short, save Simone Mayer and Gluck,) "to superintend," were announced in the *programme*. This seems to us the very quintessence of penny wisdom and pound folly in management.

Signor Ronconi has been trying the part of *Don Giovanni* at Paris without his usual success. *Ne sutor, &c. &c. &c.* This artist's genius, admirable and versatile as it is, does not include geniality, and without geniality there is no *Don Juan*.—M. Baroilhet has been re-engaged at the Grand Opéra, to take a part in 'L'Enfant Prodigue.'—Another 'Tempesta' is about to be raised by Signor Verdi, who is setting, we are told, a *libretto*, translated from the text of M. St. Georges, and based upon Shakespeare. We have no faith in Signor Verdi's fairy-work; the fantastic element, apparently, being totally left out in his composition.—Madame Clara Novello has returned to the stage,—having reappeared at Rome in 'Luisa Miller.'

'The Spendthrift,' by Mr. Jerrold, is understood to be in preparation at the Olympic Theatre.—The new comedy at Drury Lane is, we believe, by Mr. Sullivan.—Miss Emma Stanley is announcing herself as about to take the field among the *Monologues*.

—Mr. Bunn commences his career on Tuesday next. While Italian opera is virtually perishing from the face of the earth for want of composers and singers, it is paradoxical and curious to note that London is not the only city in which Opera competition prevails. New York, like our own metropolis, appears to be invaded by conflicting and belligerent troupes; and some of the journals are promising to their readers the excitements of another Macready or Forrest riot, by way of settling the question. This quarrel, moreover, has given rise to many odd illustrations of "manners," if not of "music." We have never—not in the vulgarst English novel of the silver-fork school, got up for the delectation of the gentry of the second table—read the words "aristocrat," "aristocratic," so frequently within the same narrow space, as in the newspaper paragraphs devoted to the claims of M. Maretzek's party and those of an antagonist company. Imputations are flung here—artists pelted there—managers and critics pummelling one another, pell-mell, with a hearsay fanaticism especially curious to encounter in a society made up of people who profess themselves to be outraged by our European slavery to rank and fashion. As to any love of Art in the proceeding, one might as well use the word with reference to the moulding and draping of the waxen *Romeos* or *Juliets* which figure in the shop-windows of Mr. Truefit or M. Causse. The Americans seem, too, to have imported a few

of the worst French fashions of criticism, as well as many mediocre songstresses and singers. The following note from a well-known writer has been published in the New York papers by M. Maretzek, the manager of one of the opera companies:—

Dear Sir,—My servant has accidentally burnt up my season ticket, among some waste cards, and I must beg the favour of a new one, of which I will take better care. I hope you understand my orchestral introduction of a little "basso" of criticism, to relieve the excess of "alto" in all the other newspapers. The public of this land do not like things which are only praised. I am too warm a lover of the Opera, however, not to be ready to "come to the rescue" just as promptly when the excess is the other way.—Yours very truly,  
N. P. WILLIS.

The ingenuity with which request and explained dispraise are mingled in the above application really belongs to *feuilleton*-ism of the highest order, and merits preservation. The same American paper that menaces the world with the brewing of this Opera storm, publishes copious accounts of the trial of Capt. Rynders and other persons accused as having been the inciters of the Macready riots. They were acquitted,—their defence, by Mr. Van Buren being described as having excited transports of enthusiasm and applause. As a piece of forensic eloquence applied to Art, Mr. Van Buren's speech contained some gems of lucid oratory too brilliant to be passed over: *e. g.*—

Acting is not a concededly useful art, protected by the law, but it is a mode or fashion which depends for its existence upon the gratification of the public in an unrestrained way. That such is the rule, appears to me to be so clear, that no reference to authority could make it plainer. It has been done from time immemorial, and not merely in reference to the actor and his performance, but in respect to his private conduct, as an actor, off or on the stage. It does not stop here: it extends to the people who are in the theatre, and to their conduct there, hissing out any man who sits as others do not like, calling him Trollope; hissing a man who sits where he should not; hissing a public man who is not liked; hissing the play when it is not agreeable. It might be thought for a moment, that one of those editorial deadheads—I was going to say, but I'm glad I did not say it—(laughter)—is there on purpose to applaud, and may say it is a *quid pro quo* for a season ticket. If so, where is the law, where is the reason, or where is the usage which upholds this? Mr. Fuller says he applauded because the people hissed; though he could not hear a word, the people hissed so; therefore he applauded. That would cause continual disorder. If a man applauded all the while the actor is acting, that would always disturb the performance. All the authorities—and there is not one which contradicts it—agree that every man who is in a theatre has the right to applaud the actors—there is no limitation but the judgment of the party. How are you to get down the throat of a man and know the reason of his applauding?

We will spare our readers more of Mr. Van Buren's *maundering*:—enough has been quoted to produce a droll impression of the performances which are required to satisfy American juries and enchant American audiences.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.—Omega—H. S. R.—A Bookseller—C. T.—T. G.—P. L. S.—received.

S. S.—What this correspondent requests had been already done.

'AUSTRIA,' BY MR. WILDE, AND BY MR. THOMPSON.—We have received from Mr. Wilde a further letter on the subject of what he terms the literary piracies of Mr. Thompson. For this letter we see no reason to make room. So far as it repeats the old charges or brings new ones of the same kind, we do not see what other answer Mr. Thompson can give than that which he has already given. That answer—for we cannot admit it to be a defence—is, that in the compilation of materials for his book he, Mr. Thompson, employed another hand than his own,—and that the person so employed may, without his knowledge, have got those materials in the way charged, to save himself trouble.—If Mr. Thompson after this proceeds to retort the charge of piracy upon Mr. Wilde, the latter gentleman must remember that he began the attack,—and that having given place to his thrust, we could not refuse admission to that of his opponent. But we cannot permit a question of literary right to degenerate into an affair of mere personal recriminations in our columns. All that we can do further in the matter is, to state the nature of the defence which Mr. Wilde makes to the accusation of piracy brought against himself. Mr. Wilde says that his book is a book of statistics,—that a book of statistics is necessarily and avowedly a collection of materials from other sources,—that he took his materials, wherever they were to be had best; shaping them himself, however, to his ends, and in his Preface and elsewhere making ample avowal of the sources from which he had borrowed.

BRITISH MUSEUM LIBRARY CATALOGUE.—A like answer must suffice on the subject of the controversy raised between Mr. Fergusson and our correspondent W.—Both parties have had the opportunity of making their several statements:—and here, so far as we are concerned, the matter must end.

Errata.—P. 182, col. 1, l. 41, for "local reputation" read *total refutation*: p. 184, col. 2, l. 88, for "Mrs." Frost read *Mr. Frost*.



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TO ALL WHO HAVE FARMS OR GARDENS.  
**THE GARDENERS' CHRONICLE**  
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 (The HORTICULTURAL PART edited by PROF. LINDLEY)  
 Of Saturday, February 16, contains articles on

Advertisement duty, by Mr. Mechi  
 Agricultural Society of England  
 Ammonia, use of, in plant  
 houses  
 Beer, to correct acidity in  
 Birds, food of  
 Botanical Society of Edinburgh  
 Calendar, horticultural  
 Calendar, agricultural  
 Caird on High Farming  
 Cattle, to feed on boarded floor,  
 by Mr. Mechi  
 Chestnut, worthlessness of, as  
 timber  
 Chicory coffee, by M. Chevalier  
 Conifers, list of  
 Diseases of plants  
 Drainage, Charnock on  
 Elvaston Castle, by Mr. Glen-  
 dinning  
 Farming, practice with science  
 in, by Mr. Rawstone  
 Feeding, on boarded floors, by  
 Mr. Mechi  
 Filbert, to prune, by Mr. Thomp-  
 son  
 Floors, wooden, for feeding on,  
 by Mr. Mechi  
 Fuchsia spectabilis  
 Gardeners and experiments  
 Gardeners, their advertisements  
 Grapes, origin of Hamburg  
 Highland Society—advantages  
 and disadvantages of subsoil  
 ploughing, by Mr. Dickson and  
 others  
 Larch, when to fell  
 Medically  
 Melons, useful, by Mr. Sher-  
 wood  
 Nageli's work on Algae  
 New Zealand, books on  
 Pearls, list of  
 Pheasant and domestic fowl  
 Pine-apple, culture of, at Trent-  
 ham, by Mr. Fleming  
 Plants, British  
 Plants, importance of ammonia  
 to  
 Plants, descent of the sap in, by  
 Mr. Caie  
 Plants that bleed, when to  
 prune  
 Ploughing, advantages and dis-  
 advantages of subsoil, by Mr.  
 Dickson and others  
 Roses, to force  
 Sap, descent of the, by Mr. Caie  
 Schools, Sunday  
 Sheep, to feed  
 Timber, Chestnut worthless as  
 fuel, tackle for raising  
 Trees, restituted, when to prune  
 Trees, descent of the sap in, by  
 Mr. Caie  
 Victoria Regia at Chatsworth,  
 by Mr. Paxton  
 Villa gardening  
 Vines, open air  
 Wheat, Egyptian, by Mr. Wilkins  
 Wheat, prices of, by C. Wren  
 Hoskyns, Esq.

**The Gardeners' Chronicle and Agricultural**  
**Gazette** contains, in addition to the above, the Covent-garden,  
 Mark-lane, and Smithfield prices, with returns from the Potato,  
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 very low rates.

Annual Premiums for the Assurance of £100.

Age.	£. s. d.	Age.	£. s. d.	Age.	£. s. d.						
20	1	13	7	35	2	7	6	60	4	1	2
25	1	17	0	40	2	15	5	65	5	1	0
30	2	1	5	45	3	0	0	70	6	5	10

The Court of Directors are authorized by the Deed of Settlement  
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Fire Insurances on favourable terms.  
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Assurances effected either with or without participation of profits. On the participation scale the whole profits are divided amongst the assured, after reserving one-fifth against the risk of extraordinary mortality or other contingencies.  
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Tables of Increasing Rates have been formed upon a plan peculiar to this Company, from which the following is an extract.

Premium to insure 100*l.* at death.

Age.	First Year.	Second Year.	Third Year.	Fourth Year.	Fifth Year.	Remainder of Life.
20	£0 18 2	£0 19 2	£1 0 8	£1 1 5	£1 2 8	£1 18 2
30	1 3 9	1 5 2	1 6 8	1 8 4	1 10 0	2 10 5
40	1 11 10	1 13 9	1 15 10	1 18 1	2 0 6	3 8 3

Prospectuses and every information may be obtained at the offices of the Company above.  
**HENRY T. THOMSON, Secretary in London.**

**PELICAN LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY,**  
Established in 1797.  
For Granting Assurances on Lives and Survivorships.  
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**Directors.**

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<b>Auditors.</b>	<b>SECURITY.</b>

In the Policies granted by this Company there is no clause limiting the liability of the Shareholders to the amount of their respective Shares.

The Assured have the guarantee of a subscribed and accumulated Capital of upwards of *One Million sterling*; in addition to which, the private fortune of every individual Shareholder in the Company is responsible for its engagements.

At the division of profits declared up to the 3rd July, 1847, the Bonus added to Policies effected in the seven preceding years on the "Return System" averaged 33 per Cent. on the premiums paid. Four-fifths or Eighty per Cent. of the Profits are divided amongst the Policy-holders.

**LOW RATES.**  
The Assured on the *Non-participating Scale* are charged the LOWEST POSSIBLE RATE OF PREMIUM.  
**ROBERT TUCKER, Secretary.**

**UNITED KINGDOM LIFE ASSURANCE COMPANY.** established by Act of Parliament in 1834—8, Waterloo-place, Pall Mall, London; 97, George-street, Edinburgh; 12, St. Vincent-place, Glasgow; 4, Coleridge-green, Dublin.

**SECOND SEPTENNIAL DIVISION OF PROFITS AMONG THE ASSURED.**  
The Bonus added to Policies from March, 1834, to the 31st of December, 1847, is as follows:—

Sum Assured.	Time Assured.	Sum added to Policy in 1841.	Sum added to Policy in 1848.	Sum payable at Death.
£5,000	13 yrs. 10 mths.	£683 6 8	£787 10 0	£6,470 16 8
5,000	12 years	500 0 0	757 10 0	6,257 10 0
5,000	10 years	300 0 0	707 10 0	6,007 10 0
5,000	8 years	100 0 0	707 10 0	5,807 10 0
5,000	6 years	..	675 0 0	5,675 0 0
5,000	4 years	..	450 0 0	5,450 0 0
5,000	2 years	..	225 0 0	5,225 0 0

The Premiums nevertheless are at the most moderate scale, and only one-half need be paid for the first five years, when the Insurance is for Life. Every information afforded on application to the Resident Director, No. 8, Waterloo-place, Pall Mall, London.

**SPECIAL NOTICE.**  
TO SECURE THE ADVANTAGE OF THIS YEAR'S ENTRY, PROPOSALS MUST BE LODGED AT THE HEAD OFFICE, OR AT ANY OF THE SOCIETY'S AGENCIES, ON OR BEFORE 1st MARCH.

**SCOTTISH EQUITABLE LIFE ASSURANCE SOCIETY, FOR MUTUAL ASSURANCE.**  
Incorporated by Royal Charter. Established in 1821.  
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The ANNUAL REVENUE amounts to One Hundred and Fourteen Thousand Pounds.  
The ACCUMULATED FUND to nearly Half-a-Million sterling.  
The WHOLE PROFITS are allocated amongst the Policy-holders every Three Years.  
A Triennial Allocation will take place at 1st March 1850.  
A Policy of £5,000 effected on 1st March 1842, and becoming a claim before 1st March 1850, will have increased by these additions to 100,000 LIVES HUNDRED AND TWENTY-NINE POUNDS.  
Other Policies in proportion.  
Tables of Rates and Forms of Proposal may be had on application at the Society's Office, 61 A, Moorgate-street, City.  
**WILLIAM COOK, Agent.**

**THE LIVERPOOL and LONDON FIRE and LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY.**  
FOURTEENTH DIVIDEND.

**NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, THAT a DIVIDEND of Seven Shillings and Sixpence on each Share on which the sum of 2*l.* 10*s.* has been paid, and of Five Shillings on each Share in regard to which such payment has not been made, deducting Income-tax, has been declared for the year ending the 31st December last, and will be payable to the Proprietors on and after the 1st March next, between the hours of Eleven and Three o'clock, at the Offices of the Company, Nos. 8 and 10, Water-street, Liverpool, and No. 3, Charter-row, Mansion House, London. By order of the Board.  
**SWINTON BOLT, Secretary to the Company.**  
February 18, 1850.**

**THE NEW FISH CARVING KNIVES and FORKS.—T. COX SAVORY & CO.** respectfully inform their customers that their STOCK of these useful articles is ready for selection. In silver plated the prices are from 2*s.* the pair; in silver, from 8*s.* the pair.—47, Cornhill, London, seven doors from Gracechurch-street.

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**CASES:**  
(From the Right Hon. the Lord Stuart de Decies)  
Dromana, Cappagh, county Waterford, Feb. 15, 1849.  
Gentlemen, I have derived much benefit from the use of the Revalenta Food.  
**STUART DE DECIES.**

4, Park-walk, Little Chelsea, London, Oct. 2, 1848.  
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Dear Sir,—I will thank you to send me, on receipt of this, two 10-pound canisters of your Revalenta Arabica Food. I beg to assure you that its beneficial effects have been duly appreciated by, dear Sir, yours respectfully,  
**THOMAS KING, Major-General.**

(From the Venerable Archdeacon of Ross)  
Aghadown Glebe, Skibbereen, Co. Cork, Aug. 22, 1849.  
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**ALEXS. STUART, Archdeacon of Ross.**

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## REVIEWS

*History of Spanish Literature.* By George Ticknor. 3 vols. Murray.

DURING the last twenty years our American cousins seem to have found an ever-growing interest in the history and letters of Spain. Of this tendency one principal cause has doubtless been the wish to claim a property in the fame of Columbus; in pursuit of whom their eyes were attracted to the land of his adoption,—that “*Castilla y Leon*,” for which, as his epitaph justly boasts, “he found a New World.”

The connexion, indeed, between that great discoverer and a territory no part of which he ever saw\* is not of the closest kind. In principle, but little straining would be required to establish a similar relation between Alexander the Great and the possessions of the East India Company. But we are loth to criticize the desire of claiming kindred with an illustrious name:—especially as this feeling, common to all nations, must be peculiarly seductive to cultivated and thoughtful minds in a people which owns no remote past of any kind on the soil it now occupies. On the contrary, our friends beyond the Atlantic may be congratulated on any faith which can lead to such studies as have produced the pleasant books of Irving and Prescott’s valuable *Histories*. In the same rank with the latter, as entitled to a character of permanent authority, may be placed Mr. Ticknor’s ‘*History of Spanish Literature*,’ of which—so far as the limited space of a few columns will permit—we have now to give some account.

It may first be stated that, as regards the collection and description of materials for a Literary History of Spain, this is by far the most complete work that has hitherto appeared in any language. Spain herself has no comprehensive account of the whole body of her own literature.† Her chief performance of this class—by Nicolas Antonio—a dictionary of authors, comes down no further than the year 1684. In the department of poetry, she possesses not a few special collections and treatises, more or less complete, like those of Sedaño, Huerta and Sanchez. The slight essay by Velasquez is confined to the same subject; as also is the more important fragment left unfinished by Sarmiento. But a general survey of Castilian poetry and eloquence has yet to be undertaken as a national performance.

Of the foreign historians, neither Andr  s nor Hallam could afford to any single language so much attention as would be required for a complete view of all its productions. The former writer, too, although a Spaniard, was unacquainted with many records of the dawn of Spanish letters which later industry has brought to light. The latter, whose notices are chiefly confined to the salient points of his subject, admits his obligations to Bouterwek in reference to them.

Sismondi’s Essay is agreeably written:—but his point of view was too thoroughly French to give a true picture of a region foreign to his sympathies; besides which, he pretends to no more, either of completeness or of detail, than was required for his original design—of a lecture, namely, to a class of young ladies in Geneva.

Bouterwek, in fine, is still the only author\* who has done anything that can be compared with Mr. Ticknor’s labours. In one respect, to be noticed hereafter, the former may deserve higher praise than his successor, besides that of having been the first to open the way for all following historians. But he had not the advantage of that exact and copious knowledge of the rare and curious, in books and manuscript relics of Spanish letters, with which the study and liberal expense of a thirty years’ pursuit, added to the benefit of modern discoveries, have enriched Mr. Ticknor’s volumes. As a repository of Castilian books and writers, Bouterwek’s able treatise falls very far short of the completeness of Mr. Ticknor’s. In this respect, indeed, it seems unlikely that any future writer will find much to add to the materials collected with such diligence and success by the latter.

In fulness, we say, of matter,—in the precision of its antiquarian and bibliographical notices,—in all that can be gained by a careful study of everything that has been written in Castilian,—these volumes fulfil the strictest requisitions of the task undertaken. We find the author conversant with all parts of his ground; and untiring in the diligence with which he has scrutinized its remotest corners, as well as its more inviting eminences. Thus, we can have the pleasure of sincerely praising his work, as the sound and mature fruit of studies in which nothing has been overlooked that willing industry could do to render the performance perfect. In Castilian literature, many of its remains being of extreme rarity, this result, as we have observed, could not have been accomplished without many favourable opportunities, and a liberal expenditure of money as well as of time,—neither of which can have been spared by Mr. Ticknor in his favourite researches. But his knowledge is by no means exclusively confined to this particular field. We find him well acquainted with European literature generally; and familiar as well with some of its older treasures as with most of its recent acquisitions in France, England and Germany. Here, again, his work gives satisfactory evidence of the author’s studious and cultivated mind:—displaying, indeed, a compass and variety of literary knowledge that would do credit to any professed teacher of the *Belles Lettres*.

That this training has produced its right effect, is proved by the liberal tone of the essay generally, but especially by the courtesy which Mr. Ticknor shows to all who have preceded him, whether in the entire field of his enterprise or in detached parts of it. For each of those who in any way deserve it he has either a friendly notice, a word of judicious praise, or a candid and apt criticism. In short, in all that concerns his relations to other writers, Mr. Ticknor agreeably reminds us that here at least the free pursuit of letters has justified its old claim to the merit of promoting urbanity and candour—the proper fruit of “*ingenuous arts*.”

Mr. Ticknor has gone further than his predecessors in calling upon history to illustrate the literature of Spain. In this he has done well. In no country which has originated any intellectual production of its own can the result be rightly enjoyed without a just perception of those sources in which the currents of national feeling and character take their rise. But this is true of Spain, perhaps, above all other European countries. Her material position at the two

decisive periods of her spiritual growth was altogether peculiar and striking; and its reflex is visible in all parts of her literature,—if that were not, indeed, one of the two principal causes which made it (in those branches that were able to expand into full growth) the most characteristic and racy of the soil of any that exists in Europe.

In dealing with this side of his subject, Mr. Ticknor is always considerate and at times highly judicious and able. Of his analyses of political or religious influences in relation to manners and literature, we may point with approbation to his discussion (Vol. I. p. 316) of the peculiarly Christian character of the early Spaniards,—to his review (in the same volume, p. 414) of their literature at the close of the fifteenth century,—and to his summary of the causes of its rapid decay from the seventeenth (Vol. III. p. 184). As a specimen of considerable merit in this kind of dissertation, we quote the following paragraphs, which usher in the deadly period of the Inquisition.—

“The books which were published during the whole period on which we are now entering, and, indeed, for a century later, bore every where marks of the subjection to which the press and those who wrote for it were alike reduced. From the abject title-pages and dedications of the authors themselves, through the crowd of certificates collated from their friends to establish the orthodoxy of works that were often as little connected with religion as fairy tales, down to the colophon, supplicating pardon for any unconscious neglect of the authority of the Church or any too free use of classical mythology, we are continually oppressed with painful proofs, not only how completely the human mind was enslaved in Spain, but how grievously it had become cramped and crippled by the chains it had so long worn. But we shall be greatly in error if, as we notice these deep marks and strange peculiarities in Spanish literature, we suppose that they were produced by the direct action either of the Inquisition or of the civil government of the country, compressing, as if with a physical power, the whole circle of society. This would have been impossible. No nation would have submitted to it; much less so high-spirited and chivalrous a nation as the Spanish in the reign of Charles the Fifth and in the greater part of that of Philip the Second. This dark work was done earlier. Its foundations were laid deep and sure in the old Castilian character. It was the result of the excess and misdirection of that very Christian zeal which fought so fervently and gloriously against the intrusion of Mohammedanism into Europe, and of that military loyalty which sustained the Spanish princes so faithfully through the whole of that terrible contest; both of them high and ennobling principles, which in Spain were more wrought into the popular character than they ever were in any other country. Spanish submission to an unworthy despotism and Spanish bigotry, were therefore not the results of the Inquisition, and the modern appliances of a corrupting monarchy; but the Inquisition and the despotism were rather the results of a misdirection of the old religious faith and loyalty. The civilization that recognized such elements presented, no doubt, much that was brilliant, picturesque, and ennobling; but it was not without its darker side: for it failed to excite and cherish many of the most elevating qualities of our common nature—those qualities which are produced in domestic life, and result in the cultivation of the arts of peace. As we proceed, therefore, we shall find in the full development of the Spanish character and literature, seeming contradictions which can be reconciled only by looking back to the foundations on which they both rest. We shall find the Inquisition at the height of its power, and a free\* and

\* Note also that Cabot is now pretty well proved to have discovered Labrador, on a voyage from England, in 1497; while Columbus did not land on the South American Continent even (at Paria) until the following year.

† There is now, indeed, a Spanish translation of Bouterwek, much improved by the addition of valuable notes and corrections; but this of course cannot be counted as an original production of her own.

\* Of late years, both in Germany and in France there have appeared several admirable essays on various parts of this field, by Schlegel, Wolf, Puibusque and others. Many of our own writers, also, have illustrated not a few of its districts with eminent success. But we are speaking of descriptions of its whole compass.

\* It must here be observed that Mr. Ticknor—whose taste of Spanish poetry generally has a decided flavour of New England austerity—does not use this word in the sense of *indecent*, as it may be applied to too many of our own comedies, alas! in the seventeenth century. The moral tone of the *motives* of Spanish comedy—love, jealousy, the point of honour, &c.—Mr. Ticknor may not approve of; but he well knows that there is no stage so free from impropriety of manner as the Spanish.



immoral drama at the height of its popularity. Philip the Second and his two immediate successors governing the country with the severest and most jealous despotism, while Quevedo was writing his witty and dangerous satires, and Cervantes his genial and wise 'Don Quixote.' But the more carefully we consider such a state of things, the more we shall see that these are moral contradictions which draw after them grave moral mischief. The Spanish nation, and the men of genius who illustrated its best days, might be light-hearted because they did not perceive the limits within which they were confined, or did not, for a while, feel the restraints that were imposed upon them. What they gave up might be given up with cheerful hearts, and not with a sense of discouragement and degradation; it might be done in the spirit of loyalty, and with the fervour of religious zeal; but it is not at all the less true that the hard limits were there, and that great sacrifices of the best elements of the national character must follow. Of this time gave abundant proof."

In some few instances Mr. Ticknor's references to history may be noticed with less entire approbation. There is, for instance, something disappointing in his Introduction; not only as it is too abrupt, but because it strangely confounds the various races that had each contributed to people Spain, up to the time of the Moorish invasion,—Iberians, Romans, and Visigoths, being all mixed together in a kind of rhetorical jumble that betrays less discrimination than appears in other parts of the work. Mr. Ticknor also insists, in several places, with more emphasis than history will sanction, on "invincible loyalty" as characteristic of Spain, between the twelfth and sixteenth centuries;—than which nothing can be less true as regards the period between the reigns of Alonso the Eleventh and Henry the Fourth, whom his nobles deposed in 1465. Its contradiction, indeed, may be found in Mr. Ticknor's own account of the 'Seguro de Tordesillas.' But in general, especially on approaching more recent times, his historical sketches are just and appropriate, and are among the best portions of his essay.

To sum up briefly the merits of these volumes. They will be found more full, minute, and explicit than any that have preceded them in the description of all the literary productions of Spain from the date of the *Siete Partidas* down to the beginning of the nineteenth century. They point in the right direction to the light which the state of politics and manners must throw on the letters of the Peninsula. In the collection of biographical memoirs of its authors, they are extremely full and satisfactory—often curious, always interesting. They are enriched by some useful essays on those Romance dialects which preceded the Castilian in elegant culture; and on the influence which the Troubadours of Provence and Galicia—and, at a later period, the Italian poets—had in forming the literary character of Spain. Other sketches illustrating its national features are inserted in appropriate places. Of these we must especially commend the accounts of the Church mysteries and *autos*, and of the manner and condition of dramatic representations in Spain from their rude beginning down to the latest period, which contain the best practical history that we have seen of this most characteristic branch of her poetry. These volumes also contain copious descriptions of the contents of nearly all the more important and curious books: and abound in accurate bibliographic notices of original editions and of reprints native and foreign,—peculiarly precious to the student, from the scarcity of many of the former. As an index, in short, to the whole library of Castilian literature, the History is so full and specific that we do not think it likely to be ever superseded. Henceforth it will be a standard of reference on all the material

details of the subject; and we may congratulate Mr. Ticknor on having produced a manual of copious and exact information that would reflect credit on the learning of any country. He must be often praised also for the acuteness shown in discussing the various materials which he has collected with such exemplary care; and his comments on the prose authors, though somewhat cold and sententious, are generally sound, careful, and instructive. We have, lastly, to commend the arrangement of his treatise; and to remark that its value is greatly enhanced by a good index. The appendix, moreover, contains interesting essays on various special topics of language, bibliography, &c.; and some curious specimens of ancient poetry, now printed for the first time from MSS. lately discovered.

On the other hand, it must be said of this History, that, while the student may safely take Mr. Ticknor as a guide to every matter of fact concerning Castilian literature, the critical judgments of his book will require to be read with not a few qualifications. In all that belongs to poetry—the only department in which Spain is truly rich—his notices betray a want of sensibility to its proper beauties, and a certain prosaic method of weighing its qualities, which abate our pleasure in following him through this luxurious region. On first entering this field with him, amidst the early romances of Castile, we are discouraged to find little said of their express character beyond an often-repeated observation, that "they reflect the spirit of the people and the time." This is a quality common to all popular strains. We rather desire to know what was peculiar in their utterance in the Spanish songs:—what makes the breathing of the national spirit so different in these from the early ballads of other nations. We must remember, what Mr. Ticknor hardly seems to feel, that in rude times it is in the "voices of the people in their songs"—as Herder terms them—that this very spirit itself is most impressively audible; and it is chilling to be met with a phrase where we seek a real perception. The same disappointment is felt on arriving at higher periods of cultivation;—above all, when we reach the golden era of Spanish comedy. Here we find Mr. Ticknor rather anxiously occupied with attempts to classify the plays of Lope or Calderon under certain formal rubrics, than keenly alive to the essential spirit of romantic invention which pervades the whole species. He is too prone to measure this exuberant offspring of the warm genius of the South by standards of sedate common sense and probability, which can have no place in a world essentially fantastic, and obeying no laws but those of free poetic imagination. We are mortified to see him gravely stopping to point out departures from the unities; or rebuking anachronisms, false geography, breaches of historical truth, and other such licences,—on a stage the liberty of which these bare matters of fact never pretended to narrow. The drama in Spain must, indeed, be either condemned altogether—*à la Voltaire*,—as extravagant and "barbarous," or appreciated from a higher point of view than Mr. Ticknor's,—as an airy child of Fancy,—one of the fairest and freshest creations ever born of the glowing spirit of poetry in the heart of an impassioned and ingenious people.

A similar dryness of taste impairs his account of the Pastoral Romances; and still more, perhaps, his view of the Lyrics of the seventeenth century. The notices of their choice and various beauties are somewhat jejune and scanty; while it may be seen that here again the outward form\*

\* Yet it may be noted as singular, that one of the very few omissions in this essay, which may be called a positive defect in a professed 'History of Spanish Literature,' is the want of any precise notice of all the forms of lyrical com-

—the mere dress of syllables and strophes—is more present to the sense of the critic than the essential warmth and fragrance breathed from these blossoms of the very prime of Castilian genius. To some defect of poetic insight we must also ascribe his surprise at the poor growth of didactic verse in Spain,—which is rather to be viewed as a proof of the genuine temper of the soil that refused to nurture such a spurious plant, than as any sign of national sterility. And had he been duly mindful of the uncontrollable poetic instinct which there presided over the birth or adoption of all kinds of composition, to a degree unknown in any other country, he might, we think, have better explained the causes which prevented epics in the Italian manner from ever rising in Spain—in spite of all efforts to naturalize them—to the same height which productions more congenial to the climate spontaneously reached.

We are aware of the same saturnine vein in expressions of his opinion on other masterpieces of Spanish genius: whether insisting on the "superfluity" of finding anything in the 'Don Quixote' deeper than what the author himself modestly describes as the purpose of that marvellous book,—or stinting the measure of praise due to the 'Numancia,' because its harrowing scenes are neither regular nor "probable"—or condemning, without a sign of emotion for its burst of almost unrivalled pathos, a tragedy like the 'Nise' of Bermudez. On such important occasions the coolness of the commentator becomes a serious defect. We observe with surprise a resemblance in his decisions to the sterile processes of an obsolete school of "taste" which we thought had long been interred with the dust of Blair and Bossu:—and perceive indications of something like a total estrangement from the principles of a more genial criticism,—which show strangely in the present day in one of Mr. Ticknor's liberal training. On the whole, without calling other instances to prove that nature has not endowed him with an "open sense" for poetry, we must aver—with due regard to his other merits—that his opinions on whatever requires the sensitive appreciation of fancy, melody or original invention, whether in prose or verse, cannot be taken as fully reflecting the prismatic colours of Spanish genius. His critical dicta accordingly are much less valuable than his antiquarian or historical dissertations; and it may be said, that in the true portraiture of a highly poetic literature Mr. Ticknor is as much inferior to Bouterwek as the latter is to him in all that regards completeness and accurate detail in the material facts of its history.

What has now been said will explain a certain disproportion that may be noticed between the large account of the infancy of letters in Spain and the more summary description of the riches of her golden age. Of the latter, besides those already mentioned, the *Picaron* novels are too scantily described,—and in some cases, we think, strangely misjudged. In other departments, authors of the highest standing, like Herrera—or of the rarest felicity, like Borja y Esquillache—are occasionally dismissed with sentences more brief than appropriate. Mr. Ticknor, in short, is evidently most happy in practical researches:—there he is always trustworthy and instructive. When he turns from these to appraise the jewels of a poetic treasury, his estimates seldom express their entire value.

Of the translations which are frequently

position peculiar to Spain. Of the properties of the *glosa*, the *villancico*, the *seguitilla*, the *copla sin a con estribillo*, there is no explanation afforded by Mr. Ticknor; and as to the *letrilla*, he makes a curious mistake (vol. i. p. 136) in suggesting the notion that anything "epistolary" should be implied in this name,—the diminutive of *letra*, in the sense of device or motto, applied to a ditty with a recurrent burden.



scattered throughout these volumes, we do not like to speak,—for nothing can be said in their praise. They confirm our impression that “the gods have not made” Mr. Ticknor “poetical;” and could hardly, indeed, have been published by a writer thoroughly alive to the tone and spirit of the originals.

The style of a work of this class is not its most important quality. The extract which we have quoted will show that Mr. Ticknor, though a solid, is not a very concise or elegant writer. His manner, indeed, is more copious and elaborate than graceful; and his sentences are at times stiff, if not awkward, to a degree unusual in a well-trained student of the Belles Lettres. Of slighter defects—errata in accessory points of history, customs, or general literature—it would be ungracious to speak where there is so much to praise. The slips which we had noted, indeed, are but few in proportion to the mass of valuable and accurate information contained in these well-filled volumes. In fine, after every drawback has been allowed for, they will be found to deserve a cordial welcome from all who are studious of the history of elegant letters. Whatever they may want cannot be imputed to any omission of laudable endeavour or mature preparation; and what they must be praised for having is more than sufficient to give them a permanent value as the first complete manual, as we have said, of Castilian literature.

*The Angel World, and other Poems.* By Philip James Bailey. Pickering.

THE drama of ‘Festus,’ whatever were its defects of plan and excesses of detail, was the work of a Poet. Beneath its daring and often grotesque imagery there glowed a manly fervour—the inspiration of a truth which ever strove for utterance. In the writer’s eccentric colloquialisms, no less than in his ideal soarings, a sincere and ardent nature was apparent. The belief expounded—the infinite love of Heaven and the subordination of all suffering and evil to final good—was preached, if not with the authority of a prophet, at least with the zeal of a devotee. To use phrases which in spite of cant and usage still retain their significance, it was plain that the poet was “in earnest,” no “sham,”—a writer not indeed self-announced in strange dialects as the priest of a new dispensation, but to the full as sacerdotal in proclaiming Heaven’s mercy as if he had chosen for his gospel man’s serfdom and assumed the “beneficent whip” for his crosier.

Much interest therefore attaches to the publication of a second poem by this author. To what extent experience has disciplined the imagination and matured the theories of the poet is a question which many will be curious to solve. Our own answer is, that during the ten years’ interval which has elapsed since Mr. Bailey’s first poem, he has in many respects profited,—and in some we fear been a loser. The recklessness of his fancy has been curbed, though not thoroughly mastered. His sense of what is symmetrical and congruous in poetry has grown by culture. On the other hand, his style has become more artificial; its meaning being obscured by frequent parentheses, and its music being often marred by inversion and the elision of final syllables from his participles. A graver change, were it not accounted for by the nature of the subject, would be, the rarity of those fresh and artless glimpses of truth and feeling which in ‘Festus’ came upon us with the sweet surprise and fragrance of hedge flowers, and atoned for the rank and idle vegetation sometimes found in their neighbourhood.

The scope of Mr. Bailey’s present design induces us, as we have just hinted, to lay less stress on the absence of accustomed beauties

than on the presence of new ones. The scheme—which is a narrative symbolization of Christian doctrine as interpreted by the author—necessarily precludes all those vicissitudes of human experience which appeal most potently to the sympathies and passions. Religious discussions not falling within our province, we refrain from all comment on the articles of Mr. Bailey’s creed. The charm of his poem lies in its descriptive merit, and in the writer’s power of translating abstract conceptions into forms of ideal beauty and grandeur. The general effect is still occasionally marred by strange and extravagant images; but their occurrence is much rarer than in Mr. Bailey’s previous volume. It is to be regretted, also, that the symbolic character of the poem—which is virtually allegorical—should be so often sacrificed by the intrusion of didactic matter.

The opening scene will be best described by the following extract:—which also brings before us the chief agent in the narrative.—

It was a holy festival in Heaven,  
A joy of satisfaction at the close  
Of some divinest epoch of the world.

Far round the infinite extremes of space  
Star unto star spake gladness, as they sped  
On their resplendent courses; and a smile,  
Enkindling on the countenances of the suns,  
Thrilled to the heart of nature, while there rose,  
Expressive of divine felicity,  
A clear bright strain of music, like a braid  
Of silver round a maiden’s raiment, all  
Imbuing and adorning.

There, in one  
Of those most pure and happy stars which claim  
Identity with Heaven, high raised in bliss,  
Each lofty spirit luminous with delight,  
Sat God’s selectest angels, gathered round  
The golden board of that palatial orb,  
In spherical order. All the fruitage there  
Of the immortal Eden, and the land  
Of everlasting Light to please the sense  
And satisfy the soul, the Tree of Life  
In all its bright varieties could yield  
Was lavished; and its fragrance filled the skies.  
The bright blue wine as though exscent from Heaven  
Glittering with life went, moonlike, round and round  
Times sacredly repeated ‘mong the gods  
And spirits who had each one earned his star  
In that divinest conclave, as they held  
Deep commune on the wondrous end imposed  
By the Eternal Saviour of the world  
Upon his infinite work; and all the harps—  
Intwined about with nectar-dropping flowers  
Which wither not though culled, but on the brow  
Or in the bosom bloom as in their fields—  
Were trembling into silence, when there stepped,  
Unseen before, into the joyous midst  
Of that bright throng, surprised in holy ease,  
A young and shining angel.

In his air  
Sat kingly sweetness, kind and calm command,  
Yet with long suffering blended; for the soil  
Of dust was on his garb and sandalled sole;  
Dust on the locks of fertile gold which flowed  
From his fair forehead rippling round his neck;  
Bedropt, defiled, with cold and cave-like dew.  
One hand a staff of virent emerald held  
As ‘twere a sapling of the tree of life,  
And one smoothened in his breast a radiant dove  
Fluttering its wings in lightnings thousand-hued,  
The sole companion of his pilgrimage.  
Silent he stood and gazed.

The portrait of the “shining Angel” is drawn with grace and dignity. We gather from what follows that the delineation of an august Personality is here intended; and cannot but think that the author would have done better in point of taste had he rather chosen to embody the abstract principle of spiritual love.—The Angel relates to the starry denizens that he is himself the creator and ruler of a distant planet, and that he was there betrothed to one of two sister-spirits. By the former of these—the Angel’s betrothed—a type of Human Nature is intended. The latter may be regarded as a personification of Humility and Faith. The language which introduces these characters is amongst the finest in the volume; and the lines which we have italicized are of enchanting beauty.—

Among that heavenly race  
There dwelt two angel-sisters, nymphs divine,  
The daughters of the Lord of gods and men,

Star-dowered, light-portioned, forms full realized  
Of the Eternal Beauty.

Yet how unlike  
Their nature and their loveliness: in one  
A soul of lofty clearness, like a night  
Of stars, wherein the memory of the day  
Seems trembling through the meditative air—  
In whose proud eye, one fixed and aridlike thought  
Held only sway; that thought a mystery;—  
In one, a golden aspect like the dawn—  
Beaming perennial in the Heavenly east—  
Of paly light; she ever brightening looked  
As with the boundless promise unfulfilled  
Of some supreme perfection; in her heart  
That promise aye predestinate, alway sure,  
Her breast with joy suffusing, and so wrought,  
Her sigh seemed happier than her sister’s smile:  
Yet patient she and humble.

In the progress of the narrative we learn that the planet has been invaded by a host of tempting spirits, who excite the ambition and self-will of its inhabitants—foremost among them the beloved of the Angel—and seduce them from their allegiance. The beautiful Rebel, who has usurped the throne of her lord, is depicted with brilliancy and force.—

Within the central square  
Fronting the glittering palace stood the throne—  
Which changed so much the aspect of that orb,  
And which I told of first—whereon each day  
She, ministering blind justice, sat, absorbed  
In love of her own empery; rapt to hear  
The adulation of her foreign train;  
To trifle with her sceptre as a toy,  
And count the rainbow flashes, startling bright,  
Of the star-gemmed tiara; to her eyes  
Jewels well worth the satrapies of Heaven;—  
Rich in all fancied virtues to attract  
Good, or from evil fend; the which some gems  
She oft would deftly moralize, and prove  
To the subservient glozers ranged around,  
How well they did become her, how much stead,  
The breast, the brow whereon they dazzling lay;  
Now gleaming forth defiant, now reposed  
In silent capabilities of light.

By gradual lapses the entire realm falls under the dominion of the Tempters and their Demon-Monarch. The nature and advent of the latter are recorded in a series of wild and startling metaphors.—

There rushed,  
Out of a cave, with toppling crags o’erhung,  
A huge monster, such as never Night  
With murderer’s mind engendered, when his heart  
Lay panting underneath the conscience pang—  
Like fawn beneath a wolf’s jaw. Dragonlike  
In lengthening volumes stretched his further part,  
Incalculably curled; but in the front,  
On one wide neck a hundred heads he reared,  
Which spake with every mouth a hundred tongues,  
Through teeth of serried daggers black with blood.  
The breath he drew in day he breathed out night.  
And he descended to the sea to drink,  
Though close by his cave a cool better river ran;  
For it was thirst the monster better loved  
Than aught that thirst could quench. The abhorrent sea  
Shrank backwards, tide by tide; but he pursued,  
Triumphing in its fascinating fear,  
Into the very midst;—then gorged, returned,  
Soul-sodden to the shore, where prone he lay  
Before his horrid hold; with stormy joy  
Gnashing his steely teeth, and with his tail,  
Now close contorted, and now far out-launched,  
Sweeping the shiny slime of the wide sea sands.

There is no doubt of the power, and even grandeur, evinced in this conception; and though it is open to the charge of extravagance, it is fair to admit that Mr. Bailey is professedly dealing with the monstrous. Still, the painter of gigantic figures should prefer for his model a Titan to a Cyclops. The present delineation combines, but scarcely blends, the attributes of both:—the majesty of the heaven-defying rebel with the grotesqueness of the one-eyed ogre.

The Angel proceeds to describe the subsequent desolation of the planet and his victorious encounter with the demon. But the former still lies under the divine ban; and the Angel’s mission is heavenward, to seek the redemption of his world and his betrothed. Several spirits of the star at which he has tarried resolve to be the companions of his journey. Our last extract chronicles their departure and their travel. The river of Death flowing through the vestiges of worlds, and the instantaneous change of its dark waters into those of immortality by the influence of Faith and Love, are sublime conceptions. Full, too, of suggestive poetry is the transit of the spirits past the “golden isles



of memory," leaving behind them in their progress to the infinite future the cherished pangs of mortal retrospect.—

At length the last embrace, last look, exchanged,  
High upward the bright bevy, like to light  
Out of the crowned north,—shot; on and on,  
Through firmamental fields of furthest space,  
Till at the brink of a vast river they  
Arriving, halted, which pervaded Heaven;—  
Swift as a cataract, yet unbroken, still  
And level as the mean line of the sea.  
Thick with chaotic matter and unformed—  
Like the volcanic blood which bounds unseen  
In veins of lightning through earth's cavernous heart—  
Mid ruined orbs, like broken ice-lumps, rolled,  
Melting and crumbling, to the ocean deeps  
Of vast eternity, it gushed along.  
Its depths were darkness self; but every wave,  
Which curled out of the mass, seemed light alive,  
Though but an instant.

On an eminent height,  
Which overpeered the stream, the angels sate.  
Then said the angel leader to the rest,  
What see ye past the river? And they said,  
We nothing see beyond. Athwart this stream,  
If stream it be—and not a shoreless main—  
Is more than we can ken.

But I, returned  
The questioner, see beyond the clear bright land  
Of Heavenly immortality, mine own  
By birthright and by gift; and thither, we.

Descending to the shore, he stooped, and dipped  
Into the stream his hand; which filling full,  
He tasted and thus spake. Ye waters—once  
Of death, but now of life eternal—take  
Back the libation I have made of ye;  
And be ye changed for ever. Uttering this,  
He cast the dark remainder in the flood,  
That instant changed into a flood of life,  
Flashing with light celestial to its depths  
Of bottomless infinitude;—and straight,  
Grasping the bright branch of an olive tree,  
Which bowered with verdant gold the peaceful shore,  
He therewith sprinkled, one by one, the band  
Who him accompanied; with these pure rites  
Making them free, initiate into Heaven,  
And death the lesser mysteries of life.

The solemn marvel of these gladsome deeds,  
Each heart lit up with self-evolving joy.  
And round him all stood linked in one embrace.

Behold, he said; for fit it is that now  
We keep our course; and close below there lay,  
Moored but a little distance from the side,  
A crescent-boat, translucent as a star,  
Wherein they all embarked, in godly dread.

If lightning were the gross corporeal frame  
Of some angelic essence, whose bright thoughts  
As far surpassed in keen rapidity  
The lagging action of his limbs as doth  
Man's mind his clay; with like excess of speed  
To animated thought of lightning, flew  
That moon-horned vessel o'er life's deeps divine;—  
Far past the golden isles of memory  
Where only names exist and things are not;  
Mingled wherewith a cloudy counterpart  
Mocks every islet, and therein are lost  
Those upon whom the bright seductive sea  
Smiles, wreckful; and sincerest smoothness feigns.

They went, they knew not how. It was as though  
The finite, mingling with the infinite,  
Produced an utter ravishment and sense  
Of o'erabundant reason. At the last,  
Heaven's azure shores they made, and leapt on land.

The prayer of the Angel is of course conceded; his beloved and his world are restored to their pristine worth and beauty;—the very sin and misery through which they have passed becoming the pledges of their enduring purity and joy. To represent pain as the mere foil of final happiness, and to prove the impotence of human guilt to quench Divine mercy—seem the chief ends which the author has proposed to himself in his allegory.

The minor poems, excepting three or four of a devotional character, are mere rhymes of pastime, and totally unworthy of the author's genius. The tone of Mr. Bailey's mind is too intense to allow of graceful coquetry with the Muses. The poet of taste and sentiment may find in the valleys that skirt Parnassus a region of holiday pleasaunce; but to those who dwell nearer to the summit, the mountain (which the old Mythology describes as barren in itself) can charm only by an austerer spell. With them, the peak on which rested the fabled bark of Deucalion is ever an altar of sacrifice. The glory which invests it is not the verdure of earth, but the lightning which descends on the oblation. Exalted and impassioned,

the genius of Mr. Bailey has little in common with that quiet daylight of imagination which may be called the reason of the sympathies. It does not directly solve any problem of the heart, nor gently conduct the spirit through the casualties of life to ultimate faith and patience. It is, on the contrary, a light alternating with the obscurity through which it flashes,—but at times affording more vivid glimpses into the sublime than are vouchsafed to a serener illumination.

#### *Woman in France during the Eighteenth Century.*

By Julia Kavanagh. With Portraits. 2 vols. Smith, Elder & Co.

ELEGANTLY illustrated with a series of line engravings, this work has claims upon the boudoir-table in right of its guise and garniture. But its letter-press is superior to the general staple of what may be called *petit-maitre* books. The purity of mind and taste which we have observed and admired in former essays by Miss Kavanagh, are in some measure obstacles to her picturing the women of France in all their cameleon brilliancy. To write *con gusto* of the De Maillys and the Parabères demands attributes which the authoress of 'Madeleine' does not possess. The task claims that power of "raking" dramatically, which, in despite of the satirist's well-known line, every English woman does not possess. Not merely should the chronicler appreciate wit: she should also command the power of writing about it wittily. The description of the *petit souper* should be thrown off with a *souppon* of the humour of one who herself has "heard the chimes at midnight,"—who herself could have bandied heartless pleasantries with a Du Deffand, or looked on—analytically rather than sympathetically—while the heart of a Lespinasse broke in public. But, if certain pages and portions of this record fall short of the requisite vivacity—we must commend Miss Kavanagh for care, discretion, and a sufficient range of liberality in her general view of the changes which passed over Parisian society between "the decline and fall" of Madame de Maintenon and "the rise and progress" of Madame Tallien. Whereas our authoress often contents herself with generalities while describing the *Cynthias* who successively cooked, dressed, danced and hectorated their way from private houses into royal chambers, and whose frivolities, intrigues and extravagances, contributed to draw out (as it were) its life-blood from the monarchy of France—she proves herself adroit in sketching, and solid in judging character when the character includes any element of worth or of truthfulness. We must look elsewhere for the Du Barris—but we are contented with the De Staals, the Geoffrins, and the other more respectable retailers of *esprit* as by her catalogued and criticized: while in treating other subjects of her gallery—as for instance, those widely different personages, Mdle. Aisé and Madame Roland—Miss Kavanagh puts forth a pathetic power which gives depth and repose to a book that in other hands might have become wearying from its unmitigated sparkle.

The critic dealing with such an encyclopædia of coquetry, amours, vicissitudes, sufferings and repentances as the history of 'Woman in France' must necessarily be, is fain to content himself with offering merely a general character like the above. Such is the fascination of the subject—such is its fulness of matter—such is its affluence of suggestion—that every page tempts him to stop for a gossip or for speculation on modes and morals. As might have been said of Dr. Cooke Taylor's 'Memoirs of the House of Orleans' [*Athen.* No. 1139], here is a book to be interleaved. The fashion of our notice of

that work may be judiciously followed in extracting from the one under commendation. We will try to reduce within small compass the gifts and graces of one individual, in place of strewing our columns with fragments of what may be fancifully and emphatically called "stray Lilies and Roses." In our notice of Dr. Taylor's book we dealt with Madame de Tencin. Here is the gentlewoman who succeeded to her "connexion."—

"One of the few women whom Madame de Tencin admitted to her réunions towards the close of her life, was a quiet, middle-aged bourgeoisie, unassuming alike in dress and manner, and named Madame Geoffrin. 'She comes here to see what she can secure out of my inheritance,' Madame de Tencin often observed, with a smile, to her friends. Madame Geoffrin's object was, indeed, to become personally acquainted with the eminent men who met at the house of the ex-nun, in order, whenever her demise should occur, to gather them around herself. Madame de Tencin was neither annoyed nor disturbed by the knowledge of her visitor's intentions: she received her well, and even gave her some professional advice. The following maxim is characteristic of the donor: 'Be complaisant to every man you know: though nine out of ten should not care a whit for you, the tenth may live to prove a useful friend.' \* \* On the death of Madame de Tencin, the Bourgeoise effected the long-cherished project of succeeding to her power. She greatly enlarged the circle of her predecessor, and may be said to have founded a new society, which rivalled that of Madame du Deffand; between whom and Madame Geoffrin there accordingly sprang up an open and lasting feeling of enmity. It was the thirst of worldly distinction, which then possessed the members of every class of society, that induced Madame Geoffrin to open a bureau d'esprit. She knew that she had no brilliant talents by which she could shine herself, and therefore wished to be considered the friend and patroness of eminent men. Her love of empire, moreover, made her desire to rule quietly over an admired literary court. She was neither extremely witty, nor even educated, since she did not know how to spell; but literature and philosophy were then all the rage; Madame Geoffrin complied with the prevailing tone, and opened her house to the philosophic tribe. Notwithstanding the deficiencies of her education, she was well fitted for her self-appointed task: her excellent sense, benevolence, and deep knowledge of the world, adapted her admirably to lead and conciliate the vain and irritable sect she had undertaken to patronize. Her tact and kindness soon rendered her house one of the rendezvous of the Parisian world. Her power, in time, even became so high that all the German courts, who had any pretensions to philosophy, duly paid correspondents to inform them of the subjects discussed by her circle. One of the first acts of Catherine II., on ascending the Imperial throne of Russia, was to send a salaried commissioner to the court of Madame Geoffrin; who, by her consummate tact, had succeeded in rendering it the European school of bon ton. \* \* Though she was not versed either in literature or in art, she drew around her authors and artists, and by listening à propos, and never speaking on what she did not understand, succeeded in presiding with infinite grace and judgment over their meetings. Madame Geoffrin was not, however, a mere silent listener: she had learned, in the intercourse of persons of high rank, whom she adroitly induced to visit her, that peculiar phraseology, exquisitely polished even in its incorrectness, known as the 'style de grand seigneur.' No one surpassed her in the art of story-telling: her language was clear, concise, and displayed the mingled sense and shrewdness of her mind. The ideas of Madame Geoffrin never soared, however, above her station: she was as essentially a modest and sensible bourgeoisie, as Madame du Deffand was a brilliant and epicurean woman of the world. The plainness of her person, and the elegant simplicity of her attire; the manner in which she provided her house with all the luxurious comforts of wealth, free from its ostentatious éclat; and her own timidity, good sense, and mingled thrift and benevolence, were alike characteristic of the middle classes of life to which she belonged. Her wit was, like everything about her,



quiet and unpretending; it never stepped beyond a certain circle: she often gave to the most ingenious ideas a homely and even common-place form. Her repartees are generally too idiomatic to bear translation. A person was once speaking in her presence of the Abbé Trublet, a man of little talent, but who, by living in the intercourse of Fontenelle and other talented men, had acquired a certain degree of tact and cleverness. 'Ah!' said Madame Geoffrin, with her usual bonhomie; 'c'est un sot frotté d'esprit'—a fool rubbed over with wit, may give some idea of her meaning. This bon mot had immense success, the poor abbé being very much disliked. There was still more severity in her observation concerning Richelieu and Voisenon, the most corrupt men of the age. 'These two men are, after all, only the peelings (épluchures) of great vices.' But her most celebrated remark, and that which shows best the kindness and worldly knowledge by which she was so much distinguished, is that which she addressed to her friend Rulhière. He had written a work containing disclosures on the court of Russia, and from the publication of which he expected to derive considerable gains. Madame Geoffrin, thinking, on the contrary, that this work might bring him into trouble, offered him a large sum to suppress it. Rulhière's reply was an eloquent declamation against the meanness of accepting money in order to conceal the truth. Madame Geoffrin heard him to the end, she then quietly said, 'How much more will you have, Rulhière?' When this anecdote was related by Rulhière himself to the Prince of Schomberg, the latter, forgetting in the presence of whom he was speaking, enthusiastically exclaimed, 'Ah! c'est sublime!'

Madame Geoffrin would hardly, however, have maintained her empire in a world so corrupt as that of Paris, had there not been a proportion of "sack" mixed up with the "bread" in her character:—a spice of imperfection, selfishness and calculation which reduced her from the level of the preaching pattern-woman to that of other traders in *esprit*. These must mutually watch, and be watched—talk, and be talked of—else would their commerce slacken and the proprietors thereof sink into oblivion.—

"Although she thus set very firm bounds to the intellectual freedom which was the very spirit of philosophy, Madame Geoffrin was tenderly loved by her friends. Few could resist the charm of her abrupt but inexhaustible kindness of heart, and those who could have withstood this attraction found her dinners and evening parties too admirably organized to be given up for want of a little complaisance on their part. Madame Geoffrin was, however, thought to carry her empire sometimes too far. Not satisfied with checking the expression of opinion, she wished to interfere in the private affairs of her friends: always, it is true, with the object of rendering them some service, whether in the shape of advice or of pecuniary assistance. She was proud—and with reason—of her consummate knowledge of the world; and as nothing flattered more her good-natured vanity than to be appealed to in delicate matters, so she was not a little mortified when her counsels were either rejected or despised. One of her fundamental maxims was, that poor literary men were bound to remain single. If, in spite of her advice, some needy author thought fit to marry, she was extremely angry with him; but invariably ended by relenting, visiting his wife, spoiling the children, if there were any, and doing everything in her power to lighten the burden of an increasing family. But, though Madame Geoffrin was an active and disinterested friend, she was not capable of experiencing the heroic and devoted feelings which can raise friendship to the height of a passion. Her friendship was, like her benevolence, without the tenderness which gives those feelings their greatest charm. She was as impatient to oblige her friends as to assist persons in distress; but she did not like to be pained by the sight of the sufferings she relieved: she dreaded emotion under every aspect: to pass quietly through life; to be both useful and respected; and, if possible, never to be annoyed or deranged, was her great object. There was, in all her generosity, a sort of latent selfishness, which rendered it, perhaps, more human, but not the less worthy of respect for this. The greatest blemish in

her character was moral timidity: she would do much for a friend, but she could not compromise herself on his account. She never liked to praise her friends to strangers: she averred that it only excited envy. She likewise made it a rule not to defend them if they were attacked in her presence; for this, she said, only irritated their enemies still further. The same cautiousness marked her own conduct. Notwithstanding her philosophic connexions, Madame Geoffrin was devout; but this she concealed with as much care as another woman would have taken to hide her love intrigues. She attended mass privately, had an apartment in a convent, and a pew in the church of the Capucins; but all this was conducted with profound mystery, and studiously concealed from her friends. \* \* The wealth of Madame Geoffrin allowed her to indulge in her benevolence—and she seems to have been munificent in a singular degree—as well as in the hospitality she gave to literature, without any detriment to her fortune. Her husband, a quiet and not very clever man, allowed his wife to indulge in her tastes to the fullest extent, and contented himself with superintending the costly entertainments she gave to her guests; by many of whom he was only known as 'that old gentleman who sat in a corner saying nothing.'

"The society which gathered around Madame Geoffrin was composed partly of the disciples of Voltaire, and partly of those of Rousseau; though she tolerated the friends of the Genevese, she had a very ill opinion of his character, the violent and declamatory tone of which was not indeed likely to please her sober judgment. We have already said that Madame Geoffrin did not allow great freedom of discussion; but she only moderated the imprudence of her friends: she did not seek to guide them, for the reason that she had few opinions of her own on the subjects they discussed. Thus, notwithstanding her prudence and cautiousness, the society which met at her house was distinguished for the individual independence of its members. Madame Geoffrin gave two dinners a week; one destined to artists, and the other to men of letters. D'Alembert and Mademoiselle de Lespinasse were present at the latter of those dinners. D'Alembert, released from his severe though beloved studies, displayed that frank, boyish mirth which had formerly amused Madame du Deffand. Mademoiselle de Lespinasse, more grave than her friend, and, latterly, rather sad and weary-looking, occasionally broke forth from her habitual silence, to speak briefly, and yet eloquently, on the subject discussed by the other guests. Mari-vaux—who saw a finesse in all that was said or done, and who tortured his subtle but unimaginative mind, in order to give an ingenious turn to everything he uttered—was also there. The cold and reserved Thomas, whose fame has suffered from the proud indifference he felt for the women of his time; the declamatory Raynal; Mairan, the learned antagonist of Madame du Chatelet; her lover, Saint-Lambert; the keen, satirical Galiani; and many now forgotten, but who had then their day, were also among the guests of Madame Geoffrin. She presided at these dinners with her usual tact, directing conversation by occasional interjections—an art in which she excelled—or exercising her talent of story-telling for the amusement of her guests. Besides the distinction which the friendship of men of talent naturally conferred upon her, the gentle Madame Geoffrin did not fail in worldly honours. Stanislaus Poniatowski, whilst he was still a Polish noble, visited her house, and was a great favourite with her, always calling her by the endearing name of 'mother.' His extravagance having made him run into debt, he was imprisoned in Fort l'Évêque. Madame Geoffrin, on hearing of his mishap, immediately satisfied the demands of his creditors. The sovereign did not forget the debt of kindness incurred by the obscure noble; and when Stanislaus had been raised to the throne of Poland, one of his first acts was to write to Madame Geoffrin, 'Mama, your son is king.' He invited her, in the same letter, to come and visit him in Warsaw. Notwithstanding her advanced age, Madame Geoffrin complied with his request. Her journey through Germany was a complete triumph; she was especially received with distinguished honours by the Empress Maria Theresa, who was then concluding her alliance with France, and did not neglect this opportunity of showing the esteem in which she held the nation over which her daughter was to reign. On her arrival in

the king's palace, at Warsaw, Madame Geoffrin was inexpressibly touched to find herself introduced into an apartment absolutely similar to that which she occupied in Paris. The attentions of her adopted son, during her sojourn with him, were marked by the same delicacy and gallantry. On her return through Vienna, she again saw Maria Theresa, who presented her daughters to her. Marie Antoinette, when Queen of France, recollected this interview, and on meeting Madame Geoffrin, at a subsequent epoch, reminded her of it in flattering terms. Such was the importance in which the quiet Madame Geoffrin was then held, that the least details of her journey to Poland, and the letters which she wrote home to her friends, occupied all the polite world of Paris during the time of her absence. She even acquired a sort of political power, or rather influence, through the friendship of Prince Kaunitz, one of the distinguished foreigners who visited her house. Owing to her intervention, he softened the difficulties which awaited Cardinal Rohan's embassy at the Court of Vienna. Nothing had been wanting to gratify the ambition of the kindhearted and amiable Bourgeoise when the increasing infirmities of old age told her of her approaching end. She understood the warning, and submitted to her fate, with calm and unaffected resignation. The latter days of her life were, however, embittered by the quarrels of her philosophic friends with her daughter, Madame de la Ferté-Imbault; who had always manifested the greatest antipathy for the whole tribe of authors who visited her mother's house, and many of whom were, she knew, wholly dependent upon her bounty. This lady refused, during the last illness of her mother, to admit D'Alembert, Morellet, and Marmontel into her presence; alleging that they would, according to the custom of ultra-philosophers in such cases, have endeavoured to prevent Madame Geoffrin from fulfilling her religious duties. Without contradicting this imputation, the philosophers complained very bitterly of Madame de la Ferté-Imbault's conduct, and were so unrestrained in their language that, when Madame Geoffrin partly recovered, she found herself compelled, by the éclat they had made, to cease seeing either her daughter or her three friends. She naturally decided the case in favour of Madame de la Ferté-Imbault, and, without wholly approving her conduct—which had been as deficient in tact and wisdom as that of the philosophers was in delicacy—she observed, with a smile, 'that she had acted like Godefroy de Bouillon, by defending her tomb against the infidels.' With the exception of D'Alembert, Morellet, and Marmontel, she saw all her friends as usual, until a relapse of her complaint carried her off, in the autumn of 1777; she was then in the seventy-eighth year of her age."

There may be nothing new in the above: but which among us will ever be tired of reading about the Women of France? especially when they are marshalled so agreeably and discreetly as in the pages before us. What materials for a third volume already exist! This will include the Guizots and Gays and Girardins who have turned their *esprit* and fancy and philosophy into the career of literary labour—and Madame Récamier, the Lady of many dynasties, and many humours, and "many head-tires,"—not to speak of the *George Sands* and *Daniel Sterns* who conceive themselves priestesses of opinions wider and wilder than the most reckless *philosophe* cherished by a Du Chatelet or an Épinay ever dreamed of!

*Latter-Day Pamphlets.*—No. 2. *Model Prisons.* By Thomas Carlyle. Chapman & Hall.

It is almost impossible to treat these Pamphlets of Mr. Carlyle's with any degree of seriousness. *Latter-Day pamphlets* they are not:—but pamphlets in which all the moral wisdom that has slowly been gaining ground in the world, and is anxiously seeking in our day for the best methods of formulation, is expressly renounced,—and a return is preached to the one single argument of brute force, which is the law of the earliest stages of civilization. The question how far Mr. Carlyle can really be serious himself in the



propositions which he maintains will be differently resolved according to the faith which the several questioners have hitherto had in him. To the friends of his school we must believe that the extravagance of his present teachings will in any case give great pain:—to ourselves, these *escapades*, distressing as they are to read, yield a certain satisfaction. We cannot but think that they are eminently calculated to break his own unwholesome spell,—to disenchant the disciples of a vicious school. They who—lured by a trick of style which appeared to them like the language of prophecy, while to others it seemed that of conjuring—followed willingly his argument in exaltation of the lowest form of power—that of physical restraint—so long as it took a hero like Cromwell for its exemplar, will have been startled to find themselves summoned, by corollary, as defenders of the overseer's whip and the hangman's cord, in further illustration of the same bad argument. It is probable that Mr. Carlyle himself was far from contemplating at the outset the issues to which his eccentricity would lead him. But the public curiosity was dying out—his school was, we fancy, falling away,—it was necessary that some strong stimulant should be administered to arrest the reaction from previous stimulants—and in the hurry of the case Mr. Carlyle has exhibited a larger dose, we hope, than the digestion of his disciples can master. As the case now stands, we are not without a reasonable expectation that his school will dissolve of itself, and the scholars who have clung to it so far, seek sounder teaching.

A few words will state the particular argument of Mr. Carlyle's present Pamphlet:—which will, we think, unite against it all classes of thinkers. With a blindness which is so remarkable that it inevitably raises the inference of insincerity, he preaches in the very name of Christianity the most anti-Christian doctrine. His proposal is for a revival of the law of Draco. Model prisons and schools for the criminal are to him an abomination. "Pity for the scoundrel-species" raises his bile, and occasions him to call very bad names. His soul yearns after the condemned tread-wheel, and he has great faith in the management of prisoners by half starvation. He will have no moral hospitals—no attempts at redeeming the sinner. The "woman taken in adultery" he would "stone to death." Of all the varieties of suffering and temptation which give their shading to crime, and form grounds for the work of reformation, he takes no account. Whoever has fallen, is to be branded at once for the hatred of men—not lured back by a law of love. The criminal *cannot* be cured.—"There exists not in this earth whitewash that can make the scoundrel a friend of this universe. He remains an enemy if you spend your life in whitewashing him." The diseased members of the body politic are to be at once flung away. Sin is a moral plague which should be treated according to the old law of ignorance that destroyed the wretch whom the physical plague had stricken. Crime is crime, and to be at once cut off:—after a little preliminary torture, "a collar round the neck and a cartwhip flourished over the back." Criminals are to be "swept with some rapidity into the dust-bin, out of one's road"—"swept into the cesspool, tumbled over London Bridge in a very brief manner." To attempt the reclamation of the criminal is "sowing of your wheat upon Irish quagmires,—laboriously harrowing it in upon the sand of the sea-shore." They who think otherwise—or indeed think anything else than Mr. Carlyle thinks, or says he thinks—are "Solemn human Shams, Phantasm Captains, Supreme Quacks," and other unwholesome things. Howard was, after all, according to

Mr. Carlyle, a sort of humbug—and "a dull and even dreary" one. The Christian religion, Mr. Carlyle says, "prescribes a healthy hatred of scoundrels." If it prescribes anything milder, he abjures it. The policy of the law of punishment is *not* example to others, or security to the community, or reformation of the criminal,—but "revenge."—"Revenge," my friends, revenge, and the natural hatred of scoundrels, and the ineradicable tendency to *revancher* oneself upon them, and pay them what they have merited: this is for evermore intrinsically a correct and even a divine feeling in the mind of any man."

"And so you take criminal caitiffs, murderers and the like, and hang them on gibbets 'for an example to deter others.' Whereupon arise friends of humanity, and object. With very great reason, as I consider, if *your* hypothesis be correct. What right have you to hang any poor creature 'for an example?' He can turn round upon you and say, 'Why make an "example" of me, a merely ill-situated, pitiable man? Have you no more respect for misfortune? Misfortune, I have been told, is sacred. And yet you hang me, now I am fallen into your hands; choke the life out of me, for an example! Again I ask, Why make an example of *me*, for your own convenience alone?'—All 'revenge' being out of the question, it seems to me the caitiff is unanswerable; and he and the philanthropic platforms have the logic all on their side. The one answer to him is: 'Caitiff, you hate thee; and discern for some six thousand years now, that we are called upon by the whole universe to do it. Not with a diabolic, but with a divine hatred. God himself, we have always understood, "hates sin," with a most authentic, celestial and eternal hatred. A hatred, a hostility inexorable, unappeasable, which bated the scoundrel, and all scoundrels ultimately, into black annihilation and disappearance from the sum of things. The path of it is as the path of a flaming sword: he that has eyes may see it, walking inexorable, divinely beautiful and divinely terrible, through the chaotic gulf of human history, and everywhere burning, as with unquenchable fire, the false and death-worthy from the true and life-worthy; making all human history, and the biography of every man, a God's Cosmos, in place of a Devil's Chaos. So is it, in the end; even so to every man who is a man, and not a mutinous beast, and has eyes to see. To thee, caitiff, these things were and are quite incredible; to us they are too awfully certain,—the eternal law of this universe, whether thou and others will believe it or disbelieve. We, not to be partakers in thy destructive adventure of *defying* God and all the universe, dare not allow thee to continue longer among us. As a palpable deserter from the ranks where all men, at their eternal peril, are bound to be: palpable deserter, taken with the red hand, fighting thus against the whole universe and its laws, we,—send thee back into the whole universe, solemnly expel thee from our community; and will, in the name of God, not with joy and exultation, but with sorrow stern as thy own, hang thee on Wednesday next, and so end."

Mr. Carlyle warms and kindles as he propounds his theme. His wild and rabid logic, after its first taste of blood, will feed on nothing less savoury. In his penal calenture he goes in search of more hideous methods.—

"The Ancient Germans, it appears, had no scruple about public executions; on the contrary, they thought the just gods themselves might fitly preside over these; that these were a solemn and highest act of worship, if justly done. When a German man had done a crime deserving death, they, in solemn general assembly of the tribe, doomed him, and considered that fate and all nature had from the beginning doomed him to die with ignominy. Certain crimes there were of a supreme nature; him that had perpetrated one of these they believed to have declared himself a prince of scoundrels. Him, once convicted, they laid hold of, nothing doubting,—bore him, after judgment, to the deepest convenient peatbog; plunged him in there, drove an oaken frame down over him, solemnly in the name of gods and men: 'There, prince of scoundrels, that is what we have had to think of thee, on clear acquaintance;

our grim good-night to thee is that! In the name of all the gods lie there, and be our partnership with thee dissolved henceforth. It will be better for us, we imagine!"

Having buried him alive in a peat-bog, Mr. Carlyle's "vengeance," if we mistake not its expression, would follow the criminal *beyond* the grave. We will run no risks,—so quote his own words, that our readers may interpret for themselves.—

"The one method clearly is, that, after fair trial, you dissolve partnership with him; *send him, in the name of Heaven, whither he is striving all this while, and have done with him.*"

Surely all this is little better than raving: yet of materials like this—seasoned with abuse (in terms of slang) against all who dissent, and with certain verbal conjurations that have lost even their mystical and phylacteric character by too frequent repetition—is this 'Latter-Day Pamphlet' composed. The sole grounds laid for so terrible a penal argument are certain collateral inconveniences and inconsistencies which attend the application of the milder code:—these being precisely the unsolved parts of the social problem which good men lament as drawbacks from what has yet been done, and for which wise men are now in search of the remedy. Mr. Carlyle's statement of these inconsistencies wins a ready assent,—and gives an occasional air of truth to his page which may help to blind some of his disciples to the dangerous and inhuman character of the whole. With a book which argues from the smallest part of the premises to a conclusion which the large remainder contradict, we are—as we said of Mr. Carlyle's former Pamphlet of this series—almost ashamed to deal at all.

#### *A Practical Treatise on the Use of the Microscope.* By John Quekett. Baillière.

AMONGST modern inventions, few have been improved with more rapid steps than the microscope: so that, though we have many good descriptions of microscopes and their uses in various books, the present work will be of great assistance to all who are engaged in working this instrument on account of its bringing up the improvements that have taken place to the present day. They who are anxious to have an account of the stages through which the microscope has passed, will find ample materials in Mr. Quekett's volume. He has omitted to describe scarcely any alteration of importance that has occurred during its advance to its present state of perfection.

It does not appear that any important observations were made with this instrument previous to the time of our countryman Hooke; although the ancients were perfectly aware of the magnifying power of refracting media,—and globes of water were used, as they are at the present day, as toys to amuse children, long before the time of Hooke. In looking at the 'Micrographia' of this last observer, we feel astonished at the accuracy with which he delineated many natural objects; and our astonishment is much increased when we know the kind of instrument which he used. This was a rude compound microscope, the very principle of which was abandoned by subsequent observers on account of its imperfections, and which only by recent improvements has been made available for observation. Yet with such instrumental deficiency, Hooke's drawing may be consulted with advantage by the possessor of one of Powell's, Ross's, or Smith's achromatic compound microscopes. So true is it that the head which looks through the instrument is of more importance than the instrument itself.—We are forcibly reminded of this truth in the instance of one of the greatest microscopic observers of the present day—Ehrenberg; who



made all the observations contained in his grand work on the infusory animalcules with an instrument exceedingly defective in magnifying power and mechanical arrangements compared with those in use at the present day.

Next to Hooke, microscopic observation is indebted to Leuwenhoek:—and he too worked with very imperfect instruments compared with those now used. He employed simple lenses. The results of most of his observations were communicated to the Royal Society of London, and published in the 'Philosophical Transactions.' He was the first to describe the animal forms invisible to the naked eye which have since been so fully investigated by Ehrenberg. He followed up many of the observations of Hooke; and in the writings of these two men we see the foundations of the great superstructure of observation that has since been reared by the use of the microscope. They were followed by Malpighi, Grew, and others, who made the latter end of the seventeenth and the beginning of the eighteenth century remarkable for their labours. At this time, however, natural history inquiry, under the genius of Linneus, took another direction. It busied itself with nomenclature and the observation of tangible forms. The microscope was almost forgotten, till its recent triumphs in the present century. We are still, however, in this period, indebted to the observations of Trembley, Ellis, Swammerdam, Lyonnnet, Baker, Adams, Hill, and Needham, for many important contributions to science.

Although the microscope may be employed to assist the vision in almost every department of the physical sciences, it is in inquiries into the nature of the tissues of which animal and vegetable bodies are formed that it has been more especially useful. In botany it may be said to have relaid the foundations of the science. From the time when Hooke first discovered the cellular structure of certain parts of plants, down to the present day, microscopic observations have more or less influenced the views of vegetable physiologists. It is, however, to Robert Brown that the science of botany is indebted for the full appreciation of microscopic observation in the study of vegetable life. He was the first to draw attention to the necessity of studying the plant as a whole if we wished to know its nature and its relation to other plants. He showed that every organ must be studied in the history of its development: and that the whole result of that history must be estimated in comparing one plant with another,—not varying points in the history of the plant, as had been previously done. To do this the microscope is essential; for just as the most important passages in the life of a man may be those which are witnessed by no mortal eye, so the most important periods in the life of plants and their organs are those in which the relation of their various parts is too small to be seen by the naked eye. Brown, neglected and unappreciated by his own countrymen, with a single exception,—found worthy disciples on the Continent. Of these the most learned and philosophic is, Professor Schleiden; to whom the science of botany is little less indebted than to his great master, and whose profound work on the principles of scientific botany we noticed, in the translation, some months ago [*Ath.* No. 1152]. It is to Schleiden that we are indebted more especially for working out the history of the formation of the cells of plants,—by following up a microscopic observation made many years previously by Brown. This discovery alone has given us a deeper insight into the laws of nature and a new direction to scientific inquiry. Among other important observations made by the microscope bearing on vegetable physio-

logy, we may mention those on the reproduction of cells forming spores and seeds, on the movements of cells, on the circulation in the interior of cells, on the structure of the cell, and on its elongation into the vessel. The microscope has also added a host of new forms to the vegetable kingdom. For these we are indebted to the labours of Vaucher, Ehrenberg, Fries, and others on the Continent,—and to Ralfs, Jenner, Thwaites, and Berkeley in Great Britain.

In zoology, and the anatomy and physiology of animals, the microscope has not been of less service. Starting from the observations of Leuwenhoek as the commencement of a new era in zoology, Ehrenberg investigated with his microscope almost every fluid and every substance which was likely to be the residence of an animalcule. His labours were rewarded with the most signal and wonderful success. Hundreds of species of animalcules were discovered and described, and their structure revealed with an accuracy that the anatomy of the higher animals was a stranger to. Many of these invisible creatures were now found to belong to very different parts of the animal kingdom. One group was characterized by its possessing a multiplicity of digestive sacs,—hence called Polygastric; another was remarkable for its high organization and rotatory mode of locomotion,—the Rotifera; another group, the Foraminifera, were referred to the Mollusca; and another, higher still in organization and complicity of habit, belonged to the family of shrimps and lobsters,—constituting the greater proportion of the entomostracous Crustacea. Nor was the investigation of these creatures confined to living forms. Various strata of the earth were found filled with the remains of the extinct forms of microscopic creatures. Each formation has its characteristic animalcules; and a specimen of a rock not large enough to be seen by the naked eye will reveal forms which to the eye of the practised naturalist indicate the age of the mountains and plains whence it is derived.

Not less remarkable have been the results of microscopic investigation in the anatomy and physiology of animals. The minute parts of the textures of the organs of the body were examined. The blood—before the discovery of the microscope, a homogeneous fluid—now presented a compound character; and its principal constituents were found to be a number of globules, or discs, of various sizes and uses.

Schleiden's discovery of the origin of the cell in plants led to investigations on the same subject in animals,—and Schwann pointed out the cellular origin of all animal textures. These observations produced to immediate revolution in physiology, and gave a new direction to the researches of the anatomist. The investigations of Owen, Newport, Goodsir, Reid, Paget, and others with the microscope are unfolding new laws in the history of development in the animal kingdom, and furnishing a larger basis than has hitherto been afforded on which to raise the superstructure of a sound and correct human physiology.

Thus, the indirect use of the microscope can hardly be calculated in the cultivation of the organic sciences:—but it is frequently employed also, for its direct practical results. The composition of many substances may be directly discovered by allowing polarized light to pass through them under the microscope. An examination of the fluids of the body will in many instances reveal directly the cause of disease. The adulteration of food may be readily detected by the use of this instrument. Questions connected with medical jurisprudence, and on which the lives of human beings may depend,

are now solved by its application. What eyes are to the blind, the microscope is to those who can see. To the surgeon and physician, the botanist, zoologist, anatomist, and physiologist, it is an essential instrument of research. In Mr. Quekett's volume all who are engaged in employments demanding the use of this aid to the eye will find the fullest information with regard to the constructions of its various kinds,—as well as to the methods employed by the best observers for the examination of the various structures of the vegetable and animal kingdoms.

*Wanderings along the Punic and Cyrenaic Shores of the Mediterranean*.—[*Wanderungen, &c.*]. By Dr. Heinrich Barth. Berlin, Herz; London, Williams & Norgate.

OUR notice of this work will be little more than an announcement of its publication:—to describe its contents, except in general terms, is, from the nature of the case, impossible within moderate limits. The author, a pupil of the celebrated Ritter, was first attracted to the Mediterranean by its prominence as an object of the highest importance in historical geography; and he has perused its shores with eyes chiefly intent on those features which made it a decisive instrument of the destinies of human civilization. These have been constantly present to his mind while studying the topography of its ancient cities, and the circumstances connected with the descent and migration of the several races that succeeded each other in settlement around that great basin,—the medium in all times of communication between the Eastern and Western worlds.

With this view he examined, as closely as possible, the Mauritanian sea-border:—first descending along its western face, from Tangier to Rabat; and then tracing it from Iran eastward—the coast between Tetuan and to that port being now all but inaccessible to European travellers—through Algeria and Tripoli to the Nile at Alexandria. Here the first division of his journey ends. A second is promised;—to contain the progress up the Nile to Cairo, and thence through Syria to the Bosphorus. Greece, though visited, will not be included in the forthcoming volume. On that part of the Mediterranean coast Dr. Barth conceives himself unable to add anything new to the remarks of preceding antiquarians.

The purpose of Dr. Barth's tour being wholly scientific, personal notices or the results of general observation, except where they may serve to illustrate his main design, are excluded,—with the exception of one disastrous episode. This was an adventure which had nearly ended Dr. Barth's travels with his life,—by the attack of some Arab marauders at a dangerous pass, in the march-land between Tripoli and Egypt, known to the ancients as the Greater or Western Katabathmos. Here he was dogged and finally plundered, after a spirited resistance, by a band of cowardly ruffians, in concert, as it appears, with the guides obtained as his escort from Tripoli:—and he owed his escape with life, under the double disadvantage of assault from without and treachery in his own party, to the exercise of no common degree of spirit and firmness. As it was, he was wounded,—robbed of his luggage, journals, and instruments,—and with difficulty made the rest of his way along the coast to Alexandria. This part of his narrative is told with some warmth. It is the only passage of the journey that can much interest the common reader.

The work, of course, depends for its success on the learned appreciation of a very different class; which it appears to deserve, as well by the careful observation of the details which could be collected on the spot, as by the



copious and ready use of the authorities that have left us any notices bearing on the geography of Libya. Of the sites which make its shores attractive to the student of ancient civilization and commerce, there are two, we need scarcely observe, of the utmost historical importance,—those, namely, of Carthage and of Cyrene. To these, as their eminence deserves, a large space is allotted in the Doctor's pages:—and his view of their old condition while flourishing as mighty cities, collated with the results of a careful survey of their present remains, will be examined with especial sympathy by the classical geographer. The work, we may add—calculated as it is chiefly for antiquarian readers and students of early history—is described by Dr. Barth as partly intended to serve as the introduction to a larger general essay, which he designs to compose, on the historical position and influence of the Mediterranean as the centre of life and the medium of intercourse throughout all the decisive periods of the past development of our species.

In conclusion, it must be observed that the enjoyment, by those qualified to partake of the valuable contents of Dr. Barth's work, will be much impaired by its cumbersome and involved style. A more perplexing specimen, indeed, of some of the worst faults of German prose has rarely fallen in our way. The task of construing periods entangled with strings of ill-joined parentheses, and bristling with epithets often composed of entire sentences,—is a serious addition to the labour of digesting the scientific matter of this volume; and we would strongly advise the author, if it be not now too late, to set forth the substance of his next in a more clear and readable form. As we observe that he entertains some hope of appearing in an English translation, it may be as well to apprise him that the German text of Vol. I. could not be legibly presented in our language without being first broken up and recast altogether.

*Old Love and New Fortune. A Play; in Five Acts.* By the Author of 'Conti,' 'Music and Manners,' &c. Chapman & Hall.

HAVING last week introduced our readers to this work as an acting play, we proceed now—as is our custom when the acted play is published and contains the dramatic element—to give some account of it as a literary production. In this character we think Mr. Chorley's work has a better reception to expect from criticism than even that which it obtained from a theatrical audience. Although we here imply a distinction between the literary and the theatrical elements of a good drama, it must not be supposed that the two can ever be divorced. Mere interest of story, without poetic imagination and passion, dwarfs playwriting, when serious, to the level of a police report,—when light, to the pantomime of a booth. It is a most vulgar fallacy to suppose that poetry, because it is an appropriate ornament to the drama, is nothing more than an ornament. The imagination or fancy which give a charm to the details of expression are the same faculties which determine the nature of the fable and the quality of its interest. The writer who sets to work without such faculties will be not only barren as to the graces of language, but coarse in point of motive and incident.

The gift of dramatic poetry (though only one of the qualifications for theatrical success) is one of the most comprehensive and important. While it includes beauty of illustration, it deals with the conception of character, purpose, and story. The power of effectively presenting and clearly connecting the last—in a word, what is called in the theatre *construction*—is a distinct requisite; but one which to some extent can be

gained by study,—which can hardly be said of the higher endowments specified. Of these our readers will probably think that Mr. Chorley's play affords felicitous examples. That he is not without constructive power is proved by the ingenuity which could fuse so many interests into one plot; but he yet labours under certain deficiencies in this part of his art,—the most prominent of which are want of decisive outline in the general plan and of obvious inter-dependence between the parts. These defects are of degree only,—and even on the stage did not prevent the hearty sympathy of the audience with the dramatic humour, feeling, and characterization in the piece. They are, we think, still less obvious to the reader, who has time to clear up by the entire context the ambiguities which somewhat perplex in representation. Of the dramatic instincts which are apparent throughout the play and the dramatic diction in which they are expressed, we believe we cannot do better than leave our readers to form their own judgment from a few examples.

The central figures in the picture, as our readers will have already seen, are La Roque the hero,—Sybil Harcourt the wilful beauty, rather prone to be despotic by nature, deriving, too, a sudden stimulant to her caprice from the return of her long absent father with unlooked for riches—and Eve, the adopted ward of Sir Archibald, whose character, simple without tameness, and sweet without sentimentality, is well contrasted with the more brilliant and impulsive nature of Sybil. The most original conception in the piece is that of La Roque himself—a fusion of the buoyant Gallic temperament with the heartiness of English feeling. Our first extract introduces the trio to the reader. On the return of her father, Sybil, promoted from the rank of a neglected school-girl to that of an heiress, has affected a coldness to the pretensions of La Roque which in her humble position she had encouraged. La Roque, nothing daunted, accompanies her home, under the disguise of a postillion. Eve, whom Sir Archibald had brought with him to England, and who is totally unknown to Sybil, has already arrived at the ancestral mansion; and, when La Roque and Sybil enter, becomes an unwilling auditor of the colloquy between the lovers.

*La Roque.* I rode before you hither; My last poor chance to gain a moment's speech Of one so closely watched. Since the news came, Which made you heiress to a wealthy sire, Your stale Duenna hath not winked an eye; Nay, when she left you in the porch just now, Stared back as though to fix you there.

*Sybil.* You rode! I said the fellow could not ride! My aunt Herself, who loves the parson's sober pace, Cried "Out upon the Snail!" La Roque turned postboy! Now shall I live a month on the conceit, And still have laughter left!

*La Roque.* I'm glad to please you. But now, of graver things—you could not mean The bitter words your letter bore.

*Sybil.* Have done, And leave me! I've no time nor thoughts to waste; [Turning from him.]

And now for conquest of this stranger father! For have my way I must and will; or Wit Hath lost its charm and Wealth's not worth enjoying.

*Eve (appearing for a moment).* So free and so unmoved! Is this the duty Of English daughters? Should I show myself? O, she is terrible—I dare not— [She hides again.]

*La Roque.* Say You could not mean your letter, saucy Sybil! To cast me off, who all these weary years Have been the shadow of your pride—your slave—Your dog—your—

*Sybil.* Postboy. Poor La Roque! Your ride Hath given you quite a bloom!

*La Roque.* Jest on your jest At one who hath borne mockeries for your sake, And willing stooped to meet them. Why they call me Through all mine Inn, "Lovesick La Roque!"

*Sybil.* Indeed! But stooping tires the humblest back that bends; And jokes (like journeys, when a postboy rides Who doth mistake his seat) may grow too long.

*La Roque.* What have I done? Is it this new-known wealth Which turns your brain? Have you the heart to call Our love a joke?

*Sybil.* Our love! an empty folly, A dream, a fantasy—a schoolboy game! *La Roque.* It reft my sleep from me! It made me strange—To all my comrades; gave me locks of hair In change for mine; dowered me with amulets Writ by the whitest hand that brain of Wit E'er guided. Is that twilight on the Thames Forgotten, when you leaned upon my breast, And feared the coming moonlight should betray Where you lay nestling from the evening wind?

*Sybil.* Sir, you grow coarse. I must assert myself, There is a bar between us—

*La Roque.* Bar? What bar?

*Sybil.* Since I have known my father's home return—

*La Roque.* Since you have known his riches—

*Sybil.* As you list.

Your rudeness makes me frank. I am no more A wail or stray for any wanderer's taking;

But let us end this parley. I've reflected, Weighed—am resolved.

*La Roque.* Weighed lands and money bags Against an honest heart and nimble foot

To tread Life's maze!—Resolved? Ay, so resolves The usurer counting o'er his cent. per cent.;

You tremble, Sybil!

*Sybil.* I?—no mortal man Shall see me tremble! Go! I wrote my will!

*La Roque.* Your will of head, not heart. O there you stand

Hardening that heart to play the worldling's game, To scheme, to cozen, to deny! Your heart!

It wavers while you hear. I'll not believe The threat that stiffens round your folded lips

So long as in your radiant eyes I read The kinder Sybil there.—What if I'm poor?

Why I was poor five years since, when you dropped That rose-leaf in my bosom.

*Sybil.* 'Twas not dropped

On purpose, sir.

*La Roque.* I'm giddy, too, I know, But I was giddier when you broke the ring,

And with your needle wrote my name upon The half you cherished.

*Sybil.* Cherished, man!—your name!

This grows to insolence.

*La Roque.* My birth is doubtful, But the strange cloud which rests thereon may pass

For me as well as others. Who had guessed The daughter of a rich and noble sire

In the neglected school-girl? Why, your change From chrysalis to butterfly doth quicken

A thousand buoyant dreams.

*Sybil.* You would do well To trust in their fulfilment.

*La Roque.* I am a spendthrift—I was a spendthrift when I staked my all

To please your eye—

*Sybil.* You have your baubles back.

*La Roque.* 'Twas not yourself that sent them. No! 'twas Mammon

With one hand loosed the chain from round your neck, And locked your heart with the other. Fear not, Sybil,

He shall not have you! This unnatural pride Waves me not hence. I know you do not queen it

In earnest. Nay, as I seek your bliss Beyond all else on this delightful earth,

Think not I'll lose you thus!

[She offers to pass. He detains her.]

*Sybil.* Will you constrain My pleasure? Let me pass. You reckon here

As groom, not gentleman: but I'm no child To fear a braggart. Take your boastings hence,

Or I alarm the house. We meet no more; Or meet as strangers.

After his dismissal, La Roque again repairs to the house, as the secretary of the foolish and foppish but unscrupulous Lord Overbury. The lover, by obeying Sybil's command to treat her as a stranger, so far stings her pride that she eventually accepts matrimonial overtures from the Peer. But in the interim the tables are turned. La Roque discovers long suppressed evidence entitling him to the rank which the nominal Lord Overbury had usurped. This fact he communicates to the pseudo-nobleman, but conceals it from Sybil; and again presents himself at the mansion to read over the marriage settlement in the assumed character of a notary. This situation—in which the counterfeit Lord Overbury finds himself in the power of the true one, and trembles at the approaching discovery—is an excellent one, and would have borne further development. The manner, too, in which all the motives and passions of the leading actors are here brought into conflict shows constructive skill.—

*Lord Overbury.* They say the notary's come, Call him, some one. I hope the knave is clean,

New lighted from his journey.

*Sybil.* Pray you open A window! [Eve approaches the window.]

*La Roque (coming down).* Sure, my Lord, you'd ne'er employ

Another than myself. I rode all night To meet you here.

*Lord Overbury (starting).* La Roque! I shall die o' the spot!



Sybil. Oh, 'tis too much! too much!  
*La Roque (crossing by Eve).* Now, pray you, fear not,  
 She cannot hold her pride. *(Aloud.)* You stare on me,  
 As if I was the Unicorn, or the heap  
 Of slate that glittered elfin gold last night!  
*Save you, Sir Archibald,—save you, my Lord,—*  
*A word on business;—* *[Drawing Lord Overbury aside.]*

What! your lips, and eyes,  
 And quivering knees speak for you. So, you know  
 That Gripeall's chest is mine. Hush! for your life!  
 Watch, and obey. I can devise a means  
 To keep your fortune still. Think on the dower  
 From her rich father!

*(To Sybil.)* Save you, beautiful lady,  
 You set a brave example. *(To Eve.)* Save you, mistress,  
 And may you prove that, when a pattern's good,  
 All pretty wiles and fantasies laid by,  
 A maiden knows to follow it.

*Sir Archibald.* Sir, these greetings  
 Offend. You'll cut them short—and do your office,  
 That we may soon release you.

*La Roque.* O, good sir,  
 I come not all for others. My own claims  
 Claim hearing also.

*Sir Arch.* Keep your claims for whom  
 They meet most concern. Begin at once,—and read  
 The deed of settlement.

*Sybil (aside).* He! At your pleasure.  
*La Roque.* Here is the deed, *(reading.)* "whereby Lord Overbury  
 Settles on his wife Sybil, and their heirs"—

What? What? Why, sir! 'tis monstrous. Here's a sum  
 A common tradesman's wife would spurn!

*Sir Arch.* Read on,  
 We count but little whence my daughter's dower—  
 My Lord is prudent—'tis enough.

*La Roque.* Enough!  
 Hear him, ye Gods, with that bright lady by!  
 Her eyes are worth two diamond mines—her brow  
 A mountain at the lowest—her lips a lake—  
 Her cheeks a shire of richest meadow land.

*Sybil.* Read on.  
*La Roque.* He says "Enough!" We'll have that sum  
 Doubled. His lordship hath forgot his years,  
 How old men buy what young ones hoped to win!

*Sir Arch.* You'll have?  
*La Roque.* My Lord will have, Sir Archibald!  
 I act but for his honour here. The dower

Is doubled, sir?  
*Lord Over.* 'Tis best. I meant it so!  
*Eve (aside to La Roque).* Sir, have a care, you make her  
 obstinate:

This will ne'er win her back!  
*La Roque.* You dazzle me  
 So near. Let me read on. *[Eve retreats.]*

*Sir Arch. (aside).* She whispered him!  
*La Roque (reading).* "Then, in the event of widowhood—"  
*Sybil.* Stop there:

The clause is needless.  
*Lord Over.* Wherefore talk to-day  
 Of such dark things?

*La Roque.* You do not think to die?  
 Conceive yourself a boy?—What have we here?  
 Hath Gripeall lost his senses o'er his work?—  
 "A forfeit if the lady wed again!"  
 Shame! shame!—the dead monopolize! We'll have  
 That "if" struck out.

*Sir Arch.* Sir!—I will know your right  
 To order thus.

*La Roque.* Good now, Sir Archibald,  
 What if I urge the right of Twenty-five  
 To buckler thriftless Beauty 'gainst the craft  
 Of grim Three-score? What if I urge my duty  
 To drive the best of bargains for the weak  
 Against the stronger?—thus all generous men  
 Practise the law. Methinks 'tis claim enough  
 To watch o'er Mistress Sybil.

*[He makes some alteration in the words.]*

In the interval between the signing of the  
 marriage settlement and the approaching cere-  
 mony, Sybil becomes a prey to the torture of a  
 late remorse. In the bitterness of her spirit she  
 first construes the friendship between La Roque  
 and Eve into an attempt on the part of the  
 latter to decoy her lover's affections, and this  
 suspicion only gives place to the still more  
 unjust one that Eve has encouraged La Roque  
 to pique Sir Archibald, her guardian, into an  
 offer of marriage. In the crisis of Sybil's agony  
 Eve enters, and the following dialogue ensues.—

*Enter Eve hastily.* Keep, keep hence!—  
 At your own peril then!

*Eve.* One moment, madam,  
 'Tis serious.—Where's your father?

*Sybil.* Here's command!  
 Who gave you right to question? Wait at least  
 Till noon.

*Eve.* There may be mischief done, ere noon:  
 You know not what I fear.

*Sybil (insultingly surveying her).* Nor what you hope?  
 Why, ne'er was part so exquisitely played?

The blush, the panting bosom, and the tear!—  
 I thought I knew my sex, Eve,—but you teach  
 A practised trader yet a trick of trade.

*Sybil.* You love him not!—have only lured him on  
 To pique your grey protector's jealousy!  
 And this the simple angel!—When I see  
 Your gradual, heavenly smile, and hear your voice

Draw! out its smooth and hypocritical psalm,  
 'Tis more than generous nature can endure!

*Eve.* Madam, I never lured!—I have but sought  
 Your good.

*Sybil.* Too pious Eve! and therefore crept  
 With unseen twinings through my father's breast—  
 Whispered obedience—with caressing hands  
 Smoothed his tyrannic crest—till all beside  
 Showed but as rebels in his haughty sight.—  
 Foul! foul!—Heaven keep us from your piety!

*Eve.* Madam! What means this new perversest turn  
 Of your distorting anger?

*Sybil.* Means! At least  
 The dullest eyes must open—Means? I read  
 That heaving bosom, and that tempting cheek  
 And tender "Where's your father!" like the rest!—  
 It seems my Lord did well to press our match,  
 Since there's no more restraint—and in my sight  
 You flaunt your shameless passion. Time, indeed,  
 I were gone hence. My own good name—

*Eve.* Your own  
 Good name—

*Sybil.* I was not trained to be a third  
 In such delicious confidence. When the goddess  
 Of the old man stands confessed, the meanest-souled  
 Of daughters should retire!

*Eve.* You stir not hence—and, if need be, not wed,  
 Till this be cleared between us. Stand in the light!  
 Repeat your taunt, and look me in the face!

You have no mother, too! Say clearly out  
 What last you hinted. Do you turn away?  
 You dare not, Sybil!—there is still a touch  
 Of woman in your nature!

*Sybil.* Woman, stung  
 By most intolerable wrong!

*Eve.* And whose  
 The wrong, and whose the sting? Your own proud heart!  
 And you are older, too—twice as fair—  
 Of wit unmatchable—dowered with a spirit  
 By angels meant to soar: I, a pale orphan—  
 Homeless and sad, afraid and ignorant.  
 O, shame and pity on you! You, so great!—  
 And turn 'gainst one so humble!

*Sybil.* You destroyed—  
 Have stolen from me—

*Eve.* Cease that wretched feint  
 Of jealous passion! Is it not enough  
 Yourself have cast to the winds the richest store  
 Which ever Heaven on thankless mortal showered?

With your own frantic hands have riven the ties  
 Of household blessing, and of virgin love?  
 And is the dark and dismal wreck too small,  
 Or lacks there wider ruin to content  
 The insatiate fury gnawing at your heart!

*Sybil.* Eve! Eve! I pray you!—not those fearful words!  
 I am so wretched.

*Eve.* Wonder you, at last,  
 The meek dependent speaks? Heaven giveth words  
 And power and foresight, to yet feeblier things  
 When by all else forsaken!—You are wretched—  
 Have raised the storm, and wonder that its wings  
 Ruffle one plume of pride? And what am I?  
 Did I not keep your counsel, and deny  
 The secret air that chambers round my bed  
 One whisper on 't? Did ever triumph look  
 Out of mine eyes, to bid you stoop and sue  
 For my forbearance? No; I wept apart  
 Upon my knees to think so brave a creature  
 Could bear herself so forwardly!

*Sybil.* You wept  
 For me?

*Eve.* And you, with cold and wicked words,  
 Would tarnish my good name, and drive me forth  
 To the one refuge open whatsoever  
 The sorrow and the storm. Content you, Sybil!  
 Content your pride. The arrow hath struck home.  
 When maiden turns on maiden, then the world  
 Is so disjoint 'twere best at once to pass  
 To the unslendering silence of the shroud.  
 Go, and be decked! Go! barter for base things  
 Your stainless beauty! I can weep for you,  
 My grave is better than your bridal bed!

*Sybil (approaching her).* Eve!—  
*Eve.* Do not touch me! You have done me wrong  
 Enough.

*Sybil (falling on her knees).* Forgive!

As the story of the play has already been  
 detailed in our columns, it is unnecessary to  
 re-state it here. Our quotations will show  
 what has been realized by the new dramatist,  
 and what may be expected from him when he  
 shall have mastered the technicalities of his art.

#### OUR LIBRARY TABLE.

*Pope Adrian IV. An Historical Sketch.* By  
 Richard Raby.—A good life of Adrian, alias Nicholas  
 Breakspear—the only Englishman who ever sat  
 on the pontifical throne—would be a welcome addition  
 to the stores of biographical literature. Though  
 his reign was short, it was unusually stirring. His  
 struggles with the republicans of Rome and with the  
 Emperor of Germany are full of varied and dramatic  
 interest: the capture and death of Arnold of Brescia,  
 one of the most important events in the Middle Ages,  
 were brought about by his agency and under his  
 government. His early life is involved in a sort

of mystery which adds to the romance of his  
 history. His father was a monk of St. Alban's. From  
 some cause or other, he conceived an unnatural hatred  
 for his son—and turned him out on the charities of  
 the world. He lived to become a Pope. His man-  
 hood was spent partly in Norway and Sweden,  
 whither he went to regulate the Church. Of this  
 mission he wrote an account, which would be in-  
 valuable to the historian of those countries could  
 it be found: that it exists among the unknown  
 treasures of the Vatican is not impossible, though  
 Münter, the historian of the Danish Church, says he  
 tried to find it without success. His search does not  
 appear to have been very zealous. The period of  
 Adrian's life passed as Pope is known best from  
 the extraordinary interest attaching in all Protestant  
 and liberal countries to his victim, Arnold of Brescia.  
 Mr. Raby, the author of the present sketch, takes  
 part with the priest against the philosopher—as it is  
 natural for a Roman Catholic to do: in the excess of  
 his zeal he even defends the murder of Arnold in cold  
 blood and without trial against what he calls the  
 "sensual refinement of the present day." With  
 such a partisan it is useless to reason. "Few men  
 ever did more mischief to society in their day than  
 Arnold of Brescia," he says, in justification of his  
 illegal execution: on these general terms Mr. Raby  
 should have reposed. But, he will explain in  
 what particular doctrines of the great reformer the  
 "more mischief" was involved. "That reform was  
 simply the return of society, politically under the  
 republican institutions of pagan Rome, and spirit-  
 ually under the religious government of the apostolic  
 ages." In such a reform, Mr. Raby sees nothing  
 but "ruin to the temporal and eternal interests of  
 society;" and he therefore finds it to have been  
 clearly the "moral duty" of his hero to use the sword  
 and the faggot for the "extirpation of its teacher."

*The Sanctuary: its Lessons and its Worship.* By  
 Mungo Ponton, F.R.S.E.—The religious mind  
 appears to be setting itself forth in all manner of  
 fantastic forms. This work is a selection of Scripture  
 texts brought into a blank-verse translation, so as to  
 constitute a series of composite poems, which we  
 are to accept as the appointed service of an ideal  
 temple,—consisting of addresses and responses, in-  
 terspersed with hymns. The author has been more  
 than commonly successful in "amalgamating his  
 materials into a harmonious whole;" and as this was  
 the declared purpose of the book, we must pronounce  
 his aim—whatever we may in other respects think of  
 it—to have been accomplished.

*A New Elucidation of the Principles of Speech and  
 Elocution; a full Theoretical Development, with  
 numerous Practical Exercises, for the Correction of Im-  
 perfect or the Relief of Impeded Utterance, and for the  
 general Improvement of Reading and Speaking; the  
 whole forming a complete Directory for Articulation  
 and expressive Oral Delivery.* By Alexander Bell.—  
 Mr. Bell—who is, we believe, a professional teacher  
 of elocution—explains that this work arose out of  
 the necessities of his daily practice in teaching. It  
 contains a great deal of matter; but it is so purely  
 technical and professional in its nature as to stand out  
 of the usual pale of criticism. Only the person who  
 had tried it for some time could pronounce an opinion  
 on its merits.

*New English-Spanish and Spanish-English Dic-  
 tionary.*—[Nuevo Diccionario Inglés-Español y Espa-  
 ñol-Inglés. Con una Gramática, &c.]—Por Don  
 J. A. Seoane. Parte 1<sup>a</sup>.—This is the first part of a  
 Madrid republication in a more portable size, at a  
 lower price, and with an enlarged vocabulary, of  
 the Dictionary which was brought out in London  
 in 1831 by the father of the present editor. It will  
 be welcome in a department hitherto so ill supplied  
 as that of Anglo-Spanish lexicography. The part  
 now before us is not the division most wanted by  
 English students in general; and we shall be glad to  
 see the assistance which they need afforded before  
 long by the appearance of the second, or Hispano-  
 English portion:—which, if as carefully prepared as  
 the first seems to be, may easily become the popular  
 Spanish Dictionary here. The Anglo-Spanish volume  
 is enriched with many hundreds of words not to be  
 found in the work of the elder Seoane; and the defi-  
 nitions, so far as we have examined them, prove to be  
 exact and concise. The English grammar ap-  
 pended shows the author to possess a competent



knowledge of the structure of the language,—and it may be consulted not without advantage by readers of this country; who will often find the best explanations of foreign modes of speech—especially in the most difficult part of language—the use of particles—in the terms used by intelligent foreigners in interpreting those forms of our native tongue. We hope very soon to see the second division; which, bound up with the first, will not exceed the dimensions of a well-sized octavo volume.

*Composition, Literary and Rhetorical, Simplified.* By the Rev. D. Williams.—A sensible and useful little volume, the lessons of which should be in the memory of every one anxious to speak and write his native language with elegance and purity. Mr. Williams is a merciless exposé of our colloquial oddities and inaccuracies. The service was one much needed; and, unlike many of the writers who claim our critical attention to their works on grammar, Mr. Williams proves his right to the office of public censor by the use of a steady and compact style of composition himself.

BOOKS OF REFERENCE FOR 1850.—Among works of this class which have made their appearance since we gave our several summaries, we have to mention *Baily's United Service and East India Record*. This publication contains a list, alphabetically arranged, of all the officers in Her Majesty's naval and military forces, and in those of the East India Company,—together with a list of stations, showing at a glance the place at which any officer, if he be with his regiment, is stationed.—The opening of Parliament has brought with it the eighteenth yearly issue of *Dod's Parliamentary Companion*—adapted so as to reflect the changes which the past year has made in the Ministry, the constitution and proceedings of the Houses, and the several constituencies: and *Vacher's Parliamentary Companion*, for February—of which a new edition is published monthly throughout the session, corrected up to the latest period.

NEW EDITIONS OF MR. JAMES'S *One in a Thousand*, and of *Tales of the Woods and Fields*, by the Author of 'Emilia Wyndham,' have appeared. They form Nos. 35 and 36 of 'The Parlor Library.' A second edition of Dr. Kitto's *Bible History of the Holy Land*, illustrated with numerous woodcuts, has been published by Mr. Charles Knight. Dr. Cumming's *Apocalyptic Sketches* has reached the fourth thousand. An article, by Mr. Henry Rogers, on *Reason and Faith, their Claims and Conflicts*, in the last October Number of the *Edinburgh Review*, has been reprinted, with some additions directed against Strauss's 'Life of Jesus.' Mrs. Balfour's *Whisper to a Newly-Married Pair, from a Widowed Wife*, has arrived at an eighth edition,—and Mr. Prescott's *History of the Conquest of Mexico*, at a fifth. We are glad to meet with a reprint of Mr. Leigh Hunt's *Sir Ralph Escher*: a remarkable work of fiction, if only for the circumstances mentioned in the prefatory advertisement,—namely, that "the relative ages of parties who really existed had been calculated so as to square with their conduct, no person or event introduced not strictly contemporaneous, and no locality even had been mentioned in which the persons introduced in it would not have been found to have been present on referring to contemporary annals." A new edition of *Wild Sports of the West* has been received. Mr. Washington Irving has put forth a new and revised edition of *The Life and Voyages of Christopher Columbus*. He has added a third volume containing an interesting account of 'The Voyages of his (Columbus's) Companions.' Two parts of a popular re-issue of Sir E. B. Lytton's *Leila*, illustrated with engravings, have appeared; as have also two volumes of Mrs. Barbauld's *Selections from the Spectator, Tatler, Guardian, and Freeholder*. Humboldt's *Views of Nature* has been translated by E. C. Otté and Henry G. Bohn, and published by the latter; who has also issued a shilling copy of Mr. Emerson's *Representative Men*. Vol. 4 of the new edition of *Lodge's Portraits* has been received. Mr. Neale's *Life Book of a Labourer,—Political Principles*, by Plain Fact,—Mr. Metcalfe's translation of Becker's *Gallus*,—and Sir George Staunton's *Miscellaneous Notices relating to China*, have all arrived at second editions. We have received two parts of the republication of Mr. R. Montgomery Martin's *British Colonies*.—Sir John Stoddart's *Universal Grammar* has been

reprinted from the Encyclopædia Metropolitana, under the title of *The Philosophy of Language*.—Mr. Bohn has given us a literal translation of the *Tragedies of Æschylus*, by T. A. Buckley, B.A., of Christchurch, Oxford.—A second edition, with "many additional hints," has appeared of Mr. South's *Household Surgery*.

## LIST OF NEW BOOKS.

Alison's Europe, library ed. Vol. XII. 8vo. 15s. cl.  
 Antonina, or the Fall of Rome, by W. Wilkie Collins, 3 vols. 31s. 6d.  
 Anonymous Poems, 8vo. 3s. 6d. cl.  
 Arthur Montague, by a Pagan Officer, 3 vols. post 8vo. 17. 11s. 6d. hds.  
 Bohn's Classical Library, March, 'Enripides,' Vol. I. post 8vo. 5s. cl.  
 Bohn's Illustrated Library, March, 'Lodge's Portraits,' Vol. V. 5s. cl.  
 Browne's (W. H.) Ten Views taken during Arctic Expedition, 17. 1s.  
 Channing's Complete Memoirs, 2 vols. cr. 8vo. 7s. cl.  
 D'Aubigny's Reformation, abridg. 1 vol. 18mo. 3s. cl.  
 Dempsey's (G. D.) Malleable Iron Bridges, folio and 4to. 27. 12s. 6d.  
 Evelyn's Diary and Correspondence, new ed. Vol. II. 10s. 6d. cl.  
 Evenings at Sea, post 8vo. 10s. 6d. cl.  
 Favourite Library, Vol. V. 'Keeper's Travels,' 18mo. 1s. hds.  
 Grote's (G.) History of Greece, Vols. VII. and VIII. 8vo. 17. 12s. cl.  
 Henry's Communicant's Companion, Essay by Dr. Brown, 5th ed. 2s.  
 Johnson's (C. W.) The Modern Dairy and Cowkeeper, 12mo. 3s. 6d. cl.  
 Johnson's (Dr.) His Religious Life, &c. by Author of 'Dr. Hookwell,' 12s.  
 Kavanagh's (Julia) Woman in France in 18th Century, 2 vols. 17. 4s.  
 Lady's Library (The), 'Blanche Montaigne,' Vol. III. 6s. cl.  
 Scenes of the Civil War in Hungary in 1848-49, 3rd ed. post 8vo. 7s. 6d.  
 Lee's (Mrs. R.) Elements of Natural History, new ed. post 8vo. 7s. 6d.  
 Lucas (S.), Charters of Old English Colonies in America, 8vo. 4s. 6d.  
 Lynch's Expedition to the Dead Sea, 2nd ed. royal 8vo. 17. 1s. cl.  
 Manners's (Lord) English Ballads and other Poems, 12mo. 4s. cl.  
 Memoirs of a Hungarian Lady, by Theresa Pulszky, 2 vols. 17. 1s. cl.  
 Oxford Calendar for 1850, 12mo. 6s. hds.  
 Parlor Library, Vol. XXXVIII. James's 'Mary of Burgundy,' 1s.  
 Ponsonby's (Lady Emily) Pride and Irresolution, 3 vols. 17. 11s. 6d.  
 Prescott's Works, Vol. VI. 'Conquest of Mexico,' Vol. III. 6s. cl.  
 Railway Library, March, 'Blanche Montaigne,' by F. H. Myer, 1s.  
 Scenes of the Civil War in Hungary in 1848-49, 3rd ed. post 8vo. 7s. 6d.  
 Scottish Cavalier (The), by J. Grant, Esq. 3 vols. post 8vo. 17. 11s. 6d.  
 Sir Arthur Bouverie, by Author of 'Lady Granard's Botany,' 31s. 6d.  
 Sister Mary's Tales in Natural History, 7th ed. 12mo. 7s. 6d. cl.  
 Symond's (S.) The Soldier's Progress, a Tale, 12mo. 3s. 6d. cl. gilt.  
 Waad's (T.) The Heavenly Home, 2nd ed. 18mo. 1s. 6d. cl. gilt.  
 Wordsworth's Poetical Works, Vols. 5, 6, 2s. 6d. each, swd. 5s. 6d. cl.

## DECIMAL COINAGE.

Cambridge, Feb. 27.

WILL you allow me through your pages to call attention to the subject of the long-promised decimal coinage? As this is only a matter of general interest, not a party question, it is natural that it should be little heeded by the public and altogether ignored by the political journals. Perhaps the editor of a literary and scientific periodical may on that account think it less worthy of attention.

In February, 1842, a Government Commission gave in its Report on the subject. Eight years have elapsed and nothing has been done,—that is, nothing effectual. The point has from time to time been alluded to in the House of Commons and received with much laughter, so as almost to have established its right to be considered a stereotyped joke.

The United States, France, and Belgium have a decimal coinage;—England has not. There is no nation in the world (says J. S. Mill) so overridden by habit as the English,—except perhaps the Chinese. We have lately seen a few florins issue from the Mint and vanish again,—the said florins being accused of heresy, or treason, or both. However, probably we may conclude that at some time not very distant florins really will be current; the necessary thing now is to press for a completion of the scheme. Any one who understands the matter knows that an imperfect decimal coinage is not decimal at all; people will not reckon by florins,—they will style the new piece *two shillings*, and instead of a help it will prove a hindrance.

No time ought to be lost in bringing out the subordinate decimal coins. The Commission recommended tenths of florins to be called cents, and tenths of cents to be called millets. The millet differs from a farthing only by the  $\frac{1}{25}$  of a farthing; and may therefore be considered as a farthing for practical purposes. A difficulty has been suggested about the cent; it is equal to  $2\frac{2}{3}$  pence,—and so, is too small for a silver coin and too large for a copper one. How is this to be met? We may say that no such coin is needed. The only denomination under the florin should be the millet; all the subordinate coins should be expressed as so many millets. The following would be found convenient.—

50 millets	= a shilling	} silver.
25 "	= a sixpence	
15 "	= $3\frac{1}{2}$ pence	
5 "	= $1\frac{1}{4}$ penny	} copper.
2 "	= a halfpenny, nearly	
1 "	= a farthing, nearly	

Probably it would be better to call the smallest coin a cent, as being the  $\frac{1}{100}$  part of a florin, than a millet, as being the  $\frac{1}{1000}$  part of a pound. The importance of a decimal coinage is not understood by people in general. Everybody can appreciate the benefit

of getting a letter delivered with only one penny to pay for postage; the greater facility and correctness given to money calculations by a decimal coinage is what few comparatively comprehend. If our money calculations were expressed in the following denominations,—

a pound  
 a florin =  $\frac{1}{10}$  of a pound,  
 a cent =  $\frac{1}{100}$  of a florin,

—and coins made as suggested above, the change really introduced would be slight. Moreover, men are so quick to learn where money is concerned that they might be trusted to grow familiar with the novelty without fear. M. A.

## BRITISH MUSEUM LIBRARY.

In common doubtless with many other of your readers, I have felt much interested in the correspondence relative to the British Museum Library which has lately appeared in your journal.—Perhaps it may not be out of place if I add an instance to prove that the Librarian is not over-anxious to avail himself of any rare and valuable collection, even when directly offered to him.

Some years ago I had contemplated the publication of a work treating of the rise and progress of newspaper literature in different countries;—and in the course of my investigations I made it my special object to collect files of all the colonial journals. Although I subsequently abandoned the publication as a thankless and unprofitable one, I still continued the objects of my research; and in the course of my business relations as a colonial newspaper agent and editor of the *Colonial Magazine*, continued to collect and preserve regular complete files of almost all the newspapers published in our British dependencies, besides many foreign journals. But these accumulating inconveniently upon me, I was desirous, rather than they should be scattered about and lost, that such valuable materials for the future illustration of the rise, progress, and history of our numerous possessions should be lodged in our national depository. I therefore made the Trustees of the British Museum the offer of my files in June 1840,—which they then willingly took at somewhere about the sum which they had cost me in postage alone,—viz., 46*l*. A few months since I made the Trustees the further offer of the continuation of those files,—having taken the trouble to have them classified, catalogued, and arranged; and a very ponderous and valuable collection they were,—consisting of some 60,000 or 70,000 newspapers. For these I merely asked what would about cover my outlay for postages on them. I learnt that their acceptance depended entirely on Mr. Panizzi, the librarian; and my letter offering them remaining unanswered for several weeks, I one day called in and saw the Librarian,—by whom I was received with scarcely common civility. He stated that the Trustees desired no more newspapers, as they had now more than they wanted.

I cannot but believe that these journals would have been much more generally useful and accessible to the public in the Museum Library than in my newspaper agency offices,—though to me the matter of their purchase or not is a subject of perfect indifference. Sure I am, however, that such a collection of the journals of India and our Colonies can never again be procured; and they should not, I think, have been so slightly passed over,—especially when, as your correspondent "Verificator" admits [*ante*, p. 158], the Library is "so woefully deficient in the newspapers of the Colonies." P. L. SIMMONDS.

5, Barge Yard, City, Feb. 14.

## OUR WEEKLY GOSSIP.

ON Tuesday last Mr. W. J. Fox obtained leave, with the consent of the Ministry, to bring in a Bill for promoting the secular education of the people in England and Wales. With all the increased attention which has of late years been devoted to questions of popular education, he showed that in England the highest proportion of the people attending schools of all descriptions does not exceed one in eight and a half. Mr. Fox's plan proposes that the deficiency of the means of education in parishes shall be ascertained by Government inspectors, and that the neighbourhood shall be invited to supply it by the formation of an educational Committee empowered to rate the inhabitants for the improvement



of the old schools and the establishment of new with a better system of instruction. — Of course, in answer to the proposal, the old persecuting spirit was at work which will have no man taught anything except on its own terms, — and which has succeeded, in the face of a strong and spreading educational movement, in keeping down the instruction of the people to the above low average. If men may not have secular education apart from religious, — in the divided state of religious opinions there can be no form of education which will be agreed on at all. Surely there is much which men of all beliefs may unite in considering it desirable that the people should be instructed in independent of those matters on which they disagree; and up to this point of disagreement it is high time that the Government should step in and provide a system of national education for the people.

A motion which Mr. Hutt had put upon the journals of the House of Commons for a "Return of the cost of preparing for publication and of publishing the 'Monumenta Historica Britannica, or Materials for the History of Britain,' — and of the number of copies printed, the names of the parties among whom they were distributed, and of parties applying for a copy of the work to whom it was not granted," — and which stood for Tuesday last, was not, for some reason, brought forward. It involved many points of great literary interest; of which the questions of the continuation of this important work, of how far it is wise to sell the book at all, and if sold to fix upon it such a price as places it beyond the reach of all students of our national history who have not more five guineas than they know how to dispose of, — are not the least important. We hope Mr. Hutt will renew his motion, and let us have the information which he so properly asks for.

The Report of the Commission on the Management of the British Museum has, it is said, been agreed on, — and may be shortly expected. Its delay has caused enough of speculation: — we hear of revisions, and so on. It is to be hoped that, after all, it will be of a character likely to promote public instead of private and official interests. We hear — but trust it is not the fact — that a very small number of copies of the evidence has been printed. We have heard *forty copies* named — but hold that to be impossible.

The first detailed lists of the objects which will be admitted to exhibition at the grand Industrial Congress of 1851 have appeared in the *Gazette*, and been copied into the daily papers. They embrace generally the order of classification which has been from time to time anticipated in our columns, — but the particulars applicable to each head of classification are specified with great minuteness; and it is important that the industrial population should have all the details of the scheme clearly before them. So soon, then, as these details shall be completely and finally arranged, besides their publication in the *Gazette* we suggest to the Commissioners that they shall be printed and circulated throughout the community at cost price.

Our readers will remember that some time since [*ante*, p. 108] we copied into our columns, from the *Notes and Queries*, an epigram of great elegance on the subject of "Cupid Crying" — the contributor of which was desirous of finding through that medium, especially established for such discoveries, the original text and the name of its author. Subsequently, a Correspondent of our own [*ante*, p. 132] volunteered a translation by himself, in default of the original. The Correspondent of the *Notes and Queries* has now stumbled on what he sought, — and is desirous that we should transmit it to the author of the volunteer version, with his thanks. This we take the present means of doing. Under the signature of "Rufus," he writes as follows: — "In a MS. book, long missing, I find the following copy, with a reference to 'Car. Illust. Poet. Ital., Vol. I., 229,' wherein it is ascribed to Antonio Tebaldeo. —

"De Cupidine.

Cur natum cædit Venus? Arcum perdidit. Arcum  
Nunc quis habet? Tusco Flavia nata solo.  
Qui factum? Petit hæc, dedit hic; nam lumine formæ  
Deceptus, matri se dare crediderat."

— Since printing this communication from "Rufus," we have received the same original (with the variation

of a single word — *quid* for *cur* in the opening of the epigram) from a German Correspondent at Augsburg. "You will find it," he says, "in the 'Anthologia Latina Burmanniana, III., 236,' — or in the new edition of this Latin Anthology by Henry Meyer (Lipsia, 1835), Tom. II., page 139, (No. 1566). The author of the epigram is doubtful, — but the diction appears rather too quaint for a good ancient writer. Maffei ascribes it to Brenzoni, who lived in the sixteenth century: — others give it to Ant. Tebaldeo, of Ferrara." — Our readers will perceive that the translator has taken some liberties with his text. "*Lumine formæ deceptus*," for instance, is not translated by "she smiled." But it may be questioned if the suggestion is not even more delicate and graceful in the translator's version than in the original.

Autograph collectors as well as book collectors have had some fine opportunities during the present week of enriching their collections; Messrs. Sotheby & Wilkinson disposing of a very miscellaneous lot of papers, — a portion, we suspect, of Mr. Upcott's long-concealed stores, with a sprinkling of good things from another portfolio. An unpublished letter from Dr. Johnson (address gone) was bought by Mr. Pocock, the great Johnson collector, for 3*l.* A letter of George Fox, the founder of the Quakers (signed G. F. only), brought 3*l.* 9*s.* A beautiful letter of Benjamin Franklin's, a charming illustration of Campbell's line,

With Franklin grasp the lightning's fiery wing,  
describing the manner of his discovery, sold for 3*l.* 3*s.* An interesting letter (unpublished) of John Howard, the philanthropist, sold for 2*l.*; and a letter by Penn, the Quaker, for the same sum. A letter written by Lord George Gordon, the hero of the riots of 1780, sold for 2*l.* 1*s.* Dr. Johnson's letter was dated 10th Dec. 1751, and contained the following paragraph: — "Lord Orrery has read over Charlotte's book, and declares in its favour, though less ardently than we. He has spoken in its praise to Mr. Millar [the publisher]. It vexes me to think that scarcely any man, when he enters upon a book, gives himself up to the conduct of the author; but first imagines a way of his own, and then is angry that he is led from it." — Charlotte was, of course, Mrs. Charlotte Lennox, and the work her novel of 'Harriet Stuart.' The caprice on the part of the reader which the Doctor dwells on is still experienced by every writer and reader of works of fiction.

Some choice books have just been sold by Messrs. Sotheby & Wilkinson. A beautiful copy in blue morocco of Lord Kingsborough's 'Mexican Antiquities,' brought 36*l.* A fine copy of the 'Musée Français,' proofs before letters, sold for 82*l.* 10*s.* A 'Piranesi' (29 volumes in 20), brought 127*l.* A choice copy of Purchas's 'Pilgrimes,' in five volumes, with the rare frontispiece containing the portrait of the author, was knocked down for 30*l.* The first folio edition of Shakspeare brought 124*l.*; the second 19*l.*; and the third 40*l.*

On Wednesday last the annual general meeting of the Proprietors, Donors and Fellows of University College was held in the Council-room of the building in Gower Street. Lord Brougham was absent, — by virtue of his office as he fills it; and Mr. Warburton was present, according to his notion of discharging his duties, — and presided. The Report showed a slight falling off from last year in the number of students, — the loss being in the medical faculty and in the junior school. In the faculty of Arts there is an increase. The total number of students during the year has been 850. The amount of fees received was 13,472*l.*; of which 9,106*l.*, exclusive of annual augmentations, fell to the share of the Professors and Masters. The students in attendance at hospital practice had contributed 1,343*l.* 18*s.* towards the support of the charity. Several valuable additions were stated to have been made during the year to the library and model-room — including Sir M. W. Ridley's cast from the 'Laocoon' in the Vatican. The expenses of the College were 7,076*l.* 4*s.* for building, and 3,400*l.* 6*s.* 6*d.* for ordinary outlay. There was some debate as to the necessity and value of the supplementary charter, — and it was determined to call a general meeting of the proprietors for the further discussion of the question.

We may mention here that Dr. Hare has been

appointed Assistant Physician to University College Hospital.

A Correspondent who writes from Sydney, at the date of the 24th of October last, says that the gold fever has reached those remote shores. The population is emigrating fast to California, and the loss of industrious colonists is likely to be extensively felt. Men making as much as 4*l.* per week in that favoured land are selling their houses and allotments for merely as much money as will pay their passage to the new El Dorado. "One of the most desirable measures in this colony now," he writes, "would be the establishment of a line of steamers between this place and Singapore; which would not only be likely to bring some Indian officers — or merchants — but would also afford to the sheep-farmers the means of importing Chinese shepherds, when, as is to be apprehended, after sheep-shearing the present shepherds shall receive their wages and depart for California."

It is stated from Copenhagen that Dr. Munch, Professor at the University of Christiania, has presented to the Society of Northern Archaeology in that city a very curious manuscript which he discovered and purchased during a voyage last year in the Orkneys. This manuscript is in good preservation; and the form of the characters assigns the tenth, or perhaps the ninth, century as its date. It is said to contain, in the Latin tongue, several episodes of Norwegian history, relating important facts hitherto unknown and which throw light on the darkness of the centuries that preceded the introduction of Christianity into Norway.

In Paris, the Academy of Sciences has elected M. Bussy, Director of the School of Pharmacy, from a list of several candidates, to supply the vacancy occasioned in its list of free members by the death of M. Francœur. — The same body has announced its award of certain of its prizes, — which will be distributed at a public sitting to be early appointed for the purpose. The Committee entrusted to decide on the different inventions having for their object to render an art or profession less prejudicial to health, has come to the conclusion that a prize of 2,500*fr.* shall be awarded to M. Leclair, for the preparation on a large scale of white zinc, and its application to painting buildings by means of an oily sicative of manganese; and a like prize of 2,500*fr.* to M. Rocher, for an economical apparatus for distilling sea water on board ships, by applying to it the heat arising from the cooking apparatus on board. The prize for astronomy instituted by Delalande is awarded for 1846 to M. Galle, of Berlin, who discovered, on the 23rd of September, the planet Neptune, from the representations of M. Leverrier; that of 1847 is to be shared between M. Hencke, who discovered, on the 1st of July 1847, the planet Hebe — and Mr. Hind, who discovered in the same year two new planets, one (the Iris) on the 15th of August, and the other (the Flora) on the 18th of October. The prize for 1848 is awarded to Mr. Graham, who discovered, on the 26th of April 1848, the planet Metis.

BRITISH INSTITUTION, Pall Mall. — THE GALLERY for the EXHIBITION and SALE of the WORKS of BRITISH ARTISTS is OPEN DAILY, from Ten till Five. — Admission, 1*s.* Catalogue, 1*s.* GEORGE NICOL, Secretary.

THE WINTER EXHIBITION OF WATER-COLOUR DRAWINGS and SKETCHES in OILS, comprising Works by the most eminent living Artists, is OPEN from Ten till Dusk daily. Admission (including Catalogue), 1*s.*; Season Ticket, 3*s.* "The Exhibition is altogether one which will repay the attention of visitors." — *Athenæum*, Jan. 5.  
130, Regent Street. J. L. GRUNDY, Manager.

THE NILE. — RE-OPENED AT THE EGYPTIAN HALL, PICCADILLY. — The new and splendid MOVING PANORAMA of the NILE, showing all the stupendous Works of Antiquity on its Banks, from Cairo the capital of Egypt to the Second Cataract in Nubia. Painted by Henry Warren and James Fahey from drawings made by Joseph Bonomi during many years' residence there. — Morning 3; Evening 8 o'clock. — Stalls 3*s.*, Pitt 2*s.*, Gallery 1*s.*

THE DIORAMA, Regent's Park, will be SHORTLY OPENED with a NEW EXHIBITION, representing the ROYAL CASTLE of STOLZENFELS and its Environs, visited by Her Majesty Queen Victoria in August, 1845, and the much-admired Picture of THE SHRINE OF THE NATIVITY, at Bethlehem.

NEW EXHIBITION. — NOW OPEN, at No. 309, Regent Street, adjoining the Royal Polytechnic Institution, A PICTURESQUE TOUR to the BRITANNIA BRIDGE, with ILLUSTRATIONS, comprising Views of Birmingham, Chester, Coventry, the Victoria and Britannia Bridges, &c. &c. on a grand scale. Painted by J. W. ALLEN. — An instructive and amusing Description by JOHN CLARK, Esq. — Hours of Exhibition: Afternoon, Two o'clock and Four; Evenings, Seven o'clock and Nine. — Admission, 1*s.*; Schools, half-price.



## ROYAL POLYTECHNIC INSTITUTION.

SIR HENRY R. BISHOP'S LECTURES ON MUSIC with VOCAL ILLUSTRATIONS, take place on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday Evenings at Eight, and on Tuesday, Thursday, and Saturday at Three o'clock.—ILLUSTRATIONS ON ASTRONOMY, by Dr. Bachhoffner, on Wednesday and Friday at One o'clock, during Lent.—Dr. Bachhoffner's LECTURE on the PHILOSOPHY OF SCIENTIFIC RECREATION, Mornings and Evenings.—A LECTURE by J. H. Pepper, Esq. on the CHEMICAL RELATION OF THE METALS.—DISSOLVING VIEWS OF LONDON in the SIXTEENTH CENTURY and AS IT NOW IS, with a Descriptive Lecture; also a SERIES OF VIEWS OF ROME.—Experiments with the DIVER and DIVING BELL, &c.—Admission, 1s.; Schools, Half-price.

## SOCIETIES

GEOGRAPHICAL.—Jan. 28.—Capt. H. Smyth, R.N., President, in the chair.—W. N. Cooke, Esq. was elected a Fellow.

A letter from the Admiralty, inclosing copies of Reports from Capt. Kellett, of H.M.S. Herald, and from Commander Moore, of H.M.S. Plover, on the proceedings in search of the Expedition under the command of Capt. Sir John Franklin; together with the tracings of the Surveys lately executed in the Arctic Seas, as well as those along the west coast of Central America,—which were explained by Lieut. Wood, R.N., the Commander of the Pandora,—was read.

Letter from Commander Mathison, of H.M.S. Mariner, communicated by the Admiralty. In obedience to orders from the Commander-in-Chief, Commander Mathison proceeded in H.M.S. Mariner to the coast of Japan, and anchored off the town of Oragawa, twenty-five miles from the capital of the empire and three miles farther than any other vessel of a foreign nation had been allowed to proceed. The Mariner sounded all the way across and along the shores. "The Japanese interpreter on board having informed the authorities of the object of my visit, I sent my card, written in Chinese, ashore to the Governor, requesting him to receive my visit; to which he replied, that, out of courtesy to me and curiosity to himself, he would have been delighted to pay me a visit, and also entertain me ashore, but that it was contrary to the laws of the country for any foreigner to land, and that he, the Governor, would lose his life if he permitted me to proceed any farther up the bay. When about eight miles from Cape Misaki, which forms the south-west end of the bay, ten boats, manned with twenty armed men and five mandarins in each, came alongside. I allowed the mandarins to come on board, when they presented me a paper, written in French and Dutch, directing me not to anchor or cruise about the bay. Finding, however, that I was determined to proceed, they offered, when within two miles of the anchorage, to tow me up, which I accordingly accepted. Several boats were stationed around us during the night, forts were lighted up, and several hundred boats were collected along the shore, all fully manned and armed. In return, I had my guns loaded, and requested their boats to keep at a respectful distance during the night. Othosan, the interpreter, was in great dread; saying that in case we landed, the Japanese would murder us all, and as for himself, he would be reserved for a lingering death by torture. Oragawa appears to be the key of the capital of the empire, and contains 20,000 inhabitants. All the junks going and returning to Jeddo must pass the custom-house here; and with a moderate force the whole trade of the capital might be completely stopped. With an armed steamer, the passage up to Jeddo might be surveyed; and I was informed that a ship could approach within five miles of the city. Between the capital and the port an excellent road exists. The mandarins here appear of an inferior class, treated us civilly, and were anxious to gain any information from us, but would give none in return. They took sketches of different parts of the ship, sent us some water, vegetables, and eggs, and then were continually inquiring when I intended to depart. Mr. Halloran, the master, having made a survey of the anchorage, I weighed, and proceeded to Semodi Bay, of which an accurate survey was made. I landed at this place,—but the mandarins immediately followed, entreating me to return on board. They supplied us with plenty of fish, and sent fifty boats to tow us out. The Governor of the province came on board at this place; he lives at a town called Miomaki, thirteen miles off, and was evidently a man of high rank from the respect shown him by his suite. The Dutch interpreter from Oragawa likewise came on board with two mandarins to watch

our proceedings. They were, however, doubtless acting as spies on each other," &c. &c.—Dr. Gutzlaff hoped that the time was rapidly approaching when the commerce of these two empires would be open to the world. To Russia, the Chinese Emperor, in a secret treaty, has granted the free navigation of the Amur, which will greatly facilitate the communication between the American and the Asiatic possessions of Russia on the Northern Pacific and St. Petersburg, *via* Kiakta. The Japanese carry on a restricted trade with China and Holland; but it is the opinion of the illustrious Humboldt that an opportunity for opening a liberal and honourable commerce between Europe and Japan will be afforded when the Atlantic and the Pacific shall be united by a canal across the Isthmus of Panama, and Japan thus brought more than 6,000 miles nearer Europe and America. "This neck of land," he observes, "has been for ages the bulwark of China and of Japan."

Feb. 11.—Capt. H. Smyth, R.N., President, in the chair.—The Hon. E. Everett, Don F. Cuello, the Baron v. Müller, and M. Le Comte E. de Balbi, were elected Corresponding members.—W. Bollaert, Esq. was elected a Fellow; and, in consideration of his distinguished services in the cause of geographical discovery, Capt. J. Becroft, Governor-General of Fernando Po and Her Majesty's Consul between Cape St. Paul and Cape St. John, was proposed, and at once unanimously elected a Fellow without the usual suspension of his name in the library.—Read, a letter from Sir W. Hooker, containing an account of the late capture, and subsequent release of his son, Dr. Hooker, and Dr. Campbell, by the Rajah of Sikkim.

Papers read were.—1. 'Account of the Discovery of the Lake Ngami, in Southern Africa, by the Rev. David Livingston, accompanied by Messrs. Murray and Oswell.' Mr. Livingston, with his friends, started on the 1st of June last from Kolobeng (25° S. lat. and 26° E. long. South Africa) to penetrate the Desert in search of the lake. This desert has hitherto presented an insurmountable barrier to Europeans; and a party of Griquas even last year, at two different points, made many and persevering efforts in vain to cross it. When Sekomo, the Bermangueto chief, learned the intention of Mr. Livingston to penetrate through the region beyond him, he ordered his men to drive the Bushmen and Bakalibari from the route, in order to deprive the party of their assistance in search for water. After a persevering march of about 300 miles, the party at length struck on a magnificent river on the 4th of July; and, following along the banks of this nearly 300 miles more, reached the Batasama, on the Lake Ngami, in the beginning of August. The Bakoba, or Bayeige, are a totally distinct race from the Bechuanas, and are much darker than the latter. Of 300 words collected by Mr. Livingston, only 21 appeared to resemble the Sitchuana. "We greatly admired," says Mr. Livingston, "the frank, manly bearing of these inland sailors; who paddle along their river and lake in canoes hollowed out of the trunks of immense trees, take fish in nets made of a weed abounding on the banks, and kill hippopotami with harpoons attached to ropes." The banks were beautiful in the extreme, in some parts resembling the Clyde. They were covered with gigantic trees, many of them quite new. Two or three measured in circumference seventy to seventy-six feet. The higher the party ascended the river the broader it became, until it measured upwards of 100 yards in breadth between the wide belt of reeds lining the sides. The water was clear as crystal, soft and cold. The Youga is reported to communicate not only with the lake, but also with other large rivers coming from the north. One remarkable feature of the river is, its periodical rise and fall. During the short time the party remained, it rose nearly three feet in height, and this too in the dry season. This rise is evidently not caused by rain, the water being so pure; and besides the purity increased as the party ascended towards its junction with Tamunakle, from which river it receives a large supply. With the periodical rise of the river's large shoals of fish descend. The latitude of the lake at its north-east extremity is 20° 20',—the longitude is supposed by Mr. Livingston to be about 24° east. It gradually widens out from the mouth of the Youga into a frith about fifteen miles across, and towards the south-west pre-

sents a large horizon of water.—The reading of this paper was followed by an animated discussion.

2. 'Views and Illustrations in Abyssinia,' by Mr. Bernatz, artist to the mission under Major Harris. The correctness of the illustrations was confirmed by Dr. Beke, who had been present at some of the scenes represented by Mr. Bernatz.—We have ourselves seen these 'Views and Illustrations' by Mr. Bernatz, and can testify to the graphic ability with which the incidents of a scenery new and strange are there brought before us. Mr. Bernatz remained in the country from 1841 to 1843; and being left behind with a second division of the mission for a portion of that time, and stationary at certain points, he was enabled to see much that would have escaped him in a rapid march through the country. The physical accidents of the earth and of the atmosphere, the zoology and botany of the countries through which the mission passed and amid which Mr. Bernatz encamped, and the manners and customs of the various classes of the inhabitants, are all illustrated in these striking sketches,—which are fifty in number.

ASIATIC.—Feb. 16.—H.R.H. Prince Albert in the chair.—Major Rawlinson read the second part of his paper 'On Babylonian and Assyrian Inscriptions.' He first explained the process by which these inscriptions had been rendered legible. There were in Persia a vast number of cuneiform inscriptions of the Achemenian kings, tri-lingual and tri-literal; that is, composed in three different languages and expressed by three different alphabets. These languages were Persian, Scythic, and Babylonian, agreeing with the three great lingual families into which the empire of Cyrus and Darius was divided. The Persian inscriptions were comparatively easy,—being written in a language closely allied to the Sanscrit, and the alphabet being sufficiently regular. They were accordingly first studied; and by dint of a careful analysis were soon completely deciphered.

The next step was to supply the alphabetical key thus acquired to the Babylonian transcripts. A list of about eighty proper names was soon obtained; of which the approximate pronunciation was known from their Persian correspondents; and from these names an alphabet was drawn up, giving the value of about 100 Babylonian characters. A diligent collation of inscriptions had increased the number of known signs to about 150; and such, Major Rawlinson observed, was the extent of his present acquaintance with the Assyrian and Babylonian writing.

An explanation was then given of the nature and structure of the Assyrian alphabet;—it was said to bear undoubted marks of an Egyptian origin. It was partly ideographic and partly phonetic; and the phonetic portion was partly syllabic and partly literal. Major Rawlinson could not admit that the phonetic system was entirely syllabic, as had been sometimes stated. There was, no doubt, an extensive syllabarium; and the literal characters, moreover, required a vowel sound either to precede or follow the consonant; but such vowel sound was rarely uniform,—and he preferred, therefore, distinguishing the literal signs as sonant and complemental, and leaving the vowels to be supplied according to the requirements of the language. He further explained that non-phonetic signs were used as determinatives in the same manner, though not to the same extent, as in Egyptian; and that the names of the gods were usually represented either by arbitrary monograms or, perhaps, by the dominant letter of the name. Some characters, indeed, he said, might be used to express a syllable or the dominant sound in that syllable; while others were employed to represent two entirely dissimilar alphabetical powers,—very great confusion and uncertainty prevailing in consequence. He also noticed the poverty of the elemental alphabetical powers; the want of distinction between the hard and soft pronunciation of the consonants; the mutation of the liquids and other phonetic powers, not strictly homogeneous; and the extensive employment of homophones; and he endeavoured to illustrate all these obscurities of alphabetic expression by suggesting that, as the Assyrian system of writing was borrowed from that of Egypt, so each cuneiform sign must have been originally supposed to represent a natural object, and the phonetic power of the sign may have been in some cases the complete name of



the object and, in others, the dominant sound in the name, whether initial, medial, or final.

Major Rawlinson then went on to consider the Assyrian and Babylonian languages, — languages which if not identical were, at any rate, very closely allied. He traced, in some detail, all the various steps which he had pursued in order to arrive at a knowledge of the meaning of the Assyrian inscriptions. Paper casts of many Babylonian inscriptions, which had been brought home by Major Rawlinson, were suspended around the walls of the room; and among them was a cast of the Babylonian translation of the great Behistûn inscription, — this cast being as valuable, Major Rawlinson remarked, for cuneiform decipherment as was the Rosetta stone for the interpretation of the hieroglyphic writing of Egypt. From this document, from a complete copy of the Babylonian inscription at Naksh-i-Rustam, which Major Rawlinson also fortunately possessed, and from the many published copies of the tri-lingual tablets, a vocabulary had been formed of more than 200 Babylonian words, of which the sound was known approximately and the meaning certainly. Furnished with this basis of interpretation, and instructed as to the general grammatical structure of the language, Major Rawlinson had then carefully gone through the whole of the materials available to research. He had diligently compared and analyzed all the inscriptions of Assyria, of Babylonia, of Armenia, of Susiana, and of Elymais, — not merely extracting the historical and geographical information of value which such inscriptions contained, but laying bare the anatomy of the sentences, collating similar or cognate phrases wherever they occurred, and submitting the whole mass to a thorough examination, both philological and mechanical.

The result of this process had been that the vocabulary had increased to about 500 standard words, and a sufficient knowledge had been obtained of the language to enable Major Rawlinson to interpret the historical inscriptions pretty closely, and to ascertain the general purport of any record of whatever age, or on whatever subject. At the same time Major Rawlinson warned the Society against running away with an idea that the science of Assyrian decipherment was exhausted, and that nothing now remained to be done but to read the inscriptions, and reap the fruits of our knowledge. He observed, that in the alphabetical branch of the subject there was still much to be verified, — much perhaps to be discovered; whilst the vocabulary of 500 words, which was at present the only manual of interpretation, did not contain a tenth part of the vocabularies used in the inscriptions of Assyria and Babylonia. He drew attention to the fact, "that although fifty years had elapsed since the Rosetta stone was first discovered, and its value was recognized as a partial key to the hieroglyphs, during which period many of the most powerful intellects of modern Europe had devoted themselves to the study of Egyptian, nevertheless, that study as a distinct branch of philology, had hardly yet passed through its preliminary stage of cultivation." "How then," he asked, "could it be expected that in studying Assyrian — with an alphabet scarcely less difficult, and a language far more difficult than the Egyptian — with no Plutarch to dissect the Pantheon, and supply the names of the gods, no Manetho or Eratosthenes to classify the dynasties, and furnish the means of identifying the kings, how could it be supposed, with all the difficulties that beset, and none of the facilities that assist Egyptologists, two or three individuals were to accomplish in a couple of years more than all Europe had been able to effect in half a century?"

Having thus conscientiously admitted the imperfections and perhaps errors of the present system of decipherment, and having recommended zeal as well as caution in prosecuting further researches, Major Rawlinson proceeded to examine the Babylonian and Assyrian languages, with a view to the establishment of his position that they might be determinately classed among the Semitic languages. He followed out the Babylonian grammar in considerable detail, commencing with the article; then thoroughly sifting the nouns and pronouns, and comparing, with Semitic and Coptic usage, their principles of formation, and the various modifications which they underwent in order to express the rela-

tions of gender, number, person, &c. He examined the verbs afterwards, with even greater minuteness, making an attempt to classify the conjugations, and further explaining the system of distinguishing the persons by affixes, and number by a suffix. He also remarked on the singular want of precision in the Babylonian verb, in failing to discriminate between past and present time; and in concluding this grammatical synopsis, he briefly noticed the particles, adverbs, and conjunctions. Subsequently, he enumerated a list of about thirty of the commonest verbal roots, comparing them with their correspondents in the cognate languages, and remarking that these examples proved the Assyrian and Babylonian languages to be in a more primitive state than any other Semitic tongue open to our research, inasmuch as the roots were almost universally free from that subsidiary augment, which in Hebrew, Aramaean, and Arabic, had caused the tri-literal to be usually regarded as the true base, and the bi-literal as the defective one. A number of nouns and adjectives were afterwards cited, all closely resembling well-known forms in Hebrew and Arabic; and thus terminated the philological portion of this paper.

Major Rawlinson then resumed the historical inquiry at the point where he had broken off at the last meeting. He said, that before giving a *précis* of the contents of the Khorsabad inscriptions, he would consider a question which had been raised with regard to the identification of the kings of this line, and which was of paramount importance to the Assyrian chronology. It had been stated positively that the kings who built the palace of Koyunjik, and the S.W. palace of Nimrûd, were the Biblical Sennacherib and Esar-haddon; and if this were the case, of course the Khorsabad king, who was the father of the builder of Koyunjik, would be the Shalmaneser or Sargon of Holy Writ. Now Major Rawlinson would not pretend to state authoritatively that these identifications were or were not true; he would give the arguments for and against, and would leave the members of the Society to form their own opinions, submitting his own particular views of the chronology in the sequel. In favour of the identification of the Khorsabad king with Shalmaneser or Sargon, there was, — first, the title of *Sarghum* attaching to the city as late as the Arab conquest; whilst the city was especially said in the inscriptions to be named after the king who built it. Second, the presumed synchronism of the king with Bocchoris, king of Egypt, who was the immediate predecessor of Sabakon, or So, the latter monarch being the party with whom Hoshea, the contemporary of Shalmaneser, formed an alliance. Third, the remarkable accordance of the inscription with the Cyprus stone (a cast of which has been sent to Major Rawlinson from Berlin) with Menander's account of the assistance rendered by Shalmaneser to the islanders in their contest with Phœnicia. Several minor points of resemblance were also brought forward between the historical notices of Shalmaneser's career and the wars recorded in the Khorsabad inscriptions.

With regard to the identification of the Koyunjik king with Sennacherib, Major Rawlinson noticed the reduction of Babylon, and the conquest of Sidon; and showed that the tablet at the Nahr-el-Kelb might be very plausibly supposed to record the great expedition against Phœnicia and Egypt, discussed by Josephus.

In respect to the third king of the line, there was nothing worth mentioning but that the first two elements of the name were to be read Assar-adon, which was almost the same as the Biblical Esar-haddon.

Against the identification, Major Rawlinson noticed, firstly, the entire difference of the nomenclature, the ordinary forms of these kings' names on the monuments being 1, Arko-tsena; 2, Bel-adonim-sha; and 3, Assar-adon-assar; and the improbability, if the kings in question were the Biblical line, of such well-known appellations as Shalmaneser and Sennacherib never being employed, the latter name, in particular having been preserved by Herodotus and the Chaldean historians, as well as in Scripture.

Secondly, with regard to Bocchoris, if the *Bi-ar-ha* of the Khorsabad inscriptions really represented this name, the Bocchoris in question might be taken for the fifth king of the twenty-first dynasty, named

*Pe-hur* in the Egyptian monuments, rather than for the Saïte usurper, who reigned but a very few years and whose name was never found in the hieroglyphic records.

Thirdly, the coincidence of the campaigns, Major Rawlinson thought of no consequence, for every Assyrian monarch of note carried his arms from the Persian Gulph to the Mediterranean; and the conquest of Ashdod and Sidon on the one side, and of Babylon on the other, might thus apply to any king of the line, as well as to Shalmaneser and Sennacherib.

Fourthly, there were many cuneiform records of Assyrian kings posterior to the builders of Khorsabad and Koyunjik; and these kings were evidently not less celebrated warriors than their predecessors. If then the line he was now considering were really Shalmaneser, Sennacherib, and Esar-haddon, who, he asked, were the later monarchs?

Fifthly, Major Rawlinson stated that the S.W. palace at Nimrûd had not been built, as usually supposed, by the son of the builder of Koyunjik; but that it owed its origin to some monarch of an entirely different line, who was so reckless of the ancient Assyrian glories that, in erecting his new edifice, he destroyed the elaborate annals of the builder of Khorsabad engraven on the slabs of the centre palace. This different line, he thought, must represent the second or lower dynasty of Assyria; and it would thus be necessary to assign all the other monuments to the upper and original line.

After mentioning many other circumstances which seemed to render impossible the identification of the builder of Khorsabad with Shalmaneser, or the builder of Koyunjik with Sennacherib, Major Rawlinson briefly, and with diffidence, stated his own views of the Assyrian chronology. From Herodotus and other authorities he showed the probability of the Assyrian monarchy dating from the commencement of the thirteenth century before the Christian era; and he proposed, accordingly, to place the six kings recorded at Nimrûd from about B.C. 1250 to about B.C. 1100. The wars described upon the obelisk, during which the Assyrian arms certainly penetrated to the confines of Egypt, would thus fall in with the latter part of the twentieth dynasty, when Egypt was suffering under great depression. A vast number of geographical coincidences, which were duly enumerated, corroborated this chronology. He further thought that an interval of perhaps seventy years occurred between the grandson of the obelisk king and the builder of Khorsabad, and he thus placed the reign of the latter in about B.C. 1030, at a period when *Pe-hur*, the fifth king of the twenty-first dynasty, was reigning in Egypt. The Koyunjik king he believed to be contemporary with Solomon; and his son Assar-adon-assar with Rehoboam, and Sheshonk of Egypt. The monuments of the Assyrian kings who contracted alliances with the twenty-second dynasty of Egypt, as well as of those familiar to us from Scripture history, he supposed we had yet to identify.

In regard to the Jews, Major Rawlinson suggested that they were always classed by the Assyrians with the Khetta or Hittites, who were the dominant race in Palestine. He showed the probability of Jerusalem being mentioned as a city of the Khetta; and he stated that it was even possible the Children of Israel might be represented in the earlier inscriptions by "the twelve tribes of the upper and the lower country," who were always associated with the Hittites in the notices of the wars of Assyria against Hamath and Atesh.

Major Rawlinson then proceeded to give a summary of the annals of the Khorsabad king, following the order of events recorded in the series of Inscriptions in the hall, No. 10 of the French plates, and illustrating the campaigns by references to the inscriptions in the other halls, particularly No. 2, where the wars were described in greater detail, and according to the regnal years.

Amongst numerous subjects of great interest, Major Rawlinson particularly drew attention to the various notices of *Misr* or Egypt, — translating the passages which referred to that country verbatim, and explaining that the city of *Râ-bek*, which was always spoken of as the chief place in the country, was the Biblical *On*, and Greek Heliopolis, the name being formed of *Râ* the sun, and *bek* (Coptic, *baki*) a



city; in the same manner as Baal-bek, 'Αραβήχ, &c. He thought that there were two distinct divisions of Egypt commonly mentioned at Khorsabad: one, *Misr* (perhaps Mitsur, the Hebrew מִצְרַיִם) which seemed the lower Egypt, and which was ruled over by *Bi-ar-ha*, possibly the *Pe-hur* of the hieroglyphs; and the other *Misek*, or higher Egypt, governed by a king whose name was written *Me-ta* (possibly a contraction for *Menophtha*). He suggested that these two divisions might represent the upper and lower country of the hieroglyphs, and that it was in consequence of the great similarity of the names that the Hebrews employed a single dual form, *Misraim*. At any rate the country of *Misek*, which played so very conspicuous a part in the annals of Khorsabad, was immediately contiguous to *Misr*, or lower Egypt; for the King *Me-ta* appears sometimes to reside in *Râ-bek* or Heliopolis; and the two geographical names, moreover, were always associated. It might be remembered, also, that the names *Menophtha* and *Pe-hur* followed each other in the hieroglyphic lists of the twenty-first dynasty.

In noticing the campaigns against Senacte, a city of Phœnicia, contiguous to Ashdod, or Azotus, Major Rawlinson observed, that after the place was taken, the Assyrian king gave it to Metheti of Athenni; and suggested that as the city of Senacte was stated in another passage to be in the hands of the Yavana, or Ionians, this Metheti of Athenni, might possibly be Melanthus of Athens, or, at any rate, some Athenian leader subsequent to the immigration of the Ionic families, who being in command of a fleet on the coast of Phœnicia, had rendered assistance to the King of Assyria in bringing the sea-ports under subjection.

Major Rawlinson continued to describe all the campaigns of the Assyrian monarchs in succession, and furnished much illustration from the ancient and modern geography of the countries between the Mediterranean and Persian Gulf. He stated that about 1,000 names of countries, tribes and cities were mentioned in these inscriptions; and that when the records were completely and determinately made out, a most invaluable tableau would be thus furnished of the political geography of western Asia ten centuries before the Christian era.

Before closing his notice of the Khorsabad inscriptions, he explained his observation at the last meeting in regard to the introduction of a strong Scythic element at this period into the population of central and western Asia. He showed that the Sacæ or Scyths were always named *Tsimri* by the Babylonians and Assyrians; and that under the reign of the Khorsabad king, these *Tsimri* were to be found in almost every province of the empire, constituting in fact, as it would seem, the militia of the kingdom. Major Rawlinson further observed that he considered the *Tsimri*, *Sacæ* or *Scyths*, to represent the nomade tribes generally, in contradistinction to the fixed peasantry, and without reference to nationality, including, in fact, in their ranks, Celts, Slavonians and Teutons, as well as all grades of the Tartar family, from the primitive type of the Fin and Magyar to the later developed Mongolian and Turk; and he added that the *Zimri* of Jeremiah, associated with the Elamites and Medes (c. xxv. v. 25), referred in all probability to the same tribes.

Of the Koyunjik king, Major Rawlinson observed that he had only met with two historical inscriptions recording the conquest of Babylon, Susiana, Sidon, &c., and that both these records were much mutilated. The ordinary inscriptions of this monarch were religious, and extremely difficult to be understood.

Of the third king of the line, *Assar-aden-assar*, little was known beyond the name. Major Rawlinson cautioned the meeting, however, against confounding the name of this king with that of the builder of the north-west palace at Nimrud. The names were quite distinct, and an interval of at least two centuries must have occurred between the two monarchs in question.

Major Rawlinson then cursorily noticed the names and actions of five other Assyrian monarchs, of whom relics had been discovered in Nineveh and the vicinity. Some of these monarchs, he said, in all probability belonged to the lower dynasty; but he could not recognize any of the historical names.

In continuation, he enumerated six kings of Ar-

menia, whose inscriptions were found at Van and in the vicinity; and he stated good reasons for attributing this family to the eighth and seventh centuries before the Christian era.

Passing on to Babylonia, he then noticed eight or nine kings, whose names were found upon different monuments; but he added, that in the present state of our knowledge it was impossible to classify these monarchs, or even to identify any kings but Nebuchadnezzar and his father Nabopolassar. He observed, that throughout Babylonia Proper, even at Borsippa,—which was undoubtedly one of the oldest sites in the country,—the only name which he had found upon the bricks was that of Nebuchadnezzar, or rather, *Nabochodrossor*. This king appeared to have formed some hundreds of towns around Babylon,—rebuilding the old cities, and founding new ones. Further to the south, however,—at Niffer, at Warka or Orcha (Ur of the Chaldees), at Umgeir, and Umwareis,—there were magnificent ruins belonging to other royal lines; and it is probable that if bricks were collected from all these sites, something definite must be made out with regard to the Babylonian and Chaldean chronology.

Major Rawlinson then alluded to the standard inscription of Nebuchadnezzar, the best and most perfect copy of which was that engraved on the India House slab. This, he said, was a sort of hieratic, statistical charter. He did not pretend to be able to read and interpret it throughout; but he had, at any rate, found in it a detail of all the temples built by the king in the different towns and cities of Babylonia, together with the names of the particular gods and goddesses to whom the temples were dedicated,—and a variety of matter regarding the support of the shrines, and the ceremonial and sacrificial worship performed in them,—which it was exceedingly difficult to render with any approach to exactitude.

Major Rawlinson further stated that the name of Babel was never used until the time of Nebuchadnezzar; and he protested, therefore, against the possibility of the title being found in an Egyptian inscription of Thotmes III. The ancient name of Babylonia was *Senêreh*—the *Shinar* of Scripture, and *Zevaaop* of Histiæus. In more recent times it was termed *Babeleh*, or more frequently *Athreh*—a title which he considered to be identical with the *Otri* of Pliny.

In conclusion, Major Rawlinson noticed the tablet of King *Susra* among the ruins of Susa,—and the less known inscriptions of Elymais. The former was written in the hieratic Susian character, and was exceedingly difficult to be made out;—the latter were in cursive Elymæan, which was not very different from cursive Babylonian. Both the Susian and Elymæan languages, however, were perfectly distinct from Assyrian, and appeared to belong to a Scythic rather than a Semitic family.

After giving a general sketch of the results that had been obtained from the various sources of intelligence thus enumerated and partially explained, Major Rawlinson concluded his lecture in the following words:—"Nations whom we have hitherto viewed through the dim medium of myth or of tradition, now take their definite places in history: but before we can affiliate these nations on any sure ethnographical grounds—before we can trace their progress to civilization, or their relapse into barbarism—before we estimate the social phases through which they have passed—before we can fix their chronology, identify their monarchs, or even individualize each king's career,—much patient labour must be encountered, much ingenuity must be exercised, much care must be bestowed on collateral as well as on intrinsic evidence; and, above all, instead of the fragmentary materials which are at present alone open to our research, we must have consecutive monumental data extending at least over the ten centuries which preceded the reign of Cyrus the Great."

SOCIETY OF ANTIQUARIES.—Feb. 28.—Mr. Collier in the chair.—Read—'A Continuation of Mr. Morgan's History of Clock and Watch making.' This communication was accompanied by the exhibition of a number of curious specimens of early clocks and watches.

In reference to the remarks of Major Rawlinson,

read at the last meeting, Mr. Akerman read some notes on the title "Bel" or "Baal," which he showed was an *epithet* only, and not the *name* of a particular divinity, as supposed by the learned Major. Mr. Akerman cited many proofs that "Baal" signified chief or supreme protector; and that in fact the tutelary divinity of a city would, if of the *male* sex, be always thus designated by the people of Eastern countries. He referred to the well-known Melita Inscription, on which Melkart, the Phœnician Heracles, is styled the *Baal of Tyr*; and quoted Josephus, who tells us that Jezebel built a temple to the god of the Tyrians whom they call *Belus*. A passage in Hosea shows that the Jews were in the habit of addressing the true God as their Baal:—hence the Almighty is represented addressing Jerusalem and interdicting the application of the epithet to himself. Notwithstanding the confusion arising from the want of a proper understanding of the use of this epithet, both by ancient and by modern writers,—it was perfectly well comprehended and illustrated by the poet Milton; who, when speaking of the divinities of the Assyrians and other nations, says they

had general names of Baalim and Ashteroth,  
Those male, these feminine.

INSTITUTE OF BRITISH ARCHITECTS.—Jan. 21.—Earl De Grey in the chair.—H. J. Stevens, Esq. was elected a Fellow and L. Stride, Esq. an Associate.—The President informed the meeting in reference to the Commission for the Exhibition of Works of Industry of All Nations in 1851, that he had been officially applied to, to be a member of that Commission; but that he had been obliged to decline the honour on account of his health not permitting him to devote that attention which would be required by the probably arduous duties of the Commission. His Lordship had no doubt that the profession would be adequately represented by Mr. Barry, a Fellow of the Institute, who had been appointed on the Commission.—Mr. H. Roberts read a paper on the arrangements and constructions of dwellings for the labouring classes.

Feb. 4.—S. Smirke, V.P. in the chair.—C. H. Gabriel, J. Norton and F. W. Porter, Esqs. were elected Associates.—The Chairman announced that Mr. T. Fuller had tendered his resignation as Associate, which had been accepted.

A resolution of the Council was read, recommending to the members, "that the Royal Gold Medal be awarded to C. Barry, R.A., for having designed and executed various buildings of high merit."

The resolution and recommendation were unanimously approved of by the meeting.

The Report of the Council on the Essay and Designs received in competition for the silver medal of the Institute and the Soane medallion was read, and ordered to be taken into consideration at the next ordinary general meeting.

S. Angell read a paper 'On the Life, Genius and Works of Giacomo Barozzi da Vignola.' On the walls were exhibited a large collection of drawings and sketches of the principal works of this master.

Prof. Cockerell, Messrs. Hardwick, Smirke and Tite, Fellows, offered some remarks suggested by the paper.

Some specimens of carving in marble by machinery, consisting of groups of figures and some architectural ornaments, were exhibited by M. Conté, the patentee.

STATISTICAL.—Feb. 18.—Lieut.-Col. W. H. Sykes, V.P. in the chair.—Dr. Gutzlaff read a paper 'On the Agriculture, Commerce, Manufactures, &c. of China:' in none of which machinery is ever employed. The implements in use are of a very rude and primitive construction; mainly owing to the fact of the Government offering little or no encouragement to the most willing and enterprising of its subjects. This stagnation of Art is especially observed in the inland countries; but at Canton and some marine districts intercourse with other nations has effected much towards raising the standard of manufactures, &c. The principal mines are gold, silver, tin, iron, lead, and copper; the latter of which greatly abound, though to little purpose—since the use of it for ordinary purposes is prohibited, lest the quantity required for casting the currency of the country should fall short. Tin-foil is in much use, and is made to represent gold by



the application of a yellow varnish. The Chinese possess no silver coinage; the only circulating medium of this kind being Spanish and republican dollars. Gold is circulated in bars of 10 oz., or in leaf; the latter being most highly prized. Some proficiency has been attained in the manufacture of glass: that cut at Peking is not inferior to Bohemian, and realizes annually 100,000*l.* sterling. Jewellery is manufactured to some extent; ornaments made from the jade-stone found in the Khoten River, alone amounting to 1,500,000*l.* annually. The following are the principal manufactured productions, and their estimated annual sterling value:—Lacquered ware, 600,000*l.*; grass-cloth, 3,000,000*l.*; cotton, at the rate of 1½ tael to each individual, amounts to 183,000,000*l.*; silk (in which the Chinese greatly excel), at 1 tael to every tenth of the population, 12,000,000*l.*; silk and cotton mixed, 4,000,000*l.*; wool, 3,000,000*l.*; ship-building, 20,000,000*l.*; the produce of the fisheries, 90,000,000*l.* Inland commerce is much retarded by the heavy tolls levied on the transit of goods, and from the extremely limited system of banking circulation. Piracy and smuggling prevail to an immense extent; to which may be attributed the decline of at least one-third of the maritime commerce during the last fifteen years.

LINNEAN.—Feb. 5.—W. Yarrell, Esq. in the chair.—The Rev. G. Capel, W. Tebitt, Esq. and J. Buckman, Esq. were elected Fellows.—Dr. Lankester laid on the table the two new volumes of the publications of the Ray Society for 1849; consisting of a volume of papers on Botany and Dr. Baird's richly illustrated work on the British Entomotrachea.—The following address from the Royal Bavarian Botanical Society, presented to Mr. Brown on the occasion of his being elected President of the Society, was read.—

Viro eminentissimo, edoctissimo, emeritissimo,  
Domino Domino ROBERTO BROWNIO, D.C.L.,  
Permultarum Societatum Literarum Socio et Patrono,  
ET SUPER LINNÆANÆ LONDINENSIS PRÆSIDI ELECTO,  
Botanicorum Antistiti,  
Qui Antipodum Floram primus et pæne solus digessit,  
Explorans fideliter quas et ipse legerat et alii reportantur  
plantas,  
Qui complures Plantarum Familias Naturales ordine disposuit,  
Exquirens fortiter novas et neglectas generum notas,  
Qui Physiologiam Stirpium plurimis investigationibus dis-  
puxit,  
Exponens feliciter morphoseos et geometrices botanicæ  
leges,  
Qui reliquias Pristinæ Floræ fossiles discretim discussit,  
Expandens florenter intimam lignorum structuram,  
Qui denique hodiernæ Phytographiæ et Phytologiæ aperto  
discrimine  
Et pater et stator et auctor exstitit,  
Et, quod faustum nomen socio imposuit Germanorum  
Academia distincto,  
Ceu alter Raius per totum orbem famam sui dispersit,  
Honorem, quo et se ipsam et virum ornavit Societas Lin-  
næana,  
Promovendo in sedem patroni divi Linnæi talem vicarium,  
SOCIETAS BOTANICA RATISBONENSIS REGIA  
Calendis Januar. MDCCCL. Piè gratulatur.

Mr. Gould exhibited specimens of a new species of the anomalous genus of Australian birds, *Menura*, which he proposed to dedicate to Prince Albert as *M. Alberto*. He also exhibited a specimen of a new species of lobster and two new Lepidopterous insects from Australia.

A continuation of Mr. Huxley's paper 'On the Medusæ' was read.

Feb. 19.—W. Yarrell, Esq. in the chair.—The Rev. J. Beddingfield was elected a Fellow. Specimens of the fruit of maize from the tomb of a Peruvian mummy were exhibited. Plants from the Macintyre River, New South Wales, collected by T. Ker, Esq., were presented by Mr. Pamplin. Busts of the late Bishop of Norwich and Dr. Maton were presented by the President. A memoir of Dr. Schreber, professor of botany in the University of Erlangen, was read by Dr. Wallich. Schreber was a pupil of Linnaeus, and contributed largely to the *Amoenitates Academicæ*,—edited the *Genera Plantarum* of Linnaeus, and began to write a natural history of quadrupeds, which has since been completed by Goldfuss and Wagner. He died in 1810. The memoir contained a number of particulars of the life of Schreber, which the author had derived from the autobiography of Dr. Martins, the father of the present distinguished President of the Royal Bavarian Botanic Society, and the historian of the family of Palms.—The Secretary read two original letters from Sir J. E. Smith to Dr. Dryander; the one on

Galvani's discovery of the effects of plates of metal on the muscles of the frog,—and the other, dated 1802, on the charter granted to the Linnean Society.

ZOOLOGICAL.—Feb. 26.—W. Spence, Esq. in the chair.—Prof. Owen communicated a Memoir (No. IV.) 'On the Gigantic Wingless Birds of New Zealand.' Having in the previous Memoirs determined and referred to their genera and species the different bones of the leg, he made those of the foot the subject of the present communication, which was illustrated by the exhibition of an extensive series of remains from both the north and south (or middle) islands of New Zealand,—comprising the entire series of phalanges of one and the same foot of the *Palapteryx robustus*, a gigantic species from Waikawaite,—a similarly complete series of the *Dinornis rheides*,—and series more or less incomplete of the phalanges of the *Dinornis giganteus*, *Palapteryx ingens* and other genera and species of the singular extinct wingless birds of New Zealand. The characteristics of the different phalanges were minutely detailed, and the different proportions of the toes characteristic of different species,—especially of the two most gigantic, viz., the *Dinornis giganteus* of the North Island and the *Palapteryx robustus* of the turbary deposits of the Middle Island. The adaptation of the claw-bones for scratching up the soil was obvious from their shape and strength. The generic distinction of *Palapteryx* had previously been indicated by a slight depression on the metatarsus, supposed by the author to be for the articulation of a small back toe, as in the *Apteryx*; and he had since received a specimen of the principal bone of that toe, which was exhibited and described. A nearly entire sternum, a portion of a minute humerus, a cranium of one of the larger species of *Palapteryx*, and a cranium of one of the smaller species of *Dinornis*, were also exhibited and described. This magnificent series of remains of the great New Zealand birds had been collected chiefly by the late Col. Wakefield, and had been transmitted to the author through the kind interest of J. R. Gowen, Esq., a director of the New Zealand Company.

A paper was read by Mr. Adams 'On New Species of *Cyclostrema* and *Separatista*, from the collection of Mr. Cuming.'

INSTITUTION OF CIVIL ENGINEERS.—Feb. 26.—W. Cubitt, Esq., President, in the chair.—'On the Street Paving of the Metropolis, with an account of a peculiar system adopted at the London and North-Western Railway Station, Euston Square,' by Mr. W. Taylor.—The paper commenced by directing attention to the importance of a good system of paving, in conjunction with a more perfect plan of sewage, for all large towns. The paving of the metropolis had too long been carried on under an antiquated and unscientific system, of using large masses of granite, placed on an insufficient substratum; the consequences of this were great noise, an imperfect foot-hold for the horses, danger of the constant fracture of the springs and axles from the jolting over an uneven surface, and great expense of repairs. The "macadamized" streets were manifest improvements on such a system; but the surface was not found capable of resisting the heavy traffic of the main thoroughfares of the city. The defects of the wood pavement so greatly exceeded the merits that it had been nearly abandoned. Impressed with the disadvantages of the present system of paving, Mr. Taylor tried an experiment about ten years ago, by covering a surface subject to very heavy traffic, and subsequently, about five years since, entirely paving the departure side of the Euston Station of the London and North-Western Railway in a peculiar manner. The system was on entirely new principles. The method employed was, after removing the sub-soil to the depth of sixteen inches, to lay a thickness of four inches of strong gravel, equally and well rammed, then another layer of gravel mixed with a small quantity of chalk, or hoggin, for the purpose of giving elasticity, the ramming being continued as before; a third coat, of the same materials, was then laid and rammed, a regular degree of convexity of surface being preserved. The stones used were Mount Sorrel granite, dressed and squared into regular masses of four inches deep, three inches thick, and four inches long: these stones were laid in a bed of fine sand one inch in thick-

ness, equally spread over the surface of the substratum, and they were carefully placed, so that no stone should rock in its bed. The whole surface was then well driven down with wooden rammers, weighing fifty-five pounds each. The small size of the stones enabled them to be well rammed home, so that the surface of the pavement never sank, and the hardness and toughness of the material prevented the stones from being worn down by any traffic, however heavy.—It was stated, that this system was found infinitely preferable to the employment of large stones, and the statement of cost was vastly in its favour; the price of the ordinary kind of granite paving, in London, being 18*s.* per superficial yard, and the maximum cost of the new or "Euston" pavement, including the substratum, was not 12*s.* per yard, and deducting the value of the old stones, not (in this latter case) claimed by the contractor, the nett cost would only be 9*s.* per yard. It was suggested, that the different Paving Boards should make a trial in streets of small traffic, by lifting the large stones, and cutting them into small cubes, or rectangular pieces, of three inches in depth, for the future pavement; so that a good field would be afforded for the practice of the pavours, which would enable them to be better qualified for the task of extending the system to the more important thoroughfares. By this means, too, a large surplus of stone would be accumulated for paving, and the refuse would be valuable for macadamizing the roads in the outskirts.

ROYAL INSTITUTION.—Feb. 22.—W. Pole, Esq. Treasurer, in the chair.—Mr. Carpmæl 'On the Manufactures from the Cocoa Nut.' These manufactures are remarkable for the simplicity of the processes resorted to, and for the usefulness of the articles produced, in many instances, from materials formerly thrown away as useless. The cocoa nut as it comes from the tree consists—first, of the outer husk, composed of fibres matted and adhering together; secondly, the shell; and, thirdly, the kernel. The manufacturers up to the present time employed only the outer husk and the kernel. The natives have long used the fibres obtained by rotting the outer husk till the fibres can be separated by beating the husks. The fibres are spun into yarn by the native girls and women, by rubbing such fibres between the palm of the hand and the surface of the leg; and in this manner is made the large quantity of Coir yarn brought into this country and used for weaving cloths for covering passages and rooms, and also matting for various uses. Notwithstanding this rude mode of spinning the fibres, up to the present time no better means has yet been introduced; and the whole of the yarn employed in this country is imported. This, however, may be accounted for by reason of there having been no practical mode of obtaining the fibre in this country from the husks till very lately. Now, however, that ready means of obtaining the fibres from the husk are known, it is reasonable to expect some better means of spinning will be invented. Mr. Carpmæl then explained how the husks are now beaten to obtain the fibre, which consists of three descriptions:—first, a light elastic fibre suitable for stuffing furniture; secondly, a coarser fibre used for making mats; and, thirdly, a strong fibre used for brushes and brooms. The husks are soaked for some time, then subjected to the pressure of grooved rollers or cylinders, then again soaked, and again subjected to grooved rollers, and then by successive processes of carding by revolving cylinders armed with bent teeth the fibres are combed out, the separate descriptions of fibres being deposited in different receivers. The uses of these fibres were then shown in the making of brushes, brooms, mats, and mattresses. Mr. Carpmæl next proceeded to explain the uses of the Kernel, which are dried in the sun, then pounded in mills to extract the oil; but of more modern time the dried kernel has been pressed between mats in powerful presses. The oil for the most part is sent to this country, and was formerly largely employed in the manufacturing of candles. The oil being when it comes to this country of about the consistency of lard, requires pressing to separate the stearine from the oil, and this is done between mats of cocoa-nut fibre pressed in powerful presses. The stearine was used for candles at first alone, then



in combination with stearic acid of tallow, producing what are called composite candles; and it was the introduction of the stearine of cocoa nut, combined with stearic acid, which constituted the first step to the great improvement which has taken place in the manufacture of candles. The larger quantities of cocoa-nut oil, however, are now exported to France to make soap,—the use of such oil in candle-making being now for the most part substituted by palm oil. Mr. Carpmæl then stated that it had lately been proposed in a communication from Ceylon to employ the juice of the cocoa-nut tree for the making of sugar; it being considered that each tree is capable of producing upwards of one hundred-weight per annum, and that an acre of cocoa-nut trees, requiring little cultivation, will produce at least twice as much sugar as an acre of sugar-cane, requiring much more cultivation.

SOCIETY OF ARTS.—Feb. 6.—J. Walker, Esq. V.P. in the chair.

Mr. Findlay's paper 'On Artificial Breakwaters' was resumed, and the principles which were described in the first part were reverted to. The force of the waves and the compound system usually existing at all times on the sea, and the prevalent direction of the winds as governing the surface waves, were again alluded to. The application of these principles to practice was the subject of the present part of the paper. Cherbourg Digue was the first work of this nature. The original projects to protect the road in 1712 and in 1777, by a line of sunken ships filled with stones, as at the siege of La Rochelle, in 1573, were abandoned. In 1782-4, M. de Cessart commenced the present *digue* by building immense timber caissons, of a truncated conical figure, 150 ft. in diameter at the base and 64 ft. high; ninety of these were to be placed tangent to each other, and filled with stones, but the wreck of the first two led to a change, that of placing them at intervals, and these intervals to be filled with stones dropped promiscuously, or *pierre-perdu*; but they were all destroyed, with one exception, prior to 1789. In 1802, the work was resumed, upon the method à *pierre-perdu*, and continued with varying success, till in 1832 M. Duparc commenced the present form,—an upright wall or parapet, placed on the summit of the enrochement at low-water, rising above high-water level. The Plymouth Breakwater, commenced in 1811, by Mr. Rennie, and continued under the able superintendence of Mr. Stuart, was described. The protection of the base of the lighthouse, on the west end of the breakwater, which has always suffered most, as explained, by means of a species of buttress, which Mr. Walker said was designed by Mr. Stuart conjointly with himself, was then mentioned. This erection involved a new principle in hydraulic architecture, afterwards alluded to. A variation from the natural slopes formed on an artificial reef by the waves' action, by diverting their line of progress, was stated to be no new proposition. It was proposed in 1734 by M. Tournes, but not acted on. In 1787-95, the sea-walls of Cadiz were built by Don Tomas Muñoz,—an incline of timber planks, terminated by a concave face of masonry,—which was destroyed by the rocks at its foot rolling up and against the masonry. M. Emy, who has argued for the existence of the *flot-du-fond*, proposed a cylindrical or cycloidal concave face for such works in 1813, very similar in section to those just mentioned. He successfully employed it at the Ile de Ré in 1820. Mr. Scott Russell's deductions, from his wave system, to the same effect, were alluded to, and an illustration of their nature instanced in the curved slope of the shingle beach, preserved in the Dymchurch wall protecting Romney Marsh, and the action of the sea upon cliffs. The upright wall, as executing at the Refuge Harbour, by Mr. Walker, at Dover, was next considered. This principle, established by the buttress at Plymouth Breakwater, consists of stepping each course into the upper face of that beneath it, dove-tailing each course horizontally, and alternate stones locking into the courses immediately beneath it, thus virtually forming a solid mass of stone. Some observations on the site of Dover Harbour, as being free from silt, and perhaps now from shingle, concluded the paper.

The improved Electric Light of Messrs. Staité & Petrie was exhibited and explained. The experi-

ments showed this intense light, as diffused by an enamelled globe, and afterwards the prismatic decomposition of its rays into a spectrum, demonstrating its great actinic power. The light was also shown with equal intensity under water. The regulating power of preserving the electrodes at the proper distance apart cannot be here explained without a figure. The inventors explained the galvanometers they had adopted to measure the intensity and quantity of the electric current passing, in order to economize its utmost powers in producing light; and from their indications they had been enabled to establish some formulae, exhibited in a series of curves, by which it was shown that the amount of light depended inversely on the amount of heat evolved between the points of the electrodes.

#### MEETINGS FOR THE ENSUING WEEK.

Mon.	Royal Academy, 8.—Sculpture.
—	Pathological, 8.
—	Chemical, 8.
—	British Architects, 8.
—	Entomological, 8.
Tues.	Civil Engineers, 8.—Mr. P. Bruff, 'Description of the Chapple Viaduct, upon the Colchester and Stour Valley Extension of the Eastern Counties Railway.'
—	Linnean, 8.
—	Horticultural, 3.
Wed.	Society of Arts, 8.
Thurs.	Royal, half-past 8.
—	Zoological, 3.—General Business.
—	Antiquaries, 8.
—	Royal Academy, 8.—Painting.
Fri.	Royal Institution, half-past 8.—Prof. E. Forbes, 'On the Distribution of Freshwater Animals and Plants.'
—	Philological, 8.
—	Astronomical, 8.

#### ZODIACAL LIGHT.

DURING the early portions of January and February, the moon being below the horizon, the western sky has been illuminated by a phenomenon which, in many respects, closely resembles the zodiacal light. It was first seen at this observatory, on the evening of the 7th of January, as a triangular beam extending from the horizon towards Saturn, the upper or northern edge being parallel with the stars  $\alpha$  and  $\gamma$  Pegasi,—and has been witnessed on every clear evening during the moon's absence since. From the 7th of January to the 13th of February the apex travelled very steadily along the ecliptic, its progress being rather slower than that of the sun. In the course of its progress the direction of the upper edge was gradually altered, so that it approached the star  $\gamma$  Pegasi, and receded from  $\alpha$  Pegasi; and it increased so much in brilliancy as to become not only a conspicuous but an imposing object in the western sky about the middle of February. The last observation made here gave the direction of the axis as follows:—From  $29^{\circ}$   $\gamma$  past  $\epsilon$  and  $\delta$  Piscium, crossing the equinoctial colure about  $5^{\circ}$  north dec., and meeting the equinoctial in  $340^{\circ}$  AR.

From some communications which I have received on this interesting subject, it appears that in certain localities a considerable displacement of the luminous beam or triangle has been observed, but not of a nature consistent with parallax. This circumstance renders it important that observations should be multiplied; and from the very brilliant exhibition of the phenomenon on the evenings of the 12th and 13th of February, when it was seen at London, Kew, and Nottingham, it is highly probable that as soon as the moon leaves us in the evenings it may again become conspicuous in the west. Should it become so, it may most probably be seen stretching upwards from the horizon towards the constellation Taurus, the apex in the early part of March extending a little beyond a line joining the stars  $\alpha$  Arietis and  $\alpha$  Ceti.

It is important in observations of this kind to note particularly the extent of horizon occupied by the base, and the points at which the lower and upper edges respectively cut the horizon, also the directions of the upper and lower edges as determined by the stars near which they pass. This will not be very difficult in March, as the stars in the constellations Aries and Cetus will greatly contribute to an accurate determination in this respect. The position of the apex should be carefully noted, and its estimated distance from the nearest conspicuous star recorded. Lines drawn from one to another of the most conspicuous stars in the neighbourhood of the apex, and its position carefully determined relative to such lines may be of service. Its progress should also be carefully noted from night to night. It would be well to employ either a celestial globe or a star map;

the globe perhaps would be the most useful, as by its being rectified for the hour of the night, it would not be difficult to mark an outline on the globe of the phenomenon, as seen among the stars by the observer. If not provided with a globe, the observer may employ the star maps of the Society for the Diffusion of Useful Knowledge with advantage.

The record should give as fully as possible the phenomena alluded to above. I subjoin my observations made on the evening of the 12th of February, as an example, of course capable of much improvement.

"Kew Observatory, Feb. 12d 7h 0m,  
Greenwich mean time.

"The light is very distinct and brilliant this evening, more so than I have yet observed it. The whole space north of Saturn to  $\gamma$  Pegasi except about  $0^{\circ}15'$  or rather less is illuminated with a soft and delicate light. The planet is removed from the southern edge, but within the light about the same distance as  $\gamma$  Pegasi is removed from the northern without it. The apex is about midway between the stars  $\eta$  and  $\alpha$  Piscium near  $\alpha$  Piscium, and the axis descends from this point between  $\gamma$  Pegasi and Saturn about one third the distance from the planet. The northern edge passes from the apex near  $\gamma$  and  $\alpha$  Pegasi to the horizon about  $\frac{1}{2}$  point N. of W. by N. The base of the triangle extends about  $40^{\circ}$  or  $45^{\circ}$  on the horizon. The contrast of the light to that of the Milky Way is very striking, especially in its rich, soft and glowing character."

Several other points not transcribed above will doubtless suggest themselves, and nothing should be omitted at all calculated to elucidate the phenomenon.

As the principal value of such observations consists in their combination and discussion, I shall be most happy to take charge of any duplicates that may be transmitted to me. W. R. BIRT.

Kew Observatory, Feb. 22.

#### FINE ARTS

*Practical Hints on Portrait Painting.* Illustrated by Examples. By John Burnet, F.R.S. Bogue. THERE is no one department of the Fine Arts in cultivation amongst us whose aim and interests are so much misapprehended as that which is followed by almost one-half of their cultivators,—in the enjoyment of at least three-fourths of the patronage accorded to them. A sketch of the history of portrait painting appeared in our columns last year [No. 1123, p. 601]; and it is therefore unnecessary to do more here than make such allusion to the subject as our present purpose demands.

We showed then that the disproportionate amount of public favour which the art of portraiture now enjoys appears to have been ever one of our national pre-dispositions. While many other countries are known to have received the visits and encouraged the practice of foreign artists conspicuous for the imaginative faculty, the most eminent historic painters of their time,—our own island rested content with such examples of portraiture as were offered by the court limner whom some diplomatic or international relation introduced amongst us. The pictorial professor often adopted as the land of his permanent sojourn and future practice that which he had thus temporarily visited; and to such casual circumstance our own country was indebted for the importation of foreign Art until near the middle of the seventeenth century,—when the school of Vandyke numbered many of our own countrymen among that great artist's followers. The instances of encouragement to historic art were few,—the Banqueting House at Whitehall presenting one of the exceptions. Here the chief example of successful practice was also from the hand of a foreigner,—Rubens.

The social and in-door nature of our habits,—the restricted scale of our dwellings,—the limited taste for classical themes,—and the banishment from our churches of pictorial decoration, may have all contributed to throw Art-patronage into the direction of portraiture. Certain it is, that from Reynolds, the patriarch of our own school, down to the days in which we write, our colleges and other halls, public buildings and private dwellings, testify to the amount of patronage which that branch enjoyed. Scarcely a name of note in any department of fame for the last century can be mentioned whose lineaments have not been thus perpetuated,—and not an artist of reputation devoting himself to its pursuit who has not thriven by it in his worldly goods.

How the art itself has been cultivated is a matter of far different import. In how far the conditions



under which it should be most fittingly employed have been complied with is a subject for investigation,—how the deficiency which it now labours under can be best remedied is one of important consideration for the critic. To meet the latter inquiry Mr. Burnet, it would seem, has been induced to engage in his present literary undertaking.

The art of portrait-painting, so successfully practised by the leading artists of the three centuries which preceded the present, most of them painters distinguished for their supremacy in historic art—Raffaello, Plombo, Titian, Rubens, Vandyke, Velasquez, Rembrandt, and Reynolds—has, it must with pain be acknowledged, lost its power amongst us. The loss is great to our national art character; since it was on this particular branch that until lately the British artist based his supremacy. Reynolds—the alpha and omega of that varied combination of excellencies which form his style—was at once the *first* and the *best* of our great portrait painters. He arrived at once at the most perfected condition of the art—brought it to its climax:—from whence since his day it has so lamentably declined, that when a contemporary or so of Lawrence yet living shall have quitted the field, we shall be reduced to the dull level of modern continental mediocrity. This noble art is no longer a record of nice perception of character and fidelity to form, combined with taste in selection which eschews all adventitious and unnecessary associations and shuns the trite and common-place. The difficulties of invention in the way of novelties are acknowledged either in action or in combination,—and the old power in that respect is poorly compensated for by the perpetual enlistment into the service of the portrait artist of the interminable and common-place machinery of column, curtain, balustrade, and other unmeaning and irrational accessories. We are reminded by these of the limited resources of a country manager who is under the necessity of introducing the same properties and costumes in whatever procession or chorus he may have to put on the stage. The want of generous observation—of looking abroad into the great book of Nature—it is which has deteriorated a distinguished branch of Art from an eloquent expression of character into a mere mapping of contours, to a vulgar triteness that deals only with material likeness—in a kind of Art whose highest praise is that of floridity and picturequeness. Portrait painting has almost ceased to be an elegant art. It is little more than a trade; claims scarcely more dignity than the humble but useful art of the ornamental decorator. Meantime, the public taste has improved: it has just cause of dissatisfaction with the business of the *face* makers,—has had its attention lately directed to higher and nobler aspirations by various authorities whose objects are not personal emolument but national advance.

Mr. Burnet—whose pen and whose graver are ever active—has very opportunely made this new contribution to our Art literature of 'Practical Hints on Portrait Painting.' We must let him speak for himself as to his view of the true aim of the portrait painter.—

"The leading characteristic of Portrait Painting is certainly the likeness: the historical painter gives the general character of man—the portrait painter the individual character; but, as every man is more or less defective, according as men depart from the general standard, this general standard ought to be defined, that we may perceive at a glance where the variations lie, and treat them accordingly, not by obliterating such departure, but by modifying it, and thus ennobling the character by refining both on the form and colour. Studying antique statues enables us to accomplish the one; and examining carefully the best pictures of the great colourists serves as a guide in directing us towards a knowledge of the other. He who attempts either without the requisite study is like one who goes into a foreign country without a chart. Alexander would never sit for his portrait to any one but Apelles, who knew how to ennoble the likeness; whilst Cromwell desired Sir Peter Lely to represent all his warts and excrescences. A very little practice will soon convince an artist that most of his sitters will be actuated by the feelings of Alexander rather than by those of the stern Protector of the Commonwealth."

The quantity of detail admissible in a portrait Mr. Burnet thus sets forth.—

"That likeness does not depend upon detail may be proved by our instant recognition of any one of our friends, even across the street, where scarcely a feature can be defined. Likeness will be found to lie more in the general form, and the masses of dark and half-tints; and the eye taking in the whole figure at the same time assists the imagination in completing the resemblance. This is one great reason that ought to make us cautious in losing the

peculiarity of the outward form, both in the head and contour of the figure."

We are not certain that this illustration of Mr. Burnet's is the best which might have been given for the argument which he has in hand. The recognition of our friends across the street is determined by an appeal to the memory,—and rests upon a previous knowledge of the details, which familiarity has summed into the general character recognizable in the distance. But the portrait which has to present the moral and physical expression of its subject to strangers, must do so by some mode of generalization which cannot dispense with the actual details; must by its own method—and this is the consummation of the art—get out of the technical facts the resulting expression which previous acquaintance supplied in the case above supposed.—The illustration used is, however, suggestive.

Having given the opinions of Opie and other critics on this question, Mr. Burnet very sensibly adds—

"It is indispensable for an artist to go through a certain course of correct imitation, that he may acquire a correctness of eye, and a clear knowledge of the natural properties of bodies; and notwithstanding the existence of Titian's works as examples, all great portrait painters and colourists exhibit in their earlier pictures a severity and dryness; and it is from this course of preparatory study we are indebted to the force and freedom in the later works of Rubens and Velasquez. Another quality to which portraiture is indebted for its ennobling quality—is sentiment, and the power of giving the inward thoughts of the person represented—a representation of the mind! this it is that places the artist in the ranks of the historical painter. Fuseli, whilst placing the painter of portraits in a lower grade than the painter of negative subjects, guards himself from including portraiture in its higher achievements. In his lecture on invention, he observes, 'The next place to representation of pomp among negative subjects, but far below, we assign to portrait. Not that characteristic portrait by which Silian, in the face of Apollodorus, personified habitual indignation; Apelles, in Alexander, superhuman ambition; Raphael, in Julio II., pontifical firmness; Titian, in Paul III., testy age with priestly subtlety; and in Machiaveli and Cesar Borgia, the wily features of conspiracy and treason. Not that portrait by which Rubens contrasted the physiognomy of philosophic and classic acuteness with that of genius, in the conversation piece of Grotius, Mursius and himself. Not the nice and delicate discriminations of Vandyke, nor that power which, in our days, substantiated humour in Sterne, comedy in Garrick, and mental and corporeal strife, to use his own words, in Samuel Johnson. On that broad basis portrait takes its exalted place between History and the Drama. The portrait I mean is common—one as widely spread as confined in its principle; the remembrance of insignificance; mere human resemblance in attitude without action, features without meaning, dress without drapery, and situation without propriety. The aim of the artist and the sitters wish are confined to *external likeness*; that deeper, nobler aim—the personification of character—is neither required, nor, if obtained, recognised. The better artist condemned to this task can here only distinguish himself from his duller brethren by execution—by invoking the assistance of background, chiaroscuro, and picturesque effects, and leaves us, whilst we lament the misapplication, with a strong impression of his power: *him* we see not; the insignificant individual that usurps the centre one we never saw—care not if we never see; and if we do, remember not, for his head can personify nothing but his opulence or his pretence: it is furniture."

After taking a review of the respective attributes and comparative merits of the great portrait painters of the last three centuries, Mr. Burnet proceeds to a critical investigation in detail of the several features of which the human countenance is composed. He displays proper acquaintance with physiology and with ancient and modern Art, observation of nature, and sagacity in remark. Of the combination of the features in any one single head he thus expresses himself.—

"This treatment of the several features ought to lead us into an inquiry, how far every part of the countenance is entitled to an equal degree of finish: from Giovanni Bellini to Holbein we perceive the features immovable, as if cast in bronze; but Rubens and Vandyke have taught us that life and motion are given by a mixture of hard and soft outlines, a dexterity and looseness of handling, a certain degree of extreme finish, with a portion of repose and indistinctness; and if this reasoning is right, the leading points only ought to be elaborated—and those portions which are of less importance, by being kept subservient, will be rendered, by such treatment, conducive to the completion and perfection of the whole."

Having considered the features in detail, Mr. Burnet then proceeds to show the necessity of studying from the antique for the purpose of acquiring a more perfect knowledge of form. "A want," he justly adds, "of this study is perceptible in the early German and Flemish schools; and the adoption of it has stamped a grandeur and dignity on the works of the great masters of the Italian schools." The study of colour is, he observes, to be made from "the works

of the great painters of portraiture, that we may gain an insight into their mode of treating their subjects in the arrangement of form, light and shade, and colour. As often, therefore, as possible," he adds, "make sketches of their colour." He does not say elaborate, tame, and servile copies,—which absorb a large quantity of time in their manufacture, over which the mind of the student too often slumbers during his mechanical employment while the inventive faculties lie torpid,—but "make sketches," that is, investigate the schemes on which they are conducted.

One of the most difficult of considerations connected with the portrait is, the treatment of the background.—A person recommended his son to Rubens as a pupil. "He is sufficiently advanced," said the father, "to be able to paint his backgrounds."—"If he can do that, my good friend," said the great painter, "he stands in no need of my instruction."—Mr. Burnet, on the subject of backgrounds, remarks:—

"A study of the works of Paul Veronese gives us a complete insight into the art of conducting the background of a portrait, by which the celebrated painters of this department have acquired their celebrity. But what I wish to impress upon the student in this place is, not merely to be content with adopting a pillar and a curtain as the best means of contrasting the lines, and giving depth and variety in light, shade, and colour, but to inquire into the cause of such advantage, and to adapt it to his own purposes in his own way. It may be said that Velasquez, by making use of landscape, enriched his backgrounds often without the aid of either, but no one knew better how to make use of such forms by their lines—either *contrasting* the lines of his figures, or going along with them in harmony and extension; as, in writing, we often see the value of carrying on a sentence to its greatest extent, and then terminating it by a full stop. But to revert to the advantage of adapting the background to the head or figure:—We can easily perceive that, by bringing hot or cold colour in contact with the face, its tints can be modified to the exact tone of the life. This is one reason that many portrait-painters finish the head, not only before they have painted in the background, but often before making up their minds what sort of arrangement to adopt. In finishing the head, they merely rub in a little blue, red, or yellow, as may best suit the complexion, at the time, and afterwards invent an arrangement that shall account for such colours being present in that place; and hence it is that the talent of the artist, so far as composition is called into request, is often exemplified. Confined half their lives to painting heads, or single figures—to the study of colour, or the identity of likeness—they are afraid to venture into the bold labyrinths of historical painting, and shrink at a background that would not only swallow up the importance of the head, but render it less important, from its not being laid out, in the first instance, in such a style as to enable it to support such a combination."

On the subject of the design and action of the figure Mr. Burnet makes the following pertinent remark.—

"And here it is of the utmost importance to draw the student's attention to what it is that constitutes grandeur—whether a largeness of parts, a continuity of outline, or a nobleness in the attitude. In the Italian school all these properties are to be found, which, along with the Greek marbles, ought to be an artist's constant study; even copying the attitudes out of the various historical pictures, and forming and adapting his ideas to accord with such transcripts, will be found of service. Also, it is useful, and even pardonable at times, to alter the view or composition of any figure, without being considered a plagiarist, turning the conception of the original painter to your own purposes. All great portrait-painters, from the time of Titian to Reynolds, have availed themselves of this privilege; the Saint Cecilia of Raffaello and that of Domenichino have both served as the groundwork for the portraits of feminine English beauty; and even the ideals of Michael Angelo have been pressed into the service. Reynolds has taken the composition of Mrs. Siddons as the Tragic Muse from the thought of Michael Angelo, exemplified in the Sibyls of the Sistine Chapel; and General Tarleton, in the surprise during the American war, is represented tying the strap of his boot, similar to the figure in the Cartoon of Pisa, by Michael Angelo, where some soldiers, bathing in the Arno, are aroused by the blast of the trumpet on the approach of the enemy. Action, such as buttoning up a dress, or tying up the boots, are not, perhaps, dignified attitudes for portraiture, but they indicate the casualties of war, and take off the commonplace attitudes of figures represented as doing nothing."

A number of technical observations follow in reference to position, draperies, situations of the sitter and painter, and perspective. The treatment of the hands occupies, also, a share of Mr. Burnet's attention,—and Vandyke affords some of the highest examples of befitting practice. O him, the writer says:—"His education as an historical painter, and his fine taste, seem to have enabled him to paint the hand in the most difficult positions, and, as I believe, to put it in without having a sitter before him." A page or two further on, Mr. Burnet adds:—

"The treatment of the hands in a portrait shows the invention of the painter perhaps more than any other part of the human figure; but where it has been felt and acted



upon, from Raffaele to Reynolds, little new is left for the present painters. Let the student never fail to observe, that the action and expression of the hands may be too powerful for the repose of the whole, and draw the attention from the head—as may be exemplified in the energetic discourse of the French people."

When speaking of the progress of a portrait, our author remarks:—

"Colour being the chief attraction in painting, especially in portraiture, the student ought to have this constantly in mind, even in the first sitting, and reserve the richness of tones to a more advanced stage. The likeness, which may be produced without much colour, will be a sufficient difficulty to overcome in the first instance. Reynolds seems to have gradually worked up his pictures from dead coloured preparations, and to have reserved his glazings for the last sitting."

And again:—

"In advancing the several sittings towards the finish, care ought to be taken not to engender heaviness, which repeated painting often produces, and also darkness in the flesh-tints, arising from too much vehicle being used with the colour. This richness ought to be reserved to the finishing; and after a general glaze, the dark markings, and final touching upon the features with transparent colour only should be added. This seems to be uniformly the practice with Titian. And it is in the sitting before this that the life-like handling, such as we see in Velasquez, ought to be given, thus recovering the work to the free character of the first painting. The first painting embraces the laying out of the features, with their exact situation in reference to each other, and the pronouncing with firm colour the forehead, nose, and cheek-bones. A gradual increasing of the flesh-tints takes place in modelling out the likeness, still without much vehicle, but with a mixture of warm tones and pearly greys, occasionally reconciling them to each other by means of a dry brush, giving them an enamel surface, without rendering the work woolly, which too much use of the softener produces. In the English portraits by Vandyke, very little, comparatively speaking, is left to this final glazing. Though there is a total absence of dryness and buskiness, the variety of tint is rendered into one general mass by the hands and flesh-tints being surrounded with dark, or placed upon a black dress. \* \* The last finishing ought to give the complexion and general look of the head when viewed a little way off; and this character will much depend upon the colour or depth of the background, whether a red curtain, a blue sky, or a flat dark shadow. The light in most pictures goes diagonally across from the upper corner to the lower, not only as it gives the longest line, but as it is the best mode of dividing a work into the greatest breadth of a light and dark mass. This effect is often accomplished by the arrangement of hot or cold colour, as well as by the means of chiaroscuro alone. And when we consider the multiplicity of instances in which it has been adopted, it becomes almost hopeless to strike out anything new; still, in the endless resources Nature offers, we often see a novel and beautiful adaptation of the principle. I am here speaking of a whole-length and also a half-length; my remarks are, of course, inapplicable to a single head, which requires all the space for repose alone."

An excellent mode of comparison—of testing the truth of the resemblance—is thus set forth.—

"Towards completion of the likeness it is of great advantage to place the picture and sitter together, removed to such a distance as will bring them both under examination at the same time, when the points of difference can be more easily detected by such comparison. Lawrence and Raeburn used to paint on the picture while so placed, and retire again to examine the effect. This mode secures the general look of the whole, and recovers that breadth which painting on the necessary detail often destroys."

The worst defect of Mr. Burnet's book is, its shortness. With his known resources, large experience, and habit of patient research, it might have been amplified with advantage. To the student it will be of great use, as a manual for his practice;—for the author is not æsthetic only, but also practical in his views. Such is the general character of Mr. Burnet's many treatises on his art.

*Ten Coloured Views taken during the Arctic Expedition of H.M. Ships Enterprise and Investigator, under the Command of Capt. Sir James C. Ross. Drawn by W. H. Brown, Lieut. R.N. On stone by Charles Haghe.*

THE extreme interest evinced by the public at the present moment in all that relates to Arctic Expeditions would be likely to have secured a welcome for these views even if their execution had been less felicitous than it is. But they convey an admirable idea of the icy regions which have been the home for so many winters of our brave mariners in past and present times. There is a broad touch in the treatment of the subjects, conjoined with a free yet minute delineation of distances, which is very effective. The representation of the north-east cape of America and part of Leopold Island reminds us forcibly of the savage scenery in the High Alps. The dark limestone cliffs, intersected by veins of gypsum, rise to the stupendous height of eleven hundred feet, and are crested by eternal ice and snow. Another view portraying a party arriving at the southern

depôt of provisions in Prince Regent Inlet is fearfully grand; and shows, with more force than pages of description can, the strong physical endurance necessary for successful enterprise in the Arctic regions. Great credit is due to Mr. Haghe for the fidelity and spirit with which he has lithographed Mr. Brown's drawings:—and we can cordially recommend this publication to all those who are desirous of extending their knowledge of the wonders of the northern seas.

SIR WILLIAM ALLAN.

THIS eminent Scottish painter and President of the Royal Scottish Academy died at his house in Great King Street, Edinburgh, in the sixty-eighth year of his age. He had been long ailing,—but the immediate cause of his death was bronchitis.

Sir William was born at Edinburgh in the year 1782—bred a coach-painter,—and afterwards educated at the Trustees' Academy in Edinburgh; where he had for his fellow-students Sir David Wilkie, John Burnet, the engraver, Alexander Fraser, the painter, and others afterwards eminent in Art. Mr. Graham, the master of the Academy—who had also been bred a coach-painter—took particular notice of his talents; and spurred him forward to raise a generous flame of emulation in his younger rivals, Wilkie and Burnet. This friendly rivalry was long maintained with equal industry and cordiality; and they who, like ourselves, have had the opportunity of seeing the three in company together when each had achieved a separate and well-earned reputation, and of hearing the pleasant allusions to their old Academy days, must have been pleased to see how completely emulation was devoid of envy with them,—and how each had seemed to owe something to the generous rivalry which their old kind-hearted master had encouraged.

Mr. Allan was three years older than either Wilkie or Burnet; and was, therefore, the first to make his way to London, and to the apartments of the Royal Academy—then, as now, the great Exhibition of the London season. Opie, the Cornish wonder, was then the painter whom Allan admired most,—and whom in the first picture which he sent to the Exhibition (that of 1805) he seems to have imitated as far as colour went with something like servility. The picture by Allan called 'A Gipsy Boy and Ass' is thus described in a letter written by Wilkie, then a fresh arrival in London, to Macdonald, another student at the Trustees' Academy.—

"There were a Boy and an Ass by Allan in one of the rooms, which I believe you must have seen before he left Scotland. I think Allan might have done it better. He has made dark narrow shadows and hard reflected lights; which I don't at all like; but he says that it is the way that Opie produces such effects. Allan is now gone to try his fortune at St. Petersburg, and sailed from this about a fortnight ago. This is certainly a bold adventure; but he was determined to go abroad some time or other, and I hope he may succeed."

It is uncertain what was the particular inducement which took Mr. Allan to St. Petersburg. He is said to have gone in search of fresh subjects for his pencil, that his works might not be mistaken for those of David Allan,—with whom he was of opinion he might have been confounded. Others attributed his motive for so distant a visit to a certain love of travel proverbially common among his countrymen. Whatever may have been the inducement, he was not displeased with his visit; for though he suffered much from cold and more from an indifferently stocked purse,—he saw so much that was new and really of use that he always referred to his travels in Russia and Turkey as among the pleasantest periods of his life. A second visit to St. Petersburg, made when his reputation was at its height, confirmed his previous impressions. Of the Houghton Vandycks at the Hermitage in that city, we have heard him speak with a warmth of manner, and particularly of detail which evinced how earnestly he had availed himself of an advantage that few of his fellow-artists have had an opportunity of enjoying.

We see the result of his visit to St. Petersburg in the next picture which he sent to the Royal Academy Exhibition of 1809. This was called 'Russian Peasants keeping their Holiday;' but it did not attract much attention, though it had the charm of novelty to recommend it. That he was disappointed with his success in London we have heard asserted by those who had opportunities of knowing his feelings,—and we might indeed have inferred as

much from the fact that he allowed six years to elapse before he sent another picture to the London Exhibition. His next contribution was in his old Russian line.—'Bashquinos conducting Convicts to Siberia,' representing a Circassian Prince on horseback selling two boys of his own nation to a Cossack chief of the Black Sea. The picture was a favourite with the public—more so than with his brother artists; but feeling like Pope that if he had not the wits with him he had the town on his side, he stripped for a greater effort,—and sent in 1816 a somewhat similar subject much better treated. This was, 'A Circassian Chief selling to a Turkish Pasha Captives of a neighbouring tribe taken in war,' representing with spirit and fidelity a practice which he himself had witnessed during his residence on the coast of the Black Sea. His fellow-artists were now with the public. Yet the picture did not sell; and Allan was so disheartened that he gave up all hope,—and was talking of retiring to the wild scenery of Circassia, when Sir Walter Scott stepped in and started a lottery of one hundred subscribers at ten guineas each for the purchase of his picture. The lottery thus kindly commenced was successful; and though Allan did not obtain one thousand guineas for his picture he received a sum not greatly less; and was induced to remain among old friends, and such new ones as his talents and Scott's friendship might acquire for him in Edinburgh.

His next productions were, with the single exception of 'Tartar Robbers dividing their Spoil,' wholly dissimilar from his former works. These were, 'A Press Gang;'—'The Parting between Prince Charles Stuart and Flora Macdonald, at Tortree;'—and 'Jeanie Deans's first interview with her Father after her return from London.' There was little in these, we have been assured, to justify the promise which his 'Circassian Slave' had awakened,—and he was again disheartened; when Sir Walter Scott stepped in a second time to his assistance. Allan had begun a sketch of the Murder of Archbishop Sharpe on Magus Muir,—a subject made familiar to the public by the then recent publication of 'Old Mortality.' With this sketch Scott was so much pleased that he encouraged the artist to make a picture of it.—

"Allan has made a sketch," says Scott, writing to the Duke of Buccleuch, "which I shall take to town with me when I can go; in hopes Lord Stafford, or some other picture-buyer, may fancy it, and order a picture. The subject is 'The Murder of Archbishop Sharpe on Magus Muir,' prodigiously well treated. The savage ferocity of the assassins, unwilling one or another to strike at the old prelate on his knees—contrasted with the old man's figure—and that of his daughter endeavouring to interpose for his protection, and withheld by a rufian of milder mood than his fellows—the dogged fanatical severity of Rathillet's countenance, who remained on horseback witnessing with stern fanaticism the murder he did not choose to be active in, lest it should be said that he struck out of private revenge, are all amazingly well combined in the sketch. I question if the artist can bring them out with equal spirit in the painting which he meditates. Sketches give a sort of fire to the imagination of the spectator, who is apt to fancy a great deal more for himself than the pencil in the finished picture can possibly present to his eye afterwards."

Allan, of course, made a picture from the sketch;—and a very spirited picture it is,—which Mr. Lockhart of Milton-Lockhart had the taste to purchase. The picture has been engraved.

The success of his 'Archbishop Sharpe' picture induced Allan to confine himself to Scottish subjects—in which he seems to our thinking to have been most at home. His next work of any consequence was 'John Knox admonishing Mary Queen of Scots on the day when her intention to marry Darnley had been made public'—exhibited at the Royal Academy in 1823, and well and widely known by the admirable line-engraving from it made by his friend, Mr. Burnet. This was followed in 1824 by 'Sir Patrick Lindesay of the Byres and Lord William Ruthven compelling Mary Queen of Scots to sign her abdication in the Castle of Lochleven;' and in 1825 by 'The Regent Murray shot by Hamilton, of Bothwellhaugh'—bought by the Duke of Bedford at the Academy Exhibition for 800 guineas. His 'Regent Murray' procured him the same year the well-earned rank of an A.R.A. in the Royal Academy; but his next succeeding works hardly justified among English artists the selection which had been made. His 'Auld Robin Gray,' exhibited in 1826, had little of the spirit or the female delicacy of Lady Barnard's song; and his 'Prophet Jonah,'



exhibited in 1829, little of the dignity with which the subject should have been invested. He regained his ground, however, in 1831, by his 'Lord Byron reposing in the House of a Turkish Fisherman, after having swum across the Hellespont,'—by his 'St. Valentine's Morn, from the Fair Maid of Perth,' afterwards engraved for the Waverley Novels,—and by his 'Portrait of Sir Walter Scott seated in his study at Abbotsford, reading the Proclamation of Mary Queen of Scots, previous to her Marriage with Darnley.' Of the Scott there is an excellent engraving by Burnet,—and there is a clever companion-picture by the same artist and engraver of 'Burns in his Cottage': both no doubt familiar to the readers of this sketch. A smaller picture which Allan painted, of 'Scott in his Study, writing,'—engraved for the 'Anniversary' of Allan Cunningham,—is more to our taste. Here, Scott is busy at his own high calling; while in the other picture it is clear that he may be reading any Proclamation, while the interest excited is not commensurate with that of Scott at work. Allan's next contribution to the Royal Academy Exhibition was sent in 1843. This was called 'The Orphan,' and was accompanied by the following lines:—

Through the shadowy past  
Like a tomb-searcher Memory ran,  
Lifting each shroud that Time had cast  
O'er buried hopes.

The lines did little for the picture,—but the picture did everything for itself. It was a touching one, most sweetly painted,—representing Anne Scott seated on the floor near her father's vacant chair in the study at Abbotsford. The picture was much admired,—and was bought at the private view of the Exhibition by Queen Adelaide. It is now at Buckingham Palace,—and deserves to be engraved.

Allan now (1834) returned to his old line of Art; painting and exhibiting 'Polish Exiles conducted by Bashkirs on their way to Siberia,'—'The Moorish Love-Letter,'—and other works of a kindred character; which induced the Academy to lift him from the rank of an Associate to that of Royal Academician. To no one did his election give greater satisfaction than to his old fellow-student Wilkie. Before this, whenever an election took place and painters' merits were talked about, Wilkie would say—"There's Allan, Willie Allan, who well deserves to be among us."—and Wilkie voted for Allan till he came in. We have good reason to know that this busy persistence of Wilkie's was mainly instrumental in keeping Allan so long out of the Academy,—and more, that it might have excluded him altogether but for the friendly interposition and influence of Chantrey, who knew Allan, and liked him much.

Of the works of Allan after his election the principal were 'Whittington and his Cat,' exhibited 1836; 'Roger and Jenny,' from 'The Gentle Shepherd,' exhibited 1836; 'The Slave-Market at Constantinople,' a large picture, painted for the first Exhibition of the Academy in Trafalgar Square; 'The Widow,' exhibited 1839; 'Prince Charles Edward in adversity,' exhibited 1840; 'The Stolen Child recovered,' exhibited 1841; 'The Battle of Preston Pans, with the Death of Col. Gardiner,' exhibited 1842; 'Waterloo, 18th June 1815, half-past seven o'clock, p.m.'—'Sir Walter Scott and his Youngest Daughter,' exhibited 1844; 'Peter the Great teaching his subjects the art of Ship-building,'—'Nelson boarding the San Nicolas,' exhibited 1845; and an 'Incident in the Life of Napoleon'—that of the two English sailors at Boulogne—exhibited in 1848. Of these, the 'Waterloo' was bought at the Exhibition by the Duke of Wellington; who passed this criticism on it:—"Good—very good; not too much smoke." The 'Peter the Great' was a commission from the Emperor of Russia.

Sir William Allan's "last great work" was his second picture of 'The Battle of Waterloo,' sent to the Exhibition at Westminster Hall. In the Duke's picture, Napoleon is in the foreground;—in the second picture, it is the Duke. This last was admired for its accuracy and spirit, but found no purchaser; and Sir William left London vexed and, as we believe, lastingly disappointed. It deserved a better fate; for it is not only true to the scenery and events portrayed,—it is, withal, an excellent battle-piece:—one that the United Service Club might have added to its collection with great propriety.

At Wilkie's death, Allan was appointed his successor in the office of Limner to the Queen for Scotland: an office which conveys the honour of knighthood to its holder, and carries with it a small salary. The office was revived by George the Fourth, and given to Sir Henry Raeburn,—and at Raeburn's death it was given to Wilkie.—The question of Sir William Allan's successor in this appointment will probably be determined by the selection which the Royal Scottish Academy may make of a new President.

Sir William Allan's excellence as a painter consisted in his dramatic power of telling a story and his general skill in composition, rather than in character or in colour. In what Garrick calls the "concoction" of a tale he had great merit. His full-length of Cornet Scott standing by a horse, over the mantle-piece in the great library at Abbotsford, shows how well he would have succeeded in portraiture had he not preferred pursuing the higher but worse paid branches of his art. He will be remembered in the history of Scottish Art by the impulse which he gave to historical composition; while his name will always be endeared to the admirers of Sir Walter Scott by the strong partiality which Scott evinced on all occasions for his friend "Willie Allan."

In a sketch of this description—hurried and imperfect as it must necessarily be—it would be wrong to omit all allusion to Sir William's admirable skill in telling a story orally:—investing it as he did with character and humour and propriety and fulness of detail. He gave many hints to Charles Mathews for his inimitable 'At Homes'; and those who have had the good fortune to hear his 'Auld Scottish Wife' or his imitation of a bee in a garden will not readily forget the happy humour of the one or the marvellous imitation of the other.

Sir William Allan may be almost said, if what we have heard be true, to have died in harness. For some time before his death he had been engaged on a large picture of the 'Battle of Bannockburn,' and as his weakness increased he had his bed removed into his painting-room that he might sleep near his work. When the pencil fell at length from his hand, he was too far gone in illness to be removed:—and he died in his painting-room, in front of his latest picture.—We know not in what state of progress he has left this picture.

**FINE-ART GOSSIP.**—Dr. Layard is prosecuting his researches with energy and success. By letters dated Nimroud, Jan. 7, we learn that he has effected an entrance into a room in the old Nimroud Palace containing an extraordinary assortment of relics:—shields, swords, pateræ, bowls, crowns, cauldrons, ornaments in ivory and mother-of-pearl, &c. The vessels are formed of a kind of copper, or rather bronze,—some perfectly preserved, and as bright as gold when the rust is removed. The engravings and embossing on them are very beautiful and elaborate; and comprise the same mythic subjects which are found on the robes of the figures in the sculptures,—men struggling with lions, warriors in chariots, and hunting scenes. Now, a serious question occurs to us:—are these precious relics, when they arrive at Busrah, to be intrusted to any ignorant and careless ship-captain who may be ready to convey them to England? We have not forgotten the fate of the last cargo of curious ivories, glass, &c., which suffered such wanton outrage on the voyage and at Bombay. If the Government really feel an interest in Dr. Layard's proceedings, a vessel should be sent from Bombay expressly to receive his consignments:—but we fancy there is little chance of any such step being taken. At Koyunjik, Dr. Layard has uncovered a very interesting series of slabs, showing the process of building the mounds and palaces.

The Committee appointed by the Royal Commission for conducting the Industrial Exhibition of 1851 are desirous of obtaining advice and assistance as to the general arrangement of the buildings and premises required for the Exhibition. Our readers under the head of Fine Arts, who are also practitioners in that field, cannot do better than aid the great movement by their sketches and suggestions. No money is intended to be given for such plans,—and it is contemplated as probable that the final plan adopted will be made up of the best parts of many proposed. But the names of those who may have been

valuable contributors in this matter will be brought before the public in connexion with this important undertaking—and it is probable that some honorary mode of recognizing their services will be devised. For the guidance of such of our readers as may be willing to contribute their artistic and scientific skill, we may mention that the Committee have issued a circular—which they may readily obtain—enumerating the principal desiderata in such a building as they want, and laying down the rules and conditions to which they are anxious that contributors of plans should conform.

The monument which the pious reverence of Nicholas Brigham erected in 1556 to the memory of Geoffrey Chaucer having fallen into decay, a project for its restoration was some few years since set on foot. Circumstances, however, then occurred to lead to its postponement. A new scheme for the old purpose has now been announced; and the parties interested in this, as in the former project—having objects in common, namely, that of doing honour to the memory of the Father of English Poetry—have concurred in a plan for the restoration of the monument, under the direction of a small committee who are to see to the proper application of the necessary funds. It is stated that 50*l.* will accomplish all that is required; and this sum it is proposed to raise by a subscription to be limited to 5*s.* each—that many persons may have the pleasure of contributing to the good work.

Now that the Queen Dowager is dead there is a talk—and something more—of erecting the beautiful monumental group which Chantrey made for King William the Fourth of Mrs. Jordan and her children. The group was exhibited under the title of 'Maternal Affection,' as if it had been an ideal group; but the likeness could not be mistaken by those who remembered Mrs. Jordan,—or by those, indeed, who were familiar with her portraits by Romney. The Monument was intended for the church of Hampton, in Middlesex,—but respectfully declined by the authorities of that place. Now, it is understood, they would be glad to have it. Surely something should be done with so pleasing a piece of Art.

Among the earliest-opened of the Easter shows is Mr. Allen's *Cosmorama* or *Panoramic Views* taken on the railroad between London and Holyhead—now exhibiting hard by the Polytechnic Institution. There is good painting of the scenic kind in all these pictures. Mr. Allen, however, is fonder of a heavy horizon sky than he will be should he see fit to pursue this branch of his art. The two views which we like the best are those of Conway Castle—and of the Leviathan Tubular Bridge, with which the Exhibition closes. The oral illustrations might be reconsidered with advantage. To bring them in better harmony with the series of railway pictures, we would have the fine language retrenched—we could spare the story of *Godiva* and the rapture about Shakspeare,—filling the blanks with some figures and facts less transcendental. The *Quarterly Review* has shown the grace and entertainment which may be thrown over even such animate and inanimate machines as "stokers and pokers." This hint in kindness to what might be easily made an attractive and instructive lounge for the holiday-folks.

Messrs. Christie & Manson have been selling during the present week the collection of drawings and pictures the property of the late Mr. Du Roveray,—whose name has long been honourably connected with illustrated books. The drawings brought good prices; but the Stothards, in which the stronghold of the collection originally consisted, had been bought by Mr. Windus of Mr. Du Roveray himself: and thus for amateur purposes the value of the collection was somewhat weakened. Of the pictures we shall perhaps have something to say next week.

From Berlin we learn that the Academy of Fine Arts is making preparations for an Exhibition to be held in that capital in April next. This Academy, it is said, will pay the expenses attending the carriage to Berlin and back of all the works which it admits to exhibition:—but it opposes a check to any abuse of that indulgence by announcing its intention to be very severe in the selection of the works admitted.



## MUSIC AND THE DRAMA

**PHILHARMONIC SOCIETY.**—The Subscribers and the Public are respectfully informed the FIRST CONCERT will take place at the Hanover Square Rooms, on Monday Evening, March 4th. Programme:—Sinfonia ('Jupiter'), Mozart; Quartet, No. 1, Mendelssohn; Messrs. Sainton, Blagrove, Hill, and Lucas. Overture, 'Les Deux Journées,' Cherubini. Vocal Performers: Miss Louisa Pyne, Mr. Benson, and Mr. Machin. Conductor, Mr. Costa.—Single Tickets (with Reserved Seats) 1s. 1s. Double Tickets (ditto) 1s. 10s.; Triple Tickets (ditto), 2s. 5s.—to be obtained of Messrs. Addison, 210, Regent Street.

**UNDER THE PATRONAGE OF H.R.H. THE DUKE OF CAMBRIDGE.**—BERNHARD MOLIQUE, begs to announce that his CHAMBER CONCERTS will take place on the 6th and 20th of March and 3rd of April next, to commence at Eight o'clock precisely.—Tickets for three Concerts, or Family Ticket for three persons, 1s. 1s.; Single tickets, 10s. 6d. To be had of Messrs. Cramer & Co., Regent Street, Ewer & Co., Newgate Street, and B. Molique, 9, Houghton Place, Amphil Square.

**MR. LUCAS** respectfully announces the ANNUAL SERIES of FOUR MUSICAL EVENINGS will take place at his residence, No. 54, Berners Street, on alternate WEDNESDAYS, commencing 9th, at Half-past Eight o'clock.—Programme of First Concert:—Quartetts, No. 83, Haydn (Posthumous); Op. 21, Mendelssohn; Op. 127, Beethoven; and Pianoforte Sonata, 'L'Invocation,' Dussek. Violins, M. Sainton and Mr. Blagrove. Viola, Mr. Hill. Violoncello, Mr. Lucas. Pianoforte, Mr. Dorrell.—Subscription Tickets, One Guinea each; Single Admissions, 7s.; to be obtained only at 54, Berners-street.

**MR. HENRY NICHOLLS'S** DRAMATIC READINGS OF SHAKESPEARE, on Tuesday Evenings at St. Martin's Hall, Long Acre, and Saturday Mornings at Blagrove's Rooms, Mortimer Street, Cavendish Square. Tuesday Evenings, March 5, Julius Cæsar; March 12, Hamlet; March 19, Othello. This Morning, March 2, Julius Cæsar; Saturday Morning, March 9, As You Like It; March 16, Merchant of Venice.—Admission, 1s. and 2s. To commence, Monday, March 13, at Eight o'clock.

\* \* \* Communications respecting Private Readings, &c., to be addressed, 16, Howard Street, Strand.

**LOVE'S ENTERTAINMENTS** at Store Street.—VENTRILOQUISM EXTRAORDINARY.—On Monday, March 4, Mr. Love will repeat his Entertainments at the Music Hall, Store Street, Bedford Square.—Doors open at Half-past 7, begin at 8 o'clock. Reserved Seats—Boxes, 4s.; First-Class Seats—Hall, 2s.; Second Class, 1s.; Private Boxes, 1s. 1s. and 1s. 6d. Books to be had at the doors, price 1s.

On Tuesday, March 5, Mr. LOVE will make his First Appearance this season at Crosby Hall, Bishopsgate Street; on Wednesday, March 6, at Bowyer Hotel, Clapham; on Wednesday, March 13, at Peckham; and on Wednesday, March 20, at the Commercial Hall, King's Road, Chelsea.

## NEW PIANOFORTE MUSIC.

THE pile of pianoforte music on our table is anything but "a dreary pile;" being built up of single movements, the brief extent of which precludes any chance of weariness, while their slowness of texture demands no extraordinary effort of attention from the student. First, and among the most difficult, come 'Trois Etudes de Concert'—*Rosalie*—*Margaret*—*Hélène*, by Alex. Billet. The first and second of these take the form of a grand *cantabile*, supported by an accompaniment *arpeggiato*, disposed with "a difference." The third takes another, if not a newer, shape, and is to us the most welcome of the three,—for a simple reason. Studies in which the longest possible span of fingers is tried for, are limited in their value; since, among the players who can "get through" them, a third at least must never hope to play them, any more than a person perpetually standing on tip-toe may expect to attain to a firm and commanding step.—We have next a series of four *Miscellanées*, by M. Charles Hallé. The name of this pianist is equivalent to intelligent thought and high finish; while we are cheered with greater freshness of idea than we recollect to have found in any of his few former compositions. No. 1 is a *Lied*, in *f* minor. No. 2 (called an *Improvisata*), in *d*, is a stately movement *tempo di minuetto*, on a figure so clearly marked as to suggest a peculiar form of instrumentation. No. 3 is a *Nocturne*, in *b* minor, in the *barcarolle* style. No. 4 is an Introduction and *Canzonetta* in *b* major,—the latter a flowing and attractive melody. These are excellent practice for the young (not too young) pianist.—A *suite* of movements, of about the same difficulty, by Mr. Lindsay Sloper, must next be noticed. Like M. Hallé's, his vein of melody is becoming brighter and clearer for being worked. His *Canzonet* is a very tuneable and flowing air in *A* flat. His *Galop* is a happy example of a composition written in one of the most conventional rhythms ever turned to account by fancy or wrought out by science. His *Serenade* is better still: having precisely that Spanish quaintness which gives local colour to the strain. Lastly, his *Barcarolle* is as sentimentally elegant as if it had come from the pen of Gordiniani, a character which (as our readers know) implies high praise.—A solitary *Etude*, 'La Gondola,' by Herr Kuhe, is a pleasing melody in *A* flat, *♩*, with long, accompanying *arpeggi* for the left hand.—M. Stephen Heller has arranged, in the form of 'Lieder ohne Worte,' the six Songs by Mendelssohn published by Mr. Wessell, including two of Mendelssohn's best—the incomparable and impassioned second 'Zuleika,'

and the delicious 'Rheinisches Volkslied.' Though M. Heller writes too sparingly for our pleasure, and we would, of course, therefore rather meet him as an originator than as a transcriber, we cannot but be glad that these songs have fallen into hands so competent as his.—We are, lastly, indebted to the Earl of Belfast for *Trois Morceaux Descriptifs*:—No. 1, 'Chant plaintif au bord de la Mer.' No. 2, 'La Fileuse.' No. 3, 'L'Insomnie.' Among these we like the second the best; and think, that as regards both idea and structure, all the three are an advance upon other *Fantasias*, *Nocturni*, &c. &c., formerly published by the Earl of Belfast.

**SACRED HARMONIC SOCIETY.**—The performance of 'The Creation' yesterday week—though excellent as regarded the *ensemble*—was marked by some events "not in the bond" of the bill. Herr Formes being suddenly indisposed, his place was taken by Mr. Machin. It was new to hear any *solo* performance received with such distinct disapprobation as followed a final cadence appended by Miss Birch to the air 'With verdure clad.' Her cadence was neither good in design nor in execution; and Art profits by such discrimination far more than by the acquiescence in every fault and folly, which has been too common a feature in English audiences. But we must say that hissing is treatment of a woman unbecoming men—except when the offender chooses to forget her woman's modesty. Further, the public exercised its new judicial severity capriciously. As much out of taste as Miss Birch's cadence was the elongated *g* with which Mr. Sims Reeves chose to conclude the recitative 'In splendour bright,' thus singing the word "*pow-er*" on the two notes of an octave—a thing impossible to do without a jerk awkward and totally indefensible. Having (for illustration's sake) noted this mistake, we are bound and glad to say that Mr. Sims Reeves displays increased care and clearness of utterance this year. He exaggerates his recitative—singing in place of declaiming it; but that is the fault of the school in which he has studied, and may further be charged upon old English traditions.

**ST. MARTIN'S HALL.**—Mr. Willy's *Orchestral Concerts*.—The first of these was held on Monday last, before a thinner audience than was merited. But this is a defect which a night or two's persistence and a fortnight's advertisement will probably amend,—since of the excellence of the entertainment and of the pleasure given to all present there could not be a question. The ample and admirable orchestra—conducted by Mr. W. S. Bennett—performed that gentleman's overture to the 'Naiades,' Weber's 'Jubilee,' the Overture and March to Mendelssohn's 'Athalie,' and Beethoven's Symphony in *f*, in a style which ten years ago was never attained at our Philharmonic Concerts. Nor did we ever hear Mr. Blagrove play better than he played Spohr's Dramatic Concerto. The singers were Miss Lucombe, Miss Dolby, Mr. Reeves, Mr. W. H. Seguin, and Signor Marchesi. Both Ladies were "at their best," but so steadily is Miss Lucombe making progress, that what is "her best" now will probably have changed its place on the scale ere Midsummer comes. She was *encored* in every piece selected for her, save in the great *scena* from 'Oberon.' We never before heard the *duetto* 'Dunke io son,' from 'Il Barbiere,' delivered with such Italian vivacity and easy brilliancy by any British vocalist.—Though obviously under the spell of that formidable thing "a first appearance," Signor Marchesi impressed the public most favourably. His voice is baritone in quality, bass in extent, of sweet and pleasing *timbre*, sufficiently powerful,—capable of sentimental expression, as was shown in the *Count's scena* from 'Le Nozze,' and of agility and humour in the 'Barbiere' duett, which was given with great spirit, especially on its repetition. A *début* more successful and in every respect promising better things for stage or concert-room we do not recollect.

**AMATEUR MUSICAL SOCIETY.**—While the above was "happening" in Long Acre,—the Amateur Society was holding its first Concert in Hanover Square. Independently of our pleasure in seeing that this body of "nobility and gentry" keeps together, its Directors attract us by their laudable enterprise—since they wisely and liberally open

their doors to new and little known music. Thus, on Monday, M. Benedict's 'Festival Overture,' written for Liverpool (and which we hope to hear at the Philharmonic Concerts) was performed: and, by way of close, Méhul's Overture to 'Les Deux Aveugles,'—a composition, after its kind, thoroughly to our liking, from its grace and picturesque colour. For the next Concert a Symphony by Félicien David—and M. Clapisson's Overture to 'Gibby' (more French music!) are promised. We wish that the audience would consent to dispense with the operatic instrumental *pot-pourri*,—since this sort of music is behind the taste of M. Jullien's promenaders, or of the Wednesday public at Exeter Hall.

**WEDNESDAY CONCERTS.**—Two *Fantasias*, by Herr Ernst (hitherto strange to us), were the attraction which drew us to this week's Wednesday Concert. We found the orchestra there improved since our last visit, though it is most democratically beyond the control of Herr Anschuetz, who appears to us virtually useless as a conductor. Much to our pleasure, Herr Formes and Mr. Sims Reeves were singing their very best: the former, with a feeling and finish which we have not till now heard in his concert-performances. On the other hand, Mrs. A. Newton, who was promising, appears to have been all but spoiled by injudicious praise. Her singing of one of the *Queen of Night's* two *bravuras* in 'Die Zauberflöte' was as grotesque as it was self-complacent. Herr Ernst's *fantasia* from 'Ludovic' (Hérold's opera?) is a charmingly-elegant and highly finished concert-piece: though one to which few violinists will attain—since it must be not merely played—but also played with, and the variations on the *tema* are of preternatural difficulty. Herr Ernst's other *morceau*, based on a Dutch melody, was a piece of parade fit for a coronation concert,—being more grandiose and jubilant than delicately-knit or profound. Both were brilliantly played and enthusiastically received. It is a pity that Mr. Stammers has not yet learned the wisdom of clearing his *programmes* of trash and patchwork.—With his pompously-announced orchestra, and his determination to be classical, it was waste and folly to give the 'Pieta' from 'Le Prophète,' (well, though too deliberately, sung by Miss Dolby) with merely a lean and slovenly pianoforte accompaniment. The poor march, too, from the same opera, was curtailed of some sixteen bars in the middle. Lastly, the emission of ballads in the second act was nearly as copious and miscellaneous as ever. With much specious pretence, there is little progress to be got out of these meetings.

Besides the Concerts above reported—four Benefit entertainments have taken place this week: those of Mrs. Gardner, Mr. Richardson, Signor F. Ronconi and Mlle. Graumann. The last lady has made good progress since last season,—and to her agreeable *mezzo-soprano* voice has added good style and versatility, not merely in the music, but also in the languages sung (and well sung) by her. She was assisted by M.M. Benedict, Piatti and Osborne—by the Hungarian Chorus, one of whom in a *solo* displayed a wildly sweet tenor voice of very attractive quality—and by Signor Marchesi.

**DRURY LANE.**—On Wednesday, Mr. Justice Talfourd's tragedy of 'Ion' was produced, with new scenery, and with a care suggestive of a desire on the part of the management to make a point of the performance. The *Adrastus* of Mr. Vandenhoff is a fine piece of acting—classical, dignified and severely impassioned. Mr. Anderson's *Ion* is good,—in some portions excellent. We were happy to find that he has recovered the command of his voice. Some of its intonations were very fine,—but more variety is still desirable. In personal appearance and make-up Mr. Anderson was admirably identified with the Temple-youth. Miss Vandenhoff's *Cleopatra* was excellent.

**ST. JAMES'S THEATRE.**—A mysterious announcement of "Mr. Bunn on the stage" paved the way, in the advertising columns of the newspapers, for the delivery on Tuesday evening, by the ex-lessee of the two patent theatres, of "a Literary and Dramatic Monologue." It turned out to be a kind of lecture, with recitative illustrations, divided into two parts and accompanied by characteristic



scenery. "Mr. Bunn on the stage" simply appears as a gentleman in his library; and while he discourses of the origin of the English stage, of Shakspeare, of his commentators, of his actors, and of the places associated with his history,—corresponding scenery in the background reveals the exterior and interior of Shakspeare's birth-place, Anne Hathaway's cottage, the theatres "Blackfriars" and "Globe," Shakspeare's last residence at Stratford-on-Avon, and his monument in the adjacent church,—the latter both as it appeared after being whitewashed by Malone and in its polychrome original condition. In the second part of his lecture, Mr. Bunn treated of the history of the stage from the time of James the First to the present day:—dwelling much on the managements of Old Drury by Garrick, by Sheridan, by the Noble Committee of Taste, and by himself. These occupied a period of one hundred years,—commencing with 1747 and ending in 1847. In the course of the argument, Mr. Bunn allowed himself many diversions; giving imitations of the styles of Garrick, Kemble, Mrs. Siddons, and the elder Kean,—but carefully avoiding reference to living performers. In his various remarks, Mr. Bunn preferred the whip-syllabub style of composition; introducing jests and anecdotes—very few that were new, and many of the old that were not good. The best part of his address was his various readings of certain Shakspearian speeches,—in which he contrived to exhibit no mean histrionic tact and ability. Not so commendable was the prevailing sentiment of his lecture; which went to the tune that, as his great predecessors in management had assisted in the degradation of the stage by the encouragement of spectacle and ballet, so he, in following the same course, had been only as bad as they,—and that, in fact, the fault was in the public who patronized the inferior kinds of entertainments. Yet, with remarkable inconsistency, Mr. Bunn condemned, on the score of taste, the recent legislative extension of the dramatic arena, which has enabled the highest works of human intelligence, when driven from one stage, to find refuge on another. With like inconsistency Mr. Bunn declared that we have at the present day "no authors, no actors, no public,"—yet, in the face of this alleged desolation, he felt himself warranted in hoping for all manner of future success to dramatic speculation under the especial auspices of Queen Victoria. The hopes of those less personally interested in making out a case rest on the present state of theatrical development,—on the gradual purification of the minor stages, and, in consequence, of the public taste. The audience attracted by Mr. Bunn's announcement was limited in number; but the "Monologue" was spoken and acted with ease and tact. The lecture is, however, much more to be admired for its manner of delivery than for its substance.

**HAYMARKET.**—Mr. Jerrold's 'Prisoner of War' has been revived at this theatre, with great effect. The part of *Captain Channel*, originally performed by Mr. Phelps, is now undertaken by Mr. Webster: that of his daughter being supported by Mrs. C. Kean. The parental sentiment in painful antagonism with professional duty is effectively expressed. Mr. and Mrs. Keeley perform their old characters of the two eccentric *Pail-Mails*:—*Polly* being as romantic and amusing as ever. Mr. Charles Kean condescended to *Lieut. Firebrace*. Thus cast,—the performance must prove attractive.

**OLYMPIC.**—Mr. Lovell's play of 'Love's Sacrifice' was given on Wednesday:—Mr. Davenport performing the guilty merchant, and Miss Fanny Vining his generous daughter. The *Lafont* of Mr. James Johnstone amounts, in our estimation, to a perfect representation of villanous smoothness. The performance was altogether effective, and deservedly successful.

A new after-piece, constructed with peculiar neatness, entitled 'The Poet's Slave,' and founded on an incident in the life of Camoens, has been also successful. The poet, venturing to return from political exile, is supported by his female slave; who, from pure affection for her master, collects money as a *Gitana*—in which character she attracts the attention of Don Sebastian, the king of Portugal. From him she wins the poet's pardon, in return for her own liberty bestowed. Her object so far attained,

she reveals her love for her master, which the magnanimous monarch respects.—Mrs. Seymour embodied the part of the heroine with much pleasing and careful acting: the poet himself being creditably impersonated by Mr. Conway. The character of a timorous innkeeper enabled Mr. Meadows to amuse the audience with his rich humour; and Mr. Belton in the monarch was respectable.

**SURREY.**—On Monday Mr. Chorley's play of 'Old Love and New Fortune,' having obtained the proper licence, was restored to the stage:—after which Mr. Fitzball's nautical drama of 'The Red Rover' was revived. The expense of spectacle has been incurred to give this melo-drama new attraction. A moving panorama presents the scenery from the town of Newport, in the United States, to the final destination of the ship:—among other objects, the fort on Block Island, a sunset, and a storm on the Atlantic. This has been painted by Mr. John Leslie, the American artist, in a highly creditable manner. The piece was well performed, and won much applause.

**MARYLEBONE.**—Melo-drama continues in the ascendant here, under the management of Mr. E. Stirling,—who constantly occupies the stage with his own well-tried productions. The piece for the week has been 'Aline, or the Rose of Killarney.' The heroine was played by Mrs. Gordon with considerable pathos,—and the other characters were provided with adequate representatives.

**MUSICAL AND DRAMATIC GOSSIP.**—So many and melancholy have been the rumours assiduously circulated by "sympathizers" to the effect that Covent Garden Theatre would open no more for opera, great or small, that a considerable amount of "unsaying" will have now to be done, seeing that since our last the *programme* for the season has been officially put forth. By this it appears that the changes in the company are the following:—Madame Castellan will return, we apprehend in place of Madame Dorus-Gras, and Miss Hayes. Mdlle. Vera will, we presume, succeed to the occupation of Mdlle. Corbari. Herr Formes and M. Zelger divide "the succession" of Signor Marini. Mdlle. d'Okolski will share the *contralto* duty with Mdlle. de Meric. Signori Maralti and Tamberlik will be tried as *altri primi tenori*, in lieu of Signor Salvi. Let us add, that Madame Viardot will appear a couple of months earlier than last year; and that Signor Ronconi is announced, once again we are assured under conditions more favourable to his "practicability" than of any former seasons. Here, then, are ample materials for mounting any opera. The directors further state their intention of producing some five from among the following eight works:—'Il Franco Arciere,' the 'Der Freischütz' of Weber (we suppose with the recitatives of M. Berlioz) with which the season will commence on the 16th of March,—'La Juive,' and 'Guido et Ginevra' by M. Halévy—the ever-promised 'Iphigenia in Tauride' of Gluck—the 'Fidelio' of Beethoven—the 'Nuovo Mosè' of Rossini (an opera which we are longing to hear, since the reconstructions and improvements made by the *maestro* in the first 'Mosè' are described as important and striking),—the 'Parisina' of Donizetti and the 'Bravo' of Mercadante. It would be superfluous for us once again to comment on the form and colour which the repertory of Italian opera is taking and must take, were there not facts which must be stated and re-stated ere audiences will advert to and ere managers will dare to act upon them. The determination partly to keep company with, partly to lead, the public taste, which the above *programme* sets forth, can hardly fail to produce a good issue, so far as art is concerned: the style of execution habitual at Covent Garden being taken into account. Something, however, must depend upon the intelligence to work, and the capacity to please, of the new artists.

Our contemporaries state that Mr. Sims Reeves has determined once again to appear at *Her Majesty's Theatre*.—The *Gazette Musicale* announces that Mdlle. Ida Bertrand (a *contralto*, if we are not mistaken, and one of good promise) has been also engaged by Mr. Lumley. The same journal, we observe, speaks very conditionally of the production in Italian of Auber's 'Prodigal Son';

since, as we pointed out, that opera will appear in France only in April, and must be translated, arranged, studied, licensed and produced before May,—when M. Halévy's 'Tempesta' is promised.

In these days of the ascendancy of chamber-music, every one will hear with great pleasure that M. Rousselot has secured the co-operation of Herr Ernst for the Beethoven Quartett Society; and that after its first meeting on the 15th of April the incomparable violinist will perform in no other Quartetts during the season.

A local journal tells us that some new compositions by M. Silas, of Amsterdam, which have come under the notice of the Philharmonic Society of Liverpool, have been so well esteemed as to lead to an engagement of the young artist to conduct a MS. Overture of his composition at a concert in Liverpool on the 9th of April,—at which he will perform a Pianoforte Concerto, also composed by himself. Further, an article from the *Handelsblad* is quoted, eulogizing M. Silas for his skill and fancy in improvisation. The last is very good news. Though during the reign of the wonder-players, that delicious art, which in the hands of Beethoven, Mozart, Clementi, Hummel, Moscheles, and Mendelssohn produced fruits so exquisite and special, bade fair to be lost,—we are old-fashioned enough to hold it essential to a first-class professor of a keyed instrument. M. Silas appears to have earned renown, too, as an organist,—having gained the first prize in the *Paris Conservatoire* for his performance on that instrument.—It is time that Holland—a country yielding much poetry to every one who has eyes for poetry of more orders than one [*vide Athen.* Nos. 1092-3] and rich in all manner of mechanical devices—should give to the world a modern musical composer.—The Liverpool Philharmonic Society appears to be looking about at home as well as abroad; since we are told that it is in treaty with Mr. Charles Horsley for the production of his Oratorio.

A circular of more than ordinary significance and interest has been laid before us. From this we learn that one of the most influential dissenting congregations in London,—that of the "Weigh House"—has admitted into its services the use of "chanting the words of Holy Scripture"—and further, in enforcement and recommendation of its own practices, is countenancing courses of lectures in which the question is set forth for the consideration of other dissenting ministers and their congregations. This is a sign of the times to be noted without reference to orthodoxy or heterodoxy—without argument as to the finality of the service-music of this or the other epoch—but as an assurance that the culture of Art and the recognition of Beauty are more and more allowed their right place, and that becoming functions are more and more apportioned to them, among those very bodies who so long and loudly pronounced in ascetic condemnation of their existence. "The Poetry of Earth it ceaseth never;" and here is another proof of it, worth laying to heart and improving by all legislators whether lay or priestly.

Let us turn the medal for a moment,—being called upon to advert to the expulsion of Shakspearian readings and readers from Exeter Hall. So far as the issuers of the ostracism are concerned, here is an edict dreary enough;—as regards the stigmatized entertainment, the ban has been happily made of no consequence by the opening of St. Martin's Hall. It may serve to indicate not merely the growth of Babylon, but also the increase of intellectual recreation among the Babylonians, that both the large and the lesser room in Long Acre are already in great request.—Mr. Hullab's first Oratorio will be 'Judas Maccabeus,' which is announced for the 13th of March.

A course of musical lectures of some pretension, with vocal illustrations by the lecturer and Miss Messent, and with "pictorial illustrations exhibited by means of the prismatic dioptrick lantern, is in progress of delivery by Mr. Grattann at the Marylebone Institution. He has already dealt with the Egyptians and the Hebrews.—We may probably take an opportunity of noticing these lectures.

Madame Sontag achieved a brilliant success on Tuesday week at Mr. Lumley's first concert at the *Conservatoire*. Her singing of the *Polacca* from 'Linda' and of the *arpeggiato* variation to Rode's air excited the usual *fuore*. The Parisian journals



dwelt with great pride upon the signally aristocratic composition of her audience,—“*crème de la crème*,” also upon the rapturous applause which greeted the coroneted book from which she sings. This is droll in our republican days; and is a manner of compliment which, we should think, must be more humiliating than gratifying to one who was an *artiste* before she was an ambassadress,—and who by returning to her old calling proves it to be worthier, and insomuch nobler, than her new one. Mdlle. Parodi is announced as about to sing in Paris at one of these concerts.—On Tuesday week the new Philharmonic Society directed by M. Berlioz gave its first concert, with a cosmopolite selection of grand music: comprising two parts of the conductor's own ‘Faust,’—‘La Bénédiction des Poignards’ of Meyerbeer (which we are straight-laced enough to think ineligible as concert-music, in spite of having recently heard it excellently given at the *Conservatoire*),—some fragments from Gluck's operas—one of Beethoven's ‘Leonora’ overtures,—instrumental *solos* by Herr Joachim and M. Demunck,—and singing by Madame Viardot and Mdlle. Dobré and MM. Roger and Levasseur. It is impossible but that good must come from such an establishment as this; though it may take some time to accustom that strange world, the public of Paris, to the merits of an undertaking so meritorious.

We are glad to hear that at last Mr. Jerrold's new comedy may be shortly expected at the Haymarket.—By the wording of Mr. Macready's recent farewell address at Liverpool, we imagine (and pleasant it is so to do) that his retirement from acting may be followed, as in the case of the Kembles and others, by his appearing as a reader of Shakspeare.

The Berlin correspondence states that a new theatre of vast dimensions and great magnificence has just been completed in that capital. Its title is the Theatre of Frederick William, and it is to be exclusively appropriated to grand spectacle. It will be inaugurated at Easter by the representation of Schiller's tragedy of ‘Joan of Arc.’

#### MISCELLANEA

*Sale of Curious Books.*—A large and valuable portion of the library of “an eminent collector”—understood to be that of M. Libri—passed under the hammer of Messrs. Puttick & Simpson during the present week. The highest price was given for a beautiful copy uncut of ‘*Historia Sancti Johannis Evangelistae ejusque visiones Apocalypticæ*,’ printed from wooden blocks, before the invention of moveable types, circa 1440. It consists of forty-eight leaves, two of which are supplied in fac-simile. The last leaf, which is genuine in this copy, is in fac-simile in that in the British Museum. The price was 40*l.*—36*l.* 1*s.* was given for the first edition of ‘*Ciceronis (M. Tulli) Officia Paradoxa et Versus XII. sapientum*,’ printed on vellum, large copy, in old red morocco. Joannes Fust Moguntinus, Civis Petri Manu pueri mei feliciter effeci mccccxv. A copy recently produced 300*l.* in a public sale; but this was owing to the circumstance that two collectors had each given unlimited commissions.—‘*Orloge de Sapience*,’ black letter, blue morocco, with linings, bound by R. Payne, folio, Paris, Verard, 1493, brought 33*l.* This copy consists of 163 leaves, being three more than in any copy known. Like two of the three copies upon vellum belonging to the National Library of Paris, the present copy, instead of the rubrics, has very beautiful illuminations.—The first edition of ‘*Lactantius Firmianus Opera*,’ in ancient binding, with clasps, folio, in Monasterio Sublacensi, 1465, sold for 32*l.*—The German edition of the celebrated letter of Columbus on the Discovery of America, a tract of eight leaves, and exceedingly rare. ‘*Eyn schön lesen von etlichen inszlen die do in Kurtzen zyten funden synd durch dē König von hispania*,’ quarto, Strasburgh, Bart. Küstler, 1497, brought 25*l.*—‘*Libro del Antichristo*.’ Epistolas de Rabi Samuel, Caragoça, 1496, printed in double columns, black letter, full of woodcuts,—a block book in German and unknown to bibliographers, sold for 12*l.* 5*s.*—The only copy known of ‘*Surse de Pistoye*.’ La controverse de noblesse plaidoyer entre Publius Cornelius Scipion d'une part, et Cayus Flaminius de l'autre part. Cy commence ung debat entre trois chevalereux princes, folio, (sine loco et anno), printed at Bruges by Colard Mansion,

circa 1475, in the large and singular types of this celebrated printer, brought 12*l.* 5*s.*—An edition of the ‘*Danse Macabre*,’ in folio and quite unknown to collectors, sold for 11*l.* 15*s.* The title was ‘*Cy finit la Dase macabre . . . nouvellement ainsi composée et imprimée par Guyot Marchant demourant à Paris au grât hostel du Collège de Navarre au Champ Gaillard l'an de grace mil quatre cens quatre vingt et unze, le X jour de Avril*.’ Every page, with the exception of the last two, contains one large woodcut, with some Latin sentences, followed by a piece of French poetry in double columns. In the last two pages there are no woodcuts, and the text is not in double columns. With the exception of the first, the woodcuts contain only the forms of men, without any women.—‘*Regiment et ordenações da fazenda*,’ black letter, folio, Lisboa, Germ. Gatharde, 1543, brought 11*l.* This rare work is followed by twenty-six tracts or bills to be stuck up in the streets of Lisbon, all printed about 1550. The greater part of these bills relate to trade, and some concern the trade of the Portuguese colonies, the exportation to Brazil, &c.—‘*Generalis Inquisitio*,’ folio, Neapoli, 1488, written in the Neapolitan dialect and quite unknown to bibliographers, realized 10*l.*—A beautiful copy of Pulci's ‘*Morgante Magiore*,’ quarto, Vinegia, di Sabio, 1532, sold for 5*l.* 12*s.* 6*d.*,—and a copy of the rare old romance of ‘*Fierabras*,’ black letter with woodcuts, quarto, Lyon, P. Mareschal, 1497, for 8*l.* 8*s.*

*Christchurch, Oxford.*—In the article on University Reform in your last number (*ante*, p. 181) you state that at Christchurch the dean, canons, and students divide among them 22,000*l.* a-year. Let your readers should suppose that an equal division is made, I beg to state that the present value of an undergraduate studentship is 50*l.* annually, with rooms and dinner in hall. The studentships have lately been reduced 25 per cent,—viz., to the low price of corn. The allowances made for dinner, &c. have not been increased with the value of money.

*The New Houses of Commons.*—The new chamber for the Commons is now so far completed that it will, according to present intentions, be used for the day sittings of the House on Wednesdays after Easter. The unfinished condition of the gas and light apparatus renders it necessary to retain the existing arrangement for the evening sittings during the present session.—*Daily News*.

*Conveyance of Parcels between the Continent and England.*—Many of our readers may not be aware that, up to within a very short time, in the mail packets from Ostend, although they occasionally took a parcel, the commanders did not consider it as any part of their duty to take charge of parcels. They are now instructed to do so; but on the express understanding that (delays of the Customs only excepted) the parcels conveyed by the packets for this agency are to accompany the mails throughout the journey both on sea and land. Thus, a parcel leaving Brussels in the evening is delivered in London about noon the following day. This is accomplished by having active agents at every point to receive and forward the same without delay; for doing which, every facility is given by the Customs on both sides of the Channel.—No one will appreciate more the advantages of this service than our countrymen residing on the Continent; with whom the hitherto extravagant charges on small parcels, and the delay and uncertainty attendant on their arrival at their destination have operated as a prohibition. They can now calculate the time and the cost; which latter we think is extremely moderate—the rates including every charge, except Customs duties, if any.—*Brussels Herald*.

*The Pictures in Holyrood.*—The *Scotsman* states that the whole of the paintings in Holyrood (now in a dirty and dilapidated state) are about to undergo, by order of the Commissioners of Woods and Forests, a thorough cleaning and repair. A portion of them have been already overhauled and restored to their places. The name of the painter De Witt has, in the course of cleaning, been found on several of the largest pictures.

*Errata.*—P. 185, col. 3, l. 80. The name of the German artist elected some weeks since as an Associate by the Senior Society of Painters in Water Colours is, we are informed, not “Karl Haghe,” but Carl Hagge.—P. 209, col. 2. By an omission in the manuscript furnished to us of Miss Fanny Corbux's paper ‘On the Connexion of the ancient Egyptian and Hebrew Calendars in the Dates of the first Passover,’ read at the Syro-Egyptian Society, a whole line is omitted after the word “days” in line 60. The passage should run:—Hence the Egyptian days of the month were transferred to the corresponding days of the lunar style,” &c

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**THE STANDARD LIFE ASSURANCE COMPANY.**  
ESTABLISHED 1825.—CONSTITUTED BY ACT OF PARLIAMENT.

ANNUAL REPORT, 1850.  
THE TWENTY-FOURTH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING of this Company was held on Friday, the 15th of February, within their Office, No. 3, George-street, Edinburgh.  
GEORGE MOIR, Esq. Advocate, in the chair.

The Directors submitted various statements, showing the progress of the Institution since its commencement, and the satisfactory result of the business during the past year.

It appeared from the statements submitted—  
That the New Policies had been issued during the year ending the

31st of December 1850,  
That the sums assured during that period amounted to £29,371 17s., yielding New Premiums to the amount of 11,743 4s. 8d.  
That the Number of Proposals made to the Company during the

same period was 997, of which 808 were accepted, and 189 declined.

That a large addition has been made to the Funds of the Company, and that the Directors were still enabled to maintain a high rate of interest on their Investments, which are most satisfactorily secured.

The following are Extracts from the Report submitted by the Directors to the Meeting:—

"From these Statements it will be perceived that the Company have been enabled to issue the large number of 808 Policies, being an increase of upwards of 200 Policies on the business of 1849, and a much larger number than was ever issued by the Company in any previous year. In drawing attention to this result, the Directors beg to point out the comparatively small excess of the sums assured over the year 1849, 34,907 4s. 8d., as contrasted with the increased number of Policies issued, the average amount of the New Policies being about £300, in place of 700s., which has obtained for many years in the business of the Company. The conclusion to be drawn from this appears to be that the Company have made a considerable extension of their business, the number of transactions, not the amount assured, being the best test of progress. The Directors are further impressed with the opinion that, to some extent, the result evinces a renewal of prosperity throughout the country, as shown by the increased number of Policies, the effects of past depression limiting the amount of assurance sought."

"Of the claims, upwards of one-fifth was occasioned by cholera, which has to some extent, no doubt, increased the mortality of the year, although limited in as far as the death from that cause superseded deaths by other causes. The whole mortality, however, is not so great as in the year 1847, when fever was so prevalent; and altogether, the Directors consider they have good cause for congratulation in having passed through a year marked by such an increased mortality throughout the country, without a larger amount of claims."

"These are the satisfactory results of the past year; and the Directors feel confident that they can hold out to the Proprietors the prospect of continued success for the future. One year may vary from another in the degree of advancement made, but the general progress of the Company will, they confidently state, be a steady onward movement, advancing from step to step for the future, as it is now doing, with a rapidity which few, if any Institutions of the kind have equalled."

"The following Statement exhibits the rapid progress of the Institution during the past six years:—

Year ending.	Number of Policies issued.	Sums Assured.
15th November, 1844.	562	£267,381 0 0
" " 1845.	698	446,026 12 10
" " 1846.	592	368,579 7 10
" " 1847.	621	413,578 4 11
" " 1848.	571	395,864 12 5
" " 1849.	808	429,371 17 1
In Six Years....	3,852	£2,470,991 15 1
Giving an annual average of	642	£411,816 19 2

"The present year, 1850, is a most important one in the career of the Company. On its termination, the Standard will have passed through its first twenty-five years of its existence, and arrived at the fourth period at which the Profits fall to be divided. The attention of the Directors and Manager is now fixed on the important preliminary investigation which is already in progress for the Division of the Profits, and the trust that the result will bear out the favourable anticipations which they now confidently express."

"The Directors have now only further to mention a transaction which they have entered into, to which they consider will be conducive to the interest of the Company, viz. the Transference of the Business of the Experience Life Assurance Company. The arrangements have all been completed, and the transference is about to be made, but as the transaction has been entered into since the Balance of the Standard Company was the 15th November last, to which the present Report bears reference, the Directors have not included in the statements now submitted any notice of its affair."

After the Report and Statements were submitted, the Chairman congratulated the meeting on the satisfactory position of the Company's affairs. He drew attention to the increasing extent of the Company's Funds, and the satisfactory Securities in which they are invested, and to the large Revenue of the Company. He also drew attention to the fact of the present being the Bonus year, affording additional inducement to parties to effect Assurances, and he urged on all to make an increased effort to advance the interests of the Institution.  
The Report was approved of, on the motion of John Tod, Esq., W. S., and the meeting expressed entire satisfaction with the progress and position of the Company.

After the Election of the Directors in room of those retiring, the Establishment for the ensuing year was declared to be as follows:—

Governor.  
His Grace the Duke of Buccleuch and Queensberry.  
Deputy Governor.  
The Right Hon. the Earl of Elgin and Kincardine.

## EDINBURGH.

## Ordinary Directors.

William Keith, Esq., Accountant, 50, Castle-street.  
John Robert Tod, Esq., W. S., 30, Moray-place.  
George Patton, Esq., Advocate, 38, Frederick-street.  
Charles Pearson, Esq., Accountant, 128, George-street.  
James Condie, Esq., Pen and Pencil Merchant, 10, George-street.  
James Robertson, Esq., W. S., 11, Heriot-row.  
James Hay, Esq., merchant, Leith.  
George Moir, Esq., Advocate, 41, Charlotte-square.  
Harry Maxwell Inglis, Esq., W. S., 6, North St. David-street.  
Anthony Trail, Esq., W. S., 16, Northumberland-street.  
John Sligo, Esq., of Carmyle, 5, Drummond-place.  
Andrew Blackburn, Esq., merchant, 8, Queen-street.  
Thomas Graham Murray, Esq., W. S., 4, Glenfinlas-street.  
James Veitch, Esq., of Elthio.

## LONDON.

Chairman of the Board.  
The Right Hon. the Earl of Aberdeen.

## Ordinary Directors.

David Laing Burn, Esq., 12, Kensington Palace-gardens.  
Alexander Gillespie, Esq., 5, Goudon-square.  
A. Macgregor, Esq., 31, Chester-street, Grosvenor-place.  
John Scott, Esq., 4, Hyde Park-street.  
John Plowes, Esq., 61, Old Broad-street.  
F. Le Breton, Esq., 3, Crosby-square.  
John Lindsay, Esq., Laurence Pountney-lane.

After a vote of thanks to the Directors in Edinburgh and London, to the Local Boards, and to the Officers of the Company, which was proposed by Andrew Wood, Esq., M.D., the meeting separated.

WILL THOS. THOMSON, Manager.  
PETER EWART, Resident Secretary.  
London, 22, King William-street.



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The Premiums for Female lives have been materially reduced.  
Fire Insurances on favourable terms.  
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Mr. Henry Dinsdale, 12, Wellington-street, Strand,  
Or Mr. W. L. NEWMAN,  
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**UNITED KINGDOM LIFE ASSURANCE COMPANY;** established by Act of Parliament in 1834—  
8, Waterloo-place, Pall Mall, London; 97, George-street, Edinburgh; 13, St. Vincent-place, Glasgow; 4, College-green, Dublin.  
**SECOND SEPTENNIAL DIVISION OF PROFITS**  
AMONG THE ASSURED.  
The Bonus added to Policies from March, 1834, to the 31st of December, 1847, is as follows:—

Sum Assured.	Time Assured.	Sum added to Policy in 1841.	Sum added to Policy in 1848.	Sum payable at Death.
£5,000	13 yrs. 10 mths.	£683 6 8	£787 10 0	£6,470 16 8
5,000	12 years	500 0 0	757 10 0	6,257 10 0
5,000	10 years	300 0 0	787 10 0	6,087 10 0
5,000	8 years	100 0 0	787 10 0	5,887 10 0
5,000	6 years	.. ..	675 0 0	5,675 0 0
5,000	4 years	.. ..	450 0 0	5,450 0 0
5,000	2 years	.. ..	225 0 0	5,225 0 0

The Premiums nevertheless are on the most moderate scale, and only one-half need be paid for the first five years, when the Insurance is for Life. Every information afforded on application to the Resident Director, No. 8, Waterloo-place, Pall Mall, London.

**PROVIDENT LIFE OFFICE,**  
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CITY BRANCH: 2, ROYAL EXCHANGE BUILDINGS.  
Established 1806.  
Policy Holders' Capital, £1,158,783.  
Annual Income, £141,000. Bonuses Declared, £743,000.  
Claims paid since the establishment of the Office, £1,765,000.  
President,  
The Right Honourable EARL GREY.

Directors.  
Sir Richard D. King, Bart. Chairman.  
Capt. W. John Williams, Deputy-Chairman.  
Henry B. Alexander, Esq., William Ostler, Esq.  
H. Blencowe Churchill, Esq., George Round, Esq.  
George Dacre, Esq., James Sedgewick, Esq.  
Alexander Henderson, M.D., The Rev. James Sherman,  
William Judd, Esq., Frederick Squire, Esq.  
The Hon. Arthur Kinnaird, William Henry Stone, Esq.  
John A. Beaumont, Esq., Managing Director.  
Physician—John Maclean, M.D. F.R.S., 29, Upper Montague-street, Montague-square.

NINETEEN TWENTIETHS OF THE PROFITS ARE DIVIDED AMONG THE INSURED.

Examples of the Extinction of Premiums by the Surrender of Bonuses.

Date of Policy.	Sum Insured.	Original Premium.	Bonuses added subsequently, to be further increased annually.
1806	£2500	£78 10 10	Extinguished
1811	1000	33 19 2	ditto
1818	1000	34 16 10	ditto

Examples of Bonuses added to other Policies.

Policy No.	Date.	Sum Insured.	Bonuses added.	Total with Additions, to be further increased.
521	1807	£900	£502 12 1	£1882 12 1
1174	1810	1200	1160 5 6	2360 5 6
3392	1820	5000	3558 17 8	8558 17 8

Prospectuses and full particulars may be obtained upon application to the Agents of the Office, in all the principal towns of the United Kingdom, at the City Branch, and at the head Office, No. 50, Regent-street.

**THE LONDON INDISPURABLE LIFE POLICY COMPANY.**  
Incorporated by Act of Parliament,—upon the principle of Mutual Life Assurance, the whole of the profits belonging to the Assured,—  
31, Lombard Street, London.

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Richard Malins, Esq., Q.C. James Fuller Madox, Esq.  
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Directors.  
William Adams, Esq., New Broad-street.  
John Atkins, Esq., White Hart Court, Lombard Street.  
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J. Thompson Bramwell, Esq., Prospect Place, Kilburn.  
John Dunsford Bell, Esq., Chancery Lane.  
Robert Henry Forman, Esq., Ordnance, Pall Mall.  
John Hamilton, Esq., Alfred Place, Thurlow Square.  
James Fuller Madox, Esq., Clement's Lane.  
John Matthews, Esq., Arthur Street West, City.  
C. Octavius Parnell, Esq., Norfolk Street, Park Lane.

Auditors.  
George Cumming, Esq., Westbourne Grove.  
William D. Starling, Esq., Chancery, Alley, City.  
James Tupper, Esq., Parliament Square.  
David Henry Stone, Esq., Poultry.

Bankers.—Messrs. Spooner, Attwood & Co.  
Secretary.—David Alison, Esq.

PADDINGTON LOCAL BOARD.  
24, Connaught Terrace, Edgware Road.  
The Rev. James Shergold Boone, A.M., Stanhope Street, Hyde Park.  
Captain Creed, Norfolk Crescent, Oxford Square.  
Charles Pemberton, Esq., Eastbourne Terrace, Hyde Park.  
J. Lewis Ames, Esq., York Street, Portman Square.  
George Y. Robson, Esq., Eastbourne Terrace, Hyde Park.  
Secretary, Chas. Hoghton, Esq.

**THE POLICIES** issued by this Company being INDISPURABLE, are transferable and negotiable SECURITIES. They may at any time be made available in money transactions, their validity not being dependent, as in the case of ordinary Policies, upon the import of other documents. Used as FAMILY PROVISIONS, they relieve the Assured from all doubt and anxiety as to the result of Assurances thereby made certain.  
Owing to this important improvement in the practice of Life Assurance, the progress of this Company has been rapid from the commencement of its business, and is steadily increasing.  
Prospectuses, Reports, and every other information, may be obtained at the Chief Office, or any of the Agencies.  
ALEXANDER ROBERTSON, Manager.

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13, WATERLOO-PLACE, LONDON.

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James Frederick Nugent Daniell, Esq. Deputy-Chairman.  
Admiral the Right Hon. Sir G. Cockburn, G.C.B.  
Major-Gen. Sir J. Cockburn, Bt. G.C.H.  
Gen. Sir Thos. Bradford, G.C.B. G.C.H.  
Major-Gen. Sir P. Ross, G.C.M.G. K.C.H.  
Lieut-Gen. Sir J. Gardiner, K.C.B.  
Major-Gen. Sir Hew D. Ross, K.C.B. R.A.  
Captain Sir George Back, R.N. F.R.S.

Physician—Messrs. Coutts & Co. 59, Strand.  
Physician—Sir Charles Ferguson Forbes, M.D. K.C.H. F.R.S.  
Counsel—J. Measure, Esq., 4, Serle-street, Lincoln's Inn-fields.  
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Gentlemen,—I have derived much benefit from the use of the Revalenta Food.

STUART DE DECIES.  
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Dear Sir,—I will thank you to send me, on receipt of this, two 10-penny canisters of your Revalenta Arabica Food. I beg to assure you that its beneficial effects have been duly appreciated by dear Sir, yours respectfully,  
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(From the Venerable Archdeacon of Ross.)  
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Dear Sir,—I cannot speak too favourably of the Revalenta Arabica.  
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\*\*\* A note in the autograph of the celebrated antiquary, Browne Willis, states, "that at the death of Hearne these coppers, which had been used for Hearne's works, were purchased by the learned antiquary, James West, and a few copies printed for presents to the particular virtuosos, among which I had the honour to be included." Bound up with this choice copy is a catalogue of Browne Willis's collection of English coins, with folio printed table of the gold coins of the kings of England, with important manuscript notes, prices, &c., by Browne Willis.

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\*\*\* A splendid library book. It comprises all London and Middlesex, with parts of Hertfordshire and Buckinghamshire.**

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\*\*\* The best Portuguese Dictionary to the present day; it is extremely rare, even in Portugal; the few remaining copies of the Supplement only, in 3 vols., were sold at 2400 res per copy.

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\*\*\* Privately printed for presents only by the Dilettanti Society. Horace Walpole's copy sold for 22l.

**Watt (Robert),** *Bibliotheca Britannica; or, General Index of British and Foreign Literature*, in two parts, comprising Authors and Subjects, 4 vols. in two, 4to. fine copy, morocco elegant, gilt edges, 8l. 8s. Edinburgh, 1824

**Glanvilla (Bartholomæi) Anglici, Liber de Proprietatibus Rerum, first edition, large folio, remarkably fine, if not matchless copy, in the original binding, extremely rare, 10l. 10s. sine ulla nota, circa 1470  
\*\*\* This splendid volume was printed at Cologne, and is the same which has been attributed to Caxton. The chief evidence of the existence of such an edition is the following stanza of Wynkyn de Worde, subjoined to his edition of the work.**

"And also of your charite here in remembrance,  
The soule of William Caxton, first printer of this boke,  
In laten tongue at Colom himself to advance,  
That every wel disposyd man may thereon loke."

**Hieronymy (Sancti) Epistolæ**, second edition, folio, remarkably fine large copy, elegantly bound in morocco, gilt edges, extremely rare, 11 18s. 6d. sine ulla nota, sed Argent. Mentelin, circa 1469

\*\*\* A magnificent specimen of early typography, printed in the large Gothic letter of Mentelin, with which he executed the Virgil and Terence. Bienne Laitre's copy sold for 1200 francs.

**Rooth (David),** *Bishop of Ossory, Analecta Sacra*, Nova et Mira, de Rebus Catholicorum in Hibernia pro fide et religione gestis, continentes gravissimum relationem, paranesin ad Martyres designatos, et processum Martyriaum quorundam fidei pugium, three parts, complete, in 1 vol. 8vo. fine tall copy, morocco elegant, with morocco lining, gilt edges, by Lewis, 8s. 1617-9

\*\*\* David Rooth, or Rother, Catholic Bishop of Ossory, assisted the Primate Usher in his 'Primordia', and had high compliments paid him by that excellent prelate, was the anonymous author of this work, which is rarely attainable complete. Sold in Mr. Hanrott's sale for 13s. 6s.

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\*\*\* Washington Irving, in his Life of Columbus, is very eloquent in praise of the language used in this first document ever printed relative to the discovery of America. All other writers, since the discovery of these precious gems unite in admiration and the warmest eulogium of their merit and extraordinary rarity. Dr. Robertson, notwithstanding his great research, was totally unacquainted with its existence. A German Translation three years later sold at Puttick & Simpson's for 26l. Feb. 22, 1850.

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\*\*\* Collected by the Poet Laureat Southey.

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\*\*\* Sold in Mr. Constable's sale for 13l. 13s.

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\*\*\* Sold in the Duke of Roxburgh's sale for 13l. 13s.

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\*\*\* A very useful work, compiled by the direction and encouragement of King Charles. Sold in Willett's sale for 10l. 10s., Townshend, 11l., and in Nassau for 13l. 13s.

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\*\*\* The most splendid specimen of ancient typography I ever beheld. It is the first book printed at Strasburg with a date. Eggesteyn printed a second edition the following year.

**Arthur of Lytell Brytayne**, translated out of Frenshe into English, by the Noble Johan Bourghober, Knight, Lorde Burners, black letter, with curious and spirited woodcuts, folio, wants the title, and a few leaves in the middle, it has the title, and is in the original binding, extremely rare, 6l. 16s. 6d. Imprinted by Robert Redhorne, no date.

\*\*\* This edition of the romance of Arthur of Little Britain is of excessive rarity. The Duke of Roxburgh's, which was very imperfect, and was erroneously attributed to Copland, is the only other copy I can trace as having occurred for sale.



# THE ATENÆUM

Journal of English and Foreign Literature, Science, and the Fine Arts.

No. 1167.

LONDON, SATURDAY, MARCH 9, 1850.

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The present Examiners are eligible, and intend to offer themselves for re-election, with the exception of the Examiner in surgery.

Candidates must announce their names to the Registrar on or before the 27th of March.

Somerset House, By order of the Senate,  
March 6th, 1850. R. W. ROTHMAN, Registrar.

**UNIVERSITY COLLEGE, LONDON.**  
PROFESSORSHIP OF MINERALOGY.—The Council propose to appoint a PROFESSOR OF MINERALOGY. Candidates are requested to send in applications and testimonials on or before Tuesday, the 9th of April next.

March 5, 1850. CHAS. C. ATKINSON, Secretary to the Council.

## ROYAL ACADEMY OF ARTS, TRAFALGAR-SQUARE.—NOTICE TO ARTISTS.

All works of Painting, Sculpture, or Architecture intended for the ensuing EXHIBITION at the ROYAL ACADEMY must be sent in on MONDAY the 8th, or by six o'clock in the Evening of TUESDAY the 9th of April next, after which time no work can possibly be received; nor can any works be received which have already been publicly exhibited.

The other Regulations necessary to be observed may be obtained at the Royal Academy.

Every possible care will be taken of works sent for Exhibition; but the Royal Academy will not hold itself accountable in any case of injury or loss, nor can it undertake to pay the carriage of any package which may be forwarded by carriers.

The prices of works to be disposed of may be communicated to the Secretary.

**ART-UNION OF LONDON.**—Incorporated by Royal Charter.—The SUBSCRIPTION LIST for the current year WILL CLOSE 30th inst. Each Subscriber of One Guinea will receive, in addition to one share in the next Annual Distribution of Prizes, a Pair of Line Engravings after T. Webster, R.A., 'The Prince and the Peasants,' and a Pair of 'The Prince and the Peasants,' and a Series of Enchiridia after D. Maclellan, R.A., illustrating Shakespeare's 'Seven Ages.'  
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Oratorio, 'JUDAS MACCABEUS,' will be performed on WEDNESDAY EVENING, MARCH 13.—Principal Vocal Performers—Miss Birch, Mrs. Noble, Miss Gill, Miss Kent, Mr. Sims Reeves, and Mr. Whitworth.—The Chorus will consist of the Members of Mr. Hullah's First Upper Singing School.

**CONDUCTOR—MR. JOHN HULLAH.**

Tickets, 2s., Reserved Seats, 5s., may be had of Mr. J. W. Parker, 445, West Strand, of the Music-sellers, and at St. Martin's Hall, Long Acre.

The Performance will commence at Half-past Seven o'clock.

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course of a short BIOGRAPHICAL LECTURE concerning their Author, a Selection from these CELEBRATED SONGS, Music by Weber, Himmel, &c.) will be sung by Mr. W. H. GRATTANN, at the MUSEUM, 15, BEDFORD-SQUARE, on TUESDAY EVENING, March 12th, to commence at Eight o'clock.—Reserved Seats, 2s.; Non-Reserved, 1s.

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*Our Present Gaol System.* By Joseph Adshead.

*Criminal Returns for 1848-9.—Reports of the Prison Inspectors for England, Wales, Ireland, and Scotland for the Years 1848 and 1849.* Presented to both Houses of Parliament.

Lord John Russell having moved the appointment of a new committee of inquiry, the whole subject of Prison Law and Criminal Treatment is again before the public for discussion.—Amongst the many great problems which agitate and exercise the intelligence of the nineteenth century and press most unceasingly for solution, those of the ultimate causes and *rationale* of crime and of the relation of the criminal to society occupy a prominent position. Before the inquisitorial spirit of the present age was evoked, our penal science was extremely simple:—to seize the offender and administer the vengeance of the outraged law by hanging, transportation or imprisonment, after the method still dear to Mr. Carlyle, constituted the whole of its philosophy and practice. Engrossed almost exclusively with its material interests, the general public found no time to investigate the moral and political questions connected with the fate of these pariahs of the State. Relying on the traditions of the civil judicature, it never dreamed of applying the general maxims of moral and social science to the treatment of moral and social offences. The deplorable result of this radical error has been, that notwithstanding the great augmentation of our physical wealth and power—our increase of luxury and refinement,—crime has not been arrested. All our improved machineries of government have been foiled and negated. We have punished, but have not prevented more efficiently. The moral distemper has shown only occasional and uncertain symptoms of amendment; and there are not wanting publicists who contend that the virus increases in malignity as our civilization improves—that as the flower of social existence expands more and more into perfect beauty, the canker which consumes it becomes fiercer and fouler. At least, it seems so from the greater force of the contrast.

Society has always more or less inclined to evade its duties in relation to the moral evil of criminality, on the plea that it is *incurable*. It is an obvious way of escaping many difficulties and responsibilities to pronounce men incurably depraved:—as death-punishment is to nations which know not, or shrink from, the trouble and expense of more costly, but more reasonable, methods of dealing with the criminal calendar. It is more than suspected that this idea of “incurable human depravity” has a dangerous tendency to foster weakness of character—which, properly understood, is incipient crime. “The heart is irrecoverably bad,” says the teacher; and the pupil is thereupon induced to abandon those better aspirations which are the elements of redemption in all active natures—illustrating in his fall the doctrine which was perhaps the original occasion of it. This moral, or immoral, principle—one of the consequences of the middle-age sacerdotal supremacy in civil affairs, particularly

in jurisprudence—furnished the spirit of all our old penal legislation. It sanctioned, if it did not actually give, the vindictive tone and character of our retributive law; and proscribed the notion of reforming the offender, because the attempt, if unsuccessful, would have cost time and treasure—and if successful, would have militated against its own dogma. It is not our purpose to enter into the argument for the rejection or acceptance of this aphorism on religious grounds:—enough for us to say, that eminent divines are disposed to deny both its validity as a doctrine and the false conclusions which are built on it. But whatever position it may occupy in a theological system,—certainly it has not that acknowledgment which would warrant its being made, or suffered to continue, the basis of our criminal policy. No man has a right to despair of his fellow:—and least of all has a government—which ought to be as unimpassioned and impersonal as abstract Law and Justice—a right to treat any of its subjects as utterly incorrigible and lost. That false dogma is more dangerous and morally destructive than most persons imagine—lying, as it does, at the threshold of penal jurisprudence, and falsifying the very *principia* of social ethics. Its removal must be the starting-point in any sound system of criminal reform.

Penal science—in that aspect of it, at least, which has any claim to the true attributes and character of a science—is of recent origin. Like many other of the most important departments of sociology, it came into existence during the latter portion of the eighteenth century. Its history is brief. Public attention was first directed to the subject in a remarkable manner by the labours of the illustrious philanthropist, Howard. His evidence on the subject of prisons and prisoners given before the House of Commons, marks the beginning of a new epoch in the history of English criminal law and its regulations. A pressing political necessity aided the movement. The termination of the American war deprived us of our penal settlements. A substitute for transportation had to be adopted,—and this necessity led to a reform in prison discipline. Attention was, however, for a long time directed to the prison rather than to the prisoner—to the legal offender rather than to the moral culprit. Howard himself never rose from the philanthropist into the philosopher. His object, if not his sympathy, dealt solely with physical suffering. The magnitude of that more obvious evil cast into shade, for him, the moral imperfections of imprisonment. Later, however, the investigation became more complete. Thinkers like Beccaria and Blackstone, Paley and Bentham, contributed their ideas and suggestions towards the development of the new science,—governments became earnestly interested in its experiments,—and writers of many classes, legal, moral, political and theological, shared in its discussions, and from different premises laboured towards the same general conclusions. Nevertheless, much confusion continued to reign in the system; and it is only within the last few years—if even now—that an approach to unanimity of opinion amongst jurists, statesmen and moralists as to the principal objects of penal infliction has been attained. This agreement is still far from being either radical or universal.

The leading theories prevailing on the subject contemplate—1. *Retribution*, or the infliction of pain as a *punishment* for the wrong done to society, without regard to its effect upon the individual. This vindictive principle long obtained in European criminal law; and its advocates have pretended to discover its sanctions in the Divine will and in the human heart—in the *retrospective* punishments announced by the former, and in certain spontaneous *instincts*

which are alleged to exist in the latter. This idea has probably no other defender than Mr. Carlyle at the present time.—2. *Example*, or the infliction of pain with a view to *deter* both the sufferer and others, who are thereby reminded that similar punishment will follow similar transgressions of the law. This theory is generally a favourite with lawyers and statesmen.—3. *Reformation* of the criminal. This last is the newest theory of the *rationale* of punishment, and the one now generally adopted by moralists. The reformatory system, as it seems to us, involves whatever is good and beneficial in the other theories,—eliminates those principles which are unsound, and contributes new elements of its own, which together constitute a whole. To reform an offender is certainly not so easy as to punish him; but if we have any confidence in his improveability—and it is a daring thing to deny it of any being still human—it will probably prove in the end not only a more generous but a more judicious mode of dealing with him—more economical and effective, less expensive as to both moral and monetary power. Punishment does not always exercise a deterring influence. Pain *may* purify; but experience leads to the conclusion that pain inflicted by man on his fellow quite as frequently hardens and debases. Punishment assigned by the law, and administered in a prison or a penal colony, cannot be made to act on the mental and physical organization in the same genial and chastening manner that the suffering imposed by nature does; and where punishment does not soften, humiliate, and correct, it is a crime as well as a mistake to administer it. It is a useless consumption of the power of endurance—a waste of vital energies—an absurdity as well as a cruelty.

On these grounds,—and on the still higher argument that the society which creates abject poverty and permits brute ignorance, by its institutions and provisions almost inevitably assigns the inheritance of crime and violence to a certain class, and has itself a duty to perform towards its delinquents which it has no right to evade—the reformatory theory of dealing with convicted persons demands our sympathy and support. We recognize no permanent pariah-doomed class in either our political or our social constitutions. The felon is more frequently the slave of circumstances—of hereditary moral disease, of vicious association, or of non-education, than of corrupt will; often the victim of circumstances from whose thralldom he would gladly escape if the way were open and escape possible. Many of the causes which tend to perpetuate a criminal population are certainly within the reach of remedial influences:—the paramount and most powerful of which must be Education. Starting from sound principles, recognizing in all cases the possibility of improvement, and proceeding by a well-digested method of instruction, the work of prevention might, we are convinced, be carried out to an extent now hardly conceived. Schools are cheaper machinery than prisons and penitentiaries: and it is more consonant to human ideas of morality and justice to arrest the weak on their downward path than to lie in wait for their commission of an actual breach of the law—that terrible first step which lacerates and then ossifies the heart, that fatal initiation which blunts the sharp edge of conscience. We would willingly enlarge on this department of penal science and its means,—but our failing space compels us to return to the more immediate text.

During the last few years, the whole subject of crime and its treatment has forced itself largely on the attention of the country and of successive cabinets. Many plans have been tried, and



some improvements have been made. But the changes have not been radical. They have been more in forms and administration than in ideas and in the system proceeded on. Among the more original of the plans proposed, is that of Capt. Maconochie,—called by him the "Mark System." His cardinal idea—like those underlying almost every other great reform—is very simple. Our present criminal law apportioned to every legal offence a definite time-punishment:—Capt. Maconochie would change it into a definite labour-punishment. He would make *toil* the expiator of crime, the means of reformation. The idea is noble,—and is, moreover, in harmony with Nature's own processes. Capt. Maconochie says he owes the original suggestion to a passage in Dr. Whately's Letter to Earl Grey:—but the idea was familiar to the old penal writers. Beccaria shadows it forth; and Paley, who copied the Italian jurist with great liberality but without acknowledgment, puts the doctrine into nearly the same words as the living archbishop. Practical experience of convicts on a large scale has given Capt. Maconochie a strong faith in downright *hard work* as a corrective and curative agent; and this confidence we share with him to a great extent. "*Qui laborat orat*," said the old monkish aphorism,—and the saying was, and is, profoundly true. Work possesses its purifying and strengthening virtues in a marvellous degree—especially with rough natures. The Mark System is, moreover, a reform in apparatus as well as in principles. Its author thus indicates its leading propositions and provisions.—

"1. That the duration of sentences be measured by labour and good conduct combined with a minimum of time, but no maximum,—instead of, as now, by time only. The purpose of this is to make a man's liberation, when he is once convicted of a felony, depend on the subsequent conduct and character evinced by him, rather than on the quality of his original offence. It is in the first that society really has an interest, and on which depends the security with which he may be again released. The last is an immutable fact. Amidst the varieties of constitution and temptation we can rarely estimate its real turpitude. When we can we are still unable to balance against it a due proportion of pain. And no amount of this last can either recall, or atone for it, or in any perceptible degree, as experience shows, prevent its recurrence. 2. That the labour thus required be represented by marks;—a certain number of these, proportioned to the original offence, being required to be earned in a penal condition before discharge. Then, according to the amount of work rendered a proportion of them should be credited day by day to the convict;—a moderate charge be made in them for all provisions and other supplies issued to him,—and should he misconduct himself a moderate fine in them be imposed on him,—only the clear surplus, after all similar deductions, to count towards his liberation. By this means it is sought to place his fate in his own hands, to give him a form of wages, impose on him a form of pecuniary fine (instead of flogging, ironing, or shutting him in a dark cell) for his prison offences,—make him feel the burthen and obligation of his own maintenance,—and train him, while yet in bondage, in those habits of prudent accumulation, postponing the gratification of present tastes and impulses to ulterior advantages, which after discharge will best preserve him from again falling. 3. That to strengthen these moral checks and stimulants, when prisoners are kept together in numbers they be distributed into small parties (say) of six, with common interests, each man thus labouring and refraining for others as well as for himself. By this means it is hoped to implant and cultivate kindly and social feelings, instead of the intensely selfish ones which usually characterize the criminal, and especially grow up in the solitude of an unconnected crowd. It is thus also sought to create a shadow of domestic ties even when in prison,—to give an interest to the strong to assist the weak, thereby equalizing penal inflictions,—and to make offence unpopular because injurious, and good conduct popular because benefi-

cial, to several together, thereby gradually creating an *esprit de corps* in all towards good. And lastly, these several moral impulses being well organized, it is recommended that they be confided in, with as little mixture of direct force in obtaining the ends contemplated in them as possible. The two sources of action are considered essentially antagonistic, and cannot with advantage be in large measure combined. And though wherever prisoners are kept it is indispensable to have physical force present, it is yet undoubted that frequent recurrence to it, being in itself moral failure, will always be found rapidly productive of more."

Of course the system is applicable to all penal establishments, whether at home or abroad. Although it cannot be considered unassailable in parts—practice only can detect minor theoretical errors—we are disposed to think highly of it. We have great confidence in its principle—that of making *toil* the expiator of crime,—as it is the condition imposed by Nature at once as a punishment and as a means of redemption. Work also prepares the culprit for re-entrance into society—where labour must be his destiny. On this topic Capt. Maconochie well remarks:—

"In the management of our gaols, and other places of punishment, we at present attach too much importance to mere submission and obedience. We make the discipline in them military, overlooking a distinction, specifically drawn in the Mark System, and to which too much importance cannot be attached, between the objects of military and improved penal discipline. 'The ultimate purpose of military discipline is to train men to act together; but that of penal discipline is, to prepare them advantageously to separate.' The objects being thus opposite, the processes should equally differ;—but we make them the same, and reap accordingly. A good prisoner, it has been observed, is usually a bad man; and in the circumstances this result is sufficiently intelligible. Men kept for weeks, months, years, under a severe external pressure, and praised and encouraged in proportion as they submit to it, are in a direct course of preparation to yield to other forms of pressure as soon as they present themselves. They go in weak, or they would not probably be prisoners, and they come out still more enfeebled. \* \* My impression, founded on a long knowledge of the character of criminals, is, that by no other means possible could we so effectually as by this scare idle and dissolute youth, or recover them when fallen, or fit them afterwards to maintain a better position, or thus prevent crime and reconvictions, and so diminish the number of those, whom, after all, we must transport. There is more virtue in hard labour, stimulated so as to be willingly performed, than in almost all other penal agencies put together."

The Mark System not only provides for the offender *working* his way from the degradation of crime into a healthy moral region, but has a provision—overlooked in all our existing penal systems—for enabling him to step into the world again safely. Our prison discipline is now in a great measure lost upon the culprit because it does not look beyond the prison walls. A large proportion of our breaches of the law are caused by want and the temptations incident to it. We punish the offender, and then force him out upon society in exactly the same naked condition which his previous lapse had proved his inability to endure. He is turned into the streets provisionless, with his character blasted—and is only too frequently forced by the necessities of nature to a repetition of his offence. It is fearful to consider how many re-committals occur. It is easy to meet with persons who have never seen the inside of a gaol, but very difficult to meet with such as have seen it only once. This deplorable fact evidences one of two things—perhaps both:—either the discipline of the prison is essentially inoperative, or the temptations which surround the released on their re-introduction to society are so overpowering as to prevent the possibility

of resistance. Hunger is a formidable foe to morals. Few who have not known it can tell how dire the influence which it exercises over the understanding and the will of even educated men:—what power must it exert over loose, ill-trained, or untrained intelligence and moral sense! Experience shows how vainly we attempt to awaken conscience in men ignorant and without resources. It is cutting logs with razors. To us, it is not the smallest recommendation of the Mark System, that it makes some provision for the prisoner while in prison—and thus at his liberation gives him a point from which, if he chooses, he may commence a new career. The criminal returns are peremptory on this point. Capt. Maconochie wisely urges that—

"In every case of discharge, whether at home or in the colonies, an opportunity should be previously afforded the individual of earning a small sum of money, by specific extra exertion, besides all required to work off his sentence, to support him till he is enabled to obtain subsequent employment. Nothing is of more importance than that he should have this:—but it should not be gratuitously given, or the opportunity of earning it be forced on him. He should have the means, if he will, to earn it; and if he wants the will he should be left to take the consequences. It is a great mistake to make early crime a plea for extraordinary favour, sympathy, or advantages. Once a prisoner, a man should be made to *work* both out of this position, and into the means of subsequently keeping out of it. He should early feel his fate to be in his own hands, and to the last find it so. This is strict justice, and will be found also mercy. It will cultivate those habits of independent *voluntary* exertion which constitute at once the best proofs of immediately improved character, and the most likely means of retaining it."

However, whether all the particular machinery of the Mark System be adopted or not—and that there are objections to its details we are well aware, and have formerly pointed out,—the great principle on which it rests, and the object which it proposes to accomplish, are both sound and desirable. The reformation of the offender includes whatever is good in the theory of determent—and much that is valuable besides. Punishment—as the best experience proves—reaches only the individual: reformation influences a circle. The criminal punished, returns to his sphere, hardened, bruised but not broken—and asserts the "manliness" of his character by again braving the peril from which he has returned. The delinquent reformed, and restored to the world, becomes the centre of an influence for good operating on his family and connexions. This is the most praiseworthy mode of deterring. We think that state of society little desirable in which the fear of punishment is the only motive to virtuous and honourable conduct.

There are other parts of the subject demanding consideration,—which, however, we must postpone till next week.

*Aphra Behn: a Romance*—[*Aphra Behn, &c.*].  
By L. Mühlbach. Berlin, Simion; London, Dulau & Co.

It would be wasting words to say much of the contents of a book like this. The good taste and delicacy of the author are proved at the outset, by his choosing for a heroine that clever "unfortunate female," Aphra Behn (Pope's *Astræa*), whose access to fashionable society, employment as a sort of court eaves-dropper at the Hague, or as a writer, could only have taken place in a time to which Englishmen must ever look back with humiliation, as to the most shameful period of our history. What offends us, however, in the subject, is precisely its recommendation to Herr Mühlbach. He is a zealous pupil of the school of Sue and Dumas,



as well as an avowed republican. The story of the demirep invites him to display, in the spirit of those great teachers, the sublime poetic significance of a wanton's life, and of the prostitution of the pen to flatter sensuality. And he means to promote the discredit of monarchy by sketches designed to pourtray what may well be allowed to have been vile abuses of that institution.

But in neither endeavour does the Romance reach the point of successful performance in these ungenial designs. It is a poor copy of the tricks and extravagances, without the cleverness, of a style which, in its best French originals, was always repulsive to healthy taste; and has now, we apprehend, pretty nearly worn out its power of exciting any but the lowest class of readers in this country. But were this not so, if we had still to wade through more of the same mixture of filth and finery, we should at least prefer having the prurient puddle from the first source. The Germans are strong and fortunate while they continue true to the promptings of the genius of their own soil. But they make very clumsy copyists of any kind of foreign fashion whatever; and of all untoward exhibitions of the sort, their recent attempts to woo the "deboshed graces" and cynical sentimentalism of "young France" is at once the least excusable and the most glaring failure. For the poetry of the prison and the shambles, for the apotheosis of the seven deadly sins, and the preaching of the New Gospel of the "emancipation of the flesh," the German character is not well suited by nature. It can never hope to fill more than a third-rate part, at most, in this ugly drama of dissolution and despair.

Herr Mühlbach does not shine more in the historic than in the moralizing or inventive veins of his romance. His sketches of known events and persons show no dexterity of hand, and betray either a shallow knowledge or a very perverse view of his subject. His notions of the English people and their manners, of the courtiers and statesmen of the Restoration, are curiously absurd; and their absurdity has not the merit of amusing. His pictures are but dull caricatures, in which distortion forbids even grimace to look entertaining. He offers, as representations of Charles, his favourites, and his people, a series of tedious and confused scenes, in which the only reality felt is that of a certain under-tone of rude cynicism, ill concealed by flourishes of a fulsome kind of verbiage. His ignorance of the history of the time appears when he gives up the romancer's plea for licence, by making a show of quoting, from Burnet and others, authority for the strangest blunders. Of such, it is enough to mention his confounding the Great Fire of London with the burning of the ships in the Medway by the Dutch in the following year. He knows so little of the geography, even, of the land he writes about, as to imagine the opening of the Thames closed with a chain!—probably from some confused idea of the boom which he may have read that Monk desired to throw across the Medway. And his comprehension of the scandalous history of the Court, which he must have studied with more gusto, is evinced by his putting Nell Gwynne and the Duchess of Castlemaine on the stage—in company with his Aphra,—as living together on terms of no unequal or unfriendly intercourse.

The chaste heroine, unable to procure her release from Capt. Behn by means of a divorce, accomplishes her end by frightening her husband into an expedient which Herr Mühlbach plainly sets forth as legal and customary in this country. The Captain, threatened with pistols, consents to sell his lady in the Woolwich market; and the fair Aphra, who has some private cash

of her own, being the highest bidder, becomes the purchaser of herself!

It is really time that our neighbours—if they will not take pains to inform themselves moderately concerning a country they are fond of criticizing—should at least lay by their gross and obsolete delusions in matters of fact:—of which this same notion of our right to sell wives is perhaps the strongest instance. For the benefit of our honest German readers it may here be stated, we hope for the last time, that this fancied custom—merely a farcical and voluntary form of the brutality of the lowest rabble in its lowest excesses—is not, and never was, either legal or customary in England; nor was ever at any period of our history resorted to as a substitute for that easy solution of the marriage bond which has so highly promoted the "emancipation of the flesh" amongst the educated classes in the northern half of Germany.

To conclude.—This worthless and tedious fiction of Herr Mühlbach's we should not have noticed at all, did it stand alone in its faults and its foolishness. It has obtained a passing word only as an ugly specimen of too large a class of German literature,—the prevalence of which in these times is calculated to make serious minds look forward with anything but confident hope to the prospects of self-government in Germany. Were this class of writings—which, beyond any doubt, are read and admired by numbers of its middle class—really an exponent of the moral sentiment, decorum and judgment of a majority of that class, the view would be discouraging indeed. We trust that this may not be the case:—although it is impossible to overlook the fact that a combination of moral with political licence is the ruling aim and the characteristic sign of far too large a surface of the misnamed "liberalism" of the present day. This is a circumstance to be deplored alike by the moralist, the man of letters, and the friend of rational freedom:—who each must know that of all monstrous notions conceived by vicious desires in empty heads, the most desperate is that of founding any true liberty in government, true dignity in national character, or true excellence in art or poetry, on the rotten basis of lawlessness, profligacy and cynicism.

#### *The Noble Heart. A Tragedy; in Three Acts.*

By G. H. Lewes. Chapman & Hall.

THIS tragedy having now reached us in a printed shape, we proceed to give our readers a more specific notice of its poetic claims than we could render on merely witnessing its representation.

The story we have already detailed; and we may therefore confine ourselves, in addition to some specimens of the dramatic diction, to certain philosophical considerations:—for the dialogue abounds in metaphysical allusions as well as in imagery. In both kinds the author writes more like a critic and a man of taste than as an original genius, creative of new types and new combinations. His characters talk about poetry and philosophy much in the same strain in which the author himself might; and herein we notice a defect of power on the writer's part so to throw himself into the several characters produced as to lose his own individuality in the several assumptions. In the hands of a more developed dramatist, his persons would have rather "discouraged eloquent music" than discoursed about it.—Passages of the kind mentioned there are, however, in the play which are made dramatic by being appropriate to the character of the speaker. Of such we will give an example: merely premising that Mr. Lewes deals too frequently in the common-places of poetical thought and illustration,—and that even during the acting our ear received certain suggestions of poetry of which our mind was suspicious at the time, and

which we now find will not bear the test of stricter inquiry.—Of Poetry as a power, Mr. Lewes says:—

*Gomez.* It lives for ever with us!  
All that is great and glorious in life  
Is based on it—mark how its spirit hovers  
Over the world, beneficent as love!  
How o'er its pace the impassioned youth will bend,  
While gentle maidens reading through their tears,  
Turn softened to the lovers at their side.  
It makes the youthful soul thrill with great thoughts—  
Manhood preserve its noblest, youthful dreams—  
And age remember that it once was young.

*Antonio.* All that is true of wine. The sparkling cup  
Sends a swift rushing vigour through our veins.  
Books weaken manhood, and had I my will,  
I'd banish every rhymers from the earth.

*Gomez.* Then would you banish beauty from the earth!  
What brutes were we—the meanest, dullest brutes—  
Blind instincts o'er our souls imperial—  
Were 't not that poetry sent quick'ning truths  
Of heavenly light through our humanity,  
And with its voice, piercing the rudest souls,  
Woke up the angel that lies sleeping there!

A speech like this has the dramatic merit of serving to initiate us into the secret of Gomez's magnanimity. We detect the spirit of romance underlying the surface of a proud bearing,—and ever ready to struggle with and beat down the mere conventional impositions of a remote ancestry.—

*Gomez (solus).* Why, when I warned my Leon not to stoop,  
Even in love, stole there across my soul  
The shadow of some awful destiny.  
Can she whose image blends with all my dreams,  
Can she be one unworthy of my love?  
I'll not believe it! Yet who can she be—  
Why am I haunted with her loveliness?  
Am I a boy?—This passion-stirring face,  
Is it a dream?

\* \* \* \* \*  
*Merchant!*—Why, what strange trick of fate is this—  
Can make an empress of a base-born girl?  
I'll think of her no more!  
I knew there was a terror in her beauty,  
Though it ran through me like a beam of the sun—  
I was right!—Tut, I'm heartwhole yet!—  
A merchant's daughter!—  
Not even gentle blood to grace her veins!  
My dream is ended!—I'll think of her no more!

[Rises, and turns to the portraits.]  
Oh, ye great glories of our race, look down,  
And bid me not forget from whom I sprang!  
Ye who have lived and loved as princes should,  
Who never let your passions weaken pride,  
But kept unswerving on your noble course!  
Eagles who never mated but with those  
Who could confront the sun—lend me your strength—  
Frown this too beautiful image from my heart.  
I'll go: and from the story of their lives  
Learn resolution worthy of my name!

Turning from that later birth of love which is embodied in the person of the father, Gomez,—perhaps our readers would like to see how Mr. Lewes's younger lovers, in love's own age, philosophize on their love.—

*Leon.* Again, and yet again, my own Juanna,  
I swear I love thee.

*Juanna.* Swear it yet again.

*Leon.* Can oaths give more reality to love?

*Juanna.* No—but affection craves to hear itself  
Murmur'd in words.—You love me?—yet, again!—  
Why do you love me?

*Leon.* Love is divine, and acts  
In a divine, unapprehended manner,  
Unseen, unknown, unconsciously, it comes,  
We know not whence nor whither—we only know  
That vaguely and imperiously it draws  
Two trembling souls together—trembling in  
Its painful rapture—joy abashed by fear.

*Juanna.* And wilt thou love Juanna, ever?

*Leon.* For ever!

*Juanna.* When she is old and ugly?

*Leon.* That will never be. (*Juanna shakes her head.*) Believe me, never!

*Juanna (plucking a flower, and stripping the leaves off as she speaks).* Yes, time will claim his own, and year by year

Some charm will droop, will fall, thus, leaf by leaf,  
Almost before the dew has dried upon them,  
'Till nought remains but the unsightly stem,  
To sigh o'er with regret, and cast aside.

[Holds up stem, then throws it away.]  
*Leon.* By thine own matchless beauty, No, Juanna! To eyes

That love—the loved is ever young.

*Juanna.* Oh, what a thrill of rapture runs me through  
As that sweet thought rises within my soul.

*Leon.* I was alone in this drear world

Until I knew thee.

How did I live

Until I knew thee?—Nay, I did not live—

For love is life—without it life were death!

*Leon.* Yes, love is life—it is the glimpse on earth

Of that immortal life our longing souls

Will revel in in heaven!

There is a certain dramatic grandeur in the



character of Mr. Lewes's monk, Herman;—and we think it probable that in the original five-act form of the play it had more effectiveness than it has now. It somewhat crowds the picture—compressed as the work now is into three parts: Since the author himself seems to think highly of Herman's speeches, (as we gather from his introduction in the form of a Dedication,) it is fair that the reader should have a sample.—

*Herman.* I come in time to wean thee from the world,  
To make thee quit it's mockeries of joys,  
It's eating cares, and earthward grovelling thoughts.  
In thy dejection, thou wilt better heed  
What I can say to thee. Men only see  
The stars when night o'ershadoweth the earth;  
And only when dark sorrow dims the glare  
Of earthly vanities and gaudy hopes,  
Smiles the mild splendour of all heavenly truths.  
"Deceived, betrayed, cast down, we look within,  
And in the mirror of our souls behold  
Reflected the Eternal!"

\* \* \* \* \*  
"There is such rapture in all loneliness;  
A calm of deep content when the soul flings  
Itself on silence—there, in patient thought  
To contemplate—interrogate—adore—  
To know that we have suffered; that no more  
Can sorrow touch us, or the world disturb us!"  
Why do the stars for ever speak to us  
Throughout the solemn night? Why does the sea  
Keep sounding on its multitudinous moan,  
Its many-voiced resonance of woe?  
Are not these warnings from the Infinite,  
Calling us unto Him?

We would have quoted more largely from this play, and taken our examples from its more impassioned parts, but that the defective versification forbids us. Its beauties are not those of diction:—its best merits are those of force and passion. Another is, that the style is straightforward and plain-speaking. We are never puzzled,—a noticeable quality in these days of affectation.

*Lectures on the Religious History of the Slavonic Nations.* By Count Valerian Krasinski. Olivier.

A book of peculiar—and to the general reader of novel—interest. Count Valerian Krasinski brings to his task of elucidating the course of religious reforms and re-actions in the Slavonian States an acquaintance with languages and access to sources of information not usually open to the students of Western Europe,—and a sympathy with the material and intellectual movements of the great Eastern race which could hardly be hoped for in one who was a stranger to it in blood and brain. He is thoroughly possessed with his subject. The wrongs which his people have suffered in past times seem to exist for him as founts of perpetual bitterness of spirit, only to be sweetened by anticipations of that grandeur which he is confident they will attain to in the future history of mankind.

The Polish writer is very much in earnest; but he is also, as it seems to men judging from a neutral position, very much prejudiced. We cannot accept his assumption that the Germans, as a nation, are invincibly hostile to his race. Count Krasinski is not content with the old rivalry of nation with nation—Saxony and Bohemia, Poland and Austria:—he will trace up the hostility to a *permanent* source—a difference in blood, lineage, and mental constitution. Now, if this were really the case, we think it would be the truest wisdom to bury all memory of the fact:—but we would deny the fact. That such a feeling once existed, there can be no doubt: in what country did it not exist? But time has done—or nearly done—its work of general pacification. Saxon and Norman, Frank and Gaul, Slave and Teuton, dwell together in peace. "Czechs and Germans"—recently said an intelligent peasant to an English traveller in the Moldan—"exist only in the heads of the students at Prague and the editors of newspapers.

We are all Bohemians in this country." They are only the book-worms, who live in the past, and have fed their solitary enthusiasm in the feuds and feelings of the Middle Ages, who talk this language and nurse these dreams. The number of such persons in all Slavonic countries is unfortunately great. Shut out of those active careers which liberty to discuss their religious or political conditions would open up to energetic minds, they are thrown upon historical studies as a last resource. Denied a present, they retire into the past; and the passions which in France and England find occupation in debates about living interests, they exhaust upon topics which have long been dead to all the world except themselves. Yet these energies are not entirely thrown away:—missing their first aim, they hit another. They help to clear the track of history through the north and east of Europe. There is much in the history of the Slaves that is interesting and instructive—when told with proper purpose. The following parallel may be useful to dwell upon in a sense very different from that intended by the author.—

"The oppression which was exercised by the Germans against the Slavonians of the Baltic surpasses by far all that this devoted race had to suffer in the south from the Turks, and in the east from the Mongols. And, indeed, the conduct of these infidel nations towards the conquered Slavonians was humanity itself when compared to that which was followed towards the same Slavonians by the baptized (for I cannot call them Christian) Germans. The Mongols, who conquered the north-eastern principalities of Russia, under the descendants of the terrible Genghis Khan, and who are always quoted as the acmé of all that is savage and barbarous, not only left to the conquered Christians full religious liberty, but they exempted all their clergy, with their families, from the capitation-tax imposed upon the rest of the inhabitants. Neither did they deprive them of their lands, or bid them forget their national language, manners, and customs. The Mohammedan Osmanlis left to the conquered Bulgarians and Servians their faith, their property, and their local municipal institutions; whilst the Christian German princes and bishops divided amongst them the lands of the Slavonians, who were either exterminated or reduced to bondage by whole provinces. The Turks admitted the Slavonians who had been forced or seduced to the adoption of Islamism (those of Bosnia) to all the rights and privileges of their nation, and many of them occupied the highest dignities of the Ottoman Porte, and even that of the Vizier; but the Germans extended their persecution even to the Christian descendants of their victims. They were reduced to bondage, not permitted to remain in towns or villages inhabited by German colonists settled upon lands taken from them, and excluded from guilds or corporations of trades. There was a law at Hamburg, requiring that any person who wished to become a burgher of that town should prove that he was not of Slavonic descent; and there are many official documents which prove that the persecutions of the Slavonians by their German conquerors continued long after the final subjugation and conversion of that devoted race. A German writer relates, that a considerable time after the establishment of the Christian religion, whenever a Slavonian was met on the high road, and could not give what was considered a satisfactory reason for his absentsing himself from his village, he was executed on the spot, or killed like a wild beast. It is therefore no wonder that the Slavonic language, which extended westwards as far as the river Eyder, and southwards beyond the banks of the Saale, has finally disappeared, those who spoke it being either exterminated or entirely denationalized and converted into Germans. In relating this murder of one nation by another, I have not had to follow any accusations uttered by the injured party. The wail of the victim was lost in the lapse of ages; and the Slavonians of the Baltic had not, as the Mexicans, an Ixtlixochilt, and the Peruvians a Garcillasso della Vega, to denounce to posterity the wrongs of their nation. It was from among the oppressors themselves that a

testimony came against the evil deeds of their countrymen."

A few facts on the gradual disappearance of the Slaves from the face of the German soil we will add in this place.—

"The Slavonians, who had been compelled outwardly to conform to the rites of Christianity for about seventy years, made a successful insurrection against their oppressors in 1068, the year of the Norman conquest of England; destroyed all the churches and convents, sacrificed the Bishop of Mecklenburg to their gods at Lubeck, and expelled the Germans and Danes from their country. Crooko, prince of the island of Rugen, whom they called to their throne, conquered Holstein, and retained it at the peace which the Danes and Germans were obliged to conclude with them. The Slavonians restored their national idolatry, and enjoyed an uninterrupted peace for about forty years; but in the beginning of the twelfth century, Crooko was murdered, and the Germans and Danes recommenced their attacks upon the Slavonians, who maintained the unequal contest till 1168. In that year their sovereign Pribislav received baptism, was created a prince of the German empire; and his descendants continue in the princely house of Mecklenburg, the only Slavonic dynasty now extant. The island of Rugen, the last stronghold of Slavonic independence and idolatry, was conquered and converted in the following year, 1169, by Waldemar the First, King of Denmark. The Slavonic language lingered in the neighbourhood of Leipsic till the end of the fourteenth century; and the last man who spoke that language in Pomerania is said to have died in 1404. Divine service in the same language was performed at a place called Wustrow, in the duchy of Luneburg, kingdom of Hanover, as late as the middle of the last, *i.e.* eighteenth century. The inhabitants of the district of Luchow, situated in the same duchy of Luneberg, and commonly called Wendland, *i.e.* the country of the Wends or Slavonians, speak even now a peculiar dialect of the German, intermingled with many Slavonic words. The only Slavonians in Germany who have retained their nationality are the Wends of Lusatia."

Unlike the majority of his countrymen, Count Krasinski is a Protestant; and of course all his sympathies are with the early reformers of the Church—Huss and Jerome of Prague—Ziska and Procop. A large and interesting portion of his volume is devoted to the romantic history of the Taborites—their gallant struggle with the armies of the Empire for fifteen years—and their eventual suppression after distinguishing themselves by most heroic exploits. The sects and parties in the Russian church are briefly but distinctly brought under notice. The English reader will be startled at finding such notions prevalent among his fellow-Christians as that voluntary suicide is the surest way to bliss. It is believed that hundreds of fanatics have perished under this impression. Fire is the favourite mode of murder,—but other methods are not unknown.—

"Baron Haxthausen, who visited Russia in 1843, says, that a few years ago a number of these fanatics assembled on an estate belonging to one M. Gourieff, situated on the left bank of the Volga, and resolved to sacrifice themselves by a mutual murder. After some preparatory rites, the horrid design was put into execution. Thirty-six individuals had been murdered, when attachment to life arose in a young woman, who fled to a neighbouring village, and gave information of what was going on. A number of people hastened to the scene of these atrocities; but they found forty-seven individuals murdered, and two murderers still alive. They were taken, and received the punishment of the knout; but they exulted at every lash, rejoicing to suffer martyrdom."

We must make room for a paragraph on the Russian disciples of St. Martin.—

"The Chevalier St. Martin is not so much known as he deserves. It would, however, exceed the limits of these lectures to give here a biography of this remarkable man, who, at a time when the infidel school of philosophy exercised a complete authority over the public opinion of France, was steadily



labouring to spread the doctrines of pure Christianity, although tinged with a considerable admixture of mysticism. He endeavoured to establish his doctrines by means of the masonic lodges, and to give them a religious and practical tendency. He did not succeed in accomplishing this object in his own country, although he had obtained some success amongst the lodges of Lyons and Montpellier; but his doctrines were imported into Russia by Count Grabianko, a Pole, and Admiral Pleshcheyeff, a Russian, and introduced by them into the masonic lodges of that country, and they have since that time received a still greater development. The works of Jacob Böhme, and of Protestant religious writers such as John Arndt, Spener, and some others of the same school, as well as those of St. Martin himself, became the guides of this society, which reckoned amongst its members persons belonging to the first classes of the community. Their object was, however, by no means simply to indulge in religious speculations, but to put in practice the precepts of Christianity, by doing good, and they displayed in that respect the greatest activity. Their sphere of action was not, however, limited to simple acts of charity, but they promoted education and literature. Moscow was their principal seat, and they established in that capital a typographical society for the encouragement of literature. In order to induce young men of talent to devote themselves to literature, this society purchased all the manuscripts which were brought to it, prose and poetry, original productions and translations. A great number of these manuscripts not deserving publication, were destroyed or left in their store-house, but a great many were printed. They particularly promoted the publication of works having a religious and moral tendency, but they printed also works belonging to every branch of literature and science, so that the Russian literature was rapidly enriched by a great number of works, chiefly translated from foreign languages. They established also a large library, for which they expended more than forty thousand pounds English money, containing chiefly religious works, and accessible to all who wished to acquire information. A school was founded at their expense; and they sought out young men of merit, and provided them with means of completing their studies in the country or at the foreign universities. Amongst the members of that admirable society, Novikoff was particularly remarkable, having from his youngest days devoted himself with all his heart and soul to advance the national intellect of his country. He began by publishing literary periodicals, spreading useful information, and attacking prejudices, abuses, and all that was wrong. He afterwards established a learned periodical, and another of a more popular character, but with a serious tendency, and devoted the produce of these publications to the establishment of primary schools, with gratuitous instruction. He afterwards transferred his residence to Moscow, where he established the typographical society which I have mentioned. Every member of the Freemasonry promoted these noble objects, not only by contributing to its funds, but by his personal exertions,—by his influence on his relations and friends, in order to induce them to imitate his example. Whenever they discovered in some distant province a man of talent, they made efforts to put him in his proper place. It was thus that one of the most active members of that society, M. Tourgheneff, found in a remote province a young man of promise, but who had not the means of cultivating his talents. He brought him to Moscow, and provided him with means to study at the university. This young man was the celebrated historian of Russia, Karamsine, no less distinguished by his talents than by his noble character. The zeal of the Martinists in promoting works of charity was equal to that which they displayed for the intellectual improvement of their country. Those who were not able to give much money gave their time and labour. Several Martinists spent literally their all in supporting the useful establishments of their society, and in alleviating the sufferings of their fellow-creatures. Thus, Lapookhin, a man belonging to one of the greatest families of Russia, spent in that way a princely fortune, satisfying his own wants in the most economical manner. A senator and judge of the criminal court of Moscow, his whole life was devoted to the defence of the

oppressed and the innocent, for which the state of justice in Russia afforded him ample scope. Instances of others might be quoted, who not only sacrificed large fortunes, but submitted to great privations, in order to be better able to promote the noble ends of their society."

These efforts are now abandoned,—the present Autocrat of all the Russias having bent all the energies of the empire to Panslavism and territorial influence.

On the whole, we have been interested in Count Krasinski's work. His learning is varied and curious,—and his command of English highly creditable to one who is not to the manner born. We are glad to avail ourselves of the results of his research, even when we are compelled to distrust his political and historical judgments. His 'Lectures' deserve to be read—and we think they will be read—by those who are interested in such matters.

*Arctic Expeditions: a Lecture delivered at the Royal Institution.* By C. R. Weld. Murray.

IN the compass of a single lecture—little more than one hour's reading—Mr. Weld has contrived to condense a mass of useful and interesting matter in relation to the past, present and future (speculatively) of Arctic discovery. Few subjects in the world of science yield so many striking contributions to the record of adventure. Sir Martin Frobisher, in reference to the attempt to discover the North-West Passage in his day, said—"It is the only thing in the world that is yet left undone whereby a notable mind might be made famous and fortunate." We, of course, should not admit that this is the only great thing that remains to be done for geographical science—while the sources of the Nile have yet to be discovered, and the controversy as to the existence of a great inland lake or sea in Africa remains, in spite of recent suggestions, to be settled. But the long-sought problem of the North-West outlet, while it has lost much of its importance, has gained a large amount of factitious interest from the circumstances which have arisen out of the latest attempts to arrive at its solution.

It is a noticeable thing—and one to puzzle the historian who shall content himself with a superficial view of the moral elements of the present period—that so much interest is popularly expressed in regard to the Expeditions which have been sent out from time to time on the errand of discovery into the icy regions. The idea that the North-West Passage, if discovered, would be of any material benefit to us as a commercial people has been for years abandoned. The interests which made Columbus and Cabot discoverers—which caused the Queen of Castile and Arragon to pledge her jewels and equip vessels, the Queen of England to become a partner in joint-stock trading companies—have ceased to actuate Englishmen of this generation. A ship-canal, or even a railway, across the Isthmus of Panama—one or both of which are on the point of formation—will render that a better route from Europe to "India and Cathay" than any passage which could be found between Baffin's Bay and Behring's Straits, even if free from ice and navigable the whole year round. The interests of science are the sole remaining incentives to our zeal. We want knowledge—and search eagerly for it, though we see no way in which it can be turned to account in the market and on the exchange. This, in an age so often characterized as material in all its aspects, is well worthy of remark and full of suggestion. The statesmen of Elizabeth's time in their attempts to explore the northern waters were governed by purely commercial ideas. They wanted a shorter cut to the gold and spice lands of the East—to avoid

the tedious and dangerous passage round the Cape. This commercial necessity made them look with favour on voyages of discovery into the Northern Sea; and it was to a castaway vessel sent out with that view that we owe the discovery of the port of Archangel and the first establishment of relations with Russia. From those remoter times has come down to us a heritage of interest in these icy seas. Our forefathers seem to have delivered down to us a charge to discover the geography of those regions of the earth; and the investigations and expeditions which began in self-interest and with a view to trade advantages, are now continued from a love of science and a desire to complete the work which our ancestors so gallantly began.

The outlines of this exciting episode in our nautical and scientific history are given by Mr. Weld, from the discovery of Greenland by Eric the Red, in 1001, down to the preparations for sailing of the Expedition under Capt. Austin in search of Sir John Franklin:—together with a map of the regions in which the missing adventurers are supposed to be, and a complete and well connected account of the successive Expeditions. From the perusal of this lecture a man of general information may become well up in the question. We can recommend this concise pamphlet to the attention of all our readers who take an interest in the fate of the lost Expedition,—as a convenient and readable statement of what has been done up to this hour for its relief, and of the position in which the whole matter now remains.

*The Life and Correspondence of Robert Southey,* &c. Vol. III. Longman & Co.

THERE is little to be done on the present occasion but to make extracts from the correspondence with which the third volume is filled. This is of more solid quality and higher interest than any contained in preceding portions of the work. The letters principally relate to the Laureate's own literary undertakings:—offering us passing glimpses of a circle of contemporaries and friends, some of whom appear in a most amiable light. That the letter-writer's self was an example to confound the promise-breakers, the money-defaulters, the duty-forgetters, and the friend-overlookers whose caprices blot the annals of Genius (albeit often fondly cherished by their owners as so many attestations of their birth-right), Southey's own account of his literary day sufficiently indicates.—

"My actions," he writes about this time to a friend, 'are as regular as those of St. Dunstan's quarter-boys. Three pages of history after breakfast (equivalent to five in small quarto printing); then to transcribe and copy for the press, or to make my selections and biographies, or what else suits my humour, till dinner time; from dinner till tea I read, write letters, see the newspaper, and very often indulge in a siesta,—for sleep agrees with me, and I have a good, substantial theory to prove that it must; for as a man who walks much requires to sit down and rest himself, so does the brain, if it be the part most worked, require its repose. Well, after tea, I go to poetry, and correct and re-write and copy till I am tired, and then turn to anything else till supper; and this is my life,—which, if it be not a very merry one, is yet as happy as heart could wish. At least I should think so if I had not once been happier; and I do think so, except when that recollection comes upon me. And then, when I cease to be cheerful it is only to become contemplative,—to feel at times a wish that I was in that state of existence which passes not away; and this always ends in a new impulse to proceed, that I may leave some durable monument and some efficient good behind me."

Here and there we come upon a notice of a holiday or a journey, and (somewhat sparingly)



upon a pithy saying,—as, for instance, when travelling eastward, Southey remarks, that “the two impossibilities for a stranger at Norwich are, to find his way about the city, and to know the names of the Gurneys;”—but the staple subject-matter of these pages is made up of ‘Thalaba,’ ‘Madoc,’ ‘Kehama,’ the ‘History of Portugal,’ ‘Espriella,’ and other literary productions, yet more honourable to their producer. Although the author was at once more than ordinarily pre-occupied with his own projects, and less than ordinarily at ease in his circumstances, he had, nevertheless, benevolence and energy to spare for literary efforts in assistance of others. While we are adverting to the poet’s narrow means, let it not be forgotten that he could rhyme about them fluently if not lightly; and do so on those occasions when less self-sustained men would be too closely touched to the quick to have temper for rhyming. On the death of a great-uncle of his father’s—a wealthy solicitor of Taunton,—“who overlooked him entirely,” Robert Southey threw off a copy of verses—two stanzas of which are worthy of preservation.—

An enviable death is his,

Who leaving none to deplore him,

Hath yet a joy in his passing hour,

Because all he loved have died before him.

The monk, too, hath a joyful end,

And well may welcome death like a friend,

When the crucifix close to his heart is press’d,

And he piously crosses his arms on his breast,

And the brethren stand round him and sing him to rest,

And tell him, as sure as he believes, that anon,

Receiving his crown, he shall sit on his throne,

And sing in the choir of the blest.

But a hopeless sorrow it strikes to the heart,

To think how men like thee depart.—

Unloving and joyless was thy life,

Unlamented was thine end;

And neither in this world nor the next

Hadst thou a single friend:

None to weep for thee on earth—

None to greet thee in heaven’s hall;

Father and mother, sister and brother—

Thy heart had been shut to them all.

Facts and feelings like the above, we repeat, “bring out” in higher relief and brighter lustre the kindly consideration and labour which Southey seems always to have been willing to bestow on the concerns of less distinguished literary men who needed it. The earlier part of this third volume contains his correspondence with Mr. Neville White—Kirke White’s brother—relative to the publication of “the Remains.” Concerning this book and its origin, Southey thus characteristically writes to Mr. Duppa.—

“You are mistaken about Henry White; the fact is briefly this:—at the age of seventeen he published a little volume of poems of very great merit, and sent with them to the different Reviews a letter stating that his hope was to raise money by them to pursue his studies and get to college. Hamilton, then of the Critical, showed me this letter. I asked him to let me review the book, which he promised; but he sent me no books after the promise. Well, the M. Review noticed this little volume in the most cruel and insulting manner. I was provoked, and wrote to encourage the boy, offering to aid him in a subscription for a costlier publication. I spoke of him in London, and had assurances of assistance from Sotheby, and, by way of Wynn, from Lord Caysfort. His second letter to me, however, said he was going to Cambridge, under *Simeon’s* protection. I plainly saw that the Evangelicals had caught him; and as he did not want what little help I could have procured, and I had no leisure for new correspondences, ceased to write to him, but did him what good I could in the way of reviewing, and getting him friends at Cambridge. He died last autumn; and I received a letter informing me of it. It gave me a sort of shock, because, in spite of his evangelicism, I always expected great things, from the proof he had given of very superior powers; and, in replying to this letter, I asked if there were any intention of publishing anything which he might have left, and offered to give an opinion upon his papers, and look them over. Down came a box-full, which literally made my heart ache, and my eyes overflow, for never did I behold such proofs of human industry.

To make short, I took the matter up with interest, collected his letters, and have, at the expense of more time than such a poor fellow as myself can very well afford, done what his family are very grateful for, and what I think the world will thank me for too. Of course I have done it gratuitously. His life will affect you, for he fairly died of intense application. Cambridge finished him. When his nerves were already so over-strained that his nights were utter misery, they gave him medicines to enable him to hold out during examination for a prize! The horse won,—but he died after the race! Among his letters there is a great deal of Methodism: if this procures for the book, as it very likely may, a sale among the righteous over-much, I shall rejoice for the sake of his family, for whom I am very much interested. I have, however, in justice to myself, stated, in the shortest and most decorous manner, that my own views of religion differ widely from his. Still, that I should become, and that, too, voluntarily, an editor of methodistical and Calvinistic letters, is a thing which, when I think of it, excites the same sort of smile that the thoughts of my pension does, and I wonder, like the sailor, what is to be done next.”

Close upon the history of this book,—which may be said, of its kind, to have become a classic,—we have notices of more substantial reprints ‘The Cid’ and ‘Palmerin.’ Much, too, is told concerning the continuation of ‘Kehama’:—which, we now learn, was owing to the approbation and encouragement of Mr. Walter Savage Landor. This gentleman, aware of the little choice of labour allowed to the poet by his narrow circumstances, and the small chance of the Hindoo legend becoming marketable,—generously offered to take on himself the expenses of its publication. Of this aid Southey did not avail himself:—but we must be permitted to add, that it is merely one instance in a long list of like liberalities which will come to light whenever the works of the author of ‘Gebir’ shall be summed up by his biographer.

During these narrow years, it is most gladdening to find such a manifestation of independence as the following answer to a letter from Sir Walter Scott. The author of ‘The Lav,’—who had not at that time parted from the Edinburgh critics because of their wicked Whiggery and their tone concerning the Peninsular war,—had good-naturedly tried to cater profitable occupation for Southey; whose reply to the proposal ran as follows.—

“Keswick, Dec. 8, 1807.

“My Dear Scott,—I am very much obliged to you for the offer which you make concerning the Edinburgh Review, and fully sensible of your friendliness, and the advantages which it holds out. I bear as little ill-will to Jeffrey as he does to me, and attribute whatever civil things he has said of me to especial civility, to whatever pert ones (a truer epithet than severe would be) to the habit which he has acquired of taking it for granted that the critic is, by virtue of his office, superior to every writer whom he chooses to summon before him. The reviews of Thalaba and Madoc do in no degree influence me. Setting all personal feelings aside, the objections which weigh with me against bearing any part of this journal are these:—I have scarcely one opinion in common with it upon any subject. Jeffrey is for peace, and is endeavouring to frighten the people into it: I am for war as long as Bonaparte lives. He is for Catholic emancipation: I believe that its immediate consequence would be to introduce an Irish priest into every ship in the navy. My feelings are still less in unison with him than my opinions. On subjects of moral or political importance no man is more apt to speak in the very gall of bitterness than I am, and this habit is likely to go with me to the grave: but that sort of bitterness in which he indulges, which tends directly to wound a man in his feelings, and injure him in his fame and fortune (Montgomery is a case in point), appears to me utterly inexcusable. Now, though there would be no necessity that I should follow this example, yet every separate

article in the Review derives authority from the merit of all the others; and, in this way, whatever of any merit I might insert there would aid and abet opinions hostile to my own, and thus identify me with a system which I thoroughly disapprove. This is not said hastily. The emolument to be derived at writing at ten guineas a sheet, Scotch measure, instead of seven pounds, Annual, would be considerable; the pecuniary advantage resulting from the different manner in which my future works would be handled, probably still more so. But my moral feelings must not be compromised. To Jeffrey as an individual I shall ever be ready to show every kind of individual courtesy; but of Judge Jeffrey of the Edinburgh Review I must ever think and speak as of a bad politician, a worse moralist, and a critic, in matters of taste, equally incompetent and unjust.” Subsequent pages display greater pliancy, submission to “mutilation,” &c. &c. in critical transactions elsewhere, than might have been expected from the writer of the above manifesto. Taken *per se*, however, and as having been written at a period when no rival Review was thought of, it is a manly and meritorious refusal.

While dwelling on the bright side of Southey’s character, which brightens as we advance in this Correspondence, we cannot resist the following fragment of a letter to Mr. Cottle, of Bristol,—which explains itself.—

“What you say of my copyrights affected me very much. Dear Cottle, set your heart at rest on that subject. It ought to be at rest. These were yours, fairly bought, and fairly sold. You bought them on the chance of their success, which no London bookseller would have done; and had they not been bought, they could not have been published at all. Nay, if you had not purchased ‘Joan of Arc,’ the poem never would have existed, nor should I, in all probability, ever have obtained that reputation which is the capital on which I subsist, nor that power which enables me to support it. But this is not all. Do you suppose, Cottle, that I have forgotten those true and most essential acts of friendship which you showed me when I stood most in need of them? Your house was my house when I had no other. The very money with which I bought my wedding-ring and paid my marriage fees, was supplied by you. It was with your sisters I left Edith during my six months’ absence, and for the six months’ after my return it was from you that I received, week by week, the little on which we lived, till I was enabled to live by other means. It is not the settling of a cash account that can cancel obligations like these. You are in the habit of preserving your letters, and if you were not, I would entreat you to preserve *this*, that it might be seen hereafter. Sure I am, there never was a more generous or a kinder heart than yours; and you will believe me when I add, that there does not live that man upon earth whom I remember with more gratitude and more affection. My heart throbs and my eyes burn with these recollections. Good night! my dear old friend and benefactor.”

We shall next give, by way of variety, an anecdote of another departed celebrity.—

“Do you remember the story of Mickle the poet, who always regretted that he could not remember the poetry which he composed in his sleep? it was, he said, so infinitely superior to anything which he produced in his waking hours. One morning he awoke and repeated the lamentation over his unhappy fortune, that he should compose such sublime poetry, and yet lose it for ever! ‘What!’ said his wife, who happened to be awake, ‘were you writing poetry?’—‘Yes,’ he replied, ‘and such poetry that I would give the world to remember it.’—‘Well, then,’ said she, ‘I did luckily hear the last lines, and I am sure I remember them exactly: they were—

By Heaven, I’ll wreak my woes  
Upon the cowslip and the pale primrose.’

This is one of Sharpe’s stories,—it is true, and an excellently good one it is. I am not such a dreamer as Mickle, for what I can remember is worth remembering,—and one of the wildest scenes in ‘Kehama’ will prove this.”

And here is an O’Miller (or Irish joke) which,



possibly, others besides ourselves may fancy that they have met with elsewhere.—

"An Irishman who was abroad, came in one day and said that he had seen that morning what he had never seen before,—a fine crop of anchovies growing in the garden. 'Anchovies!' said an Englishman, with a half laugh and a tone of wonder. And from this the other, according to the legitimate rules of Irish logic, deduced a quarrel, a challenge, and a duel, in which the poor Englishman, who did not believe that anchovies grew in the garden, was killed on the spot. The moment he fell, the right word came into the challenger's head. 'Och! what a pity!' he cried, 'and I meant capers all the while!' Mr. Spence knew the parties, and told this story the other day at Calvert's, from whence it travelled to me."

There are some excellent, wise, and cordial letters addressed, about the year 1808, to Ebenezer Elliott,—who, on the strength of 'Kirke White's Remains,' appears to have consulted their editor as ghostly counsellor. While we are illustrating Southey's generosity, let us further call attention to the poet's letter to Dr. Gooch (pp. 323-3), and his propositions with regard to the damaged fortunes of Mr. William Taylor, of Norwich. The more we differ from Southey's opinions and his manner of enforcing them, the less should such unmistakable evidences of active virtue be overlooked. But, in place of extracting the passage referred to, we will take a glimpse at another poet, whom "the stars" sent among the Lakes in the year 1812.—

"Here is a man at Keswick, who acts upon me as my own ghost would do. He is just what I was in 1794. His name is Shelley, son to the member for Shoreham; with 6,000*l.* a year entailed upon him, and as much more in his father's power to cut off. Beginning with romances of ghosts and murder, and with poetry at Eton, he passed, at Oxford, into metaphysics; printed half-a-dozen pages, which he entitled 'The Necessity of Atheism'; sent one anonymously to Coplestone, in expectation, I suppose, of converting him; was expelled in consequence; married a girl of seventeen, after being turned out of doors by his father; and here they both are, in lodgings, living upon 200*l.* a year, which her father allows them. He is come to the fittest physician in the world. At present he has got to the Pantheistic stage of philosophy, and in the course of a week, I expect he will be a Berkleyan, for I have put him upon a course of Berkeley. It has surprised him a good deal to meet, for the first time in his life, with a man who perfectly understands him, and does him full justice. I tell him that all the difference between us is that he is nineteen, and I am thirty-seven; and I dare say it will not be very long before I shall succeed in convincing him that he may be a true philosopher, and do a great deal of good, with 6,000*l.* a year; the thought of which troubles him a great deal more at present than ever the want of sixpence (for I have known such a want) did me. .... God help us! the world wants mending, though he did not set about it exactly in the right way."

With one more extract we will close this third volume: it is one of the liveliest letters in the collection.—

"To Mrs. Southey.

"Settle, July 23, 1812.

"My dear Edith,—We left St. Helen's after an early breakfast on Tuesday, with Tom in company; looked at Raby and Bernard Castle, and made our way to the porter's lodge at Rokeby. . . . A sturdy old woman, faithful to her orders, refused us admittance, saying that if we were going to the Hall we might go in, but if not we must not enter the grounds; nor would she let us in till we had promised to call at the Hall. Accordingly, against the grain, in observance of this promise, to the house I went, and having first inquired if Walter Scott was there, requested permission to see the grounds. Mr. Morritt was not within, but the permission was granted; and in ten minutes after, the footman came running to say we might see the house also, and we might fish

if we pleased. I excused myself from seeing the house, saying we were going on, and returning a due number of thanks, &c. But presently we met Mr. and Mrs. M. in the walk by the river side, and were, as you may suppose, obliged to dine and sleep there; their hospitality being so pressed upon us that I could not continue to refuse it without rudeness. Behold the lion, then, in a den perfectly worthy of him, eating grapes and pears and drinking claret. The grounds are the finest things of the kind I have ever seen. A little in the manner of Downton, more resembling Lowther, but the Greta at Rokeby affords finer scenery than either. There is a summer-house overlooking it, the inside of which was ornamented by Mason the poet: one day he set the whole family to work in cutting out ornaments in coloured paper from antique designs, directing the whole himself. It is still in good preservation, and will, doubtless, be preserved as long as a rag remains. This river, in 1771, rose in the most extraordinary manner during what is still called the great flood. There is a bridge close by the summer-house at least 60 feet above the water; against this bridge and its side the river piled up an immense dam of trees and rubbish, which it had swept before it; at length down comes a stone of such a size that it knocked down Greta Bridge by the way, knocked away the whole mass of trees, carried off the second bridge, and lodged some little way beyond it upon the bank, breaking into three or four pieces. Playfair the other day estimated the weight of this stone at about seventy-eight tons: the most wonderful instance, he said, he had ever heard of of the power of water. Before this stone came down, one of the trees had blocked up an old man and his wife who inhabited a room under the summer-house; the branches broke their windows, and a great bough barred the door, meantime the water, usually some 20 feet below, was on a level with it. The people of the house came to their relief, and sawed the bough off to let them out; and the windows remain as they were left, a memorial of this most extraordinary flood. Mr. Morritt's father bought the house of Sir Thomas Robinson, well known in his day by the names of Long Robinson and Long Sir Thomas. You may recollect a good epigram upon this man:—

"Unlike to Robinson shall be my song,  
It shall be witty,—and it sha'n't be long."

Long Sir Thomas found a portrait of Richardson in the house: thinking Mr. Richardson a very unfit personage to be suspended in effigy among lords, ladies, and baronets, he ordered the painter to put him on the star and blue riband, and then christened the picture Sir Robert Walpole. You will easily imagine Mr. Morritt will not suffer the portrait to be restored. This, however, is not the most extraordinary picture in the room. That is one of Sir T.'s intended improvements, representing the river, which now flows over the finest rocky bed I ever beheld, metamorphosed by four dams into a piece of water as smooth and as still as a canal, and elevated by the same operation, so as to appear at the end of a smooth shaven green. Mr. M. shows this with great glee. He has brought there from our country the stone fern and the *Osmunda regalis*. Among his pictures is a Madonna by Guido: he mentioned this to a master of a college, whose name I am sorry to say that I have forgotten, for the gentleman in reply pointed to a picture above representing an aunt of Mr. Morritt's (I believe), dressed in the very pink of the mode, and asked if that lady was the Madonna! I am sorry, too, that I forgot to ask if this was the lady whose needle-work is in the house. Mr. M. had an aunt who taught Miss Linwood. Wordsworth thought her pictures quite as good. In one respect they may be better, for she made her stitches athwart and across, exactly as the strokes of the original pictures. Miss L. (Mr. M. says) makes her stitches all in one way. This lady had great difficulty about her worsted, and could only suit herself by buying damaged quantities, thus obtaining shades which would else have been unobtainable. The colours fly, and, in order to preserve them as long as possible, prints are fitted in the frames to serve as skreens. The art cost her her life though at an advanced age; it brought on a dead palsy, occasioned by holding her hands so continually in an elevated position working at the canvas. Her last picture is hardly finished; the needle, Mr. M. says, literally dropt

from her hands,—death had been creeping on her for twelve years. God bless you! R. S."

Poor Richardson!—Of men the most sensitive, and for good repute the most eager, he was somewhat luckless in the matter of his portraits. Who can have forgotten how lively Lady Bradshaigh, though merely the wife of a Lancashire baronet, dared not avow that she had hung up the likeness of a "commoner and poet" in her parlour at Haigh Hall, and accordingly pointed out the likeness of the author of 'Pamela' to all visitors as the portrait of "their friend Mr. Dickenson?" Those days of low esteem for men of letters, at least, are "gone and over,"—let Latter-day Prophets be as dismal as they please while contrasting "Past and Present."

#### OUR LIBRARY TABLE.

*Pride and Irresolution.*—In the stories which compose this volume, the feeling for character is strong and delicate:—the commencement of both is very inviting—the close of both hurried, feeble and disappointing. In these characteristics, the authoress (who, we perceive, is named as Lady Emily Ponsonby) bears a close resemblance to the authoress of the 'Two Old Men's Tales.' She does not command that Lady's vigour, or brilliancy, or passion,—but is clear of her mannerisms. Her style is flowing and simple without tenuity. Depth of feeling and elegance of mind are alike indicated by her mode of dealing with the subjects selected by her:—which form a second series of illustrations of 'The Discipline of Life.' The title-page, however, is a case of displacement—for 'Irresolution' comes the first of the two tales. In this are set forth the sufferings of a deep-hearted, gentle, refined girl, who marries a feverish and inconstant man, and who perishes under the discipline. We cannot but imagine that in the outset Lady Emily Ponsonby "laid out" another fate for her heroine, the excellent Susan Greville.—'Pride' is presented in one Ada Mowbray—as complete an impersonation of that fascinating sin as was ever framed by the hand of woman. Many of "the sex," when busy over a similar piece of creation, have shown signs of their own relenting spirit. Even Miss Baillie—who for the most part is only too steady to one mood—one passion—one purpose—has obviously feared that the stigma of unloveliness should rest on her proud heroines, and in more than one case has softened the haughty lines of the face and the stern attitudes of the figure by throwing round them amenities incompatible with Pride. This is a mistake. There is a fascination in command and solitary stateliness which imposes on the spirits of the imaginative; nay—paradoxical though the fact may appear—which often engages their affections, though the spell be effected by the agency of vanity. Which of us has not longed to penetrate the secret of the reserved man—to approach very close to those who disdain support and wave off sympathy? And if not in personal intercourse for the purposes of Art, at least, pure Pride offers greater attractions than Pride veined by misgiving tenderness. Ada Mowbray carries it with a high hand till the "discipline of storms" breaks upon her head. Even in her submission (which, perhaps, may be too tranquil for real nature) she is dignified. But in this part of her tale, as has been already indicated, our authoress has lost faith, or power, or patience. She must acquire a less breathless manner of proceeding if she would take the distinguished place among Lady-novelists to which her natural gifts entitle her.

*Sketches and Notes of a Cruise in Scotch Waters on board his Grace the Duke of Rutland's Yacht Resolution in the Summer of 1848.* By John Christian Schetky, Esq. and Lord John Manners.—This is a magnificent-looking book—one which, under other circumstances, would have entered into our department of Fine Arts. But truth compels us to admit that the lithographs are of third-rate quality,—and the world of Art-lovers has got beyond third-rate lithographs. The subjects are well chosen and freely sketched; but more cannot be said in praise. Then, as to the letter-press,—Lord John Manners has elegant tastes and high aspirations. They may come to him by inheritance. It seems a lifetime since we were looking over the Duchess of Rutland's 'Continental Tour,'



which, slight though it was, had still a manner and a taste of its own—rare in the days of its appearance. But tastes and aspirations are not always “companioned” by expressive power. Wherefore write of an evening scene at all, if no picture flows from the pen more definite than such a one as closes Lord John’s “Notes” on “Rum and Egg”?—

“Then came on a glorious sunset to close a glorious day: and after ‘the brave old sun,’ as Milnes somewhat irreverently calls him, had sunk into the glancing western waves, the heavens assumed the loveliest vesture imaginable: pale blue picked out with paler silver,—bah! how impossible it is to twist words into a representation of the Beautiful!”

There are notes in verse as well as notes in prose: but the song rises little higher than a sparrow-chirp. This volume, however, has probably been meant for the delectation of private friends, rather than for the criticism of the questioning public.

*King René’s Daughter: a Danish Lyrical Drama.* By Henrik Hertz. Translated by Theodore Martin. —The most elegant of the various translations of this charming poem. It was made for the use of Miss Helen Faucit, who had formed a design of producing it as a play in Dublin. That lady has since enacted its heroine at several places; and by her consent the present version of the drama was produced lately (as our readers are aware) at the Strand Theatre,—another version being contemporaneously presented by Mr. and Mrs. Charles Kean at the Haymarket. That a work so essentially poetical should have succeeded so well on the stage, is an event in the history of the modern theatre full of promise. Time was, when the most poetic passages of a play were carefully erased as ineligible for stage delivery;—it is only of late that such passages have been as carefully restored. This reform is due to the encouragement of small theatres; where every word, if distinctly spoken, is audible.—It has become clear that English audiences have no tendency to reject good poetry when properly presented on the boards and acted by performers of merit.

*Remarks on the Conveyance of Mails between London and Paris.*—The subject is of considerable interest; and the facts put forward by the writer of the pamphlet before us are sufficient to prove that the time occupied at present is longer than it need be.

*The Purpose of Existence popularly considered.*—The question here proposed the anonymous author of this work has undertaken to answer “in relation to the origin, development and destiny of the human mind.” To this lofty argument he has brought little more than the Scotch common-sense philosophy of Dr. Reid; and out of its insufficient materials he presumes to decide that the purpose of the universe is, “the evolution of mind out of matter.” The thesis thus expressed is maintained with eloquence and enthusiasm; but, from the want of proper definition, we dare not say that we perfectly understand its meaning;—therefore, cannot express ourselves satisfied with either the conclusion arrived at or the logical method used as the process for attaining to it. The author, indeed, affects to despise philosophy:—and he must suffer the consequences of his scorn.

*Reflections on the Past and Shadows of the Future: a Book for the New Year.* By the Author of ‘Daniel, the Prophet.’—A religious book, intended to meet the feelings which belong to the opening of the year.

Of the following publications, we can give only the titles:—*Tax on Successions and Burdens on Land, &c.*, by P. B. Brodie;—*The Elements of Statics, Dynamics and Hydrostatics*, by S. Newth;—*Remarks on Sir William Hamilton, Dr. Reid and Jobert*, by C. M. Ingleby;—*The Nonentity of Romish Saints and the Inanity of Romish Ordinances—two Sermons*, by W. F. Hook, D.D.;—*The City of God*;—*The Theory of Grammar*, by S. Griffiths;—*Colonization*, by the Rev. W. G. Cookeley;—*Letters on the Relief of Sir John Franklin’s Expedition*, by an Observer;—*A Manual of Explanatory Arithmetic*, by E. Hughes;—*Marischal College, and its Power of conferring Degrees*;—*Lessons on the Collects*;—*An Examination of the Claims of the Free Church*, by J. Wilson, D.D.;—*Capital Punishment considered, by a Priest of the Catholic Church*;—*A Few Words addressed to the Agriculturists of England*;—*The Creed of the Scottish Nationalists*;—*The Brazilian Slave Trade and its Remedy*, by T. R. H. Thompson, M.D.;—*Statistics*

*of the Scotch Iron Trade*, by J. Barclay;—*The Handbook of Games*, edited by Henry G. Bohn;—*A Vindication of the Bardic Accounts of the Early Invasions of Ireland, with a Vindication of the River Ocean of the Greeks.*

#### LIST OF NEW BOOKS.

Ackworth’s English Vocabulary, 21th ed. 18mo. 1s. 6d. cl.  
Ainsworth’s Works, Vol. V. “Tower of London,” Vol. I. 8vo. 1s. 1s.  
Always Happy, by a Mother, 10th ed. 18mo. 2s. 6d. cl.  
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Bentley’s (J.) Health made Easy, new ed. 18mo. 1s. 6d. cl.  
Bridson’s (J.) Veterinary Art, 2nd ed. 12mo. 2s. 6d. cl.  
Butler’s (Bishop) Works, new ed. 1s. Halifax, 2 vols. 8vo. 11s. cl.  
Channing’s (W. E.) Memoir, by his Nephew, 3 vols. cr. 8vo. 10s. 6d. cl.  
Copley’s (Esther) Cottage Comforts, 20th ed. 12mo. 2s. 6d. cl.  
Darton’s Holiday Library, Vol. VII. “Household Stories,” 18mo. 1s.  
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Eton Poetæ Græci, Pars I. 4s., Pars II. 8s. 8vo. cl.  
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Facts in Figures, a Quarterly Digest of Statistics, No. 1. 8vo. 1s. 8vo. cl.  
Geldart’s (Mrs. T.) Nursery Guide and Infant’s 1st Hymn Book, 1s. 6d.  
Grant’s (D.) The Beauty of Modern English Poetry, 18mo. 3s. 6d.  
Guyot’s (Prof.) Physical Geography, by Felton, Vol. II. 12mo. 3s. 6d.  
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Parker’s (Langston) Treatment of Secondary Syphilis, royal 12mo. 5s.  
Railway Appliances, ed. by R. Yorke Clarke, 3rd ed. 6s. 6d. cl.  
Russell’s (Dr.) History of Modern Europe, new ed. 4 vols. 2l. 12s. cl.  
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Silvestre’s (M. J. B.) Universal Palæography, by Madden, 2 vols. 36s.  
Smith’s (E.) Examination into Character of Church of England, 1s. 6d.  
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Sophisms of Free Trade, by a Barrister, 4th ed. 12mo. 2s. 2nd.  
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Sumner’s (Archbishop) Apocryphal Preaching, 9th ed. 8vo. 1s. 6d. cl.  
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Truelove’s Short Tales, new ed. sq. 3s. 6d. cl.  
Wapshare’s (J.) Harmony of the Word of God, Vol. I. 2nd ed. 10s. 6d.  
Webb’s (Mrs. J. B.) Naomi, or the Last Days of Jerusalem, 9th ed. 7s. 6d.  
Whewell on Liberal Education, Part I. 2nd ed. 12mo. 4s. 6d. hds.  
Whewell on Liberal Education, Parts I. and II. complete, 7s. 6d. bds.  
Willmott’s (Rev. R. A.) Precious Stones, Selections, 6s. 5s. cl.  
Willis’s (N. P.) People I have Met, &c. 1 vol. post 8vo. 10s. 6d. cl.

#### BRITISH MUSEUM CATALOGUE.

As a great deal has been lately said about the Library of the British Museum, the following remarks may not be considered unacceptable in your journal. In order to be as concise as possible, I will divide what I have to say into the three following heads:—*Facility of Research*,—*Alphabetical Catalogue*,—and *Classed Catalogue*.

*Facility of Research.*—I am not acquainted with any library where so great facility of research is afforded as in the British Museum. It is the only library where printed tickets are given for the books: an arrangement which prevents the occurrence of mistakes,—spares considerable time to the reader,—and enables him to register his tickets for more easy reference at a future time, instead of having to search the Catalogue over again for the same book. So far from this being the case abroad, many of the libraries have not even a Catalogue open to the inspection of the readers; and a person may not be able to see a book about which he may be particularly interested, and which he knows to exist in a library, from the mere circumstance that the librarian or his attendants will not take the trouble to search for it. At Naples, the reader writes down the title of the book he wants; and has to wait at the bar, jostled by a crowd of persons as impatient as himself, till somebody comes forward to take his ticket,—and after a long interval occupied in searching for the work, at length delivers it to him, to force his way through the crowd as best he may. On a late visit to the Continent I took out a list of several works not in the British Museum, with the intention of searching for them in the public library at Paris. There was, however, no Catalogue exposed to the inspection of the public, and I was told to write the titles of the books on different slips of paper, and hand them in separately. After giving in the first, and waiting a quarter of an hour, and finding I must lose several days—if I succeeded then—in coaxing the attendants to give me as many volumes as I could obtain at the British Museum in twenty minutes, I felt so disappointed that I left the library, and never returned to it. Another great advantage conferred by the British Museum is that of allowing readers to have as many works at a time as they require. Persons frequenting the Library must often have seen an entire table, ordinarily sufficient for eight readers, completely covered with books retained

by a single individual. In the Museo Borbonico, at Naples, the readers are allowed only one work at a time,—and a great difficulty is made if such work be illustrated or ill-bound.

The hours of study, also, are more extended at the British Museum than at most of the foreign libraries. The hours of study on the Continent are generally from 8 or 9 till 12 or 1 o’clock. Some, but very few, are open again in the afternoon for one or two hours. One library, however, is more liberal in its regulations than our own in this respect,—the Bibliotheca Magliabechiana, at Florence; it being open also in the evening, both in summer and in winter,—and the rooms are well attended, perhaps by half as many readers as the British Museum. I would suggest the great advantages which would result to literary and scientific persons if our reading rooms were open in the evening, under whatever restrictions it might be thought proper to impose,—such as the non-delivery of further books after the hour of sunset, unless such books had been previously written for in the day-time.

*Alphabetical Catalogue.*—We cannot but be thankful for the careful study which has led to the somewhat too abstruse and rigid system adhered to in the Catalogue of the British Museum, when we contrast it with the antiquated manner still observed in some foreign libraries:—as, the original collection of the Vatican, and the Laurenziana at Florence, where the books are entered under the Christian name of the author, and the titles of the books, in whatever languages they may have been written, are all entered in Latin. The reference to the original collection of the Vatican leads me to advert to another particular; viz., that additions to a library, however interesting it may be to keep them separate, should be entered in one catalogue, for more easy reference. Instead of this, we find in the Vatican no less than eight different collections, each of which has its distinct catalogue; and a stranger might—and frequently does—go there, and ask for the catalogue of the Vatican collection, on seeing which he would depart without the slightest idea that there are seven other collections under the same roof with the contents of which he is perfectly unacquainted. But though this may be unsatisfactory, in other libraries the case is yet more so: for in many of them the catalogues are not even complete,—and often they are not exhibited. At Bologna I obtained permission to examine the very copious Catalogue of MSS.—I should imagine in some thirty to forty volumes—only through the recommendation of a friend, and then with great difficulty. This catalogue consists merely of what are called booksellers’ slips,—and it is, therefore, virtually a sealed book to the majority of students. The Catalogue of MSS. at the celebrated Ambrosian Library at Milan is also, I believe, of the same nature, but incomplete; which was one of the reasons, no doubt, why I could not, by any means, get a sight of it, although backed by the strongest recommendations. At Venice I wished particularly to make some researches into documents connected with the antiquities of the islands belonging formerly to the Venetian Republic which I believed to be deposited in the Archivio. On applying at the Ministry, I was told by the Secretary to write a letter, which he would lay before the Governor,—and I should have an answer in a week or ten days. I found afterwards, to my surprise, that the petition, instead of being recommended to the Governor, had been sent to the police; by whom I found myself cross-examined, on applying for my passport, as to the objects I had in view in making the application.

*Classed Catalogue.*—We are in this particular far behind our Continental friends. Many a library has a *catalogue raisonné*, and the system is becoming more and more universal. At the Magliabechiana, the books, whether printed or in manuscript, are arranged only in classes,—which is certainly not so useful as an alphabetical arrangement. At Venice, the double system is pursued; and you are thereby enabled not only to find any book the name of whose author you do know, but also those whose author you do not know. A preferable system to this is doubtless that of an alphabetical *Catalogue* or *Index of Subjects*, as in Watts’s ‘Bibliotheca Britannica;’ but this would involve an enormous outlay and a long series of years. A classed cata-



logue, on the other hand, would begin to operate immediately, and with trifling expense: and, considering the manifest advantages of such a system to the literary student, I think that whether an index of subjects were contemplated or not, a classed catalogue should be commenced immediately. The following scheme would, I imagine, be the most desirable mode of effecting it. The *titles* of the various classes should first be carefully determined by competent authority; and then, as the books are classed, Catalogues might be printed leaf by leaf and sold separately according to the taste or pursuits of the purchasers. Thus, an architect might purchase pages 1 and 2 of Treatises on Architecture, Pages 1 and 2 of Illustrated Greek Architecture, &c. &c.,—and a month later, perhaps, pages 3 and 4 of Treatises on Architecture, &c.; while a physician might desire only those on Pathology—and a lawyer those on Jurisprudence. In this manner, though it would take years before the catalogue would be complete, we should commence reaping the benefit of it *immediately*; and it would be more than probable that instead of incurring an expense, it would prove a profitable speculation. EDWARD FALKENER.

#### DECIMAL COINAGE.

I am right glad to find that your correspondent "M. A." has revived the important subject of a decimal coinage; for notwithstanding the delay which has hitherto occurred, I have a strong belief that a measure so useful and so necessary must eventually be carried.

In making so great a change, however, it would be an irretrievable error were we to select a system which would allow of a better or a simpler being suggested afterwards; and it is under this impression that I would submit the following plan for the consideration of those interested in the matter. It appears to me to combine simplicity and perfection, and at the same time to do but little violence to those prejudices and habits which are confessedly so difficult to deal with.

Our existing coinage approaches so nearly to a decimal system, that very little change is really required. Our sovereign consists of 960 farthings; and all that we have to do is to reduce the value of the farthing, and let 1000 make the sovereign.

Our money-table would then be the perfection of simplicity:—"1000 farthings make a pound," and our account books would be ruled with two columns only, for pounds and farthings.

The following coins might continue in circulation; though I would like to see a two-shilling piece issued from the Mint, to the gradual displacement of the crown and half-crown.—

Coin.	Value.
Sovereign	= 1000 farthings
Half-sovereign	= 500 "
Crown	= 250 "
Half-crown	= 125 "
Shilling	= 50 "

We now come to those coins which would require alteration.

We must part with the sixpence; and instead of it have a half-shilling of the value of five (new) pence, or twenty-five (new) farthings.

The penny and the farthing might retain their present denominations; but the value of the latter would be less, and the penny would contain five of the new farthings.

We thus see that it would be necessary to alter only our three lowest coins,—and to change the name of one only, or perhaps two. The sixpence might be called the fivepence, or "fi'pence,"—and the two-shilling-piece might, or might not, be called the *forin*.—I am, &c. Z. M.

#### OUR WEEKLY GOSSIP.

A correspondent has furnished us with some further particulars relating to the treaty for effecting an international copyright which we mentioned some weeks ago as being in the office of the French Minister for Foreign Affairs. It originated, he says, with M. De Tocqueville, the late Minister; who left the task of carrying it out to his successor, M. le Général de la Hitte. For some time, however, the draft of the treaty, which was already in a forward state of preparation, was consigned to the *carton aux oubliés*; where it might have

remained, had not the attention of the Minister been especially directed to it by certain individuals interested in the question. On their representations, he entered on a consideration of the subject, and submitted the draft of the treaty to the Academy:—the members of which refused to pronounce an opinion, urging that the matter referred to should properly come under the investigation of the whole Institute. The President of the *Cercle de la Librairie*, M. Pagnerre, was consulted; who highly approved of the proposition, and gratefully accepted the provisions of the treaty as favourable to the interests of the body which he represents. The Minister then forwarded the draft of the treaty to each of the five Academies forming the Institute. These have each appointed two delegates,—the ten delegates to constitute a commission of the whole Institute; whose duty it will now be to examine the draft of the treaty, and report on it to the Institute at its general meeting of this present month. There appears, says our correspondent, to be no doubt that the report will be favourable.—It is important to call the attention of all those who are interested in the welfare of our literature to this intelligence. Now is the time for British authors and publishers to exert themselves, and get their interests represented in Paris; so that whilst the French authorities are about their work, there may be no one-sided arrangement concluded,—but that the foundation may be laid for a permanent law which shall effectually secure a reciprocity of copyright to the authors of the two countries.

The copyright question between England and America has assumed a shape that has settled the question as far as this country is concerned. In the belief, or rather in the trade understanding, that American authors had some kind of protection in this country, Mr. Murray was induced, our readers know, to give money to Mr. Irving for permission to publish his *Lives of Goldsmith and Mahomet*. The payment and the permission (as our readers are also aware) were both unnecessary and nugatory; for Mr. Murray had an undoubted right to reprint both works without any kind of understanding with their author. It would have been well, perhaps, had the right and trade-courtesies of the dispute been settled without the expensive process adopted by booksellers, on the present occasion, of cutting one another's throats. Three different publishers have each an Irving's 'Life of Goldsmith' in the market, and three different publishers each an Irving's 'Life of Mahomet'! The result will be, that the great London houses will not pay copyright money to Mr. Irving, or to any American author; but will leave American literature to the chance republication in this country of Messrs. Routledge, Clarke, and H. G. Bohn.

A return has just been made to the House of Commons, of the amount received on account of the Import Duty on Foreign Books in each year, from the 5th of January 1840, to the 5th of January 1850:—

Year ending Jan. 5,	Amount received.
1841	£ 8,493
" 1842	8,451
" 1843	7,878
" 1844	9,011
" 1845	9,481
" 1846	10,492
" 1847	9,201
" 1848	8,843
" 1849	7,762
" 1850	7,751

On editions printed prior to 1801, there is a duty of one guinea per cwt.; on those printed in or since 1801, a duty of five guineas per cwt.; on books in the foreign living languages, being of editions printed in or since 1801, the duty is 2*l.* 12*s.* 6*d.* per cwt.; and on books printed in the English language, in the British possessions, the same. Books published in the dominions of Prussia, Saxony, the Duchy of Brunswick, the States forming the Thuringian Union, Hanover and Oldenburg, are admitted at a lower duty, by order in Council, under 9 & 10 Vict. c. 58. Works originally produced in the United Kingdom, and republished in the country of export, are admitted at 2*l.* 10*s.* per cwt.; and works not originally produced in the United Kingdom, at 1*s.* per cwt.

The last American mail has brought letters, by which it appears that the subscriptions for the equipment of a private Expedition in search of Sir John

Franklin had, at the time of its departure, amounted to 54,000 dols.; and such was the feeling of sympathy manifested in the cause, that it was confidently expected 100,000 dols. would be collected. The Navy Department had directed Commodore Morris to afford every possible facility to the parties more immediately engaged in the undertaking,—and leave had been granted to naval officers to serve in the Expedition. If we be rightly informed, the same leave has been refused to officers in our service who have volunteered to accompany Capt. Penny: and as the whalers have sailed, taking away most others who could have been useful in the Arctic seas, this is certainly a curious arrangement on the part of the Admiralty for neutralizing the efficiency of an Expedition which originated with itself.—A striking example of the tenacity of rumour to what has once fastened on would seem to be afforded by the fact of some of the papers of this week having copied from a San Francisco paper, under the date of the 29th of December last, the announcement that Sir John Franklin had been discovered by an English Expedition on the Atlantic passage, in Prince Regent's Inlet last summer,—where he had been frozen in for nearly four years. This is evidently nothing more than the celebrated Esquimaux report which created so much excitement last autumn, and which the researches of Sir James Ross disproved. In the *Globe* of Thursday, however, the rumour takes another form. A Mr. Samuel Peck, of Liverpool, writes to the Lords of the Admiralty, inclosing an extract of a letter from his son dated Francisco Bay, California, Dec. 30—as follows:—

"There was a gentleman on board this ship yesterday that has just arrived from Kamschatka, with the news of the discovery of Sir John Franklin and all his party; they are all well, and have come through the North-West passage."

Our readers will see how vague and unmeaning this is. No one is named as having seen Sir John Franklin and his party. Surely, the gentleman who came from Kamschatka with news that Sir John had come through the North-West passage, should have had something more definite and convincing to say on the subject.—The account, as it stands, has the indistinctness of a mere echo,—and is, probably, a Kamschatkan echo of the discredited Esquimaux story.—The mischief done by such statements is obvious; since should they go forth uncontradicted, they must have the effect of arresting all the efforts making in this and other countries to relieve Sir John Franklin.

While on the subject of Arctic Expeditions, we may mention that the latest messenger balloon experiments have been eminently successful. A balloon sent up from the Admiralty a few days ago, carrying 2,500 messages, dropped upwards of 500 of them between London and the south-east coast,—which were forwarded by post to the Admiralty. The balloon crossed the Channel,—and it is expected that intelligence will be heard of its progress from the Continent.

The Library for the use of the clerks of the Bank of England has made considerable progress. Various donations from the superior officers of the establishment have been received; and out of about 650 clerks, subscriptions have been paid by 550. The rules are formed and agreed to; and there is every chance of this large body being in possession of a library proportioned to its numbers. The Deputy-Governor, at a public meeting, declared his desire to increase the social position of clerks generally, and of the clerks of the Bank of England particularly; to him, therefore, may be fairly attributed the influence which has produced a donation from the Court of Directors of 500*l.* towards the purchase of books.—The subscription of each member is to be 8*s.* annually.

At a meeting of the subscribers to the fund for erecting a memorial to the late Mr. Liston, held during the last week,—at which the Marquis of Anglesea presided,—the honorary secretary read a Report from which it appeared that the sum subscribed amounted to only 750*l.* This sum is insufficient to carry out the original intention of a statue; and it was therefore proposed that four marble busts of Mr. Liston should be executed—one to be placed in the Royal College of Surgeons, another in University College, London, a third in the Royal Infirmary at Edinburgh, and a fourth to be presented to



the family of the deceased. The residue of the money will be devoted to pay for a gold medal to be awarded annually by the council of University College, London, to the best proficient in surgery.—A Committee was appointed to carry out these intentions.

It is a common subject of remark and reproach with foreigners, that the one building in London which has a world-wide reputation is nowhere, when the neighbouring high grounds or the river bank is left, to be seen. In the march of improvement in the City, we may hope, at some perhaps distant day, to see a good open space surrounding our chief ecclesiastical structure,—such a cleared path of sight as will enable us to take in its wondrous proportions, and know something of the treasure which we have in our streets.—Meantime, we are glad to have a prospect of any improvement which shall disencumber our buried prodigy of any of the wrappings by which it is surrounded or disfigured. A scheme is on foot for removing the iron railing and dwarf wall from the west end of the cathedral, flagging the inclosed space after the manner of the west front of the Royal Exchange, and throwing it open to the public. Both as a question of taste and one of convenience, the idea is a good one. Nothing could well be more wretched than the present "churchyard"—with the dead, dirty wall on one side,—and the mean passage on the other, choked up with a stand of omnibusses from morning to night. The removal of the railings would make space for the mere observer and for the man of business. The city authorities seem to be in favour of the project,—and the question rests with the Archbishop of Canterbury.

The munificence of individuals in the cause of human improvement has a wholesome quality beyond its own intrinsic greatness and its own intrinsic use:—and therefore it is a social waste to leave unrecorded the instances of private benevolence. A new act of generosity in this direction is reported of Mr. Beaufoy. At an expense of 3,250*l.*, he has erected one of the finest school-houses in the metropolis,—calculated for affording gratuitous primary instruction to upwards of a thousand children.

The *Moniteur* of March, contains a report from M. Dumas, the French Minister of Commerce and Agriculture, addressed to the President of the Republic, on the subject of the Great Exposition of Industry to be held here in 1851. From this document we learn with what extreme interest this project is regarded in France. The artisans of that country have acquired a reputation for skill and taste which of course they are anxious to maintain in the forthcoming trial. A powerful committee has been organized, and approved by the Government, containing names of many persons well-known in the artistic and industrial world—charged with the task of preparing and displaying to the greatest advantage the manufactures of their country. The report is not confined to a consideration of material interests: it also contemplates the higher moral results,—the awakening of a new and more generous species of rivalry between the two nations,—the establishment of more intimate inter-relation, social and commercial,—and the laying down of larger and safer bases for a continued good understanding.

The Academy of Inscriptions and Belles Lettres in Paris has elected Herr Bopp, professor of the Indian languages at Berlin, and Herr Grotefend, philologist of Hanover, to replace MM. Lobeck and Wilson as corresponding members of its body. MM. Lobeck and Wilson have been advanced to the rank of Foreign Associates.

The researches of M. Achille Jubinal have brought to light in the Bibliothèque Nationale a fifteenth add to the fourteen only autograph letters hitherto known of Montaigne. It consists of three folio pages, and is addressed to Henri IV.,—bearing the date of 1590. M. Jubinal has published this letter, illustrated by fac similes,—and accompanied by a piquant history of the losses in autographs and manuscripts which some of the French public libraries have sustained in the course of the last few years.

THE WINTER EXHIBITION OF WATER-COLOUR DRAWINGS AND SKETCHES IN OILS, comprising Works by the most eminent living Artists, is OPEN from Ten till Dark daily. Admission (including Catalogue), 1*s.*; Season Ticket, 5*s.* The Exhibition is altogether one which will repay the attention of visitors. — *Athenæum*, Jan. 5.  
130, Regent Street. J. L. GRUNDY, Manager.

BRITISH INSTITUTION, Pall Mall.—The GALLERY for the EXHIBITION AND SALE of the WORKS of BRITISH ARTISTS is OPEN DAILY, from Ten till Five.—Admission, 1*s.* Catalogue, 1*s.* GEORGE NICOL, Secretary.

THE NILE.—RE-OPENED AT THE EGYPTIAN HALL, PICCADILLY.—The new and splendid MOVING PANORAMA of the NILE, showing all the stupendous Works of Antiquity on its Banks, from Cairo the capital of Egypt to the Second Cataract in Nubia. Painted by Henry Warren and James Fahey from drawings made by Joseph Bonomi during many years residence there. —Morning 3*o*; Evening 8 o'clock.—Stalls 3*s.*, Pit 2*s.*, Gallery 1*s.*

NEW EXHIBITION.—NOW OPEN, at No. 399, Regent Street, adjoining the Royal Polytechnic Institution, A PICTURESQUE TOUR to the BRITANNIA BRIDGE, with ILLUSTRATIONS, comprising Views of Birmingham, Chester, Coventry, the Victoria and Britannia Bridges, &c. &c. on a grand scale. Painted by J. W. ALLEN, Esq. An instructive and amusing Description by Jona CLARKE, Esq.—Hours of Exhibition: Afternoon, Two o'clock and Four; Evenings, Seven o'clock and Nine.—Admission, 1*s.*; Schools, half-price.

ROYAL POLYTECHNIC INSTITUTION.  
SIR HENRY R. BISHOP'S LECTURES ON MUSIC with VOCAL ILLUSTRATIONS, take place on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday Evenings at Eight, and on Tuesday, Thursday, and Saturday at Three o'clock.—ILLUSTRATIONS ON ASTRONOMY, by Dr. Bachhöfner, on Wednesday and Friday at One o'clock, during Lent.—Dr. Bachhöfner's LECTURE on the PHILOSOPHY OF SCIENTIFIC RECREATION, Mornings and Evenings.—A LECTURE, by J. H. Pepper, Esq. on the CHEMICAL RELATION OF THE METALS.—DISSOLVING VIEWS OF LONDON IN THE SIXTEENTH CENTURY, and AS IT NOW IS, with a Descriptive Lecture; also a SERIES OF VIEWS OF ROME.—Experiments with the DIVER and DIVING BELL, &c.—Admission, 1*s.*; Schools, Half-price.

## SOCIETIES

ROYAL.—Feb. 21.—Col. Reid, V.P., in the chair. The following paper was read:—'Tide Researches. Fourteenth Series. On the Results of continued Tide Observations at several places on the British Coasts.' By the Rev. W. Whewell.—Tide observations made at several different parts of the British and neighbouring shores, and in some instances continued for a considerable period, having been discussed by Mr. D. Ross of the Hydrographer's Office, a brief statement of the results which his labours afford is here presented by Dr. Whewell. The discussions referred to relate to the height of high water, and the variations which this height undergoes in proceeding from springs to neaps and from neaps to springs. It is found, by examining the observations at 120 places, and throwing the heights into curves, that the curve is very nearly of the same form at all these places. Hence the semi-mensual series of heights at any place affords a rule for the series of heights at all other places where the difference of spring height and neap height is the same. For instance, Portsmouth, where the difference of spring height and neap height is 2 ft. 8 in., is a rule for Cork, Waterford, Inverness, Bantry, Areachon on the French coast, and other places: and the tables of the heights of high water at one of these places suffices for all the others, a constant being of course added or subtracted according to the position of the zero-point from which the heights at each place are measured. The series of heights of high water for a semi-lunation also agrees very exactly, as to the form of the curve, with the equilibrium theory. A very simple construction is given for the determination of this curve. The properties deduced according to theory from this construction are, however, in actual cases, modified in a manner which is then described. 1. The tides in these discussions are not referred to the transit of the moon immediately preceding, but to some earlier transit, namely, the second, third, fourth, or fifth preceding transit,—it being found that in this way the accordance with the theory becomes more exact. 2. According to this construction, the difference of springs and neaps would be to the height of neaps above low water springs as 10 to 24, a constant ratio for all places; but in fact this ratio is different at different places,—and the observations under consideration show that the ratio is smaller where the tide is smaller. In consequence of the law of the high water, given alike by the theory and by the observations, the spring high waters are above the mean high water for a longer period than the neaps are below it.

GEOGRAPHICAL.—Feb. 25.—W. J. Hamilton, Esq. V. P., in the chair.—'Notes on the Topography of British North America,' by Dr. Bigsby, Secretary to the Bombay Commission appointed under the sixth and seventh articles of the Treaty of Ghent, to remark on the water-communications between Lakes Superior and La Croix. One of these, called the New Route, leaves Lake Superior at Port William; the other, the Old Route, at Grand Portage, forty-two miles westward. The

United States' division, under Col. Delafield, undertook the former,—the British, under Mr. Astronomer Thompson, the latter portion of the work. This party was likewise directed to construct maps of the three extensive and intricate collections of water named Lakes La Croix, Lapluie, and the Lake of the Woods. The original maps were presented to the Society. This country, although frequently traversed by travellers, and especially by Sir G. Back, Sir J. Richardson, and others, has never been minutely described, but these regions are daily acquiring importance. Not only within the last few years has the new and flourishing state of Wisconsin been established on the southern borders of Lake Superior, but the north shore of that inland sea, desolate and arctic as it appears, is now the seat of a busy and increasing mining population. A broad band of copper and argentiferous ore has been discovered, extending from the north shore of Lake Huron, about the river Misissijaga, into Lake Superior, where it is best known on the north shore about Point Marmooze and the Montreal river. The country between Lake Superior and the Lake of the Woods is,—like the whole water-shed between Hudson's Bay and the Valley of the St. Lawrence,—a rugged assemblage of hills, with lakes, rivers, and morasses. It is, in fact, a submerged or very imperfectly drained land. For the sake of clearness, it may be divided into four parts, alternately basaltic and granitic; a division indicating distinct features and capabilities, during the survey of the tract of country, 220 miles in length, between Lake Superior and the Rainy Lake, or Lake Lapluie. This latter forms a considerable body of water, nearly 300 miles in circuit, and inclosing upwards of 500 islands. According to the observations of Capt. Lefroy, it is 1,160 feet above the level of the sea. The party here fell in with a numerous band of Indians, men, women, and children, under a chief, with the sinister name of "Two-hearts." They were encamped in a quiet cove, and, as it would have been offensive to pass without notice, they landed and exchanged the calumet of peace. After having received a present of tobacco, "Two-hearts" said, "that his people had watched them in all parts of the Lake, as well as other canoes full of pale faces likewise holding up pieces of bright metal to the sun."—"Have you suffered wrong from any red man, and for what purpose are you rambling over our waters and putting them in your books?" asked he. Mr. Thompson replied "that we had met with no molestation whatever, but that our business was to find out how far north the shadow of the United States extended, and how far south the shadow of their great father." The Indians here are much employed by the Hudson's Bay Company, as hunters, guides, and boatmen. The larger portion of the paper was devoted to the Lake of the Woods,—a body of water become of national interest from its having been assumed as the starting point for the boundary across the Great Plain to the Rocky Mountains, along the parallel of 49 N. lat. Reasons were assigned for the adoption of this parallel in 1783, by Franklin and other diplomatists; and the true north-west point of the lake, as determined by Mr. Webster and Lord Ashburton, was indicated. The Lake of the Woods is 400 miles round, and is well provided with animal life. It is divided into three parts, of very distinct characters. Upwards of 1,100 islands were laid down in this Lake alone.—The paper was interspersed with anecdotes illustrative of Indian life, and was followed by an animated description of the great headwaters of the Mississippi and Missouri, by Mr. Catlin, the American traveller.

GEOLOGICAL.—Feb. 27.—Sir C. Lyell, President, in the chair.—The following papers were read:—'An Account of the Strata and Organic Remains exposed in the Cuttings of the Railway from the Great Western Line near Corsham through Trowbridge to Westbury, in Wiltshire,' by R. N. Mantell, Esq.

'Notice of the Remains of the Dinornis and other Birds, and of Fossils and Rock Specimens, recently collected by Mr. Walter Mantell in the Middle Island of New Zealand,' by Dr. Mantell. The author gave extracts from his son's notes descriptive of the different localities visited during an exploration of the coast from Banks Peninsula to Otago as Government Commissioner; and de-



scribed the rocks and minerals, of which from two to three hundred specimens were collected. Of remains of birds about five hundred specimens were received, comprising genera and species previously unknown; some from the Menaccanite sand-beds of the North Island, and others from a morass or swamp in the Middle Island, on which the flax plant formerly flourished. The most remarkable bones from the latter were a pair of perfect feet discovered standing erect in the swamp, and about a yard apart, belonging to the same individual *Dinornis giganteus*. From these the foot of the living bird may be estimated at sixteen inches long and seventeen to eighteen inches wide, and its total height at nine feet and a half. Bones of a species of dog, two species of seal, a species of albatross, penguin, water-hen, nestor, rail and apteryx were associated with the Moa bones. Several large ossiferous caves have recently been discovered in the interior of the North Island, and these also contain birds' bones. The author believes that these bone deposits, though geologically recent, are very ancient in reference to the human species. These stupendous birds probably ranged formerly over a vast continent that is now submerged, and of which the isles of the Pacific form only the culminating points. There can be little doubt that the last of the species was exterminated by man; but great physical revolutions had probably first circumscribed their geographical limits.

ROYAL SOCIETY OF LITERATURE.—Feb. 14.—Henry Hallam, Esq., V.P., in the chair.—Paper read.—‘On Triptolemus and the Dioscuri,’ by Mr. W. Lloyd. Mr. Lloyd is the possessor of two Greek vases, produced at the meeting, both representing this subject,—the one decidedly archaic, the other of a later age; the latter formed the subject of the present reading. The essay was too long and too various in its topics to bear intelligible compression within the limits of a brief report. Having described the figures on the vase, and identified the principal group as representing Triptolemus, whom Ceres instructed in the art of agriculture, and the Dioscuri, to whom in turn he imparted the mysteries of that goddess, Mr. Lloyd proceeded to discuss the origin and significance of the mythus which represents the two brothers as sharing, by the decree of Zeus, alternately a mortal and an immortal condition; pointing out many analogous instances in which the mythology of Greece was enriched from every incident of nature and cycle of natural phenomena by the lively perceptions and vivid fancy of her sons. Thus, as the ascent and descent of the sons of Leda represent the daily alternations of nature, so those of Kore (or Proserpine) signify the annual. In Adonis we have a masculine symbol of the same cycle of life and death, of activity and torpor. Dionysus was to the wine what Kore was to the corn-harvest. The solar year, to the eye of the Greek, was a life or an adventure of a Helius, a Heracles, or a Bellerophon; the progress of a remarkable constellation repeated the various fortunes of the hunter Orion. Such traditions were unchangeable in essence, but subject to successive transformations and growing developement in accordance with the social changes of successive periods. Facts allegorized were converted in the next age into myths; in that which followed, the myth, further developed, bloomed as poetry:—and this process evidently proceeded at one period with prolific luxuriance. But, throughout its course, it was hallowed to the national mind as religion. The genius of the Greek, quick to feel the intimate relation between the Beautiful and the Good, readily gave predominance to the religious aspect of the universe; until the more important and significant traditions of entire Hellas, woven into a whole, became embodied in religious rites and observances.

LINNEAN.—March 5.—W. Yarrell, Esq., V.P., in the chair.—The Rev. J. Yates exhibited a cone and drawing of the male plant of *Encrphalartos horridus*, from the conservatory of the Duke of Devonshire at Chatsworth.—Dr. Wallich read a letter from Prof. Lehmann, referring to an account by Prof. Liebman of a species of *Cycas* which produced perfect seeds in the absence of any stamen-bearing plants of the order.—Mr. Newport read a paper on the habits of *Mono-dontomerus*, with some account of a new *Acarus* *Heteropus ventricosus* (Newport), a parasite in the

nects of *Anthophora retusa*. The new *Acarus* belonged to the tribe Sarcopites of Koch. The economy of this microscopic *Acarus* was traced to a considerable extent, and the young at the time of their first appearance were stated to measure only about sixteen thousandths of an inch in length, yet they occur in such abundance as quickly to destroy the young of the bee which they attack.

ROYAL INSTITUTION.—March 1.—The Duke of Northumberland, President, in the chair.—Sir R. I. Murchison ‘On the Distribution of Gold in the Crust and on the Surface of the Earth.’ Sir Roderick began by stating that a satisfactory explanation of the history, produce, and use of gold would occupy many evenings, and that on the present occasion he could pretend to offer little more than a very popular sketch of the geological distribution of the precious metal. He first dwelt upon Russia and Siberia as exhibiting on the grandest scale proofs of the truth of his axiom, that gold ore never occurred in any notable quantity except under certain conditions, which (employing a useful term suggested by Mr. Babbage) he called “constants.” Throughout Russia in Europe, the crust of the earth being unbroken, and no igneous rocks having protruded, the strata are little solidified, and are everywhere devoid of metallic ores; but in the Ural Mountains the same old deposits, Silurian, Devonian, and carboniferous, being penetrated by eruptive matter, are metamorphosed, crystallized, veined, and in a highly metalliferous state, particularly on their eastern flank, where eruptive rocks most abound, including syenitic granite, porphyry, greenstone, serpentine, &c. After describing the nature of the auriferous veinstones which rise up from beneath and cut through the strata, and those peculiarities of gold which distinguish it from silver and all other ores, he maintained, that the flanks of the Ural Mountains offer evidences, that when the conglomerates and other strata to which he assigned the name of “Permian” were formed, gold did not exist in the veinstones of those mountains, as no trace of the ore of that metal has been found in this Permian group, although it is made up of the debris of those mountains, and is charged with the residue of the iron and copper veins which abound in them. Hence, it is inferred, that in this region iron and copper were formed before gold. It was next shown, that gold occurs in quantity only in the upper part of veinstones; and that when the latter are worked downwards, they become gradually much less auriferous, in which respect they differ essentially from argentiferous and all other metalliferous veins. This more or less superficial developement of gold, the peculiar qualities of the metal itself, and of the hard quartz veins in which it is chiefly distributed, explain why the greater portion of gold is and must be found in those loose materials of gravel, shingle and sand, which cover the surface of the earth, and have resulted from the grinding down of the tops of former mountains. This point was illustrated by a great diagram. In addition to many positive proofs derived from shafts sunk into the solid rock, the diminution of gold in the deeper parts of the veinstones was also inferred from the fact, that all the great lumps or “pepites” of the metal have alone been found in loose gravel or sand, and never in the solid rock. A drawing of the enormous specimen, weighing 96 lb. troy, now in the Museum at St. Petersburg was exhibited. This huge mass was found loose in the bottom of a gravel pit lying on the surface of the rock. This auriferous gravel is in no way to be confounded with detritus formed by present atmospheric action, but is the result of ancient powerful abrasion of the surface of the rocks, particularly when mammoths and other great extinct animals were destroyed. This view was familiarly illustrated by stating that, if instead of being composed of chalk and flints, the Hertfordshire and Surrey hills had been crystalline, palaeozoic and eruptive rocks, the gravel of Hampstead and Hyde Park would be the gold-finding ground of the metropolis, whilst the Thames and its mud would only be auriferous where the river derived small portions of gold from its ancient banks. These opinions, founded on surveys of the Ural Mountains, were sustained in the examination of all the distant regions of East Siberia, of which Sir Roderick gave sketches from the writings of Humboldt, Jacob, Erman, Rose,

Hofman, Helmersen, &c. In direct contrast to Russia in Europe, all this portion of Northern Asia consists of hard, crystalline, palaeozoic strata, and the same associated eruptive rocks as in the Ural. The chief masses of detritus, occurring near the upper affluents of the rivers Jenisei and Lenna, in the Tunguska region, N.E. of Jeniseisk, and on the sides of the thriving new mining city of Krasnojarsk, amount to twenty-five districts, one of which is 200 miles long and 100 miles broad. The offsets of the Altai Mountains and their eastern continuations, the Sajánish, have shed off much of this auriferous detritus, which has also been found on the Chinese side of the frontier. An enlarged Mercator's projection, in great part taken from Erman, showed the vast preponderance of gold detritus in the northern hemisphere, and the large proportion of it in Siberia; and it was surmised that with the persistence, of the same rocks into Russian America, the same results might be expected to follow; but, as in Asia and other countries, in special and limited tracts only. In stating that the same geological conditions prevailed in the Rocky Mountains, and their parallels throughout North and South America, Sir Roderick explained how closely the Sierra-Nevada of California agreed in mineral structure with the auriferous rocks of Siberia, and how, as far as the new El Dorado had been laid open, the auriferous detritus on the upper affluents of the Sacramento had proved richer than any similarly constituted tract; but he specially cautioned his auditors against the popular delusion, that all the surrounding region throughout several degrees of latitude and longitude, was likely to prove equally productive. Taking New, or Upper, Mexico as an example, he cited the recent reports of the intelligent American officers, Emory, Abert, and Peck, (under General Kearney) which stated that in all the long spaces watered by the Rio del Norte, flowing westward to Texas, or by the Colorado and Gila, emptying themselves into the Pacific, (and all passing through tracts long occupied by civilized men), gold ore was known at three or four spots only; a station south of Santa Fé being the principal one. There again, whatever steady profit has been made has been derived from the gravel and sand; and though in the beginning fortune has occasionally favoured the speculator who ventured to mine in the solid rock, such enterprises have usually been ruinous. When its rich detritus is exhausted and deep mining is attempted, the same, he apprehends, will prove to be the case in California, provided the geological and mineralogical constants observed in all other regions be not there deviated from. These constants, which may almost be called a law, are found to be perfectly true in the southern prolongation of the great Apalachian or Alleghany chain of the United States, where, on its eastern side, the chloritic and talcose slates with quartz veins in the neighbourhood of porphyry and other eruptive rocks, have afforded notable quantities of gold, the extraction of which has proved to be remunerative only in the alluvial soil, which, being freed from the gold, often reverted to agricultural use, as detailed in Featherstonhaugh's works. A striking illustration of the law, that gold veins prove less and less auriferous downward, is seen in the mine of Guadalupe y Calno, in Mexico, of which plans and drawings procured by Lieut.-Col. Colquhoun, R.A., who resided in the district, were exhibited, as well as mineral specimens, showing that veinstones opened out with British enterprise, and at first productive in gold, gradually became poorer, and as in the deep shafts were exclusively argentiferous. Such, indeed, has been the loss attending deep gold mining, that it has passed into a proverb with the Spaniards. On the other hand, the auriferous gravel and sand of the Brazils and Chili have long afforded good and profitable results. The Chilean detritus is there described as of a very coarse nature, and as the result of former great denudation, like those of other typical regions, whereby the gold with its alloys and their associated ores including much iron, were distributed in plateaux and mounds beyond the reach of present depositary action. In alluding to our colonies, Sir Roderick adverted to his own opinion as publicly expressed some years ago, that considering the nature of the rocks composing the frame-work of Australia, as described by Count



Szrlecki, gold would be found to prevail in certain portions of that great continent. Such has proved to be the case, and he has received specimens of the metal in quartz rock, from the Blue Mountain, north of Sydney. In the ridges north of Adelaide, where so much fine copper has been worked out, gold also has recently been pretty plentifully discovered in the detritus and gravel, over upwards of 300 square miles, particularly by Mr. John Phillips, an enterprising Cornish miner. And here a hope was expressed that Her Majesty's Government would take some decided step in declaring how the law regulating mining royalties was to be applied to our valuable Australian colonies. The tracts known to produce gold in the Indian seas, Africa and China, were then glanced at, it being now known that in addition to the gold deposits near the sources of the Indus and Sutledge, it also existed along the northern frontier of China, and on the authority of Gutzlaff at Yunnan, much farther to the south.

The same geological constants which exist in Asia, America, and Australia, were then stated to have uniformly prevailed throughout Europe, where the back bones, or oldest rocks of each tract had alone ever been, or are still, auriferous; none of the secondary or tertiary rocks which occupy by far the larger portion of the present surface having ever contained any notable quantity of gold. In Europe also the same law has been found to prevail of the deterioration of the quality of gold veins in depth; and cases in Hungary were cited, on the authority of Mr. Warrington Smyth, where, though by strict economy the ore was still extracted at very little profit from some deep mines, their upper portions had alone been highly productive. Sir Roderick here rapidly sketched the physical condition of the Caucasus, Carpathians, Alps, Pyrenees, &c. &c., to indicate how the quantities of gold ore they had severally contained were in direct relation to the amount of ancient rocks in them; and the exhaustion of gold mines in all countries which had been long inhabited, including Egypt, Greece, the Roman Empire, and the British Islands, was instanced as a confirmation of his views.

A brief historical review was then taken of the production of gold from the earliest records in Scripture to the present time,—showing how modern researches sustained the truthfulness of the words of Job, "there is a vein for the silver" and "the earth hath dust of gold." Another striking historical point was, that what had been by some persons considered as a fabulous story of Herodotus, had recently been connected with facts; and that the wild Arimaspes and Esedones, with their griffins, from whom the Scythians brought such lumps of gold, were, as Humboldt well suggested, no other than the hyperborean inhabitants of the Ural and Siberia, a people unknown to the ancient civilized world. Had the Romans triumphed over the Scythians, and colonized what is now Siberia, a substitute would there have been found for the exhausted mines of the Old World, and the coffers of an impoverished Imperial treasury would have been filled. It is very remarkable that although Herodotus so clearly pointed to North-Western Asia as a seat of gold, Siberia should not have been known to be auriferous till this century, and that in the three previous centuries the New World should have alone been the great source of gold.

The statistical portion of this vast subject was incidentally touched upon, and the audience was reminded, that as far as evidence could be obtained, California had produced little more than one million and a half sterling per annum, notwithstanding the exertions of a most spirited and adventurous people. It was also stated as a very general rule in mining, that the richer a vein is, the less is it likely that the ore will be diffused throughout a large mass of rock; and this was assigned as another reason for the inference, that in California, as in other parts of America, the great per-centage of gold will be confined to a few spots only. Russia had of late years exceeded three millions and a half sterling per annum, which was more than the half of the whole produce of the world. As even this great Siberian increase, which came suddenly upon us a few years ago, has produced no sensible change in the relative value of gold, so it was inferred that the extra production of a peculiarly rich spot or two of gold sur-

face-stuff in North America, valuable as it now really is, was not at all likely to interfere with standards of value fixed after the experience of so many ages; for the shower of gold found at particular spots upon the surface must all be exhausted in a given and probably no distant time; whilst silver mines in the solid rock would seem to have scarcely any known limits to their productive capacity when the superior science of man becomes fully applied to them.

In conclusion, Sir Roderick repeated that it is essentially from the broken materials of the tops of the older and crystalline rocks of both the Old and New World that all great quantities of gold have been derived; and he specially adverted to the vast difficulties which man would have to encounter in the extraction and separation of the precious metal, if it had not been providentially spread out for his use in great heaps resulting from powerful attrition under water in former ages.

Specimens of gold ore from various parts of the world were exhibited, including many from California; among which was a fine lump with quartz rock acquired by the Right Hon. Edward Ellice about thirty years ago. The illustrative specimens furnished for the occasion by Mr. Tennant were also commented on.

#### MEETINGS FOR THE ENSUING WEEK.

- MON. Royal Academy, 8.—Sculpture.
- Geographical, half-past 8.—Expedition by Mr. Brunner to explore the interior of the Middle Island of New Zealand.—Recent Discovery of an extensive Coal Field near Erzeroum.—Notes respecting Coal in the Straits of Magellan.
- TUES. Civil Engineers, 8.—Mr. W. Fairbairn, 'On Tubular Girder Bridges.'
- Zoological, 9.—Scientific Business.—Prof. E. Forbes, 'On the Land Shells of the Galapagos,' and Papers by J. E. Gray, Esq. and Mr. Lovell Reeve.
- SYRO-Egyptian.—Mr. L. L. Loewe, 'On the Samaritans.'
- WED. Society of Arts, 8.
- Geological, half-past 8.—Mr. Dawson, 'On the Metamorphic Rocks of Nova Scotia.'—Mr. E. Hopkins, 'On the Structure of Crystalline Rocks and on their Cleavage Planes.'
- Literary Fund, 2.—Annual General Meeting.
- Ethnological, 8.
- THURS. Royal, half-past 8.
- Royal Society of Literature, 4.
- Antiquaries, 8.
- Royal Academy, 8.—Painting.
- FRI. Royal Institution, half-past 8.—The Astronomer Royal 'On the Present State and Prospects of Terrestrial Magnetism.'
- Statistical, 3.—Anniversary.
- SAT. Asiatic, 2.

#### FINE ARTS

**FINE-ART Gossip.**—The daily papers announce the death, on Saturday, the 2nd inst., of John Peter Deering, R.A.—(originally known to Art as John Peter Gandy)—the architect of Exeter Hall, in the Strand, and of other works far from devoid of architectural elegance. Mr. Deering began life under the patronage of the Dilettante Society; undertaking, (1811-13) at the expense of that body, an architectural mission to Greece,—for which he was well fitted by taste and education, and which obtained for him the friendship of Lord Elgin. By that nobleman he was afterwards employed to build his seat in Scotland, called Broom Hall. He became an exhibitor at the Royal Academy in 1814; when he contributed a careful drawing of 'The Mystic Temple of Ceres, at Eleusis, in Attica,' showing the double wall of the sacred inclosure; a result of his Dilettante mission. His first original design was one for a Waterloo Tower, 280 feet high; in which he received assistance from the late Mr. Wilkins, R.A.—but which was never erected. He was elected an Associate of the Royal Academy in 1827:—in which year he changed his name from Gandy to Deering, to entitle him to a large landed estate in Buckinghamshire. He was elected a Royal Academician in 1838; and, content with Academic honour, never again became a contributor to the Annual Exhibitions of the Academy. He sat as Member of Parliament for Aylesbury shortly after the introduction of the Reform Bill:—and passed his latter years in improving his estates, and designing lodges for gentlemen's seats. The chapel on the east side of North Audley Street, London, is one of the best examples of Mr. Deering's abilities as an architect:—and some of the better portions of University College, London, have been attributed to him. He was fond of his art; and if he had been a poorer man might have become distinguished in it. As it is, he has done little to discontinue the remark made at the period of his election into the Academy, that wealth, rather than merit, had been the ground of his adop-

tion. His death has occasioned a third vacancy in the ranks of the Royal Academicians since November last; and by the laws of the Academy, none of these three vacancies can be filled up until the 10th of February next. Surely this is an absurd regulation,—and bears hardly on some three artists who, by the very facts of the deaths, are virtually entitled now to places in the ranks of the Academicians. Where the field of honour is already too narrow, no rules should exist which tend practically to narrow it yet further. The propriety of filling up vacancies, both in the Academical body and in that of the Associates, as soon as they occur,—as well as that of enlarging the number of Associateships—are points which the Academy might well take into consideration.

We were admitted on Monday last to a private view of a picture, with dioramic effects, opened at the Walhalla in Leicester-square. On our first introduction into a darkened room, a storm was raging over the region of the picture—whose lightning flashes momentarily and mysteriously revealed the great outlines of St. Peter's at Rome. By and by, the storm passed away, and the moon rose,—turning every window in the huge pile to a star, and producing the appearance of a magnificent illumination. The curtain falls on this fine effect; and its rise again shows the huge pile, with a portion of the neighbouring country, lying in the first clear light of the morning.—The general subject is, it will be seen, St. Peter's at Rome, seen under various pictorial aspects.

The Diorama in the Regent's Park opened this week with its new attraction for the London season,—a view of the noble Castle of Stolzenfels, on the Rhine, as seen at sunset, and during a thunder storm. The whole picture is executed with spirit and care,—and the effects are managed in a manner almost deceptive to eye and ear. The first coming on of the rain reminded us of a line in Thomson—

The stealing shower is scarce to patter heard.

We can hardly say more in praise of any landscape on wood or canvas, than that it summons up some of the more striking passages of our best descriptive poetry. The picture is by Nicholas Meister, of Cologne,—and will prove attractive.

We have before us the first engraved sheet (No. 33) of the Survey of Edinburgh on which the Messrs. Johnson, of that city, have been for some years engaged,—but the engraving of which has been suspended in consequence of the probability that the Ordnance Survey of the same city will be immediately commenced. The sheet before us is one of sixty which the publication was intended to embrace,—the survey comprehending the entire district within the Parliamentary boundary, including Leith. This survey is on the Ordnance scale of five feet to a statute mile; and this sheet embraces the central district of the New Town, bounded by Princes Street on the south and Great King Street on the north,—and ranging from a little west of the line of Castle Street on the one side to a little east of the line of Elder Street on the other. The streets, lanes, and squares are all distinctly laid down,—the public and the private buildings being distinguished from each other by a difference in the shading. The internal arrangements of the public buildings are clearly indicated,—and the general details descend even to the arrangements of the trees and shrubberies in the squares, the position of the fire-plugs in the streets, and the elevation of every street above the level of the sea.—The sheet before us is a remarkable specimen of clear and beautiful engraving.

In Paris, the statue of the Republic has been placed in that Hall of the National Assembly which is called after Casimir Perrier—on the site which was occupied two years ago by that of King Louis Philippe. This statue is the work of M. Barre,—and is about three metres in height. The right hand rests on a bee-hive, as the emblem of labour and of stored wealth:—the left holds a laurel crown. At the feet of the figure are the fasces of the Republic, the Gallic cock, and a broken hatchet.

It has been determined by the Council-General of the Seine, in conformity with the report of a committee appointed by the Minister of the Interior on the recommendation of the architect employed on the restoration of the Sainte Chapelle, that the complete isolation of this beautiful building shall be effected by its separation from the Palais de Justice. It having been shown that this work of Art could



only appear in its perfection by such means, the French Government offered, if the works executing in the Palais de Justice were made subordinate to the object of disengaging the chapelle on the west side,—to bear half the expense under certain conditions:—and the Council has finally decided on accepting the proposition.

## MUSIC AND THE DRAMA

ROYAL ITALIAN OPERA, COVENT GARDEN.

The Directors of the ROYAL ITALIAN OPERA beg most respectfully to inform the Nobility, Gentry, Subscribers, and the Public, that the season of 1850 will commence on SATURDAY, MARCH 16, with Weber's Grand Opera 'DER FRIEDSCHÜTZ.'

MA. ROCHER, who has been in the present Season as—*Soprano*, Madame Grisi, Madame Castellan, (Her First Appearance these Two Years), Middle, Vera, (Her First Appearance at the Royal Italian Opera), and Madame Viardot,—*Contralto*, Mdlle. De Meric, and Mdlle. d'Oskolski, (Her First Appearance at the Royal Italian Opera),—*Tenors*, Sig. Mario, Sig. Enrico Maratti, (at the Theatre de la Felice, at Venice, his First Appearance), and Sig. Felice, (at the Theatre de la Felice, at Venice, his First Appearance),—*Bass*, Sig. Luigi Mei, Sig. Soldi, Sig. L. B. B. (at the Theatre de la Felice, at Venice, his First Appearance), and the Grand Opera at Barcelona, his First Appearance in England,—*Bassi-Baritoni*, Sig. Tamburini, Mons. Bassi, Sig. Renni, and 1. Sig. Ronconi,—*Bussi-Profundi*, Herr Fornes, (From the Imperial Theatre of Vienna, his First Appearance at the Royal Italian Opera), Sig. Tagliafico, Sig. Polonini, Sig. Rache, and Mons. Zelger, (From the Theatre de la Royale at Paris, his First Appearance),—I am persuaded to be the completest and most talented in Europe, will remain as last Season. The Croakers will exhibit the same efficiency and perfection as heretofore.

Tickets for Boxes, Stalls, or the Pit, may be taken for the Night or Season. N.B.—Subscribers for the Season will have the option of paying their Subscriptions in advance (as heretofore) or in monthly instalments.

The prospectus with full particulars of the season arrangements may be obtained at the Box Office of the Theatre (corner of Hart Street and Bow Street,) which is open from Eleven till Five o'Clock.

MR. HENRY NICHOLLS'S DRAMATIC READINGS OF SHAKESPEARE, on Tuesday Evenings at St. Martin's Hall, Long Acre, and Saturday Mornings at Elgrove's Rooms, Mortimer Street, Cavendish Square. Tuesday Evenings, March 12, Hamlet; March 19, Othello. This Morning, March 9, As You Like It; Saturday Morning, March 16, Merchant of Venice.—Admission, 1s and 2s. To commence, Mornings at 8, Evenings at 8.

\* \* \* Communications respecting Private Readings, &c. to be addressed, 16, Howard Street, Strand.

MUSICAL UNION.—FIRST MATINÉE.—TUESDAY, March 19th, at Half-past Three o'clock. Willis's Rooms.—Quartet, in D. No. 6. Mozart: Quintet, 2 flat, Hummel; Ronde Capriccioso, Op. 14, Mendelssohn; Septet (complete), 2 flat, Op. 20, Beethoven. Executants: Stanton, DeLoofs, Hill, J. H. Howell, Lazarus, Barrett, and Eugene Pianoforte.—Miss Kate Loder. Members' tickets have been sent to their respective residences, and to prevent delay at the Concert Rooms, it is requested that the subscription be paid to the Treasurers, Cramer & Co., 201, Regent Street. J. ELLA, Director.

\* The Record of 1849, and complete sets may be had on application to the Director, *gratis* to Members and Musical Libraries.

LOVE'S ENTERTAINMENTS at Store Street.—VENTRIL-  
QUISM EXTRAORDINARY.—On Monday, March 11, Mr. Love  
will repeat his Entertainments at the Music Hall, Store Street,  
Bedford Square.—Doors open at Half-past 7, begin at 8 o'clock.  
Reserved Seats—Boxes, 4s.; First-Class Seats—Hall, 2s.; Second  
Class, 1s.; Private Boxes, 12. 1s. and 12. 11s. 6d. Books to be had at  
the doors, price 6d.

On Tuesday, March 12, Mr. LOVE will make his Second Appearance this season at Crosby Hall, Bishopsgate Street; on Wednesday, March 13, he will appear at the Rosemary Branch Assembly Rooms, Peckham; and on Wednesday, March 20, at the Commercial Hall, King's Road, Chelsea.—Books, containing Programmes, &c., to be had at the doors, price 6d.

PHILHARMONIC SOCIETY.—The subscription list for the present season—the Philharmonic Society's thirty-seventh—is understood to be better filled than usual. Some changes in the band have been made. Mr. Grattan Cooke (first oboe) has been replaced by Mr. Nicholson—Mr. Platt (first trumpet) by Mr. C. Harper. The orchestra on Monday last was in unprecedentedly brilliant working order. Its free, spirited reading—though not always informed with such full German sensibility as Mendelssohn knew how to elicit from the Leipsic band,—is more grateful to us than the over-exquisite *finesse* and contrast of the *Conservatoire* versions of Beethoven and Weber;—and this a recent hearing of that admirable machine, the Paris orchestra, enables us to say with the fullest conviction. No novelty whatever was hazarded on Monday. The symphonies were Mozart's 'Jupiter,' and Beethoven's in D; the overtures were Weber's to 'Euryanthe,' and Cherubini's to 'Les deux Journées.' A triter selection than the above could by no magic have been made. But those who drew out Monday's *programme* did not altogether stand still. They went back also. Mendelssohn's First Quartett—given in place of the two *Concertos* so long thought essential to every Philharmonic *programme*—must have been introduced either to propitiate the "old subscribers," or else to employ in combination four *solo* players—M. Sainton, Messrs. Blagrove, Hill, and Lucas. However defensible on the score of convenience such a selection may be, in point of taste it is a mistake totally behind our time. The alternation of chamber-music with brilliantly and powerfully executed orchestral compositions cannot be made without great loss of effect.

to the former. Perpetual are the objections brought against the introduction of operatic vocal music into classical concerts,—the pretext being the paucity of interesting songs exclusively suited for orchestral use. Now, as all such cavillings proceed on the theory of displacement, the same purists who quarrel with Rossini or the French opera writers in a concert-room, ought to join us in denouncing this mixture of what is small in scale (not in idea) with what is great—in discountenancing this stepping-out of the way of scores of good *Concertos*, never played, for the sake of a class of composition which now has its special habitation in every quarter of London. Who would not laugh at Mr. Dando, or Mr. Willy, or Herr Ernst, were they to let a full band loose upon us at one of their chamber-concerts? Yet the Philharmonic Directors, in doing precisely the converse, are, essentially, as legitimate objects of satire. Such perversity would discourage us, did we not remember that there are many publics in London, and that it may be the pleasure of the Philharmonic Directors to cater for the Ancient-Concert goers! Their supineness, it is comfortable to think, will not arrest progress, nor deaden curiosity. In spite of the *encore* of its pretty *Canzonetta*, the effect of the Quartett was “*scrammel*” and comfortless. Let us hope that such a senile taste in selection will stop short; and that we may hear the Ernsts, Thabergs, Piattis, and other best instrumentalists in London, playing their best orchestral *solos* at London’s best orchestral concert.—The singers were Miss L. Pyne, Mr. Benson, and Mr. Machin. The lady won great applause for the certainty and ease with which she sang the very difficult *allegro* to Mozart’s “*Non paventar*” (“*Die Zauberflöte*”). But—as we had already felt the other evening at Exeter Hall—no great name can make these old *ornithological bravura* passages sufferable to us, listened to with rapture though they be by persons whom the name of a *cabaletta* by Donizetti or by Mercadante throws into fits of classical disgust!

CHAMBER CONCERTS.—Not merely by the number, but by the silent interest of their audiences—is the increasing prosperity and progress of these most intellectual entertainments accredited.—*Mr. W. S. Bennett's* second concert, on Tuesday, was crowded;—and amongst other interesting and various music, Handel's imperishable old 'Harmonious Blacksmith,' with its changes (rather than variations) was *encored*.—At *Herr Moliqne's* first meeting, on Wednesday the more ingenious and exciting *Chaconne* of Sebastian Bach—with its amazing climax of violin variations—would have received the same welcome but for its length and its continuity—which must fatigue the most robust of violin-players.—But these chamber-concerts are not given over merely to musical antiquities—nor to the production of well-assured novelties. There is also a fair share of experiment.—On Tuesday, besides other of his own compositions, *Mr. W. S. Bennett* (who composes far too little) performed, with *Herr Moliqne* and *Signor Piatti*, his *Pianoforte Trio*, Op. 26.—On Wednesday, *Herr Moliqne* opened his "session" by a quartett in *F* minor, new to this country, in which he was assisted by *M.M. Carrodus, Mellon, and Hausmann*. In this work we like best the *andantino*, which is at once ingenious, elegant and solid.—*M. Billet* was last evening to commence, at *St. Martin's Hall*, a second series of *Pianoforte Soirées*, with an admirably-varied list of compositions.

DRURY LANE.—'The Wheel of Fortune' was revived on Monday; Mr. Vandenhoff appearing as *Penruddock*,—a character once great in John Kemble's hands. Mr. Vandenhoff was impressive and effective.

NEW STRAND. — Oliver Goldsmith's delightful novel of 'The Vicar of Wakefield,' as dramatized by Mr. Tom Taylor, was produced here on Monday. It seems to have been forgotten that Mr. Tom Dibdin some thirty-three years ago had accomplished the same feat for the Surrey; since we find that its present production has given occasion to the following literary controversy in the papers. Mr. Stirling Coyne, it appears, has had for some time a dramatization of the subject in the hands of Mr. Webster, which Mr. Farren, when stage manager at the Haymarket, had the office of reading. That piece not

having yet been produced there, Mr. Farren lately applied to Mr. Coyne for the copy,—but Mr. Webster refused to resign it,—retaining the intention to produce it at some future period. Thereupon, Mr. Farren applied to Mr. Tom Taylor to adapt the subject anew, — a commission which Mr. Taylor, though aware of the circumstances, accepted. Mr. Taylor pleads the licence of Mr. Albert Smith; who, he says, claimed the “property” of a “notion” in the theme,—and formally transferred that “property” over to Mr. Tom Taylor. Admitting this whimsical notion of “property” in a “notion,” Mr. Coyne thinks that his own claim to such “property” was much greater than that of any other party—his notion being more than a notion—having become a fact. He contends, therefore, that he and Mr. Webster are entitled to complain of the conduct both of Mr. Farren and of Mr. Tom Taylor. It is plain enough that the “notions” of honour in these theatrical arrangements are of a somewhat “fast and loose” description.

Of the manner in which Mr. Taylor has accomplished his task, we can report favourably. He has divided his subject into three parts. The first he has entitled "Summer;" and it presents the hay-field, the rustic merry-making, and the old English country dance of "Sir Roger de Coverley." Here it is that *Squire Thornhill* (Mr. Norton), first secures the attention of *Olivia* (Mrs. Stirling), notwithstanding the famous "fudge" of *Burchell* (Mr. Leigh Murray). The second part, entitled "Autumn," introduces the audience to the interior of the Vicar's cottage. It commences with an effective tableau—"Dressing Moses for the Fair," after Mr. Macclise's picture. We have, then, the scenes at the fair,—the frauds by *Ephraim Jenkinson* (Mr. Henry Farren) on *Dr. Primrose* and *Moses*—the contrivances for the abduction of *Olivia*—the remorse of *Amelia Skeggs* (Mrs. Leigh Murray)—the interference of *Burchell*—and the agony of poor *Primrose* and his family when they find that *Olivia* has indeed been spirited away by a villain. The third act is entitled "Winter." The Vicar in the roadside inn accidentally discovers his daughter;—but on returning to his home finds it in the hands of the myrmidons of the law, at the suit of the Squire himself, who had planned the ruin of the father to compel his consent to that of his daughter. The courtyard of the county jail and the interior of the prison complete the piece. The reparation of injuries and the repentance of the criminals bring down the curtain with applause.—No praise is too high for the acting of Mrs. Glover; and though Mr. Farren was more than usually inarticulate, he so looked and acted the character of the simple-minded honest Vicar as almost to realize the idea we conceive of him from the novel. The *Olivia* of Mrs. Stirling was charming:—and, indeed, all the parts are filled with exemplary propriety. We wish the piece had been produced under less questionable antecedents;—but of itself, we are bound to say, that it has both achieved and deserves success.

**SURREY.**—A two-act drama, entitled 'Hearts at Fault, or Six Years more,' produced on Monday, has some merit in novelty of conception. A rich heiress loves an orphan who has lived under the protection of her father, and who has never considered her as more than a dear friend. Her passion being confessed, inspires him with a belief that he returns it. Six years, however, undeceive him. A fair cousin of his wife's attracts his attention,—and his feelings convince him that he then feels love for the first time. The wife attempts suicide; an act of self-devotion which recalls the husband to a sense of his duty,—and the obnoxious cousin is married out of the way. With this development of an idea good in itself, we are far from satisfied.

A farce entitled 'Adam Buff' was produced on the same evening. It is founded on one of Mr Douglas Jerrold's tales. The want of a shirt makes Adam a philosopher, and prevents him from assisting a friend in a love affair. Ere long, however, he is accidentally introduced to the lady by a casual acquaintance; and being surprised in her company by his friend, is compelled to explain, and confess his shirtless condition.—The farce was successful.

MUSICAL AND DRAMATIC GOSSIP.—We commented [*ante*, p. 187] upon the semi-official pro-



gramme put forth for Her Majesty's Theatre some three weeks since. A yet more florid document appeared on Tuesday, fuller and more precise in its promises. Yesterday, Mr. Lumley's own manifesto was advertised, and from its form we suppose it may be received as final; though its predecessors took a tone of certain authority which—not being disallowed—was calculated to deceive. Mr. Lumley's operatic troupe is advertised to consist of Madame Sontag, Miss Hayes, Madame Frezzolini, Mdle. Parodi, Madame Giuliani, Mdle. Bertrand, and other Ladies, &c. &c.; Signori Gardoni, Calzolari, Michelli, Mr. Sims Reeves, and Signor Bocardi—(of the last-named tenor's voice a correspondent of the *Athenæum* in Italy wrote some three seasons ago in high terms). The *bassi* as before. The operas positively promised are the 'Medea' with which the season is to open on Tuesday next—'Il Domino Nero' of Auber, for Madame Sontag—'Il Burgo-mastro di Saardam,' for Signor Lablache—and 'La Tempesta,' by M. Halévy. The productions of Auber's 'Le Prodiges,' of Spohr's 'Faust,' and of Gluck's 'Iphigénie en Aulide' (the weaker 'Iphigénie' by the way), &c. &c. &c., are discreetly made dependent on "other arrangements." There will be a new *ballet* on the opening night for Mdle. Carlotta Grisi—'Les Métamorphoses,' with music by Signor Pugn. Another first *dansusee*, new to England, announced is Mdle. Amelia Ferraris. Mdle. Rosati, also, will return.

Madame Grisi and Signor Mario have recently written from St. Petersburg, announcing that they may be expected in London at the close of this month. An unhesitating statement of precisely contrary import has appeared in certain newspapers, which we are requested to rectify as above.

Let us thus early apprise all whom the matter interests, that the farewell Morning Concert for Mr. Platt's benefit, announced as in projection some weeks ago, will be held on Wednesday, the 24th of April. An orchestral player on a wind instrument taking leave of professional life can hardly by any magic have more than a limited income to fall back on; while the chances of such lesson-giving as lie before the singer, or the player on stringed instruments, hardly exist for him. The musicians, we know, are honourably ready in ministering to each other; they are also largely beneficent to objects beyond the sphere of their own art. The amount of requital which they receive on appealing to those whom they so perpetually and magnificently assist, is discreditably small. Let the patrons of Refugee Concerts and Hospital Oratorios and Fancy Fairs (at which the "brass band" is as often begged as paid for) show a little more sense of their debts of honour on occasions like these. From the names of performers already announced, Mr. Platt's Concert bids fair to be brilliant and various.

The world of Parisian concerts is now in full activity. At the last *Conservatoire* Concert, Beethoven's *Cantata* 'Der Glorreiche Augenblick' (confessedly one of the weakest of his works, and by himself condemned) was performed.—At the fourth concert of the *Union Musicale*, was to be played an Overture by the young Amsterdam professor, M. Silas, mentioned by us last week. We shall look with curiosity for some notice of this work: well aware, at the same time, that a new composer and a new overture, however excellent, may pass unnoticed (especially in Paris) if they are not "protected."—M. Joachim appears to be gaining ground—to the credit of sound German style, science, and skill—even in the hive of French violinists.—Meanwhile, as a piece of reciprocity, may be transcribed from the *Gazette Musicale* the fact that a *Symphony* by M. Gouvy, a young French composer of promise whose name we mentioned some time since, has been performed before the public of the *Gewand-haus* Concerts, at Leipsic, with complete success. M. Gouvy conducted his own composition. The same journal announces the arrival in Paris—to study—of a M. Kemeny, a young Hungarian *protégé*, and intimate friend of Georgey,—mention of whom is made in Madame Pulszky's 'Memoirs of a Hungarian Lady.' He is described as having a rare and wild genius for violin playing, which schooling may—and we hope will—set in order and develop. This done, we might gain another Chopin; failing this, we can but look for another Ole Bull, or

De Kontski,—and for further musical characters of this family we have no great desire.

Among the *Lindana*, which, when collected, will make the most curious and apocryphal-looking book in the Treasury of Musical Anecdote, not the least comical is one brought under our notice a few days ago: to wit, the fantastic acknowledgment made by His Majesty of Hanover for Mdle. Lind's munificence to the charities of his capital. The King is said by the papers to have presented the songstress with a gold goblet decorated—guess with what, ingenious reader—with ants' eggs (the French journals suggest in pearls)—these being the favourite meat of nightingales! Other journals speak of the cup as having been "filled," not merely adorned, as above. Either way, the royal present recalls to us nothing so much as the dainties set before *So-Sli* in poor Mr. Sealy's whimsical Chinese tale. We might have believed that "the King of Hanover's ants" was merely a good story—had we not since read Mr. P. T. Barnum's letter to the *New York Herald* formally announcing to America as a real blessing the coming visit of the Swedish songstress, in an epistle worth referring to as a curiosity, though not worth quoting.

The new comedy announced at Drury Lane has been withdrawn,—and, as the play-bills inform us, when it was just ready for representation. Mrs. Nisbett, we are told, is no longer one of Mr. Anderson's company.—A new historical tragedy by Mr. Marston has been underlined as in preparation at the Olympic Theatre:—but this theatre came suddenly to a close last night. If opened again after Easter, the present statement is, that it will be under the management of a Committee.

#### MISCELLANEA

*Visit of Rare Winter Birds to England.*—The severe and long-continued frost of this winter has, as had been anticipated, brought to our shores some very rare visitants to the British Isles. Their presence may be deemed a sure indication of the severity of the season in far-off regions. Amongst those now in the possession of Mr. Hugh Reid, for preservation, are specimens of the Black-throated Diver (*Colymbus Arcticus*), one of our rarer winter visitants; the Red-throated Diver (*C. Septentrionalis*); the Slavonian Grebe (*Podiceps cornutus*); the Red-breasted Merganser (*Mergus serrator*); and that exceeding rarity, the Pink-footed Goose (*Anser phœnicopus*). This last species was first distinguished from the Bean Goose (*A. fesus*), which it closely resembles, by M. Baillon, in 1833, and by Mr. Bartlett, in 1839. Its peculiar characteristics are the shortness of the beak and the peculiar pink colour of the legs and feet. This goose is believed to breed in the outer Hebrides, and several were observed in the London markets in 1838, 1839, and 1840. Since those periods it has very rarely occurred in England. We have also been visited by a number of the beautiful Waxen Chatterer, or Bohemian Waxwing (*Amphisp. garrulus*). Of this elegant species no less than sixteen have been shot in our immediate neighbourhood, nine of which are now in the hands of Mr. Reid. Four were killed near Conisbro', two at Warmsworth, and one near Hexthorpe. It is only at short intervals and during severe frost that this beautiful bird ventures to brave a passage from the Continent in search of the berries of the mountain ash and the hips of the wild rose, on both of which fruits it delights to feed. It is now thirteen years since any numbers of the waxwing—so called from the singular and brilliant wax-like appendages on the wing coverts—have been seen in this country; and it is highly probable that a similar period may elapse before another opportunity is afforded to naturalists of adding this beautiful stranger to their collections.—*Doncaster Gazette.*

*Industrial Exhibition of 1851.*—May I offer you a suggestion regarding this Exhibition? To carry out this admirable scheme a large amount of money is required, and there is but a short time to collect it in. Would it not stimulate subscription if it were determined, and immediately announced, that every subscriber of a certain sum (and upwards) should receive a ticket entitling him to priority of admission to the Exhibition? This plan, if adopted, should have in justice a retrospective effect, and all persons who have already subscribed to the amount should have tickets. There would be no hardship in this to non-subscribers; somebody must be first—there will be a rush—all cannot be admitted at once. Besides, the minimum sum giving a right to such priority might be fixed at something higher

than the highest sum to be charged—I am supposing that there will be a charge—at the opening of the Exhibition.—I am, &c. M. CREEDER.

*The New Route to Australia.*—News has been received by the Overland Mail of the arrival of the emigrant ship Constance, Capt. Godfrey, at Adelaide, from Plymouth in 77 days:—the average period of the voyage being 110 days. The track of the Constance was laid down on the principles contained in 'Tables to facilitate Great Circle Sailing,' and is in that work denominated the "composite track." This work, to which we have frequently referred, was published by the Admiralty, to whom the manuscript was presented by the author, Mr. Towson, of Devonport. By adopting this track Capt. Godfrey has effected a saving of nearly 1000 miles, and secured for his ship more favourable winds than those which are met with on the usual route.—*Standard.*

*Opening of the Britannia Tubular Bridge.*—The opening of this magnificent structure came off on Tuesday last at dawn, with the grandest success. At half-past 6 o'clock a.m., three powerful engines, of from 50 to 60-horse power each, decorated with flags of all nations and union jacks, steamed up, and, harnessed together, started from the Bangor station, carrying Mr. Stephenson, who drove the first engine through the tube, and other gentlemen. At precisely 7 o'clock the adventurous convoy, progressing at a speed of seven miles an hour, was lost sight of in the recess of the vast iron corridor. Instead of being driven through with a despatch indicative of a desire on the part of those who manned it to get in and out with the utmost expedition, the locomotives were propelled at a slow and stately pace, with the view of boldly proving, by means of a dead weight the calibre of the bridge at every hazard. The total weight of the locomotives was 90 tons. The appearance of the interior of the tube during the interesting experiment was of a novel and remarkable character. The pauses that occurred during the progress of the transit furnished an imposing view of the interior of the gigantic structure; which, as contrasted with that of a tunnel of similar length, was rendered comparatively cheerful by the recurrence at intervals of loopholes of light, which serve the three useful purposes of ventilating, lighting, and divesting the tube of steam from the passing engines. The locomotives were brought to a standstill in the centre of each of the great spans, without causing the slightest strain or deflection. The first process—that of going through the tube and returning—occupied altogether 10 minutes. The second experimental convoy that went through consisted of twenty-four heavily-laden waggons, filled with huge blocks of Brymbo coal—in all, engines included, an aggregate weight of 300 tons. This was drawn deliberately through, at the rate of from eight to ten miles an hour, the steam working at quarter power. During the passage of this experimental train through the tube, a breathless silence prevailed that was almost solemn, until the train rushed out exultingly, and with colours flying, on the other side of the tube, when loud acclamations arose, followed at intervals by the rattle of artillery down the Straits. Upon the return, which occupied about seven minutes, similar demonstrations ensued; and during the progress of the train, those who stood upon its top to ascertain any possible vibration, reported they could detect no sensible deflection. After this, Mr. Stephenson and his staff steamed up to Plas Llanfair, Mr. Foster's seat, and partook of a handsome repast. Meantime, the locomotives were passing up and down the interior of the tube without eliciting the slightest manifestation of strain. An ordeal stronger still was then resorted to: a train of 200 tons of coals was allowed to rest, with all its weight, for two hours, in the centre of the Carmarthenshire tube; and at the end of the time, on the load being removed, it was found to have caused a deflection of only four-tenths of an inch. It is remarkable that this amount of deflection is not so much as one half-hour of sunshine would produce upon the structure; it being moreover calculated with confidence that the whole bridge might with safety, and without injury to itself, be deflected to the extent of 13 inches. These loads, it is most material to remember, are immensely more than the bridge will ever be called on to bear in the ordinary run of traffic; though the engineers are of opinion that it would support with ease, and without much show of deflection, a dead weight on its centre of 1,000 tons. Twelve miles an hour is the limit of speed at which Mr. Stephenson intends that trains shall at first go through, more particularly as there are sharp curves at the termini of the tube. It being now nearly 12 o'clock, another testing train was prepared to be taken through the tube. It consisted of the three engines, the 200 tons of coal, and from 30 to 40 railway carriages, containing between 600 and 700 passengers, packed together as closely as figs in a basket, all so clamorous and eager to "go through the tube," that it became impossible to accommodate them. At length, obediently to a long wild whistle, the train, which was almost long enough to cover the extent of tube, glided slowly into the interior, saluted by a loud burst of "Rule, Britannia!" from an array of Liverpool men in aloft in the towers at the entrance, on the front of which, cut deeply in the stone, were the words "Erected Anno Domini 1850: Robert Stephenson, Engineer." As the huge train trailed slowly through the tube, successive salvos of artillery were fired at each end. This accomplished, the steam was got up, and the company assembled proceeded at the rate of 35 miles an hour, amid the magnificent scenery and snow-capped hills of Wales, to Holyhead, where they were received by all the principal townspeople, and with salutes from the steam ships in the harbour.—The effect of the recent hurricane on the calibre of the tube has proved that its lateral surface strength is sufficient, and far more than sufficient, to resist the strongest wind. It is calculated that,



taking the force of the wind at 50 lb. on the square foot—an excessive supposition—the resistance offered by the bridge would be 300 tons  $\times 2 = 600$  tons, which is not two-thirds of its own weight. The wind going at 80 miles an hour, the rush of a hurricane would only press in the ratio of 128 tons on the side. It is intended, when both tubes are up, to brace them together with stays, so as to counteract any possible oscillation.—*Times*.

**Homeric Table.**—Mr. John Henning, jun., an artist who is well known to private circles of the nobility, but whose works have been brought but little before the public, has executed a sepia drawing of the Shield of Achilles according to Homer's description. The groups comprising, as the subject implies, almost every variety of primitive Greek life, are highly elaborate, and show a close study of antique models. This drawing, which is glazed, forms a circular table; the leg of which is adorned with sculptures of Achilles, Thetis and marine attendants. The entire work, which has been made expressly for Lord Northwick, is designated the "Homeric Table."—*Times*.

**Brian Boroihme's Harp.**—It is well known that the great monarch Brian Boroihme was killed at the battle of Clontarf, A.D. 1014. He left his son Donah his harp; but Donah having murdered his brother Teige, and being deposed by his nephew, retired to Rome, and carried with him the crown, harp, and other regalia of his father. These regalia were kept in the Vatican till Pope Clement sent the harp to Henry VIII., but kept the crown, which was massive gold. Henry gave the harp to the first Earl of Clanricarde, in whose family it remained until the beginning of the eighteenth century; when it came by a lady of the De Burgh family into that of M'Mahon of Glenagh, in the county of Clare,—after whose death it passed into the possession of Councillor Macnamara of Limerick. In 1782 it was presented to the Right Hon. William Conyngham; who deposited it in Trinity College Museum, where it now is. It is 32 inches high, and of good workmanship; the sounding board is of oak; the arms of red sally; the extremity of the uppermost arm in part is capped with silver, well wrought and chiselled. It contains a large crystal set in silver, and under it was another stone, now lost.—*Tipperary Free Press*.

**Curious Epitaph in Lavenham Churchyard.**—  
Quod fuit esse, quod est, quod non fuit esse, quod esse,  
Esse quod est, non esse, quod est, non est, erit esse.  
1634.

Dr. Parr used to say he knew what it meant, but did not explain himself. Different translations were given in the *Gentleman's Magazine* some years ago. The inscription was some time back getting illegible:—no doubt the Rev. — Johnson, the rector, would have it re-cut on a proper representation made to him. The living is in the gift of Caius College.—*Cambridge Chronicle*.

**Important Discovery.**—Mr. Smith, of Deanston, has made an important discovery in the treatment of the fleeces of sheep, whereby the fleece of the living animal is rendered repellent of water by a simple and cheap process, so that the sheep are defended from the pernicious effect of wet, whilst the natural emanations from the body remain unchecked and the growth and quality of the wool are improved. The effect of this water-proofing has been practically tested on some of the most exposed sheepwalks in Scotland, and with singular success. This process, it is expected, will effectually supersede the laying with tar and butter, and other salves, at one-third of the cost, whilst the wool will be preserved white and pure. Though the laying or salving of sheep hitherto has been applied chiefly to flocks on mountainous and exposed situations only, it is believed that the new mode of treatment will be found beneficial to flocks on the most sheltered and southern pastures, and that it will go far to prevent or mitigate that destructive disease, the rot, which is neither more nor less than dysentery, caused by the continuance of wet weather, whereby the fleeces of the sheep become soaked with rain, and produce the same effect as is produced on man by wet clothing. It is also presumed that this mode of treatment will lead to the successful introduction of the Spanish sheep and the alpaca, which are known to have suffered from the prevalence of wet weather in this country.—*Times*.

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The CHAIRMAN, after congratulating the members on the large amount of new business, and the very low rate of mortality in the year, said—The remarkable prosperity and success which are shown to have attended this Society during the past year, I am disposed and feel warranted to attribute, not altogether to the fact of the distinctive principles of our Institution having become more widely known, nor to the fact that we are now a Corporation, under the high sanction and powers conferred by an Act of the Legislature, but very much also to the wise and liberal resolutions to which the Contributors came at their last Annual Meeting, for abrogating certain laws respecting forfeitures as they then stood on the Statute Book or of Constitution of the Society, and substituting others, the object and aim of which, as was well stated in the able observations of the Chairman of that Meeting, was "to make certain, as far as we possibly can, that the provision expected by an assurer will be enjoyed by his family on his death."

Mr. ALEXANDER KEITH JOHNSTON, Geographer to the Queen, in bringing up the Report by the Directors, said—It was not altogether without anxiety that your Directors entered on the duties of the year; and now that we have passed so favourably over so very trying a crisis, it may be interesting to remind you, that on the occasion when cholera first made its appearance amongst us, only seventeen years ago, so great an alarm was excited, that in this very city meetings were held at which the propriety of closing the Offices altogether during its continuance was seriously considered; and yet the amount of mortality from cholera during 1849 greatly exceeded that of 1832.

Hitherto the career of the Scottish Provident Institution has been one of unvarying success; every succeeding Report has been but an echo of that which preceded it, and its prosperity has been the theme of all. I want to witness labours all succeeding societies owe so much, I was struck by observing that while in their seventeenth year the number of Policies was less than half of what we already possess, the amount of their ascertained mortality in the year was nearly as great—being thus in the ratio of nearly two to one compared with ours.

While your Directors have endeavoured to carry on the established business of the Institution with unabated energy, they have been anxious also to accommodate some of its details to the exigencies of the times, and with special reference to those who visit distant lands. In the early days of Life Assurance little calculation was necessary for the few who ventured beyond the boundaries of Europe, and all that the then existing Offices seemed to care for was, that those who did so should pay well for their temerity. But in these days of excessive locomotion, when Europe is found to be too circumscribed even for the summer tourist—when travellers think no more of a visit to the Dead Sea, or a ramble in the Desert, than their forefathers did of a visit to London or a voyage to Fife, it is obvious that such restrictions could no longer be submitted to, and that it becomes necessary to prepare for all kinds of legitimate risks. With this view a committee,—of which I am myself convener,—has been appointed, to ascertain, in as far as possible, the value of life in extra-European countries,—the influence of climate on longevity,—and the localities visited by prevalent or periodic disease; for, notwithstanding all that has been done, it appears to me that very much still remains to be accomplished in this important branch of inquiry. I have little doubt that the result of the investigation will be such as, while it secures the undiminished safety of the Society, will give greater freedom to those of our number who, from business or pleasure, may find it necessary to overstep the usually prescribed geographical limits. It will to be remembered that, in so far as lives are concerned, the Directors, several years since, granted unlimited freedom of range in all cases where the medical attendant considered that the proposed change of climate would be beneficial.

The REPORT by the DIRECTORS showed that 567 new Policies had been issued, assuring £28,219, the Annual Premiums being £7,212. The mortality in the year, notwithstanding the prevalence of cholera, was only one per cent.

The following PROGRESSIVE VIEW of the SOCIETY'S BUSINESS in each of the last Seven Years was appended to the Report.

In Year	Number of New Policies.	Amount of New Assurances.	Premiums on these.
1843	236	£126,510	£3,348
1844	319	127,945	3,510
1845	349	142,427	3,699
1846	416	151,102	3,483
1847	472	213,632	6,171
1848	430	172,714	5,199
1849	567	238,219	7,212

The progress indicated by this Table is the more satisfactory, as it has been attained without the expenditure of any part of the funds in Commission to third parties, not the accredited Agents of the Institution.

On the motion of Mr. CHARLES LEWIS, seedsman, seconded by Mr. ALEX. GIFFORD, S.C.S.,—  
The Report was unanimously approved of.

Mr. HALL MAXWELL, of Darzavel, Secretary to the Highland and Agricultural Society of Scotland, moved that the thanks of the contributors be given to the Directors. He considered the Report had been presented in the best manner, and that the intelligence and care with which they had conducted their affairs had rejoiced to learn that it was in the view of the Directors to take the initiative in adapting the conditions of Life Assurance to the requirements of those who have occasion to travel beyond the bounds of Europe, a matter which of such every-day occurrence;—and he thought it fortunate that the investigation for this purpose was to be under the superintendence of a person so eminently qualified as Her Majesty's Geographer.

Mr. THOMAS NELSON, JUN., publisher, seconded the motion, which was cordially agreed to.

The Direction was then constituted for the ensuing year.

Copies of the full Report of the Proceedings at the Meeting will shortly be ready, and may be had on application.

JAMES WATSON, Manager.  
GEORGE GRANT, Agent and Secretary for London.  
London Office, 12, Moorgate-street.

SPECIAL NOTICE TO INTENDING ASSURERS.  
INTENDING LIFE ASSURERS are respectfully invited to compare the Principles, Rates, and whole Provisions of the SCOTTISH PROVIDENT INSTITUTION with those of any existing Company. In this Society the whole Profits are divisible among the Policy Holders, who are at the same time exempt from personal liability. It claims superiority, however, over other Mutual Offices in the following particulars:—1. Premiums at early and middle ages about a fourth lower. 2. A more accurate adjustment of the Rates of Premium to the several ages. 3. A principle in the division of the surplus more safe, equitable, and favourable to good lives. 4. Exemption from Entry Money.—All Policies indisputable unless obtained by fraud. 5. Forms of Proposal, Prospectus, containing full Tables, Reports of the Proceedings at the Annual Meetings, and every information, may be obtained (gratis) on application at the London Office, 12, Moorgate-street.

GEORGE GRANT, Agent and Secretary for London.  
\*The Twelfth Annual Report is now published, and may be had on application.

**YORKSHIRE FIRE AND LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY.** Established at York, 1824.  
Low rates are charged by this Company, thus giving an immediate benefit in the property and life of the insured.  
The Premiums for Female lives have been materially reduced.  
Fire Insurances on favourable terms.  
Prospectuses may be had of the  
London Agent:  
Mr. Henry Dinsdale, 13, Wellington-street, Strand,  
Or Mr. W. L. NEWMAN,  
Actuary and Secretary, York.

THIRD SEPTENNIAL BONUS.  
**CROWN LIFE ASSURANCE COMPANY,**  
33, New Bridge-street, Blackfriars, London.  
Directors:  
George H. Hooper, Esq., Chairman.  
John Kirkland, Esq., Vice-Chairman.  
Thomas Harrison, Esq.  
James Hunter, Esq.  
John Nelson, Esq.  
Octavius Ommamney, Esq.  
Alexander Stewart, Esq.  
William Whitmore, Esq.  
William Wilson, Esq.  
Auditors: J. C. H. Colquhoun, Esq.; W. H. Göschen, Esq.; James Mitchell, Esq.  
Physician—Sir C. F. Forbes, M.D. K.C.S., 23, Argyll-street.  
Surgeon—John Simon, Esq., F.R.C.S., Lancaster-place, Strand.  
Standing Counsel—Charles Ellis, Esq.  
Solicitors—Messrs. Hale, Boys & Austen.  
Bankers—Bank of England.  
Advisory: J. M. Rainbow, Esq.

On a THIRD SEPTENNIAL INVESTIGATION into the affairs of this Company, to the 25th March, 1846, a BONUS, amounting on the average to 31 per cent. on the Premiums paid for the preceding Seven Years, was assigned to all Policies of at least Three Years' standing, and effected for the whole duration of life.  
To similar Policies the following BONUSES were declared at former Divisions, viz:  
FIRST DIVISION, IN 1832.  
On the average, upwards of 26 per cent. on the Premiums paid.  
SECOND DIVISION, IN 1839.  
On the average, 33 per cent. on the Premiums paid for the preceding Seven Years.  
THE ADVANTAGES OF THIS OFFICE, among others, are:  
1. A participation septennially in two-thirds of the Profits, which may be applied either in reduction of the Premium, or to augment the sum assured.  
2. Premiums may be paid in a limited number of annual sums, instead of by instalments for the whole of life; the Policy continuing to participate in profits after the payment of such Premiums has ceased.  
3. The Assurance or Premium Fund is not subject to any charge for Interest to Proprietors.  
4. Permission to pass to Continental Ports between *Brest* and the *Elbe* inclusive.  
5. Parties (including Officers of the Army, Navy, East India Company, and Merchant Service), may be assured to reside in or proceed to all parts of the World, at Premiums calculated on real data.  
6. Claims to be paid within three months.  
7. The Assured may dispose of their Policies to the Company.  
8. No charge but for Policy Stamps.  
The Prospectus, Tables of Rates, &c. to be had at the Office in London, or of the Company's Agents.

T. G. CONYERS, Secretary.

**DENT'S IMPROVED WATCHES & CLOCKS.**  
—E. J. DENT, Watch and Clock Maker by distinct appointment to the Queen, H.R.H. Prince Albert, and H.I.M. the Emperor of Russia, most respectfully solicits from the public an inspection of his extensive STOCK of WATCHES and CLOCKS, embracing by the late modern improvements of the most economical charges. Ladies' Gold Watches, with gold dials, jewelled in four holes, 8 guineas. Gentlemen's, with enamelled dials, 10 guineas. Youths, Silver Watches, 4 guineas. Warranted substantial and accurate going Lever Watches, jewelled in four holes, 6 guineas.—E. J. DENT, 23, Strand, 33, Cockspur-street, and 34, Royal Exchange Clock Tower Area.

**SELF-SEALING ENVELOPES, 1s. per 100;**  
Cream-laid Note Paper, 5 quires for 9d.; Large size ditto, 5 quires for 1s.; Plain Envelopes to match, 9d. per 100. Best Sealing Wax, 14 sticks for 1s. Card Paper engraved for 2s. 6d.; 100 best Cards printed for 2s. 6d. choice Collection of Dressing Cases, Writing and Travelling Cases, Work Boxes, Envelope Boxes, Blotting Books, Inkstands, Cutlery, &c., at WILLIAM LOCKWOOD'S, 75, New Bond-street, near Oxford-street. Remittances for 30s. sent carriage free.  
\*The finest Eau de Cologne imported at 2s. per bottle, or 11s. per case of six bottles.

**ELKINGTON and CO. THE PATENTEES.**  
beg respectfully to intimate to their friends and the public generally, that they have added to their extensive assortment of ELECTRO PLATE, an important variety of SILVER, GILT, and BRONZE PROTRAIERS, in the highest class of Art, including  
SIDEBOARD, TABLE, AND OTHER PLATE, BUSTS, VASES, AND BAS-RELIEFS.  
Also Figures from the Antique, and from the Designs of EMINENT MODERN ARTISTS.

The whole of the above Article are manufactured by Messrs. ELKINGTON & CO. on new and scientific principles, their object being to produce and perpetuate, at the lowest possible cost, the best examples of Ancient and Modern Art. A visit to their Establishment will amply repay both the artist and connoisseur.  
22, Regent-street, corner of J. & M. street, } London.  
46, Moorgate-street.  
Manufacturers, Newhall-street, Birmingham.  
N.B. Replating and repairing as usual.  
Estimates, Drawings, and Prices sent free.

**IMPORTANT NOTICE.**—Emigrants are informed MARY WEDLAKE & CO. have from time to time supplied the first settlers to Swan River, Port Natal, and all the Australian Colonies, with AGRICULTURAL IMPLEMENTS; they beg an inspection of their stock at 118, Fenchurch-street, near the Brompton Railway. N.B. Persons becoming purchasers may have the benefit of an introduction to parties known to the firm at either of the above-named places.

**IMPROVEMENTS IN DRESS.**—J. STOVEL  
invites gentlemen to inspect his improvements in the make of Coats. The PATENT SELF-ACTING SLEEVE combines utility with elegance and extreme simplicity.—It can be applied to every description of Coat, Plain or Regimental; also to Ladies' Riding Habits. The PATENT DOUBLE-FRONTED OVER-COAT is a perfect protection from wet when walking, riding or driving, and forms a complete covering for the knees in a railway or other carriage.—These improvements may be obtained through any respectable Tailor, or of the Patentee, 153, New Bond-street.

**SUPERIOR SHEFFIELD PLATED DISH COVERS,** with strong silver mountings and silver shields for engraving the crest or coat of arms.

TABLE DISH COVERS.		
	Light Plating.	Heavy Plating.
The Gadroon pattern..... per set	£12 0 0	£15 10 0
The shaped Montrose pattern, do.	12 6 0	16 17 6
The Grosvenor pattern..... do.	15 0 0	20 6 0
The Albert pattern..... do.	15 0 0	20 6 0
The Gordon pattern..... do.	12 6 0	16 17 6
The above sets comprise four dish covers—viz. one 20-inch, one 18-inch, and two 14-inch.		

A. B. SAVORY & SONS, Manufacturing Silversmiths, 14, Cornhill, London, opposite the Bank of England.

**METCALFE & CO.'S NEW PATTERN TOOTH BRUSH AND SMYRNA SPONGES.**—The Tooth Brush has the important advantage of searching thoroughly into the divisions of the teeth, and cleaning them in the most effectual and extraordinary manner, and is famous for the hair not coming loose, &c. An improved Clothes Brush, that cleans in a third part of the usual time, and incapable of injuring the finest nap. Penetrating Hair Brushes, with the durable unbleached Russian bristles, which do not soften like common hair. Flesh Brushes of improved graduated and powerful friction. Velvet Brushes, which set in the most surprising and successful manner. The genuine Smyrna Sponge, with its preserved valuable properties of absorption, vitality, and durability, by means of direct importations, dispensing with all intermediate parties' profits and destructive bleaching, and securing the luxury of a genuine Smyrna Sponge. Only at METCALFE, BINGLEY & Co.'s Sole Establishment, 30 n. Oxford-street, one door from Holles-street.

Caution.—Beware of the words "From Metcalfe's" adopted by some houses.  
**METCALFE'S ALKALINE TOOTH POWDER.** 2s. per box.

**THE TEETH.**—A very curious invention connected with Dental Surgery has been introduced by Mr. HOWARD, of 17, George-street, Hanover-square. It is the introduction of an entirely new description of ARTIFICIAL TEETH, fixed without springs, wires, or ligatures. They so perfectly resemble natural teeth, as not to be distinguished from the originals by the closest observer. They will never change colour or decay, and will be found very superior to any teeth ever before used. This method does not require the extraction of roots, or any painful operation, and will support and preserve the teeth that are loose, and is guaranteed to surpass any method of artificial teeth in the art. The inventor deserves the notice of the scientific and is of importance to many persons; and those who are interested in it cannot do better than avail themselves of Mr. Howard's skill as a dentist.

**DEAFNESS.**—New Discovery.—THE ORGANIC VIBRATOR, an extraordinarily powerful, small, newly-invented instrument, for deafness, entirely different from all others, to surpass any of the kind that has been, but has been probably ever can be produced. It is modelled to the ear, so that it rests within, without projecting. Being of the same colour as the skin, is not perceptible. Enables deaf persons to enjoy general conversation, to hear distinctly at church and at public assemblies. The unpleasant sensation of singing noises in the ears entirely removed, and it affords all the assistance that possibly could be desired. Also, invaluable newly-invented SPECTACLES.—S. & R. OLOMONS, Aurists and Opticians, 39, Albemarle-street, Piccadilly.

**BEAUTIFUL TEETH.**  
**ROWLAND'S ODONTO, or PEARL DENTIFRICE.** A Whitte Powder, compounded of the choicest and most recheché ingredients of the Oriental Herbal. It eradicates tartar from the teeth, and thus lends a salutary growth and freshness to the gums. It removes from the surface of the teeth the spots of incipient decay, polishes and preserves the enamel, imparting the most pure and pearl-like whiteness; while, from its salubrious and disinfesting qualities, it gives sweetness and perfume to the breath. Being an anti-scurbutic, the gums also share in its corrective powers; scurvy is eradicated from the teeth if loose are thus rendered firm in their sockets. Its truly efficient and fragrant aromatic properties have obtained its selection by the Queen, the Court and Royal Family of Great Britain, and the Sovereigns and Nobility throughout Europe.—Price 2s. 9d. per box.

CAUTION.—The genuine article has the words "ROWLAND'S ODONTO," on the wrapper, and the Proprietors' Name and Address, thus—"A. ROWLAND & SON, 29, HAYWARD-GARAGE," are also engraved on the Government Stamp, which is affixed on each box. Sold by them, and by Chemists and Perfumers.

**NO MORE GRAY HAIR.**—The most wonderful discovery of the present age is the COLUMBIAN INSTANTANEOUS HAIR DYE. In an instant it changes red or gray hair to the permanent and natural color of the hair, staining the skin. Its application is most simple; it is as harmless and scentless as pure water, and yet its extraordinary power upon the hair is so effective and instantaneous that the hair is colored permanently the moment it is touched by the dye, leaving no unsightly or plausible as before its application. UNWIN ALBERT, Court-dressers, 24, Piccadilly, are sole agents for the sale of this inimitable hair dye. They have private rooms and experienced assistants in attendance to apply the dye.—Sold in boxes, at 7s. 6d. and 10s. 6d. each.

**AN EXCELLENT CURE OF A DISORDER IN THE STOMACH EFFECTED BY HOLLOWAY'S PILLS.**—A lady, an intimate friend of the family of General Rosette Governor of the Republic of La Plata, declares that she was lately cured of a disorder in the stomach, and restored to perfect health, by the use of this admirable remedy. She had consulted the most eminent physicians in the country, but had not been able to obtain any relief from the complaint that was killing her by inches, until she took Holloway's Pills. John Eastman, Esq., an eminent merchant of Buenos Ayres, communicated these particulars to Professor Holloway, in a letter dated 31 September, 1849.—Sold by all druggists; and at Professor Holloway's establishment, 244 Strand, London.



# RARE, CHOICE, MOST VALUABLE, AND INTERESTING BOOKS

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THE FOURTH SELECTION FROM THE EXTENSIVE AND UNRIVALLED STOCK OF  
THOMAS THORPE, 13, HENRIETTA STREET, COVENT GARDEN, LONDON.

The whole are in the finest possible condition, and warranted perfect.

**Borlase (Will.),** Natural History of Cornwall, its Produce and Climate, Mines, the Constitution of the Stannaries, Iron, Copper, Silver, Lead, and Gold found there, of its Inhabitants their Manners, Customs, Plays, Interludes, Festivals, &c. with plates. Oxford, 1758. Antiquities, Historical and Monumental, of the County of Cornwall, its first Inhabitants, Druid Superstition, Customs, and Remains of the most remote Antiquities, with Vocabulary of the Cornish-English Language, 1761, best edition, 2 vols. folio, fine copy, uniform in Russia, marbled edges, 5l. 5s.

**Burton's Description of Leicestershire**, containing matters of Antiquity, History, Armory, and Genealogy, frontispiece by Delapan, and maps, folio, with numerous interesting Manuscript Notes, additions to the Pedigrees, and many hundred drawings of arms, 4l. 14s. 6d. 1622  
\* \* \* A very interesting and valuable copy to the County Collector.

**Drake (Francis),** Eboracum; or, the History and Antiquities of the City of York, together with the History of the Cathedral Church and the Lives of the Archbishops of that See, plates folio, original Subscription copy of Browne Willis, with his Autograph, and a few Manuscript Notes by him, neat, 4l. 5s. 1736

**Lewis (John),** History and Antiquities, Ecclesiastical and Civil, of the Isle of Tenet, in Kent, best edition, portrait, maps, and plates, 4to. neat, 2l. 12s. 6d. 1736

**Lewis.—**Another copy, upon large paper, portrait, maps, and plates, 4to. neat, rare, 4l. 14s. 6d. 1736

**Lysons's (Sam.),** Collection of Gloucestershire Antiquities, fine oil impressions, large paper, many plates, some coloured, 2 vols. atlas folio, bds. uncut, 4l. 14s. 6d. 1791—1804

**Plot (Robert),** Natural History of Staffordshire, map and plates, folio, with long Manuscript Note in the Autograph of Browne Willis, and a page very closely written, containing a list of the dedications of the Churches and Chapels in the County of Stafford in 1733, very neat, with the Arms of Browne Willis stamped on the sides, 5l. 5s. Oxford, 1686

**Hearn.—**Roberti de Avesbury Historia de Mirabilibus Gestis Edwardi III., accedunt Libri Saxonicæ, qui ad manus Jo. Joscelini venerunt et Nomina eorum qui scripserunt historiam gentis Anglorum, e Codicibus MSS. descriptis edidit T. Hearne, large paper, 8vo. fine tall copy, neat, very rare, 4l. 11s. 6d. Oxon. 1720  
\* \* \* Only a few copies printed on large paper. Sold in Gough's sale for 11l. 11s.

**Hearne (Thos.),** The Itinerary of John Leland, the Antiquary, published from the Original MSS. by Thomas Hearne; to which is prefixed, Mr. Leland's New Year's Gift, with Discourse concerning some Antiquities lately found in Yorkshire, third edition, 9 vols. 8vo. large paper, very fine in clean copy, bds. uncut, 4l. 14s. 6d. Oxford, 1768  
\* \* \* Many interesting particulars will be found illustrative of most counties in the above volumes.

**Willis (Browne),** History and Antiquities of the Town, Hundred, and Deanery of Buckingham, containing a Description of the Towns, Villages, Hamlets, Monasteries, Churches, Chapels, Chantries, Seats, Manors, Owners thereof, Arms, Inscriptions, &c. in all the Parish Churches; State of the Rectories, Vicarages, &c.; also an account of the Earls and Dukes of Buckingham, Sheriffs, &c. of the County; with transcript of Doomsday Book, Records, &c. 4to. fine copy, in old calf gilt, the Author's copy, preserved for his own study, 4l. 4s. the present, and which was presumed to be unique, sold in Marsh's sale for 15l. 15s.

\* \* \* Sold in Dr. Heath's sale for 17l.

Another copy, with interesting Additions in the Author's Autograph, unpublished, 4to. half-bound neat, 3l. 5s. 16. 1755

**Carve (Thomæ)** Itinerarium per diversas Europæ partes, cum Historiâ Butteri, Gordon, Lesly, et aliorum, 2 vols. 12mo. morocco, gilt edges, very rare, 4l. 5s. Moguntia, 1640—1

\* \* \* The Author visited England, passing through Bristol, Reading, and Windsor, to London; where he was much struck with the grandeur of St. Paul's, the River Thames, London Bridge, the Tower and its contents, also the Custom House, Westminster Abbey, Whitehall, &c. The account of Ireland, also, is very curious; but it appears to have given much displeasure to his countrymen, as in the second volume are two letters by Carve, in English, in justification of himself.

**Lombardi (Petri)** De Regno Hiberniæ Sanctorum Insula Commentarius, 4to. vellum, 6l. 6s. Lovanii, 1633  
\* \* \* Very scarce, having been suppressed by proclamation of Lord Stafford, Lord Lieutenant of Ireland.

**Stafford (Thomas),** Pacata Hibernia, Ireland Appeased and Reduced, or a History of the late Wars in Ireland, under the Government of Sir George Carew, Lord Carew of Clifton, and Earl of Totnes, wherein the Siege of Kinsale, the Defeat of the Earl of Tyrone and his Army, the Expulsion and Sending Home of Jo. de Aquila, the Spanish General, with his Forces, with the remarkable Passages of the time, are related, with brilliant impressions of the portraits of Queen Elizabeth and the Earl of Totnes, and all the maps, folio, very fine copy, Russia elegant, with joints, gilt edges, 5l. 5s. 1633

\* \* \* The Map of Munster is generally wanting.

**Scotland.—**Memorials of Transactions in Scotland from 1569 to 1773, by Richard Bannatyne, Secretary to John Knox, privately printed, 4to. morocco elegant, tooled on the sides, gilt edges, scarce, 4l. 13s. 6d. Edinburgh, 1836

General Catalogue of Books, with Unrivalled Collection of Early English Poetry, Romances, Jests, and other Books of Wit and Drollery, just published, may now be had, and the former Lists; also a Catalogue of Ancient Manuscripts, upon application to Thomas Thorpe, 13, Henrietta street, Covent-garden, London, or sent per post, free, on receiving six postage stamps to pre-pay each.

**Pretenders.—**An extensive, curious, and valuable Collection of Thirty-eight Tracts relative to the Pretenders and the Rebellions in 1715 and 1745, including Patten's History; Register of the Rebellion; Escape of the Prince after the Battle of Culloden; Rights of the House of Stuart to the Crown of Scotland; Claims of the Pretender, and his Designs; Trials of the Earls of Kilmarnock and Cromartie, and Arthur Lord Bannerman, the Young Adventurer, his Memoirs; Lives of Dr. Cameron, Archibald McDonald, and other Adherents to the Pretenders, a most interesting, extensive, and scarce series, with portraits, in 4 vols. 8vo. fine copies, uniform in calf, 17l. 2s. 3d.

\* \* \* Such a collection as the present would be very difficult to collect, many of the Tracts having become very scarce.

**Bee (The),** or Literary Weekly Intelligencer, consisting of Original Pieces and Selections from Performances of Merit, Foreign and Domestic, by Dr. Anderson, in Verse and Prose, with many portraits and plates, complete, 18 vols. 8vo. very neat, 4l. 5s. Edinburgh, 1791

**Scotland.—**Extracta e Variis Cronicis Scotiæ, now first edited from an ancient Manuscript in the Advocates' Library at Edinburgh, privately printed, 4to. boards, uncut, scarce, 3l. 3s. Edinburgh, 1842  
\* \* \* A most interesting and valuable Historical Volume.

**Drummond (John),** Memoirs of Sir Ewen Cameron of Lochiel, Chief of the Clan Cameron, with an Introductory Account of the History and Antiquities of that Family and of the neighbouring Clans, edited from a MS. by James Macknight, portrait, privately printed, 4to. boards, uncut, scarce, 3l. 3s. Edinburgh, 1842

**Wallace (Sir Will.),** Collection of Documents illustrative of the Life of this Valiant Scotchman, Original Charters, Letters, &c. List of the Nobility at the Siege of Stirling Castle, 4to. boards, 3l. 3s. Edinburgh, 1841

**Row (John),** Historie of the Kirk of Scotland, with Continuation and Additions, by W. Row, now first printed from the Original MSS., 2 vols. 4to. boards, uncut, 3l. 3s. Edinburgh, 1842

**Josephi Opera Omnia, Gr. et Lat.,** cum Notis et Nova Versione Jo. Hudsoni, etiam Notis Variorum, curâ Havercampi, large paper, 2 vols. folio, very fine copy, in beautiful old French calf gilt, gilt and marbled edges, 4l. 15s. 6d. Amst. 1726

**Dionysii Halicarnassensis Antiquitates Romanæ,** et alia Opera, Gr. et Lat. curâ Hudsoni, large paper, 2 vols. folio, very fine copy, in beautiful old Russian, gilt, 6l. 6s. Oxonia, 1794  
\* \* \* A correct and magnificent edition. Sold in the Duke of Grafton's Sale for 12l. 12s.; the Duke of Roxburgh's, for 15l.; and Dr. Askew's, for 15l. 10s.

**Oxford.—**Jackson's Oxford Journal, from 1792 to 1806, inclusive, in 11 vols. folio, half bound, very scarce. (Not in the British Museum.) 5l. 5s. Oxford, 1792—1806  
\* \* \* Containing a vast body of most valuable historical and biographical materials relating to Church and State, country and family history, degrees, preferments, and other matters relating to the University, not to be obtained from other sources.

**Zamberto (Bartholomeo)** Isolario, curious woodcut maps, 4to. remarkably fine copy, elegantly bound in morocco, gilt edges, extremely rare, 5l. 5s. senza nota (Venet. circa 1471)  
\* \* \* This very rare and interesting volume consists of a collection of sonnets on the navigation of the Grecian Archipelago, with charts on the opposite pages, and the outlines only engraved, and the names of the several places left blank, to be inserted with the pen by the navigator. A copy, similar to the present, and which was presumed to be unique, sold in Marsh's sale for 15l. 15s.

**Voyage (Le Grant)** de Hierusalem, divise en deux parties, en la premiere est traite des Perergrinations de la Sainte Gite de Hierusalem, du Mont Saincte Katherine de Sinaï, et autres lieux saintz, &c.; en la seconde partie est traite des Croisades et Entreprises faictes par les Roys et Princes Chrestiens pour la reconvrance de la Terre Saincte, comme Charles Martel, Pepin, Charlemaigne, Godofroy de Bouillon, et autres qui ont conquis le cite de Hierusalem; des Guerres des Turcz et Tartarins, la Prinsse de Constantinople, du Sieze de Rhodes, la Prinsse de Grenade, &c. with curious woodcuts, 4to. fine copy, old calf gilt, marbled edges, rare, 5l. 5s. Paris, Regnault, 1622

**Spanish Armada.—**Triumphalia de Victoriâ Elisabethæ Anglorum, Francorum, Hybernorumque Regine Augustissimæ, Fidei Defensoris Acerrimæ, contra classem Insuperatissimam Philippî Hispaniarum Regis, 4to. fine copy, extra, marbled edges, scarce, 4l. 15s. 6d. London, 1605

\* \* \* This very interesting volume of poems, commences with one addressed to Queen Elizabeth, in which Sir Francis Drake, The Lord High Admiral Howard, Sir Martin Frobisher, and other illustrious persons, are noticed, then follow other Poems by various Authors, on the Victory of the English fleet over the Spanish Armada, Odes, Epigrams, &c. It contains also an introductory Poem to Daniel Rogers, a Latin Poet of considerable celebrity, and a native of Warwickshire. I cannot trace the sale of another copy.

**Davies (Will.),** True Relation of the Travels and most miserable Captivity of William Davies, Barber Surgeon of London, Discovering many Mayne Landes, Islands, Rivers, Cities and Townes, of the Christians and Infidels, the Condition of the People and Manner of their Government, and many more strange things, black letter, 4to. elegantly bound in morocco, gilt edges, very rare and curious, 5l. 15s. 6d. 1614  
\* \* \* Sold in Mr. Jadin's sale for 7l. 7s. The author was a native of Hereford, and brother to the celebrated poet of that city.

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# THE LONDON ARTIST

Journal of English and Foreign Literature, Science, and the Fine Arts.

No. 1168.

LONDON, SATURDAY, MARCH 16, 1850.

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The Election to this Office will take place on WEDNESDAY, the 3rd of APRIL; and Candidates must announce their names to the Registrar on or before the 27th instant.

By order of the Senate.

H. W. ROTHMAN, (Registrar.)

Somerset House, March 13, 1850.

## UNIVERSITY COLLEGE, LONDON.—

**ELEMENTARY COURSE OF BOTANY.**  
PROFESSOR LINDLEY will commence a COURSE of LECTURES on BOTANY, to a JUNIOR CLASS, on MONDAY, March 19, at 8 o'clock A.M. Subject.—The Distinctions between the Principal Natural Classes and Orders of Plants belonging to the Flora of Europe.

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March 12, 1850.

## ROYAL ACADEMY OF ARTS, TRAFALGAR-SQUARE.—NOTICE TO ARTISTS.

All works of Painting, Sculpture, or Architecture intended for the ensuing EXHIBITION at the ROYAL ACADEMY must be sent in on MONDAY the 8th, or by SIX o'clock in the Evening of TUESDAY the 9th of April, after which time no work can possibly be received; nor can any works be received which have already been publicly exhibited.

The other Regulations necessary to be observed may be obtained at the Royal Academy.

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444, West Strand, March 18, 1850.

## MINERALOGY APPLIED TO THE ARTS.

At the LONDON INSTITUTION, FINCHBURGH-CIRCUS, on MONDAYS, March 18th and 25th, Mr. E. W. BRAGLEY, jun., F.R.S., F.G.S., and F.C.S., Associate of the Institution of Civil Engineers, will deliver, in continuation of his COURSE on the MINERALOGY of ENGINEERING and the ARTS, two Lectures on the NATURAL HISTORY, PROPERTIES, APPLICATIONS and PRODUCTS of PEAT.

## SOCIETY FOR THE ENCOURAGEMENT OF

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Society's House, March 14, 1850.

## TO ARCHITECTS and ENGINEERS.—

H.M. Commissioners invite Suggestions for the Building to be erected for the Exhibition of Industry of all Nations in 1851; and NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that the Plan of the Ground to be set apart in Hyde Park, with the necessary printed papers, may be had on application at No. 1, Old Palace-yard.

## BRADFORD FIRST SUBSCRIPTION.

**EXHIBITION OF INDUSTRY OF ALL NATIONS, 1851.**  
At a Meeting of the Bradford Committee for Promoting the above Exhibition, held in the Exchange Buildings, on March 13th, 1850, H. FORBES, Esq., Mayor, in the Chair:

The following Resolutions were unanimously adopted—  
1. That the following gentlemen be requested to act as a Committee to canvas the inhabitants of the town for subscriptions: the Mayor, Messrs. Alderman Salt, S. Smith, Brown, Messrs. John Rand, S. Laycock, D. Peckover, E. Halliwell, J. Schrens, C. Johnson, G. Taylor, J. Dalby, W. H. Birchall, S. L. Tee.

Moved by Mr. Alderman S. Smith, seconded by S. Laycock, Esq.

2. The Mayor having stated that it was his intention to be in London during the ensuing week—Resolved, that the meeting request that the Mayor will take that opportunity of having an interview with the Royal Commissioners and Executive Committee, to explain the views of this Committee in reference to the arrangements for the Exhibition.

Moved by H. W. RIPLEY, Esq., seconded by J. RAND, Esq.

The following Subscriptions have already been entered into—

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## REVIEWS

*History of Greece.* By George Grote, Esq. Vols. VII. and VIII. Murray.

IN these volumes Mr. Grote carries on the History of Greece from the Peace of Nicias (B.C. 421) to the close of the Peloponnesian War (B.C. 404). At this rate of progress, it will require several volumes more to bring down the narrative to the point at which we believe Mr. Grote means to stop, and at which Grecian History proper may be considered as concluding—the death of Alexander the Great (B.C. 323). No one, however, who has read these and the previous volumes will regret this length and copiousness in a work so honourable to the literature and scholarship of our country. On the contrary, it would be matter for disappointment to all the reading part of the community if Mr. Grote were in the subsequent part of his task to abate in the slightest degree that full and large style of treatment by which the volumes already written are characterized. Not soon again, we may be sure, will the great subject of Greek history be undertaken by a man uniting so many qualifications for treating it worthily; it is every way desirable, therefore, that Mr. Grote, now that he is thus engaged, should fairly exhaust himself of all that he knows or thinks in connexion with it. Should he finish his work in the same spirit and with the same care that he has hitherto displayed, not Germany herself will be able to exhibit a historical performance more solid, more philosophic, more thoroughly accomplished according to its method.

The volumes before us, treating of one of the most important and eventful periods of Grecian history, are profoundly interesting. It is a fact, we believe, that not even M. Thiers's 'History of the Empire,' recording, as it does, events with the consequences of which the world is yet thrilling, and indebted as it is for much of its liveliness to the abundance of existing materials, will be read with more avidity and pleasant excitement than the narrative contained in these two volumes, the theme of which is as old as the hills, and the preparation of which was a work of hard labour and scholarly research. This is partly to the credit of Mr. Grote,—partly to the credit of that enduring enthusiasm with which cultivated men must ever pronounce the name or follow the destinies of Imperial Athens. The Fall of that city, the Dissolution of the ancient Athenian Empire—such is the story of these two volumes. How the so-called Peace of Nicias, by which (B.C. 421) the Athenians and the Spartans agreed to a suspension of hostilities for fifty years, totally failed in its objects, and was at length brought to an abrupt close by the resolution of the Athenians (B.C. 415) to attack Syracuse, (a resolution in the formation of which Alcibiades, then just entering into public life, had the largest share),—how the Syracusan expedition, the largest and most brilliant that Athens had ever fitted out, was brought (B.C. 413) to a disastrous and ignominious end, partly by the courage and skill of the Syracusans assisted by the Lacedæmonians as allies, partly by the gross incompetence of Nicias,—how, in consequence of this defeat, Athens was reduced to great straits, and the prestige of her influence among the Hellenic states was all but dissipated,—how, in this emergency, when the very existence of Athens was threatened by a combination between the Spartans and the Persians, a conspiracy was formed among her own citizens for the overthrow of her democratic constitution, and an Oligarchy of Four Hundred was violently established (B.C. 411), by whom overtures of

submission were made to Sparta,—how the Oligarchy was crushed after it had ruled four months, and the Democracy was restored,—how, at this juncture, Alcibiades, who had been driven into exile by an accusation of irreligion (B.C. 414), and who had in the interval been the soul of all the opposition of the Lacedæmonians, was detached from the enemy and restored to the Athenian service, on the supposition, fostered by himself, that he would be able by his influence with Tissaphernes, one of the Persian satraps of Asia Minor, to transfer the weight of the Persian alliance from the Lacedæmonian to the Athenian scale,—how, although this expectation of Persian help was disappointed, the ability of Alcibiades and of the other Athenian commanders, and the determination of the Athenians themselves, did much to retrieve what Athens had lost by the Syracusan expedition,—how, in consequence of a defeat sustained by his lieutenant in a sea-battle at Notium, Alcibiades (B.C. 407) was deprived of his command, and driven again into exile, ten generals being named to succeed him,—how, in spite of partial successes, the Athenian cause declined from that day, assailed by the united resources of Lysander, the Spartan general, and Cyrus the younger, who had just been appointed by his father satrap of Lydia, Phrygia, Cappadocia,—how, by the destruction of the Athenian fleet by Lysander, at Ægospotami (Sept. 405 B.C.), the Athenian empire received its last blow, and the city was placed at the mercy of the Spartans,—and how, finally, under Spartan auspices, the constitution was put down in the city, and a government of thirty men, of the oligarchical party, known afterwards as "the Thirty Tyrants," was established in its stead,—which government, however, was, after a short duration, abolished:—such are the successive topics of this momentous narrative. The personages of Grecian history casually exhibited, or elaborately reviewed in it, are,—among the Athenians, Nicias, Alcibiades, Antiphon, Theramenes, Socrates, Critias, Thrasybulus, and others of less note,—among the Lacedæmonians, Gylippus, Agis II., Callicratidas and Lysander.

At the opening of the seventh volume, the two principal personages in the field are Nicias and Alcibiades:—Nicias, at the head of the aristocratic and philo-Laconian party, at Athens, anxious at all costs to maintain the peace which he had just established,—and Alcibiades, a young man, notorious for his splendid profligacy, bent on committing Athens to some new career of conquest that might provide a great command for himself, and constituting himself for that purpose the temporary leader of the democracy. The struggle between the two leaders lasted for some years; during which the spirit of their respective parties ran at one time so high that it was proposed to have recourse to a vote of ostracism—the established plan in Athens and in other Athenian states for bringing such otherwise insoluble controversies to a close. The story of this, the last ostracism that took place in Athens, is somewhat comic,—and is thus told by Mr. Grote.—

"The proposition (probably made by the partisans of Nicias, since Alcibiades was the person most likely to be reputed dangerous) was adopted by the people. Hyperbolus the lamp-maker, son of Chremês, a speaker of considerable influence in the public assembly, strenuously supported it, hating Nicias not less than Alcibiades. Hyperbolus is named by Aristophanês as having succeeded Kleon in the mastership of the rostrum in the Pnyx; if this were true, his supposed demagogic pre-eminence would commence about September, 422 B.C., the period of the death of Kleon. Long before that time, however, he had been among the chief butts of the comic authors, who ascribe to him the same baseness, dis-

honesty, impudence, and malignity in accusation, as that which they fasten upon Kleon, though in language which seems to imply an inferior idea of his power. \* \* At the time when the resolution was adopted at Athens, to take a vote of ostracism, suggested by the political dissension between Nicias and Alcibiades, about twenty-four years had elapsed since a similar vote had been resorted to; the last example having been that of Periklês and Thucydides, son of Mèlèsius, the latter of whom was ostracised about 442 B.C. The democratical constitution had become sufficiently confirmed to lessen materially the necessity for ostracism as a safeguard against individual usurpers; moreover, there was now full confidence in the numerous Dikasteries as competent to deal with the greatest of such criminals—thus abating the necessity as conceived in men's minds, not less than the real necessity for such precautionary intervention. Under such a state of things, altered reality as well as altered feeling, we are not surprised to find that the vote of ostracism now invoked, though we do not know the circumstances which immediately preceded it, ended in an abuse, or rather in a sort of parody, of the ancient preventive. At a moment of extreme heat of party dispute the friends of Alcibiades probably accepted the challenge of Nicias and concurred in supporting a vote of ostracism; each hoping to get rid of the opponent. The vote was accordingly decreed, but before it actually took place, the partisans of both changed their views and preferred to let the political dissension proceed without closing it by separating the combatants. But the ostracising vote, having been formally pronounced could not now be prevented from taking place; it was always, however, perfectly general in its form, admitting of any citizen being selected for temporary banishment. Accordingly the two opposing parties, each doubtless including various clubs or Hetæries, and according to some accounts, the friends of Phæax also, united to turn the vote against some one else; and they fixed upon a man whom all of them jointly disliked.—Hyperbolus. By thus concurring, they obtained a sufficient number of votes against him to pass the sentence, and he was sent into temporary banishment. But such a result was in no one's contemplation when the vote was decreed to take place, and Plutarch even represents the people as clapping their hands at it as a good joke. It was presently recognized by every one, seemingly even by the enemies of Hyperbolus, as a gross abuse of the ostracism. And the language of Thucydides himself distinctly implies this—for if we even grant that Hyperbolus fully deserved the censure which that historian bestows, no one could treat his presence as dangerous to the commonwealth; nor was the ostracism introduced to meet low dishonesty or wickedness. It was, even before, passing out of the political morality of Athens; and this sentence consummated its extinction, so that we never hear of it as employed afterwards."

Notwithstanding the strenuous opposition of Nicias, the Syracusan expedition was resolved on; and Nicias himself, with Alcibiades and Lamachus, were appointed to the command. Alcibiades, however, having been recalled to take his trial for sacrilege, the conduct of the expedition devolved on Nicias and Lamachus,—and after the death of Lamachus, on Nicias and his old fellow-general Demosthenes. The story of the expedition is told at great length by Mr. Grote:—the proceedings of the siege of Syracuse being illustrated by two maps. After narrating the sad catastrophe, he appends the following estimate of the character of the man to whose errors it was chiefly owing.—

"The esteem and admiration felt at Athens towards Nicias had been throughout lofty and unshaken: after his death it was exchanged for disgrace. His name was omitted, while that of his colleague Demosthenês was engraved on the funeral pillar erected to commemorate the fallen warriors. This difference Pausanias explains by saying that Nicias was conceived to have disgraced himself as a military man by his voluntary surrender, which Demosthenês had disdained. The opinion of Thucydides deserves special notice, in the face of this



judgment of his countrymen. While he says not a word about Demosthenes, beyond the fact of his execution, he adds in reference to Nikias a few words of marked sympathy and commendation. 'Such, or nearly such,' (he says) 'were the reasons why Nikias was put to death; though he assuredly, among all Greeks of my time, least deserved to come to so extreme a pitch of ill-fortune, considering his exact performance of established duties to the divinity.' If we were judging Nikias merely as a private man, and setting his personal conduct in one scale against his personal suffering on the other, the remark of Thucydides would be natural and intelligible. But the general of a great expedition, upon whose conduct the lives of thousands of brave men as well as the most momentous interests of his country depend, cannot be tried by any such standard. His private merit becomes a secondary point in the case, as compared with the discharge of his responsible public duties, by which he must stand or fall. Tried by this more appropriate standard, what are we to say of Nikias? We are compelled to say, that if his personal suffering could possibly be regarded in the light of an atonement, or set in an equation against the mischief brought by himself both on his army and his country—it would not be greater than his deserts. I shall not here repeat the separate points in his conduct which justify this view, and which have been set forth as they have occurred, in the preceding pages. Admitting fully both the good intentions of Nikias, and his personal bravery, rising even into heroism during the last few days in Sicily—it is not the less incontestable, that first, the failure of the enterprise—next, the destruction of the armament—is to be traced distinctly to his lamentable misjudgment. Sometimes petty trifling—sometimes apathy and inaction—sometimes presumptuous neglect—sometimes obstinate blindness even to urgent and obvious necessities—one or other of these his sad mental defects will be found operative at every step, whereby this fatal armament sinks down from exuberant efficiency into the last depth of aggregate ruin and individual misery. His improvidence and incapacity stand proclaimed, not merely in the narrative of the historian, but even in his own letter to the Athenians, and in his own speeches both before the expedition and during its closing misfortunes, when contrasted with the reality of his proceedings. The man whose flagrant incompetency brought such wholesale ruin upon two fine armaments entrusted to his command, upon the Athenian maritime empire, and ultimately upon Athens herself—must appear on the tablets of history under the severest condemnation, even though his personal virtues had been loftier than those of Nikias. And yet our great historian—after devoting two immortal books to this expedition—after setting forth emphatically both the glory of its dawn and the wretchedness of its close, with a dramatic genius parallel to the *Œdipus Tyrannus* of Sophoklēs—when he comes to recount the melancholy end of the two commanders, has no words to spare for Demosthenes (far the ablest officer of the two, who perished by no fault of his own), but reserves his flowers to strew on the grave of Nikias, the author of the whole calamity—'What a pity! Such a respectable and religious man!' (his translation).

If ever the Athenians were tired of the orthodoxy and respectability of Nikias, they had only to look at his opponent Alcibiades for a combination of the opposite qualities. The contrast between Pitt and Fox was nothing to that between these two men. Alcibiades was the most daring infidel and the most accomplished rake in Athens. His profligacy might have been forgiven,—but his infidelity ruined him. He had just gained the great point of his early exertions by carrying the proposal for the Sicilian expedition, and procuring a command in it for himself, when that astounding accident happened, which, arousing the religious spirit of the Athenian public against him, laid all his schemes in the dust. There seems no doubt that the "Hermokipid conspiracy," as it was called, was a plot of a few reckless partisans of oligarchy to ruin the expedition and its promoters,—and that Alcibiades was totally inno-

cent of all connexion with it; but, provoking as it did an unusual burst of religious excitement, it led to a series of inquisitorial proceedings, in the course of which many other offences against the established faith and religion of the country came unexpectedly to light. In one of these Alcibiades was implicated. He was accused of having, in a private house, and by way of frolic, gone through a sham celebration of the Eleusinian mysteries, in the presence of slaves and others, not initiated.—On this charge he was capitally impeached; and, though he was in the mean time allowed to proceed with the fleet to Sicily, his enemies so worked the charge during his absence, that he was recalled to take his trial. Pretending to comply with the summons, he contrived to escape to Sparta; and there, to revenge himself against his country, he began a series of intrigues for her humiliation. It was Alcibiades who persuaded the Spartans to interfere in behalf of the Syracusans; it was he who planned the conspiracy of the Four Hundred; and though by his subsequent services he did much to repair the damage which he had thus caused to the Athenian fortunes, yet to him more than to any other person may be traced the ruin of Athens.

The period of the public life of Alcibiades coincides exactly with the period of Grecian history traversed in these two volumes; and, after the death of Nikias, towards the close of the first of the volumes, it is chiefly the figure of Alcibiades that the reader seeks to keep in his eye. Owing to the peculiar style of his activity this is not easy. From his escape to Sparta (B.C. 414) to his return to the Athenian service (B.C. 411) we catch but a glimpse of him intriguing here and there:—at Sparta with the Spartans,—in Asia Minor with the Persians. Thenceforward to his second exile (B.C. 407) is a period of lustre; after which we hear little more of him till his death in Phrygia (B.C. 403), by order of the Persian satrap.

Although in relating the actions of Alcibiades Mr. Grote leaves nothing to be desired, we do not think that either in his formal estimate of the character of this extraordinary Greek, or in those passages in which he tries less obviously to suggest his portrait, he has been quite so happy as in his sketch of Nikias, or even as in his sketches of some of the inferior *dramatis personæ*,—as, for example, Antiphon and Theramenes. Thus, when introducing Alcibiades on the stage, Mr. Grote says:—

"At the age of thirty-one or thirty-two, the earliest at which it was permitted to look forward to an ascendant position in public life, Alcibiades came forward with a reputation stained by private enormities and with a number of enemies created by his insolent demeanour. But this did not hinder him from stepping into that position to which his rank, connections, and club-partisans afforded him introduction; nor was he slow in displaying his extraordinary energy, decision, and capacity of command. From the beginning to the end of his eventful political life, he showed a combination of boldness in design, resource in contrivance, and vigour in execution,—not surpassed by any one of his contemporary Greeks; and what distinguished him from all was his extraordinary flexibility of character and consummate power of adapting himself to new habits, new necessities, and new persons, whenever circumstances required. Like Themistoklēs,—whom he resembled as well in ability and vigour as in want of public principle and in recklessness about means.—Alcibiades was essentially a man of action. Eloquence was in him a secondary quality, subordinate to action; and though he possessed enough of it for his purposes, his speeches were distinguished only for pertinence of matter, often imperfectly expressed, at least according to the high standard of Athens. But his career affords a memorable example of splendid qualities, both for action and command, ruined and

turned into instruments of mischief by the utter want of morality, public and private."

And, again, at the close of his career:—"If from his achievements, we turn to his dispositions, his ends, and his means—there are few characters in Grecian history who present so little to esteem, whether we look at him as a public or as a private man. His ends are those of exorbitant ambition and vanity—his means rapacious as well as reckless—from his first dealing with Sparta and the Spartan envoys, down to the end of his career. The manœuvres whereby his political enemies first procured his exile were indeed base and guilty in a high degree; but we must recollect that if his enemies were more numerous and violent than those of any other politician in Athens, the generating seed was sown by his own overweening insolence, and contempt of restraints, legal as well as social. On the other hand, he was never once defeated, either by land or sea. In courage, in ability, in enterprise, in power of dealing with new men and new situations, he was never wanting; qualities which, combined with his high birth, wealth, and personal accomplishments, sufficed to render him for the time the first man in every successive party which he espoused—Athenian, Spartan, or Persian—oligarchical or democratical. But to none of them did he ever inspire any lasting confidence; all successively threw him off. On the whole, we shall find few men in whom eminent capacities for action and command are so thoroughly marked by an assemblage of bad moral qualities as Alcibiades."

Now, while all this seems true, and is to be received with extreme respect as the deliberate opinion of a writer who has studied intimately the man whom he condemns, we cannot avoid feeling that something deeper and more subtle, something more special and exact in the way of psychological dissection, might have been appropriate in treating of a character our impressions of which—as derived from Plato, Plutarch and others—are so dazzling and peculiar. "A powerful intellect marred by want of principle"—such is, undoubtedly, a true verdict with regard to Alcibiades;—but we would have liked to see this verdict growing up, as it were, in Mr. Grote's hands, out of a more elaborate and delicate investigation (such as he could have so well exhibited) of traits and particulars. In short, as there is a popular instinct in favour of the "respectable Nikias," so also there is a popular prepossession in favour of the beautiful and dissolute youth who was so fond of praising Socrates when he was drunk; and somehow, this prepossession eludes all Mr. Grote's judicial representations of the conduct of the adult Alcibiades,—and, indeed, refuses to be overtaken by any appreciation of him that is not intellectually very subtle, as well as conceived somewhat in the spirit of humour.

Although nothing is more vitiating to historical composition than a desire to make out certain conclusions and inculcate certain lessons, yet undertaking his task, as every historical writer necessarily does, with certain strong convictions already lodged in his mind by his previous experience or course of training, it cannot but so happen that occasionally, when the facts recorded bear a decided testimony to the truth of these convictions, he will assume a didactic manner and call the attention of his readers to what he thinks his narrative has proved. Hence, though no one can charge Mr. Grote with prejudice or partiality, there are, as there should be—one or two leading trains of feeling and conviction running through his pages, helping him to marshal and vivify his facts, and imparting a certain warmth and characteristic tenor to his work. The rehabilitation of Athens, in modern eyes, as the greatest and most civilized of the Greek states,—and the vindication, in her, of ancient democratic as compared with ancient oligarchical government,—such, we should say, are the two objects



that Mr. Grote, with due caution and within modest limits, has permitted himself to have in view throughout these volumes of his History. Of the Athenian empire, he says:—

"Nothing in the political history of Greece is so remarkable as the Athenian empire; taking it as it stood in its completeness, from about 460-413 B.C. (the date of the Syracusan catastrophe), or still more, from 460-421 B.C. (the date when Brasidas made his conquests in Thrace). After the Syracusan catastrophe, the conditions of the empire were altogether changed; it was irretrievably broken up, though Athens still continued an energetic struggle to retain some of the fragments. But if we view it as it had stood before that event, during the period of its integrity, it is a sight marvellous to contemplate, and its workings must be pronounced, in my judgment, to have been highly beneficial to the Grecian world. No Grecian state except Athens could have sufficed to organize such a system, or to hold, in partial, though regulated, continuous and specific communion, so many little states, each animated with that force of political repulsion instinctive in the Grecian mind. This was a mighty task, worthy of Athens, and to which no state except Athens was competent. We have already seen in part, and we shall see still farther, how little qualified Sparta was to perform it,—and we shall have occasion hereafter to notice a like fruitless essay on the part of Thebes."

Among his apologetic passages directed against Mr. Mitford and other historians who have treated Grecian history in the spirit of rabid antipathy to democratic institutions, we quote the following, on Grecian demagogues, as perhaps the most decided and significant.—

"As Grecian history has been usually written, we are instructed to believe that the misfortunes, and the corruption, and the degradation of the democratical states are brought upon them by the class of demagogues, of whom Kleon, Hyperbolus, Androkles, &c. stand forth as specimens. These men are represented as mischief-makers and revilers, accusing without just cause, and converting innocence into treason. Now the history of this conspiracy of the Four Hundred presents to us the other side of the picture. It shows that the political enemies,—against whom the Athenian people were protected by their democratical institutions,—and by the demagogues as living organs of those institutions,—were not fictitious but dangerously real. It reveals the continued existence of powerful anti-popular combinations, ready to come together for treasonable purposes, when the moment appeared safe and tempting. It manifests the character and morality of the leaders, to whom the direction of the anti-popular force naturally fell. It proves that these leaders, men of uncommon ability, required nothing more than the extinction or silence of the demagogues, to be enabled to subvert the popular securities and get possession of the government. We need no better proof to teach us what was the real function and intrinsic necessity of these demagogues in the Athenian system,—taking them as a class, and apart from the manner in which individuals among them may have performed their duty. They formed the vital movement of all that was tutelary and public-spirited in democracy. Aggressive in respect to official delinquents, they were defensive in respect to the public and the constitution; if that anti-popular force, which Antiphon found, ready-made, had not been efficient, at a much earlier moment, in stifling the democracy,—it was because there were demagogues to cry aloud, as well as assemblies to hear and sustain them. If Antiphon's conspiracy was successful, it was because he knew where to aim his blows, so as to strike down the real enemies of the oligarchy and the real defenders of the people. I here employ the term demagogues because it is that commonly used by those who denounce the class of men here under review: the proper neutral phrase, laying aside odious associations, would be to call them popular speakers or opposition speakers. But by whatever name they may be called, it is impossible rightly to conceive their position in Athens, without looking at them in contrast and antithesis with those anti-popular forces against which they formed the indispensable barrier, and which come forth into such manifest and melancholy working

under the organising hands of Antiphon and Phrynichus."

We have said nothing of a portion of Mr. Grote's work which will almost certainly be accounted the most interesting—the last two chapters of Vol. VIII.; devoted respectively to an account of "The Drama, Rhetoric, and the Sophists,"—and to a consideration of the character and life of Socrates.—To these we shall return.

*Memoirs of a Hungarian Lady.* By Theresa Pulszky. With a Historical Introduction, by Francis Pulszky. 2 vols. Colburn.

THESE volumes give us more of the Hungarian politician than of the Hungarian Lady, and in so far are disappointing. The best written piece of party history viewed as material for the future judge or chronicler, is barren of instruction when compared with an honest, real personal diary. An imperishable interest and use reside in such artless books as Lady Sale's record of her experiences, or Auerbach's unwilling confessions of the manner in which Republicanism mismanaged its affairs in Vienna betwixt "Latour and Windischgrätz."—Here we have too much of the newspaper—too much of the magazine—too much of the review tone; and natural enough as may be such a peculiarity in a book so nearly connected with the correspondent of the *Augsburg Gazette*, its presence deprives the Hungarian Lady of the place which otherwise she might have enjoyed—a place near to Lucy Hutchinson and Madame de Riedesel and our own gallant "Lady Florentia,"—or any other of the quick-sighted and deep-feeling women, who have contributed to the world's understanding of momentous political movements by showing their minute influences upon daily life and individual character.

After one hundred and thirty-five pages of closely-written historical introduction, Madame Pulszky takes a Danube voyage from Vienna down to Pesth:—not arriving at the scene of her recollections until a late point in her first volume. This, the castle of Szécsény, and its estate, she describes pleasantly.—

"A cool ascent, sheltered by densely interlaced branches, led to the entrance of a small flower-garden, in the fragrance of which our children frequently enjoyed themselves, vying in the freshness of health with the blossoms around. In this attractive spot stood an elegant conservatory, which united the modern castle to an old tower; one of the remnants of the ancient stronghold occupied there by the Turks in the seventeenth century. Three such towers had outlasted the ruined walls. This one had been used by the Moslems for the performance of their religious rites, and, by its circular structure, was well adapted to the purpose. The light falls through a window, which opens on the magnificent landscape without—itsself an eloquent prayer of nature. In later times that miniature mosque was considered a pleasurable retreat. We consecrated it as a Protestant chapel,—the only one in our borough; for the majority of its Hungarian population was Catholic. But on the other side of the Ipoly, there was a Slovak colony of Protestants, who were settled in several villages; and it was from these that most of the people came to attend our service. The second tower, at the extreme end of the park,—decorated less picturesquely than the first, with garlands of ivy, not frequently seen in Hungary,—had a very different destination. It had been the jail, where used to be confined the prisoners of those feudal lords, whose manorial courts were endowed even with criminal jurisdiction. We did not prize this privilege; and therefore, as soon as we possessed it, surrendered it into the hands of the County Authorities, who could detain the culprits in the extensive establishment, (on the principle of solitary confinement,) which the nobility of the county had erected by voluntary contributions. To us it was a great comfort to be able to dispense with the painful duty of sending the transgressors

of the law into our dismal dungeon; and we thought it much better employed as the cellar of the poor family to whom I gave, as an abode, the upper part of the tower, which had been the residence of the turnkey. The third remaining tower of the ancient fortress was turned into a granary. It had a Middle Age aspect, and its firm, stout walls were better adapted for preserving the grain from damp, than the dry, but less solid buildings, of greater size, designed for that purpose. \* \* Behind the walls of the flower-garden rose a well-proportioned monastery. Its exterior conveyed the impression of much more comfort than could be expected from the abode of mendicant friars, such as the Franciscans. \* \* From every convent a monk is yearly sent, at the periods of the harvest and vintage, to travel about in his district, and to request support from the lord and the peasant. Everything is received in the name of the Order:—money, crops, wine, fowls, and especially great numbers of geese—the peasant's most customary gift; so that in autumn, hundreds and hundreds of these birds may be found in the convents. The goose, variously dressed, is not without relish for the well-fed monks; others are sold to the Hungarian Jews, who, out of respect to the Mosaic law, to avoid hog's fat and lard, substitute goose-grease. This, in part, also takes the place of butter, which is permitted to them only in certain combinations. \* \* The broad front of the castle, aided by wings, expanded upon an airy court, which was made cheerful by pretty parterres, affecting an elegant exclusiveness; for it was divided from the grounds of the adjoining borough by lofty iron gates. These, however, chanced to be planned on the principle of a ladder, and therefore could be scaled without the least trouble; as one of our young servant-girls practically showed, for being passionately fond of dancing, she always managed to get out by the locked gates, with as much ease as by the open ones, whenever the electrifying sound of a fiddle struck through her ears to her feet. Most fortunately we never experienced the least inconvenience from our perfect free-trade of communication with all our curious neighbours, from the friars down to the gipsies, who daily and hourly visited court, garden, and park. The borough, with whose inhabitants we were in this uninterrupted contact, derived its origin from the times when the fortress, delivered from the Turks, had been abandoned by its garrison, who became the nucleus of the little town. Their magistrate still bore the title of Hadnagy (*lieutenant*) instead of *mayor*; and young and old were rather proud of their borough, and thought themselves ill-used when short-sighted ignorance chanced to mistake for a village what they complimented themselves by considering a town. The population consisted of from three to four thousand—a fourth of these were Jews, and about a hundred gipsies. There was a market which, though on a small scale, was attended by many of the inhabitants of the surrounding villages. The place had a pleasant aspect. There were shops of all kinds, certainly not like those in Regent-street; indeed, with a twentieth part of a London mizzling fog, the imperfect pavements would have vanished not only from the sight, but likewise from the foot of the pedestrian; for much less moisture than the English coachmen call *damp*, sufficed to mash the loam into mud. My Viennese silk shoes were therefore soon exchanged for stout leather boots, more peasant-like than lady-like in appearance."

Some of her Hungarian neighbours and their old-world customs are, in a later page, pleasantly painted by the Hungarian Lady.—

"As one of the last characteristic Barons of feudalism, I may name the Baron Palocsay. On his manor he never permitted any of the County Officers to execute the decrees of the County; but requested to have them immediately communicated to him, and always enforced them himself most conscientiously, even when they were against his own interest; but he jealously refused to allow any one but himself to rule on his estates. As he spent immense sums on elections, and by his superb hospitality and beneficence had great ascendancy over the County Officers, they often yielded to his feudal whims; as also, no less willingly, did his numerous guests. From time to time, especially in winter, the castle, where the old



Baron dwelt the whole of the year, being in a lofty and bleak situation, would chance to be without visitors. At this, his Lordship felt annoyed, and in such cases, habitually sent out in search of guests. His servants went to the high-road that leads to Galicia and Szepes, and when they saw a travelling-carriage, they forced the travellers to turn to the castle, where the Baron, without listening in the least to their protestations, entertained them for three days in the most princely manner, because, as he said, 'The Hungarian has a right to keep his guests for three days: if they are willing to remain longer, it is a great honour to the host.' This notion many Hungarians still retain, even if they no longer enforce it as practically as the old Baron used to do. Indeed, I know of the case of a Mr. S—— who, when once he came on a visit to a Hungarian country gentleman, remained for seven years in the house of his host. This certainly was a little eccentric, but visits for several months are not unusual; and persons who come with three or four children may be heard to apologise for not having brought with them the rest of their family. Baron Palocsay's castle, however, never presented a more curious aspect than every year in autumn, which, in the highlands, is the general wedding season with the peasant, who rarely enters into this auspicious state until after the harvest, when his most pressing labours are over. At that season the Baron used to assemble in his hall all peasant girls, from sixteen to twenty years old, and all the lads, from twenty-two to twenty-six, belonging to his manor; which had a Slovak population. He had them ranged opposite to one another, sorted them pair by pair, and said: 'Thou Jancsi (John) art precisely fit for Marcsa (Mary); and thou Andráš (Andrew), for Hancsa (Anne), and so on. The couples thus designated went to the chapel, where the chaplain announced their marriages, which after a fortnight were performed, and every one of the newly married received a cow and many other accommodations for their establishment. When, however, one of the lads objected to the choice made for his benefit, and mentioned his disinclination for Hancsa, and his preference for Ilya (Ellen), the Baron would reply that he did not believe it, and obliged the lad, as a proof of his love, to endure twenty-five lashes. If he underwent this trial he was free to choose for himself.

\* \* An original of another kind was the old Count George Festetics, one of the wealthiest peers of Hungary, who lived on the Balaton (Plattensee). In his youth, while an officer of the hussars, he signed, in 1792, with the whole of his regiment, a parliamentary petition, which was disapproved of by the government; on account of which, he was for some time confined in prison. After his release he retired to his estates, of princely extent and management. He was not only learned, but also very clever; of a powerfully satirical turn, directed against all the world, which he disguised under the mask of politeness, united with the semblance of such perfect humility as to appear at times awkward. It was never to be made out whether he spoke in joke or in earnest. As he despised mankind from the conviction that every one had a price for which he could be bought, it grew a mania with him to bribe every one, without any other aim than the satisfaction of knowing a person was under an obligation to him. This mania went so far, that he once attempted to bribe his king, the Emperor Francis himself. The Emperor, on his journey to Croatia, spent a night in the Count's castle. The political offence had long been forgotten: Francis was gracious: the Peer received him with festivities, in the most splendid style. After the Emperor had retired to rest, the Count again presented himself before the lord chamberlain, requesting an immediate audience of the monarch. In vain did the chamberlain plead the impossibility of disturbing his majesty. The Count asserted his business to be of the highest importance; so that at last the chamberlain considered it his duty to tell the Emperor, who sent word to his host that he could not just then see him, but would be glad to hear what he had to communicate. The Count then began to relate, in his most humble manner of unlimited devotion, how anxious he had been to prepare fireworks and an illumination for the reception of his illustrious guest: that for this end he had set aside 100,000 florins, (according to their value in those times about 4,000*l.*); that however, the Esküdt,

(police officer of the county), had interfered with the execution of his design, because the thatched roofs in the village would have been liable to catch fire. As the 100,000 florins had been intended for fireworks, not as presuming to astonish his sovereign, but solely to prove the sincerity of his intention, he wished to request the honour of being allowed to burn the 100,000 florins in paper-money at his Majesty's bed-side; or rather as this honour could not be granted to him, he entreated the chamberlain to make it known to the Emperor, and burn the notes in his stead. The chamberlain utterly perplexed at this strange demand, went to the Emperor, and gave an account of the whole affair. Francis I., for whom money had always a peculiar attraction, took it, and said, smiling: 'the old Count is a fool, but we will not burn the notes.' The Count had hit the right nail."

Subsequent pages yield more agreeable descriptions of this kind,—at once recalling and authenticating similar pictures in Mr. Palgrave Simpson's 'Letters from the Danube.' When the war breaks out, and the operations of cabinets or of cohorts have to be described, the charm ceases. The most graphic pages are those, in the Appendix to the second volume, wherein "details of the Hungarian emigration at Widdin, by an eye-witness," are addressed, in form of a letter, to Madame Pulszky, by the author of 'Revelations of Russia.'

#### Prison Discipline, &c.

[Second Notice.]

THE general recognition of the principle that the chief aim of penal privation should be the cure of the moral disease, would necessitate many corresponding changes in our criminal law and in the forms of its administration—particularly the abolition of short terms of imprisonment. If men must be forcibly taken from society on account of the legal evidence which they tender of unfitness for the social state, it is as absurd to return them before that unfitness may reasonably be supposed to be removed, as it would be to restore a lunatic, who had placed life in jeopardy, to society after seven days or any other fore-fixed period of confinement. All the practical administrators of our penal law appeal to the cost and inefficiency of short sentences. Mr. Smith, the governor of the Edinburgh Prison, remarks on this subject:—

"Short periods of imprisonment completely do away with that wholesome fear of the prison which is felt before having had experience of it; and, while the subjects of these imprisonments have no time to become less noxious, or to acquire new and better habits and principles, they are injured, hardened, and gradually trained to bear confinement, without considering it almost any punishment. They therefore return again and again, and at each successive committal the hardening process makes a progressive advancement; again they are liberated, and again they plunge into the vortex of dissipation and crime, each successive plunge paving the way for deeper and more irremediable ruin. In order to realize the peculiarly vitiating effect of short and frequent imprisonments on the juvenile, we must remember the total absence of any opportunities of reformation during his intervals of liberty. Were there a vestige of such opportunities in what may be called his *out-door* experience—did these experiences comprehend anything less compulsory, in their many and great influences for evil, or were there a season for deliberation and choice—some debateable ground, as it were, between the restrictions of the prison and the seductions of society—his reiterated periods of restraint might wear a greater aspect of expediency than they do. But hitherto no such extenuation presents itself; nothing, absolutely nothing, intervenes between the liberation of the prisoner and his second, or it may be his tenth, immersion, in the atmosphere of moral pestilence in which his seeds of vice have been previously fostered and nourished. The transition is abrupt and immediate; and as if to

shut more effectually any avenue of reformation, in many cases the criminal is waylaid on the day of his liberation by his former associates in vice, and forcibly drawn back to his old haunts, and to new and repeated violations of the law. Every light, indeed, thrown up by the annexed Return, or by other statistics of crime, upon the subject of *recommitments*—comes from what quarter or fall in what direction it may—goes to prove the terrible facility and aptitude which a course of short and repeated imprisonments harmonizes with and aggravates a continued course of crime. In the prison there is experienced by the young offender the agitation and expectancy of approaching liberation and renewed opportunities of vicious indulgence. Out of the prison there are the confirmation and encouragement of associates—renewed temptations, freshened and flavoured with the zest of the novelty of concealment,—and a wider distance and a stronger exclusion from all that is honest, creditable, and good."

In the face of similar reports from practical men, and of the obvious suggestions of reason and humanity, it is impossible to continue a system which operates so disastrously.

Of late, more attention has been addressed by practical men to the causes of crime. It is pretty obvious, that in any attempt to deal with the moral plague of our social condition, the physician should, if possible, be acquainted with the sources of the disease. The treatment, as we are now beginning to see, must in some measure be determined by the symptoms and cause combined. On a former occasion we have expressed an opinion that crime is ignorance in a state of activity—as a modern thinker has defined a knave to be one who is a fool in a round-about way. But a concise definition like this admits of much subdivision; and although ignorance in its broad signification may include all the phenomena which connect themselves with crime, it is convenient to trace the progress of declension through the series of secondary causes:—as low neighbourhoods, neglect of parents, power of temptation, idleness, drunkenness, and so forth.

In the very excellent and carefully prepared Reports of the Chaplain of the Preston House of Correction, that gentleman insists strongly on the fact of drunkenness being the great source of crime in his neighbourhood. He says:—

"Every Report of this nature would be incomplete without some observations on the causes which lead to crime. Though it may be almost unnecessary to say that ignorance and irreligion are those causes; and that, in proportion as they are removed, crime will disappear;—it may be useful to advert once more to the intermediate or secondary causes, brought into activity by the primary ones just named, and so generally admitted,—viz.: idleness, parental neglect, desecration of the sabbath, and,—mingling with all other causes, yet predominating above them—*drunkenness*! I believe that but for this besetting sin, the population of North Lancashire would exhibit virtues of the highest order. This opinion is justified by the present state of things. Suffering under difficulties almost unprecedented in their history, their conduct involves moral phenomena of a significant, and in many respects of a most hopeful, character. Never, within the term of my chaplaincy, have the combined evils of scarcity of food and scarcity of employment pressed so heavily on them as during the last winter; and never—to the great credit of thousands of sufferers—have offenders, pleading distress for their faults, been fewer in number. On several former occasions I have adduced evidence to show that our population is much more capable of facing the temptations which press upon them when straitened by poverty than those which beset them when they can indulge in drink. An examination of the records which I have kept for many years assures me that the offences for which distress is pleaded are exceeded five-fold by those in which drunkenness is admitted. During the last year I have examined more carefully the alleged pleas of distress, in order to note the *fact* rather than the *excuse*; and the tables in the appendix (Nos. 13 and 14,) show that while only *seventeen* felonious



offences could be attributed to distress—that being in many cases the consequence of drink or idleness,—one hundred and seventeen were undoubtedly caused by drunkenness. \* \* My last year's intercourse with the subjects of my ministry has made me acquainted with practices, resorted to in certain beer-houses, which must be mentioned, in order to show what demoralising agencies are added to those already existing in them, viz.: the keeping of prostitutes. From three entirely independent sources, and at different times, I received statements fully confirming each other, which leave no doubt of the extent to which this profligate system is carried on. Sixteen houses in one town, harbouring, or rather maintaining, about fifty-four prostitutes, have been named to me. But this is not the full amount of the evil. The neighbourhood of those ten houses is corrupted. Women, married women, occupied to all appearance with their own proper avocations at home, hold themselves at the call of the beer-house for the immoral purpose to which I have referred."

The Inspector of Prisons for Scotland, Northumberland, and Durham multiplies evidence of the same kind; and offers a suggestion on the subject which is worthy of attention. He writes:—

"The sobriety in many parts of the Continent appears to me to be caused by the greater prevalence than with us of physical pleasures, such as music and dancing, the abundance of cheap wine of so mild a kind that it can scarcely intoxicate, and the prevalence of social and mental pleasures of a sort that can be enjoyed by all classes, such as access to public walks, picture galleries, &c. In this country, some of these innocent and rational pleasures, instead of being encouraged, are discontinued; and the consequence is, that many persons who would otherwise engage in them fall into the debasing indulgence of drunkenness; or, if they resolutely seek the other better pleasures, they are often driven in quest of them to the houses of disreputable persons, instead of enjoying them in the open day, in the presence and with the approval and sympathy of respectable friends and neighbours. Among boys and girls in manufacturing towns this want of innocent and rational amusement is a fertile source of crime. The spontaneous delight of children in dancing and singing seems to show that music and the dance are natural pleasures, and in themselves perfectly innocent, and that to endeavour to suppress them is to oppose the intentions of an all-wise and benevolent Creator; but the purest gratifications may, by the discontinuance of the best-educated and most moral classes, be rendered corrupting, by causing them to be indulged in by stealth, and with the idea that they are sinful. Instead of attempting to uproot such pleasures, these classes of society would, in my opinion, do good service to morality by encouraging them, within due bounds, by their presence and support."

There is yet another branch of the question. The differences of opinion prevailing amongst penal reformers are not confined to the principles of the science: they extend also to its practice: they affect the disciplinary as well as the moral and legal views. They enter the prison and agitate the council-board. The question—what is to be done with the criminal in society? seems not more difficult of solution than the question—what is to be done with the convict in gaol? That various systems of prison treatment have been tried in America, in England, and on the Continent the reader is doubtless well aware; the names by which they are known—such as the Solitary, Silent, Social, Separate, Congregate, Cellular, &c.—must be familiar to every one. A pretty large acquaintance with the practical operation and effect of these systems warrants the assertion that none of them is as bad as the old no-system; though when measured against the standard of theoretical perfection none is free from objection. To get machinery to subserve moral purposes, is about the hardest thing in the world. The various systems which we have named fall readily into two groups, of which the fundamental idea is distinct enough: the Social,

of which the distinguishing features are, labour in common workshops, silence, and instruction mental and industrial;—the *Separate*, of which the essential features are, perfect separation by day and night, labour and instruction in the cell. As models, in London, of these two systems, Cold-bath-Fields and Pentonville may be cited. In neither of these—nor, indeed, in any gaol conducted on reformed principles—is there any communication between prisoners. In Pentonville they never see each other,—in Cold-bath-Fields they are not permitted to speak. Each prison has its advantages over the other. Pentonville is the more costly and the more orderly. Its punishments are more penal. Cold-bath-Fields is more healthy and more industrious. Its returns for the labour of convicts are greater. The discipline of Cold-bath-Fields may sometimes fail to impress the mind:—Pentonville seldom fails to prostrate it. The impartial inspector will not hastily pronounce on which side lies the balance of advantages. Foreign countries are as much divided on the merits of the rival systems as ourselves. In America the two series of experiments proceed together, as with us. France leans to the *Separate*,—Italy to the *Social* system. Sweden inclines to the French view,—Holland to the Italian. Opinion is divided in Germany. Russia inclines to an eclectic system, embracing the good points of both so far as they are compatible:—and perhaps, in the end, experience will suggest a third system superior to either.

The work of the Rev. Mr. Field is an argument in favour of an extreme form of the *Separate* system. The reverend author is the Chaplain of Reading Gaol, and the chief adviser of the system which has been adopted in that prison by the Berkshire magistrates. He is a person of zeal and ability; his published opinions and his various examinations before parliamentary committees have done good service to the cause of Prison Reform: wherefore his ideas are worthy of respectful consideration, even where we feel constrained to disapprove of them. As becomes his profession, Mr. Field has the most absolute faith in the power of religious teaching to produce reformation of character. In his system it is, therefore, the first element. Labour he either repudiates or subordinates to precept. The first stage of the prisoner's discipline is—religious instruction; when he is considered to have had enough of this, work is given to him as a relief. After a careful examination of the evidence,—fortified by a personal examination of the prisoners in various stages of their progress,—we are compelled to say, that we entertain a grave conviction that the reverend author deceives himself as to the reality of the consequences which are supposed to flow from dragooning men into morality and religion.—Of the practical results of his teaching, however, Mr. Field gives the following account.—

"Your schoolmaster has been diligently and successfully employed, and comparatively few of those confined for the space of six weeks to two months, who when committed were unable to read, have left the prison without having learnt to do so with tolerable accuracy. Many have also learnt to write, some have been taught the first rules of arithmetic, and their memory, with the mental faculties in general, have been strengthened by such lessons as appeared suitable to their condition. And whilst this knowledge has been communicated it has been my constant endeavour to give such advice and instruction as might prevent its abuse, and, so far as human agency can avail, ensure a beneficial result. To this end it has been my anxious desire that the very letter of Holy Scripture should be deeply impressed on the minds of prisoners; and I have been surprised as well as pleased at the readiness and accuracy with which considerable portions have been

committed to memory. Several at this time can repeat the Four Gospels, and some will, ere long, have learnt the whole of the New Testament by heart."

Many other topics of grave interest connected with penal science are discussed or suggested in the various works and state papers which head these articles—but just now we cannot dwell further on the subject.

*Historical and Anecdotal Journal of the Reign of Louis the Fifteenth*—[*Journal Historique et Anecdotique*]. By E. J. F. Barbier, Advocate in the Parliament of Paris. Published for the Société de l'Histoire de France. Vols. I. and II. Edited by A. de la Ville-gille.

THE division of labour in the mechanical world has become a general law. Men who in past days of self-sufficiency and isolation would have aspired to the fabrication of a whole pin or the achievement of an entire button, are now satisfied with making the head of the one or drilling the holes of the other. Whatever may be the effect on the workman, the public is a gainer by this. Pins and buttons have been brought to a degree of perfection which the most sanguine of our ancestors would scarcely have anticipated. In the intellectual world the same tendency may be traced. We rarely see now volumes with titles like those which piqued the curiosity of our forefathers. 'A Voyage round the World,' or even 'Travels throughout Europe,' are words which would seem empty because of their very comprehensiveness. We expect the literary labourer to do just so much of the public work as he can perfectly perform. 'The Tombs of Etruria' monopolize one pen;—'The Dodo and its Kindred' occupy another. If a man undertakes the history of the Lepidopterous tribes, he leaves to another the doings of the Coleopterous families. To use a phrase which recent speculations have rendered familiar, each one keeps to his own "diggings"; and the consequence is, that an immense quantity of valuable literary ore has been of late years added to the public stock.

A result of this universal tendency has been, the formation in most countries of distinct Societies for clearing and cultivating the separate fields of the wide domains of Science or of Art. In this general movement, France has not been behindhand; but, from reasons which it would be too long to inquire into at length on the present occasion, we find almost all the French literary societies that depend exclusively on their own resources hampered and languishing for want of means. The aid of Government is often liberally bestowed,—but whenever it is withheld there is little chance of success for any undertaking. We may say shortly, that this is one of the many evils engendered among our neighbours by their too great reliance on the intervention of the State in all matters, whether great or small:—a reliance the first effect of which is to paralyze individual efforts. Of all the French publishing Societies with which we are acquainted, none seemed more likely to prosper than the "Société de l'Histoire de France"—founded in 1834 for the publication of documents relative to the national history down to the period of the meeting of the States-General in 1789. The works which it purposed printing would, it was supposed, prove attractive to a numerous class of readers; since History is not an exclusive Muse, repelling the profane and revealing her charms only to the initiated. Her various beauties attract alike the learned and the superficial,—those who seek for knowledge and those who look for amusement. Yet we find from the Reports of the Society that subscribers are lamentably wanting; and that so far from compassing the proposed



annual number of five volumes, its yearly publications have often fallen short of four. In spite of all drawbacks and difficulties, however, the efforts of the Society have not been unsuccessful. Many before unpublished documents and several valuable improved editions of the old chroniclers of France have been given to the public under its auspices. The collection of letters of Marguerite d'Angoulême, the sister of Francis the First,—and those of her namesake, the wife of Henry the Fourth,—the correspondence of Cardinal Mazarin and Queen Anne of Austria during the years 1651 and 1652,—are works which are interesting to most readers; while the carefully collated editions of the History of Gregory of Tours, of the works of Eginhard, and of those of Philippe de Commines, are valuable to the historical student. The work which we now introduce to our readers is one of the last published by the Society, and relates to a comparatively recent period of history.

The 'Historical and Anecdotal Journal' of Barbier extends from 1718 to 1762,—and thus embraces the greater part of the long reign of Louis the Fifteenth. During nearly half a century the diarist had the patience to keep an almost daily record, not only of the events, but of the anecdotes and rumours, which came to his knowledge:—with what intention it is not easy to divine. That he entertained some idea of ultimate publicity, is evident from certain forms of expression by which he seems to address an imaginary public, and by his corroborating now and then his own assertions by an appeal to the testimony of others,—a precaution which he would scarcely have considered necessary had he been writing for himself alone. Yet, on the other hand, how could Barbier, whose own journal records more than one instance of men being sent to the Bastille for lampoons or couplets far less bold than the strictures which he passes on the authorities of the day, speculate on a coming time when kings and kings' ministers—aye, even kings' mistresses—might be criticized with impunity? How could he, in such a day, foresee that the seven quarto volumes of his journal, after traversing three revolutions, would be openly published in Paris?—that his almost seditious manuscript would hold a place on the shelves of what he would have termed the Royal Library? There is but one way of accounting for this curious diary:—Barbier has taken advantage of the relief that pen and paper have ever afforded to gagged and shackled mortals. No prudent cipher screens him from detection,—no initials veil the scandalous stories about the aristocracy which he retails with *bourgeois* delight. His very writing is imprudent in its distinctness. His manuscript in the National Library of Paris is clear and legible to a very remarkable degree,—bold as print in the bold nineteenth century.

Originally, this manuscript was interspersed, as it would appear from the author's own account, with engravings, caricatures, bills or advertisements relating to the events which he records,—and these he seems to have collected as vouchers. It is to be regretted that the greater portion of these have been either lost or purloined in the course of the numerous adventures which have befallen the volumes before reaching their present asylum. Of the diarist himself there is little to be said; and this he seems to have understood,—for he scarcely makes any allusion to himself in his long journal, although he considers no public occurrence too trifling to be related. We need not seek in this diary for any of those involuntary touches of self-portraiture which render our own Pepys so attractive. Barbier scarcely allows his own opinion to transpire on many of the facts which he relates; and so impersonal is his journal, that

when first brought to light it was supposed to be the production of a certain Abbé Barbier, one of his relations, to whom the manuscript had been bequeathed,—for no other reason than that the worthy Abbé, in true school-boy fashion, had scribbled his name and titles at the beginning of each volume. This said Abbé, by the by, was not only a canon of the Cathedral of Verdun and a prior of St. Martin's, but also a Conseiller de la Grande Chambre of Paris; and held the memory of the Parliament in such veneration, that up to the day of his death—which occurred in July 1830—he always avoided crossing the square of the Palais de Justice, which his colleagues had traversed on their way to the scaffold in 1793. No name recurs more frequently than that of Barbier in the annals of the French bar. Our author himself was an advocate of the Parliament of Paris,—as many of his ancestors had been before. Not the least famous of these was one Barbier, better known as Lawyer *Sacrus*,—whose Latin surname had been acquired in the following manner. He was a great antagonist of the Jesuits; and on the occasion of an exhibition of pictures in a chapel attached to a Jesuit college, he had given vent to some rather disrespectful remarks. Being reminded by the reverend fathers of the sanctity of the spot, he replied, with more abruptness than accuracy, "Si locus est *sacrus*, quare exponitis?" As may be supposed, the solecism was not suffered to fall to the ground,—and the nick-name of *Sacrus* stuck to him for life. But to return to our diarist.—We have said that his journal offers none of the attraction which an autobiography, however humble, always presents; we may add, that in a literary point of view it is completely devoid of interest. It seems scarcely credible that the journal of a well-educated man during a period of fifty years should contain, with the exception of a few trifling entries, no remarks relative to Literature or Art,—at a period, too, which was far from unfavourable to either.—Notwithstanding these deficiencies, however, the book before us is both instructive and amusing. It fills up a gap in the anecdotal history of France. The Memoirs of St. Simon conclude with the year 1723,—those of Bachaumont commence only in 1762. The intermediate time—of which Barbier has given us the record—is singularly barren as regards memoir writers, and any contribution of the kind would have been acceptable. But a gossip of this class was peculiarly valuable. Dangeau, St. Simon, and most of their successors, belonged to the court circle, and judged matters accordingly. Barbier, from his birth and profession, belonged to the higher *bourgeoisie*, and viewed events under another aspect. There is, too, so to speak, a shadow of coming revolution thrown over his diary, of which he himself was certainly unaware,—making it singularly instructive. In his scepticism on religious matters—in his undisguised contempt for a profligate aristocracy—we trace the rise of those opinions which within the century were to overthrow Church and State. Of course his feelings fall far short of those which animated the *tiers-état* of 1789. The monarch himself was still an object of veneration: the sun of Louis the Fourteenth, though it had set in diminished splendour, yet illumined with its reflected lustre the throne of his successor. But with what pleasure does our author transcribe every squib or lampoon,—with what evident satisfaction does he repeat every story which tarnishes a courtly name! As we read those epigrams and songs which were at that time the only retaliation of an overburdened people, and couple them with certain entries which reveal unconsciously the misery of the lower classes and the extent to which mal-

administration was carried, we feel that the time is at hand when other arms will be employed. Now and then there is a distant sound as of muttering thunder,—the first and disregarded symptoms of the gathering tempest.

The best way of conveying to our readers an idea of a book of this kind is obviously to give some extracts,—although in doing this our limits oblige us to forego the subject on which Barbier dwells with the greatest complacency. The disagreements between the young king and his Parliament were matters of the first importance to our lawyer; and being from his position well informed on the subject, his book furnishes many interesting details to those who have studied that particular period of French politics. But to the general, and more especially the English general reader, many of the personages to whom he alludes would be unknown,—and any introduction of them would lead us too far. We therefore select a better known subject. When Barbier's journal commenced, Law's system was flourishing; and nothing can give a better idea of the confidence which it inspired than to see a man of our diarist's character and moderate fortune investing a large sum in the bank,—as it was called. With what success, our readers shall see. At first, we find only the wonderful and rapid gains of fortunate speculators registered by our author; but from May 1720 affairs assume another aspect,—and in the course of eight months, thirty-three edicts appearing in quick succession spread dismay and ruin in almost every family of France. To these arbitrary and often contradictory decrees Barbier's journal forms a running commentary, and the simple details which he relates speak louder than a studied description of public distress would. What, for instance, can give a better idea of the scarcity of specie than the following entry, written a few days after notice had been given that each person might present one bank bill, of not more than the value of 10 livres, to be cashed at the bank situated in the Rue Vivienne?—

July 18, 1720.—Yesterday, Wednesday, the Rue Vivienne was crowded by 15,000 people from three o'clock in the morning. The crowd was so dense, that sixteen persons were suffocated before five o'clock,—which caused some of the people to withdraw. Five dead bodies were paraded along the Rue Vivienne, and three more were taken to the gates of the Palais Royal at six. The infuriated mob followed, and sought to enter the Palace, which was closed on all sides. They were told that the Regent was at Bagnolet, a country house of his wife's; but the populace replied that that was not true, and that the only way was to set fire to the four corners of the Palace, and then he would be found. There was a dreadful tumult in all that quarter. One band took a corpse to the Louvre;—Marshal Villeroi gave them 100 livres. Another set went to Law's house, of which they broke the windows. Some of the Swiss troops were sent to guard it.

As a crowning piece of roguery, the few speculators who had acquired wealth by the system were arbitrarily despoiled of their gains by an order of the Council (24th October 1720).—

Nov. 1720.—Law has now a search instituted against all those who have gained immense sums. He will not return his lost money to the poor *bourgeois*, but he strives to render every one equal in poverty. The thing is done in a violent fashion, which gives rise to much shameful tyranny; for after all, he who has gained fifty millions, as some have, has only been luckier and bolder than the rest; he has despoiled no one, and has merely taken advantage of the king's decrees and declarations. They enter a man's house and apply the seals everywhere. They take his jewels, plate, and all he has. I know three houses where the seals are applied and a guard set:—Dupin's, a Savoyard, who was formerly a footman at Tourton's the banker, but who had got on in the world and had managed to gain twenty mil-



lions by the system, report says.—Kalis's, who was treasurer to M. de Bavière,—Morier's, who was a petty banker in jail two years ago with five hundred thousand livres of debt.

That Barbier's individual losses were severe is shown by the following entry:—rather a dismal one for New Year's Day:—

1721, Jan. 1.—This year is very different from the last for every body, and for me in particular. Last January I had sixty thousand livres in paper stock: imaginary, it is true, but which, nevertheless, it rested with me to turn into money. I had neither the wit nor the luck to do so; and now all is fallen to nothing,—so that, without having either gambled or bet, I have not to-day wherewithal to give my new year's gifts (*étrennes*) to my servants.

We can understand our author's regret at the necessity for this retrenchment,—and fear he must have been badly waited on during the ensuing twelve months: but his regrets were not always so amiable a nature. On the occasion of M. de Talhouet and the Abbé Clément being found guilty of some of the numerous rogueries committed in the Bank of the State; he remarks:—

Nov. 27, 1723.—On the same day, M. de Talhouet and the Abbé Clément were sentenced to be beheaded, and two clerks to be hanged. But we shall never have the pleasure of seeing rogues of quality hanged here. The punishment has been commuted.

Some seventy years later, Barbier, had he lived so long, might have had the pleasure he coveted of seeing more than one man of quality hanged on the lamp-posts of Paris. But alas! when that time came rogues and honest men suffered indiscriminately: and that it did come who can wonder, when one reads a paragraph like the following?—

Dec. 10, 1722.—The oldest prisoner in the Bastille died a few days since. He had been there thirty-five years. He had been arrested in the dress of a Jacobin, and was suspected of having wished to poison M. de Louvois,—but there was no proof against him! When interrogated, he replied, in a *jeargon* which none of the king's interpreters for foreign languages could make out; so that no one has ever known his name, or country, or what he was about in his Jacobin's dress, and thus he has passed five-and-thirty years, without books or papers.

Altogether, M. Barbier gives a curious picture of French justice a hundred years ago. He devotes several pages of his diary to the trial of Cartouche, the famous robber, whose talents and daring have made him the hero of many a play and romance. The number of persons of all classes implicated as his accomplices was immense. Cartouche had been given up to justice by one of his gang, named Du Chatelet, a man of good birth (*fort bon gentilhomme*, says Barbier), who, being himself condemned to death, had his sentence commuted into imprisonment on condition of betraying his chief. Our *avocat au Parlement* gives it as his opinion that, although faith should be apparently kept with the scoundrel, out of respect for the public, "he ought to be secretly poisoned in his prison." Perhaps some excuse may be offered for Barbier: imprisonment in the year 1722 was not a sure means of keeping thieves out of mischief,—as the following lines will show.

Aug. 31, 1722.—Yesterday came the turn of Cartouche's family; one of his cousins named Touton, the son of a chandler, was hanged. The Parliament inserted in the sentence a sharp rebuke to the *lieutenant criminel*, for it is said that this Touton has been in the Chatelet every year since 1695—which shows that he has got out each time.

Cartouche himself was broken on the wheel, after being tortured; and his brother, a youth of fifteen, who was very wicked for his age," says Barbier, was sentenced to be suspended for two hours by a rope passed under his armpits, and then to be sent to the galleys for life.

Even the first part of the punishment was too much for nature to bear, and the criminal expired in agony long before the two hours were over; "without confession," adds the diarist,—who on this occasion is but half an *esprit fort*.

The picture would not be complete if we omitted one last trait. While the rack, the boot, the thumb-screws, were in full play at the Conciergerie, where Cartouche and his accomplices were awaiting their doom, two plays of which he was the hero were drawing crowds to the Italian theatre and the *Comédie Française*! Yet, at that time the control of Government over authors and actors was unlimited, and the gates of the Bastille opened to admit any writer who might rhyme a song against the minister or the favourite of the day. The irresponsible subjects of an absolute monarch only could enjoy such a spectacle. Self-respect, the offspring of self-government, was unknown in those days. So true is it, that the public sense of decorum which is developed by freedom is more severe in its decrees where public decency is concerned than the most rigid censorship of authority. Well might Barbier doubt the credence of posterity.

Dec. 1721.—As a crowning piece of impertinence the play of Cartouche has been printed. I have bought it, as well as the sentence of those that are to be broken on the wheel. They will serve as vouchers to show the folly of this land.

The two volumes of the journal which have been published carry us down to the year 1746,—and one volume more we are told will complete the work. This would indicate that much has been retrenched from the original manuscript. Even in its reduced state, however, there is scarcely a topic of his day which is not in some measure illustrated by the author. Court balls, royal marriages, religious processions, miracles, bets, crimes and trials, Jansenists and Jesuits, mobs, fashions, and now and then the prices of bread, butter and eggs, are mentioned in turn. Our author, like almost all Frenchmen, tells a story well. One we will give as a fair sample of his manner, and as a means of taking leave of his journal under a cheerful impression.

Dec. 1725.—An adventure has just occurred which proves that no man can answer for himself. M. Petit de Montempuy, a priest-canon of Notre Dame, and moreover a great Jansenist, is now sixty, and has taught philosophy all his life at the college of Plessis. He is remarkable for his erudition and wisdom, had never been known to lose his gravity, and had never been to a play. At last, however, he was seized with a longing to go to the theatre; but thinking that he would be disgraced if recognized in his own dress, he determined to go in disguise. He let no one into his secret; and having found in an old chest some of his grandmother's clothes,—her petticoat, kirtle, scarf and cap, (this latter very high, whereas they are now worn very low)—he dressed himself up, without reflecting on the absurdity of a costume so different from the present fashions. He got unseen into a coach, and installed himself in the third tier of boxes. His neighbours stared at the strange figure; and having given notice to the people in the pit, these latter began to look at the poor man, and to make an uproar according to their laudable custom when anything displeases them. An agent of the police, having learned that the cause was a man in disguise, went up to the Abbé, made him quit the theatre, and having put him into a coach, took him to M. Hérault, the lieutenant of police, who was not at home. It was the First Secretary who received the Abbé—and who told me the story. Never was a man more angry, more confused at his own folly, or cutting a more ridiculous figure! He was sent home with a promise that his name should not be mentioned; nevertheless, all Paris knows the story,—and the Jesuits are delighted at such an adventure happening to a Jansenist. The Abbé has since been sent to a provincial convent by *lettre de cachet*.

Every occurrence in those days furnished

matter for a song; one of the best of those to which the above adventure gave rise commenced thus—

Question rare et nouvelle,  
Pour les savants de Paris;  
Dira-t-on, Mademoiselle?  
Ou Monsieur de Montempuy? &c.

In conclusion, we think it prudent, while recommending Barbier's journal to the curious, to remind the fastidious reader that it is not easy for a delicate pen to pick its way through the reign of Louis the Fifteenth. Energetic language is recorded of royal lips, which has quite "gone out" with the good old time—and lordly pranks are related that appear startling in these degenerate democratic days. M. de la Villegille—to whose labours as an editor we render full justice, and whose really valuable notes have added much to the merit of the work—boasts of having suppressed many objectionable passages, and tells us that the worthy canon of Verdun, of whom we spoke in the commencement of this paper, had preceded him in the task of expurgation; but as we read much of what they have suffered to remain, we could not but ask ourselves, with some dismay, what sort of passages they could have been that were condemned by such indulgent judges?

#### OUR LIBRARY TABLE.

*Antonina; or, the Fall of Rome. A Romance of the Fifth Century.* By W. Wilkie Collins. 3 vols. —The indifference with which the average reader—disconsolate in the recollection of many failures—may naturally regard a new classical romance, will not long "serve his turn" when 'Antonina' is opened. It is a richly-coloured impassioned story, busy with life, importantly strong in its appeals to our sympathy—one which claims rank not far behind the antique fictions of Lockhart, Croly, Bulwer and Ward. Mr. Collins is possibly less deeply scholastic, less precisely antiquarian than many of his predecessors; but his dramatic instinct makes up for want of elaborate training. Goth and Roman, Christian and Pagan are contrasted by him with a power which no closet study can give. In their vitality we have a glimpse of that burning, breathing life which the Warwickshire deer-stealer could throw into his *Cleopatra*, and *Cressida*, and *Coriolanus*, and *Brutus*. This, as we have a thousand times said, commands, and will win, the crown. The subject selected by Mr. Collins is one tempting an inventor to details which shock the sense. The revenge of the Gothic woman Goisvintha, made frantic by the murder of her children at the siege of Aquileia—the famine in the City of the Caesars,—the hideous death-banquet of the Patrician Vetricio, (sad imitation of the last revel of Sardanapalus)—the sacrifice of the idol-worshipper in his temple,—all fall naturally within the scope of a legend of 'The Fall of Rome.' All are incidents and catastrophes in painting or in penning which the waiting-gentlewoman's palette and crow-quill as implements would become offensive by reason of their unbecoming feebleness. Still, we must warn Mr. Collins against the vices of the French school,—against the needless accumulation of revolting details,—against catering for a prurient taste by dwelling on such incidental portions of the subject as, being morbid, ought to be treated incidentally. Need we remind a painter's son, how much Terror and Power are enhanced by Beauty? There is possibly no more riveting picture in the world than Da Vinci's 'Medusa' in the Florence Gallery,—yet how calm it is as compared with many a *Mater dolorosa* by inferior hands.—This caution given, we have little to do but repeat our commendations. The extent and complexity of Mr. Collins's pictures prevent our extracting any scene which could afford a fair idea of his manner;—but we have little fear that any romance-reader who takes up this book on our warrant will accuse us of exaggerated praise.

*Les Poètes Français, Recueil de Morceaux choisis dans les meilleurs Poètes, &c.* Par M. A. de Roche. Deuxième édition, revue et augmentée. The additions to this well-gathered and carefully-edited series of poetical selections justify our devoting a line or two of specific announcement and commen-



dation to a book which ere this is probably in the hands of every teacher, and of many of such readers as are more regardful of quality than of quantity. M. Roche's care, judgment and scope of liberal knowledge are rarer (as we have heretofore said) than they should be among those who publish works of this quality,—and who are too apt for the sake of a superficial and marketable value to get quit of all ideas of literary responsibility.

*People I have Met; or, Pictures of Society and People of Mark, drawn under a thin Veil of Fiction.* By N. Parker Willis.—This "People I have met" is simply a series of magazine articles and annual tales which we have read before, and some of which may, for aught we can assure the reader to the contrary, have been included in other of Mr. Willis's republications. This should have been owned in his preface; instead of which, the lively American writer endeavours to give a certain value and substance to his series, setting it forth as though it mirrored his experiences of European society. Now, so far as these tales are laid in England, France and Germany, we can say that such a masque as this—made up of Greek counts and Lothbury bankers, ladies of quality and enormous wealth who court very beautiful gentlemen, and London damsels helped to get on in "aristocratic" society by the agency of much-caressed Americans—has never, we believe, been seen in May Fair, *La Chaussée d'Antin*, the *Zeil* at Frankfurt, the *Graben* at Vienna, the *Corso*, or *Chiagia*, or *Riva* of any Italian haunt of "Love and Beauty." The "thin veil of fiction" proves to be as rich a theatrical screen as ever Mr. Planché imagined, or Madame Vestris commanded for Mr. Beverley to paint:—in other words, the pageant before us reminds us of nothing so much as of a *ballet*. Like one of those entertainments, it is glittering, musical, unreal, nonsensical, — yet not capable of hanging together or succeeding without some spangles of Art and some gossamer threads of Genius in its composition.

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## THE EXODUS FROM EGYPT.

In the *Athenæum* of 1849, November 10, p. 1133, &c., I explained my views on the probable course of the Israelites on their exodus from Egypt. Since that time, I have had the advantage of perusing the 'Rapport de l'Ingénieur,' printed in the 'Société d'Etudes de l'Isthme de Suez, Travaux de la Brigade Française,'—a work containing the most ample description of the whole of the tract near to every possible place of the exodus, and the most accurate levelling of the principal lines. The form of the ground, as inferred from these particulars, appears in every respect favourable to the supposition made

by me, namely, that the Israelites, having first intended to pass between Suez and the Bitter Lake, retreated to the N.W., and crossed the Bitter Lake, probably in its southern section.

In that communication, I alluded to the supposition that the Bitter Lake communicated with the Red Sea by a channel little wider than a canal. It does not appear that there is any trace of a channel other than the artificial canal,—of which the course is so distinct, that the extent of its excavation, to the very bottom, can be traced with perfect certainty. But the examination of this canal gives incidental proof that there must have been such a channel. The canal was so shallow (little exceeding two mètres in depth) that it must have been maintained nearly brim-full; and therefore the Bitter Lake, from which it received its supply, must have had its surface not many inches lower than that of the plain of Suez (through which the canal is cut). It is impossible that this state of things could continue without an occasional overflow to the sea, and the formation of a channel,—the course of which, in all probability, would be followed by the canal.

There appears reason, I think, to believe that the levels of the country have been very slightly disturbed by some geological agency. The mouth of the canal from the Bitter Lake where it communicates with the Red Sea, is so high that it could be used only at the highest spring tides, unless it were furnished with a system of locks to which we know nothing similar in ancient history. The canal from the Nile to the upper end of the Bitter Lake, which I have mentioned as passing nearly in the direction from W. to E., after quitting the vicinity of the Nile (passing through the narrow valley Wady Toumilat, which is probably the ancient Goshen), actually rises, so far as I can understand the engineer's report (p. 64) in the eastern part of that valley. In both these places I imagine that the ground must have been raised perhaps three or four feet.

The perusal of this work has suggested to me the probable identification of two places,—which I think worthy of attention.

The first is that of the Greek Heroopolis, with the Hebrew Baalzephon. The French investigators conceive that they have established, almost beyond doubt, that the ruins at the head of the Gulf of Suez, but on the eastern side, are those of the Heroopolis, which formerly gave name to the gulf; and I see no reason for questioning this conclusion. [It is possible that there might be several cities of this name; but I only urge that this was the Heroopolis of greatest importance in this district.] Now, taking the word Baal or Bel in the sense in which Major Rawlinson understands it, as "a superior being," I imagine that the Greek Heroopolis may be simply a translation of the Hebrew Baalzephon, or that both may be translations of the same original word. The place of the French Heroopolis agrees most happily with the probable place of Baalzephon, as inferred from the directions for the encampment of the Israelites. Assuming this identification, Mr. Sharpe's supposition that Hahiroth or Eiroth is the same with Heroopolis, cannot be received. Indeed, it appears to me more likely that Hahiroth or Eiroth was the name of the Bitter Lake.

The second is rather the restoration of a formerly-received identification of a Greek name which has been set aside by a mis-translation of the French writers, than a new identification. It applies to the name Patūmos of Herodotus (the second syllable is long). In the French work, p. 70, the passage of Herodotus relating to the canal is translated thus:—*'L'eau dont il est rempli vient du Nil et y entre un peu au-dessus de Bubastis; il aboutit à la mer Erythrée, près de Patumos, ville d'Arabie; le commerce dans la plaine, se dirige d'abord d'occident en orient, passe par les ouvertures de la montagne, et se porte, au midi, dans le golfe d'Arabie.'* And from this the French engineers infer, pp. 82 and 103, that Patūmos was in, or nearly in, the same place as Heroopolis, or at any rate that it was on the Gulf of Suez.

The passage of Herodotus (Book II., Chapter 158) literally runs thus:—*'The water is brought into it from the Nile. It is led a little above the city Bubastis, past the Arabian city Patūmos, and it enters into the Red Sea. In the first place, those parts of the Egyptian plain were cut, which extend*

towards Arabia. Above this plain is the mountain which stretches towards Memphis, in which are the quarries; along the base of this mountain the canal is led a great distance from W. to E., and then it stretches to the openings [of the mountains], bearing from the mountain towards the S. and S.E. [Mesembria and Notus] into the Arabian Gulf.'

The geographical term "Arabia," in Herodotus, includes the Egyptian desert, or the range of mountains and low hills which the French call "Chaine du Moqattam." Thus, in Book II., Chapter 8, he says, "As you go up from Heliopolis, Egypt becomes narrow, for on the one side stretches the mountain of Arabia, bearing from N. towards S. and S.E. [Mesembria and Notus], reaching, without interruption, to what is called the Red Sea, in which are the quarries that were worked for the pyramids in Memphis," &c.

Thus the expression, "the Arabian city Patūmos," is characteristically similar to "Ethem on the edge of the Desert." And I do not doubt that it was the same place, and that both were the same as Thoum, or the modern Abbāch in the French map. The mention of Patūmos is made by Herodotus solely to indicate the general course of the canal; and no place could have been better selected than Thoum, for, being situate at the entrance of the narrow valley of Wady Toumilat, the statement that the canal passed by it, followed by the statement that the canal passed from W. to E., defines most precisely its course. The reasons for identifying Thoum with Etham are sufficiently given by Mr. Sharpe, in Bartlett's 'Forty Days in the Desert.'

A. B. G.

Greenwich, March 7.

## FOREIGN LIBRARIES.

I cannot but consider Mr. Falkener's communication [under the title of 'British Museum Catalogue'—see *ante*, p. 262] as calculated to convey to the uninformed an erroneous impression as to the advantages which foreign libraries offer freely to all,—compared with the conveniences afforded in the Library of the British Museum only to a privileged few: making it appear that the regulations of the latter are much superior to those of the former—both in the facilities for obtaining books, and in the hours appropriated to reading.

The illustrations taken from the writer's impatience in the National Library at Paris on his failure in an attempt to *coax* the librarian to let him have books enough for eight persons,—his consequently going away with a fixed resolution never to set his foot again within the establishment,—and from his being hustled by a crowd of eager students on applying for books in the Library of the Museo Borbonico at Naples, (a library, the bad management of which forms, I am happy to say, an exception to every other Italian library with which I am acquainted)—are neither fairly chosen as examples of all foreign libraries, nor, as I think, fairly stated.—I have been a very frequent reader at the National Library in Paris in former days; and never failed to get as many books at once as I desired,—and as speedily as circumstances permitted. I have also been a frequent reader in the library at Naples; and never but once had to complain of what the writer mentions,—and that from not knowing that there was another room, the large apartment up-stairs, where gentlemen can read, and by a trifling gratuity to the library porter be supplied with as many books as they may choose, including works containing plates. In this room I have frequently met with my own countrymen,—as well as with other strangers. The library at Naples, however, is, as I have said, no specimen of Italian libraries generally:—no, not even of libraries of the Kingdom of the Two Sicilies.

The Public Library of Palermo is one of the best managed institutions that I know; where the facilities of obtaining books and the courtesy and attention shown to strangers are quite the reverse of what we find at Naples. I was never better pleased with any public library in Italy than with this. It is open much longer than the Public Library in Naples:—I think till four, or at least till three o'clock. That of Naples closes at two, along with the Museum:—at least such was the rule when I resided at Naples eight years ago. Of the other public libraries in Paris nothing is said by your correspondent,—nor do



we hear of the public libraries in Germany. Yet, since he tells us that the Library of the British Museum is the *only one*—it is to be presumed in Europe, or in the whole world—where printed tickets are given for books, he should of course have had experience of *all* other libraries.

At the Magliabechiana, in Florence, your correspondent seems to have been more at his ease. This library has of late years been open in the evening as well as during the day:—but it is not the *only one*, as he seems to intimate, on the Continent that is so. There is another not many miles from Florence—at Pisa—which is also open in the evening: a convenient practice enough in a library intended more especially for the use of students, but which is not required in libraries more especially for the use of scholars and literary men,—whose evenings are usually devoted to other pursuits than that of poring over books in public libraries. The Library of Ste. G  n  vi  ve in Paris, which is *par excellence* the students' library, is also open in the evenings—or used to be so, for four hours.

The charge of not being able to get what we want, urged against foreign libraries generally from the delay that sometimes takes place in the National Library at Paris, is, as I have said, I think, not fair: for the like delay, according to my experience, occurs nowhere else,—not even in the other Paris libraries open to the public,—not in German libraries—and not in Italian libraries. Not only in the Magliabechiana, in Florence, but also in the great libraries of Ferrara, Bologna, Ravenna, Pisa, the Library of the Minerva, at Rome, the libraries at Turin, Genoa, and other places, and in the smaller libraries that so abound in Italy,—at Siena, Aveggo, Perugia, Pistoia, Lucca, &c.,—the reader may have as many books as he requires—with this condition, that he do not keep to himself more than he may actually want. There is another erroneous impression which the letter to which I refer is calculated to convey,—viz., as to the hours during which public libraries are open on the Continent. These vary with the country,—depend much on its customs and habits—and are different in capitals from what they are in provincial cities or towns. The letter in question being written in reference to the usage in the National Library of the British Metropolis, the writer ought, in strictness, to have confined his statement to what takes place in similar libraries abroad; that is, in the great capitals of Europe,—Paris, Dresden, Berlin, Munich, Vienna, Turin, Florence, Rome, Naples, Palermo, Athens, &c. Had he done this, he would not have said that "the hours of study on the Continent are generally from 8 or 9, till 12 or 1 o'clock:"—by which, it is to be presumed that he means the hours during which public libraries are open. Had he remained to read in the National Library at Paris, he would have found himself undisturbed till 3 o'clock. The hours there are from 10 till 3:—and so they are in the G  n  vi  ve (I speak of 1839). In Dresden, they are from 9 to 1; in Berlin, from 9 to 4; in Munich, from 8 to 1; in Vienna, from 9 to 6 (as I understood the *custode* to say, though this may be incorrect: Forsten's "Handbook" says from 9 to 2); in Turin, from 9 to 10 till 3; in Florence from 9 till 2; in Rome (the Minerva), 5 hours daily; in Naples, from 9 to 2; in Palermo, from 9 to 3 or 4; in Athens from 9 to 3. It is chiefly in small or provincial towns that the public libraries close at 12 or 1 o'clock—both in Germany and in Italy; though I believe in France they follow the rule of those in the capital. When we get provincial public libraries, as in the countries here mentioned, it will be time enough to institute comparisons between them and similar ones on the Continent. The present question, however, about making our great National Library a public library, does not so much concern the custom on the Continent of opening libraries early and shutting them soon—or the number of books that may be had at once,—as it concerns the universal Continental custom of having public libraries freely accessible to all well-behaved and respectable persons. This I trust will soon be the case in our country also.

I appeal to your well-known impartiality and desire by increasing the usefulness of our public institutions to promote the education of the people

in sound principles of literature, science, and art, for the insertion of this letter.—I am, &c.

Newington Butts.

H. C. BARLOW.

#### DECIMAL COINAGE.

March 12.

I am glad to find from communications in your last two publications, that the subject of decimal money is not permitted to rest:—convinced as I am that a greater boon could scarcely be conferred on the public. I must, however, confess my entire dissent from the scheme put forth by your correspondent, Z.M. [*ante*, p. 263]. Can it properly be called decimal at all? Is it even centesimal? When Dr. Bowring brought before Parliament the question as to a decimal coinage, he proposed a scheme for effecting the object not very dissimilar to the one now under notice. I think I succeeded in convincing him that no plan for a decimally arranged system of money, and of account-keeping, could usefully be introduced, where the entire series of the duodecimal coins—shillings, pence, and farthings—was not superseded by another conveying the new ideas:—in short, that the notion of blending together two incompatible systems would lead to nothing but confusion, and the frustration of the proposed change. So long as the present coins and names are continued, so long will they be used duodecimally. All parties agree that the unit, or pound sterling, must continue unchanged; and there is an equal agreement that, instead of remaining, as at present, divided into 960 parts, important gain in convenience would ensue were these extended to 1000. The real matter to be discussed, therefore, is, as to the nature of the intermediate subdivisions. A purely decimal scheme requires that the pound should be divided into tenths, hundredths, and thousandths,—each represented expressly by a coin. The public must be taught the decimal system (in no other way will they learn it) by means of such coins put into their hands,—withdrawing all vestiges of the former principle. The foundation of such a superstructure has been already laid by the recent introduction (unfortunate as it is as a specimen of Royal Mint art) of the florin, or tenth, as the first of a new series. To supersede ultimately shillings and sixpences (so far as names go), the obvious course will be to coin half and quarter florins,—not as denominations merely, but for convenient circulation. The tenths and hundredths of the florin must follow, under new names. In fact, the coins and the denominations used in accounts must be synonymous.—I am, &c.

HENRY TAYLOR.

Clifton, March 12.

I find you have opened your columns to the advocates of a decimal coinage. I have had some experience on this subject from a temporary residence on the Continent; and if the inferences which I have formed are of any value, you are welcome to them.

A man to whom the idea is quite new, meditates for five minutes on the fact that 960 farthings are so very near to 1,000, and that it would be the easiest thing in the world, by Act of Parliament, to substitute one value for another,—and he persuades himself that he should thus have a decimal system. He has not a moment's doubt about its practical adoption,—because it is so easy. Unfortunately, experience proves that this facility is far from contributing to success. Indeed, the much more important question is, whether the proposed change can be easily evaded; and the best plan to choose is—not that which arithmetically considered is easy of adoption—but that which practically considered offers most resistance to any attempt to evade it.

Your Correspondent M. A. [*ante*, p. 232] does not seem to be aware how very imperfectly decimal systems have been adopted in some places where the experiment has been made. In speaking of what now exists, you will understand me to refer to the date of my latest information—three years ago.

In France the system has not been thoroughly adopted. The sou holds its place still against the decime, in all the smaller transactions of retail trade. 20 sous = 1 franc; 5 centimes = 1 sou. The livre, as a weight, is not entirely banished.

In Belgium the decimal is adopted, and they know nothing of the sou. I have not inquired into the cause,—but it would be interesting to ascertain

whether in France, Belgium, Switzerland, Piedmont, Lombardy, Saxony, &c., the success has not been in direct ratio with the violence of the change.

Nothing is more intolerably annoying than to have two systems instead of one, be it ever so bad. If any one would feel this practically, let him spend half a year in Dresden, and attend to all money matters himself. Far better, in my opinion, is it to make no change at all, than not to have it effective and complete from the first. Surely no one would willingly take us through a thirty or fifty year's purgatory of transition.

I think the results of Continental experiments justify me in laying down the following rules.—

I. In choosing a decimal scale, that should be preferred which offers most resistance to evasion,—not that which looks the most facile on paper.

II. Every denomination in account should be actually represented by a coin.

III. There should be at least four denominations:—corresponding to units, tens, hundreds and thousands.

IV. When it is necessary to substitute a new denomination for an old one, it is better to change one of higher than one of lower value.

V. In every case where a denomination is changed, the old coin should be withdrawn and entirely superseded by the new.

VI. Every new coin should have a new name.

VII. The name should be capable of easy, rapid utterance; and in our case it should be derived from the same source that gave us our penny and shilling (the German) wherever a coin of similar value offers itself.

VIII. The name and relative value of each coin should appear on its face.

IX. The possibility of the adoption of a common scale by ourselves and other European nations is not entirely to be disregarded in these days of commercial fusion.

Permit me to offer a few brief remarks in support of these rules.—

Rule II.—The great mass of the people will not adopt an abstraction: you must give them something which they can see, handle, and call by name, if you wish them to take notice of it in their reckonings.

Rule III.—The violation of this rule is one of the greatest inconveniences on the Continent. What Englishman does not feel the great convenience of talking of values in sums as small as possible? Who would say fifty florins when he might say five pounds,—or four farthings instead of a penny? Ask people to do this contrary to their habits, (it may be as *easy* as you please),—they will simply refuse to do it. There is something not only troublesome but *indefinite* in 10 and 20 as conceived by the mind, compared with its idea of 1 and 2. Who does not feel that 100 is a sum more difficult to grasp than 10—and 1,000 than 100? Does not an account in French francs bewilder me in spite of myself, where the sums are large:—and can any man conceive exactly the value of the large sum of little coins in which he is compelled to reckon the postage of his letters at the Dresden Post Office? I confess it seems to me a direct attempt to mystify me.

Rule IV.—The reason is, that the educated classes are most concerned with large values,—and where they are not wilfully perverse, they can and do adopt a change of this kind with ease; whereas in the retail dealings of the poorer classes, nothing but *inevitable necessity* will effect it.

Rule V.—The necessity for withdrawing the old coin arises from the fact, that the masses so long as they have the old coin *will* use it both in their reckonings and in their accounts.

Rule VI.—Prevents a great deal of confusion between old coins and new coins, not only in reference to past accounts, but in the actual state of transition—which even under the best system *will* have its day. It dispenses also with the appellations "old" and "new,"—which with the lapse of time become absurd. Besides, a coin has a *historic value* (at least a relative historic one); and to change that is in some sort to commit a falsification.—The change of name also helps to force the new system into adoption.

Names of Teutonic origin adapt themselves better to our kindred tongue than words from the Latin or Greek,—especially for popular use; yet the word



cent has become so established, that it may be admitted,—and especially since in our scale it would occupy a place where a name appears to be wanting on the Continent.

I must now show how these remarks apply to a decimal coinage for England. There are two scales possible. The pound, florin, millet, scale; 1*l.* = 10 florins = 1,000 millets;—and the ducat, shilling, cent, rapp, scale; 1 ducat (half a sovereign) = 10*s.* = 100 cents = 1,000 rapps, a rapp being somewhat less than half a farthing, and a cent =  $\frac{1}{4}$ *d.*, rather less than  $\frac{1}{5}$  farthings. Now, I give the decided preference to the second scale, on almost every one of the grounds contained in the rules already laid down.

Every denomination will be easily represented by a coin. The ducat is our present half-sovereign. Sovereigns would count as two ducats (turn over your sovereigns five at a time, and count ten, twenty, thirty, &c.). The shilling we have, and we keep. The cent is a good copper coin, and is already fairly represented by our large unmilled pence, which are ready made and only wait to be new christened. The rapp is a coin which we have not,—but which, with reduced prices, would be a great advantage to the poor, especially in Ireland; and it is universal on the Continent, or nearly so. In the other scale, the sovereign, florin and millet are good coins,—but the cent is wanting, or if coined is very inconvenient. Being of the value of  $\frac{1}{4}$ *d.*, it is too large for copper and too small for silver.

The ducat scale provides the four denominations with ease: the other provides but three,—the cent being impracticable, as a mere abstraction. The ducat scale exchanges the sovereign for the ducat:—the other scale exchanges the shilling for the florin. The first affects chiefly the *educated classes*:—the other affects the masses and the poor and ignorant. In neither case can the old coin be withdrawn. This is a difficulty which would be felt far more in the case of the shilling than in that of the pound, on account of the class of people affected by the change; but in the copper coinage, the ducat scale would substitute a cent for a penny, which after temporarily passing as eight rapps might gradually be withdrawn.

The pound scale neither withdraws the penny nor provides any substitute for it. The names of millet and florin appear to me very good:—the Austrian florin being almost precisely equal to two shillings in value. Rapp is a word already familiar to our ears in the phrase “not worth a rapp.” The same phrase still exists at Ratisbonne,—whence I suppose our merchants originally imported it. This value is at no loss for a name; “*doit*” stands in Johnson’s Dictionary—and “*mite*” in Holy Writ:—but my ear decides for rapp. All these names represent a value of about half a farthing.

In my opinion, should Germany ever adopt one common monetary system, the only one that can readily unite the 20 florin, 24 florin, and 14 dollar systems of Austria, of the Rhine, and of Prussia would be a coin exactly equal to our shilling. It is the only value that constitutes anything like a common denominator—and Saxony has made a mistake in rejecting her own 20 florin basis for the Prussian one of 14 dollars. It is a step which must be retraced, if Austria and the Rhine are to be included. That may be one reason for keeping our shilling as a money of account.

Now, with respect to the first grand rule, it appears that the pound system is very defective in the means of forcing its own adoption. Its advocates consider this a merit,—I consider it a fatal defect. It calls on people to keep their accounts and transact their business in florins and in farthings; it leaves them their shilling and their penny—and for the last it offers no substitutes. Now, I predict with confidence that the masses will continue to deal and keep their accounts in shillings—there is nothing to prevent it. They will also continue the use of the penny for all purposes. The Act of Parliament will have no other effect than to make a shilling worth 12*d.* instead of 12*d.*. Yes—the pound scale will produce this valuable change. The shilling will be reckoned at 12*d.*, instead of 12*d.*—and that will be all, so far as concerns the masses!

The other system in the changes which it does make has the power of securing its own adoption. It leaves the poor man his shilling as a denomination

of account:—it takes away his penny, but it gives him the cent in its place, and compels him to accept it by depriving him of the old coin.

Some advocates of the pound scale profess their belief that merchants and wealthy people will not submit to exchange the pound for the ducat. Now, if that be so, I consider it tantamount to a rejection of a decimal scale altogether; for if they will not make so easy and trifling a change, *à fortiori* it cannot be expected from the masses. Besides, these merchants have but a choice of changes:—either the pound becomes a ducat or the shilling becomes a florin; and whether it is easier to talk of large sums and totals or of small sums—the prices of commodities, &c.—in a denomination double what it was before? Certainly, if I were a merchant I should say I would “rather retain the shilling than the pound.” At least, to reject one seems to be equivalent to rejecting the other—and away, as I have said, goes the decimal scale altogether. There is another great advantage to the merchant in the ducat scale:—that he will save a whole column of figures. He need not enter anything below the cent (of  $\frac{1}{4}$ *d.*); while the other system obliges him to enter every farthing or to disregard sums below  $\frac{1}{4}$ *d.*—or, according to the plan of many, who would leave him neither coin nor name between a florin and a farthing, he must enter his farthings on pain of his figures becoming nameless and unutterable.\*

I could point out other trifling advantages, but these are the chief. I will only add that the intervals of the ducat scale might be filled by a two-rapper, a five-rapper, a three-center and a five-center (=6*d.*). The crown and half-crown are good coins, and there is no occasion for the florin; but if it were thought more convenient, it might be substituted for the half-crown.

I hope none of your readers will peruse these remarks with a feeling of partisanship,—but all under the impression that it is far better to weigh and choose the best plan, while we are yet free and not irrevocably committed to either. I am, &c.

HENRY NORTON.

#### OUR WEEKLY GOSSIP.

THE Annual General Meeting of the Literary Fund Society took place on Wednesday last. The meeting was called for two o’clock,—and by the same Card the Committee was summoned to meet at three. We notice this, because it is proof that we were in error when we said, some time since, that these General Meetings usually occupy from two to three hours. Our error may be excused, when it is remembered that on these occasions, besides that some time is necessarily lost in formalities—the minutes of the last meeting have to be read and confirmed—the annual reports of the auditors and of the treasurers have to be read and approved—and that, by the direction of the Charter, these meetings are held for the purpose of choosing the President, Vice-Presidents, Members of Council, Members of Committee, Registrars, Treasurers and Auditors—for the further purpose of managing, regulating and controlling “all the affairs” of the Society—for making and establishing “by-laws” for the regulation of the “estates, goods and business thereof”—for electing, appointing, and removing the officers, attendants and servants, and fixing such salaries as shall be deemed “a reasonable compensation for their duties and attendance.” Now, two or three hours in a twelvemonth does not seem more than would suffice for the deliberate performance of these multifarious duties; but one hour, or one half-hour, is, we admit, enough if the time is to be wasted in mere ceremonial. And what but a ceremonial can it be, when the parties assembled know no more—and can know no more—of “all the affairs” of the Society than the absolute uncontrolled and irresponsible Committee is pleased to tell them? How are they to regulate “all affairs,” when they know nothing about them? How grant “reasonable compensation” for services with which they are absolutely unacquainted? How revise, alter, or amend by-laws, when, for anything they know—or can know—the by-laws have been utterly disregarded, treated

\* On the ducat scale, large accounts might be kept in ducats and cents.—D. 88 5*d.* c.; small accounts in shillings and rapps.—S. 34 2*d.*

as so much waste paper and as of no more consideration than the Charter itself. The directions in which, as we showed last September [No. 1141], have been openly set at defiance? The election of a President, Vice-Presidents, and a Council is under these circumstances a mere mockery and delusion. The Council, for any practical or useful purpose, has no more existence after than before the election. It never assembles,—has never met,—and great doubts are entertained whether it is possible legally to summon a meeting: certain it is, we believe, that it has no power to meet. The clear and emphatic directions and intention of the Charter, that the members of the Council shall be “elected out of those members who shall have served for three years at least upon the General Committee,” are simply mocking words:—for the Charter unhappily proceeds to say, that “if at any time or times the members who shall have served for three years upon the General Committee, and who shall be willing to serve in Council, shall not be sufficient to supply the vacancies in the Council, then and so often, the deficiency shall be made up out of the members at large”;—and of course, under the new interpretation of the law, the exceptional clause is made the rule:—no member of the committee is “willing to serve on the Council”—in no one single instance has a member consented to serve. Here is proof, and proof enough, of the change that has come over the Literary Fund Management. For thirty or more years, from the day when the Charter was granted, a removal from the Committee to the Council was considered—as intended by the Charter—as an honourable reward for services performed; now, once a member of the Committee, ever a member. The Committee possessed of absolute power by chance—and as we hold illegally—in a printed house-list recommends itself for re-election,—and recommends others to fill up the vacancies; selecting occasionally a member of the Council, but passing over such senior members as have opposed this new close-borough system. Ho, presto! the thing is done,—the election over,—the farce concluded,—the curtain dropped,—the “hour” come to an end. It only remains for us to add the cost of the entertainment; and this we will do so soon as the Accounts shall be published; as our annual contribution to the history of the Society.

The Museum Report has at length emerged from the mystery which had so long shrouded it—at the moment when certain anxious parties were thinking of fitting out an expedition to go in search of it. Its disappearance has been nearly as unaccountable as that of Sir John Franklin. The ice is, however, broken. The report was presented last night to Parliament—and is accompanied by the evidence.

The Queen has bestowed a pension of 100*l.* a-year on Mrs. Bessy Moore, wife of the celebrated poet Thomas Moore. The pension, as the warrant sets forth, is granted “in consideration of the literary merits of her husband and his infirm state of health.”

On Wednesday last, Mr. Ewart, after considerable discussion, succeeded in carrying the second reading of his Public Libraries and Museums Bill. Our readers know that this Bill has two objects—to extend to the establishment of libraries the power which town councils already possess of making an assessment for the purpose of museums,—and to enlarge those powers so as to include boroughs not reached by the existing Act. There seemed to be a very general admission of the desirableness of providing all communities with institutions of the kind; and the objections turned chiefly on the impolicy of making the supply compulsory save on the sufficient demand of the people,—the impropriety of rating the inhabitants of boroughs save with the consent of a certain large majority. This principle, which was strongly insisted on, was accepted by Mr. Ewart as the purchase of ministerial consent. In the course of the discussion it was stated by Mr. Heywood that there were twelve gentlemen in Manchester who, in anticipation of the passing of this Bill, had subscribed 100*l.* each towards the purchase of books. In the sister-town of Salford, the library recently established there has already between five thousand and six thousand volumes, and several hundred persons, it is said, attend every night.

It would appear that the application of Her Majesty’s Commissioners for suggestions relative to



the general arrangement of a ground plan for the forthcoming Industrial Exhibition, has set many minds to work,—and that more than one architect is engaged in making complete sets of working drawings for the finished building. For the present this is premature,—and involves that waste of time and labour too much of which goes annually to the account of undigested competition. Details of construction and of architectural decoration cannot be objectively entered on until the system of arrangement shall be known. When that shall have been finally determined on,—and hints from practical or ingenious men are useful to assist towards the determination—it is understood that the Commissioners will invite, by public notice, designs, accompanied by tenders, from architects, builders, and manufacturers, for the construction of the building, of the form and according to the scheme so adopted.

As an instance of the earnest spirit and thirst for information which are spreading amongst the people, it is worth while that we should mention the sort of reception given by the working classes of Bradford to the proposed great Industrial Exhibition. On their own suggestion, they are forming themselves into money clubs for the purpose of accumulating funds to enable their members to visit the Exhibition in London. As this forecasting spirit is likely to spread, again we repeat our hope that the subscriptions of the more largely endowed may be on such a scale as will prevent the cost of exhibition offering any obstacle to this popular demand for information.

As we anticipated, the report, which we noticed only to scout last week, of Sir John Franklin having emerged out of the mystery which envelopes his fate by the way of Behring's Straits, turns out to be an idle echo. This report was said to come from a gentleman on board the ship *Blakeley*, arrived at San Francisco. The *Times* is now requested to state that letters of the same date as that which conveyed the report have been received by the Liverpool owners of that vessel from its commander, in which no mention is made of the circumstance: and the owners add, that, "from his accurate habits of correspondence, they are persuaded he [the captain] would never have allowed such news to have remained unnoticed if it had come from an authentic source."

The announcement in our columns of a treaty intended to effect the purpose of an international copyright having been submitted to the French Institute by the Minister for Foreign Affairs, excites much interest; and we continue to receive communications and suggestions on the subject. That the draft has been so framed as to satisfy the *Cercle de la Librairie*—so that the French publishers are not likely to oppose its progress—and that the rights of French authors have been duly cared for—may be presumed; but now, as we have said, is the time for those several interests amongst ourselves to bestir themselves as to insure the treaty's being made to rest on a sound reciprocal basis—practically embodying principles which may be found capable of application elsewhere, as the measure spreads. The want of an enlightened law of international copyright in the present relations of the world, is a reproach to the nations. One of our correspondents suggests that timely representations should be made to the Minister by the body, literate here, through the medium of a delegate (a resident in Paris might be selected, he says, to save expense)—who being conversant with the subject, should forthwith take the necessary steps for bringing their views before the proper authorities. "Of course," he adds, "it is not to be supposed, if the treaty purposes to effect international copyright, that the reciprocity will be all on one side; but the French law of copyright is so simple, and in this respect differs so strikingly from ours as it now stands, that it is scarcely reconcilable with experience to believe that the new treaty will be as completely reciprocal in its provisions as it might be made, were some such plan adopted. If it should be consummated in its present form, whatever that may be, there is great danger of British authors losing a fair opportunity of becoming, to a certain extent, their own legislators. Though the treaty may prove to be advantageous to them, it is not unlikely to turn out that, from their own supineness in not seeking at the opportune moment to procure the entire loaf, they may ultimately be

obliged to content themselves with only half a one,—a mere French roll, in fact."—We hope, for ourselves, that our Government has its eye on the measure. The representatives of British authors and publishers might go more directly and surely to their object through its means.

We have seen a letter from Dr. Barth, dated Tripoli; at which place, when it was written, he was waiting with his companions, for the instruments from London, which an accident had delayed,—before starting on their journey of exploration. Mr. Richardson had arrived a fortnight before. Two men had been engaged to go with the travellers the whole journey,—one of whom speaks the Bornani, Beggarmi and Mandara languages,—and knows personally the country as far down as Musgau. He represents it as a distance of a month's travel, by a route lying between two large rivers.

"Where will these Borneys stop?" was Dr. Johnson's exclamation on hearing of some new success won by Painter Edward, or Doctor Charles, or Admiral James. In like tone we could ask, without bombast,—Is there no limit to the munificence of a Beaufoy? It was but last week that we recorded an instance of splendid liberality in the cause of gratuitous primary education performed in that name:—and now, the journals announce the endowment of a fourth mathematical scholarship of 50*l.* a-year in the City of London Schools by the same generous man. This last transaction is accompanied by circumstances that make it peculiarly touching. In the preliminary recital it is set out—that this fourth scholarship is in express commemoration of the donor's late wife, whose interest in these City scholarships was sincere and great,—and that the foundation bears date the day of Mrs. Beaufoy's decease.—It is added, that the City authorities have requested Mr. Beaufoy to visit for his bust, to be placed in the building which he has four times enriched.

The *Glasgow Examiner* states that Mr. Allan Glen, a citizen of that place, has left the greater part of his fortune, amounting to nearly 20,000*l.* for the endowment of two schools in Glasgow:—one for fifty boys, who are to receive clothes, books, &c.,—the other an industrial school for girls. According to our contemporary, these schools are to be free from all sectarian trammels.

At Aberdeen, the so-called "Latter-Day" Pamphleteer—Mr. Thomas Carlyle—has been defeated by a large majority in favour of Sheriff Gordon for the dignity of Lord Rector. That a party should have been found capable of proposing that gentleman at all, is one more proof how slowly light finds its way into those nests of antiquated doctrine, the old universities; but the majority by which he has been rejected is an expression of the fact that even they have got far a-head of the teaching of Mr. Carlyle.

The *Northern Whig* states, that it is in contemplation to make an application to Government to afford additional inducements to the study of scientific and practical agriculture in Her Majesty's Colleges in Ireland. This is working in the right spirit:—adapting an educational establishment to the circumstances of the country in which it is planted. Instruction in agriculture, and in what else relates to the cultivation and management of the land, is a valuable feature in the curriculum for Ireland.

For some time past we have missed out of the world of French fiction the name of one of the most graceful and spiritual of all the body of remarkable writers who for some years past have wielded the pen in that country for the service of the novel,—that of M. Charles de Bernard. It now appears, that the cause of absence has been, a long and painful illness,—which has resulted in death. To the readers of the *Journal des Débats* M. de Bernard's name and manner are familiar,—some of his most attractive tales having appeared in the *feuilleton* of that journal. By others he will be remembered as the author of *La Femme de Quarante Ans* and of *Gerfaut*. To a charm of style which none of the brotherhood surpassed, M. de Bernard added a taste which few of them have possessed; and though dealing with the same unwholesome elements as the rest—the vices of the Society in which he lived,—and liable to the same charge of practically overlooking much of the good that must have underlain the surface of a society however corrupt to keep it from perishing of

its own corruption,—he presented the sin which he saw in its more natural aspect and less monstrous proportions, and took an easy attitude in shooting at the folly which flew around his path that escaped all the distortions of the convulsive school of the Soulié's and Dumas's. A light vein of satire, felt rather than perceived, ran like a fine yet informing thread throughout his narrations; and we know not the pen left that can touch so lightly yet pleasantly,—and expressively withal,—the surface-traits of French life,—going little further down into the moralities of his theme than to the next immediate motive, but producing that gracefully and clearly.—M. Charles de Bernard has died at the age of forty-seven.

The French papers report also the death of one of the medical celebrities of Paris, M. Marjolin,—professor at the Faculty of Medicine in that capital.

BRITISH INSTITUTION, Pall Mall.—The GALLERY for the EXHIBITION and SALE of the WORKS of BRITISH ARTISTS is OPEN DAILY, from Ten till Five.—Admission, 1*s.* Catalogue, 1*s.* GEORGE NICOL, Secretary.

THE WINTER EXHIBITION OF WATER-COLOUR DRAWINGS AND SKETCHES IN OILS, comprising Works by the most eminent living Artists, will positively CLOSE on SATURDAY, MARCH 23. Open from Ten till Dusk daily.—Admission (including Catalogue), 1*s.*; Season Ticket, 5*s.* "The Exhibition is altogether one which will repay the attention of visitors."—*Athenæum*, Jan. 5. J. L. GRUNDY, Manager. 130, Regent Street.

THE NILE.—RE-OPENED AT THE EGYPTIAN HALL, PICCADILLY.—The new and splendid MOVING PANORAMA of the NILE, showing all the stupendous Works of Antiquity on its Banks, from Cairo the capital of Egypt to the Second Cataract in Nubia. Painted by Henry Warren and James Fahey from drawings made by Joseph Bonomi during his mission to Egypt in 1828. Opening—Morning 3; Evening 8 o'clock.—Stalls 3*s.*, Pit 2*s.*, Gallery 1*s.*

NEW EXHIBITION.—NOW OPEN, at No. 369, Regent Street, adjoining the Royal Polytechnic Institution, A PICTURESQUE TOUR to the BRITANNIA BRIDGE, with ILLUSTRATIONS, comprising Views of Birmingham, Chester, Coventry, the Victoria and Britannia Bridges, &c. &c. on a grand scale. Painted by J. W. ALLEN, Esq. An instructive and amusing Description by JOHN CLARKE, Esq.—Hours of Exhibition: Attention, Two o'clock and Four; Evenings, Seven o'clock and Nine.—Admission, 1*s.*; Schools, half-price.

HER MOST GRACIOUS MAJESTY'S VISIT TO IRELAND, illustrated by a GRAND MOVING DIORAMA, with some of the most charming scenery in that country, including the lovely LAKES OF KILKENNY, by Mr. L. J. CROFT, Esq., now OPEN at the CHINESE GALLERY, Hyde Park Corner, on MONDAY, March 18th.—Daily at Three; Evenings at Eight.—Admission, 1*s.*; reserved seats, 2*s.*—An interesting Historical Record of the event may be had at the Gallery.

NOVELTY.—JUST OPENED, at the DIORAMA, Regent's Park, a highly-interesting EXHIBITION, representing the ROYAL CASTLE of STOLZENFELS, on the Rhine, (visited by Her Majesty Queen Victoria in August, 1845), and its Environs, as seen at Sunset and during a Thunder Storm; painted by NICHOLAS MEISLER, Esq. of Cologne. And the much-admired Picture of THE SHRINE of the NATIVITY, at Bethlehem; painted by the late M. RENOUX, from a Sketch made, on the spot, by DAVID ROBERTS, Esq. R.A., with two novel and striking effects.

ROYAL POLYTECHNIC INSTITUTION. ILLUSTRATIONS on ASTRONOMY, by Dr. Bachoffner, on Wednesday and Friday, at One o'clock, during Lent.—Dr. Bachoffner's LECTURE on the PHILOSOPHY of SCIENTIFIC RECREATION, Mornings and Evenings.—THE SECOND LECTURE, on the CHEMICAL RELATIONS of the METALS, by J. H. PEPPEL, Esq.—DISSOLVING VIEWS of LONDON in the SIXTEENTH CENTURY, by ASH PIERCE, Esq., on MONDAY Descriptive Lecture; also a SERIES of VIEWS of ROME.—Experiments with the DIVER and DIVING BELL, &c.—Admission, 1*s.*; Schools, Half-price.

## SOCIETIES

ENTOMOLOGICAL.—March 4.—G. R. Waterhouse, Esq., President, in the chair.—Messrs. J. S. Baly and J. Shepherd were elected subscribers.—Mr. Bond exhibited a piece of the stem of an ash tree, from near Whittleford, Cambridgeshire, covered with the pupa cases of a *Galeruca* (?). He also exhibited some webs formed by the larva of *Galleria Colonella*; which he had found between two planks of wood.—Mr. Wilkinson exhibited some cocoons of *Plutella narpella* found in crevices of the bark of a lime-tree. Mr. Bond stated that he had bred the species from larvæ feeding on rose and dog-wood (honeysuckle) being the ordinary food of this insect.—Mr. S. Stevens exhibited specimens of *Agrotis saucia* and *suffusa* from Venezuela, identical with our English species, and a living specimen of *Ceropacha flavicornis*, which he had taken the preceding day.—An instance of the mildness of the season.—Mr. Stainton exhibited several species of Micro-Lepidoptera, which he had recently been breeding from leaves gathered in the preceding autumn, viz., *Lithoclella pomifoliella* from hawthorn, *L. salicicolella* and *L. viminiella* from willow leaves, and a specimen of *Gracilaria auroguttella* bred from *Hypericum pulchrum*. He also exhibited a fine series of *Ecophora resensens*, taken by Mr. Douglas, and six new species of British Tineidæ, viz., *Micropteryx mansuetella*, a species allied to *calithella*, but with black head and pale in distinct fascia; *Aspilota Stauntonella*, a species allied to



*Æsericiella*, but even smaller than *Æ. metallicella*, and much paler in colour; *Myelois Artemisiella*, which had been bred from the stems of wormwood by Mr. Simmons; *Bucculatrix cristatella*; *Gracilaria Oenostomella*, a singular aberrant species, with the anterior wings grey and destitute of markings. This species had been taken by Mr. Dunning, near Brandon, and by Mr. Douglas near Mickleham; and *Grambus uliginosellus*, a species recently discovered on the Continent by the indefatigable Zeller. It differs from the common *C. pascuellus* only in the anterior wings being shorter and less pointed, the posterior wings whiter, and the head and palpi whiter. —Mr. Westwood exhibited a British specimen of *Ophion undulatum*,—a species which occurs also in Albania.

INSTITUTION OF CIVIL ENGINEERS.—March 5.—W. Cubitt, Esq., President, in the chair.—Before the business commenced, it was announced by the Secretary that an electric telegraphic despatch had been received, communicating the intelligence that at seven o'clock in the morning of Tuesday, three locomotive engines and twenty-two loaded coal waggons, weighing in all three hundred tons, had passed through the Britannia tube, over the Menai Straits, with perfect safety, and very satisfactorily to Mr. R. Stephenson, the engineer.—The discussion was resumed on Mr. Taylor's system of Street Paving, and was extended to such a length as to preclude the reading of any paper.—A model of an improved Crossing Point was exhibited by Mr. Duncan, of Leeds; the notch in the rail was shown to be done away with, and the two rails in it were so dovetailed together as to render any vertical motion between them impossible, thus materially strengthening the crossing.—A piece of brickwork set in Greave's blue lias lime, and which had been kept under water for nine days, was exhibited. This material was composed of one-third of lime to two-thirds of burnt clay; and it was stated to have been used with great success in the tunnels on the Great Northern Railway, as well as in many hydraulic works, in which it was as durable as cement.

The following gentlemen were elected:—Mr. E. O. Tregelles, as Member; and Messrs. J. A. Agnew, W. Bevan, E. Goddard, J. D. M. Stirling, G. B. Thorneycroft, C. C. Williams, and Lieut. D. S. Galton, R.E., as Associates.

March 12.—W. Cubitt, Esq. in the chair.—It was announced from the chair, that copies of the ground plan of the intended site in Hyde Park, and of instructions for preparing designs of the buildings for the Grand Exhibition of 1851, had been presented to the Institution; and that on application to the Secretary, duplicates of these documents would be forwarded to any of the members who intended to devote their attention to the consideration of this question.

The Paper read was, 'On Tubular Girder Bridges,' by Mr. W. Fairbairn.

ROYAL INSTITUTION.—March 8.—W. R. Hamilton, Esq., in the chair.—Prof. E. Forbes 'On the Distribution of Freshwater Animals and Plants.'—The object of the lecturer was to show, that when the distribution of freshwater plants and animals, as made known by the ample researches of numerous naturalists, is compared with the physical features of the world, as now presented to us, it cannot be fully explained without calling in the aid of geological changes; and that the phenomena of distribution of fluviatile and lacustrine creatures exhibited, in this respect, the action of the same influences which on former occasions he had maintained materially to affect the distribution of creatures terrestrial and marine. Commencing by illustrating this position on a small scale, by showing how freshwater fish, mollusks, and plants of the east of England exhibit peculiarities in their dispersion that can be explained only by going back to the epoch when England was part of the Continent,—he then adverted to the remarkable fact in palæontology, that at an epoch immediately preceding the present, when the great majority of the freshwater creatures were identical with those now living in our streams, certain shell-fish of the genera *Cyrena* and *Paludina*, identical with existing forms which do not approach nearer than Egypt, ranged as far as Great Britain, and how we can trace them in a fossil state in the interspace.

In this instance we have a complete recession of the species; but in the case of *Melanopsis costata*, now living in Spain and in Egypt, but found in a fossil state only in the interspace, we have an instance of the isolation of groups of individuals through geological dislocations within an intermediate area. Prof. E. Forbes is inclined to regard the remarkable fact, to which attention was called by Cuvier, and supported by the data brought home by the Niger Expedition, that the fishes of the Nile are not only members of the same types with those of Senegal and Western Africa generally, but even in part specifically identical with them, and not with the fishes of the Mediterranean river types, owing to some great change in the geographical features of Northern Africa, probably to an ancient relation of the Nile and the Senegal rivers with a more southern Mediterranean sea, of which the Great Desert may have been the bed. That the disposition of the species, and even genera, of existing freshwater animals was mainly determined by the arrangement of the water-sheds, the lecturer illustrated by a triple map of North America, showing the distribution of the fish and of the mollusks, as compared with the river systems of that region and the areas of land which became such since the glacial epoch, founding his maps on the researches of the numerous and admirable native naturalists who are now exploring the United States, and on the observations of Sir John Richardson and Sir Charles Lyell. Among the facts noticed was the concentration of the salmon and *coregoni* within the area of the upheaved bed of the glacial sea; the distribution of the carp tribe in a curve following the lines of new land; the presence of freshwater fishes and shells identical with European only in the great northern river region; the presence in each great river-system of a single and peculiar species of pike and lamprey; the difference of species both of fish and mollusks in the rivers flowing on each side of the water-sheds; the concentration of the majority of the *Melanix* in the Mississippi region, contrasted with that of the *Lymnææ* in the region of the great lakes; and numerous other striking facts which, when collated, can only be interpreted in favour of the position maintained by the lecturer.

Attention was next called to the flowering plants common to North America and Europe, inhabiting the northern United States, as enumerated in the Flora of Prof. Asa Gray. When these are analyzed, the community of species is found to consist of several elements: they are either Alpine and Arctic forms, owing their diffusion to the phenomena of the glacial epoch; or plants,—and not a few,—admitted by American authors to have been introduced from Europe, and then become naturalized; or maritime plants—a small number, which may be easily accounted for in several ways; or—a considerable residue—more than sixty species of aquatic and marsh plants of the Germanic type, which cannot fairly be placed under either the first or second heads. That these last are due to the agency of birds, on which great stress has been laid by botanists, Prof. E. Forbes is inclined to admit; but after submitting the question to a gentleman deeply versed in the study of migrations of birds,—(Mr. W. Thompson, the author of the 'Natural History of Ireland,')—he is prepared to maintain that even to account for the presence of this large assemblage of freshwater plants of European forms in North America, by the action of aquatic migrating birds, we must call in the probability of geological and geographical changes, and reverse the migration in autumn when the seeds are ripe, from the course which it now takes. Moreover, Mr. Thompson gives reasons for believing that the transport of seeds about the plumage of wading birds must be a very rare and unlikely, though possible event, and therefore could influence a Flora only through the duration of ages: that, on the other hand, there are indications of an American element in our own Flora due to this cause acting through long periods, Prof. E. Forbes is inclined to infer from the presence of *Eriocaulon*, *Spiranthes cernua*, the recent appearance of *Anacharis*, and probably also some of the west Highland localities of the musk plant. That genera are not conventional sections, but permanent and original ideas, is supported as well from the distribution of freshwater beings, as from that of marine and terrestrial. The lecturer illustrated this point by

means of a map which he had constructed of the distribution of silurid fishes, calling attention to the continuity of the areas occupied by large genera, and the concentration of the smaller groups in limited geographical regions. A remarkable instance was cited in the curious assemblage of peculiar silurid genera discovered by Mr. Pentland in the volcanic craters and rivers flowing from them in the Andes. Of the limitation of a natural genus, *Salmo* was instanced, extending in a continuous band wherever there were favouring conditions around the North Pole.

Lastly, Prof. E. Forbes noticed a remarkable phenomenon in the distribution of generic types of freshwater mollusca, which had been strikingly illustrated by recent researches of the Geological Survey. Whilst almost all of them date from as far back as the oolitic period, the characters of form in each are so slightly varied in the different species, that each genus may be said to be constant to the same features from its origin to the present time. The consequence of this is, that so far from freshwater formations indicating to us their relative age, by the peculiar aspect of the species of shell-fish they contain, as marine formations do, it would be impossible, without evidence of super and infra position, to say from their fossil shells to what epoch they belonged,—whether secondary, or older tertiary, or newer tertiary, or belonging to the present time.

#### MEETINGS FOR THE ENSUING WEEK.

Mon.	Royal Academy, 8.—Sculpture.
—	Chemical, 8.
—	British Architects, 8.
—	Pathological, half-past 7.—Meeting of Council.
—	Statistical, 3.
Tues.	Civil Engineers, 8.
—	Linnæan, 8.
—	Horticultural, 3.
Wed.	Society of Arts, 8.
—	Microscopical, 7.
Thurs.	Royal, half-past 8.
—	Antiquaries, 8.
—	Royal Academy, 8.—Painting.
—	Philological, 8.
Fri.	Royal Institution, half past 8.—Prof. A. C. Ramsay, 'On the Geological Causes of the Scenery of North Wales.'

#### FINE ARTS

*The Principles of Design in Architecture as deducible from Nature and exemplified in the Works of the Greek and Gothic Architects.* By E. L. Garbett, Architect. Weale.

WE have here another contribution to the study of architectural aesthetics and criticism, which in our opinion bids fair to divide attention with Mr. Ruskin's 'Seven Lamps.' Unpretending and even humble in form, written in a style which cannot be commended, and published at what may be called a merely nominal price, it is stamped, nevertheless, by sterling originality—that originality which proceeds from earnest and many-sided thoughtfulness accompanied by conscientiousness of purpose. Treating of the Greek and Gothic systems of the Art—according to Mr. Garbett the only worthy and genuine systems that have been or are likely to be produced,—he of course goes over familiar ground, but not in the usual stage-coach fashion of criticism. He treads it rather as an active and exploring pedestrian traveller, who pauses to contemplate the various sites and objects. Hence, he sets many matters in a new light—some of them in such a light as will not fail to give umbrage to sundry parties.

We will not attempt to follow the writer step by step over nearly three hundred pages of close argumentative criticism,—nearly every one of which is pregnant with thinking and material for thinking; neither can we here give even a mere summary or outline of his doctrine. We shall content ourselves with noticing one or two especial points. The following remarks may perhaps help to dissipate a prevailing delusion, and correct an equally prevalent error.—

"Since our fancied revival of Gothic architecture, ignorance of its principles, and the consequent necessity for amassing voluminous collections of examples and precedents, have led to the egregious error of supposing that our nine thousand parish churches contain an exhaustless fund of such 'precedents,' on whose genuineness and consequent infallibility we may rely, and rest from the weary search after truth; for to save ourselves the labour of thought is the real object of all this industrious measurement and delineation, and bustle of endless research. Now, the fact is, that the old 'Gothic' parish churches are, for the most part, gothic indeed—the work of illiterate rural masons, totally ignorant of the principles of that or any other architecture; repeating as well as they could, the mere details, empty forms or clothing of the only architecture they saw,—that



of the scientific fraternity of Gothicists—without the remotest conception of its meaning, motive or principles. \* \* Thus they admired and copied, but did not imitate."

The italics, which are the writer's own, are well employed to give greater emphasis to what cannot be pronounced too emphatically or reflected on too carefully. Elsewhere, the writer says: "There is no substitute for thought [a dictum worthy to be inscribed in all our academies and schools of art in letters of gold]. All the ponderous tomes of examples, specimens, &c., from Adam and Stuart downwards, have been intended or received for this purpose [viz., as substitutes for thought], and as such are not only totally worthless, but extremely prejudicial, though invaluable as materials for analysis, free criticism, and search into principles—for which purposes they have never yet been used."

Let us hope that instead of continuing to be looked at and made use of as books of convenient ready-made patterns, publications of the kind will begin at last to be turned to their proper account. It is owing to their not having been used with discriminating thoughtfulness, that architectural design has become little more than mere compilation from such sources,—more or less judicious and tasteful, but at best compilation and copying still.—

"Nothing," says Mr. Garbett, with a prodigality of italics, "can increase the value of a design which does not increase the labour of the designer, (by designer I do not mean draughtsman). Every reference to precedents should do this, and will do so with every true artist. But the false artist refers to precedent to save himself trouble; that is, to cheat his employers, by diminishing the value of his work without diminishing its apparent value!"

Most worthy of serious consideration is also the following passage.—

"By a singular inconsistency, those who constantly profess to be no judges are really the style-formers. They say, 'We know nothing of the art, but we know what pleases us.' But what does this assume? Plainly, that the art is intended to please them. This is the grand art-destroying error. No true art is, or ever was, meant to please the many, but to teach them when to be pleased."

The passages which we have quoted may serve to recommend the nature of this little work—little in the ordinary meaning of the term, yet large and weighty in its import and object. There are one or two matters in regard to which we do not exactly agree with Mr. Garbett:—perhaps because he has not sufficiently explained himself. But we sincerely approve of his principles on the whole,—as calculated to raise architectural study, or what is now so called, from the grovelling routine into which it has fallen.

**FINE-ART GOSSIP.**—The *Times* gives the following account of a work of Art which has recently been received from Leghorn by Messrs. Pownall & Protheroe, of Austin Friars. It is a drawing in oil (*chiaroscuro*) of the famous 'Last Judgment,' painted in fresco by Michael Angelo, in the Sistine Chapel, at Rome. The painting in the chapel is 55 by 43 feet; the drawing is 5½ by 4½ feet,—that is to say, a tenth part of the size. Through the medium of engravings this terrible and elaborate composition is perfectly familiar to all who take any interest in Art. But the drawing now in London has peculiarities which claim a degree of attention beyond that which could be accorded to a mere ordinary copy. It is, in fact, not a copy; for although the general character of the grouping and the greater number of the figures are to be found both in the drawing and in the fresco, there are certain important differences of detail which show that the former could not have been taken from the latter. In the first place, the figures in the drawing are nude, whereas those in the chapel are covered with drapery. They were not originally so painted, but the drapery was added by order of Pope Paul IV. A sun and moon are to be found in the drawing, which are not in the print in Duppa's 'Life of Michael Angelo' nor in that by Martin Rota. The diabolical figure to the right of the foreground, which is generally known by the name of 'Minos,' but is by some called 'Midas,' has a full face in the drawing, but a side face in the prints which follow the fresco in the chapel. The figure of St. Bartholomew in the prints holds out the skin both of his arms and legs, but in the drawings only that of the former is seen. Another important difference is, the insertion of a falling Pope in the fresco, which does not appear in the drawing.—Of all these differences, that between the nude and draped condition of the figures is probably of the least consequence,

inasmuch as Rota's print represents the condition of the work in the chapel before the draperies were added. This might have furnished a subject for a copyist; but the introduction and omission of figures and essential variations of attitude show that the origin of the drawing must be sought elsewhere.—In a word, the question is, whether the drawing now in the possession of Messrs. Pownall & Protheroe is the original design made by Michael Angelo himself for his fresco,—and whether the variations in the larger work are to be looked on as after-thoughts?

The reparations for some time past making in the Church of St. Eustache, in Paris, with a view to restore it to that condition in which it existed in 1637, have brought to light more than one interesting discovery. One circumstance worth noting, at once as a fact artistic and as a fact archæologic, is said to have occupied a good deal of attention. It has reference to the paintings recently found in five different chapels,—and which manifestly by their execution belong, it is asserted, to the first half of the seventeenth century. The municipal administration has been occupied with the inquiry how far it might be possible to effect the restoration of these pictures; which, if not by Philip of Champagne, recal, it is said, his style and manner. A great inducement is stated to have been, that these pictures, besides their individual merit, are excellently studied with a view to *ensemble*,—and compose a system of ornamentation of which it is a piece of good fortune to have thus found the key. This system, it seems, may be advantageously followed for the decoration of the rest of the edifice. The Prefect of the Seine has asked from the Municipal Commission a grant of the sum necessary for the restoration of two of these chapels, to begin with,—and the Commission has complied with his demand.

The *Art-Journal* states that Mr. Gibson, the eminent sculptor, is occupied in making a design in his studio at Rome for a national monument for the House of Lords, which is rich in poetical allusions. It consists of the statue of Her Majesty, supported by two figures, one representing Wisdom, the other Victory. On the pedestal are three bas-reliefs, representing Commerce, Science, and Agriculture:—the triple root of Britannia's grandeur.

## MUSIC AND THE DRAMA

**PHILHARMONIC SOCIETY.**—The Subscribers and the Public are respectfully informed the SECOND (CONCERT will take place at the Hanover Square Rooms, on Monday Evening, March 18th. Programme:—Sinfonia, letter a, Haydn; Concerto, cminor, piano-forte, Mr. C. Salaman; Beethoven's Overture, 'Leonora,' Beethoven; Sinfonia, M.S., Mendelssohn; Polonaise in A, Mr. Blagrove, Meyseder; Overture in D, Bernard Romberg. Vocal Performers: Mdlle. Charton and Herr Formis. Conductor, Mr. Costa.—Single Tickets (with Reserved Seat), 12 1/2s.; Double Tickets (ditto), 12 1/2s.; Triple Tickets (ditto), 24 5s.—to be obtained of Messrs. Addison, 210, Regent Street.

**MUSICAL UNION.—FIRST MATINÉE.—TUESDAY,** March 19th, at Half past Three o'clock, Willis's Rooms.—Quintet in E flat minor, Hummel; Quartet, in D, No. 7, Mozart; Rondo (Capriccio), Op. 14, Mendelssohn; Septet, 2 flat, Op. 20, Beethoven. Executants: Sainton, Deloffre, Hill, Piatti, Howell, Lazarus, Jarrett, and Baumann. Piano-forte:—Miss Kate Loder.—Members' tickets have been sent to their respective residences; and to prevent delay at the Concert Rooms, it is requested that the subscription be paid to the Treasurers, Cramer & Co., 201, Regent Street.

\* \* \* The Record of 1849, and complete sets, may be had on application to the Director, gratis to Members and Musical Libraries.

**MR. HENRY NICHOLLS'S DRAMATIC READINGS OF SHAKSPEARE.** On Tuesday Evening March 19, 1850, at St. Martin's Hall, Long Acre, commence at Eight. And this Morning, March 16, Merchant of Venice, at Blagrove's Rooms, Mortimer Street, Cavendish Square, commence at Three. Being the Last Readings of the present course.—Admission, 1s. and 2s.

\* \* \* Communications respecting Private Readings, &c. to be addressed, 16, Howard Street, Strand.

**APPROACHING END OF LENT.—LOVES LENTEN ENTERTAINMENTS** at Store Street.—VENTRILOQUISM EXTRAORDINARY.—On Monday Evening, March 18, Mr. Love will repeat his Entertainments at the Music Hall, Store Street, Bedford Square.—Begin at Eight. Reserved Seats 5s. Boxes, 4s. First-Class Seats—Hall, 2s.; Second Class, 1s.; Private Boxes, 12 1/2s. and 17 1/2s. 6d.

On Tuesday, March 19, Mr. LOVE will make his Third Appearance at Crosby Hall, Bishopsgate Street; and on Wednesday, March 20, he will appear at the Assembly Rooms, Commercial Hall, King's Road, Chelsea.

**CONCERTS OF THE WEEK.—St. Martin's Hall.**—*Mr. Willy's Concerts.*—The second of these, like the first, was, so far as programme went, a model entertainment of its kind:—in respect of performance far above what was the Philharmonic average before Signor Costa took that Society's orchestra in hand. Insufficient advertisement has in some degree stood between these meetings and merited popularity,—but once known they must be largely frequented, or we are strangely at fault. The Overtures on Mon-

day last were, Mendelssohn's 'Hebriden,' Weber's 'Euryanthe,' Cherubini's 'Anacreon'; the Symphony was Beethoven's in A; the *Solo* an allegro of a concerto by S. Bach, performed by Mr. W. S. Bennett. The singers were Miss Birch, Mr. Benson, and Signor Marchesi, who,—among other pieces—gave Beethoven's *terzetto* 'Tremate' better than we recollect to have heard it given. On the last-mentioned of the three vocalists we dwell, not merely because he is a stranger and, we are told, but a beginner (under the guidance, we perceive, of M. Garcia), but because there already needs little to make him the most available and most interesting concert-basso in the market. In spite of some timidity, Signor Marchesi's vocal method and thorough firmness in his music deserve as much praise as his voice, which is eminently what the Italians call '*simpatica*.'"

On Wednesday evening a full performance of 'Judas Maccabeus' was given, under Mr. Hullah's direction. Of a work so familiar and execution so well accredited there is little new to say. The *solo* singers were Miss Birch, Mrs. Noble, Miss Gill and Miss Kent, Mr. Sims Reeves and Mr. Whitworth. Anything like the choral power now available in London does not exist in the records of English music; since, all this time, Mr. Surman's society is singing in rivalry to the *Sacred Harmonic* body at Exeter Hall. Our audiences, however, have still to be trained into a larger acceptance of good works than they manifest at present. Constancy in admiration may become obstinacy in prejudice.

**HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE.**—It must be evident that the times require "wary walking" on the part of operatic managers. All the spurious excitement of rivalry betwixt "Market" and "Garden" is over,—past the power of "puff" or "counterblast" to quicken into life again. The battle must be fought by good *versus* bad music, good *versus* bad performances; also, by moderately cheap *versus* extravagantly dear opera-boxes. Considering the matter and the manner of entertainment more than usually important, we must hold Mr. Lumley's start on Tuesday to have been anything but an auspicious one. It is a pity that no 'Medea' exists fit for a great songstress to act, or for a great actress to sing. Were Cherubini's magnificent opera unexceptionable as regards *libretto*, it could be executed only by a *prima donna* commanding Mdlle. Lind's high register, Madame Catalani's physical strength, and Madame Viardot's dramatic grandeur and sensibility. Pacini's recent 'Medea' was even more trashy and ephemeral than its composer's 'Didone' and 'Niobe':—all three (with the exception of the well-known *rondo* from the last work) being defunct past hope of revival. Mayer's 'Medea,' given on Tuesday, was kept on the stage only by the magic of *Queen Pasta*:—and could she return among us, armed with the olden command of her '*Io!*'—could she reproduce the terrors of the murderer struggling betwixt her mother's love and her woman's vengeance,—it is questionable, whether even she could now impose upon the world music so monotonously mediocre as this. With the exception of one duet of high and noble beauty, 'Cedi al destin,' the rest of Mayer's opera—though in form classical and correctly written—is of the most commonplace quality. Were, however, 'Medea' what it should be, it might, still, not prove strong enough to bear being burlesqued; and little better than burlesque was the performance of Tuesday as regarded heroine and hero. Mdlle. Parodi wears a diadem, a mantle, a magic robe, of the same pattern and of the same materials as Pasta's. She raises and drops her arms,—not as Pasta did,—but rather after the fashion of the Vauxhall imitators who present Kemble or Macready to the Lambeth public. Curious it is to see how in the most violent of junctures she ever and anon forgets herself into that set smile which (were it intrinsically attractive) hardly fits the pride, the rage, the vengeance of the Colchian sorceress. As Pasta did of later days, Mdlle. Parodi sings sadly out of tune. Unlike Pasta, she is inaudible in the concerted music:—the medium tones of her voice being very weak this year. On Tuesday she was not perfect in her task. Two passages of execution propelled with a certain brilliant audacity were thought worthy of an *encore*: otherwise the part and the opera fell flat.—When it is said of (*Jasmin*) Signor Michelli, that more than half a dozen different persons compared him to



Mr. Keeley in 'The Sphinx,' he is sufficiently characterized.—Madame Giuliani was ineffective and out of tune as *Cressa*. In Pasta's day this character was sustained by that elegant and accomplished singer Madame Caradori.—Neither Signor Beletti nor Signor Calzolari were well placed as *Creonte* and *Egeo*; but theirs was the only tolerable singing of the evening.—Whether Mr. Baffe's orchestra has been weeded of good performers since last year, or for some other reason—it was at once weak and coarse, toneless and noisy, on Tuesday evening. The chorus seemed in better order. The new scenery by Mr. Marshall, is excellent—simple, picturesque and tasteful.

'Les Métamorphoses'—the ballet which succeeded—consists of a long scene of tricky diablerie in a student's room—followed by a gorgeous night-festival in the grand illuminated gardens of a foreign palace. In defiance of the fickle French, who are now adopting Madame Cerito as their idol—we know no *dansuse* so gracefully pensive or piquantly fascinating as Mdlle. Carlotta Grisi. Here she wears all manner of bewitching dresses, and dances all manner of dainty *pas* to some of Signor Pugn's best music.—The illumination in the garden festival is grand (of its kind); but the fierce light with which it has become a fashion on like occasions to flood the stage, is fatal to costume and colour. Within the sphere of its glare scarlet looks soiled, blue dingy, and yellow has no existence. Unless the primary colours could be intensified, it were wiser (for the sake of pictorial effect) to lay it aside.—Mdlle. Marie Taglioni is to appear to-night:—Mdlle. Ferraris, also, is announced as having arrived. The latter is the lady whom our Naples correspondent in 1846 [*Athen.* No. 963] described as having by her many-twinkling feet turned the heads of the frequenters of the Teatro San Carlo. Certainly the world is going round in a strange way just now. All manner of odd and unexpected things come uppermost. Our Italian opera-houses can hardly be kept open without recourse to French music and French singers:—our French *ballets* can hardly be executed without Italian dancers.

ST. JAMES'S.—Mr. Mitchell's Comic Opera season is fast drawing to a close. On Wednesday week, Auber's sparkling 'Les Diamans,'—no *paste* by the way, but a veritable brilliant,—was produced. Yesterday week, a one-act opera, 'L'Esclave de Camoëns,' with music by M. Van der Does,—in which an English bass, Mr. Henry Drayton, made his appearance—was given. On Wednesday last was given 'Le Maçon' of Auber. This is one of the composer's earlier works,—which, in spite of the lightness and sparkle of much of its melody, and of many touches of the individuality since so charmingly developed, suffers by the monstrosity of the story. At this M. Scribe himself would probably be now one of the first to laugh. Grim things, we know, by the score, have happened in Paris,—but the notion of a Greek slave (Mdlle. Charton) and a young French officer (M. Leroy) being walled up and chained to a pillar in the house of a Turk, within a hand's breadth of a low-comedy wedding party in the Faubourg St. Antoine, is too full of bathos to please in England. 'Le Maçon,' however, is taken in serious earnest in Germany. The song of *Henriette* (Madame Guichard) and her duett with *Madame Bertrand* (Madame Mancini), in the third act, are very ingenious and piquant. The latter lady is a capital duenna, full of comic humour. Singing gentlewomen of her age and circumference are hardly to be seen save in French comic opera; but they give great drollery to a group,—as 'Le Maçon,' 'L'Am-bassadrice,' 'Le Domino Noir' attest. Nor must the capitally grotesque terrors of *Baptiste*, the locksmith (M. Chateaufort) be overlooked as an excellent piece of acting. The performances were announced as for the benefit of Mdlle. Charton. This lady's English popularity has undergone no diminution this year. She is, without question, one of the most pleasing singers and actresses who has recently visited this country. Mr. Mitchell's speculation, it is to be feared, has suffered from the want of a tenor who could replace M. Coudere in popular favour; but that "such fruit do not hang on every bough" may be gathered from the fact, that M. Coudere (after many years of provincial occupation) has been re-

called to Paris to strengthen the enfeebled ranks at the *Opéra Comique*, in which no successor to M. Roger has appeared.

DRURY LANE.—Mr. Anderson, in reviving Beaumont and Fletcher's 'Elder Brother,' or 'Love at First Sight,' has achieved the greatest hit of the season. Whether this old comedy can now become popular may be questioned; but it must be confessed that it is worthily mounted and acted,—and on the Monday evening it met with great applause. Mr. Anderson was himself the scholar *Charles*, Mr. Montague was the fop *Eustace*, and Mr. Emery was the uncle *Miramont* who has a saving belief in learning. This gentleman's natural and spirited acting powerfully conduced to the success of the piece. Miss Vandenhoff as *Angelina* was elegant and impressive. The comedy has been relieved from the corruptions of Colley Cibber:—the fine poetry which it contains told with admirable effect.

HAYMARKET.—On Wednesday was produced a farce neither original nor new. Evidently from the French, the flimsy plot was composed of materials with which all are familiar. A damsel locked in her chamber by her father—a lover clandestinely visiting her, and having to leap from the window—the substitution of the maid's sweetheart for the lady's—these are all the incidents which occupy the scenes of 'The Three Cuckoos':—and which were deservedly condemned.

NEW STRAND.—A new farce, by the brothers Barnett, was produced here on Monday. It is in one act, and is entitled 'Out on the Loose.' Mr. Clapperton *Chisel* (Mr. H. Farren) is the newly married fast young man who deserts his wife for a frolic, and gets into mischief and debt. On the point of being arrested, he finds refuge at his uncle's, and here he meets with his wife. Certain whimsical incidents take place—much perplexity and error; but the confusion is at last satisfactorily got over, though it is not easy to trace the means by which that result is obtained. The situations are broad and produce great laughter,—the only object apparently sought by the authors.

MUSICAL AND DRAMATIC GOSSIP.—We have already adverted to the determinate "form and order" which the *Amateur Society* appears to be taking in its aims and proceedings. To criticize its meetings as though they were "set concerts" would be unfair, but we must call attention to a rumour or two too significant and promising to be overlooked. We are told that at one coming Concert no less arduous a *Solo* than Weber's 'Concert Stück' is about to be played with orchestra by an amateur,—that at another Mr. Osborne's Piano-forte Sestett will be rendered entirely by amateurs: further, that at the Concert of which the latter piece will form a part, the entire *programme* will be made up of English compositions.—We hear that the Liverpool Philharmonic Society has pledged itself to perform Mr. C. Horsley's Oratorio in Autumn—and that Mr. Henry Leslie's 'Festival Anthem' will be given at the Free Trade Hall in Manchester on an early occasion.—While stringing together these evidences of enterprise which meet us on every side, let us mention that we heard the other night from a Birmingham friend "competent to speak" not merely of the popularity of the very cheap Concerts given at the Town Hall to the working classes—not merely of the advance in taste shown by the frequenters of the room and the listeners to the organ,—but also of the humanizing effects which the promoters of these entertainments believe can be distinctly ascribed to their influence. This is a fact in pleasant harmony with the practice and production of the 'Concert Stück' at the other extremity of the social scale. Let only creation (and we may add criticism) keep pace with connoisseurship "gentle and simple," and the reign of Queen Victoria may become as renowned as that of *Ortana*, whose playing of the wonders in the "Virginal Book" and whose patronage of the madrigal make so bright a figure in the annals of music in England.

The next Concert of the *Sacred Harmonic Society* is one of great interest and variety:—to consist of Haydn's third (or Imperial) Mass—Spohr's 'Last Judgment,' and 'Mendelssohn's 'Lauda Sion.'—Mr.

Surman's Society is announcing the 'Elijah' about to be shortly performed.

The *Musical Union* is to begin its operations on Tuesday next, we are told, with an increased number of subscribers. The services of Herr Ernst have been secured for two performances before his exclusive engagement with the *Beethoven Society* commences.

Let us here announce, among the minor music of the past week the Concerts of Mdlle. Rosalie Thémaris and of Madame Verdavaine.

A slip of the pen in last week's *Athenæum* calls for a rectification. The instrument laid down by Mr. Platt and taken up by Mr. C. Harper, in the Philharmonic orchestra, is not the first Trumpet, but the first Horn.

It was said a day or two since that 'Antigone' may, possibly, be revived at Drury Lane. If Mendelssohn's Chorus be attempted, we trust that this time they will be performed; not spoiled, as befell them when the tragedy was given at Covent Garden.

Letters from Cassel announce that Dr. Spohr has entirely recovered from the consequences of a severe recent fall on the ice, which had seriously alarmed his friends; and that at a concert, conducted by him since his recovery there has been performed a Symphony by our townsman Mr. Charles E. Horsley, which has been most favourably received.

Though we do not recognize either the courage or the fertility, least of all the unconsciousness, of a great artist in the over-solicitous delay with which M. Meyerbeer withholds one of his new works, and the lover-like fondness with which, when such a rarity is produced, he seems to follow its success year after year "from pillar to post," in place of planning and achieving new triumphs,—bigotry's self cannot deny to his operas the possession of a vitality which no merely clever piece of head-combination could retain, the first fever of fashion once over. To compare 'Les Puritains' (the most winning of all the new operas that have appeared in London or in Paris for fifteen years past) is dead and past the power of a Lind or Sontag to revive, 'Les Huguenots,' on the other hand, a production of the same date, is still a musical drama of first-class interest, out of which a new-comer *Valentine*, *Raoul* and *Marcel* can elicit a hundred new effects brought out by new readings. Its revival in Paris, with Madame Viardot, Madame Laborde and M. Roger (somewhat inexplicably retarded), seems expected with the impatience which waits on a new work. A like career of popularity we think awaits 'Le Prophète.' At all events, the production of this opera at Vienna seems to have stirred the anxious people of the Austrian capital into something like their old musical enthusiasm. Famine prices were paid for boxes, stalls, &c. &c. on the first night, the theatre was surrounded shortly after mid-day, and all places which could be secured were bought up for the first ten representations. As for the dinners, serenades, bouquets, medals, &c. &c. laid at Meyerbeer's feet on the occasion (not forgetting his coronation on the stage by an actress who personated Glory)—the detail of these splendours distances the power of English journalism to describe or of English sympathy to follow. Capricious as the Germans show themselves to the memory of departed greatness, they are complimentary enough to living popularity.

The foreign papers mention as possible the establishment of a *Conservatoire*, or music-school, at Weimar—Peace permitting. In this M. Liszt, Ernst and Leonard (the last a sterling violinist) may possibly occupy "chairs." The associations belonging to Goethe's town give to such a project a certain ideal interest in addition to its intrinsic value. Who would not be glad to hear of artistic life and culture once again gathering round Weimar?—An announcement of one of the last productions in preparation at the theatre "rings hollower" than the above rumour. This was to be one of Gluck's operas, the instrumentation of which had been retouched by that revolutionary genius, Herr Wagner. Now, we can submit to Handel as amplified by Mozart, because Handel, we know, flung out his music carelessly—little regarding adjuncts and draperies, in the conscious grandeur of his first ideas. M. Adam, again, is welcome to be-trombone and to be-clarinet Grétry's meagre scores whensoever M. Adam pleases—for Grétry, however sweet and *spirituel* as a melodist, was



hardly able for himself to treat the orchestra. But by Gluck every note and chord were reasoned out, considered, balanced, and proportioned. His inspiration came of thought, labour, acute analysis and profound research; and let the nakedness or want of fancy in his orchestra be what they will, we cannot imagine any supplementary additions or admixtures to his music without loss of dignity. No one in attempting to revive compositions of the elder schools, ever seems to think of the simple experiment of increase of numbers as giving richness of tone. To much lean violin writing a grand and imposing effect may be imparted by a multiplication of the force of stringed instruments.

The Olympic and Marylebone Theatres remain closed, in consequence of an incident with which the police reports of the week will have made our readers familiar.

### MISCELLANEA

**University Reform.**—As I take in the *Athenæum* in parts instead of numbers, it was only a day or two ago that I read the excellent paper respecting Oxford University reform. Agreeing, as I do, fully in your correspondent's remarks on the great abuses of the University, I cannot but regret that he should have supported his conclusions by a misstatement respecting the college to which I have the honour to belong. To show the evils of the system of close Fellowship, he has instanced, among others, St. John's College, Oxford, as producing scarcely anything but third and fourth class men. Now, Sir, a reference to the class list for the last few years will show that St. John's forms an honourable exception. For from Easter Examination 1841 to Easter Term 1846 inclusive—a period of eight years—there are as many as nine first class and six second class among the Fellows of that college. When you consider the fact that these are all from the Merchant Taylors' School, and that the average number of elections is usually reckoned at three in two years or five in three years—the proportion of high classes appears to me very large, and very creditable both to the college and to the school.—Yours, &c.—FAIRPLAY.

**Curious Epitaph.**—The Latin epitaph, Quod fuit esse, quod est, quod non fuit esse, quod esse, Esse quod est, non esse, quod est, non est, erit esse, copied into to-day's *Athenæum*, is curious enough, it may be presumed, to elicit more than one attempt at solution; and I can scarcely doubt that something will be suggested better than mine. Such as it is, however, I submit it. In the first place, I would take the liberty of altering the punctuation as follows:—

Quod fuit esse quod est; quod non fuit esse quod esse; Esse quod est non esse; quod est non est, erit esse. Translated literally:—"That what has been is what is; that what has not been is what being is; that what is, is being not; what is, is not, it will be to be." Or, somewhat less oracularly, and applied, as seems natural in an epitaph, to the concerns of human life and death:—"The present is but a repetition of the past; the earthly life of man is so vain as that non-existence is equal to existence—existence to non-existence; his living is not essential life while here, but will be such after death." Whether the nominative sentences destitute of verbs, as I have been obliged to suppose them, are admissible in any absolute sense, as axioms proposed, I must leave for better Latinists than myself to determine.—I am, &c. WM. M. ROBERTS.

March 9.

**New House of Commons.**—The sum required for the completion of such portions of the New House of Commons as are necessary for the convenient transaction of business is estimated by Mr. Charles Barry, in a statement recently issued, at 102,180*l*.

**National Gallery.**—Mr. Ogle asked whether it was the intention of the Trustees of the National Gallery to persevere in cleaning the pictures of the old masters; and also, whether they contemplated removing the pictures of the Royal Academicians from that part of the building at present appropriated to them.—Lord J. Russell understood, from inquiry, that no pictures had been ordered to be cleaned during the last two years, and he was not prepared to say that the Trustees were dissatisfied with what had been already done in that respect. He might state that no arrangement had been finally made with respect to the National Gallery, but that the question was under the consideration of the Government whether, in some way, they might not provide greater room for the pictures, recently given by individuals to the Gallery, particularly the Vernon pictures. It was not in contemplation to remove the pictures of the Royal Academicians from the place

in which they were now situated.—*Debate of March 11, in the House of Commons.*

**Sir John Franklin's Expedition.**—The following are the terms of the reward offered by Government for the discovery of this Expedition, as they appear in the *Gazette*.—

Admiralty, March 7.  
20,000*l* reward will be given by Her Majesty's Government to any party or parties, of any country, who shall render efficient assistance to the crews of the Discovery Ships under the command of Sir John Franklin:—

1. To any party or parties who, in the judgment of the Board of Admiralty, shall discover and effectually relieve the crews of Her Majesty's ships Erebus and Terror, the sum of 20,000*l*; or,

2. To any party or parties who, in the judgment of the Board of Admiralty, shall discover and effectually relieve any of the crews of Her Majesty's ships Erebus and Terror, or shall convey such intelligence as shall lead to the relief of such crews or any of them, the sum of 10,000*l*; or,

3. To any party or parties who, in the judgment of the Board of Admiralty, shall by virtue of his or their efforts, first succeed in ascertaining their fate, 10,000*l*.

W. A. B. HAMILTON, Secretary of the Admiralty.

**Morpeth Old Church.**—The old church of Morpeth, lying about a mile south of the town, contains one of the finest stained-glass windows in the north of England. This beautiful example of the art is fast going to decay. The mischief done by profane hands in former days, and the injury sustained from neglect in the present, have reduced it to such a state of dilapidation, that unless its restoration be speedily undertaken it must fall to pieces. Happily, however, the larger portion of the glass remains in such preservation that it may be repaired at a comparatively small cost, and there are not wanting, at this time, artists who are equal to the work. The Hon. and Rev. Mr. Grey, rector of Morpeth, has undertaken its restoration, and the Earl of Carlisle and others have subscribed towards it. It is therefore hoped that funds will be raised to accomplish so desirable an object, and save this fine old window.—*Newcastle Chronicle*.

**The Ventilating Brick.**—All means calculated to advance the sanitary condition of the people have lately received much consideration. A new registered brick, denominated "the universal ventilating brick," has been brought under notice, which would appear to be deserving the attention of architects and other persons employed in the erection of buildings. The objects sought to be attained by the use of the brick are—first, a thorough draft throughout the walls of the building, so as to ensure perfect dryness of the walls, and complete security against the dry rot; secondly, the easy and economical diffusion of artificial heat in hothouses and other buildings of that description; and thirdly, a saving in the cost of the brickwork itself to the extent of upwards of 30 per cent. The brick is also stated to be particularly well adapted for paving kitchens, lobbies, &c.; as it admits of a free current of air under the flooring, and ensures perfect freedom from damp, and in the case of new buildings, by the application of artificial heat, the walls may be dried and the building rendered habitable within an exceedingly short space of time.—*Daily News*.

**Silver Lode.**—A very valuable silver lode has been discovered on Ell Bridge Estate, the property of Mr. W. Wymond, in the parish of Landulph, about four miles from Saltash, on the direct Callington road. Applications have been repeatedly made for the last twenty years for a grant of the sett; which, however, could not be obtained till about a fortnight since, the proprietor not believing his estate contained any mineral, and supposing that his land would be broken up to no purpose. Operations were lately commenced, and when only three feet from the surface a valuable lode of silver-lead ore was opened on, showing that the opinions of the practical miners were correct. The ore taken from it, having been carefully assayed, produced 10 in 20 for lead, and 200 ounces of silver in the ton of ore. The shaft has since been sunk about four fathoms, where, the lode is four feet big, and the ore found to be of much greater richness. This is one of the richest lodes ever seen in our locality so near the surface.—*Plymouth Guardian*.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.—A. B. C.—J. J.—E. C.—Veritas—G. G.—received.

We cannot accord to Mr. Grover the space which he requires. His communication wants some indication of actual experimental examination of so important a subject.

## MR. BENTLEY

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#### Observer.

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\* \* \* This extremely singular book is much sought after by the collector, on account of its elegant classical woodcuts, and of its fine execution in other respects. The designs are by Mantegna or Montagna, of the Venetian school.

**Newcourt (R.), Ecclesiastical Parochial History of the Diocese of London**, containing an Account of the Bishops of that See, also of the Deans, Archdeacons, Dignitaries, and Prebendaries, and of the several Parish Churches, Patrons and Incumbents; also the Endowments of several Vicarages, and Religious Houses within the same, comprising all London, Middlesex, and the County of Essex, the parts of Hertfordshire and Buckinghamshire, portrait and plates, 2 vols. folio, with some interesting Manuscript Notes in the Autograph of Browne Willis, neat, 5l. 5s.

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\* \* \* Most important historical volumes for an English library. Copies have sold for upwards of 10l., and are very difficult to find uniform.

**Plague.—Curious and interesting Collection of Eight Tracts relating to the Plague**, viz., Henech Clapham, his Demands and Answers touching the Pestilence, 1604.—Orders thought meet by His Majesty and his Privie Council to be executed in such Towns and Villages as are or may be infected with the Plague, with Advice set down by the best learned in Physicke, black letter, 1625.—The Citty's Comfort; or, Preservatives against the Plague, together with a Caveat or Admonition to those that flee into the Country, with a curious Manuscript Receipt practised by Leonard Stourton, and sent to him by his Son, which medicine dyd recover all that dyd take in the Lo. Stourton house, 1625.—Certain necessary Directions for the Cure of the Plague, black letter, 1634.—Directions for the Cure of the Plague, black letter, 1665.—Brief Treatise of the Cure of the Plague, by W. Kemp, of Bristol, 1665.—London's Dreadful Visitation, or Collection of all the Bills of Mortality, woodcut title, 1665.—Causes of the Discontents in relation to the Plague, 1721—in 1 vol. 4to. fine copies, elegantly bound in morocco, gilt edges, a very rare collection, 5l. 5s.

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\* \* \* A copy in the Bibliotheca Anglo-Poetica is priced 12l. 12s.

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General Catalogue of Books, with Unrivalled Collection of Early English Poetry, Romances, Jests, and other Books of Wit and Drollery, just published, may now be had, and the former Lists; also a Catalogue of Ancient Manuscripts, upon application to Thomas Thorpe, 13, Henrietta street, Covent garden, London, or sent per post, free, on receiving six postage stamps to pre-pay each.

Printed by JAMES HOLMES, of No. 4, New Oxford-street, in the county of Middlesex, printer, at his office No. 4, Took's-court, Chancery-lane, in the parish of St. Andrew, in the said county; and published by JOHN FRANCIS, of No. 14, Wellington-street North, in the said county, Publisher, at No. 14 in Wellington-street aforesaid; and sold by all Booksellers and News-vendors.—Agents: for SCOTLAND, Messrs. Bell & Bradburn, Edinburgh;—for IRELAND, Mr. John Robertson, Dublin.—Saturday, March 18, 1850.



# THE LANCET

Journal of English and Foreign Literature, Science, and the Fine Arts.

No. 1169.

LONDON, SATURDAY, MARCH 23, 1850.

PRICE  
FOURPENCE  
Stamped Edition, 5d.

For the convenience of Subscribers residing in remote places, the weekly numbers are reissued in Monthly Parts, stitched in a wrapper, and forwarded with the Magazines.—Subscriptions for the Stamped Edition for the Continent, for not less than Three Months, and in advance, are received by M. BAUDRY, 3, Quai Malaquais, Paris, or at the Publishing Office, 14, Wellington-street North, Strand, London. For France and other Countries not requiring the postage to be paid in London, 2s. 6d. or 17. 2s. the year. To other Countries, the postage in addition.

## ROYAL INSTITUTE OF BRITISH ARCHITECTS.

At the ORDINARY GENERAL MEETING, held on Monday, the 18th of February 1850.  
The following Recommendations of the Council, with reference to the Medals for the year 1850, were read and agreed to:—

### ROYAL MEDAL.

Her Majesty having been pleased to grant her gracious permission for the Royal Medal to be conferred on such distinguished Architect or Man of Science, of any country, as may have designed or executed any building of high merit, or produced a work tending to promote or facilitate the knowledge of Architecture, or the various branches of Science connected therewith.—

That the Council do proceed, in January 1851, to take into consideration the appropriation of the Royal Medal accordingly.

### INSTITUTE MEDAL.

That the Silver Medals of the Institute be awarded to the Authors of the best Essays on the following subjects:—

1. On the Distinctive Style of Inigo Jones, as compared with that of other Architects of the Palladian School.
  2. On the Proper System of Construction to be observed to render Houses Fire-proof, and to avoid absolutely the application of Wood in the erection of the Carcase.
- The Essay to be accompanied by suitable illustrations.  
The Essay to be written in a clear and distinct hand, on alternate pages.

### SOANE MEDALLION.

That the Soane Medallion be awarded for the best Design for a Building for Public Baths, Laundry, &c., adapted to the wants of the community; to comprise one hundred baths for each sex, with hot-air, vapour, medicated, and capacious plunging baths. One hundred washing-places also to be provided. Especial regard to be had to the provision of Washing, Reading and Refreshment Rooms, and to Ventilation and Fire-proof construction.

The successful Competitor, if he go abroad, will be entitled to the sum of 50l. at the end of one year's absence, on sending a satisfactory evidence of his progress and his studies.

N.B. The competition for the Soane Medallion is open to all Members of the Profession under the age of thirty years.

Each Essay and set of Drawings to be delivered at the Rooms of the Institute, on or before the 31st of December 1850, by Twelve o'clock at noon.

Further directions and information may be had on application to the Librarian, by letter, pre-paid.

T. L. DONALDSON, } Honorary  
J. J. SCOLES, } Secretaries.

**RUSSELL INSTITUTION.—LECTURES ON THE APPLICATION OF MINERALOGY AND GEOLOGY TO THE ARTS OF LIFE RESUMED.**—On TUESDAYS, March 26 and April 2, Mr. E. W. BRAYLEY, jun., F.L.S. F.G.S. and F.C.S., Associate of the Institution of Civil Engineers, will deliver, in Two Lectures, View of the Present Condition of Science on the NATURAL HISTORY, PROPERTIES, APPLICATIONS AND PRODUCTS OF PEAT. These will be followed, in the course of April, by a View of the GEOLOGICAL CONDITIONS GOVERNING the ACTUAL and PROPOSED SUPPLY OF WATER to the METROPOLIS, and the Chemical Characters and Contents of the Water yielded by the different Sources.

## ROYAL ACADEMY OF ARTS, TRAFALGAR-SQUARE.—NOTICE TO ARTISTS.

All works of Painting, Sculpture, or Architecture intended for the ensuing EXHIBITION at the ROYAL ACADEMY must be sent in on MONDAY the 24th, by Six o'clock in the Evening of TUESDAY the 9th of April next, after which time no work can possibly be received; nor can any works be received which have already been publicly exhibited.

The other Regulations necessary to be observed may be obtained at the Royal Academy.

JOHN PRESCOTT KNIGHT, R.A. Sec.  
Every possible care will be taken of works sent for Exhibition; but the Royal Academy will not hold itself accountable in any case of injury or loss, nor can it undertake to pay the carriage of any package which may be forwarded by carriers.

The prices of works to be disposed of may be communicated to the Secretary.

## ART-UNION OF LONDON.—Incorporated by Royal Charter.—The SUBSCRIPTION LIST for the current year WILL CLOSE 30th inst. Each Subscriber of One Guinea will receive a Pair of Line Engravings after T. Webster, R.A., 'The Smile' and 'The Frown,' WHICH MAY BE HAD AT THE TIME OF PAYING THE SUBSCRIPTION, and a Series of Etchings after D. Maclise, R.A., illustrating Shakespeare's 'Seven Ages.'

GEORGE GOWDWIN, } Honorary  
LEWIS POOCK, } Secretaries.

## SOCIETY FOR THE ENCOURAGEMENT OF ARTS, MANUFACTURES, AND COMMERCE, JOHN-STREET, ADELPHI.—The FOURTH ANNUAL EXHIBITION, consisting of WORKS OF ANCIENT AND MEDIEVAL ART, and of SPECIMENS OF BRITISH MANUFACTURES, is NOW OPEN.—Admission, One Shilling, daily, from 10 to 4.

## LANELLY FIRST SUBSCRIPTION.

At a Meeting of the Lanelly Committee for Promoting the above Exhibition, held at the Town Hall, March the 10th, the following SUBSCRIBERS, Esq. Jun. in the Chair,—

W. Chambers, Esq. ... 25s 0  
W. Chambers, Esq. Jun. ... 0  
Mrs W. Chambers ... 0  
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Nelson, Esq. ... 0  
Mr. Brookes ... 0  
Mr. W. Thomas ... 0  
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— Morgan, Esq. ... 0  
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Pembrey Copper-works, per Mr. Parkes ... 2 2

Further subscriptions will be received by ALEX. RABY, Esq., the Portreeve.

## A TEACHER OF ITALIAN, who thoroughly understands GERMAN, wishes to teach either language to English Gentlemen from whom he might receive ENGLISH LESSONS in exchange.—For particulars apply to Signor Biaggi, 4 Gower-street North.

## LADIES' COLLEGE, BRIXTON.—EASTER TERM.

MISS HAMMOND'S CLASSES, on the plan of Queen's College, will commence the 8th of April. Ladies desirous of joining the above, either by attending the Class Lectures, or residing in the house for that purpose, are requested to make early application, at 12, Park-terrace, Brixton-road.

## TUITION.—The Rev. THOMAS CLARKSON, M.A., late a Scholar of St. John's College, Cambridge, and a Graduate in Honours, residing at the Rectory House, Chelmsworth, in a healthy part of Suffolk, receives into his Family TWO OR THREE PUPILS to prepare for the Public Schools and Universities.

He has now vacancies for two. References will be given to the Rev. Dr. Hymers and the Rev. E. Brunell, Tutors of St. John's College. Terms 100l. per annum, for those under 14 years of age; 150l. above that age.—Address, the Rev. THOS. CLARKSON, Chelmsworth, Hadleigh, Suffolk.

## ST. MARY'S HALL, No. 6, St. Mary's-road, Canonbury.—ENGLISH and FRENCH INSTITUTION for LADIES, conducted by Miss NORTHCROFT, on the principles of Queen's College. The EASTER TERM will commence on the 5th of April, and a Lecture on French Literature will be delivered by the Rev. W. Daugars, Minister of the French Protestant Church, and Professor of the Institution.—Ladies wishing for further instruction in any branch of Education can be received as Boarders for a Term or longer.—Admission to the Lecture free.

## PUTNEY COLLEGE, near London.

His Grace the DUKE OF BUCCHLEUGH, K.G. Principal.—The Rev. M. COWIE, M.A., late Fellow of St. John's College, Cambridge.

The EASTER TERM COMMENCES on the Sunday after Easter.

The object of this Institution is to combine General Education, Collegiate Discipline for Resident Students, Special Instruction in Science and its Practical Applications in the Civil and Military Professions, and Preparation for the Universities.

The charges are as follows:—

For General Education, including Religious Instruction, Classics, Mathematics, the English, French, and German Languages, History, Geography, &c., Board, Lodging and Laundry Expenses, 80 Guinea per Annum.

In addition to this, Students may attend the following Courses:—

Chemistry and Physics ... Dr. Lyon Playfair, F.G.S. F.R.S.  
Mineralogy and Geology ... Professor Ansted, F.R.S. Dr. Frankland.

In the Civil Department  
Surveying ... C. Hodgkinson, Esq.  
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Civil Engineering and Architecture ... W. B. E. Esq.  
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In the University Department  
Divinity, Special Course ... The Rev. M. Cowie, M.A. Principal.  
Mathematics, ditto ... The Rev. W. G. Watson.  
Classics, ditto ... H. M. Jeffery, Esq. B.A. Assistant Tutor.

The fees for the additional courses in these three departments are so arranged that the cost of education, board, &c. need not exceed 100 guineas per annum.

Prospectuses may be had at Mr. Dalton's, 28, Cockspur-street, Chancery cross; Messrs. Smith, Elder & Co's, Cornhill; or any information can be obtained by application to the Principal, at the College.

## BRUCE CASTLE SCHOOL, TOTTENHAM.

Bruce Castle is rather more than five miles from London, and is about a quarter of a mile west of the high road to Hertford. It stands in a park containing nearly twenty acres of land, and the surrounding country is open and salubrious.

A description of Bruce Castle will be found in the 'Beauties of England and Wales,' and in Lysons's 'Enviroms of London.'

In addition to the Conductors, there are six resident Teachers. The course of study is such as to enable a young man, immediately on leaving School, to enter one of the Universities, to engage in Commerce or Agriculture, or to adopt the Military or Naval profession. Much general knowledge is communicated by means of a course of private reading, in which the Pupils are induced to engage. Lectures too are delivered on various branches of Natural Philosophy.

In their plans of government and instruction, the Conductors address themselves as far as possible to the religious principles, reasoning powers, and good feelings of their Pupils. The grounds of the School regulations, and of the formulae employed in the studies of the Pupils, are explained, and at all times the Pupils are encouraged to apply for information respecting everything which is not perfectly clear to their minds. Acting on the principle referred to, and others connected with it, the Conductors have succeeded in rendering the acquisition of knowledge, to a certain degree, what with unlimited means and under perfect arrangements it would be entirely, namely, a source of continued pleasure to the Scholar.

In developing the same principles, also, they have been enabled to dispense, to a very great extent, with artificial rewards and punishments, and to associate the boys themselves in the business of school government. Corporal punishments they entirely discard, and with rare exceptions, they have found that, by treating a boy as a reasonable being, possessed of good natural feeling, it is quite practicable to induce upright conduct, a gentlemanly demeanour, a desire to oblige, and an anxiety to avoid the infliction of pain, whether moral or physical. To the early formation of habits of industry, punctuality, and obedience, the cultivation of a love of knowledge, the elevation of the moral feelings, and the development of the mental and physical powers, the Conductors direct their most strenuous efforts, being convinced by long experience, that beside the direct benefits conferred upon their Pupils, it is by such means alone that they can hope to lay a sure foundation for solid education.

A concise view of the system in use is given in a small pamphlet, entitled 'Sketch of the System of Education at Bruce Castle, Tottenham,' which, with the Prospectus, may be had on application by letter or otherwise at the School.

## BOOKS OF THE RAREST and MOST INTERESTING CLASSES OF LITERATURE, ON SALE—SEE LAST PAGE OF THIS JOURNAL AND FIVE PRECEDING NUMBERS.

ANTIENT MANUSCRIPTS, upon Vellum and Paper, including Original Cartularies—Chronicles of England, &c. &c.—Visitations of Dorsetshire, Essex, Somersetshire, and Wiltshire—Splendid Volumes of Pedigrees, Heraldry, Drawings, and Monastic Seals—Anglo-Norman Charters from a very early period—and various other interesting subjects—Catalogues are now ready, and may be had upon application to THOMAS THORPE, 13, Henrietta-street, Covent-garden, or per post, upon receiving six postage stamps to prepay the same.

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The FATHERS OF THE ORATORY OF ST. PHILIP NERI propose to educate Young Men from the age of 16 years and upwards, at their Country House of St. Wilfrid's, near Chaddle, Staffordshire, on the system pursued in the Universities of Oxford and Cambridge.

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Courses of Lectures will also be given, when necessary, by the Very Rev. Father Newman, late Fellow of Oriel; the Rev. Father Faber, late Fellow of University; the Rev. Father Penny, late Student of Christ Church; the Rev. Father St. John, late Student of Christ Church; the Rev. Father Dalgair, late Student of Exeter; and the Rev. Father Knox, late Scholar of Trinity College, Cambridge.

Terms, 150l. per Annum.

Prospectuses may be had of the Rector, at the College; or of Mr. St. Wilfrid, King William-street, West Strand, London.

St. Wilfrid's is about a mile from the Oakmoor Station on the London and Manchester Railway.

## SIGNOR & MADAME FERRARI beg to inform their friends and pupils that they have REMOVED to their permanent residence, No. 69, UPPER NORTON-STREET, PORTLAND-PLACE, where they continue to give INSTRUCTIONS in the CULTIVATION OF THE VOICE and the various branches of SINGING. Their Course of Spring Classes is now forming. Signor & Madame Ferrari have a VACANCY for one Lady as an In-door Artistic Pupil.

## MODEL DRAWING.—EXETER HALL, Strand.

PERSPECTIVE, LANDSCAPE and FIGURE DRAWING TAUGHT FROM MODELS—the most successful method of learning to sketch from Nature.—Morning, Afternoon and Evening Classes.—Terms, 20s. for 20 Lessons.—Private Lessons given.—Schools attended.—For further particulars apply to Mr. GANDEE, No. 19, Exeter Hall.

## LITHOGRAPHY.—PORTRAITS (from Life or Copies), VIEWS, ILLUMINATIONS, FAC-SIMILES, ORNAMENTAL DESIGNS, &c. executed in the style of art, with punctuality and on moderate terms. Specimens and Estimates forwarded, on application, to any part of the Kingdom. All orders, whether in town or country, will meet with prompt attention, by addressing to ASHBE & TUCKETT, 18, Broad-court, Long-acre.

## A GENTLEMAN residing in the Country, and unable to be present in London, is desirous of communicating with some Literary Character relative to a Publication now ready for the press, on a subject hitherto quite undeveloped, philosophic and classical.—Address A. B., care of Mr. G. BUNSTED, Bookseller, 205, High Holborn, London.

## SITUATION WANTED.—As COMPANION or READER to a LADY, or to take charge of a Widow's Household, by a Lady, of cheerful disposition and domestic habits, possessing, at the same time, a thorough knowledge of the French Language. Address, prepaid, T. T., care of Mr. MURRAY, Bookseller, Edgeware-road.

## GERMAN READINGS and CONVERSATION.—Any Gentleman who should feel inclined to join a strictly Private Class, consisting of six members, is requested to favour Professor KLAUER-KLATOWSKI, of 20, South Molton-street, with his address. Fee 2l. 10s. for a series of 16 Readings, of one hour and a half each time, twice a week. Besides practising German Writing and Conversation, the present Members are engaged in reading alternately 'Faust' and W. Müller's 'Russland und seine Völker.'—A CLASS for reading Fritsch's 'Saga,' in the Swedish original, is now being formed.

## TO ASTRONOMERS.—TO BE SOLD, a large DISC of Swiss flint glass, of 14 inches in diameter and 14 inch in thickness, made by the late celebrated GUINAND, of Switzerland, Density 36. The quality of the late Guinand's flint, which has never yet been equalled, as well as the scarcity of the pieces left by him, gives to this disc an inappreciable value, especially to scientific men. Apply to Messrs. Mouqué & Coles, 105, Cheapside.

## MR. T. WALESBY respectfully invites the Nobility and Gentry to inspect A MAGNIFICENT ARTISTIC CLOCK now ready for Sale, also a few PAINTINGS, CABINETS, and other WORKS OF ART.

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## ROBES.—T. HARRISON begs respectfully to inform the Clergy, Nobility, and Gentry, that the requisite ROBES for the several Universities and Colleges may be obtained at this Establishment at moderate prices.

HARRISON, State Robe Maker, 21, Brownlow-street, Bedford-row.

## LAW LIFE ASSURANCE SOCIETY, Fleet-street, next St. Dunstan's Church, March 11, 1850.—NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that the BOOKS for TRANSFERRING SHARES in this Society will be CLOSED on THURSDAY the 21st inst., and will be RE-OPENED on THURSDAY the 21st day of April next.—The DIVIDENDS for the year 1849 will be payable on SATURDAY, the 6th day of April next, and on any subsequent day (Tuesdays excepted), between the hours of 10 and 3 o'clock.—By order of the Directors, WILLIAM SAMUEL DOWNS, Actuary.



**THE ASYLUM for IDIOTS, Park House,** Highgate, and Essex Hall, Colchester: instituted October 27, 1847, for the Care and Education of Idiots, especially in the earlier periods of life.—The **SPRING ELECTION and ANNUAL MEETING** of this Charity will occur on Thursday, the 23rd of April, at the London Tavern, Bishopsgate-street, to elect from a list of 180 eligible candidates 15 persons.  
**JAMES HOLLOWAY, D.D.**, Hon. Secs.  
**ANDREW REED, D.D.**, Secs.  
N.B. The office, 29, Poultry, is open from till 4 daily, where forms of application and all useful information may be obtained. Subscriptions thankfully received.

**THE ASYLUM for IDIOTS, Park House,** Highgate, and Essex Hall, Colchester.—The **SECOND ANNUAL DINNER** of this Charity will occur on Tuesday, the 26th of March, at the London Tavern, Bishopsgate-street. His Royal Highness the **DUKE of CAMBRIDGE** will take the chair on that occasion.

Stewards.  
Lord Dudley Coutts Stuart, M.P.  
The Right Hon. Stephen Lushington, D.C.L.  
The Hon. Stephen Spring Rice  
Sir George Carroll  
Rear-Admiral Hawtayne  
Dr. Conolly  
Dr. Forbes  
Dr. Stillewell  
Dr. Bushman  
James Carter, Esq.  
John Churchill, Esq.  
William Dobinson, Esq.  
W. S. Ellis, Esq.  
Edwin Fox, Esq.  
Robert Fox, Esq.  
John Gay, Esq.  
Richard Gibbs, Esq.  
Samuel Gurley, Jun. Esq.  
Office, 29, Poultry, March 4, 1850.

R. Habberfield, Esq.  
Luke James Hamsard, Esq.  
James Heywood, Esq. M.P.  
Chas. Hill, Esq.  
John Hodge, Esq.  
John Labouchere, Esq.  
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S. M. Peto, Esq. M.P.  
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Samuel Scott, Esq.  
Hull Terrell, Esq.  
John W. Tottle, Esq.  
Richard Twining, Esq.  
John Wilks, Esq.  
David W. Wirt, Esq.

**THE ASYLUM for IDIOTS, Park House,** Highgate, and Essex Hall, Colchester.  
Under the Patronage of HER MAJESTY the QUEEN.

**SPECIAL APPEAL.**  
This Asylum was instituted in the year 1847, for the care and education of the idiot and imbecile. Much has been done to improve the condition of the lunatic, but nothing had been distinctly done for the idiot. He was abandoned to neglect or scorn, and commonly sank down into a state of such unutterable wretchedness, as to make death itself preferable to life.  
Two great objects met us at the very threshold of the undertaking. The first was, that we could do nothing for the idiot. This has been fully answered by the patient effort of the last two years. With every disadvantage that necessarily waits on an infant proceeding we have shown that much may be done. Always a great deal may be done for the comfort and physical enjoyment of the patient; and, when taken early in life, much may be done by the steady exhibition of discreet means to recover the most abject cases to rational and useful life. The other popular objection was, that there were comparatively no idiots. It was not then known that a multitude of these cases, from shame or sorrow, were hidden, not only from the eye of the world, but from the observation of social intercourse. It is now ascertained, by correct statistics, that the number of idiots exceeds that of lunatics. In fact, the applications made to the Board since the establishment of the Asylum have been nearly overwhelming; and, at this time, we have 110 eligible cases waiting admission in April, and the Board cannot prudently take more than 15 of that number.  
During the short time the Asylum has existed, the Board have taken a house of considerable capacity—they have filled it, and enlarged it, and again it is full. Subsequently, by the liberal assistance of a benevolent individual, a house of larger capacities has been secured. It is now occupied, and will in a couple of years also be filled.

This is not all. The Board would say little of the difficulty, labour, and expense of working a charity with such distant localities—the greater evil, that everything they do is of a temporary and incomplete character. Besides, no private dwelling affords by any means such accommodations as are needful for so unique a family. We need a complete separation of the sexes—equally so of adult and youthful life—and still equally so of the cases which are only susceptible of protection and comfort, and of those which are capable of education and improvement. This last class again demands variety of treatment—association, classification, and separation are all requisite. Some cases need retirement, some improve greatly by society, provided much care is used in the assortment.  
These considerations, with many of a kindred character, which will readily arise to the benevolent mind, have led the Board to the conclusion, that to do their duty by the trust committed to them, and to work out successfully the great experiment in favour of the most afflicted and debased portion of the human family, they must erect a dwelling with all the appliances and facilities indispensable for the undertaking.

**PROPOSAL.**  
They propose, therefore, at once to open a building fund for this object.  
They propose to move to this object with the strictest regard to economy.  
They propose not to take any practical measures till one-half of the needful sum is raised or promised.  
They propose to raise a Model Institution worthy of the subject, as one alike of honour and of utility; and worthy of the country in which we live—great in everything, but great in charity.  
They propose to provide for not less than 300 beds, with facilities for enlargement.

**MEANS.**  
The object may be promoted by ordinary subscriptions, which will give the same privileges as contributions to the current fund. Persons promising to answer for 100 guineas, may pay it by instalments, or on the day of laying the first stone.  
Persons paying 250 guineas, may secure the presentation to one bed in perpetuity.  
Persons aspiring to do more than this—where, alas! so much is to be done—may arrange for a ward, and give it such name as they may desire.  
The appeal is made to the worthy and the wealthy of the land, and in behalf of those who have been most neglected, who have suffered most, and who have suffered being innocent, and unable to defend themselves.  
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LONDON, SATURDAY, MARCH 23, 1850.

## REVIEWS

*Railway Economy; a Treatise on the New Art of Transport.* By Dionysius Lardner, D.C.L., &c. Taylor & Co.

Dr. Lardner is by no means the first writer and philosopher of distinction who has directed his attention to the "new art of transport;" but after a somewhat careful perusal of the present volume, we venture to think that in most of the important qualities of such a work Dr. Lardner's treatise excels any of those that have preceded it. It cannot be said that the book contains the results of any original discoveries in the branch of knowledge to which it is devoted. We do not know even that it can be described with justice as a profound treatise on any of the scientific and commercial problems connected with the construction and management of railways. Dr. Lardner has not aspired to these higher and more abstruse divisions of his subject; but within the province to which he has confined his attention he has laboured with zeal, judgment, and success. His volume is a highly finished and artistical narrative of the results of our past experience in the construction of railways, and in the development of the sources of profit and utility contained in the invention of which they are the most remarkable offspring. As a matter of necessity, a considerable part of Dr. Lardner's materials consists of statistics and of numerical results of a purely technical character; and we can say that the volume before us affords a striking example of the manner in which even materials like these—apparently so unsusceptible of being reduced to a popular form—may be deprived of nearly all their original repulsiveness and intricacy, by means of lucid arrangement, a perspicuous style, the expenditure of labour, and the exercise of judgment. Very few of the many statistical tables in Dr. Lardner's book cover more than half an octavo page; and yet we believe that the last fault which even a reckless critic would allege against the author would be an absence of exactness and of numerical illustration.

We have already said that this book is not to be regarded as a professional treatise; that is to say—it does not undertake to investigate and determine, on the assumption of certain data in a given locality, what should be the practical policy of a railway company in either its scientific or its commercial capacity. When we say *scientific* capacity, we mean as a company concerned in the maintenance of a line of iron rails and of a multitude of engines and carriages in the best order, and according to the safest and most economical principles; and when we say *commercial* capacity, we mean as a company seeking to attract within its own territory the largest amount and the most profitable description of traffic. The scientific part of the operations of a railway company embraces an exceedingly wide range of philosophical problems; problems, for example, concerning the weight and construction of locomotives and carriages, the strength of materials, the effects of certain rates of speed, the expenditure of fuel in relation to the weight of load and other circumstances, the repair of the permanent way, the material and the frequency of "sleepers,"—and so on. The commercial division is quite as extensive as the scientific,—and certainly less readily mastered.

Now, we are gradually accumulating a series of observations and results which in the end will form a special science of railway transport and railway economics. To this new science, as far as it has gone, Dr. Lardner's book forms

an excellent introduction. It informs the student of all that is at present known of the general outlines of the subject. It warns him of the difficulties that remain to be overcome,—indicates the truths which appear to be already established,—and, at all events, places before him a comprehensive and frequently a minute chart of the entire field of inquiry.

The history of railway transport during the twenty years which have elapsed since the first decisive experiment in its favour between Liverpool and Manchester, is essentially a history of Change. Nearly everything has been changed. The machinery has been changed, the road has been changed,—so have the rails, so have the carriages, and in a great measure so have the sources of profit.

There appear to be at least four distinct results clearly established, by the experience to which we can already refer, comparing the present with the early years of the system. —First, it has been found that the expense of constructing and maintaining the permanent way is an element of infinitely more importance than was at first imagined. For example, it was believed for some time that a line of rails once laid down would last for one hundred and twenty years. In April 1849, Capt. Huish reported to his superiors on the North-Western Railway, that the "life" of the rails on that line could not be taken at more than twenty years; that is to say, that if in the course of twenty years the company did not reserve a sufficient sum out of their annual income to replace the entire line of rails at the end of that period, it would be necessary to raise as much new capital as would suffice for the execution of the work.

Secondly, it has been found practicable to attain a much higher rate of speed with ordinary trains. In 1831, for instance, the average speed of passenger trains was 17 miles an hour; in 1848, the average rate of speed was 30 miles an hour,—or almost double.

Thirdly, it has been found that the creation and maintenance of what is called "rolling stock" is a most important element in railway calculations. This arises principally from the increased weight, size and strength of carriages and of other vehicles employed upon the rails.

Fourthly, it has become apparent that the traffic in *goods*, instead of the traffic in *passengers*, will in the end be of the most importance to railway proprietors.

We shall not attempt to illustrate these positions by any collation of details:—that would be entirely beyond our province. But we may refer with advantage to the following lucid passage from Dr. Lardner, as partly corroborating our views, and as an example of the clear and precise form in which the information that he has to convey is placed before the reader. The extract refers to the important question of what may be considered the average "life of a rail."—

"The first railway for passenger traffic with locomotive engines was accordingly laid between Liverpool and Manchester, with rails of the description called fish-bellied, now out of use, weighing 35 lb. per yard. The strength of these was at that time considered great to superfluity, and this form was regarded as eminently favourable to their durability. Experience soon proved their weight to be utterly insufficient, and their form to be a source of weakness. The first engine run upon the line thus constructed weighed 7½ tons, including the tender. It was soon found, however, that engines of this power were altogether insufficient for the traffic, which increased beyond all the estimates of the projectors of the line. The capability of speed developed by the locomotive engine also vastly exceeded all previsions, and the appetite of the public for even augmented

expedition appeared to increase with what fed it. Increased speed required increased power, and increased power necessarily inferred increased weight. It was, accordingly, not long before the weight of the engines was successively augmented to 10, 12 and 15 tons; and now there is actually an engine on one of the English railways which, with its tender, water and fuel, weighs about 60 tons; and in the service of a single company there are at present more than 36 engines weighing, with their tenders, about 40 tons each. The weight of the carriages underwent a corresponding, though not a proportionate increase. The first carriages placed on the railways weighed from 3 to 3½ tons; their weight now sometimes exceeds 4½ tons. The strength and weight of the goods waggons have undergone a like increase. But these were not the only circumstances which rendered the rails originally laid inadequate in strength. The quantity of traffic, and its speed, were gradually increased far beyond any limit which had entered into the contemplation of the engineers who projected and constructed the roads. Thus, the average speed of the passenger trains, which in 1831 was 17 miles an hour, was gradually increased, until in 1848 it was 30 miles an hour; while the speed of the fastest trains, which in 1831 was 24 miles an hour, was in 1848, on the Liverpool and Manchester line, 40 miles an hour, and on the Grand Junction and the Liverpool and Birmingham, 50 miles an hour. In 1837, the number of trains per day which arrived at and departed from the Stafford station on the Grand Junction line was 14; and in 1848 it was 38. The number of trains per day which arrived at and departed from the Euston-Square station of the Birmingham line in 1837 was 19; in 1848 it was 44. In fine, the number of trains per day arriving at and departing from the Liverpool terminus of the Liverpool and Manchester Railway in 1831 was 26; in 1848 it was 90. A corresponding augmentation took place in the weight of the trains. In 1831, the average weight of a passenger train, engine and tender included, was 18 tons. In 1848, the average weight of the engine and tender alone was considerably above 20 tons; and the average weight of the passenger trains, including the engine and tender, exceeded 75 tons. In 1831, the average weight of a goods train, including engine and tender, was 52 tons; in 1848, it varied from 160 to 176 tons. Thus, the number of trains on some railways was augmented 150, in others 250 per cent.; the weight of the engines was increased 114 per cent.; the weight of the carriages 30 per cent.; the average speed about 90 per cent.; and the average weight of the trains 350 per cent.

"For such increased work the rails originally laid down at 35 lb. a yard would have been totally inadequate, and they were accordingly soon replaced by others which weighed 50 lb. These, again, under the gradually increasing traffic being found insufficient, were taken up and successively replaced by rails weighing 62 lb. and 65 lb. These were succeeded by others weighing 72 lb. and 75 lb.; and the latest rails laid down have weighed 85 lb. These changes are not made suddenly. The weight and strength of the permanent way were gradually increased under the gradually increasing traffic; and, at present the principal railways exhibit a motley arrangement of rails of various weights, the lightest being 60 lb. and the heaviest 85 lb. per yard. Thus, on 438 miles of railway, placed under the direction of the North-Western Company, there were, at the commencement of the present year (1849), about 150 miles laid down with rails of 75 lb. per yard, 100 miles at 65 lb. per yard, and the remainder, in detached lengths varying from 50 to 70 miles, with rails of weights varying from 60 lb. to 85 lb. per yard. In a joint report of Messrs. Stephenson and Locke, dated April 1849, the company is recommended to adopt for the future the heaviest description of rails, viz., 85 lb. per yard. The mode originally adopted for supporting the rails was upon square blocks of stone, measuring 2 feet in the side and 1 foot in depth, upon which a cast iron chair was fastened by wooden pegs driven into holes bored in the stone block, the rail being fixed in the chair by an iron pin. After a time these stone blocks were superseded by transverse beams of wood called sleepers, which served at once as supports for the chair and rails, and as ties for keeping the rails in gauge. The material selected for these sleepers,



when first used, was *tarch*, which was considered to be the most durable wood for the purpose next to oak. Later, the timber used for sleepers was prepared by impregnating it with certain saline substances, by a process variously denominated, according to the principle and mode of impregnation. Sleepers of soft wood thus prepared were regarded as having a durability equal to that of oak. It has recently been proposed to substitute sleepers of cast iron for those of wood, and the plan has been already reduced to practice on a large scale. The distances between sleeper and sleeper were subject to as much variation as were the strength and weight of the rails. At first, the sleepers were placed at 3 feet asunder; the distance was afterwards increased from 3 to 5 feet, according to the weight of the rails; and at present the rails are variously laid on supports at 3 feet, 3 feet 6 inches, 3 feet 9 inches, 4 feet, and 4 feet 6 inches asunder. The cubical magnitude of the sleepers has been subject to similar changes, according to the increasing amount of the traffic. When these rapid and successive changes, spread over so brief a period as twenty years, are considered, it will be easily understood how difficult a problem is the solution by analogy of the average life of a rail. No rails hitherto laid down have ever been, strictly speaking, worn out. They have been successively taken up and replaced, not because they were worn out, but because their strength was insufficient for the increasing amount and speed of the traffic, and the consequently augmented weight of the engines."

One of the most complete contrivances which have been introduced to facilitate the business of the railway companies, is a plan of adjusting cross accounts for passengers, goods, duty, carriages and waggons, between company and company, called the "railway clearing-house." This establishment is in connexion with the Euston Square Station; and was, we believe, first suggested or at least first organized by its present manager, Mr. K. Morison. It is confessedly an application of the principle which has been at work in the "bankers' clearing-house" in Lombard Street for more than half a century; and, not remembering to have met with the following explanation of this principle in any of the numerous descriptions of the clearing-house which have appeared, from time to time, we venture to think that our description will be found brief and simple.—The clearing-house, whether in Lombard Street or in Euston Square, discharges the functions of a middleman or broker who confines his operations to certain well-known parties; and who day by day buys or receives certain articles from that part of his constituents who want to sell,—and also day by day sells or pays away precisely the same articles to another part of his constituents who want to buy. If we complete the hypothesis by supposing that according to the nature of the case the amount of the sales must necessarily day by day be precisely the same as the amount of the purchases, we shall have no difficulty in perceiving that the whole convenience of the clearing-house is simply that of being a common receptacle in which one set of contributors place certain effects which they owe to another set of contributors to the same institution. In point of fact, the clearing-house becomes a common debtor and a common creditor to persons who but for its intervention must run up and down the country settling their debts and claims by piecemeal. In Lombard Street the debts and credits liquidated arise out of cheques and bills of exchange. At Euston Square they arise out of passengers, goods, parcels, government duty, carriages and waggons passed from one railway to another.

The principle is carried out by an enormous expenditure of resources and labour; but there cannot be a doubt that extensive as is the machinery introduced by Mr. Morison, it is perfect child's play compared with the endless disputes

and litigation of the procedure which it happily superseded.

The railway clearing-house system permits a free circulation of everything but locomotives over the 3,633 miles of rail belonging to the forty-five associated companies; and it accomplishes this by receiving from every one of the 887 stations in correspondence with the clearing-house two daily lists—a list of things received, and another of things sent away. It is plain that the total of the whole of each of these lists ought to be exactly alike, because there cannot be a sender without a receiver, and *vice versa*. At the end of each month, the clearing-house strikes a general balance—collects the sums that are due—pays the sums that are claimed—and so passes on to another periodical term.

We beg to contribute one suggestion towards the simplification of the machinery. At present, the clearing-house keeps a separate account of great intricacy with each company for the Duty payable to Government,—and at the end of the month furnishes that account to each company, who pay the amount at their chief station. Now, let the clearing-house deal with the Government directly—pay the whole duty of the whole forty-five companies in one sum—and adjust with each in the shortest way practicable.

The following are the statistics of the clearing-house for the year ending 30th June 1849.—

Number of railway companies associated in the clearing system, 45.  
Length of associated lines, 3,633 miles.  
Average length, 80½ miles.  
Number of stations supplying returns, 887.  
Amount of accounts passed through clearing-house, 1,691,720l. 12s.  
Tons of goods included in these accounts, 2,215,407.  
Number of passengers do., 686,407.  
Their total mileage, 103,240,304.  
Average mileage per passenger, 148.  
Number of waggons on which the clearing-house charged mileage, 487,304.  
Number of passenger coaches do., 79,260.  
Average number of junctions crossed per passenger, 1.85.

This extract must bring our notice of Dr. Lardner's book to a conclusion.

*Letter to the Right Hon. Lord John Russell, M.P. on the Constitutional Defects of the University and Colleges of Oxford, with Suggestions for a Royal Commission of Inquiry into the Universities.* By a Member of the Oxford Convocation. Ridgway.

THIS able and searching pamphlet comes out in timely aid of an inquiry which is about to engage a considerable share of public and parliamentary attention. The facts brought forward by the writer—in their nature closely akin to those which have recently appeared in our own pages—are not to be contested; and they make out a case for inquiry and amendment, which can be resisted only until they shall come to be thoroughly understood by the great body of the middle classes of this country.

From every quarter the Government is warned that the people of England—daily becoming more alive to the importance of education—will not consent much longer to allow the magnificent endowments with which the land is covered from Cornwall to Caithness—grammar schools, colleges, universities—to remain in their present state of comparative inefficiency and exclusion. The fact that these foundations belong to the people—not to the higher orders alone,—is beginning to be felt in all its bearings; and there are thousands in the middle ranks of life and among the more advanced artisans of this country to whom the thought of "resuming their own" in this matter is becoming daily more and more familiar. The statutes of even the most aristocratic colleges of Oxford record that they were founded chiefly with a view to the education of *poor* clerks; and the same is the case with nearly every grammar school

in the land. It is superfluous to say that this primary condition of the founders is now in almost every instance disregarded by those who have acquired the management of these trusts. By arbitrary arrangements and high fees the very men who were intended to be benefited are rigorously excluded from any share in the means of intellectual culture provided.

This state of things cannot, we trust, last much longer. In the face of a wrong so flagrant—a departure from the original intent and expressed purpose of the founder so obvious—any argument drawn from the common duty of respecting the literal text of the charter or constitutions is of little weight. The great wrong would claim to be rectified, even though, through changes in time and in men's ruling ideas, it were now necessary to break through some legal reading of those texts. In dealing with historical charters, men who conduct the business of the world must have certain liberties of interpretation: they must do that in every age which is possible,—as relates to moral and intellectual culture, that which is consonant to the moral feeling, the religious ideas and the social instincts of the time. No man has power to make an unchangeable compact with posterity. Society has not only the abstract right of changing the terms of a contract entered into ages ago with one of its own members,—but is likewise the supreme judge of what parts of such compact are no longer in harmony with its own nature and tendencies, and therefore require to be amended.

The argument of conformity with the letter—the illogical character of which is here asserted—is one by which in all time abuse and mismanagement have obtained support; and it is the one now most relied on by those who seek to stave off inquiry in the matter of the Universities. It is an unfortunate support for the friends of time-honoured abuses to trust to, either in Parliament or in University, and will fail them like a rotten reed. Parliament and University have both already—as we have recently shown—violated the original college statutes. Some of the colleges were founded for the sole purpose of saying masses for the dead—a subsequent law has declared this practice illegal. There are a hundred ways in which the University has violated its own statutes. With a reformed Church, it was impossible to fulfil all the old requirements of an unreformed University. The argument against the power of the Legislature to interfere with these collegiate foundations cannot be maintained for a moment. Reason and history come alike in support of such a right. That the statutes *may* be changed is proved by the fact that they *have* been changed by law; that they are not literally binding is constantly evidenced by the circumstance that many of their provisions—though not set aside formally—are practically disregarded by the masters of colleges. The appeal to these writings as something sacred and obligatory comes with an ill grace from men who, as a matter of necessity, are forced to violate them every day of their lives. We would almost venture to assert that no University man really imposes upon himself in this question: the argument is intended for out-door effect,—appealing to the solid sympathy which exists in England for all vested rights. That Government has a *right* to undertake a reform of the Universities there can be no doubt; that there is a present case calling for the exercise of that right is convincingly shown in the *brochure* under notice.

#### POETRY OF THE MILLION.

The Valentines taking the form of books of poetry this spring laid on our table were fewer in number and better in quality than



those of many former Februaries. Two or three among them may range among the best fugitive verses of the second class: being the work of accomplished persons, who have obviously (to speak figuratively) lived near real Poets—and in such neighbourhood have not merely become penetrated with a desire to sing, but have not infelicitously emulated the manner of some favourite singer. How completely have the models elect changed since slipshod rhymed romances in Scott's manner sprang up in number sufficient

to cover an acre of land,

—since frantic utterances of Byronism by mini-kin *Cains*, *Corsairs*, *Manfreds*, and other folk “sick of second-hand despair,” struck disgust into the hearts of all who, not equable enough to treat the disease as merely a passing “rash,” scouted it as a plague threatening to sap the organic morality of the English Constitution.—Mrs. Hemans is still largely imitated by those in whom sensibility is stronger than thought,—the forms of her peculiar music being as easy to catch as those of the fascinating Rossinian *crescendo*. Those, again, who affect subtler fancies and deeper meditations seem particularly fond of trying the modes of Tennyson and of Mrs. Browning. Here and there we shall find a sober-minded minstrel in whom fancy is weak, musical power limited, and the desire to sermonize weighty, gravely treating the world with his little packet of prose cut into lengths,—conceiving that by his present he proves himself to be a disciple of the anti-excitement school of ‘Philip van Artevelde.’ Looking backwards as well as around us, the speculative will be struck by the figures of certain poets, owned and crowned as such, and possessing distinct manners of their own, whom imitators, conscious or unconscious, have never approached. Miss Baillie's dramas for instance—and, stranger still, her exquisite songs—stand uncopied. We have never come upon the trace of a rhymester who has been set a rhyming by ‘The Isle of Palms’ or ‘Unimore.’—Recollecting one or two clock-work parodies of ‘The Sea’—(such as

The tree, the tree, the tall green tree, &c. &c.)—

we still are acquainted with no lyrist after the fashion of Barry Cornwall. There is something in this distribution of “blanks and prizes”—in this capricious separation of those mimicked from those not mimicked—well worth an hour of fire-side reverie, to all such as love to compare—to trace—to analyze. But passing chroniclers, to whom “the history of imaginative creation” is a task impossible, must content themselves, as we have here done, with merely indicating a vein to be worked—a chapter to be written—a theory to be spun,—and with us turn to the contemporaries who have provided us with grave and gay verse for “the Ides of March”—and for April Day. For the latter anniversary the Fool's cap (not covering the Fool's shrewd wisdom) will not be wanting, should we produce all the strange items which make up the heap of verse on our table.

In *Lines and Leaves*, by Mrs. Acton Tindal, many pleasant reminiscences may be traced. The lady's lute (neither so large, so powerful, nor so extensive in compass as a pedal harp) seems to us strung with chords from many sources: the instrument thus eclectically completed having a tone of its own—individual because made up of many individualities. The following fragments, for instance, taken almost by chance, from ‘The Aged Lady,’ will remind others besides ourselves of the irregular rather than unmusical contributions to the *Annals* made by poor Miss Landon.—

I am now an aged woman,  
And my hair is thin and white,  
Many furrows track my forehead,  
And a dim mist clouds my sight.  
I am sitting wan and lonely  
In the place where, loved and fair,  
With gay chimes and blazing beacons,  
I came, young bride of the heir.  
Since that day, what joy and sorrow  
These dark oaken walls have seen;  
And those yews grotesquely fashion'd,  
Keeping guard o'er alleys green!  
Glad feet in their shade have wander'd,  
That now walk the earth no more;  
And the mirth that met the morning,  
And awoke the sun, is o'er.  
Silence on the joy hath fallen,  
Yet the well-known flowers are there;  
The same lime-trees wave their blossom  
In the sultry evening air;  
And against the darksome foliage,  
Like bless'd spirits from the tomb,  
Sceptres of the snowy lily  
Still rear up their ghostlike bloom.

\* \* \* \* \*  
Those who smiled upon my childhood  
Oft round my chair I see,  
Who, though grey-hair'd and world-weary,  
Yet grew young again in me!  
Kind old friends! to dust and shadows  
Past threescore of years away,  
With a changed and chasten'd spirit  
I have call'd ye back to-day!  
Then from out these mists of mem'ry  
Looks a face most sadly fair;  
And around it fall all straightly  
Shining bands of silken hair.  
Young, and beautiful, and pallid,  
'Tis the face my mother wore,  
When they said on this side heaven  
I should look on her no more!  
But when fell the shadows darkly  
In the moonlight on the plain,  
And the dusky bat was hov'ring,  
And the moth dash'd 'gainst the pane,  
When I heard the white owls hooting  
In the hollow ivied tree,  
Grave, and passionless, and steadfast,  
Hath that white face look'd on me!  
While in vapoury folds around her  
Flow'd the shroud, on which I laid  
Pale sweet flowers, gather'd early,  
Ere the sun had lit the glade.

\* \* \* \* \*  
I am coming! Darkly round me  
Fall the curtains of the night;  
I shall pass among the shadows,  
Scarcely mark'd by ear or sight.  
For my part in life is ended,  
And my work in life is done;  
I'm a wayworn weary pilgrim,  
Faintly lingering 'neath the sun.  
Yet I bless the little children  
As they pass before my chair;  
To the prosperous and the happy  
Oft I whisper low—“Beware!”  
To the penitent and mourner  
I can say, Look up! for free  
Was the mercy that hath carried,  
And through long years solaced me!

There are more vigorous “lines” and more richly-coloured “leaves” than the above in Mrs. Tindal's miscellany, but we must leave them thus announced. Having selected, or fallen into, a careless and undecided manner, she must content herself with an ephemeral success. Time and training might still yield her more sterling honours.

*Lays of Past Days*, by the Author of ‘Provence and the Rhone,’ in its very title-page appeals to us pleasantly; since we have not forgotten the ‘Itinerary,’ commended by Scott in one of his most attractive prefaces—his introduction to ‘Quentin Durward.’ Our Past-day poet, in an off-hand letter of dedication addressed to the Lady of “Our Village,” makes light of his own rhymes,—and owns in their confection to have yielded to a spirit of banter. This, being “a volatile spirit,” as the chemists say, is inevitably doomed to a transient pungency and an early evaporation. He seems to have toyed with, not toiled at, his craft,—and this semi-serious manner of working is sure to be felt, even where the theme is purposely grave or sentimental. Want of earnestness, alone, hindered Prael (whose elegant and fanciful verses we have not forgotten) from being permanently inrolled among our makers of fugitive verse. The author in hand commands picturesque situations and easy-flowing stanzas in the ‘Minstrel of Provence’ and ‘Sir Hugh

the Forester,’—but we read to the end of both without our memory receiving the print of a single line or an image. It was not so when we arrived at the *faciæ* in the latter part of the volume. The following parody, for instance, is, of its kind, drily absurd and racily pleasant.—

*The Lay of the Old Cow.*

AN HUMBLE ATTEMPT AT THE ÆSTHETICO-SUGGESTIVE.

Of what is the old cow thinking,  
As she flaps with her tail the flies,  
Gazing, and lazily winking,  
As they buzz around her eyes?

The old man, grey and sad,  
Who passeth her even now,  
He tended her as a lad,  
When she was a thriving cow.

And to himself still ever  
And ever mumbleth he,  
“Grandfather said he never  
Could guess the age of she;”

“But he minded, when at school,  
At Goody Gruntum's, how  
He was toss'd by a great old bull,  
As was calv'd by that same cow.”

The ancient man hath spoken,  
The ancient man is gone,  
The cow, in mood unbroke,  
Blinketh and grazeth on.

Long hath she pass'd the age  
To sorrow or rejoice:  
She roareth not in rage,  
Nor heedeth human voice.

I gaz'd—as yet no tear  
Escap'd me—when a sound  
Jarr'd sudden on mine ear;  
Soul-struck, I look'd around.

A Lombard youth I spied,  
Grinding the self-same lay  
Whereof some old cow died,  
As jeering proverbs say.

I stopp'd mine ears in fright  
And wrath, and fled the spot,  
As well indeed I might:—  
That old cow blench'd not.

Unchang'd in look and pace,  
Unharm'd by wind or string,  
She star'd him in the face—  
Her life is a charmed thing.

And when the small foot-page  
That tendeth her, is gone  
Down to the grave with age,  
That cow shall still graze on.

Beareth that cow some spell  
Of fearful mystery?—  
I cannot answer well,  
But this is known to me,

Namely, she crops the grass  
Alone in this green lane;  
No heifer, horse, or ass  
Disturbs her tranquil reign.

They pass at distance by,  
And never breathe her name:  
Shrink they before her eye,  
As of one of evil fame?

Thereof man gueseth naught;  
A myth the creature seems;  
Mute, but suggesting thought  
Too deep to breathe in dreams.

Of what is the old cow thinking  
As she flaps away the flies,  
Lazily blinking and winking?  
I LEAVE IT TO THE WISE!

Possibly the above may have already appeared in one of the periodicals,—since we are warned in the prefatory letter that these ‘Lays’ are principally republications.

In many respects better—in some worse—than the two volumes just “bowed out,” is *A Rhyming Chronicle of Incidents and Feelings*, edited by Edward Harston, M.A., Vicar of Tamworth.—In this Chronicle, we find confidence in an excess. Some of the sweetest and most sacred affections of the home-circle, those murmurings over the cradle, those tears beside the grave, those momentary fantasies which to indifferent spectators must seem merely so much foolishness—have been committed to print with a trusting simplicity which sometimes looks like affectation or callousness, when, in truth, it is neither the one nor the other. We do not recollect to have seen the subject of personality in poetry treated, according to any code of united tenderness and justice. So far from this, the world has adopted



favourites, made exceptions, "blessed and banned" as its caprice dictated;—too cruelly anatomized A.'s cry of misery,—too fulsomely accented B.'s marketable raptures over the pap-boat of "our youngest" or "my dear daughter's doll." But the Vicar of Tamworth must not be kept waiting while we "charge" a jury of tender-hearted but manly citizens, recalling inconsistencies of former tribunals,—in order that some verdict may be given whereby the law for future cases may be laid down. In the verses which Mr. Harston has "edited" there are too much music and fancy to admit of our hesitating. Mrs. Browning seems to have been here the model elect of more than one poem, in choice of subject and form of metre, &c.,—though the writer does not command that quaint and fantasy-embossed phraseology, which his original has derived from her commerce with the antique poets. From the first poem in Mr. Harston's book, 'The Tradition of the Golden Spurs,' we will gather two strophes of the song of a river, to show with how tuneable a lyricist we have to deal.—

Listen to me,—  
My waters in the upland pastures rise,  
Fed by the earth and skies;  
Thence tend and set to the wide-flowing sea;  
And not a hill that lies  
Along my course but seeth her green sides,  
Far down my glassy tides.  
Oh, long—aye, long, these scatter'd trees have stood,  
And long this stretching wood.—  
But I was old  
Ere they did first their budding germs unfold,  
Or the green acorns fell,  
That into their great parent oaks did swell.  
I was a river when the earth was young,  
And from my source I sprung,  
And danc'd with joyous cadence, clear and strong,  
My lonely paths along;  
Sweet melodies I sung  
Ere there was ear of man to hearken to my song.

On my untrodden brink  
From age to age the willows lean'd to drink;  
Thick forests grew, the upland tracks to crown,  
And crept like sunbeams down,  
Through lapse of moving centuries gone by,  
To me drawn slowly nigh!  
I was a river then, and things from far  
Conspir'd to give me beauty; clouds as white  
As wings of swans across me took their flight.  
I wore the image of the morning star  
Upon my bosom! Yet to thee I sing  
Of change and desolation—Time shall bring  
A day of doom, a last, a closing strain  
To all my music—hear it once again,  
That, like a bird, must soon or late take wing,  
O Saxton King!

In 'Margaret by the Mereside' we are detained by a picture, winning from its truth, delicacy and geniality.—

Lying imbedded in the green champaign  
That gives no shadows to thy silvery face,  
Set in the middle of a verdant plain,  
Only the clouds their forms upon thee trace;  
No steadfast hills on thee reflected rest,  
Nor waver with the dimpling of thy breast.

O, silent Mere! about whose margins spring  
Thick bulrushes, to hide the reed-bird's nest;  
Where the shy ouzel dips her glossy wing,  
And, balanc'd in the water, takes her rest:  
While, under bending leaves, all gem-array'd,  
Bright dragon-flies lie panting in the shade.

Warm, stilly place,—the sun-dew loves thee well,  
And the green sward comes creeping to thy brink;  
And poor-man's-weather-glass, and pimpernel,  
Lean down to thee their perfum'd heads, to drink;  
And heavy with the weight of bees doth bend  
White clover, and beneath thy wave descend.

Where does the scent of beanfields float so wide,  
At intervals returning on the air,  
As over mead and fen to thy lone side,  
To lose itself among thy zephyrs rare,  
With scents from hawthorn copse, and new-cut hay,  
And blooming orchards lying far away?

Thou hast thy sabbaths, when a deeper calm  
Descends upon thee, quiet Mere! and then  
The sound of ringing bells, thy pence to charm,  
From grey church towers comes far across the fen:  
And the light sigh, where grass and waters meet,  
Seems thy meek welcome to their visits sweet.

'Mimie's Grass-nest,' in its title and in its frame-work, is referable to a model,—yet it contains passages to prove that the poet need copy from none. A few verses from one of the legends told to humour the fancy of a little girl have an old-world colour and romance, which

recall to us a favourite modern picture—Les-sing's 'Knight beside the Fountain,'—in the Frankfort Gallery.—

A gentle Maiden walk'd alone within the deep green wood,  
And there she spied a fair white dove by savage hawks  
pursued;  
"Now come to me, thou hunted dove," the gentle maiden  
said,  
"And find a shelter in my arms, to hide thy beauteous  
head."

The yellow belted bee  
Was at work beneath the tree,  
And the woodruffe nodded lightly on the bed!

Then spake the Prince, where low he lay beneath the  
beechen tree,  
"The maid that fain would save a bird will surely suc-  
cour me."

He slowly turn'd his fainting limbs, and spake with mickle  
pain,  
And from his wounds the crimson blood came welling  
forth again.

And the cuckoo's note was clear,  
With the belling of the deer,  
And the cushats sang their madrigals again.

"Oh! for thy gentle pity's sake, I pray thee to me bring  
A draught to quench my raging thirst from yonder forest  
spring—

For truly I was here waylaid, and wounded, as ye see,  
All by his treachery that is my deadly enemy!"

In the castle far away  
Shone the mellow evening ray,  
And the milky corn was green upon the lea.

She brought him water from the burn, and held it to his  
lips,  
She led him down to the hollow tree that in the deep well  
dips;

She hid her away to her forest-home, and brought of her  
wheaten bread,  
She spread him a couch of the tufted heath, to pillow his  
weary head.

In the twilight beetles flew  
Up against him—and the dew  
Dimm'd the stars that watch'd by night above his bed.

"Now who be ye, so rudely lodg'd, with face so fair and  
mild?"

"My father is ranger of all the wild wood, and I am his  
only child!"

She tended him so patiently, ten summer weeks and three,  
Till the leaves were thick beneath her feet, when she came  
to the beachen tree.

By the castle far away  
Did the lifted banner play,  
And the russet corn was ripe upon the lea!

This snatch of romance will tempt more than  
one hand to turn to the page at which we have  
stopped,—to see what comes next. A short  
collection of scriptural verses follows this  
legend,—and lastly come the family poems, to  
which allusion has been made.

Ere we conclude, we must speak of a  
pamphlet entitled *Thoughts from the Inner  
Circle*,—somewhat curiously prefaced. The  
volume, we are told, is the result of "a close  
and intimate intercourse" of "a few friends"  
in council "upon the great questions affecting  
the interests of humanity;"—and accordingly  
we find copies of verse-exercises on *The  
Age, Evil, Faith, Society, the Railway*—  
some after the aphoristic pattern of Mr. Milnes  
(by Mr. Milnes borrowed from the Germans)—  
some after the more dreamy model of "Locks-  
ley Hall"—some in other forms, borrowed from  
the poets of an elder dynasty. No one specimen  
will in any adequate way represent so many  
"thinkers;"—but the following close of H. L.'s  
lucubrations on steam conveyance may be given  
as neither the best nor the worst stanzas from  
the "Inner Circle."—

Sceptics of the earth's vast progress, doubtless, laugh such  
thoughts to scorn.—

Call it vain and idle vaunting, of an idle fancy born;  
Baseless as the beauteous mirage, which the traveller sees  
afar;

Fickle as our wayward feelings, short-lived as the falling  
star.

Yet the thoughtful soul believes it, when he views the  
storied past,

Or sees the wonders o'er our age these later days have cast;  
And traces out, since Eden days, the wondrous progress  
made,  
And sees before man's mighty will all difficulties fade.

God gave the beasts the wool and fur, to shield them from  
the blast,

But o'er man's naked, shivering form no mantle was there  
cast;

Yet with his keen inventive power he clothed himself from  
harm,  
And built a shelter from the storm with his strong and  
mighty arm.

God gave the deer his lightsome step and foot of swiftest  
pace,  
But man with his giant engine comes, and strips him in the  
race:

And God hath given the birds their wings, to sail in aerial  
blue,  
And there shall man in the future days become a dweller too.

Thus then the Railway shineth forth the star of this present  
age;

The poor man's aid to social bliss, the queller of war's fierce  
rage;

With a power surpassing the mightiest king that ever on  
earth held sway;  
And holding a promise of brighter days, when this age  
shall have passed away.

The sculptured form is a noble thing, and the painting rich  
and rare;

And noble is the pillared aisle, with its arch raised high in  
air;

And the earth hath a thousand noble things, that loud for  
praises call;  
But the grimy engine, black with smoke, is as noble as  
them all.

An odd railway anthology might already be  
made up, beginning with Darwin's well-thumbed  
tinsel prediction about "the slow barge" and  
"the rapid car,"—and taking in (to illustrate its  
heterogeneousness) a not forgotten jingle by Miss  
M. A. Brown, containing not the worst verses  
written upon steam,—and that solemn little ode  
à la Lamartine, entitled 'Le Remorqueur,'  
which all who stop at Malines while the Belgian  
trains are dislocated, or at Verviers while the  
childish ceremony of searching travellers' carpet  
bags is gone through, are invited to purchase  
for a few sous. But we must not be tempted to  
further digression, even by a subject offering  
so many nooks and corners for fantastic specu-  
lation as social good or evil illustrated in Poetry  
for, and belonging to, "the Million."

*The Age and Christianity.* By Robert  
Vaughan, D.D. Jackson & Walford.

It appears that Dr. Vaughan was last year  
invited by the Trustees of Coward College to  
deliver, in London, a series of discourses on  
various aspects of the present age considered in  
relation to the Christian system and Christian  
ethics. The lecturer's treatment of his subject  
aims at being at once popular and philosophic.  
Perhaps as far as such a combination is possi-  
ble Dr. Vaughan has achieved his intention.  
As will be readily understood, it forms no part  
of such a design as the above to deal with the  
age in its totality. The social characteristics—  
the moral tendencies, except so far as these  
spring from religion as a source—the political  
feeling of the time,—all lie beyond the limits of  
the writer's sphere. He deals only with the mental  
or philosophical developments of the age: and  
with these chiefly as they connect themselves  
critically or historically with the ideas of the  
Christian system. The range of subject thus  
materially diminished, is still of vast magnitude;  
but we may say that Dr. Vaughan takes it in  
completely. Reviewing the characteristics of  
the age generally, he first separates, as more  
particularly calling for remark, the series of  
cognate developments commonly grouped  
under the term German Philosophy. These  
he breaks up into orders: thus, we have  
Scepticism, as taught in Hume and Con-  
dillac, Kant, Eichorn and Strauss,—and  
the reaction against it as manifested in such  
teachers as Neander and Tholuck, D'Aubigné  
and Monod. Then we have Materialism, the  
ideas which struggle for the deification of mere  
wealth,—and its reactions. Lastly, we have  
Contempt of the Past, the mental basis of revo-  
lution and the source of all social violence,—and  
its reactions in such forms as Young Englandism,  
&c.

This is the bare skeleton of the subject as  
treated by Dr. Vaughan. In one or other of  
these categories most of the mental develop-  
ments of the modern mind come in for notice:  
—such as pantheism, formalism, mysticism,



and naturalism. German philosophy meets with little civility at our Doctor's hands, it must be confessed. He grapples with its dogmas stoutly—and sometimes, at least, gets the mastery. There are some points, however, on which we suspect that Dr. Vaughan mistakes the tendency—perhaps even the character—of modern speculation. For instance, where he makes a charge against the researches of Niebuhr as leading on to scepticism, and against the science of Auguste Comte as tending to materialism. This charge we apprehend is so erroneous as to need only pointing out in order to command correction. Niebuhr certainly does not lead to doubt: on the contrary, he leads to the rejection of what has always been doubtful—in fact, to the separation of fable from fact. Nor is the charge against the French philosopher more sustainable than that against the German critic. Perhaps this faultiness of expression may have arisen from the necessities of a public lecture, in which language is required to be more distinct and decisive than exactly suits the nature of a philosophical discourse. The popular cast of the work will probably be its best recommendation to the general reader. It is not our custom to notice at length books of this character—nor can we enter in our critical capacity more deeply into the argument of this. We can only say, in conclusion, that it is throughout informed with a catholic spirit—that the logic is clear and convincing, the style lucid, axiomatic and sententious, and the matter full and weighty. It will well repay perusal.

*History of Greece.* By George Grote, Esq. Vols. VII. and VIII.

[Second Notice.]

Mr. Grote thinks that the idea popularly entertained of the Grecian sophists is an entire misrepresentation. Handed down to us from past times with a bad sense attached to it, the name "Sophist" is now invariably used to denote a person of some intellectual pretensions, but of mean and dishonest character—one who, when he has a point to gain, will concoct plausible arguments in its favour, and try to juggle people into believing them. This modern meaning of the word "sophist" we are accustomed unhesitatingly to carry back into ancient Greek times, as if it were precisely the meaning that was originally involved in the Greek word *σοφιστής*.

"The Sophists are spoken of as a new class of men, or sometimes in language which implies a new doctrinal sect or school, as if they then sprang up in Greece for the first time—ostentatious impostors, flattering and duping the rich youth for their own personal gain, undermining the morality of Athens public and private, and encouraging their pupils to the unscrupulous prosecution of ambition and cupidity. They are even affirmed to have succeeded in corrupting the general morality, so that Athens had become miserably degenerated and vicious in the latter years of the Peloponnesian war, as compared with what she was in the time of Miltiades and Aristides. Sokratēs, on the contrary, is usually described as a holy man combating and exposing these false prophets—standing up as the champion of morality against their insidious artifices."

Now, this view, whether of the Sophists generally or of the precise relation in which they stood to Sokrates, is, Mr. Grote contends, perfectly unwarrantable. "A sophist," he says, "in the genuine sense of the word was a wise man—a clever man—one who stood prominently before the public as distinguished for intellect or talent of some kind." In this wide and primitive sense, Solon, Pythagoras, and all other Greeks of an early period who attained to eminence as thinkers or writers, were sophists,—and they were so denominated by their contemporaries.

In a more restricted sense, however, the name began about the year B.C. 450 to be applied to a class of public or professional teachers that then sprang up in Athens. "The primitive education at Athens," says Mr. Grote—

"consisted of two branches; gymnastics, for the body—music, for the mind. The word *music* is not to be judged according to the limited signification which it now bears. It comprehended from the beginning everything appertaining to the province of the Nine Muses—not merely learning the use of the lyre, or how to bear part of a chorus, but also the hearing, learning, and repeating, of poetical compositions, as well as the practice of exact and elegant pronunciation—which latter accomplishment, in a language like the Greek with long words, measured syllables, and great diversity of accentuation between one word and another, must have been far more difficult to acquire than it is in any modern European language. As the range of ideas enlarged, so the words *music* and musical teachers acquired an expanded meaning so as to comprehend matter of instruction at once ampler and more diversified. During the middle of the fifth century B.C. at Athens, there came thus to be found, among the musical teachers, men of the most distinguished abilities and eminence; masters of all learning and accomplishments of the age, teaching what was known of astronomy, geography, and physics, and capable of holding dialectical discussions with their pupils, upon all the various problems then afloat among intellectual men."

These teachers, adapting themselves to the tendencies and demands of the community that supported them, became divided into two general classes, recognized as distinct the one from the other,—the Rhetoricians and the Dialecticians. The difference between the two classes is thus clearly explained by Mr. Grote.—

"The rhetorical teaching was an attempt to assist and improve men in the power of continuous speech as addressed to assembled numbers, such as the public assembly or the dikastery; it was therefore a species of training sought for by men of active pursuits and ambition, either that they might succeed in public life, or that they might maintain their rights and dignity if called before the court of justice. On the other hand, the dialectic business had no direct reference to public life, the judicial pleading, or to any assembled large number. It was a dialogue carried on by two disputants, usually before a few hearers, to unravel some obscurity, to reduce the respondent to silence and contradiction, to exercise both parties in mastery of the subject, or to sift the consequences of some problematical assumption. It was spontaneous conversation systematized and turned into some predetermined channel; furnishing a stimulus to thought, and a means of improvement not attainable in any other manner—furnishing to some also, a source of profit or display. It opened a line of serious intellectual pursuit to men of a speculative or inquisitive turn, who were deficient in voice, in boldness, in continuous memory, for public speaking; or who desired to keep themselves apart from the political and judicial animosities of the moment."

Now, in the language of the Athenians, all persons who publicly taught, or professed to teach, either the rhetorical art or the dialectic art, were sophists. Community of purpose or similarity of doctrine was by no means implied in the name. Some sophists were honourable, others dishonourable men; some might teach one set of opinions, others a different set. The Sophists of Athens, therefore, were not "a school;" they were a profession, divided (to use a modern phrase) into two Faculties,—the Faculty of Rhetoric and the Faculty of Logic. And as every teacher who arose was capable of being referred to one or other of these Faculties,—so, every teacher who arose was ranked as one of the Sophists. But though nothing was intrinsically included in the name either for or against those who bore it, yet, seeing that in point of fact the use of the name almost always was accompanied by a secret sneer or grudge in the minds

of the persons using it (such a sneer or grudge as usually accompanies any reference to superior intellect or superior habits of thought by persons who feel themselves discomposd thereby),—this sneer or grudge became gradually insinuated in the very sound, so that when the one was heard the other was understood. Just as the term "theorist," though it really signifies nothing bad, but rather the contrary, yet does in general convey an expression of disesteem to the English ear,—so the term "sophist" came to grate on the ear of the Athenians. That it was not the faults of the really despicable men among the so-called Sophists, however, but rather the unpoplar excellencies and recondite merits of the best of them, which brought about this prostitution of the name, is proved by the fact that the very type of a sophist to the Athenian public—the sophist *par excellence* of the Athenian comic stage—was Sokrates, the man farthest of all removed from the modern idea of a sophist. How, then, did this modern idea arise? How is it that, instead of calling Sokrates one of the Athenian Sophists, as his contemporaries esteemed him, we now carefully distinguish between him and the Sophists; speaking as if they and he stood mutually averse and antagonistic—he the apostle of truth, they the votaries of error? Mr. Grote furnishes the explanation. The philosopher Plato, he says, anxious to bring out the distinction between Sokrates—the disinterested teacher impelled to his function solely by the pressure of his own profound convictions and feelings,—and such men, on the other hand, as the paid teachers, Protagoras, Gorgias, Prodicus, &c.,—appropriated the already vitiated term "sophists" exclusively to persons of the latter class. But even in the pages of Plato there is no warrant for any charge of immorality or low views against the sophists as a body. The only reproach meant to be conveyed by Plato in his application of the term sophists, is, that of taking fees: not a light reproach, however, either in his eyes, or in those of Sokrates himself,—whose opinion was, that for a teacher to sell his wisdom, or bind himself by a bargain to any particular pupil, was as great an outrage on propriety as for a woman to sell her love. All the force of Plato's distinction between Sokrates and the Sophists would be indicated, if, substituting the word "professor" for "Sophist," we were to head the dialogues in which such opposition is exhibited with the title "*Sokrates and the Professors*." The additional malevolence that is discernible in the word "Sophist" as it is now used has been infused into it since Plato's time; and must be carefully discharged from it before we can do justice under that name to the sophists of Ancient Greece, such as they really were, or such as Plato represents them.

While thus putting in a word in vindication of the Sophists, and in contradiction of the popular notion that historically they and Sokrates are to be recognized as opposed parties in a great philosophic struggle,—no one has asserted the claims of Sokrates to a position mightily aloof from all Grecian philosophers more strongly than Mr. Grote. We have rarely met with a finer example of the blending of profound reverence with just and deep insight than is afforded by Mr. Grote's appreciation of the character and life of Sokrates; and, considering that of late,—by the action of that strange zest for ingenious singularity which manifested itself in the early Church in the appearance of such sects as the Cainites or apologists of Cain, and the Judasites or defenders of Iscariot,—men like Mr. Forchhammer have arisen, paradoxical enough to maintain that the law process against Sokrates was just,



and that he richly deserved the hemlock:—in these circumstances, we are inclined to think that more than ordinary value is to be attached to this encomiastic view of Socrates, coming, as it does, from a writer whose own philosophy is so sober and positive in its tenor, and so much less tremulous towards the supernatural side of things than the Socratic. Of Socrates, Mr. Grote says generally:—

"Three peculiarities distinguish the man. 1. His long life passed in contented poverty, and in public, apostolic, dialectics. 2. His strong religious persuasion—or belief of acting under a mission and signs from the gods; especially his *Dæmon* or *Genius*—the special religious warning of which he believed himself to be frequently the subject. 3. His great intellectual originality, both of subject and of method, and his power of stirring and forcing the germ of inquiry and ratiocination in others."

Passing by Mr. Grote's interesting observations on the first two of these peculiarities, let us attend to what he says regarding the last.

And first, according to Mr. Grote, Socrates displayed the originality of his intellect in the very choice of the subject-matter of his speculations. "All the Greek philosophers," he says,—

"prior to Sokratēs, inheriting from their earliest poetical predecessors the vast and unmeasured problems which had once been solved by the supposition of divine or superhuman agents, contemplated the world, physical and moral, all in a mass, and applied their minds to find some hypothesis which would give them an explanation of this totality, or at least appease curiosity by something which looked like an explanation. What were the elements out of which sensible things were made? What was the initial cause or principle of those changes which appeared to our senses? What was change?—was it generation of something integrally new and destruction of something pre-existent—or was it a decomposition and recombination of elements still continuing."

Socrates was the first to change all this, and to turn men's thoughts away from speculative cosmogony and physics to the great subject of human business and duties. Abjuring physical philosophy, and even declaring its exercise beyond a certain point to be impious as an intrusion on the affairs of the gods, he first proclaimed that "the proper study of mankind is man." To know what is piety, what impiety—what is honourable, what base—what is just, what unjust—what is courage, what cowardice—what is meant by a State, and what sort of persons should have authority in it:—such, says Xenophon, was the drift of all the reasonings and all the cogitations of Socrates.

The method pursued by Socrates in these favourite investigations was a dialectic process, which consisted, according to the somewhat clumsy definition of it given by Xenophon, "in coming together and taking common counsel, to distribute things into genera or families, so as to learn what each separate thing really was." That is to say, meeting with a few persons to discuss some general question,—as for example: *What is justice?* Socrates made it his aim so to lead the conversation that from the consideration of the mere word "justice," as it loomed vaguely before the popular understanding, the listeners should be inevitably reduced to the examination of those particular instances or examples of justice out of which the general notion had been logically gathered;—thus testing impressions by realities. The process described by Xenophon, it will be observed, is exactly this, stated conversely. As, on the one hand, general notions are to be obtained only by the induction of instances—or, in logical language, by the distribution of particulars into species and genera—so, on the other, general notions are to be tested by making them disgorge their instances—or, in logical lan-

guage, by the resolution of genera and species into particulars. It was on the latter principle that Socrates usually proceeded. Content with having performed a destructive process of analysis, he usually left the necessary synthesis to be undertaken by his audience.—

"On such questions as these—What is justice?—What is piety?—What is a democracy?—What is a law?—every man fancied that he could give a confident opinion, and even wondered that any other person should feel a difficulty. When Sokratēs, professing ignorance, put any such question, he found no difficulty in obtaining an answer, given off hand, and with very little reflection. The answer purported to be the explanation or definition of a term—familiar indeed, but of wide and comprehensive import—given by one who had never before tried to render to himself an account of what it meant. Having got this answer, Sokratēs put fresh questions applying it to specific cases, to which the respondent was compelled to give answers inconsistent with the first; thus showing that the definition was either too narrow, or too wide, or defective in some essential condition. The respondent then amended his answer; but this was a prelude to other questions, which could only be answered in ways inconsistent with the amendment; and the respondent, after many attempts to disentangle himself, was obliged to plead guilty to the inconsistencies, with an admission that he could make no satisfactory answer to the original query, which had at first appeared so easy and familiar. Or if he did not himself admit this, the hearers at least felt it forcibly. The dialogue, as given to us, commonly ends with a result purely negative, proving that the respondent was incompetent to answer the question proposed to him, in a manner consistent and satisfactory even to himself. Sokratēs, as he professed from the beginning to have no positive theory to support, so he maintains to the end the same air of a learner, who would be glad to solve the difficulty if he could, but regrets to find himself disappointed of that instruction which the respondent had promised."

Even had Socrates taught the Athenians nothing positive at all,—had he never inculcated a single doctrine, but only criticized the general notions that he found existing—yet, in the opinion of Mr. Grote, this unparalleled mastery of his over the Dialectic method, and this remorseless application of it in Athenian society during his life-time, would have entitled him to the admiration of mankind. Socrates himself, it is clear, valued his method, quite apart from the conclusions (if any such existed) in whose service he was in the habit of using it. Nay, it was, his method, he believed, that constituted his special inheritance as a divine messenger. He was "an elenctic or cross-examining god," to use the language of Plato, "going about to examine and convict the infirm in reason." Other men had been sent on other errands;—he had a divine mission to make the Athenians logical.

That the merit of Socrates, however, was not solely in his method,—that he did enforce and inculcate certain grand maxims and modes of thinking,—cannot admit of a doubt; although what these specially Socratic maxims and modes of thinking were, it would not be easy lucidly to determine. This is a question on which Mr. Grote has said perhaps too little. Admitting, on the one hand, the view given by Xenophon of Socrates, as a teacher of purity, obedience to the laws, and other virtues,—he appears to be disposed, on the other, to deny his having had much to do, creatively, with the poetic transcendentalism put into his mouth by Plato. Here, we think, many will differ from Mr. Grote. On the subject of the political theory of Socrates, Mr. Grote says:—

"The political opinions of Sokratēs were much akin to his ethical, and deserve especial notice, as having in part contributed to his condemnation by the *Dikastery*. He thought that the functions of government belonged legitimately to those who knew best how to exercise them for the advantage of the

governed. 'The legitimate King or Governor was not the man who held the sceptre—nor the man elected by some vulgar persons—nor he who had got the post by lot—nor he who had thrust himself in by force, or by fraud—but he alone who knew how to govern well.' Just as the pilot governed on ship-board, the surgeon in a sick man's house, the trainer in a palaestra—every one else being eager to obey these professional superiors, and even thanking and recompensing them for their directions, simply because their greater knowledge was an admitted fact. It was absurd (Sokratēs used to contend) to choose public officers by lot, when no one would trust himself on shipboard under the care of a pilot selected by hazard, nor would any one pick out a carpenter or a musician in like manner. We do not know what provisions Sokratēs suggested for applying his principle to practice—for discovering who was the fittest man in point of knowledge—or for superseding him in case of his becoming unfit, or in case another fitter than he should arise."

The story of the trial and death of Socrates is minutely and clearly told by Mr. Grote. While he says not a word to exonerate the Athenians from their real moral guilt in putting to death such a man, he is careful to bring out the fact, already known to all scholars, that the condemnation and execution of Socrates were the result less of any eagerness on the part of the Athenians for his blood than of a noble conflict between his own magnanimity and the routine of Athenian judicial procedure. In the first place, his line of defence, voluntarily and deliberately adopted from high motives, was such as necessarily to lead to the verdict which another line of defence, even slightly different, would certainly have prevented. In the second place, his voluntary rejection of the opportunity legally afforded him after condemnation of assessing his own punishment, left his judges no alternative but to pronounce the sentence demanded by the prosecution,—Death. In no other city of the ancient world, says Mr. Grote, could such a man as Socrates have lived for so many years; and in no other city would his death on such a charge have been so quiet and painless. Regarding the condition of mind in which Socrates met his trial and condemnation, Mr. Grote says:—

"The words, spoken before his trial, intimate a state of belief which explains the tenor of the defence, and formed one essential condition of the final result. They proved that Sokratēs not only cared little for being acquitted, but even thought that the approaching trial was marked out by the gods as the term of his life, and that there were good reasons why he should prefer such a consummation as best for himself. Nor is it wonderful that he should entertain that opinion, when we recollect the entire ascendancy within him of strong internal conscience and intelligent reflection, built upon an originally fearless temperament, and silencing what Plato calls 'the child within us, who trembles before death'—his great love of colloquial influence, and incapacity of living without it—his old age, now seventy years, rendering it impossible that such influence could much longer continue—and the opportunity afforded to him, by now towering above ordinary men under the like circumstances, to read an impressive lesson, as well as to leave behind him a reputation yet more exalted than that which he had hitherto acquired. It was in this frame of mind that Sokratēs came to his trial and undertook his unpremeditated defence, the substance of which we now read in the '*Platonic Apology*.' His calculations, alike high-minded and well-balanced, were completely realised. Had he been acquitted after such a defence, it would have been not only a triumph over his personal enemies, but would have been a sanction on the part of the people and the popular *Dikastery* to his teaching—which indeed had been enforced by Anytus in his accusing argument, in reference to acquittal generally, even before he heard the defence: whereas his condemnation, and the feelings with which he met it, have shed double and triple lustre over his whole life and character."



The specimens that we have given in this notice serve but faintly to indicate the richness of the last two chapters of Vol. VIII. of Mr. Grote's work; and we conclude by recommending them as containing a more masterly grouping of interesting particulars and reflections relative to Athenian life, thought, and literature, than is to be found anywhere else within the same compass.

## NEW NOVELS.

WITHOUT its being marked by any flagrant fault or folly, a drier heap of novels than this before us has not often presented itself to us for reduction by review. This is our reason for dealing with the collection succinctly. First come two fictions of the antique school.—

*Evadne; or, An Empire in its Fall.* By Charles Rowcroft, Author of 'Tales of the Colonies,' &c. 3 vols.—As a narrator describing the rough incomings and the ready outgoings of colonial life, we had great pleasure in welcoming Mr. Rowcroft. But to render a story of the fall of imperial Rome interesting, something is required different from personal experience or graphic power. There must be scholarship, poetical enthusiasm, artistic sobriety. Character there must be, and passion,—but these should be draped, and diademed, and sandalled; what is more, the antique costume should sit easily, not be worn with the obvious awkwardness of a masquerade disguise. Those who subscribe to our canons, and who are familiar with the past essays by the author of 'Evadne,' need hardly go further. Though Mr. Rowcroft's romance be not without its stirring pages,—its incompleteness, its modern phraseologies and philosophies, its tiresome orations (vide Vol. I. pp. 142, 176) rendered it impossible for us ever fairly to enter into the story; still more to proceed through it with such admiration as makes parting at the close "a sweet sorrow,"—not a relief eagerly thirsted for and cheerfully embraced.

*The Martyrs of Carthage: a Tale of the Times of Old.* By Mrs. J. B. Webb, Author of 'Naomi' and 'Julamerk.' 2 vols.—This is another piece of adust and sapless reading, if the tale be considered as one laid out to win the tale-lover. Mrs. Webb, however, appears to have aimed at another class of readers, and to desire a place among religious teachers. She "begs to state," in her Preface, "that her primary hope and object in writing and publishing is that the narrative may be permitted in some small degree" to serve pious uses. We have recently eschewed light literature put forth under such pretext,—since to deal with it critically is impossible without wounding many excellent persons whose scruples we are bound to respect. To their tender mercies 'The Martyrs of Carthage' are gladly handed over.

Proceeding to the second pair of novels included in this "table-delivery"—we might generally remark that the Red Indians can no longer be evoked as subjects of fictitious interest, more especially since we have seen their familiarities in the Egyptian Hall, and over the "chick-a-bob-boo" of Her Majesty's champagne-bis, did we not hold an implicit faith that no track is too beaten for those who wear the "winged shoes" of Genius to tread. Only the other day we learned from Mr. Herman Melville how new a tone of colour might be thrown over that stalest of all stale things—a naval novel. Viewed with the eye of this faith the Crees, Choctaws, Ojibbeways, Sioux, Tuscororas, and other tribes are not beyond the skill of a right good romancer to present anew. Till such a one shall come, however, we may be excused for not being thrilled by the sight of a scalping-knife, and for partaking in the

wildest forest escape without livelier emotions than attend us while pacing

—the sweet shady side of Pall Mall.

*The King of the Hurons.* By the Author of 'The First of the Knickerbockers' and the 'Young Patroon,' is, as its Preface warns us to expect, "a story of civilized rather than savage life." It is a tale of American origin which exhibits to us sailors, beauties, Negroes speaking a gibberish which the Latter-Day Prophet might call "horse English," and other savage men;—a tale in pages reminding us of Mr. Fenimore Cooper, in pages of Mr. Paulding.

*Ellen Clayton; or, the Nomades of the West* is a three-volume novel in which we stand on ground further north—beginning in the Canadas. Hence, as might be foreseen, in exchange for some of the above stock-figures, we have the no less familiar *voyageur* and the *coureur de bois*, with their French-American jargon and their characteristic "yarns" of portage perils and of river 'scapes. But "that's not all." In the third volume, we find that Conrad and Ellen have straggled down as far as the kingdom of King Unicorn, and that the gentleman has narrowly escaped sacrifice at the hand of one Bison-ko-kok-has. Lest these Aristophanic names should not suffice to mark a locality, we may explain that at the point mentioned the scene changes to Mexico. In his Preface Mr. Huyghue claims the possession of large experience. But a collection of sketches, scraps and gleanings (and such is virtually this book) can no more be considered a novel than a string of beads or a bunch of feathers can pass for a picture.

Since the above was written, we have read the worst novel from a female hand that we recollect to have seen. This is *Raymond Revilloid: a Romance.* By Grace Webster. Many years ago the *Athenæum* [No. 656] commended a homely Scotch story by this authoress, entitled 'Ingliston':—such approval being cited even unto the present day. Being interested in sanitary progress, moral as well as physical, we much wish that our protest against 'Raymond Revilloid' may be as long remembered and as widely advertised. The story is improbable to extravagance, and coarse to repulsiveness:—badly conceived and worse executed.

## OUR LIBRARY TABLE.

*Dr. Johnson: his Religious Life and his Death.* By the Author of 'Dr. Hookwell,' &c. Without misnomer, this well-intended and carefully-executed book may be styled a long "Lay Sermon," having the sayings and doings of the author of 'Rasselas' for text. In the fulness of honest faith and love, we verily believe, has the author of 'Dr. Hookwell' bent himself to the canonization of Dr. Johnson; and though we cannot add our "Amen" to the chorus, we are no iconoclasts who with busy gladness would undermine the pedestal and break the idol. To enter upon a comment of this book, and an analysis of a character so complex as his to whom it is devoted—to point out where physical peculiarity ended, and indulged self-consciousness began to order the Talking Preacher's opinions and utterances,—and hereby to illustrate our protest against the popular adage "*De mortuis*," &c. &c. on the score of our greater care for the living (a protest which almost excludes the possibility of human saintship)—would lead us beyond all disposable limits. It is enough to indicate a line of argument which could be conscientiously taken and consistently maintained. We yield to none in our admiration and regard for that which was strong, noble and generous in the *Boanerges* of Bolt Court; but an act of "worship" calls for implicit subscription,—and here we must part company with the author of 'Dr. Hookwell.'

*The Prometheus and Agamemnon of Æschylus.* Translated into English verse by H. W. Herbert.—This is an American importation by Mr. Chapman:

—the rendering is faithful and spirited. Both plays are accompanied with introductions and explanations regarding the drama and the theatre of the Greeks, written with originality and judgment. In the style of his work the translator has aimed at conforming the whole to what he denominates "the true Hellenic standard,"—at being as strictly literal and Greek both in form and in spirit as he possibly could. We think his 'Agamemnon' more successful than his 'Prometheus.' Notwithstanding, however, the general praise which we willingly concede, we cannot conceal from ourselves that the translator has frequently achieved vigour by the sacrifice of elegance. For the sake of force the metre is often violated; and strange modes of expression are adopted, with other licences that disfigure the diction and interfere with the rhythm.

*Evenings at Sea.*—A collection of a few picturesque tales, supposed to be narrated on board ship,—from further notice of which we are absolved by the fact of most, if not all, of them having already appeared in the periodicals.

*Port Phillip in 1849.* By James B. Clutterbuck, M.D.—Dr. Clutterbuck describes himself as a nine years' resident in the district of Northern Australia, of which he here renders some account. This circumstance, of course, enables him to speak with the authority of experience on all matters connected with the natural salubrity of the climate and its adaptation to the European constitution. Sir Thomas Mitchell, the present Surveyor-General of New South Wales,—to whose explorations we are in a great measure indebted for our knowledge of the interior of this part of the country,—not inappropriately designated the district now known as "Port Phillip" as Australia Felix, from its wonderful beauty and fertility. The air is good, the soil is of excellent quality, the streams are pretty numerous and well adapted for a purely agricultural country,—being extremely tortuous in their courses, and intersected by lagoons. Indeed, the natural advantages of the settlement are among the most attractive in the British Empire. The sudden rise of Melbourne, the capital of the province, is a certain evidence in favour of the locality. Twelve years ago the ground on which it stands was a wilderness. The naked savage sometimes pitched his tent beneath the luxurious foliage of the forest,—but the emu, the wild dog, and the kangaroo existed on the spot in such numbers as to scare away the first adventurers. The next comers succeeded better:—a settlement was formed,—houses and shops and streets arose,—the Government began a gaol, a court-house, and other offices,—churches and schools followed,—and in a dozen years' time Melbourne is already an important city, with nearly 20,000 for population, and the head-quarters of a rapidly growing province on which Her Majesty has recently been pleased to confer her own name, Victoria. The great evil which, in Dr. Clutterbuck's opinion, afflicts the colony, is its dependence upon Sydney—the central seat of government. Once give it a "separate nationality," and he thinks it would soon astonish all Anglo-Saxondom by its growth and prosperity. We can recommend this little book to the intending emigrant.

*The Justification of War as the Medium of Civilization.* By George Stephens.—Men of talent out of the mere spirit of paradox are sometimes found to take up and defend theses which the popular intelligence has mastered and rejected for ever. Thus Jean Jacques Rousseau contended that barbarism is better than civilization,—Thomas Carlyle professes to think slavery better than freedom,—and in a kindred spirit of crotchety inconsistency, Mr. Stephens condemns the "superficial cant" of the apostles who preach peace on earth and good will to men, and "from a higher and more philosophic point of view" pronounces in favour of the great "pastime of kings." An argument, and a mode of statement, better adapted to try one's patience we have seldom read, and the offence is all the greater from the text being loaded with quotations from Holy Writ, and epithets of abuse flung at the men whose fault in the writer's eyes is a desire to see nations refrain from cutting each other's throats.

*On Trees, their Uses and Biography.* By John Sheppard.—Botanists tell us that the division of plants into herbs and trees is not a philosophical one,







would in the first instance seek them. Col. Sabine adds:—"Where the Esquimaux have lived, there Englishmen may live; and no valid argument against the attempt to relieve can I think be founded on the improbability of finding Englishmen alive in 1850 who may have made a retreat to Melville Island in the spring of 1849. Nor would the view of the case be altered in any material degree, if we suppose their retreat to have been made in 1843 or 1849 to Banks' Land,—which may afford facilities of food and fuel equal or superior to Melville Island."

We observe among the papers a letter from a Mr. J. M. Hamilton, brother-in-law to Dr. Rae, who lives at Stromness, in which he affirms positively that Sir John Franklin expressed his determination to endeavour to find a passage to the westward through Jones's Sound. Mr. Hamilton says:—"During Sir John Franklin's stay at Stromness I had frequent opportunities of conversing with him on the subject of his voyage; and the last house he visited in Great Britain was mine, on the day previous to his sailing from Stromness,—on which occasion as well as on several others he expressed his determination of endeavouring to find a passage through Jones's Sound, instead of Lancaster Sound." The letter containing this information was written on the 15th of November last; and presuming the writer's impressions to be quite correct, we are at a loss to conjecture why he should have kept them back for so long a period. We cannot, however, attach implicit credence to this statement. Sir John Franklin is not an officer at all disposed to treat his orders with levity; which he would be justly chargeable with doing if he acted on any notions that he might personally entertain rather than on his official instructions, which directed him to proceed westward through Lancaster Sound and Behring's Straits.

We refer our readers to the "Papers" for the plans of relief submitted to the Admiralty by Sir John Ross and other parties.

#### GEOGRAPHY OF THE EXODUS.

I beg leave to offer a few remarks on the comments of "A. B. G." upon Mr. Sharpe's theory concerning the Exodus, which appeared in the *Athenæum* of last week. As I have not only adopted this theory myself—deeming it one of the most valuable suggestions ever put forth in biblical geography—but have even made it the groundwork from which I deduce the astronomical elements of a method of obtaining some valuable chronological data,—I have a great deal at stake on its correctness, which I have spared no labour and research in verifying by a minute inquiry into every detail connected with it. I therefore feel it due, not only to Mr. Sharpe, whose theory "A. B. G." wishes to improve on, but also to myself, who have such strong reasons for feeling assured that it stands beyond the reach of a sound critical objection,—and to the public, for whose instruction the student toils,—not to remain silent under the objections of "A. B. G.," which are founded only on that imperfect knowledge of the topography and structure of the spot he discusses which may be readily allowed for in any one who has not made the local structure of this interesting district an object of special study. For in such a case, silence on the part of those who have implied assent; and the public, who does not inquire, is misled.

"A. B. G." is evidently not acquainted with the detailed inquiry on the historical and geological changes that the lands of the Exodus have undergone within the last three thousand years, which I published in the *Edinburgh New Philosophical Journal* of January and April, 1848; and which had for its expressed object to verify the theory Mr. Sharpe had suggested as to the identity of certain Egyptian sites with those mentioned in the Exodus. If "A. B. G." will refer to this, (vol. xlv., pp. 13 and 210, and plates iv. and v.), especially to the sections of the country along the entire line which the Hebrews followed, reduced from the measurements of the French survey,—he will see that all his remarks on the movements of the Hebrews about what he calls the "Bitter Lake" are without foundation. The tract so called on some maps,—and, as I have shown, commonly but erroneously confounded with the "bitter lakes" mentioned by Strabo,—is a large saline marsh, which was occupied by the sea in the time of Moses; and a sea too deep to be crossed except at one place, where

the passage of the Red Sea was effected:—shown in the section No. 1, plate v. "A. B. G.'s" attempt to explain the movements of the Israelites in this respect, therefore, must go for nothing. A reference to my section and to plate vi. will further show him the physical structure of the land, and its relation to the levels of the Red Sea and the Nile, in the whole district lying between Suez and the axis of the isthmus.

From the Serapeum, in the centre, the basin of the salt-marsh sinks gradually to nearly 60 feet below the level of the Red Sea for about eight miles,—then it rises to between 25 to 20 feet for about twelve miles more. Here the basin rounds off, and its southern extremity becomes a narrow pass, about two miles wide, 10 or 11 feet only below the level of the sea. It is here that the passage of the Red Sea must have taken place. This pass next widens southward into a low sandy plain, with high sand hills on both sides; for about eight miles the level of this plain goes on rising gradually to that of the Red Sea, and then it narrows again a little, near Arsinoë, where the pilgrim road crosses it. A space of two miles and a half beyond this is occupied by a sand bank rising nearly 3 feet above the ordinary tides, and only a few inches above the spring tides. This bank is now the boundary of the Red Sea. By being gradually thrown up on the top of a large shoal, which once formed a submarine separation between the upper and lower gulf-basins, these sand banks have stopped out the sea, and thus suddenly contracted the limits of the Arabian Gulf some thirty-five or thirty-six miles. It is impossible to understand the movements of Moses, or the geography of the Exodus, without having a distinct idea of this formation. The period of this stoppage I place at about a century before the Ptolemies,—which supposes the accumulations of sand thrown up by the sea on its shore to have raised the bank at the rate of about 18 inches in a century since the time of Moses. "A. B. G." will find the full particulars concerning the canal which appears to puzzle him in the second part of my inquiry, pp. 210 to 225; and he will see it there fully explained why the single basin of the salt-marsh cannot have been the *lakes τῶν περὶ τὴν καθομιένων λιμνῶν*, mentioned by Strabo, through which the canal ran, and whose waters were thereby made sweet. These were the Crocodile Lakes further to the north.

The whole of this question presented great difficulties, from the peculiarities of the levels; but their solution is found in the history of the canal, to which I refer "A. B. G.," without supposing any alteration of level by subterranean agency, as he suggests:—a supposition entirely disproved by the fact that where the ancient lines of beach are still visible under the sandy covering of the deserted gulf-basin, their levels correspond perfectly with those of the present shores of the Red Sea further down.

Such being the physical structure of the district, the difficulties raised by "A. B. G." as to the situation and identity of Heroopolis and Baalzephon may be shown to be groundless, as follows.—The ruins which he speaks of as being attributed to Heroopolis, in the account before him, are a mound where some Persepolitan inscriptions were found. Their site just faces the south edge of the gulf-basin, at the upper narrow pass where I place the passage of the Red Sea.

Some incline to place Heroopolis there, because the site of Hero is too far inland, they say, for it to have been a maritime city, as by ancient accounts it was. The remains of Hero are about twelve miles from the ancient head of the gulf, with which the city communicated by a navigable canal, cut across the central axis of the isthmus. This distance is only half that of London from the mouth of the Thames, yet no one disputes that London is a maritime city, though it is not actually on the sea. So it was with Hero. Those who, on this account, look to the Persepolitan mound for Heroopolis, must examine my section 1, plate v. They will see that this site is also twelve miles from the present head of the sea; and that if the sea ever extended over the sandy barrier lying N. and N.E. of Suez, so as to reach that spot, where the depression of the sandy soil is, as I said before, 10 or 11 feet, the sea must have extended all the way to the Serapeum:—thus making good the claims of Hero. This the levels absolutely prove.

Mr. Sharpe, therefore, very correctly places Heroopolis, or Hiroth, at Hero. But Pi-ha-hiroth is a different place, though connected with it. I find the explanation of its etymology—the "mouth" or "opening of Hiroth"—in the identical passage which "A. B. G." has translated very accurately from the account of Herodotus, concerning the canal which began a little above Bubastis, and near or past the Arabian city Patumos, Πάτωμος, Π-ατρουμ-ος, of which Herodotus gives the true punctuation and pronunciation. "Now, from this mountain, along the base or depression of the hill *ὑποπενν*, (i. e. along the valley Toomilat,) the canal is led a long distance from W. to E. (passing by Hero); and then it stretches to the openings bearing from the mountain towards the S. and S.S.E. into the Arabian Gulf" (at the Serapeum, vide map, pl. iv.). The openings of the mountain here alluded to are the only passages leading from the head of the gulf, where the Serapeum stood, to Hero. It is a low sandy plateau, 8 feet above the level of the sea, about five miles across from the gulf-basin which bounds it to the south, and that inclosing the crocodile or ancient bitter lakes which bounds it to the north; its eastern and western sides being shut in by sand-capped hills. This is the mouth of Hero, or Hiroth. "A. B. G." has mistaken its locality by twenty-five miles. The ruins of the Serapeum commanded this important pass. These and the adjoining town stood on an eminence on the western side of the pass, by the sea. And a little to the south of this eminence is a plain, where there is a desert-station without water, which may in ancient times have been occupied by a castle or fort, Migdol, which the Septuagint appears to have understood by the *ἐπαυλις*; in front of which, by the sea, near Pi-ha-hiroth, and right opposite Baal-zephon, the Hebrews made their last encampment on the evening of the 19th beginning the 20th day. Nothing can agree better with the Mosaic narrative than these positions.

Mr. Sharpe gives no reason for identifying the Serapeum with Baal-zephon but its situation. It may, however, be suggested, that the god Serapis there worshipped, being one whose name, as judge and ruler of the dead, the Egyptians of ancient times deemed it profane to utter—this appears very happily implied rather than expressed in the name of Baal-zephon, *בעל צפון*,—"the concealed or mysterious Lord." The name may even be Egyptian; for the root *צפן* is found having the same signification in the Egyptian name bestowed on Joseph, "the revealer of secrets,"—"hidden," or "mysterious things." And the name of Port-Danæon, given to the town by Pliny, seems to imply a connexion with a place dedicated to the dead—being merely the Latinized orthography of *Θαναον*. I therefore see no substantial grounds for displacing the Baal-zephon of Scripture from the Serapeum, with which it corresponds so well in all other respects of distance and relative situation.

From the encampment on the plain opposite Baal-zephon to the ancient strait where the passage of the Red Sea must have been effected, there is a day's journey. It is generally taken for granted that this occurred directly on leaving Baal-zephon. The narrative of Moses does not require this. All that it does require is, that the final catastrophe should have occurred before the next day. On the morning of the 20th day the Hebrews arise at day-break from their encampment, in great dread, perceiving that Pharaoh's army, which had started in the night, had just arrived in sight, and was about to overtake them. Moses is bid to tell the children of Israel to "go forward"; and he addresses them thus:—"Fear not! stand forth, and behold the salvation of the Lord which He will work for you this day: for as ye have seen the Egyptians this day, ye shall never again see them more!"

And so it proved. That morning's sun had risen on the anticipated triumph of the Egyptians over the fugitives whom they had hastily started off to pursue, deeming them "entangled in the desert," and "shut in," and incapable of resisting, in those wild and unknown regions:—an attack which the Egyptians never would have dared to make on so large and well-ordered an army while it marched along the open high road. Any one who compares the tenor of the narrative in Ex. xiii. 17, to xiv. 1—9, will see that the common notion that the Egyptians pursued all



the way, is quite at variance with it, and could only have arisen from the false and unintelligible geographical positions hitherto assigned at random to these transactions. The pursuit was only planned and hastily put in execution after the Hebrews had departed from Etham or Patoumos, but before they arrived in front of Baal-zephon. "A. B. G." will see in my map, pl. iv., the two roads of the Antonine itinerary; one, branching from Etham or Thoum, and leading through Daphne and Pelusium to Palestine,—the other, branching from Hero, and leading through Magdolum to Pelusium also. These are "the way of the land of the Philistines," by which the Hebrews were not led,—but they were led by the way of the desert of the Red Sea. Ex. xiii. 17, 18,—for reasons explained in xiv. 1—9. Hence it was, when the Hebrews left the encampment opposite Hero, on the morning of the 19th day, and thus avoided the second of these roads, that the Egyptian force resolved to start in pursuit; and thus, on the morning of the 20th day they were seen on the point of coming up to them.

But the next morning dawned on the total destruction of the Egyptians. Israel saw them no more as they had seen them the preceding day. Before that morning's watch was ended, their overthrow had been completed, and "Israel saw Egypt dead on the sea shore."—Ex. xiv. 30.

Thus, there is no substantial objection to Baal-zephon's being a day's journey from the passage; and we cannot place the passage further south to the pilgrim route, as "A. B. G." suggests, without increasing the distance by a second day's journey,—which the narrative forbids, and which the physical structure of the place does not require.

FANNY CORBAUX.

#### FOREIGN CORRESPONDENCE.

Naples.

THE intellectual condition of Italy has suffered, and is daily suffering, so much from the political reaction which has taken place within the last year, that we might well be excused were we almost to despair of the future of the Peninsula. Every kind of influence is used, not merely to restore society to what it was before the Revolution, but to render it more degraded; and facts are continually presenting themselves which two years ago would have been of impossible occurrence. Faithful to my desire to keep you *au courant* of all that relates to the mental interests of this kingdom, I have put together some extraordinary details which have lately come under my notice—and on the correctness of which you may entirely rely. If they appear to be doubtful, I again assure you of their correctness; and I predict that, as matters are now going on, you will have shortly to record still more extraordinary circumstances.

Almost Stygian darkness has come down upon us.—I speak first of the public press. It has escaped my recollection how many were the journals published during the times of the Constitution. Trash many of them might have been; yet they created an activity of mind and gave a certain impulse to thought which in the long run always corrects its own errors. Now, however, we are reduced to a few: the *Giornale Costituzionale*, which records the acts of Government, gives garbled and meagre notices of other countries and the dates when certain fairs are to be held. In its wake follows the *Tempo*; which at first had no sale, but was brought into notice by the Government presenting copies of it to all the *employés*. Of course, it is a thick-and-thin Government paper; and its editor, who began his political life as a Red Republican, is now an especial favourite of the King,—sits in the presence of Majesty when general officers stand—and, besides six thousand ducats a year, makes something handsome by undertaking government contracts. The *Araldo* is a military paper, whose object it is to maintain that Ferdinand is the most pious, magnanimous, and enlightened sovereign of the age,—whilst the Neapolitan army is the admiration of all nations. Of this journal I shall speak more at large. Besides these, there is the *Omnibus*—which is a kind of humble follower of the others. It calls itself literary as well as political, and cites passages from other authorized and safe journals. The *Nazione*, which had hitherto weathered the storm up to the last moment, has been suppressed within the last

few days. Nothing could well have been of a feebler or a more diluted character; but it printed an article which gave displeasure to the Russian ambassador,—and it now no longer exists.—The *Libertà e Verità* is the organ of the priests:—a singular title for the organ of such a system as is sanctioned by the priesthood. Besides these, I have seen another; which is entitled the *Diario di Pio Nono*,—and describes the occupations of his Holiness every hour in the twenty-four. So much for the newspapers of the country. On those other journals which are admitted into the *caffès* of course great restrictions are placed; and except certain official ones none of the papers of Italy are to be met with. The *Débats* is to be found in the *Caffè Europa*,—but both that and the *Presse* are prohibited in the other *caffès*; so that a quick-minded people are thus deprived of every source of true political information, and walk about in ignorance of what is passing around them. For the ordinary press of the country no "censura" has as yet been established; but such are the despotic brutality of the police and its summary mode of acting, that no one will venture to print. Better would it be were there a censorship in existence; since, whatever its severity, men could not err from ignorance. Should anything at all unpardonable be printed at present, the police would walk into the establishment (as it has often done), close the press, and arrest the printer.

With regard to public instruction,—such is the immense importance of the subject, and such are the shackles imposed on it, that I shall enter more into detail. The *Araldo* in a recent article against democracy is rabid on the subject of education. "The self-styled liberal party," it says, "have talked much nonsense about public instruction,—and both here and in France wished to take it out of the hands of the clergy; but which, we ask, is the most stable,—the Church which has existed for eighteen centuries, or the State which has been subjected to continual changes?"—*Argal*—in conformity with such sentiments it is that the following system now exists amongst us. There is a Minister of Public Instruction,—a brother of Carlo Troja, who was President of the Council on the 15th of May 1848. But, unlike his brother, he is a superstitious ignorant man, the slave of priests. He is noted as having a museum of the relics of the Saints, and a private chapel in his own house where he performs a "messa secca"—that is, without the consecration of the Host. This is the man selected to guide the mind of the Two Sicilies. Under him there is a Council of Public Instruction; consisting of four persons, two of whom are ecclesiastics and two laymen. The president of this council is Monsignore Apuzzo, the tutor of the hereditary prince. These meet as often as is deemed necessary, and issue forth their arbitrary decrees as to what is to be read, studied,—and, if it were possible, thought,—within the Kingdom of the Two Sicilies. I come then to those who are engaged in instruction. What are the regulations observed in the selection of these?—or rather, what is considered necessary to qualify them? In the first place, strict inquiries are made of the police as to their past; and if happy enough to have no enemies and no liberal associations clinging to their names, they are eligible for examination in the 'Catechismo Grande,'—which is a full and severe exposition of the Roman-Catholic faith—and in the branch of literature and science in which they are destined to give instruction. This examination is conducted by the Council of Four, who are thus assumed to be conversant with the whole range of science. The consequence has been, that many, neglecting or unwilling to submit to such an examination, have been removed. A friend of mine recently informed me that she had asked an eminent professor who was engaged in the instruction of her children what examination he had passed through, without being able for a time to elicit an answer. At last, he confessed reluctantly that it was that of the 'Catechismo Grande.' As to the course of instruction adopted in the schools, you will be prepared to hear that it is daily growing more and more restricted. A master told me that there is a general expectation amongst members of his profession that History will be altogether removed from the course of study. The reading of 'The Adventures of Telemachus' has been prohibited; and the Council are now drawing up a list of such books as in their opinion may be introduced

with safety. These facts, in conjunction with another—that the Lyceums of provinces are now placed under the direct control of the Jesuits, who have removed all the old masters—will be sufficient to show you what are the character and condition of public instruction, and what are the intellectual prospects of the rising generation in Naples. Hand in hand with this restrictive system of instruction, is the censorship exercised on the introduction of books and plates into Naples. This censorship is not bound by any rules; for though indeed we have an 'Index Expurgatorius,' it is not in the slightest degree a guide,—as it would be easy to show. The revisers are the same who held the position two years ago: so that, in addition to ignorance and superstition, they are now acting under the comfortable influence of personal vindictiveness. Of the stoppage of my own books—books too, which have been in the country several years—I have spoken in a former letter. I now have to speak of those of a friend,—a merchant of long standing in Naples. His books arrived some three months since, and the Custom House dues were demanded and paid. But in spite of repeated applications the books were not given up; and no answer was vouchsafed until last week,—when a verbal refusal was sent, except in the case of two books. Thirty-seven were detained on the alleged ground that they might contain "religious articles." These were the Westminster, Edinburgh, and Quarterly Reviews. Chateaubriand's works were detained some time: as also 'The Pickwick Papers,'—the word *club*, it is supposed, having excited much apprehension. I was myself a witness of the suspicious curiosity with which Chateaubriand's 'Genius of Christianity' was examined a few days since by two priests at an old book-stall on the Mola. Indeed, it is impossible to give you any adequate idea of the vigilance which is exercised in regard to books and to everything else that may in the remotest manner bear on the subject of religion. Amongst other works now positively prohibited, I may mention the 'Encyclopædia Popolare,' published at Turin by Pombon. Two years since it was permitted; but since that time things have retrograded wonderfully,—and if the immediate rate continues the next generation will be half a century behind the present. The consequence of all this is, that the book trade is ruined. To quote the words of a respectable bookseller:—"We know not what to order, such is the capriciousness of the 'censura,'—and so order nothing, or next to nothing. Look through my books, and you will find scarcely anything on history! I dare not keep such books." Murray's 'Central Italy' is amongst the prohibited works. This is a sad picture of the intellectual condition and prospects of the country, and shows in strong colours how insidious and how dangerous is the policy of the ruling powers.

I give the last finish to my picture when I tell you that all who are most liberal and enlightened in the country have fled, or been arrested, or are removed from their posts. Judges and advocates, professors and men of science,—it is the same with all; and many are now living in extreme poverty and distress. Amongst recent removals from the University are—Tommasi, professor of physiology—Capocci, professor of astronomy and director of the royal observatory,—and another whose name I have not. The Cavalier Avellino, well known for his antiquarian researches, died recently. The School of the Nude has just been prohibited, except under certain restrictions. This might have been expected after the clothing of the "ballerine" of San Carlo with green shorts. Who knows but that the priests, in their intelligent regard for decency and morality, may soon order the statues in the Villa to be clothed?

#### OUR WEEKLY GOSSIP.

The Queen's warrant has, we believe, issued, filling up seven of the vacancies existing in the senatorial body of the University of London. The new senators are, Lord Montague, Lord Overstone, Sir James Graham, Mr. Macaulay, Mr. G. Cornwall Lewis, Mr. Henry Hallam, and Mr. George Grote.—There still remain two vacancies to be filled up,—to complete the full number of thirty-six, exclusive of the Chancellor and Vice-Chancellor, of which the Senate should be composed.

A correspondent, dating from Paris, who signs



himself a French publisher, but does not give us the security of his name, offers some remarks on the paragraphs that have appeared in our columns relative to the treaty for effecting an international copyright between France and England which is understood to be in the office of the French Minister for Foreign Affairs. According to his assertion, the French publishers have as little satisfaction in respect to this treaty as the English,—and as much interest in getting at a knowledge of its provisions. No communication of it, he says, has been made to any one in the trade except M. Pagnerre, who has kept it a secret from all the other booksellers, with, as we understand him, one or two exceptions. “The greatest part,” he adds, “of the French publishers do not even suspect the existence of such a treaty. I do not know for what reason M. Pagnerre made his own a matter which concerns the whole trade; but I have every reason to believe that no good will come out of it either for England or for France.” As a proof of the uselessness of these international treaties when not carefully prepared, our correspondent gives some examples of the working of a treaty of the kind between France and Sardinia, which was got up without communication with the parties best able to represent the interests intended to be affected. He joins us, on behalf of the French publishers generally, in the wish that this measure may be publicly discussed by the men of both nations whom it directly concerns: and with reference to France, assures us that the *Cercle de la Librairie* does not in any degree represent the French trade. “It is merely,” he says, “a sort of club where booksellers, stationers, printers, &c. meet to play cards or billiards, drink tea, and talk of everything but books and bookselling.”—As we have said, our correspondent in this instance is anonymous; but as his statements are important to the matter in hand, and easily tested by his brethren, we have thought it right to add them to the remarks which we have already offered on this subject.

We continue to receive a variety of communications on the subject of a decimal coinage. But having called attention to the subject once more, and admitted into our columns such an amount of discussion as illustrates the principle and has stimulated inquiry, we cannot make room for the details of every scheme which is the result. To follow the subject further would encroach on that space in our paper which is imperatively demanded by other topics.

Yet once more Mr. Beaufoy has appeared before the public in the character of a donor. A cabinet of old coins of great curiosity, the result of many years’ labour and expense, and amounting to nearly one thousand pieces, has been presented by him to the Corporation of London,—and deposited in the museum of their library. The coins bear date between the years 1648 and 1675; and are of the kind issued by various traders of the city of London,—partly to supply the want of small change, the Government having put forth no small copper monies before about the year 1672,—and partly, by way of advertisement, the name, residence, and sign of the house being generally to be found on each token. They consist of various metals—of iron, lead, tin, brass, and copper, and a few even of leather; and, independently of their value as curiosities of two centuries back, will furnish, it is said, when the index now being compiled shall have been completed, an important record of the topography and history of the city of London at that period, as well as a key to streets and localities long lost to the present generation. The following is a quotation from the preface to the catalogue.—“Amongst other curious coins will be found one which was struck by a person named Farr, who kept the Rainbow Coffee-house, Fleet-street, which house is still existing in its original state, having escaped the Great Fire in 1666. Farr was presented by the ward inquest to be prosecuted for selling the ‘deleterious liquor called coffee.’ There are also coins struck by a person who kept the Turk’s Head, in ‘Change-alley, who assisted in making the use of coffee more known to his fellow-citizens. There is also the coin issued by the person then the occupant of the celebrated Boar’s Head Tavern in Eastcheap, which though long passed away with the things that were, will, while Shakespeare and the English language exist, be ever in the recollection of readers as the rendezvous of Prince Hal and his merry associates.”

Letters received by the last mail from the United States announce that, under the auspices of Mr. Grenill, who has himself subscribed the munificent sum of 6,000*l.*, two schooners commanded by naval officers will be equipped,—and will proceed early in May, *via* Barrow’s Straits, in search of Sir John Franklin’s missing Expedition.

At the sale (by Messrs. Puttick & Simpson) of the stock of books the property of Mr. James Carpenter, of Old Bond Street, a Piranesi, the presentation copy from Piranesi to Gustavus III. King of Sweden, to whom part of the work is dedicated, sold for 122*l.* At the same sale a set of S. W. Reynolds’s engravings after Sir Joshua Reynolds (the engraver’s own set, and all India proofs before letters) brought 27*l.* 6*s.*

Messrs. Puttick & Simpson have had also a two days’ sale of autograph letters. Some of the best were addressed to Garrick, and all (or nearly all) were originally in the Upcott collection,—the noblest collection of letters of eminent men of the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries that has ever been brought together. Johnson’s famous letter to Macpherson (the translator of Ossian) was bought by Mr. Pocock for 12*l.* 12*s.* Johnson’s letter to Garrick about Hogarth’s epitaph was bought by Mr. Daniel, of Islington, for 8*l.* 8*s.*—A letter from Goldsmith to Garrick, with the draft of Garrick’s answer on the back, sold for 6*l.* 12*s.* 6*d.*, and another letter from Goldsmith to Garrick for 6*l.* A beautiful letter from Gray to Dodsley about his poems realized 5*l.* 2*s.* 6*d.* Burns’s Letter to Lord Buchan, with his verses on crowning the bust of Thomson, brought 6*l.* 10*s.*; Lord Chatham’s letter and verses to Garrick, beginning—

Leave, Garrick, the rich landscape proudly gay,—  
sold for 6*l.* 18*s.*—A letter from Cowper to the Rev. John Newton was thought to have sold at a low figure when knocked down at 5*l.* 5*s.*—A letter from Garrick to Mrs. Pritchard, with verses to be spoken on her Farewell Night, realized 4*l.*—Two letters from Boswell to Garrick brought 3*l.* 14*s.* and 4*l.* 10*s.*—Two letters from Kitty Clive to Garrick sold for 2*l.* 6*s.* and 2*l.* 10*s.*—A letter from Evelyn to Thoresby on the subject of autographs, and his own portrait by Nanteuil, was knocked down for 6*l.* 12*s.* 6*d.*—Brief letters from Pope to Richardson the painter and Hughes the poet brought prices varying from 2*l.* 2*s.* to 2*l.* 15*s.*—A letter from Sterne to his publisher Becket sold for 4*l.* 2*s.*—A letter from Jeremy Taylor to Evelyn, 4*l.* 6*s.*—A painfully interesting letter from Kirke White to the Editor of the *Monthly Review*, 5*l.*—and a collection of early verses by Thomson, author of the ‘Seasons,’ 3*l.* 10*s.*—We may mention that the original letter to Macpherson differs verbally, but not materially, from the printed copy which Johnson dictated to Boswell. The date of the letter (which is not in the copy) is 10th January, 1775.

A number of correspondents have forwarded to us their several translated versions of the curious epitaph in Lavenham Churchyard which we transferred to our “Miscellanea” columns of the 9th inst. from the *Cambridge Chronicle*,—and on which another correspondent, Mr. Rossetti, tried his hand in our paper of last week. Most of them are ingenious:—one especially, signed “Ædipus L.”—We prefer, however, to any of these a translation by Mr. Machell, who dates from Eton Rectory to the *Church and State Gazette*.—

#### The Epitaph.

“Quod fuit esse, quod est, quod non fuit esse, quod esse—  
Esse quod est, non esse, quod est, non est, erit esse.”

#### Translation.

“To be what it was, is to be what it is—‘Dust.’  
To be what it was, is not, is to be what it is—‘Spirit.’  
To be what it is, is not to be—‘To disappear from the earth.’  
What it is, is not to be what it will be—‘Re-union of body and soul—Resurrection.’”

Any further intending speculators on this piece of epigrammatic moralizing may, however, we think, be saved their trouble by our printing the following epitaph, from the churchyard of Amwell, near Ware, in Hertfordshire,—which has been forwarded to us by two several correspondents.—

That which a being was, what is it? Show!

That being which it was, it is not now.

To be what ‘tis, is not to be, you see:

That which now is not, shall a being be.

Our more ingenious correspondents will see that they have here been anticipated by the rustic Muse,—and that she has got the start of them in more senses than one. The above is clearly the almost literal translation of the Latin epitaph.

The trustees appointed under the will of the late Mr. John Owens, of Manchester, who left 100,000*l.* for the purpose of founding a college for general education in that city, have issued their first report. It contains the details of the principles and plan on which it is proposed to establish and carry out the new college. The bequest is to be entirely devoted to the work of teaching; so that it remains for the people of Manchester to provide a suitable building for carrying on the work of education. The trustees recommend that the course of instruction shall include Greek and Latin, Mathematics, Natural Philosophy, Moral and Mental Philosophy, Logic, Political Economy, Chemistry, Natural History, including Botany, Zoology and Geology,—and other branches of knowledge, specially adapted to a commercial education. It is proposed to appoint at once six professors whose salaries will amount to 1,700*l.*, with an additional 200*l.* per annum to one of them who is to undertake the duties of Principal. Some difficulty seems to have arisen with regard to the nature and extent of religious teaching in the Institution,—and this question is likely to be warmly discussed. Mr. Owens does not seem to have contemplated the introduction of religious teaching at all. The college will be connected with the London University. We have heard of several candidates for the chairs,—from whose character and standing we augur well for the prospects of the new college.

The *Gentleman’s Magazine* of the present month has given a letter of Dr. Johnson which it states to be now published for the first time,—and which will surprise many who remember the Doctor’s dislike of green fields and preference of London smoke.—

“My Lord,—Being wholly unknown to your Lordship, I have only this apology to make for presuming to trouble you with a request—that a stranger’s petition, if it cannot be easily granted, can be easily refused. Some of the apartments are now vacant in which I am encouraged to hope that, by application to your Lordship, I may obtain a residence. Such a grant would be considered by me as a great favour; and I hope, to a man who has had the honour of vindicating His Majesty’s Government, a retreat in one of his houses may not be improperly or unworthily allowed. I therefore request that your Lordship will be pleased to grant such room in Hampton Court as shall seem proper to, my Lord, your Lordship’s most obedient and humble servant, SAMUEL JOHNSON, Bolt Court, Fleet Street, April 11, 1776.” Indorsed, “Mr. Samuel Johnson to the Earl of Hertford, requesting apartments at Hampton Court, 11th May, 1776.” The answer:—“Lord C. presents his compliments to Mr. Johnson, and is sorry that he cannot obey his commands, having already on his hands many engagements unsatisfied.”

In Berlin a curious subject for a thesis has been found by a student in medicine, the son of M. Groddeck the deputy, seeking his degree. M. Groddeck has discovered a new form of epidemic,—whose virus has circulated of late throughout the Continental nations with a rapidly contrasting strongly with the solemn and stately march of cholera. Its development, indeed, has been all but simultaneous in the great European capitals,—but we know not that it has before occurred to any one to treat it medically. M. Groddeck’s thesis, publicly maintained, is entitled “De Morbo democratico, nova insaniam forma” (On the democratic disease,—a new form of Insanity). The Faculty of Medicine, with the usual dislike of Faculties of Medicine to new discoveries, refused admission, it appears, to this dissertation; but the Senate of the University, on M. Groddeck’s appeal, reversed their decision. Of this malady it is not to be denied that Berlin has furnished a good field for the study of the diagnosis. As the authorities adopt M. Groddeck’s views, we trust the discovery may lead to an entire change of treatment in this form of disorder. The cure of democracy should henceforth be medical, not military. The pill-box will, we trust, take place of the cartouche-box,—the lancet of the sword. Democracy should be bled, if bleeding be the order, after a less summary fashion than that of Windischgrätz and doctors of his practice. The disease will for the future be sent, we hope, to the hospital, not to the drum-head.

BRITISH INSTITUTION, Pall Mall.—The GALLERY for the EXHIBITION and SALE of the WORKS of BRITISH ARTISTS is OPEN DAILY, from Ten till Five.—Admission, 1*s.* Catalogue, 1*s.* GEORGE NICOL, Secretary.

THE WINTER EXHIBITION OF WATER-COLOUR DRAWINGS and SKETCHES in OILS, comprising Works by the most eminent living Artists, will positively CLOSE on SATURDAY, MARCH 23. Open from Ten till Dusk daily.—Admission (including Catalogue), 1*s.*: Season Ticket, 5*s.* “The Exhibition is altogether one which will repay the attention of visitors.”—*Athenæum*, Jan. 5.  
130, Regent Street. J. L. GRUNDY, Manager.



**NILE.**—GRAND MOVING PANORAMA of the NILE, comprising all the Monuments of Antiquity on its Banks, to which is added the interior of the great Rock Temple of Amon Sarrak. Painted by Messrs. Wainwright, Edmund, and W. S. of 1, PEARL HALL, PICCADILLY.—Daily, at Three and Eight o'clock.—Stalls 3s., Pit 2s., Gallery 1s.; Children and Schools, Half-price.

**HER MOST GRACIOUS MAJESTY'S VISIT TO IRELAND.** illustrated by a GRAND MOVING DIORAMA, with some of the most charming scenery in that country, including the lovely LAKES of KILLARNEY, by Mr. P. PHILLIPS, is now OPEN at the CHINESE GALLERY, Hyde Park Corner.—Daily, at Three; Evenings at Eight.—Admission, 1s.; reserved seats, 2s.—An interesting Historical Record of the event may be had at the Gallery.

**NOVELTY.**—JUST OPENED, at the DIORAMA, Regent's Park, a highly-interesting EXHIBITION, representing the ROYAL CASTLE of STOLZENFELS, and the Rhine, visited by Her Majesty Queen Victoria in August 1845, and its Environs, as seen at Sunset and during a Thunder Storm; painted by NICHOLAS MEISER, of Cologne. And the much-admired Picture of THE SHRINE OF THE NATIVITY, at Bethlehem; painted by the late M. RENOUX, from a Sketch made on the spot by DAVID ROBERTS, Esq. R.A., with two novel and striking effects.

**THEATRE ROYAL, ADELPHI.**—During Passion Week. MR. C. H. ADAMS'S ORBERY.—On MONDAY, March 25, and during the Week, Good Friday excepted, MR. ADAMS will deliver his annual LECTURE on ASTRONOMY.—Begin at 8 and about 10.—Stalls, 3s.; Boxes, 2s.; Pit, 1s.—Private Boxes, Half-a-Guinea and One Guinea.—Schools half-price to Boxes and Pit.

**ROYAL POLYTECHNIC INSTITUTION.**  
DURING PASSION WEEK, SIR HENRY R. BISHOP will LECTURE on SACRED MUSIC, with VOCAL ILLUSTRATIONS, on Monday and Wednesday at Eight, and on Tuesday, Thursday, and Saturday at Three o'clock.—ILLUSTRATIONS on ASTRONOMY, by Dr. Bachoffner, on Wednesday, at One o'clock.—Dr. Bachoffner's LECTURE on the PHILOSOPHY of SCIENTIFIC RECREATION, Mornings and Evenings.—The SECOND LECTURE on the CHEMICAL RELATIONS of the METALS, by J. H. Pepper, Esq.—DISSOLVING VIEWS of LONDON in the SIXTEENTH CENTURY AND AS IT NOW IS, with a Descriptive Lecture; also a SERIES of VIEWS of ROME.—Experiments with the DIVER and DIVING BELL, &c.—Admission, 1s.; Schools, Half-price.  
ANALYSES and CHEMICAL EXPERIMENTS conducted in the LABORATORY, under the direction of J. H. Pepper, Esq.

## SOCIETIES

**GEOGRAPHICAL.**—March 11.—Capt. Smyth, R.N., President, in the chair. Papers read: 1. 'Journal of an Expedition to explore the Interior of the Middle Island of New Zealand,' by Mr. T. Brunner. Communicated by the Colonial Office. To acquire a better knowledge of the interior of the middle island of New Zealand has always been a subject of the greatest importance to the Nelson settlement; and hopes have been entertained that some opening might be at length discovered in the rocky barrier which stretches in one great semicircle from Cape Campbell to Cape Farewell. Immediately behind this rocky wall, the extensive plains of the east coast were known to commence, whilst the same mountain chain was believed to extend without interruption along the west coast to the southern extremity of the island. Lying among the snowy mountains of the central portion, about fifty miles S.E. of Nelson, the Rotuiti Lake discharges its waters to the west; and from the mountains above, Messrs. Heaphy and Christie had already looked down on the plains of Port Cooper. A larger lake, the Roturoa, reported to exist not far from the Rotuiti by two of the nearly extinct tribe of the Rangitani, had been visited by Messrs. Fox, Heaphy, and Brunner in 1846. The waters of this lake flowing to N.W. form a considerable river,—the Kawatiri or Buller; which, after being joined by the river of the Rotuiti, takes a great sweep to the south. After being joined by the Tiranmea, the Tutaki, and the Matiri, the Buller becomes a river of great size, and again enters the mountain gorges. Of the Grey River, Mr. Brunner speaks in the following terms:—"At this point we took leave of the main stream, which, according to the natives, takes its rise in a large lake to the eastward. Could it be connected with a harbour, it would make a fine field for colonization, there being much good land for arable purposes, and some good grazing districts in well-sheltered positions; also some very fine timber, for sawing, as well as for spars. The shingle bed of the river in many places abounds with coal, though of an inferior quality to the seam nearer the sea. Some of the bends of the river are as beautiful as nature can possibly make them. The river is clear and deep, the undergrowth on the banks is a beautiful mixture of shrubs, and the adjoining bush contains fine lofty rimu, rata, and black birch, with scattered patches of fern land." Desiring to descend to the grassy plain of the east coast, now in view, the natives refused to proceed any farther, and Mr. Brunner was obliged to retrace his steps towards Nelson. Before doing this, however, he gives a description of his position on the mountains at the time. "From this summit-elevation I was able to look back upon

the route I had been travelling for the last six weeks. I was now standing on the further or eastern extremity of the large opening I had seen from the coast, and which I now found to be the southern extremity of the Inakaiona Valley. Towards the coast, at my feet, was the Oweka river, flowing northward through the valley to the Buller, and appearing to rise a long way to the south, perhaps in the neighbourhood of the upper lake of the Grey. Across the valley were the mountains of the coast, gradually melting down into the open country at their base, and contributing their numerous streams to swell the waters of the Grey, whose branches were divided from those of the Oweka—flowing in an exactly contrary direction—by only one ridge of inconsiderable elevation. To my left, at forty or fifty miles distance, arose the snowy range of the Southern Alps, with the white capped peak of the Kaimatau towering conspicuously among them," &c. Finally at 10 p.m. of the 15th of June, the Expedition reached Frazer's Station. After having traced the banks of the Buller from source to mouth, and returned by the Grey and the Inakaiona Valley, Mr. Brunner feels certain there is no accessible pass across the island north of the latter place, or any route from the Nelson settlement, that could be taken to the plains of Port Cooper, excepting that along the coast from the Wairau. On the west coast he is sure there is nothing worth incurring the expense of exploring; but thinks something might be done for the natives,—of whom he in general speaks very favourably.

The reading of this paper was followed by a description of different portions of New Zealand, by Lieut. Wood, I.N. and Mr. Surveyor Tuckett:—both of whom concurred in the opinion that the capabilities of New Zealand had been considerably overrated in this country.

The other papers read were 'On the Seam of Coal lately discovered near Erzerroom in Asia Minor,' communicated by the Foreign Office; and 'On the Coal Formations near the Straits of Magellan,' by Capt. Paynter and T. Henderson, communicated by the Admiralty.

**GEOLOGICAL.**—March 13.—Sir R. I. Murchison, V.P., in the chair. H. H. Vivian, Esq., and H. Smith, Esq., were elected Fellows.—The following communications were read:—"Letter from the Foreign Office, announcing the discovery of coal in the district of Olto, thirteen hours distant from Erzerroom." The coal is slaty and not of prime quality, containing a good deal of sulphur.—'On the Metamorphic Rocks of Eastern Nova Scotia, and the Metalliferous Deposits contained in them,' by J. W. Dawson, Esq.—'On the Structure of the Crystalline Rocks of the Andes, their Cleavage Planes, and their effect on the superincumbent Sedimentary Beds,' by E. Hopkins, Esq.

**ASIATIC.**—March 2.—Professor H. H. Wilson in the chair.—The Secretary read a paper by Capt. T. J. Newbold 'On the Site of Caranus, and the Island of Ar-rud, the Arvad, or Arphad of Scripture.' Capt. Newbold began with the remark that Caranus is mentioned by Strabo as the arsenal of Aradus, between Balanea and Enhydra, which Pococke supposed to be a small landing-place, about half a mile north of Tartus; but, he observed, that if the geographer had pursued his investigations a little further, he would probably have discovered the real site in a port about a mile further north. The ruins here situated are still called by the Arabs *Caranún*. The port is small, but more sheltered than any other on the coast; and is partly natural, partly artificial,—a reef, stretching across the mouth of the cove, having been improved by masonry. Little of the stonework is now left, as it has been carried away by the Arabs for building purposes. The most prominent part of the ruins is a mound about twenty-five or thirty feet high, in and around which blocks of stone, fragments of pillars, &c., are dug up, and exported to other towns on the coast. The island of Ar-rud is, according to Pococke, a rock of an irregular trapezoidal shape, about one thousand paces across its longest axis. It is supposed to have been first colonized by Arvad, son of Canaan; and, subsequently, by some exiled Sidonians. Like Tyre and Sidon, it long maintained its independence as a great maritime colony, and afterwards as a republic,—and possessed territories on the opposite coast. It was subdued

by Sennacherib, and shared in the subsequent fortunes of Syria. In the seventeenth century the island was taken by the Maltese; but they were soon after expelled by the Turks, who still retain possession. The Greeks called it Aradus; and according to Dionysius, it was joined to the continent by a bridge,—but no vestiges of the structure could be traced. The island was at that period densely populated, and covered with very high houses; and in Edrisi's time it was well inhabited. When Pococke was there, the population was about 1,500; and in 1845 it amounted to 1,600. Volney, who states the island to have been deserted, appears to be in error. The same author is also wrong when he asserts that no trace of the ancient houses exists, and that there is now not even a tradition of the spring of fresh water which Strabo mentions as existing in the sea. Large cisterns, cut deep in the rocks still remain under almost every house, as described by Strabo; who says that they were filled with water brought from the main land, but in time of war from the fountain in the sea, where the pure water was brought up by a peculiar apparatus. Fountains of fresh water are still to be found about a stone's throw from the shore, which in calm weather are seen boiling up, and which displace the salt water around. The water is perfectly sweet and good, and the inhabitants of the island still replenish their cisterns from these sources.—Several Greek inscriptions, copied on the site by the Rev. Mr. Thomson, Capt. Newbold's fellow-traveller, were laid on the table.

Sir G. R. Clark, Lieut.-Col. J. Johnson, S. Nicholls, Esq., and Col. D. Sim, were elected resident members.

**ARCHÆOLOGICAL INSTITUTE.**—Feb. 1.—O. Morgan, Esq., in the chair.—Mr. Birch communicated a memoir 'On a remarkable Fragment of Egyptian Sculpture recently found at Reigate, amongst the Collections of the late Ambrose Glover, Esq.' It appears to be part of a circular vessel of basaltic stone, which may have been a calendar, and the interior may have served the purpose also of a sundial.

Mr. Yates produced some unique types of bronze Celts, dissimilar to any articles hitherto discovered in England. They had been forwarded by M. de Longperier, curator of antiquities in the Louvre.

Mr. W. W. Wynne exhibited a singular bronze buckler, of a different type with regard to ornament from any in the several collections of armour. It was found in a turbary, near Harlech, imbedded edgewise; the lower part very perfect, but the edge nearest the surface had been damaged by wet. Also, various other weapons and antiquities found in the same neighbourhood.

Mr. Wynne Foulkes gave an account of recent discoveries in the Clwydian Hills, in Denbighshire, where extensive Roman remains still exist.

Dr. Thurnam contributed a short memoir 'On Excavations of Tumuli in Yorkshire during the last year,' and he argued from the crania found that they were of Danish origin, and urged on archaeologists the value of comparative anatomy as a means of distinguishing the ancient races who inhabited these islands,—a subject hitherto overlooked in the examination of barrows.

The Rev. J. L. Petit contributed a memoir 'On the Churches of Gillingham, All Saints, and St. Mary, Norfolk,' illustrated by a series of drawings:—and a second paper on a similar subject was given by Major Davis, relating to churches and other ecclesiastical buildings in the neighbourhood of Brecon.

The Hon. R. Neville exhibited an Intaglio, of fair execution, in red jasper, recently discovered by him in excavations at Chesterford.

The subject of Arabic numerals was again resumed, and some curious facts were stated by Mr. Hunter, Mr. Overy, and Mr. Gunner.—Mr. Newmarch produced several drawings of the fine mosaic pavements discovered during the last autumn at Cirencester.—Various antiquities were exhibited by the Cambridge Antiquarian Society, Mr. O. Gore, Mr. D. Bedford, Mr. Lowndes,—and a remarkable Triptic of early German Art by Mr. Farrer.

March 1.—At the usual monthly meeting Sir J. Boileau presided. On taking the chair he called attention to the collection of Mediæval Antiquities forming for the forthcoming Exhibition at the rooms of the Society of Arts, in the Adelphi.—The



first memoir read was from H. Harrod, Esq., detailing an examination of a remarkable series of pits existing on the summit and sloping side of a range of hills stretching from near Yarmouth, in Norfolk, to Weybourn, a village on the coast. The tract of ground is known as Kelling Heath. These pits are nearly all circular, varying from seven or eight to twelve feet in diameter, and from two to four feet in depth. In some cases two, and even three, are connected by a small trench. The floors are formed of smoothed stones, and exhibit some traces of fire marks. At a short distance to the north, and near the village of Kelling, are a range of small tumuli, in which have been found urns and fragments of burnt bones. The situation of the pits is on a dry sandy soil, overlooking a fertile valley, which is watered by a stream that rises in the immediate vicinity of the pits. At Marsham Heath, between Norwich and Aylsham, there are similar pits, but in less numbers:—the floors of these bear strong indications of fire. There are tumuli also in that vicinity. The number of pits already counted on Kelling Heath amounts to more than 700; some are in clusters, others more scattered, but all placed in sheltered positions:—there are indications of between 300 and 400 more. On comparing these curious remains with others somewhat similar in other parts of the kingdom, Mr. Harrod inclines to the opinion that they are the relics of the dwellings of one of the ancient races who inhabited Britain,—probably of the primeval race. A saying of the inhabitants of the district is, “as old as Kelling Heath,” which may be assumed to have reference to these remarkable remains. Mr. Harrod’s paper was accompanied by plans and sections.

Mr. Oldham communicated a description of three Roman Urns lately discovered at Chesterford, and now in the Museum of the Hon. R. C. Neville at Audley End. A remarkable circumstance connected with these urns is, that the larger urn of black ware had a patera of the usual red Saurian adapted as a cover. The large urn was filled with earth and ashes; amongst which was a small urn only three inches in diameter, with its mouth turned downwards. Mr. Oldham remarked, that of the large number of urns which have been exhumed at Chesterford during the excavations made by Mr. Neville, not one has been found with a lid that appeared to have been originally made for the purpose. Several instances have occurred at Chesterford of finding one vessel within another; and one large urn was exhumed containing three smaller ones, each of different ware,—one an ornamented poculum of Caistor ware, another of red ware, and a third, with a handle, of white ware; they were closely packed, as in the present instance, with earth and ashes.

Mr. Papworth read a paper ‘On the Campanile of Italy,’ illustrated by a series of drawings. He stated his opinion that the romanesque style was in existence about the year 1000.

Mr. Spencer Hall contributed a paper, illustrated by rubbings, ‘On a Remarkable Series of Monumental Brasses of the Family of Echyngam, in Sussex.’

Mr. Way read a communication from Mr. Jarvis of Hackthorn, explanatory of an object of mediæval discipline known as a branks or scold’s bridle, in the collection of Col. Jarvis at Doddington, Lincolnshire; and which was exhibited to the meeting, together with two others belonging to the Corporations of Lichfield and Stafford. Mr. Hawkins remarked that there was one also in the possession of the Corporation of Macclesfield. There is another in the Ashmolean Museum.

Mr. Tocher read two letters, copies of which were communicated by Mrs. Green from the originals in the Bibliothèque Nationale at Paris,—the one from Edward, Prince of Wales, son of Henry the Sixth, to the Earl of Ormond in “Portugale,”—the other from Sir John Fortescue to the same Earl, enlarging on the difficulties that at that time beset Queen Margaret, and instructing him as to his conduct with the King of “Portugale.” These letters appear to have been hitherto unnoticed. They were accompanied by fac-similes of the autographs of the Prince, the Duke of York, Queen Margaret, and others.

Mr. Hunter read a notice of a curious document amongst the public archives, which seemed to be a bill of exchange and an acquittance of about the

middle of the fourteenth century,—probably the earliest instance of a bill of exchange known.

Lieut. Walker made a communication regarding the insecure condition of the celebrated castle on St. Michael’s Mount, Cornwall, the foundation having become much decayed. It had been reported that the proprietor, Mr. St. Aubyn, purposed to remove a portion of the building; and the hope was expressed that every endeavour might be used to save these venerable remains as now standing, by under-pinning or constructing buttresses, which at no great expense might be found available for the preservation of the castle.

Mr. B. Smith sent a short notice and sketch of an ancient sculpture, probably by a prisoner, in red sandstone, in the recess of a window at Goodrich Castle.—Dr. Nicholson addressed some remarks on the progress of the restorations at St. Alban’s:—and Mr. Blaauw read an account of a curious clock-watch, exhibited by Mr. T. Mitford, and satisfactorily identified to be the identical watch that hung by the bedside, and was given by him, King Charles the First, to Sir Thomas Herbert, as he passed to the scaffold.

The most remarkable object on the table was the pastoral staff of a Bishop of Lismore, sent for exhibition by the Duke of Devonshire. Mr. P. Collier stated that the Irish antiquaries interpreted the inscriptions on the staff to be, that it was made for Nial Mac Mic-Ardcaigh, who was Bishop of Lismore, and died in 1112; and that it was made by an Irishman of the name of Nectan. Mr. Westwood remarked that there was much difficulty in Irish art, which appeared to be conventional; and, from their isolated position, the artists of that country had not been influenced by classic or romanesque patterns, and that the jewel work of the twelfth century was difficult to decide on in the absence of inscriptions. He was inclined to think that the style of the work and patterns was much earlier than 1112; but the artists might have contrived to copy old formulae. The wooden staff is supposed to be inclosed within the bronze, forming the present staff. Mr. Westwood observed that it was a common practice to cover bells, crosses, croziers, pastoral staffs, &c., with metal cases, on the ornamenting of which the skill of the artist, the jeweller, and the goldsmith was employed.

The Hon. R. Neville exhibited some examples of bronze vessels, and a large glass jar, which were part of the contents of a barrow at Thornborough, Bucks, opened some years since. These relics passed into Mr. Neville’s possession at the sale at Stowe.

The table was covered with a great number of objects:—amongst them the fine hunting horn of Francis I., of the exquisite enamel of “Leonardus Lemovicus,” representing the whole story of St. Hubert—a jewelled reliquary of silver, in the form of a foot, from the treasury of the Cathedral of Baal, and an exquisite coffer of carved wood, of the fifteenth century, from the same place, all exhibited by H. Magniac, Esq. A variety of curious articles from the collection of Mr. Whincopp, of Woodbridge—a British shield, by Mr. Vernon, from the armoury at Hilton Hall, Derbyshire—a Roundell of ivory, found at Winchester,—“opustriforium,” sent by Mr. Gunner.—The seal of Thomas de Praers, by Mr. Shirley, &c.—Mr. A. Majendie presented an account of one of the remarkable escapes of the celebrated Bayeux Tapestry, which, during the Revolution of 1790, had been torn from the walls, and was already on the top of some baggage waggons for a covering, when rescued by a citizen, who supplied canvas as a substitute. It was subsequently exhibited in Paris at Notre Dame, as an incentive of popular feeling against England and encouragement to attempt anew the conquest of a country, which had been the prize of Norman valour.

The Rev. Dr. Nicholson gave a report of the progress of several works of restoration in the church of St. Alban’s; which had suffered greatly by neglect and the insertion of tasteless additions. Some parts which have been blocked up have been judiciously opened to view, and the utmost care has been taken for the conservation of this noble structure.

LINNEAN.—March 19.—R. Brown, Esq., in the chair.—G. R. Dodd, Esq., was elected a Fellow.—A paper was read, communicated by Sir W. J. Hooker, consisting of notices of some plants met with by the Kew collector during the voyage of H.M.S. Herald in search of Sir J. Franklin.

ZOOLOGICAL.—March 12.—W. Spence, Esq., in the chair.—The Secretary read the first part of a paper, by Prof. E. Forbes, descriptive of the New Mollusca collected by Capt. Kellett and Lieut. Wood during the surveying voyages of H.M.S. Herald and Pandora, chiefly on the West Coast of Central America. The next portion of Prof. Forbes’s communication will contain his general remarks on this collection.—Mr. Newman contributed a paper entitled ‘First Thoughts on a Physiological Arrangement of Birds;’ in which he gave his reasons for dividing this class of animals into two great primary groups, which he calls *hestogenous* and *gymnogenous*.—Mr. L. Reeve read an account of *Lymnaea Hookeri*, a new freshwater mollusk, which he had just received from Dr. Hooker. It was collected by that gentleman during his recent excursion into Tibet, on the north side of the Sikkim Himalaya, at an elevation of 18,000 feet. This new species of freshwater mollusk belongs to the same type as our well-known *Lymnaea peregra*, and affords an interesting addition to the evidence which has been in part collected touching the wide geographical distribution of corresponding forms of plants and animals over those parts of Europe and Asia where there are no extensive mountain barriers. The European *Lymnaea stagnalis* has been collected as far east as Afghanistan, and the typical form of *L. peregra* is very characteristic in this species from Tibet. South of the Himalaya range, where Dr. Hooker reckons the snow-line to be 5,000 feet lower than it is on the north side, and 3,000 feet lower than the locality of this species, the *Lymnaea* are of quite a different type; more especially in the plains of Bengal, where the shell, owing to its being formed in so much warmer a temperature, is of stouter growth, and characterized by some design of colouring. The European types of *Lymnaea*, ranging over Russia and Siberia, appear abundantly in the stagnant waters of North America, and some are identical in species. *Lymnaea clodes* of Say, inhabiting Pennsylvania, is doubtless the same species as the European *Lymnaea palustris*; *L. truncatula* of the same author appears to be identical with *L. desidiosa*; and *L. peregra* represented by *L. Hookeri*, in Tibet, is represented in Pennsylvania, by Say’s *L. catascopium*.—The last paper read was by Mr. A. Adams, ‘On the Animal of Liotia, and on some new Species of that Genus, and of Delphinula.’

INSTITUTION OF CIVIL ENGINEERS.—March 19.—W. Cubitt, Esq., President, in the chair.—The discussion on Mr. Fairbairn’s paper ‘On Tubular Girder Bridges’ was renewed, and continued through the evening.

ROYAL INSTITUTION.—March 15.—H. R. H. Prince Albert, Vice Patron, in the chair.—The Astronomer Royal ‘On the present State and Prospects of the Science of Terrestrial Magnetism.’ The lecturer commenced with remarking, that the subject of his lecture would not be the exhibition of new and successful experiments, but the indication of trains of scientific research, in which at present all is doubtful and difficult, and in which the only light which seems likely to guide us may possibly lead us in the wrong direction. He then pointed out the difference, as it appears to be usually understood, between *knowledge* and *science*, that the former of these terms implies only the collection and careful arrangement of accurately observed facts, while the latter implies in all cases the idea of causation, and usually a reference to mechanical causes of a simple kind, whose complexity of action depends upon the specialities of distance, mass, &c. of the bodies upon which they act. This distinction was illustrated by the state of astronomy, which before the time of Newton was merely a collection of empirical rules, and after that time became a science (the most perfect that is known) by reference of movements to gravitation as a mechanical cause; and by the theory of light, which before Fresnel’s time was a collection of facts only, but after that time, when the facts were explained by undulations, (which are necessarily the effect of mechanical laws,) became a true science. The same distinction was applied to the collections of statistical facts and the science of political economy, the moral causes in this science being analogous to the mechanical causes in the physical sciences. In these cases it was not to be supposed, nor was it possible, that



we had come to the first cause; every general cause to which we could refer might itself be the subject of a more general cause: it suffices for us that we have gone as far back as perhaps our nature permits. Applying these views to terrestrial magnetism, it was to be said that terrestrial magnetism is not at present a science; and the particular object of this lecture was to point out what efforts had been made to bring it to the state of a science, and in what direction we ought probably now to direct our efforts, and with what prospect of success.

Passing over the notorious fact of the direction of the magnetic needle, the lecturer showed, by simple experiments, that terrestrial magnetism is not an absolute, but a directive force (having no tendency to move the magnet bodily, either north or south), and that the poles of opposite nature of two magnets attract each other, and that the poles of similar nature repel each other; and he insisted on the advantage of using terms like *austral* and *boreal*, not too closely connected with north and south, to express the kinds of magnetism residing in the south and north poles of the earth, considered as a magnet, and in the north and south poles of a free needle. He then pointed out that the observation of the time of vibration of a magnet might be made subservient to the determination of the *proportion* of the magnitudes of the horizontal magnetic force at different points of the earth: and expressed his regret that the mathematical character of Gauss's beautiful and most valuable method for forming an *absolute* measure of the force, entirely independent of the magnet employed, prevented him from offering it to the audience. The dip or inclination of the needle was then described, and its general law (the *austral* pole dipping in north magnetic latitudes, and the *boreal* pole dipping in south magnetic latitudes) was explained. It was also shown experimentally that this is generally analogous to what happens when a small magnet is subject to the action of a large one: and, theoretically, that this is a consequence of the attractions and repulsions of poles (the magnitude of the forces being inversely as the square of the distance,—a law which from various considerations is established with the utmost certainty). He adverted to the mechanical composition of forces, and showed that, from the dip and the horizontal force, the whole magnetic force might be found. And he stated that, on approaching the *magnetic poles* of the earth, namely, those points to which (as observed at no great distance) the needle converges on all sides, and on approaching which, the directive force becomes smaller to evanescence, and the dipping needle dips more and more till it is vertical, the whole magnetic force does not diminish; but increases nearly to its maximum.

Then were pointed out the construction of Gauss's bifilar magnet, in which the magnet is strained to a position at right angles to that of the free magnet, by the torsion of position of its two suspending threads, and every change in the magnitude of the horizontal magnetic force is shown by the position of the magnet, which is pulled more or less in opposition to the torsion;—and the construction of Lloyd's vertical-force magnet, in which a magnetical bar, mounted like a scale-beam, is loaded to a position of horizontality, and every change of the vertical part of the magnetic force is shown by the position of the magnet, which is inclined more or less in opposition to the preponderating weight.

Allusion was then made to the organized system of observations of magnets at every five minutes of Göttingen time on certain days in the year (Sundays), first established by Gauss, with the assistance principally of students of the German Universities, but afterwards extended to other parts of Europe; and to the enormous extension of the system, principally by the Russian and the British Governments and the East India Company, over every part of the world (the simultaneity of observations and the use of Göttingen time being retained throughout, but the days of the five-minute observations being changed from Sundays to weekdays); and to the Magnetical Expeditions which, with the establishment of distant magnetic observatories, constitute a national enterprise inferior to nothing but the French Expeditions of the last century, and to the perfection of the organization and the improvements in the instruments and the mode

of using them, especially at sea, which has been introduced by Col. Sabine.

The lecturer then pointed out the general character of the results. As regards the mean or average determinations (omitting the slow or secular changes, and deferring for a moment the rapid changes), nearly all collectors of results for declination, from the time of Halley, had conceived the existence of four magnetic poles:—two (the Hudson's Bay pole and the Australian pole) having been nearly reached by voyagers; and two (the Siberian pole and the Cape Horn pole) being only inferred from the convergence of the directions of the needle. It had, however, been shown by M. Gauss that a theoretical investigation which would give as one of its consequences this convergence of directions would also negative the existence of the supposed poles; and on the whole the lecturer expressed himself as now doubtful of the existence of those poles. He expressed his regret that an idea long ago explained by Prof. Christie had not been followed out, namely, of the preparation of charts showing the lines perpendicular to the direction of the needle. A chart of the entire magnetic force was exhibited; and the general fact of no dip near the equator, and increasing dips of the *austral* end of the needle in the north, and the *boreal* end in the south, was again mentioned.

The next class of facts mentioned was the diurnal variation:—that in northern latitudes the *austral* end of the horizontal needle points farthest to the east at about eight in the morning, and farthest to the west at about two in the afternoon. In southern latitudes the change is in the opposite direction; and in low latitudes, as at St. Helena (Col. Sabine), and on the Red Sea (M. D'Abbadie) the change has the north-latitude character during the north-latitude summer, and the opposite character during the opposite season. The horizontal and vertical forces generally increase from morning to evening.

The third class of facts was the momentary changes first brought to light by the observations of the German *Magnetische Vereins* (above mentioned). These had appeared to the lecturer so important that, principally for the better recording of them, he had brought before the British Association the importance of recommending to the Government to hold out the prospect of pecuniary reward to the inventors of effective self-registering apparatus. The Government had liberally responded to the application, and the consequence was, that most beautiful and effective photographic self-registering apparatus, constructed respectively by Mr. Brooke and Mr. Ronalds, had been combined with the free magnet, the bifilar magnet, and the vertical-force magnet, and had now been brought into daily use at the Royal Observatory of Greenwich, and at Toronto; and that their use appeared likely to extend. The general fact exhibited by the five-minute observations and by the photograph record is this:—The changes of direction of the horizontal needle and of the horizontal and vertical forces are incessant, and as examined at any one place appear most capricious. But if compared at several neighbouring places, for instance not exceeding five hundred miles apart, they are found to be exactly similar: if the distance be increased, the similarity diminishes; and if places be selected spread all over the globe, it is usually found that a large disturbance at one place is accompanied by large disturbances at the other places, in which however it is difficult to trace the relation of the contemporaneous movements at the different places. Diagrams exhibiting these phenomena were placed before the meeting. The lecturer pointed out one instance as strikingly showing how these phenomena appeared to indicate a distinct localization of their cause. Thus there were two disturbances of horizontal force at five stations (Catharinenburg, St. Petersburg, Greenwich, Göttingen, Milan,) occurring at an interval of about a quarter of an hour; one of them showed increase of force at all the stations, the other showed decrease at the two first-named stations and increase at the others; it appeared evident here, that the cause of the first was exterior to Europe, and the cause of the second was within Europe.

The division of the subject to which the lecturer then came was the cause of these phenomena. He illustrated by a model Hansteen's conception of two large magnets within the earth, stating that he understood it to be put forward only as an imaginary construction, generally (but not very accurately)

representing the facts, but not to be taken for a representation of a real state of things. He then adverted to Gauss's beautiful and general investigation of the effects of a magnetic earth, supposing that every part of it was magnetic in every conceivable variety of manner and degree; and stated that, by proper adaptation of certain constants in this general theory (a theory which it is totally impossible to express in ordinary language), all the recorded observations of the mean positions of the magnets might be well represented. But M. Gauss had stated the following as one consequence of the theory:—Supposing that every part of the earth has equal magnetism in the most favourable direction for producing the known effects with the smallest expense of power, then the quantity of magnetism in one cubic metre of the earth is equal to the magnetism of eight of the best steel magnets weighing 1 lb. each. This, in the lecturer's opinion, made the whole theory difficult to be received.

Connected with the theory of general magnetism of the earth, is Canton's explanation of the diurnal inequality. He supposed that if there were, near the equator, two magnets in N. and S. positions, one more east and the other more west than England, the rising sun would heat the eastern magnet, and thus (by a law which applies to steel magnets) would diminish its magnetic power, and the effect of the western magnet would then turn the English needle to a position verging more to the N.W. and S.E., until the two magnets were equally heated.

The lecturer then exhibited experimentally Ersted's discovery, that a simple helix of wire, through which a galvanic current passes, possesses all the properties of a bar-magnet, its opposite ends exerting opposite effects upon one pole of a magnet, and these effects being reversed upon testing it on the other pole of the magnet. From this it followed naturally, that a model of a sphere surrounded by a spherical helix carrying a galvanic current would nearly represent the condition of magnetism upon the earth,—and Barlow's experiment to that effect was exhibited: and it was shown that its action on a free dipping-needle is generally similar to the earth's action. He then adverted to Lubeck's discovery,—that the application of heat to the point of junction of two different metals (as bismuth and antimony, or bismuth and copper) creates a galvanic action, as is shown by connecting wires with the two ends of the united metals and forming a circuit; and observed that here we seemed to have in nature a cause which might explain the origin of terrestrial magnetism. Attention was then called to the general similarity of Sabine's lines of equal magnetic intensity with Humboldt's lines of equal temperature, the lecturer remarking, that a much greater similarity would have been seen if he had been able to display a chart of lines perpendicular to the direction of horizontal magnetism, as proposed by Professor Christie. Allusion was then made to the very remarkable experiment by Professor Christie, in which a disc of bismuth being surrounded by a ring of copper, and heat being applied to the edge of the copper, an extraordinary amount of magnetism was developed; two poles, *austral* and *boreal*, being produced at certain points on one surface, and poles of opposite character (separated from these by the thickness of the bismuth only) on the opposite surface. Professor Christie had endeavoured to extend this experiment to the case of a spherical copper shell filled with bismuth, and heated generally at the equator but more particularly at one point; and the results appeared as far as they went to correspond well with the state of terrestrial magnetism, but the difficulty of insuring a good union between the copper and the bismuth (a difficulty which perhaps might now be overcome by electrotyping) had made the results somewhat uncertain.

The lecturer then remarked that, for the advancement of the truly scientific part of this inquiry, it does not appear that we have need of any new Expeditions or of any further accumulation of observations made on the present plan. We have already vast collections of observations which will be useless till they are published, and which cannot be properly considered in a few years. But it is probable that the discussion of them will suggest new instruments of observation, more especially if (as is his own opinion) great importance shall be thought due to the small disturbances. Already he had thought



that in every fixed observatory eye-observations ought to be abandoned, and photographic self-registration to be substituted for it: and he now thought that it would be necessary so to improve the magnets that they may be sensible to more rapid disturbances, and so to improve the photographic paper that a momentary beam of light may make an impression upon it. But any suggestions as to the course to be pursued in tracing the causes of magnetism must be guided by the opinion of the person who undertook the inquiry. The lecturer's own belief is, that thermo-electricity is the fundamental cause: and in this belief he expressed his opinion that the importance of experimental investigation of the laws of thermo-electric magnetism, where broad surfaces of different metals are in contact, is paramount to every other. An experimenter might commence with Christie's valuable experiments, and extend them as the results should seem to guide him. Too great importance cannot be attached to experiments as distinguished from observations. Thus, it may truly be said that the discovery of gravitation is founded rather upon the experiments of Galileo and the purely mechanical deductions from them, than upon the observations of the planets, which alone would never have led to it. Still, however, our knowledge derived from experiment must be combined with the observations: and now the question is, with what class of observations shall we begin? Shall we attempt to explain the mean state of magnetism,—or the diurnal inequalities,—or the capricious inequalities? In the lecturer's opinion, this choice would depend very much upon our judgment whether all these were to be ascribed to causes of the same class or of different classes. He believed himself that the causes of all were the same, varied in their effects only by the specialities of the circumstances under which they acted. They do not differ more than a broken sea among rocks differs from a smooth swell in the open ocean;—they do not differ more than the trade wind, the monsoon, the land and sea breezes, the variable winds, and the tornadoes differ: yet no one doubts that these are due to general causes of the same kind, modified by assignable specialities of circumstance. If, then, it were supposed that the causes of these classes of magnetic phenomena were the same, the class upon which he would propose to fix is the capricious disturbances. In the other classes we probably see, at any one time, only the result of an infinity of combined operations: in this, we see nature acting under the simplest circumstances. The comparative minuteness and obscurity of these phenomena is no argument against their efficiency for the scientific inquiry. The general laws of ordinary light had been known for centuries to many persons: the facts of depolarization are not known to one in a million, and have not been computed by one in a hundred millions; yet it is upon these that the undulatory theory of light in general is founded. It would probably be found then, that the successful course would be to confine the examination to a single momentary disturbance which could be traced well through all the magnetic observatories in the world,—(the instance to which the attention of the audience had been previously directed showed the absolute necessity of limiting the disturbance to the shortest time possible),—and with such lights as experiment could give to determine by some mathematical process the locality of the disturbing cause. But no rule could be given for the process to be used. This only we might predict with certainty, that the investigation would be long and troublesome; but such investigations are not without their redeeming pleasure,—and no title in philosophy could be too high for him who should bring the investigation to a successful end.

#### MEETINGS FOR THE ENSUING WEEK.

- Mon.** Geographical, half-past 8.—Extracts from the Journal of the Baron von Müller during his three years' Travels in North-Eastern Africa,—illustrated by Arrowsmith.
- Tues.** Institute of Actuaries, 7.
- Civil Engineers, 8.—Description of the Chapple Viaduct, on the Colchester and Stour Valley Extension of the Eastern Counties Railway, by Mr. P. Baillie.—On the Manufacture of Iron, with Experiments on the Strength of Railway Axles, by Mr. G. B. Thorneycroft.
- Zoological, 9.—Prof. E. Forbes, 'General Remarks on the new Mollusca collected by Capt. Kellett and Lieut. Wood'—and other papers.
- Wed.** Society of Arts, 8.
- Geological, half-past 8.—Sir R. Murchison, 'On the Lazoni of Tunesny'—Mr. Cleghorn, 'On the Boulder Clay of Wick'.
- Thurs.** Royal Society of Literature, 4.
- Numismatic, 7.
- Sat.** Chemical, 8.—Anniversary.

#### GREAT CIRCLE SAILING.

In our miscellaneous intelligence of the 9th inst. will be found the account of a voyage to Australia made in an unusually short space of time. This has been effected by adopting the system of Great Circle Sailing, which was brought before the Admiralty about two years since by Mr. John Towson. Mr. Towson has the merit of introducing in navigation a new feature, of such obvious truth and decided advantage, that it is only surprising that navigators have waited till this time of day to adopt so self-evident a fact. The importance of the principle appears to us to be so great, that we think it will be interesting to our scientific readers to quote in our columns a short popular account thereof.

The unprecedented short voyage made by the *Constance* has been acknowledged to have arisen from the application of a simple scientific principle to navigation, by which a month has been saved from the average time occupied by modern voyages. There is nothing visionary or abstract in the principle on which this improvement is founded; but it is one that has obtained the universal consent of civilized mankind—that this earth is a globe. But as a practical principle this fact has been too much disregarded by the mariner. His chart is a plane, and by it he has been accustomed to navigate the Ocean, and we can scarcely persuade him that the position of distant lands are otherwise than they appear on the chart. This error was of little importance whilst the Mediterranean Sea was the principal seat of commerce, and the transit of the Atlantic Ocean was an event of rare occurrence. Then it was that Mercator's Chart was received from the hand of its inventor as a most acceptable boon to the navigator. But now a very different order of circumstances exist. The members of the same British family are antipodal to each other, and the chart of half the earth's circumference is more frequently employed than that of the Atlantic had been a few score years since.

Under these circumstances, the Mercator's Chart has become inadequate to meet all the requirements of the navigator. He is now called on by the men of science to regard the earth's true form, and when he undertakes voyages to distant lands to take into consideration the circumstance that the chart is an artificial contrivance, which in many instances may lead him to false conclusions.

To avoid the erroneous conclusions drawn from Mercator's Chart, we would refer the mariner to a work published by the British Admiralty two years since, entitled, 'Tables to facilitate the practice of Great Circle Sailing,' constructed by Mr. John Towson. We do this with greater confidence since by its aid the *Constance* emigrant ship has shortened her voyage at least a month. But he will undervalue these tables if he imagines it will only enable him to follow Captain Godfrey in his track to Australia, which route his late voyage has demonstrated to be the best practicable track. It is serviceable in all cases of voyages to regions situated at a great distance east or west of each other, both in shaping his track and in choosing his tack when unfavourable winds prevail, for we are convinced that errors in both these particulars are of daily occurrence, arising from his disregarding the globular formation of the earth.

The track pursued by the *Constance* is denominated by the author of the work alluded to, "Composite Great-Circle Sailing," and is usefully employed when the Great Circle route would lead to impracticable latitudes. In the Southern oceans it is peculiarly applicable, since in Captain Godfrey's maximum latitude, 50°, favourable winds continually prevail for going out by the Cape and coming home by the Horn. To Australia 900 miles is also saved, and in a voyage to New Zealand 100 miles more. Besides this advantage the region of storms is avoided. Around the Cape of Good Hope is the only track in which storms prevail which an emigrant ship has to pass after she has crossed the tropic of Capricorn. In future voyages the mariner by following Captain Godfrey's track will, to use a sea term, "give the Cape a wide berth;" so that we may anticipate that voyages on Captain Godfrey's track will not only be completed in a shorter period than previously, but that this improvement in navigation will confer the additional advantage of a greater degree of safety from wreck.

We are assured by scientific men who are peculiarly qualified to give an opinion on this question, that the system of Great Circle Sailing offers immense advantages:—and we find America and several Continental States are already adopting Mr. Towson's tables.

#### FINE ARTS

##### EXHIBITION OF ANCIENT AND MEDIEVAL ART.

THIS very interesting Exhibition—one altogether novel in character to the London public—owes its origin to the Winchester, York, Norwich, Lincoln and Salisbury Museums established for the "nonce" by the Archaeological Institute. It was suggested that an Exhibition of a somewhat similar character to those Museums, and restricted to works of mediæval Art, would give an impetus to our English artizans and be at the same time a proper prelude to the great Industrial Exhibition of 1851. The suggestion was a happy one,—and most happily has it been carried out. The antiquary will learn much,—but the artizan for whom it was designed will learn a great deal more; for the selection of

articles has been made "with reference to their beauty of form or to the practical illustration they afford of the processes of manufacture."

The apartment in which this valuable assemblage of works of Art has been brought together is the Great Room of the Society of Arts, in the Adelphi, for which Barry painted his celebrated pictures. The general appearance of the room is gorgeous in the extreme. The centre is a blaze of gold—fashioned by the cunning skill of man into shapes of the most exquisite symmetry. Wherever the eye wanders beautiful groups of glass and ivory appear before it. Indeed, the whole getting together looks more like a vision from the Arabian Nights, or some realized dream of a Sir Epicure Mammon, than a sober reality. All that Walpole or Beckford brought together was a mere nut-shell of good things compared to this general harvest from all the corners of the three kingdoms:—for the industry of the Committee must have been unceasing to have made it what it is.

The chief contributor to the collection is Her Majesty,—and after Her Majesty come the Duke of Devonshire, the Duke of Buccleuch, Lord Shrewsbury and Lord Hastings among the nobility. The Colleges have not been found wanting in the cause. Oxford is represented by Oriel,—Cambridge still more liberally by Clare Hall, Emmanuel, and Pembroke. Of our City companies, the Mercers, the Ironmongers, the Fishmongers, the Clothworkers, the Carpenters, and the Barber-Surgeons are all contributors. The Board of Ordnance, the Society of Antiquaries, and the Archaeological Institute have added importantly to its value. The Corporation of King's Lynn, in Norfolk, has sent King John's Cup; while private individuals have intrusted their treasures with a liberality hitherto unknown among antiquaries.

The arrangement of the Exhibition has been intrusted, we believe, to Mr. Farrer, the well-known dealer in art and antiquities, and to Mr. Henry Shaw, deservedly distinguished for his works on the Dresses and Decorations of the Middle Ages. The selection was in every respect judicious. A rigid examination was made into the genuineness of every work before it was accepted for exhibition; and as far as our minute and yet cursory inspection has gone, we failed in finding, in a collection of near nine hundred different articles, a single specimen to be looked on as spurious. There are, it is true, a few things in so large a collection more curious than instructive,—of greater importance to the antiquary than to the artizan; but these are inconsiderable in point of number, and may be fairly enough excused even in a second selection of the same kind.

The Committee has made a classification of the works exhibited under the twelve following heads:—Metal Work, Sculpture and Carving, Enamel, Jewelry and Personal Ornaments, Clock and Watch Work, Fictile Manufactures, Glass, Painting, Textile Fabrics, Leather Work, Armour, and Lapidaries' Work. The stronghold of the Exhibition is in the first seven; and when we reflect that the "Great Room," so called, is pretty well filled with examples of these early classes, we may perhaps attribute the poverty of examples under the latter heads more to insufficiency of room than to any absence of examples or to any want of interest on the part of the Managing Committee. We could have wished, indeed, for the sake of a very beautiful art, and for the sake of the ladies as well, that the specimens of needlework had been more numerous than they are. But this perhaps will be attended to on a future occasion;—for this, we earnestly hope, is only the first Exhibition of its kind. There are many treasure caves and cabinets yet to be unlocked. Why did the Goldsmiths' Company refuse to lend their plate? Where is the cup which Camden, the historian, gave to the Painter-Stainers Company? and where are the treasures in Art of Mr. Rogers, the poet, of Mr. Ford, author of the 'Handbook for Spain,' and of Mr. Marryat and Mr. Mills, the bankers?

"Metal Work" is divided under the following heads:—Gold and Silver, Latén and other Metals, Bronze, Iron, Damascene work, and Niello. Among the gold and silver examples (exactly one hundred in number) we may enumerate as certainly the most important in point of form and workmanship:



—A silver-gilt cup, much in Holbein's manner, given by Henry the Eighth to the Barber-Surgeons. It is hung with bells, which, as Pepys tells us, "every man is to ring by shaking after he hath drunk up the whole cup." A silver-gilt cup, of fourteenth-century work, belonging to Pembroke College, Cambridge, with the following inscription on the bowl, "Sayn denes y<sup>e</sup> es me dere for hes lof drenk and mak gud cher," and on the stem the initials "V. M." and "God help at ned." A silver-gilt cup, with cover of fifteenth-century work, belonging to Oriel College, Oxford, with the letter E introduced upon it in several places, supposed to refer to Edward the Second, the founder of Oriel College. The Anathema Cup, of silver gilt, given in 1497 by Bishop Langton to Pembroke College, Cambridge. 'The Poison Cup,' presented to Clare Hall, Cambridge, by William Butler, a physician, in the reign of James the First; the vessel is of glass, mounted as a tankard in silver-gilt arabesques and silver filagree. It is called the Poison Cup in allusion to the superstition that if poison were poured into it the glass would break and the crystal on the lid become discoloured. Three 'Hanaps,' or silver-gilt cups, dated 1611, belonging to the Carpenters' Company of London. A Mazer Bowl of silver gilt of fifteenth-century work, belonging to Oriel College, Oxford. The massive silver cup, partly gilt (not unstately), given by Pepys to the Clothworkers' Company, of which he was master, in 1677. The silver cup, with cover, given in 1678, by Charles the Second, to the Barber-Surgeons; with a stem formed of the trunk of an oak tree, the branches and leaves of which compose the bowl and cover, while dependent from the foliage are four acorns,—somewhat in character with the bells affixed to the cup given by Henry the Eighth to the same company, and already noticed. Three silver ewers, with salvers elaborately embossed, complete the treasures of this class. They belonged to the Lummelini family, the representatives of the Dorias, whose triumphs they represent,—and are now the property of Lord de Mauley.

In the subdivision of "Laten and other Metals," the most beautiful example of Art is a tankard of pewter, the work of Francis Briot, a pupil of Cellini. It is embossed with three compartments of figures divided by arabesques, and might be imitated with advantage. It belongs to T. Mackinlay, Esq.—The examples of "Bronze" and "Iron" will repay attention, though the strength of the Exhibition is not very great in either of them.—In "Damascene Work," the so-called Benvenuto Cellini shield, known to the Windsor Castle visitor, takes the lead;—while in an inferior way, though still very beautiful, is Mr. Drake's inkstand of sixteenth-century Italian work, damascened with elaborate patterns in gold and silver. Suckling or Carew might have written their best poems in their best dresses and in their best handwriting from so choice and exquisite an article.—The "Niello's" are few in number, and somewhat inferior.—The class of "Sculpture" and "Carving" is divided, as we have seen, into Wood, Ivory, and Stone.—In the subdivision of "Wood," we have Henry the Eighth's 'Rosary' (contributed by the Duke of Devonshire), said to have been designed by Holbein, and certainly much in his manner. The designs are full of feeling and beauty, and the execution throughout is of the most delicate character. This is the best example in the department. A small wooden candlestick, contributed by Mr. Vulliamy, is a pattern of elegance, both in design and in execution.

The Ivories consist of cups, caskets, diptichs, horns, &c.—some elaborately elegant, but none in point of general beauty of form at all equal to the Diana Cup, the work of the Norwegian artist Magnus Berger. The stem is formed by a figure of Hercules supporting a bowl, minutely and delicately carved with subjects of the chase. The cover, surmounted by a figure of Diana, carries the same subjects. This elegant work of Art is the property of Her Majesty. Perhaps the most beautiful casket is contributed by Mr. Seth Stevenson, of Norwich; and some of the best feeling in point of Art in the examples sent by Mr. Tite and Sir R. Westmacott. In "Stone," there is nothing at all approaching to the Albert Dürer in the British Museum, which might be shown to the public with great advantage. It is now closeted in the Print Room, and shewn only to the curious.

This, however, is not the Keeper's fault, but the fault of the Trustees.

The collection is rich in the three subdivisions of "Enamel," viz., "Incrusted," "Translucid on Relief," and "Painted." The principal contributors to this department of Art are the Earl of Shrewsbury, Baron Rothschild, the Hon. R. Curzon, jun., Mr. Hailstone, Mr. Magniac, Mr. Tucker, &c. In the "Incrusted," Lord Shrewsbury's 'Triptych' bears the bell as a whole—though some of the smaller pieces under the same glass are more beautiful in point of workmanship. In the "Translucid," the 'Lynn Cup' takes the lead both for form and execution. This exquisite enamel is usually called 'King John's Cup,' not from John, King of England, as antiquaries now suppose, but from John, King of France—for the cup in the character of its workmanship is certainly later than the twelfth century. It is of silver, partially gilt, and decorated with figures and symbols of the chase on an enamelled field,—and has been well fac-similed in Mr. Shaw's great work. From inscriptions beneath the foot, it would appear that this cup has been "re-enamelled" four times within the comparatively short term of ninety years:—a statement which, as the Committee observe, is in itself hardly credible, and is strongly opposed "by the appearance of the enamel, which it would be difficult to believe but coeval with the entire work." It is thought that the enamel was originally covered with a varnish (which was frequently used in the Middle Ages as a means of preservation), and that the restorations made in the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries only extended to the renewing of the varnish, which was ignorantly regarded as part of the enamel.

Among the "Painted Enamels" the best example is a Hunting Horn from 'Strawberry Hill,' inscribed Leonardus Lemovicus 1538. It is now the property of Mr. Magniac. Less elegant certainly, but still of beauty, is the Mercers' Cup of sixteenth-century work with this inscription on it,—

To elect the master of the Mercerie hither am I sent,  
And by Sir Thomas Leigh for the same intent.

It was the practice for the old master to nominate the new master by drinking to a particular member of the company. The Sheriffs of London were elected formerly in the same way.

To the class of "Jewellery," Viscountess Beresford contributes an 'Ewer of Sardonyx' mounted in gold and enamelled;—the Duke of Buccleuch 'A Monster' of sixteenth-century work, formed from a large piece of rock crystal and elaborately sculptured in relief and intaglio;—Mr. Farrer's 'Gold Pendant,' perhaps by Cellini, and a small book of 'Private Prayers,' in a massive gold enamelled cover, formerly the property of Queen Elizabeth,—not unlike in form to the book which her sister holds in her portrait by Sir Antonio More. In the same case is a 'Locket' in the shape of a heart, jewelled and surmounted by a crown,—a portion it is said of the Darnley Jewel now in Her Majesty's possession.

Class 5.—"Clock and Watch Work," contains thirty examples of early clocks and watches, principally contributed by Octavius Morgan, M.P. The earliest in point of date is an 'Astrological Table Clock' (not unlike a brass stewpan) made by Jacob Zech of Bohemia, in the year 1525, for Sigismund the Great, king of Poland, whose arms and those of Bona Sforza his wife are engraved on it. Some are oval, others octagon; some have cases ornamented with bloodstone and garnet; some were made at Augsburg early in the sixteenth century, others at Geneva early in the seventeenth, and several in London by the members of the Clockmakers' Company. The readers of Scott will delight in seeing a watch actually made by Davie Ramsay himself; while the readers of history will behold with mixed feelings of interest the massive silver clock watch which King Charles the First gave to Mr. Herbert on the morning of his execution. The David Ramsay watch belongs to Mr. Morgan,—the Charles the First watch to William Townley Mitford, Esq., of Pitt's Hill, Sussex. It came to Mr. Mitford's family by intermarriage, a century ago, with the female descendant of Mr. Herbert.

In the Class of "Fictile Wares," the collections of Greek, Etruscan, and Roman examples are scanty and somewhat indifferent. The strength of the collection lies in the "Majolica," in the German and

Flemish stone ware, and in the three exquisite specimens of Henry the Second of France ware. We have seen choicer examples of Majolica in Mr. Ford's collection,—but never before so valuable an assemblage of Flemish ware as the Committee has been enabled to group together in one attractive angle of the Great Room. There is something coarse in grain, and we will add somewhat heavy in general effect, even in the best examples of Majolica. Not that we are by any means admirers of the occasional mere prettinesses of the real China and Dresden manufactures; but what we would wish to see introduced into a new ware would be the artistic drawing and admirable grouping of the Majolica with the delicacy of the Dresden paste. This, however, is perhaps looking for too much. There are merits worthy of adoption in the Henry the Second ware. Mr. Magniac's white ewer, with its various Italian ornaments in relief, and decorated in shades of brown with moresque patterns, is a real work of Art. So, indeed, in point of design is Sir Anthony Rothschild's 'Candlestick,' carrying the arms of France with the interlaced monogram of Henry the Second of France and Diana of Poitiers. It is said to have cost Sir Anthony 210 guineas! The examples of Palissy and Böttcher ware are curious and instructive.

One of the most attractive groups in the room is, as we have already hinted, the very valuable assemblage of Venetian and German glass—the largest collection that has as yet been brought together. Here we have goblets and ewers and cruets and cups, with salvers and tazzas and vases and grotesque animals of every form and fashion that the ingenuity or caprice of man could well devise. Some are exquisite in shape—others in colour and texture—and all are curious and of use with regard to what may be learnt from examining them artistically. The German glass is inferior both in texture and in form to the Venetian; but there are examples, and some in the present Exhibition, where the German vies with the Venetian in all the rarer qualities of material and design. In the "Venetian" class we would instance Sir Charles Price's 'Tazza' enriched with white lace-work as an exquisite work of Art; and the 'Pair of Green Candlesticks' mounted in metal gilt, belonging to the Marquis of Douglas, though somewhat heavy, as possessing much merit in general form. A drinking vessel, commonly called 'A Yard of Ale,' contributed by the Duke of Buccleuch, cannot fail to attract attention—not as a work of Art indeed, but as an illustration in the chapter of healths and of old drinking customs both Venetian and English.

In the class of "Textile Fabrics," we have the 'Embroidered Palls' of the Fishmongers, the Ironmongers, and the Sadlers' Companies of London; and the richly embroidered 'Cope' of fourteenth-century work belonging to the Earl of Shrewsbury. 'The Fishmongers' Pall is said (traditionally) to have been the pall of Sir William Walworth who slew Wat Tyler. Sir William was a fishmonger.

With a brief reference to some very beautiful Guipure and Point d'Alençon lace, and to a remarkable bust in terra-cotta of Lorenzo de' Medici (contributed by Mr. Denny's), we must close our notice of a very instructive Exhibition.

**FINE-ART GOSSIP.**—Very recent accounts are stated to have been received within a few days back from Mr. Layard, in Assyria, giving intelligence of new and important discoveries in the Nimroud mound. He has made fresh and extensive excavations in parts of the eminence not yet explored; and the result is said to have been the finding of nothing less than the throne on which the monarch reigning about 3,000 years ago sat in his splendid palace. It is composed of metal and of ivory,—the metal being richly wrought and the ivory beautifully carved. The throne seems to have been separated from the state apartments by means of a large curtain,—the rings by which it was drawn and undrawn having been preserved. No human remains have come to light, and everything indicates the destruction of the palace by fire. It is said that the throne has been partially fused by the heat.

The declaration of Lord John Russell that there is no intention of giving the Royal Academy notice to quit their abode in Trafalgar Square, would seem to indicate that the space for a National Gallery is



to be sought elsewhere; as it is scarcely possible that any re-arrangement of what remains of the building after they are provided for, should furnish sufficient room for the national pictures, present and in expectancy, if regard is to be had to light and the other conditions essential to their due exhibition. The question of site becomes then, one of some interest:—and on this subject a correspondent of the *Builder* has a suggestion which seems worthy of attention. Marlborough House, vacated by the death of the Queen Dowager, though composed of apartments which are not either by their size or their distribution fitted for a royal—or even ducal—abode,—yet covers, with its entrance-yard, stabling, offices, and garden, a large area. On this area our contemporary would erect a Gallery worthy of the nation—having its front in a street which is already one of palaces, and overlooking behind one of the most picturesque spaces of the metropolis. This New Palace of the Arts, he would raise on arcades; which, “opening to the garden next the Park, would make a superb covered promenade, that might be stored with architectural remains and examples of ancient sculpture.” “It appears,” our contemporary urges, “that the British Museum is already filled to repletion,—inasmuch as the Nineveh antiquities are crowded in a cellar. Besides, the works of our own sculptors deserve national recognition; and, to the present moment, no project has been elicited, either Governmental or otherwise, for securing to our posterity any proofs of our native skill in this difficult and sublime branch of Art.”

## MUSIC AND THE DRAMA

### SACRED HARMONIC SOCIETY, EXETER HALL.

CONDUCTOR, MR. COSTA.

Next WEDNESDAY, March 27. Handel's ‘MESSIAH.’—Vocalists: Miss Catherine Hayes, Miss P. Horton, Mr. Sims Reeves, and Herr Formes, with Orchestra of 700 Performers.—Tickets, 3s.; Reserved Seats, 5s.; Central Area, numbered, 18s. 6d., at 6, Exeter Hall, or of Mr. Bowley, 53, Charing Cross, where also will be received Subscriptions for the year commencing March 25. Mendelssohn's ‘Elijah’ will be produced on Friday, April 5. Tickets for which are now ready.

LOVES LENTEN ENTERTAINMENTS at the Music Hall, Store Street, Bedford Square.—The last night of the Lent Season.—Total Change of Pieces.—On Monday, March 25, Mr. Love will present, for the first time here, his Entertainment entitled ‘A Voyage to Hamburg,—with a Reminiscence of By-gone Times; or Past Ten o'clock and a Cloudy Night,’—in the course of which Mr. Love will introduce his celebrated variable character of Mr. Midnight, the Watchman, who will be heard crying the hour at a distance of a quarter of a mile from the Rooms; with other Entertainments.—Begin at Eight. Reserved Seats—Boxes, 4s.; First-Class Seats—Hall, 2s.; Second Class, 1s.; Private Boxes for Six, 12s.; Ditto, for Eight, 16s. 6d. Books, 6d.

On Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, and Saturday next, Mr. Love will appear at the Theatre, Sadler's Wells.

### CHURCH MUSIC.

FOR the use of such congregations as “affect” the Church Tones, the Rev. Mr. Helmore, “Precentor of St. Mark's College, and Master of the children of Her Majesty's Chapels Royal,” has put forth a handsome and carefully printed edition of *The Psalter noted*, with a *Companion* containing “the accompanying harmonies.” We must commend these publications for the obvious taste and care which have directed them, had not Mr. Helmore been seduced into writing a preface which is devoted to setting forth a dogma so fallacious as once again to call for sincere protest.—

That the style of melody appointed by the early Church should be the most appropriate for the clergy and people in all ages, and not wantonly, or without public authority as high, at least, as that which enjoined its use, to be dispensed with, few who have any reverence for antiquity or church authority will be apt to doubt, whatever may be their private taste as to the style itself. Let it, then, be remembered, by all whom it concerns, that our own church has never dispensed with it; some portion of it is still heard (with more or less decorum) in our cathedrals, and many of our finest anthems enshrine some portions of its unearthly melody: its comparative disuse among us is the effect of persecutions from without and ignorance and schismatical prejudice within, rather than of deliberative judgment or synodical decree.

Now, this pompous manner of putting down “private taste,” in defence of certain Pagan tunes,—this epithet “unearthly” (which, if it means anything, bears an import which we will not venture to express)—and this talk of “persecution,” “ignorance and schismatical prejudice”—make up about as sublime a paragraph of solemn nonsense as has been often prefixed to a work in itself interesting and valuable. As well might the alchemical symbols and the old mythological superstitions which find a place in the mosaics of the early basilicas be considered as types and patterns because of their antiquity and of

the places in which they are found, as the “church tones” be received as infallibly or finally orthodox. As well might Mr. Helmore preach in a dead language—clinging his “seventeenthly” with a “Meherle!” or like Christian exclamation,—as well might he refuse to harbour in his church any organ of facture more modern than the Ightam instrument, or deny his vesper service the aid of a gas lamp in place of the old foul oil-cresset—as attempt thus to limit men's spirits and sympathies to that which, in itself a convention, is as regards even the Roman Catholic church a convention stolen from the temples of Greece—and to the Anglo-Catholics (for we suppose we must not say “the Lutherans,”) comes third-hand—the music of Jupiter and Diana, accredited by St. Peter's representative. Ridicule alone can deal with pretensions so overweening and so baseless as these. We dissent from Rowland Hill's huckaback notions of Art in religion as eagerly as Mr. Helmore himself. We neither wish to hear service-music in a concert-room nor concert nor opera-music in a church,—as we have a thousand times said; but we cannot believe that ancient, lifeless forms can or should be imposed upon devotional art,—in place of the works of that faith and reverence, which, supposing it to be as sincere to-day as it was a thousand years since, must, nevertheless, speak in the tongue of to-day, pray with the heart of to-day, refer to the wants of to-day. Hence, this preface seems to our “private taste” a blot—a presumption—a manifesto of arrogance,—the effect of which, if submitted to, would be to make of religious Art a Chinese monster, with crippled feet, harpy nails, and doctored eye-brows,—instead of a worshipper devout, but natural in her utterance and intelligent in her enthusiasm.

PHILHARMONIC CONCERTS.—The second Philharmonic programme offered nothing that was new; but the orchestral execution was so grand, lustrous, unflattering and delicate, as to justify the present flourishing state of this Society. That its Directors appear averse to research, and attached to a narrow system of engagement-making as regards their solo performers is unfortunate;—but our disapproval of their supineness must not imply injustice to the executive improvement to be remarked in their Concerts this year. Though three movements of Haydn's Symphony letter Q “wear periwigs” too formally antique in cut to be presentable at a concert of progress, its slow movement is so sweet, so ingenious, so full of melodious life, and was so exquisitely played, as well to merit its *encore*. Nor have we ever heard the overture to ‘Leonora’ given with energy and sensibility at all comparable to those with which the orchestra was inspired on Monday. Mendelssohn's Second Symphony, too, went admirably:—its *andante* was *encored*, and its *Saltarella finale* narrowly escaped a like reception. Romberg's Overture in D is from its mediocrity unadvisable, unless confessedly used as a voluntary “to play the congregation out.” To us Mayseder's *Polonoise* in a major was welcome:—being given by Mr. Blagrove in his most brilliant and animated fashion. Still, being jealous for an old favourite, we must say that the airy elegance and arch brilliancy for which the theme and its treatment give scope are not in Mr. Blagrove's “quiver of arrows.” Mayseder's music is not classical; but, for the purposes of solo exhibition it is far superior to much mediocre dulness bearing that name. It is not meagre,—though it is not meretricious. The first ideas are almost always beautiful,—sometimes grand. There is humour, too, in it, which may be rendered in half a dozen ways by as many humorous, not coldly-correct, players.—Beethoven's *Concerto* in C minor is a favourite piece with Mr. C. Salaman; but either he has fallen off in his manner of rendering it or our requisitions are stricter than formerly. Why will no one play the *Concerto* in B flat? This has not been given at a Philharmonic Concert for fifteen years past. Ere long, too, will come a time when Hummel's three great *Concertos* (in A minor, in B minor, and in A flat) will claim as many great performers, if any such—as distinguished from wonder players—be left to the pianoforte. The singers were Mdlle. Charton and Herr Formes.—Attractive as the Lady is in the St. James's Theatre,—she seemed to have neither voice, nor style, nor composure enough for the Philharmonic Concert. There, no singing short

of the very highest finish or the truest expression can hope to succeed;—and Madame Dorus-Gras has spoiled us for Auber's *bravuras* in the orchestra, by the volubility, firmness and accent of her execution. The German *basso* produced no effect in the air of *Mephistopheles* from ‘Faust’—so effective when delivered by Lablache. His other song was ‘O! wie will ich triumphiren,’ from Mozart's ‘Entführung.’ With the “ball at his foot,” Herr Formes appears curiously resolute to stand still. He must “rise betimes,” and work hard and humbly, before he can take the place of Staudigl: since perpetual want of finish (especially in the music of his own country) cannot be perpetually excused.

CHAMBER CONCERTS.—The *Musical Union* held its first session on Tuesday. For quartett of stringed instrument players, we had MM. Sainton, Deloffre, Hill, and Piatti,—the pianist was Miss Kate Loder. This young Lady is so nearly a first rate executant (as her performance on Tuesday of Hummel's Quintett in E flat minor and in Mendelssohn's *Rondo Capriccioso* testified), that she is worth reckoning with for an occasional slackness and carelessness of manner, meant to be largeness and ease, but being neither the one nor the other. Mistaken notions regarding this subject are apt to deter our good musicians from such close practice as commands the high finish claimed from those who perform in public. Our English artists are as readers at sight surpassed by none; but we have never had a Thalberg, a De Beriot, a Sontag,—never that union of style and finish which the best music demands for its best interpretation. Why should not Miss Loder break the spell, make the exception, and set the example? Beethoven's *Septuor* was also played, and well played on Tuesday: the only composition by Beethoven of which the ear (so far as we know) can become tired. This may arise from the simplicity of idea and honeyed sweetness of harmony almost inevitable in a work written in part for wind instruments.—It should be noted as a sign of the times, that in the collected records of the *Musical Union* for 1849, Mr. Ella advertises a plan in embryo for the formation of a musical library.

Mr. W. S. Bennett's third Chamber Concert was held on Tuesday evening, with a programme choice as usual. In the execution of this Mr. Bennett was assisted by Herr Molique. These meetings have been very popular this spring: though they have wanted the attraction which new compositions by their holder would have held out.

On Wednesday evening were held the second of Herr Molique's and the second of Mr. Lucas's Chamber Concerts. The former claims the preference, as being a composer's concert, and thus possessing a special interest. Aided by Mr. W. S. Bennett and Signor Piatti, Herr Molique performed his own pianoforte *Trio* [see *Athen.* No. 1153]. This work, though somewhat ungracious for the pianist is in every respect honourable to its writer—especially to be commended for some novelty of form in its two middle movements, which are inter-dependent in a manner that is original and well fancied. Why everybody seems to avoid experiment in the ordinariness of a classical composition—why four divisions in a chamber-*Sonata* seem to be as inevitable as five acts in a legitimate drama—are among those mysteries which perpetually perplex common sense. Meanwhile, thanks are due to all who, like Herr Molique, adventure in the direction of liberty. He also played an *Adagio*, fugue and *Bourrée*, by Sebastian Bach, of as much difficulty as freshness, with the hand of a true master. We have not this year praised Signor Piatti,—yet never did violoncellist better deserve praise. His tone has grown richer and his style larger than they were. His power of reading music is balanced by an executive perfection clear of extravagance, which we have met in no contemporary on his instrument. The singer on Wednesday was Mdlle. Schloss; who among other pleasant music (not forgetting Herr Molique's ‘Schifferlied’) gave a song by Lindblad, each verse of which rustically begins ‘Ach Betty!’—and the melody whereof is as fresh as the corresponding ‘O Tibbie, I have seen the day!’ of the Scotch ballad-book. There is a treasure in the *lieder* of this Swedish composer whenever shall arrive the Sontag or Stockhausen who will take them up. That day is sure to come, be singers



ever so stupid or audiences ever so averse to what both ought to welcome with open arms, mouths and ears—namely, something new.

With the best will in the world to encourage one who seems to be opening his career in England with as much spirit as sense, we can give only a line to the second Chamber Concert of *M. Billet*, held last evening in St. Martin's Hall. Of the third we will endeavour to speak more in detail.

**ROYAL ITALIAN OPERA, COVENT GARDEN.**—The Royal Italian Opera brilliantly commenced its season on Saturday last, with an admirable performance of 'Il Franco Arciero.' This title sounds to our ears even stranger than 'Die Nachtwandlerin' (for 'La Sonnambula') does in German. For 'Der Freischütz' is national not only in its chords, choruses and couplets, but also in its supernatural story and its local colour. The Italians in their modern imaginative works show little sympathy for *diablerie*,—and, what is more perplexing, less feeling for their own magical scenery. They might have no Tivoli, no chesnut woods on the Apennines, no Pays de Cadore, no Grotto Azzurra, no Campagna, for any trace of such striking and poetical haunts that is to be found in their poems, novels, or opera-books. Thus, it might have been apprehended that 'Der Freischütz' in its new dress would have an air more outlandish than sympathetic. This, however, is not the case. The weakness—not to say puerility—of the *libretto*, it is true, made itself felt this day week;—some of the *morceaux*, too, seemed comparatively less important for being set amid sung recitative in place of spoken dialogue: but the opera went as smoothly as though it had been a 'Marino Faliero' or an 'Elena da Feltre'—without losing a breath of the wild freshness which at its first outburst seized the heart of all Europe by storm and by charm. We must, for a moment, return to the recitatives aforesaid. These, praised by our contemporaries (and by ourselves on the first night) as the work of M. Berlioz, turn out to have been written by M. Costa,—and are nothing short of masterly in their modesty, their neatness, and their thorough harmony with the pieces linked together. If this be his manner of retouching, we would gladly confide to such editorial care, for retrenchment or re-arrangement, more than one opera full of admirable music which, like Sir Walter Scott's neighbour, the Laird, is "just ruined for want of hints," and has been laid by because it contains too much—or not enough—for singers of average powers or of dramatic desires to execute.

The execution of 'Il Franco Arciero,' we repeat, was admirable in most respects,—not merely as regarded orchestral delicacy and choral power,—but also in some little less important points, where unflinching correctness, even, was hardly to be expected. The tenor, Signor Maralti, surprised us by so meritoriously steady a first appearance made on so trying a stage, and in music obviously too low for his voice. But the enigma was solved when we read in the *Times* that the new *Rudolph* is no Italian,—but M. Meerelt, of Ghent: as a Belgian artist (and one who, we have since learned, has passed through the hands of M. Garcia) naturally habituated to the French repertory, which is hardly to be mastered without musical skill. As the art stands, Signor Maralti should be ashamed of his adopted,—rather than of his original—country. His voice is pleasing, though limited in register,—perfectly in tune, and sufficient in power; and, should he give us no cause to unsay our praise, Signor Maralti will, to our thinking, prove worth a dozen of the Fraschinis and Morianis, whose notion of forming part of a *troupe* and making themselves useful to a theatre is, dying (*fortissimo*) in 'Lucia' as slowly as possible!—Then, Mdle. Vera, the *Annetta*, without the slightest obtrusiveness, gave to that character a prominence which it never has had before. Her progress during the winter has been marvellous. We always rated her high as an accomplished singer and a clever musician; but never conceived that her voice would prove so effective or herself be so self-possessed, so arch, and so bright on the stage:—her natural and acquired gifts being happily united with an agreeable presence, and with simplicity and spirit in action. We gain by Mdle. Corbani's secession, if *Annetta* be an average specimen of Mdle. Vera's art to fill her part and please her public.—Madame Castellan sang in her best

voice as *Agata*, but over-cadenced the *largo* in the third act, and, in her demeanour as the heroine, too largely forgot the peasant.—Herr Formes, on the other hand, was too much of a melo-dramatic ruffian even for *Caspar*. Though his noble voice *told*, and though he exhibited a rude picture-esque conception of the demon huntsman,—he struck us as being the least of a singer of any of the party: being null where he was not noisy, hazarding queer sounds for the sake of dismal effects, and more than once being ill at ease and imperfect in his music. Let us hope that keeping good company may mellow his style, and encourage that scientific study the want of which has more than once endangered him in England. One so magnificently endowed should turn his gifts to better account.—M. Massol showed himself a true artist, both by taking the trifling part of *Kilian* and by treating it so as to make it a feature in the first act. M. Rommi was the *Cuno*. What a polyglott cast has been here mentioned!—The overture, Mdle. Vera's *polacca*, and the Huntsman's Chorus were *encored*; and the entire opera was followed with the utmost attention and relish by a very large audience. The scenery, dresses and properties are beautiful, poetical, and hideously grotesque as required:—the Wolf's Glen, in particular, is eminent even among Mr. Grieve's glen and mountain pictures. But, as *Zamir* is more of a "property" than of a performer, we must here say that the Red Fiend's sayings and doings are more in the raw-head-and-bloody-bones taste of the minor German theatres than we can accord credit for Covent Garden. Perhaps, too, the assortment of snakes, goblins, phosphoric skulls, and other such "trinkets," in the incantation scene loses its effect from its over-profusion—if the fault do not lie in our own want of faith. Hackneyed as is 'Der Freischütz,' a word or two remains to be said concerning its music;—but these must be deferred till some *maigre* day.

**HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE.**—Very carelessly and coarsely was 'Nino' produced on Tuesday, for the first appearance of Signor Lorenzo—an Italian gentleman, we are told, whom "Time and Change" have induced to turn his baritone voice to account. Such being the case, we will wait till amateurship shall have merged in Art—ere we discuss his claims as a singer. In his acting, Signor Lorenzo displayed that intense southern energy and enthusiasm which seems to us, precisely to fill the step betwixt the sublime and the ridiculous, and to be capable of either interpretation according to the humour of the spectator. We have seen persons of taste thrown into fits of derision by Signor Modena, one of the finest actors in our knowledge, though impulsive and violent in a mode which fits not with our northern sympathies.—Signor Beletti sang his *solo* in the opening scene of this opera magnificently,—and Mdle. Parodi was less strained and more steady in the duet of the third act than she has yet been in London.

On Thursday, 'Ernani' was given for the first appearance of Mr. Sims Reeves. Both opera and singers were received with every token of favour and success. Truth, however, is truth:—it is not the recall which makes the Rubini. Mr. Reeves was in his best voice, and sang not merely with a praiseworthy care which is due to every occasion,—but, also, like one who loves his occupation. Verdi's music, in its *solo* passages and closes, gives him scope for that slackening of tempo and elongation of favourite notes which are considered by 'Young Italy' as the style dramatic. But, for the interests of Art,—rather than under any hope that our remonstrances will be heard amid so many plaudits—we must point out that Mr. Reeves's method of producing his tone and phrasing stands in need of refinement and reconsideration,—and that something of facility must be acquired by him ere his voice will either blend or tell in concerted music. In his stage demeanour, too, he has much to learn.—Signor Lorenzo as *Carlo Quinto* did his best to destroy such good impression as he had made in 'Nino,'—singing with a confident incompleteness against which we must protest because it was loudly applauded. We have heard no other vocalist make so free with the patience of his audience, by pausing "here, there, and everywhere," under the idea of being weighty and dramatic. The sounder style, noble voice, and genuine unobtrusive musical feeling of Signor Beletti as *Silva*, made his presence on the

stage felt as a relief so often as he came. The three first acts of the opera went as loosely as possible,—with a curious determination on the part of everybody to keep out of everybody's way in most of the scenes of action and pieces of concerted music. But in the opening of the fourth act Mr. Sims Reeves delivered a passage with great delicacy and earnestness; and in the subsequent *terzetto* Mdle. Parodi, who up to that point had been the most uncertain and unsatisfactory of *Elvira*s, suddenly broke out with more force, passion, and originality than she has yet displayed,—her voice apparently having been steadied by the previous hard work of the part. If her acting and singing of that final scene (worth the entire opera of 'Medea') do not prove a flash, and are improved by her, as they merit, into an argument for severe and patient study, Mdle. Parodi may yet become what her partisans have long since declared that she is. None will more cordially rejoice in such a gain to the operatic stage than ourselves.

"So no more at present," we hope and trust, of Verdi's operas. Happily, their popularity in England is not on the increase.—Madame Sontag, it is said, will appear, immediately after Easter, in the lively 'Don Pasquale' of Donizetti, the last and one of the prettiest of comic operas,—and afterwards (we heard in the theatre) in the 'Lucia,' to the *Edgar* of Mr. Sims Reeves. But we hope that this may prove a tale,—and the 'Domino Nero,' instead, a truth,—since of 'Lucia' every one has had enough, save the singers themselves.—Mdle. Ferraris is to dance this evening.

**HAYMARKET.**—On Tuesday Mr. Douglas Jerrold's brilliant comedy of 'Time works Wonders' was revived. A satire on the manners of modern society rather than a story of well-contrived interest, the success of this drama depends on characterization. It cannot be effectively mounted without acting of the first quality. The parts are here, fortunately for the author, well filled. Miss Reynolds as *Florentine* is an efficient substitute for Miss Fortescue, and Miss P. Horton as *Miss Tucker* was distinguished by remarkable power. Keeley as *Old Goldthumb* and Buckstone as *Bantem* were equally quaint and amusing; while Mr. Webster as *Felix Goldthumb* had a part quite in his way.

**SADLER'S WELLS.**—The tragedy of 'Macbeth' was reproduced on Wednesday,—with that attention to the *mise en scène* which distinguished its revival here three years ago. The present getting-up is, indeed, even more elaborate than the former; and there are many modifications and improvements in stage arrangements introduced,—particularly in the banquet scene and as to the apparition of *Banquo*,—that remove certain objections against which we had formerly occasion to protest. Mr. Phelps performed the part of *Macbeth* with point and force,—well indicating the superstitious impulse and destiny against which the better nature of the once noble Thane ineffectually strove. The chief attraction of the evening was Miss Glyn's *Lady Macbeth*. Since she first appeared in this character in London, that lady has gone the round of most of the sterner Shakspearian heroines, and gained in them a high reputation. We were therefore entitled to expect a great contrast between her former and present impersonations of this difficult part. We have not been disappointed. Decided in form and elaborate in colour, the *Lady Macbeth* of Miss Glyn is now a definite and powerful example of histrionic art. Her sleep walking scene still remains, as before, her greatest achievement; but this results from its having received a proportionate improvement with the others. It is full of striking detail,—thoroughly original and uniformly impressive. We think we differ from this actress as to more than one rendering; but, taken altogether, her interpretation is so complete that we would not hastily decide in favour of a prepossession. In the banquet scene she was great. The early scenes gave powerful indications, but were affected by a manifest degree of nervousness,—which will be overcome, we presume, on future occasions. The actress seemed overborne by the force of the ideal which she had conceived.

**MUSICAL AND DRAMATIC GOSSIP.**—No ordinary curiosity having been lately excited by the mention twice made in this journal of a new composer,—we



may proceed a step further with the promise, and announce that the gentleman in question has been commissioned to write an opera for the *Grand Opera* of Paris,—which is to be represented in the course of next winter. We refrain yet awhile from naming the new candidate on Charles Lamb's principle of being "modest for a modest man," and because we are indebted for our intelligence to private information. The subject of the *libretto*, we may add, is of a nature not recently attempted on the French operatic stage; and the contract expressly implies provisions for execution such as fall to the lot of very few aspirants. The prospect, in short, is of the highest musical interest.—We are glad to learn, from other Parisian sources, that M. Halévy's new opera, 'La Tempesta,' is in such a state of forwardness as to be really forthcoming this season at *Her Majesty's Theatre*. The *libretto* is described as admirable, and the music as among its composer's best. It is further said, that Miss C. Hayes is "cast" for the *Ariel*. The commission does credit to Mr. Lumley. We are told, on the other hand (what, indeed, common sense had already pointed out) that there is small chance of Auber's "Prodigue" crossing the water.—'Le Prophète' continues to be so attractive to the frequenters of the *Grand Opéra*, that 'Les Huguenots' will not be given before the departure of Madame Viardot for Berlin,—although that work is ready for representation.—The *vogue* of Madame Sontag's singing is said by a correspondent of a contemporary, to have maintained Mr. Lumley's concerts at the *Conservatoire* to the last.—the same authority adds, that the lessees of the *Académie* have made liberal proposals to the Lady to appear at their theatre in Italian operas translated. More to the purpose would be the revival of Madame Cinti-Damoreau's repertory, were Madame Sontag unwise enough to peril herself on so vast a stage. This, it is to be hoped, she will not do. Meanwhile, it is almost needless to record, that of the list of promises circulated in Paris prior to these entertainments commencing—comprising the coming of Mdlle. Jenny Lind, and the execution of "the most splendid productions of Spontini, Gluck, Palestrina, also the celebrated choruses of the Sistine Chapel" [*ante*, p. 187], not one has been realized. But project-making has proved itself the most fascinating of occupations from the days of *Scheherazade* down to those of

the noticeable man with large gray eyes,—from the "lunes" of *Atnaschar* down to the literary places of Coleridge:—and so long as the public will accept programmes in place of performances, managers are hardly to be blamed who indulge in the double pleasure of themselves dreaming and of entertaining other persons.

M. Silas, the young Dutch musician of whom such high expectations have been put forth, is engaged, we are told, to perform at an early meeting of the *Musical Union*.—We perceive that Herr Dreychock intends to pass the season in London.—Probably, too, we shall have a visit from that best of harp-players, M. Godefroid,—whom we should be glad to retain as a resident professor.

Mr. Osborne's three *Matinées* of chamber-music claim announcement among the coming events of the season.—One of Mr. Perry's Oratorios and Mendelssohn's 'First Walpurgis Night' (an odd mixture,—though time was when the two composers were gravely tied up for comparison in one and the same paragraph by an influential English critic!) are to be given at the Hanover Square Rooms on Thursday next.

A correspondent,—who, "though a member of the English Church," writes with cordial earnestness on the subject of music in dissenting places of worship,—has obligingly forwarded to us a copy of the inaugural lecture on congregational chanting delivered in the "Weigh House Chapel" by the Rev. T. Binney, on the occasion referred to *ante*, p. 243. Though we, in turn, dissent from the tone in which the advocates of "the Church Tones" (one of whom has been called into counsel on the occasion) recommend this old music, we can well understand the zeal with which antique religious Art, having once entered the Chapel, is likely to be received there—when we come upon an anecdote like the following, which was introduced by Mr. Binney into his lecture.—

At an advanced period, many of the Nonconformists objected to singing altogether. They contended that only

the members of Christian churches should sing, and that psalmody should not be adopted in the congregation. There was a good Baptist minister at Mazepond, Mr. Keach, who wanted to introduce singing into the congregation, and he had to fight and contend *twenty-two years for it!* There was a great controversy in the Nonconformist churches on this subject, and great thick pamphlets were written, much like our own controversial pamphlets of the present day. At one period of the controversy there was a sort of drawn battle between the disputants, an understanding having been come to that while one part of the congregation was engaged in singing, the other part should quietly go out, walk about the chapel-yard—among the graves of the silent dead—and then come in again after the service they objected to was over! I am very happy to know that the good man conquered at last, that the people began to sing, and so we have continued singing ever since. Miss Mitford shrewdly remarked, in one of her stories, that "a runaway Quakeress may always be known by her pink ribbons,"—and thus it is only in the order of nature, that, in a matter touching no vital doctrine or article of faith, from nonconformity the pendulum should recoil to the utmost formalism—even in Music!

M. Ole Bull, who rarely opened his violin-case but out came (as overture to his fiddling) some sentimental personal history such as John Andersen loves to tell, seems resolute not to fail in furnishing the world of talkers with anecdote and amazement. "His last" is so truly droll that, while translating the tale from the French papers, we cannot avoid asking, "What if it prove a *canard*?" Thus runs the *Saga*:—"M. Ole Bull, the founder of the theatre at Bergen, had let all the places in it without setting apart three of the best for the police. \* \* \* The Director of the police announced his intention of presenting himself and maintaining his rights by force. Offended at this proceeding, M. Ole Bull arranged at one end of the orchestra three places above which was fixed a large black board with these words upon it in gigantic white letters, "Places for the Police."—garnishing this sign on either side with a lantern, such as the watchmen carry. The Director of the police, considering this measure as an affront to his authority, summoned M. Ole Bull; and in right of an old law of 1687, on the 17th of last month, sentenced the famous violinist to three months' imprisonment. Of such a sentence there is no remission, except by a special act of royal favour."

Certain Italian gazettes are exuberant in praise of a new *prima donna*, Signora Marcolini, who has appeared at Venice.—A French girl, aged eleven years, Mdlle. Euphrosine Bordet, has been playing on the violin at *La Scala* of Milan, with great success, if the same authority may be trusted.

The *Dramatic and Musical Review* publishes a rumour too *bizarre* to be overlooked—namely, that M. A. Dumas "is engaged on a drama expressly" written for Miss Helen Faucit.—Letters from the United States confirm the tidings of the golden harvest reaped by Miss Cushman in her own country,—so magnificent, we are told, as to tempt the Lady to protract her American tour—her intention still being to return to England. It is understood in dramatic circles that a tragedy "expressly" written for Miss Cushman has been for some time in her hands, only waiting for a fit opportunity to be represented. This now may possibly be found (as befell Mr. Lovell's 'Wife's Secret') on the other side of the Atlantic.

We have received from a correspondent the following anecdote illustrating the recently raised question of "copyright in a notion."

"This is all a notion, bold Jack can't understand: Some die upon the ocean, and some upon the land.—*Dibdin*."

"Many years ago—aye, a great deal beyond the time when Tom Dibdin dramatized 'The Vicar of Wakefield' for the Surrey Theatre,—I passed an evening in company with Mr. Heath, the elder, who was at the time engaged in engraving the beautiful designs of Stothard, for Harrison's *Novelists' Magazine*, at the house of the said Mr. Harrison, in Paternoster Row, when that gentleman produced from his writing-desk, and read to Mr. Heath and myself, to our great delight, a considerable portion of a dramatized 'Vicar of Wakefield.' The MS. was not then finished, although in great forwardness. It was Harrison's own production, who had considerable talent at versification, was an enthusiastic admirer of Goldsmith, and had introduced certain songs of his own poetry, in addition to the author's 'When lovely Woman stoops to Folly,' which, to the best of my then judgment, was in pretty good keeping

with the rest. The whole contour of the novel was fashioned into a comic opera. Mr. Heath and myself thought it successfully accomplished; and it being intended for the stage, Mr. Heath, who was intimate with certain of the players, talked of Miss Phillips, in the casting of the characters. Whether Mr. Harrison's manuscript fell into Tom Dibdin's hands, or into whose hands it fell, might not now be easy to ascertain, for I am afraid the junior Harrison is dead as well as his father; but of the above memorabilia, resting on firmer ground than property in a notion, you may be assured, and I know that you regard truth as intrinsically valuable.—I remain, &c.

Southampton, March 8.

J. LANDSEER."

It is announced that the first French dramatic performance in the St. James's Theatre, after Easter, will be 'Bertrand et Raton,' with M. Samson in a principal character. Subsequently, 'La Camaraderie,' with a very strong cast, and M. Augier's 'Gabrielle,' will be given.—Mdlle. Charton and her *opéramates* are about to undertake a provincial tour:—but what are they to do for orchestra and chorus, without which, and of more than ordinary neatness, their pretty performances will be entirely spoilt?

# MISCELLANEA

*The Great National Cemetery.*—The report of the Board of Health describes the site of the intended national cemetery, without designating the spot. It is, according to that document, perfectly satisfactory with respect to the requisites of situation, surface, soil, extent, and accessibility. Situated on the river shore,—forming part of the domain of an ancient abbey,—occupying a gradual slope rising 80 feet above the level of the water at high tides,—of an irregular broken surface, consisting for the most part of undulations and slopes—ample in extent—standing on a bed of strong sand, from 70 to 80 feet in depth, which is superposed upon a chalk bottom of from 270 to 300 feet thick—perfectly free from rivulets, or land springs, or any other cause of offence in conjunction with sepulture—with the advantage of river side as well as railway conveyance—and distant from London-bridge by railway half an hour, by steamboat one hour and a quarter,—the question naturally arises, what part of the vicinity of the metropolis complies with these conditions? The chalk formation in contiguity with the metropolitan district is confined to Kent and Sussex. Sussex, however, does not touch the river in any part. In Sussex, therefore, this spot cannot be. Kent, consequently, is the county where it must be looked for. Then comes the second question—what part of Kent? From London to Gravesend takes two hours, on the average, by steamer; it cannot be Gravesend for that reason. What other point on the river, in connexion with a railroad, answers the distance,—viz., half an hour by that mode of locomotion, and an hour and a quarter by water, or steam conveyance? Clearly, none other than Erith; which is precisely identical in all further respects with the description,—and than which there can be no pleasanter resting-place for the living to lay the dead in the whole kingdom. Planted with the *Taxodia* and the *Pinus sempervirens*—with the *Cupressus*, the *Arbor vita*, and the *Cedrus*, interspersed with the richer varieties of the *Quercus*, the *Ilex* and the holly, and all those trees of that tribe which brave the rigours of an English winter with impunity,—and fringed on hill top and water's edge with the *Salix Babylonica* (the weeping willow) and its pendent branches,—a combination of the beautiful in connexion with death might be produced at a small comparative outlay which would not have its parallel in the whole world, and a cemetery constructed which would put to shame even the "City of the Silent" at Constantinople. Than Erith there can be no place better adapted for this purpose in the entire kingdom. Erith, then, it must be, or the Commissioners have but pictured a scene drawn from their imagination.—*Observer*.

*Entrance to St. James's Park.*—A very trifling change might be advantageously made in the entrance to St. James's Park,—that is, to cut off about 60 feet of the garden of St. James's Palace, which is elongated beyond the building, and to carry the roadway straight from Pall Mall into the park. St. James's Park cannot be said to have any very convenient or



ornamental entrance from the metropolis, the low contracted arches of the Horse Guards being both mean and obstructive. The way through the stable-yard and Cleveland-row is also the reverse of spacious or beautiful; while cutting away this small slice of the garden would afford to the Sovereign and the Court a broad, airy, and unobstructed communication between the most elegant street of the capital (Pall Mall) and the palatial abode of royalty. At present this tortuous way, occasioned by this small spot of inclosed garden, is scarcely frequented; grass grows between its uneven pavement; and a large dustbin, with its cavernous mouth fully expanded, betrays accumulated filth, cinders, cabbage-stalks, and broken garden pots. Such is the most open and spacious entrance to St. James's Park.—*The Builder.*

*Carthaginian Antiquities in Liverpool.*—Recently a sale of a portion of the late Sir Thomas Reade's collection of antiquities, excavated under his auspices from the ruins of ancient Carthage, took place at the sale-rooms of Messrs. Winstanley, the well-known auctioneers, in Liverpool. There was a very large attendance of local antiquaries, as well as Mr. Doubleday, of London, who purchased extensively for the British Museum. The lots purchased by this gentleman were several curious busts, small figures, lachrymatories, &c., two fine bas-reliefs, representing a Roman galley in full sail, and a most spirited and well-executed lion; two fine heads, viz., a Minerva, helmeted, and a Cupid; a winged head of Mercury, and a head in white marble, said to be that of Scipio Africanus, but which was with better reason supposed to be that of Titus, as it much resembled one of that Emperor in the museum at Naples. The same gentleman was also the purchaser of a part of a marble sarcophagus, and several stone tablets taken from sepulchres, &c.; they were rudely executed in the Byzantine style of art, and were evidently intended to represent the worship in the ancient temples. These tablets excited great interest, and were purchased by Mr. Doubleday, after a severe competition. The other articles of interest were, a costly table, 3 feet 10 inches in diameter, the work of a Neapolitan artist, composed of numerous slabs of antique marbles, curiously arranged from designs by Sir Thomas Reade. It was much admired, and after a spirited competition, was knocked down for 28 guineas. The auctioneer said that the workmanship alone cost Sir Thomas Reade 73l. There were several other articles of a similar description, viz., a jewel casket, two chess-tables, timepiece, stand, &c. A large valuable column of porphyry was bought in for 100l., but we believe that Mr. Paxton intends purchasing it for the Duke of Devonshire. Some of the lots brought extremely good prices, but much regret was expressed that the collection was not purchased entire, and presented to one of the educational institutions of the town.—*Globe.*

*A Sleighing Picture.*—The *Pathfinder*, a Boston paper, gives the following sketch of a favourite amusement amongst the good citizens of that city. "Whenever snow enough comes to give a reasonable excuse for getting out the sleighs, that moment is prolific with fun for the idlers of Boston. The streets are musical with the sounds of the bells, whose tinkle harmonizes sweetly even with the feelings of the dull, plodding pedestrian whose time, or means, or fancy may not lead him to join the sport. What can be more delightful than the fleet transit over the gleaming snow, with a swift steed, catching your own enthusiasm, bounding like a greyhound on the icy way; the fresh breeze fanning your cheek to conscious health, that speaks in every glowing vein; the landscape dancing by you, as if on a holiday excursion toward town, and tall houses, antic and joyous, all tending in the same direction; and forests dark and gloomy, and high rocks, and wide meadows, and frozen streams, all forming a panorama, that a sleigh-ride alone reveals!

TO CORRESPONDENTS.—S. B. F.—Tyro—A Student—R. A.—J. B. D.—Pictor—T. S. D.—J. B. S.—Edinburgensis—F. B. P.—received.

VERITAS.—The simple fact is—snow-water holds more air in solution than ordinary water.

*Erythræ.*—P. 235, col. 3, l. 40, for "Ward" read *Ware*.—P. 237, col. 1, l. 35, for "Avoggo" read *Arezzo*; l. 65, for "Forstern" read *Forster*.—P. 240, col. 3, l. 12, Speaking of the Council of the Literary Fund,—"it has no power to meet" should be, it has no power to act

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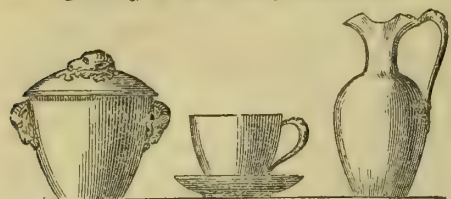
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March 16th, 1865.

TO THE SHAREHOLDERS OF THE PROFESSIONAL LIFE ASSURANCE COMPANY.  
 LADIES AND GENTLEMEN.—I beg respectfully to announce to you, that it is my intention to offer myself at the Annual General Meeting of the Company, to be held on the 27th of March instant, as a Candidate for the honour of a seat in the direction of your affairs. I trust I shall be favoured with your votes on the occasion, assuring you that my greatest desire will be, at all times, to promote the welfare of our valuable Institution by every means in my power.

I have the honour to remain, Ladies and Gentlemen, Yours, very faithfully,

ANDREW DURHAM, Of Bath, and late of Belvidere, Lisburn, County of Down, Ireland.

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£5,000	13 yrs. 10 mths.	£683 6 8	£787 10 0	£6,470 16 8
5,000	12 years	500 0 0	787 10 0	6,287 10 0
5,000	10 years	302 0 0	787 10 0	6,087 10 0
5,000	8 years	100 0 0	787 10 0	5,887 10 0
5,000	6 years	.. ..	675 0 0	5,675 0 0
5,000	4 years	.. ..	450 0 0	5,450 0 0
5,000	2 years	.. ..	225 0 0	5,225 0 0

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SPECIAL NOTICE.

The NEXT DIVISION will be made in the YEAR 1851, and in PARTICIPATING in that DIVISION. Policies effected BEFORE 30th APRIL NEXT will derive ONE YEAR'S ADDITIONAL PROFIT above Policies effected after that period.

A. P. FLETCHER, Secretary.

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The next bonus will be declared in July, 1851.

Age at entrance.	Duration of Policies.	Sums Assured.	Annual Premiums.	Addition to Sum Assured.
24	7 yrs. 1 mo.	£2,000	£47 1 8	£237 18 4
30	7 yrs. 1 mo.	3,000	133 10 10	372 8 10
36	7 yrs. 1 mo.	4,000	228 9 6	513 0 4
42	6 10	5,000	233 15 0	566 13 0
48	6 10	6,000	210 10 0	307 15 4
54	6 10	7,000	144 5 5	52 11 6
60	6 9	8,000	115 12 6	556 4 0

These additions, if compared with the premiums paid, will be found to range as high as 65 per cent. upon them.

All persons assured before the 30th of June next will be entitled to participate in the bonus to be declared in the following year.

J. W. HAMPTON, Secretary.

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# THE ATHENÆUM

Journal of English and Foreign Literature, Science, and the Fine Arts.

No. 1170.

LONDON, SATURDAY, MARCH 30, 1850.

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44, West Strand, March 30, 1850.

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an INJUNCTION to restrain John Collins, of Richmond-row,  
Liverpool, from manufacturing any sauce or composition purport-  
ing to be "Burgess's Essence of Anchovies," or so contrived or ex-  
pressed as to represent that the sauce or composition manufactured  
and sold, or exported, is the same as the essence of anchovies  
manufactured by John Burgess & Son. And on the 14th of March,  
1850, his Honour Vice-Chancellor Knight Bruce granted another  
injunction to restrain T. H. Hall, of 3, Hatchwell-terrace, Bethnal-  
green-road, London, from selling any sauce or composition described  
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LONDON, SATURDAY, MARCH 30, 1850.

## REVIEWS

*Foot-Prints of the Creator; or, The Asterolepis of Stromness.* By Hugh Miller. Johnstone & Hunter.

THE title of this work is not calculated to give a correct notion of its contents. It is neither a history of creation—as the first part might suggest,—nor a mere account of the fish whose stellate scales have procured for it the name stated in the second. It is, in fact, a vindication of the theory of creation by miracle, against the hypothesis of creation by law as proposed by the author of the ‘*Vestiges of the Natural History of Creation*.’ ‘*Foot-Prints of the Creator*’ is rather an unhappily chosen title; since it suggests the idea of a thing done and left,—which appears to be anything but the author’s view of the relation of the Creator to the Universe.

In attacking the views of the author of the ‘*Vestiges*,’ Mr. Miller falls into an error which it will be our duty in the first place to expose. Throughout the work he refers to Professor Oken as one of the great supporters of what he calls the developement hypothesis. The work of Oken’s which he quotes in support of this view is his ‘*Physiophilosophy*,’—the translation of which by the Ray Society we reviewed some time since [*Athen.* No. 1040]. Now, a faithful comparison of this work with the ‘*Vestiges*’ will show that two books can hardly be conceived more widely different. To be sure, they both treat of the same subject,—the great facts of universal nature,—but from points of view exactly opposite. Oken, a disciple of Schelling in his younger days, is an ultra-transcendentalist in philosophy:—the author of the ‘*Vestiges*,’ if not a Scotchman, has studied his philosophy under George Combe, and is an avowed materialist. Oken is one of the most profound observers and original thinkers of his time,—while the author of the ‘*Vestiges*’ is not original as either an observer or a thinker. The ‘*Physiophilosophy*’ of Oken is confessedly an attempt to apply a theory derived from a system of metaphysics to the phenomena of creation,—while the ‘*Vestiges*’ professes to give a theory derived from strict induction. The one writer speaks of his book as an “inspiration,”—the other affirms his to be an expression of a law of organic developement. Oken starts with the assumption of the eternal presence of God in creation:—“All that we perceive are words and thoughts of God.” The author of the ‘*Vestiges*’ denies the presence and cognizance of the Creator in creation.—Yet, Mr. Miller persists everywhere in confounding the two authors. Nay, more:—he takes passages out of Oken’s book,—and separating them from the context, thereby makes the Professor to advocate theories which he never intended.—

“There are two kinds of generation in the world,” says Professor Lorenz Oken, in his ‘*Elements of Physiophilosophy*,’—“the creation proper, and the propagation that is sequent thereupon,—or the *generatio originaria* and *secundaria*. Consequently, no organism has been created of larger size than an infusorial point. No organism is, nor ever has one been, created, which is not microscopic. Whatever is larger has not been created, but developed. Man has not been created, but developed.” Such in a few brief dogmatic sentences, is the developement theory.”

Now, any one would suppose from this passage that the developement theory of the author of the ‘*Vestiges*’ was the same as that of Oken; whereas nothing can be more different. The fact is, Oken in the above passage merely makes a statement with regard to the mode of the “miracle of creation,” as Mr. Miller calls

it; and by no means asserts that one species of animal is developed from another,—which is the theory of the author of the ‘*Vestiges*.’ If Mr. Miller had troubled himself to read Oken’s book before he charged him with heresy to his own opinions, he would have found the following passage:—“Out of an organic menstruum only can a new organism proceed, but not one organism out of the other. A finished or perfect organism cannot gradually transform itself into another.” Nay, had Mr. Miller possessed only the candour to add to his quotation above copied the passages which follow it, it would have been there seen that Oken attaches a very different idea to the word “developed” from that which has been assigned to it by Mr. Miller and by the author of the ‘*Vestiges*.’ “Man,” he says, “has not been created, but developed, so the Bible itself teaches us. God did not make man out of nothing, but took an elemental body then existing, an earth-clod or carbon; moulded it into form, thus making use of water, and breathed into it life, namely, air, whereby galvanism or the vital process arose.” However hypothetical—or something more objectionable—this may be, it is at any rate the very opposite of the view which Mr. Miller charges Oken with holding. In fact, it is in the main in accordance with Mr. Miller’s own theory on this subject.

We wish Mr. Miller were the only author who attacks Oken without even an attempt at understanding his views. The puerile rancour with which the ‘*Physiophilosophy*’ of this great man has been attacked in this country, is as unworthy the true dignity of science as it is indicative of the incapacity and bigotry of those who exhibit it. That work contains many profound reflections, which, if read in the spirit of loving the truth, will be found to be suggestive of great discoveries. We cannot now discuss the difference between hypothesis and theory—between what *may be* true and what is *not* true,—but these are important things to be regarded when discussing such works as that of Prof. Oken and the ‘*Vestiges*.’

We proceed, then, to the great argument of Mr. Miller’s book, in opposition to the theory of developement proposed by the author of the ‘*Vestiges*.’ That theory supposes that by laws originally imprinted on matter the whole creation has been produced or developed. That inorganic matter gradually, and of itself, assumed the form of cells; these cells became instinct with life, formed plants on the one hand and animals on the other: that the various species of plants and animals have not been created, but that they have been gradually brought forth, the higher by the lower. This theory is supported by an appeal to geology; and it is stated that the lowest rocks contain the lowest forms of animals and plants. Mr. Miller opposes this theory by denying, in the first place, that proofs of its truth exist in circumstances where they ought to abound,—and secondly, by affirming that it is a misrepresentation of geological facts to assert that they support as a whole, or in part, this hypothesis. Though not in the order of the work,—we now refer to the first argument. It is very true, as the author observes, that if in any place we should expect to meet with the characters of one species of plant running into another, it would be in those districts where the waters of the ocean mingle with those of a freshwater river or lake. In this case we have the greatest possible number of circumstances concurring to lead to those changes of form which could be regarded as affording evidence of the transmutation of one species into another.—

“But what does experience say regarding the transmutative conversion of a marine into a terrestrial vegetation,—that experience on which the sceptic founds so much? As I walked along the green edge of the Lake of Stennis, selvedged by the line of detached weeds with which a recent gale had strewn its shores, and marked that for the first few miles the accumulation consisted of marine algæ; here and there mixed with tufts of stunted reeds or rushes, and that as I receded from the sea it was the algæ that became stunted and dwarfish, and that the reeds, aquatic grasses, and rushes, grown greatly more bulky in the mass, were also more fully developed individually, till at length the marine vegetation altogether disappeared, and the vegetable debris of the shore became purely lacustrine,—I asked myself whether here, if anywhere, a transition flora between lake and sea ought not to be found? For many thousand years ere the tall grey obelisks of Stennis, whose forms I saw this morning reflected in the water, had been torn from the quarry, or laid down in mystic circle on their flat promontories, had this lake admitted the waters of the sea, and been salt in its lower reaches and fresh in its higher. And during this protracted period had its quiet well-sheltered bottom been exposed to no disturbing influences through which the delicate process of transmutation could have been marred or arrested. Here, then, if in any circumstances, ought we to have had, in the broad permanently brackish reaches, at least indications of a vegetation intermediate in its nature between the monocotyledons of the lake and the algæ of the sea; and yet not a vestige of such an intermediate vegetation could I find among the up-piled debris of the mixed floras, marine and lacustrine. The lake possesses no such intermediate vegetation. As the water freshens in its middle reaches, the algæ become dwarfish and ill-developed; one species after another ceases to appear, as the habitat becomes wholly unfavourable to it; until at length we find, instead of the brown, rootless, flowerless fucoids and confervæ of the ocean, the green, rooted, flower-bearing flags, rushes, and aquatic grasses of the fresh water. Many thousands of years have failed to originate a single intermediate plant. And such, tested by a singularly extensive experience, is the general evidence. There is scarce a chain-length of the shores of Britain and Ireland that has not been a hundred and a hundred times explored by the botanist,—keen to collect and prompt to register every rarity of the vegetable kingdom: but has he ever yet succeeded in transferring to his herbarium a single plant caught in the transition state? Nay, are there any of the laws under which the vegetable kingdom exists better known than those laws which fix certain species of the algæ to certain zones of coast, in which each, according to the overlying depth of water and the nature of the bottom, finds the only habitat in which it can exist? The rough stemmed tangle (*Laminaria digitata*) can exist no higher on the shore than the low line of ebb during stream tides; the smooth stemmed tangle (*Laminaria saccharina*) flourishes along an inner belt, partially uncovered during the ebbs of the larger neaps; the forked and cracker kelp-weeds (*Fucus serratus* and *Fucus nodosus*) thrive in a zone still less deeply covered by water, and which even the lower neaps expose. And at least one other species of kelp-weed, the *Fucus vesiculosus*, occurs in a zone higher still, though, as it creeps upwards on the rocky beach, it loses its characteristic bladders, and becomes short and narrow of frond. The thick brown tufts of *Fucus canaliculatus*, which in the lower and middle reaches of the Lake of Stennis I found heaped up in great abundance along the shores, also rises high on rocky beaches,—so high in some instances, that during neap-tides it remains uncovered by the water for days together. If, as is not uncommon, there be an escape of land-springs along the beach, there may be found, where the fresh water oozes out through the sand and gravel, an upper terminal zone of the confervæ, chiefly of a green colour, mixed with the ribbon-like green laver (*Ulva latissima*), the purplish-brown laver (*Porphyra laciniata*), and still more largely with the green silky Enteromorpha (*E. compressa*). And then, decidedly within the line of the storm beaches of winter,—not unfrequently in low sheltered bays, such as the Bay of



Udale or of Nigg, where the ripple of every higher flood washes,—we may find the vegetation of the land,—represented by the sentinels and picquets of its outposts,—coming down, as if to meet with the higher-growing plants of the sea. In salt marshes the two vegetations may be seen, if I may so express myself, dovetailed together at their edges,—at least one species of club-rush (*Scirpus maritimus*) and the common saltwort and glasswort (*Salsola kali* and *Salicornia procumbens*) encroaching so far upon the sea as to mingle with a thinly-scattered and sorely-diminished fucus,—that bladderless variety of the *Fucus vesiculosus* to which I have already referred, and which may be detected in such localities, shooting forth its minute brown fronds from the pebbles. On rocky coasts, where springs of fresh water come trickling down along the fissures of the precipices, the observer may see a variety of *Rhodomenia palmata*,—the fresh-water dulse of the Moray Frith,—creeping upwards from the lower limits of production, till just where the common gray balanus ceases to grow. And there, short and thick, and of a bleached yellow hue, it ceases also; but one of the commoner marine coniferæ,—the *Conferva arcta*, blent with a dwarfed *Enteromorpha*,—commencing a very little below where the dulse ends, and taking its place, clothes over the runnels with its covering of green for several feet higher; in some cases, where it is frequently washed by the upward dash of the waves, it rises above even the flood-line; and in some crevice of the rock beside it, often as low as its upper edge, we may detect stunted tufts of the sea-pink or of the scurvy-grass. But while there is thus a vegetation intermediate in place between the land and the sea, we find, as if it had been selected purposely to confound the transmutation theory, that it is in no degree intermediate in character. For, while it is chiefly marine weeds of the lower division of the coniferæ that creep upwards from the sea to meet the vegetation of the land, it is chiefly terrestrial plants of the higher division of the dicotyledons that creep downwards from the land to meet the vegetation of the sea. The salt-worts, the glass-worts, the arenaria, the thrift, and the scurvy grass, are all dicotyledonous plants. Nature draws a deeply-marked line of division where the requirements of the transmutative hypothesis would demand the nicely graduated softness of a shaded one; and, addressing the strongly marked floras on either hand, even more sternly than the waves themselves, demands that to a certain definite bourne should they come, and no farther."

The failure, on inquiry, of every supposed case of genuine transmutation must be regarded as fatal to a theory which, if true, would be one more easily confirmed than any other in the whole range of experience. Here the argument might rest so far as natural science is concerned; but Mr. Miller's object is not merely to upset the theory of creation by development, but to establish that of creation by miracle. We shall not follow him in this part of his work:—but will say that here, as throughout his whole book, he exhibits full knowledge of the position of his argument and great skill in advancing to his own conclusions.

The geological facts which Mr. Miller puts forward as opposed to the statement that, as we proceed from the older to the more recent rocks the entombed organisms become more complicated in their structure, are two:—First, the early occurrence of a fish of the genus *Asterolepis*, with a very high organization,—and secondly, the presence of a plant of dicotyledonous structure in the Old Red Sandstone. In the description of the fish, the author goes into great detail,—much more than is necessary for his argument. He shows that this creature—the remains of which exist in the Lower Old Red Sandstone of Scotland—is amongst the first fishes met with in the strata of the earth; yet, instead of being one of the lowest in structure and organization, it stands amongst the highest.—Although the author of the 'Vestiges' has quoted the disposition and relation of the various animals in geological formations as confirmatory of the development

hypothesis, it is very evident that that hypothesis might or might not be true quite independently of such evidence. There is no necessary connexion between a creation becoming gradually more complicated, and the theory of development. The transmutation of species might take place so rapidly that every geological period might present instances of every form. So that, however important this part of Mr. Miller's book may be as a scientific contribution, we do not regard it as at all deciding the question between himself and the author of the 'Vestiges.' His facts, however, are of great interest to geologists. The examination of the vegetable structures is thus introduced.—

"The geological history of the vegetable, like that of the animal kingdom, has been pressed into the service of the development hypothesis; and certainly their respective courses, both in actual arrangement and in their relation to human knowledge, seem wonderfully alike. It is not much more than twenty years since it was held that no exogenous plant existed during the Carboniferous period. The frequent occurrence of Coniferæ in the Secondary deposits had been conclusively determined from numerous specimens; but, founding on what seemed a large amount of negative evidence, it was concluded that, previous to the Liassic age, nature had failed to achieve a tree, and that the rich vegetation of the Coal Measures had been exclusively composed of magnificent immaturities of the vegetable kingdom,—of gigantic ferns and club-mosses, that attained to the size of forest-trees, and of thickets of the swamp-loving horsetail family of plants, that well nigh rivalled in height those forests of masts which darken the rivers of our great commercial cities. Such was the view promulgated by M. Adolphe Brongniart; and it may be well to remark that, so far as the evidence on which it was based was positive, the view was sound. It is a fact, that inferior orders of plants were developed in those ages in a style which in their present state of degradation they never exemplify: they took their place, not, as now, among the pigmies and abortions of creation, but among its tallest and goodliest productions. It is, however, not a fact that they were the highest vegetable forms of their time. True exogenous trees also existed in great numbers and of vast size. In various localities in the coal-fields of both England and Scotland,—such as Lennel Braes and Allan Bank in Berwickshire, High-Heworth, Fellon, Gateshead, and Wide-open, near Newcastle-upon-Tyne, and in quarries to the west of the city of Durham,—the most abundant fossils of the system are its true woods. In the quarry of Craigleith, near Edinburgh, three huge trunks have been laid open during the last twenty years within the space of about a hundred and fifty yards, and two equally massy trunks, within half that space, in the neighbouring quarry of Granton,—all low in the Coal Measures. They lie diagonally athwart the strata,—at an angle of about thirty,—with the nether and weightier portion of their boles below, like snags in the Mississippi; and we infer, from their general direction, that the stream to which they reclined must have flowed from nearly north-east to south-west. The current was probably that of a noble river, which reflected on its broad bosom the shadow of many a stately tree. With the exception of one of the Granton specimens, which still retains its strong-kneed roots, they are all mere portions of trees, rounded at both ends, as if by attrition or decay; and yet one of these portions measures about six feet in diameter by sixty-one feet in length; another four feet in diameter by seventy feet in length; and the others of various thickness but all bulky enough to equal the masts of large vessels, range in length from thirty-six to forty-seven feet. It seems strange to one who derives his supply of domestic fuel from the Dalkeith and Falkirk coal-fields, that the Carboniferous flora could ever have been described as devoid of trees. I can scarce take up a piece of coal from beside my study fire without detecting in it fragments of carbonized wood, which almost always exhibit the characteristic longitudinal fibres, and not unfrequently the medullary rays. Even the trap-rocks of the district inclose, in some instances, their masses of lignite,

which present in their transverse sections, when cut by the lapidary, the net-like reticulations of the coniferæ. The fossil botanist who devoted himself chiefly to the study of microscopic structure would have to decide, from the facts of the case, not that trees were absent during the Carboniferous period, but that, in consequence of their having been present in amazing numbers, their remains had entered more palpably and extensively into the composition of coal than those of any other vegetable. So far as is yet known, they all belonged to the two great divisions of the coniferous family, araucarians and pine. The huge trees of Craigleith and Granton were of the former tribe, and approximate more nearly to *Atlingia excelsa*, the Norfolk-Island pine,—a noble araucarian, that rears its proud head from a hundred and sixty to two hundred feet over the soil and exhibits a green and luxuriant breadth of foliage rare among the Coniferæ,—than any other living tree."

When, however, we have settled that there is no evidence of the forms of animals and plants gradually passing into each other with the progress of geological change—and the hypothesis of development is not much affected by this evidence at all—there is yet another question:—Taking the collective organisms that have existed and do exist in the world, have we any reason to conclude that on the whole the earlier organisms were lower in the animal and vegetable scale than those which occur subsequently? Let us hear what Mr. Miller says.—

"There is geologic evidence, as has been shown, that in the course of creation the higher orders succeeded the lower. We have no good reason to believe that the mollusc and crustacean preceded the fish, seeing that discovery, in its slow course, has already traced the vertebrata in the ichthyic form, down to deposits which only a few years ago were regarded as representative of the first beginnings of organized existence on our planet, and that it has at the same time failed to add a lower system to that in which their remains occur. But the fish seems most certainly to have preceded the reptile and the bird; the reptile and the bird to have preceded the mammiferous quadruped; and the mammiferous quadruped to have preceded man,—rational, accountable man, whom God created in his own image,—the much-loved Benjamin of the family,—last-born of all creatures. It is of itself an extraordinary fact, without reference to other considerations, that the order adopted by Cuvier, in his animal kingdom, as that in which the four great classes of vertebrate animals, when marshalled according to their rank and standing, naturally range, should be also that in which they occur in order of time. The brain which bears an average proportion to the spinal cord of not more than two to one, came first,—it is the brain of the fish; that which bears to the spinal cord an average proportion of two and a half to one succeeded it,—it is the brain of the reptile; then came the brain averaging as three to one,—it is that of the bird; next in succession came the brain that averages as four to one,—it is that of the mammal; and last of all there appeared a brain that averages as twenty-three to one,—reasoning, calculating man had come upon the scene. All the facts of geological science are hostile to the Lamarckian conclusion, that the lower brains were developed into the higher. As if with the express intention of preventing so gross a mis-reading of the record, we find, in at least two classes of animals,—fishes and reptiles—the higher races placed at the beginning: the slope of the inclined plane is laid, if one may so speak, in the reverse way, and, instead of rising towards the level of the succeeding class, inclines downwards, with at least the effect, if not the design, of making the break where they meet exceedingly well marked and conspicuous. And yet the record does seem to speak of development and progression;—not, however, in the province of organized existence, but in that of insensate matter, subject to the purely chemical laws. It is in the style and character of the dwelling-place that gradual improvement seems to have taken place,—not in the functions or the rank of any class of its inhabitants; and it is with special reference to this gradual improvement in our common mansion-house, the earth, in its bearing on



the 'conditions of existence,' that not a few of our reasonings regarding the introduction and extinction of species and genera must proceed."

We think, with the author, that there has been progressive advancement,—and that this is a law of the frequently recurring "miracle of creation," which the history of the earth's surface reveals to us. We know that there are geologists who in their violent opposition to what they conceive to be the strong ground of the developmental hypothesis, affect to state that they should not be surprised to find a human skeleton amongst the Silurian rocks. We leave them to their scepticism until the said skeleton shall be found; and in the mean time maintain, for ourselves, that there is abundant evidence in favour of the theory of a progressive creation.

Before closing the volume, we cannot but express our concurrence in Mr. Miller's views on the importance of natural history as a branch of general and professional education. He says:—

"But ere the churches can be prepared competently to deal with it, or with the other objections of a similar class which the infidelity of an age so largely engaged as the present in physical pursuits will be from time to time originating, they must greatly extend their educational walks into the field of physical science. The mighty change which has taken place during the present century in the direction in which the minds of the first order are operating, though indicated on the face of the country in characters which cannot be mistaken, seems to have too much escaped the notice of our theologians. Speculative theology and the metaphysics are cognate branches of the same science; and when, as in the last and the preceding ages, the higher philosophy of the world was metaphysical, the churches took ready cognizance of the fact, and, in due accordance with the requirements of the time, the battle of the evidences was fought on metaphysical ground. But, judging from the preparations made in their colleges and halls, they do not now seem sufficiently aware,—though the low thunder of every railway, and the snort of every steam-engine, and the whistle of the wind amid the wires of every electric telegraph, serve to publish the fact,—that it is in the departments of physics, not of metaphysics, that the greater minds of the age are engaged,—that the Lockes, Humes, Kants, Berkeleys, Dugald Stewarts and Thomas Browns belong to the past,—and that the philosophers of the present time, tall enough to be seen all the world over, are the Humboldts, the Aragos, the Agassizes, the Liebiges, the Owens, the Herschels, the Bucklands and the Brewsters. In that educational course through which, in this country, candidates for the ministry pass, in preparation for their office, I find every group of great minds which has in turn influenced and directed the mind of Europe for the last three centuries, represented, more or less adequately, save the last. It is an epitome of all kinds of learning, with the exception of the kind most imperatively required, because most in accordance with the genius of the time. The restorers of classic literature,—the Buchanans and Erasmus,—we see represented in our universities by the Greek and what are termed the humanity courses; the Galileos, Boyles and Newtons, by the mathematical and natural philosophy courses; and the Lockes, Kants, Humes and Berkeleys by the metaphysical course. But the Cuviers, the Huttons, the Cavendishes and the Watts, with their successors the practical philosophers of the present age,—men whose achievements in physical science we find marked on the surface of the country in characters which might be read from the moon,—are not adequately represented;—it would be perhaps more correct to say, that they are not represented at all; and the clergy as a class suffer themselves to linger far in the rear of an intelligent and accomplished laity,—a full age behind the requirements of the time. Let them not shut their eyes to the danger which is obviously coming. The battle of the evidences will have as certainly to be fought on the field of physical science, as it was contested in the last age on that of

the metaphysics. And on this new arena the combatants will have to employ new weapons, which it will be the privilege of the challenger to choose. The old, opposed to these, would prove but of little avail. In an age of muskets and artillery, the bows and arrows of an obsolete school of warfare would be found greatly less than sufficient in the field of battle, for purposes either of assault or defence."

It is true of theology, as of every other individual science, that its truths must be made to harmonize with the visible truths of all the rest, if they are to be successfully maintained in a day which will not accept several sets of facts that are at variance one with another.

*The Boston Book: being Specimens of Metropolitan Literature.* Boston, Ticknor & Co.

THE Americans, by their inexactness, are rather a provoking people to such of us as, like *Sir Trusty* in Addison's Opera, love to be

Methodical in what we say,—

and who in the task of criticism would fain not beat the same coverts twice. We took up this 'Boston Book,'—the fourth volume of its series—with some appetite, hoping that it might yield some specimens of fugitive prose or verse such as could be transcribed for the pleasure of our clients. Almost the first story at which we arrive is 'Drowne's Wooden Image,' by Nathaniel Hawthorne. Now, Mr. Hawthorne is a trusty and well-esteemed friend of ours,—the most original and philosophical living contriver of supernatural and fantastic stories known to us: but his 'Wooden Image' has not a strange face;—we have seen, perhaps spoken of it, elsewhere. Twenty pages later what should we find but the 'Minute Philosophies' of Mr. N. P. Willis! A pleasant companion in his poetico-coxcombical way is the 'Penciller'; but he is as fond of his articles as Meyerbeer is of his operas—and never seems tired of reproducing them. These 'Minute Philosophies' we have already met, if once, half-a-dozen times. The Preface, it is true, announces that this 'Boston Book' contains new contributions; but the Index treats us to no warning stars whereby we shall know them. So that we dare only extract a poem by Mr. Longfellow: by no means the best of his poems, since one or two of the verses are marred by a prosaic quaintness which is possibly meant for scriptural simplicity,—but which in reality is baldness of idea and inefficiency in craftsmanship.—

*Resignation.*

BY HENRY W. LONGFELLOW.

There is no flock, however watched and tended,  
But one dead lamb is there!  
There is no fireside, howsoever defended,  
But has one vacant chair!

The air is full of farewells to the dying,  
And mournings for the dead;  
The heart of Rachel for her children crying,  
Will not be comforted!

Let us be patient! these severe afflictions  
Not from the ground arise,  
But oftentimes celestial benedictions  
Assume this dark disguise.

We see but dimly through the mists and vapors;  
Amid these earthly damps,  
What seem to us but dim funereal tapers  
May be heaven's distant lamps.

There is no Death! what seems so is transition;  
This life of mortal breath  
Is but a suburb of the life Elysian,  
Whose portal we call Death.

She is not dead,—the child of our affection,—  
But gone unto that school,  
Where she no longer needs our poor protection,  
And Christ himself doth rule.

In that great cloister's stillness and seclusion,  
By guardian angels led,—  
Safe from temptation, safe from sin's pollution,  
She lives, whom we call dead.

Day after day we think what she is doing  
In those bright realms of air;  
Year after year her tender steps pursuing,  
Behold her grown more fair.

Thus we do walk with her, and keep unbroken  
The bond which nature gives,  
Thinking that our remembrance, though unspoken,  
May reach her where she lives.

Not as a child shall we again behold her;  
For when with rapture wild  
In our embraces we again enfold her,  
She will not be a child;

But a fair maiden in her father's mansion,  
Clothed with celestial grace;  
And beautiful, with all the soul's expansion,  
Shall we behold her face.

And though, at times, impetuous with emotion  
And anguish long suppressed,  
The swelling heart heaves moaning like the ocean,  
That cannot be at rest;

We will be patient, and assuage the feeling  
We cannot wholly stay;  
By silence sanctifying, not concealing,  
The grief that must have way.

We should add after the above "groan," that to those worse read in light American literature than ourselves this 'Boston Book,' in its gay scarlet livery, may prove a welcome guest "whose twice-told tales sound new."

*The Life of Field-Marshal His Royal Highness Edward Duke of Kent.* By the Rev. Erskine Neale. London, Bentley.

*Juliet's pertinent inquiry*

By whose direction foundst thou out this place?

is one which, with a very slight "difference," critics must be tempted to propound some hundred times in a twelvemonth to authors.—We cannot understand, for instance, what "call" Mr. Neale had to deal with the late Duke of Kent,—seeing, as his book gives us occasion to see, that materials he had next to none. He confesses, in his preface, that he has been allowed small use of private documents,—that where letters exist, and he has been permitted a brief and hasty perusal of the same, their "possessors, generally speaking, were unwilling that they should be transcribed," or "their tenour even be partially divulged." Warned off the subject by well judging friends,—and shut out, it would seem, from depositories of legitimate evidence,—Mr. Neale states that he was encouraged by all his "military correspondents" (number not stated)—by his disappointment that no abler writer had undertaken the task,—by his having "in early life seen a good deal of Dr. Maton,"—and by his having once been admitted to an audience of the Duke of Kent at Kensington Palace. Here is a goodly list of apologies, credentials and qualifications, it must be owned:—and the book fulfils the promise with the most meagrely-exact proportion. Mr. Neale, however, being one of the "gentlemen who write with taste," performs caprioles of fancy, and introduces figures of speech so bounteously as to give the barren pages of his work a sprightly and blossoming air. Rarely has tomb been more jauntily bestuck with artificial flowers than the monument which our biographer has raised of his own accord. He begins by an eulogy of Dr. Arnold; then begs pardon (after the fashion of *Bottom*) for the tedious moralizings to which he feels that his cloth—and, we may add, his deficiency of matter—may tempt him as he warms to his subject; thirdly, cites a somewhat apocryphal anecdote treasured up by the Rev. Henry White—which makes the Duke of Kent speak of his birth much as might a *Dorastes* in an old tragedy.—

"My arrival was somewhat *mal-à-propos*—the Duke was more than once heard to say to one who possessed much of his confidence, and who was a frequent guest at Kensington,—'the month was gloomy, November; the Court was enveloped in gloom, for it was a season of mourning; one of my uncles, a great favourite with my father, was then lying dead in his coffin; his funeral, in fact, took place some twenty-four hours after my birth. Sometimes the thought has crossed me, whether my inopportune appearance was not ominous of the life of gloom and struggle which awaited me.'"



This ill-boding hour was mid-day on the 2nd of November 1767. A stale anecdote told by Fisher, Bishop of Salisbury (Mrs. Fisher protesting), is all that we have in account or commemoration of the first eighteen years of Prince Edward's life! In the next chapter we have another theatrical report of what the Prince thought of his military education in Germany.—

"It is a change of scene,"—was his remark to a friend, with whom he was accustomed to dwell on the strange passages of his early life,—"but with it came no remedy of existing evils. The same niggardly allowance was dealt out; the same system of *espionage* was carried on; my letters were intercepted; several never reached the King; he was displeased at my apparently undutiful silence; false representations were made to him respecting my conduct; I was described to him as recklessly extravagant. I had the means of being so, undoubtedly, on a guinea and a half a-week! Much of the estrangement between my royal parent and myself—much of the sorrow of my after-life, may be ascribed to that most unwise and most uncalled for sojourn in the electorate."

And thus we go on: invited to accept evidence no less probable or picturesque than the above as warrant for the very scanty dole of biographical facts which make Mr. Neale's make-weight moralizings necessary.—A very few letters—two addressed by the Duke of Kent to Col. Tidy, shortly after the former's return from Gibraltar,—and others of a later date, of small interest, are the sole original documents produced; with the exception of a third epistle, rich and graphic enough 'tis true,—but not precious in the amount of light thereby thrown on Mr. Neale's hopeless task. In fine, the book might have been made up of newspaper and magazine cuttings, with a few far-between dredgings of "*we know*" and "*a friend said*," from any second-hand *Polonius*. Since it offers to the English reader, aristocratic or democratic, no contribution worth anything to the history of the Royal Family who preside over England, we should at once hand it over to Mr. Goldhumb for his trunks—but for the letter to which we have adverted. This is from the once gay, once sprightly, once independently-impertinent George Hardinge—and tells its own stupendous story.—

"Melbourne House, August 15, 1811.

"My dearest Richard,—That I may lose no drop from the cup of pleasure, which I enjoyed from seven in the evening of October the first to eleven, and from eight the next morning till eleven before noon, at Castle Hill; I shall record upon paper, as memory can present them, all the mazes of my enchantment, though the consummation is past. In the afternoon of October the first, and at half-past five, I followed my servant, in undress, and in boots, on foot, a short half-mile from Ealing vicarage to the lodges of the Duke's palace. Between these wings I was received in due form by a porter, in livery, full trimmed and powdered. He opened his iron gates for me, bowed as if I had been the king, and rang the alarm bell as if I had been a hostile invader. I looked as tall, as intrepid, and as affable as I could; but I am afraid that I was not born for state. The approach to the palace-door is magnificent, graceful, and picturesque; the line of the road, flanked by a row of lamps, the most brilliant I ever saw, is a gentle serpentine. It commands to the right, through young but thriving plantations, Harrow-on-the-Hill, and carries the eye in a sort of leap to that eminence over the intermediate ground, which is a valley better unseen, for it is very tame. The lodges are quite new, and in Mr. Wyatt's best manner. A second gate flew open to me; it separates the home garden from the lawn of entrance. The head-gardener made his appearance, in his best clothes, bowed, rang his bell to the house, and withdrew. When I arrived at the palace-door, my heart went pit-a-pat. The underwriters would not have insured my life at seven minutes' purchase, unless tempted by a most inordinate premium: an aspen leaf in a high wind stood better upon its legs than I stood upon mine; indeed, I am not sure it was not upon my head instead of my

legs. I invoked all the saints of impudence to befriend me! But think of little me! attended by six footmen! three of a side! and received at the head of this guard by the house steward; a venerable Frenchman of the old court, and of the last age, who had very much the appearance of a Cabinet Minister. He conducted me with more solemnity than I wished up stairs into my toilet-room; at the door of it stood the Duke's valet, who took charge of me into the room, bowed, and retired. In this apartment I found my own servant. The exterior of the house has an elegant and a chaste, as well as a princely air. You can see "*Wyatt fecit*" upon every part of the effect. But the interior struck me infinitely more, even in the bird's-eye view of it. I was all astonishment; but it was accompanied with dismay at the awful silence which reigned, as well as at the unexampled brilliancy of all the colours. There was not one speck to be seen; everything was exquisite of its kind, in the taste of its outline, proportions, and furniture. My dressing-room, in which there was an excellent fire, attached itself to the bed-room, and was laid open to it by a folding-door. These are the Regent's territories whenever he is at Castle Hill. My toilette was *à peindre*, and there was not anything omitted which could make a youthful Adonis out of an old hermit; but the mirror was honest, and youth is no birth of art. My servant, (who is in general cavalier, keeps me in order, and gives me only two or three jerks with his comb), half scared at the new and imperial honours of his little master, waited upon me with more deference and assiduity than I had ever before marked in him. He called me once or twice "*My Lord*," as upon the circuit; and I half expected he would say, Your Royal Highness. A gentle tap at the door alarmed us both. We opened upon a messenger, who told me in French that his Royal Highness was dressing, but would soon do himself the honour of taking me by the hand. Opening by accident one of the doors in the bed chamber, painted with *traille* in green and gold, I discovered in an adjoining closet a running stream and a fountain. I began to think I was in the fields Elysian. The bed was only to be ascended by a ladder of steps, and they were dressed in flowered velvet. There was a cold bath, and at night hot water for my feet, if they should happen to wish for it. Pen, ink and paper of all descriptions made love to me. Books of amusement were dispersed upon the tables like natural flowers. I was in my shirt when His Royal Highness knocked at my door. Not waiting for my answer, he opened the door himself, and gave me a shake of the hand with his Royal fist, so cordial, that one of my chalk-stone fingers, had I possessed them, would have begged him if he had not been the son of a king, to be rather less affectionate in that shape. I hurried on my coat and waistcoat in his presence, and then he walked before me into the library. All the passages and staircases were illuminated with lamps of different colours, just as if a masquerade was in train. I began to think more and more of "*Sly*" in Shakspeare, and said, like him, to myself, "*Am I indeed a Lord!*" This library, fitted up in the perfection of taste, is the first room of a magnificent range, commanding at least a hundred feet. All the contiguous apartments in that suite were lighted up and laid open to this apartment. By a contrivance in the management of the light, it seemed as if the distance had no end. The Duke, among other peculiarities of habit, bordering upon whim, always recommends the *very chair on which you are to sit*. I suppose it is a regal usage. He opened a most agreeable and friendly chat, which continued for half an hour *tête-à-tête*. So far it was like the manner of the King (when he was himself), that it embraced a variety of topics, and was unremitted. He improved at close quarters even upon his pen; and you know *what a pen it is*. The manly character of his good sense, and the eloquence of his expression, was striking. But even they were not so enchanting as that grace of manner which distinguishes him. Compared with it, in my honest opinion, Lord Chesterfield, whom I am old enough to have heard and seen, was a dancing master. I found the next morning, at our *tête-à-tête*, that he has infinite humour; and even that of making his countenance subserve the character he has to personate.

"In about an hour, dinner was announced. The

Duke led the way. I was placed at the head of the table; the Duke was on my right. The dinner was exquisite. The soup was of a kind that an epicure would have travelled barefoot three miles in a deep snow to have been in time for it. The famous Dumourier was accidentally mentioned. I said that I loved seeing those whom I admired unseen, upon report alone, and in the mind's view. "But I shall never see Dumourier," said I, "for he is the Lord knows where, (and I cannot run after him,) upon the Continent."—"Not he," said the Duke, "he is in this very island, and he often dines with us here." I looked but said nothing; my look was heard. A third party present asked the Duke if it could not be managed. "Nothing more practicable," said he; "if the Judge will but throw down his glove in the fair spirit of chivalry, Dumourier shall pick it up." The servants, though I could not reconcile myself to the number of them, were models of attention, of propriety, and of respect; their apparel gave the impression of clothes perfectly new; the hair was uncommonly well dressed and powdered. *Thereby hangs a tale!* which I cannot have a better opportunity of reporting. I had it from the best authority, that of my own servant, who had it from the *souterraine* of the establishment, which he had confidentially explored. *A hairdresser for all the livery servants* constitutes one of the efficient characters in this dramatic arrangement. At a certain hour every male servant appears before the Duke to show himself *perfectly well dressed and clean!* Besides this "*law of the Medes*," every man has a niche to fill, so that he is never unoccupied, save at his meals, in some duty or another, and is amenable to a sudden visit into the bargain. I can assure you the result is, that in this complicated machine of souls and bodies, the genius of attention, of cleanliness, and of smart appearance, is the order of the day. When the Duke took me the next morning to his master of the horse, instead of dirty coachmen or grooms, they were all as neat as if they never had anything to do, or as if they were going to church in state. The male servants meet in their hall at an unvaried hour, and round this apartment, as in a convent, are little recesses, or cells, with not only beds in them for each, but every accommodation as well as implement for their apparel. Yet all this absolute monarchy of system is consistent with a most obliging manner to the servants on his part, which I attested more than once; and with *attachment*, as well as homage to him, attested by the hermit's inquisitor and spy, who gave me this note of his comments—I mean, of course, my own servant. The next morning, I rose at seven. The lawn before me, surrounded by an amphitheatre of plantation, was covered by leaves; for they will fall, even in a garden of state. The head gardener made his appearance, and with him five or six men, who were under his wing. In much less than a quarter of an hour, every dead leaf disappeared; and the turf became a carpet, after mowing, and after a succession of rollers, iron and stone. After this episode, we are to go back, and are to be at the table again. A very little after dinner the summons came for coffee; and, as before, he led the way, conducting me to another of the upper apartments in the range before described, and which, as it happened, was close to the bed-chamber. They were open to each other. But such a room was that bed-chamber as no Loves and Graces ever thought of showing to a *hermit*. It was perfectly regal. In the morning, the Duke showed me all his variety of horses and carriages. He pointed out a curriole to me. "I bought that curriole," said he, "twenty years ago; have travelled in it all over the world; and there it is, firm on its axle. I never was spilt from it but once. It was in Canada, near the Falls of Niagara, over a concealed stump in a wood just cleared. He afterwards opened himself very much to me in detail, with disclosures in confidence, and political ones too, which interested, as well as enlightened me greatly, but which, as a man of honour, I cannot reveal even to you. He is no gamester. He is no huntsman. He never goes to Newmarket; but he loves riding upon the road, a full swing trot of *nine miles an hour*. I am going to part with him in my narrative; but not before I have commanded you to love him. In the morning he asked me how I was *mounted*; and before I could answer him, he whispered (in a kind of paren-



thesis) that he 'had for two months been putting a little circuit horse in train for my use of him in spring.'—'It was a pet,' said he, 'of the dear King, who gave it to me; and you will ride it with more pleasure for both our sakes.' These were not 'goodly words,' like those of Naphtali, or 'the hind let loose;' for my servant raised the intelligence that *such a keepsake was intended for me*. How charming is the delicacy of conduct like this! I had once complained, three or four months ago, that my own circuit Bucephalus had kissed the earth with his knees. He condescended with me, half in jest; but gave me no hint of such a fairy's boon in store for me. But now for the last of these wonders! I can give you not the faintest image of its effect upon me. It made me absolutely wild. The room in which our breakfast apparatus received us had at the end of it a very ornamental glass-door, with a mist over it, so that nothing was to be seen through it. He poured me out a dish of tea, and placed it before me; then rose from the table, and opened that glass door. Somebody (but whom I could not see) was on the other side, for he addressed words to the unseen; words in German. When he returned, and I had just lifted the cup to my lips, imagine my feelings, when a band of thirty wind-instruments played a march, with a delicacy of tone, as well as precision, for which I have no words equal to the charm of its effect. They were all behind this glass-door, and were like one instrument. The uplifted cup was replaced on the table. I was all ears and entranced; when on a sudden they performed the dirge upon our naval hero. It threw me into a burst of tears. With a heart for which I must ever love him, he took me by the hand and said, 'Those are tears which do none of us any harm!' He then made them play all imaginable varieties for a complete hour. He walked me round his place, and parted with me in these words, 'You see that we are not formidable; do come to us again! Come soon; and come very often!' May I not love him? I do not love this man?

GEO. HARDINGE."

We last year laughed heartily at an American traveller who swooned with delight at "the tea and fine language" of our nobility.—We with some disdain read the other day in the Assize reports how a provincial lady declared that the sight of the aristocracy in their evening dress at Almack's was a prospect so delicious, that to secure it she would brave the inclemencies of the "third-class train" for an eight hours' journey. But how can we wonder at a grave agricultural philosopher having his head turned—how can we be hard upon the vulgar sycophancy of an ignorant creature trained probably, "like round-eyed *Phillis*" to believe that

Lords  
Are oracles, and garments of brocade  
The stuff of angels' wings,—

when we encounter such a sickening production as the above from the pen of a man of the world, a scholar, and a gentleman?

*The True Democracy*.—[*De la Vraie Démocratie*]. By M. Barthélemy St.-Hilaire.

THIS is another of the short treatises published by the Academy of Sciences with a view to counteract the Socialist Propaganda. As usual with this series, it is calm in its tone, and affects the purely logical method in its treatment. But we cannot say that the success achieved is great; nor do we find that the series is read much by the classes of society to which it is more especially addressed. Although the price is purposely fixed at fourpence, it is only on the tables of the higher classes—where there is small danger of communistic doctrines finding acceptance—that we meet with the numbers. To strangers who, like ourselves, look on from a distance, the reasons of this are pretty obvious:—the topic and the treatment are equally wanting in excitement. It must be confessed that the Socialist literature of France is very striking. To half-informed and suffering men its charms are potent. No one will marvel that the idea of a grand social change is more seductive to such minds than order and the *status quo*; nor that

they will ponder the bold, bitter logic of Proudhon and the magnificent declamation of George Sand, rather than pore over the sober philosophy of the old Academical professors. The fact is, we repeat, the anti-socialist propaganda is dull and formal. It wants that vigorous pulse—that bounding and emphatic life—which works beneath its rival's "coat of proof." M. Saint-Hilaire takes a text from Montesquieu—"The principle of democratic government is Virtue;" and proceeds to preach on it in that quiet, sensible way that men of refinement, who love their ease, most relish. But there is no flash of fire—no word that breathes or thought that burns from beginning to end. The argument is soberly conducted—the reflections are often just—the citations from history and ancient writers are correct; but it does not warm, it does not interest the reader. This must be noted. If a treatise fails to command attention, it fails altogether. It is of little use to say—Republicans ought to be virtuous. Such phrases have no power over men's minds. One of the Place de Grève speeches of Lamartine or one of the glowing 'Lettres aux Peuple' of Madame Dudevant, effects more, for good or for ill, than a hundred volumes of such sober philosophy as this lay-sermon by M. Barthélemy St.-Hilaire.

*Memoir of David Scott, R.S.A., containing his Journal in Italy, Notes on Art, and other Papers; with Seven Illustrations.* By William B. Scott. Edinburgh, Black.

PERHAPS the most painful spectacle which humanity, when not prostrated by crime, disease or starvation, can present, is morbid Genius. So hard, indeed, to be endured, is the sight thereof, that bystanders have often been driven by it into reproach of one another, as if in such expiatory dealings—about of remorse they could escape from the discouraging fact, that some are born—and these neither fools nor knaves—to whom happiness, either in exertion or in resignation, seems to be impossible. Yet let us blame our neighbours as sharply as we will,—let us be ever so eager in admitting to the utmost the cruelties of society—its scorns, its neglects, its ill-bestowed homages, its mockeries of too late appreciation—we must still, from time to time, grapple with shapes of sorrow and despair whom no good fortune could have cheered into serenity or contentment;—who, in their possession of self-consciousness and ambition unaccompanied by commensurate power of utterance, bore about with them a barbed arrow, the sting of which would have been as surely felt beneath the King's ermine as beneath the Poor Scholar's threadbare cloak. There is no dealing with art and literature without encountering these sad appearances—without coming to the knowledge of a class of beings who must live solitary and die forlorn. On their heart-aches and failures we should scarcely dwell, had not the humane been too apt to build on them a faithless theory, that Genius is but a splendid sorrow, instead of its being the blessing of blessings, the crown of crowns, the joy with which no stranger can intermeddle, if it be only welcomed rightly and if its true presence and purpose be understood.

One of these mourners upon earth appears to have been the subject of the depressing yet interesting biography before us. With this every generous reader will deal with tenderness in proportion as, with us, he pleads for a more healthily truthful statement of the pleasures and graces of genius than it has been popular to receive. But while he will pity the sufferer, and forbear to rail against "the World, and Life, and Time,"—he will inquire, if for other poets to come some material for self-support and outward guidance may not be drawn from so sad a history. Without the offences of dogmatic

preaching or harsh construction, let us see what these memorials of David Scott will yield. A book more largely tempting the imaginative reader to deep thoughts and grave self-questionings will not ten times in his lifetime come before him.

David Scott, the fifth son of an engraver in fair repute in Edinburgh, was born in the year 1806. A year after his birth he was his parents' only child,—the eldest boys having all died at a few days' interval. Other family bereavements (so sweeping, indeed, as had they happened in dark days to have justified belief in some cruel destiny,) overshadowed his father's house. "A depression and melancholy," we are told, settled down upon his parents, "darkening into religious gloom at times, and scarcely ever clearing off." A second family was born to Robert Scott—but "a smile was a rare thing within the threshold, and silence was enjoined as an act of wisdom." "The appearance of other children, although it replenished the household," continues the memorialist, "never supplied the places of the old; and the mother would constantly, in calling us to her, address us by the names of those gone long ago. We were in her presence, but they were in her heart."—A dreary world this for an artist endowed with a sombre and pensive temperament to be bred in! The Scotts must have treasured almost as a part of their devotion the old grim creed which held gladness to be a folly. They can never have dreamed that among the responsibilities of those to whom is intrusted the stewardship of Genius, comes the duty of providing for its happiness together with its health. Truth to say, however, David Scott was not one of those pliant plants which gracefully allow themselves to be turned towards the sunshine. There seems to have been even in his childhood something judicially severe and darkly gloomy about him.—

"Being committed to the care of a gardener for transportation to a country lodging, he feared he would never be brought back, and on the gardener assuring him he would himself take him back again, the child warned the man on the Ten Commandments, that if he did not perform his promise he would be guilty of a lie. The gardener wished forthwith to return him out of hand."

As early as the age of sixteen he was meditating a design of the "Murder of Rizzio"—sketching "a kind of goblin combat"—terrifying the younger children by making a great ghost of a bolster, a sheet, a mask—meting out his more cheerful relaxations to his little companions with something of the spirit of *Master Trapbois*. David's own domain was—

"an upper bed-room that had a window forming a recess in the fall of the roof. At this time the first or among the first Annual Exhibitions was held in Edinburgh, and David was taken to see it. On his return, he enclosed this recess by a curtain, and covering the side walls with prints,—of which there was in truth no lack lying about without paying to see them,—illustrations to books of travels, histories of the war, and such like,—his younger brother Robert and others were admitted on paying a penny."

Yet the household at St. Leonard's, where David's genius and character developed themselves, might have yielded other training had its heads clung less sternly to the selfishness of their own sorrow. Robert Scott, the engraver, had pupils, whose tasks and studies enable the biographer to lighten his "iron gray" picture by more than one trait or anecdote. The following, for instance, should be incorporated in any future edition of Campbell's Life.—

"Some of these pupils—the earlier among them—had employed their inexperienced hands on a series of animals, popular Natural History having just then received an impetus by the appearance of Bewick's first volumes, which made a great impression by the fidelity of delineation, as well as by the truth and humour of the tail-pieces. This series of plates was



to be published, and Mr. Scott applied to his friend Thomas Campbell, then a student in Edinburgh, who had wished him to join in the publication of the 'Pleasures of Hope' in its early form—that young production that haunted its author till the day of his death. Campbell undertook to write descriptions of birds, beasts, and fishes; but the manuscript was slow in making its appearance. After repeated applications, the engraver became tired of waiting, and going up to Campbell's lodgings one evening, without finding him at home, collected the books he had sent for the task, in order to place them in other hands. One of these, 'Bewick's Birds,' was found in a sadly dilapidated state—several leaves torn half away from the end. The landlady was called in and questioned, her children being suspected; but these she quickly exonerated, by exclaiming, 'Oh, that's the book Mr. Camel lights his candle with when he comes home at night!'

As we proceed, we read of David imposing "instant and grievous penalties" on all who touched his "light and box of water colours,"—how he locked up the library with his own key,—sketched from *Paradise Lost*, *Macbeth*, *Scottish and Greek history*,—and was troubled in the mazes of theology and metaphysics,—all the time giving token of a spirit "daring and sad." For some two years he worked at engraving, but presently left it—

"as a thing not to be borne. There has been found, amidst the chaos of his artistic *débris*, a curious sketch inscribed 'Character of David Scott, 1826,' seated at the engraving table, but with clenched hands and the expression of despair."

There is character, again, in the following trait, which relates to the same period.—

"The picture of 'Lot and his Daughters fleeing from the Cities of the Plain' is begun on the scale of life, and here is what he then called a prayer:— 'Thou Power, by whose aid man raises the imperishable name, wrap around me thy tongued flames, and of the present make immortal days. May I live not without a consecrated purpose in my life; may I reach and grasp all means for this ultimate consummation. Grant that I may hold on with undeviating step. Strengthen the will—endow with the power—break the arm that would retard.'"

We think it not hard to trace the mixture of pride, aspiration, and violence which the above haughty "breathing" displays throughout every line from the artist's hand with which we are acquainted. At a first glance, some of David Scott's designs will recall the fancies and compositions of Blake. But with all Blake's Titanic grandeur—with all his fancy which soared upwards, sometimes, as it were, on the wings of Madness—there was intertwined an element of grace, love, and tenderness. He was rarely, if ever, horrible without relief or savage without mitigation. In the subject of our biography, on the other hand, the perception of Beauty seems to have been faint almost to nullity. This is evidenced in his Italian journals; where he seems to flounder amid doubts and qualifications when considering Raphael and Michael Angelo, while he gives a hearty and sympathetic praise to Caravaggio,—and appears to have been "cured of his pragmatic will," in some measure, only towards the close of his residence in Italy.

Picturesquely as Mr. William Scott has executed his task in the florid style which is now-a-days so copiously used and abused, there are links and chasms in his narrative such as leave many things unexplained. We are not told how David Scott received the appointment of Chairman to the Edinburgh Life Academy, which he held in 1827. Yet the fact is noted; and from the note we must skip back to the year 1822, when the young artist first visited London. Here he found "taste in Art surely very low"—monkey-pictures in the ascendant—Martin's 'Nineveh' "very splendid,"—and Turner very churlish; since Mr. Ruskin's *Magnus Apollo* "bounced in" upon David Scott

while the latter was "making a memorandum on the back of a card" in his gallery, and requested him to desist from sketching on such holy ground. From this time forward the biography is principally carried on in extracts from Scott's own diaries. In 1829 we find the painter, who had hitherto excited rather than fulfilled expectation, finishing 'Adam and Eve' and the 'Death of Sappho,'—in 1830, "looking for mottoes to" his 'Monograms of Man,' (a collection, apparently, of mystical and philosophical aphorisms or fragments, of which the world has lost sight,)—in 1831, advised by Lauder to "paint the sketch of 'Streaking the Corse,' but don't make it so horrible; you may do harm to the ladies." About the same time Scott records that he sold 'The Cloud' to Francis Grant—the first of my "pictures that has been sold." In 1832, among memoranda of other ambitious tasks accomplished, are a note of the completion of designs for the 'Ancient Mariner,' and a letter from Coleridge to whom he had written for guidance and aid in bringing these illustrations before the public. This epistle is characteristic and interesting, but too long for quotation. Shortly afterwards comes a gloomy paragraph.—

"February, March, April.—Doing little but thinking of going abroad. Mr. A— has brought back my designs for the Ancient Mariner. 'Lot' has been rejected at the British Institution; it was too large. Reject a work of art for its size! you might as well reject a man for being tall. My pictures in our Exhibition are all coming back to me. The Monograms altogether a loss as a publication. Several reviews cut off. Difficulties in study; for nothing but the best is worth a thought. Doubts of every kind. Sister Helen, where art thou now in the shade of the Unseen?"

Up to this point—and, we may here remark, up to the close of this melancholy book—we find evidences of a will to struggle, noble and self-sustaining enough, but, in part, also, self-destroying, because mixed up with an arrogant consciousness utterly disdainful of the conditions of humanity. There seems to have been no good angel at David Scott's ear to whisper to him in the midst of all his vague and colossal aspirations to do some great thing in Art,—that greatness can prove itself such by concession more surely than by defiance. Out of no more genial task than the patching of plays to suit playhouse audiences did Shakespeare secure for himself an eternal reputation. The agonizers, who must needs have worlds, publics, patrons, called up expressly to welcome them,—and who, failing such miracle, break their hearts in despair,—are, after all, but like a pigmy who has crept into a Giant's armour, and who, finding that he can move the limbs of the figure with some semblance of living will and action, fancies himself a giant also.

In 1832 David Scott left Edinburgh to undertake "the grand tour." Travelling seems by fits and starts to have charmed his mind open; but the propensity of that mind to close on itself was not sufficiently resisted. In his Notes upon Art we find a strange confusion of good and bad ideas,—of theoretical and practical discords. How, for instance, could a painter who could write the following discriminative and genial paragraph remain constant to such impracticable order of subject and scale of execution as Scott affected?—

"None but Venetians could have been the authors of their style of art. Their shining country, their strong coloured dresses, the sea about them, with their ornamental buildings topped with statues, and their general taste for gilding and show, are all constituents and parts of a style of life which has in one direction grown out into their style of painting. This holds more or less strongly in regard to the efforts of every country, however subtle or difficult the analysis of it may be."

We cannot but ask—did the critic who penned

the above ever acquaint himself with the inspirations and requisitions of his own time and country? Wilkie did: and hence (let the transcendentalists flout us as they will) there was more of poetry in his 'Reading the Will' than we, at least, can find in a myriad of such designs as the 'Household Gods Destroyed' or 'Vasco de Gama.'—At Parma, Scott appears to have overlooked the grandeur of Correggio, and centered his attention on Allegri's suavity. At Bologna, he found some of the faces in Raphael's 'St. Cecilia' "decidedly disagreeable." Here is an odd entry made at Florence:—*San Nunziato* being transcribed by mistake for *San Miniato*, the church obviously meant.—

"It is without the gates of Florence, on one of the neighbouring heights; a romantic old church, where the rich gorgeousness of the gifts, and the rudeness of a country church, are blended by time. The marble screen is of surprising workmanship; the pulpit is rich, and also of marble. We went into the subterranean church, some of the pillars of which are ancient Roman. The crypt is extensive, many-pillared, and decorated. The ladies seated themselves behind the altar, and began to sing. They sang Scottish songs—we stood in the shade among the pillars and listened. The music wound among the arches, sweeping and circling, till it died in lengthened tone in the recesses of the vault. The gleam of a dull oil-lamp flickered on the altar and its cross. The gloom and the antiquity of the place—the delightful voices—all was soothing. But shortly, as if the spirit of the vault had been disturbed, there was a loud rattle above; it scared the ladies, they ceased singing, and retreated from their seat."

The pleasure found by an artist—who was a poet to boot—in Scottish songs sung in such a locality, jars on us with the effect of a disproportion. It is instanced merely to mark character. With all the poet's power, harmony and propriety were wanting to him. To us these Italian journals are full of similar indications: *vide* the notes in Rome on Raphael's 'Bible,' Domenichino's 'St. Jerome,' Guido's 'Aurora,' and other masterpieces at first sight dispraised or commended grudgingly, in a manner to strike the analyst as more sincere and individual than engaging.—More to our liking are the following entries.—

"Jan. 21.—Meet Gibson, Macdonald, and Severn, and go in a body to visit Overbeck. He appears in a black velvet cap and morning gown, tied round the waist by a worsted scarf. He is tall, thin, and intellectual; he has the tenuity of feature and meagreness often expressive of exclusiveness. His works are imitations of the earlier masters, without their power of execution. There is no invention, but neither is there the flattened meaningless expansion of the modern mind in his works. He can paint Madonnas as tenderly as Peter Perugino, and think as jejune; he has always a natural truth; he is very religious—thinks of art only in connection with religious sentiment, and the old church: thus lives in one corner of art. Out into the open air again we pass along to the studio of Bruloff, a Russian, who has nearly finished a large work, 'The Last Day of Pompeii.' He has made a grand work, with good painting on the surface, good drawing and design, and great unity of invention; upon the whole, one of the best of that class of pictures I have seen. But there is wanting something to stir the mind strongly, and awake thought. All is expressed and lain open. A whole street is spread before you, written from beginning to end, and you tire of what is so fully and often told. The costume is very exactly attended to. This historical accuracy the French have the merit of introducing; it has since spread over all the Continent, but is resisted by some of the Germans. \* \* April 3.—Painting; drawing at the Incurabili. Change dress, and go to the Sistine Chapel to hear the famous *Miserere*. The music to-day is the grandest I have heard—the only music I have ever heard—the Laocoon of music. Next day restless; cannot paint like the music of the Sistine. \* \* 16th.—Wait within for Thorwaldsen.



Here he is, quiet, yet affable and open. He is a little short-sighted, as I observed on his examining Sappho and Anacreon. Familiar with the visiting of works of art, he said little, but *'bene molto grazioso,' 'piaciuto,'* and some similar expressions. I wished him to show me defects, and he pointed various matters out; then went on to criticise the effect of the light on the tripod, which, he had no doubt, would, even in daylight, be seen on objects about. He next looked at the Cartoon; silently, and after a little, began to remark on various parts of the drawing. Before he went away, I thanked him for the *onore* he had done me, and he returned me thanks for saying so, bowed and bowed, and so the visit ended. He is a kind old man, and great artist. Yet such formal visits, even from such as he, put me in a turmoil; I do not like them. The next time I am visited, the visit must be spontaneous and unlooked for. \* \* 1834, Jan. 4.—Richardson and a Londoner to see my 'Discord.' This morning, thinking of the manners of men, struck with the idea that very many pass through life without knowing themselves or casting thought inwards. All naturalists must be of this character. In society these men know much. Heavyside calls; then J. Macdonald; then Stirling; then a large party, with Charles Wilson as cicerone. Afterwards go to the Vatican, where Caravaggio upbraids me. What is my picture in tone to his ..... Why has it been said Raphael is not a colourist? He and Buonarroti are the two best colourists, in the true meaning of colour as a part of painting. Titian may be added as the most engaging; but beside Raphael in the Vatican he is obscure. In the morning Baillie calls. 'You have managed a most difficult subject.' Then Macdonald and Count Gryse—'You have made a grand thing at last.' Next day in my studio all day brooding, gloomy as the abyss of ..... Jamieson calls on the following day: his applause is sensible—he is the first to notice the intention expressed in the picture. I go with him to Camuccini's collection of old pictures. \* \* This is the 19th it appears. In my studio, wait for visitors with little advantage. In verity I am alone. My mind is shutting itself up more and more. Nor do I see aught for the future but neglect and poverty—a constant struggle to reach something that circumstances seem determined to deny. I have painted a large picture, and have succeeded—I stand among the greater artists here. Say nothing of a great effort—even a successful one—and it falls back upon the author. It must be noticed or neglected. But time is needed, and a repetition of works is necessary. Am I forgetting of what I complain? My landlady enters my room; talks of my quietness; I am never singing nor making noise—'*mai canta perche e malinconico.*'"

We can make room for few further passages. Those above quoted will indicate a mind restless and gloomy, perhaps, rather than unamiable—but in which all the poet's sensibilities could not melt down the strong original sin of a nonconformity that held vigour and honour to be identical with opposition and suffering. Scott's sojourn in Italy was in part spoiled by ill health—in part by narrow circumstances (though the general allusions made to these prevent our ascertaining how far they bore with real tangible hardship on his career)—in part by petty discomforts. He was vexed by the coarse habits and prosaic nature of his models. He was perpetually changing his studio. He seems not to have fallen equally or readily into artistic society. Yet, we find gain and traces of gain in the record of Scott's travel which will be read by the artist with profit, and by the student of character with a certain regret that they leavened the pilgrim's nature no deeper.—There was no making happiness for such a spirit.—This seems to have been comprehended and respected, on Scott's return home, by his family and friends. He painted pictures of a scope and with a power which no one could condemn, but which could neither attract the many nor satisfy the few. Some of these, owing to private exertions, have found their way into the public buildings and institutions of Scotland.

On the death of his father in 1841 having succeeded to a small patrimony, Scott began to build a studio at Easter Dalry.—

"This was the more necessary, as he had determined to paint a historic picture larger in dimensions than any yet accomplished by him, and fulfilling in power of design and execution the advanced ideas of the artist. This picture was destined to be the last great demonstration of the man—the great work of the last ten years of his artistic life, as that of 'The Agony of Discord' was of the first. This studio, the sphere of his future labours, was built with ample room and verge enough. Had it been in Paris, or in Rome, or in Munich, or even in London, it would have been only one of many maintained by their possessors with éclat and ease; but in Edinburgh, which is nearly double the size of the little city of Munich, it was a hazardous experiment this width of canvass and height of wall."

Thus went on the artist's life,—a career of visionary and gloomy labour for some eight years more; until he sank to rest, aged forty-two,—the sword having (and who may wonder?) utterly worn out the scabbard. Some of the last notices of the melancholy Painter's life are very touching.—

"Easter Dalry, 27th February, 1849.

"Dear —, I write to you from my brother's bed-room, after taking a cup of tea, which he is now too weak to share. He has been in bed for some days, and has been ill indeed. I find him very weak—much altered: his face emaciated and ridged, still noble, but dreadful for me to look upon: his eye larger than ever: his voice often scarcely audible, and only at times reminding me of what it was. I fear that I lost my self-possession on first seeing him, bending over him with his hands round my neck; but, after all that has passed, how could it be otherwise? I must not, however, alarm you more than need be: he is not worse than we had been led to believe him. In the studio, where there have been no fires for months, all the pictures seemed to stand up like enemies to receive me. This joy in labour, and this desire for fame, what have they done for him? The walls of this gaunt, sounding place, the frames, even some of the canvasses, are furred with damp. In the little library where he painted last, in much bodily suffering, was the word 'NEPENTHE' thus interrogatingly written with white chalk on the wall. \* \*

"Two o'clock, morning.

"David awoke. I asked him if he would like to hear a criticism in yesterday's paper on De Gama and the Spirit of the Storm. It was compared in grandeur to the works of Michael Angelo and Æschylus, the Prometheus Bound. 'Ah, Æschylus!' he said, and continued at intervals in a low voice—'That is praise indeed. But they are doing these things because I am suffering. I've been told Haydon mentioned my subject as a good one for a picture; he did so perhaps after he visited me. Well, what I have done and said have always been alike; what I have effected has been with much pains, and much suffering, long fighting, never at once, many times my whole nature struggling. And that picture is one result—to get the same character throughout, and adequate execution—no feebleness. The knee of the sailor might be carved in ivory—it is not mere paint—and the shoulder of the next figure too. Flesh is palpitating, and I try to give that; but I speak of the manner of painting. . . . . If I could but have time yet, I think I could meet the public in their own way more, and yet do what I think good. But it is over, and here I lie.

Life is ripe, disense is dark  
Upon the blossom and the fruit;  
Ripe is life, the certain mark  
That blight will soon invade its root.

Here he repeated some verses, so far as he remembered them. I asked what they were: 'Some verses I made a few days ago. Somewhere you will find them when I am gone.' I endeavoured to excite hope, and to encourage him in the belief that yet he would be well again."

The above is, of necessity, merely a sketch: for the fillings-up of which every one interested in the life and career of genius will do well to consult this book. Such readers, we think, will find our estimate of David Scott's

character neither uncharitable nor wanting justification. Nor do we apprehend that the more technical world of artists will question our opinions with regard to Scott's claims entitling him to a place among the worthies of Scottish Painting, as a man of colossal ambition, commanding limited powers of expression, and possessing incomplete technical skill.—Some of the fugitive verses extracted from the artist's papers are interesting: and, like certain of his designs, remind us, with a far-off resemblance, of Blake's fancies in rhyme. Nor (unless memory betrays us) are they in tone wholly unlike productions of the same family thrown off by Washington Allston. The 'Verses of the Painters' would make a curious chapter in a history of Poetry:—and one which, so far as we are aware, has yet to be written.

#### OUR LIBRARY TABLE.

*Popular History of British Sea-Weeds.* By the Rev. D. Landsborough.—This is one of a number of very laudable attempts at rendering the study of natural history popular. Whenever we see one of these works, we cannot help wishing that our first naturalists had been unacquainted with the dead languages. What a mountain of difficulties do these long words, derived from the tongues we never speak, raise up against the study of natural history! We know that there are naturalists who glory in these very difficulties,—who think they are the barriers which must for ever keep the profane vulgar from entering their sanctuary. We, on the other hand, wish that some man of vigour and energy would rise up and give to all the long Greek names with which even this little book abounds good vernacular appellations,—because we believe that he would thereby do much to make botany, in all its departments, more popular. If no other name can be given to a piece of sea-weed which a child may pick up on the sea-shore than *Callithamnion triplinatum*, *Bonnemaisonia asparagoides*, or *Pycnophycus tuberculatus*, then we very much fear, that inasmuch as one important point in all sciences is to have names for the objects which they contemplate, this point will not be very generally accomplished for botany. It is fortunate that our rude ancestors did give Saxon names to many things which they saw around them; and these as far as they go offer a convenient basis for obtaining much useful and interesting information about natural objects. Everybody knows what sea-weeds are,—and here is a book containing drawings and descriptions of the most common forms which cannot fail to interest those who have any taste for the study of natural history. In spite even of their hard names, we think the uninstructed with this beautiful book of Dr. Landsborough's in their hands would take a double interest in the sea-shore.—The volume forms one of a series published by Messrs. Reeve, which are all exceedingly well adapted for winning the sympathies and directing the observation towards natural objects.

*The Irish Annual Miscellany.* By the Rev. Patrick Murray, D.D. Vol. I.—A work full of ecclesiastical rancour; consisting of essays on Church and State,—with reviews of Millingen's 'Recollections of Republican France,' and Macaulay's 'History of England.' The writing is in general strong and the style copious; but the argument is to the words in about the same proportion as Falstaff's bread to his sack. It is intended that the work should be produced to the extent of five or six volumes.

*Friendly and Feejee Islands: a Missionary Visit to various Stations in the South Seas in the year 1847.* By the Rev. Walter Lawry.—Besides the usual topics connected with missionary enterprise, this little work contains some notes on the political institutions, the population, the manners, mode of life, and mythology of the people in the islands visited; and though these notes are not so exact in their details nor so orderly in their arrangement as could have been wished, they may still interest the ethnological reader.

*The Morals of War; or, Ultra-peace Principles proved to be Unchristian and Unphilosophical.* By a Civilian.—We think our Civilian a little at sea in his ideas of the morals of war, or we should hardly find him lauding the military profession on one page, and



in the next asserting that the acts of that profession are "the chief burden of the guilt and sorrows of our race." But unlike Mr. Stephens, this writer is confused rather than perverse. His pamphlet has no claims on attention.

*Ready Guide to French Composition.* By M. Le Page.—This is simply an ordinary French accidence and conversational guide. The author professes to teach by models and examples rather than by theoretical rules;—in other words, by the exhibition of isolated facts rather than by general principles illustrated by particular instances and capable of universal application. The better plan would have been to combine the synthetical with the analytical method. We have no faith in these *ready guides* to so difficult an art as that of French composition in the true sense of the phrase.

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## EXHIBITION OF INDUSTRY.

IN connexion with this great gathering of the peoples and staples of the world, we must not omit to record in our columns a festival of a very novel and striking character which took place at the Mansion House on Thursday in last week. On that day the Lord Mayor entertained the Prince Consort at dinner, in honour of the projected event,—and assembled to meet him, as the guests most appropriate to the occasion, the mayors of nearly every corporate town and borough in England, Scotland and Ireland. The communities interested in the coming Exhibition of the universal products of native industry were here represented each by its chief magistrate; and such a concentration of civic dignitaries was probably never before seen. Indeed, another of the features of the time, the facilities of modern intercommunication, had its expression in this assemblage of widely scattered guests at a common banquet.—But these were not the only striking and significant utterances of the thing intended, at this remarkable banquet. If the gathering of the municipal chiefs of the land gave an air of earnestness and reality and feasibility to the magnificent and complicated work in hand,—the language of the Prince who projected it deepened the earnestness and confirmed the reality, while it enlarged the characters of the scheme. In the speech of Prince Albert the philosophies of the design and its practical possibilities were made clear by the help of one another.—The Prince's words are probably by this time familiar to most of our readers; but as no speech that we have heard or article that we have read conveys with such clearness and completeness and mastery the moral of the great movement as this short discourse, we feel called on to place it among such records of the whole matter as fall properly in our way.—On his health

being proposed by the Lord Mayor, His Royal Highness rose and spoke as follows:—

"My Lord Mayor,—I am sincerely grateful for the kindness with which you have proposed my health,—and to you, gentlemen, for the cordiality with which you have received this proposal. It must, indeed, be most gratifying to me to find that a suggestion which I had thrown out, as appearing to me of importance at this time, should have met with such universal concurrence and approbation; for this has proved to me that the view I took of the peculiar character and requirements of our age was in accordance with the feelings and opinions of the country. Gentlemen, I conceive it to be the duty of every educated person closely to watch and study the time in which he lives, and as far as in him lies to add his humble mite of individual exertion to further the accomplishment of what he believes Providence to have ordained. Nobody who has paid any attention to the particular features of our present era will doubt for a moment that we are living at a period of most wonderful transition, which tends rapidly to accomplish that great end to which, indeed, all history points, the realization of the unity of mankind: not a unity which breaks down the limits and levels the peculiar characteristics of the different nations of the earth,—but rather a unity the result and product of those very national varieties and antagonistic qualities. The distances which separated the different nations and parts of the globe are gradually vanishing before the achievements of modern invention, and we can traverse them with incredible ease; the languages of all nations are known, and their acquisitions placed within the reach of everybody; thought is communicated with the rapidity, and even by the power, of lightning. On the other hand, the great principle of division of labour, which may be called the moving power of civilization, is being extended to all branches of Science, Industry, and Art. Whilst formerly the greatest mental energies strove at universal knowledge, and that knowledge was confined to the few, now they are directed to specialities, and in these, again, even to the minutest points,—but the knowledge acquired becomes at once the property of the community at large. Whilst formerly discovery was wrapped in secrecy, the publicity of the present day causes that no sooner is a discovery or invention made than it is already improved upon and surpassed by competing efforts. The products of all quarters of the globe are placed at our disposal, and we have only to choose which is the best and cheapest for our purposes; and the powers of production are intrusted to the stimulus of competition and capital. So, man is approaching a more complete fulfilment of that great and sacred mission which he has to perform in this world; his reason being created after the image of God, he has to use it to discover the laws by which the Almighty governs his creation, and by making these laws his standard of action to conquer nature to his use—himself a divine instrument. Science discovers these laws of power, motion, and transformation.—Industry applies them to the raw matter, which the earth yields us in abundance, but which becomes valuable only by knowledge.—Art teaches us the immutable laws of beauty and symmetry, and gives to our productions forms in accordance with them. Gentlemen, the Exhibition of 1851 is to give us a true test and a living picture of the point of development at which the whole of mankind has arrived in this great task, and a new starting-point from which all nations will be able to direct their further exertions. I confidently hope that the first impression which the view of this vast collection will produce upon the spectator will be that of deep thankfulness to the Almighty for the blessings which he has bestowed upon us already here below; and the second, the conviction that they can only be realized in proportion to the help which we are prepared to render to each other; therefore, only by peace, love, and ready assistance, not only between individuals, but between the nations of the earth. This being my conviction, I must be highly gratified to see here assembled the magistrates of all the important towns of the realm, sinking all their local, and possibly political, differences—the representatives of the different political opinions of the country—and the representatives of the different foreign nations—to-day representing only one inter-

est. Gentlemen, my original plan had been to carry out this undertaking with the help of the Society of Arts of London, which had long and usefully laboured in this direction, and by the means of private capital and enterprise. You have wished it otherwise, and declared that it was a work which the British people as a whole ought to undertake. I at once yielded to your wish,—feeling that it proceeded from a patriotic, noble, and generous spirit. On your courage, perseverance, and liberality the undertaking now entirely depends. I feel the strongest confidence in these qualities of the British people, and am sure that they will repose confidence in themselves—confidence that they will honourably sustain the contest of emulation, and will nobly carry out their proffered hospitality to their foreign competitors. We, Her Majesty's Commissioners, are quite alive to the innumerable difficulties which we shall have to overcome in carrying out the scheme; but having confidence in you, and in our own zeal and perseverance at least, we require only your confidence in us to make us contemplate the result without any apprehension.

## CONTRIBUTION OF THE PRODUCTS OF ABORIGINES TO THE INDUSTRIAL EXHIBITION OF 1851.

March 25.

Universality in regard to contributors, and completeness in regard to the objects to be contributed, are striking characteristics in the plan of the Exhibition of 1851. Men and women, too, from all nations are invited to it. Specimens of all the valuable products of their industry will be seen in it. The entire series of their work, from raw materials to finished fabrics—from the first germ of ingenuity in a rude simple tool, to the perfect complex machine—will be found there. The history of the arts of life, and the progress of mankind will be traceable there, from the lonely cave still inhabited by the African Bushmen on the hill side, to the crowded city where these multitudinous objects are collected,—from the slow and shapeless trunk of a tree to the symmetrical winged ship,—from the detection of steam in the hollow iron balls of Hiero and Solomon Caus to its first application by the Marquis of Worcester, by Denis Papin, and by Capt. Savory, and to its wonderful development in the almost intellectual machinery of James Watt. The records of all time will be consulted and the secrets of every region searched out, to enrich this peaceful gathering together of the fruits of human perseverance.

This brilliant display of Science and Art, this glorious triumph of industry and commerce will illustrate the tendency of our times to "unity" of feeling, without needing the old delusion of the unity of empire. In principle nothing is wanting to it. Even the despised savage is to be called on for his mite on this occasion, to prove his community of origin with ours, and to support his claim to a common destiny.

Improvement in his works by the force of reflection and reason distinguishes man from brutes,—which only repeat theirs without change under the impulse of instinct. It will then be a great lesson to demonstrate such improvement by comparing the rude tools, for example, of the Esquimaux and the Indian with the perfect instruments of the same kind used in London and Paris. Some forms, too, of the implements of barbarous people are in themselves useful, and may be adopted by us with advantage. The ancient *curved sword* said to have given their national name to the Saxons (*Sacæ*) is reproduced in one of the most powerful of offensive weapons. It is so shaped, and so cleverly poised to the hand, as to produce the greatest possible effect with the least possible effort. This is a knife known to certain tribes in Africa. A similar form is found in the boomerang of the New Holland native. It is an offensive wooden curved sword. It is so shaped as to reach in the readiest way an object aimed at by a circuitous course. A distinguished mathematician, the late Prof. Macculagh, of the University of Dublin, declared that this weapon could not be better contrived for its purpose by the strictest rules of science. The knives made by the Esquimaux from ivory are said to be sharpened like steel. Habitations are as curiously adapted by savages to their peculiar resources as those of civilized communities with all their means. The Esquimaux have their houses of bone, of snow, and of ice, rapid in construction and warm. Among other dwellings, the Indians



of South America make theirs in trees, to escape the floods,—ascertain tribes in Africa take the same method of safety from wild beasts and wilder men. The hammock of our ships was adopted, only with a change in the material, from the cotton beds of the inhabitants of the Indies of Columbus.

The experience of these people in the use of medicinal herbs is another point deserving of notice on this occasion. The Jesuits' bark is believed to be a small portion of the important products of the woods of South America, familiarly known to the Indians as a cure in many diseases,—but hitherto unknown to us.

The same experience of valuable dyes, and of tanning materials, may also be drawn forth with great advantage at this Exhibition.

In the series of objects connected (a topic of urgent interest at present here), it will be important to have models of cemeteries, mausoleums, and graves of all kinds from all parts. It may be found the universal and exclusive characteristic of man, that in the more or less careful burial of the dead he alone of all animated beings clings to a feeling of immortality. The bee covers its dead bodies with wax. They are too heavy to be dragged away, and they would soon become offensive. Perhaps this is the only example that is analogous to the burial of men. But it is obviously an act prompted by the same instinct which leads to a similar process whenever the hive is exposed to the annoyance of any dead body, such as that of a snail, or mouse,—which also the bee covers with wax. Man, however, in the rudest, as well as in the most refined condition of society, dresses up the grave of the departed—an anxious preparation for an indefinitely prolonged existence in a new form. The Pyramids of Egypt, the cemeteries and the catacombs of the ancient and modern world, the collection of dried bodies in the cells of the Canary Islands, the funeral rites of the South Seas, and the picturesque tombs of the New Hollanders all plainly belong to the same human family, and may be grouped together with good effect.

If, at the same time that these various products betokening a reflecting being were presented to public view, and collected from the meanness of our common family, a few of those meaner members of it were brought to this high festival of industry, it would add much to its interest and usefulness. Their presence would rouse public sympathy in their favour; and they would return excellent instructors of their people. This topic of the visits of barbarous people to civilized countries might be enlarged upon with advantage; and the Exhibition of 1851 will have produced good fruits if only in drawing some attention to it.—I am, &c. M.D.

#### THE EXODUS OF THE ISRAELITES.

I am fully aware that the conductor of a literary periodical cannot desire, in general, that controversy should be carried to any great length in the columns of his journal,—and I have always myself been desirous of abstaining from so much as a single rejoinder: yet I must solicit from the Editor of the *Athenæum* the insertion of these my final remarks on the Geography of the Exodus: partly because I should hold myself wanting in due respect to Miss Corbaux if I passed over in silence her remarks in the *Athenæum* of March 23; and partly because I shall thus have the opportunity of introducing to her notice a document of the most important kind relating to these inquiries, which, I believe she has not yet consulted. I shall also be enabled to remove an unaccountable confusion which has arisen upon one of the most important points, and to explain one or two words which have been misunderstood.

I will first advert to a merely verbal remark of Miss Corbaux's,—the phrase “about what he [A.B.G.] calls the Bitter Lake.” Any reader would imagine that I was singular in calling this the Bitter Lake. On the contrary I believe that every modern writer, with the exception of Miss Corbaux, has called it the Bitter Lake. I have before me at this moment Capt. Vetch's Treatise and Map, Mr. Sharpe's Essay (in Bartlett's ‘Forty Days in the Desert’), and the Great French Map from the modern survey. In these works the locality in question is called “Bitter Lake,” “Upper Bitter Lake,” “Basin of Bitter Lake,” “Basin des Lacs Amers.” I am con-

fident that Miss Corbaux will recognize the propriety of my continuing to use the same name,—not as in any degree judging the question whether this is the place of Pliny's Bitter Lakes, but simply for the sake of geographical precision.

In order to remove misconceptions, before entering upon a new subject, I will proceed now to notice the unaccountable confusion of which I have spoken. Upon reading Miss Corbaux's communication, in which she says, “as I have not only adopted this theory [Mr. Sharpe's] myself,” and “we cannot place the passage farther south to the pilgrim route, as A.B.G. suggests,” any ordinary reader would imagine that Miss Corbaux and Mr. Sharpe agree upon the place of passage of the Red Sea,—that Miss Corbaux and A.B.G. disagree upon the place of passage,—and that A.B.G. supposes the place of passage to be the present pilgrim or Haj route. Will he not be astonished when he learns that Miss Corbaux and Mr. Sharpe fix upon *totally different* places,—that Miss Corbaux and A.B.G. fix upon *precisely the same place*,—and that it is Mr. Sharpe who fixes upon the pilgrim route as the place of passage, which it was the principal object of A.B.G.'s communications to disprove?

Miss Corbaux's place for the passage [*Athenæum*, March 23] is described by reference to what I call the Bitter Lake, “which was occupied by the sea in the time of Moses; and a sea too deep to be crossed except at one place, where the passage of the Red Sea was effected.” And further, “its southern extremity becomes a narrow pass, about two miles wide, ten or eleven feet only below the level of the sea: it is *here* that the passage of the Red Sea must have taken place.” The same is indicated in Miss Corbaux's sections in the *Edinburgh Journal*. Now, the suggestions which I had given are these:—[*Athenæum*, November 10, 1849.] “From this tracing of the route we are led then to the conclusion, that the sea which the Israelites crossed was not what we now call the Red Sea, but the Bitter Lake, at the distance of a few miles north-west of Suez.” [*Athenæum*, March 16, 1850.] “That the Israelites crossed the Bitter Lake, probably in its southern section.” In writing this, I had before me the following words of the French engineers:—“Elle (the middle section of the Bitter Lake) est séparée de la partie sud par une sorte de détroit, formé par un cap avancé de la rive ouest, qui réduit la largeur du bassin à 2 kilomètres, et même, sur un point, à 1 kilomètre, et dans lequel le fond se relève jusqu'à la côte, — 3 mètres,” after which in going farther south, the depth scarcely alters. It may be necessary to inform the unprofessional reader that *la côte* is a technical term used by French engineers to express “the elevation above the starting point,” that is, above low water in the Bay of Tineh, (which, as I shall presently mention, is at the same height as low water at Suez), and that the negative sign prefixed to the 3 mètres denotes that the ground is 3 mètres below the starting point. No expressions taken from the different books could agree more precisely than those in which Miss Corbaux and I have described the localities which we have adopted as the place of the passage of the Israelites.

Mr. Sharpe's description of *his* supposed place of passage is terminated with the sentence “Every caravan from Cairo to Mecca passes over the spot where the Egyptian army was drowned.” Thus, it is Mr. Sharpe—not I, who “places the passage farther south to the pilgrim route”: Miss Corbaux and I agree precisely in our suppositions,—and we both disagree with Mr. Sharpe.

Having removed this confusion, I will now explain a word which has been misunderstood. In commenting upon the locality which, after the French engineers, I have adopted for Heroopolis, Miss Corbaux has taken for granted that I mean “a mound where some Persepolitan inscriptions were found: their site just faces the south edge of the gulf-basin, at the upper narrow pass where I place the passage of the Red Sea.” And again, “this site is also 12 miles from the present head of the sea.” Now, neither the French engineers nor I allude to that place for the site of Heroopolis. The place which we mean is just north of the pilgrim route, about 3½ miles (as measured by scale on the great French map) north-east from the head of the gulf. No place appears to me so likely to have given its name

to the gulf; which Heroopolis certainly did. I shall presently repeat my belief (by implication) that Heroopolis is the same as Baalzephon; and I will only now submit the following conjecture to persons better acquainted than myself with the original languages. Miss Corbaux remarks that the root of the second part of that name contains the idea of a “concealment”: I have already (November 10) remarked that the word appears to be plural,—and I have adverted (March 16) to the interpretation of “Baal,” as “superior being” or “hero.” Combining these three considerations, is it not possible that Baalzephon may signify “the tombs of heroes”?—and if so, will it not agree emphatically with Heroopolis?

The collocation of the *epaulis* with Migdol, in Exodus xiv. 2, will not, I think, permit us to suppose that they mean the same place, as Miss Corbaux suggests.

I shall now allude to the important document apparently unknown to Miss Corbaux.

In the year 1847, the Isthmus of Suez and a large portion of the delta of the Nile were surveyed with the utmost care (more especially with reference to the levels) by a mixed Commission of French, German and English engineers. The exactness of their results will be sufficiently guaranteed by the circumstance that the English party was represented by Mr. Robert Stephenson. The results, as to the levels, the general form of the ground, and the traces of the ancient canal, are detailed at great length in the *Rapport de l'Ingénieur*, to which I referred on the 16th of March. This work is accompanied by a very large map. From these levellings the following results are obtained. The difference of levels between the Mediterranean and the Red Sea, instead of being 9 mètres or 30 feet (as was inferred from the survey of 1799), is insensible. The whole of the differences of the level of the Nile at various points, of the canal at various points, and of the two seas, inferred from the survey of 1799 are subject to very great errors.

It will be clear from this short statement that the deductions which Miss Corbaux had drawn, and had well and fairly drawn, (from the best materials then existing) in the *Edinburgh Journal* of 1847 and 1848, are now baseless. And I beg leave to express my strong hope that Miss Corbaux, whose knowledge of the original accounts (with the exception of this alone) is unequalled, and whose enthusiasm of research into this interesting subject is unparalleled, will, with the assistance of the new lights to be derived from the modern survey, give to the world a truly authoritative treatise “On the comparative physical geography of the Arabian frontier of Egypt at the earliest epoch of Egyptian history and at the present time.”

It will be seen, I think, from the new results, that the supposition of a more easterly branch of the Nile entering the Mediterranean Sea is now untenable; for the French engineers found that to connect the two seas by a canal, it would be necessary to cut through a plateau thirteen to fifteen mètres high between Lake Timsah and Lake Menzaleh (p. 65).

It does not appear (p. 63) that the canal entered Lake Timsah—past which it can be traced—or any other lake except the great *bassin* (although there are traces of the mud of the Nile about Lake Timsah). Perhaps this may strengthen the claim of the great *bassin* to be considered as the veritable Bitter Lake which was made sweet by the waters of the Nile.

These points, however, are not very important in reference to the subject under discussion. But it is treated by Miss Corbaux as a matter of the utmost importance to establish that the Bitter Lake was formerly a part of the Gulf of Suez; and it is equally important to my hypothesis to prove that it never was a part of the gulf. It must be remarked that there is no record whatever of the gulf having been blocked at Suez;—that the reasons for supposing it are purely inferential from accounts which it is extremely difficult to reconcile;—and that they must yield at once to any physical fact which bears properly on the subject. The idea of Miss Corbaux is (p. 20) that the shoal was raised by the simple process of accumulation.

It happens very fortunately that the French engineers made geological observations sufficient (so far as I see) to set this point at rest. They found to their great surprise, that the whole of the ground south of Lake Timsah is of an Eocene formation, identified



both by its marl and gypsum beds and by its peculiar fossils with the gypseous formation of Montmartre. And in speaking of "la dernière partie de l'ancien canal de Suez, celle qui mettait le bassin des lacs amers en communication avec Suez et la Mer-Rouge," they remark (p. 49), "Parmi les débris qui forment les digues de ce canal, on retrouve en grandes quantités les marnes calcaires du terrain de gypse." Again (p. 91) in reference to the same place,—"L'épaisseur du dépôt qui recouvre le plafond primitif du canal ne descend pas au-dessous de la côte 1 mètre. A cette profondeur on rencontre tantôt un banc d'argile qui se retrouve également dans les sondes faites dans le bassin, tantôt un banc de gypse." That is to say, the canal is cut, not through sand or through any shoal raised by simple accumulation, but through a geological formation of Eocene date, deposited very long before the creation of man; and it may therefore be looked on as certain that the boundary of the Gulf of Suez, since human history began has been nearly the same as at present.

It is necessary to my hypothesis that the northern shore of the Gulf of Suez should have been of such a character that a large body of people might easily pass it if they were not closely annoyed by an enemy, but would scarcely venture upon it when a hostile army was very near them. It appears to me that the flat ground, scarcely raised above the sea, traversed either by a canal or by irregular streams from the Bitter Lake, with a large city in front, possesses precisely these properties.

The nature of the ground being now understood, and Miss Corboux and myself being at agreement as to the place where the Israelites passed the water,—the only point of dispute is as to how they arrived at the water side. And this depends upon the adoption of the Hebrew or of the Septuagint account. If we take the Hebrew,—the Israelites after having been surprised at their first encampment by the water side, advanced again in the same direction, the water was lowered by an east wind, and they were enabled to pass. If we take the Septuagint,—the Israelites, on being surprised, retreated, and the water was lowered by a south wind, or rather a S.S.E. wind (Notus). In both accounts, the pillar of fire, which had been seen in front before the arrival at the first water-side station, was seen behind in the march from the first water-side station to the second. Of these two accounts, I adopt the Septuagint, as being perfectly congruous in all its parts (as I have shown, *Athenæum*, Nov. 16),—while the Hebrew is incongruous. And I add the following consideration, upon which, perhaps, sufficient stress has hardly been laid. The object of Moses was not to enter the Desert wherever he could reach it,—but to go in the direction of Mount Sinai, which he had long before planned to do (Exodus iii, 12). This plan was totally unknown to the Egyptians, and perhaps scarcely known to a single Israelite; that half denationalized people having probably no knowledge of the country beyond Egypt, but being willing to follow wherever Moses would lead them. Therefore, when the forces had been finally collected at Etham, it was the policy of Moses to march immediately for the Suez pass,—both because it was the natural route for Sinai, and also because (that being a very unusual way of departure from Egypt) it was likely that a pursuing enemy might be at fault, long enough to enable the people to reach the Asiatic desert. And so nearly was this timed, that the gain of a few hours would have enabled them to pass Suez and Baalzephon unmolested,—and there would then have been no passage of the Sea. But they were surprised by a rapid march of the Egyptians on their flank; they then retreated by a very hasty night march along the water-side,—and they gained time sufficient to attempt in an orderly way the passage through the water, which they saw had been made practicable.

It will be perceived that I do not consider the observations of the tides at Suez as being relevant to this matter. Independently of the considerations which I have already urged, the distinct ascription of the lowered surface of the water to the action of the wind seems to forbid the introduction of the agency of the tides. A.B.G.

Greenwich, March 27.

#### INTERNATIONAL COPYRIGHT.

IN the columns of your journal for the last two or three weeks mention is made of the proposed international copyright treaty with France; speculations are advanced as to its probable advantages, and authors are invited to exert themselves to obtain for it such details as shall insure its usefulness.

Allow me to call your attention to one or two facts which appear to have escaped the notice of your correspondents, and which may perhaps be of service in guiding their exertions.

I. An Act of Parliament, 7 Vict. c. 12, authorizes Her Majesty in Council to grant to foreign authors, &c. copyright in this country, for a term not exceeding that enjoyed by British subjects, but only upon terms of reciprocity. It also expressly exempts translations.

II. If we inquire what we are to understand by the reciprocity here mentioned, whether an English author shall have exactly the same right in France which may be granted to the French author in England, or whether an English author shall enjoy the same right in France as the native author, and *vice versa*,—we shall find—

III. That in the first international copyright treaty made in consequence of this Act, viz., that with Prussia, May 13, 1846, (and subsequently with Saxony, Hanover and other German States,) the principle of reciprocity is explained in the latter sense,—viz., that an English or a Prussian author enjoys the same right in both countries, according to the laws of each country; and I have as good reason to believe, as I have had opportunities of information on that subject, that the treaty works to the entire satisfaction of both parties concerned, by securing to the popular British author a considerable sum (if the limited territory, the small number of readers, and the cheapness of the republications are considered) for the copyright in Prussia,—and to the German author both a protection from piracy (from which, however, few suffered) here, and a reduction in the duty on books on importation, consequent by the Act upon the conclusion of the treaty.

It would appear, therefore, exceedingly probable that any treaty with France would be based upon the same principles, and that the Prussian treaty would form the groundwork, if not an exact model.

I have mentioned that the Act expressly exempts translations; and in testifying to the complete satisfaction which is felt both here and abroad at the working of the treaty, I should have made an exception against this clause in the Act (it exists not in the treaty)—for it prevents, as I shall presently show, the translation of many instructive and entertaining works, and limits greatly the benefit derivable by authors in both countries.

There is, however, a singular anomaly with respect to translations here and in Prussia,—viz., that while the Act of Parliament and the subsequent treaty prevent a copyright in translations in England, the same treaty grants copyright to an English author in his translations in Prussia. The Prussian law of copyright secures to a Prussian subject, writing in any other than the German language, copyright in a translation into German, if he state his intention to publish such translation on the title of the original and issue it within two years: the English author, placed on the same footing as the Prussian subject, by the treaty enjoys, therefore, a copyright in a translation which he may make or authorize if he comply with the above regulation,—and the case has been decided in a Prussian law court to be good on the occasion of one of Sir Bulwer Lytton's novels being translated.

It is, I believe, a very prevalent opinion both here and on the Continent, with those who have given their attention to the subject, that a protection (if but for a limited period) to authors in the translations of their works would be a most desirable addition to any future enactment regulating international copyright; that while it would only extend the application of an acknowledged principle, the right of property in the productions of the mind—it would enable the author (and who better able?) to choose his own translator,—and thus secure the interests of the public also, by presenting to them a more carefully, because more leisurely, executed work. And by producing many translations which

are now not undertaken because they cannot bear the risk of being immediately reproduced, if at all successful, and thus sharing with the imitations the profits, after incurring *singly* the risk and all the expenses of advertising, &c. incidental upon all new publications,—such an enactment would greatly increase the sources of knowledge and entertainment of that great class of readers whose knowledge of language is confined to their native tongue. I am, &c.,

SYDNEY WILLIAMS.  
14, Henrietta-street, Covent-garden, March 25.

#### OUR WEEKLY GOSSIP.

AT length that mysteriously missing document which had grown apocryphal by protracted absence—the Mrs. Harris of Reports, in whom the gossips had ceased to believe,—the parliamentary record which, like the books of the Sibyl, had been from time to time presented to our hopes only to be suddenly withdrawn and buried no man knew where—has turned up in the authentic and indisputable and unambiguous form of a Blue Book. The Report of the Commissioners appointed to inquire into the constitution and government of the British Museum, with minutes of the evidence on which it is founded, now lies bodily on our table; and so far, apparently, from the oracles which it has to render having undergone the process of diminution that befell the Sibylline books, it forms a plethoric volume of upwards of eight hundred folio pages. On the very important matters which this document contains we purpose supplying our readers with a series of articles; and the process of digestion absolutely necessary for such a performance will enable us to commence them, on Saturday next, with the first number of our new monthly part.

We have received from a known correspondent, who professes to have sought and obtained his information from the best informed sources, some further particulars relating to the pending international copyright treaty between France and England,—and to the remarks thereon of our anonymous correspondent last week. For the present, he tells us, the operation of the treaty is to be confined to these two countries,—but that it is intended afterwards to be extended to others. "With respect," he says, "to the share which M. Pagnerre has had in its construction, he was consulted by M. de Tocqueville, the late Minister of Foreign Affairs, and originator of the project—not in his individual capacity, but as president of the *Cercle de la Librairie*. How, under these circumstances, he could have made the matter his own seems hardly reconcilable with the fact of his having imparted the "secret" to at least two publishers, and one of them evidently a dissatisfied one. One of M. Pagnerre's propositions, approved of by M. de Tocqueville was to provide not only for future publications, as the government draft proposed to do, but also for those works already published, allowing the copies actually extant to be sold off, but prohibiting any reprints: and as a guarantee against fraud, existing copies were to bear a particular stamp. "I may add," our present correspondent says, "that although the *Cercle de la Librairie* is indeed a club, where its members assemble to take refreshments and play at cards, billiards, &c., and where they do not always talk exclusively of books and bookselling, these amusements are merely accessories, intended as an attraction to induce the members to meet the oftener; but the avowed object of the *Cercle*, as announced in its printed report for 1848, by M. Firmin Didot, is to suppress literary piracies at home and abroad.—With regard to the treaty itself, it concedes in France, to British authors, &c., the same rights as they enjoy in England,—and stipulates that, in England, French authors shall possess the same privileges as are secured to them in France. It includes theatrical pieces, engravings, music, &c.—and extends to translations for three years. The Commission of the Institute, composed of ten delegates, selected from the five Academies, have met and appointed M. de Tocqueville as their reporter, deeming this office to be due to him as the projector of the treaty. The dangerous illness of this gentleman has, however, occasioned some delay in the proceedings; but as he is slowly recovering, we may hope soon to be made acquainted with the result of the deliberations of the Academical Com-



missioners. In the meanwhile, English authors and publishers should be up and stirring; for if once this question is allowed to be closed without their interference, their silence will be construed into a tacit acquiescence in the proposed arrangement, and it will prove a most difficult task to re-open the subject for the introduction of amelioration."

Just now, while there is some outcry against the claims of the Royal Academy and its fidelity to the mission which properly belongs to it by virtue of its place at the head of the Arts of the country, it may not be without significance to record an act of liberality on the part of that body in the cause of enlightened teaching, which can measure itself against a very tall standard and run it head and head. The Academy has voted a sum of 500*l.* out of its funds in aid of the proposed Industrial Exhibition of 1851:—just the amount which, after a hard fight between their munificence and the duties of a wholesome economy, the Common Council of the great city of London—the mighty municipality at whose gates this universal fair of nations is to be held, and who will take from it toll almost incalculable—found it possible to give away for the same great purpose.

Mr. Hind has written to the *Times*, stating that the great comet which astonished the world in 1264, and which is supposed to have returned in 1556, may be looked for in the course of this or the next year. If it does not renew its visit within that time, he thinks there will be good reason to doubt the identity of the bodies of 1264 and 1556. This comet was looked for early in 1848; and its failure is attributed to certain retarding influences thus explained by Mr. Barber of Etwell. He finds that between the years 1556 and 1592 the united attraction between Jupiter and Saturn would diminish the period 263 days,—but that between 1592 and 1806 it would be increased by the action of Jupiter alone no less than 751 days: so that a retardation of 488 days must take place. How much longer Saturn, Uranus, and Neptune may detain it beyond this time we do not at present know; but the perturbations produced by the former planet up to 1806 are now in course of calculation by Mr. Barber, and on their completion we shall probably be further enlightened in respect to the delay which has occurred in the comet's return.—Mr. Hind considers it a matter of great importance in this department of astronomy that the comet should be recognized.

It is stated that the proposed submarine telegraph between Dover and Calais, conceded to Messrs. Brett & Co. by the French Government, is approaching completion. The tower for the battery, offices, and general works at Dover, are nearly erected; and the insulated wires are in a forward state of progress, and are expected to be sunk across the Channel in the course of the next month.

We have before us an excellent essay on the subject of improved cottages for the labouring classes, by Mr. Henry Roberts, the honorary architect to the Society which has charged itself with the duty of carrying out a reform in this important particular. Mr. Roberts gives the brief history of this modern movement, from the time when John Howard—the parent of so many reforms—set the example of a landlord paying some attention to the moral and material condition of his tenants, down to the present days, when the movement commenced by the Recluse of Cardington numbers among its supporters the highest personages in Church and State. Though the effect of the old system of leaving the poor to shift for themselves in all such matters as concerned their dwellings was, to produce evils of a fearful magnitude,—as witness the present state of the private lodging-houses of St. Giles's, Westminster, Lambeth, or Whitechapel,—still there is good reason to hope that these evils may be in a great measure removed by means of a good example. If the question lay with the sentimentalists, as against the capitalists, we should have little confidence in any material good accruing to the vast body of the labouring poor from what is now being done in their behalf. Charity is a noble thing—always a blessing to him that gives, if not always to him that takes,—but in the attempt to remove the solid masses of poverty, ignorance and helplessness which choke up our streets and alleys it is as ineffective as moonlight on an iceberg. The great effort of the Society

for improving the *homes* of the artisan class should be, to prove to cottage builders that the "model houses" are profitable even as business speculations. Large landed proprietors, like the Earl of Chichester,—whose picturesque cottages in Stanmere Park will be remembered by the rambles in Sussex—may take a personal pride in the adornment of their estates, but the great body of town and country house-owners will look no further than to the percentage. We believe the London "models" are profitable. Mr. Roberts states this fact in reference to one or two of them:—but would it not be well to publish the figures exactly as they appear in the books, for the information of the world? Taking the whole class of returns—moral and material—there is no doubt about the advantage of having superior homesteads provided for the "hewers of wood and drawers of water;"—and, for ourselves, we have no fear but that the end will show a money profit in it. We have recently had the satisfaction of inspecting several model villages in the valley of Turton, in Lancashire, the property of Messrs. Ashworth, spinners and manufacturers of staple articles in cotton,—and of seeing what may be done by earnest men, in the course of a generation or two, for the moral improvement and social elevation of the lower orders. The schools, cottages and mills are all in admirable condition. A spirit of order everywhere prevails. The homes of the workpeople are clean—well furnished—well regulated: the schools filled with rosy-cheeked, bright-eyed, intelligent children, of from six to twelve years old. Not one of the older boys but can read, write and cipher, and has a very creditable acquaintance with history, geography and physical science—not one of the older girls but can read, write, knit, and sew well enough for all ordinary purposes. The grown-up "hands" have a sort of literary society among themselves,—and their employers have built them a reading-room. In the "Ashworth villages" there is no ale-house,—and a man of intemperate habits has no chance of long holding a position in any one of them. The proprietors have no need to interfere. The rebuke comes from his own order. Public opinion is too strong; and he must conform to the habits of the place, or decamp to some larger town, where his vices may be hidden in the crowd.—The result of this admirable experiment is satisfactory in every respect. The authors of it have stated that the "order and content" of their workmen are worth to them 50*l.* a week; and that they would not exchange their 1,200 hands for an equal number, equally skilled, taken from the mass of a large town population, for 10,000*l.*—This is an argument to reach a class of minds inaccessible to the moral reasons. Virtue is here its own reward, even in the worldly economical sense.

The disease of gold washing appears to be rapidly spreading. We have a letter from North Adelaide, in South Australia, which informs us that numerous gold streams have been discovered. Much land has been secured by a company with a view to the "Washings." But the secret having been disclosed, the writer says, the "city is in effervescence and the people are delirious."

From Paris we receive tidings of the death of M. Biot, the celebrated French oriental scholar; and are informed that M. Stanislas Julien has undertaken the publication of the translation of the great Chinese work "Tcheou-li." M. Biot was a foreign member of our Royal Geographical Society.

The American papers state that the original manuscript of Washington's Farewell Address, which was in the possession of the executors of Mr. Claypoole, has been just sold by auction at Philadelphia. It fetched the large price of 2,300 dollars.

From the same source we learn that the American Expedition in search of Sir John Franklin promoted by Mr. Grinnell and others is to sail on the 1st of May for Lancaster Sound and Barrow's Straits. It is stated that it will consist of at least two schooners, under the command of Commander Griffin, a young officer in the United States Navy; and that if a further sum of twenty thousand dollars can be obtained, the exploring force will consist of a barque and two schooners.

Letters, the *Times* says, have just been received from Bagdad, stating that Mr. Loftus, the geologist attached to the Commission which is now employed

in the demarcation of the Turco-Persian line of frontier, had succeeded, on his passage from Bagdad to Bussorah, in visiting all the most remarkable ancient sites in Lower Chaldea. From that paper we borrow the following particulars. The ruins now called Werka (*Ὀρχήροι* of Strabo), which represent the Ur of the Chaldees, whence took place the exodus of Abraham, were carefully examined by Mr. Loftus, and were found to be of great extent and of extraordinary interest. A vast number of ancient coffins of baked clay, highly glazed, and covered with figures of men in relief, were discovered in one spot, the coffins being about six feet in length, adapted to the shape of the human body, and with an oval ornamented lid, which closed the upper part; a moderately-sized water-jar was also attached to each coffin. Gold ornaments and other Chaldean relics were said to be frequently found in them; but those which Mr. Loftus examined had been already rifled, and he had no leisure for excavation. Numerous bricks covered with cuneiform characters were, however, brought away from the ruins by Mr. Loftus; together with pieces of terra-cotta, moulded in the shape of a bull's horn, and bearing inscriptions, and several fragments of a hexagonal clay cylinder, inscribed with a long historical record, similar to that, deposited in the British Museum, which was found by Mr. Layard at Nineveh. Werka is still traditionally known in the country as the birthplace of Abraham, and its identity with Ur of the Chaldees is established beyond the reach of cavil. The ruins have been observed at a distance by other travellers; but are usually inaccessible, owing to the inundation of the surrounding country and the dangerous neighbourhood of the Khezail Arabs. Mr. Loftus, indeed, is the first European who has ever succeeded in actually visiting this primeval seat of the Jewish race. At the ruins called Hammām, near the Hye Canal, Mr. Loftus obtained a statue of black basalt, bearing two cuneiform inscriptions; and at Umgehri, beyond the Euphrates, he found another statue, representing one of the Chaldean gods,—but it was too much mutilated to be worth moving. The commission to which Mr. Loftus belongs, in skirting Susiana, will traverse a country studded with Chaldean ruins; and discoveries, therefore, may be expected to be made which will be of the utmost importance in aiding the efforts of Major Rawlinson and others to unfold the early history of the East, through the interpretation of the inscriptions of Nineveh and Babylon.

BRITISH INSTITUTION, Pall Mall.—THE GALLERY for the EXHIBITION and SALE of the WORKS of BRITISH ARTISTS is OPEN DAILY, from Ten till Five.—Admission, 1*s.* Catalogue, 1*s.* GEORGE NICOL, Secretary.

THEATRE ROYAL, ADELPHI.—MR. C. H. ADAMS'S ORRERY.—THIS EVENING MR. ADAMS will deliver his annual LECTURE on ASTRONOMY.—Begin at 8; end about 10.—Stalls, 3*s.*; Boxes, 5*s.*; Pit, 1*s.* Private Boxes, Half-a-Guinea and One Guinea.—Schools half-price to Boxes and Pit.

NILE.—GRAND MOVING PANORAMA of the NILE, comprising all the Monuments of Antiquity on its Banks, to which is added the interior of the great Rock Temple of Abois Simbel, painted by Messrs. Warren, Bonomi, and Fahey.—EGYPTIAN HALL, PICCADILLY.—Daily, at Three and Eight o'clock.—Stalls 3*s.*, Pit 2*s.*, Gallery 1*s.*; Children and Schools, Half-price.

INDIA OVERLAND MAIL.—GALLERY of ILLUSTRATION, 14, Regent-street, Waterloo-place.—A Gigantic MOVING DIORAMA ILLUSTRATING the ROUTE of the OVERLAND MAIL to INDIA, depicting every object worthy of notice on this highly-interesting journey from Southampton to Calcutta, accompanied by descriptive detail, and appropriate music (which has been in preparation for the last nine months), is now OPEN DAILY, at Half-past Two and Eight o'clock.—Admission, 1*s.*; Reserved Seats, 2*s.* 6*d.* (which may be previously engaged).

#### EASTER HOLIDAYS.

NEW PICTORIAL EXHIBITION, No. 399, Regent Street, adjoining the Royal Polytechnic Institution.—THE BRITANNIA TUBULAR BRIDGE on a grand scale, with Views of Wolverton Viaduct, Coventry, Birmingham, Chester, the Victoria Tubular Bridge over the Conway, &c. &c.; to which has been added Snowdon, from Capel Cargi. Painted by J. W. ALLEN, Esq. A Description by JOHN CLARKE, Esq.—During the Holidays this Exhibition will open at Eleven o'clock, Quarter-past Twelve, Half-past One, Quarter to Three, Four o'clock; and in the Evenings at Seven and a Quarter-past Eight.—Admission, 1*s.*; Children and Schools, half-price.—Doors open a quarter of an hour before each Exhibition.

#### EASTER HOLIDAYS.

ROYAL POLYTECHNIC INSTITUTION. DR. BACHHOFFNER'S SECOND LECTURE on the PHILOSOPHY of SCIENTIFIC RECREATION.—OPTICAL EFFECTS, daily at Two, and every Evening, except Saturday, at Eight o'clock.—THIRD LECTURE, by J. H. EPPER, Esq., on the CHEMISTRY of the METALS, with brilliant Experiments, daily and in the Evenings.—An entirely new SERIES of DISSOLVING VIEWS, exhibiting SCENES in CEYLON, from Sketches taken on the spot by A. Nicholls, Esq., painted on Glass by Mr. Clarke; also a SERIES of VIEWS of the ARTS and MANUFACTURES, with an interesting Description, daily at half-past Four, and in the Evenings. THE VIEWS of LONDON in the SIXTEENTH CENTURY and AS IT NOW IS, are shown at One o'clock.—Experiments with the DIVER and DIVING BELL, &c.—Admission, 1*s.*; Schools, Half-price.



## SOCIETIES

**GEOGRAPHICAL.**—*March 25.*—Capt. W. H. Smyth, R.N., President, in the chair. Read:—1. 'Statement of the Route to be followed by Mr. F. Galton, accompanied by Mr. Anderson, the Swedish naturalist.' Mr. Galton starts on the 3rd of April for Algoa Bay, thence, *via* Colesberg, Latakoo and Colobend, for the Lake. Availing himself of Mr. Livingston's experience, Mr. Galton intends leaving his waggons, oxen, and most of his men, at the Zouga River, in order to prosecute the rest of his journey by water. For this purpose, the party is provided with three boats, constructed here, upon the most improved principles, and well furnished with various stores of provisions in the most concentrated form. Mr. Anderson takes everything with him necessary for making a collection of the animals about the Lake, and also a portable conservatory for living plants. After surveying the lake, Mr. Galton will, if possible, penetrate northwards by one of the large rivers, reported to empty themselves into the lake.

2. 'Extracts from the MS. of Baron von Müller, Austrian Consul-General in Northern Africa.' In order to qualify himself for African travelling, the Baron visited, in 1845, Algiers; but finding that French nationality had greatly overpowered that of the inhabitants, he proceeded to Morocco. There, however, he was taken prisoner by Abdel Kader, and narrowly escaped being executed as a French spy, which actually happened to his companion. In 1847, Von Müller passed into Egypt, and in September proceeded to Central Africa, in company with a Catholic mission. Passing through Egypt and Nubia, he visited Dongola, with its caravans from Cordofan and Sennar. At Ambukol, where the Nile alters its course from west and east to north and south, he left the river and crossed through the Behinda Desert to Khartum. The Bir el Behinda, 14 feet deep, is filled with green slimy water, teeming with life. For travelling in Africa, the water should be preserved in tin cases, inclosed in wooden ones, and not in skins, as is the custom of the natives. The water is thus protected against the effects of the simoom, prickly thorns and hostile spears. In the south-eastern portion of this desert, near Jebre Haderli, a very rare species of bustard (*Otis houbara*) was shot. In Beled Sudan, the gold washings of Tumat, Isjanejore, Kasjan and Jebeldul were visited. The luxuriant forests, full of mimosas, tamarinds, senna, gum, ebony, &c., were graphically described. Ivory is found in large quantities among the Shilluks, Dinkas and Taggalis, and is collected in magazines by the princes; but all commerce is carefully guarded by the Egyptian government and Ali Pasha, the Governor-General of Sudan. Ostrich feathers abound. The slave trade exists still in the interior. The Medyanian Arabs, a tribe not hitherto known, inhabit their villages of Hashaba and Guyemat, in 13° 30' N. latitude, and 48° 46' E. longitude. Lobehd, the capital of Kor-dofan, consists of many large villages united into one. M. von Müller feels sure of the existence of the unicorn (*Anasa*); a specimen of which he promises to introduce to the savans of Europe. Cobbe, the capital of Darfur, he was not permitted to visit. Some Europeans are said to have entered Darfur, but no one ever got out of it again. In the country of the Taggalis the party was attacked, and several killed or wounded with poisoned spears. The Baron describes the Russegers' "vessels for preparing salt" as nothing but troughs for the camels to drink in, and attributes their white appearance to the guano of the numerous flocks of birds which sleep upon them. The culminating type of the Negro race is to be found not under the equator, but about 12° N. The Bahr el Abiad in 5° N. becomes clear and bluish, flowing through a sandy soil. In the country of the Bari negroes in 4° 10', the first gneiss rocks are found in the river; and the natives say "that the White Nile takes its rise in Ayan, about thirty days' journey to the south, where it flows in four streams from a high white mountain." Artesian wells may be, according to M. von Müller, made with ease and advantage in many places in the desert. The Governor of Sudan, Habid Pasha, furnished the party with his own boat for the return to Cairo; and the Baron passed over thirty cataracts,

suffering shipwreck three times on the way,—and upon his arrival at Alexandria had sailed on the Nile through twenty-eight degrees of latitude.—Of the second Expedition, M. Brehm, the secretary to the Baron, with party, is already in Egypt, waiting for their leader. The instructions are, "to proceed to Suakin, on the Red Sea, *via* Suez, in order to purchase camels from the Bishari Arabs, who breed the best in the world; afterwards to examine the course of the unknown Albara; and finally, upon reaching Khartum, to sail at the favourable season to 4° N. latitude, the country of the Bari." After ascertaining the source of the Nile, M. von Müller expects to be able at length to penetrate through Africa to Fernando Po and the west coast.

3. Commander Fayer, R.N., exhibited his Model Steering-Wheel Compressor for ships.

**ASIATIC.**—*March 16.*—Prof. Wilson in the chair. The secretary read a paper, by Dr. Bowring, on the best mode of representing the word for God in the Chinese language. It is known to those who have paid attention to the subject of Scriptural translations into Chinese, that much controversy has long existed as to the best word by which the idea of the Supreme Being may be communicated; the words in use by the Chinese themselves being believed to signify the material heaven, the sky in fact, rather than the Creator of the universe, while the different expressions proposed and used by European translators have been all in their turns objected to. After some observations on the practice followed in the languages of Europe to adopt foreign words, usually Greek, when communicating new ideas, whether philosophical, scientific, or theological, the Doctor proposed to cut the knot by using the character 0, the initial of the Greek word *0eog*, in future editions of religious works printed in Chinese, and to call it by the Hebrew word Jah, used in our Bible—readily pronounced by Chinese organs, and from its monosyllabic character, well adapted to the Chinese language. He observed that the sign represented centre and circumference, and that the circle had in all ages been associated with immortality and eternity; and as representing the sun, the planets, and the globular firmament, it was intimately blended with the sublimest notions grasped by the human intellect.

Among the books presented was the first volume of the 'Rig Veda,'—one of the sacred books of the Hindus, edited by Dr. Max Müller, under the patronage of the East India Company. This work will be completed in four volumes.

The Director exhibited a golden mask which has been intrusted to him by the Court of Directors of the East India Company. The mask was found in an ancient coffin on the banks of the Euphrates, by Capt. Lynch, one of the officers engaged in the Expedition which surveyed that river some years ago. It is formed of a thin sheet of pure gold, is of life size, and was apparently moulded from the face of the deceased occupant of the coffin in which it was found. The grave appeared to have been rifled at some former period; but the fear of pollution, and perhaps a superstitious respect for the dead body, had prevented the discovery of this curious relic, which was in close contact with it. The character of the face bears a considerable resemblance to that of the Assyrian portraits which are sculptured on the Ninevite monuments recently discovered; and the very few details we could gather respecting the accompaniments of the coffin would seem to favour the belief that the mask is really the portrait of an illustrious Assyrian, buried more than twenty-six centuries ago.

Sir G. Staunton exhibited a portrait of the daughter of the Governor of Shanghai, drawn by the governor himself for the express purpose of presenting it to the lady of our Consul in that city. The picture represents a child peeping from behind a curtain, it being contrary to Chinese etiquette among persons of rank to show the whole of the female figure, however young or draped. The portrait is well done, though Chinese like, to the exclusion of all shadow; but the curtain is so cleverly represented as to produce illusion. The gift is a pleasing and interesting evidence of the cordial understanding which subsists between the British and Chinese authorities of Shanghai.

**SOCIETY OF ANTIQUARIES.**—The proceedings of the members at their weekly meetings have been of considerable curiosity and importance. Besides the

accustomed display of ancient works of Art or interest, Major Rawlinson has twice favoured the Society with his presence, and has three times contributed to the amusement and information of the evenings by the production of most of his Assyrian and Babylonian discoveries. First, he sent his smaller objects under the care of the President, Lord Mahon; and afterwards he personally accompanied his larger sculptured fragments, cylinders, statues, urns, and vessels of various kinds, giving explanations of them. On the third occasion, he produced, and hung round the walls and covered the tables of the meeting-room with, inscriptions taken chiefly from the celebrated rock of Behistan,—all in the wedge-form Persian or Babylonian character, including the tri-lingual record which forms the key of the whole. Major Rawlinson entered minutely into the subject, and showed his great acquirements in these unknown and apparently unintelligible chronicles.—Among the papers read have been, one 'On the Gowie Conspiracy,' and another 'On Early American Discoveries.' The last of these was illustrated by a recently discovered copy of that map in Hakluyt's first publication which was long thought to be unique, and which belonged to the Grenville Collection now in the British Museum. The charm attached to the supposed exclusive possession of this rarity has thus been broken.

At the meeting of the 7th inst., the President in the chair,—Mr. Frederick Laxton was elected a Fellow.—Lord Londesborough exhibited a set of twenty-four beads of vitrified paste and quartz crystal, together with a small pair of shears, found in an Anglo-Saxon tumulus on Barham Downs. The shears were of the well-known form of which several specimens may be seen in the 'Nenia Britannica' of Douglas.

Mr. Akerman read remarks by himself on the discoveries made by Sir Henry Dryden in the Marston Cemetery Company, Northampton, and on the supposed period of the settlement of the Saxons in England. Mr. Kemble, in common with other writers, doubts the story of the first coming of those people under the command of Hengist and Horsa, and supposes they obtained a settlement in this island in the days of Marcus Aurelius,—which Mr. Akerman questions. The inscriptions discovered at Cirencester a few years since, and described in the *Archæologia*, in each instance mention distinctly the nation of the deceased, which, in the opinion of the writer, constituted good evidence that they were sojourners only, and not positive settlers. All were of Teutonic origin. Mr. Akerman supposes that the first settlement of the Saxons in England in reality took place on the usurpation of Carausius, and that a portion or district of country on the eastern coasts of Britain was awarded them,—whence, doubtless, originated the title of "Count of the Saxon shore" mentioned in the *Notitia*. The relics discovered by Sir Henry Dryden, though of decidedly Teutonic stamp, were certainly more Roman in character than those found in Kent; and might, if not Saxon, belong to a colony of Franks, the people of that country having greatly contributed to the success of the rebel Carausius.

At the meeting of the 21st inst., the President in the chair, the business commenced with the election of Mr. P. Cunningham and Dr. Guest. Mr. Botfield presented a portrait in oil, purporting to be that of the famous antiquary Sir William Dugdale; but it was stated that there is a mistake in the inscription of this picture (which has been engraved)—and that it is the resemblance, not of Sir William Dugdale, but of his son. Nevertheless, it has the insignia of the "Garter" round the neck, and Dugdale's coat of arms at the corner of the canvas,—which might, indeed, belong to the son as well as to the father. The chief exhibition of the evening was, the two wooden figures which from the days of Henry VIII. to nearly our own time have struck the quarters at Evesham. They are in the full armour of the former period, and about two-thirds of the size of life, having been well preserved by the coats of paint which they have continually received. They were sent up by Mr. Rudge, who accompanied them by a short explanatory letter. The principal business fixed for the evening was the reading of a paper by Mr. Hallam on 'Lucius,' stated by Bede to have been the first Christian king of Britain; a position which Mr.



Hallam controverted at considerable length. The disquisition was not concluded,—being adjourned until the next meeting. We are sorry that it was deemed necessary to divide it, and hope that when it is again brought forward the Secretary may be allowed to begin at the beginning, and, by commencing earlier in the evening, conclude the whole at a sitting. Justice can only thus be done to a paper which depends so much on consecutive reasoning and a comparison of early authorities. We shall not until then enter into the subject; which is a curious one, as well as one of high historical importance.

**STATISTICAL.**—*March 18.*—The Earl of Harrowby, President, in the chair.—J. Fletcher, Esq., ‘On the Police of the Metropolis, and its uses in the Repression of Juvenile Crime.’ The original police of the metropolis (which, until the commencement of the last century, comprised only the “City and Liberties,” with Westminster) consisted of the aldermen, deputy aldermen, common councilmen, ward clerk, ward beadle, inquestmen or leet jury, and constables of the several wards, appointed by the freemen householders therein resident, who were formerly themselves the night watchmen by rotation, of Englishmen,—for no stranger was allowed to discharge so responsible an office:—the ward, with its precincts, being no other than the highest development of the Anglo-Saxon hundred with its tithings. We find this form of police to have existed from the earliest settlement of the valley of the Thames by a northern nation, and to have continued in use, as the type and model for the police of the rest of the realm until the institution of the new police twenty years ago. There was little or no communication between one ward and another, however, as the watchmen were not authorized, except in a few particular cases, to pass the boundaries of their own ward; and this want of concert was aggravated by dissensions between the courts of aldermen and common council as to the degree of superintendence which they should respectively exercise over them, in like manner that the justices who are called on to govern are in frequent conflict with the town councils who pay the officers of our modern prisons. The few officers of central police in the City, the upper marshal, the undermarshal, and the marshalsmen, under whom was organized, at a very modern date, a subordinate force of 68 men, were in like manner the type of the Bow Street and other police attached to the several magistrates’ offices established in the outlying portions of the metropolis so recently as the close of the last century. In the metropolitan parishes without the city the watch was chiefly under local acts, varying somewhat in their provisions, but regulating the same kind of establishment in each, consisting of a beadle, constables, and generally headboroughs, street-keepers and watchmen, as in the several wards of the City, but working to a result so much worse as to appear at the present day scarcely credible. “A great proportion of the petty constables in the metropolis,” according to the Report of the Commons’ Committee of 1818, “served by deputies, who are in many instances characters of the worst and lowest description; the fine they receive from the person who appoints them varies from 10s. to 5l.; and the consequence is, having some expense and no salary, they live by extortion; by countenancing all species of vice; by an understanding with the keepers of brothels and disorderly alehouses; by attending in courts of justice and giving there false evidence to insure conviction, when their expenses are paid; and by all the various means by which artful and designing men can entrap the weak and prey upon the unwary.” To abolish such a system, Sir Robert Peel’s Metropolitan Police Act of the 10th of Geo. IV. c. 44. was passed, superseding the Bow Street foot patrol, and the whole of the parochial police and watch outside the City by one force, both for day and night duty, in the sole appointment, order, and superintendence of two Commissioners, acting under the responsibility of the Secretary of State for the Home Department. The horse patrol was added in 1836, and the Thames Police, with the Westminster Constabulary, and the Police Office Agency in 1838, when the old detective force was superseded. The only metropolitan police now exempt from the authority of the Commissioners was that of the City, which it was attempted to place

under them by the bill for its reconstruction, introduced into parliament in 1839; but it was finally reconstructed so as to avoid the resistance of the corporation, who are allowed to have their own police and their own Commissioners in the heart of the metropolis: an establishment far superior in value to anything which they before possessed, but still costing nearly as much as their old system, in lieu of being managed at one-third less expense as they undertook that it should, or at one half its former cost, as was offered by the Metropolitan Commissioners of Police. The ordering of the force is entirely vested in the Commissioners, subject to the approbation of the mayor and aldermen, or any three of them, and also of the Secretary of State for the Home Department, to whom the Commissioner must make such returns of the state of crime and conduct of the police within the City as they shall require. It is much to be regretted that the neglect of this provision entails the most serious defects upon the moral statistics of the metropolis; no returns whatever of the operations of the City Police, similar to the admirable annual summaries of the Metropolitan Commissioners, having yet made their appearance. The city police consists of 542 men, and cost

in 1846 37,803l. 17s. 5d., but the establishment of marshals and marshalsmen (1,326l. 5s. 6d.) still retained, raises the total to 38,130l. 2s. 11d. This would offer an apparent saving of about 5,500l. per annum on the old system in 1843, if there were not a separate account now kept of about that sum annually raised to defray the miscellaneous ward expenses, which formerly fell upon the police rate. The total number of the police under the Metropolitan Commissioners is 5,513, and its expense in 1848 was 328,346l. 6s. 8d., of which 72,085l. 15s. 2d. was drawn from the Consolidated Fund, and the remaining 256,260l. 11s. 5d. from the parochial rates, upon a rental of 10,250,423l., yielding to a rate of 8d. in the pound the sum of 341,680l. 15s. 6d. A further experience of sixteen years has but justified the eulogium of the Commons’ Committee of 1834, in their testimony to the high character of those who now direct this force, and the consequent improvement in the moral character and discipline of the men, and the efficient working of the new system by which that of associating the police constables with low and vicious characters in flash houses, until an adequate reward was offered for their apprehension, was entirely relinquished.

Persons taken into Custody by the Metropolitan Police in 1848.

Persons.	Total in the Year 1848.			Under 10 years of Age.		10 years and under 15.		15 years and under 20.		Total under 20 years of Age.		
	Male.	Female.	Male & Female.	Male.	Fem.	Male.	Fem.	Male.	Fem.	Male.	Female.	Both Sexes.
Taken into Custody. . .	42,933	21,547	64,480	312	72	3,604	635	8,776	3,518	12,692	4,225	16,917
Summarily disposed of, or Held to Bail	19,353	7,921	27,274	73	7	1,421	194	3,921	1,361	5,415	1,562	6,977
Tried and Convicted . .	3,326	1,038	4,364	2	..	203	26	1,033	218	1,238	244	1,482

Thus upwards of one-fourth of the number taken into custody and summarily disposed of, consists of persons under twenty years of age, and upwards of one-third of those tried and convicted are of this juvenile class, and 231 of them mere children under fifteen. From the facts it was argued that surely the possession of a police, the best in the world in the combination of discipline with moral character, and the rapid improvement of our institutions of industrial and primary instruction, dictated some more economical mode of disposing of a few hundred young professional vagrants than was at present exhibited in our enormous judicial gaol and convict establishments, all handing them forward in a fatal career of plunder upon society and destruction to themselves.

It is the redemption of this class to which the efforts of the ragged schools are directed with a zeal deserving of better success. Yet, though these schools make a direct movement at this class, its very vagrancy eludes their influence. They will raise up the widow’s children and those of the poor, “beaten down with necessity” to the lowest depths of physical privation and moral depression, but will not reclaim the “outer barbarians” perpetually hanging and preying on the lower frontiers of civilized society, to the injury of the honestly poor quite as much as to the annoyance of the luxuriously rich. This obviously is a subject of police, but not of police only; and it becomes a question, which the ragged school approaches only on one side, whether it would not be more economical, and infinitely more beneficial to society at large, to take all the children from upwards of twelve years of age found repeatedly begging or stealing, give them a brief training in some “house of occupation” on the plan of the Philanthropic Society, and then deport them to some of the colonies; thus simply assuming the duty of parentage where natural parents showed their incompetency to its discharge. If this privation of their children prove not to be punishment enough for them, while it is the salvation of the young people themselves, it will be time enough then to impose some fine on them, in part defrayal of their children’s maintenance, or imprisonment on neglect of its payment, especially if there should be any symptom of the plan encouraging vagabondage for the express purpose of getting rid of the children, which is not very likely, because at this age they are ceasing to be burthensome, and beginning to be useful for honest as well as for dishonest purposes. The City of London colonized Ulster with success by similar means two centuries and a half ago under the same pressure; and its recurrence finds

us just as able to carry out the like purpose with respect to other lands, which are now, in effect, no more distant than the north of Ireland was at that period. In any case neither ragged schools nor courts of justice alone and severally can grapple with the rising flood of this disorder, but jointly they may accomplish a great and saving work, with sufficient moral security against mischief to the general economy of society, and in a manner consistent with the humanity of the age.

Lieut.-Col. Sykes read a paper ‘On the Amount of Money expended in India on Public Works from 1835-6 to 1845-6.’

**HORTICULTURAL.**—*March 19.*—W. W. Salmon, Esq., in the chair.—C. S. P. Hunter, J. Spode, W. S. Orr, F. Crockford, J. Whatney, D. B. Chapman, S. Maw, Esqs., the Rev. J. L. Petit, and M. Vilmorin, of Paris, were elected Fellows.—Mrs. Lawrence exhibited a specimen of the long-tailed ladies’ slipper (*Cypripedium caudatum*), an extraordinary looking species, which has just flowered at Ealing Park, for the first time in England. As far as colour is concerned, the flowers have little to recommend them, being, as near as possible, greenish yellow; their peculiarity consists in the petals being extended into two long brown narrow tails, which hang down from either side of each blossom, and keep on growing and growing as the flower gets older, till it is difficult at present to say what length they may eventually reach. Those in the specimen exhibited were nearly 18 inches long, and when the flowers are elevated, as they should be, some 2 or 3 feet above the foliage, these tails must give them a most remarkable appearance. Dr. Lindley stated that the existence of tails was not uncommon among Orchids; and that an unimported species of *Uropedium Lindenii* inhabiting the Cordilleras, near the Lake of Maracaybo, possessed these appendages even in a more remarkable degree than this *Cypripedium caudatum*. The latter comes from Peru, and may now be met with in one or two collections in this country. A large silver medal was awarded. The halberd-lipped odontoglossum (*O. hastilabium*), another new Orchid, or at least comparatively new, was exhibited by Mr. Ivison, gr. to the Duchess-Dowager of Northumberland, at Sion. Like the ladies’ slipper just mentioned, this is not distinguished by brilliancy of colour; but it is, nevertheless, a pretty species. It had a fine spike of flowers on it, whose sepals and petals were pale green, transversely marked with brown dots or lines; the lip was large, pure white, and pale red at the base. It comes from New



Grenada. A Certificate of Merit was awarded.—Messrs. Henderson, of Pine Apple Place, produced a most beautifully grown and flowered *Acacia diffusa*, for which a Certificate of Merit was awarded; and along with it small plants of *Boronia triphylla*, *Epacris hyacinthiflora candidissima*, and the red variety of *Eriostemon cuspidatum*.—Mr. Henderson, of St. John's Wood, sent *Gesnera macrantha purpurea*, a brilliant scarlet variety, with a dwarf habit; a winter blooming heath, in the way of *Linnæoides*, called Burnett; *Siphocampylus lanceolatus*, and an example of *Conoclinium ianthinum*, a new composite, in its present state not so handsome as the blue *Ageratum* (*A. celestinum*).—Mr. Fry, gr. to Miss Dent, Manor House, Lee, Kent, exhibited a self acting contrivance for fumigating glass-houses. It was made of sheet iron, cylindrical, and had a grate at the bottom lifted up on feet sufficiently high to allow a current of air to pass through the fuel on which the fumigating material is placed. It was stated that its chief advantage was that it would burn readily the very cheapest and coarsest tobacco that could be obtained.—The garden of the Society furnished a beautifully-bloomed specimen of the orange-flowered epidendrum (*E. aurantiacum*), a species which few can flower at all; two *Dendrobies*, *Stanhopea grandiflora*, *Lycaste macrophylla*, two *Epacris*, three *Acacias* *Eriostemon scabrum*, four nicely-flowered *Cinerarias*, the Shanghai *Azalea obtusa*, *Henfreyia scandens*, *Forsythia veridissima*, and *Hovea chorozemifolia*. The latter formed a nice little green-house shrub, covered with brilliant purplish-blue flowers; but like all *Hoveas*, it is somewhat difficult to manage. Though the *Forsythia* is quite hardy, it was mentioned that the blossoms required some protection in early spring, otherwise the cold and stormy weather of that season renders them ineffective.

INSTITUTION OF CIVIL ENGINEERS.—March 26.—W. Cubitt, Esq., President, in the chair. The first paper read was a 'Description of the Chapple Viaduct, upon the Colchester and Stour Valley Extension of the Eastern Counties Railway,' by Mr. P. Bruff.

SYRO-EGYPTIAN.—March 12.—Dr. J. Lee in the chair.—After a brief notice of the loss which the Society had sustained in the death of the Rev. T. S. Grimshaw, the chairman welcomed Major Rawlinson on his return to this country.

Various collections of cylinders were exhibited, among which were Major Rawlinson's. The Major gave it as his opinion that they were signets worn and used in ancient times,—just as the Arabs now wear them on their fingers or carry them in their pockets. They always contain, he added, three lines: one the name of the individual, to which that of a deity is prefixed—the next the name of the father—and the third line an invocation.

Major Rawlinson answered a variety of questions put to him by Messrs. Sharpe, Bonomi, Nash, Landseer, and other members, on the progress of discovery in Cuneatic literature, &c.

Mr. W. F. Ainsworth contested the identification of Nimrod with Calah, on the grounds that the characters of most frequent recurrence in the ruins of Nimrod have been read "I, the king of Athur"—the name always given by the Arab writers to Nimrod; that Calah was in Calachene, according to most authorities, a mountain province; that Major Rawlinson had himself formerly placed Calah and Resen in the mountains; that Nimrod was situated in the province of Adiabene—which there were authorities to show took its name from the Ziab or Zab; that Haditha of the Arabs (which Major Rawlinson identifies with Hadith, the Chaldee name of Calah) was, like Senn, on the right bank of the Tigris, Nimrod being on the left; and that if Major Rawlinson's identification was accepted, it would bring Nineveh, Calah, Resen, Sargon, and other cities all within the limits of what Dr. Layard considered to be Nineveh Proper.—Major Rawlinson stated, in reply, that the characters in question referred to the name of the country (Assyria), and not to the town. That the name of Calah, although not yet published, had been deciphered on the Nimrod inscriptions,—and that Haditha was at, and not opposite to, the mouth of the Great Zab. The learned Major also quoted Strabo to show that Calachene was not a mountain

province. He considered Adiabene to have been between the two Zabs; and he sought for Resen in one of the great mounds of ruin which rise up out of the plain of Assyria, between Nineveh and Nimrod.

A second portion of a Memoir on the Samaritans, by Dr. L. L. Loewe, was read by the Secretary.

SCIENTIFIC GOSSIP.—A correspondent, noticing our report of Mr. Grove's lecture at the Royal Institution, and particularly his remarks on the peculiar effects of chloroform and other vapours and gases on the system,—states that in several cases much benefit has been derived by asthmatic patients from the simple practice of burning in their bedrooms previously to their retiring to rest a piece of paper about four inches square soaked in a solution of salt-petre,—that is, ordinary touch-paper. The suggestion is so simple, and the benefits stated to be derived from it are so great, that we give our readers the advantage of the communication.

The attention of the Continental engineers is again called to the pneumato-spheroidal engine of M. Testud de Beauregard. It will be remembered that this engine is constructed on the principle which has been so ably investigated by M. Boutigny, of employing water in the spheroidal state: this condition being induced by allowing it to drop into heated metal tubes. Although the water never acquires the boiling temperature, the vapour escaping from it has the high temperature of the metal with which it was in contact, and is therefore in the highest state of tension. An engine of this construction has been at work for some months in the atelier, 162, Faubourg Saint-Denis, and it is said to act exceedingly well, and to be very economical.

M. Plateau, who lost the use of his eyes by pursuing his inquiries into the persistence of objects upon the retina, has been retained by the Government in the appointments which he previously enjoyed as Professor in the University of Ghent. Employing the eyes of his friends, this admirable experimentalist still labours with his hands; and he has communicated to the Academy of Sciences at Paris an interesting memoir on the forms taken by bodies when relieved from the influence of gravitation. The pursuit of knowledge under difficulties has rarely been more beautifully exemplified than in the remarkable case of M. Plateau.

#### MEETINGS FOR THE ENSUING WEEK.

Mon.	Pathological, 8.
—	Entomological, 8.
—	Chemical, 8.
Tues.	Civil Engineers, 8.—'Description of a Lift Bridge on the Thames Junction Branch of the London and Brighton Railway,' by Mr. R. J. Hood.
—	Linnæan, 8.
—	Horticultural, 3.
Wed.	Society of Arts, 8.—Election of Officers.
Thurs.	Zoological, 9.
Fri.	Archæological Institute, 4.
Sat.	Asiatic, 2.

#### FINE ARTS

##### SOCIETY OF BRITISH ARTISTS.

THAT there have been worse Exhibitions than this *Twenty-seventh* offered to the public by the Society of British Artists may be true. Bad taste may have been more rampant and feebleness more forcibly feeble in former years,—bad drawing may have been outspread in larger quantities,—and "terrible hands" in design may have shown themselves up in greater numbers on former occasions than now. But, make the best that we may, or can, of these mercies,—they are only negative. Here is still mediocrity enough to weigh down hope; an affluence of respectable furniture art,—with few, very few, indications of that spirit which, being poetical, produces on canvas something different from, and superior to, saleable manufacture. Further, within these discouragingly humble limits the number of new aspirants and exhibitors seems to us more than usually small.

If we are to begin with the works that most arrest the eye, our first paragraph must be devoted to that perversely strange and eccentric painter Mr. Anthony, whose cup "of fine frenzy" seems on this occasion brimming over. Much further he cannot push his mannerisms—much more fiercely he cannot exaggerate certain favourite colours—much more mercifully he cannot fix the key-note of his pictures—much more heavily he cannot load his canvas, which is as often *trowelled* as painted—much more audaciously he cannot exercise the *bravura* of execution

—much more carelessly he cannot select and order his compositions, having chosen forms, combinations and aspects of Nature apparently only for their oddity—than he has done in some of the specimens which he here exhibits. On Mr. Anthony's aforesaid fierceness and exaggeration, and resolution to practise on the faith of his admirers empirically rather than respectfully, we must dwell all the more unsparingly, because mixed up with all this singularity and extravagance there is a touch of that real genius which is apt to end in blinding those seduced to even fragrances of manner as importunate as these. What a mixture of truth and trickery, for instance, is his *Windings of the Wye* (No. 144)—a panoramic landscape, in which some of the most difficult and intractable peculiarities of such a scene are grappled with as unflinchingly as though a Canaletti's *camera lucida* had been brought to bear on them, while the whole light and air are as theatrical as if a summer afternoon were the last scene of a *ballet* the glory of which is mainly indebted to the chemical contents of *Rosamond's* "purple jar."—Nothing, again, can be truer than details in the *Foot Bridge* (171)—in *Pastoral Repose* (252)—in a *Solitary Pool* (353); this last, we should imagine, painted in the open air. Then the two churchyard pictures (331 and 456) claim notice: the latter in particular, for the hand-work in the ivy-bound building, which is admirable as regards effect. Yet none among them is guiltless of some outrage to the modesty of Nature, which drives us home from her cool recesses and holy places to ponder not the poet's rhyme, but the ingenuity of the rare-showman's box. Wondrously literal, on the other hand, is Mr. Anthony's *Ruins of Chepstow Castle* (413). Here it has pleased the artist to select one of those days peculiar to our climate, when "the heavens rain mud," and all is gloomy, dark, and cheerless. The result is, a picture which should be inestimable in India, or any other such glaring place; but he must have nerves of adamant, the temper of an angel, and the spirits of a Walpole, who dares hang it up on an English wall for English hearts to shiver at! As an evidence of versatility, we must lastly mention Mr. Anthony's *Flemish Peasant knitting* (459),—as brilliant and forcible an example of colour from a diametrically opposite palette as if Maas himself had painted it. But here, also, both lights and shadows are preposterously loaded.

Mr. Hurlstone exhibits as largely as usual this year,—as usual interspersing his portraits with imaginative compositions, such as *Lady Macbeth* (265) and *Constance* (527) from 'King John.' Of the former there is little to be said. The name suggests a peculiar chromatic treatment, which will be found in all its perfection in the present Exhibition. Of such originality in attitude, of such a noble and faithful simplicity in *pose* and costume as in Sir Joshua's hands could make the most conventional of all conventional modes artistic and poetical, we have not a trace;—but in their place, skill, artifice, manner, the called-up look, the arranged drapery, the managed attitude. And this admitted regretfully (for Mr. Hurlstone is a painter to be regretted over,—so numerous are his requisites for high success), it will surprise no one to hear that "the wife of the Thane of Fife" is merely a wild-looking lady in flowing white drapery, wearing a coronet to suggest her royal ambition and her queenly courage in crime. *Constance* is even less Shakspearian,—less strongly conceived and more conventionally executed.

And here,—unless we were seriously to reckon with Mr. Salter for his *Bacchanalian Dance* (87), or rather with the easy hangers who allowed to so amazing a gambol a prominent place in their "best room,"—we have done with works from their subjects aspiring to a high place as high Art,—and must descend to the Watteau-world of Decameron revels, or to the nearer domain of peasant groups and conversation pieces. That the latter sometimes have a moral and a poetry which elevate them, Mr. Prentiss this year proves in his one contribution,—a picture which we prefer to most coming from his easel. This is, *The Folly of Extravagance* (23), "showing" the departure of a ruined spendthrift and his young wife from the old family mansion. Some incidents in this sad lesson are almost Hogarthian. The stains on the disfigured wall marking the places of the family pictures, now piled together in a corner and chalked with the uphol-



ster's numbers,—the kitten playing with the dice-box and with a straw or two brought in by the feet of rude guests,—the rooks in the park without, careering over the fallen timber,—all happily and naturally play their parts in this pitiful last scene. The pair thrust out of their paradise, with the two dejected retainers who follow them closely, are in mournful concord with this picture of devastation. The work seems painted less finically, with less of japan surface and of inky shadow, than former productions by Mr. Prentiss.

Another "well-acquainted" exhibitor at the Society of British Artists, Mr. Woolmer, is this year less prominent than usual; not less poetical,—but more so because in one instance somewhat more practical and real. The hackneyed conventionalisms of a made-up fairy-land are by familiarity rendered more essentially prosaic than the humblest truths of the world of factory garrets and blind alleys. For instance, what Exhibition-goer—given the title, given the name of the artist—would be unable to compose for himself Mr. Woolmer's *Evening Bath, from the Italian* (104), with its steps, and cypresses, and distant palazzo, and gleam of the broad yellow moon rising, and in the front nymphs disrobing with such pictorial decorum that Prudery's self may dwell on their preparations without fear or frown?—Much more to our liking is *Il Reposo* (232), though the name would not tell us that we are looking at "the Flight into Egypt." The spiritual purity, the meek, maternal reverence of the Madonna, are not here aimed at,—there is no unconscious divinity in the *bambino*; and thus, as regards expression, name and nature are not agreed in this picture. But the composition is easy and, so far as we are aware, un-borrowed. The attitudes of the girl-mother and the beautiful Child are graceful. In his flesh tints Mr. Woolmer is pearly and pure, without those peculiar clayey shadows which he sometimes affects, it may be supposed from an erroneous notion of balancing his favourite crimson and lilac primrose hues.—His *Milton and His Daughters* (460) is merely feebly pretty; and what has prettiness to do with the severe and sublime poet of 'Samson Agonistes' and 'Paradise Lost'?

We do not recollect to have before met with the peasant and shepherd groups of Mr. J. J. Hill, who ushers us agreeably into the Great Room with his *Rustic Courtship* (3),—and whose *Young Shepherd* (108), *Crossing the Stream* (246), *Shepherd Boy* (269), and one or two other specimens are noted in our catalogue as newer, fresher, and larger in manner than has been of late the taste of the day. There is something of the poetry of the Pastoral in these, without the *Della-cruscanism* thereof;—in their handling there is an ease without slovenliness which approaches "the golden mean." It may be as well to warn Mr. Hill against heat of tone where clearness of air has been meant, and to counsel him to heed his draughtsmanship,—his hand being not clear of a propensity to *sprawl* in search of rustic simplicity and freedom.—Almost precisely the opposite may be said of Mr. Herring, who is in great force and finish this year. His *Stirrup Cup* (184) is a close imitation of the manner of our redoubtable animal painter, Mr. E. Landseer,—being neat, glossy, pedantically accurate as to stuffs and surfaces; but it has not the lucid brilliancy of his original. A more successful though a less romantic composition is his *Poulterer and Dealer in Game* (75), where so still is the life and so very commonplace are the *dramatis personæ* that the picture can aspire to little merit beyond such as finish and opposition of colour confer. In these respects Mr. Herring demands high praise. He has turned the prosaic costume of scarlet shawl and blue gown in the buying and selling females to clever account among the treasure of furs and feathers accumulated round about them; and so far, his picture may vie with the best work in which the modern Flemings strain every nerve to reproduce the admirable mechanism of their Mieris's and Metzua's. But Mr. Herring's colouring, though rich, is more earthy and less transparently solid than the colouring of his contemporaries "beside the Scheldt" whom this poultry shop has recalled to us.—Mr. Zeitter repeats his known tricks of hand, and his known assortment of Hungarian peasants, pilgrims, gipsies, soldiers, &c., with too brave a disregard of

his past reputation and future progress.—There are one or two comicalities by Messrs. Pidding and Clater, which we must be excused from particularizing—productions the appearance of which year after year becomes somewhat dreary, not to say discouraging.

Unless we are mistaken, Mr. C. Baxter began his career as an exhibitor in Suffolk Street. This year, as not seldom has happened on former occasions, he carries off the palm in portraiture. His portrait of *George Clint, Esq.* (12) is a vigorous, manly picture; the character marked, without extenuation or pretence,—the workmanship clear, careful, and forcible. In his portrait of *Isabella Stewart* (236) we have, as was permissible, more of the coquetties of colour, without, however, any sacrifice of power or any reprehensible mannerism. This is a brilliant, pleasing picture.

We must reserve a paragraph on the landscapes in this Exhibition for another week.

#### ROYAL ACADEMY.

*Lecture on the Works of the late W. Etty, Esq. R.A., by Professor Leslie.*

From the pictures which I have been enabled, by the kindness of their possessors, to place before you this evening, it may be expected that the remarks I have to offer to you will apply principally to Colour. And lest it should be thought that throughout my addresses to you I have dwelt too exclusively on this attribute of Art, I would merely remind you that the Lectures of our Professors of Sculpture and of Anatomy comprise all that can be said on Form,—and in the Lectures on Architecture many of the great principles of Composition are illustrated.

The students, therefore, come to the lectures on Painting well instructed on these subjects; and though I do not omit to add some observations of my own to the very valuable ones they have heard from my colleagues, yet it remains peculiarly my duty to speak of Colour and of Chiar-oscuro (qualities inseparably united).

The Lectures given in this room are, I apprehend, to be considered as *one* series; and in that light, though I were even to occupy more of your time in the consideration of Colour than I have done, the balance of the subjects on which it is the duty of the Professors to speak would not be disturbed.

I confess, too, I see some cause to dread the loss to the English school of the pre-eminence it has, from the time of Hogarth and of Reynolds, maintained in qualities which have always been esteemed by the greatest painters as of the very highest importance; and the neglect of which can be but very inadequately atoned for by any of the other accomplishments of our art. The market value of Art shows the common feeling of the world on this point. For we find, generally, by the prices given for pictures, that the charms of Colour and of Chiar-oscuro are more readily admitted in excuse for deficiencies in other matters, than other excellencies are allowed to excuse the want of these. And the world is right in this; for we may as well assume that it is not necessary for music to charm the ear as that painting may neglect to charm the eye; and though styles, crude in colour, are sometimes praised for their *grand severity*, yet such severity is often the result merely of the want of a sense of harmony, or of the power of producing it.

On the last anniversary of the Academy, the students heard from the lips of the Keeper a just eulogy on a great painter whom we have recently lost. They were exhorted to imitate the unwearied perseverance and unconquerable steadiness of purpose which so much contributed to the success of William Etty, rather than to attempt to copy that facility of hand which he only attained after years of patient labour; and if I can say anything to aid the impression of the value of such excellent advice, I shall be glad to do so.

You are all familiar with the later works of Etty, and many of you have witnessed his habits of study, in our Life school, pursued too long and too unremittently for his health. I remember him a still more indefatigable student at "dear Somerset House," as he called it, before his name was known to the public, and when he was looked on by his companions as a worthy plodding person, but with no chance of ever becoming a good painter; and I have

no other recollection of the first pictures he exhibited than as black and colourless attempts at ideal subjects.

Yet there may have been, in these early works, a feeling of chiar-oscuro which I was then unable to estimate; and, indeed, I have no doubt but that he knew a great deal more of the art than I did, or others who, like myself, could see no promise in his first attempts.

One morning, however, nearly thirty years ago, he "awoke famous." It was the morning after the opening of the Academy Exhibition of 1821, in which his splendid composition of 'Cleopatra on the Cydnus' had, the day before, unveiled his genius to the public. In the previous year he had gained the admiration of the painters by his beautiful picture of 'The Coral Finders,' after having exhibited two or three pictures, annually, for nine years to no purpose. How often he had sent pictures to the Exhibitions before any of them were received, I know not. I will read to you his own account of what he went through before he could obtain for his early works even the worst places.—

"I got one, two, three, perhaps half a dozen, pictures ready; ordered smart gilt frames, and boldly sent them properly marked, and with a list of prices. . . . In due time I went to inquire their fate; Samuel Strowger, the Royal Academy porter and only male model, brought forth the book of fate. 'Four out, and two doubtful!' Here was a blow! Well, still there is hope! two, no doubt, will get in. No, *all* were returned; both at the Royal Academy and the British Gallery *year after year!* Can this be—am I awake! where are all my dreams of success—the flattering tale of hope—where? Driven almost to madness, the sun shone no sunshine to me; darkness visible enveloped me, and Despair almost marked me for her own."—On comparing dates, it appears that Etty must have been thirty-four years of age when the 'Cleopatra' made him known to the world; and he had been devoted to the art, in mind at least, from childhood.

I need not speak of his after-progress. You have all seen the glorious display of his works in the Adelphi, which he was himself spared to witness,—and which, as far as I have been able to learn, has raised him (high as he stood in the general estimation) still higher. For my own part, with the exception of the walls of the British Gallery, when the works of Reynolds, alone, were displayed there in 1813, I have not seen walls covered with colour so equal in splendour, in truth, and in refinement as were the four walls of the Great Room in the Adelphi last summer.

But it would be doing great injustice to Etty to confine our admiration to his colour. Many other high qualities are to be found in his works; not, however, without an intermixture of alloy. I could, indeed, imagine a cold-blooded critic looking round that room, and quoting the words addressed by Mitchell to Thomson,—

*Beauties and faults so thick lie scattered here,  
Those I could praise, if these were not so near.*

And such a one would well deserve the indignant reply of the poet:—

*Why all not faults? injurious critic, why  
Appears one beauty to thy blasting eye?*

In preference to such a judge, I should quote the writer who has remarked that—"we can scarcely encounter the slightest performance of Etty's hand, on which is not plainly stamped the broad character *great*, in deed or manner." Even the little pictures of still life, of fruit and of flowers, with which he occasionally amused himself, are proofs of this,—dashed off, as they are, with a zest so far above the painful trifling of such painters as Van Husem.

It has been truly said, by the critic I have quoted, the writer of an article in the *Eclectic Review*, of September last, that "Etty must rank, hereafter, among the greatest true colourists the world has yet seen,—often rivalling Rubens and the great Venetians on their own ground, and having, moreover, developed power peculiar to himself." And is it not a proud thing for English Art to be able to say of a son of England, so lately among us, *this*, which cannot be said of any painter out of England, since the death of Watteau?

There is a great deal of talk about the want of encouragement of High Art in this country, and the want of aptitude in the people and the painters of



England to appreciate it; and on this theme the changes have been rung for nearly a century. In the mean time, this is the only country that, for a century or more, has produced Art of the highest excellence. If, by High Art, is meant Art of which the subjects are historic or poetic, men have been able, even in England, to devote their lives to it,—as West, who pursued it,—and on a large scale—with fame and profit; and Barry, whose Art, though profitless, attracted, in his own time quite as much attention as it deserved. The works of Stothard, though, for the most part, on a very small scale, are of the very highest order:—and of Hogarth, of Wilson, of Reynolds, and of Gainsborough, I will only say that they each pursued the bent of their genius, with unequal worldly success, but eventual fame; and Etty has added another name to this so honourable list, and he has also added one more proof to the many the world has seen, that whatever a man of superior mind undertakes, with an interest that never loses sight of its object, and a perseverance that turns all circumstances in the slightest degree favourable to it to account, he will accomplish—if it be within the reach of human powers. And, what may seem strange, Etty not only painted, from the beginning to the end of his career, a class of subjects that are supposed to be alien to the English taste, but he died wealthy.

The truth is, that a great part of the complaints against our Government and our patrons for the neglect of High Art originates with a class of painters who fancy they are forced to work in what they consider the inferior departments of the profession for the want of taste in those who should employ them in better things. We are all too prone to throw the blame of our own failures on others. So did not William Etty. During the many years in which he was toiling in obscurity, and, at times, almost driven to despair, his want of success only made him look within himself for the cause. He found it;—and by his own unwearied exertions made his way to fame. It was his modesty, therefore, that at last brought him into the sunshine of public favour; and I believe many men, with natural powers equal to his, have been for ever kept in the shade by their vanity, which, though it may sometimes promote industry, more often encourages indolence, or at any rate hinders the right direction of industry.

In the writings of Sir Joshua Reynolds there is no point more insisted on than the necessity of labour to the attainment of excellence in Art. He attributed his own success to unremitting industry stimulated by ambition. Though he discourages all reliance on genius and taste, alone, and even goes so far as to intimate that industry will supply the place of what are generally considered the gifts of nature, yet when he says that "nothing is denied to well-directed industry, nothing is to be obtained without it," he implies unquestionably the existence of the power, certainly not common, which the world has agreed to call Genius;—for it is only in the degree in which industry is influenced by such a power that it can be truly directed towards success. The expression "well-directed industry" is indeed the most comprehensive definition of genius. We often see great industry thrown away for want of judgment; and excellent natural abilities rendered useless, or worse than useless, for want of industry: so that, as we know industry alone is not genius, we may fairly say also, that the greatest natural powers do not constitute genius without industry.

To look away for a moment from our own pursuits, how many things have been accomplished that seem almost prodigies by the untiring activity and singleness of purpose of superior minds! Such minds, for instance, as Columbus possessed. It is by such energy, well directed to its object, that the poorest men often acquire wealth, and honestly; and it is by such energy, well directed also, that the most obscure will assuredly acquire fame, if they deserve it. It may come late, or it may not come in its full measure while they live; but it *will* come, and he whose mind is of a high order will always prefer a well-founded reputation after death to present popularity, attained through the want of judgment of his contemporaries.

The great painter, so many of whose pictures and studies I had the pleasure of showing to you when we last met in this room, John Constable, was

scarcely recognized as an artist during his life; but he is now better understood, and will, I am persuaded, in time, take his proper place among the greatest of landscape painters, while Etty had the better fortune to be truly estimated while he lived.

Though, as I have said, it would be very unjust to Etty to consider him great only as a colourist, yet certainly this is the one thing in which he is always excellent, and with an equality very uncommon. The writer, from whom I have quoted one or two passages, goes on to say—"The variety of his colour is very eminent and rare in its fluctuating adaptation to the sentiment of the individual work, and to the character of the natural effect. Between such colour as that of any of the 'Judiths' and that of the 'Fleur de Lis,' there is little in common beyond their exceeding glory and beauty. Yet it would be difficult to say which is in its separate kind the more perfect. So of others; the most opposed characters of splendour or harmony of colour being continually developed. And all this is attained with the entire absence of glare."

The works of very few painters, collected, would present an appearance so equal in colour. Nothing is more generally striking in such exhibitions than the very different styles of the different periods of practice. But in Etty, after his powers were fully developed, we scarcely observe any change; certainly no change of principle, for from the first he was right. The varieties in the effects of his pictures are caused only by the varieties in his subjects. But whether his colour be dark or light, solemn or gay, the principles of its harmony are the same.

The walls of the Great Room in the Adelphi amply proved the truth of Hogarth's reasoning on the supposed improvement of the tone of pictures by time.\* When in a former address to you I alluded to this, I stated my belief that no finely coloured picture was ever seen to such advantage as when it came fresh from the hand of the painter. Time has not operated very long on any of the works of Etty; but, if there be any perceptible difference arising from the effects of time in them, the advantage belongs to the very last of his productions, among which may be mentioned the 'Fleur de Lis.'

Slight and generalized as are his backgrounds, yet he is invariably happy in expressing the most charming characteristics of landscape; and it is no wonder that he should be so fond of painting bathers when he could with such ease provide for them scenes so inviting and weather so genial as his pencil delighted in creating. The two subjects of this class which I am enabled to show you are, you will observe, very different in effect. The one light, but with nothing of that rapid whiteness that inferior colourists mistake for light;—the other exceedingly deep and rich in effect. Yet to both the glow of summer noonday is given in perfection. These pictures, productions of Etty's later practice, are remarkable for their perfect finish at a distance, and the slightness and the boldness of their execution discoverable on a near approach. They are, indeed, masterly works,— "masterly without rudeness;" and I know of no landscape backgrounds, excepting by Velasquez, in which so much is expressed and so happily by the fewest possible touches of the pencil.

I need but recall to your minds his moonlit seas, his deep blue skies, and that expanse of rippling

\* Though fine pictures have often been injured by the unskilfulness of ignorant picture-cleaners, yet they have, I believe, more often been restored, as nearly as possible, to the condition in which they came from the hands of their authors. The clamour raised about the last cleaning of some of the pictures in the National Gallery, and which from time to time is revived in the newspapers, has unfortunately, for the present, suspended the restoration of others there. The dirt that was removed from the 'Peace and War' of Rubens came away, I have been told, chiefly by the use of water;—and it is known that the fine Paul Veronese, 'The Consecration of St. Nicholas,' after it was brought to England was glazed with liquorice or tobacco water, and afterwards varnished, in order to give it what was in those days considered tone by some of the leading amateur authorities in Art. Unfortunately, in the present state of the public mind, misled as it is by misrepresentation on this point, if by careful cleaning the cloud over the surface of this fine picture should be removed, and it should be restored, as some day it may be hoped it will be, to its original freshness and silver purity, an outcry will immediately be raised that it is "flayed." But it is one of the inconveniences inevitably associated with a collection belonging to the public, that the most careful proceedings of its guardians are liable to the misrepresentations of ignorance, of which the most satisfactory exposures cannot prevent the iteration.

water which separates the gilded boat from the frame of his picture in the Vernon Gallery; things soon enumerated, but of the rarest occurrence in Art with such beauty and truth as he gave to them;—I need but mention these, and I am sure you will feel as I do that his relish for all that is most charming in inanimate nature was of the utmost refinement.

There is one expression which pervades the whole of his Art, excepting in a few instances in which the subjects preclude it, an expression of great value, namely, that of *happiness*,—a charm that he studied not to give. Perhaps he might be unconscious of it, for it came naturally from his own constitutionally serene mind upon his canvasses.

We feel, indeed, that Etty's Art is the emanation of such a mind as alone could have given utterance to what he says towards the end of his own brief account of himself. I should mention to those who may not have seen this account that, before he began to study the art, he served a seven years' apprenticeship in a printing office, having been bound at the "tender age of eleven and a half!" Alluding to this he says, "My life has been, since I was free from bondage and pursuing the retreating phantom of Fame, like the boy running after the rainbow,—my life has been, I say (with the exception of some dark thunder-clouds of sorrow, disappointment, and deprivation) *one long summer day*; spent in exertions to excel, struggles with difficulty, sometimes Herculean exertions, both of mind and body; mixed with poetic day-dreams and reveries by imaginary enchanted streams. I have passed sweetly and pleasantly along,—now chewing the cud of sweet and bitter fancy, and regretting my inability to do greater and better things; but God is good, and I desire in all my thoughts to give Him glory in the highest, that He has blessed me and mine with a fair reputation and the solid comforts of life in a degree beyond my deserts; and I now retire from the arena with the best feelings of peace and goodwill to my brethren of the art for their uniform kindness, consideration and support in my long professional career."

To return to the subject of expression,—and as connected with his last most important work, the series of pictures from the history of Joan of Arc, it may be best to listen again to his own words. In a note written to one of the purchasers of those pictures, Mr. Colls, he thus speaks of the series, and also of his other large works.—

"My three pictures of 'Joan of Arc,' now in the Royal Academy Exhibition, have cost me many an anxious thought for considerably upwards of seven years (indeed it is seven years or more since the canvasses were stretched). Judith was first conceived in the York Minster, when the solemn tones of the organ were rolling through the aisles. 'Joan of Arc' was first thought of in Westminster Abbey,—in Henry the Seventh's Chapel, under the chivalric banners that hang there; hearing the Anthem sung, and looking towards the grand portal, I seemed to see her in imagination riding into the gates of Orleans, and carrying the siege thereof. I subsequently, however, changed that subject for the present one, as better. I thought that as she was the Judith of modern times, her story, like my first, ought, like the epic, to have a beginning, a middle, and an end; and, like all my large pictures, point a great moral lesson to the mind, viz., my 'Combat,' the first, was the beauty of Mercy;—'Judith,' of Patriotism;—'Benaiah,' David's chief captain, Valour;—the 'Syrens and Ulysses,' the resistance of sensual appetites;—'Joan of Arc,' the Saint, the Patriot, and the Martyr—that heroic self-devotion to her country and her prince which has stamped her fame. Long choosing and beginning late,—hesitating among a variety of points of her story, years passed ere I could fix my choice. I visited Rouen, and sketched the old houses which were there, I dare say, at the time. I visited Paris and saw all the pictures relating to her that had been done in modern times. I made a pilgrimage to Orleans, also, in search of further information. An enthusiastic admirer myself of her character, I was desirous of sparing no pains to endeavour to do justice to her cause, and complete the series of nine colossal pictures, I had set my mind to complete, if God would so far sustain me! He has done so, and I am deeply grateful! At times the severity of



the winter, my struggles for very breath, and severe cough made me waver; but I pressed on, and God has given me the desire of my heart. In the first, I suppose her to have found the sword she had seen in her dreams, and invoking the inspiration from Heaven which sustained her through her arduous course. In the second, having supposed her to have been imbued with that inspiration, she accomplishes more by it than the vulgar expression of those human passions which actuate more ordinary characters;—this has given rise to an idea in some minds that she is not sufficiently excited—the effect, however, was intentional on my part; it would have been easy to knit the brows and dilate the nostril; but I conceived she was in possession of a superior power, the serene possession of which I endeavoured to express. In the last, the tale, a sad one, is pretty plainly told. She had called for a crucifix, a soldier tied two pieces of wood together in the form, and gave it to her; she clasped it to her bosom as the emblem of her redemption; in the meanwhile, Father Avenel, a monk, having procured one, made his way through the crowd, and endangered his own safety several times to administer consolation to her, till she, perceiving his danger, begged of him at last to consult his own safety, and leave her to her fate! As the smoke and flames cleared away, she was seen clasping the crucifix, and her voice was heard calling on the name of Jesus! Tradition says a white dove was seen flying towards Heaven."

I can call to mind no picture I have ever seen of a subject similar to the death of Joan of Arc, approaching to it in pathos, and so entirely free from the morbid taste with which such scenes are often treated.—In looking at it I can think only of the heroine and her fate, so disgraceful to two great nations. The mind is not drawn from this by any studied elegance in her attitude or in the dark drapery that invests her. We seem to see herself, not a picture, as she stands appealing to Heaven with a faith which does not yet conquer her terrors of a fearful death. The careful manner in which the quaint old houses in the background are painted gives a dreadful reality to the scene; and instead of the usual commonplace accompaniment to such subjects, of a lurid sky, Etty has shown the heavens clear as the soul which is about to wing its way from a cruel world; and, like a true poet, he has availed himself of the reported incident of the dove rising in snowy brightness. Though this picture and the others from the same story are inferior in completion to the magnificent series from the history of Judith, yet they place the painter higher, to my thinking, as a master of sentiment, perhaps because the subjects are of more interest.

I have heard it objected to Etty that he had no imagination; but I think those who do not perceive that all the works of such a painter are imaginative, may, at least, discover imagination in these pictures as well as in the painter's own account (so earnest and, in part, so pathetic) of their conception. Many other instances might be adduced from among the works of Etty where the expression is carried as far as possible. Nothing can be finer than his repentant prodigal. And in (I think) his second 'Judgment of Paris,' the shepherd prince regards the victorious goddess with a look of such profound reverence, mixed with admiration, as we may suppose due only from a human to an immortal being. This places the picture, in sentiment, far above the treatment of the same subject by Rubens.

And now having expressed, however imperfectly, my admiration of some of his excellencies, I may be permitted, I trust, without incurring the charge of captiousness, to say something of his faults. His occasional inaccuracies of form, and want of attention to proportion, may be readily forgiven for beauties that might redeem greater defects; the world has consented to pardon similar faults in Correggio; and I do not think it profane to speak of Etty and Correggio together. It is one thing, however, to forgive such faults, and quite another to excuse them by theories like one that occurs in the well-written eulogy on Etty's works which I have quoted, namely, that "drawing and colouring cannot in fact be given in equal proportions of perfection in Art; because not actually so occurring in Nature herself. Where the one attribute prevails, the other is subordinate." What may have been the observations of Nature from

which such a conclusion is arrived at I cannot conceive. But we know that beautiful and correct drawing has often been united with fine colour in Art. What, for instance, can be more perfect in both than the finest heads of Titian, of Vandyke, of Rembrandt, and I will add of Reynolds? and if it be said that these are not ideal (which, however, I do not admit), the frescoes of Michael Angelo, I am told by competent judges, have passages of colour equal to Titian and Correggio. Indeed, from the works of Etty himself, specimens of perfect drawing might be selected, though perhaps rarely in any entire figure. But as he had made himself thoroughly master of the anatomical structure of the human frame, he could certainly be accurate in his proportions without any loss of spirit in execution; and where he is not so, it is the result merely of haste or carelessness, and not of ignorance, nor to be defended by any of the fanciful theories of the day.

A worse fault, in my estimation, than incorrectness sometimes mingles with his beauties. Something of the mannerism, in forms and attitudes, of the Lawrence and Westall schools, which in sentiment were the same, may be seen in Etty's Art. That this should be the case, however, was the almost inevitable result of his placing himself in early life under Lawrence;—so difficult are the impressions received in youth to be effaced, even where, as with Etty, there is great originality and strength of mind.

He has told us in his Autobiography, that though he painted in the house of Sir Thomas, he received little or no instruction from him. Still the contemplation and copying the works of that eminent man could not but in some degree affect his style, and indeed the Art of Lawrence had so much of fascination in it as to maintain a widely spread influence over the rising talent of the day; and gradually to undermine till it almost entirely superseded the taste imparted by Reynolds and Gainsborough to English portraiture.

If Etty acquired a tinge of something in the house of Lawrence which he might better have been without, it is greatly to his praise that he came from it a colourist destined to rank with the very best that have lived; for the school of the great portrait painter was certainly not one of colour. But I believe Etty's first impressions of harmony were derived more from Fuseli, who though he said of himself that "he had always courted colour as a despairing lover woos a disdainful mistress," yet he had a very fine eye for the negative tones best suited to the visionary subjects he delighted to paint.

There is a question on which it may not appear to be my province to enter; but it is one which Etty's peculiar treatment of, and choice of subjects must present to most minds;—I mean the question of how far his frequent preference of the nude may or may not be proper.

It is very true that in entire nudity there may be nothing objectionable, while figures clothed to the chin, if but an eye be seen, may convey the grossest meanings. I scarcely remember a female face by Etty in which the expression is impure; and if I wished for a personification of innocence, I know no painter's works among which I could more readily find very many instances that would answer to it. I remember years ago, borrowing from him to copy, a head of a young girl, of such angelic purity of expression, that I returned it after having destroyed all the attempts I had made to repeat it, because, in all, I had failed to catch the beauty either of the expression or of the colour.

In considering the question relating to nudity, I can call to mind no display of it in the works of Raphael, of Stothard, or of Flaxman, that seem to me objectionable. But this I cannot say of the works of Titian, Correggio, Rubens, and others of the great colourists, masters between whom and Etty there was more in common.

He was aware of the imputations that were cast on his character by those who knew him only in his works.—"I have been accused," he writes, "of being a shocking and immoral man."—And in another part of his Autobiography, so deeply interesting to all who knew him, for all who did, knew his entire sincerity, he says, "as a worshipper of beauty whether it be seen in a weed, a flower, or in that most interesting form of humanity, lovely woman, an intense admirer of it and its Almighty author,—

if at any time I have forgotten the boundary line that I ought not to have passed, and tended to voluptuousness, I implore His pardon, I have never wished to seduce others from the path and practice of virtue, which alone leads to happiness here and hereafter; and if in any of my pictures an immoral sentiment has been aimed at, I consent it should be burnt; but I never recollect being actuated in painting by any such sentiment."

The apology which he makes in another part of these papers for his extraordinary predilection for the nude, namely, that "he preferred painting the glorious works of God to draperies, the works of man," is based on a mistake to which I have alluded in a former address to you, namely, that of considering artificial objects as less poetic than natural ones; an error which has been so completely exposed by Lord Byron. I then mentioned a reply of Reynolds to a portrait painter, who complained of the hardship of being obliged to paint coats, wigs and hats. "These things," said Sir Joshua, "have all light and shadow." And so we shall find, if we know how to look for it, that in all the works of man the best part is always Nature's doing. Etty's rejection of draperies wherever he could reject them, and, very often, where he should not have done so, led him to a carelessness in general, in the treatment of them, excepting in colour, unparalleled in Art, and unworthy of so great a painter. The works of Raphael abound in instances in which the grace and dignity of his figures are increased by their draperies alone. How superior for instance in these respects are his Muses, who have all ample draperies, to the naked Muses of Tintoret in that otherwise fine picture which is now in our painting school; and in this slight engraving from a design of Raphael, you will perceive how much is gained by the addition of drapery. The subject is 'The Marriage of Alexander and Roxana.' In the upper sketch the figures are studied from the nude,—a practice of this great master, and an excellent one. But you will notice in the lower sketch how greatly the Roxana gains by the exquisitely flowing lines of the drapery which he has thrown over the lower part of the figure. I have placed next to this engraving two very fine Marc Antonios after Raphael. The upper one is a very remarkable instance of the value of drapery; a female figure sitting, and so enveloped in a loose mantle that neither a hand, an arm, nor a foot are shown. Yet it is singularly elegant; and will remind the students of the Life school of those accidentally beautiful compositions that often occur when the model is resting and covered with drapery.

On the score of taste then alone, I think Etty's indiscriminate partiality for the nude is objectionable, and how far his peculiar bias in this may be indefensible on other and higher grounds is a matter that I conceive cannot be passed silently by, and need not, even by his greatest admirers, among whom I should be sorry not to be classed.

The influence of the poetry and sculpture of the Greeks which has spread so much of beauty through modern Art, has not certainly been an influence of unmixt good. Plato banished poetry, excepting hymns to the Gods, from his Republic, and with it he banished painting, for all his arguments against the one equally affect the other. But it is not to be supposed that the great philosopher, himself a poet and an admirable dramatist, should wish to annihilate poetry. His object in all he says of it is clearly to purify it only.

The connexion between taste and morality seems scarcely to have been recognized by the Greeks; and the exquisite refinement that prevailed in those of their cities where poetry and the arts were most cultivated was a refinement obtained not by excluding vice but by clothing it with elegance. It therefore well became the great teacher of the immortality of the soul to expose the blandishments of poetry, and the inevitable evil tendency on the multitude of the glorifications of the vices of mankind by attributing them to gods in whose existence they believed. Under a true religion something of this danger is removed; but still more perhaps remains than painters or poets are willing to allow.

Plato himself, when proposing the banishment of poetry, admits that "a certain friendship, at least, and reverence for Homer which he has had from his childhood almost restrained him;" but "still," he adds, "the man must not be honoured in pre-



ference to truth." And again, "If any one can assign a reason why the poetry and the imitation which are calculated for pleasure ought to be in a well-regulated city, we, for our part, shall gladly admit them, as we are at least conscious to ourselves that we are charmed by them. *But to betray what appears to be truth were an unholy thing.*"\*

I cannot, therefore, think it out of place to warn my younger brethren in Art of the danger of being blinded by high poetic authority and the fascinations of many of the fables of antiquity, as subjects of Art, to the real moral tendency of what they may put on canvas. Neither true religion nor true morality would banish poetry or painting now from the world; but they would and should direct these arts aright; and though I should be very far from allowing that such a mind as Etty's was in anything allied to the French painters of the last century, who dealt much in mythology, or others of a later date, yet I do think he might have found subjects more worthy of his exquisite pencil than some to which he has descended,—his diploma picture,† for instance, though sanctioned by the example of such painters as Titian, Correggio, Nicolo Poussin, and Reynolds. And, by the way, I may remark that the picture of Titian, from which copies have been most often multiplied, for what reason I need not say, is one that should never have been painted.

Etty's Art was substantially rewarded as well as appreciated,—but I fear the extent to which he was patronized must not be entirely considered as proceeding from a pure love and true appreciation of what is excellent in painting. It cannot be doubted that the voluptuous treatment of his subjects, in very many instances, recommended them more powerfully than their admirable art; while we may fully believe that he himself, thinking and meaning no evil, was not aware of the manner in which his works were regarded by grosser minds.

I cannot conclude the remarks I have presumed to make on this great painter without stating, what I am enabled to do from my own knowledge, that his conduct as an Academician was invariably marked by the most unremitting and disinterested zeal for the prosperity and honour of the society of which he was so distinguished an ornament. He considered, indeed, the welfare of the Academy as identical with the general welfare of the Arts of his country. Naturally shy, he never spoke at our meetings without a great effort, yet never was he silent on any occasion on which he thought he could serve the institution. There was a simplicity and sincerity in his manner that greatly attached his friends; and I never could discover in him the least sign of jealousy or other unworthy feeling towards any of his brother artists. I knew much of him in the early part of his career; and, destined as he was to see many of his fellow-students, younger than himself, pass by him into notice and patronage, while he was still working in obscurity, no murmur escaped him, no expression of envy towards those who, often with far less of merit, were outstripping him in the road to fame. But he lived to enjoy the reward of his genius and his virtues even in this life.

For the loan of the pictures I am enabled to show you I am indebted to Mr. Munro, who on two other occasions has most kindly intrusted me with pictures of great value,—to Mr. Jacob Bell,—to Mr. Wethered the possessor of the 'Fleur de Lis,' and many others on the walls,—to Mr. Wass,—and to Mr. Hogarth, who has kindly allowed me to show you a fine Gainsborough, which I should have been glad to exhibit had it been in town on Thursday last.

**FINE-ART GOSSIP.**—The original idea of giving a money prize of 5,000*l.* and other large prizes to successful exhibitors at the great Industrial Exhibition of 1851 having been, as we understand,—and think very wisely,—abandoned, the Commissioners have announced their intention of giving, instead, medals of various sizes and different designs,—to represent, we suppose, various classes of merit. The medals will be of three kinds; all having on their obverses portraits of Her Majesty and Prince Albert, and on

the reverses some design illustrative of the objects of the Exhibition or appropriate as the rewards of successful competition. For these latter designs the artists of all countries are to compete:—and three prizes of one hundred pounds each will be given for the designs accepted, and three of fifty pounds each for the best which are not accepted. The Commissioners have decided on bronze for the material in which the medals are to be executed; considering that metal to be better calculated than any other for the development of superior skill and ingenuity in the medallic art, and at the same time the most likely to constitute a lasting memorial of the Exhibition. The notion of these medals being in bronze is, we think, good for another reason: as it relieves them from the idea of mere material or pecuniary value. They will thus become honourable testimonials of merit, which, like the prizes of classic times, will be prized rather for the distinction which they convey than for any intrinsic worth. The designs for the reverses are to be sent to the Secretaries of the Commission on or before the 1st of June; and must be nine inches in diameter,—executed in basso-relievo, in plaster of Paris.

At the last meeting of the Commissioners of Fine Arts for decorating the New Palace at Westminster, it was determined that Messrs. Cross and F. Pickersgill should be ordered to execute two of the subjects for the Peers' corridor. Mr. Pickersgill is to paint 'Charles the First erecting his Standard at Nottingham,'—and Mr. Cross 'The Speaker Lenthall asserting the Privileges of the Commons against the same Charles when the attempt was made to seize the five members.' These pictures are to be in oil colours; and their dimensions are to be each 9 ft. 6 in. wide by 7 ft. high. They are to be proceeded with forthwith.

Mr. John Watson Gordon—who is an Associate of the Royal Academy in London—has been chosen to fill the two vacancies in the high places of his profession which the death of Sir William Allan made in the northern kingdom. By Her Majesty he has been appointed Queen's Limner in Scotland,—and by the Royal Scottish Academy unanimously elected their President.

The anniversary dinner of the Artists' Benevolent Fund took place on Saturday last at the Freemasons' Tavern, and was presided over by Mr. Baring Wall. During the past year it appears from the report that the dividend allowed to the recipients of the fund has been increased to 18*l.* in the case of widows, and 5*l.* in that of orphans. The secretary announced in the course of the evening subscriptions amounting to about 500*l.*

The Oxford papers announce that the Hon. W. T. H. Fox Strangways, M.A., formerly a student of Christchurch, has presented to the University galleries about thirty pictures of great interest and value, mostly by Florentine and other early Italian masters.

Lord Duncan as a nobleman of taste has made, we think, a mistake in the House of Commons, by directing unfriendly attention to the very elegant balustraded wall which Mr. Barry was erecting in the Green Park, in front of Bridgewater House. His Lordship has acquired a deserved celebrity for looking after the Crown lands of the country, from the princely New Forest down to suburban little Epping; but in this instance he has sought to maintain his deserved popularity with a deficient argument. Mr. Barry, as Lord Ellesmere's architect, had not made any encroachment on the Green Park: we should have been among the first to complain if he had. He has placed, instead of a dwarfed, fork-like rail—a receptacle for rubbish—a very elegant wall of honest English masonry, which would have been when completed an ornament to the Park itself,—besides being a necessary addition to a house of great architectural beauty, evidently designed by its architect with some advancement of architecture to give it due elevation and grandeur. The very elegant Italian garden which Mr. Barry was busy about will be now abandoned:—the lease from the Crown to Lord Ellesmere containing no clause entitling his Lordship to replace a dirty little rail with a wall of stone even breast high. Had Mr. Barry designed a wall like that in front of Burlington House which shuts out the handsomest colonnade in London, or a lofty street rail planked with boards like that in front of Stafford House,—we should have thanked Lord Duncan for his interference:—of which the principle is good where appropriately

enforced. Now we lament a needless impediment in the name of the people to the designs of a nobleman whose designs include a staircase in this very house for the free admission of that public to the enjoyment of his princely collection of pictures.

## MUSIC AND THE DRAMA

**MUSICAL UNION.—SECOND MATINÉE.**—April 9th, at Half-past Three o'clock.—Quartet, *2* minor, Op. 41, Audante and Scherzo, Posthumous Quartet, Mendelssohn; Sonata, in G, Piano and Violin, Beethoven; Quartet, No. 10, *2* flat, Beethoven. Artists:—Ernst, Deloffre, Hill, and Piatti. Pianoforte, S. Bennett. Members are requested to pay their subscriptions to Cramer & Co., where single tickets, Half-a-Guinea each, can be purchased. Members can personally introduce visitors on payment at the door. A limited number of resident artists and members of foreign academies will receive free admissions, on applying to J. ELLA, Director.

**PHILHARMONIC SOCIETY.**—A pamphlet has been circulated, by Mr. Grattan Cooke, among the Subscribers and Members of the Philharmonic Society, to which we must call attention. Those who during a long course of years have adverted to defects calling for reform,—and who have already testified to the instant and clear profit attendant upon their removal,—must not forbear, however unpleasant it be, to speak when called on by the statement of a case in which progress could not be secured without individual grievance; but in which the aggrieved party represents himself as having been unworthily treated. We have adverted [*ante*, p. 267] to the new appointments of first oboe and first horn this year, made in the Philharmonic orchestra. In the pamphlet alluded to, Mr. Grattan Cooke, as the player on the former instrument, publishes the fact of his displacement,—his vexation at the manner in which it has been made,—and his conviction that it is ascribable "to *partial and personal motives.*" It appears that the Philharmonic Directors availed themselves of Mr. G. Cooke's nomination to the mastership of the band of the 2nd Life Guards (by his own letter of September last announced to them, with some deprecatory hesitation), to invite him to resign his oboe-ship in their orchestra on the plea of the two appointments being incompatible. This intimation Mr. Cooke would neither understand nor accept; whereupon he subsequently received a notice that his services would not be required for the current season. He has published the correspondence, with a preamble, in which by his allusion to the Birmingham Festival of 1849 and the Sacred Harmonic Society, Mr. G. Cooke clearly conveys the impression that his dismissal was owing to Signor Costa's interference. We observe in a recent number of the *Times* an official statement made on the part of the Philharmonic Directors, that Signor Costa is not one of their Council, but merely their conductor, and that he has no voice in the making of their engagements.—Such being Mr. G. Cooke's view—and such the tone of his circulated appeal,—we have no choice but to comment thereon by a few plain truths.—He seems unaware that for many years past it must have been felt by every listener to the Philharmonic performances, that the nervousness and unsteadiness in time of the first oboe as an orchestral player stood in the way of a sure and perfect execution. Six seasons ago—ere Signor Costa's appointment was thought of, in the time of Dr. Mendelssohn's short and stormy presidency—it will be found that this journal [*Athen.* Nos. 866 and 872, &c.] pointed to particular instruments as "not up to the mark,"—avoiding specification from averseness to giving pain. Mr. G. Cooke forgets how great has been our recent advance in every department of orchestral execution—how, to name merely one instance, it was necessary to abolish that old change of leadership which one night exhibited the incompetence of Mr. Weissell, another the deficiency of Mr. François Cramer, &c. To many worthy men these modifications of a constitution infinitely pleasing to its members, but obsolete as not meeting the requisitions of our time, must have been mortifying. But help there was none—unless our model concert was to perish of inanity and self-importance—save in self-help on the part of the players laid aside. If, in place of contenting himself with the old sympathies and traditions of the Philharmonic Society—in place of resting with a natural complacency on testimonials of regard from Dr. Mendelssohn and Dr. Spohr.—Mr. G. Cooke had

\* The Republic of Plato. Book X. Chaps. 1st and 8th.

† This picture, objectionable as it appears to me in subject, has less perhaps than any of his works of the peculiar excellence of his art.



taken them to heart as a stimulus,—he would not now have stood in the false position of an artist who, unable to perceive his own incompleteness, absolutely draws attention to it by endeavouring to establish a case of persecution,—and compels those who, like ourselves, cordially own and recognize his many gifts and agreeable talents, to draw the line between what is unjust to the individual and what is indispensable to the progress of art and the requirements of taste. We are often at issue with the Philharmonic Directors on account of their timid resolution to move in the narrow groove of precedent, especially as regards their *solo* engagements. We think their counsels unwisely narrow as regards the trial and acceptance of new compositions. In the case before us, we think that they might have done wisely by more emphatically insisting on their duty to make their band as perfect as possible—thus destroying for the future the idea that service establishes a claim which shall outweigh defect. But in proportion as we remonstrate, on principle, against the want of generous and large principles in their direction, we are bound to support them in every measure which shall tend to improve their performances. In the instance before us, moreover, they appear to have acted with considerate delicacy, which Mr. G. Cooke has been unwise in misinterpreting. It is to himself that he owes the pain of being told publicly that there *was* “just cause and reason” for the appointment of another first oboe at the Philharmonic Concerts.

**SACRED HARMONIC SOCIETY.**—Never did we feel so forcibly as yesterday week how fast fleeting is the reputation some years ago gained by Spohr as a composer of sacred music. Never has the ‘Last Judgment’ been better—if so well—performed in England; yet the temperate, not tame, version of it presented by Signor Costa convinced us anew that the recitatives are inexpressive, heavy, needlessly hard to sing,\* and therefore hopeless to declaim; and that the choruses, two excepted, are timid and mechanical,—poverty of first idea and constructive resources being thinly, though speciously, veiled by Spohr’s seductive treatment of his orchestra: the receipt of which is soon learnt, to the cloying of the senses of the listeners. The two excepted choruses, however, both double quartets, stand out from the rest of the work in beautiful individuality. In both, the antiphony of *solo* against full chorus—one choir growing out of and rising above the other, as cloud may be seen towering up behind cloud, on the serenely pompous sky of a summer evening—produces a poetical effect of vastness and aspiration which belongs to the highest devotional art. The mellowness with which these movements were given yesterday week was delicious. Other parts of the Oratorio possess superficial beauty,—beauty of key—beauty of sound in single chords, &c.; and this it was which gave the ‘Last Judgment’ such a bloom of early popularity in England. But “bloom” without a healthy principle of vigorous life will never come to “fruit;” and the work as a whole sounded faded—bygone—“a tale that is told,” to which we shall never again give a willing ear.

**SADLER’S WELLS.**—Southerne’s fine tragedy of ‘Isabella’ has been revived here, for the purpose of giving Miss Glyn an opportunity of appearing in the part of the heroine. The character was seized by her with power and pathos.

**MUSICAL AND DRAMATIC GOSSIP.**—We have never had any lack of musical rumours—but it may be noted as a feature of the time, that many of those current refer to the foundation of establishments on a grand scale or for the promotion of sound objects. One day we receive (to speak fancifully) an echo of an eight-part Motet in preparation by the Bach Society—on another, the project of a new Oratorio or the announcement of a new Requiem of sterling value and originality, or the notification of some new instrumental works forthcoming by that promising young composer Mr. Henry Leslie,—on a third,

\* The converse of the above character would give a definition of what recitative should be. Gluck’s recitatives are full of feature and melodious interval, hard to sing only because they claim the utmost poetical justice from the singer—not because they tax compass or command over interval and intonation.

we are searched out with talk concerning the organization of new grand instrumental concerts, on a wider basis than those of the Philharmonic Society,—anon, ere St. Martin’s Hall is finished, starts up the “prospect” of a third large concert-room in the neighbourhood of Mr. Hullah’s mansion—and the premises of the *ante-Shakspearian*! This, we are told, is to be called the Panopticon, and the organ—to cost one thousand pounds—is said to be already ordered. But the strange manner in which possessions are balanced by wants is whimsically illustrated by the fact that, with all this concert provision, London is as far as ever from having a theatre fit for the performance of English Operas.

The past seven days have by no means been days of rest or retreat.—The first concert of the *Royal Academy of Music* took place this day week.—The *Sacred Harmonic Society* gave its Lenten performance of ‘The Messiah’ on Wednesday—and Mr. Surman’s *Society*, ‘Elijah’ on Monday last.—The theatres which by ordinance are shut to play-goers during the past week, have been, as usual, open to every other sort of entertainment—to Oratorios, concerts, Herr Ernst’s violin playing, and Mr. Reeves’s tenor-singing—to Mr. H. Phillips’s American Entertainment—to Mr. Russell’s semi-dramatic, semi-vocal exhibition, &c. &c. &c. Miss Emma Stanley was to commence her entertainment on Tuesday last.—How long will it be before censors, public or private, become alive to the odd inconsistencies involved in prohibitions and permissions like the above?

It is said that the ‘Nuovo Mose’ of Rossini will be the next novelty added to the Covent Garden repertory,—the *libretto*, of course, being changed; and that the *début* of Signor Tamberlick, the new tenor, will take place on an early day, possibly in ‘Masaniello.’—Meanwhile, yet once more is ‘Lucia’ to be given at *Her Majesty’s Theatre* on Tuesday next, to introduce Miss C. Hayes, who has been recently singing in Dublin with great success; the Irish having established her as “a Nightingale” of their own—and thus, more delicious than all nightingales of foreign origin.—The season of the Italians at Paris finishes with this month.—The brothers Luigi and Federico Ricci have lately produced at the Teatro San Benedetto of Venice a new opera, with a new designation; the work, ‘Crispino e Comare,’ being styled *fantastico-giocosso*, on the old legend of ‘Death and the Doctor.’ This news arrives—so far as the *Athenæum* is concerned—at a curious moment—in correction (?) of our last week’s assertion that the Italians are indifferent to subjects of *diablerie*. But the *libretto* by Piave is said to be very weak, and the music by the Riccis to be not very strong.

We observe with pleasure an advertisement of the formation of another amateur Quartet and Quintet Society, under the direction of Herrn Charles Goffrie and Johann Schmidt.

The concert world at Paris seems, in some respects, to be recovering its health as regards form and staple of entertainment. The meetings for chamber music in number rival our own—while orchestral concerts appear to be on the increase. The new Philharmonic Society is taking wide and wise measures for insuring the good-will of all artists. We hear that letters of honorary membership have been received by several English musicians, journalists, &c.: such courtesies bringing to shame the exclusive proceedings of our Philharmonic Society,—whose hospitalities of admission appear to be regulated by the caprice of the hosts and not by the rank of such strangers and sojourners as may chance to be amongst us. This comparison is not thrown out at random.—The pledge of the new French Philharmonic Society to produce new compositions has been already redeemed, by an announcement that at the third meeting, to be held to-day, will be performed a symphony by M. Gastinel, *grand prix de Rome*.—There is still observable in Paris that leaning towards the *Cantata* which we would fain see improved to the enlargement of our stores of concert music.—The day before yesterday, was to be performed *Arca* or ‘Les Hongrois,’ a Symphony in four parts, by M. Louis Lacombe.—A new descriptive Oriental Symphony, by M. Reyer, entitled ‘Selam,’ is to be performed at the Italian Opera House on the 14th of April. This is something like a direct challenge to M. Felicien David. By the way, this slight but clever and

poetical composer seems to have fallen into a neglect as undue as was his popularity. We should much like to hear of his receiving a commission for a grand choral *Ballet*.

Tidings from Weimar, which can be relied on, assure us that M. Liszt considers his career of concert-giving as over; and is with increasing steadiness devoting himself to composition. A Symphony and an Overture recently finished by him are spoken of in terms of praise. We believe that there is no charmed age for men who have a will that can break charms, and have always recognized in M. Liszt’s playing a genius closely akin to that of a creator;—thus we have high hopes that his determination will prove its own fulfilment—great as are the difficulties accumulated during a youth and early manhood of precocious notice and prodigious exhibition so brilliant as those of M. Liszt have been.

Cologne is bestirring itself to get a Conservatory of Music. The Municipal Council of the City of the Three Kings has determined on founding such an establishment, upon the broadest possible basis. The direction is to be confided to Herr Ferdinand Hiller. Out of such moves and measures as this and the similar project at Weimar should arise professorships (valuable alike to teachers and pupils) for retired or retiring vocalists. And, since the Germans will never sing tolerably till they be taught on other systems than those that have sent forth the present unvocal race, they would do well to tempt the Cinti-Damoreaus and Persianis, and others of like high accomplishments and unimpeachable methods, to disseminate in their schools the true principles of the Art which they have so exquisitely adorned. Again, every Conservatory is apt to have its peculiar feature decided by local circumstance,—and thus the music-school opened under the shadow of the *Dom Kirche* might naturally become the centre of ecclesiastical composition in North Germany.

A Symphony by Mr. Perkins, the American composer mentioned by us as having tried his luck in Paris, during the fullest cholera tide of last summer—has probably ere this been executed in Boston: the first Symphony, it is added, ever composed by an American.

On Monday, the fifth festival in commemoration of the General Theatrical Fund was held at the London Tavern,—and was largely attended. Mr. Benjamin Webster presided. The fund was stated to be in a prosperous condition; having 5,204*l.* in the hands of trustees, and a balance of receipts amounting in the whole to 5,284*l.*

A rumour is about the town which we give for what it is worth,—that the St. James’s Theatre may ere long fall under the management of Mr. C. Kean; who—directly patronized by Her Majesty—contemplates making of it a subscription theatre for the performance of English drama and “the encouragement of native talent.”

The theatres are all preparing for their Easter pieces:—some of which are announced to be on an extraordinary scale of magnificence. That at Drury Lane is entitled ‘The Devil’s Ring; or, Fire, Water, Earth and Air,’—and is the handiwork of Mr. G. H. Rodwell. At the same theatre, a piece by Mr. Bayle Bernard is announced:—it will be called ‘The Passing Cloud.’—The Haymarket advertises a new grand spectacular burlesque by the Brothers Brough, —and the Lyceum an extravaganza adaptation by Mr. Planché of Garrick’s ‘Cymon and Iphigenia.’—The Princess’s contents itself with a translation from the French—entitled ‘The Queen of the Roses; or, the Sorcerer of Candahar.’—The Surrey ventures on a new romantic drama by Mr. Webb, entitled ‘The Adventurer,’ and a spectacle called ‘The Three Princes.’—Sadler’s Wells commences with its elaborately got-up tragedy of ‘Macbeth.’ That and ‘Isabella’ will probably take their turn during the holiday weeks.

#### MISCELLANEA

*Valentine’s Day at the Post Office.*—“You perceived,” said one of the two friends, “that in the rapid process of counting, our stamped letter gleamed past like a meteor, whilst our money-paid and unpaid epistles remained long enough under observation for a careful reading of the superscriptions.”—“That delay,” said an intelligent official, “is occasioned because the latter are unstamped. Such



letters cause a great complication of trouble, wholly avoided by the use of Queen's heads. Every officer through whose hands they pass—from the receiving-house-keeper to the carriers who deliver them at their destinations—has to give and take a cash account of each. If the public would put stamps on all letters, it would save us, and therefore itself, some thousands a year. 'What are the proportions of the stamped to the prepaid and unpaid letters which pass through all the post-offices during the year?'—'We can tell within a very near approximation to correctness:—337,500,000 passed through the post-offices of the United Kingdom during last year, and to every 100 of them about 50 had stamps; 46 were prepaid with pennies; and only 4 were committed to the box unpaid.'—*Household Words.*

**Ancient Ruins.**—Antiquarians will feel deeply interested in the discovery of vast regions of ancient ruins near San Diego, and within a day's march of the Pacific Ocean, at the head of the Gulf of California. Portions of temples, dwellings, lofty stone pyramids (seven of these within a mile square), and massive granite rings or circular walls round venerable trees, columns and blocks of hieroglyphics—all speak of some ancient race of men now for ever gone, their history actually unknown to any of the existing families of mankind. In some points, these ruins resemble the recently discovered cities of Palenque, &c., near the Atlantic or Mexican Gulf coast,—in others, the ruins of ancient Egypt,—in others again, the monuments of Phenicia; and yet in many features they differ from all that I have referred to. I observe that the discoverers deem them to be antediluvian; while the present Indians have a tradition of a great civilized nation which their ferocious forefathers utterly destroyed. The region of the ruins is called by the Indians 'the Valley of Mystery.'—*New York Correspondent of the Morning Chronicle.*

#### Newton's Principia.

PERVENIRE AD SUMMUM NISI EX PRINCIPIIS NON POTEST.  
(From the Latin of Vincent Bourne.)

Newton, the light of each succeeding age,  
First learned his letters from a female sage.  
But thus far taught—the alphabet once learned—  
To loiter use those elements he turned.  
Forced th' unconscious signs, by process rare,  
Known quantities with unknown to compare;  
And, by their aid, profound deductions drew  
From depths of truth his teacher never knew.  
Yet the true authoress of all was she!—  
Newton's Principia were his *a, b, c.*

#### Notes and Queries.

**Nineveh Antiquities.**—We are enabled to announce that the antiquities and curiosities lately discovered at Nineveh will be conveyed to England by Her Majesty's frigate Cambrian, 40, Commodore Plummeridge. The gallant Commodore has sent the ship to the Persian Gulf to receive them.—*United States Gazette.*

**New Telegraph.**—A new discovery has been made by Mr. W. S. Thomas, of Norwich, New York, called the electro-thermic telegraph. Letters patent were granted to Mr. Thomas, on February 12, 1850. He does not use the magnet, or decompose a salt, like Morse and Bain's electric chemical telegraphs, but works on an entirely new principle, never before applied to telegraphing. The principle of this invention is calorific, generated and controlled by the galvanic battery; and with the new manipulator, the operator is enabled, it is asserted, to transact twice the amount of business in the same time as any telegraph now in use.—*Architect.*

**Residences for Families.**—If the new Victoria Street in Westminster be completed as, judging from some schemes in preparation, it would appear is contemplated, it will be really the most important improvement that has for very many years past been effected in the metropolis. Instead of repeating the error of which we have seen the latest and most grievous instance in New Oxford Street, we are now, it would seem, to have a street built with some regard to public wants. Plans are, we hear, in preparation for blocks of buildings arranged as residences. There will be common staircases, and two distinct suites of chambers on each floor leading therefrom. Fireproof construction is to be carried out.—*Architect.*

TO CORRESPONDENTS.—A. S., Un Exilé.—R. A. G.—G. N.—J. P. B.—Amateur.—A Constant Reader—Investigator.—H. S.—H. J.—received.

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# THE ATHENÆUM

Journal of English and Foreign Literature, Science, and the Fine Arts.

No. 1171.

LONDON, SATURDAY, APRIL 6, 1850.

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Printed forms of application (which should be sent in a week previously to the Examination) and the Prospectus, containing all information as to the course of study and expense, may be obtained from the Secretary.  
April 1, 1850. R. W. JELF, D.D., Principal.

**KING'S COLLEGE, LONDON.—**  
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Full information upon every subject may be obtained at the Secretary's Office.  
April 1, 1850. R. W. JELF, D.D., Principal.

**KING'S COLLEGE, LONDON.—**  
DEPARTMENT OF THE APPLIED SCIENCES.—The CLASSES in this Department, including Divinity, Mathematics, Natural Philosophy, Surveying, Architecture, Manufacturing Art and Machinery, Geometrical Drawing, Chemistry, Mineralogy, and Engineering, will RE-OPEN on TUESDAY, April 9, 1850, on which day all Students are requested to attend Chapel.  
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Full information upon every subject may be obtained at the Secretary's Office.  
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**KING'S COLLEGE, LONDON.—**  
EASTER TERM, 1850.—Professor O'BRIEN will commence, at Half-past Twelve on MONDAY, April 15, to be continued on each succeeding Monday at the same hour, a COURSE OF LECTURES on the CONSTITUTION and MECHANICAL PROPERTIES OF FLUIDS AND GASES, in which most of the fundamental principles and facts of Hydrostatics, Pneumatics, Meteorology, and Acoustics will be explained and illustrated experimentally.  
These Lectures are open to all Matriculated Students of King's College, and the fee for the course, to be paid upon entrance, to the Secretary of King's College.  
March 26, 1850. R. W. JELF, D.D., Principal.

**HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY OF LONDON.**  
—THE EXHIBITIONS OF FLOWERS, &c. in the Society's Garden, will take place on the following SATURDAYS, viz.: May 18, June 8, and July 13. TUESDAY, April 23, is the last day on which privileged tickets, at 3s. 6d. each, are issued to Fellows of the Society. Every Fellow is entitled to 24 such tickets, if paid for on or before that day.—21, Regent-street.

**ROYAL INSTITUTION OF GREAT BRITAIN, Albemarle-street.—**THE WEEKLY EVENING MEETINGS of the Members will be RESUMED on Friday, the 12th of April, at half-past six o'clock. The following Courses will be delivered after Easter:—Eight Lectures, by the Rev. Baden Powell, M.A. F.R.S., on Astronomy, on Tuesdays, commencing on the 9th of April; eight Lectures, by D. T. Ansted, Esq., M.A. F.R.S., on Practical Geology, on Thursdays, commencing on the 16th of April; six Lectures, by Mr. Faraday, on some Points of Domestic Chemical Philosophy, on Saturdays, commencing on the 27th of April. The above Lectures will begin at 8 o'clock in the afternoon. Terms, One Guinea for each Course, or Two Guineas for all the Courses.  
March 29. JOHN BARLOW, M.A. Sec. R.I.

**MARLBOROUGH LITERARY AND SCIENTIFIC INSTITUTION, Edwards-street, Portman-square.—**On MONDAY EVENING NEXT, APRIL 8, GEORGE DAWSON, Esq., A.M., will deliver the FIRST of a COURSE of TWO LECTURES on the Interviews of Remarkable Men. Commence at half-past 8 o'clock. Members have free admission, with the privilege of introducing a lady.—Tickets to Non-Members, 1s. each. Subscription to the Institution Two Guineas per annum, payable yearly or half-yearly in advance. Members have the use of spacious and well-supplied Reading Rooms, the extensive Library for circulation, as well as free admission to the additional Library. A GAZETTE, in connexion with the Institution, is published monthly, price Threepence.

**DRAWING and MODELLING for the WORKING CLASSES.—**A PUBLIC MEETING will be held in the St. Pancras National School, London, on the additional Place, Finsbury-square, on TUESDAY, April 9, 1850, to PROMOTE the ESTABLISHMENT of SCHOOLS for TEACHING DRAWING and MODELLING to all Workmen engaged in the execution of Ornamental Art. S. C. HALL, Esq., F.S.A., will take the Chair at 8 o'clock, &c. precisely.  
All persons interested in Art, and Workmen and Apprentices, especially Carvers, Plasterers, Chasers, Masons, Carpenters, Cabinet Makers, &c., are earnestly invited to attend.

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All works of Painting, Sculpture, or Architecture intended for the coming EXHIBITION of the ROYAL ACADEMY must be sent in on MONDAY NEXT, the 8th, or by six o'clock in the Evening of TUESDAY the 9th inst., after which time no work can possibly be received; nor can any works be received which have already been publicly exhibited.  
The other Regulations necessary to be observed may be obtained at the Royal Academy.  
JOHN PRESCOTT KNIGHT, R.A. Sec.

Every possible care will be taken of works sent for Exhibition; but the Royal Academy will not hold itself accountable in any case of injury or loss, nor can it undertake to pay the carriage of any package which may be forwarded by carriers.  
The prices of works to be disposed of may be communicated to the Secretary.

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Easter Term will commence 8th of April, 1850, and close 29th of June.  
Lectures in Botany will be delivered in the Easter Term, if the names of twenty pupils be entered.  
Particulars may be ascertained at the College daily: from the Deputy-Chairman at the College, every Wednesday and Saturday, before 8 o'clock; or from G. W. Klugh, Esq., Secretary to the Parent Society, 32, Sackville-street.  
Preparatory Classes are opened for pupils of not less than nine years of age. The hours are from quarter to 10 till 1.  
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LONDON, SATURDAY, APRIL 6, 1850.

## REVIEWS

*Report of the Commissioners appointed to inquire into the Constitution and Government of the British Museum; with Minutes of Evidence.* Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty. Printed for Her Majesty's Stationery Office.

As our readers already know, this long missing Report, which has been the subject of so much anxious inquiry and so many sinister rumours, has at length been distributed to the Members of the two Houses of Parliament, and lies in official Blue upon our table. It is a document remarkable at once for the mass of curious information which it has collected, and as an unparalleled specimen of Parliamentary logic. For the want of harmony between premises and conclusion, as a rare instance of the *non sequitur*, for verdicts given directly in the teeth of the evidence, on which they profess to be founded,—it may challenge comparison with any record of a deliberative body that has recently been communicated to the public. Considering the important interests which are now postponed, the practical knowledge and earnestness with which they have been urged, and the objectionable manner in which the evidence is asserted (and not denied) to have been taken,—many others will find language far more severe than ours necessary to the due characterization of certain parts of this Report. For us, we will confine ourselves to a dispassionate survey of the various topics which it discusses; and we must say, *in limine*, that we find perfectly intelligible the modest self-consciousness which kept a document like this from courting publicity,—made it forbear from rushing before the lieges so long as their impatience for a glimpse of its charms would permit. The compilers of this Blue-book had too many reasons for withdrawing as long as possible from criticism.

Before entering on the consideration of the Report, one inquiry suggests itself. A slip pasted over the title-page states that an Index is in course of being prepared, and will shortly be delivered;—but nothing whatever is said on the subject of the Appendix. Throughout the Evidence we are perpetually referred for illustration to this Appendix,—and it forms an important part of the case on which the Commissioners had to adjudicate; yet it does not accompany the copy now before ourselves,—nor can we hear of it in any quarter in which we have made inquiry. Can this be the document of which it has been said that only forty copies have been printed?

The first part of this Report relates to the Constitution and Government of the Museum generally;—and it is to this portion that our attention will be directed to-day. Here, the labours of the Commission have exposed a case of mismanagement, which, while it sufficiently accounts for all the mischievous jealousies that have long existed among the officers of this institution, leaves it only matter of wonder how they ever contrived to work together at all. When no man knew precisely the limit of his own duties, each was apt to encroach on that of his neighbour. Responsibility was contrived to be so shuffled about as to fall on no one: and the Museum, a great national institution founded and maintained at vast cost, was left practically to work itself. Our readers know that such working leads directly to stagnation; and the imperfect development of much of the immense resources at the command of the Museum has been the result of this want of responsibility and definite action. "It is obvious," say the Com-

missioners, "that if the government of the Museum were once put upon a system which commanded the confidence of the public, and insured the efficiency of the institution, it would be unnecessary to offer any particular suggestions as to the means of rendering this great repository of literature and of objects of natural history and antiquity more available for the encouragement of literature, science, and the arts."—In this part of their inquiry the Commissioners have great and necessary changes to recommend.

It is well known to most of our readers that the foundation of the British Museum dates from the purchase, in 1755, of Sir Hans Sloane's Museum—"to be the commencement of a great national repository." Trustees were appointed for the preservation of the collection thus begun; and the statute authorizing the purchase proceeds to declare—"That the said Museum and Collection of Sir Hans Sloane, and also the Cottonian Library and the Harleian Collection of Manuscripts, and the said General Repository (referring to a repository to be erected as provided in the Act), shall be vested in the said Trustees by this Act appointed, and their successors for ever, upon this trust and confidence, nevertheless, that a free access to the said general repository and to the collections therein contained shall be given to all studious and curious persons at such times, and in such manner, and under such regulations for consulting and inspecting the said collections as by the said Trustees, or the major part of them, in any general meeting assembled, shall be limited for that purpose."

"The Museum thus founded has reached its present state through a very large expenditure of public money. The buildings alone in which this vast collection is deposited have cost, since the year 1823, a sum amounting to nearly 700,000*l*. The sums which have been expended in purchases upon the various collections, either from annual or from special grant, we have been unable to ascertain with similar precision; but the whole expenditure in the maintenance of the Museum and for purchases in the various collections since 1755, independently of the amount expended on the buildings since 1823, considerably exceed the sum of 1,100,000*l*; and of that sum 345,000*l*, at least, has gone directly to the purchase of objects now forming part of the collection. The contributions made from the munificence and patriotism of individuals have been of great value. The Secretary estimated those which have been received for the twelve years preceding 1835, including the magnificent library collected by His Majesty George III. and presented by His Majesty George IV., and the bequest by the late Richard Payne Knight, Esq., of medals, coins, and bronzes, at a sum little short of 400,000*l*; and Mr. Grenville's late gift of a library which cost upwards of 50,000*l*, shows the extent of increase that may be looked for from similar sources. There has thus been accumulated a collection unrivalled, it is believed, in variety, extent, and value; and it is a collection which, in order to retain its value and its fitness for public utility, must continue to receive large annual additions."

The "care and custody" of the Museum were by the statute chiefly committed to the Principal Librarian; and he was directed to be appointed from time to time, "by His Majesty selecting one out of two persons recommended to His Majesty as fit to execute the office by the Archbishop of Canterbury, the Lord Chancellor and the Speaker of the House of Commons"—who have been generally termed the Principal Trustees. These three were further empowered to appoint the rest of the officers and servants necessary for the conservation of the said general repository. The present General Board of Trustees is in number forty-eight, of whom one is directly named by the Crown, twenty-three are official, nine are named by the repre-

sentatives or executors of parties who have been donors to the institution, and fifteen are elected. Under the Trustees, the care of the Museum devolved formerly on the Principal Librarian, with powers not very well defined, but many of which the Commissioners consider to have been transferred to the Secretary. The different departments of the Museum—seven in number, viz., Manuscripts, Printed Books, Antiquities, Prints and Drawings, and three departments,—Mineralogy, Zoology and Botany—forming the division of Natural History, have, however, each their separate keeper. The government of the Museum, including the superintendence of all the departments and the execution of all matters not immediately conducted by the heads of departments, is vested in the General Board of Trustees.—

"While nothing can be more clear, than that the statute conferred upon the Trustees the most general powers of inquisition, superintendence and control, it may well be doubted, how far it was intended that they should assume in all points the practical management, which would rather appear to have been left to the Principal Librarian, and to the officers by whom he was assisted. The practical management, however, of the Museum has, so far as we see, remained immediately with the Trustees, and been conducted by Committees of their body, and more especially of later years, and since the Secretary became an officer of so much importance."

The present constitution of the General Board of Trustees is as follows:—The Royal Trustee is the Duke of Cambridge. The Official Trustees are—the Archbishop of Canterbury, the Lord Chancellor, the Speaker of the House of Commons, Principal Trustees;—the President of the Council, the First Lord of the Treasury, the Lord Privy Seal, the First Lord of the Admiralty, the Lord Steward, the Lord Chamberlain, the Colonial Secretary of State, the Foreign Secretary of State, the Home Secretary of State, the Bishop of London, the Chancellor of the Exchequer, the Lord Chief Justice of the Queen's Bench, the Lord Chief Justice of the Common Pleas, the Master of the Rolls, the Attorney-General, the Solicitor-General, the President of the Royal Society, the President of the College of Physicians, the President of the Society of Antiquaries, the President of the Royal Academy. The Family Trustees are, the Earl of Cadogan, Lord Stanley,—Sloane family; George Booth Tyndale, Esq., Rev. Francis Annesley,—Cotton family; Lord H. W. Bentinck, the Earl of Cawdor,—Harleian family; Charles Townley, Esq.,—Townley family; the Earl of Elgin,—Elgin family; John Knight, Esq.,—Knight family. The Elected Trustees are—the Earl of Aberdeen, the Earl of Derby, the Duke of Rutland, the Marquis of Lansdowne, Sir Robert Peel, the Duke of Hamilton, Sir Robert H. Inglis, Henry Hallam, Esq., William R. Hamilton, Esq., the Duke of Sutherland, the Right Hon. T. B. Macaulay, William Buckland, D.D. Dean of Westminster, the Right Hon. H. Goulburn, the Right Hon. Sir David Dundas, the Marquis of Northampton.

It is obvious that such a governing body as this is the next thing to having no governing body at all. Composed of individuals who with reference to their rank, intelligence and ability, are unexceptionable, those of them whose services might be the most valuable in the management of an institution like the British Museum are precisely those whose services are known to be bespoken, and who can give nothing more to the Museum than the decoration of a name. Mere ornamental directors are the taint of too many of our great public institutions. The love of tinsel is deeply rooted in the Norman part of our nature. It is a sort of axiom with modern Englishmen that



none of our great establishments is safe in its constitution without a Lord. What has been the consequence in the instance before us?—

"The inconvenience likely to result from the affairs of the Museum being devolved upon so large a Board, appears to have been felt at a very early period. In 1755 the Trustees, by minutes of general meetings held in April and May of that year, appointed certain of their number to form a standing committee of the corporation, to take into consideration any matters relating to its business and affairs, and from time to time to make reports to a general meeting. This standing committee is acknowledged in all the statutes and rules of the Museum from 1755 downwards. It is referred to as in existence in the statutes of 1757, which specially provide that the standing committee shall always subsist for the better enforcing and carrying into execution the orders and rules which shall from time to time be made by the general meetings, and also for the more easy management of all the affairs relating to the Museum. Special duties are assigned to the standing committee by these statutes, and again by the statutes of 1805 and 1814. The statutes of 1833 specially provide that the ordinary business of the Museum shall be managed by a standing committee, consisting of fifteen Trustees, to be appointed at a general meeting, and of such other Trustees as may from time to time signify to the secretary their willingness to attend; and in the last Code of Statutes and Rules, that published in 1839, the ordinary business of the Museum is again referred to a standing committee of fifteen members, under detailed instructions. The committee, throughout, is made what is called an open committee—that is to say, it is to consist of fifteen members specially appointed, and of such other members as may express their willingness to attend."

This delegation to a body of fifteen would have necessarily imposed on the Trustees who accepted the appointment "an individual responsibility too direct and immediate to leave the discharge of their duties at all doubtful." Yet, notwithstanding these repeated directions,—with the exception of the standing committee appointed in 1755, there never has been a standing committee appointed by the Trustees. Standing committees have been from time to time spoken of—but they consisted merely of those whom the Secretary chose to summon as expressing an interest in the affairs of the Museum or as being likely to attend. The same has occurred with respect to certain subordinate committees which the statutes of the Trustees direct to be appointed, and to which important duties are assigned. These are, Committees for the departments of Printed Books and Manuscripts, of Natural History, and of Antiquities and Prints. It does not appear that these committees have ever discharged the functions assigned to them. The Secretary states that he could not tell from the minutes who were the members of those sub-committees. Thus, the actual management of the Museum devolves on a fluctuating board, having no special charge nor direct personal responsibility. The arrangement of business depends entirely on the Secretary.—

"The Trustees whom he summons receive notice of the day of the meeting, but no notice of the business to be brought under consideration. The only announcement of the business consists in *agenda* prepared by the secretary the day before, or upon the morning of the meeting, and laid upon the table when the Trustees assemble. With the exception of the Trustees who may have accidentally attended a former meeting at which business may have been adjourned, all the others are without the means of information as to the nature of the business to be brought forward, receiving no statement of it in their summons to attend, nor by notice placed in the Board-room before the day of the meeting. Even where no sittings are called for special business it does not seem usual to communicate in the summons the question which is to be considered, but the Trustees are left uninformed till they give their attendance.

"The mode in which the business is brought before the Trustees seems in itself as objectionable as the want of notice. It is done almost invariably by means of written reports. Not to mention the reports of the assistants and subordinate officers, the heads of departments communicate with the Board by written reports. These reports are transmitted to the Trustees by the principal librarian, who accompanies them with another report, in which he states such observations as occur to him. Neither the principal librarian nor the heads of departments are, except in extraordinary cases, admitted to the Board-room when the business of their department is under consideration. The reports themselves, from the great increase of the establishment, have become so voluminous, that they cannot be read entirely at the meeting of the Trustees. The Board must either rely upon the report of the principal librarian, or upon the secretary, who selects such passages of all the reports as in his opinion require the consideration and decision of the Trustees. The answer of the Trustees, in the regular course of transacting business, is in the form of a resolution communicated by the secretary to the principal librarian, and by him transmitted to the heads of departments. Even this course is not always followed, for the secretary sometimes communicates with the departments directly; and Sir H. Ellis states, that, on several occasions, communications have passed between the Board of Trustees of which he has been ignorant till the business was transacted. The secretary attends all the meetings, and the officers of the establishment, generally, are perfectly aware of the extent of his influence and control over the business, while he has no direct responsibility for the conduct or actual state of any department."

There is scarcely one of the highest officers of the institution who has not complained of systematic exclusion from the Board when the affairs of his department are under consideration, as equally disparaging to himself and injurious to the interests of the department. "Their own absence joined to that of the Principal Librarian, leaves them under the painful, but natural, impression that the interests with which they are charged have not been fully represented."

After these details of mismanagement, the Report proceeds to examine into the history of the office of Secretary.—

"Sir H. Ellis states, that originally the principal librarian acted as secretary—that afterwards, and as early as 1768, the duties were discharged alternately by the three heads of departments—that in 1805, Dr. Gray, the head of a department, was made permanent secretary—and that in 1806 or 1807, the Trustees resolved to have a secretary, not an officer of the house, and appointed Mr. Bray, a solicitor; and as it had been found inconvenient that the secretary should live out of the house, Mr. Ellis, now Sir Henry, upon Mr. Bray's decease, being then an under librarian, was appointed secretary, with a provision that he should discharge the duties of principal librarian in the absence of that officer. He held the office of secretary till 1827, when he was appointed principal librarian, and during that period, the duty of the secretary was to attend all meetings of the Trustees, to make minutes of their proceedings, and to announce vacancies to the principal Trustees. Upon Sir H. Ellis's promotion, Mr. Forshall, who was then appointed keeper of the MSS., was also made secretary. Subsequent to 1837, and especially in 1839, a great change was made in the office—additional duties were thrown upon it, many of which, in the opinion of your Commissioners, properly belonged to, and might have been better discharged by, the principal librarian. The salary which, prior to 1827, had been only 60*l.* a-year, was successively increased till it is now 700*l.* a-year. The staff of the office received successive augmentations—the secretary had a house within the walls of the Museum—and from being, as Sir H. Ellis describes, in the situation of a head clerk, he became subordinate in name, indeed, but not in importance or influence, to the principal librarian; and from his control of the business, constant intercourse with the Trustees, and attendance at all their meetings, he has risen to be the

most important officer in the establishment, though without that responsibility which attached to the principal librarian and to the heads of departments. The influence possessed by this officer in the affairs of the Museum, has followed the usual course where the secretary is permanent, and where the administrative Board is fluctuating, and must depend mainly upon the secretary for the information required in the despatch of ordinary business."

In connexion with this office, the Commissioners proceed to inquire into other irregularities—which have crept into the important matter of patronage in the British Museum.—

"The principal librarian, under the statutes regulating the Museum, is appointed by the Crown. All the other officers of the Museum are appointed by His Grace the Lord Archbishop of Canterbury, the Lord High Chancellor, and the Speaker of the House of Commons, who on that account are termed the three principal Trustees. All appointments having a permanent character, with the exception of the most subordinate employments, ought to be made in writing; and at all events, by the principal Trustees or majority. What has been the practice of late years? The secretary intimated to each of the principal Trustees the vacancies as they occurred in the offices of heads of departments and assistants, and those appointments seem to have been regularly made in writing, signed generally by all the principal Trustees. With respect to the other appointments, the business appears of late years to have taken a somewhat extraordinary course. The secretary communicated only with the Archbishop of Canterbury. He never communicated vacancies to any other of the principal Trustees. The Archbishop of Canterbury alone received the applications for appointments, and the certificates and testimonials of the candidates. The concurrence of the other principal Trustees appears to have been obtained in general upon the authority of the Archbishop's signature, and without farther consideration. But this was not all; for in the case of appointments called supernumerary and temporary, though involving employment for several years, and in the case of promotion from one class to another and more highly-paid class, it does not appear that any of the principal Trustees, except the Archbishop, were consulted. Such appointments, moreover, in a great many cases rested not on any written sanction of the Archbishop; for Mr. Forshall mentions, that on such occasions he was authorized by the Archbishop to state to the Trustees, that the other principal Trustees left the matter to His Grace, and that His Grace had made the appointment verbally in favour of a certain person. Upon the verbal nomination so reported, the appointment and employment in such instances proceeded. The irregularity had become so much matter of routine, that it had escaped observation till recently; when in consequence of certain returns presented to Parliament, it appeared that gentlemen had been for years in the employment of the Museum whose appointments had never been sanctioned by the principal Trustees; and upon appointments, to the number of nineteen, having been presented for signature to the present Lord Chancellor and to the Speaker, those Trustees withheld their signature to the appointments till they should receive satisfactory explanation of the circumstance, that officers had been nominated to and employed in the service of the Museum, years before the appointment was intimated to the principal Trustees, or presented for their subscription."

We come now to the changes which the Commissioners propose to introduce into the constitution and government of the Museum, with the view of remedying the abuses and inconveniences complained of:—and it will be seen that they have been careful to leave the ancient pillars standing. There is something even ingenious in the extreme simplicity of the means by which they propose to effect the cure of such a mass of disease as they have discovered in it. The constitution they leave nearly untouched,—merely introducing the principle of responsibility amongst the practically-directing body. They do not propose any change in the Board of Trustees; but are



unanimously of opinion—and have marked their unanimity by italics—that a change should be adopted involving the abolition of the offices of Principal Librarian and of Secretary as they now exist, and the establishment of a responsible Executive Council. To this end they have two alternative schemes. The majority of the Commissioners approve of a Council to consist of a Chairman appointed by the Crown,—who, if not already a Trustee, should become one by virtue of his office,—of four members to be chosen by the Trustees from among their own body,—and of two other members to be appointed by the Crown, one distinguished for attainments in literature, the other for attainments in natural history. The former of these to be considered as having a more immediate and special supervision of those departments of the Museum connected with literature, namely, the Library, the prints, antiquities, and medals; and the latter of those departments which are devoted almost exclusively to natural history. It is proposed that the Chairman should hold office, not for life or during pleasure,—but for a definite term, such as five years—being re-eligible. The two ordinary members chosen by the Crown the Commissioners are of opinion should be paid,—but on the question of salary to the Chairman they are not agreed. It is worth while, however, to let our readers know the sort of phoenix which they are looking to get as Chairman.—

"We think he ought to be a person of such position in society and influence as may be naturally looked for in any one holding so important an office. He should be deeply impressed with the great importance of Literature and Science, and of the benefits which both may derive from the resources of the Museum; and to those qualities there should be conjoined, and in an eminent degree, knowledge of the world, and practised habits of business, which would insure attention to the daily administration of the Museum, and enable him to direct and encourage the officers in all the departments and keep each within his proper province, actively engaged in the performance of their duties."

"We have no doubt," say the Commissioners, "that the service of a person of great attainments and commanding abilities might be obtained to discharge these important functions as the head of the Executive Council:"—and "several are of opinion that the attractions of such a position would, in themselves, secure its acceptance by a person having all those qualifications to which we have alluded, while the responsibility necessarily attached to an appointment so distinguished, would render certain that constant and anxious attendance which we deem indispensable in whatever manner attained."

Others, who are of opinion that the appointment of these officers by the Crown would merely be to reinstate, though under another name, the Principal Librarian in the department of Literature, and to create a similar officer in the department of Natural History—and that such a course would fail to remove some of the difficulties that exist under the present arrangements,—propose appointing, with or without salary, a chairman of the qualifications already mentioned, and giving him the assistance only of four unpaid members chosen by the Trustees from among their own number. "Such an Executive Council, it is thought, would possess even in a higher degree the great advantage of responsibility which is the consequence of intrusting the whole business to a small number of members."—The Executive Council, in either case, would be invested with the power of appointing to the various offices of the Museum; and additional security for the satisfactory execution of such a trust is proposed to be taken by subjecting all such ap-

pointments to the approbation of Her Majesty's Secretary of State.

The Commissioners then proceed to inquire into that department of the Museum which has more particularly and anxiously engaged the public attention—the Printed Books:—an inquiry into which we shall have to follow them on a future occasion.

*Arthur Montague; or, an Only Son at Sea.*  
By a Flag Officer. 3 vols. Saunders & Otley.

WHEN we consider the variety of admirable novels "price half-a-crown" or "price one shilling" which are now to be found on every counter and at every railway station, how can we fail to wonder at astounding productions like this bidding us "stand and deliver" our thirty shillings?—Every woman, we have heard it maintained, be she ever so uncomely, ever so cross-grained, has had her suitor,—"*every Jack his Jill*:"—and so, possibly, every book may have its buyer. Yet there must be exceptions to prove the rule,—and surely '*Arthur Montague*' is laid out to be one of the number. The story vibrates between puerile farce and sentiment of an aroma not to be described save by its own breathings. It is from time to time advisable to exhibit specimens of the food, of whatever kind, of which Her Majesty's literary lieges are requested to partake;—and with this excuse we set before the reader the following extract, describing what happened to a lover after a long severance from "the lady of his love."—

"The frontier of Lombardy is crossed.—Switzerland entered, and only twelve leagues remain to be traversed. At length, Lucerne breaks on the view: Frederick Gascoigne quivers, the courier smiles, the horses, sensible of the near termination of their labours, exert their remaining strength, and presently the journey's ended. A change of costume is quickly effected—refreshment ordered, but left almost untouched—and, with a throbbing breast, he steps into the vehicle that is to whirl him to the residence of the fugitives. A few minutes more, and his foot passes over the threshold of the domicile that contains his all in all: the valet at the doorway, in broken English, demands his card—he's told the name's superfluous, his intimacy needs no such introduction, and he's merely to announce that a most particular friend's the visitor. In obedience to this behest, the usher, after conducting him to a spacious saloon, repairs to the sitting-room of his mistress to make the desired announcement. Meanwhile, an agitating tremor pervades the whole frame of the nervous lover. Pit-pat sounds of steps descending the staircase catch his ear; he springs to his feet, that well nigh refuse to support him, and, with expanded arms, advances to the door—it opens with a jerk, and in rushes the being, who — exclaims—'Oh, Charles!'—and at the same instant stops short with a check, throws back her body, and — sees a stranger! His arms fall, his face whitens, his limbs shake, and he's transfixed with wonder. In a few moments a grave-looking matron enters on the scene, and is, likewise mute with astonishment. The mistake is obvious—the visitor in error, (too handsome to be dismissed without an explanation), is urged to be seated, and reluctantly yields to renewed requests, and then briefly states what brought him to their presence. His tale moves one, and disappoints the other, who, as she had viewed with eyes glistening with keen animation one apparently formed to kindle love in others, and own its influence himself, had felt a palpitation, and conceived an idea of penetrating his sensitive region. Could she but have known the painfulness of its convulsing throes at that moment, she would have seen how completely it was occupied by the image of, another—a confession his livid lips afterwards disclosed."

It would be hardly possible to make any person believe that the pen which committed the above magnificence is capable of touches of dry humour. Yet one or two of the latter are to be found in the court-martial held on the

gunner, Range, on board H.M. ship *Felicity*. As for "the only Son at Sea" himself,—with his father, Bæotian even past the historical stupidity of those "whose talk is of bullocks,"—his mother, whose cultivation does not rise to the average of the still-room,—and his reverend family friend, who, in the eighth chapter of the first volume, preaches a sermon of advice to the sailor in embryo, which is "as amusing as a Persian tale" (to quote Johnson on Goldsmith),—we give him up. There is nothing to be made of such a being, of his antecedents, or of his kith and kin. They are more unreal than if they belonged to the planet Saturn. The wonder is, as we have said, that books of this quality should find their way into print by any magic.

*The Pillars of Hercules; or, A Narrative of Travels in Spain and Morocco in 1848.* By David Urquhart, Esq. M.P. 2 vols. Bentley.

THE title-page of this book will inform most persons how it is to be read. To take it up as we should an ordinary volume is, of course, out of the question. Without assuming to fix the value of Mr. Urquhart's views, discoveries and prophecies—we must take as we find it one indisputable matter of fact concerning him and them,—viz. that a peculiar quality of vision distinguishes his observations from those of other men. He sees what is altogether dark to them; and what they see strikes him as something quite different from their impressions of it. This singularity he has taken care to make well known by what he has been writing and speaking in public for many years past.

The philosopher Dalton, it is said, was affected with a mode of vision not altogether unlike Mr. Urquhart's, in regard to certain colours. To his eye what the world said was scarlet appeared the soberest shade of drab. He did not, however, persist in clothing himself according to this exceptional view of tints, after he had once ascertained how far his impressions differed from those of other men,—but quietly admitted the fact, and followed the decision of the majority in choosing his cloth. Here the resemblance ceases between the Quaker philosopher and Mr. Urquhart. He concludes that where the many see differently from himself the error lies in their faulty vision:—and is apt to be very severe on the defect thus assumed. When, therefore, he once comes forward to report or speculate on what he has again seen, we cannot forget either the peculiar nature of his views in general or the persuasion of infallibility that accompanies them in particular. It is clear that a product of these combined influences cannot be rightly measured by any of the usual standards.

In such a case, the necessity of using common forms of speech must of itself be a disadvantage to a writer of this independent turn of mind. The language framed on a certain scheme of perceptions and mental processes can but ill convey ideas resulting from a constitution of mind altogether different: but what allowance must be made for this circumstance it is not easy for bystanders to ascertain,—since they have no scale by which to measure what is qualified by special conditions in a single individual. Such has been the impression produced by all Mr. Urquhart's previous performances:—it has recurred to us at every second page of the volumes now before us.

Of the "grim feature" of Russian ambition and intrigue there are but a few mysterious glimpses in '*The Pillars of Hercules*.' Their ruling inscription is, the eternal steadfastness and intrinsic superiority of the Oriental scheme of life as contrasted with the culture of modern Europe. The alleged failure of the latter to realize the best objects of existence is decried in a tone of contempt that leaves Mr. Disraeli's



flights in the same direction far in the distance; and his studies on the "mystery of the East" grow pale before the show of zeal, ingenuity, and really curious learning which Mr. Urquhart devotes to its illustration. The life of the desert and the tent,—the value of tradition and primæval habits in place of artificial laws—the "wild justice" of self-help,—the hospitable virtues and the strong passions of a "patriarchal" state of being,—are admired for their picturesque beauty, revered for their ancient date, praised for their defiance of change or improvement, and, in short, held up in perpetual contrast to the shallow, comfortless, unnatural and unstable aggregate of things represented as forming the civilization of the North. It follows, of course, that in adopting the latter, we of modern Europe have declined in the essentials of well-being from the primitive excellence of the early Oriental world as shown in its manners, opinions, clothing, and food, in methods of government and policy, and in the social and family relations: all of which Mr. Urquhart delights to find still preserved in high perfection among the Berbers of Morocco, and some of them not altogether invisible here and there in the heart of southern Spain,—where, according to his view, they form the whole strength of that kingdom at present and its only hope for the future. Of the share that climate and site may have had, or should have, in modifying the usages of nations, not a hint appears throughout the whole of this excursion. The comparison which we have described is drawn as if there were absolutely nothing but false theory and corrupt institutions to explain the difference in the history and manners of the races settled on the Rhine and the Thames from those of the roving Libyan tribes or of the founders of Tyre and Carthage.

The range of Mr. Urquhart's wanderings around the Pillars of Hercules extends from Gibraltar to a small part of the opposite shore of Morocco; from whence he returns to Spain. Here, after a few chapters on Cadiz and Seville, the work abruptly leaves him amidst a digression on Gothic—we beg his pardon—it is Saracenic architecture. This narrow canvas is crowded with a variety of materials—antiquarian, philological, and ethnographic—enlivened by frequent episodes on costume, cookery, the dance, the bath, &c., for all which high political or moral importance is claimed by the author, with an earnestness that seems to be quite unaffected,—while he sets forth their derivations and details with an array of learning, ancient and modern, and a solemnity of manner, that give a certain air of dignity to essays on muffins and butter, recipes for making *kuskoussou*, and illustrations of the Phœnician origin of clotted cream.

The book, we say, is full of multifarious learning; the extent of which, however, may be more readily affirmed than its accurate use, especially in the deduction of etymologies,—a process in which Mr. Urquhart is very copious, and surprising in his discoveries. To this we shall only add, that there is no pretence of order in the plan or details of his work. Its digressions and changes of subject are as sudden as the tricks in a pantomime; and parts of it are written in a dithyrambic style which must be an effectual warning against the approach of frigid common sense. The extracts that we can make will afford but a partial idea of the strange mosaic of materials used in the construction of these "Hercules' pillars."

We begin with some etymologies. This, of the Spanish name for cards, is ingenious, and may be sound.

"I was surprised to see the figures such as those used by the Greeks; to hear the suits designated as by them, and not according to the names used in

Europe: but this is not all. The Spaniards are not content with the name which all other countries know them by—card, *carte*, *carta*, *spielkarten*, will not do for them—they call them *naipes*. A learned French abbé (Boullet) in his '*Recherches sur l'Origine des Cartes à jouer*,' makes them a French invention posterior to the use of paper, as proved by their being called *cartes*! introduced into Spain through the Basque provinces, where they took the name of *naipes*, from the Basque word *napa*, which signifies smooth! May not this, like so many other European inventions, turn out to be a mere copy, and Spain the transmitter to Europe rather than the debtor of Europe? If we go back to the once-famed game of Ombre, we shall find the terms of the game all Spanish, such as *spadillo*, *matador*, &c. If we go to Hindostan, we find the manner of playing to correspond with the game of ombre. Here is the link established between the Hindoos and Modern Europe through the Spaniards—that is, the Arabs. This latter point the name *naipe* confirms.—Naib or Nawab, whence Nabob, being the equivalent to king. 'The Four Kings' was the original name of cards in Europe. An old writer quoted in Bursi's '*Istoria della città di Viterbo*,' has these words, 'Cards were introduced into Viterbo in 1379, from the country of the Saracens, where they are called *Naib*. In Italy, they were formerly known by the name *Naibi*. The two old Spanish lexicographers, Tamarid and Brocouse, derive the word from the Arabs. Alderete gives the fantastic origin of the initials N. and P. of the supposed inventor, Nicholas Pepin, which the moderns have followed. Islamism has driven cards out of use among the Arabs, and has thus left us to dispute about the origin of the name.'

Of the derivation assigned to those names of lace known to fair readers as *guipure* and *dentelle*, we shall merely say that no jest whatever is meant by the author in proposing the following.

"The veil and fan, the chief adornment of the female costume, are from Spain; so, also, is that richest and most distinguishing of its materials, lace. Barbara of Brabant has received the credit of the discovery; but her share can extend no further than to the mode of working in flax. The texture in silk and cotton must have been carried thither by the Spaniards. In the beginning of the fifteenth century, the word *blonda* is found in a Castilian law; it is referred to as a manufacture in general use, and consequently long established. It was not known in Europe for at least a century later. Lace is to be seen in every hut on every domestic article:—pillowcase, napkins, sheets—it is a national type, and must be of ancient date; in all likelihood, from that common source of Spanish things, Judea. In this conclusion, I was confirmed by finding in Barbary the term *Guipoor*. It is used by the Jews for the festival of Atonement, when they wear white mantles in the synagogue, with the fringes in open embroidery. The name of the country was given to the texture. The texture, then, comes from the Jews. The word *dentelle* is explained as meaning the toothlike points of the serrated border lace; as distinguished from the *Guipoor*, Mechlin, Brussels, and English point, &c. But there was an ancient festival in Spain on the occasion of the child cutting its teeth, which was known to the Christians under the name of *Dentilia*. Such would be a fitting time for the display of this finery. Whoever has seen the festival of *Corpus Christi* in Spain, or Portugal, will understand how natural it was to give the name; for on it all the processions, or at least all the public functionaries, to this day, wear scarfs of lace over their uniforms."

A leash of conjectures, more original even than the above, will complete our view of Mr. Urquhart's enterprise in tracing verbal pedigrees. The preface, too, is characteristic.

"A distinction between the use of butter and oil for simmering muffins and crumpets in Morocco, furnishes a link between those eaten in the Temple of Solomon and those sold in the streets of London, and thereby supplies evidence to fix the Cassiterides, while, incidentally, it disposes of a great historical and ethnographic question, the wanderings of the Celts. An admirable product has been used for thousands of years in this region, and no Jew or

come to carry it away. Yet Julius Cæsar and Count Julian, Sertorius, and Belisarius, Charles V., with many other shrewd persons, have tasted Moorish butter. The Andalusians are delighted to get a little pot of it, but as to learning how to make it, that never entered into their philosophy. So stout, made in every tent or hut, from the Yellow Sea to the Adriatic, is unknown in Europe. A magic line defines the domain of chops, of boiled potatoes of chocolate, of coffee. One race can boil, another cannot: e. g. the English. One race can roast, another cannot; and each is utterly incapable of comprehending the faculty conferred on the other. There is a land congenial to pilaff, another to *kuskoussou*, another to mutton-broth. Devonshire cream, polecata, poi curry, have, like an insect on a moss, their zone. You may transplant trees, and transfer royal houses, carry forth religions, and distribute all around slips of constitutions—but a dish!—no!—as there is more in a costume than covering the back, so is there more in a dish than filling the belly. There yet remains one term unexamined. Whence comes *dairy*? There is no such word on the Continent; it is neither Latin nor Teutonic. It has no Celtic root. I have been describing the douar, which is indeed a camp, but the features which forced themselves upon my attention belonged to the sheep-fold. The people are shepherds. In every tent the chief utensils are the milk-pails, leathern churns, and butter-pots: the chief produce and food, milk and butter. Why is the Arab camp a circle? It is to fold the cattle. Thence the name, douar and deira. The exploits of Abd-el-Kadir and his *Deira* have made the word familiar to us in Europe. It is the very word we apply to the fold's produce. From the same root is *gadeira*, *gadir*, an enclosure—the name of Cadiz, the only city upon earth in which the cow or ewe is not to be found, nor any animal, whatever, giving milk. How, it may be asked, could the word come to us? *Tally ho!* is in English an unmeaning word. The rallying cry of the Arab in war is *Talla ho!* *Tally ho!* was doubtless brought by the Crusaders. Dairy may have been learnt then, or many a century before. The pursuit of a word is like 'hunt the slipper.' It is here, it is there. There would be no game unless it were slipped under. There was *Babia*, the goddess of infants, in Phœnicia; there are *babies* in England. No doubt it is the same slipper, though we cannot tell under what petticoat it has slipped."

The moral of Spanish politeness is stated in the author's usual mode of generalizing from minor details. "A people's history," he observes elsewhere, "is written in a salutation."

"The mere habit of politeness is a possession greater than all a people has besides, and for the want of which there is no compensation; and that tone of voice, and those forms of address which in individuals are the sign of proper bringing up, are to a nation the source and stay of their good order and well-being. In Spain the term '*político*' is still synonymous with polite. They have dignity, which we take for pride, and none of our so-called *élites*, which to them is vulgarly. Therefore did they beat France when all Europe was at her feet, and therefore will Spain live on when we shall have passed away—unless, indeed, we live long enough to teach them our civility. Spain has been called

'fragment of Africa,' the Spaniards have been called 'the Arabs of Europe.' They have proved alike inscrutable and indomitable to all who have attempted to study or subdue them; and so completely has that peninsula swayed in the events of our world, that you may calculate the ascent or the decline of great enterprises according to the estimation of her by its conductors. Marius, Pompey, Napoleon, failed through their misjudgment of Spain; by apprehending her, Cæsar won the *diadem*, Scipio saved his country, and Wellesley Europe."

It is only fair to annex to the preceding, Mr. Urquhart's own profession of humility in regard to this inscrutable race:

"An English resident at Gibraltar told me that, by following a certain rule, he found travelling in Spain very agreeable, and recommended it to my adoption. He said, 'I always address a Spanish peasant as if he were my equal.' 'I do not require,' I replied, 'your rule, for I feel myself honoured



Whenever a Spanish peasant condescends to speak to me,

But we must hasten to Morocco. Here, Mr. Urquhart drops hints of some political mystery that invited him thither; but instead of welcome, a very different kind of reception seems to have met him on landing in the country. Here he describes himself as watched in his excursions like a prisoner on parole, and admitted to the desired freedom of movement to observation only near the close of his stay,—when at length, by some energetic proceedings, he had, as he expressly says, succeeded in establishing himself as entitled to the privileges of a saint or madman.

The interior of a Moorish house at Rabat exhibits a new phase of domestic habits in the East.

"The domestic arrangements differ here from other Mussulman countries. The house is not divided into *Harem* and *Salamb*. In fact, there is no *harem*, for there are neither its rights nor privileges: the separation of the women, which in Arabia could not be extended to the habitation, adapted itself to the gynæceum of the houses among the Greeks, and the Zanana of the followers of Zoroaster. In Morocco, there having been no such anterior practice, the injunction has had no effect on those who live under the tent, and has converted the domiciles of the inhabitants of the cities into inhospitable abodes. I went to-day to Mike Brettel's, on invitation, expressly for the purpose of seeing his house, which is just finished. I can see nothing more remarkable at Fez or Morocco, so I shall endeavour to describe it.

We approached by a narrow lane of blind walls about twelve feet high. The door was in the corner, the arch above it, and the lintels were painted in broad bars, and stripes of deep colours, like an Egyptian tomb: there was a knocker—nay, two; one for the folding doors and another for the wicket: the upper one might have been made in London. We knocked: the knock is neither a single tap nor a postman's double rap, but a double knock, though neither quite so loud or long as those with which the squares of London were wont to resound. The door not being immediately opened, we heard within a bell ring sharply, (in Eastern countries the bell is unknown,) and the door was opened by a young girl, a slave, small, yet apparently full grown. She wore a tunic of blue and white, striped, which left her neck, arms, and half her legs bare. Her colour was chocolate, her features perfect, her form a model. Her sparkling eyes and white teeth announced that the visit was expected; and, waving her hands as a signal to follow, she tripped up a narrow staircase by the door. The steps and passages were inlaid with hexagonal red tiles and small triangles of green tiles: there was no flooring about the house richer than this, which is very modest: the houses and courtyard of the Jews are in mosaic. At the top of the stairs we found ourselves in a small vestibule, the light let in from above, through the ornamented portions of the ceiling. Everything was in proportion: all palace-like, but microscopic.—I might have taken it for the abode of the pygmies of Herodotus, had my guide not rather suggested fairies or sylphs. The vestibule led to an apartment, where the master of the house was seated in the middle of the floor, with a tray before him. Seeing me busied in taking off my shoes, he came forward, entreating me to enter with them on; for it is common to imagine that Europeans make it a point of honour to disregard the feelings of their Eastern hosts, and to soil their carpets. This room was the gem of the house; but it was some time before I could venture to examine it, being shamed by the officious zeal of the Jews who accompanied me, and who began at once to point out this and that, as if we had entered a shop.—I mean an European one; for in an Oriental shop the decencies are not neglected. The room was a cube of fifteen feet: there was one small window, a simple aperture in the white wall in the form of a niche struck through the thickness of the wall, levelled inside. This feature took the apartment out of the common place. On the floor was spread one of their beautiful mats; on the three sides were mattresses covered with Turkey carpets, and cushions at

each end, resembling a low Turkish divan. The walls were dead white, broken by richly-ornamented arm-racks. Three long guns on each, in their red cloth cases, daggers in massive chased silver scabbards, swords and pouches, were suspended by silk cords with large tassels; blue, red and yellow. The crown of the room was the ceiling: an octagon dome was fitted on to the cube by means of arches in the angles, which will be understood by reference to the Hall of the Ambassadors in Owen Jones's 'Alhambra'; but the roof, instead of being in coloured stucco, was in carved and painted wood. There was no gilding or silvering—the effect was worked out entirely from dead colour. I looked at it till my neck was sore and stiff, and I can only describe it by the word arabesque, just as I might say kaleidoscope, and in like manner, interminable: the same elements re-appear in ever-ending forms, ever pleasing, ever new, yet always, in so far as description can go, the same. The roof was the statue, the apartment the pedestal: each required the other. The solitary light, the pure white walls, the cubic form, were required to set off the placid beauty of the dome. The window was minute; the door (if one might say so in reference to so small a body) grand. Its horse-shoe arch expanded to the sides and reached the vault, displaying the little vestibule, all variegated in colours, all ornamented in form like the ceiling. It was a thing not to live in, but to gaze at."

They are apt to deal somewhat sharply with unpopular magistrates in Morocco: as will be seen by the following anecdote,—on which Mr. Urquhart comments with his usual respect for the "spirit of the East." Any estimate of the terms of his comparison of Moorish with European excesses is, of course, out of the question.—

"In the time of the late emperor, Muley Mahomet, they killed and quartered their *Caid*, and made the Jew butchers hang up the flesh in the shambles. It was so exposed for three days, ticketed at two blanquillos a pound. Then they came in troops to cheapen it, and haggle with the Jews, who were instructed to maintain the two blanquillos. The Sultan marched against the city, but the people withdrew into the Alcazaba, and presented so imposing a front that he was content with an accommodation. Civilized and philosophical Germany can riddle the body of a minister; but let us not compare such an act with the shambles of Rabat. The one is the frenzy of a people which cannot help itself: the other is vengeance—savage, if you like—but vengeance for crimes, applying a salutary lesson to those who are to follow. Such is the difference between the two conditions of existence. No reactions and no vengeance can profit where social evil springs from theory and legislation. Where the evil is the act of man, vengeance comes, like the storm, to clear the atmosphere, thus compensating for the ruin it has wrought."

A similar tone pervades all Mr. Urquhart's sketches of Eastern costumes and customs:—with one specimen of which our extracts must be concluded. The omission of any reference to climate has already been noticed;—at this particular season we fear the shoeless in London or in Glasgow would set up a wail rather different in tone from Mr. Urquhart's lament for the "poor feet" that British notions of comfort "doom to a dark dungeon"—of neat's leather.

"To put on the haik, it is dropped on the ground; one corner is lifted and brought over the left shoulder, and held upon the breast by the right hand. Then, by stepping backwards, the fold passes behind, and is brought under the right arm round in front. Another step across it, and it is behind again; then taken by both hands outstretched, it is brought over the head, measured so as to be left hanging low enough on both sides for the play of the arms. The end is then thrown over the left shoulder and hangs down the back. There are no ties, no buttons, no separate parts: the drapery is wrapped round with the sole fastening of its own folds. Dispensing with so many adjuncts, it supercedes all intermediaries. It is made under the tent; there is no tailor wanted; no shopman, no dealer, required: this is the link between a national costume and a people's well-

being. The Spaniard's cloak, of which the style consists in the lap thrown over the left shoulder, is a mixture of the haik and the borneos: to this day the Spaniard looks upon the want of a cloak as the want of decent covering; to be without a cloak is, as it were, to be naked. Great as is the distance between the attire of Europe and that of the East, not greater is the distance between its magnificence and the dignity of that of Numidia. The excellence of all other costumes resides in their own composition. There is not one which does not strain or coerce the human frame into its own design. The excellence of this, that it follows nature, neither designing to embellish nor endeavouring to conceal; it reveals, but does not expose; it covers, but does not disguise. The antique is, however, only present where all the subsidiary garments disappear, and the haik remains the sole clothing: there protrudes an arm and part of a leg, or the breast is heaved, or sometimes the whole outline of one side is visible; for the drapery is shifted in all conceivable ways, and according to their occupations; so that there are passing before you, and called up, as you look around, all the celebrated statues or groups of antiquity. The exposure of the body to the air does not give the impression of cold in the way that those whose clothing has a similar character or integuments will suppose; whoever has worn the kilt will know this. The fact is, that the air supplies warmth, and when freely circulating round the body, a sort of respiration takes place through the skin, which, while conducive to strength and health, supplies that light and agreeable sensation which belongs to a costume where there is clothing enough to secure warmth and freedom enough to admit air. Of the value of this freedom we have a striking illustration at home, and to which no other country in Europe affords a parallel. The butcher-boys and the Blue-coat school boys go about without that covering to, or protection for, the head, which for all other degrees and in all other countries is deemed essential to health and comfort. Do they suffer from being bare-headed? No. Now that we have our portraits taken, by the sun's rays, and numberless scientific men are tracing the effects of light on the functions of animals and the growth of plants, separating the parts of rays, and finding in them agencies of so many, so powerful, and such distinct kinds,—it may not be absurd to speak of the merit of a costume that admits to the body light as well as air. We are always in the dark. On light and heat a series of experiments have been reported to scientific societies by fifty philosophers; but none of them has ever thought of letting his own toes see the sun. Modern science always overpowers me with melancholy—so much light in the focus, and such darkness in the hemisphere! Contrast the majestic ignorance of primeval times; then, grand with so much ease; now, with so much toiling, mean. Those members which have to support the weight of the rest, deserve peculiar care, and might even claim exclusive favour, but they are more wretched than the rest. Our poor feet are doomed to a dark dungeon, from the cradle to the tomb. Never are they suffered to look upon the sun, never allowed for a moment to touch the earth; once a day, perhaps for a few moments, they get a glimpse of the subdued light of a closed chamber, or perceive round corners of a table the artificial glare of a wax taper; that respite over; they are straight again rammed down into their cases. After this, they are vilified; their very name is mentioned with repugnance, and their sight associated with indecency. No revolution is to set them free, no change of fashion to break their chains: hopeless drudgery, unrequited toil, supercilious scorn, are their fate, and the care which is bestowed upon them is to pervert their nature, to disfigure and deform them, and make them, even to themselves a shame. The man is no gainer who treats his feet with such injustice; and the costume no slight benefit which prevents him from doing so."

It would be preposterous to discuss these observations;—they speak plainly enough for themselves. In a word, when civilized writers decry a civilization to which alone they owe the means of affecting originality by sneering at it,—whether from the height of the *Contrat social*, or from the lower level of cockney raptures on Kurds and Kabyles,—there is but one



argument—that, namely, *ad hominem*—which common sense will condescend to use. If Barbary life and costume be so much better than ours, why should the British admirer return hither to sit penning paragraphs in a tight-fitting suit, instead of crouching on his hams in a flowing *haik*, in some Moorish *douar*, where, with other excrescences of European culture, books and book-makers are alike unknown? With what grace can anyone expatiate on the moral and mystery of eating *kushoussou* with the fingers, at tables sophisticated by French dishes, napkins, knives and forks? Why not practise rather than praise the virtue of going barefoot? Either, in short, such diatribes prove too much for the credit of the lecturer,—or his credit must be rescued at the expense of his lectures.

The book has been revised with great carelessness. Of the foreign words and quotations from the ancient languages, with which the pages teem, a full third are, in one way or another, misprinted:—a negligence which the author may justly resent if he have been compelled to leave the revision to other hands,—and for which his readers must complain of him if the work have passed with so many blunders from his own.

*Sections of the London Strata; to which is prefixed a Block Plan of the Metropolis and its Suburbs.* By Robert W. Mylne, C.E., F.G.S., &c. Wyld.

THIS publication has arisen as the natural consequence of the numerous inquiries now engaging public attention in connexion with the sanitary condition of the metropolis. Hitherto, the conditions of the geological formations included within the chalk basin which is occupied by London and its suburbs have been very imperfectly understood. The consequences of this have been, numerous errors in practice, and many erroneous speculations in plans proposed for draining this densely-populated district and supplying it with water. There has been no difficulty in obtaining all the data required; but, owing to the want of proper habits of observation, this knowledge—now found to be all-important—has been neglected. “An impression prevails,” says Mr. Mylne, “that the metropolis and its environs are situated on an extensive and thick bed of impermeable blue clay; occupying the centre of a chalk basin, and the pervious plastic clay and sand formation (lying between the blue clay and the chalk) is supposed only to outcrop or reach the surface at considerable distances from the metropolis.” This impression is erroneous, as our author implies in this remark; but, the sections which he has delineated do very little towards giving a proper correction to it,—since, out of the five sections published there is but one in which the strata are represented. The section from Hampstead to Camberwell alone supplies this information,—and in this the “London clay” is seen extending from Hampstead Heath to Church-street, Camberwell, in varying thicknesses, above the “plastic clay” formations and chalk. On reference, however, to the sections of strata published by the late Commissioners of Sewers, we find some information on this point; and we certainly cannot agree with Mr. Mylne that “the map alone can be mentioned as having proved of any practical use,” seeing that these vertical sections, although representing “distant points,” exhibit faithfully those conditions of the London basin which, on the showing of our author, have been hitherto so imperfectly understood—and towards the elucidation of which his sections contribute but slightly. An admission is made, that “the details are not so perfect as could be wished,”—and the haste necessary to

meet the demands of “the many sanitary projects under discussion” is the excuse given. These sections, however, afford some valuable information as to the depth at which the chalk is to be met with along their lines. At Hampstead we reach the chalk at 160 feet below the line of Trinity high-water mark; in the New Road it is but 60 feet below the same line; in the Belvidere Road it sinks to 250 feet; in the Blue Anchor Road it is only a little more than 30 feet below the surface; and at the Manor Farm, Lewisham, it rises to 70 feet above the high-water level,—thus exhibiting over the area of the basin a series of very sudden elevations and depressions.

The five lines of section published are, from Hampstead to Camberwell,—from Highgate to Peckham,—from Stoke Newington to Lewisham,—from Chiswick to West Ham,—and from Kensington to Greenwich marshes. We cannot but regret that two scales have been adopted for height and distance:—these being relatively as eighteen is to one. We are aware that engineers, from the facilities afforded by this system of false scales in laying out their plans, usually adopt it; but where any sections are intended to furnish information to the public—as these are—the true scale should be strictly adhered to. Nothing can convey a more incorrect idea to the mind than a section giving horizontally three inches to the mile, and vertically one inch to the hundred feet. This is strikingly shown by the terrible precipice which rises from the Thames to the Strand in the first of these sections. With all these drawbacks, this publication must prove valuable at the present time.

*Christmas-Eve and Easter-Day: a Poem.* By Robert Browning. Chapman & Hall.

THE book before us is the work of a poet; though if this fact should gain but a limited recognition, the writer will have only himself to blame. If the Muses will masquerade and don the trappings of gipsies, they must feel no offence if they should forfeit by the grotesqueness of their seeming the respect that is due to their nature. True, the Nine may have their seasons of frolic and pastime,—nor is their sporting to be censured when occasion befits; but the Temple of Apollo and the hour of sacrifice are not the place nor the period suitable to such recreations. In a word, our complaint against Mr. Browning is,—that while dealing with the highest themes of imagination and indicating his competency to treat them, he has recklessly impaired the dignity of his purpose by the vehicle chosen for its development. The form of doggerel—carried to excess by strange and offensive oddities of versification—is not that in which the mysteries of faith, doubt, and eternity can be consistently treated.

Examples of such versification are painfully abundant. Seeking here only to illustrate the rhyming eccentricities of the writer, we quote one or two without reference to their sense or context.—

But the most turned in yet more abruptly  
From a certain squalid knot of alleys,  
Where the town's bad blood once slept corruptly,  
Which now the little chapel rallies,  
And leads into day again,—its priestliness  
Lending itself to hide their beastliness  
So cleverly (thanks in part to the mason),  
And putting so cheery a whitewashed face on  
Those neophytes too much in lack of it,  
That, where you cross the common as I did,  
And meet the party thus presided,  
“Mount Zion,” with Love-lane at the back of it,—&c.

Another extract will sufficiently test at once our position and the patience of the reader.—

He handled it so, in fine irreverence,  
As to hug the Book of books to pieces:  
And, a patchwork of chapters and texts in severance,  
Not improved by the private dog's-ears and crases,

Having clothed his own soul with, he'd fain see equipt  
yours,—  
So tossed you again your Holy Scriptures.

\* \* \*  
‘Tis odds but I had borne in quiet  
A qualm or two at my spiritual diet;  
Or, who can tell? had even mustered  
Somewhat to urge in behalf of the sermon:  
But the flock sate on, divinely flustered,  
Sniffing, methought, its dew of Hermon  
With such content in every snuffle,  
As the devil inside us loves to ruffle.

It is pleasant to leave such exhibitions of bad taste, and follow Mr. Browning when he chooses to be in earnest:—nor can higher praise be awarded to his serious vein than that of saying that it enables us to forget his comic one. We are as glad as he professes to have been to escape from the association of old women with broken umbrellas, boys with soapless faces, and elder devotees with greasy cuffs, (the goodly company at the little chapel in which the poem opens), to the free face of Nature and to a night-picture like the following:—

There was a lull in the rain, a lull  
In the wind too; the moon was risen,  
And would have shone out pure and full,  
But for the ramparted cloud-prison,  
Block on block built up in the west,  
For what purpose the wind knows best,  
Who changes his mind continually.  
And the empty other half of the sky  
Seemed in its silence as if it knew  
What, any moment, might look through  
A chance-gap in that fortress mazy:—  
Through its fissures you got hints  
Of the flying moon, by the shifting tints,  
Now, a dull lion-colour, now, brassy  
Burning to yellow, and whitest yellow,  
Like furnace-smoke just ere the flames below,  
All a-simmer with intense strain  
To let her through,—then blank again,  
At the hope of her appearance failing  
\* \* \*

For lo, what think you? suddenly  
The rain and the wind ceased, and the sky  
Received at once the full fruition  
Of the moon's consummate apparition.  
The black cloud-barricade was riven,  
Ruined beneath her feet, and driven  
Deep in the west; while, bare and breathless,  
North and south and east lay ready  
For a glorious Thing, that, dauntless, deathless,  
Sprang across them and stood steady.  
‘Twas a moon-rainbow, vast and perfect,  
From heaven to heaven extending, perfect  
As the mother-moon's self, full in face.  
It rose, distinctly at the base  
With its seven proper colours chorded,  
Which still, in the rising, were compressed,  
Until at last they coalesced,  
And supreme the spectral creature lorded  
In a triumph of whitest white,—  
Above which intervened the night.  
But above night too, like the next,  
The second of a wondrous sequence,  
Reaching in rare and rarer frequency,  
Till the heaven of heavens be circumfext,  
Another rainbow rose mightier,  
Fainter, flushier, and mightier,  
Rapture dying along its verge!  
Oh, whose foot shall I see emerge,  
Whose, from the straining topmost dark,  
On to the keystone of that are?

Who doubts after this example of the beautiful, that it is only a “wanton mood” that ever leads Mr. Browning to follow after the coarse and grotesque? When he leaves the merely beautiful it should be only for that yet higher region where beauty crowned by mystery is changed into the sublime. How freely the writer can breathe the “difficult air” of this eminence may be learnt from the full unflattering tones which describe his vision of Dooms-night.—

I found  
Suddenly all the midnight round  
One fire. The dome of Heaven had stood  
As made up of a multitude  
Of handbreadth cloudlets, one vast rack  
Of ripples infinite and black,  
From sky to sky. Sudden there went,  
Like horror and astonishment,  
A fierce vindictive scribble of red  
Quick flame across, as if one said  
(The angry scribe of Judgment) “There—  
Burn it!” And straight I was aware  
That the whole ribwork round, minute  
Cloud touching cloud beyond compute,  
Was tinted each with its own spot  
Of burning at the core, till clot  
Jammed against clot, and split its fire  
Over all heaven, which ‘gan aspire  
As fanned to measure equable.—  
As when great conflagrations kill  
Night overhead, and rise and sink,  
Reflected. Now the fire would shrink



And wither off the blasted face  
Of heaven, and I distinct could trace  
The sharp black ridge outlines left  
Unburned like network—then, each cleft  
The fire had been sucked back into,  
Regorged, and out it surging flew  
Furiously, and night writhed inflamed,  
Till, tolerating to be lamed  
No longer, certain rays world-wide  
Shot downwardly, on every side,  
Caught past escape; the earth was lit;  
As if a dragon's nostril split  
And all his famished ire o'erflowed;  
Then, as he winced at his Lord's goad,  
Back he inhaled: whereat I found  
The clouds into vast pillars bound,  
Based on the corners of the earth,  
Propping the skies at top: a dearth  
Of fire in the violet intervals,  
Leaving exposed the utmost walls  
Of time, about to tumble in  
And end the world.

The apparition of a divine Presence is another instance of the same faculty.—

I saw... Oh, brother, 'mid far sands  
The palm-tree-cinctured city stands,—  
Bright-white beneath, as Heaven, bright-blue,  
Above it, while the years pursue  
Their course, unable to abate  
Its paradisaic laugh at fate:  
One morn,—the Arab staggers blind  
O'er a new tract of death, calcined  
To ashes, silence, nothingness,—  
Striving, with dizzy wits, to guess  
Whence fell the blow: what if, 'twixt skies  
And prostrate earth, he should surprise  
The imaged Vapour, head to foot,  
Surveying, motionless and mute,  
Its work, ere, in a whirlwind rap,  
It vanish up again?—So hapt  
My chance. He stood there. Like the smoke  
Pillared o'er Sodom, when day broke,—  
I saw Him. One magnific pall  
Mantled in massive fold and fall  
His Dread, and coiled in snaky swathes  
About His feet: night's black, that bathes  
All else, broke, grizzled with despair,  
Against the soul of blackness there.

These two poems of "Christmas-Eve" and "Easter-Day," though distinguished by separate titles, are virtually one. The former division points out the essential truth which underlies various beliefs,—insisting, nevertheless, that only one belief can be perfect. It is, in fact, an argument for the divinity of Christ,—conducted, however, in a large catholic spirit towards the writer's opponents. Into this argument it is not our mission to follow Mr. Browning:—but they who do so will take great offence at the flippant tone in which a theme so weighty is urged. In the concluding section of the poem, the difficulties which obstruct belief are discussed; and are resolved into the scepticism of cold intellect, which in resisting the influence of spiritual love resists also its evidence,—for it is its own demonstration. None doubt the divine as a creed, it is urged, but those who reject it as a nature. Men fail to read the proofs of an immortal future because they are wedded in their hearts to the mortal present. Such is Mr. Browning's theology:—which, as *theology*, we detail without comment. We observe only that this part of the poem is highly transcendental; and that although Mr. Browning has here risen above the verbal trickery which disfigures the former division,—yet transcendentalism delivered in doggerel verse has throughout the effect of a discord. There is an unpleasant suggestion of the writer's discrediting his own spell—until the spiritual power of the spell raises the reader's mind above the consideration of its form. Subtle, analytic, and often brilliant, Mr. Browning almost exhausts the various phases by which Christian belief is modified,—and his argument is full of suggestiveness and mystical beauty. We cannot help thinking of this work as of a cathedral, where, ever as we become absorbed in the anthem, the doors are thrust open to jar us with the common traffic of the street,—or in which grotesque and mocking shapes scoff inappropriately from the architectural details at the spectator whose mind has caught the high and solemn tone which is the inspiration of the general place. It is curious to see how the instinct of the poet rebels against the shackles

which he has imposed on it, and breaks loose from most of them in the latter portion of the volume. The concluding pages—which aim at showing that the very mystery which wraps the future is necessary to spiritual growth and aspiration, and that good if limited by the bounds of sensible demonstration would leave no room for faith or progress—are those in which the poet's genius is most evident. Unfortunately for our purpose, they form a chain of sequences from which we can detach no link for quotation without breaking the series. The argument is so continuous, that the full understanding of any clause—the grasp of its finer meanings—demands a knowledge of what has gone before, and of the spiritual intention of the whole. Still, we must try to give our readers a notion of this by far the finest part of Mr. Browning's volume.—

Though sharp despairs  
Shot through me, I held up, bore on.  
'What is it though my trust is gone  
From natural things? Henceforth my part  
Be less with Nature than with Art!  
For Art supplants, gives mainly worth  
To Nature; 'tis Man stamps the earth—  
And I will seek his impress, seek  
The statuary of the Greek,  
Italy's painting—there my choice  
Shall fix!'

"Obtain it," said the Voice.  
"The one form with its single act,  
Which sculptors laboured to abstract,  
The one face, painters tried to draw,  
With its one look, from throngs they saw!  
And that perfection in their soul,  
These only hinted at? The whole,  
They were but parts of? What each laid  
His claim to glory on?—afraid  
His fellow-men should give him rank  
By the poor tentatives he shrunk  
Smitten at heart from, all the more,  
That gazers pressed in to adore!  
'Shall I be judged by only these?  
If such his soul's capacities,  
Even while he trod the earth,—think, now  
What pomp in Buonarroti's brow,  
With its new palace-brain where dwells  
Superb the soul, unweaved by cells  
That crumbled with the transient clay!  
What visions will his right hand's sway  
Still turn to form, as still they burst  
Upon him? How will he quench thirst,  
Titianically infantine,  
Laid at the breast of the Divine?  
Does it confound thee,—this first page  
Emblazoning man's heritage?—  
Can this alone absorb thy sight,  
As if they were not infinite,  
Like the omnipotence which tasks  
Itself to furnish all that asks  
The soul it means to satiate?  
What was the world, the starry state  
Of the broad skies,—what, all displays  
Of power and beauty intermixed,  
Which now thy soul is chained betwixt,—  
What, else, than needful furniture  
For life's first stage? God's work, be sure,  
No more spreads wasted, than falls scant:  
He filled, did not exceed, Man's want  
Of beauty in this life. And pass  
Life's line,—and what has earth to do,  
Its utmost beauty's appanage,  
With the requirements of next stage?  
Did God pronounce earth 'very good'?  
Needs must it be, while understood  
For man's preparatory state;  
Nothing to heighten nor abate:  
But transfer the completeness here,  
To serve a new state's use,—and drear  
Deficiency gapes every side!"

Then I—Behold, my spirit bleeds,  
Catches no more at broken needs,—  
But lilies flower those needs above—  
I let the world go, and take love!  
Love survives in me, albeit those  
I loved are henceforth masks and shows,  
Not loving men and women: still  
I mind how love repaired all ill,  
Cured wrong, soothed grief, made earth amends  
With parents, brothers, children, friends!  
Some semblance of a woman yet  
With eyes to help me to forget,  
Shall live with me; and I will match  
Departed love with love, attach  
Its fragments to my whole, nor scorn  
The poorest of the grains of corn  
I save from shipwreck on this isle,  
Trusting its barrenness may smile  
With happy foodful green one day,  
More precious for the pains. I pray,  
For love, then, only!

At the word,  
The Form, I looked to have been stirred

With pity and approval, rose  
O'er me, as when the headsmen throws  
Axe over shoulder to make end—  
I fell prone, letting Him expend  
His wrath, while, thus, the inflicting Voice  
Smote me. "Is this thy final choice?  
Love is the best? 'Tis somewhat late!  
And all thou dost enumerate  
Of power and beauty in the world,  
The mightiness of love was curled  
Inextricably round about.  
Love lay within it and without,  
To clasp thee,—but in vain! Thy soul  
Still shrunk from Him who made the whole,  
Still set deliberate aside  
His love!—Now take love! Well betide  
Thy tardy conscience! Haste to take  
The show of love for the name's sake."

It is well for Mr. Browning's present venture, that poetry, from its elemental nature, may to some extent charm even where the entire work violates the harmonies of relation. Morals and science lose all their value if there be incompleteness or incongruity in their exposition; but the primary influences of beauty and truth which constitute song are welcome even through partial revelations.

The one blue break of beauty in the clouds, or the scattered stars that gaze on us through the rift, are prized though the general sky be overcast.—This qualified recognition the poems before us must claim. From their perusal intelligent minds may rise enriched with new images of beauty and new stimulants to thought. But that higher appreciation which belongs to a perfect and consistent whole—to those works in which the form corresponds to the spirit, and in which thought, passion, and even humour are harmoniously fused by the imagination—must be denied to them. If, in spite of many unquestioned excellencies, we turn from what Mr. Browning has done to speculate on what he *might have* done, it is his own genius that provokes the comparison and enhances the regret.

#### OUR LIBRARY TABLE.

*Sunday in London.* By J. M. Capes, M.A.—The circumstance of this book being a reprint spares us the ungracious labour of commenting on the mixture of benevolence and bad temper,—hard truth and almost prurient exaggeration,—common sense and utopian speculation,—which its pages disclose. It is perhaps a sign of the times, that so many preachers of social reform seem to be nothing if not scolds, and appear to mistrust the sincerity of all who will not scold with or against them. Earnestly believing that we desire to grapple with realities, and not with mere *simulacra*,—we cannot admire the eloquence of the tub, cannot admit the exaggerations of the party pamphlet or the highly-spiced incidents of a Sue's class-novel, into our artillery of conquest, or progress, or fertilization. Hence, while we recognize the meanings of Mr. Capes as good, we must question the wisdom of his manner. There is too much of the "butter-milk" of human unkindness in his preface, for the teaching of the tale which it precedes, to nourish any reader, whether he be

Priest or layman, lover or monk.

*Compton Merivale: another Leaf from the Lesson of Life.* By the Author of 'Brampton Rectory.'—Another of the myriad books of the day which—be they right or wrong, wise or foolish, orthodox as my Lord of Exeter or heterodox as the lowest-minded creature who is audacious enough to pretend to the luxuries of conscience and private judgment—must by their very number and variety redeem the writers and readers of this age from the charge launched against them from "Scolds in Sacking" and "Saints in Lawn"—to wit, that of indifference to the social difficulties attendant on our high civilization. Though 'Compton Merivale' may be commended for some attempt at character by framework, its main merit lies in the fulfilment of its main purpose,—which is to recommend its author's religious and politico-economical views. These are wrought out by a model He and a model She (as the old Eclogues-writers put it) on whose philanthropic doings and discourses we will not pretend to animadvert. The



tales is pretty sure to find readers:—and its execution is "void of offence."

*Poems and Prose Writings.* By Richard Henry Dana. These two handsome volumes, besides presenting the reader with the productions of a popular American writer, Mr. Dana's 'Buccaneer' having fairly earned him that epithet,—possess some interest, as illustrating the changes which have passed over the world of opinion within the last forty years. The second volume is composed of contributions to transatlantic periodicals. Curious and instructive must it be to any one of younger date conscientiously reviewing

all the planets in their turn,

to see how much honest reason and disquisition have been expended on ephemera; in how complacent an attitude of superiority the writer has set himself to reckon with other critics—men, for instance, like Hazlitt, when his spurs were yet to be won—such retrospective glimpses acquiring an added "particularity" in the cases where the ocean further divided these always far-away kinsfolk as Critic and Author. We do not expect (for the best of good reasons) that average readers shall find the fascination and matter for hope which we do in collections like this, and in the comparisons which they give rise to; but in any case no library of American literature can be complete which does not contain these volumes.

*A Narrative of Arctic Discovery from the Earliest Period to the Present Time.* By J. J. Shillinglaw. This is a more brief and certainly less interesting narrative of Arctic voyages than that compiled by the late Sir John Barrow. Sir John, who wrote the first volume of his 'Arctic Voyages' in 1818, starts with Scandinavian enterprise, taking for his authority Mallet's 'Northern Antiquities.' Mr. Shillinglaw, writing in 1850, follows Sir John and Mallet; and although the valuable historical information relative to the voyages of the Scandinavians in the Arctic Seas contained in the 'Antiquitates Americana,' in Grönländ's 'Historiske Mindesmarker,' and in various other works published by the Society of Northern Antiquaries, has been since made accessible to the historian, Mr. Shillinglaw has not availed himself of them. Accordingly, we have nothing new respecting this most interesting period of Arctic, and as it has been styled Ante-Columbian American, exploration. By these records we learn that the Scandinavians attained a northern latitude but 45° less than that reached by Parry, and that they were in the habit of fishing in Barrow's Straits in the month of May. Such voyages and ventures deserve more detailed and honourable mention than is bestowed on them by M. Mallet. Passing onwards, we have short relations of the voyages of the Cabots, Corte-rea, Willoughby, Gilbert, &c. &c. in chronological order, and condensed from Hakluyt, Purchas, and the other well-known authorities. Descending to later times, greater space is devoted to the Expeditions conducted by the Arctic officers happily yet existing among us, for which, of course, their published voyages afford every facility; and with respect to the Expeditions undertaken by Sir James Ross and others in search of Sir John Franklin. Mr. Shillinglaw reprints the published narratives of those officers. Such materials present no matter for extract. But it is due to Mr. Shillinglaw to say that he tells us "his volume has been compiled principally with a view to keep public attention alive to the imperative duty which England owes to the brave men she has sent on a perilous service to use every practical endowment within her power for their relief." Not questioning this motive, we venture to remark that had Government betrayed a sluggishness and inactivity in the service of humanity, which happily for the credit of the nation has not been the case, the cause which Mr. Shillinglaw advocates would have been better served by him had the publication of his book preceded, instead of following, as it now does, the declarations and labours of Government.

*Eastern Churches: containing Sketches of the Nestorian, Armenian, Jacobite, Coptic, and Abyssinian Communities.* By the Author of 'Proposals for Christian Union.' This little book seems to be compiled from the commonest works on the subjects of which it treats, but the writer in a measure disarms criticism by his meek confessions in the preface. His "mission" appears to be, an attempt to effect a union of all the Christian sects. He has, as he

imagines, cleared the way for a reconciliation of England and Rome:—now his attention is devoted to the churches of the East. With a view to drawing these outlying fragments to the vast agglomerate, he invokes the English Government to enter into a sectarian rivalry with Russia, among Coptic, Armenian, and Nestorian congregations. Before the author of the proposal asks such a favour at her hands, it would be only fair to show the feasibility of his plans by an experiment at home. When he has produced a "union" of all the English churches, it will be soon enough for us to undertake so large an enterprise as is now proposed.

*Steam to Australia: the Rival Routes.* By X. X. X. The writer of this pamphlet is a fierce opponent of the plan of steam communication with Australia by way of Central America. But the question was virtually settled by nature when she placed Southampton more than 2,000 miles nearer to Sydney by the western highway than it is by the eastern. All minor points must in the end give way to that paramount fact. The nearest way is unquestionably the best; but were it not so, it would still have to be adopted. The chief objection thrown out against this route—the probability of one of the American line companies competing for the conveyance of goods and passengers—is rather a recommendation than otherwise. We have no wish to see any more monopolies established. The competition of an American line of packets would be the very best thing that could arise for the English public whose pleasure or business might lead to Australia.

*The Study of the Greek and Roman Classics, considered in relation to the Duties of Elementary Teachers.* By Joshua A. Fitch. A paper read before the quarterly meeting of British teachers at the British and Foreign School Society's rooms in London.

#### LIST OF NEW BOOKS.

Barnes on Isaiah, by Cumming, new ed. 3 vols. 8vo. 9s. 6d.  
Beilby (Dr.) Selections from His Papers, by Rev. J. A. James, 2s. 6d.  
Cape's (J. M.) A Sunday in London, 8vo. 8s. 6d. cl.  
Child's (Mrs.) The Girl's Own Book, 13th ed. 16mo. 4s. 6d. cl.  
Christmas-Eve and Easter-Day, a Poem, by R. Browning, 12mo. 6s.  
Cottage Gardener (The), Vol. III. Imperial 8vo. 7s. cl.  
Dempsey (J. T.) Applied to Railway Structures, 4to, 10s. 6d. swd.  
Dunstan's (R.) Treatise on the Poor Law, 12mo. 6s. 6d. swd.  
Family Altar, a Guide to Devotion, by various Ministers, 12mo. 3s. 6d.  
Green's Juvenile Library, Vol. V. 'Ellen Leslie,' 12mo. 1s. 6d. cl.  
Grimes (J. S.) Etherology, and the Phrenological Philosophy, 8s. 6d. cl.  
Hancock's (W. N.) Impediments to the Prosperity of Ireland, 12mo. 1s.  
Howard's (R.) Revelations of Egyptian Mysteries, 8vo. 10s. 6d. cl.  
Hynes for a Week, 17th ed. 18mo. 1s. cl. swd.  
Hylton House and Innates, by Author of 'Heavenly Husband,' 31s. 6d.  
Leaves from a Lady's Diary in Barbary, 2 vols. post-8vo. 12s. 6d. cl.  
Maimonides and His Successors, Vol. II. by Washington Irving, 10s. 6d.  
Morning of Life, a Memoir of Miss A. —, 12mo. 3s. 6d. cl.  
Noscoe (the Norwegian Sailor), Life of, 5th ed. 4s. 2s. cl.  
Payne's (Rev. G.) Lectures on Christian Theology, 2 vols. 8vo. 12s. 1s.  
Payne's (Rev. T.) The Law of Benefic Building Societies, 12mo. 4s. 6d. swd.  
Pauget and His Successors, Vol. II. by Washington Irving, 10s. 6d.  
Pratt's (W. T.) The Law of Benefic Building Societies, 12mo. 4s. 6d. swd.  
Reids (Capt. M.) Adventures in Southern Mexico, 2 vols. 14s. 1s. cl.  
Sirr's (H. C.) Ceylon and the Cingales, 2 vols. 8vo. 14s. 4s. cl.  
Tait's (Dean) Sermons on School Life, 12mo. 5s. 6d. cl.  
Theodides, by T. K. Arnold, D.D. and Tiedeman, M.A. 8vo. 12s. cl.  
Tyndale's (J.) Man of God, or Manual for Christian Ministry, 8s. 6d. cl.  
Treatise on the Life and Character of St. John the Baptist, 8vo. 10s. 6d. cl.  
Weale's (J.) Rudimentary Dictionary of Terms, 12mo. 5s. cl.  
Wilberforce's (R. J.) The Doctrine of the Incarnation, 3rd ed. 12s. cl.  
Wilson's (Rev. J.) Memoir of His Life and Labours, 4s. 6d. cl.

#### INTERNATIONAL COPYRIGHT.

THE importance of an international recognition of a personal right of property in the products of the brain has been for many years an admitted principle amongst the literary men of France. In 1841 the united Committees of the *Société des Gens de Lettres* and of the *Société de la Librairie*, of Paris, appointed a Commission to prepare and present a memorial to the Government, embodying the views of this influential class on the important question of international copyright. At the head of this Commission, composed of fourteen individuals, figured as Presidents and Secretaries, for the former body, MM. Victor Hugo and Altaroche, for the latter, MM. Charles Gosselin and Pagnerre. Their memorial, too lengthy for insertion in your columns—was conceived in the most liberal spirit. The first measure which it recommended the Government to adopt, as being the long-cherished desire of the *corps littéraire et de la librairie*, was the unconditional, entire, and formal recognition in France of the privilege of copyright for all works published by foreigners in their own country. It went so far as even to repudiate making reciprocity a condition of alien authors being admitted to enjoy this privilege, on the principle of the absolute immorality of literary piracy, which it branded as a "usurpation of property." It set forth, in a note, that the details of the question had been maturely weighed by the mixed Commission of authors and publishers,—which

was prepared to present a complete analysis of the views of the body literate; and that, as much for their interests as for the honour and the glory of the country, it behoved France to assume a generous initiative by making the first sacrifice. It declared, moreover, that commercially considered the measure was a most important one,—because it would annihilate a culpable industry which encumbered the European markets with fraudulent productions; and that neither authors nor publishers feared a fair competition. When in his capacity as President of the *Cercle de la Librairie, de l'Imprimerie, et de la Papeterie*, M. Pagnerre was consulted by M. de Tocqueville as to the sentiments of the corps literate of Paris on his projected treaty, M. Pagnerre (in his Report) reminded the Minister of this memorial, remarking that they would have preferred that the adoption of the great measure solicited by it had preceded all negotiation on the subject. He especially objected to the 13th clause of the ministerial draft; which, by rendering protection of foreign copyright dependent on the ratification and promulgation of the proposed Treaty, appeared to him to consecrate and legitimate all previous literary piracies. For this reason, he suggested that it should comprise all works extant of which any copyright existed, simply allowing, under certain restrictions, present editions to be sold off. The ministerial project likewise proposed to reduce the import duties on French books, one-half; a reduction to which the English Government has consented. The *Cercle de la Librairie* demands, through M. Pagnerre, a still greater reduction. These facts must have been known to your Paris correspondent, as also that M. Pagnerre expressed the sentiments of the majority of the Council of the *Cercle*, and of the principal publishers, booksellers, and printers of Paris. Those whom he consulted were unanimously in favour of the Treaty, and of opinion that it would be hailed with applause by authors, and by nine-tenths of the public in France. At this point, M. Pagnerre and your Paris correspondent may be taken leave of for the present, and I will return to the Treaty.

It is certain, that the English Government has been consulted; and has so far adhered to the project as to declare itself ready to negotiate, and to have delivered to the French Minister certain proposals written in English,—also, that the Treaty is nearly a verbal reproduction of the one on the same subject existing between England and Prussia.

It may be deemed premature to discuss the merits of this Treaty before it has become an official fact. But there is a greater evil to be apprehended from leaving the question undiscussed till then. Official facts are the stubborn members of the stubborn family of facts,—and proportionately difficult to overcome. Now, it is more than probable that unless some effort be made by those concerned, the Treaty will be borne home only when it shall have been already ratified, and is past amendment. It is asserted to be contrary to diplomatic usage to consult private bodies when a measure is in course of negotiation, even though such measure related exclusively to them. Under these circumstances, any positive gain must result from considering the question now; for it is not to be expected of a Minister that he shall be so intimate with the details of every matter affecting the interests of particular associations of individuals as those individuals themselves are,—or that he can legislate for their benefit more successfully without their suggestions as with them. It is unlikely, too, if certain modifications were by them deemed requisite, that the Minister would remain indifferent to their representations. For these, amongst many other reasons, it is desirable that this question should be fully canvassed without delay.

The projected Treaty secures to alien Authors the same privileges of copyright as are enjoyed by them respectively in their own countries. By the 5th & 6th Viet. cap. 45, the privilege of copyright is guaranteed to English authors, or to their assigns, for the term of forty-two years in any case. On the other hand, by the Imperial Decree of the 5th of February, 1810, cap. 6, sec. 1, the privilege of copyright is guaranteed to French authors for the term of their life, and to their heirs and assigns for a further period of twenty years. Whether



this difference in the duration of the privilege of copyright in these two countries would not be productive of ultimate confusion, and prove to some extent detrimental to the interests of the parties concerned; is a point which perhaps more strictly affects French authors; and it will be for them to require of their government an extension of the term, so as to equalize its duration in both countries. But it would be sounder policy if the two Governments were to repeal the statutes which limit the term of this privilege, and place copyright on the same footing as all other property in respect of the title of possession.

**The Treaty includes Theatrical Pieces and Musical Compositions.**—This is a repeal of clauses 18 and 19 of the 7th Viet. cap. 12:—and is a most important innovation. But in spite of its strict justice, it is not perhaps calculated to meet with the approval of a certain class in this country. Playwrights who live by palming off plagiarisms from the French as original pieces will not like it. Managers who seem to prefer the elegant trivialities of the French school to the sparkling and more sterling productions of native dramatists will not like it either. It is to be hoped that the measure will be adopted, notwithstanding: for this will be only carrying out the principle recognized in the above-mentioned Act:—namely, that foreign authors of dramatic pieces and musical compositions have a right of property in them: although the same Act leaves it to Her Majesty in Council to direct under what conditions they may enjoy the privilege.

**The Treaty extends to Translations for three years.**—Mr. Sydney Williams has concisely set forth in your columns [see ante, p. 344.] the advantages likely to accrue to authors, publishers, and the public from some such arrangement as this. But how ever desirable even a limited protection might be, it would be preferable to act on a more liberal principle. By restricting the term of protection to three years, the interests of authors and publishers would be seriously damaged. The limitation might not operate very prejudicially—if at all—with respect to ephemeral productions; but there exist numerous standard French works, good translations of which would occasion a considerable addition to the ordinary outlay of publication. Wherefore, authors and publishers both have an interest in urging that copyright in translations be subject to the same regulations as original productions. On it might be the simpler course to solicit the prohibition of all translations except such as should be published with the consent of the author, and in no other cases.

**The Treaty comprises Engravings, Works of Art, &c.**—All this is equitable in principle, though it tends to complicate it. It is a question whether it might not have been wiser to make them the subject of a distinct arrangement.

It is to be feared that English authors and publishers consider foreigners of their own cloth as likely to derive greater advantages from this Treaty than they themselves will,—or that what is proposed to be done will suffice for all practical purposes; and therefore they hold aloof from publicly mooted the question. But were it even thus, so long as they remain inactive or supine on a matter involving the great principle of International Copyright, they whose interests suffer most from American literary piracies must not expect that their Transatlantic brethren will be the first to make an attempt to do them justice. I am, &c. CHAM.

**DRAINAGE OF LONDON.**

It would appear to be settled by the authorities that the Thames is to be used for the drainage of London. A most valuable and striking condition connected with the river for this purpose seems nearly, if not entirely, lost sight of:—I allude to the natural condition of the two hours' extra run of the tide down the river.

You published a short time since a letter from Mr. Hann, of King's College, adverting to a suggestion of mine for taking advantage of the two hours' extra run of tide for the more perfect drainage of London by the Thames. Certain calculations connected with the method of accomplishing this, showing that the practical difficulties could easily be overcome, were submitted to that gentleman for investigation. Subsequent inquiries have been made in

corroboration—together with some more recent experiments, to obtain further data—all of which go to prove that there are no existing difficulties that may not be vanquished. Will you permit me, through your columns, to call further attention to the subject?

Any one who will turn his attention one minute to the condition of the river, must see, that only the sewage which runs into the Thames at high water, or soon after, is carried away never to return. All sewage run into the river after this period meets the upcoming tide, and by it is brought back again to London. Supposing the rates of current to be the same up and down, the time being five up and seven down, and the discharge being constant, and of the same impurity, it is manifest that two-twelfths only of the pollution is ever carried clear out of the river by each tide. The discharge from the sewers, unfortunately, on the south side of the river, and also in most parts of Westminster and Pimlico, cannot run into the river constantly; for long before high water, and for some time after, the rise of the river dams up the sewers, and no discharge takes place. Consequently, the greatest part of the filth goes into the river shortly before and after low water:—at the very period when of necessity it must be met, and immediately brought back, by the uprising tide. It follows, therefore, that this two-twelfths is not two-twelfths of the filth of London, but only two-twelfths of a mere solution:—hence the present filthy state of the river.

Anything of less or of the same specific gravity as water thrown into the river at high water, or within two hours after, it is self evident, would be carried away by the ebb tide as effectually as if run into a caisson and floated down; but anything run into the river at low water, or within five hours of low water, will certainly be brought back again. Yet, so far as the public are permitted to be informed, there is no intention on the part of the authorities to take this fact into their consideration. Between the tunnel scheme for taking the sewage to the Nore, and that of pumping it over the land as manure—the two propositions entertained by the late Commissioners—there seems to be a compromise. The south side is to be taken part of the way to the Nore, namely, to Deptford; that is, it is to be taken to Deptford by tunnel, and brought back by the river. Westminster sewage, it is said, being probably more rich in fertilizing properties, is to be pumped over the market gardens at Fulham; and what cannot be so disposed of is to be run into the river at low water,—it will not run in at any other time. There is evidently no intention of lifting it so as to discharge it into the river at high water. In a letter in the *Times* of the 27th of December last, it is stated by an eminent engineer, who knows the plans of the authorities, and referring to the advantages of carrying the sewage to Deptford, that it can there be "naturally drained between the intervals of high and low water." Then, surely there can be no intention of using artificial means of lifting and sluicing. The level at Deptford is lower than at London Bridge—and it is evident no sewage can be "naturally drained" at, or near, high water:—it therefore is intended to let it run into the river at low water. The *Times*, in a leading article on this point, says, and we must presume with authority—"it is not intended to use intermittent discharge." Of course, if there is to be no interval discharge, it must be continuous. Surely the public have a right to protest against this. It is certain that any sewage run into the Thames at Deptford, at a time when the levels will permit, if naturally to be discharged, will come back again to London, doubly charged with filth. The common laws of hydrostatics tell us that the sewage from the great mouth at Deptford would continue to pour itself into and increase the pollution of the returning water until the tide was sufficiently high to overbalance the outpour and pond it back in the mouth of the tunnel!

If the public are told, "the authorities intend to lift and sluice it into the river at high water,"—they have a right to ask, "Why put us to the great expense of carrying it to Deptford?" It may be lifted and discharged as cheaply and effectually at London.

Something has been said about the advantage of concentrating the effluvia, and the importance of taking it away from London to Deptford; there may be advantages, or there may not, in taking the effluvia

to this spot;—and as it is a matter to which I have had my attention particularly drawn, in consequence of my late experiments on the ventilation and decomposition of gaseous sewage in Friar Street, I will venture to make one or two observations on this part of the subject.

On the Continent they lately collected the sewage exhalations, or effluvia, to one spot; and attempted to decompose it *in situ*. At Paris and at Brussels they tried to destroy it by passing it through a fire,—a furnace-fire at the base of a high chimney. In both places they failed. They found that the gaseous sewage was not decomposed by this process; it fell from the top of the tall chimney in the immediate neighbourhood, and made the nuisance greater than before. It was therefore abandoned. The fact of its falling undecomposed, particularly in some states of the weather, was not all that was proved in these experiments;—the effluvia was found to lie along the ground and move in volumes by the action of certain eddies or currents of air. A current of air from Deptford to London is often established by the flow of the river. To concentrate, therefore, the sewage at Deptford may be found inconvenient. This, however, is a point not of much consequence; for, notwithstanding that on the Continent they have failed in decomposing gaseous sewage, we have practically succeeded here. The steam jet is now decomposing, according to the evidence of James Mather, Esq., before the late Committee in the House of Lords on Ventilation of Coal Mines (see par. 3716, page 354), "when in full operation, about forty-three tons of muriatic acid per week, which were previously nearly all sent into the atmosphere to the injury of life and destruction of vegetation." In the experiments in Friar Street, above alluded to, made with a view to the decomposition of pestilential effluvia arising from sewers, it was proved that it could, at little expense, be most perfectly effected. The use of the steam jet, and the process of decomposition, are open to the public. I have no patent,—nor ever had one for the steam jet, or for the mode of decomposing. With reference to the practicability of decomposing gaseous sewage by its agency, it will be well to say, that the facts and details of the process are in possession of the Commissioners of Sewers; they are there on record, together with a vote of thanks to me for my exertions. These experiments were made on public grounds, at the time when cholera was making fearful ravages in the locality, and Friar Street sewer was thoroughly ventilated by the steam jet, and the disease stayed, when all previous attempts had failed. The success of the experiments naturally encouraged me to direct my attention to the general question of the drainage of London; and I am desirous to state this much here, because it has been said—"a gentleman living 200 miles away, fully occupied in country pursuits, can know or feel little about this matter; and actively engaged as a magistrate in two counties ought to have something better to do than mix himself up with the London sewers;"—"meddling with things that do not concern him."—The well being of our great metropolis is a matter which concerns every one, and he who is

The deposit of mud in the river is a question of some importance bearing on the drainage of London by the river. It is thought by some that the deposit must always go on, and that if the sewage be carried away by tunnel or otherwise, the deposit of mud would still take place, and that by the flow of the tide it would be disturbed and carried up and down, polluting the river. This need not be:—the conditions on which deposits in rivers depend need not exist in the Thames. No precipitation need ever take place, any one who has studied the laws of currents and retrograde eddies, and determined the points of quiescence and precipitation, must see that no deposit need take place in the Thames under simple arrangements. The dark lines of sewage seen streaking along the sides of the river are occasioned by the eddy current, which always takes the sewage as it comes from the drains in an opposite direction to the flow of the river. When the river is running down, the sewage is running up. Between the direct and the retrograde currents there is a point of rest,—and here it is that precipitation takes place. Destroy the retrograde currents, and you destroy all deposit,—whether of sewage, of mud, or of anything else lightly held in suspension. This is a subject re-



quiring more detail than can I fear be gone into here: I will therefore conclude by observing, that if the sewage is sluiced into the bed of the river, from a proper level, *at or within two hours after high water at London Bridge, the Thames will then be as pure at London as it is now at Richmond*: that it has been shown by fair calculation on received data, that a single Cornish engine of 60-inch cylinder will lift all the sewage on the south side of the river sufficiently high and in time to be run in at the proper period;—but if the sewage be allowed to run in only when the natural levels will permit, whether at Westminster or at Deptford, the filth of the river will always be as bad as it is at present;—that it is *in our power to destroy all pestilential effluvia*, whether arising from gully-holes, from mouths of sewers, or from any other place, at little expense—and also *to prevent the deposit of mud*. The public have a right to ask for these things to be done. —I am, &c.

GOLDSWORTHY GURNEY.

Bude, Cornwall.

P.S. Since writing the above, I observe it stated in the *Times*, that my plan sent in to the Commissioners was to drain London “*only at ebb tide*.” Now, I neither said nor did any such thing. I sent in no plan to the Commissioners. I suggested in a letter some time since, that the sewage, to keep the river pure, should be run into the tide “*at or near high water*.” I hope similar mistakes have not been made in the construction of other suggestions sent to them on this matter.

G. G.

#### FOREIGN CORRESPONDENCE.

##### M. Ponsard's ‘Charlotte Corday.’

Paris.

THIS long-expected tragedy has at length, after many delays and obstacles, made its appearance. The fact that a drama in which the heroes of the great Revolution so prominently figure should be represented before a French audience at the present moment is itself a circumstance sufficiently curious to command attention. But M. Ponsard's tragedy has other claims to notice. Its literary merits are far above the usual standard,—though perhaps somewhat below what the friends of the author had injudiciously led the public to expect. On this young dramatist the surviving adherents of the classical school—the votaries of Racine and Voltaire—had some years ago centered all their hopes. He was destined in their opinion to restore the drama to its original splendour—to be the founder of a new-old school. His ‘*Lucrèce*,’ crowned by the Academy, was, they fondly imagined, to be the first of a long series of legitimate tragedies, which were to arrest the revolutionary triumphs of Hugo and Dumas, and restore the reign of the three unities and of the Alexandrine on the French stage. Alas, for those hopes of a literary Restoration! It was soon evident that ‘*Lucrèce*’ in its colours of legitimacy was the last blossom lingering on a withered bough, and mocking its sterility. Even M. Ponsard has seen this. He has been warned by the failure of his second attempt, ‘*Agnès de Méranie*,’ that the resurrection of the old school is a hopeless attempt. In ‘*Charlotte Corday*’ many concessions to the modern spirit of literary reform are visible. Amongst these there is one, the extent of which your readers, unless they are familiar with the usages of the French stage, will scarcely appreciate. The *Théâtre Français* has actually derogated so far from the orthodox principles of the Drama as to allow of a change of scene in the very midst of the second act: not, indeed, that instantaneous scene-shifting which is, I believe, authorized on every other stage,—but a fall of the curtain takes place, which after a comparatively short interval, rises to exhibit a new tableau. This is an immense innovation.

As to the piece itself.—The assassination of Marat by Charlotte Corday is not, in my opinion, a fit subject for a tragedy. The story is too well known to excite in the spectator any varying emotions of hope or fear,—too modern to leave any scope for invention on the part of the poet,—and when reduced to the strict proportions of historical truth is not dramatic. Charlotte Corday, a young girl of an ardent and enthusiastic mind—in whose veins flows the blood of old Corneille, and who

seems to have inherited the almost Roman spirit that breathes in his masculine and severe verse—adopts with ardour the new theories of liberty and independence of which the Girondists are the eloquent supporters. She learns that these latter, the objects of her fervent admiration, are proscribed,—that a hated Triumvirate reigns supreme,—and that Marat, beside whom Robespierre seems clement and Danton generous, has declared that three hundred thousand heads must fall ere the Republic can be considered secure. In the silence and solitude of her obscure home, she nurses the one engrossing thought of freeing France from a monster whose human sacrifices dishonour the altar of her pure goddess, Liberty. Without trusting confidant or friend, she starts for Paris,—purchases a knife,—demands an interview with the tyrant,—and relentlessly stabs him to the heart. Simple as the action is, it might form the subject of a romance; and the pages which Lamartine in his ‘*History of the Girondists*’ has dedicated to Charlotte (whom by a startling antithesis he terms the “angel of assassination”) are there to prove it. But a dramatic composition requires more complicated elements. There should be antagonistic principles or conflicting passions exhibited, between which the struggle may be doubtful.—There is nothing of this in M. Ponsard's work. The most peculiar feature in Charlotte's character was her concentrated determination and self-reliance,—the most peculiar feature of her crime was its dispassionateness, if I may use the word. All this is the very reverse of dramatic. Even love is banished from the new tragedy; for Charlotte's preference for the handsome Girondist Barbaroux is merely indicated,—and Voltaire himself, who so much admired political tragedies without love in them, might have been satisfied with M. Ponsard's production.

The real seat of interest during this performance was not on the stage, but in front of the curtain. It was a curious experiment to try whether the men and the crimes of a former Revolution could be represented with impunity before an audience so divided by political animosities,—and in a country where the cause of progress against resistance, of reform against repression, is still pending. A glance round the house on the first night of representation was enough to show this. There was scarcely a man of any importance in the political or literary world of Paris who was not present,—as if eager to avail himself of this opportunity of feeling the public pulse. The police in attendance at the theatre was as numerous as though some political debate were about to take place, instead of a dramatic performance. Fortunately, these precautions were unnecessary,—and the piece was listened to with the utmost calm. This was perhaps owing scarcely more to the impartiality with which the author has handled his subject than to the simple fact of the tragedy being in verse:—a circumstance which, while it destroys much of the verisimilitude of the drama, imparts a loftiness and vagueness to the personages which remove them from our own sphere. We feel involuntarily, that the Danton and Marat who exchange such harmonious Alexandrines as they sit in council belong to an ideal world,—the world of heroes and demi-gods, of superhuman guilt and colossal crimes, to which our passions and feelings bear no proportion: A prologue, written I am told by express command of the authorities, had, too, a most soothing influence. Therein, the Muse of History appears; and after relating her birth and infancy in very fair verse, she boasts that on the Athenian stage she dared to show “the sons what their fathers have done before them.” Olio then appeals to the French,—and asks them if they will be less impartial than the Athenians whose heirs they desire to be considered.

The first act shows a Girondist meeting; This scene serves to expose the state of political affairs at the period when the drama opens, and to explain the conflict going on in the Convention between the Girondist, or moderate, and the Montagnard, or ultra-revolutionist, parties:—but it has the great defect of introducing several personages who take no further part in the action. Amongst these, are Madame Roland, Vergniaud, and Sieyès. This latter strives to effect a reconciliation between

Danton (whom he justly considers as far superior to Robespierre or Marat) and the chiefs of the Girondist party. Danton, himself, in an animated scene, frankly offers his alliance to his former enemies: but the prison-massacres of September, which he allowed if he did not order them, form an impassable barrier between the Girondists and himself. “There is blood upon your hands,” exclaims Barbaroux:—and the two parties separate with words of mutual defiance. In this act there are some very fine verses, and the line—

Qu'est ce qu'une Vertu qui ne s'indigne pas?—

which Barbaroux utters when accused of impolitic austerity by his more conciliating friends—is worthy of Corneille.

In the second act we are introduced to Charlotte Corday; who in the fields near Caen is overlooking a party of haymakers,—a volume of Jean-Jacques in her hand, and already absorbed in those ardent reveries of liberty and patriotism which are to cause her crime and her death. The fugitive Girondists, who have been defeated in their struggle against the Montagne, appear; and after relating to the young girl (whose enthusiasm for their cause they soon discover) the events that have obliged them to fly from Paris, inquire their way to the nearest town. Charlotte promises them an asylum, and acts herself as their guide. There is in this whole scene a pervading imitation of antique simplicity, which—strange to say—is very pleasing. Charlotte replies to the questions of the wayfarers with the dignity of some princess in Greek tragedy welcoming strangers at the gate of her father's palace, rather than with the bashfulness of a country girl; and when she learns that the fugitives are the men whom she has so long admired at a distance—Vergniaud, Péthion, Buzot, Barbaroux, &c.,—she contemplates them with as much awe and repeats their names with as many epithets as any maiden of antiquity who might suddenly have found herself in presence of the Theban chiefs or of the princes who fought before Troy. This classical affectation, which might under other circumstances be displeasing, is appropriate enough in a scene with the Girondist leaders,—whose life and manners were one continued plagiarism.

The scene changes to the house of the aged relative who has adopted Charlotte. A few old people—the last relics of a by-gone society—are quietly playing cards, and talking alternately of their fears of the future and of their regrets for the past. We can easily fancy that some such nooks and corners must have existed even during the Reign of Terror;—and the scene reminds us of some of the descriptions of provincial life in the first part of Chateaubriand's ‘*Memoirs*.’ The political earthquake which has just overthrown the hopes of the moderate party, and placed every man's life in jeopardy, might have rolled unheeded by without disturbing the round game in Madame de Breteville's *salon*, but for the arrival of Charlotte; who announces the proscription of the Girondists and the triumph of Marat, and throws her old friends into consternation by her passionate declamations in favour of Liberty—the Liberty of the Girondists, of course. The whole party breaks up in fear and trembling:—and thus closes the second act. The plot, it will be seen, moves slowly; and none of the scenes that I have described can properly be called dramatic. The next act is still less so; being entirely devoted to a dialogue between Barbaroux and Charlotte, in which the former unconsciously confirms the young girl in her yet vague desire to rid France of the tyranny of Marat. Her project assumes a more definite shape as she listens to the revolting portraits which the young and eloquent Girondist traces of the Triumvirs:—and when Barbaroux hints his love, she replies that the times call for sterner thoughts, and that patriotism alone must fill their minds.

The scene of the fourth act is laid in the Palais Royal,—and shows us Charlotte in Paris. Eager groups are gathered round a popular orator, who is sounding the praises of Marat and denouncing the aristocrats to vengeance. Charlotte is among the listeners,—and has already concealed in her bosom the knife which is to liberate her country. The criminal thought which the spectator has fol-



lowed from its birth is on the point of execution; but Charlotte is naturally tender-hearted, and the prattle of a child goes near to diverting her thoughts into a softer channel. Those who have read Lamar-tine's 'Girondins' may have an exact idea of this scene;—which is evidently taken from his work, even in its most trifling details.

The opening scene of the fifth act is incomparably the finest of the work :—and gives occasion for one of the best pieces of acting that I have ever seen. Geffroy, who acts the part of Marat, is just what the self-styled "Ami du Peuple" must have been. He has assumed the ignoble face, the hideous smile, and the glassy eye which the portrait by David has rendered familiar. The burly and vaunting Danton is ably represented too; and the characters of both, as well as that of Robespierre, are well sustained throughout a scene of great effect and power. The Triumviri have met in council at the house of Marat, to decide on the best means of turning their victory to account. "The Revolution is ours," exclaims Danton; "what use shall we make of it?"—"The Revolution belongs to no one," sharply replies Robespierre, who already contemplates the possibility of confiscating it to his own purposes.—Danton, who loves not crime for its own sake, argues for a conciliating policy. He is sick of blood and massacre, and would fain obliterate the hateful remembrance of September. Marat sees no safety for the Republic save in the destruction of all her enemies. Three hundred thousand heads are what he demands; while Robespierre—cold, priggish, and sententious—betrays in his unmeaning declamations the hypocritical policy by which he will finally overcome both his rivals for power. This whole scene is admirably conducted and highly effective,—and the verses in many parts are remarkably good. The following lines are very powerful. Marat has openly accused Robespierre of hypocrisy and Danton of lukewarmness.—

*Marat.* *Qu'en dis-tu? Je ne pense pas, moi, Que tout soit terminé dès qu'on n'a plus de roi. C'est le commencement.—Je sais que chez les nôtres Quelques-uns ne voulaient que la place des autres, Et tiennent que chacun doit être satisfait Quand ce sont eux qui font ce que d'autres ont fait. Leur Révolution se mesure à leur taille. Ce n'est pas pour si peu, Danton, que je travaille,— Ami du peuple hier, je le suis aujourd'hui. J'ai souffert, j'ai lutté, j'ai haï comme lui. Misère, oubli, dédain, haineur patricienne, Ses affronts sont les miens, sa vengeance est la mienne. Il le sait, il défend celui qui le défend : Or, je porterais loin son drapeau triomphant. Il ne me suffit pas d'un changement de forme; Au sein des profondeurs j'enfoncerai la réforme. Je veux, armé du soc, retourner les sillons. A Pombe les habits! au soleil les haillons! Je veux que la misère écrase l'opulence; Que le pauvre à son tour ait le droit d'insolence; Qu'on tremble devant ceux qui manqueront de pain, Et qu'ils aient leurs flatteurs, courtisans de la faim. Chapeau bas! grands seigneurs, bourgeois et valetaille, Vos maîtres vont passer; saluez la canaille!*

*Danton.* *Morbleu! la liberté ne veut pas de despote. Chapeau bas! grand seigneur,—chapeau bas! sans-culotte, Et saluez la loi, non les individus, Car ce n'est qu'à la loi que ces respects sont dûs.*

*Marat.* *Tu n'y comprends rien.*  
*Danton.* *Non, je n'ai pas de génie, Je veux tout simplement briser la tyrannie; Qu'elle vienne d'en haut, qu'elle vienne d'en bas, Elle est la tyrannie, et je ne l'aime pas.*

As may be supposed, such a conversation ends in mutual threats and accusations. Marat is then left alone; and after a monologue in which his character is well brought out, retires to allay the fever which is preying on his diseased frame by the aid of a bath. Charlotte arrives, and asks to speak with the "friend of the people,"—but is refused admittance by Marat's wife. During the altercation between the two, the voice of Marat is heard from behind the curtain that conceals the bath, requesting the *citoyenne* to communicate what she may have to say. Marat's wife retires; and Charlotte, still hesitating on the very brink of crime, is questioned by him concerning the Girondists who have taken refuge in Normandy. She slowly dictates to the invisible tyrant the list of those who are at Caen; and when she falters out the name of Barbaroux, and the voice of Marat answers that he shall mount the scaffold ere long, the threat restores sudden energy to Charlotte.

Drawing forth her knife, she disappears behind the curtain.—A groan ensues,—crowds rush in,—the curtain which concealed the bath is drawn aside,—and the scene closes on a *tableau* which recalls the well-known picture of the death of Marat by David.

Here the piece should have ended: but M. Ponsard has added a scene between Charlotte in her prison and Danton, which contains the moral of the play,—and is consequently heavy and tedious.—Danton, extreme in good as in ill, is struck with Charlotte's self-devotion,—and would save her life at peril of his own. He reminds her that he is still the Tribune of the People,—the Danton who has so often excited or appeased the raging Faubourgs; and proposes to accompany her to the scaffold and there raise his powerful voice in her defence. But Charlotte has one only anxiety:—Has her crime been availing?—has it saved her country? Is she blessed as a deliverer, though hated as a murderer?—"The sounds you hear," answers Danton, "are the acclamations of the crowd celebrating the apotheosis of the new god Marat!—your dagger has given him a place in the Pantheon."—Charlotte is then led out to execution; and the curtain falls on the following soliloquy of Danton:—

*..... Encore une tête qui tombe. Une aujourd'hui! demain les Girondins! puis moi! Puis les autres! telle est l'inévitable loi! C'est terrible et c'est grand. Soldat de son idée, Chacun meurt pour sa foi, par son sang fécondée; Mais l'œuvre est immortelle, et les hommes nouveaux, Maudissant les acteurs, bénissent les travaux. Allons, jusqu'à la mort continuons la guerre; Nous sommes encore deux; à nous deux Robespierre!*

This scene—which has all the appearance of a sixth act—has I believe been suppressed since the first few representations.

On the whole, 'Charlotte Corday,' even did it not contain passages of considerable poetical merit, would still be a remarkable performance. The very fact of its having been listened to with composure, proves much dexterity in the author. He has accomplished a feat somewhat similar to that of a man who should contrive to let off fireworks in a powder magazine without producing an explosion.—The question is, whether a less dangerous experiment would not have been productive of more enjoyment to the public. The office of the Drama from time immemorial has been to rouse, not to soothe, the passions:—and it is, after all, a sorry triumph for a dramatic poet to have succeeded in not exciting his audience. F. P.

#### OUR WEEKLY GOSSIP.

A small but very select collection of extremely rare Greek coins was lately disposed of at Messrs. Sotheby & Wilkinson's rooms, the property of Mr. F. R. P. Boocke, a Russian gentleman. Many of the coins in this cabinet rival most other specimens known here or on the Continent; and they generally obtained good prices, notwithstanding the approaching sales of Mr. Brummell's extensive and very choice collection, and of that of a distinguished nobleman—both abandoning the pursuit. Among the principal features of Mr. Boocke's cabinet were the following:—Lot 10, a most rare and fine medalet, in brass, of Hannibalianus, brother of the Emperor Dalmatius, with the curious, unique legend *FL. HANNIBALLIANO REGI* (!) This beautiful piece was found in making the excavations for the Birmingham Station,—and is of great value. A small coin of Eugenius, very rare in brass, sold for 1*l.* 15*s.* only: specimens of it are seldom met with even in the best collections. A fine and valuable Roman medallion of Philip senior, Otacilia, and Philip junior, perfectly genuine, was withdrawn. Lot 20, a large brass medal of Julius Cæsar, sold for 3*l.* 3*s.* :—one of Didius Julianus, for 2*l.* 19*s.* :—one of Manlia Scantilla, for 3*l.* 17*s.* :—and one of Caracalla, R the famed Circus Maximus, for 3*l.* 3*s.* These last beautiful medals formerly belonged to one of the greatest collectors in Italy. Lot 41, a rare gold medal of Agrigentum, certainly authentic, sold comparatively cheap, being valued by Mionnet at 12*l.* Lot 58, a splendid silver medal of Croton, executed in the best style of Art, representing the Infant Hercules strangling the Serpents, sold for only 2*l.* 5*s.* We believe it was formerly in the famed Pembroke collection. A most rare Ionic silver coin of Miletus,

lot 77, produced 33*s.* :—a silver tetradrachm of Amyntas, lot 84, brought 2*l.* 17*s.* :—being rather a high price at the present time. The Greek copper coins in general were both fine and rare, and produced very adequate prices. A unique one of Britannicus brought 3*l.* 5*s.* It was struck at Heraclea, in Bithynia.

We have received the following, in reference to an illustration employed by our correspondent who wrote last week [p. 342], on the subject of the "Contribution of the Products of Aborigines to the Industrial Exhibition of 1851."—"Permit the author of the 'Life of an Insect' to set 'M. D.' right about his friends, the bees. They do no such thing as cover the dead bodies of bees, snails, or slugs with wax. Bees are much wiser, and select a more fitting material—one also not of their own secretion—when occasion arises for intra-mural sepulture in the queendom of Apia. This material is a resinous exudation from trees, which when appropriated and elaborated by bees is known as *Propolis*. The tenacity of this substance is incomparably superior to that of wax,—and in every way it is admirably suited for the occasional purpose to which it is applied.—Are we to understand that 'M. D.' speaks of a regular habit of bees when he says, 'The bee covers its dead bodies with wax. They are too heavy to be carried away, and they would soon become offensive?' Does 'M. D.' know, that a single bee has dragged a flower up a glass pane to which six bees were hanging? Surely, also, it is an error to suppose that the bees on dying are covered over with any material as a general rule? Unquestionably, the dead bodies are removed from the hive. In Reaumur's account of the bee battles, it is mentioned that the dead bodies of the slaughtered were carried to a distance from the hive. A victor bee would be seen flying out of the hive with the dead body of its foe in its grasp, and on reaching a little distance from the hive would there deposit the corpse. This seems contradictory to the statements made by M. D."

Mr. W. Pennington, of the Audit Office of the Manchester, Sheffield and Lincolnshire Railway, has sent us an official letter which we do not quite understand. Mr. Pennington desires to know how the Railway Clearing House can be called a *central* establishment, when, according to Dr. Lardner's book, reviewed in the *Athenæum* of the 23rd ult., it is in correspondence with only a *part* of the railways of Great Britain. It appears to us that this is a question which should be addressed rather to Dr. Lardner than to ourselves. We did not describe the Clearing House as a *central* institution at all:—and even if we had done so, we confess we do not see that there would have been any extreme impropriety in the expression. Mr. Pennington has also sent us some other papers, from which we gather at least two facts:—first, that he seems to have some quarrel with, or dislike to, the present Clearing House arrangements,—and secondly, that he is a very positive person. If it will in any way assist Mr. W. Pennington to know that the Bankers' Clearing House in Lombard Street is generally considered to be a central institution, notwithstanding the exclusion from it of several of the largest banking-houses in London, we place that piece of information at his disposal.

The French Minister of Commerce has addressed a circular to the different chambers of commerce and manufactures in that country, calling on them to gird up their loins for the great industrial battle of nations to be fought next year in Hyde Park. All over the Continent trumpet is answering trumpet (in acknowledgment of the challenge), in notes that carry no terror in the sound. The Minister urges France to be prepared by every possible effort to hold her own in the coming contest.—This is the new chivalry, which lets the labourer into its ranks. Men who engage in a strife like this will have no time for the warfare of the musket and the sword.

A German correspondent, writing to us from Jena, gives us some curious information relating to the female writers of Germany. Referring to our notice [ante, p. 256] of the German romance of 'Aphra Behn,' he corrects us for calling the author Herr Mühlbach. L. Mühlbach, it appears, "is a lady,"—the name a pseudonym (*secret de Polichinelle*), for Mrs. Mundt." The lady was Clara Müller in her



maiden state; and is now "the wife of the *olim* head of young Germany, M. Theodor Mundt, the well-known tourist, at present by the grace of the Prussian ministry, Professor of German Literature at the University of Breslau." She is a very productive author,—having already given more than a score of novels to the world. Our correspondent is more severe on the licentiousness of this lady's books than we were, in the instance in question, ourselves. He describes her as in her writings "a worshipper of the emancipation of the flesh,—though blameless in her private life." Her works, he says, are not valued in her own country, finding their way chiefly into circulating libraries, for the reading of grisettes, &c. "All our authoresses," adds our correspondent—we hope somewhat too summarily and severely—"are licentious in their choice of heroes and heroines, and in their manner of treating their subjects. So, Miss Lewald, in her 'Prince Louis Ferdinand' (this only a German can know);—and so, even the Countess Hahn, the *Bas Bleu* hyper-aristocratique, &c. They who wish well to the literature of our country," he concludes, "will rejoice when a tendency of this nature is severely repressed in a foreign journal having such character and authority in Germany as the *Athenæum*."

On the evening of the 28th. ult. an important public meeting was held in the Free Trade Hall, Manchester,—at the instance of the Executive Committee of the Lancashire Public School Association,—for the purpose of forwarding the movement for a national scheme of secular education on the principles set forth by that body;—Mr. George Wilson occupying the chair. The scheme, our readers know,—and as the chairman urged,—like that which Mr. Fox has brought before Parliament, is one that aims at giving general secular education, to be supported by local rates, and managed by local committees elected by the local rate-payers. It seeks no aid from Government; and affirms as a broad and distinct principle that it is our duty not to leave the education of the people to the spontaneous efforts of philanthropists,—but amongst ourselves to give to the children of all classes, as a great educational charter, the right to be educated at the public cost in the county or division of the county in which they reside. The old leaven was of course at work,—the spirit which would allow the people to drink at none of the educational fountains, unless in religious vessels. According to this ancient spirit, knowledge must be exorcised before she can be safely let loose among the lower orders. Over the whole domain of instruction the priest only has the right of passport. The preachers of this order seem dreadfully afraid that their disciples must escape from their teaching if they be taught anything else. There are wiser men amongst the clergy of all denominations, who think that whatever truth they have to show is presented with most advantage to trained powers and cultivated minds.—In any case, the people seem to have got firm hold of the principle that they are entitled to be educated by the community in which they live; and the Lancashire Association will, we trust, be the means of setting up the schoolmaster all over the land.—At this meeting a committee was appointed as a deputation to another meeting, then announced to be held on the same subject in the Town Hall, on Monday the 1st inst.—The requisition for this latter meeting was signed by upwards of five hundred gentlemen; and hours before the time appointed the people hung about the building within which their battle was to be waged. The end of it was, that while the Mayor presided over a hard-fought contest within the hall, Mr. Shuttleworth from the railings that fronted the building presided over a concurrent meeting held without. In both cases the motion for a petition to the House of Commons embodying the views of the Association was eagerly carried.—We may observe, that the scheme advocated at the above meetings differs from the Scottish one, to which we alluded some weeks ago,—first, in that it entirely dissociates secular from religious instruction, and secondly, in that it rejects all central or Government control whatever.—We trust, however, that in the Bill which Mr. Fox is about to bring into Parliament so much of Government interference will be reserved, or such guarantees taken in the form of penalties easily recoverable, or otherwise, as will effectually prevent in any district where his schools may be estab-

lished the future evasion of that which is a leading feature of his scheme,—its avoidance of special religious teaching.

While the subject of education for the masses, too far advanced now, to be ever put back, is gradually making good its ground, we are glad to see that another matter which, while it involves their moral and material health, is likewise a means of education, is not lost sight of. Everywhere there is a spreading disposition to secure for the toiling population of the land an occasional escape from the crowded thoroughfares and close alleys in which their lot is cast, and a taste of the sweet influences by which Nature at once heals and elevates and teaches. While attempts that are above all praise are making in many directions, by good and earnest men, to bring the air-current of towns, such as it is, into the dwellings of the poor,—it is not forgotten that their jaded spirits and weary limbs need the refreshment of the breeze where it has the trees for its harp and the breath of flowers upon its wings. So far as the metropolis is concerned, this is, after all, no more than a return,—though made in a more earnest and anxious spirit—to the unconscious wisdom of our ancestors. The crowded haunts which are now the home of the artisan lay once amid comparatively open spaces; and pleasant fields that even the young among us may remember were here and there within a walking distance of the poor man's door. The Genius of Brick and Mortar has invaded all these,—and shut the London dwellers in amid a close and interminable labyrinth of streets. To open breathing-places in this stifling den is a work as holy as his who of old sank a well in the desert. He who lets in a current of air to a crowded neighbourhood does a better office to his kind than he who founds a hospital—the one being for prevention, the other for cure: and he who lays out ground for the exercise and recreation of the humble within easy reach of their homes founds the best of all hospitals. We are glad to see, then, the proposal for a new Park to be laid out for the Finsbury district of London. An area of three hundred acres of vacant ground,—which will cost about 150,000*l.*—has been pointed out as an eligible site; and a committee has been formed to carry the project into effect.—It is stated, too, that arrangements are concluded for affording to the metropolitan public the advantage of much increased facilities of admission to the gardens and grounds of Chelsea Hospital. At present certain portions of these grounds are accessible at stated seasons of the year, and on Sundays only. It is now arranged to throw them open daily, and without restriction as to season. The particular portions of the garden to which it is intended the public shall have access are its centre walk and terraces, the latter bounded by the Thames, and commanding all the diversified attractions of that portion of the river. The inclosed spaces abutting on the northern frontage of the hospital, known as "Burton's Court," have hitherto been attached to the occupation of the Governor; but measures have been effected for throwing open these also, subject to conditions which contemplate the very slightest interference with the enjoyment of the public,—viz., the occupation of a part of the ground, at a particular period of the year, for the drilling of the Chelsea pensioners. The expediency of these arrangements was first pressed, says the *Observer*, on the attention of Government in 1845 by Her Majesty's Commissioners for Metropolitan Improvements. Insurmountable difficulties, however, then stood in the way of their accomplishment. At length, on the demise of the late Governor, that good friend of the people, the Earl of Carlisle, in his capacity of chairman of the Commission, brought the subject under the consideration of Lord John Russell; with whose concurrence negotiations were opened with the Horse Guards and with the Hospital authorities, which have resulted in the ready acquiescence of all parties.—It is further said that, in deference to the wishes of the inhabitants of the town and neighbourhood, the Commissioners of Woods and Forests have prevented encroachments on a portion of Greenwich Park lately attempted to be made, and declare that they will not permit any further invasion. The parishioners, however, are not satisfied, and have agreed to present a petition to the House of Commons praying for the removal of all

encroachments that have from time to time been already made on the Park.

BRITISH INSTITUTION, Pall Mall.—The GALLERY for the EXHIBITION and SALE of the WORKS of BRITISH ARTISTS is OPEN DAILY, from Ten till Five.—Admission, 1*s* Catalogue, 1*s*. GEORGE NICOL, Secretary.

NILE.—GRAND MOVING PANORAMA of the NILE, comprising all the Monuments of Antiquity on its Banks, to which is added the interior of the great Rock Temple of Abu Simbel. Painted by Messrs. Warren, Bonomi, and Fahey.—EGYPTIAN MALL, PICCADILLY.—Daily, at Three and Eight o'clock.—Stalls 3*s*, Pit 2*s*, Gallery 1*s*, a Children and Schools, Half-price.

NOVELTY.—JUST OPENED, at the PIER, Regent's Park, a highly-interesting EXHIBITION, representing the ROYAL CASTLE of STOUTZENFELS, on the Rhine, visited by Her Majesty Queen Victoria in August, 1845, and the Environs, as seen at sunset and during a Thunder Storm; painted by F. H. LAS MISTER, of Cologne. And the much-admired PICTURE of THE SHRINE of the NATIVITY, at Bethlehem, painted by the late M. RENOUX, from a sketch made on the spot by DAVID ROBERTS, Esq. R.A., with two novel and striking effects.

INDIA OVERLAND MAIL.—GALLERY of ILLUSTRATION, 11, Regent-street, Waterloo-place.—A GIANTIC MOVING DIORAMA ILLUSTRATING the ROUTE of the OVERLAND MAIL to INDIA, depicting every object worthy of notice on this highly-interesting journey from Southampton to Calcutta, accompanied by descriptive detail, and appropriate music (which has been in preparation for the last nine months), is now OPEN DAILY, at Two and Half-past Seven o'clock.—Admission, 1*s*; Reserved Seats, 2*s* 6*d*. (which may be previously engaged).—Descriptive Catalogues may be obtained at the Gallery.

ROYAL POLYTECHNIC INSTITUTION. DR. BACHOFENBERG'S SECOND LECTURE on the PHILOSOPHY of SCIENTIFIC RECREATION.—OPTICAL EFFECTS, daily at Two, and every Evening, except Saturday, at Eight o'clock.—THIRD LECTURE, by J. H. Pepper, Esq., on the CHEMISTRY of the METALS, with brilliant Experiments, daily at the Evening.—An entirely new SERIES of ILLUSTRATING VIEWS, exhibiting SCENES in GEOLGY, from sketches taken on the spot by A. Nicholls, Esq., painted on glass by Mr. Clare; also a SERIES of VIEWS of the ARCTIC REGIONS, with an interesting Description, daily at half-past four, and in the Evenings. The VIEWS of LONDON in the SIXTEENTH CENTURY and AS IT NOW IS, are shown at One o'clock.—Experiments with the DIVER and DIVING BELL, &c.—Admission, 1*s*; Schools, Half-price.

## SOCIETIES

LINNEAN.—April 2.—R. Brown, Esq., President, in the chair.—Part of a paper was read by J. Miers, Esq., 'On the Natural Order Trimacææ.' Three new genera of plants belonging to this order were described under the names *Sciaphila*, *Hyalisma*, and *Lofidium*. Species of these genera had been found in both the old and the new world. The remainder of the paper will be read at the next meeting.

ENTOMOLOGICAL.—April 1.—G. R. Waterhouse, Esq., President, in the chair.—G. H. Dalton, Esq., and Herr M. Bach, were elected corresponding Members.—Mr. Westwood exhibited a new Coleopterous insect, *Choloropaera Madaga*, which was remarkable for having the usual faceted eyes replaced by ocelli,—a peculiarity not hitherto observed in any metamorphic winged insect. He also exhibited insects mounted on gelatine, which he considered preferable to talc, as the insects were more firmly secured,—the gum by which they were fastened not being so liable to scale off.—Mr. Stainton exhibited a British species of *Micropteryx*, which he had previously overlooked, though it was described by Mr. Stephens under the name of *concinella*. It appeared that this species was the true *aruncella* of Scopoli, and that the insect described by Mr. Stainton, in his monograph of the genus, under that name, must now resume the name of *Seppella* Fab.; in both species the females are destitute of markings.—Mr. Douglas exhibited a new British *Elachista*, for which he proposed the name *occultella*,—and read brief descriptions of it, and of the *Graphalitha Weirana*, which he had exhibited at the February meeting. He also exhibited an empty pupa, apparently of some Noctua, in a thistle stem of last year.—Mr. S. Stevens exhibited some beautiful Lepidoptera from Santarum, on the River Amazons, including *Callithea Godartii*, and *C. Leprieurii* of Feisthamel.—Mr. Stainton exhibited some leaves of *Helianthemum vulgare*, mined by some small larvæ, apparently Lepidopterous.—A paper by Mr. S. S. Saunders, was read, on two new Strepsipterous insects, from Albania, parasitical on the genus *Hylæus*, with some remarks on their habits and metamorphoses.—Mr. Westwood remarked that he thought the *Hylæi* were parasitic; which Mr. Smith doubted, having seen specimens excavating bramble-sticks for their cells.

INSTITUTION of CIVIL ENGINEERS.—April 2.—W. Cubitt, Esq., President, in the chair.—The paper read was a 'Description of a Lift Bridge, erected over the Great Surrey Canal, on the line of the



Thames Junction Branch of the London, Brighton, and South Coast Railway," by Mr. R. J. Hood.

At the monthly ballot, the following candidates were elected:—Messrs. G. B. Bruce and G. Remington, as members; and C. C. C. Baynes, C. Cowper, G. Donaldson, W. Johnson, G. J. Munday, and W. Taylor, as Associates.

ROYAL INSTITUTION.—March 22.—The Duke of Northumberland in the chair.—Prof. A. C. Ramsay 'On the Geological Phenomena that have produced or modified the Scenery of North Wales.'

To arrive at a clear understanding of all the causes that had operated in producing the scenery of North Wales, Prof. Ramsay explained the manner of the deposition in an ancient sea of at least 4,000 feet of interstratified Cambrian sandstones and purple slates, above which were formed the lower Silurian rocks, composed of fossiliferous blue slates, during the deposition of which submarine volcanoes burst forth, so that the ordinary muddy sediment became largely interstratified with beds of hard felspathic trap and volcanic ashes, the whole attaining a thickness in their highest development of about 18,000 feet, during a period of gradual depression of a portion of the bed of the sea, accompanied by an equivalent accumulation of sedimentary and other material. These consolidated rocks were then disturbed and heaved up in a cold or temperate sea, in the form probably of a few barren islands, the vegetation of which, if they had any, is quite unknown to us. Afterwards above a long accretion of newer geological formations, we arrive at the period of the formation of the coal measures, and by an examination of the plants of the time, we get a second more distinct hint of a lost terrestrial scenery sixty or seventy times repeated, as indicated by the occurrence of an equal number of coal beds, each resting on the soil on which the plants grew that formed the coal. In later times the whole of the rocks from the Cambrians to the Coal Measures inclusive were disturbed together, and round a larger country, of which Wales and the Malvern formed a part, the new red sandstone, oolites and chalk were partly accumulated in a sea, into which flowed rivers bearing the plants, animals and insects of the time. These and other oscillations of level were accompanied by denudation (or the constant waste of the surface material of the rocks by atmospheric disintegration, the action of running water, and the effects of breakers on coasts), which in the instance of the Mendip hills, Prof. Ramsay proved to have resulted in the removal of many thousand feet of rock once super-imposed on the present surface. Similar reasonings are applicable to all Wales, and these effects acting on interstratified rocks of various hardness, produced that excessive irregularity in the skeleton of the scenery, the rugged character of which appears in striking contrast to the smoother outline of the hills south of Cader Idris, the rocks of which mostly possess a more uniform structure. During one of these oscillations of level, the Welsh mountains stood amid the waters of the glacial sea in the form of a group of islands, to illustrate which drawings were pointed out of parts of Shropshire and Caernarvonshire, showing the nature of the scenery as it now is, and as it was when this cold sea washed the base of the inland mountains.

The anatomy of the present scenery was then explained by means of sections, showing the comparatively level glacial sea-bottom, resting on the denuded edges of old rocks, which, being a continuation of the disturbed beds of the inner mountains, at the edges of the low country plunge beneath and form a floor for the support of its superficial accumulations. It was during the influence of this cold time that, according to the theory of Prof. E. Forbes, some of our Alpine plants took up their abode on the islands (now mountain tops) which, by subsequent upheaval, are far removed from the sea.

During and immediately preceding the latter times of this epoch the Welsh valleys were more or less filled with glaciers, as first pointed out by Dr. Buckland. In most instances the moraines have been destroyed in low-lying districts, because the glacial sea during a time of depression re-arranged the material, and this sea-bottom frequently forms the substance that dams up the lakes in the lower valleys. In the higher valleys, however, the moraines both lateral and terminal, are frequently

almost perfect; and in numerous instances (a circumstance not heretofore pointed out) the terminal moraines form a natural embankment, damming up the waters of the lakes in the higher recesses of the mountains, instances of which were pointed out by means of views of Llyn Idwal and Ffynnon Llugwy. Another point, having often a singularly picturesque effect, was also in this lecture first explained, viz., the numerous transported stones of great size, perched often on polished surfaces of rock in situations so precarious that it is evident they could not have rolled there from the heights above, otherwise they would have bounded yet deeper into the valleys below: and it was therefore inferred that they were quietly allowed to settle where they now rest at the final disappearance of permanent ice from the hills.

#### MEETINGS FOR THE ENSUING WEEK.

- Mon. Geographical, half-past 8.—Notes on the Geography of South Africa, by Messrs. Mac Queen and Oswell.  
—British Architects, 8.  
Tues. Civil Engineers, 8.—'On the Construction of Locks and Keys,' by Mr. J. Chubb.  
—Zoological, 9.—Scientific Business.—'On Australian Fish,' by Sir J. Richardson, M.D.—'On the Marine Mollusca collected by Capt. Kellett and Lieut. Wood,' by Prof. E. Forbes, and other papers.  
Wed. Geological, half-past 8.—Observations on the Discovery by Prof. Lepsius of Sculptured Marks on Rocks in the Nile Valley in Nubia, indicating that within the historical period the River flowed at a higher level than in modern times, by L. E. Horner, Esq. F.R.S.  
—Ethnological, 8.  
—Literary Fund, 8.  
—London Institution, 7.—Soirée.—Prof. Redwood 'On the Universal Influence of Magnetism.'  
Thurs. Royal, half-past 8.  
—Royal Society of Literature, 4.  
—Antiquaries, 8.  
Fri. Royal Institution, half-past 8.—A Popular View of certain Points in the Undulatory Theory of Light, by the Rev. Prof. M. O'Brien.  
—Philological, 8.  
—Astronomical, 8.

#### FINE ARTS

##### SOCIETY OF BRITISH ARTISTS.

By way of addenda to last week's notice, we ought to specify the *Portrait of Capt. Spicer* (No. 126) and the *Portrait of the Hon. Mrs. Lennox Peel* (146) by Mr. Hurlstone, as superior in treatment to other works which gave occasion to the general character offered. We should mention Mr. Noble's *Pepys at Lilly the Painter's* (94)—and the same artist's *Interview between the Princess Elizabeth and Queen Mary* (395) as figure pieces executed with that care which demands recognition even when it fails in its object.—Nor must we omit to notice Mr. Mogford's *Water-cress Gatherers* (270) and the Cavalier on Horseback, *Too Late* (366) by Mr. J. W. Glass, as works which a second visit to the Gallery revealed to us as worthy of a word of praise. In days of dearth a crumb hath its value; in the midst of much pretension we become thankful for a touch of truth—though a crumb does not constitute a meal, nor a touch establish a picture.

Among the Landscapes, though there be little that rises high—and nothing that merits first honours—a fair proportion of pictures deserve praise. As usual, Mr. Allen has filled one of the spaces of honour in the Great Room by his *View of Cooper's Hill, with Windsor Castle in the Distance* (196). The earth—which is here a lovely and widely-extensive prospect of "meadow, grove and stream"—seems more under the painter's command than the air: for the descending rain-cloud is at best earthy, and the sky, which is the most ambitious part of this fine landscape, is altogether tame and inexpressive. Mr. Ruskin will bear us out in saying that too few of our landscape painters "look up"—too many throw in their horizon skies and all the wonders of the upper firmament at hazard or by receipt—not as records of such observation as they must give to the play of light and form in objects terrestrial, or else be chargeable with inexperience in treatment or tastelessness in selection. Among Mr. Allen's other landscapes the smaller *Evening piece* (16) is richer in atmosphere—poorer and more careless in the markings of foliage.—Mr. Brunning's *Old Mill on the Thames near Greenwich* (27) seems to indicate that the artist has been studying both Stanfield and Callcott—the manner of the first, and the placid tones of the latter. Better models he could not select—though as an imitator he can at best be but second-hand. His *Salute to Her Majesty on her Voyage to Ireland* (291) is another picture in which the cleverness exceeds the originality.—We must turn from him to an exhibitor who is rising in

esteem—as a close observer of nature—but who stands in some danger of falling into affectation by reason of too much individuality. This is Mr. S. R. Percy—and it is from his *Quiet Vale* (394) that we lecture. Admiring, as we have done for some three springs past, the truth of his eye—we are disposed to question the training of his hand. The stiff, bristly, minute, *heather-brush* touch of his foliage is too limited and euphuistic a language—so to say—to render the diversities of woodland nature. With all his exactness of eye, and his good taste shown in choosing for subjects nooks of common, glens in a wood, or (as here) one of those valley scenes which are impressive by reason of their close intricacy, Mr. Percy's landscapes *scratch* the eye from his want of roundness, smoothness, and variety of touch. There is too much of the real painter in him not to make this warning well worth the giving.—Mr. Pyne is weaker and more conventional this year than his wont: as his *Ehrenbreitstein* (31) and *Cologne* (48) and, most of all, his *Thames Recollections—the New Custom House* (127) sufficiently illustrate.—Mr. Montague exhibits largely, and seems in the choice of his subjects—his golden *Distant View of Windsor* (302) excepted—disposed to break a lance with the Hollanders—since he gives us Dutch towns, winter scenes, windmills with all their picturesque apparel, &c. in profusion. But style and subject must in some sort agree: and the loose, free, and splashy handling which would befit "a shower of houses" in a ragged, ruinous Irish village, suits ill with the almost painful neatness of Dutch building and Dutch landscape. To the works of Van der Heyden (the Canaletti of Holland, and higher in feeling and finer in taste than Canaletti) was well applied *Bassano's* fanciful simile of the "spider having played the painter." His exquisite minuteness, we know, would not suit the humour of our English artists;—but Mr. Montague affects the other extremity of treatment, and this we take leave to think misapplied.—Mr. H. J. Boddington exhibits some of his best landscapes: foremost among which may be specified his *Hazy Morning on the Thames* (117).—Mr. Tennant—certain of whose contributions remind us closely of Holland's best pictures—is in force this year. His *Near Chiswick* (123), a river-scene, is clear and sunny in a manner of his own.—Mr. E. Hassell, on the other hand, who began promisingly (or we are mistaken), seems threatened by a blue and yellow fever; vide the tints of his *Thames Craft—Moonlight* (74) and his *Winter* (241), which latter is really curious as a piece of meretricious colour.—Far better, in every respect, —one of the best landscapes, indeed, in the collection —is Mr. J. Danby's *Robin Hood's Bay, Yorkshire* (306).—To close our notice, we shall merely appeal to Mr. Wingfield whether the time is not come when he might as well deliver himself from the Decameronian un-realities which he is fond of picturing as occurring on the banks of the Thames or in the pleasure (with him one must say the "garden") of Hampton Court? The masquerading fancy has been run upon too long and too largely by our conversation painters; and we are in some danger of being as much tired of the prettinesses by the sacre, bag-wig, and powder-puff school of painters, as we should have been of the ruffianism of the more celebrated artist whose humour it was to dress out his subjects in the rags of beggary—had we lived in his time.

With regard to the water-colour drawings and miniatures, we think them best criticised by a free translation of a well-known half-line in Dante—

"Don't look at them;—and pass on!"

FINE-ART GOSSIP.—The second bronze battle bas-relief for the Nelson Monument has just been placed in its recess in the base of the column immediately facing the National Gallery. It is the work of Mr. Woodington, a young sculptor favourably known to the public by several designs in relief with much poetic and truthful beauty about them. Mr. Woodington's subject is, the Nile; and the incident which he has chosen is that fine one in which the surgeon of the ship is quitting a poor sailor then under his hands that he might attend to the wounded Admiral. "No," said Nelson, "I will take my turn with my brave fellows." The subdued suffering and settled composure of the great hero are well represented. The action is good and the story well made out.



the extended hand of the hero conveying all that Art can convey in representing the beautiful sentiment of the occasion—so like, and so well worthy of, Sir Philip Sidney. The naked shoulders of the seamen have allowed the artist to show his knowledge of anatomy, and to give variety to his composition. We may add, that the weight of Mr. Woodington's relief is two tons less than the corresponding relief by Mr. Carew—that it is made of a composition bronze very different from gun metal, and, from what we know of Egyptian art, still more durable. It is of essential importance in casting in metal not to overheat or burn the mould; the thinner, therefore, that the metal can be poured upon the mould, the less likely is it to burn or destroy the delicate modelling. This has been Mr. Woodington's only object in lessening the weight of his work.—The relief, irrespective of its other excellencies, affords a capital specimen of casting in bronze.

The London visitor and the London resident who has half an hour to spare may both of them spend it very pleasantly in a visit to the Cosmorama in Regent Street. The Exhibition is very diversified—containing scenes taken from the four quarters of the world with much fidelity of pencil, and with an intimate knowledge of the resources of perspective. The architect will find ample room for study in the nave of St. Peter's at Rome; the poet an ample range for his fancy in the noble view of Venice; while Egypt and Siberia alike offer illustrations both striking and suggestive. This class of Exhibition has arrived at great excellence—and neither wants nor would seem to allow of any material improvement.

The following is from a correspondent who gives us his name.—“Can any one of your correspondents, more learned than myself in the history of the Arts, give me any information concerning a painter of the name of ‘John Fradella,’ who appears to have lived in the early part of the last century? I have a set of pictures representing scenes of which the costumes fix them at about that date, and upon one of them are the words ‘Johannes Fradella fecit.’ But I can find no mention of any such name in the ordinary catalogues of painters. I should be much obliged to any well-informed correspondent who could furnish me with the means of obtaining authentic knowledge of his professional history and performances.”

We have before us the prospectus of the first of a series of Local Artisan Schools, which it is projected to establish in the various remote districts of London as auxiliaries to the central Government School of Design. The coming contest of nations has called attention to the probable inferiority of the English workmen in matters of Art,—and the projectors of these schools have a faith in the English mind which attributes that inferiority to no more insurmountable cause than the want of teaching. A public meeting, it is announced, will shortly be held, to explain more fully the objects and advantages of these institutions,—which are new to England, though foreign nations have long enjoyed them. Meantime, the first school, to be called “The North London School of Drawing and Modelling,” will be opened at Camden Town on the 1st of May,—for the education of those trades which require the exercise of taste as well as skill; viz., the Casting and Chasing of Metals, Masonry, Carving, Plastering, Cabinet Making, House Painting and Decorating, &c. The school will be open three evenings in each week, from the 1st of September to the 1st of June in each year successively. The price to adults is to be one shilling and sixpence per month,—to lads under fifteen years of age one shilling per month:—and subscriptions and donations are solicited to enable the committee to carry out their purposes.

In reference to our notice [*ante*, p. 317] of the Exhibition of Ancient and Mediæval Art now proceeding at the Rooms of the Society of Arts,—we are requested by Mr. Henry Shaw to rescue him and Mr. Farrer from the possible imputation of taking credit for a greater share than may belong to them of the credit attaching to the distribution of the valuable and instructive articles committed to their charge. “The manner of proceeding,” he says, “was as follows.—At the first meeting of the General Committee a sub-committee was selected, which took on itself the general duties of preparing the Exhibition.

By that sub-committee Mr. Farrer, Mr. Planché, Mr. Webb and myself were requested to undertake the task of classing and arranging the Exhibition. Mr. Planché, from the pressure of unavoidable engagements, was unable to give us as much of his time and valuable assistance as I know he wished; but he approved of all that was done in his absence. Our leading object was, to make as picturesque a display as we possibly could, consistently with a fair attention to classification. This was determined on from a conviction that the mass of those likely to be instructed by our display were not archæologists,—and therefore required to be fascinated into a proper admiration and appreciation of those beautiful objects by seeing them arranged in a manner the best calculated to display their artistic merits and the richness of the materials of which they are composed. To effect this purpose in a room of moderate dimensions, in cases which are fixtures, and where the convenience of the public in passing round them had to be consulted,—was no easy task; particularly as all the classes required good,—and some (the glass more especially) very peculiar, lights to enable the spectator to appreciate the delicacy of their forms and the beauty produced by the blending of their colours.”

Marlborough House, the residence of the late Queen Dowager, has been given by Her Majesty to the Prince of Wales. The Prince, however, is too young to have a “household” of his own; and the Vernon pictures are to ornament the empty house until the Prince shall be of age or the National Gallery shall have been enlarged to receive them. This change for the better has been accompanied by another announcement made by the Prime Minister in Parliament,—that the Royal Academy will leave the National Gallery, and that Government is prepared to ask the House for a grant of money to enable it to build apartments for itself elsewhere. Thereupon, Mr. Hume renewed his onslaught on the Academy by moving for a return of the property possessed and the sums received by that body; but his motion was rejected,—and so the matter stands for the present. If the Academy will be wise in time—which means being liberal too—it has just now a great career before it,—such an opportunity as may scarcely recur to it in the course of its history. On this subject we shall have a few suggestions to offer on a fitting occasion.

We have received the following.—“Every true lover of Art will be glad to see that the Commissioners intend to throw open to public competition the designs for the reverses of the medals to be awarded as prizes to exhibitors at the Great Exposition of 1851:—but I cannot hold with them when they stipulate that the designs shall be in plaster only. This requisition will greatly lessen the number of competitors. Why not have designs on paper, as well? A perfect idea of relief can be conveyed on paper,—and the die might be executed from the approved drawing. Several artists have produced splendid works for relief who never themselves modelled. Stothard and many of our first painters have designed works of the kind. Painters do not engrave their own works, though they superintend them. I know one of our best artists for metal work—one who has designed the greater number of race cups for the last twenty years—who seldom if ever touches the work in the round or solid form himself.”

The American papers state that a model by Mr. Crawford for a monument to Washington at Richmond has been definitively accepted by the Governor, Executive Council, and Commissioners of Virginia. It is to be sixty feet in height, and surmounted by an equestrian statue of the hero.—“On a lower pedestal are to be six statues; one representing Virginia, with a torch raised in one hand and the other hand pointing to a broken crown at her feet.—The five other statues are to be of distinguished Virginians, comrades of Washington,—three of them civilians, and two military men. For the first three have been indicated Henry, Jefferson, and Marshall, (embodying oratory, statesmanship, and jurisprudence,—or the legislative, executive, and judicial departments). For the two military figures, Morgan and Lee have been indicated. The whole group represents Virginia and her sons doing honour to the great and good Washington.”—The very large sum of 100,000 dollars has been appropriated by the State for this work.

## MUSIC AND THE DRAMA

**PHILHARMONIC SOCIETY.**—The Subscribers and the Public are respectfully informed the THIRD CONCERT will take place at the Hanover Square Rooms on Monday Evening, April 8. Programme:—Sinfonia, c minor, No. 3, Spohr; Concerto, violin, Mr. H. C. Cooper, Mendelssohn; Overture, ‘The Ruler of the Spirits,’ Weber; Sinfonia in a flat, No. 4, Beethoven; Overture, ‘Don Carlos,’ Riel; Local Performers: Miss Lucombe, Mr. Benson, and Mr. Frank Boddé. Conductor, Mr. Costa.—Single Tickets (with Reserved Seats), 11. 1s.; Double Tickets (ditto), 21. 10s.; Triple Tickets (ditto), 21. 5s.—to be obtained of Messrs. Addison, 210, Regent Street.

**MUSICAL UNION.—SECOND MATINÉE.**—April 9th, at Half-past Three o’clock.—Quartet, 2 minor, Op. 44, with Andante and Scherzo; Posthumous Quartet, Op. 51, Mendelssohn; Sonata, in G, Piano and Violin, Beethoven; Quartet, No. 10, E flat, Beethoven. Artists:—Ernst, Delloffe, Hill, and Piatti. Pianoforte, S. Bennett. Members are requested to pay their subscriptions to Cramer & Co., where single tickets, Half-a-Guinea each, can be purchased, and the Synopsis Analytique obtained at six o’clock on the evening preceding each performance. Members can personally introduce visitors on payment at the door.

J. ELLA, Director.

**HER MAJESTY’S THEATRE.**—Neither Stupidity’s self, to whom “straw or no straw” is a thing totally immaterial when bricks are to be made,—nor Paradox intent on “boring out” something fresh and fine from the driest lands and most barren places, could find a new remark to make on ‘Lucia’ as an opera. How long will singers continue to be so distressingly fond of this sickly work?—how long in their fondness be deaf to the comparisons to which their appearance in it exposes them?—Waiving all retrospect in the case of Miss C. Hayes and Mr. Sims Reeves, who performed it on Tuesday, we may say that the Lucia’s voice was in better order than it was last year, sweeter, firmer and less worn,—and that she acted with more impulse and warmth. But her peculiarities of style also seem to have increased: her immoderate use of *sforzando* and *rallentando* serving merely to make that ponderous which no magic could render grandiose. The music is more delicate than declamatory,—the character more tender than terrible. Mr. Sims Reeves, too, by way of passion was slower and more over-emphatic than usual. Hence it fell out that both hero and heroine were oftentimes at odds with the orchestra, and were swept on rather than led, by their neighbours in the concerted pieces. The reception of both was triumphant; nevertheless, both for themselves and their theatre, the sooner they are out of *Castle Ravenswood* the better. Not that we wish to hear of them in the ‘Prigione d’Edimburgo’; which according to rumour ought by this time to have been disposed of.—‘The Prodigal Son’ to have been in rehearsal. In the place of either, we were told in the theatre that M. Halévy is very shortly expected with his score of ‘La Tempesta.’ Mr. Lumley’s orchestra must be refreshed, or rather utterly reconstructed, if the new opera is to be given in the French fashion;—since the Haymarket band is by many degrees worse than it was in 1849.

Let us now speak of the new *dansuse*, Mdlle. Ferraris; who takes her stand on a pair of the most brilliant and piquant feet that ever touched the ground,—firm as though they were pointed with adamant,—light as if a daisy would be none the worse for their “stepping.” In her—and their—particular style, she outdoes Signora Fuoco and Signora Rosati. From the waist upwards, Mdlle. Ferraris seems to us stiff and angular. To bring the entire body into harmony is the most refined and subtle (we had written *supple*) part of the dancer’s art:—but we must see the new Lady in an entire *ballet* ere we believe that the disproportion remarked is habitual in one so accomplished.

Madame Sontag and Signor Lablache re-appeared the evening before last, in that last—and not least pretty—of comic operas ‘Don Pasquale.’—Of the new *Norina* we shall speak seven days hence.

**ROYAL ITALIAN OPERA, COVENT GARDEN.**—*Masaniello*.—That Covent Garden has made a precious acquisition in Signor Tamberlik cannot be questioned. We have not for many a day been called to report on so competent, accomplished and interesting a new first tenor:—nor have we ever seen an immediate effect produced upon an audience which we think so likely to last. There are gentlemen who have voices, and there are gentlemen who sing. The first phrase delivered by the new *Masaniello* proved that he is to be classed in both categories. Throughout the evening his organ was more tremulous than English ears like. This



may in part have arisen from fatigue and nervous excitement; but when these are allowed for, we suspect that Signor Tamberlik may prove to have cultivated the Rubini and Paganini tone, in which vibration was immoderately courted under the idea of intensity of expression. If so, the sooner he "spells himself back" to steadiness the better. We have mentioned his only drawback. His gifts are many—of rich quality and rare extent. His voice is an even, sufficiently powerful, and sympathetic tenor of two octaves in compass; ranging from *c* to *c altissimo* in chest voice, and capable of being delivered throughout *mezzo forte*—a sure test of vocal ability. It is ready, too; as was tested by Auber's music, in which piquancy and nimbleness are required. It is variously expressive; capable of conveying fire, as was shown in the *duo* with *Pietro*,—tenderness, as in the *romance* beside *Fenella's* couch,—and electrical vehemence, as in the last cry, "*All' armi*,"—than which Duprez himself rarely, if ever, uttered any phrase more stirring. We have to admire, too, the temperance of the new singer—a virtue so rare in these days of exaggeration,—his style of declamatory phrasing in his recitative, and his beautiful articulation of Italian:—the last quality, alas! also fast becoming a delicious rarity in our strangely polyglott times. In his expression and quality of voice, Signor Tamberlik more than once recalled to us Rubini,—in his demeanour on the stage and personal appearance he reminded us of Duprez. There seems much of the intellectual propriety, dignity (in no stilted sense), finish, and feeling of the true artist in his acting. That Signor Tamberlik is sympathetic—to repeat the Italian adjective, in default of a better,—as well as meritorious, the audience was convinced ere he had got to the end of his *Barcarolle*, and treated him accordingly. Rarely, according to our sympathies, has so warm a reception been so well merited. We were told in the theatre that the part of *Masaniello* is not a favourite one with Signor Tamberlik—that he had but just recovered from a severe cold consequent on the change from Barcelona to our northern climate,—that he had only four-and-twenty hours to prepare himself in a text totally different to the translation to which he was accustomed. All these things give us a high idea of his present adaptability, and good hope for the future. We trust that the one will not be contradicted nor the other disappointed. Meanwhile,—so far as we can judge from a single hearing—our impression is, that never has opera-house been so well tenored as Covent Garden is now since the days at Her Majesty's Theatre when Signor Mario divided occupation with Rubini.—We must not leave '*Masaniello*' without saying that the superior freshness of Madame Castellan gives to the uninteresting heroine, *Elvira*, more life and charm than were thrown into the character by Madame Dorus Gras, brilliant as was that Lady's execution. Miss Ballin is a good *Fenella*:—the cast is otherwise the same as last year. The execution was generally most brilliant.

**DRURY LANE.**—The Easter piece at this house is entitled '*The Devil's Ring*.' The three acts which compose it present no features of peculiar interest, though elaborated with much stage skill, as might have been expected from its author, Mr. Rodwell. Faithful love and knightly honour go through not only fire and water, but earth and air in pursuit of their object,—the disenchantment of beauty. *Herbert*, the Minstrel of Cassel, vows to secure at once the '*Devil's Ring*' and the *Princess Eveline*; descends into the crater of Etna in the Old World,—in the New, by the Falls of Niagara into '*The City of the Fountains*;' through flame and flood ascends again, to penetrate into the mysteries of '*The Diamond Caves in California*;'—and finally to permeate "*The Palace of Rainbows*" in the air. In all this are implied much grand intention, much expensive machinery, and much extensive scenery. All is accordingly upon a large scale of illustration;—yet we cannot venture to report that our ideas of magnificence have been realized.—The playwright has endeavoured to relieve the sobriety of his very sombre plot by the introduction of a character designed to do, or indicate, the comic business—one *Franco*, the hero's brother, performed by Mr. S. Artaud; but the endeavour has been conceived in too humble a spirit to be eminently

successful. Between Miss E. Nelson and Miss Rafter there was some pretty singing; and Miss Huddart as *Herbert* was more than respectable. But the march of the events and the character of the incidents lacked spirit, fire and invention. We doubt whether this serious kind of magical melo-drama can hold its ground against the brilliant and witty burlesques now so numerous. The day for such things is past, and is scarcely to be brought back by the re-introduction of quadrupeds on the stage. The piece concludes with "the triumphal entry of *Herbert* and *Princess Eveline* in a Car drawn by real Horses!"

**HAYMARKET.**—Mr. Webster and the Messrs. Brough may be congratulated on the deserved success of their Easter piece. It is a burlesque of a superior order; replete with wit and point, and abounding in dramatic situation. Sir Walter Scott's romance of '*Ivanhoe*' has been laid under contribution for its theme,—and the scenes and incidents have been translated into modern manners. *Isaac of York* as represented by Mr. Keeley is a slop-seller, whose slumbers are haunted by the ghosts of starving needle-women and cheated customers; and *Ivanhoe* as the palmer, in the hands of Mrs. Keeley, is one of his victims of the latter class, whose cheap armour fails him in the combat. Miss Horton as *Rebecca* makes a gorgeous "maid of Judah;" and her passion, though burlesque, passes, as it were, from the ridiculous into the sublime. Mr. Bland as *Cedric*, the Saxon, is no less than the fine old English gentleman, with his scorn of fopperies and of Frenchmen. A rich specimen of the latter is presented by Mr. Selby in the part of *Brian de Bois Guilbert*. Mr. Buckstone had rather an unthankful part as a worn-out joker, in the character of *Wamba*; and Mrs. Fitzwilliam had a brief one in that of *Robin Hood*, which she played and sang deliciously. As a spectacle the piece is magnificent.

**SADLER'S WELLS.**—The tragedy of '*Macbeth*' was repeated here on Monday, to a crowded house, and with great effect. Afterwards, a new piece was produced, entitled '*A Village Tale*.' The comic interest lies with Mr. Nye; who performs rather a novel part, in the character of a lawyer's clerk turned country milkman,—and being yet, notwithstanding his former occupation, a raw and conceited lad. The serious portion is common and simple enough. A cottager's daughter, in love with an absent soldier whom she believes to be dead, is about to be married to a village blacksmith; when her lover returns as a commissioned officer, and prevents the impending sacrifice. The piece is neatly written,—and was successful.

**SURREY.**—This theatre has catered most liberally for its holiday audiences. Two new dramas, both of great merit, have been produced for their delectation. The first, a drama in three acts entitled '*The Adventurer*,' gives an opportunity to Mr. Creswick to exhibit some good effects in directly opposite situations. The interest turns on the hero's seeking a father, and finding a sister; the latter of whom he saves from shipwreck near the port of Valencia, at the beginning of the action. Through a series of incidents and perils too numerous to detail, *Piquillo Alliaga* (for such is the adventurer's name) arrives at the summit of power,—which, to preserve his sister's honour, he almost immediately resigns. This is rather a severe moral; but the right jovial character of the hero, together with certain interpolated comic situations, give a stirring interest and much relief and variety to the action.

The succeeding extravaganza is by Mr. J. Kingdom, and is so well contrived and so splendidly got up as to cast into shade the theatrical doings on this side of the water. Nothing can be more simple and unelaborate than the plot,—nothing more effective than its development or more striking than its scenic decorations. The piece is in verse, very felicitously written, full of allusions, and varied with a great number of parodies exceedingly well done. The subject is merely the perils undergone by *Prince Faithful* (Miss Jane Coveny) in redeeming his mistress from imprisonment in an enchanted castle. Two other princes, *Blush* and *Jealous* (Miss Laporte and Miss Daly), are engaged in the same enterprise,—but fail. To these ladies and to Miss Bromley as a benevolent fairy the singing parts

principally belong. The final scene is a triumph in its way,—"the brilliant abode of the fairy court on the lake of gems." The excessive gorgeousness of this threw the holiday folk into nothing less than an ecstasy of astonishment.

**MUSICAL AND DRAMATIC GOSSIP.**—We remind all lovers of classical compositions that the performances of the *Beethoven Quartett Society* are to commence on the 17th,—simply because their constitution insures a more perfect execution of chamber-music than any heretofore attained in London. The undivided leadership of Herr Ernst (the best leader of Quartetts extant) promises an unanimity in expression, finish, and ripeness for the series, analogous to those impressed on an orchestra by the presidency of one permanent conductor. Variety may be necessary to keep alive the interest of a half-instructed audience who confound performers with what they perform. It is commendable, too, as well as charming, save where it must imply unsettlement—and the most signal case of danger in music is in quartett playing. There, we do not want to hear this or the other violinist so much as a composition wrought out with the most intimate consent of every one concerned, under adequate presidency. It was by such constant study in association that the Schuppanzigh Quartett at Vienna became able to satisfy Beethoven's exacting self—and, more recently, that the Zimmermann party at Berlin and the Müllers of Brunswick have distinguished themselves. These Ernst Quartetts mark an epoch, and are a feature of first interest in this spring season.—We further hear that Herr Ernst may be heard of ere long as a writer, no less than as a reader, of Quartetts.

During the week the third and last of *Herr Molique's* Chamber Concerts,—also the third of *Mr. Lucas's* Musical Evenings—have been held.

From the last number of the *Musical Times* we learn that the '*Deliverance of Israel*' by Mr. W. Jackson, of Masham, has been recently performed at one of the Weekly Concerts to an audience of upwards of four thousand persons. So much satisfaction is said to have been given by this work, when executed with merely an organ accompaniment, that there is a probability of the Oratorio being performed as composed—that is, with full orchestra.

Herr Eckert, whose opera '*William of Orange*' has been successful in Holland and in Germany, is now in London,—we believe, with the intention of passing the season here.

M. Aguilar, a young English pianist and composer more than once mentioned by the *Athenæum* as having been successful in his public appearances at Frankfurt, is about to present himself to a London audience at a concert on the 24th inst.—Mr. Henry Wyld is following the fashion of the day, in announcing a series of chamber concerts, which are to commence shortly.

"Cymbal and gong" have already begun their preliminary flourishes to symphonize the embarkation of *Mdlle. Lind* for departure from Europe. Letters announce, that in two or three of the American cities where the accommodation is thought insufficient new concert halls of vast dimensions are to be immediately built for *Mdlle. Lind's* reception.

A new "*Mystery*," entitled '*The Redemption*,' composed by M. Alary, is announced as about to be performed at the Italian Opera House in Paris on Monday next.—Long ere this, must have taken place the performance of another *Mystery*, '*The Passion*,' at the Lyceum Theatre in Barcelona. The preparations for this, in description, resemble a page in the writings of some monkish chronicler of opera in the days when opera was a Church-service. If we are to believe a letter given in the *Gazette Musicale*, the drama in question was to be performed on a scale of the most ample splendour. It comprises "eighteen choruses," which were "to be executed by five hundred singers and an orchestra of three hundred performers." "The scenery," adds the same authority, "is of the greatest magnificence: it is to represent different places in the Holy Land, and has been executed by artists who have visited the spots depicted." Among the



"features" were "to be, fifty real palm-trees brought from Africa by the steam-packet *Le Cid*." Can anything be more whimsical than such an association of antique superstition and modern civilization as the last? We remember to have been much amused by the sight of an omnibus filled with mums, properly guarded by a cat, ploughing its way along a heavy Belgian road, not far from Battice. But this apparition was a simple combination compared with the above.

The report regarding Mr. C. Kean's meditated lessorship of a theatre has reached us from many quarters since last week, with this variation, that the Princess's Theatre is the one mentioned, as in contemplation. The dramatic season at the St. James's Theatre began last night, with M. Scribe's 'Bertrand et Raton,' and M. Samson in the principal character. To us this play, written to satirize *Le Roi Citoyen* and his banker confidant, seems already like "a dream of other days" when compared with that other political comedy, "of all time," the 'Figaro' of Beaumarchais.

#### MISCELLANEA

*Newspaper Time at the General Post-office.*—It was a quarter before six o'clock when they crossed the hall; six being the latest hour at which newspapers can be posted without fee. It was then just drizzling newspapers. The great window of that department being thrown open, the first black fringe of a thunder cloud of newspapers impending over the post-office was discharging itself fitfully—now in large drops, now in little; now in sudden plumps, now stopping altogether. By degrees it began to rain hard; by fast degrees the storm came on harder and harder, until it blew, rained, hailed, snowed—newspapers. A fountain of newspapers played in at the window. Water-spouts of newspapers broke from enormous sacks, and engulfed the men inside. A prodigious main of newspapers, at the Newspaper River Head, seemed to be turned on, threatening destruction to the miserable post-office. The post-office was so full already, that the windows foamed at the mouth with newspapers. Newspapers flew out like froth, and were tumbled in again by the bystanders. All the boys in London seemed to have gone mad, and to be besieging the post-office with newspapers. Now and then there was a girl, now and then a woman, now and then a weak old man; but as the minute hand of the clock crept near to six, such a torrent of boys, and such a torrent of newspapers, came tumbling in together pell-mell, head over heels, one above another, that the giddy head looking on chiefly wondered why the boys springing over one another's heads, and flying the garter into the post-office with the enthusiasm of the corps of acrobats at M. Franconi's, didn't post themselves nightly, along with the newspapers, and get delivered all over the world. Suddenly it struck six. Shut Sesame! Perfectly still weather. Nobody there. No token of the late storm—not a soul, too late! But what a chaos within! Men up to their knees in newspapers on great platforms; men gardening among newspapers with rakes; men digging and delving among newspapers as if a new description of rock had been blasted into those fragments; men going up and down a gigantic trap—an ascending and descending room, worked by a steam-engine—still taking with them nothing but newspapers! "All the history of the time, all the chronicled births, deaths, and marriages, all the crimes, all the accidents, all the vanities, all the changes, all the realities of all the civilised earth, heaped up, parcelled out, carried about, knocked down, cut, shuffled, dealt, played, gathered up again, and passed from hand to hand, in an apparently interminable and hopeless confusion, but really in a system of admirable order, certainty, and simplicity, pursued six nights every week, all through the rolling year! Which of us, after this, shall find fault with the rather more extensive system of good and evil, when we don't quite understand it at a glance; or set the stars right in their spheres?"—*Dickens's Household Words*.

*Owens College.*—We are glad, indeed, to learn that a very strong and general feeling of dissatisfaction is being expressed in influential quarters with the suggested theological instruction in this college; and that a meeting of gentlemen of standing, and of

all sects, will shortly be held, for the purpose of embodying this feeling in a distinct and palpable form.—*Manchester Examiner and Times*.

*Government Inspection of the Britannia Bridge.*—On the 15th and 16th ult. Capt. Simmons, the Government Inspector for the Railway Commissioners, made his official inspection of this great structure, accompanied by Mr. E. Clark, the resident engineer, and Mr. H. Lee, the engineering manager of the Chester and Holyhead line; when a series of important experiments took place, to ascertain the law of deflection and the absolute structural strength of the fabric. The experiments consisted in observing the deflections under a series of successive loads, the passing of three locomotives with a train sufficient to cover each of the tubes through the bridge at various speeds, and the running of locomotives and tenders without trains through, at variable rates of progress. The experiments were considered most satisfactory, as tending to show that all parts of the great machine were obeying the calculated requirements, and as to a certain extent determining the conjectural questions of duration and stability to arise under the test of everyday usage.—*Daily News*.

*Gold in Sarawak.*—The *Journal of the Indian Archipelago* publishes the following important announcement, contained in a letter dated Sarawak, November 2, 1849.—"The rains of the beginning of this month of last year fell in great quantities in Sarawak, and a considerable quantity of the face of a mountain, called Trian, was washed down into the plains below. The deposit was found to abound in gold, and afforded work for fully 2,000 men for about a month or six weeks, and it was reckoned that at the smallest average they procured a bunkal a month per man. The gold was in lumps, and not in dust, and several of the lumps weighed from three to four bunkals, and they were rarely less than one or two amass in weight. This fact may, in this locality, lead at some future day to important conclusions.

*Paper for Roofs.*—MM. Ebart, proprietors of one of the largest paper manufactories in Germany, situated at Neustadt, Elberswold, have just invented an incombustible cartridge paper, which they term "stone paper," and which is intended especially for roofing houses. It is destined to take the place of tiles;—over which it has this twofold advantage, that it is not fragile, and is very inexpensive. By order of M. Van der Heydt, Minister of Trade and Public Works, the Royal Commission of Buildings has submitted the stone paper of MM. Ebart to numerous tests, from which it results that it is at the same time impermeable and fireproof. The commission has strongly recommended it to the peasantry as a substitute for thatch.—*Daily News*.

*Numismatic Discovery.*—At Jever, in the Grand Duchy of Oldenburg, a remarkable discovery was recently made, composed of about 4,000 pieces of silver money of the period of the different Emperors down to Antoninus the Pious. There is every probability that a Roman merchant vessel was wrecked on a sandbank in that neighbourhood some seventeen hundred years ago. Part of these coins unfortunately were sold or smelted down by the labourers who made the discovery.—*Brussels Herald*.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.—G. H. C.—Chelsea—Tyro—P. S.—H. J.—A. K. L.—W. L.—T. O. W., M.D.—J. C.—received.

MONUMENT TO CHAUCER.—In answer to correspondents who desire to be informed to whom they may pay in their subscriptions towards this restoration, we are authorized to say that a meeting will shortly be held in which the details of the project will be settled. Meantime, we are told that Mr. W. R. Drake, of 46, Parliament Street, will receive and hold subscriptions until a Treasurer shall be formally appointed.

OUR BOOK LIST.—In spite of our repeated explanations on the subject, we continue to receive complaints of the imperfection of our weekly list of published books. Once more we inform our readers that we do not undertake to give a complete list of all books that may have been published during the week. Such a list, from the unauthentic manner of its collection, is not easily obtained—and the attempt has on former occasions led us into practical difficulties. Our list is confined to all books subscribed during the period over which it extends, and is furnished to us by the best authority on the subject.

Errata.—P. 316, col. 3, l. 44, for "Lubeck's" read *Sebeck's*.—In the advertisement of 'Historic Reliques,' p. 355, col. 3, the price should have been 2s. 6d., instead of 5s. 6d., each Part.

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Crudelitatis Calvinianæ Exempla duo recentissima ex Angliæ quorum primum continet Barbarum ac servum Calvinianum, editum, recenter editum contra Catholicos, alienum vero exhibet indignissimam Mortem Illustrissimæ viri Comitis Northumbrie, in Castro Londinensi occisi, anno 1585, 8vo. fine copy, morocco elegant, 11. 11s. 6d.

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Printed by JAMES HOLLIES, of No. 4, New Oxford-street, in the county of Middlesex, printer, at his office No. 4, Took's-court, Chancery-lane, in the parish of St. Andrew, in the said county; and published by JOHN FRANCIS, of No. 11, Wellington-street North, in the said county, Publisher, at No. 11 in Wellington-street aforesaid; and sold by all Booksellers and News-vendors.—Agents: for SCOTLAND, Messrs. Bell & Bradfute, Edinburgh;—for IRELAND, Mr. John Robertson, Dublin.—Saturday, April 6, 1850.



# THE ATHENÆUM

Journal of English and Foreign Literature, Science, and the Fine Arts.

No. 1172.

LONDON, SATURDAY, APRIL 13, 1850.

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COMPARATIVE ANATOMY AND ZOOLOGY—Prof. Grant, M.D.  
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## REVIEWS

*The Roman: a Dramatic Poem.* By Sydney Yendys. Bentley.

IN poetry, as in life, the most wonderful instances of a particular excellence are numerous as sand-grains compared with that temperate perfection in which the various qualities that make healthy power are blended and applied. For one calm star that keeps its orbit in harmony with all other worlds, we have a hundred comets that startle and disappear. In many cases this predominance of a single faculty doubtless arises from the positive absence or defect of others; but it sometimes results from that distaste to the abuse of special qualities which in its over-repugnance distards also their use. Thus, a burning imagination, offended at the cold formality of mere taste, violates in the belief of transcending it. Taste, on the other hand, disgusted with the wild licence of mere imagination, in abjuring its fury too often omits its fire. The style which might have been dignified had it embraced simple nature, becomes merely pompous by despising it; and the style which might have been simple had it adopted the refinement of ideal feeling, from the want of it mistakes literal facts for natural truths, and degenerates into baldness. As a consequence, the Catholicism of Poetry is frittered away into sects. Instead of a religion we have a dogma, instead of a worshipper, a zealot.

Any work, therefore, which indicates a return to the completeness of poetic art must have welcome at our hands,—and we know of none for years that so thoroughly fulfils the condition as this dramatic poem of *The Roman*. It possesses unity of purpose and of conduct. In dealing with emotions the writer touches with equal power the pathetic and the sublime, and to the illustration of these feelings he brings a fancy which can rivet by its boldness and enchain by its beauty. Never shrinking from a conception on account of its daring, he generally seeks to present it in the most lucid form. To a large extent he fulfils both the requirements of the poet—he comprehends his inspiration, and renders it comprehensible to others. Throughout his whole volume we can recal but few offences against perspicuity and good taste:—the chief faults being an occasional diffusiveness and verbal iteration and some abruptness in the development of a love interest at the beginning. It is less a fault than an immaturity that the author's images are sometimes so lavished as rather to display the opulence of his store than to turn it to account; and to the same cause we may occasionally trace a delight in strength as strength and irrespective of its application.

From its title—*The Roman*—some will infer that this drama relates to the antique period of the "Eternal City." The story, on the contrary, is of modern Italy, and of our own days. One Vittorio Santo is the hero—described in the poem as "a Missionary of Freedom, who has gone out, disguised as a monk, to preach the unity of Italy, the overthrow of Austrian domination, and the restoration of a great Roman Republic." It is in and for these ideas only that Vittorio lives; all forms of human interest and experience furnishing him with illustrations and texts for his national evangel. At the opening of the poem he appears amongst a throng of dancers, and upbraids them for sporting on his mother's grave. Having by this prelude forced their attention, he unfolds his parable:—his mother—she who lies interred beneath their feet—is also their mother, and her name is *ROME*! But this singular preacher, in whose

one ocean-thought all currents of feeling and event, however remote and various, are absorbed, will be best described by one of his auditors.—

*Letto.* It was this Santo.  
Dost thou mind, Giacchino, how, deftly feigning  
Sorrow about a grave, he won our ears  
And prick'd us on to virtue with the sword  
Of our own sympathies? With such shrewd warfare—  
Proteus for transformation—Briareus  
For head and hands—this strange campaigner carries  
The fire and sword of his hot argument  
From cot to palace, plain to mountain-top.  
The merchant at his ledger, lifting eyes  
Bloodshot with lack of sleep—for last night blew—  
Sees him beside his desk at close of day,  
And thinks the lamp burns dimmer, and believes  
The untold loss already. The pale priest,  
Opening his silent lips with such an omen  
That the faint listener starts, relates how some  
Great galleon, gallant on her homeward way—  
A floating Ind, mann'd by the pride of Europe—  
Storm'd by a scallop fleet of naked pirates,  
Bestrews their savage shores, and makes each rock  
Arabia. With keen eyes catching the throes  
Of his now gasping auditor, the tale  
Our stern tormentor fashions so astutely,  
That each new fear, enduing, strains it to  
Its several shape. Watching each rising hope,  
He stings it mad with some especial horror,  
And by a track of anguish feels his way  
Straight to his victim's heart. In that worst moment  
The messenger of doom assumes the angel!  
Looks that evangelise, eyes that beam light  
Into the soul, till every dead hope glitters  
Like a crown'd corpse; a moment's shining silence,  
Slow placid words that hurry to a torrent;  
Then the gulf-stream of passion! high command,  
Entreaty, reason, adjuration;—all  
The martial attitudes of a grand soul.  
The lavish wealth of infinite resources!  
Diamonds thrown broad-cast for denaros!—ay,  
That Argosy he spoke of, scatter'd on  
The maddest waves of rushing rapid, surging  
Headlong through foaming straits, above, below,  
Tossing the wealth of kingdoms, hurtles not  
With such tumultuous riches as the flood  
Of his strange eloquence. And then the scared  
And half-drown'd trader—lifting his blind thought  
Above the waters, that with sudden ebb  
Left him in silence—finds he is alone.  
Of all the golden wreck, his struggling soul  
Holds fast but this—*Rome* is that glorious galleon,  
Now stranded and forlorn: her freight of honours  
Strew'd up and down the world, purpling strange snows  
And loading cold barbaric winds with incense.

Not an art or calling  
Wherein men work'd in peace, but at his touch  
Spreads the indefinite sorrow. In the field  
Halting the team of early husbandman,  
He chides him for the German weeds that choke  
The Roman crop of glory; bids him seek  
The plough of Cincinnatus, and bring forth  
Into the sunshine of the age, that soil,  
That old heroic soil whence patriots spring!  
Hard by the wondering swain, sequester'd close  
By summer elms and vines, the village forge  
From cheerful anvil all the long day rings  
The chimes of labour. Thence at winter night  
Shines to the distant villager the star  
Of home; to which the homeless wayfarer,  
Trudging with fainting steps the storm-vev'd moor,  
Turns hopeless eyes, as to the vestal fire  
Of sweet impossible peace. Thereby the priest  
Pausing, the sturdy smith suspends his stroke  
Before the reverend stranger: who accepts  
The homage with such liquidating grace  
That the sunn'd peasant, unabsolved of duty,  
Renews obedience. Then the pale intruder  
Striding some stool, with hand upon the bellows,  
Moves the slack fire, and bids the work go on:  
Cursing the slave who stoops for prince or priest  
The dignity of toil. To the rough music  
Setting strong words, he sends with easy skill  
Wrongs, hopes, and duties trooping through the soul  
Of the stout smith, and there on his own smithy  
Blows the rough iron of his heart red-hot. At last  
Seizing the magic time, with sudden hand  
He stamps him to the quick—"Patriot! the hour  
Is come to beat our ploughshares into swords,  
Our pruning-hooks to spears!" The brand driven home,  
The apostle vanishes, lest weaker words  
Efface the sign.

Such is Vittorio Santo.

A scene before a cottage, where a father and mother are sporting with their children, introduces an exquisite lyric. The author is not generally so happy in this form of composition as in dramatic dialogue, the flow of his impulse not easily accommodating itself to the restraints of rhyme; but the following song is an exception to our comment. It is addressed by the husband to his wife, and its theme—suggested by the presence of their own offspring—is the innocence and mystery of childhood.

Oh, Lila! round our early love,  
What voices went—in days of old!

Some sleep, and some are heard above,  
And some are here—but changed and cold!

What lights they were that lit the eyes,  
That never may again be bright!  
Some shine where stars are dim; and some  
Have gone like meteors down the night.

I marvel'd not to see them beam,  
Or hear their music round our way;  
A part of life they used to seem,  
But these—oh whence are they?

Ear hath not heard the tones they bring,  
Lip hath not nam'd their name,  
Like primroses around the spring,  
Each after each they came.

I should not wonder, love, to see  
In dreams of elder day,  
The forms of things that used to be,  
But these—oh whence are they?

Dost thou remember when the days  
Were all too short for love and me,  
And we roam'd forth at eve in rays  
Of mingled light from heaven and thee?

One gentle sign so often beam'd  
Upon us with such favouring eyes,  
That every vow we plightest seem'd  
A secret holden with the skies.

Now sometimes, in strange phantasy,  
I think, if stars could leave their sphere,  
And won by the dear love of thee,  
Renew the constellation here,

And shine here with the tender light  
That glinted through the olden trees,  
They would come silently and bright,  
And one by one, like these, would be our guides.

How can a joy so pure and free  
Have sprung from tears and cares?  
I have no beauty—and for thee,  
Thou hast no mirth like theirs.

Yet with strange right each takes his rest—  
Even when he will, on thy fair breast,  
Nor doubts nor fears nor prays,  
The daisy smiling on the lea.  
Comes not with kindlier trust to be  
Beloved of April days.

I look into their laughing eyes,  
They cannot have more light than thine—  
But treasured by ten thousand ties,  
Mine own I know thee, Lila mine.

Wistful I gaze on them and say,—  
Fond, checking with a doubtful sigh  
The pride that swells, I know not why  
These, these, oh whence are they?

Vittorio in his monk's disguise is seen approaching this peaceful home. The mother implores his blessing on her son. The Monk complies,—but his benediction on the boy is a prayer for his death; yet never was the influence of childhood more deliciously interpreted than in the following apostrophe.—

*The Monk.* Thou little child,  
Thy mother's joy, thy father's hope—thou bright,  
Pure dwelling where two fond hearts keep their gladness,—  
Thou little potentate of love, who comest  
With solemn sweet dominion to the old,  
Who see thee in thy merry fancies charged  
With the grave embassage of that dear past  
When they were young like thee—thou vindication  
Of God—thou living witness against all men  
Who have been babes—thou everlasting promise  
Which no man keeps—thou portrait of our nature,  
Which in despair and pride we scorn and worship—  
Thou household-god, whom no iconoclast  
Hath broken,—if I knew a parent's joys,  
If I were proud and full of great ambitions,  
Had haughty limbs that chafed at ill-borne chains,  
If I had known a tyrant's scorn and felt  
That vengeance though bequeathed is still revenge,  
I would pray God to give me such a son.  
Therefore, thou little one, mayst thou sleep well  
This night: and, for thy waking, may it be  
Where there are neither kings nor slaves. Of all  
Thy playmates, mayst thou be the first to die.

Not less exquisite are the lines in which the supposed Monk answers the remonstrances of the terrified parents.—

'Tis the purblind  
Dim sense of after years that makes our monsters.  
The earth hath none to children and to angels.  
Eyes weak with vigil, sear'd with scalding tears,  
Betray us, and we start at death and phantoms  
Because they are pale. And the still-groping heart  
Incredulous by over much believing—  
Walking by sight dreads the unknown, and clings  
Even to familiar sorrow, and loves more  
The seen earth than the unseen God.

Ay, bright one,  
Climb near the lips that speak of death. The word  
Falls on the sunshine of thy face and casts  
No shadow. Thou dost play among the flowers  
Morning and even, and the selfsame wind  
Fosters and scatters them. Why shouldst thou fear?  
Twine thy young arms, thou little budding vine,  
Round the old barren oak; 'tis sweet to love thee,



Too sweet. I look upon thy brow of promise,  
And see it in the future like some cloud  
Uprising from the distant hills, that seemeth  
To bear up heaven. This may do more. Contain it.  
Contain it and the things which heaven and earth  
Cannot contain. In thine unsullied eyes,  
Not made for tears; in thy bright looks, sweet boy,  
Wherein the blush yet sleeps which sighs of shame  
Shall call there, till the weary veins refuse  
Their office, and endurance sends the blood  
Back from the blanch'd cheeks to the terrible heart  
To heave and madden there—(let tyrants tremble  
Who rule pale slaves)—yes, in thy brave proud mien,  
Thou baby hero, that art born in vain,  
I see why Roman mothers wept for glory  
And we for shame. I see the ancient beauty  
Sport on the plain where Brutus watch'd his children,  
And give them no supremacy. I see  
Julus' self. Cornelia would have own'd  
These jewels. Regulus saw nothing fairer  
When from the sands of Carthage his great thought  
Walk'd by the streams of his Italian hills,  
And by the well-known grove beheld his children  
Play round the homestead myrtles, where their mother  
Sat and look'd eastward! Wherein art thou less  
Than Roman? Oh, thou hapless flower, that canst not  
Fruit in this frozen land, how shall I bless thee?

Faithful to his mission, Vittorio seeks to win  
through the avenue of parental love an entrance  
for the idea of Rome. That their boy—their treasure  
and their pride—breathes the atmosphere of  
a slave, is the suggestion which the apostle of  
freedom presses home. He then narrates to them  
the story of his own lost brother and the  
scenes from which together they drank inspira-  
tion in their youth. The beauty of our next  
quotation—beauty at once so obvious and so  
pregnant—needs no comment to indicate it.—

I had a brother,  
We were twin shoots from one dead stem. He grew  
Nearer the sun, and ripen'd into beauty;  
And I within the shadow of my thoughts,  
Pined at his side and loved him. He was brave,  
Gallant and free. I was the silent slave  
Of fancies; neither laugh'd, nor fought, nor play'd,  
And loved not morn nor eve for very trembling  
At their long wandering shades. In childhood's sports  
He won for me, and I look'd on aloof;  
And when perchance I heard him call'd my brother,  
Was proud and happy. So we grew together,  
Within our dwelling by the desert plain,  
Where the roe leap'd,  
And from his icy hills the frequent wolf  
Gave chivalry to slaughter. Here and there  
Rude heaps, that had been cities, clad the ground  
With history. And far and near, where grass  
Was greenest and the unconscious goat browsed free,  
The teeming soil was sown with desolations,  
As though Time—striding o'er the field he reap'd—  
Warm'd with the spoil, rich droppings for the gleaners  
Threw round his harvest way. Frieze, pedestal,  
Pillars that bore through years the weight of glory,  
And take their rest. Tombs, arches, monuments,  
Vainly set up to save a name, as though  
The eternal served the perishable; urns,  
Which winds had emptied of their dust, but left  
Full of their immortality. In shrouds  
Of reverent leaves, rich works of wondrous beauty  
Lay sleeping—like the children in the wood—  
Fairer than they.

This brother for the crime of loving Rome  
too well is seized by the Austrians; but in relat-  
ing his punishment the survivor has to speak—  
Not of the dungeons, those dark catacombs  
Where our oppressors heap'd their sins for ages,  
Wrong after wrong, till the o'er-surfetted rock  
At the great day of reckoning shall belch up  
A thousand years to cry for vengeance. No,  
Those Roman limbs were purchased far too dearly  
To rot in Spielberg. He was tall of stature,  
And fair to look upon. So shall your son  
Be tall and fair. It pleased some small tyrant  
To see such goodly slaves. The shameful trappings  
Of a detected loyalty, the filets  
That deck the sacrifice, the fearful gawaws  
That ratify the compact, when the body  
Serves what the soul abhors, and with the bribe  
Tricks out the whoredom, these worse chains replaced  
The felon's fetters, and the outraged Roman  
Rose up an Austrian soldier! The plot thickens—  
The shadow of the end is on my soul—  
Count tears for words—nay, you are parents—I  
Was but a brother—wherefore should I speak?  
Poor mother! in this Jordan I have need  
To be baptized of you. My soul is wise  
In grief. Yet a few years and you shall smile—  
If you can smile—to think I taught ye. Tell me,  
What would your gallant boy, if tyrants bade him  
Shed Roman blood like rain? Look on your Roman!  
Mine was no less!—Was—Oh my heart! He hurl'd—  
His proud looks prouder than his words of pride,—  
With desperate hand the execrated sword  
Flagrant before the despot and defied him!  
Rent from his breast the gilt dishonour, spurn'd it  
Into Italian dust. Erect, defiant,  
Before the host cried Freedom! and was doom'd,  
Doom'd to a coward's death. They led him forth,  
They led him forth a pace upon the Lea,

Scourged, buffeted, reviled, and only asking  
To die unbound, with his unconquer'd face  
Turn'd to the south and home. And they denied him.  
By a rude trench where fresh-turn'd earth lay dark,  
He stood a passing moment,—and since then  
I say "I had a brother."

The next appearance of the "Monk" is at an  
assembly of minstrels. In every lay the singers  
record some tale of personal suffering or aspira-  
tion,—and in all their separate subjects Vittorio  
finds a parallel for Rome. In what spirit he  
enforces her claims, the reader now knows suf-  
ficiently well to need no further example.  
Should any one, after the preceding ex-  
tracts, doubt whether we have a new poet  
amongst us, we should almost despair of his  
conversion. But we would not abandon the  
attempt while we had such an argument in  
reserve as the ensuing description of the Coli-  
seum. The abstract grandeur and melancholy  
of Rome stand embodied in the picture.—

All through the torn  
Vacuity winds came and went, but stirr'd  
Only the flowers of yesterday. Upstood  
The hoar unconscious walls, bisson and bare,  
Like an old man deaf, blind, and grey, in whom  
The years of old stand in the sun, and murmur  
Of childhood and the dead. From parapets  
Where the sky rests, from broken niches—each  
More than Olympus,—for gods dwelt in them,—  
Below from senatorial haunts and seats  
Imperial, where the everpassing fates  
Wore out the stone, strange hermit birds croak'd forth  
Sorrowful sounds, like watchers on the height  
Crying the hours of ruin. When the clouds  
Dress'd every myrtle on the walls in mourning,  
With calm prerogative the eternal pile  
Impassive shone with the unearthly light  
Of immortality. When conquering suns  
Triumph'd in jubilant earth, it stood out dark  
With thoughts of ages: like some mighty captive  
Upon his deathbed in a Christian land,  
And lying, through the chant of Psalm and Creed  
Unshriven and stern, with peace upon his brow,  
And on his lips strange gods.

Rank weeds and grasses,  
Careless and nodding, grew, and asked no leave,  
Where Romans trembled. Where the wreck was saddest  
Sweet pensive herbs, that had been gay elsewhere,  
With conscious mien of place rose tall and still,  
And bent with duty. Like some village children  
Who found a dead king on a battle-field,  
And with decorous care and reverent pity  
Composed the lordly ruin, and sat down  
Grave without tears. At length the giant lay,  
And everywhere he was begirt with years,  
And everywhere the torn and mouldering Past  
Hung with the ivy. For Time, suit with honour  
Of what he slew, cast his own mantle on him,  
That none should mock the dead.

Our remarks and quotations have so far ex-  
tended that we cannot pursue the story in detail.  
In the end, the patriotic Vittorio falls a martyr  
to his cause. But his faith in his triumph is  
unshaken. The brave heart, he urges, has but  
to speak its message. All things subserve truth.  
Its witness is imperishable. The instincts of  
humanity go with it. Whatever promotes its  
knowledge promotes its influence. Hence, the  
persecutor no less than the disciple is its minis-  
ter;—the scaffold is the platform from which it  
preaches;—the cries that would stifle it are but  
rougher echoes of its power. Such is the moral  
of a poem which we have read with a present  
delight, and with a confidence in the writer's  
future, that it is seldom our lot to experience.  
We assume, as his name is unfamiliar, that he  
is still young. His defects are those of youth,  
and it might excuse far graver ones. His  
merits, combining art with impulse and imagina-  
tion, are such as youth rarely attains in the  
same degree, but which, when thus early  
realized, are the sure pledges of high and last-  
ing excellence.

*Report of the Commissioners appointed to in-  
quire into the Constitution and Government  
of the British Museum; with Minutes of Evi-  
dence.*

[Second Notice.]

WE come now to that part of the Report which  
treats of the Catalogue question:—a question  
which more than any other gave a wide and  
general interest to the Commission of Inquiry  
appointed, after long and earnest demand, for

—as it was hoped—the remedy of abuses and  
deficiencies existing in our great national insti-  
tution. In proportion to the interest and ex-  
pectation so excited will be the surprise and  
astonishment of the public in consequence of the  
conclusions at which the Commissioners have  
arrived. By their decision the national treasures,  
accumulated and maintained at heavy cost, have  
been to a great extent sealed up for our gene-  
ration, and perhaps the next,—and to some ex-  
tent for all the generations that shall consent to  
live under the law of this Commission. Their  
recommendation in the matter of the Catalogue  
is one of the heaviest blows dealt against the  
progress of literature for many years past. It  
remains, indeed, to be seen how far the course  
which that recommendation would prescribe will  
be tamely acquiesced in or submitted to. We  
hope to persuade the public of the propriety of  
moving for a new trial,—on the grounds of this  
verdict being contrary to the evidence, and of  
very just objections to the manner in which  
the evidence has been taken.

The Library of the British Museum contains  
450,000 volumes; and it has been calculated  
by an officer of the institution that if they  
were all required to be placed on one shelf  
—that shelf would be at least twelve miles  
in length. The Catalogue of this Library is  
the printed octavo Catalogue in seven volumes  
of the year 1819,—mounted and bound into  
sixty-seven folio volumes. The bulk of the  
Catalogue is, therefore, in manuscript; and the  
student has to make two searches,—first to the  
alphabetical order of the printed text, and  
secondly to the alphabetical order of the manu-  
script additions. This, it will be seen, is a growing  
evil, which, for the sake of not complicating the  
question, we have stated here in its simplest  
form. But it is by no means the whole of the  
evil:—because there are special Catalogues in  
addition, all of which must be searched before  
a reader can pronounce that any given book is  
not to be found somewhere in the Museum,—  
while of these various Catalogues there is not  
even a list to guide the inquirer towards the  
completion of his search.

The Catalogue, moreover, is in arrears. Mr.  
Prescott's 'Mexico,' though published in 1843,  
was not entered in the Catalogue as received in  
1849. The wants are often of the very com-  
monest description. When the Commission  
commenced its labours the Museum was without  
an edition of Wordsworth's 'Poems;' and such  
common books as De Lolme 'On the Constitu-  
tion,' Schlegel's translation of Shakspeare, and  
Madame de Staël on the French Revolution  
were not to be found within its walls.

A library without a Catalogue has been well  
described as a chaos and not a cosmos,—a  
fountain shut up and a book sealed. All the  
witnesses examined under this Commission  
admit the necessity of a Catalogue,—but they  
are divided in opinion as to the kind of  
Catalogue required for a great and increasing  
Library. This division of opinion is represented  
by Sir Robert Inglis—one of the Trustees of the  
Museum, who has given the greatest attention  
to the subject,—and by Mr. Panizzi, the Keeper  
of the Printed Books,—whose duty it is to make  
the Catalogue. On the side of Sir Robert Inglis  
we have Lord Mahon, Sir F. Madden, Mr. Car-  
lyle, Mr. Payne Collier, Mr. Bolton Corney, Mr.  
Peter Cunningham, Mr. John Bruce, Mr. Craik,  
Mr. T. Hudson Turner, Mr. Cooley, and Mr.  
Cochrane of the London Library:—on the side  
of Mr. Panizzi we have Mr. Hallam, Mr. John  
Wilson Croker, and Professor De Morgan. Dr.  
Maitland can hardly be considered a witness  
either way. Sir Robert Inglis and the party  
whom he represents (including, we imagine,  
nine-tenths of all the literary men of England),



require a *Printed Catalogue* with the titles entered briefly but accurately—or in other words a *finding Catalogue*,—to be sold at a price that would bring it within the means of Institutions, Book Clubs, Town Councils; and even of private individuals. Mr. Panizzi and his party require a *Manuscript Catalogue*—with the titles entered at full length—and with cross-references still more numerous than those required by the party of Sir Robert Inglis. The Commissioners contend that as no foreign library possesses a Printed Catalogue,—the National Library of Great Britain should be left (for good fellowship's sake, we suppose) in the same predicament. Whatever of cogency there may be in this argument escapes us. It is the worst application of the bad principle of mere precedent that we remember. We think we can show some day that the want of our neighbours is an aggravation—not, as the Commissioners would have it, a satisfaction—of our own.

The first witness whom we shall produce is a Trustee, whose name is not generally connected with opinions in advance of the University which he represents and (taking the Commissioners for example) of the age in which he lives. Sir Robert Inglis has paid much attention to the subject of a Printed Catalogue of the Museum Library,—and all that he says is clear and to the point.—

"I never have varied in the opinion which I conceived upon that subject since an examination into the affairs of the British Museum; conducted by a Committee of the House of Commons in 1835 and 1836. . . . I feel now as I felt then, that it is important, even if it be not essential, that there should be a printed Catalogue of the books in the British Museum. I do not know why the British Museum should be an exception to the other great collections in England. I am quite aware that there are no printed Catalogues of some of the greatest collections in the world, for example, that in the Vatican; but I apprehend that that precedent justifies the exception which we desire to make, and that it is, I will not actually say a right on the part of the people of England, but certainly they are well entitled to claim it, that a collection founded, or at least if not founded, sustained by annual taxation, should be made as available to them as is possible; and waiving any consideration of expense, that in the abstract a collection is made available by a printed Catalogue is too clear to require illustration or argument. . . . I certainly might regret much that the Catalogue of the British Museum should be extended to 50, 30, or even to 10 volumes. I should say that 10 volumes would be as much as could be desirable. The Catalogue of the Bodleian Library consists of three volumes. The use of a catalogue is not to instruct bibliomaniacs, it is to enable general readers to find a particular work. . . . I should be sorry to hear England compared with any one of the States of the Continent, the wealth of England, and the popular character of the English Government being so superior. . . . It is no reason, in my apprehension at least, why the printed books in the British Museum should not be inrolled in a printed Catalogue that I find no such Catalogue at Dresden or at Stuttgart. . . . The object of the Trustees [in ordering Mr. Panizzi to make a Catalogue] was not to get an abstract perfection of Catalogue, but to get a printed producible Catalogue by a certain date. . . . Mr. Panizzi undertook the work with more than an understanding, with an express stipulation that it should be completed by the 31st of December 1844; and I am not aware of any representations made by him for some considerable portion of the interval between such undertaking and the 31st December 1844, by which the Trustees could learn that he despaired of being able to complete the work at the time originally specified. . . . I retain the conviction that if Mr. Panizzi could not have prepared and delivered in type the complete Catalogue, as originally required by the 31st December 1844, it is unfortunate that the Trustees were not made sooner acquainted with that impossibility. . . . In the nature of things the Catalogue, if it is to be printed, cannot be kept up day by day in

correspondence with the accessions; but the Catalogue intended by the Trustees and undertaken by Mr. Panizzi, was a Catalogue of the Collections of the Museum on the given date at which it was commenced. . . . The Catalogue would have stated on the title-page 'Catalogue of the Contents of the Printed Book Department of the British Museum on the 13th of July, 1839,' or any other given date; a person who consulted such a catalogue would see at once that if a book were published in the year 1840 he could not expect to find it there."

Mr. Hallam (the historian),—a Trustee—is opposed to Sir Robert Inglis. He is not, however, altogether with Mr. Panizzi; and his objection to printing a Catalogue at all—because a supplement would be soon required—he might have urged against the publication of his own 'Middle Ages,' to which, oddly enough, he has actually printed (30 years afterwards) a supplemental volume of notes, so as to carry the result of his information up to the most recent researches. We should have been sorry to have delayed the publication of the 'Middle Ages' so long for so slight a reason:—though we are not unthankful for the volume of 'Supplementary Notes.'—Mr. Hallam says:—

"The question of the Catalogue is a very difficult one, and it is one about which any person may change his opinion without discredit. \* \* With respect to that Catalogue which we have already printed, there are one or two objections, I think, to the manner in which it has been framed; but the chief objection is to the diffuseness of the titles; and that rather applies to a printed Catalogue than to a manuscript one. It appears to me that perhaps the only fault in that Catalogue (which has been very elaborately framed, and does great credit to Mr. Panizzi who conceived it) is, that the title-pages are extracted too much at length, which has occasioned diffuseness. \* \* There is a reason which, no doubt, weighed with Mr. Panizzi, that is, that the entries must be made by persons who, although they have a certain degree of education and are competent to their office, are not from their station or the remuneration they receive, competent to abridge a title-page, so as to give a satisfactory abstract of it to a person who consults the Catalogue.

"Do you think it desirable that the Catalogue should be printed?—I do not.

"Do you think that a manuscript Catalogue would answer the purpose of this Museum for reference by persons who wish to consult the works?—It is a question, as I have said, of considerable difficulty; and when I first considered it, I was, as most persons would be, in favour of a printed Catalogue. I have changed my mind from experience, by seeing strongly the difficulties in the way of a printed Catalogue, and thinking the advantages much less than at first sight they appear to be. The objection that I have to a printed Catalogue of a library in progress, and in rapid progress like that of the British Museum, is, that long before the Catalogue can be finished, a supplement would be required almost as long as the Catalogue itself. \* \* As we have been adding 20,000 volumes to the Library for many years past, it must be obvious that in twenty years the Catalogue would require to be reprinted, or a supplement must be printed which would be as long as the Catalogue itself. Then, what are the advantages of a printed Catalogue? At first sight, persons would say that it is of great importance to literary men everywhere. It appears to me that there are but two advantages, one is for those in the Reading Room. It is certainly easier to read print than manuscript, and print also goes into less space than manuscript; but if we had a printed Catalogue it must be immediately interleaved. A printed Catalogue would be nearly as unwieldy as a manuscript catalogue. Then, with respect to persons at a distance, I know it has been said that it would be an advantage to have an opportunity of consulting the Catalogue of the British Museum. \* \* It may be said that to any person living in Northumberland, who was engaged in a work requiring literary research, it would be much more convenient to go to the Public Library at Newcastle, than to come to London, if he wanted to know whether a particular book was in the British

Museum. But this would only answer positively if he found the book there; for as the Library is constantly increasing, negatively it would be of little use, and he would not know, although it was not in the printed Catalogue, that it was not in the British Museum.

"Have you given any particular attention to a very *vecata* *questio* in this matter,—the best mode of cataloguing anonymous publications?—I have read the evidence which has led me to think of it. It is exceedingly difficult, and generally speaking the greatest difficulty occurs about the books of the least value. I should say that there are several things in Mr. Panizzi's Catalogue about which I should doubt. I am not able to say that I could furnish a better rule. I doubt a little about taking the first substantive; that is to say, I think it might throw a person much out, because the first substantive will be 'Essay,' 'Account,' 'Treatise,'—and so forth."

Our readers will see that all Mr. Hallam's objections would apply to the question of a Catalogue at all,—at least, that there are none of them applying to a printed Catalogue which are not applicable also to a manuscript Catalogue. The same continually recurring imperfection, and cure by supplement, must be common to both performances;—while the more easy and extensive use of a printed Catalogue is an argument that remains untouched.

Lord Mahon (another Trustee) was present during the whole of Mr. Hallam's evidence;—and it will be seen that he differs from his fellow-historian on the subject of the Catalogue. Mr. Hallam is for a manuscript—Lord Mahon for a printed—Catalogue.—

"I have heard the whole of Mr. Hallam's evidence, and I am happy to say that upon nearly all points, with the exception of the Catalogue, I find that my opinion is in accordance with that which he has expressed. I am of opinion that a printed Catalogue is a matter of first-rate importance. I think it most desirable to afford to the public in as short a time, and in as compendious a form, as it can be effected, a printed Catalogue of the books in this Museum. It appears to me that a manuscript Catalogue will not adequately fulfil the objects that are required of a Catalogue, either as regards the Reading Room, or still less as regards the public. . . . I apprehend that the Catalogue now in progress would, however ably conducted, be open to disadvantages in printing, on account of the length of the titles, and on account of the voluminous nature to which such a printed Catalogue would extend. I should have wished to have seen a shorter and simpler Catalogue printed for the use of the public. I am of opinion that to persons living out of town, desirous of knowing what books there are in the Museum, and whether they should or should not come to London for the purpose of examining them, or take other steps to have them examined, such a Catalogue would be of very great importance, whether it was in their own possession, or in the library of any literary institution in the towns where they might happen to reside. . . . A manuscript Catalogue will not be satisfactory, and the public will require, and I think justly, a printed Catalogue. . . . It seemed to me then [1847] that under all the circumstances, the best course would have been to reprint the manuscript Catalogue which is used in the Reading Room. I was of opinion that the errors and inaccuracies which exist in that Catalogue were only such as might be corrected as the volumes were passing through the press, by any accomplished gentleman who undertook that task. I thought that only one volume at a time need be withdrawn from the service of the Reading Room, that it might speedily be put into type, and that then the accomplished gentleman undertaking that work would have no difficulty in the proofs in altering the few entries that were out of strict alphabetical order, and in making such corrections as appeared to be necessary. I hold that opinion very strongly, that in the course we have taken we are aiming at a perfection which is unattainable, and that the perfection of a Catalogue is of much less value than the fact of its being accessible, and readily to be obtained. I think that the Catalogue is not an end, but a means; that it is not so important that the Catalogue itself should be in a perfect, or nearly perfect state, but



that it should assist readers as widely and extensively as possible in finding the books which they require. I may add also, that I believe that even those who have a very slight acquaintance with literary subjects, or who have newly embarked in them, very speedily acquire great aptitude in dealing with a Catalogue—in finding in a Catalogue where a book really is, if it be there at all. They do not look merely to one entry, but they look to two or three if they want a book. . . . It does seem to me that the object of a Catalogue is not to render the Catalogue itself a finished literary production, but to make it a common means of aiding in other finished literary productions; of affording as widely as possible literary and scientific information. . . . Then are the Commission to understand that your Lordship's wish was to print the Alphabetical Catalogue as it stood in the Reading Room in 1847, with only such revision as would correct the entries that were not strictly in alphabetical order? Yes; and also any other errors such as an accomplished gentleman would detect in its passage through the press. . . . Titles, I think, admit of very simple and easy abbreviation: the object being not legal precision, but sufficient accuracy to enable a literary inquirer to ascertain whether or not a book referred to be in the Library. . . . I confess that in my judgment the rule of referring to the first noun-substantive in anonymous works, is not the one which I should myself have selected for a Catalogue. . . . I think that the entry of a title at length is a point which is open to much objection. . . . I am of opinion that the first noun-substantive is not the best for finding any anonymous work; that may very possibly be only a very general word, such as 'Account,' 'Essay,' 'Narrative,' or some word of that kind, and which precise word it really is might easily be forgotten by the person in search of a work. . . . Under the heading of 'Account' in the Catalogue of letter A, printed in 1841, I find seventeen entries of different books; and I am of opinion with respect to all the seventeen, that the heading 'Account' is one of the least convenient under which they could stand."

Our readers will probably think that Lord Mahon sees and expresses the common sense of the matter so far as the wants of the public are concerned,—though it may be admitted that he postpones Mr. Panizzi's literary fame and personal influence to the public want. Against this advocate for the public interest in the matter, we will therefore call on Mr. John Wilson Croker to give evidence for the defendant in the cause of the Public *v.* Panizzi. We think ourselves that he gives unconscious evidence for the public.

"Do you think it would be possible, with any useful result, in proportion to the difficulty, to print the Catalogue now in progress?—I am confident—and I have thought a good deal upon the subject—that it would not; and you need not content yourselves with my humble opinion upon that subject, for you have nothing to do but to turn to the letter A of that new Catalogue to be satisfied that the printing has already become an absolute inutilty."

"Do you think it possible to devise a Catalogue of such a collection as that of the British Museum upon a very reduced scale and with short titles, such as would still answer the purpose and the expectations of students?—Of students of a higher class, no; for persons who merely come to look for a book, to hunt for a book, it is possible that a short Catalogue might be made, after the manner of auctioneers' catalogues; but that would be very incomplete, and very inefficient, I think, for a great public library like that of the Museum."

"Are you of opinion that the plan of the new Catalogue (setting aside all question of printing), of which letter A has been printed, is too extensive for a great national library?—Assuredly not. There will, of course, be a few remarkable instances of great prolixity of title-page, which really are worth preserving as curiosities, if for nothing else. But, generally speaking, there is nothing that is quite safe and satisfactory to a person who goes to look for a book but a full title; I will add, a most important consideration in a library like this, which people come to consult; it has happened to me twice, I think, within the last ten days to find it unnecessary to send for

a book that I intended to apply for, by finding an ample title-page, which showed me that I should not find there what I wanted. . . . There are two uses to be made of a Catalogue: one is for a public library which should lend out its works; for such a library as that no doubt there ought to be a printed Catalogue, and the fullest that might be; but for a library like this, that does not lend out its works, I cannot conceive what possible utility there can be, and, on the contrary, a great deal of disadvantage, in attempting to print it. . . . You must be satisfied to have something short of perfection in any of your attempts. In so great a mass of books as you have to deal with, you must make the nearest approximation you can to a principle of general convenience; you cannot hope to make it perfect."

"In preparing a Catalogue of the books in the Museum we understand from you that it should be a manuscript Catalogue?—I only say manuscript, because I think the other impossible. I should prefer a printed Catalogue as more legible and more handy."

As Mr. John Wilson Croker does not see "what possible utility there can be—but on the contrary a great deal of disadvantage—in a printed Catalogue," we were somewhat surprised to have his admission, afterwards, that he "should prefer a printed Catalogue." We took it, however, willingly, with its inconsistencies on its head, because we see certain utilities of a printed Catalogue beyond those which Mr. Croker finally and inconsistently admits.

No one's testimony in favour of a printed Catalogue is stronger than Mr. Carlyle's. He is in favour not only of a cheap alphabetical Catalogue—but would have cheap class Catalogues of leading subjects, such as general History, the English Civil War under Charles the First, and the first French Revolution. As an evidence of the sincerity of his conviction he has, he says, been earnestly endeavouring to induce a publisher to undertake the printing of the brief chronological Catalogue of the Thomason Collection of Tracts connected with the Civil War—made by Thomason himself in the reign of Charles the Second,—and, speaking of it from our own experience of its importance, of the utmost value to the student of that period of our history with which it behoves every Englishman to be thoroughly acquainted. Mr. Carlyle says:—

"There is no printed Catalogue of the Library to be had. There seems to be one copy only of the Catalogue, a great part of which is in manuscript, and it is extremely difficult to find any book in it. I should consider that it was necessary to have a printed Catalogue that you might take home with you and consult at your leisure, and see what book you wished to have to study; and in so large a collection as this, I should consider that there ought to be Catalogues of specific subjects, which you could buy and take home with you. . . . The want of a printed Catalogue of books in the British Museum is an immense evil. . . . A library without a Catalogue is the most strange conceivable object. . . . If I were at Norwich for instance, and there was a public library in Norwich, I should suppose that the Catalogue of the British Museum Library would be lying there; and that I should be able to consult it in order to ascertain if a particular work were in that Library. . . . And I should also suggest carrying on specific Catalogues—class Catalogues, as bibliographers call them. I myself know one or two classes of books in the Library which I should consider it necessary to catalogue in that way. There is a large collection of books about the French Revolution which I had to consult fifteen years ago. I was extremely anxious to find any list whatever of those books. A mere auctioneer's list of the names of the books would have been of prime service; but I found no such thing in the library. . . . For all practical purposes this collection of ours might have been as well locked up in water-tight chests and sunk on the Dogger-bank as put in the British Museum. . . . I can conceive that a man might spend his whole

existence, and that the whole existence of innumerable men might be spent in cataloguing to perfection the works in such a library as this. But it is like any other mass of confusion which a man has to put in order. If a man insists upon getting every brick into a mathematically exact rectangular shape, he will never finish his work; he must be satisfied with a certain degree of accuracy. And if he is a man of sound intellect, and generally honest and faithful, and not of a pedantic intellect, he will be satisfied with that; he will ask himself in sobriety and wisdom,—what he can do to assist the public,—and not—how much approbation or fame he will get out of it; that is a question he will be obliged to sink altogether in his own mind. . . . I should consider that any Catalogue at all was very greatly preferable to the state in which we now are. Elaborate Catalogues are not what we require; but legible Catalogues, accessible to everybody. The grand use of any Catalogue is to tell you, in any intelligible way, that such and such books are in the library."

"You think it of great importance that it [a printed catalogue] should be distributed to the great provincial libraries?—If there is to be any real studying in England,—yes. The object of such distribution of the Catalogue is to encourage that. If there is not going to be any real study in England, there is, of course, little use in distributing Catalogues. There is little use in keeping up the Library at all."

"Would not the annual accessions that this Library receives by the law of copyright and by continual purchases, increase the difficulty of making a perfect Catalogue?—I should say that it rendered a super-fine Catalogue entirely impossible and useless. What is the use of doing a Catalogue in perfection, when there are several thousand volumes added in the course of the year to the Library?—You have, as it were, a large mass of rude clay to stick on to your perfect statue."

"Looking to the present condition of the books in the British Museum, do you consider that they are in fact almost entirely excluded from the use of the public from the want of efficient Catalogues?—Not entirely, by any means; but to persons engaged in serious study, the use of them is fatally hampered."

"The Class Catalogue of the British Museum would be continually rendered almost useless by the great accessions which are constantly being made to the Library?—It would not be rendered almost useless; it would be, like all human things, liable to 'wax old, as doth a garment;' but you would continually keep it up, by adding to the Catalogue once in five or ten years."

Mr. Panizzi's strongest champion is Prof. De Morgan,—whose evidence shows that he has thought deeply on the subject. Prof. De Morgan dwells at great length—and with some show of reason—on the evils of short title Catalogues; but while, like a skilful advocate of his own view, he collects, with industry the whole of the disadvantages,—he loses sight of their numerous advantages, that more than turn the scale in favour of careful and well-weighed brevity.

"Have you seen the rules drawn up for the preparation of the new Catalogue?—I have."

"What is your opinion of those rules?—I like them very well; principally on this ground, that they are rules; for I should not be much disposed to quarrel with any Catalogue that had a rule. The difficulty I have always found is, that Catalogues have no rules. . . . As to the preparation of titles, you might prepare a million or twenty millions in one year if you put hands enough upon the work; but when it is considered that all these titles must afterwards come before one mind, I think as to the last part of the question, the printing of it within one year, it would be a very foolish thing. . . . I am inclined to adhere to the rule laid down in the Catalogue of taking the first substantive, or at least the first joint appellation which is equivalent to a substantive, such as Great Britain. . . . I should not like to give a proper description of more than six books in an hour."

"Do you advocate the preparation of an alphabetical Catalogue of the Library?—Most unquestionably. . . . Be the bulk what it may, the use that it will be to literature will fully justify the Trustees of the Museum in ordering the execution of it."



"Do you or do you not think it would be of use to print the Catalogue as it is for the public?—No, I do not. Every Catalogue you can name may be of use; and that Catalogue, if printed for the public, would not be useless, because twenty people will buy it, and twenty people will get some use out of it. But when the question is, whether or not you should print such a Catalogue as that in place of what the world has a right to expect from the Government of Great Britain, I answer decidedly, that, in my opinion, you should not print that Catalogue as it stands."

Mr. Peter Cunningham is in favour of a printed Catalogue.—

"I think the Catalogue, as it at present stands, is an injury to literature. It retards the advancement of literature. We do not know the contents of the British Museum. If the Catalogue was as complete as it ought to be, the student in literature would be able to tell at once whether a book was in the Museum or not. At present he cannot tell; he does not know what your available resources are. To me it appears that it would be a very good thing if the Reading Room was closed for six months, and you were to send off the Catalogue which you have upon the shelves, without making a single addition to it, to eight or ten of the largest printers, such as Clowes and Hansard, and set it up in type just as it is. It would be a real advantage to the public and to literature. It would save the necessity which now exists of turning to the printed part and then to the manuscript part. . . . You must stop somewhere in cataloguing. You must draw a boundary line somewhere. You must say, this Catalogue shall contain our acquisitions up to the year 1847 or 1848. At present there are seventeen or eighteen volumes of the new Catalogue. It appears to me that the compilers of that Catalogue are seeking an unattainable perfection, and that it will be a Catalogue only for generations yet to come; our children will never be able to avail themselves of that Catalogue at the present snail's pace at which it is going. . . . I should say that a common bookseller's catalogue, the worst catalogue that is put out, if it only gave the contents of the British Museum, would be better than waiting for Mr. Panizzi's. I would take George Robins's Strawberry Hill Catalogue, which is the worst catalogue ever made; a Museum Catalogue as bad as that would be better than waiting. It is of no use buying books if they are not available. It is of no use having books if you cannot put your hand upon them. . . . I believe that if this Commission were to go into the Reading Room and ask aloud, 'Will those gentlemen who approve of the present Catalogue hold up their hands, and those who do not afterwards hold up theirs?' you would have every hand against it."

Our next witness is Mr. Bolton Corney:—

"There is no annoyance connected with literature that is at all equal to having to search through the fourscore folio volumes [of Catalogue]. . . . I have long felt that the non-existence of a Printed Catalogue is one of the greatest impediments, one of the greatest obstacles that a student has to contend with. . . . The late Sir Harris Nicolas declared that he was for years a visitor to the Reading Room before he discovered many things that literary men ought to know. . . . Generally speaking, to literary men it is sufficient [in a Catalogue] to give the leading words [of a title]. . . . Title-pages are often very deceptive, but we should have the leading words; that is everything that literary men want. Let me instance a case of history. Suppose you give twelve lines to Chauncy's 'History of Hertfordshire,' or twice the number to Nichols's 'Leicestershire,' you do nothing. If you take up a book, one of the best works of bibliography that we have, you will find it there described at ten times the extent—I allude to Upcott's 'English Topography.'"

Mr. Cooley is earnest in his evidence in favour of a printed Catalogue, — and has thrown out some ingenious suggestions of his own that deserve attention. We are ourselves in possession of certain views of his on the subject of cataloguing which merit publication, and may be combined with some considerations of our own for the information of our readers at a less

occupied time. At present we can give only his testimony against Mr. Panizzi.—

"The necessity of knowing the title of the book is a very severe condition. There are a great many people who do not go to look for books, but to study subjects; and with whom the first question is, which is the best book?"

"Have you had occasion to regret the want of a general printed Catalogue?—Very frequently indeed. . . . It appears to me that if the Catalogue as it at present stands were printed, we should have a Catalogue as good as that now in use, and far more convenient."

Mr. G. L. Craik is another gentleman whose hand is against Mr. Panizzi.—

"Are you an advocate for a printed Catalogue for the use of the Library?—Decidedly, for the use of the readers; but I think the printed Catalogue for the readers might be a much less complicated one than is required for the use of the house."

"What is your opinion of the Catalogue for letter A?—I believe it is very complete; I think unnecessarily complete for ordinary purposes. The great objection to it is the great time it would take to complete the entire Catalogue upon that plan."

"You would wish to have a printed Catalogue of the books up to the time it was published, and a manuscript Catalogue of all new purchases?—Yes, which manuscript should be transmuted into a printed Catalogue at short intervals."

Yet, in the teeth of all this and other evidence on the same side, (particularly that of Mr. Collier, which we reserve for a third notice, for the subject is far too important to be hastily dismissed, and our readers have a right to expect from us an energetic protest now, while it may not be too late, against this waste of their interests and of the national resources),—in the teeth, we say, of all this evidence, the Commissioners recommend Mr. Panizzi's Manuscript Catalogue; a Catalogue that cannot appear as a whole till an indefinite future—and must appear then in the unwieldy and impracticable shape of something like five hundred folio volumes.—That this will not be submitted to, we venture to hope—and it is our duty by every means to urge. Some Member of Parliament will, we presume, be found to bring before the House the cause of the literary public ere it be lost. We have, as we have said, to return to this subject; but take the present opportunity of suggesting that a public meeting of literary men should be called without delay for the resolute defence and delegation of their cause.—Meantime, we will conclude our present article with a story—and it is an amusing one—which the present Commission has brought before the public.

The late Mr. Grenville did not collect manuscripts,—but among his books is an exquisite Missal, with illuminations by no less a person than Giulio Clovio. To whose custody among the officers of the Museum should this precious treasure appertain? The Keeper of the Manuscripts claimed it on account of its few lines of penmanship, and because works of the same description have hitherto been classed among manuscripts. The Keeper of the Prints claimed it on account of its illustrations. The Keeper of the Printed Books claimed and kept it because it came with the library of which it formed a part. What was to be done? The Trustees were of opinion that the Keeper of the Prints should have it;—but the Keeper of the Printed Books would not part with it—and could not, it was asserted, find it, owing to the confusion in which the library is lying for want of room. The Keeper of the Prints had, therefore, only to long for it:—the Keeper of the Manuscripts, however, was not so easily quieted. It came to his ear that this was a show book of Mr. Panizzi's,—and that it was under lock and key, in a certain case, in a certain room. How to get access to this case

was a difficult matter:—but what will not perseverance overcome? One fine spring morning, when the Duchess of Cambridge was visiting the Museum, and looking at some of the Royal and Cottonian MSS., it occurred to the Keeper that Her Royal Highness would probably like to see the Giulio Clovio. The Duchess was quite of the Keeper's way of thinking. But Mr. Panizzi was out. So much the better:—for the Principal Librarian had a duplicate key of the case which contained the precious treasure. The royal desire was promptly conveyed to the Principal Librarian:—the duplicate key was brought out from a mysterious casket,—and the Clovio was drawn from its stronghold and given to the Keeper of the Manuscripts to show to Her Royal Highness.—The tables were now turned. Possession with Mr. Panizzi had been everything,—and possession Sir Frederick Madden determined should be with him the same. The Clovio, when it left the hands of Her Royal Highness, was quietly locked up by the Keeper of the Manuscripts among the treasures of the same character preserved in his department;—and the Keeper of the Printed Books has still to lament his abstracted Clovio.

This story may carry a caution with it for the future. We advise Mr. Panizzi to keep a good eye over his five-hundred-volume Manuscript Catalogue; or else he may find Sir Frederick Madden some day in his absence showing the yet unfinished Catalogue to the Prince of Wales or his grandson,—and afterwards locking it up (if he has time and a case that is big enough) among the curiosities of his own Department.

*An Easter Offering.* By Fredrika Bremer. Translated from the unpublished Swedish Manuscript, by Mary Howitt. Colburn.

THIS volume, too slight to call for elaborate criticism, consists of a tale entitled 'The Light House,' followed by a *pièce* (as a French author might have called it) or paper on 'Denmark,' intended, we apprehend, to quicken European sympathies with *Hamlet's* countrymen,—especially during their present political crisis. We have elsewhere said that we think Miss Bremer mistakes her vocation when she wishes to inrol herself amongst the *propaganda*, whether of social philosophy or of political economy,—that as a tourist she is apt to become misty and super-transcendental in description—though as a novelist few mark characters with greater precision than she does. But—since we hold it fruitless to attempt to restrain any man (still more any woman) whom the desire to "prophecy" has once leavened—if Miss Bremer will not treat us to another *Ma chère Mère*, or to another large-nosed and dreamy *Petræa*, we must get what we can from her journal: and, accordingly, string together a few Danish *notanda*, taken through Swedish glasses which appear tinged with "favour and prettiness."

"The Danes in Copenhagen appear to strangers a lively, joyous, life-enjoying, and in the highest degree, excellent, and amiable people—open-hearted, sympathetic, and ready to oblige. In many respects they remind you of the Athenians, for Copenhagen, with its stirring and vivacious populace; its museums, its galleries, and its artists; its learned men, and their lectures; its theatre life, and the people's enjoyment of it,—may well be styled the modern Athens. Copenhagen bears the same relation to Denmark that Paris does to France. It is the centre, the organic point of the nation, where the life and the soul have their seat. Quiet Stockholm would be astonished, could it come on a visit to Copenhagen, and see the life and activity there; and how the people, principally in certain streets, swarm about one another, run amongst each other, throng and push one another, and, as if not troubling themselves about it, retain through it all their good humour."



A silent company in Stockholm would actually be confounded at the bustle and loud loquacity in the drawing-rooms of Copenhagen. This produces not a harmonious, but a lively effect; while the frank kindness which is shown to the stranger cannot but present life to him in a pleasant aspect. \* \* In Copenhagen, you are compelled to say to yourself, 'The Danes are a good-looking people.' You see so many pleasant countenances, though so few beautiful ones; the contour is more oval, the features finer than in Sweden. In Sweden prevails more strength, and beauty of the eyes; in Denmark, a charming and lively expression of the mouth; the complexion is fresh, the expression joyous and kind. The ladies dress with taste and elegance. You see many black-silk cloaks, or mantillas; white bonnets, with flowers or feathers, abound on the Esplanade, the Lange-linie, along the Sound, in the Bred-gade, and the Oster-gade. Oster-gade! frightful to the memory of every quiet soul who is unaccustomed to the bustle of Copenhagen, and who finds himself under the necessity of purchasing articles of clothing; for, whatever you want—bonnet, cap, lace, ribbons, shawl, material for dresses, parasol, umbrella, gloves, stocking, shoes,—for all these, you are directed to the Oster-gade; and when you arrive in this street,—morning, noon, or night,—whatever be the time, you find the whole city there already—purchasing, walking, talking, and looking about. If thou art in the dangerous condition of being obliged to hasten through Oster-gade, in order to reach the other side of the city, then, poor, inexperienced wanderer, commit thy soul into God's hand, and make thy way as thou canst. But prepare thyself for exertion, opposition, and vexation; for at the very commencement, as thou art attempting to advance, three ladies and five servants, each with a basket on her arm, stop the way; and if thou endeavour to pass to the right, there comes a row of sailors in full speed; if to the left, two gentlemen in the greatest hurry, cigar in mouth, crush on before thee, while seven trading dames meet thee at the same moment, and if thou wilt pass between them, thou art hindered by a man and his wife who go arm-in-arm, not as if wedded, but welded together. Throng follows throng: you can no longer distinguish individuals, and as you stop, that you may not trample to death or smother a little child that comes between you and the others, a shop-boy darts head-long out of a shop, past you into the street, so close to your nose, that you are confounded not to find it flattened to your face; at the same instant that an old gentleman treads on your heels behind. If you escape from the pavement to the middle of the street, there you are met by fresh throngs of people; carriages, which rattle on with a deafening sound; carts, which block up the way; and if you have the good fortune to get from amongst them, so may luck attend you on the same labour all the way up the long street, past Wimmelskaft, and to the old market; and all the while Copenhagen's furious wind, '*uhryit Blæsten*,' does its utmost to tear away your cloak—and your head, or at least your bonnet. \* \* The joyous population of Copenhagen is always in motion, always going to and fro. It is always in quest of some novelty, seeks to amuse itself, to enjoy the hour and the day. In winter, there are theatres, masks, museums—all that can excite the taste for the beautiful or the comic. In spring, it is '*Skovene*' (the woods). When the beeches are in leaf, all the population of Copenhagen rushes forth to see the woods. Charlottenlund and Dyrehaven swarm with people. Whole families dine out and drink tea in the shadow of the beech-groves, 'where the nightingales sing in the blooming thorn.' 'Have you seen the woods?' is the general question in Copenhagen at this season to the stranger; for the stranger is not forgotten in Copenhagen. He must partake of the best that the people have; he must share of their good things; he must, in spring, go out and see the woods; be present at the family festivity in Dyrehaven; just as in winter he must see Thorwaldsen's Museum, Holberg's comedy, and other master-pieces of the Danish stage.

"It is the soul that sees." We cannot look on such a cheery picture as this without recalling the insipid and melancholy fine-lady-ism of Countess Hahn-Hahn's sketches of the North. Her gallery chilled us—but principally with

regard to the weary heart and indiscriminating eye and conventional hand of her who painted it,—and whose perpetual "I must," in demanding certain pre-established requisites for enjoyment, rivalled in its importunity and lack of reason the well-known exactions of my Lady Compton's letter.

Leaving Madame Hahn-Hahn, however, and her pale second-hand French fineries, we but return to her healthier sister author, the kindly and enthusiastic Miss Bremer, merely for a farewell moment. Her bead-roll of the literary men and artists of Denmark is too much in the style of a guide-book to be again told over by us. Nor will we venture one word concerning 'The Duchies.'—In fine, while there is enough of individuality in this book to entitle it to a passing reading, there is not enough to instal it among the Easter Offerings of coming springs.

#### *Impressions of Central and Southern Europe.*

By Edward Baxter. Longman & Co.

In a short preface, Mr. Baxter informs us that his volume is composed chiefly of extracts from the note-book of a tour undertaken in the spring and summer of 1849, and which included in its course considerable portions of Germany, Austria, Italy, Switzerland and the Levant. Mr. Baxter also says that it has been his chief object to discuss the higher order of topics which fall within the province of a writer of travels:—the condition, the industry, the laws, and the government of the countries which have fallen under his observation.

We regret that the intentions of the author have been very imperfectly fulfilled. We can find very little in this handsome-looking volume which in any way justifies its publication. The promise contained in his preface would induce most readers to expect something more than a lively sketch of what appears to have been a scampering journey across the centre of Europe to the Dardanelles, and back again. Mr. Baxter is right in supposing that an expedition to Vienna, Malta and the Bosphorus no longer entitles any man to write a book merely filled with descriptions of scenery, costumes and churches. We are well acquainted with all these things. The more striking features in the external life of almost every European country west of the Russian frontier have been so often and so well described, that few people of judgment will be desirous to run the risk of repetition where the probability of obtaining attention is so very faint.—Mr. Baxter is remarkable for the disproportionate space which he has allotted throughout the whole of his work to descriptions of objects about which at best little could be told,—and about which, moreover, that little has been told already. These constant interruptions of the narrative of his journey leave but little room for the consideration of the social and political questions which the preface led us to expect would form the principal topics of the volume.—A Continental tour undertaken in the middle of 1849 should have led to better results.

We turned with especial interest to the chapter on Lombardy, in the expectation of finding some additional information as to the present condition of the peasantry of that rich and beautiful province,—and also as to the actual results of the peculiar system of tenure under which the lands of that part of Italy are cultivated. It is well known that in Lombardy a principle of occupation as between landlord and tenant has been for a long period in force called the Metayer system; the peculiar feature of which consists in giving the peasant or cultivator a *bonâ fide* hold upon his farm so long as he pays a certain amount of the produce to the higher, or fee simple, landlord. The proportion

of produce paid by the peasant is generally one half—sometimes more:—and although so high an assessment must be exceedingly burdensome in many cases, there seems to be good reason for believing that, on the whole, the evils of a high rent are more than counterbalanced by the certainty of possession, and by the full command of all the circumstances of his position enjoyed by the peasant. At least, there can be no doubt that the agriculture of Lombardy has attained a very high degree of perfection; and that great industry and ingenuity are everywhere visible in the cultivation of the soil. The existence of such a state of things is of itself a hopeful symptom. We should have been glad if Mr. Baxter could have informed us with some degree of authority and precision how the case of the Piedmontese peasant actually stands:—whether he is really no better off than an Irish cottier,—or whether he approaches in habits and independence to the standard of a peasant proprietor. The chapter in Mr. Baxter's book relating to North Italy is one of the most elaborate in the series; but we are sorry to say, that it leaves this interesting question essentially where it was. Mr. Baxter quite confirms the favourable accounts of the cultivation of the soil,—but he speaks of the condition of the cultivators in terms too disparaging and too general to be of any service in a serious inquiry.

We close this volume with a feeling of regret, because we believe that a good opportunity has been lost of laying before the world information both welcome and useful; and because we have an impression that, in spite of many most serious faults—faults of style and taste especially—Mr. Baxter is not ill fitted to perform a task which in his present publication he appears to have contemplated, commenced, and forgotten.

#### *The History of England.* By John Lingard, D.D. Fifth edition, revised and considerably enlarged. 10 vols. Dolman.

It has been assumed by the Catholic party—or, more correctly perhaps, asserted by the Catholic publishers—that Dr. Lingard has in the work before us destroyed the web of sophistry which his Protestant predecessors had woven into what we call history;—has unravelled their perplexities, cleared up their mystifications, and exposed their prejudices and their ignorance. He has, too, they modestly hint, done this in a way little short of miraculous. His impartiality is wonderful,—few would suppose that he was a Catholic; and his accuracy "has been the marvel of the most diligent and profound of his opponents, and has again and again wrung from them the reluctant confession that Dr. Lingard is unassailable." This is sad nonsense, and does great injustice to Dr. Lingard. Dr. Lingard's 'History' is Catholic all over. There is not a chapter throughout its many volumes in which, to Protestant feelings, a Catholic bias is not manifest. It is on that very account that the work was acceptable and has been generally welcomed. Intelligent men, whether Catholic or Protestant, desire to know the truth,—and, therefore, to hear what can be said on the other side—by men, able, learned, and sincere. As to Dr. Lingard's facts being unassailable,—why, there is not one fact in a hundred that is assailable in the works of any of the most prejudiced of party historians. No man of common sense, Catholic or Protestant, would knowingly prejudice his cause by stating what is untrue. It is by bringing particular facts too prominently forward, passing lightly over others, and colouring the narrative by passions or prejudices, that false effects are produced. To test this, let any one read the history of Henry the Second in Hume and in Lingard. There is no material differ-



ence in the story,—nothing in the one that essentially contradicts anything in the other; but what a difference in the result! Why? Because the one writer was earnestly in favour of the Church and à Becket,—the other as earnestly in favour of the civil power and of Henry; and personal feelings, opinions, prejudices, or whatever we may please to call them, had their natural influence on both. If the reader desire to pursue this inquiry further, let him compare the reigns of Henry the Eighth, of Edward, of Mary, and of Elizabeth,—the characters of Gardiner, Bonner, Cranmer, and Latimer, or of any other leading churchmen or statesmen of those ages. The facts in both will perhaps be equally unassailable; but what is the effect produced by the historian?—Here is a curious illustration of what we mean.

Burnet had told us, and Hume had repeated the statement, that the Commission of 1555 was an attempt to introduce the Inquisition. Now, Dr. Lingard assures us that nothing could be less alike,—“the difference was immense. The magistrates were here commanded to send spiritual offenders before the ordinary;”—whereas, “it was the leading feature in the Inquisition that it took the cognizance of spiritual offences from the ordinary.” Then how kind and paternal this ordinary, according to Dr. Lingard! The magistrate received instructions to send persons accused of heresy before him, that “they might by charitable instruction be removed from their naughty opinions or be ordered according to the laws provided in that behalf.” How unjust it must appear in Burnet and Hume to call this an attempt to introduce the Inquisition! But Burnet and Hume were not men to dispute about words. It was indifferent to them whether the executioner was called “the ordinary” or the extraordinary. What they meant by an attempt to introduce the Inquisition was, an attempt to introduce the villanous agencies by which the Inquisition wormed itself into the secrets of the inner heart of families and the cruelties by which it attempted to enforce conformity. There is no mention of this in Lingard: but Burnet and Hume quote the very words of the instructions sent to the justices of the peace, of the letters sent to North and others, and of the Commission. Therein the justices are directed “to call *secretly* before them one or two honest persons within their limits, or more at their discretion, and command them *by oath*, or otherwise, that they shall *secretly* learn and search out such persons as shall evil behave themselves, &c.; and the same justices shall call *such accused persons* before them and examine them, *without declaring by whom they were accused*; and that the same justices shall on their examination punish the offenders,” &c.;—and North and the others are instructed “to *put to the torture* such obstinate persons as *would not confess*.” Why, Hume says—and truly—that this tyrannical edict exceeded the oppression of the Inquisition, by introducing into the civil government the same iniquities which that tribunal practised for the extirpation of heresy only. Now, the facts brought forward by Lingard and by Hume are, we doubt not, alike “unassailable”; but the impression left on the mind of the reader by the one or by the other differs as widely as “charitable instruction” and “naughty opinions” from the “torture” of the innocent.

No power of the historian, present or future, can blot out the past, or relieve either party from the just odium which attaches to the persecutor. If it be the fancy of the fanatics on either side to calumniate those on the other,—why, so be it. If it be any satisfaction to the Catholic to prove that Henry the Eighth was a voluptuary and a tyrant,—we will admit it, and

let him be paired off with any one of half-a-dozen popes that we could name. If any Protestant gentleman insist on calling Queen Mary by hard names,—we allow to our Catholic friend that her sister has equal claims, and that he is at liberty to indulge in like vituperation. There were good and bad, wise and unwise, canters and re-canters on all sides. Oaths were taken and broken by all parties. Many conformed who were not convinced:—and who can upbraid them when the alternative was the stake and the faggot, the axe or the hangman’s rope? Each and every party no sooner possessed itself of power than it affected to be infallible, and refused to others that liberty of conscience which it had claimed for itself. Dissent became a crime under the new power as under the old. Persecution was the spirit of the age, and of many succeeding ages,—“suffering, the badge” of honest and earnest men. So it was and so it is,—though the axe is blunted now and the fire extinguished;—

Universal reproach, far worse to bear than violence, is the sure penalty of truth even in our day. It is for putting such facts on record, as a warning and example, that Dr. Lingard’s ‘History’ is to be valued. That he has done this in a wise and considerate temper is his merit,—not impartiality. His ‘History’ deserves the good word of the critic, but cannot be benefited by it. A work that has stood the test of national prejudice for more than a quarter of a century is beyond criticism.

Dr. Lingard tells us that his work makes no pretensions to what is called the philosophy of history,—which “might with more propriety be termed the philosophy of romance.” A pretty apology for a dull and barren book,—not needed in the case of Dr. Lingard. It is philosophy alone that can deduce character and consequences from isolated actions. It is philosophy that collects and binds together the multitudinous and minute facts of history and deduces great principles,—that offers great examples for our guidance,—that breathes the breath of life into the dull and inert mass. There have been in all ages learned, laborious and faithful pioneers, whose labours are invaluable when the philosophic historian has made them pregnant,—but not till then. Such a philosopher, with all his thousand errors and imperfections, was David Hume.

#### More Verse and Prose. By the Corn-Law Rhymers. Vol. II. Fox.

THE contents of this second volume ought to have been incorporated in the first,—since neither in quantity nor in quality do they warrant a separate publication. To make up a show, the Editor has had recourse to a measure questionable in taste. This is, the republication of a critique on the Corn-Law Rhymers written for the *Quarterly Review* by Southey, and suppressed after the Laureate had corrected a proof. Had it been needful that the essay in question (which is in no respect remarkable) should have seen the light, its proper place, we submit, would have been amongst the ‘Remains’ of its writer,—not of its object.—Being disappointed at the meagreness of this volume, for the appearance of which we had looked as likely to furnish much matter for pleasant extract, we can only give three short poems,—not any one of which is their writer’s best. The first two are from ‘Life according to Law,’ an unpublished Opera.—

*The Poor Man’s Day.*

GRAHAME.

Sabbath holy!

To the lowly

Still art thou a welcome day.

When thou comest, earth and ocean,

Shade and brightness, rest and motion,

Help the poor man’s heart to pray.

Sun-wak’d forest!

Bird, that soarest

O’er the mute, empurpled moor!

Throstle’s song, that stream-like flowest!

Wind, that over dewdrop goest!

Welcome now the woe-worn poor:

Little river,

Young for ever!

Cloud, gold-bright with thankful glee!

Happy woodbine gladly weeping!

Gnat, within the wild rose keeping!

Oh, that they were bless’d as ye!

Sabbath holy!

For the lowly

Paint with flowers thy glittering sod;

For affliction’s sons and daughters,

Bid the mountains, woods and waters,

Pray to God, the poor man’s God!

From the fever,

(Idle never

Where on Hope Want bars the door,)

From the gloom of airless alleys,

Lead thou to green hills and valleys

Weary Lordland’s trampled poor!

Pale young mother!

Gasping brother!

Sister toiling in despair!

Grief-bow’d sire, that life-long diest!

White-lipp’d child, that sleeping sighst!

Come, and drink the light and air.

Still God liveth;

Still he giveth

What no law can take away;

And, oh, Sabbath! bringing gladness

Unto hearts of weary sadness,

Still art thou ‘The Poor Man’s Day!’

*Hymn.*

To live in vain! to live in pain!

To toil in hopeless sadness!

Is this the doom of godlike man,

Oh, God of Love and Gladness?

Not so the rose in summer blows,—

Not so the moon her changes knows,

Not so the storm his madness.

From storms that rock the oak to sleep,

Thy woods their beauty borrow;

And flowers, to-day, unheeded weep,

Whose seeds will live to-morrow:

So man, by painful ages taught,

Will build, at last, on truthful thought,

And wisdom, won from sorrow.

Else, what a lie were written wide,

By thy right hand, my Father,

O’er all thy seas, in crimson dyed

When Morning is a bather;

O’er all thy vales of growing gold;

Or where, on mountains black with cold,

Thy clouds to battle gather.

What follows is richer in music than in clear meaning,—but the music, even, is not complete.—

*The Sun’s Bird.*

The cloud of the rain is beneath thee. Thou singest,

Palac’d in glory; but Morn hath begun

A dark day for man, while the sunbeams thou wingest,

Bird of the Sun! Bird of the Sun!

They hear thee, but see thee not—sleepy bees hear thee,

While under sad boughs the sad rivulets run;

But thou art all music! care cannot get near thee,

Bird of the Sun! Bird of the Sun!

And when from Light’s fields thou descendest, and over

Thy nest the wide gloom spreads its canopy dun,

How sweet will thy sleep be among the sweet clover,

Bird of the Sun! Bird of the Sun!

And, there, a white network of dewdrops the fairies,

To chain leaf and flower, in a frolic have spun;

While nigh thy dear home the tipp’d ear of the hare is,

Bird of the Sun! Bird of the Sun!

There is matter for thought and controversy in ‘The Lectures upon Poetry,’—which make up the prose of the volume. From these we shall take one passage.—

“Burns was one of the few poets fit to be seen. It has been asserted that genius is a disease,—the malady of physical inferiority. It is certain, that we have heard of Pope, the hunchback: of Scott and Byron, the cripples: of the epileptic Julius Cæsar, who, it is said, never planned a great battle without going into fits; and of Napoleon, whom a few years of trouble killed: where Cobbett (a man of talent, not of genius) would have melted St. Helena, rather than have given up the ghost with a full belly. If Pope could have leaped over five-barred gates, he probably would not have written his inimitable sofa-and-lap-dog poetry; but it does not follow that he would not have written the ‘Essay on Man!’ and they who assert that genius is a physical disease, should remember that, as true critics are more rare than true poets, we having only one in our language,—William Hazlitt,—so, very tall and



complete men are as rare as genius itself, a fact well known to persons who have the appointment of constables. And if it is undeniable that God wastes nothing, and that we, therefore, perhaps seldom find a gigantic body combined with a soul of Æolian tones; it is equally undeniable, that Burns was an exception to the rule—a man of genius, tall, strong, and handsome as any man that could be picked out of a thousand at a country fair. But he was unfortunate, we are told. Unfortunate! He was a tow-hecker who cleared six hundred pounds by the sale of his poems; of which sum he left two hundred pounds behind him, in the hands of his brother Gilbert: two facts which prove that he could neither be so unfortunate nor so imprudent as we are told he was. If he had been a mere tow-hecker, I suspect he would never have possessed six hundred shillings. But he was imprudent, it is said. Now, he is a wise man who has done one act that influences beneficially his whole life. Burns did three such acts—he wrote poetry; he published it; and, despairing of his farm, he became an exciseman. It is true, he did one imprudent act; and I hope the young persons around me will be warned by it: he took a farm without thoroughly understanding the business of farming. It does not appear that he wasted or lost any capital, except what he threw away in his farm. He was unlucky, but not imprudent in giving it up when he did. Had he held it a little longer, the Bank Restriction Act would have enriched him at the expense of his landlord; but Burns was an honest man, and, therefore, alike incapable of desiring and foreseeing that enormous villany. But he was neglected, we are told. Neglected! No strong man, in good health, can be neglected, if he is true to himself. For the benefit of the young I wish we had a correct account of the number of persons who fail of success in a thousand that resolutely strive to do well. I do not think it exceeds one per cent. By whom was Burns neglected? Certainly not by the people of Scotland: for they paid him the highest compliment that can be paid to an author: they bought his book! Oh, but he ought to have been pensioned. Pensioned! Cannot we think of poets without thinking of pensions? Are they such poor creatures that they cannot earn an honest living? Let us hear no more of such degrading and insolent nonsense.

With something in the above extract calling for dissent as touching too closely on paradox, there is much to admire in the manly self-help inculcated. By this the axe is laid to the canker which destroys the vigour and the happiness of so much that calls itself—and that really is—Genius. The other prose contained in this volume is merely political pamphlet-work, of ephemeral interest.

#### OUR LIBRARY TABLE.

*A Voyage to the Slave Coast of West and East Africa.* By the Rev. P. G. Hill, R.N.—A little book full of wholesome facts and truths,—wholesome even when they take the form of horrors at which the mind shrinks with loathing and disgust. While painting the vices of the slave system in the darkest colours, Mr. Hill admits that the attempt to suppress the traffic by a blockade of the African Continent is a complete failure. He states it as fact, that the proportion of slaves rescued from the dealer is not more than one in twenty; and also that the few vessels with slaves on board which have from time to time fallen into the hands of the cruisers have generally done so through some fortunate accident on which neither captors nor captured had calculated. Whoever casts an eye over the map of Africa and considers the extent of coast to be watched—stretching from Delagoa Bay to Zanzibar on the eastern shore, from Benguela to Sierra Leone on the western—will see how impossible it must be for any squadron, however powerful, to prevent the deportation of the natives, so long as the chiefs are willing to sell their subjects and the merchants of Brazil to purchase them. The question is beset with difficulties; and attention is now usefully turned to the quarters in which a market for slave-labour exists. There are causes in operation which will materially tend to affect the demand, namely,

the increasing proximity of cost between free-labour and slave-labour. "In the Brazils," said a slave trader to Mr. Hill, "a slave now costs as much as would pay a free man for ten years' work;" and the life of an adult negro is worth little more to his owner than ten years' purchase, including the charges fixed by law,—such as a provision for old age, maintenance during sickness, &c. If the two items should ever be brought to coincide, the trade would cease of itself.

*A Letter to the Right Hon. H. Labouchere, M.P. upon the Right, Necessity, and Duty of Government Interference in Railway Affairs.* By Harry Serivenor.—A second title to this work goes on to explain that Government interference is urged with especial reference to the establishment of "a uniform system of railway accounts, and an independent audit of such accounts, as an effectual remedy for existing evils."

*Treasury Patronage the great Impediment to Economy and Retrenchment; a few Facts for Parliamentary and Financial Reformers, showing how the Aristocracy oppress the Working Clerks and waste the People's Money in the Management of Public Offices; embodied in two Letters to the Postmaster-General.* By a Working Clerk.—This pamphlet, which is addressed, "by his particular desire," to Mr. Rowland Hill, contains some suggestions for increasing the efficacy of the Money Order Department of the Post Office, and at the same time reducing the expenses about three-fourths. We can form no opinion as to the value of the measures proposed by Mr. Gandar; but the title-page leads us to suppose that Mr. Rowland Hill, the best authority on the subject, gives the sanction of his name to the statements sent forth and the general accuracy of the data employed. If the "office" can be better worked, and 20,000*l.* a year saved to the public, of course let the reforms be effected and speedily.

*A Biographical Sketch of Emanuel Swedenborg, and an Account of his Works.* By Elihu Rich.—"Written," says the author, publisher, and printer, Mr. Rich, to gratify "the growing interest of the public" in its subject. We thought the "mystic" had rather been losing ground in England of late years. Indeed, this is partly involved in the terms of Mr. Rich's preface: and the necessity of this digest may have arisen rather out of the neglect into which the seer's more voluminous tomes have fallen.

*A Dictionary of Modern Gardening.* By George W. Johnson, Esq.—The object of the author in this book has been to condense as much useful information as he could into small space, at a moderate price. The book is intended for gardeners, and for those who have gardens; but not to teach the principles of scientific botany. The author has made extensive use of published works,—especially of the *Gardeners' Chronicle*,—which he appears to have everywhere acknowledged. As a work of reference and information this will be found useful to all engaged in horticultural operations; but it will not by any means supply the necessity for the perusal of works treating of horticulture in a systematic manner.

*A First or Elementary Atlas for the Use of Schools.* By S. Hall,—contains ten carefully engraved maps, on a scale, however, too small, we should imagine, to be of much use to children.

*The Philosophy of Human Knowledge; or, a Critical Analysis of the three great Questions—What Knows? What is Known? What are the Laws of Knowing?* By John Jones Osborne.—A little work on a very great subject; acute in its statement of facts, and always lucid in the arrangement and expression of ideas. The writer, who describes himself as having composed his work "under the pressure of sterner obstructions than usually confront even poor authors," is by intellectual faith a Kantist; but he is not a mere blind follower of the German "Kritic." The present work will be welcome to that small class of earnest and unsatisfied thinkers who follow any and every attempt to let in the smallest ray of light on the obscure world of mental science.

*Sanitary Progress; being the Fifth Report of the National Philanthropic Association, Leicester Square, for the Promotion of Social and Salutiferous Improvements, Street Cleanliness, and the Employment of the Poor; so that able-bodied men may be prevented from burdening the Parish Rates, and preserved independent of Workhouse Alms and Degradation.*—A statement of the doings of the Association for the year. We have kept the sanitary question so fully under the

attention of our readers; that we need do no more, than announce the appearance of this Report.

*A Voice from the Danube; or, the true State of the Case between Austria and Hungary.* By an Impartial Observer.—An impartial observer! The book is dedicated to Prince Metternich:—need we say more?

*Observations on the Magnetic Orbit.* By the Rev. H. M. Grover.—The author of these "Observations" appears to belong to that somewhat too numerous class of impatient thinkers who will not bend their minds to the close investigation by which alone the great secrets of nature are to be elucidated; but he generalizes in haste, and from insufficient evidence, ventures on deductions which they would persuade others to receive as final explanations. Few problems require more extended or more minutely careful systems of observation than the phenomena of terrestrial magnetism. Several nations have combined to investigate the questions connected with this force; and in every quarter of the globe magnetic observations are daily—almost hourly—made by men the most skilled for the delicate task, with instruments which are models of delicacy and ingenuity. We may hope eventually to arrive at a more perfect knowledge of the laws by which this peculiar and important polar force is regulated; but this point will not be reached by indulging the imagination in uncertain wanderings. Mr. Grover is clearly convinced that he sees through the whole mystery of magnetic variation; and he winds up his "Observations" with so much self-satisfaction, that we regret disturbing it. But Mr. Grover must allow us to say, that his work, though ingenious, does not contain a single original observation. It does not even give any indication that he ever noticed one of the disturbances of a freely suspended magnetized bar under the influence of the variations of terrestrial magnetism to intensity.

#### LIST OF NEW BOOKS.

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Maguire's (Rev. J. M.) *Letters of Charles of Ireland*, 6*s.* 6d.  
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More Verse and Prose, by the Corn-Law Rhymist, Vol. II, 12mo. 4*s.* 6d.  
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Readings for Railways, by J. B. Symes, Vol. II, 12mo. 1*l.* 6d.  
Rudimentary Dictionary of Terms, Part IV, 12mo. 1*l.* 6d.  
Singers of the Sanctuary, by the Author of "Angels' Words," 3*s.* 6d.  
Smith's (D.) *The Dyer's Instructor*, Eight Hundred Receipts, 1*l.* 6d.  
Smith's (J. F.) *Selections of Sacred Poetry*, 12*mo.* 1*l.* 6d.  
Sowerby's *English Botany*, new ed., Vol. III, 8*vols.* 1*l.* 1*s.* 6d.  
Walker's *Summer Fashions*, 1850, on col., 11*s.* 6d.

#### FOREIGN CORRESPONDENCE.

*Bayonne.* Bayonne is in many respects an exceptional and peculiar place,—a town *en generis*, with a local colouring and characteristics which, in these days of universal assimilation and rubbing down of all the world to a polished surface, stand out with a relief calculated to interest a stranger in a manner rarely met with in the highly civilised central parts of Europe. It is, in the first place, the capital in some sort—at all events, the principal city—of the small district inhabited by the French Basques. It is true that Bayonne is not the place where the manners and peculiarities of this primitive and sequestered race may best be studied. It is too large and important a city to be wholly theirs. Like Brest, in the midst of a purely Breton population, its town influences have forced it on in advance of the district around it,—have mingled a large portion of strangers with its primitive inhabitants, and have contributed other elements to the completion of its character and physiognomy. Yet, most of what meets the stranger's ear or eye is more or less



coloured with the Basque element, and the result is highly favourable to the picturesque charm of the whole. Then, in the next place, neighbouring Spain imparts a strong tint to the picture, and renders it infinitely more interesting to the northern stranger; who here, for the first time, comes into veritable contact with that people, whose comparative isolation contributes powerfully to invest them with much that is romantic and strange to our imaginations. Lastly, the exclusively French element itself at Bayonne has, from the circumstances of its position and pursuits, a character and physiognomy of its own, which distinguish it from the generality of French provincial towns. It is wholly and extraordinarily unpolitical. During all the agitations which have recently shaken France throughout her whole length and breadth, Bayonne was perhaps the only town of any importance which remained altogether unmoved by the tempest. Possibly the Bayonnais take but little interest in the concerns of their own government, because their prosperity in a great degree depends on the measures of that of another country. A modification of the Spanish tariff would probably cause a greater amount of interest and give rise to more hopes and fears at Bayonne than a change of the French dynasty or the inauguration of a new Constitution at Paris.

But the commerce of Bayonne—its acknowledged commerce, that is, which is recorded in official returns and may be read in statistical tables—is far from being what it was, or is at least of a different kind from what it was. From a *dépôt*, it has become merely a place of transit. Some twenty or thirty years ago the Spanish trader rarely crossed the Adour. He came to Bayonne to make his purchases, and that system of trade course raised up a class of wealthy merchants in the town. With increased and increasing facilities for intercourse and locomotion, these habits have been abandoned,—and the Spaniards now for the most part, make their purchases directly of the manufacturer or producer.

One most important branch, however, of the trade carried on by Bayonne flourishes as vigorously as ever, nor will her most profitable occupation be gone till the Spanish Government shall become sufficiently enlightened to modify very considerably the benighted barbarisms of its commercial code. The result of its present system, of *protection*, is, to crush all trade save that of the “contrabandista,”—whose pursuit the Government still further promotes and assists by so miserably underpaying its innumerable army of *douaniers* as to make it almost absolutely necessary to their existence to eke out their insufficient salary by accepting any and every bribe offered to them. Besides, where is the Spaniard who, if paid by one party to act and by the other to do nothing, would hesitate to accept the service of the latter? Under these circumstances, the various products of English and French industry are introduced into Spain *à l'insu*,—the former principally by Gibraltar, and the latter by the Pyrenean frontier,—in the most regularly irregular manner possible. The only results of the Spanish prohibitory tariff are, to demoralize all engaged in the traffic, to ruin the legal trader, to drain the revenue by paying a vast army to protect and collect dues which it does not get, to enhance the price of goods to the consumer, and to deprive the country of all those civilizing influences which a large legitimate commercial intercourse with France and England would not fail to impart.

It occurred to me once, some months since, to fall in with a large band of smugglers among the hills; and I was much struck by the extensive scale on which their transactions were evidently carried on, and by the air of business-like regularity which characterized their proceedings. It was at the Case de Broissetto, a lone house situated in the romantic valley of the same name very near the frontier line immediately behind the “*Pié du Midi de Pau*.” The band must have consisted of not less than from thirty to forty men, and nearly as many mules and mountain ponies. They were coming from France, and were about to smuggle into Spain the incredibly numerous and voluminous *bales* and *cases* of goods which were strewed on the ground around the building on all sides. On the present occasion they had nothing to fear from the French authorities. This Case de Brouissetto was the last halting-place in their laborious

passage across the mountains, before entering Spain. Accordingly, here the various packages were to be arranged and distributed in the most favourable manner; the men were to be recruited with refreshments and rest, and the proper hour for their purpose was to be awaited. It was a busy and striking scene amid the desolate solitude of those mountains; picturesque and strange enough, but as far as possible from realizing the homespun imaginings of terrible contrabandista gangs whom it would be highly dangerous to surprise in their lair, and who would probably murder a wandering tourist by mistake before finding out that he was not a custom-house spy. The busy crowd, who looked up from their work for an instant to give a cheerful “good-day” to us and our guides, did not appear one whit more dangerous than a somewhat similarly, and not more peaceably though more legitimately, occupied gang of porters in Thames Street. Nor do I conceive that any portion of their expedition was likely to lead them to assume a more belligerent attitude; for I had seen their official enemies a few hours before on the other side of the frontier. They consisted of some half dozen or so of disgracefully ragged, filthy, and emaciated looking soldiers; who seemed scarcely to have sufficient energy or force left in them to drag their sauntering limbs about, or to quarrel over their filth-obliterated cards, as they played under the foot of a sunny wall. I should think that the whole party would have sold their very souls for a Napoleon:—a sum which certainly judicious Monmouth Street would not have offered for their united wardrobes.

The introduction of Spanish goods into France is a more arduous affair; and some of the mountain paths resorted to by those engaged in the traffic for the purpose of avoiding the French revenue officers are really tremendous. I, who boast a tolerably steady eye and hand, with some difficulty clambered by dint of hands and knees with panting lungs over passes by which these men travel laden with heavy burthens. But that all their boldness and activity are not always a match for the French revenue officers is sufficiently evidenced by the advertisements frequently to be seen affixed to the doors of the public offices in Bayonne announcing sales of wool, tobacco, silk, &c., seized by the custom-house officers. The contraband exports from Spain are, however, very insignificant in amount in comparison with the quantity of French goods which find their way into the Peninsula.

The more picturesque and exciting scenes of contrabandista life and adventure pass and may be witnessed among the mountains. But the smuggling trade as it may be studied at Bayonne presents not a few “facts and figures” of a rather surprising character. The traffic may be divided into three classes. The first and most primitive is that in which a smuggler or band of smugglers purchases goods, carries them across the mountains, and sells them as best it can. But the profits of the business were so large that a higher and more wealthy class of traders were anxious to secure a portion of them; and thus, as in all other descriptions of industry, capital, which could afford to “sit at home at ease,” has managed to appropriate the largest share of the gains, while the active smuggler is left to “brave the battle and the breeze” for a stipulated hire. The “battle” is rarely, if ever, other than with the elements; but none the less for that it is often a fight involving very serious danger to life and limb. This is the second phase of the contraband trade. But the progressive “division of labour” has introduced a still further improvement in the facilities and conveniences of the business. A class of middle-men have sprung up,—who act as a sort of smuggling brokers. The merchant applies to one of these, who guarantees the delivery of the goods in question to a certain consignee in Spain for a certain consideration. This middle-man is in connexion with the band of smugglers, knows them well, knows how far he can trust not only their integrity but their solvency in case of loss. For, many of the active heads of bands are men of considerable property, who can, and do, make good any loss accruing from weather, seizure or other causes to goods in their hands. If this risk is not borne by the smuggler, of course his rate of remuneration is less. The principal part of the contraband trade is now carried on in this last manner. And the certainty and regularity with which its operations are conducted

is, to a hater of custom-houses and their laws, delightful to witness. There is *nothing* which a Bayonne contraband broker will not undertake to pass into Spain. No difficulty of bulk or weight alarms him,—and his tariff of charges is infinitely lower than could be expected.

Bayonne is not in any degree what the French call a “*ville monumentale*.” It possesses very few visible and tangible memorials of the past. The most interesting and important passages in its history have been warlike,—and war is not wont to leave traces which mankind look with pleasure on after it has passed. Yet the Englishman whose pleasurable emotions can be excited by reminiscences calculated to bring afresh home to his mind the conviction that he belongs to the strongest, most vigorous, most energetic and indomitable race of men which the crossings and minglings of the world's breeds have yet produced, will not look unmoved from the heights occupied by the storied citadel of Bayonne.

As a mere *point de vue*, the spot is a magnificently fine one. Bayonne is situated at the point where the Nive falls into the larger stream of the Adour. Both rivers flow from the eastward, in such a manner as to make the eastern angle at the point of junction a very acute one. On the narrow strip thus inclosed between the rivers, and on the southern bank of the Nive above the juncture and of the Adour below it, the city is built. The portion situated between the two streams is the smaller, and is called “*Petit Bayonne*.” On the northern bank of the Adour, which divides the department of the “*Basses Pyrenées*” from that of the “*Landes*,” is the town of St. Esprit,—a faubourg, in fact, of Bayonne, although possessing a mayor, &c. of its own. Rising above St. Esprit, on the north, is the high ground occupied by the citadel; which thus magnificently commands both towns, as well as the course of the river and the port. Immediately below the town, the Adour swells into a truly majestic estuary; exhibiting, especially at high tide, an extent of water more like a lake than a river. This is lined on the southern bank by a handsome plantation of trees, the promenade of the town; a most delightful and lovely walk nearly a mile long,—and the great pride and “*délices*” of the Bayonnais, who would not exchange their “*Allées Marines*” for any town walk in the universe.

From the citadel, then, the eye has immediately beneath it, first, the city, with its picturesque little Gothic cathedral,—built, by the English, of course, as all the churches of any note in this part of France are, or profess to be,—then the port, with its shipping, a beggarly account enough in a statistical return, but abundantly sufficient for the purposes of the picturesque,—the noble expanse of the Adour, with its wood-lined banks, and farther off the dark masses of the vast pine forests, towards the mouth of the river, to the westward,—the villa-covered hills which surround the city, to the eastward,—and, grandest feature of all, the magnificent snow-topped range of the French and Spanish Pyrenées bounding the prospect to the south.

The delight of all this beauty is for the eye of every visitor who can appreciate it. But to the Englishman proud of his country's military glories, almost every foot of the ground around and beneath him “has a charm beyond” the mere physical beauty of the scene. For him, each knoll and hollow, and some of the distant mountain peaks, are re-peopled with a very different crowd of actors from those which meet the outer eye.

In the evening I went to the theatre, expecting to see all the *beau monde* of Bayonne there. But in this I was disappointed. The entertainment was the opera, of “*La Chaste Suzanne*,”—a version of the scriptural story, of which it is difficult to say whether the profanity, the indecency, or the stupidity is most prominent. I was given to understand that the announcement of it had frightened the decent and decorous provincials; and truly they did greater credit to their good taste than did the more advanced Parisians, who dubbed the opera a successful one. Yes! the good Bayonnais were right in letting “*La Chaste Suzanne*” present herself to empty benches. Strangely enough, considering the nature of the performance, several of the few parties who occupied the boxes were Jews. They are very numerous at Bayonne, and are among the most



wealthy of the population. Most of the best boxes in the pretty little theatre were pointed out to me as permanently rented by Jewish families. Up to 1831 no Jew was permitted to reside in Bayonne. They were tolerated only in the faubourg of St. Esprit, to which they were compelled to retire at sundown. A further lapse of years may perhaps witness the still more complete emancipation of admitting them to the society of their Christian fellow-townsmen:—a privilege which is not yet accorded to them.

T.A.T.

## OUR WEEKLY GOSSIP.

THE second reading of Mr. Fox's Bill for the promotion of the secular education of the people in England and Wales stands for the 17th inst.:—and those who take an interest in the establishment of a broad system of national instruction are earnestly appealed to by Mr. Fox's friends for support to the measure in the shape of petitions to the legislature. The subject is so important, that it is most desirable there should be no misconception as to the objects contemplated and left untouched by Mr. Fox's Bill. Once more, then, we recapitulate its principal features:—which are as follows.—The Inspectors of Schools are to report to the Committee of Privy Council on the state of education in each parish, and whether the existing schools are sufficient for the secular instruction of the entire population; regard being paid in their Report to the cost of education in some schools, to the peculiar religious teaching in others, and generally to any cause which may prevent the attendance of children at such schools. If the existing schools are sufficient, and do educate the entire youth of any parish, this Bill will not affect that parish. If the existing schools are insufficient, the inhabitants shall be required to elect an Education Committee to establish schools to supply the deficiency, and a school rate is to be levied to furnish the requisite funds. In these schools, which are to be managed by the local committee, the education is to be gratuitous, and secular only; but time is to be allowed for instruction in the particular form of religion approved by the parents. No interference, it is explained, is proposed with religious teaching, either in existing schools or in those which may be established under this Bill. Under its provisions education will be afforded to the entire population of the country,—there will be free scope for the exertions of all classes of religionists,—while those portions of the community whom they have hitherto failed to influence will be enabled to obtain that secular education which they so much need. The promoters of this Bill further guard themselves against being supposed to offer it as perfect in every detail. It is not proposed that if carried it should remain a fixed, unimproved, and unimprovable law, in spite of all experience. It is offered only as “an endeavour—an honest endeavour—to render national education possible.”

Mr. Ewart's Bill for the establishment of libraries and museums in country towns has reached another stage,—having got into committee in spite of the unrelenting opposition of Col. Sibthorp. The old Universities, too, rose in defence of their fast declining monopolies by the mouth-piece of three out of their four members. Mr. Ewart had won over many of the objectors by two important concessions which he had made in the terms of his measure. He now limits the operation of the bill to boroughs whose population exceeds ten thousand,—and makes it necessary for the town council of any borough, before determining to carry this act into effect, to call a public meeting of rate-payers and obtain the consent of two-thirds of those present. The objections took a variety of forms; but Mr. Bright translated them all into a common expression,—whose fidelity we will not undertake to guarantee, though we give that gentleman's version. The honourable gentleman said, the essential objection was, that “this Bill would give people the means of learning a great many things that” other honourable gentlemen “did not wish them to know.”—One member was of opinion that the thing intended to be supplied by this measure is not a want of the people:—but Mr. Brotherton considered it strange that 2,000,000. a year should

be paid for the punishment of crime, yet honourable gentlemen he found objecting to communities having the power to tax themselves a halfpenny in the pound for that which is calculated to lead to the prevention of crime. On the whole, it seems probable that the people will get their libraries,—and that Mr. Fox will furnish them with the means of learning to use them.

The *Morning Post* of yesterday announced the decease of one of the Patriarchs of Poetry—the Rev. W. Lisle Bowles—as having taken place on the 7th at Salisbury in the eighty-seventh year of his age.—The papers of the week have announced also the death of Dr. Prout, the well-known physician.

With reference to the Arctic Expeditions, we may mention that Capt. Penny is to sail this day from Scotland, in command of the two ships the *Lady Franklin* and the *Sophia*. He will proceed without delay to Jones's Sound; which he purposes thoroughly to explore.—The proposed Expedition under the direction of Sir John Ross will certainly, we understand, be carried into execution. He will sail from Ayr about the middle of May; and will probably be accompanied by Commander Phillips, who was with Sir James Ross in his Antarctic Expedition.—Another Expedition, in connexion with that of Sir John Ross, is under consideration. It has for its object the search of Prince Regent's Inlet by ship as far south as Brentford Bay: from whence walking and boating parties might be despatched in various directions. This plan—which could be carried into effect by despatching a small vessel with Sir John Ross, efficiently equipped for the service—is deemed highly desirable by several eminent authorities; as it is supposed—and not without considerable reason—that Sir John Franklin may be to the south of Cape Walker,—and that he would, in such case, presuming him to be under the necessity of forsaking his ships this spring, prefer making for the wreck of the *Fury* stores in Prince Regent's Inlet, the existence of which he is aware of, to attempting to gain the barren shore of North America, which would involve great hazard and fatigue. As a matter of course this second Expedition would be of a private nature,—and wholly independent of those despatched by the Admiralty.

The various public scientific bodies in Edinburgh have, it is stated, already commenced the consideration of arrangements for a suitable reception of the British Association in August next.—A general aggregate committee has been appointed:—and it is intended that three sub-committees shall afterwards be chosen from the aggregate body to carry out the details.—Subscriptions to the amount of 200*l.* have been collected.

We have received with much satisfaction a communication from the good town of Burton-upon-Trent, which informs us that the Hopkins-es of that community are, after all, the minority,—and that Miss Martineau may in this nineteenth century go into Lincolnshire, if she so please, without the risk of being burnt as a witch.—“I am happy to say,” writes our informant, “that the proprietors of the Burton-upon-Trent Library have taken in hand the ‘wise men of Gotham’ (as you stigmatize our book burners), and have sent them ‘all to sea in a bowl,’ trusting the world will hear no more of their doings. At the annual election of the Committee of Management, a few days ago, a determination to rescue the fame of our town from the disgrace resting on it since the condemnation and destruction of Miss Martineau's ‘Eastern Travels’ led to the defeat of every individual who had voted in the majority; a new Committee being appointed, pledged to a course of proceeding more in accordance with the improving spirit of the age. You will oblige by informing the world that we have no longer an *Index expurgatorius* at Burton-upon-Trent.”—Our correspondent's very natural wish that his fellow-townsmen in general should stand rescued from the figure on the intellectual scale marked by the superstition of the town's old women, we are more than willing to promote.

We have received from Mr. Charles Purday a long letter, in which he urges various objections to the existing law of copyright:—but must for the present content ourselves with extracting that

paragraph in which he disputes with our correspondent Mr. Sidney Williams the satisfactory working of our treaty with Prussia.—“On this,” he says, “I have some doubts, especially when it shall be worked out as I understand it. Take, for instance, Article IV. Here I find that if I do not like the English edition of any work, or if the Prussian edition happen to be published at one-fifth the price, I can import copies at 50*s.* per cwt. duty,—and undersell my neighbour; thereby destroying a considerable portion of the advantage which an English copyright gives him. For, I presume the Treaty allows me to import as well as it does him:—paying the duty, of course. The same Article declares that if an English work is reprinted in Prussia and a Prussian author chooses to enlarge it, making it double the quantity of the original work, I can import it at 15*s.* per cwt. duty,—and by that means entirely stop the sale of the original work, if it so happen that the additional matter is of a more valuable character than the original. It is true, the proprietor of the work can do the same thing. But is not this a matter worth looking into?”

The *Dublin Herald* states that the Irish Primate has lately endowed a chair of Ecclesiastical History in Trinity College, Dublin. The Provost and Senior Fellows having expressed to his Grace their desire that he should himself nominate the first Professor, he has named the Rev. Samuel Butcher. The appointment is for five years.

The creation of a university for New South Wales is a striking expression of the rapid development of the history of a colony founded, in times comparatively recent, with the worst materials of civilization grafted on the lowest forms of barbarism existing on the earth. The new institution is to be at Sydney; and a sum of 30,000*l.* has been, it is said, voted for the building and 5,000*l.* for its fittings-up. It will contain at first chairs of the Classical Languages, Mathematics, Chemistry, Natural History, Natural Philosophy, Mechanics, Physiology and the Medical Sciences; and professorships of History, Philosophy, and Political Economy are to be hereafter added. There is to be no faculty of Theology,—and, as we understand it, no religious tests. Such provision is made for the probable comparative unproductiveness of the field in its newness as it is hoped may tempt professors of eminence to be candidates for the chairs. The Professor of Classics will be Rector of the University, with an endowment of 800*l.* a-year. The appointments of the other professors will range from 300*l.* to 400*l.* a-year; and to each will be given 100*l.* a-year for lodging until rooms shall be ready for his residence in the projected building. Professors coming from Europe will have 100*l.* each towards the expenses of the voyage.

William Beer, the brother of the illustrious composer Meyerbeer, and himself known to the public by more titles than one, has died at Berlin, at the age of 58. After a short preliminary military service, he devoted himself to commerce; but his love for the sciences divided his attention with the affairs of his house,—and threw him into conjunction with Dr. Maedler, the present Director of the Observatory of Dorpat, as a student of astronomy and transcendental mathematics. Their joint physiological observations on the planet Mars attracted the notice of scientific men; and was followed by the publication of their map of the Moon, under the title of ‘*Mappa Selenographica*,’—which, among other honours, obtained from the Academy of Sciences at Paris the prize founded by Lalande. This was followed by other works undertaken by the same two observers in common,—including a ‘*General Comparative Selenography*.’ During the recent troubles of his country M. Beer was the author of many pamphlets and articles, in an anti-revolutionary sense, on the various topics of the time, political and financial. M. Beer had attained to public honours of many kinds. He was a privy councillor, a deputy to the first Prussian Chamber, Vice President of the Chamber of Commerce,—and wore the decorations of several foreign orders.

The papers of the same city announce the death of M. Charles Kuntze, Professor at the University of Berlin, and a corresponding member of the Paris



**Academy of Sciences in its section of Botany and Agriculture.**—The Academy of Medicine in the latter capital has filled up a vacancy in its body by the election of M. Michel Lévy, the physician.

It will interest some of our readers to know that the Prussian Minister of Trade and Public Works has issued a public notice inviting the engineers of all nations to send in a plan of a fixed bridge at Cologne, to unite the lines of railway between Belgium and France with the great German line to Vienna. "Since the time," says the *Times*, "when the Romans possessed these provinces no German Government has yet been able to build a stone or other fixed bridge over the Rhine, and the modern railway traffic has to cross the stream by a contrivance that has not been improved for centuries. The Minister states the conditions to be fulfilled in the construction. The river from bank to bank is 1,275 ft. wide; this space must be crossed by a bridge leaving three openings; the piers are to occupy in all not more than 75 ft., and must be so firmly built as to stand the pressure of the fields of ice that descend the stream on the break-up of great frosts. The bridge must support a tramway for loaded railway waggons, a roadway for ordinary carriages, and footpaths. Locomotives will not pass it, nor unbroken trains,—and passengers will be taken across from terminus to terminus. The communication therefore will still be imperfect; but it is necessary to obtain a certain height above the water to meet the immense rise of the river in floods,—and as the termini on the respective banks are on a low level, the ascent from them to the roadway of the bridge will be too short and steep for locomotives. The bridge crosses the river from the north side of the Cologne and Minden station at Deutz in nearly a straight line drawn towards the choir of the Cathedral immediately opposite. In the design some attention is to be paid to this circumstance, in order that the bridge in exterior effect may be worthy its position. The cost is not to exceed 1,500,000 thalers. The best plan will receive a prize of 250 Fredericks d'or,—the second best, 125. All the plans are to be sent in by August next."

**BRITISH INSTITUTION, Pall Mall.**—The GALLERY for the EXHIBITION and SALE of the WORKS of BRITISH ARTISTS is OPEN DAILY, from Ten till Five.—Admission, 1s. Catalogue, 1s. GEORGE NICOL, Secretary.

**EXHIBITION of the SOCIETY of BRITISH ARTISTS, incorporated by Royal Charter.**—The TWENTY-SEVENTH ANNUAL EXHIBITION of this Society is NOW OPEN. Suffolk-street, Pall Mall East. J. W. ALLEN, Secretary.

**NILE.—GRAND MOVING PANORAMA of the NILE,** comprising all the Monuments of Antiquity on its Banks, to which is added the interior of the great Rock Temple of Abou Simbel. Painted by Messrs. Warren, Bonomi, and Ebbels.—**EGYPTIAN HALL, PICCADILLY.**—Daily, at Three and Eight o'clock.—Stalls 2s., Pitt 2s., Gallery 1s.; Children and Schools, Half-price.

**NOVELTY.—JUST OPENED, at the DIORAMA, Regent's Park,** a high-interesting EXHIBITION, representing the ROYAL CASTLE of STOLZENFELS on the Rhine, (visited by Her Majesty Queen Victoria in August, 1845, and its Environs, as seen at sunset and during a Thunder Storm; painted by NICHOLAS MEYER of Cologne. And the much-admired Picture of THE SHINE of the NATIVITY, at Bethlehem; painted by the late M. RENOUX, from a sketch now on the spot by DAVID ROBERTS, Esq. R.A., with two novel and striking effects.

**INDIA OVERLAND MAIL.—GALLERY of ILLUSTRATION, 11, Regent-street, Waterloo-place.**—A Gigantic MOVING DIORAMA ILLUSTRATING the ROUTE of the OVERLAND MAIL to INDIA, depicting every object worthy of notice on this highly-interesting journey from Southampton to Calcutta, accompanied by descriptive detail, and appropriate music (which has been in preparation for the last nine months), is now OPEN DAILY, at Two and Half-past Seven o'clock.—Admission, 1s.; Reserved Seats, 2s. 6d. (which may be previously engaged).—Descriptive Catalogues may be obtained at the Gallery.

**NOVEL EXHIBITION of SPORTING TROPHIES at the CHINESE EXHIBITION ROOMS, Hyde Park Corner.**—To be open for the Exhibition a most Extensive Collection of SPORTING TROPHIES, NATIVE ARMS and COSTUMES, &c., &c., from India and the far Interior of Southern Africa; also a large Selection of the Finest ANTELOPS of RED DEER and ROE from the different Scottish Forests, the Property of and Collected by ROYAL LIEUTENANT COLONEL CUMMING, Esq., during his Residence in India, in Scotland, and a Five years' Hunting Expedition in the Deserts and Forests of Southern Africa.

**ROYAL POLYTECHNIC INSTITUTION.**  
LECTURES on MUSIC by Sir HENRY R. BISHOP resumed, with an increased number of VOCALISTS for the Illustrations, on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday at Eight, and on Tuesday, Thursday, and Saturday at Three o'clock.—DR. BACHOFEN'S SECOND LECTURE on the PHILOSOPHY of SCIENTIFIC REVELATION with OPTICAL EFFECTS, daily at Two, and on Tuesday and Thursday Evenings, at a quarter past Nine.—LECTURE, by J. H. PEPPER, Esq., on the CHEMISTRY of HYDROGEN, with special reference to its application for conveying by BALLOONS, Pyrotechnic and other Signals to Sir JOHN FRANKLIN, on Monday, Wednesday and Friday at Three, and on Tuesday and Thursday, Evenings at Eight. DISSOLVING VIEWS, illustrating the ARTIFICIAL REGIONS and CEYLON: also, VIEWS of JAPAN in the SIXTEENTH CENTURY and AS IT NOW IS.—DIVER and DIVING BELL, &c.—Admission, 1s.; Schools, Half-price.  
ANALYTICAL and CHEMICAL EXPERIMENTS conducted in the LABORATORY, under the direction of J. H. PEPPER, Esq.

WORKS of ANTIENT and MEDIEVAL ART, and Specimens of British Manufactures.—This Exhibition is open daily, from Ten till dusk, at the House of the SOCIETY of ARTS, John-street, Adelphi.—Admission,—to those not Members or introduced by Members—1s. Catalogues, 1s.

## SOCIETIES

**GEOLOGICAL.**—March 28.—Sir C. Lyell in the chair.—H. C. Sorby, Esq., was elected a Fellow.—The following paper was read:—"On the Relations of the existing Hot Water and Vapour Sources of Tuscany to the Igneous and Metamorphic Rocks from which they issue and to the Volcanic Eruptions past and present of the Peninsula of Italy," by Sir R. I. Murchison. In calling attention to the remarkable hot vapour sources of the Tuscan Maremma, which have been described by writers, from Targioni Tozzetti, in the last century, to many of the present day, including our countrymen Mr. Babbage and Mr. W. Hamilton, the author first showed, that they issued upon lines of fissure precisely coincident with the bands of erupted serpentine and associated igneous rocks, and specially at those points where such rocks had fractured and metamorphosed the alberese and macigno, or cretaceous, and older eocene formations, on lines trending from N. and by W. to S. and by E. The district so affected is an upland trough, subtended on the E. and W. by ridges of jurassic limestone, and on the N. and S. by tertiary formations, of miocene and pliocene age. One of these lines of the vapour sources (Monte Cerboli, or Lardarello,) is selected to show that at its N.N.W. extremity, where serpentine and "gabbro" penetrate the alberese, the thermal springs of St. Michele occur; that, further to the S., the same conjunction of rocks is again accompanied at Monte Cerboli by thermal springs, which, in addition to several salts and gases, (according to the Florentine chemist, Targioni Tozzetti,) contain boric acid; and in following the same line still further to the S. and by E., hot water springs being again met with at Bagni a Morbo, hot vapours issue from a rent in the rocks at Castel Nuovo, similar to that of Monte Cerboli. Sir Roderick then shows that the other boric acid vapours of this tract (which is about eight or nine miles long by five miles broad) occur in parallel fissures in rocks like those of the above type. He then asserts that the "gabbro rosso" of the Tuscans, which has been injected into these fissures, is an amorphous imbedded rock of true eruptive character, connected with the serpentine, and not a metamorphosed rock, as supposed by some writers; and sections were given to indicate how it has broken up and variously altered the sedimentary strata in contact, occasionally imparting to them its own red character. A brief allusion was then made to the effects of the earthquake of 1847, and how its disastrous effects coincided with the N.N.W. and S.S.E. direction of the lines of issue of the boric vapours, and how the principal destruction of property and life occurred on the hillocks or in the longitudinal valleys of incoherent tertiary marl; further reference being made to the works of Savi and Pilla. The direction of the vapour fissures of Tuscany is coincident in the N. and by W. with the lofty ridge of the Western Apennines (Apuan Alps), and its minor parallels, in the bay of La Spezia, consisting of highly metamorphosed strata (Carrara marble), and terminates northwards in the great serpentine region of Parma and the Genovesato. Looking to this last-mentioned tract as the chief centre of eruption, the author points out how those bands of eruption proceeding therefrom (each band containing minor parallels within itself), which have given to Italy and her western islands their dominant features, are not parallel, but divergent, as respects large masses of land; though, whatever be the direction of the ridges, the same intrusive rocks have cut up and altered the same sedimentary strata, thereby clearly fixing the age and the simultaneity of the operation. Thus, the serpentine which traverse the cretaceous and nummulitic rocks of Corsica trend almost N. and S.—a line, it is to be observed, on which there are undeniable proofs of former bands, as indicated by the Silurian fossils and coal plants of Sardinia, which range along an ancient granitic shore. On the east, on the contrary, the main chain of the Apennines, whose back-bone has been determined by the serpentinous eruptions between Florence and Bologna, diverges still more from the parallelism of the Apuan band, and trends to the S.E.; and it is in this line that the chief eleva-

tions have occurred; the Gran Sasso d'Italia (9,500 feet above the sea) being composed of cretaceous or nummulitic rocks. Yet, with all their grandeur of outline and crystalline aspect, the Apennines contain only secondary and older tertiary rocks, and offer no proof that any portion of them (excepting perhaps Calabria) was dry land until that period of intense eruptive activity which, in evolving the serpentine and other igneous rocks, raised up similar masses, and gave to the peninsula its crystalline and rugged centre. After a long period of quiescence, during which the miocene strata were deposited, and in a great part formed out of the debris of the rocky skeleton above described, another great movement occurred, which dislocated these middle tertiaries, with their conglomerates and coal fields, and this movement seems, on the whole, to have been alined with that of the preceding epoch. The granites of Elba and Piombino, which traverse the serpentine, were, partially, accompaniments of this disturbance. At a later period the subaqueous volcanic rocks of the Campagna di Roma and Naples were elaborated in the same general direction as the Apennines, which they flank. The author here reminded his auditors that the Alps, which had also undergone their greatest mutations and elevations after the nummulitic and miocene periods, had a chief axis from N.E. to S.W., or nearly at right angles to that of the Apennines, and that the former differed from the latter in possessing the same dorsal spine of ancient and palaeozoic rocks which characterizes the Sardinian or meridian direction, and also in having never had any true volcanic rocks. It follows, therefore, that chains trending from N. to S. and from N.E. to S.W. have preserved their directions from the earliest periods, and have been affected by eruptions and lines of dislocations, more or less parallel to their original axis, at subsequent periods; whilst the Apennines, exhibiting no signs of high antiquity, have been mainly metamorphosed and raised up at the same periods, though their axes radiate towards the S.E. The chief skeleton of Italy having been formed by the serpentine eruptions and their accompaniments, we have evidence in the ejections of Vesuvius, on the S.S.E., and in the hot fumes of Tuscany, on the N.N.W., that the igneous agency which re-occurred in great force at former epochs and produced the Apennine mountains is still active on a small scale along this one and the same band of eruption.

**INSTITUTION of CIVIL ENGINEERS.**—April 9.—W. Cubitt, Esq., President, in the chair.—The paper read was "On the Construction of Locks and Keys," by Mr. J. Chubb. The author commenced by stating that the most ancient lock of whose form and construction there was any certain knowledge was the Egyptian, which had been in use for upwards of four thousand years. The construction of this lock was minutely described,—also that of the ancient "warded" and "letter" locks; and their origin and introduction were traced. These three kinds of locks were in principle the foundation of all modern locks; which might be thus enumerated—reversed, for obvious reasons, in the order of antiquity.—First, The letter locks; mostly used for padlocks,—so far convenient, as a key was not required for opening them. A modification of this lock had been proposed, called the "scutcheon" lock, for securing doors and iron safes, but it was too expensive and complicated to come into general use.—Second, Locks having fixed wards—in which no real improvement had been made in modern times. These locks were bad in principle, as they could be easily picked; and owing to many thousands of them being yearly made that could be passed by the same key, little or no security was afforded by them. In fact, it might be safely asserted that twenty skeleton keys would open all the locks, of a given size, made on this principle.—Third, The Egyptian lock; the essential principle of which was, that of moveable pins, or studs dropping into, and securing the bolt, all of which must be raised to the proper height, by corresponding pins in the end of the key, before the bolt could be unfastened. This lock was the foundation upon which most of the ingenious inventions of late years had been based, differing only in the forms of the moveable obstructions to the bolt,—some of which acted vertically, others horizontally, some with a rotatory motion, and many others in an endless variety of



ways; but of all these it was thought sufficient to describe only those best known and appreciated,—namely, Barron's, Bramah's, and Chubb's.—In Barron's lock, patented in the year 1774, a great improvement was made on the ancient Egyptian, by the introduction of the over-lift—wards being also used; but, from the fact of there being only two tumblers, it was evident that no great change or permutation could be made in the combinations.—In Bramah's lock, patented in the year 1784, there was a compound of both direct and rotatory motion given to the key, instead of simply the latter, as in Barron's lock. It consisted of a number of sliders, having notches of various depths cut on one edge; so that the motion of the bolt was totally prevented until each slider was pressed down to its exact depth,—which was effected by the key having six cuts in it of different lengths.—In Chubb's lock, first patented in 1818, and since modified and improved by various subsequent patents, there were six separate and distinct tumblers, placed over each other, and capable of being elevated to different heights, but all moving on the centre pin. This lock differed from the others in having a "detector,"—by which any attempt to pick or open the lock with a false key was immediately notified on the next application of its own key.—Calculations were gone into, to show the number of different combinations which might be made in this lock; and it appeared that with an average sized key, having six steps, each capable of being reduced in height twenty times, the number of changes would be 86,400,—that if the seventh step, which threw the bolt, was taken into account, the reduction of it only ten times would increase the number to 864,000. Further, that as the drill pins of the locks and the pipes of the keys might be made of three different sizes, the total number of changes would be 2,592,000.—In keys of the smallest size, the total number would be 648,000, whilst in those of the largest size it would be increased to 7,776,000 changes.—In conclusion, it was stated, that the manufacture of locks and keys was principally carried on at Wolverhampton and the adjacent towns, at Birmingham, and in London; and that the fundamental principles on which all locks should be made were, perfect security—strength, so as to resist attempts to force them, or opening by picklocks and false keys,—simplicity in the arrangement, so that any stranger having the proper key might be able to open the lock,—and durability.—The paper was illustrated by a series of diagrams, and a variety of specimens of the locks and keys noticed in the paper; and by a number of Gothic locks and keys of very elaborate workmanship, suitable for ecclesiastical buildings, &c., from Mr. Chubb's works in London.—In the discussion which ensued, many additions were made to the historical part of the subject,—and various ingenious contrivances were described, which had been successfully applied, to give increased security to locks of ordinary construction. The combinations in the locks of Summerford and McKinnon (of New York) were fully described; an advantage being claimed for the former, in making one tumbler to lift and the other to fall in order to open it,—and, for the latter, that, by the addition of a curtain, of case-hardened iron, three-quarters of an inch in thickness, radiating from the centre of the pin, and a radiating key, there were no means of reaching the tumblers, for the purpose of taking an impression, or otherwise, except by cutting through that curtain. On the other hand, it was positively asserted, that no impression could be taken of, or means invented for picking a lock which had six tumblers, although it could be easily done with locks having fixed wards:—further, that Chubb's lock was a decided improvement on all others of the same character, inasmuch as it possessed a "detector,"—which formed really the peculiar feature of that lock. The excellence of the workmanship tended also to the facility of action and consequent durability for which it was so celebrated.

#### MEETINGS FOR THE ENSUING WEEK.

- Mon.** Pathological, half-past 7.—Meeting of Council.  
— Chemical, 8.  
**Tues.** Civil Engineers, 8.—Description of the Immanent Pontoon Bridge erected on the Midland Great Western Railway of Ireland, at Dublin, by Mr. R. Mallet.  
— Linnæan, 8.  
— Horticultural, 3.  
**Wed.** Society of Arts, 8.  
— Microscopical, 8.

**THURS.** Royal, half-past 8.  
— Antiquaries, 8.  
**FRI.** Royal Institution, half-past 8.—John Stenhouse, Esq. 'On the Artificial Production of Organic Bases.'  
**Sat.** Asiatic, 2.

#### FINE ARTS

*Open Timber Roofs of the Middle Ages; illustrated by Perspective and Working Drawings of some of the varieties of Church Roofs.* By Raphael and J. A. Brandon. Bogue.

HIGHLY as we think of Mr. Garbett's 'Principles of Design' [see ante, p. 290], we do not fully agree with him on every point,—certainly not in his unqualified condemnation of open timber roofs, which he stigmatizes as being "utterly un-Gothic," and as "Gothic England's shame"! That roofs of this description do not exhibit that homogeneity of material and construction with the rest of the fabric which stone vaulting does may be admitted; but that they are therefore positively at variance with the style itself, and devoid of beauty,—of satisfactory effect, either architectural or artistic,—is what we cannot assent to. Undeniable it is that the beauty of a timber roof differs from that of vaulting,—and differs perhaps not only in kind but in degree; yet that is rather an advantage, on the whole, than the contrary,—since, by employing either of the two modes of construction accordingly as circumstances may require or allow, greater diversity of character is obtainable in the general style. Granting that undisguised timber construction for the whole of the roof, while all the rest of the edifice is of stone, tends to produce a mixed style,—or what may be so called,—it does not follow that a "mixed style" must of necessity be a worthless or a vicious one. The use of brick and stone, or of brick and timber, together, is not only held to be perfectly legitimate, but such intermixture of materials may be made a source of much pleasing design and effect. It is the same with timber roofs as a substitute for stone vaulting; for they admit of a very high degree of enrichment,—that of colour and even of gilding included. A timber roof, moreover, although it may be comparatively plain and without positive decoration, is attended with a certain species of perspective richness, owing to the succession of boldly-marked compartments and the intricate play of lines; whereas plain vaulting is apt to have a somewhat tame and cold effect. Were the class of roofs which Mr. Garbett so severely condemns altogether a modern innovation—something altogether unknown to the practice of Gothic times—there might at least be some plausibility in reproaching them as "*un-Gothic*."—instead of which both precedent and association are in their favour. We are aware that Mr. Garbett is inclined to dispute the force of association,—or rather he thinks that it is allowed to interfere too much with sound architectural criticism. This is perhaps the case: still, its influence cannot be entirely shaken off,—wherefore some regard may with propriety be had to it. Setting aside all other arguments in favour of timber roofs, one there is which is almost irresistible,—that, namely, derived from the magnificent example of Westminster Hall. Will Mr. Garbett contend that the admiration which that example has commanded has been all along misplaced,—or will he extricate himself from the dilemma by asserting this to be merely a splendid exception, proving the correctness of the rule which he would enforce?

We make these remarks as meeting objections on the part of a very able writer which are calculated to bring into discredit the very subject of the publication before us. As for the Messrs. Brandon's work itself,—that requires neither defence nor commendation. It cannot fail to commend itself at once as a highly useful and satisfactory production, containing many admirable studies. These are systematically arranged in four classes:—viz., tie-beam, trussed-rafter, hammer-beam, and collar-braced roofs. Besides the forty-three plates, there are several excellent woodcuts illustrating the general introduction; and besides that portion of the letter-press, there is a very complete description of each subject, in which the exact scantlings of the timbers are specified. One slight fault there is in the book,—an accidental one, and, perhaps, not affecting all the copies:—viz., that the binder has made the plates face the right instead of the left hand page.

#### LEAD STATUES.

THE expense of marble and bronze statues appears to have greatly retarded the spread of a taste for statuary, by limiting the possession of high Art to the few who have wealth at their command, or to public bodies who can raise by subscription a few thousand pounds to pay for one statue. Now, however, that public parks are opening over the kingdom for the recreation of the middle and lower classes, and cannot be adorned with marble or bronze statuary owing to its cost, and that subscriptions opened for the erection of a statue so frequently end in a bust for want of funds, it seems desirable that something should be done to reduce the price of statuary without diminishing the remuneration of the artist.

It appears not to be generally known,—or rather not to be known at all,—that lead possesses every requisite for the casting of statues which bronze possesses, while it excels that costly material in two very important particulars,—cheapness, and fusibility at a low temperature.

To many the idea of employing lead for the purposes of statuary may appear preposterous. Some may doubt its capability of being used for such a purpose; others may fear it would not stand exposure to the weather in our variable climate. The most satisfactory answer to both objections is, that, by the acknowledgment of all, the finest piece of statuary in Edinburgh is composed of lead. This is the equestrian statue of Charles the Second, erected in the Parliament Square by the magistrates of Edinburgh in honour of the restoration of that monarch. This statue is such a fine work of Art that it has deceived almost every one who has mentioned its composition. Thus, a late writer in giving an account of the statuary in Edinburgh describes it as consisting of "hollow bronze"; and in 'Black's Guide through Edinburgh' it is spoken of as "the best specimen of bronze statuary which Edinburgh possesses." It is however composed of lead, as I have repeatedly ascertained; and I cannot understand how any one living in Edinburgh could make any mistake on the subject. It was only a few years ago, that, in consequence of the failing of one of the iron supports, the horse's shoulder sank down a little, when the statue was taken down, the sunk parts beaten out, new supports put in, the body filled with a composition, and the statue replaced. During its repairs thousands were able to ascertain the fact of its being composed of lead. Now, this leaden equestrian statue has already, without sensible deterioration, stood the test of 165 years' exposure to the weather, and it still seems as fresh as if erected but yesterday. Lead, therefore, appears from this instance to be sufficiently durable to induce artists to make trial of it in metallic castings, instead of bronze. Again, the acknowledged superiority as a work of Art of this leaden equestrian statue, to all the costly bronze and other statues in Edinburgh, though these are from the hands of Roubiliac, Chantrey, Steele, Flaxman, Campbell, Ritchie, &c., is a satisfactory answer to the question of the applicability of that soft and easily worked metal to the purposes of statuary.

My object in writing to a widely circulated periodical like the *Athenæum* is, to direct the attention of artists to the applicability of lead for statuary purposes,—and by thus making the fact universally known induce them to give it a fair trial. By its employment all the difficulties in the casting of bronze would be avoided;—the artists would be better remunerated;—the public would be enabled to possess copies of works of Art at such a moderate cost that the employment of statuary in ornamental building and adorning of grounds would become general;—while public subscriptions for testimonials to departed worth would more frequently be found supporting art and artists in the erection of works of high Art.

I am, &c. EDINBURGENSIS.

**FINE-ART GOSSIP.**—We understand that 229 designs for the building to be erected in Hyde Park on the occasion of the Exhibition of 1851, were sent in to the Royal Commissioners on Tuesday. Of these, 34 were contributed by foreigners; 128 by residents in London; 50 by residents in provincial towns of England; 6 by residents in Scotland; 3 by residents in Ireland; and 7 were anonymous.

The town of Ipswich is very honourably distin-



guishing itself in the van of that movement which has for its object the extension of education and the elevation of the mental character of the country. Our readers know of the liberal spirit in which the Museum of that town has been founded and supported; and we may now inform them that the Fine Arts Association which some time since [ante, p. 136] we announced as in contemplation in the same place, is constituted. The first general meeting was held in the Council Chamber of the Town Hall, last week. The objects of this Association, in the words of the Report, are stated to be:—"First, the refinement and elevation of the public taste, by enabling all classes to form a more enlarged acquaintance with works of Art than has hitherto been locally practicable; and, secondly, the encouragement and development of the talent of our native living Artists;"—and the means by which it is proposed to accomplish these objects are:—"First, the establishment of an Annual Exhibition of works in painting, sculpture, architecture, and engraving. Second, the formation, by purchase or gift, of a permanent collection of works of Art, to be accessible at all times to the subscribers, and, with certain limitations, to the public. Third, the occasional delivery of lectures on subjects connected with Art." The matter has been taken up by the gentlemen of the county with an earnestness which is the pledge of success; and at this meeting it was determined to offer the presidency of the new institution to Lord Rendlesham. At this meeting, too,—it is not unimportant to the issues to mention,—the Church was very honourably represented in assertion of the cause of progress, by the Rev. Mr. Gaye.

A correspondent of the *Builder* calls the attention of the lovers of mediæval art to the remains of a cloister appertaining to the Church of St. Bartholomew the Great, West Smithfield, built by Rahere,—the last few vestiges of which are gradually disappearing. The very ornamental and elaborate stone bosses have, he says, been sold, and encaustic tiles given away,—and the remainder of the former are being transformed into stone bases for the modern barbarian. "I question," he adds, "the right of the party thus dealing with the sacred relics of this priory; and I think it is to be deeply deplored that links like these—and there are not too many—should be scattered abroad, and before even drawings are made of them."

The Paris papers report the death of the eminent miniature painter, Etienne Bouchardy,—at the age of fifty-two.

## MUSIC AND THE DRAMA

Mr. AGUILAR begs to announce that he will give an EVENING CONCERT at the ELAN-VERE SQUARE ROOMS, on WEDNESDAY, April 24.—Vocalists, Miss Lucombe, the Misses C. and E. Cole, Middle Schloss, and Mdlle. Graumann; Mr. Sims Reeves, and Signor Marchesi. Violin, Herr Ernst; Violoncello, Herr Haumann; Oboe, Mr. Nicholson; Clarinet, Mr. Lazarus; Horn, Mr. Jarrett; Bassoon, Mr. Baumann; Piano-forte, Mr. Aguilar. Commence at Eight.—Reserved Seats, 7s. 6d. Tickets, 7s. 6d. to be procured at Messrs. Cramer, Beale & Co., 201, Regent-street, Messrs. Wessel & Co., 229, Regent-street, and at the residence of Mr. Aguilar, 68, Upper Norton-street, Portland-road.

CROSBY HALL, BISHOPSGATE STREET.—On FRIDAY, April 19, Mr. HENRY NICHOLLS will give a DRAMATIC READING in the above Hall, consisting of Selections from Henry the Eighth and Much Ado about Nothing. Between which Signor Piatti will perform a Solo on the Violoncello. Piano-forte accompaniment, Mr. Bellini.—Admission 1s. and 2s.—Commence at Eight o'clock precisely.

PHILHARMONIC SOCIETY.—If novelty is to be excluded from the Philharmonic programmes—against which law we again, and shall again, protest,—four orchestral pieces more various in style than those given at the Third Concert could not have been chosen. These were, Spohr's Third and Beethoven's Fourth Symphonies, Weber's overture to 'The Ruler of the Spirits,' and Ries's overture to 'Don Carlos.' The first-mentioned Symphony is a curiosity in its meagreness of idea, mannerism of treatment, and immoderate display of modulation;—these characteristics being so blended and mystified by the composer's peculiar orchestral skill as even to become attractive; supposing we could consider the work as a solitary work, and not as one of a score in which the same combinations, sequences, &c. &c. are repeated *ad nauseam*. To be relished, Spohr's compositions should be heard seldom. The solo was Mendelssohn's violin Concerto,—two movements of which were played by Mr. Cooper better than we have yet heard them played at the Philharmonic Concerts;

and what movements these are,—the *allegro*! how various, impassioned, picturesque, excellently constructed, yet admirable for the exhibition of the player!—the *andante*, how ravishing in its sweetness of melody, how deliciously decked out and relieved by its accompaniment!—We know of no violin Concerto comparable to this, and we know of no English violin-player who could give so much of Mendelssohn's mind and meaning as Mr. Cooper. In the *fine*, which is of extraordinary difficulty, he appeared afraid to start with the buoyancy, firmness, and *disinvoltura* demanded by the theme; and played more cautiously and heavily than he will on subsequent occasions.—The singers were, the Misses Williams, Mr. Benson, and Mr. Bodda.

CHAMBER CONCERTS.—The Quartetts at the second meeting of the *Musical Union* were led by Herr Ernst:—they were Beethoven's Quartett in E flat, and Mendelssohn's in E minor,—the latter with the posthumous *Andante* and *Scherzo* (from Op. 81) interpolated, in place of its own corresponding movements. These fragments were not new to us,—having been introduced by Mr. E. Thomas [see ante, p. 137] at one of his Quartett parties. Both are "gems"; we know not how more succinctly to characterize them. Mr. W. S. Bennett performed the pianoforte part in the first of Beethoven's two Duets in G,—and some of Mendelssohn's 'Lieder,'—in his best manner. As regards the execution, we can but say that Herr Ernst spoils us for every other chamber-leader but himself. It speaks well for taste in England that he is so thoroughly appreciated.

We regret to have merely a line for the third *Soirée* of that praiseworthy pianist M. Billet, given on the same evening as 'Elijah.' On Wednesday Madame Schwab received her friends.—On Thursday Mr. Osborne held the first of his three *Matinées*: one of the pleasantest features of which was his Piano-forte Trio in E major, in which he was assisted by Herr Ernst and Signor Piatti. Mr. Osborne played music of all styles, as he always does, with elegance and finish.

HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE.—May we never grow too dramatically old—too contrapuntally wise—to enjoy 'Don Pasquale' as set by Donizetti, acted by Lablache, and sung by Madame Sontag! The opera is a pretty opera; containing comparatively few of those modish forms and colours which Time maltreats,—full of elegant and lively music. As given at present it can fail to please only from our English taste being now set towards grand Opera; or owing to the natural consequences of the exhausting system pursued at *Her Majesty's Theatre*,—which by forcing a success for every one ends in leaving a success for no one. Madame Sontag's *Norina* is a study of delicate vocal brilliancy. More exquisitely finished execution than hers cannot be; nor cadences more airily fancied; while the manner in which she works out every phrase and connecting link of her part is a model to those careless ladies who set up as *prime donne* on the strength of a *cavatina* or two prepared by some singing master. The want of power, however, in Madame Sontag's voice made itself felt by straining the attention,—and this is incompatible with easy or enthusiastic enjoyment. During Rubini's later seasons, if a pin dropped his pathos was apt to escape the hearer. We remember, too, having been present at the *Opéra Comique* when 'Le Domino Noir' was throughout executed *pianissimo* by way of toning it down to the standard of Madame Cinti-Damoreau; nor was ever the following of new Fugue or chamber Quartett more fatiguing than the natural attempt to keep pace with that familiar and easy opera given so exquisitely—but in miniature. In Madame Sontag's case, the state of matters is only so far analogous as to afford a reason for her being more popular in the concert-room than on the stage. As to acting,—she gave the shy *Norina* to perfection; the shrewish one she cannot make herself—even to the extent of dramatically assuming the humour. Signor Lablache as *Don Pasquale* was more farcical than ever: squeezing himself into garments even tighter and more tawdry than of old,—and making up for diminished allowance of singing by all manner of odd sayings in all manner of languages. Use does not reconcile us to Signor Calzolari. His voice is not

of a quality to bear forcing, yet he will push forth its show-notes to their uttermost. His *roulades*, however, are neat and voluble.—We had 'Il Barbiere' on Tuesday,—on Thursday, 'Don Giovanni.'—As we had occasion to remark last year [Athen. No. 1138] when speaking of her *Susanna*, no one sings the lighter music of Mozart so thoroughly to our liking as Madame Sontag,—no one so fully draws out the composer's meaning or graces his pauses and *ritornels* with such graceful discretion. Her *Zerlina* in point of style was delightful to hear. Signor Lablache was almost in his old grand voice as *Leporello*. Signor Coletti did his best,—but that does not make a good *Don Giovanni*. Mdlle. Parodi was a woeful and grim *Donna Anna*, and sang fearfully out of tune; Madame Giuliani was a harsh and acid *Donna Elvira*; Signor Calzolari rendered the nullity of *Don Ottavio* extra null. We have never heard the "trio of the masks" (to use the French specification) so badly given. The first act, as a whole, was very coarse and very dreary.—Mr. Balfe's foot amounting to a limb—which is more than a feature—in every concerted piece.—'Le Nozze' is announced for Thursday next, with Miss C. Hayes as *Cherubino*.

ROYAL ITALIAN OPERA.—Signor Tamberlik's second appearance in 'Masaniello' justified—nay increased—the good opinion of him expressed this day week. His voice was brighter and firmer in *sostenuto* on Saturday than on the occasion of his *début*: his style could hardly be improved, but the consciousness of having made a favourable impression enabled him to do better justice to his large and intelligent manner of phrasing, his feeling for rhythm, his delicious articulation and his refined vocal delivery. In short, that he is an acquisition of the first class,—apt at Grand Opera as distinguished from the routine of worn-out Italian parts, the play-bills show; since we perceive that he is announced to appear this day week as tenor in 'Il Nuovo Mosé,' this time called 'Soras,'—and during the week following as *Roberto* in Meyerbeer's 'Robert' to the *Raimbaldi* of Signor Mario and the *Alice* of Madame Grisi: a cast—not forgetting Madame Castellan as *Isabella*, and aware that the public is contented with Herr Formes who will be the *Beltramo*—to make M. Meyerbeer's ears tingle.

On Tuesday evening 'Lucrezia Borgia' was performed, for the first appearances of Madame Grisi and Signori Mario and Tamburini. The climate of the Czar's country, which has rained crowns and diamonds on the lady (or gossip Rumour lieth) has agreed with the *Lucrezia's* voice:—since Madame Grisi used her topmost notes on Tuesday with the vigour and fearlessness of former years, and sang and acted throughout the evening with all her passion and all her brilliancy. She was received with most signal favour. So also was Signor Mario; for whom an apology was made on the score of a cold,—evidently a transient indisposition,—since he, too, gave tokens of his best power and passion.—Mdlle. de Meric did not appear in *Maffio Orsini*, as was expected; having been detained en route from St. Petersburg by illness. Mdlle. d'Okolski took her place; but though public indulgence was claimed for her, we are bound to state our impression that the less that is seen and heard of her the better,—since she appears to us one of those singers whom increase of confidence might render increasingly objectionable.

On Thursday 'Norma' was given. Signor Tamberlik is an excellent *Polliene*. We have seldom heard better singing than his in the final *trio*, or expression deeper without caricature. Herr Formes was so odd an *Oroveso* as nearly to bring the Priesthood of Irminsul into disrepute. He gave out his voice with as much violence as though he had been a Latter-Day Prophet, and largely indulged in those wonderful postures and elaborate gestures with his mantle in which the German tragedians delight. His Italian, too, is "prodigious." Mdlle. Vera, though suffering from timidity (the representation having been almost *improvised* to replace 'I Puritani'), was a very good and graceful *Adalgisa*.

'Don Giovanni' is to be performed on Thursday next, with Herr Formes as *Leporello* (said to be one of his great parts), and Mdlle. Vera as *Donna Elvira*. The Lady's excellent preparation, and consequent value to her theatre, may be further estimated by the rumour of her having volunteered to sing for Mdlle.



de Meric on Tuesday, had not Mdle. d'Okolski been forthcoming.

**DRURY LANE.**—'The Passing Cloud,' a domestic drama by Mr. Bayle Bernard, was produced on Monday. Though only in two acts, it is nearly equal in length to a five-act play:—and it is in other respects a remarkable production. Much of the dialogue sounded as if written in classical hexameters, or iambs, or a mixture of both,—the cadence of which was decidedly not pleasing to the ear. But the drama must receive closer perusal ere we can decide on the specific nature and accuracy of the verse. So far as we were able to judge of the experiment, it was successful:—the audience not generally objecting to the innovation, and one elaborately versified passage commanding several rounds of applause. The effect which this produced was unequivocally due to its peculiar diction and measure. The plot is easily told. *Albert* and *Moritz Hartsmann* (Mr. Vandenhoff and Mr. Anderson) are two brothers—once resident at Leghorn. The latter, while there, committed an act of felony, for which he was tried and consigned to the galleys. The former has since become a thriving merchant and the magistrate of Bremen. He has taken charge of the convict's daughter, *Linda* (Miss Vandenhoff), and brought her up from the cradle as his own—being known to her only in the character of her father. She is now on the point of marriage with a young artist. Years have passed since the fatal events at Leghorn; but the convict at the oar cannot forget that he has a child. Urged by a strong desire to see her, *Moritz* contrives to escape,—and at this juncture arrives in Bremen, a wanderer. He gains admittance to the merchant's residence, and is relieved by the charity of his own daughter,—who, of course, knows him not, while she is fully recognized by him. The situation is very touching,—and was well sustained in the acting. But the joy of the outcast is not of long duration. His appearance has excited suspicion; and he is mistaken for another, of whom justice is in pursuit,—and who as *Colonel Rheinberg* (Mr. Cooper) had become an unsuspected guest of his brother. This man was formerly the accomplice of *Moritz*, and has harboured a design against the peace of *Linda* and her supposed father. In possession of certified papers containing the trial and sentence of *Moritz*, he causes the Christian name to be erased and substitutes that of *Albert*. These witnesses of her supposed father's guilt he shows to *Linda*,—and as the price of his own silence demands her hand. This scene—and that which follows, when the unfortunate maiden undergoes the reproaches of her irritated protector yet keeps the secret—are both powerfully and pathetically written. The villain of the piece for a while triumphs. But *Moritz* is at hand. Having caught a glimpse of *Rheinberg*, he dares all dangers to be on the spot and defeat his designs whatever they may be. Just as the marriage contract is about to be signed, he rushes in with full proof of *Rheinberg's* plans,—prevents at the sacrifice of his own life the consummation of his daughter's misery,—and dies, without betraying his parentage. This play abounds with fine writing:—but the imitation of German models is not to be mistaken. The interest has been too much elaborated; speeches and scenes are both too long,—and some of the situations are too painful. From the manner in which the whole is wrought, it is easy to see that the work has been a labour of love to the author:—but Mr. Bernard has loved "too well" rather than "wisely." About the middle of the second act the patience of the house was exhausted,—and it was due to Mr. Anderson's strenuous acting that the play was ultimately saved. Such, however, are its literary merits, that it is likely to win on critical estimation:—and when duly reduced, it may prove attractive to a general audience.

**NEW STRAND.**—A new piece, in one act, called 'Poor Cousin Walter,' was produced on Monday. It is the work of Mr. Simpson,—composed with considerable care and polish. It proceeds on the old point of a rich man being desirous of ascertaining from his lady-love whether her affection be towards his person or his wealth. *Philip* (Mr. Leigh Murray) pretends accordingly to be his poor cousin Walter:—one *Helen Buoyant* (Mrs. Stirling) being the object of his passion. But there is a real cousin Walter

—to whom the lady, mistaking him for *Philip*, volunteers, from generous motives, a revelation touching a forged will which made the real *Philip* the wrongful heir to property that was rightfully *Walter's*. The lady falls in love at first sight with *Walter*, the true,—who proves magnanimous and preserves his rival from shame by the destruction of the document that proves his crime.—The piece was well acted, and proved successful.

**MARYLEBONE.**—This theatre has been re-opened by Messrs. Kinloch and Stirling. Last Monday, Mr. Brooke performed *Othello*. He is announced as being engaged for twelve nights.

**MUSICAL AND DRAMATIC GOSSIP.**—Probably the largest audience hitherto attracted to 'Elijah' was the one yesterday week assembled in Exeter Hall by the *Sacred Harmonic Society*. The wise men of Leipzig may smile in their superior connoisseurship at our having installed Mendelssohn hard by Handel (and with none between the two) in right of this Oratorio; but their smiling will not reduce to a second-rate work what is a first-class poem,—what is more, the only one of its time. In England, at least, the attraction of 'Elijah' is likely to increase rather than to diminish. The choral and orchestral execution of this Oratorio, as might be expected, improves in proportion as it grows familiar.—Yesterday week, Miss C. Hayes was the principal *soprano*. This Lady's peculiar manner of singing, at best questionable in sentimental opera, leaves her without tone and firmness when the music is dignified and devotional,—when the *tempo* must be steady. We hoped that the days of dalliance with—not delivery of—sacred song and recitative were over,—and cannot see the manner revived without reproving it. Reproof is the more called for, since a score of years hence our successors may be required to accept these languors as the tradition of 'Elijah.' There are amateurs by the score who on the strength of some dear, dim reminiscences will not endure a word of common sense respecting Handel. There are excellent critics who lament, in print, as super-excellent, the *Ancient Concert* days when Mrs. ——— sighed and drawled through an *adagio* at the rate of seventeen quavers in one bar and seventy in another,—and when chorus-singers could not produce a *piano* had they even wished so to do. Of all composers under the sun, Mendelssohn was the very last to be patient with slackness of *tempo*.—We are as far as ever from being satisfied with the *Elijah* of Herr Formes. He knows the notes of his part better than he did; but he neither delivers his text with devotional feeling or poetical understanding, nor displays any increased vocal ability.

It would seem as if this week, in place of gossip, it was our duty to offer a homily on ill-based pretensions.—Signor Montemerli, the gentleman who appeared the other evening at *Her Majesty's Theatre* as Signor Lorenzo, has been given a Concert at Paris, in the announcement of which by way of puff preliminary were brought to bear the *encores*, recals, and newspaper tributes with which he was good-naturedly received in London. Though the secret and the value of such charlatany be known, there are still persons trusting enough to attach value to this coarse and childish self-praise: and we must therefore continue to call attention to such examples as they occur, for the sake of honest Art and modest artists,—and to remind the public how too easy an acquiescence in incompetence or incompleteness may be made to recoil upon its own head.

There is little other musical news from Paris of interest. The new opera by clever M. Ambroise Thomas, in which Madame Ugalde, M. Couderc, and M. Bataille are to have parts, bears no less audacious a title than 'A Summer Night's Dream.'—A M. Grignon (baritone) has appeared at the *Grand Opéra* in M. Flotow's poor 'L'Amé en Peine,' with some success.—What, by the way, has become of M. Flotow? We should be glad to think that he was improving his easily won popularity in the right way,—namely, by devising some new work really worthy of public favour.—Before we have done with the baritones and basses, we must express our regret that the proprietor of one of the most magnificent voices extant—of whom, therefore, much was

expected—seems resolved to disappoint expectation. This is M. Depassio, whom last year we heard at one of the *Conservatoire* Concerts. This gentleman subsequently went to Belgium, it was said by provincial practice to qualify himself for appearing in Paris, where a singer of his quality is eminently wanted:—the non-appearance of such an one having made the return of M. Levasseur to the *Grand Opéra* a positive necessity. With such an opening and such means, it is mortifying to read in the *Gazette Musicale* of a want of musical industry and progress so entire as to render the owner of this grand voice aforesaid not sufferable at Brussels. In the face of vexatious facts like this, which crowd about every one who looks out or listens for himself, we are again and again invited to sympathize in complaints of opportunities denied, rivalry opposing success, and theatrical managements unable to fulfil their promises! Honours in executive vocal art have of late years (we repeat) been too easily won: and hence an amount of arrogance and incompetence among the aspirants, which, if not coped with and reproofed as such, will end most disastrously for all concerned in Music, whether they be creative, executive, or administrative.

An English composer—Mr. Mitchell, who labours under the affliction of blindness—has just produced an opera at Brunswick, which is said to have pleased so much, that the work will be shortly, also, represented at Hamburg.

In relation to the Royal Exposition of 1851, a good example is about to be set by the management of Sadler's Wells Theatre. They have advertised their intention of instituting a benefit in its favour, under the patronage and presidency of the Duke of Cambridge. It is expected that the liberality of the management will be seconded by that of the performers giving their gratuitous services,—and hoped that the hint may be taken by other theatres. It is, indeed, for their own obvious interest to encourage the large scheme of Prince Albert,—since the influx of visitors to the metropolis which it will occasion next year must in all probability furnish an increased audience to all places of public entertainment.

Our contemporaries announce that a personation of 'King René's Daughter' in yet another version, has been successfully presented at Dublin by Miss Helen Faucit. Does the acceptance of so delicate and poetical a heroine—without the appealing virtue of nationality, without the *rouge* of what is called stage effect—say nothing by way of lesson and encouragement to those most suicidally conservative of all conservative monarchs in present danger of losing their thrones—those administrators most curiously afraid of experiment—yeapt "dramatic managers"? We hear from Paris of the success of M. de Lamartine's play 'Toussaint l'Ouverture,' just produced at the *Théâtre Porte-St. Martin*, with M. Frederic Lemaître in the principal character. Besides this—let the *ante-Henri-quinquists* turn pale at the news!—there are two five-act plays current on the story of our General 'Monk.'—Lastly, a new piece of Dumas and Maquet ware, entitled 'Urbain Grandier,' has just been represented at the *Théâtre Historique*.

#### MISCELLANEA

**The Amusements of the People.**—It is probable that nothing will ever root out from among the common people an innate love they have for dramatic entertainment in some form or other. It would be a very doubtful benefit to society, we think, if it could be rooted out. \* \* \* There is a range of imagination in most of us which no amount of steam-engines will satisfy,—and which The great exhibition-of-the-works-of-industry-of-all-nations itself will probably leave unappeased. The lower we go, the more natural it is that the best-relished provision for this should be found in dramatic entertainments, as at once the most obvious, the least troublesome, and the most real, of all escapes out of the literal world. Joe Whelks, of the New Cut, Lambeth, is not much of a reader, has no great store of books, no very commodious room to read in, no very decided inclination to read, and no power at all of presenting vividly before his mind's eye what he reads about. But, put Joe in the gallery of the Victoria Theatre,—show him doors and windows in the scene that will open and shut, and that people can get in and



out of,—tell him a story with these aids, and by the help of live men and women dressed up, confiding to him their innermost secrets, in voices audible half a mile off,—and Joe will unravel a story through all its entanglements, and sit there as long after midnight as you have anything left to show him. Accordingly, the theatres to which Mr. Whelks resorts, are always full; and whatever changes of fashion the drama knows elsewhere, it is always fashionable in the New Cut. \* \* We wish to disclaim any grave imputation on those who are concerned in ministering to the dramatic gratification of Mr. Whelks. Heavily taxed, wholly unassisted by the State, deserted by the gentry, and quite unrecognized as a means of public instruction, the higher English Drama has declined. Those who would live to please Mr. Whelks, must please Mr. Whelks to live. It is not the manager's province to hold the mirror up to nature, but to Mr. Whelks—the only person who acknowledges him. A few weeks ago, we went to one of Mr. Whelks's favourite theatres. \* \* The theatre was extremely full. The prices of admission were, to the boxes, a shilling,—to the pit, sixpence,—to the gallery, threepence. The gallery was of enormous dimensions (among the company, in the front row, we observed Mr. Whelks),—and overflowing with occupants. It required no close observation of the attentive faces, rising one above another to the very door in the roof, and squeezed and jammed in, regardless of all discomforts, even there, to impress a stranger with a sense of its being highly desirable to lose no possible chance of effecting any mental improvement in that great audience. The company in the pit were not very clean or sweet-savoured, but there were some good-humoured, young mechanics among them, with their wives. These were generally accompanied by "the baby," inasmuch that the pit was a perfect nursery. No effect made on the stage was so curious as the looking down on the quiet faces of these babies fast asleep, after looking up at the staring sea of heads in the gallery. There were a good many cold fried soles in the pit, besides; and a variety of flat stone bottles, of all portable sizes. The audience in the boxes was of much the same character (babies and fish excepted) as the audience in the pit. A private in the foot guards sat in the next box; and a personage who wore pins on his coat instead of buttons, and was in such a damp habit of living as to be quite mouldy, was our nearest neighbour. In several parts of the house we noticed some young pickpockets of our acquaintance; but as they were evidently there as private individuals, and not in their public capacity, we were little disturbed by their presence. For we consider the hours of idleness passed by this class of society as so much gain to society at large; and we do not join in a whimsical sort of lamentation that is generally made over them, when they are found to be unoccupied.—*Dickens's 'Household Words.'*

*The Culloden Monument.*—This monument has now progressed to some height; but the fund receives accessions so slowly, that the possibility is anticipated of seeing the monument stuck in a half-finished state, and so left soon to become a shapeless heap of rubbish;—not much to the credit of that enthusiasm out of which the proposal arose.—*Inverness Courier.*

*Rebuilding of the Temple of Jerusalem.*—It is stated in the *Berliner Allgemeine Kirchen Zeitung*, that the Jews have obtained a firman from the Porte, granting them permission to build a temple on Mount Zion. The projected edifice is, it is said, to equal Solomon's Temple in magnificence.

*The Late Dr. Potts.*—The inventor of the hydraulic pile-driving process, and other mechanical inventions, expired at his house in Buckingham Street, Strand, on the 23rd ult. Dr. Potts belonged originally to the medical profession; but by inclination, even from school-boy days, and while a class-fellow with the present Premier and the Duke of Bedford, he appears to have devoted himself to mechanical and engineering pursuits. His name, however, will be most closely associated for the future with the ingenious process for driving piles.—*Builder.*

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1171	1840	1200	1140 5 6	2340 5 6
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5,000	8 years	100 0 0	787 10 0	5,887 10 0
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**Burgo (De).—Officia Propria Sanctorum Hiberniæ,** 8vo. fine copy, morocco elegant, scarce, 2s. 2s. 1751

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\*\*\* The Author visited England, passing through Bristol, Reading, and Windsor, to London. The account of Ireland, also, is very curious; but it appears to have given much displeasure to his countrymen, as in the second volume are two letters by Carve, in English, in justification of himself.

**Carve (T.),** Lyra, sive Anacephalaosis Hibernica, 4to. fine copy, with all the plates, 6s. 16s. 6d. Lutzbach, 1686

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**O'Connor (Dr. Charles),** Rerum Hibernicarum Scriptores Veteres, plates, 4 vols. 4to. large paper, privately printed, at the expense of the late Duke of Buckingham, boards, uncut, very rare, 25s. Buckingham, 1814-26

\*\*\* The expense incurred by the late Duke of Buckingham for these four volumes exceeded three thousand pounds. They contain translations into Latin from the original Ibero-Celtic MSS. formerly in the Stowe collection.

**Conrius (F.),** Archiepiscopus Tuamensis, Peregrinus Jerichuntinus, hoc est, de Natura Humana feliciter instituta, infeliciter lapsa, miserabiliter vulnerata, misericorditer restaurata, 4to. fine copy, 1s. 1611

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**Harris's History of the Life and Reign of William III.,** folio, 2s. Dublin, 1749

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**Lombardi (P.)** De Regno Hiberniæ Sanctorum Insulæ Commentarius, 4to. vellum, 7s. 7s. Lovanii, 1632

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**Jones (Dr. Henry),** Remonstrance of divers Remarkable Passages concerning the Church and Kingdom of Ireland, recommended by Letters from the Lords Justices and Council of Ireland, 4to. morocco elegant, 2s. 2s. 1642

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**Ponci (J.)** Integer Philosophiæ cursus ad mentem Scoti, primum editus in Collegio Romano Fratrum Minorum Hibernorum, folio, 2s. 2s. 1649

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**PROFESSOR EDWARD FORBES, F.R.S.** will deliver a COURSE OF LECTURES ON BOTANY, for Ladies, at QUEEN'S COLLEGE, London, during the present Term. The Introductory Lecture will be given on Tuesday, the 23rd of April, 1850, at 4 o'clock, to which the admission will be by tickets, to be obtained at the College, 47, Harley-street, or at the office of the Governors Benevolent Institution, 32, Sackville-street.—Fee for the course, 11s. 6d.

**MARYLEBONE LITERARY AND SCIENTIFIC INSTITUTION**, Edwards-street, Portman-square.—On MONDAY EVENING NEXT, April 22, GEORGE DAWSON, Esq. A.M., will deliver the SECOND of TWO LECTURES ON THE INTERVIEWS OF REMARKABLE MEN. Commence at half-past eight o'clock. Members free, with the privilege of introducing a lady. Tickets to Non-Members, 1s. each. Subscription to the Institution Two Guineas per annum, payable yearly or half-yearly in advance. Members have the use of spacious and well-supplied Reading Rooms, the extensive Library for circulation, as well as free admission to the various Classes. Ladies may avail themselves of the advantages of the Library and Lectures on payment of 21s. per annum, or 10s. 6d. half-yearly.

**BOTANICAL SOCIETY OF LONDON.**—THE LIST OF DESIDERATA OF BRITISH PLANTS for 1850 is ready, and Botanists desirous of having a copy may obtain the same by written application to the Secretary, G. E. DENNES, Secretary, 20, Bedford-street, Covent-garden, 15th April, 1850.

**HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY OF LONDON.**—THE EXHIBITIONS OF FLOWERS, &c., in the Society's Garden, will take place on the following SATURDAYS, viz.: May 18, June 8, and July 18. Tickets, April 23, is the last day on which privileged tickets, at 3s. 6d. each, are issued to Fellows of the Society. Every Fellow is entitled to 24 such tickets, if paid for on or before that day.—21, Regent-street.

**ARCHITECTURAL PUBLICATION SOCIETY.**—The Committee invite parties experienced in subjects connected with ARCHITECTURE, whether as a Fine Art, Construction, or Archaeologically, to CONTRIBUTE ESSAYS OR PAPERS having reference thereto; accompanied with a note of the remuneration expected. Further particulars, and the Works already issued, may be seen on application to the Members of the Committee; or to the Honorary Secretary, WYATT PARWORTH, Esq., 14A, Great Marlborough-street.

**THE SHAKESPEARE SOCIETY.**—THE NINTH ANNUAL MEETING of this Society will be held on FRIDAY NEXT, the 26th, at the Rooms of the Royal Society of Literature, No. 4, St. Martin's-place, Trafalgar-square, when the attendance of Members is earnestly solicited. The Chair to be taken at Three o'clock precisely.—By order of the Council, F. G. TOMLINS, Secretary, 20, Piccadilly.

**ARTISTS' GENERAL BENEVOLENT INSTITUTION.** Incorporated by Royal Charter, 1842, under the immediate Protection of Her Most Excellent Majesty THE QUEEN. Patron, His Royal Highness PRINCE ALBERT, K.G.—The Nobility and Subscribers are respectfully informed that the THIRTY-FIFTH ANNIVERSARY DINNER of the Institution will take place in FREEMASON'S HALL, on SATURDAY, May 12th, when the Right Hon. SIR ROBERT PEEL, Bart. M.P., will take the Chair.

**SUFFOLK FINE ARTS ASSOCIATION.** The Right Hon. the LORD RENDLESHAM, M.P. President.

The Committee of this Association beg to announce to Artists that it is proposed to have a PUBLIC EXHIBITION at IPSWICH, in the month of August next, of Works in Painting, Sculpture, Architecture, Engraving, &c., the original productions of Artists and Amateurs connected with the Society. Further particulars will be announced in subsequent advertisements, and any information required may be obtained on application to R. M. PURVIS, Esq., Brook-street, Ipswich; or 34, Moor-gate-street, London.

**ROYAL MANCHESTER INSTITUTION.**—THE EXHIBITION OF MODERN PICTURES in OIL and WATER-COLOURS, SPECIMENS OF SCULPTURES and CASTS, and ARCHITECTURAL DESIGNS, will be opened the first week in July. Works may be sent so as to arrive not later than the 1st of June. The Council particularly request that no Artist will send more than four paintings, if being resolved that not more than that number by any one Artist shall be hung. Works of Art must be sent carriage paid by all persons except those who have received the Invitation Circular, and must be directed to the Hon. Secretary, Royal Institution, Manchester. GEO. WAREING OLMSTEAD, Hon. Sec.

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LONDON, SATURDAY, APRIL 20, 1850.

## REVIEWS

*The Fourth Estate: Contributions towards a History of Newspapers, and of the Liberty of the Press.* By F. Knight Hunt. 2 vols. Bogue.

**The Fourth Estate!**—This indeed is history "in little"—condensed to a paragraph—written in a title-page. What more remains to be said? "All else can be but leather and prunella—gossip and anecdote." If we except some few literary idlers—gentle and genial natures, affectionate and reverential—who cares about the birth and the beginning, the outer form, the accidents of fortune, the life, character and behaviour—when he has once penetrated the inner life, the living spirit—and comprehends it? Mr. Hunt, however, is a sort of Clarenceux or Norroy to this "Fourth Estate." His volumes contain the record of the birth and parentage of the personage in question, and giant though he be now, there are men and women too, who remember him when scarcely out of his swaddling clothes. Mr. Hunt is evidently of the number. He was certainly present "on Lammas-eve at night," and he babbles accordingly about the tetchy infancy of the youngster,—and honestly acknowledges that he had "wormwood" enough at starting to spoil the sweetest temper.

The periodical press was born but as yesterday. It struggled into manhood—and won for itself the power and the position which it now holds—won them by its own unaided merit. Mr. Hunt is of opinion that the first English newspaper was published so late as 1622.

"When the reign of James the First was drawing to a close; when Ben Jonson was poet laureate, and the personal friends of Shakspeare were lamenting his then recent death; when Cromwell was trading as a brewer at Huntingdon; when Milton was a youth of sixteen, just trying his pen at Latin verse, and Hampden a quiet country gentleman in Buckinghamshire; London was first solicited to patronize its first newspaper. There is now no reason to doubt that the puny ancestor of the myriads of broad sheets of our time was published in the metropolis in 1622, and that the most prominent of the ingenious speculators who offered the novelty to the world, was one Nathaniel Butter. His companions in the work appear to have been Nicolas Bourne, Thomas Archer, Nathaniel Newberry, William Sheppard, Bartholomew Downes and Edward Alde. All these different names appear in the imprints of the early numbers of the first newspaper—*THE WEEKLY NEWS*. What appears to be the earliest sheet bears date the 23rd of May (1622), and has the names of Bourne and Archer on the title; but as we proceed in the examination of the subject, we find that Butter becomes the most conspicuous of the set. He seems to have been the author and the writer, whilst the others were probably the publishers; and, with varying titles, and apparently with but indifferent success, his name is found connected with newspapers as late as the year 1640."

Butter's merit was simply the putting into type what he and others had been accustomed to supply in manuscript. Butter was professionally a News-letter writer, one of a class that undertook to forward to all who were able to indulge in such luxuries a periodical letter of news. Ben Jonson and Shirley have left us pleasant caricatures of these men; and of their manner of conducting business. But the poets could not laugh them out of existence: and, strange as it may appear, there were News-letter writers so late as the time of our fathers. Mr. Nichols has left the fact on record from personal knowledge; and traces of the fashion still remain in Ireland,—where newspapers exist

called 'Saunders's News-Letter' and 'The Belfast News-Letter.'

We, who have not volumes at our command, cannot pretend to trace, even in outline, the struggles of the early press,—which, in truth, were the struggles for English liberty. Mr. Hunt has, we think, dwelt too much at length on the well-known sufferings of Prynne and Bastwick and Burton and Lilburn. His special concern, notwithstanding the licence of his title-page, was the history of the periodical press; and Marchmont Needham for the Commonwealth, and Roger L'Estrange for the Restoration, would have allowed field enough for all that was essential to his history.

The publication of the Debates in Parliament was early thought of, long battled for,—and is now only tolerated, not sanctioned, and left at the mercy of the indiscreet, or the thoughtless; for any one member can exclude the reporters at his mere will and pleasure. This fight began early, and was long continued. The Long Parliament were troubled about it, and set up their *Licenses*—which brought out the *Areopagitica*. Cromwell and his Council, though willing to permit freedom enough in preaching, were less tolerant of printing. Still, the periodical press grew in strength and stature,—and reports appeared pretty regularly of the proceedings in Parliament. Then came the Restoration,—and the liberty of the press almost ceased even in name. It had not only to make itself heard through the small voice of a licenser, but to regulate its proceedings by Act of Parliament.

"The Star Chamber was gone beyond revival, and the Old Bailey became the court where sinners against the press laws were arraigned. The new statute soon captured a few victims, and a Tyburn audience was assembled to witness the execution of a troublesome printer. On an October night in 1663, the Licensor L'Estrange, having received secret information, set out on a search for illegal publications. He had with him a party of assistants, which included four persons, named Dickinson, Mabb, Wickham, and Story. These men were called up after midnight, and made their way by L'Estrange's directions to Cloth Fair. This had been Milton's hiding-place, when he had 'fall'n on evil days,' and here now lived another heterodox thinker: a printer named John Twyn, whose press had been betrayed to the authorities as one whence illegal thoughts were spread. When called on afterwards to give evidence as to what happened, Wickham described how he met Mr. L'Estrange near Twyn's house, and how they knocked at least half an hour before they got in; and how they listened, and heard some papers tumbling down, and heard a rattling above, before they went up. The door being opened by its unfortunate owner, Wickham was posted at the back door, whilst another stood in front, and the rest of the searchers went over the premises. Efforts had been made to destroy the offending sheets; the type had been broken up, and a portion of the publications had been cast into the next house. Enough, however, was found to support a charge. Twyn's apprentice was put into the witness box to give evidence against his master, and the judges were ready to coincide with Mr. Serjeant Morton, who appeared for the Crown, and declared Twyn's offence to be treason. The obnoxious book repeated the arguments often urged during the Commonwealth, 'that the execution of judgment and justice is as well the people's as the magistrate's duty; and, if the magistrates pervert judgment, the people are bound, by the law of God to execute judgment without them, and upon them.' In his defence, Twyn said, he had certainly printed the sheets; he thought it was mettle some stuff, but knew no hurt in it; that the copy had been brought him by one Calvert's maid servant, and that he had got forty shillings by printing it. He pleaded, moreover, in excuse, that he was poor, and had a family dependent on his labour for their bread. Such replies were vain, and the jury found him guilty.

'I humbly beg mercy,' cried Twyn, when this terrible word was pronounced. 'I humbly beg mercy; I am a poor man, and have three small children; I never read a word of it.'—'I'll tell you what you shall do,' responded the Chief Justice Hyde, to whom this plea for clemency was addressed, 'ask mercy of them that can give it: that is, of God and the King.'—'I humbly beseech you to intercede with His Majesty for mercy,' piteously exclaimed the condemned printer.—'Tie him up, executioner,' was the only reply; and Hyde proceeded to pronounce sentence. To read this sentence in the record of the trial makes the blood run cold. 'I speak it from my soul,' said this sycophant Chief Justice, 'I think we have the greatest happiness in the world in enjoying what we do under so gracious and good a King' (this was spoken of Charles the Second, be it remembered); 'yet you, Twyn, in the rancour of your heart thus to abuse him, deserve no mercy!' After some further expressions of loyalty, and a declaration that it was high time an example should be made to deter those who would avow the killing of kings, he ordered that Twyn should be drawn upon a hurdle to the place of execution; that he be hanged by the neck, and, being alive, that he should be cut down, and that his body be mutilated in a way which decency now forbids the very mention of; that his entrails should afterwards be taken out, and, you still living, the same to be burnt before your eyes; your head to be cut off, and your head and quarters to be disposed of, at the pleasure of the King's Majesty.'—'I humbly beseech your Lordship,' again cried Twyn in his agony, 'to remember my condition, and intercede for me.'—'I would not intercede,' replied sanguinary Judge Hyde in the cruelty of his heart, 'for my own father in this case, if he were alive.' And the unhappy printer was led back into Newgate, only to leave it for Tyburn; where the sentence was soon afterwards carried out; his head and the quarters of his body being set up to fester and rot, 'on Ludgate, Aldersgate, and the other gates of the city.'

As might have been foreseen, the refusal to permit open publication led to the surreptitious publication of occasional speeches and special debates:—in fact, to partial and one-sided reports.

"The information for these publications could only be afforded by members themselves, and no men would have run the risk of issuing such illegal works unless they felt deeply interested in acquainting the constituencies of the country with their doings. One of these unlicensed reports was made on the occasion of the debates and resolutions in the House of Lords in April and May, 1675, concerning the bill which proposed 'to prevent the dangers which may arise from persons disaffected to the Government.' The philosopher Locke wrote an abstract of this debate, at the suggestion of the Earl of Shaftsbury, and on information supplied by that nobleman. It was published in the form of *A Letter from a Person of Quality to his Friend in the Country*, and was widely circulated, to the great vexation of the Privy Council, who evinced their wrath by ordering the publication to be burnt by the hangman. The Earl of Shaftsbury himself subsequently wrote what may be called notices of Parliamentary proceedings. One of these for instance was issued under the title of *A Letter from a Parliament man to his Friend, concerning the Proceedings in the House of Commons*, this last Sessions begun the 13th of Oct. 1675. Nor must Andrew Marvel be forgotten in the list of those who described the daily proceedings in Parliament when the Government would not permit newspaper reports. That patriotic member, from 1660 to 1678, regularly transmitted to his constituents at Hull a faithful account of each day's proceedings. The Hon. Anchitell Gray, who for forty years was the representative of Derby, also contributed to our stock of Parliamentary information by a number of reports made between 1688 and 1694; and these records of what was done in the Legislature during the time when the newspapers were forbidden to notice the debates, now form a most important addition to our materials for judging of the history of the period."



James the Second of course did what was in his power to silence the press; but what the Proclamations of his father, backed by the Star Chamber, Cromwell and his Council, Acts of Parliament, fiscal regulations, the dulness of a licenser, Tyburn and the Old Bailey, could not effect,—was not left to be a crowning glory to the imbecility of a fanatic. The press, Mr. Macaulay says, was emancipated from the censorship soon after the Revolution, and the government immediately fell under the censorship of the press. If we admit this to be true, no thanks are due to William or his ministers; they had no more love for the press than their predecessors. The press had taken advantage of the balanced forces of the past and the present—and as both parties appealed to it, it had become powerful beyond control; but restrictive measures were attempted,—the licensing Act was revived. It turned out, it is true, to be a poor rickety, insufficient and inefficient thing, and died a natural death.—

"In 1744 [1694] Sir John Knight's speech in Parliament against the bill for naturalizing Protestant foreigners having been printed and circulated by the Tory party, it was ordered by the House, that the speech contained false and scandalous and seditious expressions and reflections, and that it be burnt by the hangman. The Sergeant-at-Arms attended in Palace Yard to see this order executed. At the end of the same year, a complaint was made to the House of Commons that a news-writer, named Dyer, had presumed to take notice of their proceedings in one of his productions, and an order was issued that this offender against the privileges of Parliament should be summoned by the Sergeant-at-Arms to attend at the sitting of the House; a command which he obeyed, and after an examination he acknowledged his offence, and was ordered to kneel at the bar, whilst the Speaker reprimanded him 'for his great presumption.' The Commons afterwards came to a resolution 'that no news-letter writers do, in their letters or other papers that they disperse, presume to intermeddle with the debates or any other proceedings of this House.' \* \*

"Meantime newspapers had gone on increasing. From the day of the first appearance of the 'Public Intelligencer' in 1661 till 1688 there had appeared altogether about seventy different journals. Some of these lived but a few numbers, others were more permanent; whilst one of them, the 'London Gazette,' remains still in existence. Within the four years next after 1688 no less than twenty-six papers were added to the list. The word Reform now found its way into the heading of a paper conducted by Dr. J. Wellwood, whose lucubrations graced the 'Mercurius Reformatus.' Other novelties also appeared; and the competition, begotten of increased supply, had the effect of tasking the inventive faculties of projectors. Thus, the 'Flying Post,' in 1695, suggests 'that if any gentleman has a mind to oblige his country friend or correspondent with this account of public affairs, he can have it for twopenny of J. Salisbury, at the Rising Sun in Cornhill, on a sheet of fine paper, half of which being blank, he may thereon write his own affairs, or the material news of the day.' Here we see an indication that the news-letter was not forgotten; and this is still further shown in the case of another journal published by Ichabod Dawks in 1696, which was printed in script, and on letter-paper to imitate an ordinary handwriting, a portion being left blank to be filled up by the purchaser before he despatched it by post."

The reign of Queen Anne, says Mr. Hunt, is memorable in the annals of the press. It was marked by a law giving copyright to authors,—the establishment of the first daily paper,—the appearance of distinguished literary men amongst our periodical writers,—the imposition of a stamp upon newspapers,—a tax on advertisements,—and perhaps we should add by the first editor beaten to death, like the gallant and unfortunate Tutchin, and by the honourable distinction conferred on that true-hearted Englishman, Daniel De Foe, in raising him—to the pillory. In brief, the specialities of Queen

Anne's reign, concentrated and sublimated after the fashion of Mr. Hunt's title-page, would lead the whig historian to call it, "The age of the Free Press." However this may be, the advent of a daily newspaper is not to be passed over in silence.—

"That was a step in advance reserved for the reign when the victories of Marlborough and Rooke, the political contests of Godolphin and Bolingbroke, and the writings of Addison, Pope, Prior, Congreve, Steele, and Swift created a mental activity in the nation which could not wait from week to week for its News. Hence the appearance of a morning Paper in 1709, under the title of the Daily Courant. When this was offered to the English people there were eighteen other Papers published in London, and among their titles we find a British Apollo, a Postman, an Evening Post, a General Postscript, and a City Intelligencer. The editor of the Evening Post of September 6, 1709, reminds the public that 'there must be three or four pounds a-year paid for written news,' &c.—that is to say, for the Newsletters, which thus seem to have been still competing with public prints,—whilst the Evening Post might be had for a much more moderate sum. Not only in frequency of appearance did the Newspapers of Queen Anne's day surpass their predecessors: they began to assume a loftier political position, and to take on a better outward shape—though still poor enough in this respect. The very earliest Newspapers only communicated intelligence without giving comment; subsequently, we find Papers giving political discussions without News. In the publications subsequent to 1700 we find these two elements of a journal more frequently united. Mr. Hallam is inclined to regard this as the period when what he terms 'regular Newspapers' began to obtain political importance in our constitutional system. \* \* The year that produced the first daily Newspaper in England, gave birth also to the first of a group of publications which had many of the characteristic features of Journals, and were at the time regarded as such, though they cannot now be called Newspapers. They appeared at stated intervals, occasionally gave intelligence of passing events, and comments on passing events, contained advertisements, and, when the stamp was imposed on Newspapers, suffered the infliction of that impost equally with their more political rivals. They were—The Tatler, started in 1709; the Spectator, in 1711; the Guardian, and the Englishman, in 1713; and the Freeholder, in 1715. These, though now seen in compact volumes, were originally issued in separate sheets, as their numbering indicates; and they contained, in addition to the elegantly-written papers now preserved, various items of News and advertisements, as the originals in the British Museum Library bear witness."

Persecutions followed as a matter of course.—

"When Anne had been ten years on the throne she sent a message to the Parliament, which, amongst other things, stated that great licence was taken 'in publishing false and scandalous libels, such as are a reproach to any Government;' and recommending the Parliament 'to find a remedy equal to the mischief.' In their reply the Commons promised to do their utmost to cure the 'abuse of the liberty of the press;' and accordingly, on the 12th of Feb., 1712, they unanimously resolved that they would on that day se'nnight, in a committee of the whole House, consider the difficult question. This promised consideration, nevertheless, was afterwards put off from time to time. In the month of April, however, the question came again before the House in a more serious shape. The editor of the Daily Courant (April 7, 1712), had ventured to print the Memorial of the States-General, and this being brought under the notice of Parliament, the publication was declared to be a scandalous reflection upon the resolutions of the House; and 'Mr. Hungerford having reported that Samuel Buckley, the writer and printer of the Daily Courant, had owned the having translated and printed the said Memorial,' the Sergeant-at-Arms was directed to take the delinquent into custody. On the following day, (April 12,) the House adopted some strong resolutions on the subject, but there was evidently an active party opposed to any direct attempt to 'cramp overmuch the liberty of the press,'

as Swift expresses it; and, instead of an open and direct law imposing the desired restraints, a more insidious and more fatal plan was carried out. 'Some members in the grand committee on ways and means,' says the Parliamentary historian, 'suggested a more effectual way for suppressing libels, viz., the laying a great duty on all Newspapers and pamphlets.' This was done. To allong act which relates to soap, paper, parchment, linens, silks, calicoes, lotteries, and other matters, a few short clauses were added, and the press was crippled at once. These clauses put a stamp-duty of a halfpenny on every printed half-sheet or less, the tax rising to a penny on a whole sheet; and imposed besides a duty of twelve-pence on every advertisement. These taxes have never been repealed, and under their increased amount, and consequently increased pressure, the Newspapers suffer at this hour. \* \* The effect of the halfpenny stamp upon the Papers of Queen Anne's day was remarkable. Many were immediately stopped; whilst several of the survivors were united into one publication. Amongst those that suffered 'under the pressure of the new tax must be included the Spectator—the price of which was necessarily increased. This change diminished its sale, and in the following year (1713) it was discontinued."

Here the reader has the secret motive for which the stamp duty was imposed—and is continued. The reader will observe that the government of that day, however intolerant, was at least just: it imposed a stamp duty of one halfpenny on every printed half-sheet, and a penny on a whole sheet,—whereas a modern Chancellor, with the fear of the Thunderer before his eyes, imposed a penny stamp on every half-sheet or sheet—a penny unconditionally—with leave to have a supplemental half-sheet for a halfpenny,—although, as he must have known, the Thunderer alone had any legitimate use even for his "broad sheet," and to all other journals the supplemental civility was mere moonshine.

We now approach that period when the periodical press was called on to do battle for its own life and for the liberties of the people, of whom it was the true representative. The Houses of Lords and Commons vied with each other in a determination, by any and every means, constitutional or unconstitutional, to stop all reports of their proceedings,—and persecution and imprisonment went on flourishingly. One man, as we have seen, was imprisoned by the House of Commons for having translated and published a Memorial of the States-General,—while, if our memory be correct, another was fined a hundred pounds and locked up in Newgate during the pleasure of the Lords for having ventured to announce that their Lordships had been pleased to pass a vote of thanks to Admiral Vernon, or some other of our gallant officers.

Under the Georges First and Second the Press was comparatively strong and the Government insecure. There was fortunately a "pretender" to the throne, and all parties endeavoured to conciliate the people and to avail themselves of the power of the press. From the accession of George the First a sort of outline of proceedings in Parliament had been published in Boyer's 'Register,' followed by reports, after a fashion, in the 'London Magazine' and the 'Gentleman's Magazine,'—in which Guthrie, Johnson, and Hawkesworth succeeded each other as reporters. In 1758, Johnson said, in the 'Idler'—

"No species of literary men has lately been so much multiplied as the writers of News. Not many years ago, the nation was content with one Gazette, but now we have in the metropolis papers for every morning and every evening."

On the accession of George the Third the press was forthwith appealed to. Dodington notes in his Diary, Dec. 20, 1760,—"Lord Bute called on me, and we had much talk about setting up a paper." Many papers were set



up,—the 'Briton' taking the lead; followed on the very next Saturday by the world-famous 'North Briton,' which in about a twelvemonth drove the ministerial hireling from the field. Then followed the great battle about "General Warrants;" and a glorious triumph was won for the people by the press, and by the persevering resolution and indomitable courage of our man. The Press, now conscious of its power, resolved to take up the sword against the unconstitutional privileges claimed by the House of Commons,—to "screw its courage to the sticking place,"—to report the Debates,—and abide the issue. The printers appear to have stood in more awe of the Lords, or to have thought that one battle at a time was enough. It is not impossible, indeed, that in those early days—early days, and yet not a century since!—the pomp and paraphernalia and solemnity of the scene—for the Lords assembled in their robes,—the occasional presence of Majesty,—the mystery of a committal to "the black rod,"—and, above all, the unreasoning, irresponsible folly of Lord Marchmont and others, made the printers somewhat afraid of the House of Lords. But the House of Commons was the people's house,—the members were responsible to the people,—and the Middlesex election must have satisfied the dullest of members not only that the people were possessed of power, but that they were resolved to exercise it. Encouraged by Wilkes, Townsend, Oliver, Tooke and others,—out they came with their reports. The issue is well known. The printers were ordered to attend the house,—and refused: and the Speaker issued his warrant for their apprehension. Miller, the first captured, was taken before Alderman Wilkes at Guildhall; who not only discharged the printer, but bound him over to prosecute the messenger for an assault, and sent notice to the Secretary of State of his having done so. When Thompson was seized, he was taken before Alderman Oliver, and discharged. The following is from 'The Annual Register,'—

“The printer of the London Evening Post was apprehended in his own house by a messenger of the House of Commons, March 15th. Whereupon he sent immediately for a constable, and the Lord Mayor being ill of the gout, they were carried before him to the Mansion House, where the Aldermen Wilkes and Oliver then were. The deputy Sergeant-at-Arms also attended, and demanded, in the name of the Speaker, that both the messenger and the printer should be delivered up to him. This was refused by the Lord Mayor, who asked for what crime, and upon what authority the messenger had arrested the printer? Who answered, that he had done it by warrant from the Speaker. I was then asked if it had been backed by a city magistrate? which being answered in the negative, the warrant was demanded, and, after much altercation, produced; and its invalidity being argued by the printer’s counsel, the three magistrates present discharged him from confinement. His complaint for an assault and false imprisonment being then heard, and the facts proved and admitted, the messenger was asked for bail, which the Sergeant having refused to comply with, a warrant for his commitment to prison was made out, and signed by the Lord Mayor and the two aldermen: as soon as it was executed, the Sergeant then consented to the giving of bail, which was admitted.”

The Lord Mayor and Aldermen Oliver and Townsend as members of parliament—they would not admit Wilkes to be a member—were brought under the censure of the House, and committed to the Tower. On the prorogation, the Mayor and Aldermen left the Tower as a matter of course.—

"It was a triumph for the popular party at the time, but the rejoicings which greeted the released Mayor on his return to the Mansion-house, were but slight evidences of the achievement for liberty com-

pared with the enduring testimonies that have subsisted to this day. *The debates have been printed ever since.* The Parliament made no formal concession of leave; but they have never since dared to deny the right of the people to a knowledge of the proceedings of their representatives."

There is more of like pleasant anecdote in these volumes : — particularly relating to the late history of the Press and to those connected with it.

*The Initials: a Novel.* 3 vols. Bentley.

UNSEDUCT and undaunted by the preliminary paragraphs which protested much in favour of this novel, we pronounce 'The Initials' to be one of those special and individual tales the coming of which is pleasantly welcome in days of dearth like these. The writer (said, if we mistake not, to be a lady,) knows well the scenery, subject, and manners here taken in hand. No better humoured or less caricatured picture of domestic life in South Germany has been executed by English pencil. It is true that those "restless souls" who are

Sated of home, of wife and children tired,

may deprecate the impression left by it on the mind of the reader; it is more true still that Mrs. Grundy and Mrs. Ellis will be apt to hold up their matronly hands and eyes at the revelations made of "female development" in a respectable Munich family. But those who neither consider every oracle perfection simply because it is uttered in Goethe's language, nor flout every usage with their "*anathema!*" because it breaks the stay-laces of our extreme propriety of observance, cannot but be entertained by so truthful a reflection of a state of society (probably already irrevocably upturned) a little quaint, rather homely, very sentimental,—in which feelings and furniture, the art of love and the art of cookery, how to say fine things and how to do bold ones, were jumbled in a confusion curious to the eyes of Englishwomen who love order and of Englishmen disposed to hold that—

A woman's loveliest station is retreat.

The story runs as follows:—A young Englishman, one Mr. Hamilton, sent abroad to cultivate “the tongues,” is thrown by a whimsical mistake into the family of Herr and Madame Rosenberg. These good people reside in Munich and have two families,—since the Herr had been twice married, and by his first wife had become the proud parent of two fair daughters—Hildegarde and Crescenz (for Crescentia). The former is represented as proud-spirited and great-souled,—a maiden of forcible character and rather haughty temper. Crescenz has a heart large enough to lodge and tender enough to board every possible wearer of doublet and hose who can whisper flattering nonsense into her ear,—such whispers being all the more welcome if they be breathed by a young Englishman with expectations. The main interest of ‘The Initials’—diversified by little episodes and great rivalries—lies in the love-making and heart-aching which go on among these three: and truly the misunderstandings, explanations, confessions, and stolen interviews in strange places, which take place among a leash of “fair and honest” people, furnish as whimsical a commentary upon the different meanings attached to the word “modesty” in different countries as could be cited. We have always admired the stately and public wooing of *Harriet Byron* by *Sir Charles Grandison*, but that was a positive minuet of amatory decorum as compared with this waltz of pleasant freedoms. English ladies thus apprised of the expansiveness permitted in unexceptionable German circles having boarders, need not henceforth wonder that strong-minded “strug-

glers" for popularity, like Mdlle. Bolte, Mdlle. Lewald, and Madame Mundt, find an English home a positive ice-house, in which they fancy that so low a temperature cannot exist without a great deal of corruption being necessarily frozen up for the first thaw to let loose. After the above, to avoid all possible mistake, we must seriously say that this novel, wondrous as its incidents will appear to *Miss Graveyards*, does not contain one single scene which might not be read aloud to "*Miss Pinkerton's* young ladies," ranged in discreet row under the four eyes of Propriety and Tact.

We have to choose from half a score of pictures from the life in proof of the above,—but one will suffice. Early in the tale the “gushing” Crescenz, who has been long “laid out” for a Major Stultz, makes an open and tearful proffer of her heart to Mr. Hamilton,—who in a thankful and gentlemanly manner declines the same. Hildegard and he have entertained a most animated dislike for each other, the issue of which no one can doubt; and poor Crescenz, after sundry other little attempts to

lure her tercel gentle back again,

finding the Englishman beyond her reach, puts up with the Bavarian:—all these people, be it noted, having been perpetually thrown together, and having continued on good terms with each other. Nothing more is needed to explain the following scene.—

"A long pause ensued. Hildegarde began to arrange the cups and saucers on a tray, until Hamilton, without looking up, asked her if she could remember the very time when her opinion of him had changed.—'Perfectly; it was the night of Crescenz' quarrel with Major Stultz. Your explanations by moonlight in our room were upright and honourable.'—'And you forgave my having flirted with her at Seon?'—'Yes; and I forgive your having tried to do the same with me here.'—'The case is totally different,' began Hamilton.—'There is some difference, I allow,' said Hildegarde, 'you warned me so well, that it would have been inexcusable my not understanding you—besides, I had the advantage of hearing from Count Zedwitz that you considered yourself at liberty to act as you pleased, after having so fairly warned me.'—'Zedwitz's love for you made him forget his friendship for me altogether,' said Hamilton, with some irritation.—'I do not blame your conduct to me,' said Hildegarde, 'you wanted to improve yourself in German, and found quarrelling or flirting with me the most exciting method. I have profited by your society, also, for I have not only learned to pronounce English, but,' she added, with an arch smile, 'I begin to understand something of the art of flirting, too, of which I do assure you I knew nothing when our acquaintance began.'—'Oh, do not say that,' cried Hamilton, 'you are only joking, I am sure, for you have no inclination that way, but your sister Crescenz.'—'My sister Crescenz knew nothing of your propensities that way at Seon, and, therefore, I blame your conduct towards her. Your love, if you ever felt any, was pardonable; people cannot help that, I believe—but your endeavours to make her dislike Major Stultz were quite unpardonable.'—'I acknowledge it,' said Hamilton, gravely, 'and regret it.'—'That fault you were able in some measure to repair,' continued Hildegarde, 'but perhaps you are not aware that you have been the cause of frequent altercations between me and my sister—and that almost total estrangement has taken place between us in consequence.'—'And is that my fault, too?' asked Hamilton.—'I don't know,' she replied, sorrowfully. 'Before we became acquainted with you, we never had the most trifling difference of opinion—and now we never think alike, and all confidence is at an end!'—'You take the matter too seriously,' said Hamilton, 'I am convinced your sister is not aware of any estrangement.'—'I am afraid you are mistaken,' began Hildegarde, but at this moment Crescenz entered the room, she was dressed to go out, and asked her sister to accompany her. 'Let us be off,' said Hildegarde; 'we have no more time to lose.'—'May I go with you?' asked



Hamilton.—"N—o, I rather think not," replied Hildegard.—"But he may come for us in an hour or so," said Crescenz, nodding to him with a smile.—"Tell me where I shall find you." Crescenz coloured and hesitated.—"In—in my—in the—in Major Stultz's apartments."—"We are going to arrange the furniture," said Hildegard, closing the door. The hour had scarcely half elapsed, when Hamilton found himself again with the two sisters; he was without ceremony desired to make himself useful, and immediately employed in assisting to arrange a press which was to be filled with linen—afterwards the chairs and tables were moved about in all directions, the *étagère* admired, and finally they adjourned to the kitchen, where Crescenz, with amusing exultation, exhibited, one by one, her culinary utensils to Hamilton, explaining their uses, and assuring him that though her mother intended to give her Walburg as servant, she was determined to cook everything herself. While she was yet speaking, old Hans came to say she was expected home—they were to dine earlier than usual, and the hair-dresser was expected before two o'clock. She became very pale, and after having dismissed him, sat down on a little wooden stool and began to cry. Hildegard silently made a sign to Hamilton to leave them, and greatly wondering at the sudden change, he walked back to the drawing-room.

"On glancing round at the furniture which Crescenz considered so splendid, he could not help smiling at the frugality of her taste. Was he to be envied for his more lavish ideas? Assuredly not. Everything in this world, from the diamond to the first thing beyond the absolute necessities of life, is valued fictitiously. The actual worth depends on the mind of the possessor, and is regulated, in civilized countries, by unconsciously made comparisons—the mental effort losing itself in the result. To Crescenz, the thin white muslin curtains were quite as desirable, even on a cold day in February, as to Hamilton the richest silk—the yellow sofa, with its hard stuffed cushions and perpendicular sides, was intended to be a seat of honour for a guest, and was not adapted for reclining—even Hamilton must have failed in discovering a posture of repose upon it, and he had a most decided talent for making himself comfortable. The six chairs had long thin legs, but the wood which had been spared on the legs had been conscientiously bestowed on the backs, which were tastefully formed to represent hearts. A table, two chests of drawers, and the *étagère* completed the furniture of the room. As Hamilton stood before the latter trying to admire the cups, saucers, glasses, and bronze candlesticks arranged upon it and reflected in the looking-glasses which for that purpose formed the back, Hildegard and her sister entered: Crescenz, with the traces of recent tears on her face, nevertheless, looked complacently around her; for the twentieth time arranged the folds of the curtains, dusted the tables with her handkerchief, and then led the way down stairs. At five o'clock, a party of about sixteen or eighteen persons, assembled in the private chapel of the Brauen church to witness the marriage of Major Stultz and Crescenz Rosenberg. The bride shed no tears, she looked very pretty and very shy—the bridegroom rather stouter and redder than usual. Madame Rosenberg openly expressed her satisfaction, and hoped the day was not far distant when she should be in the same place, and for the same purpose, on Hildegard's account. Hildegard was pale and silent, and Mr. Rosenberg alone showed that he was endeavouring to control his emotion. On their return home, they found the rooms lighted, and supper prepared under the superintendence of Madame Lustig. They spent three hours at table, and then they danced, and then they ate, and then they danced again until past midnight, when to conclude the festivity, punch was made. Let it not be supposed, that this was as in England, a simple mixture of water, sugar, and Cognac, or rum. In Germany, it is a complicated business, and notwithstanding the previous preparations of Madame Lustig, Madame Rosenberg and three or four matrons accompanied her to the kitchen to assist in the brewing. Each had a different receipt—and a separation of the parties became absolutely necessary, as one proposed using black, another green tea, for the mixture, while the others were for rice water or wine. Hamilton, who had

become a sort of authority in the house on all subjects, was consulted, but on his venturing to suggest pure water, Madame Rosenberg laughingly pushed him towards the drawing-room, saying, it was evident he knew nothing about the matter, he might dance until the punch was ready! Most excellent, it proved to be, however concocted, when at length Madame Rosenberg appeared with a soup-tureen full, and dispensed it ladlewise to the surrounding company, who then crowded round Major Stultz and Crescenz, in order to clink their glasses, and partake of a colossal sponge cake which the latter distributed in ample portions. A short time afterwards, old Hans announced 'The carriage for Miss Crescenz,' and she retired with evident reluctance to put on her shawl. The whole company prepared to leave at the same time, and were soon altogether in the corridor. Crescenz embraced her stepmother, and somewhat formally thanked her for her kindness and generosity. She held out her hand to Hamilton, and then threw herself into her sister's arms and burst into tears. 'Come, come, Crescenz,' cried her father, with an attempt at gaiety he was far from feeling: 'this will never do—you are taking leave as if seas and not streets were to separate us. Come,' and he drew her arm within his, and led her down stairs. The others followed, all but Hildegard, and after a moment's hesitation, Hamilton. They returned to the deserted drawing-room, where Hildegard threw open the window, and leaned out. They soon heard Crescenz's voice saying cheerfully, 'Good night, Lina—good night, Papa—good night, Hildegard.' 'Good night,' answered her sister, from the window, and the carriage drove off. 'Well, have we not spent a merry evening?' cried Madame Rosenberg, triumphantly, as she almost breathlessly entered the room a few minutes afterwards. 'This has been a gay wedding after all, you see, Franz.' 'It has,' he answered, sinking dejectedly on the sofa; 'I am quite provoked with myself for feeling so low spirited. I believe I am not well.' 'Ah, bah,' cried his wife, laughing, 'if you had been ill, you could not have supped as you have done! Perhaps, however, you have eaten too much fish, or turkey, or ham? At all events I am sure you are tired and sleepy, so you may go to bed, while we put everything in order again.' Thus endeth a wooing!

No less curious to the "British fair" will seem the machinery by which the *Beatrice* of the novel is at last brought down from the altitudes of unselfish reserve and disdain into the land of matrimony and easy fortunes. The author displays the true power of a novelist in the scenes at and after the Carnival ball; besides, as we have said, being familiar with the coarse cookery, the *deshabille*, and the gossip of Munich life,—also with the better sights and sounds of hill and forest to be enjoyed in the purer air of the Tyrol.—Every now and then we meet with readers of limited tastes who, being themselves but partially imaginative, can endure no realities in fiction,—who find Miss Austen tedious and Fredrika Bremer twaddling, and who must have a dash of romance and fine language ere their attention can be engaged or caged. To such persons as these, and to another class of our countrymen—those we mean who have made up their minds as to the beauty of German life and manners without having lived in the country,—we do not recommend 'The Initials.' Those will find it prosy,—these arraign it for unfairness. But we are convinced that the novel must please all who love character in persons lowlier than *Antonys* and *Cleopatras*, and all who have any unbiassed curiosity to know how the *Carls* delve and the *Lottes* spin among our "cousins German."

*The Geography of Great Britain.* By George Long, M.A. and G. R. Porter, Esq. Part I. *England and Wales.* With a supplementary body of Statistics to the Year 1850. By Hyde Clarke, Esq. Baldwin.

This publication, as is pretty well known, formed part of the series of works issued by

the Society for the Diffusion of Useful Knowledge, and in its original form the labours of Mr. Long and Mr. Porter were adequately appreciated. The only new feature of the present volume is the addition of fifty pages of figures, by Mr. Hyde Clarke, intended to bring down the contents of the book to the present year. We are sorry to say, that either the impatience or the instructions of Mr. Clarke have led him to perform his part of the compilation in a manner by no means satisfactory. With that section of his paper which treats of the progress of Population some little pains have been taken, and in it some small attempt at selection and classification of the facts is perceptible. But in the subsequent parts of the new chapter this expenditure of labour and skill has been quite abandoned; or at least the fruits of it are not seen, and the reader is left to flounder on as he best may, through long paragraphs composed of lines of figures collated together in many cases with a total disregard of order and perspicuity. We refer particularly to pages 512 to 518. So long as statistics are to be employed in the manner adopted by Mr. Clarke, it can excite no surprise that any appeal to evidence of that nature is regarded with repugnance by people of ordinary habits and feelings. If it is not quite too late to effect an alteration, the publishers would certainly consult their own interests, and materially promote the circulation of an otherwise useful volume, by taking steps to procure a better fulfilment of the promise on the title-page of a supplementary body of statistics to the year 1850. Such a supplement would be eminently useful if well done; and in the compass of fifty pages there is space enough for something better than a sketch,—general without being perspicuous, and particular without being plain.

*Report of the Commissioners appointed to inquire into the Constitution and Government of the British Museum; with Minutes of Evidence.*

[Third Notice.]

WHEN the Commission to inquire into the constitution and management of the British Museum was first appointed, a practice arose, which we considered as conveying an unjust imputation—of calling it "Mr. Panizzi's Commission." We were willing to think that the grievances, whether real or imaginary, of an individual officer of the establishment would hardly have been sufficient to bring into being a Government Commission of Inquiry,—and that the saying was a merely querulous expression, having its origin in the unseemly quarrels that still continue to distract the Museum, and in the known influence of Mr. Panizzi with the former frequenters of Holland House. The characters of the nobleman and gentlemen constituting the Commission strengthened our belief that the great cause of the Catalogue was to have a fair trial,—and that there would be an earnest endeavour on all sides to throw off preconceived notions in favour of this or of that system or party. We must say that our expectations have been disappointed:—and looking at all the proceedings of this Commission and at the result, we feel entitled now to affirm that the leading members of the Commission have been Mr. Panizzi's friends beforehand and his partisans throughout. The real question at issue is, whether the public shall have the practical Catalogue of the national books which they have so long demanded, without which the books are to a great extent withdrawn from their use, and for which their own money has been voted,—or whether Mr. Panizzi shall be allowed with the funds so assigned, under the original pretence of executing the first design, to do another work,



which will, there can be no doubt, yield to himself a large amount of personal fame? It is Mr. Panizzi against the great body of the students of England. Now, in the midst of a certain apparent candour at every examination, inferring readiness to listen to complaints of magnitude and meaning, and to objections, however trivial or absurd—it is impossible for the readers of these Minutes not to feel that there is in all the leading questions, a seeking to put Mr. Panizzi in the best possible light,—an under-current of endeavour to lead the evidence to a prejudiced conclusion on the part of the Commissioners. We have already alluded to the unfairness alleged to have been evinced in the permission given to Mr. Panizzi to be present at the examination of all the witnesses,—in sanctioning his handing up written questions to so skilful a cross-questioner as his friend the Lord Advocate,—and above all in permitting his comment on the evidence, at times in a way peculiarly uncalled for,—while every witness not in the Museum or on the Commission was shut out from hearing this one witness whom the Commissioners so delighted to honour. When we first stated this allegation against the Commissioners, we distinctly refused to adopt it for ourselves,—and put it forward (as it was our duty to all parties, to do) for the contradiction of any whom it might concern, if contradiction could be given. As between that time and this, the charge has been more than once repeated, and never denied, we feel that we are entitled now to assume it as one of our complaints against the doings of this Commission. We have too high a sense of the independence of the Chairman (the Earl of Ellesmere), to suppose that he would willingly lend himself to any proceeding which he felt to be unfair—but his Lordship has been so long and seriously haunted by an idle fear of an invasion of foreigners, that it takes but one foreigner, it should seem, to throw him off the balance of good sense and well meaning that usually characterizes him.—We have no ground of quarrel with Mr. Panizzi irrespective of the Catalogue. He has been a useful servant of the Museum; has added largely and importantly to the riches of the Library, and has increased certain facilities afforded to readers. He is wrong on one point—on which we have no doubt, nevertheless, that he may think himself right:—and that is, the Catalogue.

Mr. Panizzi's great object, we have said, is to compile a Catalogue which will redound to his own fame—the great object of the public is to obtain a Catalogue at once which will facilitate their researches. Unfortunately, Mr. Panizzi's pursuit of fame is a long chase, in the result of which the present generation can be but slenderly interested. The public cannot afford to contribute the reading of a generation or two towards Mr. Panizzi's reputation,—which is also to cost it a good deal of money. Neither can we men of to-day afford to give up our rights, and probably our children's, to a remote posterity. Let future generations add to our Catalogue,—as we would wish to add to the printed Catalogue of 1819. Mr. Panizzi says, "No—I cannot take the Catalogue of 1819 as any instalment or foundation of my own. Messrs. Ellis and Baber worked on the rules of common sense—I have framed ninety-one rules which my staff must obey. They are not to think out of the ninety-one rules." To this the public replies, that, though the rules are generally good, there are one or two very foolish ones amongst them,—that by the testimony of Mr. Panizzi's own witnesses one fifth of the time of the assistants employed on the Catalogue is occupied by the rules as to anonymous publications,—that titles entered at full length, though attended with advantages,

are accompanied with a preponderance of disadvantages,—that a reader should find Prynne's 'Histrio-Mastix' in the Catalogue without the aid of its enormously long title-page,—that the invariable classification of anonymous works under the first substantive is playing at hide-and-seek with a very large class of books, and playing it absurdly,—and that the rule of common sense in the classification of such works is more important to be observed than any rule which either Barbier or Audiffredi has laid down, or which Mr. Panizzi may think it advisable to adopt. We are for the public on all these issues. We confidently trust that Mr. Panizzi will yet be forced to lay aside his ponderous manuscript Catalogue, and compelled to undertake a printed *finding* Catalogue for the benefit of that public. Museum work has hitherto moved slowly. Mr. Holmes has been twelve years "pottering" over a Catalogue of the maps in the Museum.—Of what advantage can it be to continue from year to year expending sometimes 10,000*l.* and sometimes 5,000*l.* in additions to the Library, when our new purchases, like our copyright acquisitions, are only adding to the uncatalogued masses already, for want of cataloguing, of little public use?

This Commission, whose Report is "a heavy blow and sore discouragement" to literature, was appointed with the view of ascertaining in what manner the British Museum "may be made most effective for the advancement of literature, science and the arts." What more "effective" method of advancing literature as regards the British Museum can be pointed out than that of enabling persons to become acquainted with the contents of its Library? There are between thirty and forty thousand readers at the Museum (for such is the number possessing tickets of admission or right of entry) actually excluded from the full advantages of the Library, because Mr. Panizzi has chosen to break his engagement with the Trustees and to fetter himself absolutely with rules that merit only to be occasionally observed. That any rules should be allowed to over-ride common sense in a Catalogue meant for a common-sense people, is too provoking. When the very compiler of the Catalogue himself has a difficulty in remembering, and still greater in observing, his own ninety-one rules, how is it to be expected that the thirty-thousand readers will attend to them?

It is a great mistake to suppose (as some have done) that the British Museum Library was established for the benefit of London and Londoners. It is a National Library in every sense of the word; and belongs as much to the inhabitants of Edinburgh and Dublin, Bristol, Norwich and York, as to the favoured city in which it has been established. In what way, then, is it to be made available to the British public? A Manuscript Catalogue, of which there will be but one copy, can be of very little use without the walls of the Museum. It is true, the Commissioners recommend the appointment of a kind of Correspondence Clerk, to live in the Museum, and to answer the queries of correspondents who may choose to write to him for the purpose of learning whether the Museum has or has not a certain publication. But how many works are there in existence of which the best informed readers have never heard? Dr. Maitland's brief Lambeth Library Catalogue made known the existence of books illustrative of English literature, manners and customs of the reign of Queen Elizabeth of which Mr. Collier, who has given a long life to the subject, had never heard. He could not write for books which as far as his knowledge went had no existence,—which were actually brought into existence so far as he was concerned by Dr. Mait-

land's Catalogue. Mr. Carlyle derived a vast mass of valuable information, and we may even add correct views of the Cromwellian era, from the brief chronological Catalogue of the Thomson Collection; without which, as he candidly avows, he must have abandoned his Cromwell task at the Museum in something like despair. Mr. John Wilson Croker, in order to obtain full information of the resources of the British Museum in illustration of Pope (on an edition of whose works he is at present engaged), finds it requisite to have the whole of the publications which the Museum possesses on the subject arranged on a table (not in the Reading-Room, but in the Library) before him. For our own parts, we have been directed to many curious points in illustration of English history by possessing at home the printed Catalogue of the Harleian MSS.; and must do Mr. Panizzi the additional justice to add that his volume of letter A—which is before us while we write, and always near at hand—has made us acquainted with the existence of many ephemeral publications that are now of importance, as ephemeral publications for the most part are, where facts and the illustration of biography and history are concerned.

The printed octavo Catalogue, in seven volumes, of the year 1819 contains 110,000 entries. The Catalogue is good, without pretension. The compilers modestly endeavoured to be nothing more than useful;—wisely remembering that the drudgery of compilation, however diligent, would lead to but a barren reputation. Messrs. Ellis and Baber, however, effected a lasting benefit to the Museum and to English literature; and students of English history and English literature will remember their names with greater gratitude than they seem likely to have an opportunity of feeling for Mr. Panizzi's. Many improvements might be made, it is true, on the compilation of 1819. Mr. Panizzi would find 5,000 errors in the 110,000 entries; and we ourselves could point out a fair sprinkling of blunders and imperfections—errors such as must, we fear, be common to every catalogue of an extensive library. Messrs. Ellis and Baber, however, had a good work-day-world notion of necessary rules—what they attempted they achieved; and their labours still stand prominently out in the patched and piebald catalogue which has grown from seven octavo into sixty-seven folio volumes. It will not stand many more insertions, by Mr. Panizzi's own showing. It is now much in the condition of the Highlander's gun, which required, to make it as good as new, only a new stock, a new lock and a new barrel.

Unless Mr. Panizzi is willing to undertake and complete a "compendious and accurate" Printed Catalogue—or in other words, one shorter and simpler,—the Trustees should find a Librarian who will,—and, what is more, will fulfil his undertaking within a reasonably short time. We have certain "new and original" speculations of our own as to the best method of constructing a general catalogue, which we may submit for consideration when we shall have brought our remarks on the Report before us to a close; but failing their acceptance, we are inclined to agree with Lord Mahon and Mr. Cunningham, that it is advisable, under the present circumstances, to send the patched and piebald Catalogue to press,—making the MS. entries fall in their proper places with the printed entries. In any case, let us have some sort of Catalogue that will be of service to the present generation. We agree with Prof. De Morgan in a love of rules, so long as common sense is not interfered with; but, as we have already observed, some of Mr. Panizzi's rules are obvious violations of it. Too much



time has been spent on anonymous publications—the class of publications, Mr. Hallam observes, generally most worthless.

In his letter of defence, addressed to Lord Ellesmere, and printed in the suppressed Appendix (about which we trust some Member will ask a question in the House), Mr. Panizzi inquires what is to be done with a tract called, 'The State and Condition of our Taxes considered'? Could any common catalogue, it is answered, hesitate in entering it thus?—

"Taxes, the State and Condition of our, considered. 8vo. London, 1714."

In another place he asks what is to be done with 'The Duties, at this present time, on all Merchandize. 12mo. London, 1714,' and he is at a loss to decide whether the title should be entered under Duties or Merchandize. The answer is obvious,—that it should be under both; thus,—

"Duties, at this Present Time, on all Merchandize. 12mo. London, 1714."

"Merchandize, Duties, at this Present Time, on all. 12mo. London, 1714."

The real difficulty, it has been said with justice, is, to find a difficulty. Another stumbling-block mentioned in the same letter is—

"An authentic Narrative of the Campaign of 1815; comprising a circumstantial detail of the Battle of Waterloo. 8vo. London, 1815."

"Is the name Waterloo to be selected as the title?" inquires Mr. Panizzi. The answer is "Yes—if you are to have but one heading Waterloo is that heading;" thus—

"Waterloo, the Battle of, a circumstantial detail of, with an authentic Narrative of the Campaign of 1815. 8vo. London, 1815."

It is clear, from the difficulties enumerated, that Mr. Panizzi will not answer to Lord Auchinleck's description of Dr. Johnson—"a great genius born to grapple with whole libraries." It is his object, seemingly, to make, not to master, difficulties. Let us contrast Mr. Panizzi with Dr. Maitland. In the brief, but admirable and *cheap*, Catalogue of books in the Lambeth Library printed before 1600—we find—

"Ælfredi Res Gestæ. John Day, 1574. fol."

This work, thus briefly but sufficiently described in Dr. Maitland's Index, occupies *seven lines* in Mr. Panizzi's Catalogue.

"Apologie (An) for Sundrie Proceedings by Jurisdiction Ecclesiastical, Ch. Barker. Dep. 1593. 4to."

This work occupies *nine lines* in letter A of Mr. Panizzi's Catalogue.

"Arthur. The auncient Order, Societie, and Unitie laudable, of Prince Arthur, &c. Translated and collected by R. R., Jno. Wolfe. 1583. 4to."

This work occupies *eight lines* in letter A of Mr. Panizzi's Catalogue.

"Ascham (Roger), Epistolarum Familiarum Libri Tres. H. Binneman for Fr. Coldock. 1581. sm. 8vo."

This work occupies *eleven lines* in letter A of Mr. Panizzi's Catalogue.

Surely Dr. Maitland's entries are sufficient for all reasonable purposes of research. Any addition to such brief entries would be adding to bulk, and not to value. Letter A of Mr. Panizzi's Catalogue is a mistake:—and as Mr. Bruce has aptly called it, a mistake of a "magnificent" kind.

How many books on an average can be well and carefully catalogued in an hour? is a question which has occupied (properly enough) the attention of the Commission. Mr. Payne Collier, the Secretary to the Commission, and Mr. Panizzi, the hero of the Commission, are at variance on this point. Mr. Collier contends that 120 entries in a day of six hours' work is very easy labour:—whereas Mr. Panizzi observes,—

"At one time we had transcribers here who were paid by the entries which they copied; they were

paid a penny for each; it was merely transcribing from the titles which they had before them; and those transcribers could hardly reach one hundred and twenty titles, merely copying them,—and when they earned 10s. a day, they considered they had done the utmost that could be done."

This, it will be seen, bears on the question of how long the compilation of a Catalogue will take. Surely Mr. Panizzi's transcribers must have been a very heavy lumber-troop of writers, or the books that were placed before them must have had much longer titles than the usual run,—and what is more, longer, too, than it would be fitting to transcribe for a finding Catalogue. Men equal to their work would transcribe the finding titles of more than twenty books within the hour. Mr. Collier set to work and transcribed five-and-twenty with ease. But then, says Mr. Panizzi,—these five-and-twenty entries are full of errors. What Mr. Panizzi calls errors, are deviations from his own ninety-one rules:—whereas Mr. Collier's heads of titles were transcribed without any particular or intentional regard to Mr. Panizzi's rules. His object seems to have been, to supply a brief but accurate key to five-and twenty different books taken down from his own shelves just as they presented themselves, in any language that he understood. Mr. Collier's task does not appear to us any great prodigy of Herculean labour; he mentions the performance himself, in the language of the race-course, as "done at an easy canter." Mr. Panizzi thinks it something gigantic. What does he say, then, to the 250 descriptions a day, with prices added, well enough known to be the common occupation of more than one bookseller who publishes a catalogue by which he has to live? The publisher who does this supplies *finding* descriptions by which he *finds* purchasers. There are errors, doubtless, in some of his descriptions which would perhaps be unpardonable in a Museum Catalogue compiled more at leisure and by people who are expected to know better. Still, his descriptions are of service to others as well as to himself. He does single-handed what the Museum authorities have failed to do with a strong staff of assistants, and power to add to their number.—In fine, it is true perhaps that a Catalogue such as the Trustees themselves, on a former occasion, directed to be made—"the best alphabetical Catalogue, cross-references included, that can be given to the printer complete from A. to Z., by the 31st December 1844,"—might not establish the fame of the Keeper of the Printed Books,—it might not be as creditable as could be wished to the character of the institution; but still, it would be *useful*,—and far more creditable, it has been urged, than for the Museum to possess so admirable and extensive a library and nothing worthy of the name of a Catalogue to which the readers can refer. Let us not forget to bear in mind that many of Mr. Panizzi's assistants are kept constantly at work in retranscribing the MS. additions of the Reading Room Catalogue, so as to insert the more recent additions in alphabetical order,—that this is another growing evil,—and that the Trustees—or the Government rather—must deal with the Catalogue as thrifty parents are often obliged to do with their fast-growing children. There is no altering, or letting out, or inserting, that will answer now;—the needle and the shears have failed at last in making the old clothes

look amaisst as wool's the new.

It is time that the tailor should be called in, and the Library have a new Catalogue. The seven octavo volumes swelled and patched through a variety of stages into sixty-seven folio volumes, have done "yeoman's service,"—but they are worn out, and must retire.

We have, as we have said, some suggestions

of our own to offer on this subject:—but shall turn previously to other departments of the Report before us.

*Electric Telegraph Manipulation.* By Charles V. Walker. Knight & Sons.

THE present age will stand out in the history of the progress of Man as remarkable for the extraordinary character of its applications of abstract science. He has in former periods performed stupendous works:—wrought mountains into palaces and temples,—turned the course of rivers and built barriers against the ocean,—reared pyramids and constructed aqueducts; and he has in more modern times manufactured machines which readily obey his tyrant will and never weary at their task. He had not before, however, sought to subdue the subtle agencies of electricity and light; and if we except the mysterious power of the compass-needle,—of which through a long period the ocean wanderer has gladly availed himself—no application has been made of the all-potent force of magnetism. Electricity now carries our messages across the land,—light is active in painting portraits and places hallowed to our memories,—and in its peculiar state of polarization (as it is unfortunately called) it is employed to do the work of the chemical analyst, to aid the surveyor in measuring the depths of the ocean, and to indicate the march of time with the most unerring fidelity.

The little work before us is devoted to a complete explanation of the manipulation of the electric telegraph, and of the manner in which electricity and magnetism are applied to this instrument; and it has not often fallen to our lot to notice a manual which more completely fulfils all the required conditions of such a work. Mr. Walker is the superintendent of telegraphs to the South-Eastern Railway Company; and in this work he "furnishes sound information as to the uses we make of the wonderful invention of which we have become possessed"—particularly confining himself to the 180 miles of telegraph on this important line.

We shall not attempt to give anything like a description of the electric telegraph; but will rather refer all who are unacquainted with the principles involved to Mr. Walker's manual. There is much clearness in the descriptions given, even of those parts of the arrangement which are the most complicated; and throughout the style is easy, and from its variety exceedingly interesting. We cannot refrain from transferring to our pages a few of the anecdotes which are happily interwoven with this book of "the theory and plain instructions" of the electric telegraph.—

At Dover, an individual presented himself at the telegraph office, one afternoon, with a sum of money, and desired the clerk to send the *money itself, in propria forma*, up to London, by telegraph, to be forwarded to a certain banker's. The money was to take up a bill due that day, and there was no time to send it by train. He seemed perfectly surprised that it could not be sent.

At London, a servant in livery came to the office, heated and out of breath, with a small parcel to be sent by telegraph to a distant part of the country. It appears, he had instructions to send it by train; but he arrived just too late for the train; and as it was of consequence, he thought he should get out of his dilemma and expedite matters by adopting this course.

It may not be uninteresting to give the rate at which messages are usually worked. The following list is given by Mr. Walker as an actual account of eleven despatches worked from Dover to London, during the week ending August 4, 1849, giving the number of words in each despatch, and the rate per minute of their delivery.—

364 words	13½ words per minute.
166 "	8½ "
383 "	14½ "
447 "	17½ "
101 "	20½ "
288 "	17 "
274 "	15½ "
106 "	15½ "
102 "	12½ "
334 "	17½ "
73 "	18½ "

The following is an interesting illustration of the value of the Electric Telegraph as an agent for averting accidents.—

"On New Year's day, 1850, a catastrophe, which it is fearful to contemplate, was averted by the aid of the telegraph. A collision had occurred to an empty train at Gravesend; and the driver having leaped from his engine,



the latter started alone at full speed for London. Notice was immediately given by telegraph to London and other stations; and while the line was kept clear, an engine and other arrangements were prepared as a buttress to receive the runaway. The superintendent of the railway also started down the line on an engine; and on passing the runaway he reversed his engine and had it transferred at the next crossing to the up-line, so as to be in the rear of the fugitive; he then started in chase, and on overtaking the other he ran into it at speed, and the driver of the engine took possession of the fugitive, and all danger was at an end. Twelve stations were passed in safety: it passed Woolwich at fifteen miles an hour: it was within a couple of miles of London when it was arrested. Had its approach been unknown, the mere money value of the damage it would have caused might have equalled the cost of the whole line of telegraph.

Mr. Walker makes the following remarks on the rates of charges to the public for the use of the telegraph.—

"They are," he says, "based upon a rate of 1*l.* a mile for twenty words, *ss.* being the minimum charge. I am not disposed to think that any such reduction as could prudently be made in these rates would produce an adequate increase of telegraphic business. Where the mail service is so perfect as it is in this country, and the postal rates are so low, no reduction in our tariff could bring us into competition with the General Post-office, and take much from the latter bag. We have a separate existence: the electric telegraph is to do what the mail cannot; it is to distance the carrier-pigeon, to outstrip the wind, to strike the hour-glass from the hand of time, and level the boundaries of space. And so, while it may happen that matters are occasionally transacted by telegraph which could have been accomplished by ordinary modes, yet it must mainly be called into requisition when all other means fail—when in fact, service is required which it is physically impossible to accomplish otherwise. In a great commercial country like this, and in a country where social relations are so extensive, these emergencies are of hourly occurrence, and, as we learn from the despatches entrusted to us, are of the most varied character—could we raise the veil of secrecy which, by our compact with the public, we are bound to hold over the correspondence entrusted to us, we could set forth a volume of domestic anxieties, in fragments, which could scarcely be paralleled, inasmuch as it is more in times of pressing anxiety and of sudden emergency, as I have said, that the public invoke our aid, as they call in that of the physician in times of bodily ailment. These anxieties are sometimes of an amusing character; at other times are most painful. We have ordered a turbot and also a coffin; a dinner and a physician; a monthly nurse and a shooting jacket; a special engine and a chain cable; an officer's uniform and some Wenham Lake ice; a clergyman and a counsellor's wig; a royal standard and a hamper of wine; and so on. Passing over the black leather bag which some one every day appears to leave in some train, passengers have recovered luggage of the most miscellaneous character by means of the telegraph. In the trains have been left a pair of spectacles and a pig; an umbrella and Layard's 'Nineveh'; a purse and a barrel of oysters; a great coat and a baby; and boxes and trunks *et id genus omne* without number."

The above short extracts will serve to show that Mr. Walker's work includes in a pleasant combination the information and amusement which his very interesting subject yields.

#### OUR LIBRARY TABLE.

*Readings for Railways; or, Anecdotes and other short Stories.* By J. B. Syme.—For the edification of such as are able to read in a railway carriage here is a miscellany put forward as a volume of a library planned to supersede the shilling "novels and romances of very questionable tendency" which are supposed to exercise a pernicious influence from the platform of the railway station. "C. Gilpin," adds the advertisement, "looks with confidence to the support of all those who deem that time, even in a railway carriage is too valuable to be wasted, and solicits such to sanction this attempt," &c. &c. In itself there is little to object to in the selection, save that some of the verse is below mediocrity; but the manner of the production claims comment. Seeing that the publisher takes ground of such high moral pretension, we cannot help inquiring of him how far the equities, if not the rights, of literary property have been respected during the scissor-snipping process by which Mr. Syme has made up a book to Mr. Gilpin's order. We have often had to deprecate this short and easy method of trading on the brains of other men, by which the miscellanists get gain. But this was practised by unscrupulous persons. Nor are we the more reluctant to state this discrepancy for the consideration of all having tender consciences from observing other strange worldly practices here carried on. At p. 27 of these 'Readings' we find a puff as flagrant as ever Mechi or Morison or Moses commanded from poet or prosa. Two passages in these 'Readings' are announced as extracted from "works by Elihu Burritt, the celebrated American linguist and philanthropist, which were recently pub-

lished for the gifted author by C. Gilpin of London. These volumes, which sell at a shilling each, are composed of the most perfect intellectual efforts and finished moral essays which we have seen in the English language."—"Well roared, Lion!" The Magic Strop, duly sharpened on which an *albata* spoon becomes capable of performing the cushion feat of *Saladin's* scymetar—the seven-and-sixpenny box of pills (warranted not to lose virtue in warm climates) a dozen of which taken every morning before breakfast will insure to the patient the length of days of Louis Cornaro or the Countess of Desmond—the "*phonic*" or "*bolio*" or "*terio*" Paletot, Pallium, or other overcoat, which is to suffice for a train-full of railway travellers and which after the journey is done, can be converted into "an aristocratic garment eligible for the pit of the opera, where" &c. &c.—none of these wondrous wares, we say, have been thrust on the public with commendations more magnificent in their charlatanism than the above. Mr. Gilpin should have better respect for his own authors,—or, if not generally considerate, he should at least have let alone homely, hearty Elihu Burritt.

*The Forest and the Fortress: a Romance of the Nineteenth Century.* By Laura Jewry. 3 vols.—The mazes of this "Forest" are somewhat hard to thread—the walls of this "Fortress" not easy to scale,—in other words, though this romance of Hungarian life has merit, it is not so easy to read as could be wished. This, however, is not wholly the Lady's fault; not entirely, because her work is the work of a writer superficially rather than profoundly acquainted with her scenery and her subject. We could not help—while reading the adventures of Vanda the foundling, and Kara George, the strong and courageous chieftain, and Shirine, the beautiful "Eastern maiden of Belgrade," and Milan, the stalwart and tender-hearted peasant chief—and while "casting up" in our recollection other recent Hungarian fictions, tours and memoirs—glancing back towards the birth-times of historical romance in England when 'Thaddeus of Warsaw' and the 'Hungarian Brothers' were all in all to the generous and sentimental readers of fiction. What changes have since then passed over the whole world—including especially the domain of the Porters! The Irish national tales—the Scott Novels—the score of clever books which owed their origin to Spanish refugee-ism—have all in their turn passed—have not, however, all gone. If 'The Forest and the Fortress' had appeared at the commencement, not the close, of this epoch, it might have won a wide circle of readers—since its scenes are picturesquely treated, and its sentiment is not counterfeit. Miss Jewry, moreover, delineates her male characters better than some among the female romancers who never seem to get nearer the real images of a hero than did Madame Tussaud. But the tale, as one of the last of an exhausted line, cannot hope for a long life or a large audience.

[ADVERTISEMENT].—NOTES FROM NINEVEH, AND TRAVELS IN MESOPOTAMIA, ASSYRIA, AND SYRIA; with Remarks on the Chaldeans, Nestorians, Yezidees, &c. By the Rev. J. P. FLETCHER. 2 vols. post 8vo. (Immediately.)

"Thy shepherds slumber, O King of Assyria; thy nobles shall dwell in the dust; thy people is scattered upon the mountains, and no man gathereth them."—Nahum, iii. 18. Henry Colburn, Publisher, 13, Great Marlborough Street.

#### LIST OF NEW BOOKS.

'Ame's Flowers, their Moral Language and Poetry. 12mo. 1*s.* 6*d.* Ainsworth's Works, Vol. VII. 'St. James's,' *fc.* 1*s.* 6*d.* 1*s.* 6*d.* Bohn's Shilling Series, Vol. V. 'Mahomet's Successors,' 1*s.* 6*d.* 1*s.* 6*d.* Bremer's Novels, Vol. XIII. 'Diary,' 'The Bondmaid,' Vol. II. 1*s.* 6*d.* 1*s.* 6*d.* Christison's (J.) Complete Ready Reckoner, new ed. 12mo. 2*s.* 6*d.* 1*s.* 6*d.* Christison's (J.) Agricultural Tables, 9th ed. 12mo. 2*s.* 6*d.* 1*s.* 6*d.* Clergymen's Orphan, by J. Gregory, 1*s.* 6*d.* 1*s.* 6*d.* Copland (Dr. J.) On Nature of Palsy and Apoplexy, *cr.* 8vo. 10*s.* 6*d.* Cook's (Rev. F. C.) Acts of the Apostles, with Commentary, 8*s.* 6*d.* Cumming's "Our Father," Manual of Family Prayers, 3rd ed. *fc.* 3*s.* Cumming's Apocalyptic Sketches, 1st series, 11th ed. *fc.* 9*s.* 6*d.* Gubbins's (B. J.) New Latin and English Grammar, 12mo. 2*s.* 6*d.* Dale's Domestic Library, 4th ed. 10*s.* 6*d.* Family Chaplain, 4th ed. 12*s.* 6*d.* Drummond's (T. D. K.) Last Scenes in Life of Our Lord, 2nd ed. 6*s.* 6*d.* Ency. Metro. Vol. VIII. (Cox's Rev. F. A.) 'Sacred History,' 6*s.* 6*d.* Gordon (The Christian Philologist) Triumphant over Death, 4*s.* 6*d.* Gubbins's (B. J.) New Latin and English Grammar, 12mo. 2*s.* 6*d.* Halliwell's (J. O.) Archaic Dictionary, 2nd ed. 2 vols. 8vo. 1*s.* 1*s.* 6*d.* Hall's (W.) Roots of the Greek Language, 12mo. 5*s.* 6*d.* How to Win Love, by Author of 'Michael the Miner,' 2nd ed. 2*s.* 6*d.* Hunt's (F. K.) Fourth Estate, History of the Press, 2 vols. 1*s.* 1*s.* 6*d.* Initials, The, a Novel, 2 vols. *cr.* 8vo. 1*s.* 1*s.* 6*d.* Jellitt's Elementary Treatise on the Calculus of Variations, 6*s.* 6*d.* Kent's (W. C.) Aethiopia, or the Doom of Mythology, *fc.* 7*s.* 6*d.* 1*s.* 6*d.* Klapka's (Gen.) Memoirs of the War in Hungary, Vol. I. 10*s.* 6*d.* 1*s.* 6*d.* Lindop's (L. E.) Poetical Works, 2 vols. *sq.* 1*s.* 1*s.* 6*d.* London's (J. C.) Encyclopedia of Gardening, new ed. 8vo. 2*s.* 10*s.* 6*d.* Laing's (S.) Observations on Europe 1*s.* 1*s.* 6*d.* 1*s.* 6*d.* Lytton's (Sir E. B.) The Last Days of Pompeii, new ed. 3*s.* 6*d.* 1*s.* 6*d.* Mackay's (C.) Egeria, and other Poems, *fc.* 5*s.* 6*d.* Messiah Prefigured, by Charlotte Elizabeth, 18mo. 1*s.* 6*d.* 1*s.* 6*d.*

Monod's (A.) The Way of Patience, from the French, 12mo. 2*s.* 6*d.* Pardee's (Miss) Francis the First, 2nd ed. 2 vols. 8vo. 1*s.* 1*s.* 6*d.* 1*s.* 6*d.* Various Library, Vol. XL. 'Morley's Erasmus,' 12mo. 1*s.* 6*d.* 1*s.* 6*d.* Practical Horsemanship, by Harry Haver, *fc.* 5*s.* 6*d.* 1*s.* 6*d.* Townsend's (W. C.) Modern State Trials, 2 vols. 8vo. 1*s.* 1*s.* 6*d.* 1*s.* 6*d.* Tytler's (P. F.) History of Scotland, 9 vols. *cr.* 8vo. 2*s.* 6*d.* 1*s.* 6*d.* Vocalist's Companion (The), 24mo. 1*s.* 6*d.* Weaver's (H.) Hints on Cottage Architecture, 2nd ed. 4to. 15*s.* 6*d.*

#### THE REV. WILLIAM LISLE BOWLES.

We must not allow a poet of the tender and manly feeling of Mr. Bowles to pass away from amongst us with a mere notice of his death amid the common gossip of the week. The peculiar excellence of his Sonnets and his influence on English poetry deserve a further notice at our hands.

The Rev. William Lisle Bowles, of an ancient family in the county of Wilts, was born in the village of King's Sutton, in Northamptonshire—a parish of which his father was vicar—on the 24th of September 1762. His mother was the daughter of Dr. Richard Grey, chaplain to Nathaniel Crew, Bishop of Durham. He was educated at Winchester School, under Dr. Joseph Warton,—and rose to be the senior boy. Warton took much notice of him; and, on his removal to Oxford, in 1782, was the means, we have heard, of inducing him to enter at Trinity College, of which Tom Warton was then the senior Fellow. "Among my contemporaries at Trinity," he says, "were several young men of talents and literature,—Headley, Kett, Benwell, Dallaway, Richards, Dornford." Of these, Headley is still remembered by some beautiful pieces of poetry, distinguished for imagery, pathos, and simplicity.

Mr. Bowles became a poet in print in his twenty-seventh year,—publishing in 1789 a very small volume in quarto, with the very modest title of 'Fourteen Sonnets.' His excellencies were not lost on the public; and in the same year appeared a second edition, with seven additional sonnets. "I had just entered on my seventeenth year," says Coleridge, in his 'Biographia Literaria,' "when the Sonnets of Mr. Bowles, twenty-one in number, and just then published in a quarto pamphlet, were first made known and presented to me by a schoolfellow [at Christ's Hospital] who had quitted us for the University. As my school finances did not permit me to purchase copies, I made, within less than a year and a half, more than forty transcriptions,—as the best presents I could offer to those who had in any way won my regard. And with almost equal delight did I receive the three or four following publications of the same author." Coleridge was always consistent in his admiration of Mr. Bowles. Charlotte Smith and Bowles, he says,—writing in 1797,—are they who first made the sonnet popular among the present generation of English readers; and in the same year in which this encomium was printed, his own volume of poetry contains 'Sonnets attempted in the manner of Mr. Bowles.' "My obligations to Mr. Bowles," he adds in another place, "were indeed important, and for radical good;—and that his approbation might not be confined to prose, he has said in verse:—

My heart has thanked thee, Bowles, for those soft strains  
Whose sadness soothes me, like the murmuring  
Of wild bees in the sunny showers of spring.

Mr. Bowles's sonnets were descriptive of his personal feelings; and the manly tenderness which pervades them was occasioned, he tells us, by the sudden death of a deserving young woman with whom—

Sperabat longos, heu! ducere soles,  
Et fido acclinis consensuisse sinu.

An eighth edition appeared in 1802; and a ninth and a tenth have since been demanded.

While at Trinity—where he took his degree in 1792—Mr. Bowles obtained the Chancellor's prize for a Latin poem. On leaving the University he entered into holy orders, and was appointed to a curacy in Wiltshire; from which he was preferred to a living in Gloucestershire,—and in 1803 to a Canonry in Salisbury Cathedral. His next step was to the Rectory of Bremhill in Wiltshire,—to which he was presented by Archbishop Moore. Here he remained till his death,—beloved by his parishioners and by all who had the pleasure of his acquaintance. A volume of his sermons ('Paulus Parochialis'), designed for country congregations, was published in 1826.

The Sonnets were followed, at an Horatian inter-



val, by other poems hardly of an inferior quality: such, for instance, as his 'Hope, an Allegorical Sketch,'—'St. Michael's Mount,'—'Coombe Ellen,'—and 'Grave of Howard.' His 'Spirit of Discovery by Sea,' the longest of his productions, was published in 1804—and is now chiefly remembered by the unhappy notoriety which Lord Byron obtained for it by asserting in his 'English Bards' that the poet had made the woods of Madeira tremble to a kiss. Lord Byron subsequently acknowledged that he had mistaken Mr. Bowles's meaning;—too late, however, to remove the injurious impression which his hasty reading had occasioned. Generally, Mr. Bowles's more ambitious works may be ranked as superior to the poems of Crowe and Carrington, both of which in their day commanded a certain reputation, and as higher in academical elegance than the verse of Mr. James Montgomery; while they have neither the nerve and occasional nobility of Cowper, nor that intimate mixture of fancy, feeling, lofty contemplations, and simple themes and images which have placed Wordsworth at the head of a school.

The school of the Wartons was not the school of Pope;—and the comparatively low appreciation of the great poetical satirist which Mr. Bowles entertained and asserted in print was no doubt imbibed at Winchester under Joseph Warton, and strengthened at Oxford under Tom. Mr. Bowles's edition of Pope is a very poor performance. He had little diligence, and few indeed of the requirements of an editor. He undertook to traduce the moral character of Pope; and the line in which Lord Byron refers to him on that account—

To do for hate what Mallet did for hire—  
will long be remembered to his prejudice. His so-called "invariable principles of poetry" maintained in his Pope and in his controversy with Byron and Campbell, are better based than critics hitherto have been willing to admit: Considering how sharply the reverend Pamphleteer was hit by the Peer's ridicule, it must be always remembered, to the credit of his Christianity, that possibly the most popular of all the dirges written on Lord Byron's death came from Mr. Bowles's pen; and the following tributary stanza is deepened in its music by the memory of the former war,—

I will not ask sad Pity to deplore  
His wayward errors who thus sadly died;  
Still less, CHILDE HAROLD, now thou art no more,  
Will I say aught of Genius misapplied:  
Of the past shadows of thy spleen or pride:  
But I will bid th' Arcadian cypress wave,  
Pluck the green laurel from the Perseus's side,  
And pray thy spirit may such quiet have  
That not one thought unkind be murmured o'er thy grave.

It only remains for us to add, that Mr. Bowles wrote a somewhat poor life of Bishop Ken,—that he was famous for his Parson Adams-like forgetfulness,—that he died in 1844, at the age of 72,—and that he himself at the time of his death was in his eighty-eighth year.

#### OCEANIC CANAL FROM THE ATLANTIC TO THE PACIFIC.

In the *Times* newspaper lately appeared a long extract from Humboldt's remarks on this most interesting subject:—and again, on the 15th inst. there was a letter in that paper, mentioning that a survey of the territory between the Gulf of Darien and the small port of Cupica, on the Pacific, had been made,—if not with great accuracy, at least with some practical intention; and stating also, that from Cupica there stretches inland a "level" country of about eighteen miles in length, to the "embarcadero" of the river Naipi (or Nappo), which runs into the Rio Atrato—a large navigable river, emptying itself into the Atlantic at the head of the Gulf of Darien.

Were this assertion strictly confirmed, the difficulties of an Oceanic Canal would be greatly decreased; since from the country behind Cupica being represented as "level," or nearly so, to the point of navigableness ("embarcadero") of a river running into the Atlantic, the obstacles to forming a canal would be trifling and of little moment,—the comparative level of the Atlantic and Pacific being so near.

But it is to be feared that these obstacles are really somewhat greater than this assertion would lead us to suppose; and, in fact, it seems doubtful

if any minute or scientific hypsometric survey of this important district has ever taken place. In a letter which was received by the writer of these remarks last week on the subject from the venerable Baron Alexander von Humboldt, whose works are alluded to above, he appears never to have heard of such a survey; and he complains of a degree of misunderstanding existing of some extracts from his works, which represent him as advising the formation of the Canal in the district in question,—whilst he merely meant to recommend accurate surveys, and dwelt strongly on the fact of the ceasing ("évanouissement") of the chain or Cordillera of the Andes at or about this point as a strong inducement. The circumstance of the "break" in the chain renders all such surveys as have ever been made, or notes of any journeyings which have been lately accomplished across this locality, of the greatest importance in determining the question of the feasibility of selecting it for the Oceanic Canal,—which canal will eventually be made, whether this point be chosen or not; and it would be well for those who have knowledge on the subject, or who have travelled there, to contribute their information.

The distance from the Darien Gulf to Cupica seems to be about 125 miles. The information so desirable may be included in answers to the following queries:—

Are the soundings in Choco Bay well known?—and are there any shifting sands at the mouth of the Rio Atrato?

What is the probable fall in level from the confluence of Rio Naipi with Rio Atrato down to the embouchure of Atrato and Atlantic?

What is the probable height above sea level of the village or "quinta" of "Curbudor" near this confluence?

What fall is there in the Rio Naipi, from its point of navigableness by boats to its entrance into Rio Atrato?—and at what distance from the Pacific is this point of navigableness (embarcadero)?

Are the soundings of the Bay of Cupica known? For they do not appear in any chart which is commonly used; and the soundings given in the Admiralty chart of Choco Bay are few,—apparently not late, and not close in-shore.

In some old maps of the province of Choco a lake "Xuma" is marked as a feeder to Rio Atrato,—does this lake exist?

Were this Oceanic Canal made (and in days when the Alps are being tunnelled nothing seems impossible),—the advantages to England, to her West India colonies (especially Jamaica), to Australia and the Eastern Archipelago,—to say nothing of China and our settlements there,—would be incalculable. The fact of its tending to restore prosperity and energy to our valuable West India colonies (too long neglected) ought alone to create the deepest interest in its accomplishment. Were our Government to aid in the matter, the arrangements with the Government of New Granada would be easily made,—and the greatest mutual benefits ensue.

#### OUR WEEKLY GOSSIP.

ON Tuesday last, Mr. Milner Gibson's motion for the abolition of the "Taxes on Knowledge" (viz.: 1. The Excise duty on Paper, producing at present about 800,000*l.* a year,—2. The Stamp Duty on Newspapers, yielding 350,000*l.* a year,—3. The Duty on Advertisements, yielding 153,000*l.* a year,—and 4. The Customs Duty on Foreign Books, yielding 8,000*l.*) was lost in the House of Commons by a majority of 190 against 89. There were not any new features in the debate. Mr. Gibson argued the question on the broad general grounds which ought really to decide it, and which have already been rendered familiar to the public mind. He showed that the so-called "Taxes on Knowledge" combined in themselves the worst characteristics that can be united in a tax—to wit, a comparatively insignificant pecuniary result at the expense of an enormous moral and intellectual discouragement to the whole nation. Small as the sum raised by the Paper Tax is, that single tax operates, as he showed, with a power of repression quite incalculable, when rightly considered—placing a limit on

all efforts beyond a certain point to extend literature among the people. The inequality, and mischiefs of the Stamp Duty on newspapers were likewise exposed; and one curious illustration which he gave on this point is worth quoting. "He held in his hand a specimen of a very ingenious device that had been resorted to by a publisher at Greenock for evading the stamp. This person himself informed him that, having given offence to the authorities by some political reflections in a weekly unstamped newspaper of his of the character of *Chambers's Journal*, he was prosecuted for violation of the Stamp Act, and fined for each of five numbers 25*l.* Thereupon, he diligently studied the Act; and finding that printing upon cloth was not within the prohibition, he set to work and printed his journal upon cloth—giving matter 'savouring of intelligence' without the penny stamp—and calling his paper the *Greenock Newsloth*, sent it forth, despite the Solicitor, to the Stamp Office."—The most peculiar character of hardship that attaches to the two Advertisement duty is explained, as Mr. Gibson has said, in the remark of the late Mr. Mill, that it is precisely as if in old times the exciseman had refused, not to let the town crier advertise a lost child or a sale of goods, without charging 1*s.* 6*d.* for the privilege. Lastly, comes the Duty on Foreign Books, and Government for the sake of 8,000*l.* is laying a stop on the importation into our island of what has ever had been excoagitated out of it.—It is a satisfactory feature of the case, that the sole substantive reply of the Chancellor of the Exchequer (and of Lord John Russell to all this was,—want of funds. The real gist of the matter—namely, that these taxes are doomed by their very nature, and are precisely taxes of that kind to find substitutes for which a statesman ought to ransack his invention—was left untouched. Lord John Russell, in particular, was far below the level of the debate, and took refuge in a quantity of vague peroratory matter about the anarchic state of France and the loyalty of England:—a mode of evasion somewhat too puerile and transparent for the temper and common sense of a modern House of Commons. This question, though adjourned for the time, will re-appear in greater strength ere long.

We give to-day in another column some particulars relating to the life and writings of the late Rev. William Lisle Bowles,—who for so many years connected the name of Calne with the poetry of the age in which we live. From other Temples of the English Muse, to which children who are now men were year after year accustomed to turn listening for the oracles of song, there are coming up sad echoes and low murmurs that are mournful vaticinations. The poet Moore is said to be standing on the extreme border of a life which has been very brilliant to himself and has yielded a charm to thousands. The lamp of his days is flickering in its socket,—and

His shadow falls upon his grave,  
So near the brink he stands.

The *Westmoreland Gazette* gives unpromising accounts of the health of the Bard of Rydal. Though he is now verging on his eightieth year, we trust, however, that he may yet be left to taste through a long and serene evening the fruits of the philosophy which he has gathered through a long and contemplative life.

In speaking hurriedly last week of the death of Dr. Prout, we should not have omitted to recall to our readers his claim to be remembered as the author of one of the Bridgewater Treatises,—on Chemistry, Meteorology, and the Function of Digestion, considered with reference to Natural Theology; and as a contributor of many valuable papers to the *Philosophical Transactions*.

The papers announce the death, in her ninetieth year, of Madame Tussaud, the well-known wax-worker.

In our notice, last week, of the self-vindication of the proprietors of the Library at Burton-upon-Trent, we spoke inadvertently of that town as if it were the Burton which is situated near the mouth of the Trent, in Lincolnshire,—instead of Burton in Staffordshire. A correspondent, jealous for the honour of the latter town, is earnest with us to make the correction. He will not give up his "Wise Men of" the modern "Gotham"; whom



he seems to think a curiosity in their way—to be claimed as a show like any other monsters. The anachronism, he thinks, is worth keeping among the curiosities of Burton, in Staffordshire, as probably one of the last examples of a type that is becoming extinct. "The error," he says, "is immaterial, excepting in so far as it affects the topography of bigotry:—a question, parcel geological, and parcel metaphysical. It is a singular fact that at Lichfield, thirteen miles from Burton-upon-Trent, and in this same county of Stafford, exactly 238 years since Easter last past, the last martyr that suffered in England was burnt at the stake; and the poor wretch was a Unitarian. I trust nothing will ever occur to rob the county of Stafford of the honour (?) of having burnt the last man and the last book."

A great number of our correspondents announce to us severally their independent discovery of the fact that the author of "The Roman," reviewed in our last number, writes under a fictitious name; and that the names Sydney Yendys are no other than one and the same reversed. This is so very obvious that it never occurred to us as necessary to make the observation. To one of these correspondents who goes on further to speculate as to the identity of the poet, we beg to say that he is quite wrong in our opinion, as to the fancied resemblances, and in our knowledge, as to the fact.

It were to be desired, with a view to successful propagandism, that the professors of a science which is nothing if not transcendental—in no degree whatever experimental—should come to some understanding amongst themselves. A variation in the announcements which imply illumination as their means, is apt to discredit the character of the illumination. They who undertake to see into the heart of mill-stones should all find the same thing there; or it will be shrewdly doubted if they do really see into the stones at all. Discordant revelations give scoffers a pretence for treating them as if they were not revelations at all. If Zadkiel be transcendently informed in a different sense from "A Liverpool Clairvoyante," it will come to be questioned by the profane whether both be not impostors—and some will go so far as to add bunglers too. The very closest agreement would be consolatory to the feeble faith that has yet a hankering after the new lights. A young woman in Liverpool—poor and uneducated, of course, for the miracle is ordinarily enhanced by that formality—has been out several times in the spirit to visit (in the old time the same thing would have been done on a broomstick) Sir John Franklin in the Arctic regions—and has been hospitably received by him. She finds him not very well, it seems;—he looks sad and wearied;—and she ventures on other daring speculations,—such as, that there is a good deal of ice about,—that the sailors are cutting through it,—that being frozen in beyond the power of moving, "they have no sails set,"—that Sir John Franklin wishes he was not where he is, and had never gone there, and that he has no intention of ever going there again if he were once well out of it,—that he has seen some of the natives,—and that these are not very intelligent specimens of humanity. The Liverpool gossips are greatly pleased with the communications of the young woman of Chesterfield Street;—and we ourselves follow her implicitly thus far. All these things have happened to Sir John Franklin if he were not wrecked in Baffin's Bay, we do verily believe. But then the Liverpool witch gets more rash and particular, and here we decline being her disciple, because we are pledged to Zadkiel if ever we do anything in that way. Our faith is bespoken for Cape "Walker." For the benefit, however, of the class of readers who can believe both—and have stomach left for other varieties, besides,—we will relate the destiny of Sir John Franklin and his crews according to the Liverpool version. First, he is alive, which is so far satisfactory,—and he is to return in six months and three or four days from a date which is entered no doubt in a number of Liverpool pocket-books. The party are to come out by the West,—and will be first heard of at "a place called the Cape" and which "appears to have no other name." All the Expeditions sent out in search of them are to miss them,—which is pro-

voking enough. A good deal of money has been spent which might have been saved if the nation had had faith in mesmerism.—Meantime, as the prophets do not agree, perhaps it is as well after all that the Expeditions have sailed to decide between them—or otherwise, as may be.

To Mr. Purday's illustration of his objections against Mr. Sydney Williams's views of the Copyright Treaty between England and Prussia, the latter gentleman has given the ready and conclusive answer. "Mr. Purday," he says, "has made his objections to the Prussian treaty before he had read to the end of it, for he would have found that Article VI. will effectually prevent his importing any reprints from the Continent." It is as follows.

VI. Nothing in this convention shall be construed to affect the right of either of the high contracting parties to prohibit the importation into its own dominions of such books as by its internal law, or under its treaties with other nations, are declared to be piracies or infringements of copyright.

The duty of 50s. and other regulations refer not to those books, therefore, which are totally prohibited, but to the reprints of older English authors the term of whose copyright has expired, or to other books imported by or with the consent of the proprietor. In fact, the treaty is not worked out as Mr. Purday understands it, but as it is understood by persons who read it through and understand its very simple enactments.—We will add, that our own views on the subject of international copyright are, like Mr. Sydney Williams's, totally at variance with those of Mr. Purday.

Intelligence from Mosul to the 4th ult. states that Mr. Layard and his party are still carrying on their excavations at Nimrod and Nineveh. A large number of copper vessels beautifully engraved have been found in the former; and from the latter a large assortment of fine slabs illustrative of the rule, conquests, domestic life, and arts of the ancient Assyrians, are daily coming to light, and are committed to paper by the artist, Mr. Cooper, one of the Expedition. Mr. Layard intends to make a trip to the Chaboor, the Chaboras of the Romans,—and to visit Reish Aina, the Resen of Scripture, where he hopes to find a treasure of Assyrian remains.

The French papers state that the submarine electric telegraph between Doyer and Calais is to be opened to the public on the 4th of May, the anniversary of the proclamation of the French Republic by the Constituent Assembly.

The Indian Mail just arrived brings copies of a new journal published in China on the first day of the present year, and called the *Pekin Monitor*. It is written in Chinese,—and carefully printed, on fine paper. The first number contains an ordinance of the Emperor, Toa-kouang, forbidding the emigration of his subjects to California or the State of Costa Rica.

Those of our readers who are likewise readers of the *Morning Chronicle*, will already have made acquaintance with a delicious example of the elastic and unhesitating way in which the Irish mind is apt to jump over intervening incompatibilities at conclusions which it could have reached by none of the beaten pathways of thought,—and of the precipitous and emphatic language in which it proceeds to record the sense of its own performance.—The logic of the feat being commonly matched by the logic of the comment. It were a pity that such of our readers as do not read the *Morning Chronicle* should miss it. It will be necessary, however, to anticipate their incredulity by the assurance that there is no joke in the matter,—at least none which the Irish actors intended,—that the thing did really and gravely occur as it is here about to be set down. In the last number of "Pendennis," Mr. Thackeray wrote a sentence to the purport,—that the greatest criminals and murderers—Bluebeard, George Barnwell, Catherine Hayes, &c.—had some spark of feeling, and might find some friends. It will be of course impossible for our readers to follow the concatenation of thought by which a body of gentlemen arrived at a possible identification of Catherine Hayes, the murderer, with Catherine Hayes, the singer;—but the fact is so. Three Irish newspapers, and an Irish Member of Parliament in his place in the Rotunda, have fallen foul of Mr. Thackeray for his cowardly and

unmanly attack on an amiable young Irish lady, and amongst a series of moral "tarrings and featherings" to which he has been exposed,—he has had to undergo the horrid infliction of being called "the Big Blubber-man." Mr. Thackeray has written to the *Morning Chronicle* for protection; and describes himself as sitting at the Garrick Club,—where he has denied himself,—afraid to go out, until the matter shall be explained, because of a body of Irish gentlemen who are supposed to be waiting at the door for the purpose of cudgelling him. We feel called on to contribute our circulation towards his release.—Mr. Thackeray tells, as applicable to his case (under protest against further offence to Irishmen), the story, "venerable for its antiquity, of the Irish officer who, having stated that he had seen anchovies growing in profusion upon the rocks of Malta, called out and shot an Englishman who doubted his statement. As the unhappy Saxon fell writhing with his wound, the Irishman's second remarked, 'Look, Sir Lucius, you have made him cut capers.'—'Bedad, its capers I mane!' the gallant and impetuous O'Trigger remarked;—and instantly apologized in the handsomest terms to his English antagonist for his error. It was capers he had seen, and not anchovies, growing on the rocks; the blunder was his, but the bullet was in the Englishman's leg, who went away grumbling because the other had not thought of the truth before."—Mr. Thackeray touchingly laments that in the same manner "his capers are held up as the most wicked anchovies to indignant Ireland."—With all the chivalry of these Irish editors, it is impossible not to feel that there is some part of the process by which their minds travelled from Mr. Thackeray's Catherine Hayes to their fair young countrywoman which is less complimentary to the latter than becomes her champions. No Englishman, we will venture to say, could have got at the same blameless young lady starting from the same point.—We do think that Mr. Thackeray has done himself great wrong in making any serious denial of his intention to "insult innocence, and genius, and beauty."

BRITISH INSTITUTION, Pall Mall.—THE GALLERY for the EXHIBITION and SALE of the WORKS of BRITISH ARTISTS is OPEN DAILY, from Ten till Five.—Admission, 1s Catalogue, 1s. GEORGE NICOL, Secretary.

THE NEW SOCIETY OF PAINTERS in WATER-COLOURS will OPEN their SIXTEENTH ANNUAL EXHIBITION on MONDAY NEXT, the 22nd inst., at their Gallery, 53, Pall Mall, near St. James's Palace. JAMES FAIRLEY, Secretary.

THE NATIONAL INSTITUTION for the EXHIBITION of MODERN ART, Pall Mall Gallery, No. 1, Great Street, (opposite the Polytechnic Institution). The Exhibition of the above Association is NOW OPEN, from Nine till dusk.—Admission, 1s. Catalogue, 6d. Single Season Tickets, 5s. BELL SMITH, Hon. Sec.

WORKS OF ANTIENT AND MEDIEVAL ART, and Specimens of British Manufactures.—This Exhibition is open daily, from Ten till Dusk, at the House of the SOCIETY OF ARTS, John-street, Adelphi.—Admission,—to those not Members or introduced by Members—1s. Catalogues, 1s.

NILE.—GRAND MOVING PANORAMA of the NILE, comprising all the Monuments of Antiquity on its Banks, to which is added the interior of the great Rock Temple of Abou Simbel. Painted by Messrs. Warren, Bonomi, and Fahey.—EGYPTIAN HALL, Pall Mall.—Daily, at Three o'clock.—Stalls 3s., Pit 2s., Gallery 1s.; Children and Schools, Half-price.

NOVELTY.—JUST OPENED, at the DIORAMA, Regent's Park, a highly-interesting EXHIBITION, representing the ROYAL CASTLE of STOLZENFELS, on the Rhine, (visited by Her Majesty Queen Victoria in August, 1845), and its Environs, as seen at Sunset and during a Thunder Storm; painted by NICHOLAS MEISLER, of Cologne. And the much-admired Picture of THE SHRINE of THE NATIVITY, at Bethlehem; painted by the late M. RENOUX, from a sketch made on the spot by DAVID ROBERTS, Esq., R.A., with two novel and striking effects.

INDIA OVERLAND MAIL.—GALLERY of ILLUSTRATION, 14, Regent-street, Waterloo-place. A Gigantic MOVING DIORAMA, exhibiting the ROUTE of the OVERLAND MAIL to INDIA, depicting every object worthy of notice on this highly-interesting journey from Southampton to Calcutta, accompanied by descriptive detail, and appropriate music, is now OPEN DAILY, at Halfpast Two and Eight o'clock.—Admission, 1s.; Reserved Seats, 2s. (which may be previously engaged).—Shows open at Two and at Halfpast Seven o'clock. Descriptive Catalogues may be obtained at the Gallery.

ROYAL POLYTECHNIC INSTITUTION. LECTURES on MUSIC by Sir HENRY R. BISHOP resumed, with an increased number of VOCALISTS for the Illustrations, on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday at Eight, and on Tuesday, Thursday, and Saturday at Three o'clock.—DR. BACHOFFNER'S SECOND LECTURE on the PHILOSOPHY of SCIENTIFIC RECREATION with OPTICAL EFFECTS, daily at Two, and on Tuesday and Thursday Evenings, at a quarter past Nine.—LECTURE, by J. H. Pepper, Esq., on the CHEMISTRY of HYDROGEN, with special reference to its application for conveying by BALLOONS, Pyrotechnic and other Signals to Sir JOHN FRANKLIN, on Monday, Wednesday and Friday at Three, and on Tuesday and Thursday Evenings, at Eight o'clock.—DISSEMINATED VIEWS, illustrating the ARCTIC REGIONS and CANYON; also, VIEWS of LONDON in the SIXTEENTH CENTURY and AS IT NOW IS.—DIVER and DIVING BELL, &c.—Admission, 1s.; Schools, Half-price. ANALYSES and CHEMICAL EXPERIMENTS conducted in the LABORATORY, under the direction of J. H. Pepper, Esq.



**ARCTIC REGIONS, PANORAMA ROYAL, LEICESTERSQUARE.** JUST OPENED, and showing the Views as seen in Summer and Winter, from Drawings taken by Lieut. BROWN, R.N., of Her Majesty's Ship Enterprise, during the late Expedition under Sir James Ross, in search of Sir John Franklin, which drawings were presented to Mr. Burford by the Admiralty; comprising also the sublime effects of an Aurora Borealis. The VIEWS of CASHMERE and POMPEII are also now open; but Cashmere will shortly be closed. Admission, 1s. each view, or 2s. 6d. to the three; Schools, half-price.

### SOCIETIES

**GEOGRAPHICAL.**—April 8.—Sir R. I. Murchison, V.P., in the chair.—Capt. T. Steele, Sir G. Douglas, Lieut. W. Robinson, R.N., and G. Hall, Esq., were elected Fellows.—Papers read:—"Notes on the Geography of South Africa," by Mr. Macqueen; and a letter from Mr. Oswell 'On the newly-discovered South African Lake, "N'gami." After bestowing an encomium on the geographical labours of Messrs. Livingston, Moffatt, Oswell, Murray, and Varden,—Mr. Macqueen proceeded in his summary on the geography of that portion of Africa, taking Mosega, situated on the head branch of the Marikwa, S. lat. 25° 35' and E. long. 25° 52', as his starting point. He considers the Limpopo and the Oorias forming one and the same stream, receiving, in lat. 24° 10' and long. 26° 33', the Marikwa from the S.W. The Cashan range of hills rise about 600 feet, from an elevated table-land, probably 5,000 feet above the level of the sea. Prior to the late successful Expedition in search of the lake, Mr. Macqueen had furnished Mr. Oswell with a copy of his map, in which the lake was placed exactly in its present latitude, the two newly-discovered rivers being alone wanting. Four years ago Mr. Macqueen in a paper read before the Royal Geographical Society, making use of Mr. Livingston's words, stated—"A short distance beyond my furthest point north there is a fresh water lake, called Makkoro, or the Lake of the Boat, on account of the canoes which are found upon it. The banks are level with the water, and the surrounding country flat; hippopotami, alligators, and various kinds of fish abound in it. Bamboo and other reeds grow on its banks, and dangerous fevers prevail on its shores. Many natives live and trade around it. They are armed with guns, procured from the Portuguese on the east coast. Its position is about 20° 20' S. lat., and 24° 30' E. long. Native travellers state that a considerable stream flows from it to the north-east," &c. According to Mr. Macqueen, the Limpopo, or Oori, with its numerous tributaries, flows into the Indian Ocean, to the south of Chulawan and Holy Island. Mr. Moffatt on his late visit to Maselakatsé fell in with a man of the Baquiana tribe, who had been the guide to the Expedition of Dr. Cowan in his endeavour to penetrate to the Portuguese settlements of the east coast. This man told Mr. Moffatt that he had conducted Dr. Cowan and his colleagues in a north-east direction, until they had crossed a large river, running east, where he left them, as they intended proceeding down its banks towards Sofala. Curiously enough, Capt. Owen was informed at Sofala that these unfortunate travellers had been murdered twelve days' journey in the interior, and Capt. W. Cook received much the same account at Quilimana. E.N.E. of the lake, Mr. Macqueen says that the mountains are covered with snow, and the circumstance that the supplies to the lake proceed from the N. and N.W. is of great importance with regard to the general geography of Africa. It discloses at once the sources of the streams which, with others from the central districts more to the north, form that great river which enters the sea in 17° 50' S. lat., and of which Nourse's River is undoubtedly a branch. The river alluded to is a very large stream, even during the dry season exceeding in size the Orange River where it enters the Atlantic. The earliest of the Portuguese navigators were well aware of the existence of the high mountains in this quarter, and called them "Mountains of the Moon,"—which has led more recent geographers to class them with the Mountains of the Moon reported to exist near the equator. Mr. Cook says, that "the Swakop enters the sea nearly a degree more to the N. than has hitherto been supposed, and that at some distance to the North of it the Atlantic penetrates deeply into that portion of the Continent."

Viscount Bandedira in a letter to Mr. Macqueen confirms the report that the River Coanza takes its

rise in a lake; and says that a Portuguese traveller, who had returned from that portion of Africa only a short time before, informed him that there was more than one lake supplying that well-known stream; and that to the best of his knowledge no direct communication exists from Southern Benguela through the interior to Tete. Before leaving Southern Africa, Mr. Macqueen says, that there is something unsatisfactory and yet unexplained concerning the River Luaba and its connection with the river of Quilimana, and also the Zambeze. Starting at once from the river of Quilimana, only a few yards wide, the Luaba is entered, a mighty stream about one mile broad, and with a rapid current. We hear little or nothing more about it, and then find the Zambeze at Tete; while Lacerda informs us that at the spot where the Zambeze passes through the Lupata Mountains the stream was so shallow that he was compelled to unload his boats and travel by land until he passed beyond the dreary passage.

The letter from Mr. Oswell contained an account of his route, in company with Messrs. Livingston and Murray, for the discovery of the lake,—together with a promise of a future communication on his return from his next excursion, in which he may possibly be joined by Messrs. F. Galton and Anderson, now under weigh for the Cape.

Capt. Varden exhibited a specimen of the cloth made by the natives in this portion of Africa, dyed with the wild indigo of the country. Likewise the enormous tusks of the African wild hog,—together with the flat head of a fish abounding in the lake,—as well as the fly so dangerous to the cattle and horses of the travellers. The fly and the fish are unquestionably new and hitherto undescribed,—and excited great interest.

**ASIATIC.**—April 6.—Prof. H. H. Wilson in the chair.—A considerable collection of ancient terracotta figures, procured by Mr. W. B. Barker in the vicinity of Tarsus, in Cilicia, was produced by that gentleman for inspection; and the Secretary read a report by Mr. L. J. Abington, on some of the specimens which had been submitted to his examination. Mr. Abington considered the relics to be Roman, and to have been made about the time of Augustus, when Tarsus was a Roman colony. The spot where they were found was probably the site of a Ceramicus, or ancient pottery; and some of the specimens produced appear to have been thrown aside in consequence of having been imperfectly moulded. Among the choicest of the relics were heads of Pallas and Apollo, the body of Hercules, and a figure of the boy Mercury. The heads of Apollo were peculiar in being rayed, and in one instance furnished with wings; and this unusual appendage might be attributed to an embodiment of the Phœnician and Egyptian worship of the Sun with that of the Greek Apollo, all myths of similar origin. The wings may be accounted for by the circumstance of Apollo having been the tutelary deity of Tarsus, which name is said to have been derived from the Greek word "tarsos," winged or feathered. The whole collection exhibited a strange incongruity of high artistic excellence and bad workmanship; being moulded from good originals, but made by men of very inferior skill. It also showed the great advantage which modern Art has derived from the use of plaster, instead of the ancient burnt clay moulds, as many imperfections found in them are entirely attributable to the inferior qualities of the material from which the moulds were made. Some of the figures retain on their backs the impress of the workman's fingers, showing that the hand was used to force the clay into the mould, and that the use of the sponge beater was unknown, although we derive this valuable material almost from the very doors of these image-makers. If the sponge had been used, the eye-lids, lips, &c. would have been more perfect than is the case in several of the specimens exhibited.

Some discussion followed. Several members pronounced the relics to be Greek, and that some of them were at least anterior to the age of Alexander; but the form of some details—among others, that of Minerva's helmet—was said to indicate a Roman period. The conclusion appeared to be, that the epoch of manufacture was Roman, though the artists were in all probability Greeks. The Greek derivation

of the name of Tarsus was disputed, and a Semitic origin was assigned, it being held that Tarsus was identical with the Tharshish of Scripture. But there could be no doubt that the Greek derivation was accepted by artists as well suited to an emblematic representation.

The Secretary read a communication from Col. Sykes, being a letter addressed to him by Ensign H. James, giving some account of the Derajat, or district west of the Indus.—After the fall of Mooltan, a force of about 3,000 men was sent to the assistance of Lieut. Taylor, who was engaged in occupying the country about Bunnoo. Mr. James accompanied the force, which proceeded to Leia, on the Indus,—a distance of four marches over a sandy, uneven country studded with dilapidated forts. The dwellers in and around these were, if report spoke truly, robbers, and practised agriculture only as a blind to their predatory occupations. This, on examination of their fields, appeared in several instances to be the truth. Leia is about four miles from the river; and its population, which consists principally of Hindús, is said to amount to five or six thousand souls. The environs are highly cultivated. From Leia the party proceeded two marches through a more cultivated country to Bukkur; which is inhabited chiefly by Mohammedans, who hailed the arrival of the force with joy. It required some trouble to make the natives of this and other places understand that no presents would be received, and that provisions supplied would all be paid for. This course was so different from the practice of the Seikh Sirdars that it was almost incomprehensible; but when understood produced a most favourable impression. The force then proceeded to Kalloor; and thence over the river to Esakhail and Bunnoo,—where they occupied the fort of Bunnoo without firing a shot. From thence they proceeded upwards to Lukkee, on the Kuroom river. Lukkee is not a small place, but it has a very poor appearance. The inhabitants are a fine race, and appear to be industrious. They are very ignorant and superstitious; and the work of their artisans is rude and simple, but they appear to be intelligent, and willing to learn. The country around is beautiful and fertile, and the land is extensively cultivated,—depending for its irrigation chiefly on the rain, which frequently falls in delightful showers. Corn and provisions are plentiful and cheap. From Lukkee, a party set out on an excursion through the hills to Dera Ismail Khan. The inhabitants of the hills received them kindly. They are an uneducated race, and live chiefly on grain,—meat being indulged in only on great occasions. The killing of cows was prohibited by the Seikhs; and any one found guilty of slaughtering one was imprisoned for seven or eight years, perhaps for life,—or even put to death. The hills are composed chiefly of sandstone, and vary in height from 500 to 2,000 feet. The Paisly Pass, through which the party proceeded, is about three and a half miles long, and very narrow; and on emerging from it they entered a waste tract, uncultivated owing to want of water. Bears, hyenas, and wild goats are found on the hills, and antelopes are numerous on the plains. Dera Ismail Khan is a well built town, surrounded by a wall, and possesses about 15,000 inhabitants,—many of whom are Hindús. Leaving this place, they proceeded to Baloot, under the hills, which is situate in a most luxuriant country. Some curious stone buildings were discovered in the vicinity, of which the natives could give no account. Five miles higher up, on the banks of the Indus, is Kafir Kote, or "infidel's place,"—where are found the ruins of a magnificent stone fort, which must in former times have been impregnable. The position is a most commanding one, and was evidently built by a good soldier; but it is very doubtful if it is the work of Alexander, as some have supposed. In consequence of letters requiring his presence at head-quarters, Mr. James's travels in this district were brought here to an abrupt close.

**ARCHÆOLOGICAL INSTITUTE.**—April 5.—The Earl of Enniskillen in the chair.—The Secretary read a communication from the Rev. E. Cutts, descriptive of Hever Castle, the birth-place of Anne Boleyn, and the scene of many interesting passages in her eventful life. The place is little altered; and sufficient of the old furniture remains undisturbed to



enable the visitor to recall the past without drawing too largely on his imagination. Ann of Cleves resided here after her divorce. The Castle was then sold to Sir Edward Waldegrave, afterwards to the Medleys of Sussex,—and it is now the property of the Waldo family.

A paper was read from Mr. T. King, giving a detailed account of the sculptured figures in Goodrich Castle,—which show every probability of having been executed by some prisoner confined in one of the towers. One of these figures, habited in the costume of Richard the Second, is accompanied by an inscription which reads thus, MAST'R SYM ADAM HASTINGS.

Mr. Birch gave a description of the Roman villa recently excavated near Wakefield Lodge on the property of the Duke of Grafton. This villa, which is square, and contains ten or eleven rooms, is situated about a quarter of a mile from the London road, and was accidentally discovered by some labourers while digging for stone. On the east side there is a hypocaust extending under three of the rooms; and there is a pavement, sixty feet in length, composed of rough white tesserae. Although there were many fragments of pottery and household utensils, nothing was found entire; and from the circumstance of seven skeletons having been exhumed within the walls of the villa, Mr. Birch had arrived at the conclusion that this house and its inhabitants had been suddenly destroyed by violence.—Mr. Yates communicated the discovery of very extensive Roman remains which had been lately made at Pau in the Pyrénées by Mr. D. Otlety.

Observations were made by Mr. Franks on some encaustic tiles from Llanthony Abbey. The peculiarity of these tiles (of which specimens were exhibited) consists in their heraldic bearings being displayed red on a yellow ground—the reverse being generally the case.

The Duke of Northumberland exhibited a collection of scarabæi and small images of porcelain and stone, such as are found with Egyptian mummies. They were found on the estates of Mr. Hopkinson at Edgeworth, near Cirencester; and deserve special notice as the only authentic instance of the discovery of Egyptian relics amongst the vestiges of Roman occupation in Britain,—extensive Anglo-Roman remains having been found adjacent to the site.

A letter from Mr. F. Lukis was read, giving particulars of antiquities discovered in the Channel Islands and of the evidences of their early occupation,—especially in regard to certain fictile remains resembling those from Lincolnshire brought before the Institute by Mr. Nicholson. The observations of Mr. Lukis appear to indicate traces of the first tribes by which the islands of Guernsey and Jersey were peopled in very remote times.

Mr. Empson produced an assemblage of gold ornament, idols, and other relics found in Mexico, in the Lake of Guatitvita, which had been regarded as sacred previously to the conquest by the Spaniards. The aborigines were accustomed to throw into it treasures as offerings to their deities. Immense wealth is supposed to be deposited in that singular lake situated on the heights of a mountain ridge; and a company was formed some years since for the purpose of draining it. Mr. Empson produced also some singular gold plates, stated to have been part of the enrichments of the dress of Montezuma. Also an ovoid box of silver filigree, ornamented with the rose, and supposed to have contained the Paschal Egg sent by the Pope to Henry the Eighth.—The Cambridge Antiquarian Society contributed various ancient relics recently discovered in Cambridgeshire:—also a map of British and Roman roads in that county.—A collection of gold rings (chiefly Roman) was exhibited by the Hon. R. Neville; together with the celebrated Roman glass vessel obtained from a barrow at Thornborough, Bucks.—Various rubbings were shown by the Rev. W. H. Gruner, Mr. Westwood, and Mr. Richardson.

# MEETINGS FOR THE ENSUING WEEK.

- Mon. Geographical, half-past 8.—'Travels in Northern Arabia,' by Dr. Wallin, of Finland.
- Tues. Statistical, 8.—'Statistics of Bills of Exchange from 1838 to 1847,' by Mr. Newmarch.
- British Architects, 8.
- Tues. Civil Engineers, 8.—'Description of the Insistent Pontoon Bridge erected at the Dublin Terminus of the Midland Great Western Railway of Ireland,' by Mr. R. Mallet.—'Description of a Wrought-Iron Lattice Bridge,

- erected over the Line of the Rugby and Leamington Railway,' by Mr. W. T. Doyne.
- Zoological, 9.—Scientific Business.
- Antiquaries, 2.—Anniversary.
- Wed. Society of Arts, 8.
- Geological, half-past 8.—'On the Diliarium of Wick,' by John Cleghorn, Esq.—'On the Marine Shells in the Bill,' by James Smith, Esq.—'On the Bunter Sandstone of the Vale of the Nith,' by R. Harkness, Esq.
- Thurs. Royal, half-past 8.
- Numismatic, 7.
- Royal Society of Literature, 3.—Anniversary.
- Fri. Royal Institution, half-past 8.—'On the Connexion of Philosophy and Science,' by the Rev. Joseph Sortain, of Brighton.
- Philological, 8.

## FINE ARTS

### NATIONAL INSTITUTION.

THE National Institution is the new name adopted by the Society of Artists who until the present year exhibited their works, under the misnomer of "The Free Exhibition of Modern Art," in the Chinese Gallery at Hyde Park Corner. Having removed to the Portland Gallery, opposite the Polytechnic Institution, in Regent Street,—they have abandoned the pretence of gratuitous admission, and the title which implied it. It is an honourable part of their plan, however,—which may be recommended to Societies of older standing—that they purpose at the end of the season opening their Gallery to the working classes, without any charge for entrance.

Our readers know that this young Association has been formed on the ground of the inadequate accommodation for the exhibition of their works afforded by previously existing institutions. That many of their works assert a claim to be minutely inspected by the public, cannot be denied,—and such inspection, they affirm, would not have been afforded them by the present regulation of other Art bodies. Nor is the whole extent of the grievance against which they complain represented by the pictures that appear on these walls. Many of the artists who exhibit at the Royal Academy, for instance,—and who have been admitted from time to time to hold prominent positions on its walls,—feel themselves called on, in the existing conditions of space and arrangement, to restrict the number of the works which they send in, if they would avoid some pecuniary or degrading sacrifice. Should the most favoured of the exhibitors, not members of the body, (for in favour of members an exception is not unreasonably made) venture on submitting more than two or three pictures for exhibition, the chances are against the possibility of these being all received,—and more than one can rarely have a chance of being so placed as to be favourably seen. Such, they assert, are the conditions disparagingly affecting the interest of a body of meritorious artists on the verge of the Academy,—some of whom are annually producing pictures which would a few years ago have procured their election to the honours of that body. The evil has arisen—and will extend, unless a remedy can be found,—with the increase of gifted artists whom the enlarging demand for works of Art and the advancing taste and appreciation of the country has drawn and will draw out. It is true that the Academy is in nowise to blame for this. Its space is limited,—and it may be claimed for it as a right, that the works of its own members, should have precedence of all others in the arrangement of the Exhibition. Nevertheless, it is contended that this is a narrow and unsatisfactory view of the subject; unsatisfactory to the artists yearly aiding the interests of the Academy by the contribution of works of merit and attraction—and unsatisfactory to the public which requires to see, and to have the opportunity of appreciating, the powers of the various appellants for its suffrages. We would fain see—and are not without hope to see—the remedy furnished within the precincts of the Academy itself. For if it be asked, why artists of manifest power submit to these unfavourable conditions whilst there is such an Institution as that now before us, where by the regulations they may have their works placed in a great measure as they themselves shall dictate,—the answer is obvious. The Exhibition of the Academy is the great recognized emporium of the Arts of the country,—such by precedence, by long-establishment, and by public recognition; and the honours of its body are naturally the great object of ambition to all. To become a candidate for these honours it is necessary to be an exhibitor in each particular year of candidalateship; and a feeling exists, whether true or false, that an artist's

chance of election would not be improved by any aid which he might extend to the interests of what even remotely bears the aspect of a rival Institution. For ourselves, we would desire to see the Academy continue to lead the Arts of the country:—and shall, as we have said, take an opportunity of stating at large how we think this leadership may be eminently assured.—Meantime, we repeat, the Institution before us has arisen as a means of defence against the deficiency of the accommodation which the Academy is able to afford to exhibitors within its walls.

The present Exhibition numbers 373 works,—chiefly oil-paintings; and a marked improvement is shown generally in the class of artists who have availed themselves of the principle of arrangement and exhibition which it offers.—Amongst these, Mr. R. Scott Lauder, the President of the Association, in every way takes the lead. He has seven works here. Three of them are sketches from nature, displaying not more nor less ability than might be expected from a slight exertion of the hand and mind which have produced the three more important of his labours. These we notice *seriatim*, in the order of their relative merits according to our estimate. *Christ appearing to two of his Disciples, on the way to Emmaus* (280) is a picture of great ability as regards both conception and execution. It is "toward evening, and the day far spent,"—the sun is setting in portentous clouds and the young moon coming up to take its place. There is a fine solemn tone over the scene, that gives to the figures an air of the mystical and supernatural. The Saviour has a majesty and mystery in accordance—and looks forth with a prescient air, deep and penetrative. The awed action of the disciples is nicely balanced,—neither theatrical nor tame; and, indeed, the whole feeling of the picture indicates the religious sense in which the painter has approached his subject. The colouring is rich and varied in tint,—without being in the least gaudy. The light and shadow have beautiful play,—yet with sufficient breadth and concentration. The drawing is careful and correct, while it is free and somewhat sketchy in manner; and with very slight drawbacks—such as that the principal figure may be somewhat too tall, and that we have some doubts about the propriety of such an introduction as the trident fishing-spear,—we must pronounce this picture to be not only a very fine work of Art, but the best effort of its artist up to this time. After some doubt,—consequent on what we consider to be material drawbacks—we decide to place next in the list *Galeotti, the Astrologer, showing Louis XI. the First Specimen of Printing* (45). The quality that places this picture higher in our estimation than the next which we have to notice is, an air of dignity and grandeur in the composition, aided by beautiful colour; certain graces and harmonies of which may be attained by diligent study and imitation, but only in a limited degree,—whereas by their natural possessors they are exercised spontaneously, almost unconsciously, and with ever varying fascination. The figure of Louis is highly characteristic,—full of guile and astuteness. Galeotti has the dignity and courtier-like grace attributed to him by Sir Walter Scott,—though perhaps little the look of the man of intellect and the philosopher. The drawing is fine, large and decisive; though the manipulative treatment is somewhat too sketchy, and the whole effect rather too crowded and wanting in repose. One of Mr. Lauder's defects predominates in this picture:—that of bestowing too much labour on subordinate objects, and leaving more important parts too loose and sketchy. This last objection is particularly observable in the head of Quentin. The introduction of the remaining two figures seems of doubtful propriety; as their presence is at best an assumption of mere possibility, and they only tend to distract and confuse the composition. The accessories of costume and furniture have been carefully considered. *Maitre Pierre, Quentin Durward and Jacqueline* (166) is a subject of less lofty pretension,—reposing more on the amenities of beauty and graces of composition and effect. The chiar-oscuro is simple and broad, and the lines are graceful and harmonious. We have again the same happy treatment of the character of Louis, as the disguised burgess. The colouring is harmonious, rich and true; though there is the same discrepancy which we have before



remarked on in the execution of the various parts relatively to their importance. In this picture there is a fault towards which there is but a slight and inappreciable leaning in the others—that of a certain indecision and wooliness of outline.—The seventh work of Mr. Lauder is a very characteristic portrait.

One novel feature of interest in these rooms is found in the landscapes of the Williams family: three brothers of which—though, as our readers know, exhibiting under different assumed names, in order to prevent confusion—have particularly distinguished themselves. And here we may remark of three pictures, one by each of these three brothers, which we intend to notice particularly, that, probably but for the existence of this Institution not one of them would have been painted. It requires no small daring for a young painter to venture on such large and elaborate works, involving so much expenditure of time, even when sure of the means of bringing them fairly before the eye of the public,—and there would, we fear, have been little chance for them in that respect if submitted to any of the older Institutions. The first of these in the order of the catalogue is *Noon*, by Mr. A. W. Williams (41). It is a noble landscape, that represents a stream making its way amid surrounding hills, crossed by stepping-stones, with cattle standing in the water, and a woody upland, in the immediate background. The colouring is brilliant and transparent—the effect of the noon-day sun rendered with luminous transparency. The cattle are admirably drawn, with unusual freedom and truth of action. The foreground is varied with beautiful detail, painted with a conscientious reverence for Nature, and arguing study and observation.—The second picture is *A Scene in Sussex—Showery Afternoon—Autumn* (161), by Mr. A. Gilbert. With broad effect, the execution is careful and minute,—solid, and carried out with conscientiousness and truth.—The foliage is elegant, and some felled trees are painted with a firmness and precision that make the whole sparkling and gem-like.—The third picture, *A Woodland River*, by Mr. S. R. Percy (207), is that one of the three which—showing more confidence of hand and mastery of style—will be most attractive to the artist, if not to the general beholder. The whole is tossed about with a fine looseness and freedom of composition, not however without great attention to detail; the foreground exhibiting a power in that respect worthy of our best and most observant masters. There is, notwithstanding, a straining after effect, somewhat melo-dramatic, and threatening a disregard of that modest reliance on nature which pervades the picture of *Noon*, by the artist's brother,—and which induces us on the whole to prefer that work on a comparison of the merits of the three.

Mr. L. W. Desanges has numerous works here, and some of very questionable ability,—as where they are very small, yet want the essential of pictures on such a scale, refinement and delicacy of execution. But he has one large production of more ambitious aim.—*The Excommunication of Robert, King of France, and his Queen Bertha* (159). This picture is a great advance on previous efforts of the same artist. There are vigour,—fine drawing, especially in the hands,—careful study in the draperies,—and a large amount of truth in expression. The architectural adornment is careful; and what may be considered the decorative portion of the work has been wrought out with due—if not more than due—elaboration. We like least of all the arrangement of the principal figures.—The right arm of the King passes disagreeably across the neck of the Queen, producing pictorial decapitation; and the action of his lower limbs is rendered unintelligible at first sight by an injudicious and violent separation in the colours of the drapery, which a little care in arrangement might have obviated. The whole plan of the composition is too equal,—as though it had been the sole object of the painter to fill every space with a figure.—A greater division into groups would have disentangled the effect, producing more variety and giving more emphasis to the salient parts. There is a want of quality in the textures, which are monotonous and without *finesse*; and although the double effect of the artificial light opposed to that of day is admirably presented, yet the whole colouring looks somewhat meretricious and wanting in the solemnity suitable to the subject. Nevertheless, the picture

as a whole is, we repeat, a fine one,—arguing great industry in so young a man—and very worthily maintaining a position of interest in this collection.

Mr. Rayner produces only one work; but his picture of that gem of architectural beauty, the *Beauchamp Chapel, Warwick* (235), makes us regret that he has not furnished more. He seems—from the view which he has taken—to have thought that no portion of so beautiful a whole could have been dispensed with; and, indeed, none who have seen and felt its exquisite symmetry can imagine the withdrawal of the smallest portion of its elaborate details without injury to its harmonious proportions. The artist has laboured with scrupulous regard to this feeling of his subject; and in the care of the drawing, the accuracy of the perspective, and the varied textural manipulation, has wrought out a unity resulting in a charming picture of the class to which it belongs. The colour is exceedingly rich and varied; and the manner in which the painted window—whilst maintaining its proper distance—is made to produce this sense of gorgeous richness of colour, is eminently happy. The *finesse* which pictorially effects the somewhat awkward conjunction of the two tombs is a happy device, naturally introduced—without that glaring consciousness of intention which too often betrays itself to the eye of any one even slightly informed in the mysteries of composition. But why should Mr. Rayner have so severely afflicted the stooping figure with erysipelas? Not to be hypercritical, this is a decided blemish in the picture,—doubtless the result of carelessness,—but which in a work where all else is so careful shows as a greater offence.—A new effort in historical art, by Mr. Newenham, *The Princes in the Tower* (225), is a work of no mean pretensions; reminding us too much perhaps of the same subject as treated by Paul Delaroche, but yet sufficiently different to give it a character of originality—and with great beauties. The younger boy, exhausted by his sorrows, has fallen into the grateful oblivion of sleep,—whilst the elder, apparently roused by some untimely sound, has started up in an attitude of terror. The gloom thrown over the subject by the single wakeful figure makes this, as we think, a more poetically impressive rendering than that of the gifted Frenchman. We wish we could say as much of the artistic treatment,—but in that Mr. Newenham falls short. There are a want of energy in the action, a softness of manipulation, and a graduated rounding of the light and shade, which lack the vigour necessary to a scene so associated with mystery and blood. Indeed, a more vigorous style of handling would much improve all the works of this rising artist. The public knows Mr. Newenham as a clever portrait painter,—and there are two fair examples of his power in this collection; but we would encourage him to proceed in his new walk, in which he is making a steady advance.

But what shall we say of a work hanging by the side of Mr. Newenham's historical picture,—which we notice less for its merits than as an example of the perversion of talent which has recently been making too much way in our school of Art and wasting the energies of some of our most promising aspirants? We allude to the *Ecce Ancilla Domini* of Mr. D. G. Rossetti (225). Here, a certain amount of talent is distorted from its legitimate course by a prominent crotchet. Ignoring all that has made the art great in the works of the greatest masters, the school to which Mr. Rossetti belongs would begin the work anew, and accompany the faltering steps of its earliest explorers. This is archaeology turned from all its legitimate uses, and made into a mere pedant. Setting at naught all the advanced principles of light and shade, colour and composition,—these men, professing to look only to Nature in its truth and simplicity, are the slavish imitators of artistic inefficiency. Granted that in these early masters there is occasionally to be seen all that is claimed for them of divine expression and sentiment, accompanied by an earnestness and devotion of purpose which have preserved their productions from oblivion,—are such qualities inconsistent with all subsequent progress in historical excellence,—or do these crotchet-mongers propose that the Art should begin and end there? The world will not be led to that deduction by such puerilities as the one before us; which, with the affectation of having

done a great thing, is weakness itself. An unintelligent imitation of the mere technicalities of old Art—golden glories, fanciful scribbles on the frames, and other infantine absurdities—constitutes all its claim. A certain expression in the eye of the ill-drawn face of the Virgin affords a gleam of something high in intention,—but it is still not the true inspiration. The face of the angel is insipidity itself. One arm of the Virgin is well drawn; and there is careful, though timid, workmanship in the inferior and accessorial part of the work,—but this is in many places where it would have been better left out. Yet, with this we have exhausted all the praise due, in our opinion, to a work evidently thrust by the artist into the eye of the spectator more with the presumption of a teacher than in the modesty of a hopeful and true aspiration after excellence.

#### THE ROYAL ACADEMY.

IN anticipation of some remarks which, as we have said, we have ourselves to offer in defence of the Royal Academy, and on its prospects at the present crisis,—we give insertion to the following plea for that institution from an old correspondent.

I go entirely with the tenor of Mr. Hume's ideas of commiserating and improving the condition of the poorer classes by retrenching our lavish national expenditure; I respect the constancy of his patriotism,—and cannot but feel deep regret that when the higher concerns of civilization are to be attended to, he should seem so insensible as he does to the claims of the blessings of Fine Art and the ineffabilities of Taste and Science. I more especially mean to those of the Royal Academy; towards which he ever seems as hostile as would have been Cato the Censor,—scarcely leaving us room to hope that his antipathy is merely seeming, although we do hope that it is merely financial.

Other financiers have been content to jeopardize their characters for generosity;—Mr. Hume seemed on a recent occasion to insist that his best friends shall quarrel even with his sense of justice. On that occasion he must surely have forgotten Mr. Burke's aphorism, that "Economy is not parsimony, but wise distribution of means,"—and have been oblivious of the obligations of commerce and sociality to the elegancies of taste. Other things that he and other members of parliament have not always duly remembered when comprehensive views of public exhibitions and admission fees come under public discussion, are, that the British Museum receives large annual grants and sufficient salaries from the public treasury,—while the Church has ample possessions of tithes, glebes, and rich livings, yet at the gates of Westminster Abbey and St. Paul's Cathedral demands and receives money for admitting the public to see monuments which have been sculptured at their own expense; and this whilst it has been the voluntary, generous, and unrequited office of the Royal Academy, without these advantages, to foster and instruct the successive generations of artists as they have arisen,—and with regard to the public at large

To wake the soul by tender strokes of Art,  
To raise the genius, to amend the heart,  
And make mankind in conscious virtue bold.

This the Academy has accomplished without other aid from royalty or from the public funds than the grant, by George the Third, of apartments in Somerset House: a grant which, if the king had a right to make it, who shall revoke or take away without an equivalent?—since it has not been forfeited, and cannot have escheated.

In the course of the discussion to which I have adverted above, one of the members thought fit to quote our quaint old friend, Mat Prior. Should he not rather have paraphrased his quotation thus—

To George they owed some obligation;  
And Joe unhappily thinks fit  
To publish it to all the nation?

—and to publish also the state of their pecuniary accounts, supposing that the said public would thence acquire a right of free admission to their future Exhibitions. They would acquire no such right any more than they would acquire a right to free admission to Madame Tussaud's (to which Lord John Russell pertinently adverted),—or to the Exhibitions of the two Water Colour Societies, that of the British Artists, or any other public show. All these are on



the same footing,—with this remarkable difference, of which our representatives cannot be too well informed; namely, that all the pictorial Exhibitions excepting the Royal Academy divide the profits equitably among their constituent members—as they have a very good right to do—whilst the Royal Academicians out of their Exhibition proceeds gratuitously educate the rising generation of artists, through means of their Antique Academy, their Life Academy, their intelligent courses of Lectures, and by rewards of gold and silver Medals,—putting by the remainder for benevolent contingencies and the promotion of Art. In short, this mal-treated Academy supplies the palpable and (I shall venture to add) discreditable deficiency of public endowment in one of the most interesting and ameliorating of human attainments. How strange it is that Mr. Hume and Mr. Ewart (another of the opponents of the Royal Academy)—both of them esteemed to be among the Members who exhibit the most of disinterested virtue—should feel so little sympathy for the society on which good men depend for a pure species of intellectual enjoyment—or, as Sir Martin Shee has it,

For living dignity and deathless fame:

—aye, so little as to single them out from all the societies of artists for suppression! For to virtual suppression it would amount if they were to be arbitrarily shorn of those means of collective existence which the public voluntarily contribute—and contribute with more pleasure and advantage perhaps than they contribute to any other public show.

How shall we account for this?—Perhaps you will say.—It is because land, and bricks, and stone, and stocks are represented in Parliament, while the Fine Arts are not. Well, it may be so! Let us do what we can, then, in the way of compensation. At least, let us try to enlighten the darkness of certain Members of Parliament and certain newspapers.

I am, &c. J. LANDSEER.

**FINE-ART GOSSIP.**—The *Athenæum* need not commend the dioramic pictures, illustrative of the Overland Route to India, recently exhibited at the "Gallery of Illustration" in Regent Street,—seeing that the public seems to have already found them out, and to crowd thither as to one of the most liberally planned, well-executed, and interesting sights recently added to the diversions of Babylon. The painting is throughout at once pictorially interesting and excellently real. We have rarely in any work of the class admired sky so brilliant or water so flowing; and though hardened to the tricks of scenic representation, we felt it no hard matter to resign ourselves to the spell, and from time to time to fancy ourselves transported to the scenes presented—in spite of the murmur of the numerous and well-pleased audience,—in spite of the very agreeable oral explanations which accompany (just enough and not too much)—the changes of view—in spite of the perpetual jingle of small descriptive music, which is a garniture (so far as we are concerned) to be acquiesced in rather than admired. Briefly, only *Splenden's* self who hateth all manner of pleasure, and like Mr. Titmarsh's *Captain Bragg* forbiddeth man, woman, or child to be amused on any pretext whatsoever, could fail to find pleasure and profit in this excellently managed Exhibition.

A new Exhibition of Pastel Portraits and Fancy Pictures, by M. Victor Robert, has been opened in Oxford Street during the present week! The collection consists of some thirty works of Art, chiefly female portraits of the English aristocracy. M. Victor Robert has a delicate pencil, and a fine feeling for the graces of female nature; but he is wanting in strength. He is almost a *little Greuze*.—The best work of Art in the collection is a small portrait (head size only) of Miss Hoare.

As nothing appears to have been yet formally decided as to the future whereabouts of the marble arch now standing in front of Buckingham Palace, we may add one more to the numerous suggestions that have been already made on the subject. As Marlborough House is destined to become the residence of the Heir Apparent when the young Prince shall have a separate establishment, the arch might be removed to Pall Mall, and made to form an architectural entrance to the court-yard of the mansion. Thus, although the house itself is shut out from the

street, it would be announced by the stately and conspicuous approach to it.

About 2,000*l.* is said to have been contributed towards the proposed monument to Lord Jeffrey.

John Disney, of the Hyde, in the county of Essex, Esq., having offered to present to the University of Cambridge a valuable collection of ancient marbles and statuary, with the view of its being placed in one of the public buildings of the University, and kept together as an archaeological collection bearing his name,—Graces have been presented to the Senate authorizing the acceptance of the gift on the terms specified,—authorizing the Syndicate appointed for the management of the Fitzwilliam Museum to receive the collection into the museum, and to make the necessary arrangements with Mr. Disney for its removal,—and for affixing the University seal to a letter of thanks (written by the Public Orator) to Mr. Disney.

At the annual meeting for the distribution of the prizes of the Art-Union of Glasgow, held last week—these prizes being, we have more than once reminded our readers, selected by a competent committee,—it was announced that the committee have determined to give a premium of 50*l.* for the best painting sent to the Exhibition next year,—in the hope of inducing artists to encourage the Exhibition of that city by sending down works of talent. The Duke of Hamilton, the President of the Institution, has offered to make up any deficiency that this may occasion in its funds.

The Belfast School of Design was inaugurated on the 10th inst., with an address from its President, Lord Dufferin and Claneboye,—in presence of a very numerous audience; whose interest in the matter seemed to promise well for the prospects of the new institution.

In Paris, the Academy of Fine Arts has elected M. Bouet to fill the vacancy in its architectural section occasioned by the death of M. Debret.

The plaster models of Thorwaldsen which were purchased at Copenhagen in October last by the French Director of the Beaux-Arts, are said by the *Journal des Débats* to have arrived in the Louvre in a very dilapidated condition. On the cases which contained them being opened, it was found that of the four large figures the 'Hebe' alone was uninjured. The 'Venus' and 'Ganymede' are damaged in several places. Of the 'Mercury' there is scarcely a fragment entire. The two models of horses have also suffered considerably:—the small one is almost entirely destroyed. The series of bas-reliefs composing the 'Triumph of Alexander' have escaped with least injury.

Baron Cornelius, it is reported, has finished the cartoons for the frescoes which are to ornament the new royal burial-ground and walls of the Campo-Santo constructing near Charlottenburg, in resemblance of those at Pisa and at Munich. For these designs Government has granted to the illustrious artist 95,000 thalers—upwards of 14,000*l.* sterling. Their execution in fresco will cost about 25,000*l.*

The Municipal Council of Strasburg has decided on erecting a monument destined to consecrate the re-annexation of Alsace to France. This monument is to consist of a column twelve metres in height, surmounted by the statue of France leaning on a shield bearing the arms of the city of Strasburg. The fact of the re-union is to be expressed by various devices:—and one of the fronts of the pedestal will bear an inscription affirmative of the union and its date two centuries ago,—the other a copy of the treaties by virtue of which that union was effected.

## MUSIC AND THE DRAMA

MR. AGUILAR begs to announce that he will give an EVENING CONCERT at the HANOVER SQUARE ROOMS, on WEDNESDAY, April 24.—Vocalists: Miss Lumboe, the Misses C. and S. Cole, Mlle. Schloss, and Mlle. Graumann. Mr. Sims Reeves, and Signor Marchesi. Violin, Herr Ernst; Violoncello, Herr Hausmann; Oboe, Mr. Nicholson; Clarinet, Mr. Lazarus; Horn, Mr. Jarrett; Bassoon, Mr. Baumann; Piano-forte, Mr. Aguilar. Conductor, Mr. Benedict.—Reserved Seats, 10*l.* 6*d.*; Tickets, 7*s.*; to be procured at Messrs. Cramer, Beale & Co., 201, Regent-street, Messrs. Wessell & Co., 32*a*, Regent-street, and at the residence of Mr. Aguilar, 68, Upper Norton Street, Portland Road.

MUSICAL UNION.—THIRD MATINEE.—Willis's Rooms, Tuesday, April 23.—Double Quartet in F minor, Spohr.—Duet, in D, Op. 98, Piano and Violoncello; Mendelssohn.—Nocturnes, Chopin.—Op. 32, Quartet, c minor, No. 4; Beethoven. Artists: Sauton, Deloffre, Hill, and Platt; Golicie, Watson, Mellon, and Pile. Piano-forte: HERR HALLE (his first performance this season in London). Strauss's 'Tic-tac-toe', each, to be had at Cramer & Co's, 201, Regent Street. Members can introduce visitors by payment at the Rooms. J. ELLA, Director.

PHILHARMONIC SOCIETY.—The Subscribers and the Public are respectfully informed the FOURTH CONCERT will take place at the HANOVER SQUARE ROOMS, on MONDAY EVENING, April 22. Programme:—Sinfonia, in D (MS), Robert, Gernert; violin, Mr. Sauton, Beethoven; Overture (MS), 'Ruy Blas', Mendelssohn; Sinfonia in A flat, No. 3, Haydn; Caprice, piano-forte, Miss Kate Loder, Bennett; Adagio and Fugue, Mozart. Vocal Performers, Miss C. Lumboe, and Mr. White, Conductor, Mr. Costa.—Single Tickets (with Reserved Seats), 1*l.* 6*d.*; Double Tickets (ditto), 1*l.* 10*s.*; Triple Tickets (ditto), 2*l.* 5*s.*—to be obtained of Messrs. Addison, 210, Regent Street.

MR. PLATT'S FAREWELL CONCERT will take place on WEDNESDAY NEXT, April 24, at Half-past One o'clock precisely, at the HANOVER SQUARE ROOMS, under the immediate patronage of Her Most Gracious Majesty the Queen, H.R.H. the Prince Albert, and H.R.H. the Duke of Cambridge.—Tickets, Half-a-Guinea; Reserved Seats, One Guinea each; can be obtained at all the principal Music Warehouses and Libraries, or any Member of the Committee, by whom Donations will be received, and of Mr. Platt, No. 4, Douglas Place, Queen's Road, Bayswater.

CONCERTS OF THE WEEK.—Whatever be the value of Mr. Macfarren's new Symphony, its performance at the *Amateur Concert* on Monday obliges us to say that the amateurs should either have rehearsed it better or else deferred it. We have elsewhere stated why these Concerts are generally exempt from criticism, but are bound to make the above remark in protection of an important new work by a clever composer. So rough and weak was the execution that we dare do little more than state that the Symphony consists of the canonical number of movements. The first is an *allegro* in common time, D major (?), too much divided into very short phrases;—the second is an *andante quasi allegretto*, in G major, an agreeable cantabile, apparently originally treated, only too long drawn out;—the third is a *scherzo*, in F sharp minor, 3 time;—the fourth is a *finale* in D major 2, in which the theme announced with a *fanfare* of brass instruments produces a rich and pompous effect. Not having seen the score, we will not assert the above specification of keys to be infallibly correct. The Concert was otherwise interesting as being entirely made up of English music.

On Wednesday was held the last of Mr. Lucas's Musical Evenings—and the first performance of the *Beethoven Quartett Society* as promised, under the presidency of Herr Ernst. After having generally stated that the Quartetts went admirably, and that the new rooms in Queen Anne Street prove a most comfortable home for chamber-music, it must suffice us to notice the novelty of the evening. This was the pianoforte part in the *trio* in D major (our favourite among Beethoven's *trios*) which was taken by M. Stephen Heller. On this gentleman's great powers as a composer the *Athenæum* has no occasion, once more, to descant; his playing is superior, because it is the playing of a composer, as distinguished from a mechanist, and thus gives one all the thoughts, leaving the separate words of the discourse to fall into their own places, instead of making the latter prominent at the expense of the former. Unerring fingers may be now bought by the bunch, but such worthy readers of the worthiest music as M. Heller are rarer than could be wished.

The benefit concert-givers must this week be contented with mere announcement. That we did not apprise our readers of the entertainment given on Tuesday for Mr. H. Boys, a meritorious pianist stricken down by paralysis, was not our fault.—Since the Committee's memorandum to that effect only reached us too late yesterday week for possible insertion.—On Wednesday, the Concerts of Mr. Willy and Mr. C. Salaman were held;—and on Friday those of Miss Chandler and Mr. G. Case.—Of the new vocalists who have appeared (a large proportion of whom are Germans—Madame Anschütz, Mlle. Magner, Herr Stahl, Herr Sperling, and others) we must speak on some future occasion.

HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE.—The novelty in 'Le Nozze' given on Thursday was the *Cherubino* of Miss C. Hayes. So lady-like and sentimental a page we never beheld: but it is not the page that either Beaumarchais drew or Mozart wrote. Miss Hayes has chosen a vocal method which removes her beyond the pale of all music where *ad libitum* singing is not allowable. In her *sortita* 'Non so più,' we but heard the notes on which the voice is permitted to pause. But that we have observed the infatuation with which singers of the new school cling to their incompetence, we could counsel her to profit by her present position and consider what it is that makes Madame Sontag's treatment of classical authors at



once so excellent and so charming. We should be sorry to fancy that her Italian and Irish successes have been accepted by Miss Hayes as rendering progress no longer needful. Signor Beaucarde is to appear to-night in 'I Lombardi,' with Madame Giuliani as *prima donna*. Mdlle. Ida Bertrand, Mr. Lumley's *contralto*, has just arrived.

**ROYAL ITALIAN OPERA.**—Mdlle. de Meric appeared this day week in 'Lucrezia Borgia' with success. It is a pity that her organ, the *contralto*, is a voice so much neglected by modern composers,—since the singer's occupation is thereby limited to the most hackneyed works in the opera repertory. We cannot desire to hear more of 'Semiramide' or of 'Linda.' Even 'La Donna del Lago' (which is announced for Thursday next, to bring forward Signors Tamberlik and Mario in combination) once in a season is enough: while 'Zelmira,' which contains a charming *contralto* part, is rendered ineligible by its absurd *libretto*. Now, however, is the time to try that opera with change of book, seeing that the Royal Italian Opera has two first-rate tenors to play it with,—Signor Tamberlik being already established as a greater favourite than any other tenor save Mario. There is a rumour of reviving 'Guillaume Tell' for him; for which opera his peculiar voice and style and manly energy admirably qualify him.—Of the two novelties in the cast of 'Don Giovanni,' given on Thursday last, notified a week ago, only the lady appeared. Mdlle. Vera's graceful and dignified personation of *Donna Elvira* redeemed the character from its habitual tediousness,—making the haughty Spanish wife contrast well with the peasant bride. Mdlle. Vera is decidedly the best *Donna Elvira* we have seen,—Mdlle. Löwe not excepted. Herr Formes, owing, we are informed, to want of due labour at his part, was obliged to be dispensed with as "labouring under a severe cold and hoarseness." Want of preparation and pretension seem to be so vexatiously "the normal state" of this German *basso*, that he bids fair to prove a hindrance not a help to his theatre. Never man stood in better circumstances than he has done; but pride in his strong and ample voice has spoiled him, and it seems now clear that either he will not or cannot work. Signor Polonini was called on to replace him; and did this well and humorously, though unluckily he does not possess voice sufficient for a part so important. Still, as a *buffo* singer and actor, this performance raised him in every one's estimation. Mdlle. Castellan's *Zerlina* is now one of her best characters and vocal efforts. She looks the part charmingly and sings it very well.

**ST. JAMES'S THEATRE.**—*French Plays.*—Mr. Mitchell's theatrical management being carried on under the conditions of a constant change of repertory, demands no ordinary spirit and vigilance: it being further remembered that first-class Parisian favourites are not always attainable, and that his peculiar public will not be contented with anything short of players of high merit or fashionable renown. This year he begins his post-Easter season with M. Samson and Mdlle. Denain: whose personations are respectively more satisfactory and more charming than most gentlemanly and lady-like comedy now on the stage. All the experience of a veteran is by M. Samson wrought out with such exquisite finish as can belong only to a most subtly-intellectual actor, accustomed to be judged by a fastidious and refined public. Such quiet animation as his—such humour made all the more emphatic by its being indicated rather than insisted upon—have no exponent in our English theatres: save, perhaps, in the person of Mr. Wigan,—and "his lot has fallen in the lap" of eccentric rather than of classical comedy. To be particular, we have seen few presentments more satisfactory than M. Samson's *Menard* in his own 'Un Veuve,'—a widower, bent against second marriage,—yet hunted from pillar to post, from church to market, from town to country, by the perpetual cry of—"Where is he?" emitted by maids, wives and widows, no less resolutely bent on his consolation. M. Samson's look of philosophical and acquiescent despair when the spectre from which he has fled rises to confront him in the very shelter where he had hoped to find the halcyon Peace—in the house of his bosom friend and confidant who "turns and rends him" by putting forward his daughter *Cécile*

(Mdlle. Brassine)—is worth a king's ransom, to all such as prefer the play to the rant of emotion. Then, the passionate poetess *Madame de Beaufort* (Mdlle. Avenel), who hunts out the stricken deer with an old promise of marriage, menaces him with threats of law and of denunciatory odes, and seems in perfection to possess the "*été méridionale*" ascribed to Madame Colet in the never-to-be-forgotten *Récamié* trial, adds a very whimsical wheel to the rack on which the widower is stretched. But we must not loiter too long with this satisfactory M. Samson, having to make our bow to the charming Mdlle. Denain. Since we last met this lady, she appears to have determined to pick up the cestus, or at least the fan of Mdlle. Mars: and "what Woman wills," &c.—"the proverb is something musty." Whether Mdlle. Denain will ultimately succeed in commanding all the spells of her predecessor, Time must show. Meanwhile, the advance she has made is exquisitely proved in 'Le Jeu de l'Amour et du Hazard.' Her *Sylvia* must have almost contented Marivaux himself: so bright is it, so delicate, so full of feeling, so feminine. The lady, it may be recollected, plays the old game of exchanging characters with her *suivante*, that she may observe an unknown suitor, *incognito*, he having donned the livery of his own *Scapin* (M. Samson), in order that he may study, undisturbed, the gifts and graces of his princess. Throughout her whole part, Mdlle. Denain never for an instant forgot the teasing contradictions which it involves—the assumed pertness—the real high breeding—the fancy netted fast—the conscious shame of the captive—the petulance searching for something to blame—and, lastly, the Beauty's ruthless determination to wring out every drop of triumph by making her *Dorante* (M. Luguet), after having confessed his masquerade, offer her marriage, ere he is aware that her humble rank is but a fabrication. It is long since we have been more pleased by an actress. As regards the piece itself, a line will not be wasted in inquiring why these comedies by Marivaux keep the stage. Admitted, even in their own day, to be the most delicately-mannered of mannered character-pictures—their style owned to be the slightest of slight writing—containing, as they do, strangely little wit—few or no *coups-de-théâtre*, as now demanded by the play-wright—how is it that they still attract and retain a public? By their finish—by their self-consistency—by the artful ease of their construction—by the conversational tone of their dialogue. But we must have done, lest we be accused of *marivaudage*.

**HAYMARKET.**—Mr. Stirling Coyne's version of 'The Vicar of Wakefield' has at length been produced at this theatre. In no respect does it resemble that of Mr. Tom Taylor at the Strand:—but as little does it resemble Goldsmith's novel. Mr. Coyne has given himself a liberal margin; and, making use of the general outline of the story and of the names of the characters, has filled in the details and colouring according to his own fancy. He has thus produced a lively farce, in which *Miss Skeggs* and *Lady Blarney* (Miss Horton and Mrs. Fitzwilliam) are the principal characters;—and in which *Moses*, by Mr. Buckstone, is a piece of humour and absurdity no more like the Vicar's son than he was "like Hercules." Altogether, the piece rattled on with spirit, and commanded that temporary success which was probably all that the author aimed at.

**DRURY LANE.**—After 'The Passing Cloud,' which now, having been abridged, moves easily,—a new farce was on Monday produced, called 'The Cricket Match.' This piece, though assisted by music and some singing by Mr. and Miss Rafter, failed to win the suffrages of the audience. The plot is something like that of 'The Irish Tutor,'—but is of a nature so rambling that it cannot be intelligibly reported. A bare notice of its production must suffice.

**NEW STRAND.**—On Monday, Mr. J. M. Morton produced one of those farces the humour of which has made him so acceptable to theatrical audiences. Friend Waggle's is the fun-suggestive title of this amusing piece. The sport consists in a series of mistaken identities,—almost every one of the *dramatis personæ* being mistaken for some other from the beginning—and the mirth at last setting in for one object, Waggle (Mr. Compton), who stands for his

friend *Dr. Sasafra* (Mr. Shalders) in the estimation of *Squire Jollyboy* (Mr. G. Cooke). A complete *imbroglio* of persons and purposes ensues on this mis-relation; and the perplexity is increased by the doggedness of an aged servant of the squire (Mr. Bender) who has an interest in settling all parties by the ears. The motive for all this confusion is, the squire's determination to assemble his relatives at a certain time as the indispensable condition of their having a place in his will. *Dr. Sasafra* is necessarily absent at the interesting moment; and poor Waggle has to do duty for him under circumstances anything but pleasant, and even full of peril. Apart from the ludicrous nature of the incidents and situations, there are much characterization, much true wit, and some refined as well as broad jesting, with innumerable points of subtle humour, involved in the development of the plot and in the persons of this brisk little drama, which intimate the practised hand of the experienced playwright. All this was admirably assisted by the acting of Mr. Cooke, Mr. Compton, and Mr. Shalders. The last, as a new name to us merits particular mention. He is an actor of much comic promise. The weight of the interest, however, rests on Mr. Compton; who renders all such parts, whatever their calibre, almost classical by the exquisite finish of his execution.

**SADLER'S WELLS.**—Lord Byron's 'Werner' was revived on Monday. Mr. Phelps's performance of the hero well sustains his reputation.

**SURREY.**—Mr. Marston's 'Patrician's Daughter' has been acted during the week:—Mr. Creswick being *Mordant* and Madame Ponisi *Mabel*.

**MUSICAL AND DRAMATIC GOSSIP.**—Musical London is in process of being rapidly cleared of its "familiar faces." This day week we were startled by the news of the death of Madame Dulcken, after a painful illness. Whenever the names of female musicians are collected, Madame Dulcken must be commemorated as an executive pianist of the first class. Her musical sensibility was not of the finest quality or highest order; but her brilliancy of finger was remarkable, and her command over the novelties of her instrument entitled her to a place in the highest rank of players, together with Madame Schumann and Madame Pleyel. Madame Dulcken belonged to a musical family in North Germany; being sister to that excellent violinist, musician, and composer, Herr David. She will be deservedly lamented as a devoted, energetic, and kind-hearted woman,—who, we fear, by taxing herself beyond her strength brought on the malady which proved fatal.

Every indication of novelty acquires added value from every new loss. Thus, we are more than ordinarily glad, on trustworthy authority, to give a good report of M. Silas, the young Dutch composer, announced some weeks ago; who the other day appeared at a Philharmonic concert in Liverpool, and performed the *allegro* of a pianoforte Concerto in c minor, of his own composition. Of the entire work we have an encouraging description. It is said to be unbordered, if not strikingly original, and the orchestra very well treated. M. Silas, too, is commended as an accomplished pianist, familiar with the best music. This is a prelude of hopeful import.

We are also enabled,—so far as personal of a score avails,—to give cordial welcome to Herr Eckert, whose opera, 'Guillaume d'Orange,' we have read. It need not be said however that such a mode of making acquaintance with a stage-composition, does not justify review or final judgment, especially when, as in the present case the production is a grand four-act work, with *ballets*, double choruses, &c.—an opera, in short, aimed at theatres which M. Meyerbeer has occupied. Herr Eckert's music is of the eclectic school, rather than pure German, or pure Italian, or pure French,—containing simple and flowing melodies, most wisely within the scope of average singers,—more than one attractive piece of vocal combination,—and choruses, we imagine, of considerable vivacity and effect. His treatment of the orchestra, too, seems to be masterly, in the modern style. As a first opera, 'Guillaume d'Orange' seems full of promise. Let us return a moment on our epithet "eclectic," to provide against misinterpretation. The most original of composers have often begun with eclecticism, or direct imitation.



Mozart's operas were to the last as much Italian as German—an advance upon Italian taste—a prophecy of German combination. Rossini began by a direct pilfering of Paer—Auber by closely copying Rossini. Weber's 'Sylvana' contains but a single dance in which *Der Freischütz* Weber is promised. Meyerbeer had passed maturity, and tried himself here and there ere he found at the Paris *Académie* the *libretti*, the resources of patient rehearsal, and vast scenic splendour, which enabled him, by experiment, to perfect his characteristic tact in stage combination. Reasoning, then, by analogy, we should imagine that Herr Eckert's future success may largely depend on his future energy. The resolution to produce rarely fails to bring its own fulfilment—the disposition to be versatile must end more or less in versatility. In this light, a sojourn amid the fevers and varieties of London music where a strange composer, to make any figure at all, must force and struggle his way through—may be of great value to a young writer, who is excited, not overborne, by it. We are told that Herr Eckert is composing a second grand opera to a French *libretto*.

A fourth Mr. Braham, brother to Mr. Charles and Mr. Hamilton Braham, will shortly be heard in public as a singer, possessing (adds rumour) an admirable tenor voice. The want of singers, as distinguished from voices, was never greater than now,—meanwhile any son of Mr. Braham's father must be cordially welcomed: and comes before us armed at once with an advantage and with a motive for thorough preparation.

A version of Auber's 'Gustave' was given on Tuesday last at the *Princess's Theatre*, of which little more need be said than to commemorate it as one of the last operatic novelties under the reign of Mr. Maddox: a coming opera of M. Schira being still talked about. As regards music, at least, we recollect no management so incomplete and unsatisfactory as the one of which we hope we shall shortly take leave for ever. Not one work has been produced under the auspices of Mr. Maddox in a manner which could content the least exacting of composers, or the least fastidious of audiences. Good chances by the score have been thrown away,—good scores have been handed over to the bad chances of a wretched orchestra and coarse chorus and secondary singers, who could neither act nor sing. The momentary extinction of English Opera is preferable to an existence dragged out under circumstances of such nightly misery, and hence the resignation of Mr. Maddox may move all whom the matter concerns a step nearer the formation of an establishment more soundly based and better organized.

Herr Droyschok has arrived—M. Godefroid is expected almost immediately.

The management of the *Wednesday Concerts* is ending where it should have begun, and trying to tempt its crammed and satiated public with classical music, promising it at early concerts the scenic music to Beethoven's 'Egmont' and Mendelssohn's 'Antigone' choruses.

From Paris comes the news of Madame Laborde's successful debut as *Marguerite*, in 'Les Huguenots,'—and the announcement of the trial of Mdle. de Morlière in 'La Favorite.'—Madame Ugalde has been obliged to leave Paris for the present, in consequence of bad health: her place at the *Opéra Comique* having been taken by Mdle. Lefèvre.—At the last concert of the *Union Musicale*, M. Reber's overture to 'Naim' was much admired.—A new pianoforte *Trio*, by M. Rosenhain, performed by that gentleman at one of his *Soirées* is also lauded by the journals.—A festival was to be held at Angers this week.

It is said that Mr. and Mrs. Keeley are about to leave the Haymarket, having enlisted under Mr. and Mrs. C. Kean for the *Princess's Theatre*.

It is announced that at the forthcoming benefit for the Exposition in 1851, the management of Sadler's Wells Theatre have undertaken to pay all the expenses of the evening:—so that the entire receipts of the house will be applicable to the purpose.

#### MISCELLANEA

*Esquimaux Vocabulary.*—We understand that a dozen copies of the *Esquimaux* vocabulary compiled by Capt. Washington, R.N., and published by order of the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty for

the use of the Arctic Expedition, were despatched to New York by the *Cambria* mail steamer on the 13th inst., to Mr. H. Grinnell, the generous merchant of that city who is fitting out a private expedition from the United States of America in search of Sir John Franklin and his companions: A similar number of the vocabulary were forwarded to Capt. Penny, at Aberdeen, for the use of the two ships under his command,—which were to sail on Saturday afternoon for Davis's Straits. It is worthy of notice, as showing the liberal feeling that animates all parties with reference to the Arctic Expeditions, that the British and North American Royal Mail Steam-packet Company having accidentally learnt the contents of the parcel, refused to receive any payment for its carriage.—*Times*.

*Railway through the Alps.*—M. Maus, the Sardinian engineer, has published his report on the gigantic operation of boring through the Alps in constructing the railway from Chambery to Turin. The tunnel will be finished in five years; and the expense, including the laying down of a double line of rails, will, according to his estimate, amount to 13,000,000 *fr.* The French engineers calculated the cost of boring the Saint Irénée mountain at 24,000,000 *fr.*—*Builder*.

*Queen's College, Birmingham.*—The local officers and finance committee of the British Association for the Advancement of Science, held last year at Birmingham, having determined to return to the subscribers to the local fund the whole of the funds in hand, which will amount to one-half of the subscriptions,—the Earl of Dartmouth, the Earl of Harrowby, Viscount Lifford, the Hon. the Dean of Lichfield, Mr. James Taylor, Mr. J. E. Piercy, and other influential subscribers have consented to transfer their moiety to complete the new buildings, museum, library, model-room, engineering workshops, &c., of Queen's College: towards the erection of which and the purchase of the freehold site the Rev. Dr. Warneford has contributed the munificent sum of 3,000*l.*

*Ignorance in England.*—Taking the whole of northern Europe—including Scotland—and France and Belgium (where education is at a low ebb), we find that to every 24 of the population, there is one child acquiring the rudiments of knowledge; while in England there is only one such pupil to every fourteen inhabitants. It has been calculated that there are at the present day in England and Wales nearly 8,000,000 persons who can neither read nor write—that is to say, nearly one quarter of the population. Also, that of all the children between five and fourteen, more than one half attend no place of instruction. These statements would be hard to believe, if we had not to encounter in our every-day life degrees of illiteracy which would be startling, if we were not thoroughly used to it. Wherever we turn, ignorance, not always allied to poverty, stares us in the face. If we look in the *Gazette*, at the list of partnerships dissolved, not a month passes but some unhappy man, rolling, perhaps, in wealth, but wallowing in ignorance, is put to the *experimentum crucis* of "his mark." The number of petty jurors—in rural districts especially—who can only sign with a cross, is enormous. It is not unusual to see parish documents of great local importance defaced with the same humiliating symbol by persons whose office shows them to be not only "men of mark," but men of substance. A housewife in humble life need only turn to the file of her tradesmen's bills to discover hieroglyphics which render them so many arithmetical puzzles. In short, the practical evidences of the low ebb to which the plainest rudiments of education in this country have fallen, are too common to bear repetition. We cannot pass through the streets, we cannot enter a place of public assembly, or ramble in the fields, without the gloomy shadow of Ignorance sweeping over us.—*Dickens's 'Household Words.'*

*The King of Holland's Pictures.*—The famed collection of Dutch pictures formed by William the Third of Holland is to be disposed of by his executors:—and the Emperor of Russia has empowered agents to secure them for himself.—*Art Journal*.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.—J. C. F.—Viator—H. P.—J. A. G.—T. S.—F. M.—Zolius—J. G.—W. F.—L. N. E.—received. J. T. T.—Any bookseller will give this correspondent the information he seeks. There are reasons which should be obvious to him why we cannot.

E. L. G.—This correspondent's letter shall appear next week.

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# THE ATHENÆUM

Journal of English and Foreign Literature, Science, and the Fine Arts.

No. 1174.

LONDON, SATURDAY, APRIL 27, 1850.

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FOURPENCE  
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For the convenience of Subscribers residing in remote places, the weekly numbers are reissued in Monthly Parts, stitched in a wrapper, and forwarded with the Magazines.—Subscriptions for the Stamped Edition for the Continent, not for less than Three Months, and in advance, are received by M. BAUDRY, 3, Quai Malaquais, Paris, or at the Publishing Office, 14, Wellington-street North, Strand, London. For France and other Countries not requiring the postage to be paid in London, 28fr. or 14 1/2s. the year. To other Countries, the postage in addition.

**ROYAL BOTANICAL SOCIETY, Regent's Park.**  
—GENERAL EXHIBITIONS—WEDNESDAYS, May 3, 13, and July 3.  
—AMERICAN PLANTS—SATURDAYS, May 25 and June 1.  
Tickets to be obtained at the Gardens, by orders from Fellows of the Society, price 5s. each; or on the days of Exhibition, 7s. 6d. each; and such Tickets will admit to the Collection of American Plants from the 3rd of June to the 5th, both included.  
N.B. Fruit will be exhibited on June 12 and July 3.

**BOTANICAL SOCIETY OF LONDON.**  
—THE LIST OF DESIDERATA OF BRITISH PLANTS for 1850 is ready; and Botanists desirous of having a copy may obtain the same by written application to the Secretary.  
G. E. DUNN, Secretary.  
20, Bedford-street, Covent-garden, April, 1850.

**ARCHITECTURAL PUBLICATION SOCIETY.**—The Committee invite parties experienced in subjects connected with ARCHITECTURE, whether as a Fine Art, or Construction, or Archaeologically, to CONTRIBUTE ESSAYS or PAPERS having reference thereto; accompanied with a note of the remuneration expected.—Further particulars, and the Works already issued, may be seen on application to the Members of the Committee; or to the Honorary Secretary, WYATT PARSONS, Esq., 14, Great Marlborough-street.

**THE CAMDEN SOCIETY, for the Publication of Early Historical and Literary Remains.**—The ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING will be held at the Freemasons' Tavern, Great Queen-street, on THURSDAY NEXT, the 2nd of May, at FOUR o'clock, precisely.

**THE LORD BRAYBROOKE, the President, in the Chair.**  
WILLIAM J. THOMAS, Secretary.  
The following are the Publications of the Society for the year 1849-50:—

I. Inedited Letters of Queen Elizabeth, addressed to King James VI. of Scotland, between the Years 1581 and 1594. From the Originals in the possession of the Rev. Edward Ryder, of Carter, Wilts. Edited by JOHN BAKER, Esq. Treas. &c.  
II. Chronicon Petroburgense. Nunc primum typis mandatum, curante THOMAS STAPLETON.  
III. The Chronicle of Queen Jane, and of Two Years of Queen Mary; and especially of the Rebellion of Sir Thomas Wyatt, resident by a Resident in the Tower of London. Edited, with illustrative Documents and Notes, by JOHN GOSCH NICHOLS, Esq., F.S.A.

The Subscription to the Society is 12. per annum. Communications from Gentlemen desirous of becoming Members may be addressed to the Secretary; or to Messrs. Nichols, No. 25, Parliament-street, Westminster.

**ARTISTS' GENERAL BENEVOLENT INSTITUTION.** Incorporated by Royal Charter, 1842, under the immediate Protection of Her Most Excellent Majesty THE QUEEN. Patron, His Royal Highness PRINCE ALBERT, K.G.—The Nobility and Subscribers are respectfully informed that the THIRTY-EIGHTH ANNIVERSARY DINNER of the Institution will take place in FREEMASONS' HALL, on SATURDAY, May 11th, when the Right Hon. SIR ROBERT PEEL, Bart. M.P., will take the Chair.  
W. J. ROPER, Assistant Secretary.

**SUFFOLK FINE ARTS ASSOCIATION.**  
The Right Hon. the LORD RENDLESHAM, M.P. President.

The Committee of this Association beg to announce to Artists that it is proposed to have a PUBLIC EXHIBITION at IPSWICH, in the month of August next, of Works in Painting, Sculpture, Architecture, Engraving, &c., the original productions of Artists and Amateurs, Members of the Society.  
Further particulars will be announced in subsequent advertisements, and any information required may be obtained on application to R. H. PARSONS, Esq., Brook-street, Ipswich; or 34, Moor-gate-street, London.

**ROYAL MANCHESTER INSTITUTION.**  
—THE EXHIBITION OF MODERN PICTURES IN OIL and WATER-COLOURS, SPECIMENS OF SCULPTURES and CASTS, and ARCHITECTURAL DESIGNS, will be opened the first time in July. Works may be sent so as to arrive not later than the 1st of June. The Council particularly request that no Artist will send more than four paintings, it being resolved that not more than that number by any one Artist shall be hung.  
Works of Art must be sent carriage paid by all persons except those who have received the Invitation Circular, and must be directed to the Hon. Secretary, Royal Institution, Manchester.  
GEO. WAREING ORMEROD, Hon. Sec.

**FIRST-CLASS BRONZES.**—THOMAS PEARCE  
begs to remind Admirers of this beautiful branch of the Fine Arts that his Collection continues to stand unrivalled for the choice subjects it comprises, and the unusual care with which every article is finished.—23, Ludgate-hill.

**GUY'S.**—The SUMMER SESSION commences on WEDNESDAY, the 1st of May.—Gentlemen who desire to become Students must give satisfactory testimonials to their education and conduct; they are required to pay 40l. for the year, 40l. for the second year, and 10l. for every succeeding year of attendance.  
Doctors, Clinical Clerks, Assistants, and Resident Obstetric Clerks are selected according to merit from those Students who have attended a second year.

**LECTURES, &c.**  
**DEMONSTRATION ON CUTANEOUS DISEASES.**—Dr. Addison.  
**MATERIA MEDICA.**—Dr. Golding Bird and Dr. Owen Rees.  
**CLINICAL LECTURES.**—Dr. Hughes, Dr. Owen Rees, and Dr. Golding Bird.  
**MIDWIFERY.**—Dr. Lever and Dr. Oldham.  
**MEDICAL JURISPRUDENCE.**—Dr. Alfred Taylor.  
**REGIONAL ANATOMY.**—Mr. Hilton.  
**DENTAL SURGERY.**—Mr. Bell.  
**COMPARATIVE ANATOMY.**—Dr. Gull.  
**OPHTHALMIC SURGERY.**—Mr. France.  
**OBSTETRY.**—Mr. Johnson.  
Dr. Hatherston will superintend the studies of those who intend to graduate.  
Mr. Stocker, Apothecary to Guy's Hospital, is authorized to enter the names of Students, and to give further particulars if required.

**EXHIBITION OF 1851.—SOUTHAMPTON FIRST**  
Subscription List of Clerks, Workmen, &c.  
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**ART-UNION OF LONDON.**—The ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING, to receive the Council's Report, and to distribute the amount received for the purchase of works of Art, will be held in the Theatre Royal, Drury Lane, on Tuesday next, the 30th inst., at 11 for 12 o'clock precisely. The receipt for the current year will admit the subscriber and friends.  
His Royal Highness the Duke of CAMBRIDGE, President, in the chair.  
GEORGE GOWIN, Hon. LEWIS POCOCK, Secs.

**PHOTOGRAPHIC PORTRAIT AND LANDSCAPE LENSES.**—A. ROSS, Optician, begs to inform Photographers that he has a stock of these Instruments, which have been manufactured by his peculiar process. They have the chemical and visual foci coincident, and produce fine definition throughout the whole of the picture.—A Catalogue of Prices may be had by applying at 2, Featherstone Buildings, High Holborn.

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Surveying. Field Engineering and Nautical Astronomy. C. Hodgkinson, Esq.  
Civil Engineering and Architecture. S. Clegg, jun. Esq.  
Machinery. W. Bion, Esq.  
Military Science. Captain Griffiths, R.F.P. Royal Artillery.  
Drawing. H. Fradette, Esq.  
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Sword Exercise and Fencing. Messrs. Angelo.  
Divinity, Special Course. The Rev. M. Cowie, M.A. Principal.

The fees for the additional courses in these three departments are so arranged that the cost of education, board, &c. need not exceed 100 guineas per annum.  
Prospectuses may be had at Mr. Dalton's, 28, Cockspur-street, Charing-cross; Messrs. Smith, Elder & Co.'s, Cornhill; or any information can be obtained by application to the Principal, at the College.

**ANCIENT MANUSCRIPTS, UPON VELLUM AND PAPER, INCLUDING ORIGINAL CARULINE CHRONICLES OF ENGLAND, &c. &c.—VITATATIONS OF DORSETSHIRE, ESSEX, SOMERSETSHIRE, AND WILTSHIRE.—SPLENDID VOLUMES OF PEDIGREES, HERALDRY, DRAWINGS, AND MONASTIC SEALS.—ANGLO-NORMAN CHARTERS, FROM A VERY EARLY PERIOD—AND VARIOUS OTHER INTERESTING SUBJECTS—SEE THE LAST PAGE OF THIS JOURNAL.**

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**SHAKESPEARE.—CHANDOS PORTRAIT.**  
—AN ENGRAVING, from the Original, in the possession of the Earl of Ellesmere, has been executed by SAMUEL COUSINS, A.R.A., for the Shakespeare Society.

The Plate has been destroyed, and only a very limited number of prints and Directors' proofs remain for sale to the public, the former at 2s., the latter at 4s.  
Early application for impressions should be made to the Agents of the Society, Messrs. SKEFFINGTON & SOUTHWELL, Booksellers and Publishers, 129, Piccadilly, where copies may be seen.

**MAGNIFICENT COLLECTION OF BOHEMIAN GLASS.**—THOMAS PEARCE respectfully acquaints Purchasers who wish to select from a choice Stock, that he has just imported some of the most beautiful productions ever introduced into this country, combining every style with the newest and most elaborate decoration, which he is offering at the present reduced prices.—23, Ludgate-hill.

**MURRAY'S HANDBOOKS for TRAVELLERS.**—ADVERTISEMENTS for insertion in the present Year's Issue of MURRAY'S CONTINENTAL HANDBOOKS, must be forwarded to the Publisher by the 10th May.  
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**SUBSCRIPTION in favour of the WIDOW OF COURTOIS, the DISCOVERER of IODINE.**  
M. CLAUDET having, through the kind medium of the *Athenæum* and *Literary Gazette*, made an appeal in England to Chemists, Professional and Amateur Photographers, and Benevolent Persons, in aid of a Subscription opened in Paris, for the ADMISSION of the destitute WIDOW of COURTOIS in the HOSPICE DES MENAGES, has the pleasure to acknowledge with thanks the following Subscriptions, which have been received by M. Claudet, 13, King William-street, Strand, Messrs. Hennemann & Malone, 122, Regent-street, and Messrs. Knight & Sons, Foster-lane, Chapside:—

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Nevertheless, eloquence is a species of poetry:—and hence it is that it displaces the true type or is displaced by it. There is not perhaps "one soul" between them, but a spiritual affinity sufficient both to assimilate and to separate them. Many diverse arts and sciences, the highest in their kinds, may flourish contemporaneously—the most positive and material along with the most spiritual and transcendental; but there are prohibited degrees of kindred within which it would appear that others, at least so far as experience warrants, cannot thus pair together:—and the case alluded to is perhaps one of the most prominent.

Of the action of this law, and more especially in the instance referred to, even Ireland, young as she yet is in her intellectual career, contributes her illustration. She lays claim, and justly, to having produced within nearly the last hundred years, orators who in number and eminence may compete with the most distinguished of that distinguished class in any other country of modern times. But she incurs the natural consequence,—and has given to the world in that period but two poets, Goldsmith and Moore.

The oratorical era, however, even in Ireland has for now some twenty years been on the wane; not certainly as indicated by the number of her aspirants to eloquence, which is still Legion, but by the quality. In this respect—little as some of our brethren at the other side of the Channel may relish the implied subjection to one common jurisdiction—the Celtic mind obeys, though under various modifications, the same psychological law that influences the Saxon. In Great Britain the orator is coming to be gradually replaced by the debater,—in Ireland by the declaimer. But declamation and a certain species of verse are, as we have already intimated, by no means incompatible, and the cadence and spurious passion of the one naturally leads to the rhythm and written rhetoric of the other. This literary phase would perhaps under all circumstances have characterized the decline of the oratorical age in Ireland; but the political agitations in that

country, prolonged and eventually pushed to a crisis, gave it a factitious impulse which extended it far beyond its natural limits. Hence the productions of the Young Ireland Muse.

It is scarcely necessary to say that it is not our intention to canvass the merits of this school of verse beyond what is necessary for our present purpose. It has been already dealt with both in this journal and elsewhere; and we believe the judgment that has been passed on it has been acceded to by even many of those who had most distinguished themselves as its members. The clever fire-eating style of this flashy *Garde Mobile* of songsters has been recognized; whilst, at the same time, by the divine law of genuine song, the boy-bards have been as bards disbanded, and their verses condemned to the categories of the lampoon and the pasquinade. The poetical system, if poetical it can be called, which they adopted, was of necessity as factitious and fugitive as the political passion which called it forth,—and which, even when sincere, is not the true inspiration of the Muse. Its natural sphere is the rostrum. *Facit indignatio versum* is doubtless a truth, even where the provocation of politics is the source. Nay, Billingsgate itself may illustrate the verse-making power of a strong emotion. The *poissarde* when inspired by strife will break involuntarily into trope and metre. But though in each case verses may be made, poetry, properly so called, is not. The true application of the Latin maxim may be found in the works of him who propounded it. Juvenal was a satirist, not a bard. The young Ireland writers were satirical versifiers, not in anywise masters of the lyre.

Yet, we shall be altogether misapprehended if it be supposed that we do not regard the young men of this school as having been far superior, as a body, in talent and attainments to the youth of any previous generation in the sister country. They belonged to a more advanced age, and evinced this in spite of their absurdities. During the last twenty years the progress of intellect even in Ireland, and notwithstanding adverse casualties, had on the whole been signally accelerated, and the domain of knowledge and speculation considerably enlarged. But this mental power thus acquired was as yet jejune and vainglorious; and hence, craving an immature display, flung itself into that Curtian abyss of Irish ambition, Irish politics—a chasm that seems destined never to close, though a perennial succession of victims should continue to precipitate themselves into its insatiable jaws, and so perish.

The worst feature still in the literary mind of Ireland—though it at length gives some signs of disappearing—is its morbid desire to foster a paradoxical spirit of provincial nationality—or rather the affectation of it, which is worse—to propagate the belief that this sectarian patriotism is the basis of the prose writer and of the poet, and that their missions are to labour, not for mankind, but for a race. This political favouritism, even on a truly national scale, is inconsistent with the cosmopolitan tendencies of an enlightened age, and is more especially so with the world-wide sympathies of its poetry. It is certain, however, that to this spirit, false as it is, was due the Young Ireland school of verse, and the existence for the first time in that country of a species of literary community, such as it was, amongst whose effusions, however meretricious and unsound, are to be found fragments of unquestionable power and occasionally of truth and beauty. But it is also equally certain that the existence of this band of writers has served to postpone the poetical era of Ireland, if such a future awaits it. It gave an impulse, but in the wrong direction.

The ground must be measured back in order to arrive at the true starting-post. Still the demise of the school itself as a body is so far a favourable omen; whilst the fact that it evanesced along with the political movement which gave it birth sufficiently attests its unspiritual and accidental nature. It died materially, and rendered up no soul,—not even the *animula vagula* of the heathen, whose diffident faith could speak only in diminutives.

We will not, however, say that some one or two of the writers under this system have not as poets survived its decease; but then, it has been in despite of that system, and by more or less eschewing it. Mangan was perhaps one of these,—but rather as judged by some scattered indications to be culled amongst his pages than by any more substantive proofs. Most of his pieces are translations, and from Irish reliques; the prescribed models and subjects under the Young Ireland régime, as were Greek and Roman stories to the patriots of the first French Revolution,—and not less preposterous. The system accordingly doomed him to be an interpreter rather than an original writer,—at best the poet-paraphrast of the rude efforts in verse of a dead language, that never lived in a literary sense, and never can come to life in any save a philological one, and that remotely. Yet here and there we catch an *afflatus* of mind in the verses of Mangan, which possibly might have in time attested a true inspiration, had not his early and lamented death anticipated the solution of the question.

Perhaps the only writer who, by the quality of his productions, as also by their continuity, can be said to have survived as a poet the Young Ireland school, is the author of the volume which heads our present notice. Whilst we find much that is obnoxious to criticism in Mr. McCarthy's pages, it is with real pleasure that we at the same time recognize in them what we conceive to be the track of the true poetic mind. It is always pleasant to praise; especially so when the object of our commendation is the mental produce of the sister country—a case, we must frankly avow, that does not too often present itself to take off the edge of the enjoyment. Criticism, in spite of what the criticized may think, or affirm, wearies of nothing so much as of dealing out censure. It is right to add, that we are the more ready to regard the promise of good fruit from Ireland with favour,—or justice, we might call it,—because we have not been insensible to the fact, that until within the last twenty years that country had never been placed by its rulers under those social conditions which are essential to the growth of good of any kind,—more especially of that significant portion of it, a healthy literature. Hence we are the more willing to regard this volume as an earnest of that growth. It is the first symptom of a transition from the elocutionary verse of the Young Ireland school to true poetical expression,—and this is an indispensable preliminary. The nature of the subjects here treated and the mode of treating them exemplify in many cases this transit. The distinctly political thesis is, with few exceptions, eschewed or only indirectly alluded to. The slang of patriotism is less obtrusive. Provincialism and the preaching of sectarian doctrine are quelled. A larger circle of knowledge and scholarship than can possibly be gleaned from mere Celtism, is apparent. The metre, too, which under the Young Ireland régime was for the most part confined to one gait of going—a kind of saltatory rhythm or canter, that generally cleaves to him who has had long usage of it as does the same pace to the palfrey, at best an effeminate Pegasus—and which gives an intolerable mono-



tony to the clever 'Songs of the Nation'—is here repudiated. To this the author's natural and unbounded command over rhythm has evidently contributed. No "custom," we fancy, could in this respect "stale his infinite variety." But above all, the spirit that informs his thoughts—and here the poet's transitional state is most apparent—is an omen of his emancipation. It is incomparably more free and excursive than when it served the Sycorax of political verse. It is no longer "rift imprisoned in a cloven pine"; but can "lurk where the bee sucks," and "lie in a cowslip's bell," and "do its spiriting gently," if it has not as yet attained full liberty.

Of the four principal poems in this collection, the 'Legend of Alice and Una' is perhaps the best. It is inferior in very important respects to portions of several of the other pieces in the volume; but it is, on the whole, the most complete and artistic,—the most suited to the author's powers, as yet developed,—and amongst the most favourable specimens of his sway over rhythmical modulation. We give a few of its commencing stanzas.—

Ah! the pleasant time hath vanished, ere our wretched  
doubtings banished  
All the graceful spirit-people, children of the earth and sea,  
Whom in days now dim and olden, when the world was  
fresh and golden,  
Every mortal could behold in haunted rath, and tower, and  
tree—  
They have vanished, they are banished—ah! how sad the  
loss for thee,  
Lonely Céim-an-eich!

Still some scenes are yet enchanted by the charms that  
Nature granted,  
Still are peopled, still are haunted, by a graceful spirit band.  
Peace and beauty have their dwelling where the infant  
streams are welling,  
Where the mournful waves are knelling on Glengariff's coral  
strand,  
Or where, on Killarney's mountains, Grace and Terror  
smiling stand,  
Like sisters, hand in hand!

Still we have a new romance in fire-ships through the tamed  
seas glancing,  
And the snorting and the prancing of the mighty engine  
steed;  
Still, Astolpho-like, we wander through the boundless azure  
yonder,  
Realizing what seemed fonder than the magic tales we read—  
Tales of wild Arabian wonder, where the fancy all is freed—  
Wildier far indeed!

Now that Earth once more hath woken, and the trance of  
Time is broken,  
And the sweet word—Hope—is spoken, soft and sure, though  
none know how,—  
Could we—could we only see all these, the glories of the  
Real,  
Blended with the lost Ideal, happy were the old world now—  
Woman in its fond believing—man with iron arm and brow—  
Faith and Work its vow!

Yes! the Past shines clear and pleasant, and there's glory  
in the Present;  
And the Future, like a crescent, lights the deepening sky of  
Time;  
And that sky will yet grow brighter, if the Worker and the  
Writer—  
If the Sceptre and the Mitre join in sacred bonds sublime.  
With two glories shining o'er them, up the coming years  
they'll climb,  
Earth's great evening as its prime!

These graceful thoughts are as gracefully set to music. We would, however, here take occasion to suggest, that the faculty of rhythm itself may become a fatal facility and lead to mere instrumentation. In the instance just referred to, it is legitimately applied; but the theme and sentiment of song are frequently sacrificed in the writer's pages to little more than a species of phonetic *capriccio*, or musical freak. It is in the simpler forms of verse that the author discourses the most eloquent music. But this costs meditation and the passion of Art; and the volume before us tends at times to give the impression that its author reluctantly surrenders the sensuous luxury of mere vocal effusion—the *Lieder ohne Worte*—for the songs and the words together. In 'The Voyage of St. Brendan'—the last of the longer pieces—we have both. A simple versification, yet not the less musical, evoking a loftier strain of reflection and feeling,—we meet with fragments which, though in the vicinity of matter somewhat prosaic, are superior

to anything in the poem just referred to.—As for example the following verses. St. Brendan about to relate to the Abbess Ita, formerly the guardian of his childhood, the wonders of his voyage, thus preludes his narrative.—

Thou knowest, O my mother! how to thee  
The blessed Ercus led me when a boy,  
And how within thine arms and at thy knee  
I learned the lore that death cannot destroy;  
And how I parted hence with bitter tears,  
And felt when turning from thy friendly door,  
In the reality of ripening years,  
My paradise of childhood was no more.

I wept—but not with sin such tear-drops flow,  
I sighed—for earthly things with heaven entwine;  
Tears make the harvest of the heart to grow,  
And love, though human, is almost divine.  
The heart that loves not knows not how to pray;  
That eye can never smile that never weeps;  
'Tis through our sighs Hope's kindling sunbeams play,  
And through our tears the bow of Promise peeps.

I grew to manhood by the western wave,  
Among the mighty mountains on the shore;  
My bed the rock within some natural cave,  
My food, whatever the seas or seasons bore;  
My occupation, morn and noon and night:  
The only dream my hasty slumbers gave,  
Was Time's unheeding, unreturning flight,  
And the great world that lies beyond the grave.

And thus, where'er I went, all things to me  
Assumed the one deep colour of my mind;  
Great nature's prayer rose from the murmuring sea,  
And sinful man sighed in the wintry wind.  
The thick-veiled clouds, by shedding many a tear,  
Like penitents, grew purified and bright,  
And, bravely struggling through earth's atmosphere,  
Passed to the regions of eternal light.

I loved to watch the clouds now dark and dun,  
In long procession and funeral line,  
Pass with slow pace across the glorious sun,  
Like hooded monks before a dazzling shrine.  
And now with gentler beauty as they rolled  
Along the azure vault in gladsome May,  
Gleaming pure white, and edged with brodered gold,  
Like snowy vestments on the Virgin's day.

And then I saw the mighty sea expand  
Like Time's unmeasured and unfathomed waves,  
One with its tide-marks on the ridgy sand,  
The other with its line of weedy graves;  
And as beyond the outstretched wave of time,  
The eye of Faith a brighter land may meet,  
So did I dream of some more sunny clime  
Beyond the waste of waters at my feet.

This is conceived in the genuine spirit of poetry:  
—as is also the following picture of a young girl taking the veil.—

Ethna awoke—a second, brighter dawn,  
Her mother's fondling voice breathed in her ear;  
Quick from her couch she started, as a fawn  
Bounds from the heather when her dam is near.  
Each clasped the other in a long embrace—  
Each knew the other's heart did beat and bleed—  
Each kissed the warm tears from the other's face,  
And gave the consolation she did need.

Oh! bitterest sacrifice the heart can make—  
That of a mother of her darling child—  
That of a child, who, for her Saviour's sake,  
Leaves the fond face that o'er her cradle smiled.  
They who may think that God doth never need  
So great, so sad a sacrifice as this,  
While they take glory in their easier creed,  
Will feel and own the sacrifice it is.

All is prepared—the sisters in the choir—  
The mitred abbot on his crimson throne—  
The waxen tapers, with their pallid fire  
Poured o'er the sacred cup and altar-stone—  
The upturned eyes, glistening with pious tears—  
The censor's fragrant vapour floating o'er.  
Now all is hushed, for, lo! the maid appears,  
Entering with solemn step the sacred door.

She moved as moves the moon, radiant and pale,  
Through the calm night, wrapped in a silvery cloud;  
The jewels of her dress shone through her veil,  
As shine the stars through their thin vaporous shroud;  
The brighter jewels of her eyes were hid  
Beneath their smooth white casquets arching o'er,  
Which, by the trembling of each ivory lid,  
Seemed conscious of the treasures that they bore.

She reached the narrow porch and the tall door,  
Her trembling foot upon the sill was placed—  
Her snowy veil swept the smooth-sanded floor—  
Her cold hands chilled the bosom they embraced.  
Who is this youth, whose forehead, like a book,  
Bears many a deep-traced character of pain?  
Who looks for pardon as the damned may look—  
That ever pray, and know they pray in vain.

There is much beauty and of a high order in the first poem, 'The Bell-Founder'; but it is fatally marred by the conduct of the story, which breaks down signally at the close—the catastrophe of the hero becoming the catastrophe of the piece. It is worth while seeing how this comes to pass, and how the wilful per-

version of what at first appears a very auspicious design, forcibly illustrates the vices of the school in which the author has formally matriculated.

The Campanaro, or Bell-Founder, is at first represented as prosperous, and the sound of the church bells which he himself had cast is happily described as becoming gradually associated in his mind with the domestic circle of affections that hallows his homestead. We may remark in passing that this idea is somewhat suggestive of Schiller's 'Song of the Bell,'—but it is on the whole independently treated. In an evil hour all this felicity is swept away by a war, which not only lays waste his native city, Florence, but at one fell swoop bereaves him of his whole family—wife and children—who perish in the calamity. The stricken Campanaro, his hearth and home thus left desolate, finds no solace save in brooding over the memory of this mournful visitation, and in seeking to hear those sounds which recall the beloved objects of his former happiness. Accordingly he becomes a wanderer through Loretto, Rome, Naples, Spain, &c.,—but without avail.

For though sweet are the bells that ring out from the tall  
campanili of Rome,  
Ah! they are not the dearer and sweeter ones tuned with  
the memory of home;

—and this applies equally to the other places enumerated.

Up to this point the leading idea is developed with much taste and judgment; but here the pestilent doctrine of nationality conceived by Irish writers, whether in season or out of season, to be essential to poetry, is obtruded,—and accordingly a very promising conception is distorted and stultified, and the climax verges on the burlesque. The Campanaro has failed to hear the sweet music that he looks for in Italy and Spain,—but Mr. M'Carthy patriotically takes him to Limerick! There, the bell of St. Mary's Square Tower rings out a peal which perfectly satisfies the old Bell-Founder that at long and last he is a bell finder too!

One note is enough—his eye moistens, his heart long so  
withered outwells;  
He has found them—the sons of his labours—his musical  
magical bells!

But they are neither "musical" nor "magical" to the reader, whatever they may be to the Campanaro. On the contrary, they are jangled and vulgarized by this patriotism out of place and this bathos of Limerick. A sense of the ludicrous awakened, is immediately transferred by association to the hero himself of the poem; and his one consuming thought, hitherto respected and sympathized with, now assumes the character of a dotage to which the bells that have the coral as an accompaniment should be presented. Let Mr. M'Carthy be persuaded to abjure these puerile intrusions. The day is over when loyal authors thought it necessary to prove that they were so by terminating their labours with a *Vivat Rex*;—let the flourish of nationality also be no longer considered for popular purposes as the prescribed *Finis* to the same. It is because we reverence true liberality of opinion that we would not see it travestied.

Amongst the smaller poems and ballads in this volume, many might be cited as containing considerable merit,—some as far surpassing that average standard. In this latter class may be counted—'Summer Longing,' 'Devotion,' 'Over the Sea,' 'Fatal Gifts,' 'Remonstrance,' 'To Ethna,' 'The Lay Missioner.' The last-mentioned poem is one of the best in the volume. It is, however, too long to be extracted whole, and it would be doing it an injustice to give it piecemeal. We must pass over the poem 'To Ethna,' which is also very beautiful, for the same reason. A Sonnet to the same person, and which forms the Dedication to the Book, may favourably replace it.—



Ethna, to cull sweet flowers divinely fair,  
To seek for gems of such transparent light  
As would not be unworthy to unite  
Round thy fair brow, and through thy dark brown hair,  
I would that I had wings to cleave the air,  
In search of some far region of delight,  
That back to thee from that adventurous flight  
A glorious wreath my happy hands might bear;  
Soon would the sweetest Persian rose be thine—  
Soon would the glory of Golconda's mine  
Flash on thy forehead, like a star—ah! me,  
In place of these, I bring, with trembling hand,  
These fading wild flowers from our native land—  
These simple pebbles from the Irish sea!

We have room for only two more of the shorter poems.—

*Summer Longings.*

Las mananas floridas  
De Abril y Mayo.—*Catteron.*

Ah! my heart is weary waiting,  
Waiting for the May—  
Waiting for the pleasant rambles,  
Where the fragrant hawthorn brambles,  
With the woodbine alternating,  
Scent the dewy way,  
Ah! my heart is weary waiting,  
Waiting for the May.

Ah! my heart is sick with longing,  
Longing for the May—  
Longing to escape from study,  
To the young face fair and ruddy,  
And the thousand charms belonging  
To the summer's day.

Ah! my heart is sick with longing,  
Longing for the May.

Ah! my heart is sore with sighing,  
Sighing for the May—  
Sighing for their sure returning,  
When the summer beams are burning,  
Hopes and flowers that dead or dying  
All the winter lay.

Ah! my heart is sore with sighing,  
Sighing for the May.

Ah! my heart is pained with throbbing,  
Throbbing for the May—  
Throbbing for the sea-side billows,  
Or the water-wooing willows;  
Where in laughing and in sobbing  
Glide the streams away.  
Ah! my heart, my heart is throbbing,  
Throbbing for the May.

Waiting sad, dejected, weary,  
Waiting for the May.  
Spring goes by with wasted warnings,  
Moon-lit evenings, sun-bright mornings:  
Summer comes, yet dark and dreary  
Life still ebbs away:  
Man is ever weary, weary,  
Waiting for the May!

*Fatal Gifts.*

Muse! contemple ta victime.—*Lamartine.*

The Poet's heart is a fatal boon,  
And fatal his wondrous eye,  
And the delicate ear,  
So quick to hear,  
Over the earth and sky,  
Creation's mystical tune!  
Soon, soon, but not too soon,  
Does that ear grow deaf, and that eye grow dim,  
And Nature becometh a waste for him,  
Whom, born for another sphere,  
Misery hath shipwrecked here.

For what availeth his sensitive heart  
For the struggle and stormy strife  
That the mariner-man,  
Since the world began,  
Has braved on the sea of life?  
With fearful wonder his eye doth start,  
When it should be fixed on the out-spread chart  
That pointeth the way to golden shores—  
Rent are his sails, and broken his oars,  
And he sinks without hope or plan,  
With his floating caravan.

And love, that should be his strength and stay,  
Becometh his bane full soon,  
Like flowers that are born  
Of the beams at morn,  
But die of their heat ere noon.  
Far better the heart were the sterile clay  
Where the shining sands of the desert play,  
And where never the perishing flow'et gleams,  
Than the heart that is fed with its wither'd dreams,  
And whose love is repelled with scorn,  
Like the bee by the rose's thorn.

Our limits preclude any special reference to the translations comprised in this volume. Several of them are very happily executed. We perhaps find too many obscure names amongst the authors selected for the honour of being rendered into our tongue. Even Casti and Maffei,—not to speak of others of little or no notoriety, who appear in this list,—are but subordinate poets. Gongora himself, though a celebrity were it only as having formed at second-hand a school in Spain by his *estilo*

*culto*, was at best but a Marinist and an Euphuist. We make these observations, not merely in passing, but pertinently; because we conceive it is the tendency of Mr. M'Carthy, in common with several other accomplished young writers in Ireland, when tired of treating national subjects, to proceed *per saltum* to foreign literature even in its duskiest retreats, rather than draw from the well undefiled of English literature. The only positive indications that we find in this volume of the author's acquaintance with English poetry are some imitations of Tennyson and his followers,—amongst whom Longfellow may be counted. Mr. M'Carthy's 'Advance' is evidently inspired by the 'Excelsior' of the American. There is much grace and beauty in this school; but the student-poet must strike his shaft somewhat deeper if he wishes to reach the pure English Helicon.

We think, however, that Mr. M'Carthy will do so, and with more congeniality than possibly he may have yet done. His possession of a naturally kindred spirit to the true genius of song, frequently revealed in the numerous and striking beauties that are scattered throughout his pages, seems to be a faithful voucher for this expectation.

*Reginald Hastings; or, a Tale of the Troubles in 164—* By Eliot Warburton. 3 vols. Colburn.

THE wide acceptance won by Mr. Warburton's 'The Crescent and the Cross' naturally makes his first romance an object of more than ordinary curiosity. The world generally may be more disappointed with the tale now that it has come than we ourselves are: for by many an experience we have been taught that it is not an enthusiastic style, a certain generosity of sentiment, and a dash of adventurous spirit that make the novelist, but invention—such invention as contrives situation and discovers character. Of this gift we find small trace in 'Reginald Hastings.' Even for an imaginary memoir it is needlessly fragmentary. We fail to recognize the imaginary writer as one and the same person throughout. The asterisks which separate the clauses of his confession might be so many symbols of metamorphosis; or, to state the matter otherwise, from first to last Mr. Eliot Warburton fails to prove that he ever really enjoyed the confidences of the Cavalier's dungeon or ever received the visit of jingling spur and floating feather at his library table. He treats us to high words and picturesque clothes,—but to little flesh and blood. Nor does our new romantic aspirant show greater power to evoke the personages of history. King Charles—Cromwell—Lady Carlisle—Lucy Hutchinson are all summoned,—but none of them appear. Felton, the assassin, masquerades as the *Rashleigh* of the record, under the melodramatic name of Hezekiah Doom,—but even with such a title to help him, we cannot appreciate the ascendancy which he is said to have gained over Sir Janus Demirov. The dwarf Rabshakeh and the Irish dare-devil Bryan are among the veriest stock-figures with which Mr. James, Mr. Ainsworth, and the author of 'Whitefriars' work their machinery of plot and counterplot.

The tale, however, is not a story so much as a succession of scenes; and Mr. Eliot Warburton has a right to claim from us that by exhibiting a specimen of these we should enable our readers to judge for themselves of his skill in scenic arrangement. Here, the Malignant is exhibited as having fallen into Puritan hands.—

"After an hour's rest in a barn, I was summoned to the presence of a Court of War. That tribunal was composed of some half-dozen officers, most of whom wore their armour awkwardly, and looked like

citizens who had assumed a knightly dress for some masque or pageant. Such as they were, however, they were my judges, and their functions were soon performed. As spies were the enemies most feared, they received no mercy in those days from either party: if dubbed with that ominous name, the doom of the accused was certain. At once for trial and defence, I was merely asked, 'whether my name was correctly stated, and whether I was not found in company with the frizzled Madam, called d'Aubigny, when (taking traitorous advantage of the Parliament's safe conduct) she was detected, as being mother to the damnable plot.' I stated the case as simply as I could, and called upon their own minister, Hezekiah, as witness to the truth of my assertion, that I had scorned the office of conspirator. One of my judges, named Hewson, spoke for all the rest, and thus delivered his judgment: 'This Philistine scorneth to conspire, forsooth; but the scorner is an abomination unto men; yea, more especially when he escorteth foolish women, whose heads and hair are filled with deceit and danger to the Commonwealth. Surely, the churning of milk bringeth forth butter, and keeping company with traitors, produceth treason. The Parliament hath wisely determined to visit this foul plot, and all other conspiracy with swift vengeance; and why should we stay our hands in this case, where we have the prisoner self convicted of being a spy as well as a conspirator. Wherefore, we have only to pronounce the sentence upon thee, that by the morning's light, thou be shot to death at the village tree; and meanwhile we shall not withhold from thee such ghostly consolation as our godly ministers can give.' Without further parley, I was hurried out of Court and back to the barn which I shared as a prison with some others. Fatigued as I was, I refused all offers of refreshment, ghostly or solid, and soon fell asleep, in spite of all the crowd of anxious thoughts that pressed upon my brain. I must have slept some hours, when I was conscious of a soft warm drop upon my cheek; I started, could it be a human tear that reached me there, in the midst of enemies who longed to see me die? The thought was so pleasurable that I feigned to sleep again, in order to collect my ideas; again and again tears fell upon me, and I found that my head was carefully pillowed on some knee. The light began to dawn, and I saw that fetters bound the feet of my kind watcher. At length a low and piteous voice whispered in my ear, 'Master, master dear, it's light, and soon God's sun will rise and our's must set,—Ohone and sorrow!'—'My poor Bryan!' I exclaimed, 'now, indeed, I feel the anguish of this hour. My poor boy, well may'st thou shrink from sharing the doom which to me has scarce a pang.'—The boy dashed away the tears from his eyes, and exclaimed reproachfully,—almost angrily: 'And did you think it was a thought for myself that could make a woman of me? Oh no;—no—no!—it's little that matters what becomes of the life you saved, when the pride and the hope of my heart's gone from me.—And to think I could not save you from being murdered, after all!' Between sobs and tears, he hastily told me the little story of his own adventures that I have already related; adding that his object in returning to the enemy's quarters was to seek the Lord-General or Hampden, from whose nobler character he hoped to obtain at least some respite for his doomed master. But he had been observed, pursued, taken, and recognized, and condemned to die by the same court of war that had lately pronounced sentence upon me. For him, however, a sadder fate was destined—he was to die a felon's death. As this sad and faithful story was being told, the light grew stronger and stronger; and the end of my poor Bryan's tale was almost drowned in the beat of drums that summoned the soldiers to witness and assist at our execution. Then there was a pause, ominously broken by a muffled drum, that seemed to sob out our summons to depart. The large door was flung open by the sentinels from within, as those without knocked with the butt-end of their muskets. When the sun's rays streamed in gloriously with the fresh morning air, with sweet smells, and all the cheerful sounds of rural life—we appeared to be awakening from some hideous dream; but, as soon as our eyes could bear the light, we beheld the solemn preparations for sending us into another existence. For a moment I



was uncertain as to which of us was first to suffer: in our suspense, Bryan flung his arms round my neck, and sobbed as if his heart would burst through his doublet and escape at once from sorrow. But his name was called, and he was himself again; he started to his feet promptly, smiling brightly, as he exclaimed: 'Now I can forgive these rebels everything, since they did not make me see you die.'—With these words he walked away proudly after the ill-looking scoundrel who led the way to the fatal tree. Not one word of farewell did that faithful boy entrust himself to speak; perhaps he thought we were to meet so soon! perhaps he feared to unman himself or me before our enemies. I tried to hide from my sight the approaching terrible scene; it seemed to force itself through my closed eyes, and in such hideous forms, that I looked again at the reality in hopes to mitigate the imagination of it. On went that noble boy, attended by the foul executioner as by some evil shadow—a few soldiers preceded him, and forced a passage through the crowd collected under the large oaken bough, whence hung the fatal cord. And now they make a space, and pause—perhaps while my poor page utters his parting prayer. Now—high over their heads, I see him, with the evil shadow by his side, and long dark arms busied about his young and comely neck. Now he stands alone, and in another moment he sinks a little, slowly as it seems to me, but his head is on one side, and their deed is done! At the same moment a hoarse, loud, hasty order is heard 'to advance the other prisoner,' and I stepped forward with alacrity. Twelve musketeers stood with arms at the recover, as I was led to the fatal tree. Before I knelt to receive their fire, I turned one glance upon the body of my poor page—ah! it was still struggling; my brain swam with the horror, and I was only roused as the drums beat hurriedly—no muffle this time!—and the trumpets sounded: and I thought it strange, when Ditchley, with an out-spoken oath, put his hand on my shoulder and tripped hastily to make me kneel. Did the soldiers fire too soon and mistake their aim—or what? A volley was heard; Ditchley, with a bullet in his brain, fell prostrate at my feet: the musketeers disappeared; shots came quick and fast and all around me—then loud shouts, and the tramp of cavalry with Rupert's war-cry; then I knew that the royal horse were in among the enemy, and that I was saved. Rough and stern, however, was the conflict all around; when, out from the mass burst a bold horseman, who swept his gleaming sword above my head, high in air, and cut the accursed cord whence my poor page hung suspended almost over me. All this passed far more rapidly than I can tell, and before the brief strife around was ended, I had Bryan's form resting in my arms, and the faint struggles, that had filled me with horror, now thrilled me with delighted hope."

We need only recall the trial of *Henry Morton* at Tillietudlem, or his capture and rescue after the Battle of Bothwell Brigg—or the flight of *Sir Dugald Dalgetty* and *Ronald of the Mist* from the dungeons of Argyll—or, in short, any similar passage from Scott's novels, even down to 'Anne of Geierstein'—to illustrate the wide difference betwixt stagnation and vitality—betwixt the show got up and raked together, and the real breathless crisis in which curdling blood and bristling hair attest that we are taking a part. That Mr. Warburton is genial, kindly, and not without a chivalresque elevation of mind, this work anew demonstrates—but the good fairies have not made him a novelist. Whether by study and practice he can or will make himself one, remains to be proved on some future occasion and in some essay better than 'Reginald Hastings.'

*Commentaries on the War in Russia and Germany in 1812 and 1813.* By Col. the Hon. George Cathcart. Murray.

THIS is a purely military history—or rather a series of military notes,—in which is traced the career of Napoleon from his invasion of Russia in the autumn of 1812 to the close of the German "War of Liberation" in November 1813.

The author had peculiar opportunities for becoming acquainted with the events which he narrates. His father, Lord Cathcart, was sent as British Ambassador to St. Petersburg on the eve of the invasion of Russia; and after remaining there during the eventful period of the advance and retreat of the French, accompanied the Emperor Alexander throughout the German campaign. At that time the author was, "in his nineteenth year, a lieutenant in the 6th Dragoon Guards,—and was an aide-de-camp to Lord Cathcart in his capacity of a British officer on the Russian staff." After spending the winter of 1812-13 at St. Petersburg with his father, he set out to rejoin him at the Imperial (Russian) head-quarters in Germany early in the spring of 1813; "and from that time to the Capitulation of Paris in 1814 he was constantly with the Army, and had an opportunity of seeing and hearing what was going on during the following campaigns, as well as of witnessing much of their interesting and instructive details. Thus, he had also the good fortune to see eight general actions lost and won in which Napoleon commanded in person."

Apparently intended for military readers only, and treating of events which few people now care to know about,—this book contains little of popular interest. Sometimes, however, a passage occurs that even the non-military reader will like. Here, for example, is a pleasant little glimpse of Napoleon through a spy-glass on a battle morning:—

"It was a fine summer morning on the 21st of May; all was still, and even the sound of an occasional musket-shot, discharged along the distant line of advanced sentries, was scarcely to be heard. At day-break we were in the field, and the Emperor of Russia and King of Prussia were already on a height in front of the centre. However, the enemy were in motion, and appeared to be assembling, in force, on the rising ground immediately in front of Bautzen, menacing our left, or centre. Napoleon himself was very distinctly to be seen, accompanied by his staff, apparently superintending the assembly of his troops. Whilst his preparations were in progress, he dismounted and walked about with his hands behind his back in conversation with officers of his suite. All our glasses were directed towards him; and one, belonging to Lord Cathcart, which proved to be the best there, was in great request, and was employed, on this occasion, by the Emperor Alexander and the King of Prussia. Although the two hostile staffs were not out of the range of each other's artillery, and though Napoleon himself was quite within the reach of the Russian batteries, the allies were too courteous to disturb his meditations by a shot. Berthier and others were recognized, but one person in the group, with whom Napoleon seemed to have much conversation, and while discoursing with whom he frequently consulted his map, puzzled the allied head-quarters very much; he was in a bright yellow uniform, and after various conjectures it was agreed that it could be no other than Murat, who delighted in dress, and was occasionally to be seen in all sorts of costumes. This was important, if the belief were well founded; because the presence of Murat argued, that the Italian levies were in a state of forwardness; besides that, the personal exertions to be expected from his well-known activity and skill as a cavalry officer, would require increased vigilance on our side. This belief was entertained till much later in the day, when it was ascertained from prisoners or deserters that the man in yellow was no other than a Saxon postillion employed as a guide, of whom Napoleon was asking the names of the different villages."

Colonel Cathcart intersperses among his notes some general remarks on the art of war, adapted for any unprofessional reader who may be desirous of going through the book; and these remarks are plain and well written. Thus, contrasting the two systems of warfare, the old and the new, which were brought into comparison and conflict in the Napoleonic wars, he says:—

"In the last century all the warlike nations of Europe brought their armies into the field nearly on the same system, which possibly first took a consistent form in the time of Gustavus Adolphus, and attained its highest perfection in that of Frederick the Great. This system had the formation of general lines and movements in line for its chief characteristic; and, although the primary evolutions calculated to lead to that grand object were generally in open column, and slower and more formal than those now adopted with the same view, yet they still form the basis of all modern systems of tactics. Marlborough, the marshals of Louis XIV., Frederick the Great, and the cotemporary generals of the imperial forces, appear to have been in their day capable of general line movements with a degree of facility and order equal, if not superior, to that now at the command of the armies of the present day, not excepting even the British and the Austrians, who have never neglected that system or entirely departed from it. At the commencement of the French Revolution, in 1790, France possessed a regular standing army, at home and in its colonies, of about 200,000 men, in good condition, and in a high state of tactical proficiency, according to the system to which we have alluded; but the doctrines of liberty and equality are subversive of military discipline, and soon tended to demoralize the army. New levies of youths, in whom revolutionary turbulence had destroyed all moral restraint, were intermingled in the ranks, and the methodical theories previously inculcated and hitherto practised were no longer available. Some new scheme became necessary to enable superior numbers to prevail over the superior discipline of other nations. A new system, then, was first adopted at that time, and although Napoleon availed himself of tactical proficiency whenever he could find it at his command, and was fully conscious of its value, yet his active career never gave leisure for its adequate cultivation; he was obliged therefore to follow the system which the French Revolution had first prompted, and which his great genius improved and turned to good account. It may be thus described:—He trusted mainly to the influence of large concentrated masses of troops placed in reserve, and concealed from the enemy as much as possible. Having stationed these with judgment and deep design as to their ulterior employment, it was his custom to commence operations 'entamer l'affaire' with numerous light troops along his whole front, whilst artillery appeared at various points, duly supported and guarded, and maintained a desultory cannonade. The object of this primary measure was often to deceive his opponents as to his real intentions, and induce them to compromise their whole force along an extensive front. When this object was gained, and a sufficient knowledge was obtained of the position and circumstances of the enemy, the decisive moment was seized in which to bring an overwhelming force 'en masse,' preceded by a swarm of light infantry, and covered by a concentrated power of artillery, to bear on some weak or unguarded point of the enemy's position, and thereby decide the victory, which large bodies of cavalry stood in readiness to complete."

Again, as a popular summary of the principles of strategy, we have the following:—

"The author is anxious, at this particular period, to invite the attention of the reader to the first principles of strategy, which, like the elements of all sciences, are, when duly recognized, clear and self-evident truths. In point of theory, the admirable work of the Archduke Charles, or, for practical illustration, the base of Torres Vedras covering Lisbon, and the glorious achievements which emanated invariably from it, will be consulted and considered with advantage by those who desire a thorough knowledge of this science; but, for the present purpose, it will suffice to point out that the elements may be reduced to the three following postulates:—1. A base of operations, being that locality from which the supplies of the army are to be furnished. 2. The objective, being an object or goal, the attainment of which must render the campaign decisive, and to which, therefore, all movements must have reference. 3. The line of operations, being the most favourable route or communication leading from the base to the decisive point or objective. It follows of course that the base of the defending army must either be the decisive point



itself that is menaced by the opposite party, or some other point covering it, and that the line of operations must be common to both. Bearing these principles in mind, it will be found in the history of modern warfare, conducted by regular armies on both sides, that in every instance where they have been lost sight of, or departed from (and there are many), victory has led to no good result, and defeat has proved an irretrievable disaster. Whereas, where they have been duly attended to, each success has become a point gained in the progress of the campaign; and though partial failures may have retarded operations, and even occasioned retreats, yet such failures have not proved decisive."

The following is Colonel Cathcart's opinion of the military capabilities and merits of the various Continental nations as these have come under his notice; and as the opinion of a soldier it deserves attention.—

"The French, proverbially a brave and excitable people, are brilliant and formidable in an attack. If repulsed, a revulsion equally violent usually takes place, and would often prove fatal if it were not for the precaution of placing reserves. When these are not wanting, they are capable of being easily rallied, and their lively spirit is soon restored. The Russians are less excitable; but, nevertheless, in an attack are not to be surpassed in bravery and perseverance by the troops of any European nation, with this advantage, that they appear to be incapable of panic, and though they may be repulsed and defeated, they cannot be forced to run in confusion from the field of battle. The Prussian armies engaged in these campaigns were for the most part very young soldiers; a spirit of enthusiasm pervaded their ranks, which rendered them capable of the most brilliant achievements. In cases of defeat, the effects of momentary hurry and confusion, to which all young troops are liable, were less violent with them than with the French; but though easily rallied, and their patriotic enthusiasm soon restored, they could not rival the Russian stoicism in adversity. \* \* The Austrians, properly so called, were highly disciplined and brave; but the infantry of that race appeared deficient in energy when compared with the French or Prussians, and their physical powers could not be compared with those of the sturdy Russian soldiery. The Bohemians appeared to be somewhat more healthy and robust, but did not materially differ in point of national character from their Austrian brethren in arms. The Hungarian infantry were decidedly superior to both, in point of energy and physical power, and the select corps of grenadiers furnished by that nation were equal, if not superior, to any in the field."

Though dry, meagre, and by no means adapted, as we have said, for the general reader, whose power of following in technical accounts of "marches," "movements," &c. is very slight,—these "Commentaries" appear to be a useful contribution (and the author does not aim at more) to the military history of the years 1812 and 1813. The style is clear, and modest; and it is an evidence of the author's conscientiousness and desire to facilitate the way of his readers, that he has explained his text by a number of very carefully drawn plans.

*The Ways of the Hour.* By J. Fenimore Cooper. 3 vols. Bentley.

THIS book has been advertised as the last appearance of Mr. Fenimore Cooper in the character of a novelist. The time has been when such an announcement, if it might be depended on, would have been received with far more regret than now it can possibly be. Mr. Cooper ends his career (if end this be) under the false belief that direct social legislation has been required from him in his peculiar form of teaching. Ever since he travelled in Europe, he seems to have been tormented by a desire to lecture his countrymen,—having returned home in a testy frame of mind, and never since recovered his temper. We can understand and sympathize with his vexation at many of the phenomena which beset the observer in Ame-

rica:—such as, the difficulty of private action according to private judgment,—the manner in which agitation is permitted to stifle discussion—the great white and black question, so dangerous to state in black and white, &c. &c. *Justice Lynch*, whether he be aristocrat or democrat, is no "forensic authority" to which we bow:—but then, we belong to the old country, the sight of whose useful usages and liberal want of liberty excited in Mr. Cooper such vivacity of irritation. Seeing that our novelist's scolding has been nearly as inconsistent and inconclusive as the Latter-Day jargon of Mr. Carlyle, we cannot but regret that Mr. Cooper ever began to deal with abuses. He spoiled thereby a vigorous novelist, without making a fourth-class social reformer.

Of this truth 'The Ways of the Hour' affords one more provoking proof. A tissue of greater improbabilities has not been offered for our acceptance. Amongst these, there is a mystery and there is a murder. Two corpses are found lying burnt in a house which belonged to two worthless old people—and their lodger, one Mary Monson, is accused of being the criminal and committed to jail accordingly. We will put faith in the fascinations of this woman because Mr. Cooper invites us so to do—and we will give her unlimited credit with her bankers, since that, too, is described as a fact;—but we absolutely refuse to believe in Mr. Cooper's use of these spells as a thing possible in America. *Fairy Magotine* or *Fairy Benevola* never had her own way more completely than this same Mary Monson.—She is early discovered to be a Lady with a mystery; and the press and the public are inflamed for and against her with a silly vehemence the description of which really goes far to justify the tone of some of Mrs. Trollope's descriptions, formerly scouted as caricatures. But this is not all. The supposed murderess gets her harp brought to her in jail. She manages to secure the society and the silence of the one person who knows her secret and can abet her in her strange escapades. She goes out at night in her own carriage (a woman accused of murder!) to consult with her advocate. She anatomizes all the measures of attack and defence, much as Miss Lambert might count the stitches of a new pattern. She submits with a dignified air to the injury and ignominy of a trial,—comforts herself under condemnation with the mien of a martyr; and having thereby satisfied her love of adventure, and fooled "society" to the top of its bent by her grand behaviour,—she suddenly produces the man of whose murder she had been accused, and who had been kept "laid up in lavender" by an acquiescent hotel-keeper to serve her turn and to figure in her *tableau*. If the scenes which Mr. Cooper has described be in the slightest degree faithful to the course of justice and the power of money in America, the criminal courts of our relatives over sea must be theatres for a melo-drama in peculiarity surpassing even that which produced such a sickly piece of iniquity and horror as the Manson and Fualdes trial,—emulating in their proceedings those artfully-arranged German scenes which so outrage our sense of judicial right in the pages of Feuerbach.

But Mr. Cooper has in this novel to serve another purpose besides the criticism of American judicial procedure. This strange fascinating Mary Monson is represented as having maliciously enjoyed the whole affair and its apprehensions and contingencies as only a strong-minded woman could, would, or should. The solution is delicious. She turns out to be a married *Rosalind* in search of a divorce:—and, again, on the text of female discontent and assumptions, and of the manner in which the

same are entertained by American law and gospel, Mr. Cooper is whimsically oracular and querulous. Are there no other abuses and contradictions in his country worthy of his "swashing blow"?—no Mormonites?—no Poughkeepsie Seers?—no Irish Sympathizers who fight with each other on the platform?—no "Bowery Boys" at the beck of the anti-aristocrat, Mr. Forrest?—We should think our author must still have bad temper enough for the best of these abominations,—to judge by the vigour of spleen here displayed. This would be simply amusing, were it not also vexatious because mixed up with many of the ways and means of a novelist. Bad as the new tale essentially is, and flagrant caricature as we trust it may be considered if consulted as a picture of life and manners,—Mr. Cooper has not lost the art of compelling us to follow him. We may laugh at his ill-humour as gaily as we please,—we may pity him ever so charitably as one who stumbles wherever he alights, at home or abroad,—but we cannot help reading his stories. Though we believed neither in Mary Monson's harp nor in her chaise and pair,—and though we early detected how eminent a specimen of the troublesome woman she was destined to prove,—yet when she once got into jail, there was no stopping till we saw how she got out, and what her whole masquerade had meant.

*Report of the Commissioners appointed to inquire into the Constitution and Government of the British Museum; with Minutes of Evidence.*

[Fourth Notice.]

WE turn now to the Natural History department of the British Museum. Although not that to the management of which the greatest importance has been commonly attached,—it demands respect were it only on account of its being the nucleus around which the books, manuscripts and antiquities have been arranged. The original specimens of natural objects in the Museum were, as our readers know, collected by Sir Hans Sloane,—the purchase of whose collections by the Government in 1755 laid, as we have said, the foundation of the present institution. This collection consisted principally of animals and plants,—although the library and antiquities of Sir Hans were by no means of little value. On the establishment of the Museum by the Government—and from the encouragement which it had in its power to give to natural history researches in all parts of the world,—it was supposed that this collection would rapidly become the most important in Europe. So far, however, from this having been the case, it is only within the last few years that the British Museum has been anything more than a third-rate Natural History collection; and even now, however anxious the Commissioners may be to make it appear otherwise, it is in many respects inferior to the Museums of Vienna, Berlin, and Paris. This we cannot but regard as a national disgrace; since through our colonial possessions and our maritime power, our means of forming a great Natural History Museum are transcendently superior to those of any other country in the world. The cause of our inferiority has manifestly been, the systematic discouragement of scientific pursuits by our Government both at home and abroad. Every obstacle has been thrown in the way of natural history collections in our colonial possessions; and imposts so heavy have been exacted by the authorities for the admission of specimens at our ports as to act in many instances as a positive prohibition on the study of science. No encouragement has been given to the officers of our army and navy to study the natural productions of the countries which



they have visited; and with our troops and fleets covering the whole surface of the earth, we have done less for the science of natural history than countries having none of our advantages.

When the Museum Commission was appointed, although dissatisfied with its composition, we yet did hope the Commissioners would suggest that some of the more flagrant defects of the Natural History department should be rectified. We did not think certainly that the late Bishop of Norwich, Sir Philip Egerton, and Sir Roderick Murchison were sufficient, however fit, to represent the interests of this important department of the British Museum; but we hoped that every member of the Commission would feel, however little he might be capable of judging of the actual deficiencies of the various collections, the importance of making these collections of more use as a means of public instruction. It has always appeared to us that a collection of natural history objects without something like instruction on them is of little value. It may serve to amuse children, or minister to the idle curiosity which loves to look at what is new to it;—but for all the purposes of science such an exhibition is of no more use to the uninstructed, and certainly not so healthful, as a walk in the fields. It may be said, that the object of the foundation of this institution has been, not the instruction or use of the public so much as the facilitating the researches of the “studious and curious persons” to whom allusion is made in the Act for its establishment. To this we would answer, that the right of the public who pay for the Museum to admission within its walls has been recognized, and we would claim for them all the instruction and benefit which it can confer. What we should desire is, that the officers and curators of the natural history departments of the Museum be directed to give public lectures on the various branches of natural science. This subject has come before the Commissioners, and they have decided against it. They regard “the Museum as essentially a repository for the conservation and arrangement of a vast variety of material objects from which men of science, literature and art may derive assistance to their researches.” Now, we would ask, restricting the uses of the Museum to the narrow sphere within which the Commissioners have limited it,—how could men of science be more essentially assisted than by those who best understand the specimens in the collection giving an oral account of them? We draw attention to the remarks of Professor Owen on the subject of lectures.—

“You said that these collections are not used sufficiently for the purposes of lectures or oral instruction?—They are not now so used at all. But when speaking of that application, I did not complete the statement of my view of the uses which the nation have a right to expect from a national collection of natural history. The first use I alluded to was that use by which it is made the instrument, as a means of comparison, for the advancement of science. The second use was, as an illustration of discourses adapted to give, not only to adepts in the science, but to philosophers or to well-educated men in any department of science or literature, an idea of the general principles which are arrived at in the particular science to which a given department of science relates. Collections are essential to the elucidation of such general principles. And my firm opinion is, that the Curator at the head of each department ought to be called on to enunciate those principles in a course of lectures, say from 20 to 30; they should not be too numerous. Without that application the nation does not get the benefit it has a right to expect from its collections.

“You would admit the public to those lectures?—I should let them be free.

“Then you must have a large lecture-room?—Unquestionably.

“You would be requiring of the Museum an adaptation and arrangement of the building for which it is not prepared at present?—Simply the addition of a lecture-room, supposing the galleries not to be found adequate. I do not feel competent, however, to enter into the mechanical arrangements which may be requisite in order that the public may enjoy this benefit. I am only stating my opinions of what benefits they have a right to expect from any collection in any department. The third use that the public should derive from these collections is, by seeing them so arranged as to elucidate the relations of the various objects; and then that each object should be so described in a descriptive catalogue as that visitors who may wish to take more than a superficial glance, may get an adequate account of the history of the specimen. Besides such descriptive catalogues, there of course ought to be such useful lists as are now published under the title of the ‘Synopsis’ from time to time, which are essential to the commonest use of these collections; and even to obviate the necessity for reference to such a list, I believe it would be desirable that each specimen should have its name, and such synonyms and such other information as in the judgment of the Curator it would be advisable to affix to it.

“You are in the habit of using the collection at the College for the purpose of lectures, are you not?—Yes. Parliament, in voting money for the purchase of the Hunterian Collection which formed the basis of it, saw very wisely that this ought to be one of the uses which it should be put to, and in presenting that purchase to the College of Surgeons, they made it a part of the agreement that the College should appoint a Professor, who is called the ‘Hunterian Professor,’ from the circumstance of having that duty to perform, to expound the principles of science, illustrated by that collection, in 24 lectures annually. The collection is of course used for that purpose; and I find that the advantage of such application is not limited to making those who hear the lectures know something more of the nature and objects and uses of the collection, but some of the more valuable specimens we have received by donation have been sent by gentlemen who have attended the lectures, and have had their interest excited by hearing the application of those principles. And then I must say, it is a great advantage to myself as Curator; it impresses upon me, more than any other duty could impress, the knowledge of the defective parts of the collection. It leads to a healthy and rapid increase, and to an inexpensive supply of the deficiencies. It is an additional stimulus to the good condition of the specimens, their being occasionally expressly exhibited and explained in public: in every respect, it appears to be one of the applications from which the nation derives most advantage from its public collections.”

The reason which the Commissioners allege against lectures, that the present officers have in the superintendence and management enough to “engross their time and abilities,” resolves itself into merely a question of expenditure. When Mr. Pitt was applied to purchase the Museum of William Hunter, he replied that he had not enough money to purchase gunpowder, much less to throw away on glass bottles. With the gunpowder side of the question we apprehend the Commissioners have nothing to do,—and *they*, we think, might certainly have recommended the “bottles.”

From the lectures, we proceed to the natural history objects;—and we arrive first at the Botanical. When we received the report, we turned anxiously to its conclusions on this subject. Many persons will, we doubt not, be surprised to hear that there is a “Botanical department” in the British Museum at all. They may go certainly a good many times to Great Russell Street without discovering it. If, however, they are amongst the “studious and curious” for whom this department seems to have been eminently designed, they may gain access to this sanctum by shaking hard (knocking is of no use!) the folding-doors leading out of one of the saloons for animals, and presenting an order

from a Trustee. Here, surrounded by wooden boxes containing dried plants, with scattered here and there the dusty stems of palms or tree ferns, and dried fruits of various kinds,—will be found the greatest botanist of this or any other age. With such a man as Mr. Robert Brown at its head, the botanical department of any other museum in Europe would have been one of its greatest attractions. What has been the case in London? Mr. Brown is allowed only one competent assistant:—one, to be sure, in every way worthy of himself, Mr. J. J. Bennett. The following is Mr. Brown’s account of his expenditure.—

“What sums do you receive to enable you to make the necessary additions to your department?—For the purchase of specimens, from the date of my appointment to 1834, I had no allowance whatever. But having then earnestly represented the absolute necessity of making additions to the Banksian Herbarium by purchase, to keep up its character as a collection of reference, and having proposed the annual sum of 100*l.*, or perhaps somewhat less, as probably sufficient to enable me to obtain such collections as were likely to occur, the Trustees granted me 80*l.* This sum, until very lately, continued to be the annual grant for that object. It is now increased to 100*l.*; and last year I applied for and obtained 50*l.* more, to enable me to purchase specimens necessary for the formation of the intended botanical exhibition. At the same time I was allowed 25*l.* annually for the purchase of works absolutely necessary for carrying on the duties of the department. So that for purchases of every kind, I have the annual sum of 175*l.* Of special grants for the purchase of more extensive collections which occasionally occur, I have only been able to obtain one, which was for 400*l.* On a previous occasion, when the sum of 1,000*l.* was applied for to enable me to make a most important addition to the Herbarium, and the purchase was recommended to the Trustees, the Treasury refused to accede to the application.”

It might have been thought that in a country whose most important manufactures are vegetable fabrics—whose aristocracy pride themselves as much on their horticulture as on their agriculture,—a glimmering of the importance of the scientific study of plants would have been found among those to whom Government had intrusted the management of the Museum. But, no!—not content with the parsimonious conduct of the Government to Mr. Brown, and in opposition to his repeated demands for further assistance, the Trustees passed in June, 1837, the following resolution.—

“That so long as the botanical collections remain in the care of Mr. Brown, no change take place in the offices or emoluments of Mr. Brown and Mr. Bennett. That in the case of a vacancy occurring in the keepership of the botanical collections, the salary of the future keeper be 320*l.* a year, for six days’ service in each week; and that subsequently to this event, the place of assistant-keeper be abolished.”

Well may Mr. Brown be alarmed at the prospects of his precious stores, if such a recommendation be ever acted on. It is, however, gratifying to be able to look forward to some improvement in this department. From Mr. Brown’s evidence we gather, that at last some arrangements are making for admitting the public to the botanical collections.—

“When you last gave evidence before the Commissioners, in June, 1848, you stated that some progress was making towards the exhibition of the botanical collection. Has any further progress been made towards such an exhibition since that time?—The room to be allotted to it, which was long a doubtful question, has now been settled, and I have obtained that room.

“How soon then do you expect to be able to exhibit any specimens to the public?—That will depend, in some measure, on the fittings being finished; I believe there is some doubt as to that being done very expeditiously in regard to expense.



"Then you are not sure that even in the course of the present summer the exhibition will be open to the public?—I am not sure, but perhaps it might be. I think I have said also in my Evidence, or in the Report which was incorporated with it, that I had materials now sufficient for the commencement; but that great additions must be made to it to make a satisfactory exhibition.

"Great additions must be made to the collection?—Yes; great additions must be made to the collection.

"Therefore there would be not only the expense of the cases and the fittings, of which you spoke, but the more material expense of improving the collection?—The expense of fittings would be greater than that immediately wanted for improving the collection, and I should be disposed to open it even in its imperfect state.

"You have, on a former occasion, stated your opinion that the removal of the herbarium to any garden or establishment at a distance from London, that is, removing it from the building in the Museum, where you have ready access to the library, would be very detrimental to the science of botany?—I decidedly think so. I think the general library is quite essential to the advantageous consulting of such a collection. It is not merely books expressly botanical that you must have, but likewise all periodical publications that include natural history in any degree. You must have the memoirs of academies; you must have all periodical publications which profess to have natural history included in them; and you must have voyages and travels: you must, in fact, have access to the general library."

With regard to the point involved in the latter question, we are decidedly of opinion, with Mr. Brown, that the collection of dried specimens is better in connexion with the Library than it would be out of town in relation with living plants. Instead of removing the herbarium from the Museum to Kew, as has been suggested, we would bring the nucleus of a Museum of vegetable substances used in the arts now at Kew up to London. These specimens have no especial relation to the living plants by which they are surrounded, and would be seen in the British Museum by thousands where they are now seen only by hundreds. In London we must abandon all hope of associating living with dead specimens if we would consult the convenience of the public.

We come, then, to the other natural history departments. These include Mineralogy, Geology and Zoology. A casual glance at our National Museum might lead a superficial observer to regard it as in these sciences perfect. Very different is the estimate, however, of those who study these various branches of knowledge. We might enumerate here a long list of alleged sins,—large numbers of specimens unnamed, others misnamed, important collections that never see the light, and a great deficiency of examples of most important tribes of animals. We are not inclined to attribute any of these things as faults to the present officers. There is evidently a want of efficient and united superintendence over the whole of the natural history departments; which are so closely dependent on each other, that one common purpose should be had in view in the arrangement of all the specimens that belong to them. The Commissioners refer to some of the evils to which we have alluded.—

"It appears by a decision of the Trustees, on January 26, 1837, that the Natural History collections of the Museum were divided into three departments:—1st. Mineralogical, including all fossil remains; 2nd. The Zoological, including all existing animals; 3rd. The Botanical. Now, it is complained, in consequence of this arrangement, that a person wishing to compare the fossil remains of an extinct genus with its recent analogue, or desirous of studying the characters of a family comprising both fossil and recent genera, has necessarily to alternate between two departments; whilst a botanist, anxious to carry on similar investigations in the vegetable kingdom, is compelled to refer from his own department

at the south end of the building to the mineralogical department at the north end. Recognizing fully the justice of this complaint, and sensible of the obstacles presented by the existing arrangement to the effective prosecution of scientific inquiries, we are at the same time bound to remark, that the interests of science have suffered more detriment than would otherwise have resulted had a more cordial spirit been manifested between the heads of the mineralogical and zoological departments, and had they entertained a mutual desire to sink all jealousies and co-operate for the general good."

We hope this latter hint will not be lost in the proper quarters, and that no obstacles will be thrown in the way of the new arrangement suggested by the Commission.—

"1st. The Mineralogical Department should comprise, in addition to the collection of minerals, all the fossil vertebrata and such fossil invertebrata as are not required to supply the extinct links in the series of existing invertebrata in the Zoological Department. With the fossil vertebrata should be combined such skeletons or analogous parts of existing animals as are essential to the illustration of the nature and affinities of the fossil specimens. We find that the Museum already possesses a collection of comparative osteology, which would contribute greatly to this useful and important object, but which is now chiefly preserved with the stuffed skins and other specimens illustrative of the outward zoological characters of existing beasts and birds. 2nd. The Zoological Department should contain all specimens exhibiting the external characters of the recent vertebrata, and the collections of all the other classes of the existing animal kingdom. The invertebrate classes, having shells or other equivalent hard and enduring parts, should have associated with them typical specimens of the corresponding parts of those generic forms which have become extinct, so that the links now lost in the natural series should be supplied by the most perfect specimens in the fossil collections, or procured elsewhere as opportunities offer. A combination of recent and fossil invertebrata to this extent, whilst it would supply all that the geologist now requires in studying the relations and progression of affinities of a natural group, would not be attended with that inconvenience which the whole series of slightly-varied species of a fossil genus would create, if such series were interpolated in its full extent with the recent allied forms. At the same time (inasmuch as a few good specimens of each well-marked generic form would be sufficient for the zoological series) the great bulk of the geological collections would be retained in the Mineralogical Department, as conveying instruction chiefly in relation to the strata characterized by them, and would be available for the illustration of a geological collection stratigraphically arranged, should it be deemed advisable hereafter to exhibit one. 3rd. The Botanical Department should contain all the collections of the vegetable kingdom, both recent and fossil."

A question has been raised as to how far it might be a better arrangement to send the mineralogical collection away from the British Museum and deposit it in the Museum of Economic Geology, where it would be most likely to be practically useful. Although there would be less objection to this plan than to that of sending the dried plants to Kew, yet there is so much utility and propriety in keeping all the present collections together that we should regret their separation. When the Government were about it we see no reason why they should not have connected the establishment in Piccadilly with that in Great Russell Street. The result would have been an advantage to both Museums, and a gain to the public.

We now turn to the deficiencies of the Museum:—deficiencies that ought for our national honour to be supplied. That splendid gallery which is devoted to the cases containing shells might be supposed to embrace almost every conchological treasure in the world. But it is not so. Within a few yards of the Museum, at a house in Gower Street, lives a gentleman whose collection contains a third more species

of shells than are to be found in the cases of our national collection. This grand monument of industry and genius has been raised by a single individual—Mr. Hugh Cuming. He has offered it, as our readers know, to the Government for less than half its value; but they have refused to purchase it,—nor do we find that the Commissioners have recommended that it should be bought for the nation. It is fortunate that Mr. Cuming is in circumstances which permit him to keep his collection in his own hands,—or the indifference of the authorities might long since have sent this treasure out of the country. When this subject came before the Commission, it might surely have been thought a matter for inquiry how it happened that a private individual, with a tithe of the resources of the National Museum, should in a few years have got together a collection of shells far exceeding that on which Government grants have been expended for nearly a century. Thus much with regard to shells. Of other deficiencies, and the remedy, let Prof. Owen speak.—

"Is there any collection of radiated animals?—I have observed some very beautiful cases of their hard parts, their skeletons. There are some classes that are very inadequately represented, if at all, in the collection of natural history. I should refer first to the Entozoa, and then, secondly, though they are somewhat better represented, to the Annelida, or red-blooded worms; the order Nudibranchiata and the class of tunicated mollusca appear to me to be susceptible of great increase. With respect to all these, which are soft animals, they must be preserved in some preserving liquor; there is either, therefore, a necessity for skill and trouble in preserving them in the first instance, or a good deal of care in continuing their preservation; but those are difficulties which ought to be overcome, if, in a national collection of zoology, an equal amount of illustration and display is to be given to every class of animals.—They are not difficulties which involve much expense, are they? No, not much. If the Commissioners will permit me, I will exhibit some specimens of those classes which have been preserved, to my knowledge, without change, from four to five years. The first specimen here [*producing the same*] is an example of that kind: it is an example of a class of specimens which it appears to me desirable to place at the head of each natural family, or group of shells—it is the common oyster. If placed, for example, at the head of the series of shells of the family *Ostracea*, it would serve to show the kind of animal forming such shells; and the like illustration should be placed at the beginning of every natural family of shells, so that the people in seeing a collection of shells should have some idea of the nature of the creatures which fabricate the shells, and on whose behalf the shells are made and exist. A preparation of this kind, like a picture, may be examined readily in all its details. [*Here the witness pointed out the membranes which formed the shell, the muscle closing it, the mouth, stomach, heart, gills, &c. of the animal.*] If, with a preparation of this kind, there were a little outline and references by either figures or letters to the parts, visitors would see at once what the nature of the creature was which made that kind of shell. By additions of that kind, the Conchological Department would then become equivalent, in the information which it gives, to the collection of mammalia, supposing the skeletons of the mammalia were equally prepared. There is at present a deficiency in both classes, but the deficiency is of a contrary kind. In the vertebrate classes, the external character, or the softer parts, the feathers and the hair, are shown, but not the framework. In the lower classes you have the skeletons of the animals, but not the skin or soft parts, showing the characters of the animal they belong to; and that is the deficiency which most strikes one in going through the collections of natural history. With regard to the highest class of mollusca (Cephalopoda), that appears to be a class which, compared with the Testacea, is poorly represented in the Museum, and, for the same reason, that most of them require to be preserved in some preserving liquor. This [*showing the specimens*] is an example



of a Cephalopod, and this [showing the specimens] of one of the tunicated mollusca, preserved in the mode which offers the same facility of examination as in the former specimen."

The Trustees repudiate any wish to form a museum of comparative anatomy,—on what grounds we are left in the dark; and they seem to have an indefinite notion that anything contained in fluid belongs to comparative anatomy,—hence the deficiency of all those zoological specimens which cannot be preserved dry. We will not admit that there is any valid reason, unless expense be one, for the exclusion of anatomical preparations of animals from a national museum of natural history. In fact, as long as such exclusion takes place the Museum must be regarded as imperfect. Had creatures been formed with nothing but straw or saw-dust under their skins, as a celebrated curator was known devoutly to have wished, then there would be no necessity for anatomical demonstration; but so long as the most important functions of animals are carried on by means of brain, nerves, blood-vessels and muscles, so long will the study of natural history demand that the means of investigating these organs be afforded. But even with regard to those internal parts of animals which are most easily preserved, and which are even more characteristic of the animal than its skin,—the skeleton,—but few are exhibited in the British Museum. We are, however, led to conclude from Mr. Gray's evidence, that there are a great number of the skeletons of animals in the collection; and we hope after Professor Owen's remarks on the necessity of their exhibition, and after the recommendation of the Commissioners, that some of these treasures will now come forth from their hiding-places.

The mention of skeletons recalls to mind the importance of the human skull, if not of the whole skeleton, in the study of ethnology. This study has recently made rapid strides in this country; and surely it ought to be an object in our national Museum to make such a collection as will facilitate the labours of the ethnologist. Materials already exist in England which could be easily brought together, and would form the basis of a collection of more value than any hitherto formed.

Next to deficiencies in the Museum,—the greatest evil to be complained of, is, the exhibition of specimens with no further information than their mere technical names. If lectures are not to be given, surely a little time should be devoted to the construction of labels affording intelligible information:—but such are rather the exception than the rule in the Museum. Not only is there a deficiency of popular information, but frequently one of many names is given, without any attempt at synonymy; so that neither the sight-seer nor the man of science is the better for the labels attached to the objects. There are Catalogues—and these are very useful as far as they go; but the Catalogue must be bought, and requires time to be studied. The public might be spared this. We are not prepared to condemn the attempts represented in the following question to Prof. Owen.—

"Do you consider that it would be advisable to exhibit such names as are contained in the list which I will now read you:—

*Gyrodus macrophthalmus*.—The large-eyed Whirltooth.

*Acrotomus faba*.—The bean-like Cutridge.

*Rhacolepis brama*.—The Broom Ragscute.

*Sparverius macrophthalmus*.—The large-eyed Captooth.

*Iasus macrinus*.—The great Eventail.

*Ductor leptosomus*.—The slender Guide.

*Hybodus grossicornus*.—The large cone Hunchtooth.

*Dendrodus strigatus*.—The streaked Shrubtooth.

*Holoptychius nobilissimus*.—The noble Allwrinkle.

*Pachycormus macropterus*.—The large-finned Thicktrunk.

*Belonostomus cinctus*.—The border-toothed Needle-nib.

*Pygopterus Humboldti*.—Humboldt's Hind-wing.

*Sauropsis latus*.—The broad Dragon-face.

*Dapedius Colei*.—Lord Cole's Aistre-fish.

*Coccosteus cuspidatus*.—The prickly-pointed Berrybone."

We have an affection for our Saxon roots, rough though they sound; and the German use of them has accustomed us to names as uncouth at those on this list,—which Prof. Owen thinks serve but to "throw an air of ridicule over our attempts to make the rarer things of science familiar to the public."

But we must bring our article to a close:—and we do so by expressing our conviction that if something vigorous is not done—something more than our Commissioners have foreshadowed in their Report—the work of investigation will ere long have to be all done over again.

#### OUR LIBRARY TABLE.

*Frank Fairleigh; or, Scenes from the Life of a Private Pupil.* With thirty illustrations on steel, by George Cruikshank. This tale—originally published in a periodical, afterwards issued separately, and now collected—has crept rather than rushed into popularity. The circumstance affords at once a pretty sure index that it meets the taste of a large class of readers, and a reason why we are spared the labour of closely criticizing it. The hero is one of "a party of youths" at a tutor's, whose characters are nicely and unaffectedly marked. They perpetrate mischief and get into scrapes, in a manner sufficiently easy and natural; and on leaving school, we follow them through the mazes of college vicissitude,—of extravagance and expiation—of love and hate—and are shown how some must laugh and some must weep,—some be quizzed and some be victimized by villany—until every one takes his right shape, and falls into his right place, and earns his right reward. Would that Life had such charming fifth acts and last chapters!—but Art claims them, at least such Art as is meant to allure the many: and the wisdom of the author of 'Frank Fairleigh' in following this canon of composition is proved by the large acceptance of his novel. His style is clear of trick and vulgarity, his scenes are alive, and his "net is well spread."—On the whole, though we might not have predicated a large success for this tale, we are neither surprised at the same nor disposed to question its justice.

*The Hand of God in History.* By Morris Read, A.M.—This is an American religious exposition of a truth frequently recognized by philosophers, that there is a law regulating the historical development of the human race. The argument of the work is limited to the establishment of Christianity.—The copy before us is a reprint, edited by the Rev. Henry Christmas,—who has made several alterations and omissions with a view of rendering it more acceptable to the members of the Church of England.

*The Life and Character of Richard Carlile.* By George Jacob Holyoake.—A warm eulogium, pronounced by a partisan, on a man who, in spite of many extravagancies of life and doctrine, did good service in the cause of a free press and free discussion. We have no sympathies with the writer or with his views; but as forming a link in the progress of discussion and in the history of popular opinion in this country, the subjects of his pen will perhaps continue to excite the interest of thinkers who travel in search of illustrations out of the more beaten tracks of literature.

*The Horse Guards.* By the two Mounted Sentries. With twelve coloured illustrations.—With regard to the dozen coarse lithographs which add to the bulk of this book, John Gilpin's self riding past the pages which they fill, or any Friend Gilpin agreeing with Messrs. Cobden and Bright, and sharing in M. Victor Hugo's dread of "the scarlet fever," must agree as to their worthlessness. They are meant to be biting and grotesquely satirical on the Duke of Wellington; they are only absurd and ugly.—The letter-press we will leave to the critics of the Senior and Junior

United Service Clubs, since it treats of military grievances more professionally than we care to follow. We observe, however, a quality of vituperative epithet vented against the Duke of Wellington,—the conclusion to be drawn from which is unfavourable to the anonymous writer's manliness.

*Sketches of Reforms and Reformers of Great Britain and Ireland.* By Henry B. Stanton.—This book is a reprint of a series of papers communicated from time to time to a newspaper published in Washington, called the *National Era*. Its aim is to convey to American readers some general notices of the chief questions, social and political, which have been canvassed in this country from the date of the first French Revolution down to the present day. To the writer's own countrymen this work may be of some little use, perhaps; but we notice numerous faults, oversights and mistakes, which would require radical correction before it could be made wholesome reading for the masses on this side of the Atlantic. We fancy from the antique cast of some of the opinions ventured, that the account of men and things here given is copied from books rather than from the life. The anecdotes are of the familiar kind called "stereotyped," and the portraits want that force and distinctness of outline which always belong more or less to original paintings. Mr. Stanton is a rather unreasoning republican. It may be true, as he asserts, that there is in England a rapidly increasing class of men who look without fear and even with longing on the democracy of the United States; but it exhibits neither regard for truth nor for sound policy to denounce the English Government as "one of the most oppressive and despicable on earth." The chapters on the "literature of freedom"—that is, on the liberal part of our press—are often wanting in justice and discrimination. Undue prominence is given to certain journals and journalists,—probably arising from the writer's want of acquaintance with the entire circle of English letters. But with all its drawbacks, the work is a contribution to the knowledge of "our own times."

*A Critical History of Rationalism in Germany, from its Origin to the Present Time.* By Amand Saintes. Translated from the second edition.—A smooth and readable translation of Saintes' work on the rationalist philosophy of modern Germany, enriched with notes containing later information by the editor of 'The People's Dictionary of the Bible':—which work we introduced to the attention of our readers some weeks ago.

*A Treatise on the Coal Field of South Wales, explanatory of a New Theory of the Position of the Measures therein: with a Demonstration of the Subsides intervening Llynvi and Penllyn, &c.* By Frederick Moses.—This tract, dedicated to the persons more immediately interested in the coal district which constitutes the subject of investigation, is announced as having arrived at the honours of a second edition:—a fact which seems to imply its acceptance by those most competent to judge of its merits.

*Annals of Ulster; or, Ireland Fifty Years Ago.* Compiled by Mr. Samuel M'Skimin.—Here we have again, for the thousandth time, the story of the Irish Rebellion of '98,—with all the excited passions, the vain hopes, the reckless deeds, the misery and the madness to which it gave rise. It is painful—but not altogether without its wholesome use.—to be occasionally reminded of the mistakes, the political crimes, and, in consequence, the sufferings, made, done and endured by our fellow-countrymen in their desire to attain to a better state of social order. It is a melancholy thing to mark the successive phases which in the sister country pass between the first signs of discontent and open rebellion: how precisely the same phenomena re-appear at every new crisis—how the same ideas, the same words, the same weapons are appealed to—the same tactics adopted—the same powers relied on—the same hopes indulged in—in fact, how minutely the course is again taken which has so often led to failure, and to the ruin and disgrace of the hot-headed enthusiasts who ventured their all on the hazard of the die. A reader taking up these 'Annals of Ulster' without looking at the title-page might easily imagine he was reading the records of '48. There he sees the vague trust that France will do something for the "patriots"—the deference paid to the "queerly pike"—the secret organizations—the



clubs—the inflammatory speeches—the apostrophes to the “sword”—the actual insurrection,—and its prompt suppression. There, indeed, the gallows will remind him that the course of events which he is tracing belonged to “fifty years ago”; when the law of England was more severely dealt out, and the people were less humane and compassionate to the fallen, than they are now.

*Eight Years in British Guiana; being the Journal of a Residence in that Province from 1840 to 1848 inclusive: with Anecdotes and Incidents illustrating the Social Condition of its Inhabitants, and the Opinions of the Writer on the State and Prospects of our Sugar Colonies generally.* By Barton Premium, a Planter. Edited by his Friend. —This is a romance—and a very dull one—on cotton, corn, colonies and sugar. For anything we see to the contrary in the book itself, it may have been written by “a planter” such as the Barton Premium described—a man born to a lordship of slaves, and most vindictive against “peace and philanthropy men” for having taken from him his birthright in their blood and sinews, albeit these same men paid for the luxury of giving freedom to the negro the market value—as human beings were appraised by those who dealt in them. Restore protection or restore our slaves! is the cry of the Planter of Guiana. The English legislator will do neither the one nor the other. The negro, he says, will not work so much as he ought. His wants are few,—and they are easily satisfied in a genial climate. The white man has estates,—but no labourers to render them productive. Hence, he cannot grow sugar so cheap as other proprietors. What then? The planter would have the home Government compel “Quashee” to work by the aid of what Mr. Carlyle calls the “beneficent whip,” or of Francia’s “workman’s gallows.”—Suppose, now, “Quashee” were to petition Parliament to bestow on him Mr. Premium’s estate. He would have as much reason in favour of the request as his master has in favour of the one which he now makes with all the gravity of an injured person. The contract between employer and employed is a *free contract*: if the negro will not work, the sugar cultivator will pay him no wages—and there an end. If estates under the new system will not return the old slave percentages to their owners, no one in England is responsible for the change. No just law can permanently keep up class interests at high-pressure prosperity. In war time corn sold in London and Wakefield markets at one hundred and twenty shillings a quarter; rents went up in proportion. The people starved,—but the landowner flourished. But this condition of things, though it lasted for some years, was quite out of the order of nature: while it lasted landowners lived up to their enhanced incomes, and when it threatened to cease, they cried out—Ruin! Mr. Premium is now in a similar position. The slaves made his estates valuable,—because he could compel them to work more than was necessary for the satisfaction of their own wants. Now, they are free,—and can make terms with their old masters. This is the gist of the matter. Mr. Premium must now give market value for work done: formerly, he got it at his own price. He will not accept a free contract. If he is not allowed to seize labour on his own terms, he says he must sell sugar on his own terms.—A book like this is an insult to the liberal sentiment of England.

## LIST OF NEW BOOKS.

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## WILLIAM WORDSWORTH.

THE great philosophical poet of our age, William Wordsworth, died at Rydal Mount, in Westmoreland—among his native lakes and hills—on the 23rd inst., in the eighty-first year of his age. Those who are curious in the accidents of birth and death, observable in the biographies of celebrated men, have thought it worthy of notice that the day of Wordsworth’s death was the anniversary of Shakspeare’s birth.

William Wordsworth was born at Cockermouth, in Cumberland, on the 7th of April 1770,—and educated at Hawkeshead Grammar School, and at St. John’s College, Cambridge. He was designed by his parents for the Church—but poetry and new prospects turned him into another path. His pursuit through life was poetry, and his profession that of Stamp Distributor for the Government in the counties of Cumberland and Westmoreland: to which office he was appointed by the joint interest, as we have heard, of his friend Sir George Beaumont and his patron Lord Lonsdale.

Mr. Wordsworth made his first appearance as a poet in the year 1793, by the publication of a thin quarto volume entitled ‘*An Evening Walk*,—an Epistle in Verse, addressed to a young Lady from the Lakes of the North of England, by W. Wordsworth, B.A., of St. John’s College, Cambridge.’ Printed at London, and published by Johnson in St. Paul’s Churchyard:—from whose shop seven years before had appeared ‘*The Task*’ of Cowper. In the same year he published ‘*Descriptive Sketches in Verse taken during a Pedestrian Tour in the Italian, Grison, Swiss and Savoyard Alps*,’

What was thought of these poems by a few youthful admirers may be gathered from the account given by Coleridge in his ‘*Biographia Literaria*,’—“During the last year of my residence at Cambridge, 1794, I became acquainted with Mr. Wordsworth’s first publication, entitled ‘*Descriptive Sketches*,’ and seldom, if ever, was the emergence of an original poetic genius above the literary horizon more evidently announced.” The two poets, then personally unknown to each other, first became acquainted in the summer of 1796, at Nether Stowey, in Somersetshire. Coleridge was then in his twenty-fourth year and Wordsworth in his twenty-sixth. A congeniality of pursuit soon ripened into intimacy; and in September, 1798, the two poets, accompanied by Miss Wordsworth, made a tour in Germany.

Wordsworth’s next publication was the first volume of his ‘*Lyrical Ballads*,’ published in the summer of 1798 by Mr. Joseph Cottle, of Bristol, who purchased the copyright for thirty guineas. It made no way with the public, and Cottle was a loser by the bargain. So little, indeed, was thought of the volume, that when Cottle’s copyrights were transferred to the Messrs. Longman, the ‘*Lyrical Ballads*’ was thrown in as a valueless volume in the mercantile idea of the term. The copyright

was afterwards returned to Cottle; and by him transferred to the great poet, who lived to see it of real money value in the market of successful publications.

Disappointed but not disheartened by the very indifferent success of his ‘*Lyrical Ballads*,’ years elapsed before Mr. Wordsworth again appeared as a poet. But he was not idle. He was every year maturing his own principles of poetry and making good the remark of Coleridge, that to admire on principle is the only way to imitate without loss of originality. In the very year which witnessed the failure of his ‘*Lyrical Ballads*,’ he wrote his ‘*Peter Bell*,’—the most strongly condemned of all his poems. The publication of this when his name was better known (for he kept it by him till he says “it nearly survived its minority,”) brought a shower of contemptuous criticisms on his head.

Wordsworth married in the year 1803 Miss Mary Hutchinson of Penrith, and settled among his beloved Lakes,—first at Grasmere, and afterwards at Rydal Mount. Southey’s subsequent retirement to the same beautiful country and Coleridge’s visits to his brother poets originated the name of the Lake School of Poetry—the school of whining and hypochondriacal poets that haunt the Lakes—by which the opponents of their principles and the admirers of the *Edinburgh Review* distinguished the three great poets whose names have long been and will still continue to be connected.

Wordsworth’s fame increasing, slowly it is true but securely, he put forth in 1807 two volumes of his poems. They were reviewed by Byron, then a young man of nineteen, and as yet not even a poet in print, in the *Monthly Literary Recreations* for the August of that year. “The poems before us,” says the reviewer, “are by the author of ‘*Lyrical Ballads*,’ a collection which has not undeservedly met with a considerable share of public applause. The characteristics of Mr. Wordsworth’s muse are, simple and flowing, though occasionally inharmonious verse, strong and sometimes irresistible appeals to the feelings, with unexceptionable sentiments. Though the present work may not equal his former efforts, many of the poems possess a native elegance, natural and unaffected, totally devoid of the tinsel embellishments and abstract hyperboles of several contemporary sonneteers. ‘*The Song at the Feasting of Brougham Castle*,’ ‘*The Seven Sisters*,’ ‘*The Affliction of Margaret*,—of—,’ possess all the beauties and few of the defects of this writer. The pieces least worthy of the author are those entitled ‘*Moods of My Own Mind*.’ We certainly wish these moods had been less frequent.” Such is a sample of Byron’s criticism,—and of the criticizing indeed till very recently of a large class of people misled by the caustic notices of the *Edinburgh Review*, the pungent satires of Byron, and the admirable parody of the poet’s occasional style contained in the ‘*Rejected Addresses*,’

His next publication was ‘*The Excursion*, being a portion of *The Recluse*,’—printed in quarto in the autumn of 1814. The critics were hard upon it. “This will never do,” was the memorable opening of the review in the *Edinburgh*. Men who thought for themselves thought highly of the poem,—but few dared to speak out. Jeffrey boasted wherever he went that he had *crushed* it in its birth. “He crush ‘*The Excursion*!” said Southey. “Tell him he might as easily crush Skiddaw.” What Coleridge often wished, that the first two books of ‘*The Excursion*’ had been published separately under the name of ‘*The Deserted Cottage*’ was a happy idea,—and one, if it had been carried into execution, that would have removed many of the trivial objections made at the time to its unfinished character.

While ‘*The Excursion*’ was still dividing the critics much in the same way that Davenant’s ‘*Gondibert*’ divided them in the reign of Charles the Second, ‘*Peter Bell*’ appeared to throw amongst them yet greater difference of opinion. The author was evidently aware that the poem, from the novelty of its construction, and the still greater novelty of its hero, required some protection, and this protection he sought behind the name of Southey:—with which he tells us in the



Dedication, his own had often appeared "both for good and evil." The deriders of the poet laughed still louder than before—his admirers too were at first somewhat amazed—and the only consolation which the poet obtained was from a sonnet of his own, in imitation of Milton's sonnet, beginning—

A book was writ of late called 'Tetrachordon.'

This sonnet runs as follows:—

A book came forth of late, called "Peter Bell;"  
Not negligent the style;—the matter?—good  
As aught that song records of Robin Hood;  
Or, Roy, renowned through many a Scottish dell;  
But some (who brook these hacknied themes full well  
Nor heat at Tam O'Shanter's name their blood)  
Waxed wrath, and with foul claws, a harpy brood,  
On Bard and Hero clamorously fell.  
Heed not, wild Rover once through heath and glen  
Who mad'st at length the better life thy choice,  
Heed not such onset! Nay, if praise of men  
To thee appear not an unmeaning voice,  
Lift up that grey-haired forehead and rejoice  
In the just tribute of thy poet's pen.

Lamb in thanking the poet for his strange but clever poem, asked "Where was 'The Waggoner?'"—of which he retained a pleasant remembrance from hearing Wordsworth read it in MS. when first written in 1806. Pleased with the remembrance of the friendly essayist, the poet determined on sending 'The Waggoner' to press—and in 1815 the poem appeared with a dedication to his old friend who had thought so favourably of it. Another publication of this period which found still greater favour with many of his admirers, was 'The White Doe of Rylstone,' founded on a tradition connected with the beautiful scenery that surrounds Bolton Priory, and on a ballad in Percy's collection called 'The Rising of the North.'

His next poem of consequence in the history of his mind is 'The River Duddon,' described in a noble series of sonnets, and containing some of his very finest poetry. The poem is dedicated to his brother the Rev. Dr. Wordsworth, and appeared in 1820. The subject seems to have been suggested by Coleridge; who, among his many unfulfilled intentions designed writing 'The Brook,'—a poem, which in his hands would surely have been a masterly performance.

The 'Duddon' did much for the extension of Wordsworth's fame; and the public began to call, in consequence, for a fresh edition of his poems. The snarers of Byron, so frequent in his 'Don Juan,' such as—

Thou shalt believe in Milton, Dryden, Pope,  
Thou shalt not set up Wordsworth, Coleridge, Southey,  
Because the first is crazed beyond all hope,  
The second drunk, the third so quaint and mouthy;  
—and again in another place—

'Pedars' and 'Boats' and 'Waggons.' Ch! ye shades  
Of Pope and Dryden, are we come to this?

—and somewhat further on—

The little boatman and his Peter Bell  
Can sneer at him who drew Achilles!

—fell comparatively harmless. The public had now found out (what was known only to a few before) that amid much novelty of construction and connected with some very homely heroes there was a rich vein of the very noblest poetry, throughout the whole of Wordsworth's works, such as was not to be found elsewhere in the whole body of English poetry. The author felt at the same time the truth of his own remark, that no really great poet had ever obtained an immediate reputation, or any popular recognition commensurate to his merits.

Wordsworth's last publication of importance was his 'Yarrow Revisited, and other Poems,' published in 1835. The new volume, however, rather sustained than added to his reputation. Some of the finer poems are additions to his memorials of a tour in Scotland, which have always ranked among the most delightful of his works.

In the same year Mr. Wordsworth received a pension of 300*l.* a year from Sir Robert Peel's government, and permission to resign his office of Stamp Distributor in favour of his son. The remaining fifteen years of his life were therefore even less diversified by events of moment than any fifteen years previous had been. He seems henceforth to have surrendered himself wholly to the muse—and to contemplations suitable to his own habits of mind and to the lovely country in which he lived. This course of life, however, was varied by a tour to Italy in company with his friend Mr. Crabb

Robinson. The result of his visit as far as poetry is concerned was not remarkable.

On Southey's death Mr. Wordsworth was appointed Poet Laureate;—an appropriate appointment, if such an office was to be retained at all—for the laurel dignified by the brows of Ben Jonson, Davenant, Dryden, Tom Warton, and Southey, had been sullied and degraded by appearing on the unworthy temples of Tate, Eusden, Whitehead, and Pye. Once and once only did Wordsworth sing in discharge of his office—on the occasion of Her Majesty's Visit to the University of Cambridge. There is more obscurity, however, than poetry in what he wrote. Indeed, the Ode in question must be looked on as another addition to the numerous examples that we possess of how poor a figure the Muse invariably makes when the occasion of her appearance is such as the poet himself would not have selected for a voluntary invocation.

If Wordsworth was unfortunate—as he certainly was—in not finding any recognition of his merits till his hair was grey, he was luckier than other poets similarly situated have been in living to a good old age, and in the full enjoyment of the amplest fame which his youthful dreams had ever pictured. His admirers have perhaps carried their idolatry too far:—but there can be no doubt of the high position which he must always hold among British Poets. His style is simple, unaffected and vigorous—his blank verse manly and idiomatic—his sentiments both noble and pathetic,—and his images poetic and appropriate. His Sonnets are among the finest in the language:—Milton's scarcely finer. "I think," says Coleridge, "that Wordsworth possessed more of the genius of a great philosophic poet than any man I ever knew, or as I believe has existed in England since Milton; but it seems to me that he ought never to have abandoned the contemplative position which is peculiarly—perhaps I might say exclusively—fitted for him. His proper title is *Spectator ab extra*."

Mr. Wordsworth's works are rich in quotations suitable to the various phases of human life; and his name will be remembered not by his 'Peter Bell,' or his 'Idiot Boy,' or even his 'Waggoner,'—but by his 'Excursion,' his 'Laodamia,' his 'Tintern Abbey,' some twenty of his Sonnets, his 'Daisy,' and his 'Yarrow Unvisited.' The lineaments of his face will be perpetuated by Chantrey's noble bust; not by the pictures of it, which in too many cases justify the description that he gave of one of them in our hearing—"It is the head of a drover, or a common juryman, or a writer in the *Edinburgh Review*, or a speaker in the House of Commons: . . . as for the head of a poet, it is no such thing."

#### INTERNATIONAL COPYRIGHT.

THE Commission appointed by the French Institute to report on the draft of the proposed Treaty of international copyright between France and England is prosecuting its labours in the right spirit and in the most business-like manner. The ten members of which it is composed are all men of celebrity, and admirably qualified to act as jurors on this important question. Amongst them may be mentioned MM. Guizot and Villain, representing the French Academy,—both of them ex-ministers of Public Instruction; Baron Thénard is one of the delegates of the Academy of Sciences; and MM. de Tocqueville and Pardessus (the latter a juriconsult) are the nominees of the Academy of Moral and Political Sciences. The Commission has augmented its members by calling in several persons representing Music, the Drama, Engraving, &c.—M. Gatteau, the eminent engraver of medals, being one of them. From the deliberations of such a Commission the best results may be anticipated. On the 13th inst. the Commissioners examined MM. Firmin Didot and Baudry on the interests of publishers. The last-named gentleman is well known as the principal publisher of reprints; and in reply to certain questions as to the number of reprints per year produced in Paris, he requested time to prepare accurate returns. But he tendered a memorial embodying his views on clause 13 of the projected Treaty, respecting which the Commission is divided.

This clause expressly stipulates that the Treaty shall be confined to works published subsequently to the date of its coming into operation. But there is a powerful section, comprising the most influential members of the Commission, which urges the application of the treaty to works published antecedently to such period and of which the copyright still exists. The point is strongly contested, and will give rise to a protracted discussion; though there is every probability that the party alluded to—which represents the wishes of the French publishers—will carry it in favour of justice. As this portion of the question most materially affects the interests of British authors, it may be well to reproduce here the chief arguments employed by M. Baudry,—who, of course, has the strongest reasons for desiring a decision in favour of the limitation of the privilege. He states that as no law can be retro-active in its effect, there should be a line of demarcation established between reprints of works published before the passing of the Treaty and works that may be published subsequently thereto. That, as prior to such Treaty coming into operation there existed no law prohibitory of reprints, such reprints are tacitly recognized as legal, are protected by law, and constitute a property legitimately acquired, which would be virtually confiscated if the proposed extension of clause 13 were carried. Large investments of capital, he continues, have been made in stereotypes, many of which investments are not likely to afford any return for a considerable term,—the sales of these being slow and the cost of production not being covered by the profits on the first editions. These stereotypes would by the passing of the amendment become useless, and the capital which they represent would be lost.

Now, it must be admitted that M. Baudry has a great show of justice on his side, and that he puts his own case in a strong light. As a publisher he is liberal, as a man irreproachable; and if by reprinting in France foreign works of which copyright exists he has, strictly speaking, defrauded authors of their rights, the legislature which sanctioned the robbery by making no law to prevent it, are more to blame than he is for taking advantage of a defective international legislation and of the supineness of those whose interests have suffered by his enterprise. But since the Treaty recognizes—as does also M. Baudry—the principle of *property*, not *privilege*, in literary productions, it is evident that the property exists wherever the productions themselves exist; and if they have not become public property, they must be *bond fide* private property. A non-recognition of them as such would be spoliation. Therefore, to limit the benefit of the Treaty merely to works that may be published subsequently to the date of it, excluding those produced antecedently, would be aggravating by a new spoliation the injuries which authors and publishers have already suffered—would be a further oppression of those who have been already most oppressed. The point is a nice one under whatever aspect it is considered, and presents some difficulties in the way of an adjustment. Nevertheless, a compromise might be effected by such men as M. Baudry making arrangements with authors to allow them a consideration on future sales of reprints of their works; so that the stereotypes and the capital which they represent might not be lost, and both parties might be benefited. Even in such case the publisher would have the best of the bargain.

Clause 9 in the new Treaty proposes that the duty on books, music, &c., first published in the United Kingdom and reprinted in France, shall be 2*l.* 10*s.* per cwt.,—for works not first published in the United Kingdom, 15*s.* per cwt.,—for engravings and drawings  $\frac{1}{2}$ *d.* each. Now, if the Treaty is to be interpreted as your correspondent, Mr. C. Purday, seems to think it will [ante p. 398], the effect will be ruinous to English publishers. Baudry's editions will never be dearer than 7*l.* 50*s.*; and if these can be legally imported on payment of a duty of about 6*d.* or 8*d.*, the best reprints of the best English authors could be lawfully sold in England for about 7*s.* or 8*s.* Let this be looked to in time. The French Commissioners will not attend to it, for it forms no part of their business. It is a matter



demanding the attention of British publishers and authors. If they remain supine and decline all intervention, they must blame themselves for the consequences. Those interested in the question in France—commissioners, authors, and publishers—find it inconceivable that the same class in England appear so indifferent to a subject which involves, in so far as they are concerned a far greater magnitude of interest than with their brethren on the French side of the Channel. M. Baudry even goes so far as to say, in his printed memorial, that "this Treaty is considered by English authors and publishers as illusory, and as in no respect bearing upon their interests." Is there no one to contradict this assertion?—or is it true?—or does not the class in question know of what is going on? On the 20th, MM. Firmin Didot and Baudry were to be examined again,—and on the 27th, once more. There is, then, very little time to lose, as the clause mentioned is the only one on which any material difference of opinion exists.

The operation of the Treaty is to be limited to six years, and to be continued from year to year until one of the contracting parties shall give notice of an intention to withdraw from the compact. This may be called legislating by instalments. If the principle embodied in the Treaty is worth anything, it is worth being made permanent. If worth nothing but to experiment on, better to have left matters as they were than to denounce literary robbery and nevertheless imply a possibility of its being politic to return to it. CHAM.

#### GEOGRAPHY OF THE EXODUS.

WHEN our object is purely the attainment of a scientific or historical truth, based on demonstrable fact, we are not doing justice to ourselves, or to our cause, in calling by the name of controversy the open discussion of a most interesting question, even if a difference of opinion may happen to exist upon it, which we desire to adjust. It is by such discussions, when conducted in a spirit of mutual courtesy and fairness, that fallacies are exposed which might otherwise have passed current under a plausible garb of scientific outward show; and that truths, which otherwise could not have found a voice, are brought forth to awaken attention and urge to further inquiry.

The impression which the statements of "A.B.G." [*Athen.* No. 1170, p. 343] were calculated to leave on the minds of those who have followed the subject in which we are both so strongly interested, but of which we hitherto have taken so materially different a view, is doubtless, that there is no room left for further inquiry: that the recent survey of the Isthmus of Suez has brought to light decisive geological proof that the extent of the sea in the time of Moses was the same as now: that where the surveyors of 1799 state that recent sand-banks have stopped it out, those of 1847 found beds of the most ancient tertiary period: that consequently, the theory I had supported from an implicit confidence in the data of the former survey, is entirely overturned by the discoveries of the latter.

It is would have been the case, most certainly—the question would have been set at rest for ever—if the place where the eocene formations were found, by the soundings near the canal which "A.B.G." quotes, had been the place where Le Père and M. Dubois-Aymé said the sand-banks were. But the line of both surveys along the site of the ancient canal does not take in that place; neither is it the line which my section delineates. My object was to obtain the most instructive diagram by which the ancient and altered physical geography of the tract could be illustrated. The line of the canal would not have answered this end. The object of its projectors, ancient and modern, was to secure a firm foundation, and to place the mouth where such obstructions of sand were not liable to form. On this account they avoided the shortest cut to the sea through the lowest part of the plain or long shallow between the two basins, and led the canal by a longer, but safer, way by its side, nearer the foot of the hills. Hence its embouchure must be four or five miles to the S.W. of the supposed sand-banks, which should be looked for near the ruins of Arsinoë.

The two localities are thus necessarily different. By a closer examination of the original authorities which I consulted, "A.B.G." would have avoided this misunderstanding of my deductions from their statements. The place which they assign to the obstructing bank is too clearly described to make its relative situation to the canal doubtful. He would have seen that its site *cannot have been examined*,—nay, has not even been kept in view or alluded to by the *ingénieurs* of 1847,—and that their geological soundings, about either the canal or any other unspecified spot of the plain, do not apply. Thus, the situation and nature of this bank, distinctly affirmed by the older surveyors, although not actually verified by the recent operations, have certainly not yet been disproved; for it would be rather illogical to assert that it cannot exist in one place, because eocene strata have been found a yard under the surface in another.

If it had been distinctly ascertained by soundings, that the eocene beds, constituting the skeleton of the tract, formed a continuous line above the level of the sea *all round* the present head of the gulf,—that there really was not in those strata a depressed point, described by the surveyors of 1799 as forming a neck or opening from the *extremity* of the present gulf into the upper empty basin, where a surface current into the latter might have been maintained for ages, and where such accumulations of sand as the surveyors of 1799 refer to could form,—their theory, which I advocated, would certainly be shaken off its foundation. But that discovery has yet to be made.

My motive in resuming this discussion is not to defend this theory—or rather the data on which it rests—with the shallow plea that there is nothing as yet proved against either. It is that all who happen to be in possession of authentic local information may be induced to produce it;—that all who have means of obtaining it may now be made fully alive to the importance of clearing up this point;—that the critical spot itself may be sought out and examined,—and that one of the most interesting questions of ancient and sacred geography ever agitated may be thus openly and authoritatively decided. To this end, I must show in what respects the evidences already produced are defective.

Firstly, here is the account of this bank in the observer's own words. M. Dubois-Aymé, describing the southern extremity of the { upper gulf-basin, bitter-lake? } says:—"Le terrain est couvert de coquilles, et il est très inférieur à la Mer Rouge. Il n'en est séparé que par un banc de sable." \* \* [The levels across a part of this, are given in the Appendix to the Memoir, vol. 18, which show this bank rises only a few lines above the very highest tides.] "On aperçoit, sur les collines qui l'entourent, une ligne formée de débris de végétaux marins parfaitement semblables à la trace que la mer laisse sur le rivage; ce qui est très remarquable, c'est que cette ligne se trouve de niveau avec la haute marée du Golfe Arabique. Un banc de sable se sera formé un peu au-dessus de Suez, dans l'endroit le plus resserré de la mer." (Descr. de l'Égypte, vol. xi, p. 372.) And in the Appendix above referred to, vol. 18, he says:—"Si nous fussions partis du fond du golfe, marqué par les laisses des plus hautes marées, nous n'aurions trouvé que cinq ou six cents mètres jusqu'au point où le terrain s'abaisse au-dessous du niveau de la mer. Cette partie de notre nivellement eut lieu dans le fond d'un ravin étroit."

This remarkable passage clearly proves that the canal does not occupy the lowest levels of the long shallow it traverses: and also that its extremity—going across a widening plain to the sea just above Suez—must be unconnected with banks, which—if they exist at all—ought to be looked for "au fond du golfe"—"à l'endroit le plus resserré de la mer."

Secondly, I must call attention to the evidence derivable from the remains found in the superficial deposits of the { upper gulf-basin, bitter-lake. }

Here, again, the published account of the "ingénieur" is entirely inconclusive as proof of the main point,—whether the sea has occupied that

basin within historical times or not. The "*laisses*" spoken of by the surveyors of 1799 as occurring on a level with the high-water mark of the Red Sea, are found, by the rectified measurements, at various heights; some even above that level.† Yet the observers of 1847 have actually omitted to state whether *all* or *any* of these remains are *marine* or *fluvial*, although this was the most important and decisive statement they could have made!

As it appears, by the rectified levellings, that the Nile rises high enough with respect to the sea to fill a basin *above* the level of the latter, it is no longer impossible that the waters of the basin in question might have been rendered perfectly sweet in the time of Strabo, "by the water of the Nile flowing through it," even though that basin had been the sea in the time of Moses. In that case, the recent remains would be partly *marine*, partly *fluvial*. But if the basin—having been separated from the sea during the eocene period, as the "*ingénieur*" concludes, and exhausted by evaporation since that time,—was only re-filled when the canal was made,—*all* the recent remains it yields, forming the descending series of water-lines he alludes to (*Société d'Études de l'Isthme de Suez*, p. 96), ought most unquestionably to be *fresh-water* remains, both animal and vegetable. Here would have been a most decisive test,—firstly, as to whether this body of water truly were "the lakes" of Strabo; secondly, as to whether a recent sea ever had previously occupied the site. Yet the evidence of the last survey is quite negative! I must therefore produce the positive evidence of the older surveyors; not to establish my point thereby, but to ask for a distinct verification or refutation of their statement, which will settle the question. Le Père says, that the "*laisses*" he observed were "absolument semblables à celles de la mer." M. Dubois-Aymé says, more expressly: "Les coquilles que l'on aperçoit dans l'intérieur du bassin ne sont pas des coquilles fluviales; ce ne sont pas non plus des coquilles fossiles. \* \* Celles du bassin ne sont ni lices entre elles ni au sol; elles sont semblables à celles que la mer rejette sur ses grèves."

Now, the presence of *recent marine* remains in a basin which has been separated from the sea since the eocene period, is an absolute impossibility. If any of these littoral remains be *marine*, and some of these occur *above* the sea-level, this would be a positive proof that recent elevations had contributed with sand accumulations to shut out the sea.‡

Thus, not only the nature of these remains, but the depth of the supposed recent sand-bank, ought to be ascertained, as well as the age of its remains, before we venture to decide whether the theory of the Mosaic sea is to be given up. Moreover, in examining these banks,—inasmuch as it has been found that the gypseous marls of the Isthmus overlie a vast eocene sandstone formation, whose decomposition furnishes the sands of the Desert, which are driven over the plain and blown into the sea, with their petrified contents, to be washed up again,—we must be cautious to distinguish by the state of the remains, whether fragments of fossils so reproduced occur with the recent shells of the surface-sands.

Not one of these inquiries has been attempted by the "ingénieur;" who, nevertheless, deems his geological discoveries "un argument écrasant" to the theory he sets aside! Is it, then, on such defective geological evidence as this that the ques-

† The highest "*laisse*" measured in 1847 is 2-28 mètres above 0, low-water mark at Tineh. The "*grandes marées*" of Suez are 2-27 m.—But in the *Journal du Nivellement* of 1799, a "*laisse*" is mentioned as occurring near the Serapeum nearly on a level with the soil, and which, from the downward tendency of all their measurements from the starting point, they estimated at the level of the Red Sea; whereas by the rectification of 1847 *all this* port is found to be 7-63 m., which is more than 5 mètres above the Red Sea. There was surely something worthy of attention in this! Would it not have been worth while to examine whether this "*laisse*" was fossil or recent, marine or fresh water?

‡ If the waters of the Nile have occupied this basin after its desertion by a recent sea, and at a higher level, the remains of the latter,—if any—may have been overlaid by fresh-water species; or washed down by the superior current, and mingled with other remains at much lower levels. This must not be lost sight of in future examinations of the basin.



tion is to be set at rest for ever? Is there really nothing more to be inquired into?

Besides these conflicting or unascertained geological data, there are other considerations which make it difficult to accept such a solution of the Mosaic geography as "A. B. G." proposes, and enhance the importance of confirming the other view by the verifications I have pointed out.

Let us grant the separation of the two basins to be as ancient as the eocene period. How, then, would the upper basin have been filled with water, as "A. B. G.'s" suggestions require?—for the canal which replenished it from the Nile was not made, when Moses lived. No stream flows into it now, —no natural stream ever has flowed into it. Hence, in the time of Moses it could only have been what it is now—in part a saline marsh, in part a dry plain incrustated with salt; and the Hebrews could not have crossed the water in the place he points out as the site of the passage, since there would have been no water to cross. But if there had (that is, if we admit the anachronism of the "ingénieur" who places Sesostri 1840 B.C.)—still, the bottom of the basin beyond this passage is on a level with it, so that if the waters were merely driven northwards by the wind in this place, the Hebrews would have them only on their left, and the sea on their right would be more than 16 miles off; whereas Moses says the waters were divided, and were a wall [or defence] to them on their right and on their left.

Again, I would submit to "A. B. G.'s" critical reconsideration, whether it involves a sound principle of historical induction to prefer any particular geographical theory of the Exodus, because it agrees better with an accommodated translation of the historian's own record than with the original record itself?—whether the intentional variations and frequent glosses of the Septuagint translators, who lived more than 1,000 years after Moses, would not rather argue that they were trying to explain what they did not quite understand—that the movements of Moses were as obscure to them as they have hitherto been to us?—and whether this may not rather encourage a suspicion that their perplexity arose from some change in the physical geography of the tract, which they did not take into account?

I fear that every attempt to identify Heroopolis with Baalzepon must prove unsuccessful. Hero or Heron is an Egyptian proper name, that of a god identified by Sir Gardner Wilkinson with Atmoo (or Atoum?) whose figure is found sculptured on a monument of Remeses II., the Sesostri of antiquity, at Hero, where I follow Mr. Sharpe in placing Heroopolis or Hiroth. The resemblance of this name with ἡρώων "of heroes" is accidental, and can yield no etymological inferences. Moreover, the termination of Zephon 𓂏𓂐 is part of the root, and therefore, in that word, does not form a plural;—and finally, 𓂏𓂐 Baal, also in the singular, radically means "master" or "possessor," and thus has no connexion in sense with "heroes."

The remains which in the map of the "ingénieur" of 1847 are marked Heroopolis, have hitherto always been admitted as those of Arsinoë, discovered by Mr. Linant. But the value of this ingénieur's ancient geographical speculations may be estimated by his having repeated, p. 73 note, the stale physical objections of M. Rozière to the theory of MM. Dubois-Aymé and D'Anville, notwithstanding the triumphant refutation to them given in the Appendix above referred to, by the actual measurements of the plateau above the Serapeum. This, as well as his omitting to examine the site of the sand-banks, shows he cannot even have been acquainted with this important Appendix. Also, from his quoting, in proof of the position he assigns to Patmos, near Suez, pp. 70 and 103, the passage of Herodotus which places it near Bubastis!—a striking proof, among several others, of his scholarship, and diligent reference to the original authorities.

I beg "A. B. G." to believe that I have not

† I need not insist on the improbability that Strabo would mention the former bitterness of a lake which had become sweet 1900 years before his time. But the best proof that the waters of the Nile cannot have occupied this basin long—if at all—is, that no sensible trace of the mud of the Nile has been detected in it.

presumed to offer these critical remarks on the views he favours, in any other spirit than the desire to exhibit the strong necessity there now exists for further inquiry, by pointing out the difficulties against reason, besides the contradiction of geological evidences, which beset his hypothesis; and leave it as unsatisfactory—as incapable of agreement with the narrative of Moses—as the obsolete systems of Hales and Dr. Ed. Robinson; and that without an open sea to the Serapeum, Mr. Sharpe's theory, so singularly consistent in its etymologies with the positions of known ruins, their distances, and the state of the levels, only creates an additional difficulty, by pointing out definite sites along a line more circuitous than we can reasonably account for. Yet if we give up this theory too, we are more in the dark than ever. For the difficulties of the subject have now been so fully exhibited, that we can no longer be satisfied with the acquiescence of uninquiring ignorance, which its open discussion has compelled us to abandon.

On this account I have again ventured to extend my remarks, in order that the state of the case might be laid in full before those who have means of procuring the decisive information yet wanting,—and which I have endeavoured to indicate. I would entreat "A. B. G.," since he appears as much in earnest on the subject as myself, to exert his influence towards obtaining this; even as I will avail myself of whatever means of direct inquiry I possess, to the same end. If I have hitherto been deluded by my implicit confidence in data emanating from authorities whom, as far as statements of facts go, I could not presume to question,—I will resign the theory as a fallacy, when the fallacy is proved, not less willingly than I pleaded for it when I thought it valuable and true. But until the two important points I have indicated have been verified—until the statements I have quoted are distinctly proved or disproved,—I hope all those who are capable of forming an opinion on the subject will suspend their judgment. Whichever way the evidence goes, I shall rejoice in the truth. And the thanks of all who do the same will be due to "A. B. G." for the share his exertions have contributed in leading to its thorough investigation.

FANNY CORBAUX.

#### OUR WEEKLY GOSSIP.

BEFORE another number of our journal appears, the most complete and effective Expedition that has been equipped for the succour of Sir John Franklin will have left our shores. All the accumulated experience of our Arctic voyagers has been brought to bear in the preparation of the ships under the command of Capt. Austin; and having minutely inspected them, we are satisfied that nothing has been neglected to insure success. Remembering the equipment of the Erebus and Terror with make-shift auxiliary steam-power, which impelled the ships scarcely three knots an hour, we were struck with the contrast presented by the two screw schooners forming part of the present Expedition. These are fitted with sixty-horse engines, and carry 300 tons of coals,—a quantity sufficient to steam at full power for six weeks, at the rate of at least six knots an hour. These schooners will be of infinite use in towing the Resolute and Assistance ships through the lanes of open water in the Arctic Seas.—The Expedition will be towed to the edge of the ice; where the ships will receive their third year's provisions from the store-ship Emma Eugenia, which will precede them.—We alluded very recently to the proposed search of Regent's Inlet, and the passage leading out of it to the west,—which it is distinctly understood will not be examined by Capt. Austin, as the instructions to that officer will direct him to proceed with his four ships in pairs to a much more westerly meridian than Regent's Inlet; and thirdly, that Sir John Franklin would be more likely to take this course through a country known to possess the resources of animal life, with

the wreck of the Victory in Felix Harbour and the stores at Fury Beach, higher up the Inlet, in view,—than to fall upon the utterly barren region of the north coast of America. In corroboration of the necessity of this part of the search, we may refer to the Parliamentary Arctic Papers, in which the opinion of Capt. Beechy in particular and of the Arctic officers generally is strongly expressed in recommendation of the search of Regent's Inlet.—We stated that it was in contemplation to fit out a small vessel by private means, to convey a party to search these localities. We are now able to add that Commander Forsyth has obtained leave from the Admiralty to command this auxiliary Expedition, which will leave England about the middle of May. The arrangements for carrying out this plan are already in progress, in anticipation of the support and active sympathy of those interested in seeing every possible means adopted for the rescue of our missing countrymen. Lady Franklin's appreciation of the necessity of this branch of the search is evinced by a fact within our private knowledge,—namely, the appropriation of a large portion of her private funds to aid in its equipment. We hear that other parties have come forward with subscriptions to co-operate in the good cause.

Lord Rosse gave his first Soirée as President of the Royal Society on Saturday last, at his mansion in Great Cumberland Street. It was very numerously attended. Among the objects of interest in the rooms was Prof. Wheatstone's ingenious apparatus for illustrating the undulatory theory of light.—Mr. Appold exhibited his thermometric balance, which opens or closes the damper of a stove with a variation in the temperature of one degree Fahrenheit. It has the power to raise one ounce three inches with a variation of one degree, and ranges from 54 to 66 degrees. The action is obtained from ether boiling in a partial vacuum, which propels the mercury from one bulb to the other.—Dr. Mantell contributed two perfect feet of the same individual Dinornis, from New Zealand, the jaw of the Iguanodon, and the humerus of the Pelorosaurus recently discovered in a quarry in Tilgate Forest. This gigantic fossil is four and a half feet in length, and the circumference of its distal extremity is thirty-two inches:—dimensions far surpassing those of the Iguanodon. Numerous drawings of nebulae discovered during the winter months by means of Lord Rosse's large telescope were on the table.

On Wednesday last the Second Anniversary Dinner of the "Whittington Club and Metropolitan Athenæum" was held in the great room of the Institution in the Strand:—Mr. Lushington, presiding, surrounded by a body of distinguished visitors. The tone of the whole proceedings was caught from the earnest work which this institution is doing. The speakers all adopted in a spirit of warm recognition the striking "fact" which was visibly before them; and Mr. Macgregor well observed that this club is of more vital importance than a hundred political clubs.—It would be difficult, indeed, to over-estimate the influence for social good that an institution like this—which is gradually spreading its leaves throughout the other large communities of England—may have. Here, for a sum absolutely so small as to be within almost universal reach,—and relatively to what it purchases merely nominal—the means of useful instruction and graceful recreation—sound mental nourishment, and all of refinement that it necessarily and wholesomely demands—are provided for the large classes who are under any mode of nurture, and must be more especially under this, the true back-bone of society. Here, the thousands who of old were left perishing of their intellectual thirst, are beckoned by that which tempts to that which teaches—and the thousands who know no such thirst may have the new sense awakened within them. For the first time in the history of these institutions, too, it is considered that they need not be in any sense monastic; and the Club is not set up—as the Cloister was—as a refuge from, amongst other things, women. The presence of female members brings something of the charm of home into this training ground for the work of life; while this



innovation gives to woman herself, for the first time on even terms, her share in the full, ungrudging advantages of such intellectual training.—We have been led to make these remarks because the spread of such institutions and the progress of the parental one constitute, as we have said, a fact which it is impossible to overlook as amongst the guarantees that are contributing to consolidate the social bond amongst us. The number of members now on the books of the Whitington Club is 1,853, including 93 life members. To Mr. Douglas Jerrold, with whom the plan of these institutions originated, these 1,853 members, and the thousands in time to be added, form a nobler title than any literary fruits of his genius could, if he sowed them broadcast through the world.

The place of Poet Laureate being once more vacated, by the death of Mr. Wordsworth—this is the fitting time for urging the abolition of a merely nominal office, whose duties belong to the time of Court jesters, and were of even less dignity and value than theirs. When the title had any meaning at all, it presented the poet in the character of the parasite,—and since it has none, it is fit that it should accompany the other mummeries to which it was companion. We agree with the *Times* in thinking that what real emoluments belong to the office might, divested of the offensive title, be erected into a pension, to be—as the laureateship has been—the prize of that one among the living poets whom “the king most delights to honour.”—By the way, we have been given to understand that the prize, in whatever shape and by whatever name, is likely to fall to the lot of Mr. Tennyson. This we conceive cannot be true. Mr. Tennyson’s poetical claims have been already rewarded with a pension of 300*l.* a year;—and the accumulation in one person of the few pecuniary provisions which the country sets apart for her literary men would be a great wrong to Mr. Tennyson’s brethren, not justified by the pre-eminence of his desert.

Public attention has been recently directed to the state and condition of Dulwich College,—one of the secluded charities of London,—and one, as now ordered, very much behind the revenues and means at the disposal of the Master and Fellows. The College was founded in the reign of James the First, by Edward Alleyn, the great actor, and rival of Richard Burbadge. The foundation consists of a Master, Warden, four Fellows, six poor Brethren, six poor Sisters, and twelve poor Scholars. Now, this establishment was as much as the revenues of the College when first founded could well afford. Dulwich in the reign of James the First was not a valuable piece of property. It is now one of the most enviable spots in the vicinity of London. Mr. Cubitt, wanting to invest his money to good purpose, gazes at it with the prophetic eye of a builder; and architects survey it as a noble tract of country where palaces and villas might be erected that would fill the coffers of the Master and Warden of the adjoining College. Dulwich College as now established is not therefore equal to the means of good at the disposal of the Master:—it is also not equal to the intentions of its founder. Alleyn designed it for something more than a palatial home (a kind of rival to the Master’s Lodge at the Charter House) for a Master of his own name and a Warden and Fellows, all “well born” and “well to do” in the world. His gifts from his own purse when his College was founded exhibited other intentions; and the bequest in the reign of James the Second made by Cartwright the actor, and the larger bequest which he was to have made, were all in unison with the founder’s wishes. The Archbishop of Canterbury, who has been appealed to as the Visitor of the College, will we trust look into this matter with a patient eye. The College was founded by an actor:—it owes the luxury of having a fine collection of pictures within its precincts to the influence of another eminent actor (John Philip Kemble). Should not its surplus revenues be made in some way serviceable to the wants of a class of men honourably connected with a calling which the talents of Alleyn and of John Kemble adorned? Since the profession provided the Charity, might not the Charity make some provision for the service of the profession?

We have received from Mr. Hamilton, of Stromness, a letter complaining of certain comments offered by us [*ante*, p. 311] on a communication made by him to the Secretary of the Admiralty respecting the probable whereabouts of Sir John Franklin and his companions. The temper in which Mr. Hamilton writes is not such as to recommend his letter to our columns; but as his motive in the matter is no other than our own—the desire that no suggestion shall be omitted which may contribute to the recovery of the missing crews—and as we should be sorry to leave on his mind such an impression of our meaning as it seems to have conceived,—we will give him substantially the benefit of his letter without regard to the language in which it is expressed. Mr. Hamilton informs the Admiralty that he had frequent conversations with Sir John Franklin during that officer’s stay at Stromness, and that in the course of those Sir John expressed his determination to endeavour to find a passage to the westward through Jones’s Sound. Because we ventured to doubt such intention on Sir John Franklin’s part, Mr. Hamilton complains that we impeach his veracity. We beg to inform Mr. Hamilton, that we never dreamed of questioning his veracity,—but only the correctness of his impressions. It is quite possible that as Sir John Franklin’s thoughts wandered over the wide mysterious field of discovery whither he was himself immediately about to follow them, there may have been speculative question of Jones’s Sound, to which Mr. Hamilton, in perfect good faith, may have attached more practical significance than was intended to belong to it. Mr. Hamilton re-asserts the correctness of his statement,—and says he can be corroborated; and, in all courtesy to him, we re-assert our doubts. Mr. Hamilton rests his belief on the memory of conversations held with Sir John Franklin years ago:—we ours, as we before said, on the facts, that Sir John Franklin is not an officer likely to treat his orders with levity—and that these expressly directed him to proceed westward through Lancaster Sound and Behring’s Straits. Either of us may maintain his own view with no wrong to the other.

In a recent number of the *Athenæum* (*ante*, p. 396), we made mention in our Library Table notices of a pamphlet entitled ‘Treasury Patronage the great impediment to Economy and Retrenchment,’ by a Working Clerk. We there stated that we could offer no opinion as to the value of the measures proposed by Mr. Sanders (there by mistake called Gandar); but that as on its title-page the pamphlet expressly purported to be addressed to Mr. Rowland Hill “by his particular desire,” it was to be presumed that the latter gentleman was intended to be presented as sanctioning its statements. The allegation on the title-page we now believe to be a literary fraud. We have good authority for knowing that the dedication to Mr. Rowland Hill is one of those unwarrantable devices by which it is attempted in the first instance to mislead the public, reserving as a defence on discovery the right to call it a joke. We can only say that the humour and the morality do nothing to help each other. The so called wit is immoral,—and the immorality is stupid.

Our adventurous brothers over the sea have very narrowly missed catching the Sea-serpent; indeed have missed it only by the fact which Prof. Owen thinks may account for former failures,—viz., that it was not a sea-serpent at all. The monster snake has been pursued by an American captain with a perseverance which left him no further chance of evading the categories of science but the old trick of proving a mistake in his identity. Considering the remarkable aptitude which American captains have for finding the sea-serpent, it is curious how universally they fail to take him. Rarely brought to close quarters, whenever he is so he casts his skin and comes up “very like a whale.” On the present occasion, descried in Port Royal Sound, he was followed into the Broad River—and up the White Branch River, an arm of the same; and an expedition, which is described as consisting of two “flats,” was organized to capture him. He was pictured as “being from 120 to 150 feet in length, and of proportionate bulk; has the

head of a serpent, which he carries, when in motion, five or six feet out of the water. About ten feet from his head is a hump, resembling a huge hog’s head, and as far as he could be seen out of the water a succession of humps was observed.” Bulletins of the state of things were regularly issued; and one of the most recent announced that he was ashore at the mouth of Skull Creek, and sure to fall a prey to the Beaufort “flats.” The *dénouement* is distressing to the quidnuncs, and satisfactory to Prof. Owen. Capt. Barnwell ran into the mythological monster in gallant style,—when the creature transformed himself into a troop of bottle-noses, swimming in Indian file. “The renowned Expedition,” says a transatlantic journal, “of Capt. Barnwell up Broad River in search of the monster snake were much chagrined, on approaching his worship, by the discovery that they were in the proximity of four whales, one large and three smaller, which generally preserved their respective positions: one immediately following the other, and in their movements having all the appearances of a single animal. The largest whale, which was calculated to be about 60 or 65 feet long, and the head of which was several times raised about 6 feet out of the water, had below the mouth what resembled a white beard—the ‘floating mane’ so often described as belonging to the sea-serpent.”—By this stratagem of the monster the town of Beaufort has been deprived of the immortality which its editors were promising it. Nevertheless, there are some among them who will probably be more than ever confirmed in their faith in the sea-serpent, from the fact of Capt. Barnwell having got so near him at last. If he had not been a company of whales, he would have been taken this time. The “flats” are sure to have another chance.

The return moved for by Mr. Hutt of the cost of preparing for publication, and of printing and publishing, the work intitled ‘Monumenta Historica Britannica, or Materials for the History of Britain,’—of the number of copies printed,—of the number of copies sold, and of the price at which sold,—of the names of the persons or parties to whom copies have been given gratuitously,—of the names of the persons or parties who have applied for copies, but whose applications have not been complied with,—together with the number of copies remaining undisposed of,—has at length been presented to the House of Commons. It shows that 750 copies have been printed, at a cost of 9,742*l.* 5*s.* 3½*d.*; that 46 copies have been sold at 5*l.* 5*s.*, minus 30 per cent. for cost of publishing; that 58 copies have been given away, including those to the various members of the late Record Commissioners, the various Record officers, and the following libraries, gentlemen, and public departments:—Edward Foss, Esq.—the Rev. John Sharpe and T. Duffus Hardy, Esq., the surviving editors,—the Solicitor-General of Scotland (Thomas Maitland, Esq.),—the Chevalier Bunsen,—the Libraries of Her Majesty, the House of Lords, the House of Commons, the Public Record Office, the State Paper Office, the Archbishop of Canterbury at Lambeth, Lincoln’s Inn, the Inner Temple, the Middle Temple, Gray’s Inn, Doctors’ Commons, the Duchy of Lancaster, the Duchy of Cornwall, the Royal Society, the Society of Antiquaries, the Public Library in Salford, and the Library of the King of Prussia. There are 610 copies remaining undisposed of; while on the other hand, applications have been received for copies from the Librarians, &c., of the London Institution, the Royal Institution, Chetham’s Library in Manchester, King’s College in London, the Archaeological Society, the Literary and Philosophical Society of Newcastle-upon-Tyne, Gateshead Mechanics’ Institution, the Literary and Philosophical Society of Manchester, the Hull Subscription Library,—J. O. Halliwell, Esq. and John Bruce, Esq.—Now, this return gives rise to some serious questions:—1. Whether it is desirable that works like the ‘Monumenta,’ if printed at the public expense, should be sold or given away?—if sold, whether they should not be produced in a cheaper or more generally accessible form,—and if given away, on what principle the distribution should be regulated? Why should Mr. A. receive a copy, and



Mr. B be refused? The necessity for some regulation on this latter point is made very apparent by the present return. Contrast the list of those who have received copies with that of those to whom they have been refused. The Chevalier Bunsen, the Solicitor-General for Scotland, and Mr. Foss are among the favoured:—why (except in the case of Mr. Foss, who has shown the great value of the Record publications in his 'Lives of the Judges'), does not appear,—and is the more difficult to be guessed, when we find our industrious antiquaries and the able searchers into national history unceremoniously refused. Why are the libraries of the Royal Institution, London Institution, and King's College refused,—while that of Doctors' Commons (where any one would be charged a shilling for opening the book, and not allowed to copy a paragraph) are selected as proper places of deposit for the work? Why is it refused to the libraries of Manchester (the Chetnam, and Literary and Philosophical Societies), and given to the Salford Library? What is to be done with the 610 remaining copies? Surely they—or at least a large portion of them—should be distributed among the public libraries of the country,—and among those literary men who are known to be studying our country's history.

#### Closing of the present Exhibition.

**BRITISH INSTITUTION, Pall Mall.**—The GALLERY for the EXHIBITION and SALE of the WORKS of BRITISH ARTISTS is OPEN DAILY, from Ten till Five, and will CLOSE on SATURDAY, May 11.—Admission, 1s. Catalogue, 1s.

GEORGE NICOL, Secretary.

**SOCIETY OF PAINTERS IN WATER-COLOURS.**—The FORTY-SIXTH ANNUAL EXHIBITION will OPEN at their Gallery, 5, Pall Mall East, on MONDAY, April 24.—Admission, 1s. Catalogue, 6d.

GEORGE FRIPP, Secretary.

**THE NEW SOCIETY OF PAINTERS IN WATER-COLOURS.**—The SIXTEENTH ANNUAL EXHIBITION of this Society is NOW OPEN, at their Gallery, 53, Pall Mall, near St. James's Palace.

JAMES FAHEY, Secretary.

**EXHIBITION of the SOCIETY of BRITISH ARTISTS.** Incorporated by Royal Charter. The TWENTY-SEVENTH ANNUAL EXHIBITION of this Society is NOW OPEN from Nine a.m. till Dusk.—Admission, 1s. Catalogue, 1s.

J. W. ALLEN, Secretary.

**THE NATIONAL INSTITUTION for the EXHIBITION of MODERN ART, Portland Gallery, No. 318, Regent Street, (opposite the Polytechnic.)**—The Exhibition of the above Association is NOW OPEN, from Nine till dusk.—Admission, 1s. Catalogue, 6d. Single Season Tickets, 5s.

BELL SMITH, Hon. Sec.

**WORKS of ANCIENT and MEDIEVAL ART, and Specimens of British Manufactures.**—This Exhibition is open daily, from Ten till Dusk, at the House of the SOCIETY of ARTS, John Street, Adelphi.—Admission,—to those not Members or introduced by Members—1s. Catalogues, 1s.

**NILE—GRAND MOVING PANORAMA of the NILE, comprising all the Monuments of Antiquity on its Banks, to which is added the interior of the great Rock Temple of ABON SIMHEL, Painted by Messrs. Warren, Bonomi, and Fahey—EGYPTIAN HALL, PICCADILLY.**—Daily, at Three and Eight o'clock.—Stalls, 3s., Pitt, 2s.; Gallery, 1s.; Children and Schools, Half-price.

**NOVELTY—JUST OPENED, at the DIORAMA, Regent's Park, a highly-interesting EXHIBITION, representing the ROYAL CASTLE of STOLZENFELS, on the Rhine, (visited by Her Majesty Queen Victoria in August, 1845,) and its Environs, as seen at sunset and during a Thunder-storm; painted by NICHOLAS MEISTER, of Cologne. And the much-admired Picture of THE SHINE of THE NATIVITY, at Bethlehem; painted by the late M. RENOUX, from a Sketch made on the spot by DAVID ROBERTS, Esq. R.A., with two novel and striking effects.**

**INDIA OVERLAND MAIL—DIORAMA—GALLERY of ILLUSTRATION, 14, Regent-street, Waterloo-place.**—A Gigantic MOVING DIORAMA, ILLUSTRATING the ROUTE of the OVERLAND MAIL to INDIA, depicting every object worthy of notice on this highly-interesting journey from Southampton to Calcutta, accompanied by descriptive detail and appropriate music, is now OPEN DAILY, at Half-past Two and Eight o'clock.—Admission, 1s.; Reserved Seats, 2s. 6d. (which may be previously engaged).—Doors open at Two and at Half-past Seven o'clock. Descriptive Catalogues may be obtained at the Gallery.

#### ROYAL POLYTECHNIC INSTITUTION.

**LECTURES on MUSIC** by Sir HENRY R. BISHOP, resumed, with an increased number of VOCALISTS for the Illustrations, on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday, at Eight, and on Tuesday, Thursday, and Saturday at Three o'clock.—DR. BACHOFFNER'S SECOND LECTURE on the PHILOSOPHY of SCIENTIFIC REGULATION with OPTICAL EFFECTS, daylight Two, and on Tuesday and Thursday Evenings, at a quarter past Nine.—LECTURE by J. B. H. B. on the EFFECTS of every OBJECT of HYDROGEN, with special reference to its application for conveying by BALLOONS Pyrotechnic and other Signals to Sir JOHN FRANKLIN, on Monday, Wednesday and Friday at Three, and on Tuesday and Thursday Evenings, at Eight.—DISSOLVING VIEWS, illustrating the ARTS of ICE-CHASING and ICE-CLIMBING, also, VIEWS of LONDON in the SIXTEENTH CENTURY and AS IT NOW IS. DIVER and DIVING BELL, &c.—Admission, 1s.; Schools, Half-price.

**ANALYSES and CHEMICAL EXPERIMENTS** conducted in the LABORATORY, under the direction of J. H. PEPPEY, Esq.

#### SOCIETIES

**GEOLOGICAL.**—April 10.—Sir C. Lyell, President, in the chair.—W. Murray, Esq., was elected a Fellow.—The following communication was read:—'Observations on the Discovery, by Prof. Lepsius, of Sculptured Marls on Rocks in the Nile Valley in Nubia, indicating that within the Historical Period the River

flowed at a Higher Level than in modern times.' By L. Horner, Esq. The author having given Prof. Lepsius's account of the position and character of certain hieroglyphics registering the heights of the river floods, sculptured in the time of Amenemha the Third (Meris) about 2,200 years B.C., on the face of the foundation rock and the masonry of two fortresses which were built by Sesuatenes, predecessor of Meris, on the banks of the Nile at Semne in Nubia,—and having referred to the hypothesis proposed by Prof. Lepsius in explanation of the great difference (26 ft. 8 in. English) apparent between the highest ancient level of the water of the Nile, as indicated by the uppermost of the markings, and the highest level of the water during the inundations of the present day, viz., that the bed of the Nile in Nubia has been excavated to a depth of 27 ft. during the last 4,000 years,—proceeded to inquire into the physical and geological features of the Nile Valley in Nubia, noticing the power of the stream and the hardness of its bed—including the volume and velocity of the river, its depth and degree of inclination, and the lithological character of the rocks over which it passes. After a lengthened consideration of these important conditions, the author arrived at the conclusion that any wearing away of the bed of the channel north of Semne, the site of these ancient Nilometric markings, could not have taken place within the Historical period. The only hypotheses that in the author's opinion could meet the requirements of the facts observed, would be either the wearing away of a reef or barrier at the place in question,—a process requiring too long a period, or the existence at some distant period of a dam or barrier, formed perhaps by a landslip of the banks, at some narrow gorge in the river's track below Semne, which in the course of time had again been washed away:—but of the existence of any such contraction of the channel where such a barrier was possible, the author stated there is as yet no evidence; and he concluded by observing, that the conditions attending these markings, at present so enigmatical, offer an interesting problem to any geologist, well versed in the questions of physical structure involved, who may hereafter visit Nubia.

**SOCIETY of ANTIQUARIES.**—April 11.—J. P. Collier, Esq., V. P., in the chair.—Mr. Guest and Mr. Laxton were admitted Fellows.—Some Roman coins recently ploughed up in Yorkshire, and a Greek inscription from Athens, transmitted by Capt. Gaul, were exhibited. Earl Jermyn read the annual report of the auditors, which showed the flourishing state of the Society's finances. 800*l.* had been funded in the course of the year,—but nevertheless, there remained in the hands of the Treasurer a balance of 950*l.* beyond the payment of all expenses. Thanks were voted to the Treasurer and to the Auditors.

The reading of Mr. Hallam's paper on the historical question, 'Whether Lucius, king of Britain, had been converted to Christianity at the close of the second century,' was continued. We regret that our advice, that the former portion of the dissertation, given at the meeting a fortnight ago, should be repeated last night, was not taken, as the whole would thus have been heard in connexion and continuity. The facts, quotations and reasoning are so consecutive, that such a course seemed highly expedient, and we always object to the division of papers of such a character when it can be avoided. In the outset of his paper, Mr. Hallam stated his opinion somewhat doubtfully whether such a person as Lucius, a king of South Wales, had ever existed,—and still more doubtfully whether he had been baptized by an envoy from the Pope, at a period about four centuries anterior to the usual date assigned by our earliest and best authorities to the introduction of Christianity into these islands. It seemed that Nennius was the oldest authority in favour of the hypothesis,—and he was followed by the writer of what is known as 'the Book of Llandaf,' who was very anxious to establish the priority of his own diocese. On the other hand, Gildas was silent on the point; the importance of which was so great, that had the story been true it is hardly possible to suppose he would have omitted it. The same remark will apply to Bede,—and to various later writers; so that in fact the assertion of Nennius was altogether unsupported so far as can

now be ascertained,—and it appears strange that he should cite no authority for his statement. Mr. Hallam entered into the question with great learning and ability; and it was singular to remark how his own arguments, as he proceeded, seemed to remove the doubt which he had at first expressed, and produced a conviction at the close that if such a person as Lucius ever existed he was not a king of Britain, and certainly had never been converted to Christianity. The conversion of Ethelbert, shortly anterior to the seventh century, therefore, remains the earliest instance of the introduction of a knowledge of the Saviour and his works into this country.

**LINNEAN.**—April 16.—R. Brown, Esq., President, in the chair.—Mr. Marnock exhibited a remarkable specimen of the woody growth of the mistletoe.—The termination of Mr. Miers's paper 'On the Natural Order Triuraceæ' was read. The most remarkable point in the structure of these plants was the undeveloped condition of the embryo in the ripe seed. After referring to the Rhizanth, and other orders in which the same structure is observed, the author came to the conclusion, that the proper position of the Triuraceæ was amongst the class of endogens, and near to the orders Alismaceæ, Juncaginæ, and Fluviales. He proposed to call the form of embryo which characterized this order *protoblastus*.

**CHEMICAL.**—March 30.—(Anniversary Meeting.)—The President in the chair.—The Report of the Council and the audited account of the Treasurer were read; and the Society proceeded to the election of Council and Officers for the ensuing year, when the following gentlemen were elected:—President, R. Phillips; Vice-Presidents, W. T. Brande, Dr. L. Playfair, T. Graham, W. A. Miller, M.D.; Secretaries, R. Warington and B. Brodie; Foreign Secretary, Dr. A. W. Hofmann; Treasurer, R. Porrett; Council, T. Andrews, M.D., J. Blyth, M.D., W. Ferguson, J. T. Griffin, H. B. Jones, M.D., J. P. Youle, G. D. Longstaff, M.D., T. Redwood, Dr. E. Schunck, E. F. Teschemacher, Dr. E. Frankland, and Dr. A. W. Williamson.—The Secretary read a list of contributions towards defraying the expenses of the charter; when Prof. Graham proposed, and Dr. Longstaff seconded, a vote of thanks to the contributors.

**MICROSCOPICAL.**—April 17.—Dr. A. Fane in the chair.—Mr. Warren De la Rue made some remarks on a paper previously read to the Society by Mr. Shadbolt, 'On the Construction of a Prism for using oblique Light with the Microscope.'—A paper was read from Mr. F. Wenham 'On the Construction of an Apparatus for the better Illumination of opaque Objects under the Microscope.'—The President exhibited a microscope of French construction; and expressed a wish, on account of its low price, that instruments at as little cost were constructed by our great English microscope makers.—Specimens of the fry of the trout, reared according to the plan of Mr. Boccius, were exhibited. It was stated that this plan had been successful on the estate of Mr. Gurney, near London,—and that he now possessed a stock of promising fish where he previously had none.

**INSTITUTION of CIVIL ENGINEERS.**—April 16.—W. Cubitt, Esq., President, in the chair.—A discussion on Mr. Chubb's paper, 'On Locks and Keys,' begun at the last meeting, was renewed,—and extended to such a length as to preclude the reading of any paper.

April 23.—W. Cubitt, Esq., President, in the chair.—The papers read were, a 'Description of the Insistent Pontoon Bridge, at the Dublin Terminus of the Midland Great Western Railway of Ireland,' by Mr. R. Mallet; and a 'Description of a Wrought-Iron Lattice Bridge, constructed over the Line of the Rugby and Leamington Railway,' by Mr. W. T. Doyne.

**ROYAL INSTITUTION.**—April 12.—The Duke of Northumberland, President, in the chair.—The Rev. Prof. O'Brien 'On a Popular View of certain Points in the Undulatory Theory of Light.'—The Lecturer commenced by giving a brief explanation of the nature of an undulation, and the manner in which one undulation is superposed upon another. Having alluded to the fundamental assumptions in the un-



dulatory theory of light, he proceeded to the consideration of the Mixture of Colours, as compared with the analogous case of the union of musical sounds forming concords or discords. In the first place, he exhibited the ordinary prismatic spectrum; and by means of a plane mirror, he produced such a deviation of the red portion of the spectrum as to cause it to fall upon the blue, so mixing red and blue together: the result was a purple nearly allied to violet. He stated that when care was taken to make the spectrum perfectly pure, and to mix the red and blue in nearly equal intensities, the result was a colour very nearly approaching to the extreme prismatic violet. The same result he obtained by a whirling board, which was painted white and blue; the effect of the mixture produced by the rapid rotation of the board was a violet, making allowance for the strong white light thrown on the board from the oxy-hydrogen apparatus, which produced a whitish violet. He adverted to the well-known facts, that red and yellow mixed produced orange, and yellow and blue green. He also stated that it might be proved experimentally that red and green mixed produced yellow. In confirmation of this he mentioned the fact, that, when a pure spectrum is formed by the solar light reflected from clouds admitted through a small slit, little or no yellow or orange is seen, but the red and green appear to be almost in contact, as noticed by Dr. Wollaston and Dr. Young. The spectrum formed by the direct solar light does contain a clear band of pure yellow, and another of orange, as stated by Sir J. Herschel, Fraunhofer, and other eminent observers. Dr. Wollaston supposed that the solar light contained no yellow; the reason was, because he experimented on the light reflected by the atmosphere and by clouds, which is almost devoid of yellow, in consequence of the absorbing action of the atmosphere. It is remarkable, however, that when the slit through which the light reflected from clouds is admitted is enlarged, a tolerably broad band of pure straw-coloured yellow makes its appearance in the spectrum. The reason of this is, that by enlarging the slit the red and green are made to overlap each other, and their mixture produces yellow. The lecturer then exhibited a table showing the lengths of the waves producing the different prismatic colours in order, and the corresponding musical intervals, *do, re, mi, fa, sol*, with the numerical ratios, taking the length of the red wave as unity. Having done this, he showed a set of drawings, in which the mixture of red and yellow, yellow and blue, red and blue were represented graphically. These drawings were made as exact as possible by actual measurement, and served instead of mathematical formulæ to determine the result of the mixture of the colours. The first drawing showed the mixture of red and yellow, which corresponds to *D* and *F* in the natural key in music, the proportionate lengths of the waves being 1 and  $\frac{3}{2}$ . The same is also true of yellow and blue. It appeared from the drawing, that the resultant wave produced by the superposition of these two waves is  $\frac{4}{3}$  in length, and this corresponds to orange in the spectrum, and to a note intermediate between *D* and *F* in the musical scale. But the drawing proved the existence of a beat, or periodical variation of intensity, in this resultant wave. The ear is perfectly sensible of this beat, which is sufficiently quick to produce an agreeable sensation approaching to a musical tone. The effect of this is, that the precise intermediate note represented by the resultant wave is not distinctly heard, being completely modified by the accompanying rapid and musical beat. In the case of *D* and *D* sharp sounded together a similar beat is produced, but is so slow that it ceases to be musical and degenerates into a discordant rattle. But the eye is remarkably insensible to variations of intensity in waves, as compared with the ear. A shake or beat in light, proportional and corresponding to one executed in music, produces no effect whatever on the eye, as is proved by the whirling board. Hence, in the mixture of red and yellow, the beat is not perceived by the eye, and therefore there is nothing to modify the simple effect of the resultant wave, which will produce the sensation of the simple intermediate colour, namely orange. The remarkable difference between sound and light in this particular is thus accounted for. The same remarks apply to the mixture of yellow and blue, which may be proved

to be pure green, in the same way. The lecturer next exhibited a drawing showing the mixture of a note and its octave; pointed out the dislocation which occurs in the waves in this and all the other cases; explained the effect of this dislocation by the analogy of pendulums, which he put in vibration by properly timed impulses of air acting upon them. If the impulses strike the pendulum at intervals of time exactly equal to the time of vibration of the pendulum, it will be put in motion by them, otherwise not. A dislocation, if we may so speak, in the impulses, equivalent to the dislocation shown in the drawing of the mixture of a note and its octave, would stop the motion of the pendulum. Having thus explained the effect of the dislocation, the lecturer, in conclusion, exhibited the drawing representing the mixture of red and blue. In this case the resultant wave consisted of two portions, one yellow, the other violet, mixed with the octave below violet, (a wave to which the eye is insensible). It appeared from the drawing that there was such a dislocation in the yellow wave as would lead to its total or almost total extinction; but in the violet there was only a very small dislocation, which would produce no material effect. From this it appeared that the mixture of red and blue would produce violet, or perhaps violet with a slight shade of yellow. In all the drawings the intensities of the colours were represented as equal.

SYRO-EGYPTIAN.—April 9.—D. W. Nash, Esq., in the chair.—A letter was read from Miss Fanny Corbax, postponing the conclusion of her Memoir on the Egyptian Calendar, in consequence of some statements put forth by a writer in the *Athenæum*, upon which further inquiries would be instituted, more especially in reference to the exact time of the year when the Nile begins to rise.—A letter was read from the Rev. E. Hincks, D.D., to Mr. Ainsworth, opposing Major Rawlinson's identification of Nimrud with Calah. The name Assur (Dr. Hincks says) only occurs at Nimrud as applied to the god or the country. At Khorsabad, the name Assur occurs as that of a city. This king speaks more than once of "my city Assur," but whether this was Nimrud (Ribya, or Liha, Dr. Hincks reads this name), Konyujuk (Nanua, or Nineveh), or Khorsabad (the house or abode of Khinzir, or some approximate name), Dr. Hincks did not undertake to say.—A memoir was read 'On the Materials employed in Ancient Writings,' by W. Camps, M.D.

#### MEETINGS FOR THE ENSUING WEEK.

- MON. Zoological, 1.—Anniversary.
- Institute of Actuaries, 7.
- TUES. Civil Engineers, 8.—'On the Absorbent Power of Chalk, and its Water Contents, under different conditions,' by Prof. Ansted.
- WED. Horticultural, 1.—Anniversary.
- THURS. Royal, half-past 8.
- Antiquaries, 8.
- Zoological, 3.—General Business.
- FRI. Royal Institution, half-past 8.—'On Optical Phenomena in Astronomy,' by the Rev. Prof. Baden Powell.
- Archaeological Institute, 4.
- Botanical, 8.

#### FINE ARTS

##### NEW SOCIETY OF PAINTERS IN WATER COLOURS.

This, the sixteenth Exhibition of the Society, will not in any sense disparage the character of the Institution; and when we look back to what we remember of the struggles of its infancy,—it is worth remarking that, without any signs of senile weakness on the part of the old Society, the new one has grown up into a vigorous and healthy manhood. The gallery contains three hundred and twenty-nine works; and though there may be many of merit far inferior to what we expect to find on the walls of the parent institution,—there are others—and those in goodly number—which it will surprise us to find the latter excelling, or even equalling. These will be found to be for the most part large and finished figure drawings; a department in which their rival is usually weak. In water-colour drawings of this kind, where large works are conscientiously carried out to elaborated completion, the magnates of this society form a new school in Art hitherto unapproached. They have asserted the power of the water-colour material in this respect, without the manifestation of anything painful or unartistic in the method. Among the largest and most thoroughly finished works in this Exhibition will be found the evidences of a large and

easy mastery of the means; and although these must have been the achievement of much time and elaboration,—the result is free, conveying no sense of labour misapplied. The first impression received at the Exhibitions of this Society is usually to its comparative disadvantage. In the body of its members are many artists of inferior talent, who claim their share of the best positions, necessarily pushing works of greater merit into inferior situations, where they have to be sought for in order to be seen. In the old Society, the merits of the members are more equalized; and what few men of inferior mark there are, are for the most part to be found among the Associates, who have no voice in the arrangement. We mention this in order that the visitor may not be discouraged on the first view. The weakness of the display will be found in the landscape department; in which there are few examples of any great merit,—and even those few rarely exhibit distinctive traits or evidences of originality. There is nothing on these walls which has a chance of competing with the productions of Copley Fielding, David Cox, George Fripp, or the veteran De Wint,—himself a tower of strength, whose loss we fear will not be easily replaced.

There can be no doubt that Mr. Louis Haghe continues to assert his superiority in this Gallery. In all that distinguishes the painter from the poet he is decidedly pre-eminent; and although we feel to have implied in this remark his want of other and greater attributes, yet his works are not to be condemned, however paradoxical this may sound, as unpoetical. Even in that sense they possess much, in their intensity of purpose, their appreciation of character in the abstract, and their powerful and determined realization of the artist's intention. All the means of Art in its largest features of good design, chiar-oscuro, and colour are at his command. He contributes three works on the present occasion,—so equal in excellence that we are at a loss which to prefer. We shall therefore take them in their catalogued order, and begin with the *Miseries of War* (39). In an old hall or guard-room of some baronial stronghold in the Low Countries, about the time of our Revolution, are seated two officers,—one apparently writing a despatch for an attendant messenger, while the other is awaiting his leisure, and meantime gazing listlessly round on the miserable accompaniments of a scene which gives the name to the picture. On the left is a group of men, women, and children—some wounded, and all in sorrow—brought in prisoners from some sanguinary conflict supposed to be raging without. Others are being led in from a distant entrance. Soldiers, guarding these victims, are leaning against the rude Gothic columns or reclining in listless indifference on some article of spoil. Implements of the warfare of a ruthless age are the appropriate accessories of such a scene: and we seem almost to hear the din of the outer struggle amid the enforced silence within. There is a beautiful effect of calm grey daylight streaming down upon the objects near the window which lights the apartment, and falling full upon the table at which the official superiors are seated. This part of the drawing is especially beautiful and true in effect. The light gradates with an illusive charm into the gloom of that side of the apartment which is the scene of misery. A woman in profile, one of the most distant of the figures composing the group which fills this part of the picture, has a fine expression of intense and despairing sorrow. There is an admirable character of rude manliness in the heads of the soldiery,—and fine action, expressive of varied wretchedness, in the mostly recumbent forms of their prisoners. The colour of the picture is varied and good,—if we take exception in some degree to the somewhat overpowering red of the soldiers' dresses; and the substantive completeness of finish, and variety of textural surfaces,—especially in the background and the rude stone-work of the columns—are admirably manipulated. A *Guard Room* (52) is a more peaceful subject, with soldiers in picturesque habits playing at cards, and others smoking and idly whiling away the time. This picture is brighter in colour, and the red of the dresses is of a more agreeable tint. The sunbeams stream strongly in upon the figures, casting long streaks of shadow on the wall from the window panes. These shadows, by the way, we think are



carried unnecessarily near to the figures,—producing a confusion of effect that interferes with the breadth. The third, and perhaps on the whole the most interesting, of these works of Mr. Haghe's is described as *A Sebeel, or Public Reservoir for the gratuitous Supply of Water*. "The Sebeel is generally attached to the Mosque; and on the top of it is an open *Kuttah*, or free school for children." The building which this title describes is of a striking architectural character, occupying the whole background of the figures. Steps lead up to a kind of stone trough, on the edge of which rest brass basins for the use of those who come for a supply of the element so precious in an Eastern clime. Some eight or ten Arabian figures, male and female, all exhibiting a sense more or less of the thirst-inspiring heat of the atmosphere, are present in the scene,—some on the steps, helping those below to the grateful beverage. One woman seems to have sunk down exhausted at the very foot of the precious fount,—and, with her empty pitcher at her feet, has fallen asleep. Another is tenderly fulfilling the Scriptural injunction "if he thirst, give him drink" towards a feeble old man. A Nubian, on the upper step, with a finely painted head, is also aiding those below. There are in this work all the pictorial helps which we have described in the two others, with wondrous power and force of general effect. If we can quarrel with anything here, it is with the want of balance in the picture,—the right overpowering the left, at once in interest of subject, in light and shade, and in power of colour.—All these drawings exhibit the great advance which Mr. Haghe has made in his art during the last few years.

The next drawing which claims our attention is the single but large and noble work of Mr. E. H. Wehnert, *Caxton reading the First Proof Sheet from his Printing Press, in Westminster Abbey, March 1474*. Mr. Wehnert has evidently looked carefully into the works of the old masters, both German and Italian, and into the principles on which they were constructed: and this fine production shows that his researches have been made to good account. There is a grandeur of manner in the whole conduct of the drawing, which proves it to be the result of study digested by a mind of great original power. There is evidence of sustained energy and determination of purpose in the equal way in which all the parts of the work have received the artist's attention. Caxton having received from a workman the "first impression," is seated and calmly criticizing it. Anxious students surround him, and look on with eager curiosity. This last group is admirably composed, on the principle of accumulative force given to leading lines by slightly varied repetition. The whole tone is grand and the effect solid, produced by the relief of the rich colour of the figures on the light and cool background,—a principle carried to great excellence in the works of the old Venetians. The well balanced composition is completed on the left by the primitive press of massive wood, and a man occupied in grinding ink. Through a door on the right a female is entering with refreshments, to whom a young man who kneels on a bench is apparently communicating the result of the first experiment,—though his action is somewhat equivocal and the meaning indefinite.

The President of the Society has one large and one small picture. The more important work takes the high aim of Scriptural history—*Christ with the Disciples in the Corn-field* (75)—and is nobly conceived, with figures of large proportion, well arranged and very simple, yet forcible in effect. The background of distant country is quietly classical, and does not interfere with the oneness of the subject, but leaves the attention properly rivetted on the dignity of the sacred scene. The draperies are cast and drawn with great breadth and simplicity, and with a fine subordination in tone and colour, though bright, clear and defined. The two Pharisees who remonstrate with Christ on the asserted breach of the Sabbath by his disciples have fine character in the heads and dignified action. About the Saviour there is a grand repose,—and he has an expression solemn yet benign. There is a certain want of modelling in the head, which is the more to be regretted as being the principal point in the picture,—and there being no such defect chargeable against any of the other figures. The figures of the Disciples graduating

into distance through the passage in the corn-field are well varied in action, and have their true atmospheric and subordinate retirement. The accessory aids are cleverly introduced—though the corn may be perhaps somewhat mechanical and unreal in execution. The poppies and corn-flowers are gracefully and tenderly touched; and a firmness is given to the foreground—otherwise lacking subject—by the introduction of the inscribed stone on the left. Mr. Warren has here produced a drawing worthy of the high position accorded to him in the Society. His other drawing,—*The Wise Men from the East, on their way* (27)—though for him an insignificant work, is treated as might have been expected from his familiarity with such subjects. The sublime expanse of the desert over which the camels are slowly pacing conveys a sense of true poetry.

Perhaps the most distinguished among the landscape painters is Mr. W. Bennett; and he is at the same time by far the most abundant contributor here,—having some twenty-five drawings of all sizes scattered over the walls. He seems to have taken as his models De Wint and Cox; sometimes leaning to the style of one, and sometimes to that of the other. We would not imply by this that he has not a style of his own; he has a genuine feeling for the beauties of Nature and looks at her with his own eyes,—appearing instinctively, and that only occasionally, to refer to the works of those whom he admires. His general tone is of a fine sober silvery grey; his execution free, sometimes perhaps a little spotty or blotty. His foliage has relief, freedom and good drawing. He is never finer than in the bosom of umbrageous woods, with the light glancing on the ground or thick ferny underwood through the trees. He carries us with him into such scenes,—infusing into the mind a crowd of pleasurable sensations. Of his pictures here, we may note especially his *Harlech Castle, North Wales* (40). The road leading into the picture by a range of rocky hills on the left carries our imagination over a fine expanse of middle distance on towards the noble edifice which gives the title to the scene. The silvery light is full of air and freshness, and the sky clear and unobtrusive. The opposite of the latter quality is a fault in many modern landscape painters. Another fine drawing of similar large size is *Bolton Abbey, Yorkshire* (82). It is particularly remarkable for the good drawing of the trees on the left—the light breaking pleasantly in on the road beneath—and for the beauty of the passage where the foliage is feathering down into the water. There is a beautiful little drawing (120) like Cox: masses of trees with sunset behind, very free and dexterous, and pure in tone. No. 64 has a true deep tone:—No. 59 is a wood scene like De Wint:—and other drawings of woody scenery, which we singled out as particularly charming, are Nos. 121, 140 and 117, the latter with cattle agreeably introduced. We may select also Nos. 182 and 189. No. 170 is charmingly fresh. No. 210, with ferns in the foreground, is very true and cleverly handled,—broad, clear and aerial.

Mr. E. H. Corbould has sent the usual supply from his industrious pencil; and his drawings catch the eye on every hand, from their great power of contrasted effects of light and shade and colour,—as well as, perhaps, from their marked mannerism of style. We have wondered if it would not have been more to this artist's advantage if he had not been so long under the trammels of his father's instruction—an accurate, but tame and uninspired draughtsman. He seems as though he might occasionally break into something fine and vigorous, were it not for the influence of the incubus of trite and ordinary rules. His drawing is always correct,—his execution always clear and after the most approved methods of hatching, stippling, and gumming. Never bungling or giving the idea of the least hesitation, his works have the air of not having required a second thought,—as though the regulated system by which they are produced were so well ordered and organized to his hand, that it only required him to have determined on his subject to see it complete in his mental vision, with all the requisite appliances to make up his picture. We long to see evidence of a desire to get beyond himself,—some betrayal of a necessity for reconsideration,—even the attempt at something not quite successfully achieved. There is a cold, dogged, mechanical feeling about his style that chills us even

while we admire. We feel annoyed that we cannot find more faults. His art reminds us of a staking, stiff cravat, and self-satisfied specimen of trite respectability whom we sometimes meet in the street, and whom we feel inclined to assault in order to make his blood ferment and his limbs move quicker. We will walk with the reader round the gallery and remark on his several works as they strike us. No. 12 is evidently a portrait; the head very mannered,—light and shade hard, cut out, and maplike. No. 56 is a slight but dexterous sketch. No. 63 is wildly extravagant in action. No. 98 is another portrait,—much more carefully carried out, less mannered, very highly finished, even to the background. The effect is broad; the lilac colour of the dress made agreeable,—which we apprehend could be done only in water colours; and the whole is a very excellent specimen of the artist's power. In *The Gardener's Daughter* (234) there is a beautiful play of the light and shade and colour, and the drapery is excellently painted. No. 245 represents a young girl in the costume of the last century, taking her last look of home at the garden-gate. A figure somewhat indistinguishable is going away in the gloom of the distance with her box and umbrella. The action of the figure is affected, mawkish and attitudinizing; but the colour and tone of the drawing are beautiful in a high degree,—very fresh and pure, with the drapery, here also, admirably painted. *Elgiva in the Hands of the Creatures of Odo, Archbishop of Canterbury* (271) is the most ambitious of this artist's drawings; but the subject is repulsive. The soldiers of the Church are preparing to brand the unfortunate queen, watched by a monk in the mystery of the distant background. The picture is extremely powerful in the vulgar sense; but the actions are theatrical,—especially that of the queen, whose terror is artificial and without energy. The drawing is fine in the sense academical; the colour is strong and vigorous, but violent and angular in contrast and in execution. *Florette de Nervac at the Spring of La Garenne* (250) is a very charming drawing in the most powerful manner of this artist, and exemplifies all that we have said of his merits and defects. There is a portrait (309) of *Master Hernandez, the American Rider*, in the circle, surrounded with bouquets, and standing in the midst of his triumph before the audience:—an achievement of wondrous care and labour.

#### NATIONAL INSTITUTION.

Who will not be pleased by a very persevering, deserving, and still improving lady-artist's little picture, *Captivity and Liberty* (244)? Mrs. M'lan has treated the subject with great tenderness and much poetry. It represents a party of imprisoned gipsies consisting of two females, one with an infant at her breast and a boy sleeping near her feet—the nursing mother gazing on two swallows who have built their nest within the small aperture which admits light to their place of confinement. The picture has an agreeably subdued tone in harmony with the subject, though clear and transparent; and, with nice execution, it has much breadth of light and shadow. It is an example of that frequent charm of result which arises out of cultivated delicacy of taste and the rejection of all that is repulsive and unpleasant,—though lacking energy of style and intensity of expression. Mr. R. R. M'lan exhibits himself in great strength on these walls. His picture *The Highland Coronach* (76) is conceived with much dramatic vigour. A party of Highlanders, who have discovered their slain clansman on the hill-side, are demonstrating variously their moods of horror and indignation and their vows of vengeance. The scene is finely humanized by the absorbing grief of the bereaved father and the anguish of a young female seated on the ground. We can congratulate this artist on much improvement of manner, truer colour, and better drawing; though he shows still a cramped littleness of style in this latter respect, which only practice on figures of a larger scale would tend to remove. The attempt is worth his making,—seeing the sense of harmony in his lines in general composition, and remembering his late introduction into the art as a profession. He has two other good figure subjects here, and several landscapes—one only in oil—*A Highland Ford* (2) (Lochaber). It represents some sturdy Highlanders crossing a



mountain stream, and is in many respects very well painted. This artist's other works are water-colour sketches, chiefly made from nature on the spot. They manifest minute and accurate observation in their carefully drawn details.

It is with reluctance that we approach the works of Mr. E. J. Niemann, a gentleman whose industry seems unbounded, and whose natural talent is unquestionable. But industry may be misapplied and natural talent may be perverted, and we fear both these observations apply to the labours of Mr. Niemann. He does not address himself to nature in a sufficiently reverent spirit. He does not reflect on the precise extent and limit of his own powers when in her august presence; but advances with a careless air, and satisfies himself with a hasty glance at her bounteous yet coy and subtle charms. He is the most prolific exhibitor on these walls, yet we look in vain for one amongst his very clever works which does not impress us with the idea that we are treated slightly—as though the artist should say, I know how superficially you look on these things; see with what ease and dexterity I can satisfy the demands of your carelessness. The truth is, that with a stinted poetical organization Mr. Niemann has adopted a *bravura* style which would harmonize only with loftiness of conception and vigour of imagination. He should come down gracefully, lest he fall, from the lofty pedestal on which his footing is not safe, however self-confident. He should become more humbly imitative, more studiously penetrative into the subtleties of natural effects. He must not presume to think that the goddess before whom he should teach himself to bow with awed admiration is to be imitated in her varied completeness by the summary method of passing a glazing colour over one half his canvas and rubbing it into the granulated surface with his thumb. In his *Landscape* (72) we have his most poetical, and in his *Norman Staircase at the Old Mint, Canterbury* (52), his most elaborately imitative, works: but neither in the first do we see the imaginative power nor in the second the truth of imitation which each class of subject severally demands. Both are—with much energy and vigour—tricky, painty (to coin a word), and mechanical. These observations are offered in proof of the interest which we take in the future of a gifted man.

Mr. J. E. Lauder, labouring—on similar subjects and with much similarity of taste—under the shadow of his brother's superiority, does not command that attention which his merits deserve,—and which they would surely obtain with a more distinctive character and style. We do not mean that they are *imitative* of his brother either in subject or in treatment; but they have just that natural harmony and likeness which may be supposed to emanate from two minds having much in common, and probably surrounded by the same external circumstances of early culture. In short, the brothers are of the same school. *Belarius, Guiderius and Arviragus returning from the Hunt* (283) is a picture with much beauty and poetry of conception, rendered in parts with much charm of colour and good drawing. The right of the picture presents the interior of the cave, with the disconsolate Imogen in its distant depth. The approaching party seem to have been made aware of the presence of its unwonted tenant by some sound or other unusual indication; for while *Belarius* is cautiously advancing in a stooping posture, to see without being seen, the steps of the hunter princes are arrested in action of surprise to await the result. The two youths are very graceful,—whilst they are hardly picturesque with their burthens of spoils and weapons of the chase. There are great beauty and variety of colour and of light and shade about these two; but the whole effect is somewhat marred by the coarse scene-painting character of the rocky entrance to the cavern. On the whole, however, this is a fine picture. We wish we could say as much in praise of *Mal-apropos; or, One too many* (260). This work, manifesting labour and care, good drawing and harmony of colour spread over a large surface, is so puerile in subject, and the story—such as it is—is so imperfectly told, that we are disappointed and chagrined at such misapplied application of power. A third picture by the same hand, *The Cradle and the Spinning-wheel* (179), which represents a young Scottish mother in her cottage home looking over

her sleeping child, is weaker in all respects. With a pretence of high finish, the details are not conscientiously carried out or understood. The appearance of completeness is given by artificial glazing and unmeaning depth of tone,—too much the characteristics of the northern school, and merely the tame reflex of Wilkie's latter manner. Here we have another evidence that the vices rather than the beauties of a great man are too often caught by his followers.

We cannot say that we find an encouraging answer to that promise of talent which carried away a first prize in the great cartoon competition at Westminster, in the present display of the works of Mr. E. Armitage. We fear he is verifying the old adage that "the ball is easier thrown up than kept up." *Sampson, a Study* (57)—very academical of its kind—seems to have been diverted from its first simple intention and, to use a technical vulgarism, *made up* into a picture. The drawing is hard, blocky and unyielding—though there is vigour in the expression. The whole effect is flat and tame; and the accessories are dragged in, as it were, to meet the pressing demand for some meaning to the figure. *Edipus and Antigone* (201) seems to possess still less of favourable augury for the painter's future. The picture, though small and painted with seeming care, lacks most of the essentials of good art. The conception and expression are spiritless—the colour is untrue, both locally and generally—and the drawing is wanting even in correctness of proportion. In the same artist's little picture *Combining Physical with Moral Consolation* (205) there is a touch of the humorous, though rather lugubrious of its kind. An ugly Italian woman, suffering from the toothache, is looking askance, with an indescribable expression of distaste, yet with resolved endurance, at an old monk who, with one hand extended in admonition, in the other holds an instrument for the extraction of the offending member.

There is a fine fresh sense of beauty in a landscape by Mr. H. McCulloch—a *Border Tower on the Yarrow* (298). From an admirably chosen point of view for the lines of the composition, the aspect of the lone stronghold, standing sturdily up in the sky, presents a thousand romantic associations of the days of feud and foray. The atmosphere is fresh and health-inspiring, and tells plainly the pure source of the artist's inspiration,—making us regret to find here only this single production by his hand. Much of the same sense of freshness and truth is conveyed by *Rydal Water, Westmoreland* (213), by Mr. J. Randell. The peculiar geological character of the rocks is well delineated; the water is pellucid, reflecting truly the well-painted sky. Two other landscapes by the same hand answer to all we have said of the first.

There is a fine dash of energetic vivacity in the sketches of Mr. W. E. Dighton. He loves to storm Nature in her almost inaccessible strongholds, on mountain summits, amid cloud and tempest; and we feel, from the air of local truth, that his enthusiasm must have set at naught physical endurance. His sketches have the air of having been executed on the spot; and this we the more believe when we look at his more finished works, which have less of the same local truth, and give no great indication of an instinctive sense of the beautiful, in tone or colour. He has one finished picture, however, *On the Conway, Caernarvonshire, a Rain-Storm among the Hills* (241), which, for truth of effect, is among the best efforts in the Gallery. The handling is careful, with a well-drawn figure, giving good presage for the future of this young artist, if he will persevere,—and if he will remember that mere daring, sustained by whatever amount of cleverness, will not make a painter. Another youthful champion appears in the field in which Mr. Dante Rossetti and other young men whose works do not appear on these walls, are leaders—in the person of Mr. W. Deverell. His picture is a scene from Shakespeare's 'Twelfth Night' (143). We confess, we view this youthful effort with something more of tolerance than that of his more practised brother in this affected style. He worships with more unassuming faith his false idol. His very lack of knowledge befriends him. There are germs of fine perception, both of beauty and of character, scattered about the work. He has not been entirely

able to enslave his mind to the task of puerile and affected imitation; but—perhaps it may be in his own despite—has painted, here and there, heads and limbs with an appreciation of higher and better example than those which enthrall the minds of his pre-Raphaelite brethren. We advise him to give way to that more generous emulation; to look at Nature as she is, and as the great masters have taught us to see her,—and not through the eyes of those who were themselves in the trammels of ignorance. *A Scene from Henry IV.* (174), and *Italian Devotion* (211), by Mr. C. Dukes, are pictures that challenge useful reflection on the proper application of artistic power. The author of these works is possessed of more than an ordinary share of the requisite qualities for an accomplished artist,—yet we turn from their contemplation without interest because they lack the great requisites of true character. As an illustrator of Shakespeare Mr. Dukes is "all abroad;"—and these Italian devotees are plainly ordinary English models dressed up to play their parts. Had the mind which produced these works been touched with the true fire, we could have dwelt with pleasure on their merely artistical merits. We could have admired their sweetness of manner and charm of execution,—their freshness,—the nice modelling of the flesh,—and the pleasant clearness and precision of the draperies. We admit all these,—yet are unmoved.—Why? the pictures are uninformed with that true inspiration which makes our hearts leap in sympathy with the poet-painter. There are some agreeable landscapes by Mr. J. Peel: many of them, it is true, mannered in execution,—being also manifestly imitative of Mr. Creswick. This is seen most in the trees; which have, added to this defect, a certain brittle look, as if they were made of porcelain, and would drop into fragments if struck. But there is one picture among them in which the artist seems to have put forth his strength; and which, besides being almost free from these defects, has beauties, both subjective and objective, that the others do not present. It is *The Road, fifty years ago* (172). There is an admirably painted group of figures in the foreground, where an Autolykus of the time is reading some wonder-relating broadside to an eagerly credulous group. A substantial well-mounted yeoman with his good dame behind him on a pillion, on his way to market, crosses a shallow brook which runs over the road. A broad-wheeled wagon is journeying on with its lengthy team, the driver riding on his Shetland pony and communing with the inside passengers. In the distance is the heavy post coach. These are the marks which, with the uninclosed nature of the country, give character to the scene: which is well managed, too, in effect and colour,—bright, clear, and atmospheric. Altogether, this is a beautiful picture.

We have now named all those works which especially command our attention; and can only mention slightly in a small paragraph some others of more or less degrees of merit. We may tell the reader, however, that Mr. Williams, Sen., with those of the brotherhood whom we have not particularly noticed, contribute to exhibit here the distinguishing merits of the family. Mr. J. L. Brodie's two pictures *The Confession* (162) and *A Roman Youth* (189) give good promise; the first in expression—the second (a head of the life size) in tone and colour.—Mr. Middleton maintains his position as a portrait painter by good drawing and arrangement and agreeable colour.—Mr. Lucas has a very pleasing portrait of a boy.—Mr. W. Duffield has three exceedingly well painted pictures of fruit and game.—Mr. H. B. Willis has a landscape, *Evening* (222), of very good tone, and with a feeling of poetry in the effect; and a picture of landscape and figures with a humorous title—*Laying the Dust at the Fountain* (137). A party on a hot and dusty day are refreshing themselves at the sign of the Fountain. This is very cleverly painted.—There is merit in a *Winter Scene* (140) by Mr. A. O. Deacon:—as well as in a picture entitled *Ruined Castle of Nargos* (124), by Mr. W. Oliver.—We may mention, too, with moderate commendation, Nos. 219, by Mr. P. W. Elen,—147, by Mr. H. P. Parker,—190, by Mr. T. C. Dibdin,—224, by Prof. Baker, of Dresden,—and 345, a drawing by M. Gavarni. With the Art of neither of these last two can we sympathize,—though they are manifestly clever works.



## WESTMINSTER HALL AND OPEN ROOFS.

Sir,—In the notice in your last number on the Messrs. Brandons' curious and well-digested collection of mediæval open roofs, you put a question,—whether I will contend that the admiration which Westminster Hall "has commanded, has been all along misplaced,"—or will extricate myself "from the dilemma by asserting this to be merely a splendid exception, proving the correctness of the rule?" I beg to assure you that I find here no dilemma; and that, so far from being an exception, this is precisely the example I should have chosen as the proof, *par excellence* of the total failure of our ancestors to assimilate open roofs with the Compressible architecture (or that called Gothic). Not to be thought singular or presumptuous, however, I will, before giving you my reasons, just quote two authorities;—one, an architect whose writings have been voted by the present heads of the profession to be singularly useful,—the other, a man who, though not an architect, knew two things which many called by that name have never learnt, viz., first, what *Architecture* is, and secondly, what *Gothic* architecture is.—

"No work on the earth, perhaps, exhibits more excellence of *workmanship*; and perhaps none shows more *assiduity and skill of an inferior kind* to obviate the thrusting power of the roof; but the whole, being constructed on false and unscientific principles, it is in vain that this want of science is concealed by intricacy of framing and excellence of workmanship," &c.—A. BARTHOLOMEW, sect. 517.

"Westminster Hall exhibits a specimen of the false taste of the Norman roofs. It contains the essential parts, indeed, very properly disposed [?],—but they are hidden, or intentionally covered, with what is conceived to be ornamental; and this is an imitation of stone arches, crammed in between slender pillars, which hang down from the principal frames, trusses, or rafters. In a pure Norman roof, such as Turnaway Hall, the essential parts are exhibited as things understood, and therefore relished. They are refined and ornamental; and it is here that the inferior kind of taste or the want of it may appear. And here we do not mean to defend all the whims of our ancestors; but we assert that it is no more necessary to consider the members of a roof as a thing to be concealed like a garret than the members of a ceiling which form the most beautiful part of the Greek architecture" [the only part, by the by, never copied].—DR. ROBINSON, Vol. I. p. 566 (edit. 1822).

Had this eminent philosopher pursued the subject only a very little further, I believe he would have admitted that in the *Gothic* architecture (alone) this concealment of roof-framing is necessary,—not for being unsightly, nor yet for being of a different material (I care not a straw how many materials are seen),—but because its constructive principles, if true, must be anti-Gothic,—and if Gothicized, must be false or disguised. There is no reason why open roofs may not yet be made beautiful and truthful; but to effect this all Gothic ideas must be relinquished. Therefore, the mediævals never could solve this problem. They never tried it but during the decline of their system, and then, I believe, only in this country; and though they made some thousands of attempts, all failed;—necessarily so, for they never could have brought their Compressible architecture to the perfection which it reached but by such an exclusive devotion to its principles (applicable only in masonry) as rendered artistic truth in carpentry to them impossible.

The admiration of Westminster Hall is very natural. I, too, before I knew what Architecture is,—when (though studying it for years) I still thought, like the many, that its object was to please the eye,—could admire that and similar roofs as much as any one, and even think it a fine thing to mimic them. But since learning that mimicry is not true architecture, I have also gradually learned that this roof itself is mimicry throughout. It greatly hindered me in this lesson, and will hinder many others, by perpetuating and stamping with its venerable associations a taste of the most depraved kind. Its author seems, with the prophetic eye of genius, to have looked a few centuries in advance of his age, and designed for the Victoria era,—the age of universal mimicry,—the age of making new things look old, and old ones new,—the age of "re-torations," and polychromy, and "perspectives" (obtained by throwing incongruous apartments into one, shuffling away necessary furniture, and then building exercises to contain it,—but more probably he had to sacrifice every requirement of true taste to a royal whim. Richard the Second had seen the triumphs of the masons,—one was within a stone's throw; and nothing would satisfy him but to have an avenue that should look as tall as that of a church without

really being so, and without the obstruction of pillars. But here the failure was complete. In vain they represented the triple division of roofing to suggest the idea of nave and aisles where there were none; in vain they carried up the central avenue as high as possible, and confined the end windows to its breadth:—these subterfuges only made the barn proportion mean and offensive (which it would not naturally be) by aping a style associated with tallness, and so provoking a comparison which otherwise would never occur. It was equally vain to simulate the effect of arching in a material not requiring or admitting real arches. The curves, all in parallel planes, were a sorry substitute, indeed, for those in various planes changing their graceful combinations at every step of the spectator; but all must be as church-like and masonic as carpentry could be made,—and by consuming almost a forest in burdensome disguises, and propping up from without by equally massive artificial rocks, the huge impossibility was just enabled to hang together, and retain its shape perhaps during the festivities. What a pity there were not some of our iron-rope *balustrades* to lean on, and some globes of fishes inclosing bird-cages! But their miracle would have been shamed by these, for it was on too large a scale to succeed as they do.

Now, whatever it may have been originally, no structure is beautiful which has visibly swerved from its intended form. Even the Tower at Pisa is not allowed to be in its present state beautiful. But there the defect is extraneous and accidental, here it is inherent and designed. At Pisa the fault is in the substrata, here it is in the *design*. A new campanile could be built to stand erect, but no fac-simile of Westminster Hall could keep its shape; we may challenge modern engineers, with all their iron, to make one do so.

And this is held up by some as an example of decorated but undisguised construction. Decorated construction!—why there is not in Europe a more flagrant instance of the reverse, constructed decoration—*undisguised*! Everything, from the general whole down to the smallest detail, is a disguise and a shuffle. I admit it to be far from a fair specimen: it is one of the worst of its class.

With regard to the peculiar pleasing "effects" which you mention in these roofs, some (as the admission of colour and gilding, "perspective richness," "boldly marked compartments,") are at least as applicable to vaulting; and without stopping to inquire whether the others are not equally attainable in it, I must deny that *any* of these effects, however pretty, are to be purchased at the expense of artistic truth. That is the *first* consideration, to which they must all yield if necessary. If you can add any of them (not all, that is impossible), add them by all means.

But against these reasons for fancying open roofs, (even supposing them confined to such roofs,) I have to set off a few others for preferring vaulting. 1. It renders the *adoption* of the Gothic architecture possible, instead of its *mimicry*. 2. It leads to geometric and beautiful (because thought-exacting and trouble-giving) varieties of plan. 3. By requiring knowledge and skill, it shuts out ignorant professors. 4. It renders a building always practically fire-proof, and with very small additional expense absolutely fire-proof and decay-proof. 5. It gives, without paint, a ceiling at least as light-coloured as the walls, which is consonant to the taste of *all* past nations and classes except the Tudor barn-builders. 6. For the same reason, it renders less window surface necessary by day and less artificial lighting by night. 7. It greatly impedes the passage of heat from within or without. 8. It *alone* renders efficient ventilation possible, as I could easily show. 9. It keeps off the dust from the roof and harbours none itself. 10. It has boldness of light and shade, which *no* depth of relief can *possibly* produce in a structure situated above the tops of the windows (as a roof must be), especially if of dark colour. 11. It keeps out external noise. 12. It is found to enable a larger assembly to hear the same speaker. There is a church lately built at Hackney of which one half remains useless, as the number of persons who can hear only suffices to half fill it. In larger churches which are vaulted, the voice can be heard throughout.

I fully admit that circumstances may often require vaulting to be dispensed with. *Then they require another style*. May I ask what circumstances you

think would justify the adoption of classic architecture without a cornice? Well, that feature is not half so essential there as the vaulting here. That is only one member, while this is the *primum mobile*, the all-pervading and governing aim in which the whole system centres,—without which it would have as much meaning as a steam-engine without a cylinder, as much connexion as a sentence without a verb, and as much beauty as an animal without a head.

The employment of "either of the two modes" for the sake of "greater diversity in the general style," is a very odd argument for the continuance of the *only* mode hitherto imitated. One would have thought that argument belonged to my side,—but I cannot use it. I must protest against the "diversity" produced by truth in one work and falsehood in another. Moreover, true architecture acknowledges no such aim as that of making buildings *diverse*; her sole end being to adopt in each case the treatment *best* for its purpose and circumstances. Of beauty, firmness, and convenience, says Wren, "*the third only makes the variety*,"—and it will make quite enough, if we attend to it, and are faithful to the other true objects of the art.—I am, &c.

E. L. GARBETT.

[\*\* We will only say, in answer to Mr. Garbett's letter, that his arguments have not convinced ourselves. Had he contented himself with merely vindicating the superiority of vaulting over timber roofs, we might have acquiesced in his opinion,—whereas he is opposed to the latter altogether. However, what he has urged is likely to stir up some discussion. The question thus started challenges the attention of the profession; and, as it seems to us, Mr. Garbett must either make many converts, or raise up a host of opponents.]

FINE-ART GOSSIP.—The idea recently entertained of doing something towards improving St. Paul's Churchyard has led the *Architect* to revive a scheme for remodelling the whole of that area which was projected about a quarter of a century ago by Mr. James Elmes. Its adoption is urged more strongly than by words, by two plans drawn to the same scale,—one of which shows the Place de la Madeleine, at Paris, and the other, St. Paul's Churchyard as it *might be*;—and that, with comparatively small sacrifice of property, while the value of the property remaining would be materially enhanced by such an extensive improvement. At present nothing can be more unsightly, amorphous, and huddled up than the line of houses on the north side of the Churchyard; and, as the *Architect* remarks, it is as much to be wondered at as regretted that Sir Christopher Wren should not have secured, if not greater space, at least regularity of *alignement* as regards the houses around his own noble edifice. The irregularity now beheld is sheer deformity,—without aught of picturesqueness attending it, and without producing that kind of contrast which might serve to set off the Cathedral to greater advantage. So far from doing this, it destroys all propriety of *ensemble*; and betrays something like contempt for—at least want of appreciation of—Wren's greatest work, which is made to show as a costly gem would on the cloak of a beggar. The two plans above mentioned show us that were the area around St. Paul's to be equalized by being enlarged at its west end, and even somewhat reduced at the opposite end, it would then be of precisely the same width as the Place de la Madeleine—viz., 400 English feet,—and in its fullest extent of somewhat greater length. This plan is feasible enough.—Any improvements in this quarter, however, which depend on the consent of the Dean and Chapter of St. Paul's, the public must not expect. That liberal body will not sacrifice either its old iron without or its coppers within the Cathedral. The Dean and Chapter accept the *railiery* of the public, so that they may keep their own. They will sacrifice none of the defences of the Church—of which they think the railing is one. A profane attempt is to be made to compel them, by an appeal to the highest authorities. The opinion of the Archbishop of Canterbury is to be taken as to the essential character of this protection.

Photography depends much for its success on the manipulator, his management and tempering of the light, &c.; and we have long felt that some of the Parisian practisers of that art exceed the best of our



own in their successful results. We have seen two portraits of Lord Gough, however, by Mr. Kilburn, which rival even those of M. Andrieu himself, the best of the French manipulators.

The Diorama, by the American artists, Messrs. Kyle, Dallas, and Lee, of Fremont's Overland-Route to Oregon, Texas, and California—to be opened to the public on Monday next—will if viewed as a work of art merely be found to be but a poor affair. Some of the distances, it is true, are ably managed; but the trees are without effect or distinct character of foliage, and the men and beasts are one and all badly drawn. It is not, however, altogether as a work of art that we are to regard this picture. It is rather a clever map or survey of a tract of land richly diversified with wood, water, and noble and fantastic shaped mountains. So looked at, it will be found both instructive and interesting. The Exhibition is divided into four sections: and will prove yet more attractive if its proprietors will make it move a little quicker than on the night of the private view. Two hours of picture-seeing in a crowded room is not that kind of exhibition which the many (so necessary to make a work like this remunerative) will care to see.—Slowness of movement is the prevailing drawback of all the exhibitions of the Nile and Oregon class.

The French Minister of the Interior has decided on postponing the Exhibition of Painting in Paris this year until November. The comparative absence from the capital during the fine season of strangers and of rich amateurs likely to be purchasers of pictures, is the motive for this change in the period of opening the Salon.

The papers of that metropolis report the death of the painter Broc, one of the most remarkable artists of the school of David. The number of his works is said to bear but a small proportion to their merit. His principal pictures are 'L'Ecole d'Appelles,' in the Luxembourg—'La Mort d'Hyacinthe'—'La Magicienne,' in the Luxembourg—'Les Envoyés de Dieu,' in the Church of Saint Sulpice—'La Bataille de Marengo'—'Paul et Virginie'—and 'Rénaud et Armide.'

*Galvani's Messenger* speaks of a scenic effect produced by a M. Peyrebrune, which it dignifies by the name of a discovery. "It consists of an artificial effect, in which the snow-flakes are seen drifting and agitated by the wind in a manner altogether magical. The appearance, as the snow covers the ground, imitatively resembles Nature. This improvement will in the hands of a judicious play-wright be effective beyond example."

The Cathedral of Saragossa, one of the most remarkable edifices of the capital of Arragon, has just been destroyed by fire.

From a Correspondent in Naples we have a few Art notices. "Tito Angelini," he says, "one of the best Neapolitan sculptors, is executing a group in marble in which Telemachus forms the prominent figure. It is intended for the royal apartments. Besides this group, he is executing two statues of Religion and Hope respectively, for the Church of the Madonna delle Grazie, in the Toledo. In painting, our countryman Searforth, well known as a distinguished marine painter, has been much patronized of late by Prince Luigi—brother of the King. His royal highness has purchased four of his paintings, and has besides given him a commission for a picture in which his own yacht is to form the prominent object. At the Museum no very material changes have been made. No successor has as yet been appointed to the Cavaliere Avellino, and the consequence is that the arrangement of several new objects is deferred. I believe that additions have been made to the Museum from excavations now going on at Capua,—of which I hope to give you some further account shortly. One alteration, indeed, has taken place; which is, that the private collection of Pompeii has been sealed up, under the direction of our minister, Troja,—and I believe a special permission from His Majesty will henceforward be necessary for an inspection of it."

#### MUSIC AND THE DRAMA

Mr. G. A. OSBORNE begs to announce that his SECOND MATINEE MUSICAL will take place at the BEETHOVEN ROOMS, 76, Harley Street, on THURSDAY NEXT, May 2, at 2 o'clock. Mr. Osborne will be assisted by Messrs. Ernst and Platt, and some of the most distinguished Vocalists.—Single Tickets, 10s. 6d.; Family Tickets (admitting three), 1l. 1s. to be had at Mr. Osborne's, 2, Devonshire Street, Portland Place, and at the principal Music-sellers.

THEATRE ROYAL, DRURY LANE, Lessee and Manager, Mr. James Anderson.—MISS VANDENHOFF begs to announce to her Friends and the Public that on WEDNESDAY, the 1st of May, is appointed for her DEBUT, on which occasion will be revived Sophocles' lyrical Tragedy of 'ANTIGONE,' with the grand Choruses by Mendelssohn, which produced so extraordinary a sensation on its first representation in this country. Creon (King of Thebes), Mr. Vandenhoff; Antigone, Miss Vandenhoff (as originally represented by them on the first production of this celebrated Tragedy at the Theatre Royal Covent Garden). The Tragedy will be followed by the gorgeous Spectacle of the DEVIL'S RING, or Fire, Water, Earth, and Air. This evening's performance will conclude before Half-past Eleven o'clock.—Private Boxes and Tickets may be taken of Miss Vandenhoff, 24, North Bank, Regent's Park; and at the Box Office of the Theatre.

#### NEW PUBLICATIONS.

*Stabat Mater, with the Latin and English Words, set to Eight Melodies, Ancient and Modern, for Four Voices with Organ Accompaniment.*—Christmas Carols; or, *Lays and Legends of the Nativity, Old and New, Grave and Jolie, newly arranged, composed and edited by Henry John Gauntlett, Mus. Doc.*—In the first of these publications, the pages most interesting are the "prefatory remarks"; and these are so in right of the hints and notices which they contain, rather than because they justify Dr. Gauntlett in doing what he here professes himself to have attempted—namely, to convert a "Marian into a Messianic lyric." Such transformations of sacred music can be effected only when the Church font shall be filled with waters from Lethe,—or, on the possible supposition that every trace of association can be obliterated and our sympathies set perfectly free to accept the novelty as a novelty, clear alike of tradition and of memory.—On "the horns" of this mistake the *Motett Society* split; on a like false principle of Art has the York Minster choir-books been encumbered with ineffective adaptations from Handel's Oratorios, and the pages of more than one careful collection of Psalmody have been defaced by *Andantes* tamed or tortured from the instrumental *Sonatas* of Beethoven and Mozart. In this particular case, too, we could question the selection of the 'Melodies' were we to push criticism—which some will call cavilling—further. Among the 'Christmas Carols,' No. 2 is the most noticeable. The words by the Rev. W. J. Blew, though floridly pompous, have still the true carol character, and as such have inspired the composer. There is, however, a touch of rudeness in all Dr. Gauntlett's music, so far as we know it, which stands in need of being mellowed ere as a writer of—not on—music he can meet with the acceptance which his science merits.

And here—having announced pleasant Ballads by Mr. E. Harper,—the Songs introduced by Mr. Wallbridge Lunn in his entertainment [*ante*, p. 139],—some republished specimens of the peculiar and incomplete talent of the lady who signs herself *Angelina*,—and *L'Invito su la Laguna, a Duetto* by Signor Pergetti, in the most hackneyed Italian style,—we must pass to something more sterling as vocal composition. *Six Songs from the German, with Pianoforte Accompaniment.* By B. Molique. Op. 38—two of which, we may add, have been made known to the public by the expressive singing of Miss Dolby. We need not dwell anew on our own heresies with regard to much that is accepted in Germany as song writing, save to emphasize our commendation of Herr Molique. Considering that in his instrumental compositions he obviously prefers what is minute, intricate, subtly harmonized and closely wrought, he deserves double credit for the ease and flow of his vocal writing, and for the perspicacity with which he avoids the besetting sin of his countrymen, which is to set the pianoforte going when the voice is what we are waiting to hear. Yet in these Six Songs no one could accuse the accompaniments of insipidity. In No. 1, 'The Honved's Bride,' a national quaintness is preserved by most natural means. No. 3, 'May,' is freshly pastoral. No. 4, 'The Summer,' has a winning *cantilena*, well set off with a flowing, though not very easy, accompaniment. In fine, in all that Herr Molique puts forth there are evident the composer's hand and the composer's self-respect; which make us turn to all new music bearing his signature with expectation, very seldom being disappointed in finding matter of interest.—Let us here mention as new to us, *The Lark's Song, Canon for Soprano, Alto, Tenor and Bass.* The Words by W. Bartholomew. The Music by F. Mendelssohn-Bartholdy. This may possibly be one of the

leaves of music strewn about in albums by Dr. Mendelssohn, many of which are complete compositions, not sketches. In any event, it is as "tunable as lark," and as free as though it were not canonical. It is a gift of first value to all amateurs.

The instrumental compositions to be noticed belong all to the same family of single movements to which pianoforte writers just now perversely restrict themselves. *Four Romances* by Edward Deane are so many "Songs without words,"—and not the worst which have passed through our hands.—Mr. S. W. Waley's *March and Reverie* are welcome because they are not in that much abused form. The *Reverie* contains traces of grandeur and vigour, which their possessor might turn to account in compositions of more importance.

PHILHARMONIC SOCIETY.—*Fourth Concert*.—Mr. C. Potter's Symphony in D major, though better imagined and executed than much modern English music, and though performed with a perfection and spirit which must have gladdened its writer's heart, is not exciting.—Haydn's Symphony in B flat has been too mercilessly hackneyed as theatrical curtain-music to merit a place in a Philharmonic programme.—Mendelssohn's luridly brilliant overture to 'Ruy Blas' was played admirably and *encored*.—M. Sainton was heard to his utmost advantage in Beethoven's Violin Concerto; and by his fine performance did as much as other violinist could do to reconcile us to not hearing this noble work performed by Herr Ernst, whose cadences to it (which we have heard) are marvellous in their grandeur and musical value.—Miss K. Loder gave elegantly, though perhaps too feebly, Mr. W. S. Bennett's Caprice with Orchestra. This is rather an *Allegro di bravura* than a *Capriccio*. The singers were Miss C. Hayes and Mr. Whitworth, Miss Hayes is not happy in classical music; nor is her voice effective when, as in the *allegro* to the *scena* from 'Der Freischütz,' the movement must progress onward at once rapidly and steadily. But her articulation of English has greatly improved—and she is more alive to the necessity of passion than some of our singers. It was a mistake to select Mozart's 'Addio,'—a *canzonet* which we are used to hear from our *contralti*—for Mr. Whitworth. He sang it, however, with great care and refinement.

CONCERTS OF THE WEEK.—It is not to the credit of our patrons of music, whether as regards the claims of the occasion or the excellence of the entertainment, that Mr. Platt's concert (to which they have been duly invited) was so thinly attended. The subscription list, however, will be open for a while longer, and we wish that some of those who have profited by musical beneficence in aid of their cherished charities or pet philanthropies, would still recollect that here is an opportunity for them to pay their debts of honour and that their memory is seldom taxed.—On Wednesday evening Mr. Aguilar's concert was given. The new pianist gave signs of musical training, and rightly directed ambition in the choice of the compositions selected by him: a certain hardness of finger and heaviness of hand (which may be ascribed to nervousness) only standing betwixt him and high honours among his compeers. His compositions are in the showy modern style,—elegant and no more. His concert was interesting:—three of the vocal pieces were by a composer new to us, M. Desanges,—of whom we must hear more ere we can admit him among the inventors. Herr Ernst and Hausmann played. The singers were Miss Lucombe (who from month to month improves in her power of doing full justice to the marked originality of her conceptions)—Mdlle. Graumann, who also is rising and will rise higher among the *mezzo-soprani* in right of a refinement and piquancy rare among German ladies—Mdlle. Schloss, the Misses Cole, Mr. Sims Reeves, who was in glorious voice and singing his best,—and Signor Marchesi, who also is so rapidly coming forward that at no distant period he must take a foremost place among *bassi* capable of singing all "sorts and conditions" of music.—On Wednesday evening also the concert of *Mlle. Moulin* was held at the new Beethoven Rooms.

MUSICAL UNION.—The third meeting of the *Musical Union* gave us the pleasure of hearing, for the first time this season, M. Halle, who performed



Mendelssohn's Duet Sonata (Op. 58) superbly, with Signor Piatti, and subsequently three compositions by Chopin.—The last, a Polonoise in A (Op. 40), is music on the grandest possible scale, claiming orchestral power rather than the force of ten fingers—be they even fingers as full of life, fire, and expression as M. Halle's.—The way in which the Philharmonic Directors stop their ears to this best of classical pianists is ceasing to be vexatious and becoming absurd.—But absurdities will grow up everywhere; even at the *Musical Union*. We must reckon with Mr. Ella over his 'Record,' or self-laudatory programme,—the tone of which, however fit for that by-gone arena of vulgar exclusiveness, the ball-room *Almack's* of the Regency—must in any age of gentility have been felt as unbecoming an artist directing a society professedly founded to promote Art. According to Tuesday's throne-speech, *Lady Townly's* thankfulness "down to the ground" is a type of what the chosen few admitted to perform in King Street are expected to feel on being selected. Now, however agreeable be such dreams of solicitation and sceptre-work to the writer, we fancy that they must appear rather comical to his subscribers, while the pomposity thereof must be felt as anything but complimentary to the artists whom Mr. Ella is bound to assemble.—The plain truth is, that the Musical Union has as yet not made a single musical reputation: for the best of all reasons, that not being a trial-society its sofas would presently be deserted if it admitted probations. So far from such artists as Mr. Ella is pledged to engage being dependent on place and public, the case is hardly one of equal obligation. It is rather the public who depend on the Artist, and who must follow him whithersoever he goes. Disappointed by Philharmonic prejudice of hearing Herr Ernst in the Philharmonic Concert Room, my *Lord Cremona* must needs "take brougham" and turn his horse's head towards a stall at the Wednesday Concerts. What has become of the episcopal aprons and the strawberry leaves that used to nod "in the choicest of company" through the "ancient music"? Do they nod at home, now that "the ancient music" is silent? No. They are up and awake and willing—not to "nod it," but—to mob it at the Sacred Harmonic Oratorios. Had Mdle. Lind chosen to sing at Limehouse, in place of Lumley-land, ladies of vocal taste would have only thought it "a lark" to follow the Nightingale "down east." Even in bygone days, when "the porcelain of the earth"—our English male aristocracy—wore muffs and rode in sedans, the Mr. Ella of their chamber-music was Thomas Britton, a small-coal man, and to his garret the grantees gladly climbed because good fiddling was fiddled there. Let us then have no more foolish misstatement of obligations and responsibilities, placing any one who now makes it, not so much above the artist, as with the led captain or running footman of other days, whose one notion was "*My Lord*" and whose other was "*My Lady*."

HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE.—For this week we must content ourselves with asserting on the assurance of our contemporaries that Signor Beaucarde has a tenor voice of the most beautiful quality possible, and that his success in 'I Lombardi' was no less than a triumph. These are brave tidings, the present state of Opera considered; and there will be braver still should the new acquisition prove available in other music than that of the newest Italian destructives—which, we trust, and believe, will never take root in England.

ROYAL ITALIAN OPERA.—All who agree with us in our estimation of Rossini's genius, and who recollect that the Italian version of the 'Moïse' is the nearest approach to a new utterance by that provokingly-silent oracle which we are now likely to receive, will enter into the curiosity with which we attended the performance of 'Zora' this day week, and our pleasure in a fulfilment surpassing all expectation. More gorgeously to the eye, more magnificently and brilliantly to the ear, a grand opera could not be given: the execution (one slight exception allowed for) realizing all that the most fastidious or exacting of audiences or composers could desire. The work itself, with its alterations, is brimful of interest.

That 'Moïse' has suffered not so much by the seriousness of its story as by the absence of character to personate therein, is merely another fact added to those which must be laid up by the chronicler as affording a vexatious limitation to Rossini's reign on the stage,—and as of general warning and import. In the version made for England, we have a tyrant of Assyria, *Merismane* (Signor Tamburini), who holds in thrall a nation of Bactrians headed by *Zora* (M. Zelger), a priest, and who will not let them leave his country though admonished by portents. This affords canvas large and wide enough for magnificent scenic backgrounds and choral effects; but the theme is one as susceptible of description as of presentment—fitter therefore for oratorio than for opera. The central fire of love, passion, sorrow, tragic interest, that quickens such antique stories as 'Medea,' 'Iphigenia,' and 'Alceste,' is wanting. There is a love passage, it is true, betwixt *Prince Amenofi* (Signor Tamberlik) and *Anais* (Madame Castellan), a captive princess; but this is so tamely disposed as to make of the principal *soprano* and principal tenor little more than a lady and gentleman who, with abundance of delicious melody to sing, have little to do save to walk the stage. In old times, the witchery of Rossini's tunes would have sufficed; since the Maras, who objected to "do anything with their arms and legs," subjugated their audiences by pure exhibitions of vocal power:—but, right or wrong, that period is past. Drama has laid its strong hand on Music; and unless the two can be combined, there is now small chance for Opera. Were it otherwise, this 'Moïse' or 'Zora' must have kept the stage of the *Académie* to the present day; ranking before 'La Muette'—ranking before 'La Juive'—ranking before 'La Favorite' (by many a bar),—and seriously rivaling, if not exceeding, M. Meyerbeer's three grand operas—in right of its music.

Such would seem to have been the *Maestro's* hope, to judge from the care bestowed, and from the important changes and additions made by him, with a view to establishing in Paris the old 'Mose nel Egitto.' This opera is re-arranged in four acts. As it here stands, the work opens with an entirely new introduction of great length and ingenuity. This commences with one of those instrumental preludes by which no one has provoked expectation\* comparably with Rossini,—leading into a chorus where the simplest possible figure of accompaniment (a mere *appoggiatura*) produces by its continuity a happy effect. Then follows an excellent unaccompanied quartett and chorus (*encored*); also a piquant chorus in  $\frac{3}{4}$  tempo, with a delicious *cantilena* for the principal voices. After these comes the well-known duett 'Ah se poi così,' succeeded at once by the original *finale* of the first act to 'Mose.' The former of these movements (in spite of the *undante a due* 'Non e ver,') is slighter and more mannèred than the new matter; while the well-known *Marcia*, lively as is its rhythm, is at best but a march fit for a 'Cendrillon' or such light fairy tale,—not for a grand mythological drama. The double quartett 'All' idea,' however, is one of those pieces of vocal combination in which Rossini has no peer. It may seem easy to write such things, the pattern once having been set,—yet no one does the feat now-a-days.

The second act of 'Zora' opens with the solemn choral introduction 'Ah! che ne aita!' the grand bass recitative, and subsequent quintett and *stretto*, which originally commenced the opera. By the majesty of the first, in which the monotony of restless pain and anxiety is expressed well nigh as sublimely as in some tragic wail of an ancient chorus, we were deeply impressed; strangely reminded, too, of another more recent piece of musical painting,—we mean, the drought prelude in 'Elijah,'—the parallel forming one of those cases where instinctive and meditative genius, impulse and science, produce, though by totally different means, results curious and interesting in their similarity. We must interrupt our specification to commend the ripe, solemn, and steady execution of this chorus; producing an effect of awe which is unique in stage-music. To this grand and striking piece succeeds the duett

for tenore and basso 'Parlar, spiegar,' (*encored*); and now, to close the act, an air for the Assyrian Queen *Sinaide* (Mdle. Vera) *con coro*, which is a re-arrangement of the original scena, 'Porgi la destra,' with its central portion removed.

The third act of 'Zora' is almost entirely new. It commences with a high revel held by the hardened and haughty Assyrian King in the temple of an idol to which the captives are bidden to bow down as the condition of their departure. Here is introduced the *ballet* music; which is less noticeable of its kind than might have been expected from the composer about to write the fascinating and delicious dances for 'Guillaume Tell.' Possibly some of the movements have been left out. To commence the *finale*, comes the entrance of *Aufide* (Signor Soldi), a messenger who startles the guilty court with tales of gathering portents—of wailings of the earth and heavings of the sea. This new passage is excellent for its picturesqueness and dramatic force. The sound is as if distant waters were welling up on every side, as if the air were filled with storms only waiting to be unchained. Then comes the destruction of the Idol by a thunderbolt,—the pause of dismay giving employment for the well-beloved quartett 'Mi manca la voce' (*encored*), which is here introduced. This momentary lull is succeeded by the obduracy of the Assyrian king, who puts his captives in chains, in defiance of new menaces from the Prophet and in disdain of the despair of the lovers. These are combined in a new *stretto*, which as a piece of effect is almost unrivalled. Rossini has here done, and by legitimate vocal and instrumental means done magnificently, what Verdi has again and again strained himself to accomplish, yet never accomplished. The vivacity of the *crescendo* is amazing. The voices ascend by a simple progression† to a point of almost delirious excitement for a while maintained and suspended, and capped by a final *cadenza*, in which a large and new phrase, thrice repeated, step by step raises the rapture to excess, and closes the act with a force and animation not outdone by Meyerbeer when Meyerbeer is most resolute on conquest. Let those who choose reason about this rhythm or the other device in the face of sensations so powerful as those produced by this example of brilliant climax. Even on being first introduced to the notorious *finales* in 'Les Huguenots' and 'Le Prophète,' we have never seen an English audience moved by music of combination to such enthusiasm. This seemed shared by singers and orchestra,—who, when uproariously recalled after the curtain had fallen by a house that "rose at them," went through their task anew with the fire and energy of true artistic excitement. It is something to have lived to see this conjured up on the stage in England. After the *encore*, the artists were demanded,—and, after the artists, Signor Costa. Better merited and heartier recalls and plaudits we have never recorded.

The musical impressiveness, variety and splendour of these second and third acts as they now stand, (the deficiencies of the story never lost sight of), would justify analysis more elaborate and praise more ecstatic than ours. Perhaps it was impossible to keep up to so high a point in any last act devoid of strong dramatic situation. That of 'Zora' opens with a new *scena* for *soprano* (once sung at a Philharmonic concert) of great power, but desperate difficulty; in which again it is evident that the *Maestro* was trying his hand at new forms and combinations, so soon, alas, to be laid by! The force of the third *finale* may be inferred from the fact, that the well-known 'Preghiera,' in its day considered a masterpiece of choral effect, sounds comparatively meagre and fell flat as the close to the opera.

Long as is the above sketch, we must still speak of the principal performers.—M. Zelger, though already known to our public as the *basso profondo* new to the Italian company, first claims welcome. His fine presence told well in the character of the Priest: his voice proved sufficient for the theatre, and well in tune; and he gave the entire part with dignity and musical skill, until, seduced by the temptation of the leading phrase in the *stretto* aforesaid, under

\* Let us instance the commencements to his overtures to 'l'Italiana,' 'Cenerentola,' 'La Gazza,' 'Il Barbiere,' 'Guillaume Tell':—how different one from the other—how new—all how piquant without effort! By no one has the same skill been wrought with such simplicity of means and materials.

† Those who study means and materials for effect may be reminded of another wondrous example of climax on a smaller scale, in the *stretto* to the familiar quartett 'Ciel il mio labbro,' from Rossini's 'Bianca e Faliero,' which is too much overlooked owing to the composition being rarely performed as it is written—*con coro*.



the idea of amplitude he ventured an exaggeration which, however irresistible, was vocally objectionable as bordering on the grotesque. The Ladies were excellent. Madame Castellan has not been heard to such advantage in any previous opera; her voice was fresh and brilliant to the last, and she delivered it with less effort and more feeling than is her wont. Mdle. Vera, too, was most successful; her action is always appropriate and graceful, and her worth is particularly felt in all concerted music, to which her excellent delivery of every phrase adds a crispness and solidity most satisfying to the ear. No one sings the brilliant music of Rossini for *basso* as Signor Tamburini still sings it. Signor Tamberlik in his strange dress looked like one of those figures which may be seen seated in moveless grandeur in the Tombs of the Kings by the Nile. His stage demeanour was as noble in its antique dignity as in 'Masaniello' it was impressive by its southern intensity. In right of such power of personation he would be a first-rate artist, even were he not in addition a first-rate singer. He sang his part in the duet with Signor Tamburini with an intensity of feeling and brilliancy of tone which carried the audience by storm. Signor Tamberlik's singing, too, in the new *finale* must be commemorated as a blaze of passion without caricature, and of power distinguished from brute force. We would give much to see his *Otello* to the *Desdemona* of Madame Viardot. Lastly, after a passing word of courtesy to Signori Lavia and Tagliafico, as having respectively aided this admirable cast, we must state that the costumes are not only magnificent, but (especially in the first act) beautifully pictorial,—that the *ballet* is liberal and glittering,—and that the scenery is such as Messrs. Grieve and Telbin, and not many beside them, can paint and combine.

DRURY LANE.—There seems to have been a difficulty in keeping this theatre open; however, an appeal having been made to the legitimate drama, the audience have returned in sufficient numbers to justify the continuance of the season. On Monday 'Othello' was performed, Mr. Anderson enacting the *Moor* and Mr. Vandenhoff *Iago*. Fletcher's 'Elder Brother' and Shakspeare's 'As you like it' were repeated on Tuesday and Wednesday. The 'Antigone' of Sophocles is advertised for next week,—in consequence, as the playbills have it, of an urgent "pressure from without."

HAYMARKET.—On Monday Mr. Macready was to have appeared in 'Macbeth,' but an attack of neuralgic rheumatism has postponed the forthcoming "series of his farewell performances." Shakspeare's comedy of 'Much Ado about Nothing' was substituted for the occasion; Mr. Wallack performing *Benedick* and Mrs. Warner (for the first time) *Beatrice*. The lady acquitted herself with more vivacity than might have been expected from her tragic style of acting; and so far as she succeeded her performance can be accepted as a triumph of art over natural impediments.

SADLER'S WELLS.—Mr. Milman's tragedy of 'Fazio' was revived on Friday week; Miss Glyn performing *Bianca* for the first time. This character is one in which the actress will add to her reputation. The presentment is altogether remarkable,—grand, powerful, and surcharged with terrible passion. Miss Glyn throws into it more physical force than is customary with her, and gives a fearful energy to the emotions of jealousy and rage. In the latter scenes she rose into sublimity. Her madness had about it an awful reality,—her death was very striking.

MARYLEBONE.—Mr. Brooke still continues to sustain this theatre. His performance of *Hamlet* on Monday was equal to his best efforts in his best days, and displayed remarkable taste and vigour. His voice has almost recovered its former rich and musical tone.

MUSICAL AND DRAMATIC GOSSIP.—We are happy to announce that some music by the French gentleman more than once mentioned in the *Athenæum* as a composer of extraordinary distinction and promise is in London, with every prospect of its being performed in the course of the season.

The London Sacred Harmonic Society gave a

performance of 'Judas Maccabeus' yesterday week, with Mr. Sims Reeves as principal tenor.—At the last *Wednesday Concert*, Herr Dreyschock appeared as *star-instrumentalist*. It is said on every side, that the days of these entertainments are numbered. So be it: the solitary good which they have effected has been that of affording to Herr Ernst an opportunity of frequently displaying his genius,—which, for obvious reasons, is not to be appreciated on a single hearing.

M. Alary's Oratorio 'La Rédemption' has been performed at Paris with fair success.—'The Requiem' of M. Berlioz is about to be executed at a funeral ceremony to be performed in memory of those who the other day perished at Angers, and in aid of their surviving relatives, for whom a collection will be made.—The present French Government seems wisely favourable to musical and dramatic enterprise; and, in reply to a memorial recently presented by Signor Ronconi, has again accorded to the Italian Theatre a *subvention* which had of late years been withdrawn. The *Opéra Comique*, we observe, holds its pecuniary assistance on the condition of annually giving twenty new Acts by native composers—or, to put it otherwise, five three-act and five one-act works.—Mdle. Alboni is about (it is said) to give some concerts or dramatic representations at the *Grand Opéra*.—We perceive with pleasure that the music of Mendelssohn is steadily creeping into request in Paris, since it now figures in fair proportion in concert programmes.

The Opera-houses at Naples are shut for want of a director—it might be added, we apprehend, for want of a composer and for want of singers. Yet Signor Verdi has been better rewarded in Italy than Rossini was in Rossini's glorious days of almost insolent fertility of production. What do the admirers of the new *maestro* make of the present state of affairs?—Since writing the above, we perceive that the *Teatro Fondo* has been re-opened by Government.

Herr Tomaschek has just died at Prague, aged seventy-six years. He was by birth Bohemian, and is said by the musical biographers to have been a composer of power and originality. Had these been distinguished in amount or quality, we think that his works must have found their way into our concert-rooms—"if not by the door through the window—if not through the window down the chimney." At all events, during late years, Herr Tomaschek has been principally known as a professor of the pianoforte, who, among other pupils, formed Herrn Schulhoff and Dreyschock.

Mr. C. Kean is said to have secured for his theatre a new play written by Sir E. B. Lytton.—Mr. Douglas Jerrold's new comedy, 'The Cat's-paw,' is, at last, in the Haymarket bills.—Mr. Macready's illness—alluded to elsewhere—has led to the postponement of his farewell engagement till October.

# MISCELLANEA

The Anglo-Saxon Race.—We copy the following from a Buffalo paper.—"In 1620 the Anglo-Saxon race numbered about 6,000,000, and was confined to England, Wales and Scotland; and the combination of which it is the result was not then more than half perfected, for neither Wales nor Scotland was half-Saxonized at the time. Now it numbers 60,000,000 of human beings, planted upon all the islands and continents of the earth, and increasing everywhere by an intense ratio of progression. It is fast absorbing or displacing all the sluggish races or barbarous tribes of men that have occupied the continents of America, Africa, Asia, and the islands of the ocean. If no great physical revolution supervene to check its propagation, it will number 800,000,000 of human beings in less than 150 years from the present time,—all speaking the same language, centered to the same literature and religion, and exhibiting all its inherent and inalienable characteristics. Thus the population of the earth is fast becoming Anglo-Saxonized by blood. But the English language is more self-expansive and aggressive than the blood of that race. When a community begins to speak the English language, it is half Saxonized even if not a drop of Anglo-Saxon blood runs in its veins. Ireland was never colonized from England like North America or Australia, but nearly the whole of its 7,000,000 or 8,000,000 already speak the English language, which is the

preparatory state to being entirely absorbed into the Anglo-Saxon race, as one of its most vigorous and useful elements. Everywhere the English language is gaining upon the languages of the earth, and preparing those who speak it for this absorption. The young generation of the East Indies is learning it; and it is probable that within 50 years 65,000,000 of human beings of Asiatic race will speak the language on that continent. So it is in the United States. About 50,000 emigrants from Germany and other countries of continental Europe are arriving in this country every year. Perhaps they cannot speak a word of English when they first land on our shores; but in the course of a few years they master the language to some extent. Their children sit upon the same benches in our common schools with those of native Americans, and become as they grow up, and diffuse themselves among the rest of the population, completely Anglo-Saxonized. Thus the race is fast occupying, and subduing to its genius, all the continents and islands of the earth. The grandson of many a young man who reads these lines will probably live to see the day when that race will number its 800,000,000 of human beings. Their unity, harmony and brotherhood must be determined by the relations between Great Britain and the United States. Their union will be the union of the two worlds. If they discharge their duty to each other and to mankind, they must become the united heart of the mighty race they represent, feeding its myriad veins with the blood of moral and political life. Upon the state of their fellowship, then, more than upon the union of any two nations on earth, depend the well-being of humanity, and the peace and progress of the world."

Improved Cotton Cleaning Machine.—The India House have issued the following document, copies of which have been forwarded to Manchester. The Government of India having, at the suggestion of the Agri-Horticultural Society of India, announced that a prize of 5,000 rupees shall be given for an improved cotton-cleaning machine (unrestricted by any particular mechanical principle) such as, in the opinion of the Government, shall have attained the principal objects described by the Society—namely, "to be so perfect in its action in separating cotton-wool from the seed, and possessing such qualities of expedition, simplicity, and comparative cheapness, as to render it likely to come into practical use;" and the Agri-Horticultural Society having determined to adjudge its gold medal for the same object;—it is hereby notified that the following are the conditions under which the above and other prizes will be awarded:—

1. The machine shall be capable of separating the ordinary short staple cotton grown in India from the seed.
  2. Each competitor shall deposit, free of charge, a full-sized working machine in the Society's rooms, Metcalf Hall, Calcutta, together with a letter descriptive of the machine and the mode of making it, addressed to the Honorary Secretary of the Agri-Horticultural Society of India, on or before the 1st of January 1850.
  3. In the event of no machine being deemed worthy of the full amount of 5,000 rupees, a smaller prize will be awarded for the best machine offered, in proportion to its merits in the estimation of the Government of India.
  4. The Society's gold medal will be given with the Government prize of 5,000 rupees; and, in the event of there being more than one competitor, a silver medal will be awarded for the next best machine, provided it shows much ingenuity and comparative success.
- Notice is hereby also given, that the Agri-Horticultural Society of India will be prepared to award (subject to the same conditions as those named above) a silver medal and the sum of 250 rupees, placed at its disposal by Major Jenkins, agent to the Governor-General in Assam, for an efficient cotton-thrashing machine, adapted to free from trash either seed cotton or cotton wool of the indigenous kinds.—*Manchester Examiner*.

The British Museum.—A return relative to the British Museum has just been published; from which it appears that the total receipts during the year ending Christmas, 1849, amounted to 50,612*l*., and the total expenditure to 41,791*l*., leaving a balance of cash in hand equal to 8,821*l*. The estimated expenditure for the present year amounts to 47,192*l*., and is composed of 23,105*l*. for salaries, 2,100*l*. for law expenses, 13,058*l*. for purchases and acquisitions, 6,399*l*. for bookbinding, cabinets, &c., 2,380*l*. for printing catalogues, making casts, &c., and 150*l*. for law expenses, fees, &c. Adding to these sums 9,118*l*. already voted for the service of the same year, the



whole estimated expenditure will be 56,310*l*. To meet this there is 10,982*l*, consequently the grant required is 45,328*l*. Out of the special Parliamentary grant for excavations, &c., in Assyria, 837*l*. had been paid during the year 1849, and the balance remaining on this account is 1,018*l*. The number of persons admitted to view the general collections in the year 1843-4 was 575,758; in 1844-5, the number was 685,614; in 1845-6, it was 750,601; in 1846-7, 820,965; in 1847-8, 897,985; in 1848-9, 979,073. The number of visits made to the reading-rooms for purposes of study and research was in 1810 about 1,950; 4,300 in 1815; 8,820 in 1820; 22,800 in 1825; 31,200 in 1830; 63,466 in 1835; 67,542 in 1840; 69,303 in 1841; 71,706 in 1842; 70,931 in 1843; 67,511 in 1844; 64,427 in 1845; 66,784 in 1846; 67,525 in 1847; 65,867 in 1848; and 70,371 in 1849. The number of visits made by artists and students to the galleries of sculpture for the purpose of study was, in 1831, about 4,938; 6,081 in 1835; 6,354 in 1840; 5,655 in 1841; 5,627 in 1842; 4,907 in 1843; 5,436 in 1844; 4,256 in 1845; 4,124 in 1846; 3,508 in 1847; 3,694 in 1848; 6,804 in 1849. The number of visits made to the print-room was 4,400 in 1832; 1,065 in 1835; 6,717 in 1840; 7,744 in 1841; 8,781 in 1842; 8,162 in 1843; 8,998 in 1844; 5,904 in 1845; 4,390 in 1846; 4,572 in 1847; 5,813 in 1848; 5,970 in 1849.—*Times*.

**Monument at Runnymede.**—It appears surprising in a country like this that there should be no memorial, not even an inscription, to mark the spot at Runnymede where the Magna Charta of every Englishman's rights received the sign manual of King John, in the twelfth century, through the firmness of the Barons. The site at present is occupied as a race-course, with an unsightly stand in the centre.—*Correspondent of the Builder*.

**The Expected Great Comet.**—In order to predict the time of re-appearance of a comet moving in an elliptic orbit, with allowance for the attractions of the planets, it is necessary that we should know the precise time of revolution corresponding to some past epoch (as, for instance, the previous perihelion passage), or the period which the comet would require to perform its circuit round the sun, if all planetary disturbances were to cease from that moment. The comet in question was observed in 1264 and 1556, and the interval between the perihelion passages in those years amounted to 106,567 days, or 291½ years; but this tells as nothing with respect to the length of period corresponding to the ellipse described at the instant of perihelion, either in 1264 or 1556, since it includes the united effects of planetary perturbations between those years. Therefore, before we can ascertain the epoch of the next return, we must calculate the amount of acceleration or retardation due to the disturbances between 1264 and 1556, which, being applied to the above period, gives us the exact time of revolution of the comet at the moment of perihelion passage in the former year, and hence we ascertain the period in 1556. Having found this, we can calculate how much it would be increased or diminished by planetary attraction up to the present time, and thus determine the date of the next arrival at perihelion. With these elements, taking into account the attraction of Jupiter, Saturn, Uranus and Neptune between 1264 and the present time, and of Venus and the earth in 1556, it is found that the length of the comet's revolution at the time of perihelion passage in 1264 was 110,644 days, or 302·922 years, and in 1556, 112,561 days, or 308·169 years; that the effects of perturbation will diminish this period 2,166 days, and therefore, the present revolution will occupy 110,395 days, or 302½ years, so that the comet will return again to its perihelion on the 2nd of August, 1858, and will then be moving in an ellipse of 112,785 days' period. With Halley's elements, the true time of revolution of the comet in 1556 was 112,943 days, and the perturbations should diminish the ensuing period about 1,797 days,—whence we find the next perihelion passage will occur on August 12, 1860.—*Mr. Hind in the Times*.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.—C. H. P.—Dr. P.—P. Q.—J. G.—Philosophy—Q. in a Corner—W. M. R.—received.

R. R.—We have forwarded this correspondent's communication to the *Notes and Queries*,—a publication forming a more appropriate channel than our own for his inquiries.

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 1. NATIONAL OBSERVATORIES—GREENWICH.  
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2.

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sums assured were close upon 1,000,000l. and that the Company's  
progress had in all respects, during the last year, been such as to  
warrant the Directors in stating that few offices hold out more  
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5,000	12 years	500 0 0	747 10 0	6,287 10 0
5,000	10 years	300 0 0	747 10 0	6,087 10 0
5,000	8 years	100 0 0	747 10 0	5,887 10 0
5,000	6 years	.. ..	575 0 0	5,575 0 0
5,000	4 years	.. ..	450 0 0	5,450 0 0
5,000	2 years	.. ..	225 0 0	5,225 0 0

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1806	£2500	£79 10 10	£1229 2 0
1811	1000	33 19 2	231 17 8
1818	1000	34 10 10	114 19 10

Examples of Bonuses added to other Policies.

Policy No.	Date.	Sum Insured.	Bonuses added.	Total with Additions, to be further increased.
531	1807	£200	£25 12 1	£225 12 1
1174	1810	1200	1160 5 6	£2360 5 6
3893	1820	5000	3553 17 8	8553 17 8

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# THE ATHENÆUM

Journal of English and Foreign Literature, Science, and the Fine Arts.

No. 1175.

LONDON, SATURDAY, MAY 4, 1850.

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May 1, 1850.

**ROYAL BOTANIC SOCIETY, REGENT'S PARK.**  
The FIRST Exhibition of Plants and Flowers this Season will take place on WEDNESDAY next, May 8. Tickets to be obtained at the Gardens only, by orders from Fellows of the Society, price 5s. each, or on the day of Exhibition, at 7s. 6d. each. N.B. The Gates open at 9 o'clock.

**HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY OF LONDON.**  
EXHIBITIONS AT THE GARDEN.  
The First Meeting will take place on SATURDAY, the 15th of May. Subjects for Exhibition, to be at this Office on Friday the 17th, or at the Garden before half-past Eight o'clock A.M., on the day of Exhibition.  
The Gates will be open to visitors at One, p.m. Tickets are issued to Fellows at this Office, price 5s. each, or at the Garden in the afternoon of the days of Exhibition, at 7s. 6d. each; but then only to orders from Fellows of the Society.  
N.B. No Tickets will be issued in Regent-street on the day of Exhibition. 21, Regent-street.

**ARCHITECTURAL PUBLICATION SOCIETY.**—The Committee invite parties experienced in subjects connected with ARCHITECTURE, whether as a Fine Art, Construction, or Archaeologically, to CONTRIBUTE ESSAYS or PAPERS having reference thereto; accompanied with a note of the remuneration expected.—Further particulars, and the works already issued, may be seen on application to the Members of the Committee; or to the Honorary Secretary, WYATT PARWORTH, Esq., 14A, Great Marlborough-street.

**ROYAL ACADEMY OF ARTS, TRAFALGAR-SQUARE.**  
NOTICE is hereby given, that the EXHIBITION WILL OPEN on MONDAY NEXT, at Ten o'clock.  
Admission, One Shilling: Catalogue, One Shilling.  
JOHN PRESCOTT KNIGHT, R.A., Sec.  
Exhibitors and Students may receive their Tickets and Catalogues by applying at the Academy on Monday after twelve.

**ROYAL MANCHESTER INSTITUTION.**—The EXHIBITION OF MODERN PICTURES IN OIL and WATER-COLOURS, SPECIMENS OF SCULPTURES and CASTS, and ARCHITECTURAL DESIGNS, will be opened the first week in July. Works may be sent so as to arrive not later than the 1st of June. The Council particularly request that no Artist will send more than four paintings, it being resolved that not more than that number by any one Artist shall be hung.  
Works of Art must be sent carriage paid by all persons except those who have received the Invitation Circular, and must be directed to the Hon. Secretary, Royal Institution, Manchester.  
GEO. WARING ORMEROD, Hon. Sec.

**TO ARTISTS.**—At the General Meeting of the GLASGOW ART-UNION, held on the 19th day of April, it was unanimously resolved, that with a view of encouraging the progress of Art generally, and more especially to induce Artists to send Works of a high class to Glasgow, A PREMIUM OF FIFTY POUNDS should be awarded for the best Picture, Historical, or Landscape, sent to the Glasgow Exhibition, and which had not been previously exhibited in Scotland. It is expected that the Exhibition will open in the month of October, but the precise date will be duly advertised.

By Order of the Committee.  
ROBERT ALEXANDER KIDSTON, Art-Union of Glasgow, May 1, 1850.

**ARTISTS' GENERAL BENEVOLENT INSTITUTION, for the RELIEF of DECAYED ARTISTS, their WIDOWS and ORPHANS.** Instituted 1814; Incorporated by Royal Charter, 1842, under the immediate Protection of Her Most Excellent Majesty THE QUEEN.  
Patron, His Royal Highness PRINCE ALBERT, K.G.  
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His Grace the Duke of Devonshire.  
His Grace the Duke of Sutherland.  
Most Noble the Marquis of Lansdowne.  
President—SIR MARTIN ARCHER SHEE, P.R.A.  
The Nobility, Friends, and Subscribers are respectfully informed that the THIRTY-FIFTH ANNUAL FESTIVAL will be celebrated in FREEMASONS' HALL, on SATURDAY NEXT, May 11.  
The Right Honourable SIR ROBERT PEEL, BART. M.P. in the Chair.

Stewards.  
Thomas Jones Barker, Esq.  
Henry Burton, Esq.  
Thomas Smith Cate, Esq.  
Fred. Peys Cockerell, Esq.  
Dominic Colnaghi, Esq.  
Clintchester Fortescue, Esq. M.P.  
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William Gale, Esq.  
Gambart, Esq.  
Henry Graves, Esq.  
J. L. Grundy, Esq.  
Philip Hardwick, Esq. R.A.  
Dinner on table at 8 p.m. Tickets, 11. 1s. each, to be had of the Stewards; of William Nicol, Esq., Honorary Secretary, 60, Pall Mall; and of the Assistant Secretary, 45, Great Corn-street, Russell-square.  
WILLIAM JOHN ROPER, Assistant Secretary.

**FINE ARTS.—AN EXHIBITION OF PAINTING and SCULPTURE, the WORKS OF BRITISH ARTISTS, will be OPENED at the Athenæum, CARLISLE, during the Month of AUGUST NEXT.**

Patrons.  
The Right Hon. the EARL of LONSDALE.  
The Right Hon. the EARL of CARLISLE.  
The Right Hon. Sir J. R. G. GRAHAM, Bart. M.P.  
The HIGH SHERIFF OF CUMBERLAND.

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**MARYLEBONE LITERARY and SCIENTIFIC INSTITUTION, Edwards-street, Portman-square.**  
On MONDAY EVENING NEXT, May 6th, GEORGE DAWSON, Esq. A.M., will deliver a Lecture ON THE CONNECTION OF RELIGION and ART. Commence at half-past six o'clock. Members have free admission, with the privilege of introducing a Lady. Tickets to Non-members, 1s. each. Subscription to the Institution, Two Guineas per annum, payable yearly or half-yearly in advance. Members have the use of spacious and well supplied Reading Rooms, the extensive Library for circulation, as well as free admission to the various Classes. A Gazette, in connexion with the Institution, is published Monthly, price 3d.

ROBERT WEIR, Secretary.  
**ROYAL LITERARY FUND, instituted 1790,** incorporated 1818, for the Protection and Relief of Authors of Genius and Learning and their Families, who may be in want or distress.  
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The SIXTY-FIRST ANNUAL DINNER of the Corporation will take place in Freemasons' Hall, on Wednesday, the 15th of May.  
The Honourable Mr. Justice TALFOURD in the chair.

STEWARDS.  
Right Hon. the Earl of Rosse.  
President of the Royal Society.  
The Hon. Edmund Phipps.  
The Hon. Col. George Cathcart.  
Right Rev. the Lord Bishop of Norwich.  
Right Hon. the Lord Londesborough.  
His Excellency the Hon. Abbott Lawrence, U. States Minister.  
Right Hon. Sir Edward Ryan.  
Sir Robert Fitz-Wygram, Bart.  
Sir Edward North Buxton, Bart. M.P.  
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Richard Bethell, Esq. Q.C.  
William Brockedon, Esq. F.R.S.  
Tickets, One Guinea each, may be obtained from the Secretaries, at the Chambers of the Corporation, 73, Great Russell-street.  
OCTAVIAN BLEWITT, Secretary.

**DUBLIN STATISTICAL SOCIETY.**  
BARRINGTON LECTURERS ON POLITICAL ECONOMY.

CANDIDATES for the Barrington Lectureships are invited to send in their Testimonials to the Secretaries of the Dublin Statistical Society, before the 1st of June next.  
These Lectureships have been founded under the Will of the late JOHN BARRINGTON of the city of Dublin, Esq., and the Trustees have given the present management of them to the Council of the Statistical Society.  
Each Lecturer will hold his appointment for the period of one year, and will be required to deliver in some town in Ireland, to be selected by the Council, a Course of Six Lectures "On Political Economy in its most extended and useful sense, but particularly as relates to the conduct and duty of people to one another."  
Each Lecturer will also be required to deliver in Dublin one General Lecture on the same subject.  
The remuneration of each Lecturer will be 30l.  
The Council intend to select Four Provincial Towns, and to have a Course of Lectures delivered in each. They intend also to appoint Four Lecturers; but should any Lecturer of great experience and ability present himself as a Candidate, the Council may appoint him to deliver more than one of the Courses of Lectures, and in that case he shall receive a proportionate increase of remuneration.  
The Inhabitants of any Town who may wish to have a Course of Lectures delivered in it, are invited to forward their application to the Secretaries before the 1st of June next. Applications emanating from a Corporation, Board of Town Commissioners, or from the Committee of a Literary Society or Mechanics' Institute, will be preferred.  
The Members of any Institute or Society, or any body of persons in Dublin, who may wish to have one or more of the General Lectures delivered in their place of meeting, are also invited to forward their application before the same time.  
JAMES A. LAWSON,  
W. NEILSON HANCOCK, Secretaries.  
40, Trinity College, Dublin,  
April, 1850.

**MR. T. WALESBY, 12, OLD BOND-STREET**  
has received from noted Collections a few PAINTINGS (including Historical Portraits, Cabinets, and other Objects of Taste, which will be found worth attention.—Pictures, Barities, &c., bought and sold on Commission.

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**GERMAN DRAMATIC READINGS, &c.**  
—NEAR HYDE PARK.—Dr. HEINRICH FICK, Professor of German at Putney College, &c., will open a new course of GERMAN DRAMATIC READINGS, with comments and explanations, twice a week; to commence on 10th May, with Egmont, a Tragedy, by Goethe; upon which will follow Wallenstein, by Schiller.—For particulars and the Prospectus, 31, Upper Seymour-street, Portman-square.

**SWEDISH and GERMAN.—Gentlemen desirous of joining a SWEDISH EVENING CLASS, to consist of Six Members, for reading Tegner's 'Frithiofs Saga,' and other standard works, are requested to forward their address to Professor KLAVER-KLARTOWSKI, 20, South Molton-street.—A few Gentlemen may likewise enter a GERMAN CLASS for the same purpose.—Terms, 2l. 16s. each Member, for a series of sixteen readings, of one hour and a half's duration, twice a week, during eight consecutive weeks.**

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A Course of Lectures, by the Very Rev. Father NEWMAN, ON CERTAIN DIFFICULTIES FELT BY ANGLICANS IN SUBMITTING TO THE CATHOLIC CHURCH, will be commenced in the Oratory on Thursday, May 8th, at Five o'clock in the Afternoon, and will be continued the next day, and on the following Thursdays and Fridays, for some weeks.  
Admission to the Lectures will be by Tickets, which may be obtained by applying to Mr. Evans, 17, Portman-street, Portman-square.

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NOTWITHSTANDING its importance and interest, Gibbon and Niebuhr are the only modern writers of the first class on Roman history. The extraordinary abilities and acquirements necessary for the thorough mastery and exhibition of the subject have not hitherto been found united in any single individual. Such a work requires a combination of profound philosophy with immense erudition, and a personal experience of human nature, almost beyond the attainment of an ordinary life; and when, worthily executed, will obtain for its author a celebrity in the records of moral science somewhat similar to that of Alexander Humboldt in the annals of physical. A really philosophical history of the rise and fall of the Roman power would present to the mind of the reader a large portion of the moral Cosmos: for there is scarcely a condition of human nature, or a variety of political or social organization, that would not find place for discussion and illustration in such a history. The completion of so laborious a work will be most probably delayed until the progress of partial research and of mental science and education shall have enabled some future historian to commence his labours from higher vantage ground than exists at the present time.

Of the two authors mentioned above, the one explains the growth and the other narrates the decline of the Roman dominion. We use the words in italics advisedly, as we think that they summarily characterize the respective merits of those two historians. The intellect and erudition displayed so profusely in the works of Niebuhr and of Gibbon are apt to dazzle the reader, and render it difficult to estimate correctly their comparative merits. We shall not undertake the details of such an estimate now; we shall only repeat an observation which we think has been justly made,—that neither Gibbon nor Niebuhr could have produced a complete Roman history able to bear the test of modern historical criticism. Gibbon wanted sympathy, and Niebuhr wanted method. The great work of Gibbon only needs *soul* to take its place among the most remarkable productions of the human intellect. With an extraordinary acuteness of intellect and aptitude for analytic investigation, the mind of Niebuhr seems to have been deficient in the power of synthetic exposition. He could bring an enormous mass of the most varied learning to support or to illustrate any position; but he was unable to digest and to arrange his vast knowledge into one methodical and luminous whole, so as to render his grand conceptions intelligible to others. With evidently the most thorough mastery of his materials, he knew not how to weave them into a natural and connected narrative. His work is rather a series of critical disquisitions than a continuous narrative,—and more resembles a collection of materials for a history than the history itself.

The work of Niebuhr extends to the end of the First Punic War,—that of Gibbon begins with the reign of Commodus. The only English work of acknowledged merit on the events during the intervening period is that of Hooke, published in 1737, and therefore before the modern additions to political science. Although Hooke apparently possessed a learned and vigorous mind, his work will not satisfy the requirements

of the present age; and, besides, it terminates with the accession of Augustus, and is therefore insufficient as an introduction to the study of Gibbon. The works of Goldsmith and Ferguson upon Roman history are now almost obsolete. The same remark applies to the work of Cousin,—which is a mere translation into French of the epitomes of Xiphilinus and of Zonaras. The laborious, prolix and languid compilation of Lenain de Tillemont gave place to that of Crevier,—of which a good translation exists—the first and second volumes of which serve as a tolerable introduction to Gibbon; but still, both the scholar and the general reader would wish for an introduction written with less diffuseness and with more enlarged views.—The work now before us is an attempt to supply this deficiency.

The historian of this important period should possess no ordinary qualifications. He should be a man of high moral principle and penetrating intellect, in order to trace and exhibit the law of moral progress operating even amid the apparent irregularity and confusion of an arbitrary despotism;—for without the recognition of that law, history has little real value. An author duly qualified would find in the history of Rome under the Cæsars and the five good emperors ample scope for the display of his qualifications. This period, perhaps more than any other, needs illustrations drawn from all sources, from events that have occurred in different countries and at other times, and, when possible, from circumstances even now occurring. History written in this way may be made to supply lessons of practical wisdom to the statesman, verifications of the theories of the moral philosopher, and a very high kind of delight and instruction to the general reader.

The author of the volumes before us appears to have been a tolerably well read classical scholar, in the usual sense of the words; that is to say, conversant with the books usually read by university men—and with no others. We trace no indications of his familiarity with the best works on political economy; and of modern political and historical philosophy, as exhibited in the writings of Montesquieu, Bentham and Guizot, he gives no evidence of knowing anything. His experience of the world seems to be such as might have been gained from intercourse with college friends accustomed to college modes of thought. His observations on men and events are always sensible, but never striking or profound; and we meet with no original reflections in these volumes which might not have proceeded from any well educated man. The work is a clearly and well written compilation, superior to that of Crevier, but scarcely worthy of the title of a history. It contains, of course,—as any well digested narrative of the events of this remarkable period must—abundance of important materials; but from the consideration of those materials, the reader must draw his own lesson,—he will find little assistance in this respect from the author. The nature of the subject necessitates the very frequent introduction of passages from the History and Annals of Tacitus, and these passages are rendered into easy and elegant English. As was to be expected, we now and then recognize a sentiment of Juvenal; but the piquant and natural pictures given by Horace of the private life and tone of sentiment among the Romans under Augustus evidently exercised but little influence on the mind of Mr. Lynam when engaged in the composition of the early part of his work. Any general views of the philosophy of society to which such pictures might have been made subservient, were apparently beyond his reach of thought.

We are no admirers of the long prologues of Sallust; but we certainly think that the history of one of the most important empires the world has ever seen might have appropriately commenced with a brief statement of the resources and extent of that empire, and of the nature of the changes in the constitution that had recently been effected. However, the biographies of Suetonius appear to have stood higher in the estimation of Mr. Lynam than expositions of this kind; and he accordingly begins at once with the personal history of Augustus,—leaving his reader to gather from other sources the condition of the empire over which that artful despot was to rule.

The following extract on the character of Augustus affords, we think, a fair specimen of Mr. Lynam's style.

“The character of Augustus, though of a questionable nature, has upon the whole been favourably described by the writers of antiquity. Dion declares that though few persons regretted him at first, yet afterwards his death was universally lamented. For he was courteous and easy of access to all ranks of citizens, and granted pecuniary assistance to many: he showed great regard to his friends, and was pleased with them for delivering their sentiments with freedom. He softened and moderated his absolute sway in such a manner that the Romans appeared to enjoy both liberty and tranquillity at the same time; they had the forms of democracy without anarchy and confusion, and the advantages of monarchical power without tyranny and oppression. Whatever crimes were committed by him during the civil wars his partisans thought should be ascribed to the necessity of the times, considering that his real character was to be estimated from the actions over which he himself had an unrestricted control. So amiable did his conduct soon appear, in comparison with that of his successor, that some persons suspected that he had chosen Tiberius for his heir in order that the contrast in his own favour might be more conspicuous. \* \* Tacitus relates that the Romans were divided in their opinions respecting his character. The vulgar expressed their admiration at the number of his consulships, the length of years in which he had held the tribunician power, the many times which he had gained the title of *Imperator*, and the various other honours which he had enjoyed. His more judicious partisans contended that his duty to Julius Cæsar and the necessities of the state had urged him into a civil war, which it was impossible for him to conduct by virtuous expedients alone; that in punishing the assassins of his father he made many concessions to Antony and many to Lepidus; that when the former of these chiefs had been ruined by his (own?) licentiousness, and the other had resigned himself to indolence, there was no remedy for the disorders of the state, except that it should submit to the sway of one man: that he had not, however, assumed the regal power, &c. &c.”

Mr. Lynam quotes from Tacitus the adverse character of Augustus, notices certain remarks of Julian, Dion and Suetonius which bear on the subject,—transcribes Gibbon's outline of the Emperor's character,—and then proceeds to draw that character himself in a passage which is too long for quotation entire, but of which the following is a condensation.

“Augustus was a tyrant and a hypocrite, but not devoid of every genuine virtue, and not actuated by selfish interests alone. His crimes were instigated by the inexperience of youth; his virtues were the spontaneous acts of his manhood and declining age. His great vice was ambition, which he endeavoured studiously to conceal; but he was wise, humane, and moderate in the exercise of the power which he acquired. He was elegant in person, and deficient neither in eloquence nor in literary talents, and literary men were fostered by him with every kind of encouragement.”

The mind of Mr. Lynam appears to have been deficient in the power of assimilation. Why not have combined all his reading on such



a subject as the above into one pithy and lucid paragraph, and given his authorities copiously in the margin? Scholars might then have consulted the original authors,—as they will do even after the lucubrations of Mr. Lynam; and general readers might have laid aside these volumes informed without being wearied.

It is not too much to expect from the historian of the era of religion and of jurisprudence a few thoughtful disquisitions on those important topics. The condensed account of the Roman law given in the 44th chapter of the 'Decline and Fall' is, on the whole, a most masterly sketch,—but the recent researches of Hugo and Savigni have rendered almost all preceding expositions nearly obsolete. Gibbon's account is therefore an inadequate representation of the existing knowledge of the subject:—it is, besides, occasionally obscure and confused. As Francis Horner remarked, it becomes a perplexing problem for Gibbon's readers to discover from his text alone, that, of the two great sects of Roman jurists, the Sabinians were the followers of Capito, and the Proculians of Labeo:—not to mention other instances.

First, for the early history of Christianity.—After noticing the accounts given of the Christians by Tacitus and Suetonius, Mr. Lynam remarks:—

"In drawing such a character of the Christians, the two historians obviously took little trouble to write with impartiality and truth. The subject was so ungenial to their habits and prejudices, that they could scarcely impose upon themselves the labour of any extraordinary investigations, but would readily admit the popular rumours concerning a sect which they despised. Men in the present day must be allowed to be more accurate judges of the principles of Christianity than the two heathen historians; and unless the early Christians of Rome, at a time they were sacrificing all their prejudices and interests for the sake of religion, lived in direct and open variance with their professed principles, it is impossible to believe the charges alleged against them. That they were objects of suspicion and dislike to the people, in whose cities they resided, is exceedingly credible, because they were obliged to evince a marked repugnance to the manners and sentiments of the heathens, to avoid their idolatrous altars, and to absent themselves from their cruel and licentious amusements. The unpopularity of the Christians, of which we have sufficient testimony, is a proof that they adhered to some principles different from those which guided the rest of the world; it also shows, that their religion did not offer any allurements to the passions of the crowd, but gained its converts by the irresistible efficacy of truth."

The above may be very good sense, but Paley had already said the same things still more convincingly.—In the second of these volumes we have a long quotation from Paley's Evidences, commenting on the miracles attributed to the Emperor Vespasian. So important a subject as the origin of Christianity should have been treated in a very different manner from this. The results of years of thought on the subject should have been condensed into a few pages. The arguments of Paley should have been epitomized, or referred to, if thought necessary,—not quoted.

Then, for jurisprudence.—To our great surprise, we find not one word on the subject! The work of Gaius—the model on which Trebonian afterwards compiled the Institutes, in the reign of Justinian—is never mentioned. Mr. Lynam seems to ignore the very existence of such personages as Gaius and Ulpian.

The most interesting portion of this work is that which treats of the Jewish war. Mr. Lynam was evidently at home on this topic; and he has succeeded in producing an able and well written narrative of the fall of Jerusalem. The destruction of the Temple is well told,—and will bear quotation.—

"The Jews who were in the Temple uttered a piercing cry of horror, when they first beheld the fire issuing from that sanctuary, which they esteemed the most august and most holy place upon earth, in which all their feelings of veneration and piety were concentrated, and with the preservation of which they had lately associated their strongest hopes of deliverance from the arms of their heathen invaders. The terrified spectators in the city returned the lamentation when they saw the holy mountain enveloped in flames; and many, whose strength and power of utterance had been almost destroyed by the famine, opened their lips once more in shrieks of uncontrollable anguish. The hills around Jerusalem echoed the dreadful tumult which was made by the noise of the irresistible flames, the crash of falling buildings, the shouts of the infuriated legions, and the groans of those who sank into the conflagration, or were transfixed by the sword. An unsparing carnage was made of many thousands of the Jews; for the Temple, it should be remembered, was the place of worship not merely of a single city or province, but of a whole nation; and a great multitude had assembled in it this very day, trusting to the declaration of an impostor or enthusiast, who had promised them that they should receive some extraordinary tokens of deliverance. The impious rulers had suborned many false prophets, for the sake of reviving the hopes and supporting the courage of the people; and now the end of their delusions had arrived. Josephus says that the blood which was shed seemed sufficient to extinguish the fire, while the number of the slain appeared greater than that of the slayers, so prodigious were the heaps of dead that everywhere covered the ground. Old and young, women and children, soldiers and priests, were massacred indiscriminately. The seditious leaders with their troops fled, during the tumultuous conflict, into the outer court of the Temple, and afterwards escaped into the Upper City. Some of the priests defended the Holy House until the last moment, tearing up the spikes which were on the top of it and hurling them at the Romans. As the conflagration spread two of the most eminent threw themselves into the flames, and the rest retreated to a wall, which was eight cubits thick, where they were able for a time to defy the attacks of the Romans. Famine, however, compelled them to surrender in a few days, and Titus refused to spare their lives, alleging that priests ought not to survive the Temple in which they served. At the first assault, about six thousand of the mixed multitude who had been surprised in the Temple took refuge in one of the cloisters of the outer court; but the exasperated Romans set fire to it, and forced them to perish in its ruins. They began to burn all the cloisters, gates, and other parts of the spacious edifice, which had hitherto resisted their destructive attacks. Even the treasury chamber, where the Jews had deposited great stores of money, vestments and other valuable property, were consumed. But the love of plunder was not quite absorbed in the rage of destruction; for the soldiers enriched themselves to such an extent, that in Syria the price of the pound weight of gold was diminished one half."

Many of the statements of Josephus—the great authority on Jewish affairs—are evident exaggerations; if Mr. Lynam, or his editor, Mr. White, had exercised a little more critical acumen in accepting some of these statements, this portion of the work would have been perhaps unexceptionable as a clear and vigorous piece of narrative.

Modern readers of history, accustomed to the instructive disquisitions of Mackintosh and Macaulay, will be surprised that the life and times of Marcus Antoninus are passed over here without any estimate of Roman philosophy. Nor is this all: the remarks made in this work on Roman literature are meagre and unsatisfying. They are about as valuable as those met with in a second-rate classical dictionary. Mr. Lynam's estimate of Seneca suffers from comparison with that given in Anthon's edition of Lempière.

The Lectures of Niebuhr on Roman History—delivered *ex tempore*, but preserved in frag-

ments in the note-books of his pupils, as our readers know—were a few years back collected by Dr. Schmidt, and edited with great care and ability. From the manner of their delivery and publication, these Lectures are necessarily sketchy and imperfect; but they nevertheless, clearly, though indirectly, show the qualities and attainments necessary for writing ancient history. Mr. Lynam is below the standard which we have formed from the perusal of these Lectures, and from other works of the kind. He has produced a useful compilation certainly; but his work, we think, will never take position as a philosophical history.

*Leonard Lindsay; or, the Story of a Buccaneer.*

By Angus B. Reach. 2 vols. Bogue.

"THE chronicle of a revolution" (it has been quaintly observed) "cannot be written in rose-water," nor can the history of a Buccaneer, if in the least probable, prove anything but a rough and ready record of fierce adventures and breathless escapes. In producing a rapid, brilliant, exciting series of these, Mr. Reach has been successful. Moreover, he has trafficked less than might have been expected among the horrors and agonies of such a wild and roving life, without being in the least super-dainty. He has avoided monotony, too, and his scene-painting is vivid and individual. His hero is neither a monstrous defaulter nor a faultless monster. Then, though in the treatment of sea superstitions he must not hope to equal the author of 'Mardi,' he has still hold of many "a yarn" not to be disentangled without the hearer being thrilled,—witness "the Legend of Foul-weather Don." Seeing that it would be impossible for us to follow the Buccaneer through a tithe of his adventures, and that the above character will attract all whom such tales concern, we will only further treat the reader to a specimen of Mr. Reach's meritoriously direct manner of narration,—premising that what follows by no means affords a sample of what may be styled the great scenes and stage effects of the novel. Having fallen into the worst of bad hands, and escaped from his captors, Leonard Lindsay is hunted with blood-hounds; from which he escapes only by recollecting that his brute pursuers will be as thoroughly disconcerted by running water as the witches of old were said to be.—

"With such like rhapsodies, I relieved the fulness of my heart, as I followed the stream, splashing down in its very centre. Sometimes when a small waterfall interrupted its course, I had to scramble ashore and make a brief circuit, but I soon took to the water again. In about ten minutes after I had first entered the river, the bay of the bloodhound ceased to be heard; but I distinguished the sound of a clearly blown horn or trumpet, and the report of one or two guns, as though one party were making signals to another. Still I pressed on, but more cautiously,—watching the banks very narrowly, and at the places where the stream flowed silently, pausing to listen with all my ears. There was no alarm, and I began to grow very confident, when all at once it occurred to me, as I glanced at the point of the horizon to which the sun was now hastening, that I must be rapidly returning either to Carthage, or to some point very near it, upon the coast, where, undoubtedly, this rivulet emptied itself into the sea. This consideration at once arrested my footsteps; and creeping among the roots of a tree, beneath an overhanging bank, I began to muse upon what was best to be done. I did not doubt but that my pursuers had fairly lost my traces, and that it would be a hard matter for them again to find the scent. Indeed, I considered that I might very safely leave the water, and pursue my original westward route amongst the woods; but then I was unarmed, excepting my knife, and without even the means of lighting a fire how was I to live among the forests and the wildernesses which stretched backward from the coast? As I



mused, a thought struck me. When first captured by the Spaniards, I had several double doubloons, and a few pieces of eight about me; this money I had been careful to preserve, and possessed it still, save one of the doubloons, which I had given to my jailor, as he bade me adieu. Why, then, thought I, should I not return to Carthagea as soon as the night falls, and endeavour to purchase fairly what I want. I speak Spanish sufficiently well. I am dressed like a Spanish sailor. Why should I not, by a circuitous path, reach the seaward part of the city, and making believe that I have landed from a vessel in the bay, purchase what arms and ammunition I require, not forgetting some food, and so leaving the town again in the darkness, pursue my way westward. The more I thought of this scheme, the more feasible did it appear. To be sure, there was a risk of being taken, and perhaps hung; but if I plunged unarmed into the woods, I had at least the certainty of dying a lingering death by starvation, or of being murdered by the savages. Therefore, without much ado, I decided upon braving the immediate danger, and purchasing what I wanted in the town, from which I had so recently fled. With this design, I began again to wade slowly down the river, thinking to myself, that if any one noticed the wet state of my garments, I might easily account for it, by saying that I had but just now landed in a small boat through the surf. My progress was of course but slow; and several huts being built upon the banks of the stream, I was obliged now and then to leave the water and take circuits round about, keeping as much as possible in the shadow of the woods. I met, however, with no interruption, and so in about the space of an hour and a half, or thereby, I heard the sound of the surf. On gaining the coast I found it to consist of considerable sand hills, with many small bays, and lines of breakers extending several cable-lengths from the shore. The weather being moderate, however, the surf was not violent. My first act was to creep to the top of one of the highest sand-hills, and look anxiously to seaward. There were the sails of one or two fishing boats, and as many coasting craft of small burden in sight, but nothing like our schooner; so I descended and began to move to the eastward. Before I had taken many steps, however, I recollected that Carthagea was fortified at its seaward extremities, and I asked myself whether I could safely attempt to pass through the line of defences. The countersign I knew, but it might have been changed since my escape, or perhaps it only applied to the guard of the alcaide's house. While I was thus debating the matter with myself, I suddenly saw floating in the shallow water near the mouth of the small river, a small boat or canoe, bottom upward, and, running hastily towards her, found her to be no other than the negro fisherman's canoe, which we had upset the night of our unfortunate reconnoitring expedition. I straightway determined to turn this piece of luck to account, and, instead of proceeding by land, to paddle round and disembark in any quiet corner of the bay. On righting the canoe, I found she was but little damaged, and the paddles having been secured by pieces of spun yarn, as is usual in the boats of fishermen, were both ready for use. Therefore, without more ado, I got into the boat and pulled her off to sea. There were not less than three bars formed by the sea at the mouth of the stream, and the breakers burst white upon them all. However, by watching my time and carefully attending to the run of the seas, I got over the inner two very easily. On the outward bank the surf broke heavier, and once or twice I expected to have to swim for it. However, I had better luck, the canoe was very lively, and danced like a cork on the broken seas, so that at length I fairly made the smooth swell, with a boat, however, half full of water. After baling her out I began slowly to paddle eastward, the boat being impelled by the dying powers of the sea breeze, and presently, just as the sun was dipping, I opened the bay of Carthagea, and seeing an old slimy wooden jetty, only used apparently by a few fishermen, I made for it. Truly, says that brave seaman (and also as brave a penman), whom afterwards I well knew, William Dampier, 'Carthagea is a fair city open to the sea.' The level beams of the setting sun glowed upon the heaving water, and upon the great Spanish ships, lying like piled castles, with high

forecastles and carved and galleried poops, slowly rocking to the solemn moving seas; and shorewards, upon the bright line of gaily painted houses, with verandahs and balconies all fluttering with tinted draperies; and the pinnacles of churches and convents, from whence the evening bells came pealing out into the rich glowing air. One or two small fishing craft were slowly making for the beach, and a canoe or two would now and then glide between the shipping and the shore; but to my great comfort no one seemed to pay the slightest attention to my humble self. Therefore I made fast the canoe to the jetty whereof I spoke, and which was all hung with nets put there to dry, and walked, the more boldly as it was now grey dusk, into the city, looking for some shop or store where I might be served with the articles which I needed. The traders and merchants were now beginning to close their warehouses, and so it behoved me quickly to find a suitable shop. The streets in which I wandered being very narrow and high, were all but dark; lights gleamed out of the houses, shadowy figures moved upon balconies, and grave men with long cloaks stood by doorways, talking in their sonorous tongue, and smoking great pipes of tobacco. Still no one took notice of me, and I was the more assured, inasmuch as I saw around me many seamen dressed as I was myself, one or two of whom hailed me 'comrade,' and would have taken me to be treated at the Posada. I moved, however, with a quick stealthy step, keeping my eyes warily abroad, and at length, in a small street or lane, found a low-roofed shop, or rather stall, quite open to the thoroughfare, in which, in the middle of a collection of fire-arms, and steel weapons of many kinds, sat an old, book-nosed, grey-headed man, with a very dirty face and great iron spectacles, drinking a bowl of savoury cocoa, and at the same time dictating to a little lad, dressed in a thread-bare fashion, some bills of charges which the boy was writing in a great greasy account book, by the light of a single candle, which flared and flickered in the open shop. The old merchant I concluded to be a Jew, and judged that so long as I paid a good price for what I wanted, I would be asked no questions which it might be inconvenient to answer. I therefore entered the shop."

The hero's adventures with the dwarf pilot, and the story of the Pearl Merchant, may be further referred to as evidences of what Mr. Reach can accomplish in "configurations" more uncommon and striking than the above. His novel is of its kind more than ordinarily clever and readable.

*The War with Mexico.* By R. S. Ripley. 2 vols. New York, Harper & Co.; London, Low.

*The Other Side; or, Notes for the History of the War between Mexico and the United States, written in Mexico.* Translated from the Spanish and edited with Notes, by Albert C. Ramsey. New York, Wiley.

*The War with Mexico Reviewed.* By A. A. Livermore. Chapman.

THE second of these works—stated to be the first Mexican historical production yet translated into the English language—makes us acquainted with a subject and with manners very imperfectly known to Europeans. It presents much, too, that is wanting in the American accounts of the military transactions to which it relates:—and it differs from Mr. Ripley's work in not being merely a dry narrative of operations and opposing policies,—but as indulging in descriptions and anecdotes such as excite the fancy and awaken emotion. The American editor apologizes for this.—

"The horrors and ravages of war are herein portrayed with a vividness which our style of composition seldom allows. The peculiar delicacy of feeling, and the refined sensibility, so decidedly feminine in the Mexican character, have given them a pre-eminence over some others in this species of delineation. They, therefore, indulge in it, not drawing from their imagination, but from memory, to give life and truth to the picture. At the outset, therefore, it must be

declared, to prevent a misconception of many passages, that this work has no fancy in it whatever. It is purely fact, and fact too well known, in sorrow, sometimes, to the whole American army. The poetical descriptions have the additional charm of being no less true than beautiful. The chapter on the abandonment of Tampico is the only article in which there is much of the prevailing style in Mexican political disquisitions. Its literary merit is in its being a fair specimen of the prolific partisan press of that country, and will, no doubt, suffice for the curiosity of strangers. The other portions of the book are on a far higher and much more unusual standard. In conclusion, a remark has to be made on the sufferings and scourges of the Mexican army in some of their marches. These are so singular that some will suppose them fanciful; while, on the other hand, the American soldiers may believe them painted in darker colors in the translation. For, with the exception of hunger, the same kind were, at different times, undergone by the whole American army. They may seem inclined to declare that no Mexican could so well have portrayed their privations. But in answer it may be asked, where is the American possessing the peculiar talent and the dearly bought information, who could surpass or even imitate some of these descriptions? When it is desirable to know what the Americans suffered in Mexico, this work can be consulted: for what the Mexicans have written of their countrymen will apply to the Americans."

If there were no other value in the book than the one thus indicated, it would still be of value. In these days of popular reason, it is useful to cite all authorities; and from war itself the best arguments against war must be drawn.

It is not to be supposed either that our countrymen across the Atlantic are all insensible to the horrors of a campaign—even when it is brief and glorious according to the military canons. The advocates of peace are not silent among them. The lesson which is taught inferentially in the pages of the Mexican author is logically enforced and illustrated by Mr. Livermore. The voice of warning and rebuke is seldom charged with severer tones than in his review of the origin, progress, and consequences of the sanguinary strife in question. With a clear and decisive logic he lays bare the vices—lust of territory, boasting self-sufficiency, restless, discontented spirit—which led the people into war,—the loss of life and destruction of property which marked its course,—the taste for military renown which it has created in thousands of youthful minds in the United States,—the angry passions which it has excited between the two Republics. Mr. Livermore's work is likely to make a deep impression on the mind of America so soon as the day of calm and dispassionate thought shall have arrived.—Of course the writer takes the extreme view of the Peace Society. To him the war is all waste,—has no compensations. Detesting as much as any one the war argument, and the war medium for the communication of even good,—we have already shown that there is in such an estimate some error of fact. Evil, like good, is rarely unmixed in this world. Amid the smoke and slaughter on the battle-fields of Mexico, some particles of the latter were sown. The American volunteers carried with them books, and letters, and newspapers. Wherever they planted their standards, they set up also a printing press—to say nothing of such mere conveniences of civilization as hotels and cafés. They have left in every part of Mexico the arts of modern Europe:—just as the Greek armies which overran Asia deposited in its plains and cities the arts, the manners, and the literature of Greece.

The vindication of the American policy is asserted in Mr. Ripley's volumes. The author is a brevet-major in the United States Army, and first lieutenant of the second regiment of



Artillery; and appears in many respects to be sufficiently well qualified for giving a professional analysis of the international conflict which he has undertaken to record. It was after thirty years of peaceful government that his own republic found itself engaged in war with a neighbouring one. The real cause of the contest, however, was much older than its immediate occasion. Mr. Ripley traces it to the difference in origin of the two Republics:—to their differences in character and in religion. The Mexican Republic is described by him as being "the hothouse graft of freedom on the decayed trunk of despotism." The elevation of Augustin Iturbide to the throne of the Mexican empire led to a revolution, and on his fall Santa Anna established the basis of a republic. Meanwhile, the United States were permitted to colonize the Texas, until the year 1830. The immigrants had then increased so as to outnumber the Mexicans in that territory. The settlers wished for an independent form of government; which the Mexican congress were not willing to concede,—but which at length was won by Texan arms. The Mexican President being by the victory of San Jacinto made prisoner, signed a treaty as the condition of his liberation; and the independence of Texas was ultimately recognized by the United States, by Great Britain, by France, and by other nations. But the Mexican authorities omitted no opportunity of annoying the Texans; and outrages and spoliations were frequent, for which no redress was attainable. American citizens and others were sufferers by this state of things; until at last American neutrality became an impossible condition, and the annexation of Texas to the United States a desirable result.—Such is, according to our author, the *rationale* of the circumstances which ultimately led to military operations.

The Mexican government clung to its nominal sovereignty over Texas, and determined to assert it by force of arms; and the Government of the United States informed that Government that the renewal of war with Texas pending the question of annexation would be resented. The Mexican Government felt strong in a large standing army—and prepared for invasion. In 1845 Texas was admitted into the American Union; but Mexico, by means of her civil wars and other internal dissensions, had then become bankrupt—and, despite her standing army, her Government was willing to negotiate. The population, however, was for war; and found military leaders in Paredes and Santa Anna—who for their own ends fomented its discontents.

Such are the conditions of the strife:—and it remains to illustrate it from these volumes by some of its characteristic incidents. The earlier successes of the American army are attributed to moral influences. American volunteers were suddenly called into the field, and appeared in unexpected numbers. "In great measure," says Mr. Ripley, "each man in the United States considers that he has a direct interest in the Government, and feels bound to support it in a foreign war." Arista, the Mexican general, had esteemed the Americans as formidable principally in skirmishing and forest warfare—and believed that General Taylor might be easily crushed by the overwhelming force brought against him at the battle of Palo Alto. In this he was miserably mistaken. The result of the action was that Arista moved in retreat to the position of Resaca de la Palma; which was soon terribly contested, the victory falling to the Americans. The advantages gained by it were,

"the vindication of the position of the United States and the supremacy of moral power, which the victory

would retain and increase, besides the safety of the army. The moral force of the victory was the greatest advantage to be hoped for in the commencement of a war, which, from the policy of the United States was necessarily to be prosecuted in the main by new levies; for the example of his veteran comrade exercises a most beneficial influence on a recruit, and hastens the time when he, too, becomes a veteran. \* \* That General Taylor had at first no doubt of the result of the action, is evident from his letters announcing his call for volunteers, and his march from Point Isabel; and his dependence must have been upon the moral force of his army. This he well knew, and that the prevailing sentiment throughout the ranks was an anxiety for the battle, without waiting the arrival of re-enforcements; for a strong desire to reap the full harvest of glory pervaded both officers and men. The regular army had long been the subject of animadversion by popular orators; and the officers and men, feeling confident in their talent, bravery and discipline, were now anxious that their efficiency should be put to the test, in the commencement of the war, against overwhelming odds."

The moral force of the Mexican troops was shaken even on the field of Palo Alto;—they had been beaten by the American artillery before a movement was commenced. The subsequent manœuvres of the field were well calculated, we are told, to restore the battle and achieve success,—but "the moral force to sustain a close conflict and carry them out with vigour was gone." We dwell the more on this point because of the obvious lesson which it conveys. The language of the following extract from 'The Other Side' illustrates Major Ripley's remark that while "the United States are and have been the model of republican greatness, Mexico is the type of republican anarchy."

"The danger hourly increased. Everything announced the close shock of the armies. The Government sent new orders to Paredes to march, carrying with him the division intrusted to his charge. But this General, seconded by some men as infamous as himself, instead of performing his duty and what his country required, rebelled openly against the Government and its institutions, proclaimed a system of anarchy, and directed his course to Mexico, to secure a triumph in his revolution. Patriotism explained his conduct, in saying that he had turned his back upon the foreign enemy to have civil discord reign, and to introduce a new element of confusion with the support of the monarchical party. This accusation so often reiterated, will be made by the complaining voice of a nation sacrificed, and will also be repeated by posterity. The treacherous pronouncement of San Luis gave to General Paredes a fatal celebrity."

America, in her transactions with Mexico, has again illustrated the old "marvel, how the fishes live in the sea"—Marry, "the great ones eat up the little ones." She has, however, gained but little military credit by the achievements of the Mexican war. They have, says Major Ripley, "their chief recommendation in the bravery and hard-fighting of the army."

"System was wanting throughout, and the various difficulties and inconveniences inseparable from the policy of the United States, in depending upon a volunteer or temporary army in any war, were fully apparent. The latter caused faulty action on the part of the authorities at Washington, and this, undoubtedly, to some extent, caused the various errors of the different generals. All errors combined made the army throughout most of the operations but little more than a forlorn hope in numerical strength, and left it unsupplied with many necessities in material. The causes of its triumphs, when labouring under many disadvantages, must be looked for in the character of the troops and in the various moral deficiencies on the part of the enemy. The bravery of the army did much, and its action astonished the world; yet it must not be supposed that, had it not been aided by the peculiar state of the Mexican nation, it could ever have achieved such triumphs. Aided as it was, its operations were of a peculiar nature, and, save in some of the details and minor movements, can never be safely quoted as military

precedents, except in case of hostilities on the same field and under similar circumstances. It may be that, at some future day, the cause of some of the evils confidently predicted by Mexicans as necessarily befalling the United States in consequence of the war, will be found in the very success of their armies; for if the same system is pursued in a conflict with another power, if the same tardiness in preparation at the outset, the same disregard of the military art, and the same rash enterprise characterize the conduct of the war as characterized that of the war with Mexico on the part of Government and generals, disasters, and those, too, of a serious nature, must inevitably ensue. The duty of preparation will be a new one when presented to the Government, and in case of the occurrence of the contingency, it will remain to be seen whether the wisdom of a future Congress, the energy of a future executive, and the bravery and discipline of a future army, can maintain the reputation for warlike prowess which has been gained."

That the American Government had to depend on a volunteer force, was an inconvenience counterbalanced by certain advantages. It precluded domestic opposition, and gave room for the display of popular enthusiasm as the crisis approached. The question was one to be decided exclusively by Public Opinion—it rested with that to "bring forth the strength of the nation in war, as well as for all other support."

Into the fuller details of works like these before us we cannot much further enter. We must observe, however, that the command of resources exhibited by Santa Anna throughout all his reverses shows him to be a man of real genius. For the full portrait of the man we must refer to the Mexican narratives. We have the following picture of him after the defeat of Cerro-Gordo.

"General Santa Anna, frowning and silent, letting his horse go almost at his will, and followed by a bleeding crowd, descended to the bottom of the barranca, crossed the river, and climbed the opposite height. There it was probable he would meet an ambush of the enemy, who would have killed with impunity as many as might ascend in disorder by the narrow sloping path, unable to defend themselves or to find any refuge. Having reached the summit, the General halted, and ordered Generals Ampudia and Rangel and Colonel Ramiro to collect at that point all the dispersed, that they might be drawn off in order and in the best manner possible. Then, taking to the right, he proceeded towards Encero, by a path almost parallel to the road from Cerro-Gordo to Jalapa. He was followed by a small company:—Generals Perez, Arguëlles, and Romero, and the chiefs and officers Schiafino, Escovar, Galindo, Vega, Rosas, Quintana, and Arriaga, and Mrs. Trias, Armentariz, Urquidí, and a nephew of his own. From the field of battle shots were still heard occasionally, fired at the wretched and defenceless men who had not succeeded in escaping. In the mean time a party of the enemy's cavalry, with two light pieces, had left there, by the Jalapa road, in pursuit of our cavalry, and were about to reach the Encero almost at the same moment with Santa Anna. On discovering each other, the Americans fired several cannon shots; and General Santa Anna, leaving the path, proceeded towards the left, in a direction at right angles to it. He wandered for a long time, uncertain, with his companions, without pursuing any fixed route, until he formed a resolution, and then proceeded in the paths leading to the hacienda of Tuzamapan. Having passed many villages and scattered ranchos, among the undulations of an unknown district, they continued their march, all overcome with amazement at the misfortune which they had suffered. A melancholy expression overspread the countenances of those who accompanied General Santa Anna. Everything around, with the presence of this man, the first chief of our nation and our army, whom, a few hours before, they had seen erect and proud, possessed of power which he exercised, and of hopes of the brightest glory, now humbled and confused, seeking among the wretched a refuge to flee to, was to



them a lively picture of the fall of our country, of the debasement of our name, of the anathema pronounced against our race. At several places the General dismounted to take some rest, and, sitting on a bench where his attendants placed it, he remained immovable, unable, in consequence of his lameness, to take a single step. A horse, which he asked for in the place of his own, was peremptorily refused by a curate, and all these occurrences, insignificant as they were in themselves, appeared deeply affecting in existing circumstances. About five in the morning he reached the hacienda of Tuzamán, where he resolved to remain until the next day. Soon after his arrival, two or three soldiers of the 11th appeared, bringing with them the chest of their corps, which contained some money, to deliver it to their commander, General Pérez, an honorable deed, which appears to us worthy of praise, in a few unhappy men, who were about to be abandoned in these places in the greatest misery. At eleven at night the overseer of the hacienda informed the General that he had just received notice of the approach of a party of Americans, detached for the pursuit, who were about to surround the house. Several musket shots were soon heard, at a very short distance, which confirmed the news, and it was necessary to set off immediately to secure a safe retreat. The night was so dark that the nearest objects were invisible. The firing became nearer and more frequent, and the servants of the hacienda, working mechanically, managed so that the litera prepared for the General was not ready. He therefore mounted his horse, and a servant on foot, with a candle, took his place before him, serving as guide to the party, who filed, one after the other, by a road which seemed to sink under the feet of the horses. It was one of those steep descents, leading down from the hill country between Tuzamán and Orizava. After travelling a long time, they halted in the ruins of a small sugar-mill, where they awaited the approach of day, when they continued their march. Having crossed a river, whose current flowed on to meet that of the Junta, they came to the banks of the latter, where flowed its waters, placid, blue, and deep, through one of its highest ridges. This rose almost perpendicular, covered with most beautiful leafy groves, forming an extensive border, and at its foot stood many old trees, which, with their thick branches, threw a sombre light upon the place, and gave it an aspect truly majestic. A few fishermen, who live there in miserable hovels, took them over on a small raft, guided by a rope extending from one shore to the other. By winding they ascended the elevation which rises on that bank, and finally reached the rancho of the Volador, and remained long at this place. There, for the first time, General Santa Anna broke silence, and in conversation expressed the idea of continuing the war with obstinacy, by appealing to the last resource which was left us, the system of guerrillas. \* \* \*

"Passing with difficulty, the overhanging and slippery precipices, on whose tops they were travelling, where sometimes the General was obliged to leave the litera in which he had been brought to the rancho of the Volador, they stopped at nightfall, at a rancharia situated on the right of the road, in the midst of the hills. On the following day, in traversing a country like that they had left behind, they arrived about ten in the morning, opposite Huatusco, a flourishing town, embellished with beautiful suburbs. It was the first place of any importance they had seen on their way, and, in the state in which they arrived, accompanied by General Santa Anna, against whom a violent hatred was excited, they anticipated an unfavourable reception. But they forgot the true Mexican character. In the street which leads into the town, had been formed a line of the dispersed troops who had been collected there; the Ayuntamiento in due form came out on foot, to receive the President-General, and to conduct him to the dwelling of the sub-prefect, where an abundant breakfast had been prepared, and many of the neighbours crowded with them to the house. We believe that reception, unimportant as it would have appeared in other circumstances, was then a virtual triumph to Santa Anna, who confidently saw in it a ray of hope of returning to power, which appeared to have been wrested from his hands, at the moment when the battle was lost. From this time he evinced more

ardour for the continuance of the war, and enthusiastically recalled the memory of General Victoria, who, in the days of misfortune to the friends of independence, remained so long in concealment, in a cavern in that neighbourhood, lamenting the oppression of his country. He directed attention to the constancy of that hero, and promised, by the exercise of that single virtue, a happy result for Mexico. In the night he despatched an express to the supreme government, with a very vague, and certainly very unjust report of the battle of Cerro Gordo, and presented himself again in the political arena, from which he had apparently been shut out for ever. On the following morning, he and his companions in misfortune departed from Huatusco, a town whose memory they will always gratefully cherish for the hospitality they received from its inhabitants, and attended by several citizens who accompanied them, they took the road to Orizava. On the way they met a group of dispersed soldiers, on whom the General poured out his anger, uttering a thousand unbecoming expressions, and cruelly chastising them with a whip. The beautiful peak of Orizava was soon after discovered, reflecting like a mirror the beams of the sun, which fell obliquely upon its snowy summit, and in a short time the little town of Coscomatepec appeared, whose bells were heard afar, celebrating the arrival of General Santa Anna. He was received in the house of the Alcalde by the musicians of the place, and complimented with a breakfast. The General pursued his route, crossing several rivers, whose beds lie in the depths of those picturesque barrancas. Passing several little terraces carpeted with grass, at length the city of Orizava was discovered on the left, with its white houses mingled with the green groves of its environs. They proceeded by the right, through a country of a varying and pleasing aspect, until they entered by a lane through cornfields, which terminates at the gates of Orizava. Near the entrance of the city the General halted, to wait for night, and there they were met by Sres. D. José Joaquín Pesado and D. Manuel Tornel, and Generals León and García Terán, who had come out to receive him in carriages, with many other persons on horseback, attracted by curiosity. As soon as it grew dark, leaving the litera in which he had come, the General entered a landau of these gentlemen, and in the midst of a large cavalcade, entered the city at a rapid gait, by the principal streets, and stopped at the house of Señor Tornel. On alighting from the Coach, a crowd of curious people assembled around him, when some ill-judging flatterer broke out with "vivas to the illustrious General Santa Anna, the hero of Tampico, and the deliverer of Mexico!" It would be very difficult to describe the bitter impression created by this reprehensible applause, which was rather a sarcasm on that occasion."

The work from which we have extracted this highly dramatic scene is rendered valuable by the number of portraits with which it is embellished of the most distinguished Mexican officers.

*Lives of Mahomet and his Successors.* By Washington Irving. 2 vols. Vol. II. Murray.

In this second volume Mr. Irving continues the history begun in his 'Life of Mahomet,' tracing the progress of the Moslem dominion from the death of the Prophet, A.D. 622, to the invasion of Spain, A.D. 710. The Caliphs (in the Arabic tongue the word Caliph means "successor") whose lives are sketched are Abu Beker, Omar, Othman, Ali, Hassan, Moawya I., Yezid, Moawya II., the rivals Merwan and Abdallah, Abd'almalec, and Waleed. The chief interest, however, lies in the biographies of the first four of these Caliphs; during whose reigns it was that Islamism was carried by Arabian valour out of its native soil eastward over Persia, and westward through Syria and Egypt along the African shore of the Mediterranean.

These rapid Mohammedan conquests, presenting an almost singular phenomenon in the history of our species, and pregnant as they have been with the most important results, furnish certainly

a splendid theme for the historic pen; and could be properly treated only by a writer who had previously followed the career of Mohammed himself, and thoroughly mastered that extraordinary intellectual, moral and political revolution which was effected under his auspices and by his sole activity within the limits of the Arabian peninsula. It is by understanding Islamism in its essence,—by comprehending its character as a new and vehement protest in favour of a pure theistic faith in connexion with the doctrine of a future life—a protest ripened in the soul of one man, and by him thundered abroad to his polytheistic countrymen till it made its way into their minds and hearts,—it is thus only that the historic influence of the Arabian race in modern times can be fairly appreciated and the propagation of that influence in the first place accounted for. It was right, therefore, that Mr. Irving, after having evolved the doctrine of Islam in the life of Mohammed, should pass on to the story of the Mohammedan wars under the Caliphs. He has, however, been even less successful in the second portion of his task than in the first. With the same defects on which we have already remarked—the same want of substance, the same affection for the merely dashing and pretty, the same easy way of blending together fact and legend for the purposes of elegant writing, the same absence throughout of all reference to distinct authorities—we miss in this new volume that element of popular interest which in some degree overpowered our sense of these faults in the first; namely, the presence throughout of one great individual figure, in whose movements by the very conditions of the case we were obliged to take a deep concern. Mr. Irving should learn that no mere grace of style will make up for the want of solid labour in a work like this; that the business of a historian is not to weave together all the showy legends and traditions which he meets with anywhere and anyhow while reading up for his book,—not to lend out his powers of language for the mere reissue in a more flowing form than usual of old jargon about "flashing scimitars," "silken tapestry," "Allah Akbar," &c. &c.—but, in the first place to separate in the most rigorous and remorseless way all the real facts from all the rubbish that has been gathered round them, and in the second place to represent those facts, and those alone, as picturesquely and vividly, it is true, but at the same time with as much of deep and general appreciation of their real import as he is able. We are provoked in reading Mr. Irving's book with the incessant recurrence of such phrases as—"The following singular story is related by a Moslem writer"—"At this time the Caliph is reported to have had a dream," &c. The effect on the reader is as if Mr. Irving had said once for all in his preface,—"I will make my story as nice as possible by putting in all the little fit-bits about dreams, omens, and such like, that I can meet with; the reader must exercise his discretion, and believe what he thinks proper." Occasionally, this absence of any care to be authentic, or to explain seeming discrepancies, shows with more than ordinary grossness,—as when we find two combatants exchanging finely composed sentences of defiance and taunt on a field of battle, when, so far as the reader can see, it is a matter of dead certainty that the two men in question talked different languages. All this we say with sincere respect for Mr. Irving's tried literary talents. Even in the volume before us there are many spirited passages written with all the author's accustomed elegance. The following, though not one of those, will be interesting on another account,—namely, as being the most recent version of the story of the burning of the



Alexandrian library by the order of the Caliph Omar. Having narrated the conquest of Egypt by Omar's lieutenant Amru, Mr. Irving says:—

"Amru was a poet in his youth; and throughout all his campaigns he manifested an intelligent and inquiring spirit, if not more highly informed, at least more liberal and extended in its views than was usual among the early Moslem conquerors. He delighted, in his hours of leisure, to converse with learned men, and acquire through their means such knowledge as had been denied to him by the deficiency of his education. Such a companion he found at Alexandria in a native of the place, a Christian of the sect of the Jacobites, eminent for his philological researches, his commentaries on Moses and Aristotle, and his laborious treatises of various kinds, surnamed Philoponus from his love of study, but commonly known by the name of John the Grammarian. An intimacy soon arose between the Arab conqueror and the Christian philologist; an intimacy honourable to Amru, but destined to be lamentable in its result to the cause of letters. In an evil hour, John the Grammarian, being encouraged by the favour shown him by the Arab general, revealed to him a treasure hitherto unnoticed, or rather unvalued, by the Moslem conquerors. This was a vast collection of books or manuscripts, since renowned in history as the ALEXANDRIAN LIBRARY. Perceiving that in taking an account of everything valuable in the city, and sealing up all its treasures, Amru had taken no notice of the books, John solicited that they might be given to him. Unfortunately, the learned zeal of the Grammarian gave a consequence to the books in the eyes of Amru, and made him scrupulous of giving them away without permission of the Caliph. He forthwith wrote to Omar, stating the merits of John, and requesting to know whether the books might be given to him. The reply of Omar was laconic, but fatal. 'The contents of those books,' said he, 'are in conformity with the Koran, or they are not. If they are, the Koran is sufficient without them; if they are not, they are pernicious. Let them, therefore, be destroyed.' Amru, it is said, obeyed the order punctually. The books and manuscripts were distributed as fuel among the five thousand baths of the city; but so numerous were they that it took six months to consume them. This act of barbarism, recorded by Abulpharagius, is considered somewhat doubtful by Gibbon, in consequence of its not being mentioned by two of the most ancient chroniclers, Elmacin in his Saracenic history, and Eutychius in his annals, the latter of whom was patriarch of Alexandria, and has detailed the conquest of that city. It is inconsistent, too, with the character of Amru, as a poet and a man of superior intelligence; and it has recently been reported, we know not on what authority, that many of the literary treasures thus said to have been destroyed do actually exist in Constantinople. Their destruction, however, is generally credited and deeply deplored by historians. Amru, as a man of genius and intelligence, may have grieved at the order of the Caliph; while, as a loyal subject and faithful soldier, he felt bound to obey it."

Concluding the volume, Mr. Irving says:—

"We have thus accomplished our self-allotted task. We have set forth, in simple and succinct narrative, a certain portion of this wonderful career of fanatical conquest. We have traced the progress of the little cloud which rose out of the deserts of Arabia, 'no bigger than a man's hand,' until it has spread out and overshadowed the ancient quarters of the world and all their faded glories. We have shown the handful of proselytes of a pseudo-prophet, driven from city to city, lurking in dens and caves of the earth; but at length rising to be leaders of armies and mighty conquerors; overcoming in pitched battle the Roman cohort, the Grecian phalanx, and the gorgeous hosts of Persia; carrying their victories from the gates of the Caucasus to the western descents of Mount Atlas; from the banks of the Ganges to the Sus, the ultimate river in Mauritania; and now planting their standard on the Pillars of Hercules, and threatening Europe with like subjugation. Here, however, we stay our hand. Here we lay down our pen. Whether it will ever be our lot to resume the theme,—to cross with the Moslem hosts the strait of Hercules, and narrate their memorable conquest of Gothic Spain, is one of those uncertainties of mortal

life and aspirations of literary zeal, which beguile us with agreeable dreams, but too often end in disappointment."

We cannot say that we have any desire to see Mr. Irving execute this literary project of which he speaks so doubtfully. He may find far more suitable subjects on which to employ his talent for pleasant writing.

#### *Thoughts on Self-Culture, addressed to Women.*

By Maria G. Grey, and her Sister, Emily Shirreff, Authors of 'Passion and Principle,' and 'Letters from Spain and Barbary.' 2 vols. Moxon.

YEARS before the question became a fashionable one (no sarcasm being meant by the epithet), this journal toiled its best on behalf of a larger, sounder, more philosophical, and less conventional education of woman than was then laid out in "seminaries," or thought desirable by mothers. Without broaching any theories regarding the "right divine" and the "human wrong" evinced in the popular apportionment of the distaff to Woman and the club and lion's skin to her Master, we pleaded her cause against the injustice of society, which takes few more fatal forms than that by which it encourages her to cultivate frivolities, affectations, and artifices, as materials opening outlets for evasion and providing weapons of self-defence. We recommended to her such studies and pursuits as should strengthen her mind and clear her vision—such as should fit her for the offices of companion and friend to man, or qualify her for happy self-support and benevolent usefulness supposing her lot destined her for solitary life. This re-statement of the argument of our efforts maintained during a long period, will spare us the necessity of once again opening the question with reference to the earnest and well-considered book before us. Generally let us say, that the work appears to us commendable for its good sense, clear of hardness—for its fair admission of difficulties and disqualifications, set forth without the slightest taste of bitterness or of fanaticism. In propounding remedial measures, it possibly may fail to satisfy some of the enthusiastic and visionary female champions of "the sex"; but it cannot add a link to any chain, a hindrance to any measure of progress,—while by its temperance of tone it may encourage many to strive and to aspire, whom more Utopian theories, or more exciting counsels, might deter from efforts at amendment. One passage, we think, will prove that the writers belong to the times they live in.—

"May not, we would ask, another serious evil,—namely, the too frequent want of an earnest public spirit, and love of the public good, be traced in great measure to the general want among women of a rational interest in politics, and to their keeping apart from the great interests that agitate society? One of the dangers of a period of inquiry and rationalism (and we use this word in its true and noble sense) is, lest men should become cold in becoming philosophical, and lose earnestness of character and endeavour. The prejudices which alone govern them in a ruder condition, are generally bound up with the feelings, and act, therefore, immediately as motives; but in order that a simple conviction should have the same power, it requires that conscience should be habitually guided by reason; that whatever the latter discerns to be true, the former should feel to be right, and belonging to duty; otherwise, the convictions of the reason remain barren and without effect upon the will. In other words, a higher degree of moral development is required in proportion to the greater mental activity of any period. When, for instance, the trammels of an ignorant superstition are first cast aside, and men learn to inquire into their faith, the force which makes fanaticism almost sublime is broken down; for a time religion seems weak and cold, and greater cultivation is needed, a clearer exercise of the reason, and a more earnest

conscientiousness, to make men walk steadily forward in the path on which they were impelled of yore by the blind impulse of fear and superstitious reverence. And so with regard to public spirit; loyalty, the form it assumed in other times, was a sentiment bound up with ignorant prejudice and lofty emotions. It also was a superstition beyond the province of reason, and men did not argue about it, but they died for it. Now public feeling is founded on a different basis: it no longer assumes the form of devotion to a monarch, but is transferred (nominally, at least,) to the nation; now, men know, or they pretend to know, why they adhere to such or such a party, and hold such or such opinions; but to endow this calm product of reason with the power of the by-gone superstition, conscience must come in and hallow conviction into a duty, and convert theories into principles of action. This is the work of moral education, and that education is in the hands of mothers. Many, and unfortunately women themselves, will be ready to reply, that these things are beyond their province, but in saying so they deny their own power. It is, as we have again and again repeated, the whole tone of the mother's mind and habits of thought, which influences the associations and principles of her children; if then men early heard the language of enlightened patriotism from their mothers, can we believe it would remain without effect? If public motives and public duties had been held up to them from boyhood as things which must earnestly occupy every thinking man, would they not have looked more seriously upon them? The courage of the Spartan and the Roman was kindled by a mother's voice; why then should English mothers be incapable of inspiring their sons with the more refined patriotism which belongs to a more enlightened age? Why should they be unable to instil into their children's hearts that generous spirit which will make them feel that each man's labour, and talents, and influence are due to the service of his country; that, whether rich, and inheriting the responsibilities of property, or poor, or labouring in a profession, a career of national usefulness is open to him, which he is bound to pursue with zeal and uprightness; and that he who in the enjoyment of health, and full exercise of his faculties, would shrink from such service, and live for his own pleasures, or his small family circle alone, is as truly a craven from duty as he who would fly from the field of battle. The latter yields to a momentary base impulse, the former systematically shrinks from bearing his part in the great battle of life, where God himself has appointed him a post to gain, or a standard to defend. If children learnt these things round their mother's knee, and grew up under the influence of such sentiments, surely patriotism would be more earnest, and public views more exalted! But how can women so teach, whose whole concern for politics is the personal feeling of a partisan, and whose interest is habitually immersed in carpet-work, while questions touching a nation's life or death are hanging in the balance?"

Such an appeal to women to elevate their own minds is particularly welcome after the cautionary discouragements against feverish excitement and desultory study which occur in earlier pages of the book. In short, without pledging ourselves by wholesale recommendation, we can cordially assert that these 'Thoughts on Self-Culture' cannot be followed to a close without the perusal quickening good and generous thoughts in the reader of either sex.

#### OUR LIBRARY TABLE.

*The Imperial Cyclopædia.* Part I.—This is a portion of a work originally announced for publication on a different plan. In a prospectus dated about 15 months ago, the publisher, Mr. Charles Knight, expressed his intention of producing under the title of the 'Imperial Cyclopædia' a reprint of the 'Penny Cyclopædia,' with corrections and additions corresponding to the latest advances in knowledge. The articles in this work were to be arranged in alphabetical order, without any classification of subjects. The difficulties attendant on so large and expensive an undertaking have, however, induced a modification of this plan,—and the publisher now intends to produce a uniform series of distinct cyclopædias on the several departments of Knowledge.



Each of these divisions will be complete in itself, and accompanied by an appropriate introductory treatise; and the whole series will be connected together by a copious Lexicon-Index, or dictionary of universal reference. Under this arrangement purchasers may possess valuable and complete cyclopædias on any one or more subjects, without the necessity of buying the whole work.—The Part now before us is the commencement of the Cyclopædia of Geography. The articles which appear in the present number convey a large amount of useful information in a compact and intelligible form. They are evidently the productions of competent writers, well acquainted with the present state of geographical science. The maps are beautifully distinct;—we hope that the editors will keep this point constantly in view. In small maps the mountains should be shaded lightly, and too many names should not be introduced, or such maps become nearly useless. Fulsness, compactness, and clearness, the great requisites of a cyclopædia, are here combined in a high degree. We postpone special criticism till a more advanced period of the work.

*Rip van Winkle, &c.* By Washington Irving. Illustrated with six etchings on steel, by Charles Simms, from drawings by Felix Darley, New York.—The American artists are not making steps—so much as strides—in book-illustration, if we are to judge from the series of outlines before us. These, as the English publisher warns us in his "advertisement," have been reduced by the agency of the daguerreotype from originals, on a large scale, "which have lately been issued by the American Art-Union."—In all changes, whether they be of scale or of interpreting medium, is involved some loss of spirit and character: which remark, in the present instance, implies high praise of Mr. Darley's designs—since, even after such per-centage has been allowed for, they are admirable in point of character, humour, and that artistic simplicity which is at the farthest possible distance from either meagreness or insipidity. The group of spectral bowl-players waited on by the scared and unwilling intruder is, in particular, excellently clear of that exaggeration which most illustrators would have thrown into the design. In short, here is another very attractive gift-book for the delectation of the select and fastidious.

*Gregory Krau; or, the Window-Shutter.* Translated from the German of Dr. Barth. By the Rev. Robert Menzies, Hoddam. With woodcut illustrations.—The moral of 'Gregory Krau' is not inculcated in a fashion which we can wholly accredit; the tale being of a Cologne boy, born with a genius for painting, whose piety is rewarded by his finding on a window-shutter a treasure of *Alt-Deutsch Art* at the critical moment when his family is starving. They are all prosperous thenceforth and for evermore. Our notion of teaching would be to tell all *Gregory Kraus* to come how to demean themselves under adversity supposing no providential window-shutter were discovered.

#### MEDICAL WORKS.

*On Tic Douloureux and other painful Affections of the Nerves.* By C. Toogood Downing, M.D.—Tic Douloureux is often confounded with other painful affections of the nerves; but these latter are generally much less troublesome and more easily cured than the former. Hence it happens that tic douloureux is often represented as an easily curable disease,—but that when the evidence of its curability is brought forward we find that some other affection has been mistaken for it. In this way the cure of "tic," as it is called, has opened a source for an immense amount of empirical practice. Medical men, on the strength of some dozen cases which were not tic at all, have set up to cure this most painful disorder without the means of treating it more successfully than their neighbours. We make these remarks introductory to the recommendation of Dr. Downing's little book,—which consists of a reprint of papers from the *Lancet*. In it will be found a concise and clear account of the various diseases which may be mistaken for tic,—and a description of an instrument for applying warmth and medicated vapours to the part affected in the latter complaint and in the other nervous affections mentioned. The instrument—which is rather pedantically called "the Aneurægon"

—is a new means of applying an old remedy; and seems to us to be, on many accounts, worthy a trial. Dr. Downing's own cases, however, are hardly sufficient to establish the value of his new instrument.

*Lectures on the Parts concerned in Operations on the Eye.* By William Bowman.—It was only to be expected that when a clever anatomist and profound physiologist like Mr. Bowman obtained the appointment of surgeon to the London Ophthalmic Hospital, our literature of the surgery of the eye would be speedily benefited. In these lectures we have the results of an accurate anatomical examination of the structure of the eye, with all the light that modern research and modern methods of research have thrown on this marvellous piece of mechanism. In this work we believe that the medical profession has but a small instalment of what they may expect from Mr. Bowman. We detect in it the hand of a master—and we can recommend it to all those engaged in the special cultivation of the branch of surgery to which it relates.

*The Cholera considered Psychologically.* By Forbes Winslow, M.D.—Amidst the contemplation of the physical conditions which favour the development and spread of cholera, we have almost forgotten that it has any relation to mind:—unless they who suppose that the disease has been a special interposition to chastise us for our spiritual and political delinquencies may be said to have taken this view of the matter. Be that as it may, it is familiar to most that certain conditions of the mind predispose to disease. Fear of death has been known to occasion death,—and a fatal termination has been given to disease by a sentiment of it. Troops unaware of the existence of disease have marched through infected districts scathless,—whilst those who have been alarmed have contracted the infection with unusual speed. It is from this point of view that Dr. Winslow has looked at cholera. From within the walls of his establishment for the insane he has uttered a voice on that aspect of the subject for which his experience has peculiarly fitted him. He recommends that during the expectation and presence of a pestilence like cholera—everything should be done to give cheerfulness, confidence, courage, hope,—and that nothing nationally or publicly should be ordered that would serve to encourage apprehension or despair. The observations are judicious and well timed:—and they are applicable to other diseases as well as to cholera.

*Practical Observations on the Prevention, Causes and Treatment of Curvature of the Spine.* By Samuel Hare.—Mr. Hare has very successfully devoted himself to the treatment of cases of curvature of the spine,—and in this book we have the result of his experience. We do not observe that he advances anything new on the subject, or that he enunciates principles that ought not to be known to every well-educated man in the profession; but it frequently happens that in diseases of the bony spine great and constant care is demanded on the part of the practitioner in attendance, which only those who make this a special branch of study and practice are disposed to give. That such cases, however bad, ought not to be abandoned, is amply proved by the examples related by Mr. Hare, and by the beautifully executed engravings which accompany them.

*A Treatise on Vegetable Diet.* By A. Nicholson.—*Dietetics. An Endeavour to ascertain the Law of Human Nutriment.* By Charles Lane.—Whilst the rational efforts of our philanthropists and statesmen are directed to the improvement of the quality and an increase of the quantity of the mixed diet of vegetable and animal food, which almost universal experience has shown to be necessary for the healthy development of the human system amongst the great mass of our people,—we have a set of fanatics who, presuming that the destruction of animal life is immoral, assume that animal food is injurious, and endeavour by a one-sided array of facts to show that a vegetable diet alone is best adapted for man. That some persons under all circumstances, and some nations under peculiar conditions, require less animal food than others, we are prepared to admit; but that this can be used as an argument in favour of universally eating vegetables and fruits alone we deny. In this country the question scarcely requires an argument; as we believe there are amongst us very few individuals healthy in mind and body who

need to be instructed that the mixed diet of the more opulent classes is more beneficial to health than the exclusively vegetable diet of the uncivilized or very poor. Still, for the benefit of those who, tempted by promises of vigour and long life, feel inclined to try the experiment of a vegetable diet, we would point to the ascertained facts, that in proportion as the people of this country are fed on an exclusively vegetable diet the vigour of their frames is less, their moral and intellectual character is degraded, and their liability to disease is increased. The statistics of the late epidemic of cholera remarkably confirm this statement,—whether we regard the nations affected or particular classes of the communities in which it has occurred. Wherever an exclusively vegetable diet has been adopted, there has this disease been most prevalent and destructive.

*Air the Food as well as the Breath of Life.* By Robert James Mann, M.R.C.S.—This is evidently the production of a man well read in modern science and accomplished in physiological research; but it seems to us that the title is inappropriate and the object of the work not very clear. The author has explained concisely and perspicuously the relation which the air and the earth bear to plants and animals as containing the constituent elements of their organization; but he seems to have had no practical end in view. The book is a fragment; and we are at a loss to know who would be benefited by its perusal.

#### LIST OF NEW BOOKS.

Archbold's (F. J.) *Poor Law, Justice of Peace*, Vol. III. 6th ed. 2s. 6d.  
Armourer's Daughter, or the Border Rivals, 8 vols. royal 12mo. 31s. 6d.  
Bartel's Modern Linguist, Conversations, Eng. French, Ger. 3s. 6d.  
Batemans Law of Auctions, 3rd ed. 12mo. 7s. 6d. cl.  
Bendish and Gold's Statistical Companion, 18th ed. 12mo. 5s. cl.  
Bohn's Illustrated Library, 'Lodge's Portraits' Vol. VII. 5s. cl.  
Bohn's Classical Library, 'Euripides,' Vol. II. 8vo. 5s. cl.  
Bolton (A.), *Scenes in the Life of, Preface by Rev. W. Jay*, 3s. 6d. cl.  
Bowman's (J. E.) *Practical Handbook of Medical Chemistry*, 6s. 6d.  
Brown's (the American Slave) *Narrative*, by Himself, 12mo. 1s. 6d.  
Bruce's Choice Sentences, Recollections of late Rev. W. Howell, 2d ed.  
Bushnell's (H.) *God in Christ*, Three Discourses, 8vo. 6s. cl.  
Cambridge Greek and English Text, ed. by Rev. J. Scholefield, 7s. 6d.  
Cambridge School Greek Testament, 12mo. 3s. 6d. royal.  
Calmelet's (A.) *The Phantom World*, by Rev. H. Christmas, M.A. 21s.  
Clark's (G.) *The Book of North-West England*, 12mo. 1s. 6d. cl.  
Churchill's (Dr. F.) *Theory and Practice of Midwifery*, 2nd ed. 12s. 6d.  
Cruchley's General Atlas, new ed. 31 maps, folio, 16s. 6d.  
Cook's (Elizabeth) *Journal*, Vol. II. royal 8vo. 4s. 6d. cl.  
Curling's (J. B.) *Account of Ancient Corps of Gentlemen-at-Arms*, 12s.  
Cunningham's (J.) *Handbook of London*, new ed. 1 vol. 15s. cl.  
Fowner's (G.) *Manual of Chemistry*, 3rd ed. 12s. 6d. cl.  
Fletcher's (Rev. J. P.) *Notes from Nineveh*, &c. 2 vols. post 8vo. 21s.  
Geary's (J.) *Cemetery Designs for Tombs and Cenotaphs*, 10s. 6d. cl.  
Gibbon's *Decline and Fall of Roman Empire*, Notes by Guizot, 36s.  
Graham's (Dr. T. J.) *Few Facts in Reply to Rev. F. Close*, 8vo. 6d.  
Graham (Dr. T. J.) *On Freaching and Popular Education*, 12mo. 5s.  
Holmes's Popular Library, No. 1. 'Old Humphrey's Tales,' 18mo. 1s.  
Hughes's (E.) *Examples in Arithmetic*, 1s. 6d. cl. swd.  
Humphrey's (H.) *Illuminated Book of Middle Ages*, folio, 10s. 10s. cl.  
Irving's (W.) *Rip Van Winkle*, illustrated by Darley, sq. 8vo. 5s. bds.  
Jays's (G.) *An Autobiography*, by Currier Bell, 4th ed. 1 vol. 6s. cl.  
Kitt's (Dr. J.) *Daily Bible Illustrations*, Vol. II. 12mo. 6s. cl.  
Kingdom's (W.) *The Secretary's Assistant*, new ed. 18mo. 2s. 6d. cl.  
Lawry's (Rev. W.) *Friendly and Feejee Islands*, 2nd ed. 12mo. 1s. cl.  
Le Page's French School, Part II. *Gift of Fluency*, 7th ed. 12mo. 3s.  
Percott's Works, Vol. VIII. 'Conquest of Peru,' Vol. II. 8vo. 6s.  
Railway Library, May, 'Longboard,' by C. Mackay, 12mo. 1s. bds.  
Rennie's (G.) *The Office Book for Architects*, 6s. 3s. 6d. cl.  
Reid (H.) *On the Steam Engine*, 6s. 3s. cl.  
Royal Calendar and Court and City Register, for April, 5s. index, 6s. 6d.  
Savary's (J.) *Excursions in Upper Calabria*, 2 vols. 8vo. 14s. 6d.  
Trench's *Elegiac Poems*, 2nd ed. 12mo. 2s. 6d. cl.  
True Stories from Ancient, Modern, and Eng. Hist. new ed. 5s. each.  
Sollogub's (Count) *The Tarantals, Travelling Impressions*, 6s. 5s. cl.  
Sin and Sorrow, a Tale, 3 vols. 8vo. 12s. 11s. 6d. cl.  
Slater's Shilling Series, Vol. XXII. 'Dante's Buena Vista,' 1s. 1s. cl.  
Smith's (Albert) *Month at Constantinople*, illustrations, 10s. 6d. cl.  
Southeys Life and Correspondence, by Rev. C. C. Southey, Vol. IV. 10s. 6d.  
Vogel's (Dr.) *Maps, General and Elementary Physical Atlas*, 5s. 6d.  
Vogel's (Dr.) *Illustrated Atlas*, folio, 3s. swd.  
Wayte's (S. C.) *The Equestrian's Manual*, post 8vo. 7s. 6d. cl.  
White Chapter (The), by Author of 'The Horse Guards,' 8vo. 2s. swd.  
Wilnot's (A. P. E.) *Complete Dictionary of Signals*, 18mo. 6s. cl.  
Wilkes's (Mary G.) *Ancient History*, abridged, 18mo. 3s. 6d. cl.

#### "TO TURN TURK"—JEWS IN OUR EARLY PLAYS.

THE phrase "to turn Turk" occurs twice in Shakespeare, (in 'Hamlet' and 'Much Ado about Nothing') and no adequate explanation has yet been offered of it. In the edition which I superintended,—in connexion with the passage in 'Hamlet,' act iii., scene 2, "If the rest of my fortunes turn Turk with me," I contented myself with saying, in a brief note, "This phrase seems to have been equivalent of old to a total change; and it is found in several writers of the time." The "writers of the time" whom I had in my mind were, Dekker, Massinger, and Cooke, the author of the play known as "Greene's Tu Quoque." Reed, in reference to the passage in Dekker

—'tis damnation

—If you turn Turk again,

—tells us, that "to turn Turk seems to have been a cant phrase for departing from the rules of chastity;" but neither he, nor the Rev. Mr. Dyce, who



quotes him; introduces any passage supporting their view,—and I apprehend that it would have puzzled them to find one. Gifford (Massinger, ii., 222) more accurately states, that “to turn Turk was a figurative expression for a change of condition or opinion;” but my notion, that “it was equivalent to a total change,” is borne out by an authority I am now about to quote, which also explains the origin of the phrase: “It is the first time! it has been cited for the purpose,—and I met with it only recently.

It is the old comedy of ‘The Three Ladies of London,’ regarding the authorship of which there may be some dispute, (because, although on the title-page it is said to have been written by R. W.) (i.e., Robert Wilson, probably,) we find at the end of the two printed copies (for it first appeared in 1584 and again in 1592) the name of Paul Bucke.—“Finis, Paule Bucke”—as if he had penned it. The fact is, that Paul Bucke was an actor, and lived in the Blackfriars; (see ‘Lives of the Actors in Shakespeare’s Plays,’ p. 181,) near the theatre; and the appearance of his name at the end of ‘The Three Ladies of London’ is to be explained by the supposition that he made the transcript, which was printed, and which he signed to attest its authenticity, and not to deprive Wilson of his claim as the author of the popular comedy.

A scene occurs near the end of the piece between Gerontus, Mercadorus, and a Turkish judge, which shows that in Turkey, according to the belief at that period, if a Christian consented “to turn Turk” he freed himself from all pecuniary liabilities;—he made “a total change” in his faith, which at once produced “a total change” in his fortunes;—and hence the explanation of the expression in ‘Hamlet,’ “if the rest of my fortunes turn Turk with me!” The hero means, that if the rest of his fortunes should fall him, by changing the faith they owed him, he could still maintain himself by “getting a fellowship in a cry of players.”

Gerontus is a Jew, to whom Mercadorus, a merchant, owes a considerable sum of money;—and it is to be remarked, that this is, I apprehend, the earliest extant printed drama in which a Jew is introduced. Stephen Gosson mentions in his ‘School of Abuse,’ 1579, that a play called ‘The Jew’ had been acted at the Bull; but it has not come down to us, or we might have seen whether it was the original of Shakespeare’s ‘Merchant of Venice,’ depicting, as it did, “the bloody minds of usurers.” But in ‘The Three Ladies of London,’ (which perhaps was brought out about the same date as Gosson’s ‘School of Abuse’) the Jew is a personage of a very different character, to that of Shylock, and shows that Jews were not then always represented in the light in which they appeared in Shakespeare and in Marlowe. This of itself is important; but my purpose is now merely the illustration of the expression in ‘Hamlet,’ by showing that “to turn Turk,” used there and in other dramas, had reference to the sort of bribe supposed to be held out by Turks to Christians to embrace the doctrines of the Koran, since they could thereby escape the payment of any debts which they might have incurred.

Gerontus comes before the “Judge of Turkey,” and complains that Mercadorus (who talks broken English, which is not the case with the Jew) owes him a large debt, to obtain which he had arrested him. The following dialogue takes place between these three characters,—and I transcribe it exactly as it stands.—

*Judge.* Sir Gerontus, you knowe, if any man forsake his faith, king, country, and become a Mahomet, all debts are paid: tis the law of the realme, and you may not gaine-say it.

*Gerontus.* Most true, reverend judge, we may not; nor I will not against our lawes grudge.

*Judge.* Senior Mercadorus, is this true that Gerontus doth tell?

*Mercadorus.* My Lord Judge, de matter and circumstance he true, me know well.

*Judge.* But me will be a Turke, and for dat cause me came here.

*Judge.* Then it is but a folly to make any words. Senior Mercadorus, draw neere. Lay your hand on this booke, and say after me.

*Mercadorus.* With a good will, my Lord Judge: me be all ready.

*Gerontus.* Not of any devotion, but for lucra's sake of my monie.

*Judge.* Say, I Mercadorus doo utterly renounce before

all the world my duty to my Prince, my honour to my Parents, and my good will to my country.

*Mercadorus.* Furthermore, I protest and sweare to be true to this countrie during life; and thereupon I forsake the Christian faith.

*Gerontus.* Stay there, most puissant Judge! Senior Mercadorus, consider what you doo.

*Judge.* Pay me the principall; as for the interest, I forgive it you. And yet the interest is allowed amongst you Christians, as well as in Turkey.

*Gerontus.* Therefore, respect your faith, and do not seeme to deceive me.

*Mercadorus.* No point, da interest: no point, da principall.

*Gerontus.* Then, pay me the one halfe, if you will not pay me all.

*Mercadorus.* No point, da halfe; no point, denere; me will be a Turke, I say.

*Gerontus.* Me be weary of my Christ's religion, and for dat me come away.

*Gerontus.* Well, seeing it is so, I would be loth to heare the people say, it was long of me.

*Judge.* Thou forsakest thy faith, wherefore I forgive thee franke and free;

*Gerontus.* Protesting before the Judge and all the worlde, never to demand peny nor halfe peny.

*Mercadorus.* O, Sir Gerontus, me take your proffer, and thanke you most hartly.

*Judge.* But, Senior Mercadorus, I trow you will be a Turke for all this.

*Mercadorus.* Senior, no; not for all da good in da worlde me forsake a my Christ.

*Judge.* Why, then, it is as Sir Gerontus said; you did more for the greediness of the money.

*Gerontus.* Than for any zeale or good will you bare to Turkey.

*Mercadorus.* Oh, Sir, you make a great offence: you must not judge a my conscience.

*Judge.* One may judge and speak truth, as appears by this;

*Gerontus.* Jewes seeke to excell in Christianitie, and Christians in Jewelries.

Thus, Mercadorus escapes both payment of his debt and conversion from his faith, which he was ready enough to resign until the Jew interposed; and consented to the loss of his principal and interest, rather than that the Christian should renounce his faith so basely. Here, we see the earliest known Jew on our stage—some years before the arrival of Shakespeare in London; and of course long before he drew the character of Shylock—displaying the most disinterested generosity, and setting a most admirable example of Christian forbearance. It is not true, therefore, that the professors of the Hebrew faith were always exhibited on our early stage as such monsters of unfeelingness and brutality as they were drawn by Shakespeare in his ‘Merchant of Venice’ and by Marlowe in his ‘Rich Jew of Malta.’

The similarity of the name Gerontus in ‘The Three Ladies of London’ to that of Gerontus in the ballad, which is supposed to have been written before Shakespeare’s play, (Percy’s Reliques, i., 226,) is deserving notice; but here, again, the characters of the two Israelites are opposed to each other: for while Gerontus insists on his pound of flesh, Gerontus is content to lose all his money rather than allow it to be said of him that he had compelled the Christian merchant to abandon his religion.

J. PAYNE COLLIER.

April 28, 1850.

#### FOREIGN CORRESPONDENCE.

Naples, April 14.  
We have now a dead calm in Naples. Easter is past, and the Pope has left; and nothing positively remains of sufficient interest to awaken us from the torpor which the climate is bringing down. Holy Week was of course attended with its usual incongruities and solemnities. From morning till night the streets were filled with military marching by sound of muffled drum to visit the sepulchres erected in the different churches. These were the places of fashionable resort; and the theatres being closed and the Drawing-Room no longer open to receive, fine ladies met here to pray and gossip, and the *cavalieri* to inspect the assemblage of beauty. I can conceive nothing more striking than the change which seems to come down upon the Neapolitans during the Week. Gaiety and noise give way to a sober seriousness and solemn silence. A watchman’s rattle, or something similar, is substituted for the sound of church bells and clocks. All are compelled to be pedestrians from Thursday to Saturday,—for carriages there are none of any form to be found in the streets; and even the Court (except in these dangerous times) walk in procession to a variety of sepulchres, amid a gaping crowd who admire royalty for condescending to be devout. There is no institution which

does not partake of the general spirit. The Lottery—that infamous national institution, beggaring and demoralizing, as it does, thousands—is struck all at once by deep religious convictions, and the great events commemorated by the season are “hieroglyphed” on the doors of every office. Thus, 3, 7, and 33, representing respectively the number of days the Saviour lay under ground, the griefs of the Madonna, and the years of Christ’s life, invite the credulous and superstitious in all the attractions of blue, red and green, to make their fortunes. Cook-shops are closed, or cease to send forth their usual savoury odours; and macaroni must be eaten with oil, for cheese and animal fat are forbidden,—and not even the “Bolla” which the true Christian has bought at the beginning of Lent can relieve him from this prohibition. This “mortification,” however, does not last long. On the arrival of Easter, all the bounds laid down by devotion are broken through;—all classes glutonize in honour of the great event which the season records. The hopes of the doctor and the apothecary revive;—cooks are raving with delight;—their tongues of the bells are loosened;—the Lottery office boasts of the fortunes it has made;—and Naples once more becomes the laughter-loving, gossiping, gormandizing, “fa niente” Pulcinella that she was before.

These Protean forms have just passed away; and in the midst of the leisure and calm which have succeeded I have time to look around and note some of the really serious signs of the times—some of the under-currents of events which are maturing great changes in society. Of late, nothing has struck me more than the altered tactics of the retrograde and priestly party, with a view to checking the spirit of inquiry and the dangerous innovations which are universally springing up. I believe, now shall be strictly in accordance with the character of the *Athenæum* if I allude to some of these tactics. There is amongst the party a very perceptible and increasing distrust, then, of the efficiency of merely physical and repressive measures to accomplish their objects. It is virtually admitted that the public mind is awakening and acquiring an irresistible strength, and that the great contest must now be carried on with intellectual weapons. It is to this conviction that we are indebted, amongst other publications, for the establishment of a new periodical, under high protection, and under the management of the Jesuits. It is styled *Civitas Cattolica*,—is of the same size and form as one of our monthly magazines, and is to appear twice a month. It is therefore worthy notice as a new feature in the periodical literature of the country, apart from the objects and intentions which it has trumpeted forth. The programme begins by obtruding that “the present tranquillity, as it has not been procured by, so it has no other assurance than, arms.” Now, physical force, as being violent and uncertain, cannot be a durable, and therefore trustworthy, guarantee of the life of a people. Hence those sad anticipations with which all minds are filled in regard to the future. To this tremulous state of things, lively and instinctive is our desire to apply the only possible remedy,—the only chance for permanent security and tranquillity, a new order or re-arrangement of ideas. We shall devote ourselves to an exposition of Social and Catholic doctrines, as also to a persevering opposition to the errors, prejudices, sophisms, and Utopias which in modern times have upset the mind. To render these generally acceptable, we shall introduce lighter matter illustrative of the same truths. To this will be added a review of Italian literature and a journal of events.—Such is to be the character of the work; and though, as being in the hands of the Jesuits, its bias will of course be most decided, yet, as may be inferred from the programme, its very establishment must be regarded as a concession to the spirit and necessities of the times. The *ipso dixit* of a man or a party is admitted to be insufficient. “Hear and obey!” will no longer do. Thought and inquiry and incipient doubts are to be met by argument; and even those who are advocates for things as they are, and deary public institutions, are unconsciously moving on with the grand irresistible tide of intellectual progress.



Another very significant sign of the altered convictions of the same party, and of the change which has come over the times, is the establishment of a kind of "Society for the Diffusion of Useful Knowledge." It is the only one of the kind which has ever come under my notice in Italy,—and is thus announced:—"A Society of men zealous for the public good have undertaken to issue once a month works published or unpublished, to direct the mind to Truth and the heart to Rectitude,—to confirm the spirit in the Faith, and to animate and incite the will to Virtue." The necessity of such works is stated to arise from that "ocean of books" which has "overwhelmed Italy," diffusing impiety and working this ruin of souls. These works are to treat of Philosophy, Customs and Manners, History, and the practice of Piety; and all men are invited to circulate them as extensively as possible. The first number is announced for the 1st of May,—and is entitled "Peace between the Church and State." It is a translation of a work by Droste, Archbishop of Cologne. When I tell you that the price is to be something more than a halfpenny for every sheet of 18 pages, I believe I shall have told you all.—Besides these publications, I know of nothing important which has issued, or is likely to issue, from the Neapolitan press. Theological works, it is true, are daily published; but any work of general interest would be a Phoenix!

#### OUR WEEKLY GOSSIP.

AFTER four weeks devoted to an examination of the Report of the British Museum Commissioners, we have thought that our readers would probably thank us if we gave them a week's breathing space ere we enter on those considerations which we have ourselves to offer in reference to the scheme of a Catalogue. To do them justice, these must be stated at considerable length; and we purpose devoting a good deal of space in our next number to speculations which we hope may engage the unprejudiced attention of all whom they may concern.

As we have from time to time shown to our readers,—the current of interest in the forthcoming industrial Exhibition is passing from land to land, and connecting nation after nation with the great peace movement. We have already stated what has been done in France, where we may repeat a Commission has been formed to correspond with the Royal Commission of England; and the manufacturers and others are earnestly urged to come into the lists prepared to do no discredit to the industrial chivalry of France! In Russia, two Commissions are to be established—one at St. Petersburg and the other at Odessa—for bringing the legions of the Czar worthily into the field. Sweden has appointed M. de Ströman, President of the College of Commerce at Stockholm, as her Commissioner to the modern tourney. Norway has named a Commission; and at Copenhagen a committee has been formed to bring Danish interests to the contest. The Central Federal Commission at Frankfurt has summoned the German States to the great muster. Prussia intends to establish a Special Commission at Berlin, and calls on her trades to furnish their contingents. Mecklenburg, Strelitz, Anhalt Dessau, Nassau, Hanover, Saxony, Bavaria, and Switzerland are avowedly preparing to take the field. Holland and Belgium have appointed Commissions; and the Government of the latter country has appealed to the various Chambers of Commerce to see her honour maintained. The same Government has decided to send a certain number of artisans, at the expense of the State, to visit the Exhibition, to complete their professional education at the best sources, in order that in their work of emulation and progress the small workshops may be associated with the large manufacturers. Spain has summoned her provinces, and issued a code of regulations for the worthy marshalling of her industrial forces. It is worth mentioning as among the stimulants there offered to successful emulation that a royal ordinance announces to the manufacturers and others that all Spanish subjects who shall take prizes in the great competition in England shall have the distinction confirmed by

some species of personal decoration in Spain, or by the publication of their names in the Royal Gazette as an especial record of honour. In Sardinia a Commission is about to be appointed:—our Minister at Turin being one of its members. The American Institute of New York is taking steps to secure the place of the United States in the great gathering; and a proposal has been made, with the sanction of the American Government, for transferring to that country such portions of the London Exhibition as it may be possible to carry over, after the termination of the Exhibition here. Everywhere the nations are "afloat"; and on all the highways of the world are the shouts of coming forces looking towards England.

On Wednesday the first public ceremonial for the conferring of degrees by the University of London took place, in the presence of the Chancellor, Senate, and a large number of visitors. The want of a building suited to the dignity and wants of this growing institution was signally manifested on this occasion of its first corporate appearance in public. The private lodgings which it occupies in Somerset House—conjointly with the School of Design, for economy—were considered unsafe for the amount of company which the University expected to entertain; and she was obliged to borrow a room for the occasion from one of her own children who is "well to do" in the world and pretty comfortably housed. The meeting took place in the Hall of King's College. A short preliminary report made by the Registrar set forth the condition and prospects of the University; and then, the candidates for graduation were presented by the Principals of their respective Colleges. An address of congratulation was presented by a committee of graduates to the Chancellor, who made a short and satisfactory speech in answer. "The University," he said, "had been established to recognize the great principle of rendering academical distinctions accessible to all persons of every class and every religious denomination; and they should ill have discharged the trust reposed in them if they had not taken the best precautions in their power to insure this important result, that the degrees which they might confer should hold an honourable place in public estimation."—We have quoted this paragraph of Lord Burlington's address, because there seems some disposition on the part of a numerous body in the University just now to forget this principle of their foundation; and, as the Chancellor well hinted, the public sympathy which hailed the new-born institution will be surely diverted from its youth if it takes to bad courses and follows the ancient examples which it was instituted to shame.

We erred last week, we believe, in stating Mr. Tennyson's pension at 300*l.* a year. It is only 200*l.* Our argument against the accumulation in one person of the few literary benefices which the country bestows remains, however, untouched. While any can be found worthy of the revenues that wait on the laureate crown and not hitherto pensioned, there are claims precedent to Mr. Tennyson's by the whole amount of his pension whatever that may be.—In spite of the remonstrances of Correspondents, we adhere, too, to our argument for the abolition of the unmeaning title of Queen's Laureate,—for preserving what is substantial in the recompense and abandoning the buffoonery. The butt of sack has been committed into current coin of the realm; and the name which implied odes "to order" may advantageously be substituted by some designation that shall honour a true inspiration in language not carrying the badge of intellectual servitude, and suited to the meanings of the time.

The library of the clerks of the Bank of England is making considerable progress. The reading-room is preparing with all the zeal which the money of such a corporation is sure to command. It is hoped that one or two months may see the library open for circulation,—and there is every probability of its doing so with six thousand volumes.—We may add, that the present Deputy Governor, with whom the clerks' library originated, appears attached to literary pursuits; as since his government a library has been formed for the use of the Directors, devoted to monetary, banking and financial

productions. The absence of such a library hitherto does not say much for the union of literature with money-making. The room arranged for the reception of the books is fitted up with taste, under the superintendence of Prof. Cockerell. The style of decoration chosen is the Pompeian.

The following is from a correspondent:—"At some considerable inconvenience I visited the Reading Room of the British Museum this morning for the purpose of making a reference to a book which I believe to be in the Grenville Collection. "Where shall I find the Grenville Catalogue?" I inquired of the attendants occupying civil and intelligent Mr. Capes's usual place. "You will find it Sir, in the general Catalogue under PAYNE AND FOSS." On explaining that I wanted the Reading Room copy, and asking if the books were not yet in use in the Reading Room—I was told that the books were being arranged; and it was very civilly added, that if I sent for the Catalogue and pointed out the book I wanted, it would no doubt be looked out for me. I repeated my question; and being assured that the books were not in general use in the Reading Room, I came away,—of course declining to ask a personal favour on the subject. The books of the Grenville Library were deposited in the British Museum more, I believe, than three years ago. They were accompanied by a Catalogue of which two volumes were printed, and a concluding third volume has since been published. If the books are not kept back for the purpose of substituting for these three printed volumes a manuscript Catalogue in thirty or some such number, why in the name of common sense have they not been got ready for general use long before this? My disappointment this morning was one of those petty annoyances which I might have put up with quietly had not its publication just now given me an opportunity, not only of stating what I conceive to be a grievance, but also of adding my protest against the recommendation of the Museum Report that we shall have a MANUSCRIPT CATALOGUE IN FIVE HUNDRED VOLUMES! Instead of a plain finding Catalogue like the old seven volumes, Dr. Maitland's List, or the Catalogue of the London Library. Every literary man should, as it seems to me, raise his voice against our great and obvious want of a practical, printed finding catalogue being sacrificed to the [not] faultless monster Catalogue which we are promised,—and also against any further expenditure of the public funds on this "magnificent mistake" of Mr. Panizzi. WILLIAM J. THOMAS.

We have been amused by the suggestion of a correspondent—Felix Summerly—who proposes to turn the flank of the Museum Commissions, and solve the Catalogue difficulty for the public in the form of a Blue Book.—"The Trustees," he says, "of the British Museum, the Commissioners, Mr. Panizzi, and the public will probably be a long time before they come to an agreement on the vexed question of printing a useful practical finding Catalogue. In the mean time, cannot Sir Robert Inglis be induced to move in the House of Commons that a return of so many of the printed books as are now catalogued for readers in the Library be laid forthwith on the table of the House; and that the same be printed for the use of Members? A printed Catalogue might be so produced easily in twelve months; and if printed in the same type as the advertisements in the *Athenæum*, in three columns of the usual blue book foolscap size, would fill less than 2,000 pages, or two volumes of about 1,000 pages each,—which would be sold for 15*s.* or less, each volume. Take the present Catalogue with its MS. insertions as it stands, and the rate of printing depends merely on the number of careful stationer's clerks you please to employ to transcribe it."

We understand that there is a renewed agitation in the north-east of Scotland for the union of the two Aberdeen Universities—those of King's and Marischal Colleges. It has long been a kind of jocular boast among Scotchmen that their single town of Aberdeen, with its 70,000 inhabitants, possesses as many Universities as till lately were to be found in all England. For, be it understood, King's and Marischal Colleges are not merely distinct Colleges,—but distinct, independent, and in



some respects rival, Universities. In the new town of Aberdeen is Marischal College and University,—a beautiful new granite building, erected on the site of the ancient Marischal College, built in 1594; and, at the distance of a quarter of an hour's walk from this, situated in the village or suburb of old Aberdeen, is the venerable pile of King's College, which was founded in 1494. Each of these Colleges has its distinct staff of professors and its distinct concourse of students; and between the two there exists a kind of traditional rivalry—Marischal College (the college of the far-famed Dugald Dalgetty) ranking, as it were, as the Cambridge of the good city of Bonaccord,—while King's College, which is the gloomier and more conservative of the two, as well as the richer, is the local Oxford. The existence of two such foundations where one would amply suffice has often struck sensible men as somewhat absurd; and it has more than once been proposed to take steps for the consolidation of their revenues and interests. By suppressing the various duplicate Professorships (of Greek, Mathematics, Chemistry, Natural Philosophy, Moral Philosophy, &c.) that now exist, and by other acts of consolidation, one University of much larger dimensions, and containing various new chairs that are peremptorily demanded by the educational necessities of the time, might be instituted. At present there is a kind of connexion between the two Colleges in the Faculties of Theology and Medicine,—but in general respects, the two stand quite aloof. An agitation for their union, taking its rise in the recommendations of a Royal Commission which sat a good many years ago, fell to the ground in consequence chiefly of the opposition of the King's College Professors. Now, however, we are given to understand, the question has been re-opened,—and (a few of the old academic opponents of the measure having been, in the mean time, removed by death, and replaced by new men) with greater chance of success.

We regret to find that Mr. Rae has returned to America from his searching expedition, without finding any traces of Sir John Franklin. We may add, however, that his explorations fell far short of their proposed limits.

A homage worth recording has been paid to the merits of European Orientalists in the person of M. Garcin de Tassy, by the translation into Hindustani and the publication at Delhi of his 'History of Hindustani Literature' in a folio volume of upwards of 500 pages. This appreciation by learned natives of the laborious researches of the author on the history of their own literature must be equally gratifying to the learned Professor and to the Oriental Translation Committee of our Royal Asiatic Society, of which M. Garcin de Tassy is a foreign member, and under whose auspices the work appeared.

A correspondent says:—"Will you allow me to give a hint to a certain potential body in the North.—I have just returned from a rapid visit to the county of Durham; and not having time to visit personally any of the numerous coal mines, I consoled myself with the idea that at Durham—the capital of the county and the seat moreover of a famous University—I should find at least the mineral and geological curiosities of the county duly epitomized and condensed. After having explored the College and the Cathedral,—my first inquiry was for the museum. With a look of no small incredulity, I received a direction to a *water-mill* on the banks of the river. Walking by mistake into the kitchen of the honest miller,—I was saluted by the very agreeable smell of Yorkshire pie;—and being shown into the museum, was regaled with a much more unsatisfactory odour from a badly prepared hippopotamus which it appears had been found some years ago in a damp cellar in the castle. The museum, with the exception of the unsavory brute above referred to, consisted simply of a few cases of birds (capitally stuffed by the very civil attendant), and a very few cases of minerals and fossils, wretchedly arranged. Durham being the county town of the wealthiest mining county in England—and, moreover, the seat of a handsomely endowed college;—I cannot but term the whole arrangements of its *voï-disant* museum disgraceful."

The *Morning Chronicle* speaks of an important discovery said to have been made in Oregon, which, in consequence of the great increase of commerce between that place and San Francisco, will have a material influence on trade. A new and fine entrance to the mouth of the Columbia River has been discovered by accident. The Southern Pass, as it is called, has hitherto been deemed impracticable; but two vessels, it seems, have passed through it into the open sea, and the least water found was about six fathoms. It is intended to be immediately surveyed.

The French papers report the death, at the age of seventy-three, of Baron Menneval, the well known private Secretary of the Emperor Napoleon,—and known also as the author of more than one historical work.

The Spanish Government has, it is said, instituted a Commission intrusted to draw up, from the official documents deposited in the archives of the Kingdom, a complete refutation of the account of the Battle of Baylen given by M. Thiers in his 'History of the Consulate and Empire.' The principal members of the commission are Don Manuel Quintana, General Blaser, Don José Joaquín de Mora, and the Duke of Baylen.

The *Brussels Herald* asserts that a commission, consisting of M. Quetelet, Director of the Observatory, M. Devaux, Inspector-General of Mines, and M. Cabry, Inspector of Railways, has been despatched to England with the view of inquiring into and examining the different systems of electric telegraph now working in the United Kingdom.

The same paper says:—"In the neighbourhood of the Roman road which runs through La Hesbaye, are many *tumuli*, which are supposed to belong to the earliest periods. With the view to the advancement of science, Government have purchased them from the *communes* in which they lie. On Tuesday week, the opening of some was commenced at Omal, in the vicinity of Waremmé. The examination (which is being actively proceeded with) is under the superintendence of M. Schayes, Director of the Museum of Antiquities at Brussels, assisted by an engineer, the *commissaire d'arrondissement*, and M. de Selys. It is hoped that the results of this search, with skilful management, will throw some further light on the ancient history of Belgium.

Our Naples correspondent says:—"A recent visit to Vesuvius enables me to give you a precise account of its present state and form. The old cone is almost broken up, and has assumed a new shape. To give even a faint idea of it to those who have not visited the mountains, I must enter into some details as to its former appearance. Previously to the last eruption the cone rose from the centre of the mountain; forming,—if I may be allowed so to express it,—a valley separating its inner or main cone, and rising to the height of some 60 or 70 feet. This inner cone was exceedingly difficult to ascend; being composed of loose ashes, which gave way at every step. The apex might have been about three miles in circumference,—having a descent within of about 100 feet, which persons could accomplish with slight difficulty; and perhaps there were 200 feet more thence to the bottom. In February the eruption took place on the S.E. side of this cone; breaking out in the so-termed valley, and extending into the wall of the cone,—at the same time by its action destroying the outer cone to a considerable extent. The apex of the new cone is irregular, and about two miles in circumference,—having on the walls beautiful variegated lines of green, yellow, orange, and brown; and judging from the time which intervenes between the heavings, the gaspings of the mountains, or the volumes of steam emitted, calculating by the minute hand, the depth cannot be greater than 300 feet. On its northern side a mound has been thrown up, rising to the height of 40 feet. The old cone on its S.E. side is nearly levelled with the original valley, and the other parts of the wall have decreased in height irregularly and gradually to the point which joins the newly-formed cone. The descent is now easily gained, and does not exceed 150 feet."

**SOCIETY OF PAINTERS IN WATER-COLOURS.**—The FORTY-SIXTH ANNUAL EXHIBITION IS NOW OPEN, at their Gallery, 5, Pall Mall East, from Nine till Dusk.—Admission, 1s. Catalogue, 6d. GEORGE FRIPP, Secretary.

**THE NEW SOCIETY OF PAINTERS IN WATER-COLOURS.**—The SIXTEENTH ANNUAL EXHIBITION of this Society is NOW OPEN, at their Gallery, 53, Pall Mall, near St. James's Palace. JAMES FAHEY, Secretary.

**THE NATIONAL INSTITUTION for the EXHIBITION of MODERN ART,** Portland Gallery, No. 316, Regent Street, (opposite the Polytechnic Institution).—The Exhibition of the above Association is NOW OPEN, from Nine till dusk.—Admission, 1s. Catalogue, 6d. Single Season Tickets, 5s. BELL SMITH, Hon. Sec.

**NILE—GRAND MOVING PANORAMA of the NILE,** comprising all the Monuments of Antiquity on its Banks, to which is added the interior of the great Rock Temple of Abou Simbel. Painted by Messrs. Warren, Bonomi, and Fahey.—EGYPTIAN HALL, PICCADILLY.—Daily, at Three and Eight o'clock.—Stalls, 3s., Pit, 2s., Gallery, 1s.; Children and Schools, Half-price.

**NOVELTY.—JUST OPENED, at the DIORAMA,** Regent's Park, a highly-interesting EXHIBITION, representing the ROYAL CASTLE of STOLZENFELS, on the Rhine, (visited by Her Majesty Queen Victoria in August, 1845), and its Environs, as seen at Sunset and during a Thunder Storm; painted by NICHOLAS MEISSENER, of Cologne; and the much-admired Picture of THE SHRINE of THE NATIVITY, at Bethlehem; painted by the late M. RENOUX, from a Sketch made on the spot by DAVID ROBERTS, Esq. R.A., with two novel and striking effects.

**INDIA OVERLAND MAIL.—DIORAMA.—GALLERY of ILLUSTRATION,** 14, Regent-street, Waterloo-place.—A Gigantic MOVING DIORAMA, ILLUSTRATING the ROUTE of the OVERLAND MAIL to INDIA, depicting every object worthy of notice on this highly-interesting journey from Southampton to Calcutta, accompanied by descriptive detail and appropriate music, is now OPEN DAILY, at Half-past Two and Eight o'clock.—Admission, 1s.; Reserved Seats, 2s. 6d. (which may be previously engaged).—Doors open at Two and at Half-past Seven o'clock. Descriptive Catalogues may be obtained at the Gallery.

**BURFORD'S PANORAMA.—ARCTIC REGIONS.**—Leicester-square. JUST OPENED, a splendid VIEW of the ARCTIC REGIONS, as seen in Summer and Winter, from Drawings by LIEUT. BROWNE, R.N., of Her Majesty's Ship Enterprise, and which drawings were presented to Mr. Burford by the Admiralty. The View of Pompeii is also now open. Admission, 1s. each view, or 2s. 6d. to the three; Schools, half-price. Open from Ten till dark.

**FREMONT'S OVERLAND ROUTE to Oregon, Texas, and California.**—Crosses the Rocky Mountains at the States Government. Illustrated by a GRAND MOVING PAINTING, from Washington City, portraying the thrilling scenes that occurred to Col. Fremont and party, and Sir Wm. Drummond Stewart and party, while crossing the Rocky Mountains, is NOW OPEN for public Exhibition at the EGYPTIAN HALL, PICCADILLY, and exhibiting every afternoon at Half-past Two, evening, Quarter to Eight. Admission 1s., Stalls 2s., Amphitheatre 6d.

**SOUTH AFRICAN EXHIBITION.** Chinese Gallery, Hyde Park Corner, a Museum of SPORTING TROPHIES, NATIVE ARMS and COSTUMES, &c., from the unexplored regions of the far interior of South Africa.—Open daily from Eleven to Ten. Admission 1s.

**ROYAL POLYTECHNIC INSTITUTION.** LECTURES on MUSIC by Sir HENRY R. BISHOP, resumed, with an increased number of VOCALISTS for the Illustrations, on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday, at Eight, and on Tuesday, Thursday, and Saturday at Three o'clock.—DR. BACHHOFFNER'S SECOND LECTURE on the PHILOSOPHY of SCIENTIFIC RECREATION with OPTICAL EFFECTS, daily at Two, and on Tuesday and Thursday Evenings, at a quarter past Nine.—LECTURE, by J. H. Pepper, Esq., on the CHEMISTRY of HYDROGEN, with special reference to its application for conveyance by BALLONS, Hydrostatics and other Signals, to Sir JOHN FRANKLIN, on Monday, Wednesday and Friday at Three, and on Tuesday and Thursday Evenings, at Eight.—DISSOLVING VIEWS, illustrating the ARCTIC REGIONS and CEYLON; also, VIEWS of LONDON in the SIXTEENTH CENTURY and AS IT NOW IS.—DIVER and DIVING BELL, &c.—Admission, 1s.; Schools, Half-price. ANALYSES and CHEMICAL EXPERIMENTS conducted in the LABORATORY, under the direction of J. H. Pepper, Esq.

## SOCIETIES

**ROYAL SOCIETY OF LITERATURE.**—H. Hallam, Esq., V.P., in the chair.—Two papers were read by Mr. Birch.—1. 'On the Eleventh Dynasty of the Egyptian Kings.' This communication consisted of a translation of a Tablet relating to this dynasty, in the Museum at Leyden. It demonstrated that the eleventh Diospolitan line preceded, and was not contemporary with, the twelfth dynasty on the one hand; on the other, that the eighteenth did not immediately succeed the twelfth—there being a proof, so often asked for, of intermediate princes.—2. 'On a Fragment of the lost Book of Chæremón on Hieroglyphics.' Chæremón was an Alexandrian writer of the first century. In a portion of this work, brought to light by Mr. Birch, he had made the remarkable discovery of a considerable number of hieroglyphic signs, explained in a manner precisely coincident with the sense attached to them in the modern system of interpretation.

H. Hallam, Esq. in the chair.—'On the Chances of Hannibal at the beginning of the Second Punic War,' by the Chairman. This Communication contained an estimate of the relative designs and resources of Rome and Carthage, and of the genius and skill of the commanders on both sides, in the great contest on the one part for existence, on the other for dominion.

W. Tooke, Esq., in the chair.—A second paper 'On a Vase representing Triptolemus and the Dioscuri,' by Mr. W. Lloyd. [See report of the former, ante, p. 265.]

(Anniversary Meeting).—H. Hallam, Esq., V.P., in the chair.—The Secretary, the Rev. R. Cattermole,



read the Annual Report; which announced a large accession of members during the year. The Address comprised a eulogy by the chairman on the two principal members lost to the society in the last year, viz., the Rev. W. L. Bowles, and Mr. L. H. Petit. The ballot for President, Vice-Presidents, Council, and Officers, then took place—and the result was as follows:—*President*, The Marquis of Northampton. —*Vice-Presidents*, The Duke of Rutland, The Duke of Newcastle, The Earl of Clare, The Earl of Ripon, Lord Bexley, Lord Colborne, H. Hallam, Esq., W. R. Hamilton, Esq., W. M. Leake, Esq., The Rev. J. H. Spry, D.D.—*Council*, The Bishop of St. David's, B. Austen, Esq., Sir J. Boileau, B. Botfield, Esq., The Rev. R. Cattermole, The Rev. H. Clissold, J. P. Collier, Esq., P. Colquhoun, Esq., Sir J. Dorant, M.D., T. Greenwood, Esq., J. Hogg, Esq., W. Jerdan, Esq., H. S. Kyle, Esq., J. G. Teed, Esq., W. Tooke, Esq., A. J. Valpy, Esq.—*Treasurer*, W. Tooke, Esq.—*Auditors*, H. Holland, Esq., C. A. Smith, Esq.—*Librarian and Foreign Secretary*, Sir J. Dorant.—*Secretary*, The Rev. R. Cattermole.—*Clerk and Collector*, Mr. N. Hill.

**STATISTICAL.**—Sir J. P. Boileau, V.P., in the chair.—Lord H. Vane and R. I. Jopling, Esq. were elected Fellows.—Mr. Newmarsh laid before the meeting the substance of an extensive investigation in which he has been engaged for some time concerning the Amount and Fluctuation of the Circulation of Bills of Exchange during the twenty years 1828-1847. The only previous attempt that has been made to determine statistically the amount of the bill currency was by the late Mr. Leatham, a banker of Wakefield. Mr. Leatham's researches took place in 1840, and applied to the six or seven years preceding that date. The great difficulty in any statistical inquiry with reference to bills of exchange consists in the difficulty of obtaining by actual observation such an amount of data as will enable us to determine accurately the average sum drawn upon each denomination of stamp and the average usage. Unless these two fundamental elements of the calculation can be determined, the official returns furnished by the stamp office are of little use. In former computations the average sum and average usage of each kind of bills have been settled by estimate only. Mr. Newmarsh has arrived at greater precision. By the assistance of six of the largest City bankers, he has been furnished with returns compiled from *bond fide* bills in their possession. These returns embrace all the data which are of importance in the computation, and the number of facts which they include is considerable; they contain the results of an actual examination of 4,367 bills of exchange, representing a sum of 1,216,834*l.* With the assistance of the data thus obtained, Mr. Newmarsh has computed the amount of the bill circulation for each year, 1828-1847, in Great Britain, in England, in Lancashire, and in Cheshire. The general result is, that the average bill circulation of the twenty years 1828-1847, is in England 79,127,000*l.*; Scotland 17,380,000*l.*; Lancashire 10,798,000*l.* These amounts represent the quantity of bills constantly in circulation at one time. The amount, therefore, of bills in circulation in England is at all times four times as great as the amount of Bank of England notes. Mr. Newmarsh has also included in his researches the drafts drawn in Great Britain on foreign countries, in payment of the exports sent from this country. This is a branch of the subject now brought into notice for the first time. He has also endeavoured to arrive at approximate statistical results with reference to the amount of capital habitually employed in the London market, and constantly at the command of the banking establishments of London and the provinces, and also as to the classes of security upon which these funds are advanced. The sections of the paper which contained the results of these computations may be regarded as among the most interesting features of the whole, both in novelty and importance. Mr. Newmarsh has not confined himself to merely statistical investigation. He has to establish general conclusions as well as to exhibit particular facts. One of the facts apparently most completely established by every part of the investigation is directly at variance with what has hitherto been the expressed opinion of the highest authorities with reference to the movements of the Bill Currency.

Hitherto it has been regarded as certain that the fluctuations in the amount of bills of exchange corresponded very closely with the fluctuations in the amount of bank notes:—for example, that more bank notes produced more bills of exchange, and *vice versa*. The investigations of Mr. Newmarsh lead to a conclusion directly opposed to this. The whole of the evidence which he has collected goes to prove that between bank notes and bills of exchange there is a very slight, if any, connexion at all; and that the causes which govern the bill currency, and lead, for example, to its expansion, are not even a period of prosperity and an increase of trade,—but the opposites of these, viz., seasons of difficulty and distress among the commercial classes. For instance, the bill circulation of 1847 is the *highest* in the whole of the twenty years. With reference to the Foreign Trade of the country, Mr. Newmarsh's investigations—and they are of great extent—lead to the conclusion that it is quite impossible to arrive at any just estimate of the favourable or adverse character of the balance of trade, or even of the magnitude of that balance, by any calculation founded merely on the returns of the Custom House; and that the only certain indications of the posture of international accounts, are the course of exchange and the influx and efflux of bullion.

The meeting very generally recognized the novelty and importance of the views and results laid before it by Mr. Newmarsh; and it was determined to resume the consideration of the subject at the next meeting of the Fellows on the 20th of May.

**ROYAL INSTITUTION.**—The Duke of Northumberland, President, in the chair.—Mr. J. Stenhouse read a paper 'On the Artificial Productions of Organic Bases;'—but it is of a character too purely scientific for abstract in our columns.

Mr. Faraday produced a magnet of remarkable power, to which he invited attention. This magnet was made by Mr. Elias of Haarlem, and presented to Mr. Faraday by Mr. Logeman of that city. It weighs 0.98 lb. and lifts 26 lb., and its power is not diminished on the keeper being forced abruptly from the poles, even though this be done many times in succession. Mr. Faraday reminded the meeting of Hæcker's formula, which fixes the greatest sustaining power of the best artificial steel magnets at 10.33 N (N being the weight of the magnet); and he stated that this magnet has twice the power expressed by that formula, and that even when a disc of letter-paper is interposed between the poles and the keeper, it will sustain the weight indicated by this formula. Mr. Faraday mentioned that the small horseshoe magnet belonging to the Royal Institution weighs 7 lb. 14½ oz., and lifts from 40 to 41 lb. (i. e. nearly 10.33 N). He concluded by noticing that this magnet of Mr. Elias would support its own weight at a single pole; and in this property it resembles the cylindrical bar magnets now made in the electro-magnetic helix, and used in the magnetical observatories. He suggested that this horseshoe magnet of Mr. Elias might probably be charged by a similar process. These magnets are manufactured in Haarlem at a cheap rate, even when possessing great power.

**ROYAL AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY OF ENGLAND.**—Amid the pomps and ceremonials which necessarily surround the path and make demands on the time of a prince placed as is the Consort of our Queen,—the devotion of his thoughts to the practical utilities that come less directly in his way offers an example well worth holding up to the gentlemen of England,—and not to be overlooked in a paper established for objects like ours. His Royal Highness Prince Albert brought with him to this country some of the best elements of the German mind,—and has adapted them admirably to the objects and circumstances which have surrounded him in the country of his adoption. Our readers know that the Prince is, of his own motion, at the head of a movement to which all the nations of the world are freely contributing their strength; and if in the vastness of the scheme there be proof of a genius for the speculative,—a paper sent by his Royal Highness to the recent meeting of the Royal Agricultural Society will show how eminently practical he can be. The paper was on the 'Sewage of Towns,'—and was communicated by Col. the Hon. Charles Grey.

"Col. Grey informed the Council that this important subject had, along with the general interest it had lately excited in the public mind, become a matter of interest and study to his Royal Highness Prince Albert, and that he was commanded by his Royal Highness to bring before the Council of the Society, for their consideration and inquiry, should they think the subject worthy of it, what had struck his Royal Highness as being a simple plan for effecting the object in view. Leaving it to more competent judges to decide whether the sewage should be used as a liquid manure, or solidified, upon which point his Royal Highness wished to give no opinion himself, he had confined his consideration to the latter mode of application, for two reasons, namely, that in the solid form: 1. It could be more easily transported. 2. It could be obtained at the least possible expense. Col. Grey then proceeded to describe the plan proposed by his Royal Highness, which was simply this:—to form a tank, with a perforated false bottom, upon which a filtering medium should be laid; and to admit at one end the sewage into the tank, below the false bottom, when, according to the principle of water regaining its own level, the sewage liquid would rise through the filtering bed to its original level in the tank, and, providing the filtering medium had been of the proper nature and of sufficient thickness, it would be thus freed from all mechanical impurity, and would pass off into the drain, at the other end of the tank, as clean and clear as spring water. This simple and effective plan was illustrated by drawings, showing the vertical and horizontal sections of the tank, and by a neatly constructed model of its external form and internal arrangements. It was also clearly shown by these sections, how the sewage matter could be let into the tank, or shut off, when necessary, in the simplest manner, by means of common valves; and with what facility such a filtering tank might be applied to every existing arrangement of sewers, without requiring any alteration in their structure. The filtering medium having abstracted from the sewage all extraneous matter, would, in all probability, become the richest manure, and could, at any time, by stopping the supply of sewage, be taken out by a common labourer with a shovel, and carted or shipped to any place thought most desirable. The solid matter, too, held in suspension by the sewage, would probably form a very rich deposit at the bottom of the tank, of a substance approaching in its qualities to guano, and could be extracted by removing the false bottom, which rested on arches or vertical supporters over the sewage below it in the tank, and could be easily made to lift up or take out for the purpose of such extraction. Two tanks might easily be constructed together, so that one might continue in operation while the other was being emptied. The experiment might be tried at any house-drain in town or country; in fact, his Royal Highness had himself tried the operation on a small scale with apparent success; and while he thus suggested an important and extensive application of the hydrostatic principle involved in the plan proposed, he wished to lay no claim to originality in the adoption of that well-known law of fluid bodies by which they make an effort, proportionate to their displacement, to regain their original equilibrium. On that principle was founded, as he was well aware, the upward-filtering apparatus used by the Thames water companies. His Royal Highness's great object was, by the simplest possible means to attain a great end; to effect an essential sanitary improvement, and at the same time to create a new source of national wealth by the very means employed for the removal of a deadly nuisance, and the conversion of decomposing matter highly noxious to animal life into the most powerful nutriment for vegetation. His Royal Highness, too, wished to offer no opinion on the details required to complete the plan proposed, or on the mode of carrying it out in the most effective manner. Supposing it to be right in principle, its advantages in an economical point of view could only, his Royal Highness conceived, be ascertained by practical experience; and it was on that account that he wished to submit it to the consideration of the Agricultural Society, who might be better able to carry out the necessary experiments. It would remain to be decided what is chemically or mechanically the best and what the cheapest substance for the filter;



what the best and cheapest construction of the tank; how long the sewage will pass before the filter becomes choked; and how soon the filter could be sufficiently saturated to make it profitable as a manure. His Royal Highness had used as the filtering medium, the following substances:—

1. Charcoal:—admitted to be the most perfect filtering substance for drinking water, retaining effectually extraneous matters, and well-known for its singular powers of purification. 2. Gypsum (plaster of Paris, or sulphate of lime):—recommended by agricultural chemists for fixing ammonia and other volatile substances, by the decomposition to which it becomes subject when exposed to the action of volatile alkali. 3. Clay:—in its burnt state, would act mechanically as a filtering bed; and in its unburnt state, on account of its aluminous salts, has also the property, like gypsum, of fixing ammonia, or of decomposing the ammoniacal and other alkaline salts present in manure; and in either state would be cheaply procured.

All these substances, his Royal Highness thought, would in themselves be highly useful as manures, independently of the purpose they would subserve as agents for filtration, or for the additional amount of manuring matter they would receive from the sewage which they purified. His Royal Highness, however, in thus incidentally referring to the substances he had himself employed for the filtering medium, was well aware how many more of equal, if not superior, value would suggest themselves to others, who, like himself, felt an interest in effecting the important object proposed. As he had given no opinion on the general question of the liquid or solid application of manure, but had merely stated the grounds of preference, in a practical sense, of the solid form over the liquid for the purposes of the filtering operation under consideration, his Royal Highness entered into no discussion of the amount of manuring matter retained by the filter compared with the soluble matter that might pass through it along with the water, and remain in that liquid in a soluble, colourless and transparent form; nor of the value of such filtered water for agricultural purposes. He had confined his observations to the agricultural value of the filtering bed, and the rich deposit obtained in the purification of sewers for sanitary purposes.

#### MEETINGS FOR THE ENSUING WEEK.

- Mon. Pathological, 8.
- Chemical, 8.
- British Architects, 8.—Members' Meeting.
- Tues. Entomological, 8.
- Civil Engineers, 8.—'On the application of Water Pressure as a Motive Power, for working Cranes and other kinds of Machinery,' by Mr. W. G. Armstrong.
- Wed. Linnean, 8.
- Society of Arts, 8.
- Geological, half-past 8.—'On the Geology of Spain,' by Don J. Ezquerro del Bayo.—'On some New Forms of Fossil Plants from the Lower Lias,' by J. Buckman, Esq.—'Observations on Dudley Trilobites,' by T. W. Fletcher, Esq.
- Thurs. Literary Fund, 3.—Anniversary Dinner.
- Antiquaries, 8.
- Royal Society of Literature, 4.
- Fri. Royal Institution, half-past 8.—'On the Fossil Remains of Birds from New Zealand.'
- Philological, 8.
- Sat. Astronomical, 8.
- Asiatic, 2.—Anniversary.

#### FINE ARTS

##### SOCIETY OF PAINTERS IN WATER COLOURS.

It is always accompanied by pleasing memories of the past that we visit the Exhibitions at this Gallery of what may be truly called an indigenous and national school of Art. The shades of the venerated masters who first gave life and being to that school rise up before us. We think on the broad, simple and grand sweep of Girtin, the mountain tarns of Robson, solemn, silent and solitary, the rising or setting suns and calm moon-lights of Barrett, and the sturdy and massive landscapes of De Wint (the youngest shade of all), stalwart, manly and thoroughly English in subject as in manner. We feel that this Institution has created for itself a great responsibility. It has been admitted both by native and by foreigner to be original, and as yet unapproached, in its peculiar excellencies. It has been the especial exponent of the freshness of British landscape scenery, humid, vaporous and showery, yet gleamy, bright and sparkling. It is a satisfaction, then, to find that the present Exhibition ably emulates its predecessors in the characteristics of their well-earned distinction. Of 380 productions here exhibited,—

there are many which sustain the reputation of former years.

The most striking work of this year,—and that which occupies, as it should, the place of honour,—is one, which we have already introduced to our readers (*ante*, p. 210). This is *The Harem* (No. 147), by Mr. J. F. Lewis. Enjoying a high reputation from the illustrations of his Spanish travel and studies, Mr. Lewis left England somewhere about ten years ago, and proceeding to Rome, executed there the last of his works which until now had been exhibited on these walls. The Pope blessing the People. Passing from thence to Egypt, he established himself at Cairo; and since that time he has sent nothing to Europe but drawings of a slight and unimportant nature, made for the passing English traveller. When, therefore, as we have said, it was known that he was engaged on the work under notice, curiosity and conjecture became busy as to the probabilities attaching to this new exercise of his art. Our readers already know our opinion of the result. This work does more than merely sustain the reputation which Mr. Lewis had established for himself as an artist of original and vigorous power yearly increasing under the influence of a fervent love of his art and industry unappalled by its difficulties. Seated on a divan within that mysterious interior which has long been a subject of European curiosity, is a Turkish magnate. The scene is realized in its spirit and in its minute details,—yet so as to give no offence to Western feelings of decorum. Nevertheless, the picture is voluptuous—or it would not be true to its theme. Near to the master—just aroused from their enjoyment of luxurious repose—are his three wives,—each exhibiting distinctive characteristics and several beauty. On his left reclines—with her head and arms supported by cushions—what seems to be the favourite,—large and voluptuous in form, and looking on that which has aroused her with a proud and indolent disdain. Immediately at his feet is a younger beauty—exceedingly graceful and seemingly more tender. Kneeling at the feet of this last, is the third of the lovely trio,—with features of a European cast, intelligent, curious and *espiegle*—the Roxalana of the group. A half-sleeping child is embedded in the abundant draperies which flow around and about these three in rich profusion. A cat in a similar state of somnolency fills in and gives richness to this mass of Oriental luxury, with its sleepy suggestion; while a beautiful gazelle, with most graceful action, reclines at the right elbow of the lordly owner. Words can scarcely do justice to the wealth of effect produced by this combination of materials. The incident which has carried half life into this scene of indolence is the arrival of a new slave, seemingly of Abyssinian race. (She has been brought in by an Arab woman, who is seated in the background—and a black and grinning eunuch is unveiling her. The figure of the slave is exceedingly fine; and the combination of the two, forming the principal dark mass of the picture, and surrounded by the sober tones of the background, make a magnificent group and give grandeur, firmness and repose to the whole composition. The expression of the slave is, also fine,—as she stands with a proud and somewhat indignant air before her new master and his household. The composition is completed by a black boy on the right, bearing a hookah—whose figure is connected with the last described group by another gazelle standing on the ground between them. In the background of this part of the subject two figures are entering—one a female, bearing refreshments on a covered salver. The sun rays stream directly on her face,—and her eyes are half closed as a defence. A female attendant—black also—forms the apex of the recumbent group, with a broad smile that exhibits her brilliant teeth and a leer at the new comer which seems to contain her pride and confusion. The apartment in which this scene is exhibited is plain; the walls being white, with beams and supports of dark wood. The only objects within it on which the riches and taste of the owner have been lavished are the windows—one of which possesses a gorgeous enrichment of coloured glass—and the exquisitely designed and elaborated reticulations of lattice work by which they are

covered to protect the room from the direct rays of the sun. Perhaps the most remarkable novelty in the conduct of the whole work is, the almost miraculous perfection with which this background is designed and completed. No interior of Neefs or Steenwyk surpasses the skill with which it is wrought. The variety of delicate tones and tints spread over and ramifying all its parts—is a marvel. One of the defects in the former works of Mr. Lewis was a certain husky darkness and opacity, the consequence of his imperfect management of the "body colour" which he has always used in great profusion. No such defect is found here,—though the drawing is for the most part made up of light and silvery grey tones, all is solidly transparent and harmonious in effect. The next great advance here shown by the artist is in the grace and freedom of line which pervade the figures,—another quality in which he was heretofore wanting. The great quality of the work is, the refined taste which has designed and supervised its every part. In colour, in composition, in grace, in "movement," all is chaste and delicate; while the scrupulous and unsparing consideration and labour which have been everywhere bestowed are beyond praise. The picture has its faults, notwithstanding. At first sight there is an unsteadiness of effect; and it requires time to feel the "motive" of the composition. This is caused by some discords in the "keeping." The cushion against which the head of the principal female is reclining makes a disagreeable form, harsh and angular, and with its shadow coming too forward in effect. Indeed, such is its discordant character that it is almost the first thing we see in the picture. On the contrary, that which should tell most forcibly in this portion of the work—namely, the figure of the gentleman of the party—is weak, and sinks into the group. More force of shadow here would give firmness and consistency to the whole mass. Acknowledging the connecting value in composition of the gazelle on the right,—we think the attitude ill chosen, stiff and unyielding,—and we have our doubts about the drawing. There is a want of solidity and completion about the upper part of the drapery—otherwise very beautifully and gracefully cast— which encircles the newly arrived slave; and we think it unfortunate that both the feet of the boy who carries the hookah should be covered,—as the fact gives the appearance of their having been hidden to avoid a difficulty. Add to these drawbacks, that the head of this boy is not well relieved from the shadow behind it, owing, as we think, to the ornamented glass tube passing over the dividing outline,—and we have summed up all the obvious defects of the picture,—unless we add as one, the somewhat equivocal direction given to the gentleman's look. It seems doubtful whether it rests on the new comer or on an insect on the wall. On the whole, however, we look on this drawing as one of the most remarkable productions of this age of English Art,—and in all probability calculated to open up a new field for emulation. There are qualities in it peculiar to the material, and which we do not think could be produced by any other known.

From this remarkable production, we turn to the pictures of Mr. David Cox. In his long and persevering career, Mr. Cox has adopted a great variety of styles spread over as great a variety of subjects. The true pupil of Nature—whether in wild pastoral mountains, in rural villages, by the sea shore, or on cultivated terrace and "pleached alley,"—his works are ever true, fresh, and beautiful. Nor does he bring to these subjects a mere unselective and accidental choice. Through his thorough knowledge of the principles of his art and a highly poetical organization, his mountain scenery is often vast, solemn, and sublime,—his rural scenes have a genial and home feeling,—and there is in his more artificial subjects an elegance which testifies to a graceful and cultivated understanding. In the present Exhibition, together with the usual supply of small drawings, he has several large works of more than usual thought, power and fervour. That which strikes us as having most conspicuously the charm of his present fluent and natural style is, *Summer* (24). With few materials, there are a grace and felicity



of treatment in this drawing peculiarly the artist's own. It represents a hayfield, with four or five figures—chiefly females—tossing about the hay, amid a refreshing breeze. Though a large work, it has a look as if it might have been produced in a few hours—on the spot. A man mounted on one horse and leading another is passing across the field,—the farther side of which bounds the horizon. A dog follows—and these are all the incidents of the scene. The clouds are light and broken, indicating one of those days of summer which though overcast are dry,—and which, with a fresh breeze, are best for the hay harvest. The sense of movement pervades every object. The hay, the dresses of the women, the tails and manes of the horses, the shaggy coat of the sheep-dog, and the wild shrubs in the foreground all feel the breeze. This work is rivalled—in the opinion of some will be surpassed—by *Changing the Pasture* (35). A shepherd has just passed a flock of sheep into new feeding ground; and they are spreading over the downs,—forming that always graceful mass in which they unerringly dispose themselves. Sending his dog after them, the shepherd is about to close the gate. Whether we look at the undulating hilly form of the field on the right,—the rich woods on the left, leading the eye to an expansive distance which bounds the scene,—or the broken and vari-coloured foreground,—all is true and in its place. The rolling, low, but light clouds move on under those of higher strata with atmospheric charin. —Another and perhaps the most deeply considered of these works is, *A Welsh Funeral, Bettws-y-Coed, North Wales* (212).—A funeral crowd of mourners are disappearing along a road bordered by stone walls leading to a rude church, embosomed in massy trees, at the foot of a high picturesque range of rocky mountains. From the summit of these finely drawn and variously tinted peaks the mist is rolling, leaving the more distant portion of the range relieved against the broken and gleamy sky in a solemn tone of grandeur. The scene is full of the mournful sentiment of the incident which lends it a name. There are some other large and many small drawings here which equally witness to Mr. Cox's power. Amongst them, two are remarkably beautiful:—*A Farm at Bettws-y-Coed, North Wales* (256),—and *Near Pandy Mill, North Wales* (366). Both have a fine solemnity and grandeur of tone.

Few artists of the British School deserve the praise of originality of genius more than Mr. Cattermole. With a mind teeming with romance, he possesses all the merely artistical qualifications of fine composition, colour, and light and shade,—together with a well-stored retentive memory for individualities and great mastery of hand. He does not, however, exhibit himself in great force in this year's collection. He has contributed only small drawings, and those in his slightest manner. We have reason to believe that this is attributable to his having of late years devoted his energies—rather late in life—to the study of oil painting. But whatever comes from his hand, however trivial, has the charm of mastery; and these examples are no exception. One drawing of a subject that we have seen more than once treated by him before, a *Scene with Macbeth and the Murderers of Banquo* (318), is the most important and powerful of his present contributions. Here there is an entirely new reading—at least so far as picture is concerned—in the introduction of the witches partially hidden behind the throne, one of whom is reaching forward and squeezing venom from the throat of a serpent which coils round her arm into a cup standing on a salver by the side of the King. This introduction is a poetical licence, of a kind which, however allowable it may be here, our readers may remember that we have had occasion to rebuke on the stage. There are three other subjects in one frame from the same play (294). The first contains Macbeth and Banquo on the heath, with the witches making “themselves air.” The mingled mass of confused drapery in which the weird sisters are involved as they rise from the ground gives to them a fine air of mysticism. The second is the Murder of Duncan. Macbeth, with his knee on the bed, is starting round at the noise made by the uneasy-sleeping guards, seen in the

distance. The third is the Incantation Scene:—Macbeth horror-struck at the ghastly procession closing with “blood-boltered Banquo.” The whole are fraught with the supernatural poetry of the original. There are also two frames containing each three small drawings by the same artist, showing the history of a quarrel between two knights of “the olden time.” In one frame, the first represents *The Offence*,—the second *The Challenge*,—the third *The Sword* (285); in the other the first gives *The Departure*,—the second *The Combat*,—the third *The Issue* (299). In the first (of the first frame) one of the knights has retired some distance from and is looking back on the castle, brooding over his revenge for “the offence.” In the second, armed *cap-à-pie*, he has disturbed a scene of banqueting within to challenge his wronger,—and a young female sinking on the shoulder of the host, her father, suggests the cause of affront. In the third, the challenged is in the armoury, the armourer presenting to him a sword and apparently expatiating on its previous achievements. The first in the other frame represents the young knight leaving the castle for the combat, armed and mounted,—the retainers with various expressions of doubt or sorrow ranged on either side the gate. In the second, is presented the scene of “strife” in a retired glade, each attended by only his squire and a monk to shrieve the fallen; their lances shivered, but yet mounted, —the combatants are fighting desperately, hand to hand. “Last scene of all,” the third shows one warrior dead on the ground, mourned over by his faithful attendant; and a little way removed, in the garb of a page, is a figure with hidden face that suggests the idea of a young female in disguise. In the distance is a group bearing away the body of the wounded or dying rival. The whole presents a charming series, full of the picturesque poetry of the period. Mr. Cattermole's other drawings are, a *Scene from Woodstock; Sir Henry Lee and his Daughter joining in the Church Service at the Keeper's Lodge* (330)—differing from the rest, especially in its beautiful silvery tone of colour; a *Sketch* (344);—a Venetian scene, like Bonington, with richly-coloured figures telling against a light grey distance, very spirited; and *Interior, with Monks Reading* (377),—a very fine composition, though slightly treated—but, on the whole, a little more artificial in tone and colour than the rest. The execution of this last is exceedingly vigorous and masterly.

Of four drawings contributed by Mr. F. W. Topham, and which sustain his reputation—though we could wish to see a little more individuality of detail in his heads—the most important in size, and in every way the most completely studied and carried out, is *Highland Pastime* (31). A kilted piper is playing vigorously to a dancing couple near one or two Highland bothies on the border of a lake, with mountains in the distance. A woman with her distaff and three or four other figures are looking on at the merry scene. The male dancer is admirably drawn, and with a precision of touch and handling which is wanting in Mr. Topham's general manner. The accessories are all in harmony,—and convey the sense of reality and local truth, although very broadly and massively treated, and with an entire disregard to minute detail. We think the artist carries this feeling a little too far, and becomes occasionally somewhat too loose and vague—a fault, however, with which the present drawing can scarcely be said to be chargeable. *Home* (125) and *The Return* (130) suggest a little story of a pleasing sentiment. In the latter an old Highland soldier just returned into his native glen has almost grown out of the recollection of his daughter; who receives him with an expression of doubtful recognition,—and who with her mother, now just emerging from the cottage, were the quiet inmates of the “Home” of the other drawing. His faithful dog is just beginning to recognize him. The fourth and last of this artist's works—which is more than usually sharp in execution and bright in colour—is *Highland Interior* (298); an infant offering to its delighted mother a taste of its food. It is very sweet and pleasing in domestic sentiment. Mr. Topham's style—characterized by breadth of manner—sometimes verges a little towards man-

nerism; but there is always a pleasing harmony of tone and colour in his works.

#### WESTMINSTER HALL AND OPEN ROOFS.

THE tone of Mr. E. L. Garbett's letter in last week's *Athenæum* is of so ungenial a kind, that it is with some little hesitation I venture to put forth a few remarks in reply. He is evidently strongly prejudiced to his side of the question, and perfectly satisfied that he knows a vast deal more than the rest of us on the subject.

I think it will be admitted by many that there are several finer examples of open timber roofing to be found than that at Westminster Hall; but that it is *per se* bad and inappropriate any one who has dispassionately studied the subject will, I am convinced, flatly deny. Let us, however, examine Mr. E. L. Garbett's arguments against it, and see what they are worth. He commences by quoting the late Mr. Bartholomew. No one will deny that this gentleman was a thoroughly practical man, and an excellent authority in all matters connected with construction; but few I think will admit that his ‘Practical Architecture’ is an authority in matters of beauty and taste. Mr. E. L. Garbett, however, does not quote him fairly. If he turns to chapter 50 he will find that the construction and trussing of roofs is asserted to be “beautiful, simple, and on highly scientific principles.” But perhaps Mr. E. L. Garbett will say that this is in reference to tie beam roofs. True, it is so; but are not many perpendicular roofs constructed on the tie beam principle?—as at Outwell in Norfolk,—St. Martin's, Leicester,—St. Mary's, Devizes,—and many more that I could name. Besides which, I could easily show by the assistance of a few diagrams that it is possible to construct the hammer beam and other trussed roofs on the principle of the tie beam. Again, it is possible that even without a tie beam timber roofs may be so constructed as to stand for ages without thrusting out the walls below, (this is generally the great objection that is urged against them). For instance, in a church lately placed in my hands for restoration—viz. St. Peter's Mancroft, Norwich,—there is a very beautiful example of perpendicular roofing, (given in the last edition of Rickman). This has stood for upwards of three centuries, and yet I question very much whether the walls have swerved the tenth of an inch from the upright.

Mr. E. L. Garbett's second authority strangely begins thus:—“Westminster Hall exhibits a specimen of the false taste of Norman roofs!” This is a sad exposure of Dr. Robison's ignorance of Gothic, or as Mr. Garbett quaintly calls it “Compressible” architecture. This, mark you, is “the man who though not an architect knew two things which many called by that name never learned”—viz., first, what architecture is, and secondly, what Gothic architecture is.—yet he calls a pure perpendicular roof Norman! The Doctor, however, goes on to say that the “essential parts” are “very properly disposed,”—and again he says, a little further on, “the structure of a roof may therefore be exhibited with propriety, and made an ornamental feature.”—Surely Mr. Garbett's own authority condemns him.

The next paragraph contains a very curious assertion:—“They never tried it (open roofing) but during the decline of their system, and then I believe only in this country.”—This is no slip of the pen, for the writer again alludes to it in his fifth “reason,” when he says stone vaulting “is consonant to the taste of all past nations and classes except the Tudor barn builders.” Mr. Garbett is evidently ignorant that Polebrook, Raunds, Kiddington, Gifford, and fifty other examples of decorated timber roofing still remain,—and that even portions of early English and Norman are occasionally to be found. Mr. Rickman says:—“The Norman wooden roof was often open to the actual frame timbers, as we see still remains to this day,—as at Rochester and Winchester.”\* Yet Mr. Garbett asserts “that they never tried it but during the decline of their system.”

Let us look for a moment at Mr. Garbett's “twelve reasons,” and see what they are worth.—No. 1. “It (stone vaulting) renders the adoption

\* Since destroyed.



of Gothic work possible instead of its mimicry." This is a little side-dive into the question so often of late mooted in your contemporary *Builder*,—and is certainly worthy of his special attention. Here is the problem solved; and the question "Are architects to copy?" need never again be put. Only adopt stone vaulting, and every architect will at once be able to design original doorways, windows, towers, piers, buttresses, &c. Reason No. 2. "It leads to geometric and beautiful (because thought-extracting and trouble-giving) varieties of plan." This is rather vaguely put. Does the writer mean variety in plan of building or of roof? If the former, I should like to know how vaulting would influence the arrangement of a building;—if the latter, the variety is not more easy to obtain in stone-work than in wood-work. Reason No. 3. "By requiring knowledge and skill, it shuts out ignorant professors." I unhesitatingly assert that the proper construction of wood roofing is equally as difficult as the present mode of vaulting with stone. Reason No. 4 states that it renders a building nearly fireproof;—and this I readily admit. Reason No. 5. "It gives without paint a ceiling at least as light coloured as the walls, which is consonant to the taste of all past nations and classes except the Tudor barn-builders." This I fancy I have already proved to be untrue.—No. 6. "For the same reason it renders less window surface necessary by day and less artificial lighting by night." Mr. Garbett evidently when he wrote this was thinking of the window tax,—otherwise what is the advantage of small "window surface"? or does he think that a building without windows would be the perfection of beauty?—No. 7. "It greatly impedes the passage of heat from within or without." Whether this is altogether an advantage is rather questionable.—No. 8. "It alone renders efficient ventilation possible, as I could easily show." This is another rather vague assertion,—one to which I fear Dr. Reid would not subscribe.—No. 9. "It keeps off the dust from the roof, and harbours none itself." A glance at Henry the Seventh's chapel will not bear out this assertion.—No. 10. "It has boldness of light and shade; which no depth of relief can possibly produce in a structure situated above the tops of the windows, especially if of a dark colour." If depth does not produce boldness of light and shade, most of us have yet to learn the first principles of producing effect:—whether it is above the windows or not matters but little, owing to the reflected light that must necessarily be in every room large or small.—No. 11. "It keeps out external noise." The exact amount of sound that penetrates the roof of Westminster Hall I cannot say; but common sense would lead me to believe that all noise finds its way through windows, doors, and other openings, and not through brick walls or 7 lb. lead.—The last reason set forth is—"It is found to enable a large assembly to hear the same speaker." This again is questionable. The re-vibration that takes place in a vaulted building is generally so great that a confused and indistinct murmur is the result, rendering it perfectly impracticable to distinguish a word that is said.

In conclusion, I would add that I readily admit that stone vaulting is very fine, and capable of being made as beautiful as any open timber roofing:—but this is no reason why the latter should be banished and discarded for ever from use.

R. M. PHIPSON.

\* \* It was right that an opportunity should be afforded for some one in the profession to answer Mr. Garbett—whose challenge to "all and every" was certainly somewhat cavalier. But we cannot continue the discussion in our columns. The *Builder* or the *Architect* furnishes, either of them, a more appropriate arena for this professional battle.—We may mention, for ourselves, however, that Mr. Welby Pugin is a champion against the cause which Mr. Garbett maintains. The former speaks of the roof of Westminster Hall in the most encomiastic terms.]

FINE-ART GOSSIP.—A third dramatic performance is about to take place by the same body of amateurs who on two former occasions contributed their services of the same kind in aid of the funds

of the "Artists' General Benevolent Institution." These funds are collected for the relief of all artists in distress, their widows and orphans,—the fact of the distress forming the qualification which entitles to the immediate exercise of the Society's benevolence. Unhappily, the claimants are sufficiently numerous to make every worthy effort by which its funds can be recruited an object of importance in the profession and of interest to those who desire to promote it.—The pieces selected for the performance are, 'The Rent Day' and 'The Poor Gentleman.'

The new building for St. Martin's Northern Schools, in Broker's Row, Long Acre, will no doubt take many by surprise,—it has risen up so quietly. No promise has been made in its behalf by newspaper trumpeting. To some the surprise will be an agreeable one,—as it has been to ourselves:—others the building will scandalize by its singularity. It will incur the reproach of running counter to all precedent and to every style practised by us; since it answers to the name of neither Norman, Gothic, Elizabethan, Roman, Italian, nor Renaissance,—but exhibits a free application of forms and elements derived from various styles and fused together very artistically. There is nothing in it borrowed or otherwise transferred from the usual *secundum-artem* exemplars and authorities. The design is entirely Mr. J. W. Wild's own; and it is moreover not at all indebted to either material or ornament,—the former being merely red brick (of a superior kind, indeed) without any intermixture of stone to relieve it, excepting just the pillars of the low open colonnade above,—the other consisting only in a very few simple architectural mouldings. There is, in fact, scarcely anything to speak of or describe in this edifice; nevertheless, there is in it far more of striking physiognomy and effect than we are accustomed to meet with in buildings of much greater pretension, and which possess the advantage—or, as it sometimes turns out, the disadvantage—of ornament bestowed on them. The open colonnade above mentioned at the top of the building deserves notice as marking an admirable instance of contrivance for obtaining large advantages out of small resources. In London, the playground to the parish school is commonly the street, with all its liabilities to material accident and moral contamination. Now, Mr. Wild out of the confined plot of ground at his disposal has got a private playground of his own for the scholars for whom he had to contrive. The upper floor is wholly appropriated to the purpose; and there, lifted above the pollutions and jostlings below, the parish children may add the benefits of air and exercise to the benefits of education provided for them down stairs.—What is to be regretted is, that Mr. Wild's building was not erected at the corner adjoining Endell Street; because there it would have shown itself very conspicuously,—whereas, now it will be comparatively shut out from notice when the houses at that corner come to be built.

#### MUSIC AND THE DRAMA

PHILHARMONIC SOCIETY.—The Subscribers and the Public are respectfully informed the FIFTH CONCERT will take place at the Hanover Square Rooms, on MONDAY EVENING, May 6. Programme: *Sinfonia*, No. 8 (Beethoven), Quartet, Messrs. Blagrove, Stanton, Hill and Lucas. Concerto in C minor, Piano-forte, Mr. Lindsay Sloper (Mozart). Overture (M.S.), 'The Tempest', J. Henry Grimsditch. 'The First Walpurgis Night', (Mendelssohn-Bartholdy).—Vocal Performers: Miss M. Williams, Mr. Benson, Mr. H. Phillips, and chorus. Conductor, Mr. Costa.—Single Tickets (with Reserved Seat), 1*l*. 1*s*.; Double Tickets (ditto), 1*l*. 10*s*.; Triple Tickets (ditto), 2*l*. 5*s*.—to be obtained of Messrs. Addison, 21*o*, Regent Street.

CHAMBER CONCERTS.—With regard to the second meeting of the *Beethoven Quartett Society*, we need only say that Mr. W. S. Bennett was the pianist,—and that the second Razumouffsky Quartett, as given, was worth the price of the entire subscription to all such as relish the finest performance of the finest music. Yet this is the year of all years when the Philharmonic Directors, with a perversity which is almost sublime in its senility, choose to inflict on the subscribers to their grand orchestral concerts chamber music now abundantly to be heard far better given, in localities expressly adapted to it;—a Quartett, we perceive, being selected to deter many from their concert on Monday next. Of this folly

we shall have more to say.—*Mr. Osborne's second Matinée* was held on Thursday.

HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE.—What has become of Ricci's 'Prigione d'Edimburgo'?—What of Lortzing's 'Burgomastro di Saardam'?—What of Auber's 'Il Domino Nero'?—In place of any such novelties, constant as a martyr to the pernicious star-system, Mr. Lumley has been giving a round of worn-out operas because he wishes to make "a hit" with the voice of Signor Baucarde. This we believed might be done till we heard the new tenor,—our account of whom coming after the panegyrics of the rapturists will cut but a poor figure. Signor Baucarde possesses a sweet, genial, southern voice, extensive in compass, delivered with great ease, but with a certain languor and sentimentality in its tones which we are disposed to ascribe to partial development. Till power and brilliancy can be added, Signor Baucarde is, naturally only better than Signor Gardoni by a note or two—without Signor Gardoni's elegance of stage presence or experience as a singer; and hence, if Signor Gardoni is to return, we cannot conceive what manner of special occupation is to be found for either. In the 'Linda', Mlle. Ida Bertrand made her *début* as *Pierotto*. This lady is not so much a *contralto* as a *mezzo-soprano*, who avoids the low notes of her part and sings steadily though somewhat heavily. Inasmuch as Madame Sontag is of consequence to *Her Majesty's Theatre*, the management should refrain from over-working her. A little more, and the hint may be given too late.

ROYAL ITALIAN OPERA.—Rarely if ever has London been more competently tenored than now. The *prime donne* must look out lest the balance of power be disturbed.—Not overlooking Mr. Lumley's array, the new cast of 'La Donna' gave us Signor Mario for the disguised King and Signor Tamberlik for the *Roderick*. The former is this year singing like one determined to keep his throne let tenors be ever so many and Tamberlik ever so brilliant and passionate. In an interpolated *scena* from Pacini's 'Amazilia' Signor Mario works all manner of *falsetto* wonders: which amazing feats we never admired in Rubini, and have not as yet learned to relish. But beautifully and gracefully impassioned was the *cantabile* which opened the *aria*,—given with such a union of charm and fervour as makes the *beau idéal* of tenor-singing in sentimental music.—Signor Tamberlik's *Roderick* is the best we have ever seen; and his delivery of the *cabaletta* 'Sorte secondami,' introduced from 'Zelmira,' is a lesson in its power and spirit. His recitative is noble,—belonging to the grand school of Pasta and Duprez. Mlle. de Mérie's *Malcolm* is fair,—not more. No study possibly will ever give her tones the rich sweetness of Mlle. Alboni's. Her voice is at present stiff, but it will repay as well as require assiduous and unremitting practice. She has gained in style and in confidence since last year.—'Les Huguenots' was produced on Thursday, with Herr Fornes as *Marcel*.

DRURY LANE.—The tragedy of 'Antigone' was reproduced on Wednesday at this theatre,—in emulation of its performance at Covent Garden a few years back. The impersonations by Mr. Vandenhoff and his daughter of the tyrant and the heroine were distinguished by their old excellence. The classical severity of the style of these artists accords with the subject. On the whole, we think that Miss Vandenhoff not only sustains her previous reputation in the part of the heroine, but has improved. The statuesque propriety of her attitudes, the measured graces of her elocution, the harmonious intonations with which she accompanied the music, and the occasional sweetness of the more emotional phrases, were all admirable. Mendelssohn's music was sung by the chorus of the Italian Opera; which, though still unsatisfactory, was probably as good as the management had the means of commanding. The representation was quite successful.

PRINCESS'S THEATRE.—Having, on the occasion of his first essay (*Athen*, No. 1055), credited Signor Schira with power to improve, we were disappointed at finding his second opera, 'The Orphan of Geneva,' inferior to his 'Mina.' The new work contains little or no melody, as distinguished from phrases in bars



which are every one's property,—no advance in its orchestral treatment,—and the only piece possessing a certain individuality is the effective unaccompanied *morceau* in the first *finale*, which, though very difficult, was well executed. In truth, the production is one to have been passed over in silence had not the audience resolved otherwise. More brilliantly received a new 'Barbieri' could not have been. So long as—and wherever—such welcomes are possible to such music, there is no chance for English—or for any—opera. Trash cannot be accepted as though it were treasure, without harm all round: and such pain as our open protest may give to Signor Schira is chargeable on his friends and the public,—not on any ill-will of ours. Of the *libretto*—an arrangement of an old melo-drama, 'Thérèse,' happily laid aside for many years past—we decline speaking. Miss Pyne sang with great steadiness, finish, and volubility. Her voice more than once sounded tired;—but how can it be otherwise after having sung six nights a week for four months? The other principal vocalists were Mr. Allen, Mr. Weiss, and Mr. Latter. The last gentleman articulates so clearly as to make it worth his while to nourish his limited voice with a view to *buffo* occupation. Let us hope that he or any one else thus "plotting" comicality may find better occupation than the *aria* with which Mr. Wynn favoured us,—in which *Cremorne* familiarities were set to *fade* Italian phrases. Yet this, too, got its rapturous *encore*.

**SURREY.**—A new three-act drama, under the title of 'The Fugitive, or Duty and Honour,' was produced on Monday at this theatre, with marked success. The plot of this piece is not unlike that of 'The Wife's Secret'; but the comic preponderates over the tragic interest in the development of the one before us. It turns on the secret protection afforded, in the Highlands, by Lady Catherine Forbes (Madame Ponisi) to Prince Charles Edward (Mr. Shepherd);—and the consequent doubts occasioned in the mind of her husband, the English King's Commissioner, Sir Duncan Forbes (Mr. Creswick), who detects their interviews. The lady is called on for all the resources of her wit; and with ingenuity resembling that of an Italian wife, contrives to turn the tables on her husband. His jealousy she meets with an affected jealousy of her own,—till overwhelmed by the strong apparent proofs of her guilt. After a series of involvements at once interesting and amusing, the fugitive is placed in such a position as to be compelled to consult his honour rather than his safety. Having left the "damning proof" of his sword in the lady's chamber at the moment of escaping through her means—he is driven by his chivalric feeling to return, and explain the circumstances to the maddened husband, at the risk of almost certain destruction to himself. After a struggle, Sir Duncan determines on sacrificing his gratitude as a man to his duty as a magistrate. He is on the point of giving up the preserver, now of his peace—and formerly, it appears, of his life,—when the latter is rescued by a party of highlanders who have mastered the Duke of Cumberland's troops. Of course, the Commissioner has to yield;—gladly, it may be supposed—to the physical force which thus opportunely saves him from the remorse of a too stern duty. The second act of this very pleasing drama had extraordinary success; and the whole is highly creditable to its author, Mr. Moreno. On the first night, when we saw it, it wanted some little curtailment to relieve it from certain crudenesses which marred a piece on the whole of most artificial and skilful construction.—The part of Sir Duncan Forbes was rendered with much point and force by Mr. Creswick; who in such characters displays a greater variety of talent than in his more severe assumptions. The demands made on Madame Ponisi's energies by the situations in which Lady Catherine is placed were well suited to the powers of this clever and graceful actress. Miss Laporte, as a pert attendant, was exactly suited with a part.

The evening's amusements were wound up with a dramatization of the tale of 'Lizzie Leigh' from Mr. Dickens's *Household Words*. The piece was in two acts; and one more revolting we have not seen presented on the stage since the worst times of the Surrey drama. The story, very clever and touching, has yet some sickness of sentiment and questionable

morality in its original place; but its incidents are wholly unfitted for presentation on the stage. We hope to see no more catering to a vitiated taste like this in a now professing haunt of the legitimate drama.

**MUSICAL AND DRAMATIC GOSSIP.**—At the next meeting of the *Musical Union* Mendelssohn's post-humous Quartett in F minor is to be performed, for the first time in public,—Herr Ernst being the leader. The attention of all who appreciate the very highest order of chamber-music can hardly be too earnestly directed to this Quartett. When it shall have been produced, there will be left to be heard only a new Quintett for stringed instruments as completing the writer's chamber compositions. It is rumoured that Mrs. Anderson intends to bring forward Mendelssohn's choral music to 'Œdipus' at her benefit concert. This, and a short *finale* from 'Loreley,' which is complete, will close the list of his theatrical music—unless 'The Wedding of Camacho,' a work of his boyhood, should be revived. Beside these, there remain still a Psalm in G minor, if not more Psalms,—a slight showy Overture, with which we heard Liszt serenaded at Mayence by the bands of the regiments at Cassel, —and some scattered pianoforte compositions—to be produced.

Within the last few days new lights have been thrown on the reign of Queen Elizabeth and the secret history of Shakspeare, at the *Opéra Comique* of Paris;—where 'The Summer Night's Dream,' written by MM. Rosier and Leuven and set by M. Thomas, has just been produced. In this "marvellous piece" we learn that Queen Bess was in love with the Poet,—and that Sir John Falstaff was one of her subjects. The French dramatists, we fear, have confounded Oriana with *Misses Page*; and making of her a "Merry Wife of Windsor," have turned Anne Hathaway's husband into another *Master Fenton*. M. Coudere was the Poet. The music to this funny book is described as clever.—Shall we next have a *ballet* in which Swift shall be privately married—not to *Stella*—but to *Mrs. Morley*?

Our prophecies with regard to Mdle. Alboni's ambitions are to be realized: the lady being about (as Pasta used to announce it) to "attempt" the part of *Fides* at the *Grand Opéra* of Paris, during the absence of Madame Viardot.—Mdle. Angri, we perceive, is announced for the last six *Wednesday Concerts* of the season.

We must now turn to our correspondents. A lively letter from an eye-witness, describing Madame Viardot-Garcia's warm reception at Berlin, gives a trait or two from which peradventure even persons not pretending to *clairvoyance* might deduce good reason why operatic composers thrive so queerly in Germany:—why, for instance, a Marschner can be forgotten while a Flotow is followed from Kiel to Cilli.—"Herr Tichatschek, who sang with Madame Viardot in 'Les Huguenots,' was excellent," says our informant, "but not valued by these curious Berlin folk. They are so cold!—I had fancied that the Germans were naturally people of taste in regard to music;—however, I find them applauding a man who knocks his heels in the air with more warmth than they bestow on the tenor."—Yet we dare say that some early post will bring us the history of M. Meyerbeer's coronation on the stage as composer of 'Le Prophète,' with the list of those "who walked in the procession!"—Verily, the Von Raumers and other such high-flown tourists—in the face of our London shop-keepers, and what they have effected in the establishment of grand musical performances—in the face of our Royal Italian Opera, to support which Government pays nothing—will do well, till they can bring forward cases of home-rapture better apportioned than the above and others which we have lately chronicled, to refrain from again sneering at our wretched taste in England.—*Apropos* of Teutonic enthusiasm, another contributor begs us to inquire what has been done in Leipzig, or in any part of Germany, with regard to the Mendelssohn Scholarships which were to be founded in Leipzig? The English (or, "to speak by the card," Mdle. Lind's) contribution, is, we believe, lying in the bank awaiting some reciprocal manifestation from the other side of the water.

A third correspondent, confirming our last week's news from Naples concerning the distressed state of

the Opera houses there, mentions two expedients proposed for the revival of their prosperity. "One is, a tax on all foreigners entering the kingdom,—another the appropriation of the proceeds of the national lottery on the first Saturday after Christmas and Easter respectively towards the object. On those days, be it observed, the lottery is now always suspended on the supposition that the poor will have literally devoured all their substance during the previous week. The proposition is to revive the lottery on those two days and tax the poor for the benefit of the Opera."

A friend at home who asks us why only two of Mozart's operas are performed in London, forgets that we are not managers: moreover, he can hardly have carefully studied the *Athenæum*, where the causes of such neglect have again and again been indicated. To humour him, however, we will once again point them out. They are clearly discernible by such common sense as regards every side of the question, and as recollects that no theatre ever was or ever will be kept open exclusively for students and scholastic *dilettanti*. The operas of Mozart have been laid aside partly because their stories are obsolete, puerile, and not dramatically interesting—as may be said of 'Idomeneo,' 'Il Flauto Magico,' 'Cosi,' and 'La Clemenza,'—partly because, like 'Il Seraglio,' they demand exceptional voices. The music of all ('Il Flauto,' perhaps, excepted) is chargeable with occasional feebleness and conventional tediousness,—sanctioned by the taste of the day and occasioned by the haste with which they were written. To remodel them would not be easy; and were it permissible, this is not the time, seeing that pedantry runs so high that any singer who graces Mozart (in spite of Mozart having written for singers who were "nothing if not" graceful) is sure to be questioned by solemn coxcombs. Now, too, we are used to hear the supplementary songs of the operas represented called for, in addition to those for which they were substituted or by which they were replaced: much as if a *Sir Huon* was blamed for not singing both of the *scenas* written by Weber for the same situation in 'Oberon'!—But on all these points, we repeat, we have discoursed, directly and indirectly, for the past dozen years.—To this statement of a twenty times told tale it may be added, that a vigorous attempt at operatic revival is about to be made at Vienna. There, not merely Mozart's 'Clemenza' is to be reproduced, but also the operas to which Caldara, Hasse and Naumann successively set the same *libretto* by Metastasio. For antiquarians and students nothing can be imagined more interesting than such a historical retrospect;—but it is possible only in a theatre maintained by Government, where the receipts are of no consequence. How the public of the Prater and the Graben will receive it, is another question; and we cannot conceive where singers are to be found capable of giving such ancient music in the ancient spirit.—Before leaving the Vienna Opera House, we may mention, that the augmentations to orchestra and chorus, amounting to one-third, bespoken by M. Meyerbeer in order to give the utmost effect to 'Le Prophète' are to remain as permanent—a needless luxury, at least for the rendering of the old scores, which (we submit to our friends the purists) ought to be played and sung with the old amount of power—neither more nor less!—Our correspondent must not misinterpret our tone of remark into disrespect for the works which had their glory and their crown. But many of them are as ineligible for present representation, though on totally different grounds, as the tragedies of Ford and Webster.

All lovers of good management, whether tragic, comic, operatic or burlesque, will receive with concern a rumour that the *Olympic Theatre* may possibly fall into the hands of Mr. Maddox.

Mr. C. Kean appears to be making his engagements with judgment and spirit.—The last news is, that he has "signed" with that rising artist, Mr. Wigan.

#### MISCELLANEA

**Museum Library.**—The collection of printed books—the vast depository of the productions of our national genius and learning—is resorted to by a wide circle of inquirers, and exercises a direct and immediate influence upon our literary daily bread.



Its condition is, therefore, of infinite moment to the whole nation. Besides its use to scholars and men of research, it is the forge and workshop of a great deal of the ordinary reading of the people; and, however lightly governments may esteem that department of our literature, few things are of more general importance than its character, and there are few ways in which men in authority may do more good or more harm than by properly using, or by neglecting or abusing, that power of influencing its character which they possess in the reading-room of the British Museum. \* \* Without a catalogue a collection of (it is said) 450,000 volumes is utterly useless. *Gentleman's Magazine*, 1841, p. 111, 101, 112.

**A Library for the Working Classes.**—A large public library is to be established in the centre of a crowded district in Manchester. A large number of firms have subscribed 100*l.* each; and Sir Oswald Mosley, formerly the lord of the manor of Manchester, and owner of the land, is desirous to further the object. The Hall of Science erected ten years ago by the Socialists will be purchased for the purpose. It is reported that the library will be a "lending" one.

**New Method of constructing Gates and Doors.**—We have inspected some models of gates and doors constructed on Mr. Shepard's plan. The method he adopts is:—instead of hanging gates and doors in the usual way by hinges, or running them backwards and forwards on wheels, he suspends the gates or doors to iron bars extending over the gate or door. Attached to the top of the gates are two wheels; these wheels rest immediately on the top of the bar mentioned. When it is necessary to open the gates or door, the bar is raised a little in the centre of the doorway by means of turning a key round and round, which unlocks the gate, and at the same time raises the bar sufficiently to form an inclined plane, upon which the gate or door, by means of rollers or wheels, runs back by its own gravity into a suitable recess in the piers or wall at each side made to receive it, and thus opens the gateway clear of all obstruction. When it is necessary to close and lock the gates, the bars upon which the gates hang are depressed a little at the ends, and the gates or doors run along the bars until the gateway or doorway is closed, and the gates locked. It appears that the London and North-Western Railway Company have adopted this plan at one of their stations, and find it to answer much better than the ordinary mode, this method requiring but one man to open and shut the gates, while in the ordinary plan it required six. We were shown several testimonials from architects and engineers, recommending the adoption of the invention, from the ponderous gates of a fortress or railway station down to the highly-finished door of a mansion. *Herapath's Journal*.

**Important Discovery.**—The *Debate* publishes the following letter from Constantinople:—"The Ambassador of France has received information of an important discovery made in the neighbourhood of Erzeroum of an extensive bed of coal, specimens of which have been distributed to the consular body in the locality. The province of Erzeroum has hitherto been without combustible materials, and the only fuel of the poor is the dried dung of the cattle. The country, though very productive, is excessively cold, and the thermometer descends as low as 25° below zero. The importance of this discovery may be, therefore, readily appreciated, and is probably but the prelude to other and more valuable ones,—for foreign scientific men have already explored the mountains of that part of Turkey, and have positively stated that the soil, bearing an analogy to that of the Altai, in the north of Russia, should contain mines of gold and silver. The Turkish Government, it is said, intends to have the mine worked by the governor of the province, who will pay a considerable revenue to the state.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.—T. A. M.—A. B.—H. N.—R. M. P.—C.—W. A.—received.

We are obliged by the communication from Wakefield, of which we may avail ourselves on some future occasion.

W. F. S.—Since the view embraced by this correspondent as to the compound character of hydrogen gas is founded on a misconception of Lavoisier's experiment, and is entirely unsupported by any experimental evidence of his own, we must still be permitted to believe that water has been decomposed into oxygen and hydrogen gases.

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It is particularly requested that all gentlemen who propose to read Manuscripts or make any communication to the Meeting in either of the Sections, will announce their intention at an early period, with the title and subject of the Memoir; and that all persons disposed to contribute Antiquities or Works of Art for exhibition in the temporary Museum, calculated to promote the objects of the Institute, will communicate at the earliest convenience with the Secretaries of the Institute, Suffolk-street, Pall-mall.

## ROYAL AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY OF ENGLAND.

The MAY GENERAL MEETING will be held at the Society's House in Hanover-square, on WEDNESDAY, the 22nd inst., at 11 o'clock in the forenoon.

By order of the Council,  
JAMES HUDSON, Secretary.

LONDON, May 1, 1850.

**NOMINATION OF JUDGES.**—On or before the General Meeting on the 22nd of May, Nominations of Judges for Stock or Implements, at the Exeter Meeting, will be received from Members of the Society, who are requested to certify, from their personal knowledge, that the parties proposed are qualified and willing to act as Judges for the particular class for which they are respectively recommended, and who are unconnected with any Exhibitor of Stock or Maker of Implements, and have no direct personal interest in the Stock exhibited, as the breeder of any of the animals upon which they may be called upon to adjudicate.

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## REVIEWS

*The Expedition for the Survey of the Rivers Euphrates and Tigris, carried on by Order of the British Government, in the years 1835, 1836, 1837.* By Lieut.-Col. Chesney, Commander of the Expedition. 4 vols. Vols. I. and II. Longman & Co.

BEFORE we direct the attention of our readers to these two volumes, it may be expedient to recur to the circumstances which induced Col. Chesney to undertake the work of which they form a portion.

In 1834 a Committee of the House of Commons took evidence on the comparative advantages of the routes to India by the Red Sea and by the Euphrates, and a vote of Parliament was passed for surveying the latter by means of an Expedition of two iron steam-vessels. These vessels were constructed so as to take to pieces; and having been transported by sea in fragments to the mouth of the river Orontes in Syria, they were thence conveyed with immense labour, partly on rafts and pontoons and partly on waggon, to Port William or Bir, a town on the Euphrates, distant about 133 miles from the Mediterranean and 117 miles from the Persian Gulf. At Bir the steamers were put together, and the descent and survey of the Euphrates were commenced on the 16th of March 1836, under the command of Col. Chesney.

The details of this Expedition are to be given in the forthcoming portion of Col. Chesney's work. An abridged account, however, of his labours and proceedings was inserted by him in the 7th volume of the *Journal of the Geographical Society*; from which we find that—“Materials for a correct map of Northern Syria were collected; a line of levels was carried across from Iskenderûn on the Mediterranean to Birehjik on the Euphrates, and thence to the Persian Gulf. Northern Mesopotamia was explored, and though one of the steamers was lost in a hurricane near Awah, the grand survey of the river to its embouchure in the Persian Gulf was continued and accomplished by the other. At a subsequent period two different ascents were made of the Karân; and two descents of the Bahamishîr; while the country intervening between the Jerâhi and the Euphrates, the great delta of Susiana, was examined. The river Tigris was twice ascended to upwards of 400 miles beyond its junction with the Euphrates; a second line of levels was carried between the Euphrates and the Tigris; and a geological section of the Taurus, of several hundred miles in extent, was amongst the successful labours of the Expedition.”

It thus appears, that the objects of this important enterprise were fully accomplished, and the practicability of the navigation of the Euphrates for commercial and political purposes satisfactorily shown. It only remained to arrange and publish the immense mass of valuable scientific information which had been gained during the Expedition; and hence the appearance of the portions of the work before us. These two volumes contain the geography of the countries lying between the Indus and the Nile, and a history of the nations by which they have been successively occupied from the earliest times to the present. To do justice to one of these subjects, much more to both of them, requires varied erudition, a considerable amount of scientific knowledge and ability, and some talent for description. In the volumes now before us, especially in the first, these qualifications are displayed in a very high degree.

The first volume commences with a detailed

and masterly geographical notice of the four principal rivers of Western Asia, and a general account of the countries lying between the rivers Nile and Indus. The four rivers just alluded to are—the Kizil-Irmâk or Halys, the Aras or Araxes, the Tigris, and the Euphrates. All these rivers take their rise in an elevated plateau which extends from the base of Mount Ararat into Northern Armenia, Kurdistan and Asia Minor, and have for their estuaries three different seas, the Black, the Caspian and the Arabian. The springs, the course, and the tributaries of each of these rivers are described with minute accuracy and with graphic vigour. Though the details of these descriptions are necessarily at times rather tedious, there are an air of interest and a panoramic effect imparted to the geographical portions of both these volumes which could have proceeded only from an author who fondly elaborates a favourite and well-considered subject. We regret that the passages in which these rivers are so well described are not suited for quotation. The same remark applies to a description of the sources and course of the River Indus given in the second volume, and which we admire, not only as a valuable contribution to geographical science, but as one of the best essays of the kind that we have ever met with. The magnificent scale on which Nature conducts her operations on the banks of this noble river, the historical associations connected with the names of the cities through which it flows, are suggested to the mind of the reader by the simple but comprehensive and vigorous description of Col. Chesney. The students of physical and of historical science will read this account with equal pleasure and benefit.

The disquisition on the principal rivers of Western Asia introduces a notice of those regions of the globe watered by these rivers, and which have become connected together, not only geographically but also historically, having been either wholly or partially the seat of several great empires. The territory which formed the most flourishing part of these empires may without much inaccuracy be described as an irregular parallelogram, bounded on the north by the mountains of the Caucasus and the Black and Caspian Seas, on the south by the Indian Ocean, and on the east and west by the Indus and the Nile respectively. A remarkable similarity prevails in the geographical features of the countries comprehended within these boundaries.—

“On glancing at the most striking objects, the mountains, it will be remarked that several great branches quit the elevated plateau about the springs of the Euphrates, Tigris, &c., and take different directions; but chiefly eastward, southward, and westward, from the summit of Ararat. Two of these, the Zagros and Elburz, gradually diverge, in distinct lines, as far as the eastern limits of ancient Persia; whilst the no less striking arms of the Taurus proceed to the opposite extremities, and preserve the same bold features, as they spread their numerous ramifications over Asia Minor, Syria, northern Mesopotamia, and Arabia. Owing to the deficiency of large rivers, and the scarcity of running streams, cultivated spots are rare; whilst dry, untenant valleys, extensive plains, and gigantic plateaux, broken by rugged mountains, form the prevailing characteristics of the countries under consideration. In a wide expanse of territory, stretching, with various elevations, at least 25° from north to south, such extremes may be looked for as will bear out the remarkable description of the younger Cyrus. Thus, the northern and central portions of the plateaux of Irân and Arabia, as well as a great part of Asia Minor, enjoy a temperate climate; whilst an intense cold prevails in the northern parts of Affghânistân, in nearly the whole of Kurdistan, and on the elevated mountain ranges and high valleys on both sides of Ararat. Yet notwithstanding this difference of

climate, throughout the whole a great similarity prevails in the vegetable and animal worlds; and in these respects the valley of the Nile, the plains of Mesopotamia, and those of Arabia southward of Mecca, together with the central and southern parts of Irân, have much in common. Exclusive of the provinces occupied by Russia, the space between the Indus and the Mediterranean Sea forms three kingdoms almost of equal size. Persia occupies the centre, Affghânistân the eastern, and the different provinces of Asiatic Turkey the opposite, or western extremity. Instead, however, of following the subdivisions of each of these portions, it seems preferable to consider the whole as constituting two great divisions, separated from each other by the basia of the Euphrates, with its continuation, the Persian Gulf; Asia Minor, Syria, Arabia, and Egypt being on one side of this natural line of bisection; and, on the other, an equal portion of territory, which, under the name of Irân, formed the eastern, or principal part of the ancient Persian empire of Darius Hystaspes.

The natural division of these regions having been pointed out, Col. Chesney next gives a systematic and detailed description of the several provinces comprehended in Irân. It will be impossible for us to enter upon these voluminous details. It will be sufficient to state for the information of our readers, that the geological features of each country, its climate, vegetation, and zoology;—the general character, and the manners and customs of its inhabitants,—their language, religion, and commerce,—all find an appropriate place for exhibition and discussion. From this part of the work we shall give a few extracts. The Sunnites mentioned below are the Mohammedan sect whose doctrines are prevalent in Turkey,—and who are opposed to the Shi'ahs, the orthodox party in Persia.—

“To the Persians have been attributed many of the worst qualities of human nature; and his thoughtless extravagance is of itself a root from which many evil branches cannot fail to spring. He is notorious for a total disregard of truth, and for the fraud with which his ordinary dealings are conducted. He is devoid of shame in private life, and as insensible to disgrace in public; and provided he can escape punishment, the most dishonest artifices are viewed as legitimate means of accomplishing his ends. He is guilty of the most shameful debauchery, and superstitious as well as hypocritical in religious matters. He is also faithless in friendship, subject to strong prejudices, and of a revengeful disposition. His minor faults are garrulity and a love of vain display, to which last even personal comforts and cleanliness are too often sacrificed; he is remarked for a dogmatical and egotistical bearing, and a haughty demeanour towards inferiors, with, as usual in such dispositions, the utmost servility towards those above him. This dark picture is not, however, without brighter spots. Owing to his politeness towards strangers, and an apparently hospitable disposition, the first meeting with a Persian usually makes a favourable impression; though the offer of his house means no more than the Spanish compliment in like cases. He is, moreover, quick-sighted, sociable, witty, and affable; buoyant in spirits, well acquainted with the forms of politeness, and, to a certain extent, inquisitive in matters of science and art; and, it may be added, of a tolerant disposition in religious matters, unless when his prejudices against the Sunnites happen to be awakened. Though not now confined to water and the simple diet of the time of Cyrus, the Persian is moderate in his food, and not only capable of changing the sloth of his harem for most active exertions, but likewise of continuing them under the greatest privations. The courage of the Persian is not of the higher order, but it is far from being defective when brought to the test. The profession of arms, as in ancient times, still occupies the first place in the estimation of a Persian; and, if any particular trait might be selected to designate a character which cannot be trusted, and yet ought not to be despised, it is his application to the exercises of the field, and plundering forays against neighbouring tribes. The Persian, like the modern Kurd and



Turkoman, is almost always mounted; and, having been trained from his infancy, he is one of the most expert horsemen in the world. He is, in fact, quite unrivalled in his skilful management of the animal when ascending the steep sides of rocky mountains, which by most persons would be considered altogether inaccessible for a horseman. The Bakhtiari and other tribes, maintaining a kind of half independence in the mountains, are also very expert riders; but every Persian, man and boy, is a finished horseman, and particularly skilful in loading and firing from the back of the animal. Like his Parthian ancestors, he can turn round when pursued, and fire his gun directly in the rear. He then gallops off at full speed, hanging down from his saddle on the off side in such a way that the greater part of his body is covered by the horse. It is not an uncommon thing to see a Persian, whilst going at a brisk pace, stoop down, take a sheep, or even a much smaller object from the ground, and carry it off with unrelaxed speed."

Having completed the account of Irán, or the regions to the east of the great basin of the Tigris and Euphrates, our author devotes a chapter to an inquiry concerning the probable site of the land of Eden,—into which we shall not follow him.

The remainder of this volume is devoted to the geography, natural history, and social state of the countries which lie between Mesopotamia and the Isthmus of Suez. This description commences with a comprehensive account of the mountain-chains and principal rivers of Asia Minor. The range of Taurus and its principal branches and most remarkable crests—among others, the Bithynian Olympus and Mount Ida,—ever dear to the remembrance of the classic reader—are brought before us with picturesque reality. The following description will, we think, be read with interest.—

"The Hellespont issues from the Sea of Marmora, near Gallipoli, a town on the European side, which, in addition to a population of about 70,000 inhabitants, is of importance, as its road is the anchorage and place of departure for the Ottoman fleet. A little lower, on the Asiatic side, there is another Turkish town of some size, called Lampsaki, close to which the current sweeps as before, nearly southwest, to the bay of Sestos, a distance of about 20 miles, with an ordinary width of from two and a half to three miles. This bay presents the rich and varied scenery which terminates the two great continents, whose shores are bordered by ranges of elevated wooded hills, clothed with productive vineyards, intermixed with groves of chestnut trees and oaks, together with broom, arbutus, cistus, and myrtle. At the ancient Sestos the stream becomes narrower, and takes a S.S.E. direction as it passes Abydos and proceeds to the town of Charnák Kal'eh-si (Pottery Castle); from the last place it flows S.W. for three miles to Point Berber, and from thence onward, through interesting scenery, in the same direction, but rather increasing in width, for a distance of 9½ miles to the Ægean Sea. The castles of Seddu-l-Bahr (Barrier of the Sea) and Eski Sarlik occupy the horns of a bay close to the entrance on the European side; and nearly opposite to the former, on the Asiatic side of the Dardanelles, is the more formidable work of Kúm Kal'eh-si, mounting 84 guns, 52 of which (18 of them being for stone shot) form a cross fire with nearly 60 guns of various calibres on the other side. The distance from castle to castle is almost two miles, and there is the additional difficulty of a current of three miles per hour to be stemmed by an ascending fleet from thence to Cape Berber. At this passage, which is one mile and three-quarters wide, commence those defences which become so formidable on approaching the narrowest part of the Dardanelles, where an increased current and a sharp bend combine to give effect to different batteries mounting about 600 guns, most judiciously placed, so as not only to give a cross fire at the distance of 760 yards, but likewise to rake ships at certain places; and this without causing any injury to the works on the opposite side. The European castle of Kilidu-l-Bahr, (Key of the Sea) resembles some of the baronial castles on the Rhine, but with

the addition of a heavy battery called Namasíyah below it, and several on different points above; some of these are armed with ordinary garrison guns, and others with guns adapted for stone-shot. They are usually but little above the surface of the water, and the last, in going upwards, is Chamlí Burnú (Pine Point), a battery of 30 guns, on the point of Sestos, probably near the spot where the famous bridge of Xerxes touched the European shore. On a projecting point opposite to Kilidu-l-Bahr is the Asiatic castle, Tchannák Kalesi, having, like the other, heavy batteries on each flank looking up and down the stream; in addition to which there is one of a semicircular form on Point Berber, three miles from thence in the latter direction, and two others on the horns of the bay eastward of the castle; the more distant of these, which is called Nakárah Burnú (Cape Drum), is a stonework, mounting about 84 guns, nearly on the site of Abydos. About two-thirds of the guns commanding the Straits of the Dardanelles are on moveable carriages, but the remainder are solidly fixed on two huge blocks of wood nearly level with the Hellespont. The calibre of these ponderous guns varies from 18 inches to 3 feet in diameter; and, as their muzzles project beyond the face of the work, they must necessarily be loaded outside of the embrasures; and they are, in consequence, kept ready to fire at anything coming within the direct line. No vessel is permitted to pass except between sun-rise and sun-set, when a Tezkerah, or pass, must be obtained from the authorities for this purpose. The castles and defences are intrusted to a Mir Mirán, or superior pasha, who resides in the Asiatic castle, around which is the town, containing about 9,000 souls, and several potteries; but, owing to the marshes westward, towards the plains of Troy, it is at certain seasons very unhealthy."

In one of the chapters on Syria we are told that

"When approached by the ordinary pilgrim route, Jerusalem has something of a desolate appearance, presenting at the top of a stony valley a range of turreted limestone walls, above which appear only a few of the most elevated dwellings, and some of the cupolas and minarehs; whilst, like most other eastern cities, the interior is but a succession of dull streets and dead walls, sloping eastward, interspersed, however, with gaudy churches and heavy-looking convents. But when raised from the heights near the eastern side, the effect is particularly striking, the whole city being seen from thence in complete detail. The Mount of Olives, or Jebel-el Túr, commands, to the southward, a view towards Bethlehem and some of the hill country of Judea; and eastward is seen part of the valley of Santa Saba, with the Dead Sea glittering beyond, at the foot of the mountains of Arabia Petrea. But, westward, the scenery is still more remarkable; in this direction, Mount Olivet descends rapidly into the deep ravine of Kidron, on the slope near the bottom of which is the garden of Gethsemane, and a little lower the tomb of the Virgin Mary; also those of Jehoshaphat, Absalom, and Zachariah. On the sloping crest beyond this deep and narrow valley stands the city itself; which, in addition to many public buildings, contains upwards of 3,000 good houses, distributed in four separate quarters, which cover as many hills, the whole being enclosed by lofty walls, flanked by square towers. The city has the shape of an irregular lozenge, whose western side skirts the valley of Gihon, while its southern side runs along that of Ben Hinnom; the northern side is near the hill of Titus; and, lastly, the eastern side runs almost north and south along the valley of Jehoshaphat, having in the centre the gate of St. Stephen: just southward of the latter, rising above the walls, is Mount Moriah, whose buildings are the foreground and principal part of the panorama. The quadrangular terrace on which they stand occupies about one-fifth of the area of the city, being about 500 yards from north to south, with an average width of nearly 300 yards from east to west. Almost in the centre are the graceful minarehs of the mosque of Omar, which, with its arcades, courts, and innermost enclosure, almost rivals the great and costly edifice of Solomon, which it has replaced."

The account of the horse as that animal is met with in its original country, is a fair specimen of Col. Chesney's style.—

"Elsewhere, individuals of this species may be more showy, and even more powerful, but it is only in Arabia that the horse is found in a state bordering on perfection. Here he is remarkable for a small head with pointed ears, peculiarly clean muscular limbs, a corresponding delicate slender shape, rather small size, and large animated eyes, expressing that intelligence which, as in the dog, is the consequence of being constantly with the members of his master's family; in fact, he generally shares their meals. He is frequently allowed to frolic through the camp like a dog, and at other times he is piquetted at the entrance of the tent; he is exposed to the weather at all times, and compared with the treatment of his species in Europe, he is scantily fed. A meal after sunset, consisting of barley, in some parts of the country, and camel's milk in others, or a paste of dates and water, which in Nedjd is mixed with dried clover and other herbs, constitutes his usual sustenance; but on any extraordinary exertion being required, flesh is frequently given, either raw or boiled. The Bedawins count five noble breeds of horses, all, it is understood, derived originally from Nedjd, viz., the taneýse, the manekeye, the koheyl or koklani, the sakláwe, and the julfa; of which the last and koklani are particularly prized. The julfa, a small active animal, capable of enduring great fatigue, belongs to the province of El Ah'sá; the other, which is larger, is from Yemen, or more properly Nedjd, and is most valued. Of the choice breeds there are many branches; there are besides, other breeds, which are considered secondary, and every mare of noble blood, if particularly swift and handsome, may give rise to a new stock. The catalogue of distinct breeds in the desert is therefore almost endless, and the pedigrees of individuals are verified by certificates which are handed down from father to son with infinite care, and not unfrequently they belong to more than one family, for there is often a co-partnership in mares, and hence arises the difficulties attending the purchase of one. It is, however, certain that the Arab horses deteriorate when taken elsewhere, although both sire and dam may be of first-rate breeds; by the latter, and not the former, as with us, the Arabs trace the blood. The prevailing colours are a clear bay, sorrel, white, chestnut, gray, brown, and black; but the number of horses in Arabia is comparatively few; their places, for almost every purpose in life, being supplied by camels."

The author has evidently bestowed prodigious labour and research on the historical compilation which occupies the larger portion of the second volume. Notwithstanding the speculations of Biblical scholars, the most perplexing uncertainty still attends the recognition of the personages and places mentioned in the earlier part of the sacred writings. The present state of our knowledge allows only very general conclusions on these subjects. We could wish, therefore, that Col. Chesney had much condensed the first half of this volume. The general reader will not be satisfied with what he finds here, and will still have to consult the works of Burnouf, Heeren, Colebrooke, and Dr. Pritchard.—Once arrived at the period of the younger Cyrus, our author treads again on firm ground, and presents his readers with a rather laborious but apparently complete and accurate summary of the history of Western Asia. We observe nothing very profound or original in the remarks of Col. Chesney on the history of the successive empires in this part of the globe,—none of that lucid generalization and picturesque grouping which mark the possession of a peculiar talent for history; but the narrative is ably written, and connected with the scene and discoveries of the late Expedition by allusions and explanations which add considerably to its interest and value. Having completed his summary of the history of the countries before mentioned, Col. Chesney next treats of the intercourse and commerce between Europe and Asia in ancient and modern times. The literature and science, and the architecture and sculpture of Irán, Syria, and Arabia are the next subjects treated of in this volume:—which concludes with



a chapter, full of interesting details, on the boats and hydraulic works of the East.—The eminent geographical talent, and habits of accurate observation and patient industry displayed in the composition and compilation of this work are a sufficient guarantee for the accuracy of the charts and maps which accompany it. The charts appear to be well executed,—the Index-map is, however, indistinct and confused. This is a point of some importance to those readers whose time is valuable, and who would wish to understand readily the subjects treated of in these volumes.

*The Tarantas. Travelling Impressions of Young Russia.* By Count Sollogub. Chapman & Hall.

It would not be difficult to count up the books from whence the average Englishman's idea of life and manners in Russia is derived—supposing him to be of a generation younger than that edified by Dr. Clarke's travels; which dealt, it will be recollected, with the empire when it was subject to the despotic ukases of the mad Emperor Paul. He may possibly have enjoyed the lively translated novel 'Ivan Vejeeghen,' now some eighteen years old in England,—have followed the diary of the Princess Daschkaw's companion, pleasant Miss Wilmot,—and in turns have accepted the facts tendered him by that professional fact-collector Herr Kohl, by Mr. Venables, by M. de Custine, and by the author of 'Revelations of Russia.' Finally, he is pretty sure, we apprehend, to know Miss Rigby's 'Letters from the Baltic,' with their graphic descriptions, the painful import of which was intensified by the liveliness of the lady's style. Yet, supposing all this knowledge carefully "hived," if he be an Englishman whose curiosity points towards the North, we fancy that he will in no wise be satisfied by the testimonies and portraiture gathered from the above sources. We at least have never talked with tourist by chance or tourist by profession, whether English sportsman or Leipsic merchant, unpaid *attaché* or opera-singer who has strolled up to St. Petersburg in search of diamonds and a coloneley,—without receiving a strong impression that there must exist in Russia much to see, much to hear, much to tell, and more to "dream of," which up to this point remains unexhausted. Hence, Count Sollogub is a more than ordinarily welcome guest, well qualified to share the honours of "the season's" lionship with Mr. Cumming, the lion-hunter, &c. His 'Tarantas' is a rough country vehicle, cushioned with feather-beds and victualled with—but let Count Sollogub describe it.—

"Represent to yourself two long poles, two parallel, immeasurable, endless rods; near their middle you see, as if dropped their accidentally, an enormous basket, or box, or hamper, rounded off at the sides, resembling a gigantic bowl from an antediluvian banquet. At each end of the poles you see adapted two wheels, and the whole structure may appear some wild creature of a fantastical world, something between a grasshopper and a britzka. And what am I to say about the artful skill which in a few moments made the tarantas disappear under all kinds of chests, trunks, boxes, baskets, hampers, casks, and other packages. To begin, I will tell you that the scooped vessel I want to describe had no seats: a huge feather bed filled the whole abyss. Then came seven down pillows in chintz cases, of a dark colour, to stand the dust, rising upon their soft foundation in the shape of a pyramid: the pie in a mat-bag; a flagon with anise-brand; different kinds of roasted poultry; cheese-cakes, a ham, loaves of bread, *kalatchi*; and last, though not least, the cellaret, the inseparable travelling companion of every provincial squire. This cellaret, whose outside is covered with seal-skin and bound with tin hoops, contains an entire tea service, and is an in-

vention although very useful yet not by any means of an artistical workmanship. Open it. Under the cover of the box you find a jappaned tea-tray with the image upon it of a sleeping shepherdess, executed in a bold style by the brush of some rising genius. The box itself, lined with paper, contains a tea-pot of a dirty white colour with a gold edge, a glass bottle full of tea, and a similar one of rum; then come two glass tumblers, a cream-jug, and other appurtenances for tea enjoyment. However, I must remark that the Russian cellaret deserves all your respect. It is one of the few, the very few of our national features which, amidst general changes and ameliorations, has preserved its primitive shape; it did not get seduced by the lure of a deceptive ostentation, but has passed through all the vicissitudes of the times unscattered and unchanged. Such is the Russian cellaret! On every side of the tarantas were strung up mat-bags and bonnet boxes. One of these contained a cap and a crimson turban from Madame Lebourg's, in Smith's-bridge, for Vassily Ivanovitch's lady; other boxes were full of books and toys for Vassily Ivanovitch's children; there were two table lamps, some kitchen utensils, some grocery for Vassily Ivanovitch's table use; and lastly, three monstrous portmanteaus, surmounted by a pile of other boxes, crammed full and bound with thick cords, rose like the obelisk of Luxor on the back of the travelling car. The red-haired yamchik had just finished putting three parched, broken-winded horses to the tarantas when our younger hero, Ivan Vassilievitch, arrived in the court-yard. The collar of his macintosh was raised over his ears; he had under his arm a small portmanteau, and in his hands a silk umbrella, a carpet-bag, and a splendidly bound puce-coloured morocco book, with steel clasps. 'Welcome, Ivan Vassilievitch!' said Vassily Ivanovitch, 'it is high time we were off. And where is your luggage?'—'I have everything with me.'—'So! But you will freeze to an icicle in your bag! However I have there a furred morning-gown which I don't want. What do you prefer to be laid under you—a feather-bed or a mattress?'—'Sir?' asked the amazed Ivan Vassilievitch.—'I ask you which you like best, a feather-bed or a mattress?' Ivan Vassilievitch was tempted to take flight, and looked around. It seemed to him that all Europe would see him in the furred morning-gown, on a feather-bed, riding in a tarantas. 'Now then?' inquired again Vassily Ivanovitch.—'A mattress, sir!' was the almost inaudible answer. 'Senka, put a mattress for Ivan Vassilievitch; but be quick, blockhead! Senka performed his Cyclopean work. Vassily Ivanovitch continued with a complacent smile: 'And the tarantas! Eh! how do you like the tarantas? Easy as a cradle! No upsetting, no continual repairing like your spring-carriages. As soft as a bed.' \* \* The horses are ready. The tarantas is surrounded by landlord, landlady, men and maid servants. Every one helps, every one bows, every one wishes a happy journey. Vassily Ivanovitch, with much assistance in pushing and pressing, at last succeeded in reaching his seat, and dropped into the feather-bed. Ivan Vassilievitch followed him, and likewise sunk down amidst the pillow-cases. Senka's place was on the box, near the yamchik. 'All right?'—'All right, sir.'—'With care then. Down the hill, mind and keep up the horses.'"

Such an ark of many comforts could hardly be expected to get through the world without being made to pay toll; and the following catastrophe befell the country gentlemen who rode homeward in it ere they got as far as Vladimir.—

"Between two stages, whilst Vassily Ivanovitch was dozing, tired by the jostling of the tarantas upon a fascine-road, and was forgetting, amidst his snores, the world's vanities, whilst Ivan Vassilievitch was, in idea, at the Italian Opera, and Senka balancing like a clock pendulum on the box, some light-fingered artists had cut down two portmanteaus and sundry boxes from the back of the tarantas. Vassily Ivanovitch's sorrow was genuine, and how could it be otherwise, as amongst other effects, he missed the cap and the crimson turban from Madame Lebourg's, in Smith's-bridge, which was destined, as I have already said, for his beloved lady herself, Avdotia Petrowna. Arrived at the next stage he addressed

to the inspector his complaint and requested a pursuit of the criminals. The Stage-inspector comforted him as best he could: 'Be easy, sir,' he said, 'your effects are lost. It is not the first time, that such an accident has happened. Twelve versts from here there is a village full of wags, it is a known fact that, sir.'—'What wags?' inquired Vassily Ivanovitch.—'It is a known fact, sir! They play tricks at night time. As soon as you fall asleep, in the twinkling of an eye they cut down something from the back of your carriage. It is a known fact that, sir.'—'But that is highway robbery!'—'No, sir, it is not highway robbery, it is only tricks.'—'Nice tricks,' remarked Vassily Ivanovitch in a melancholy tone as he proceeded on his journey; 'nice tricks, and what will Avdotia Petrowna say to it?'—'I wish we could take some rest in a comfortable inn,' said Ivan Vassilievitch in a not less piteous voice. 'I feel as if all my limbs were broken. This is the third day already since we left Moscow!'—'The fourth day, sir, the fourth!'—'Is it?'—'Yes, certainly. However, we go with extra-post! No gain from us for the unlicensed cut-throats!' \* \* At last they saw before them Vladimir, with numerous domes and church steeples, the genuine characteristics of a Russian town. Ivan Vassilievitch's heart was throbbing. Vassily Ivanovitch smiled. 'To the hotel!' he exclaimed. \* \* A pale waiter, in a dirty white shirt, and dirty apron, welcomed the guests with sundry bows and standard compliments, and conducted them by a dirty wooden staircase, to a large room not less dirty, but ornamented with large mirrors in mahogany frames, and a painted ceiling. Along the walls stood numerous chairs, and before a ragged sofa was a round table, covered with a dirty cloth.—'What have you got?' said Vassily Ivanovitch to the waiter.—'We have everything you can wish for, sir,' proudly answered the waiter.—'Have you beds,' asked Ivan Vassilievitch.—'No, sir, no beds.'—Ivan Vassilievitch grew sombre. 'What have you got for dinner?'—'Everything, sir.'—'What do you mean by everything?'—'We have got soups, stschii,—you may have a beef-steak, sir; but here is the bill of fare, sir,' added the waiter, presenting a scrap of grey paper which lay on the table.—Ivan Vassilievitch began to inspect the bill of fare.—'Well, make haste,' said Vassily Ivanovitch, having given his orders.—The waiter proceeded now with all the necessary arrangements. He took away the dirty cloth from the table, and brought, in its place another as dirty; then he brought plates, knives, forks, and spoons; then came a salt-cellar; then, after half-an-hour had passed, and our hungry travellers had already armed themselves with spoons to encounter the awaited soup, there came a flagon of vinegar. Every impatient explanation Vassily Ivanovitch made to the waiter got the phlegmatic reply: 'This instant, sir,' and the instant was an hour-and-a-half long. 'This instant,'—a weighty word in Russia! At last appeared the wished-for soup-tureen. Vassily Ivanovitch opened his vast mouth, and set to work. Ivan Vassilievitch angled out of his plate some hairs, some chips, and other heterogeneous matters, sighed, and endeavoured to follow his companion's example. Vassily Ivanovitch seemed in the highest state of beatitude, he was silent, and ate for three. Not so was it with Ivan Vassilievitch; he could not touch a single dish—he stared at every one of them with horror and disgust.—'Have you any wine?' he asked the waiter.—'Certainly, sir! All possible wines, sir! Champagne, half champagne, dry madeira, Lafitte. First-rate wines, sir.'—'Bring a bottle of Lafitte.' The waiter was lost for half-an-hour; at last he came back, and triumphantly put a bottle of red vinegar before our young man. 'Now,' said Vassily Ivanovitch, after a short pause, 'now, we must lay down a little. Senka!' he shouted.—Senka entered the room.—'Have you dined, Senka?'—'Yes, sir, I have dined, thank you.'—'Prepare my bed, then. Put together some chairs, bring up the feather-bed, the pillows, and the dressing-gown. Don't you see, Ivan Vassilievitch,' he added, 'how well it is to carry these things with you. How do you intend to lie down?'—'I shall ask for some hay,' said Ivan Vassilievitch. 'Waiter! have you got any hay?'—'No, sir, we have got none.'"

It may be remarked that the most ill-natured of foreign critics (and the Russians, by the way,



are almost as apt to accuse all criticism of ill nature as the Americans) could not outdo this picture of slovenly pretension and real discomfort. Let us—in all the confidence of ignorance—start a bright solution of the case, for the benefit of the thin-skinned. What if Count Sollogub be no Muscovite at all, but some sharp-eyed, subtle-tongued Pole in disguise, chuckling with malicious pleasure as he describes, not the nakedness, but the dirt of the land? His sketches of Russian society, at all events, naturally introduced as talk by the way, are a little more engaging than his description of Russian travelling accommodations on the road to Nishni. What a pleasing picture of respectable home-life is the following!—

“The girls in St. Petersburg,” he continued, ‘are beautiful. It is a delight to look at them. Their hair is so artistically braided, their forms so admirably moulded, and then they dance so gracefully, and so much, that it is an utter impossibility not to fall in love with them. I therefore also fell in love. My passion began with a valse, a mazurka decided my marriage. My sweetheart was the daughter of a very rich man, who gave gorgeous dinner parties and played every night at what is called the grand game. I was preparing to be happy. But in St. Petersburg, friend, a wedding is a half-way to bankruptcy. I think there is in the whole world not another place, except St. Petersburg, where, approaching to happiness, you beforehand try wilfully to spoil happiness, and preparing yourself for ease, you sometimes annihilate all possibility of being at your ease. In St. Petersburg custom is law: however absurd the general custom is, you must follow it. We have for everything conventional rules as stringent as visiting and bowing. In this manner then a bridegroom takes upon himself to imitate the universal ridiculous extravagance without regarding his means. In the first place come the usual presents; his portrait by Sokolow, a diamond bracelet, a sentimental bracelet, a Turkey shawl, a diamond trinket, besides innumerable glittering costly trifles from the English magazine; then the bridegroom is obliged to furnish anew, from garret to cellar, a house which is not his own, to fill it with costly shrubs and flowers, lent on hire; to set up elegant carriages, thoroughbred horses, and solid silver harness; he must dress his whole household in new gold-laced liveries, must buy new plate, new bronzes, new china, must prepare himself to give gorgeous banquets, and scarcely married, he remarks that he has nothing left to pay for the banquets. As for the bride’s father, he furnishes the bed-room of the newly-married couple in such a princely style as to give to the bridegroom an example for the folly he has to pursue; besides he fills chests of drawers and presses, trunks and boxes with all kinds of frippery, which under the name of the dowry sweeps away an enormous sum, and having done all this he presents the bridegroom the next day after the wedding with—his entire confidence; he avows with the utmost candour that life in St. Petersburg is very expensive; that his French cook ruins him; that he has bad luck at cards, and concludes his confession with the remark that the newly-married couple must wait his decease before they can enjoy the promised annuity. Rather disappointed by such an unexpected revelation, the son-in-law on his part likewise acknowledges the bad position of his circumstances, and before a week has past quarrels for ever with his new relatives. Thus was it with myself. I wanted to return into the province. My wife was against it; she had not been educated for a life in the provinces; she was accustomed to take her daily walk on the Nevsky-Prospect, to go daily to a ball or the theatre. What could I do against that? It was then, friend, that began my galley-life. In a life above your means there are moments of indescribable misery. Whilst your wife dressed in the most elegant style of costly fashion flirts in her opera-box with empty-headed dandies, there is no fire-wood in the house; whilst half-a-dozen friends have announced to you their intention to dine at your house on such or such a day, your cook refuses to furnish you with any more victuals; he is even rude to you, and you cannot dismiss him because you owe him money. It is a dreadful confession, friend, but in the present state

of St. Petersburg life it is not only impossible to uphold your dignity, but even, strictly taken, it is almost impossible to remain an honest man: above everything, and at any cost, you must obtain money and spend it for rubbish. You are dancing in the evening, and in the morning your ante-room is crowded with creditors, usurers, and other visitors of the same class; you mortgage, you sell, you borrow; you put your name to bills of exchange and notes of hand; you sell trinkets, horses, plate, shawls; you curse your existence and want to lay violent hands upon it; you are in despair and tempted to send a ball through your brains; and amidst all these tortures you still remain laced, and scented, and curled, you bow, pay and receive visits, whilst you are firmly persuaded that no one likes you, and that everybody is laughing at you. I had lived two years of such a life, when I began to remark that the world was looking at me with a kind of contemptuous and insulting pity. I got fewer bows; I was often omitted to be invited to parties; I was no more sought as a partner in a mazurka; and little by little all my friends abandoned me. ‘It is his own fault,’ they said, ‘What folly to climb higher than he can! Why live amongst us?’ Even persons, for whom I felt a sincere affection, whom I loved like brothers, even these turned their backs upon me as soon as they knew that they could win no more money from me at cards, nor have a good dinner at my expense,—and not only did I see on their part no token of interest, but I knew that they were proclaiming my ruin with a somewhat strange officiousness and a malicious display of wit. This discovery was more than I could bear. I hated St. Petersburg and decided, cost what it might, to leave it. I sold all I could, settled all the bills I could, brought my affairs into the best possible order, and one fine morning set off, accompanied by my wife, to Moscow.”

What manner of *Charybdis* Moscow proved in exchange for such a *Scylla* as this, let Count Sollogub tell. There is no censure in Miss Rigby’s pages more sweeping than the above,—no household “interior” in Miss Edgeworth’s ‘Castle Rackrent’ from whence we should draw auguries for the future of the country yielding such configurations less promising in shape and colour. There is no ill-nature, however, in the tone or humour of the writer,—and his book will furnish a pleasant evening’s entertainment in this mid-wintery May.

*The Primeval Antiquities of Denmark.* By J. J. A. Worsaae. Translated and applied to the Illustration of Similar Remains in England, by W. J. Thoms. J. H. Parker.

A systematic and well arranged collection of British antiquities is a thing greatly wanted in this country. We had hoped that something of the kind would have grown out of the recent Commission on the British Museum; but the attention of the Commissioners was so largely occupied by the question of the Catalogue of Printed Books, and the various examinations of the Keeper of that department (one of which occupied an entire month, to the dismissal of all other topics,) that the important subject of British Antiquities was almost wholly neglected. Nor are we in England the only persons who have been disappointed in this respect: intelligent foreigners, who know the value of such materials to the early history of any kingdom, are astonished that the opportunity has been lost. No sooner was it known that the Commission in question had been named (for the original intention to appoint it was for some reason kept secret,) than the learned and energetic author of the work before us addressed a long letter to a nobleman in this country distinguished for his attainments in this and other branches, urging in the most emphatic manner the formation of a collection of antiquities relating to England, Scotland, and Ireland. His views on the question were large and enlightened. He proposed that not one or two, but five or ten apartments in the British

Museum should be applied to the purpose; and he entered into the question of the interest of such authentic monuments, and into that of the periods to which they belonged. The competence of the writer to form a correct estimate is undoubted; and we have ourselves seen Mr. Worsaae’s letter in print, as it was laid before the Commissioners and distributed among the Trustees.

Be it remembered that Mr. Worsaae is a member of the Royal Commission appointed in Denmark “for the preservation of its national monuments.” The King of Denmark, with comparatively small revenues and few resources, has not hesitated to set an admirable example; and we have been so slow to follow it, that when the fairest opportunity occurred we did not even entertain the question, nor call for a single witness or take a scrap of evidence on the subject. If the present edifice be not large enough for such purposes, let it be extended. There is space enough even within the present boundaries of the building,—if the intention be not to sacrifice the whole for a part, and to declare that our national Museum shall be nothing more than a national library, and that library without a catalogue.

It is not without some sense of shame that we hear of a small monarchy like Denmark taking the lead of us in the collection and preservation of its antiquities. Surely the precedent of a small kingdom might be admitted to have some weight with us in this matter, since we are content to back ourselves by the authority of the petty states of Germany and Italy in refusing the means of consulting that department of our great institution to which it seems nevertheless as if most others were to be sacrificed.

That nothing was done by the recent Commission for promoting a collection of our ancient monuments surprises us the more, because we have before us not only the work whose title is at the head of our present article, but a learned and compendious production (in a great degree by the same author) called ‘A Guide to Northern Archaeology,’ the “introduction” to which was translated, as our readers know, by the nobleman who presided over the late inquiries. We must acquit him, therefore, of indifference to the subject,—and cannot but fear that he allowed his better judgment to be overruled by others.

The work before us, composed by one of the first antiquaries of Denmark, has been translated by one of the best antiquaries of England. Mr. Thoms has hitherto, as he admits in his preface, applied his attention chiefly to literary archaeology; but no one can read the notes which he has here furnished, applying the discoveries of monumental antiquities in Denmark, Sweden, and Norway to those in England, without being sensible of his attainments as a general antiquary, and admitting the excellent manner in which he has brought the knowledge of others to bear on the various points discussed in the volume. His acquaintance with foreign kindred productions is extensive, and his information regarding those that have from time to time appeared among ourselves is accurate and comprehensive. We must not omit to add that Mr. Worsaae, himself well versed in our language, has given his final revision and approbation to all that Mr. Thoms has done:—and they jointly dedicate their labours to the Society of Antiquaries of London.

The only material exception that we are disposed to take in reference to this work, is to the arrangement of it as a whole. We think it would have been better if the third division, headed “Importance of the Monuments of Antiquity for History,” had come first, as recom-



mending the study by establishing its advantages. On this portion of his subject, too, the author might have enlarged and generalized somewhat more, for the facts of history, especially all matters that relate to manners and civilization, are beyond doubt ascertained with greater precision from objects actually brought to light than from vague traditions and questionable narratives. It is to be borne in mind, that traditions and narratives, however well founded, extend only to comparatively few centuries; while some of the utensils or weapons of our ancestors, discovered in mosses or barrows carry us back to a period many hundred years before the Christian era. Mr. Worsaae, like other antiquaries, divides his subject into the stone, the bronze, and the iron periods; and as to the first two, he remarks:

"It will at once be seen that the stone-period must be of extraordinary antiquity. If the Celts possessed settled abodes in the west of Europe more than two thousand years ago, how much more ancient must be the population which preceded the arrival of the Celts. A great number of years must pass away before a people like the Celts could spread themselves over the west of Europe, and render the land productive; it is therefore no exaggeration if we attribute to the stone-period an antiquity of, at least, three thousand years. There are, also, geological reasons for believing that the bronze-period must have prevailed in Denmark five or six hundred years before the birth of Christ."

With regard to the third period, when iron was substituted for stone and bronze, antiquaries seem agreed that it did not commence in the North of Europe until a comparatively recent period; and Mr. Worsaae contends that the use of iron was not "completely established" in Denmark until "about the eighth century." What applies to Denmark applies more or less to the British empire; and if we relied on similarity of arms or other implements only, it would be easy to show a very early and close connexion between these islands and the countries of the Baltic. The fact, however, is, that the oldest weapons and utensils of all nations have the strongest resemblance; and that the stone hatchets, chisels, &c. of remote Indian nations are like those that have been discovered in Denmark and Great Britain. The human mind has everywhere suggested the same modes of supplying its wants; and for this reason we do not place quite so much confidence in what may be called national analogies as our author seems disposed to do. From the curious speculations arising out of the divisions into the stone, the bronze, and the iron periods, we may make an interesting quotation, showing—and the fact is singular—that there are some parts of the North of Europe where no antiquities of so remote an age as the stone, or even as the bronze age, have been found. —

"It has already been shown in the previous pages, that Antiquities from the stone and bronze-period occur very plentifully in Denmark, and the south-west part of the present Sweden, but very rarely or only in single specimens in the other parts of Sweden, and the whole of Norway. With regard to the objects from the iron-period the circumstances are wholly reversed. The swords and other weapons characteristic of that period, the oval clasps for the breast, the mosaic beads, &c. are so common in Sweden and Norway, that traces of them are discovered in nearly every barrow which has been examined there; on the contrary, in Denmark (with the exception of Bornholm, which in an antiquarian point of view is connected with Sweden) they occur but very rarely indeed, when compared with the objects of stone and bronze. In places of historical note, for instance, as Leire and Jelling, which we must consider as having been tolerably well peopled in the pagan times, swords and trinkets belonging almost exclusively to the bronze-period alone have been exhumed; but none from the iron-period, although numerous graves in the neighbourhood have been opened. This can

scarcely be a matter of accident, since the Royal Museum of Northern Antiquities in Copenhagen, which during a series of years has received accessions from different parts of the country, and from many hundred barrows, possesses only a very few weapons of iron, which are known to have been found in heathen graves; while, on the other hand, it exhibits several hundred swords and daggers of the bronze-period."

Hence we might possibly infer that Sweden and Norway, and other countries where no stone or bronze relics have been discovered, were not peopled until after the iron period had commenced; but this supposition does not appear to be borne out by other evidence, — and we know that in all parts of England, Scotland, and Ireland remains have been brought to light which would establish that these countries were inhabited between one and two thousand years before Christ. Mr. Worsaae and all other antiquaries bear witness to the frequent discovery of relics of great antiquity in the bogs and morasses of Ireland; but on the question of their comparative age and state of preservation, we should not forget that civilization may have extended itself to the sister kingdom, as the westernmost portion of Europe, at a later date than elsewhere. This notion may be somewhat contrary to the received opinion in Ireland, but we doubt whether the present lamentable condition of that country is not in some degree to be traced to a similar cause.

This, however, is a wide field of controversy into which we are not disposed to enter; but it is indisputable that some of the best preserved and most valuable remains of a former time have been derived from Ireland. Mr. Worsaae adverts to the fact in several parts of his volume. — That volume was designed only as an introduction to the study of the antiquities of the Northern countries of Europe, — and the work which Lord Ellesmere assisted in translating must be looked on as its sequel, although in many places it goes over the same ground. Both are amply illustrated by woodcuts which give an accurate notion of the objects represented; and those who have read them will feel at home on various topics of interest and importance that have recently attracted the attention of the learned.

#### *The Life and Correspondence of Robert Southey.*

Edited by his Son, the Rev. Charles Cuthbert Southey, M.A. Vol. IV. Longman & Co.

THIS volume, which opens with the year 1813, and which ranges between the thirty-ninth and the forty-sixth years of Southey's life, is in more than one respect richer than its predecessors. That period of seven years embraced great happiness, matured intellectual resources, assured success, cruel domestic bereavement, sharp controversy, — most, in short, of those circumstances and emotions which illustrate and distinguish middle age, and which, with the honourable and gifted, are felt as they pass to be fraught with interest and admonition, — nay, in spite of the trials included with that sedate happiness accompanying the consciousness of powers actively employed and the attempted fulfilment of duties, which belongs neither to the fever-dreams of youth nor to the paler twilight-time of age. We have rarely met with what seems to us a more complete expression of life than this volume; and there are many struggling onward anxiously yet without despondency, on whom some of its pages, perused in the midst of their own exertions and difficulties, will act like a charm of encouragement and support, — the experiences registered ever and anon forcibly recalling the poet's truism —

He saw whatever thou hast seen,  
Encountered all that troubles thee;  
He was whatever thou hast been;  
He is — what thou shalt be!

After this character in little, we have little to do but to specify and to extract. The year 1813 saw the end of Southey's connexion with the *Edinburgh Annual Register* owing to the irregularity with which his *honorarium* was remitted to him; — the cementing of his close and lucrative connexion with the *Quarterly Review*, — the completion of his 'Life of Nelson,' which originated in the expansion of a review article, — the continuation of 'Roderick,' — the acceptance of the Laureateship, vacated by Pye's decease, — with snatches of anecdote, good counsel and kind service scattered throughout the correspondence. Among these are, an interesting letter to young Dusautoy, whom the publication of 'Kirke White's Remains' had encouraged to consult Southey, &c. &c., — criticism on Montgomery's 'World before the Flood,' — and an acknowledgment of another literary essay, of the existence of which we were heretofore not aware. —

"To Walter Savage Landor, Esq.

Keswick, June 30, 1813.

"Your comedy came to hand, a fortnight ago, . . . . The charitable dowager is drawn from the life. At least it has all the appearance of a portrait. As a drama there is a want of incident and of probability in that upon which the catastrophe depends; but the dialogue abounds with those felicities which flash from you in prose and verse, more than from any other writer. I remember nothing which at all resembles them, except in Jeremy Taylor; he has things as perfect and as touching in their kind, but the kind is different; there is the same beauty, the same exquisite fitness; but not the point and poignancy which you display in the comedy and in the commentary, nor the condensation and strength which characterise Gebir and Count Julian. I did not fail to notice the neighbourly compliment which you bestow upon the town of Abergavenny. Even out of Wales, however, something good may come besides Welsh flannel and lambswool stockings. I am reading a great book from Brecknock, for from Brecknock, of all other places under the sun, the fullest Mahomedan history which has yet appeared in any European language, has come forth. Without being a good historian, Major Price is a very useful one; he amuses me very much, and his volumes are full of facts which you cannot forget, though the Mahomedan *propria que maribus* render it impossible ever accurately to remember anything more than the great outlines. A dramatist in want of tragic subjects never need look beyond these two quarto volumes."

No one who is familiar with "the Citation of Shakspeare," or, still more, with the imaginary conversation betwixt the Legate and the Italian picture dealers, can have overlooked the fineness and the force of Mr. Landor's humour, — but the idea of a comedy by the author of 'Gebir,' unless perchance it was written in the language of Plautus or of Aristophanes, is pleasantly strange.

We next give the amusing letter from London — to which Babel Southey repaired in the autumn of 1813 — on the business of the impending Laureateship. By the way the story of the manner in which this Court-appointment was made (*vide* p. 42), as told in the letters of Southey and in those of Scott, offers good matter of comparison for those who busy themselves with the secret history of men of letters and men in office. To them we leave it. Here is the anecdotal letter referred to, — of more universal interest. —

"To Mrs. Southey.

Tuesday night, Sept. 28, 1813.

"My dear Edith, — I have stolen away from a room full of people, that I might spend an hour in writing to you instead of wasting it at the card-table. Sunday I went by appointment to Lord William Gordon, who wanted to take me to see a young lady. Who should this prove to be but Miss Booth; the very actress whom we saw at Liverpool play so sweetly in Kotzebue's comedy of the Birthday. There was I taken to hear her recite Mary the Maid of the



Inn! and if I had not interfered in aid of her own better sense, Lord W. and her mother and sisters would have made her act as well as recite it. As I know you defy the monster, I may venture to say that she is a sweet little girl, though a little spoilt by circumstances which would injure anybody; but what think you of this old lord asking permission for me to repeat my visit, and urging me to 'take her under my protection,' and show her what to recite, and instruct her how to recite it? And all this upon a Sunday! So I shall give her a book, and tell her what parts she should choose to appear in. And if she goes again to Edinburgh, be civil to her if she touches at the Lakes; she supports a mother and brother, and two or three sisters. When I returned to Queen Anne Street from the visit, I found Davy sitting with the Doctor, and awaiting my return. I could not dine with him to-morrow, having an engagement, but we promised to go in the evening and take Coleridge with us, and Elmsley, if they would go. It will be a party of lions, where the Doctor must for that evening perform the part of Daniel in the lions' den. I dined on Sunday at Holland House, with some eighteen or twenty persons. Sharp was there, who introduced me with all due form to Rogers and to Sir James Mackintosh, who seems to be in a bad state of health. In the evening Lord Byron came in. He had asked Rogers if I was 'magnanimous,' and requested him to make for him all sorts of amends honourable for having tried his wit upon me at the expense of his discretion; and in full confidence of the success of the apology, had been provided with a letter of introduction to me in case he had gone to the Lakes, as he intended to have done. As for me, you know how I regard things of this kind; so we met with all becoming courtesy on both sides, and I saw a man whom in voice, manner and countenance I liked very much more than either his character or his writings had given me reason to expect. Rogers wanted me to dine with him on Tuesday (this day): only Lord Byron and Sharp were to have been of the party, but I had a pending engagement here, and was sorry for it. Holland House is a most interesting building. The library is a sort of gallery, 109 feet in length; and, like my study, serves for drawing-room also. The dinner-room is pannelled with wood, and the pannels emblazoned with coats of arms, like the ceiling of one room in the palace at Cintra. The house is of Henry the Eighth's time. Good night, my dear Edith. We had a very pleasant dinner at Madame de Staël's. Davy and his wife, a Frenchman whose name I never heard, and the Portuguese ambassador, the Conde de Palmella, a gentlemanly and accomplished man. I wish you had seen the animation with which she exclaimed against Davy and Mackintosh for their notions about peace. Once more farewell."

One word more about this much-talked-of Laureateship. To those who remember the state of Tory opinion and the tone of Tory talk in the year 1813, the limitations placed on the newly-appointed Minstrel's anti-Napoleonic indignation, as a thing which, if too honestly vented might prove "very inconvenient to my Lord Castlecomer," are noticeable.—

"He had, indeed, as he has stated, expressed a wish to Mr. Croker that it might be placed upon a footing which would exact from the holder nothing like a schoolboy's task, but leave him to write when and in what manner he thought best, and thus render the office as honourable as it was originally designed to be; and it had been replied that some proper opportunity might be found for representing the matter to the Prince in its proper light. This, however, probably from various causes, was never done; and, in the very first instance of official composition, he was doomed to feel the inconvenience of writing to meet the taste of those in power. \* \* His feelings, on one point at least, far outran the calmness of the temperament authorised in high places. It appeared that he might rejoice for England, and Spain, and Wellington, but he must not pour out the vials of his wrath upon France and Bonaparte. This he had done liberally in the first draft of his first ode, the Carmen Triumphale for the commencement of the new year; but, having sent it, in MS., to Mr. Rickman, his cooler judgment suggested that

there might be an impropriety in some parts of it appearing as the Poet Laureate's production. 'I am not sure,' he says, 'that you do not forget that office imposes upon a man many restraints besides the one day's bag and sword at Carlton House. Put the case that, through the mediation of Austria we make peace with Bonaparte, and he becomes of course, a friendly power;—can you stay in office this Carmen remaining on record?'

"To John Rickman, Esq.

"Kewick, Dec. 17, 1813.

"My dear Rickman,—I thank you for your letter, and, in consequence of it, immediately transcribed the Carmen, and sent it to Mr. Croker. It had never occurred to me that anything of an official character could be attached to it, or that any other reserve was necessary than that of not saying anything which might be offensive to the Government; e.g., in 1808 the Poet Laureate would be expected not to write in praise of Mrs. Clarke and the resignation of the Duke of York. I dare say you are right, and I am prepared to expect a letter from Mr. Croker, advising the suppression of anything discourteous towards Bonaparte. In that case, I shall, probably, add something to that part of the poem respecting Hanover and Holland, and send the maledictory stanzas to the Courier without a name."

It is to be hoped that the days of these masquings, coquetries, and pliancies are gone by as absolutely and for ever as Carlton House and its colonnade have disappeared. While we are on the subject of subscription and suppression, we will take a passage from a later letter—from which it may be gathered that our author had his troubles in the high court of criticism as well as in service of the sackbut.—

"To Grosvenor C. Bedford, Esq.

"Kewick, Jan. 29, 1814.

"My dear Grosvenor,—I hope you have secured the manuscript of my article on the Dissenters, in which I suspect Gifford has done more mischief than usual. Merely in cutting open the leaves, I perceived some omissions which one would think the very demon of stupidity had prompted. You may remember the manner in which I had illustrated Messrs. Bogue and Bennet's mention of Paul and Timothy. He has retained the quotation, and cut out the comment upon it. I believe the article has lost about two pages in this way. The only other instances which caught my eye will show you the spirit in which he has gone to work. Bogue and Bennet claim Milton, Defoe, &c. as Dissenters. I called them blockheads for not perceiving that it was 'to their catholic and cosmopolite intellect' that these men owed their immortality, not to their sectarian opinions, and the exterminating pen has gone through the words catholic and cosmopolite. There is also a foolish insertion stuck in, to introduce the last paragraph, which at once alters it, and says, 'Now I am going to say something fine,' instead of letting the feeling rise at once from the subject. It is well, perhaps, that the convenience of this quarterly income makes me placable, or I should some day tell Gifford, that though I have nothing to say against any omission which may be made for political or prudential motives, yet when the question comes to be a mere matter of opinion in regard to the wording of a sentence, my judgment is quite as likely to be right as his. You will really render me a great service by preserving my manuscript reviews; for some of these articles may most probably be reprinted whenever my operas come to be printed in a collected form after I am gone, and these rejected passages will then be thought of most value."

As early as the year 1814, we find in a letter concerning a Portrait of the Poet, which Mr. Colburn desired to have engraved for the *New Monthly Magazine*, some notice of the mystery which fifteen years ago was puzzling all such as loved to be mystified.—

"But O Grosvenor! I have this day thought of a third 'Portrait of the author,' to be prefixed to the delectable history of Dr. D.—, to which history I yesterday wrote the preface with a peacock's pen. It is to be the back of the writer, sitting at his desk with his peacock's pen in his hand. As soon as Roderick is finished, which it will very

soon be, I think the spirit will move me to spur myself on with his delicious book by sending it piecemeal to you."

In 1814 'Roderick' was completed. An epistle dated December gives us a glimpse of one whose oddities came from an "ever-springing well." The idea of such a treaty as the following, betwixt the author of 'The Queen's Wake' and Jeffrey is delicious.—

"Had you not better wait for Jeffrey's attack upon Roderick? I have a most curious letter upon this subject from Hogg, the Ettrick Shepherd, a worthy fellow, and a man of very extraordinary powers. Living in Edinburgh, he thinks Jeffrey the greatest man in the world—an intellectual Bonaparte, whom nobody and nothing can resist. But Hogg, notwithstanding this, has fallen in liking with me, and is a great admirer of Roderick. And this letter is to request that I will not do anything to nettle Jeffrey, while he is deliberating concerning Roderick, for he seems favourably disposed towards me! Morbleu! it is a rich letter! Hogg requested that he himself might review it, and gives me an extract from Jeffrey's answer refusing him. 'I have, as well as you, a great respect for Southey,' he says; 'but he is a most provoking fellow, and at least as conceited as his neighbour Wordsworth.' But he shall be happy to talk to Hogg upon this and other kindred subjects, and he should be very glad to give me a lavish allowance of praise, if I would afford him occasion, &c.; but he must do what he thinks his duty, &c.! I laugh to think of the effect my reply will produce upon Hogg. How it will make every bristle to stand on end like quills upon the fretful porcupine."

The Edinburgh Reviewer—to make the Shepherd's mediatorial conceit yet more absurd—was just then in the very zenith of his absolutism, having, as his admirers boasted, "written a crushing review of the 'Excursion,'"—which gave occasion to the Laureate's well-known *mot*, "He might as well seat himself upon Skiddaw and fancy that he had crushed the mountain."

*Apropos* of this same hill, and the aforesaid Poet, we will let the Laureate himself describe a frolic which was held, in 1815, in honour of the battle of Waterloo:—

"Monday, the 21st of August, was not a more remarkable day in your life than it was in that of my neighbour Skiddaw, who is a much older personage. The weather served for our bonfire, and never, I believe, was such an assemblage upon such a spot. To my utter astonishment, Lord Sunderlin rode up, and Lady S., who had endeavoured to dissuade me from going as a thing too dangerous, joined the walking party. Wordsworth, with his wife, sister, and eldest boy, came over on purpose. James Boswell arrived that morning at the Sunderlins. Edith, the Senhora, Edith May, and Herbert were my convoy, with our three maid-servants, some of our neighbours, some adventurous Lakers, and Messrs. Rag, Tag and Bobtail made up the rest of the assembly. We roasted beef and boiled plum-puddings there; sung 'God save the king' round the most furious body of flaming tar-barrels that I ever saw; drank a huge wooden bowl of punch; fired cannon at every health with three times three, and rolled large blazing balls of tow and turpentine down the steep side of the mountain. The effect was grand beyond imagination. We formed a huge circle round the most intense light, and behind us was an immeasurable arch of the most intense darkness, for our bonfire fairly put out the moon. The only mishap which occurred will make a famous anecdote in the life of a great poet, if James Boswell, after the example of his father, keepeth a diary of the sayings of remarkable men. When we were craving for the punch, a cry went forth that the kettle had been knocked over, with all the boiling-water! Colonel Barker, as Boswell named the Senhora, from her having had the command on this occasion, immediately instituted a strict inquiry to discover the culprit, from a suspicion that it might have been done in mischief, water, as you know, being a commodity not easily replaced on the summit of Skiddaw. The persons about the fire declared it was one of the gentlemen—they did not know his name;



but he had a red cloak on; they pointed him out in the circle. The red cloak (a maroon one of Edith's) identified him; Wordsworth had got hold of it, and was equipped like a Spanish Don—by no means the worst figure in the company. He had committed this fatal *faux pas*, and thought to slink off undiscovered. But as soon as, in my inquiries concerning the punch, I learnt his guilt from the Senhora, I went round to all our party, and communicated the discovery, and getting them about him, I punished him by singing a parody, which they all joined in: "Twas you that kicked the kettle down! 'twas you, Sir, you!" The consequences were, that we took all the cold water upon the summit to supply our loss. Our myrmidons and Messrs. Rag & Co. had, therefore, none for their grog; they necessarily drank the rum pure; and you, who are physician to the Middlesex Hospital, are doubtless acquainted with the manner in which alcohol acts upon the nervous system. All our torches were lit at once by this mad company, and our way down the hill was marked by a track of fire, from flambeaux dropping the pitch, tarred ropes, &c. One fellow was so drunk that his companions placed him upon a horse, with his face to the tail, to bring him down, themselves being just sober enough to guide and hold him on. Down, however, we all got safely by midnight; and nobody, from the old Lord of seventy-seven to my son Herbert, is the worse for the toil of the day, though we were eight hours from the time we set out till we reached home."

With this merry tale of a merry-making we will conclude this week's gleanings: since the next event on which we shall have to touch—the loss of the Poet's son Herbert, aged ten years—introduced him into a new but deeply interesting phase of existence and mood of mind, which had here better not be trespassed on.—It is to the second moiety of this volume, remaining to be noticed, that our preliminary remarks most especially refer.

*Report of the Commissioners appointed to inquire into the Constitution and Government of the British Museum; with Minutes of Evidence.*

[Concluding Notice.]

WE hope now to take a final leave of this Report; but cannot enter on the statement of our own views in reference to it without first acknowledging that we have risen from its perusal with the highest respect for the learned librarians of the Museum. In the words of the Commissioners—"this inquiry has 'impressed us' with 'a high opinion of the zeal, the assiduity, and the intelligence' of the officers, and the assistants.—Mr. Panizzi, Mr. Jones, and Mr. Watts seem to us of a race of bibliographical giants; and the first of these commanded our admiration by the manly spirit in which he faced all difficulties and grappled with all opponents. With this tribute to the men from whom we have had occasion to differ so much and so often,—we proceed to those considerations to which we have already expressed our desire to draw public attention.

The great difficulty in respect to the Catalogue, as our readers must have observed, arises from the fact, that the Library is constantly increasing. No sooner is a Catalogue complete and printed, than forthwith a supplementary Catalogue must be begun, or manuscript additions be made to the printed Catalogue—a distinction without a difference; since, as Mr. Panizzi observes, "manuscript additions" are in fact "a supplemental volume." These manuscript additions must be made, probably, at the rate of ten or fifteen thousand titles a year,—until the new Catalogue will become, like the present, an unwieldy mass of confusion. Now, whatever force there may be in these objections,—and we are by no means inclined to underrate them,—it must be obvious that they apply not merely to a library in progress of formation, but to a world in progress of publication; and if they are of force

now and in the existing state of the Museum Library, they must be of force under all possible circumstances and for ever. This is the conclusion at which some few witnesses and the Commissioners themselves have arrived,—and therefore the public are advised to be content with a Manuscript Catalogue! But, while we admit the legitimate force of these inferences, we hold that they are counterbalanced and outweighed a hundred-fold by arguments that might be adduced on the other side:—and we are as confident as men can be who are speculating on the future, that no amount of opposition on the part of the officers of the Museum, indifference on the part of the Trustees, or misdirection on the part of the Commissioners will prevent the public from finally having a Printed Catalogue.

The arguments adduced in favour of a manuscript Catalogue seem to us little to the purpose. Great weight is laid on the fact, that students and readers complain of the trouble and difficulty of finding what they want in the present Library Catalogue—which contains, we believe, about one hundred and thirty or forty thousand printed titles, with more than as many manuscript additions. This trouble and difficulty no one denies; but then follows the extraordinary *non sequitur* that the trouble would have been less had the whole been in manuscript. This is all that we have been able to deduce from the argument in favour of a manuscript Catalogue,—for the additions must be in manuscript whether the original Catalogue be printed or not.

To the argument in favour of a manuscript Catalogue drawn from the example of the great Continental Libraries we have already replied. What to us is the authority of the sovereign of Russia, of Prussia, or of Austria? The British Museum is the people's Museum—the Library is the people's Library. If any one doubt this, let him look into the history of that Museum and Library for the last half or quarter of a century. We are old enough to remember when the Library was to be entered only after certain formalities and ceremonials which, in their forms at least, implied something of personal favour,—and when the Reading Room was a sort of quiet retired snuggery, where "civil suited" gentlemen dozed gregariously, the old custodian setting the example. The requirements and growing intelligence of the country have upset all this favouritism and sleepy diletantism. The Museum is now frequented by some three-quarters of a million of persons annually, and the Library counts its readers by thousands.—Further, as we have before observed, the Museum Library is not a London Library—it is a national Library; necessarily located somewhere, and best in London,—but belonging as much to the people of Ireland and Scotland as to the people of England, as much to the people of York, Exeter, Bath, Bristol, Norwich, Newcastle as to the residents in this our favoured and fortunate city. Each and all have, then, a right to a copy of the Catalogue of its contents. It happens curiously enough that those who are in favour of a manuscript Catalogue are in favour of a Catalogue with full titles,—because, as they say, such a Catalogue would be in itself of great use in literary history. If it be of such use, why are not the provinces to have the benefit of it? In truth and in brief, the idea of a manuscript Catalogue the use of which must be confined within the four walls of the Museum, is quite visionary;—and we shall pass it by as not worthy to be grappled with by practical men. We hold that whatever form may be adopted, the Catalogue must be printed:—and bate no jot of heart or hope in consequence of this Report.

With these preliminary remarks we open what we have to propose by calling Mr. Cooley into court.—

"It appears to me that if the Catalogue, as it at present stands, were printed, we should have a Catalogue as good as that now in use, and far more convenient. I start with that proposition, and considering that we have printer's copy ready, I conceive that the work might be done very cheaply; and I think it might be put into such a form, that what is set up would not be lost nor become the worse for lapse of time. *It might be stereotyped, the titles being separate, and then it would be always open to improvement.*

"You have alluded to printing and stereotyping: will you have the goodness to explain what the process is which you recommend; and to state, whether you think that that process would be more or less tedious, and more or less expensive, than the present method of double transcription?—To say the truth, I do not know exactly what are the expenses incurred by the present system. I do not know exactly what is done. But, in the first place, it must be observed, that the process of writing from a book is one of interruption. It does not involve that principle, which constitutes, after all, the benefit of division of labour. There is no mechanical velocity acquired in the process; whereas, it is otherwise with a compositor. I write, myself, pretty quickly. If I were to sit down without interruption to write letters, I probably might write 1,000 words in an hour; but if I were to copy from a book, and occasionally transfer my eyes from the paper to the book, I should write but 500. But if I were to turn over the pages of a book, to write each line in its proper place, I should reduce the number to less than 250. I conceive, therefore, that a compositor who can work, ordinarily, eight or nine hours a day, will do a great deal more than any man transcribing for the same time into a Catalogue.

"How would you recommend that those compositors should set to work?—My idea is, that to begin, the book should be placed before the compositor, corrected for the Catalogue with a lead pencil. I believe it is the ordinary mode of proceeding here. The author's name, or other word which is to stand first, should be underlined; the superfluities struck out; and the date and place of publication transposed, if necessary. Then I suppose this book to be placed before the compositor, on a revolving desk, with a glass cover. He then composes from the letter-press; not from any written copy, but from the actual letter-press. *When he has done a certain number, say 100 of these, or as many as would make a slip for proving, then I suppose them to be stereotyped at one cast, but still so that the titles be separate.* When done and dressed, I suppose them laid by, in alphabetical order.

"Each being set up and stereotyped on a slip?—When I say that they should be stereotyped separately, I do not mean that there is to be a separate casting for each title. I mean that they are, by means of metallic partitions, to be separable. Or even supposing them to be cast in one plate, and afterwards cut asunder, I believe that they would not cost so much as the doubly-transcribed titles in the written Catalogue.

"Do you conceive that if the titles were so printed there would be facilities for inserting between such printed slips, or separate portions of stereotype, the titles of other works which come into the Library?—*That is the essential advantage of this system; once in type, the titles never lose their value. They may lie by to all time. You may change the form of your Catalogue,—you may make it first a general Catalogue, and then you may divide it and make it into technical Catalogues, which, I conceive, is the best part of the suggestion; because if you were to make special Catalogues of theology, of law, of physic, of mathematics, and so forth, such Catalogues, appealing to every profession and every pursuit, would be sure to find purchasers; and if there were once a sale of those Catalogues, there would be a sale of them for ever, and an increasing sale.*

We have printed in italics those suggestions relating to separate stereotype titles to which we wish to draw especial attention. In illustration of this point Mr. Cooley subsequently



addressed a letter to the Chairman, the Earl of Ellesmere, which has been obligingly submitted to us,—and from which the following are extracts.—

“1st. The labour of the compositor may be substituted very advantageously and to a great extent for that of the transcriber.

“2nd. The titles of books so set up in type may be stereotyped separately or separated after casting, so that in successive editions of the Catalogue new titles may be interpolated or inserted in their proper places, the stock of stereotype uniting complete permanence with the utmost freedom of arrangement in detail.

“3rd. The facility of arrangement consequent on having the titles each separate and in metal, would render previous arrangement needless; it would allow the printers to go to work on the excellent copy which the Catalogues of the National Library already afford; and would dispense altogether with that necessity of writing preliminarily a catalogue for the printers, which constitutes the chief difficulty and expense of the present mode of proceeding.”

Mr. Cooley enters very elaborately into the question of the comparative rate at which a transcriber and a compositor can proceed; and comes to the conclusion that the writing and transcribing of the Catalogues would probably cost “from first to last three or four times as much as would suffice to set them in type,” and be less correct,—and further that the “printed and written Catalogues already in existence would supply excellent copy for nineteen-twentieths, if not for the whole, of the collection, and there would be an end to the enormous expense of writing out all anew.” Mr. Cooley, of course, further proposes that the titles of all new books, so soon as the books are received, shall be printed and stereotyped—supplemental sheets be struck off for use in the Reading Room—and every three or four years a new edition of the Catalogue be produced incorporating these supplements. The work of correction would, on this plan, be continually going on. Once correct, ever correct,—once an error detected, it would be corrected for ever. There would not, could not, be, as now, a new crop of errors with every new edition. Every edition must be more correct than the last:—a step towards positive perfection.

The expense of stereotyping would not be, Mr. Cooley observes, an expense added to that of the present Catalogue:—on the contrary, it would supersede other and far weightier charges.—He thus sums up the advantages:—

“1st. That it proceeds straight forward to the object in view, viz., the completion of a printed catalogue, overcoming the great difficulty and chief cause of expense—the arrangement.

“2nd. It is economical even in the first instance, since it saves in preparation more than it expends in completion, and requires comparatively little outlay on paper. But, viewed in respect to the future, it is, owing to the permanence of stereotype, of inestimable value.

“3rd. It admits of correction at any time. The Catalogue will therefore derive benefit from public criticism, which, when allowed to become auxiliary to improvement, will cease to be unfriendly.

“4th. Special catalogues may be made at little additional expense.”

With the practicability of printing direct from the title-page—in which we believe Mr. Clowes and other eminent printers agree with Mr. Cooley—we shall not at present concern ourselves; although it must be obvious that if practicable and had it been adopted from the first, the saving of time and money would have been enormous. But it is too late, we fear, to attempt any great change in the system.—So with the question as to whether the Catalogue shall be prepared with long or with short titles. We would be for short titles unconditionally. Long titles may have certain advantages: they may be of service to bibliographers,—and we

have no doubt that a Catalogue so prepared would be in itself a bibliographical curiosity. But we maintain that for a useful working Catalogue—a finding Catalogue, as it has been expressively called—long titles would be a very serious hindrance. There are other and weighty objections. But then, one-half the long-titled Catalogue is said to be finished; and further and great progress must be made with it before we could get another Commission and another Report. This question, therefore, is one which time has decided against us:—so, we will assent that it has injured Mr. Cooley’s proposal to print direct from the title-page. We have in despair abandoned the idea of any other form of Catalogue than the one which it has pleased the indolence and indifference, or the mischievous intermeddling, of the Trustees—for they are equally answerable in both ways—to allow Mr. Panizzi to impose on us; and we only beseech that gentleman to be as considerate now as possible of the requirements of literary men. We assure him that the smallest favours will be gratefully remembered:—that even a few years will be thankfully counted to his credit.

There remains, however,—and under any and every circumstance of change or no change,—Mr. Cooley’s suggestion of *separate stereotyped titles*. That suggestion is invaluable. We have seen specimens prepared for Mr. Cooley by Messrs. Knight & Hawke, of Clerkenwell,—and they are excellent. Further, be it observed that this proposition, as we put it, is abstract; it in no way affects, or is affected by, the literary question of how the Catalogue should be prepared. Let the Catalogue, since it must be so, be proceeded with according to the pleasure of Mr. Panizzi and the Commission, printed it must be,—and here for the first time we interfere, and simply request that separate stereotyped titles be prepared. The total additional cost of stereotype plates, assuming the Catalogue to extend to forty-five or fifty volumes of 600 pages each, would not exceed 1,500*l.*; and if we add another 1,500*l.* or 2,000*l.*, or 2,500*l.* for mounting them, the whole would be ready for the press at a cost of less than—say, in round numbers 4,000*l.* When the reader remembers that 25,000*l.* was expended before the experimental letter ‘A’ was published, such an addition to the total cost of the whole Catalogue is not worth a moment’s consideration.

The benefits that would result from this plan have no limit. All parties are agreed that there must be, in addition to the general Catalogue,—not classed Catalogues,—but alphabetical Catalogues of classes of books; books on science in its several departments, on history, on poetry,—and so forth. Indeed, until the sectional divisions and subdivisions shall have been carried out to the utmost extent, the Library can never be made of the greatest possible use. There are, for example, some 50,000 tracts and pamphlets in the Museum relating to the Civil Wars; and Mr. Carlyle says that any man would “do a beneficent act to England who would publish a Catalogue of them.” Dr. Maitland declares that a mere Catalogue of books printed up to 1600 would be “inestimable.” The Commissioners themselves report in favour of such sectional Catalogues:—“Most valuable, and attainable,” they say, “would be Catalogues of books on special branches of science, on natural history, of books on vellum, books in black letter, books printed previous to fixed periods.” We are quite aware that objections may be raised to such classed Catalogues.—It is difficult, we may be told, if not impossible, to mark the several boundary lines; but the man who is perplexed by such refinements is able to draw a boundary line for himself, or at least to his

own satisfaction,—and may help himself out of the difficulty which he has raised by referring to the general Catalogue.

These sectional Catalogues are indispensable; and strengthened as public opinion has been by the recommendation of the Commissioners, we can have no doubt that they will be published. Mark, then, how admirably Mr. Cooley’s plan of separate stereotype titles comes to our aid. It will be only necessary for the authorized officer to mark in the general Catalogue the titles of the several works that he desires to have entered in the class Catalogue;—when, lo! the printer selects in their order the several stereotyped titles,—the sheet goes to press,—and the Catalogue is ready. The stereotypes are then restored to their places; and the printer is prepared to begin again his labour of reduction and reproduction:—and so on he proceeds through every other branch of human knowledge. Why, every such Catalogue would be in itself a history in little—the history of the human mind and its progressive development. Further—for there is no limit to the benefits that in a few years would result from this plan,—let it be remembered that we are about to establish under authority of Parliament provincial libraries in all the great towns. Now, every one of these libraries having a sufficient number of books to require a printed Catalogue would have simply to deliver in a manuscript copy; and within a month any one of them might have returned to it, at small cost, any number desired of a printed Catalogue. They might include therein not only all the books which they chanced to possess at the moment, but all those already published which they hoped to possess in ten or twenty years to come. With the manuscript additions only of new publications, this Catalogue would serve for the whole term.

We must now, for the moment, advert to another subject. The witnesses, much as they differed on other points, were generally agreed as to the fact of insufficient accommodation at the Museum, equally for books, students and readers. The Museum, be it remembered, is entitled to a copy of every published work; and Mr. Panizzi admits, that if publication and additions go on at the same rate as during the last ten years, the Museum must in eighteen or twenty months positively close its doors. They could not find room for more books. As to the Reading Room, every man’s experience must have satisfied him that a very small increase in the numbers frequenting it would make it impossible to get a seat there:—to say nothing about the impossibility of study amid the hum and bustle of such a crowd even if a seat were obtained. We were not, therefore, surprised to learn that it has been under consideration whether the Government must not purchase some of the houses in Russell Square adjoining Montague Place, and build on the site a new wing and attach new Reading Rooms.

In our opinion, one-half of the inconveniences that have been complained of, equally by the officers of the Museum and by the public—and which will shortly become intolerable,—have arisen from the original accident which crowded into one building books, manuscripts, engravings, antiquities, zoological, mineralogical, and a dozen other distinct collections,—and from the attempt to compress into one room one hundred and fifty or two hundred persons, each and every one of whom requires silence and comparative ease to make his labours profitable. The necessity that has now arisen for increased accommodation suggests a remedy, and a very simple one—separation. Let the new building be devoted, under the same general superintendence, to new works—to all works pub-



lished since a given date. And let this collection be enriched with all the duplicates of older works that can be spared from the Museum. This done, readers and students would separate of their own accord. — That separation would enable the Government to satisfy a want very seriously felt, of a reading room which should be open in winter as in summer, by candle-light as by day-light:—a want emphatically dwelt on by some of the witnesses, and not unfrequently adverted to in the public journals. This so long as the only reading room remains within the walls of the Museum, is impossible. It would be positive barbarism to risk the possible loss—not to the nation only, but to the world—of the treasures collected there, in order that some few persons in one locality might have the benefit of a reading room. But the new buildings, though adjoining the Museum, might be detached: and happen what might to a library of modern books and duplicate books, the consequences would be comparatively trifling. Burn them, and all the cost of replacing the entire collection might be covered by insurance. But no amount of money—not a world's revenue—could replace the Museum and its treasures.

The reader will no doubt have observed the advantages which result from this mere separation of old books and new,—readers and students. Many whose avocations by day prevent them from visiting the Museum might attend there in the evening; many who are now interrupted by dark days and short hours might continue their labours so long as suited their convenience:—while students would no longer have to fight their way to the one Catalogue,—no longer be elbowed and interrupted by the want of general accommodation and the requirements of their neighbours. There would be ample room for all,—and peace and quiet, as at the Bodleian and other great libraries.

The reader will also have observed that this separation of readers and students, almost of necessity compels a division of the Catalogue. Fix any period which may be thought advisable—say 1838, which is, we believe, the date to which the Catalogue in progress is to be brought down—and have another Catalogue for all works subsequently published. There is to be a supplemental Catalogue, whether separate or attached; and for many reasons and under any circumstances we think the supplemental Catalogue had better be a separate Catalogue. The moment this separation is decided on, the objections to a printed Catalogue lose half their force:—and we will now suggest a means by which we think it possible to get rid of the other half.

The separation that we have proposed being agreed on—the scheme which we have mainly in view is one for making the first Catalogue perfect and complete at once. We would begin by making a Universal Catalogue—a Catalogue not merely of the books that our single library possesses, but of all the books, so far as known, that have ever been printed up to, say 1838? We would meet the difficulties which have been urged on the grounds of a library in progress of formation—constantly increasing—by providing at once and for ever a framework into which could be easily let all future enlargements, so far as they are composed of books already in existence. We would have a Catalogue which should show at once what we possess and what we want of all existing books,—and should show at the same time where that which we want may be found. Of existing books all that we have not got at present in the Museum, we mean to have. In the last ten years there have been added more than two hundred thousand volumes to

that collection—we may, therefore, assume that in the next ten we shall not add less,—and in the next twenty we shall probably have increased it by half a million. Think of the labours of the librarians in making these manuscript additions,—“the cancelling and re-copying of pages,” as they become crowded,—“the dissection and construction of the volumes!”—think of what the Catalogue will have extended to with these manuscript additions! As to consulting it,—the taking down its hundreds of folios—hunting through them—returning them to their shelves,—it would no longer be literary labour but porters' labour—a question of physical rather than of intellectual power. Now, if all titles were printed at once, there is a neat compact Catalogue complete in so many volumes 8vo.—done, as we have said, once and for ever. No additions can be required except the titles of works positively unknown at the time of compiling—not five hundred probably in half a century. Then, the ease and despatch for the future! The librarian might receive a bequest like Mr. Grenville's once a month; and instead of those twenty thousand volumes remaining uncatalogued and useless for years, he would have simply to affix the press-mark to the Catalogue—which, observe, he must do now and under any circumstances,—and forthwith they are available for the use of the public.

The Commissioners tell us that if Mr. Panizzi's Catalogue be “completed with any near approach to the perfection which its plan and rules contemplate,” it will form a record to future times of great value of the *printed literature of the period which it embraces*. This is a curious oversight. It will do no such thing;—it will be a poor peddling Catalogue,—a Catalogue of the contents of a local library at a particular moment of time,—a work which might have passed when

Men divided by the narrow brook  
Abhor'd each other,—

but unworthy of an age and a people who, in the proposed Exhibition of 1851, have held out the hand of fellowship to the whole world and acknowledged the intellectual brotherhood of nations. What the Commissioners dreamed of when they said this, is precisely what we want, and what the world wants.

The idea of such a universal Catalogue may seem at the first suggestion somewhat wild and visionary; but the more closely it is examined, the more distinctly, we have assured ourselves, will it grow into a reality, simple and practicable. What we propose is this:—let Mr. Panizzi proceed, without interruption, to complete his Catalogue,—let him have additional assistants, one, or two, or three, as may be desired, who shall, under his direction, consult libraries, catalogues, bibliographical works, and prepare, on the same uniform system, the titles of all works published in the *English language, or printed in the British territories*, but not at present in the British Museum. Think, for a moment, what would be the literary value of such a Catalogue! Judge of it by the uses of Watts's ‘*Bibliotheca Britannica*,’ notwithstanding its multitudinous errors and omissions:—and remember that the Catalogue proposed would be, so far as English literature or the English language is concerned, all but perfect,—and that Mr. Cooley's stereotyped titles would enable us to make it quite perfect within a few years. This would be the contribution of the British nation to the universal Catalogue.

Meanwhile, communication should be opened with the principal Governments of the world, and a proposal made to each of them to co-operate with the British nation in publishing a universal Catalogue;—that each should undertake to have prepared, and within a specified

time, on a common principle to be agreed on, a Catalogue of all the books ever printed, so far as known, by and in all the several nations and languages under their respective governments. How we should then proceed, at least cost of time or money, to derive the full benefit from this co-operation, is a matter of detail with which we need not perplex the question. Perhaps the best plan would be, if means can be devised to avoid the fruitless re-duplication of titles, that each Government should print its own Catalogue, and each exchange with the others stereotyped titles.

Here, then, is each nation possessed, not only of a Catalogue of its national library more useful and serviceable for the humblest practical purposes than any Catalogue it could hope to possess by any other means,—but with a Catalogue, or the means of producing one at little cost, of every library within the limits of that nation,—useful as the most simple of finding Catalogues for the local purpose, yet embracing the literature of the world. The several librarians would have simply to affix the press-marks to make it a perfect finding Catalogue to their several libraries; and an initial letter prefixed to the title would tell at once, if the book were not in that library, which was the nearest public library where the student might be sure to find a copy.—We will further direct the reader's attention only to the consequent perfection of the Catalogues of Classes.

Never was there a period when so beneficial a project could have been entered on with such probability of success. The large and liberal spirit in which, as we noticed last week, the Governments of the world have welcomed the proposal of Prince Albert for a great World Exhibition, is an earnest of success:—and we hope that those with whom this great World Catalogue might so honourably originate will not be deterred by the fears of the timid, the doubts of the ignorant (or worse, of the learned) and the indolence of the indifferent or interested.

Let no one be apprehensive of the great labour or the great cost of this World Catalogue. It might certainly be prepared in less time and at less cost to each individual Government than each Government could produce for its own sole use a Catalogue of the contents of its one national library. Look at England, for example. At present the Museum Catalogue must include every work in the collection, and be prepared at the sole cost of the British public; whereas the expense of preparing the universal Catalogue would be divided amongst half-a-dozen nations. The British Government is by our plan relieved at once from the necessity of cataloguing all foreign works contained in the Library—one-half or one-third the collection—because the titles of all such would be contributed by foreign nations; and the exchange would entail on the British Government only the cost of the stereotype plates of English works, and that of mounting the stereotype plates of foreign works. Then, as to time. The titles now prepared might be at once printed and stereotyped,—cataloguing, printing, stereotyping going on thenceforward *pari passu*; and when the Manuscript Catalogue was complete, the Printed Catalogue would be finished. It would only remain to arrange the titles in alphabetical order, and produce the Catalogues for general use. Further, and emphatically, be it observed, that if the Catalogue of one nation be prepared in advance of another, this need not delay publication for a single day. Of our own, for example, just so many copies might be struck off as should be required for immediate use; and when any other nation forwarded its stereotypes, they would only have to be incorporated—inserted in their alphabet-



ical order,—and the universal Catalogue would have made another advance towards completion. When we further consider not merely the completeness and comparative perfection of the Catalogues of classes, but their little cost,—and the trifling cost of all Provincial Catalogues, together with the hundred other economical advantages of this plan,—we come to the conclusion and trust the reader will agree with us—that in a mere economical point of view the project is well worthy the consideration of the Legislature.

Let us also observe, lest the difficulty should suggest itself to others, that this universal Catalogue would not be of that prodigious bulk which might at first be supposed by those who calculate the number of titles by the number of volumes said to be contained in the libraries of the world. We are of opinion that these numbers are monstrously exaggerated; and are confident that any speculation as to the number of duplicates, which under this system need not be catalogued at all, would fall far short of the truth. Take, for example, the library of St. Petersburg,—said to contain eight hundred thousand volumes. Now, persons better informed than we pretend to be, doubt if it contains one half that number. But no matter what the number,—is it not reasonably certain that three-fourths of its contents consist of French, German, Italian, English, and other foreign works? Away then goes three-fourths of the great Petersburg library:—three-fourths of it add not a single title to the bulk of the universal Catalogue. We indeed do not believe, after the best consideration that we can give to the subject, that this universal Catalogue would be one half the size of the proposed Catalogue of the British Museum if that Catalogue is to be in manuscript; and not, even if printed, one half of what it must be in twenty years if the system of marginal additions be persevered in:—besides that it will then have all to be done over again.

Here we conclude. We do not profess to have improvised a great scheme to which objections may not be raised by the super-subtle and the over-refined; but simply to have indicated a course which, in our opinion, would do honour to the nation, and help the peaceful world in its onward progress,—one which may easily be elaborated and perfected if those in authority be pleased to countenance it. The learned librarians of the Museum may have a good-humoured laugh at it; but they should remember that if the world has its ignorances, learned bibliographers have their prejudices,—and that a laugh will not settle the question one way or the other. They cannot laugh louder than did certain other officials when Mr. Hill proposed to reduce all postage charges to one uniform rate, and that rate one penny; yet that idea spread and strengthened, and has become “a great fact.”

#### OUR LIBRARY TABLE.

*Sketch of the Colony of Natal.* By James Wyld. —Mr. Wyld is one of those valuable caterers to the increasing demand for general knowledge whose labours have helped at once to create a healthy appetite and to supply a wholesome food. To such men the age owes more than it takes account of, because their work is unostentatious and has its commercial aspect. One among the sound truths which we are beginning to learn is, that transcendentalism on the large scale is scarcely fitted for the world as it is made,—and that the work best adapted for the service of mankind is, after all, for the most part done from human motives.—Following in the ever-shifting track of public interest around the world, Mr. Wyld (in addition to his more extensive and elaborate geographical publications) pauses wherever it fixes itself for the moment—and produces for the gratification of those whom it may concern and the information of the general reader,

at an easy price, a sketch-plan of the locality with which it is at the present occupied. These sheets form a series of great value, and will bind together into a very useful Note Book for geographical reference. —Mr. Wyld's present publication reports of the rising colony of Natal. A small map in the corner shows the place of the colony in reference to the Continent of which it forms a part and the waters which wash it,—and the remainder of the sheet produces on a sufficient scale a general plan, and such details as may be useful to the intending settler and gratifying to the curiosity of his friends at home.

*Past, Present, and Future.* 2 vols.

To the  
Prettiest Brown Eyes  
In the World,  
And a Heart,  
This little Work  
is  
dedicated.

The above Prologue—arranged urn-wise, after the fashion of Quarles—will give the reader no foretaste of the tale which it heralds. He might from it expect something sugary, sentimental and pretty,—a picture of the troubles of a *Thyrsis* and *Dorinda* painted on Dresden china,—or some dulcet and delicate strain such as Mrs. West, or Mrs. Robinson, or other small Della-Cruscan poetess “tuned up” to wring the hearts and call forth the tears of her small congregation withal. This novel, however, has nought to do with any porcelain Arcady or Batheaston *Romeos* and *Juliets*. It is hardly a novel at all, so much as a patchy, rambling chronicle of the uncommon and sublime doings of a Miss Cecil Latimer; who after having been a good deal pushed about in the world, because she was not rich and had no house of her own, suddenly becomes a splendid heiress, the possessor of an old mansion, and the queen of a numerous tenantry. Miss Latimer's ideas of philanthropy are pictorial and harmonical rather than politico-economical; and we fear, are mainly introduced to give the author an excuse for rambling on about music and painting. He can sometimes ramble pleasantly,—but why did he say nothing about forty days' maize?—or the uses of gutta serena?—or any other topic under the sun or moon equally germane? We have not the remotest notion that any pilgrim less faithful and patient than the critic will hold out through ‘Past and Present’;—and therefore, to tranquillize such curiosity concerning the ‘Future’ as may survive the aimless weariness of the first volume, we will just inform “the Prettiest Brown Eyes in the World” and “a Heart,” that Miss Latimer was not drowned in the great flood of 1880—but lived to see the waters subside round her cathedral, and, after that, expired in her easy chair! Sympathetic persons are invited to pity all who are condemned to wade through such “a wash” of sentimental folly—and are hereby warned to keep out of the flood;—in spite of the pretext of good intentions and the sweet inscription copied above, employed to lure them from *terra firma*.

*My Old Pupils.* By the Author of ‘My School-Boy Days,’ ‘My Youthful Companions,’—is, in some respects, a story fitter for parents and guardians than for the youth of any age under their care,—though for such grown-up folks it was never intended. Such histories of school-life with its blanks and prizes, its wolves and lambs, its bullies and its victims, far from proving a good boy's *vade mecum*, too often prove the naughty child's hand-book: a truth which the philosopher—for the writer of ‘My Old Pupils’ tells us that he is a philosopher—has failed to master.

*Pleasant Pastime; or, Drawing-room Dramas for Private Representation by the Young.*—Let the brow of Mrs. Crummles lower ever so Siddonically over the decline of provincial tragedy,—let Miss Snivelicci, who gets up the ‘Little Jockey’ for her benefit, find not the buskin, but the buckskins, less and less attractive circuit by circuit, and accordingly with her whine top the deep-voiced dirge of *Lady Macbeth*,—let Drama, in short, be believed to stand not merely on its last legs, but on its last wooden legs—certain it is, that never did the rage for private theatricals run so high in “genteel circles” as now. Gentlewomen who thirty years ago did not get beyond the publicity of making a bread-seal, or (supposing them to be very zealous) an

amorphous shoe, in the way of pursuit and pastime, may now be found three nights out of the week rouged ready to rant through *Rosalind* or powdered preparatory to presenting Mrs. Heidelberg. Quiet and honourable club-men, who were formerly contented with “thinking no harm,” may be now seen, like the *Knave of Clubs*, impudently “putting forth one manly leg” in emulation of Mr. C. Mathews, or Mr. Wigan, or any other complete and favourite comedian. Nay, our very heirs and scions, the hope of England, are now-a-days brought up on wands and gauze wings and crowns of roses, under pretence of entertaining themselves, but in reality, half to minister diversion to vacancy or vanity—half to gratify that desire of witnessing “impersonation” which is not wholly extinct, albeit managers, actors, and authors have done their very best to extinguish it.—The “Drawing-room Dramas” before us, however, will not raise the tone of tragedy in My Lady's back parlour nor of *vaudeville* in the “morning-room” of the M.P.'s wife. We fear that they would turn out dull supposing them to be ever so correctly lisped; nor do we apprehend that small critics in pinafores, or the important conclave assembled in the nursery green-room to read and cast the new play, would dissent from our verdict—unless, like other *mis-managers*, they be dazzled by prophetic visions of turbans, trains and processions, and a famous *finale* of red fire and blue fire and green fire, to bring down the curtain with “Rapturous Applause.”

*The Monumental Brasses of England: a Series of Engravings on Wood, &c., accompanied with brief descriptive Notices.* By the Rev. C. Boutell, M.A. The Engravings drawn and executed by Mr. R. B. Utting.—The great recommendation of this work unquestionably is, the excellent series of engravings on wood by Mr. R. B. Utting; and the Rev. Mr. Boutell puts in very modest claims to distinction for his literary contributions. What he has given is, however, in general satisfactory as far as it goes,—although the information is somewhat meagre. We should have liked to have seen a volume of so much beauty and importance preceded by an essay or dissertation on monumental brasses, and their uses in reference both to biography and to history,—a subject never yet, that we are aware of, sufficiently treated. The national character of such records in this country is admitted, and requires more illustration than is afforded by a mere succession of pictorial representations and “brief descriptive notices.” The brasses have been selected from all parts of the kingdom with taste and judgment; and they are appropriately arranged in classes, according to their subjects, accompanied by an index of heraldry, names and places. There are forty-five engravings (miscalled “plates” by Mr. Boutell) of ecclesiastics, &c.,—seventy-one engravings of knights and ladies,—and between thirty and forty miscellaneous engravings of civilians, their wives, children, &c. We may refer with peculiar admiration to the representations of Bishop Goodrich and Dr. Sever, Warden of Merton College, in proof that wood-cutting as Mr. Utting has executed it is superior even to steel and copper for such subjects. The engravings are some of the finest specimens that we have seen; and the effect is produced without what is called cross-hatching,—always a doubtful process on wood. Of the whole collection the Reverend editor observes—“In selecting the contents for this volume, those brasses have been preferred which are most meritorious and possess the greatest general interest; particularly such specimens as have recently been discovered by the removal of pews, or which have not hitherto been figured, or of which engravings are to be found only in works not easily accessible.” This course was judicious; and for this reason Mr. Boutell's volume presents more novelty than we expected. He adds, —“The engravings themselves have in all cases been drawn from careful rubbings of the original brasses; and every precaution has been taken to preserve in them the general character of the originals, and also to represent even the smallest details with scrupulous fidelity and exactness.” To the justice of this claim we can in various instances ourselves bear witness; but we do not always quite like the mode in which missing portions have now and then been conjecturally filled up. These portions are, it is true, distinguished from the rest; but we would rather have had a representation of every brass exactly as it exists,



leaving the imagination, aided by previous knowledge, to supply what is wanting.

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## THE EXPEDITIONS OF DR. RAE AND COMMANDER PULLEN IN SEARCH OF SIR JOHN FRANKLIN.

OUR readers are aware that intelligence has been received from Dr. Rae, announcing his return to Fort Confidence, Great Bear Lake, from an unsuccessful search for Sir John Franklin. We confess that this intelligence has disappointed us; for we entertained some hope that Dr. Rae would succeed in penetrating to the north of Banks' Land,—and might there fall in with traces of the missing Expedition, if yet in existence. Dr. Rae's previous explorations had proved him to be endowed with all the physical and moral qualities necessary for the laborious service for which he had volunteered; but his late journey affords a fresh instance of the uncertainty attending arctic voyaging. The traveller, however well qualified, is wholly at the mercy of the mighty ice-power which reigns in the arctic regions. Dr. Rae's despatch is dated September 1, 1849. Accompanied by four men and two Indians, he left Fort Confidence on the 8th of June, and ascended the Dease River—which was still so encumbered with ice that it was necessary to haul the boat over it. The ascent of the stream was extremely tedious, and it was not until the 15th that they arrived at the forks of the river. Dr. Rae resolved on following the south-east branch; which was so much obstructed by ice and snow, that the progress of the party was most difficult. On the 17th they passed over the ice on the lake from which the stream flows; and, crossing the portage to the Kendall, which occupied two days, descended that river, and entered the Coppermine. The ice was still so thick and solid, that Dr. Rae says a

person might have crossed the Kendall without being more than ankle deep in water. On their way down the Coppermine, they met with parties of Esquimaux, from whom they learned that provisions had been abundant in the early part of winter and spring; but that in the interval they had nearly starved, owing to the scarcity of seals,—having had to subsist for some time on those skins of the larger species of animals which they had been preserving for making boats. In the winter they had communicated directly or indirectly with the natives of Wollaston Land,—none of whom had ever seen white men, large boats, or ships. On the 16th of July, by making a number of portages over the ice they rounded Point Mackenzie, and entered Back's Inlet, which was partially open. Having a fine easterly breeze, they set sail, and, running to its head, entered Rae River (discovered and named by Sir John Richardson last autumn); and on proceeding three miles up it, they came upon the lodges of Esquimaux, who said that they had been so alarmed at seeing the boat under sail that they were on the point of running away. The quantity of ice was so great that they were obliged to wait until the 19th, when a W.N.W. wind having cleared it for a short distance from the shore they continued their course towards Cape Hearne. On the 24th they arrived at the place where the boats had been left last autumn. They had been considerably damaged by the Esquimaux to obtain the iron-work. The tents, oil-cloths, and part of the sails still remained uninjured, and the cache of pemmican and ammunition was untouched. On the 30th of July they arrived at Cape Krusenstern; and when opposite its high cliffs, a strong breeze drove the ice so forcibly against the rocks that they were obliged to unload and heave the boat up on a drift of snow. They were now at the most convenient point for making the traverse to Wollaston Land; and by arriving at Cape Krusenstern, Dr. Rae had fulfilled the primary part of his orders. But the ice in the channel was so heavy and thick that no prospect existed of their being able to effect the passage. During a long detention, extending to the 22nd of August, on one occasion only the ice separated sufficiently to allow an attempt at crossing to be made. This was on the 19th of August,—when they succeeded in pulling the boat seven miles in the direction of Douglas Island, where they encountered a stream of ice, which not only barred further progress, but carried them to the south-east. Under these circumstances they were compelled to return to the main shore. On the 22nd, Dr. Rae ascended a hill near the shore from which a fine view was obtained. As far as he could see with a telescope in the direction of Wollaston Land, nothing but white ice forced up in heaps was visible; and as there was an end of the summer, and every appearance of an early winter, he deemed it imprudent to delay his return longer. While on the coast, Albert, their Esquimaux interpreter, communicated with five Esquimaux travelling to the interior with loads of salmon. From them he learned that they had been in company with the natives of Wollaston Land during the winter, none of whom had ever seen European ships or boats.

The return to Fort Confidence was attended with great toil and one unhappy casualty. In tracking up the Coppermine, by the cowardice and carelessness of the steersman the boat was upset and lost, and their interpreter Albert perished. They had now no resource but to journey overland to Great Bear Lake, each of the men carrying about 90lb, and Dr. Rae's bundle being nearly 50lb. They arrived at Fort Confidence on the 1st of September, and Dr. Rae immediately set off for Fort Simpson, which he reached on the 26th of that month. During the Expedition they captured as many salmon as they could consume whenever there was a piece of open water large enough for setting a net.

Such are the leading features of this Expedition; which, although unsuccessful and unfortunate, must be regarded as adding to Dr. Rae's reputation as a persevering, enduring, and zealous arctic voyager. His position at Cape Krusenstern was most trying. "Occasionally," he says, "at turn

of tide a pool of water a mile or more in extent would appear near us, and everything would be prepared for embarkation at a minute's notice, in expectation of the opening increasing and permitting us to cross to Douglas Island, but our hopes were always disappointed." We must not, however, regard the Expedition as altogether fruitless and barren. It has made us aware that the Esquimaux of Wollaston Land have not seen anything of Franklin during the winter; negative, but still useful, information, as we may conclude that he did not strike across that region for the American coast.

Nor have all tidings of him been heard by Commander Pullen; whose despatch, announcing the accomplishment of his arduous undertaking of voyaging in open boats from Wainwright Inlet to the Mackenzie River, accompanies that of Dr. Rae. Commander Pullen's Journal abounds with interesting arctic adventure. On the 25th of July, 1849, he left Wainwright Inlet with four boats, a crew of twenty-five men, seventy days' provisions for each man, and twenty cases of pemmican. On attaining the longitude of 155° 37' west, near Dease's Inlet, it was found impracticable to continue the voyage with the large boats. These were accordingly sent back, and Commander Pullen with thirteen men and provisions for ninety days continued the voyage. The difficulties which assailed the gallant little band proceeded more from violent storms than from obstruction by the ice. Heavy packs and icebergs were, however, frequently seen; and on more than one occasion the latter wore an appearance so like a ship as to deceive the practised eyes of the sailors. On the 22nd of August, when near Herschel Island, in longitude 140°, they narrowly escaped destruction. Commander Pullen, who was sleeping on shore, was awoke by the disastrous news that the boats were swamped, and on going to them he found them in the greatest jeopardy.—"We cleared the boats immediately, and found our instruments the greatest sufferers, for the bread we had was already saturated, and could receive little or no additional injury. We turned to with a will, carefully wiped and cleaned all, and at 9 A.M. we were all ready again, and although we have had such frequent occurrences, no one seemed discouraged, but, like sailors, danger and difficulty over, nothing more is thought of it, and no despairing."—"We regret to find that in their passage along the coast they met with parties of Esquimaux who evinced a very unfriendly disposition towards them. In one instance a skirmish actually took place; Commander Pullen was obliged to fire on the natives, but happily no life was sacrificed. On the 27th of August they entered the Mackenzie, and on the 23rd of September arrived at Fort Norman—where they met with Dr. Rae.—Commander Pullen states, in conclusion, that every part of the coast has been thoroughly examined for traces of Sir John Franklin and his party,—but no vestige of them was met with. He is convinced that they have not been fallen in with by the Esquimaux.

## SHAKESPEARE'S ARRIVAL IN LONDON.

IN Mr. Collier's interesting letter on the comedy of 'The Three Ladies of London' there is one assertion which—affecting as it does (though indirectly) the date of production of Shakespeare's earlier works, and, consequently, the question of who preceded him as writers for the stage—ought not, I think, to pass unchallenged. Mr. Collier says—"Here we see the earliest known Jew on our stage—some years before the arrival of Shakespeare in London, and of course long before he drew the character of Shylock," &c. Does he, then, know when Shakespeare really *did* arrive in London? Till this question can be answered it will be a mere assertion to say that a given event occurred some years before. And, indeed, it is hardly consistent with known facts. The first edition of the play in question, according to Mr. Collier, appeared in 1584. In 1589 Shakespeare was a shareholder in the principal London theatre. There is scarcely room for the intervening "some years."

It is because this assertion comes from so high an authority, and because I believe that a most erroneous opinion has prevailed with regard to Shakespeare and some of his contemporaries, that I



call your attention to the subject. In a letter which I recently addressed to the editor of *Notes and Queries*, I endeavoured to show that the 'Taming of the Shrew' by Shakspeare was an original work, and that the so-called "older" play was an imitation. I take advantage of the present opportunity to say that, in a similar manner, I believe that the relative positions of Marlowe, Greene, &c., and Shakspeare may be reversed.—In the meanwhile I trust you will allow me space for this protest against an assertion which has been repeated so often that it has, at last, come to be believed even by those who best know the utter groundlessness on which it, at first, was made.—I remain, &c.,

SAMUEL HICKSON.

St. John's Wood, May 9.

#### OUR WEEKLY GOSSIP.

THE long-pending scheme of the British Government for the organization of a complete system of steam communication with the West Indies, Mexico, Brazil, and the Pacific, to which we have already alluded, has just been brought to a conclusion. The main features are as follows:—1. There is to be a great trunk line of steamers—or, as the *Times* well call it, a "great steam bridge"—direct from Southampton to the Isthmus of Panama. Every fortnight, a first-class steamer, making from twelve to fourteen knots an hour, is to sail from Southampton by this line, stopping first at the Island of St. Thomas, which distance it will accomplish in about twelve days. In St. Thomas's Bay three branch steamers will be waiting; which, receiving their respective mails, will instantly proceed on separate routes—one to Havannah and the Gulf of Mexico, —another to Porto Rico, Hayti, Jamaica, San Jago de Cuba, Honduras, Nicaragua, &c.,—a third to the Windward and Leeward Islands as far as Demerara. The main line-steamer, having thus disposed of its branch mails, will steam on from St. Thomas's direct for the little town of Chagres in the Isthmus of Panama. Here it will disembark its Pacific mails for transmission across the isthmus; and, receiving in return the homeward mails from the Pacific, will be ready for its return voyage. Steaming back to St. Thomas's, it will there find the three branch steamers, whose return voyages from the three above-mentioned routes will be so arranged that they shall always (except in case of accident) arrive in time to give and take mails with the trunk steamers; then it will proceed direct to Southampton, bringing the Pacific mails, and the mails of the three foregoing West Indian routes. It is calculated that by this system of direct Atlantic steamers, an accelerated communication of from twelve to sixteen days will be secured for all the ports concerned. 2. To correspond with these arrangements for the Atlantic side of America, it is in contemplation by the Admiralty "to agree with the Pacific Steam Navigation Company for a fortnightly mail to and from Panama and Valparaiso, in place of the present monthly steamer." This will bring Chagres, and consequently England, into much closer approximation to the western coast of South America; while it is possible that ultimately similar arrangements may be extended to California and the North American coast of the Pacific. 3. There is to be a monthly mail to Brazil, with an independent line of packets. "Starting from Southampton, the steamers will proceed to Funchal (Madeira), Santa Cruz (Teneriffe), Porto Praya (Cape Verde), Pernambuco, Bahia, and Rio Janeiro. From Rio Janeiro there will be a branch packet to Monte Video and Buenos Ayres." The Admiralty have not sanctioned the proposed touching at Lisbon; which is to be regretted, as the advantage of the traffic between Portugal and the Brazils is thus lost to the contractors. It is supposed, however, that there will be a branch packet between Lisbon and Madeira, which will partly serve the purpose. The distance between England and the Brazilian ports, according to the preceding arrangements, will be as follows:—To Pernambuco eighteen or nineteen days,—Bahia twenty or twenty-one days,—Rio de Janeiro twenty-four or twenty-five days. But one great feature of this Brazilian line is, the possibility of its future extension so as to reach

western and southern Africa. Porto Praya is but 710 miles distant from Sierra Leone, which, accordingly, could be easily reached by a branch steamer; while another branch steamer from Porto Praya to the Cape would bring our South African possessions within thirty-five days of England. As regards the period when the foregoing extensive arrangements are to be carried into effect, much depends on the time that must elapse before the necessary preparations in the way of building new steamers and repairing old ones can be complete. It is hoped that the Brazil line may be ready by August or September next; and though it would take a year to get the steamers ready for the purposed West India and Pacific route, it is not unlikely that even with the existing vessels something of the plan may be carried into effect soon. The sum of 240,000*l.* per annum now paid to the West India Mail Company for the conveyance of the West India mails alone, will, it is understood, suffice to cover the expenses of the whole proposed system:—besides which, there will be a retrenchment of 30,000*l.* a year now spent in maintaining Her Majesty's brigs between Falmouth and Brazil.—All this, we may say in conclusion, increases the pre-emptory necessity of the great canal across Panama, which will sweep the little town of Chagres out of its present impudent littleness into nothingness.

The second Soirée of Lord Rosse as President of the Royal Society was held on Saturday last:—and was very fully attended. Among the objects in the saloons were several additional drawings of nebulae discovered by his Lordship's telescope. Mr. Penrose exhibited his machine for drawing geometric curves; and Mr. Shepherd—who, our readers know, has been employed by the Admiralty to prepare balloons for the Arctic Expeditions—exhibited specimens of the balloons, and showed the manner in which the messages are attached. The next Soirée will take place on the 18th inst.

The anniversary dinner of the Literary Fund, which stood for Wednesday next, has been postponed until Friday,—in order to secure the attendance of those members, and visitors friends to the Institution, whom the celebration of the Queen's birthday appointed for the former day might otherwise have prevented from attending.

A circular from Prof. Schumacher has brought an announcement of the discovery of a new telescopic comet, by Dr. Petersen, at the Royal Observatory of Altona, on the 1st of May. "Unfavourable weather," says Mr. Hind, writing to the *Times*, "prevented any accurate observation that evening, but on the following morning at 11 o'clock mean time, the position was in right ascension 19<sup>h</sup> 24<sup>m</sup> 8<sup>s</sup>, and north declination 71° 19' 34". The comet is therefore situate in the constellation Draco. The right ascension diminishes about 48" and the declination increases about 8' in the space of one day.

An Exhibition of a novel and attractive character has just been opened at Hyde Park Corner. Mr. Roualeyn Gordon Cumming, a young gentleman of property in the Highlands, and as keen a sportsman as the Highlands has ever produced, has filled the old Chinese Gallery with the trophies of his skill—the produce of five years' shooting in the far interior of Southern Africa, many hundred miles beyond the farthest point hitherto reached by any white man. When we state that Mr. Cumming has killed eighteen lions, twenty-eight specimens of the black rhinoceros, thirty-nine of the white rhinoceros, seventy-six hippopotami, and one hundred and five elephants, our readers will know what his daring is and what his success has been. His lions' skins are the finest we remember to have seen,—worthy coverings for the king of beasts. He has at least one thousand pounds' worth of ivory in the room, and a pair of elephant's tusks measuring nine feet,—the largest known. The whole Gallery looks like a combination of a baronial hall and a furrier's shop. Antlers of the largest size and the most elegant proportions arrest the eye at every turn. The fore feet of an elephant (exhibited on the dais) afford a noble idea of the enormous size of the herds of elephants which he had the luck to fall in with. Mr. Cumming would realize Charles the Fifth's

idea of a hero. He knows not fear. His coolest moments seem to have been in confronting half a dozen lions, or an enraged lioness with her young—or in lying at his ease at night near to fountains where lions are slaking their thirst and making the desert roar with the deep thunder of their voices.—We beg our readers to understand, however, that we do not ourselves measure heroes by the standard of Charles the Fifth. They have already heard of Mr. Cumming in our columns more than once,—and in no very flattering terms. We have no sympathy with that particular form of the spirit of adventure which takes Mr. Cumming into the Desert. His peculiar errantry is no doubt accompanied by an amount of peril which gives it an appearance of dignity wanting to the gentlemen who enact the chivalries of the *battue*; and the indiscriminate taste for slaughter has at least a nobler aspect in him who fights, sinew to sinew, with the lion than in him who walks sentimentally up the banks of streams and tortures fish to a running idyllic accompaniment.—Nevertheless, they are barbarians both—the sporting angler and the sporting lion-hunter. And then, Mr. Cumming's chivalry, even with those who can admire it while doing battle in the Desert, will lose something of its dignity when it comes into the exhibition-room and the market.—However, for the sporting world his show will have, we imagine, great attraction,—and we can confidently recommend it to them as calculated to raise the spirit of their calling. His war against mankind has two merits which theirs in general wants:—it gives the animal assailed a chance,—and it gives society a chance that the ranks of an offending class may very probably be thinned by the rough accidents which men who would follow Mr. Cumming's example must confront.

The authorities at the British Museum are stirring in a matter which does them credit, and will be gratifying to all who are interested in our early history. The endeavour to procure the removal to the safe custody of the Museum of the curious manuscripts of Prudentius, Higden, Wickliffe, &c., in the Tennyson Library—where they are now comparatively useless and unknown—interrupted by the death of the late Archbishop of Canterbury, has been renewed: and we believe with so much of good feeling on all sides, that it is at length likely to be brought to a satisfactory conclusion.

At the recent Anniversary Meeting of the Camden Society Mr. Akerman, Sir Frederick Madden and Mr. Wright were chosen into the Council in the place of the retiring members. The report of the Council—which announced the publication during the past year of 'The Peterborough Chronicle,' 'The Letters of Elizabeth and James the First,' and 'The Chronicle of Queen Jane'—and that of the auditors were both considered highly satisfactory.

Mr. Edward J. Chapman has been appointed to the Professorship of Mineralogy recently instituted in University College, London.

A correspondent of the *Times* gives some interesting details respecting Mr. Richardson, the enterprising African traveller. Mr. Richardson, he says, left Tripoli on the morning of Good Friday for the interior of Africa. "The transport of the boat for navigating the lakes has been a source of great anxiety and immense difficulty. It has to be conveyed a four months' journey over the burning sands of Africa before it reaches Lake Tshad. The Admiral at Malta has constructed a beautiful craft, broad in the beam and as light as cork on the water. Mr. Richardson and his German travelling companions proceed first to Mourzouk by the route of Migdal, not yet travelled by Europeans; afterwards from Mourzouk to Ghat, and thence through the country of the Sonaniels to Aheer and Ughachy,—where, on the frontiers of Soudan, they will await the termination of the rainy season in the tropics, during which all human labour is suspended. This season of fever terminated, Mr. Richardson and Drs. Barker and Overweg will proceed to Kanon and Tukkaton, the principal cities of Soudan and of the Fellentals' empire. They will then turn eastward to Bornou, when they will explore the waters of Lake Tshad; and if anything happen to



the boat *en route* they will construct a new one, being well provided with tools and other boat-building apparatus. The shores of the Tshad being explored, Drs. Barker and Overweg will separate from Mr. Richardson,—the two former proceeding further east towards the Mountains of the Moon and the eastern coast of Africa, and the last returning north to the Mediterranean on the old Bornou route. Mr. Richardson is expected to return to Tripoli in the course of a year and a half; but of course the period of the return of his companions cannot be brought within the same compass, nor even conjectured."

The Paris papers announce the sudden death, in his seventy-third year, of M. Ducrotay de Blainville, member of the Academy of Sciences in its Section of Anatomy and Zoology, and the successor of Cuvier in the chair of Comparative Anatomy at the Museum of Natural History in that capital. M. de Blainville was found dead in a railway carriage on the Rouen road, on his way to England.

#### ROYAL ACADEMY, TRAFALGAR SQUARE.

THE EXHIBITION of the ROYAL ACADEMY is NOW OPEN.—Admission (from Eight o'clock till Seven), 1s.; Catalogue, 1d. JOHN PRESCOTT KNIGHT, R.A., Sec.

SOCIETY OF PAINTERS IN WATER-COLOURS.—THE FORTY-SIXTH ANNUAL EXHIBITION is NOW OPEN; at their Gallery, 6 Pall Mall East, from Nine till Dusk.—Admission, 1s. Catalogue, 6d. GEORGE FRIPP, Secretary.

THE NEW SOCIETY OF PAINTERS IN WATER-COLOURS.—THE SIXTEENTH ANNUAL EXHIBITION of this Society is NOW OPEN, at their Gallery, 5 Pall Mall, near St. James's Palace. JAMES FAHEY, Secretary.

THE NATIONAL INSTITUTION for the EXHIBITION of MODERN ART, Portland Gallery, No. 316, Regent Street, (opposite the Polytechnic Institution), in connection of the above Association is NOW OPEN, from Nine till Dusk.—Admission, 1s. Catalogue, 6d. Single Season Tickets, 5s. BELL SMITH, Hon. Sec.

EXHIBITION of ANTIQUE and MEDIEVAL ART and of Specimens of British Manufactures.—SOCIETY OF ARTS, John Street, Adelphi. Several objects of great interest have been lately added to this collection, which is OPEN DAILY, from Ten till Dusk, and will continue on view during the present month.—Admission, 1s. Catalogues, 1s.

NILE.—GRAND MOVING PANORAMA of the NILE, comprising all the Monuments of Antiquity on its Banks, to which is added the interior of the great Rock Temple of Abou Simbel. Painted by Messrs. Warren, Bonomi, and the Rhine, (visited by Her Majesty Queen Victoria in August, 1845), and its Environs, as seen at Sunset and during a Thunder Storm; painted by NICHOLAS MEISTER, of Cologne. And the much-admired Picture of THE SHRINE OF THE NATIVITY, at Bethlehem; painted by the late M. BENOUX, from a Sketch made on the spot by DAVID ROBERTS, Esq. R.A., with novel and striking effects.

THE DIORAMA, Regent's Park.—JUST OPENED, with one of the finest VIEWS ever exhibited in this country, representing the ROYAL CASTLE of STOLZENFELS, on the Rhine, (visited by Her Majesty Queen Victoria in August, 1845), and its Environs, as seen at Sunset and during a Thunder Storm; painted by NICHOLAS MEISTER, of Cologne. And the much-admired Picture of THE SHRINE OF THE NATIVITY, at Bethlehem; painted by the late M. BENOUX, from a Sketch made on the spot by DAVID ROBERTS, Esq. R.A., with novel and striking effects.

INDIA OVERLAND MAIL.—DIORAMA GALLERY of ILLUSTRATION, No. 14, Regent-street, Waterloo-place.—A Gigantic MOVING DIORAMA, ILLUSTRATING THE ROUTE of the OVERLAND MAIL to INDIA, depicting every object worthy of notice on this highly-interesting journey from Southampton to Calcutta, accompanied by descriptive detail and appropriate music, is now OPEN DAILY, at Half-past Two and Eight o'clock.—Admission, 1s.; Stalls, 2s. 6d.—Doors open at Two and at Half-past Seven o'clock.

#### ROYAL POLYTECHNIC INSTITUTION.

COURSE of TWENTY LECTURES, of two hours' each, on USEFUL PRACTICAL CHEMISTRY, under the direction of J. H. REPPER, Esq., adapted for Manual Schools, Masters, and Students. The Course will be a Systematic Series on the Elementary Details and Manipulations of Chemistry, the Atomic Theory and Symbols, Preparations of Gases, Acids, Saline Bodies, Qualitative and Quantitative Analysis.

To commence on the 22nd inst. 8 o'clock, including admission to the Institution during the Course, Two Guineas.

ANALYSES of SOILS and ADVICE to FARMERS at very moderate charges. R. I. LONGBOTTOM, Sec.

#### SOCIETIES

GEOGRAPHICAL.—Capt. W. H. Smyth, President, in the chair.—J. Shillinglaw, Esq., was elected a Fellow.—Read: 'Notes taken during his Travels in Northern Arabia, in 1848,' by Dr. G. A. Wallin.—Dr. Wallin started from Cairo towards the end of the year 1847, in order to penetrate into a portion of Arabia not hitherto described by Europeans. He successfully accomplished this; and the results of this journey of the enterprising Finn are given in his MS. presented to the Royal Geographical Society, and from which two maps, about to be published by the East India Company, are in a state of forwardness. The route lay along the shore of the Sinâ Peninsula to Altoor, Asharm, Muweilah, Jebel Shammar, through the Dahnâ Desert to Meahed 'Ali and Baghdad. The paper was rendered the more valuable from the comparisons contained in it of ancient Arabic authorities with the personal experience of the author, as well as by the description given of the tribes among whom Dr. Wallin passed so many years.—Letter from

Col. Napier on the subject of the South African Expedition to the Lake Ngami.'

GEOLOGICAL.—Sir C. Lyell, President, in the chair.—D. D. Heath, Esq. was elected a Fellow.—The following communications were read:—1. 'On the Diluvium of Wick, Caithness,' by J. Cleghorn, Esq. In examining the till or boulder clay of Wick, the author had particularly noticed the fragmentary state of the majority of the shells contained in that formation. In accounting for this phenomenon, he considered as inadmissible the action of icebergs grating over the sea bottom, which has been brought forward by some as sufficient explanation of the existing condition of these shells. The larger and stronger shells would be broken, as is here the case; but the smaller and more fragile shells also would have been comminuted,—a condition which does not always obtain in the till. The author thought, however, that the condition in which small shells and fragments of larger shells, of kinds similar to the till shells, are found in the stomach of the cat-fish, common on our coasts, would be a likely explanation of the condition in which the shells of the till are usually found.

2. 'On the Occurrence of Marine Shells in the Till, near Airdrie,' by J. Smith, Esq. In the till or boulder clay, stratified beds of sand, gravel, and laminated clay are of very rare occurrence. These are sometimes found immediately below the till, and are apparently fragments of an older alluvial covering, which has not been entirely removed by the cause, whatever it was, that lodged the till on the surface. In digging a well near Airdrie, some stratified beds were found lying in the till, one of which contained *Tellina proxima*,—an arctic species abundant in the Clyde pleistocene beds overlying the till. This bed of shells is 510 feet above the level of the sea, and 150 feet higher than the highest level at which any other such beds have been found in Scotland. From the general character of the contents of the shelly bed at Airdrie, and from similar till shells previously collected by the author and others at Wick, Thurso, Gamrie, Loch Ryan and Dundee, he concluded that the till and the stratified beds, which lie immediately below and above it, all belong to the same geological period,—viz., to that which immediately preceded the present, and which has been named by Prof. E. Forbes the glacial epoch.

3. 'On the Bunter-Sandstein of the Vale of the Nith,' by R. Harkness, Esq. The author described the extent of the red sandstone of the district adjacent to Dumfries, and gave detailed accounts of the various quarries in which it is exposed.

SOCIETY OF ANTIQUARIES.—Mr. Collier, V.P., in the chair.—Thanks were returned to the various donors of valuable presents of books, &c. Several hundred pounds have lately been expended on the library; and such additions are constantly made to it that it begins to be a very available collection to the Fellows,—among whom all the volumes (excepting a few that are reserved and the manuscripts) circulate.—Mr. Cole exhibited a curious illuminated missal; and Mr. Frost sent an antique ring, the inscriptions on which excited a good deal of attention.—Mr. O. Morgan communicated a paper on those exploded and obsolete machines, spits turned by dogs of a peculiar kind, bred and educated for the purpose.

We ought to mention in reference to a very friendly and learned note transmitted to us, that when we alluded in our last report of this Society to the conversion of Ethelbert, we did not mean to treat the question archaeologically, but merely to notice the popular belief on the subject. Mr. Hallam's paper on Lucius leaves that matter just where it was, excepting that he denies the conversion of the British king.

Mr. Bruce, Treasurer, in the chair.—The Secretary proceeded with the reading of Mr. Corner's curious extracts from the churchwardens' accounts of Eltham, Kent. We felt disposed to complain a little that these, with the notes upon them, were abbreviated and generalized, when in fact the particularity of the details constituted much of the interest of the subject. We conclude, however, that they will be printed at length in the 'Transactions' of the Society.—They made way for an important paper by Mr. King 'On the History and Antiquities of

Goodrich Castle,' late in possession of Sir S. Meyrick, so well known for his admirable collection of arms and armour, and for his learned works in connexion with them. Mr. King commenced with the earliest foundation of the Castle, and pursued the events relating to it down to the period of its destruction as a fortress by the Parliamentarians during the Civil Wars.

ARCHÆOLOGICAL INSTITUTE.—Sir J. P. Boileau in the chair.—Mr. Winston delivered some observations on the nature and composition of ancient stained glass, and illustrated his remarks by various specimens and microscopic drawings.—The Chairman then gave an interesting description of the Roman remains recently discovered at Redenham, and examined by him in company with Mr. C. E. Long and Sir J. Pollen.—Mr. Birch communicated further particulars concerning the Roman villa lately discovered in Whittlebury Forest, whence a quantity of pottery and other fragments were brought for exhibition by permission of the Duchess of Grafton.—Mr. W. Foulkes gave a detailed account of the opening of some tumuli in Merionethshire,—proving from various passages in the poetry of an ancient Welsh bard that one of these barrows was raised over the body of a chieftain named "Gwen," who was slain in a battle fought with the Saxons about the thirteenth century.—A short notice was received from Mr. G. Chester of some tumuli which had been lately examined by him in Norfolk; and the Rev. W. Dyke exhibited some antiquities found in a barrow near Monmouth.—Several rings and ornaments of gold were exhibited by the Dowager-Duchess of Cleveland and the Duke of Northumberland. Two of these relics had been found at the Roman station of Pierce Bridge, Durham, and at Corbridge on his Grace's estates on the Tyne.—A series of Roman rings were exhibited by the Hon. R. Neville, which had been principally found by him in his excavations of the villas at Ickleton and Chesterford; and there were others of early date discovered at the ancient castles of the Percys at Prudhoe and Warkworth, and a rose noble of Henry the Fifth,—part of a hoard lately found at the place last mentioned, and in the finest preservation. His Grace communicated further particulars regarding the Egyptian figures and amulets produced by him at the previous meeting, and stated to have been found with Roman coins and remains in Gloucestershire.—Drawings were shown of the massive gold armilla, six in number, a rich collection found in a garden at Bowes in Yorkshire during the last winter. They are now in the possession of Mr. J. Tunstall of that place. The intrinsic value of the gold, apparently of the greatest purity, is said to be about 76*l*. No similar examples are to be found in the British Museum; but such rings have been found in Sussex, and very frequently in Ireland. Mr. Cosmo Innes reported that a claim had been advanced on the part of the Crown, demanding the fine gold armilla found many years since on the estates of the late General Durham, at Largo, Fifeshire, and brought to London for exhibition at the Institute, by Mr. Dundas, during the past year. The serious prejudice arising from such attempts to enforce "treasure trove" was discussed; and several members present cited instances in which relics of the highest antiquarian interest have perished by being hastily thrown into the crucible before even a drawing or description could be procured, through apprehension of the enforcement of this feudal usage. A comparison was made between the existing state of the law in England and the beneficial effect of more liberal regulations in Denmark, through which many precious additions had lately been made to the Royal Museum of Copenhagen,—to which, as our readers know, such objects are constantly brought by the peasants who make such discoveries. A feeling was strongly expressed that the archaeologists of Great Britain should unite in a memorial praying for a timely modification of a custom so prejudicial to the interests of science and the investigation of national antiquities.—Some Etruscan antiquities from Calvi, the ancient Cales, were exhibited by Mr. Auldjo,—particularly two rudely modelled figures in terra cotta, with Numidian features.—A rare specimen of a steel "secretum" or skull cap, to be worn under the ordinary head-dress, was shown by Mr. B. Smith; and Mr. O. Morgan, Mr. Franks, and several other



gentlemen contributed objects for the inspection of the members.

**HORTICULTURAL.—Anniversary.**—Sir C. Lemon, Bart., in the chair.—The annual Report of the Council and Auditors was read and adopted. The ballot for Council and officers then took place; when R. S. Holford, J. Barchard, and J. M. Strachan, Esqs. were elected, new members of Council, in the room of Sir P. de Malpas Grey Egerton, Sir C. Lemon, and R. W. Eyles, Esq. The Duke of Devonshire was elected *President*; J. R. Gowen, Esq. *Treasurer*; and Dr. Daniel, *Secretary*. S. F. Gray and C. Loddiges, Esqs. were appointed *Auditors*.

**ZOOLOGICAL.—Anniversary Meeting.**—Sir G. Clerk, V.P., in the chair.—The report of the auditors having been received, Mr. D. W. Mitchell (the Secretary) read the report of the Council. It stated that the fellows, fellows-elect, and annual subscribers at the present time amounted to 1,665. The number of honorary and foreign members was 29; and of corresponding members, 155. Among the corresponding members the Society had to regret the loss of Sir T. Reade, Her Majesty's Consul-General at Tunis, who for many years was a liberal contributor to the Society, presenting them with many of the most valuable carnivora and struthious birds. The revenue of the Society amounted in 1849 to 8,771*l.* 9*s.* 8*d.*, being an increase of 606*l.* 8*s.* 5*d.* as compared with 1848, and of 1,005*l.* 14*s.* 2*d.* as compared with 1847. The Council regarded this result as conclusive evidence in favour of the measures commenced in 1848 for developing the resources of the Society, for the improvement of the menagerie, and for the extension of the facilities for visiting it. The increase in the receipts at the gates in 1849, of 1,124*l.* 19*s.* 6*d.*, as compared with 1847, justified the hope that this source of revenue would gradually resume the importance which it presented in the earlier period of the operations of the Society. The actual increase in the number of visitors in 1849, as compared with 1848, was 25,265; and it was scarcely to be doubted that it would have been still larger but for the epidemic which prevailed in August and September. The report from the gates for the current year presented an increase in the receipts of 130*l.* as compared with the corresponding weeks of 1849, and of 259*l.* 10*s.* 6*d.* as compared with 1848. The Council considered that the decrease of subscriptions had been checked as compared with the ratio of preceding years; and the decrease which for many years existed at the garden gates up to 1847 was not only determined, but the receipts were rapidly rising, and exhibited such a tendency to advance as more than counterbalances the decrease on the other heads of income. The recent liberal expenditure in buildings and the purchase of animals had not only been rewarded by the re-establishment of the celebrity of the collection, as the finest public vivarium in Europe, but had enabled the Council to create a considerable source of income in the disposal of duplicates—the most desirable specimens being invariably preserved for the menageries. The memorial to the Commissioners of Woods and Forests had met with attention, and the rent of the gardens is reduced to 337*l.*, whereby a saving of 167*l.* per annum is effected. The comparison of expenditure with income is, however, still unfavourable, if the outlay on new buildings was not considered rather as a change of investment than expenditure—that expenditure having brought the establishment to a state of efficiency and attractiveness which the Council believe will obviate for a considerable time the necessity of further building operations beyond the works now in progress. The buildings completed during 1849 were of the most important kind for the preservation of the collection, and in their advantages far exceeding the value of the annual dividend hitherto received on the capital employed. The ordinary expenditure of the Society might be taken at about 8,500*l.*; and there is, therefore, every probability that the increasing income of the Society will produce a surplus sufficient for all the purposes of a reserve. During the past year the additions to the museum of mounted specimens had been limited to such rare species as had died in the menagerie, and were not previously represented in the museum. Many duplicates had been presented to provincial institutions at Norwich, Ipswich, Dover,

Worcester, &c.; and some valuable presents had been received from different individuals. Although no important additions have been made to the library by purchase, several desirable and valuable works had been added by donations, and by exchange for the publications of the Society from a variety of scientific institutions at Paris, Munich, Breslau, Göttingen, Philadelphia, Berlin, Stockholm, Van Diemen's Land, many distinguished scientific bodies in England, Ireland, and Scotland, &c., as well as from authors. The principal buildings executed during the past year have been a continuation of the new aviary, the house for reptiles, a large inclosure for gallinatorial birds, the erection of a wing at the west end, and the commencement of one at the east end of the giraffe house, and the putting into repair other buildings connected with the gardens. In the gardener's department the Council had received various donations from the Horticultural Society, his Grace the Archbishop of Dublin, and other friends, and constant attention had been paid to keeping it in order. With regard to the menagerie, the Council had made great progress, and had been fortunate in obtaining the support of many additional correspondents. The collections of valuable animals presented by the late Pasha of Egypt and by the governor of Singapore having been safely brought to this country about the same time, the menagerie might be considered as having reached its highest point of value in July last; and it was worthy of remark that the number of visitors in that month far exceeded the average number of the last ten years. The Council had the satisfaction of announcing that H. H. Abbas Pasha had presented to the Society a hippopotamus which he had consigned to the care of the Hon. C. A. Murray, who, in a recent despatch, had described him as in good health, and as "tame and playful as a Newfoundland puppy." This animal might be expected to arrive in the course of next month, and could not fail to excite the most lively interest, no example having been seen in Europe since the decline of the Roman Empire. Mr. Duncan, the celebrated African traveller, Her Majesty's Vice-Consul at Whydah, wrote under date of September 14, to say that the King of Dahomey had promised to obtain him a young elephant and other valuable animals, but, unfortunately, owing to the sudden death of Mr. Duncan, the prospect thus opened was in abeyance, although no doubt the king would keep his promise to any future consul. The Council congratulated the Fellows on the interest which Her Majesty and Prince Albert had taken in the progress of the Society, of which they had obtained a knowledge by personal inspection; and which Her Majesty had evinced by presenting to the Society the principal portion of a present received from the Emperor of Morocco, consisting of a lioness, leopard, two ostriches, and two gazelles. During the past year the female aurochs and three bison were carried off by pleuropneumonia, the scourge of horned cattle. The rhinoceros and African buffalo had also died, but as the former had been upwards of fifteen years in the menagerie, and the latter nearly as long, their longevity, rather than their decease, was to be remarked on. The health of the collection generally is attested by the beautiful condition, and by the numerous list of species which have bred in the gardens. The Council had great pleasure in announcing that, notwithstanding the long list published in 1848 and 1849, the Society had been able to obtain upwards of seventy new species, exhibited for the first time during the past year. The total number of visitors to the gardens in 1849 was 168,895; of these 33,998 were privileged, and 134,897 unprivileged, of whom upwards of 72,000 were admitted on Mondays.

After a short conversation, in which it was stated that the gardens would be opened to the public at the reduced price of sixpence throughout Whitsun week, except on Saturday, and that the band would play in the gardens on Saturdays during the months of June and July,—the report was adopted, and a vote of thanks given to the chairman for his exertions in obtaining a reduction of the rent.

**ENTOMOLOGICAL.**—J. F. Stephens, Esq., V. P., in the chair.—Messrs. F. Walker, S. Waring, and A. Murray were elected members.—Mr. Shepherd exhibited two specimens of *Lobophora polyconmata*,

and an extensive series of *Micropteryx purpurella* and *semipurpurella*, recently taken at Dareuth Wood. Among the specimens of *semipurpurella* was a singular albino variety. Mr. Stainton exhibited specimens of *M. semipurpurella*, *purpurella* and *unimaculella*, from West Wickham.—Mr. S. S. Saunders exhibited a female *Stylops*, extracted from the abdomen of *Andrena trimmerana*, after the death of the bee.—Mr. Stephens exhibited three new British species of Micro-Lepidoptera, including *Stigmatonota dorsana* and *Tinea caprimulgella*.—Mr. White exhibited a new Coleopterous insect of the family Languriadae,—which he proposed to name *Doubledaya viator*, in honour of the late Mr. E. Doubleday, and read a description of the insect.—A description of *Panorpa ruficeps*, a new species from New Holland, by Mr. Newman, was read: this Mr. Newman believed to be the only specimen of true *Panorpa* received from the Australasian colonies; but Mr. Fortnum stated that he had taken *Panorpidæ* in South Australia, and that there were certainly two species in Mr. Hope's collection.—Mr. Fortnum exhibited a Gordius from a Locusta found near Frankfurt, and a dipterous larva from another locust.—Mr. Stainton exhibited a specimen of *Bedellia Orpheella*, taken by Mr. H. Cooke of Brighton, and stated that he had recently discovered that this species had been previously described as *ommulentella*: he also exhibited nine species of the genus *Ornix*, forming the *Meleagripennella* group of that genus. Six of these were British, including one new species, which he had taken in Devonshire the preceding week.—A supplementary paper 'On Stylops,' by Mr. S. S. Saunders, was read; and a continuation of Mr. Douglas's paper 'On the British Species of the genus *Gelechia*,' in which several new species were described, was also read.

**CHEMICAL.**—The President in the chair.—The following papers were read.—'On the Preparation of certain Chlorates, particularly of Chlorate of Potash,' by Mr. F. C. Calvert.—'On Propylene, a new hydrocarbon of the series CnHn,' by Capt. J. Reynolds.—'Note upon the action of Heat upon Valeric Acid, with some Remarks upon the Formulae of the Alcohol Radicals,' by Dr. A. W. Hofmann.

**INSTITUTION OF CIVIL ENGINEERS.**—W. Cubitt, Esq., President, in the chair.—The paper read was 'On the Absorbent Power of Chalk, and its Water Contents, under different Geological Conditions,' by Prof. D. T. Ansted. After explaining the nature and extent of the chalk rock of England, both geologically and topographically, and briefly describing its chief physical peculiarities, the author proceeded to detail the results of some experiments made for the purpose of ascertaining the positive and relative absorbent powers of different kinds of chalk when exposed to moisture under various circumstances. The specimens experimented on were small cubes, each weighing from three to four ounces, taken from different districts and geological positions in the upper, middle and lower beds of the chalk. From these experiments it appeared that the upper chalk when it was to all appearance perfectly dry contained about one-third part of a pint of water in each cubic foot, which was never parted with under any conditions of dryness of the atmosphere; that in the case of an exposed surface of the rock the absorption from a moist atmosphere would be unimportant, although when water was presented to it in a liquid form the upper chalk was found capable of receiving into its mass a quantity of water amounting to more than two gallons for every cubic foot of rock beyond the quantity usually contained in apparently dry chalk under ordinary exposure. A specimen of the middle chalk when thoroughly air-dried by six months' exposure was found to contain about 23 parts of water in 1,000 parts; three-fourths of which water were readily given off by subsequent exposure to a perfectly dry atmosphere, very little more than the original quantity being re-absorbed on exposure to a saturated atmosphere:—showing that the absorbent power, in this respect, was even less than in the case of the upper chalk. The quantity of water contained in a cubic foot of saturated middle chalk was rather more than two gallons. A specimen of the lower chalk was found to contain more than 10 parts of water in 1,000 parts, about three-fourths of which were rapidly parted with on



exposure to a perfectly dry atmosphere; but the rest, amounting to more than the quantity of water contained in the upper chalk in its ordinary state, was not parted with by any exposure short of a vacuum. On subsequent exposure to a saturated atmosphere, more than  $15\frac{1}{2}$  parts of water in 1,000 parts were absorbed; and when the specimen was saturated, its water contents exceeded  $2\frac{1}{2}$  gallons per cubic foot. It was stated that the upper chalk might generally be regarded as the *conducting*, and the lower chalk as the *containing*, part of the formation, so far as water was concerned; and that chalk must be regarded as a rock, which everywhere admitted the percolation of water, receiving into itself, and conveying to its lower beds, the water that fell on, or was brought to, its surface. This readily explained the uniformly dry appearance it presented, and the absence of any streams arising from mere surface drainage where extensive exposure of the rock itself occurred. It also appeared that particular bands of rock contained much more water than others; some, indeed, being apparently, though not really, dry, when below the surface of permanent wetness,—while others gave off water readily, and to a large extent. The probable effect of rain-fall upon the surface of the exposed chalk was then considered; and it was estimated, that at least eighteen inches descended annually to what was called the surface of permanent wetness, maintaining a general and rude parallelism with the surface of the ground,—but when the chalk rock was permanently covered with impermeable soils, as in the London basin, the position of the surface of permanent wetness was liable to extreme variation, and to be most seriously affected, as lateral percolation was then the only source of wetness. On the other hand, it was thought that a large portion of chalk rock existed in a state of uniform and permanent wetness, and that wherever the gault extended, underlying the chalk and keeping up the water, there must be, at and below a certain depth from the surface, a supply of water to the extent of 180 millions of gallons for each square mile one yard in thickness; and that the surface of permanent wetness, dependent chiefly on the present rain-fall, was so far above this lower surface of saturation as to insure a supply at least equal to one half of the rain-falling on the immediate surrounding country.

W. Cubitt, Esq. President, in the chair.—‘On the Application of Water-Pressure, as a Motive Power, for working Cranes and other kinds of Machinery,’ by Mr. W. G. Armstrong.—The object of the paper was to direct attention to the advantages of a more extended application of hydraulic pressure as a motive power, and to point out the means of attaining this desirable end; illustrating the arguments by descriptions and drawings of the engines on this principle already erected since the year 1845, when the author first designed a crane, to be worked by the pressure of water from the street water-pipes, at Newcastle-upon-Tyne.—The following candidates were elected:—Messrs. J. G. Appold, C. Clark, W. Crosley, J. Freeman, F. H. Johnson, J. H. Jones, R. W. Kennard, and A. Ogilvie as Associates.

ROYAL INSTITUTION.—W. R. Grove, Esq., V.P., in the chair.—Rev. J. Sornain, ‘On the Connexion of Philosophy with Science.’

The Duke of Northumberland, President, in the chair.—The Rev. Prof. Baden Powell, ‘On Optical Phenomena in Astronomy.’—All astronomical phenomena are in some sense optical; but those referred to in the present instance are peculiar phenomena presented to the astronomer, the causes or nature of which are as yet imperfectly understood. The phenomena referred to are briefly the following:—1. The enlargement of the discs of the sun, moon, and planets, giving apparent diameters greater than the true, but subject to considerable variations under different circumstances; the most obvious cases of the kind being such as the enlargement of the bright part of the new moon beyond the dark part, and the appearance of the fixed stars in some telescopes with defined circular edges. 2. The formation of the “beads” and “threads” at the junction of the limbs of the sun and moon in an annular eclipse; and the analogous formation of a neck in transits of Mercury or Venus. 3. The appearance of a bright central spot on the dark side of Mercury in a transit. 4.

The apparent projection of stars, at occultations, both upon the bright and dark limbs of the moon; and a similar appearance of Jupiter’s satellites on his disc. 5. The formation of a luminous ring round the moon in a total solar eclipse.—Before any optical explanation can be inquired into, it is necessary to bear in mind that many of these phenomena are described as seen only on some occasions, and not on others, even under conditions apparently the same. This seems to point to some personal or ocular cause, whose conditions are unknown, as at least influencing the results. Again, some of these results have been referred to the action of atmospheric causes, such as extraordinary refractions, &c. taking place in our atmosphere or in atmospheres supposed to be attached to the moon or planets. But, apart from these considerations, it appears that known optical causes might abstractedly account for many phenomena like those described. Theory shows that if the aperture of a telescope be contracted (within certain limits of ratio to its focal length) it will give the image of a luminous point, as a disc, and, if the light be strong enough, surrounded by rings. This principle has been called “the diffraction of the object-glass,” and fully investigated by Mr. Airy (*Cambridge Transactions*, vol. v., p. 283): it agrees exactly with the phenomena presented by the stars and by artificial light. The effect of “irradiation,” or the apparent enlargement of a bright object on a dark ground, has been established and elucidated by a succession of researches, from those of Galileo down to those of M. Plateau. It has often been regarded as of a purely optical and physiological nature. Though some part of the effect may be ocular, the author of this communication has shown that the main part of it, at least, is not so, since the same effect is exhibited in an artificial eye, or camera obscura. It is increased by increasing the intensity of the light and by contraction of the aperture, and may be identified with the last-mentioned effect, in the telescope the lens of the eye being regarded as an object-glass. Photographic images are also obtained exhibiting the enlargement. This explains the enlargement of discs; and, in conjunction with the curious fact of the rapid increase in intensity of light in the sun’s disc, from the edge inwards, accounts for the enlargement and elongation of the small patches of light formed by irregularities in the moon’s edge in contact with the sun’s limb into beads and threads, and the neck in transits. The enlargement of the moon’s disc over a star in contact with its edge would cause the appearance of projection. Instrumental conditions might cause it to be seen in some telescopes and not in others. The same theoretical principle (viz., the diffraction of the object-glass) would give the image a small dark disc on a bright ground with an internal ring or central bright spot. This would explain the spot on Mercury in the transit, had it not been in some instances described as excentric, and, in one case, double.—For details of investigations on all these points, vide Rev. Baden Powell’s paper ‘On Irradiation,’ in the *Memoirs of the Royal Astronomical Society*, vol. xviii. But besides these known optical causes, there is another property of light which may bear on these questions, as yet hardly understood. It was originally stated very briefly and imperfectly both by Hooke and Newton about the same time—(see Hooke’s ‘Posthumous Works,’ London, 1795, pp. 186 and 190, and the plate 11, p. 155, Newton’s ‘Optics,’ edition 1721, book iii., part 1, observation 6). This property consists in an extraordinary divergence of light into the shadow, which seems to have been unattended to till Prof. Powell devised a more convenient way of exhibiting it, and found not only rays diverging into the shadow of an opaque disc in a remarkably distinct manner, but even when the area of the rays is considerably less than that of the disc, giving the apparently paradoxical effect of a luminous ring outside the edge of the dark disc. This seems to explain the luminous ring in a total eclipse, and a modification of the same experiment gives an appearance which may resemble the projection of a star on the dark limb of the moon. (See paper by Prof. Powell ‘On Luminous Rings round Shadows,’ *Mem. R. Astr. Soc. Vol. XVI.*)

On the whole, phenomena of the class alluded to seem to deserve more special and systematic examination than has hitherto been bestowed on them, and the attention of theorists is peculiarly invited to

the explanation of the phenomena of the ring formed where no distinct rays can reach, especially in connexion with a theory of a somewhat allied case proposed by M. Babinet, dependent on the principle called “the mutual destruction of secondary waves,” which in this instance is prevented taking effect by stopping one of the waves. Of all parts of the subject of light, as connected with astronomy, perhaps the most inexplicable is the simple fact of its uninterrupted propagation through such inconceivably vast regions; yet the most exact observations on the aberration of light (which essentially depends on the uniform velocity with which it moves compared with the velocity of the earth in its orbit), show it to be absolutely the same for the nearest planets and the most distant stars and nebulae, and for those of all colours and magnitudes. These considerations powerfully exalt our ideas of the exactness and uniformity of those laws by which the transmission of light takes place; and, being continued through such enormous and incalculable distances, by excessively minute movements or vibrations with such unchangeable regularity, we cannot but regard it as affording an astonishing confirmation of our convictions of the indications of a Supreme Intelligence.

SOCIETY OF ARTS.—T. Winkworth, Esq. in the chair.—‘On the Properties of the Diamond for cutting Glass, with Descriptions of Machines invented by him in which the Diamond is made to perform perfectly what by manual labour had before been very imperfectly done,’ by A. Claudet.—The cause of the invention of the machines the description of which was the principal object of the paper, was, the increased use of glass shades for covering ornaments; the cutting of which, so that they should stand perfectly firm and with an even base, was a tedious and imperfect operation when done by hand. The manufacture of these shades, which, under the name of “cylindres de verre,” had long been carried on in France, was first undertaken in England, at the instance of M. Claudet, by Mr. L. Chance, of Birmingham, who embarked largely in the manufacture, getting workmen from France, for making both shades and the sheet glass which had there been for some time made from cylinders. It was now, however, found that some method of cutting the bottom of the shades and cylinders must be adopted surer and less expensive than the manual method, and Mr. Claudet was driven by this necessity to invent his machine. The principle of the machine, expressed in the fewest words, is this:—The shade is firmly fixed between an internal support and a transverse bar above it, in a perfectly upright position, above a horizontal, level and smooth table, its bottom being a few inches above the table. Upon the table travels a small but heavily-weighted base moving on castors, having springing from it two upright pillars, one holding the diamond, and the other forming a support opposite to it. The pillar holding the diamond is fixed; but the other is moveable, being by a spring kept close to it. The height of the whole is such that when on the table the diamond is about an inch above the bottom of the shade. The diamond being introduced inside the shade as it hangs suspended, the pressure of the spring is sufficient to cause it to cut, and it has only to be moved round the shade, the horizontality of the table causing the cut to be perfectly level. This machine was exhibited, and the bottoms of shades cut by it before the meeting. The shape of the shade, whether oval, round or square, is unimportant in the use of this machine; but M. Claudet has contrived another for the cutting of round shades only, in which the shade is laid horizontally,—a system of adjustments being provided, by which shades of any diameter can be cut by the workman with little risk of error. This machine was also in action.

W. Tooke, Esq., V.P. in the chair.—‘How to supply the Metropolis with pure Water, and in ample quantity,’ by J. Pym.—The question which the author proposes is, how to obtain a sufficient supply through the medium of Artesian wells; and his plan is as follows.—At a given distance from the Thames, on each side, sink down to the chalk a series of shafts, each having a communication which would allow it to be filled at high water; thus, twice a day, an immense supply would be given to the chalk basin—other shafts are to be sunk at small



distances from the former ones, up which the filtered water would rise, as in inverted syphons, till near the level of the Thames. From these ascending shafts it would be distributed by steam power. By this plan, the chalk stratum of the London basin, extending from Highgate to Forest Hill, would be converted into a large filter. A shaft of the diameter of those of the Thames Tunnel would probably filter a quantity of water equal to that supplied by the New River. The author considers that the water being thus quickly filtered through the chalk, would not become so impregnated with lime as the water usually got from Artesian wells, which has lain in it for a length of time.

'On the Purification of Coal-Gas,' by R. Laming. The author's process, (which has been hitherto successfully put into action at Paris, at the Chartered Company's Westminster Works, on a small scale, and at the Imperial Company's Haggerstone Works, on a larger scale) consists of two parts. First, the removal of the impurities from the gas; secondly, the revivification of the used material, which is made again capable of service. The purifying material is a saturated solution of muriate of iron decomposed by lime into muriate of lime and hydrated protoxide of iron, mixed with breeze; during the mixing, the iron becoming peroxide (carbonate) from the oxygen of the air. On passing the gas through this material in the ordinary purifiers, the following changes take place:—The sulphuretted hydrogen combines with the peroxide, forming water and sesquisulphuret of iron; the ammonia and carbonic acid join to form proto-carbonate of ammonia, which again acts on the muriate of lime to form muriate of ammonia and carbonate of lime. This proceeds until none of the peroxide of iron and muriate of lime are unchanged. The purifier is then thrown out of connexion, and a current of air passed through the used material, by which it is revived in manner following:—The sesqui-sulphuret of iron becomes, from the oxygen of the air, sesqui-sulphate of iron; after which this salt and the carbonate of lime decompose each other, becoming sulphate of lime and carbonate of protoxide of iron; the latter speedily changing into hydrated peroxide of iron, while the carbonic acid is liberated and escapes. Thus the material is brought back to its original condition, excepting that for muriate of lime has been substituted precipitated sulphate of lime, having the same affinity for carb. ammonia as the muriate has. In warm weather this revivification takes place in a very short time; but in winter it requires the aid of artificial heat. The same purifying material is capable of being used nine successive times without any appreciable diminution of its power, and at last becomes inefficient only from the accumulation of ammoniacal salt, which can be removed by simply washing. The result of this process on the gas is to remove one equivalent of carbonic acid for one and a half of ammonia and one and a half of sulphuretted hydrogen. But as the gas contains more sulphuretted hydrogen than ammonia, and more carbonic acid than sulphuretted hydrogen, it is necessary to submit it a second time to a material like the former, but with an excess of hydrate of lime. Here the sulphuretted hydrogen still left seizes on the oxide of iron, the carbonic acid being absorbed by the lime.

G. Moffat, Esq., V.P. in the chair.—A paper was read 'On the Causes and Preventives of Mildew in Vegetable Substances, especially in Paper and Parchments; with an Account of Experiments made on the Saturation of growing Wood with Antiseptic Chemical Solutions,' by Alfred Gyde.

A paper by Capt. Fayer, R.N. was read, and a model exhibited of his Safety Steering-wheel, for preventing the accidents that occur to steersmen of large vessels owing to their want of command over the wheel. The additional command is gained by the use of a friction band similar to those used in cranes passing round the wheel, and connected with a pedal by which any amount of retarding pressure may be exerted by the helmsman. The invention is calculated to be also very efficient in preventing the wear and tear arising from the constant motion of the rudders of ships lying in tideways or harbours.

H. T. Hope, Esq., V.P., in the chair.—'On the Principles of Great Circle Sailing,' by Mr. J. T. Towson.—The method of navigation called Great Circle Sailing, though it has been only lately brought

before the public, is far from being a new one. In 1495, Sebastian Cabot projected a voyage across the Atlantic on this principle, with a view of discovering a north-west passage to India. In 1537, in the first book published on the subject of navigation, it was treated of by Nunez; while in 1561, Cortez and, following him, Coiquet and Zambrano, advocated the adoption of Great Circle Sailing, in opposition to that by "rhomb lines;" showing that, since rhomb lines make endless revolutions round the globe, a course in which they are followed cannot be a direct one. [See an explanation of the principle, No. 1226, and *ante*, p. 317]. It does not, however, always happen that a great-circle course can be rigidly followed. Numberless circumstances affecting especially sailing-vessels, such as bad winds and currents, and the necessities of traffic, occur to make the shortest course in geometry not always the shortest in time; and hence arises the necessity of the method of Composite Great Circle Sailing, in which the course lies as far as possible on the lines of two great circles, each of which are successively followed. And in practice this method, the discovery of which is due to Mr. Towson, is often the only one available to sailing-vessels; which cannot, as steamers can, pursue a rigid, unwavering course. The composite course from Valparaiso to Van Diemen's Land was shown to be 770 miles shorter than that which on the chart appeared as a straight line.

#### MEETINGS FOR THE ENSUING WEEK.

- Mon. Geographical, half-past 8.—On recent Geographical Discoveries in Babylonia, by Major Rawlinson.—On Eastern Africa, by Mr. Mac Queen.
- Tues. British Architects, 8.—
- Civil Engineers, 8.—Description of the Navigation at Newry, by Sir John Kennealy.
- Zoological, 1.—Scientific Business.—On the Shark Fishery at Kurrachee, by Dr. Buist.—On New Species of Birds, by Mr. Gould.—On New Species of Insects and Crustacea, by Mr. A. White.
- Wed. Society of Arts, 8.—On the Regenerative Condenser of Mr. C. W. Siemens, of Birmingham, illustrated by Models and Drawings.
- Microscopical, 8.
- Ethnological, 2.—Anniversary.
- Thurs. Antiquaries, 8.
- Royal, half-past 8.
- Fri. Royal Institution, half-past 8.—On the Senses, and on Errors of Observation having their Source therein, by T. Wharton Jones, Esq.
- Literary Fund.—Anniversary Dinner.
- Sat. Horticultural, 1.—Meeting at Chiswick.

#### FINE ARTS.

##### ROYAL ACADEMY.

To the eighty-second Exhibition of this Institution the circumstances of the present moment have given more than ordinary interest. In addition to its intrinsic attraction, the sensation which has been of late excited respecting the transactions and efficiency of the body itself are likely to direct more than the usual amount of inquiry to its productions for the year. The present is not the occasion on which we can with propriety discuss the questions so raised. We observe merely that to a portion of those questions the members of the Academy make their reply on their own walls, and for the present we content ourselves with inquiring into the quality of that reply.

The present Exhibition is remarkable more from its variety and general excellence than from any very conspicuous examples in any particular branch. It contains specimens of historic art of large and small dimensions, some adapted for fresco treatment, by foreigners as well as by natives. It has examples of successful treatment of religious ceremonial, drama, tale, and novel, poetic combinations, the usual proportion of landscape and coast scenes, and a preponderance of portraiture that speaks more for the domestic tastes of the patrons than for the fertility of resource of those who have had to cater for them.—The unusual amount of contribution by foreign artists is to be ascribed of course to the unsettled state of the Continental nations.—Miniature is a misnomer that must soon cease to be applied to a class of productions whose dimensions are annually increasing, and which this year shows such an amount of merit.—We commence with the notice of those works which more immediately come under the head of the historic class.

\* "Rhomb lines," in nautical language, are the parallels running round the globe at right angles to the meridian lines; and which on Mercator's charts appear as horizontal straight lines.

The picture which most especially challenges attention, from the position which it occupies, is *The Good Samaritan* (No. 72), by Mr. Eastlake. This work is of the class academic;—a class in which the studies of the artist into human form are more especially applied to the expression of human passion. The sum of such a picture is to be wrought out of this element;—and it is in this particular of elementary truth that the work before us falls short of expectation. That there are in it sentiment and good intention, is admitted;—but these are not powerfully sustained by justness of proportion and accuracy of form. It might appear trifling to point to the too great thickness of loins, to the over-charged quantity of a limb, or to an impossible aspect of a joint. But no subtleties of execution can atone for departures from fact. In some descriptions of Art inaccuracy may be understood as the result of haste or of the temperament of the painter; but inaccuracy when elaborated bespeaks timidity of apprehension or uncertainty of purpose. It is that delicate apprehension, that excessive conscientiousness of refinement, which has marred Mr. Eastlake's picture;—for uncertainty, or ignorance of purpose cannot be imputed to a scholar. The taste, simplicity and care, which conferred on a Del Sarto the cognomen *senex erroris* never degenerated into timidity;—never paralyzed its author in his perception of truth or character;—never generalized individuality into vagueness. The name of the Florentine has been employed to mark significant precision and congeniality of purpose;—a consciousness of intention carried out with accuracy of taste and vigour of hand. It is in the spiritualizing quality of expression that Mr. Eastlake is most accomplished. In this respect it is that the head of the principal figure is remarkable. The materialism of Art vanishes on regarding it. In the particulars of local accessory there is wanting just that amount of reality which, without descending to the facts of topographic description, conveys the relations of objective truth, and avoids the conventional generalities of the studio.—Another picture by Mr. Eastlake, *The Escape of Francesco Novello di Carrara, Lord of Padua, with Taddea d'Este, his Wife, from Giovanni Galeazzo Visconti, Duke of Milan* (169), is a repetition of a picture executed some years since for Mr. Morrison (we believe). In this there is more accuracy of form; while there is less of atmospheric truth, and the peculiarities of climate are yielded up to the requirements of pictorial construction.

The next artist who claims our notice is Mr. Maclise;—and he claims it as much for the contrast as for the separate excellencies of his two works. *The Spirit of Justice* (160), painted in fresco in the House of Lords, is here before us in the finished design, and a higher exemplification of Mr. Maclise's talents we have not yet seen. The fresco has been already noticed in our columns; and we need now do little more than add the confirmation of our conviction, then expressed, of Mr. Maclise's high qualification for such treatment. The exuberance of imagination and fertility of resource for which he is eminent are here restrained by architectonic conditions that have enjoined simplification of view, and resulted in increased liberality and breadth of style. He has consented to forego the full exercise of his descriptive faculty for the exemplification of a great general principle. The characters given are essential, and no extrinsic or redundant particular interferes with the philosophy of the subject. His other picture in this Exhibition is the well-known scene from *The Vicar of Wakefield*, when the duped Moses, returning from the fair, brings home *The Gross of Green Spectacles* (56) which he has received as the price of his horse. To use the language of the theatre, the piece is well cast. The actors discriminate their several parts, and have an earnestness in their various expression that well conveys the painter's reading of the piece. The mise en scène is complete. The interior is just what it should be, and every appointment is eloquent of the painter's observation and inquiry. Need it be added, that Mr. Maclise has succeeded in conveying these in the same skilful art-language in which he has already given such abundant proofs of mastery? From a deal dresser to a hair trunk or a



hassock—from the obviousness of these to the subtle workings of the human faces in the various emotions which belong to their places and characters—we find in everything the manifestations of the active mind, put down with the confidence which care and long practice confer.—The striking variety in the aims as well as in the conduct of these two several works will help to increase the reputation of their author.

The seventh scene of the fourth act of *King Lear* has furnished Mr. Cope—an artist who has not appeared here with such force for many years past—with an excellent picture (39). It represents Cordelia, visiting her father when asleep in the tent in the French camp. The rendering is nervous and original. Cordelia is bending over the sleeping form of the woe-worn monarch,—"four score and upward."

"Oh, my dear father! Restoration, hang  
Thy medicine on my lips; and let this kiss  
Repair those violent harms, that my two sisters  
Have in thy reverence made!" \* \*  
To be exposed against the warring winds?  
To stand against the deep dread-bolted thunder?  
In the most terrible and nimble stroke  
Of quick, cross-lightning? to watch (poor perdu!)  
With this thin helm?"

The presentment of this scene and sentiment combines the artlessness of fact with the artifice of Art. The work is full of feeling. In all that relates to the distribution of the characters, the arrangement of the forms, the several expressions, and the details of extremities, Mr. Cope has here surpassed himself. This picture places him among the foremost painters of his time. Of the two coloured studies for the frescoes in the House of Lords—*Coloured Sketch for fresco of the Order of the Garter conferred on the Black Prince* (206), and *Prince Henry's Submission to the Law in the person of Judge Gascoigne* (222), we give the preference to the former. It is more complete and more closely resembling the fresco for which it was the design. Both, however, convey good ideas of the frescoes to those who may not yet have seen them. *Milton's Dream* (517) has enabled Mr. Cope to exhibit the range of his powers—showing his susceptibility to poetical feeling;—as the *Study of a Child's Head* (306) shows his sincerity when dealing with a question of fact.

Mr. Dyce—the evidences of whose powers are generally to be sought elsewhere than within these walls—has here this year a small picture, *The Meeting of Jacob and Rachel* (92). The charms of the modest maiden—the "beautiful and well favoured"—are seen to have made their immediate impression on the youthful Jacob. With all the fervour of impassioned love, he pleads his suit. Mr. Dyce has rendered all the points of his story scattered through the first eighteen verses of the 29th chapter of Genesis in a species of art-description which has availed itself of some of the more popular modes of expression of the earlier masters of the fifteenth century, omitting the dryness and accidental peculiarity of their time. The distinctness and methodical arrangement which the fresco style demands are made by him subservient to the expression of a very beautiful episode in a spirit and quality of refinement well befitting it.

We presume it was the motive of courtesy to a foreigner which induced the arrangers of the Exhibition to depart from their rule of not receiving pictures previously exhibited—for they must of course have known that the large picture of *Cromwell looking at the dead Body of Charles the First* (369), said to be by M. Paul Delaroche, was but a repetition,—some say a copy executed for him by a pupil from his original picture at Nice which has been so long familiar to the public by the means of engraving. Not to mention the apocryphal character of the subject chosen,—we must say that the exception alluded to is not justified either by fine art in the treatment or by delicacy of feeling. The picture suggests nothing higher than an inebriated soldier who has strayed from his garrison into some house to invade the chamber in which the corpse of a man who has suffered decapitation for some crime lies awaiting its interment. All the more disgusting particulars of the event are dwelt on with the worst taste. Horror is the only sense awakened by its contemplation. It is heavy in colour and clumsy in execution;—and we turn

with a feeling of regret from this misapplication of great talents to a low melo-dramatic purpose.—Nor has Mr. T. M. Joy in 409, where the Protector is shown contemplating the crown, better warranty for the subject which he has chosen. The picture pays but a sorry compliment to the memory of a man whose splendid talents are every day rising into truer estimation,—and the vulgarity of the idea is not compensated for by any of the master touches of Art.

Mr. Lucy in a large canvas which illustrates an authentic incident from the same period of history—*The Parting of Charles the First with his Two Youngest Children, the Day previous to his Execution* (571),—has not redeemed the promise made last year in his excellent picture of 'Cromwell and his Daughter.' The royal bearing of the accomplished and privileged monarch is here substituted by the unrefined presentment of ordinary humanity giving way to the most commonplace demonstration of grief,—and the proper sympathy is not excited for the children whom the attending prelate is withdrawing from the sight of their doomed parent. The gesture of one of these has a certain quaintness of action which is even calculated to provoke a smile. There are some admirable touches of the *mécanique* in this work; but it is on the whole much inferior, as we have said, to the work of which we presume it is intended to be the pendant. The subject would have proved a trying one even to Mr. Lucy's elder brethren in the art.

In a work of colossal scale, Mr. F. Pickersgill takes the 19th verse of the 16th chapter of Judges, —*Samson betrayed* (16)—as the means of exhibiting his knowledge of, and mastery in, the treatment of the human form. His power in drawing and natural sense of colour are too great to permit us to be satisfied with such a close following of the practice of the great colourist who has just left us. His is not the only instance in the present Exhibition where a strong admiration has influenced a picture to the destruction of its originality. Mr. Pickersgill, like Samson, has allowed himself to be shorn of his proper strength by a false Dallah. His own acknowledged powers referring to the original source whence Etty himself derived his inspiration—the luxuries of the Venetian palette—will, with the aptitude for composition and poetic invention which he possesses, added to a more chastened style of form, carry him further in their legitimate combination than any wandering after the lights of a favourite master, however worthily chosen, ever can. *Pluto carrying away Proserpine, opposed by the nymph Cyane* (264) is a striking instance of this truth: so is *A Scene during the Invasion of Italy by Charles the Eighth* (552). In the same artist's *Three sketches from the story of "Imalda"* (1043) Mr. Pickersgill appears on ground of his own, and with native effect.—Mr. Pickersgill's talents are of too high an order to be thrown away on imitations of even what itself is high.

Mr. Frost's *Disarming of Cupid* (15) is a work of considerable fancy founded on Shakspeare's sonnet. The subject enables him once more to exhibit his knowledge of the female form. Great contrasts of position here suggest more of variety than is sustained by the local tints. A larger amount of *impasto* and more decided tinting in the flesh colour would have much heightened the effect. It is in the same respect that the otherwise admirable work *Andromeda* (304) is wanting. Here, too, a reference to the glorious carnations of Venetian art would have suggested more distinctness of the local tints, and given more vigour and impulse to the whole.

The alleged superiority of artistic training in a foreign school is ill maintained in the picture, of colossal parts, contributed by Mr. E. Armitage under the title of *Aholibah* (486). It is with regret that we remark as we must on a work so ambitious by an artist of whom such early acknowledgment has been made in these columns and elsewhere. The promise of the cartoon which in Westminster Hall gained for its author a first-class premium cannot be said at this distance of some years' time to have been realized. The doubts to which each of these years has added something are in the present performance but too strongly confirmed. In increasing the scale of his canvas, the artist while

he increased the difficulty of his task magnified his want of resource.—The result is, as ungraceful and ill rendered a presentment of what is meant for feminine delicacy as has ever been achieved by material coarseness. Voluptuousness here degenerates into the sensual, and the type under which it is presented is of a low class nature. The skilful rendering of the back ground, and the propriety of other accessories scarcely mitigate the pruriency of the whole. In fact, this is an attempt proving that the artist has powers which require only the government of common sense to direct the language of his art to an end worthy of its intrinsic nobility.

Nor has Mr. G. F. Watts made a very striking demonstration in his *Good Samaritan* (408). The conception is not enhanced by a certain boldness and vigour of drawing without correctness;—but there is a mastery in the conduct of its colour which proves the painter not to have been idle when residing amid the treasures of early Art. The study of *Miss Virginia Pattle* (257) is a simple portrait treated with much purity and absence of effort.

*The Burial of the two Sons of Edward the Fourth in the Tower* in 1483 (491) is the only picture that we have had from the hands of Mr. Cross since the Westminster Hall Exhibition in 1847. It will not increase the reputation which the 'Cœur de Lion' forgiving De Gourdon then obtained for him. The subject is less favourable than that was to his peculiar qualities. The vigour of *physique* and strong dramatic action which so powerfully characterized his former work could have no appropriate exposition here. The most delicate and refined pathos were the aids needed,—qualities of the most subtle nature, requiring long experience and practice for their eloquent utterance. The time properly selected for the event is one to tax the resources of the most skilled in the conduct of *chiar-oscuro*. Mr. Cross, like more than one of our *Gallie* neighbours, has been contented to take such literal reading as, confining itself within the mere bounds of probability, borrows none of the charms of poetic illustration, and rests on the facts of time and place. There are parts of this work which satisfactorily demonstrate that when its author shall have selected an incident in which strong dramatic action is the chief element,—and where the obviousness of light and shade may be brought in aid—he has the qualifications necessary for confirming the presage of excellence which was so powerfully given by his first work.

#### SOCIETY OF PAINTERS IN WATER COLOURS.

WE congratulate Mr. William Callow on a decided advance. His style has of late years been gradually refining without losing any of its breadth,—and his eye enters more searchingly than it did into the minutiae of his subjects. His tone is still cold, and we have yet to deprecate the prevalence of a leaden colour in his shadows. His hand—always bold—is acquiring grace of execution. His best drawing here is *Ivoryary Castle, the seat of his Grace the Duke of Argyll* (No. 4). The castle in mid-distance, the finely drawn mountains in the background, and the lake on the right are all aided in their air of truthfulness by the look of reality given, as the eye enters the scene, to some trunks of recently felled beeches on which the woodmen are still at work. Mr. Callow's other drawings have still some of his old faults:—a tendency to strong contrasts,—breadth carried into flatness,—with a chilly ungenial tone—perhaps we ought to say a want of it.

We are sorry that we cannot award the praise of increasing merit to the works of Mr. Alfred Fripp. Some years ago we had conceived great hopes of the success awaiting the future of this young artist. Though the sources of his inspiration sometimes too evidently betrayed themselves as being found in the study of his immediate cotemporaries, there seemed in his works so much laborious earnestness of purpose in parts, employed—though imperfectly—to work out gleams of true sentiment, that we have watched his course with interest. We conclude that something allied to this feeling still exists among his brother members, since his largest drawing occupies one of the four most conspicuous



places in the room,—as we think unworthily. He seems to have arrived at the conclusion that he is now a master, and may rely on the past, casting aside all earnest endeavour. His subjects this year are puerile; and chosen, as in his smaller works, for their ease of production, or, as in his larger ones, for the mere gaudy display of violent colour, with an entire absence of good drawing. Truth seems to be left out of the category of Mr. Fripp's art-requisites; and with an occasional scintillation of harmonious tone, his general colour is tawdry, washy and careless. His gamboggy flesh and hair are positively offensive; and, with his old want of composition, there is an unreal and vapoury unsteadiness of general effect. Let him be warned in time. Mannerism of the worst kind will be the next issue of such indifference and looseness of style. We will point to one small drawing, *The Bird Scarer at Home* (286), by way of lesson. Here is such a subject as Mr. Hunt might have chosen; but in addition to the absence of any grace, beauty, or other merit of Mr. Fripp's own, all that would have rendered it interesting in Mr. Hunt's hands—the intense realization and scrupulous truth to nature which make him a master—are wanting.

We have little to say of Mr. Fielding that has not been said a hundred times before. The usual evidences of his industry and talent meet us here at every turn. He has long held undisputed sway in graceful elegance of style—a style which, as far as our memory serves, has sustained no mutation. Adopted before the introduction of the more dextrous “touchy” and modern manner, there is in it a blandness and sweetness—a refined delicacy—with which the latter perhaps is incompatible. We have here this artist's usual sea-piece. This year it is *The Eddystone Lighthouse—Stormy Weather* (176), to which the wild flight of sea-gulls around a floating piece of wreck gives a more than usually dramatic effect. These storm-pieces of Mr. Fielding's are among the best productions of art of their class; and a little less monotony of tone would have made this one nearly perfect. We have here, too, his usual classical landscape,—as well as several with those half visionary, aerial effects among downs and uplands which have so poetical an air of mystical beauty.

There is a new addition to the list of what we perceive the Society now denominate “honorary” members,—meaning thereby lady members. This title is calculated to mislead the public into the idea that these are amateurs. The young aspirant in question is Miss Nancy Rayner,—and she gives great promise. There is a little drawing by her here, not very likely to catch the eye from its low situation, which is the very “spirit of fun.” In *The Queen's Birthday* (6), a young post-boy, dressed in his new livery of office, has just emerged from a large stone entrance of the Post-office, his hat and whip decorated with cockade and ribbons. He is tying or tightening his cravat, with an amazing assumption of comical importance,—his top-boots are irresistible. *The Gleaners* (104) is placed almost out of sight,—but there appears to be a charming expression of wildness in the face of the girl, and of smiling happiness in that of the sleeping-boy. *The Vow* (149) has a power of effect which surprises us from the hand of a lady,—with very beautiful colour and tone.—Another of the additions to the ranks of the Institution is Mr. Carl Haag, with whose works—having heard much in their praise—we confess ourselves somewhat disappointed. They are all under the same effect of sunset. All have the same general brown tone, with very blue shadows and orange-coloured light. Mr. Haag's most important drawing is, *The Remains of the Temple of La Fortuna Capitolina, known to some by the name of the Temple of La Concordia, or of Juno Moneta, or of Vespasian. This temple, situated on the Clivus Capitolinus at Rome, was burnt down under Maecentius* (87). The columns are beautifully and carefully painted under their partial illumination by the setting sun; and the figures in the gloom of the shadow are well drawn and with good character,—though reminding us strongly of the works of Pinelli. But there is a want of reality about them, with their very cold tone, which is not agreeable. His best drawing is *The House of Cola di Rienzi, the last of the Roman Tribunes*

(270); which, but for the false look of the very blue distance, is beautiful. Still, we think that more prominent space has been given to Mr. Haag's works than is fairly their due,—and that some portion of it might, without more than fitting courtesy to a lady, have been accorded to the less pretending drawings of Miss Rayner.—The third addition to the ranks of members is Mr. P. Naptel,—who at present shows himself as very young in art. His works bear the evidence of a simple unaffected endeavour at the imitation of nature, unselective and accidental. He is, however, on the right road,—and with industry and an aim so true, must succeed. True, he has much to learn. There is not even an attempt at composition in his works,—and his eye is not as yet educated to the sense of aerial distance. Many distant parts intrude before those in the foreground. His best drawing here, in all respects, is *Moel Siabod, North Wales* (21). Though looking like the result of accident,—it is a good composition; with execution clear and sparkling, though a little stiff.

There are many very clever works among the marine subjects of Mr. J. Callow,—but showing too much of mere picture making. From the sketchy thinness, and flatness, too, of many of them, we turn with pleasure to *Wreck, St. Helier's Bay, Jersey, Elizabeth Castle in the Distance* (77). In this there are fullness, richness and amenity of tone.—Mr. Hunt carries the faculty of imitation to that extent which claims the title of genius. The rich assemblages of Baptiste are gorgeous and magnificent,—the flower-pieces of Van Huysum are marvels of beautiful and graceful arrangement, and in their careful and delicate refinement of manipulation call forth unbounded admiration; but we doubt if either of them has ever reached that consummate art which in Mr. Hunt makes the mere transcript of material nature a poetry. His fruits, with the rich or delicate bloom on them, seem bursting with their juicy contents;—we feel as though we could scarcely take the eggs from the intricate net-work of those birds'-nests without fracturing the frail shell. In the dewy leaves of those flowers we feel the aroma floating, and scent it in the air. All this is produced with a force and vigour which carry the sense of tangible reality. In subjects of this kind the artist is here as great as ever. *Hare, Wood-Pigeon, &c.* (165), his largest drawing,—with the total absence of all pretension to the beauty of linear composition, the perceptive faculty for which Nature seems to have denied him—is a wonder of nice imitation and pictorial power. The mosses are impressible and soft, the ivy-leaves tough, and the lichens crisp and dry. In *Primroses* (275) the artist almost excels himself; as also in *Grapes, Figs, &c.* (281), and in *Apple-Blossom* (288). But we confess our disappointment at finding not more figure subjects from Mr. Hunt's hand,—and that those we do find are in no respect equal to himself. There are none of those interiors made alive by the homely simplicity of their inhabitants,—none of those devotional heads breathing pure and unaffected piety,—above all, none of those subjects which were so fraught with the characteristic of a true, though broad, comic humour. One only subject of prayer, *The Oratory* (241), recalls the memory of any of these things,—and that is neither true nor elevated in expression.—Nor does Mr. Oakley make this year any great display; although there is in *St. Valentine's Day* (258) an evidence of qualities that we could not hitherto give him credit for,—namely, an easy and graceful flow of line and rotundity of relief. He is getting rid of his flat angularity; but we hope the change may not bring with it a mawkish insipidity,—towards which we regret to see an unusual tendency in one or two of his drawings, so different from the vigorous character of his earlier works.

On the whole, we do not think Mr. Jenkins exhibits any great improvement,—although we will not say that there is evidence of his going back. His drawings are perhaps not quite so happy in selection of subject nor so deep in sentiment as those of last year. They are executed with increased care and delicacy,—praiseworthy in itself, but producing oftentimes a littleness of manner which he should correct. A more ample

freedom and sweep of line would increase the beauty of his style. The scenery with which he surrounds his figures, although poetical, has sometimes a tendency to the artificial; and his sentiment, gentle and tender, verges occasionally, on the mawkish. He has an unerring sense of beauty, on which he may confidently rely,—paying more attention to energy of imagination, of which he has heretofore on many occasions proved himself to be the possessor. There is a quaint conception in *Come In* (69); where a very beautiful and gracefully drawn figure of a female reaper is bending over a child just entering a gate, with the hands only of its nurse or mother protruding to receive it. *Shrimper, near Boulogne* is an instance of the overdone sentiment to which we have alluded; and is artificial both in action and in drawing,—besides being deficient in this artist's usual purity of colour. His best drawing is *The Calm—Brittany* (222); in which the expression of the female gazing on her child is especially charming.

We turn with pleasure to the works of Mr. Duncan,—characterized by the flood of rich and glowing tone with which they come upon the sense. True, also, in their local colour, and full of variety, we see no drawings in the collection which entreat our attention to their examination with a more persuasive charm. *Gleaners* (111) is an evidence of this in all respects. The figures are rich in the glowing sunlight. The sky is very pure, and of that neutral though luminous character which eludes inquiry as to the art by which it was produced.—Mr. George Fripp is an artist who possesses an immense facility in drawing from nature; and we have seen drawings from his hand of careful and studied refinement which led us to expect from so excellent a method of application a very great future result. We cannot but confess that in the present Exhibition we are disappointed. There is no sign of that careful thought and concentrated effort; and his works here have, on the contrary, an exaggeration of manner manifesting looseness of habit. That truth to nature which he had accustomed us to look for in the earlier productions of his pencil, is wanting. *Mapledurham Mill, on the Thames, near Reading* (86), has a true, though commonplace air, and is not picturesque. *Bolton Abbey, from the South* (114), is a more picturesque scene, but with very rank colour in the lights. *A Study on the Thames, near Medmenham* (120), is very fresh in colour, but without atmosphere,—and is hard and liney in the drawing. A very forcible production, *Tilly Whim, on the Coast near Swanage* (161), defeats its object by excessive hardness. The rocks look flat and inlaid, instead of solid and firm. The sea is much too blue, and there is not the least sense of atmospheric distance. *On the Coast of Dorsetshire,—View looking across Studland Bay* (264) is also decidedly overdone,—although on the whole perhaps the artist's most beautiful drawing here: whilst *The Coast at Lulworth, Dorsetshire* (252)—an otherwise very beautiful work, with the rocks admirable in colour—is spoilt by the rankness and fierceness of the hot colour in the lights.

Mr. J. M. Wright's *Sancho and the Duchess* (265) presents us with his usual characteristics of tameness in colour and light and shade, and the absence of all sense of beauty in female character, accompanied by good and vigorous though vulgar character in the female heads. We are a little startled by the modern costume of Sancho.—We regret to have but one drawing from the vigorous pencil of Mr. Rayner,—and that placed unaccountably high, as it seems to have great merit and is of an unusually ambitious character. This is, *Monks at the Shrine of their Founder* (232). There is a fine impressive character in the action; and, as far as we can judge from the distance, a true devotional expression in the heads of the monks—well contrasted and varied. There are also a fine general tone and great force. Surely these qualities should have entitled the work to a place nearer the eye.—What shall we say to Mr. Palmer, who, with certain evidences of talent and a dream of truth, offers us such eccentricities of prismatic colour run mad? Granted even that a blazing sun in a tropical sky, as in *Robinson Crusoe guiding his*



*Raft up the Creek* (217), might excuse the attempt by such means, though unsuccessful, to give richness and force:—surely in *Wind and Rain* (177) the use of these gaudy and undivided hues is absurd. Mr. Palmer should be contented in the knowledge that his principle is based on philosophic truth, and disguise it from the eye—as in nature—by an exquisite and infinite subtlety! This is the triumph of true art.

What admirer of paintings in water colours will not regret the comparative desertion of Mr. Frederick Taylor. True, in his oil pictures he has shown much evidence of talent;—but here in his peculiar walk he reigned supreme. Excelling in rural and pastoral scenes and in the poetry of the chase—with a full, rich and liquid pencil well suited to his subjects, he possessed a richness of clear colour under the command of a well-studied and comprehensive general treatment that proclaimed the master: He had just so much knowledge of the details of drawing as was demanded for the size of his works,—and we confess we look to him with some misgiving for that more abstruse treatment which will be required for pictures in oil. His change of object has caused the present collection to suffer not only in the quantity but in the quality of his contributions. *Driving Cattle through a Highland Glen* (317) has his usual poetical feeling and felicity of drawing,—but is wanting in freshness. *Return from Otter Hunting* (329) and a *Hawking Party* (356) have a prevailing green tone; that fails of his usual truth. It is only in *Bridge Scene*, *Highlands* (367), that he appears in his accustomed freshness and purity.—From whatever cause, there is also a paucity of drawings from the hand of Mr. J. O. Finch. Classical in feeling and with a depth of colour and tone reminding us of the treatment of the old masters, there was ever a modest care and conscientiousness tempering his creations to the hues of truth and nature. Bred in the old school of execution, he seems now ambitious of more vigour and precision of touch,—but he is not successful in the effort. In a somewhat novel subject, *A Garden* (144), the effect of this endeavour produces a hard, brittle quality; less observable in *A Land Storm* (360),—though here there is still a spotiness as the result of an attempted freedom. We like better *Moonlight*, *A Seaport* (372).

The veteran Prout sustains all the peculiarity of his manner, with its merits and its defects, in unrelaxing vigour. With great breadth of light, and what may be termed a large and intimate appreciation of the obvious characteristics of his theme, Mr. Prout marks his somewhat superficial observation—limited to large facts—with unerring and unflinching precision. Diffuse in topographical interest, his architectural drawings are always pleasing in general tone,—and the description of one answers for all. *Pont de Rialto, Venice* (52) and *At Dresden* (251) are the best that he has given us this year.—The works of Mr. Mackenzie are of a very different character. Pinstaking and minute even to the marking of every stone in the building,—they are merely architectural in the strictest sense, without any pretension to the picturesque or even to the probable in general effect:—the most distant parts being marked with the same minute hardness of line as those near at hand. Yet there is an air of truth in local as well as in general colour which renders them pleasing.—Another architectural draughtsman, Mr. Joseph Nash, with much more ambition for the pictorial, is in his sketches often loosely picturesque in touch and rich in colour. In his more studied and completed works he fails by an added stiffness in proportion to an additional elaboration. His wiry and thin pencilling, with every adjunct of extraneous and picturesque embellishment that a well-stored memory and minute observation can supply, in addition to figures often felicitously conceived and tolerably drawn, fails to give that air of mastery and artistic character which is evidently the object of his ambition. Nevertheless, his drawings in this collection are among the best that we have seen from his hand,—and we have no doubt will be considered by his admirers to be eminently successful. Indeed, looked on as architectural drawings in the strict sense of the term, they are very

beautiful. *Gallery at Aston Hall, Warwickshire* (20), is an admirable example of perspective, filled to abundance with decorative materials; including many figures—well, though somewhat stiffly, drawn. The distance is excellently preserved; though the drawing is covered with some gummy vehicle,—a resource adopted, we presume, to hide the artist's dryness of manner, which destroys all variety of texture. In *Interior of the Hall at Speke, Lancashire* (44), the diamonded pavement destroys the effect of the smaller parts in the rest of the drawing. There is a good though somewhat monotonous preservation of the effect of artificial light in the *Banquet given by Cardinal Wolsey to the French and Spanish Ambassadors at Hampton Court Palace* (160).—*The Old House at Rochester* (128) is a very successful sketch from nature.

Mr. T. M. Richardson is among those who have here excelled all their previous efforts. Some of his landscapes are truly beautiful,—evincing powers that some years ago we had not looked for. Always careful, he was wont to be tame and insipid,—his works having one and all the same tone. He is now more vigorous in effect, more varied in tone, and sharper in execution: *Scene in Glenoe* (189) is an excellent example:—very broad, with figures admirably relieved and well drawn, and the distant mountains in a grand effect of cloud and mist. *Early Morning, Ben y Glo* is also a beautiful work; but with a tendency to the artificial, and a look—to use a hackneyed phrase—somewhat “tea-boardy.”—There is a very successful drawing by Mr. Frederick Nash; who, belonging to the old tame school of execution, and having a bad general choice of subjects, has always purity of tone, sometimes carried to excellence,—as in this drawing, *Salisbury Cathedral* (173). A disciple of the same school is, Mr. Gastineau. Numerous drawings in this collection sustain his position of elevated mediocrity. Many small ones are of great beauty of tone,—particularly in the brown hues in which he excels. In his large drawing, *The Lake of Wallenstadt, Switzerland* (109), the mountains are painted with more than ordinary success.

Mr. Evans, of Eaton, is very successful in this Exhibition. *Loch Vach, Death of the Otter*, is an excellent specimen of his power,—perhaps better than any other that we remember to have seen. With majestic hills under the effect of mist and rain, and a small lake in the middle distance,—the figures are thrown picturesquely about a heathery and broken foreground. The whole is very pleasing and true. In *Return from the Hill, Glen Tilt from Ben y Glo* (101), the figures are of a size beyond this artist's power of drawing, and the horses are very indifferent.—Of Mr. W. C. Smith we may say, that we wish there were fewer of his works and more merit in the few. We speak thus because, acknowledging his power, we believe he does not do justice to himself. He seems rash and indifferent. Attacking all subjects—landscapes, marine views, and even interiors—he achieves excellence in none; though with great mastery of hand and occasionally much truth to nature in his colours. His best effort is *Near the Long Walk, Windsor* (97), which is very crisp and fresh, and of good force of colour. His most important one, *Cader Idris, from Dolgelly* (108), seems good as far as we can judge from its high position,—with a somewhat singular effect and a well-managed gleam of sun on the top of the mountain. His marine views look meagre and cold, though sharp in execution. The two *Interiors*, (145) and (154), are slight but effective. Those remaining, which we think among the best in their look of truth, are Nos. 42, 79, and 97, and a large one, *Ben Nevis, from Loch Eil* (89). The mountain is very picturesquely drawn.

Mr. W. Turner has several of his well-known elaborate imitations of the details in landscape; some with the verisimilitude but not the large and comprehensive look of truth. *Yew Trees in Kingly Bottom, a part of the South Downs near Chichester—the Tumuli on Bow Hill in the background* (16) and *Scene near the junction of the rivers Isis and Cherwell—Evening* (50) are among the best.—Mr. Nesfield, always fresh and clear, would with a little more of the look of nature be an

excellent artist. *The Swan's Nest* (325), a rather novel subject, has a tree very carefully elaborated,—and, though the greens in the foreground are false in colour, is altogether a good specimen of this artist's power. We look with less pleasure on *The Giant's Amphitheatre, near the Causeway* (136), although the choice of the point of view is magnificent.—Mr. Bentley has many excellent drawings, exhibiting much more refinement and delicacy than was his wont. *Mountain Scene, Snowdon, taken from Tremadoc* (48), is a beautiful example.—There is good choice of subject with great dexterity of hand in the works of Mr. Branwhite. *Near Bettws y Coed, North Wales* (26) and *A Dull Day in January* (146) exhibit this; but there is in them such a dreary opacity and huskiness of colour as to make his works at first sight repulsive.

We must not forget to mention the excellent drawings of fruits and flowers by Mr. Vincent Bartholomew—which want only a little more texture to be among the highest of their class:—and we must allude also to others in this walk of art by Mr. Rosenberg and Miss Harrison, who are both progressing. Mr. Rosenberg has also a drawing of *A Dead Peahen* (102), very picturesquely disposed.

#### LEAD STATUARY.

I doubt not every true lover of Art will feel grateful to your Edinburgh correspondent for his excellent letter on the subject of the fitness of lead as an economical and most perfect substitute for bronze or other costly material for statuary and other sculptural works of Art.

I trust the subject which he has brought before your readers will receive all due attention from those who practise, as well as from those who desire to encourage, this noble department of Art.

The object which I have in view in intruding on your attention on this occasion is to confirm, as a practical man, the perfect fitness of lead as a substitute for all such works of Art as have hitherto been executed in bronze or marble; and to add that, owing to the comparatively low temperature at which lead melts, and the ease and perfection with which it can be cast into the most intricate and delicate forms, our artists may resume that admirable system of casting groups of statuary and other complex sculptural designs which was in use during the finest periods of Greek and Italian art,—namely, by the employment of wax as the material for the original work, which yields such perfect facility for the execution—and when completed coating or enveloping the wax original in plaster of Paris, and then melting out the wax, and so leaving a most perfect mould, be the intricacy or complexity of the original ever so great. By this mode our artists may revel in the most difficult “undercutting,” and be certain to bring forth a metal casting as sharp and perfect in all the integrity of its parts and minute details as was the original.

The addition of about five per cent. of *antimony* to the lead will give it not only great hardness, but enhance its capability to run into the most delicate details of the work. As to the durability of lead for such works of Art, any one who has observed the next to no waste which has taken place in lead exposed on the roofs of ancient buildings, will have in this way most abundant and satisfactory proof that it is in every sense of use as durable a material as bronze when subject simply to atmospheric action.

It would give me pleasure to enumerate several practical details in respect to the employment of lead for the purposes in question,—as also to detail the process of moulding hollow statues, &c.,—should you or any of your readers think such information worthy of your attention.

I am, &c. JAMES NASMYTH.

**FINE-ART GOSSIP.**—The seven days' sale which is nearly concluded at Messrs. Christie's of the almost innumerable studies of the late W. Etty, R.A., has been one of the least fortunate circumstances connected with the career of the great colourist. Dying possessed of ample means, and with but few persons to inherit his property,—the determination to expose to the world a number of studies of the nude which the painter intended only as preparations for his pictures, is one which has not hesitated to postpone the artist's reputation to the desire of swelling the amount of



his administrative estate. A mass of studies have thus been let loose upon the town little calculated to enhance the credit of the great painter,—putting into the possession of any casual person works whose purer aim and intention might be mistaken; and likely to have a mischievous influence on the younger artists of the day.—A sure consequence is, that many of these studies will be used, not for investigation, but for adoption; fostering that spirit of plagiarism which at this moment covers the walls of our exhibition rooms with pictures manufactured after the most approved modes and conventions, which Mr. Etty adopted. The sale of these studies is likely to be as pernicious to art as to morals.

Among some superior specimens of carving lately executed by Mr. Rogers, which were exhibited on the tables at Lord Londesborough's *conversazione* on Wednesday evening last, we were much impressed with a head-piece intended for a cradle executed for Her Majesty, containing the royal arms most tastefully included in arabesque device. The beauty of the design was even surpassed by the execution,—which more nearly resembled, in the delicacy of its relief, the character of a chasing than the boldly pronounced aspect of a wood carving. Though small in its dimensions, this may almost be looked on as Mr. Rogers's *chef-d'œuvre*.

### MUSIC AND THE DRAMA

MISS DOLBY and Mr. LINDSAY SLOPER beg to announce that their ANNUAL CONCERT will take place at the HANOVER SQUARE ROOMS, on Tuesday, the 14th inst., to commence at Two o'clock precisely. Vocalists:—Miss Catherine Hayes, Miss Dolby, and Miss Birch.—Signor Marras and Signor Marchesi. Instrumentalists:—Signor Piatti, Messrs. H. C. Cooper and Lindsay Sloper. The orchestra will be complete in every department. Leader, Mr. Willy. Conductors, Messrs. Benedict and Lavenu. Tickets 7s. each, may be had of the principal Musicians; Stalls 10s. 6d., to be procured only of Messrs. Cramer & Beale, 201, Regent-street, Miss Dolby, 2, Hyde Park Square, Manchester Square, and Mr. Lindsay Sloper, 7, Southampton Place, Hyde Park Square.

MISS BIRCH and MISS ELIZA BIRCH beg to announce to their Friends and the Public, that their CONCERT will take place on Wednesday evening, the 15th of May, at the HANOVER SQUARE ROOMS, under the immediate patronage of H. R. H. Prince Albert and H. R. H. the Duke of Cambridge. Vocalists:—Misses Catherine Hayes, Eliza Birch and Miss Dolby, Madame F. Lablache and Miss Birch, Misses Lockey, Whitworth and H. Phillips.—Signor Marras, Marchesi and F. Lablache. Piano-forte:—Mlle. Clara Lohr. Flute:—Mr. Richardson. Violin:—Mr. H. Blagrove. Conductor, Mr. Lindsay Sloper. Tickets, 7s. each; to be had of the principal Musicians and of the Misses Birch, Stalls, 10s. 6d. each; to be had only of the Misses Birch, at their residence, 20, Hereford Street, Park Lane.

### NEW PUBLICATIONS.

*Novello's Part-Song-Book*.—Edited by Edwin George Monk, Mus. Bac. Oxon. No. 1.—"Let the miller and apprentice," wrote Walter Scott, some thirty years ago Mr. Hickson or Mr. Hullah were thought of—"have their ballad, and have it such as they can understand,"—let the seaman have his tight main-decker, and the Countess her "tinselled canzonet." Even in our most barren musical epochs the want and the value of popular songs have been owned, and their creation, therefore, has been considered as a task honourable alike to poet and to composer. Here is the newest attempt to meet the want; made under a more liberal dispensation—but made too carelessly, and on too low a standard of excellence to merit success. This, indeed, might have been clearly predicated from Mr. Monk's *prospectus*—which dwells on the "painful want of refinement and unmeaning frivolity of the words of the old English madrigals and part songs,"—announces a collection of concerted pieces, "the words of which should not only be inoffensive, but calculated to encourage a vigorous and cheerful tone of mind, equally removed from coarseness and sentimentality,"—and then, in a later paragraph, promising, "songs adapted to the various seasons, sports, and occupations of life," spoils all by stating "that the words will be chosen more with a view to liveliness and expressiveness than to any aim after literary merit." Such a canon of selection is unmeaning—and therefore behind its time. Liveliness and expressiveness and adaptability to music go far to constitute "literary merit" in a song;—nor is there such a thing as a song good for music which does not possess fancy, sense, completeness and euphony. Why, then, commence a new popular undertaking by flying in the face of admitted truths? Why attempt to set up class-barriers, to revive class-prejudices, and to depreciate rather than to raise the standard of Art by professing to divorce two

things which are inseparable? Are the songs of Shakespeare not popular? or coming to a more modern date, those of Körner, Béranger, Burns, Moore, Baillie, Barry Cornwall? Why pretend that what is unpoetical can furnish fit field for the exercise of the art nearest akin to poetry? This first number of itself exhibits the folly of such a course. Here is a "Cricketer's Song"—intrusted to Mr. Macfarren to set—the words of which can neither be set, said, nor sung without a laugh at their silliness and unfitness. In the first place, the idea of dramatically putting a game at cricket into a part-song, is absurd. We are out of breath with the bare idea of singing on such an occasion. But were such a choice admissible—text more oddly unmusical than what lies before us has not been often achieved. In the starting lines

Bestir ye, bestir ye, bestir ye,  
My merry, merry, boys,

This "stir ye" would baffle even Mrs. Shaw's powers of enunciation to deliver rapidly, without twist, twang or change of vowel. The refrain, is no less whimsically intractable,—

For crick-et, noble crick-et,  
The first of all our joys!

To sing this without burlesque cacophony would be next to impossible. In "The Boating Song" we are called on to sing, or to listen to, nothing less edifying than these following admonitions;—

Doff coat so prim and neckcloth,  
Doff daintiness and pride, &c.

Now, we cannot but think that words, having "literary merit" might be found as lively, as expressive as the above, and far more musical. We are as averse as Mr. Monk to the euphuism in which the *Sir Pivvie Shufftons* paid court to England's *Oriona*—we are as anxious as *Perdita*'s self that *Autolycus* or other "yagrom" ballad-monger shall use no "scurrilous words" in his tunes; but we cannot consent to the dissemination of verse professing to be manly,—which is in reality the veriest namby-pamby, less poetical than the Canticles of Catnach or the madrigals of Moses & Sons,—nor believe that any good part-songs or part-singing, any healthy impulse or intellectual pleasure, can come of it. In all good will, to the "Part-Song-Book" and its proprietors, we offer these plain suggestions while there is yet time to lay them to heart and to profit by them.

**HAYMARKET.**—On Thursday, the new and long-expected comedy by Mr. Douglas Jerrold was produced. Its title, "The Catspaw," sufficiently perhaps indicates the satirical animus of the composition. Nor will its tenor and substance disappoint those who look in it for caustic irony and severe sarcasm on the follies, the selfishness, and the vices of man. In working out his design, the author has been careful of his dialogue and in different to his story. The action of his play is defective; but jest, repartee, odd allusions, and strange verbal combinations are abundant. Allowing for the extreme in this species of excellence into which Mr. Jerrold is apt to run, and for the corresponding deficiency in the more substantial quality of dramatic work which it necessitates, we have before us a production which deserves more success than it is likely to command.

The plot of the piece, is so connected with the acting, that we must treat of both together. Mr. Keeley was the representative of "the Catspaw,"—and a performer more at home with his part could not have been selected. His mighty doings in a small vulpine way—his cunning that never sees beyond his nose, and scarcely serves to keep that prominent member out of peril—his trivial and ready-made expedients against great and pressing dangers—and his final defeat, notwithstanding all his double dealing—are things to be seen and heard in order to be appreciated. "Mr. Snowball" (such is the name of the victim of his own selfish devices) has the chance of preventing a Chancery suit by marrying a widow, Mrs. Peachdown (Miss Reynolds), but he prefers law to matrimony. The widow makes advances,—but being repulsed, is ready to show what "a fury" a "woman scorned" may become. This, however, she does in a quiet way, and after the manner of a *coquette*,—leading her victim on into a declaration; until, finding that the suit is going on in her favour, she wheedles

him into a dilemma, and makes him the author of his own ultimate rejection,—resigning herself to her real lover, *Captain Burgonet* (Mr. Howey). The latter, teased out of his patience by the untidy taint of his position, had, in turn, become the plague of Snowball, who to escape a duel feigns to be paralyzed by rheumatism. As the play advances, we find that the lady has a penchant for mediæval manners, and manifests something of romance in her disposition. This, however, is the mere colouring of character, and has but a slight hold on the plot and persons. The impersonation next in importance to Mr. Keeley's is that of Mr. Wallack—*Doctor Petgoose*—who exercises dominion over the "Catspaw" by means of his "Pill of Paradise,"—which, as household physician, he constantly prescribes. This is more of a well-intended than a well-executed character. It grows monotonous before the end of the play, and we fear that Mr. Wallack will pronounce it an up-hill part. The character (or rather "three" single characters rolled into one) given to Mr. Webster, though more suitable in kind to the actor's powers, is (excepting as a vehicle for some clever hits at the follies of the day) a more elaborate failure. Coolcard, alias Busby Knox, M.A., alias *Charles Podowy*, a begging-letter impostor, and, therefore, one of the literary fraternity, comes on without proper introduction, is a foreign appendage to the story, and before the end becomes an inexplicable mystery. More satisfactory is one *Appleface*, by Mr. Buckstone, a drummer who, outstaying his furlough by getting drunk, might have incurred punishment as a deserter but for a confiding abigail, *Rosemary* (Mrs. Keeley). This personage is connected with the fortunes of the piece by intelligible links. Assuming the disguise of a lawyer for the nonce, he comes into contact with a walking lady of the drawing-room, *Cassandra* (Mrs. L. S. Buckingham); and just at the moment when poor Rosemary had sacrificed the whole of her savings, in purchasing his discharge, is found at the feet of her more fortunate rival,—who, however, contrives to place the faithful Rosemary's hand in his instead of her own. This was the best situation in the comedy.—The writing and acting throughout are brilliant and masterly, the stage appointments appropriate and costly, and the applause of the audience was frequent and hearty.

At the fall of the curtain the performers were recalled,—and Mr. Jerrold himself was summoned to receive the congratulations of a crowded house. We would, however, strongly recommend some reduction in the last act, particularly in the winding-up. The thread of the dialogue is extended much beyond the interest of the argument,—notwithstanding that a few of the best witticisms are assigned to this portion. Whatever may be the run of the drama, Mr. Jerrold's reputation will not suffer by it as a writer of brilliant conversation pieces,—in which he has not been exceeded by any writer since Ben Jonson.

We will take this opportunity of calling Mr. Webster's attention to a fact which, whether the result of accident or of design, demands his correction. If that of which we complain be an accident, it is an inconvenience,—if designed, it is, in addition, a wrong. The wicket at which the free list obtains its cheques was kept obstinately closed against admission until the clock was on the stroke of seven,—raising the suspicion that the object was to fill the house and occupy the places before the Press was admitted. Now, we, for one member of that Press, will not accept an admission on such conditions. If the right to enter does not imply a place in the house, we refuse to consider ourselves members of a "free list." We are ourselves always consistent, in refusing to accept any place of privilege, or any extent of accommodation, when offered, larger than is expressed by the usual order,—and therefore expect that order to be a reality, in all necessary incidents, if we are to continue to use it.

**PHILHARMONIC CONCERTS.**—The first act of Monday's Concert commenced with Beethoven's lovely and fanciful Symphony in E: the other three instrumental pieces were "leather and prunella"—the pretensions, purposes and powers of



the establishment considered. The Philharmonic Directors show themselves resolute in mis-management with a steadiness worthy of a better cause. Like the Irish gentlewoman reduced to cry in the streets mutton pies—who perpetually added to her cry, "I hope nobody hears me!"—they cling whimsically to every old-fashioned *placebo* which can compensate for inevitable improvements. They seem unable to commit an act of progress without atoning for the same by some expiatory piece of retrogression. Having discreetly appointed the best Conductor in Europe, they give up all pretext at trial of new music. To prove the sincerity of their repentance over the amended state of their orchestra, they have this spring racked their ingenuity as far as possible to deprive their *solos* of interest and variety. With enlarged resources, they seem humbly retreating into the dimensions of a hole-and-corner association for the support of mediocrity. The above censure is emphatically claimed by the infliction of one of Haydn's most hackneyed Quartetts on Monday. The grandest composition of this family is on every principle of sound taste indefensible at an orchestral concert. But, as if to try patience to its utmost, the players were not the best within reach: and (supposing it a Median and Persian law that certain players must be heard, let the claims of others be what they will) they had already been liberally exhibited this spring. No courtesy to four meritorious instrumentalists should screen the Directors from the most unparrying reproof—as a body acting with an exclusiveness discreditable to themselves and to the concert, which they profess to manage. Their vanity, by keeping national progress back, is as objectionable as the venality which would thrust foreign incompetence forward. Sooner or later its baneful effects are sure to be felt. The other *solo* was Mozart's *P.R. Concerto* in c minor, played by Mr. Lindsay Sloper, who played it well. But, as we remarked on the occasion of his Concert last Spring [vide *Ath.* No. 1124], it is a *Concerto* fit for an *Ancient Concerto*—and even there, would sound more obsolete than the more frankly antique music of the Scarlattis and Bachs. The opening *allegro* wants the animating hand and the improvisatory fantasy of a Mendelssohn to give it such brightness and interest as we now-a-days expect. The over-frequent repetitions of the melody in the slow movement would gain by the judicious use of ornament, and we should hardly accept him as a wise composer now-a-days who by way of *suite* to such a *Largo* threw his *finale* into the form of an air with variations, virtually reducing two-thirds of the *Concerto* to two airs, with "changes." It is absurd to speak of such a piece as the best which could have been given. We are glad, however, after such well-merited complaint, to record that one pianoforte novelty may be expected ere the season ends, in the shape of a new *P.R. Concerto* by M. Benedict. We hoped, by the way, to have heard his new *Fest Overture* during the series.

The first act was closed by a new MS. overture to 'The Tempest,' the composition of Mr. Griesbach. That there is not much in a name Shakespeare has told us; but since Mr. Griesbach chose a title which calls up visions of a storm and a sea, of *Ariel* and *Caliban*, we expected something elvish and fantastic in composition, and were disappointed by what was proffered instead—an overture in places clever and brilliant, but patchy and wanting character and freshness of idea—which should hardly have been promoted to the programmes of a concert where it seems as if no place can be found for any recognized or untried composition by Mr. Macfarren.

It was a piece of Philharmonic Direction, to perform the 'First Walpurgis Night' of Mendelssohn after patience had been worn out and spirit washed away by a first act so long and uninteresting. The *Cantata* was superbly performed. Our players are now beginning to relish the opening 'Foul Weather' Symphony, with its delicious 'breathings of spring' gathering and swelling into the lovely May chorus (an introduction to rank with the lovely first choruses in 'Euryanthe' and in 'Guillaume Tell')—and the consequence is, that our audiences are beginning to understand and enjoy in proportion. The subsequent portions of the *Cantata*, too, were

delivered with great force, intelligence and spirit. The singers were Miss M. Williams, Mr. Benson and Mr. Phillips.

**MUSICAL UNION.**—An entertainment of greater interest and higher quality could not have been given than the fourth concert of the *Musical Union*. Herr Ernst was the leader,—M. Heller the pianoforte player; and the selection comprised a Quartett by Haydn, Beethoven's grand Trio in B flat, three of the beautiful 'Pensées Fugitives' by Ernst and Heller; and the posthumous Quartett of Mendelssohn mentioned in the *Athenæum* last week. The last work is one to be dwelt on, not merely as a "song of the swan," but for its intrinsic beauty and peculiarity of character. It is hardly possible to surpass this Quartett as an expression of impassioned melancholy conveyed in the grandest forms of composition. Written (as its author himself told us, a few weeks before his death) with the express purpose of withdrawing his mind by the exercise of his art from a deep distress, the profound woe and noble elevation which pervade it entitle the work to be registered among the most pathetic and lofty pages of poetry in Music existing. Its executive difficulty is extreme,—but in no case illegitimate: its thoughts are of the loftiest order,—yet nowhere under pretence of transcending mortal sublimity do they lose themselves in chaos. For most admirable is it to see how—while the poet pours his very "soul of sorrow forth" with an elegiac abandonment precluding all idea of measured step or regulated expression—the artist's rhapsody never becomes raving, nor does his grief ever take those theatrical and fragmentary forms of start, spasm, and outcry which are so easy to be simulated by emotion less real and intense, and which offer resources of evasion so tempting to incomplete or half-taught invention. In particular, the first *allegro* and the *menuetto*, both in F minor, seize the ear on a first hearing as much by their simplicity of form as by their intensity of fervour. The themes of the latter are as catching as though Strauss or Rossini had thrown them out; while "Philosophy's self" could have devised no *motivi* severally more desolately, impetuously sad, and more quaintly sombre, than those of the movement and of its *trio*. The slow movement in a flat major is less gloomy, less despairing, perhaps,—but not less pathetic. It is a lament of most deeply melancholy sweetness; beautifully written, but hard to render from the fulness of meaning which lies in every phrase,—in which, while not a note can bear to be slighted, the least super-sentiment would bring on a heaviness fatal to the whole effect. The *finale* in F minor  $\frac{3}{4}$ , on a theme with boldly-marked syncope, worthily concludes this touching and high poem. Its *coda*, as an instance of brilliant executive passage-music turned to the expression of woe the most agitating and wild which "heart of man can conceive,"—though totally different in its spirit, may pair off with the impassioned *finale* to Beethoven's pianoforte Sonata in c sharp minor. On the whole this Quartett must be accepted, without contradiction or question, by all competent witnesses, as among the masterpieces of music. As a revelation of a mood of mind, it is as unique after its kind as Byron's 'Dream' in verse or *Hamlet's* soliloquies in drama.

**HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE.**—The appearance of Signor Baucaide in 'I Puritani' was, with us, decisive of the rank which he must hold at present. Charming though his voice is, it becomes fatigued earlier in an opera than any tenor voice in our recollection. Then, he is obviously neither a good musician nor a good vocalist,—being apparently ill at ease as soon as he gets out of eight-bar phrases,—and neither taking his breath nor producing his tone according to a good method. Thus we rate him as in the third class of "stars"—applause and *encores* counting for nothing in a theatre where Favanti and Lind, Parodi and Sontag excite, like raptures.—Undertended by the limited success of the Swedish lady in 'I Puritani' [vide *Athen.* No. 1084], Mr. Lumley has thrust the more delicate voice and less dramatic talent of Madame Sontag into that most exhausted of operas. Such remorseless misuse of this beautiful singer is painful. In a part which must be

at once forcible, brilliant, and impassioned, her success could not be commensurate with the strain on her powers. Throughout the evening Madame Sontag sang like the finished vocalist she is. She was *enchored* in the *Polacca*, in spite of the grotesque noises in the accompaniment made by Signor Lablache. These amounted to a self-forgetfulness which must not pass without reproof, as neither artistic nor courteous to the Lady on the stage whom it was his business seriously to support. In the *finale* of the first act Madame Sontag produced small effect; in the grand *cavatina* of the second she was careful and elaborate rather than expressive—treating the *cabaletta* as though it were a *broidery-stock*, and not an outpouring of "most extracting frenzy." The soul of the past was not there—and fatigue was most unmistakably to be heard in her voice, which may abide "wear," but will not abide "tear." The orchestral and choral performance was nearly as bad as possible. The programme of the Concert for Monday next is magnificent—but why must Mr. Lumley use the name of Mendelssohn to "make up a show" in his bill, when, according to his programme's own showing, not a piece by Mendelssohn is to be performed?

**ROYAL ITALIAN OPERA.**—The novelties in this year's cast of 'Les Huguenots' are, Mlle. de Meric as *Urbano* the Page and Herr Formes as *Marcello*. The young lady, though of course as a singer not comparable to Mlle. Alboni, performed her vocal task (for the *rondo* in the garden scene is a task) with great spirit and a fair amount of executive power,—and acted her part excellently, being the very Page of historical fiction. Herr Formes shows no signs of being drilled into shape, but rather the reverse. His *Marcello* was in every respect bad,—the singing thereof at once noisy and toneless, the pronunciation of Italian outrageous, and the total disregard of everybody save himself and of everything save the greatest number of opportunities for bellowing very injurious in the concerted pieces. Nor can we admire the action of Herr Formes—which under pretext of character exhibits the coarse ruggedness of a minor German theatre. He is so rapidly sinking to his level that retrieval by assiduous study is now next to impossible:—let us hope not quite so. Madame Gisi, according to her wont, has, by performance, so improved her conception and finished her execution of the part of *Valentine*, that it now ranks among her very best characters. In the duet in the fourth act, Signor Mario leaves behind him all former *Raouls*. His acting is almost fearful in its conflict of passion. This fourth act (abiding by the original division of the score) in itself contains answer in full to those who marvel why the old-fashioned undramatic operas will please no more. Be the science, the fertility, and the originality of Meyerbeer what they may, his works at once mark and make an epoch.—His 'Robert' is now positively announced for next week.—Rumour says, moreover, that Donizetti's 'Parisina' is about to be produced for the return of Signor Ronconi.—The first Morning Concert of the season was given yesterday.

**ST. JAMES'S.—French Plays.**—A stronger cast than Mlle. Denain as *Césarine*, Mlle. Nathalie as *Zoe*, M. Samson as *M. de Miremont*, and M. Regnier as *Bernardet* could hardly be afforded to M. Scribe's 'La Camaraderie' in Paris. Accordingly the play went so brilliantly as to make us regret that the treat could not be oftener repeated. In itself the drama, whether as a picture of manners or as a work of art, is full of matter for speculation. If we accept 'La Camaraderie' as a glance at the *salons* of Paris under *Le Roi Citoyen* made by *Asmodeus*, who can wonder at the election of M. Sie by Socialists under universal suffrage as a phenomenon insulated and astounding? The play is the very comedy of corruption—not the corruption of a Dubois or a Dubarry; nor of a diamond-necklace imposture, nor of a *poissarde* orgy, nor of police *espionnage* under the Empire, nor of monkey under the Bourbon restoration,—but a "corruption" worse corrupted than these, possibly consequent on them—a huckstering, shop-keeping, busy, vulgar



corruption, in which no grand passion, such as love or hate or superstitious ambition, could have place,—but, instead of these, petty self-interest urging a shameless crew of men and women up all conceivable back stairs in search of place and pelf, without the old pretexts of blood, or beauty, or high breeding, or wit, or philosophy. Hence, the mirth quickened by 'La Camaraderie' has in its quality so much of contempt as to exhaust rather than to enliven the spectator. Possibly, the meanness of motive "common and proper" to almost all his *dramatis personæ* may have been felt by M. Scribe as a hampering influence, for certain it is that the play wants character. We are shown coterie intrigue in many masks, foiled or contrasted by Edmond de Varennes, who personates incorruptible honour,—yet is finally made to succeed by coterie intrigue, exerted without his knowledge! We have the Doctor, and the old Peer, and the Peer's young wife, and the booby *Rigaut*; all old practitioners, and all distinct—all, however, (with the exception of *Bernardet*) rendered in the merest possible outline, without a trace of those delicate fillings-in and rich colours which raise the painter above the penciller. After the play has been played out, no new acquaintances come home with us to take their place among our objects of speculation. It contains smartness of dialogue in admirable proportion, (for, unlike Sheridan, M. Scribe is not surfeitingly smart,) capital adroitness of construction and climax of interest,—the quintessence of artifice as distinguished from art,—but no *Pigaro*, no *Misanthrope*, no *Tartuffe*: no such deep reality as freshens and points and flavours all real comedy,—lacking which, however vivaciously "the thorns may crackle under the pot," the fire will go out when the first sparkle is over.—To narrate this "tale of the coterie" within a small space would not be easy; nor is it needed, since M. Scribe has his readers by the thousand in this country. But we must repeat that the acting was admirable: an excellent warrant to ourselves that in seeking grace, finish, conversational ease and nature for comedy we are not demanding the *roc's egg*. The zest with which it was enjoyed is another proof (were proof needed) that famine and grosser fare have not destroyed the English play-goer's palate, in spite of the obstinate folly of our caterers.—Mdlle. Denain and M. Samson have given place to M. Lafont.—Last evening M. Augier's 'Gabrielle' was to be performed, with M. Regnier and Mdlle. Nathalie in their original characters:—of which we must speak another day.

**STRAND.**—A new farce, under the title of 'Not to be Done,' was successfully produced on Monday. It is a piece of somewhat broader character than those usually selected by this management. The humour, however, is not to be mistaken, and justifies the experiment. Two friends, *Jonas Downyway* (Mr. H. Farren) and *Edmund Quick* (Mr. L. Murray) have wagered with each other as to the priority of their marriage,—the penalty being that at a twelvemonth's end the Bachelor shall pay to the Benedict one hundred pounds. Quick gains the start; but Downyway, "not to be done," feigns a previous marriage with one *Sally Johnson* (Miss Marshall)—who is, however, affianced to another. Quick gets scent of the plot; and passes himself off, successively, as the father and mother of Sally—an over-jovial cobbler and a sadly snuffy old lady—to the annoyance of Downyway's uncle; who is so shocked at their vulgarity that an explanation becomes necessary. The interest centres in Mr. Leigh Murray, who showed himself in the assumptions alluded to capable of more variety than he has hitherto exhibited, and well merited the applause which he received.

**MUSICAL AND DRAMATIC GOSSIP.**—Out of respect to the memory of one who was an indefatigable and generous woman, and a thoroughly trained professor of her instrument, we deviate from our usual course to announce that Mdlle. Dulcken, a graceful and accomplished pianist, intends to establish herself in London as instructress of the pianoforte.

We are unexpectedly in circumstances to accredit the rumour which described the tenor voice of Mr. Augustus Braham as excellent beyond common ex-

cellence. With due preparation on his part, and the co-operation of Mr. Sims Reeves, an English Opera House might now be nearly as well tenored as our Italian theatres. In basses we are for the moment poorer than we ought to be.

Armies of minor musicians are arriving from the Continent in a number which is bewildering. A general remark made in our hearing, the other day, is worth noting:—"How *blasé*," said the speaker, "are these young people, as compared with the real geniuses of other days in whom creative instinct was accompanied by eager curiosity." Possibly the musician, now-a-days begins to gain too easily, as well as to live too young:—at all events into the justice or prejudice of the above criticism it might not be unwise for every one concerned to make inquiry.

Three grand choral performances have been given this week, to the amazement, we should imagine, of such among-our foreign guests as have been disposed to patronize London as a town which "pays without understanding." These have been 'The Creation,' by the *London Sacred Harmonic Society*,—'The Messiah,' for the *Royal Society of Musicians*,—and Handel's 'Israel' by the *Sacred Harmonic Society*. Contenting ourselves with a simple enumeration of these, we must be brief in specification of the minor benefit concerts which have been also held this week.—*Signor Briccialdi*, who has commenced a series of three *Matinées*, is certainly, to our thinking, "the flute of flutes,"—M. Heine Meyer, *Signor Ciardi*, and M. Dorus not forgotten. The Italians are right royally excellent when they are good as instrumental players:—witness *Signori Dragonetti*, *Piatti*, *Cioffi*, *Bottesini*. Can this be explained apart from their southern genius on the theory thrown out in the foregoing paragraph,—because in instrumental music they are less *blasé* than Germans, French, or English? If this be so, we may look for a new symphonist or quartett writer from among them.—*M. Blumenthal*, who has received his friends this week, "goes out" on the argument of grace in pianism rather than of power, originality or classic merit. But in these days of brute force and mechanical readiness grace bears a high value, approaching to that of a lost secret; and, we think, evidencing both courage and genius. Thus M. Blumenthal well deserves the popularity that he has gained in private circles as a player of *Élégies*, *Notturmi*, &c. *Signor Mario's* singing at M. Blumenthal's *Matinée* was remarkable in its beauty and delicacy for even *Signor Mario*.—Besides the above, *Don J.* and *Don R. de Ciebra's* concert was held on Wednesday,—and yet another pianoforte *soirée* with a capital programme by *M. Billet* yesterday evening.

The *Liverpool Philharmonic Society* seems able and willing to open its doors to novelty, without disgusting its resident professors or alienating its subscribers. Recently the appearance there of M. Silas took place. We now hear that Mr. C. Horsley is engaged to perform a new pianoforte Trio of his composition at a concert in the course of next week.

MM. Scribe and Halévy were to arrive in London a day or two since, to superintend the preparations of 'La Tempesta' at *Her Majesty's Theatre*.

#### MISCELLANEA

**The Poet Bowles.**—The Canon's absence of mind was very great, and when his coachman drove him into Bath he had to practise all kinds of cautions to keep him to time and place. The poet once left our office in company with a well-known antiquary of our neighbourhood, since deceased, and who was as absent as Mr. Bowles himself. The servant of the latter came to our establishment to look for him, and, on learning that he had gone away with the gentleman to whom we have referred, the man exclaimed, in a tone of ludicrous distress, "What! those two wandered away together? then they'll never be found any more!"—The act of composition was a slow and laborious operation with Mr. Bowles. He altered and re-wrote his MS. until sometimes hardly anything remained of the original excepting the general conception. When we add, that his handwriting was one of the worst that ever man wrote,—inasmuch that

frequently he could not read that which he had written the day before—we need not say that his printers had very tough work in getting his works into type. At the time when we printed for Mr. Bowles, we had one compositor in our office (his death is recorded in our paper of to-day) who had a sort of knack in making out the poet's hieroglyphics; and he was once actually sent for by Mr. Bowles into Wiltshire to copy some MS. written a year or two before which the poet had himself vainly endeavoured to decipher.—*Bath Chronicle*.

*Lines by Robert Southey.*—

[From an Unpublished Autograph.]

The days of Infancy are all a dream,  
How fair, but oh! how short they seem—  
'Tis Life's sweet opening SPRING!

The days of Youth advance;  
The bounding limb, the ardent glance,  
The kindling soul they bring—  
It is Life's burning SUMMER time.

Manhood—matured with wisdom's fruit,  
Reward of Learning's deep pursuit—  
Succeeds, as AUTUMN follows Summer's prime.

And that, and that, alas! goes by;  
And what ensues? The languid eye,  
The failing frame, the soul o'ercast;  
'Tis WINTER's sickening, withering blast,  
Life's blessed season—for it is the last.

—*Dickens's Household Words.*

**Ancient Coins.**—An interesting numismatic discovery was lately made on some land at Filschberg. The spot is a somewhat steep hill, standing apart on the left bank of the Rosselle, and commands the road from Sarrelouis and that of Sarrebrück. From time immemorial it has been considered important as a military position. The Romans certainly possessed very considerable establishments there. In the thirteenth century the ruins of a temple dedicated to Mercury were still to be seen on the spot. The researches which have been made there at different times have resulted in the discovery of numerous traces of ancient edifices. On recently building a wall in the immediate neighbourhood, it was necessary to remove some heavy masonry partially covered with the ground; and in the body of it was found a cavern closed by means of large blocks of stone. This cavern, independently of several misshapen objects and some common vases, contained a common earthen basin, a rather considerable number of Roman coins and medals of nearly all the princes of the Flavian family—amongst others of Constantia Chlorus, Constantine and Julian. Others are of an earlier date. There is one of Trajan, in silver, which is very well preserved,—a copper coin of Alexander Severus and another of Marcus Aurelius. Two very rare pieces were likewise found bearing the name and effigy of *M. Lat. Cassianus Posthumus*, one of the thirty tyrants under Gallien, a valiant captain who reigned seven years (260 to 267) over Gaul, Spain and Britain.—*Brussels Herald*.

**Curious Epitaph.**—The following curious inscription appears in the churchyard, Pewsey, Dorsetshire.

HERE LIES THE BODY

OF

LADY O'LOONEY,

GREAT NICE OF BURKE,

COMMONLY CALLED THE SUBLIME,

SHE WAS

BLAND, PASSIONATE, AND DEEPLY RELIGIOUS;

ALSO, SHE PAINTED

IN WATER COLOURS,

AND SENT SEVERAL PICTURES

TO THE EXHIBITION.

SHE WAS FIRST COUSIN

TO LADY JONES;

AND OF SUCH

IS THE KINGDOM OF HEAVEN.

—*Dickens's Household Words.*

TO CORRESPONDENTS.—H. B.—S. V. H.—E. F.—A. H. P.—G. H.—L. N. E.—received.

**THE BELL FOUNDER OF LIMERICK.**—We have received from Mr. Mac Carthy, whose poems we reviewed in a recent number (*ante*, p. 439), an answer, very courteously worded, to some remarks which we ventured to make on his poem of 'The Bell Founder.' Mr. Mac Carthy states that this poem is not indebted to him for its final incident, which we had condemned; being founded on an old and well-known legend of Limerick,—the bells of whose Cathedral are recorded to have uttered the airy voices which fell with healing on the heart of the wandering Bell Founder. We state the fact, at Mr. Mac Carthy's request; but add that he, being responsible for the selection of his subject and its treatment with a view to its final moral, our objections to the poem as a work of art—and to the offensive suggestion raised by its latter portion taken in connexion with the school and circumstances to which throughout our article we had referred,—remain untouched.

VERITAS and other correspondents will see that they are answered.



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 Chairman—Charles Gurney, Esq.  
 Deputy-Chairman—Charles Downes, Esq.  
 H. Blair Avarne, Esq.  
 E. L. Boyd, Esq. Resident.  
 D. Q. Henriques, Esq.  
 J. G. Henriques, Esq.  
 F. Chas. Maitland, Esq.  
 William Raitton, Esq.  
 F. H. Thompson, Esq.  
 Thomas Thorby, Esq.  
**SECOND SEPTENNIAL DIVISION OF PROFITS AMONG THE ASSURED.**  
 The Bonus added to Policies from March, 1834, to the 31st of December, 1847, is as follows:—

Sum Assured.	Time Assured.	Sum added to Policy in 1841.	Sum added to Policy in 1843.	Sum payable at Death.
£5,000	13 yrs. 10 mths.	£683 6 8	£787 10 0	£5,470 16 8
5,000	12 years	500 0 0	787 10 0	6,287 10 0
5,000	10 years	300 0 0	787 10 0	6,087 10 0
5,000	8 years	100 0 0	787 10 0	5,887 10 0
5,000	6 years	.. ..	675 0 0	5,675 0 0
5,000	4 years	.. ..	450 0 0	5,450 0 0
5,000	2 years	.. ..	225 0 0	5,225 0 0

The Premiums nevertheless are on the most moderate scale, and only one-half need be paid for the first five years, when the Insurance is for Life. Every information afforded on application to the Resident Director, No. 8, Waterloo-place, Pall Mall, London.

**NORTH BRITISH INSURANCE COMPANY.** Established in 1809, and incorporated by Royal Charter, London Offices, 4, New Bank-buildings, City, and 10, Pall Mall East; Chief Office, 64, Princes-street, Edinburgh.  
 Capital, 1,000,000, fully subscribed.  
 President—His Grace the Duke of Sutherland, K.G.  
 Chairman—Sir Peter Laurie, Alderman.  
 Deputy-Chairman—Francis Warden, Esq.  
 Physician—John Webster, M.D. F.R.S.  
 Assurances effected either with or without participation of profits. On the participation scale the whole profits are divided amongst the assured, after reserving one-fifth against the risk of extraordinary mortality or other contingencies.  
 The bonus added to policies at the last division of profits, on the 31st of December 1844, averaged 40 per cent. on the premiums paid during the septennial period.  
 Tables of Increasing Rates have been formed upon a plan peculiar to this Company, from which the following is an extract.  
 Premium to insure 100l. at death.

Age.	First Year.	Second Year.	Third Year.	Fourth Year.	Fifth Year.	Remainder of Life.
20	£0 18 2	£0 19 2	£1 0 2	£1 1 5	£1 2 8	£1 18 2
30	1 3 9	1 5 2	1 6 8	1 8 1	1 10 4	1 12 8
40	1 11 10	1 13 9	1 15 10	1 18 1	1 20 4	1 22 8

Prospectuses and every information may be obtained at the offices of the company as above.  
 HENRY T. THOMSON, Secretary in London.

**CITY OF GLASGOW LIFE ASSURANCE COMPANY.**  
 The Eleventh Annual General Meeting of the Proprietors of the Company was held in the Chief Office at Glasgow, on the 26th of March last, in terms of their Act of Parliament.  
 A Report of the business transacted during the past year, to 19th January last, was read, from which it appeared that a large and satisfactory amount of new Assurances had been effected; that the funds were securely and advantageously invested; that the revenue from Premiums exceeded 31,000l. per annum; that the sums assured were close upon 1,000,000l. and that the Company's progress had in all respects, during the last year, been such as to warrant the Directors in stating that few offices hold out more immediate and lasting advantages to Assurers than those offered by this Company.  
 A Bonus for the year ending 19th January last, of one and a half per cent. on the sum assured, was declared on all Policies of the participating class, with the option, instead of having it added to and paid therewith, of receiving the present value of the Bonus in cash, and thereby effecting a large reduction from the annual premium.  
 This Company was the first to introduce the system of an annual declaration of bonus; and the peculiar advantages which it offers of admitting policy holders to participate in the profits the first year they enter, are daily becoming more appreciated by the public.  
 120, Pall Mall, HUGH BRENNER, Secretary to the London Board.  
 April 10, 1850.

**SOCIETY FOR GENERAL ASSURANCE ON LIVES.**  
 THE ROYAL NAVAL, MILITARY, EAST INDIA, AND GENERAL LIFE ASSURANCE SOCIETY.  
 13, WATERLOO-PLACE, LONDON.  
 Directors.  
 Col. Sir Frederic Smith, K.H. F.R.S. R.E. Chairman.  
 James Frederick Nugent Daniell, Esq. Deputy-Chairman.  
 Admiral the Right Hon. Sir G. Cockburn, G.C.B.  
 Major-Gen. Sir J. Cockburn, Bt. G.C.H.  
 Gen. Sir Thos. Bradford, G.C.B.  
 Major-Gen. Sir P. Ross, G.C.M.G. K.C.H.  
 Lieut.-Gen. Sir J. Gardiner, K.C.B.  
 Major-Gen. Sir Hew D. Ross, K.C.B. R.A.  
 Captain Sir George Back, R.N. F.R.S.  
 Major-Gen. Taylor, C.B. E.I.C.S.  
 Major-Gen. Edw. Wynyard, C.B.  
 Major-Gen. Arnold, K.H. K.C.  
 Archibald Hair, Esq. M.D.  
 Capt. William Lancy, R.E.  
 Wm. Chard, Esq. Navy Agent.  
 Wilbraham Taylor, Esq.  
 Major-Gen. Sir John Roit, K.C.B.  
 Major F. S. Sotheby, C.B. E.I.C.S.  
 Major-Gen. Sir G. Pollock, G.C.B.  
 Captain William Cuppage, R.N.  
 Captain Michael Quin, R.N.  
 Bankers—Messrs. Coutts & Co. 59, Strand.  
 Physician—Sir Charles Ferguson Forbes, M.D. K.C.H. F.L.S.  
 Counsel—J. Measure, Esq. 4, Serle-street, Lincoln's Inn-fields.  
 Solicitor—Rowland Neate, Esq. 57, Lincoln's Inn-fields.  
 Actuary—John Finlaison, Esq. the Government Calculator, and President of the Institute of Actuaries.  
 Assurances are granted upon the lives of persons in every profession and station in life, and for every part of the world, with the exception of the Western Coast of Africa within the Tropics. The rates of premiums are constructed upon sound principles with reference to every colony; and, by payment of a moderate addition to the home premium, in case of increase of risk, persons assured in this office may change from one climate to another, without forfeiting their policies.  
 Four-fifths of the Profits are divided amongst the Assured.  
 JOSEPH CARTWRIGHT BRETTELL, Secretary.

**TO LADIES AS LIFE ASSURANCE AGENTS.**  
 It is a well ascertained fact, that although women live longer than men, the lives of assured females are shorter than those of assured males—arising from offices being frequently deprived of that full information as to the health and habits of ladies, which persons of their own sex can, with due regard to delicacy, readily procure. The principles of Life Assurance, and a knowledge of the details required for Assurance Agency, can be easily acquired by ladies of education, and the remuneration is liberal. Applications for information or appointments as Agents, addressed to the Manager, must be accompanied by a reference to a Clergyman, to whom the applicant is personally known.

**THE LONDON INDISPUTABLE LIFE POLICY COMPANY.**  
 Incorporated by Act of Parliament.  
 No. 72, LOMBARD-STREET, LONDON.  
 Trustees.  
 J. Campbell Renton, Esq. M.P. Richard Spooner, Esq. M.P.  
 Richard Malins, Esq. Q.C. James Fuller Madox, Esq.  
 William Wilberforce, Esq.  
 Directors.  
 William Adams, Esq. New Broad-street.  
 John Atkins, Esq. White Hart-court, Lombard-street.  
 Henry Augustus Bevan, Esq. John Street, Abchurch-lane.  
 J. Thompson Bramwell, Esq. Lawrence Pountney-lane.  
 John Dengerfield, Esq. Chancery-lane.  
 Robert Henry Forman, Esq. Ordinance, Pall Mall.  
 John Hamilton, Esq. Alfred-place, Thurlow-square.  
 John Matthews, Esq. Arthur-street West, City.  
 C. Octavius Parnell, Esq. Norfolk-street, Park-lane.  
 Auditors.  
 George Cumming, Esq. Westbourne Grove.  
 William D. Starling, Esq. Change-alley, City.  
 James Turner, Esq. Parliament-street.  
 David Henry Stone, Esq. Poultry.  
 Bankers.—Messrs. Spooner, Attwoods & Co. Secretary.—David Allison, Esq.

**PADDINGTON LOCAL BOARD.**  
 24, COMMERCE-BUILDINGS, EDINBURGH ROAD.  
 The Rev. James Heygild Boone A.M. Stanhope-street, Hyde Park.  
 Captain Cress, Norfolk-crescent, Oxford-square.  
 Charles Pemberton, Esq. Eastbourne-terrace, Hyde Park, and Lincoln's Inn-fields.  
 Thomas Jervis Amos, Esq. York-street, Portman-square.  
 George V. Robson, Esq. Eastbourne-terrace, Hyde Park, and New-square, Lincoln's Inn.

The Policies of this Company, being indisputable, form FAMILY PROVISIONS, and relieve the Assured from all anxiety as to the result of Assurances thus made certain. They are particularly valuable also as NEGOTIABLE SECURITIES, for their validity is not dependent, as in the case of ordinary Policies, upon the import of previous reports and other documents.  
 Owing to this important improvement in the practice of Life Assurance, the progress of this Company has been rapid from the commencement of its business, and is steadily advancing.  
 THE WHOLE PROFITS BELONG TO THE ASSURED: they are ascertained and appropriated annually, and thus distributed with more regularity and justice than by any other plan.  
 Prospectuses, Schedules, and every information may be obtained in person, or by written applications to the Chief Office, or any of the Agents.

ALEXANDER ROBERTSON, Manager.



**THE UNITED GUARANTEE AND LIFE ASSURANCE COMPANY.** Capital 100,000l.—Three-fifths of the profits of this Company will be divided among the Assured, and the first division will take place in 1884.

The Right Hon. LORD ERSKINE, *Chairman*.  
J. P. BROWN WESTHEAD, Esq. M.P. *Vice-Chairman*.  
The regular and distinguishing feature of this Company is, that it combines in one transaction, at a considerable annual saving, the principle of public Guarantee for fidelity with Life Assurance, and thereby presents more than ordinary advantages to the Assured.  
**GUARANTEE.**—Policies for Guarantee are granted separately.  
**LIFE ASSURANCE.**—All descriptions of Life Assurance are transacted, and the premiums may be paid quarterly, half-yearly, or annually.  
Prospectuses may be obtained upon application at 35, Old Jewry. JAMES KNIGHT, Secretary.

## PROVIDENT LIFE OFFICE

50, REGENT-STREET;  
CITY BRANCH: 2, ROYAL EXCHANGE BUILDINGS.

Established 1806.  
Policyholders' Capital, £1,180,722.  
Annual Income, £148,000. Bonuses Declared, £743,000.  
Claims paid since the establishment of the Office, £1,886,000.

*President.*  
The Right Honourable EARL GREY.

*Directors.*  
Frederick Squire, Esq. *Chairman*.  
William Henry Stone, Esq. *Deputy-Chairman*.

Henry B. Alexander, Esq.  
George Dacre, Esq.  
Alexander Henderson, M.D.  
William Judd, Esq.  
Sir Richard D. King, Bart.  
The Hon. Arthur Kinnaird.  
J. A. Beaumont, Esq. *Managing Director*.  
Physician: John Maclean, M.D. F.R.S., 29, Upper Montague-street, Montague-square.

NINETEEN TWENTIETHS OF THE PROFITS ARE DIVIDED AMONG THE INSURED.

Examples of the Extinction of Premiums by the Surrender of Bonuses.

Date of Policy.	Sum Insured.	Original Premium.	Bonuses added subsequently, to be further increased annually.
1806	£2500	£79 10 10	Extinguished £1232 2 0
1811	1000	33 19 2	ditto 124 17 8
1818	1000	34 16 10	ditto 124 18 10

Examples of Bonuses added to other Policies.

Policy No.	Date.	Sum Insured.	Bonuses added.	Total with Additions, to be further increased.
581	1807	£200	£982 12 1	£1182 12 1
1174	1810	1200	1160 5 6	2360 5 6
2202	1820	5000	3558 17 8	8558 17 8

Prospectuses and full particulars may be obtained upon application to the Agents of the Office, in all the principal towns of the United Kingdom, at the City Branch, and at the head Office, No. 50, Regent-street.

## SILVER TEA AND COFFEE SERVICES.

Printed lists sent gratis into the country, in answer to a paid letter, with full particulars of size, weight, and price; or purchasers will find a most extensive assortment of the Silver Services in the Show-rooms. Either tea-pot, sugar-basin, cream-ewer, or coffee-pot, may be had separately.  
T. COX SAVORY & CO. Silversmiths, &c., 47, Cornhill, (seven doors from Gracechurch-street), London.

## ELKINGTON and CO.

THE PATENTEES,  
beg respectfully to intimate to their friends and the public generally, that they have added to their extensive assortment of ELECTRO PLATE, an important variety of SILVER, GILT, and BRONZE PRODUCTIONS, in the highest class of Art,

including  
SIDEBOARD, TABLE, AND OTHER PLATE,  
BUSTS, VASES, AND BAS-RELIEFS.

Also Figures from the Antique, and from the Designs of EMINENT MODERN ARTISTS.

The whole of the above Articles are manufactured by Messrs. ELKINGTON & CO., on new and scientific principles, their desire being to produce and perpetuate, at the lowest possible cost, the best examples of Ancient and Modern Art. A visit to their Establishment will amply repay both the artist and connoisseur.  
22, Regent-street, corner of Jernyn-street, London.  
45, Moorgate-street,  
Manufactory, Newhall-street, Birmingham.  
N.B. Replating and Gilding as usual.  
Estimates, Drawings, and Prices sent free.

## IMPROVEMENTS IN DRESS.—J. STOVEL

Invites gentlemen to inspect his improvements in the make of Coats. The PATENT SELF-ACTING SLEEVE combines utility with elegance and extreme simplicity—it can be applied to every Coat, Plain or Regimental; also to Ladies' Riding Habits. The PATENT DOUBLE-FRONTED OVER-COAT is a perfect protection from wet when walking, riding or driving, and forms a complete covering for the knees in a railway or other carriage.—These improvements may be obtained through any respectable Tailor, or of the Patentee, 158, New Bond-street.

## METCALFE & CO.'S NEW PATTERN

TOOTH BRUSH AND SMYRNA SPONGES.—The Tooth Brush has the important advantage of searching thoroughly into the divisions of the teeth, and cleaning them in the most effectual and extraordinary manner, and is famous for the hairs not coming loose. An Improved Clothes Brush, that cleans in a third part of the usual time, and is incapable of injuring the finest nap. Penetrating Hair Brushes, with the durable unbleached Russian bristles, which do not so often like common hair. Flesh Brushes of improved graduated and powerful construction. Velvet Brushes, which are the most surprising and successful manner. The genuine Smyrna Sponge, with its preserved valuable properties of absorption, vitality, and durability, by means of direct impositions, dispensing with all intermediate parties' profits and destructions, bleaching, and securing the luxury of a genuine Smyrna Sponge. Only METCALFE, BINGLEY & Co.'s Sole Establishment, 20, n. Oxford-street, one door from Holles-street.  
Caution.—Beware of the words "From Metcalfe's" adopted by some houses.

METCALFE'S ALKALINE TOOTH POWDER, 2s. 6d. per box.

## THE FLORIFORM PARASOL. Registered,

Acts & 7 Vict. c. 63. Some time ago a Number of the Art-Union Journal contained a letter from a Lady on the Shapes of Parasols, the writer of which tastefully suggested that a great improvement might be made in their appearance, by adopting in their formation the configuration of Flowers, instead of the antique Mushroom shape.

This suggestion, as far as is mechanically practicable, is carried out by the invention of the FLORIFORM PARASOL, which exhibits, when open, the elegant outline of an expanded Flower.

The FLORIFORM PARASOL may be purchased of all first-class Mercers and Parasol dealers throughout the Kingdom: and wholesale, of JOHN MORLAND & SON, Manufacturers, 50, Eastcheap, London Bridge.

## FLOOR CLOTHS.

Best Quality Warranted ..... 2s. 6d. per square yard.  
Persian and Turkey pattern ..... 2s. 9d. do.  
Common Floor Cloth ..... 2s. 6d. do.

COCOA-FLOOR MATS AND MATTING.  
India Matting, plain and figured.

JOWETT, Manufacturer, 632, New Oxford-street.

**RUPTURES.**—Mr. TOD, Surgeon, 5, Upper Fitzroy-street, Fitzroy-square, the Inventor of a New Truss, and Author of an Essay on Hernia, may be consulted on all cases, from 9 till 12 A.M., and from 6 till 9 P.M. All persons afflicted with Hernia should read this Essay, and judge for themselves. Sold by the Author, and by Mr. Renshaw, 356, Strand. Price 2d. Mr. T. has no agent for the sale of his Trusses, every one being made to order and adapted to the nature and conditions of the Hernia.

## FOR STOPPING DECAYED TEETH.

Patronized by Her Majesty and H.R.H. Prince Albert.—Mr. HOWARD'S SUCCEDANEUM for Stopping Decayed Teeth, however large the cavity. It is placed in the tooth in a soft state, without any pressure or pain, and soon becomes as hard as the enamel, and will remain in the tooth many years, rendering extraction unnecessary, and arresting the further progress of decay. All persons use this Succedaneum themselves with ease, as full directions are enclosed. Price 3s. 6d. Prepared only by Mr. Howard, Surgeon-Dentist, 17, George-street, Hanover-square, who will send it into the country free by post.—Sold by Savory, 22, Regent-street; Sanger, 150, Oxford-street; Hannay, 83, Oxford-street; Butler, 4, Cheapside; Johnston, 68, Cornhill; and all medicine vendors. Price 3s. 6d. Mr. Howard continues to supply the loss of Teeth on his new system of self-adhesion, without spring or wires. This method does not require the extraction of any Teeth or Roots, or any painful operation whatever. 17, George-street, Hanover-square. At home from 11 till 4.

## DU BARRY'S PULMONIC BON-BONS.

This is a safe, pleasant and effectual Remedy for all Disorders of the Chest. Cough, Hoarseness, and Spasms. It is as delicious to the taste as it is safe and infallible in its operation, and in effecting a speedy cure of asthma, coughs, irritation of the lungs and throat, hoarseness, difficulty in breathing, shortness of breath, removing phlegm, and purifying the breath. Being the result of thirty years' experience in the treatment of pulmonary complaints, the combination in their preparation is the most delicate, soothing, and healing ingredients found to be indispensable to the successful removal of these dangerous and troublesome affections. These Bon-Bons are packed in boxes, bearing the seal and signature of Du Barry & Co., and each Bon-Bon has the name Du Barry impressed upon it. The name Du Barry is genuine, and the imitation of either seal, name, or signature is criminal offence. Prices: boxes at 1s. 1d., 2s. 9d., and 4s. 6d. They are forwarded by post, free of postage, on receipt of Post-office Orders or Stamps for their amount; adding there, 2d. for the postage of 1s. 1d., 4d. for 2s. 9d., and 8d. for the 4s. 6d. size. Du Barry & Co., 127, New Bond-street, London. Also to be obtained through all respectable chemists.

## DU BARRY'S Health-restoring Food for

Invalids and Infants.—THE REVALENTA ARABICA.

"We take pleasure in bringing to the notice of our readers a remedy which has the merit of being at once, safe, speedy, and successful, without medicine, in any case, or expense as it saves fifty times its cost in other more expensive remedies; for dyspepsia (indigestion), constipation, diarrhoea, nausea and sickness during pregnancy, at sea, or under any other circumstances; acidity, heartburn, flatulency, distension, hemorrhoidal affections; nervous bilious and other complaints; palpitation of the heart, cramps, spasms, headaches, derangement of the kidneys and bladder, cough, asthma, dyspepsia, consumption, debility, paralysis, depression of spirits, &c. Du Barry's Revalenta Arabica Food, which is easily prepared, even on board ship, or in a desert, is the best food for invalids and delicate infants, as it never turns acid on the weakest stomach, imparts a healthy relish for lunch and dinner, and restores the faculty of digestion and muscular energy to the most enfeebled. It has the highest approbation of Lord Stuart de Decies; the Venerable Archdeacon Alex. Stuart, of Ross (a cure of three years' nervousness); Major-General Thomas King, of Exmouth; Captain Parker D. Bingham, R.N., of 4, Park-walk, Little Chelsea, London, who was cured of dyspepsia in six weeks' time; Captain Andrews, R.N.; Captain Edwards, H.N.; William Hunt, Esq., barrister-at-law, King's College, Cambridge, who, after suffering 60 years from partial paralysis, has regained the use of his limbs in a very short time through this excellent food; the Rev. Charles Kerr, of Winton, Hampshire, who was cured of a lady from constipation and sickness during pregnancy; the Rev. Thomas Minister, of St. Saviour's, Leeds (a cure of five years' nervousness, with spasms, and daily vomitings); Mr. Taylor, corner of Bond-street; Captain Allen, recording the cure of epileptic fits; Drs. Ure and Harvey; James Shorland, Esq., 3, Sydney-terrace, Reading, Berks, late surgeon 96th Regiment (a cure of dropsy); James Porter, Esq., Athol-street, Perth (a cure of thirteen years' cough, with general debility); J. Smyth, Esq., 37, Lower Abbey-street, Dublin; Cornelius O'Sullivan, M.D. F.R.C.S., Dublin, a perfect cure of 30 years' incurable gonorrhea from aneurism, which had resisted all other remedies; and 40,000 other well-known individuals, who have sent the discoverers and importers, Du Barry & Co., 127, New Bond-street, London, testimonials of the extraordinary manner in which their health has been restored by this use of the Revalenta Arabica Food. It has been tried in vain for many years, and all hopes of recovery had been abandoned.—A full report of important cures to the above complaints, and testimonials from parties of the highest respectability, is, we find, sent gratis, by Du Barry & Co.—In canisters, with full instructions for all climates. 1s. 1d., 2s. 9d., and 4s. 6d., at 11s., 12s., at 13s., at 14s., at 15s., at 16s., at 17s., at 18s., at 19s., at 20s., at 21s., at 22s., at 23s., at 24s., at 25s., at 26s., at 27s., at 28s., at 29s., at 30s., at 31s., at 32s., at 33s., at 34s., at 35s., at 36s., at 37s., at 38s., at 39s., at 40s., at 41s., at 42s., at 43s., at 44s., at 45s., at 46s., at 47s., at 48s., at 49s., at 50s., at 51s., at 52s., at 53s., at 54s., at 55s., at 56s., at 57s., at 58s., at 59s., at 60s., at 61s., at 62s., at 63s., at 64s., at 65s., at 66s., at 67s., at 68s., at 69s., at 70s., at 71s., at 72s., at 73s., at 74s., at 75s., at 76s., at 77s., at 78s., at 79s., at 80s., at 81s., at 82s., at 83s., at 84s., at 85s., at 86s., at 87s., at 88s., at 89s., at 90s., at 91s., at 92s., at 93s., at 94s., at 95s., at 96s., at 97s., at 98s., at 99s., at 100s., at 101s., at 102s., at 103s., at 104s., at 105s., at 106s., at 107s., at 108s., at 109s., at 110s., at 111s., at 112s., at 113s., at 114s., at 115s., at 116s., at 117s., at 118s., at 119s., at 120s., at 121s., at 122s., at 123s., at 124s., at 125s., at 126s., at 127s., at 128s., at 129s., at 130s., at 131s., at 132s., at 133s., at 134s., at 135s., at 136s., at 137s., at 138s., at 139s., at 140s., at 141s., at 142s., at 143s., at 144s., at 145s., at 146s., at 147s., at 148s., at 149s., at 150s., at 151s., at 152s., at 153s., at 154s., at 155s., at 156s., at 157s., at 158s., at 159s., at 160s., at 161s., at 162s., at 163s., at 164s., at 165s., at 166s., at 167s., at 168s., at 169s., at 170s., at 171s., at 172s., at 173s., at 174s., at 175s., at 176s., at 177s., at 178s., at 179s., at 180s., at 181s., at 182s., at 183s., at 184s., at 185s., at 186s., at 187s., at 188s., at 189s., at 190s., at 191s., at 192s., at 193s., at 194s., at 195s., at 196s., at 197s., at 198s., at 199s., at 200s., at 201s., at 202s., at 203s., at 204s., at 205s., at 206s., at 207s., at 208s., at 209s., at 210s., at 211s., at 212s., at 213s., at 214s., at 215s., at 216s., at 217s., at 218s., at 219s., at 220s., at 221s., at 222s., at 223s., at 224s., at 225s., at 226s., at 227s., at 228s., at 229s., at 230s., at 231s., at 232s., at 233s., at 234s., at 235s., at 236s., at 237s., at 238s., at 239s., at 240s., at 241s., at 242s., at 243s., at 244s., at 245s., at 246s., at 247s., at 248s., at 249s., at 250s., at 251s., at 252s., at 253s., at 254s., at 255s., at 256s., at 257s., at 258s., at 259s., at 260s., at 261s., at 262s., at 263s., at 264s., at 265s., at 266s., at 267s., at 268s., at 269s., at 270s., at 271s., at 272s., at 273s., at 274s., at 275s., at 276s., at 277s., at 278s., at 279s., at 280s., at 281s., at 282s., at 283s., at 284s., at 285s., at 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14a, Great Marlborough-street, 16th May, 1850.

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LONDON, SATURDAY, MAY 18, 1850.

REVIEWS

*Elementary Sketches of Moral Philosophy, delivered at the Royal Institution in the Years 1804, 1805, and 1806.* By the late Rev. Sydney Smith. Longman & Co.

THIS posthumous publication of a man not soon to be forgotten is valuable chiefly as an historical relic of its author. As a work on Moral Philosophy it has hardly any claims on public attention; but as a specimen of what Sydney Smith could do in his youth as a popular lecturer on certain points of Moral Philosophy as then current, it is very interesting. Nor is the book offered with any higher pretensions. The Lectures, says the prefatory note, "are scarcely more than an enumeration of those great men that have originated and treated on this important science, with a short account of their various opinions, and frequent compilations from their works." \* \* They profess to be nothing more than a popular colloquial sketch of a very curious and interesting subject, written to be spoken. The Lectures are even under the modern academic standard as regards depth or elaborateness; but this may be accounted for by the fact that they were written to be delivered before a mixed audience of ladies and gentlemen. From a certain gallantry of tone that pervades them, as well as from the evident desire throughout to make matters as easy and agreeable as possible, it is seen that the lecturer thought chiefly of his lady-hearers as he wrote.—fair students of Moral Philosophy in 1804—6, now, alas, dead, or grandmothers!

The volume contains twenty-two complete lectures, and portions of five more. First, we have an introductory lecture on the study of Moral Philosophy,—then two lectures on the History of the Science,—then lectures on Perception, Conception, Memory, Imagination, Reason and Judgment, Wit and Humour, Taste, the Beautiful, the Sublime, the Faculties of Animals, the Conduct of the Understanding, the Affections, the Passions and Desires, and on Habit. There is very little attempt at order beyond what is indicated in this arrangement: the lecturer's aim appears simply to have been, to convey a few of the leading notions of psychological science as then professed, in any order that might prove most convenient. The earlier lectures of the series seem to us by far the best: the lecturer probably became more careless as he approached the close.

The doctrines of the volume, so far as we can gather them, are in the main those of the "common-sense school" of Reid and Stewart (the author having been a pupil of Stewart during five years at the University of Edinburgh); but there is a decided tendency to modify the conclusions of the Scotch philosophers in accordance with the analytic or resolving spirit of Locke and Hartley. This half-way position of the lecturer between the two opposed schools of psychology is roughly indicated in the following sentence in one of the lectures on the 'Conduct of the Understanding':—

"As for general scepticism, the only way to avoid it is, to seize on some first principles arbitrarily, and not to quit them. Take as few as you can help,—about a tenth part of what Dr. Reid has taken will suffice,—but take some, and proceed to build upon them."

This, though good practical advice, is not very satisfactory as a confession of the author's faith as a psychologist; nor do we find in the volume anything much more precise or distinct. In discoursing of the active powers, however, he plainly announces his preference for the theory of Hartley over that of Reid. The following

passage, in which this preference is hinted, will serve also as a specimen of the lecturer's powers of exposition generally.—

"The first question which arises in the consideration of human passions, is their origin. Concerning what passions we do *actually* possess, there can be no dispute; but the question is, respecting their origin. With how many passions and desires are we born? is there any such original principle in our nature as a desire of power, a desire of society, a desire of esteem; or, are all these feelings,—whose existence in the mature man no one doubts,—capable of being resolved into any more simple principles? The same with the passions; are men born with the original capacity of feeling gratitude for good, and resentment for evil? or can it be shown that the history of these feelings is; can their origin be traced, and their progress be clearly shown? The former opinions are entertained at present by the school of Reid, in Scotland; were taught by Hutcheson; and were, I fancy, the commonly received opinions on the subject before the time of Hartley. The disciples of this school may differ a little in their enumeration of the original active principles of our nature,—but they all agree, that they are numerous; that no account can be given of their origin; that they are there, because such is the constitution of our nature; that it is an ultimate fact, and cannot be reasoned upon. \* \* I shall now give some short account of the progress and nature of Dr. Hartley's opinions. Every body here present knows what is meant by the association of ideas. When two ideas have, by any accident, been joined together frequently in the understanding, the one idea has, ever after, the strongest tendency to bring back the other: for instance, the celebrated Descartes was very much in love with a lady who squinted; he had so associated that passion with obliquity of vision, that he declares, to the latest hour of his life he could never see a lady with a cast in her eye without experiencing the most lively emotions. In the same manner, to take the most trite of all instances, the ideas of spirits and of darkness are so strongly united together in our infancy, that it becomes an exceedingly difficult thing to separate them in mature age. \* \* This is what is meant by the principle of association; and this principle was, I believe, first noticed by Locke; but he had recourse to it only to explain those sympathies and antipathies which he calls unnatural, in distinction from those which he says are born with us; and nothing can be more imperfect than his notions concerning the nature, cause, and effects of the principle. Afterwards, Mr. Gay, a clergyman in the West of England, endeavoured to show the possibility of deducing all our passions and affections from association, in a dissertation prefixed to Bishop Law's translation of King's 'Origin of Evil:' but he supposed the love of happiness to be an original and implanted principle; and that the passions and affections were deducible only from supposing sensible and rational creatures dependent upon each other for their happiness. It was upon hearing of Mr. Gay's opinion, that Dr. Hartley turned his thoughts upon the subject; and at length, after giving the closest attention to it, in a course of several years, it appeared to him very probable, not only that all our intellectual pleasures and pains, but that all the phenomena of memory, imagination, volition, reasoning, and every other mental affection and operation, are only different modes or cases of the associations of ideas; so that nothing is necessary to make any man whatever he is, than a capacity of feeling pleasure and pain, and the principle of association."

It will be seen from the above example that Sydney Smith must have been an excellent popular lecturer,—clear, lively, and capable of explaining abstruse matters in a very interesting and intelligible manner. Many other passages might be given illustrative of the strong masculine sense of the author,—his capacity for thinking seriously and scientifically when he chose,—and his ability to grapple in vigorous English phraseology with the real gist of a problem under discussion. After all, however, it is as a fresh exhibition of Sydney Smith as the *wit* that the volume is most remarkable. There have been

more comprehensive and certainly more profound popular lectures on Moral Philosophy than those which this volume contains,—but we question if ever obscure points were lighted up in popular lectures by such flashes of wit as here break out page after page. We believe that in this respect the present volume will bear comparison with any of Sydney Smith's productions already before the world. Thus:—

"Whoever is fond of the biographical art as a repository of the actions and the fortunes of great men may enjoy an agreeable specimen of its certainty in the life of Aristotle. Some writers say he was a Jew; others, that he got all his information from a Jew, that he kept an apothecary's shop, and was an atheist; others say, on the contrary, that he did not keep an apothecary's shop, and that he was a Trinitarian. Some say he respected the religion of his country; others, that he offered sacrifices to his wife, and made hymns in favour of his father-in-law. Some are of opinion he was poisoned by the priests; others are clear that he died of vexation because he could not discover the causes of the ebb and flow in the Euripus. We now care or know so little about Aristotle, that Mr. Fielding, in one of his novels, says, 'Aristotle is not such a fool as many people believe who never read a syllable of his works.'"

Again, speaking of the alleged susceptibility of personal attachment that was cultivated by the Epicurean philosophers of antiquity:—

"A set of graminivorous metaphysicians, living together in a garden, and employing their whole time in acts of benevolence towards each other, carries with it such an air of romance, that I am afraid it must be considerably lowered, and rendered more tasteless, before it can be brought down to the standard of credibility and the probabilities of real life. At least we may be tolerably sure that if half a dozen metaphysicians, such as metaphysicians are in these modern days, were to live in a garden in Battersea or Kew, their friendship would not be of very long duration; and their learned labours would probably be interrupted by the same reasons which prevented Réaumur's spiders from spinning,—they fabricated a very beautiful and subtle thread, but, unfortunately, they were so extremely fond of fighting, that it was impossible to keep them together in the same place."

Here, again, is a witty statement of a very substantial truth.—

"A great deal of talent is lost to the world for the want of a little courage. Every day sends to their graves a number of obscure men who have only remained obscure because their timidity has prevented them from making a first effort; and who, if they could only have been induced to begin, would in all probability have gone great lengths in the career of fame. The fact is, that in order to do anything in this world worth doing, we must not stand shivering on the bank, and thinking of the cold and the danger, but jump in and scramble through as well as we can. It will not do to be perpetually calculating risks, and adjusting nice chances: it did all very well before the Flood, when a man could consult his friends upon an intended publication for a hundred and fifty years, and then live to see its success for six or seven centuries afterwards; but at present a man waits, and doubts, and hesitates, and consults his brother, and his uncle, and his first cousins, and his particular friends, till one fine day he finds that he is sixty-five years of age,—that he has lost so much time in consulting first cousins and particular friends, that he has no more time left to follow their advice."

Commenting on the somewhat vague meaning attached to the word *Taste*, the lecturer allows his wit fairly to run away with him.—

"In the lighter parts of morals, we may, perhaps, use the metaphor of taste; but in the greater virtues and vices, certainly not. If a man were to kill the minister and churchwardens of his parish, nobody would accuse him of want of taste. The Scythians always ate their grandfathers; they behaved very respectfully to them for a long time, but as soon as their grandfathers became old and troublesome, and began to tell long stories, they immediately ate them: nothing could be more improper, and even disrespect-



ful, than dining off such near and venerable relations; yet we could not with any propriety accuse them of bad taste in morals."

The two lectures on 'Wit and Humour' will naturally be read with special interest. A witty man, however, is not necessarily the person to propound a true theory of wit; and on this question—so often discussed, and still (notwithstanding Mr. Leigh Hunt's recent contribution on the subject) so far from a satisfactory solution—we fear Sydney Smith's attempt must be regarded as a failure. *Wit* he defines as consisting in the discovery of unexpected *relations* or *connexions* between ideas, which relations or connexions, when expressed, excite surprise and no higher feeling (if any higher feeling is excited the saying ceases, he says, to be witty, and becomes beautiful or sublime); *Humour*, on the other hand, he defines, with similar restrictions, as consisting in the discovery of unexpected *incongruities* or *differences*. Speaking of both together, he says:—

"Wit and humour, though the first consists in discovering connexion, the latter in discovering incongruity, are closely and nearly related to each other. The respective feelings, both depend upon surprise, are both incompatible with serious and important ideas, and both communicate the same sort of pleasure to the understanding. A man who gives the reins to his wit, may repress his humour as undignified; the one may be rooted out by design and attention; but they seem, where no pains of this kind have been taken, to spring up naturally in the same soil, and to be plants of the same tribe and family. The ingenious and philosophical Dr. Millar, of Glasgow, has a very interesting speculation of the different effects of civilisation on wit and humour, the progress of which he conceives to have a direct tendency to encourage wit and to diminish humour."

Now, how very meagre a definition this is, especially as regards Humour, it is hardly necessary to point out. To the real distinctive characteristic of Humour from which it derives its dignity and justification—namely, the element of heart or kindness that is invariably bound up in it—the author, like many other theorists, who have also committed the error of seeking the root of Humour beside that of Wit, and therefore in the intellect, was evidently blind. His illustrations, however, are capital. Thus, defining that sub-variety of wit known as "the Pun," he says:—

"A pun, to be perfect in its kind, should contain two distinct meanings; the one common and obvious; the other, more remote: and in the notice which the mind takes of the relation between these two sets of words, and in the surprise which that relation excites, the pleasure of a pun consists. Miss Hamilton, in her book on Education, mentions the instance of a boy so very neglectful, that he could never be brought to read the word *patriarchs*; but whenever he met with it he always pronounced it *partridges*. A friend of the writer observed to her, that it could hardly be considered as a mere piece of negligence, for it appeared to him that the boy, in calling them partridges, was *making game* of the patriarchs."

Again, in maintaining his theory of Humour, that it consists in the recognition of incongruities causing surprise, and surprise alone, he gives us the following:—

"To see a young officer of eighteen years of age come into company in full uniform, and with such a wig as is worn by grave and respectable clergymen advanced in years, would make everybody laugh, because it certainly is a very unusual combination of objects, and such as would not atone for its novelty by any particular purpose of utility to which it was subservient. It is a complete instance of incongruity. Add ten years to the age of this incongruous officer, the incongruity would be very faintly diminished;—make him eighty years of age, and a celebrated military character of the last reign, and the incongruity almost entirely vanishes: I am not sure that we should not be rather more disposed to *respect* the peculiarity than to laugh at it. As you increase the

incongruity, you increase the humour; as you diminish it, you diminish the humour. If a tradesman of a corpulent and respectable appearance, with habiliments somewhat ostentatious, were to slide down gently into the mud, and dederate a pea-green coat, I am afraid we should all have the barbarity to laugh. If his hat and wig, like treacherous servants, were to desert their falling master, it certainly would not diminish our propensity to laugh; but if he were to fall into a violent passion, and abuse every body about him, nobody could possibly resist the incongruity of a pea-green tradesman, very respectable, sitting in the mud, and threatening all the passers by with the effects of his wrath. Here, every incident heightens the humour of the scene—the gaiety of his tunic, the general respectability of his appearance, the rills of muddy water which trickle down his cheeks, and the harmless violence of his rage! But if, instead of this, we were to observe a dustman falling into the mud, it would hardly attract any attention, because the opposition of ideas is so trifling, and the incongruity so slight."

These tastings of the racy contents of this posthumous volume will be likely, we think, to send our readers to its pages for a further banquet.

*An Arctic Voyage to Baffin's Bay and Lancaster Sound, in search of Friends with Sir John Franklin.* By Robert Anstruther Goodsir. Van Voorst.

THIS work is of a kind which would disarm adverse criticism if it deserved it. But for certain faults of style the author pleads the excuse of a previously untried pen,—and in the matter of the book there is much to interest and to be commended.

From motives of a touching character already known to our readers, Mr. Goodsir embarked on the 17th of March 1849 in the whaling ship *Advice*, commanded by Captain Penny. His anxiety was to take a personal part in the search for Sir John Franklin's Expedition,—in which his brother Henry Goodsir had gone out as assistant surgeon. The book before us gives a more detailed account of the voyage than has elsewhere appeared, and enters at some length into the history of the celebrated Esquimaux report which was so eagerly seized on by the papers and generally accepted as evidence of the safety of the missing Expedition. Our readers will remember that our reading of the rumour was to a different effect,—and Mr. Goodsir, who has the best means of judging, refers to our articles on the subject as conclusive of the unworthiness of the whole story.

Mr. Goodsir's narrative shows him to have been an attentive observer of the phenomena which came under his observation during his extraordinary voyage. Here is his introduction to the realms of ice.—

"Pushing our way slowly northward, we now began to see immense fields of ice, of a dead unbroken level, often as far as the eye could reach, sometimes sparkling with a bright and blinding glare in the sun, but as often lying outstretched beneath rolling volumes of thick mist. We would be now progressing rapidly under a press of sail in almost open water, in a short time afterwards closely beset by ice, without a pool within sight for miles around. The rapidity with which the scene thus sometimes changed, was sometimes very extraordinary. To an inexperienced eye there would be no appearance of an immediate stoppage, but soon the water about us could be seen to be rapidly narrowing, and frequently we were scarcely secure in a dock ere the concussion would take place, and the floes were grinding and crushing against one another with the most irresistible force. It was a strange feeling to stand beside the place where such forces were in operation. It seemed like a trial of strength between the opposing floes, the hollow grinding noise under one's feet booming lower and lower in the distance. It was as if one was standing over the site of an earthquake. The ponderous ice, trembling and

slowly rising, would rend and rift with a sullen roar and huge masses, hundreds of tons in weight, would be heaved up, one above the other, until, where it was before a level, an immense rampart of angular blocks became piled.

And hark! the lengthening roar continuous runs  
Athwart the rifted deep: at once it bursts,  
And piles a thousand mountains to the clouds.

One might almost think that the poet of the 'Seasons' had witnessed such a scene. Great misshapen columns, like those of Stonehenge, are not unfrequently seen reared on end, on the top of these ramparts, poised so delicately, that a slight touch will send them thundering down on either side. When the pressure is lessening and 'taking off,' the hollow grinding noise becomes sharper and shriller, and the smaller fragments are seen slipping down between the larger; then the topmost heavy blocks are, one by one, launched into the chasm, which slowly widens, and opens up, showing a long lane of water, edged on each side by a wall of ice, formed of the pieces which have been upheaved on to the floe during the pressure."

Our readers will note the defects of style to which we have alluded, in the frequent repetition of the same word and other mere accidents of manner.

Scenes of rare and exquisite beauty occasionally refresh the eye of the arctic mariner.—

"It was a dead calm, and the very cliffs in shore were seen mirrored on the water, the glassy smoothness of which was unbroken except by the plashing of the oars from the long line of boats ahead of each of the ships. The transparency of the atmosphere was such as can only be conceived by those who have visited arctic countries, and the whole scene was one that it would be difficult to forget, the more so since it was here we saw one of the most beautiful icebergs of the many it was our fortune to observe during the voyage. It was of immense size, The south side, on which we advanced towards it was almost perpendicular, as if a recent split had taken place; but on rounding the corner and coming abreast of the west side, which we did almost within arm's-length, we found it to be wrought into ledges,—ledge above ledge, each festooned with a fringe of crystal icicles, which here and there reaching the ledge beneath, formed columns slender as those of a Saracenic mosque; within them ran a gallery green as emerald. Two or three tiny cascades were tinkling from ledge to ledge, and fell with a soft plash into the water beneath, sending the pearl-like bubbles dancing from them over the smooth surface. All was glancing and glittering beneath a bright sun, and if I had had it in my power I could have stood for hours to gaze at it. Passing the corner, the north side was seen to be cut into two deep little bays with sloping shores, a long point running out between them. The lowest ledge of the west side rounded the corner and inclined down towards the nearest bay, if so it may be called, and ending in a broad platform. This little bay seemed so snug, and lay so beautifully to the sun, that, unnatural as it may appear, one could not help fancying it,—as a fit site for a pretty cottage."

Though Mr. Goodsir had centred all his hopes and fears around the chance of meeting with his brother—he yet could not be insensible to the excitement attendant on the pursuit and capture of whales, which formed the legitimate object of the *Advice*. On more than one occasion he volunteered to pull an oar in the whale boats when the leviathans, in the language of the sailors, "spouted like steam-coaches, only far thicker."—He lost no opportunity of exercising his scientific acquirements; but the records of numerous voyages attest that the Arctic circle is but a barren field to the naturalist.—With energy and zeal which past experience has not daunted, Mr. Goodsir has accompanied Captain Penny in his present Expedition. We earnestly trust that his devotion may meet with its appropriate reward.



*Personal Adventures in Upper and Lower California in 1848-49; with the Author's Experience at the Mines.* By William Redmond Ryan. 2 vols. Shoberl.

Mr. Ryan—an Englishman, it appears, by birth, but long a resident in the United States, and an artist by "profession"—was "one of those restless spirits," he tells us, "who during the late war between the United States and Mexico sought relief from the monotony of civilized life in a more congenial and adventurous existence amidst the wilds and mountains of California." Having wound up his affairs in New York, he proceeded to the rendezvous at Fort Hamilton in the beginning of June 1847; and found there assembled a number of young men like himself, volunteers in the Expedition that was about to be sent, in the service of the United States, to the other side of the American Continent. Quitting Fort Hamilton on the 15th of August, the little band of companions went to Philadelphia, where they embarked on their long voyage round the South American Continent for California. A stranger and more riotous set of beings appear never to have been before packed together in a ship; for, according to the author's account, the voyage was one continued scene of frolic and uproar,—the volunteers among other things tossing each other in blankets by way of amusement when they could find no other. It was a rule on board that the volunteers might do as they liked; the captain of the vessel exercising no control over them at all so long as they kept on this side of murder, and allowing his crew to have as little to do with them as possible. The following short extract will show of what various elements these original American Expeditions to California were composed.—

"The scenes that occasionally occurred raised many a pang in my heart for the females who were compelled to witness them. In one young woman I took a deep interest. She was about twenty years of age, of handsome features, and symmetrical form, and had evidently been well educated, and accustomed to move in good society. She was the wife of a good-looking young fellow, possessing abilities far above the ordinary range, and who had been the editor of a newspaper; but, unable to turn his literary talents to profitable account, he had joined the expedition with the intention of settling in California. I used often to see her shudder, as she sat behind the scanty curtain which formed the only barrier between her berth and the quarters of the single men, whose profane and too often immodest language shocked her ear, and caused her to ply her needle the more diligently at some linen of miniature dimensions which it was manifest would ere long come into requisition."

After a voyage of seven months, the volunteers reached the western shores of Mexico; and on the 18th of February they landed at Monterey—then considered the capital of Upper California. Here they were received by some twenty or thirty "old hands"—i.e. volunteers who had preceded them; and the two parties, uniting, formed a kind of armed Yankee colony in the town, killing time as well as they could by quarrelling with the Californian men, dancing with the Californian women, learning to ride on the Californian horses, and playing at the Californian gaming-tables. From these agreeable occupations a portion of them were called away early in March, and embarked for Lower California,—where their services were required against the Mexicans and their Indian allies. The adventures of the author and his fellow volunteers in this military expedition into Lower California furnish materials for a chapter or two that may be interesting to those who like tales of Indian-shooting in the woods and hair's-breadth escapes of Yankee skirmishers.

The little town of San José was the headquarters of the American volunteers in Lower California; and it was while under drill here that the author and his comrades first heard of the great gold discoveries.—

"News reached us of several extensive and prolific gold mines having been discovered in Upper California, and of large fortunes having been realized in an incredibly brief space of time, by the lucky few who chanced to be on the spot, or in the more immediate neighbourhood. At first, the report was treated very lightly, the majority of our men laughing at the idea of gold being found in abundance on the ground; and the whole affair being considered as a hoax got up to induce an emigration into those parts, we heard little or nothing more about it for a while."

Soon, however, the most sceptical became convinced that the "diggings" were no hoax; and, news arriving at this instant that a treaty had been at length concluded between the United States and Mexico, on the basis of a renunciation by the former of all claim to Lower California, one and all of the party were eager to be off to the golden land. Returning, therefore, to Monterey, where they were detained some time by the difficulty of obtaining a formal discharge, the governor, Col. Mason, having set out for the "diggings" and left official business behind him,—they formed themselves into little bands or parties for excursions to the mining grounds. "The plan adopted," says Mr. Ryan, "was to form bands of three, five, or ten, under the leadership of one of the number, whose name the party took, and continued to be distinguished by. A set of written rules was drawn up for the regulation of the general interests, these rules varying in certain points, according to the peculiar views of particular associations."

The author, who seems to have been one of the last to catch the gold fever, did give way at length when he saw all his old comrades gone; and set out with four others on an expedition to the mines. When, after a toilsome and dangerous journey, he arrived at his destination—the "Stanislaus mine,"—he had but one companion left,—a strong rough fellow named Halliday. The following is an account of the first night at the "diggings."

"The mine was a deep ravine, embosomed amidst lofty hills, surmounted by and covered with pine, and having, in the bottom itself, abundance of rock, mud, and sand. Halliday and I encamped at the very lowest part of the ravine, a steep rock which towered above our heads affording us shelter, and a huge, flat stone beneath our feet promising a fair substitute for a dry bed. Here then we stretched our *machecers* and blankets, and arranged our saddles and bags, so as to make ourselves as comfortable and warm as possible, although in spite of our precautions and contrivances, and of a tolerably good fire, our encampment was bitterly cold, and we lay exposed to a heavy dew. We had given up our horses into the charge of the Indians, and I saw to their being safely placed in the *cavallard*, whilst Halliday went to chop wood; a task I was too weak to perform. I cannot say we slept; we might more correctly be said to have had a long and most uncomfortable doze, and when morning broke, we were shivering with cold, and shook the dew in a shower from our clothes. I consulted with my companion, and urged upon him the prudence of our setting to work to construct ourselves a sort of log cabin; otherwise I felt certain, from the experience of the past night, our sojourn at the mines would be likely to prove fatal to one or both of us. He was, however, far too eager to try his fortune at digging to listen to my proposal, at which he even smiled, probably at the bare idea of weather, privation or toil, being able to affect his powerful frame. I saw him presently depart up the ravine, shouldering a pick, and glancing now and then at his knife, whilst I proceeded in search of materials for constructing a temporary place of shelter. As my strength was unequal to the task of felling timber, I endeavoured to procure four poles, intending to sink them into the ground, and to

stretch on the top of them a bed-tick I had reserved for the purpose."

For a day or two the author went about making observations as to the modes of gold digging, &c., which soon convinced him that the mines were no place for him; while poor Halliday, though toiling from morning till night, had but small success. At length one morning the author went out to try his own luck. He stood moralizing, he says, among the diggers, and entertaining "strong misgivings whether the results attained by such severe toil were at all commensurate with the sacrifices made in connexion with it," when his moralizings "were brought to an abrupt close by a boisterous exclamation from Halliday. 'Luck, by G—!' said he, tossing up a small lump of gold, which he had succeeded in picking out with his knife from a hole at which he had stopped, whilst I stood gazing at the extraordinary scene around me, absorbed in my reflections. This was quite enough to drive all philosophy out of my head, and I forthwith looked out for a likely place, and began to dig away as busily as the rest. I wrought in good earnest the whole of that day, and was completely unsuccessful. Nevertheless, I renewed the operation on the following one, and got about six dollars' worth of gold; whilst Halliday procured to the value of ten. The day after, we were both tolerably fortunate, bringing in between us about three ounces; but, during the remainder of the time we sojourned at the mine, Halliday did not average more than eight dollars a day, and I seldom exceeded from four to six. In the middle of the day, the heat became so intense, that I was compelled to discontinue my labours, and rest awhile, whilst the exhalations arising from the dampness of the ground where I washed the clay were no less oppressive and injurious. In fact, as the time advanced, I felt myself growing weaker; and, as our provisions were nearly exhausted, it became necessary to determine upon some course for the future."

While Mr. Ryan saw no reason to doubt that some were eminently successful as diggers, he perceived that a still surer road to wealth was that of trading with these diggers. In the scarcity of commodities that prevailed, every article of use or convenience fetched an exorbitant price; and those who had such articles to dispose of got more gold by selling them than they could have obtained by the most assiduous labour in digging. "It isn't the diggers," said one miner to him "that

"get the bulk of the gold, but the traders and speculators. I even know a person whose wife made a very handsome sum by washing linen, whilst her husband was away at the mines. Think of twelve dollars a dozen, eh! Her husband remained absent somewhere about four weeks; and, though he came back with a pretty good 'find,' she, good woman, laughed outright at his gold-washing, for her shirt-washing had realized, during the same period, nearly double the value in dollars of the ore he had found."

Acting on this hint, says Mr. Ryan,—

"I began to take advantage of any opportunities that presented themselves, to dispose of such articles as I could spare, to whoever felt inclined to give me a price for them. A pair of pistols, which I had purchased at Monterey for eleven dollars and a half, I now sold for seven ounces of gold, and subsequently ascertained that the purchaser refused twelve for them higher up the ravine. My old musket fetched two ounces; an overcoat that I had worn during my stay in California, and would really not have been worth a dollar anywhere but at the mines, realized twenty-four dollars; and getting now into the true Yankee spirit of trade, I went on in this manner, until I made up a purse containing about 300 dollars." His stock of disposable articles having been exhausted, and his success in digging still continuing small, the author resolved to return to Monterey on the chance of meeting with some remunerative occupation. This, accordingly, he did, after many hardships; but finding that sign-painting, which was the only thing he could turn his hand to, was at a discount in Monterey, he removed (April 1849) to San



Francisco, then rapidly rising into importance, and already promising to be at some future day a great port of the Pacific. He gives the following description of the celebrated San Francisco Bay.

"Unlike the majority of bays, it is not a simple indentation of the coast, but a little Mediterranean in itself, having bold shores and a fertile country adjacent, and being connected with the ocean by a gate of rock, or a strait of not more than one mile and a half at its greatest width; then suddenly opening out, as soon as it is past into an expanse of between seventy and eighty miles, completely landlocked, with an average breadth of from ten to fifteen miles, the head of the bay being distant from the sea nearly forty miles, at which point commences its connexion with the noble and beautiful valleys of the San Joaquin and Sacramento. I may add of it, that the water at the entrance and inside of it is of a depth sufficient to admit the largest vessels that were ever constructed, which can ride here in perfect safety in all kinds of weather; whilst the extent of the harbour would accommodate all the navies in the world, with room to spare. A more approachable harbour, or one offering greater security, is unknown to navigators. At the time I speak of, although, but a short period before, its waters were comparatively unfrequented—I beheld its glistening surface crowded with vessels of all dimensions, and from various countries; so vast and important a change had the discovery of the golden treasures entombed in the remote and rugged ravines of the Sacramento and San Joaquin, wrought for San Francisco Bay."

The remainder of the book is taken up with descriptions of society at San Francisco, anecdotes and remarks illustrative of the state of California generally, and an account of the writer's own fortunes during the five additional months that he remained in the country. He found that at San Francisco he could turn his house-and-sign-painting to more account than at Monterey. He had hardly arrived there when he contracted with the captain of one of the ships in the bay to paint her for payment at the rate of 260 dollars a month, clear of all expenses; and eventually, having formed a partnership with another person, he set up in business in the town—the first house painter that California had seen. The business proved thriving; but the unhealthiness of the climate was such—especially in the unprovided state of the colony—that he found it absolutely necessary to cease being a Californian, and go back to the United States.

The accounts given by Mr. Ryan of the condition of society in San Francisco and in California generally are very interesting. The great and universal vice is gambling; indeed this was the only amusement, with the exception of drinking, to which the settlers could betake themselves. Violence, fraud, and lawlessness prevailed everywhere; but there was a growing tendency to put down anarchy and establish a kind of order by the prepotent exercise of Lynch law on every flagrant occasion of criminality. Curiously enough, the most orderly and respectable portion of the population of San Francisco (which at that time consisted, according to Mr. Ryan's estimate, of about 10,000 males, with only 100 females) were the Chinese settlers. Of these he gives the following account.

"Amongst the various emigrants who daily flocked into the city—for each day brought its fresh arrivals—were numerous Chinese, and a very considerable number of Frenchmen, from the Sandwich Islands and from South America. The former had been consigned, with houses and merchandise, to certain Americans in San Francisco, to whom they were bound by contract, as labourers, to work at a scale of wages very far below the average paid to mechanics and others generally. The houses they brought with them from China, and which they set up where they were wanted, were infinitely superior and more substantial than those erected by the Yankees, being

built chiefly of logs of wood, or scantling, from six to eight inches in thickness, placed one on the top of the other, to form the front, rear, and sides; whilst the roofs were constructed on an equally simple and ingenious plan, and were remarkable for durability. These Chinese had all the air of men likely to prove good citizens, being quiet, inoffensive, and particularly industrious. I once went into an eating-house, kept by one of these people, and was astonished at the neat arrangement and cleanliness of the place, the excellence of the table, and moderate charges. It was styled the 'Canton Restaurant,' and so thoroughly Chinese was it in its appointment, and in the manner of service, that one might have easily fancied one's self in the heart of the Celestial Empire. The bar-keeper—though he spoke excellent English—was a Chinese; as were also the attendants. Every article that was sold, even of the most trifling kind, was set down, in Chinese characters, as it was disposed of; it being the duty of one of the waiters to attend to this department. This he did very cleverly and quickly, having a sheet of paper for the purpose, on which the article and the price were noted down in Chinese characters, by means of a 'long thin' brush, moistened in a solution of Indian or Chinese ink. As I had always been given to understand that these people were of dirty habits, I feel it only right to state that I was delighted with the cleanliness of this place, and am gratified to be able to bear testimony to the injustice of such a sweeping assertion."

Another illustration of the rapidly increasing intercourse between China and California is given by Mr. Ryan in the Appendix, on the authority of a person who describes the state of the country at a later date.

"At least 75 houses have been imported from Canton, and are put up by Chinese carpenters. Nearly all the chairs in private families are of Chinese manufacture; and there are two restaurants in the town kept by Kang-sung, and Wang-tong, where very palatable chow-chow, curry, and tarts, are served up by the celestials. Washing is still 8 dollars a dozen; and the consequence is, large quantities of soiled linen are sent to our antipodes to be purified. A vessel just in from Canton brought 250 dozen, which were sent out a few months ago; another, from the Sandwich Islands, brought 100 dozen; and the practice is now becoming general. San Francisco is, in fact, more metropolitan in its character than any port in the world. Its trade with all parts of the Pacific is rapidly increasing. The overland emigration is pouring into the country in a full tide."

That the Californians, the advanced guard as they are of the westward movement of civilization, should send their dirty linen to be washed in China, is a curious enough verification of the prediction of historical philosophers, that ultimately the movement of mind would complete the great circle of the globe, and the spirit that set out from the east would at the consummation of its long progress westward reach the east again.

Mr. Ryan returned to the United States by way of Panama, not much richer, it would appear, than when he set out,—but considerably wiser, and cured of his restlessness. Of his book, we have to say, that it is cleverly written and amusing, showing no small degree of graphic power, as well as much good sense and good feeling. It seems to be trustworthy, and may be read with advantage by all who either desire to know specially the state and prospects of California, or who wish to study the aspects of such societies as thus start up at the bidding of covetousness and adventure on the extreme margin of Civilization.

*Annals of Hawick, A.D. M.CC.XIV.—A.D. M.DCCC.XIV., with an Appendix, containing Biographical Sketches and other Illustrative Documents.* By James Wilson, Town Clerk of Hawick. Edinburgh, Stevenson.

AN amusing essay might be written on the various causes which have induced persons unconnected with the literary world to "take

up the pen," as the phrase is. The reason which has produced the little volume before us would, however, stand quite alone:—it is, "the completion of a line of railway to which the metropolis of Scotland and the ancient burgh of Hawick have become respective termini." This undertaking appeared to the compiler a suitable opportunity for stringing together such notes connected with the history of the town as he had from time to time entered on his tablets. It is due to Mr. Wilson to say, that he has evinced laudable diligence; and we quite agree with him, that, oftentimes, the scantiest materials may be of great service to the future topographer.

The earliest notices of Hawick are very brief. The "Mote" of Hawick seems, however, to prove that a town was existing here even in British times; since huge mounds of this description were certainly used as places where the whole population met and where justice was administered. The "Cairn," or "Picks-work Ditch," at some distance from the town—a wide fosse, with a rampart on either side—is another proof of the antiquity of Hawick; but its history during Saxon times and during the earlier portion of the Middle Ages is quite a blank. The earliest notices are contained in the monastic chartularies, and have little interest. In later times, Hawick, occupying a station so near to the border, suffered alike from the Scots and from the English troops, besides being exposed to the predatory inroads of those border-thieves whose daring has been handed down to us in many a spirited old ballad. Johnnie Armstrong, whose doings are remembered among the peasantry of the border with almost as great interest as the deeds of Robin Hood are dwelt on by our own, came riding in gallant array to Hawick, to meet the young King in 1529,—and was there sentenced to death. The story is well and quaintly told by old Pittscottie, and we cannot repress a regret at the hard fate of the gallant freebooter.

"Efter this hunting, the King hanged Johnie Armstrong, laird of Kilknotie, quhilk monie Scottis mene heavily lamented, for he was ane doubtit (redoubted) man, and als good ane chieftain as ever was ypon the Borderis, either of Scotland or of England. And albeit he was ane lous livand man, and sustained the number of xxiiij well-horsed able gentlemen with him, yitt he never molested the Scottis man. But it is said, from the Scottis Border to New Castle of England, there was not ane of quhatsoever estate bot payed to this Johnie Armstrong ane tribut, to be free of his cumber, he was so doubtit in England. So, when he entred in before the King, he cam verrie reverentlie with his foraid number, verrie richly appareid, trusting that in respect he had come to the Kingis grace willinglie and voluntarie, not being tane or apprehendit by the King, he could obtain the main favour. But when the King saw him and his men so gorgeous in their apparell, and so many braw men under ane tirantis commandment, throwardis he turned about his face, and had tak that tirant out of his sight, saying, 'Quhat wantis yon knave that a king should have?' But when Johnie Armstrong perceived that the King kindled in ane furie aganis him, and had no hope of his liff, notwithstanding of many great and fair offers quhilk he offered to the King; that is, that he should sustene himself with fourtie gentlemen, ever readie to wait upon his Majesty's service, and never to take a penny of Scotland or Scottis man. Secondlie, that there was not ane subject in England, duke, earl, lord, or barroun, bot within ane certain day he could bring one of thame to his Majesty, either quick or dead: he seeing no hope of the King's favor towards him, said verrie prouddlie, 'I am bot ane fool to seek grace at ane graceless face; bot had I knawin, Sir, that you would have taken my lyff this day, I could have lived upon the Borderis in dyspyte of Kyng Harrie and you both; for I knaw that Kyng Harrie would doun-weigh my best hors with gold to knaw that I



was condemned to die this day,—so he was led to the scaffold, and he and all his men hanged. This being done, the King returned to Edinburgh the xxiii day of July, and remained meikle of that winter in Edinburgh."

They were executed at Carlenrig Chapel, near Hawick; and it is the belief of the country people that in token of the injustice of the sentence the trees withered away. A very widely-spread superstition is this. Thievery did not, however, decline; and in 1561 the Earl of Mar, suddenly marching to Hawick, apprehended fifty-three of the most noted outlaws, eighteen of whom were instantly drowned, "*for lack of trees and halters!*" A strange lack would this appear to the rangers of "merrie Sherwood." The records of the town afford but little that is interesting. Cases of stealing peats, small sums of money, and such like, are frequent; and the inhabitants of the good town of Hawick seem to have indulged in very disrespectful speeches towards the town authorities, calling them by sundry very ludicrous epithets, which are gravely set down, together with the due penalty,—which appears to have been rigidly enforced in all cases. The stringent laws against beggars which were enacted by this diminutive corporation, are curious. The authorities seem to have had the power of summarily driving them from the town, "never again to be seen, by night nor by day, within the burgh of Hawick, or liberties thereof, on pain of being branded on the face!" Hawick has been rather an unfortunate town, having suffered both from fire and from water more than once. The account of the last of these calamities, in 1767, is curious.

"On the 5th of August, the river Slitterick, which runs through Hawick, in Scotland, rose to an uncommon height without any extraordinary rain falling, that day, or for some days before, and the river Teviot was then fordable. It began to rise about four o'clock in the afternoon, and continued increasing till after six, when the water was 22 feet higher than usual. The consternation of the town's people is scarce to be conceived; for the water rushed into the streets with inexpressible violence, threatening universal desolation. Fifteen dwelling-houses, with the corn-mill at the end of the town, were presently swept away, and the very rock on which they were founded, washed so clean that not a bit of rubbish or vestige of a building was left. As no human assistance could avail, the minister of the place called the inhabitants to church, to supplicate Heaven to avert the judgment that seemed to threaten them. At the height of the flood, a servant-maid, belonging to a merchant of the town, recollected that her master had in the house (which was then surrounded with water) about 300*l.* in gold. Her master being from home, she acquainted the neighbours, and begged their assistance to recover it, but none of them would venture: upon which the girl waded boldly into the house, and got hold of the bag with the money, but, in coming out, she was carried down by the stream. Providence, however, interposed for her safety. She was cast ashore on a green, a little below the town, just alive, and the money grasped in both her hands, so fast, that, with some difficulty, it was removed."

The volume concludes with an appendix of statistical papers, and of memoirs of a number of worthy men who were ministers of Hawick;—and to those connected by early associations with the spot or its neighbourhood we doubt not these Annals will prove acceptable.

*The Life and Correspondence of Robert Southey.*  
Vol. IV.

[Second Notice.]

A foreign journey undertaken by Southey in the year 1815, and terminated by that happy return home which he cordially though perhaps too confidentially commemorated in his "*Pilgrimage to Waterloo*," may be said to have closed the period of domestic sunshine which, in our last, we pointed to the Poet as enjoying. The death of his son Herbert took place early

in 1816. The blow was borne with resignation, but it left its trace. The storm-cloud passed, but the heaven was less bright than it had been before. We know not that the library of English correspondence contains more unaffected, natural, or high-toned revelations of a manly mind bowed but not broken by sorrow than those contained in Southey's letters referring to this great bereavement. The following—one among a score—will lead many a reader to seek out the rest of the series.

"To John May, Esq.

Kewick, June 12, 1816.

"My dear Friend,—I have not written to you for some weeks. Time passes on, and the lapse of two months may perhaps enable me now to judge what permanent effect this late affliction may produce upon my habitual state of mind. It will be long before I shall cease to be sensible of the change in my relaxations, my pleasures, hopes, plans, and prospects; very long, I fear, will it be before a sense of that change will cease to be my latest thought at night and my earliest in the morning. Yet I am certainly resigned to this privation; and this I say, not in the spirit with which mere philosophy teaches us to bear that which is inevitable, but with a Christian conviction that this early removal is a blessing to him who is removed. We read of persons who have suddenly become gray from violent emotions of grief or fear. I feel in some degree as if I had passed at once from boyhood to the decline of life. I had never ceased to be a boy in cheerfulness till now. All those elastic spirits are now gone; nor is it in the nature of things that they should return. I am still capable of enjoyment, and trust that there is much in store for me; but there is an end of that hilarity which I possessed more uninterruptedly, and in a greater degree, than any person with whom I was ever acquainted. You advised me to write down my recollections of Herbert while they were fresh. I dare not undertake the task. Something akin to it, but in a different form, and with a more extensive purpose, I have begun; but my eyes and my head suffer too much in the occupation for me to pursue it as yet; and as these effects cannot be concealed, I must avoid as much as possible all that would produce them. This, believe me, is an effort of forbearance, for my heart is very much set upon completing what I have planned. The effect upon Edith will be as lasting as upon myself; but she had not the same exuberance of spirits to lose, and therefore it will be less perceptible. The self-command which she has exercised has been truly exemplary, and commands my highest esteem. Your god-daughter, thank God, is well. Her daily lesson will long be a melancholy task on my part, since it will be a solitary one. She is now so far advanced that I can make some of her exercises of use, and set her to translate passages for my notes, from French, Spanish, or Portuguese. Of course this is not done without some assistance and some correction. Still while she improves herself she is assisting me, and the pleasure that this gives me is worth a great deal. She is a good girl, with a ready comprehension, quick feelings, a tender heart, and an excellent disposition. I pray God that her life may be spared to make me happy while I live, and some one who may be worthy of her when it shall be time for her to contract other ties and other duties. I suppose you will receive my Lay in a few days. God bless you, my dear friend!—Yours most affectionately,

ROBERT SOUTHEY."

Literature as well as Misery "makes a man acquainted with strange bedfellows." In our last we saw Southey fraternizing with Byron:—he is now to figure in company no less "peculiar." Among the many signs of late "with fear of change perplexing monarchs," none have seemed stranger to the superficial than the coquettish concord of the two most extreme parties; those we mean severally representing starched absolutism and almost licentious free liberalism—on certain neutral grounds and common questions. This, however, is no more a new phenomenon than the foolish talk attributed to poor Lady Blessington's "Indian

crystal," or the tub (or stump) ravings of reformers after the fashion of the dismal *Mr. Toobad* immortalized by Mr. Peacock. Thirty-five years ago, at least, we find *Montesinos* and one of the first of the Socialists in curious intercourse.

"What with the King of Prussia's librarian, the two secretaries of the Bible Society, and other such out of the way personages who come to me by a sort of instinct, I have had little time and less leisure since my return. The last odd personage who made his appearance was Owen of Lanark, who is neither more nor less than such a Pantisocrat as I was in the days of my youth. He is as ardent now as I was then, and will soon be cried down as a visionary (certainly he proposes to do more than I can believe practicable in this generation); but I will go to Lanark to see what he has done. I conversed with him for about an hour, and, not knowing anything about him, good part of the time elapsed before I could comprehend his views,—so little probable did it appear that any person should come to me with a levelling system of society, and tell me he had been to the Archbishop of Canterbury, and the Ministers, &c. But he will be here again in a day or two, and meantime I have read a pamphlet which is much more injudicious than his conversation, and will very probably frustrate the good which he might by possibility have produced. To this system he says we must come *speedily*. . . . What he says of the manufacturing system has much weight in it; the machinery which enables us to manufacture for half the world has found its way into other countries; every market is glutted; more goods are produced than can be consumed; and every improvement in mechanism that performs the work of hands, throws so many mouths upon the public,—a growing evil which has been increased by the premature employment of children, bringing them into competition with the grown workmen when they should have been at school or at play. He wants Government to settle its paupers and supernumerary hands in villages upon waste lands, to live in community; urging that we must go to the root of the evil at once. He talks of what he has done at Lanark (and this indeed has been much talked of by others); but his address to his people there has much that is misplaced, injudicious, and reprehensible. Did you see him in London? Had we met twenty years ago, the meeting might have influenced both his life and mine in no slight degree. During those years he has been a practical man, and I have been a student; we do not differ in the main point, but my mind has ripened more than his."

What further ripening (or rotting) of the minds of these two sincere men took place in after years with regard to such questions as faith, morals and economy—we may perhaps gather from the future pages of the correspondence. Here is another passage not to be overlooked as remarkable, its date considered.—

"I incline to think there will come a time when public opinion will no more tolerate the extreme of poverty in a large class of the community, than it now tolerates slavery in Europe. Meantime it is perfectly clear that the more we can improve the condition of the lower classes, the greater number of customers we procure for the home market; and that if we can make people pay taxes instead of claiming poor-rates, the wealth as well as security of the State is increased. The poor-rates are a momentous subject, and I have long believed you were the only man who could grapple with it. I see, or think I see, palliatives and alteratives, in providing the labourers with garden and grass-land, in establishing saving banks, in national education, and in affording all possible facilities and encouragement for emigration, and in colonizing at home upon our waste lands."

The year 1817 saw the unauthorized publication of Southey's "*Wat Tyler*"—the consequent attacks upon him made by his antagonists,—his own justification as addressed to "*The Editor of the Courier*,"—his great quarrel with Mr. Smith of Norwich, leading to those acrimonious letters in which the Poet's revel in sharp language resembles rather the evolutions of a professed *matador* than the defence of a



sincere man, in whom even his anger must needs be just and dignified. Whatever opinion of the writer's temper this controversy may have produced, it obviously tended to raise his reputation as a political writer: since we very shortly afterwards find Southey refusing an appointment of great weight and emolument offered to him on the part of the proprietors of *The Times*. But here we come upon the virtue and the strength of the Laureate's character. He knew that his force and his happiness principally lay in that world of literary research and imaginative composition which yielded far smaller and more precarious pecuniary gains, and remained deaf to all temptation. One less calmly and comprehensively wise than he might have sentimentalized concerning "the duty he owed to his family," as if it were every man's duty to grow as rich as possible, no matter what the sacrifice,—and have yielded. But what is more remarkable still as arguing perfect serenity, such refusal never seems to have been repented of. In this Southey was superior to those who seem resolved in some way or other to get from their own simple and voluntary decisions the after-profits of self-condolence or of grumbling. Thus viewed, there is something most pleasing in the following letter, written not long after the above dazzling offer was declined. The very touch of egotism concerning "us poets" is here relishing in its consolatory complacency.—

"Your picture of the Norfolk scenery is very lively and very just. I have been twice in my life at Norwich, and once at Yarmouth, many years ago, long enough to have drawn from that open and level country some images, which were introduced in *Thalaba*. I remember writing an epistle in blank verse from thence in 1798, which had some descriptive lines that might be worth transcribing, if they were at hand. It was the unbroken horizon which impressed me, appearing so much wider than at sea; and the skylines which it afforded. I had the same impression in passing through Picardy; and if I lived in such a country, should perhaps find as many beauties in the sky as I do here upon the earth. Anywhere I could find food for the heart and the imagination, at those times when we are open to outward influences, except in great cities. If I were confined in them, I should wither away like a flower in a parlour window. Did you notice the cry of the bittern in that country? I heard it between Yarmouth and Norwich. Its spiral flight, when it takes wing, is as remarkable and as peculiar as its cry. This bird has been extirpated here; only one has been seen since I have resided at Keswick, and that was shot by a young Cantab, who ate it for his dinner, and had no more brains in his head than the bittern. Having nothing to hope in this world, and nothing to desire in it for myself, except as quiet a passage through it as it may please God to grant, my mind, when it takes its course, recurs to the world which is to come, and lays as naturally now the scenes of its day-dreams in Heaven, as it used to do upon earth. I think of the many intimacies I have made among the dead, and with what delight I shall see and converse with those persons whose lives and writings have interested me, to whom I have endeavoured to render justice, or from whom I have derived so much pleasure and benefit of the highest kind. Something perhaps we shall have to communicate, and oh! how much to learn! The Roman Catholics, when they write concerning Heaven, arrange the different classes there with as much precision as a master of the ceremonies could do. Their martyrs, their doctors, their confessors, their monks and their virgins, have each their separate society. As for us poets, they have not condescended to think of us; but we shall find one another out, and a great many questions I shall have to ask of Spenser and of Chaucer. Indeed, I half hope to get the whole story of Cambuscan bold; and to hear the lost books of the *Enchiridion*. Lope de Vega and I shall not meet with equal interest, and yet it will be a pleasant meeting."

It remains to string together a few literary

anecdotes and *dicta*. The first will seem comical enough to those who recollect by whom other scandals of 1818 (merrily by Scott called "Tory mischief") were covertly swelled and triumphantly enjoyed.—

"I have a chance letter from Stuart: he says Cobbett has fallen one third in sale, and all such publications are declining, but the anarchists are as active as ever, and new opportunities will occur for bringing their venom into life. 'These wretches,' he continues, 'are effecting their purposes by libelling; they are driving off the ground every man that can oppose them; they are conquering by scandal, and Ministers wish as much as others to keep out of the way. Unless this spirit of scandal is put down, unless the licentiousness of the press be restrained, certainly it will effect a revolution,—restrained, I mean, by new laws, and new regulations. It is altogether, as at present practised, a new thing, not older than the French Revolution. I can perceive every one shrinking from it,—you, me, Wordsworth, Coleridge, &c. Every one about the press dreads Cobbett's scandal; and thus when a man throws off all consideration of character, he has all others in his power. Even the Ministry, too, and their friends, I think shrink from those who fight their battles, when covered with filth in the fray.'"

A criticism upon 'Samor' shall come next:—"I have just finished Henry Milman's poem, a work of great power. But the story is ill constructed, and the style has a vice analogous to that which prevailed in prose about 170 years ago, when every composition was overlaid with strained thoughts and far-fetched allusions. The faults here are a perpetual stretch and strain of feeling; and the too frequent presence of the narrator, bringing his own fancies and meditations in the foreground, and thereby,—as in French landscape-engraving,—calling off attention from the main subject, and destroying the effect. With less poetry Samor would have been a better poem. Milman has been endeavouring to adapt the moody and thoughtful character of Wordsworth's philosophical poetry to heroic narration: they are altogether incompatible; and Wordsworth himself, when he comes to narrate in his higher strains, throws it aside like a wrestler's garment, and is as severe a writer as Dante, who is the great master in this style. If Milman can perceive or be persuaded of his fault, he has powers enough for anything; but it is a seductive manner, and I think that as our poetry in Cowley's days was overrun with conceits of thought, it is likely in the next generation to be overflowed with this exuberance of feeling."

The following traits of character are amusing.

"My dear Wynn,—Since I wrote to you at Boulogne, the greater part of my time has been consumed by interruptions of which I ought not to complain, seeing they must needs be beneficial to my health, however they may be felt in the sum total of the year's work. I have had for a guest C—. There is something remarkable in the history of this family. His grandmother was a she-philosopher, a sort of animal much worse than a she-bear. Her housekeeper having broken her leg, she was exceedingly indignant at not being able to convince her that there was no such thing as pain; and when the poor woman complained that the children disturbed her by playing in a room over her head, she insisted upon it that that was impossible, because it was the nature of sound to ascend; and, therefore, she could not be disturbed unless they played in the room under her. This good lady bred up her children as nearly as she could upon Rousseau's maxims, and was especially careful that they should receive no religious instruction whatever. Her daughter had nearly grown up before she ever entered a church, and then she earnestly entreated a friend to take her there from motives of curiosity. This daughter has become a truly religious woman. The son has not departed from the way in which he was trained up; but as he is not a hater of religion, only an unbeliever in it, and has a good living in his gift, he chooses that his only son should take orders, this living being the most convenient means of providing an immediate establishment for him! C— introduced himself to me about three years ago by sending me some poems, which for a youth of seventeen were almost better than should be wished.... When he first proposed

to visit me, his father was thrown into a paroxysm of anger, notwithstanding the *mollia tempora fandi* had been chosen for venturing to make the request; but he suffered him to see me in London last year. He had formed a notion that I was a Methodist, and drank nothing but water; and I believe it raised me considerably in his estimation when C— assured him that I seemed to enjoy wine as much as any man.

Wilberforce, also, has been here with all his household, and such a household! The principle of the family seems to be that, provided the servants have faith, good works are not to be expected from them, and the utter disorder which prevails in consequence is truly farical. The old coachman would figure upon the stage. Upon making some complaint about the horses, he told his master and mistress that since they had been in this country they had been so lake-and-river-and-mountain-and-valley-mad, that they had thought of nothing which they ought to think of. I have seen nothing in such pell-mell, topsyturvy, and chaotic confusion as Wilberforce's apartments since I used to see a certain breakfast-table in Skeleton Corner.\* His wife sits in the midst of it like Patience on a monument, and he frisks about as if every vein in his body were filled with quicksilver; but, withal, there is such a constant hilarity in every look and motion, such a sweetness in all his tones, such a benignity in all his thoughts, words, and actions, that all sense of his grotesque appearance is presently overcome, and you can feel nothing but love and admiration for a creature of so happy and blessed a nature."

The annals of the year 1819 contain glimpses of one who had to struggle for many and many a season after, ere he won acceptance from the world of readers. The following is from a letter addressed to Scott.—

"Our successors (for you and I are now old enough in authorship to use this term) are falling into the same faults as the Roman poets after the Augustan age, and the Italians after the golden season of their poetry. They are overlabouring their productions, and overloading them with ornament, so that all parts are equally prominent, everywhere glare and glitter, and no keeping and no repose. Henry Milman has spoiled his Samor in this way. It is full of power and of beauty, but too full of them. There is another striking example in a little volume called *Night*, where some of the most uncouth stories imaginable are told in a strain of continued tip-toe effort; and you are vexed to see such uncommon talents so oddly applied, and such Herculean strength wasted in preposterous exertions. The author's name is Elliott, a self-taught man, in business (the iron trade, I believe) at Rotherham. He sends play after play to the London theatres, and has always that sort of refusal which gives him encouragement to try another. Sheridan said of one of them that it was 'a comical tragedy, but he did not know any man who could have written such a one.' I have given him good advice, which he takes as it is meant, and something may come of him yet."

In closing this fourth volume, we must repeat that it is the richest of the series,—the value and variety of its contents to be hardly indicated within any reasonable limits.

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\* \* A part of Christ Church, so called, where Mr. Wynn's rooms were situated."



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## INFLUENCES.

BY THE AUTHOR OF 'REVERBERATIONS.'

God's world is passing into ours;  
 Its beauty, silent, ripe, and sweet,  
 Its truth which we are proud to greet  
 Fashion and strengthen all our powers.  
 The sun round whom the planets glide,  
 The moon that gives the light she takes,  
 The flowers in meadows and in brakes,  
 The flowing and the ebbing tide,—  
 The granite rock on which are laid,  
 Level or slanted, slate and stone,  
 With flowers and mosses overgrown,  
 Sweet children of the sun and shade,—  
 The bridging rainbow, the blue gloom  
 That in romantic gorges sleeps,  
 The floating amber light that creeps  
 Over the fields where cowslips bloom,—  
 The pale green azure hue that gleams  
 On the sky's rim when suns are low,  
 Full of a sweet dead Long-Ago,  
 Yet breathing Hope's delicious dreams :—  
 God's world is passing into ours;  
 Sun, moon, and tide, with clouds that dye  
 And trees that yearn to reach the sky  
 Fashion our minds and mould our powers :—  
 Men whom we champion wrong or right,  
 And women fond, with sweet warm breath  
 Flowing through lips that kiss till death,  
 And eyelids trembling with delight,—  
 The children that about us play,  
 With golden hair and round soft flesh,  
 Smooth as magnolia flowers, and fresh  
 Full cheeks that blush like dawning day,—  
 The songs the elder poets sung,  
 The lays of Greece, the Hebrew's psalm,  
 The thoughts of wise men grave and calm  
 That live, or died when Time was young.  
 The soul is like a mirror fair,  
 Reflecting every shape or hue,  
 Yet as it changes, changing, too,  
 All that we know, and all we are.  
 God's world is passing into ours,—  
 This everlasting sea of life  
 Rolls its swift waves in calm and strife  
 O'er all our feelings, all our powers.

## ISTHMUS OF PANAMA AND THE WEST INDIA MAIL ROUTE.

SINCE my letter respecting the Oceanic Canal which you published on the 20th of April, the amended route to "Chagres" has been laid before the public; and in your remarks on it in the *Athenæum* of last Saturday the town of Chagres is characterized as unimportant, and occupying at present a false position. It is true that Chagres is a mean little place, just now; but when the Pacific transit shall be fairly established to Panama by railroad, or canal, or both, this port may expect an advance in rank and position, instead of a decline. The great fact of its being the Atlantic port nearest to the Pacific, confirms this anticipation. The harbour and anchorage to leeward of the island of Manzanillo, near Chagres, is es-

teemed a good haven,—the anchorage being comparatively deep, and sheltered against bad weather. And as Panama is rapidly rising in importance, the port on the Atlantic most accessible from it will ever command trade and intercourse. An estate (not a large one) nine miles from Panama was sold last week for 12,000*l.* sterling, to an Englishman; and property on the isthmus increases in value. We may, therefore, hope for better things for Chagres.

In the *Times* of the 13th and 14th inst., allusion is made to the Nicaraguan Treaty—respecting the Oceanic Canal,—and to the Panama Railway. The Treaty points to the San Juan river and Lake Nicaragua as the likely route for the first canal,—it is to be hoped that there will eventually be more than one; and for those interested in this subject and in this route, I take the liberty of recommending a perusal of a distinct and valuable essay given in Mr. J. L. Stephens's 'Central America,' with full survey made by an English officer, and concluding with some sensible remarks by Mr. Stephens, of great interest now, and here, from the attention which the public are giving to this subject. The Government of New Grenada propose assisting the railway works by sending detachments of labourers to the Isthmus of Panama.

It is pleasant to read your remarks on the sketch of the new mail route (proposed) across the Atlantic, for two reasons:—1. The crossing is to be so direct, and so quick;—twelve days;—2. The route will be preferable to the present one, and a decided improvement on the arrangement existing just now, which takes the mails round to Barbadoes from Madeira! But it seems a pity that the Mail Company cannot—or rather *do not*,—at once make Jamaica the grand *point d'appui* and centre of their West India operations, instead of the foreign island of St. Thomas. This would be a great advantage to Jamaica—and we owe it to this magnificent island to give her every encouragement now. She is our finest West India colony, and possesses great resources: and even in the palmy days of her wealth, from 1800 to 1820, but limited advantage was taken of these vast resources of cultivation,—so that probably a fifth, or a fourth, part of her capabilities remains unexhausted and virgin soil. Jamaica ought therefore to have peculiar indulgence now. In Barbadoes, Antigua, St. Christopher's, Grenada, &c., cultivation long ago reached its height. These islands will never produce more than they have done,—nor will they ever have more land under cultivation than they have had. At any rate, they are small islands in comparison.

It would scarcely make a difference of forty-eight hours' sail were the steamer, instead of going direct to St. Thomas's as now proposed, to shape her course a little more *due west* as she passes the 20° North lat.,—and slip on to Jamaica either through the "Mona passage," between Porto Rico and San Domingo, or, keeping to the north of San Domingo, run down the "Windward passage," to Morant Point. Only, this latter route would involve shaping a westerly course before reaching 20° North lat.

The voyage would thus be accomplished between Southampton and Jamaica in fourteen days; and although this plan would necessarily prolong the Trinidad and Demarara voyage,—yet *this* would be of less consequence, and the disadvantage would be more than compensated by the benefit of reaching Chagres, and delivering and receiving the Pacific mails, with far less delay than by the proposed arrangement. There would be only one stoppage between Southampton and Chagres, viz., Jamaica—which is exactly in the course. And let it be ever borne in mind that unless we run our steamers to Chagres, so as to beat the American line which is to run from Liverpool by New York to Chagres, we shall inevitably lose—and deserve to lose—the carriage of the Pacific mails and letters to Europe.

Now, the American line of steamers will probably deliver the English mails by New York at Chagres in eighteen and a half days—nineteen days at farthest—from Liverpool; and if our steamers went direct to Kingston, we should accomplish three things:—1st. Benefit our most valuable

West India colony,—Jamaica;—2nd. Keep the advantage of the central point for mail steamers in our own hands.—St. Thomas being Danish—and Jamaica the English admiral's station;—3rd. Secure all the Pacific mails and letters for Europe,—for they will assuredly be sent by the most rapid route:—and by this Jamaica route they would go in seventeen days.

The ulterior benefit of this arrangement would be greater than can be foreseen just now,—and the traffic and transit to and from the Pacific infinitely more important than we can form any idea of from its present state, could the worthy Jamaicans be persuaded to forego a few paltry present advantages, and boldly insist on Kingston and Montego-Bay being constituted absolutely free ports,—to the sacrifice, certainly, of some existing revenue. The island would increase year by year in importance and wealth,—capital would pour into it, and agriculture be fostered,—land and property near the ports would rise in value,—respectable emigrants and settlers of all colours (not the half convict and half pauper who has generally constituted the "emigrant" in the West Indies) would find it their interest to settle there for life, either as farmers or as traders,—and sugar would be cultivated at less expense than lately, besides the other multifarious tropical productions which a first-rate soil always commands.

Let us hope to see the Panama Railroad in operation within a year,—and a canal fairly begun by Christmas:—and let the scientific assist with suggestions. A. D.

## OUR WEEKLY GOSSIP.

THE Lancashire Public School Association have published an "Address to the people of England and Wales," on the subject of national education. The address is simply a popular appeal in support of the scheme of secular education set forth by the Association in previous circulars and in public meetings held in Manchester and in other towns. Affirming the utter insufficiency of mere philanthropic effort or of mere ecclesiastical activity as directed against the great and ever-increasing mass of national ignorance, the address propounds in very distinct and forcible terms the indispensable necessity of an "unsectarian" system for the universal secular instruction of the people. It also argues in favour of a local rate. "A national education," it says, "may be supported either out of the general taxes or the supplies furnished by a special rate. If the provision is made by the former means, the influence of the Government will be paramount, and there will ensue all the evils which come from political "partisanship and ecclesiastical domination. If the provision is made by the latter, the people, in directly supplying the funds, will in truth educate themselves." In a similar manner the address contends for a system of local as opposed to central or Government administration of the schools; and "in order that the good contemplated may be fully realized," it insists that "the local administration must be based on a representative system, involving the action of the rate-paying population of the country." With the main purport of this address it is unnecessary to say that we heartily agree. We must again, however, state our conviction, already expressed, that in a National Education Bill provision should be made for the reservation of at least as much of Government control as will secure the rigid observance throughout the country of that all-important feature of the system, that it be really as well as in name *unsectarian*. This would be necessary to secure the country against the operation of the petty local feuds that might otherwise be called into play, and against the otherwise irremediable tyranny of local majorities.

We have received the following from a Correspondent.—"It is stated by those likely to be well informed on the subject that as it has been found impossible to resist the call for the Appendix to the Report of the Commissioners on the British Museum, a very limited number has been printed—and that the copies printed do not contain twenty-nine Articles as in the original edition, but only twenty-six. Can these facts be so? If they are, those who have so managed the matter must be



content to submit to the imputation of being actuated by unfair motives,—and also to find their object frustrated by a demand from the literary men of the country for the Appendix, the whole Appendix, and nothing but the Appendix. X."

We see, it stated, on what authority we know not, that Mr. Wordsworth has left a poem, consisting of fourteen cantos, descriptive of his life, reflections, and opinions, with directions that it should be published after his decease, together with such biographical notices as may be requisite to illustrate his writings, under the editorial care of his nephew, the Rev. Dr. Christopher Wordsworth. In all probability this is the poem called 'The Recluse,' of which 'The Excursion' was avowedly published as an instalment.

The prospects of the Bank of England Library and Literary Association,—instituted by the Directors, as our readers know, for the use of the clerks, are very encouraging. On Wednesday, the reading-room was opened by the Deputy-Governor of the Bank. There was a very numerous meeting of the members; when the Chief Cashier, as President, and the Chief Accountant, as Treasurer, of the Institution, moved and seconded a vote of thanks to the Court of Directors for the manner in which they have fitted up the library, and for the liberal support accorded by them to the Association. The Court of Directors collectively have voted 500*l.* for the purchase of books, and several of the directors have made individually valuable donations. Mr. T. Baring has presented the committee with 100*l.*, to be expended by them in books; and others have contributed largely to the Association. Many of the clerks, too, have presented valuable works.

We mentioned some time ago that the Californian gold fever had embraced in its sweep the Australian colonies,—and that the settlers were selling off what they possessed for whatever it might fetch, that they might join in the run to the diggings—to the imminent risk of the depopulation of the colonies. This rage for emigration has been suddenly arrested by the same wild spirit that invoked it. A rumour suddenly arose that gold had been discovered in Australia,—and this rumour, on which the flight of its inhabitants hung provisionally suspended, is beginning to take shape and substance. The *Adelaide Observer* states that for some eighteen months back, certain gentlemen, whose names head the prospectus of the South Australian Gold Company, have been prosecuting researches on an extensive scale for auriferous deposits,—and that with the most flattering results. There has been a systematic exploration of every river in the colony, from Encounter Bay to Mount Remarkable,—extending over eight hundred miles; and, in consequence, the banks of the Onkaparinga have been fixed on for future operations. Specimens of gold, procured from the black sand of this river, are exhibited in Adelaide. There is a talk of gold being found, too, in the Torrens and in other streams; and companies are forming to collect the treasures of this new El Dorado.

The daily papers announce the death, at the early age of 46, of William Charles Townsend, Esq., Recorder of Macclesfield:—from whose pen two large volumes of Modern State Trials, just published, lie now for notice on our table.

The Paris papers report the death, aged 71, of one of the great scientific men of France, M. Gay-Lussac. Few men, says the *Press*, have led a life so useful and marked by so many labours. There is no branch of the physical and chemical sciences which is not indebted to him for some important discovery. Alone, or in conjunction with other eminent men, particularly with M. Thénard and M. de Humboldt, he carried his spirit of investigation into them all. At a very early age he was elected a member of the Academy of Sciences. In 1810, says M. Pouillet,—speaking in the name of that Academy,—when the University opened, at length, its public courses of high teaching, it sought to associate in that object the most eminent scientific men of France,—and M. Gay-Lussac, though very young, recommended himself to it by the double title of chemist and natural philosopher. 'M. Gay-Lussac was already famous by his discovery of the fundamental laws of the expansion

of gas and vapours,—by a balloon ascent, the most important and almost the only one of which the history of science has any record to keep,—and for many works on chemistry which tended to lay the bases on which that science was soon afterwards to be established."—M. Gay-Lussac was a Peer of France.

The Brussels papers mention the premature death of M. P. Souyet, the eminent chemist, at the early age of thirty-two. M. Souyet was Professor of Chemistry at the *Musée de l'Industrie* and at the Royal Veterinary School at Brussels. His funeral, on the 6th inst., was attended by the most eminent scientific men in Brussels; and M. Quelet delivered an address, in which he briefly enumerated the important discoveries and chemical investigations that have rendered the name of M. Souyet so well known. M. Souyet had written several valuable chemical works.

The *Journal de St. Petersburg* says that the Royal Geographical Society of Russia has awarded the Medal of the Grand Duke Constantine Nicolaievitch to Col. Hoffman, the head of the Expedition which in 1847 and 1848 examined the Oural chain of mountains. It has also awarded the statistical prize founded by the Minister of Commerce, Joukoff, to Privy Councillor Arsenieff.

The New York papers give full particulars of Mr. John Wilkes's plan for forming a line of electric telegraph between North America and Europe:—for carrying out which a company is stated to be forming in that city. He proposes to lay down at the bottom of the sea a wire of solid iron, well insulated, from the eastern coast of Newfoundland to the western coast of Ireland. On the good anchoring ground which lies five hundred miles distant from the first of these countries he will establish a repeating station,—by which the length of wire will be reduced to sixteen hundred English miles. However deep may be the Atlantic he proposes to conduct his wire along its bottom. According to all appearances, he says, the depth nowhere exceeds two miles—and he has reason to believe that it is little more than one. But even supposing there may be submarine valleys of ten or twenty miles in depth and fifty or sixty in width, he is of opinion that such hollows would present no great obstacle, as the wire might be made to pass over them by means of supports fixed [we are not told *how*] at intervals of two miles or less, so that the wire should be kept always two hundred fathoms below the surface of the sea. Every hundred miles he would anchor a small raft with mast and flag communicating with the wire, that the latter may be taken up when requiring to be repaired or renewed,—but his opinion is, that there is no possibility of a wire laid at such a depth being injured. To lay down this telegraphic line, two ships working by a very simple process of machinery will, he says, suffice. The work will be done in two years, and will cost about 500,000 dollars.

#### ROYAL ACADEMY, TRAFALGAR SQUARE.

THE EXHIBITION OF THE ROYAL ACADEMY IS NOW OPEN.—Admission (from Eight o'clock till Seven), 1*s.*; Catalogue, 1*s.* JOHN PRESCOTT KNIGHT, R.A., Sec.

SOCIETY OF PAINTERS IN WATER-COLOURS.—The FORTY-SIXTH ANNUAL EXHIBITION IS NOW OPEN, at their Gallery, 5 Pall Mall East, from Nine till Dusk.—Admission, 1*s.* Catalogue, 6*d.* GEORGE FRIPP, Secretary.

THE NEW SOCIETY OF PAINTERS IN WATER-COLOURS.—THE SIXTEENTH ANNUAL EXHIBITION of this Society IS NOW OPEN, at their Gallery, 15 Pall Mall near St. James's Palace. JAMES FAHEY, Secretary.

EXHIBITION OF ANTIENT AND MEDÆVAL ART, and of Specimens of British Manufactures.—SOCIETY OF ARTS, John Street, Adelphi. Several objects of great interest have been lately added to this collection, which is OPEN DAILY, from Ten till Dusk, and will continue on view during the present month.—Admission, 1*s.* Catalogues, 1*s.*

NILE.—GRAND MOVING PANORAMA of the NILE, comprising all the Monuments of Antiquity on its Banks, to which is added the interior of the great Rock Temple of Abou Simbel. Painted by Messrs. Warren, Bonomi, and Fahey.—EGYPTIAN HALL, PICCADILLY.—Daily at Three and Eight o'clock.—Stalls, 2*s.*, 1*d.*; Gallery, 1*s.*; Children and Schools, Half-price.

INDIA OVERLAND MAIL.—DIORAMA.—GALLERY OF ILLUSTRATION, 14, Regent-street, Waterloo-place.—Three Exhibitions each day.—A Grand MOVING DIORAMA, ILLUSTRATING THE ROUTE OF THE OVERLAND MAIL TO INDIA, depicting every object worthy of notice on this highly-interesting journey from Southampton to Calcutta, accompanied by descriptive detail and appropriate music, is now OPEN DAILY, Mornings at Twelve, Afternoons at Three, and in the Evening at Eight o'clock.—Admission, 1*s.*; Stalls, 2*s.* 6*d.*—Doors open for each representation half-an-hour before the above hours. Descriptive Catalogues may be obtained at the Gallery.

The DIORAMA, Regent's Park—JUST OPENED, with one of the finest VIEWS ever exhibited in this country, representing the ROYAL CASTLE of STOLZENFELS, on the Rhine, (twice by Her Majesty Queen Victoria in August, 1844, and its Environs, as seen at Sunset, and during a Thunder Storm; painted by NICHOLAS MEISSER, of Cologne. And the much-admired Picture of THE SHRINE OF THE NATIVITY, at Bethlehem, painted by the late M. RENOUX, from a Sketch made on the spot by David Rossiers, Esq. R.A., with novel and striking effects.

#### ROYAL POLYTECHNIC INSTITUTION.

COURSE OF TWENTY LECTURES, of two hours each, on USEFUL PRACTICAL CHEMISTRY, under the direction of J. H. PEPPER, Esq., adapted for Manufacturers, Schoolmasters, and Students. The Course will be a Systematic Series on the Elementary Details and Manipulations of Chemistry, the Atomic Theory and Symbols, Preparations of Gases, Acids, Saline Bodies, Qualitative and Quantitative Analysis. To commence on the 27th inst. Fee, including admission to the Institution during the Course, Two Guineas.

ANALYSES OF SOILS and ADVICE to FARMERS at very moderate charges. R. LONGBOTTOM, Sec.

#### SOCIETIES.

ASIATIC.—Professor H. H. Wilson in the chair. The Professor read a paper 'On Human Sacrifice as an Element of the Ancient Religion of India.' In the first book of the Ramayana there is a legend to the effect that Sunahsepa, son of the rishi Richika, was sold by his father to Ambariksha, King of Ayodhya, to supply the place of a sacrificial victim which had been stolen by the god Indra. Sunahsepa was accordingly conveyed to the place of sacrifice, and bound; but on his repeating certain verses he was liberated, and long life was conferred on him by Indra. In this legend it is doubtful whether an actual or a 'typical' sacrifice was intended. The reference made to sacred verses naturally led to the inference that such verses would form a part of the hymns of Rig Veda attributed to Sunahsepa; but, except in one or two doubtful passages, these hymns bear no relation to the legend. The paper proceeded to give the legend as narrated in the Aitareya Brahmana, which is considered to be the Brahmana portion of the Rig Veda. According to this legend, Harischandra, a prince of the race of Ikshwaki, on the advice of the sage Narada, prayed to the deity Varuna for a son, promising to present him as an offering to that divinity. A son, Rohita, was accordingly born to the king, but when the god from time to time demanded the performance of the promise, the king evaded his claims under various pretexts, until Rohita had grown up, when he informed his son of his intention to sacrifice him to Varuna. But Rohita, taking his bow, set off to the forest. During his sixth year in the forest he met the sage Ajigarta, of whom he purchased his second son, Sunahsepa, for a hundred cows, and then proceeded to his father, saying, rejoice, for with this youth I shall redeem myself. The god Varuna accepted the substitution; the sacrifice was prepared; and Ajigarta, the father of the victim, undertook, for a further reward, to bind him to the stake and put him to death. But at this juncture Sunahsepa, addressed certain prayers to the different gods, which were accepted, and he was set free. Sunahsepa then placed himself by the side of Visvāmitra, who was one of the officiating priests. Ajigarta now claimed his son, but Visvāmitra said that the gods had given Sunahsepa to him as a son. Ajigarta then appealed to his son, but Sunahsepa upbraided his inhuman father, and repudiated him. Visvāmitra then constituted Sunahsepa his eldest son, and called upon his other sons, one hundred in number, to recognise him as their senior. The fifty younger acquiesced, but the fifty elder refused, whereupon Visvāmitra cursed the disobedient ones and their offspring; and from these have descended the Andhras, Pândras, and other barbarous tribes.—On this narrative Professor Wilson observed that the sacrifice of human victims is thus fully established at the period of the compilation of the Brahmana. How far that expresses the practice of the Veda period may admit of question. It is the received opinion of Hindú writers that the Brahmana is an integral portion of the Veda, containing the precepts or doctrinal part as distinguished from the Mantra or hymns. Nevertheless, a very cursory examination of these writings affords sufficient evidence to deny the accuracy of this attribution. The Aitareya Brahmana, for instance, is a work of a totally different era and system. The manner in which it quotes the hymns shows that these must have been collected and arranged long anterior to its compilation; and it cannot be taken as an authority for the oldest and most genuine system of Hindú worship. In fact, the Brahmana contain the Brah-



manical system fully developed, and a variety of institutions and practices of which only faint and questionable indications can be found in the Mantras. They must be recognized, however, as an essential part of the Veda and scriptural authority of the Brahmans; and, as an authentic representation of an ancient, though not the most ancient, religious and social system of India. Their age is, as usual with all Hindú chronology, a difficult question. They are probably anterior to the Ramáyana and Mahabharata; and perhaps not far from the period of the oldest passages of the laws of Menu. On the whole, their period may be placed about five centuries B.C. They may therefore be taken as qualified authorities for showing that human sacrifices existed among the primitive practices of the Hindús, though not to the same extent as among other ancient nations. The paper then entered into some details of the object and character of human sacrifices among other nations—many of whom, like the Hindús of a later date, made them practically vicarious, the human victim being bound, but some animal being offered in its stead. There is no doubt that even in later times human victims have been sacrificed to the dark forms of Siva and Durga; but these offerings were of a very different character from those which might, on rare occasions, have taken place under the authority of the Vedas, and which originated in a common feeling and faith diffused throughout most civilized nations in the remotest periods of antiquity.

#### MEETINGS FOR THE ENSUING WEEK.

- Mon.** Pathological, half-past 7.—Meeting of Council.  
**Tues.** Statistical, 8.—Statistics, &c. of Auckland, New Zealand, in 1854, by S. Thomson, M.D.  
**Wed.** Chemical, 8.  
**Thurs.** Civil Engineers, 8.—On Printing Machines, especially that used in the Printing of the *Times* newspaper, by Mr. Edward Cowper.  
**Weds.** Society of Arts, 8.  
**Fri.** Geological, half-past 8.—On the Stratified Formations of the Venetian Alps, by Count Achille de Zigno.—On the Limestone of Nash, near Prestegyn, South Wales, by J. E. Davis, Esq.—On a Gap in the Greywacke Formation of the Eastern Llanmearns, filled with Old Red Sandstone Conglomerate, by W. Stevenson, Esq.  
**Sat.** Royal Society of Literature, 4.  
**Sund.** Numismatic, 2.  
**Fal.** Royal Institution, half-past 8.—On a New Law of Chemical Action, by B. C. Brodie, Esq.  
**Philosophical, 8.—Anniversary.**  
**Linnean, 8.—Anniversary.**

#### FINE ARTS

##### ROYAL ACADEMY.

CONTINUING our examination among the examples of historic art, we come to one which has taken for its argument a very touching incident. This picture, entitled *A Dialogue at Waterloo* (189), is by Mr. Edwin Landseer, and represents the hero of a hundred fights as, after an interval of many years, re-visiting, in company with his daughter the Marchioness of Douro, the field on which he plucked his last military laurels, and sealed with an empire's fall, the peace of the world. Two methods present themselves by which the moral of such a scene and incident might be brought out. One is, by allowing the principal personages only to occupy the ground, and investing the wide expanse of landscape with some phenomenon of nature which might idealize the now prosaic spot, and lead the mind by association back to the far time when the thousand graves were dug above which the corn and the grass now wave high and green. The other is, by trusting to the actualities of the place,—and getting the poetry of the theme out of its strange contrasts. Mr. Landseer has chosen the latter of these methods, as best suited to the resources of his art. The incidents presented are well chosen for the purpose in view. Mr. Landseer has not affected any quality which is not habitual to himself,—but has laid out his proper means with a liberal hand. The Duke is greeted, on this field of great memories by a young female peasant—one of those relic-venders who in such places make a harvest out of the curiosity of sight-seers. She offers for sale to him the decorations and trappings—nay, the very bones—of some of the dead who fell in the conflict; and by a wise and touching hint, the fragments of mortality are made to rebuke the worldly decoration which is bought at the cost represented by themselves. The ploughman's team has rested from its labours, while he enjoys the noon-day meal which his wife has spread before him. Everything speaks of

peace on this green altar once blood-red with the sacrifice of war. A group of mendicants in the distance are unable to make themselves or their language intelligible to the stolid groom who looks on with the customary indifference with which he issues out of Apsley House. The prominent moral of the piece is, that these relics are unconsciously offered in his old age to the chief who led the making of them so many years ago—but many other morals grow up by its side, and speak out of the picture.—It is painted in a cool, silvery key, and executed in so broad and masterly a style as to form a striking contrast to its author's earliest methods. Yet this is done with due reference to variety of surface, tint, and objective truth. The portrait of the Duke renders very strikingly his present and peculiar pose,—the precise inclination of the head on the shoulders,—the exact character and expression of the features,—and the vigour and deliberation which distinguish his gesture while in conversation.—This picture is the property of the nation; having been a commission for the Vernon Gallery, not completed when Mr. Vernon died.—A picture by the same artist which represents *Dogs rescuing Sheep from the Snow* (281) is a capital exemplification of a not unfrequent scene in Highland pastoral life.—*Good Doggie* (538) is a study of the head of a dog belonging to Lady Marchison—of which her ladyship may well have envied the possession.

From the powerful realities of Mr. Landseer, we turn to the peculiar imaginings of Mr. Turner. We know of no artist of the present day whose genius and whose art are the subject of such varied opinion and misconception. By some he is blindly erected into an idol,—by others he is deemed capricious and insane. He meets with little sound appreciation from either,—and is not what either thinks him. Mr. Turner's works, amid their eccentricity of manner, exhibit the creative quality of Art, the suggestive powers of the artist, in as high a degree as the works of any painter who ever wielded pencil. They who approach the surface of his canvas with the expectation of meeting literal transcripts of fact, may turn away with a sense of disappointment and regret to his earlier productions. Yet his four works here—*Mercury sent to admonish Æneas* (174), *Æneas relating his Story to Dido* (192), *The Visit to the Tomb* (373), and *The Departure of the Fleet* (482) are, each, full of combinations of forms of richest fancy and of colours of most dazzling hue. The distinctness of the forms, it is true, is lost in the blaze of the colours. The first-named picture is exquisite for delicacy and refinement,—the second for wealth and power. To appreciate either, they must be approached no nearer than to the spot at which the general effect can be judged of,—nor must the spectator expect then to find the revelation of particular truth in their details, whether of botanic or geologic circumstance, or of human form. They must be looked on as great pictorial schemes, abounding in rich stores of Nature and deductions from Art,—great poetical ideas, in fact, the principles of which the student will do well to investigate. The practice which spurns at the expression of details it will be prudent for him to avoid.

Another contrast—in another sense—to Mr. Turner is obtained when we turn from his works to those of Mr. Leslie. Of all our artists there is no one who is more steady than he in the pursuit and achievement of excellence. His pathos ever genuine and his comedy ever refined,—we have examples this year of the diversity of class which he has under his control. The wrongs and sorrows of Catherine, the wife of the sensual Henry the Eighth—a favourite theme with painters—have furnished Mr. Leslie with a subject for his pencil. The scene is that in which, at Kimbolton, the daughter of Spain receives Capucius the envoy from the Emperor Charles, and sends greetings and last wishes to her brute lord, the King. The scene is full of truth and pathos. The “honest chronicler,” Griffith, and the faithful follower, Patience, betray their emotion on hearing the dying Catherine's prayer to the envoy that he will “stand their friend.”—The picture by the same artist of *Tom Jones showing to Sophia Western herself, as her best security for his good*

behaviour (125) is a very elegant rendering of the incident in the novel. The group is one of the most beautifully conceived that we have had from Mr. Leslie's pencil. No point has been missed:—and there is one piece of ingenuity in the composition which must not be overlooked. The parts of the figures reflected in the glass are not the same in every case as those presented in the outer picture. The mirror, for example, discloses a secret which is not elsewhere told—and which is full of graceful suggestion. The position of the hero with reference to Sophia is such that a hand of each is missing out of the picture—but the tell-tale glass “prates of the whereabouts” of these hands. In its appropriate version, they are seen to be fondly clasped together. The beautiful modesty of the heroine is a picture in itself.—Another of Mr. Leslie's contributions, *Beatrice* (95) as she lurks in Leonato's garden devouring the discourse on Benedick's merits,—is a charming personification of feminine beauty, rendered with fit reference to sentiment and character and to light and shade, and with subtlety of truth in the reflected light on the face, on the dress, and on the other parts of the work. The pose is picturesque.

It is always pleasant to point to instances of inherited talent,—and a proof of such is before us in the *Sailor's Yarn* (327) of Mr. R. C. Leslie, Jun. This young painter's independence and freshness of view have never been better shown than in this capital exhibition of a not over confident or able-bodied cockney listening mechanically to the thread-bare yarn of a weather-beaten tar. The story of the piece is told in actions that are at once expressive, natural, and unstudied, and in physiognomies full of varied and contrasted character.

We have rarely seen Mr. David Roberts to greater advantage than this year. He is strong in number of pictures,—in variety of subject (Romish cathedral, Egyptian temple, and Syrian landscape), and in variety of effect. He has never succeeded better in the realization of perspective, both linear and aerial, than in the *Interior of the Church of St. Jacques, at Antwerp* (162), and the *Interior of the Church of St. Gomar, at Lierre, in Belgium* (202). In both these subjects we have—in contradistinction to the dark and brown effects to which in his earlier Norman-French interiors we were accustomed—the light and brilliant effects of Steenwyk and of his pupil, Neef, rendered in his own more free and unrestrained style. This freedom is preserved without any surrender of the delicacy of tint for which the works of these Dutchmen have been so justly esteemed.—Of the two, we give the preference to ‘The Church of St. Jacques,’ not only because the interior is richer in details, but for the additional reason that the incident of the priest showing relics to the worshippers who surround the patron saint of pilgrims, St. Rocque, has furnished material for a picturesque grouping of human forms. Without this, such interiors are apt to awaken only such cold interest as we feel on regarding a mere architectural elevation. The *View looking from under the portico of the Great Temple of Edfo, Upper Egypt* (378) is as much distinguished in hue from the former as the difference of climate and material could well have justified. The human forms which are seen near the gigantic columns, with their lotus capitals, convey excellent notions of the relative proportions of the parts. The sand has nearly surmounted the columns; but from what is seen, the mind is lost in wonder at the gigantic conceptions of those who originally planned them. *Remains of the Eastern Portico of the Temple of the Sun at Baalbec—Mount Lebanon in the distance* (277) is one more of those presentments of the ruined edifice in which Mr. Roberts stands unrivalled. It is most carefully drawn in its proportions,—and painted with a solidity that has not degenerated into heaviness, the delicate details being touched with a light and dexterous hand. The light and shade and colour are full of truth; and the distant mountains are expressed with that sense of aerial perspective which conveys the impression of great space as well as of purity of atmosphere. Mr. Roberts's three smaller pictures are—*The Sanctuary of the Koran Mosque*



at Cordova (53)—*Entrance to the Great Temple at Ipsambul in Nubia* (441)—and *The Shrine of St. Gomar at Lierre, in Belgium*, (445):—each exhibiting his peculiar powers on a more limited scale and in more elaborate execution.

Mr. Frank Stone has not appeared here with such force for some years past, as now. He has two pictures, each of which challenges attention,—though their merits are of different orders. He has not, we think, gone to Shakspeare for his subjects since his very able work of 'Ophelia and the Queen,' which attracted notice some years ago. Now, however, he has returned to that source of poetry and picture,—selecting the scene from 'The Tempest' wherein the shipwrecked Ferdinand, led on by the unseen Ariel, comes in view of Prospero's cell. While he is bewildered by the music that floats around him from no visible source, and by the sad tidings which it conveys, Miranda catches sight of the "brave form," and questions her mysterious father of its nature:—"What is't—a spirit?" The scene presented accidental difficulties beyond the mere impersonation of the characters, owing to the demands of the dramatic construction. The young "gallant," as Prospero terms him, was required to have been for some time visible to Miranda yet without seeing her:—and Prospero was to be present, yet not visible to Ferdinand. These necessities demanded contrivance on the painter's part; and Mr. Stone has met them by a clever arrangement of his natural scenery,—rich in such leafy utterances as may be supposed to belong to the cline. But it is in the Miranda that Mr. Stone has his best success. The sentiment of that most charming creation is earnestly conveyed. Ferdinand is scarcely the "goodly person" or the "brave form" which the text calls him—but the Ferdinand whom we think we have seen occasionally on the stage. The error is not so much in certain little deficiencies of the drawing—and these are to be found in the figure—as in an unspiritual reading of the part. The Miranda has been spiritually read,—and is in other respects one of those creations which have done so much for Mr. Stone's reputation. The grave Prospero plays his part well in the picture:—which has general merits of many kinds.—A less ambitious production by Mr. Stone will satisfy others, as it does us, yet more. It is an illustration of Tennyson's lines in 'The Gardener's Daughter' (135)—

"One arm aloft

Holding the bush, to fix it back, she stood."

This is a very beautiful example of Mr. Stone's art. It shows great sense of graceful form—exhibits a handsome and expressive countenance and tasteful action. In the executive portions there is free yet careful manipulation,—and there is skill in the description of the landscape particulars. In that respect both these pictures speak highly for Mr. Stone's observation and industry.

A great theme—the trial of human patience—embodying a picture of patriarchal life—from one of the earliest examples of Eastern writing—has suggested a subject to Mr. Poole in *The Messenger announcing to Job the Irruption of the Sabæans and the Slaughter of the Servants* (389). This is matter to draw largely on the powers, imaginative or descriptive, of any artist. It has had treatments more varied than most other themes—and based on views as various. By some it has been treated pictorially after the old traditions—others have taken for its form of presentment the present condition of nomadic Eastern life as the unchanged exemplification of its ancient practice. This latter has been the method of the French school—with how little success is well known. It has rarely gone further towards the realization of the theme than the presentment of a mere Arab encampment of a wandering Sheikh—making no higher appeal to sympathy than attaches to the pictured results of Eastern travel. Mr. Poole seeking to avail himself of the assumed authority of Assyrian sculpture, has laid out his materials in an extensive composition. To the true expression of his subject there are wanting elements of a higher and more touching nature than he has commanded. If the mere sum of archeologic truth being adequate to such expression,—the disregard of such accessory, though a defect of property, may where strong feeling and

passion are produced be overlooked:—as the illustrations of Blake may testify. His renderings in a tone of almost inspiration are renowned for an earnestness and singularity of purpose unequalled. The recollection of the generally singular and powerfully sustained conceptions of Mr. Poole in 'Solomon Eagle,' in his Plague picture, and in his pictures of other strong and exciting events, suggests our disappointment at the work before us. With fine painting and some excellent displays of character, action, and expression,—there is no fitting conduct of the story. We heard a young girl, when looking at this picture, ask, not unreasonably, "Which is Job?"—an inquiry eloquent of the want of management, and most critical of the perplexity through which the spectator is left to find his way. It might seem ungenerous to enter into a number of individual objections to the employment and actions of the several parts; but we cannot trace the story intended amid much incongruity and much conflict of interest in forms and colours. The architectural discrepancy and want of other accessorial economy help to destroy the perspicuity and truth-telling nature of the whole.

Mr. Stanfield's principal picture in this Exhibition—*Scene on the Maas, near Dort—Market People waiting for the evening tide* (131)—is one of those happy descriptions of foreign scenery in which his works abound. With all the confidence that long experience on the most extensive dimensions has inspired, Mr. Stanfield never suffers himself to be betrayed beyond the bounds of fact and never suffers the mastery over mechanical appliance to betray him into negligence. Not that he is literal or deficient in play of fancy,—as his 'Macbeth' may abundantly testify. His imagination is active, but always under the control necessary for the demonstration of his immediate object. This Dutch scene is full of conscientious particular; which, while omitting nothing and bestowing care on all, has subordinated detail to the regulation of great general effect. One of the finest skies that he has ever painted is before us,—the water and craft are no less successful,—and in the treatment of his human forms he exhibits a care and attention well worthy the imitation of his younger and less experienced brethren. In *Macbeth* (67) he shows us the blasted heath on which the Thane meets for the first time the Weird Sisters. The landscape treatment of the subject is novel. The painter has taken the picturesque opportunity which the elements of Scottish scenery afford. Neighbouring loch, distant mountain, and lonely glen are made to lend their enchantment to the wild work which he has in hand. The "paltering fiends" are in the act of arresting the progress of the chieftains, Macbeth and Banquo,—and the army is seen winding through the mountain pass. The towering eminence frowns gloomily from under the sudden burst of light which illumines the scene—and lightnings lend their stern and significant augury. Savage rock and riven tree make up the foreground of a poetic and well-conceived combination. The picture is painted with solidity characteristic of the incident,—and the figures are touched in with a mastery that proclaims acquaintance with their nature. Had less light been left in the sky, it is probable that the lurid look of the whole would have been enhanced and its poetical effect thereby strengthened. *Near Foria, Island of Ischia* (288) is a charming episode of his favourite Mediterranean shore, in which the painter has transcended even himself. Climate and accessory both tend to the making out of its perfection. *The Bay of Baie, from the Capuchin Convent above Pozzuoli* (326) is a delicious scene from lands consecrated by the song of Virgil and hallowed by classical remains of Art. With the mention of a more wild and abrupt subject of the same description, *Ponte Atrani, Gulf of Salerno* (363), we close our observations for the present week.

#### Sculpture.

It is merely for the formal redemption of our old pledge, that we once more recur to the incommensurabilities of the cave in which the products of this branch of our native art are concealed for the purpose of being exhibited from year to year. The increase

of the school of course makes more conspicuous the incapacities of the school-room,—and the more nearly that the works therein deposited approach to perfection, the more unworthy appears their place of deposit. Of some of the works here that have the unquestionable quality of immortality, it may be said that their way to that immortality—like that of the mortal hands which wrought them—lies through the portals of a tomb. But we have in former years exhausted all forms of remonstrance in which this matter can be put, and but for the pledge in question would not now repeat them—for two reasons. In the first place, our complaints are directed against no parties who have any power of cure for the present. There is no remedy in the hands of those whom we would hold responsible for this abuse of the noblest form of Art if they had more space at their disposal. In the second place, there are changes impending in the position of the Academical body which will either provide the remedy or render our murmuring yet more unreasonable, accordingly as the questions affecting that body may be resolved by the nation in a liberal or in a narrow spirit. Towards the former alternative we cannot but think that a view of the confusion which reigns this year on the floor of the sculpture room is likely to contribute its argument,—and if so, we rejoice for once at the confined dimensions which lodge what in old Greece would have been recognized and housed as a goddess. There are works in this Exhibition of the kind which of themselves make a temple of the place in which they stand—if, only, they can be seen. But neither light nor point of view is to be had here from which their spirituality may be duly discerned—and more than half their power for teaching and for delighting is thereby thrown away. Before the Exhibition of another year shall have come round, our readers will know what prospect there is of the worthy recognition of an art which is growing fast amongst us into the full proportions that have overlooked the world and swayed its ages from the Acropolis of Greece.

In dealing as well as the circumstances will permit with the individual works which make up this excellent Exhibition, we will begin in the ranks of the Academicians—and amongst these, as is fit, first with the oldest. Mr. Baily has here two works belonging to the class of poetical sculpture. *A Sleeping Girl*, in marble (1301), and a plaster model of *A Youth returned from the Chase* (1306). The last of these we will take first—because we have had no male figure of the ideal class from this sculptor's hand for many years. The mind that has wrought so long on female models is visible in the type here chosen to represent a hunter—or rather, Mr. Baily may be said to have gone to the Greek school for his ideal of such a youth. This is no hunter in the abstract—but such a one as lay and dreamed on the hill-sides of Greece, looked on the Dryads in their leafy haunts, or mated with the moon. The figure is entirely nude, and the limbs are polished far beyond the type which the rough accidents of the actual chase would produce. This figure might well have been called Narcissus,—or it might have stood for the shepherd Endymion. The hunting fields of Greek mythology were very different grounds from those on which Mr. Cumming hunts the lion—and grew other kinds of sinews. If these smooth and beautiful forms have been hunting anywhere, it is in Arcadia!—The 'Sleeping Girl' is perhaps as touching a work as ever came from Mr. Baily's hand. Here we are on the ground of the real—only so far idealized as to take out some of the pain while it leaves the sorrow. This is a portrait—consecrated by death. Taken originally from the dead face, the rigid lines have been smoothed out and the fallen contours rounded by the master hand,—but no attempt has been made to add a beauty which was not proper to the living clay. The dead girl has been revived into a sleeping girl at the touch of genius,—yet, without a symbol of the grave, there breathes out of the marble a mournful suggestion which whispers infallibly to the heart that this face and figure are monumental. It is felt that there is nothing of this young being left save what the marble has redeemed,—and that



is much. The age of the sleeper—just passing from girlhood into womanhood—is well indicated by the forms; and, with perfect simplicity of pose, the limbs are composed into lines of sinuous beauty. The whole forms a memorial which must be priceless to bereaved love.

Mr. Mac Dowell has also here two works of poetical sculpture—and such as well deserve all the accommodation that can be given for their due exhibition. The first is a colossal group in marble of *Virginius and Daughter* (1295). The Tribune, with his dead child held by the left arm, is in that attitude in which, with the raised dagger, he devotes Appius to the infernal gods. It is not by way of complaint that we say the action is the theatrical one. The composition has great grandeur, and the modelling is of the finest order. The muscles of the neck are powerfully strained in the energy of denunciation; and the whole masculine form—especially the swelled and tightened sinews of the arm that sustains the frail female form which has fallen over it in collapse—produces a fine effect of contrast. At every point of view new sculpture incidents—fresh views of the dramatic action—present themselves;—and that, perhaps, is a defect as regards the whole, which is a merit in itself. The finest point of view is that which will be last sought, —in the group as seen from behind. Here the drapery sweeps into sustaining masses of great breadth and effect, and the action of the piece proclaims itself with an increase of eloquence.—Mr. Mac Dowell's other poetical figure is *Psyche* (1308). We have more than once expressed our wonder that the chisel should attempt to render Psyche. The theme seems a favourite one with artists in proportion as it is beyond the possible reach of their Art. No material medium can present an idea so purely spiritual. Poetry can scarcely reach it,—it is so essential. It is at once the saddest, the sweetest, and the most transcendental of human stories. Psyche and her fortunes are things for the poetical heart to brood over in its most refined and solemn moods. The name is one which falls ever on the ear like a sigh. The question of Leontes, "What fine-chisel ever yet cut breath?" might apply to the many attempts at sculpturing this delicate thought.—However, we know not that we have ever seen a modelled Psyche which pleased us so well as Mr. Mac Dowell's:—and what we have said of the difficulty of course goes to enhance our estimate of the achievement. Here is the sweet, sad face which in very youth seems out of place in the world, and as if the wearer were waiting for wings to escape:—on whose almost childish beauty, ere sorrow has actually come down, there rests as it were the shadow of a coming sorrow. The yet tearless eye suggests that it is made for tears.—We hope to see this work in marble.

#### Architectural Drawings.

The appearance of the Architectural Room once more indicates pretty clearly with what sort of favour the Academy regards architecture. According to this thermometer, their love for that branch of Art seems to have got down pretty nearly to zero. There is not a single model; although perhaps none have been turned away this season, simply because none were offered after it had become known that it would be useless to send them. Models being excluded, one end of the room is once more entirely given up to oil paintings:—to which sort of encroachment the architect might be somewhat reconciled were the paintings generally architectural in subject, and consequently suitable associates for the drawings. The Academicians appear to entertain such dislike to the unlucky architectural room, that not even the R.A. architects care to let anything of theirs be seen in it. Mr. Barry, it is true, just allows a new design of his to be seen,—in so very unpretending a drawing that it makes no figure at all, and would scarcely be noticed were it not for what is said of it in the Catalogue. *Chifden House* (No. 1164) has little to say for itself on the score of originality. Prof. Cockerell does not exhibit; but there are two gentlemen here who have taken up his favourite mode of assembling together various buildings by the same master into a collective group.—Mr. Pugin makes his appearance again this season,—

but in far humbler guise than he did last year. Two subjects attributed to him in the Catalogue (Nos. 1154 and 1157) are small and slight sketches,—one of an old barn, the other of dilapidated cottages. The only thing remarkable about them is, that they should have been sent by an eminent architect.—We had hoped to see some of Mr. Colman's admirable Interiors, but he has sent nothing,—nor does any one supply his place.

Proceeding with our general comments before we speak of individual performances, we may remark that the show of architectural drawings would have been improved had some subjects which are of the same class been placed among them instead of in the Room of Miniatures. Those by Mr. T. H. Cromeck decidedly belong to the department, and possess more than ordinary merit of execution. That of the *Arch of Titus* (1056), for instance, which exhibits the bas-reliefs on one of the piers within the arch, is treated with great energy and gusto. It is true, Mr. Cromeck's are not designs; and were only *bond fide* designs admitted into the architectural room,—and, perhaps, such regulation would be not an improper one,—their being only architectural portraits would justify their being put where they are. But such is by no means the case; for, not to instance Mr. Digby Wyatt's two charming drawings (1194 and 1225), there are, as usual, many things which are only views,—among them but few of any sort of interest. There are also many designs which have little pretension to show themselves in a public exhibition at all,—still less are they entitled to occupy so much space as they do in the very best situations, while some of the things that are best worth looking at and require to be looked at minutely are thrust into places where they can hardly be seen at all. The preposterousness of hanging up bird's-eye views above the eye, and placing interiors in which more of the ceiling or roof than of the pavement is shown immediately upon the floor, it is impossible to attribute to ignorance on the part of the hangers; nor can it be assigned to scantiness of space,—since a number of things seem to have been hung up for the mere sake of covering the walls.

We begin our notices with the first design according to the order of the Catalogue,—No. 1110, by Mr. W. Papworth. This is a suggestion for a highly desirable improvement in the immediate vicinity of Whitehall,—namely, to make King Street nearly as wide as Parliament Street, with a range of stately façades to the houses on both sides. Were such scheme to be carried into execution, we should have a continuous range of more uniformly rich yet varied street architecture than yet exists in the metropolis;—but there is no prospect whatever of its being undertaken. Should any systematic improvement be made there at all, it is more likely that the houses between those two streets will be taken down, so as to form one spacious approach to the Abbey and the Palace of Westminster of the same width as the street at Whitehall.—*Caversham Park, the Seat of W. Crawshaw, Esq., as intended to be restored, from the Designs of Messrs. Jones & Johnson* (1116) is a dull and clumsy parody of Italian architecture,—uncouthly would-be-fine, and desperately coarse and vulgar. Some time ago we had begun to hope that the style in question was now tolerably well understood among us, and that our architects would soon be able to treat it correctly,—not with the mere plodding correctness of literal copyists, but with freedom. But such barbarous taste as is shown here—and also in the New Coal Exchange—quite disheartens us.—*The Library in a Hall in Suffolk* (1123), by Mr. R. M. Phipson,—one of the very few domestic interiors that this year's Exhibition affords—is a rather large drawing; but so badly placed, and for the most part such a mass of shadow, that we can scarcely venture to speak of what it is as a design. So, all we will say is, that its author's taste is greatly more *olden-timeish* than ours,—and even partakes of the dark ages. *Selections from Palladio* (1127), by Mr. Ashpitel—already alluded to by us—shows several of the principal buildings of that master, not huddled together, but so arranged as to present an equally scenic and intelligible combination of edifices. The subject is one that solicits examination; nevertheless, it is so

perversely placed quite down upon the floor as to render proper examination impossible. Surely that and Mr. Angell's *Palladiana* (1166) should have been hung by the side of each other, in order to afford the means of immediate comparison; or rather, Mr. Angell's drawing ought to have been placed immediately below Mr. Ashpitel's, the former being a sort of bird's-eye view. For that reason, perhaps, it is, in the logic of the hangers, that it has been placed so far above the eye that it cannot be read. The same is the case with Mr. Angell's other piece of architectural *ana*,—*Vignoliana* (1185),—although not quite in the same degree; the buildings being there on a larger scale.

Of Mr. J. W. Wild's *St. Martin's Northern Schools* (1128) we have already spoken [*ante*, p. 482]. We need only remark, therefore, that the drawing—a mere tinted elevation, without a background—by no means shows the work to advantage:—and for further disadvantage, the drawing is hung next the floor, while such thoroughly inartistic and prosaic subjects as *The City of London Workhouse* (1130), by Mr. R. Tress, and a *Contemplated Addition to Guy's Hospital* (1177), by Mr. R. Hawkins, are made Exhibition "ships of the line."—*A Mansion now being erected at Horsted, Sussex, for F. Burchard, Esq.* (1140), by Mr. S. W. Daukes, satisfies better as a pictorial drawing than as a design for a modern country residence. It is time to abandon the affectation of mediævalism in our domestic architecture of the present day; and perhaps the mansion-like appearance which is now studied for schools, hospitals, workhouses and similar eleemosynary institutions in that style, will have the effect of rendering modern mediævalism *mauvais ton*. One great disadvantage attending the adoption of the (good?) old English domestic style for a modern residence is, that if any sort of consistency is to be kept up, the apartments and their furniture must partake of the semi-barbarous taste which prevailed in such matters until even after the Elizabethan period. Of such taste *The Dining Hall, Farming Wood Hall, Northamptonshire*, executed from the designs of Mr. T. Bury (1145), gives a more scrupulously true than laudable example. Instead of subduing the coarseness and clumsiness which mark that style, and which can be tolerated only in actual examples of the period, Mr. Bury has clung to precedent so slavishly as to show himself wholly regardless of *eumorphic* quality. The chimney-piece, for instance, is one of those lumbering compositions which, though possessing a certain degree of stateliness, are no better than so much elaborated rudeness and costly deformity. Over what properly constitutes the chimney-piece are four most uncouthly caricatured Ionic columns, hoisted upon pedestals, as if for the express purpose of rendering them offensively stumpy. Even were that feature more satisfactory in itself, it is too much of a mere architectural patch in the room,—so much at variance with the rest as to cause many parts to look quite homely, if not positively mean.—*A Marble Fireplace designed to introduce Parian statuettes* (1135), by Mr. C. J. Richardson—which partakes of the same style—is in infinitely better taste. Among our disappointments, is that of finding scarcely any thing else of a similar nature, when decorative Art and ameublement are so much talked about. We feel somewhat consoled, however, by the absence of interiors made up of Louis-Quatorze tawdrinesses.

#### NEW SOCIETY OF PAINTERS IN WATER COLOURS.

WE return to this Gallery for a few words of concluding notice.

Mr. W. Lee has here four drawings, exhibiting a great advance on what he has hitherto done. Of all the figure painters of excellence here in that line, there is not one who seems to aim with a truer purpose,—there are none whose works are freer from any meretricious vice of manner. All these drawings exhibit an unpretending reverence for the truth of nature,—and the result is, a charm that improves on acquaintance. They are not striking works; but have an unobtrusive power that wins on the heart and the affections. Executed without dash or daring, they have yet a firm solid treatment; and with a quiet, grey, subdued



tone; they are not cold nor crude in colour. *Piety* (No. 34) represents two girls at their devotions. It is full of sweetness—carefully laboured without weakness. The costumes are rich, though sober in colour—and with fine truth in the shadows. The light in the picture is grey, and extremely silvery and pure. *Asking a Blessing* (80) is a subject of a French fisherman in the midst of his family, invoking a grace on their humble meal. A young girl is seated on the frame of a spinning-wheel, looking down with a pure devotional expression, very true and simple. With delicately varied and well balanced colour, the work is wholly free from affectation. *Anxious Thoughts* (250) is a subject of more intense sentiment. A fisherman's wife is seated gazing through the open window of her cottage home on the sea. Her child has fallen asleep by her side, and rests its head against her bosom. Her occupation of net-making is for the time neglected, and the unfinished meshes have fallen from her hand. The daylight, true and clear, pervades the room, and touches every object in just proportion,—the whole being calmly broad in effect. *The Petitioner* (118), with the same general qualities of sweet tone and colour, is deficient in drawing. The figure does not lean against the bank,—as intended.

Mr. Vacher's principal drawing this year is *The Bazaar, Algiers* (44):—a subject of minute architectural detail, with numerous figures, variously occupied. The whole carries with it an air of general truth that suggests a faith in the individualities of the scene. There are much pure colour and great care in the manipulation,—but nevertheless, the drawing has not escaped from the region of commonplace in effect. No. 100, a long-shaped drawing, which illustrates some manuscript poetry, represents, in an expanse of the Desert, a slain warrior watched by his faithful horse. The foe is flying in the distance. Another drawing of the same form represents *The Halt in the Desert* (107), by pitched tents and a variety of figures. Both of these works are seen under the effect of a blazing sunset, depicted with great truth of colour. But we prefer *A Caravan crossing the Plain of the Metidjah, the Lower Chain of the Atlas in the distance, Africa* (246). Under a good clear tone of daylight the sun glances across the middle distance touching the far-off mountains. The whole is very picturesque.—In Miss Setchell's *Jesse and Colin* (258) we have another 'Momentous Question,' without the depth of dramatic sentiment which that work displayed,—and showing that in her first production she owed much of her success to the felicity of the subject. The drawing is very deficient, and the limbs are disproportioned. The heads are too small, and the arms exaggerated in length. Nevertheless, the character is agreeable, if not forcible,—and the choice of colour is good, with a look of breadth. The drawing is highly gummed:—a fallacious resource, taking away in solidity more than it gives in transparency.

*The Convalescent* (47) is a very beautiful drawing, by Miss Fanny Corboux. Pleasing in composition,—it represents an invalid girl reposing in the arms of her friend or sister, both gazing out on the setting sun. The sick girl is charming in sentiment. The hands are well drawn and graceful; and the draperies are agreeable in choice and in fold, though mannered in execution. The whole is rather flat, from want of general gradation of tints.

There is a large work here by Mr. Robert Carrick, *Highland Emigrants—Morning of Departure* (104), of an extremely artificial look, though with good drawing and execution. It represents a Highland family on the sea shore, with trunks, boxes, &c. Literal study from nature would be of service to this artist. The sober hue of truth is in this work entirely wanting.—We have no great strength from Mr. Absolon,—owing probably to his engagement on the Diorama of the Overland Route to India. His principal drawing of *Joan of Arc* (65) gazing on the armour left in her prison, is weak in expression—the look heavy and stupid. The style of execution is somewhat loose for so large a scale, but is well sustained. Still, the work does not rise above mediocrity.

There are good execution, pleasing colour, and a look of truth in the drapery of No. 76 and in that of No. 79.—whilst No. 189 has nothing to raise it above commonplace. There are several agreeable drawings by Mr. Charles Davidson,—though we cannot compliment him on holding the position that he has heretofore held on these walls. He is one of those landscape painters, so numerous in our school, who in pursuit of freshness of effect sacrifice tone. With a dexterous cleverness—or rather prettiness—of execution, he is often wiry, hard and mannered; and when he wishes to get depth, he is apt to overlay his colour with a cold opacity. No. 13 is his best drawing of this latter kind,—with a well managed gleam of light in the sky and some first well drawn and executed. *Entrance to Hook Wood, Seven Oaks* (141) is, we think, his best drawing with the light among the branches of the trees and glancing on the ground,—of true and beautiful effect. There is also a drawing, *Summer* (249), where, in conjunction with Mr. Harrison Weir, a pleasing and successful result is produced:—the more solid handling and colour of Mr. Weir's cattle telling well against the weaker style of Mr. Davidson's background.—We think Mr. Aaron Penley shows this year increased mastery. He has several well considered conscientious works. In *A Mountain Glen* (53) the rocks are built up magnificently, and an air of grandeur is given by an opening in the sky, which produces breadth of effect. The lights and darks are well distributed. *Sunset—Coast Scene* (97) is a large drawing, of good general rich tone and very firm, though the shadows are a little too cold. *The Wreck on the Coast of Scarborough—Sunrise* (226) would be a very beautiful and carefully toned drawing, were it not spoilt by the figures, which are commonplace and theatrical. The waves are well drawn, and the sky is of good tone, excepting towards the top of the drawing—where it is careless. No. 291 is a very true sketch from nature:—whilst No. 317 is hard and mechanical.

We have pleasure in noticing the few, though in size unimportant, drawings of Miss Steers. Her largest, *Kensington Gardens* (92), possesses great elegance and taste, whilst the handling is very forcible and masterly. The sheep on the right and the figures on the left are well introduced,—giving agreeable poise to the weight of foliage above. *Doddington Mill, Northamptonshire* (340) is a very felicitous sketch, evidently made on the spot.—The marine views of Mr. Robins have considerable merit. With a good principle of effect, they are unsolid—owing, as we think, to his indiscriminate use of the scraper to take out the lights, without judicious toning afterwards. The craft are well drawn, and have buoyancy and motion. We like best *Thames Barges, &c. off Sheerness* (33). The representations of water-fowl by Mr. Weigall have their usual merit; though it is necessary to look closely at them to make the discovery,—for no drawings can be more destitute of general effect to recommend them. *Wild Ducks* (18) are quite alive with nicely depicted character.—Mr. Collingwood's sketches of interiors are admirable as such, though with great sameness. They have extraordinary general truth of effect, and are well handled without mannerism. The general colour, too, is good, though the individualities are sometimes overcharged. *The Unexpected Return* (150), representing a girl knitting in the interior of a cottage, with a figure entering the door, has the illusion of reality.—*Bluebell Hill and Kit's Coty House, Kent—Hoppickers returning* (111), by Mr. James Fahey, is a clever drawing, with a pleasant cool tone of true daylight. The crowd of figures are well drawn, and the clay road along which they are travelling is coloured with great truth.—Mr. Harrison Weir's cattle drawings have a decidedly original character and much merit. Powerful in colour, they sometimes want freshness,—and with vigorous character, they lack refinement of execution. His best is *Homestead* (231).

There are several very clever works by Mr. D. H. McKean; with good general effect, though not very true in local colour, and the textures not being sufficiently discriminated.—Mr. Rowbotham, jun. has some works of a certain degree of merit.

His large one, *Dieppe, Coast of Normandy* would have been much improved by uniting in the foreground the masses of dark, which are too equally divided. The buildings are well drawn.—There is a look of truth about the sketches of Mr. D'Egville,—when he ventures further, he loses power and natural hue, and is inclined too much to be merely imitative. There is a little drawing by him, *Murano, on the Lagoon, Venice* (277), like Guardi,—very neat and pretty in execution, with the water flat and transparent and the light sky pleasing. *Venice* (284) is like Prout.—whilst *Near Boulogne* (292), with the flat low horizon, however clever, reminds us too strongly of the peculiar treatment of Alfred Clint.—There is a good though commonplace daylight look about *Amy Robart's with drawing Room at Cumnor Place* (265), by Mr. J. Chase:—with careful drawing, though hard and mechanical, and the whole thin and cold in colour.—Some talent there is, too, about the productions of Mr. G. Howse; which, though mannered, are broad, solid, and of good colour.—Mrs. Margetts maintains her supremacy in drawings of fruits and flowers. There is much merit, however, in those of Mrs. Harrison,—and we are inclined to think they are even superior to her rival's in taste of composition.

**FINE-ART GOSSIP.**—The other day when Mr. Cockerell declared, before the City deputation to the Dean and Chapter of St. Paul's, that the iron railing round St. Paul's was an ornament to the building,—or, in other words, an integral part of the structure,—it is only fair to assume that he spoke in his capacity of architect to the Dean and Chapter, and not from his chair as professor of architecture in the Royal Academy. The iron railing, it is true, is of the age of Wren—and was possibly designed by him—but it is not an ornament to the structure, or in any way an integral part of the whole design. Mr. Cockerell spoke to please others,—and we are disposed to transfer the blame of his assertion from the person employed to the persons who employ. The Dean and Chapter look on the iron railing as a military out-work of St. Paul's, the surrender of which may lead to fresh attacks on the Church—to the abolition of the two-pences of show-money, and the throwing open to the public of the great west door. In no other way can their opposition be accounted for. There is much, indeed, to tempt them to give way. The railings that cost 11,000*l.* would realize a sum that would "cut up" into slices of consequence even to the minor canons. But they see, or fancy they see, that a single concession will undo them. Dean Milman has, no doubt, a lively recollection of the noise that was made about the removal of the iron railings from the tombs and monuments in Westminster Abbey. Their removal, it is true, did not take place while he was a prebendary of the collegiate church; but the complaint commenced then,—and he had to endure some of the opprobrium which belonged properly to Dr. Ireland and the Chapter of his time. But the removal of the railings in the Abbey was only partially a mistake. The metal-work round the tombs of Queen Eleanor, King Henry the Fifth, Queen Elizabeth, and Mary Queen of Scots, was part of the general design of each,—and the removal was, therefore, destructive of the intention of sculptor and smith, who had wrought together. The case was different with the common street railings, before Roubiliac's monument of the Duke of Argyll and Gibbs's monument to the poet Prior. Their removal was in good taste. The recommendation of Chantry, on which the Dean and Chapter acted, was meant to apply rather to monuments than to tombs,—though in the general sweep the most elaborate metal work shared the fate of the commonest kind of iron railing.—Should the London Dean and Chapter be hereafter induced to remove the railing from St. Paul's, some sort of protection like that in front of the Banqueting House at Whitehall will be proper. We trust Mr. Cockerell will reconsider his opinion,—and that the new Dean will be found to be an improvement, in matters like the above, on his predecessors.

We understand that Mr. Faraday paid a visit to



The National Gallery on Tuesday last for the purpose of investigating, by order of the Trustees, and reporting on the condition, of the old pictures therein contained. The limited scale of the rooms, the condensation of vapour on the pictures in consequence, and other atmospheric influences to which in their present position they are exposed, are said to have an injurious effect on these priceless works,—and to suggest the necessity of their removal to some less tainted situation.

The taste which for some years made certain artistic publications popular under the denomination of *Annals* and *Books of Beauty*, and which ended in a surfeit, has now taken another direction. It was but a short time since we gave some account of the extensive sale obtained by the engraving from Mr. Barraud's picture of the three boys, entitled "We praise Thee, O Lord,"—a subject which, after having been hawked about and refused by the trade of printsellers, realized for the fortunate speculator, it is said, nearly two thousand pounds. This lucky accident is about creating a nuisance for the national taste. A group of charity girls, to form a pendant to the boys, soon after appeared from the same hands,—and every succeeding month brings out a rival print from a rival establishment. Of these, the latest, which suggests these observations is by Mr. J. Brooks,—three girls on their knees, in a pew, with the epigraph "Hallowed be Thy name." It is executed in the most obvious and commonplace style of Art.—The tendency of these things is to degrade at once the character of the themes chosen and the art which presents them, by the obviously insincere and trading feeling which prompts the performances.

The manner in which Mr. Cottingham's most extensive collection of mediæval antiquities, carvings, architectural casts, and other articles is to be disposed of, affords an opportunity such as may not soon recur, by securing the whole for the public, of laying the basis of a national museum of architecture. A correspondent writing to us on this subject says:—"I fully agree with you in the observation made in your last number, that 'a systematic and well-arranged collection of British antiquities is a thing greatly wanted in this country'—this is especially the case in reference to architectural antiquities. We much want a *Hôtel de Cluny*. I trust, therefore, that the opportunity which now offers for the acquisition of a collection illustrative of mediæval architecture and sculpture will not be allowed to pass away. The museum of the late Mr. Cottingham, architect, is a collection formed by great personal zeal, directed by high professional knowledge, at a period when such objects of Art were more easily attainable than now. Were a similar collection to be offered for sale in Germany it would at once be purchased by the Government."—Should our Government prefer making a show of economy by declining to treat for this collection, it is to be hoped that it will in some way or other be made public, if not national property. Either of our two great Universities might purchase it, and thereby acquire an attraction the more for visitors. Unless Government or some public body become the purchaser, it is to be feared that, even if sold in the first instance entire, the collection will be finally broken up, resold in lots and dispersed. The loss of the present opportunity would doubtless be regretted when too late,—as was the case with the Houghton Gallery. We shall probably give next week some account of the Cottingham Museum and of a few of its contents.

The proprietors of the Gallery of Illustration announce their intention of opening an Exhibition of Oriental curiosities and works of Art illustrative of life in the East, accompanied with a large scenic picture, the profits of which exhibition they propose presenting to the widow of Mr. Waghorn, who is said to be left without an income adequate to her support;—and they solicit the loan of articles of Oriental produce for the benevolent purpose in question.

An extract of a letter from Florence, published in the *Brussels Herald*, says:—"Amateurs of the fine arts will be pleased to hear that one of the most ancient specimens of Italian painting has been

discovered at Peschia. This picture represents St. Francis and the principal miracles of his life, painted on a gold ground, as was customary in the early periods of the art. Underneath the face of the saint are the words *Bonaventura Berlinghieri Lucca pinxit, 1235*. This work of Art is at present deposited in the Church of Saint-François (at Prato); and, with the exception of the figure of the Saint, which is barely distinguishable, has been clumsily restored."

From the opposite ends of the earth come notices of the deaths of two British artists, each of whom had a reputation of his several kind amongst ourselves years ago. The *Launceston Examiner* announces the death, at the advanced age of 82, of Mr. Glover, the landscape painter,—well known for the fine sweeps of English scenery which he has put on canvas,—and who nineteen years since left the scene of his successful labours for a new world of effort in Australia. Many of Mr. Glover's transcripts of the new and luxuriant scenery into which he had transported himself have found their way from time to time into our Exhibition-rooms; and if our memory be correct, he himself brought over a number of specimens when he crossed the seas for a last visit to the country of his birth.—Mr. Glover was, if we mistake not, one of the first exhibitors with the Society of British Artists in Water Colours.—From the West, the American papers send us news of the death of Mr. Thom, the Ayrshire sculptor, whose groups from 'Tam O'Shanter' and 'Old Mortality' had an unwholesome popularity among ourselves, the parent of after-disappointment to the artist, we know not how long ago. Mr. Thom was a man of uncultured genius,—and some particulars of his more prosperous after career may be not unwelcome to our readers. "Mr. Thom," says the *Newark Advertiser*, "came to this country [America] from Scotland some twelve or fourteen years ago, in pursuit of a person who had been previously sent over by the proprietors to exhibit his Tam O'Shanter and Old Mortality, but who, we believe, made no return or report of his proceedings. Arriving in New York, he traced him, the delinquent—a fellow Scotchman, of some shrewdness and address—to this city; and here recovered, if we rightly remember, a portion of the money for which it appeared these works had been sold, and transmitted it to the proprietors, who had been his benefactors, concluding to remain here himself to pursue his profession. In exploring the country in this vicinity for stone adapted to his purposes, he brought into notice the fine freestone quarry at Little Falls, which has since become so famous, having furnished the stone for the Court House in this city, Trinity Church in New York, and many other public buildings in various parts of the country. With this stone he reproduced the two groups already named, executed an imposing statue of Burns, and fulfilled various orders for ornamental pieces for pleasure grounds. The copy of the Old Mortality group—including the pious old Presbyterian and his Pony, with the familiar presence of the immortal Genie which made them the property of the universal mind—was sold, at a fair price, to the proprietors of Laurel Hill Cemetery, near Philadelphia, and is now the appropriate frontispiece of that spacious city of the dead. Tam O'Shanter and Souter Johnny keep "watch and ward" at the entrance of the hospitable mansion of our friend Roswell L. Colt, Esq., at Paterson. Thom had a strong predilection for architecture, and, fancying he could excel in that department of Art, gave considerable attention to it; but we are not aware that he produced anything remarkable, beyond a few designs that were never executed. When it was concluded to build Trinity Church with the Little Falls stone, Thom made an advantageous contract to do the stone-cutting, and executed much of the fine carving for that costly architectural blunder. Owing to some misunderstanding with the architect, or the committee, he left the work, however, before it was completed; and, having realized considerable profits, purchased a farm near Ramapo, in Rockland county, on the line of the Erie Railroad, and gratified his fancy by putting up a house after one of his own conceptions. Since that time we have had no knowledge of his

pursuits, but believe that he abandoned a profession in which with due cultivation he might have attained to the highest rank."

## MUSIC AND THE DRAMA

**PHILHARMONIC SOCIETY.**—The Subscribers and the Public are respectfully informed the SIXTH CONCERT will take place at the Hanover Square Rooms, on MONDAY EVENING, May 29. Programme: Sonata, in D, No. 4—Mozart; Trio, two Violoncellos and Contra-Basso, Messrs. Lindley, Lucas, and Howell.—Correlli, Concerto in D minor, Pianoforte, M. Thalberg (Mozart). Sonata Pastorale—Beethoven; Harp, Mrs. and Variations, Paderforts, M. Thalberg.—M. Thalberg, Overtures, *Anacréon*—Gherubini. Vocal Performers: Madame Madeline Notes (from the Theatre Royal, Hanover), and Herr Formes. Conductor, Mr. Costa.—Single Tickets with Reserved Seat, 11s.; Double Tickets, 22s.; 11s.; Triple Tickets (ditto), 33s. To be obtained of Messrs. Addison, 219, Regent Street. G. W. BUDD, Secretary.

**MUSICAL UNION—FIFTH MATINÉE.**—Willis's Rooms, Tuesday, May 21.—Quartet in D, No. 79, Haydn; Concerto in minor (allergo), Bach; Romance sans paroles, M. Siles; Quartet in C, No. 9, Beethoven; Quartet in minor, Kreutzer and Mendelssohn; Hungarian Vocalists, Excelsites.—Santoni, Holoffe, Finetti, Howell. Pianoforte, M. Siles, his first performance in London. Strangers' tickets, half-a-guinea each, to be procured at Cramer & Co's. Members can introduce visitors by payment at the Rooms. J. ELLA, Director.

**HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE.**—Mr. Lumley's first Concert took place on Monday last. Did a *programme* suffice to make a performance, this would have been a brilliant one, indeed; but his orchestra is only fifth-rate; and Mr. Balfe is so innocent of classical knowledge, that the 'Eroica' symphony must have proved to the fashionables as tedious as to exercised musical ears it was all but burlesque. Then, too, the grand pieces by Spohr, Spontini, and Gluck, &c., which looked so well, really proved so much "dead weight"—the known *terzetto* from 'Fidelio' almost going wrong owing to Mdlle. Parodi's falsity of intonation. The real strength of the concert lay in a few hands and a few *morceaux*. Mr. Sims Reeves was *encored* in 'Come, if you dare,'—Signor Calzolari in a *scena* by Donizetti. Signor Beletti was universally excellent in all the bass music given to him. This gentleman shows the finish and the resolution to improve of a true artist,—and becomes better not so much year by year as month by month. Miss Hayes, too, would seem to have been pondering good counsel, since in the 'Gloria,' from Beethoven's Mass, she was more ready and steady in *tempo*, and, proportionately more successful than we have yet heard her in concerted music. But the great attraction of the morning was Madame Sontag. As an orchestral singer of elegant and brilliant music this Lady has no peer; since, with more execution than almost any *chanteuse de roulades* in our recollection, she has a charm of Nature's giving, possessed by none since Madame Cinti departed. It is a mistake in her, however, German though she be, to sing such dramatic German music as the *scena* from 'Oberon,' which she made merely tame and pretty. A Swiss air, by Eckert, scored with a *sotto voce* accompaniment of voices alone, was a most pleasing novelty, exquisitely executed by Madame Sontag. Curiosity is now beginning to "sit up and listen" to every "noise" which oozes out from the theatre concerning 'La Tempesta.' We hear that the delicate *Ariel* is not to be sung at all, but to be danced by Mdlle. Carlotta Grisi,—that *Caliban's* uncouth love of *Miranda* has been by M. Scribe expanded so as to heighten the intrigue of the plot,—that the tenor is not selected as yet. "Our voice" would be for Signor Gardoni, from his elegance of person and graceful sentimentality of voice. M. Scribe is announced as having arrived to superintend the rehearsals.

**BEETHOVEN QUARTETT SOCIETY.**—The performances of Wednesday comprised the lovely Quartett in E flat, the three first movements of which are, perhaps, the very highest expression of Beethoven's genius in this form of composition;—the post-humous Quartett in C sharp minor; so full of the loveliest thoughts and holdest imaginings crudely combined,—and the Pianoforte Trio in B flat. To say of the former works that Herr Ernst led them must here suffice. In the Trio the pianoforte part was taken by Herr Heller. This gentleman has but one want—that of the habit of playing in public. This makes itself felt in a slight occasional nervousness well worth conquering. We have never heard the two final movements of this Trio given so thoroughly to our liking as by Herr Heller;—that



is, the composer's feeling rendered by another composer with such freedom and solidity of execution combined. It was the presence of such qualities that made the classical performances of Mendelssohn at once so satisfactory and so fascinating. Herr Heller not only writes too seldom—but he also plays too little; and in so much does not fulfil the requisitions of the times he lives in,—which have small room and less reward for dreamers.

**CONCERTS OF THE WEEK.**—It must be obvious to that perpetually-evoked seventh estate, "the meaneast capacity," that some of the changes which have been predicted as likely to overtake the musician's dynasty are come. The Benefit Concerts on the old pattern are year by year diminishing in number. We hear of artists (and the news is fraught with significance) who are postponing their concerts till the late autumn or early winter. A full orchestra is again in request;—while chamber-music assumes an importance which it has never before enjoyed. All this time, too few composers will write what is practicable to perform or agreeable to listen to; too few audiences will cordially accept any gift save from a limited number of masters,—a store of valuable and individual music being "shelved" in obedience to a fastidiousness which is not high connoisseurship, let "the select" fancy it such as they may. Art has many chambers in her temple; and a true votary will worship in all devoutly, though he knows the difference betwixt a high—and a hunting—mass. At no distant period some remedy may be found for both these ills: meanwhile, combined, they oppress the critic in the form of a most tiresome and unprofitable monotony.

Since our last, *Miss Bassano* has received her friends.—The Concert of *Miss Dolby* and *Mr. Lindsay Sloper* takes "brevet rank," owing to the superior interest of the programme. The lady was in her best voice: among other music, singing 'Bell' imago' with Signor Marchesi (who also sang very well),—Mendelssohn's two last Duets with Miss Hayes,—and taking part in a pretty and lively *Quartetto di camera* by Signor Biletta. Mr. Sloper played Mendelssohn's second *Concerto* with neatness and spirit; also two or three short pieces by himself, among which his 'Galop' was *encored*. There were *solos*, too, by Mr. Cooper and by Signor Piatti. The latter is now the most admirable violin-cellist, whether *solo* or *concertante*, that we have ever heard. The rare combination of science with charm, of executive command with sound truth and elegant expression, cannot, we think, be carried further or raised higher than in his case. He plays not merely like one who delights in his instrument, but like one who loves "the best and honourablest" music. The Concert of *Miss Birch* and *Miss E. Birch*, given on Wednesday, had also a programme far more carefully selected than would have been thought necessary (or have been found attractive!) ten years ago. The pianist was Miss Clara Loveday. They were assisted by Miss Hayes, Miss Dolby, Mr. Whitworth, Signori Marras, F. Lablache, Marchesi, &c.—On Wednesday evening Herr Adolph Gollmick's concert was given.

On Wednesday evening—as we learn by the police reports—the *Wednesday Concerts* came to an end, neither untimely nor unwelcome, though somewhat partaking of the nature of a catastrophe. From the first we have felt that the management of these entertainments has been unsound in principle—unsound in detail; and thus, for a time we were somewhat solitary in standing aloof from them. During the last eighteen months the musical world has rung with tales of quarrels, difficulties, broken obligations, and threats of law. From first to last—however great may have been the attraction of individual artists—the performances as a series have had not the slightest artistic value. They have very nearly spoiled our best English tenor—who, however, shows signs of redeeming himself. Hence, supposing, as we hope it will prove, that the *Wednesday Concerts* will not be resumed under the auspices of Mr. Stammers,—we ring their knell with the liveliest feelings of satisfaction. Another false influence has gone; and peradventure the mischief which it has wrought may be compensated by the experience also to be

derived from it if the matter be rightly taken to heart.

**SADLER'S WELLS.**—Mr. Home's tragedy of 'Douglas' was revived on Monday, and was fairly acted throughout. Mr. Dickinson was the hero; and the juvenility of his appearance, with his rhetorical habits of declamation, made him generally no inapt representative of the character. The set speeches were well delivered,—but for the quarrel scene with *Glenalvon* he wanted fire and strength. Mr. Bennett, besides, was much too robust and vehement for the situation. His wily coolness should have contrasted with the impetuosity of the youthful warrior. Miss Glyn played *Lady Randolph* with equal dignity and tenderness. Her impersonation was carefully kept within the limits of taste;—severe without being unimpassioned. The scene between her and old *Norval* (Mr. Graham) was remarkably effective; and the exhibition of maternal feeling was rewarded with well deserved applause. Some of her attitudes were strikingly fine; particularly the listening one while the shepherd tells the tale which assures her that the young hero is her son. Her subsequent interviews with the boy were very touching; and her despair and madness at his death were, as might have been expected from the general style of her acting, terrible.—The house was well attended.

On Thursday the benefit for the Grand Industrial Exhibition of 1851 took place at this house, under the patronage of the Duke of Cambridge. The house was crowded; and as the expenses of the evening were liberally defrayed by the management and the prices of admission were raised, the amount will probably be considerable. The first four acts of 'Henry the Eighth' were performed. Miss Glyn as *Queen Katherine* and Mr. Phelps as *Cardinal Wolsey* played with great care and distinguished success. Previous to the performance, the latter delivered "An Address" in praise of industry and the legitimate drama, written by Mr. R. H. Horne—and was received on the occasion with vehement applause. The crowded house and the reception given to Mr. Phelps are significant of the interest taken by the public in the cause which these performances were given to support.—Mr. Horne contributed further to the amusement of the evening, by undertaking the performance of *Shylock*, in the trial scene of 'The Merchant of Venice':—the only time, we believe, that he has appeared on the stage. A grand Concert followed, supported by Miss Dolby, Miss Lucombe, Herr Ernst, Mr. Whitworth, Mr. Travers, Mr. G. Tedder, Mr. G. F. Kiallmark, and Miss Lanza. The evening's entertainments closed with the farce of 'The Silent Woman.' The arrangements of the theatre were in all respects satisfactory.

**ST. JAMES'S.—French Plays.**—Having installed 'The Stranger' as a stock-piece on our English stage, Consistency could not shut the door against 'Gabrielle'—though, as we well know, Consistency plays in no world freaks stranger than those by her exhibited with regard to the theatre. As one instance, the situation which saved the opera 'Malek Adhel' is almost identical with that which essentially contributed to damn the play 'La Vallière';—as another, an absolute "fie" upon M. Augier has been vented in more than one quarter where the broadest revelations of the *Palais Royal* repertory have excited small disapproval. Thus much

to keep the balance true!

We do not love inventions like that of 'Gabrielle,' which tells us how a wavering wife, after having been vainly lectured on the inconvenience of infidelity by a gentlewoman who speaks from experience, is persuaded back to love her husband and protect her child by the pathetic eloquence of the former. A tale like this seems to our English eyes painful, if not positively morbid: and the truth and feeling of such acting as that of Mdlle. Nathalie and M. Regnier only deepen our desire not to see the play again. But no one conversant with French manners, French modes of teaching, and French feelings of duty, can peruse or look at 'Gabrielle' without at once separating it from the many pieces of pretext-work belonging to its country, in which the real aim is merely to excite the passions. While our national

instincts, traditions and teachings make us dissent from M. Augier's choice of subject, we know and feel him to stand utterly apart from and above the fire-brand-throwers and the poison-sellers, and to rank with the De Vignys and the Lamartines,—whose literature is a sincere thing, and not a tawdry manufacture of trash moral or trash immoral to suit the taste of the trashy.

**MUSICAL AND DRAMATIC GOSSIP.**—The ranks of our English female singers sustain a great loss in Miss A. Williams, who leaves the profession in consequence of her marriage. A more modestly valuable or more steadily improving artist was not among the company of native *soprani*. In oratorio music, especially, it will not be easy to replace her.

It is with pleasure that we note M. Thalberg's engagement to perform at the next Philharmonic Concert. This insures us one interesting *solo*.—M. Silas will make his first performance on Tuesday next at the *Musical Union*.

Among our latest musical arrivals are those, from Paris, of M. Lefort, whose voice is a baritone, and of M. Godefroid, the excellent harpist.

To some sturdy readers the absence of operatic novelty in this week's paper will be found as a relief—more especially since our next number should tell of the new cast of 'Roberto.' Verdi's 'Nabucco' was advertised for this evening, for the first appearance of Signor Ronconi:—it may be presumed, as a concession to the singer,—whose exigencies of this form and order make him dear to any theatre at any price. The performance, however, has not "come to pass"—perhaps owing to the success of 'Les Huguenots'; which opera this year seems to be found more attractive than ever.

While gossiping concerning the *Royal Italian Opera*, let us state (as honest chroniclers should) that for a night or two past, Herr Formes has been singing far better than he has hitherto done,—we hope still further to improve. A far-off talk of 'La Juive'—well-timed while M. Halévy is here—is full of interest; more especially if it be true that Signor Mario, who seems determined to win the highest tragic honours, will take the part of *Eleazar* in the *Rachel* of Madame Viardot.—At *Her Majesty's Theatre*, Madame Frezzolini is announced to appear on Tuesday next as *Lucrezia Borgia*.

We have more than once adverted to the musical imagination of M. Vivier as more than ordinarily individual and promising,—and therefore, rather than wait, we will here call attention to three new compositions by him, 'Le Chevrier,' 'La Chanson du Pêcheur,' and 'L'Éclé,' which have just appeared. We cannot accept any of these as the best music that M. Vivier is capable of producing, since none of them exhibits such entire mastery over originality as neutralizes those crudities which lie "hard by" invention. In all these songs there are bars and transitions which are more *biacore* than unexpected. But this stated and allowed for, (as must, also, be done in the case of four-fifths of Schubert's *lieder*), we have seen nothing since Schubert more peculiar and attractive than these songs. To the world of young ladies who love barrel-organ melodies they will talk in an unknown tongue; but to all who love expression, freshness, and a way heretofore undiscovered of treating familiar things, they should be thoroughly welcome. It is said that M. Vivier has added to his repertory of new harmonic effects on the horn. This is very well; but of greater interest, we must say again and yet again, is every addition to the stores of composition made by M. Vivier or by any other inventor.

So far as we can make out the truth from reports, (not counting those in the foreign newspapers, since whether they be *pro* or *con* we have learnt to place small trust in them,) M. Meyerbeer appears to have already succeeded in Berlin to the unpopularity—as well as to the *baton*—of his predecessor, the Chevalier Spontini. When we first made acquaintance with the Prussian metropolis, "its kennels ran" with aversion of the composer of 'La Vestale'—of his music and of his managements; and though rancour may not yet have proceeded to such lengths and depths in the case of M. Meyerbeer, certainly it appears as if the Berliners were at first on personal grounds tepid in accepting 'Le



Prophète. The work and the artist, however, have subsequently subdued the public; and our "last advices" announced that the places in the theatre were let for many representations in advance, —while the journals record that if "golden opinions" have not been precisely reaped by the *maestro*, a crown of silver laurel-leaves has been presented to him by the players of the orchestra. Herr Tichatschek is said to have produced a great effect in the scene of the revolt. Madame Köster, too, is commended as being the best *Bertha* who has yet personated the part. The Anabaptists seem to be as bad at Berlin as they are everywhere else, with the exception of Paris.—By the way, when 'Le Prophète' is revived here, we think that the management of our *Royal Italian Opera* would do wisely to give the part of tenor Anabaptist, which is a very important one, to Signor Maraldi, whose voice bears some resemblance to that of its original representative, M. Gueymard.—On Madame Viardot's share in the dissipation of the Berliners' ill humour there is no need for us to dwell. She will be again in London early in the next month. Meanwhile, the *début* of Mlle. Alboni in the French 'Prophète' has taken place in Paris with brilliant success,—we are assured, with a lavish exhibition of *bouquets, encores, &c. &c.* On examining, however, the report in the *Gazette Musicale*, the praise seems to us to ring hollow. A sweet-tempered *Fides*, with a bland prosperous air, singing charmingly rather than with energy or passion, can hardly keep the stage in so grand a tragical and declamatory part, let the theatre or the publishers be ever so earnest in her cause.—There is no chance of any opera-world being edited by M. Auber's 'Prodigal Son' until the "flat season" is over,—otherwise, before the autumn or early winter of this year, since the score, we have heard, is not yet complete.

Mlle. Caroline Duprez is beginning to be named in the French journals as a singer of promise, even at the early age of seventeen. Who would not be glad to meet another *prima donna* in her father's daughter?

If, like the makers of German fantasy-tales, we were to believe in auspicious or sinister influences of music, we should place the *finale* to 'Lucia' in the latter category—so many are the painful anecdotes already connected with it, musically commonplace though the composition be. The last story is the tragedy of the tenor of the opera at Trapani. Unless it be a newspaper romance, this unfortunate man was compelled, by managerial brutality and police coercion, to appear in 'Lucia' when suffering under the immediate agony of his mother's death, and committed suicide on the stage while singing the last scene. The well-known death of Palmer the actor, which took place while he was closing his part in 'The Stranger' with—

There is another and a better world! was not more painful than the above story, which we earnestly hope is not true.

#### MISCELLANEA

*The Snowy Mountains in New Zealand.*—The *Wellington Independent* gives the following account of a recent Expedition made by the Lieutenant-Governor to the Middle Island—and of a narrow escape from destruction which Mr. Eyre has had.—After leaving the Wairau, having traversed the Kaparatahau district, his Excellency and his attendants reached the snowy mountains to the southward, about four short days' journey from the Wairau, and encamped at the foot of the Tapenuko mountain, which they ascended. Previously to starting into the pass which is supposed to exist between the Wairau and Port Cooper plains, his Excellency ascended the great snowy mountain which forms the principal peak of the Kaikoras, and which attains an elevation of at least 9,000 feet, the upper part being heavily covered with snow to a great depth. He succeeded in reaching the top of the mountain, but so late as to be unable to push on to the southern edge of the summit, where an extensive view southwards would have been obtained. In returning, a steep face of the hill (little less than perpendicular), down which hung a bed of frozen snow, had to be crossed for a considerable distance. Mr.

Eyre, who had led the party up the dangerous ascent, was in advance with one native, the others being 200 feet before and behind him, on the same perpendicular of the snow. He heard a cry, and looking round, saw Wiremu Hoeta falling down the precipice, pitching from ledge to ledge, and rolling over and over in the intervals, till he fell dead, and no doubt smashed to pieces at a depth below of 1,500 feet, where his body could be seen in a sort of ravine, but where it was impossible to get at it. His Excellency narrowly escaped from similar destruction, having lost both feet from under him, and only saving himself by the use of an iron-shod pole which he carried. Another of the natives had a still narrower escape, having actually fallen about fifteen yards, when he succeeded in clutching a rock and saving himself. The gloom which this unfortunate event caused, and the uncertainty of crossing the rivers while the snows are melting, induced his Excellency to return.

*The Poet Wordsworth.*—We understand that a meeting of persons desirous to do honour to the memory of Wordsworth has been held at the house of Mr. Justice Coleridge. It was attended by the Bishop of London, the Bishop of St. David's, the Dean of St. Paul's, Archdeacon Hare, Mr. Rogers, Mr. Justice Coleridge, Mr. Cavendish and several other gentlemen. The results of it are expected to be made public in a few days. A great number of eminent and distinguished persons sent their names to the meeting as wishing to co-operate in carrying its object into effect.—*Guardian.*

*A Grave Responsibility.*—The worst thing we can say of the Metropolitan Interment Bill is, that it is a "gigantic undertaking."—*Punch.*

*London City Improvements.*—The measure for opening a new street, crossing from Queen Street by Bow Lane, Bread Street, Friday Street, Distaff Lane, and Old Change, St. Paul's Churchyard,—and for improving Gresham Street West, and Thread-needle Street,—has been opened in committee. The money, 200,000*l.*, is to be raised on the City revenues and estates.—*Builder.*

*The Begging-Letter Writer.*—He has besieged my door at all hours of the day and night; he has fought my servant; he has lain in ambush for me going out and coming in; he has followed me out of town into the country; he has appeared at provincial hotels, where I have been staying for only a few hours; he has written to me from immense distances when I have been out of England. He has fallen sick; he has died, and been buried; he has come to life again, and again departed from this transitory scene; he has been his own son, his own mother, his own baby, his idiot brother, his uncle, his aunt, his aged grandfather. He has wanted a great-coat, to go to India in; a pound, to set him up in life for ever; a pair of boots, to take him to the coast of China; a hat, to get him into a permanent situation under Government. He has frequently been exactly seven-and-sixpence short of independence. He has had such openings at Liverpool—posts of great trust and confidence in merchants' houses, which nothing but seven-and-sixpence was wanting to him to secure—that I wonder he is not Mayor of that flourishing town at the present moment."—*Dickens's 'Household Words.'*

TO CORRESPONDENTS.—An Old Subscriber—J. T. F.—R.—Bibliophilus—G. O.—Eclairer—Semiir—L. W. L.—received.

ENGLISH MUSIC IN GERMANY.—We have received two communications on the same subject from Bonn, of which, however, we are unable to avail ourselves. In both, the statement implies a construction which never fails to be made under circumstances having a certain result,—and which, being thus not always warrantable, cannot be accredited by those holding only *ex parte* testimony.

VEGETABLE DIET.—We have received several letters on the subject of our notice of books on vegetable diet in our last number. In applying the term "fanatics" to vegetarians we used it in a general sense, as expressing all classes of persons who act intensely on any unreasonable conviction. We are requested to explain ourselves more at length on this subject; and although we should not do so on the challenge of our correspondents, as we feel our statements were self-evident,—we still feel that we may have to do so as a matter of duty in consequence of the spread of the delusion which is being acted on by those who call themselves vegetarians.

Errata.—P. 504, col. 3, l. 33, for "mankind" read *animal life*.—P. 513, col. 3, l. 17, for "past" read *part*.

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LONDON, SATURDAY, MAY 25, 1850.

## REVIEWS

*Memoirs of the War of Independence in Hungary.* By General Klapka, &c.; translated from the Original Manuscript by Otto Wenckstern. 2 vols. Gilpin.

*Hungary and the Hungarian Struggle.* By Thomas Grieve Clark. Edinburgh, Hogg. *The Hungarian Revolution.* New York, Putnam.

THE doings and darings of the writer of the 'Memoirs' have won for him a world-wide reputation, and his narrative will be read with eagerness by all who can sympathize with the heroic sufferings of a high-spirited, a generous and a noble people. Moreover, though the Hungarian struggle is over for the present, it has neither lost its interest, its significance nor its influence. Many well-informed persons believe that the struggle itself was but a stirring incident in a drama which is not yet fully evolved—and that "Eastern Europe and the Slavonian nations" is a war-cry which will some time or other startle Western civilization. If so, Hungary, though down-trodden at present, has yet to play a conspicuous part in the history of the world.

George Klapka was one of those patriotic officers who, on the commencement of hostilities between the Hungarians and the Austrian absolutists in December 1848, were raised to the chief places of command in the Hungarian army of defence. Görgey, Perczel, Dembinski, Klapka, Danjanitsh, Kiss, Meszáros, Aulich, Bem, Guyon, Vetter, Vécsey, Pöltenberg,—were some of the men to whose military talents the Hungarians looked for the deliverance of their invaded country; and it was by their generalship, exerted in co-operation with the statesmanship of Kossuth and his colleagues in the civil government, that the war of independence was so long protracted. At first, as is well known, their efforts were attended with astonishing success. By the end of April 1849, the Austrian army, beaten at all points, was in full retreat towards the Austrian frontier. The immediate cause of this decisive result was the raising of the siege of the important town of Komorn. This General Klapka considers to have been a turning point in the war. His views of what ought to have been done at this moment of success, and of what followed from not doing it, are explained in the following passage:—

"The 26th of April was the day on which Komorn was relieved. Such days occur in the life of nations as well as of individuals. They pass by on the swelling tide, which, taken at the flood, leads to glory, and, if neglected, to misery and ruin. The fate of Hungary and the fate of the Austrian empire lay in the hands of General Görgey. If his resolution had been bold, its execution rapid and energetic, he would have ensured the greatest success, and immortalized his name among the chiefs of his heroic country. But General Görgey, though inimitable in the field of battle, was undecided and wavering in his plans. He allowed days to pass before he could make up his mind as to the purpose of his next operations. On the one side lay Vienna with its profligate court and mercenary army, trembling at the approach of the avengers, who were to unfetter and turn the tide of popular fury against them. On the other hand lay Buda, with its royal castle, and its historical reminiscences, the centre and the heart of our own beloved Hungary. \* \* Görgey turned away from Vienna, and attacked Buda; with this decision the die was cast, and the favourable moment was gone, never again to return. His fatal resolution has repeatedly been branded with the name of treason. This sweeping condemnation is, to the best of my opinion, unsupported by the facts of the case."

Whether these remarks are true to their full

extent may admit of question. It seems certain, however, that the important interval between the expulsion of the Austrian troops and their return along with their Russian auxiliaries might have been turned to better account by Görgey. When the Austrian and Russian armies had crossed the Hungarian frontier in concert, it was again a question of mere bravery and military talent. How nobly even then the struggle was maintained must still be fresh in the recollection of all. Fresh also must be the recollection of the sudden catastrophe. We naturally look in General Klapka's narrative for some authentic information as to the secret causes that contributed to that result. Accordingly, though his statements on the subject are by no means precise or formal, it is possible to infer generally the nature of his opinions,—to surmise, as it were, the criticisms which, as a patriot and a military man, he would now pronounce in retrospect on the conduct of the Hungarian movement.

In the first place, he seems to think the co-existence of two powers in Hungary during the struggle—a civil government and a military executive—was a blunder. Thus:—

"The question whether or not a legislative assembly is equal to the task of conducting, or even of allowing others to conduct, military operations, has by repeated distressing experiences, been finally settled. Generals and legislators are either of them excellent in their generation, but they cannot co-operate. The Hungarian insurrection was indeed peculiar in its nature. To force it down to the standard of a commonplace revolution would be wrong. In its first period, when the treasonable intrigues of Austria were still secretly at work, there can be no doubt but that the continuance of the Parliament was expedient, useful, and even necessary, for its firm and majestic bearing foiled all the attempts of the Austrian courtiers and their underlings, no matter how great their activity and effrontery. \* \* But when the rising and the resistance became general; when the Austrian attempts by cunning or by violence to subjugate us, were met by the strength of the whole nation: the existence of a legislative body could but paralyze the military operations and the proceedings of the administration. But since the Parliament remained assembled, that body ought to have risen in independence, strength, and majesty (especially after the declaration of the repudiation); in such times of unequalled difficulties they ought to have controlled the government; they ought not to have stooped to be the tools of individuals: the Parliament ought to have stood forth as the firm centre of a legalized insurrection. \* \* But if the Parliament could not or would not move in the circle to which I adverted, that assembly ought to have been dissolved, and the dictatorial power given into the hands of the man who enjoyed the fullest confidence of the people."

To a similar effect is the following passage as to the want of a co-operation, or even mutual confidence, that prevailed at the very commencement among the Hungarian generals.—

"The ambition of some of the chiefs prevented the co-operation of our forces and the concentration of our resources. In many cases the orders of the War Office were disregarded. In others, the generals flatly refused to obey. Bem, though a general of undoubted merit, took the lead among the independent chiefs. He scarcely ever wrote to the War Office, disregarded its instructions, and corresponded only with Kossuth. It was to Kossuth he applied, and from whom he received money and stores. But in the case of Bem there was some excuse for this refractory spirit, for his successes were a splendid justification of his actions; while others, such as Perczel, had no plea whatever to advance in defence of their mutinous behaviour. The army in Upper Hungary was commanded by Dembinski, an old general of tried military capacity, who protested against the commands of the War Office. He declared that he would rather resign his command than submit to have his well-matured plans interfered with; and as

for Görgey, he manœuvred on the Upper Danube in a state of perfect independence from the Government, and even from Kossuth."

From these and other passages it seems evident that General Klapka's opinion is that, from the first moment of open rupture with Austria all the ordinary machinery of civil government ought to have been swept away from the surface of Hungary, and the whole country should have been placed under a powerful dictatorship. Nor does it seem that, in General Klapka's opinion, Kossuth was the fit man for such a post at such a moment. True, Kossuth alone answered the definition of the fit man given by General Klapka above, namely, that he should be "the man who enjoyed the fullest confidence of the people;" and wherever General Klapka speaks of Kossuth, it is in terms which imply his conviction that, *morally* and *intellectually*, Kossuth, of all Hungarians, was indubitably the man to stand at the summit and lift his prophetic hands over the struggling people. But against all this there was the one fatal circumstance that Kossuth was a civilian, and that even an accredited dictatorship could not enable a civilian to control generals. In short, instead of that necessarily limited dictatorship which Kossuth held, there should, General Klapka thinks, have been a military dictatorship, which its holder could have easily made unlimited and coercive. And who should have been military dictator? General Klapka does not express himself very distinctly on this point; but, as far as we can gather his meaning, he seems to point to Görgey. Here is a passage in which he gives his impressions of the character of this strange personage,—the "infamy-doomed man" of the Hungarian struggle.—

"Görgey was a soldier throughout. A Spartan education, an innate and carefully fostered stoicism, which at times ran into cynicism, and a manner of thought positive, and foreign to all ideal creations of the mind, impressed his character with that striking roughness which was at war with all forms, and which caused him to look with deep aversion on the 'pomp, pride, and circumstance' of commonplace revolutions, and the unruly proceedings of an excited crowd. These sentiments, and his attachment to a legitimate power, remained in him unshaken, even amidst the overpowering storm of a Revolution. So long as the Hungarian Government of 1848 moved on a so-called 'legal pivot,'—so long as their actions had the King's name and authority, they found in Görgey one of their staunchest adherents, and one who was firmly resolved—as indeed he proved it by the execution of the Count Eugen Zichy,—to support them, with all the energy of his iron will, against the Austrians, whom he hated as the hereditary enemies of his country. But when, after the resignation of the Batthyany Cabinet, he received the commands of the Government, not from the constitutional Hungarian War Office—but from a Committee of whom the major part were Civilians, who had no knowledge of military things, he appears to have become impregnated with the conviction, that the fate of the country could only be decided by a soldier. After the fatal battle at Shwechat (in autumn 1848) he was appointed to the command of the army on the Upper Danube. And when this appointment opened an unlimited field to his ambition,—when he looked around and found no military character that could vie with his, the thought was but natural, that fate had destined him to play that lofty part."

That General Klapka, though not bound to Görgey by any ties of personal liking, yet acquiesced so far in Görgey's notion that the dictatorship should be in the hands of a soldier,—and that he now thinks also that Görgey himself was, all things considered, the most eligible man—appears from the following remarks on Görgey's conduct at the close of the war.—

"Had Görgey, in these days of danger, (if indeed he felt it within him so to do,) freely and boldly



seized the extremest measures; had he grasped the dictatorial power, for the purpose of gaining an honourable peace for his mangled country; his nation and history would be compelled to honour him as a patriot and a man of great deeds. His true friends, and even Kossuth, if his confidence had been but responded to, would have thrown the whole weight of their influence into his scale. They would have silenced that weak and timid portion which was always proying about military despotism and such like scarecrows. Fresh from victory, swaying the powers of the nation at his will, his might have been a proud position indeed; and proudly might he have offered the hand of reconciliation in the name of his heroic people. If not accepted, that hand might have been raised to wage the war of annihilation and a twofold vengeance, and an iron perseverance would have crowned that war with success. Görgey ought to have risen to the height of Cromwell, to save the liberty, honour, and independence of Hungary, and with them the honour of his own name. But fate had not made him for such high things. Instead of acting openly, he was close and mysterious to his friends, and vindictive and inexplicable in his dealings with the Government. All his endeavours seemed to tend, by petty jealousies, to increase his popularity with the Upper Army, and to weaken the authority of the Government. It was his boast to display an iron character, but he wanted the courage to aim at supreme power—he wanted the boldness to grasp it. It was only when the battle of Raab had been fought—when overpowering hostile forces were concentrated in the heart of the country, that he dropped his mask; but it was not to stand forth and take the lead of the nation; it was not to lead us to victory or death. No! it was for the purpose of a divorce of his own lot, and that of his troops, from the fate of his country; it was for the purpose of a disgraceful surrender of his victorious arms."

Summing up General Klapka's views of the Hungarian struggle and of the causes of its failure, as they are indicated in the foregoing and in other passages, we should state them thus:—The two men of the hour were Kossuth and Görgey—Kossuth a great and generous man, of noble heart and fervid patriotism, at once an enthusiast and a statesman, gifted with "a mysterious power" over "the hearts of his countrymen;" possibly, however, of too melancholic and spiritual a temperament for the crisis, and unfortunately a civilian, so that notwithstanding his "marvellous influence to rouse and bring into action the hidden energies of the masses" he could not "give them a military organization;" Görgey, on the other hand, an able hard-headed soldier, believing only in battalions and capable of using them well, but wanting enthusiasm, without great principle, without even patriotism, taciturn and suspicious, chafing against authority and aiming throughout chiefly at his own ends in the struggle,—wanting that breadth of intellect or strength of courage that might have made his selfishness splendid in its achievement. Had Kossuth had the military training of Görgey, or had Görgey had the heart of Kossuth,—or finally had there been a perfect co-operation between the two men and the parties which they represented—Hungary might have been saved. Nor, so far as Kossuth was concerned, was there any obstacle to such co-operation. His disinterestedness, as it led him at last to resign all into the hands of Görgey, would have led him to do so had it been necessary at first. But Perczel and the other generals who were friends of Kossuth disliked Görgey,—never had full trust in him, and even accused him from the first of treachery. This accusation General Klapka thinks was true rather as a vague foresight of what Görgey's peculiarities of character would lead him to than as an inference from facts. Görgey was not at that period actually a traitor, he thinks,—but he was a narrow and selfish man. His selfishness led him to break away from the general scheme of the war into all kinds of attempts at indepen-

dent action, as well as to resent his inferiority of position as compared with Kossuth's, by all kinds of sarcastic remarks—"betraying," says General Klapka, "an intensity of hatred towards Kossuth which appalled me;" and, when at last, in the midst of extreme dangers, the post which his selfishness had coveted was thrown into his hands, then his narrowness came into play,—and this man of real ability, cursed with a poorness of sentiment, instead of facing with death-defying heroism the horrors that loomed before him, not even then without some glimpses of hope and light—preferred to divorce his own lot, the petty futurity of his own little life, from the fate of his country and the cause which he was born to serve. Verily, he has had his reward! Görgey is alive and rich; the earth covers the dead bodies of many of his former comrades, pierced by the bullet or strangled by the ignominious rope,—others live exiles in various lands. Of these last is Kossuth. There is something striking in the unanimity with which all testimonies combine as to the nobility of this man. Even Görgey, his foe, once wrote to General Klapka—"Kossuth alone is a classical and generous character. It is a pity he is not a soldier." General Klapka's own book is an involuntary commentary on this one text—"O that Kossuth had been a soldier!"

To the details which General Klapka gives of his own share in the struggle,—the most interesting of which are those that refer to his illustrious defence of Komorn after the general war had been virtually brought to an end by the surrender of Görgey—we need not allude. Referring our readers to the book itself for these details, as well as for the various important matters contained in the appendix—particularly the translation there given of one of Kossuth's speeches—we would simply say of General Klapka's work that it derives its value more from its matter than from its form; consisting, as it does, rather of rough notes and jottings interspersed with documents, than of a regular well-written narrative which the public might read with pleasure. Such a narrative of the Hungarian war has yet to be given to the world.

The work whose title appears second at the head of this notice is very different in its character from General Klapka's. The author, Mr. Clark, went to Hungary in the summer of 1847; and resided there in the family of a Hungarian nobleman till the beginning of 1849, sometimes at Pesth, sometimes at Presburgh, and sometimes in the country. He saw nothing directly of the war, though it was fairly begun ere he left Hungary; but, his interest in the Hungarians and their affairs having been developed by his residence amongst them, and by the personal acquaintance which he had contracted with some of them, he continued after his return home to view the struggle with much anxiety. Finally, when the Hungarian cause was lost, he took the opportunity of giving his impressions of Hungary and its people in the form of three Lectures delivered before the Philosophical Institution of Edinburgh and some other Societies. The three lectures are entitled respectively—'Origin and Early History of the Magyars,'—'The Diet of 1847-8,'—and 'The Conflict;' and the author's aim seems to have been to weave in reflections and observations of his own respecting the Hungarians and their civilization while pursuing the thread of the great story in which his audiences might be supposed to be interested. The lectures are eloquently and gracefully written; and are evidently the production of a thoughtful and right-feeling mind. The following extract must suffice as a specimen.—

"The Hungarian welcome of an Englishman is, to

him, whatever be his pretension, something strange and startling, even affecting. He comes upon this people like a breath from the Infinite; and, from a position of insignificance before, he may find himself all at once risen into a person of general importance. It is not what he is in himself, or officially, that draws all about him, as by a spell; but he stands to them for England and the English, a land and people which seem to hang bright as an eastern sun in the eye of the Magyar, and to whom, he believes, he has some subtle relation of affinity, which pierces through and transfigures all those obvious differences of which no one better than himself is aware. The English parliament, they know, is the twin of their own; and who are themselves but our free cousins grown up under other skies and with a more contentious history? The report of our greatness has reached their ears through many channels, and it hovers before their gaze, the dream of their boyhood and old age, not in envy, but in generous pride. Feeling the kinship, they embrace one of us, when he comes among them, as a noble relative, in whose features they imagine they can trace their own likeness, and before whose glance they do not stagger, knowing that their claim of gentle lineage will be admitted, and that its remains will be recognized in their high bearing, even through their poverty and miserableness. All this, I say, comes upon an Englishman as something touching; for he is well aware how ignorant he has been of this brave, heroic race of men, or has heard of their existence only as a savage bugbear; while he and his people have been secretly worshipped by them, and his wares, politics, novelists, and statesmen, and all his foibles and frolics even, are familiar to them as the faces and images of childhood. From the deep shades of national subjection, they have looked out on us, walking in the sparkling light of day, while we have heedlessly paced up and down, unwistful that in these concealed recesses were a race of spectators panting for the hour when they too should come forth from darkness, and, from being mere on-lookers, become themselves the objects of European observation."

Among the Hungarian refugees now in America, some, like General Klapka in this country, have thought it right to communicate their impressions and experiences of the recent struggle to a sympathizing public. Among these is Col. Johann Pragay, formerly Adjutant-General in the Hungarian army; who, after battling through the war, served under General Klapka in the garrison of Komorn till the surrender of that place by honourable capitulation. His account of the war is clear and brief; and, though not so valuable as regards the matter revealed, is more consecutive in its arrangement than that of General Klapka. The style, however, whether on account of the author's desire to please the American taste, or on account of the liberties taken with what he meant to say by his American translator or adviser, is more violent and more coarsely personal than that of the General; whose language, we ought to have said, in alluding to his book, is singularly candid, manly and modest. It is a corroboration of the substantial accuracy of General Klapka's views, that those advanced by his transatlantic brother-refugee correspond with them almost exactly. With General Klapka, Col. Pragay thinks that after the raising of the siege of Komorn, the Hungarians committed a blunder in not marching upon Vienna; with him, he attributes no small share in the production of the final catastrophe to the jealousies and disagreements of the Hungarian generals; with him, he describes Görgey as a man of stern eccentric character, and of great abilities, who turned traitor rather in consequence of inordinate egotism and a kind of obdurate moral narrowness than from mere love of ease or of gold; and with him, he speaks in terms of almost unbounded admiration of the intellect and magnanimity of Kossuth. It is but right to add, that both throughout his narrative and in one of a series of short biographical



sketches appended to it, he speaks in language of the highest eulogy of his former commander, General Klapka; calling him a man of "noble, generous heart," and pronouncing him, young as he is (he was born in 1820) to have been "with the exception of Bem, the most cultivated in military science, and the first general in the Hungarian army."

*The Virgin Widow: a Play.* By Henry Taylor, Author of 'Philip van Artevelde.' Longman & Co.

A bill passed by the Parliament of Parnassus, rendering it penal for poets and play-wrights to harangue in their prefaces, would be felt by many readers as a measure of relief, and also greatly redound to the popularity of the restricted writers. Mr. Henry Taylor especially is fond of laying down the law, with an eye to his own defence and advancement, before he lets his personages and puppets preach for themselves. This has led to some after-discrepancies, curious to those who possess long memories, and who presume that a Poet when he lectures on the principles of Art, does so from a fixed conviction rather than in temporary self-recommendation. How long and deliberate—how reasonable and well reasoned, were the protests against "effect" made by Mr. Taylor in his valorous preface to 'Philip van Artevelde!' Then, after the vial of wrath against all passionate poets had been poured out, came the denouncer's own excellent piece of work,—every scene of which was measured—every character calculated—nicely to fit and solidly to construct a whole, which should not seduce so much as convince and retain—not enchant so much as instruct and satisfy. If anti-tinsel and anti-theatre demonstrations were ever made, they were made in that preface and that poem. Who could have imagined that after such manifestations Mr. Henry Taylor would one day acquiesce in the demolition of his work of contemplative Art, with a view to winning "the most sweet voices" of a playhouse audience? Who could have imagined that he would ever allow the inlaying of rouge upon the cheeks of his serene *Adriana* and his affectionate *Clara*—that he would ever expose the thoughtful patriotism of his *Philip*, in a curtailed state, to the glare of lamp oil? O philosophical Poets! unless ye be indeed steadfast in your own philosophy, never write prefaces; or if ye will, like men announce from the first, that being marketers among the rest, you offer wares planned to please and made to sell according to your best ability.

This time, in another mood not less gravely propounded, Mr. Taylor disclaims utility or high Art. But this time, too, he cannot let the rest of the world alone. Professing, like the Irish girl, to covet "neither grandeur nor goodness, but only peace and decency," he is unable to put forth his romantic comedy without acquainting us "that Mr. Southey wrote many years ago, on a first and very juvenile attempt of mine in dramatic composition, \* \* \* that pure tragedy was that few but the young could bear,"—that *Melpomene* is an oppressive personage,—that since Mr. Taylor himself does not desire to be "harrowed," he has therefore appealed to the public with "a light pressure." Hereby—if such canon be authoritative—ladies and gentlemen who have passed the years of discretion are warned off 'Lear,' 'Othello,' 'Macbeth,' 'Hamlet.' They are to have no more 'Brides of Lammermoor,'—no more 'Kenilworths.' But woeful persons need not be much alarmed, since we conceive that this preamble means nothing more or less than "Try my 'Virgin Widow,'"—Our Poet's pompous speech having drawn down upon him this pre-

lude of plain reckoning, let us now draw up the curtain.

Truth to say, Mr. Taylor's comedy fulfils his promise of "pressure," though it does not bear out his epithet of "light." It is dull—well-spoken, but somewhat sententious and stale. Liking as little as our Prefacer does to be "harrowed," we expect, when with a flourish of trumpets Mirth announces that her gates are open and her crew are at their revels, to be "tickled" into laughter. Here, instead of the titillating feather we have the stifling feather-bed. We must wade through scene after scene, where, in place of the music of merriment we find a sort of psalmic frivolity,—a strain of worn-out jocosity and dry commonplace, redeemed by certain touches of elegance, but too sparingly for the heart of our interest to be kept beating.—We find the rhetorician, the logician, the lover of good English, in much that Mr. Taylor has put together; but do these make the romantic comedy-writer? Ask *Rosalind*:—ask *Beatrice*:—ask even *Millamant*. Wherever there are humours, there must be impulsive poetry,—wherever real wit exists, unexpected images must present themselves. There is a very small amount of either in 'The Virgin Widow.'

Lest we be thought cynical, we will present Mr. Taylor, with "his wit about him," in a scene which explains itself.—

*Enter the Manager and the Three Players.*

*First Player.* What's ordered for to-night?

*Manager.* Nothing's ordered. Everything's forgotten. The great actors are playing their parts at court, and we the small must shift for ourselves. Yet they'll expect a play when the night comes, and it behoves us to choose what it shall be. What say ye, one and all?

*Second Player.* Tell them over, as many as we are primed with.

*Manager.* First, here is 'Sorrow's Sum Total!'

*First Player.* Ah! that is a sweet play. It was written by a gentleman that was very loving and melancholy, and knew nothing but to sit by himself all day long weeping and making verses. But the play is too mournful for the Marquis: we'll not play that.

*Manager.* Here is 'Sursum Corda, or Down with the Dumps.'

*First Player.* The author of that was a great philosopher, and wrote an excellent treatise on politics, besides sundry tales, chazas, ballads and chansons. 'The Count of Arona' was greatly pleased with him, and said that his systems had the charm of novelty, and his jests the sanction of long usage.

*Third Player.* I remember him well. He tossed his heart a thought too high, and it was killed by the fall. He died of drinking, poor gentleman; and therefore we will not act his play, inasmuch as, being dead, he will not make us the customary compliment.

*Manager.* Here is 'Time's Tympany!'

*First Player.* 'Tis too big.

*Manager.* 'Cupid's Wet Nurse?'

*First Player.* 'Tis pretty, but not passionate.

*Manager.* 'Love's Outgoings?'

*First Player.* No.

*Manager.* 'Lust's Leavings?'

*First Player.* The story hath a good moral, but sleeps in it as in a feather-bed.

*Manager.* Then there is but one more,—'Woman half pleased, and Satan satisfied.'

*First Player.* 'Tis easy choosing when nothing's left. That shall suffice for fault of a better. It hath matter in it and an outgrowth and consequence in the story.

*Manager.* And for the casting, . . . .

*Enter Bruno.*

*Bruno.* Away, ye knaves and minions, get ye gone!

You've eaten all, ye saints of belly worship!

Ye gilded, painted, mimics of men,

Ye butterflies by night, and bats by day!

Hence with your belly-gods!

*Manager.* How now! how now!

*Bruno.* How now! Dost dare to say "how now" to me!

Thou urchin-snouted, trencher-pated rogue!

Where are thy manners and thy moderation,

To say "how now" to me? My noble Lord

Is lost, undone!

*First Player.* My Lord of Malespina!

*Bruno.* Yes he, thou trivial tripper-up of virtue,

Thou seven-times whipped and ne'er corrected rogue,

Thou inadvertency of Nature, he.

No need for peering at me o'er thy paunch;

I tell thee he is beggared and undone;

The Maddelena with the rich remains

Of all he had, is in the offing wrecked.

*Second Player.* We have not done it, Sir; revile not us.

*Bruno.* Away, ye rotten-hearted, rancid knaves!

It was a wind that smelling you in the port

Made violent recoil. Hence, hogs, begone!

Play me no plays. Your trough is empty. Scud.

[*Exit, driving them out.*]

In the case of any lecturer less authoritative,

we might be tempted to whisper that the above is more forced than facetious—coarse rather than comical.

There is also a young lady ticketed merry, and called *Fiordeliza*, who indulges in strange similes: *e. g.*—

I'm as lazy as the dog

That lean'd his head against a wall to bark.

And there are such a sort of men about me

As keep me running over.

Again—

If there be anything strange left us here below, I prithee tell of it; for I thought that every-day droppings had worn the world as smooth as a wash-ball. How came a conjuror to the Farm?

Is the above the parlance of elegant comedy?

But "what of the fable, construction, &c. &c.?" may be naturally asked by those who recollect that plays as hunger-bitten in their language as 'The Wonder,' may be still clever plays if the *Don Felix*-es and the *Violante*-s are skilfully grouped, and—the march of incident therein is a quick march? The question may be answered easily. Of Dramatic construction there is little or none: the story moves forward by aid of such melo-dramatic expedients as the rescue from the surf in sight of the audience of a sinking sailor, who as soon as he is high and dry must speak ten lines of tough epigrammatic prose without halting, or wringing his hair!—or by such explanatory passages as the following,—than which it is difficult to conceive anything much more adust.—

'Tis a sad task, that tale to tell, for me;  
But I am bound to speak. Two months ago,—  
That day it was the marquis disappear'd,—  
Coming from vespers, in my house I found  
A wounded man, swooning from loss of blood.  
With sedulous care and what small skill is mine  
I tended him, though deeming from the first  
His hurt was mortal. Slowly day by day  
He languish'd and declin'd, till yesternight,  
Knowing his hour was come, he bade me hear  
What brought him to that pass; which till that hour,  
Wherefore I know not, he was loth to tell.  
He said that in the caverns near the beach,  
Not far from my abode, the self-same night  
That I first found him wounded on the floor,  
A damsel that affianc'd was to him,  
By him was caught in passages of love  
With a young lordling of the court; they fought;  
He fell; and instantaneously bereft  
Of sense, he knew no more, nor by what means  
He reach'd my house. I ask'd him did he know  
Who slew him; he replied, he knew him well,  
The Lord of Malespina; at that word  
He bounded from his bed, fell back, and died.

The following scene—sequel to a lovers' quarrel—betwixt *Fiordeliza* and *Ruggiero* seems to us one of the best in the play. The lady has pined—the gentleman, for his own purposes, has been masquerading as a physician, and been summoned to cure *Fiordeliza*, without her being aware of his identity.—

*Mariana.* The Conjuror has come.  
*Fiordeliza.* Oh, has he? Here—  
Look—wrap this round me; so,—now bring him in.  
[*Exit Mariana.*]

If he should prove a soothsayer indeed,  
He'll draw the curtain from this mystery,  
And tell me both what present harbour holds  
Ruggiero, and what fate the future breeds  
For him and me. I trust it is no sin,  
Seeking to soothsayers in such straits as mine;  
But if it be, I must. Yet I shall blush  
To question him. I'll turn away my face,  
And seem to be, what verily I believe  
I shall be soon, by mortal sickness seiz'd.  
Then, after, I'll revive. [*Lies down on a Couch.*]

*Enter Ruggiero.*  
Softly, she sleeps.  
Oh, blessed Sleep! what art can vie with thine  
In healing of the sick! oh, pious Sleep,  
Sister of mercy! nurse her back to health.  
She stirs! Have I awaken'd her?

*Fior.* Some spell  
Of wondrous potency he mutters now;  
For at his voice there comes a gushing up  
Of twenty bubbling springs that fill my breast  
With joys of other days. Sir, if your art  
Can track diseases to their caves, I pray you  
Pronounce of mine, and whether in the mind  
It kennels, or the body; for the print  
Might either way incline me.

*Rug.* *Fiordeliza.*  
*Fior.* Who calls me? Now I know that I am mad.  
What voice is that?  
*Rug.* The voice of one who once



Could please you, and though that may no more be,  
Would still bestead you.

*Fior.* \* \* \* 'Tis his voice! Ruggiero!

What past?

Speak out your quarrel with the past; and I  
Will tell you of my quarrel with the present.  
I was kind once unless my memory errs,  
And if I seem'd to change without a cause,  
What since has follow'd shows that cause enough  
There might have been; for aught I know, there was.  
How read you then the history of the past  
To make me seem too harsh?

*Rug.* How read I it?

I read it but as they that run may read;  
A tale of no uncustomary kind.  
The love whose dawn beheld its earliest glow  
Reflected, as it rose to perfect day,  
Saw the bright colouring of the vaporous cloud  
Grow pale and disappear. My springing love,  
So long as it was pleasant, light, and free,  
Was prosperous; but it pass'd too soon to passion.  
I could not make a plaything of my love;  
I could not match it with your sportive moods,  
'Till garlands should be conjur'd into chains;  
I could not lightly agitate and fan  
The airier motions of an amorous fancy,  
And by a skill in blowing hot and cold  
And changeful dalliance, quicken you with doubts,  
And keep you in the dark till you should kindle.  
I was not ignorant that arts like these  
Avail, when bare simplicity of love  
Falls flat; but be they strong or weak, these means  
Were none of mine, and though my heart should break,  
(As humbly I believe it will not,) still  
More willingly would I suffer by such arts  
Than practise them.

*Fior.* Have I then practised arts?

One art I know,—to judge men by their acts,  
And not their seemings. I should not be loth  
Some faults to own, Ruggiero, did I know  
That he to whom I own'd them would own his.  
But there should be a justice in confession.

*Rug.* Most fully, frankly, freely, from the heart  
Will I pour out confessions. I am proud,  
Inflexible, undutiful, self-will'd,  
In anger violent, of a moody mind,  
And latterly morose; what further? sad,  
Severe, vindictive.

*Fior.* How confession loves

To fight with shadows, whilst the substance flies.  
You have not said that in a slippery hour  
You stain'd a maiden's honour and your own.

*Rug.* That which I have not said, I have not done.

*Fior.* Where is Lisana?

*Rug.* Wheresoe'er she be,

Her innocence is with her.

*Fior.* But where is she?

*Rug.* Secrets that are my own you may command.  
This is another's.

*Fior.* You refuse to tell.

*Rug.* It is but for a season I refuse.

I may not tell you till St. Michael's Eve.  
But then I may.

*Fior.* Gramercy for the boon!

Seek, Sir, henceforth the love of those you trust,  
And never more seek mine. Sir, fare you well!  
Excuse the blunder which begu'd you hither;  
And hie you, if conveniently you can,  
To some more distant spot than whence you came.

*Rug.* To you and to your vicinage, farewell!

The refuge that is most remote is best:

A prison at Palermo not the worst.

There are many lyrics scattered throughout  
'The Virgin Widow,' but we have seen better  
from Mr. Taylor's hand. The following song,  
however, is quaint and pretty.—

The last year's leaf, its time is brief

Upon the beechen spray;

The green bud springs, the young bird sings,

Old leaf, make room for May:

Begone, fly away,

Make room for May.

Oh, green bud smile on me awhile,

Oh, young bird let me stay—

What joy have we, old leaf, in thee?

Make room, make room for May:

Begone, fly away,

Make room for May.

In parting from this trifle, and while repeating our opinion that it will add little to Mr. Henry Taylor's reputation, we may also repeat our conviction that the training to which he has lovingly subjected himself (if he intend us to accept his 'Life Poetic' as a piece of real and not of dramatic teaching,) is beyond all others unfavourable to success in the style of composition here selected. We read its consequences in the progressive tameness of his recent works. 'The Virgin Widow,' which should be the brightest, is the palest and least real of all. There is hardly a line in it, moreover, which is not conventional; and though the conventions be those of a sedate and orderly school, they

will not stand in the place of Nature in repartee, nor of high fancy and passion in soliloquy.

*Memorials of the Castle of Edinburgh.* By James Grant. Blackwoods.

THESE Memorials of Scotland's most celebrated stronghold are very pleasant reading; and the care that has been bestowed on the compilation of this little book might put to shame the writer of many a ponderous folio. The subject, indeed, is an interesting one,—especially to a dweller in that picturesque city, which the Castle so proudly overlooks; and connected as it has been, like our Tower of London, with almost every event of Scottish history, the narrative obtains an additional importance.

The origin of both Castle and Tower are involved in much obscurity; and the earlier names bestowed on the former—such as "the Castle of St. Agnes," "the Winged Fort," "the Maiden Castle," or "*Castellum Puellarum*"—have given rise to many fanciful traditions. The Castle, however, although within a mile of the military causeway, seems never to have been a Roman station; and it has been thought that it was most probably occupied by one of the Pictish tribes as a *dun* or fort. "The most ancient name that can be traced for this fortress is May-dyn," and hence doubtless the tradition that it was a castle where the maidens of royal birth were lodged, and the story quoted by Leland how seven wicked knights dwelt there, who "devoured all the fair maidens they could lay hands upon." Authentic history, however, represents the celebrated Edwin, king of Northumbria, as residing here, and bestowing on the place the title of "Edwin's-burgh:"—it is very probable, therefore, that the fortress owes its origin to him. Little is known either of Edinburgh or of its fortress from this period until the reign of Malcolm the Third,—a monarch who has obtained some celebrity as the father of our "good Queen Maude," and the husband of St. Margaret. Here Margaret resided for many years, and here she died. "In the Castle she built a little oratory on the summit. It still remains within the citadel, measuring about twenty-six feet long by ten, and is spanned by a finely ornamented Norman apse-arch, springing from massive capitals, and covered with zig-zag mouldings." Succeeding Scottish monarchs made Edinburgh their occasional residence, and gradually habitations clustered around the protecting Castle. It was here in 1292 that Edward the First received the oath of fealty as lord paramount of Scotland; and subsequently, being retaken by Bruce, it was dismantled. During the fourteenth century the Castle of Edinburgh passed through many vicissitudes; and in 1385 the whole population of the city did not exceed 2,000! But during the following century Edinburgh having become the capital of the kingdom, the Castle was chosen as the residence of the Scottish monarchs. Here the young Earl Douglas and his brother were murdered, though under form of law;—here James the Third was imprisoned;—here Margaret the daughter of Henry the Seventh was married,—and here, after the disastrous battle of Flodden, she kept her son, the infant King, in defiance of the Regent and the Parliament. It was here, too, that the beautiful Lady Glamis, whose horrible fate still dwells on the popular mind in Scotland, was imprisoned, and hence she was led forth to be burnt for "witchcraft." In 1542 Edinburgh was besieged by the Earl of Hereford, but the Castle remained impregnable. On the return of Mary from France she resided frequently in the Castle, and here James was born. "The inventories of her gear," says our author, "evinced the splendour with which her apartments were furnished."

The minute descriptions of the tapestries, where 'The Triumph of Virtue' and 'The Judgment of Paris,' 'The History of King Rehoboam,' and that of 'Eneas,' appear side by side, are amusing, and the furniture appears to have been splendid.—

"The floors of polished oak were covered with 'saxteen turkie carpets,' the tables were of massive oak, elaborately carved; the chairs of gilded leather, with cushions of brocade and damask, the high backs being carved with the royal crown and cypher; while the quantity of cloth of gold in the hangings of beds and decorations of other apartments, is truly amazing. Here, too, Mary kept her little library. It consisted of one hundred and fifty-three volumes, some of them vellum MSS., and contained Lucan, Sallust, Titus Livius, the tomes of St. Augustine, Valerius Maximus, Vita Christi, Virgil, Esaias in Greek and Hebrew, Ronsard, Amadis de Gaul, Sir Lancelot du Lake, Orlando Furioso, and many volumes of romance and poetry. The contents of its shelves, however heterogeneous, evince how superior were the mind and attainments of Mary to those of the preachers and nobles who surrounded her. She had several volumes of theology, one of music, and 'ane buik of *devilry*,' a mysterious title, on which there is no comment in the Inventory."

During the siege in 1573 it was gallantly defended by Kirkaldy of Grange, who was at length compelled to surrender. The violence of this siege, though short, may be estimated when we are told that "upwards of three thousand cannon balls were found among the ruins." The next siege was sustained by the Regent Morton, who in 1578 became so obnoxious that he was deposed from his office,—and it was from thence that two years after he was led out to execution. The following tradition is curious:—such unexpectedly fulfilled prophecies give a poetic colouring to many of the events of this period. Morton was charged with the murder of Darnley by Captain James Stewart, "the young King's pampered minion and favourite courtier"—and imprisoned. The ex-regent, however, seems to have entertained little fear of his impending fate, but—

"On the 29th of May, after five months' durance, he was brought back to his former prison, escorted by Captain Stewart (then created an earl), with the royal guard of horse. \* \* On the commission for his trial being shown him, he observed the name of *James, Earl of Arran*.—'Who is he—who is this man?' he asked the Governor.—'Tis Captain James Stewart, of Bothwell Muir,' replied the Master of Mar.—The Earl changed colour, and stroked his long beard, which flowed to his girdle.—'And is it so!' he rejoined. 'I now know what I may expect, for there is an ancient prophecy, that the *Red Heart shall fall into the Mouth of Arran*.' He was found guilty of the same crime for which he had put so many others to death, and on the 2nd June was beheaded by the Maiden, an instrument of his own invention. He died unrespected and unpitied, amid the execration of assembled thousands."

During the civil wars of the following century the Castle of Edinburgh played a conspicuous part. It was taken by Leslie in 1638; it was restored to the King after the pacification of Berwick, and underwent a second siege by Leslie two years after. In 1650 the Castle again sustained a siege; and among the innumerable omens, "a spectre drummer" created great alarm among the garrison. His errand does not, however, seem to be very clear; for although he began with "the old Scots march," he also performed the English march and the French march. The governor decided that the danger most to be apprehended was from France,—but Cromwell soon after proved that the danger was from England.

"The glorious Restoration" appears to have been celebrated at Edinburgh with an enthusiastic fatuity entirely inconceivable. Although glass was an expensive article throughout



Europe then, and scarce indeed in Edinburgh, we find that "three hundred dozen of glasses were broken at the Cross, to the health of his sacred Majesty and damnation of Cromwell, whose effigy was exhibited on Castle hill with the devil running after him." From this period till the Revolution the Castle was chiefly used as a state prison; and from thence the two Argyles, father and son, went forth to execution. After a gallant defence by the Duke of Gordon, it surrendered in 1689 to the ruling powers; and since then, even during the whole of the Rebellion of 1745, it has remained in the hands of the Government.

The work concludes with a description of the present state of the Castle,—lists of documents relating to it,—a list of governors, and of the chief prisoners who have been confined within its walls,—and various notes: from which latter we select the following amusing account relating to that celebrated piece of ordnance so highly valued by the inhabitants of Edinburgh, "Mons Meg."

"It weighs six tons and a half, and is composed of malleable iron bars hooped together; the balls are twenty-one inches in diameter, and hewn of granite. In 1489, we first find Meg mentioned in Scottish history, when James IV. conveyed her from the Castle of Edinburgh to the siege of Dunbarton. There cannot be adduced the shadow of a proof that this cannon was made at Mons in Flanders; while a tradition, supported by very strong evidence, proves almost beyond a doubt that it was manufactured by Scottish artisans, and by command of James II. When the Douglasses were forfeited, in 1455, their castle of Thrieve (or Throve) was the last stronghold that held out for James Duke of Touraine, who had been totally defeated on Ancrum Muir, and had his noble lordship of Galloway annexed to the crown.

\* \* A tradition, preserved in the *Statistical Account* of the parish of Kelton, asserts that a blacksmith named M'Kim, who, with his sons, had witnessed the futile operations of the king's artillery against the ponderous masonry of the vast donjon, offered, if furnished with proper materials, to construct a more efficient piece of ordnance. James II. gladly accepted his offer, and the inhabitants of the district, anxious to evince their loyalty to the King, and hatred of the Douglasses, contributed each a *gaud*, or bar of iron. The brawny M'Kim and his sturdy sons were set to work, and soon produced the famous cannon known as *Mons Meg*. The unvarying tradition which, for four hundred years, pointed out the place where it was forged, (a mound at Buchan's Croft, in the immediate vicinity of the Three Thorns of Carlinwark,) received confirmation, when the labourers engaged on the military road there, when removing the *knoll*, found it to be a mass of such cinders and refuse as are usually left by a large forge. On its completion, the royal cannoners dragged this enormous piece of ordnance to a height in front of the Castle, which, to this hour, is called *Knock-cannon*. The charge is said to have been a peck of powder, and a *granite ball of the weight of a Caraphairn cow*. The first shot, we are told, went right through the Castlehall, and took away the hand of the Countess of James, eleventh Earl of Douglas, and sixth Duke of Touraine, Margaret, (the Fair Maid of Galloway,) as she was in the act of raising a cup of wine to her lips."

A story, as the writer properly remarks, sufficiently apocryphal, since the *wind* of the ball alone would have killed her. But whatever was the effect of the first,—

"on the second discharge of this new and terrible cannon, the garrison immediately surrendered, and the grateful King presented to M'Kim the forfeited lands of Mollance, as a reward for 'constructing so noble an engine of war;' and, in 1508, we find that James IV., by charter, granted the castle of Kirkcudbright to the burgesses of that town; for faithful service rendered by their predecessors to his grandfather at the siege of Thrieve. The gun was named after the smith, (who became laird of Mollance,) with the addition of Meg, in compliment to his wife, whose voice is said to have rivalled that of her namesake. The contraction of the name from *Mollance* to

*Monce*, or *Mons Meg*, was easily achieved by the Scots, who sink the *ts* in similar words, rendering *moll mow*, *knoll knowe*, &c. \* \* This cannon bears a conspicuous place in all the public accounts of the time, where we find charges for greasing 'her mouth,' ribbons to deck her carriage, and pipes to play in front when brought from 'her lair' in the Castle, to accompany the Scottish host in any distant expedition; but Meg appears always to have proved very unmanageable. In 1497, when James IV. invaded England, in the cause of Perkin Warbeck, he conveyed Mons Meg among other artillery, for which numerous '*pellocks* of led and irne' were made. Meg was mounted on a new stock, on which seven wrights worked for two days and a half, at St. Leonard's Craig, during the month of July. It was bound with thirteen stone of iron; and, to preserve her, she was covered with cloths, which were emblazoned by the king's painter, Sir Thomas Galbraith. Afterwards we find paid 'to the workmen to bring hame *Monse* and the othir Artailzerie fra Dalkeith, xxij*s*.'—(*Tres. Accts.*)"

On subsequent occasions of festivity, Meg was treated with equal respect; and we find that the minstrels who played before her had 14*s*. for their performance. In 1681 the gun burst; and then it lay dismounted until 1751,—when, with other "unserviceable guns," it was sent to London, and lay unnoticed in the Tower. To Sir Walter Scott the inhabitants of Edinburgh are indebted for the restoration of this ancient "lion;" and in 1829 "she was sent down to Edinburgh, escorted by the 73rd regiment and three troops of cavalry, with pipers playing before her as of old."

We have been much amused with this little book,—which abounds in pleasant and interesting episodes; and we recommend it as an excellent specimen of local history.

#### *A Manual of Logic, Deductive and Inductive.* By H. H. Munro. Glasgow, Ogle.

THE ability of drawing inferences quickly and correctly is a power on which depends a large portion of the happiness of mankind; and this power, like everything else of the kind, may be indefinitely augmented and improved by systematic cultivation. Now, the success of systematic cultivation is generally, if not always, dependent on a knowledge of principles,—and hence the necessity for an investigation of the principles involved in the process of inference.

Principally owing to the misconception and influence of Scotch philosophers, the real object of logical studies was almost lost sight of until the last quarter of a century,—and students were cautioned against wasting their time and energies upon what it had become fashionable to decry as a system of solemn trifling. It must be admitted, that most of the writers on logic were until very lately men of inferior ability and information, and possessed neither depth nor range of thought; and hence their works on the subject were of a character to foster and perpetuate the prevalent misconceptions and abuse of logic. These authors had some share of the disputatious spirit, without the clearness, the subtlety, or the comprehensiveness of their predecessors, the schoolmen; and accordingly, logic became in their hands little better than verbal jargon and the art of wrangling according to rule. It is only of late years that logic has occupied the attention of philosophic thinkers; and though a very little impartial reflection will, we think, satisfy any candid mind of its vast importance and interest, still, owing to certain differences of opinion as to the peculiar province and limitations of the science and art included under the term logic, the subject is even yet not appreciated as it ought to be.

Considered as a *science*, logic undertakes to exhibit the laws which regulate the human mind during the performance of the process of infer-

ence. Whatever may be the object-matter of thought, and whether the premises of our conclusions are true or false, it is found by experience that the laws of the process of inference when correctly performed are few in number and susceptible of an exceedingly simple expression. The complete investigation and most convenient enunciation of these laws, with certain subsidiary inquiries into the nature of language so far as it is employed as an instrument of inference, and an analysis and classification of the different kinds of incorrect inference or fallacy, together constitute the subject-matter of the *science* of logic. This science has its cognate *art*,—embodying the results of the above investigation in a collection of practical rules, intended to test the correctness of inference and to facilitate the performance of that process.

From what has just been stated, it would appear that the science of logic is a science of pure *method*,—and is not at all cognizant of the peculiar objects of thought to which that method may in any particular instance be applicable. Since there are no sciences which do not involve the continual necessity of inference, there are no sciences which would not be improved or more readily acquired if their cultivators possessed a sound knowledge of the principles according to which all correct inference is conducted. Hence the importance to scientific men especially of a familiarity with the canons of logic. Though distinct in itself, the science of logic permeates all the other departments of human knowledge,—just as the sap flows through the trunk and branches of a tree. Of the laws that are involved in the process of inference, some are considered to be *necessary* and others only *cogent*. Hence have arisen the differences among recent writers on logic to which we have above alluded. Kant, Sir W. Hamilton, and the author of the work before us consider that logic is not concerned with those laws of thought which regulate cogent or empirical inference,—but only relates to an analysis of the process of necessary inference, wherein the conclusions are inevitably involved in admitted premises. Archbishop Whately writes obscurely on this point, although his treatise on logic is in many respects a masterpiece. Mr. J. S. Mill and, if we recollect rightly, Mr. De Morgan extend the province of logic so as to include the laws of all kinds of inference, both necessary and cogent. According to the last-named authors—with whom we are inclined to coincide—logic is another term for what Bacon understood by "*novum organon*."—It is evident that such a view need not dispose liberal and candid minds to underrate the utility and importance of that portion of logic which relates to necessary inference, and which has been elaborated, through a long series of ages, by the successive labours of Aristotle, the schoolmen, and Sir W. Hamilton into a system very beautiful and perhaps nearly perfect.

Of this department of logic Mr. Munro's little manual presents us with an excellent epitome. The author has carefully avoided all extralogical disquisitions, and yet contrived to render his illustrations interesting and instructive. The work is admirably suited for a textbook for colleges and schools, to be read under the guidance of a competent tutor. The absence of Archbishop Whately's originality and vigour is perhaps compensated for by the superior clearness of Mr. Munro's book. It is almost impossible to render a work purely logical very interesting to the general reader, and the failure of Mr. Munro in this respect must be attributed to the necessary dryness of his subject,—the beauty and symmetry of which, like those of Algebra, can be appreciated only by students who have



mastered the preliminary difficulties. Mr. Munro appears to be well versed in the literature of logic; and in that respect he would seem to enjoy a superiority over Archbishop Whately, — whose work is especially meagre on that topic. The chapter which treats on the mode and figure of syllogisms is written by Mr. Munro with great copiousness and perspicuity. If, instead of following the beaten track on Conditional Syllogisms, Mr. Munro had given a few rules for their ready reduction to categoricals, he would have acted, we think, with more judgment, and would have had more space for a fuller discussion of Fallacies, — perhaps the most important branch of logic. This work will not induce many persons to undertake the study of logic, but it will be a valuable auxiliary to those already persuaded of the utility of such a study. We recommend it as the production of a thoroughly competent logician.

*Pictures of Nuremberg, and Rambles in the Hills and Valleys of Franconia.* By H. J. Whitting. 2 vols. Bentley.

WE cannot congratulate Mr. Whitting on his artistic powers. A very slight knowledge of Nuremberg is sufficient to make the visitor aware that there are materials within its walls for a series of charming cabinet pictures—the subject, indeed, abounds with all the elements of the picturesque and beautiful; but Mr. Whitting's 'Pictures' are colourless, and even his outlines are shadowy and indistinct.

Mr. Whitting seems to imagine that Nuremberg is so little known that it is necessary to tell the reader its latitude and longitude,—to say that it appertains to Bavaria,—was possessed in its early days of the rights and privileges of a free city,—became prosperous,—excelled in the fine arts,—and then declined. But, by way of compensation, we suppose, for this sort of tedious circumstantiality, he is pleased on occasions to be facetious,—and on such occasions he is more than usually dull. Thus, on turning to the headings, the readers are advised that chapter iii. "commences by promising the reader certain descriptions, whereby he would no doubt be greatly delighted, but by reason of certain unlucky digressions, the chapter ends as it begins"; chapter iv. is described as "a chapter on churches,"—but, with this addition, "as this title gives the reader very little idea of what he may expect, he is requested to prepare himself for a meeting with some very questionable characters"; and chapter v., we are assured, "is the only one in the book that possesses the distinction of being allowed to explain itself." This may be witty after a fashion,—but to us it is simply silly, and certainly out of place. Our censure would perhaps have been stronger had not Mr. Whitting anticipated our judgment in his concluding chapter, when his literary sins and short-comings were doubtless lying heavy on his conscience,—and acknowledged that "he has never imposed upon himself by believing that what has been written will abide the ordeal of criticism."

We are unwilling to part from Mr. Whitting without introducing him to the reader; and as he resided for some time in the quaint old city, we shall give one of the best of his illustrations.—

"The tone of society here is unlike that of most other German towns which I have seen. If not so polished as in other places, it is, at the same time, less sophisticated, and not without its refinements. Let me, however, say one thing before I go any farther:—the inhabitants are, what in some of the more frequented towns they are *not*,—a simple-minded, kindly-hearted people; and if the spirit of considerate attention, kindness, and hospitality to strangers can deserve it, they still fully merit the designation, bestowed upon them by some of the ancient German authors, of 'the good people of

Nuremberg.' It must be remembered this is a 'Handel-stadt,' or commercial town, and also a tolerably wealthy one. Amongst some of those families, therefore, who claim to be the first, a mingling of the mercantile spirit is observable, a little more contention or competition than is perhaps otherwise usual in regard to appearances, and the chameleon-like quality of changing their hue every time they appear in public. The ghost of 'Mrs. Grundy' evidently exercises its customary influence, even here, among those persons who have not yet had courage enough to lay the intermeddling and troublesome spirit. Notwithstanding this, society is, as I have already said, upon a pleasant enough footing; and if you do not yourself make too many ceremonies, the natives (to most of whom they are anything but agreeable) know how to relax them in favour of foreigners, and it will be your own fault if you do not in this respect find it all that you can wish. Evening visits are, perhaps, the most pleasant. You enter the salon bonnetted and cloaked, the hostess or her daughters assisting the lady to disrobe; the gentleman's hat is taken in the same way by the host or a servant, and as for his cloak (or *mantel*) it must be hung upon one of the hinges of the door, whose brass projections are mostly finished above, seemingly with a view to this convenience. Each of these will hold at least two, and as, for the sake of easy access, every room has two or three, nay sometimes even four doors in it, half-a-dozen 'mantels' are thus easily disposed of. The ladies' paraphernalia is generally removed to another room, and the gentlemen's hats, sticks, &c. must be arranged in an out-of-the-way corner, until the whole are accommodated as they best may be in the absence of cloak and hat-stands, which nobody here has ever yet dreamt of. The only real inconvenience is when the night is wet or snowy, which is soon proclaimed by the small pools of water which accumulate from the drippings at the door. Tea is served on these occasions at about half-past five or from that to six o'clock, and it is called a 'sweet tea,' from the multitudinous cakes that accompany it, many of which are of the most delicious description, except that they are sometimes a little too sweet. But the people here are addicted to sugar in immense quantities, wherever it is possible to use it. Strange to say, they do not seem to perceive how nature herself revenges the outrage. Yet it is easy to see they receive their punishment through the same medium by which the offence is committed, and accordingly, of whatever beauties they may have to boast, a good set of teeth is generally *not* among the number. Tea, when they do drink it, is, from its diluted condition, not likely to please an Englishman. When strong, they say it heats them, and is too exciting to their nerves; therefore, under the same kind of apprehension in regard to yours, they take care to offer it as hot water, fascinated by the bewitching influence of cinnamon, vanilla, and about sixteen tea-leaves to eleven persons. Eau-de-vie, or old arrack, is sometimes added, together with a little lemon peel, by way of correcting any evil effects which might otherwise even yet arise from so dangerous an infusion! The sight of a strong infusion is evidently unknown to many of them. Some acquaintance paid us a visit upon one occasion just as we were sitting down to tea. They were presented with some; but its colour condemned it, and unmindful of the teapot, it was politely rejected with, 'Ich dank sehr—Ich trinke keinen Kaffee'; nor was it until after much explanation, and the reduction of it to the usual degree of *aqua-tinto* strength, that they could be prevailed upon to taste it. On these occasions, it is in vain to provide sugar-tongs, since nobody thinks of using them. Instead, the thumb and finger will be called into requisition, and upon the good old principle that these were first invented, the silver will be mostly dispensed with. Music and conversation (and in some houses, cards) lead the evening pleasantly along, which finishes with a slight supper, backed by wine, beer, and an occasional glass of punch.—Nuremberg punch!—and at an early hour all is over. Dinner parties are more formal, and on that account disagreeable. The hour is generally one o'clock. Dessert and coffee follow; after which you are expected to take your departure. A friendly dinner meeting is, however, quite another thing; but in these there is about the same difference as in England."

A portion of the second volume of Mr. Whit-

ling's work is devoted to descriptions of angling excursions in the valley of the Pegnitz, or Franconian Switzerland; but as these were not sufficiently numerous or explanatory to yield matter for a volume, the desired dimensions are attained by a translation of legends and by appendix chapters entitled Continental Sketches. Among these is one headed On the Praise of Smoking!—but we dare say it may treat of other matters; for in the middle of it we are told that the author "three days ago received a present of some apples from a Jew in Fürth,"—that the said apples set him off thinking of Jewish emancipation,—but that as he is "only as yet a very poor and imperfect smoker, as a natural consequence he is a very poor and imperfect thinker!"

#### OUR LIBRARY TABLE.

*Notitia Cestriensis; or, Historic Notices of the Diocese of Chester.* By the Right Rev. Francis Gastrell, Bishop of Chester. Edited by the Rev. F. R. Raines, M.A. Vol. II., Parts 2 and 3.—These volumes complete the 'Notitia,' but are as unrelieved by aught that is interesting or valuable as the former portions were. We have the same minute memoranda of the various parishes, and the same noting down of details which, important as they might have been to the diocesan, have no manner of interest to any one else. The Memoir, too, of the compiler, Dr. Gastrell, prefixed to the second part, offers but little that is interesting. A curious illustration of the vexatious opposition which the "high and dry" dignitaries of Queen Anne's and George's days were accustomed to inflict on the Whig ministries is, however, given in the carefully compiled list of "protests" which Bishop Gastrell recorded in the House of Lords, and which amount to thirty-four—nineteen being recorded in the short space of two years. The Bishop was, indeed, apparently a very stirring man—looking after his diocese and college and public affairs, and not neglecting those household arrangements which might more suitably have come under the superintendence of his wife, as the following extract from a letter to his secretary shows.—"Feb. 18th, 1718. The first brewing may be according to the usual proportion; but let the next be all *small beer*, with 7 bushels only for the 2 hog-heads, which is full strong enough, when it is not to keep above two months."—Truly such important information is worth immortalizing in print! The memory of Bishop Gastrell, however, was subsequently embalmed in a copy of verses,—a poem of great force and beauty," says the editor,—and of which we are favoured with some extracts. Here is a specimen.—

Using a prelate disembodied now,  
Not longer angel of the Church below;  
Enthroned triumphant! May the times be free  
From sordid hope and servile flattery.  
Such views, if known, this happy saint would move  
To shake his radiant head and frown above.

We think these six lines will be quite enough for our readers:—but, seriously, how can the Committee of the Chetham Society continue to send forth publications so utterly valueless as their later issues have been?

*New Editions.*—Amongst the more important is Walpole's *Anecdotes of Painting in England*, issued by Mr. Bohn, in 3 vols. 8vo. This is a republication of Dallaway's illustrated edition, revised, and with additional notes, by Mr. Wornum. The original work is too well known to require either criticism or commendation; but the subject is so interesting, that we, at first, proposed to enter on some special points of inquiry, for which the researches of modern archaeologists have furnished the material. The requirements of the season, however, leave us little leisure and less available space; and we must be content, for the present at least, with this simple announcement.—Mr. Bentley has also republished, in three neat volumes, a 4th edition of Prescott's *History of the Conquest of Peru*, a work which has long since and deservedly taken rank and position on our library shelves.—Messrs. Longman & Co. have also issued a new edition of Loudon's *Encyclopædia of Gardening*, edited by Mrs. Loudon, who acknowledges herself obliged for the assistance given by Dr. Lindley, Professors Ansted and Solly, Mr. Westwood,



Mr. Thompson, Mr. Marnock, and others; so that the public have the best security that it is not only a new, but an improved edition.—Mr. Colburn has made an acceptable offering to a large public in a neat compact volume of *The Old Judge, or Life in a Colony*, by their friend, "Sam Slick."—Mr. Black has seasonably issued a 4th edition of his *Picturesque Guide to the English Lakes*,—an 8th edition of his *Picturesque Tourist of Scotland*, to which some new illustrations and charts of the Railways have been added;—and Mr. Dixon a 2nd edition of his useful and interesting volume on *Ornamental and Domestic Poultry*. An 8th edition of *The Training System*, by Mr. Stow, is proof plain enough that the work has passed beyond the ordeal of the critics. We must, however, observe on an announcement in the preface, that the present edition has been "greatly enlarged," although the price has "not been increased,"—that the reverse would have found more favour with us. The book has good matter in it; but "all who ought to take an interest in the momentous question of popular education and training" have not leisure to wade through nearly five hundred pages, and cannot benefit by the details here given. Mr. Stow himself admits that "without actual practice no man can become a trainer." Schoolmasters and others, therefore, who desire to introduce the system must go to Glasgow; but there is much in the work from which parents and the public generally might learn a great deal as to the wise management of children; and this information could, we think, be conveyed, and therefore to a much larger number, in a volume of one-third the size.—Amongst the more valuable of the cheap re-issues, is *Oliver Twist*, with a few words by way of Preface "touching" Sir Peter Laurie and Jacob's Island.—*The Last Days of Pompeii*—and *The Hammonds*.—Mr. Bohn has added to his 'Classical Library' literal translations of *Aristotle's Treatise on Rhetoric and the Poetic*, *The Tragedies of Euripides*, 2 vols., and a third volume of *Livy's History of Rome*; and to his 'Shilling Series,' *The Autobiography of Benjamin Franklin*, *Willis's People I Have Met*, *Irving's Life of Goldsmith*, and his *Lives of the Successors of Mahomet*.—Mr. Routledge is a competitor in this line, and offers both the *Lives of the Successors* and the *Life of Mahomet*; and has added to his 'Railway Library' *The Light Dragon*, by Gleig.—In the 'Parlour Library' we have *Mary of Burgundy*, *The Robber*, and *Morley Ernstein*, by Mr. James, *The Sketch Book*, by Irving, and *Country Stories*, by Miss Mitford.—The Phoenix Library is, we believe, a stranger, and as a stranger we give him welcome. It is to consist of a series of original and reprinted works bearing on the renovation and progress of society, to be selected by J. Minter Morgan. The first-fruit offering is *More's Utopia*,—Pestalozzi's *Letters on Early Education*, with a Memoir; and *The Christian Commonwealth*.

## LIST OF NEW BOOKS.

Abbott's (J.) *The Life of William the Conqueror*, maps, &c. 8s. 6d. cl.  
Agular's (Grace) *Woman's Friendship*, 2nd ed. 12mo. 6s. 6d. cl.  
Arnold's (Rev. T. K.) *Old St. Paul's*, Vol. 1. 1s. 6d. 1s. 6d. cl.  
Arnold's (Rev. T. K.) *The First French Book*, 2nd ed. 12mo. 5s. 6d. cl.  
Barclay's (J.) *Universal English Dictionary*, new ed. 4to. 11. cl.  
Biblical Primer, by Author of 'People's Dict. of Bible,' Part 2, Vol. 1, 1s.  
Biblical Primer, Vol. 1. Part I. Old Testament, 2s. 2d. 6d. cl. gilt.  
Boanquith's (Rev. R. W.) *The Sacrament of Baptism*, 8vo. 2s. 6d. cl.  
Bryant's (W. C.) *Letters to Travellers*, post 8vo. 10s. 6d. cl.  
Chambers's *Papers for the People*, Vol. 11. 8vo. 1s. 6d. bds.  
Cicero, with Notes and Index, by G. Long, 12mo. 4s. 6d. cl.  
Continental Tourist (The), illustrated, 1st series, 8vo. 10s. cl.  
Cullier's (J.) *Gentleman and Farmer's Assistant*, sq. 16mo. 2s. 6d.  
Domestic Cookery, by Mrs. Rundle, new ed. 12mo. 6s. cl.  
Ellett's (Mrs.) *Family Pictures from the Bible*, 8vo. 5s. cl. gilt.  
Enfield's (W.) *The Speaker*, new ed. 12mo. 3s. 6d. roan.  
Fox's *Martyrs*, by Rev. J. Kennedy, with plates, imperial 8vo. 11. 5s.  
Fox's (Rev. H. W.) *Memoir*, by Rev. G. T. Fox, 2nd ed. 12mo. 7s. 6d.  
Frederic Tower, by the Rev. R. Cobbold, 3 vols. cr. 8vo. 11. 11s. 6d. cl.  
Hann's (J.) *Examples in Inter-Calendar*, 8vo. 12mo. 1s. 6d. cl.  
Hicklin's (J.) *Excursions in North Wales*, new ed. 12mo. 18s. 2s. cl.  
Hinton's (J. H.) *History of the United States*, 2 vols. imp. 8vo. 11. 10s.  
Hogg's (J.) *Tales and Sketches*, 6 vols. 12mo. 11. 1s. cl.  
Hume & Smollett's *England*, with Continuation by Miller, 3 vols. 21s.  
Jane's *Psalter*, new ed. 32mo. 1s. 6d. cl.  
Johnson's (G. W.) *Domestic Economist*, royal 8vo. 3s. cl.  
Kirke's (J.) *Way of Life made Plain*, 18mo. 1s. cl.  
Le Page's *French School*, Part L. 'L'Echo de Paris,' 17th ed. 4s. cl.  
Law's (H.) *Art of Constructing Roads*, 12mo. 1s. cl. (Weale.)  
Little Alice and Her Sister, new ed. sq. 16mo. 2s. 6d. cl.  
Lockhart's (J.) *Roots of the Numerical Equations*, 8vo. 2s. cl.  
Ma's (S. E.) *Model Lessons for Infant Schools*, Part 11. 12mo. 2s. 6d.  
Noian's (J. J.) *Ornamental and Domestic Fowl*, 12mo. 3s. cl.  
Nicholson's (A.) *Lights and Shades of Ireland*, 12mo. 5s. cl.  
National Gallery of Pictures, 2 vols. imp. 8vo. 21. 2s. (Tallis.)  
Nettle's (G.) *Emigrant's Guide to North America*, 12mo. 1s. 6d. cl.  
Oliver's *Masonic Writers*, Vol. V. Harris on Freemasonry, 12mo. 7s.  
Pandemonium, a Glimpse into the Modern Inferno, 8vo. 5s. cl.  
Pathogenetic Cyclopedia, Part I. Dudgeon (Dr.) On Mind, &c. 18s. cl.  
Place's (Miss J. H.) *Memoir*, by T. Spalding, 12mo. 1s. 6d. cl.  
Popular Library, 'Irving's Companions of Columbus,' 12mo. 1s. bds.  
Pragay's (J.) *The Hungarian Revolution*, cr. 8vo. 5s. cl.  
Railway Library, 'Sedgwick's Hope Leslie,' 12mo. 1s. bds.  
Simson's (Rev. R.) *Memorials of Worth*, 18mo. 2s. 6d. cl.  
Skevington's (G.) *Modern System of Farriery*, 4to. 11. 1s. cl.  
Stater's *Shilling Series*, Vols. 22 and 23, 'Rose of Distelton,' 2 vols. 2s.

Smee's (A.) *Instinct and Reason*, 8vo. 18s. cl.  
Strachan's (J.) *Tables of Draining*, 2nd ed. oblong 8vo. 2s. 6d. cl.  
Taylor's (Rev. C. B.) *Earnestness*, a sequel to 'Thankfulness,' 7s. cl.  
Taylor's (Bayard) *El Dorado, or Adventures in California*, 2 vols. 18s.  
Tayl's *View of the Slave Nation*, cr. 8vo. 10s. 6d. cloth.  
Tuck's *New Railway Map*, 8vo. 5s. in cloth case.  
Thurnam's (Dr. J.) *Observations on Insanity*, 8vo. 5s. cl.  
Whitstide Rumble in Capestrone Park, cr. 8vo. 1s. swd.  
Whiston's (J.) *Cathedral Trusts*, 4th ed. 8vo. 3s. 6d. swd.  
York's (C. J.) *Poems from a Note Book*, sq. 3s. 6d. cl.

## SPRING.

BY SIDNEY YENDTS.

SPRING, who did scatter all her wealth last year,  
Had gone to Heaven for more; and coming back,  
Flower-laden, after three full seasons, found  
The Earth, her mother, dead.

Far off, appalled  
With the unwonted pallor of her face,  
She flung her garlands down, and caught, distract,  
The skirts of passing tempests,—and through wilds  
Of frozen air fled to her:—all uncrowned  
With haste,—a bunch of snowdrops in her breast,  
Her charms dishevelled, and her cheeks as white  
As Winter with her woe. She fell upon  
The corse, and warned it. The maternal Earth,  
Which was not dead but slept, unclosed her eyes.  
Then Spring, o'erawed at her own miracle,  
Fell on her knees. And then she smiled and wept,  
And paced she to and fro, and wept and smiled.  
Meanwhile the attendant birds—her haste outstript—  
Chasing her voice, crowd round and fill the air  
With jocund loyalty. And eager winds  
Her suitors—at full speed with love and wild—  
Hie by her in the lusty cheer of March,  
Crying her name. Laughed Spring to see them pass;  
—Laughing in tears.—Then it repented her  
To see the old parental limbs of Earth  
Lie stark as death; and fared she forth alone  
To where she left her burden in the void  
Beyond the south horizon:—her fair hair  
Streaming spring clouds among the vernal stars.  
Returning, slow with flowers, she dressed the Earth;  
Which had sat up, and being naked blushed—  
And stretched her conscious arms to meet the Spring,  
Who breathed upon her face and made her young.  
Then did her mother Earth rejoice in her;  
And she with filial love and joy admired,  
Weeping and trembling, in the wont of maids.  
Meantime her pious fame had filled the skies.  
He that begat her, the Almighty Sun,  
Passing in regal state, did call her "Child,"  
And blessed her and her mother where they sat—  
Her by the imposition of bright hands,  
The Earth with kisses. Then the Spring would go  
Abashed with bliss,—decorous in the face  
Of love parental. But the Earth stood up,  
And held her there; and, them encircling, came  
All kind of happy shapes that wander space,  
Brightening the air. And they two sang like gods  
Under the answering heavens.

## BABYLONIAN INSCRIPTIONS.

A recently published volume of the Transactions of the Royal Irish Academy (Vol. XXII. Part 2), contains a paper on Babylonian Writing, by the Rev. Dr. Edw. Hincks, which is peculiarly interesting at the present moment. It is a sequel to those communications for which the Academy awarded Dr. Hincks the Conyngham gold medal in 1848.

Among the chief literary triumphs of the present age may be justly reckoned its linguistic discoveries, achieved by deciphering and interpreting monumental inscriptions and various remains of ancient writings, all of inestimable value, however imperfect they may be, as tending to establish on a solid basis and to complete our knowledge of the early history and civilization of our species. The Hieroglyphics of Egypt and the Cuneiform Inscriptions, Median, Assyrian, and Babylonian, are now at length revealed and expounded to us, in the nineteenth century, by the learning and sagacity of a few, among whom Dr. Hincks holds a foremost place. Indeed, in sound scientific method, boldness of conjecture without rashness, and felicity in seizing on such points as admit of being chronologically determined, he is unrivalled.

To show the importance of these discoveries, I need only refer to the Behistun inscription, copied and explained in a masterly manner by Major Rawlinson, and which throws so steady a light on the history of Persia five-and-twenty centuries ago. And if there be any one inclined to doubt their reality, let him only weigh attentively the remarkable fact, that two highly gifted and accomplished men,—Major Rawlinson and Dr. Hincks,—un-

known to each other and wide asunder, the one on the banks of the Euphrates, the other on the shores of Lough Strangford, both applying themselves to the study of the cuneiform inscriptions, have arrived in general at precisely the same conclusions—have found the same alphabet, the same grammatical forms, and the same terms. The differences between them—for in some points they differ—are not such as to invalidate the conclusions in which they concur, but serve rather as proofs of their respective independence and originality. They form also obvious marks by which lookers-on may readily estimate the progress of investigation; and this brings me to the point which I have immediately in view,—namely, the unquestionable priority of Dr. Hincks in the discovery of the Ideographic element, which is now admitted to be of frequent occurrence in the Babylonian inscriptions. The existence of this element was already recognized by him in a paper on the Van Inscriptions, published in 1848, (Journal of the Royal Asiatic Society, vol. ix.), but he developed his views more completely, and entered into details, in the paper above alluded to, and which was read before the Royal Irish Academy on the 25th of June, 1849. These views have been since adopted in a great measure by Major Rawlinson, who now reads, for example, Aser-aden-pal (Sardanapalus), where he previously read Ninus, thus approximating to Dr. Hincks, by whom the same name has been always read Assurhadin.

It must not be supposed that these remarks are intended to detract from the well-merited reputation of Major Rawlinson; their object is merely to vindicate the merits of a comparatively reclusive student, who, with the great disadvantage of possessing but a small supply of texts to study, has nevertheless laboured with signal success—thanks to his extensive learning and great analytical powers—in solving some of the most difficult literary problems which have ever claimed the attention of the learned. The student who, toiling in the fields of literature, is fortunate enough to reclaim something from the waste, must, like the husbandman, look well after his landmarks. In proof of this, it will be sufficient to mention that the Chevalier Isidore de Löwenstern has this year published a work in which he claims to have discovered the existence of an ideographic element in Babylonian writing, and illustrates his meaning by the very examples which were communicated to him by Dr. Hincks (in the paper on the Van Inscriptions) nearly two years ago. Discoveries which are worth claiming ought at least to be fairly recorded. In the bye-ways of learning, injustice is easily and often done by mere suppression of the truth.

STUAM CUTIQUE.

## OUR WEEKLY GOSSIP.

WE have watched, as our readers know, with lively interest, and from time to time have reported, the progress made at home and abroad in relation to the Great Industrial Exhibition. Until the present moment, however, the data for a safe judgment as to how the public would accept the Prince's proposition had not been gathered in an authentic shape. The newspaper press—with here and there an exception—had pronounced in its favour; but we all know that in England, more especially in the provinces, newspapers rather represent the loose masses of opinion than those energies and influences which are essential to the working out of a scheme like that of 1851. During the last two months the country has been appealed to in a formal and official manner; gentlemen have been sent down by the Royal Commissioners to about 200 of the chief towns of England to invite the inhabitants to co-operate in the work; and a careful comparison of the reports of the meetings held, as given in the local papers, puts us in possession of some general facts which it may be interesting to our readers to have laid before them. A few days ago a feeling of discouragement was produced in London by the announcement of Lord Overstone that the subscription had at that moment realized only 50,000*l*. A perusal of the local papers explains this slowness of operations—without, in the least degree, suggesting the idea that the public disapprove or are indifferent to the scheme. Where-



ever it is well explained, it is at once accepted. The apathy that exists is not the effect of indifference—but of ignorance. To persons living in the centre of intelligence it may seem incredible that any one should still be unaware of the nature and objects of the Exhibition; but a glance at the heap of papers now lying before us would convince the most sceptical on that point. At a meeting held in Oldham, a wealthy manufacturer said he had never understood the purpose of the Exhibition before; in some towns we find parties going to the meetings in a hostile spirit,—but staying to propose resolutions in its favour! Everywhere we see the people asking—*cui bono?* Everywhere the question of *merits* is discussed. What are the social and material advantages? These were the questions certain to be put as soon as the masses were invited to join the movement; so far as they are met—plainly and completely met—popular adhesion is obtained. There is no cause to complain of the want of popular enthusiasm; wherever the masses have been appealed to on a large scale,—as in Macclesfield, Preston, Bolton, &c.,—the feeling in its favour is deep and strong. At Wigan, at Macclesfield, and at Colne we find parties expressing their surprise that not a single person had left the meeting from commencement to close. The fact is also noted by the local reporters. Indeed there has never yet been a public meeting from which a warm expression of interest and adhesion has not been obtained. This is convincing.—We notice how satisfactory to the artisans is the regulation by which new inventions are to be covered as by a patent-right during the Exhibition. We hear of several new inventions of curious and important character—which, for want of means to take out patents, have been kept secret for years,—as likely to be exhibited. The belief, too, prevails that this temporary grace to the inventive genius of the country will lead to a great change in the Patent laws. Why should not the inventor be protected in his property like the author,—and on the like easy terms? The need of another suggestion arises from a perusal of these Reports. The artisans of the north are naturally anxious to see their way to London in the summer of next year. Fear lest, after all, the expenses of the journey may be beyond their means goes a long way to damp their rising enthusiasm. Might not some assurance be given to them now? It is known that railway directors have expressed a desire to meet the views and purses of all classes of the community. What prevents them from publishing *now* a tariff of prices for the excursion trains of next year? It is their interest to do so. Thousands will save their money for a certainty who would not practise present self-denial in fear of a contingency that does not depend upon themselves. Such a publication would benefit all parties—exhibitors and spectators.

A Royal Sign Manual Warrant has just been issued, granting a pension of 25*l.* a-year to Mrs. Harriett Waghorn, widow of the late Lieut. Thomas Waghorn, "in consideration of the eminent services of her late husband." The only objection we can make to this pension is the smallness of the amount. The recognition by the Crown of Lieut. Waghorn's services in the shape of a warrant with Her Majesty's signature may be consolatory to the widow of that persevering officer,—but the true recognition is the *amount* granted. "Honours to a man in my situation," said Goldsmith, "are like ruffles to a man in want of a shirt."

We hear that the Commissioners appointed to make inquiries on the subject of the meat-markets of London have collected their evidence and agreed upon their report. As every disinterested person expected, they are said to have determined to recommend the removal of the market now held in Smithfield to the suburbs. The Report is to be presented shortly after the recess.

Lord Rosse as President of the Royal Society gave his third Soirée on Saturday last. It was honoured by the attendance of Prince Albert and a large number of scientific and literary men. Among the objects exhibited were some additional drawings of nebulae, which, as well as those previously exhibited, were executed by the Countess

of Rosse. The original model of Sir Humphry Davy's Safety Lamp recently presented to the Royal Society attracted much attention. Mr. Brooke, the inventor of the self-registering magnetometer, exhibited some ingenious improvements in the apparatus. Mr. C. Walker exhibited his lightning conductors for electric telegraphs, consisting of hollow brass cylinders, one for each wire connected with the earth, in each of which is a continuation of the telegraph wire, so furnished with points for promoting the discharge in parts of the course that the lightning escapes more readily by these cylinders than by passing the telegraph instrument, and having a fine wire included in another part of the course more favourably circumstanced for being ignited if the force be great than the fine wire instrument coils. Mr. Walker also exhibited his plan of insulating and protecting telegraph wires in a tunnel, and his method of improving the insulation of the wires of the electric telegraph. Dr. Mantell contributed some fossils; and Major Macdonald exhibited several specimens of superb turquoises found by himself and a party of Arabs in a wild and untravelled part of Arabia.—Lord Rosse's next Soirée will be held on the 8th of June.

Regarding the Safety-Lamp Model, Mr. Weld furnishes the following particulars.—The Royal Society's collection of scientific and mechanical instruments has received a very interesting addition by the presentation from Joseph Hodgson, Esq., F.R.S., of the original model of Sir Humphry Davy's safety lamp. In November 1815, Sir Humphry read a paper before the Royal Society 'On the Fire-damp of Coal Mines, and on Methods of lighting the Mines so as to prevent its Explosion.' In this communication he described a safe light, "which became extinguished when introduced into very explosive mixtures of fire-damp;" but as this fell short of the philosopher's wishes, he instituted a fresh series of experiments—which resulted in his invention of the safety lamp, described in a paper read before the Society in January 1816. "The invention," he says, "consists in covering or surrounding the flame of a lamp or candle by a wire sieve;" and he adds, "when a lighted lamp or candle screwed into a ring soldered to a cylinder of wire gauze, having no apertures except those of the gauze, is introduced into the most explosive mixture of carburetted hydrogen and air, the cylinder becomes filled with a bright flame, and this flame continues to burn as long as the mixture is explosive." The model in the possession of the Royal Society answers in every respect to this description, and to the representation of the lamp which accompanies the paper. It was made by Sir Humphry's own hands, and given by him to Dr. Lee, now Lord Bishop of Manchester, whose father was Assistant Secretary to the Royal Society at the time of Davy's Presidency. The excessive simplicity of the contrivance is most remarkable; but this is one of the greatest advantages which attended the invention. As the author remarks in the paper just quoted:—"all that the miner requires to insure security, are small wire cages to surround his candle or lamp, which may be made for a few pence, and of which various modifications may be adopted. And the application of this discovery will not only preserve him from the fire-damp, but enable him to apply it to use and to destroy it at the same time that it gives him a useful light." A month after the invention Sir Humphry informed the Society that his cylinder lamps had been used in two of the most dangerous mines near Newcastle with perfect success.

As foreign scientific prizes or rewards have not been very frequently awarded to Englishmen, our readers will be pleased to hear that the King of Denmark has just presented Mr. J. R. Hind with a gold medal for the discovery of the comet of February 6, 1847, which was visible at noon-day, shortly before perihelion. The motto or inscription is "Non frustra signorum obitus speculamur et ortus." Mr. Hind has also received from the Lalande foundation, for the discovery of Iris and Flora in the year 1847.

A correspondent, writing to us with reference to our review of the volume of *Proceedings*

of the Society of Antiquaries, says,—“I never felt more strongly than on Thursday last (the 16th) the propriety of your suggestion as to the services which those Proceedings might render both to the Society and to the cause of archaeological literature. On that evening there was much curious information elicited in a conversation upon the subject of the punishment of Crucifixion, and how far the Romans had practised it in this country. These remarks will of course be lost if not recorded in the Proceedings; and it would surely be strengthening the hands of our zealous and excellent Director if those who took part in the discussion,—Messrs. Wright, Durrant Cooper, Morgan, &c.,—would forward to him a *précis* of what they said. The objection that such a mode of reporting these interesting conversations would turn the Society of Antiquaries into a debating club, and tempt to frequent speech a few members who are more willing than able to instruct the meeting, is surely answered by the simple statement, that only those observations would be recorded which the good judgment of the Director pointed out as deserving of being preserved. Let me add one other remark, viz., that as it appeared by the late Report of the Auditors, that the Society has again been enabled to add to its funded property, whether the time has not arrived when it would be desirable to add to the interest of these Proceedings by a greater number of wood-cut illustrations, and those, too, of a higher character?”

It is gratifying to be able to announce the success of the late reduction in the price of admission to the Zoological Gardens, on Mondays, to half their former charge. On Monday and Tuesday last, being holidays, no less than 17,300 persons visited these gardens. Since we published the Annual Report of the Society some new animals have been added to the collection. Among the carnivora are a pair of marsupial wolves from Van Diemen's Land. These animals are now fast disappearing on account of their rapid destruction by the shepherds. Two young wart-hogs from South Africa have also just arrived. To-day the Ripon is due at Southampton, and has on board the long-expected hippopotamus. It will be the first ever seen alive in Great Britain. It does not come alone, for in the same vessel are an ibex from Mount Sinai, a lion, a cheetah, two lynxes, an ichneumon, several civet cats, specimens of the Desert rat, and a large number of reptiles belonging to the snake and lizard tribes.

Heart Leap Well, the scene of one of Wordsworth's most romantic poems—'The White Doe of Rylstone,' is situated on a wild tract of barren moor, near the road leading from Richmond to Leyburn in the North Riding of Yorkshire, and was until lately marked by four yew trees which grew around it. But three of these have disappeared under the withering hand of time or mischievous wayfarers, and nothing now remains to point out the spot to the many tourists who visit the neighbourhood but one poor half-dead tree. It is suggested by a correspondent, that this would be an appropriate place (amongst others) to erect some slight but useful monument to the memory of the deceased poet.

The foundation stone of the New College, St. John's Wood, was laid on Saturday week by Mr. Remington Mills. This college is the result of the union of the three Colleges known by the names of Highbury, Homerton, and Coward, supported by the Independent Dissenters, for the education of theological students. The new college will combine all the strength of the old ones, and the classes are to be divided into two faculties, one of Arts and the other of Theology. The former will be open to lay students, and consists of chairs of Latin and Greek, Mathematics, Moral and Mental Philosophy and Natural History. The edifice now in course of erection will be, it is said, a handsome Elizabethan structure. The classes open in October next. We are glad to record this event, as we regard it as an example to be followed by other bodies of dissenters. Much of the narrowness and bitterness of sectarianism originates in isolation and exclusiveness.

Summer tourists in search of an object—a feature—or an article—are hereby warned on the



authority of the foreign journals, that this year is the year of the Passion Play of the Ammergau in Bavaria. Of this monster "mystery" (possibly the last of its kind in Europe) the *Athenæum* gave some years since a long account. The last representation took place in the month of July, the spectators were betwixt eight and nine thousand, collected in an open air theatre—the corps of actors, three hundred and fifty in number, some of them, says a French account now under our hand, men and women as old as eighty years. The play, which was written in 1633, and been recently retouched, is in twelve acts and eleven *entr'actes*, interspersed with *tableaux*. The representation lasted from eight o'clock in the morning till four in the afternoon, was most elaborately prepared and perfectly executed. At its close, the actors fell on their knees and recited prayers in which they thanked God that their performance had succeeded so well. They were of the peasant class, and almost all belonged to the Ammergau. This same Ammer-valley lies in a most picturesque country, betwixt Munich and Innspruck—on the road by the Lake of Staremburg and Partenkirch.

London architectural taste reminds us of nothing so much as the active horticultural fancies of baby gardeners—who one day choosing to have a pyramid where the night before was a canal with locks and quays—destroy the structure on the third morning for the sake of arranging a plantation of trees with their roots uppermost. Everyone collects how the shopkeepers of the Quadrant in their eagerness for light and morality chose to "ding down" (as the Scotch have it) one of the most beautiful and original architectural features of the metropolis. Well, hardly have the pillars disappeared,—hardly has

the whispering sound of the cool colonnade died into silence, than lo! and behold the shopkeepers aforesaid are beginning to replace Nash by Edgington, attempting to shut out the sun and concentrate objectionable loungers within a yet closer compass than before by partially erecting awnings of an extent and permanence unprecedented in our London streets. We should hope that the "Woods and Forests" were by this rick-cloth architecture properly shocked or shamed of their weakness in yielding to the pressure of Caprice in the Quadrant—did we not fear that they are too busy in trying to find the least appropriate situation for the Pimlico Marble Arch to have an instant's leisure for repentance. But the hint should not be wasted on the public.

#### ROYAL ACADEMY, TRAFALGAR SQUARE.

THE EXHIBITION OF THE ROYAL ACADEMY IS NOW OPEN.—Admission (from Eight o'clock till Seven), 1s.; Catalogue, 1s.

JOHN PRESCOTT KNIGHT, R.A., Sec.

SOCIETY OF PAINTERS IN WATER-COLOURS.—THE FORTY-SIXTH ANNUAL EXHIBITION IS NOW OPEN, at their Gallery, 6, Pall Mall East, from Nine till Dusk.—Admission, 1s. Catalogue, 6d.

GEORGE FRIP, Secretary.

THE NEW SOCIETY OF PAINTERS IN WATER-COLOURS.—THE SIXTEENTH ANNUAL EXHIBITION OF this Society IS NOW OPEN, at their Gallery, 53, Pall Mall, near St. James's Palace.

JAMES FAHEY, Secretary.

EXHIBITION OF ANTIENT AND MEDIEVAL ART.—SOCIETY OF ARTS, John Street, Adelphi.—This Exhibition is STILL OPEN DAILY, from Ten till Six.—Admission, 1s. Catalogues, 1s.

NILE.—GRAND MOVING PANORAMA OF THE NILE, comprising all the Monuments of Antiquity on its Banks, to which is added the interior of the great Rock Temple of ABON SIMBEL. Painted by Messrs. Warren, Bonomi, and Fahey.—EGYPTIAN HALL, PICCADILLY.—Daily, at Three and Eight o'clock.—Stalls, 3s.; Pits, 2s.; Gallery, 1s.; Children and Schools, Half-price.

INDIA OVERLAND MAIL.—DIORAMA.—GALLERY OF ILLUSTRATION, 14, Regent-street, Waterloo-place.—Three Exhibitions each day.—A Grand MOVING DIORAMA, ILLUSTRATING THE ROUTE OF THE OVERLAND MAIL TO INDIA, depicting every object worthy of notice on this highly-interesting journey from Southampton to Calcutta, accompanied by descriptive detail and appropriate music, is now OPEN DAILY. Mornings at Twelve, Afternoons at Three, and in the Evening at Eight o'clock.—Admission, 1s.; Stalls, 2s. 6d.—Doors open for each representation half-an-hour before the above hours. Descriptive Catalogues may be obtained at the Gallery.

#### ROYAL POLYTECHNIC INSTITUTION.

COURSE OF TWENTY LECTURES, of two hours each, on USEFUL PRACTICAL CHEMISTRY, under the direction of J. H. PEPPER, Esq., adapted for Manufacturers, Schoolmasters, and Students. The Course will be a Systematic Series on the Elementary Details and Manipulations of Chemistry, the Atomic Theory and Symbols, Preparations of Gases, Acids, Saline Bodies, Qualitative and Quantitative Analysis.

To commence on the 27th inst. Fee, including admission to the Institution during the Course, Two guineas.

ANALYSES OF SOILS AND ADVICE TO FARMERS at very moderate charges.

THE DIORAMA, Regent's Park.—JUST OPENED, with one of the finest VIEWS ever exhibited in this country, representing the ROYAL CASTLE OF STOLZENFELS, on the Rhine, (visited by Her Majesty Queen Victoria in August, 1845), and its Environs, as seen at Sunset and during a Thunder Storm; painted by NICHOLAS MEISTER, of Cologne. And the much-admired Picture of THE SHRINE OF THE NATIVITY, at Bethlehem; painted by the late M. RENOUX, from a Sketch made on the spot by DAVID ROBERTS, Esq. R.A., with novel and striking effects.

#### SOCIETIES

GEOGRAPHICAL.—Capt. W. H. Smyth, R.N., President, in the chair.—Fellows elected were B. J. Laurie Frere, R. Montgomery Martin, Capt. W. J. Smyth, R.A., Col. Don J. Acosta, of Bogota, and Dr. C. Gutzlaff, of China. Thanks were returned for several valuable presents to the library received since the last meeting. Papers read were:—1. Mr. Macqueen's explanatory Notes to his South African Paper. 2. Major H. C. Rawlinson 'On recent Geographical Discoveries in Babylonia.'—Major Rawlinson having consented to read the second portion of his valuable paper on a subsequent occasion, the meeting was adjourned to the Anniversary on the 27th inst., when the Annual Address will be delivered.

GEOLOGICAL.—Sir C. Lyell, President, in the chair.—Lord A. Churchill was elected a Fellow.—The following communications were read:—

1. A Sketch of the Geology of Spain, by Don J. Ezquerro del Bayo.

2. 'On Pachyrisma, a new fossil genus of *Conchifera lamellibranchiata*,' by Messrs. Morris and Lycett. This mollusc occurs in the great oolite formation at Minchinhampton, and is remarkable for the general massiveness of its shell, and especially for its projecting and solid hinge apparatus. The description of one species of the genus, *P. grande*, was given. It was stated to have some affinities with *Isocardia*, *Opis*, and *Megalodon*; the latter of which it appears to represent in the Jurassic period, and might with it constitute a family, *Megalodonidae*.

3. 'Observations on Dudley Trilobites,' by T. W. Fletcher, Esq. The author described two species of trilobites, referable to the genus *Cybele*, *C. punctata*, Fletcher, and *C. variolaris*, Al. Brongni., which occur, though seldom in a perfect state, at Dudley.

4. 'On some new Forms of Fossil Plants from the Lower Lias,' by J. Buckman, Esq. In this paper were described some fragmentary specimens of plants of the families Pinaceæ, Haloragaceæ, Umbellifereæ (?) and Ericaceæ (?) found in the band of liassic limestone, which is known as the insect-limestone of Gloucestershire, &c. Both these newly-discovered plants, and those which have been already found in the insect-limestone, viz., *Confervæ*, *Musci*, *Equisetaceæ*, *Filices*, and *Naiadaceæ*, have similar climatal characters with the lias insects, on which Mr. Westwood has remarked that "they resemble forms of ordinary occurrence and of temperate climes more like North America than Europe." But whether the beds with which the insect-limestone is associated, rich in Saurians, ammonites, molluscs, and echinoderms, were deposited under a temperate climate, or whether the plants and insects were drifted by a river from a great distance, remains unproved. The latter hypothesis is considered by the author to be the most probable.

SOCIETY OF ANTIQUARIES.—Lord Mahon, President, in the chair.—Mr. Ford exhibited one of the wooden stars which so numerously decorate the Alhambra, and which had been placed in the building at the time of its erection towards the close of the 13th century. It was in the most perfect state of preservation, without the slightest indication of decay; and Mr. Ford stated that it was formed of a wood almost peculiar to the north of Africa, which was of such a quality that, without any great degree of hardness, it resisted the action of the atmosphere, and was believed by many to be indestructible. This relic was saved when part of the fabric was pulled down by the Spaniards, while Mr. Ford was in Spain, and it was not more than eight inches in diameter.—Mr. W. Martin read a memoir on the discovery of four skeletons near Bourne, Kent,—with each of which four large nails, with spreading heads, were also found. The nails were 7 or 8 inches long, and the heads about an inch and a half square; one of them had been broken. The conjecture of Mr. Martin, and of certain antiquaries, was that these nails had

been used in the crucifixion of the bodies of malefactors by the Romans while in Britain:—and there is no doubt that a burial-place of the Romans is not far distant from the spot where the skeletons were disinterred. These malefactors must, therefore, have been buried on the outside of the ordinary cemetery. One of the nails, according to the statement of the workmen, had been driven directly through the shoulder blade of the body. It would have been more satisfactory if that bone had been produced in proof of the assertion. As it was, Mr. Roach Smith, Mr. Wright, and others expressed their strong disbelief in the theory that these skeletons had been crucified; and they contended that the Romans in Britain did not resort to that species of punishment. Mr. Martin said that a fifth skeleton was visible at the bottom of a piece of water, and he would take care that it should be carefully exhumed. If similar nails were found with it, near the hands and feet, he should consider the point pretty well established. On the other hand, it was stated that the Romans used large nails in the erection of the funeral pile in the process of cremation; but this was answered by Mr. Hallam, who urged that if the bodies had been burned, the bones would have exhibited traces of fire, and charcoal would also have been discovered with them. If the skeletons were those of malefactors, and if the crosses had been buried with them, it was singular that no relics of wood had been preserved with the bones. Mr. Morgan, Sir J. Boileau, and others also spoke on this curious point, which requires further illustration.

LINNEAN.—R. Brown, Esq., President, in the chair.—The President exhibited a leaf of *Victoria regia* Lindl., obtained from the stove of the Duke of Northumberland at Sion, where the plant is now flowering. The President said that some question had been raised as to the propriety of establishing a new genus for this plant. The characters which distinguished it from *Euryale* were sufficiently distinct, but whether they were of primary or secondary importance he would not pronounce. He thought it, however, better to retain Dr. Lindley's name.—'Notes on the Dry Rot as observed in the Church of King's Wear, Devonshire,' by A. H. Holdsworth, Esq. In this instance some old wood was used, and the rot spread in all directions. It was speedily arrested by removing the affected portions of wood. It appeared to have started from one point. A diagram of the interior of the church, with the parts affected marked out, was exhibited.—A letter was read addressed by the President to Sir F. Beaufort, for communication to Baron von Humboldt, on the origin and mode of propagation of the gulf-weed. Mr. Brown was of opinion that there was more than one species of plant included under the term gulf-weed. Although the opinion had been pronounced that this plant grows on the shores of the west, and is brought out to sea by the gulf-stream, he had observed certain appearances which led him to conclude that the gulf-weed might propagate itself whilst floating in the waters of the ocean.—M. Alphonse de Candolle and Asa Gray, M.D. were elected foreign members. Dr. Lankester, E. Newman, Esq., and W. Spence, Esq. were appointed auditors.

INSTITUTION OF CIVIL ENGINEERS.—W. Cubitt, Esq., President, in the chair.—The paper read was 'On the Construction of the Permanent Way of Railways; with an Account of the wrought-iron Permanent Way laid down on the main line of the North Midland Railway,' by Mr. W. H. Barlow. The cost of maintenance was stated to be dependent on two causes,—the effect of weather, &c., and the disturbance produced by traffic; and from the summary of the expenditure of the different lines belonging to the Midland Company it appeared that the former amounted to 20l. or 30l. per mile, per annum, and the latter varied from 2d. to 27d. per train, per mile. After a line was consolidated, by far the greater part of this expenditure was due to the derangement caused by the passage of the trains. With regard to renewal, it had been estimated by the officers of the North-Western Railway, that on their line the rails would last twenty years, and the sleepers, if "creosoted," twenty years, but if unprepared only twelve years; now as the duration of service of the rails was dependent on the amount of the traffic, and that of the sleepers on the weather, it was quite evident that on lines having less traffic than the



London and North-Western, the proportionate expense of renewing the sleepers would be much greater, and would increase as the amount of traffic diminished. In endeavouring to seek a remedy for this, the author conceived, that by increasing the dimensions of the bridge rail, sufficient width might be obtained for it to take its own bearing in the ballast, without the use of either transverse sleepers or longitudinal supports; and, moreover, that such a construction would possess great strength, be very durable, and be capable of being renewed at a moderate expense. He therefore proposed a bridge rail, 13 inches in width,  $5\frac{1}{2}$  inches in depth, and weighing 126 lb. per lineal yard. An experimental length of road on this construction had been laid down on the main line of the North Midland Railway, the cost of which was 3,323*l.* per mile; but it was thought that in future this might be reduced to 2,487*l.* per mile, by reducing the weight of the rails to 100 lb. per yard, and the chairs in proportion, as it was found by experiment that these rails were greatly in excess of strength, being as much as three times stronger than that of the ordinary double-headed rail. A mile of road had also been laid upon the same line with cast-iron sleepers adapted to the ordinary rail, as introduced by Mr. P. W. Barlow; and another mile had been laid with these cast-iron sleepers at the joints only, but having intermediate sleepers of timber. The motion of the trains over their several experimental lengths was firm and steady, there being no perceptible difference between the two latter descriptions.

W. Cubitt, Esq., President, in the chair.—‘On Printing Machines; especially those used in the printing of the *Times* newspaper,’ by Mr. E. Cowper. The object of this paper was principally to describe the machinery, which had been in use, at various times, for printing the *Times* newspaper, other machines being only referred to as assisting to illustrate the subject. For this purpose a brief review of the progress of printing machinery was given; from which it appeared that the first patent was obtained by Nicholson, in 1790, who then proposed placing both the types and the paper upon cylinders, and distributing and applying the ink also by means of cylinders; another plan was to place common type upon a table, which was passed under a paper cylinder. In 1813, Donkin and Bacon proposed placing the type upon a prism, and introduced “composition” rollers. In 1816 Cowper made a machine to print from curved stereotype plates; and in 1818 one to print books from ordinary type; he also introduced the system of inking now in common use. In 1814 Koenig made the first working machine, and erected two of these at the *Times* office, which produced eighteen hundred impressions per hour, and continued to do so until 1827, when they were superseded by Applegath and Cowper’s four-cylinder machine, producing five thousand impressions per hour. These machines, which were stated to be still in use at the *Times* office, consisted of a table moved backwards and forwards under four iron cylinders (called the paper cylinders), about nine inches in diameter, which were covered with cloth, and round which the sheets of paper were held between tapes. The form was fixed on one part of the table, the inking rollers lying on another part, on which they distributed the ink; some of these rollers were placed in a diagonal position on the table, so that, as it moved backwards and forwards, they had a motion in the direction of their length, called the “end-motion,” which, combined with the rotatory motion, caused the ink to be more effectually distributed. The ink was held in a reservoir, or trough, formed of an iron roller called the ductor, against which the edge of an iron plate rested, and by its pressure regulated the quantity of ink given out. The ink was conveyed from the ductor-roller to the table by means of an elastic roller vibrating between them. The feeding was performed by four “layers-on,” who laid the sheets of paper on the feeding boards, whence they entered the machine between three pairs of tapes, by which they were conveyed round the cylinders, and thence to the spot where the “takers-off” stood, into whose hands the sheets fell as the tapes separated.

In May 1848, the last great improvement was introduced, when Mr. Applegath erected at the *Times* office a vertical machine, which was stated to produce the enormous number of 10,000 im-

pressions per hour. This machine consisted of a vertical cylinder, about sixty-five inches in diameter, on which the type was fixed, surrounded by eight other cylinders, each about thirteen inches in diameter, covered with cloth, and round which the sheets of paper were conveyed by means of tapes; each paper cylinder being furnished with a feeding apparatus, having one boy to lay them on and another to take them off. The inking rollers were also placed in a vertical position, against the large cylinder, upon a portion of the surface of which they distributed the ink. The ink was held in a vertical reservoir, formed of a ductor-roller, against which rested two “straight edges,” connected at the back, so as to prevent the ink from running out: it was conveyed from the ductor-roller by one of the inking rollers, against which it was occasionally pushed.

The type used was of the ordinary kind, and the form was placed upon a portion of the large cylinder, being fixed to it in a very plain but ingenious manner: a slab of iron was curved on its under side, so as to fit the large cylinder, whilst its upper surface was filed into facets or flat parts, corresponding in width and number to the width and number of the columns of the newspaper; between each column there was a strip of steel, with a thin edge, to print the “rule”—the body of it being wedge-shaped, so as to fill up the angular space left between the columns of type, and to press the type together sideways, or in the direction of the lines; the type was pressed together in the other direction by means of screws, and was therefore firmly held together. The surface of the type thus formed a portion of a polygon; and the regularity of the impression was obtained by pasting slips of paper on the paper cylinders.

The operation of the machine was very simple: the “layer-on” drew forward a sheet of paper on the feeding-board, until its edge was under a roller, furnished with tapes, which dropped down and drew the sheet forward and downward, into a vertical position, when other rollers and tapes carried it round the paper cylinder, when it met the type, which had been inked by passing in contact with the inking rollers; the sheet then continued its progress until it reached the “taker-off.”

Some statistics, relative to the printing of the *Times*, were mentioned, from which it appeared, that on the 7th of May, 1850, the *Times* and *Supplement* contained 72 columns, or 17,500 lines, made up of upwards of a million pieces of type, of which matter about two-fifths were written, composed, and corrected after 7 o’clock in the evening. The *Supplement* was sent to press at 7 50 P.M., the first form of the paper at 4 15 A.M., and the second form at 4 45 A.M.; on this occasion, 7,000 papers were published before 6 15 A.M., 21,000 papers before 7 30 A.M., and 34,000 before 8 45 A.M., or in about four hours. The greatest number of copies ever printed in one day was 54,000, and the greatest quantity of printing in one day’s publication was on the 1st of March, 1848, when the paper used weighed 7 tons, the weight usually required being  $4\frac{1}{2}$  tons; the surface to be printed every night, including the *Supplement*, was 30 acres; the weight of the fount of type in constant use was 7 tons, and 110 compositors and 25 pressmen were constantly employed. The whole of the printing at the *Times* office was actually performed by three of Applegath and Cowper’s four-cylinder machines, and two of Applegath’s new vertical cylinder machines.

The President announced that the annual *Conversazione* would be held at the house of the Institution, on the 28th inst., and adjourned the meeting for business until the second Tuesday in November.

#### MEETINGS FOR THE ENSUING WEEK.

- MON. Geographical, 1.—Annual Meeting.  
— Institute of Actuaries, 7.  
— British Architects, 8.
- TUES. Civil Engineers, 9.—President’s *Conversazione*.  
— Horticultural, 3.  
— Zoological, 9.—Scientific Business.
- WED. Society of Arts, 8.—‘On a Plan for Embanking the Thames; combining a System of Sewerage, of Water-Supply, and of Metropolitan Railways for relieving the Street Traffic,’ by Mr. W. H. Smith, C.E.
- THURS. Royal, half past 8.  
— Antiquaries, 8.
- FRI. Royal Institution, half-past 8.—‘On Forests of erect Fossil Trees in the Coal Strata of North America and Europe,’ by Sir G. Lyell.
- SAT. Asiatic, 2.

#### PINE ARTS

##### ROYAL ACADEMY.

Mr. E. M. Ward has again this year relinquished the comic vein, in which his successes had been numerous, to engage in the illustration of some of the gravest pages of our national history:—of which his picture of ‘Evelyn contemplating the desolation caused by the Great Fire in 1666’ gave good earnest. His present production is another justification of his new course. It is rarely that a mastery is acquired in both manners,—and this consideration increases the value of Mr. Ward’s present achievement. The sense of dramatic construction in laying out the personages of his scene, so as to enunciate clearly his purpose and story—a great quality in Mr. Ward’s art—has been here applied in the illustration of an interesting event fraught with great historical consequences,—that of *James the Second, in his Palace of Whitehall, receiving, in 1688, the News of the Landing of the Prince of Orange at Torbay* (No. 350). Here, Mr. Ward has followed the pages of Dalrymple; who informs us that the king “turned pale, and remained motionless; the letter dropped from his hand; his past errors, his future dangers, rushed at once upon his thoughts: he strove to conceal his perturbation, but in doing so, betrayed it; and his courtiers in affecting not to observe him, betrayed that they did.” The vacillatory and bigotted monarch is here shown as stupified by his conflicting emotions. The descendant of the proud house of Este, his wife, is by his side; and their son, the infant Chevalier, is in his nurse’s arms. Here, too, is John Churchill, the then attendant on the king, and afterwards his formidable foe. Here, too, are grouped together the bloody Jefferies, “the wily Adda, the papal Nuncio,” and Feversham, together with Father Petre, whose pose and movement are admirably expressive of the apprehension of the practical consequences of such tidings to the members of his class and creed. The courtiers and attendants carry out expressively the spirit and intent of the text,—while they make the minor and supporting groups of the picture. The appointments of time and place are just and appropriate. The entire scene, lighted up with true effect, has the look of reality,—and the various details are executed with a free hand, which has shown great advance in imparting to the surfaces quality in colour. The same artist’s *Isaac Walton Angling—A Summer’s Day on the Banks of the Colne* (457) must not be overlooked. While it evidences Mr. Ward’s skill in landscape treatment, it shows also with what heartiness he has entered into the quaint individuality of his hero. Both these pictures will add to Mr. Ward’s reputation.

Mr. Linnell satisfies us less than usual in his scene from the New Testament,—*Christ and the Woman of Samaria at Jacob’s Well* (474). Like all the works of this artist, the present exhibits great resource in knowledge of the powers of the palette and of their various applications,—in contrast, in repetitions, and in harmonies. But the artist has been less fortunate in his combination of the human forms which here give the title to the scene. That Mr. Linnell’s acquaintance with the human form is great and intimate need not at this period of his art be admitted. His portraits are proverbial for their individuality of contour and expression. Here, however, we have none of that particular truth for which the portraits are distinguished; while there is a vagueness which indicates haste, and produces consequent incompleteness. It is in *Crossing the Brook* (395) that we are to look for the accustomed exhibition of this artist’s talents, in a scene professedly English,—an incident of rural life, a simple and every-day fact, in which the undulation of a road, a rugged bank, a mantling pool, some straggling underwood, or dwarfish tree, and the lumbering cart, form the elements. The *Portrait of Dr. Morgan* (361) is one of those studies, by the same hand, of the class to which we have before alluded.

Mr. Hart’s pictures this year testify to the enthusiasm and devotion with which after so many years of successful practice, he still pursues the study of his art. No artist has a more diversified choice of subject; and if this erratic course occa-



sionally produces inequality, it gives by its varied experience a knowledge in the practical application of principles, and stores the mind and familiarizes the hand with the means of meeting and overcoming difficulties.—In *Simchath Torah*—*The Rejoicing of the Law* (106) the artist has given one of the most remarkable examples of progress in the Exhibition. It represents a Jewish Festival; and the point chosen is when “all the manuscripts of the Pentateuch, richly decorated with vestments and ornaments, are carried in procession seven times round the Synagogue, accompanied by the chanting of psalms and appropriate hymns.” No more gorgeous assemblage of materials for the picturesque could have been brought together, or used with more judgment. The figures are magnificently costumed,—the heads vigorous and varied in expression,—the drawing free, bold and graceful,—and the chiar-oscuro and colour are admirable in arrangement; while every object preserves its local hue of truth—if we make exception to a little tendency to greenness of tone in the reflections. The skill with which the painter has made the ornamental marble pulpit the basis of his effect, and so supported the fulness of arrangement necessary to his vari-coloured materials, shows the depth of his knowledge and observation. Another of Mr. Hart’s works, *Arnolfo di Lapo* (200), represents an architect deep in the consideration of some design; and is the finest of a class of pictures which he occasionally produces,—namely, single heads on a large scale. The drawing is vigorous and powerful,—the expression intense,—and the colour and tone deep and rich.—There are also by the same hand *Interior of a Church at Florence* (248),—*Interior in St. Mark’s, Venice* (250)—and *Interior of part of the Kitchen in Sir Thomas Gresham’s Palace, at Mayfield, Sussex* (305). All these are characterized by truth and careful drawing—the last especially. *The Virtuoso* (359), also by Mr. Hart, is pleasing in colour and effect.

Mr. Danby, sen. has not this year displayed his accustomed strength. *Spring* (573), with all due deference to the blossoms which the painter shows us as putting forth their beauty, conveys none of that “ethereal mildness” which the poet expresses. Nature has here put on another layer; and the verdant freshness proper to the season is substituted by the tinting that bespeaks a later time.

If Mr. Frith has no composition of such pretension or scale as that of last year, ‘*The Coming of Age*,’ he makes amends in the two pictures of varied subject which he has contributed. There is no one amongst our younger artists more steady in the acquirement of distinction by the honest and unerring devotion of superior talent and well-directed industry. In the scene where *Sancho tells a tale to the Duke and Duchess, to prove that Don Quixote is at the bottom of the table* (332), Mr. Frith has made the semi-Oriental character of the piece and the situations suggestive of great richness of colour and of striking physiognomical character. The subject has given him an opportunity of laying himself out for the full indulgence at once of that combination and that opposition of tints for which he is eminent. In the deepest and richest combinations he contrives to impart refinement in passages which, in less skilful hands, would betray coarseness or sensuality. The present picture, we have said, is one of great beauty in colour: in character it is even surpassed by the scene from Goldsmith’s ‘*Good-natured Man*,’ in which Mr. Honeywood introduces the *Daviliffs to Miss Richland as his Friends* (543). Messrs. Twitch and Flanigan show at Mr. Frith’s hands as no very desirable acquaintances; and the lady, with great good-nature and well-grounded apprehension, conceals the true nature of her suspicion. Mr. Frith has put the scene well before us:—heightening to the very extreme, by the way, of pictorial licence and enhancement, the characters of those self-same “odd-looking” personages. In the rendering of the subject there are great quaintness and raciness, in no slight degree aided by the character of the manipulation. There is less of the materialism of the palette in the tinting,—an air of more reality over the whole and over the several parts,—and a spirit in the touch that contributes to the look of vivacity where this quality is essential. The last-named pic-

ture is, to our taste, in a high style of his art. *A Portrait of a Lady* (205) is expressive of the invention which a painter of imagination may throw into a circumstance ordinarily rendered as commonplace and insipid.

There are some excellent passages of composition in form and colour in a small picture of southern scenery and costume,—Mr. J. Reed’s *Giorgione at his Studies* (362). The name of the artist is almost new. The present is an improvement in colour on his work of last year, although it is of less pretension as regards size; but there is in it great promise of future excellence if Mr. Reed will but honestly pursue a course which he has begun with much credit.

In lieu of any work on a large scale from the easel of Mr. Webster, we have four small contributions,—the results, obviously, of some summer ramble. Of these, *A Study from Nature* (54)—a kitchen interior—may, for truth, taste, and handling, be likened to Ostade. Another is entitled *A Peasant’s Home* (146); and a third *A Farm House Kitchen* (360). All these are distinguished for their truth. *The Cherry Seller* (98) is a pretty little group, in which the fruit is made the focal suggestion of a rich arrangement.

A worthy follower of Mr. Webster is Mr. W. H. Knight, a new candidate for pictorial eminence. *A Christmas Party preparing for Blind-Man’s Buff* (415) may be conscientiously pronounced as a work of great merit and great promise. The painstaking and care which breathe out of every part would of themselves proclaim the work of a new hand. These have produced a composition in which there are good drawing, character, and taste, that prove the artist to have studied from the best sources; and there are passages in the picture which would not discredit the great artist whose works in the National Gallery have been manifestly the objects of Mr. Knight’s sedulous study. Wilkie and Webster appear to be the sources of this young painter’s inspiration.

There is only one small oil picture by Mr. Uwins—*Psyche returning from the Infernal Regions, with the Casket of Beauty* (151). The treatment is very poetical.

Mr. Creswick maintains well the ground which he has occupied so long,—amid imitators whose name is Legion, and who—like all of their class—take refuge in the obviousness of his practice,—catching the shadow and losing the substance. But Mr. Creswick is this year most successful where least expected. True it is, he has before appeared under like circumstances, made precious and familiar by the hand of Collins—of whom he is a worthy successor. In his large coast scene, entitled *The Wind on Shore* (8), he has made his art cleverly expressive of expanse. This quality, while mainly ascribable to the well drawn parts, is also well sustained by the atmospheric influence shed around them. The watery element is here as much subjected to the painter’s government as are those leafy passages by which, in long-drawn avenue or forest thicket, he has made his power acknowledged. The character of the time is well proclaimed. Had the clouds possessed greater character in their shapes and more fulness—more simplicity of parts—the truth of the scene would have been enhanced. *The First Glimpse of the Sea* (258) is less agreeable to our taste than the ‘*Mill Scene on the Heath*,’ of last year. The passing gleam of light is here, however, rendered with closest observation and with a beauty of means that is the painter’s exclusive possession. In *The Forest* (289) is a charming example of his powers. The thickened masses are well contrasted by the delicate forms whose elegant shapes and graceful garniture receive the whispers of the wind. The serene sky, but dappled with the seudding partial clouds, is executed with most tender sense,—and the distance is wrought with completeness of effect. For actuality of resemblance, *The Forest Farm* (542) may be quoted as exemplary. The eye gazes on it until the illusion steals away the sense. In subject unimportant, and with forms of no great promise, the value of truth has rarely been better shown.

Mr. Charles Landseer has again betaken himself to classical literature for the subject of his pencil,

and produced the enfranchised slave *Esop* (215), the master spirit of apologue. The deformed fabulist, seated amid the animals, the media of his moral teaching, is attended on by females, while in the distance a male servitor, habited in the Phrygian bonnet and other costume of the place, is performing some of the menial duties of the household. The incident has given Mr. Landseer another favourable occasion for the display of his acquaintance with the forms of the inferior animals, and the whole is touched with a masterly and bold pencil. To those who are fond of more humble subjects, the single figure of a peasant *Girl in a Hop Garden* (399), guarding a cradle, whose contents may be imagined, will have the additional charms of being the record of a pretty artless girl, painted in a broad and clear manner, and altogether one of Mr. Landseer’s best examples in this way. An interior of a *Kitchen at Mayfield* (456) is as remarkable for its truth as its dextrous execution.

In pursuance of the choice of subject which Mr. Egg has of late made, he has presented us with a scene from the Life of Peter the Great. It is where *Peter sees Catherine, his future Wife, for the first time* (292). The best authorities are at variance as to the actual circumstances under which the interview took place. Mr. Egg has, however, accepted the more popular version, and exhibits the young Livonian appearing in the garb of a camp follower, offering spirits for sale at the tent in which the king with some officers are planning a future campaign. The king suspends for a while his labours over the unfolded map rivetted by the charms of the young peasant, whose personal attractions were the real secret of her empire over him. It is in every respect Mr. Egg’s best work,—remarkable for its breadth, clearness of colour, and masculine touch.

One of the best studies of the female form in the Exhibition, is in a picture entitled *Geraldine* (287), by Mr. Boxall. It is full of fine sentiment, admirable colour, and reality of relief.

The second part of the Clerk’s Tale, in Chaucer’s *Canterbury Pilgrimage*, has furnished Mr. Elmore with the subject of *Griselde* (312); one in which he has been enabled to apply some of those studies made when sojourning in southern countries,—and the picture is eloquent of them. The tale has been ever popular: the moral of the endurance and the virtue it inculcates are ever to be cherished. Received in this light, the various episodes it suggests, as they present new situations, afford the artist opportunities as diverse for combinations of sentiment or form. Mr. Elmore has chosen that incident of deepest interest, when the Marquis, on the day promised to his people, sallies forth, to select his wife, and encounters at the public well the maiden whom he afterwards so sorely troubles with the trials which his jealousy suggests. She is there with her companions, waiting to behold the lady whom the “Lord of Lumbardie” may bring home, when she is accosted by this same Lord, who solicits her to be that wife whom, in her simplicity, she had come forth to look upon. In the presentment of the maiden Griselde lies the strength of the painter’s power; and he has well represented that innocent and guileless bearing which the poet describes. The deferential attitude expressed in the old man, equally indicates the character of Janicola, her father; but in the hero of the piece—in young Lord Walter, Mr. Elmore has not been equally successful, as he scarcely realizes the description—

Strong, and yong of age,

And ful of honor and of curtesie.

But the artist may have been anxious not to divide the interest, and therefore to throw all descriptive charms into the character of his heroine. Taking this to be the intent and meaning, it must be confessed that Mr. Elmore has never shown to greater advantage. There is a classicity in the pose and general air proving extension of view, of greater ideality also, and of a higher sense of grace.—*The Queen of the Day*—suggested from the *Decameron* of Boccaccio (526), is another presentment of Italian life—of bright and sunny existence, breathing the spirit of the author, and conveyed in art-language of grace and beauty, of which the Queen of the Day herself is a personification.



Mr. Linton, in his principal work, although lingering amid scenes of Italian life, has quitted the lands rife with antique and classic association, come nearer home, and touched on interests and history nearer to our own times. *Venice* (484)—inexhaustible in interest, picturesque in combination, fantastic in taste, and rich in colour—has had its influences on Mr. Linton, who, in exchanging the shores of Greece for the Lido and the Brenta, has sacrificed nothing of his accustomed power. Mr. Linton has given a view of the Sea-Cybele from a point unknown to us before, and has stamped upon it that air of verity, best appreciated by those who know her well. He has imparted local truth to her buildings, and dramatic truth to the business of the scene. The picture is clear, bright, and forcible in its execution. In a smaller work, *The Temple of Minerva Medica, Rome* (218), a picturesque group of ruins is seen under the atmospheric influence of a sky and a temperature which Mr. Linton is always happy in the expression of, and of which there is no more favourable example than the present.

#### Architectural Drawings.

We have already intimated our disappointment at No. 1164, for the subject afforded Mr. Barry a favourable opportunity for producing something original,—a palatial country residence, and as such distinctly different from a town one. Mr. Barry, however, is not the man to be led astray by a Will o' the Wisp chase after novelty, and has done little more than transplant to Cliefden what is to be seen in the Strand; contenting himself with a second edition of the front of Somerset House. There is the same lofty rusticated basement with its nine arches, the same attached order, comprising a principal floor and mezzanine. There are minor differences, no doubt; one of them consisting in the entablature being made to break over the columns. Nos. 1192, 1205, and 1217, may very properly be noticed together, two of them being designs for rebuilding the National Gallery; the third for improving the present façade of that edifice. The first of these, *A Design for a New National Gallery, for Painting and Sculpture*, is by Mr. Fergusson, and embodies his idea for the exterior of the building, the entire plan of which may be found in his 'Observations on the British Museum, National Gallery, &c.' To that publication, therefore, we refer those who wish for a full explanation of a scheme which can hardly be considered other than chimerical, both on account of its extraordinary magnitude and the extensive demolition of buildings, the present National Gallery included, which it would require. Not only would St. Martin's Workhouse and the Barracks have to be removed, but a number of houses in St. Martin's Lane, Whitcomb Street, Dorset Place, and on the north side of Pall Mall East. Surely, then, it would be more economical to give up the whole of the present building in Trafalgar Square to the Royal Academy, and transfer the National Gallery to some other site where building would be the only work required. As to Mr. Fergusson's design, were the building represented by it perfectly satisfactory in point of taste, it would hardly improve the general appearance of Trafalgar Square—for its extravagant loftiness would cause St. Martin's Church and all the other buildings to appear diminutive.—*Design for a Royal Academy upon the present site* (1205), by A. Allom, (one of the set of drawings which obtained the Academy's Gold Medal last year) would replace the actual structure in Trafalgar Square more appropriately in every respect than the preceding. It is a successful combination of simplicity, dignity and richness, and while it is classic in taste, contains several new and happy ideas, which, instead of derogating from, are worthy of being incorporated with those wherein the antique is avowedly followed. Had some such design as this been adopted for the Park front of Buckingham Palace, the façade of the Louvre must have yielded the palm to it.—*The Design for remodelling the Façade and Central Hall of the National Gallery at a moderate expense* (1217), by H. B. Garling, is seen to disadvantage after Mr. Allom's. Whether the horizontal mass here substituted for the dome would be an improvement

is rather questionable. One comparatively trifling alteration, however, would, we think, be attended with good effect—to remove the stone-coloured (!) iron railing, and erect in lieu of it a solid podium between five and six feet high, which would serve as a connecting architectural base to the whole façade, and would completely screen out areas and other very undignified and disturbing parts.—No. 1207 calls for a word as being the only *Design for the Dundee Arch*, respecting which so much was said just at the time of the competition, and of which we therefore expected to find several drawings here. Whether the good people of Dundee have shown their discrimination by rejecting the very mediocre idea submitted to them in this design we cannot say without knowing how much better or worse is the one which they have adopted; we have our suspicions,—so if they have not shown discrimination, the fortunate architect at least shows his discretion by not challenging criticism.

Any one without a catalogue might be excused for taking 1209 (*Arcades and Portico of the Central Railway Station, Newcastle-upon-Tyne*, by J. Dobson,) to be a mere flight of an architectural fancy, which it were hopeless to think of realizing. What we here behold eclipses everything in the metropolis that admits of any sort of comparison with it. Its grandiosity and powerful effect reduce to insignificance even those few buildings here which approach it with regard to extent of frontage (viz., six hundred feet, or forty more than the entire frontage of the British Museum buildings). What with the Fitzwilliam Museum at Cambridge, St. George's Hall, Liverpool, and this station at Newcastle, the provinces seem to be taking the lead of the capital in architectural matters. Mr. Dobson's is a noble conception, treated with real gusto and mastery. It is not to be denied that he has been unusually favoured by opportunity and circumstances; but there are others who have had not only one but many opportunities, yet have failed to display mind or artistic power in any one of them. In the design we are now speaking of we should say that the architect has given us Vanbrugh's best qualities without his alloy; his vigour without his coarseness; his boldness in massing and outline without his rude capriciousness. The whole is stamped by a completeness of *ensemble* rarely achieved, for while unity is preserved a more than usual degree of variety is produced. Of course we speak only of the drawing: how far the works are advanced we know not; but trust that nothing will interfere to prevent the structure being fully carried out in accordance with the architect's intentions, for unless the design be now curtailed and pared down, it cannot fail to rank high among the finest monumental pieces of architecture in the kingdom.

Excepting those which have been already noticed by us there are scarcely any designs—certainly none of any mark—for secular buildings either public or private, in what for want of better distinction may be termed the *non-mediæval* style,—whether it inclines to Greek or Italian. To say the truth mediævalism appears to be rampant just now, as does *ante-Garbettism* also; all the churches here whose interiors are shown having open timber roofs. *The New Town Hall, Durham* (1196), by Mr. P. C. Hardwick (an interior view, though not so expressed in the Catalogue) derives its architectural character principally from a very ambitious roof of that description; almost the only other feature in it being an inordinately spacious fireplace, of primitive design, uncontaminated by modern ideas of comfort and by any of our new-fangled improvements.

That the designs for churches are exclusively in the Gothic style needs hardly to be said, and that technical proficiency in that style, as far as the mere letter of it is concerned, is perceptible, may be freely admitted; but there is too much of second-hand, if not second-rate, quality about them,—far more of compilation than of composition and of original thinking and conception. One of the most artistic productions of this class is *South-east View of the Church about to be erected at West Hartlepool, Durham* (1273), by Mr. E. B. Lamb; for it shows both freshness and vigour of ideas, and a laudable,

because successful, effort to break through the trammels of copyism.—One of the choicest subjects and drawings in the Architectural Room this year, we are not permitted to enjoy at all, for although a festive scene crowded with splendidly-attired figures, it is placed next to the floor, as if on purpose to tantalize and provoke the curious. We should have thought that the very title of *Her Majesty's Visit to Stafford House* (1288), by Mr. E. Lami, would have secured, or we might say commanded, for it a better place. Perhaps the Academy may have supposed that their visitors would willingly kneel down like loyal subjects to pay homage to royalty: pity they did not hint as much by placing a velvet cushion upon the floor, to render genuflexion less disagreeable.

FINE-ART GOSSIP.—Killarney "visited" or "unvisited" or even "re-visited"—let Killarney be seen as Mr. Burford has brought it into Leicester Square. A more lovely scene it would be difficult to imagine. It is a fairy land—worthy of a place in Spenser's noble allegory or in Thomson's 'Castle of Indolence'—differing in many essential points of beauty from the Lake scenery of Cumberland and Westmoreland, and still more widely from the lochs and mountains of Scotland. The whole seems to realize "A Happy Valley," and yet the reflection is continually recurring—"And this is Ireland!" Viewed as a work of Art, the Panorama of Killarney is one of Mr. Burford's most successful pictures. The foreground (always a difficult matter) is in this instance peculiarly happy in its arrangement.

Mr. Jacob Bell has just bought with his eighty-pound prize in the Art-Union Mr. E. M. Ward's large picture of 'James the Second in his Palace of Whitehall receiving the News of the Landing of the Prince of Orange.' The paid price for the picture is, we believe, five hundred pounds,—so that Mr. Bell, in order to obtain a good picture, has added a large sum to the money obtained in his run of good luck in the lottery at Drury Lane.

The picture by Ary Scheffer now on view at Messrs. Colnaghi's—'Christus Remunerator'—which is in progress of engraving by Mr. Blanchard, to serve as a companion print to the 'Christus Consolator' by the same painter,—gives no high idea of the present superiority of French Art. It is very inferior in its design to the first picture—and for its sentiment it relies more on a certain theatrical pathos and conventional arrangement than on freshness of feeling or any deep natural touches. It is all *art*—and that not of the best kind; for it is as faulty in its proportions as it is in its colour. That the painter intended some mysticism in the action of the principal figure—whose pose is significant of the instrument of Christ's sufferings—is probable. The figure is so badly proportioned and so deficient in height that these faults strike the beholder at a glance. The forms of the minor figures are liable to the same objection of disproportion; and the tinting of the flesh is of the very poorest order of conventional prejudice. This from one of the most eminent masters of the present French school surprises us; and we are yet more surprised to find inaccuracies in proportion and drawing—qualities for which the school has been accustomed to claim a European pre-eminence.

One of the most charming of Sir Joshua Reynolds's pictures from infantine nature will pass under the hammer of Messrs. Christie & Manson, on the day on which this number of our paper is published. It is called in the catalogue 'The celebrated picture of the Little Girl with a Spaniel,' but in reality it is the portrait of Miss Bowles, sister of the present Col. Bowles. It is uncleaned and uncracked, and in every respect the finest Sir Joshua that has been sold since the 'Age of Innocence' at the sale of the late Jeremiah Harman.

Some exquisite designs in sepia, by Stothard, for silversmiths' work, were sold at Messrs. Christie & Manson's on Tuesday last, at the sale of the late Mr. John Gawler Bridge, of the well-known firm of Rundell & Bridge. Lot 209, Design for a Plate, with Cupids and Fruit, brought 15*l.* 5*s.*, and lots 211 and 212, A Semicircular Frieze of Bacchanals, with Fruits, 39*l.* 18*s.*—Better examples of Stothard's pencil have seldom occurred for sale.



The total produce of the sale of the late Mr. Etty's works was 5,211l. 6s. 6d.

The Paris papers report the death, aged eighty, of M. Mulard, the painter,—Professor of Drawing at the Manufactory of the Gobelins. He was a pupil of the school of David,—and some of his pictures figure in the historical collections of the Museum of Versailles.

It is stated from Berlin that the Prussian Government has determined on erecting, in the Park of the Hotel of Invalids, in that city a monument in honour of the soldiers who lost their lives in the insurrection of the 18th of March 1848. It will consist of a bronze column, one hundred feet in height, surmounted by an eagle with expanded wings, also in bronze. The first stone is to be laid by the King on the 18th of June.

## MUSIC AND THE DRAMA

LONDON SACRED HARMONIC SOCIETY, EXETER HALL.—FRIDAY NEXT, May 31, will be repeated HAYDN'S "CREATION." Vocalists: Miss Catherine Hayes, Mrs. Temple, Miss Kent, Mr. Lockety and Mr. Lawler. Conductor: Mr. Surman. Leader: Mr. H. Blagrove. Organist: Mr. J. Jolley.—with Orchestra of 800 performers.—Tickets, 2s., 3s. and 5s.; Stalls, 10s. 6d. To be had at 9, Exeter Hall.—Reserved Seat Subscribers entering previous to the 31st will be entitled to four admissions and presented with a copy of the Oratorio.

MR. BRINLEY RICHARDS respectfully announces that his CONCERT will take place on FRIDAY EVENING, May 31, at the Hanover Square Rooms, under the immediate patronage of His Royal Highness the Duke of Cambridge and His Grace the Duke of Newcastle. Mr. Richards will perform a Quintet by Macfarren, the last of a number of which has been re-arranged expressly for this Concert; and a Selection from the works of Bach and Handel.—Conductors: MM. Benedict and Lindsay Sloper.—Single Tickets, 7s.; Reserved Seats, 10s. 6d.

M. BENEDICT'S GRAND ANNUAL MORNING CONCERT, under the immediate patronage of Her Majesty the Queen, H.R.H. Prince Albert, H.R.H. the Duchess of Kent, and their Royal Highnesses the Duke and Duchess of Cambridge.—M. BENEDICT begs respectfully to announce that his ANNUAL CONCERT will take place on the stage of Her Majesty's Theatre, on Friday Morning, June 21, with the entire Chorus and Orchestra, on which occasion he will be supported by all the eminent Artists of that establishment, including Mesdames Sontag, Frezzolini, Parodi, Giuliani, Ida Bertrand, Miss Catherine Hayes, Signori Gardoni, Calzolari, Baucarde, Coletti, Belletti, F. Lablache, and Lablache; under the direction of Mr. Palfé. Piano—Messrs. Halle, Osborne, Lindsay Sloper, and Benedict. Violin—Messrs. Ernst and Mœrike. Violoncello—Signor Piatti; and French Horn—M. Vivier. Engagements with other distinguished Artists are pending. Prices of admission: Boxes, Two, Three, and Four Guineas; Pit Stalls, 12 1/2s.; Pit Tickets, 10s. 6d.; Gallery Stalls, 5s.; Gallery, 2s. 6d. Applications for Boxes, &c. to be made at the principal Libraries, Music-rooms, and the Office of Her Majesty's Theatre, and to M. Benedict, 2, Manchester Square.

PHILHARMONIC SOCIETY.—Sixth Concert.—The Symphonies were Mozart's in D No. 4, and Beethoven's 'Pastorale,' the latter of which went with the utmost perfection and ripeness. The overture was Cherubini's 'Anacorete.' The Solos were three: one of Corelli's Trios, allotted to Messrs. Lindley, Lucas and Howell, which was *encored* out of compliment to the veteran violoncellist,—Mozart's pianoforte Concerto in D minor, played by M. Thalberg; also some new variations by the latter on the *Barcarole* 'Io son ricco,' from 'L'Elisir.' These are full of most brilliant effects, and were so incomparably played as to make the audience wish for more. On being recalled, M. Thalberg performed his *Tarantella* with that amplitude of tone and unflinching rapidity of hand which from the first have placed and still maintain him alone and unparagoned among executants. Of Mozart's *Concertos* in general we have already offered a judgment which is at variance with that of the generality of musicians. We have, therefore, but to add that M. Thalberg's reading of this particular one was too literal for our taste, and that his *cadenzas*, clever, rich and difficult as they were (the second especially), too much resembled *set* pieces of composition in place of self-creating and self-multiplying *impromptu* fancies thrown off in the fervour of the moment. He was enthusiastically received by one of the most crowded audiences which we recollect to have seen at a Philharmonic Concert. We state its numbers out of fairness to the Directors, who may conceive that therein is an answer to our complaints and strictures. The singing was hyper-German, which means, we are sorry to say, very bad. Some seven years since, if we mistake not, Madame Nottes used to sing in minor opera at the *Kärnther Thor Theater* of Vienna. Her vocal powers having undergone some diminution, she now—naturally enough!—aims at grand and tragic music, and to conceal her defects of vocal method, screams "with all her heart." Her partner was Herr Fornes, who being possibly excited by the old familiar sounds of Fatherland, on this occasion emitted his voice

with a violence which we hoped might be in course of cure at the Italian Opera. His delivery of the grand bass *scena* from 'Euryanthe' was, in parts, scarcely endurable. *Lysistrata* is not a *Caliban*, but an *Iachimo*; and though the music written for the malicious nobleman by Weber claims emphatic delivery,—it demands the emphasis of fine intellect, not of brute force.

CONCERTS OF THE WEEK.—Of Madame Puzzi's Concert, held in the Concert-room of Her Majesty's Theatre, we can give small account—having been unable to enter the room by reason of the crowd. Madame Sontag's *rondo* from 'Le Toredor' (with flute accompaniment) must be well worth hearing if all accounts be true.

M. Silas performed at the Musical Union on Tuesday. There is much to praise in this young player: not merely a clever pair of hands, but also an intelligent and constructive mind. His playing of the *allegro* to Sebastian Bach's well-known *Concerto* in D minor was good: in places, perhaps, too expressive according to the modern notion of expression. Now, for the due rendering of this old music, besides clearness, metronomic steadiness and ease, a certain quaintness of humour, and a very slight indication by insistence when some subtle change of harmony occurs are required: these imply a union of sobriety with spirit which is hardly to be expected at his age. M. Silas, too, performed some pleasing *Romances* of his own composition in the style of Mendelssohn's *Lieder*. He well deserves a hearing in the Philharmonic orchestra.

We are indebted to M. Godefroid's *Matinée* of harp-music for one of the most special and refined musical treats of the season. Recollecting distinctly the sumptuous tone of Mr. Alvares, the daring brilliancy of M. Bochsa, and the elegance of M. Labarre, not to speak of the delicacy of Signor Dizi as belonging to an elder school, M. Godefroid now seems to us to surpass them all as a combination of ease, taste, power, variety, picturesque fancy and sound musical feeling. He performed some Studies—his 'Danse des Sylphes'—his *fantasia* on themes from 'Robert'—his variations on 'Nel cor più'—and a 'Carnaval de Venise'—in all giving us pleasant occasion to remark how largely he has enriched his store of executive resources since his last visit to England. As treated by him the harp acquires for the musician that fascination which it has always exercised over the poets. His compositions, too, are alike sterling and picturesque. M. Godefroid was assisted by Mdlle. de Rupplin, Signor Brignoli, and M. Lefort. The last new comer's baritone singing, especially of French music, is highly finished and agreeable.

On Wednesday evening, Mr. Hullah's Chorus repeated the 'Lauda Sion' of Mendelssohn.—Mr. Henry Leslie's Festival Anthem, which gains upon acquaintance,—and the 'Oberon' finale, &c. &c., the band on this occasion largely consisting of the members of The Amateur Society. The fact claims honourable notice; and, if further occupation spur the members of this body to more rigid and patient practice in such good company, most effective results may be obtained. The solo singers were Miss Deakin, Mrs. Noble, Messrs. Lockety and W. Seguin. The first Lady seems most opportunely ready to fill the place vacated by Miss A. Williams. Her voice is powerful, attractive and well delivered; her articulation is excellent, as was to be expected from Mrs. Shaw's pupil. She sang, too, with a steadiness and a finish most commendable in one who has had so little experience of orchestral performance. In short, with common chances and a continuance of the good preparation already so obvious, Miss Deakin should prove a valuable addition to the ranks of English female singers.

Little space is left for mention of Mr. Osborne's *Third Matinée*, to which the concert-giver, assisted by Herr Ernst and Signor Piatti, befittingly contributed largely as player and as composer.—We can but here also notice in a line that the second of the Royal Italian Opera Concerts was given yesterday, and that the Sacred Harmonic Society last evening closed its season by repeating Handel's 'Israel in Egypt.'

HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE.—Eight years ago Madame Frezzolini was described in this journal [*vide Athen.* No. 757] as possessing a "soprano voice of the most extensive quality," which seemed "preternaturally strained in the manner of its production." "Then, too," we continued, "with great pretensions to such combined flexibility of detail and breadth of outline in ornament, as are required to decorate a grand *cantabile*, her whole style appears deficient in connexion and polish." During the interval some changes have taken place in Madame Frezzolini's powers and acquirements,—both in sequential harmony with the character given above. The preternatural straining has destroyed the medium portion of Madame Frezzolini's vocal register. Betwixt F and F her tones are now veiled, weak and not to be sustained. Above F the lady has retained some six or seven beautiful *soprano* notes, that now increasingly shine by contrast. Whether they be capable of gradation from *forte* to *mezzo-forte* and *piano* "deponent sayeth not;" since throughout the part of *Lucrezia Borgia*, in which she made her appearance, she wrought her effects with these tones forcibly produced,—wearing out our enthusiasm by too prodigal a display of her own. In her *sortita*, while Madame Frezzolini's cadences and ornaments often displayed ideas of grandeur, they were at once too lavishly applied and not perfectly finished. This *solo* and her florid *largo* in the last scene (which in a somewhat extravagant way was striking) were her best efforts,—since in the concerted music she was ineffective, save where an A or B in *alt.* permitted her to scream. Madame Frezzolini is possibly the most attractive and finished specimen extant of the songstress dear to and destroyed by Verdi; and the present plight of her voice, its former even beauty considered, may wisely be taken to heart by all *cantatrici* who find the new school, so called, easy and seductive. We do not find eight years' progress in the acting of Madame Frezzolini. She was always *en scène*, however, and had one great moment—that in which *Lucrezia* reveals his origin to her son. Otherwise, her version of the character was poor and pale compared with Madame Grisi's, without a touch or trace of that subtle, supple, caressing voluptuousness and covert ferocity which also are comprehended in the part, and which render it susceptible of another reading. Madame Frezzolini was received with the rapturous applause which "cleaves to the door posts" of Her Majesty's Theatre. Mdlle. Bertrand's *Orsino* is odd to see (a quaint mixture of manly moustache and feminine *coiffure*), and tiresome to hear. Signor Baucarde's *Gennaro* is the best piece of singing we have as yet heard from him; but much study and stage knowledge are still wanting. The comfortable manner in which he sits down to expire "in this old chair" makes decease from the Borgia bottle almost dull in place of its being direful.

ROYAL ITALIAN OPERA.—We have more than once speculated on the effect producible by the 'Roberto' of Meyerbeer on the English public. Hitherto, that opera has failed to please our opera-goers, though thrice tried. Neither the fame of its first Parisian *furor* and the combined talent of Mesdames Cinti and De Meric, MM. Nourrit and Levasseur, when the four were in their prime,—nor Mdlle. Jenny Lind arriving with all the *prestige* of her voice and virtue and assertions (like *Lady Heron's*)—

of "Yea" and "Nay"—  
She could not, would not, durst not, play;—  
nor Mr. Grieve with his scenic sorceries last year devised, were able to win for "the Mystery" such cordial favour as from the first greeted 'Les Huguenots' and 'Le Prophète' upon our Italian stage.—The cast of Thursday last, we felt, must be decisive as an experiment—since it hardly falls within the scope of any composer's luck to have one of his works so long after its birth cherished into new life by such a brilliant *corps* as is made up of Mesdames Grisi and Castellan, Signori Tamberlik and Mario. The result, on Thursday, was complete success:—though one likely, perhaps, to prove less lasting than the triumphs of M. Meyerbeer's two more recent and human operas. Madame Grisi's *Alice*



deserves the first mention as admirable, whether in its vocal force and finish, or in its simple and spirited acting. There are few facts in the annals of music comparable to this Lady's entering upon grand French opera after so many years of practice in the dramatically slighter Italian school, and in such new and difficult occupation distancing every competitor—one alone excepted. Madame Castellan is altogether another lady from the Madame Castellan who was hardly looked at, or listened to, as *Isabella*, in the 'Roberto,' for Mdle. Lind's sake. Her *Princess Isabella* is now an excellent and attractive performance. She is audibly gaining ground this season. Signor Tamberlik was on Thursday obviously unwell, and began the part feebly for him,—but he rallied in his singing as the opera went on, giving its later scenes with great power and passion, and throughout acting this most ungrateful of characters as nobly as he could under the pressure of such an *incubus* as Herr Formes. The last gentleman is almost always *Roberto's* companion on the stage,—and, when on the stage, is resolute that no one shall be seen or heard save Herr Formes. His *Bertram* is a performance of three tricks:—one, of wrapping up *Robert* in his cloak on the largest scale possible;—another, of menacing *Alice* with windmill arms and hands clenched claw-wise and then running away;—the third, of bellowing in a most demoniacal fashion. Signor Mario is charming as *Raimboud*. In short, the cast and the performance were so interesting and (with one huge exception) so first-rate, that we may, possibly, return to 'Roberto' in a future article.

NEW STRAND.—On Monday, 'The Hypocrite' was represented:—*Old Lady Lambert* being performed for the last time by Mrs. Glover.—A new after-piece, entitled, 'The Philosopher's Stone,' was then produced; which, though old and even obsolete in its form, may for these times be pronounced a novelty. It is, in fact, a laudable attempt on the part of Mr. Tom Taylor to revive a species of entertainment in which our fathers delighted—to wit, the "Morality." Mr. Taylor has adopted the subject of alchemy, and adapted it to stage expedients. 'The Philosopher's Stone' is the title of his work,—and its hero is none other than the renowned *Paracelsus*. Our readers know that in his treatment of the same argument Mr. Browning has indulged his mystical tendencies to the utmost; a particular in which he has been followed by Mr. Taylor. But Mr. Taylor has taken the comic side of the mystical application, and is therefore both more intelligible and more amusing, though he is not a whit less extravagant than Mr. Browning. *Paracelsus* is transported at once to California; in the caverns of which the dramatist locates the home of the metals, and impersonates them in beings who become, on the discovery of the philosopher's stone, converted into human creatures, and take their respective parts in a satirical interlude. The part of *Paracelsus* is performed by Mr. Leigh Murray, and that of his famulus, *Platz*, by Mr. Compton; that of a flower-girl, an important agent in the piece, named *Vielchen*, is beautifully interpreted by Mrs. Stirling. The morality is divided into three morals. We have sufficiently indicated the first. The second exhibits *Paracelsus* in the midst of his wealth and splendour, with his palace gardens overlooking the Rhine, and all the delights of the earth courting in vain his jaded appetite. He is, at length, taught by *Vielchen* that he has lived only for himself, and not cultivated the joy of benefitting his fellow-creatures. *Paracelsus* forthwith determines to be charitable, and soon wins the suffrages of the vulgar by his unbounded philanthropy. In the third moral is exhibited the effect of injudicious generosity, in the generation of universal pauperism. Labour is neglected and wealth useless; for food is of more value than gold. Society is brought to a state of barter; the ludicrous results of which—with some hits at Louis Blanc and the French Socialists—are demonstrated. *Paracelsus* himself is starving; and is saved only by the poor flower-girl, who still supports herself by honest labour. In all this

there are good conceptions and facile execution. The situations and jests are striking; some of the former touching,—some of the latter even brilliant. The acting throughout is clever and artistic,—exemplifying the general and individual excellence of the company. The house was crowded,—and the "morality" successful.

MARYLEBONE.—Mr. Brooke continues to be the "star" at this theatre. On Whit-Monday he performed, for the first time before a London audience, the part of *King John*, in Shakespeare's historical tragedy. This is a character which requires an intelligence of a more subtle order, perhaps, than that with which Mr. Brooke is gifted; also, his efforts may have been marred by the state of his voice. He was not so perfect in the text as might have been wished, and the general tone of the performance was far from being impressive. Anything like an interpretation of motive and situation was not attempted. But the actor suffered something from the general inefficiency of the cast, and the absence of the appointments proper to the scene.

SURREY.—During this holiday period melo-drama is restored to its ascendancy: M. Eugène Süe's novel of 'Matilda,' forming the subject,—and the hero, *Count de Lugarto*, being acted by Mr. Shepherd. The march of regeneration, here, is slow and interrupted.

MUSICAL AND DRAMATIC GOSSIP.—In a note addressed to the *Times* a week ago the writer, who signs himself "Musicus Oxoniensis," thus complains of the absence of our Professor of Music, Sir H. R. Bishop, from his chair:—

This absence of Professors is, unfortunately, of too frequent occurrence to cause much remark, but when we see advertisements in the daily papers announcing that that functionary is engaged in the delivery of courses of lectures at the Polytechnic Institution and Whittington Club, it certainly seems odd that, if he does lecture anywhere, it should not be in fulfilment of his infinitely more honourable and important office here, rather than to the indiscriminate audiences of the above institutions; particularly as I learn that on entering on his Professorship he expressed his intention of delivering regular courses of lectures.

It is something new to encounter remonstrance against the scarcity of musical teaching, originating within academic precincts; Sir H. Bishop, we suspect, has merely followed precedent in his absenteeism; and as a sign of the times the protest is one claiming all publicity.

Let not, however, Oxford plume herself as possessing a monopoly of musical abuses. Some of our own benevolent Societies in London seem to stand in urgent need of revision and correction: to be at once tied down by absurdly formal laws, while their funds and their privileges are at the mercy of a class of claimants never contemplated by their projectors. The *Royal Society of Musicians*, in particular, so far from being maintained with any benefit to the art, seems in great danger of dwindling to the level of a company of "odd fellows," reinforced from the ranks of the smallest sound-manufacturers. While, as we last year pointed out [*vide Athen.* No. 1114], no singer is admissible as a member, no *cornet-à-piston* that performs at *Mrs. Perkins's Ball* is considered as unworthy of election and of participation in the benefits of an institution founded on a far more generous principle.

Haydn's 'Seasons'—a work which, in spite of all its beauty, has never become popular—was given yesterday week at Exeter Hall under conduct of M. Benedict, for the benefit of the *Choral Fund Society*; the treasury of which institution is understood to stand in need of replenishment.

Madame Pasta is in London for a fortnight: alas! that it has become needless to add, with no professional intentions.

Mrs. Anderson's Concert, at which Mendelssohn's music to the 'Edipus Coloneus' will be performed, is fixed for June the 10th,—to be given in the *Royal Italian Opera House*.—M. Benedict's Concert is to be held in *Her Majesty's Theatre*.—Meanwhile, for his next Concert on Monday the 27th, Mr. Lumley (who as all the world knows is at once mysterious and precise in promises concerning Men-

delssohn's music) advertised in last week's papers,—no feature less wonderful than Madame Sonntag's singing of 'The Lobgesang,' from Mendelssohn's cantata 'The Hymn of Praise.' As well might she have been set down to execute the 'Don Juan' from 'Don Giovanni'!—Before we have done with concert gossip, let us mention that at a recent Concert of the Liverpool Philharmonic Society, the whole of Mendelssohn's music to the 'Midsummer Night's Dream' was performed, including the melo-dramatic music, much of which is alike quaint and highly finished. To this the proper text was recited: and the performance, we are assured, was attentively followed and cordially relished.

A report was last week in town, that M. Dessauer is dead. Should this prove true, down falls another air-castle! since we had never ceased to hope that one day he might, by some event or ambition, be roused to do justice to his peculiar and beautiful and delicate genius, and put himself forth in composition more substantially than he had hitherto done. Until, moreover, we see some official announcement in the foreign journals, we will still keep the door open to contradiction, and refrain for the moment from doing more than notifying the matter as one of rumour.

The *Gazette Musicale* mentions a pair of novelties in preparation for the *Opéra Comique*: 'Seraphina,' a two-act opera, the music by M. de St. Julien, for the *début* of Madame Miolan,—and 'La Gitana,' by MM. Scribe and Adam, a work in three acts. Some "outlying" singers and players are mentioned, whose names may as well be transcribed. One is a Madame Martinez, a songstress from the Havana, labelled as a "Malibran noire;" another is a celebrated Greek violin player, Dimitrien Svetschimm, who has been performing in presence of the Commander of the Faithful.—We have also in a letter from "the Eastern Indies," handsome mention of a very young Portuguese violinist, M. Valadares, who, it is added, has studied at Paris, under M. Alard.

M. Berlioz has rarely, if ever, been more grotesque in his praises than when writing of Made-moiselle Alboni's *Fides*, the singing of which he lauds as beautiful, though as every one must have been prepared to learn, it is deficient in dramatic vigour. "I should like," says he, after politely adverting to this, "to be very young and very handsome. I would try to inspire her with an unhappy passion—to deceive her—from time to time to beat her, and at the end of three or four years of such discipline and grief, the talent of Mdle. Alboni would be something amazing and complete in every respect!"

#### MISCELLANEA

Aboriginal Chambers near Tilbury.—It is proposed to descend some of the aboriginal chambers alluded to by Camden, near Tilbury, in Essex. In consequence, however, of Camden having named a wrong parish, later antiquaries have been puzzled to ascertain their precise whereabouts. Mr. Crafer, in 1848, after many days' labour, found them out; and a brief notice of them was given in an article on 'Primæval Britain' in the *West Kent Almanack* for 1849. Hasted mentions similar pits in Crayford parish, Kent. In Dartford parish is another called "the Sound Hole," from the echoes, &c., made upon a stone being thrown down. Mr. S. Laudale intends an examination of it this summer. Tradition reports that there are three enormous caverns, which communicate with the central shaft. How or what is the best way of driving the foul air out of those chambers which are aloof from the central shaft?—*Notes and Queries.*

Diligence of British Artists.—The Academy Exhibition consists of 1,456 works of Art. More than 1,000 (some say 1,400) works were declined; and if we add to these, as we have done in former years, the number of those exhibited elsewhere—namely, at the British Institution, 500; the Suffolk Street Gallery, 735; the Portland Gallery, Regent Street, 373; the Water-Colour Gallery, 330; the New Water-Colour Gallery, 329; and allow for those returned by the British Institution and the Society of British Artists, the total number produced during the year for exhibition in the metropolis will be found to be at least 5,500 works of Art. During this time,



too, artists have been turning out dioramas, panoramas, cycloramas, cosmoramas, &c., without end,—various panels in the Palace of Parliament have received their subjects,—portrait painting has gone on,—book illustrations have been multiplied,—and the provincial Exhibitions, although partly made up of works previously exhibited in London, have not been without their usual number of new contributions.—*Builder*.

**Rewards, &c. for Scientific Purposes.**—The following is an account, in detail, of the manner in which the 1,000*l.* voted annually for rewards, experiments, and other expenses for scientific purposes during the last three years, has been expended:—1847, 1848—Salary of Mr. J. W. Hay, as chemical lecturer of Portsmouth Dockyard, between January 1 and June 30, 1847, 37*l.* 10*s.*; payment to Dr. Andrew Ure, for making an analysis of coal from Vancouver's Island, 10*l.* 10*s.*; entertainment of Mr. F. P. Smith, patentee of the screw propeller, on board the Fairy, tender to Her Majesty's yacht Victoria and Albert, 15*l.* 9*s.*; compensation to Lieut. Julius Roberts, Royal Marine Artillery, for his services and expenses while improving the method of pivoting guns, from the year 1845 to the year 1848, 250*l.*; total, 313*l.* 9*s.* 1848, 1849—Payment to Mr. A. G. Carle for rocket apparatus, &c. supplied for trial at Harwich for the purpose of effecting communication with stranded vessels, 31*l.* 8*s.*; gratuity to Mr. J. T. Towson, for his services in preparing tables for great-circle sailing, 100*l.*; payment to Mr. John Prideau, metallurgical chemist, for various analyses of copper sheathing, &c., for the committee on metals, 17*l.* 1*s.*; payment to Mr. Charles Brooke, for his invention and establishment at the Royal Observatory of the apparatus for the self-registration of magnetical and meteorological phenomena, 500*l.*; gratuity to Commander H. B. Weston, of the Hon. East India Company's service, for his discovering a method of finding the longitude by chronometer at sunrise and sunset, with tables, 100*l.*; total, 748*l.* 9*s.* 1849-50—Allowance to Commander A. B. Beecher, to defray the expenses incurred by him in the editorship of the *Nautical Magazine*, 50*l.*; allowance to Mr. James Gordon, to enable him to publish a work, intitled, 'The Lunar and Time Table,' 50*l.*; total, 100*l.*—*Daily News*.

**Medal for Major Edwardes.**—Mr. Wyon, R.A. has been commissioned by the East India Company to prepare a die for a gold medal, to be presented to Major Edwardes in acknowledgment of the eminent services rendered by this officer during the recent war in the East. As it is intended solely for the Major, the die, we understand, will be destroyed when the medal is cast, so that no duplicate shall exist. Such a testimonial is of very rare occurrence; so rare, indeed, as to have but one precedent, as far as we can ascertain; and that was in the case of Blake, the distinguished admiral of the Commonwealth, for whom a medal was struck, from a design by Thomas Simon, the famous medallist of that period. This medal passed through a succession of owners till it was purchased by William IV. It is now, we believe, in the possession of Her Majesty.—*Art-Journal*.

**New Life and Old Learning.**—At the commencement of the present century, when the Novum Organum had been written nearly two hundred years, the examinations at the University of Oxford, so far as they were scientific at all, and not restricted to learned languages, turned entirely on the scholastic logic which the Novum Organum had shown to be a foul obstruction to knowledge. The new and true logic, as explained by Bacon, was never mentioned in the venerable place; and the new discoveries of the laws of nature to which it had led formed no part of the general course of study, or of the subjects of public examination. It was quite possible for an Oxford man to have brought away a distinguished degree in the sciences without knowing the truths of universal gravitation, or of the celestial motions, or of the planetary forces, or of any one of the provisions made by nature for the stability of the system we inhabit; and the very highest Oxford degree in the non-scientific departments did not imply, any more than it does even yet, the remotest knowledge of modern languages or literature, of modern history or philosophy, of whether it might not have been Cromwell who discovered America or Columbus who fought at Marston

Moor. For any interest that the students at Oxford University were required to take in such matters, the past three hundred years might never have existed, or have been utterly annihilated, and all their wondrous burden of experiences melted into air. It was not till after the nineteenth century had begun, that some sense of what had been going on in the world outside crept into the cloisters at Oxford. Statutes were then passed to recognize the Newtonian improvements in philosophy, and recommending, though not necessitating, their adoption into the course for honours. Honours nevertheless continued to be taken without them; and it is notorious that the soil has been ungenial to their growth, and that they never have flourished in it. Oxford, in effect, continued up to this day no other than it was four centuries ago. Apart from the doubtful discipline of life and manners attainable within its walls, it is still no more than a huge theological school, where the lay youth of England are admitted to participate in such meagre allowance of intellectual training as the clergy think safe for themselves; where Manchester and Birmingham are ignored; where the Greek and Latin authors continue in the same esteem as when they actually contained whatever existed of learning left upon the earth, and no education could proceed without them; and from which there issued into the world yearly reinforcements of the upper classes of society, less able to cope with the wants and duties that surround them, and less acquainted with the laws and operations by which the present is to be guided into the future, than any self-taught merchant's clerk at Liverpool, or any sharp engineer's lad at the railway in Euston Square.—*Dickens's 'Household Words.'*

**Fire Annihilator.**—Several interesting and successful experiments were exhibited some time since at the London Gas Works, Vauxhall, before a numerous company, invited to witness the effective power of Mr. Phillips's new invention for extinguishing fires. The agent by which it is sought to accomplish the object is a mixture of gas and vapour. After several experiments on a small scale, to show the success he had attained by these means, the attention of the company was directed to a compartment of a large open building, quite twenty feet high inside, which was fitted up with partitions and temporary joisting of light wood, well soaked with pitch and turpentine, and overhung beside with rags and shavings soaked in the like manner. The torch was applied to this erection, and the flames, which ascended immediately, at length roared with a vehemence which drove the spectators back to a distance of forty feet, and was already beyond the power of water. The inventor then brought forward one of his hand machines, and threw out a volume of gaseous vapour, which in half a minute entirely suppressed all flame and combustion; and to show that the vapour which now filled the space was quite innocuous, Mr. Phillips mounted into the loft, and passed and repassed through the midst of it with a lighted candle in his hand. The machine with which this effect was accomplished was rather larger than a good sized coffee-pot, and consisted of three tin cases, one within another, and mutually communicating. There was a small quantity of water in the bottom of the machine, and in the centre case was a composite cake, of the size and colour of peat—containing in the middle of it a phial of sulphuric acid and chlorate of potash. In order to put the machine into action this phial is broken, and a gaseous vapour is generated so rapidly and in such quantity that it immediately rushes out from a lateral spout with great impetuosity. Mr. Phillips explained that a machine of any size could be made according to the purpose for which it was intended, and that a company was at length formed to carry the invention into effect.—*Times*.

**"Reading made Easy!"**—M. Carnot has presented a petition to the Assembly from M. Jules Aleix, of Paris, stating that he has discovered a new method of education, by which a child may be taught to read in fifteen lessons of one hour each. A grant of 50,000*fr.* is asked for a model school.—*French Paper*.

**TO CORRESPONDENTS.**—One of our Oldest Subscribers—W. C.—A. C.—S. E. F.—C. L.—G. F. G.—Veritas—received.

**Errata.**—P. 531, col. 1, last line, for "Manzariello" read *Manzanillo*.—In our notice last week (p. 532) of the death of M. Louyet, the eminent chemist, the name was by mistake printed Souyet.

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5,000	12 years	500 0 0	787 10 0	6,287 10 0
5,000	10 years	300 0 0	787 10 0	6,087 10 0
5,000	8 years	100 0 0	787 10 0	5,887 10 0
5,000	6 years	.. ..	675 0 0	5,675 0 0
5,000	4 years	.. ..	450 0 0	5,450 0 0
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LONDON, SATURDAY, JUNE 1, 1850.

## REVIEWS

*A Critical History of the Language and Literature of Antient Greece.* By William Mure, of Caldwell. 3 vols. Longman & Co.

THIS long-expected history of Greek literature will not disappoint the expectations either of Col. Mure's friends or of the public. The author informs us incidentally, in one of his notes, that a portion of it was written fifteen years ago; and it is, like the contemporary work of Mr. Grote, the result of the laborious investigations and researches of an active literary life. These two works will in point of learning fairly stand in comparison with the best productions of the best German scholars; while in soundness of judgment, in largeness of views, and in a comprehensive treatment of their subjects these English writers possess a decided superiority over their Teutonic brethren. For this superiority they are indebted not simply to their attainments and critical acumen, distinguished as these undoubtedly are,—but also to certain other advantages, which most of the German scholars entirely lack. The works on classical literature in Germany, with but few exceptions, are written by professed scholars, whose intercourse with the world has been limited, and who have never acquired any practical knowledge of political life by taking part in public affairs. Moreover, from their natural anxiety to establish their reputation simply as scholars, the German writers select subjects which will give them an opportunity of exhibiting their learning most advantageously, and which, from their limited extent, will admit of complete and satisfactory treatment in a comparatively brief time and space. Hence, German literature, while it contains separate treatises on almost every conceivable branch of Greek and Roman antiquity,—from the attributes of the gods to the commonest objects used in ordinary life, contains few comprehensive works on the political or literary history of Greece or Rome. It possesses no political history like Thirlwall's or Grote's great works; and Niebuhr's 'History of Rome' was the work not of a professed scholar, but of a statesman and a man of the world. Neither in the history of Greek and Roman literature has it been much more fortunate. The only complete history of Roman literature of any pretensions is by Prof. Bähr, —a work, however, which does not enjoy much reputation among his own countrymen, being deficient both in sound learning and critical acumen. The number of German works on separate branches of Greek literature is, it is true, very large, and many of them are of great value; but with the exception of the outline of this subject written by Karl Ottfried Müller for the Society for the Diffusion of Useful Knowledge in this country, and left unfinished by the lamented death of the author,—and of the 'History of Greek Literature' by Bernhardt, now in course of publication, but which is not free from many serious defects,—we know of no treatise in the German language which can for a moment be compared with the English work now before us.

The history of Greek literature, according to Col. Mure's division, may be classed under the six following heads or periods:—1. The first, or Mythical period comprises the origin and early culture of the nation and its language, with the legendary notices of those fabulous heroes and sages to whom popular belief ascribed the first advances in elegant art or science, but of whose existence or influence no authentic monuments have been preserved. 2. The second, or Poetical period extends from

the epoch of the earliest authenticated productions of Greek poetical genius, through those ages in which poetry continued to be the only cultivated branch of composition, and terminates about the fifty-fourth Olympiad (B.C. 560). 3. The third, or Attic period commences with the rise of the Attic drama and of prose literature, and closes with the establishment of the Macedonian ascendancy, and the consequent extinction of republican freedom in Greece. 4. The fourth, or Alexandrian period may be dated from the foundation of Alexandria, and ends with the fall of the Græco-Egyptian Empire. 5. The fifth, or Roman period succeeds, and extends to the foundation of Constantinople. 6. The sixth, or Byzantine period comprises the remaining ages of the decay and corruption of ancient civilization, until the final extinction of the classical Greek as a living language.

In the three volumes already published, Col. Mure comes down only to the end of the second of these periods. The work is, therefore, planned on an extensive scale, and will require, we fear, very many years for its completion. Still, we do not regret the extended plan on which it is constructed. That plan has enabled the author to do full justice to his subject; and we are sure that few readers would have desired the omission of any essential portion of the work. There is no want of epitomes or abstracts of Greek literature compiled from second-hand authorities; but there was a want of a comprehensive history of the subject by a scholar who had carefully studied the Greek writers themselves, who was well acquainted with all the modern works and criticisms on those writers, and who possessed such an appreciation of the works of Greek genius as to understand himself their greatness and their beauties, and sufficient literary culture and facility of composition to give a faithful representation of them to others.—This want is fully supplied by Col. Mure's History.

The present volumes are divided into three books. The first book, which occupies 167 pages of the first volume, is devoted to the mythical period of Greek literature. The history, however, of the mythical poets, such as Orpheus, Musæus, Linus, and the like, constitutes but a small portion of this book. The greater part of it is devoted to the early history, structure and genius of the Greek language. The remarks on the literary culture of the separate dialects, which constitute one of the peculiarities of the Greek language, will give the reader a fair idea of the method in which Col. Mure treats this part of the subject.—

"As the sphere of literary pursuit was enlarged, the general rule of an exclusive preference for its native idiom by each community admitted of great modification. As the varieties of dialect were met by a corresponding variety of taste or talent, certain styles of composition came to be considered the more immediate province of one dialect than of another. The character of a particular dialect might be in itself better adapted to a particular style. The tribe by whom the dialect was spoken might have been that with whom the style itself originated, or whose authors were its most approved standards. Even local circumstances might, as will be seen, procure for particular dialects a preference in subjects connected with the common public ceremonial of the confederacy. Hence various departments of literature ultimately established, out of so great a variety of materials, a mode of expression proper to themselves, without any compromise of patriotic feeling, or any sacrifice of the just rights of the mother tongue. The Doric became the favourite language of the higher branches of lyric composition and of the primitive schools of philosophy; the Æolic of the amatory ode; the old Ionic retained its former privilege in regard to the epic style and hexameter verse; while the new Ionic and Attic were preferred,

in elegy, satire, the drama, and more popular departments of prose.... As a consequence of the same principle which led to the adaptation of certain dialects to certain classes of writing, the whole body of dialects came to be considered as a common literary property; and men of inventive genius sought, by combining the characteristics of several, to enliven or ennoble their favourite styles. In this way new varieties sprang up, distinct from the spoken language of any part of the nation. \* \* By this varied application of its rich stock of materials, the Greek language afforded a freedom and scope to the exercise of literary genius, to which nothing parallel can be found in any other age or country. A language restricted to one definite classical standard can hardly be well adapted to every class of composition. The same musical softness which favours the flow of poetical numbers must, in a proportional degree, be prejudicial to the gravity of historical narrative and philosophical disquisition, or to the terseness of forensic eloquence. Had Demosthenes possessed no other medium for giving vent to his Philippics but the Ionic of Homer, or Plato composed his Republic in the Æolic of Sappho, their works, whatever their intrinsic excellence, must have sacrificed a portion of their external charm to the comparatively inappropriate dress in which they would have appeared. This may be further illustrated by the example of modern nations distinguished for talent in every department of letters. The French tongue has produced a comic writer equal, to say the least, to the chiefs of the Attic humorous drama; but, in the higher walks of poetry, neither genius nor art can overcome the obstacles to a corresponding degree of excellence interposed by the sound and structure of that language. The finest conceptions couched in harsh or discordant accents, can no more constitute perfection in poetry, than in music the sublimest airs sung by a weak and tuneless voice. The same general remark applies more or less to all the other European tongues, that, in proportion as they may be adapted to one style of composition, they are unfavourable to another. But in the cultivated Greek dialects we possess the masterpieces of several languages rather than of one. It were difficult to imagine a vehicle of expression better suited to the varied powers of the epic muse, than the old Homeric; to the tenderness of amatory complaint, than the Lesbian Æolic; to the mingled gravity and impetuosity of the triumphal lyre, than the Doric of Pindar; or to the precision and energy of dialogue, prose narrative, and oratory, than the Attic of Aristophanes, Thucydides and Demosthenes."

The first book also contains a very able chapter on the original genius of Grecian literature; in which the author points out with great force and perspicuity the essential difference in the origin of the literary culture of the Greeks and of that of the modern nations of Europe.—

"These peculiarities of the Greek tongue are traceable mainly, no doubt, to the genius of the people; partly, however, to the difference in the circumstances under which Hellenic and modern literary culture took their origin. The former arose in the bosom of the nation, and was matured by the unaided efforts of native genius. Its standards of taste were the produce of the talents common to all, not of the educational acquirements peculiar to a few. Numerous masterpieces in the higher walks of poetry had been composed before the familiar use of prose writing, and the most esteemed models of both styles before the first attempt to reduce grammar to system. This process was reserved for a period when original talent was already on the decline, and professed critics attempted, by giving uniformity to classical usage, to check the progress of corruption. In the other European languages, from the Latin downwards, this order was reversed. Their culture was, from the first, carried on upon imitative principles. In the one case the rules were derived from the standards; in the other, the standards were framed after the rules. The classic literature of Rome originated with native Greeks, and the Latin language was cultivated by reference to the laws of Greek grammar and prosody. The first step taken, on the revival of taste in our own Middle Ages, for refining the 'vulgar tongue' (as the spoken language was



called, in contradistinction to the barbarous Latin of the schools) was to apply to its productions the rules devised by the ancient sophists for sustaining the decrepitude of the classical dialects. Its more advanced stages of culture have been the result of a long course of artificial training and careful separation of the classical from the vernacular phraseology. Many modes of expression, calculated to impart energy and variety to style, and to which the Greek dialects would have given full prominence, have been proscribed by the tyranny of grammatical criticism as inelegant, or lie hid as vulgarisms in the provincial idiom. Our literary dialects may be compared to gardens of select plants, many of them exotics, nurtured by scientific training, and carefully separated from the wild growths by which they are surrounded. The Greek language may be likened to an extensive pleasure-ground in a favoured climate and diversified soil comprising every species of wild and domestic vegetation in endless variety and luxuriance.\* \* Whatever difference of opinion may exist as to the essential value of antique and modern learning, the claim of Greece to originality and extent of spontaneous invention is unquestionable and paramount. To her belongs the exclusive honour of creating and maturing a system of literary polity for civilized Europe; of having originated, classed and regulated the various departments of composition; and furnished in each standards, by the study of which the efforts of every people who have since successfully cultivated the elegant arts have been awakened or their progress directed. In no other country has any advance been made towards the higher stages of excellence independently of Greek models, or of the impulse communicated directly or indirectly by Greeks."

The second of the three books into which Col. Mure divides his History occupies the remainder of the first volume and the whole of the second, and is devoted exclusively to the epic poetry prior to the fifty-fifth Olympiad. Under this head are also included the works of Hesiod and the Homeric Hymns. By far the largest portion of this book is devoted to an examination of the Iliad and the Odyssey, and to the much disputed question of the origin of these celebrated poems. Col. Mure rejects entirely the Wolfian theory, together with all its modifications by later scholars. He informs us that, on commencing the course of study preliminary to the composition of his History he was, like most young scholars, a zealous disciple of the Wolfian school; but that he has been led by a twenty years' diligent scrutiny of its doctrines to a thorough conviction of their fallacy. The result of his researches is summed up in the following propositions.—I. That each poem was originally composed, in its substantial integrity and order, as we now possess it. II. That in the course of their passage to posterity this order, if not altogether obliterated, was yet so habitually disturbed by the popular organs of transmission as to threaten its permanent dissolution. III. On the advance of literary culture a zealous determination manifested itself in various quarters to check this licence, and enforce regularity in the public recitals established in the leading Greek States. IV. With this object, new editions were prepared, under public auspices, for the use of different republics. Such were the texts of Chios, Argos, and the other "Civic Editions,"—such also that of Pisistratus, assuming it ever to have existed. In order to prove the first of these propositions, Col. Mure enters into an elaborate analysis of the poems, into which our limits prevent us from following him,—though this to the general reader will probably prove the most attractive portion of the work. One extract must suffice. The grand poetical feature of the Iliad is the character of Achilles:—which is thus graphically described by Col. Mure.—

"The character of Achilles is conceived on the same principle which the sculptors of later ages transferred to their representations of the Deity under human form. The hero of the Iliad, like the statues

of Phidias, is an ideal personage, of which all the component parts are human, but in their combination present a whole creature surpassing, in the splendour of his attributes, any living example of humanity; uniting the full measure of those qualities which, in the spirit of his age, constituted the sublime, the beautiful, or the terrible, in mortal nature. Beyond this general outline it is the more difficult to define wherein the grandeur of the portrait consists, owing to the wide difference in the moral impressions which many of its more prominent features are calculated to awaken in the present age, as compared with that for which it was originally designed. \* \* All his affections are in their origin noble or generous. This was indispensable to his heroic excellence. That all should be exhibited in excess was essential to his heroic greatness. His conscious superiority to all other mortals renders him haughty and impatient of control. Just resentment against ingratitude effervesces into implacable wrath, absorbing many of the best affections which at other times predominate in his bosom. The conflict of generous feelings created by the sudden loss of a beloved friend leads to a blood-thirsty spirit of revenge against his destroyer. But in order rightly to appreciate these darker traits, they must be contemplated, not in their naked magnitude and terror, but in their contrast to the softer touches by which they are relieved; to the affectionate heart, the chivalrous sense of courtesy and urbanity, the spirit of mercy to the vanquished, and sympathy with affliction, for which the poet describes him as habitually distinguished, and of which his interview with Priam is so touching an example. Those harsher features may thus be likened, adopting the poet's own vein of imagery, to the thunder-storm, which, passing over the face of a beautiful landscape, imparts new charms to the returning serenity of the scene; or to the inundations of the mountain torrent, which disturb, but cannot permanently corrupt, the purity of its waters." Nor is it the least admirable part of this extraordinary portrait, that in so much boldness of design and intensity of colouring there is no exaggeration. Achilles frets, rages, storms, but he never rants. His most overwhelming paroxysms, which in the heroes of other epic poems seldom escape bombast or extravagance, are in him but the natural outbursts of a noble but wayward and impetuous spirit."

The discrepancies and contradictions in various parts of the Iliad have been urged by the Wolfian school of critics as a conclusive argument to prove that the poem was originally the work of several different bards. So much has this been the case, that Hermann lays it down as a fundamental principle, "that no two passages of the same work contradictory to or irreconcilable with each other can be by one and the same author." This rule, however, proves too much; and Col. Mure in an interesting appendix adduces from Virgil's *Æneid* incoherences and self-contradictions far surpassing, both in number and degree, the utmost that have ever been detected in either the Iliad or the Odyssey. He also alleges several "self-contradictions" in Milton, Cervantes, Walter Scott, and other popular authors; and he justly observes that such anomalies are the ordinary characteristics of great original genius.—

"It is an old and sound remark, that faultless precision of detail is the attribute of mediocrity; anomaly the invariable characteristic of the higher order of genius in every branch of imitative art. Among the modes in which that anomaly displays itself in poetry is a disregard of the strict rules of narrative probability, especially where likely to interfere with the general effect of a composition. Similar violations of rigid truth or nature are often observable in the works of the great ancient sculptors and Italian painters, even in those where the general result is most to be admired. Here, a shadow is made to fall on objects which, on strictly optical principles, it would not have reached; there, a figure filling up a space in the grouping of the background is larger or smaller, more or less distinct, than the strict rules of perspective enjoin. Such licence, in

the abstract, cannot, it is true, be defended. It may, therefore, in so far, be subject of regret that Homer or Raphael should yield to artists of an inferior order in the mechanical adjustment of their works. It must, however, also be remembered, that had they been equally scrupulous, they would not have been Homer or Raphael, nor should we have had either an Iliad or a Transfiguration. Our limited knowledge of the higher economy of creation enables us to perceive the fact, though not to assign the cause, why so much in the visible works of nature which appears to us defective may yet be so connected with acknowledged advantages as to be indispensable to their existence. We often see a countenance in the individual features of which no actual blemish can be detected, but where we are as little struck by any beauty; on the other hand, one is apt on beholding a handsome face, combining certain irregularities of feature, to imagine that by slightly varying its lineaments by adding length or fulness in one part, or subtracting it in another, perfection would be the result. But, could the alterations be effected, they would probably but tend to prove how inferior the work of 'nature's journeyman' was to her own; and, undoubtedly, the same secret blending of imperfection and excellence in the parts is as essential to aggregate beauty in the works of human genius as in those of nature. \* \* In fact, one of the most remarkable of the poet's talents is this very one, of making even discordances of detail contribute to general harmony of effect. Hence it is that such blemishes, palpable as they often are, have rarely been observed, still less condemned, by those who judge the Iliad and Odyssey in the true spirit of their author. Nor, in the whole range of subtleties in which schools of Homeric criticism have indulged, is there one more fallacious or pernicious than the practice, lately so much in vogue, of picking petty flaws and holes in the mechanical structure of the poems, while all their grander features of moral and poetical harmony are overlooked. Against such an ordeal, no epic composition, even if indited by the pen of Calliope herself, could stand for a moment."

Here we must pause.—An account of the third book, which is devoted to Lyric Poetry, must be reserved for another occasion.

*Ornithological Rambles in Suisse.* By A. E. Knox, M.A. Van Voorst.

THERE are two very different sorts of books on natural history. One is composed simply of technical descriptions,—the other gives picturesque and poetical accounts of the same objects. Both have their uses. It is not altogether an exception that some works combine the two:—and in rare instances we find the best scientific details in the most popular books. In proof we might adduce White's *Natural History of Selborne*. Yet no one could interest us who should merely follow in White's footsteps, without being possessed of his spirit. Some of the worst books on natural history are those which have been written in imitation of that author, but contain nothing of his originality, accurate observation, and love of nature. The true naturalist differs less from the poet and the artist than is commonly supposed. The one must partake more or less of the other before either can succeed in his own department. The object of the naturalist in the ultimate influence of his knowledge on society should be the same as that of the poet and the artist. Bare definitions of plants and animals are no more than the descriptive headings to the cantos of an epic. He only is the true naturalist who gives to his descriptions life by the filling up of such outline with the breadth and fulness of his original, and throws over it the warmth of his own deep feeling. The man who should give an account of the great phenomena of nature with truth and beauty would write a great poem. Portions of such a poem have been written by Humboldt in his '*Cosmos*.' Many others have tried their hands at various parts of this great theme; and what attracts us in



such works as that of White is, their truth, the minuteness of the detail, and the feeling of the beautiful that pervades them. In the writings of Mr. Waterton we have essays on natural history worthy to be placed by the side of those of White;—and in the letters of Mr. Knox, before us, we observe the same spirit and the same love of nature.

It is somewhat remarkable that this class of books is almost confined to the family of birds. White chiefly occupied himself with them—they are the principal objects of Mr. Waterton's solicitude,—and Mr. Knox's rambles are entirely ornithological. Although the book contains a list of birds found in the counties of Sussex, the most delightful parts of the volume are the author's personal adventures and observations in pursuit of his favourite objects.

One of the few heronries which still remain in the kingdom is at Parham, in Sussex; and our author gives an interesting account of his visit to this spot at the breeding time. On this occasion he proceeded to examine the nests of the herons by climbing the trees;—and having captured a young one, and disturbed the old ones, he thus proceeds:—

"My operations having for the present disturbed the elder members of the heronry, who seemed unwilling to return to the trees while I remained there, I left the place for a couple of hours, and then cautiously retracing my steps, fastened my horse to a shrub at some distance, and taking off my shooting coat, from one of the capacious pockets of which the head and neck of the living heron protruded, I slung my spy-glass over my neck, and as silently as possible ascended a Scotch fir which commanded from its upper branches a good view of a large nest in a neighbouring tree. The evergreen boughs, moreover, were so well clothed with leaves that I found less difficulty than I had expected in concealing myself, but notwithstanding all my care the old birds had taken the alarm when I began to climb, and I had to wait a long time before either of them returned. I had, however, a good opportunity of examining with my glass the grotesque inhabitants of the nest: they were three in number, appeared to be not more than a week or ten days old, and were partly clothed with a hairy down, resembling hemp or flax in colour and appearance; their heavy heads, crowned with tufts of this, and raised occasionally as they opened their enormous mouths in expectation of food, and then suddenly dropped again; their great staring eyes, writhing necks, and naked bodies altogether contributed to render their appearance irresistibly ludicrous; but their excitement seemed to have reached its utmost when one of the old birds, which had flapped round the nest for some time, at last prepared to alight, gradually allowing his outstretched legs to fall from the horizontal to the perpendicular, and working his wings with increased violence and rapidity until he found a firm footing on the margin of the nest, when, opening his beak, he immediately disgorged several small eels, which were greedily devoured by the three young birds. The eels appeared to be very small; but I had ere long an opportunity of observing that even when a fish is of a tolerable size, the heron contrives to conceal it within the elastic pouch to which, in so many birds, the dilatable skin of the throat can be readily converted; for many minutes had not elapsed before I saw an old heron alight on a more distant tree, and opening his mouth, drop a fish, which appeared to be above half a pound weight, into the bottom of his nest. I had it is true only a passing glimpse of it as it fell, and therefore at the moment could make only a rough guess at its weight and species, but it appeared to be a bream, or large roach, and of such a shape and size as I should scarcely have supposed to have been stowed away within that graceful neck, if I had not been aware, from former observations on the habits of cormorants and divers, how great are the expansive properties of the gullet in all piscivorous birds. After dropping it on the floor of the nest he commenced, by repeated blows of his beak, to lacerate and tear the flesh from the bones, and seemed to accomplish his task in an incredibly short space of time by means of the admirable tool with

which Nature had furnished him, performing at once the double duties of pickaxe and pincers; then followed the feeding of the young birds, and so economical a housekeeper and skilful carver did he prove, that when I had afterwards the curiosity to ascend to his nest, I found as the remains of the repast, little else than the back-bone of a fish which might have weighed nearly a pound, with only a few ragged bits of flesh adhering to it; even the head had been devoured."

The author discusses the question as to the golden eagle, that king of British birds, having been shot in the county of Sussex. Newspaper reports are all the evidence that exists,—and these the author shows have often for their foundation the mistake of confounding the young of the sea-eagle (*Haliaeetus albicilla*) with the golden eagle (*Aquila chrysaetos*).

The remarks of Mr. Knox on the whole of the falcon tribe—whose habits he has studied with great success—will be read with interest, not only by ornithologists, but by all lovers of nature. We should like to transfer his account of the merlin,—a little blood-thirsty hawk, which accompanied him for two months during his snipe shooting expeditions, in order the more easily to secure its prey when wounded by the gun of the sportsman. Here, however, is, in preference, a story of another of its tribe, which if it had been told in the days of Æsop would surely have added another fable with its moral to our universal literature.—

"The oft-told, but frequently doubted story of an eagle, i.e., an osprey, having been carried under water and drowned by a large pike, into whose broad shoulders the bird had fixed his talons, derives some credibility from the circumstances attending the capture of an osprey a few years since near Rottingdean, a little village about three miles from Kemp-town. The facts were as follows: a shepherd's boy, while tending his flock near the cliffs, observed an osprey rising with difficulty from the sea, and bearing in his claws a large fish, with which he alighted near the edge of the precipice. Running up hastily to the spot, and perceiving the distress of the bird, who appeared equally incapable of carrying off his prize or of disengaging himself from it, but looked, as the boy expressed it, 'as if he was stuck in a trap,' he disabled and subsequently despatched him with his croak."

The author's notes are less minute with regard to the smaller birds than on those of the more imposing families to which the heron and eagle belong. But even here, where he has been preceded by so many distinguished naturalists both in this country and on the Continent, he records much that is new, and in spite of the details with which we are familiar, he gives them the charm of his own truthful observation,—his description imparting something of his own interest in the objects which he describes. From a letter on larks we extract the following:—

"No bird is so easily netted as the lark; he generally starts from the ground just before the lower edge of the net touches him, and invariably mounts perpendicularly. This characteristic propensity to ascend at once may be observed by any person who 'treads up' a lark in a field, and satisfactorily illustrated by releasing, at the same moment, a newly-captured lark and a sparrow from a cage or hat within the precincts of a room. While the sparrow will fly off horizontally, dash himself against the window, and lie almost stunned from the shock, the lark will almost always mount upwards to the ceiling, and flutter there for a time, in vain efforts to reach the sky, before he attempts any other mode of exit; but this habit is fatal to him in the netting season; he might generally escape, as indeed the bunting, or clod-bird—the sparrow and the linnet constantly do—by flying straight forward; but ascending, as he does, directly from the ground, the moment his wings have touched the upper part of the net, it is suffered to drop suddenly, and his capture is then inevitable."

Here we must take leave of our ornithologist:—recommending him to our country friends as a very agreeable companion in their rambles.

*Gazpacho; or, Summer Months in Spain.* By William George Clark, M.A. J. W. Parker.

THIS is a lively book of sketches on the road, well worth reading, because apparently written with a larger amount of animal spirits than of desire to make a book. Those who love contrasts can hardly do better than turn from Count Sollogub's 'Tarantas' to Mr. Clark's 'Gazpacho,'—from the Kremlin to the Alhambra,—from the tea-urn to the wine-skin,—from the submissive *yamtchik* to the politely-indolent shopkeeper of Seville. There is a brave contrast of styles, too, for his refreshment. Whereas Count Sollogub is sardonic and saucy, Mr. Clark is sardonic and sentimental, rejoices in a fine period when he can get it, and prefers a sounding epithet to an unambitious one. What, if there be something in the Spanish air which encourages the style *chevaleresque*,—to give another better name to "Ercles' vein." Colonel Widdrington lives in our recollection as the one instructively dull traveller in Spain. Beckford, and Borrow, and Ford have in turn proved themselves "masters of art" in embossing and embroidering the information conveyed by them so liberally; and our Master of Arts seems bent on taking a degree in the same gay science. Let us cite, for instance, as a passage fallen on at random, the following pictures in Burgos.—

"I sallied out; for the scanty strip of shadow in the street had now widened to a comfortable breadth, and the town was waking, after its own drowsy fashion. Here and there I saw a dame or damsel, wearing a mantilla, and that awful, don't-speak-to-me countenance which ladies generally assume on their way to church. I followed one of these black angels accordingly, for my first object was the cathedral; and I was not mistaken,—in two minutes I stood before the gate of the south transept. Enter; and what a change 'from glow to gloom!'—from the common glare of day to a charmed twilight!—from prose to poetry! Then you can feel the joy with which the weary traveller in the desert flings himself down to rest on the far-seen, long-wished-for oasis, by the fountain beneath the palms. And those vast pillars, with that arched roof, are more impervious to the sun than the trunks and leaves of any banana, and those streams of gentle music flow sweeter than falling water. In a southern climate the exigencies of Nature aid the endeavours of Art, and endue the cathedral with a new significance. The fierce sun and fiercer sirocco, against which no common dwelling is proof, are not felt in the house of God. It is the shadow of a great rock in a weary land. The superstition which in England consigned the north side of the church, with its dank, mould and green lichens, to the evil one, is unknown in other and sunnier lands. 'On the north side,' says the great poet-prophet (as true to nature in the one capacity, as he is true to God in the other)—'On the north side lieth the city of the Great King.' The north side is ever the chosen place for beggars, the halt and the blind, who, else homeless, gather under the shelter of its liberal shadow. For a moment after you enter the church all is night, but gradually its glories dawn upon you one by one. Round the massive pillars are clustered niches and canopies, rich in fantastic tracery, and from each an Evangelist with a book, or bishop with pastoral staff, looks down on a few worshippers who kneel below, almost as motionless. The grand old Gothic—that catholic mould in which all Christian Europe has striven best to express its devotion—is varied here by details which epitomize the character and the history of Spain. The stern, grave figures cut in the white stone represent well the patricians of Old Castile, proud of their unblemished honour and unconquerable resolve; the costly and varied marbles, and graceful foliage enwreathing many a tomb, and the altar-screens blazing with gold, recal the days when Spain had at her command the quarries of Carrara, the pliant fancy of Genoa, and the untold treasures of the New World. You will be roused from your day-dream by the cessation of the music and the pattering feet of the departing worshippers, or probably by some hobbling old verger, who taps you on the shoulder with his wand, and in-



timates that, vespers over, he is now at liberty to serve Mammon in a small way, by showing you the chapels. Let us go with him by all means—we shall not grudge the fee. \* \*

"Let us now turn down to the great square, the Plaza Mayor, of late re-baptized 'de la Constitución;' it is quite empty, excepting the grim statue of some dead king or other in the centre. All round is an arcade, in that ragged tumble-down state that artists love; and underneath are a number of diminutive shops, in which the smallest possible amount of business is transacted. Business! there is no business in Castile, except the barber's. Elsewhere custom is most unfrequent, saving 'the custom always of an afternoon.' These little shops are so still and quiet, that they might be Columbaria or Egyptian tombs, and the master, stretched motionless on the counter, might be the mummy—smoking a cigarett. When abroad, I always read the names over the shop-doors. It's so improving. In the course of this interesting investigation, my eye fell upon the inscription 'Don Pedro Smith' over a haberdasher's. I started, like Robinson Crusoe when he discerned the foot-print of a fellow-man in the desert island. I entered, for I hoped to get some useful information, in English, from Mr. Peter Smith. He was a little fat man, lolling on his counter as lazily as any Castilian of them all. This was discouraging, yet I ventured to address him in English. But, no! though he did not deny his father, and had not forsaken his name, he had forgotten the ancestral language of all the Smiths, and was merged in the Don Pedro. So I left him, with the usual blessing, which was all I took by the motion. It is a marvel to me how Don Pedro and his fellows get their bread. They toil not, neither do they spin. They are so supremely indifferent, that I am sure two hundred of a trade might live together in the most perfect agreement. They pass their lives in the same dull routine, varied, at far intervals, by some such scene as this:—Let C stand for customer, D for dealer (be the wares what they may). D is discovered lying at full length on the counter, smoking. Enter C. Ave Maria purissima.—D. Sin pecado concebida, (without disturbing himself).—C. Have you got such-and-such a thing?—D. God knows.—Does your worship want to buy it? (A pause.) Well, I'll look by-and-by. (He finishes his cigarett, and proceeds slowly to examine his stores. Then, somewhat surprised,) Holy Mary, here it is! we have got it.—C. What's the price?—D. God knows! Will your worship call again to-morrow, or next day, and I'll tell you?—

C. and D. Quede } Usted con Dios. Exit C.  
Vaya }

D lies down again in his former position, and rolls another cigarett."

The gallery at Madrid,—La Granja,—L'Escorial,—Toledo, with its cathedral and dragon Tarasca,—and other highway "lions" in high renown are in turn treated in this "colourable fashion." But Mr. Clark would be only a Bachelor, not a Master pilgrim, if he could not boast his by-way adventures also, as well as his walks in the beaten tracks of bull-fights, palatial monasteries, *alamedas*, &c. &c. &c. Here he is at Mairena, while on a tour in the Alpujarez.—

"The posada presented the most wretched and forlorn aspect, and the accommodation inside did not belie the promise of its exterior. To my inquiries respecting supper—(my readers must pardon my perpetual references to the victualling department, for really these mountain rides develop an appetite unknown to persons engaged in the more usual sedentary occupations of life)—I say, then, to my inquiries respecting supper I received most disheartening replies. I ran through the whole gamut of larder and pantry in a descending scale, lessening my demands as I went on. 'Had they any mutton?' I asked.—'No.' 'Chicken?'—'No.' 'Bacon?'—'No.' 'Eggs?'—'No.' 'Wine?'—'No.' 'Bread?'—'No.' Here was a predicament!—and my saddle-bags were emptied (chiefly, I believe, by the surreptitious nibbling of my Sancho). However, they promised to send out and buy some bread and wine; and I also stipulated for some mulberries, for I had seen many trees by the wayside jewelled with rich purple fruit. While this primitive repast was being

provided, I wandered about the environs of the hamlet. Some of the women, sitting at their open doors, were singularly beautiful,—Medoras or Guñares all,—in striking contrast with the women of Ujihar or Lanjaron. Just out of the village I saw several families, each on its own 'era,' or threshing-floor, busily engaged in beating out the corn. The dress of the men was exceedingly primitive, consisting of a shirt, and wide drawers reaching to the knee, which were, or had been, white. My appearance and northern complexion seemed to excite their wonder: long after I had gone by, on turning round I could see them still pausing in their work to gaze after me. A passing stranger is a sight passing strange at Mairena. On returning to the posada, I was shown into a kind of loft, with a square aperture for window, which seemed by its appearance to have been in quiet possession of the hens from time immemorial, and was, besides, insufferably close. I tried to convince the good hostess that eggs and chickens were the logical sequence of hens, but in vain; so I was obliged to content myself with bread and fruit and wine, as aforesaid. I had a table and chair set out upon the flat roof, which commanded a grand view of the whole wild district, ridge upon ridge, and valley beyond valley. Here and there, high up in the lap of some great, grim, brown and grey mountain, was perched a white hamlet, with its own green fringe of orchard,—and through a gap in the ridge towards the south-east, I could see the deep blue Mediterranean, and I could even make out some sails upon it, as they glittered against the rising moon. Meanwhile, I was rather pestered with three old women, who surrounded the table, taking huge delight in seeing me eat, and asking various questions,—such as, whether England was in France? and what I had done to my hair to make it brown? About an hour after nightfall, the various members of the family disposed themselves to sleep upon the roof; and I, thinking men's company better than hens', followed their example, and lay down close to the table, on which remained some relics of supper. In the middle of the night I was awakened by a stealthy step close by me, and, looking up, I saw a strange, wild figure of a man, all in rags. He was walking to and fro beside the table, evidently hankering after the viands thereon. At last he pounced upon them, and began coolly to break the bread and dip it in the wine. Before devouring each morsel, he held it up towards the moon, at arm's length, and, waving it to and fro, muttered, 'Thanks be unto thee, O Madonna, most holy.' I was amused at his thus breaking two commandments, and thanking the Virgin Mary or the moon, whichever it might be, by whose countenance he was stealing; but as he looked very lean and poor, I did not interrupt his feast by any sign of wakefulness. I had scarcely dropt to sleep again, before I was roused by a loud shriek; then there was a scuffle; all the family started to their feet; the men swore, the women screamed, and then ensued such a bewildered Babel of chattering, that I in vain tried to make myself heard, and discover the cause of the disturbance. As it was past three, I rose, and ordered the horses out. My guide (save the mark!) now acknowledged to me that he had only once travelled that way twenty-five years ago, so the landlord, anxious, as I thought, to escape from the still screaming womankind, volunteered to accompany me till daybreak. On the way he told me the cause of the tumult. Some ill-conditioned admirer of his daughter's had clambered in at the window of the loft where she was sleeping. It was her shriek which brought the father to the summary expulsion of the intruder. 'But for your worship's presence,' he said, 'I would have stabbed the villain then and there.' Deeds of blood are not unfamiliar in the Alpujarez, to judge from the number of mortuary crosses we passed about half-a-league from Mairena. Mine host could not, or would not, give me any information respecting them. All he would say was, 'Tiempo de los Moros.' Some looked as if they had been erected in the year 1849. We followed a rugged path over the side of a bleak wild hill, until, after crossing the rocky bed of a torrent, it merged in a more beaten track, and by-and-by we overtook a fine bright-eyed lad, riding on a mule. He came, he told me, from Arolles (one of the mountain hamlets I had seen from Mairena), and he was very communicative with respect to the place and all it contained. He was just telling me how, the day before,

the only child of an arriero had been drowned in a well, his father being absent at Calahorra (the place I was bound for), when we descried in the distance a train of mules. On nearer approach, we could see a man riding on the last mule, with arms folded and head bent, neither smoking nor singing. 'That,' said the boy, 'is the poor father.' 'Ah, Don Diego,' he cried, when we met him, 'sad news from Arolles.'—'Ya lo sé,' replied the father quietly, and rode on. The ill news had flown fast. There was not a trace of emotion on the father's face; the wound, doubtless, as deep wounds do, was bleeding inwardly. After leaving the boy, whose heavily-laden beast could not keep pace with ours, my precious guide lost his way and mine, so we had at last to dismount and scramble down the side of a hill so steep, that I was compelled to clutch the shrubs which grew here and there among the stones and shale. I expected every moment to see our horses roll neck-over-heels down; as their fore-feet are not adapted for clutching; but no, they managed to scramble safe and sound (at least as sound as ever) to the bottom, and so did Sancho, whose neck, I suppose, is reserved for another fate."

We could extract passages by the score no less lively and entertaining than the above; but these will serve to give all such as are willing to "sit down and feed" a foretaste of the savours of 'Gazpacho.' This word, by the way,—though, of course, every reader of the *Athenæum* reads Spanish like his mother-tongue,—is "the name of a dish universal in and peculiar to Spain. It is a sort of cold soup, made of bread, pot-herbs, oil and water." Mr. Clark has, hereby, misnamed his book:—it is not washy.

*The Chronicle of Queen Jane, and of Two Years of Queen Mary, &c.* Edited by J. G. Nichols, Esq. F.S.A. Printed for the Camden Society.

THIS carefully edited Chronicle of a highly interesting period of our history is printed for the first time from the Harleian MS. No. 194, preserved in the British Museum,—and extends from July 1553 to October 1554. It was formerly the property of Stow, who used a part of it in his Annals; and it was also referred to and employed by Holinshed. By whom it was written we have no information,—but the writer was an eye-witness of many of the circumstances which he narrates. Though called a Chronicle, it is in some respects more like a Diary of occurrences connected with the assumption of the throne by Lady Jane Grey, at the instance of her father and father-in-law, the proceedings, sufferings, and ends of those two noblemen and their adherents (including Sir Thomas Wyatt, not strictly one of their adherents), and the earlier acts of Queen Mary and her ministers for the re-establishment of Popery. To the Chronicle is added an Appendix of documents more or less relating to the events recorded.

Such are the general contents of the volume; and although some of the appendices might have been omitted, they contribute to the completeness of the work. Even the long letter of John Elder, describing the arrival of Philip and his marriage with Mary, is not out of place. It is, however, so curious and important in itself, that we should have better liked to see it separately illustrated than thrown into an Appendix in small type and mixed up with other papers of less value. Fox and Holinshed both availed themselves of it; but, as Mr. Nichols truly states, it was never reprinted entire,—and for this reason, among others, we are disposed to regret that it did not here assume a more imposing and distinct shape. We are not informed by Mr. Nichols who was the printer of John Elder's letter; but the fact is, that it came from the press of John Waylande, in 1555,—and it is a fact also that it was re-printed by John Walley a few years afterwards, notwithstanding Mr. Nichols tells us that this is "probably a mis-



take." Herbert, ii. 733, asserts it positively,—and he may be trusted: not so Dr. Dibdin,—who usually copies Herbert, but in this instance gives a false reference.

We have hardly more than a single fault to find with the mode in which the body of the volume in our hands has been edited: we wish that the MS. as it exists in the British Museum had been given as nearly as possible in the shape which it there bears, without any of the passages from Stow and Holinshed being interpolated to make up its accidental deficiencies. It is true that pains have been taken to distinguish them, but these pains have not always been quite successful; and on p. 56 we are surprised by meeting with a reprint of a small black-letter tract, which was separately published, and purports to be 'The ende of the Lady Jane Dudley, &c., without any stationer's name. Somelittle confusion is thus occasioned here and elsewhere; and it might easily have been avoided by inserting the matter in a note, or, like Elder's letter, in the Appendix. The editor has been frequently successful in his notes,—which are illustrative and interesting. They display knowledge of both the public and the private history of the time; and if now and then such authorities as Mr. Ainsworth and Miss Strickland are referred to, we take it for granted that it is a tribute rather to their popularity than to their historical value. Mr. Nichols was the able editor of 'Machyn's Diary' for the Camden Society, and it has been a great advantage to the volume in our hands that he had thus been required to go so minutely over the events and persons of the period.

We have already said that the original compiler of this 'Chronicle of Queen Jane' is unknown; but that he must have been a person of some consideration is evident (as, indeed, the editor observes,) from the fact, that he was permitted to sit at the table with Lady Jane Grey while she was lodged in the house of a person of the name of Partridge. This must have been the same Partridge who was subsequently goldsmith to Queen Mary, and who had an official residence within the Tower. The paragraph in which the Chronicler gives an account of this dinner is new, and important in reference to the life and conversation of a person so accomplished and illustrious as Lady Jane Grey.—

"Note, that on tuisdaie the xxix<sup>th</sup> of Auguste, I dynd at Partridge's house with my lady Jane, being ther present, she sitting at the bordes ende, Partridge, his wife, Jacob my ladyes gentill woman, and hir man. She comanding Partridge and me to put on our cappes, amongst our communycacion at the dyner, this was to be noted: after she had once or twice droncke to me and bad me hartellie welcome, saithe she, 'The quenes majesty is a mercyfull princes; I beseeche God she may long contynue, and sende his bountefull grace upon hir.' After that, we fell in (discourse of) matters of religion; and she axed what he was that preched at Polles on sonday beefore; and so it was tolde hir to be one (*blank in MS.*) 'I praie you,' quod she, 'have they masse in London?'—'Yay, for suthre,' quod I, 'in some places.'—'Yt may so be,' quod she, 'yt is not so strange as the sodden convertyon of the late duke; for who wolde have thought,' saide she, 'he would have so don?'—'Yt was aunswered her, 'Perchance he thereby hoped to have had his pardon.'—'Pardon?' quod she; 'wo worthe him! he hathe brought me and our stocke in most myserable callamty and mysery by his exceeding ambicion. Bat for th' aunswering that he hoped for life by his turning, thoughte other men be of that opynion, I utterly am not; for what man is ther lyving, I pray you, although he had been innocent, that wolde hope of life in that case; being in the felde against the quene in person as general, and after his taking so hated and evell spoken of by the comons? and at his coming into pryson so wonderd at as the like was never harde by any man's tyme. Who was judge that he shoulde hope for pardon, whose life was odyous to all men? But what will ye more? like as his life was wicked and full of dissimu-

lacion, so was his ende thereafter. I pray God, I, nor no frende of myne, dye so. Shoulde I, who (am) yonge and in my fewers [few years], forsake my faythe for the love of lyfe? Nay, God forbed! moche more he should not, whose fatall course, although he had lyved his just noubre of yeres, coulde not have long contynued. But life was swete, it appeared; so he might have lyved, you will saye, he dyd (not) care howe. Indede the reason is goode; for he that wolde have lyved in chaynes to have had his lyfe, by like wold leave no other meane attempted. But God be mercyfull to us, for he sayeth, Whoso denyeth him before men, he will not knowe him in his Father's kingdome.' With this and moche like talke the dyner passyd away; which ended, I thanked her ladyship that she would witsafe accept me in hir compaigny; and she thancked me likewise, and sayd I was wellcome. She thancked Partridge also for bringing me to dyner. 'Madam,' saide he, 'wee wer somewhat bolde, not knowing that your ladyship dynd belowe untill we fonde your ladyship ther.' And so Partrig and I departed."

The importance and interest of this conversation, in reference to Lady Jane Grey's opinion of the Duke of Northumberland for changing his faith, will be perceived at once: it forms a remarkable trait in her noble character, and can never after be omitted by any of her biographers. If 'The Chronicle of Queen Jane' had contained nothing else that is new, we should have been thankful for it; but the truth is, that it comprises a good deal of other matter, of greater or less importance, not elsewhere recorded.

Mary's coronation soon followed, and our diarist gives a very full account of it, pageants and all. The new year opened with the arrival of ambassadors from the King of Spain and proposals for Queen Mary's marriage; and we are told that as their "retnew and harbengers came ryding thorough London, the boyes pelted at theym with snowballes; so hatfull was the sight of ther coming in to theym." Opposition to this marriage spread rapidly:—for we find that "within vj. dayes after ther was worde brought howe that sir Peter Carowe, sir Gawen Carowe, sir Thomas Dey, (?) and sir (*blank*), with dyverse others, wer uppe in Devonshire resysting of the king of Spayne's comyng; and only a few days more elapsed ere the council was "certifyed" that Sir Thomas Wyat and a numerous body of adherents were "uppe in Kent" for the same cause. The whole account of this rising is extremely curious. We have notes of the progress of anxiety among the queen's adherents from day to day; how "the cytey began to be kept with harnessyd men." On the 31st of January Wyat and his followers came to Dartford; and the next day to Greenwich and Deptford, where they remained until the middle of Saturday, the 3rd of February. Meanwhile London was preparing, "the moste parte of the howseholders, with the mayre and aldermen, in harnesse." Then, "a gentleman and a drome in message" came, who was brought blindfolded through the city to the Earl of Pembroke's; and after conference he was reconducted to Southwark, "where at saint George's church heys horse was delivered him, and so departed." On Saturday—

"Note, this daie before noone all horsemen were by a drom commanded to be at saint James felde, and the footemen commanded to be in Fynsbury felde to muster. This day, about iij. of the clocke, sir Thomas Wyat and the Kentyshemen marched forwarde from Debtford towards London with v. auncientes, being by estimation about ij. thousand men; which their comyng, so soone as it was perceived, ther was shot off out of the White tower a vi. or viij. shott; but myssed them, somtymes shoting over, and somtymes shoting short. After the knowledge therof once had in London, forthwith the dray-bridge was cutt downe and the bridge gates shut. The mayre and the sheryes harnessyd theymselves, and commanded eche man to shutt in their shoppes

and wyndowes, and being redy in harnes to stande every one at his dore, what chance soever myght hapen. Then should ye have seen taking in wares of the stalles in most hasty manner; ther was renning upp and downe in every place to wepons and harnes; aged men were astoynd, many women wept for feare; children and maydes ran into their howses, shyting the dores for feare; moche noyse and tumult was every where; so terrible and fearfull at the fyrst was Wyat and his armyes comyng to the most part of the cytezens, who wer seldom or nere wout before to here or have eny suche invasions to their cyty. At this time was Wyat entered into Kent street, and so by saint George's church into Southwarke. Himselfe and parte of his compaigny cam in goode array downe Barmesey strete. Note, they wer sufferyd peceably to enter into Southwarke without repulse or eny stroke stryken either by the inhabytours or by eny other; yit was ther many men of the contry in the innes, raysed and brought thether by the lord William, and other, to have gone agaynst the saide Wyat and Kentyshmen, but they all joynded themselves to the said Kentysh rebelles, taking their partes; and the said inhabytantes most willingly with their best entertayned them. Immediatly upon the said Wyates comyng, he made a proclamation that no soldeiar should take eny thing, but that he should pay for it, and that his coming was to reasyst the comyng in of the Spanyshe kynge, &c. At his comyng to the bridge foote, he ladd forthwith ij. peces of ordnance, and began a great trenche between the bridge and him; he laid another pece at saint George's, another going into Barmesey strett, and another towards the bushopes house."

The gallant spirit of Wyat is characteristically exhibited:—"Yt is saide that the said master Wyat, upon the proclamation that who-soever will take him should have a C<sup>li</sup>. in money, dyd cause his name to be fayre wrytten by the name of Thomas Wyat, and sett yt on his cappe." We are also told that when in the night he marched out of Southwark he went in good order, having paid all his men; and that he made proclamation that if "eny of his soldears ought a peny to eny person ther, that they should come to him and he would se them paid; but ther was non complayned; all men the inhabytantes said that ther was never men behaved theymselves so honestly as his compaigny dyd."

The humanity of Wyat is also exemplified in the reasons given for his quitting Southwark. The lieutenant of the Tower had directed all the great ordnance against the foot of the bridge and against Southwark and the steeples of St. Tooley's and St. Marie Overies.—

"Which thing so sone as the inhabytauntes of Southwarke had intelligence of, certayn men, and also many women, came to the saide Wyat in most laudentable wise, saying, 'Sir, we are like to be utterlie undone all and dystroyed for your sake or default; our houses, which are our lyvings, shal be by and by thrown down upon our hedes, and our chidlers, to the utter desolation of this boroughe, with the shott of [the Tower] layed and chardged towards us; for the love of God, therefore, take pyte upon us!' At which wordes he being partly abashed, stayed awhile, and then said theis or moche-like wordes: 'I pray you, my frends, content yourselves a lyttell, and I will soone ease you of this myscheffe; for God forbid that ye, or the least childe here, shoulde be hurt or killed in my behaffe.' And so in most spedye maner marched awaye."

Wyat retired to Kingston; and from thence proceeded towards the western part of London, through Brentford. "The contest now deepens."

"The quenes scout, upon his retourne to the court, declared their coming to Brainforde, which sudden newes was so fearefull that therewith the quene and all the court was wonderfully affrighted. Dromes went thorough London at iiij. of the clocke, warning all soldears to arme themselves and to repaire to Charing crosse. The quene was once determyned to come to the Tower furthwith, but shortlie after she sende worde she would tarry ther to se the uttermost. Mayny thought she wolde have ben in the felde in person. Here was no small a-dowe in



London, and likewise the Tower made great preparation of defence. By x. of the clocke, or somewhat more, the erle of Penbroke had set his troopp of horsemen on the hille in the highway above the new brige over against saynet James; his footemen was sett in ij. battailles somewhat lower, and nerer Charing crosse. At the lane turning downe by the brike wall from Islington ward he had sett also certayn other horsemen, and he had planted his ordinance upon the hill side. In the meane season Wyat and his company planted his ordinance upon the hill beyonde sainte James, almost over agaynst the park corner; and himself, after a few words spoken to his soldaers, came downe the olde lane on foote, hard by the courte gate at sainte James's, with ij. or v. auneyentes; his men marching in goode array. Cutbart Vaughan, and about ij. auneyentes, turned downe towards Westminster. The erle of Penbroke's horsemen howeyd all this while without moving, untill all was passed by, saving the tayle, upon which they did sett and cut off. The other marched forward, and never stayed, or returned to the ayde of their tayle. At Charing crosse ther stoode the lorde chamberlayne, with the garde and a number of other, almost a thousande persons, the whiche, upon Wyat's coming, shott at his company, and at last fiedd to the court gates, which certayn pursued, and forced them with shott to shynt the court gates agaynst them. In this repulse the said lorde chamberlayn and others were so amazed that men cryed Treason! treason! in the court, and had thought that the erle of Penbroke, who was assaying the tayle of his enemy, had gon to Wyat, taking his part agaynst the queene. The said Wyat, with his men, marched still forward, all along to Temple barre, also thorothe Fleet street, along tyll he cam to Ludgate, his men going not in eny goode order or array. Thus Wyat cam even to Ludgate, and knockyd calling to come in, saying, there was Wyat, whome the queene had granted their requestes; but the lorde William Howard standing at the gate, saide, 'Avant, traitour! thou shalt not come in here.' And then Wyat awhile staid, and, as some say, rested him upon a seate [at] the Bellsavage gate; at last, seeing he coulde not come in, and belike being deceived of the ayde which he hoped out of the cetye, returned backe agayne in arraye towards Charing crosse, and was never stopped tyll he cam to Temple barre, wher certayn horsemen which cam from the felde met them in the face; and then began the fight agayne to wax hote.

The issue is well known. The prisons were soon so over crowded that prisoners were kept — "the poorest sort" — "en a hepp in churches." That they were taken thence and hanged by scores, both the present diarist and Henry Machyn concur in describing; and we can scarcely wonder that a reign commenced with so much bloodshed should have been linked in the popular mind to its emphatic title. Probably to strike further terror into the people, Lady Jane Grey and her husband were executed a few days after.

"By this tyme was ther a scaffold made upon the grene over agaynst the White tower, for the saide lady Jane to die upon. Who with hir husband was appoynted to have ben put to deathe the fryday before, but was staid tyll then, for what cause is not known, unless yt were because hir father was not then come into the Tower. The saide ladye, being nothing at all abashed, neither with feare of her owne deathe, which then approached, neither with the sight of the ded carcase of hir husbande, when he was brought in to the chapel, came fourthe, the levetenant loding hir, in the same gown wherin she was arrayned, hir countenance nothing abashed, neither her eyes anything moysted with teares, although her ij. gentylwomen, mistress Elizabeth Tyney and mistress Eleyen, wonderfully wept, with her boko in her hand, wheron she praid all the way till she cam to the saide scaffold, wheron when she was mounted, &c."

The diarist breaks off here; but the editor continues the narrative from the pamphlet before referred to, 'The Ende of the Lady Jane Dudley'; and we subjoin the passage, since everything relating to that interesting woman,

especially her heroic end, cannot be too generally made known:—

"First, when she mounted upon the scaffold, she said to the people standing thereabout: 'Good people, I am come hether to die, and by a lawe I am condemned to the same. The facts, in dede, against the queenes highnesse was unlawfull, and the consenting thereunto by me: but touching the procurement and desyre thereof by me or on my halfe, I doo wash my handes thereof in innocencie, before God, and the face of you, good Christian people, this day,' and therewith she wrong her handes, in which she had hir booke. Then she said, 'I pray you all, good Christian people, to beare me witness that I dye a true Christian woman, and that I looke to be saved by none other meane but only by the mercy of God in the merites of the blood of his only sonne Jesus Christ: and I confesse, when I dyd know the word of God I neglected the same, loved my selfe and the world, and therefore this plague or punishment is happily and worthely happened unto me for my sins; and yet I thank God of his goodnesse that he hath thus given me a tyme and respet to repent. And now, good people, while I am alive, I pray you to assyst me with your prayers.' And then, knelyng downe, she turned to Fecknam, saying, 'Shall I say this psalme?' And he said 'Yea.' Then she said the psalme of *Miserere mei Deus* in English, in most devout manner, to the end. Then she stode up, and gave her maiden mistris Tilney her gloyes and handkercher, and her booke to maister Bruges, the lyvetenantes brother; forthwith she untied her gown. The hangman went to her to help her of therewith; then she desyred him to let her alone, turning towards her two gentewomen, who helped her off therewith, and also with her frose paast and neckercher, geving to her a fayre handkercher to knyfte about her eyes. Then the hangman kneeled downe, and asked her forgiveness, whome she forgave most willingly. Then he willed her to stand upon the strawe: which doing, she sawe the block. Then she said, 'I pray you dispatch me quickly.' Then she kneeled downe, saying, 'Will you take it of before I lay me downe?' and the hangman answered her, 'No, Madame.' She tyed the kercher about her eyes; then feeling for the blocke, saide, 'What shall I do? Where is it?' One of the standers-by guyding her therunto, she layde her heade down upon the block, and stretched forth her body and said: 'Lorde, into thy hands I commende my spirite!' And so she ended."

The arraignment and execution of the Duke of Suffolk, and Sir Thomas Wyatt and his friends, followed soon after. The accounts are given at great length, and seem to have been the authority on which Holinshed relied.

We have to thank Mr. Nichols for his labours and the Camden Society for the result of them: on the whole, we have seldom taken up a more satisfactory volume.

*The Earth and Man; or, Comparative Physical Geography, in its Relation to the History of Mankind.* By Arnold Guyot. Translated by C. C. Felton. Gover.

THIS is a revised edition of a work from which we believe that our readers will receive both pleasure and instruction. Should the reasoning of the author be sometimes thought inconclusive, the comprehensiveness and elevation of his views will always enlist sympathy. In a work of scientific pretension, it is true, neither general ability nor eloquence in description can supply the place of logical precision of thought and language;—and for this reason, though we are disposed to admit on other grounds many of M. Guyot's conclusions, we cannot but regard a considerable portion of his work as the expression of noble but vague aspirations, rather than as the exhibition of a well connected and sustained intellectual process.

The professed object of the work is to trace the influence of the configuration and physical phenomena of the surface of the globe on the moral and social history of mankind.—

"Geography ought to be something different from

a mere description. It should not only describe, it should compare; it should interpret, it should rise to the how and the wherefore of the phenomena which it describes. It is not enough for it coldly to anatomize the globe, by merely taking cognizance of the arrangement of the various parts which constitute it: it must endeavour to seize those incessant mutual actions of the different portions of physical nature upon each other, of inorganic nature upon organized beings, upon man in particular, and upon the successive development of human societies; in a word, studying the reciprocal action of all these forces, the perpetual play of which constitutes what might be called the life of the globe, it should, if we may venture to say so, take up its physiology." To understand it in any other way is to deprive geography of its vital principle; it is to make it a collection of partial unmeaning facts; it is to fasten upon it for ever that character of dryness, with which it has so often and so justly been reproached. For what is dryness in a science, except the absence of those principles, of those ideas, of those general results, by which well-constituted minds are nurtured? Physical Geography, therefore, ought to be, not only the description of our earth, but the physical science of the globe, or the science of the general phenomena of the present life of the globe in reference to their connexion and their mutual dependence. This is the geography of Humboldt and of Ritter."

Again:—

"It is from the forms and the relative situation of the great terrestrial masses, placed under the influence of the general forces of nature, that we shall see flow all the great phenomena of the physical and individual life of the continents, and their functions in the great whole. But it is not enough to have seized, in this point of view, entirely physical as yet, the functions of the great masses of the continents: they have others, yet more important, which, if rightly understood, ought to be considered as the final end for which they have received their existence. To understand and appreciate them at their full value, to study them in their true point of view, we must rise to a higher position. We must elevate ourselves to the moral world to understand the physical world, which has no meaning except by it and for it. It is, in fact, the universal law of all that exists in finite nature, not to have, in itself, either the reason or the entire aim of its own existence. Every being exists not only for itself, but forms necessarily a portion of a great whole, of which the plan and the idea go infinitely beyond it, and in which it is destined to play a part. It is thus that inorganic nature exists not only for itself, but to serve as a basis for the life of the plant and the animal; and in their service it performs functions of a kind greatly superior to those assigned to it, by the laws which are purely physical and chemical. In the same manner, all nature, our globe, admirable as is its arrangement, is not the final end of creation; but it is the condition of the existence of man. It serves as an instrument by which his education is accomplished, and performs in his service functions more exalted and more noble than its own nature, and for which it was made. It is, then, the superior being that solicits, so to speak, the creation of the inferior being, and associates it to his own functions; and it is correct to say that inorganic nature is made for organized nature, and the whole globe for man, as both are made for God, the origin and end of all things. It is thus that science takes in the whole of created things, as a vast harmony, of which all the parts are closely connected together, and presuppose each other."

We are not among those who would deny the possibility of at least partial success in the attempt here indicated. We know sufficient to believe that the physical and mental conditions of man are connected by invariable laws, and that a knowledge of most of these laws is attainable by the human intellect. But this knowledge is one of the gifts which science has yet reserved, — and which must be sought with patience and caution, as well as with boldness and enthusiasm. Until our exact information on several special topics shall be much extended, no generalizations, however brilliant, can give ought but vague conclusions on so vast and



complicated a subject. At present, we are so little acquainted with the laws either of matter or of mind, that the connexion between the simplest material and mental phenomena is a mystery. Granting that the laws of mechanics and chemistry are pretty well understood, the science of physiology is yet in its infancy,—the fundamental problems of ethnology, or the science of races, are yet unsettled,—we know scarcely anything of psychology. The moral causes of historical facts are so numerous and complex, that until lately the sagacity of the highest intellects was unable to conceive anything resembling a philosophy of history. If we ascend a step higher, and endeavour to trace the relation between physical conditions and historical or social development,—all that we can ascertain with certainty is, a few propositions of extreme generality. The civil history of a country, although a function of its geographical position and phenomena, cannot yet be developed with even an approach to scientific accuracy.

An attentive perusal of M. Guyot's work will, we think, evince the justness of the preceding remarks. He is apparently a man of talent and information,—but neither he nor any other person can argue satisfactorily from imperfect premises. When his subject involves only ascertained laws and phenomena, he writes most agreeably and instructively. We have never seen the science of physical geography explained with greater clearness and elegance. His sentiments exhibit the natural effect of scientific pursuits on a well-constituted mind. If he is deficient, as we have said, in logical accuracy and sequence of thought, on a subject at present beyond the domains of human knowledge,—his readers will, nevertheless, lay down his book with an increased sense of the grandeur and beauty of many of those ordinary operations of nature which too often escape observation merely because they are common.

### Two Years' Residence in a Levantine Family.

By Bayle St. John, Chapman & Hall.

THERE is more of *Young Ropid*—thus elegantly to impersonate the slang adjective of "fast"—in this book than we can accredit. But it is lively, full of colour, and curious as disclosing a world of *dramatis persone* behind a very quaint curtain. When we have added that some of the tales and adventures bear signs of "the cocked-hat and the walking-cane" (so Sir Walter Scott used to call the adornments with which a good story may be decked out)—we have satisfied our critical consciences. Pencil and scissors shall do the rest;—and shall first exhibit the Levantine family belonging to Alexandria in whose bosom Mr. Bayle St. John resided for two years:—

"In the first place, Sitt Madoula, the lady who had welcomed us, was a comely dame of thirty-seven, with dark eyes and jet-black hair, somewhat carelessly arranged in front, and surmounted by a small tarboosh, or red cap. Behind fell a profusion of small tresses, mixed with an immense number of oval-shaped gold spangles, hung upon plaits of braid. A kind of pelisse, split down the sides, with long tails tucked up into her shawl in a not ungraceful manner, and large loose trousers, formed the principal articles of her costume. We could see also a coarse gauze chemise. \* \* A lachrymose-looking old lady, whose short legs, encased in white stockings—Sitt Madoula was barefoot—could be seen up to her knees; as she sat for comfort on the floor, was always mentioned as Om Barbàra—the mother of Barbàra—which said Barbàra was a laughing, saucy-looking, little Levantine beauty, with her hair decked out with pearls, in addition to the customary stream of braid, and gold spangles behind. A tight rose-coloured satin vest showed off her fine shape, and being open in front, gave one ample opportunity,

despite the feigned protection of a thin gauze chemise, of ascertaining the delicacy of her skin. She sat on the divan, in the midst of a perfect cloud of strawberry-patterned muslin trousers, from beneath which her small, pretty feet, encased in yellow morocco slippers, just peeped forth. We had taken this family party quite by surprise, or else this dangerous little person would have been packed off into another room. She had been urged to go by her husband and others, whilst we were fumbling in the dark passages below and the staircase; but curiosity and wilfulness had induced her to hold out until it was too late. A young girl, who peeped in once or twice, had been taken by the shoulders and turned out on the very first announcement that the Franks were coming. \* \* Of the men who were present, I shall only now mention Yusuf Eed, the husband of Barbàra, a tall, thin, sharp-faced man, in a white turban, a long neck kaftan, descending to his heels, and, of course, bound at the waist with a shawl, a black cloth overcoat, white stockings, and European shoes; Francis, the cousin of Barbàra, a monstrous fat young fellow, with pretensions to the character of a fop; and Halil Adin, a swarthy Maronite, much less richly dressed, who showed, by his manner, that he admitted the inferiority of his position. I will add, that a great point in male Levantine costume—as it was of yore among the foppish young Athenians—is to make the kaftan swell out at the bosom. This heightens the soft effeminate appearance, which even the most bearded and dark-skinned of this degenerate race presents."

How these over-dressed people lived "among themselves," is told in a subsequent page. Mr. St. John entered upon his board and lodging just after the commencement of the feast of Ramadhan.

"I wanted to go out immediately, to see the aspect of the streets; but Madoula told me that my first supper as one of the family was preparing, and I was obliged to stay. Halil Adin, whom I have already mentioned, and who from having been a servant in the house had become a small shopkeeper in one of the bazaars—*ahias*, in the language of the country, a merchant—came in to supper; and we three—I, he, and Iskender, sat down at a little round table crowded with menses—soup in a pie-dish in one corner, a bowl of melochiyeh (a glutinous kind of herb) in the middle, a plate of radishes supported on the edges of these two; a plate of kababs, or small pieces of mutton broiled on skewers, here, a dish of rice there; flat cakes of bread thrust into every vacant place, with numerous limes, which are squeezed over every mess; three clean plates, one knife, four forks, two spoons, glasses placed on chairs by our sides with some extra dishes; Sitt Madoula stumping about on her silk-like clogs, to see that everything was right; Wardy standing in the doorway with a water-cooler resting in the palm of her hand, ready to give us drink, and casting the beams of her bright eyes upon us; Ali lazily squatting down in the gallery outside; Hanna the Mad endeavouring to make himself generally useful—such were the elements of the scene as I remember it. I must not forget that Halil was famous as an enormous eater, and that the great joke at table was to count and exaggerate the number of bread-cakes he devoured. A few words of grace were rapidly uttered before and after the meal, during which water was the only drink. The Levantines eat very fast, start up as soon as they have done, and have water poured over their hands, which they also sometimes rub with lemon-juice, and then smoke. Iskender had been brought up to abhor tobacco and almost abstain from coffee. He was a peculiar instance. The Sitt generally took one or two shishehs, or water-pipes, every day. After supper I retired, to the leewan, or raised part of the room, and sitting down on the divan, had a pipe brought to me—of course without a mouthpiece, it being a house of mourning. I had determined to conform as much as possible to their customs, and to live with them as they lived, sharing in their tribulations and joining in their amusements. In about half an hour, having despatched their meal as usual in the kitchen, Sitt Madoula and Wardy retired to their sleeping apartment; Ali had gone out, Hanna was asleep, and the black girls were chattering on the housetop, their favourite place. Iskender and

Halil now produced their paper lanterns, and we started to see the fun."

At all events, the Sitt, though somewhat queer in her notions of educating sons, had nothing of *Mrs. Bardell* in her composition.—

"I never ceased to be a guest; and the only way in which I could put a stop to the worthy Sitt's profusion was, by saying that in hot weather the sight of much meat was unpleasant to me. Various dishes of vegetables were then substituted—artichokes or cauliflowers, or vegetable-marrows, or melochiyeh, with mountains of rice. Even when my appetite was at the best, I could only pick a bit here and there, whilst the Sitt came uneasily in and out, vexing herself to discover why I did not eat, watching the dishes I favoured most, in order to redouble the quantity next day, and sometimes bursting out into reproaches. What had she done? Why did I not eat? Had anything happened to offend me? What did I like best? Did I despise her cookery? Should she get a European servant from the hotel to come and give her lessons? It was impossible to reason with her; but it was as impossible to be angry. So, with the assistance of a hungry cat and some perpetually-recurring kittens, called to my assistance when she turned her back, I did my best towards demolishing a tolerable amount of the good things set before me. The principal meals of the day are the dinner (*ghada*) and the supper (*asha*), the first taking place at noon, the second a little after sunset. There is seldom any great change in the dishes on these occasions. Now and then I invited some European friends to sup with me in the Levantine style. On the first occasion, I of course mentioned that I was willing to discharge any extra expense. This created a storm of indignation. Were not my friends her friends? Was her house an hotel? A torrent of such questions, half in Italian, half in Arabic, rushed forth with overwhelming violence, and I never ventured to make any allusion to the subject again. (Whenever, therefore, I had any visitors, provided due warning was given, a profusion of everything was set forth, and the Sitt was always in a great bustle, and looked monstrously pleased. Supper being over, she used to come simpering in, as she said, to enjoy European society, superintended the distribution of coffee and shishehs, said a few polite things, and then retired. Iskender sometimes endeavoured to remain late, and make himself agreeable; but portentous yawns betokened that he was struggling with a long habit. Presently we heard his mother's voice pronouncing his name; at first gently, and then, if he delayed obedience, in tones bordering on anger. She was waiting to put him to bed! Yes, this merchant, who talked so loudly in the bazaar, and bought and sold, and played the great man, was every night assisted to undress by his mother, and carefully tucked in! This was the only time, indeed, on which they ever had an opportunity of talking and discussing household affairs. I soon ceased to consider the circumstance extraordinary, and often went to join them. Iskender always slept in his Arab costume—loose cloth trousers, jacket, shawl and tarboosh. It is the custom of the country to go to bed dressed. Some people seem never to undress, except at long intervals. I much doubt whether Hanna did so above once during the whole time of my residence."

We must give one other glance at the domestic economy of the Sitt,—and then draw the curtain.—

"Next day I found Sitt Madoula alone; and whilst waiting the return of Hanna, who had gone to the nearest Wallâlah, had to listen to a history of all the slaves the good lady had ever possessed. \* \* Whilst she was talking we heard the hoarse voice of a Jellabi in the court, and presently up came a dark bevy of half-clothed damsels for inspection. The owner, sitting down on a bench in the doorway below, quietly smoking, was ready to answer any questions. A rapid glance of Sitt Madoula's practised eye sufficed to detect those between whom she was likely to hesitate, and the others were at once sent away. I asked her the grounds on which she so peremptorily decided. 'All those I have dismissed have been in families before; I knew it by their way of standing, in spite of their being dressed like wild beasts. They have been sold by their



masters in Cairo, and shipped to Alexandria. All the bad slaves and lame donkeys are sent down here. I know the tricks of these slave-dealers. May misfortune come to them!"—She went on in this style for some time; and then suddenly turning to the younger of the girls, who stood huddled together in a corner, ordered her, in an insulting manner, to come forward, at the same time cursing her race. It is impossible to describe the expression of rage and hatred which shot, like a lightning flash, athwart the face of the girl, who thus, in an unguarded moment, betrayed that she still possessed all the wild, untamed feelings of her native wilds. I looked at once with interest upon her; for that glance revealed that not all the ill-treatment and suffering to which she had been subjected during a journey of thousands of miles, over deserts which we should consider it a mighty triumph to traverse, had broken her spirit and rendered her insensible to injury. To my mind, such a character would recommend itself. The readiest to resent ill usage are often the most susceptible of kindly impressions. But this young savage was at once judged by my prudent friend, who dismissed her to join her companions below, and applauded her own keen appreciation of character on beholding the look of scorn and defiance, that would have become a princess, with which she gathered her rags about her and walked away. 'Now, come you here, child of the Devil,' said Sitt Madoula to the remaining girl, who, with a stupified yet anxious gaze, had watched the scene I have described. She approached, or rather crept, forward, keeping her eyes on those of the Sitt, who was a right-good soul at bottom, and expressed to me, in broken Italian, her sorrow at being obliged to put on an appearance of harshness. I need not repeat the conversation that ensued; suffice it to say that it was satisfactory. The girl was very ignorant and apparently good-natured. But the worthy Sitt would not trust to appearances; she had a whole host of little expedients for diving into the recesses of the human heart.—'Give me your hand, Zara,' said she, choosing one of the half-dozen names commonly bestowed on slaves. The girl obeyed. Sitt Madoula took the thin hand held out to her, looked rather awkwardly at me for a moment, and then spat in it! I started, and uttered an exclamation.—'*Stato tranquillo!*' quoth she to me aside, in her *lingua Franca*. 'Be quiet: it is the custom. What do you call that in your country, Zara?'—The girl looked perplexed; but if she was offended, she kept down her resentment in the very lowest depths of her heart. Her reply was, in a tone of angelic meekness, 'I know the name of it in Arabic, O lady!' Sitt Madoula blushed scarlet. The unintended rebuke told. She let fall the slave's hand, and said: 'You are a good girl, and very learned. I shall pay your price. Don't look angry, O Frank,' she added, turning to me with some confusion: 'you know I mean to be kind to her. Anybody else would have struck her on the mouth with a slipper; but I am not so cruel. Let me now go and speak to the Jellabi.' A fierce volley of words was exchanged for some time between the slave-dealer and Madam Madoula; he beginning by asking about eighteen pounds, and she by offering eight. It was exactly like a bargain for a yard of cloth. 'I will give so much.'—'Yesta Allah! God will open'—that is, another door for sale, was the customary evasive answer. This went on for half-an-hour, during which the worthy Sitt stood screaming from the gallery, whilst the Jellabi sat quietly below smoking, giving occasionally an answer in the words I have mentioned, and sometimes, when vexed by a ridiculously low offer pertinaciously repeated, putting in that he would give the girl as a present. At length they gradually approached one another in price, the altercation becoming hotter and hotter, however, as they did so; until at length, when the difference was only a few piastres, the bargain was several times broken off. This, in fact, was the serious part of the discussion, the previous exorbitant demand and consequent low offer being mere skirmishing. Terms were, however, at last come to; and the price of 1,350 piastres (not quite 14l.) was agreed upon, to be paid in two or three days in case the girl discovered no hidden bad qualities. Ordinary black slaves, male and female, generally fetch from ten to twenty pounds; but thirty, and even forty or fifty, are paid for fine Abyssinian women."

Chapter the twentieth of Mr. St. John's book contains as excellent a ghost story as most that we recollect:—excellent because he contrives to make us fancy that he believes it. But it is too long to quote, and too good to mutilate. The thrill must "come on by degrees,"—and this a "short and easy" abbreviation renders impossible. There is no being jerked into ghostland by a few disconnected leaps.

#### OUR LIBRARY TABLE.

*Anne Dysart: a Tale of Every-day Life.* 3 vols. —Not more is promised in the above title than 'Anne Dysart' performs. It would be superfluous to point out that the *Athenæum* has always welcomed tales of "every-day life,"—whether the scene has been laid in a Suffolk village, or in a Swedish town, or (as in 'Jane Eyre') in a North-of-England manor-house, or (as in 'The Initials') within call of the *Hirsch* at Munich. Thus, we are not chargeable with that antipathy which with many romance-readers is a habit when we object that 'Anne Dysart' treats of an every-day life too extensively chilled by parsimony, and soiled by meanness, and streaked with eccentricity, and veined with pain of heart, to be agreeable when it is displayed in fiction. In this our authoress shares the fault of Miss Ferriar; who so oppressed her tales with miserable and tiresome people—with petty tyrants and greedy formalists—that we felt it a relief to exchange her *Mac Douas* and her *Ribleys* even for heroes and heroines of the *Whiskerandos* and *Tilburina* species. Anne Dysart, the Lady of the tale, is as pleasant and amiable a person as a heroine should be; but the household into which she is thrown by the necessities of her poor relationship discloses an amount of sordid and gripping thrift which, after its kind, is as distasteful to the mind as the roughest picture by Brouwer or Jan Steen is repulsive to the eye. Anne's disagreeable but generous lover, Mr. Bolton, has possibly been suggested by Miss Austen's Mr. Darcy in 'Pride and Prejudice.' Her trials in Edinburgh, when she is summoned thither to attend the sick bed of her brother, are needlessly racking;—and though the Greys and Barbara administer some relief and contrast, even their prosperity and virtue are but like flashes of light across a heavy and leaden sky which the wind too soon sweeps away and the rain blots out. We are saddened almost past the power of being cheered by the ringing of bells and the sound of the chariot-wheels which close the comedy. This is a pity: since there is much that is true, neatly written, and characteristic in 'Anne Dysart.' Let the authoress try again,—and next time select a subject admitting greater warmth and geniality. This done, we think that a very creditable success is within her reach.

*Letters of a Traveller; or, Notes of Things seen in Europe and America.* By William Cullen Bryant. —We might have drawn on this record of sixteen years of a Poet's holidays, but for the circumstance advertised by Mr. Bryant in his preface,—that these 'Letters' have been published elsewhere,—taken in conjunction with the fact that a rather unusual number of lively books of travel are at present before us for notice. These "concatenations" render it expedient for us merely to state that Mr. Bryant has here added a welcome, unaffected, and individual volume to the rich library of Prose by Poets. In particular, the letters from Cuba will be found interesting by the English reader.

*'Earnestness.' A Sequel to 'Thankfulness.'* By Charles B. Taylor, M.A. —The tale past and the tale present, as above coupled, come in such awkward order that we must imagine "Sequel" is a case of publisher's ingenuity rather than of preacher's doctrine. We should have insisted that to be "thankful" one must have been "earnest." But we are not going to "chop doctrine" with Mr. Taylor; who writes pleasantly and elegantly while tracing what he conceives to be the career of a model bishop. We think, however, the death of the worldly old Lady on every ground objectionable:—and must further object to the superfluity of compliments and praises interchanged between the heroes and heroines of Mr. Taylor's illustrated homily.

*Scenes from the Life of a Soldier in Active Service.* —This work is composed of four sets of fugitive

articles—probably all written by different persons. They are in the least exact and most ephemeral form; having only one point of connexion,—glorification of Austria and abuse of liberalism. The mass of the book is copied from the Italian correspondence of the *Allgemeine Zeitung* and the *Revue des Deux Mondes*; but there is also other newspaper correspondence—in the usual newspaper style of partisanship—from Temesvar and the camp of Jellachich. It is all of a piece. History does not look to such sources for her materials. The translator would seem to have been ashamed of his work. The tone of his preface is apologetic,—he hesitates to pronounce an opinion on the questions before him,—and, wishing to insinuate a preference rather than obtrude it, he fixes attention on mere points of military skill, in order to avoid a collision with the free sentiment of his reader on the higher questions of humanity and national justice which are involved in the remarks contained in the body of the work.

*Circassia; or, a Tour to the Caucasus.* —This work is the production of an American traveller and author—and is in the worst taste of American authorship. It is little, of such a work, to say that it is useless,—that it adds no new item, however small, to our knowledge of the locality of which it professes to treat,—that it affords no lively portraits of men, no vivid portraiture of scenery, no lucid discussion of events,—that from the first line to the last it is insufferably tedious. These are venial faults compared with the moral offence which it contains. That an American should be found to denounce England and applaud Russia, though curious, is conceivable; that a man should be found, bearing an English name, to publish a book in London and New York in which he explains the awful laxity of female morals amongst the higher circles of Russian society, and expresses approval of it, "because it is countenanced by the greater portion of the human race"—this was not conceivable. —We should have spoken in stronger terms of this work had its grossness not been so completely disguised by its dulness.

*On the County Courts Extension Bill.* By George Becke, Esq. —By a bill read a second time in the House of Commons on the 10th of April last, and carried by a majority of 144 to 67, it is proposed to extend the jurisdiction of the County Courts in cases of debt from 20l. to 50l., and in cases of tort from 5l. to 20l.; while certain alterations, which need not be specified, are to be made in the salaries of the Judges and officers of such courts, and in the fees of the counsel who practise in them. Mr. Becke, in the pamphlet before us, protests against these proposed changes. He states that a thorough acquaintance with the working of the old system, gained during a practice of thirty years, has convinced him of its merits; and that its defects, which he both admits and laments, might easily be remedied without so great an alteration in the ancient institutions of the country. He anticipates that the effect of this measure, if suffered to become law, would be to uproot the whole of our present system of administering justice; and urges that the arguments in favour of the bill prove too much:—if they were of any value, they would lead to the conclusions, that there should be no limit to the jurisdiction of the County Courts, and that the superior courts at Westminster with all their functionaries might just as well be abolished at once. In order to remove or mitigate the vexatious delay, great expense, and other notorious evils of the present system, Mr. Becke proposes to divest the superior courts of their present complicated and cumbrous machinery, and to assimilate in certain cases the practice of these courts to that of the County Courts. He would, in the first instance, limit the operation of this experiment to the recovery of debts,—leaving, we suppose, the law relating to torts as it now stands. He satisfactorily, we think, shows that the object of the present lengthy, unintelligible, and highly technical system of *process* might in the majority of cases be effected by far simpler means and at far less expense. It would be out of our province to follow Mr. Becke into further details, or to sketch the arguments by which he endeavours to support his scheme. It is pleasing to find a professional man writing with candour and impartiality respecting the abuses of his own profession. Mr. Becke truly observes,—"Lawyers, as a class, have not been reformers; and when such, they have not "begun at



home." The "law's delay" has passed into a proverb,—and yet most clear thinkers are willing to admit that in theory law and delay are not necessarily connected. The intelligence of the age demands the abolition of the mass of obsolete fictions which too frequently cloud the administration of justice, and which owe their retention merely to the cupidity and prejudices of a class of men who, though eminent for intellectual ability in other respects, in the practice of their profession too frequently forget that their real interest is identified with the interests of the public. Whatever may be thought by competent judges of the merits of Mr. Becke's scheme, we believe that most of his readers will give him credit for candid and enlightened views and impartiality.

*The Commercial Class-book; or, Young Merchant's Compendium.* By John Henry Freese.—This class-book, written by an old merchant, is divided into three sections:—the first showing, by theory and example, the nature of commerce in its various kinds, the duties of the persons engaged in it, the forms of bills of exchange, invoices, accounts, rules, &c.; the second containing a variety of useful information on foreign exchanges and the course and results of certain operations in bullion and specie; the third entering into all the mysteries of single and double entry, both on the English and on the Italian methods. The book has no pretension to literary merits; it aims at being useful,—and achieves its object.

*The History of Liverpool, and of the Rise of Manufactures, Mining and Agriculture, general in those Districts of Lancashire, Cheshire, Staffordshire, Derbyshire and Yorkshire, which employ Liverpool as their principal Port of Communication with Foreign Countries.* By Thomas Baines.—This is the first part of a work which promises to be of some magnitude when completed. The first half of the present instalment is occupied with an elaborate account of the natural productions,—so far as they are available to commerce—of the important districts enumerated in the second part of the title; the second half traces the early history of Liverpool from the times of the old Norse pirates down to the period when the great charters of the town were bestowed. Six more parts are to follow in due course. We shall probably return to this work when more of it is before us.

*The Moral Tone of the Factory System defended: in a Letter to the Lord Bishop of Manchester.* By Franklin Baker, M.A.—This clever little pamphlet is written as a reply to "the allegations of the Rev. Henry Norsley," contained in his prize essay on "Juvenile Depravity." As we predicted in our notice of this essay [*Athenæum*, No. 1119], it appears to have amused the people in the manufacturing districts; we only wonder that Mr. Franklin Baker should have thought it worth the trouble of an answer. However, having taken up the cudgels in defence of his native county, we must say that he uses them well. Mr. Norsley's knowledge of factory life was gathered from Mr. Disraeli's satirical novels,—and Mr. Disraeli's from his own fertile imagination: and the reverend author's reasoning is worthy of the premises on which it is based.

*The Georgics of Virgil.* Translated by W. H. Bathurst, M.A.—In this excellent version the translator has contrived to present us with a work which reads easily as an English poem. There are harmony in the verse and elegance in the style; while the rendering is, for the most part, faithful. Appropriate notes are added at the foot of each page. Altogether, we should prefer this translation to either Dryden's or Sotheby's. More accurate than the former, it is less pedantic than the latter.

*Phases of Faith; or, Passages from the History of my Creed.* By F. W. Newman.—This volume of experiences falls far outside of that circle in which we undertake to pronounce critical opinions; but as it is not unlikely to provoke discussion in other quarters, our readers may expect some brief account of what it professes to be at our hands. Mr. Newman begins his work by describing the religious condition of his mind in early life, when he was as submissive to authority as is an acolyte in the temple of Brahma. After a time, the course of his reading—which, he nevertheless insists, lay entirely along the lines of orthodoxy—brought doubts as to whether Christianity and the Church as now existing can be reconciled. Then, he went back to the writings of the early Fathers; but only

to be disgusted, as he says, with them. A line which he met with in St. Chrysostom's work on the priesthood,—"a fine lie is a fine thing,"—almost drove him to sympathize with the pompous sarcasms of Gibbon on the "frauds of the ancient Fathers." Acquiring more and more boldness as he advanced in his discoveries, as he thought them, he began to examine the texts of the Sacred Writings themselves,—and in the end found that he had rejected the entire letter of the Scriptures as critically and philosophically untenable. In the progress from phase to phase Mr. Newman's work has a strong resemblance to Mr. Henning's; and though he never once alludes to the volume of the preceding inquirer, this resemblance of the two arguments is so striking that we cannot divest ourselves of the impression that the one is the groundwork of the other. The Christian Theism into which Mr. Henning emerged is also identical, or nearly so, with the spiritualism of Mr. Newman. The reader of Henning will scarcely find a new fact or thought in Newman:—we doubt whether such a coincidence is likely to be considered accidental. With the religious questions raised we as reviewers are not concerned.

## LIST OF NEW BOOKS.

Ada Greville, a Novel, by Author of 'Arthur of Brittany,' 12. 11s. 6d. Amyott's Home, or Life in Childhood, 1c. 8vo. 3s. 6d. cl. Anne Dysart, a Tale of Every Day Life, 3 vols. post 8vo. 12. 11s. 6d. Anderson's Causes and Symptoms of Nervous Affections, cr. 8vo. 5s. Alison's (A.) History of Europe, Vol. XIV. 8vo. 15s. cl. Alison's (A.) Essays, Vol. II. \* Miscellaneous Essays, 8vo. 15s. cl. Bernhard's (W.) Book of One Hundred Beverages, 24mo. 6d. cl. Besly's (J.) One Lord, One Faith, 8vo. 12s. cl. Bohn's (Rev. H.) Truth and Error, 2d ed. 18mo. 2s. cl. Bohn's Illustrated Library, June, 'Lodge's Portraits,' Vol. VIII. 5s. Bohn's Classical Library, June, 'Horace, by Smart,' cr. 8vo. 3s. 6d. cl. Bohn's Shilling Series, 'Irving's Columbus,' Vol. I. cr. 8vo. 1s. 6d. Bohn's Shilling Series, 'Taylor's (Bayard) El Dorado,' 2 vols. 2s. bds. Churton's Lib. for the Million, Part I. 'James's Character,' 1s. 6d. Chambers's Lib. for Young, 'The Whisperer,' by Mrs. S. C. Hall, 1s. Chambers's Instruct. Lib. 'Lamartine's Travels,' Vol. 2, 2s. 6d. cl. 2s. 6d. Continuation of Working Man's Memoirs, 18mo. 1s. 5d. 1s. 6d. cl. Cressy's (E. S.) Memoirs of Eminent Etionians, 1 vol. royal 8vo. 12. 1s. De Vere's (A.) Picturesque Sketches of Greece, 2 vols. post 8vo. 12. 1s. Demsey's (G. D.) Examples of Brick Buildings, and 4to. text, 21s. 6d. Ellic's Foresters, a Novel, by J. Brent, Esq. 3 vols. post 8vo. 12. 11s. 6d. Felix on the Bat, 2nd ed. 10 plates, 4to. 12s. cl. Fortune's Epitome of the Funds, 15th ed. by D. M. Evans, 6s. cl. Gail's Tales, Annals of the Parish, The Entail, The Revolver, Sir A. New Wyle, 12mo. 3s. 6d. each, 4s. cl. Hamilton's Universal Text-Book, edited by Manson, 1 vol. 4to. 7s. cl. Hodgson's Key to Sacred Lyrics, 8vo. 7s. 6d. cl. Hodge (P. R.) On the Expansive Steam Engine, 4to. 16s. half bd. How to Emigrate, a Tale, by W. H. G. Kingston, Esq. 18mo. 3s. cl. Hubert's (Rev. H. S. M.) Emblematical Sermons, 12mo. 5s. cl. In Memoriam, 1 vol. 6s. cl. Iron's (Rev. W. J.) Judgment of Baptismal Regeneration, 8vo. 5s. cl. Keane's Supplement to Burn's Justice, Jan. 1849 to Jan. 1850, 8vo. 6s. Kirby's (Mary) The Flora of Leicestershire, 12mo. 6s. 6d. cl. Lawson's (W. J.) History of Banking, 8vo. 16s. cl. Lawson's (W. J.) Legends and Traditions in the Old Testament, 3s. 6d. Low's (Samson) The Charities of London, 6s. 10s. 6d. cl. Mackie's (C.) Castles and Palaces of Mary of Scotland, new ed. 12. 5s. Marsden's (J. B.) History of the Early Puritans, 8vo. 10s. 6d. cl. Narrative of the Loss of the Regular, East Indianman, 18mo. 1s. cl. National Cyclopaedia of Useful Knowledge, Vol. X. 8vo. 3s. cl. Orr's (A.) The Principles of Surgery, 12mo. 10s. 6d. cl. Outlines of Sacred History, 12th ed. 18mo. 2s. 6d. cl. Parlor Library, Vol. XLIV. 'Castelnau,' by James, 12mo. 1s. 5d. Peppe's (Lieut.-General) Narrative of Scenes in Italy, 2 vols. 12. 1s. cl. Penelope Wedgebone, by Lieut.-Col. Hort, 8vo. 7s. 6d. cl. Popular Library, 'Taylor's (Bayard) El Dorado,' 2 vols. 12mo. 2s. cl. Popular Library, 'Knickerbocker's History of New York,' 12mo. 1s. Potter's (Dr.) Antiquities of Greece, with Notes by Boyd, 12mo. 4s. 6d. Prescott's (W. H.) Works, Vol. IX. 'Peru,' Vol. III. cr. 8vo. 6s. cl. Radcliffe's (C. B.) The Unity of Nature, 8vo. 6s. cl. Rolin's (Lefru) Decline of England, Part I. cr. 8vo. 2s. 6d. 5d. cl. Robert's (Mary) Voices from the Woodlands, 18mo. 10s. 6d. cl. Sedgwick's (Miss) Stories for Young Persons, 18mo. 1s. 6d. cl. Sickness, its Trials and Blessings, 8s. 8vo. 6s. cl. St. John's (Roscoe) Life of Christopher Columbus, 8s. 3s. 6d. cl. Stories of Holy Men and Women, by Author of 'Hymns and Scenes,' 2s. Taylor's (Bp.) The Great Exemplar, ed. by Rev. C. P. Eden, 10s. 6d. Taylor's (Bp.) Holy Living and Dying, ed. by Rev. C. P. Eden, 10s. 6d. Thomson's Atlas to his Modern Geography, 4to. 8s. cl. Weidemann's (Rev. C. F.) Papers on Miscellaneous Subjects, 5s. cl. White's (A.) Popular History of Mammalia, 1 vol. 16mo. 10s. 6d. cl. Young Scholar's Atlas of Modern Geography, 4to. 2s. 6d. cl.

GRISELDIS,  
THE CHILDLESS.

SOUND, sound again the muffled bell,—toll for another dead,  
And heap—heap high the coals of fire—not ashes—  
on my head!  
Ye have mocked me with my patience;—let no more  
such incense rise,  
For here, of women most accursed, the lost Griseldis  
lies!  
I was a shepherd's daughter, and I used to watch the  
fold  
At eve beside a little cairn upon a lonely wold;  
And I wept to see the new-year lambs how close  
they lay at rest  
'Neath the parent breath that fanned them like a  
soft wind from the west.  
O motherhood is strong as life,—and strongest in the  
least,  
It findeth out sweet channels in the poor four-footed  
beast;  
She giveth suck to the strange kid if it walleth for  
its dam,—  
But I, my bird to the kite I gave and to the wolf my  
lamb.

He came—he stopped :—he saw me with the pitcher  
in my hand,  
(No cool draught, since, these parching lips have  
touched in all the land);  
Alas! I took him for my lord,—my father clutched  
his gold,—  
And I left the young sheep bleating and the cottage  
by the fold.

Then, years drew on,—the darkest ever womanhood  
beheld,  
When the shaft of love was shivered, and the shriek  
of anguish quelled:  
I sometimes think my brain swam round in that deep  
sorrow-flood,—  
But I had vowed obedience, and the bond was sealed  
—in blood!

My darlings! shall I dare to seek the eyes ye turn  
away  
In those pasture-lands that lie afar in the purpling  
of God's day?  
There, angels true to motherhood, whose robes are  
God's own light,  
Would meet my step on heaven's floor, and shut me  
from your sight.

The Ant, that ariest thing that haunts the meadow's  
circling rings,  
To do her mother-task assigned rends off her very  
wings!—  
But I, to whom a holier sense and higher gifts were  
given,  
The wings that I have torn away had wafted me to  
heaven.

Oh! dear ones,—ye that nestled once so closely to my  
breast,—  
Close round me now in spirit while I yield me to my  
rest;  
Kiss—clasp me, if ye may,—that I may feel at last  
in death  
The phantom of that joy which died when ye gave  
up your breath!

GRISELDIS,  
WITH HER CHILDREN.

O memory, O memory!—what shadowy forms are  
here,  
With eyes so cold and passionless and lids without a  
tear?  
Like the face that in my bridal hour I turned upon  
their sire,  
Beside an altar's ashes pale in which there lived no  
fire!

Do I dream?—are these my children?—does the  
ground whereon I tread  
Yet echo to the footsteps I only should have led?  
Draw nearer—clasp me round :—alas! your arms how  
loose they twine,  
Like tendrils long since riven from a crushed and  
trampled vine.

My buds!—whose first unfolding bloom these eyes  
have never seen,  
I cannot paint ye as ye were,—for the blank that  
lies between;  
And my face is to your gazing like the faces in the  
stone—  
For ye may not trace its fondness in the days that ye  
have known.

Your glances say, I slew you; and alas! ye seem to  
stand  
All shrinking and in horror—though no blood is on  
my hand;—  
There may be other pangs as keen from which no  
power can save,  
But these are as sharp thorns to bind the turf upon  
my grave.

Is this the meeting love should crown?—Is this the  
joy ye bring?  
Then, life hath no more sweetness left and death has  
no more sting;  
And the years that we have cast behind, and the  
hours that lie beyond,  
Time's hand shall mark as blotted scrolls in Nature's  
broken bond.

Yet, once again embrace me :—though Love's fruit  
may never set,  
The blossoms and the stricken tree shall grow toge-  
ther yet;  
And the sweets that failed me living shall cleave to  
me in my fall,  
As the bind-flower to the bramble and the moss-root  
to the wall.



But what is this?—ye cling to me,—your lips to mine  
are pressed,  
And I feel your pulses fluttering like young birds in  
the nest.  
Oh! let me still my heart's last beat, if only once to  
hear  
In its pause the lost word 'Mother,' through the sobs  
that fill mine ear!

Dear lord, I rise!—love, shade mine eyes; this Day-  
light is too strong!  
If heaven smile thus I cannot see the blackness of  
the wrong!  
These tears that flow alone may show through joy's  
delicious pain  
The fountain of a mother's heart was never filled in  
vain!

ELEANORA L. HERVEY.

#### MISS JANE PORTER.

ENGLISH imaginative literature has lost another of its veterans in Miss Jane Porter; whose decease, in the seventy-fourth year of her age, took place a few days since at Bristol, under her brother's roof. If we cannot precisely say of the Lady what was said of Miss Burney, "that she lived to become a classic," it will never be forgotten that the historical romances of herself and her sister, together with the national tales of Miss Edgeworth, were indubitably the pioneers of "the noble army" of the "Waverley Novels." At this distance of time, we will not undertake to be precise in specification; but we believe that the 'Scottish Chiefs' and 'Thaddeus of Warsaw' (over which many a tear has been shed in its time) were written by Miss Jane Porter. If there were no remarkable precision of costume nor subtlety of character in these romances, they were animated in style, eloquent in sentiment, and interesting and not over-crowded in incident. Their popularity was European: since, if we mistake not, in recognition thereof Miss Jane Porter was literally canonized during her lifetime,—being made an honorary canoness of some foreign *stift*. We have seen a portrait of her wearing the habit of the order, taken in the days of her beauty,—for in her youth she was beautiful. After having won for herself an honourable place among the sisterhood of English novelists—the most remarkable body of its kind possessed by any country's literature—Miss Jane Porter retired from the field for many years; returning into print, after a long pause, as the editress of 'Sir Edward Seaward's Diary.' This work seemed real enough to be thought worthy of an elaborate disapproval and destruction of its authenticity in a leading review. At the merciless rummaging of Admiralty records and Indian maps made by her critic Miss Jane Porter was more flattered than annoyed. When pressed as to the real origin of 'Sir Edward Seaward,' she would gently say, "Sir Walter Scott had his great secret, I must be allowed to keep my little one." In society, Miss Jane Porter was amiable rather than brilliant. There was a touch of old-world and sentimental eloquence in her manner, which we shall hardly see reproduced. She conversed like an accomplished woman who had kept much "worshipful company" in her time—without, however, the slightest parade or pretension. On the contrary, her cordiality to and admiration of the authors of a younger generation can never be forgotten by those who have either witnessed or enjoyed it. She was actively kind in deed, as well as indulgent in word. Miss Porter must, we think, have left behind her a large and interesting correspondence.

#### THE NEW COLLEGE AT ST. JOHN'S WOOD.

In your paper of Saturday last, you alluded in a short paragraph to the laying of the first stone of the new Dissenting College at St. John's Wood.

It is the result, you say, of the union of the three Colleges of Homerton, Highbury and Coward,—which are well known as theological seminaries belonging to the Independents; and is divided into the two faculties of Arts and Theology, —of which the former is open to *lay students*, and consists of classes in Latin and Greek, Mathematics, Moral and Mental Philosophy, and Natural History. "We are glad," you continue, "to record

this event, as we regard it as an example to be followed by other bodies of Dissenters. Much of the narrowness and bitterness of sectarianism originates in isolation and exclusiveness." Now, Sir, in so far as this new College is a concentration in one large institution, of powers hitherto split up among a number of smaller ones, I am sure that no one who wishes well to the cause of Nonconformist Education will have one word to say against it. It is, however, more than this. It is a direct withdrawal of support from an existing institution, which I should have thought deserved better at the hands of the Protestant Dissenters of England than to be deserted without cause. The establishment of the new College at St. John's Wood must weaken University College. Coward College, one of the three which are to be amalgamated, has hitherto been in connexion with University College, and its students have contributed not a little to the credit of the latter place of education. It was the first Divinity Hall established in connexion with University College,—the first step towards the completion of the system intended by its founders. The example so well set by the Independents has been followed by the Unitarians; and why, I would ask, do the former now seek to undo what they had so well begun? What has University College done that she should be deserted by so powerful a body at the critical moment when the struggle for bare existence is succeeded by the slow advance towards success?

The classes in the faculty of Arts at the new College are to be open to *lay students*. Then, at least as far as the Independents are concerned, it must compete directly with University College. But is it more likely than University College to draw to it students of various sects and parties? At which of the two are we more likely to meet with liberal Churchmen and Catholics? Surely, it is more than probable that practically the new institution will be an Independent College. Such being the case, I would say to its founders, in your own words,—"much of the narrowness and bitterness of sectarianism originates in isolation." At University College, in the class-rooms and in the debating and other societies existing among the students, Quakers, Jews, Roman Catholics, Wesleyans, Unitarians, Baptists, Church of England men, and Independents are all to be found. The motto of the Institution, "Omnes adunit," expresses not merely its principle but its practice. Will the new College at St. John's Wood be able to say as much?

But I dare say it will be urged by some that competition, far from being an evil, is a good,—that the more liberal Colleges you have the better,—that competition is the cause of our having cotton goods and conveyances so cheap and excellent—why, then, should it not operate in the same way as regards a learned education? Without here discussing the question whether in education, as in cottons, you can create a demand by cheapening the supply—or the further one (unfortunately too often lost sight of) whether you can cheapen and increase the supply of education without at the same time producing an inferior article,—I would take my stand on facts, and ask whether the existing Dissenting Colleges are in so flourishing a condition as to warrant any expectation of the success of a new one? Except King's (which is a feeder to Oxford and Cambridge), and perhaps one or two of the Roman Catholic Colleges, how many of the nine-and-twenty affiliated Institutions of the University of London can conscientiously say that they are succeeding? How many can boast of having thirty students,—how many of having more than twenty? Are the lecture-rooms of University College itself so overcrowded, and its professors so overpaid, that the withdrawal of the students belonging to the largest sect but one will not be felt? Can the Protestant Dissenters of England point to one single seat of learning, in a true sense, supported by themselves, and bearing to them the same relation which Oxford and Cambridge do to the Church of England? University College was to have been such,—and might still be such, if sectarian differences being laid aside, all would join in supporting it. But now, the Independents have chosen to have a College of their

own; while at this very time, so poorly is learning provided for in what was intended to be the liberal University of England, that its professors are, with a host of other applicants, struggling for three hundred a-year offered by the trustees of an educational Institute in the north, not yet established.

Do the Nonconformists imagine that a number of scattered academies, with no bond of union, no *esprit de corps*, poorly endowed and thinly attended, can ever make a respectable show by the side of the ancient and crowded colleges of Oxford and Cambridge? Can they be surprised that their youth should desert them, and a rise in worldly position be deemed equivalent to a renunciation of dissent? Why should not Dissenters have a University of their own? Why will they not raise their eyes above the level of their little sectarian academies? Have they forgotten that Owen was Dean of Christchurch and Vice-Chancellor of Oxford, and Howe a Fellow of Magdalen?

I would, then, challenge the Independents to come forward and tell the world why they have deserted University College and preferred the isolation of sectarianism to a combination of resources. If their reasons are good, they need not be hidden. If they have separated without a cause, will they not justly incur the charge of being traitors to the principle of union in secular education on which the University of London was founded?

I have ventured to address these lines to you, Sir, as you have more than once adverted to University College, and expressed an interest in its behalf, which unhappily is rare. I am, &c.

May 28. 1841. A GRADUATE OF LONDON.

#### ZOOLOGICAL GARDENS IN THE REGENT'S PARK.

Of the arrivals by the Ripon, lipped and quadruped, we hardly know which have excited most interest in London:—the Prime Minister of the Rajah of Nepal and his suite, or the Hippopotamus. The former have been visiting the theatres and races,—and, like the latter, have been already seen by thousands. The hippopotamus arrived on Saturday night at the Gardens in the Regent's Park by special train. It was apprehended that there would be some difficulty in getting so unwieldy a creature into his den; but he has formed so strong an attachment to his Arab keeper that he follows him like a dog, and readily trotted after him into the new abode expressly prepared for him. The animal is young—not a year old,—and is in the finest possible condition. A house has been built for him next to the giraffe-house,—in the yard of which he is allowed occasionally to take exercise. In his own room is a large tank of water, into which he descends by a flight of stone steps,—his waking hours being spent about equally in and out of the water. His Arab keeper sleeps with him; and the creature is restless unless he can place his chin on his guardian's feet. An arrangement is made in the den for this purpose,—so that the keeper is caged off from the animal all but his legs. This appears very necessary; as, in the intensity of his affection, the animal might throw himself bodily into the arms of his sleeping keeper and press his life out in an instant. —The other presents from His Highness Abbas Pacha are an Ixobrychus from Abyssinia—the first example ever seen alive in Europe,—a lioness, and a cheetah.—In addition, the following animals new to the collection have been brought over at the same time:—*Genetta pallida*, *Felis Chaus*, *Gerbillus melanura*, *G. tenuis*, and *Casarca rutila*. Besides these, at least a dozen species of reptiles have been received;—most of them, however, being duplicates. The reptiles are in charge of an Arab boy and his aged uncle, who are hereditarily "snake charmers," and can perform all the feats of that ancient craft. The old man collected reptiles for the French Expedition in 1801.

#### OUR WEEKLY GOSSIP.

OUR contemporaries for the most part seem to agree with us as to the propriety of taking the present opportunity for getting rid of the nummeries of the Laureateship,—but all are, of course, strenuous for the retention of its emoluments, in some other shape, as a literary prize. Connected



with this subject a suggestion has been made by Mr. Douglas Jerrold, through the medium of a morning paper, which is well worthy of attention. When a subscription was set on foot for the national purchase of Shakspeare's house at Stratford, it was hoped that such a name to conjure with would swell the fund to an amount sufficient, after the acquisition of the temple itself, to found an endowment for a perpetual custodianship—and that such custodianship might be from time to time bestowed as an acknowledgment of high literary worth. A very earnest and hard-working Committee have done what they could in the matter;—and the shrine, rescued from desecration, has become, by their means, the property of the universal people. As yet Government has done nothing in aid of the original object, or of the other objects which grew up naturally and worthily by its side; and an opportunity now offers by which it might promote the latter without taxing itself,—and convert, with funds already existing, an unmeaning piece of buffoonery into one of the noblest prizes in the world. It is little in these days to be a court laureate.—but something in all time to be laureate to Shakspeare: Mr. Jerrold suggests that “in the event of the determination of the place of the laureate, the salary that would cease with it should endow the post of keepership of the house at Stratford-upon-Avon? If the court says,” he says, “with the court cap-and-bells—are to be cast aside, at least let the salary that recommended the laurel reward a worthier office—that of *custos* of the hearth of the world's teacher.” By the way, there is yet no decision, so far as we know, as to the party on whose brow the dropped wreath of Wordsworth is to fall,—whatever may be its shape. Though we have urged a certain principle on which this literary benefice should be withheld, it is not our business to indicate the quarter in which it should be bestowed. There is more than one worthy recipient of the laurel,—and more than one, unhappily, the state of whose fortunes makes it needful that the leaves should be gilded. But we cannot help suggesting that in the reign of a youthful queen, if there be among her subjects one of her own sex whom the laurel will fit, its grant to a female would be at once an honourable testimonial to the individual, a fitting recognition of the remarkable place which the women of England have taken in the literature of the day, and a graceful compliment to the Sovereign herself. It happens to fall in well with this view of the case, that there is no living poet of either sex who can prefer a higher claim than Mrs. Elizabeth Barrett Browning.

On Tuesday last the sessional meetings of the Institution of Civil Engineers were terminated by a *Conversazione* given by Mr. Cubitt, the President, at the house of the Institution. The visitors in the course of the evening amounted to nearly one thousand. The rooms were filled with models and the walls covered with works of Art.

The Treasury, it is understood, has now come to a determination to reduce the price of the ‘*Monumenta Historica Britannica*’ to three guineas instead of five. We are sorry we cannot approve of this arrangement,—which is obviously unjust to the forty-six purchasers at the higher price, and savours too much of the means resorted to by the inferior classes of booksellers. As it is obvious that no hope can be entertained of such a sale as would at all cover the enormous outlay which has been incurred,—and as obvious that the 610 remaining copies should not be allowed to rot on the shelves of Messrs. Butterworth,—the proper course would be, as we have before said, to present copies to all well-established libraries and to those literary men who are known to make our national history the special subject of their studies.

In our notice [*ante*, p. 154] of a little Hebrew work, ‘*Abraham Aben Ezra's Commentary on the Book of Esther*,’ copied from an old manuscript in the Harleian collection, and edited, for the first time, by Mr. Zedner, of the British Museum,—we took occasion to make the following remarks:—“If such authors [as Aben Ezra] have once striven to raise the name of the Jew by the labours of the mind, it would well become the present generation of Jews to show their gratitude to the memory of their enlightened ancestors by forming Publication

and Translation Societies, instead of leaving their literature to the enterprise of unaided students. The example of the present Editor may well stimulate the scholars of that nation to an examination of the stores which exist in the libraries of England for the illustration of their history and their literature.”—We find with great satisfaction that the hint has not been lost. At a meeting held last week at the house of Mr. Faudel, the following amongst other resolutions were passed in reference to the subject:—

“That the gentlemen present do constitute themselves into a society, with the object of rendering the Literature of the Jews accessible to the general reader.

“That translations of rare and valuable works be published, together with copies of the originals when practicable; that suitable introductions be prefixed to each work, and that the first volume do contain an introductory sketch of Hebrew Literature.”

Mr. Faudel was appointed to act as provisional chairman of the new association.

The project, already mentioned by us, for the union of the two Aberdeen Universities is, we understand, gaining ground. Two pamphlets on the subject have been issued by persons of local influence; from one of which, by Dr. Thomas Clark, professor of chemistry in Marischal College and University, we learn the following particulars. At present, the fund for the payment of Professors' salaries in King's College and University, Old Aberdeen, amounts, College revenues and Crown grants taken together, to 2,214*l.* a-year; the fund for the same purpose in Marischal College and University, New Aberdeen, is about 2,286*l.* a-year. In addition to their several shares, larger or smaller, of these respective funds, the various Professors have, of course, their class-fees. Now, the proposal is, to procure an Act of Parliament for the union of the two Universities. By this means, the salaries of the Professors, at present in many cases too small, might be increased,—while, by the consolidation of the classes, the fees would also yield larger sums; and several important new chairs that are imperatively demanded by the educational necessities of the age might be instituted, and the educational machinery of the United University be otherwise increased and improved. Two plans, it appears, have been proposed for the union. According to the one (recommended by the Royal Commission of 1826), there should be in the United University only one Professor in each department of literature and science,—with paid Tutors, however, to assist some of the Professors; according to the other (the plan recommended by the Royal Commission of 1836) there should be double Professorships in five of the principal departments of study—in Moral Philosophy, Natural Philosophy, Mathematics, Greek, and Latin. Dr. Clark is in favour of the first of these plans,—partly because the consolidated Endowments would cover the whole expenses of this plan, while they would be insufficient for the other. According to his view, there would be in the United University one Principal, with a salary of 250*l.* a-year (the Principal to be at liberty also to hold a chair); eighteen Professors, with salaries ranging from 100*l.* to 300*l.*—of these, four, namely, those of Biblical Criticism, Logic and Rhetoric, Materia Medica, and Midwifery, to be entirely new, *i.e.*, additional to those now existing; and twelve Tutors or Assistants, with salaries of 50*l.* each. The chief difficulty is as to how the union should be initiated; for, immediately on its taking place, at least ten of the present Professors would become superfluous. These redundant Professors would of course be entitled, till their deaths, to the receipts of the fruits (salaries and fees) of their cancelled situations. To meet this inconvenience, Dr. Clark proposes that the superseded Professors should receive their old salaries; and that, in consideration of their freedom from the labour of teaching, they should be requested to accept two-thirds of their average fees, as ascertained by past years, as an acquittance for the whole. This would entail, he says, on the United University the duty of providing at first 800*l.* a-year, by way of compensation for the lost fees; which annual sum would gradually become less as the superseded Professors one by one died out. “How then,” asks Dr. Clark, “are these terminable annuities for the compensation of

fees to be provided for?” Failing any Government grant for the purpose, he proposes “that the money should be borrowed and advanced to the superseded Professors during their lives; and that what of their endowments fall in by deaths should be applied to the payment, first, of the money so borrowed,—and next, of what compensation for fees remains to be paid annually.” In addition to the exposition of his views with regard to the specific object under discussion, Dr. Clark's pamphlet contains many suggestions for the reform of the system of the Scotch Universities in general. He propounds, among other things, schemes for their better administration, and for rendering Bursaries more efficient. The most important feature of the plan which he advocates, however, is that it would be a beginning in the work of grafting what is most salutary in the English University method of Tutorships on the native Scottish system of Lecturing Professors.

The Council of University College, London, have appointed Mr. George Viner Ellis to the Professorship of Anatomy, which had become vacant in consequence of the expiration of the period for which he had been appointed Junior Professor of Anatomy, and of the resignation by Professor Quain of the office of Senior Professor of Anatomy. Prof. Quain will continue to be Special Professor of Clinical Surgery and Surgeon to the Hospital.

We do not find that the Committee for the Erection of a Monument to the late Mr. Wordsworth is proceeding with any great activity. It is said that the body is too large for any speedy or combined movement,—and such seems to be the fact. It consists of some eighty or one hundred individuals, of various grades and employments,—peers, politicians, placemen, painters, poets, and prosers. We do not learn that they have yet held any regular meeting; although the two secretaries, Messrs. Boxall and Coleridge, have taken some steps in order to collect persons who would forward the undertaking. On the other hand, we learn that more than one sculptor has already sent in his name as a candidate for employment, without, of course, receiving any answer, because there seems to be nobody inclined, or perhaps qualified, to decide on such claims. What we recommend is, that some half-dozen men of business habits, as well as of literary and artistic attainments, should be selected from the main body of the Committee in order to take decisive measures for accomplishing the object. If necessary, they can, at any time, resort to the unwieldy general mass for instructions and information. This will be the best, if not the only, way of carrying the matter forward:—for in the present state of things there appears to be little chance of progress.

The following is from a correspondent.—“*Hart-Leap Well*, mentioned in your last number, is not the scene of Wordsworth's ‘*White Doe of Rylstone*’ (which has to do with Norton Tower, of Rylstone village, near Bolton Priory, in Wharfedale), but has given its name to another of his poems; both well and poem commemorating the result of the cruel sport of some Sir Walter of the olden time. Wordsworth himself speaks of

Three aspens at three corners of a square

as marking the spot, “about five miles from Richmond, and near the side of the road that leads from Richmond to Askrigg.” This was fifty years ago,—so that the three may, by this time, be naturally reduced to one, and their memory converted from aspen into yew. No poem has a moral more in harmony with the Poet's life and muse, and few districts could be more appropriate for a corresponding memorial. The poem itself might supply the history and the inscription.—

Grey-headed Shepherd, thou hast spoken well;  
Small difference lies between thy creed and mine;  
This Beast not unobserved by Nature fell;  
His death was mourned by sympathy divine.

The Being that is in the clouds and air,  
That is in the green leaves among the groves,  
Maintains a deep and reverential care  
For the unoffending creatures whom he loves.

One lesson, Shepherd, let us two divide,  
Taught by what Nature shows and what conceals;  
Never to blend our pleasure or our pride  
With sorrow of the meanest thing that feels.

R.”



We are glad to find the Society of Antiquaries alive to what is expected from it, and ready to take the lead in such measures as are calculated to advance those studies for whose benefit and promotion it was established. At the meeting on Thursday last a gold fibula recently found in Scotland was exhibited, the owner of which declined to give his name in order that he might not be subjected to a vexatious claim for it as *treasure trove* on the part of the Scotch Exchequer. An animated conversation ensued,—in which Mr. Collier, Mr. Morgan, and other members took part. Mr. Thomas suggested that the circumstances under which so interesting an exhibition had taken place furnished satisfactory reasons for the Society of Antiquaries, as the parent of all the Antiquarian and Archaeological Societies of the country, taking the lead in an endeavour to procure the modification of the existing law. This idea, ably supported by Mr. Hunter—who stated that the Archaeological Institute was prepared to support any such measure—was so warmly responded to by the Fellows present, that there is no doubt Lord Mahon will cordially co-operate with the Council to carry out the proposal. There should be little doubt as to the result, when we remember what Blackstone says on this point:—"Formerly all treasure trove belonged to the finder, as was also the rule of the civil law."

A gentleman who speaks highly of his own claims to "sense, respectability, and talents," and hints at "university distinctions, honorary medals, and works of art and literature" as being the commonplace incidents of his life—"like plates dropped from his pocket"—has offered, by advertisement in the *Times*, to construct a flying machine which will travel through the air, at the rate of 100 miles per hour, to the rescue of Sir John Franklin. The object of his advertisement is, to know if any body will give him 8,000*l.* for his invention,—and he will accept of 300*l.* in the mean time for an experimental model. We think we know this gentleman's "fine Roman hand." His testimonials to himself identify him as the party who periodically offers, by advertisement, to sell any body a reputation in any walk of literature—fame of any intellectual kind being by him kept ready to order. It is provoking to find him so late with his return-carriage for the Arctic voyagers. He and Zadkiel between them might have saved the country a great deal of anxiety and expense if they would have made their several disclosures in conjunction a good deal earlier. However, we recommend this well-endowed party to make his application yet to Government;—or rather, as he would gain the Government reward by his journey, would not some capitalist lend the money in the mean time on the joint security of himself and Zadkiel?

Our readers will remember that some difference of opinion has existed at Manchester on the subject of introducing religious teaching into the Owens College at Manchester. The following are the conditions on which the testator left his money.—

First, that the students, professors, teachers, and other officers and persons connected with the said institution, shall not be required to make any declaration as to, or submit to any test whatsoever of, their religious opinions; and that nothing shall be introduced in the matter or mode of education or instruction, in reference to any religious or theological subject which shall be reasonably offensive to the conscience of any student, or of his relations, guardians, or friends, under whose immediate care he shall be.

We should have thought this decisive as to the exclusion of any special religious teaching, on the ground that any kind of religious teaching may be made offensive on some argument or another to a mixed body such as the students of this new college. Not so, however, think the trustees; and, having laid their case before counsel, they have got opinions from Mr. Teed and Mr. Malins in favour of the introduction of religious instruction. The following is an extract from a letter addressed by the trustees to a deputation inquiring how they intend to proceed.—

That the trustees having fully considered the arguments offered by the deputation of which you were chairman are of opinion, that they have consulted the best interests of the college, by providing for a general course of religious instruction, to be conducted in strict conformity with the will of the founder, not partaking of a sectarian character, and therefore adapted to students of different religious de-

nominations, and whose attendance will be optional and without charge.

The character of the college now depends on the kind of person to be selected as religious teacher. He must be either a Churchman or a Dissenter, and if he be active and energetic his influence will determine the fate of the institution as an episcopal or as a dissenting college. This must be the result. We are sorry for it;—as we hoped that Manchester would have possessed a truly Catholic college in this new institution.

The local reports of public meetings held in various parts of the country in connexion with the Great Industrial Exhibition, present one or two points of interest in addition to those which we remarked on in our Gossip columns of last week. Next in prominence to the fact that as large an amount of popular adhesion has been obtained to the general character and scheme of the Exhibition as could be expected out of the agencies employed—is the fact, that on many points of importance to those on whose co-operation its success very much depends the public are anxiously awaiting information. For example, the prices of admission at fixed times during the summer. The Exhibition is to be opened on the 1st of May; and as far as any inference can be drawn from general remarks made by official persons, the public believe that a high set of prices will be charged at first, and that these will be gradually lowered until they fall within the means of the very humblest class of artisans. To this seemingly wise arrangement there is one serious objection, so far as hundreds of thousands of the ingenious workmen of the northern and midland towns are concerned. The general holiday (the only one in the year) of the manufacturing part of England—Whitweek—occurs in the first few weeks of the Exhibition. After Whitweek, the impression among the workmen is, that it will be impossible for any considerable number of their body to leave their employment for the purpose of a trip to Hyde Park. Unless, therefore, a national holiday shall be held later in the year, in connexion with the event—which we fear is not likely—the workman, however deep his interest in the products of industry, sees plainly that Whitweek offers him his only chance of such a visit,—and he is, therefore, very anxious to know whether the admission-money of that week will be so high as to exclude him or not. This is a difficulty requiring an instant solution; for on it depends the question whether a vast body of the most intelligent and energetic mechanics of the north of England shall be drawn into the movement or left outside in the apathy of doubt.—There is another point of great importance, though not often openly referred to,—but which yet seems to give a tone to much that is said at meetings—uncertainty about which has a serious influence on the subscription lists. The latest day on which subscriptions may be paid in does not seem to have been yet fixed. Many people object to lay down their money so far in advance. A year is a long time to a tradesman, who probably turns over his capital from a dozen to a score of times in that period. Why should he part with his capital too soon? If he give his name now, he knows that next week he may be called on to pay up the amount:—he therefore abstains from a present promise. We are certain from a careful reading of a great number of reports that this feeling prevails very extensively. We find the cases numerous in which persons say they will not subscribe until the turn of Christmas—but will do so then. These persons would probably subscribe their names now, if assured that they would not be required to pay before a certain fixed day next year. We are, of course, aware that there would be objections to fixing a last day for payments—chiefly, that the earlier subscribers would feel they had an equal claim to retain their subscriptions until the last, and in the mean time the Commissioners might be embarrassed for want of funds. We state the facts which force themselves on our attention,—others must judge of their importance. There is clearly in this case a choice of difficulties, and no more. Such a determination would perhaps carry up the lists to the required amount, and give the executors of the scheme an ultimate security at the expense of a little present

embarrassment. The question is whether it would be too dear to purchase such a result at such a price?

ROYAL ACADEMY, TRAFALGAR SQUARE.  
The EXHIBITION of the ROYAL ACADEMY is NOW OPEN.—Admission (from Eight o'clock till Seven), 1*s.*; Catalogue, 1*s.*  
JOHN PRESCOCK KNIGHT, R.A., Sec.

THE NEW SOCIETY of PAINTERS in WATER-COLOURS.—The SIXTEENTH ANNUAL EXHIBITION of this Society is NOW OPEN, at their Gallery, 53, Pall Mall, near St. James's Palace.  
JAMES FAHEY, Secretary.

EXHIBITION of ANTIENT and MEDIEVAL ART.—SOCIETY OF ARTS, John Street, Adelphi.—This Exhibition will continue OPEN, at 1*s.* each person, until SATURDAY, the 15th of JUNE inclusive.—Catalogues, 1*s.*

NILE.—GRAND MOVING PANORAMA of the NILE, comprising all the Monuments of Antiquity on its Banks, to which is added the interior of the great Rock Temple of Anon Simbel, painted by Messrs. Warren, Bonoult, and Fahey.—EDUCATION HALL, PICCADILLY.—Daily, at Three and Eight o'clock.—Stalls, 2*s.*; Pit, 2*s.*; Gallery, 1*s.*; Children and Schools, Half-price.

INDIA OVERLAND MAIL.—DIORAMA.—GALLERY of ILLUSTRATION, 14, Regent-street, Waterloo-place.—Three Exhibitions a week of these celebrated and interesting ILLUSTRATIONS of the ROUTE of the OVERLAND MAIL to INDIA, depicting every object worthy of notice on this highly-interesting journey from Southampton to Calcutta, accompanied by descriptive detail and appropriate music, is now OPEN DAILY. Mornings at Twelve, Afternoons at Three, and in the Evening at Eight o'clock.—Admission, 1*s.*; Stalls, 2*s.*; Doors open for each representation half-an-hour before the above hours. Descriptive Catalogues may be obtained at the Gallery.

The DIORAMA, Regent's Park.—JUST OPENED, with one of the most VIEWS ever exhibited in the country, representing the ROYAL CASTLE of STOLZENFELS, on the Rhine, (visited by Her Majesty Queen Victoria in August, 1845), and its Environs, as seen at Sunset and during a Thunder Storm; painted by NICHOLAS MEISTER, of Cologne. And the much-admired Picture of THE SHIPWRECK OF THE NAUTICAL OBSERVATORY, painted by the late M. RENOUX, from a sketch made on the spot by DAVID ROBERTS, Esq. R.A., with novel and striking effects.

PANORAMA of THE LAKES of KILLARNEY.—JUST OPENED at BURGESS'S PANORAMA ROYAL, Leicester Square. A view of these celebrated and interesting LAKES, taken from Ross Castle, comprising the numerous adjacent islands and surrounding beautiful scenery.—THE VIEWS of the ARCTIC REGIONS, as seen in Summer and Winter, and of Pompeii, are also now open.—Admission, 1*s.* each view, or 2*s.* 6*d.* to the three views. Schools, Half-price.—Open from Ten till dusk.

ROYAL POLYTECHNIC INSTITUTION.  
During this week the ALPINE SINGERS will perform several of their National Airs. Daily at Four, and in the Evenings at Half-past Eight.—DR. BACHOFEN'S SECOND LECTURE on the PHILOSOPHY of SCIENTIFIC RECREATION, with OPTICAL EFFECTS, daily at Two, and every Evening at a Quarter-past Nine.—LECTURE, by J. H. Pepper, Esq., on the CHEMISTRY of HYDROGEN, with special reference to its application for conveying by BALLOONS Pyrotechnic and other Signals to Sir JOHN FRANKLIN, daily at a Quarter-past Three, and every Evening at Eight.—DISCOIDAL VIEWS illustrating the ARCTIC REGIONS and CEYLON; also, VIEWS of LONDON in the SIXTEENTH CENTURY and AS IT NOW IS.—DIVER and DIVING BELL, &c.—Admission, 1*s.*; Schools, Half-price.

## SOCIETIES

ROYAL.—Lieut.-Col. Reid, R.E., V.P. in the chair. —'On the Application of Carbon deposited in Gas Retorts as the negative plate in the Nitric Acid Voltaic Battery.' By C. L. Dresser, Esq.

G. Rennie, Esq. V.P. and Treasurer, in the chair. —'Experimental Researches in Electricity,' by Mr. Faraday, (twenty-third series), was resumed and concluded. § 29. On the Polar or other condition of Diamagnetic Bodies. The author, whilst developing, on a former occasion, the phenomena of diamagnetic action, said that all the results might be accounted for by assuming that bismuth, phosphorus, &c. when in the magnetic field, became polar as iron is polar, but with the poles in the contrary direction. This view has since then been adopted by Weber and others, and supported by certain experimental results. In the present paper these results and that view are brought under very close examination. An apparatus was constructed by which a cylinder of any given metal could be moved to and fro through about 2 in. in the direction of its axis. In doing this it approached close up to, and then retreated from, the pole of an electro-magnet, and also moved within a helix of covered wire which was fixed in relation to the magnet. Now, the action of such a piece of metal upon the helix is very different in theory and also in reality, according as it is dependent upon a polarity, magnetic or diamagnetic, acquired by the metal, or upon induced currents existing in the mass, and the question was to ascertain by experiment whether the latter were the cause of the results obtained by Weber and others. The various diamagnetic metals gave the results looked for at the indicating galvanometer; but then these were almost insensible with bismuth, and were greatest with gold, silver, copper, and the better conductors, being indeed in proportion to the conducting power. Such results were in favour of induced currents rather than of polarity. Division was next resorted to as a distinguishing test of the



polar or current action; thus a cylinder made up of lengths of wires acted as well as a solid cylinder, if the metal were one acquiring a polar state, as iron; but such a division interfered with the existence of induced currents in the mass, and it was found that such wire cylinders of copper, &c. lost all power. On the other hand, division of the cylinder into innumerable discs interfered greatly with polarity, but not at all with the induced currents, nor with the action of the diamagnetic metals. The places of maximum and minimum action of a cylinder of metal are very different according as that metal acts by a polar condition or by currents induced in the mass: it is shown by experiments with the diamagnetic metals that their places of maximum and minimum action accord with the effects of induced currents. Time has great effect over results produced by currents induced in the mass, and none over those due to polarity. By this test the effects of the diamagnetic metals are found due to induced currents. The phenomena produced by the use of the present apparatus are then shown to be in close and direct relation to the phenomena of revulsion formerly described by the author: the parallel is closely carried out and extended, and both sets of effects referred to one and the same cause. The author endeavours to repeat an experiment described by Reich, but without success; and he finds that even when iron is used no arrangement of magnets can produce any test of polarity at all comparable to the use of an astatic needle or to suspension between the poles of a powerful magnet, and thinks that arrangements which are thus less sensible with iron, are not likely to be more sensible with diamagnetic metals, even if they are polar. Finally, the author does not consider that the idea of diamagnetic polarity has gained as yet any additional proof beyond the fact, that diamagnetic bodies, such as bismuth and phosphorus, are repelled by one or both magnetic poles; he does not reject the idea of polarity, but his opinion or judgment remains the same as at the time of its announcement in 1845.

'Contributions to the Chemistry of the Urine.—Paper IV. On so-called Chylous Urine.' By H. B. Jones, M.D.

Prof. Owen, Esq. V.P., in the chair.—Extract of a letter from Mr. Richardson, dated off Jerbah, 25th of January 1850. "I will trouble your Lordship by the mention of the astronomic phenomenon which arrested or terrified the attention of the whole of this coast some two months ago. This was the fall of a shower of aërolites, with a brilliant stream of light accompanying them, and which extended from Tunis to Tripoli, some of the stones falling in the latter city. The alarm was very great in Tunis, and several Jews and Moors instinctively fled to the British Consulate, as the common refuge from every kind of evil and danger. The fall of these aërolites was followed by the severest or coldest winter which the inhabitants of Tunis and Tripoli have experienced for many years."

Prof. Owen, V.P., in the chair.—Lieut.-Col. Sykes's paper, entitled 'Discussion of Meteorological Observations in India,' was resumed and concluded.

'On the Structure and Use of the Ligamentum rotundum Uteri, with some observations upon the change which takes place in the structure of the Uterus during Utero-gestation.' By G. Rainey, Esq.

GEOLOGICAL.—Sir C. Lyell, President, in the chair.—The Hon. G. S. Gough was elected a Fellow.—The following communications were read:—1. 'On a Gap in the Greywacke Formation of the Eastern Lammermuirs, filled with Old Red Sandstone Conglomerate,' by W. Stephenson, Esq. The author described an extensive band of conglomerate of the old red sandstone age, running north and south across the Lammermuir chain, from Doon Hill, about two miles from Dunbar, to the Narden's Hill, about two miles west from Dunse. The conglomerate connects the old red sandstone districts of Haddington and Berwickshire, and occupies a trough in the greywacke, which is evidently the result of an ancient dislocation of great extent. All the materials of which the conglomerate consists appear to have been derived from the adjoining greywacke and porphyritic rocks. After noticing the claystone dykes and various dislocations that traverse the conglomerate, the author concluded by referring to a precisely similar gap in the greywacke

of Roxburghshire, filled up by strata of the old red sandstone and lower carboniferous formations.—2. 'On the Stratified Formations of the Venetian Alps,' by Count A. de Zigno. The district described in this paper is bounded on the east by the Tagliamento, on the north by Carinthia and the Tyrol, on the west by the Adige, and on the south by the plain which extends to the Po. The author stated that he had succeeded in recognizing and establishing certain geological horizons, in rectifying some of the earlier observations made on the geology of this part of the Alps, and in satisfying himself of the correctness of others more recently made. The stratified formations of the district were then described, and referred by the author respectively to the trias, lias (?), lower, middle, and upper oolites, neocomian, gault, upper greensand, chalk, and the eocene, miocene, and pliocene tertiaries.—3. 'On the Limestone of Nash, near Presteign, South Wales,' by J. E. Davis, Esq. In this paper the author proposed to determine the age of a limestone locally known as "Nash scar," lying upon the two sides of an upheaved anticlinal ridge of Caradoc sandstone that separates the valleys of Knill and Presteign. The limestone was described as being in absolute contact with the sandstone on one side of the ridge, and on the other separated from it by a few feet of shale, similar shale overlying it on each side of the ridge. The relation of the Nash limestone to the lower Ludlow rocks is somewhat obscured by the gravel deposits in the above-mentioned valleys; but both from its mineral structure and, especially, from its organic remains, the author considered it to be quite distinct from the Woolhope and identical with the Wenlock limestone.

ASIATIC.—The twenty-seventh Anniversary.—J. Shepherd, Esq. in the chair.—The annual Report of the Council began with the usual statement of deaths and resignations of members, and new elections, and proceeded with a tribute of regret to those of the deceased Fellows who were generally known as having taken an active share in advancing the objects or promoting the welfare of the Society. Among these, the names of Sir C. Forbes, Sir G. Haughton, L. H. Petit, Esq. and Sir A. Galloway, claimed a distinguished place. The obituary of Sir G. Haughton entered into considerable detail of that gentleman's learned career, from the time when his extraordinary attainments in India were rewarded by medals and prizes to the period when his philological and scientific publications made his name familiar to the learned world. The Report went on to congratulate the Society on the appearance of the first fruits of Major Rawlinson's researches in the ancient history of Assyria and Babylonia in the number of the Society's Journal just issued, and then on the table; and announced that the more extended Memoir of Major Rawlinson was in progress, and would appear in a following number. Allusion was made to the portrait of Professor Wilson, the Director, which had been presented to the Society by a large body of the members, as a mark of their respect for the unwearied exertions of that gentleman in promoting the cause of Oriental literature. The notice of the members was directed to the portrait of the daughter of the Governor of Shanghai, painted by her father, for the express purpose of presenting it to the lady of the British Consul in that city; also, to a large plan of a portion of Cashmere, painted by a native artist. The accession of new books of interest was mentioned; among others, the 'Rig Veda,' published at the expense of the East India Company; the new edition of the 'Zend Avesta,' by Professor Brockhaus; and the first portion of the 'Bibliotheca Indica,' from Calcutta. The finances of the Society came next under review. The excess of expenditure over income, and the decrease of the reserved balance was mentioned; and it was regretted that the exertions of the Society in bringing out so many contributions to Oriental literature and Archaeology should not meet with a more liberal support. The Report announced a proposed revision of the rules of the Society, by which facilities would be given for the introduction into the Society of temporary sojourners here from the East, and a change in the practice of selecting a new Council for nomination to the Society. The Report of the Oriental Translation Committee promised the publication

shortly of another portion of the travels of Evliya Effendi by the Baron Hammer Purgstall, and stated that the celebrated Makamat-al Hariri, by the Rev. T. Preston, was already in the press, and would appear in a few months. The completion of the fifth volume of Haji Khalfa's Lexicon was also mentioned; also the preparation of a translation of an Ecclesiastical Biography of the Syrian Church, by the Rev. W. Cureton; and of the Kitab al Yamini, of Utbi, by the Rev. J. Reynolds.—The officers of the preceding year were re-elected; and the following gentlemen were elected into the Council:—J. Atkinson, Esq., N. Bland, Esq., B. Botfield, Esq., Major-Gen. Briggs, Capt. W. J. Eastwick, J. Ferguson, Esq., G. Forbes, Esq., J. MacPherson Macleod, Rear-Admiral Sir C. Malcolm, Major J. A. Moore, Major-Gen. Sir W. Morison, W. H. Morley, Esq., E. C. Ravenshaw, Esq., L. R. Reid, Esq., Lieut.-Col. W. H. Sykes, and W. S. W. Vaux, Esq.

LINNEAN.—Anniversary Meeting.—R. Brown, Esq., President, in the chair.—G. R. Dodd, Junior, Esq., was elected a Fellow. Mr. F. K. Eagle exhibited a remarkable decumbent variety of *Bromus mollis*, from the neighbourhood of Lowestoffe in Suffolk.—An abstract of the accounts of the past year was read, which exhibited a balance in favour of the Society. The following five members of the Council were removed, B. Botfield, Esq., J. Gould, Esq., A. Henfrey, Esq., G. Newport, Esq., and R. H. Solly, Esq.; and the following five Fellows were elected into the Council in their room, Prof. E. Forbes, E. Lankester, Esq., M.D., E. Newman, Esq., W. Spence, Esq., and Sir G. T. Staunton. The following officers were re-elected, R. Brown, Esq., President, W. Yarrell, Esq., Treasurer, J. J. Bennett, Esq., Secretary, and R. Taylor, Esq., Under Secretary.

CHEMICAL.—The President in the chair.—'On the Compound of Nitrogen and Boron,' by Prof. Wöhler. The author procures a combination of nitrogen and boron (having the appearance and properties of the substance discovered by Balmain to which he gave the name of Cethogen) by heating to redness one part of an hydrous borax with two parts of dried sal-ammoniac in a platinum crucible. The compound is a light white powder, which, in a current of steam, is converted, at a low red heat, into boracic acid and ammonia. Heated with anhydrous carbonate of potash, borate and cyanate of potash are formed:  $\text{BN} + 2 (\text{KO CO}_2) = \text{KO}_2\text{BO}_3 + \text{KO}, \text{C}_2\text{NO}$ . In the analysis of the substance, the nitrogen was determined as ammonia by heating with soda-lime, and the boron by oxidation with a weighed quantity of nitrate of lead. The excess of weight (after ignition) above that of the oxide of lead formed is boron. The numbers of the analysis agreed with the formula  $\text{BO}_3 + 14 \text{BN}$ . The author concludes the boracic acid to be an accidental admixture.

ROYAL INSTITUTION.—W. R. Grove, Esq. V.P. in the chair.—T. W. Jones, Esq. 'On the Senses and on Errors of Observation having their source therein.' As it is alone through the medium of the senses that we gain our knowledge of external material objects, it is of the highest importance to know what the senses are competent to inform us of on the one hand, and what errors may have their source in them on the other. All that we are informed of by any sense in regard to external objects, is the change of state of the nerve of the sense caused by the impression made on it by the external object. Of this change of state of the nerve the mind is rendered conscious by a sensation. The sensation of which we are rendered conscious as a result of an impression on a nerve of sense, it is to be particularly remarked, is not any quality of the external object which makes the impression, though in common language we speak as if it were. Thus, the sensation which we experience in consequence of an impression on the eye, we call light, and the external agent which commonly causes the impression, we also call light. But the sensation and the external agent which, by its impression on our optic nerve, excites in us the sensation, are totally different things. Some years ago a remarkable medico-legal case occurred in Germany, in which the sensation of light excited by a blow on the eye was confounded with the agent light. In this case a worthy clergyman was assaulted one dark



night by two men, one of whom struck him on the right eye with a stone. By the light which streamed from his eye in consequence of the blow, the clergyman alleged that he was enabled to see and identify the man who committed the outrage. The question whether this were possible having been raised, it was referred to the official district physician, who thought there was some probability in the clergyman's allegation, though he did not fully admit it. Professor Muller, of Berlin, in commenting on this singular case, very justly observed, that if the physician had pressed on his own eye in the dark and tried to read by the light thereby emitted, he would probably have come to a more decided conclusion. What has now been said of the optic nerves and their sensations is equally applicable to the other nerves of sense and their sensations. Each nerve of sense is thus capable of communicating to the mind one particular kind of sensation only, whatever be the nature of the agent which impresses it, though that sensation may be variously modified. But though sensation peculiar to a nerve of sense may thus be excited by various external agencies, it is important to observe that certain external agents do stand in a specific relation as regards action to certain nerves of sense, and call forth by their impression the sensations peculiar to them in the most intense manner. Thus the external agent light stands in such a relation to the optic nerves. An organ of sense consists essentially of a proper nerve, one extremity of which is connected with the brain, the other extremity with an apparatus at the surface of the body fitted to transmit to the nerve the external agent which is to make the impression on it. For this purpose, the apparatus of each organ of sense is constructed in special adaptation to the physical nature of the external agent, which it has to transmit to the nerve—the external agent, viz., which stands in the special relation just referred to, of exciting the sensation peculiar to the given nerve of sense in the most intense manner. The sensations peculiar to the different nerves of sense were then described.

The perception of externality or *outness* by means of vision, the lecturer believed, contrary to the opinion of Berkeley and most metaphysicians, to be owing to an original innate endowment of the optic nervous apparatus, and altogether independent of experience through the touch. In illustration of how—in consequence of an original innate endowment of the optic nervous apparatus—the mind refers the sensation excited by an impression on it to without the body, attention was called to the well-known fact that a person who has had the misfortune to lose a leg sometimes feels as if the lost limb were still in connexion with the body, and that its great toe perhaps is the seat of excruciating pain. This is an example of a tactile sensation excited by some morbid state of the remaining trunk of the nerve, branches of which had been distributed to the great toe of the amputated limb, a tactile sensation referred by the mind, not to the existing superficial extremity of the nerve, which is the seat of the impression, but *out* and at some distance from the body. The faculty of perceiving solidity, or the three dimensions of length, breadth, and thickness, it was next remarked, is an attribute of vision when two eyes are used, as much as it is an attribute of active touch, as proved by Mr. Wheatstone's stereoscopic demonstrations; whilst by simple touch or contact, as by vision with one eye, we can take cognizance of only length and breadth. Stereoscopic phenomena show, it was observed, how vain it is for an artist to attempt to represent objects by painting on a plane surface in full relief, as seen when two eyes are used. All that can really be represented by painting on a plane surface is the appearance of relief as seen when one eye only is used. The next points in the history of the senses spoken of, were After Sensations and Subjective Sensations. In regard to Subjective Sensations, they are such as are altogether independent of the impression of any external object on the nerve of sense. Besides the subjective sensations, which are owing to a change of state of the nerve of the sense concerned, from a cause operating within some part of the nerve itself, communicated to the mind, another class of subjective sensations was referred to which have their origin in the reaction of the mind on the senses. To this class belong phantasms. The phantasms of the different senses were successively noticed; and then, as

belonging to the subject, second sight, visions in dreams, and clairvoyance were commented on. Attention was next called to the tendency of those whose minds have not been trained to observation to confound their opinion of what they see with what is actually seen. In conclusion, a remark was made on abstract science by way of contrast with natural science;—whilst the latter has its source in experience through the senses, the former is independent of it.

SOCIETY OF ARTS.—R. Stephenson, Esq. V.P., in the chair.—'On Siemens's Regenerative Condenser,' by Mr. C. W. Siemens, of Birmingham.

W. F. Cooke, Esq. V.P., in the chair.—'On the Application of Electro-Magnetism as a Motive Power,' by Mr. R. Hunt.—In this paper the author called attention, in the first place, to the numerous attempts which have been made to apply electro-magnetism as a power for moving machines, and particularly described the apparatus employed by Jacobi, Dal Negro, McGauley, Wheatstone, and others, noticing incidentally the machines recently constructed by Mr. Hjorth. Since, notwithstanding the talent which has been devoted to this interesting subject, and the large amount of money which has been spent in the construction of machines, the public are not in possession of any electro-magnetic machine which is capable of exerting power economically;—and finding that, notwithstanding the aid given to Jacobi by the Russian Government, that able experimentalist has abandoned his experimental trials,—the author has been induced to devote much attention to the examination of the first principles by which the power is regulated, with the hope of being enabled to set the entire question on a satisfactory basis. The phenomenon of electro-magnetic induction was explained, and illustrations given of the magnetization of soft iron by means of a voltaic current made to circle around it. The power of electro-magnets was given, and the author stated his belief, that this power could be increased without limitation. A voltaic current produced by the chemical disturbance of the elements of any battery, no matter what its form may be, is capable of producing by induction a magnetic force, *this magnetic force being always in an exact ratio to the amount of matter (zinc, iron, or otherwise) consumed in the battery.* Several forms of the voltaic battery were explained, particularly those of Daniell, Grove, Bunsen, and Reinsch, the latter being constructed without metals, depending entirely on the action between two dissimilar fluids, slowly combining. The author had, however, proved, by an extensive series of experiments, that the greatest amount of magnetic power is produced when the chemical action is the most rapid. Hence, in all magnetic machines, it is more economical to employ a battery in intense action, than one in which the chemical action is slow. It has been proved by Mr. Joule, and most satisfactorily confirmed by the author, that one-horse power is obtainable in an electro-magnetic engine, the most favourably constructed to prevent loss of power, at the cost of 45 lb. of zinc, in a Grove's battery, in 24 hours; while 75 lb. are consumed in the same time to produce the same power in a battery of Daniell's construction. The cause of this was referred to the necessity of producing a high degree of excitement, to overcome the resistance which the molecular forces offer to the electrical perturbations, on which the magnetic force depends. It was contended, that although we have not perhaps arrived at the best form of voltaic battery, yet that we had learnt sufficient of the law of electro-magnetic forces to declare that, under any conditions, the amount of magnetic power would depend on the change of state—consumption of an element—in the battery, and that the question resolved itself into this:—

What amount of magnetic power can be obtained from an equivalent of any material consumed? The following were regarded as the most satisfactory results yet obtained:—1. The force of voltaic current being equal to 678, the number of grains of zinc destroyed per hour was 151, which raised 9,000 lb. one foot high in that time. 2. The force of current being, relatively, 1,300, the zinc destroyed in an hour was 291 grains, which raised 10,030 lb. through the space of one foot. 3. The force being 1,000, the zinc consumed was 223 grains; the weight lifted one foot 12,672 lb. The estimations made by Messrs.

Scoresby and Joule, and the results obtained by Oersted, and more recently by Mr. Hunt, very nearly agree; and it was stated that one grain of coal consumed in the furnace of a Cornish engine lifted 143 lb. one foot high, whereas one grain of zinc consumed in the battery lifted only 80 lb. The cost of 1 cwt. of coal is under 9d.; the cost of 1 cwt. of zinc is above 216d. Therefore, under the most perfect conditions, magnetic power must be nearly 25 times more expensive than steam power. But the author proceeded to show that it was almost proved to be an impossibility ever to reach even this, owing in the first place, to the rate with which the force diminishes through space. As the mean of a great many experiments on a large variety of magnets, of different forms and modes of construction, the following result was given:—

Magnet and armature in contact, lifting force	220 lb.
" distant $\frac{1}{30}$ of an inch	90½
" " $\frac{1}{15}$ " "	50½
" " $\frac{1}{10}$ " "	50½
" " $\frac{1}{5}$ " "	40½

Thus at one-fiftieth of an inch distance four-fifths of the power are lost. This great reduction of power takes place when the magnets are stationary. The author then proceeded to show that the moment they were set in motion a great reduction of the original power immediately took place, that, indeed, any disturbance produced near the poles of a magnet diminished, during the continuance of the motion, its attractive force. The attractive force of a magnet being 150 lb. when free of disturbance, fell to one-half, by occasioning an armature to revolve near its poles. Therefore, when a system of magnets which had been constructed to produce a given power is set in revolution, every magnet at once suffers an immense loss of power, and consequently their combined action falls in practice very far short of their estimated power. This fact has not been before distinctly stated, although the author is informed that Jacobi observed it. And not merely does each magnet thus sustain an actual loss of power, but the power thus lost is converted into a new form of force, or rather becomes a current of electricity, acting in opposition to the primary current by which the magnetism is induced. From an examination of all these results, Mr. Hunt is disposed to regard electro-magnetic power as impracticable, on account of its cost, which must necessarily be, he conceives, under the best conditions, fifty times more expensive than steam power, and is at present at least 150 times as expensive.

Mr. Varley, jun. explained his improvements in the Air pump. In place of the two barrels and vibrating intermittent motion of the ordinary pump, Mr. Varley has a continuous circular motion in the handle, and one double-acting barrel. The piston-rod is attached to a crank on the motion-shaft, and the cylinder oscillates from its bottom, a packed joint being done away with by having the tube between the barrel and the receiver coiled spirally, which, by its spring, gives play enough for the oscillation of the barrel. Mr. Varley explained his larger pump, in which there are some contrivances in addition to those already mentioned. Instead of a valve opening inwards into the barrel by the pressure of the air, as in the old pumps, the valve is worked by an eccentric, and is so arranged as to open a communication between the top and the bottom of the barrel at each stroke, by which the rarefaction of the air is doubled. He has obtained, with this pump, a vacuum of  $\frac{1}{10}$  of an inch of mercury.

SYRO-EGYPTIAN.—J. Lee, Esq. LL.D., in the chair.—A paper was read, being further arguments, by Mr. W. C. Dautrey, to show that the Crucifixion took place, in all probability, in the upper part of the Valley of Jehoshaphat, or of the brook Kedron, north of Jerusalem, and not on a mount as has hitherto been supposed.

Miss Fanny Corboux exhibited a comparative diagram of the levels along a line from Cairo to Suez by the valley of the ancient canal, showing the nature of the errors in the survey of 1799, and their rectification by the operations of 1847. She explained in what respects her former views on the ancient physical geography of the district, based on the levels of 1799, required revision from these corrections, and entered into some detail supplementary to her re-



marks in the *Athenæum* of April 27th, on the deficiency of positive physical evidence in the report of the French *ingénieurs* towards clearing up the remaining difficulties. Miss Corboux urged the importance of ascertaining the following points, as the only conclusive evidence towards elucidating the historical and geographical difficulties of this region, but especially as regards the extent of the Red Sea at the Exodus, since the evidence of both surveys was uncertain:—Whether the beaches of 1847 were recent and marine, and fixed in a corresponding sandy and saline soil;—whether the similar beaches existed at higher levels, testifying of elevation at some remote historical period, in which case, the test of sounding the sands about Arsinoë would yield uncertain conclusions;—whether any such marine remains were overlaid by a mixed soil partly derived from a former sea, partly from the Nile, and containing such freshwater remains as the lake, when re-filled by the river, would leave on its shores or wash down into its depths;—whether the superior beaches of 1799 consist of the latter;—whether others similar can be found under the loose drift sand on the shores of the basin;—whether the canal has emptied into it long enough to form a sensible delta-like deposit at the upper end, when it could be ascertained, by the mixture of remains, whether it flowed firstly into a sea and only afterwards into a fresh lake, or whether no recent sea ever occupied that basin, as some contend. Miss Corboux concluded by recommending this question to the notice of all scientific travellers who might hereafter visit Egypt.

## NEW PLANET.

We have received the following from Sir John Herschel, on the subject of a new planet, which he proposes to call Parthenope. It is near its opposition, and equal to a star of the seventh magnitude. Its situation in the heavens at present may be collected from the following data:—App. R.A. May 11, 12<sup>h</sup> 51<sup>m</sup> 53<sup>s</sup>. M.T. at Naples = 230° 21' 53". App. Decl. = 10° 35' 12". South. May 12, 11<sup>h</sup> 42<sup>m</sup> 28<sup>s</sup>. App. R.A. = 230° 8' 28". App. Decl. = 10° 31' 58". South. Your insertion of this will oblige—Yours, &c., J. F. W. HERSCHEL.  
Collingwood, May 27.

## PHOTOGRAPHY ON GLASS.

Observing that Liebig in his Annual Report has given a place to new facts and observations in chemistry and physics that viewed by themselves seem but insignificant, yet when examined in relation to other known facts, are found to be links belonging to the great broken chain of natural science, I thought it possible you might find in your weekly report a nook for a recently found fragment, where it may remain until its final resting-place be pointed out. This the more especially, since it has about it an aspect of utility that your amateur photographic readers—a numerous class now—may like to test. In repeating the experiment of M. Niepce de Saint-Victor on photography on albumen (published in the *Technologiste* for 1848), I was led to devise a plan of my own for making "glass negatives." I proceeded as follows:—To the white of an egg its own bulk of water was added; the mixture beaten into a froth was then put into a strainer made of letter-paper so twisted as to form a cone, having a small aperture at its apex, pinned near the base to hold the paper to its shape. The clear diluted albumen soon passed through into a wide-mouthed bottle, which answered the double purpose of a receptacle for the fluid and a support to the cone. A piece of plate-glass, thick or thin, as you please, was then rubbed with a solution of caustic alkali, washed in water, and dried with a cloth: just before applying the albumen, the glass was breathed upon and rubbed with new blotting-paper; then, to remove dust and fibres, cotton wool was used. Unless this latter and every other precaution is taken to prevent dust, the picture will be full of spots produced by a greater absorption of iodine (in a subsequent process) in those than in the surrounding parts.

Now pour the albumen on the glass, inclining the plate from side to side until it is covered; allow the excess to run off at one of the corners, keeping

the plate inclined nearly vertical. As soon as the albumen ceases to drop rapidly, breathe on, or warm the lower half of the plate; the warmth and moisture of the breath will soon cause it to part with more of its albumen; wiping the edges constantly hastens the operation.

Until this plan was adopted, the coatings were seldom uniform; the upper half of the plate retained less albumen than the lower, of course care must be taken to warm only the lower half. When no more albumen runs down, dry the plate. I use for this purpose a double-ring gas-burner of some eighty jets. A common fire answers as well, save now and then it imparts a little dust.

The film, when dry, is quite free from cracks, and is so thin and transparent that the brilliancy of the glass is unimpaired. It is almost necessary to mark it to know which side has been coated.

The next operation is to iodize the plate. Dilute pure iodine with dry white sand in a mortar, using about equal parts of each. Put this mixture into a square glass trough, and over it place the albumined plate; as soon as the latter has become yellow in colour, resembling beautiful stained glass, remove it into a room lighted only by a candle, or through any yellow translucent substance—yellow calico, for instance. Here plunge it vertically and rapidly into a deep narrow vessel containing a solution of "aceto-nitrate" of silver, made by adding three ounces of nitrate of silver to two ounces of glacial acetic acid, diluted with sixty ounces of distilled water. Allow it to remain until the transparent yellow tint disappears, to be succeeded by a milky-looking film of iodide of silver. Washing with distilled water completes this operation. The plate is now ready for the camera. After it has been submitted to the action of the light pour over its surface a saturated solution of gallic acid. A negative Talbotype image on albumen is the result. Washing with water before and after immersion, in a solution of one part of hyposulphite of soda in 16 parts of water, until the yellow tint is removed from the shadows, completes the process.

But where is the novelty? Let us go back a step. While the gallic acid is developing its reddish-brown image, pour upon the surface a strong solution of nitrate of silver: the brown image deepens in intensity until it becomes black. Another change commences: the image begins to grow lighter, and, by perfectly natural magic, finishes by converting the black into white, presenting the curious phenomenon of the conversion of a Talbotype negative into, apparently, a Daguerreotype positive, but by very opposite agency, no mercury being present; metallic silver (probably) here producing the lights, while in the Daguerreotype it produces the shades of the picture. I have said probably, because it may be unwise to speculate chemically upon appearances which may depend solely on molecular arrangement:—an intricate subject, to which I hope this communication may prove a slight contribution.

Prof. Wheatstone has suggested to me the desirableness of substituting blackened wood or blackened ivory for glass plates; we should probably then have the novelty of a Daguerreotype on wood free from some of the disadvantages attendant on polished metal. Mr. Cundall suggests the application of it to wood blocks for wood engravers for certain purposes, making the drawings by light instead of by hand.

I am, &c., T. A. MALONE.

May 2.

\* \* As we perceive that M. Ballard has just communicated a similar discovery to the Academy of Sciences, we think it right to call the attention of our readers to the date of Mr. Malone's letter. It has been in our hands since the 2nd of May.

## MEETINGS FOR THE ENSUING WEEK.

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|--------|--|
| Mon.   | Chemical, 8.   |
| Tues.  | Entomological, 8.  |
| Wed.   | Linnæan, 8.  |
|        | Geological, half past 8.—On Fossil Lepididæ, by C. Darwin. Esq.—On the Diluvium of the Neighbourhood of Bath, by C. H. Weston. Esq.—On the Tertiary Strata of Blackheath, by the Rev. H. M. de la Coudamine. |
| Thurs. | Royal, half past 4.—Election of Fellows.   |
|        | Zoological, 3.—General Business.   |
| Fri.   | Antiquarian, 8.  |
|        | Royal Institution, half past 8.—On certain Conditions of Freezing Water, by Mr. Faraday.   |
|        | Archæological Institute, 4.  |
| Sat.   | In London, 8.  |
|        | Horticultural, 3.—Meeting at Chiswick.   |

## FINE ARTS

## THE COTTINGHAM MUSEUM.

OUR readers must be satisfied with a cursory account of this Museum, with general indication and remark; for anything like a description of its contents would swell into a Catalogue Raisonné, and that not only a bulky one, but tantalizing also without copious illustration. In fact, there is as much to tempt the pencil as to scare the pen, so great is the number of articles and objects of *virtù* here collected; and they amount to so many thousands that we do not care to state the exact, or even proximate number, lest we should be accused of exaggeration. There is certainly ample work for a skilful and congenial pencil, even were it to confine itself to the strikingly picturesque scenes and architectural episodes which are afforded by the complex and varied *locale* itself, which, for ingenious contrivance and piquant effects in the building, may fairly challenge the Soanean Museum. Greatly as they differ, they resemble, each other in regard to the display of artistic imagination; and from either may be learnt how much may be effected within a very limited space, and how much of poetic treatment may be applied to such a desperately prosaic subject as a London dwelling-house.

To come to something like an intelligible account of that part of the house and premises which is devoted to the purposes of the Museum, and contains a collection which forms a complete series of architectural studies from the Norman period to the close of the reign of Elizabeth, we commence with the ante-room and Elizabethan parlour, both fitted up in conformity with the style indicated by the name given to the latter. Among the articles in the first-mentioned room are several busts and other works of Art; and in the fireplace are a pair of enamelled dog-irons which once belonged to Sir Thomas More. One of the other *notabilia* here is a small and rare portrait of Elizabeth. The adjoining "parlour" has a richly pannelled ceiling from the ancient palace of Bishop Bonner at Lambeth—and by "from" is not to be understood as copied from the original, but the original ceiling itself. Busts of Elizabeth, Mary Queen of Scots, Sir W. Raleigh, Burleigh, and other illustrious personages, are disposed on brackets against the walls. The furniture, which is entirely ancient, comprises a beautiful walnut-tree cabinet, a unique ebony table from the palace of Nonsuch, and a sofa reported to have belonged to Anne Boleyn when in the Tower. Returning through the ante-room, we proceed into the first gallery, which has a genuine ancient ceiling from what was an old Council Chamber, in the City, in the time of Richard the Second, a structure destroyed many years ago: the original *louvre*, however, has been replaced by the present lantern. The walls of this room are covered with a fine series of models of figures of saints, bishops, &c.; and on three of the sides are oak cases containing a vast number of specimens of ancient decorative art in stone, wood, and metal. From the roof is suspended a noble chandelier of the time of Henry the Seventh, also two extremely curious perforated lanterns of carved wood. Besides these there is another lantern of latten, of Spanish workmanship, dating about the year 1600. There are many busts of English monarchs and queens, standing on pedestals; and the fireplace, which is exceedingly elaborate, is in great part the original one from the Star Chamber at Westminster. On one side of this is a unique carved oak screen of Flemish workmanship, of the date 1490,—consisting of four leaves, seven feet in height, and comprising sixteen admirably executed subjects in alto-relievo, from the history of Our Lord. It is further enriched with figures of prophets, &c. in inches. The whole is richly painted and gilt, and forms one of the most complete works of Mediæval Art probably now in existence. On a high octagonal table in the centre of the room—which table, we should observe, is ingeniously made to serve as a lantern to the room below, and to allow us to peep down into it,—stands a very fine reliquary of the sixteenth century, adorned with paintings and carved figures. We next enter a small intermediate cabinet; which



has a very beautiful small pendent ceiling of the time of Henry the Seventh, and which besides a number of other choice and interesting models and casts, executed in exact imitation of the originals, contains a model of the Tomb of the children of Edward the Third, William of Windsor and Blanche de la Tour. The window, too, deserves notice, as a fine stone one of two lights, of the "decorated" period, with some ancient painted glass representing Henry the Seventh and his Queen.

From this room we pass through a small arch into the North Gallery, whose ceiling is a bold specimen of the time of Henry the Sixth, with massive moulded principals, spandrils and bosses. This apartment is lighted by a large decorated window of three lights, in which are some good fragments of painted glass. In this and the two preceding rooms the walls are lined throughout, to the height of four feet and a half, with beautiful oak pannellings, carved with the "linen" and other patterns, from the ancient Palace of Layer Marney, in Essex. At one end of this gallery, viz., over the entrance, is a rich triple canopy; and on the sides are other canopied niches, with large figures of St. Anne, the Virgin, and others. The chimney-piece, which is an ancient one, is of stone, and has pannels filled with shields, &c. This suite of rooms is terminated by a striking architectural feature, —namely, an elaborate fac-simile of the noble doorway to the chapter-house of Rochester Cathedral, with all its niches and figures; and its effect is greatly enhanced by its arch being filled in with looking-glass so as to produce the appearance of an opening.

Returning to the first gallery, we descend by a small staircase to the basement floor; where the portion first entered is disposed as a chapel, with a highly enriched altar and altar-piece, containing figures within canopied niches. Here there is a set of ancient stall seats (six in number) of rare early work of the thirteenth century; there are also the return ends and other portions of a throne, with boldly carved groups of figures. The whole of these (viz. stalls and throne) are of foreign workmanship, and show conclusive evidence of being by the same masterly hand as the matchless stalls in St. Gereon at Cologne. The recesses round this apartment and at the adjoining vaulted chambers are all filled with every conceivable detail of Gothic architecture, from the most delicate fan tracery of a groined niche to colossal specimens. Some grand figures larger than life size, of the Virgin, Mary Magdalen, &c., occupy the end of the chapel, on each side of the organ.

To attempt to particularize beyond this any of the curious and interesting specimens stored up in the crypt-like repositories which constitute this portion of the Museum would be more wearisome than profitable. The mere visitor can do no more than *reconnaître en masse* an assemblage of objects which it would require the study of weeks to become even tolerably acquainted with. The multiplicity of objects is such, that many which would be considered worthy of attentive inspection if seen singly are here altogether overlooked or unheeded. In one of the somewhat labyrinthine suites of passages and chambers that still remain to be visited are deposited splendid fac-similes of nine high tombs, with recumbent effigies,—the best examples of their several dates for purposes of study. There are, moreover, no fewer than seven rooms entirely filled with models and casts of almost every architectural style and period; including a considerable number of costly works from Italy, chiefly antique. So that we here find materials for founding a public gallery or museum, not of mediæval architecture and art alone, but one that would represent them in their various phases. Nor can there be a doubt that were the opportunity which now presents itself of establishing a gallery of the kind taken advantage of, donations of models and casts would in a very short time greatly enlarge what in the present collection forms but a secondary department. Nay, we do not see what objection there could be to transferring to such a gallery—of course we mean a public one—all the architectural casts and similar objects which are now concealed within the British Museum. The acquisition of the Cottingham col-

lection by Government would cost comparatively a mere trifle. Still, we fear that parsimony, dignified by the name of economy, will prevail on this occasion. Should such prove to be the case, all the more honourable will it have been to the late Mr. Cottingham that he, a private individual and a professional man, should have devoted no inconsiderable portion of his professional earnings to the formation of a collection exceeding the means of a great and wealthy nation.

#### ROYAL ACADEMY.

WE have already in the course of our Exhibition notices of this year come in contact with the doings of a school of artists whose younger members unconsciously write its condemnation in the very title which they adopt,—that of pre-Raffaellite:—and we would not have troubled ourselves or our readers with any further remarks on the subject, were it not that eccentricities of any kind have a sort of seduction for minds that are intellectual without belonging to the better orders of intellect. It is difficult in the present day of improved taste and information to apprehend any large worship of an Art-idol set up with visible deformity as its attribute; but it is always well to guard against the influence of ostentatious example and the fascination of paradox.

The idea of an association of artists whose objects are the following out of their art in a spirit of improved purity—making sentiment and expression the great ends, and subordinating to these all technical considerations—is not new. The difference between the proceedings of a band of German painters who in the early part of the present century commenced such an undertaking in Rome and those of these English pre-Raffaellites is, nevertheless, striking. The Germans in question—who had each tested the difficulties of composition in his own several style, each encountered the struggle of pictorial principle in his own studio—yearned to throw off the yoke of conventionalism which, commencing with the eclectics ages before, had brought the art in their time in Italy down to its lowest level. To this task of purification they brought experience in Art, erudition in letters, and general intelligence.—Although the notion of arriving at the conclusions and the reputation of a Raffaele by strict imitation of the master is not the most sensible,—yet the view, such as it was, taken by these Germans was never degraded by bad taste, ignorance, or puerile conceit. They felt strongly and intelligently what has been so well expressed by our own Wilkie—"that the only Art pure and unsophisticated, and that is worth study and consideration by an artist, or that has the true object of Art in view, is to be found in the works of those masters who revived and improved the art, and those who ultimately brought it to perfection. From Giotto to Michael Angelo, expression and sentiment seem the first things thought of; whilst those who followed seem to have allowed technicalities to get the better of them, until, simplicity giving way to intricacy, they seem to have painted more for the artist and the connoisseur than for the untutored apprehensions of ordinary men."—Yet, earnest as was their spirit, and sound, to a certain extent, their view—the works of Overbeck, Veit, Schadow, and their school have but a limited acceptance in our day—impaired always by the memories of the great compositions which they chose for the immediate types of their modern imitation. With all their good taste and acquirement, their formal recurrence to ancient art has been repressive of the first great condition of success—originality of thinking. That a body of young English painters—untravelling, without experience, and below these Germans in intelligence,—going back for revival to a yet earlier period, from a yet later—should fail far more signally and find that they have arrived at an absurdity, might have been expected beforehand from the mere conditions of the case.

This school of English youths has, it may be granted, ambition—but not of that well-regulated order which, measuring the object to be attained by the resource possessed, qualifies itself for achievement. Their ambition is an unhealthy thirst, which seeks notoriety by means of mere conceit.

Abruptness, singularity, uncouthness are the counters with which they play for fame. Their trick is, to defy the principles of beauty and the recognized axioms of taste.—Again, these young artists are mistaken if they imagine that they have recurred to any early period of Art for their type of pictorial expression. The quaintness and formal-looking character of Art in the schools of Siena, Pisa, or Florence were the results of a primitive condition of society whose most familiar acquaintance with the imitative language of Art was made through the medium of the Byzantine Mosaic or Missal. Devotional feeling, observation and natural taste, in spite of the want of artistic training, were the secrets of the improvement manifested by Giotto when dealing with traditional themes. The dwellers in the cloister—the then sole depositaries of learning—soon began to apply the principles of science to fine art: and, whether in painting or in the other branches, as knowledge increased, Art in its imitative capacity became more and more accomplished. Perspective through the teaching of a layman who had studied science,—Chiar-oscuro through that of a monk,—and other increasing appliances down to the school of Perugino—attest the gradual development and invigoration of the art. During the rudest times—when Art-language was at its lowest ebb—earnestness and refinement, dramatic action and sentiment prevailed. The Passion of Christ by Giotto, the numerous Saints by Simone Memmi, are eloquent of these qualities. Divine feeling spoke by the pencil of Fra Angelico. In all these painters the absence of structural knowledge never resulted in positive deformity. The disgusting incidents of unwashed bodies were not presented in loathsome reality; and flesh with its accidents of putridity was not made the affected medium of religious sentiment in tasteless revelation. Purity of presentment inspired by devotional enthusiasm marked the works of these old rude masters:—qualities gathered from their association with ecclesiastics of the class of which Savonarola may be taken as a conspicuous example. Their incongruities and inaccuracies are the accidents of their time. The progress shown in the anatomically well-studied forms of Luca Signorelli, in the bold and picturesque combinations of Ghirlandajo, and in the devotional expressions of Perugino's heads, proves the aspiring tendencies of the artist—the developing character of his art. These all culminated in the person of Raffaele: whose inspiration led him not back upon the earlier forms of pictorial expression, but to engraft on these the added lights lent by the recent discoveries of the sculptured remains of antiquity.

Let us conjure these young gentlemen to believe that Raffaele may be received as no mean authority for soundness of view and excellence in practice. They stand convicted of insincerity by the very cleverness of some of their pictures. What a wilful misapplication of powers is that which affects to treat the human form in the primitive and artless manner of the Middle Ages, while minor accessories are elaborated to a refinement of imitation which belongs to the latest days of executive art! By the side of their affected simplicity and rudeness they write the condemnation of the same:—saying, "You see by the skill with which we can produce a shaving, that we could joint and round these limbs if we would. We show you that while some of us could, if we chose, do as well as they who use the enlarged means and appliances of Art,—we can also do—and choose to do—as ill as they who wanted our knowledge. We desire you to understand that it is not for want of knowing what Nature is that we fly to affectation."

In point of religious sentiment Mr. Rossetti stands the chief of this little band:—Mr. Hunt stands next, in his picture of *A Converted British Family sheltering a Christian Missionary from the Persecution of the Druids* (No. 558). There are, a sense of novelty in its arrangement and of expression in its parts,—and a certain enthusiasm, though wrongly directed, in its conduct.—Mr. Millais, in his picture without a name (518) which represents a Holy Family in the interior of the carpenter's shop, has been most successful in the least dignified features of his presentment,—and in giving to the



higher forms, characters and meanings a circumstantial Art-language from which we recoil with loathing and disgust. There are many to whom his work will seem a pictorial blasphemy. Great imitative talents have here been perverted to the use of an eccentricity both lamentable and revolting.—*Ferdinand lured by Ariel* (504), by the same hand, though better in the painting, is yet more senseless in the conception: a scene built on the contrivances of the stage manager,—but with very bad success.—Another instance of perversion is to be regretted in *Berengaria's Alarm for the Safety of her Husband, Richard Cœur de Lion, awakened by the sight of his Girdle offered for Sale in Rome* (535), by Mr. Charles Collins. This young artist's little pictures had before inspired the hope that the example afforded him in the person and practice of his late father would yield fruit in a second generation.—Of others of less note we will say no more than to express our hope that their good sense will bring them back to a more rational course of study, better calculated to help the expression of originality of view and more profitable in renown and in remuneration. Such results will more surely be arrived at by the honest exercise of their talents than by any trick of eccentricity however striking.

The combination of the powers of Messrs. Lee and Sydney Cooper have produced this year even a larger amount of success than usual. The best instances are, *Cattle crossing a Ford, Summer Morning* (23)—and *The Watering Place* (298). The best of Mr. Lee's single-handed performances is, *A Mountain Stream* (80). One of the same artist's happiest delineations of rock and water, *A Calm Morning* (405), though in no way remarkable as a scene, is rendered with conscientious truth-telling. *A Stormy Day* (497) is the remaining one of Mr. Lee's very able contributions to this Exhibition. Of the single-handed productions of Mr. Sydney Cooper, we may remark on *Summer Showers* (239) that the group of animals would have told to more advantage if the amount of sky had been less. In its present condition it materially interferes with the importance of the cattle. *A Mountain Group—Evening* (278) is a most successful combination. *Fordwick Meadows—Sunset* (416) is an excellent example of this painter's art;—so is *A Group on the Welsh Mountains* (454). All these attest the artist's mastery over such subjects.

Mr. Witherington's *Summer* (120) is his principal success this year. It is remarkable for its truth,—and is painted with great attention to the variety of objects and of surface. *Coniston Lake* (143) is more *à-la-mode*,—more after the treatment made familiar among the elder water-colour men. *The Mountain Road* (316) is another of the same class. *Marlborough Forest* (453) is less to our taste than the others, because more monotonous in colour.—In landscape Mr. Redgrave also has this year his chief success. *The Woods planted by Evelyn and still the Property of his Descendants* (534) shows a mastery that need yield to none on this particular ground. The botanical studies of the painter form the peculiar qualifications for such success.

Mr. Harding's landscape contributions, *San Pietro, near Verona* (527) and *The Mountain Stream* (1062) exhibit the artist's accustomed power in execution allied to a greater sense of truth and a less conventional manner of rendering than are usual with him. Nor has Mr. Edward Cooke been idle:—giving evidence of variety as much in selection of view as in treatment. In *Evening—a Scene on the Riviera di Ponente, Gulf of Genoa* (58), the artist presents us with Mediterranean scenery under the enriching influence of the dying day. He transports us to the Dutch coast in *Scheveling Sands—the Tide making in* (93)—which has the characteristic cool tints proper to the locality; and in *Dutch Fishing Craft—off the Booms, Amsterdam* (315). Carrying us farther south, *The Port of Marseilles* (1262) presents all the characteristics of Mr. Cooke's art in striking exemplification. Accurate drawing and excessive care, to the most minute particular, bespeak here the nature of this artist's training. A slight subordination of this to a more generous sense of general effect might have improved its effect by imparting breadth. Its con-

which we would not surrender on the chance of anything likely to be gained by the change.

Mr. Goodall's *Woman's Home* (443) cannot be regarded as an advancement.—The incident, a wife with her infant, expecting the return home of her husband, afforded no very striking opportunity for the enunciation of anything new in the way of situation; and the pictorial treatment by Mr. Goodall has not elevated the subject beyond the multitude of such matters which crowd the many Exhibition walls of the metropolis.

There is much excellent suggestion in the two little studies by Mr. George Jones illustrative of history, sacred and profane. No. 149 is a subject from the page of St. Luke; and No. 150 a *Sketch for a Picture—Cæsar to Cicero*, from Shakspeare's 'Julius Cæsar,'—that might be well amplified on larger scale. Both are full of poetical feeling and association.

Mr. Hook shows this year improved freedom in execution. *A Dream of Venice* (503) is full of fancy, movement, and sense of beauty. But it is not quite clear that he is not on the verge of giving up the common-sense view of telling his story well, and so ordering the actions of his subjects as to make them clear and comprehensive. The same peculiarity is to be observed in his other picture, *Francesco Novello di Carrara, and the Lady Taddea's Escape from the Emissaries of Galeazzo Visconti* (376). If the artist shall persevere in this course, founded on the examples of the Venetian school—whose principle it is to contend more for the luxuries of chromatic arrangement than for the cogent ordering of a well-considered plan—he must be content to take a lower rank than his former works have promised,—to descend, with all the beauty of appliance which he possesses, into the class of the ornamentative in Art.

Highland sports have given Mr. Abraham Cooper an abundant theme out of which to gather picturesque groupings:—in *The Deer alive and the Deer deceased* (29), a species of pictorial equivocation,—and in *Shooters on the Moors* (99), *Arabs* (110) affords him a plea for introducing some of the finest of Oriental equine forms: and these contrast well with the figures in the *Meeting of J. S. Swinburne's Keepers, on his Moors, in Northumberland* (145). *The Peat Cart* (442) is a performance which will sustain his place in public favour.

There are good design and considerable earnestness of feeling in Mr. W. T. Grant's *Christ's Miracle at Gadara* (506); but the painter, with manifest indications of enthusiasm and sincerity, errs on the side more of self-reliance than of plagiarism. A more liberal yet discreet reading of Art in the great pictures would be calculated to enrich his mind with pictorial resources, improve his sense of colour, and increase his power of giving expression to some of his very ingenious thoughts.

FINE-ART GOSSIP.—An opportunity is now about to occur, to which we think it right to call the especial attention of the Trustees of the British Museum. The King of Holland, it is announced in the *Haarlem Courant*, is about to part with his Art-treasures.—It will be remembered that when the Collection of Drawings made by the late Sir Thomas Lawrence was, at his death, offered for sale by the Messrs. Woodburn, the King of Holland purchased the principal examples therein contained of drawings by Raphael and Michael Angelo. These specimens are of the finest order: far superior to any evidences of the practice of those renowned masters that exist amongst us. We remember the inferiority of the examples shown us in the Uffizj, in Florence. The drawings by the same masters now preserved in the Taylor Museum in Oxford, consisting of that part of the Lawrence Collection which the King of Holland did not select, are, of course, of inferior quality.—Along with these, will be offered for sale the Cabinet of Pictures of his late Majesty of the Netherlands, William the Second,—as also the drawings and sculptures forming his Gallery.—The sale is to take place in the said

to which we drew attention in our last volume, brought one thousand and twenty guineas. Sir Joshua's price was, we are told, seventy guineas. The purchaser was the Marquis of Hertford. There is a good engraving of the picture by Charles Turner.

The presentation of the Royal Gold Medal by Mr. Barry, the architect, at the Institute of British Architects, took place on Monday evening last, in presence of a very numerous meeting of the Fellows and Associates,—over which Earl De Grey presided.

The House of Commons has recently resolved itself into a Committee on the Fine Arts, and discussed several points of importance in the way of taste peculiar to such a tribunal. Mr. Barry and his Houses of Parliament have had to stand pitiless pelting from men of all varieties of politics—and accommodation and cost have been mixed up with the requirements of architectural niche and the necessities of broad-shouldered barons of the time of King John. Mr. Landseer, who had been half engaged to paint three frescoes in the Peers' Refreshment-room for a thousand guineas, has been set aside by a majority of nineteen. But for the Civil War we should have had the walls of the Banqueting House at Whitehall covered with the story of the Order of the Garter from the pencil of Vandyck,—and but for the wordy war the other night we should have had the walls of the Peers' Refreshment-room in the New Palace of Westminster covered with hunting subjects worth of a Snyder or a Rubens.—The discussion was, however, without its advantages; for it led to the postponement of a very puerile proposition, on the part of the Government, to remove the marble arch at Buckingham Palace to the Mall in the Park, nearly opposite Stafford House, and to place it round with what at the best could be very little more than a cockney garden. Surely a triumphal arch should lead to something grander than a garden filled with daffodils and tulips. A proposal should the Mall be blocked up? A much more judicious proposition to make the arch the new opening to the Park at Spring Gardens has found favour with the public,—and is one of many fitter suggestions that have been offered. We have been as a public so much to blame in all matters of public taste in architecture, that whatever we do with the marble arch will either confirm our folly on such points or do something towards redeeming us from our former backslidings—in the National Gallery, at Buckingham Palace, and in Trafalgar Square.—Mr. Barry, we may observe, has not been fortunate on any one occasion in finding champions competent to defend him. His cause, however bad as regards the arguments of expense and perhaps delay, is otherwise a good one,—and the great work which he is now erecting is, in many respects, worthy of the occasion and the country. The cost has indeed been excessive: upwards of 2,000,000*l.* already,—including 80,000*l.* for the purchase of the site, and 139,000*l.* for the embankment. What the total cost is likely to be, is a problem which Mr. Babbage's calculating machine would want the data for determining. Let the amount, however, be what it will, the work should be completed forthwith.

There are now on view at Messrs. Colnaghi's three pictures, the property of an Italian gentleman—one of which, 'The Madonna del Velo,' is ascribed to the hand of Raphael. The picture—which has been for some time well known in Milan as the property of the Signor Brocca—is one of the many repetitions of this subject which have from time to time been in various hands. One will be remembered as having been brought to this country some years since by Prince Lucien Bonaparte, and sold. The original cartoon from whence these several repetitions are made still exists in the apartments of the Accademia at Florence. Some idea of the present state of its preservation may be formed from a passage which occurs in a letter written by Francesco Ambrosoli to a friend,—printed in Longhena's translation of Quatremère de Quincy's 'Life of Raffaele.'—He says, speaking of it:—"Il Signor Brocca l'acquistò in Barcellona l'anno 1822."



## MUSIC AND THE DRAMA

**PHILHARMONIC SOCIETY.**—The Subscribers and the Public are respectfully informed the SEVENTH CONCERT will take place at the Hanover Square Rooms, on MONDAY EVENING, June 3.—Programme: *Sinfonia*, in A minor, No. 3, Mendelssohn; *Bartholdy*: Concerto, Violin, M. Allard; *Overture*, 'Preciosa', C. M. von Weber; *Sinfonia*, in C minor, Beethoven; *Overture*, 'Giselle', and *Vocal Performers*: Madame Orsina, M. Allard and Mr. Sims Reeves. Conductor, Mr. Costa.—Single Tickets (with Reserved Seats), 11. 1s.; Double Tickets (ditto), 17. 10s.; Triple Tickets (ditto), 24. 5s. To be obtained of Messrs. Addison, 210, Regent Street.

G. W. LUDD, Secretary.

**MUSICAL UNION.—FIFTH MATINEE.** June 4th, WILLIS ROOMS.—Quartet in D, No. 10, Mozart; Trio in C minor, No. 2, Mendelssohn; Quintet in C, Beethoven. Executants:—M. Allard, from Paris; Deblaise, Mcllroy, Hill, Platt, & Co., Pianoforte; C. Halle. Strangers' Tickets to be had at Cramer & Co.'s, Regent Street. Members can personally introduce visitors by name at the house. Owing to the crowded attendance of visitors, none but Honorary Members will be admitted free the remainder of the season. J. ELLA, Director.

Mr. and Mrs. W. H. SEGUIN'S CONCERT is fixed to take place on FRIDAY MORNING next, June 7th, at the HANOVER SQUARE ROOMS, at which will appear M. Thalberg, Sims, Reeves, & Co. Vocal Performers: Madame Orsina, M. Allard and Mr. Sims Reeves. Conductor, Mr. Costa.—Single Tickets (with Reserved Seats) to be had of Mr. and Mrs. W. H. Seguin, at their residence, No. 43, Curzon Street, May Fair.

MADAME SONTAG will sing, by general desire, and for the last time, the Variations, 'Ah, vous dirai-je, maman,' with flute obbligato, by Mlle. Schiassi, Missed and M. Messtard and M. Williams. Mrs. W. H. Seguin, and Madame Labache, Signor Marchesi, Messrs. Benson and W. H. Seguin, Mr. Balsir Chatterton (Harriet to Her Majesty the Queen), Mr. Brinsley Richards, Herr Heiking, and M. Benedict. Conductor: Sir H. R. Bishop. Tickets and Reserved Seats to be had of Mr. and Mrs. W. H. Seguin, at their residence, No. 43, Curzon Street, May Fair.

## NEW PUBLICATIONS.

*The Tempest, as a Lyrical Drama.* By Morris Barnett.—The major part of this pamphlet is devoted to a defence of making operas on subjects taken from our greatest English dramatist. This surely was not needed. When Mr. Barnett pleads for M. Scribe's forthcoming work "as the second adaptation for musical purposes of a play by Shakespeare," he forgets how large is the amount of precedent. A moment's reference has reminded us of four operas on 'Romeo and Juliet,' two on 'Hamlet,' one on 'The Comedy of Errors,' two on 'Macbeth,' one on 'Coriolanus,' two on 'The Merry Wives of Windsor,' one on 'Othello,' one (for such virtually is 'Euryanthe') on 'Cymbeline,' one in English on 'The Midsummer Night's Dream.' The list, we doubt not, might be doubled in length. Thus, were example needed for warrant, M. Scribe is safe. Did none such exist, however, he could be attacked by no real lover of Shakespeare: for such will be no hater of music—but must rather belong to the choir of those who rejoice to see the tuneful as well as the pictorial art doing homage to our master-poet. All who care for the stage, too, must concede that many things are indispensable to opera which are not required in drama. Therefore, in place of cavilling, the world will be curious to see how so consummate a master of effect as M. Scribe has arranged and amplified the materials drawn from so favourite a romance. This curiosity Mr. Barnett enables us to gratify in the following "argument," which is a sketch of M. Scribe's *libretto* abbreviated and compressed from the pamphlet before us.

"The curtain rises upon the storm-tossed ship at sea; choirs of invisible spirits mingling with the howl of the elements, and Ariel alighting upon the deck. The curtain falls on the wreck of the ship. So much is prologue.—The scene of the First Act is laid in the Grot of Prospero, where the necromancer is discovered. Miranda speedily appears. To them enters Caliban, a *brin* being thus constructed. Miranda withdraws to her chamber. Caliban slinks into his den; then appears Ariel to inform his lord of all that he has done, and of the safe bestowal of the crew of the wrecked ship. Prospero gives charge to his attendant sprites to watch over Miranda, and enchanter and sylph disappear. Here are heard the strains of the invisible chorus of the air, who guide Ferdinand's steps by their luring music. The meeting of the Prince and the Lady follows; and after the meeting, as Prospero had well foreseen, love! The act closes with the re-appearance of Prospero, his feigned anger, but secret satisfaction at the success of his schemes—the submission of the Prince, and the pleadings of Miranda for the stranger.—The Second Act opens with a malediction scene for Caliban, and an invocation of his mother, Sycorax. The witch is not yet dead, but imprisoned beneath the weight of massive rocks, claimed there by the arts of Prospero. Upon this rock grow magic flowers, which Caliban is directed to pluck. So armed, he is at liberty to form three wishes, each of which will be miraculously granted. The conversation is interrupted by the entrance of Ariel and Prospero who passes on. Now comes the moment for Caliban. Vengeance upon Prospero is that for which he thirsts; and that vengeance his imprisoned dam informs him will be

liberation, Caliban waves the magic flowers, in an instant shuts Ariel in the trunk of a mighty tree, and seizing upon the now ungarded Miranda, a scene full of passion ensues. Caliban makes hideous love to the gentle child of Prospero. The howls of the pent-up Sycorax mingle in the singing; a chorus of demons sounds from the earth, the air, and the trees; and Miranda, despairing of help, is about to plunge a poignard into her heart, when the breathing of the second wish seals up her senses in sleep. Snatching up his insensible burden, Caliban bears Miranda away. He dares not go far. The new-heard choristers and the shipwrecked crew, headed by Stephano and Trinculo, are making merry upon the wine saved from the wreck; they perceive and stop the monster. The sailors pause in their Bacchanal chorons to mock Caliban and threaten him, unless he gives up the still sleeping Miranda. The monster gives them fair words, promises to lead them to Prospero's cell, and make them kings in the island. Then the festivities are renewed—until, in the midst of the uproar, Miranda, roused from her charmed sleep, snatches the enchanted bouquet, which the drunken monster has dropped, and fleeing from the company, stays his pursuit by forming in her mind the third wish. The sailors and their goblin guests are rooted to the spot whereon they stood.—The Third Act introduces Antonio and Alonso bewailing their hard fate and the supposed death of Ferdinand. Prospero appears; and, unrecognized by his brother and the King of Naples, reproaches them with their crimes, but promises pardon to the repentant. The Duke and King follow the magician, and listen in amazement as he summons Ariel to his presence. The voice of the charm-imprisoned spirit informs Prospero of the triumphant malice of Caliban. A movement suffices to break the spell; and then he informs his companions that if his daughter is lost, their doom is sealed also. After Miranda's escape from Caliban she has been wandering in the wood;—her steps are arrested by the voice of Sycorax, which informs her Ferdinand is an enchanter, and that but one way of defeating his malice remains;—by slaying him. The scene changes to the grotto. Ferdinand, worn out with unaccustomed toil, sleeps tranquilly; Miranda enters, the dagger to her hand. She hesitates; an infernal chorus repeats the warning of Sycorax. She hesitates no longer;—the dagger is uplifted and the blow about to descend, when is heard again the Bacchanal chorons of the sailors, led by Caliban; as they approach the grot. Roused by earthly music, Ferdinand starts from his sleep as the seamen kneel around him, acknowledge in him their future king and in Miranda their future queen. Caliban rages with impotent spite. The scene changes to the place where Prospero, his repentant brother, and the King sit glittering on their thrones. Here come the joy of the lovers, the masque of the spirits of the Isle, and the departure of Prospero to his recovered kingdom, by way of close to the opera."

We think the above will naturally sharpen curiosity as to M. Halévy's share in 'La Tempesta.'—*THE END.*

**CONCERTS OF THE WEEK.**—Considering the small amount of complete talent which issues from our Royal Academy of Music (as compared, for instance, with the *Conservatoire* of Paris) the unsatisfactory nature of the students' concerts there given ceases to excite surprise. This day week the third meeting for the season commenced with a MS. Overture 'Die Elfen,' (why not 'The Elves?') by Mr. C. Steggall,—parts of which were pleasingly written. It was followed by Miss Macrone's part-song 'Jog on,'—which does not bear the test of performance so well as we could have wished. One of the *solos* was De Beriot's *Andante et Rondeau Russe*, played only passably by Mr. Simmons;—and thus we, indeed, might go through the programme.

The programme of Mr. Lumley's Second Concert, as of his first, was wisely varied:—Madame Sontag was, of course, the principal attraction;—but she is not prudent in exhibiting her execution, brilliantly and volubly elegant though it be, in conjunction with or antagonism to flute *bravura* passages; the tones thus freshly foiled inevitably seeming worn and not always true. Mlle. Parodi was more hardy than ever in flatness and want of finish;—her delivery of a romance by Verdi from 'Giovanni d'Arco' was menacing enough to drive her patroness back to Cortio, in confusion of face. Madame Frezzolini in her *rondo* from the 'Regina di Golconda' showed herself little more of a concert-singer than she was eight years ago. M. Thalberg played his best. The audience was most numerous and most cordial. Herrn Ernst and Molique, we perceive, are advertised to appear at the Third Concert.

At the last meeting of the Beethoven Quartett Society, the "strong pieces" (no disrespect to Haydn's ingenious and fanciful Quartett, as a work eminent for beauty and science in minor) were Mendelssohn's Quartett in E minor and Beethoven's Razoumoffsky Quartett in F major;—Mr. Sloper played the Pianoforte Sonata in C sharp minor.

Mr. Brinsley Richards gave his Concert last even-

the Molteni Milanese, espertissimo nell'arte, gli tolse quello straniero oltraggio, redolendo all'Italia dove nacque un bel quadro di stile." The picture is thus admitted to have been in the restorer's hands, having been before. The opinion of Passavant on this subject seems our idea that this is, at best, but one of a number of repetitions of a subject made familiar by the admirable engraving by Longhi,—which asks much for Lombard modification and improvement. The other two pictures—"St. Pasquale," "The Madonna Dolorata"—are attributed to Passavant, with, we think, no better reason. The collection of the drawings of the late Mr. Wint, just sold for the benefit of the executors Messrs. Christie & Manson, was not very remarkable. For the most part sketches and preparations for more finished works,—the few which were complete were those drawings which had been returned to the artist, unsold, from the Exhibition. These the painter immediately put aside,—and never allowed to be offered afterwards for disposal. Of such—which, from the artist's deserved popularity, were few in number—some are remarkable for their truth and their broad and masterly execution.

We regret much to see it stated that the fine picture of Eve, by Mr. Powers, the American painter, was recently lost on the Spanish coast by the wreck of the vessel on board of which it was to be sent for transit to the United States.

The following account of some of the picture sales from the Royal Academy Exhibition will give our readers to form a notion of the new channel into which the current of Art-patronage is gradually flowing. The wealthy merchant and manufacturer are taking the place of that more aristocratic class to which it is not very long since the intellectual refinements and luxuries were supposed to belong as a privilege of their rank.—Mr. Henry the Eighth and Mr. Vernon are the property of Mr. Leslie; 'Beatrice' belongs to Mr. Gibson.—The same artist's 'Tom Jones and Sophia' sold, we know, not to whom.—Mr. Stanfield's scene on the Maas-Dijk was painted for Sir Robert Peel.—Mr. Edwin Landseer's 'Field of Waterloo' was painted, as our readers know, for the late Mr. Vernon;—his picture of 'Rescuing Sheep from the Snow,' for Mr. Bicknell.—Mr. Macclise's 'Allegory of Justice' is sold.—Moses and the Gross of Green Spectacles was painted for Mr. Clowe, of Liverpool.—Mr. Dyce's 'Meeting of Jacob and Rachel' is purchased by Mr. Prior.—Mr. Lee's 'Calm Morning,' Mr. Hart's 'Arnolfo di Lapo,' and Mr. Stone's 'Scene from the Tempest' belong to Mr. Miller, of London.—Mr. Loyd is the proprietor of Mr. Elmore's 'Queen of the Day.'—Mr. Frith's 'Scene from Don Quixote' was painted for Mr. Frederick Huth;—the 'Scene from the Good-natured Man' for Mr. Sheepshanks.—Mr. Hart's 'Interior of a Synagogue' was painted for Mr. Sigismund Rucker, Junior.—Mr. Linton's picture of 'Venice' has been purchased by Mr. D. W. Wire, with his Art-Union prize—to which, like Mr. Jacob Bell, he added a considerable sum from his own pocket.—Mr. Webster's pictures were all sold previous to exhibition;—so were Mr. Stanfield's.—Mr. Eastlake's 'Good Samaritan' has been bought by H.R.H. Prince Albert.—Mr. John Dillon is the proprietor of 'The Gardener's Daughter,' by Mr. Frank Stone.—Mr. Charles Landseer's 'Girl in a Hop Garden' was purchased by Mr. Alderman Salomons. His 'Scene from Æsop' is also sold.—Mr. Miller, a provincial merchant, is the proprietor of Mr. Egg's 'Peter the Great,' and of Mr. Elmore's 'Griseldis.'—Mr. Roberts's 'Interior of the Church of St. Jacques' is the property of Mr. Rucker;—the 'Interior of the Church of St. Gomer' belongs to Mr. Bicknell.—Lord Northwick is the purchaser of Mr. Hook's 'Venetian Scene,'—Mr. Seymour Bathurst, of Mr. Reed's 'Giorgione at his Studies,'—Alderman Salomons, of Mr. Knight's 'Blind Man's Buff.'—Mr. Witherington's 'Summer' and Mr. George Stanfield's 'Old Bridge, at Frankfurt' belong to the same gentleman.—Mr. Eastlake's picture of 'The Feast of Erasmus' is the property of Mr. Bicknell.



HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE.—Neither partisanship nor charity, let the one applaud ever so loudly and the other allow ever so tenderly, will help Madame Frezzolini to such a standing in London as she has occupied in Italy. The limits of her style are almost immediately reached: within them there is as much of *make-believe* as of perfect art. She is hardly available in classical opera, and the wearied state of some ten-sixteenths of her voice becomes increasingly felt on every hearing. In 'L'Elisir d'Amore,' her Adina is as inferior to Mdle. Lind's as her Lucrezia was to Madame Grisi's. Her singing is either ineffective or exaggerated; her acting is heavy, awkward, and indifferent,—like one whose comedy is a condescension. In short, despite of the inconsiderate waste of Madame Sontag's talent by her manager, that Lady, by the force of exquisite art, keeps, if she does not increase, her audience; whereas two appearances seem to have ended such excitement as ever existed with regard to Madame Frezzolini. It is long since any opera has been so coldly received at Her Majesty's Theatre as 'L'Elisir,' on Tuesday evening. The Lady's fame abroad and fate here, tell a sad story of the plight of musical drama in Italy. Some of the journals of that country, we observe, in a natural uneasiness at the present state of matters, are beginning to prophesy and to recommend the regeneration of the old *opera buffa*. In this we have small faith; since ere any such pleasant miracle can be wrought, composition must be made to "roll back," and singers must be cultivated in the old patient fashion—that is, to sing and not to scream. Meanwhile, we should be glad to hear of Mercadante's 'Leonora,' some of the music of which is pretty, being tried at either opera house; and—for all the pains and care which the management of Her Majesty's Theatre is bestowing on 'La Tempesta'—we trust that the idea of 'Il Domino Nero' has not been abandoned, since we hardly know which would fit better, Angela to Madame Sontag or Gél Perez to Signor Lablache.

ROYAL ITALIAN OPERA.—We need merely chronicle the Covent Garden version of Verdi's 'Nabucco' as having been presented on Thursday for the appearance of Signor Ronconi. There is not much chance ("fear" we had written) of the opera taking root there, or being repeated much oftener than its composer's 'Ernani' and 'I due Foscari.' Thus we are spared the necessity of criticism. By none is Signor Ronconi's genius for dramatic singing more cordially admired than by ourselves; but he is a costly acquisition of a theatre: if it prove that to suit his vanity-works must be given which do not attract our public or which do so only by assisting in the vitiation of public taste.

MARYLEBONE.—On Tuesday, Mr. Brooke appeared in a new character,—that of William Tell, in Mr. Sheridan Knowles's tragedy. His impersonation was distinguished by force and grace of action and of elocution, which, when his voice is in good condition combine to render his performance pleasing and effective.—The house was moderately attended.

#### FOREIGN CORRESPONDENCE.

ON my return to Florence a few days since, after an absence of rather more than a year, I find the fair city no little changed in matters that meet the outward eye, and still more so in many of those social and moral circumstances that constitute the character of bodies politic. When towards the end of February 1849, being encumbered with what Monkbarns called his womenkind, I made a rather precipitate retreat from the "city of flowers"—which just then seemed much more like a city of bayonets,—all powers and principalities were at a sad discount, and every Florentine *gamin* was preparing to devour at least a dozen Austrians for his breakfast and burrahing songs about "giovini ardenti" and "la libertà." I return to find the "giovini ardenti" sadly damped by paying taxes to the tune of 50 per cent. or so, and the *gamins* loud in their complaints that their Austrian *foemen* devour—if not themselves—at least all

their victuals. The contrast is complete enough; and I might easily fill a letter with notices of its not unamusing manifestations. But as this 10th of April is a special high day and holiday in Florence, and as all the population are expressly enjoined to be festive and make glad, in honour of the wedding of Her Royal Highness the Archduchess Isabella this day solemnized with her uncle the Count of Trapani, I will make the tone of my letter "look like the time" if I can, and instead of political talk give you a few particulars of our recent musical doings here,—which have presented more of interest than usual.

The Philharmonic Concerts, which had been silenced awhile by our social discords, were reopened this Carnival. Two excellent singers formed their principal attraction, Mdle. Boccabadi, daughter of the celebrated performer of the same name, and Madame Maillard. The former is to appear on the 14th, at the Pergola here; and the musical world is expecting a rich treat, as she is one of the few who really sing, in contradistinction to the too prevalent vicious school of screaming. The latter, Madame Maillard, a French lady with a magnificently powerful mezzo-soprano, is about starting for London for the approaching season. She sang the other night a *scena* from Mr. Frank Mori's new opera, 'Ginevra degl' Almieri,' with magnificent effect and power. You will be glad to hear that this production of the son of our well-known violinist bids fair to force its way to a deserved success despite the difficulties which make it almost impossible for a young dramatic composer to place his work before the public. The overture was performed the other day at the Philharmonic, with very great applause; and the author received the honour, rarely accorded to an instrumental piece, of being called for at its conclusion. It is thoroughly dramatic, although the composer does not forget that the Italians must have melody! melody! melody! The story is one well known,—here at least; a legend of old Republican Florence, the memory of which is preserved in the name of one of the streets. It is, in two words, this: Ginevra being in love with a Rondinelli—one of the historical names of Florence—is compelled to marry another. It is the period of the ever memorable plague. At the marriage banquet Rondinelli comes and wants to fight with the bridegroom. Ginevra faints, and remains so long insensible that she is concluded to be dead, and is, after the fashion of those fearful days, hastily buried in the vaults of the *duomo*, with her jewels. Robbers break open the tomb at night to steal these. They are scared by a sigh from her as she comes to herself, and fly, leaving the way out from the vaults open for her. She comes forth, and makes her way athwart all the horrors of the pest-stricken city to her husband's house. He is carousing with friends—believes her to be a ghost—and refuses to receive her. She drags herself to her lover's house; when the husband, who has himself been meanwhile smitten with the plague amid his banquet, and driven forth from his house by his frightened guests, comes by—begs her forgiveness—and dies.

I should not have thought it worth while to detail this old story even thus shortly, were it not that I have heard Mr. Mori's opera spoken of by various highly competent judges in terms that convince me you will hear more of it. In a letter of Rossini's, which I happen to have seen, the veteran composer expresses an opinion of the 'Ginevra' in the most flattering terms—and he is not one whose favourable opinion is over easily won.

He himself is passing his life here in the *otium cum dignitate* which his successful and productive though short period of labour has earned for him. Short, since his last opera was brought out when he was only thirty-nine,—and that some twenty years ago. He ascribes his entire cessation from all productive labour to the extreme nervous suffering which writing entailed on him. His 'Stabat Mater' was performed here at the Pergola on the Sunday and Monday of Passion week, to immense audiences.—Madame Clara Novello taking the soprano part. She first sang the 'Stabat' in Italy—I will not say how many years ago; and now her magnificent voice, as fresh as ever, delighted equally

the public and the composer. The rest of the performance, in consequence of insufficient rehearsing, was but "so so." At the Lent Court Concerts here Madame Novello reaped an equally abundant harvest of laurels, having pleased much more than La Barbieri, popular as she is in Florence. It must be owned, however, that the voice of the latter is not what it has been.

But these Florentine triumphs have been but the continuation of those gained by La Novello during the past Carnival at Rome. She there shared the honours with another English lady,—a Miss Albertini, whose real name is Aitcheson, a pupil of Ungher's,—but who judges, it seems, no doubt justly, that the most musical public would not appreciate her sweet sounds as highly if they proceeded from an avowedly English throat.

Verdi is writing another new opera, for Venice next Carnival. He receives the enormous sum of 23,000 lire;—and this, it must be owned, *per li tempi che corrono*, is success.

Poor Bartolini's memory was honoured by the performance at the Philharmonic of a Cantata written for the occasion by Mabellini:—a poor composition, without the merit of melody to compensate for the absence of dramatic interest.

And this, I think, empties my budget of musical chat for the nonce. T.A.T.

MUSICAL AND DRAMATIC GOSSIP.—Our contemporaries announce that in the interval betwixt the close and the recommencement of the *Sacred Harmonic Society's* Concerts, it is intended to make some important changes in Exeter Hall, with a view to its improvement as a music-room. "According to these plans, the roof is to be raised, the organ to be thrown back, and the pillars in front of the great gallery to be removed."

Two rumours are "out and about" this week: the first, that *Drury Lane Theatre* is about yet once more, to be confided to Mr. Bunn for opera; the second, that *Her Majesty's Theatre* is to have a scene of Promenade Concerts during autumn and early winter,—with Mdle. Alboni as the star-vocalist.

A Lecture 'On the Life and Works of Mendelssohn,' delivered at the Camberwell Literary Institution in December last, by Mr. Benedict, is now before us in a published form. The unaffected good taste of this memorial, and the agreeable manner in which many, if not all, of the principal facts of the composer's musical life are sketched, entitle it to a permanent place among modern contributions to the history of the Art.

Mr. Jarrett, we perceive, has undertaken to conduct the *Wednesday Concerts* to the close of the series originally announced by Mr. Stammers.—M. Alard is engaged to perform at the next meeting of the *Musical Union*. The former gentleman is advertised to play a *Concerto* at the next Philharmonic Concert: the programme of which is an excellent one.—M. Jaell, who was to have appeared at Mr. Ella's next Concert, has quitted London abruptly, without being heard in public.

The following communication requires no introduction.—

Wakefield. I send the Programmes and statistics of a series of twelve concerts, just concluded, at our Mechanics' Institution. Six of the Concerts were sacred and six secular; the average attendance was 451, whilst the highest and lowest attendance during the season were 196 and 686. The population of the town is about 14,000. The number of performers engaged at the secular Concerts were twelve, and at the sacred ones thirty-six. The subscription for the season was 20s. front, and 10s. back seats, or at the rate of 10d. and 5d. each ticket. Books of the words were given with each ticket, two days prior to each concert, and we have made it a principle never to charge for them. This may be generally worth adoption.

Having examined the Programmes forwarded with the above interesting particulars, we can bear cordial testimony to their general excellence. Within the limits attainable we have rarely, if ever, seen better English concert schemes.

The *Gazette Musicale* announces that Dr. Spohr has just finished a ninth symphony, entitled 'The Seasons'—that M. Meyerbeer has produced a torch-dance, by way of *pièce d'occasion* for the marriage of the Princess of Saxe-Meiningen—and that Mdle. Jenny Lind is about to grace the nuptials of the Prince Royal of Sweden with the



Princess Louisa of Holland, by breaking her vows; having accepted the principal part in an opera by MM. Jolin and Hartmann, which is to make a feature in the festivities.

Mrs. Kemble (late Mrs. Butler) is said to meditate returning to England in September, with the intention of giving a series of dramatic readings.

We are glad to see the gentlemen of Germany returning to their old peaceful and cordial pleasures,—and thus, with satisfaction record the meeting of forty-three *Liedertafel* Societies which has just taken place at Düsseldorf. On these occasions the separate Societies sing against each other, in the old idyllic fashion, and prizes are awarded. The first prize was won by the gentlemen of Cologne.—Some of our summer tourists will be glad to learn that a singing festival is to be held in the picturesque town of Hildesheim on the 15th, 16th and 17th of next month. Hildesheim is easily approachable by railway, being only a step beyond Hanover.—Later, on the 28th and 29th of July, the musical pilgrim may fall in with a singing festival at Lucerne.—On the 18th, 19th and 20th of August (according to the *Brussels Herald*), “a grand vocal and instrumental festival” will be held at Antwerp.

Among the “strange and new” noises of Paris—not the least new and strange is a report gravely printed there, to the effect that Signor Mario has ceased to sing—having entirely lost his voice.—Another pleasant tale from the French capital despatched to England for our delectation announces as a songstress Madame Mazzini the wife of the ex-Triumvir—such lady, we believe, being no personage more or less real than a *Principessa Harris*.—Shall we next hear of M. Ledru Rollin playing his *fantasia*, ‘The Downfall of England,’ on a patent reverberator, with extra-additional keys, before H.M. the Czar and his Court?—It is less apocryphal that Mlle. Rachel, whose *Mademoiselle de Belle Isle* was considered a failure in romantic drama, has been entirely successful as the more violent *Tisbe* in M. Hugo’s ‘*Angelo*.’—At the *Gaité* has been performed ‘Jean Bart.’ To this drama M. Süe’s name has been attached; but the novelist has written to the journals assuring them that any participation in, or parental approval of, the above drama on his part is as mythical as—the loss of Signor Mario’s voice!

The first musician of any note who has gone up to the “diggings” to get gold from the gold-getters of California, has been M. Henri Herz. It is added, however, as might have been expected, that the toilers have been too busy to listen to his “charming.” Considering the rank of the pianist, and the vogue and real merit of his compositions now paying the penalty of past extravagant popularity by present unmerited neglect,—such a progress is an unseemly anti-climax, bearing a not very artistic resemblance to vagabondism.

We should not have omitted last week to notice the performance, on the previous Saturday, at the St. James’s Theatre, of the artist amateurs, in aid of the funds for relieving their distressed brethren by means of the “Artists’ General Benevolent Institution.” The principal parts were filled by Messrs. Frank Holl, Topham, George Cruikshank, Hamerton, Wilson, Tenniel, Wingfield, Wood, Cope, and Angell:—Mr. Cruikshank, between the performances of ‘The Rent Day’ and ‘The Poor Gentleman,’ singing, with great humour, the ballad of ‘Lord Bateman.’—So far as the object of these performances is concerned, the actors must have had a large success. The house was crowded,—and remarkable for the choice aspect of its audience. As regards the acting,—amateur playing, especially where the motive is a beneficent one, is fairly entitled to exemption from criticism. This is an exemption, however, that on the present occasion the friends of the parties will scarcely care to claim for them. Unlike amateur acting in general, the acting here gave very little hint of its amateurship. Some of the parts were filled with an ability which would have demanded particular notice if the actors had been such by profession:—but the reason which need not, under the circumstances, prevent our making this general acknowledgment, is good against our making any particular selections.

## MISCELLANEA

**Aërostation.**—Mr. Bell, a gentleman connected with the medical profession, has decidedly, and with the most complete success, achieved a new discovery in the science of aërostation—that of controlling, directing, or steering a balloon. On Friday evening the appearance of a balloon of a singular form traversing the metropolis, occasioned some speculation as to whether the frail car, from its oscillating gyrations, contained an animate or inanimate aëronaut. The occupant of the car was the gentleman above mentioned; who manœuvred his bark through the realms of air with a dexterity that puts all his contemporaries in the shade. Without endeavouring minutely to describe this new balloon, it may be briefly stated that it is of an elliptic shape, somewhat resembling in form the Spanish melon or vegetable marrow, manufactured of the finest silk, with netting of cordage, and with a spring valve constructed on an entirely new principle. It was estimated that the balloon would contain about 15,000 cubic feet of gas, its dimensions being 50 feet in length and 22 in diameter. The ascent was made at about 6 o’clock,—and the descent took place in Essex.—*Times*.

**Aboriginal Chambers near Tilbury.**—Having seen in the *Athenæum* of the 25th inst. that it was proposed to descend some of these chambers, and being in possession of information respecting two of them resulting from a personal examination—I have taken the liberty of addressing a few lines to you. The shafts are five in number; and are situated at the edge of Hanging Wood, in the parish of Chadwell, about three miles from Grays Pier. I descended two of them in 1847, by means of a rope and pulley fixed to the branch of a neighbouring tree,—taking the precaution to have a lighted lantern swinging a few yards beneath me. They were between eighty and ninety feet in depth,—their diameter at the top six feet, gradually diminishing to three feet at the bottom. There was a great deal of drift sand at the bottom of the shaft, extending a considerable way up,—which nearly blocked up the entrance to the chambers. By treading down the sand I soon gained an entrance, and found five chambers communicating with the shaft—three on one side and two on the other. In form they were nearly semicircular. Their dimensions were small, not exceeding thirty feet in length by fifteen in width, but very lofty; they were quite dry and free from foul air. The chambers in both shafts corresponded exactly with each other in size, form, and number. I trust this brief account may be of some service to those gentlemen who intend to explore them, and should be most happy to afford any assistance in my power. —I am, &c., J. Cook.

Abeley, Essex, May 29.

**Painted Obituary Window.**—A stained glass window has been erected at the east end of the south aisle of Worcester Cathedral, as an obituary memorial of the deceased lady of the Rev. Allen Wheeler, precentor of the cathedral. The old Perpendicular tracery of the window has been removed, and the window itself is now restored to its original form, namely a triple lancet light. The design of the glass consists of a figure, nearly life size, and canopy, in each compartment; the centre one presents our Saviour, and the side lights the Virgin Mary and St. John the Baptist. The glass was designed and executed by Mr. George Rogers, of Worcester.—*Builder*.

**British Museum Library.**—As in your proposal of connecting a reading-library of modern books and duplicates with the British Museum, no mention is made of any means for obviating danger of conflagration in the new building, permit me to say that I had recourse to the papers on this subject of my late husband, Brig.-Gen. Sir Samuel Bentham,—and have ventured to arrange in short notes some of his ideas relative to it. On the adoption of your excellent proposal, might it not become a question whether the public at large ought to pay the extra expense of lighting, heating, and evening attendance? Evening readers would doubtless be very numerous, yet bearing but a small proportion to our whole population:—might not some trifling sum be willingly paid by persons enjoying the comforts and advantages of a well-lighted and well-warmed evening reading-room, though the fee might be so small as to come within the means of even the mechanic? Of course, were the evening reading-room to find favour in its general outline, some consideration would be required in arranging details so as to insure order and quiet, and to prevent the reading-room from becoming an idle lounge,—and to these objects a fee might tend.—I am, &c., MARY SOPHIA BENTHAM.

Holly Mount, Hampstead, May 27.

**PROPOSALS.**  
Instead of candles, lamps or gas within the building, to light it from the outside by gas opposite to each window, between it and an opaque screen of metal.—To provide the inside of the screen with reflectors throwing the whole of the light within the building; and this either concentrated on the reading-desks or tables,—or, as might be expedient, spread more abroad over the book-shelves or the apartment generally. It may be observed that the illuminating power of an ordinary street gas-lamp is sufficient near the window of an opposite apartment for the reading of ordinary type though no reflectors be employed.—The building itself would doubtless be constructed entirely of uninflam-

mable materials; but besides this the interior fittings should also be unflammable. The most eligible materials for such purposes as book-shelves, desks, tables, seats, &c., seem to be metal for supports, slate for all flat surfaces. Slate is low-priced, clean in itself, non-absorbent when washed. Cushions of leather might be furnished for the seats; and if thought requisite the tables might have a covering of some woollen stuff.—As to heating the building, no apparatus of any description for the purpose should be permitted within the structure. In an erection wholly detached an apparatus should be provided for heating water. The boilers should be connected with pipes carried into the main edifice, so as to warm the apartments at pleasure, in the mode now extensively in use for plant-houses and in many dwellings.

**M. Guizot’s Library.**—A selection from the valuable and extensive library formed by this distinguished gentleman was submitted for sale by Messrs. S. Leigh Sotheby and John Wilkinson, on Friday and Saturday in last week. From amongst the more valuable works disposed of, the following may be particularized, and the amounts they sold for:—‘*Comte Auguste de Bastard, Peintures et Ornaments des Manuscrits Français depuis le huitième siècle jusqu’à la fin du seizième*,’ 20 parts, all at present published, in five portfolios, Paris, 1835. This splendid work was described as the most sumptuous, unique, and costly book that has ever been produced. Each part contains eight plates, copied from the most superb examples known to exist; they are coloured and finished with gold and silver equal to the exquisite originals; the whole series extends to 160 engravings in 20 *livraisons*, each of which was sold to subscribers only at 1,800*fr.*, amounting in the whole to 36,000*fr.*, or in our money to 1,500*l.* No perfect copy of this production has been offered for sale in this country prior to the present time; it was sold for 200*l.* ‘*Voyage de la Corvette l’Astrolabe pendant les Années 1826, 1827, 1828, 1829, sous le Commandement de Capitaine d’Urville*,’ containing copious descriptions of all the objects in science and history met with on the voyage, the whole being illustrated by splendid engravings, 30*l.* ‘*Voyage Pittoresque et Romantique en Bretagne*,’ one of the most magnificent and extensive works ever published on the scenery and antiquities of any part of the world; the illustrations to this were executed in the most superb style of lithography; the stones were broken as soon as the plates were printed; 26*l.* 5*s.*—*Times*.

**A Self-Acting Saw Mill.**—The *St. Louis Republican* gives an account of a saw mill constructed on a new and singular principle. The inventor is Mr. Amos Jackson, of Potawatamie county, Iowa. The mill derives its power from the weight of the log to be sawed. The ways on which the carriage travels are fixed on bearings that enter into the frame: the opposite ends are provided with large segments of a cog-wheel working into a series of cog-wheels and pinions: thus, when the log is pushed forward to the saw, its weight is brought to act with great force through the segments on a shaft having several intermediate gearings to increase the speed sufficiently for driving the crank shaft. The weight of saw logs being commonly six to eight thousand pounds, we may judge of the immense propelling power thus obtained: indeed, the fear is that means will have to be used to check and regulate the velocity of the descending mass as the segment describes its arc. The toothed edge of Mr. Jackson’s saw is made thick, and diminishes to the back, thus leaving all friction out of the question, and saving setting. The price of these mills will be light compared with others, and they can be attached to wheels for travelling through the country.—*Builder*.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.—M. E.—T. P. G.—W. H. M.—A. B. C.—received.

L. W.—We have received a letter from this correspondent in reference to our Gossip paragraph of last week on the subject of the Industrial Exhibition. This letter, he says, he does not expect we will notice, though we may acknowledge its truth.—We will so far notice it, for his private benefit, as to say that every one of his facts is not only wrong, but so absurd as to make it inconceivable in what world he can have lived to be so strangely mystified. We will give him one instance,—which will help him out of several of his delusions,—and perhaps make him inquire into the value of the rest. The City subscription, which he states at 660*l.*, amounts to, we believe, upwards of 20,000*l.*—A gentleman who can accept with such simplicity of faith the various foolish rumours to which he alludes, is precisely a person for Rumour to play her tricks on and matter-of-fact argument to despair of convincing.

J. W. C.—To this correspondent, and others who have addressed us on the subject of the Sydney University, we answer that we are not in possession of the information which they seek. Whatever more we may learn on the subject will be communicated through our columns.



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THE grand but melancholy features of the recent Italian movement in favour of a national existence and some measure of popular liberty, have had no other such authentic portraiture as these two volumes convey. The materials are unequal, perhaps, in value,—and their arrangement is not always that of a master of literary craft; but the book is, nevertheless, readable,—and the State documents and letters which it contains make it indispensable to the historian of these times. The whole panorama of the Revolution is here gone over, so that the spectator sees, as it were, synchronally the connexion of events as they are transpiring at all points of the Peninsula:—the reform movement beginning at Rome under the short-sighted Pontiff,—the agitation caused thereby in Florence and Naples, thence spreading to Sicily, Piedmont, and Austrian Italy, with the accompanying plaudits of England and France (the present counter-revolutionists being the first to urge the ghostly Father on),—the threats and hostile attitude of the Court of Vienna,—the spirited, and for a time victorious, revolt of the Sicilians,—the increased tyranny of German generals in Lombardy,—the crash of the Parisian Revolution,—the rise of the populace of Milan against Radetzky,—the declaration of Charles Albert, and advance of the Sardinian troops,—the Battle of Goito,—the exaltation of feeling in Rome and Florence,—the flight of the Grand Duke of Tuscany,—the Revolution in Naples,—the sending of the Neapolitan and Roman troops to the North,—the treachery of Pope and King,—the dreadful massacre in Naples,—the recall of the South Italian troops,—the disasters of Charles Albert,—the bombardment of Brescia,—the glorious defence of Venice,—the flight of the Pope from Rome,—the arrival of Mazzini,—the proclamation of the Republic from the Capitol,—the invasion of the Roman States by the armies of Spain, Austria, France, and Naples,—the fall of Venice and of Rome,—and the whole chain of events down to the Pontiff's return and the complete triumph of the re-action.

In this series of dramatic scenes General Pepe played a distinguished part. The introductory chapter of the work contains an observation, to the effect that these volumes will be found somewhat different from those formerly contributed by the author to that library of exiled genius and patriotism which forms so interesting a portion of the literature of our time. The change is very perceptible. In his *Memoirs* published in the winter of 1846-7 [see *Athen.* Nos. 1001 and 1002], the veteran soldier gave to the world his reminiscences of a youth of ardent hopes and varied fortunes—passed for the most part in the camps and courts of men belonging to a generation now nearly gone. What he had seen and done, he told with simplicity and frankness; what he thought of Napoleon and Murat, of Alexander and Francis, he expressed freely and in a tone of unbending hope. He now writes too near the sad events which he relates to have recovered that buoyancy of expectation which animated in a remarkable degree his former volumes. Not that he ever expresses despair of his country; on the contrary, the

experience of the last Revolution has so confirmed him in his old belief that aptitude for the business of war—as well as for the arts of peace—is the heritage of his fellow-citizens, that he no longer refuses to attend the Italian theatre as he did before the sieges of Rome and Venice proved to the world that Italians can fight as well as dance and sing. But to have had such hopes again rudely dashed to the earth when apparently near their fulfilment,—to have seen so many of his distinguished comrades fall in the honourable but unequal struggle against the alien intruder on their soil,—to have beheld the day of independence for his country removed to an uncertain future, when his own hand and brain may be unable to serve her,—these things may well account for the sadder, calmer tone of the present memoirs as compared with the former.

The Revolution in Naples found General Pepe living in exile in Paris. His friend Bozzelli having become Minister, by grace of the popular will, an amnesty was granted to political offenders; and, in the calculating prudence of the King, a steamer was despatched to Marseilles to bring back the popular patriot, and on his landing in the city the royal carriages were sent to carry him to the palace. Pepe seems to have thought that this excessive courtesy might possibly cover some snare; and as he rode along the streets, persons were heard to cry out—"Yesterday, condemned to decapitation; to-day, invited and courted!" The conference with him at the palace related to foreign politics. In the mean time, the excitement in Naples was daily increasing.

"The following day I was again summoned to the King, and the most singular conversation ensued. I said to him, 'Sire, my maxim has ever been that a man's first duty is to his country, and that it supercedes all other duties. It results from this conviction that I feel myself obliged to say nothing to the King of which I am not thoroughly persuaded myself.' He answered, 'I am perfectly convinced that whatever you say either to me or to others is your real opinion, and that you may more firmly believe what I say, I will add that I have read your *Memoirs*.' I was not prepared for this; nevertheless I replied, 'I will tell you then, Sire, that the wishes of the most exalted and patriotic are, that you should reign with a constitution on a broad basis, and that my own opinion accords with this. In the commencement of the current year, if your Majesty had only granted liberal institutions, I myself, though I should not have returned to my beloved country unless it had been free, should have warmly applauded such political ameliorations, and have prayed that they might continue. But now that France is a republic, that all the European States are responding by a revolutionary movement, neither simple institutions, nor even the constitution already given, will satisfy. The people are like their princes—the more they obtain the more they desire. In effect, it is easier to restrain the wishes of a people by granting them at once all they ask than by granting them little by little with a bad grace.' The King added nothing to my observations, and, to say the truth, he did not add fresh reasons to my arguments, to prove the profound conviction of his mind; as his father was in the habit of doing. I talked much of the National Guard, both in Naples and in the rest of the kingdom, endeavouring to demonstrate that the strength of the country, the security of the government, and the internal tranquillity of the State, in great measure depended on them. The King partly remembered the manner in which I had disciplined the civic militia in 1820. On returning to my brother, he thought I had spoken too strongly to the King, and he added, 'Perhaps your frank discourse will have the effect of leaving you in peace; and you will not again be called to court.' But the following day he found he was mistaken; for before midday Bozzelli, Minister of the Interior, came to me from the King, to inform me that the Ministry was dissolved, and to propose that I should form a Cabinet, offering me

the Presidency of the Council and the double posts of Minister of War and Marine."

Whether this request was made in sincerity it is not easy to determine. It is charitable to suppose that it was; but on presenting his programme—which included an enlargement of the constitution, a reform in the military and civil systems, a vast increase of electors, garrisoning of the forts by national guards, and the immediate departure of the army for the scene of war in Lombardy—the King objected, and finally appointed a new ministry of less popular complexion. In those days, however, no government could hope to exist for an hour without professing Italian sentiments and a sympathy with the war of liberation. It was resolved, therefore—solely, as it seems, for the purpose of gaining time to defeat the movement in detail—to send a division of troops to the aid of Charles Albert under the command of General Pepe.

"But in the composition of this army two wills, and both equally obstinate, were constantly in direct opposition to each other. I was bent on its being speedily organized, and in a manner that should decide the safety of Italy; the King was resolved that it should be numerically feeble, deficient in all the material requisites, incapable in fine of aiding the Italian cause effectively."

Well aware that the King wished the expedition to fail, the General was not much surprised to receive on his march to the north an order commanding him not to cross the Po and engage in the war. This letter—which sets the duplicity of the southern court in the strongest light, and is given in *extenso* in these volumes—we mention because at the time the issue of this counter-order from Naples was denied, and the slow movements of the army of relief were accounted for by pretending a strong disinclination on the part of the troops for the war. The patriotic General resolved at once to conceal this letter, and treat it as not received:—as he considered he had a right to do, by military law, on his personal responsibility for the consequences. But the fatal 15th of May came on. That bombardment of the city and murder of the citizens took place, which it may be feared will never be forgotten in Naples; and liberalism being crushed in the capital, the court was left to follow its own inspirations. The result was, an immediate recall of the army to the frontiers. This order General Pepe refused to obey. He crossed the Po,—but only a fraction of the troops under his command followed him; and with these he threw himself into Venice, where his high military talents at once procured him the general order of the defence.

In the history of this extraordinary up-rising of the people, no fact forces itself more strongly on the reader's attention than the high social character of the combatants on the side of the Italians. It is not an uncommon thing to read of persons of wealth and station fighting in their ranks. Our countrymen were astonished to hear at the time that one of Garibaldi's troop—a common soldier—left a large fortune behind him—but the same class of facts is here noted again and again. In Italy the grand idea of national resurrection is less the dream of the peasant and the proletarian than that of students and substantial bourgeois in cities, of nobles and proprietors in the country. General Pepe says:—

"In some of the battalions, especially among the Lombards, there was not a single soldier deficient in education. In Venice, in Chioggia, and in some of the most populous islands, I endeavoured to prevent them from lodging in the inns, and spending there the money they had received from their parents. But I was rewarded by knowing that they read there with great attention my orders of the day, from which they often repeated different sentences. These orders were my war-horse. I generally met with so



much kindness of feeling in these enthusiastic young men, that when I questioned them, first one and then another, concerning their wants, they concealed from me the privations they suffered to avoid giving me pain; for not one of them was ignorant that I loved them as my sons. About three hundred young men of respectable families had formed themselves into a company to serve as artillery-men during the siege. They suffered privations with such patriotism, and exposed their lives with so much valour, that you might have thought them the contemporaries of Lycurgus."

The General mentions an instance in which two of his followers found all the requisites and paid all the expenses of a part of his march. But cases of the kind were quite numerous,—and they speak decisively in favour of the real national character of the revolt.

The reader will remember that in offering the olive branch to the world in 1848, M. Lamartine made a special exception in favour of Italy—which he declared France would aid to recover its independence on due and formal request being preferred to that effect. This friendly feeling was to some extent shared in by Gen. Cavaignac; and we learn by a letter from the Duc d'Harcourt—then French ambassador in the Papal States—that the armament which sailed from Toulon was intended by that statesman to act against Austria. "Several ships of war," he writes to Pepe, "and 4,000 men are being sent from hence to be disembarked at Venice. Hold firm till their arrival." The election of Louis Napoleon put an end to these friendly dispositions; and the city of the Lagoons was left with a mere handful of men to contend against the fleets and armies of a first-class power. The commander, however, was a host in himself,—and the energies of the president, Manin, rose with the difficulties of the hour. There is something imposing in the melancholy fearlessness with which these men saw themselves deserted on every hand.—

"In the midst of the sickness which deprived me of so many hands, we were abandoned by the Sardinian squadron, and then by the three battalions which had been sent us by Carlo Alberto; and, as if all these evils were not enough to overwhelm us, notice reached me that Pius IX. recalled his four legions. On repairing to the seat of government, I gave my hand to Manin, the president, saying to him, 'Abandoned by men and by heaven, let us die without envying the living, but defending liberty and this classic Lagoon while life remains.'"

It does not appear—especially after the battle of Novara—that General Pepe ever deceived himself as to the ultimate issues of the struggle. Whatever hopes his love of country and liberty might at times suggest, his military knowledge at once rebuked. To take a city now is like performing an equation. It is a thing of certainty in the present state of military art:—in no case more than a question of days and men. Pepe was aware that Venice or Brescia or Rome could not be permanently kept against an army which the defenders could not meet in the open field; but he held out to the last for the sake of the great moral lesson which the defence involved. The sieges of these cities have, it is thought, changed in some measure the *morale* of the Italian. Italy is no longer the land of elegant accomplishments only.

Of all this striking series of events, perhaps that of Brescia is the most remarkable. In the rear of the victorious legions of Radetzky, the devoted citizens rose to provoke a diversion in favour of the Sardinians. While the agitation was only in the germ, the Austrians demanded a contribution of 150,000 lire: whereupon—"the populace assembled on the Piazza, and hearing of this demand, began to exclaim that lead, and not gold, should be sent to their oppressors. This commenced the popular movement. Several cart-loads of provisions and wood, which were

stationed at the castle, were seized; the soldiers and gendarmes were put to flight; every Austrian ensign was torn down, and cries of 'Viva l'Italia! Death to the barbarians!' were alone heard. While this movement was in progress, the Commandant of the Piazza and the Chief of the Commissariat reached the municipality to receive the sum demanded; but the people arrived, and invading the municipal saloon made them both prisoners. They were with difficulty saved from the popular fury. \* \* \* The Castle of Brescia, recently restored and put in a state of defence by Radetzky, was armed with fourteen large guns, and contained about nine hundred men, under the command of Captain Leshke. The Germans required prompt submission; but the people were not subdued. In the middle of the night Leshke began to bombard the city. In the midst of this fiery tempest the people ran boldly to arms; some extinguished the fires, some cleared the streets. The women and children repaired to the belfries and rang a peal. Already bands of deserters came down to clear the streets and erect barricades. This nocturnal battle was almost like a festival long desired and promised, so great was the popular fury and faith in their country's deliverance. On the following day, the 24th, Leshke found means to send some gendarmes out of the castle, two of whom went to Mantua to demand succour. In the meantime the Brescians, wishing to increase and fortify the insurrection, chose for their chiefs the citizens Contratti and Cassola, men of rare devotion to the Italian cause. These made the best possible arrangements both for the defence and the attack. The 150,000 lire, which the city had collected to satisfy Haynau's extortion, were devoted to sustain the contest. \* \* \* In the mean time, the Imperialists, under the command of Nugent, came by rapid marches from Mantua towards Brescia. At dawn, on the 26th, a column of 1,000 men, with two cannons, appeared at Montechiaro, and from thence proceeded to Rezzato, to wait for reinforcements from Verona. The most expert company of citizens and deserters were posted at St. Eufemia, a large village two miles from Brescia. Bold marksmen defended them on one side towards the plain, and on the other from the mountains of Cajonvico. A small corps of reserve was placed at St. Francesco di Paulo, half way between Brescia and St. Eufemia. A little before mid-day, the Austrians opened their fire. They were most numerous on the left of the Brescians, whose courage in this first encounter was almost miraculous. Their numbers were few, and they were unused to arms; but they repulsed the Croats, and would have pursued them with the bayonet, if Speri, a brave and intelligent youth, who commanded this handful of heroes, had not stopped them. The Italians both fight and die gaily. An Austrian ball first struck a man named Raboldi on the breast: he expired, exclaiming, 'Happy that I am! I have the honour of dying first on the field of battle!' and he recommended the captain not to forget to write his name first; 'And mine second!' cried another, struck by a ball in the stomach. A third refused the assistance of his comrades; saying, 'My loss is enough, without making a fourth leave his post.' The Brescian rifles disdained to fight from behind trees or hedges, saying that this was not the Brescian mode of combat. The bravery of these men, scarcely more than a hundred in number, was prodigious; they stood firm for three hours against Nugent's battalions. The committee of defence ordered them to retire in good order, still keeping the enemy in check. \* \* \* The morning of the 27th dawned happily. Mid-day passed, and Nugent had not yet moved; but when the expected reinforcements arrived, Leshke, from the castle, fired on the city with bombs and grenades; while Nugent attacked our men on all sides. These combatted joyfully to shouts of 'Viva l'Italia!' nor did the wounded deign to interrupt with lamentations the warlike festival; but all, in one way or another, showed themselves happy to die for the liberty of their country. The populace, seeing that the artillery made more noise than mischief, asked leave to charge the enemy; and soon, at the gates of the city, every one wished to be first to act. About two hundred men ran boldly against the lines of the Imperialists, who were repulsed and forced to retreat. In the mean time, deserters descended from

the castle, and gave their aid to the common cause. On the approach of night, the chiefs thought it wisest for the citizens to return to safety and repose under the walls, and the hands of the curate Boiava again returned to the summit of the rocks where they were posted. The citizens, finding they could repulse the Germans, gained fresh courage and confidence in the future. \* \* \* While the combat continued with dubious fortune outside the walls, Leshke bombarded the city with great fury. Many bombs fell on the Civil Hospital; and the committee sent word to the military physician that the enemy must respect the sanitary banners, or expect reprisals. The people suspected that the municipality were treating for the surrender of the city; and if Speri and some others had not sworn that they were only in treaty for the hospitals, which, according to the laws of warfare, are always respected, they could not have calmed the populace. But the Germans took the opportunity of this momentary truce to penetrate insidiously under the gates, and set fire to many surrounding houses. At this sight the Brescians became furious; they threw the flag of truce into the dirt, and exclaimed that they would rather bury themselves with their wives and children under the ruins of the city than suffer such infamy. While the breathless multitude was confusedly consulting how to avenge the insult, a large shell burst on the Piazza; some one took up the largest fragment and placed it in the midst of the people, who stretched out their hands and swore, as on the Gospel, to die rather than yield."

But valour and devotion were not sufficient to counterbalance Haynau's continually increasing battalions, his huge park of artillery, and his full command of military stores. We cannot stain our pages with the details of the atrocities committed by this inhuman soldier on the conquered citizens. Even his atrocities in Hungary have not effaced the memory of those in Brescia.—

"The priest Gabetti, a schoolmaster, trusting in the terms of the surrender, went outside the walls to visit his cottage, which had been set fire to on the preceding night, and in which his mother lived; but scarcely had he gone out, when he was seized and conducted to Haynau in the castle, where on the following day he was shot as a patriot priest. A more horrible martyrdom closed the life of Pietro Venturini, a member of the legal profession, and popular among the Brescians: weighed down by years and by gout, he was pressed with threats to swear fidelity to the Imperial banners; he boldly threw himself on the bayonets pointed to his heart, and cursing the enemies of Italy, and lovingly saluting his country and liberty, he sought and obtained death. Some iniquitous Croats laid their hands on a poor workman, and deliberated on burning him for their amusement; as he was small and deformed, they supposed he could make but little resistance, and would perhaps die in more laughable convulsions. Carlo Zima possessed the strength of a plebeian: when in the flames, he seized on one of his executioners, and held him so firmly that they burned and died together. Thus fell Brescia, glorious and avenged."

Such acts are but the sowing of new seeds of revolution.

General Pepe is free in his avowals on most subjects. Charles Albert he characterizes as an Italian of loyal and honest aims—but a bad soldier. Though a strong republican himself—as he frankly told both the kings, Neapolitan and Sardinian—he yet offered to be the first to salute Charles Albert as King of Upper Italy the moment he crossed the Licino: and in spite of his royal friend's misfortunes, once committed by a promise, he never wavered in his loyalty to the house of Savoy.

*Il faut qu'une Porte soit ouverte ou fermée.*  
Proverbe—[Either open or shut the door, &c.]. By Alfred de Musset. Jeffs.

THE history of M. Alfred de Musset's dramatic sketches would make a pleasant page in the annals of dramatic caprice. Most, if not all, of



his "*Proverbes*", now so much in fashion, were published some dozen years ago in the literary periodicals of Paris, without exciting much attention. Then, it is true, the *convulsionnaire* school of literature was in the hey-day of its youth: then the Socialist novel-writers were beginning "to toss and to turn" the old usages of society with a zeal and vigour highly consolatory to discontented persons, and to all such as hoped for profit from any confusion. It was no wonder, therefore, that the world was then too busy to listen to pretty nothings about a purse, a fan, a *billet-doux*,—to regale itself on fire-side love-making, or to follow dialogue which, though not without *finesse* and elegance, could by no stretch of praise be called witty. But that after a dozen years of picturesque, historical, economical, and social dram-drinkings, the theatrical managers of Paris should turn back to so tiny a fountain of sweet waters—thus to translate *eau sucrée*—that they should open the quiet books where these anecdotes told in colloquy lay buried—that they should dress them, produce them—and (thanks to M. Brindeau and Madame Allan Despreaux) that they should find their account in the experiment,—is a marvel even in the chronicle of chances, which must be accepted as announcing the existence of more than ordinary finish, grace, and individual vitality in the treasures disinterred. Trifling though these be in bulk, their fate makes it impossible for a literary journal which keeps "time and tune" with the age to overlook them.—Yet, when the above tale is told we have done. The "*Proverbe*" before us, for instance, has merely, by way of incident and plot, the morning call of a fastidious gentleman on a fastidious lady, who are, respectively, inclined to woo and to be wooed without having animation enough to bring their inclinations to bear. They talk. M. le Comte

often takes leave, yet is loth to depart,—

hints at the existence of a rival, and is disabused. In her turn, Madame la Marquise does the same: and is also satisfied by an indirect half-earnest explanation. At length, when it is time that the play should end, the play does end. The gentleman finds himself accepted almost without having "proposed." The lady finds herself caught, though a serious "*Will you?*" has hardly been spoken. It would seem impossible that such gossamer-work as this could please when represented. Yet "*Le Legs*" of Marivaux still keeps the stage; and the successor to Marivaux with "a difference" (which, not holding a Court of Love, we will not attempt to appraise or to analyze) is M. Alfred de Musset.

*Ceylon and the Cingalese.* By H. C. Sirr. 2 vols. Shoberl.

THE name of Ceylon brings fragrant associations. From the womb of a prolific soil spring rich cinnamon, orange and citron groves, and a numerous tribe of fair flowering shrubs which perfume the air, and have won for the island the title of "resplendent"—"the place of delight"—"the Paradise of Adam and Eve." Ceylon is one of the strongest holds of Buddhism. The majority of its inhabitants yet cling to the belief that as Buddha is derived from the Pali word *Budhi*, which signifies wisdom, their religion must be the purest, the wisest, and the most essential to the demands of the nature of man.

Mr. Sirr's official position as Queen's Advocate for the southern circuit of the island gave him large opportunities of inquiry and observation,—of which he carefully availed himself. The history of Ceylon, and a full "blue-book" account of the late Kandian rebellion, occupy a considerable portion of his volumes. Into these we shall not enter, thinking that our readers will

prefer information of another kind. The following extract details the ceremony of marriage among the higher classes, according to Buddha rites. As soon as a couple are engaged, and the preliminaries of house and dowry are arranged,—

"The day and hour of the wedding are fixed by an astrologer or wise man, the bride's horoscope having been previously compared with that of the bridegroom's by the same sage, who declares if the planetary influence will allow them to wed. The astrologer being well paid, and, as there are four methods by which configurations and a favourable result may be arrived at, the stars generally prove propitious to the projected union. It sometimes happens that the horoscopes of the intended bride and bridegroom, despite the strenuous endeavours of the astrologers, will not coincide, and then an infant brother or relation of the bridegroom takes his place at the wedding-feast, provided his horoscope will agree with that of the lady's. Such a marriage is legal, the evasion being regarded as a necessary concession to the will of the planets. The wedding takes place at the bride's residence, where a mandoo (or temporary bamboo building covered with mats) is erected; in this structure the feast is prepared for the male part of the company, the ladies eating alone in the dwelling, the roof of which is hung with white cloth. The bridegroom sets out on the wedding-day for the lady's abode, attended by as numerous a train of relations, friends, and dependents as he can muster, the latter bearing the bridal gifts, which consist of jewels and wearing apparel for the bride, cooked food (which is placed in a decorated pingo, or basket, and covered with a new white cloth), and fruits for the guests. As soon as the nuptial train approaches the bride's abode, her relations and friends sally forth to meet it, servants following, bearing two trays covered with white cloth, on which betel leaves are spread, which are presented to the bridegroom's friends. When the distribution of the betel leaves is terminated, both parties form one procession, and walk towards the house, the bride's relatives and friends preceding the bridegroom's. Upon entering the bride's residence, if the bridegroom is a chief, or wealthy man of rank, his feet are bathed by a servant, a piece of money being thrown into the water, which becomes the fee of the domestic. Among the lower castes and poor, this ceremony is performed by a younger brother, or near relative. The host then requests the bridegroom and male guests to enter the mandoo and seat themselves according to their rank and seniority, the hostess requesting the females to follow her into the inner apartment, and do the same. When all have partaken of the good cheer and viands, and the meal is terminated, the bridegroom's nearest unmarried relative enters the ladies' apartments, and requests permission to bring in the gifts. Being answered in the affirmative, the bridegroom, attended by his friends, enters, some of them bearing the wedding presents. A platform of jackwood, covered with white cloth, is then placed in the middle of the apartment, in the centre of which a quantity of rice is piled up in a conical form, around which are placed young green cocoa-nuts, bunches of bananas, and betel leaves; various coins, either of gold, silver, or copper, are also laid on the rice. When the astrologer intimates that the fortunate moment has arrived for the union to take place, a cocoa-nut is severed in twain at one stroke, which is given with a small implement resembling a bill-hook; the bride is then led forward by her mother, and a near relative (who is the mother of a numerous family), and by them is lifted on to the pile of rice, her face being turned in the direction in which the astrologer states the presiding planet is placed in the firmament. The bridegroom then advances, bearing the wearing apparel and jewels with which the bride is to be decorated; the mother of the bride then proceeds to take off the bride's trinkets, and removes the jewelled pins from her head, replacing them with the jewels and pins which are presented by the bridegroom. Lastly, the bridal cloth, or combay, is presented to the mother, which becomes her perquisite, and the value of the same can be recovered by the husband if he should divorce his wife for infidelity at a future period; but all the jewels given to the bride on her wedding-day are her property, and her husband can never reclaim them

under any circumstances.\* As soon as the toilette of the bride is completed, she distributes betel leaves to every guest assembled; the bridegroom then advances and pours a little sandal-wood oil, or cinnamon-water, on the head of the bride, and draws a thread from her combay (or petticoat) with which the father, or nearest male relative of one or other of the contracting parties, ties their little fingers together. The bridegroom then hands the bride down from the jackwood platform, and they advance about six paces, when they pull their hands apart, thus severing the thread. Occasionally, marriage-rings are exchanged, instead of tying the little fingers together, but the latter is most generally adopted. The bridegroom leads the bride to another room, where a repast has been prepared for them and the near relatives of both (the other guests not entering the room); the newly-married couple partake of this food from the same vessel, as a token of acknowledgment that they are of equal rank. When the repast is concluded, the bridegroom drops some money in the vessel in which his food was placed, and the relatives throw some coins about the table, which are the perquisite of the washerman of the bride's family, and the table-cloth is also given to him. The bride, if in Kandy, and married in Deega, is conducted in great state to her husband's home; but, if married in Beena, the guests disperse, leaving them to enjoy their newly-acquired happiness. Until the third, and with rigid Buddhists until the seventh, day after their marriage, the newly-married people do not lay aside their bridal garments, and part of these garments they have about them night and day. On the third, or seventh day, the bride's relatives come to her dwelling, bringing presents of fruit, boiled rice, vegetable curries, and flowers; the jackwood platform is again bedecked, and the husband and wife, in their bridal attire, are seated side by side upon it. A relative of either party then advances, and simultaneously pour a chatty of water on the heads of the husband and wife. The couple then retire and take off their bridal garments, and the following day go to bathe, after which the bride's friends pay a last ceremonious visit, and the marriage rites are concluded."

So strongly are the Buddhaical forms of marriage venerated, that we are told of a party who, though professing the Protestant religion, and married according to its forms in the morning, did not regard the compact as binding until it was ratified by Buddhaical marriage rites in the evening.

Mr. Sirr warmly advocates emigration to the district of Newera Ellia, the sanatorium of Ceylon, which consists of table-lands ranging about 6,300 feet above the sea.—

"Nothing about Newera Ellia Plain tells of the tropics, the bracing air enabling Europeans to walk out at any hour of the day, the mental and bodily faculties soon regain their lost vigour, the frame is invigorated, the palled appetite recovers its tone, and speedily the hollow sallow cheek becomes rounded, and assumes health's roseate hue; many a desponding invalid, whose large family and slender means forbade return to his native land, has reason to bless the day the sanatorium of Lanka-diva was discovered. The beauties of vegetation also wear a familiar aspect as the eye is gladdened with floral gifts that appertain especially to the temperate zone, such as rhododendrons, the white guelder, damask, and pink roses, violets, sweet-peas, acacia, peach, apple and pear trees, with nearly every fruit and vegetable that are produced or consumed by us, can be met with in the immediate neighbourhood. And all this is found upon the summit of a mountain seven degrees from the equator, where occasionally the thermometer has fallen below 28°, and where ice half an inch in thickness is sometimes found in the morning. The town of Newera Ellia stands upon a plain 6,300 feet above the level of the sea, and from this table-land mountains rise in various directions, diversified with gentle slopes and undulations, over which are scattered various residences. Perpetual cascades burst from the sides of the neighbouring mountains, and pure rapid streams of wholesome water wind

\* "The female's dowry generally consists of money, household goods, and cattle, but landed property is very rarely bestowed upon her."



through the valleys, whilst much valuable timber clothes the hills; and for an extent of several miles well watered, and alternate plains, hills and dales, give the surrounding scenery the appearance of a natural park. A church has been built near the Governor's house, and there are also residences belonging to the Bishop, Commander, Colonial Secretary, and other government servants. A detachment of our troops is always at Newera Ellia, and their barracks, hospital, &c. are excellent. Throughout the district, from November to the end of April, the thermometer seldom rises above 65° Fahr., and, although frosts are not unfrequent during the night, snow is unheard of; the temperature of the winter months resembles the bracing atmosphere of a fine October in England, and the summer months combine the genial warmth of August with the beneficial showers of April; in short, the oppressive atmosphere of the tropics is unknown at Newera Ellia."

Here all descriptions of English agricultural produce succeed in a most luxuriant manner,—stock of every kind is remarkably cheap,—and the only difficulty with which the farmer has to contend is the want of labourers. There is an ancient Kandian tradition which states, that the island of Lanka-diya (Ceylon) would never be conquered and retained by a foreign power until two impossible things should be achieved—a road bored through the bowels of the rocky mountains, and the rapid waters of the Mahavelli-ganga spanned by a single arch. These impossibilities have been effected by the energy of Englishmen. The rocky mountains have been pierced by a tunnel; and a bridge, whose single arch measures 205 feet, has been thrown over the river. The people who have done these things will ere long develop the abundant resources of the Cinnamon Island.

*Chronicon Petroburgense.* Nunc primum typis mandatum, curante Thomâ Stapleton. Published for the Camden Society.

THE Abbey of Peterborough not only occupied, from its extensive privileges and large possessions, a high station among the mitred abbeys during the Middle Ages, but claimed, and even now claims, superior honours: "that venerable establishment by which English history was so greatly enriched." Many convents as wealthy and influential as Peterborough have left neither chronicle nor annals—others, only one; but to the abbey of St. Peter, the venerable Saxon Chronicle itself has been assigned by many antiquaries, and—whether its claim to that most valuable work be well founded or not—for three chronicles, extending over a very interesting period of time, we are unquestionably indebted to it:—the Chronicle of Abbot Benedict, published by Fearnie, and that of Hugh White (Hugo Candidus) and his continuators, published by Sparke, and the hitherto unpublished Chronicle now before us, as a volume.

This valuable contribution towards English Middle Age history is printed from a contemporary manuscript belonging to the Society of Antiquaries, at the suggestion of Sir Francis Palgrave, and under the superintendence of the late Mr. Stapleton. It commences in the year 1122, and consists for the first hundred years of very brief entries, such as—"1124, an earthquake in England"—"1150, at this time it began to freeze from the 4th of the ides of December until the 11th kalend of March so that horse and foot passengers crossed the Thames." Under the year 1161, we have the following entry, which we think is the earliest notice of what was subsequently so often charged against the Jews:—"At this Paschal tide a certain boy was crucified at Gloucester." The death of Benedict, the abbot to whom we owe the first valuable Chronicle, is noticed in 1194, with an affectionate note of commemoration—"Benedict the abbot died, blessed in deed and

in name." From the year 1222 the entries are fuller, and refer more largely to the political events of that agitated time, as well as to the affairs of the abbey,—which seem to have been multifarious. There are not many entries relating to the De Montfort contest; and from the cautious manner in which they are worded, we should think the writer scarcely joined in the general feelings of the clergy. In the short account of the Battle of Evesham, the writer merely remarks, that, "wonderful to say, at the very hour when the battle was fought, the sky was so dark and thick that it was like night:—in sign, as it is said, that the just perished to obtain justice." His feelings towards the great champion of freedom may, however, have been modified by the vicinity of the abbey to the haunts of "the Disinherited," as they were called; and who probably in their foraging expeditions did not greatly scruple to trespass within the bounds of the wide abbey lands, to avail themselves of the fisheries or to shoot the fat deer which the abbot seems to have preserved with the zeal of a modern Nimrod. From the year 1273 the Chronicle becomes much more minute; presenting many features similar to that in the Chronicle of 'Joscelyn de Brake-londe,' and curiously illustrating the peculiar characteristics of those large establishments, which, for want of due distinction being made between their secular and ecclesiastical privileges, have been often greatly misunderstood.

Peterborough Abbey was a very early Saxon foundation. It was unquestionably in existence before the Danish invasion of the ninth century, for the earlier fabric was then destroyed and the monks dispersed. Under King Edgar,—who, like too many others, thought he could atone for a profligate life by abundant largesse to the Church,—the abbey was restored, additional privileges and wide lands were bestowed; while Abbot Alsinus yet farther enriched it with many relics,—among which, as their choicest treasure, the monks placed the uncorrupted right arm of St. Oswald.—

"At the entry of the Normans they found Peterborough wealthy, revered, and flourishing. But the change of dynasty brought trouble. The adjacent fens became the stronghold of that little band of heroes who waged a desperate struggle against the victorious William. The abbot was an indiscreet Norman stranger, and Peterborough suffered greatly both from the Anglo-Saxon patriots and from their Danish allies. Between them the abbey was again nearly destroyed, and—worse than all—the invaluable relic, the arm of St. Oswald, was carried off in triumph. Fortunately, the invaders also took away with them, as a prisoner, the prior Athelwold. With admirable dexterity the clever prior took advantage of a carousal in the Danish camp. He made his escape, and not alone. He bore away with him the precious relic, and restored for ages the source of prosperity to his grateful brethren."

We need not concern ourselves with the succession of the Abbots, until we arrive at Robert de Lindsey, who—

"was rich enough to attend to the comforts of his flock. The windows of the monastery had been stuffed with reeds and straw. In winter time the winds driving over the fens were so intensely cold that special privileges were found necessary to animate the brethren to the performance of divine service under such cheerless circumstances. Whilst sacrist, Robert de Lindsey entitled himself to the gratitude of the monks by procuring thirty of these windows to be glazed. \* \* King Henry honoured the abbey by selecting abbot John de Caux for his treasurer. Abbot John was a relative of queen Eleanor. Mr. Foiss, with his accustomed accuracy, gives proof of his acting as a justice's itinerant from 1254 to 1258. He died in 1273, and was succeeded by Robert de Sutton, a good, weak man, called to the government in times which required more than ordinary energy and decision. The country was torn by

internal dissension. The abbot gave shelter and encouragement to both parties.

The usual consequence, therefore, followed. As each party triumphed, the abbey was fined, and the actual amount of money-fines—for numerous besides were the contributions "in kind" levied on it during these troublous times—was no less than "the ruinous sum of 4,324l. 18s. 5d."—at the least, between 60,000l. and 70,000l. of present money. On the death of Robert de Sutton, Richard de London, the sacrist, was chosen; and, determined to repair the ruined fortunes of his house, he proceeded to London, to perform the customary homage on his accession. After this, it was the rule for the abbot to return and hold a sumptuous feast. But the abbey chests were empty; so, instead of returning to Peterborough, the rumour was spread that he had been summoned to the council then sitting at Lyons,—but instead of this, the prudent abbot had quietly retreated to the Isle of Wight, and there remained, with a few companions, in economical seclusion, until the relief which was thus afforded the house enabled him to return with credit. His stay does not seem to have been above four or five months,—perhaps not so long; nor are any particulars given of the feast which doubtless celebrated his return. Having assumed the mitre and crosier, Abbot Richard seems to have set about arranging the temporalities in a most vigorous manner. We have often been amused at the litigant spirit which these churchmen displayed; and have thought how great would be the surprise of those who imagined that the English clergy during the Middle Ages were objects of mysterious reverence to the people, to find that they were more frequently viewed merely as troublesome neighbours,—very apt, like country gentlemen in the present day, to indulge in a high estimate of their rights and privileges, and in many instances rather fond of overbearing their weaker and picking quarrels with their stronger neighbours. In other instances, however, justice demands that we should add, that where the abbot or prior was a worthy, kind-hearted man—and there were many such—the neighbourhood gained largely; for the rights of the convent tenants were mostly well defined and well preserved,—while the superior knowledge of the convent inmates enabled them to give lessons in husbandry by which the surrounding district greatly profited. To whichever class Abbot Richard de London belonged his brethren had reason to rejoice in him. The number who did homage for their lands, or who were fined,—and how he proceeded against the contumacious tenants who refused to perform their service except at the expense of the abbey,—are minutely set down "for the instruction of posterity;" and also the particulars of the various lawsuits in which the holy father engaged,—and most various as well as numerous were these. On one occasion, he put down the hand-mills used by the people of Oundle to the injury, it may be presumed, of his windmill, for which he claimed a monopoly.

The minute account given of many of these suits is valuable to the legal antiquary, while even to the general reader they supply curious information illustrative of the state of society. Among other rights claimed by the abbot was that to the chattels of felons and fugitives within certain hundreds. A list of names of these persons is given,—between fifty and sixty in number,—and the value at which their chattels were assessed. Some of them are designated as "hanged thieves," some as "fugitive felons," while some are stated to have abjured the realm before the coroner. The aggregate amount of "chattels"—for no specific statement is given—varies from 6d. to 4l.; and it seems rather



curious—since we must remember that it must have been chiefly agricultural produce—that “the hanged thieves” are returned as possessors of the largest amount. The three whose chattels are valued each at 4*l.* are “latrones suspensi”; while the only person in the list apparently belonging to a higher class—Richard Parys, clerk to the bishop, who from the statement appears to have been delivered up to the ecclesiastical power for felony—has his chattels returned at only 3*l.* 18*s.* 8*d.* As we have before remarked, there does not seem to have been any awe on the minds of our forefathers regarding these clerical magnates. They were sued just as the laity were.

The “black book” of the abbey, containing a description of all its possessions, is appended. There is much curious information in this, especially as to the services performed by the tenants in lieu of rent. Thus, the villeins of Wirrinton “render yearly eleven hawks and sixty-five hens, and seven hundred eggs, and twenty sheaves of oats, and twenty loaves. At the feast of St. Peter three hundred loaves, seven sheep, and ten ells of cloth, and ten dishes; and between Wirrinton and Walton twenty-five hens, two hundred and fifty eggs, four cart-loads of wood, one cart-load of rushes, and seven cart-loads of grass.” The “soke-men” of Ginton are, in addition to hens at Christmas and eggs at Easter, to render two cart-loads of rushes and one of firewood for the convent kitchen. They are also to mow one day at Deeping, and to make the hay and aid in carrying it. And in Torgohtescroft they were to thresh, and each who owned a cart was to pay a penny towards wax for the lights in the Abbey church. Their wives were also to wintow the corn throughout the year, “three the one day and three another day,” and they were also to reap each of them half an acre in harvest time. The minute account of the cattle possessed by these husbandmen is curious:—wine do not appear to have been patronized by them so much as we usually find. In all old ballads the wealth of the miller is remarked;—we have an incidental proof here how lucrative his trade must have been: the mill at Warminton, with only six acres of land, pays 60*s.* rent (nearly equal to 45*l.*) and 500 eels.

This interesting publication, like the ‘Chronicle of Joscelyn de Brakelond,’ brings long past times vividly before us, and supplies much important information as to the state of the rural population at a period of which few records have been handed down.

*The English Party's Excursion to Paris, in Easter Week 1849. To which is added, a Trip to America, &c. &c. &c. By J. B. Esq. Barrister-at-Law.* Longman & Co.

THE first *écclera* of J. B. Esq. is a “Speculation on the Character of Napoleon.” His second is, a “Scotch Journal.” His third is, “Queen Adelaide's Visit to Alton Towers.” His fourth is a “Blackpool Journal” (with much interesting matter concerning cousin W. W., and Mr. D.'s “caution in what he says and does, eats and drinks”). His fifth is a “Southport Journal,” containing news of Charley, Peter Burrows, a pony, and a bathing towel. His sixth maltreats the “French Revolution of 1848.”—Though we ought to be beyond reach of astonishment, the courage of such authorship as J. B. Esq.'s strikes us with new amazement. The innocence and vain-glory which it discloses, if put into the mouth of a character in comedy, would subject the writer to the charge of farcical exaggeration. One thing, however, is wanting in J. B. Esq.'s chronicle of the Excursion to Paris:—which

is, a motto. This comes ready to hand from that fountain of fountains, Shakspeare. When we read J. B. Esq.'s cheerful and solemn *memorabilia* of the April campaign of 1849, auspice Mr. Crisp, how can we fail to recollect the brave talk of *Henry the Fifth*, when also out on a “French Excursion.”—

This day is called the feast of Crispian.  
He that outlives this day, and comes safe home,  
Will stand a tip-toe when this day is named,  
And rouse him at the feast of Crispian.  
He that shall live this day and see old age,  
Will yearly on the vigil feast his friends,  
And say—“to-morrow is Saint Crispian.”  
Then will he strip his sleeve and show his scars,  
And say, these wounds I had on Crispian's day,  
Old men forget: yet all shall be forgot,  
But he'll remember—with advantages,  
What feats he did that day, &c. &c. &c.

We will briefly justify our admiration at the Barrister-at-Law's Journals by an extract or two. Every lover of what is curious will be glad to meet with the original and incontestable English tourist—self-confessed—who went for a week to Paris to read *Galignani*.—

“In the afternoon I went to Galignani's celebrated establishment, situate up a gateway and courtyard, 18, Rue Vivienne, and ordered some French books I had a catalogue of, from Mamma, for our young folks, and subscribed 3 francs, or 2*s.* 6*d.* English, for a week's permission to peruse the English papers, which seem to flourish and abound here, and are as grateful to our eyes as an oasis in the desert.”

And again.—

“We then proceeded to the Palais Royal, and had an excellent dinner at 6 francs each, at the Restaurant du Café Corazza. It consisted first of all, of pottage, being peas soup, hot and excellent, only spoiled with sugar; mutton cutlet, slice of salmon, fricasseed fowl, brocoli head (a piece by itself), coutelette de bœuf, whip syllabubs, &c., until we cried, ‘hold, enough!’ After which, we adjourned to Galignani's, and refreshed ourselves exceedingly with the perusal of the *Times* and other English newspapers. This reading-room is a trump card to us, a genuine article, half French half English, harmonizing exactly with our present transitory and hybrid state of existence.”

If the writer of the above do not merit immortality at the hands of M. Scribe or other “gatherer of humours of men,” there is no such thing as desert. But J. B. Esq. has more weighty claims than the above. He it was who withstood a busier and bigger B. than himself,—as he describes in the following awful passage.—

“We dined at six with a party of sixty at Maurice's. While lingering about the coffee-room and court-yards, where I was walking up and down with our Magnus Apollo, Mr. Lloyd, in anticipation of feeding time, who should brush by us, but that everlasting fidget, Lord Brougham. He went into the coffee-room, walked up to the centre of it, then back to the door, which he set wide open, with a chair against it, to keep it so. As some of our party happened to prefer heat to cold, this procedure of his puzzled them not a little, and they referred themselves to me. ‘Do,’ said I, ‘why shut it, to be sure; you have more right to shut it, than he has to open it.’ He then began a bullying conversation with Mr. Lloyd, under the pretence that we called ourselves a deputation from the English nation. Mr. Lloyd assured him that he laboured under a mistake in the matter, and that we pretended to nothing of the sort. He said, ‘You don't, eh—Oh, its all right, then, shake hands.’ Though speculating upon people's motives is almost always like playing with edge tools, yet I am afraid his lordship's spleen upon this occasion arose from the circumstance of the grapes being sour, at seeing (with his morbid appetite for notoriety) Mr. Lloyd playing the part of top sawyer instead of himself, even to our homely party, whom he gives himself and others so much unnecessary trouble to repudiate. But the fact is, we are quite satisfied with our extempore chief—‘we don't want to buy a broom.’ Its a pity, however, that somebody does not present him

with an address upon the sad and sorrowful occasion, for—

The tear that is wiped with a little address,  
Will be followed, perhaps, by a smile.”

Enough, we apprehend, has been above cited to indicate the raciness of the contents of the book of J. B. Esq. It may be placed on the same shelf with Lord Blayney's ‘Forced Journey,’ ‘The Lord Mayor's Progress to Oxford,’ Mr. Chadwick's ‘Oratorio,’ and the most wonderful of those wondrous three-volume novels from which we are occasionally obliged to glean some “full ears of farce” for the food of those who are entertained by absurdities.

*A Critical History of the Language and Literature of Ancient Greece.* By William Mure, of Caldwell.

[Second Notice.]

THE third book of Col. Mure's History is devoted to the Lyric Poetry of the Greeks from the earliest times down to the 55th Olympiad (B.C. 560)—the epoch at which Pisistratus usurped supreme power at Athens. It contains:—1st. A general outline of the history of lyric poetry, in its connexion with the kindred arts of music and dancing; 2ndly. A review of the more remarkable occasions or objects of lyric celebration, and of the varieties of hymn, ode, or song appropriated or adapted to each; 3rdly. A biographical notice of the more distinguished lyric poets of the period, with critical remarks on their genius and works.

The history of this period of Greek literature has of late attracted the attention of many scholars, and possesses peculiar fascinations for all who have made it the subject of special study. It is, beyond all comparison, by far the most brilliant period of Grecian or of European lyric poetry. Among its most distinguished poets are Archilochus, whom the unanimous voice of antiquity placed on a level with Homer, Tyrtaeus, whose martial strains roused the fainting courage of the Spartans during the second Messenian war, Arion, the reputed inventor of the dithyramb, and whose personal adventures form so interesting an episode in the romance of Greek literary history;—Stesichorus, who united the lyric and epic styles, and thus originated a new form of poetical composition, Alcaeus, who sang of love and wine, of his exploits in war and of his disasters by sea and land, in strains which have been rendered familiar to us by the imitations of Horace;—Sappho, the only female whom her countrymen ranked on the same level with the more illustrious poets of the male sex; and whose love-poems have probably never been surpassed in power, grace, and beauty by any erotic poet either in antiquity or in modern times;—Mimnermus, whose songs were marked by a pleasing melancholy; and who is said to have been the first author who systematically adapted the elegy to the more tender class of plaintive subjects;—and lastly, Solon, who lived at the close of the first period of Greek lyric poetry, and whose elegies are almost exclusively of the ethic or didactic order; thus introducing a new style of poetry, usually known under the name of “gnomic.” There were also other lyric poets of this epoch who enjoyed considerable celebrity:—such as Callinus, Simonides of Amorgos, Alcaeus, Xanthus, Sacadas, Xenocritus, Eunomus, Damophyla, Erinna, and others. Unfortunately, however, the poetry of this brilliant period of Greek literature has almost entirely perished. Not a single collection of the works of any one of these poets has come down to us; and all that we possess is, a few songs and isolated fragments preserved by Athenæus and the grammarians. Modern scholarship has, it is true, done everything in its power to repair as far as was possible this



irreparable loss. The existing fragments of the poets have been carefully collected, edited, and elucidated; and every point connected with the poems themselves, as well as with the personal history of the poets, has been submitted to a searching and acute criticism. For these valuable contributions to the history of Greek literature we are almost exclusively indebted to German scholars,—and without their previous labours it would have been impossible for Col. Mure to have produced his valuable work.

In entering on the history of lyric poetry, the first subject which naturally engages our attention is the origin of this style of poetical composition in Greece.—

"Epic poetry, as it appears in the age and works of Homer, is the poetry of a whole nation. The honour, the interest, or the ambition of the individual is concentrated around common objects, of a grandeur in the national estimate which requires a corresponding extent and dignity in the works devoted to their celebration. The break up of the old heroic confederacy, the substitution of independent republics for patriarchal monarchies, with the complexity of social interests consequent on advancing civilisation, produced a parallel change in the taste for literary pursuit. As the objects of popular ambition became more numerous and varied, the channels for the display of poetical talent were proportionally multiplied. The decay of the heroic minstrelsy, originating in causes peculiar to itself, involved no similar decline in the national genius, which, still buoyant and energetic, sought out the more zealously fresh materials for its exercise. The attempts of Pisander and his contemporaries to enliven by artificial expedients the languor of the superannuated epic style have already been considered. The same thirst for novelty led others to abandon that style altogether, and turn for relief from its dulness to more original sources. The nicer distinction of dialects, coinciding with a like subdivision of the federal body, tended still further to vary and extend the field of literary enterprise. Hence, while the old epic masterpieces still remained the common standards of poetical excellence, the Ionians and Æolians of the Asiatic coast, and the Dorians of Southern Greece, the three races now jointly in the ascendancy of the Hellenic body, each started forth to enliven, by some new style of treatment, the new subjects and interests which the progress of society had called into existence. The more practical or 'subjective' tendency of the lyric, as compared with the epic order of composition, is strikingly illustrated in several distinctive features of their respective histories. It can hardly be doubted that the earlier ruder stages of epic poetry abounded in popular ballads, celebrating the heroes or enterprises of the day. Yet in no instance has the author of any great heroic epopee selected his subject from contemporary events. A certain mist of antiquity was required to magnify both actions and characters to the pitch which constituted them fit subjects for the higher inspirations of the Epic Muse. Her lyric sister, on the other hand, recognises the full rights of the present. She seeks her materials, by preference, in local, or even domestic, sources: in the honour of a patron deity or an illustrious citizen; in a victory which the poet has helped to achieve, or a disaster in which he has participated. The distinction is similarly marked in the personal lot of the authors. In scarcely an instance, if, indeed, one can be found, has a lyric composition of any note been transmitted to posterity anonymously. Not only is the poem, whether a war-song of Tyrtaeus, a lampoon of Archilochus, or a love-melody of Mimnermus, invariably identified with the name and person of the author, in most cases through his own allusions to himself or his concerns, but he is often himself the subject of his work. Many of the greatest epic productions, on the other hand, are either unconnected with the name of any poet, or, what is nearly equivalent, are claimed by so many as to impart not only to the pretensions, but to the existence, of those claimants, a doubtful or mythical character. Nor is there any instance of a distinct allusion contained in a great epic work to its author or his affairs."

Col. Mure further remarks, that another im-

portant cause or concomitant of the more extended culture of the art of lyric composition was, the improvement of that of music. These two arts were in the early ages of Greece closely connected; and the improvement of the one necessarily led to the improvement of the other. Col. Mure traces at some length the history of music in its connexion with the different kinds of lyric poetry, but without being able to throw much further light on this obscure subject. Music, as we know, formed an important part of education in every Greek state; but in no state was so much importance attached to it as at Sparta.—

"The vital principle of the Lacedæmonian constitution was harmony, a complete unity of interest and feeling among the members of the privileged class; an absorption, in fact, to this extent of the individual in the mass. According to a no less fundamental doctrine of Greek political ethics, one of the most efficient modes of promoting this object was a national system of music. The connexion between music and political government, among the Spartans, is strikingly exemplified by the legends above narrated of the popular seditions suppressed by Terpander and Thaletas through the mere charm of their musical performances. In a military point of view, the value of this art was equally recognized by the Lacedæmonian legislators, as will be no less strikingly illustrated in the sequel, in treating of the history of Tyrtaeus. Music formed an important element of their military economy, both in the city and camp, as an incitement to valour and patriotism, and on the battle-field as an aid to martial discipline. Its advantage in this latter respect, so highly appreciated in modern warfare, seems, in fact, to have been fully recognized in Sparta alone among the Greek states. She was the only member of the confederacy, of whose armies the field movements were habitually and systematically regulated by musical performance. The connexion between music and dancing, the latter of which arts constituted an essential branch of Spartan military education, still further tended to secure and extend the influence of the former. Nor was music less highly appreciated in a convivial point of view. In the *syssitia*, or public banquets, popular songs, celebrating the glory of the nation and its heroes, proved an effectual means of riveting the bonds of social unity, and inspiring fresh vigour for the daily routine of political or martial duty. \* \* To all this may be added, that Apollo, the patron deity of the Dorian race, and especially of the Spartan republic, was, by pre-eminence, the god of music and song. Hence the earliest local solemnities of which lyric performances constituted a prominent feature are the Carnean games of Sparta, in honour of this god, in which Terpander was the first victor."

It is a curious fact, however, that although the Spartans valued music so highly, they do not seem to have been at all distinguished either as poets or as musicians. On this circumstance Col. Mure makes the following remarks.—

"This apparent inconsistency may be owing partly to an actual want of original genius in the race for an art the creations of which, as emanating from the genius of others, they were abundantly qualified to appreciate. Another cause of the anomaly may perhaps be found in the circumstance, that, popular as these more ideal pursuits may have been in Sparta, their professional exercise by Spartan citizens, to the extent necessary to form finished masters, or to the neglect of other more strictly martial and athletic accomplishments, was probably, if allowed at all, neither encouraged nor approved of. The history of human society, in every age, furnishes similar instances of sciences highly prized in themselves, while their professors were lightly esteemed. As, however, what might be deemed effeminate or degrading in a Spartiate reflected no such discredit on a Lesbian or Athenian, the magistrates were at all times forward to invite the most esteemed foreign professors to their city, and to secure their services by handsome treatment and honourable distinctions. It is to this peculiarity that Aristotle alludes, in describing the Lacedæmonians as good critics but bad artists. Hence, during this early period, Sparta, while herself producing no single poet or musician of any real

eminence among her own sons, was the central seat of musical culture, and of a school of art which gave laws to the rest of Greece. All the more illustrious professors who flourished during the ascendancy of this school, Terpander, Thaletas, Tyrtaeus, Polymnestus, Alcman, Sacadas, were either settled in Sparta, or employed by the Spartan government. The exception of Archilochus, to whom, on special grounds, the same privilege was denied, tends but to confirm the rule."

The different kinds of lyric poetry, and the different occasions or objects of their celebration, are discussed by Col. Mure at considerable length. He concludes this part of the subject with an account of the popular songs of the Greeks:—justly remarking, that these compositions, though hardly falling within the limits of cultivated lyric art, cannot with propriety be overlooked in any attempt to form a just estimate of the spirit or variety of Greek poetical genius. Col. Mure gives English versions of a few of these popular songs,—of which we subjoin two or three specimens. The first is a "Charity Song," which was sung by mendicant minstrels in front of the doors of their wealthy patrons, on the arrival of Spring, or first appearance of the swallow.—

*Chelidonisma, or Lay of the Swallow.*

The swallow is here, the swallow is here,  
She comes to proclaim the reviving year;  
With her jet-black hood, and her milk-white breast,  
She is come, she is come, at our behest,  
The harbinger of the beautiful spring,  
To claim your generous offering.  
Let your bountiful door its wealth outpour,  
What is little to you is to us great store;  
A bunch of dry figs, and a savoury cruse  
Of pulse pottage the swallow will not refuse;  
With a basket of cheese and a barley cake,  
And a cup of red wine our thirst to slake. . . &c.

The next is a specimen of nursery rhyme, or juvenile poetical pastime. The game is played by young maidens, and the scene is the seashore. One of the party, called the Tortoise, sits down on the beach; the others, dancing round her, address her, and she replies.—

*Chor.* Lady Tortoise, in the middle,  
What's the work you're busy in?  
*Tort.* A stock of wool fresh from Miletus  
I have got to card and spin.  
*Chor.* And your son, good Lady Tortoise,  
How by his sad death came he?  
*Tort.* From the back of our white horsest  
Off he leapt into the sea.

The following is the burden of a Spartan song, in which the three generations of Spartan citizens, old men, youths, and boys, took part.—

*Old men.* Brave youths we were in days gone by!  
*Young men.* Brave youths we are; if ye doubt, ye may try!  
*Boys.* Braver youths far than ye, in our day we shall be!

The most interesting portion, however, of Col. Mure's third book is his account of the more distinguished lyric poets, with critical remarks on their genius and works. This portion of the work is rendered still more interesting to the general reader by the author having given translations of the passages which he quotes. These translations are executed with fidelity and vigour,—and we only regret that they are so few in number. We should have liked to have seen from Col. Mure's pen a translation of Sappho's celebrated ode to Venus. The following are the most striking of our author's versions.—

*Archilochus.*

1.  
My soul, my soul, by cares past all relief  
Distracted sore, bear up! with manly breast,  
And dauntless mien, each fresh assault of grief  
Encountering. By hostile weapons pressed,  
Stand firm. Let no unlooked-for triumph move  
To empty exultation; no defeat  
Cast down. But still let moderation prove  
Of life's uncertain cup the bitter and the sweet.

II.

What's Gyges or his gold to me!  
His royal state or rich array?  
From envy's taint my breast is free,  
I covet no proud tyrant's sway.  
Lenvy not the gods in heaven!  
The gods to me my lot have given.  
That lot, for good or ill, I'll bear,  
And for no other man's I care. . .

† The white waves, or breakers.



## III.

Jove, father Jove, o'er heaven and earth who reign'st,  
In power divine, supreme, alone;  
To thee each dark unrighteous deed of man,  
Each wayward mood of fowl or brute is known.

*War Song of Tytleus.*

To the field, to the field, gallant Spartan band,  
Worthy sons, like your sires, of our warlike land!  
Let each arm be prepared for its part in the fight,  
Fix the shield on the left, poise the spear with the right.  
Let no care for your lives in your bosoms find place,  
No such care knew the heroes of old Spartan race....

*Satire on Woman, by Simonides of Amorgos.*

Next in the lot a gallant dame we see,  
Sprung from a mare of noble pedigree.  
No servile work her spirit proud can brook;  
Her hands were never taught to bake or cook;  
The vapour of the oven makes her ill;  
She scorns to empty slops or turn the mill.  
No household washings her fair skin deface,  
Her own ablutions are her chief solace.  
Three baths a day, with balms and perfumes rare,  
Refresh her tender limbs; her long rich hair  
Each time she combs, and decks with blooming flowers.  
No spouse more fit than she the idle hours  
Of wealthy lords or kings to recreate,  
And grace the splendour of their courtly state.  
For men of humbler sort, no better guide  
Heaven, in its wrath, to ruin can provide.

*Description of Night, by Alcman.*

Now o'er the drowsy earth still night prevails,  
Calm sleep the mountain tops and shady vales,  
The rugged cliffs and hollow glens;  
The wild beasts slumber in their dens;  
The cattle on the hill. Deep in the sea  
The countless finny race and monster brood  
Tranquil repose. Even the busy bee  
Forgets her daily toil. The silent wood  
No more with noisy hum of insect rings;  
And all the feather'd tribes, by gentle sleep subdued,  
Roost in the glade, and hang their drooping wings.

*Alcæus.*

From floor to roof the spacious palace halls  
Glitter with war's array;  
With burnished metal clad, the lofty walls  
Beam like the bright noon-day.  
Their white-plumed helmets hang from many a nail,  
Above, in threatening row;  
Steel-garnished tunics and broad coats of mail  
Spread o'er the space below.  
Chalcidian blades enow, and belts are here,  
Greaves and emblazoned shields;  
Well-tried protectors from the hostile spear,  
On other battle fields.  
With these good helps our work of war's begun,  
With these our victory must be won.

One of the most interesting names in the history of Greek lyric poetry is that of Sappho,—to whom Col. Mure has devoted one of his longest chapters. The question of Sappho's moral character has attracted much attention and occasioned considerable controversy among modern scholars. In the year 1816 Prof. Welcker published a little work, entitled 'Sappho von einem herrschenden Vorurtheil befreit,' in which he endeavoured to prove that her character had been falsely aspersed, and that she was in reality a model of purity and moral excellence. Welcker's view of her character has been received by most subsequent scholars both in Germany and in England. Thus, in Thirlwall's 'History of Greece' and in Smith's 'Dictionary of Greek and Roman Biography' Welcker's arguments are regarded as conclusive, and the tenderness of Sappho is described as no less pure than glowing. Col. Mure, however, controverts this opinion at great length,—and, we are sorry to be obliged to add, with success; since his arguments compel us to abandon the favourable view of Sappho's character which we ourselves had formerly entertained. We do not think, however, that Col. Mure is equally successful in his arguments in favour of the truth of Sappho's celebrated leap from the Leucadian rock. Our limits prevent us from entering into a discussion of the point; but we may remark that our author's aversion to the "sceptical" school of critics seems to have caused him to overlook the inherent improbabilities in the whole story.

Col. Mure's criticisms on Archilochus are some of the most valuable in the whole volume.—

"The fact that the concurrent voice of antient

criticism should have ranked Homer and Archilochus conjointly as the standard representatives of Greek poetical genius, while involving an apparent enigma, supplies at the same time the best data for its solution, by affording the clearest insight into the sources of so high, and on first view so little warranted, an estimate of the merits of the Parian satirist. The features common to both poets are originality of conception, deep knowledge of human nature and character, and a consequent power of identifying themselves with the passions, the prejudices, or the sensibilities of their public; a vivid apprehension of the varied features of irrational nature, animate or material; with taste and facility in the adaptation of those features to the illustrative element of their text. The analogy between the two may be summed up as consisting in the fulness with which each combined the intellectual with the mechanical resources of his art, and the consequent near approach of each to absolute perfection in the different branches of composition which the opposite bent of their genius led them respectively to prefer. In estimating the special characteristics by which each was distinguished, Homer's enlarged faculty of poetical combination, being inherent in his character of epic poet, as distinct from that of Archilochus as lyric poet, can hardly be taken into account. But, apart from this, Homer ranks obviously far above the Parian, in the essentially superior order and quality of his muse; in the pure and elevated tone of his moral sentiment; in the genial philanthropy which glows in every page of his two great works, through all their vicissitudes of subject and treatment; and in his fine sense of the pathetic in all its modifications, from the 'soul-devouring' resentment of the insulted warrior to the tender sorrows of the heart-broken female. The moral charm of his poetry also consists mainly in adorning what is generous and amiable in conduct and character. Vice and crime are admitted into Homer's groups only in so far as required to enhance, by the force of contrast, the beauty of his more pleasing portraits. In Archilochus these more amiable attributes were replaced by a sterner, gloomier, but no less penetrating view of life and action. His power of ethic portraiture lay chiefly in giving breadth and prominence to the darker shades and fouler features of human character. These he embodied with a reality of form, a power of dramatic effect, and a pungent vein of irony singularly adapted, when combined with all the secondary graces of poetical style, to arrest the sympathies of a Hellenic public. Homer's satire (for he, too, largely deals in it at times) is playful and innocent, free from morbid gloom or misanthropy; that of Archilochus was poisoned with deadly malice, keen, bitter, and withering. The perversity of his genius which led him to employ his satirical talents so largely in the indulgence of his own vindictive passions also tended, there can be no doubt, greatly to increase the interest and popularity of the moral and ethic ingredients of his compositions, by the more vivid reality of effect imparted to them. The doctrines he inculcates, whether in lashing vice or commending virtue, seemed thus identified with his own inmost thoughts and feelings, instead of being delivered in the usual dry didactic forms of abstract precept. Another remarkable feature in the wayward mass of eccentricities which make up the genius or the dæmon of his extraordinary character, was the clear appreciation of the really great and excellent which gleams through his own base preference of the vicious and grovelling. Both the testimony of the antients and the remains of his works supply abundant proof that, if neither a practiser of virtue himself, nor a genuine admirer of its beauty, no one better understood it, or possessed a more vigorous power of inculcating it in theory. His slanderous imputations thus came forth doubly armed, by the plausibility with which his thorough experience of vice enabled him to dress them up, and by the apparent zeal for the cause of virtue by which they were animated."

Here we must take leave of Col. Mure:—congratulating him on the valuable accession which he has made to our literature, and hoping that he will continue the work in the same auspicious manner in which it has been commenced.

## OUR LIBRARY TABLE.

*Free-Trade Hexameters.* By Viscount Maidstone.—Lord Maidstone's argument and his verse are well matched. One incapacity is here appropriately illustrated by another. His Lordship's Muse will restore the bread monopoly just about the time that it succeeds in establishing the hexameter in our poetry. Lord Maidstone's love of exotic metres does not harmonize with his hatred of exotic corn.

*The Comedy of Dante Alighieri.* Translated by Patrick Bannerman, Esq.—A slight glance at this work is enough to satisfy the competent reader that the attempt is a failure. The version is rendered, for the most part, in couplets,—with an occasional triplet and unrhymed line,—and in no way represents the *terza rima* of the original. The rhymes are sometimes defective. Thus, we find in only the second page "breast" and "perplexed" made to do duty as rhymes. In short, a rendering so inelegant and faulty cannot be accepted as a fitting interpretation of the "Divine" poem of the great Italian.

*Crime and Punishment; or, the Question—How should we treat our Criminals? practically considered.* By R. Hovenden.—In this curious and able pamphlet Mr. Hovenden considers the question of criminal treatment not, as he says in his title-page, practically, but according to the theory of moral and social obligations laid down in the sacred writings. His views are not by any means novel, though to most readers they will probably appear so. Mr. Hovenden is the very opposite of Mr. Carlyle: the latter would shoot down "à la Cavaignac et Windischgrätz" all the follies, frailties, and vices which beset our thoroughfares,—the former would abolish all penal laws, pull down all prisons, and turn the world into a vast hospital for the careful treatment and cure of moral disease. Here we have the two extreme expressions of such penal philosophy as flourishes in our day and generation. We have no faith in either: but the humanitarian has our respect, if not our confidence. His belief in the operative power of love may be a sign of weakness,—but of the two tempers, the one which errs on the side of clemency is more to the taste of so advanced an age as this than the one which errs on the side of cruelty and vindictiveness. Mr. Hovenden appears to be in earnest: his opinion has not been lightly adopted; and though he fails to establish his thesis, his suggestions are often worthy of remark.

*Crime.* By John Baker Hopkins.—We comprehend so very little of what Mr. Hopkins has thought proper to write and publish on crime, that we are unable to compliment him on his performance. Not to mention certain peculiarities of spelling and grammar to which a fastidious taste might object, we fail to see his aim or drift. Take his definition of his subject, for example:—"I define crime to be an action committed by a man foreknowing that the effect of his action on a sensitive being will be such that the recipient will wish the sensation to be ended." If the reader wishes to hear more on the metaphysics of crime in this strain,—Mr. Hopkins is the man for him to consult.

*The Anti-Materialist: denying the Reality of Matter, and vindicating the Universality of Spirit.* By John Dudley, Clerk.—We can only give the title of this work, written by a stout Berkeleyan in philosophy. To enter so far into its argument as would be useful for any useful purpose of discussion would consume more of our space than we can afford at present. The title explains the course of the argument to the initiated; columns would be necessary to make it intelligible to the non-metaphysical reader.

*The Book of Bible Geography.* By Charles Baker.—A work announced as in a third edition may be supposed able to dispense with critical approbation.

*Le Petit Causeur; or, First Chatterings in French.*—One of M. Le Page's little works, composed with a view to facilitate the acquisition of a fluent delivery of conversational French.

*The Youth's Book of Natural History.* By Thomas Halliwell.—We need give merely the title of this work; as the only quality for which we find it remarkable is the extraordinary number and character of its press mistakes.

*A Manual of the Thermometer.* By J. H. Belleville.—In a former number [*Ath.* No. 1136, p. 789] we spoke favourably of Mr. Belleville's 'Manual of the



Barometer; and in the little work now before us, we find that he has shown equal familiarity with the thermometer—and has laid down general instructions for observations on temperature which may be studied with advantage by all who are desirous of becoming good observers of those thermometric changes that form the most important study of the meteorologist. We know Mr. Belyille to be himself a very accurate observer; and he correctly says, "an observer to be valued must be trained by graver experience and taught to curb the flights of imagination, to restrain the flow of eloquence," &c. After this, we are surprised to find our author himself endeavouring to become eloquent on Humboldt, in an unreadable sentence of thirty-eight lines' length. In two or three other parts the mistake is repeated. In a manual, fine writing is not looked for;—and the attempts at it in this otherwise excellent little work are much to be regretted.

## LIST OF NEW BOOKS.

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## THE ANNUAL VISITATION OF THE ROYAL OBSERVATORY.

The annual Visitation of the Royal Society and Board of Visitors took place on Saturday last. By the Report of the Astronomer Royal to the Visitors, we find that but little change has been made in working the Observatory since the last visitation. The instruments are stated to be in excellent order. The large Transit Circle is nearly finished, and is expected to be mounted in a short time. The general plan of meridional observations has undergone no alteration. A general Catalogue of Stars down to the fourth magnitude, as taken from the Catalogue of the British Association, has been in hand for observation since November last. Other stars observed are—stars culminating with the moon, occultation stars, stars in the list for comparison with Mars, and stars insufficiently observed in former years. The bodies of the solar system are observed at every practicable opportunity—with no other exception than these, that the moon only is observed on Sundays, and that on one day in each month (about the time of new moon) nothing but the stars necessary for keeping up clock error are observed.

The magnetical and meteorological instruments remain unchanged, except by the introduction of the light of coal-gas charged with the vapour of coal-naphtha, for photographic self-registration both of the magnetical and of the meteorological instruments. This light is perfectly efficient for photographic purposes (its photogenic intensity being as nearly as possible the same as that of camphine, or perhaps superior to it); and the lamps continue burning for many weeks without extinction, and almost without requiring adjustment. The chemical treatment of the paper is now so well understood by the assistants, that a failure is almost unknown. Generally speaking, the photographs are most beautiful, and give conceptions of the continual disturbances in terrestrial magnetism which it would be impossible to acquire from eye-observation. It is worthy of remark, that no difficulty is found in maintaining the photographic system through Sunday as well as through the other days of the week without requiring any lengthened attendance of the assistants on that day. The photographic sheets are taken from the cylinders, and are placed in a dark closet (fresh sheets being substituted), and it is found that the operation of bringing out the impression can with perfect safety be delayed till Monday.

We observe that Mr. Airy hints, at connecting the Observatory with the galvanic telegraph of the South-Eastern Railway, and with other lines of galvanic wire with which that telegraph communicates. He says—"No arrangement is yet effected for this purpose; but I continue to keep my attention on it, even with greater interest than formerly. I had then in mind only the connexion of this Observatory with different parts of the great British island; but I now think it possible that our communications may be extended far beyond its shores. The promoters of the Submarine Telegraph are very confident of the practicability of completing a galvanic connexion between England and France; and I now begin to think it more than possible that, within a few years, observations at Paris and Brussels may be registered on the recording surfaces at Greenwich and vice versa.

After the Visitation, the Board and their friends dined together,—the Earl of Rosse presiding.

## OUR WEEKLY GOSSIP.

The Committee appointed to consider the matters relating to the building for the great Industrial Exhibition have made their Report, including the Report of the Building Committee on the plans submitted to Her Majesty's Commissioners. The designs and specifications sent in amount to the surprising number of 245; and, in evidence of the interest which is taken in this important edifice and its vast purposes, it is stated that many of these are from gentlemen whose position with their respective Governments, or in the republic of arts and letters, is of the highest eminence—fording the supposition that their contributions have been induced by the desire of professional advancement. The Committee have been unable to select any one design which fulfils all the conditions prescribed by the nature of their undertaking; but they have derived from the various plans submitted a great amount of valuable suggestion to guide them in preparing a design of their own. It is probable that this large and striking result of the architectural emulation of all countries will shortly be made the subject of a public Exhibition. Meantime, the following particulars, taken from the *Times*, will probably be found to embody correctly the final conclusions of the Commissioners.

"The building will be about 2,300 feet long, rather more than 400 feet across, and the roofed area will probably extend to about 900,000 square feet, or upwards of 20 acres. In the centre of the south front, opposite Prince's-gate, will be placed the principal entrance and offices. There will be three other great entrances in the centre of the other side of the building. Gangways 48 feet wide, clear and uninterrupted, excepting by seats, will connect the entrances, and at the intersection of these main lines it is proposed to form a grand circular hall for sculpture, 200 feet in diameter. Considerable spaces surrounding the old trees (which must be carefully preserved) will be fitted up with refreshment-rooms, surrounding ornamental gardens, with fountains, &c. The vast area destined to be filled with the products of all climes will be covered with a remarkably simple iron roofing, of 40 feet span, running from end to end of the building, supported by hollow iron columns,

resting on brick piers, and covered very probably with boarding and slate. The extent of the roof covering the main avenue will be 96 feet. The lowest line of the main roofing will be 34 feet high, and the clear height of the central gangway will be about 50 feet. The floor will, for by far the greater portion of the area, be formed of boarding laid on joists and sleeper-walls. The external inclosures will in all cases be constructed of brick. The light will be principally derived from skylights. The central hall will be a polygon of sixteen sides, four of which will open into gardens reserved around it. Its main walls will be of brick, and about 60 feet high. The covering of this splendid apartment will be of iron, and probably domical. As the conditions with regard to time, &c. must necessarily be most stringent, contractors will no doubt be required to deposit an actual sum of money as security for the fulfilment of their respective contracts. The whole building must be finished and delivered up by the 1st of January 1861. Contractors will, we understand, be required to tender on two systems, one involving a resumption, after the termination of the exhibition, of property in the materials supplied by them, and the other proceeding on the supposition that Her Majesty's Commissioners become *bona fide* purchasers, and take the risk of a subsequent disposal of the building upon themselves. In the arrangements of the design it has been the aim to specify such materials and combinations as will be likely to be most valuable after the expiration of their temporary employment in the building, so that the cost for "use and waste," as it is technically called, may be the least possible; contractors will, however, be permitted, and indeed invited, to suggest any tender for the use of other materials which may probably in their opinion prove more economical. From the varied and distinct nature of the work, and the simplicity of the plan, a division of the contracts into the two classes best suited to the different plants and connexions of engineering and architectural contractors will be quite feasible, and upon this basis it is more than probable that separate specifications for the sewage, the central hall, and a portion of the iron roofing and walling, and for the central offices and respective sets of refreshment-rooms, &c., will be prepared. From what we have ascertained of the actual state of the drawings, &c., we have little doubt that another week will not pass away without some decided step being taken by the Committee in inviting the attention of the vast body of intelligent and able contractors whose spirit and enterprise have done so much to elevate the scientific and structural character of the public works of Great Britain."

The Annual General Meeting for the election of Fellows of the Royal Society was held on Thursday last—the Earl of Rosse, President, in the chair.—His Lordship informed the meeting that the Council had carefully considered the disposal of the Government grant of £1,000 per annum for the promotion of scientific research, and would recommend its award accordingly—also that, in conformity with the representation of the Council, a grant would be made by Government to enable the Board of Ordnance to publish the scientific portion of the Ordnance Survey;—and lastly, that the Council concur in the recommendation of the British Association made last year for the establishment of a large reflecting telescope at the Observatory of the Cape of Good Hope.—The Statutes relative to the election of Fellows having been read, the votes of those present were collected; and the scrutators announced that out of twenty-seven candidates the election had fallen on the following gentlemen:—W. H. Barlow, Esq., G. Bask, Esq., T. B. Curling, Esq., G. E. Day, M.D., W. De la Rue, Esq., W. Fairbairn, Esq., B. J. Graves, M.D., L. J. B. Ibbetson, Esq., C. H. Jones, M.B., J. R. Joule, Esq., J. F. Miller, Esq., Major H. C. Rawlinson, E. Schunck, Esq., D. Sharpe, Esq., and J. Tames, Esq.

As we told our readers by anticipation, the Committee on the London Meat Markets recommend in their Report the removal of Smithfield Market to the suburbs. They refrain from naming a particular site, but observe that several pieces of ground on the northern side of London offer all the desiderata—convenience of approach, proximity to the railway stations, amplitude of space both for present use and for future enlargement. For various cogent reasons, they recommend the erection of one large market in preference to several smaller ones. The two City members of the Committee, it is almost superfluous to add, object to the Report. What is of more importance, is the fact that the corporation is now convinced that the old nuisance can no longer be maintained. They therefore come out with a plan of their own, which is cunningly devised to catch the support of a large mass of floating philanthropic sentiment. They propose to clear a piece of ground, 11½ acres in extent, lying between the present Smithfield and Victoria Street (the unfinished opening in continuation of Farringdon Street), and to erect a new market for live and dead meat thereon. Newgate and Smithfield markets they



propose to abolish; and on the site of the latter to erect baths, washhouses, model lodgings, and so forth,—leaving only an open space in front of St. Bartholomew's Hospital for a hay market. On these changes the corporation proposes to expend 537,000*l.*;—but we hear it said that not less than double that amount would suffice. The offer has its temptations. No one would be sorry to have the huge mass of filth, crime and misery lying about Field Lane and Snow Hill removed. Nevertheless, we suspect the public will reject the City offer. By keeping the market within the City the corporation retain the power to tax the meat of all London; and it is by an extra impost that they hope to repay this enormous outlay. Economy, public convenience, and sanitary considerations are all against the municipal scheme. It is something, however, as we have said, to have got the City to admit the necessity for a change. Their proposal involves their assent to two propositions:—the present markets are a nuisance, and more baths and washhouses are needed in the City.

The *Greenock Advertiser* announces that Lord Cockburn is engaged on a life of his late distinguished friend and brother judge, Lord Jeffrey.

A correspondent who disputes Mr. Payne Collier's explanation of the phrase "to turn Turk," offered in our columns [*ante*, p. 475], leaves his argument, we think, generally untouched,—though he gives an instance in which the expression would seem to have a different allusion. "The object," he says, "of my communication is to point out a passage in Massinger where this expression is employed; and which will, I think, admit of another explanation. It is in 'The Maid of Honour,' Act II. Scene 2.—

Page. Hold my cloak  
While I take a leap at her lips; do it, and neatly,  
Or, having first tripped up thy heels, I'll make  
Thy back my footstool.

Sir. Fairerlane in little!  
Am I turned Turk? What an office am I put to!

A writer in *Aikin's Athenæum* (January 1st, 1807) alluding to the expression "turned Turk," remarks: "It is a manifest allusion to the historical anecdote, that Fairerlane, after making a captive of the Turkish emperor, Bajazet, set his foot upon his back while he mounted his horse!"

We have before us a worthy example of the tendency which such institutions as Mr. Rwart's lib has desired to create in every town have to feed themselves,—furnishing points on which the individual benevolence that seeks the mental elevation of the people may advantageously and permanently act. Mr. William Cotton, a gentleman in possession of a valuable library and collection of works of Art, has announced his munificent intention of making a donation of the same to the Plymouth Public Library. This liberality the Trustees in whom the library is vested have met in the large, wise spirit in which such institutions should be governed. It has been determined to extend the building for the purpose of providing suitable accommodation for Mr. Cotton's gift.—We have often had occasion to say that the spirit of liberality has this amongst its other wholesome qualities, that it is infectious. The example of such gifts will spread more and more as the novel principle of education for the poor becomes better and better understood and valued. And thus it is, that these provincial institutions, when once established, will grow by the life that is within themselves. Such literary gifts will demand increased accommodation, and the increased accommodation will tempt new gifts.

An abstract of the Report of the Commissioners appointed to investigate the water supplies for the metropolis is now before the public. The conclusions at which the Commissioners have arrived are clearly expressed, and their recommendations have at least the charm of novelty. They reject all those plans of improvement which take the waters of the Thames or any of its tributaries,—as also all those which contemplate the sinking of artesian wells, or the adoption of those natural springs which abound in the neighbourhood as the sources of supply. In fine, they altogether reject the earth, and recommend that the water shall be drawn directly from the sky.—The criteria by which they have judged all the modes of supply which

came under their consideration have been—quality and quantity. The first of these has been only too much neglected by schemers; but the Report shows how important a consideration is the quality of the water, even in the economical sense. It states the difference in the cost of washing, in soap alone, not to mention soda and labour, to the inhabitants of the metropolis with hard or with soft water, at not less than 4,000,000*l.* per annum! The loss of tea made with hard water is said to be one-third. For other purposes the loss is not so great,—but it is still very considerable. If this waste is to be prevented in future, we must look that our sources of supply yield the softer kinds of water. Rain-water has the quality of softness in greatest degree; river-water has three times the average hardness of rain,—spring water again twice the hardness of river. The Commissioners consequently recommend that a huge reservoir be constructed on Bagshot Heath, to drain a large district—and preserve it for the use of the capital.—Such plans have been tried with great success in Lancashire. From this reservoir it is said that every one of the 288,000 houses in London could be supplied with a constant and uninterrupted stream; at a cost of not more than twopence a week for each tenement. That a scheme so vast and novel should meet with large opposition was to be expected; but the advantages offered are too solid not to insure a fair consideration after the first burst of angry criticism is over. The full Report will be given to the public in a few days. On one point we will venture to offer a suggestion to the Commissioners—the wisdom of their recommending Government to make the water-tax compulsory, not on the tenant but on the property. Without a proper supply of water, a tenement ought not to be considered fit for habitation. The point is one of great sanitary importance. Twenty thousand houses in London are now without water, to the great detriment of public health. A fluctuating tenantry will evade even a legal regulation; but the owners of property may always be made responsible for neglect of duty. The question is one of public wrongs, not of private rights.

The movement in favour of education goes on *crescendo*. In looking over the local reports of meetings held in so many of the large towns, we are struck, as the Executive Committee remark, with the extent and direction of the movement. In nearly all the late public gatherings, resolutions have been carried, not only affirming the general desirableness of education for the masses, but distinctly asserting that public schools, free from sectarian influence, maintained by local rates and managed by local authority, are the educational desiderata of the time. With these general principles, applied under such conditions as may be found necessary to their practical working, we have no quarrel. Local government is too important an element of our social organization, and too firm a bulwark to our popular liberties, for any wise man to desire to see it weakened. But, as in the case of prisons, there is and can be no objection to a free and competent inspection by the State;—and we have given reasons why it should be insisted on. Such a solution of the educational difficulty as we now seem to be approaching is probably the best and safest that could be obtained, all things considered. For what it has already done in promoting this good work, the Lancashire Public School Association deserves the thanks and the support of every well-wisher to his country.—In the mean time, it is a feature of no little discouragement in the case, that Mr. Fox's motion has been lost in the House of Commons, by the large majority of 287 over 58. The question makes its way with the public more rapidly than with the legislature. But a compensating principle was apparent even there—for if nearly all the votes were on one side, all the argument was on the other,—and this will have its effect finally, we suppose.

We notice with satisfaction that public confidence and support are every year won more and more to the cause of an improved system of building the houses of the industrial classes. The Metropolitan Association having this object in view held its annual meeting on Monday last; when it appeared from the Report read by the Secretary

that the applications for shares during the year were to the extent of 12,000*l.* Last year the capital of the Association was 38,000*l.*—it is now more than 50,000*l.* Their well-known pile of building in Paneras Road is now yielding a larger income in consequence of an equalization of the rent. The bad debts are trifling. The health of the dwellers is good—and altogether the experiment is proceeding in a most satisfactory manner. The dwellings for single men in Spitalfields, erected at a total cost of about 12,000*l.*, are finished and tenanted. The Association have made other purchases of land; and in a short time every quarter of London will have its cluster of these convenient, economical, yet self-supporting dwellings for the sons and daughters of industry.

The Society of Belgian literati have, the *Brussels Herald* says, recently published the first number of a bulletin which they purpose issuing each month for the purpose of reviewing and defending the literature of their country.

An amended charter has been granted by the State of Nicaragua to the Atlantic and Pacific Ship Canal Company, constituting the associates "a body politic and corporate with perpetual succession for the purpose of carrying into full effect the objects and purposes of the grant heretofore made and given to them." The capital stock of the corporation and all their property are to be for ever exempt from taxation or any other burthen on the part of the State. In the amended charter the obligation of the company is defined to be simply, the construction of a "ship canal," not, as before, "a canal suitable for the passage of the largest ships." The stock, too, may now be held by parties in any part of the world.

Among the subjects now under consideration of Parliament, is a project which originated with the Manchester Chamber of Commerce, for sending out a Royal Commission to inquire into the causes of that failure which has so far attended every effort to cultivate the cotton plant in India. We refer to this matter, not to discuss the causes of that uniform failure, but to offer an incidental suggestion,—namely, that along with the practical botanist and cotton-manufacturer who would obviously form part of such a commission, a literary craftsman of high standing might be sent out to render on his return a lively and picturesque account of the information acquired,—in fact, to give us a readable book on the subject. Our present mode of conducting such inquiries is admirable; but the way in which our reports are made is both wasteful and inefficient. Who ever dreams of looking over the pages of a blue-book? The general reader, as is well known, has a standing horror of the class; a repugnance which—readers of such volumes as we ourselves are from motives of duty—we must confess is nearly always well merited by the rotund and dreary style in which their valuable information is conveyed. Of the minor reforms this is one which demands consideration. Why should knowledge procured in the most authentic way and at the expense of the nation be given to the world in the form which insures its neglect or rejection? It is not required to be heavy in order to be solid; a report is not like a rifle, needing to be charged with lead in order to produce effect. They manage these things better in France. In that country they see the convenience of employing literary men to do literary work. With every commission of inquiry sent out of that country a historiographer goes as a matter of course;—hence the superior readability and value of French reports. In every country of Europe such reports are read and have effect; while of our own ponderous blue-books it is said that on the average not more than ten copies of each issue find readers. This may be a little below the mark, perhaps; but the information which they generally contain ought to be widely known. How completely, for the most part, it escapes attention is known only to those who are bound to keep up an acquaintance with some small section of this unknown world of literature. A master of the craft of letters would so arrange his mass of materials as to produce a work which thousands would be glad to read for the novelty and interest of its facts. To take the subject of



this cotton inquiry in India:—it will find itself connected with questions concerning the employments of the people—their domestic habits, their feelings and prejudices—the tenure on which lands are held—the burdens on agriculture—the means of inter-communication—the quality and character of the soil—and many others on which the people of this country need to be accurately informed, and which would weave naturally enough into a narrative of the Expedition. Here would be given masses of facts which the proper skill would mould into a consistent and interesting whole. Such a work might indeed form a most important contribution to our knowledge of Hindustan—particularly of the peasants—and claim a permanent place in the library of the East. What is true of this case would be true of nearly all. If the task of dealing with the facts collected in the course of inquiry were given to competent men of letters, works so produced would sell on their own merits. Blue-books would be useless; and their cost—a large item—might be saved to the country.

#### ROYAL ACADEMY, TRAFALGAR SQUARE.

THE EXHIBITION of the ROYAL ACADEMY is NOW OPEN.—Admission (from Eight o'clock till Seven), 1s.; Catalogue, 1s.

JOHN PRESCOTT KNIGHT, R.A., Sec.

BRITISH INSTITUTION, Pall Mall.—The GALLERY with a Collection of PICTURES by ANCIENT MASTERS and deceased BRITISH ARTISTS, will be OPENED on Monday, the 10th inst., and continue OPEN daily from Ten to Six. Admission, 1s. Catalogue, 1s.

GEORGE NICOL, Secretary.

SOCIETY OF PAINTERS IN WATER-COLOURS.—The FORTY-SIXTH ANNUAL EXHIBITION is NOW OPEN, at their Gallery, 5, Pall Mall East, from Nine till Dusk.—Admission, 1s. Catalogue, 6d.

GEORGE FRIPP, Secretary.

THE NEW SOCIETY OF PAINTERS IN WATER-COLOURS.—The SIXTEENTH ANNUAL EXHIBITION of this Society is NOW OPEN, at their Gallery, 53, Pall Mall, near St. James's Palace.

JAMES FAHEY, Secretary.

EXHIBITION of ANTIQUE and MEDIEVAL ART.—SOCIETY OF ARTS, John Street, Adelphi.—This Exhibition will continue OPEN, at 1s. each person, until SATURDAY, the 15th of JUNE inclusive.—Catalogue, 1s.

PANORAMA of the NILE.—Additions have been made to this Exhibition.—The Nubian Desert, from the Second Cataract to Dongola.—War Dance by Firelight.—March of Caravan by Moonlight.—Morning Prayer.—The Mummy of a High Priest is added to the curiosities. Both Banks of the River are shown in the Painting.—EGYPTIAN HALL, PICCADILLY.—Daily, at Three and Eight o'clock.—Stalls, 3s., Pit, 2s., Gallery, 1s.; Children and Schools, Half-price.

INDIA OVERLAND MAIL.—DIORAMA.—GALLERY of ILLUSTRATION, 14, Regent-street, Waterloo-place.—Three Exhibitions each day.—A Grand MOVING DIORAMA, ILLUSTRATING THE ROUTE of the OVERLAND MAIL to INDIA, depicting every object worthy of notice on this highly-interesting journey from Southampton to Calcutta, accompanied by descriptive detail and appropriate music, is now OPEN DAILY. Morning at Twelve. Afternoons at Three, and in the Evening at Eight o'clock.—Admission, 1s.; Stalls, 2s. 6d.—Doors open for each representation half-an-hour before the above hours. Descriptive Catalogues may be obtained at the Gallery.

THE DIORAMA, Regent's Park.—JUST OPENED, with one of the finest VIEWS ever exhibited in this country, representing the ROYAL CASTLE of STOLZENFELS, on the Rhine, (visited by Her Majesty Queen Victoria in August, 1845), and its Environs, as seen at Sunset and during a Thunder Storm; painted by NICHOLAS MEISNER, of Cologne. And the much-admired Picture of the SHRINE of the NATIVITY, at Bethlehem; painted by the late M. RENOUX, from a Sketch made on the spot by DAVID ROBERTS, Esq. R.A., with novel and striking effects.

#### SOCIETIES

GEOGRAPHICAL.—Anniversary Meeting.—Capt. Smyth, R.N. President, in the chair.—The Council's Report congratulated the Fellows on the improved state of the Society since the last anniversary. The accessions had been twenty-two, while the resignations were only five, and the total number of Fellows was 727. The funded property consisted of 2,224l. 1s. 10d., with a balance at the banker's of 341l. 6s. 11d., without any accounts outstanding. The library included upwards of 4,000 volumes, many of which were of great rarity and value, 150 atlases, more than 1,000 pamphlets, 10,000 maps and charts; and was available, as a circulating library, to the Fellows. During the last year 500 books and pamphlets, 5 atlases, and 250 maps and charts had been received. The Journal continued to be presented, on application, to the Fellows free of charge, and the Catalogue was under progress. The Report concluded by mentioning the grounds on which the Council had founded their application to Government for a set of apartments in which the extensive geographical collection belonging to the Society could be rendered more generally available to the public. The Society had, in less than twenty years, expended 7,000l. on a Journal disseminating geographical information in every part of the world, and upwards of 4,000l. in furtherance of various

exploring Expeditions, the results of which, especially that to Guayana, had been of great national utility.

The Patron's, or Victoria, gold medal was presented to the Hon. Abbot Lawrence, the American ambassador, for transmission to his distinguished countryman, Col. Fremont; and a letter was read to Alderman Challis and the Rev. Dr. Tidman, as representatives of the London Missionary Society, informing them that the Council of the Royal Geographical Society had, in consideration of the services of the Rev. David Livingstone, of South Africa, in successfully conducting the Expedition of Messrs. Oswell and Murray to the great Lake of Ngami, directed that twenty-five guineas—the remaining portion of the annual royal premium “for the Encouragement of Geographical Science and Discovery”—should be presented to Mr. Livingstone, together with a letter signifying to him the high opinion entertained by this Society of his exertions. The Presidential Address on the progress of geography during the past year was then read.

SOCIETY OF ANTIQUARIES.—Mr. Collier, V.P., in the chair.—Mr. Blaauw and the Rev. Dr. Beal were elected Fellows.—Mr. Guest sent for exhibition a silver-mounted cup of the time of James the First. It was evidently of that period, and was engraved with the royal arms,—but the supporters, by some blunder, were those of the preceding reign and family. There were other devices upon the cup belonging to Ireland and Scotland.—Capt. Gaul placed on the table a remarkable and valuable Calcydona, which had been engraved in China with a figure of the Venus of that empire. It is a very large and peculiar stone; and Mr. Koenig gave it as his opinion that nothing like it is known. The design is of little interest as a work of taste, but wonderful as a work of art and skill, from the amazing labour that must have been bestowed on the cutting of so hard a stone. Our best seal-engravers state that the work could not have been executed in this country,—or, at all events, not without extreme labour for years.—Mr. Chalmers showed a gold fibula found in Scotland (Perthshire); not so noticeable for its form, though that was singular, as for its workmanship, which is of most exquisite kind, and belonging to the late Roman period in this country. It was stated that, from a cross at the top, it had been the property of a bishop; but the date of the relic clearly contradicts such a notion.—Mr. Martin read an additional paper on Large Nails found in Kent with skeletons formerly buried by the Romans, and supposed to have been used for the crucifixion of criminals. This opinion was combated in a paper by Mr. Roach Smith, in which it was maintained that the nails had been employed for the coffins of the bodies interred, or for some erection connected with cremation.—Mr. Hunter exhibited the impression of the seal of Geoffrey Chaucer, which had been used by Sir Thomas Chaucer nine years after the death of his renowned father. It was found among some miscellaneous documents at the Carlton Ride.—Mr. Blundell wrote to the Secretary on Mr. Corner's extracts from the parish records of Eltham,—his main object being to show that Queen Elizabeth had visited with disapprobation the conduct of St. Olave's, Tooley Street, because on one occasion the bells had not been rung when she passed in the royal barge. Mr. Blundell showed that the bells had not been rung because the incumbent of the living at the time was the founder of the puritanical sect of the Brownists.

HORTICULTURAL.—J. R. Gowen, Esq., Treasurer, in the chair.—A. G. H. Battersby, Esq. was elected a Fellow.—The following ‘Notice of Alteration in the Bye-Laws’ was read, and posted in the meeting-room:—“The Council hereby give notice that they propose to substitute for Chapter IV., Article 1, of the present Bye-Laws, namely, ‘the admission fee to be paid by each Fellow shall be six guineas,’ the following words, viz., ‘the admission fee to be paid by each Fellow shall be two guineas.’” Among subjects of exhibition was a new *Odontoglossum*, from Mr. Loddiges, of Hackney, for which a Large Silver Medal was awarded. The same establishment furnished *Vanda teres*, *Aerides crispum*, and its pale flowered variety, *Saccolabium guttatum*, *miniaturum* and *ampullaceum* (the last a valuable species, on account of the length of time it continues in bloom); *Cattleya Mossiae*, and its variety, called *C. aurum-*

*tia*; the bright-yellow flowered *Oncidium bifolium*, the orange *Dendrobium Griffithianum*, the rare *Burlingtonia fragrans*, the white-lipped *Odontoglossum stellatum*, and two *Epidendrums*.—Two red-flowered *Azaleas* were produced by J. Allnut, Esq., of Clapham.—Large and fine *Vanda* pods, quite ripe, were exhibited by J. D. Llewellyn, Esq., of Penllergare, near Swansea, to whom a Certificate of Merit was awarded; and Mr. Chapman, gr. to J. B. Glegg, Esq., received a Banksian Medal for a dish of well-ripened scarlet *Nectarines*.—From the garden of the Society came the two beautiful new *Ceanothus*—*dentatus* and *papillosus*; *Mimulus ruberrimus*, a grand kind; three species of *Boschia*, *Lelia cinnabarina*, *Saccolabium guttatum*, *Cattleya intermedia*, *Glossocoma ovata*, three varieties of Cape Heath, an Everlasting, *Zieria levisigata*, *Platylabium formosum*, *Chorozema varium*, a New Zealand *Parsonsia*, *Anadenia pulchella*, *Cryptolepis longifolia*, two *Achimenes*, *Dillwynia speciosa*, and *Nemophila maculata* (a charming annual for pot culture).

LINNEAN.—R. Brown, Esq., President, in the chair.—Dr. Lankester gave an account of some peculiar bodies observed on the surface of the common star-wort (*Callitriche verna*). These bodies were of a stellate form, and consisted of eight cells, seven of which surrounded a central one. They were found on the outside of the plant on the stem and leaves; and furnished beautiful objects for examination under the microscope. In the early stages of their growth they appeared to be developed from the ordinary tissue of the plant. They were spheroidal in shape, and attached to the tissue by a broad pedicle beneath. They did not appear to be stomates; but resembled in their structure the hairs and scales found on the surface of the epidermis in aerial plants.—Part of a paper ‘On the Botany of the Texas’ was read by the Secretary, from W. Bollaert, Esq. The physical geography of the State and some of the forest-trees were described.—The President nominated Sir W. J. Hooker, W. Yarrell, Esq., Dr. Horsfield, and Dr. Wallich, Vice-Presidents of the Society.

ENTOMOLOGICAL.—G. R. Waterhouse, Esq., President, in the chair.—Messrs. R. W. Meade, C. R. Bree, and J. Dashwood were elected subscribers.—Mr. Bedell exhibited *Lithocolletis hortella* and *Pinea Zinckeii*, from West Wickham, and *Cenosioma laburnella*, found on fences near Beckenham. This species resembles *Spartifoliella* so closely that it is with difficulty it can be distinguished from it, yet the habits of the larvæ are perfectly different.—Mr. J. F. Stephens exhibited a shoot of *Ribes sanguineum* which had been killed by *Coccus serpuliformis*, numbers of which were on the bark. He also stated that branches of apple-trees in his garden were killed by *Coccus mytiliformis*.—Mr. Shepherd exhibited a specimen of *Cloanthra conspiciatilis*, recently taken flying at Dareuth Wood.—Mr. Westwood exhibited a pair of one of our rarest Hymenoptera, *Lyda fasciata*; also a shoot of a pear-tree on which the larva of this species had fed. He also exhibited leaves of a pear-tree attacked by case-bearing larvæ, probably *Coleophora Hemerobiella*.—Mr. S. S. Saunders exhibited pupa cases of *Rhopalum tibiale*, from which the perfect insects had issued towards the end of May.—Mr. H. T. Stainton exhibited specimens of *Lithocolletis tenella*, and *L. Carpinoletta*, which he had found at Wanstead, abundant on the hornbeam in May; also three specimens of *Microperysa mansuetella* taken by Mr. C. R. Bree, near Stowmarket, in company with *M. calthella*.—Mr. S. Stevens exhibited *Dryophilus anobioides* and *Hylastes rhododactylus*,—also the stumps of the dead wood of Broom, from Plumstead, out of which he had obtained them. He also exhibited a new *Dorytomus*, *Pogonus Burrellii*, and *Fumea reticella*.—Mr. W. W. Saunders exhibited some leaves of *Rhododendron*, greatly attacked by *Otiorynchus sulcatus*; also some curious net-like cases containing pupæ, and an anomalous pedunculated little bag which appeared to be full of eggs of an insect, this receptacle being in the centre of a much larger bladder-like formation. These were found by Mr. Wallace at Sautarem.—Mr. Gould had sent for exhibition four different species of *Bombus* found impaled on thorns; the bodies not being eaten, Mr. Gould did not believe



that this was, as generally imagined, the work of a shrike.—A paper, by Mr. S. S. Saunders, descriptive of some new aculeate Hymenoptera, from Epirus, was read.

CHEMICAL.—R. Porrett, Esq., in the chair.—Read: 1, 'On Chlorophosphuret of Nitrogen, and its Products of Decomposition,' by J. H. Gladstone, Ph. D.—2, 'On the Action of Chloride of Cyanogen on Toluidine,' by Mr. W. Wilson.—3, 'On the Identity of Bisulphamyllic and Hyposulphamyllic Acids,' by Mr. Joseph Danson.

ROYAL INSTITUTION.—W. Pole, Esq. V.P. in the chair.—'On Successive Forests of Erect Fossil Trees in the Coal Strata of North America and Europe,' by Sir C. Lyell.—The purest coal often exhibits impressions of plants agreeing in species with those found in a more perfect state in strata of shale accompanying coal. The vegetable origin of this fuel is still more unequivocally shown by its internal structure when seen under the microscope, consisting, as it does, of woody fibre, dotted and scalariform vessels, and cellular tissue. This structure is observable not only in bituminous coal but even in anthracite, where the change from the original wood has been carried farthest. The various plants which by their decomposition have produced coal, were not drifted into their present position, but grew in almost every case on the spots where the coal is now found. This is proved by the position of erect trees the lower portions of which rest on seams of coal, and by the abundance of stumps and roots occurring, both in North America and in Europe, in the under-clays, or floors of coal seams. The name of *Stigmara* has been given to the most abundant of these roots; which were first shown by Mr. Binney, of Manchester, to belong to fossil trees called *Sigillaria*,—a conclusion previously thrown out as a conjecture on botanical grounds by M. Adolphe Brongniart. Mr. Richard Brown has in like manner detected at Sydney, in Cape Breton, *Stigmara* roots attached to the base of the trunks of *Sigillaria*. In such cases the roots with their slender rootlets are seen to penetrate in all directions the under-clays which were evidently the original soil in which the trees grew. Each bed, therefore, of *Stigmara* is the monument of an ancient forest. Mr. Logan pointed out in 1840 that such root-bearing clays underlie every coal seam in South Wales, and the same holds true generally in North America. Sir C. Lyell described, in 1842, ten forests of super-imposed fossil trees at right angles to the planes of stratification on the shores of the Bay of Fundy, in Nova Scotia; and recently, Mr. Richard Brown has found in a single coast section in Cape Breton forty-one under-clays with roots, and eighteen tiers of upright trees of the genera *Sigillaria*, *Lepidodendron* and *Calamite*. These remains of fifty-nine submerged forests extend through a thickness of 1,600 feet of strata. Their entombment implies the repeated subsidence of land, such as took place during the earthquake of 1811-12, when part of the alluvial plain of the Mississippi, called "the Sunk Country," near New Madrid, ninety miles long by thirty in breadth, was submerged. Thousands of dead trees are still standing there, under water, while a still greater number lie prostrate. The manner in which the interlaced roots of the deciduous cypress are fixed in blue clay at the bottom of every large swamp in the delta of the Mississippi affords some analogy to the old carboniferous under-clays; and to explain the non-admixture of earthy matter in coal Sir C. Lyell refers to the exclusion from the central parts of these cypress-swamps in Louisiana of the turbid waters of the Mississippi. The margin of every morass supports a dense growth of reeds, canes, and brushwood, through which the fluviatile waters must flow very slowly, parting with all their sedimentary matter before they reach the interior of the vast timber-covered swamp. Recent artesian borings, 400 feet deep, have shown, in the deltas of both the Po and the Ganges, that the subsidences of ancient terrestrial surfaces, once supporting turf or a forest, have sunk far below the level of the sea. The number and richness, however, of the seams of coal stored up in the carboniferous strata doubtless indicate a peculiarity of climate and vegetation more favourable than any which now exists for the accumulation of vegetable matter. As to the climate of the coal-period, the evidence of palms having flourished at

that time—which was once supposed to imply a tropical heat—is now questioned by able botanists; and as tree-ferns abound in New Zealand, the caulopteris of the coal may not have required a high temperature. The absence of coal in winter may have caused the extension of certain tropical forms in the coal period far into high latitudes; and the absence of great heat in summer may have checked the decomposition of plants, till continuous masses of them were buried under sediment thrown down upon them when the land was submerged. The length of time during which dead trees continue to stand erect in submerged areas in the plains of the Mississippi, shows that the envelopment of upright carboniferous stems in shale and sand may have taken place very gradually.

MEETINGS FOR THE ENSUING WEEK.

Mon. Geographical, half-past 8.—'On the Kabbabesh Arabs,' by Mansfield Parkyns, Esq.—'On Eastern Africa,' by Mr. Macqueen.—'Notices on the Northern Frontier of Nepal.'  
— British Architects, 8.  
Tues. Zoological, 9.—Scientific Business.  
Wed. Microscopical, 8.  
— Ethnological, 8.  
— Literary Fund, 3.  
Thurs. Royal, half-past 8.  
— Antiquaries, 8.  
— Royal Society of Literature, 4.  
Fri. Astronomical, 8.  
— Philological, 8.  
Sat. Asiatic, 2.

FINE ARTS

ROYAL ACADEMY.

To conclude our notice of this year's Exhibition, there remain a few pictures worthy of attention. In the class of *genre* there are Mr. J. Phillips's *Baptism in Scotland* (No. 541), abounding in character and truthful in effect,—and Mr. Solomon's *Too Truthful* (524), expressive of the caprices to which the painter of portraiture is subject. It is picturesque in combination. Mr. F. Tayler's *Keeper's Daughter* (82) and his *Scotch Fern Gatherer* (122) are good examples of the artist. Mr. A. Rankley's *Sunday School* (144) and *Contentment* (597), although of moderate success, may, from the repetition of this class of subject *ad nauseam*, subject their author to the imputation of want of variety. Mr. T. Brooks's *Pastor's Visit* (410) comes under the same category.—For a resemblance bearing closely on the works of Schalken, Mr. P. Van Schendel's *Une Mère auprès de son Enfant, avec Effet de Lumière* (329) may be noticed. This is one of the class of modern Belgian pictures in which close imitation of a type is ever observable. The *Hay-field* (430) is another favourable exemplification of Mr. A. Johnston's powers in the Scottish pastoral. *Bowlers* (452) is one of Mr. G. Harvey's delineations of Scottish pastimes. The *Vacant Chair* (458) is a capital little interior by Mr. James Bridges. *Yorick mounted on his sorry nag* (468) is the work of an improving young artist, Mr. G. Landseer. There is much merit in Mr. T. F. Marshall's *Arrival of the Coach—a Road-side Inn a Century ago* (634),—a subject rendered of additional interest in these days of rapid locomotion.—Mr. Horsley's *Hospitality* (221) is also a work of great talent. Of still life there are a few very remarkable instances. A magnificent combination of *Flowers and Fruit* (586) by T. Groenland, and another by the same hand of *Fruit and Flowers* (1254), are each remarkable for excellent arrangement, truth, beautiful colour, and elegance of execution. Nor will Mr. George Lance less satisfy in his pictures of *Fruit* (148) and *Modern Fruit—Medieval Art* (375); the last an excellent composition of the works of nature and of art.—We must not overlook the *Result of an Antwerp Marketing* (495), a vigorously executed and truthful performance by Mrs. E. M. Ward.

In the class of the poetic and romantic there remains to be named, Mr. H. O'Neil's *Esther* (1255), good as a composition, though not rich in the suggestion of Oriental-climate. Mr. Dobson's *St. Cecilia* (44), his *Virgin and Child* (244), and his *St. John the Evangelist* (377) are all graceful and feeble recollections of ancient art and of Eastlake.—A *Nymph* by Mr. Brocky (133) is among the best studies of the nude form in the collection.—Mr. W. D. Kennedy's *Allegro* (438), while possessing much graceful suggestion of pose and colour, is wanting in truthfulness of parts, and the land-

scape portions are not heightened in their value by an execution that defies botanical specification.—*Alfred giving a Portion of his Last Loaf to the Pilgrim* (451), by Mr. W. C. Thomas, is remarkable for a good masculine and modern German style.—*Titania* (461), by Mr. H. Pickersgill, for a graceful and poetical conception and a good effect. *The Temptation in the Wilderness* (48), by Mr. J. T. Linnell, demonstrates the studies of a young painter brought to bear on an elevated theme with an amount of success that will make his future works an object of attention. A scene from Molière's *Tartuffe* (496) is an evidence of the powers of Mr. W. Egley, Junior, in comic transcription:—and *Martha Reproved* (505) shows how Mr. Le Jeune can deal with Scriptural presentment.—*Venus and Adonis* (507), by Mr. S. Gambardella, proves the decline in the modern Italian school.—We must not overlook Mr. A. Colin's *Columbus before the Council of Salamanca* (537), a picture full of character and expression. There is marked improvement in the *Beatrice Cenci* of Mr. W. Maddox (565), a painful subject—well rendered. An oft-told story, Mary Queen of Scots compelled to sign her *Abdication* (569), has given occasion to Mr. Severn for the production of a forcible composition in which the figure of Lindsay is enunciated with the required severity. Mr. R. Hannah in *Lady Northumberland and Lady Percy dissuading the Earl from joining the Wars against Henry the Fourth* (572) has changed his ground from the domestic to the dramatic.—In the accessory portions of this work the artist's principal success resides. There are much delicacy and beauty in Mr. McInnes's *Fiori del Carnevale* (582)—excellent feeling, good grouping and character in Mr. T. A. Woolnoth's *Meeting of Henrietta Maria, Wife of Charles the First, with her Mother, Marie de Medicis* (593), many portions of which would bear completion. Mr. J. J. Gilbert exhibits with enlarged resource and improved success in the scene from 'As you Like It'—*Touchstone and the Shepherd in the Forest of Arden* (594). There are excellent drawing and painting in Mr. A. C. Hayter's *View from the Portico of the National Gallery, looking towards the Nelson Column* (1237).

The landscape department again displays the evil, increased in extent, of that system which on former occasions we have lamented: the same manufacture, inspired by imitation of the works of the popular artists of the day, or by the Art-Union distribution. That the evil progresses is clear:—not, as we have before observed, confined to the individual artists, but seen in whole families of them. Satiety will bring with it the healthy reaction, and an over-stocked market will invite to novelty of view. Of the landscapes which are most conspicuous in talent may be noticed Mr. J. Stark's *Marlborough Forest* (10) and *Windsor* (447),—Mr. J. J. Chalon's *Hollow Road through a Wood* (43), one of the best examples of his art, vying in its tone with the best Dutch masters,—Mr. P. Williams's *Italian Cottage Door* (55) and *Scene in the Campagna, Rome,—looking towards the Alban Mountains* (203),—Mr. G. Stanfield's *Old Bridge, Frankfort* (57), a very bright and truthful work, exceeding even in merit his other picture of *The Cliffs near Boulogne* (398),—Mr. A. W. Williams's *Approach of a Storm* (124),—Mr. S. B. Percy's *Willow Shade* (201),—Mr. C. Branwhite's *Winter Sunset* (246),—Mr. G. Hering's view of *The Ruins of Rome from the Garden of the Palace of the Cæsars* (303), prominently marking out the Coliseum, and another view by the same hand from the Boboli Gardens at Florence (397).—Nor is there wanting merit in *Lake Scenery, Savoy; Early Morning—Waiting for the Ferry* (401), by Mr. J. P. Pettitt, obviously the work of a young hand, with whom better acquaintance is desired.—Mr. Martin appears in the old place to which he seems to have established a prescriptive right. His picture, *The Last Man* (441), is as isolated in view as eccentric in practice.—There are great truth and excellent effect in Mr. J. Middleton's *Clearing the Wood—Early Spring* (499); excellent painting in Mr. J. Uwins's *Fortress of Bard, in the Val d'Aosta, Piedmont* (109); and merit in Mr. L. B. Constable's, *Stormy Day* (516).—*Beech Trees—Study from Nature* (529),



from the hand of Mr. J. Wilson, Junior, though different in subject, is only inferior to his capital little picture *North Holland* (477),—blowing frost and full of movement. *The Wreck ashore, Coast of Normandy* (371), is another work of much excellence by the same artist. A singular yet truthful effect of *Sunset—Heath Scene* (596) is from the hands of a clever artist, Mr. A. Clint.

In the delineation of inferior animal life there are, after Mr. Landseer, but few examples of excellence. Of these, *The Rivals* (449), by Mr. Ansdell, may be regarded the chief. Two deer, as the epigraph acquaints us, incited by the tender passion, are seen contending for mastery, in a composition which bespeaks acquaintance with their structure. The scale, however, on which they are executed, as magnitude was not essential to the revelation of the story, will scarcely, it may be apprehended, remunerate the author, and the masses of form and colour would have gained interest in diminished size, while the risk of monotony would have been less. The executive powers of the painter were never seen to better advantage than here:—the handling is bold, and the spirit of the creatures well presented. There are by Mr. Wolf, a foreign artist, *A Wounded Woodcock—Autumn* (121), admirable for its truth and delicate painting. *Winter—A Dying Partridge* (617), to which the same remark may be applied, and *Wild Boar* (256), in which the animal is seen wending its way through the snowy waste, a very striking and original looking picture, full of truth and observation. There is considerable talent evidenced in another foreign artist, Mr. J. W. Keyl. His picture *Going Home—costume of Hessa* (1248) is an improvement in all respects on his last year's performance.

In the consideration of those performances which come more particularly under the head of Portraiture we need not again indulge in preliminary observation. There is nothing to be added to what we have before said, and there is no advance in this department to merit any especial distinction. Mr. Pickersgill takes, as usual, the lead in *Samuel Amory, Esq.* (66), *Charles Harris, Esq.* (142), *Sir Robert Harry Inglis* (181), and *W. B. Wilcox, Esq.* (817). His *Monsieur Colomb* (370)—a figure clad in a fancy costume of bright armour—is very fine. *Sir Harry Dent Goring* (130) is an admirably arranged composition of man and horse. Sir Harry wears the uniform of a yeomanry corps, and the painter has overcome the difficulty presented by the blue coat and red trousers with great skill. The remaining male figure from this eminent artist's hand is simply described as a *Portrait of a Traveller* (483). The picture of a female—*Nourmahad: the Light of the Harem*—(85), is, for anything that appears in the Catalogue, a fancy sketch, but there is an individual life about it which suggests that the artist has taken at least the features from a living type.

Mr. Knight's best male portraits are *Robert Keate, Esq.* (79), *Lestock Peach Wilson, Esq.* (119), and *Thomas Corney, Esq.* (325). Mr. Grant is best in *Lord Hardinge* (188) and *General Earl Stafford* (333); Mr. Henry Phillips in *Major Rawlinson* (307) and in *Ary Scheffer* (519); Mr. Say in *M. Gairot* (388) and in *Sir Thomas Aubrey*; Mr. Motter in *H.R.H. the Duke d'Aumale* (282). Mr. Hollins's best success is in *W. N. Welby, Esq.* (22) and *The Rev. John Saniford* (339). In this class may also be named Mr. Westcott's portrait of *Joseph Brotherton, Esq. M.P.* (60), Mr. Watson Gordon's *Daniel Veré, Esq.* (175) and *The Lord Justice General* (193); Mr. J. M. Barclay's *Marquis of Breadalbane* (311); Mr. T. Mogford's *Malcolm Lewis, Esq.* (308); Mr. E. Williams's *Portrait of an Amateur* (294), and Mr. G. Patten's *Henry Peacock, Esq.* (7), *John Grey, Esq.* (270), *Edmund Buckley, Esq.* (404) and *John Sterry, Esq.* (558). A Portrait, by Mr. A. O. Hayter (431), and the portrait of *George Hurlow White, Esq.* (463), by Mr. A. F. Patten, are all that remain to be noticed as conspicuous for talent.

The most successful examples of female portraiture are those by Mrs. Carpenter and Mr. Grant. Mrs. Carpenter exhibits her accustomed power in *Mrs. Stanpon* (91), and in *A Lady Sketching* (568); Mr. Grant in a portrait of *Miss Grant* (126),

*The Countess Bruce* (52), and *The Lady Elizabeth Wells* (364). Mr. Buckner is not successful in *Miss Lane Fox* (180), nor in *Lady Alfred Paget* (418), nor in *Mademoiselle Rachel, as Camille* (390); and Mr. J. R. Swinton, in the *Marchioness of Salisbury* (187), comes within the same category of the fashionable amateur, who, with defective education and by the mere force of class association, contributes by the crude and undigested character of his works to bring this art into decline. No theory about a gentleman only being able to paint a gentleman can atone for structural deficiencies—for an absence of power in drawing that induces the concealment of whole limbs and forms in draperies and shadows, because of sheer inability to express them. No artifices derived from the now hackneyed treatments, of Reynolds or of Gainsborough can compensate for these deficiencies. There is an excellent head by Mr. C. Baxter, entitled *Kathleen* (154); a forcible whole length of *Mrs. Phillips* (351), by Mr. H. W. Phillips, and one of *Madame Viardot* (570), by the same hand. There is much merit, also, in *Lady Ossulton* (389), by Mrs. E. G. Richards. There are portraits by Mr. Mogford and Miss Mary Read, of great talent.

The two best specimens of juvenile portraiture are by Messrs. Hollins and Say. Mr. Hollins is seen to most advantage in that of *Master Gresswell* (168); Mr. Say, in *Edith, the Daughter of the late W. A. Beechey, Esq.* (199). Both these are very creditable to their respective authors. There is much ability in Mr. Eddis's group of children (223), without a title; great merit in Mrs. Carpenter's group of *Children of the Rev. G. Barons Northcote* (524) and in Mr. W. Gush's *Young Student* (112).

We have already observed that the term miniature is a misnomer applied to the productions of certain of our artists,—that the limits of such productions have passed the previously recognized scale to which the term applied. If they gained delicacy and general refinement in the ratio of this increase, it would be well. The aim of Mr. Thorburn is obviously high; but he does not to our thinking do himself justice in these large dimensions. They demand labour for their completion, and the nature of the process is one in which it is difficult to banish the appearance of that labour. There is great ability, however, in the portrait of *The Son of William Angerstein, Esq.* (720). Our observations apply to *George Foljambe and Son* (745). This has the effect of an oil picture; and in that material it would have cost the painter less than half the trouble and met with better success. There are fine character and expression in the group of *Lady and Miss Lindsey* (850)—as also in *Mrs. D. Coutts Majoribanks* (866). *Miss Ackland Hood* (882) is less graceful in pose, and has a costume too expressive of the painter's contrivances. No. 907 is a graceful and recumbent figure of a lady. The miniature, most to our taste in this Exhibition is that by Sir William Ross of *The Marchioness of Breadalbane* (763). It is one of the most elegant pictures in drawing, expression, and colour that we have ever seen from this artist's hands. The head and bust of his *Miss Caroline Wyndham* (743) make us feel as if we were looking at the reduction of a picture by Vandyke. It is full of style and refinement. There is great manliness in *General A. Court* (719). Two admirably composed groups of the family of William Gibbs, Esq., are in circular frames (781 and 125); and very delicate sentiment pervades the group of *Mrs. Oswin Cresswell and Children* (809). *The Lady Naas* (862) is in a very elegant pose. *The Hon. Sidney Herbert* (880) is a capital resemblance.

Among the remaining miniatures, are particularly worthy of attention Mr. H. T. Wells's portrait of *Miss Emma Allinson* (705),—the very singular and characteristic whole-length figure of *A. Tennyades, Esq.* (716), by Mr. C. Couzens,—Mr. C. Durham's *Miss Byrne* (768) and his *Portrait* (775).—Mr. J. Fisher's *Miniature of a Lady* (762), a work of great excellence,—Miss A. Cole's Frame containing two miniatures of Mrs. McCarthy and another (774),—Mr. T. Carrick's portrait of *T. Carlisle, Esq.* (795),—the portrait of *Prof. Cockerell* (810), by Sir Wm. Newton,—*The Rev. Richard Ward* (816), by the same hand,—a small oval portrait by Mrs.

Dalton (860),—*A Group of Children enamelled on porcelain from life* (786), by Mr. J. Simpson, evidently wrought from a daguerreotype, and proving incontestably not only of how little use, but of how much mischief, the mere adherence to the artificial effects obtained by such means may be in hands that have not great mastery in the science of their profession. There are also to be noticed Mr. J. S. Templeton's *Daughter of Lord Maidstone* (890),—and a powerful picture of *James Denon, Esq.* by Mr. C. Couzens.—The drawings by the more than octogenarian Jolin Landseer are distinguished for surprising vigour and intelligence. *The Sketch, from Nature, of the Railroad Cutting under Charlton Hill, June 1840* (953), is a remarkable instance of scientific understanding of the subject and of precision of execution. The two *Sketches of a Mill in Jersey* (969 and 970), as well as the former, are tinted in the right good old style which prevailed in the distant days of Paul Sandby and of Hearn. Of the four very poetically conceived designs by Mr. Jones, we give the preference to *Le Déluge*. The incident which the *Genie du Christianisme* has furnished—has met with capital illustration. There is great feeling in *Naomi, Ruth, and Orpah* (968).—As well as in *Hagar and Ishmael* (955). The scene from *Revelations* (944) is a fine conception.—*Minutiae of life and of your quigad*.

Among the larger drawings of portraiture, the two most conspicuous examples of excellence are by Mr. Samuel Lawrence. The heads of the Quaker Post *Bernard Barton* (849) and *Lord Ashburton* (730) are excellent in character and vigorous in drawing. Mr. L. Dickenson is next:—in *The Children of Lieut. Col. and the Hon. Mrs. Charles Ridley* (682),—and in *Lady* (729).—A very good profile is that by Mr. W. Dendy of *Miss M. A. Holkamp* (933).—Of a number of drawings by Mr. Chalon, we prefer the portrait of *Henry Lazarus, Esq.* (956).

#### Sculptures.

We return to the Sculpture-Room for a notice of some other works which maintain the character of the English school in this Exhibition.—and first, and beyond all competition, our attention is arrested by Mr. R. J. Wyatt's marble group of *A Huntress with a leveret and greyhound* (1294). This is a work which may stand beside the best statues, ancient or modern, and claim a high place in the sculpture ranks for the school which produced it. For spirituality of conception, clearness of rendering, and most perfect manipulation, it can scarcely be surpassed. Our readers will remember the same artist's *Nymph of Diana taking a thorn from a greyhound's foot*, which was exhibited in the Academy last year. Here we have, as we think, the same nymph and the same greyhound in a new action. As in the former work, the modelling is a masterpiece of minute truth and beauty. All the extremities and the very sandals on the feet are again finished up with a care that takes nothing from the large spirit which presides over the work as a whole. Mr. Wyatt has once more ventured on to that dangerous sculptural ground, the representation of textures, with perfect success. The hair of his animals is given with the eloquence of painting. His art seems to master whatever it touches;—but again we say, we will not offer it as an example in this respect. At every point from which the group is looked on, it interprets itself—always to the same effect, but with some new grace of expression. Every detail, as in a perfect lyric, is a phrase contributing to the general meaning. The drapery of the Nymph is gathered into folds of matchless lightness, elegance and truth. The greyhound leaping at the leveret held in her left hand is restrained by the charmingly modelled right arm with the ease and grace significant of her more than mortal nature. There is one detail of the work to which an exception may be taken—but for which a defence is easily found. The objection is one of sentiment—while the defence is one of argument:—therefore, the first will always present itself, while the last has to be gone in search of. The balance is, that to our thinking this is somewhat of a defect. The lower limbs seem somewhat too massive for the extreme delicacy of the rest of the modelling. Now, Mr. Wyatt may answer that this is a physical truth, and may chal-



lenge our assent to his proposition. The legs are in all probability made more robust than the other limbs, by intelligent design. A huntress, even if she be one of Diana's maidens, should, it may be urged show the effect of her sports on the muscles most exercised. We will not dispute the matter physiologically with Mr. Wyatt, but as we have said sentimentally. In a work so refined, we feel the idealism fail us at this point. If this be a fault, it is seen in the light of the perfect beauty of the other parts. It is difficult to understand how the exhibitor of such works as Mr. Wyatt's should be found out of the ranks of the Academicians.

"A step" literally will bring us, as it does proverbially, "from the sublime to the ridiculous." No. 1297 gives a new and very original revelation, by Mr. B. Marvolutti, of *Sappho*, sitting on her rock. The novelty rides over the whole performance. We do not suppose that the face of Sappho ever visited any dream in this guise before. It throws a new light on the causes of her despair. Mr. Marvolutti's Sappho has not what is popularly called "a singing face." The attitude is to match, and the execution suggests a joke. Sappho is perched up on a high table which does duty for a rock, with her legs hanging over, if such a word as hanging may be applied to their stiffened action. The draperies are drawn tight round so as to show the knee-bones, have not a suggestion of motion in the breeze which should be blowing up there, and are cut square off above the ankles after a fashion which needs explanation. We do not quite see the artist's point in this arrangement. The draperies suggest stone as their material, and will certainly help to drown her when she shall leap into the sea. If this be Sappho, her fate in love would seem to have been inevitable.

Mr. Richard Westmacott has a work of striking merit in this Exhibition (1302),—a recumbent statue of *The Most Reverend William Howley, late Lord Archbishop of Canterbury*, destined for the choir of his cathedral. The arch-priest lies carved in stone on an altar tomb after the old severe mediæval fashion,—the Book of Life clasped in Death to his breast. The body is covered all but the head and its immediate neighbourhood, and the ornamental and other details are handled after the old stiff manner. The site where this work is to stand and the monuments by which it will be surrounded have, we suppose, determined this manner of treatment. As a piece of portraiture the face is admirably wrought,—sleep rather than death being the image suggested.

While on the theme of works that imitate the mediæval, we may mention three colossal models, destined to be cast in bronze and occupy niches in the House of Lords by order of the Royal Commission of Fine Arts. These are: *Long-épée; Earl of Salisbury* (1332), by Mr. J. Thomas;—*William, Earl of Warren* (1331), by Mr. Mac Dowell;—and *Henry, Earl of Hereford* (1336), by Mr. T. Thornycroft. It is to be borne in mind that these statues are architectonic, and that the artists have worked on them under prescribed, and not altogether favourable, conditions. They are the three stalwart gentlemen whose narrow shoulders, compelled by the form of the niches in which they are to stand, had to bear the wit of the House of Commons some evenings ago. This is a defect, to begin with, but for which the artists must not be held responsible. There is in all these works some extraordinary manipulation,—the chain armour being wrought with exceeding cunning of hand. But the attitudes strike us as being too formal and deliberate,—in the case of Mr. Thornycroft's work, scarcely natural. There is, too, it seems to us, something wanting to the mediæval presentment. While imitating the old statues, these figures want their quaintness. But they are fine works,—and must not be judged with the severity which would be applied to spontaneous productions in which the artists had laid down their own schemes.

Mr. Marshall is scarcely so successful this year with his *Nymphs* (1305), as he has been in his works for some years past. The group is meant to represent the Spirit Presences of classic mythology mourning in their leafy haunts the warning of departure to their race sounded by the advent of Christianity.

The lovely mountains o'er,  
And the surrounding shore,  
A voice of weeping heard and loud lament;  
From haunted spire and dale,  
Edged with poplar pale,  
The parting genius is with sighing sent;  
With flower-inwoven tresses torn,  
The nymphs in twilight shade of tangled thickets mourn.  
*Milton's "Ode on the Nativity."*

There is little more here than material forms to convey the sculptor's meaning. We miss the spirituality which Mr. Marshall at times breathes into his marble. The nymph-character conveyed by the group falls far short of the marvel achieved in his *Sabrina*. There is a fault, too, of arrangement,—which should undergo some correction before this work passes into the marble. As seen from the front, the pyramidal form is obtained by placing the upright listening figure almost perpendicular to the reclining one,—the line of the one cuts that of the other almost at right angles. At other points of view richness and variety of line are obtained,—and the limbs swell into forms of voluptuous beauty. They are, however, too material for their subject. "The Fall" of a spirit world deserved a rendering more poetical and touching than Mr. Marshall has here given.

A single paragraph will dispose of what more we have to say.—Two *Bas-reliefs* by Mr. J. S. Westmacott, *Evening* (1327) and *Morning* (1330), have the disadvantage of coming after the masterpieces of Thorwaldsen, and suggesting comparison. They are, however, charming works, with great beauty of expression and of outline. Mr. F. Thupp's marble statue of *A Boy catching a Butterfly* (1332) belongs to that class of works, so abundant in our school generally and in this Exhibition particularly, in which a large amount of technical excellence has been obtained, but the informing genius is wanting. The attitude and action of seizing on the winged insect are well presented, but the sentiment appropriate to these is wholly absent. Indeed, unless this figure be a portrait, it might be predicated of the sculptor who would choose such a triviality for the theme of an art so transcendental that he is wanting in all the genius of his ministry. Such topics are far below the dignity of this most spiritual of arts; and he who has inspiration enough to render the spool of even these would be carried by that same inspiration into a far higher field of selection. The head of this boy is large,—the forms generally not such as become the action; and altogether, we have the impression that the hero of the piece is a very big boy to be playing at catching butterflies. *Nature's Mirror*, by Mr. T. Earle (1339), is a well-modelled figure, but wants meaning. The smallest action has a soul;—and that soul in the hands of genius is made to speak from every part of the plaster or model; but no soul is looking from behind this forehead or made eloquent here in feature and in limb. In Mr. W. Theed's group, in marble, of *The Prodigal Son*, the articulations are elaborately produced and the draperies well managed. The son is too young to fulfil the conditions of the Scripture story. The same artist's statue, in marble, of *Rebekah* (1296) has sweetness of expression which may become the theme; but what beauty there is in the forms has been sacrificed to an ill-selected pose. The arrangement of the limbs brings the body into a stooping attitude, which presents it to the eye as if curtailed of its proper height. The shortness may be anatomically true to the position, for aught we know;—but there is a want of art in such a management of the figure, as raises the question. The same thing may be said of Mr. H. Weekes's *Resting after a run*—a marble statue of the daughter of Frederick J. Reed, Esq. (1315). The work is unquestionably a clever one, and as a portrait it conveys a strong conviction of resemblance; but it does not make a pleasing piece of art. The girl has her hoop flung round her figure, which is thrown into an attitude that dwarfs her apparent height, and makes her look altogether like a little old woman. The attitude is full of nature and life;—and it is probable the sculptor caught her thus;—but he should have known better than to adopt conditions unfavourable to art presentment in general, and to that of his art in particular. Mr. B. E. Spence's *Ophelia* (1298) is a clever ideal of the mad and mournful maid.—With mention of an able work by Miss

Susan Durant, *The Chief Mourner—statue of a girl* (1346), we must conclude our notices of the works in this Exhibition.

The busts are, as usual here, abundant and full of character. In this department the names of Messrs. Baily and Behnes hold the first place.

**FINE-ART GOSSIP.**—An interesting addition has been made to the Panorama of the Nile, showing the Nubian Desert to Dongola. It was first exhibited on Wednesday evening last to a select party; when Mr. Birch, of the British Museum, read a very elaborate paper on the ancient process of embalming—and on the religious feelings and superstitions of the Egyptians in so preparing the bodies. This he illustrated by reference to a mummy, which the proprietors have lately added to their collection of antiquities.

We referred last week to the parliamentary discussions respecting the New Houses of Parliament, and observed, incidentally, that Mr. Barry had not been fortunate in his champions; from which it might be inferred that we thought a better case might have been made out for him by a zealous and able advocate; although we admitted that the cost of the building—2,000,000*l.* including the site and the embankment—perhaps the delay, had been excessive. A Correspondent, whose voice we regret to say was not heard in Parliament, as it ought to have been, denies the justice of even these qualified objections. Two special Commissions of Inquiry, he says, have reported that the delays have been inevitable, and not attributable to Mr. Barry; and as to the additional expenditure, it has been, as a matter of course, from time to time, when the occasions arose, submitted to Government and to Parliament, and by both approved and authorized—for additions to the original design. Further, after deducting the cost of the embankment and the purchase of site, with which the architect is in no way concerned, less—very little less, but less—than one million has been expended on the building; and the total cost, including the furniture, fittings-up, and all the additional charges to render the building habitable, is estimated at two millions, which will, he says, no doubt, cover all that is proposed. We assure our Correspondent that none will rejoice more than ourselves if his statement shall prove true; but we must observe, that, whether intentionally or not, it is qualified. He does not say that 2,000,000*l.* will cover the total cost of building, &c., but of all "that is proposed"—in March 1850. Why, probably 1,000,000*l.* would have covered all that was "proposed" in 1836! We are so accustomed to this sort of parliamentary talk and these parliamentary estimates, that our Correspondent must excuse us if we speak by the card. That Mr. Barry has advisedly and properly taken care to protect himself, and have warranted for all he has done, may be admitted;—and yet the question whether there has been excess of expenditure over estimate or needless delay in erecting the House of Commons remain just where we left it.

Mr. Cotterill has melted the Emperor of Russia's 700 ounces of silver into a tasteful vase for the Ascot Races. He has taken for his subject the eighth labour of Hercules, *The Destruction of the Diomedes, King of Thrace, and his Horses*;—and he has worked with all his customary skill in carrying out his story. The modelling is, if possible, still more delicate than usual; while the work as a whole is worthy of Mr. Cotterill's well-earned reputation for designs of this nature. The manufacturer is the Messrs. Garrard, of the Haymarket.

The fine collection of Italian, Flemish, and Dutch pictures made by the late Mr. John Noble is, we see, about to be brought to the hammer. It embraces works by Guido, Titian, Vasari, Giulio Romano, Carlo Dolce, Andrea del Sarto, Passignani, Canaletto, Mignard, Subtermans, Van Orley, De Witte, &c. The works by Del Sarto are portraits of Dante, Petrarch, and Ariosto.

During the present week Mr. Phillips has been selling favourable specimens of the old masters, and Messrs. Christie & Manson still better specimens of the English school of painting. Mr. Phillips's prices for Ruysdaels and Hobbemas



ranged from 115 to 190 guineas, and for Rembrandts and Murillos from 200 to 230 guineas:—far from high, it is true, but quite as much as the pictures are worth. Other pictures of a less questionable character brought better prices. A Van Huysum, 'Flowers in an antique Vase,' sold for 230 guineas,—and a landscape by Rubens, from the Pallavicini Palace, for 450 guineas. The produce of the sale was above 6,000 guineas. Mr. Christie's 'Please remember the grotto,—only once a year!'—one of Webster's best works—brought 470 guineas. Collins's 'Sunday Morning' (formerly in Mr. Knott's collection), realized under the same hammer 480l. 10s. A noble classical landscape by Calcott, painted in generous emulation of Turner's picture at Lord Yarborough's, brought 450 guineas. It is in every respect a choice example of the poetic power of the English school in a line something between Claude and Gaspar. 'The quiet Lake,' by Creswick, sold for 173l. 5s.;—the Interior of the chapel of the Church of St. Jean at Caen, by Roberts, for 283l. 10s.;—and 'Dutch Boats running into Saardam,' by Stanfield, for 314l. 10s. The English school of art is still an excellent investment for superfluous capital. Look at the produce of the sweepings of Etty's studio,—and the sum realized by a brother a week ago from the sale of his sister's portrait by Sir Joshua!

The *Builder* says, it is proposed to erect a monument in honour of the poet Cowper, in Westminster Abbey, from a design by Mr. Marshall, the sculptor, exhibited at the Royal Academy in 1849.

The *Brussels Herald* announces that the statue which is to crown the Rouppe fountain, opposite the Station du Midi, at Brussels, has just been placed on that monument. The statue, of white marble, was executed by M. Fraikin, and represents the city of Brussels.

The twenty-second Exhibition of objects of Art by living artists is to be opened this year at Amsterdam on Tuesday the 20th of August next,—to be closed on Saturday the 21st of September following,—in the building of the Academy of Fine Arts.

### MUSIC AND THE DRAMA

M. BENEDICT'S ANNUAL CONCERT, HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE.—Halle, Osborne, Lindsay Sloper, and Benedict will play a Pianoforte Quartett, composed expressly by G. Osborne for M. BENEDICT'S GRAND ANNUAL CONCERT, to be given on the Stage of HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE, on FRIDAY MORNING, June 29, in addition to all the eminent artists engaged at Her Majesty's Theatre.—Boxes, Stalls and Tickets may be secured at the Box Office of the Theatre; which is open from 11 until 5, and of M. Benedict, 2, Manchester Square.

\* Full programmes are now ready, and may be obtained at all the principal Libraries and Music-sellers.

HERR STIGELLI'S GRAND EVENING CONCERT, in which Mdlle. Angri, Mdlle. Nottes, Mdlle. Molique, Herr Molique, Herr Dreysschok, Signor Marchesi, the celebrated Hungarian Vocalists, and Herr Stigelli will appear; will take place on FRIDAY, June 14th, at WILLIS'S ROOMS, King Street, St. James's. Tickets 7s. 6d., Reserved Seats 10s. 6d., to be had of Herr Stigelli, 15, Golden Square, and of all Music-sellers.

PHILHARMONIC CONCERTS.—The orchestral portion of the *Seventh Concert* was admirable. We had a specimen of genius superb in Beethoven's C Minor Symphony,—one of genius picturesque in Mendelssohn's Third Symphony, which went most exquisitely,—and one of genius fantastic and characteristic, in Weber's overture to 'Preciosa.' Compared with these, Onslow's overture to 'Guise' is, at best, merely a piece of cleverness, which we are willing to hear for once, but not more frequently.—The instrumental *solo* of Monday's concert claims at once notice, honour, and remembrance. It was a *Concerto* by M. Alard, divided into two portions. This gentleman's execution entirely justifies his high Parisian renown. He is admirable for the thorough command of his instrument and for his glassy clearness and certainty of tone. But his *concerto* is a clever mistake. Neither its first movement nor its *finale* is either *allegro* or exciting; on the contrary, in both we were perpetually teased by a continual slackening of tempo, by want of idea and consequent retardation of interest—by the pretence rather than the reality of grand phrases and original thoughts. The passages in themselves singly effective, taken as a whole are felt to be wearisome; and the player paid the penalty,—and was received with vexatious coldness.

There was a memorable vocal exhibition on Monday evening. After the high character of Madame Ortensia Maillard so recently as last week tendered by an esteemed correspondent, we would prefer not to speak of this thoroughly strange Lady. But the case and the place admit of no compromise or exception. Burlesque is the only word which can describe Madame Maillard's exaggeration of style and vocal ambition, totally unfulfilled by vocal performance,—though eked out by the wavings, bridlings, and other gesticulations of one who imagines that bad stage tricks are attractive in the orchestra.—It is fair to state that Madame Maillard came to London with recommendations from Rossini; but the *maestro's* contempt for his own words (as well as for his own works) was too fully shown in the case of his 'Robert le Bruce' for us ever again to affix any value to his *litera scripta*. We were told, likewise, that she was ill; but whereas sickness may impair a voice, it will hardly prostrate a vocalist from a good into an absurd style. Mr. Sims Reeves as the other singer,—and sang with great care Cherubini's 'Ave Maria.' The adoption of this air by a tenor voice has been warranted at the Paris *Conservatoire* by M. Alexis Dupont,—but the lovely song goes better with a female than with a male voice.—Besides M. Benedict, Herr Ernst is to play at the last Philharmonic Concert.

MUSICAL UNION.—Last year M. Alard's playing of chamber music was merely chronicled, not criticized by us. It bears too high a value in Paris, and is essentially too highly distinguished as regards executive felicity, not to merit close attention. On stating disappointment in it as our impression, we must for the hundredth time repeat that by chamber music the strictest standards and the most delicate tests are demanded. M. Alard's playing fails to be effective from the superabundance of effects attempted by him. It is stiffly and distractingly glittering from the multiplicity of little points. These no more make up intellectual music than they do witty dialogue. The predominance of such a mistaken notion of power, purpose, and expression has always (as our readers may recollect) more or less acted as a drawback on our pleasure in the far-famed *Conservatoire* performances of German music. First-rate as M. Alard unquestionably is among executants, he cannot be placed in our high rank of classical players unless he has other ideas and resources than those by him exhibited on Tuesday.—M. Halle played magnificently,—being unquestionably the best player of Mendelssohn's music that we have heard, save Mendelssohn himself.

CONCERTS OF THE WEEK.—The musical week began on Monday with Mdlle. Coulon's Concert, at which that young and meritorious pianist made it clearly and brilliantly to be heard that she has grown richer in resources since last year.—On Tuesday morning Herr Kuhe received his friends; assisted (said his programme) by Herr Molique, Madame Nottes, Miss Hayes, Mdlles. Graumann, Schloss and De Rupplin, Miss Bassano, Mr. Sims Reeves, Signor Ciabatta, Herr Stigelli, Herr Mayerhofer, and others. We have on former occasions commended Herr Kuhe as among the more agreeable pianists of the second class,—and have little new to add concerning himself or his music.

The programme of the Annual Concert held on Wednesday evening by the Royal Society of Female Musicians was even more poor and patchy than in former springs;—which is saying much. Our best words and wishes attended a Society so honourably originated as this was; but the absence of character, meaning, or artistic purpose in its recent exhibitions demands reproof,—as arguing either a want of unity, a want of ambition, or a want of intelligence on the part of the English Ladies, not satisfactory to contemplate. It is vexatious to observe how the tendency of all corporate bodies inclines towards supineness and corruption. But the *Female Musicians* have begun to nod before they have arrived at their teens; and like true friends, we must use the ferule to awaken them, seeing that gentler provocations fail. We have before said that a pleasing character might be given to their Concerts by the performance of works by female

musicians; but theirs was a meeting of "no character at all,"—thus most suicidally justifying the often-quoted line of the satirist. This objected, we must particularize the violoncello *solo* by Signor Piatti, and the Mendelssohn *Concerto* by M. Hallé, as excellent. Miss L. Pyne, Misses Birch, Miss P. Horton, Miss M. Williams, and Mrs. Noble well sustained the fame of English female musicians against the foreign Ladies who appeared,—and whom we will not particularize, seeing that their appearance was made in the cause of beneficence.

We owe Mr. W. S. Bennett thanks for having broken through a bad fashion. Having no new orchestral composition to produce (for which, however, we do not owe him thanks) he offered, as so good a pianoforte player might well do, a strictly pianoforte concert, not "a thing of shreds and patches," with opera-songs meagrely accompanied,—but an exhibition by himself on his own instrument of many styles of music; his own welcome and graceful writings not forgotten.—He played Mozart's Quintett with wind instruments, and P. F. Duett in F minor,—Beethoven's P. F. Trio in E flat,—Mozart's grand four-handed *Sonata* in F minor,—and selections from Bach, Mendelssohn, &c., assisted by MM. Sainton, Piatti, Williams, Grattan Cooke, Baumann and Jarrett. What, by the way, has befallen the last-mentioned gentleman? He was a few years ago one of our most refined and promising instrumentalists. He is now as often incomplete as perfect:—at best playing with an indolence which must not pass without remonstrance. Let him recollect that good report in Art is easy to lose, and hard to win back when lost.

Mr. and Mrs. W. Seguin gave their Concert yesterday morning:—at which, perhaps, the most eminent "star" was M. Thalberg.

ROYAL ITALIAN OPERA.—'Don Giovanni.'—The *Leporello* of Herr Formes is so very much his best character among his Italian performances as to claim separate praise and specific notice. It was better sung, better said, and better acted than we had been disposed to credit as possible:—and though not what our reading of *Leporello* might be, came far nearer a vocal and dramatic personation than his *Marcel* or *Caspar* or *Bertram*. Indeed, so many were its good points, and so few its bad ones, as to make us hope earnestly that its superiority may not prove merely fortuitous,—but that the care and steadiness generally shown by Herr Formes on Thursday evening may prove the first fruits of the admirable musical direction under which his good stars have placed him. With such a noble voice and handsome presence and dispositions for the stage as he possesses,—self-knowledge alone has been wanting to insure him a position almost unique among *bassi*. The growth of this may have been retarded by false notions of art, and by the indiscriminate indulgence of the public; but to judge from *Leporello*, it would seem to have set in,—and, we trust, will advance and increase.

SURREY.—The farewell performances of the well-known nautical actor Mr. T. P. Cooke are advertised to take place at this house, where he will for the present repeat most of his better characters. The series was commenced on Monday with *Harry Halyard*, in Mr. Haines's drama of 'My Poll and my Partner Joe.' They who recollect Mr. Cooke in his best days will be surprised at the vigour which yet attaches to his impersonation. There are still dash, pathos, breadth and force in his acting. Gallant and tender, his *Harry Halyard* is invested with those genial attributes which attract the popular sympathies,—interpreted with so much histrionic skill as to satisfy the critical, and to account for the popularity of the pieces, however humble in pretension, in which that skill was first exerted. In a word, Mr. Cooke has been, and is, an artist; and had he fallen on better times for the Drama, or for his own position in it, he might have won high reputation in a more important range of characterization than that which he has actually sustained. His reception on Monday was enthusiastic, and on the fall of the curtain he was summoned loudly before it.



NEW STRAND.—This is the last week of Mrs. Glover's performances. To-night she takes her final farewell.

MARTLEBONE.—This theatre closed on Wednesday. Mr. Brooke has performed during the week the characters of *Hotspur*, *Macbeth*, and *Sir Edward Mortimer*. He departs, we are informed, forthwith for America.

MUSICAL AND DRAMATIC GOSSIP.—Signor Ronconi appeared on Tuesday in his favourite part of *Il Barbiere*. Who can hear or see this capital singer and consummate actor without grieving at his apparent determination to restrict himself to a small repertory of operas which are either too old or too new for England?—We are, on like grounds, sorry to perceive that Mr. Sims Reeves, by his constancy to 'Lucia,' 'Linda,' and 'La Sonnambula,' makes such little way in his theatre. He ought, otherwise, to have been the *Ferdinand* in 'La Tempesta,' failing Signor Gardoni:—for whose absence and disappearance, by the way, neither account nor apology is given.

So perpetually does the repertory of Mr. Mitchell's French theatre change, and so largely is it supported by subscription, that during the full "bitterness of the season" it becomes unnecessary to "honour his bills" night by night. But M. Lafont must not come again without our offering the best of good welcomes to his sharply-cut and gentlemanly comedy. Nor must M. Regnier take his benefit (as happened on Wednesday last) without good wishes, which—remembering *Æsop's* "brass-farthing" valuation of blessings—we hope have also taken golden forms. As *Bernardet* in 'La Camaraderie'—as *Balland* in 'Une Chaine,'—as any strong-witted, busy, not finely-mannered *bourgeois*, whether gay or grave, M. Regnier is admirable. There is a direct sincerity in his acting, not always found in conjunction with "French polish,"—yet he is no less remarkable for that absence of exaggeration for which we never cease to sigh, under the excruciation of much that passes for whim, nature, and character on our London stages.

Many have been the mechanical attempts made to direct the hand of the pianoforte player into a good position:—the late Mr. Logier, Col. Hawker, and, if we mistake not also, M. H. Herz having successively given attention to the subject, and each one having put forth his expedient. None of these, however, has "kept the piano,"—from whence it may be inferred that the best assistance has hitherto proved insufficient, and not been found generally useful. Beauty of tone is more largely referable to physical organization than many will care to admit—until the still larger truth shall be mastered, that even without beauty of tone there may be beauty in performance derived from beauty of expression. As a singer (to illustrate) Madame Persiani was eminently *simpatica*—while Madame Stöckl Heinefetter repelled rather than attracted the ear. Yet the latter possessed the organ. To return:—The Hand Guide of Mr. Church, appears well calculated to compel the wrist to do the whole duty of the performance; and (so far as a single inspection warrants a judgment) we conceive that his invention is about the best for its purpose which has been offered.

Madame Viardot Garcia has left Berlin, and is daily expected in London.—A Mdle. Ebeling has been singing with success in the Prussian metropolis. The journals of that town are again reviving the rumour which appears from time to time,—namely, that M. Meyerbeer is about to complete an opera which Weber left unfinished. This time, his share is defined to be, a new third act, three numbers in the second act, one number in the first act, and an Overture.

Having missed Miss Miran for some time, we are glad to receive tidings of her life and progress from the foreign journals. These announce that she has been singing in the Piedmontese towns as *Pippo* and as *Rosina*, with considerable success. A *contralto* is now safer in Italian practice than a *soprano*; since by the modern destroyers of opera the low female voice has been virtually ignored,—and hence its professors are driven upon a repertory

of works which were contrived before vocalists were expected to scream—not to sing.

The amateur Ladies of Paris seem to be getting up sacred music in the churches there. The *Gazette Musicale* speaks of more than one "*Mois de Marie*" (what an old-world elegance is there in the name of the service!) thus executed. How strangely do reports of litany-singing beauties contrast with announcements of the discovery of clandestine powder-factories in the *Faubourg St. Antoine*! Yet times of surprise and emotion and unsettlement have not been the periods most unfavourable to Art and to Fancy. It was from the midst of the plague in Florence that the Ladies of the Decameron went out to get rid of dark thoughts and direful spectacles by romancing.

The thirty-third anniversary of the Drury Lane Theatrical Fund was held on Monday; with brilliant musical assistance, the usual reports, speeches, &c.,—and a subscription amounting to 573*l.* 10*s.*

Mr. Farren has, we understand, become the lessee of the Olympic Theatre.

Mr. Barnum—who is just now farming "the Lancashire Bell Ringers," tutors to the "Campanalogians"—besides building the great room for Mdle. Lind in New York, is accrediting other fabrications, which have the Swedish lady for their object. The *Message Bird* of May the 15th contains a review of a biography of Mdle. Lind, prefaced by Mr. Barnum, and gives an extract from this, which is a curiosity. Whether Transatlantic readers, such as the *Athenæum* addresses, trouble themselves with such confections, we know not; but for the benefit of a stray one or two, it may just be mentioned that the details stated in the passage referred to are as near the truth as the last disappearance of Niagara Falls, which is again and again put forward in the papers. Such random catchpenny work bodes ill for the private comfort of Mdle. Lind's progress.—By the same *Message Bird* we learn that the Havanna Opera Company, which comprises Mdle. Steffanoni, and Signori Salvi and Marini, has been singing in the northern towns with success;—that "the Druidical Band, sixty in number, have been giving their novel performances with ox-horns and in costume at Fishkill and other places;"—and that "Mrs. Mary Shaw Fogg is giving concerts in the southern cities, in costumes appropriate to her ballads as well as her opera scenes."—We should lastly mention that M. Henri Herz "has been recently appointed Director—with a large salary—of the Musical Conservatory established by the Government of Mexico."

#### MISCELLANEA

*Geological Survey.*—We find the following Report of the progress of the Geological Survey of the United Kingdom (signed by Sir H. De la Beche) in the Parliamentary Papers on the Estimates in Connexion with Science and Education.—"This service has considerably advanced during the year. Denbighshire, which includes the continuation of the Oswestry and Wrexham coal field, is completed. The examination of Carnarvonshire is terminated, with the exception of a small portion of the mountain district, the early snows on which prevented its final survey. The island of Anglesey, including its mines, is nearly finished. Flintshire, with its coal field and extensive metalliferous districts, together with the western portion of Cheshire, is surveyed. The Staffordshire coal field, with its adjoining country, is very far advanced. Dorsetshire is very nearly completed, and a large part of Hampshire has been examined. The maps of these districts, and others ready towards the close of last year, the whole closing an area of about 5,350 square miles, are now in course of publication, and will shortly be accompanied by numerous illustrative sections. In Ireland, the counties of Carlow and Kildare have been completed, and maps of them published. The county of Dublin has been surveyed, and the map of it is now in the hands of the engraver. The examination of the county of Wexford is nearly finished, and will shortly be ready for publication. The collection of soils and subsoils of the country surveyed, accompanied by information regarding them, has progressed as heretofore, and 194 specimens from different localities have been forwarded to the

Museum of Irish Industry, Dublin, for analysis. In connexion with the Geological Survey of the United Kingdom, the organic remains obtained during its progress have been extensively examined and classified for public inspection, and about 23,200 specimens have been thus treated during the year. Numerous donations have been received from geologists desirous of promoting the progress of the Survey. Whole collections have been thus presented; such as a series of Devonian fossils, by Mr. R. A. C. Austen; of organic remains from Folkestone, by Mr. C. Clarke; from the chalk and London clay, by Mr. Wetherell; from the Isle of Man, by the Rev. J. Cumming; and from various parts of the kingdom, by Mr. Weaver. Two decades of figures of selected fossils, with their descriptions, have been published, and others are nearly ready."

*Serpent-Tamer.*—A correspondent of the *Daily News*, at Southampton, describes the daring handling of some of the venomous serpents by a young African serpent-tamer.—"He took out the *Cobra capellas* from a box, fondled with them, kissed their heads and mouths, held them in his mouth, irritated them apparently to madness by scratching them on the back, and even suffered them to bite him without experiencing any apparent injury. It was a singular sight to see one of these serpents irritated, standing firmly on a small portion of his tail while the body was forming graceful curves, and it was preparing to spring upon the boy with its mouth open and its fangs quivering. Although its body is perfectly round when it is not irritated, yet, when it was savage, the body, for several inches immediately below the head, would alter its eel-like form, and, spreading out, would become perfectly flat, like the body of a flat fish, such as a plaice or a sole."

*Revival of a Sanscrit Tragedy of 3,000 Years' Existence.*—The Paris correspondent of the *Atlas* says:—"The revival of a piece from the Hindoo theatre, 'performed for the first time,' some two or three thousand years since, in a city which no longer has existence on the earth, and written by the sovereign of a country whose very name has become a matter of dispute, has been the great theatrical wonder of the hour. The piece has been translated from the original Sanscrit, by Gerard de Nerval, and has met with unbounded success. All Paris has been aroused by this curious contemplation of the ideas and motives of those remote ages; and a whimsical kind of delight is experienced at finding the human nature of Hindostan of so many centuries ago and the human nature of modern Paris so exactly alike in their puerility and violence, their audacity and absurdity, that the play may verily be considered a *pièce de circonstance*. King Soudraka seems to have anticipated the existence of such men as Louis Blanc and Proudhon, of Louis Bonaparte and Carlier:—so true it is that there is nothing new under the sun, and that not an idea floats on the tide of human intelligence but what has been borne thither by the waters of oblivion, on which it had been already flung."

*Monument to John Bunyan, in Bedford.*—The *Art-Journal* says:—"A noble edifice has just been completed on the site of the old meeting-house and of its ancient predecessor, the 'Barn of John Ruffhead,' where the glorious dreamer himself ministered to his townsfolk. The style of the building is that in use immediately after the time of Inigo Jones and Sir Christopher Wren; of which there are but few good examples in the country, and those generally by Gibbs, the celebrated architect of St. Martin's Church. The material of the base, which shows about four feet above ground, is hammer-dressed limestone from a neighbouring quarry, capped with Yorkshire plinth, giving a bold footing to the pilasters. The superstructure is red brick with stone dressings; the two side elevations are each divided into six compartments, by pilasters with stone mounted bases, and capitals surmounted by a stone architrave and modillion cornice. The front is elevated on a basement of three steps, extending the whole width of the building, but divided by massive blocks to receive the pilasters, which are uniform with those on the side elevation. In the centre compartment is the principal entrance, with semicircular head in rusticated masonry. The architrave corresponds to the side elevations, and is surmounted by a bold pediment. The outer dimensions of the building are eighty feet



by fifty feet, and the height thirty-two feet from floor to cornice. The ceiling is pannelled, and the centre division is covered, to give an additional height of seven feet. The building is lighted by a huge light chandelier, which gives a beautifully soft yet sufficient light for the whole place."

**Smithfield Market-day.**—"Mad bull! mad bull! mad bull!" resounded from Smithfield Bars. "Mad bull! mad bull!" was echoed from the uppermost ends of St. John Street. Bovington looked out of window. A fine black ox was tearing furiously along the pavement. Women were screaming and rushing into shops, children scrambling out of the road, men hiding themselves in doorways, boys in ecstasies of rapture, drovers as mad as the bull tearing after him, sheep getting under the wheels of hackney-coaches, dogs half choking themselves with worrying the wool off their backs, pigs obstinately connecting themselves with a hearse and funeral, other oxen looking into public-houses—everybody and everything disorganized, no sort of animal able to go where it wanted or was wanted; nothing in its right place; everything wrong everywhere; all the town in a brain fever because of this infernal market! The mad bull was Mr. Bovington's West Highlander. He was quite prepared for it. When he saw him going round the corner, and at the same moment beheld a nurserymaid, a baby, and a baked potato-can fly into the air in opposite directions, he was horrified, but not surprised. He followed his West Highlander. He followed the crowd tearing after his West Highlander, down St. John Street, through Jerusalem Passage, along Clerkenwell Green, up a hill, and down an alley. He passed two disabled apple-women, a fractured shop-front, an old man being put into a cab and taken to the hospital. At last, he traced the favourite of his herds into a back parlour in Liquorpond Street, into which he had violently intruded through a tripe-shop, and where he was being slaughtered for his own peace and for the safety of the neighbourhood; but not at all to the satisfaction of an invalid who had leaped out of a turn-up bedstead into the little yard behind. The carcass of the West Highlander was sold to a butcher for a sum which paid about half of what was demanded from its owner for compensation to the different victims of its fury.—*Dickens's "Household Words."*

**London and New York.**—An American gentleman now on a visit to this country describes in the *Boston Register* his impressions on entering the city of cities.—"I have heard it said by Americans, that entering London was very much like entering New York; and I can conceive that if one comes from the station asleep in a cab it may be so,—but under no other circumstances. There is something not merely in the immense distances you traverse, but in the grim solidity of the houses—the continuous flow of the people—the ceaseless thunderous rumbling carriages, carts and vans,—and the dense canopy of smoke,—which at once announces to my mind at least, the presence of multitudes of human beings and human interests such as I never elsewhere saw or felt to be gathered together. And I know no better expression for the sentiment with which I have always entered and abided in London than Mr. Webster's, who when he was asked what he thought of the city, answered, 'I have not yet done wondering.' Especially does this stupefaction overcome one now, when the world-city is wrapped in its wintry mystery of fog; for all that has been said and sung of London fog conveys a feeble idea of the reality. We, born under the glowing American sky, under sunlight more golden and blue heavens more blue than smile on any other land save Greece, can with difficulty believe that a place exists where for day after day the sun shines not at all, or only as through smoked glass,—while a murky mist floats at morning and evening up and down the streets, blackening all that it touches, and turning Parian marble to the hue of Newcastle coal."

To CORRESPONDENTS.—J. W.—C. W.—An Independent.—M.—G. D. H.—W. W. S.—received.

H. C. is referred to our answers to correspondents last week for an answer to his query.

S. L.—We had not seen this correspondent's letter on the subject of the laureateship; but now that he has stated its contents, we dissent from nearly all its conclusions.

Erratum.—P. 583, col. 2, lines 13 and 18, for "Henning" read *Hennel*.

## MR. BENTLEY'S LIST FOR JUNE.

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**ROYAL AGRICULTURAL COLLEGE, GIRENCESTER.**  
*Patron*—H.R.H. PRINCE ALBERT.  
*President of the Council*—Rev. Hon. Earl Bathurst.  
*Vice-President*—Rev. Hon. Earl Ducie.  
*Principal*—John Wilson, F.R.S.E. F.G.S. &c.  
*Chaplain and First Master*—Rev. L. C. Edwards, M.A.  
*Second Master*—J. D. Pemberton, C.E.  
**RESIDENT PROFESSORS.**  
*Agriculture*—John Wilson, F.R.S.E. &c.  
*Chemistry*—J. A. C. Voelcker, Ph.D. F.C.S.  
*Natural History*—John H. Buckman, F.G.S. &c.  
*Mathematics and Natural Philosophy*—Rev. L. C. Edwards, M.A.  
*Veterinary Practice*—G. T. Brown, M.R.C.V.S.  
*Surveying and Practical Engineering*—J. D. Pemberton, C.E.

The object of this Institution is to provide such a course of instruction as will be most useful to the Agriculturist. The benefits to be derived from a judicious application of scientific information are becoming more and more extensively acknowledged, while the means of obtaining that information, if indeed it can be obtained at all, without, for the time, sacrificing a due attention to the practical operations of husbandry, are so scattered and costly as to be within the reach of very few.  
The College course of instruction is conducted in such a manner that, while the student is well based in the principles of each science, its relations to agriculture are specially touched upon and explained, and their practical application shown, as far as possible, in the operations of the College Farm.  
The theoretical and practical instructions go hand in hand, and the whole is combined with the advantages of collegiate discipline.  
By order of the Council,  
PHILIP BOWES, Secretary.

London Office, 26, King William-street, West Strand.

**QUEEN'S COLLEGE, CORK.**  
*President*—Sir R. KANE, M.D. F.R.S.  
*Vice-President*—J. RYALL, L.L.D.  
**FACULTY OF MEDICINE.**  
*Session 1850-51.*  
*Dean of Faculty*—ALEXANDER FLEMING, M.D.  
**PROFESSORS.**

<i>Anatomy and Physiology</i> .....	Benjamin Alock, A.B. M.D.
<i>Practical Anatomy</i> .....	D. C. O'Connor, A.B. M.D.
<i>Practice of Medicine</i> .....	Denis B. Bullen, M.D.
<i>Practice of Surgery</i> .....	Alexander Fleming, M.D.
<i>Medical Jurisprudence</i> .....	R. Harvey, A.B. M.D.
<i>Natural Philosophy</i> .....	George Fred. Shaw, F.T.C.D.
<i>Chemistry</i> .....	J. Blyth, M.D.
<i>Practical Chemistry</i> .....	
<i>Natural History</i> .....	Rev. William Hincks, F.L.S.
<i>Botany</i> .....	
<i>Modern Languages</i> .....	R. De Véricourt, D. es L.
<i>Demonstrator of Anatomy</i> .....	N. J. Hobart, M.D.

[Clinical Medicine and Clinical Surgery, at the North and South Infirmary, by the Physicians and Surgeons of these Institutions. Clinical Midwifery, at the Lying-in Hospital.]

**DEANS OF RESIDENCES.**  
*Church of England*, Rev. Lewis Perrin; *Roman Catholic Church*, Rev. William O'Connor; *Presbyterian Church*, Rev. Wm. Magill.  
The Courses of Lectures will commence on Wednesday, the 23rd of OCTOBER 1850. The hours of Lecture will be advertised early in September. The Practical Anatomy department will be opened on the 1st of October.

**CLASS FEES.**—Anatomy and Physiology, 2l.; each subsequent course, 2l.; Comparative Anatomy, 1l. 10s.; Practical Anatomy, 2l.; Practical Chemistry, 3l.; Natural Philosophy, 1l. 10s.; Botany, 1l. 10s. For all the other classes—First course, 2l.; each subsequent course, 1l.

**SCHOLARSHIPS AND PRIZES.**  
*Session 1850-51.*—Four Scholarships, of the value of 20l. each, will be awarded to Students in Medicine, two to students commencing their first year, and two to students commencing their second year. Two Prizes of 10l. each will be given to the two students who rank next in merit to the successful candidates for the Scholarships of the first year, and one prize of 8l. to the student next in merit to the successful candidates for the Scholarships of the second year.

**IN ALL SUBSEQUENT YEARS.** Eight Scholarships will be awarded to Students in Medicine, thus—Six Junior Scholarships of 20l. each, to students commencing their first, second, and third years—two to each year—and two Senior Scholarships, of 40l. each, to students commencing their fourth year.

**PRIZES.**—Examinations will be held in each Class throughout the Session, and Prizes will be awarded to the students who exhibit the greatest proficiency.  
The College Courses are recognized by all the Public Boards.

The moderate expense of board and lodging in Cork, and more especially the mild winter and general equable temperature of its climate, give the Cork Quench College important advantages as a Medical School. The regulations adopted by the Government to provide for the health and comfort, as well as for the moral and religious discipline of the matriculated students in Medicine, also merit the attention of Parents and Guardians.

The Prospectus, with full details of the course of study for the degree of M.D. in the Queen's University, Ireland, and the subjects of examination for the Scholarships, may be obtained from the Registrar, of whom may be had the list of Boarding-houses which have obtained the licence of the President, and are placed under the supervision of the Deans of Residences; also the Prospectuses of the Faculties of Arts, and of Law, and of the Schools of Engineering, and of Agriculture.

ALEX. FLEMING, M.D. Dean of Faculty.  
By order of the President.  
FRANCIS ALBANI, Registrar.

**PUTNEY COLLEGE, near London.**

*President.*  
His Grace the DUKE of BUCCLEUCH, K.G.  
*Principal*—The Rev. M. COWIE, M.A., late Fellow of St. John's College, Cambridge.  
The object of this Institution is to combine General Education, Collegiate Discipline for Resident Students, Special Instruction in Science and its Practical Applications in the Civil and Military Professions, and Preparation for the Universities.  
The charges are as follows:—  
For General Education, including Religious Instruction, Classics, Mathematics, the English, French, and German Languages, History, Geography, &c., Board, Lodging and Laundry Expenses, 80 Guineas per Annum.

In addition to this, Students may attend the following Courses:—  
*Chemistry and Physics.* Dr. Lyon Playfair, F.G.S. F.R.S.  
*Mineralogy and Geology.* Professor Ansted, F.R.S. F.R.S.  
*Metallurgy.* Dr. Frankland.  
*Surveying, Field Engineering and Nautical Astronomy.* C. Hodgkinson, Esq.  
*Civil Engineering and Architecture.* S. Clegg, Jun. Esq.  
*Machinery.* W. Binns, Esq.  
*Military Science.* Captain Griffiths, R.F.P.  
*Drawing.* H. Fradelle, Esq.  
*Hindustani.* F. Falconer, Esq.  
*Sword Exercise and Fencing.* Messrs. Angelo.  
*Divinity, Special Course.* The Rev. M. Cowie, M.A. Principal.  
*Mathematics, ditto.* Thos. W. G. Watson, M.A. Vice-Principal.  
*Classics, ditto.* H. M. Jeffery, Esq. B.A. Assistant Tutor.

The fees for the additional courses in these three departments are so arranged that the cost of education, board, &c. need not exceed 100 guineas per annum.  
Prospectuses may be had at Mr. Dalton's, 28, Cockspur-street, Charing-cross; Messrs. Smith, Elder & Co's, Cornhill; or any information can be obtained by application to the Principal, at the College.

**SWEDENBORG'S WRITINGS.**—The Forty-first ANNIVERSARY of the Society for printing and publishing the Writings of the HON. EMANUEL SWEDENBORG will be held at the Freemasons' Tavern on TUESDAY, June 18. The Business of the Meeting will commence at Half-past Three, and Dinner will be on the table at Five precisely. 10s. 6d. each, may be obtained of any Member of the Committee, and at the Society's Depository, 6, King-street, Holborn. All persons who feel interested in Swedenborg's Works are invited to attend.

**BORNEO CHURCH MISSION.—A MEETING** will be held at Willis's Rooms, King-street, St. James's, on FRIDAY, the 21st of June, at Two o'clock.

The Right Hon. the EARL of ELLENBOROUGH in the Chair. It is expected that the Resolutions will be moved by THE LORD BISHOP OF NORWICH, THE LORD LYTTLETON, SIR T. DYKE ACLAND, BART. M.P., THE MASTER OF THE TEMPLE, THE REV. J. M. ANDERSON, CAPT. M'QUHAE, R.N. &c.

Tickets of Admission may be procured at Messrs. Rivington's, 3, Waterloo-place; Messrs. Seeley & Burnside's, Fleet-street; Mr. Dalton's, Cockspur-street; Messrs. Hatchard's, Piccadilly; Mr. Skemington's, Piccadilly; and Mr. Oliver's, Pall Mall. The doors will be opened at One o'clock.

**ROYAL SOCIETY FOR THE PREVENTION OF CRUELTY TO ANIMALS.** established 1824.

*Patron*—THE QUEEN.  
*President*—His Grace the Duke of BEAUFORT, K.G.  
Offices, 12, Pall Mall, London.

**PRIZE ESSAYS.**—The prizes offered for the best and second best Essay "On the Ameliorating Influence of Society and on Individuals of the Humane Principles advocated by this Institution," have been awarded, and the unsuccessful candidates can obtain their manuscripts on application at the Society's Offices, between the hours of 12 and 4 o'clock daily.

The first prize has been awarded to Mrs. Emma Le Fann, of Cork, and the second prize to Mr. John Harrison, of New Inn, London.

By order of the Committee, HENRY THOMAS, Sec.  
June 10, 1850.

**MISS BIRCH and MISS ELIZA BIRCH** beg to announce to their Friends and Pupils that they have Removed to No. 20, HEREFORD-STREET, PARK-LANE, where they continue to give Lessons in Singing as usual.

**THE DESTRUCTION OF JERUSALEM.**—NOW ON VIEW, at the Hanover Square Rooms, the Original Picture (measuring 14 feet by 9 feet), painted by DAVID ROBERTS, R.A., of THE DESTRUCTION OF JERUSALEM BY THE ROMANS UNDER TITUS, A.D. 71.—For cards of admission apply to Messrs. HENING & REMINGTON, 137, Regent-street.

**SCULPTURE.**—One of the finest Works of the celebrated Sculptor, Mr. MACDOWELL, a splendid Colossal Group in Marble of two Figures, VIRGINIUS AND HIS DAUGHTER, now at the Exhibition of the Royal Academy, is FOR SALE, as well as some other smaller Statues in Marble by the same Artist, in consequence of the death of the late Proprietor. For particulars apply to BANTING & SON, 27, St. James's-street.

**HENNEMAN & MALONE'S TALBTYPE PORTRAITS ON PAPER.**—These Portraits are taken even in dull weather, and may be coloured to resemble Miniatures. Talbtype copies of Pictures and Portraits in Oil, Water Colours, or Daguerreotype, Statuary, Prints, Rare Books, &c. A collection of Photographs, taken in various parts of the United Kingdom and the Continent, for sale. On view gratuitously.—Messrs. Henneman & Malone, Photographers to the Queen, 122, Regent-street. Entrance between Mr. Newman's and Messrs. Nicoll's.

**TO TOURISTS.**—TALBTYPE APPARATUS for taking Sun Pictures on Paper, with Chemicals and Iodized Paper, sent to any part of the world. Licences to practice the Art granted to Amateurs gratuitously. Written instructions sent (gratis) with the Apparatus. For personal Instructions, terms Five Guineas. Camera Lenses vary in price, from Half-a-guinea to Fifty guineas, and upwards. Apply to Messrs. Henneman & Malone, Photographers to the Queen, 122, Regent-street.

**THE CALOTYPE.**—HORNE, THORNTWHAITE & Wood, 133, NEWGATE-STREET, LONDON, beg to invite attention to their STOCK of APPARATUS, CHEMICALS, PAPER, &c. for the above beautiful Art.  
Agent for Turner's (Chafford Mills) NEW PHOTOGRAPHIC PAPER.

Pure PYRO-GALLIC ACID.  
Thin Plate Glass of all sizes for Albuminizing.

**HISTORICAL PORTRAITS.**—G. P. HARDING having acquired the art of faithfully making reduced copies in Water-colours of Ancient and Modern Portraits, many of which he has in his possession, will feel honoured by the commands of noblemen or gentlemen wishing to add to their collection of historical portraits, or desirous of completing a pictorial series of their ancestors. He has visited more than three hundred of the principal mansions in the country, to make himself acquainted with the pictures they contain, and can point out where Miniatures, having had much experience in that branch of art. Any letter addressed (prepaid) to G. P. HARDING, 63, Hercules-buildings, Lambeth, will receive immediate attention, and a List of the Portraits and Miniatures he has for sale will be forwarded on application.

**EXHIBITION OF INDUSTRY, 1851.—TO CONTRACTORS.**—Her Majesty's Commissioners are desirous of receiving Tenders for the Erection of the Building for the above Exhibition. Persons wishing to tender for the whole or certain portions, may receive copies of the plans, &c. and conditions of contract on and after June 24th, on payment of the sum of 2s. 5s., for which they will also become entitled to receive copies of the bills of quantities and specifications, which will be ready for delivery on and after July 1st, on application to the Secretary of the Executive Committee, No. 1, Old Palace-yard.

Tenders to be sent in, addressed to the Secretary of the Building Committee, Palace of Westminster, on July the 8th, between the hours of 10 in the forenoon and 12 o'clock at noon.  
M. DIGBY WYATT, Secretary.

**MINERALOGY APPLIED TO THE ARTS.**—At the UNITED SERVICE INSTITUTION, on WEDNESDAY, June 19, at Three o'clock precisely, Mr. E. W. BRAYLEY, Jun., F.L.S. F.G.S. and F.C.S., Associate of the Institution of Civil Engineers, will deliver a LECTURE ON THE NATURAL HISTORY AND COMPARATIVE PROPERTIES OF THE DIFFERENT KINDS OF MINERAL FUEL.

**MINERALOGY AND GEOLOGY.—TO BE SOLD,** a valuable and extensive Collection of MINERALS, ROCKS, ORES, and FOSSILS, containing upwards of 3,000 Specimens, capital Mahogany Cabinet, with 32 Drawers, Trays, and Boxes complete. To save trouble, the lowest price is 60l. For particulars apply to Mr. FAMPLIX, 45, Fifth-street, Soho.

**MANUFACTURING SILVERSMITHS and ELECTRO-PLATERS,** 12, Duke-street, Lincoln's Inn-fields.—The Public is respectfully informed that this Manufactory, established by the late Mr. BENJAMIN SMITH in 1822, will for the future be carried on by his Son, Mr. STEPHEN SMITH, and Mr. WM. NICHOLSON, who for many years have been in the management, under the firm of SMITH, NICHOLSON & Co. The Show Rooms, which adjoin the Manufactory, will be found to contain, as formerly, a very extensive assortment of Ornamental Plate in the highest style of Art, adapted for Presentation, &c., as well as of the choicest Patterns of the more useful Articles in Silver and Electro-Plate.

**THE EDINBURGH REVIEW, No. CLXXXV.**—ADVERTISEMENTS intended for insertion are requested to be forwarded to the Publishers before Friday, the 23rd, and BILLS not later than Saturday, the 24th instant.

London: Longman, Brown & Co. 39, Paternoster-row.

**THE QUARTERLY REVIEW, No. CLXXXIII.**—ADVERTISEMENTS for the forthcoming Number must be forwarded to the Publisher by the 22nd, and BILLS for insertion by the 24th instant.

John Murray, Albemarle-street.

**WESTMINSTER AND FOREIGN QUARTERLY REVIEW, No. 105 and No. 90, for JULY, 1850.**—BILLS and ADVERTISEMENTS for this Number should be forwarded on or before Wednesday, June 28, to Geo. Luxford, 1, Whitefriars-street, Fleet-street.

**TO BOOK COLLECTORS, AUCTIONEERS, and DEALERS in SECOND-HAND BOOKS.**—The Book containing the MINUTES of VESTRY of the Parish of St. Paul, Covent-garden, between the years 1645 and 1651, having been (on examination of the books and documents belonging to the Parish) discovered to be missing, a REWARD of TEN POUNDS will be paid to any person who shall forthwith cause the said Minute-book to be delivered to Mr. MOSLEY, Vestry Clerk, 13, Bedford-street, Covent-garden.

Nearly ready, gratis.  
**ORDISH'S ANNUAL POST-FREE DUPLICATION CATALOGUE FOR 1850.**—comprising an extensive Collection of Popular Voyages, Divinity, Novels, Biography, Travels, Poetry and Miscellaneous Works, now offered at the unprecedented low prices affixed. The editions are for the most part original; in many instances quite new, and elegantly bound, all perfect, and in excellent condition; the plates and illustrations very superior impressions. Purchasers selecting any of the Works offered may have the same sent per post, by forwarding the price as affixed in the Catalogue, as also 5s. 6d. extra in postage stamps for each volume so selected, without further correspondence or trouble.—May be had on application (or forwarded post-free) to THOMAS ORDISH, Librarian, New Public Subscription Library, 37, Lamb's Conduit-street, London.

**UNPRECEDENTED LITERARY NOVELTY.**—It is not generally known that by subscribing to THE NEW PUBLIC SUBSCRIPTION LIBRARY, 37, LAMB'S CONDUIT-STREET, all the New and Standard Works, Magazines and Reviews, may be had in any quantity, the Single Subscription to which is only One Guinea per Annum. Also Book Societies, Literary Associations, Boarding Schools and Boarding Houses throughout the Kingdom, can ensure the delivery of their Books carriage free, an allowance of a discount of twenty per cent. being returned to enable them to pay all incidental expenses. Town Subscribers are waited on daily for orders, and the Books forwarded as free of expense. Postage free.—THOMAS ORDISH, Librarian, 37, Lamb's Conduit-street.



**EXCELLENT BUSINESS.**—The Proprietor of a well-established and increasing Business, connected with Literature and Art, is desirous of meeting with a PURCHASER for his STOCK and GOODWILL. About 2,500 will be required. Address X. Y. Z., care of MESSRS. RICHARDSON & SÄDLER, Golden-square.

28, Upper King-street, June 14.  
**THE SUBSCRIBERS TO MUDIE'S SELECT LIBRARY** are respectfully informed that the Sale of the Surplus Copies of Books at low prices will be continued until the 25th, after which date the usual terms will be resumed. Catalogues may be obtained on application.

Just published, gratis.  
**PART II. of a CATALOGUE OF USEFUL, INTERESTING, and VALUABLE SECOND-HAND BOOKS,** at greatly Reduced Prices, by W. J. CRAWFORD, (Successor to the late J. Dowdine), 82, Newgate-street, London. If required by post, two stamps to be forwarded.

**JOHN CHAPMAN'S CATALOGUE OF BOOKS,** chiefly Second-hand, in THEOLOGY, FINE ARTS, BELLES LETTRES, VOYAGES and TRAVELS, &c. Part IX. is now ready. Gratis on application. 142, Strand.

GERMAN NEWSPAPERS.  
**COLOGNE GAZETTE (KÖLNISCHE ZEITUNG),** delivered the day after publication, 36s. for Six Months.

**AUGSBURG GAZETTE (ALLGEMEINE ZEITUNG),** 2s. 2d. for Six Months.

**DEUTSCHE ZEITUNG (Frankfurt),** 11. 11s. 6d. for Six Months.

And all other German Newspapers, of which a select Price List may be had gratis, supplied by post.

\* \* \* Orders for the approaching half-year are requested immediately.  
WILLIAMS & NORGATE, German Newspaper Agents, 14, Henrietta-street, Covent-garden.

**ENGRAVINGS.**—A Choice Collection, Ancient and Modern, ON SALE, at reduced prices, comprising the best Works of the most distinguished Masters; among whom may be mentioned WOOLLETT, SPURGEON, SALMON, HOLLAR, PORPORA, WILLE, EDELINCK, BERVIC, DREVET, MULLER, &c.  
The Prints are in fine condition, and have formed portions of the most celebrated collections: it may be sufficient to mention SIR MARK SYKES, LORD AYLESFORD, and the DUKE of BUCKINGHAM.

A CATALOGUE will be forwarded on the receipt of two postage stamps.  
GEORGE LOVE, 81, Bunhill-row, Finsbury, London.  
Established above 60 years.

**LAW LIFE ASSURANCE OFFICE,** Fleet-street, London.—6th June, 1850.—NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that in conformity with the provisions of the Deed of Settlement, a GENERAL MEETING of Proprietors will be held at the Society's Office, Fleet-street, London, on MONDAY, the 23rd day of June instant, at 12 o'clock at Noon precisely, to Elect Six Directors and Two Auditors, when those who go out of office by rotation will be proposed for re-election; and also for general purposes.  
By order of the Directors,  
WILLIAM SAMUEL DOWNES, Secretary.

**LEONARD & CUNNINGHAM, AUCTIONEERS,** No. 37, TREMONT-ROW, BOSTON, U.S.  
\* \* \* Consignments of Books, Paintings, Engravings, Fancy Goods, and other articles, respectfully solicited for Sale at Auction.  
NOTICE.—The semi-annual Sales of Books to the Trade are held the first week in June and December of each year.

**Sales by Auction.**  
York-terrace, Regent's-park.

**MESSRS. FOSTER & SON** are directed to SELL by AUCTION, on the Premises, 23, York-terrace, Regent's-park, on MONDAY, June 24, at 1 precisely, the REMAINING PORTION of the OTTELEY COLLECTION of PICTURES, PRINTS, and BOOKS relating to ART:—The Annunciation and Glorification of the Virgin, by A. De Fresco; Virgin and Child, by A. Baldovinetti; Head of Massacra, by himself; the Last Judgment, painted in the 11th or 13th century; the Virgin and St. Thomas, by Giotto; a grand Gallery Picture, by Domenichino; and the celebrated unfinished picture of Charity, by A. del Sarto, mentioned by Vasari; also the remains of the Otteley Collection of Prints, some Books on Art, &c.  
May be viewed on the 20th and 21st of June, from 12 till 6 o'clock, by tickets, which may be had of Messrs. Foster, and publicly on Saturday, June 22.

Classical and Miscellaneous Books.  
**MR. L. A. LEWIS** will SELL, at his House, 125, Fleet-street, on WEDNESDAY, 19th, and three following days, VALUABLE BOOKS, from the Country; including Encyclopaedia Metropolitana, 29 vols.—Antiquarian Repertory, 6 vols.—Knight's London, 6 vols.—Portraits of the British Poets, 3 vols.—Dibdin's Edes Aldrovandi, 2 vols.—Mitford's History of Greece, 8 vols. russiæ—Addison's Works, 6 vols.—Wilson's American Ornithology, 3 vols.—Henry's Bible, 6 vols.—Simson's Works, 21 vols. large paper—Lightfoot's Works, 13 vols.—Skelton's Works, 6 vols.—Horne on the Scriptures, 4 vols.—Chrysostom's Opera, 13 vols.—Corpus Scriptorum Historici Byzantini, 24 vols.—Fleury, Histoire du Christianisme, 6 vols.—Rhetores Græci, editio Wale, 9 vols.—Aristophanes, Invenzioni, 13 vols.—Athenæus, Schweighauser, 14 vols.—Plutarch's Opera, Reiske, 12 vols.—Homeric Opera, Heyne, 6 vols. &c.

Autograph Letters, the Collection of the late RICHARD BURTON, Esq.

**PUTTICK & SIMPSON, Auctioneers of Literary Property,** will SELL by AUCTION, at their Great Room, 191, Piccadilly, on FRIDAY, June 21, and following days, the most interesting COLLECTION of AUTOGRAPH LETTERS of Royal, Noble and Illustrious Personages; also of Poets, Artists and Authors: 300 Letters from the Correspondence of Sir Sidney Smith; 100 Letters from the Correspondence of Sir Hudson Lowe; 200 Letters from the Correspondence of C. R. Broughton, Esq., of the Foreign Office.

May be viewed the day before the Sale. Catalogues will be sent on application.

A further Portion of the Stock of Books of the late Mr. O. RICH, Bookseller, of Red Lion-square.

**PUTTICK & SIMPSON, Auctioneers of Literary Property,** will SELL by AUCTION, at their Great Room, 191, Piccadilly, on TUESDAY, June 25, and four following days, at 1 o'clock most punctually, a FURTHER PORTION of the late Mr. RICH'S STOCK of BOOKS, including Theology, Classics, Italian, Spanish and Portuguese Books, a large Collection of Works relating to American History, Voyages and Travels, Natural History, Books of Prints, and General Literature. Catalogues are ready, and will be sent on application.

Interesting Antiquities and Curiosities of the late GENERAL GORDON.

**MESSRS. S. LEIGH SOTHEBY & CO., Auctioneers of Literary Property and Works illustrative of the Fine Arts,** will SELL by AUCTION, at their House, 3, Wellington-street, Strand, on FRIDAY, June 21, at 1 precisely, a COLLECTION of CURIOSITIES and ANTIQUITIES, including those of the late GENERAL GORDON, of Cairness House, Aberdeenshire, comprising some beautiful Etruscan Vases, curious Bronzes, Ivory Carvings, early Mexican and Peruvian Antiquities, interesting Beads from Panticapeum, curious Chinese Figures, Egyptian Tablets and other Antiquities; Tortoiseshell Casket, Silver-gilt Drinking Cup, a beautiful figure in marble of Joan of Arc, a Roman Cinerary, and other interesting objects of antiquity; a magnificent Ivory Crucifix of exquisite work; together with some Egyptian and other antiquities; and a beautiful Medalion of Louis XIV. of the highest order of French art.  
May be viewed one day prior, and Catalogues had.

Exceedingly Choice and Valuable Books, beautifully Illuminated Missals, magnificent Books of Prints, &c., being the Second Portion of the extensive and valuable Stock of Books of Messrs. PAYNE & FOSS.

**MESSRS. S. LEIGH SOTHEBY & CO., Auctioneers of Literary Property and Works of Art,** will SELL by AUCTION, at their House, 3, Wellington-street, Strand, on MONDAY, June 24, and eight following days (Sunday excepted), at 1, the SECOND PORTION of the extensive and valuable STOCK of BOOKS of Messrs. PAYNE & FOSS, retiring from business, comprising the greater portion of the Library of a well-known Collector, recently purchased, and which have never appeared in any Catalogue. Including—IN FOLIO: a fine set of De Bry's Voyages, 11 vols.—Art de Vérifier les Dates, complete in 6 vols. russiæ—Bartoli, Recueil de Peintures trouvées à Rome, 2 vols. printed upon vellum—Bayle Dictionnaire et Ouvrages, 8 vols. large paper, red morocco, MacCarthy copy—Bouquet, Recueil des Histoires de France, 20 vols. complete—Dugdale's Works, 17 vols. red morocco—Hasted's Kent, 4 vols. very fine copy, in russiæ, with the additional plates—Montfaucon, l'Antiquité Expliquée, et Monuments de la Monarchie Française, 20 vols. large paper, super copy, in morocco—Picart, Cérémonies Religieuses, 11 vols. matchless copy, in red morocco, by Derome—Marbrough Gems, 2 vols. fine original impressions, in boards—Mézière, 3 vols. beautiful copy, in old morocco—L'Abbe Rive, Essai sur l'Art de Vérifier l'Age des Médailles, one of the three copies printed upon vellum—Vaticano Campidoglio, 10 vols. a very superior copy.—IN QUARTO: Académie des Inscriptions, 51 vols. French red morocco—a beautiful set of the Delphin Classics, 61 vols. in red morocco, by Clarke and Bedford—Bacon's, Boyle's, Locke's, and Milton's Works, all fine copies—Dequincy, Histoire de l'Art de la Peinture, 5 vols. in red morocco, the Picturesque, 11 vols. large paper, green morocco—Roxburghe Club Books, 46 vols.—some very fine Missals, and other serviceable Works.—IN OCTAVO: remarkably fine Variorum Classics, in morocco, many of them bound by De Seuil and Padeloup, with morocco bindings—Barnes's History of his Own Time, edited by Routh, 7 vols. large paper, morocco, by Lewis—Donovan's Works, 89 vols. in 18, yellow morocco—Wells's Xenophon, 5 vols. large paper, extremely rare.

May be viewed three days prior. Catalogues are now ready, and will be forwarded (if in the country) on the receipt of six postage stamps.

The Valuable and very select Cabinet of Coins and Medals, the Property of a Nobleman.

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LONDON, SATURDAY, JUNE 15, 1850.

## REVIEWS

*In Memoriam.* Moxon.

THIS volume of verse, though published anonymously, bears such intrinsic proof of Mr. Tennyson's authorship that we hazard nothing in at once assuming the fact. Nor probably has the writer any motive to conceal it except that delicate bias which, in raising so solemn and tender a memorial, would not obtrude on the tablet even the name of its founder. The book is a detailed record of that mental experience in a degree familiar to all who have cherished and lost some eminent type of human worth. The tendency of all feeling minds, and of imaginative minds in particular, to incarnate their ideal of excellence—so to identify the noblest properties of spiritual life with the special form that displays them as to crowd all the light of existence into one focus of personality—and thence to feel total eclipse when Death's shadow veils that single orb,—these are the "painful passages" of inner life vividly disclosed in the book before us. But Mr. Tennyson knows too well the office of the Poet to write the mere history of aspiration and disappointment. Accordingly, we find in these pages the moral of suffering affection gradually unfolded. Pure love, he shows us, however for the time at war with fate, works out its reconciliation therewith. The same sense of goodness which knits our souls so closely to its human exemplars, leads us after a season rather to emulate their virtues than to bewail their loss. The tribute which we pay to their love is, to become kindred to their nature; and the Universal Goodness which translates upward the "desire of our eyes," draws us nearer to itself by the individual attraction.

The various poems which are included under the general title of 'In Memoriam' are formally distinguished from each other only by being divided into sections, and are all written in the same stanza. Taking the bereavement recorded at the commencement for their key-note, they embody all the phases of feeling and speculation which such a loss induces. So elemental are most of these outpourings, that the mere intellect scarcely furnishes any clue to their beauty and their reality. We recognize their power less by any mental estimate than by their vibration on the deepest and most mysterious chords of the heart,—and their effect is analogous to that produced by the unexpected sound of some long absent voice reviving in the breast of manhood the dormant and forgotten sensibilities of the child. They come upon us with all the truthfulness of a diary:—but it is the diary of a love so profound, that though using the largest symbols of imagination, they appear to us as direct and true as the homeliest language. The beauty and melody of illustration are so absorbed in the pervading feeling, that we become fully conscious of the former attributes only by a recurrence to the poems. So deep is the basis of earnestness in the strains which we are about to quote, that we feel no sense of hyperbole when the Poet demands that the very elements shall be solemnized in sympathy while the freight of death passes over the waters.—

Fair ship, that from the Italian shore,  
Sailedest the placid ocean plains  
With my lost Arthur's loved remains,  
Spread thy full wings, and waft him o'er.

So draw him home to those that mourn  
In vain; a favourable speed  
Ruffle thy mirror'd mast, and lead  
Thro' prosperous floods his holy urn.

All night no ruder air perplex  
Thy sliding keel, till Phosphor, bright  
As our pure love, thro' early light  
Shall glimmer on the dewy decks.

Sphere all your lights around, above;  
Sleep, gentle heavens, before the prow;  
Sleep, gentle winds, as he sleeps now,  
My friend, the brother of my love.

My Arthur! whom I shall not see  
Till all my widow'd race be run;  
Dear as the mother to the son,  
More than my brothers are to me.

I hear the noise about thy keel;  
I hear the bell struck in the night;  
I see the cabin-window bright;  
I see the sailor at the wheel.

Thou bringest the sailor to his wife,  
And travell'd men from foreign lands;  
And letters unto trembling hands;  
And, thy dark freight, a vanish'd life.

So bring him: we have idle dreams:  
This look of quiet flatters thus  
Our home-bred fancies: O to us,  
The fools of habit, sweeter seems

To rest beneath the clover sod,  
That takes the sunshine and the rains,  
Or where the kneeling hamlet drains  
The chalice of the grapes of God;

Than if with thee the roaring wells  
Should gulf him fathom deep in brine;  
And hands so often clasp'd in mine,  
Should toss with tangle and with shells.

The incredulity of love as to its loss—that first impossibility of believing that the form which has interwoven itself with the life of the heart can have perished from the senses—is depicted with startling truth.—

If one should bring me this report,  
That thou hadst touch'd the land to-day,  
And I went down unto the quay,  
And found thee lying in the port,

And standing, muffled round with woe,  
Should see thy passengers in rank  
Come stepping lightly down the plank,  
And beckoning unto those they know,

And if along with these should come  
The man I held as half divine;  
Should strike a sudden hand in mine,  
And ask a thousand things of home;

And I should tell him all my pain,  
And how my life had droop'd of late,  
And he should sorrow o'er my state  
And marvel what possess'd my brain;

And I perceived no touch of change,  
No hint of death in all his frame,  
But found him all in all the same,  
I should not feel it to be strange.

The characteristics which we have noticed apply so generally to these poems, and the ensuing quotations so fully explain themselves, that we give them without comment.—

The Danube to the Severn gave  
The darken'd heart that beat no more;  
They laid him by the pleasant shore,  
And in the hearing of the wave.

There twice a day the Severn fills,  
The salt sea-water passes by,  
And hushes half the babbling Wye,  
And makes a silence in the hills.

The Wye is hush'd nor moved along;  
And hush'd my deepest grief of all,  
When fill'd with tears that cannot fall,  
I brim with sorrow drowning song.

The tide flows down, the wave again  
Is vocal in its wooded walls:  
My deeper anguish also falls,  
And I can speak a little then.

The path by which we twain did go,  
Which led by tracts that pleas'd us well,  
Thro' four sweet years arose and fell,  
From flower to flower, from snow to snow;

And we with singing cheer'd the way,  
And crown'd with all the season lent,  
From April on to April went,  
And glad at heart from May to May:

But where the path we walk'd began  
To slant the fifth autumnal slope,  
As we descended following Hope,  
There sat the Shadow fear'd of man;

Who broke our fair companionship,  
And spread his mantle dark and cold;  
And wrapped thee formless in the fold,  
And dull'd the murrain on thy lip;

And bore thee where I could not see  
Nor follow, tho' I walk in haste;  
And think that, somewhere in the waste,  
The Shadow sits and waits for me.

Could we forget the widow'd hour  
And look on spirits breathed away,  
As on a maiden in the day  
When first she wears her orange-flower!

When crown'd with blessing she doth rise  
To take her latest leave of home,  
And hopes and light regrets that come  
Make April of her tender eyes;

And doubtful joys the father move,  
And tears are on the mother's face,  
As parting with a long embrace  
She enters other realms of love;

Her office there to rear, to teach,  
Becoming as is meet and fit  
A link among the days, to knit  
The generations each with each;

And, doubtless, unto thee is given  
A life that bears immortal fruit  
In such great offices as suit  
The full-grown energies of heaven.

Ay me, the difference I discern!  
How often shall her old fireside  
Be cheer'd with tidings of the bride,  
How often she herself return,

And tell them all they would have told,  
And bring her babe, and make her boast,  
Till even those that miss'd her most  
Shall count new things as dear as old:

But thou and I have shaken hands,  
Till growing winters lay me low;  
My paths are in the fields I know,  
And thine in undiscover'd lands.

We have not space to follow Mr. Tennyson through the various gradations by which the first bitterness of a mourner's despair is chastened into the trembling desire to renew communion with its severed object;—but we give the invocation to the departed in which that stage of the heart's experience is so touchingly chronicled.—

Dost thou look back on what hath been,  
As some divinely gifted man,  
Whose life in low estate began  
And on a simple village green;

Who breaks his birth's invidious bar,  
And grasps the skirts of happy chance,  
And breasts the blows of circumstance,  
And grapples with his evil star;

Who makes by force his merit known  
And lives to clutch the golden keys,  
To mould a mighty state's decrees,  
And shape the whisper of the throne;

And moving up from high to higher,  
Becomes on Fortune's crowning slope  
The pillar of a people's hope,  
The centre of a world's desire;

Yet feels, as in a pensive dream,  
When all his active powers are still,  
A distant dearthness in the hill,  
A secret sweetness in the stream,

The limit of his narrower fate,  
While yet beside its vocal springs  
He played at counsellors and kings,  
With one that was his earliest mate;

Who ploughs with pain his native lea  
And reaps the labour of his hands,  
Or in the furrow musing stands,  
"Does my old friend remember me?"

The idealizing influence of Death as it detaches humanity from the familiar associations of life and reveals it to us in its essential character, is thus commemorated.—

As sometimes in a dead man's face,  
To those that watch it more and more,  
A likeness hardly seen before  
Comes out—to some one of his race:

So, dearest, now thy brows are cold,  
I see thee what thou art, and know  
Thy likeness to the wise below,  
Thy kindred with the great of old.

But there is more than I can see,  
And what I see I leave unsaid,  
Nor speak it, knowing Death has made  
His darkness beautiful with thee.

Our limits again forbid us to trace this current of song through its winding and sometimes retrogressive course. But we invite the reader to look on it once more as it nears its goal, and when the tide, no longer ruffled, reflects the serene lights of heaven on its bosom. The final issue of true affection is, to conform the soul to the likeness of its ideal, and to expand individual love into sympathy with mankind. It is with these influences that the Poet now deals in adverting to the memory of his friend.—

Whatever way my days decline,  
I felt and feel, though left alone,  
His being working in mine own,  
The footsteps of his life in mine;



A life that all the Muses deck'd  
With gifts of grace that might express  
All-comprehensive tenderness,  
All-subtilising intellect :  
And so my passion hath not swerved  
To works of weakness, but I find  
An image comforting the mind,  
And in my grief a strength reserved.  
Likewise the imaginative woe,  
That loved to handle spiritual strife,  
Diffused the shock through all my life,  
But in the present broke the blow.  
My pulses therefore beat again  
For other friends that once I met ;  
Nor can it suit me to forget  
The mighty hopes that make us men.  
I woo your love : I count it crime  
To mourn for any overmuch ;  
I, the divided half of such  
A friendship as had master'd Time ;  
Which masters Time indeed, and is  
Eternal, separate from fears.  
The all-assuming months and years  
Can take no part away from this :  
But Summer on the steaming floods,  
And Spring that swells the narrow brooks,  
And Autumn, with a noise of rooks,  
That gather in the waning woods,  
And every pulse of wind and wave  
Recalls, in change of light or gloom,  
My old affection of the tomb,  
And my prime passion in the grave :  
My old affection of the tomb,  
A part of stillness, yearns to speak ;  
" Arise, and get thee forth and seek  
A friendship for the years to come."

The same intense yearning of love which seems to annihilate hope in the season of bereavement is the very element from which faith in the permanence of love's object is ultimately born. This truth is exquisitely rendered in the following apologue.—

Sad Hesper o'er the buried sun  
And ready, thou, to die with him,  
Thou watchest all things ever dim  
And dimmer, and a glory done :  
The team is loosen'd from the wain,  
The boat is drawn upon the shore ;  
Thou listenest to the closing door,  
And life is darken'd in the braid.  
Bright Phosphor, fresher for the night,  
By thee the world's great work is heard  
Beginning, and the wakeful bird ;  
Behind thee comes the greater light :  
The market boat is on the stream,  
And voices hail it from the brink ;  
Thou hear'st the village hammer clink,  
And see'st the moving of the team.  
Sweet Hesper-Phosphor, double name  
For what is one, the first, the last,  
Thou, like my present and my past,  
Thy place is changed ; thou art the same.

Here we conclude our extracts.—The volume terminates with a marriage lay, in which the writer announces his restoration to the general sympathies and uses of life. We have been compelled to omit all examples of the many collateral suggestions furnished by these poems on points of faith and conduct. Many of them are pregnant with meaning, though we may remark that those graphic forms in which Mr. Tennyson conveys his emotions are sometimes wanting to his speculative moods. Thoughts in themselves subtle, peculiarly require sensuous utterance for their apprehension ; but the language which the poet employs in these cases is sometimes almost as abstract as the idea which it involves. We could have wished, too, that the hopeful moral of the book had been wrought out with a more interdependent connexion. With Mr. Tennyson the argument for trust in the future seems often to rest chiefly on the mental disposition to trust. In other words, he records the happy results which he has attained without reference to the processes through which they are reached. And though we do not overlook the great argument for hope which is implied in the self-renewing power of the soul, we think it capable of a more stringent application than the present volume affords. A true impulse blends itself so readily with the analogies of nature and the harmonies of thought, that Mr. Tennyson might have un-

folded his view in a closer chain of deduction than he has attempted, without giving his volume that air of systematic reasoning which in one of his lyrics he formally disavows. As it is, while he has presented the materials of his faith, he has for the most part left them to be combined by the reader.—This being said, all further comment on the book must be that of reverence and admiration. It belongs to those deepest forms of poetic expression which grow out of the heart and stand distinguished from those which have their origin in the imagination. Not that in any true poem these powers can be disassociated ; but there is an undoubted contrast between works where conception kindles feeling in the course of its development, and works in which the might of feeling at once subordinates and quickens the faculty of expression. The poems before us are of the latter class, and hence their imagery appears less selected from the types of beauty which present themselves to the mind than coined by the heart's necessity for an individual language. Apart from these instances, the volume is rich in pictures of natural loveliness :—the effect of a particular season or landscape, as our readers will have seen, being often condensed in a single line. In its moral scope the book will endear itself to all who suffer, both by its vivid appreciation of their grief and by its transmutation of that grief into patience and hope. No worthier or more affecting tribute could be rendered to the dead than one which, like this, converts the influence of their memory into solace for the living.

*Impressions and Experiences of the West Indies and North America in 1849.* By Robert Baird, A.M. 2 vols. Blackwood.

Mr. Baird left Scotland in January 1849 for a voyage to the tropics, undertaken at the suggestion of his medical adviser. The route accomplished, and of which we have the record in the two volumes before us, was by way of Madeira to Barbadoes, and thence through the numerous lovely islands, English, Spanish, French and Danish, of the West Indian Archipelago ; from Cuba across the Gulf of Mexico to New Orleans,—along the Mississippi and Ohio to Cincinnati and the great northern lakes,—down the river Hudson from Canada to New York and the other chief cities of the Union on this side of the Alleghanies. This road has been travelled too often of late to admit of much novelty as to either fact or scenery ; and Mr. Baird is not a man to imagine adventures for the benefit of a languid reader or make amusing anecdotes out of commonplaces. Indeed, as far as the men and manners of the great Republic are concerned this is one of the most sedate and sober books that we have read for a long time. To many it will appear quite tame, after the highly-spiced condiments to which the literary palate has been accustomed.

We will not undertake to follow Mr. Baird through the whole of his travels and his talk on topics necessarily so unconnected as the comparative salubrity of St. Kitt's and Madeira, the slave question, emigration, the United States constitution, and other matters on which he finds it his mission to expatiate at patience-exhausting length. We shall rather present the reader with a few detachable sketches from his volumes :—leaving such as have time and taste for Scotch disquisition on questions of law and medicine to turn to the originals for themselves. Here is a picture of a night in the Archipelago.—

"A moonlight night within the tropics exceeds, in brilliancy and in beauty, a moonlight night anywhere else. There is a softness as well as a splendour about it, which is peculiar to itself ; a mellow brilliancy,

which almost transcends description. Indeed, as it was in this part of my journeyings that my attention began to be attracted by the loveliness of the tropical nights, this seems the proper place for recording my impressions regarding them. Whether on land or at sea, the scenery of the tropics on a moonlight night is singularly beautiful ; to my taste, infinitely more so than it is by day. On land, the brilliancy of the moon and stars is such that every leaf, and tree, and flower, seems bathed in floods of liquid light ; a light so clear, and at the same time so mellow, and so soft, that the outline of the hills and other objects appear to be defined almost with greater distinctness than when they are viewed by day. At sea, particularly with such hill-crowned islands as St. Lucia, Martinique, Dominica, Montserrat, or St. Kitt's, &c., in near view, the scene is one still more lovely. The vast unfathomable sea, fit symbol of eternity, lying around you, either sunk in deep repose, or upheaving its vexed waves,—in the one case a mirror for a thousand starry worlds, in the other a sparkling ocean of fire—the summits of the land illuminated and surrounded by a kind of halo : the scene has with it all the beauty of a northern moonlight night, and many beauties besides, peculiar to itself. A single fact will best illustrate the clearness of the atmosphere and the greater prominence and brilliancy of the stars consequent thereupon. Oft when in Antigua, and also in the other islands of the West Indian seas, have I observed and called attention to the fact, that, in certain positions of the planet Venus, she was seen under a crescent form like a small moon, and emitting or transmitting, in the absence of the moon herself, a quantity of light which made her by no means an insufficient substitute."

*The Cuartado system in Cuba.*—

"Among the slaves, and particularly among the domestic slaves, it occasionally happens that a slave works out his or her freedom, under the operation of a law known as giving rise to what is called the *Cuartado* system. By this system a slave can purchase his freedom if so inclined. If he has been purchased by his master, the price so paid is held also as the price which he must pay for his liberation ; while, if he has been born in slavery to his master, he is entitled by law to have a price put upon himself by valuation, at which price he has the right to redeem himself from bondage. After this valuation, on paying one-sixth of the price, the slave becomes master of his own time, becomes free, as it were, for one day in the week ; another sixth, two days, and so on ; so that the capacity for acquiring freedom, as well as the desire so to do,—like Virgil's impersonation of fame—*vires acquirit eundo*. If I remember aright, some such plan was once proposed by the British statesman Canning, for the gradual emancipation of the slaves in the British colonial possessions. When once ventured on, and to some length successfully prosecuted, the path to freedom by the *Cuartado* system is not a difficult one."

In the second volume, we have another paragraph on the slave question worth quoting, as an illustration of the difference between the actions of the free and of the fettered arm.—

"In sailing up the Mississippi, from New Orleans to its junction with the Ohio, and again up the Ohio as far as the town of Louisville, in the state of Kentucky, and of Cincinnati in the state of Ohio, you pass in succession, either on the right or left hand, along the shores of the states of Louisiana, Mississippi, Arkansas, Tennessee, Missouri, Illinois, Kentucky, Indiana, and Ohio. You thus have a fair opportunity of contrasting at least the general outward aspect of some of the slaveholding states, with that of states where slavery is unknown, or has been abolished ; and, truth to say, the contrast is very great—so great as to be in itself a powerful sermon in favour of abolition. But the 'sermon' here is not 'in trees,' but in the want of them. The white labourer, with his arm of freedom, seems alone capable of struggling successfully against the giants of the forest ; and, wherever you see a tract of ground more than usually clear, and of more than common fertility, as you sail up the mighty stream of the Mississippi, and gaze on the vast solitudes which are to be seen on its banks, rest assured that the part you are so gazing on belongs to a free state, and not to a slaveholding one."

Of course, Mr. Baird treats the reader to a



long description of Niagara. This is perilous ground to tread; for these stupendous waterfalls have been so often described and pictured that it seems almost an impertinence to say more about them. Yet, we have read this new description with no abatement of interest. The following is an extract from it.

"The Indians had a superstition that the genius who presided over the Falls of Niagara required the annual sacrifice, at this his shrine, of at least two human victims. Ere the Red man lost this part of his once broad but now contracted possessions, the supposed merciless Spirit of the Cataract was scarcely ever disappointed or defrauded of his victims. At least two human beings have annually passed into eternity, by disappearing over the falls, for as far back as any annals of these cataracts exist. Since the white man succeeded to the proprietorship, the number of such victims has certainly not diminished. His habitual enterprise and daring have multiplied them greatly; and many are the harrowing accounts of such fearful accidents to be found in the guide-books, or to be heard from the narratives of the guides, who here, as in all such places of general resort, haunt and occasionally annoy you. \* \* Some years ago a young lady lost her life by going too near, and falling over the precipice on the other side of the river; and the unfortunate event is chronicled, on a board exhibited by one of those persons who earn a precarious livelihood in the vicinity of the falls, in lines strongly suggestive of the fact of how nearly, in this world, that which is ludicrous approaches, if it be not allied to, that which is sublime. The doggerel inscription sets out with a compliment to the whole race of womankind, and is in these words—

Woman, most beautiful of the human race,  
Be cautious of a dangerous place,  
For here Miss — at twenty-three  
Was launched into eternity."

Mr. Baird finds, on the whole, more to admire than to condemn in the men and women of the great Union. For reasons which he develops at length, he thinks the slave question in process of settlement beyond the power of politicians to prevent; that no danger threatens the Union of the States, at least for a long period; and—in spite of his Scotch Toryism—looking at the constitution of the great Republic with the eye of a law student, he regards it as one of the largest achievements of modern science and wisdom.

*The Autobiography of Leigh Hunt: with Reminiscences of Friends and Contemporaries.*  
3 vols. Smith, Elder & Co.

THEY who have followed Mr. Leigh Hunt's career to this point must have been in some measure prepared, by the title of these volumes, for the nature of their contents and for the manner of their execution. He has all his life been more or less autobiographical:—has written his caprices and individualities, his likes and dislikes (only he never owns to a dislike), in almost every page of prose or verse which he has given forth,—has confessed himself again and again to the public with an affectionate confidence in some measure well placed, but also somewhat wasted, since indiscriminate love ends in distancing the regard of friends the best worth retaining. He has already made us partners in his favourite books; already smiled, wept, apologized; recounted anecdotes with a flow of good spirits, of good temper, and of good faith, three parts genuine, one part mannered. Such a frank character of our author as the above is courted by his frank revelations. We are fond of his company, but confess ourselves sometimes "put out" by his unchanging suavity. We must feel that, with all his love of poetry and rapture whenever beauty comes near him, good taste has been oddly left out in his organization,—or if not left out, that it appears capriciously, like veins of precious metal in certain mines which exist but to mock the worker by

their provoking gleamings and more provoking disappearances. While we enjoy this book, it is with protests, questionings, regrets,—some of the latter technical. The manner of its confection almost limits it to an ephemeral life: for its author owns to having halted, laid it by, spun it out, told old stories over again,—perhaps, we fancy, reprinted old journals and traits gathered in former essays and magazine articles. An attractive volume might be compressed from the three before us: and we would rather that our Autobiographer should do this for himself than delegate the task to any one less intimately familiar with his own charming qualities and foibles. Meanwhile, we shall not attempt to follow his story step by step—a task rendered more than ordinarily difficult by its want of proportion; but will merely dip here and there for such traits, anecdotes and passages as are unfamiliar to us.

The following details of early authorship and early poetical studies in the days when Leigh Hunt was a Christ's-Hospitalier are a fair sample of the opening portion of the book.—

"In those times, Cooke's edition of the British poets came up. I had got an odd volume of Spenser; and I fell passionately in love with Collins and Gray. How I loved those little sixpenny numbers containing whole poets! I doated on their size; I doated on their type, on their ornaments, on their wrappers containing lists of other poets, and on the engravings from Kirk. I bought them over and over again, and used to get up select sets, which disappeared like buttered crumpets; for I could resist neither giving them away nor possessing them. When the master tormented me, when I used to hate and loathe the sight of Homer and Demosthenes, and Cicero, I would comfort myself with thinking of the sixpence in my pocket, with which I should go out to Paternoster Row, when school was over, and buy another number of an English poet. I was already fond of writing verses. The first I remember were in honour of the Duke of York's 'Victory at Dunkirk,' which victory, to my great mortification, turned out to be a defeat. I compared him with Achilles and Alexander; or should rather say, trampled upon those heroes in the comparison. I fancied him riding through the field, and shooting right and left of him! Afterwards, when in Great Erasmus, I wrote a poem called *Winter*, in consequence of reading Thomson; and when Deputy-Grecian, I completed some hundred stanzas of another, called the *Fairy King*, which was to be in emulation of Spenser! I also wrote a long poem in irregular Latin verses (such as they were), entitled *Thor*; the consequence of reading Gray's Odes and Mallet's *Northern Antiquities*. English verses were the only exercises I performed with satisfaction. Themes, or prose essays, I wrote so badly, that the master was in the habit of contemptuously crumpling them up in his hand, and calling out, 'Here, children, there is something to amuse you.' Upon which the servile part of the boys would jump up, seize the paper, and be amused accordingly. \* \* There was a better school exercise, consisting of an abridgment of some paper in the *Spectator*. We made, however, little of it, and thought it very difficult and perplexing. In fact, it was a hard task for boys utterly unacquainted with the world, to seize the best points out of the writings of masters in experience. It only gave the *Spectator* an unnatural gravity in our eyes. A common paper for selection, because reckoned one of the easiest, was the one beginning, 'I have always preferred cheerfulness to mirth.' I had heard this paper so often, and was so tired with it, that it gave me a great inclination to prefer mirth to cheerfulness. My books were a never-ceasing consolation to me, and such they have ever continued. My favourites, out of school-hours, were Spenser, Collins, Gray, and the *Arabian Nights*. Pope I admired more than loved; Milton was above me; and the only play of Shakspeare's with which I was conversant was *Hamlet*, of which I had a delighted awe. Neither then, however, nor at any time, have I been as fond of dramatic reading as of any other, though I have written many dramas myself, and have even

a special propensity for so doing; a contradiction for which I have never been able to account. Chaucer, who has since been one of my best friends, I was not acquainted with at school, nor till long afterwards. *Hudibras* I remember reading through at one desperate plunge, while I lay incapable of moving, with two scalded legs. I did it as a sort of achievement, driving on through the verses without understanding a twentieth part of them, but now and then laughing immoderately at the rhymes and similes, and catching a bit of knowledge unawares. I had a schoolfellow of the name of Brooke, afterwards an officer in the East India service,—a grave, quiet boy, with a fund of manliness and good-humour. He would pick out the ludicrous couplets, like plums;—such as those on the astrologer,

Who deals in destiny's dark counsels,  
And sage opinions of the moon seals;

And on the apothecary's shop—

With stores of deleterious medicines,  
Which whosoever took is dead since.

He had the little thick duodecimo edition, with Hogarth's plates,—dirty, and well read, looking like *Hudibras* himself. I read through, at the same time, and with little less sense of it as a task, Milton's *Paradise Lost*. The divinity of it was so much 'Heathen Greek' to us. Unluckily, I could not taste the beautiful 'Heathen Greek' of the style. Milton's heaven made no impression; nor could I enter even into the earthly catastrophe of his man and woman."

In a later page we find Mr. Hunt talking pleasantly about the knot of comrades and contemporaries so many of whom are embalmed in the pages of *Elia*. But the following full-length portrait is less familiar to us: and we therefore give it in preference to any of the smaller sketches of geniuses greater than Benjamin West.—

"He was a man with regular, mild features; and, though of Quaker origin, had the look of what he was, a painter to a court. His appearance was so gentlemanly, that, the moment he changed his gown for a coat, he seemed to be full-dressed. The simplicity and self-possession of the young Quaker, not having time enough to grow stiff (for he went early to study at Rome), took up, I suppose, with more ease than most would have done, the urbanities of his new position. And what simplicity helped him to, favour would retain. Yet this man, so well bred, and so indisputably clever in his art (whatever might be the amount of his genius), had received so careless, or so homely an education when a boy, that he could hardly read. He pronounced also some of his words, in reading, with a puritanical barbarism, such as *have* for *have*, as some people pronounce when they sing psalms. But this was perhaps an American custom. My mother, who both read and spoke remarkably well, would say *have*, and *shaul* (for *shall*), when she sung her hymns. But it was not so well in reading lectures at the Academy. Mr. West would talk of his art all day long, painting all the while. On other subjects he was not so fluent; and on political and religious matters he tried hard to maintain the reserve common with those about a court. He succeeded ill in both. There were always strong suspicions of his leaning to his native side in politics; and during Bonaparte's triumph, he could not contain his enthusiasm for the Republican chief, going even to Paris to pay him his homage, when First Consul. The admiration of high colours and powerful effects, natural to a painter, was too strong for him. How he managed this matter with the higher powers in England, I cannot say. Probably he was the less heedful, inasmuch as he was not very carefully paid. I believe he did a great deal for George the Third with little profit. Mr. West certainly kept his love for Bonaparte no secret; and 'it was no wonder, for the latter expressed admiration of his pictures. The artist thought the conqueror's smile enchanting, and that he had the handsomest leg he had ever seen. He was present when the 'Venus de Medicis' was talked of, the French having just taken possession of her. Bonaparte, Mr. West said, turned round to those about him, and said, with his eyes lit up, 'She's coming!' as if he had been talking of a living person. \* \* The quiet of Mr. West's gallery, the tranquil, intent beauty of the statues, and the sub-



jects of some of the pictures, particularly Death on the Pale Horse, the Deluge, the Scotch King hunting the Stag, Moses on Mount Sinai, Christ Healing the Sick (a sketch), Sir Philip Sidney giving up the Water to the Dying Soldier, the Installation of the Knights of the Garter, and Ophelia before the King and Queen (one of the best things he ever did), made a great impression upon me. My mother and I used to go down the gallery, as if we were treading on wool. She was in the habit of stopping to look at some of the pictures, particularly the Deluge and the Ophelia, with a countenance quite awe-stricken. She used also to point out to me the subjects relating to liberty and patriotism, and the domestic affections. Agrippina bringing home the ashes of Germanicus was a great favourite with her. I remember, too, the awful delight afforded us by the Angel slaying the army of Sennacherib; a bright figure lorded it in the air, with a chaos of human beings below. As Mr. West was almost sure to be found at work, in the farthest room, habited in his white woollen gown, so you might have predicated, with equal certainty, that Mrs. West was sitting in the parlour, reading. I used to think, that if I had such a parlour to sit in, I should do just as she did. It was a good-sized room, with two windows looking out on the little garden I spoke of, and opening to it from one of them by a flight of steps. The garden, with its busts in it, and the pictures which you knew were on the other side of its wall, had an Italian look. The room was hung with engravings and coloured prints. Among them was the Lion Hunt, from Rubens; the Hierarchy with the God-head, from Raphael, which I hardly thought it right to look at; and two screens by the fireside, containing prints (from Angelica Kauffman, I think, but I am not sure that Mr. West himself was not the designer) of the Loves of Angelica and Medora, which I could have looked at from morning to night. Angelica's intent eyes, I thought, had the best of it; but I thought so without knowing why. This gave me a love for Ariosto before I knew him. I got Hoole's translation, but could make nothing of it. Angelica Kauffman seemed to me to have done much more for her namesake. \* \* Mrs. West and my mother used to talk of old times, and Philadelphia, and my father's prospects at court. I sat apart with a book, from which I stole glances at Angelica. I had a habit at that time of holding my breath, which forced me every now and then to take long sighs. My aunt would offer me a bribe not to sigh. I would earn it once or twice; but the sighs were sure to return. \* \* The talk was very quiet; the neighbourhood quiet; the servants quiet; I thought the very squirrel in the cage would have made a greater noise anywhere else. James the porter, a fine tall fellow, who figured in his master's pictures as an apostle, was as quiet as he was strong. Standing for his picture had become a sort of religion with him. Even the butler, with his little twinkling eyes, full of pleasant conceit, vented his notions of himself in half tones and whispers. This was a strange fantastic person. He got my brother Robert to take a likeness of him, small enough to be contained in a shirt pin. It was thought that his twinkling eyes, albeit not young, had some fair cynosure in the neighbourhood. What was my brother's amazement, when, the next time he saw him, the butler said, with a face of enchanted satisfaction, "Well, sir, you see I'm making a movement at the same time with the frill at his waistcoat." The miniature that was to be given to the object of his affections, had been given accordingly. It was in his own bosom."

Here is a pair of portraits of other friends, less frequently talked about in print.—

"It was the custom for the monitors at Christ-Hospital, during prayers before meat, to stand fronting the tenants of their respective wards, while the objects of their attention were kneeling. Looking up, on one of these occasions, towards a new monitor who was thus standing, and whose face was unknown to me (for there were six hundred of us, and his ward was not mine), I thought him the smallest boy that could ever have attained to so distinguished an eminence. He was little in person, little in face, and he had a singularly juvenile cast of features, even for one so petite. It was Mitchell, the translator of Aristophanes. He had really attained his position prematurely. I rose afterwards to be next to him in the school; and from a grudge that existed

between us, owing probably to a reserve, which I thought pride, on his part, and to an aridency which he may have considered frivolous on mine, we became friends. Circumstances parted us in after-life: I became a Reformist, and he a Quarterly Reviewer; but he sent me kindly remembrances not long before he died. I did not know he was declining; and it will ever be a pain to me to reflect, that delay conspired with accident to hinder my sense of it from being known to him; especially as I learned that he had not been so prosperous as I supposed. He had his weaknesses as well as myself, but they were mixed with conscientious and noble qualities. Zealous as he was for aristocratical government, he was no indiscriminate admirer of persons in high places; and, though it would have bettered his views in life, he had declined taking orders, from a nicety of religious scruple. Of his admirable scholarship I need say nothing. Equally good scholar, but of a less zealous temperament, was Barnes, who stood next me on the Deputy-Grecian form, and who was afterwards identified with the sudden and striking increase of the *Times*, newspaper in fame and influence. He was very handsome when young, with a profile of Grecian regularity; and was famous among us for a certain dispassionate humour, for his admiration of the works of Fielding, and for his delight nevertheless, in pushing a narrative to its utmost, and drawing upon his stores of fancy for intensifying it; an amusement for which he possessed an understood privilege. It was painful in after-life to see his good looks swallowed up in corpulency, and his once handsome mouth thrusting its under lip out, and panting with asthma. I believe he was originally so well constituted, in point of health and bodily feeling, that he fancied he could go on all his life without taking any of the usual methods to preserve his comfort. The editorship of the *Times*, which turned his night into day, and would have been a trying burden to any man, completed the bad consequences of his negligence; and he died painfully before he was old. Barnes wrote elegant Latin verse, a classical English style, and might assuredly have made himself a name in wit and literature, had he cared much for anything beyond his glass of wine and his Fielding. What pleasant days have I not passed with him, and other schoolfellows, bathing in the New River, and boating on the Thames. He and I began to learn Italian together; and anybody not within the pale of the enthusiastic, might have thought us mad, as we went shouting the beginning of Metastasio's Ode to Venus, as loud as we could bawl, over the Hornsey-fields. I can repeat it to this day, from those first lessons."

This, it will be owned, is the gentlest of painting: but Mr. Hunt's gallery has few portraits more forcibly touched than the above. His use of epithet is rather confusing than assisting to the imagination, since it envelopes all the personages made to pass before us in a sort of hazy amiability, which deprives them of marking feature or character. Towards the end of the first volume many pages are filled with the names of actors and actresses; but it is surprising how little we learn of their natures and qualities on or off the stage. The description of Catalani as having the "regular Italian antelope" face, and "sensitive elegant nose," puzzles even ourselves, who recollect Catalani well, to "realize," as the Americans say. Nor is the following conceit a happy tribute to the Pasta whom we recollect.—

"When she measured her enemy from head to foot, in *Tancredi*, you really felt for the man, at seeing him so reduced into nothingness. When she made her entrance on the stage, in the same character—which she did right in front of the audience, midway between the side scenes—she waved forth her arms, and drew them quietly together again over her bosom, as if she sweetly, yet modestly, embraced the whole house."

The account of Mr. Bell, of "the Poets," is better, because less ambitious.—

"Bell was upon the whole a remarkable person. He was a plain man, with a red face, and a nose exaggerated by intemperance; and yet there was something not displeasing in his countenance, especially

when he spoke. He had sparkling black eyes, a good-natured smile, gentlemanly manners, and one of the most agreeable voices I ever heard. He had no acquisitions—perhaps not even grammar; but his taste in putting forth a publication, and getting the best artists to adorn it, was new in those times, and may be admired in any; and the same taste was observable in his house. He knew nothing of poetry. He thought the *Della Cruscan* fine people, because they were known in the circles; and for Milton's *Paradise Lost* he had the same epithet as for Mrs. Crouch's face or the phaeton of Major Topham: he thought it 'pretty.' Yet a certain liberal instinct, and turn for large dealing, made him include Chaucer and Spenser in his edition; he got Stothard to adorn the one and Mortimer the other; and in the midst, I suspect, of very equivocal returns, published a *British Theatre*, with embellishments, and a similar edition of the plays of Shakspeare, the incorrectest work, according to Mr. Chalmers, that ever issued from the press. Unfortunately for Mr. Bell, he had as great a taste for neat wines and ankles as for pretty books; and, to crown his misfortunes, the Prince of Wales, to whom he was bookseller, once did him the honour to partake of an entertainment at his house. He afterwards became a bankrupt. He was one of those men whose temperament and turn for enjoyment throw a sort of grace over whatever they do, standing them in stead of everything but prudence, and sometimes even supplying them with the consolations which imprudence itself has forfeited. After his bankruptcy he set up a newspaper, which became profitable to everybody but himself. He had become so used to lawyers and bailiffs, that the more his concerns flourished, the more his debts flourished with them. It seemed as if he would have been too happy without them; too exempt from the cares that beset the prudent. The first time I saw him he was standing in a chemist's shop, waiting till the road was clear for him to issue forth. He had a toothache, for which he held a handkerchief over his mouth; and, while he kept a sharp look-out with his bright eye, was alternately growling in a most gentlemanly manner over his gums, and addressing some polite words to the shopman. I had not then been introduced to him, and did not know his person; so that the effect of his voice upon me was unequivocal. I liked him for it, and wished the bailiff at the devil."

The above gleanings are from Mr. Hunt's first volume. In the second we have the story of his connexion with the *Examiner*, of his trial for libel and his imprisonment; how Lord Byron visited him in gaol, and how, subsequently, he went to Italy. But all these details we seem to have met with before:—some of them in the identical words now again printed. The third volume opens with a natural attempt of the autobiographer to right himself with the public as concerns the ill-judged book which was the fruit of that ill-judged Italian journey by a frank apology. Subsequently to this, there occurs much talk concerning Mr. Hunt's more recent and more genial productions, with speculations on the duties and immunities of literary men—such as the following.—

"I felt age, coming on me, and difficulties not lessened by failing projects; nor was I able, had I been never so inclined, to render my faculties profitable in the market. It is easy to say to a man—Write such and such a thing, and it is sure to sell. Watch the public taste, and act accordingly. Care not for original composition; for inventions or theories of your own; for aesthetics, which the many will be slow to apprehend. Stick to the works of others. Write only in magazines and reviews. Or if you must write things of your own, compile. Tell anecdotes. Reproduce histories and biographies. Do anything but write to the few, and you may get rich. There is a great deal of truth in all this. But a man can only do what he can, or as others will let him. Suppose he has a conscience that will not suffer him to reproduce the works of other people, or even to speak what he thinks commonplace enough to

"\* Mr. Bicknell informs me, that when Bell set up his newspaper, the *Weekly Messenger*, (which had a woodcut at the top of it of a newsman blowing his horn,) he is said to have gone to a masquerade in the newsman's character, and distributed prospectuses to the company."



have become common property. Suppose this conscience will not allow him to accommodate himself to the opinion of editors and reviewers. Suppose the editors and reviewers themselves will not encourage him to write on the subjects he understands best, perhaps do not understand the subjects themselves; or at best, play with him, and delay him, and keep him only as a resource when their own circle fails them. Suppose he has had to work his way up through animosities, political and religious, and through such clouds of adversity as, even when they have passed away, leave a chill of misfortune round his reputation, and make "prosperity" slow to encourage him. Suppose, in addition to all this, he is in bad health, and of fluctuating, as well as peculiar powers; of a temperament easily solaced in mind, and as easily drowned in body; quick to enjoy every object in creation, everything in nature and in art, every sight, every sound, every book, picture, and flower, and at the same time really qualified to do nothing, but either to preach the enjoyment of those objects in modes derived from his own particular nature and breeding, or to suffer with mingled cheerfulness and poverty the consequences of advocating some theory on the side of human progress. Great may sometimes be the misery of that man under the necessity of requesting forbearance or undergoing obligation; and terrible will be his doubts, whether some of his friends may not think he had better have had a conscience less nice, or an activity less at the mercy of his *physique*. He will be forced to seek his consolation in what can be the only final consolation of any one who needs a charitable construction; namely, that he has given what he would receive."

It might be observed, that to every one of the above "suppose"s a counter "suppose" might be advanced,—were not the passage too limited a pleading for special anomalies, indulgences, and privileges to be treated as text for a discourse on that ill-understood matter, the powers and duties of literary men. It is too characteristic, however, to be passed over.

On the whole, we are disappointed to find that this Autobiography yields even less than might have been expected. A word remains to be said with reference to its concluding pages. The record is wound up by a pretty broad hint—in the "*nolo episcopari*" style—that the Laureateship would not be agreeable to its writer. "Sure I am," says he, "that I should make a very rare Poet-Laureate as far as the world has hitherto seen, for I should write from the heart." And he premises that "many have thought" that former "effusions of gratitude" have given him "a claim to the office." But, owning that "the office of Laureate" may be thought to imply conformities and subscriptions on certain important subjects, Mr. Hunt volunteers a rambling confession of faith and dissent, in order that no one who has laurels or butts of sack in his gift may be misled. Very fair is this; but we apprehend, also, that it is superfluous, and liable to more than one construction. The majority will not consider Mr. Leigh Hunt's claims to the Laureateship sufficient to outweigh the fact that he has been already rewarded by the liberal pension accorded to him. What has been felt and said in the case of Mr. Tennyson applies in his case also.

*Israel and the Gentiles: Contributions to the History of the Jews from the Earliest Times to the Present Day.* By Dr. Isaac Da Costa, of Amsterdam. Nisbet & Co.

THE author of this book, Dr. Da Costa, is "by birth a descendant of one of those Jewish families who in the seventeenth century sought refuge in the Netherlands from the persecutions of Spain and Portugal." From his earliest youth, he says, the history of his forefathers had been the great object of his meditation and study. In particular, he had occupied himself with the speculation,—what were the causes to be assigned for the continued national existence

of the Jews after their dispersion over the globe, and for what peculiar destiny in the future were they thus kept apart and preserved? His attempts to come to sound conclusions on these points led him to renounce the lax Judaism in which he had been educated, and to embrace the tenets of Christian Protestantism. His present work, therefore, is a kind of sketch of the history of Judaism from the point of view of a Protestant Jew, sympathizing in all essential respects with the evangelical Protestant sects of Holland and of our own country. The book is translated by an Englishwoman; who expresses her wish "that the reader may, even in a small degree, participate in the vivid enjoyments which she herself has derived from the gifted writer's own conversation and correspondence."

Although any very "vivid enjoyment" from the book seems to us out of the question, it may be recommended as by no means a bad summary of facts relative to the history of the Jews both in ancient and in modern times. It is divided into four parts. In the first, the author takes "a glance over the principal features of the Jewish history, both in Palestine and beyond its borders, before the destruction of Jerusalem;"—in the second, he "gives a view of the Jewish people in their double captivity of the East and West, from the fall of their temple and country to the close of the Middle Ages;"—in the third, he offers a more specific account of the condition of the Jews in Spain and Portugal during the same period;—and in the fourth, he sketches the more recent history of the Jews,—particularly in their connexion with the Reformation of the seventeenth century, the French revolution of 1789, and the current political agitations of the Continent. The last two sections are the most interesting portions of the work:—the first two being little better than compends of information already accessible elsewhere.

The so-called *Sephardim*, or Spanish Jews—that is, the descendants of such Jewish families as, once naturalized in Spain and Portugal, were expelled from those countries in 1492 and 1497—constitute, it is well known, a kind of separate class, or aristocracy, among all other Jews. The reason of this is, that during the Middle Ages the Jews in the Spanish Peninsula enjoyed a much higher social position, and were subjected to far fewer marks of degradation, than their brethren in other countries; and that thus there was implanted in the Spanish Jew a haughtiness, a sense of personal dignity, unknown to the Jew of Germany or of England, and so deeply ingrained that no amount of subsequent misfortune has been able to extirpate it. The preponderance of Oriental elements in the population of modern Spain was the chief cause, says Dr. Da Costa, of the superior regard paid to Israelitish settlers in that as compared with other countries.—

"From very ancient times, many Oriental elements have mingled with the Celtiberian nucleus of the Spanish population. The Phœnician colonies were numerous long before Rome or Carthage sought the dominion of its shores. The Goths, penetrating by the Pyrenees, brought to this country a mixture of northern blood; but they were rather encamped than established here. Their kings did not style themselves kings of Spain, but of the Goths in Spain." A little later, another Eastern people mixed itself with the population already derived from the same source; for the Saracens, invading Europe, penetrated beyond the Pyrenees, and finally established themselves triumphantly in the Peninsula, which was only reconquered by degrees by the Christian natives."

Introduced into a country so strongly orientalized, the Jews (who had been known as colonists in the Peninsula from the time of its possession by the Romans, and who are even imagined to have had a share in bringing in the Moorish invaders)

formed but one Oriental ingredient the more, between whom and the rest of Spanish society there existed no such ethnical antipathy, as that which kept the Hebrew insulated amidst the other nations. In Spain under the Moorish dominion, says Mr. Prescott, in a passage quoted by Dr. Da Costa, the Jews—

"not only accumulated wealth with their usual diligence, but gradually rose to the highest civil dignity, and made great advances in various departments of letters. The schools of Cordova, Toledo, Barcelona, and Granada, were crowded with numerous disciples, who emulated the Arabians in keeping alive the flame of learning during the deep darkness of the middle ages. Whatever may be thought of their success in speculative philosophy, they cannot reasonably be denied to have contributed largely to practical, and experimental science. They were diligent travellers in all parts of the known world, compiling itineraries which have proved of extensive use in later times, and bringing home hoards of foreign specimens and Oriental drugs that furnished important contributions to the domestic pharmacopœia. In the practice of medicine, indeed, they became so expert as, in a manner, to monopolize that profession. They made great proficiency in mathematics, and particularly in astronomy; while, in the cultivation of elegant letters, they revived the ancient glories of the Hebrew muse. This was indeed the golden age of modern Jewish literature."

After giving an account of some of the more celebrated Hebrew-Spanish names of this "golden age of modern Jewish literature"—including Aben-Ezra, Maimonides, Hallevi, Al Charisi, and others—Dr. Da Costa proceeds to narrate the tragic story of the expulsion of the Jews from the Peninsula, where for so many centuries they had maintained a flourishing existence,—and to exhibit the subsequent fortunes that attended the Sephardim in their dispersion over various European countries. Everywhere, as we have said, these Sephardim are distinguishable from other Jews. They cherish the memory of their previous greatness in Spain,—and look back to their expatriation from that country as to a noble historical tradition possessed by them as a specific property, in addition to the great traditions common to all their race.—

"One of their distinctions is their daily use of the language of the country of their former glorious exile, which has been handed down from generation to generation, in whatever part of the world they may have subsequently settled. To some of these Jews their own Scriptures are more familiar in the older Spanish than in the original Hebrew, and their descendants long wrote both prose and verse in Spanish, or Portuguese, while dwelling in Italy, the Netherlands, England, Africa, Constantinople, or even Jerusalem. Until the commencement of this century, the Sephardim used both these languages in their domestic life and daily intercourse; in the synagogue for all ceremonial arrangements, and for every part of the worship not included in the Liturgy; in their private correspondence, their commercial accounts, and the public announcement of marriages or deaths."

Among the great names produced in the body of the Sephardim in their state of dispersion, Dr. Da Costa speaks particularly of Manasseh Ben Israel, Uriel da Costa, Benedict Spinoza, and Thomas de Pinedo. His remarks on these men and their opinions are, however, not very brilliant or profound.

The last part of the work, in which Dr. Da Costa offers a view of the Jews in their present relations with the Gentile world, is more meagre than might have been anticipated. For an appreciation of the intellectual tendencies of Judaism at the present time we must go elsewhere; Dr. Da Costa offering on that matter little beyond what may be heard from an ordinary Exeter Hall orator. His observations on 'Moses Mendelssohn and his Contemporaries'



belong to the smallest order of commonplace:—as, indeed, does his whole disquisition on the condition of the Jews in Germany. The following passage, however, is not uninteresting.—

"The shock endured and communicated by France on the 24th February, 1848, caused, in Germany, the explosion of those designs, theories, and conspiracies which had been long before prepared. It is known that the emancipation of the Jews was effected, in its full extent, by the revolutionary principle, simultaneously with the entire dissolution, if we may so express it, of ancient Germany. The great part taken by the liberal Jews of all kinds in the recent changes and movements in Bohemia and Hungary is also well known. Many of the most decidedly Radical and revolutionary newspapers were edited by Jews both in Prussia and Austria. Many Israelites holding ultra-radical views sat in the German Diet at Frankfort, and in that of Prussia at Berlin. Among the deputies to Frankfort were, besides Dr. Riesser, whom we have already mentioned, Dr. Veit, Cohen, Hartmann, Karanda of Prague, and other Israelites. One of the most violent members of the Left in the Prussian chamber, after the events of 1848, was Jacobi, also a Jew. Dr. Jellinck, who, with Dr. Becher, was shot at Vienna on the 20th of November, was descended from the same nation which, under so many different dispensations, has so often obstinately mistaken its path of duty. It is not only among the journalists and the radical politicians of the time that we meet with new symptoms of life and energy among the Jews.

\* \* In Germany and in Poland, as well as in France, since the changes of 1789, the Israelite has proved his capacity for the profession of arms, and has frequently maintained the honour of his warlike descent from his ancestors of Palestine. Already, towards the close of the preceding century, a body of Jewish volunteers had been formed under the banner of Kosciuzko, whose chief, Bereh, after having earned many marks of honour in the war of independence, lost his life in battle. During the war for German liberty, from 1813—1815, not less than 1,700 Israelites fought in the service of Austria alone. Thirty-five officers of that nation fell gloriously on the field at Waterloo, and great were also the services rendered by Jewish physicians and surgeons on this occasion. \* \* In medicine, astronomy, and mathematics, they equalled and, in proportion to the progress of science during so many centuries, surpassed the great models of their nation in Spain during the Middle Ages. Doctors and professors who are by descent, by birth, and even by actual profession, Israelites, have during the last thirty years excelled in every branch of knowledge. Rabbinical theology, in consequence of the severe studies exacted by the Government, assumed from that period a scientific character. The Arabic, as well as the Hebrew and Chaldaic languages and literature, have been cultivated by the German Jews with success and celebrity. Numerous poets have arisen, who have followed Hartwig in enriching modern Hebrew poetry by their remarkable productions. But also in the language of Goethe and Schiller, many Israelites in Germany have spoken with the voice of talent in poetry and prose. In the art of Haydn and of Mozart, of Beethoven and of Weber, they fill the highest ranks; nor have painters been wanting among them during the period we are reviewing. In a word, the Israelites of the dispersion have for the last two generations presented an entirely new phase of existence in Germany."

The entire number of the Jews is now estimated, Dr. Da Costa tells us, at from five to seven millions. In Austria, there are 700,000,—in Russia, 200,000,—in France, 84,000,—in England, 30,000,—in the Netherlands, 50,000, of whom 30,000 live in Amsterdam,—in Turkey, 800,000,—in Arabia, 200,000,—in Africa, 600,000,—in the United States, 50,000,—and in China, India and Persia, 600,000. The ultimate hope of all these Jews, Dr. Da Costa holds, lies in their Christianization, and restoration as a Christian people to the land and the glory of their ancestors.

*The Scarlet Letter: a Romance.* By Nathaniel Hawthorne. Boston, Ticknor & Co.

THIS is a most powerful but painful story. Mr. Hawthorne must be well known to our readers as a favourite with the *Athenæum*. We rate him as among the most original and peculiar writers of American fiction. There is in his works a mixture of Puritan reserve and wild imagination, of passion and description, of the allegorical and the real, which some will fail to understand, and which others will positively reject,—but which, to ourselves, is fascinating, and which entitles him to be placed on a level with Brockden Brown and the author of 'Rip Van Winkle.' 'The Scarlet Letter' will increase his reputation with all who do not shrink from the invention of the tale; but this, as we have said, is more than ordinarily painful. When we have announced that the three characters are a guilty wife, openly punished for her guilt,—her tempter, whom she refuses to unmask, and who during the entire story carries a fair front and an unblemished name among his congregation,—and her husband, who, returning from a long absence at the moment of her sentence, sits himself down betwixt the two in the midst of a small and severe community to work out his slow vengeance on both under the pretext of magnanimous forgiveness,—when we have explained that 'The Scarlet Letter' is the badge of Hester Prynne's shame, we ought to add that we recollect no tale dealing with crime so sad and revenge so subtly diabolical, that is at the same time so clear of fever and of prurient excitement. The misery of the woman is as present in every page as the heading which in the title of the romance symbolizes her punishment. Her terrors concerning her strange elvish child present retribution in a form which is new and natural:—her slow and painful purification through repentance is crowned by no perfect happiness, such as awaits the decline of those who have no dark and bitter past to remember. Then, the gradual corrosion of heart of Dimmesdale, the faithless priest, under the insidious care of the husband, (whose relationship to Hester is a secret known only to themselves,) is appalling; and his final confession and expiation are merely a relief, not a reconciliation.—We are by no means satisfied that passions and tragedies like these are the legitimate subjects for fiction: we are satisfied that novels such as 'Adam Blair' and plays such as 'The Stranger' may be justly charged with attracting more persons than they warn by their excitement. But if Sin and Sorrow in their most fearful forms are to be presented in any work of art, they have rarely been treated with a loftier severity, purity, and sympathy than in Mr. Hawthorne's 'Scarlet Letter.' The touch of the fantastic befitting a period of society in which ignorant and excitable human creatures conceived each other and themselves to be under the direct "rule and governance" of the Wicked One, is most skilfully administered. The supernatural here never becomes grossly palpable:—the thrill is all the deeper for its action being indefinite, and its source vague and distant.

*A History of British Mollusca and their Shells.*

Parts I. to XXIV. By Professor Edward Forbes and Sylvanus Hanley. Van Voorst.

BUT a few years since the conchologist was a mere collector of shells. The size, the form, the colour, the rarity of a shell were the points that alone had attractions for him; and such was the influence exercised by these virtuosi in this department of scientific inquiry, that the naturalist himself insensibly yielded to the notion that the large class of animals which

inhabited shells were to be classified and valued according to the forms, colours, &c. of their skeletons alone. This tendency to attach exclusive importance to the external forms of natural objects, which is a sure sign of the infancy of any branch of inquiry where it exists, still pervades our classifications of animals and plants, and not unfrequently engrosses the whole attention of the naturalist. The method of the old conchologist was too much in accordance with the views of Linnaeus on classification generally not to find in him a cordial supporter; so that the study of the animals inhabiting shells, and known under the name of Mollusca, was little advanced by that distinguished naturalist. For the greatest advances made in this department of natural history we are indebted to two men, one dead and the other living, who, by their peculiarities of thought and the boldness of their generalizations, have produced a misunderstanding and opposition amongst the less instructed and prejudiced that have prevented them from taking that universally high position among their contemporaries which will, we venture to predict, be given to them in the history of science. We speak of Adanson and Oken. To Adanson we are indebted for the first attempt at a systematic arrangement of the Mollusca according to the structure of the animal, which he published in his 'Natural History of Senegal.' The systems of Cuvier and Lamarck, which were published subsequently to the researches of Adanson, were a great improvement on that of Linnaeus, though not free from the old leaven of conchologists. In the labours of Oken we recognize a genius of the highest order beginning anew to work the materials of natural science into a form of his own. Dissatisfied with the mere scaffoldings of science which previous systematists had erected, he boldly sought to build anew the temple of science, the outlines of which are to be found in his 'Physio-philosophy.' There, in the midst of technicalities which few have either the courage or the honesty to master before they condemn them, will be found the germs of much that modern science now boasts without acknowledgment, and often in entire ignorance of its obligations. In this work, as well as in Oken's papers, a correct apprehension will be found of the great principles of a sound natural system of classifying the Mollusca.

Up to the appearance of the present work little had been done by our countrymen for the advancement of a philosophical knowledge of the Mollusca; although the works of Montague, Turton, Brown, Sowerby and Gray, have added largely to our knowledge of shells. We must not forget to mention Leach, who had his life been spared would have undoubtedly contributed largely to this department of science. The task, however, of writing and publishing a history of British Mollusca could not have fallen into better hands than those which have here undertaken it. Prof. Edward Forbes is known as a philosophical zoologist whose views of classification are founded on deeper and more extended knowledge than that which is furnished by the exterior of an animal; and Mr. Hanley has long been known for the devotion with which he has collected Mollusca, and the unwearied industry which he displays in unravelling the intricate web of synonymy with which the nomenclature of the Mollusca is overlaid.

Independently of the value of a knowledge of the structure of the group of animals to which this work is devoted in relation to the whole animal kingdom, the animals themselves possess some special points of interest. Of the more important of these is their relation to geological inquiries. Amongst the remains of animals



which after being buried in the depths of the sea are again revealed to us in the strata of the earth, there are none which have so perfectly resisted all decomposing processes as the shells of the Mollusca:—hence the study of the recent animals becomes of interest to the geologist. Through this study he has been enabled to connect the structure of the shell with the habits of its animal occupant; and has thus pointed out the structure and functions of whole tribes of extinct beings, though not a particle of the structure which performed the function has been left. Not the least interesting point of the researches of the malacologist bearing on geology—and to no one are we more indebted in this matter than to Edward Forbes—is, the discovery of many species now living which were formerly supposed to be extinct. Of this we have examples in the present work. The comparative age of the recent or tertiary strata has been determined by the fewness or largeness of the number of species of animals which are identical with those now living,—so that of course the researches of the malacologist on recent species have a direct bearing on inquiries concerning the age of strata. Not only is a knowledge of existing species thus important, but an acquaintance with their habits sometimes throws light on obscure geological questions. Take the following as an instance. The genus spoken of is *Saxicava*.—

“Great interest attaches to the British species of this genus in a geological point of view; one, if not both of them, owing a wide distribution, in the present epoch, to events which occurred in pre-adamite ages. The researches of geologists have made known to us, that, previous to the present state of things, within the area of our islands, there existed climatal conditions much more severe than those which now prevail,—that, in fact, the climate of Greenland, and the Fauna and Flora of the regions in which that climate is now met with, then extended over the greater part of Europe and Northern Asia, having its southern bounds somewhere in a line with the southernmost part of the British Islands as they are now constituted. At that time, however, the greater part of our country was under water, and represented by ridges of land and small islands, rising in the midst of an icy sea. During this chilly epoch the *Saxicava* extended their range almost round the whole of the northern hemisphere, and when the bed of the glacial ocean was upheaved,—as geological research proves to have been the case, previous to the present arrangements of our region, and preparatory to a more genial assemblage of conditions,—the shells of these mollusks were preserved in the raised sea-beds, and are found in them now, even at elevations of several hundred feet above the level of the present sea. Thus we find them in Sweden, where their inland position attracted the attention of Linnaeus, whose all-inquiring mind was deeply impressed with this curious, and, in his time, inexplicable phenomenon; in Norway, where the importance of the fact was fully recognized by the great German geologist, Baron Von Buch; in Canada, whence we have seen specimens brought home by Mr. Lyell; in distant and inland regions of Russia, where the glacial beds were traced by Sir Roderick Murchison and M. de Verneuil; and at home, where numerous observers have noted the inland occurrence of the *Saxicava*.—above all, Mr. Smith of Jordanhill, who, bringing the knowledge of the conchologist, and the discrimination of the field-naturalist, to bear upon these critical investigations, was the first to show that these shells alone, from peculiarities of variation and locality, indicated of themselves that the conditions under which they lived were dissimilar from those now regulating the distribution of animals in our seas.”

This reference to the genus *Saxicava* reminds us of their habits:—like many of their tribe, they bore into rocks and the various substances with which they may happen to be in contact. This property of the Mollusca has been a fruitful source of discussion among naturalists. It is one of the hobbies that is constantly trotted out at Section D of the British Association for the

edification of the lookers-on; but, as far as we have seen, it has always ended in the overthrow of the rider. A favourite notion has been, that the creature secretes an acid by means of which it bores by dissolving away limestone,—and snails are said by the Dean of Westminster to possess the same property. No acid, however, has yet been found by the chemist. Attrition by the shell, or by peculiar silicious particles on the foot, has found its advocates. The last theory, advanced at Birmingham, was, that the passing and repassing of currents of water containing carbonic acid in solution was the cause. But as carbonic acid will only dissolve limestone, this theory will not explain all the phenomena.

To stomachs used to “such small deer” there can be no doubt that many shell-fish are a most acceptable and useful article of diet. Mussels, cockles and limpets all have their admirers, and many a bold fisherman’s family have they undoubtedly supplied with food when nobler game could not be caught. But of all these molluscous creatures commend us to the oyster! Raw, with or without the *additamenta*, grilled, fried, stewed, or scalloped, in soup, sauce or pickle, they are equally good. To the commercial history of this esteemed member of the family the authors have devoted considerable attention.

There are other points of interest in this work to which we might draw attention; especially the accounts of the Mollusca of our shores which yield pearls,—the habits of various members of the family,—the influence of locality on their shape and form,—the beauty of their shells in sculpture and colouring,—the history of their development, and the curious process by which they form their shells. But we must be content to give our earnest commendation to the work as worthy of the names of both authors and publisher, and as one of those contributions to the natural history of our island which will mark the last twenty years as remarkable in the progress of the science of the present century.

#### *Picturesque Sketches of Greece and Turkey.*

By Aubrey de Vere. 2 vols. Bentley.

THIS book consists, as its title indicates, rather of descriptions of scenery, of the aspects of cities, &c., than of such views of Greek and Turkish manners as would have been welcome at the present time. Written as it is by a man of taste and sensibility, it is intended only for such leisurely lovers of the beautiful as may be inclined to follow the footsteps of a modern traveller over classic ground, receiving, in lieu of the more direct impressions with which their own senses would have supplied them, his chastened recollections of blue skies, orange groves, gorgeous moonlights at sea, and marble columns white against the sun. Such persons will find Mr. De Vere’s volumes agreeable: readers, on the other hand, who may take them up with the expectation of receiving from them any considerable amount of information respecting the political or social state of Greece and Turkey will certainly be disappointed. Mr. De Vere does not indeed avoid political or social allusions,—an Athenian *fête*, or a street-mob in Constantinople, is observed and described by him as well as a ruin or a landscape; but it is evident that what guides him throughout, whether he observes men or things, is the pictorial eye for form, costume, and colour. Hence his book is, as we have said, pleasing rather than, in the ordinary sense of the word, instructive. It is a series of water-colour sketches of objects and groups, more than a collection of thoughts or investigations.

In the portion of the volumes allotted to Greece, we have sketches of the Ionian islands, Corinth, Marathon, Eleusis, Delphi, &c., be-

sides several entire chapters on Athens and its antiquities. Mr. De Vere thus describes the characteristics of southern as compared with those of northern scenery.—

“Nothing can be more different in character than the landscapes of the north and of the south. The character of the former is grave, subdued, and tender, abounding in passages of pathos and mystery, though glorified, not seldom, by a golden haze. That of the south, on the other hand, is at once majestic and joyous, ample in its dimensions, but not abounding in a complex variety of detail; clearly defined, severe in structure, well brought out into the light; but at the same time unspirital in its scope, appealing less to the heart than to the fancy, expressing everything to the understanding, and, consequently, reserving little for a slowly apprehensive imagination. An analogous distinction may perhaps be traced in the character of the northern and southern races. In every country, indeed, there exists a certain analogy between the outward shapes of nature, and the mind it has nursed and helped to form.”

The author’s general impression of the Greek people is conveyed in the following remarks; which, however, he applies more especially to our friends the Ionian Greeks.—

“In few parts of the world is there to be found so comely a race. They possess, almost always, fine features, invariably fine heads and flashing eyes; and their forms and gestures have a noble grace about them, which in less favoured climes is seldom to be met with, even among the higher ranks. A Greek never stands in an ungraceful position; indeed his bearing often deserves to be called majestic: but his inward gifts seldom correspond, if the estimate commonly formed of him be not very incorrect, with his outward aspect. The root of the evil is now what it was in old times; for the Ionian Greeks are a false people. Seldom, even by accident, do they say the thing that is; and never are they ashamed of being detected in a lie. Such a character hardly contains the elements of moral amelioration. Experience is lost upon it. Those who are false to others are false to themselves also; what they see, will always be what they desire to see; from whatever is repulsive they will turn their eyes away; and neither time nor suffering can bring them a lesson which ingenuity and self-love are not able to evade. The Ionian Greeks are also greatly deficient in industry. They do not care to improve their condition; their wants are few, and they will do little work beyond that of picking up the olives which fall from the tree. These the women carry home in baskets, almost all the labour falling on them, while the men idle away their everlasting, unhallowed holiday, telling stories, walking in procession, or showing as much diplomacy in some bargain about a capote as a Russian ambassador could display while settling the affairs of Europe with Lord Palmerston.”

Mr. De Vere seems to think that, to whatever change in the character of the Greeks themselves their long national degradation is to be attributed, they have at least lost none of that wonderful quickness and cheerful clearness of intellect which distinguished them among the ancients. He gives the following account of an Athenian school.—

“I visited, with equal surprise and satisfaction, an Athenian school which contained 700 pupils, taken from every class of society. The poorer classes were gratuitously instructed in reading, writing and arithmetic, and the girls in needlework likewise. The progress which the children had made was very remarkable; but what particularly pleased me was that air of bright alertness and good-humoured energy which belonged to them, and which made every task appear a pleasure, not a toil. The greatest punishment which can be inflicted on an Athenian child is exclusion from school, though but for a day. About seventy of the children belonged to the higher classes, and were instructed in music, drawing, the modern languages, the ancient Greek, and geography. Most of them were at the moment reading Herodotus and Homer. I have never seen children approaching them in beauty; and was much



struck by their Oriental cast of countenance, their dark complexions, their flashing eyes, and that expression at once apprehensive and meditative which is so much more remarkable in children than in those of a more mature age."

In all respects the Turks appear to be the very antipodes of the Greeks:—heavy, proud, sombre, and silent: while the latter are supple, vain, merry as larks, and loquacious as magpies.—

"The slow and heavy oxen, that commonly draw the carriages, do not differ more from the agile horses of Attica than do the Turks from the Athenians, a contrast by which I was, no doubt, the more impressed on account of my recent residence at Athens. In place of the merry laugh, the flashing eye, and the elastic gait, there was in each Turk whom I met an expression of melancholy self-possession, which could hardly have been more pronounced had he been invariably under the influence of opium. In place of billiards or dice, or any active game, the everlasting pipe, long or short, crooked or straight, was the resource of those who had no other occupation, and of many who had. Buying and selling, bargaining and conversing, seemed to be carried on in a state of somnambulism. Pleasure itself seemed a serious thing, and conserve of roses was handed to the customer with an air of heavy sedateness. 'Eat,' seemed the silent address of the Mussulman, 'eat, O true believer, before you die.'"

The most entertaining part of Mr. De Vere's narrative of what he saw and did in Constantinople is his account of a visit which he paid to the harem of a Turk of high rank, in the company of a young scapegrace of a Frenchman, who gained admission to the forbidden place in the pretended character of a conjuror (Mr. De Vere going as his assistant, and carrying an electrical machine).—and then achieved his object of seeing the Turk's wives by sheer force of talk and impudence. The farce ended by the administering of an electrical shock to all the ladies, while the husband looked on jealously, and half felt himself made a fool of. Omitting as too long for quotation this story of a somewhat questionable practical joke, we will present as a final specimen of Mr. De Vere's book the following alleged anecdote of the present Sultan.

"At the beginning of his reign the Ulema was resolved, if possible, to prevent the new Sultan from carrying on those reforms which had ever been so distasteful to the Turks, grating at once against their religious associations and their pride of race, and which recent events had certainly proved not to be productive of those good results anticipated by Sultan Mahmoud. To attain this object the Muftis adopted the expedient of working on the religious fears of the youthful prince. One day as he was praying, according to his custom, at his father's tomb, he heard a voice from beneath reiterating in a stifled tone the words 'I burn.' The next time that he prayed there the same words assailed his ears. 'I burn' was repeated again and again, and no word beside. He applied to the chief of the Imams, to know what this prodigy might mean, and was informed in reply that his father, though a great man, had also been, unfortunately, a great reformer, and that as such it was but too much to be feared that he had a terrible penance to undergo in the other world. The Sultan sent his brother-in-law to pray at the same place, and afterwards several others of his household; and on each occasion the same portentous words were heard. One day he announced his intention of going in state to his father's tomb, and was attended thither by a splendid retinue including the chief doctors of the Mahometan Law. Again during his devotions were heard the words 'I burn,' and all except the Sultan trembled. Rising from his prayer-carpet he called in his guards, and commanded them to dig up the pavement and remove the tomb. It was in vain that the Muftis interposed, reproaching so great a profanation, and uttering dreadful warnings as to its consequences. The Sultan persisted. The foundations of the tomb were laid bare, and in a cavity skilfully left among

them was found—not a burning Sultan, but a Dervise. The young monarch regarded him for a time fixedly and in silence, and then said, without any further remark or the slightest expression of anger, 'You burn? We must cool you in the Bosphorus.' In a few minutes more the Dervise was in a bag, and the bag immediately after was in the Bosphorus; while the Sultan rode back to his palace, accompanied by his household and ministers, who ceased not all the way to ejaculate 'Mashallah. Allah is great; there is no God but God, and Mahomet is his prophet.'"

These extracts will give the reader a sufficient specimen of Mr. De Vere's volumes.

#### OUR LIBRARY TABLE.

*Archeologia Cambrensis: a Record of the Antiquities of Wales and its Marches.*—We have before us a number of the "new series" of this quarterly production, as well as reprints of several papers and essays contained in it and in some former parts of the same work. They are in general highly creditable to the writers, and indicate not only patience, but acuteness of research. We may refer especially to the Remarks of Mr. E. A. Freeman "upon the Architecture of the Cathedral Church of Llandaff;" which embraces, as far as it could be ascertained, a history of the edifice itself, accompanied by a ground-plan which shows the great peculiarity of the structure, inasmuch as it has neither tower nor transepts. This circumstance is remarkable in an ecclesiastical building of such dimensions—the nave, choir, and presbytery extending more than 200 feet. The same number of the work comprises some curious and learned dissertations on ancient camps in Wales—on the stone of St. Cadfan—on Druidic stones, &c.—which throw new light on obscure portions of Cambrian history. One of the most novel topics relates to the settlement in, or rather banishment to, Pembrokeshire by Henry the First of a number of Flemings who had taken shelter in this country, and whom he did not know how to deal with: he therefore sent them into the western part of the county named, where he employed them to subdue and control the turbulent Welsh. This point is established on the authority of William of Malmesbury and Giraldus Cambrensis—to whom at a later date Leland resorted.—We are glad to see the Society so flourishing, and that their publications are so satisfactory.

*Hand-book of Mediæval Geography and History.* By Wilhelm Pütz. Translated from the German, by the Rev. R. B. Paul. A useful hand-book for the younger class of students. We notice, however, a fault in this otherwise well-arranged little work; common to nearly all compilations for the school-room—the want of a fixed rule in dealing with proper names, either of persons or of places. Thus, we have the king of France sometimes called Louis, at others! Lewis.—Mainz, the German name given to the city, gallicized into Mayence and anglicized into Mentz. These things are not trifles in elementary books! There should be some kind of uniformity. If the French name be given to one Frenchman, it should be to each; the same of German. This plan would be simpler than the half-English half-foreign jargon we now make of them—and the names would be more distinct and more easily remembered.

*The Constructive Etymological Spelling-School.* By James A. Christie. An elementary spelling-book on a partly new and very satisfactory plan, as it seems to us—the leading features of which may be thus briefly explained. The book begins with the first alphabetical prefixes *a, ab* or *abs* (Latin),—signifying *from* or *away*; (Anglo-Saxon) *on, in, to, at*; and those words are then given, with their meanings, to which these are attached. The other prefixes and affixes follow in their proper order. Thus, the learner, from the common germ, gets a clue to the sense of a whole family of verbal variations. In a second part of the work, the Greek or Latin root is placed at the head of the column, with the radical meaning attached; and underneath, the list of words into the composition of which it enters.—e.g. "*Agon* (Greek), a struggle; *agoniz*, intense pain; *agonize*, to strive painfully; *antagonist*, an opponent; *antagonism*, opposition." There are also interspersed throughout the volume a number of foot-notes, explaining such little difficulties as are likely to puzzle the learner.

*The Law relating to Transactions on the Stock Exchange.* By Henry Keyser, of the Middle Temple.—Mr. Keyser has written a useful treatise on the subject which he has chosen. The book is certainly not too bulky,—and for the greater part of those who will consult it, it is perhaps not too small. The style is clear and the arrangement is perspicuous. We think, however, that Mr. Keyser might have introduced with advantage forms of some of the instruments to which he has so frequently to refer, and which, in point of fact, constitute the subject of his volume. The dealers and brokers in Bartholomew Lane are no doubt sufficiently familiar with such essential details; but to the large class who are interested in the transactions that take place on the Stock Exchange without participating in them personally, it would have been a convenience to have had the whole of the facts placed before them. We dare say, however, that Mr. Keyser's book will reach a second edition:—and then he will be able to supply the omission which we point out.

*Third Report of the Edinburgh Section of the Central Board for the Relief of Destitution in the Highlands and Islands of Scotland, for 1849.*—Contains the report of the Board, and a long list of documents, in illustration of their proceedings; for the relief of the appalling mass of destitution which exists in the northern and western Islands and Highlands of Scotland.

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#### TRACES OF SIGMUND THE WELSH IN POPULAR TRADITION.

THE Anglo-Saxon poem of Beowulf contains a remarkable episode in which is told the story of Sigmund the dragon-slayer,—"Wælses offspring . . . of wanderers far the most famous over all the earth." This passage is one amongst many others, which have been pointed out by Mr. Kemble in his "Saxons in England" (vol. i. 423-427) as affording proof that the legends which belong to the Nibelungen cycle were not unknown to our Saxon ancestors, as they certainly were not to the Scandinavian races; in whose most ancient poems, Sigfried, the hero of the Nibelungen-legend, appears under the name of Sigurðr Fáfnisbani.

Sigmund, both in the Northern and German tradition, is the name given to the father of Sigfried, the great hero of the cycle. Amongst the Saxons, however, as it appears from the narrative in Beowulf, the same adventures were attributed to the father which the heroic story of Scandinavia and the Continent assigned to the son. This is one of the changes which are constantly found to occur when, as in the present case, the same cycle of romance belongs to races widely separated but of common origin.



Although many other personages of the Nibelungen cycle are mentioned in the Travellers' Song and the Scop's Complaint, the passage in Beowulf is the only one in which the great hero—Sigfried of the Germans—Sigmund of the Anglo-Saxons—is at all mentioned. The manner, however, in which he is there introduced is sufficient evidence of the very important place which he held in the national traditions of our forefathers: and although all other records of his story have perished, I cannot help thinking that we may still find some traces of him in certain local names and traditions which yet remain—silent witnesses of the past,—and which Mr. Kemble has himself shown us how to turn to such excellent account.

In the midst of the Forest of Exmoor there is a large, deep pool on the river Barle, which, says Westcote, "they name Symon's Bath, as a place where one Symon used to bathe himself." And is aside to have been (but upon what small colour of warrant) another Robin Hood, and standing in outlawry, kept this forest. And in the moors of Somerset there is a burrow or fort called by the inhabitants Symon's burrow, which he made his winter strength to retire into. But for that I can tell no Robin Hood's tales of him, I will follow Barle. Westcote was a diligent collector of ancient stories and traditions; and had there been any "Robin Hood's Tales" of Symon the Outlaw remaining in his time, it is more than probable that he would have recorded them. Nothing but his name, however, seems to have been preserved; but this, which is almost identical with that of Sigmund, is sufficiently remarkable to induce us to search further. Accordingly, we shall find traces, for the most part in the western half of England, of a hero bearing the same, or nearly the same, name; and of whom no other memorial seems to be remaining.

The parish of St. Breward, in Cornwall, is also called Simon Ward:—and popular tradition, uniting the two names, asserts that it is so called from "one Simon Ward, a domestic brewer to King Arthur."† The neighbourhood of St. Breward abounds with memorials of the British king. In this, or an adjoining, parish, was, in Norden's time, Arthur's Hall, "by tradition held to be a place whereunto that famous King Arthur resorted."‡ —an oblong square, surrounded with upright stones. Camelford, the scene of King Arthur's last battle, and where his grave is still shown, adjoins it on one side; and at a distance of about five miles, toward the sea, is the famous castle of Tintagel. It is worth remarking, that the parish of Simonward is one of the wildest and most rocky in Cornwall, and contains the two lofty hills of Rough Tor and Brownlie, which, according to Davies Gilbert, "may be seen from an elevation crossed by the road near Ifracombe, in the north of Devon, and from the high land in Zennor, about ten miles from the Land's End." Bearing in mind that the boundaries as well of this mark as of the shire and the kingdom were amongst the Saxons not only regarded as the abodes of monsters and dragons, but were placed under the immediate protection of their gods and heroes, it does not seem impossible that "Simonward" may signify literally "the boundary of Sigmund,"—and if so, we have here a very singular instance of the meeting on the same spot of British and Saxon traditions. [and]

On the borders of Herefordshire, at a point where the river Wye suddenly turns northward, is a lofty rock called "Symond's Yate," on the top of which is an ancient encampment. "Yate," in this instance, is evidently the Saxon "geat"—gate,—a word with which the names of ancient heroes are frequently found in composition; § since the term "gate," or "door," was used occasionally for the march or boundary over which the hero presided. Symond's Yate must have been completely on the Welch border.

In Derbyshire there is a village in the High Peak called Simondly. Simmonshall is in the parish of Wootton-under-Edge, Gloucestershire. Simontown is near Pendle Hill, in Lancashire:—and Simmond's Wood is the name of an ancient chase or forest, S.E. of Ormskirk, in the same county. In Westmoreland, on Helse Fell, N.W. of Kendal, is a semicircular earthwork called Sampson's Grave;—which may possibly be the same name. In Northumberland are Symonds-bury and the parish of Simonsburn,—where the church is dedicated to Saint Simon,—although the name seems to have first belonged to the brook or burn, which falls into the Tyne near Hexham. In the same county are the Simonside Hills—a wild district between Rothbury and Elsdon, famous for its many singular legends, some of the most striking of which will be found in 'The Local Historian's Table Book for the Counties of Northumberland and Durham.'

In Yorkshire, is a place called Simon Seat, north of Barden Tower; Simonsbury is in Dorsetshire, near Bridport; and there is a Simonside not far from Hatfield, in Hertfordshire.

Many additional instances might, no doubt, be found by a careful hunting of county and local histories. In the mean time, it is much to be desired that any traditions which may yet be lingering in the places I have here mentioned should be sought for and preserved.

I will conclude by asking a question which should perhaps have been addressed to the Editor of 'Notes and Queries.'—What is known of the song of 'Old Sir Simon the King,' once famous both in England and in Scotland as a dance tune, and is anything besides its name yet to be recovered?

RICHARD JOHN KING.

#### EGYPTIAN EMBALMING.

I have just read in the *Times* of this day an interesting account of the unrolling of an Egyptian mummy at the residence of Lord Londesborough, in which it is stated that Mr. Birch, of the British Museum, described the embalming process, and "adhered to the well-known narrative of Herodotus;" and Dr. Granville is reported to have said that the mummified "priestess (?) had evidently suffered from the want of judicious control over the Egyptian undertakers, who had swindled her relatives by a wholesale use of bitumen; and the consequence was apparent when the bandages were removed,—for the bones were so charred and the muscles so calcined, that the limbs broke off in fragments on the least pressure." With the greatest possible respect and deference to the antiquarian knowledge of these gentlemen, I am anxious to state my reasons for believing that the application of heat to bodies filled with bitumen was the essential part of the mummifying process. I advanced this opinion, in 1836, in a 'Treatise on Cressote,' and I showed in that work, to the entire satisfaction of many eminent chemists and antiquaries of Edinburgh, in which city I then resided, that mummies owe their preservation to the generation of cressote by the application of great heat to the bitumen; for this cressote is a new product formed from the decomposition of tarry bodies by fire. [and]

My objection to the accounts given by Herodotus and Diodorus Siculus is, I think, a fatal one,—viz., that no experimenter has ever yet succeeded in preserving dead bodies by the methods which they describe; and although we need not doubt that the ceremonial which they describe was adhered to, by the Taricheute, to invest their performances with the air of sacred mystery, we must undoubtedly look for something additional as the essential part of the preserving process. As my little work has been long out of print, and must therefore be inaccessible to the majority of your readers, I will feel much obliged by your inserting in your widely-read pages the following short extracts. [and]

"That historians should have been unable to get at the true art of the embalmers, is just what we would naturally expect from the peculiar care which they took to conceal their secrets from the world. Their chemical books were all written in secret characters, and deposited in the innermost recesses of their temples. It appears that all the

substances found within mummies are of a resinous nature. That the mere introduction of these substances into the great cavities of the body, along with external lotions of Phœnician wine, &c., would answer the purpose of embalming, we know to be contrary to fact. Taking, however, the accounts given us by the historians already quoted in connexion with the examination of mummies by modern observers, we are enabled to form what seems a pretty correct opinion as to what was the real secret of the embalmers; and it is hoped that the following observations will make it apparent that Cressote was the mummifying drug.

The grand omission in the description of the process given us by Herodotus and Siculus, is their making no allusion to the application of heat; but that this formed an essential and constant part of the operation we have good reason to believe. Of the certainty of this fact Mr. Royer was perfectly convinced; for he says, when speaking of the application of heat—"Cette opération, dont aucune histoire n'a parlé, étoit sans doute la principale et la plus importante de l'embaumement." (*Descrip. de l'Égypte*, p. 212.) It would be easy to bring forward a mass of evidence in support of this opinion were it necessary; but it is sufficient to refer generally to all the published accounts of the unrolling of mummies. With a view, however, of showing that the degree of heat employed in the mummifying process was extremely great, we subjoin the following notices.

"In an account of a mummy inspected at London, in 1783, which was published in the 'Philosophical Transactions' of the following year, we are told that the ribs were so black and burned, that they could with difficulty be distinguished from the pitchy matter in which they were imbedded, and that the bones of the spine and pelvis were in the same state, only more burned. In a mummy which was brought from Egypt by Denon, it was observed that the humerus seemed to have been forced aside, and the cavity of the shoulder filled with bitumen, which bore evident marks of having been poured in while in a heated state. (*London Literary Gazette*, July 24, 1830.) Pococke, describing a mummy, says—"There were four folds of cloth over the head, the upper one being painted blue; under this, there was a composition about half an inch thick, as I imagined, of gum and cloth, that was burned by the heat of the things applied to it." (*Travels*, Vol. I. p. 239.) and in another part of the same description, he says—"that the bituminous matter had penetrated into the diploe of the skull, but that little or no trace of it could be seen on the outer table of the bone." This was in all probability the effect of great heat upon the resinous matter within the body. Such a phenomenon might certainly be accounted for by supposing the blood vessels to have been injected; but there does not seem to be sufficient ground for supposing that this was done. The whole muscular tissue of mummies is generally found impregnated with the embalming material. Belzoni, (*Travels*, Vol. I. p. 269,) speaking of this impregnation, says—"What does not incorporate with the fleshy part remains of the natural colour of the pitch, but that which does incorporate becomes brown, and evidently mixed with the grease of the body."

Without quoting any more, I would just add, that it seems absurd to suppose that the application of heat was done from wanton mischief, or as a superfluous part of the process; and farther, that Royer must be right in saying that this application was never omitted. The giving sufficient heat to decompose the tarry matters, and no more, must have been very difficult; for by the excess of heat we find, as in Lord Londesborough's mummy, that some of the tissues were reduced to ashes;—and Pettigrew states that a female mummy which he unrolled "was destroyed by the excessive heat with which the applications had been made, and that the bandages were literally burnt to tinder."

From a careful study of nearly everything which has been written on the subject of the Egyptian embalming, and from numerous experiments, I have arrived at the following conclusions:—

1. The essential part of the mummifying process was the application of heat to the bodies previously filled with tarry substances, and securely wrapped in a dense layer of bandages. 2. That of necessity, in bodies so treated, must be formed from the two (as a product of its decomposition by heat) that substance to which the name of cressote has been given, from its flesh-preserving properties, and which was first obtained as a separate substance, in 1830, by Reichenbach.—I am, &c.

J. R. CORMACK, M.D. F.R.S.E.

#### OUR WEEKLY GOSSIP.

ON Wednesday last we attended a private view of the performances of a collection of birds which under the instruction of their possessor, Miss Vandermeersch, have attained a higher degree of mental development than we recollect to have been previously recorded of this class of animals. The birds that we saw exhibit (for the lady has other cages in the room, any of whose tenants she offered for similar exhibition) are four in number, consisting of the common goldfinch, the cardinal

were dug up near Danielta: which were immediately committed to the flames by command of the Sheiks of Cairo.—Vol. I. p. 285.

\* View of Devonshire in 1630. Edited by Dr. Oliver.

Exeter, 1845.

† Tookin, in Davies Gilbert's 'History of Cornwall,' vol. I.

p. 131.

‡ Norden's 'Description of Cornwall,' p. 71, where is a

"draught" of Arthur's Hall.

§ Kemble—'Saxons in England,' vol. i. pp. 49–541.

¶ As for instance, "Dyglæces geat."—Kemble, vol. i.

p. 418.

† Volney informs us that, about the year 1780, upwards of one hundred volumes, written in an unknown language,



finch, and two other species of finch. They are in very healthy condition; and perform their feats at the command of their young mistress—who does her conjurations with peculiar grace—passing from an elegant cage on to the table on which it is placed. The chief performances consist in the birds selecting from a long line of closely-packed cards, arranged with the edges uppermost on the table, those which contain answers to questions put by the company. Thus, a bird is requested to give the result of adding seven to five, when it selects from the hopeless-looking heap a card containing the number twelve. The work of subtraction is in like manner performed with unerring certainty,—by a process in which there would be little hope of the human subject not making mistakes. Letters were marked by the company in books, and without any apparent communication the birds selected from amongst the interminable cards those on which the same letters existed. Cards were marked and placed in the pack in such a way that those who put them there could by no means discover them again,—but what they could not do was immediately accomplished by the birds. There are other performances,—but, like those named, all pointing to one set of conclusions. Watches are examined by any of the company,—and the bird reports the hour and minute at which they stand:—words are proposed by whoever will, and the little feathered conjurers select the letters that compose them, where human patience would have a weary hunt:—a common die is flung into a hat, and for greater mystery covered with a handkerchief, and the winged oracle proclaims from a distance the number of points that stand on the upper surface. These are a sufficient specimen of the wonderful things performed by these little creatures,—who, though they do not talk, beat the talking birds of Arabian fable. It is quite evident, on reflection, that the most wonderful performer of the whole is the young lady herself, who so naïvely exhibits these birds that she appears as disinterested as any of the spectators in the room. A marvellous power of observation on her part, combined with the secret of communicating her knowledge to the birds, doubtless constitute the means by which the effects are produced. But the secret is admirably kept:—and by whatever means the results are obtained, they must have involved immense labour and skill. We know not if the lady intends to exhibit her little conjurers publicly,—but their feats are well worthy the attention of the curious.

The Archaeological Institute of Great Britain and Ireland will hold its great general meeting for 1850 at Oxford, from Tuesday next to Tuesday, June 25, inclusive. The Vice Chancellor of the University of Oxford is Patron, and the Marquis of Northampton President, for the present year. A large number of the heads of houses, professors, and gentlemen connected with the University have signified their intention to support the meeting. The Section of History will assemble in the Convocation House, under the presidency of Mr. Hallam,—the Section of Architecture, in the Architectural Society's rooms, Holywell, under the presidency of the Principal of Brasenose, the Rev. Dr. Harrington,—and the section of Early and Mediæval Antiquities in the Writing School, under the presidency of the Hon. James Talbot. The directors of the Local Museum to be formed, as usual, on the occasion will be C. Tucker and Albert Way, Esqs. The Mayor of Oxford is chairman of the local committee for the management of the meeting; and the Rev. Edward Hill, of Christchurch, has taken charge of the excursions. These, the printed programme states, may be made, as time will permit, to Woodstock and Blenheim Park,—the Roman Remains and Villas at Stonesfield and Cuddesden,—The British Tumuli, Encampments and Vestiges near Dorchester and on the Berkshire Downs,—the interesting examples of Ecclesiastical Architecture, Ilfey Church, Abingdon Abbey and Abbey House at Sutton Courtney, the churches of Dorchester, Ewelme, Hasleley, Great Milton, Witney, Cogges, Ducklington, Minster Lovell, Stanton Harcourt, &c.,—the Carfax Conduit, re-erected in the grounds at Nuneham, and

various other objects of archaeological interest.—Among the objects of interest in the city, the programme recommends the Collegiate buildings, Ashmolean Museum, Bodleian and Radcliffe Libraries,—the Cathedral St. Mary's, St. Peter's in the East, St. Mary Magdalen's, and other churches,—the collections of the Oxford Architectural Society, laid open to the Institute by the Society, at their Room, Holywell—the Arundel marbles, the Pomfret marbles, and the original drawings by the Italian masters in the Randolph Building,—the Observatory, Botanic Garden, Christ Church and Magdalen Walks, the gardens of New College, Worcester, and St. John's,—the remains of the Castle, &c.—The Master's Reading Room and the Union, both in the High Street, will be thrown open to persons presenting the ticket of the Institute.

The Geological Society of France will hold its annual meeting this year at Mans,—commencing on the 25th of August.

We may mention, in reference to the subject which has of late engrossed so much of the attention of literary Englishmen and so many of our own columns, that the Minister of Public Instruction in France has appointed a mixed commission to inquire into the questions connected with the formation of a general Catalogue of the books and manuscripts in the National Library.

The first subject proposed to the graduates of Oxford for the prize establishment by the late Dr. Arnold "For the encouragement of the Study of History, Ancient and Modern," is the following:—"Whence arose the greatness and the decay of the power of Carthage?" The prize will be awarded for the first time in 1851.

We have from time to time reported, for the information and emulation of our readers at home, the spirit in which the great Industrial Exhibition of 1851 is met and prepared for by the nations of the Continent who, in the true spirit of the best chivalry, are challenged to be our rivals in that great field. With the view of enabling Austria to take her place in these open lists, the Emperor has ordered the postponement until the spring of 1852 of an Exhibition of the products of Industry which had been fixed to take place at Vienna next year. The Austrian Government has taken into its own hands, at Treasury cost, the forwarding of the articles intended for the London Exhibition; and has appointed a commission to carry out this object, which will have its head department in Vienna, with correspondents in the crown lands, and local committees in Prague, Feldskirch, and Mailand. Austrian subjects are earnestly appealed to, to maintain the honour of their country and their own interests at the London Exhibition. These notices are worthy the attention of our own manufacturers. The Industrial troops of Austria are marching to this great republican contest under the Imperial banners. England will have to maintain herself against the best efforts of other nations,—and can add to the honour of having conceived such a meeting the honour of being victor in it only by the hearty and strenuous co-operation of the artistic and industrial masses.—We may mention that the profits of the recent performance at Sadler's Wells Theatre in aid of the funds for the Exhibition amount, we understand, to 107*l.*, and have been paid to the City of London Committee.

Our daily contemporaries have announced the recent death, at Fontainebleau, of Mr. Frederick Mansel Reynolds, the original editor of Mr. Heath's 'Keepsake,' and the author of 'Miserrimus' and one or two other novels.—Mr. Reynolds was the eldest son of the late Frederick Reynolds, the well-known dramatist.

Lord Rosse held his fourth *Soirée* on Saturday last. It was attended by the Duke of Cambridge and a large number of noble, scientific, and literary men. The Nepaulese Embassy were present, and the various models and objects of Art in the saloons were explained to them, through the medium of an interpreter, by Mr. Weld. Sir Charles Fellows and Mr. O. Morgan exhibited their collections of ancient clocks and watches. Mr. Whishaw contributed his printing telegraph worked by magnets, which attracted much attention. Messrs. Garrard, the silversmiths, sent the Emperor

of Russia's Vase and the Queen's Cup, which were to be run for at Ascot. Chevalier Zahn exhibited a very beautiful series of pictures printed in oil colours. Mr. Brooke showed his new method of viewing opaque objects under the highest powers of the microscope, (the  $\frac{1}{2}$  and  $\frac{1}{10}$  inch object-glasses). This is effected by two reflexions. The rays from a lamp, rendered parallel by a condensing lens, are received on an elliptic reflector, the end of which is cut off a little beyond the focus; the rays of light converging from this surface are reflected down on the object by a plane mirror attached to the object-glass, and on a level with the outer surface. By these means the structure of the scale of the podura and the different characters of its inner and outer surfaces are rendered distinctly visible.—Mr. Appold exhibited his curious Register Hygrometer for keeping the atmosphere of the house at one regular moisture. The instrument with a variation of one degree in the moisture of the atmosphere opens a valve capable of supplying ten quarts of water per hour; delivering it to pipes covered with blotting paper heated by a gas stove, by which the water is evaporated until the atmosphere is sufficiently saturated and the valve thereby closed. A lead pencil is attached to register the distance the hygrometer travels; and thus a sheet of paper moved by clock-work shows the difference between the wet and dry bulbs of the thermometer at any period of time.

The men of Sheffield have determined on erecting a monument in their town to Ebenezer Elliott, the Corn-Law Rhymer.—In the same paragraph we may mention that the President of the French Republic has ordered that a bronze statue of M. Gay-Lussac shall be set up in the neighbourhood of one of the amphitheatres which his lectures have so long filled with the scientific men of Europe.

A few weeks ago we gave our readers some account of Mr. John Wilkes's plan for an Electric Telegraph between New York and Europe:—we have now to add to it, on the authority of the *Deutsche Reforme* and other German papers, some account of the progress which is being made in thus belting the earth in the North of Europe. The importance of rapid communication of intelligence in such times as we have recently passed through has made itself deeply felt in Russia. Not content with connecting St. Petersburg with Moscow, Warsaw and Odessa—the Baltic with the Black Sea,—the Emperor Nicholas has established a convention with Prussia and Austria in virtue of which lines are now in progress of being laid down between the Russian capital and Berlin, by way of Posen, and between the same capital and Vienna, by way of Warsaw and Cracow. The Brandenburg Ministry resolved some months ago to connect Berlin with the great cities on all the frontiers of Prussia. In Belgium, the lines are continuous. The connexion between London and the Continent is nearly completed by the submarine wires now being laid down between Dover and Calais; so that at no very great distance of time it will be possible for a person to repair to the Telegraph Office at Charing Cross, and transmit messages in a few minutes to New York, St. Petersburg, Vienna, or Odessa! This new agency has produced many curious changes in the relative value of position. For example, the Manchester and Glasgow merchant had formerly need of an agency in London, because it was the first point at which commercial intelligence arrived. Now, important despatches are sent forward by telegraph, and are known as early in the northern cities as in London. When the great lines referred to shall be completed, a message may be sent from Charing Cross to the Black Sea or to the Hudson River, and an answer obtained, in as little time as a person could ride to St. John's Wood and back in! While writing on this subject, we may add, that both in Prussia and in Austria a trial is being made of the underground telegraph. The experience of our own country has shown that the wires above are not subject to much risk of derangement. Wanton offences against them have been very rare; but it is well that we should have a trial of both plans.

*Galvani's Messenger* conveys a very interesting piece of literary intelligence. It may be remembered that Goethe, in 1827, delivered over to the



keeping of the Government of Weimar a quantity of his papers, contained in a sealed casket, with an injunction not to open it until 1850. The 17th of May being fixed for breaking the seals, the authorities gave formal notice to the family of Goethe that they would on that day deliver up the papers as directed by the deceased poet. The descendants of the poet Schiller also received an intimation that, as the papers were understood to concern their ancestor likewise, they had a right to be present. The casket was opened with all due form, and was found to contain the whole of the correspondence between Goethe and Schiller. It is added, that these letters are immediately to be published, according to directions found in the casket.

The American journals announce the departure of the Expedition equipped by Mr. Grinnell for the purpose of seeking for Sir John Franklin. It consists of two brigs named the *Advance* and *Rescue*, of a tonnage of 144 and 91 tons respectively. They have been strengthened and rendered as efficient as possible for the service. The hull of each vessel is double, and the internal fittings are of a nature highly calculated to insure the comfort of the crews. The Expedition is commanded by Lieut. De Haven, who was engaged in Capt. Wilkes's exploring Expedition in 1843. The ships are provisioned by the navy board for three years; and the Board have very wisely ordered that the officers and men are to be held bound by the laws of the navy until their return. Lieut. De Haven's instructions are, to proceed through Lancaster Sound to Wellington Channel and Cape Walker,—after which, his further proceedings must in a great measure depend on the state of the ice. Under any circumstances, however, Lieut. De Haven is strongly urged not to remain more than one winter in the Arctic Seas.

We have before us the prospectus of an intended addition to the many scientific societies of London,—to be called the British Meteorological Society. Such an association is one based, no doubt, on an existing want. The advantages are obvious of combined effort in gathering together the scattered facts necessary for generalization in a science like Meteorology. The Address says very truly:—"A large number of valuable thermometrical, barometrical and other observations have been collected by gentlemen in different parts of the country, and the mean values of many of them have been published; but owing to the expense attendant on their arrangement, classification, reduction and publication, no use has been made of many simultaneous observations, and many journals of this description will be lost, while others will remain in obscurity or be deprived of value to all useful purposes unless collected and classified by a society of this description; one of whose objects will be the collecting of manuscript observations, from which may be formed a connected series of valuable facts, which will answer both for present use and for future reference. The reduction of observations and the combination of their results are most laborious; but observations without reduction and combination are of little value, and of no value whatever in determining the elements of the science." The following, accordingly, are to be the objects of the new Society:—"1, A collection of correct manuscript observations; 2, the publication of tables; 3, the reduction of observations to useful results; 4, a collection of all observations of the same phenomena; 5, the formation of a repository to which observers may consign the results of their labours; 6, the distribution of meteorological papers; 7, the examination and correction of meteorological instruments; 8, the encouragement and promotion of meteorological science." Mr. Whitbread is to be the first President of the new Society,—and Mr. J. Glaisher the Secretary. The Council are all well known as active meteorologists,—and we doubt not the Society will achieve much good.

We may mention at the same time that another new Society has recently been formed in London,—for the investigation of the laws and nature of epidemic diseases. This association owes its existence to the late cholera epidemic,—and has a wide field for active research in the subject which it has taken up. Dr. Babington is the President of the new Society.

While on the subject of Societies, we have to record the union of two of the oldest medical Societies of the metropolis,—the London and Westminster Medical Societies. The London is to give up its time-honoured location in Bolt Court,—and new premises have been taken for the united Societies in George Street, Hanover Square. We recognize in this union a principle which might, as we have again and again said, with great gain be carried to a much further extent amongst the Societies of the metropolis. The formation of the two new Societies of which we have spoken above leads us once more to urge the subject. Where Societies have the same or similar objects in view—need the same books and the same instruments—its pure waste to spend money in the repetition of such machinery that might be so much better spent in promoting the essential objects of the several associations. By the management of the London bodies, science is made to be a bad housekeeper,—and pays so much for rent and servants that she has nothing, or little, left for her essential bread. Were the old Societies fully true to their mission, they would not render necessary, or permit, the formation of new ones such as those which we have recorded. They would imitate the British Association, and form sections within themselves for the investigation of the various matters which come within their several specialities. Why should not the new Meteorological Society, for instance, be a branch of the Royal or the Astronomical,—and thus economize the funds that are needed for its scientific objects? Then, for the Society for the investigation of Epidemics,—why should not a section of the Medico-Chirurgical, or of the new united Society, take up this subject and report on it? What is the meaning of such institutions if it be not to do precisely this and similar things? The reason why new Societies are formed is, because the old ones are dead to the wants of the time. There is little other clue to them than their name and address in the Directory. Once established, they seem to consider their work as done. They remind us of men who are called to the bar, for the sake of the title,—with no design to practise. The young associations are called into action by some want which they were endowed to supply—and are crippled at the outset by want of the funds which they have absorbed. Thus, the inert bodies act positively as dead weights on the wheels of progress. Doing nothing themselves, they are in the way of what others would do.—The great secret of the strength of the British Association is the weakness of the old Societies.

#### ROYAL ACADEMY, TRAFALGAR SQUARE.

The EXHIBITION of the ROYAL ACADEMY is NOW OPEN.—Admission (from Eight o'clock till Seven), 1s.; Catalogue, 1s. JOHN PRESOTT KNIGHT, R.A., Sec.

BRITISH INSTITUTION, Pall Mall.—The GALLERY, with a Collection of PICTURES by ANCIENT MASTERS and deceased BRITISH ARTISTS, is OPEN daily from Ten to Six.—Admission, 1s. Catalogue, 1s. GEORGE NICOL, Secretary.

SOCIETY OF PAINTERS IN WATER-COLOURS.—The FORTY-SIXTH ANNUAL EXHIBITION is NOW OPEN, at their Gallery, 5, Pall Mall East, from Nine till Dusk.—Admittance, 1s. Catalogue, 6d. GEORGE FRIP, Secretary.

THE NEW SOCIETY OF PAINTERS IN WATER-COLOURS.—The SIXTEENTH ANNUAL EXHIBITION of this Society is NOW OPEN, at their Gallery, 53, Pall Mall, near St. James's Palace. JAMES FAHEY, Secretary.

EXHIBITION of ANTIENT and MEDÆVAL ART.—SOCIETY OF ARTS, 18, John Street, Adelphi.—Admission, Threepence.—In order to render this Exhibition available to intelligent Artisans and Mechanics, the price of admission, on and after MONDAY, the 17th, will be Threepence, except on Saturdays, when it will be 1s., as before. Hours of admission, 11 to 8.—Catalogues, 1s. and 3d.

PANORAMA of the NILE.—Additions have been made to this Exhibition.—The Arabian Desert, from the Second Cataract to Dongola.—War Dance by Firelight.—March of Caravan by Moonlight.—Morning Prayer.—The Mummy of a High Priest is added to the curiosities. Both Banks of the River are shown in the Painting.—EGYPTIAN HALL, PICCADILLY.—Daily, at Three and Eight o'clock.—Stalls, 3s., Pit, 2s., Gallery, 1s.; Children and Schools, Half-price.

#### ROYAL POLYTECHNIC INSTITUTION.

During this week the ALPINE SINGERS from Styria will perform several of their National Melodies, Daily at Four, and in the Evening at Half-past Eight.—DR. BACHOFNER'S SECOND LECTURE on the PHILOSOPHY of SCIENTIFIC CREATION.—Every Evening at Eight.—DISSOLVING VIEWS, at a Quarter-past Nine.—LECTURE, by J. H. Pepper, Esq., on the CHEMISTRY of HYDROGEN, with special reference to its application for conveying by BALLOONS Pyrotechnic and other Signals to Sir JOHN FRANKLIN, daily at a Quarter-past Three.—Every Evening at Eight.—DISSOLVING VIEWS, illustrating the ARCTIC REGIONS and CRYSTAL VIEWS of LONDON in the SIXTEENTH CENTURY and AS IT NOW IS.—DIVER and DIVING BELL, &c.—Admission, 1s.; Schools, Half-price.

INDIA OVERLAND MAIL.—DIORAMA—GALLERY of ILLUSTRATIONS, 14, Regent-street, Waterloo-place.—Additional Picture, MADRAS.—A Gigantic MOVING DIORAMA, ILLUSTRATING THE ROUTE of the OVERLAND MAIL to INDIA, depicting every object worthy of notice on this highly-interesting journey from Southampton to Madras and Calcutta, accompanied by descriptive detail and appropriate music, is now OPEN DAILY, Morning at Twelve, Afternoons at Three, and in the Evening at Eight o'clock.—Admission, 1s.; Stalls, 2s. 6d.; Reserved Seats, 3s.—Doors open half-an-hour before each representation.

The DIORAMA, Regent's Park.—JUST OPENED, with one of the finest VIEWS ever exhibited in this country, representing the ROYAL CASTLE of STOLZENFELS, on the Rhine, (visited by Her Majesty Queen Victoria in August, 1845,) and its Environs, as seen at Sunset and during a Thunder Storm; painted by NICHOLAS MEISTER, of Cologne. And the much-admired Picture of THE SHIRAZ OF THE NATIVITY, at Bethlehem; painted by the late M. RENOUX, from a Sketch made on the spot by DAVID ROBERTS, Esq. R.A., with novel and striking effects.

PANORAMA of the LAKES of KILLARNEY.—JUST OPENED at BURFORD'S PANORAMA ROYAL, Leicester Square, a VIEW of these celebrated and interesting LAKES, taken from Ross Castle, comprising the numerous adjacent islands and surrounding beauties.—The VIEWS of the ARCTIC REGIONS and of POMPEII are also now open.—Admission, 1s. to each view, or 2s. 6d. to the three. Schools, Half-price.—Open from Ten till dusk.

#### SOCIETIES

ROYAL.—The Earl of Rosse, President, in the chair.—On the Geographical Distribution of the *Bulimi*, a genus of terrestrial *Mollusca*; and on the modification of their calcifying functions according to the local physical conditions in which the species occur, by L. Reeve, Esq.; communicated by G. A. Mantell, L.L.D. The preparation of a monograph of the terrestrial genus *Bulimus* having enabled the author to collect good authentic data concerning the localities and circumstances of their habitation, this memoir embodies his observations on their general distribution under types and provinces of types, and on the relation between the substance and colouring of the shell, and the differences of vegetation, temperature and other physical conditions under which it is formed. The mollusca inhabit the widest domain in nature of all animals. Breathing water and air, they exist in the sea from the surface to the depth of a thousand fathoms and more, in rivers and stagnant pools at all depths, and throughout the land from the lowest valley or ravine, to the verge of perpetual snow upon the mountain, and their area of geographical distribution ranges from either side of the equator to within a comparatively short distance of the limit of terrestrial discovery. The slow progress made in our knowledge of these animals arises mainly from the perishable nature of their soft parts, from their concealed habits of living, and from the circumstance of their being less conspicuously represented in those countries where learning and the sciences of observation have most flourished. The shell, resulting from that process of calcification which serves to form the outwardly developed skeleton of the mollusk, varies sufficiently in composition, growth, substance, colour, sculpture, and superficial impression, according to the local physical conditions under which it is formed, to give a proximate indication of the nature of its animal occupant. An unphilosophical disregard of these considerations, coupled with an impatience to record the discovery of new specific forms has tended to introduce the mollusca into descriptive zoology with premature and often erroneous views; yet notwithstanding the errors into which conchologists have fallen, in thus attempting to predicate the nature and affinities of a mollusk from the characters of its shell, very many of the results so anticipated have been confirmed on the subsequent investigation of the soft parts. The general anatomy of the vertebral type was understood long before it occurred to the physiologist to look into the intimate structure of the skeleton for characters illustrative of the nature and habits of the living animal; now they are detected with a precision equal to the discrimination of species. Where the study of the endo-skeleton terminates in the natural order that of the exo-skeleton begins; and the conchology of the *mollusca*, like the osteology of the higher animals, is freely open to a systematic course of interpretation. The skeleton being developed outwardly, and not forming a sustaining centrum as in the vertebral type, the soft parts with their delicate filaments contract and wither as vitality ceases; and, considering the difficulty of procuring the living subject, an investigation of the shell is important both for geological and zoological purposes, and will go far to elucidate the natural history of the animal in detail. The characters of shells, arising out of the different natural and physical conditions under which they are formed, are numerous and sug-



gestive. Among mollusks of marine habit, the shell of a carnivorous family is distinguished from that of a herbivorous one by a more elaborate use of the calcifying organ, in the development of sculpture, tubercles, fronds, spines, and, except in the lamellibranchs, by the absence of pearl. In the place of this, enamel is formed, where the shell comes in contact with the acid secretions of the animal, causing it to vitrify, so to speak; and these are stronger in proportion to the work to be performed of absorbing, boring, and other chemical operations necessary to the life of the animal, or to the growth and convolution of the shell. Mollusks inhabiting a tempestuous sea or hard bottom, produce a stouter and harder shell than those protected by their habit of retreating into the soil or into retired cavities; and the same distinctions which characterize species of different latitudes may be observed in the shells of those existing in currents of different temperature in the same latitude. Among freshwater species, the shell of a mollusk inhabiting a running stream may be readily distinguished from one of placid water; and the former differs in its less calcareous composition and sombre colouring from one of salt-water habits just at the point where the waters combine and are brackish. Among terrestrial mollusks, the substance and colouring of the shell varies with the habits of the animal, and with the influences of heat, moisture and vegetation; the ground species being distinguished from those of arboreal habit, and species that live in countries of drought or excessive dew, from those inhabiting rainy and woody districts. *Bulimi* being of less fugitive habits than most tribes of animals, are distributed over the equatorial, tropical, and warm temperate regions of the earth in assemblages of species limited in their range, and, so far as regards the shell, of very distinct typical character. The soft parts are much less variable, and being naturally sluggish, with few means of transport, little migration occurs even where there are no such natural boundaries as seas, deserts, or mountain chains. Owing to their arboreal habits, the author considers the *Bulimi* fitter subjects for investigating the laws of geographical distribution than the *Helices* which live more in the earth, and are less influenced by the conditions with which they are surrounded. The few *Bulimi* of ground habits differ typically but little in countries very remote from each other. The localities of about five hundred species are known, and the majority are registered with their circumstances of habitation. Their area of geographical distribution lies between 40° south and 35° north in the new world, and between 42° south and 60° north in the old world:—that is, between the southern extremity of Chili and Texas in the former, and between Van Diemen's Land and Sweden in the latter; and there is no country within this area of which the *Bulimi* do not form part of the zoology. Regarding the shell with reference to its distinctions of form, composition, and system of colours, for the little variation in the living animal seems inadequate to the purpose, the *Bulimi* are distributed over this area, in seven provinces, of about forty typical assemblages of species, of which three-fifths inhabit the Western Hemisphere, and the remaining two-fifths, with a wider range and greater local variety of character, in conformity with the more varied arrangement of the land, inhabit the Eastern. The author distinguishes the typical provinces of distribution as Venezuelan, Brazilian, Chilian, Bolivian, Caucasian, Malayan and African, and passes through the consideration of each in detail. The conditions most favourable to the calcifying functions of the *Bulimi* are an abundance of decaying vegetable matter, with an equable temperature of from 80° to 85°, in dark, close, humid woods, among shady thickets or in ravines. Near the sea level in thin calcareous soil and sandy plains, where the vegetation is scanty and parched, or in grassy savannahs, the shell is light, and often vividly coloured. In species which burrow in the earth, the shell is mostly colourless and often of glassy tenuity. The highest condition of the genus is in intertropical America, and it ranges in both hemispheres according to the parallels of equal temperature laid down by Humboldt. The calcified condition of the genus corresponds also with the curves northward in his isothermal lines along the west coast of South America, and those bending southward on the east side; the *Bulimi*

having a colder aspect in Chili from the cold precipitated by the great Antarctic current of cold water which flows nearly to the Gallapagos Islands, than those of the opposite Brazilian coast which are effected by the equatorial current. At Patagonia the genus is suddenly arrested in a tropical condition by the recent geological changes that have taken place in that now barren and riverless country. The memoir proceeds to show that in the distant islands of the Pacific the *Bulimi* are curiously represented by other genera of terrestrial mollusks, but species which inhabit islands approximating to continents, such as Trinidad, partake of the character of those of the main land. The European species belong to the Caucasian type, which has its centre in Asia Minor, where the shell is mostly colourless, owing to the dry, juiceless, thorny character of the vegetation, which affords little nutriment, and the *Bulimi* live mostly under blocks of wood or stone. This type reaches nearly to the south-eastern corner of Asia, where it is suddenly met at Burmah and in the Malacca peninsula by the richly coloured Malayan type which is so abundantly and beautifully represented in the islands of the Eastern Archipelago. The distribution of the genus among these islands is remarkably local. The *Bulimi* of North Africa partake of the character of those of Europe, whilst those inhabiting south of the equator belong to a totally different type.—The precise localities and circumstances of habitation of the various genera of mollusca have hitherto been too imperfectly noted by travellers, to aid much in determining the laws relating to geographical distribution. The present summary of collected facts may prove suggestive of more careful observation, and in the hands of those who are acquainted with the geological and physical history of the earth's surface, lead to important and interesting results.—The paper is illustrated with a map, constructed with tints of shade, colours, and isothermal lines.

GEOLOGICAL.—Sir C. Lyell, President, in the chair.—The Duke of Argyll was elected a Fellow.—The following communications were read:—1. 'On Fossil Lepididæ,' by C. Darwin, Esq.—2. 'On the Tertiary Strata and their Dislocations in the neighbourhood of Blackheath,' by the Rev. H. M. de la Condamine.—3. 'On the Diluvia and Valleys in the neighbourhood of Bath,' by C. H. Weston, Esq.—4. 'On a Freshwater Marl in the Fens of Cambridgeshire,' by W. J. Hamilton, Esq.

ASIATIC.—Prof. H. H. Wilson in the chair.—The Secretary read an official letter to the Bombay Government from H. B. E. Frere, Esq., Resident at Sattara, respecting a library of Arabic MSS. at Beja-pore. Mr. Frere suggests that the books, for many of them seem to be of great value, should be removed either to Bombay or to the library at the India House. Some objections may be made to their removal by their custodians; but Mr. Frere proposes that they should be compensated by Government undertaking the repair of the building,—thus averting the loss of a specimen of a very peculiar and magnificent style of architecture. The less rare and valuable volumes might be left; and the loss of the others might be supplied by a complete set of works in the native languages, published by or on behalf of the Government. These books would be of more practical value than those removed; and might form the basis of a library as useful, and as much used by the modern inhabitants, as the old library was by their ancestors.

The second paper read was 'An Account of the Inscriptions of Warraputa, a cataract in the river Essequibo,' by Dr. G. R. Bonyun.—Warraputa consists of two rapids, between which there is a bed of boulders, all of which are coated with a black glaze formed by the iron of the rock being converted into a sesquioxide by the action of the water. On these rocks there are figures which forcibly strike the mind as being written characters, and not mere capricious marks. The writer entered into a comparison of several of the characters, and in conclusion laid down certain inferences as not unfairly deducible.—1. That the inscriptions are significant.—2. That their meaning must be sought in some ancient Semitic dialect, and lastly, that they were inscribed by a civilized people, at a remote period of antiquity.

Sir R. Arbuthnot was elected into the Society.

ROYAL SOCIETY OF LITERATURE.—Col. Leake, V.P. in the chair.—The paper read was, 'A Memoir on Halicarnassus,' by Commander T. Spratt, R.N. Lieut. Spratt's communication was a statement of facts resulting from an investigation of the site of Halicarnassus, and in particular of the disputed position of the Mausoleum, undertaken in pursuance of instructions forwarded by Sir P. Beaufort to Capt. Graves, of the *Vulgate* steam-vessel, which the author was directed to carry into execution. He was guided in his researches partly by the notes of recent investigators, but more particularly by Vitruvius's description of the city and by the account of the mausoleum given by Pliny. The situation chosen by Mausolus is remarkable both for its beauty, and for its natural advantages as the site of a capital city. The walls, which inclose a circuit of three miles, are easily traceable. In the very centre and most commanding situation of the space inclosed within the walls, a spacious platform, sufficiently corresponding to the measurements given by Vitruvius, and surrounded by fragments of sculpture and other indications that a magnificent structure once occupied the spot, appears clearly to mark the site selected by Artemisia for her husband's celebrated monument. Several plans and views, drawn by Lieut. Spratt, and lent for the purpose by Admiral Beaufort, illustrated the reading.

H. Hallam, Esq. V.P., in the chair.—Mr. J. Landseer read a paper on a sculptured stone brought from the bed of the river Tigris, by Count Michaud, —a cast of which was exhibited. The upper portion of the stone is covered with hieroglyphical figures, and the lower with a copious Assyrian inscription; respecting which latter Mr. Landseer disclaimed all knowledge but such as might be reflected from the hieroglyphics,—his object being only to offer such help to literary investigators as could be obtained from them. In illustrating these, Mr. Landseer resorted to astronomical principles, as applied by him to similar subjects in his lectures delivered many years ago at the Royal Institution; describing the stone as a horoscope, in many of its features not unlike the schemes of modern astrologers. In the conversation which followed, Major Rawlinson stated that the results of his own study of the verbal inscriptions agreed generally with the views of Mr. Landseer; he reads the names of the person to whose nativity the horoscope relates, *Seb-pal-utakra*, son of *Beltesir*. The inscription is noticed in Major Rawlinson's 'Commentary on the Inscriptions of Assyria and Babylonia,' lately published.

ROYAL INSTITUTION.—Lord Wharcliffe in the chair.—Mr. Faraday 'On certain Conditions of Freezing Water.' The chief object of Mr. Faraday's discourse was the great, various, and extraordinary forms of affinity which exist between the particles of water. Having experimentally illustrated the combining power of water, and shown how this attraction passes from a physical to a chemical force, Mr. Faraday confined the rest of his discourse to ice, as being that condition of water in which its particles are allowed to associate with each other without the intervention of foreign matter. Such ice as is now imported into this country under the name of the Wenham Lake ice (though it is chiefly supplied from Norway) may be regarded as one of the purest natural substances. Mr. Faraday first showed how entirely colouring matter, salts and alkalies are expelled in freezing. A solution of sulphate of indigo, diluted sulphuric acid, and diluted ammonia were partially frozen in glass test tubes: as soon as the operation had been carried on long enough to produce an icy lining of each tube, the unfrozen liquid was poured out and the ice dislodged. This ice was found in every instance perfectly colourless, and, when dissolved, perfectly free from acid or alkali, although the unfrozen liquid exhibited in the first experiment a more intense blue colour, in the second a stronger acid, and in the third a more powerful alkaline reaction than the liquor which was put into the freezing mixture. Mr. Faraday also devised a method for making this ice perfectly clear and transparent as well as colourless. By continually stirring the liquid, while freezing, with a feather, he brushed away globules of air as fast as they were dislodged from the freezing fluid, and thus prevented their becoming imbedded in the ice. Having noticed the



rapidity with which water absorbs air as soon as it is thawed, Mr. Faraday called attention to the importance of this natural arrangement to aquatic plants and animals, to whose life air is as indispensable as to those which live on land. Mr. Faraday then referred to Mr. Douny's discovery that water, when deprived of air, does not boil till it reaches the temperature of 270°, and that, at that degree of heat it explodes. He mentioned that he suggested to Mr. Douny that ice when placed in oil (so as to prevent its receiving any air from the atmosphere on thawing) would probably explode on reaching the boiling temperature. This experiment had been successfully tried by Mr. Douny, and was as successfully repeated on this occasion. Mr. Faraday then invited attention to the extraordinary property of ice in solidifying water which is in contact with it. Two pieces of moist ice will consolidate into one. Hence, the property of damp snow to become compacted into a snowball—an effect which cannot be produced on dry, hard-frozen snow. Mr. Faraday suggested, and illustrated by a diagram, that a film of water must possess the property of freezing when placed between two sets of icy particles, though it will not be affected by a single set of particles. Certain solid substances, as flannel, will also freeze to an icy surface, though other substances, as gold-leaf, cannot be made to do so. In this freezing action latent heat becomes sensible heat, the contiguous particles must therefore be raised in temperature while the freezing water is between them. It follows from hence that, by virtue of the solidifying power at points of contact, the same mass may be freezing and thawing at the same moment, and even that the freezing process in the inside may be a thawing process on the outside. Mr. Faraday then referred to Mr. Thomson's memoirs on the effect of pressure on the freezing point. Mr. Thomson has shown that immense pressure will prevent water from freezing at 32°—ice naturally occupies a greater volume than that of the water which forms it. And we may conceive that when ice is pressed, the tendency is to give it both the water bulk and state.

In conclusion, Mr. Faraday noticed briefly, and chiefly by way of suggestion, the molecular condition of ice as presenting many curious results, and called attention to the strangeness of strice being formed in a body of such uniform composition as pure water frozen into ice.

#### MEETINGS FOR THE ENSUING WEEK.

MON.	Chemical, 8.
TUES.	Statistical, 8.
	Horticultural, 2.
	Linnean, 8.
WED.	Geological, half-past 8.—On a Section of the Lower Greensand near Devizes, by W. Cunningham, Esq.—On the Age of the Fossiliferous Sands and Gravels of Parringdon, by R. A. C. Austen, Esq.
THURS.	Royal, half-past 8.
	Antiquaries, 8.
	Natural History, 7.—Annual Meeting.

#### FINE ARTS

##### BRITISH INSTITUTION.

##### Exhibition of Pictures, by Old Masters.

The present collection is one of much interest. The difficulties of making a novel selection from private galleries, which have so often before contributed their best specimens, has been before alluded to. The present collection, however, contains many novelties—pictures which, the Catalogue informs us, "have come from the country residences of their possessors, where, of course, only a limited number of persons can have had an opportunity of seeing them."—The Earl of Yarborough has contributed no less than thirty-five of these, being a considerable portion of his collection at Appuldurcombe Park. There are many specimens of the Italian school which formed leading features of Mr. Hope's Gallery in Duchess Street, and which their removal to his new residence, where he has not caused any gallery to be constructed—will probably prevent the public from having access to again in this way for many a day to come. The taste of the Rev. Mr. Sandford and that of Mr. Haywood Hawkins are good guarantees for the quality of their respective contributions.

The Directors of the Institution state, that they will be "enabled to retain a selection of these for the study of artists at the close of the Exhibition." On this subject a word of comment may not be

out of place. This Institution was established, now nearly half a century since, for the cultivation and promotion of British Art. One of the best means of effecting these objects is, obviously, that of placing before the student such works as contain within themselves most elevation of thought, nobleness of aim, and beauty of Art-language. Such has not, however, been the ordinary practice here. Pictures remarkable for technical skill, involving considerations of strictly imitative powers, have always been preferred; and the consequence of such mis-direction have been seen in the works that have afterwards covered the walls of the modern Exhibition, manifesting powers of hand rather than of head. It is true, the country is not too rich in examples of the devotional and classical art of the best Italian schools. What we have, are scattered throughout the several galleries of the kingdom belonging to aristocratic possessors; and the difficulty of getting these together in an annual metropolitan Exhibition will be readily understood. Again, many of these examples are not of the highest of their class,—and do not, therefore, duly represent the powers of the artists who produced them. The Art-student having thus few opportunities of observing and comparing the highest and best examples, has the faculty of investigation imperfectly excited. He becomes uncritical; and turns to the lower schools, which tax his thinking powers, less, appeal more easily to the popular understanding, and depend for their success on the elaboration of minor points. The schools of Flemish and Dutch art are annually put before him in this Institution in a higher condition of verification than any others; and they become, therefore, the *points d'appui* of his mental and manual operations. This is not the true mode of elevating the purpose or giving a tone to the energies of the juvenile student. The want of a recognized system and an authorized director who could best assist such studies as the Governors profess to promote, is here sensibly felt.

The first picture which challenges the eye in the present collection is a very good specimen of one of the lower masters of a late age in Italian art—Guericino's *Angelica and Medora* (1). It is one of those exemplifications, belonging to the time of the application of mere academic studies to poetical combination. It is a good example of the master's practice,—dealing with the mere accidental facts of his model, unaided by any of the idealism which the study of the principle of Greek sculpture would have inspired. This appears to be one of two treatments of the subject. The account kept by the painter informs us that one was executed for the community or guild of his native place, and presented by it to His Eminence Cardinal Ginefetti, the Legate of Ferrara, in November 1642, costing 351 crowns. The second was executed in November 1647, for the Marquis di Plessis Perlin for 312 crowns. Another picture by the same artist, *St. John in the Wilderness* (26), is one of a large number of treatments of the subject. It is the mere result of a naturalist's observation.—a transcription of ordinary form, done with so much care as to induce the belief that of the numerous treatments of this subject by the master this may have been one of the earliest.

One of the best examples of a master whose tendency is uniformly to over-polish and elaborate beauty into prettiness and prettiness into insipidity, Carlo Dolce, may be seen in *The Virgin and Child* (38), belonging to Lord Overstone. There are here good expression, a more harmonious and less chilling sense of colour than usual with this master—not running so much on cold tints,—and a degree of completeness that has not merged into the conceit which is associated with the name. Exception may be taken to the too advanced character of the childish form which the beauty of the tinting may in part only redeem; but certain it is, that on these shores we have seen no picture by the same master so little inferior to the examples by him in the Florentine galleries—of which the "Poesia" of the Corsini stands the acknowledged *capo d'opera*.

Of the innumerable altar-pieces of enlarged dimensions which crowd on the eye in every chapel of the Italian church, there is a specimen here

in *The Salvation* (163), by Manzoli di San Friano. There will be recognized in the picture much of the manner of the imitators of Michael Angelo:—not that there is especially visible the direct influence of the great artist. There are, nevertheless, passages here which bespeak a correspondence with the operations of Sebastiano,—and much in the selection of pose, treatment of drapery, and peculiarly selected colour, that reminds us of more than one example of the Aretine biographer himself. There are much of severity in the thinking, much nobleness of style, and fervid expression. It is in pictures of this class that are first discerned the elements of that decline into the conventions of the studio,—that departure from the earnest and sincere outpourings of devotional spirit, to indulge in the contrivances of contrast and in other artistic technicalities—which in a little later time resulted in the egotism, wherein the painter gave up the high consideration of his subject for the purpose of displaying his art—*il suo colore, il suo stile*.

*The Virgin and Child* (151) has been most capriciously attributed to Perugino. They who are conversant with the operations of that artist, who know his earlier and his later works, will not be thus superficially satisfied. We are not disposed to assign this picture even to one of his many scholars of any mark. The most illustrious of these have a distinguishable speciality, though not exempt from an influence which gave a certain community of aspect to the school. It is this community of look which has on many an occasion led to the mistake of an early work being given to the hand of the divine painter himself. More than one picture, which we could not have accepted as even from the hands of a Pinturicchio, or a Spagna has been ignorantly ascribed to Raffaele,—and the unlearned have mistaken the receipt, or conventional, modes of the innumerable imitators of the school for an exemplification of his first manner, as the *cant* of pictorial biographic pedantry has it. The little picture formerly in the Borghese, afterwards in the Sykes collection, now known in our own National Gallery as 'The Vision of a Knight,' affords an excellent opportunity to the unlearned to make acquaintance with what was really the first manner of the greatest scholar of Perugino; and the learned and complete account drawn up by the profound antiquary and writer on Raffaele, Passavant—coincided in and confirmed by another well-instructed writer—puts us in possession of all that this great artist really ever did. Of Perugino and his other scholars enough is now known to make mistake impossible.

*The Toilet of Venus* (27) and *St. John in the Wilderness* (31), by Annibal Carracci, are two good exemplifications of pictorial tact in making studies from the living models, by dint of befitting accessory, to do duty for the realization of scriptural or poetic revelation. They are distinguished by mastery of means and for breadth and simplicity of style.

By Schidone, a master from whose hand the examples in this country are not numerous, there is *A Holy Family* (44). Bred in the school, as it is said, of the last-named artist, he lost no means of engraving on the readiness and freedom of its style the addition of greater amenities. The influence of the study of Correggio, as well as that of higher practice, may be discerned in this picture.—one of a class of which many are to be found in Continental galleries. There are here much beauty of colour, graceful feeling, and spirit of touch. By the latter particular the painter has allowed himself to be betrayed, in many portions of the draperies, into the indulgence of simplicity to the extent of improbability. An air of incompleteness is another consequence of such off-hand treatment.

Guido's powers find no good representation in the picture here ascribed to him, *The Magdalen* (14). It is a very poor work—black in colour and hard in effect.—The *St. Sebastian* of Domenichino (65) is another of the Bolognese treatments of academic study,—painted with the accustomed force and with the peculiarities of the school.—Of the several pictures by Tintoretto, the most representative of his art is the portrait of *An English Nobleman* (121). It carries on its face the stamp of authenticity,—possessing the quiet dignity



and unaffected arrangement for which his portraits were remarkable. It is curious to see him dealing with the Saxon physiognomy:—not sacrificing the individuality of the sanguine-complexioned sitter, yet imparting the proverbial "senatorial" character to the pose and air. In the two pictures from the collection of Mr. Hope, his historic powers are not so well represented:—for the *Holy Family* (18), while rich in colour and vigorous in touch, is affected in pose,—and *The Holy Family, with St. Jerome* (22) presents a group of human forms disproportioned in their parts, ill drawn, and bearing but little relation to each other. The head of the *donatore* is half as large again as was necessary. A *Portrait* (34), in Mr. Samuel Rogers's possession, is, in our opinion, wrongly ascribed to him. If it ever came from this artist's easel, it has undergone at some ignorant restorer's hands the customary process of being first flayed and then stippled. The attribution to him of *The Consecration of a Bishop, with Portrait of Paul the Third* (74), must surely be a misprint in the Catalogue:—there being no particle of the picture which exhibits the practice of the master. There is here *The Descent from the Cross, from the Orleans Gallery* (102),—and there is a very good *Portrait of a Cardinal* (125).

Notwithstanding that the portraits of *Three Children of the Gaddi Family* (129) belong to a distinguished amateur, we cannot bring ourselves to believe that they can lay any claim to be from the hand of Da Vinci:—that his great and comprehensive taste could ever have descended to the trivial particularization of such features, or that it would not, if it had had to deal with so much uncouthness, have modified the individualities. The extent to which absolute ugliness has been here insisted on makes us sceptical as to the authorship:—and we gladly turn from the picture to the *Infant Saviour and St. John* (29). This has many of the qualities which we expect on looking at any work said to be by this master; and the Luinesque, if not the Leonardesque, air that breathes through it at once assigns it to Lombard practice. The picture, almost in *grisaille*, is full of grace and beauty. The St. John is exquisite in feeling and pose.

Albano is seldom to our taste. His poetical conceptions are always alloyed, in our view, by a prettiness and smallness of conceit that mar the allegories with which he has to deal. There is less of this alloy than usual in the large picture of *Europa* (40). It has graceful design, some good composition, and more of largeness and liberality of style than is customary with the master. His *Echo and Narcissus* (45) comes more within the category of his usual practice. The fancy is much impaired by the affectation.

Paduanino's *Nessus and Dejanira* (41) exhibits study of the Titianesque treatment. A good assemblage of colour bespeaks this; but the present is no very high evidence of the master,—if it be really from his hand.

Sasso Ferrato's *Madonna* (64) is one of his innumerable studies, made after receipt, for the oratory or chamber of the devout.

Of the later Italian school, and its decline, there is an example here in Onorio Marinari's *Virgin and Child* (118). This is an instructive picture for the student,—indicating the conventions which explain the reason of that decline. What a contrast does it present, with all its technical appliance, to the more earnest and sincere treatments of the monastic painters!

By Bourdon, *Our Saviour at the Well* (160) is an example breathing a certain elevation of thought. It is inferior in this quality, however, to the 'Transport of the Ark,' now in our National Gallery.

By Salvator Rosa there is the well-known *Jason and the Dragon* (168). This is a good exemplification of the imaginative and savage spirit of the classic Neapolitan. Executed with the daring of a highly-wrought poetical fancy, the touch betrays the ardent and impatient character which subordinated technical considerations.

There are reasonable doubts as to the paternity of the Del Sarto *Portrait* (167):—a picture which has undergone sad retouching. The hands with their stippling are significant of the mal-treatment

which it has suffered. The portrait said to be of *Mahammed the Second*, by Giovanni Bellini, bears no similitude in style or execution to the works of that master in Oriental presentment, in the Brera or in the Venetian Academy.

The portrait of one of the most conspicuous characters of Middle-Age times, the infamous Caesar Borgia (53)—one of the features of Mr. Hope's gallery—is here. This portrait affords a good subject to the physiognomist. The politic and subtle character which, in the person of the Duke of Valentino, furnished Machiavelli with the model for his great political writing, 'The Prince,' must in its pictorial presentment offer a subject of deep interest to the student of human feature. There is much here to attest the subtlety and characteristic treachery of the man. Of his brutality and of his sanguinary temperament there is small evidence. The painter may perhaps have thought it most safe to flatter. Truth was but little familiar to such ears as Borgia's,—and the artist may have followed the courtier's custom. The assertion that the work is by Correggio is a mistake which we did not expect to find still perpetuated. When this picture formed part of the Orleans Gallery, the impossibility of such ascription was proved. The Duke was a prisoner in Spain in 1504—not long before his death,—when Correggio was just ten years of age. It is known that a portrait of the Prince was made by Piero di Cosimo, which had been lost sight of,—that the painter retained possession of the cartoon or drawing for this portrait,—and it is imagined that this may have served as the model to another artist:—that such artist was Correggio, we should be very slow to assume.—*Cupid conducting Helen to the Vessel* (174), attributed to the same master, may safely be pronounced to be by an inferior hand.

Of the many repetitions by Titian of his *Magdalen*, No. 17, belonging to Lord Yarborough, one of the best is here. It possesses the quality of subtle tinting proper to the great colourist, and has undergone little interference at the restorer's hands. To the same artist is absurdly attributed the portrait of Old Borgia, *Pope Alexander the Sixth*. Nor would we place implicit confidence in the same paternity for *Christ at Emmaus* (123),—or for *A Nun, from the Borghese Palace* (171).

FINE ART-GOSSIP.—So fluctuating are the rumours and probabilities as to the ultimate destination of the Royal Academy of the Fine Arts, that when we desire to make certain suggestions of our own in reference to that body which we have much at heart, we scarcely know what we have or have not to recommend. Not many weeks ago Lord John Russell informed the House of Commons that he had made a communication to the Academy to the effect that the rooms which it occupies in the building in Trafalgar Square would be wanted for the better arrangement and exhibition of the national pictures,—and accompanied that communication by a proposal which involved some Government aid to them in providing a new domicile. We have some reason to believe that Lord John Russell is disposed to bestow on the Academy a subsidy of 40,000*l.*, in two sums of 20,000*l.* each,—and have some arguments to offer in support of the policy of so subsidizing the Academy, as soon as we shall know that we are not arguing in the dark. Meanwhile, however, a change has come o'er the ministerial dream, which renders it possible that a totally different settlement of the Academy question may take place,—and one much more to our taste. Rumours have arisen that the pictures in the National Gallery—an inestimable collection—are suffering from the accidents of their locality; and last week Lord John Russell stated to the House that he had received a report from certain gentlemen whom he had requested to make inquiries on the subject, containing suggestions for the better preservation of the pictures,—but suspending their final opinion until they had made further inquiries:—and that he thought it was desirable that some further information should be had before a vote was called for to carry out any arrangements for permanently locating the pictures. The Commission appointed to examine into the

question of injury accruing to the pictures from remaining where they are, consists, we believe, of Dr. Faraday, Mr. Eastlake, and Mr. William Russell,—or of those gentlemen with others.—Since then, a select committee of the House of Commons has been appointed "to consider the present accommodation afforded by the National Gallery and the best mode of preserving and exhibiting works of Art given to the nation." This, as we have said, may in the result alter the whole character of the accommodation offered to the Royal Academy, and make it necessary that we should direct our attention to another part of the subject than that which has seemed most pressing until now.—We may add, that the Vernon pictures will not be removed to Marlborough House until the Government Commission of Inquiry shall have made its report.

It is no later than last week that we had occasion to speak of the fine statues by Mr. Wyatt now exhibiting in the Sculpture Gallery of the Royal Academy,—and to express our surprise that the author of this and of other works by the same hand should not be found in the ranks of the Academicians. Whatever amount of injustice has been dealt to this great artist by the Academy is now made irremediable. Letters from Rome announce his sudden death in that city,—and it appears that he was beyond the reach of professional rewards while we were urging his claim. Mr. Wyatt died on the 29th of last month.

We stated last week that the 245 designs sent in for the great building to be erected in Hyde Park for the Industrial Exhibition of 1851 would in all probability be exhibited together, for the purpose of giving the public an opportunity of estimating the amount of architectural talent which the appeal of the Commissioners had called forth, and the interest taken in the great project which it may be held to indicate. Accordingly, these designs are now collected at the House of the Institution of Civil Engineers in Great George Street, Westminster; where the view is what is called private for three days, ending with to-day. We may probably after the public shall have had the opportunity of reviewing the judgment of the Committee to whom these designs were referred, take an opportunity of entering into some description of their merits according to our estimate. By the way, the *Builder*, the *Architect*, the *Historic Times*, and the *Illustrated London News* have severally been permitted to announce ground plans and elevations of the edifice projected by the Building Committee. From what we have ourselves seen, the internal arrangements for the visitors appear to us to have been well considered,—which is more than we can say for the external elevation. The dome proposed (twice the size of that of St. Paul's!) is neither useful nor ornamental. We have considerable doubts whether it could possibly be erected in the time required,—still more, whether it can be reared for any such sum as the probable funds will supply,—but none whatever that, be the amount of funds what they may, they should not thus be administered in extravagant waste.

We observe that the price of admission to the Exhibition of Antient and Mediæval Art, at the rooms of the Society of Arts in the Adelphi, is on Monday to be reduced to three-pence. This change is for the laudable purpose of allowing artisans and mechanics working in the branches of art and manufacture exhibited an opportunity of comparing the works of the men of former days with their own. The step is a proof, among other recent ones, that the Society rightly apprehends the spirit of its mission.

It is proposed to present a memorial to Government for the purchase of the Cottingham collection as the basis of a metropolitan museum of Mediæval and other styles of Architecture, and those branches of Art more immediately connected with it. At present there exists no public museum devoted to architecture; for the Soanean is hardly available to the public generally,—and it is, moreover, placed under such restrictions that no accessions can be made to its original contents. One on a more extensive and comprehensive scale is, therefore, a desideratum. The memorial is lying for signatures at Mr. N. J. Cottingham's; where, we may



mention, an evening *conversazione* took place on the 7th inst.,—on which occasion the principal galleries and other rooms were lit up for the reception of the numerous visitors.

Dr. Waagen, the Director of the Royal Picture Gallery and Professor at the University of Berlin, has arrived in England for the purpose of making himself further acquainted with the works of Art in this country. Though he is desirous of availing himself of every opportunity of inspecting all branches of the Fine Arts, his attention is, we understand, especially directed to paintings in miniature and to illuminated manuscripts. He is anxious to trace out the present possessors of the various manuscripts described by Dibdin,—especially those in the possession of Mr. Henry Broadley, of Mr. Dent, and of Mr. Johnes of Hafod,—and will be thankful for any intelligence respecting them. When we consider how rich this country is in private collections of the very character which Dr. Waagen seeks, and the object which Dr. Waagen has in view—that of completing a work on missal painting and illuminated manuscripts—we trust that opportunities of examination will be freely and promptly afforded him.

A large and excellent specimen of David Teniers passes under the hammer of Messrs. Christie & Manson this day. It is called 'The Kermesse,' and represents a numerous party of peasants feasting before the door of a cabaret. It looks, at the first glance, somewhat black in the foreground; but this feeling of a slight imperfection soon wears off, and the eye remains delighted with the spirit and truth of the whole composition and treatment. The peep into the distance is especially happy. The picture was the property of Mr. Philip Metcalfe, the intimate friend, fellow-traveller, and executor of Sir Joshua Reynolds. Mr. Metcalfe is supposed to have bought his small collection of pictures under the advice of Sir Joshua, and the Teniers and some other of the pictures to be sold on the same occasion justify such a supposition.—Several Dutch pictures of value will be found in this collection; and among the excellent examples by Sir Joshua Reynolds, one of his earliest works of great interest.

We noticed last week, with due commendation, Mr. Cotterill's vase for the Ascot Races,—and have now to say a good word for the Royal Hunt Cup, executed by Mr. Alfred Brown, for the same yearly amusement. Mr. Brown has chosen the *tazza* style, and figured the close of a stag hunt at the base of the cup. The general design has much merit, and the modelling (of the dogs especially) is full of tasteful feeling and appropriate detail.

A set of twelve silver desert plates which we have just seen are of a very novel character and of great interest. They are parcel gilt; and their centres are beautifully engraved by a certain Peter Maes, a Fleming, from the designs of the celebrated German artist Aldegraver. The Labours of Hercules form the subjects of these designs. There were originally thirteen plates,—one of which is now missing. It is singular that each plate bears the English Hall mark. The plates are now the property of the Earl of Denbigh, and may be deemed good specimens of engraving of the time. The borders are of arabesque richly designed.

The coal factors and merchants of the City of London have been presenting Mr. J. B. Bunning with a valuable piece of plate to express "their admiration of his genius and judgment in the erection of the Coal Exchange, and of his urbanity throughout the progress of a work which is not more approved of," say they, "by those for whose use and convenience it was designed than by the public at large for its taste and elegance as a work of Art."

A monumental statue of the late Marquis of Londonderry—the tribute of his brother, the present Marquis—has just been erected in Westminster Abbey—opposite to that of Mr. Canning. The figure is the size of life,—and executed in white Carrara marble. The deceased senator is in the attitude of speaking. One hand holds a scroll on which is inscribed "Peace of Paris, 1814"—the other sustains the flowing robes of the Order of the Garter. The statue is the work of Mr. J. E. Thomas. The in-

scription on the pedestal we purposely forbear to quote. It would be hard to subject the tributes of domestic affection to the inquisition of criticism,—particularly, as History will scarcely look to them for her materials.

The Central Railway Station at Newcastle—which the *Newcastle Chronicle* describes as "the most striking and original in design, and substantial and massive in execution, of all the great works of its kind which railway enterprise has planted in the large provincial towns"—is engaging, says that paper, "the almost unremitting labour of six hundred men with a view to its completion and dedication to public use on our great national anniversary, the 18th of June." Our readers may remember that in speaking [*ante*, p. 560] of this magnificent structure as seen in the drawing of it exhibited in the Architecture Room of the Royal Academy Exhibition, we expressed a hope that nothing would interfere to prevent the complete carrying out of a design which, if not curtailed, must produce a work ranking amongst the finest pieces of monumental architecture in the kingdom. The *Newcastle Chronicle*, quoting our criticism and our expressed hope, gives us to understand that the latter is already disappointed. "The building," says our contemporary, "is just now at the critical point where the original plan must be carried out or for ever abandoned; and the Directors of the Railway Company, yielding to the pressure for economy, have determined that the covered arcades, the most imposing feature of the plan, shall be given up, and their place supplied by a heavy wall necessary to support the roof, but altering the aspect of the building completely. It seems that about 4,000*l.* will be the extent of the saving (the portico being indispensable); 2,000*l.* has been already saved by the ingenuity of the architect in the construction of the roof,—and for the other 2,000*l.* we are to have a maimed and curtailed plan instead of one which would have made the Central Station at Newcastle the finest public building in Great Britain. Can nothing be done to avert this by the Corporation, by the Carlisle Company, or by a public or private contribution? It may be unreasonable to expect that the expense should entirely fall upon one company; but this is a question in which the town has a direct interest,—and in more prosperous times we may look back with bitter-regret on this moment when a week of over-rigorous economy may entail on us the reproach of years."

A subscription is on foot for the restoration of the Round Church of St. John at Little Maplestead in Essex. The plan of this church is said to be unique:—having not only a circular west end, but also a semi-circular chancel. The external appearance is at present disfigured by an unseemly erection at the west end which completely conceals a beautiful diapered doorway. The interior is filled with tall and unsightly pews. Mr. Carpenter is the architect named,—and 3,000*l.* are wanting to make good the restorations.

## MUSIC AND THE DRAMA

MUSICAL UNION.—SEVENTH AND DIRECTOR'S MATINEE, for EXTRA VISITORS, TUESDAY, June 18, at Three o'clock.—WILLIS'S ROOMS.—Double Quartet, 2 minor—Spohr, First Violin, M. Sainton. Grand Sonata, in C, Op. 53—Beethoven; Piano-forte, C. Halle. Vocal Piece, Mlle. Graumann. Quartet in C, No. 55—Haydn; First Violin, Herr Ernst. Pensée fugitive, piece for the concert, S. Heller and Ernst; Caprice, La Truite, for Piano, S. Heller. Vocal Piece, Duett in D, Op. 53—Mendelssohn; Halle and Piatti. Aria, "Der Kriegerlust" (Jes-sonda)—Spohr; M. Stockhausen. Finale, the Military Chorus from Jessedda, by the Hungarian and other Vocalists, with Orchestral Accompaniment. For Tickets, Inquire at Gramer & Co's.

Ernst and Halle are engaged for the last Séance of the Season, on Tuesday, July 2.

HANOVER-SQUARE ROOMS.—GRAND MORNING CONCERT, on MONDAY, June 17, to commence at Half-past One o'clock precisely, under the immediate Patronage of Her Most Gracious Majesty the Queen, His Royal Highness Prince Albert, Her Royal Highness the Duchess of Kent, Her Royal Highness the Duchess of Gloucester, their Royal Highnesses the Duke and Duchess of Cambridge, the Nepaulish Ambassador and Suite, and other most distinguished personages.—The Friends of the late Madame DULCKEN and the Members of the Musical Profession, desirous of testifying their respect and esteem for her memory, intend to give a GRAND MORNING CONCERT for the BENEFIT of her FAMILY, at the Queen's Concert Rooms, Hanover-square, and through the kind concession of the direction of Her Majesty's Theatre, made for this occasion exclusively, several of the leading artists of that establishment will also appear. Full particulars may be obtained at the principal Music-warehouses and Libraries; of any of the Members of the Committee; and of Chas. Stovin, Esq. Hon. Sec., 81, Harley-street.

PHILHARMONIC SOCIETY.—The Subscribers and the Public are respectfully informed the EIGHTH and LAST CONCERT will take place at the Hanover Square Rooms, on MONDAY EVENING, June 17.—Programme: *Sinfonia* in G minor, Mozart; Concert Stück, in C minor (first time of performance), piano-forte, Mr. Benedict. Benedict; Overture, "Der Bergerast," Spohr; *Sinfonia*, in A, No. 7, Beethoven; *Fantasia*, violin, Herr Ernst, Ernst; Overture, "Jubilee," Weber. Vocal Performers: Miss Lucombe and Miss Doby. Conductor, Mr. Costa.—Single Tickets (with Reserved Seat), 1*l.* 1*s.*; Double Tickets (ditto), 1*l.* 10*s.*; Triple Tickets (ditto), 2*l.* 5*s.* To be obtained of Messrs. Addison, 210, Regent Street. G. W. BUDD, Secretary.

CONCERTS OF THE WEEK.—*Mendelssohn's 'Edipus'*.—Mrs. Anderson's Concert was the concert not only of the season, but of many past seasons, in right of the credit done to herself and the compliment paid to her audience by the selection of a work in every respect so remarkable and interesting as Mendelssohn's scenic and choral music to the 'Edipus.' Thus, though the second part of her programme was more than ordinarily engaging, from the more than ordinarily good occupation given to the singers of the *Royal Italian Opera*, and from the benefit-giver's constancy to Beethoven's *Choral Fantasia*, (a work which, heard from time to time, is always welcome,) we must content ourselves with a mere specification of these matters, in order that we may dwell on the greater and more serious attraction in question.

Though everything short of dramatic performance had been provided to present the music of 'Edipus' in its right aspect, we must insist that owing to the manner in which the chorus is employed, and to the plurality of speakers on the stage at the same time, the music to 'Edipus' suffers much more from being executed in union with mere recitation than the music to 'Antigone.' From a general audience we have no right to expect that "eye and ear of imagination" which discriminate personages, suggest action, provide entrance and exit; and the effort to follow the story or to connect the speeches is so straining as to leave little attention disposable for the musician. Thus, though Mr. Bartholomew's connecting verses and translations might have been worse done,—and though Mr. Bartley read his best,—the mixture of speech with song proved heavy, confusing, and was calculated unfavourably to act on the concert-goer's judgment of what he went to hear—a new composition by Mendelssohn. Then, we must add that the Chorus went through its task with the ill-assuredness of scholars, in a case where the fullest mastery is required,—and was more frequently out of tune than we have ever before heard the chorus of the Royal Italian Opera.

Let us now treat the composition sketch-wise. In one respect, the fragmentary form of a large portion of the music exhibits Mendelssohn's mastery over construction, and his power of expression in the accompaniment of recitative, in the most striking light of excellence. The manner, for instance, in which the second Strophe and Antistrophe (both framing speeches of the principal actors and including progressive action) are knitted up into the solid forms of coherent writing by the steady yet never pedantic persistence of the orchestra, claims express notice. Too much, again, can hardly be said in praise of the close and pathetic expressiveness of the instrumental accompaniments to the spoken dialogue. Among the more important choral hymns are two of surpassing captivation; exceeding, we think, any portions of the 'Antigone' music—the Hymn to Bacchus excepted. The first, an ode in praise of Greece, was a favourite with its writer. "I think," (he once said in our hearing) "that I have got the Greek tone the best in that chorus." Sweet and dignified, though ancient in its forms, is the melody, accompanied by one of those strains of orchestral sound in mellowness totally unrivalled, save by Mendelssohn's self,—the secret of which perhaps lies in the importance and richness given to the middle part of his stringed quartet. Towards the close of this noble strain the flowing animation of the accompaniment\* produces an effect of rich life and stately splendour, to be characterized duly by no epithets, yet to be forgotten by none that have heard it. The other chorus to which we refer is the warlike one, 'Ah!

\* Those who hunt coincidences will be amused to hear that the figure in question, so striking in its situation as depicting the glories of the "mighty god Poseidon," is, note for note, the first four bars of the 'Elizabethen Walzer' of Strauss.



were I on yonder plain,"—to the simple and surpassing grandeur of which tribute must be also paid. In both, the skill with which monotony and heaviness are avoided by orchestral means without the slightest orchestral trick, is marvellous.

On other points of this sublime (yet not severe) music we must desist when further acquaintance and a more perfect performance shall have furnished us with the means of so doing. But who that sums up the music in Mendelssohn's four theatrical works, of which this is the last made known to us, can rise from the account without a redoubled yearning of regret that he died ere his opera was written?

HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE.—Whether the 'Tempest' turn up a mine of gold for the Haymarket management, or die out and leave sands that are not of Pactolus behind it,—Mr. Lumley deserves entire credit as having done his best to produce a good novelty. In proportion as we have seen cause to disapprove of his management in many points, are we bound emphatically to record his worthy deeds! A *libretto* written for England by M. Scribe is an event in the history of the English Theatre. Then, seeing that M. Meyerbeer requires some dozen years to pick an opera of his to pieces ere it is ready for the stage, and that M. Auber is notoriously engaged on his 'Prodigal,'—which, like other prodigals, appears to give its parent no common trouble.—M. Halévy was the composer naturally to be looked to,—not merely because of the known skill and universal acceptance of his music, but also from his being in the habit of working in conjunction with the French dramatists,—which sympathy implies a better chance of situation being rendered and text illustrated than could have been attained had M. Scribe's book been set by Dr. Spohr or Signor Verdi.—Thus we are glad to record that the success was complete, and that the recalls at the close were rapturous. Of the opera we may pass judgment on some future day,—of an entirely new production on so large a scale we will at present trust ourselves only to record impressions.

A fortnight since Mr. Barnett's pamphlet enabled us to give a sketch of M. Scribe's *libretto*. This when wrought out on the stage presents matters for comment which were not to be divined in perusal. In representation it was impossible not to feel that the storm-prologue, when musically treated, implies improbabilities hardly to be admitted even in opera. The winds and waters must be lulled; the crew must leave their labouring ship, while the chorus kneels towards the audience and sings its *preghiera*; and when this is over, then the masts sink, and the waters rise, and the curtain falls!—Nor did the study of 'La Tempesta' on paper make us feel what we felt this day week, that the part of *Ariel* (Mdlle. Carlotta Grisi), which is mimic, interferes with the predominance of the part of *Miranda* (Madame Sontag), which is musical. The French stage, we know, encourages this division of interest; yet even 'La Muette,' in a musical theatre, suffers from the want of good occupation for the *prima donna*,—and 'Le Dieu et la Bayadère,' deliciously fanciful as are its story and music, seems to be now approached with reluctance by both actors and singers.—Further, the characters of *Ferdinand* (Signor Baucarde) and of *Prospero* (Signor Coletti) are reduced to a secondary interest, while *Caliban* (Signor Lablache) is made the king of the drama. Yet his is a royalty not without drawbacks which hamper its adequate representation. It is impossible that the passionate scene betwixt the monster and *Miranda*, on which the plot turns, can be duly acted. Like the consummate artist that he is, Signor Lablache obviously feels the hazard of the situation; managing himself so as to keep away from *Miranda*, in place of pressing on her. In the hands of any meaner monster, the duet might become intolerable,—as matters stand, it is simply tedious. But who can take such revenges as M. Scribe? The *finale* betwixt the sailors, the tipsy monster, and the terrified heroine is one of his happiest inspirations and most exciting pieces of combination. After this, we feel the third act weak; and its last scene, however brilliant a piece of parade, is a superfluity as succeeding *Miranda's*

*bravura*, on which the curtain should fall. But to close these remarks, let us remind the reader that it is M. Scribe who has set the fashion among the moderns of writing opera-books amenable to any dramatic criticism whatsoever; and that by the minuteness of our objections must the amount of our respect for him be measured. We have learned too much from this master of dramatic construction to deal with him as with a common artificer.

Some such analysis of the *libretto* as the above, too, was needed, to place M. Scribe's collaborator in his right point of view; since M. Halévy is too essentially a French opera composer (which means sensitive and submissive to stage effect) not to be more influenced than writers of other countries by practicalities or their opposites. Unlike Rossini, who never seems to have cared whether it was "a whale or an ouzel" which he had to make sing,—unlike M. Meyerbeer, who, to repose the ear from his combinations of passion in music, can maintain the interest of his opera by *airs de ballet*,—M. Halévy is always simplest, freshest, most expressive, and most impressive where his story and character are the strongest,—witness the first and second act of 'La Juive,'—witness the vault scene in 'Guido et Ginevra,'—witness the quartett in 'Les Mousquetaires.' When he tries for melody without situation or narration, he is not always natural;—whereas, 'Il va venir' ('La Juive'), 'Pendant la fête' ('Guido'), 'Le bal commence' ('Les Mousquetaires'),—bear each the stamp of inspiration. The amount of captivation in 'La Tempesta' on a first hearing is conveyed in the fact, that the one *encore* of the first night was won by the couplets of *Stephano* (Mdlle. Parodi). M. Halévy beyond most composers of our acquaintance, though he often does not impress us at once, convinces us on intimacy. It is fair, then, to wait, ere we finally decide on his new work. This time he appears to have discarded some of his usual *finesse*, for the purpose of assuming the larger Italian manner. His fairy vocal music is perhaps the weakest part of his score; but some of *Ariel's* dances are very lively. In her first *pas* (with the graceful idea of an *exténie cordiale*) he has used Arne's 'Where the bee sucks'; and again in the *finale* on the sea shore, with an organ accompaniment. But the old Doctor's rambling yet individual English tune dovetails oddly with the more *carree* and rhythmical French *musique de ballet* into which it is interwoven.

Let us now specify the *morceaux* which have struck us most. The first is, the *preghiera* aforesaid, on ship-board. The second is, the opening of the duet between *Ferdinand* and *Miranda*, closing the first act,—in which the mutual hesitation of the two young lovers is expressed with as much elegance as dramatic propriety. The *cabaletta* is more popular with the audience; but it is too close a reminiscence of Bellini thoroughly to content us. In the second act, while the earlier music allotted to *Caliban* wants massiveness,—recalling to us, by contrast, the giant features which Handel could give to his *Polyphemus*, and that, too, in a day when the first idea must needs bear the whole weight of the expression, since the colouring powers of the orchestra were then undeveloped,—the *finale* is full of effect. It begins with a lively chorus, introducing *Stephano's* sea song. To this succeeds a concerted movement of great power and ingenuity (decidedly, to our thinking, the masterpiece of the opera); the whole wound up with *Caliban's* drinking and dancing song *con coro*,—which, if not new, is frank, vigorous, and full of motion. In the third act *Miranda's bravura* opens with great lightness and elegance,—but the theme is too soon lost amid the curiosities rather than the felicities of vocalization. Further acquaintance with 'La Tempesta' may develop further matter for specification: at present, it is our judgment that this last opera by M. Halévy will support—if it do not ultimately increase—his reputation.

A word is claimed by the performers:—first among whom comes Signor Lablache. With 'this man of might' the operatic *Caliban* must leave the stage, so far as the present is concerned:—his appearance in it "closes the character" past the power of smaller artist to re-open. The nice management of its brute repulsiveness, combined

with the *gusto* of appetite thrown by him into it, are scarcely to be hoped for in any future actor. Next in effect is the part of *Ariel*,—which is danced and played with great grace and brilliancy by Mdlle. Carlotta Grisi. Madame Sontag as *Miranda* does her very utmost in vocalization and in action;—and, indeed, of her it may generally be said, that she never gives less than her utmost, in cases where her younger and less perfect sister artists are apt to show themselves sullen and indolent. Signor Coletti's *Prospero* suffers largely by his having to appear in dialogue and conjunction with a mute personage. Signor Baucarde's *Ferdinand* would bear a higher finish, since to him, as to the lover, are allotted some of the most *cantabile* melodies in the opera. We have already chronicled the *encore* given to Mdlle. Parodi, and fairly deserved by her spirited and brilliant singing. The costumes of the *corps de ballet* are fresh and tasteful: those of the principal characters are less felicitous. The scenery is not Mr. Marshall's best; the last change excepted, with the fairy ship, which is delicious for its delicacy and gay colour,—a ship such as Boucher might have painted for a Trianon picture of Cleopatra on the Cydnus.

HAYMARKET.—Mr. Webster appeared on Saturday in the joint characters of playwright and player. An adaptation by him of the French piece 'Un Mari Anonyme' was then placed on the stage, under the title of 'None but the Brave deserve the Fair,'—the hero being sustained by the adapter himself. *Don Flores del Caro*, pursued as a conspirator by the troops of John de Braganza, King of Portugal (Mr. Howe), takes refuge in a bridal chamber; and being for the nonce passed off as the bridegroom, is, to facilitate his escape, on the sudden compulsorily married to the lady, *Isabella* (Miss Reynolds)—sister to *Don Pacheco de Tremulo* (Mr. Buckstone)—the cowardly disposition of the latter materially contributing to the hasty result. A year passes between the acts. At the opening of the second, we discover that the bride has only once seen her *impromptu* bridegroom since the ceremony; but she has been in the meantime pursued by her former lover, and also by the King himself, with solicitations inconsistent with her faith to her anonymous husband. Urged by love, *Don Flores*, it turns out, has changed from insurgent into soldier; and having gained an honourable position in the King's army, he now comes to court, as *Captain Dalmas*, on a diplomatic errand. He soon discovers the position of things; and intercepting the monarch's *rendezvous*, reads him a moral lesson,—which, however, fails of its intended effect. But *Don Flores* is armed for the worst. *Isabella* has placed in his hands the *billets d'amour* with which she has been assailed during his absence; and a selection from these the Don despatches to the Queen. With this fact he works on the King's fears,—whose indignation, however, exceeds his alarm. The Queen having examined the amorous packet, his Majesty is delighted at learning that his own letters form no part of it; whereupon *Don Flores* hands over to him the missing correspondence. This test of generosity and honour having been accepted, the grateful sovereign rewards the forbearance of the gallant adventurer with pardon and patronage. The drama was successful.

STRAND.—Mrs. Glover performed for the last time at this theatre on Saturday, as previously announced. The character in which she made her farewell appearance was *Mrs. Malaprop*, in Sheridan's 'Rivals,' a character and a play which this Lady has repeatedly illustrated by her personal talents for the greater part of half a century,—and one which she still sustains with artistic vigour. Mrs. Glover—as she informed the audience in an address after the performance—has now been on the stage fifty-three years;—her first appearance being, ere she was twenty, in the part of *Elvina* in Hannah More's tragedy of 'Percy.' The manner in which she has lately, under the infirmities of age, supported her professional position, has frequently been quoted by us as a marvel,—so perfect and complete has been the continued possession of her extraordinary powers. We regret,



however, to understand that Mrs. Glover has not reaped such advantage from her talents as might have been expected, and that she retires, after so many years of service, into private life without that ease which is implied in the enjoyment of a competency. It is intended, therefore, to promote a benefit for her at Her Majesty's Theatre, as the largest, — under, we believe, the highest patronage. We venture to hope that the appeal will be liberally responded to by lovers and friends of the drama.

On Monday a new piece was produced here; being an adaptation from Schiller's *Kabul und Liebe*, by Mr. Morris Barnett, under the title of 'Power and Principle.' The drama has been adroitly enough abridged from the original, — and, by the omission of needless characters and incidents, reduced to three acts. The tale is now simply that of a musician's daughter, *Louise Müller* (Mrs. Stirling) being loved by *Count Ferdinand of Einhalt*, (Mr. Leigh Murray); whose father interferes to promote the marriage of his son with a lady of rank. Coerced by the authority of the haughty and powerful *Baron von Walter* (Mr. Diddear), *Louise*, under the influence of terror and force, and as the only means of releasing her father from prison, consents to indite a letter making an assignation with one *Baron von Kalb* (Mr. Compton), a mere fool and creature of the prime minister. All parties are further instigated to this villany by *Warms* (Mr. Henry Farren), who uses them as blind instruments to compel *Louise* into a marriage with himself. Owing to the precipitancy of the former in carrying out his scheme, *Ferdinand* discovers the plot just as he is about to celebrate his fatal marriage with the princess; and dragging in the rascal by the throat, arrives in time to prevent *Louise* from taking poison — thus substituting a happy for the tragic catastrophe of the original. The adapter has depended more on the situations than on the dialogue, and has been especially careful to provide a striking *tableau* for the conclusion of each act. The characters were all, as may be judged from the cast, well supported. But Mrs. Stirling deserves distinction for the picturesque pantomime with which she interpreted the trying and striking relations in which she submits to the tyranny of force and wrong, until events themselves restore to her her alienated lover, and redeem her from despair and death. The drama was successful throughout, and at the conclusion was crowned with great applause.

**MUSICAL AND DRAMATIC GOSSIP.** — Mr. Ella gave an extra *Matinée* on Tuesday, with the thoroughly laudable purpose of producing a composition by Herr Eckert, of whose opera mention has been already made in the *Athenæum*. His pianoforte Trio in B minor, written some years ago, is an effort of good promise, from the ease and continuity of its construction. Though confessedly bearing marks of its writer's pupillage under Mendelssohn, it is not a mechanical or servile school-composition, but a substantive work, more to our liking than music in the same form by Kufferath and other young writers on which we have lately had to report. From this trio as well as from the operatic music of 'Guillaume of Orange,' we augur a good future for Herr Eckert. — At this *matinée* Herr Hekking, — a very clever violoncellist, — played a dreary and patchy *Solo* by M. Servais, from which the sooner that he parts company the better. — M. Stockhausen, too, sang Mozart's difficult 'Mentre il lascio' in a classical style and with a refined finish which we are glad to meet in his mother's son. As a concert singer, for a not too large arena, he is a decided acquisition.

We merely record the annual meeting of the Charity Schools in St. Paul's as having taken place, for the purpose of calling attention to the remarks in the *Times* on the musical part of the ceremony, which, as the critic judiciously observed, is behind its time.

It was not easy (says the writer) to repel an idea that continually suggested itself, of what great things might, with proper management, and some liberality, be effected on such an occasion. A skilful and ambitious composer would find it worth his while to write something expressly for the combination of the children with the choir, out of which the grandest effects are capable of being produced. It is not absolutely necessary to have always the same

anthems in our cathedral service, and the art has assuredly grown out of Dr. Boyce. Something far better might be written — something more in consonance with the advanced state of music; and something would be written, very soon, were the choirs of our cathedrals invariably in sound condition; but it must be disheartening to the most enthusiastic lover of his art, to compose music of a lofty and elaborate character — music that can never repay in specie the time and pains it has cost — music that cannot find its way to the public through the medium of the publisher — unless at least there exist a hope of its being efficiently performed, and appreciated by those who are able to understand it.

We are not so sure of the writer of sterling sacred music being "never repaid in specie," as our contemporary, — when we advert to the flourishing state of choral societies in town and country, and the confessed straits into which they are driven by want of novelty.

Unable for the moment to hold a formal court of musical judicature, we may here devote a few lines to certain *Melodies of the Nile*, heard and noted on the spot, by C. Darby Griffith, Esq.; with *Symphonies and Accompaniments* by E. F. Rimbauld, which have come before us with more than ordinary warrant for their authenticity. The two melodies published are so curiously regular in their structure and so European in their *tournaire* as to justify us in speculating how far they are original and aboriginal, or may have been brought to the banks of "Egypt's river" by strangers and pilgrims. In any case, they are fairly good tunes, worthy of being noted and sung.

It is said, much to our satisfaction, that 'Le Comte Ory' is in preparation at Her Majesty's Theatre. — A version of 'Fidelio' is projected at Covent Garden. — Madame Viardot is expected to arrive in town on Tuesday next.

Correspondents in Manchester — aware of the strong interest taken by the *Athenæum* in the cause of popular music, — have forwarded to us, from the gold and from the silver side of the shield, on the one hand most encouraging reports of demonstrations made by Dr. Mainzer's pupils, trained by him, — on the other, accounts no less cheering of a concert by Mr. Weston, at which were assembled his scholars who are taught on the Wilhem method. With regard to the merits of the rival schemes, we have little new to say. Those who put implicit trust in Dr. Mainzer are referred to Paris, London, and Edinburgh for results. That the Wilhem system will "wear" through the hot and cold of outrageous popularity and of unfair depreciation, St. Martin's Hall attests. But a remark from the *Manchester Spectator* is worthy of quotation, as bringing the rival projects before us in another point of view.

There was another matter, (says the writer, in reference to a former notice,) in connexion with the same subject, which, however, we did not then treat upon, although a great feature in the proceedings of the two masters: one school (Dr. Mainzer's) has ostensibly been conducted gratuitously by that gentleman; yet, at the cost of several hundreds of pounds, under a committee of leading merchants and others, headed by our worthy mayor. The other school (Mr. Weston's) has, from its commencement, had upwards of 20,000 pupils passing through the classes taught in Manchester and the surrounding districts without any assistance beyond subscriptions in support of their choral meetings and concerts, which meetings involve a most serious outlay — rent, professional assistance, printing and advertising, alone requiring upwards of 100*l.* for each performance. The principle of self-support has characterized Mr. Weston's movement; and in one or two instances, where that gentleman has been engaged to teach workpeople, where the good feeling of the employer has made him desirous of introducing singing, without payment upon the part of the members, we are informed that he has invariably found the classes short-lived, and far less enthusiastic than when paid for by the members.

Passing — the step is a very long one — from cheap Art in lowly places to ragged Art — we could to our own satisfaction abbreviate the curious and characteristic statistics of London street music which appeared last week in the *Morning Chronicle*. A fact or two, however, must suffice us; it being premised that such testimony as the fact-gatherer has collected must inevitably be open to correction.

The Musicians are estimated at 1,000, and the Ballad Singers at 250. The Street Musicians are of two kinds — the skilful and the blind. The former obtain their money by the agreeableness of their performance, and the latter in pity for their affliction rather than admiration of their harmony. The blind Street Musicians, it must be confessed, belong generally to the rudest class of performers. Music is not used by them as a means of pleasing, but rather as a mode of soliciting attention. Such individuals are known in the "profession" by the name of "pensioners"; they have their regular rounds to make, and particular houses at which to call on certain days of the week, and from which

they generally obtain a "small trifle." They form, however, a most peculiar class of individuals. They are mostly well-known characters, and many of them have been performing in the streets of London for many years. They are also remarkable for the religious cast of their thoughts, and the comparative refinement of their tastes and feelings.

The English witness called up to testify to the prosperity of our "Street Bands," complained, as more aristocratic instrumentalists have done, of the German players spoiling the home market. — The German, on the other hand, who represented the band of seven that played for sixpence a dance, confessed to living well, and admitted that "London is as good a place as I expect to find him." — The Christianized Bengalee deposed that the attraction of his beating "tom-tom" and "singing song about greatness of God," in the streets, had declined. — A steady income of 12*s.* a week is to be earned as under by a perambulating Paganini.

"I imitate," said he, "all the animals of the farm-yard on my fiddle. I imitate the bull, the calf, the dog, the cock, the hen when she's laid an egg, the peacock, and the ass. I have done this in the streets for nearly twelve years." &c. &c.

After the players come the singers — foremost among whom, of course, are the small serenaders, in humble imitation of the great Ethiopians. But perhaps the most noticeable evidence collected is the last item gathered from the ballad singer who confessed to making his rounds on the strength of Bayly, Barnett, Bishop, &c. &c. — and who called attention to the fact that he would not, and could not, sing in the streets songs which nightly attract audiences to the cheapest concert-rooms. This is worth grave pondering. — Considering the case in a more professional aspect, it may be repeated, in connexion with this subject, that by these nomadic performances Music gets at once spread and corrupted into forms which at a future period may lend themselves to Music's reconstruction. The other day we were arrested in the streets by the singularly wild and strange tunes of a violin and a guitar, played by a pair of Hungarians. These melodies appeared for the first five minutes truly, freshly original. On listening for a few moments longer, however, it became clear that they were merely the melodies of Weber's 'Preciosa,' graced, "rhymed, twirled" and otherwise helped out, — as a Luther psalm tune might be by a country church orchestra. — Weber himself would not know his children, committed by these street-players to other street-players, and by the latter, in turn, discretionally treated. But these lawless and wild subjects must give place to more orderly, and often tamer topics. — Enough has been said to show that either as regards manners or music the question of street minstrelsy is not unworthy of attention.

This might be noted as the week in which no Continental musical news has reached us, did not the foreign gazettes call on us to record the retirement of Herr Haitzinger, the far-famed German tenor. He was, to our thinking, an excellent musician, and an actor intent on the business of the scene, rather than an agreeable singer. But in their requisitions for vocal charm and beauty, as well as passion, our "cousins" and ourselves are not agreed; — and to them this veteran is a severe loss.

#### MISCELLANEA

*Mr. Smith, of Deanston.* — We are sorry to have to announce the sudden death of Mr. James Smith, of Deanston, the eminent agriculturist. He was found dead in bed on Monday last at the house of his cousin, Mr. Buchanan, Catrine, Ayrshire. Perhaps in our day there is no man to whom agriculture owes so much. He was acknowledged by all agriculturists to have been the inventor and chief promoter of the modern system of thorough drainage — that is, the drainage through the land by pipe drains, instead of over the land by surface drains. He had been engaged in the direction of extensive works of land drainage. He had acted as one of the Commissioners for inquiring into the means of improving the health of towns, and had pursued that subject with so much energy that his health suffered from it. Latterly he had been engaged as one of the superintending inspectors of the General Board of Health, by whom his services were more especially directed to the application of the sewage water and refuse of towns to agricultural production. He was a man noted for



his fertility of invention and a very high order of ability. He was personally highly esteemed by those who served under him, as well as by those who serve with him, by whom he will be greatly lamented.—*Times*.

*The Industrial Exhibition-hall.*—The construction of this dome, 200 feet in diameter, though of light sheet iron, will be no joke. We may remind the reader that it will be nearly double the size of our St. Paul's dome, which is about 112 ft. in diameter. The dome of St. Peter's, at Rome, is 139 ft. in diameter, and that of the Pantheon 142 ft. The central hall will be a polygon of sixteen sides, four of which will open into gardens reserved around it. Its main walls will be of brick, and about 60 ft. high.—*Builder*.

*The Mediæval-Art Mania.*—A Society, to be called the Pre-Newtonian Brotherhood, was lately projected by a young gentleman, under articles to a civil engineer, who objected to being considered bound to conduct himself according to the laws of gravitation. But this young gentleman, being reproached by some aspiring companions with the timidity of his conception, has abrogated that idea in favour of a Pre-Galileo Brotherhood now flourishing, who distinctly refuse to perform any annual revolution round the Sun, and have arranged that the world shall not do so any more. \* \* Several promising Students connected with the Royal College of Surgeons have held a meeting, to protest against the circulation of the blood, and to pledge themselves to treat all the patients they can get, on principles condemnatory of that innovation. A Pre-Harvey Brotherhood is the result, from which a great deal may be expected—by the undertakers. In literature, a very spirited effort has been made, which is no less than the formation of a P. G. A. P. C. B., or Pre-Gower and Pre-Chaucer Brotherhood, for the restoration of the ancient English style of spelling, and the weeding out from all libraries, public and private, of these and all later pretenders, particularly a person of a loose character named SHAKESPEARE. It having been suggested, however, that this happy idea could scarcely be considered complete while the art of printing was permitted to remain unmolested, another society, under the name of the Pre-Laurentius Brotherhood, has been established in connexion with it, for the abolition of all but manuscript books. \* \* In Music, a retrogressive step, in which there is much hope, has been taken. The P. A. B., or Pre-Agincourt Brotherhood, has arisen, nobly devoted to consign to oblivion Mozart, Beethoven, Handel, and every other such ridiculous reputation, and to fix its Millennium (as its name implies) before the date of the first regular musical composition known to have been achieved in England. \* \* The regulation of social matters, as separated from the Fine Arts, has been undertaken by the Pre-Henry-the-Seventh Brotherhood, who date from the same period as the Pre-Raphael Brotherhood. This society, as cancelling all the advances of nearly four hundred years, and reverting to one of the most disagreeable periods of English History, when the nation was yet very slowly emerging from barbarism, and when gentle female foreigners came over to be the wives of Scottish Kings, wept bitterly (as well they might) at being left alone among the savage Court, must be regarded with peculiar favour. As the time of ugly religious caricatures (called mysteries), it is thoroughly Pre-Raphael in its spirit; and may be deemed the twin brother to that great society. We should be certain of the Plague, among many other advantages, if this Brotherhood were properly encouraged.—*Dickens's 'Household Words.'*

*Importation of Pictures.*—In the *Art-Journal* for April is published the following statement of the number of pictures imported into the United Kingdom in the year 1849:—from Prussia, 34; Germany, 1,066; Holland, 1,946; Belgium, 2,420; France, 3,498; Spain and Portugal, 326; Italy, 1,723; other countries, 1,678; total 12,691.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.—S. D. C.—J. P. A.—E.—J. L. L.—received.

*Errata.*—P. 493, col. 2, l. 27, for "117" read 1,117.  
*Statue of 'Sappho.'*—In our notice, last week, of the sculptures now exhibiting at the Royal Academy, the statue of 'Sappho' was attributed to Mr. "Marvolutti," instead of Mr. *Marochetti*. The name was certainly to ourselves a new one amongst sculptors; but the Catalogue of the Royal Academy must be answerable for the misprint. It there occurs three times: in the index to the names of contributors,—and attached to each of the two works to which that index refers.

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5,000	8 years	100 0 0	787 10 0	5,887 10 0
5,000	6 years	.. ..	675 0 0	5,675 0 0
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20	£1000	£20 17 6	£6 5 3	£14 12 3
30	1000	25 13 4	7 14 0	17 9 4
40	1000	33 18 4	10 3 6	23 14 10
50	1000	48 16 8	14 13 0	34 3 8

14, Waterloo-place, 10th May, 1850. A. R. IRVINE, Managing Director.

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Premiums to Assure £100.			Whole Term.	
Age.	One Year.	Seven Years.	With Profits	Without Profits
20	£0 17 8	£0 19 1	£1 15 10	£1 11 10
30	1 1 8	1 2 7	2 5 5	2 0 7
40	1 5 0	1 6 9	3 0 7	2 14 10
50	1 14 1	1 19 10	4 6 8	4 0 11
60	3 2 4	3 17 0	6 12 9	6 0 10

One-half of the Whole Term Premium may remain on credit for seven years, or one-third of the Premium may remain for life as a debt upon the Policy at 5 per cent., or may be paid off at any time without notice.

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No. 1182.

LONDON, SATURDAY, JUNE 22, 1850.

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**HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY OF LONDON.**—His Grace the DUKE OF DEVONSHIRE, President of the Horticultural Society, has kindly directed the Grounds of Chiswick House to be opened for the reception of the Visitors to the Society's Gardens at the next Exhibition, on SATURDAY, the 18th of July. Tickets are issued to the orders of Fellows of the Society only, at this Office, price 5s., or at the Garden, in the afternoon of the 13th of July, at 7s. 6d. each, but then also only to orders signed by Fellows of the Society. But respectable strangers, or residents in the country, who will forward their addresses in writing to the Vice Secretary, 21, Regent-street, on or before Thursday, the 11th of July, may obtain from that Office an authority to procure Tickets on this occasion. No official orders for Tickets will be issued after that day.

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HENRY C. PIDGEON, Secretary.

**BRITISH ASSOCIATION FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF SCIENCE.**

**THE NEXT MEETING** will be held at EDINBURGH, and will commence on WEDNESDAY, the 31st of July 1850.

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**SOCIETY FOR THE ENCOURAGEMENT OF ARTS, MANUFACTURES, AND COMMERCE,** Adelphi, London.

RESOLUTION passed at a Meeting of COUNCIL, April 24th, 1850:—

As the Exhibition of the Works of Industry of all Nations in 1851 originated with the President and Members of the Society, the Secretary be instructed to publish as complete a List as he can compile of all the Contributions made to that object, by Members of the Society.

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GEORGE GROVE, Secretary.

Society's House, May 31, 1850.

The Secretary will feel obliged by his being informed of any errors or omissions that may be in the above List.

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(Signed) M. D. WYATT, Secretary.

**EXHIBITION OF INDUSTRY, 1851.**—TO CONTRACTORS.—Her Majesty's Commissioners are desirous of receiving Tenders for the Erection of the Building for the above Exhibition. Persons wishing to tender for the whole or certain portions, may receive copies of the plans, &c. and conditions of contract on and after June 24th, on payment of the sum of 5s. 5d., for which they will also become entitled to receive copies of the bills of quantities and specifications, which will be ready for delivery on and after July 1st, on application to the Secretary of the Executive Committee, No. 1, Old Palace-yard.

Tenders must be sent in, addressed to the Secretary of the Building Committee, Palace of Westminster, on July the 8th, between the hours of 10 in the forenoon and 12 o'clock at noon.

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**MRS. LOUDON** begs to give notice that she ceases to edit the Weekly Periodical entitled "THE LADIES' COMPANION, AT HOME AND ABROAD," with No. 27, completing the First Volume, and that she has no longer the slightest connexion with that paper.

Bayswater, June 22, 1850.

**THE EDINBURGH REVIEW, No. CLXXXV.**—ADVERTISEMENTS intended for insertion are requested to be forwarded to the Publishers before Friday, the 23rd, and BILLS not later than Saturday, the 23rd instant.

London: Longman, Brown & Co. 39, Paternoster-row.

**WESTMINSTER AND FOREIGN QUARTERLY REVIEW, No. 105 and No. 90, for JULY, 1850.**—BILLS and ADVERTISEMENTS for this Number should be forwarded on or before Wednesday, June 26.

Geo. Luxford, 1, Whitefriars-street, Fleet-street.

**THE LION HUNTER.**

**ONE HUNDRED COPIES OF CUMMING'S 'SOUTH AFRICA'** are in circulation at MUDIE'S SELECT LIBRARY, 23, Upper King-street, Bloomsbury-square.—Every Subscriber of ONE GUINEA PER ANNUM may secure an early perusal of this or any other recent work of interest. Country Subscription: 15 vols. all new, 20 vols. half new, or 24 vols. six months after publication. Five Guineas per annum.—A Post-office order payable to CHARLES EDWARD MUDIE will secure an immediate supply.

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## WILLIAM WORDSWORTH.

At a MEETING, held at the House of Mr. JUSTICE COLLIER, on Monday, the 13th of May,—

The LORD BISHOP OF LONDON in the Chair,—

It was Resolved,—

That a Subscription be raised to do honour to the Memory of WILLIAM WORDSWORTH, and that a Committee be appointed to carry this object into effect.

The Committee having met at the same place on the 10th of June,—

A. J. B. HOPE, Esq. M.P. in the Chair,—

It was Resolved,—

That the objects of the Subscription be

I. To place a whole-length effigy of Wordsworth in Westminster Abbey.

II. If possible, to erect some Monument to his Memory in the neighbourhood of Grasmere, Westmoreland.

## Committee.

The LORD BISHOP OF LONDON, Chairman.

His Grace the Duke of Argyll.  
The Chevalier Bunsen.  
The Lord John Manners, M.P.  
The Lord Lindsay.  
The Lord Bishop of St. David's.  
The Lord Bishop of Oxford.  
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The Very Rev. the Dean of St. Paul's.  
The Rev. the Master of Trinity.  
The Rev. the Master of St. John's.  
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LONDON, SATURDAY, JUNE 22, 1850.

## REVIEWS

*Memoirs of the Political and Literary Life of Robert Plumer Ward, Esq.; with Selections from his Correspondence, Diaries, &c. By the Hon. Edmund Phipps. 2 vols. Murray.*

THE appetite for historical biography is one of the chief features in the taste of our reading public,—and a cause of the numerous memoirs of public characters which have been published of late years. Of these, some—the lives of Wilberforce, Mackintosh and Romilly, the Diary of Lord Malmesbury and others—were of high interest, and contained authentic materials for history. Other publications of a similar class, though not deficient in interest, were injudiciously expanded; as in the case of ‘The Life of Lord Sidmouth,’—where the three volumes might have been cut down to one with advantage. It is, however, of the nature of *mémoires pour servir* to be diffuse,—and it is seldom that such works are skillfully executed by an experienced person. Friends and relations are too apt to exaggerate the value of small personal details, and are not sufficiently severe in their rejection of what is superfluous. The publication of Moore’s ‘Life of Byron,’ in which the poet’s own letters and desultory reflections were made to tell his history, had a visible effect on the modern fashion in biography. Letters and fragments of diaries are now strung together loosely, without judicious selection or careful examination. A fiery and impulsive nature like Lord Byron’s was best seen in his correspondence, and few in the same space of time have left behind so many letters of interest for general readers. But the cases are few wherein the example of Moore in the instance in question can be judiciously followed by a biographer.

The first of the volumes before us and a considerable part of the second contain a variety of such interesting matter, that we are scarcely disposed to censure Mr. Phipps for not having more skillfully compressed his materials into a single volume. Some of the correspondence is superfluous,—and other parts of it have been already in print. For example, Mr. Canning’s letter to the Duke of Portland with his resignation in 1809 (leading to the duel with Castlereagh) was surely too well known to be set forth *extenso*. Some of the letters from Lord Mulgrave are without importance; and a little exertion on the part of the biographer would have easily procured him much matter more worthy of being printed than the essays called ‘The Day Dreamer,’ occupying 260 pages of the second volume. The absence, however, of literary pretension in some degree exempts the editor from critical censure; and we have read with so much pleasure the greater portion of the volumes that we may safely recommend them as combining both interest and instruction.

Mr. Ward was a man of such mark in literature, and his writings were stamped with so much peculiarity of character, that his life and the formation of his mind are naturally objects of interest. It is perhaps his greatest distinction to have written ‘Tremaine;’ one of the best specimens that we have of the didactic novel, and in itself perhaps the best illustration of the author’s mind. With more of elegance than originality, Mr. Ward had many of the feelings, but little of the fire, of the poetical nature. He was an illustrator of character rather than a creator,—and his writings were a species of mosaic, in which he put together with taste and ingenuity a variety of singular specimens of society which he had for many years observed. Throughout his fictions there is an unreal and artificial atmosphere, which prevents

our ever forgetting while following them that we are reading a book. But he had so much experience of society, and had so nearly examined the characters of persons of the highest rank, that his subtle, ingenious, moralizing mind could scarcely have failed to produce pictures at once attractive and suggestive of thought to a reflecting reader. Thus, his “novels” (if such they are to be called) are to be estimated as essays on life rather than as exhibitions of it. They are chapters of sentimental ethics—elegant dialogues on grave topics—subtle moralizings on common incidents, and clever portraiture of uncommon persons. With all his various accomplishments and his undeniable talents, his mind wanted that animating power which is the essence of creative genius; but he had all the qualities which “collect, combine, and amplify.” His reputation, however, was so considerable, and his opportunities, as we have said, of seeing life, as well as his capacity for recording what he saw, were so largely combined,—that it is with more than common interest we read the work before us.

Robert Plumer Ward was the sixth son of Mr. John Ward,—a Spanish merchant, who resided at Gibraltar; and who had married Mdlle. Rebecca Raphael, a young lady of Jewish extraction, and of a family originally from Genoa. The reader might be naturally disposed to think that it was from the Spanish side of his origin that the novelist derived his imaginative vein; but Mr. Phipps says (page 2),—

“that notwithstanding the greater or less claim to Spanish blood in his veins, it must be allowed by those who knew him best that neither in his personal appearance nor in his character and temperament did it display itself. He had neither the dark complexion and thoughtful grandeur of expression, nor the grave sententiousness and proud reserve, of the Spaniard; his cast of countenance was essentially Saxon; and the bright blue eye, even flow of spirits, and indefatigable energy of his mind and body, proclaimed him a native-born Englishman.”

In early years he displayed great mental precocity, and was fond of poetry; and his youthful attainments attracted the favourable notice of the Cornwallis family. In 1783 he was sent to Christ Church, Oxford; where he did not particularly distinguish himself, but confined himself to general reading. He made the acquaintance there of two attached friends, the late Sir M. Shaw Stewart and Mr. Sturges Bourne. After leaving Oxford, he became a member of the Inner Temple, having resolved to follow the profession of the law. While at the Temple an incident occurred in his life which was not without its effects on his prospects. We will allow Mr. Phipps to narrate Mr. Ward’s first introduction to William Pitt,—

“It was soon after his return from France that an adventure occurred to him which savours more of romance than of reality, and in which a lucky chance would by some be said to have introduced him to the notice of him who was then the most powerful man in England,—William Pitt; while those who look more closely into character would see in it but the natural consequence of that boldness and energy which Mr. Ward displayed throughout his after-life. He was, early in 1794, leaving his chambers in the Temple for the purpose of paying a visit in the northern outskirts of London. Upon crossing Fleet Street he had to traverse Bell Yard, and as he passed a watchmaker’s shop his attention was attracted by a placard in the window, of a very revolutionary character, convening a meeting of a certain society, that evening at the watchmaker’s.\* Many a man would have passed it unnoticed, or contented himself with a feeling of regret or indignation at the prevalence during that period of similar views. Not so was it with young Ward; he was fresh from all the horrors which the success of such principles in a

\* “The name of this man was Scott, and he is even now well remembered by some of the neighbours.”

neighbouring country had entailed. He at once determined to enter the watchmaker’s shop and provoke a discussion with him. For two hours did the young student contest with the republican the justice of his sentiments; for two hours did he labour to impress upon him, not only by argument but by his own experience, the horrors to which success must lead; but at the end of that time he was obliged to leave him apparently unmoved, or at all events unconvinced. He paid his distant visit, and late in the evening returned homewards through the same alley. Despairing of success, he paid no second visit to his disputant of the morning, though he did remark with pleasure that the revolutionary placard had been withdrawn. Hardly, however, had he passed the shop twenty yards, when he heard some one running after and calling him. He looked back and beheld the republican watchmaker. The manner of the man was changed from the dogged imperturbability with which he had listened to Mr. Ward’s arguments in the morning, to a frank and eager confidence. ‘I have called you in,’ said he, ‘to say I have done nothing but think over your words: I feel their truth; I shudder at the precipice on which I stood, at the evil I was about to do; and am now as anxious to communicate and prevent, as I was before to conceal all our schemes.’ He then communicated to him the existence of a most fearful plot against the Government, which, with his newly awakened feelings, he longed to frustrate by immediately informing the authorities, if he who had convinced would also accompany and support him. They went to the chief magistrate, Sir Richard Ford, who attached so much importance to the communication, that the three were at once ushered into the presence of Pitt and his colleagues, assembled with Macdonald and Scott, the Attorney and Solicitor General. The singular history was duly narrated in detail; the arguments carried on by the young Mentor, the misgivings of the republican, and then the details of the impending danger. The countenance of Pitt was turned with interest on the young lawyer, who seemed not only to share that horror of revolutionary movements with which he was himself so strongly imbued, but who had so gallantly acted upon it. ‘What was your motive, young gentleman,’ he inquired, ‘for thus entering the shop?’—‘I, Sir,’ answered young Ward, ‘am not long returned from France, and have there seen in practice what sounds so fine in theory.’ Warrants were issued upon the information of the watchmaker; and thence arose one of the principal incentives to the State trials of 1794,—which, however, as is well known, did not end in a conviction. Notwithstanding this, Mr. Pitt was not of a character to lose sight of the young lawyer who had performed so distinguished a part on so important an occasion; and when young Ward was still further recommended to him by others who had better opportunities of knowing his ability, it is no wonder that, a few years afterwards, the offer of a seat in Parliament should come to him in the flattering shape of a letter written by Pitt himself. The more immediate consequence of this romantic adventure was to procure for him the friendship of Lord Eldon, who, as we have mentioned, was then Solicitor, and at the time of the trials Attorney, General, and who, upon further cultivating his acquaintance after this, suggested to him the undertaking of a work which would alone have secured him a place in any library, even if he had not in latter years written those others, of a more popular character, on which his literary reputation principally rests.”

In 1794 he composed this work, his ‘Essay on the Law of Nations,’—one of the most elegant treatises that English jurisprudence possesses. It is not, however, of great authority; but it contained enough of learning, taste, and general erudition to attract attention to the author and to introduce him into legal business. His marriage with Miss Maling, one of whose sisters was married to the late Earl of Mulgrave, gave him access to circles of influence, and combined with his talents in bringing him under the notice of leading politicians. It was the age when the borough system flourished, under which clever young



men of promise were easily returned by their patrons; and the following letters from the Prime Minister, offering a seat in Parliament, are illustrative of the old system of manufacturing M.P.s.—

*"Right Honourable William Pitt to R. Ward, Esq."*

"Park Place, Monday, June 28, 1802.

"Sir,—I wrote to Lord Mulgrave on Friday, from Walmer Castle, to mention to him that Lord Lowther had had the goodness to offer to name a member, at my recommendation, for the borough of Cockermouth, for the first three years of the Parliament; after which he wishes to reserve it for his nephew, Lord Burghersh. I also stated to him, that I hoped to be released from the only claim which could prevent my having the satisfaction of proposing you to him as a candidate, if it should be agreeable to you. The election will, I understand, be free from trouble, and from any but a very trifling expense; and, though less satisfactory than one for the whole Parliament, I am in hopes it will appear to you too eligible to decline. I have therefore thought it best, as Lord Mulgrave is out of town and as the time presses, to state these particulars to yourself. I am just setting out to Short Grove, in my way to Cambridge; and if you could possibly let me hear from you on the subject by to-day's post, I shall be much obliged to you, as Lord Lowther is waiting my answer.—I am, Sir, your faithful and obedient servant,

W. PITT."

"My direction for to-day's post is, Joseph Smith's, Esq., Short Grove, Saffron Walden; and afterwards, Pembroke Hall, Cambridge."

*"Right Honourable W. Pitt to R. Ward, Esq."*

"Cambridge, June 30, 1802.

"Sir,—I was happy to receive your letter this morning, and have in consequence written to Lord Lowther to express my wishes to avail myself, in your favour, of his kind offices at Cockermouth. It affords me, on every account, great pleasure to be instrumental in recommending you to a seat of this description, and I am very glad to find that the circumstances attending it make it so satisfactory to you. I take for granted, you will immediately hear from Lord Lowther; but, perhaps, at any rate, you may think it right to lose no time in calling upon him in Cavendish Square. I am, Sir, your faithful and obedient servant,

W. PITT."

Mr. Ward was now fairly launched into parliamentary life; and his correspondence with political personages, as well as his own diary, occupy a large portion of these volumes, and give them the value belonging to the authentic observations of an able man closely connected with Government. The letters of Horner, Mackintosh and Romilly have supplied us with much of the secret actions of the Whigs during the times of the Regency. Lord Malmesbury's diary closed in 1809,—and Mr. Ward's commences in that very year, and presents us with much valuable matter calculated to throw light on the party contests of the times. To the future historian of that period frequent reference to Mr. Ward's diary will be necessary, as it gives a great deal of the inner history of the Perceval ministry. The interest of this portion of the work is almost entirely political and parliamentary, and to enter on a discussion of the matters treated of would compel us to break through our standing rule of avoiding political controversy. We may briefly observe that the picture presented of Mr. Perceval raises his reputation. It exhibits his sturdiness of character and steady adherence to his own notions of right in a very favourable point of view. "Many country gentlemen," says Mr. Ward, "told me that they disagreed with Perceval, and knew he would be beaten, but devoted themselves to him on account of his manly firmness, his integrity, honour and courage. I said that he was a true *game-cock*, to which they all assented, with great marks of approbation. It is pleasant if you must fall to fall with such a leader."

If the value of this correspondence and diary to the political historian cannot be exaggerated, in a literary point of view it is not so interesting as some of those other memoirs to which we have adverted. Mr. Ward was an observer of the drama rather than a leading actor in it. We expected that his sketches of public characters would be more graphic and brilliant,—worthy of the pen which drew the character of Wentworth in 'De Vere'; but there is a dryness in the general style of this diary that we did not anticipate. We must recollect, however, that it was not until he had ceased to be a politician that Mr. Ward became a novelist. What the diary loses in colour it gains in substance. Its general tenor, while very favourable to Perceval, is the reverse with regard to Canning and the Marquess of Wellesley. The latter is depicted as irresolute—hesitating between Whigs and Tories, and apparently deficient in vigour of will. In February 1812 we find the diary stating—

"Ld. \* \* \*, with whom I afterwards walked half way home, told me that they all thought Lord Wellesley had behaved exceedingly ill, and that, had he attempted to form a Government, none of the present Cabinet would have gone with him: so that he would be left with Canning for his sole support. The idea was ridiculous; for he had never been of any service to the old Government, and his reputation had dwindled away from sheer idleness: none of his colleagues could be cordial with him again, or, at least, for a considerable time. He closed with telling me the Duke of Richmond is to have the Garter, which Pole, whom I afterwards saw, informed me was given in the very handsomest manner. Pole said, too, what I was exceedingly glad to hear, that Richard Wellesley was not to quit the Treasury. But how foolish is this once great man! But a few, and a very few, years ago he came home with the greatest name in the empire, after the death of Mr. Pitt. He has now failed in an endeavour of intrigue rather than of ambition so spiritless as to be even ridiculous! His brother Pole, who is worth a thousand of him, told me he had not even mentioned his design to him, for which he was very much obliged to him; and when he announced his resignation, he only replied you have made a mistake! but we will be as good friends as ever. Neither Ld. Wellington nor Henry Wellesley follow him, his own son remains with us, and he thus affords the unique spectacle of the head of the most energetic family in the nation acting against all their wishes, and losing all their support. *Ἀνὴρ διψυχός* with a vengeance. If he goes to the Grenvilles, which probably he and Canning will do, both must be content to act subaltern parts under the whole of that party; a very proper reward for such petty vanity, such little ambition!"

Canning is represented by Mr. Ward as being distrusted by all parties,—and the diary sees him throughout from an unfavourable point of view. This is the more remarkable, when the reader calls to mind the admiration which in later years Canning called forth from the author of 'De Vere.' The history of the 'Paper Project,' in 1802, a scheme set on foot by Canning for bringing back Mr. Pitt to power—is here entered on at full length. Mr. Ward was actually engaged in the plot, in which Lord Malmesbury and Mr. Canning were the chief conspirators; and by which it was intended to frighten Mr. Addington into a resignation, by presenting him a paper or round robin signed by certain Pittites. The history of that notable scheme as given by Lord Malmesbury is further confirmed by Mr. Ward, who was in communication with Lords Lowther and Mulgrave in relation to it. The tenor of the correspondence is favourable on the whole to Mr. Pitt; and shows that many of the imputations still cast on him for his supposed treatment of Mr. Addington are unfounded. We have not space to give extracts from this portion of Mr. Ward's letters; and content ourselves

with noticing that portion of the work as being of great value, from its undoubted authenticity.

The diary comes down to 1820. Mr. Ward, after recording his business transactions with the Duke of Wellington, says that "his promptitude, decision, intelligence, and manner were charming." Under date of Nov. 23rd, 1819, he has the following remarkable and characteristic anecdote of the Duke.—

"Nov. 23rd, 1819.—The D. of Wellington passed me in Pall Mall going to the H. of Lds. to the speech. He stopped his coach, and asked me if he should take me. When I got in, I saw him busy about the doors, which he was locking with a key in the inside. I asked what that meant. He said, that ever since he had been shot at in Paris he had used that precaution. I knew, said he, the conspiracy was pretty extended, and thought they might be at me again in a less bungling way. Their way ought to have been to have killed my coachman, and then, if my doors could have been opened, what should I have done? Now they are secure, and by leaning back you may fight [find?] a window better than a parapet wall. This he accompanied with the appropriate action. As we were in the midst of a very Radical-looking mob, I only hoped, I said, we should not be tried. He said, there was no danger of that to-day, or anything happening to the Prince; it might happen the next day, after the speech was known, particularly as there was a Smithfield meeting. The mob, however, looked better, and we found the Prince had been much cheered in the Park, all the women waving their handkerchiefs; but there were some hisses."

It was in 1823 that Mr. Ward turned his attention to that new species of exertion in which he was destined to signalize himself so greatly; and as the account of the origin of 'Tremaine' is pleasingly told by the editor, we will allow him to make his own statement.—

"It was at this time that Mr. Ward began an undertaking upon which his reputation and the interest that attaches to his name will mainly depend. \* \* It could not be denied that the English school of novel-writing (in more modern times) had many merits. It had the not least important one of being adapted for the perusal of all, without offending the delicacy of any; it could further boast, as its characteristic, the natural development of an interesting and seldom improbable story, a correct and original conception of individual character, a skilful adaptation of the events of history, the enforcement of a wholesome moral, and a certain elegance in the style of composition. Such, it cannot be denied, were the ordinary characteristics of the best of the modern English novels at the time Mr. Ward began his task. It will be seen, however, from this enumeration, that there is not to be ascribed to them that for which fiction may be more peculiarly made the vehicle, viz. any depth of philosophical reflection, any complete development of peculiar types of character, any such epigrammatic terseness of diction as should lead the reader to return again and again to the opinions of his author, for the sake of their depth, their originality, or the happy terms in which they were expressed. If any one had perused such productions, pencil in hand, with a view to revert to his favourite passages, he might have marked here a pretty description of scenery, there an animated dialogue, in another place a striking situation, but he could rarely have found a gem that would sparkle when placed by itself, or which could be transferred to a fresh setting. Another defect that was found almost universally in these productions was, a perversion (unintentional no doubt, but still not the less constant) of the manners, vices, feelings, and actions of the upper classes of society, who were made alternately heroes possessed of every noble virtue, or insolent profligates ever ready to make an unfair and base use of the power given them by their position. The fact was, that the descriptions were given at second-hand, till what was considered in this respect natural in a novel became as complete a piece of traditional conventionalism as the interviews between a master and his *valet de chambre* are allowed to be on the stage. It was with a purpose of supplying some if not all these defects, and of affording, along with food for the thoughtful



mind, the necessary relaxation which all require, that Mr. Ward began his novel. He had determined to preserve the strictest incognito, moved partly by an anxiety to have the genuine and unbiassed opinion of the reader, partly by the excitement of the mystery attendant upon it, but principally urged by considerations arising out of the two very opposite subjects which were to be combined in the same book: viz. first, sketches of fashionable society, with strictures upon its occasional emptiness and insolence; and, secondly, a discussion of some of the most important questions that can be presented to reasoning beings. As his handwriting was sufficiently peculiar to be easily recognized, every page when written was recopied, and in this he had most willing and useful assistants in his daughters; so great was the interest taken by them in his book, that he used to boast how, on one occasion, when a portion of the manuscript containing a long chapter had been lost, they were able to resupply the whole of it from memory, without (as even the author himself confessed) so much as an error in a word. The work once ready for publication, his grand difficulty was to arrange with a publisher without running the risk of betraying his authorship, and for this purpose he fortunately bethought himself of his friend and personal solicitor, B. Austen, Esq. By his co-operation he was enabled to preserve for some time his incognito amid the curiosity which 'Tremaine' so generally excited."

The success of 'Tremaine' was very great. In six weeks fifteen hundred copies were sold, and persons of the highest rank busied themselves in trying to ascertain who was the author. Amongst others the late Earl Spencer, who had a strong taste for philosophical reading, was very anxious to find out the writer,—but even the publisher (Mr. Colburn) was ignorant of the name.

As might be expected, then, Mr. Ward was not long in resolving to produce a second work, 'De Vere,'—the success of which (according to Mr. Phipps) was quite as great as that of 'Tremaine.'—But we cannot dwell longer on a literary career so well known as that of Mr. Ward.

## NEW NOVELS.

*Ada Greville; or, Woman's Constancy.* By Peter Leicester, Esq., Author of 'Arthur of Brittany.' 3 vols. Churton.

WOMAN'S constancy!—call that rather Woman's infatuation which Mr. Peter Leicester has undertaken to portray; since the object of Ada Greville's regard is really hardly worth any super-eminent trouble taken by mortal *Ada, Anne, or Agnes.* Captain Howard Smythe is a very beautiful man, 'tis true—with a voice for which the Old Serpent when on charming intent would pay a handsome price; but in spite of Mr. Peter Leicester's art employed to gild over his failings, he is substantially a fortune hunter and un-substantially a flirt. Passionately attached to Ada so long as he conceives her to be rich,—to the point of suggesting an express train and a stolen marriage,—when he discovers that her father is in danger of losing his fortune, this "Captain bold," after inditing a love-lorn farewell letter, creeps off to join his regiment in India, leaving her to break her heart if she so please. This does not please us:—and Mrs. Grundy and Mrs. Ellis we are sure will uphold us in our notions of what is spirited and self-asserting on such an occasion. But Mr. Peter Leicester does what is still less pleasing to us than even Ada's last will and testament, followed by the white marble monument and the weeping willow, would have been. Let every *Constantia* who knows herself worth giving away or withholding join our protest!—Ada Greville is made to follow this fickle Howard of hers to India, in the disguise of a lady's maid,—to track him up the country,—to be coldly received when at last she discovers him,—to be involved in the horrors and miseries

of the Affghan war,—and this endured, and after she is joined by her father, whose fortune proves not to have been really damaged, to give herself in tearful rapture to this tinsel captain of her affections. It is to be feared that Mr. Peter Leicester entertains most Salique ideas of the fascination of his own and of the folly of the other sex. Somewhat, however, to explain Ada's extraordinary constancy, we ought to mention that she has been all but sacrificed by her tender father to a wicked sensual Squire Newman, whose designs and doings are somewhat too much in the style of the old-fashioned novel entirely to satisfy us. Thus much in half sprightly, half serious objection. It has now to be said, that, whatever be thought of its bearings on the dignity-of-sex question, 'Ada Greville' is a novel which must excite a strong interest. There is character in it of an eccentric sort. Mrs. Burdett, the lady who has the habit of thinking aloud, is perhaps too farcical; but Golab, Ada's Indian guide, is very good, and his broken English is effective without being overdone. The careful hand of a conscientious writer may be traced from the first to the last page, and the work in consequence stands out distinct and individual from among the generality of its compeers,—whatever the *Britomarts* may choose to say of the bad example inculcated in its pages!

*The Earl's Daughter.* By the Author of 'Amy Herbert.' 2 vols. Longman & Co.

WITH power of drawing character and of arranging scenes, the author of 'Amy Herbert' nevertheless contrives to produce books which affect us anything but agreeably, apart from the theological opinions propounded therein. While we are reading them, we feel sensations analogous to those which oppress us if we breathe too long the air of a stove medicated with strong and subtle flower-scents. We become sickened with too much sweetness;—tantalized rather than taught, by too finely spun speculations on those most secret thoughts in every human breast which are not to be either weighed or condemned by man for man. We feel netted fast in the midst of a maze of specious and lofty-seeming shapes, the very beauty and high pretension of which is more fatiguing than the harshness and inequality of less perfect creations. It is possible that our objection is the inevitable *Q. E. D.* of the opinions which the tales edited by Mr. Sewell are intended to recommend, and that we are thus unconsciously offering them the highest tribute which can be paid to a work of art. But their effect is mesmeric rather than healthily sedative: we are stilled and stupified—and yet do not arrive at *clairvoyance.* The flimsiest or wildest romance is, to our thinking, reading less unwholesome than this quintessential distilment of the mysteries of the heart, made by any mortal teacher, with the view of recommending his own peculiar system of cure as the one which should sweeten all bitterness, quicken every palsied function of conscience, give wings to fainting aspiration, and, in short, utterly cast out mistrust, evil, and imperfection, by the ministry of a few absolute and unquestionable angels on earth.

*Ellie Forestere.* A Novel. By John Brent, Esq., author of 'The Battle Cross,' 'The Sea-Wolf,' &c. 3 vols. Newby.

IN the two novels with which 'Ellie Forestere' is here coupled, there was a fair amount of power to be recognized. Here, we have merely "sound and fury";—an old-fashioned story, violent in incident, null in character, absurdly stilted in language—a composition of paper and ink which, for the hundredth time, awakens limitless wonder that persons can still be found in these days of cheap and good

literature to make the publication of such costly trash worth anyone's while. This novel contains a wicked and licentious man, Sir Heydon Forestere, who holds a property to which (of course) he has no real claim,—and a rightful heir, one Evelyn Atherly, whose mother dies in want, and who (how new this is!) gets, by mysterious chance, thrown among precisely the very loose and evil persons who can help him back to his rights. There is also a preternaturally beautiful heroine, Ellie, who, no less probably, falls in love with her father's antagonist. There is, fourthly, that crisis in the father's fortunes at which (of course) the good daughter drowned in tears, is invited (with almost the force of a royal command) to marry the man whom she does not wish to marry, by way of bringing matters to rights. There are speeches like the soliloquies which *Mr. Whelks* loves to hear ranted at the Victoria Theatre. And there are descriptions of scenery, done in all the primary colours; skies of gold, woods of emerald, seas of azure—with a running accompaniment of sighs, tears, spasms, pangs, and some dull and homely talk, meant to be droll, among the "machinists" and other low persons who work the drama through. *Da capo*, as the musicians say—'Ellie Forestere' is a wonder in these fastidious and intelligent days.

*The History of Banking; with a comprehensive account of the Origin, Rise and Progress of the Banks of England, Ireland and Scotland.* By William John Lawson. Bentley.

Mr. Lawson has certainly made a mistake. He may have been intended by nature to assist in the operations of banking—and the personal anecdote which he has somewhat oddly substituted for a preface seems to countenance such a supposition;—but he certainly was never destined to figure as the historian of his own profession.

A very loose and reprehensible practice has come into fashion lately of calling all sorts of narratives and compilations by the dignified name of "History." The practice has only to be carried a little further, and to be fostered by a little encouragement, and we shall have the whole realm of literature almost monopolized by the "historians." Here, for example, is Mr. Lawson stringing together a few anecdotes most of which are neither new nor select, and making copious extracts from legal treatises and acts of parliament,—and then considering himself justified in assuming the dignity of historian of certainly one of the most important, difficult and interesting subjects of modern times. A real and genuine history of banking would be a book very different from that which Mr. Lawson has produced,—and he must permit us to say, would fulfil conditions not agreeing with any conception of his task which he appears to have formed. The sooner a reform is introduced into the loose method of procedure alluded to, the better. Let us recur at once and honestly to the French title of "*Mémoires pour servir*,"—and we shall then know what we are about. Wise and witty, gossiping and dull, people among us who have the goodness and take the trouble to admit the public into their secrets will then assume their just proportions, and solicit attention in their proper characters.

We are afraid that Mr. Lawson has been led astray by Mr. Francis. Mr. Francis is a capital hand at telling a story; and has told so many pleasant ones that he has managed to put into circulation as a 'History of the Bank of England' a book which has about as much right to such a title as Grammont's 'Memoirs' has to be called a History of the Restoration. We do not mean to say, that Mr. Francis deals so largely in scandal and slander as the Count;



but the material of his volumes is of the same kind. Their essence consists in their anecdotes. Mr. Lawson has tried his hand at something of the same sort; but we cannot congratulate him on the result. He has picked up very few anecdotes indeed; and the few which he has got together are, as we have said, either ancient or dull. We say nothing of the serious parts of the 'History'; and we think Mr. Lawson should be thankful for our silence.

One of the best passages in Mr. Lawson's book is the following account of Peter Thellusson, one of the great men of the City towards the close of last century.—

"Mr. Thellusson was born at Paris, in the year 1735, about which period his father, Mr. Isaac Thellusson, a citizen of Geneva, settled at Paris, and established one of the first banking-houses in that city. M. Necker, the celebrated financier, began his career by being admitted a clerk in that house, and was afterwards taken as a partner under the firm of Thellusson & Necker. Peter Thellusson, on the death of his father, settled in London as a merchant and banker, under the auspices of the great banking-house of Thellusson & Necker, by which means he was enabled to correspond with all the commercial houses in Paris, and other cities on the Continent. He appears to have been a man of extensive commercial knowledge, with an untiring industry and application to business, coupled with a spirit of enterprise, at all times tempered with sound judgment. These were the bright parts of his character. On the other hand, an inordinate love of money was his ruling passion; his economy was consequently severe and unceasing; but he never condescended to practice the vulgar sordidness that misers usually adopt.—Mr. Thellusson died in the month of July, 1797, possessed of property, both real and personal, valued at upwards of 700,000*l*. His will, dated in April, 1796, after leaving several legacies to his wife, his three sons and three daughters, and others, amounting together to about 100,000*l*., directs that the residue of his property of every kind, valued at 600,000*l*., shall be vested in three trustees, whom he named, to accumulate and to be laid out by them in the purchase of estates in England, until such time as all his children, and the male children of his sons and grandsons shall die, and then the lineal male descendants, who must bear the name of Thellusson, shall inherit the property in the following manner:—The estates to be divided into three equal parts or lots: one to go to the male descendants of his eldest son, another to his second son's male descendants, and the remaining lot to his third son's male descendants, thus creating prospectively three large landed estates. In case of failure of male descendants of any one of the three, his share to go to the other two; and if a failure of two, then the whole three lots to be consolidated into one vast landed property, which—if the provisions of the will are carried out in all their integrity—will exceed the largest territorial fortune yet known in Europe." But, if there be no lineal male descendants, then the whole of the estates to be sold, and the money applied towards paying off the National Debt. "After the legacies to his three sons, the following clause is added:—'The provision which I have made for my three sons, and the very great success they have met with, will be sufficient to procure them comfort; and it is my wish and desire that they will avoid ostentation, vanity, and pompous show, as that will be the best fortune they can possess.' He concludes this extraordinary disposition of his property in the following words:—'As I have earned my property which I now possess, with industry and honesty, I trust and hope that the legislature will not in any manner alter my will, or the limitations thereby created; but permit my property to go in the manner in which I hereby dispose of it.' In the month of December, 1798, two bills were filed in the Court of Chancery, one by the widow of the late Mr. Thellusson, and his three sons and three daughters, and the husbands of the two then married, and the other by the acting trustees under the will. The former prayed that the will might be invalidated, and the property distributed as if there was an intestacy; and the other sought to substantiate the trusts of the will, and

to be directed in the manner of carrying them into execution. The case was argued for five consecutive days before the Lord Chancellor, assisted by the Judges. The decision of the Court was in favour of the validity of the instrument, and a day was appointed for carrying out its provisions. The following is a statement of the real and personal property of the testator, furnished by Mr. Hargreaves, counsel for the family in the above cause. An estate at Broadworth, in Yorkshire, valued at 140,000*l*.; another at Plaistow, valued at 25,000*l*.; warehouses in Philpot Lane, 10,000*l*.; Three per cent. Consols and Imperial Annuities, amounting to 396,458*l*. 8*s*. 7*d*.; Bank Stock, 21,000*l*.; East India Stock, 14,125*l*.; Four per cents., 36,000*l*. 11*s*. 1*d*.; South Sea Stock, 2,500*l*.; Five per cent. Loyalty Loan, 3,000*l*.; Irish Five per cents., 1,500*l*.; Irish Annuities, 712*l*.; Long Annuities, 900*l*.; Hudson's Bay Stock, 2,500*l*.; payable by instalments, and secured by a bond of a firm of undoubted credit, 49,000*l*.; various debts valued at 50,000*l*.; bills on the East India Company, 24,000*l*.; and cash in the banker's hands, 5,500*l*. According to the tenor of the will it is supposed that it might require a term of upwards of ninety years to elapse before the lineal male descendants could take possession of the property; and if during that period the various sums above enumerated could be invested at five per cent. compound interest, they would amount to more than 70,000,000*l*. sterling. The late Mr. Thellusson's property was too valuable a prize to be allowed to glide down the stream of time uninterruptedly. The gentlemen of the legal profession can discover flaws in testamentary documents not perceptible to common understandings; and so it was in this case; for although the legality of the will had been settled in 1798, it became the subject of frequent discussions in the Court of Chancery, and probably will be so to the end of the term. One of these applications, made to the Lord Chancellor in November, 1821, raised the question, whether a person could not inherit through a female? Lord Eldon decided that only lineal male descendants could inherit. This, one would suppose, had been made plain enough in the will; but, as we said before, forensic ingenuity is one thing, common sense is another. It is difficult at this distance of time accurately to account for the conduct of Mr. Thellusson in dis-inheriting not only his children, but his children's children. It could not have been because they were not dear to him, nor because they did not deserve to be so, nor because others were more dear to him, for he was a fond father, and his children were all (excepting one daughter) well married, and with his unqualified consent: in short, he was as fond of his daughters-in-law as of his own children. Many have adopted the generally received opinion that during the French Revolution large quantities of goods and money were assigned to Mr. Thellusson by several of the French noblesse, in the expectation that they would soon be able to follow; but that falling victims to the sanguinary spirit of the times they never lived to claim the property, and consequently Mr. Thellusson unexpectedly became possessed of the same; yet thinking it possible in the course of time circumstances might arise calculated to throw light upon the real nature of the property, his high sense of honour and integrity influenced him in disposing of it in the manner before stated. If the Chancellor of the Exchequer were occasionally to institute inquiries into the manner in which the late Mr. Thellusson's property is managed, he could hardly be said to be exceeding his duty; for, although the falling in of the reversion to the Crown is a very remote contingency, yet still it is a reversion, and one which we think from its magnitude ought to be periodically looked after. But, whatever the motive of Mr. Thellusson may have been in leaving his property as before described, as it was the first, so it will be the last, will of the kind that can legally be made; for the 40 Geo. 3. restrains for the future all trusts whereby the property or produce of real or personal estates shall be accumulated, and the beneficial enjoyments thereof postponed beyond the term mentioned in the act."

Mr. Lawson's account of Mr. Coutts is not so well done; and we do not think that either Mr. Lawson or any one of those who have sketched the career of that eminent person has ade-

quately understood his character. Mr. Coutts was something more than a banker, and he aimed at something higher than merely making money. The single circumstance of his first marriage is of itself sufficient to indicate a character of no common order. Surrounded on all sides by the strongest inducements and encouraged by every species of attention to choose a fashionable or a titled wife, Mr. Coutts had the firmness to marry Elizabeth Starkey, a superior domestic in his brother's family. The three daughters who were the issue of this marriage became the wives of the Marquess of Bute, the Earl of Guildford, and Sir Francis Burdett; and it was in consequence of the firmness of Mr. Coutts in supporting the last of these gentlemen in his contest for the representation of Middlesex, that the patronage of George the Third was withdrawn from the banking-house. The biography of Mr. Coutts remains to be written; and we can only say that whenever it may be undertaken we trust the writer of it will have the good sense to perceive that he has to do something more than recite anecdotes and describe the foibles of a millionaire. Thomas Coutts stands at the head of one of the highest and largest classes of "practical men." His fortune was fairly and honourably earned by the exercise of a judgment and observation that very rarely deceived him,—by the aid of a large fund of common sense and a profound knowledge of mankind,—by dexterity in his profession,—by enterprise, industry and perseverance;—and by proficiency in the rare art of choosing as his coadjutors men whom he could imbue with his own spirit and entirely win over to his interests. In England we are content to call men of this stamp merely "practical." They neither write books nor make speeches; but they constitute, nevertheless, the pith and bone of the community,—and are in no mean sense of the term true leaders of their age and country.

Among the contemporaries of Mr. Thellusson and Mr. Coutts, there were few more conspicuous characters than Joseph Denison; but Mr. Denison was little more than a money-maker,—and he solicited the favours of fortune in the true traditional fashion. He practised devoutly the precept which inculcates a care for the pence, —and extended it by caring also for the pounds which the pence insensibly produced. In few words, Mr. Denison was strongly disposed to pursue carefulness into parsimony, and to abridge his personal expenses far within the limits of a justifiable outlay. Mr. Lawson, however, has nothing to say about Mr. Denison. We will venture, therefore, to help him to a story or two.

Joseph Denison was a shrewd and successful dealer in that peculiar class of Government securities which grew out of the expenses of the war. He had a keen eye for the points of a Navy Bill, and he kept himself well informed of the exigencies of the Clothing Board and the Commissariat. In those days of prodigal finance there used to be every now and then a sweeping off of old scores and a fresh beginning. The Chancellor of the Exchequer used to find from time to time that his operations were impeded by the mass of floating obligations in the market, and a clearance was effected by what is called a "funding." These "fundings," we have since come to understand, were most serious affairs for the nation—and most delightful occasions for gentlemen like Joseph Denison, who had the command of ready money and understood the course of the market. The funding days were generally epochs in Mr. Denison's history—bright spots of time when in the course of four-and-twenty hours his fortune visibly expanded its dimensions. On one of those days—and, it is said, one of the most remarkable



of them—Mr. Denison was so elated with his success that he ventured on a piece of great extravagance. He made the best of his way from Whitehall to his lodging, and electrified his housekeeper with the exclamation, "Well, Mary, we will have fish to dinner to-day,—for I feel that I can afford it." We have heard this anecdote repeated by very high authorities on all City questions, and we believe it may be relied on. We are not quite so sure of the authenticity of the following.

During the earlier period of Mr. Denison's career he retained his country habit of a mid-day dinner, and this had to be eaten at his counting-house. We dare say that no inordinate luxury distinguished the dishes of this repast; and it is related that a single half-pint of porter dropped at his door by the errand-boy of the nearest public-house constituted his invariable allowance of any liquid stronger than water. On some special occasion, however, it is said that the half-pint was suddenly increased into a full pint; and this unusually capacious vessel being accidentally seen at Mr. Denison's door by one of his principal customers who happened to have a touch of fun in his composition, he turned it to good account. Having duly informed some congenial acquaintances of the sudden prodigality of the rich banker, he called on Mr. Denison, and with a very serious countenance began by saying that he wished to close his account. Mr. Denison expressed deep concern at this announcement, and ventured to hope, &c. This went on for some time; and the visitor at last relieved poor Joseph's suspense by saying, "Well, Mr. Denison, the fact is, that I am becoming really concerned for your credit when I see, as I have done to-day, such an alarming change in your habits as the transition from a half-pint to a positive full pint of porter."

Quite in accordance with all that we know of Mr. Denison's character was the advice he is said to have given to one of his contemporaries who had entered on the same pursuits as those in which he himself had been so successful.—"The way to grow rich," said the old man, "is very simple:—lay by eleven pence three farthings out of every shilling."

Mr. Lawson's "History" contains a very meagre account—or rather no account at all—of the Great Panic of December 1825. He does not even give the name of the provincial banking-house which fell first, and gave the signal, as it were, for the crash that immediately followed. The failure of the great country bank of Wentworth & Co. of York, Leeds and Wakefield, is still fresh in the memory of most people of mature years in the north of England. We can distinctly remember the impression which that event produced on our own boyish imagination. We can recall with great vividness the difficulty under which we laboured at that time to understand precisely what was meant by the "breaking" of something so solid as the house of Wentworth & Co.: and we remember the awful sensations which used to be produced in us during the cold and dreary days of that miserable month of December, 1825, by the effect upon our grown-up friends of the intelligence of bank failures in all parts of the country. The mails were daily beset long before they reached the outskirts of the towns; and crowds besieged the precincts of the news-rooms. On more than one occasion during the crisis, the mob of eager expectants compelled a person to read the last intelligence from the windows of the nearest house to a group of auditors who stood round in the darkness and the cold,—having waded through the snow and the sleet—and breathless with fear and expectation.

*Auvergne, Piedmont and Savoy: a Summer Ramble.* By Charles Richard Weld. Parker.

LET the groaners and the grumblers—let all the seers who call all sayings save their own "stump oratory,"—let all doers who treat all doings that they do not as something superfluous and to be discouraged,—let the tribes of *Toobad* and *Croaker* take the locomotive habits of mankind as they please,—they will hardly drone or deafen the world into believing that "a Summer Ramble," as a sign of the times and a symbol of intercourse and civilization, is not a passably wise and a rationally healthy pleasure.—Mr. Weld, at all events, has been enabled by his excursions in Auvergne, Piedmont and Savoy to contribute an acceptable addition to our stores of light reading for 1850. Over a good portion of his ground we travelled not many years ago under the pleasant guidance of Miss Costello,—and therefore will not trace his route. In preference, we take a single adventure as a sample of his volume. This shall be a visit to a shrine which now attracts few pilgrims as compared with the numbers who resorted thither in the more select days of "the grand tour,"—we mean *La Grande Chartreuse*. On his way thitherward, by diligence from Grenoble, Mr. Weld fell into company which was whimsically rather than seriously symphonic to his experiences of monastic life.—

"My neighbour in the *coupé* was a jolly-looking priest, savouring more of grease than Windsor soap, with an oily, happy countenance, showing that its possessor was in good humour with himself, and at peace with all the world. \* \* Before starting, he had stowed in the sole pocket of the *coupé* a square-looking can of large proportions, which ever and anon engaged his especial care and attention; for as our jolting vehicle lumbered along, the said can swung to and fro in a manner not very conducive to its safety, if it were made of glass or other brittle material. My curiosity was excited respecting it, and after various speculations, I came to the conclusion that it was a bottle containing *comfort* for my neighbour and his companions. The priest, however, quickly disabused me of this idea; for after expressing his hope that the vessel did not inconvenience me, he added,—'I am solicitous about it, for it is exceedingly precious, as it contains *miraculous water*.'—This announcement, far from allaying my curiosity, rather served to increase it; so I begged to be informed of the properties of the said water, and where it came from.—'What!' said the priest, 'have you not heard of the miracle lately performed on the holy Mountain of the Apparition near Corps?'—'I confessed my entire ignorance.—'That is strange,' said he. 'Would you like to hear the history of it?'—'Indeed I should,' I replied; 'and shall feel greatly obliged by your communicating it to me.'—

\* \* 'The scene,' commenced the priest, crossing himself with much apparent devotion, 'of this late miraculous manifestation of God's grace to this sinful world, is a mountain of vast height, covered with snow during the greater portion of the year, which rises near the hamlet of La Salette, in the commune of Corps and department of the Hautes Alpes. It requires four hours' continuous walking, to attain the summit of La Salette. The mountain, previous to the miracle, was known only to the peasants who live at its base, and whose flocks in summer time seek pasturage on it. Last September, two children, brother and sister, named Macédoine and Mélanie Annans, the former twelve years of age, the latter fourteen, were tending some sheep belonging to their parents, who are humble peasants living in a cottage on the mountain side. It was noon, the day was oppressively warm, and feeling tired and hot, they sought a spring near the summit of the mountain to quench their thirst. The fountain did not flow constantly, being frequently dry in the summer months. After drinking, they threw themselves on the grass, and fell into a profound sleep. How long they remained asleep they cannot state. They were woke by a rushing noise, and the rustling as it were of satin. On looking up, they beheld a

woman seated on a stone, apparelled in white robes trimmed with lace, and bordered at the bottom by red roses. Her hair was dressed in plain bands; on her feet were white satin shoes, ornamented with gold buckles; and her hands were crossed on her breast. At the sight of this apparition the children were affrighted, and rose to run away.—'Fear not,' said the female, addressing them in their native *patois*; 'I will not harm ye. Approach.' Gathering courage from the gentle voice and meek appearance of the vision, whose face they represent as of angelic sweetness, the children drew near, but not without trembling.—'My son,' said the mysterious form, 'is sorely troubled at the wickedness of his people in this part of France. The Sundays are desecrated; blasphemy is common; evil deeds are of every-day occurrence. I have had great difficulty in arresting His avenging hand, nor have I entirely succeeded in doing so—for already your potatoes have been blighted. Be sure, if such things continue, that your corn will be destroyed, and your cattle will perish by disease.'—She then, rising from the stone on which she had been seated, took the children separately, and communicated to each a secret, commanding them not to reveal it until the proper time for divulging the mystery shall arrive. After this, she ascended very gradually out of sight; the boy says that he stretched forth his hand to clutch one of the roses on her dress, but that his hand passed through thin air. Slowly the vision faded from their sight, and at length disappeared. The children straightway descended the mountain, and related the history of the apparition to their parents; these, who seem to be devoid of that superstition so frequently found among persons in their rank of life, severely reprimanded them for inventing what they regarded as 'best an idle tale. The children, however, persisted in their story. The curé was then sent for. He listened attentively to the narrative, but at first gave no credence to it; indeed, he reproved the children for their attempt to impose, as he thought, upon him and their parents. A separate examination of the boy and girl was instituted, and this elicited so uniform and unvarying an account, always accompanied by such strong protestations of sincerity and truth, that the curé's scepticism became somewhat shaken. Accompanied by the children, he visited the scene of the apparition. \* \* The story was soon noised abroad. Bishops, priests, and curates came from far and near to see the children and the holy mountain; but neither the pomp nor terrors of the church, nor yet offers of large reward, had any effect in shaking their testimony, or causing them to divulge their respective secrets. 'The proper time for making them known,' say they, 'has not arrived; when it does then will we speak.' The boy, who was wholly uneducated, is now in the hands of the curé of the parish, who is training him for the church. He is very modest, and is not inflated with pride at having been visited by the Virgin.—'Do you not consider yourself very much blessed by having seen the mother of Jesus?' said I to him. A careless 'Oui,' was the only answer. The stone on which the Virgin is represented to have sat has been removed with much religious pomp to the parish church, where it is enshrined behind the high altar, and attracts thousands of peasants, who religiously and devoutly kiss it. The mountain, which a few months ago was trackless, and, as I have stated, almost unknown, is now visited by hundreds of pilgrims, who prostrate themselves on the site of the apparition, and carry away bottles of the water."

We cannot but here meekly "put in" a suggestion that the Priest's narrative, so syllabically remembered by Mr. Weld, reads curiously like one of those tiny pamphlets or chap books which abound in Catholic countries or towns;—a library of which, for instance, may be bought for a few francs in the arcades under the *Palais de Justice* at Liège.—Shortly after the priest ceased to talk Mr. Weld came upon something more real, and not less picturesque.—

"At Fourvoirie, about a mile and a half from St. Laurent, an iron forge, conceived and erected in the true spirit of picturesqueness, stands near two bridges which beset the stream; here confined between vertical rocks of great height, at the base of which it



rushes and foams, and then subsiding in pools beneath, reflects in glassy quiet the overhanging rocks. Near the highest bridge the grim chasm is blocked up by a house and gateway, through which the road is carried. \* \* As the sun declined, the day became more solemn and serene, and, if possible, more propitious. Vast trees, now forming huge leafy domes, now making a vegetable network through which the dark blue vault of heaven gleamed, overshadowed the path; beech-trunks started from their rocky crevices, their trunks covered with velvet-like moss; on high, at a prodigious elevation, pines—those black knights of the forest—appeared bristling on peaks inaccessible to man. \* \* The beech-woods which occupy the depths of the valley are inhabited by a dark race of men, exercising the calling of charcoal-burners; and files of mules laden with large sacks of charcoal came down the rugged path, disputing with the pilgrim every inch of practicable ground. \* \* After walking some two hours, I crossed the Guiers, by a narrow wooden bridge without parapets, and ascending the craggy path, here hewn out of the rock, came in half-an-hour to a gateway, gateless, and jammed between two vertical rocks of stupendous height, which approach to within a few feet of each other. One of these rocks is in the form of an obelisk, and is called the Pain de Sucre. This gateway is remarkable as defining the former limits of female ascendancy, for beyond it no women were allowed to pass. \* \* Beyond the portal, on a fragment of rock projecting over the chasm, was a cross, on which I read the words, rudely carved, 'VIA CÆLI'; and some few yards further was another cross, bearing the short sentence, 'O SPES UNICA!' These were evidences that the Grande Chartreuse was not very distant; and I learned from a peasant who was descending, that the object of my pilgrimage might be attained in half-an-hour's sharp walking,—but I preferred sauntering on. From this man, the sole wandering speck of humanity that I met since leaving Fourvoire, I heard that a huge peak, domineering grandly over a host of others, was called the 'Throne of Moses.' \* \* The valley, or defile rather, now turned abruptly to the left. Still ascending, and passing through gloomy groves, I at length saw the turrets of the Escurial of the Alps, as the Grande Chartreuse has not inappropriately been called, which extended in a long broken line, backed by a woody amphitheatre, and terminated by spires of rocks and promontories rising to and sometimes lost in the clouds. The dark gorge, with its roaring torrent, now gave place to scenes of sacred and profound calm; for the convent stands on the gentle slope of an emerald meadow—an ark of peace, as it were, resting amidst scenes of desolation. With Tasso, I was tempted to exclaim,—

Ecco apparir Gerusalem si vede;

and casting myself on a flower-enamelled bank, I gazed long on the scene. Before me, in solitary grandeur, rose the convent, bristling with spires and turrets; a town in extent, and yet silent as the grave; no hum of voices, no hurrying to and fro; not a human being appeared—all was hushed in death-like stillness. I was awed by the scene; and as I drew near to the gates and rang the deep-toned bell, I felt as a novice praying to be admitted within the holy walls. The gates were opened by a servitor, who announced my arrival to a Carthusian advanced in years, and of venerable mien. He was the *pharmacien*, and occupied rooms to the right of the gateway. By him I was conducted across a quadrangle watered by two fountains to a large building appropriated to the reception of visitors. At the entrance he rang a bell, which was answered by a monk, young and handsome, reminding me strongly of Mario when personating the impassioned Fernando, in the affecting opera of *La Favorita*. My reception was courteous and warm. 'I have come,' said I, 'a long way to see you—from England.' The Carthusian seized my hand. 'We are always glad,' he replied, 'to welcome your countrymen to the Grande Chartreuse.' Then conducting me along an arched aisle, he threw open a door leading into a large and lofty apartment. It bore the inscription, *Salle de France*, and was appropriated to the reception of visitors. The furniture was of the simplest order: a plain deal table, with benches round it, occupied the centre of the room; a few presses were ranged against the wall, and some wooden chairs were placed at inhospitable distances

from each other. A huge fireplace yawned at one side of the room, comfortably filled with pine logs; and over the chimney-piece was suspended a copy of the regulations for the governance of visitors. There are other rooms, similar in all respects to that I have just described, which are set apart for strangers, and named after the principal nations of Europe; but now that the monks have fallen to a low estate, one is generally sufficient to contain the guests. Proceeding to one of the cupboards, the monk drew forth a dark green bottle, from which he poured a liquid into a small glass. This was the celebrated '*Chartreuse*,' a liqueur, for the manufacture of which the monks are famed. Justly, too, for it is excellent. Its composition is kept a profound secret. It is said, however, to have for its basis spirits of wine, and to be flavoured with various aromatic herbs, which the monks gather in the lawns and groves surrounding the convent. The label attached to the flasks containing the liqueur sold at Grenoble, represents the monks culling herbs for the manufacture of the cordial. There are three qualities: *ordinaire*, which is that usually sold at Grenoble; *supérieur*; and *l'élisir*, which latter is used as a medicine for every inward and outward ailment. In taste the '*Chartreuse*' resembles maraschino, but it is more aromatic. A more delicious drink on a hot summer's day than a small glass of this liqueur in a tumbler of spring water cannot well be conceived. As the grateful beverage flowed over the papillæ of my parched tongue, I could not help rejoicing that no silly vow of total abstinence from all good things in the form of liquids had ever passed my lips. Learning that it was my wish to sleep in the convent, the monk led the way to a small cell, lighted by a narrow casement, opening on a long passage. It contained a pallet, a deal table, on which stood a ewer and basin, and a crucifix. This was to be my dormitory. Everything was scrupulously clean; but, as will be seen, no attempt was made to minister to more than absolute requirements. There are some two hundred cells, similarly fitted up for those who wish to pass the night in the convent. My friend and myself were not the only visitors: about a dozen persons had arrived before us, and with them we were conducted over the gloomy wonders of the Grande Chartreuse."

Breaking off here, as it is best to do, we leave the reader with a tolerably hearty inclination to make his circuit of the wonders of *La Grande Chartreuse* in Mr. Weld's company. Our rambler is a little more prodigal of fine writing than we altogether like; but he is a cheerful companion—one, too, who can communicate the enjoyment of his reminiscences to his readers.

*The Royal Phraseological English-French and French-English Dictionary.* By J. C. Tarver. 2 vols. Dulau & Co.

IT is important to the production of a really good Dictionary or other educational work, that the author be an experienced teacher. Teaching is the surest method of learning thoroughly. Even supposing that one who had never taught were equal in minuteness and firm grasp of knowledge to the practised teacher, he would still be less qualified for the task of preparing a dictionary. He must inevitably be deficient in that aptness for the communication of knowledge which can to any great extent be acquired only by actual practice,—while many things of essential importance to the student of such a work would not occur to him as necessary to be stated. In this may, no doubt, have originated the many serious deficiencies in former French dictionaries, to some of which M. Tarver alludes in the history which he has given of his own.

The reader need hardly be told that the author of the present work possesses in an eminent degree the essential qualification of experience in teaching. For upwards of twenty years he has been Professor of French at Eton,—having been previously engaged in a similar capacity at Macclesfield Free School; so that altogether he

has resided thirty years in this country. By this long-continued practice in teaching he has acquired a critical knowledge of his own language such as few can fairly lay claim to. At the same time, the associations into which he has been thrown by his position at Eton have afforded him the best conceivable opportunities of studying the English character and customs, both public and private, so as to make himself thoroughly master of all the idioms, niceties, and anomalies of our language. His Dictionary shows how well he has turned these opportunities to account. Having long contemplated with peculiar interest the numberless points of contrast and comparison between the French and English languages, he has admirably qualified himself for the successful treatment of the two in combination.

It was at Macclesfield that, in the course of his experience as a teacher, M. Tarver first discovered, to his amazement, that the authors of all the French Dictionaries in use among us had omitted to take any account of the differences of construction in the two languages, and left the student completely in the dark as to the cases and moods proper to be used in connexion with the words explained. To supply this deficiency, he published his '*Dictionnaire des Verbes*'; and finding that even this did not fully meet the requirements of the case, he projected and announced another work, to be entitled '*The French Equivalents of the English Language*.' Further consideration, however, led him to abandon his design, and entertain the idea of producing this complete Phraseological and Grammatical Dictionary; the first part of which, containing the English-French, appeared five years ago,—and the second, or French-English, only recently.

The work before us naturally recalls to our mind the similar work by Dr. Spiers on the same subject, which we described some months since [*Ath.* No. 1146, p. 1034]. Both works are the results of years of careful toil,—both strictly independent original works,—both full of information on points of idiomatic construction,—and both so far superior to all previous dictionaries of the same languages as to be certain of superseding them sooner or later. Of the two, Dr. Spiers's has the advantage in point of arrangement—though even his is not all that could be wished in that respect,—in the classification of the meanings under different heads according to the different styles to which they belong, in the explanation of the differences between words nearly synonymous, and in the abundance of the most modern technical words and phrases of all sorts. On the other hand, that of M. Tarver is richer in idiomatic phraseology and peculiar turns of expression. It is pre-eminently, as he calls it, a *phraseological* dictionary. Every shade of meaning is illustrated by several appropriate examples, many of which are proverbial sayings, and all are full of idiom. The object of the author has been, to "produce such a work as would enable an Englishman to translate his own language into grammatical, idiomatic, written and colloquial French," and a Frenchman to give similar renderings of French into English. If this object is not accomplished, it cannot be attributed to any lack of explanation or illustration. As favourable instances of this copiousness and aptness of illustration, we may refer to the words *cast, come, cut, for, from, go, hand, have, head, let, lie, on, out, run, sit, stand, and time*, in the English-French part,—and *à, accommoder, de, eau, entretenir, envie, fort, grand, jour, sentir, and tenir*, in the French-English. Instead of merely translating proverbs and other idiomatic phrases from one language into the other, M. Tarver has very properly given the equivalent



or corresponding expression whenever such was to be found,—thus rendering his Dictionary more interesting as well as more instructive. Some of the longer articles are really pleasant reading. We are amused to observe the different ways in which the same idea is expressed in the two languages,—and many of the familiar sayings are in themselves entertaining. Our only doubt is, whether there is not in some cases a greater abundance of phraseology given than is either necessary or desirable. M. Tarver is undoubtedly right in thinking that the best method of exhibiting all the various meanings of a word is, to present it in combination with others, rather than by itself; but we are inclined to think that he has carried a good principle in some cases too far. He appears to have thought it necessary to give, under each word, not merely examples to explain its meaning and show its construction, but almost all the phrases in which it commonly occurs,—so that, in fact, his work is rather a phrase-book than a Dictionary. Again, we do not see why he should always have given complete sentences as illustrations. It appears to us that mere fragments, such as are found in our ordinary Greek and Latin Dictionaries, would often be amply sufficient for all practical purposes. Whoever consults this work with a view to gain assistance in translation, will be in danger of having his attention diverted from the subject in hand by the many familiar phrases that meet his eye on every page.—Whatever difference of opinion may exist as to the points on which we have hitherto touched, there can be little as to the desirableness of a better mode of arranging the meanings than M. Tarver has adopted. In many cases he does not give the meaning of a word separately at all, but proceeds at once to mention the various phrases in which the word occurs,—often without observing any apparent law of arrangement. Hence, we have sometimes to wade through a long series of sentences huddled promiscuously together before finding what is wanted. It is a pity that the different meanings and shades of meaning are not systematically arranged, either according to the order of derivation as nearly as possible, or on some other definite principle; so that the reader might see at a glance both the radical idea expressed by any given word, and all the subordinate branches springing from it,—somewhat after the manner of Riddle's Latin Dictionary and Liddell and Scott's Greek Lexicon. This might have been done without giving a "crowd" of meanings at once, as M. Tarver expresses it, and thus tempting the indolent or thoughtless student to take that which comes first, regardless how far it is appropriate. We regret, too, that M. Tarver has neglected to point out the distinctions between words apparently synonymous, and often in danger of being confounded.

When it was found that Messrs. Arnold and Riddle were each separately collecting materials for a new English-Latin Dictionary, they agreed to combine their resources, and hence succeeded in producing a thoroughly complete work. We cannot help wishing that something of this kind had occurred in the case of M. Tarver and Dr. Spiers. Each would then have supplied the deficiencies of the other;—and deficiencies peculiar to each there must be, since no residence, however long-continued, in a foreign country, after a man has arrived at maturity, can effect such a complete naturalization as to put him on a par with a native in the use of the language. There are a few un-English phrases even in this Dictionary, though it "has been submitted to a competent reader." M. Tarver tells us that he has intentionally inserted many obsolete words, for the sake of enabling his countrymen to read our old writers. To this we

should not have objected if he had distinguished these words from those in general use by some mark, so as to prevent mistake.—He complains that French has not been cultivated in this country to any degree of perfection, and wonders we are not ashamed to speak it so badly. No doubt this is partly attributable to the insufficiency of our Dictionaries. Henceforward we are deprived of this excuse; and it will be our own fault if we do not improve when we have within reach a work so full of information as the present.—The pronunciation, as we have often said, can be learned only from a teacher. It is some satisfaction to us to find that so high an authority as M. Tarver agrees with us in thinking it impossible to convey any accurate notion of French sounds by means of English.

*Collections towards a History of Pottery and Porcelain in the Fifteenth, Sixteenth, Seventeenth and Eighteenth Centuries.* By Joseph Marryat. Murray.

THE Fictile Art tells curiously the story of the progress of humanity. The potter's wheel has recorded in a sufficiently striking manner the history of civilization. In the collections of the curious,—

Where the tall jar erects its stately pride,  
With antique shapes in China's azure dyed,

we may trace the impress of the moral debasement or of the mental elevation of a people; since all the productions of the potter are in accordance with the tastes and feelings of the race for whose daily use or holiday ornament they were constructed. From the sun-dried relics of the earliest empires of the East, the water-pitchers and urns of the Egyptians, the funeral pottery of the Greeks, the vases of the Romans, the ornamented earthenware of the Moors, the enamelled pottery of the Middle Ages in Italy, or the beautiful wares of modern Europe, we may deduce valuable facts as to the degree of refinement to which the inhabitants of the countries wherein these pieces of moulded clay are found had attained at the periods to which they severally belong. "The existence of pottery has proved of the highest value as an aid to historical research. From the pottery of the tombs, we learn the domestic manners of nations long since passed away, and may trace the geographical limits of the various great empires of the world." Yet, notwithstanding the interest which naturally attaches itself to the history of the plastic or ceramic art, the English language has not a work of any claim to authority on the subject. The French have the want, to a great extent, supplied by the excellent work of M. Brongniart; but a full and philosophical examination of the story in all its bearings is a task reserved for some master hand.

The work before us is modestly put forward as 'Collections towards a History of Pottery,' &c.; and we regret this,—since, with the materials at hand, Mr. Marryat might, with a little additional industry, have given to the world a valuable history of the fictile productions of the four centuries with which he deals. Our author admits that his "undertaking remains incomplete;" but adds,—"the information collected being deemed by many of sufficient interest for publication as a Handbook of Pottery and Porcelain, I was led to prepare it for the press."

As a handbook the value of this work is very great, and we know of no other in which so large an amount of interesting matter connected with pottery and porcelain is to be found. But the author states that "the history of the previous epoch has been confided to abler hands, and will form a separate volume." The book before us is anecdotal throughout; and although the original outline was well planned,

the filling up is most fragmentary. Any one taking up this work will be pleased with it. Its numerous coloured plates and woodcuts and its fine type gratify the eye,—and on every page will be found information of the most curious and varied kind. But no reflecting reader will be satisfied with what he has here. This sense of disappointment will arise from the want of any connecting links throughout the work,—the absence of any philosophical view of the subject,—and the continued interruption to the sequence of events by the introduction of some comparatively unimportant fact.

This work embraces an account of the soft pottery of Italy, France, and Holland,—of hard pottery to the time of Wedgwood and of stoneware—of the porcelain of China and Japan and of the several European manufactories throughout four centuries. It contains a valuable glossary of terms used in the description of pottery and porcelain,—interpretations of the marks and monograms found on it, mainly derived from Brongniart's work,—and other curious and important matters. Adopting the view entertained by Sismondi, Mr. Marryat gives the following account of the introduction of the art of manufacturing fine pottery into Italy.—

"A king of Majorca, named Nazaredeck, by his atrocious acts of piracy spread terror along the coasts of France and Italy. It was computed that 20,000 Christians were confined in his dungeons. In the year 1113 the citizens of Pisa were exhorted on the festival of Easter by their archbishop, in the name of the God of the Christians to undertake the deliverance of their brethren who were groaning in the prisons of the infidels, and thereby maintain the glory of Pisa. Religious enthusiasm soon took possession of the minds of all present, and every man capable of bearing arms took up the cross and prepared for the expedition. In the month of August, the crusaders set sail from the Balearic Isles, but the mariner's compass not having been invented to assist them in their navigation, after a violent tempest they were thrown upon the coast of Catalonia, where they remained till the following year. They again sailed in the month of April, 1114, and reached Iwica. After a bloody combat they took the island, and passed on to Majorca, where they undertook the siege of the town of that name, which was valiantly defended for a whole year, but was taken about Easter, 1115, notwithstanding the courageous resistance of the Saracens, assisted by their numerous allies. The king was killed, his successor was made prisoner and conducted to Pisa, and spoils and booty of immense value freighted the Pisan galleys in their triumphant return to their native city. That the painted Moorish pottery, an article of great value and supposed to have been almost unknown at that period in Italy, formed part of those spoils appears probable from the fact of plates or *bacini* of apparently Moorish pattern and origin having been found incrustated in the walls of the most ancient churches of Pisa as well as in those of many other towns in Italy."

Passeri, however, claims the invention of the Majolica pottery, as this was called, for his birthplace Pesaro—in which city he says that it existed from the earliest times; and he was disposed to refer the improvement of the manufacture to Lucca della Robbia, who was brought to Pesaro by the Sforzi. Mr. Marryat, notwithstanding this, thinks, with Julius Scaliger, that the term Majolica is evidently derived from Majorca. A careful examination of the composition of the older Moorish *bacini* and of the Majolica of Pisa and Florence would do much towards the settlement of this point. It is, however, certain that the manufacture of this ware was brought to perfection under the fostering care of the Medici; and from the circumstance that many of the scholars of Raffaello executed the drawings on it from the compositions of that master, it has been generally known as "Raffaello Ware."

We cannot follow our author in his descrip-



tion of the various stages through which this pottery passed to its decline in the eighteenth century,—or in his account of the imitations of it in France, and of the establishment, in the time of Catherine of Medicis, of the "Fayence" manufactory at Nevers. Evidently, in the story of Bernard Pallissy—who gave his name to a peculiar and beautiful ware—there is much exaggeration. That he struggled through many difficulties and impoverished himself by the experiments which he instituted, cannot be doubted; but his sixteen years of unsuccessful experiment amid his starving wife and children, and his burning his tables and the boards of his house to heat his furnace, make a story as unworthy of a book purporting to be a History as is the ridiculous tale, also quoted, that the use of flint in pottery arose from the circumstance that Ashbury the potter observed an osler at an inn burning a flint that he might reduce it to powder, and then be enabled to apply it to the diseased eye of his horse. A very slight knowledge of the composition of the pottery of much earlier times would have been sufficient to show that the improvement of the plastic art was not dependent on any such accident.—The following account of the celebrated Wedgwood is very interesting,—and, as an example of the steady progress of an industrious and intelligent man from poverty to wealth and honour by his own perseverance, very instructive.—

"Josiah Wedgwood's education was very limited, and the low social position of the class from which he sprung may be gathered from the local historian, Simeon Shaw, who remarks that scarcely any person in Burslem learned more than mere reading and writing, until about 1750, when some individuals endowed the free school for instructing youth to read the Bible, write a fair hand, and know the primary rules of arithmetic. The little opportunity that Wedgwood had for self-improvement is further indicated by the circumstance stated by Shaw, that at the age of eleven years, his father being at that time dead, Josiah worked in his elder brother's pottery in the subordinate occupation of a thrower. Shortly after this, the small pox, which left an incurable lameness in his left leg, so as afterwards to render amputation necessary, compelled him to relinquish the potter's wheel. After a time he left Burslem, and entered into partnership with an individual named Harrison, at Stoke; and during this partnership, which was soon dissolved, his talent for the production of ornamental pottery is said to have first developed itself. He then became acquainted with a Mr. Wheildon, with whom he manufactured knife-handles, in imitation of agate and tortoise-shell, melon table plates, green pickle leaves, and similar articles; but Wheildon, who was deriving considerable profit from other departments of the pottery business, was unwilling to embark in the new branches for which Wedgwood had so great a predilection. The young man therefore returned to Burslem in 1759, and set up for himself in a small thatched manufactory, where he made such articles as are above mentioned. This business being prosperous, he soon took a second manufactory, where he fabricated a white stone ware, and, subsequently, he established himself in a third, at which was produced the improved cream-coloured ware, by which he gained so much celebrity. Of this new ware, Wedgwood presented some articles to Queen Charlotte, who thereupon ordered a complete table-service; and was so pleased with its execution, as to appoint him her potter, and to desire that his manufactory might henceforward be designated 'the Queen's ware.' It was, however, from 1760 to 1762 that his most interesting discoveries took place. Six different kinds of pottery and stone ware made their appearance at the same time from his workshop in Staffordshire, to the astonishment and admiration of all connoisseurs. Wedgwood now opened a warehouse in the metropolis, in order that the productions of his ingenuity might become more generally known. In his partner, Mr. Bentley, who managed the business in London, he found a valuable condutor, whose

extensive knowledge in many departments of literature and science, as well as his acquaintance with many eminent patrons of Art, greatly assisted him in the higher branches of his manufacture, and especially in obtaining the loan of valuable specimens of antique sculpture, vases, cameos, intaglios, medallions and seals, suitable for imitation by some of the processes he had introduced. Some persons intrusted to him valuable sets of oriental porcelain, for the like purpose; and Sir William Hamilton lent specimens from Herculaneum, of which Wedgwood's ingenious workmen produced the most accurate and beautiful copies. While Wedgwood was prosecuting those branches of his art, the Barberini Vase (since named the Portland Vase) was offered for sale by auction, and considering that many persons by whom the original was unattainable, might be willing to pay a liberal price for a good copy he resolved to purchase it. For some time he continued to offer an advance upon each bidding of the Duchess of Portland, until at length, his motive being ascertained, he was offered the loan of the vase on condition of his withdrawing his opposition; and the Duchess became the purchaser at the price of eighteen hundred guineas. Shaw adds that Wedgwood sold the fifty copies which he subsequently executed, at fifty guineas each, but that his expenditure in producing them exceeded the amount thus obtained. Wedgwood's success was not the result of any fortunate discovery accidentally made, but was due to patient investigation and unremitting efforts. He called upon a higher class of men than had usually been employed to assist him in his labours, and in prosecuting his experiments he was guided by sound scientific principles. Flaxman was one of the artists employed by Wedgwood in the preparation of models for the high works of Art, among which may be mentioned a beautiful set of chessmen which he was the first in modern times to execute in pottery. \* \* \* Wedgwood was a Fellow of both the Royal Society and the Society of Antiquaries, as well as a contributor of several papers to the 'Philosophical Transactions.' He was the inventor of a pyrometer for measuring very intense degrees of heat. In private life he is said to have been most exemplary, and to have made liberal use of the ample means which his successful and honourable career placed at his disposal. He died at Etruria, where he had erected a sandstone mansion, as well as manufactories and residences for his workmen, on the 3rd of January 1795, in his 65th year."

We cannot conclude our notice without quoting a passage from Wedgwood's Catalogue, which bears in a remarkable manner on the productions of the present day.—

"A competition for cheapness, and not for excellence of workmanship, is the most frequent and certain cause of the rapid decay and entire destruction of arts and manufactures. The desire of selling much in a little time, without respect to the taste or quality of the goods, leads manufacturers and merchants to ruin the reputation of the articles which they make and deal in; and whilst those who buy, for the sake of a fallacious saving, prefer mediocrity to excellence, it will be impossible for those either to improve or keep up the quality of their works. All works of Art must bear a price in proportion to the skill, the taste, the time, the expense, and the risk attending the invention and execution of them."

Admitting to the fullest extent the truth of this, we desire and hope to see, with all the aids and appliances of this age of scientific application, beautiful forms and superior compositions multiplied, and brought into the market sufficiently cheap to enable the less favoured with this world's wealth to surround themselves with works of good art.—For much that is curious relative to oriental China, and the porcelain manufactures of the Continent, we must refer our readers to the 'Collections' itself.

#### LIST OF NEW BOOKS.

Arvine's (Rev. K.) Cyclopædia of Anecdotes, 8vo. 10s. cl.  
Aunt Anna, by Author of 'Tales of Kirkcubright,' 4s. cl.  
Barba Tassi, the Greek Patriot, a Romance, post 8vo. 10s. 6d.  
Bible, Rev. T. J. Symonds, The Preacher in Print, 10s. 2s. 6d. cl.  
Booth and Mott's Encyclopædia of Chemistry, plates, 17 10s. cl.  
Caunter's (Rev. J. H.) Inquiry into Character of Rahab, 8vo. 10s. 6d.

Cicero's Orations Selectæ, Commentary by C. Anthon, new ed. 6s.  
Contansea's (Léon) Prosateurs et Poètes Français, 12mo. 7s. 6d. cl.  
Cumming's (R. G.) Hunter's Life in South Africa, 2 vols. 11s. 6d. cl.  
Dove on the Cross, and other Thoughts in Verse, 18mo. 2s. 6d. cl.  
Ellen Seymour, by Mrs. Savile Shepherd, new ed. 4s. 6d. cl.  
Evelyn's (J.) History of Religion, by Rev. R. M. Evanson, 2 vols. 21s.  
Father's Messenger, The History of Henry Eliot and his Cousin, 1s.  
Family Friend, Vol. II. 8vo. 2s. 6d. cl., 3s. 6d. cl. gilt.  
Goddard's Agricultural Society's Prize Model Cottages, 2s. 6d. bds.  
Gray's (J.) Introduction to Arithmetic, 58th ed. 18mo. 10d. cl.  
Hand-book for Holland, Belgium, & Northern Germany, 7th ed. 12s.  
Hartley's (J.) The Wine and Spirit Merchant's Companion, 3rd ed. 5s.  
Hine's (T. C.) Society of Arts' Prize Model Cottages, 1. p. 4to. 2s. 6d.  
Hine and Nicholl's Prize Model Cottages, 4to. 1s. 3s. 6d. bds.  
Home Circle (The), Vol. II. royal 8vo. 4s. cl. 4s. 6d. cl. gilt.  
Howard's (J.) Life, by Rev. J. Field, 8vo. 12s. bds.  
Keith's (T.) Key to Complete Arithmetic, by S. Maynard, 12mo. 6s.  
Knight's Cabinet Shakespeare, 12 vols. 18mo. 1s. 10s. cl. gilt.  
Manning's (J. A.) Lives of Speakers of the House of Commons, 17. 4s.  
Mackay's (R. W.) The Progress of the Intellect, 2 vols. 8vo. 11s. 4s. cl.  
Mr. Dalton's Legatee, a Novel, by Mrs. Stone, 3 vols. post 8vo. 31s. 6d.  
Niebuhr's Lectures on Roman History, translated by Chepman and Demmter, Vol. III. 12mo. 3s. cl.  
Penny Cyclopædia and Supplement, 29 vols. in 16 vols. 9s. 12s. cl.  
Praise and Principle, by Author of 'Conquest and Self-Conquest,' 3s.  
Secretary (The), A Novel, by Lieut.-Col. Hort, 3 vols. 11. 11s. 6d. cl.  
Sharpe's London Magazine, Vol. XI. royal 8vo. 6s. 6d. cl.  
Smith's (Albert) Month at Constantinople, 2nd ed. 8vo. 10s. 6d. cl.  
Smith's (J. A.) Lives of Roman Emperors, 12 vols. 12s. 6d. cl.  
Smith's (J. C.) Illustrated Hand-book to United States, 18mo. 5s. cl.  
Smith's Inquiry into Catholic Truths, Part II. Original Sin, 4s. cl.  
Smyth's (Rev. T.) The Unity of the Human Races, 12mo. 8s. 6d. cl.  
Stuber's (J.) Robinson Works, with Autobiography, 2 vols. 10s. cl.  
Swiss Family Robinson, and series, new ed. 12mo. 5s. cl.  
Whately's (Archbp.) Errors of Romanism, 4th ed. 8vo. 7s. 6d. bds.  
Whately's (Archbp.) Peculiarities of Christian Religion, 6th ed. 7s. 6d.  
Wilson and Richards's Britain Redeemed and Canada Preserved, 18s.

#### FRIENDS.

LIKE pillars tall and brown  
The old trees stood, and the leaves of June  
Were dark above, as we four, at noon,  
On their mossy roots sat down,  
Where woodlarks sang, and our talk was free  
As talk in the forest's heart should be,  
Though of different moods and years we were.

Perchance old memories came  
Through the silent shades and the breezeless day  
That glorious then on the woodlands lay,  
For all our thoughts and theme  
Were Friends; but each in that forest dell  
Had a tale of his own heart's trust to tell,  
And some were there who had loved well.

One said—"I will have friends,  
For my home is rich in kindred now,  
And they call me by the heart and brow;  
While favouring fortune lends  
Her sunny smile to my youth's glad cheer,  
And I know that such to men are dear,"  
For their love still flows where its course is clear."

"I have had friends," said one,  
"But time tried some, and fortune more,  
And they that stood when the storm was sore  
Fell off before the sun;  
Yet some on my faith had firmer hold—  
The young, but now they are far and old,  
Brave hearts, but their place is low and cold."

Then musingly one said,  
"I had a friend,—'twas a strange mistake  
In a poor false world like this to make,—  
And how our friendship sped  
It matters not;—but my days are lone,  
And weary the waning years have grown,  
Since the vanity of that trust was known."

And one spake low but clear,—  
"I have a friend, though there long hath been  
Much cause for doubt and change between;  
Yet I will not strive or fear,—  
For the sower's toils have a time of sheaves,  
And the love that sees not yet believes  
Hath as sure return as the stars and leaves."

So freely spake each heart;  
In its native tongue, the wisdom taught  
At that wondrous school of life and thought  
Wherein men learn apart;  
And which came nearest to the way  
Of the strong old truth, let sages say,  
If they e'er take note of a minstrel's lay.

Edinburgh.

FRANCES BROWN.

#### THE UNIVERSAL CATALOGUE.

OUR venerable friend, the *Gentleman's Magazine*, has, we are happy to say, come forth with renewed vigour;—to run, we hope, a new race, yet bated no jot of his old usefulness. As might have been expected, he has taken up the Museum Report, and handled it very satisfactorily. On our own project [see ante, pp. 499—502] he observes:—

"Our anxiety to see these objects arrived at compels us to withhold our concurrence from the projects proposed by our able contemporary the *Athenæum* in the number of that paper published on the 11th May. The moveable stereotypes, and the Universal Catalogue, schemes almost too vast for comprehension even if compressed within the smallest



possible dimensions, become altogether impracticable when connected with Mr. Panizzi's Catalogue."

This "too vast for comprehension" is the very objection which we foresaw would be urged against our scheme; and therefore we took all reasonable pains, by anticipation, to protect it from such vague imputation,—which, in truth, amounts to nothing at all.

We have no desire to confine our contemporary to his literal assertion; otherwise we might urge that as our project is said to be "utterly impracticable" only in connexion with Mr. Panizzi's Catalogue, and as he assures us that Mr. Panizzi's Catalogue must be abandoned,—that the public will have a simple, finding Catalogue,—our scheme by his own showing ought not to be judged of in association with the former. But in truth, we have no objection to have it tested by any Catalogue whatever; and as we sincerely believe that our contemporary has taken up his opinions without consideration, startled by what he calls the vastness of the project, we will offer a few words of explanation,—in the hope that if he will not countenance our great scheme, he may sanction a little one. We only request that, as we proceed, he will not stop because, like Hamlet, he may chance to be "fat and scant of breath"—or of faith; but only when he is able to point to some clear, simple and intelligible objection which makes it impossible or "impracticable" to proceed further.

If the project be practicable at all, there are but two grounds of objection—delay, or cost. To test its practicability, we will consider the question in its first and simplest form,—as *A Catalogue of all works published in the English language, or in countries under the rule of the British Government*. First, let us observe that the colonies would not add greatly to the labour of preparing or to the bulk of the Catalogue; and as to the works published in the English language,—surely, with the *Bibliotheca Britannica* on his library shelves, our contemporary would not hazard the opinion that such a Catalogue is a project so vast as to be "impracticable." That work professes to give—and, with all its errors, does give to a wonderful extent—a list of authors, with short biographical notices of each, a chronological list of the works, and a list of all distinguished foreign authors and their works;—or, in the words of the Preface, "the '*Bibliotheca Britannica*' may be considered as an *Universal Catalogue of all the authors with which this country is acquainted, whether of its own or of the Continent*." In a Second Part, more than equal in labour and extent to the First, the various publications mentioned in the First are arranged under the subject, with references from each article in the Second Part to the author or title in the First. Here, then, assuming the *Bibliotheca Britannica* were perfect, we have, so far as English literature is concerned, more than we ask for,—more than double what is required,—the whole of the Second Part, and the account of foreign literature, being excluded from our present scheme. Now, the *Bibliotheca Britannica* was the labour of one man's life,—the unpaid work of Dr. Watts: and surely it is not very visionary to assume that the officers of the Museum, with all their means and appliances, might produce a second edition of one half of a work the whole of which was in the first instance a result of the labours of one man. Here, then, it must be admitted, there is nothing very "vast,"—certainly nothing "altogether impracticable."

As to "time,"—we have shown that by the admirable suggestion of the separate stereotyped titles the whole Catalogue would be printed, stereotyped, and ready for arranging within twenty-four hours after the manuscript Catalogue is finished. This, arranging is a work of hours. Here, an assertion has escaped us through which we are half inclined to run our pen;—but let it go, if such fate be deserved, with the "vast" project itself, to the limbo in that case made and provided. It expresses, however, we maintain, a truth capable of demonstration. But everything that has reference to literature, or books, or catalogues, or the British Museum is spoken of as if shadows and darkness encompassed it;—difficulties to be overcome only by the labour and devotion of lives. Unfortunately,

and speaking generally, literary men are not men of much practical experience; therefore, in all the battles fought before the Commissioners the officers of the Museum were allowed to take up their own ground unquestioned. The result was, a wordy war about the more or the less,—the longer or the shorter. We have spoken of "hours," when others are dreaming of months and years:—and our assertion may be tested by a very literal fact. There are, we believe, in the British Museum some 450,000 volumes,—therefore, if we add cross-references there will be probably some six or seven hundred thousand titles. Now, on occasions, there arrive at the London Post Office nearly as many letters as this in one morning,—the addresses, as our readers know, written in all sorts of strange hieroglyphics: yet the addresses are deciphered, the letters sorted, despatched, and delivered all over London by nine o'clock! It is our serious conviction, that if Mr. Rowland Hill, or some other Post Office official—but we should prefer Mr. Hill—could be transferred to the British Museum for three months or less, with all the assistance which he might require, we should have the Catalogue compiled within those three months—and printed within another three months. What, it may be said, does Mr. Hill know about Catalogue making? This, emphatically; that it would be his duty to make a Catalogue,—to overcome difficulties, not to raise them.

As to cost:—if our contemporary succeeds in getting his short Catalogue, why 500*l.* would cover the whole outlay consequent on our proposal:—if he does not, it might amount to 1,500*l.* We say the outlay; for as to actual cost, the saving would be enormous when we consider the economy in print and paper, in waste, in new editions, in special and local Catalogues,—to say nothing of the advantages, and even the profits if it were thought desirable to make a profit, of the special Catalogues,—and nothing of the progressive and ultimate perfection of all. The cost of mounting the stereotype plates—which we assumed might be two or three times the cost of the plates themselves—would, it turns out, be nothing at all, or so little as not to be worth including in a rough estimate. Our intelligent Printer has drawn our attention to the fact that years since we printed in the *Athenæum* a page of advertisements [see No. 753, p. 303] from a stereotype plate mounted on a block so arranged and prepared that any other stereotype plate might be mounted thereon;—and we have ordered the specimen to be removed to our Office in Wellington Street North, that all who are interested may satisfy themselves that the project is perfectly practicable and easy.

Before our contemporary condemns the plan, he should consider it in detail,—and see how it progressively develops itself. Not that we fear to have it considered in its integrity and entirety; but simply that in each and every step in our approach towards the Universal Catalogue, we desire to make good our footing to his satisfaction and that of the public. Suppose that only one nation should join us in the great project,—then only to that extent have we approached the universal Catalogue;—but allow us to add, that a Catalogue of all works published in the French and English languages and in the territories under the English and French Governments would be the noblest monument of the civilization of the age, and the noblest present which these great nations could offer to the world; and the announcement in our columns last week [p. 638] that, "the Minister of Public Instruction has appointed a mixed commission to inquire into the question connected with the formation of a general Catalogue of the books and MSS. in the National Library," suggests, reasonable assurance that he would willingly entertain any project by which great labour and great cost of time and money would be saved,—the result being a work far more perfect than could be produced by any other means, with all the contingent advantages which are so essentially characteristic of the scheme. But assume that the whole scheme as to the exchange of stereotyped titles should fail—are we the worse for having attempted it? We still have all the advantages that can result from a Catalogue of English works; we can know by reference to that Catalogue, not

only what we have got, but what we want in the National Library,—and where else in England we can find what is not therein contained; and we are prepared, so far as English literature is concerned, to produce, at a trifling expence, Catalogues of classes to any extent that may be thought desirable.

In brief, we repeat, what we ask for is, a second edition of one half of the *Bibliotheca Britannica*, revised and perfected,—for the production of which any intelligent bookseller's assistant is just as competent as the ablest of bibliographers,—and separate stereotype plates of the printed Catalogue, at a cost, depending on the form in which the catalogue is produced, of from 500*l.* to 1,500*l.* All else is contingent, and depends on others. If any or all of the Governments agree to the exchange, the cost to us and to each of them would be, probably, from 500*l.* to 1,000*l.*, and to judge from experience the saving to each and all would be more than as many thousands,—to say nothing of labour, or time, or the ultimate perfection of the work.

We now submit to our contemporary, in all good humour, that if the "little project" be practical and practicable—and we think he cannot question that—be in fact a saving of time, labour and money—then, the vastness of the project in no way alters its character excepting in so far as it tends to save more time, more labour, and more money.

#### OUR WEEKLY GOSSIP.

We learn with much satisfaction that at a meeting of the Commissioners for Printing State Papers recently held, it was resolved to publish accurate calendars of the Domestic Papers preserved in the State Paper Office, commencing with the reign of Edward the Sixth, and extending to the close of the reign of Elizabeth. Such a work will be of great advantage to the literary world,—and will in all probability bring important documents, as illustrative of facts or manners, to light. The editorship has been intrusted to the hands of Mr. Robert Lemon, of the State Paper Office; and, we believe, it is his intention to produce a good working calendar—at a cost so reasonable as to be within the means of every scholar, however limited his resources may be. A correspondent, in reference to this matter, expresses some apprehension "that a niggardly economy may intervene to starve both the work and the editor." Now, on this subject of a niggardly economy we have a word or two to say. We have been too much accustomed in matters like this to extravagant dealing with the public money,—whether taking its own form or coming in the more mischievous disguise of what is called a "niggardly economy." The fact is, the two words are inconsistent with each other. Economy is an excellent thing,—and an imperative duty when dealing with public funds:—but niggardliness is not economy. If the Commissioners would economize, they have but to deal in this matter exactly as a private publisher would if he undertook such a publication on his own account. There is no difficulty in procuring a careful estimate of the expense attendant on the printing and publishing of such a work,—devoting just the funds requisite for the purpose, with such addition as will make a fair and liberal compensation for the time, labour and talents of the editor,—and taking care that the work shall be forthcoming in such reasonable time as will not render it necessary to amend the estimate—to the injury of the public in two ways. To assign a sum of money to a given object, without such previous measure taken, is to incur the double risk of prodigality on the one hand and niggardly economy on the other.

The meetings held at the house of Mr. Justice Coleridge for the purpose of initiating a subscription to do honour, in some form, to the memory of Wordsworth, have resulted in the formation of a powerful committee, with the Bishop of London at its head. The objects which this committee have in view are:—to place a whole-length effigy of the deceased poet in Westminster Abbey,—and, if possible, to erect some monument to his memory in the neighbourhood of Grasmere. The list of



subscriptions is headed by the Queen and her Royal Consort, with a sum of 50*l*.

By the way, we may mention, while on this subject, that a rumour prevails to the effect that the stipendiary laurel of the deceased poet is to descend on the head of Mr. Leigh Hunt,—and many of our contemporaries have urged this appropriation. We hope no such injustice, in all senses of the word, will be committed. It would be a mere abuse of this particular piece of patronage, if it is to have any meaning beyond the vulgar one which attaches to patronage in the ordinary sense. For a mere Court laureate, if such this officer is still to remain—for a bard to don the poetical cap and shake the poetical bells at birthdays—Mr. Leigh Hunt or any poet—or, indeed, no poet—may do as well as any other. But if this benefice be intended as the reward of high minstrelsy, Mr. Hunt's title is far below that of many of his contemporaries. That Mr. Hunt had a claim—especially on his party—in his old age, we have, at the proper time, again and again urged; but his claim is not of the kind which can be properly recognized by the laureateship. But were it so,—there remains the further argument that his claim has been already allowed. There is the same reason why Mr. Leigh Hunt should not have a double benefice, that we have urged against Mr. Tennyson—with this weighty difference against the former, that in Mr. Tennyson's case the poetical title is fully admitted. If Mr. Leigh Hunt and any one other of the Queen's lieges had poetical titles of exactly equal extent, Mr. Hunt's claim would be less than that of the other by the whole amount of the pension which he already enjoys. As the matter stands, to confer on him the laureateship is at once to prostitute the office, and to do great wrong to yet unpensioned genius which may need the profit that is legitimately its due.—Again we would urge the graceful compliment to a youthful Sovereign which would be implied in the recognition of the remarkable literary place taken by women in her reign—in the person of Mrs. Barrett Browning. And this appropriation of the laurel has another argument in its favour:—it would in a manner recompense two poets by a single act.

The Directors of the British Institution at their last meeting voted the sum of 100*l*. to the funds now raising towards carrying into effect the Great Exhibition of Industry. The Corporations over England are likewise coming forward with their contributions:—but what is yet more significant, is the part taken by the people themselves in reference to the coming congress. In many of the manufactories throughout the country, our readers already know, the workmen are forming club funds for the purpose of enabling them to visit the Exhibition on easier terms; and we may add that in others the artificers and men are subscribing a day's pay as contribution towards the funds of the Exhibition itself.—We may mention in this paragraph that M. Sallandrouze de Lamornaix—who has been for some time exhibiting here a selection from the works of Art and manufacture shown at the last French *Exposition*—has, according to the statement of the French papers, been appointed Special Commissioner on the part of the French Government for communicating with the Royal Commission in this country for the Exhibition.

The Archæological Institute commenced the proceedings of its anniversary meeting on Tuesday last at Oxford:—Mr. Sidney Herbert giving up the chair of the institution to the Marquis of Northampton for the coming year. Among the visitors there are some eminent names connected with Literature and Art.—We postpone our notice of these proceedings until they shall have been brought to a close.

In our notice last week of the various objects exhibited at Lord Rosse's last Soirée, we were wrong in attributing to Mr. Whishaw the invention of the Printing Telegraph worked by magnets which that gentleman exhibited and explained to the company. This beautiful telegraph is the invention of Dr. Dujardin.

Gutta Percha makes its way in the world. It has long had its sphere of duty as a comforter to the soles of men,—and it is gradually displacing other raw materials of use and decoration. Leather

has suffered not a little in the competition,—some kinds of ornamental wood have been superseded in the making of nick-knacks and picture-frames; gold has been dug out of decayed teeth to make room for it; and it has replaced the silk on the frameworks of our umbrellas. A day or two ago we saw an advertisement describing hats made of the raw material: so that from the crown of our heads to the soles of our feet, we shall probably ere long be cased in gutta percha! But this is apparently only the beginning. Last week a sailing yacht built of this substance was exhibited on the Serpentine in Hyde Park, which it was said could neither be sunk nor overturned. Various experiments were tried,—all with success. The boat sailed equally well full of water or empty! An attempt made to capsize her failed. We must add, that she was built on the life-boat principle, and was provided with air-cells, which enabled her to float and make fair way even when full of water and carrying her cargo besides. The plan on which she is built is claimed as a new invention, which has been registered under the Copyright of Designs Act.

Last week a case was decided by the Vice-Chancellor of some interest to letters. It appeared by the evidence tendered on the trial that a Mr. Hartley, deceased, in 1843 left directions in his will that 300*l*. should be set apart as a prize for the best original essay "On the subject of Natural Theology,—treating it as a substantive science, and demonstrating the truth, harmony, and infallibility of the evidence on which its foundations are laid, and the perfect accordance of such evidence with reason; also demonstrating the adequacy of natural theology when treated and taught in this scientific form to constitute a true, perfect, and philosophical system of universal religion, (analogous to other universal systems of science, such as astronomy, &c.), founded on immutable facts and the works of creation, beautifully adapted to man's reason and nature, and tending, as other sciences do, but in a higher degree, to improve and elevate his nature, and to render him a wise, happy, and exalted being." It was ruled by the Vice-Chancellor that this bequest was void, on account of the evident tendency which the essay so described would have to demoralize society and subvert the Church. The case of the Bridgewater Treatises was cited in support of the legality of such a bequest; but the example was over-ruled. The same law must clearly apply to every attempt to support religion by evidence taken from the side of nature, and the Bridgewater Treatises was clearly a case in point.—Another decision, arising out of the same trial, is yet more curious. Mr. Hartley had left 200*l*. for the best essay on Emigration, and appointed the American Minister trustee of the fund. This bequest was also declared void, on the ground that such an essay would encourage persons to emigrate to the United States, and so throw off their allegiance to the Queen!—We fancy we have never heard of a prize offer that could not be assailed by objections as strong as those which have arrested Mr. Hartley's benevolent intentions.

A meeting of so-called friends of the Principality was held on Saturday last in Gray's Inn Road, to promote a knowledge of the Welsh language by printing books and papers for general circulation in the native idiom. This attempt to perpetuate the outward signs of a petty "nationality" in a remote corner of our island—an attempt, as we have before said, full of mischief to those who are its victims, keeping them apart from the great body of their countrymen, and depriving them of the use of the common literature—is sought to be justified by the argument that reading books in Welsh will engender a taste for the acquisition of English. The argument is as unsound as the practice to be founded on it is absurd. All experience proves that the peasantry of a country cannot permanently use two languages. If Welsh is to be encouraged, it is that English may be discouraged. We wonder the patriots did not hold their conference in their own idiom! If they proposed to teach the peasants English in the first instance, and afterwards Welsh to such as chose to learn it, we should have nothing to say against their scheme;

—but to ask by public subscription the means of perpetuating the great obstacle to the advancement of the Principality in arts and agriculture, is an anachronism which it would be a failure of duty not to denounce in emphatic terms.

The Report of the Central Committee of the Lancashire and Cheshire Union of Mechanics' Institutes has just been sent to us. Its burden is again the wail of dissolution. The number of members continues to decrease in proportion to population. The working classes take no interest in these institutions,—the lectures have degenerated into mere efforts to amuse, in the country towns to rival the saloons and singing-houses,—and the funds are falling into a worse and worse condition weekly. All this we were prepared to hear without surprise. Mr. Hogg, the secretary, proposes to improve these Institutes by establishing day schools, and trade instruction in them. We confess we have little confidence in these remedies. The opening of a day school in the building of the Institute may assist to keep the building, as such, in use; but it can have no effect in strengthening the weak point. If the Institute succeed, it will be not as a mechanics' institute,—but as a day school. The Institute will stand as it did before. The attempt to introduce trade instruction has been tried—and failed. The reason is obvious. The working artisan in wood or iron has never been a member; his place has been taken by clerks, shopmen, and small dealers—an entirely miscellaneous body of men, having no common pursuits and hardly any common interests. To offer a course of instruction in the science of industry to so mixed a class, is to offer them what they do not want. That the mechanics' institute was not attended by the class whose name it bore was one of the first facts to develop itself; and as soon as this fact was fairly seen, those who had hoped so much began to doubt if the fruits would ever answer expectation. This is plain enough now. The attempt to create "colleges for working men" has not succeeded in the form tried. The great element of homogeneity has been wanting throughout; the members have not been men with common wants and pursuits. Feeling that this has been one of the main causes of the failure,—let us admit the fact, and use the proper term to express it. We are glad to read in the *Daily News* that in one of the Manchester mills an attempt to join a number of persons having similar occupations and tastes into an educational society has been made with signal success. In the narrower circle, it would seem, an entire unity of action is obtained. The members of the Chorlton Mills Mutual Improvement Society are all factory operatives,—a class which has never attended mechanics' institutes; and the topics which interest one are found to interest all. The central committee of the Union would do well to make inquiry into the minute working of this factory institute. To us it seems very suggestive.

The *Daily News* gives an account of the fête at Leyden in commemoration of the two hundred and seventy-fifth anniversary of the founding the University of that city and the year of jubilee. The pageant performed by the students represented the entrance of Frederick Henry, Prince of Orange, into Bois-le-Duc, after a successful siege against the Spaniards in 1629. The fooling seems to have passed off pleasantly; the streets and houses were decorated with tri-coloured flags and banners,—and in the evening the picturesque old city was illuminated by almost countless lamps. This masque takes place at Leyden, Groningen, and Utrecht alternately.

We see with regret the form in which the spirit of reaction continues to manifest itself in Prussia. That country is too intimately connected with our own—too nearly allied to us in race, religion, commercial interests, and general social tendencies—for us to look on either its internal development or the progress of its outward fortunes with that colder sympathy with which we regard the doings of the Latin races of the south or those of the Slavonic nations of the east of Europe. The northern Teutons are, indeed, our cousins only a few degrees removed. Historical events as well as the old affinities of blood attach them to us. Our



belief in the alliance which nature itself has made between the two nations makes it a painful task for us to report the violence with which, for the moment, every free institution is assailed in Berlin. The new press laws re-establish, under a new name, the revolution-working censorship. The evil is, in fact, greater than before its abolition. The post-office can seize and confiscate any journal. Certain newspapers are prohibited altogether,—and freedom of opinion exists no longer. The proceedings against the mechanics' institutions are not confined to merely closing them; long and vexatious inquiries are instituted against the persons who have been members. Indeed, it is not safe for a man to be a member of any society in Prussia at this moment, except perhaps the *Treibbund*, if he wishes to keep clear of the interference of the police.

The following is from a correspondent.—"The popular movement in favour of the Great Industrial Exhibition brings out occasionally a phase of life which has the charm of novelty. In the large interests likely to be affected by the gathering of next year, we have discovered, as it were, a new plateau—a common ground, on which men who have been divided in sentiment and estranged in society may all combine for a general good. So it was felt in the royal Forest of Dean last week. In no part of England does the pride of caste betray itself with more distinctness than on the right bank of the Severn, among the miners and foresters of the Crown land:—within the memory of the oldest resident, no public meeting of the whole district had ever before been held. The meeting at the Speech House last week was therefore as novel as it was picturesque. Imagine yourself in the centre of a large forest, at a point where half-dozen green lanes, over-arched with branches of oak and beech trees, converge in a small open space. Along each of the roads the eye wanders into a scene of soft and sylvan beauty; while to the west the ground sinks suddenly down, and gives to sight a majestic sweep of country whose billow-like surface seems to roll away in grand and striking forms into the distant sky. Towards this spot, hallowed by old forest traditions, during the whole morning the foresters came on,—at first in straggling parties, then in larger masses, afterwards in regular processions, headed by the magnates of the forest and the ladies of their families, and preceded each by its band of music. Of course, it was a holiday in the forest. Horsemen carolling—gaily dressed women—flying banners—the echoes of the drum and fife stealing up from the deep glades of the forest—the miners with their wives and children in their best attire, prudently provided with baskets of meat and bottles of beer,—the groups which, tired with their morning walk from Coleford, Lydney, Parkend, or Cinderford, had formed themselves into little picnic parties, and were enjoying the good things of art amid the solemn features of nature,—these were the first elements of a scene as picturesque in its outward features as it was gratifying in its moral meanings. A waggon formed the hustings. On it were gathered, besides the deputy of the Royal Commission, the chief proprietors and tenants of the Crown in the forest,—and around it were stationed not less than 5,000 or 6,000 persons, whose interest in the proposed Exhibition must be considered as very striking if their loud plaudits may be taken as its measure. Not many years ago it would have been impossible to fix the attention of these rough miners and tenants of the woods by anything less coarse than a fight or a fire; but now, even the rain which fell during a part of the time could not cool the interest or disperse the meeting. The speeches delivered by the foresters were marked by bold common sense and thorough heartiness of tone. Altogether, it was the most curious gathering in support of the Exhibition that has yet been held."

ROYAL ACADEMY, TRAFALGAR SQUARE.  
THE EXHIBITION OF THE ROYAL ACADEMY IS NOW OPEN. Admission from Eight o'clock till Seven, 1s.; Catalogue, 1s.

JOHN PRISCOTT KNIGHT, R.A., Sec.  
BRITISH INSTITUTION, Pall Mall.—The GALLERY, with a Collection of Pictures by ANCIENT MASTERS and the latest BRITISH ARTISTS, is OPEN daily from Ten to Six.—Admission, 1s. Catalogue, 1s. GEORGE NICOL, Secretary.

THE NEW SOCIETY OF PAINTERS IN WATER-COLOURS.  
—THE SIXTEENTH ANNUAL EXHIBITION of this Society is NOW OPEN, at their Gallery, 53, Pall Mall, near St. James's Palace.  
JAMES FAIRLEY, Secretary.

Admission, THREEPENCE.—EXHIBITION OF ANTIENT and MEDIEVAL ART.—SOCIETY OF ARTS, 18, John Street, Adelphi.—In order to render this Exhibition available to intelligent Artists and Mechanics, the price of admission is now THREEPENCE, except on Saturdays, when it is 1s., as before. Hours of admission, 11 to 8.—Catalogues, 3d.  
N.B. Will close with this Month.

PANORAMA OF THE NILE.—Additions have been made to this Exhibition.—The Nubian Desert, from the Second Cataract to Dongola.—War by Fire.—The Battle of Carama in Egypt.—Morning Prayer.—The Mummy of a High Priest is added to the curiosities. Both Banks of the River are shown in the Painting.—EGYPTIAN HALL, PICCADILLY.—Daily, at Three and Eight o'clock.—Stalls, 3s., Pit, 2s., Gallery, 1s.; Children and Schools, Half-price.

INDIA OVERLAND MAIL.—DIORAMA.—GALLERY OF ILLUSTRATION, 14, Regent-street.—Additions: Picture, MADRAS.—A Gigantic MOVING DIORAMA, ILLUSTRATING THE ROUTE OF THE OVERLAND MAIL TO INDIA, depicting every object worthy of notice on this highly-interesting journey from Southampton to Madras and Calcutta, accompanied by descriptive detail and appropriate music, is now OPEN DAILY, from Twelve o'clock to Three o'clock, at Three and Eight o'clock.—Admission, 1s.; Stalls, 2s. 6d.; Reserved Seats, 3s.—Doors open half-an-hour before each representation.

The DIORAMA, Regent's Park.—Admission, One Shilling.—NOW OPEN, with the finest VIEWS ever exhibited in this country, representing the ROYAL CASTLE OF STOLZENFELS, on the Rhine, (visited by Her Majesty Queen Victoria in August, 1845), and its Environs, as seen at Sunset and during a Thunder Storm; painted by NICHOLAS MEISTER, of Cologne. And the much-admired Picture of THE SHRINE OF THE NATIVITY, at Bethlehem; painted by the late M. RENOUX, from a Sketch made on the spot by DAVID ROBERTS, Esq. R.A., with novel and striking effects.

ROYAL POLYTECHNIC INSTITUTION.  
During this week the ALPINE SINGERS from Styria will perform several of their National Melodies, Daily at Four, and in the Evenings at Half-past Eight.—LECTURE, by J. H. PEPER, Esq., on the APPARENT CONTRADICTIONS OF CHEMISTRY, daily at a Quarter-past Three, and every Evening at Eight.—LECTURE by DR. BACHHOFFNER on VOLTAIC ELECTRICITY, daily at Two, and every Evening at a Quarter-past Nine.—NEW SERIES OF DISSOLVING VIEWS, illustrating some of the WONDERS OF NATURE, also a Series, exhibiting SCENES IN THE ARCTIC REGIONS AND CEYLON.—DIVER and DIVING BELL, &c. &c.—Admission, 1s.; Schools, Half-price.

#### SOCIETIES

SOCIETY OF ANTIQUARIES.—Mr. Collier, V.P., in the chair.—A present by Mr. Vulliamy, of Pall Mall, is likely to occasion a good deal of entertaining speculation, and to produce some useful results. It is a globular clock—globular in every sense of the word, for it is not only round, but it represents a map of the world as then known (the end of the sixteenth or beginning of the seventeenth century) with the various degrees and circles, while round the meridian were placed the figures indicating the hour of the day. It was originally of silver, and of three parts, the northern and southern poles having been stolen, because they could be moved: the centre, however, to which the interior works are attached, was luckily so fastened that it was not subjected to the same pillage. Mr. Vulliamy believed this specimen of ingenuity to be now quite unique; although he cited a passage from a French scientific work, showing that another clock of similar construction had once existed,—we believe, in Paris. He promised on a future night to communicate a paper on the movement of this remarkable machine; which is certainly of French manufacture,—and we should not be at all surprised if it turned out to be the very clock alluded to in the *Journal des Arts*.—Mr. Cahusac brought an article for exhibition entitled to notice not so much from its antiquity as from its curiosity and interest. It was a drawing from Allan Ramsay's 'Gentle Shepherd' by Sir David Wilkie when only eleven years old; giving promise of much of the talent which the great artist afterwards displayed, though in some respects out of drawing. The figures of the old couple sitting at the table are well represented and coloured, but the young man entering at the door is defective. There seems to be no doubt as to the authenticity of this drawing. It was the property of an old Scotch lady, who had it from the boy-artist himself.—Mr. Roach Smith sent from Chester, where it had been found, a cast of a bracket said to be Roman,—but on this point doubts were expressed.—The first paper read was from Mr. Fairholt, giving an account of the excavations now going forward at Lynne Castle, Kent; where some important discoveries have been made, and certain errors corrected,—particularly one committed by Stukeley, who described it as a square edifice, when it appears on better examination to be multangular.—The Rev. Mr. Ellacombe sent a letter to the Treasurer on two sepulchral figures of ecclesiastics found at Britton Church, in Gloucestershire.—A discussion by Mr.

Saul on the early monuments of the Phœnicians in the west of England occupied the rest of the evening, and excited a good deal of attention. The writer maintained the possibility of proving that the Phœnicians had not only visited, but located themselves in, this country some centuries before the period usually assigned to their appearance.

BOTANICAL.—A. Henfrey, Esq., V.P., in the chair.—The chairman read a paper 'On *Sagina apetala*, L., and *S. ciliata*, Fries., with Remarks on the Mode of discriminating Species.' The author stated that he had investigated many specimens of the plants, English and French, derived from his own collections, from the Herbarium of Dr. Cosson, of Paris, together with an English example of *S. ciliata*, named by Mr. Babington, and authentic specimens of *S. patula*, Jord., from that author. The conclusion he had arrived at was that the *S. ciliata*, with which *S. patula*, Jord. appears to be identical, as stated by MM. Grenier and Godron, is but a variety of *S. apetala*, L.

#### MEETINGS FOR THE ENSUING WEEK.

MON. Institute of Actuaries, 7.  
TUE. British Architects, 8.  
WED. Zoological, 9.—Scientific Business.  
THURS. Royal Society of Literature, 4.  
FRI. Philological, 8.

#### FINE ARTS

THE BUILDING FOR THE GREAT INDUSTRIAL EXHIBITION OF 1851.

OUR readers are already aware that plans, elevations, &c. more or less elaborate, amounting to the remarkable number of 245, have been sent in to the Building Committee appointed by the Royal Commission, in answer to their invitation for "information and suggestions" in reference to a fit edifice for the purposes of the above Exhibition:—and on these plans, elevations, &c., the Committee have since made their Report. The large list of competitors embraces natives and foreigners:—France, Austria, Holland, Belgium, Hanover, Brunswick, Hamburg and Switzerland having contributed their services in aid of the views of the Commissioners. This competition may, therefore, be considered as the first act of the Industrial Exhibition.—England having here tried her strength against the architects of Europe. The result has been most disastrous. England is beaten—and shamefully beaten—in the first battle. In the list selected by the Building Committee for honorary distinction, out of one hundred and ninety-five English contributors the Committee can find place for only three,—while out of thirty-eight competing foreigners they have been able to recommend fifteen. This, as has been remarked, is, as regards the whole numbers, in the proportion of 1 to 65 of our own countrymen—and of 1 to about 2½ of foreign architects!

This result is so strange and unexpected, that it forcibly challenges inquiry. Are we really so far behind the rest of the world in an important branch of the Fine, as well as of the Useful, Arts as this?—The issue of this contest is calculated to have the most unfavourable effect. If the Commissioners have arrived at a just decision (by means of their Committee) in this their first award, the fact will greatly strengthen the argument of the alarmists who, wanting faith in their countrymen, have shrunk from committing England to the contest of nations. If the verdict be unjust, and have been arrived at on vicious premises, then, the faith of the public in the awards of the Commissioners is fatally shaken at the outset. We cannot help it. The matter must be looked into. It is of the utmost importance, if there be anything wrong, that the results of the first estimate of the Commissioners should be readjusted,—both for the honour of the architects, and as a warning to the Commissioners themselves in the future exercise of their functions.—Our readers will see that, in the whole of our argument, we hold the Commission liable for the judgments of its Committees.

It is in no grudging spirit against foreign merit that we enter on this inquiry. In an arena so wide as we have ourselves chosen, we expect to be occasionally beaten,—and will hold the chastise-



ment as wholesome. But we entertain not a doubt that our foreign rivals have been as much startled as ourselves by the result announced in this matter,—and that they have no more belief than we have in the preposterous figures given by the Commissioners as representing the true sum of the case.

In examining into the question whether the sentence of this Building Committee may not be, to some extent at least, modified on revision, we are met by an element of correction of which we do not choose to avail ourselves. It might be urged that among the foreign competitors are men holding the first recognized place in their respective countries,—while the leading architects of England have held aloof from this trial of strength. That is an argument that we will not urge. If England does not choose to fight, let her be beaten. If she cannot bring up her best forces, let these share in the shame of her defeat. If the artists and manufacturers refuse to lend their help in the great contest to which, under the leading of her Prince and at the strong summons of public opinion, England stands irrevocably committed, the dishonour is theirs. They are cravens,—and will fall before the forces of the world as surely as, and more disgracefully than, if they had been weaker men.

But let us see if the men who did come up to this architectural battle have been fairly dealt with.—It is essential to the integrity of a combat that it should be fought with the weapons prescribed. If one of two combatants bring a sword double the length of his adversary's, or a rifle to his rival's pistol, we should scarcely hold that the defeat of the latter is proof that he is inferior in fence or in aim. Dropping the metaphor,—let us examine how far the Committee have based their judgments on the conditions by themselves laid down.

In the first place, the advertisement of the Committee confined its demand to *information and suggestions* on "the general form of the building in plan, the distribution of its parts, the mode of access, and the internal arrangements and contrivances." They laid down "certain rules and conditions," to which "they earnestly requested the contributors to conform," and they enforced that request by affirming that they would "be under the necessity of abiding strictly by the regulation of *not acknowledging* any plans which might be sent in a form inconsistent with those rules." Amongst the rules were, that the "communications from contributors must consist of a single sheet of paper, not larger than" an engraving which accompanied the announcement, "with a simple ground plan" on a limited scale, and with "such elevations and sections *only* of the building, and on the same sheet, as might be necessary to elucidate the system proposed." To make the penalty of departure from these prescriptions more clear and emphatic, it is here repeated that "*no communications made inconsistent with these conditions, or any plan prepared upon a different scale from that prescribed can be received.*" Of those who should best fulfil these conditions, honourable mention was to be made.—All this is laid down with such precision, that really the after-award which professes to be based on this specification becomes a most remarkable document by its side. We say it with all reverence,—but the Commissioners have stultified themselves. It might be supposed that he amongst the competitors had done best who did what was given him to do:—certainly not he who did exactly the contrary. That he should be the prize man who gave the useful practical suggestions,—not he who built *Chateau en Espagne*, and furnished designs which it was provided by the Instructions were to be altogether rejected. The Committee have taken a more ingenious view of the matter,—and the straightforward Englishmen who were not prepared for the eccentricity have gone to the wall. The honorary mentions have been for those who have produced what the Committee did not want—and said they did not want: the competitors of whose suggestions they have availed themselves most are scarcely noticed or not at all. Splendid elevations and rich combinations that violate every one of the conditions laid down receive the prizes that were promised to the strict observance of those condi-

tions; and designs whose great merit is that they could not because of their magnificence be made applicable to the purpose intended, are made to take in the award of the Committee the place due to the designs which they have applied. Architects who have made this competition the mere pretext for advertising their fancy, instead of doing the work demanded, are set over the heads of the men who came seriously in aid of the Commission, on the very ground of *their* not having done so! A reward is offered for a march to the rescue,—and given for the dancing of a fandango. In the name of common sense what does this mean? The case cannot be stated in any form of words that does not produce a paradox. Why, if our English architects who limited themselves to applying their skill to do the work assigned them had been fairly informed that *tours de force* were in request—instead of warned that such could *not be received*—they might doubtless have done as well as their neighbours,—and stood in list B. with M. Cleemputte,—who has properly entitled his design a palace. Mr. Bardwell's is a palace, too; in which the economy prescribed by the Commissioners—and, as will be seen hereafter, defied by themselves—makes no part of the account. Mr. Bardwell's plan struck us as being the very best of all among those which we were able to examine in point of mere architectural merit and scenic arrangement,—yet it has not obtained for him a place in list B.—Let us not be misunderstood. Many of these foreign designs are of great beauty, and well deserving of such rewards as had not by anticipation been already assigned to something quite different. Our countrymen, we maintain, hold the best place on the ground of the first of the documents before us,—and would have held a perfectly satisfactory one, no doubt, on the ground of the second if they had known of it sooner.

The Committee having once taken up a position on the ground of paradox, seem to like their quarters, and determine to maintain it:—but in this part of their proceedings we are not without a suspicion that we detect something more than the mere amateurship of eccentricity. Having adopted the practical suggestions and rewarded the others, they resolve to engraft on the practicality which they use a portion of the display which they honour. Between two tall architectural stools, it will be seen, the practical men go to the ground. The foreign architects carry off their prizes, and the Committee carry off their plans,—merging and crushing them beneath one great feature of their own. In this part of the matter the Committee contrive to write their self-contradiction on one and the same document. The Report which announces at once their award in the matter of the competition and their own design, states as the basis of the latter the following three considerations:—1, [the *leading condition*, be it observed,] "The *provisional* nature of the building; 2, the advisability of constructing it as far as possible in such a form as to be available, with least sacrifice of labour and material, for other purposes, so soon as its original one shall have been fulfilled, thus ensuring a *minimum ultimate cost*; 3, *extreme simplicity*, demanded by the short time in which the work must be completed."—and among "the principal points of excellence which they have endeavoured to attain" is again mentioned *economy of construction*. Unluckily, another of the points enumerated as sought to be attained is, "some striking feature to exemplify the present state of the science of *construction* in this country." We are comforted, however, by having the guarantee of their previous "considerations" that this "striking feature" is to be "*provisional*" in its character and compatible with "*economy of construction*." But here, alas! the imagination of the Committee, inflated by the magnificent projects on which it has been recently pondering, soars away from the rules which they had in vain laid down to confine it, and lifts above the humble galleries which they have borrowed from the practical men a huge dome, 200 feet in diameter,—twice the size of the dome of St. Paul's—greatly exceeding those of St. Peter's and the Pantheon,—far surpassing the "great features" of the imaginative men to whom they have given the

practical men's prizes.—Let us observe parenthetically here, that they might as well have given the practical men a chance for the credit of this "striking feature," instead of reserving it as a *bonne bouche* for themselves, on false pretences. But nothing of the kind, our readers will have seen, is hinted at in the requisitions of the original notice. Not one word is there said about "some striking feature to exemplify the present state of construction in this country." But to return:—Before the project of this mighty dome—which dwarfs the rest of the building to an absurdity—away goes the *economy* at once. Thirty or thirty-five thousand pounds will be required to rear this huge structure in the air. Then, the time which is left to work in seems to us wholly insufficient for such a construction:—and we warn the Committee against the awful consequences of precipitancy in putting up a vast structure like this. In an architectural point of view, the dome proposed is a very questionable feature as far as effect is concerned. As shown in outline on paper, it might be taken for a vaulted one of stone; but its real appearance will be altogether different,—will be that of a gigantic piece of open iron framework. Well, then, for the *provisional* character of this "striking feature":—and here the Committee are unwise enough to let their own intentions of *permanency* peep out in the very document which prescribes the *provisionalism*. Having made the *provisional* character an absolute condition of the "*leading feature*," they recommend that that leading feature shall be this great dome by a hint that it will probably *not be provisional*. "It is to be borne in mind," say they, "that a considerable amount of" the difference in cost between this dome and "the simplest form of roof likely to be adopted to cover the same area" "may be recovered *should this portion of the building be converted hereafter to other purposes, which is more than probable.*"—We foresee that this little paragraph, unless we can succeed in arousing public attention to it, will ultimately cost the nation a million of money. We know the whole process by experience. The dome once reared, "it were sin and waste to remove so majestic a structure." Of course it cannot remain standing there for nothing:—wings and a "second story" added would make it into a National Gallery, &c. &c.—And so comes the million of money—say a million—and the job, like the dome, introduced as *provisional* and become permanent.

For our own parts, if we might advise, we would, for every reason, have this structure of a noble simplicity in all its parts. Keeping the object of this great gathering in view, we would have nothing which should divert attention from the things exhibited to the building which contains them. The great purpose should not be vulgarized by any attempt to put it in costume. Limited funds and limited time cohere to the same conclusion. We would have the whole quite in the rough. All the materials should be allowed to show themselves without disguise—even that of paint. Such honest rudeness would effectually secure us from the reproach of paltriness of taste—which we may incur in attempting to make too huge a display of taste. Besides which, if the materials be left as nearly as possible in their raw state, all the more easily will they be afterwards convertible to other purposes,—as the Commissioners themselves suggested, in their original document inviting suggestions, that they should be.

#### EXHIBITION OF MODELS FOR THE PRIZE MEDALS TO BE DISTRIBUTED ON THE OCCASION OF THE GREAT INDUSTRIAL EXHIBITION.

THIS Exhibition is not calculated to give a very high idea of the resources of native or foreign talent. The competition in the department to which it relates has tested principally the powers of younger artists,—the elder ones not having entered the arena; and in a number of models exceeding one hundred there is little to justify any favorable anticipation for the future. There is much in this Exhibition that we could have desired to make no acquaintance with; and some of the models, from their entire inaptitude and the peculiarity of



their treatment, seem as if they had been intended for a joke,—or a sarcasm.

The constant recurrence of one hackneyed thought has had the effect of placing before the eye, as it were, the result of a multiplying glass. Britannia rewarding the Four Quarters of the Globe, personified in as many figures habited in the trite and obvious accessories of the respective characters, is the stock idea. In invention there is more than the average amount of poverty which has made the monumental combinations of the Fames and Britannias of St. Paul's and Westminster Abbey notorious for meagreness of thought and mediocrity of style. As regards the graphic treatment, the majority of the authors of these designs appear to have been wholly ignorant of the conditions to which such treatment should submit. The conceits which have led to departures from numismatic canons are as absurd as they are numerous. There are some in which the taste architectonic has been applied, and the offered medal shows like a small copy of an interior wall of some Italian palace. In others, most likely of French design, violent contrasts of action and mere picturesque grouping crowd up the circular space and distract the eye. Again, some are so symmetrically contrived that their halves are as correspondent as if the correspondence were obtained by mechanical means. The Etruscan vase or classic illustrations of Flaxman have formed the subjects of paraphrase in others. To others, again, the plan and ordering of the classic shield have been misapplied. Many have been evidently designed with a view to attract from their singular mixture of ornament and human form:—and not a few are little better than burlesques.—Of these, the design which professes to present Elihu Burritt in combination with the Prince of Wales and some other incongruous matters may be quoted as a conspicuous example.

In the artistic treatment of the major part of these models a great mistake may be observed. This is, a high degree of relief, at variance with all previous practice, unsuited to the realization of a purpose one of whose least prominent objects is to secure the mere imitation of matter of fact. The quality of Art to be sought is, we apprehend, such as would make significant forms stand for the expression of ideas, and would subordinate artistic materialism to common sense. The words, so to speak, of such works are not by their emphasis to supersede the value of thoughts. The authors of these designs appear to be for the most part sculptors,—artists who have mis-applied the conditions of their proper arts of *alti* or *bassi rilievi* to the significant abstraction which the medal implies. There are some of the designs in which the high degree of relief detaches whole limbs from the surface,—the impossibility involved in which treatment is too manifest to need comment. There are others of which it may be said that if such realization of the rotund form were brought within smaller compass, it would present masses of limbs and bodies in confusion and perplex the eye. There are few indeed in which the severe, simple, and chaste art proper to the class is presented. Taken altogether, the Exhibition must be regarded as a failure.

Of the few on which we could dwell with any degree of satisfaction No. 34 is one of the best,—and it is so from the acquaintance which its author shows with good examples of this class. Nos. 104 and 105 are also entitled to notice. No. 43 has the merit of good composition. No. 22, though well arranged in many respects, is injured by rectilinear tendencies,—and No. 54, otherwise clever, is marred by conventionalism.

#### BRITISH INSTITUTION.

Rubens's great picture of *Prometheus* (No. 142) is an academic study of colossal dimensions, in which the foreshortened body fails to give truth of proportion, and in which the anatomical rendering is at variance with physical possibility. There is, nevertheless, here the expression of the peculiar attributes of the master's hand,—great brilliancy of colour, powerful contrasts and opposition, and daring execution. As a study of nude form, though wanting in purity, this picture may serve the student as a good example of the master.

The vulture is believed to be from the hand of Snyders. It combines with the human form with great skill. A specimen of the conjoined labours of these distinguished artists may be seen also in *Rubens and his Wife*, from the collection at Hewell, belonging to the late Earl of Plymouth (19). The portraits are executed with intensity of truth, and the game, fruit, and other subjects of still life with a like fidelity. The whole has a surprising look of vitality,—resulting from an artless and facile manner employed in the rendering of most subtle and recondite principle.—The *Landscape* by Rubens (28) is one of those studies of Flemish flat-lands which the painter always expressed with skill,—and of which a larger and more valuable example is in our National Gallery.

Of the two specimens of A. Ostade, preference will be given to the *Exterior of a Cottage* (68). Its choice of subject—consisting of the most ordinary and common-place facts—is of a kind to be tolerated only on the score of the great art employed in its treatment. The artist has shewn an eye endowed with a keen sense of the picturesque combinations to which the forms of buildings and of objects in the humblest life lend themselves when dilapidated and stained by the accidents of time or circumstance,—an optical sense cultivated to the acute discernment of the most subtle and special differences of tint in individual parts and in masses which to the casual or inaccurate observer seem uniform or monotonous. The little *Interior* (4) contains another of those picturesque groupings which have made the same painter so renowned. When having to deal with the representation of the rudest forms—little above the primitive conditions of human society—he yet never degenerates into caricature. Here, by the mastery of his art, in the arrangement of his colour, in the admirable management of those negations which in his background tints always support it, and in his delicate finish, always full of spirit and never servile, he has rendered, as often before, a class of subject low in its nature high in artistic interest.

Our faith is greatly over-taxed by the ascription of two portraits, *The Earl of Essex* (2) and *Queen Mary* (12). We have no dread of the sin of pictorial heresy in disbelieving them to be from the hands of Sir Antonio More.

Jan Steen is seen here to more than accustomed advantage, not only because the art of his pictures is better than usual, but because the subjects are less brutal in which it is displayed. *The Alchemist* (13) is a most favourable example of the better taste of the master,—in which the powerful bias for character suffers nothing by the greater refinement of the theme. *Figures at a Repast* (57) and *A Domestic Scene* (62) are also two very choice examples of the same kind, from Mr. Hope's collection:—the first being the best. *The Merry-Making* (82) is deteriorated by some of the coarse allusions of this artist's proverbial treatment.

The principal Cuyp—though not the largest—in this collection is, the *River View, with Boats* (9),—well known when it was an ornament of the Versteek Gallery. It is a little picture,—giving a fair example of the painter's power in the description of great space within small compass. A picture like this well instructs us in the perfect comprehension of its author, the range of his materials, his appreciation of atmospheric effect, his sense of perspective aerial—which, unlike the linear, can be felt only, and cannot be adequately described in the phraseology of any spoken language. This indefinable quality the painter in question was most eminent in the powers of imparting; and on whatever time of day descending, he showed always the deductions of a thinking mind which had well entered into the approximating or retiring properties of the pigments which were to represent the objects before him.—The larger *Landscape and Figures* (20) presents another example of the same powers exercised on less favourable forms; and in the animals there are disproportionate and ill-drawn parts less reconcilable to the requirements of either truth or character. *The River View* (71), belonging to Lord Carlisle, is, in its present dirty state, so covered by a veil, that it is mere assumption to attribute to it the properties which have asso-

ciated the name of the painter with the excellencies above detailed.

*A Calm, with Vessels at anchor* (5), is a complete expression of the style of William Vandevelde. It conveys the time with all the accustomed delicacy of the artist's pencil.

The value of a name and the indiscriminate praise lavished on all that can lay claim to it were never more prominently shown than in the two Paul Potters, placed over the chimney-piece in the Middle Room. If the worth of the lower schools (relying not on the claims of abstract thought or sentiment) be in their imitative attribute—in their power of rendering mere nature—in their expression of particular truth,—then, the application of any such tests to Paul Potter's *Cattle in a Storm* (67) should give it no high place in their categories. Rarely have we had to remark on a chaotic jumble which has so nearly merged cloud into land,—making their extremes meet, and tinting the sky with the complexion of the adjacent sward. To gain some minor conventional and concentrated effect, the conditions of the several elements of the picture have been violated or overdone. Dark animal and light cloud have been brought into immediate contact in the most trenchant opposition of their respective natures; and the most obvious means for the production of mere physical effect have been sought, to lend their aid to animal forms as ill drawn and as ungainly as ever excited censure. There are more truth of parts and cogency of the whole in *Landscape with Horses and Figures* (69); but there are in it such inaccuracies in proportion, defective quantity, and ungainliness of taste, as fail to justify the reputation assigned to the painter. To the Great Bull at the Hague we must look for such justification. These works are little better than curiosities which the arts of dealers and the archæologic tastes of collectors have raised into a money value far beyond their deserts.

In the examples here by Both there is not much of striking merit. The largest, *The Landscape, with a Waterfall*, is very uninteresting in its selection of incidents. It is poor in form, and the water is but indifferent. A better average example is *Landscape and Figures* (43):—a picture which has retained much of the pristine touch. It is purer also in its colour, and has suffered little at the cleaner's hands.

*The Embarkation of William the Third for England* (24), by Backhuysen, is interesting principally from its subject. The distant view of Helvoetsluys (?), however, is well painted. There are some anachronisms in the details, which may possibly be the result of dictation. They speak in that case more for the painter's docility than for his earnestness after truth.

The renowned improver of the mechanical agency of art, Van Eyck, has been made responsible for *The Adoration of the Magi* (25):—with how little probability a recollection of his known works at Bruges or in our national collection testifies. Such wrong ascription misleads the younger student, and tends to bring the name of a distinguished painter of his time into disrepute.

The well-known Rembrandt, *Our Saviour in the Storm* (42), from the collection of Mr. Hope, is a picture to provoke at once much admiration and much criticism. It is full of the artist's beauties and characteristic qualities; but its fine effect is less subjected than usual to the convention that made him sacrifice in his treatment so much of the light of heaven for the general purpose of enshrining and illumining some small passage with emphasis. It has the observation of character and sense of expression which—in his Scripture pieces more especially—are always just to their respective scenes. These qualities are; however, alloyed, as usual, by an amount of ordinary and ignoble circumstance which, dividing the attention, detracts from the solemnity and sanctity of the scene. We refer in particular to the expression of that physical disquietude which the agitation of the water has occasioned to the tenants of the bark. Such obvious and disagreeable presentment forces on our recollection the more elevated associations which the Italian School would have chosen. One of the almost innumerable versions of the painter's



own physiognomy appears in the *Portrait* (32). It is one of those subdued and partially lighted conventions which in later times have become models for the English portrait-painter's practice.

By De Koning there is one of those Landscapes (47) often misappropriated to the name of Rembrandt. In this instance, from its coarseness and severity of handling, there was little risk of such misappropriation.

The best example of Ruysdael here is undoubtedly the *View of Scheveling* (37). In subject unpromising,—monotonous and bald in interest,—the painting has redeemed it.—*The Landscape* (39), while beautifully wrought and with that attention to botanic particular which merits the serious attention of our present painters in this department, is flat, because wanting in gradation. There is a capital little specimen by the same hand in a *Landscape* (137); and a charming effect is produced by the truthfully-rendered gleam of light passing over a *Cornfield* (143). In the happy delineation of such circumstance this artist is rarely surpassed.

Among the few remaining noticeable pictures of the same class there are, a pleasant picture by Van Tol, *Children blowing Bubbles* (3),—*Hawking* (66), and *A Female Artist* (70), by F. Mieris. The last is a gem exquisitely finished. All these are from the collection of Mr. Bredel. We may add an interesting picture by Adrian Vandevelde, *Preparing for the Chace* (8),—an elaborate composition of an Interior by Metz, (48), beautifully finished,—a capital picture of *Dead Game* (61), by Weenix,—a forcible *River View* (76), by Van der Capella,—another study of a head *A Rabbi* (77) by Rembrandt,—*A River View* (80), by Van der Neer, though somewhat dark and brown,—two gallery pictures by Snyders, full of his accustomed spirit and vigour of touch, *Hunting the Deer* (90), and *Hunting the Fox* (95),—*Queen Mary the Second*, by Netscher, (134), more curious for its pains-taking than remarkable as a specimen of liberal thinking,—a very fine *Snow Storm* (133) by Van der Neer,—an elaboration by Van der Heyden and A. Vandevelde (144), in which the former, as usual, has represented every brick of a picturesque building, and the latter has done much to redeem his tediousness (at best a kind of miracle of patience),—an effective Hobbima, *A Landscape and Ruins* (145),—and *An Interior of a Grange* (154), attributed to D. Teniers, Jun.

Of the Spanish school there are but few examples here. Of these, *Moses striking the Rock* (7) is said to be by Murillo.—*A Spanish Peasant Girl* (15) is with much less reason attributed to Velasquez. We are told that our *Saviour on the Mount* (72) is by Morales. The *Sibyl* (148), with one half the face merging into blackness, may be by Spagnoletto. With greater truth *The Infant Saviour* (139) may be accepted as from the hands of Murillo.

Of the French school, we have here a conspicuous affection, bearing a similitude to Greuze. It is full of the vice of that master,—and is probably by his hand; expressing that advanced physical conformation which is contradictory to its title of the *Head of a Young Girl* (131).

The British school is better represented here than usual,—and has met with more than customary attention from the arrangers. The best pictures are not crowded on the darkest sides of the darkest room, as we have so frequently had reason to complain of their being.—Wilkie stands conspicuous in two pictures of a time when he had not suffered himself to be led astray by any of the technical considerations of some of the lower schools of Art. *The Breakfast* (88) and *The Penny Wedding* (92) are works which, while presenting his art in its best condition, prove the position we have ever taken of his superiority over all that had preceded him in his own line. The perfection of telling a story—acute discrimination of character, refinement of taste, sense of composition, power of drawing, feeling for colour, and just amount of elaboration which aimed at completeness of general physiognomy rather than of microscopic detail, are here united in the most happy combination. It is in this combination that consists the immeasurable superiority of Wilkie over those Dutch artists who individually sought for and achieved the separate excellencies that had made for each a distinct repu-

tation.—Any description of pictures so well known amongst us would be superfluous.

There are capital colour and character in Stewart Newton's scene from *Le Malade malgré lui* (94), and there is an intention throughout the design of the work which proclaims the painter's right reading of his author; but there has arisen up amongst us within the last few years a race of painters of this class of subject who manage these matters in detail with so much more knowledge of form, capability of drawing, and patience in completion, as to lessen the estimation in which this picture was once held.

The collection is more than ordinarily rich in the works of Reynolds. There is an admirable study of an often-painted model of the Ugolino of his pencil, given here to *Dionysius, the Aeropagite, a Nobleman of Athens, a Disciple of St. Paul* (55). It is full of character and expression. There is also *A Shepherd Boy* (50). The *Portrait of Mrs. Brudyard* (93) and the *Portrait of Lady Farnborough* (89) both present examples of the picture-cleaner's mal-treatment. In the first, the picture has had all the superincumbent colour removed from its surface. It is instructive in its present condition to the student,—as it reveals to him the preparation which the great artist employed to obtain those delicate and pearly hues that have made the tinting of his flesh so much the subject of admiration. In the last, some clumsy hand has endeavoured, after committing similar ravages, to retrace or repair what he has removed; and the consequence is, that he has substituted nostrils and a mouth which, a glance will convince any one, at no period of his career could the great painter ever have produced. They are too mean for his art. The present condition of these pictures may serve as timely caution against similar mischance. The *Portrait of Mrs. Hale, as L'Allegro* (54), is a graceful whole length,—a worthy pendant to the 'Thais,' *Sir Richard Worsley* (52), is one of the artist's fine manly presentments. *The Head of Sullivan* (132) is remarkable for its masculine character.

There is nothing in a picture by Gainsborough, *Cattle on the Banks of a River* (56), to have made it desirable that it should be paraded here. As a work of this master it is a mere convention, destitute of truth in the parts and probability in the whole. The cows standing on a bank scarcely large enough to bear their weight, look immediately over some craft about their own size. They have no respective individualities of form or scale; and they are seen in juxtaposition with a mass of cloud as unmeaning in shape as untrue in colour. A harmonious general tone over objects incongruously grouped together is thus expected to pass muster for a representation of nature.

There is a capital group by Dobson of *Sir Balthazar Gerbier, Sir Charles Cotterell, and the painter himself* (127); and there is a group by young Stone of *His Father and himself* (36), of great merit from the characters of the heads.

There is an admirable sketch by Romney; one of those studies of *Lady Hamilton* (98) of which the painter made many,—and never one of more beauty than the present. There are two capital landscape studies (99 and 100), and *Trowse Lane, near Norwich* (51), by Crome,—an artist who died young. *An Italian Landscape* (83), by Richard Wilson, is somewhat hard and flat, and wanting in his accustomed atmosphere.

Portraits of two brothers (81), by Sir William Beechey, affectingly entitled *The Infant Hercules*, might have been advantageously for the artist's reputation withheld. We may mention, too, a very interesting *View, from the river, of Chelsea Hospital* (86), by Richard Wilson,—*An Italian Landscape* (97) which does not so well represent the chaste and refined style of the late Sir A. Callcott,—a good *Portrait of a Lady* (150) by Opie,—*The Duchess of Bolton* (161) by Hogarth, coloured like Titian,—an interesting head of *Graham of Claverhouse* (162) by an unknown hand,—a specimen by Northcote, of *The Hon. Mrs. Waldegrave and Son, now Lord Radstock* (165),—and a remarkable portrait of *Henry the Eighth*, bearing on it the impress of sensuality, selfishness, tyranny, and the other well-known attributes of his character.

FINE-ART GOSSIP.—We have received the following from a correspondent on the subject of a paragraph which appeared in our columns of last week, under this head. "In your notice of Wyatt's sudden death you speak of 'injustice dealt to this great artist by the Royal Academy.' Now, I think this is hardly a fair way of stating the fact. Mr. Wyatt was elected twelve years ago; and when the ballot was announced some individual referred to the original institution of the Society by George the Third, and to a law which especially required 'members to be resident in the United Kingdom.' This rendered the election void. So far from any injustice being intended towards Wyatt, I know the alteration of the law of foundation has been frequently considered, and has been proposed to be done away on account of this particular claimant; and no one can have failed to observe the marked and particular attention that has always been given to his works in the Exhibition. I am sure there never was a student of the Royal Academy whom all its members have so delighted to honour as Richard Wyatt. The law may be wrong, but let not wrong motives be attributed to members who feel themselves reluctantly compelled to act upon it. Your information is generally so correct, and your remarks so just, that I must believe you will be pleased with this explanation of an act that is calculated to bring an undeserved reproach on the members of the Royal Academy."

"A LOVER OF JUSTICE." We would have been glad if our correspondent had signed this communication with his name as a voucher for the authenticity of his facts,—which are somewhat different from what has hitherto been our understanding of the case. We have been all along aware of the existence of some such rule affecting the qualification of candidates for the academicianship,—but never before heard that it took the form of an organic law. We are the less inclined to accept this view on anything less than competent authority, because, if we mistake not, there are more cases than one in which absence from England has not operated as an exclusion. Mr. Gibson was, we believe, elected an academician while practising in Rome; and Sir William Allan while President of the Royal Academy of Scotland, which bound him to that country. The policy of the exclusion, as we have understood it, was always maintained on the ground that absent members are not in a condition to take their share of the duties involved in the management of the Academy:—and this argument would operate with equal force against a member residing in Edinburgh as against a member residing in Rome. In neither of the cases in question did it operate at all.—But were all this not so, the fact of injustice would still remain. It is the same wrong to a man who is withheld from a merited honour, whether he is so withheld under the operation of a general rule or of a particular vote. If the academicians make a bye-law which prevents their due recognition of merit, they cannot plead their own bye-law against a charge of individual injustice resulting from it. If the regulation be not theirs, but lie in the foundation of the Academy, the sooner their institutions are amended in this as in some other respects the better.

To the list which we have already given of pictures sold from the walls of the Royal Academy, or purchased before they appeared there—and to which list we called the attention of our readers for the sake of certain conclusions to which it points [see ante, p. 592]—we have now to add the works of Mr. Patten. That artist's 'Bacchus discovering the use of the Grape' has been purchased by Mr. Charles Oddie, of Liverpool,—and his 'Venus and Cupid' has been chosen as an Art-Union prize by Mr. Edward East.

We hear that Mr. Gibson, R.A., Mr. Dyce, R.A., Lord Colborne, Mr. Newton, Dr. Waagen, M. Passavant and M. Eugène Lami have been invited to award the prizes to be struck for the medals on the occasion of the Exhibition of 1851.

The small collection of Mr. Metcalfe's pictures, sold last week, contained a few choice pictures. Among them was 'The Kermesse,' by Teniers,—to which we have already alluded. From its great pains-taking and elaboration, it is obviously



one of the master's earlier works. It was bought for 829l. 10s., by Mr. Smith. 'The Israelites worshipping the Golden Calf,' by Claude, brought the largest sum given at this sale,—1,102l. 10s. A good picture by Wouvermans, 'The Departure for the Chase,' was also purchased by Mr. Smith, for 451l. 10s. The 'Portrait of Stanislaus Sigismund, King of Poland,' by Rubens, was sold to Mr. Bousfield for 231l. 'St. Agnes,' attributed to Carlo Dolce, brought 79l. 10s. 'The Temptation of St. Anthony,' by Teniers, was purchased by Mr. Nieuwenhuys, for 109l. 4s.; and another picture by the same artist, 'The Interior of a Corps du Garde' was bought by Mr. Norton, for 183l. 15s. 'The Banished Lord,' by Sir J. Reynolds, brought only 65l. 2s. It was sold to the last-named gentleman. 'The Portrait of Count Nicolo Ursino,' said to be by Titian, was purchased by Mr. Farrer, for 57l. 15s. A very dignified air pervades this picture. The capital Van der Neer, 'A Dutch Village on a River,' brought 82l. 19s., from Mr. Field. 'A Boy in a Red Dress, leaning forwards on a Green Cushion, holding a Paper and Pen in his Hand'—a very richly coloured study—was purchased by Mr. Lenox, for 170l. 2s. 'A Portrait of Philip Metcalfe,' the intimate friend, fellow-traveller, and executor, as we have said, of the painter Sir Joshua Reynolds, exhibited that conscientious adherence to the minute particular of physiognomy which marks the young practitioner of portraiture. The picture was highly interesting in this respect,—so strongly contrasting with the artist's later practice. A 'Landscape' by Cuypp was bought by Mr. Broun, for 435l. 15s. There were some pictures by More of Rome,—as he is styled from his having resided and practised in the Eternal City. In the collection at the Borghese Villa there was a few years since a large example of his talent in landscape, of great ability. He is but little known in England. By another student of that time, Patch, there was here a curious picture. 'Portraits of celebrated English Characters in the Gallery at Florence,' representing in a comic and somewhat satiric spirit the *virtuosi* and *dilettanti* descending on ancient marbles and pictures, is the singular performance of an artist who is also little known in England, and principally by a series of heads copied by him and engraved from the celebrated Massaccio in the Carmine. It was sold to Mr. Bryant, for 8l. 18s. 6d.

We have the following postscript in a note from Florence. "Great News! Powers' 'Eve' is saved; with a bust that accompanied it—not a whit the worse for the submersion, save a sea-stain or two of no importance."—We trust this intelligence may turn out to be true; but if the paragraph copied into our columns which stated that the 'Eve' was lost on the coast of Spain be correct in particular, we do not exactly understand how this assurance of salvage should come to us from Florence.

The *Venice Gazette* reports the death, in his seventy-first year, of the sculptor Luigi Zandomenighi. For some years past this artist has been engaged on a magnificent monument to the memory of Titian,—which is left unfinished, it is said, by his death.

## MUSIC AND THE DRAMA

**PHILHARMONIC CONCERTS.**—The season brought to a close on Monday last has been one of the most vexatious Philharmonic seasons within the range of our experience:—however profitable to the treasury—singularly profitless to art. Now, it was to promote the interests of music and not to accumulate money that the Society was founded: and though we cannot expect it to be carried on at a loss, we must still protest against gains bought so dearly as by renunciation of all enterprise and discouragement of all novelty. Let us hope that the election of more wakeful and less penny-wise Directors for 1851 may bring round measures more liberal than those of which we have had so often to complain.

The eighth concert was the most crowded and its audience the coldest of the season. Yet the Symphonies and Overtures, if not new, were well varied,—the singing, by Miss Lucombe and Miss Dolby,

was about the best English singing attainable,—and the *solos* were both of more than ordinary interest.—With regard to the first we had nourished great hopes,—and are in proportion sorry that, after so many years of waiting and so much pains obviously bestowed on his new composition, Mr. Benedict's "Konzert Stück," produced by him for his first appearance at a Philharmonic concert, should have fallen short of our expectation. For this the circumstances of its parentage may in some measure be accountable. "Hope long deferred," besides making "the heart sick," may make the hand nervous, and disturb the head with that fear of not pleasing enough, which is fatal to composure and self-confidence in creation. There are ideas, fancies, effects, and passages in this *Concerto* which if judiciously husbanded would have made half-a-dozen. The opening of the principal *allegro* is large, fiery and noble,—its second subject, too, is very elegant. There are happy fantasies in the *andante pastorale*, and its close is singularly pretty and delicate. But, throughout, the ideas are too perpetually interrupted and varied; so that in place of relief or progress, we have but a general impression of confusion. In a superfluous anxiety to give the orchestral part of his work due interest, Mr. Benedict has too often allowed it to interfere with, where it should merely support or reply to, the *solo* instrument. No one save a professor gifted with poetical invention as well as with sound science could have imagined and written this *Concerto*; but by this time Mr. Benedict is as well convinced as the *Athenæum* that he could and should write one far better, because simpler,—having more continuity of fature and greater unity of style.

The other *solo* was Herr Ernst's elegant *fantasia* on a theme from 'Ludovic,' exquisitely played. But had "divine Cecilia" herself commenced to charm after two hours and a half of Mozart, Beethoven and Spohr—at a time of year, moreover, when every one is all but weary of music—she must have failed to win her due praise: and thus the reception of a performance which was worth all the other violin-exhibitions of the season "rolled into one," though cordial, was beneath its merits. The audience which had shown enthusiasm enough in behalf of a hackneyed Quartett meagrely played, was, as we have said, cold on Monday. Who shall define or account for the caprices of English amateurs? By noting them as caprices we may perhaps do something towards their rectification. Meanwhile, we are glad for eight months to have done with the Philharmonic Concerts.

Since the above was written, there has been circulated among the subscribers an apology for the encumbered state of the side-room on Monday evening. This was filled with the scenic properties which accompany and set off a picture by Mr. Roberts, now exhibiting there. So much umbrage was taken on the occasion, and not unreasonably, that our contemporaries are already mentioning the migration of the Philharmonic Society to more comfortable quarters as a measure which is probable. A new *habitat*, however, will not be easily found; and the expedient already proposed in this journal may be again recommended,—namely, the possibility of adding the side-room to the great concert-room by an arrangement of arches and pillars. The space thus gained would be alike precious and pleasant. There is too, little accommodation in our public rooms for those to whom standing is an agreeable change from a fixed seat.

**CONCERTS OF THE WEEK.**—It will be seen by what follows that there has been no dearth of Concerts since our last report was written. Yesterday week, Miss Binches and Mr. Joseph Haigh, Mr. Frederick Chatterton and Herr George Stigelli gave benefit entertainments. At the last-named concert we met Herr Droyschok for the first time this season. Much is it to be wished that all meetings were so pleasant! Herr Droyschok has improved most signally since he first performed in London. The impression then made by him was, that he was a prodigious mechanist (especially in octave passages), but little beyond. He was then more violent and spasmodic than elegant.

Herr Droyschok has gained so much sensitiveness, delicacy and temperance, without having lost any of his amazing executive resources, as to take altogether a higher and better place in our estimation. Improvement in style after popular success has once been won is too rare to pass without the most cordial recognition.—At Herr Stigelli's concert we had a notable example of the contrary in Mdle. Angri; who, failing an engagement at either opera-house, now figures as a concert singer, with a carelessness and defiance to the bad effect of which our admiration of her wonderful and expressive voice cannot close our ears. The good singing of an artist so much younger than herself as Signor Marchesi, in the 'Barbiere' duett, seemed to be felt as a rebuke by her;—since, on the piece being *encored* the Lady chose merely to repeat the closing passage *a due*, where her partner is strictly subordinate, and thus could not shine by comparison. Such airs and gracelessnesses (not graces) are to be regretted in proportion to the genius of their exhibitor—and Mdle. Angri is too rich in genius for us to watch her running riot without remonstrating. Among the attractions of this concert, Herr Molique's violin playing was one of the greatest.—Herr Stigelli, who has some good points as a tenor singer, stands in need of polishing into calmness. He is apt to force his voice and to exaggerate his action in the orchestra.—That best of contemporary harpists, M. Godefroid, gave his second concert this day week.—On Tuesday was held Mr. Ella's Benefit *Matinée*, at which a selection from the chamber music most approved at the meetings of the *Musical Union* during the season was performed by the artists who also have been the most popular there. M. Sainton, Signor Piatti, and Herr Ernst played their best. Herr Halle gave the Waldstein Sonata of Beethoven by heart, with a force, expression, and brilliancy which demand the highest praise. The *rondo* of this composition, though it be pastoral in style, is more difficult than many a *Concerto* we could name. Herr Heller, too, was heard to great advantage. Two picturesque songs by Herr Molique were sung by Mdle. Graumann, and accompanied by Herr Eckert (who, by the way, is admirable as an accompanist). M. Stockhausen, also, sang. In short, a better concert of its kind we do not recollect. An announcement in Mr. Ella's *programme* merits circulation, and the good wishes of all who, like ourselves, are on the side of experiment.—

In the forthcoming season, says he, we purpose giving a series of extra meetings, principally for the *débuts* of artists and the performance of untried music. \* \* By this arrangement we shall be able to hear artists who arrive too late to be engaged, and to essay novelties which we are unwilling to admit, without trial, into the programmes of our ordinary meetings.

On Wednesday, Miss Deakin received her friends; and confirmed the favourable impression made by her in her former public appearances. Her voice is singularly agreeable in quality; her style is solid, expressive, and not without grace—though wanting, possibly, a little occasional lightness by way of last finish. Her articulation is clear and refined. Her singing of Haydn's 'With verdure clad' and of Sir H. R. Bishop's lovely canzonet 'By the simplicity' (the music of which is elegantly Shakspearian) was most satisfactory. In other pieces she was assisted by her preceptress, Mrs. Shaw,—who deserves every credit in the score of a pupil so promising and (as far as she goes) complete.

**ROYAL ITALIAN OPERA.**—That Genius is of no bulk, no beauty, no compass of voice, no exclusive physical attributes, in short—Signor Ronconi has again and again given us occasion to admire; for again and again we have had to narrate how he takes up Signor Lablache's best characters and runs away with them, just as if the one were not an Atlas in the superabundance of his natural powers, and the other a Mite. His last feat has been to personate the

uom' maturo e magistrato, who very nearly (thanks to the thievish Magpie's connivance) brought poor *Ninetta* to the block, out of spite and revenge: in other words, to treat "the town" to a new *Podesta*,—giving us the unjust judge in his unfamiliar dress, with such "a ven-



geance," that juries are disagreed whether his evil-doer or *Father* Lablache's is the more villainously comical or the more comically villainous. With every new triumph of this kind, how is it possible to avoid earnestly wishing that Signor Ronconi would come cordially "across the line" into the modern repertory, and figuring to ourselves how magnificently such an artist would group with such dramatic singers as Signor Mario and Madame Viardot?

The last-mentioned incomparable artist is here again,—as we firmly believe, to add to her popularity and to extend her triumphs. The former was warmly evidenced in her reception on Thursday. The house was crammed; and the appearance of *Fides* was the signal for a storm of plaudits which seemed as if it would not, or could not, subside. Though the effect of this was obvious in a slight nervous emotion shown, at first, by Madame Viardot, it passed quickly, leaving her in command of all her wonderful powers. Her voice is in admirable order; and her execution of the finest and most original part in modern opera is more grand, impassioned—yet tender withal—than ever. Were it permissible to return again and again to the same artist, in the same work, we could notice many new points in Madame Viardot's treatment of her several scenes; as it is, we can but advisedly record a triumph which is unique in our recollections of the stage.—The whole opera goes infinitely better than last year. Signor Maratti and Herr Formes are very great improvements on Signor Mei and Signor Marini as the Anabaptists; and Madame Castellani is assuredly heard to greater advantage in London than she is in Paris. The chorus, too, is more ripe and certain in the performance of its duties than the chorus of 1849. In short, '*Le Prophète*' is as good as a gold mine for the treasury of the Royal Italian Opera. On ourselves the effect and the excitement of a work entirely new were produced by its revival.

**HAYMARKET.**—The success of *La Tempesta* has enabled the Brothers Brough to assert their popularity and indicate their rapid progress by reproducing on Thursday their first piece, originally produced two or three seasons ago at the Adelphi under the title of '*The Enchanted Isle*,'—being a parody on Shakspeare's '*Tempest*.' It was a burlesque of considerable merit and promise. To adapt it to present circumstances, a prologue has been contrived; being a dialogue between the *Ghost of Shakspeare* (Mr. Stuart) and a *Popular Comedian* (Mr. Buckstone),—after the pattern of the famous interview of the elder with the younger *Hamlet* in the first act of the tragedy. The spirit of the Poet complains of M. Scribe's having murdered his '*Tempest*,' and particularly of the commonplace inventions foisted on it,—to wit, the abduction of *Miranda* by *Caliban*, and his three-wishing flowers,—which incidents are alleged to have been stolen from the '*The Miller and his Men*' and countless other modern pantomimes. The parody was effectively executed; and Mr. Buckstone was of course droll to a fault. The opening scene of the burlesque is assimilated to that of the opera. In lieu of the terrors of the tragic scene, however, we have the sea-sickness of the comic. Mr. Buckstone's first entrance as *Caliban* was assimilated to Lablache's; and in reference to this character altogether, we may state that Mr. Buckstone was less of a mannerist and more of an artist in it than in any other within our recollection. The Broughs' version of *Caliban* is suggestive. He is a chartist shoeblack, and shows to *Prospero* (Mr. Selby) how he can "set his soles above his upper-leathers" in a style peculiarly his own. The authors have not re-arranged the contour of their piece, in order to suit it to M. Scribe's *libretto*; but this they should have done, to have served effectively the motive for its revival. Their burlesque might have been lightened by the process; and it was desirable that it should, since now it drags heavily in the later scenes. The stuff of the dialogue is frequently by far too ponderous. The alterations might have been easily made. Without changing the order of the scenes, the omission of some hundred lines, and the substitution of some fifty new ones adopting M. Scribe's view of the

subject, would have accomplished the result. This improvement should still be introduced. As the matter now stands, the burlesque tells more hardly against Shakspeare's poem than against Halévy's opera,—and this could scarcely have been the object of the management. As to the performance and getting-up, nothing could be better. The scenery is new and splendid,—the acting and singing of Miss Horton in *Ariel*, delightful, and that of Mrs. Fitzwilliam in *Ferdinand* amusing and clever. Bland's madness in *Alonso* was outrageously powerful,—and Selby's *Prospero* was grotesque to excess. The curtain fell to unusual applause.

**MUSICAL AND DRAMATIC GOSSIP.**—As the name has been put forth by some of our contemporaries in a mis-spelt form, we are not breaking confidence in now announcing that the young French gentleman already mentioned in the *Athenæum* as one to whose new compositions we are looking forward with such cordial expectation—is M. Gounod. This will say little even to the *dilettanti* of Paris. The authorities of the *Conservatoire*, however, will remember M. Gounod as having gained the grand prize for composition there some ten years ago. A '*Libera me*,' by him, was performed at Vienna two or three years since, which was much admired. Considerable progress is said to have been made by M. Gounod in the opera which has been commissioned from him by the managers of the *Grand Opéra*—with the principal part for Madame Viardot.

Centenary performances in commemoration of the death-day of John Sebastian Bach,—the 28th of July,—are about to be held at Leipsic (where an assemblage of two thousand executants is to be convened for the execution of some of the master's greatest works), at Berlin, at Magdeburg, at Hamburg, and at other towns in North Germany. Our English enthusiasm in the cause of this mighty musician moves far too slowly.

The musical world will be glad to hear that Madame Ugalde has recovered her health and voice in the south of France:—also, that Herr Döhler, whose elegant talent and personal amiability would have made his loss a severe one, has regained his former vigour by "following a water-course" at Gräfenberg,—has resumed his habits of composition—and is projecting a tour into Russia.

M. La Fage in the last of a series of letters on the no music of Naples, addressed by him to the *Gazette Musicale*, mentions a new opera by *Maestro Lillo*, entitled '*Delfina*'—which has been given at the *Teatro Nuovo* with success. The principal part in this opera was sustained by Madame Evrard, a French Lady, who with her husband, a barytone, are said to have pleased the Neapolitans. "Both sing fairly well," writes M. La Fage, "but pronounce badly enough. On this point, however, the public is becoming less and less exigent." By this fact, no less than by the other truth which M. La Fage notices, namely, the increasing number of foreign vocalists who appear in the Italian opera-houses, the change (if not the decadence) which is obviously passing over the world of southern music is more clearly than hopefully illustrated.

We learn that '*Gli Montecchi*' is shortly to be presented at *Her Majesty's Theatre*, with Mdlle. Parodi and Madame Frezzolini as the hero and heroine.

Madame Octave has joined Mr. Mitchell's company: the last novelty, we presume, with which the frequenters of his liberally-administered theatre will be treated until *Phédre*, *Lesbie*, *Adrienne Lecouvreur* make their appearance in Mdlle. Rachel. While noticing Mr. Mitchell's benefit as having taken place within the week, we must once again pay tribute to his spirit, directness, intelligence and liberality as a manager.

In the *Brussels Herald* honourable mention is made of a new *prima donna*, Mdlle. Lacombe, who has been successful in '*La Juive*,' in '*Les Huguenots*,' and in the over-charged (not to say repulsive) '*Jerusalem*' of Verdi.

The *Académie Française* has awarded the 7,000 franc prize for the best work on good morals and manners to M. Emile Augier for his '*Gabrielle*.'—The *libretto* of M. Gounod's opera is by M. Augier.

It appears that the extreme licence of some of the pieces exhibited in the theatres of Paris since the censorship was abolished has given occasion to a conservative movement with a view to the re-establishment of a court of religion and morals which shall prohibit the performance of anything politically or socially deleterious. The purpose is defensible enough, and the report laid before the Assembly is solemnly and mellifluously worded,—a homily which it will do the hearts of many good to read. Only, however, let those who have long memories refrain from glancing back over the repertory of the Parisian theatres, great and small, during the reign of *Le Roi Citoyen*! If purity and taste were then in the ascendant, they were attired with so whimsical an economy, as to look like something very different.

Last night a performance in aid of the funds of the great Industrial Exhibition of 1851 was given at the Olympic Theatre, under the patronage of the Marylebone Committee, by a party of amateurs consisting of members of the Marylebone Literary and Scientific Institution and their friends. The pieces chosen were Mr. Lovell's play of '*Love's Sacrifice*,'—and Mr. Planche's drama of '*Charles the Twelfth*.'—The late period of the week at which these performances took place would have precluded the possibility of criticism in our columns, although the fact had not been, as we have more than once said, that amateur playing—especially for a liberal object—has an immunity from criticism, even where it might not choose to claim it.

#### MISCELLANEA

**Rapid Advance of New South Wales.**—In the *Sydney Herald* of the 26th of January, the following appears as a leading article, under the head "Anniversary."—"The colony of New South Wales this day completes the sixty-second year of its existence. The first child born to it of British parents, if still living, has, therefore, not yet reached the grand climacteric of life. The boy who landed from the "first fleet" at the age of eight, if still living, may yet be hale and hearty, though crowned with three score years and ten. In the lifetime of a man, however, sixty-two years form a vast term of duration. In the lifetime of a country, whose past or future history is to be measured by centuries, it forms but a little span. But when we compare the New South Wales of 1850 with the New South Wales of 1788, we behold with wonder what may be accomplished within a span so brief. And if the achievements of the future may be estimated from the achievements of the past, we are lost in admiration of what another such span may bring to pass in the destinies of this great south land. Could Arthur Philip look down at the scene which will this day be displayed on the blue waters, and along the picturesque shores of Port Jackson, he would probably not be more astonished at its contrast with what he witnessed on the 26th of January, 1718, than Sir Charles Fitzroy would be should he be permitted to look down on the same spot on the 26th of January, 1912, and contrast the scene which will be presented on that far distant day with what he beholds on this present Saturday. Half a century ago the population of this country numbered about 5,000 souls. Its numbers now approximate to 250,000. We have here an increase of fifty-fold in as many years. During the fifty years preceding the last census of the United States of America, the population of that great republic had risen from four millions to seventeen millions, or little more than four-fold. During the ten years from 1834 to 1844, the population of the two Canadas had increased at the rate of less than sixty per cent. During the last ten years the population of New South Wales has increased at the rate of nearly one hundred and sixty per cent. If from population we turn to commerce, the comparison between this country and America will still tell powerfully in our favour. The imports and exports of the United States averaged in the year 1840 24 14s. 11d. per head. In the British North American colonies, in the year 1845, they averaged 54 11s. 3d. In New South Wales in the year 1848 they averaged 161 2s. 7d. During the nine years ending with 1843, the imports and exports of British North America advanced from 5,511,000*l.* to 6,267,000*l.*



In New South Wales, during the same nine years, they advanced from 1,355,000*l.* to 2,357,000*l.* In the former country the increase was 756,000*l.*, or less than *fourteen* per cent. In our own colony the increase was 1,000,000*l.*, or nearly *seventy-four* per cent. But the foregoing comparisons are far from doing justice to our country. The statistics of the population and commerce of modern America embrace all the new territories which have been acquired or settled since the periods from which the earlier statistics are dated. In fairness, therefore, our statistics ought to embrace the whole circle of colonies of which New South Wales was the primitive nucleus. If this were done, the miracles of our growth would be found more wonderful by far than is shown in the foregoing figures.

*Literature of the Seven Dials.*—An author of great repute in those classic latitudes has furnished the following details of his art to the Metropolitan Correspondent of the *Morning Chronicle*.—"The little knowledge I have, I have picked up bit by bit, so that I hardly know how I have come by it. I certainly knew my letters before I left home, and I have got the rest off the dead walls and out of the ballads and papers I have been selling. I write most of the Newgate ballads now for the printers in the Dials, and, indeed, anything that turns up. I get a shilling for a 'Copy of verses written by the wretched culprit the night previous to his execution.' I wrote Courvoisier's sorrowful lamentation: I called it 'A Voice from the Gaol.' I wrote a pathetic ballad on the respite of Annette Meyers. I did the helegy, too, on Rush's execution: it was supposed, like the rest, to be written by the culprit himself, and was particularly penitent. I didn't write that to order—I knew they would want a copy of verses from the culprit. The publisher read it over, and said 'That's the thing for the street public.' I only got a shilling for Rush. Indeed, they are all the same price, no matter how popular they may be. I wrote the life of Manning in verse. Besides these, I have written the lament of Calcraft the Hangman on the decline of his trade, and many political songs."

*Canal Locks Superseded.*—On the Monklands Canal, at Blackhill Locks, the waste of water, time and labour has been obviated by the substitution of a steep incline, with rails and water-tight cradles, into one of which latter the boat is floated, when it is drawn up by a wire rope, worked with drums, by the power of a steam-engine, aided by the descending cradle filled with water. Thus, in five minutes, the half-hour's work of eight locks, costing hitherto 100*l.* a day, is done at comparatively little expense, and with a waste of no more than the water displaced by each boat, when floated into its cradle. Mr. Leslie, of Edinburgh, the engineer of Dundee harbour, has adopted this idea from American practice or experiment.—*Builder.*

*The Greenwich Planet-Watcher.*—Summer is his time of labour; winter his time of rest. It appears that in our climate the nights, on the whole, are clearer than the days, and evenings less cloudy than mornings. Every assistant takes his turn as an observer, and a chain of duty is kept up night and day; at other periods, the busiest portion of the twenty-four hours at the observatory is between nine in the morning and two in the afternoon. During this time they work in silence; the task being to complete the records of the observations made, by filling in the requisite columns of figures upon printed forms, and then adding and subtracting them as the case requires. Whilst thus engaged, the assistant who has charge of an instrument looks, from time to time, at his star-regulated clock, and when it warns him that his expected planet is nearly due, he leaves his companions, and quietly repairs to the room where the telescope is ready. The adjustment of this has previously been arranged with the greatest nicety. The shutter is moved from the slit in the roof, the astronomer sits upon an easy chair with a moveable back. If the object he seeks is high in the heavens, this chair-back is lowered till its occupant almost lies down; if the star is lower, the chair-back is raised in proportion. He has his note-book and metallic pencil in hand. Across the eye-piece of the telescope are stretched seven lines of spider-web, dividing the field of view. If his seat requires change, the least motion arranges it to his satisfaction, for it rests upon a railway of its own. Beside him is one of the

star-clocks, and as the moment approaches for the appearance of the planet, the excitement increases. The tremble of impatience for the entrance of the star on the field of view, is like that of a sportsman whose dog has just made a full point, and who waits the rising of the game. When a star appears, the observer, in technical language, *takes a second from the clock face*; that is, he reads the second with his eye, and counts on by the ear the succeeding beats of the clock, naming the seconds mentally. As the star passes each wire of the transit, he marks down in his jotting-book with a metallic pencil the second, and the second only, of his observation, with such a fraction of a second as corresponds, in his judgment, to the interval of time between the passage of the star and the beat of the clock which preceded such passage.—*Dickens's 'Household Words.'*

*Better Late than Never.*—We rejoice to see by an advertisement in our journal, that the magnificent Hebrew Library in the Beth Hamedrash is to be thrown open to the public. This is a step in the right direction;—and we hope that gradually the hours of admission may be increased to five, instead of three, as in the reading-room at the British Museum.—*Jewish Chronicle.*

*The Assyrian Researches.*—Col. Williams, Her Majesty's Boundary Commissioner, who has lost no opportunity of supporting Mr. Layard in his operations, occupies his spare time at present at Workâh, an immense ruin south of Babylon. He had previously despatched Mr. Loftus, the naturalist attached to his diplomatic mission, accompanied by a young man (son of the late Mr. Churchill, acting as interpreter), with the caravan of mules and horses by the way of the Mesopotamian deserts; and these explorers have been fortunate enough to discover an entire mine of antiquities, consisting of bricks with very perfect inscriptions, which cannot fail to throw considerable light on the period of history to which the city to whose previous existence they bear testimony belongs. In addition to this, they discovered coffins of glazed earthenware, out of which they took armlets and anklets, furnished with inscriptions in a very perfect state. From these, it is probable that information as to the burial ceremonies of the dead may be collected,—in illustration not only of their domestic life, but also of their religious ceremonies connected with the final destination of both body and soul. In the short space of three days, Mr. Loftus (by the assistance of Arab excavators) has collected from these mounds sixty very curious relics,—the most important of which consisted in armlets, anklets, arrow-heads, bronze and clay statuettes, bractelets, and a sword: and, in addition to them, innumerable inscriptions. On his return to head-quarters, whether Mr. Loftus considered himself bound to proceed, to obtain an extension of leave, in order to revisit the scene of his successful labours, he laded his mules with some fine fragments of a statue in black basalt, all of which will be transmitted to England with Mr. Layard's third exportation of Assyrian marbles.—*Architect.*

*Carelessness of Letter Writers.*—It is estimated that there lies, from time to time, in the Dead-Letter Office, undergoing the process of finding owners, some 11,000*l.* annually, in cash alone. In July 1847, for instance—only a two months' accumulation—the post-haste of 4,658 letters, all containing property, was arrested by the bad superscriptions of the writers. They were consigned—after a searching inquest upon each by that efficient coroner, the "blind clerk"—to the post-office *Morgue*. There were bank notes of the value of 1,010*l.*, and money orders for 407*l.* 12*s.* But most of these ill-directed letters contained coin in small sums, amounting to 310*l.* 9*s.* 7*d.* On the 17th of July, 1847, there were lying in the dead-letter office, bills of exchange for the immense sum of 40,410*l.* 5*s.* 7*d.*—*Dickens's 'Household Words.'*

TO CORRESPONDENTS.—S. D. C.—T. L.—A Subscriber—P. C.—One of them—J. N.—A Reader from the Beginning—T. H. S.—received.

VEGETARIAN DIET.—We cannot find space for the controversial discussion in our columns to which our correspondent J. S. invites us. In noticing works on the subject, we have now and at other times stated our own opinion summarily, as we are bound to do. The opposite argument is maintained in the books themselves on which we comment,—and there would be an inconsistency in its re-statement in our paper.

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5,000	8 years	100 0 0	787 10 0	5,887 10 0
5,000	6 years	.. ..	675 0 0	5,675 0 0
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30	1 3 9	1 5 2	1 6 8	1 8 4	1 10 0	2 10 5
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1811	1000	33 19 2	231 17 8
1818	1000	34 16 10	114 18 10

Examples of Bonuses added to other Policies.

Policy No.	Date.	Sum Insured.	Bonuses added.	Total with Additions, to be further increased.
521	1807	£900	£982 12 1	£1882 12 1
1174	1810	1200	1160 5 6	2360 5 6
3392	1820	5000	3568 17 8	8568 17 8

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# THE ATHENÆUM

Journal of English and Foreign Literature, Science, and the Fine Arts.

No. 1183.

LONDON, SATURDAY, JUNE 29, 1850.

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**ROYAL BOTANIC SOCIETY, REGENT'S PARK.**—The LAST EXHIBITION this Season of PLANTS, FLOWERS, and FRUIT will take place on WEDNESDAY NEXT, July 3. Tickets to be obtained at the Gardens, only by orders from Fellows of the Society, price 5s. each, or on the day of Exhibition, 7s. 6d.

**ROYAL BOTANIC SOCIETY, REGENT'S PARK.—CONVERSAZIONE.**  
The Fellows of the Society are reminded that the CONVERSAZIONE will be held in the Gardens on SATURDAY NEXT, July 6th, from Three to Six p.m.; also, that if any Fellows of the Society or their friends have any subjects, either Natural or Artificial, connected with Botany of sufficient interest to be exhibited, and will kindly inform the Secretary at the Gardens, they will be sent for, or may be forwarded by carrier on or before the 5th of July, and will be carefully returned free of expense.

**UNIVERSITY OF ST. ANDREWS.**  
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that the EXAMINATION for the DEGREE of M.D. will commence on THURSDAY, the 1st of August.  
The requisite certificates must be forwarded to Dr. Day, the Professor of Medicine, at least a fortnight before the period of examination.  
Candidates desirous of further information may communicate with the Secretary.

By order of the Senatus Academicus,  
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University of St. Andrews,  
21st June, 1850.

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On Tuesday, the 15th of October 1850, an Examination will be held for the Admission of Students. Candidates for Entrance are requested to send in their names to the Registrar, on or before Friday, the 11th of October.

On Thursday, the 17th of October, the Examination for Scholarships will commence, to which none but Students who shall have passed the Entrance Examination will be admitted.

The Council have the power of conferring at this Examination Twenty-eight Scholarships of the first year, viz.: Twelve in Literature, and Twelve in Science, of the value of 24s. each; One in Civil Engineering, and One in Law, of the value of 20s. each; and Two in Agriculture, of the value of 13s. each.

The Council have also the power of conferring at the Scholarship Examination of the second year, the same number of Scholarships of the same value, and similarly distributed.

The Scholarships are tenable for one year only; but the Scholars of each year are eligible, at its expiration, to Scholarships of the succeeding year.

Supplemental Entrance Examinations will be held on Tuesday, 12th of November 1850, and at the Commencement of the Second Term of the Collegiate Session, viz., on Tuesday, 7th of January 1851.

**REGULATIONS.**  
The Session, or Academic year, will commence on the 15th of October, and terminate on the second Saturday in June, with short recesses at Christmas and Easter, and will consist of three Terms—the first, or Winter Term, extending from the commencement of the Session to the Christmas recess; the second, or Spring Term, from the Christmas to the Easter recess; and the third, or Summer Term, from the Easter recess to the end of the Session.  
The Undergraduate Course will occupy three Sessions, at the end of which Students will be admitted to examination for the Degrees of A.B., provided they shall have attended the College Lectures during two terms, at the least, in each Session, and shall have passed the prescribed Sessional examinations.

These Examinations are held at the expiration of each Session, and Prizes are awarded to the Students who exhibit the greatest proficiency.  
Previous to being admitted to the Entrance Examination, each Candidate will be required to pay to the Bursar the Matriculation Fee, and a moiety of the Class Fees for the Session, both of which will be returned, should the Candidate fail to pass the examination. Payment of the remaining moiety of the Class Fees for the Session will be required from the Student before the end of the current term. From this latter payment Scholars are exempt. The amount of Fees to be paid for the first Session by each Student, is as follows:—

	Matriculation	Class	Fees	Total.
In the Faculty of Arts.....	£3 0 0	£3 0 0	..	£11 0 0
— Law.....	3 0 0	4 0 0	..	7 0 0
— School of Civil Engineering.....	3 0 0	5 10 0	..	11 10 0
— Agriculture.....	1 10 0	6 0 0	..	7 10 0

**NON-MATRICULATED STUDENTS.**  
The Lectures of the several Professors will be open to Gentlemen unconnected with the College on payment of the regulated Sessional fees, amounting generally to 2l. 5s. for each course. Gentlemen intended for the NAVAL and MILITARY Professions may also receive special and practical instructions in Navigation, Fortification, and the other subjects required for their preliminary education.

As no Residences have been provided for the Students within the College, houses have been approved of by the President, where Board and Lodging may be obtained. These houses are placed under the supervision of the Deans of Residences.  
Prospectuses of the Faculties of Arts, Medicine, of Law, and of the Schools of Engineering and of Agriculture, may be had upon application made to the Registrar.

By order of the President,  
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LONDON, SATURDAY, JUNE 29, 1850.

## REVIEWS

*Memoirs and Papers of Sir Andrew Mitchell, K.B., Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary from the Court of Great Britain to the Court of Prussia, from 1756 to 1771.* By Andrew Bisset, of Lincoln's Inn, Barrister-at-Law. 2 vols. Chapman & Hall.

OF all questions connected with our political system those of foreign politics have always been least interesting to the public mind in this country. Our insular position is not in itself enough to account for the indifference with which foreign questions of great European importance are viewed by our people.—It is part of the John Bull character not to mind other people's business; and that distinctive sturdy peculiarity of our national temper influences the mode in which the English people regard Continental affairs. Yet, as a source of constant interest, in no country are politics so intently studied and incessantly discussed as in England. Paley reckoned amongst the social advantages of a free government the enjoyment of reading and talking politics. In his chapter on Government he remarks,—"Political subjects excite just enough of interest and emotion to afford a moderate engagement to the thoughts, without raising them to any painful degree of anxiety. Had I all the money which I pay in taxes to government at liberty to lay out on amusement and diversion, I know not whether I could make choice of any in which I could find greater pleasure than what I receive from expecting, hearing, and relating public news." We have ourselves heard a celebrated physician assert that several of his patients would rather go without their breakfast than without their daily newspaper.—In truth, it must be confessed that no politics for a long series of years have been so interesting as the living politics of England. The working of the English constitution, with its Monarchy, Lords, and Commons, presents a far more dramatic and attractive spectacle than is to be witnessed in other countries. Intelligent Americans remark on the monotony of the politics of the States as compared with the exciting contests between the highly-trained public men of England,—where two great parties, uniting the passions of the present with the traditions of the past, struggle for mastery over the national mind. The very intensity of English politics perhaps renders our people comparatively apathetic on Continental questions. Other causes might easily be assigned. What a neighbouring State will do in a given aspect of affairs is of course more interesting to Russia, Prussia, or Austria, than to England, where Nature has opposed barriers to an easy or immediate invasion.—It might be expected, however, that foreign politics would have their attraction for the ambition of our leading patriots;—but the fact is, that there have been fewer candidates for the office of Foreign Secretary than for any other department in the Cabinet. Generally, each of the great parties in the State has had a very small number of persons competent to fill the post of Secretary for Foreign Affairs.

There have been, nevertheless, at long intervals, particular periods when the people of this country have been roused to an anxious and attentive consideration of foreign matters. Frederick the Great by his extraordinary achievements succeeded in imparting to the Seven Years' War of the last century an interest such as our people have rarely taken in the contests of the remote States of Europe. The volumes before us, containing the diary and portions of the correspondence of our ambas-

sador at the court of Frederick, must of course be attractive from the nature of their subject. We turned to them with curiosity, expecting that we should meet with graphic pictures of the Court at Berlin drawn by one having the best opportunities for observation. We have been, however, to a great extent, disappointed. The work, though containing valuable materials for the historian, does not prove so readable as we anticipated. Sir Andrew Mitchell was a man of affairs in the part which he played, and in his style, which is extremely dry and brief. This correspondence is a long series of small notes rather than despatches, and none of the letters rise to the breadth and force of State papers. There is not that fulness of detail which is customary in the correspondence of our eminent diplomatists. The writer takes a clerk-like view of great subjects. His intellect was clear, but not commanding; and without being a mere formalist, his range of thought does not extend beyond that of an official red-tapist. In fact, the correspondence is not on a level with the traditional reputation of Sir Andrew Mitchell, which, though over-rated by the editor, places him among the most successful of our foreign ministers. Recollecting the splendid stage on which he was placed,—that he was in the very theatre where the most stirring drama in Europe was enacting,—and that he was in constant intercourse with such a master-spirit as Frederick the Second,—we are astonished at the monotonous insipidity of the letters of Sir Andrew Mitchell. Thus much, however, may be said to account for some portion of our disappointment: Frederick the Great and the age in which he lived have been treated of by the best writers of Europe,—and the correspondence of an ordinary describer appears to considerable disadvantage when discussing themes which have been illustrated by the liveliness of Voltaire and the brilliancy of Macaulay. Their authenticity constitutes the principal merit of the volumes under review.—Nor has the editor very skillfully performed his work of preparing this correspondence for publication. He does not seem to be particularly well informed on the times treated of, and his notes evince more of the peculiarities of a genealogist than of the spirit of an author. Aware that the general reader would require helps for understanding the facts of the correspondence,—in place of a flowing and orderly narrative supplied by his own pen, he explains his text by copious extracts from Mr. Macaulay's 'Essays,' which he always cites from the *Edinburgh Review*, not from the more careful and revised form in which they have been published. He should have introduced the correspondence by a careful introductory essay,—which would not have been very difficult either of compilation or of composition. But Mr. Bisset is not a good writer or critic. The trouble, however, which attended the collection of this correspondence must have been of no ordinary kind, and for the praiseworthy labours of Mr. Bisset in giving it to the world we have reason to be grateful. Collecting letters and comparing copies impose on an editor much labour scarcely apprehended by the reader. Let us say finally, that Mr. Bisset might by the omission of some of the dull parts of the correspondence and the introduction of illustrative matter have rendered the work more generally attractive.

Sir Andrew Mitchell was born at Edinburgh in 1708. Educated for the bar, he resigned his profession on the death of his wife, and travelled through the greater part of Europe,—became a linguist, and studied the law of nations. At Paris he made the acquaintance of Montesquieu; and the editor states that Sir Andrew retained

to the last the friendship of the author of 'L'Esprit des Loix.' A great gap then occurs in the 'Memoirs,' for we suddenly find Mitchell gazetted as Under-Secretary of State for Scotland, in 1742,—the Marquis of Tweeddale having been appointed Secretary for Scotland. Thomson, the poet, in his letters alludes to the subject of this memoir briefly.—"Mitchell is in the House for Aberdeenshire, and has spoken modestly well. I hope he will be something else soon; none deserves better, true friendship and humanity dwell in his heart." Mitchell sat in three Parliaments, till his death in 1771. In 1756 he was appointed Envoy to the King of Prussia at the crisis of his affairs.

The famous campaign of 1757 is the most interesting topic of the correspondence. As the editor has had so often recourse to Mr. Macaulay in order to illustrate the general state of affairs in Europe, he might also have cited the very pleasing and clearly written narrative of the proceedings under Frederick to be found in Lord Mahon's fourth volume of the 'History of England since the Peace of Utrecht.' From the camp before Prague just after a battle had been fought "more bloody," says Mr. Macaulay, "than any which Europe saw during the long interval between Malplaquet and Eylau," Sir Andrew Mitchell writes home the following letter:—which is a fair specimen of the general style of his correspondence.—

"Mr. Mitchell to the Earl of Holderness.

"Convent of St. Margaret, in the camp before Prague, Friday, the 6th May, 1757.

"My Lord,—I have the honour to acquaint your Lordship, that this day, a little before 10 o'clock in the morning, a general engagement began between the Prussian and Austrian armies, which lasted till half an hour past two in the afternoon. The fire of the artillery and small arms was dreadful, but I can yet give no account of particulars on either side. All we know is, that the left of the Prussians commanded by the King attacked the right of the Austrians, and after a very obstinate resistance drove them from the field of battle. The Prussian hussars and cavalry are now in full pursuit of them, and the right wing of the Austrians are retiring towards the Zasawa. The right of the Prussians attacked the left of the Austrians, and have likewise defeated them, and drove them towards the Moldau. A great part of their infantry have thrown themselves into Prague. The place where this action happened is on the high grounds on the other side of Prague. The distance cannot be considerable, as I saw the different corps march, and heard distinctly the fire of the small arms. The King of Prussia's army, after the junction with Marechal Schwerin, might be 70 or 80,000 men, and that of the Austrians upwards of a 100,000, the deserters say 150,000. Monday last the King of Prussia's army encamped within cannon-shot of Prague, having met with no resistance; and on Wednesday the King, having notice that Marechal Schwerin's army had passed the Elbe, marched in the afternoon with 20 battalions and 36 or 38 squadrons, and threw a bridge over the Moldau at Seltz, about half a mile below Prague. This bridge could not be finished till Thursday about one o'clock, when the King passed, but did not join Marechal Schwerin's army till Friday morning. Marechal Keith had the command of the army on this side the Moldau. An officer that was in the action told me that the Austrians were well posted, but that they were drove from post to post, and particularly that the strong post of Ziscaberg occupied by the Austrians had cost very dear. I can say nothing of the loss on either side, which must be considerable, but the whole Prussian army are now in tears for the loss of Marechal Schwerin, one of the greatest officers this or perhaps any country has produced, and one of the best men. The King of Prussia is well, but greatly afflicted for the loss of Marechal Schwerin. Prince Henry, the king's brother, was in the action and unhurt; the other princes were in the army on this side the Moldau. I hope soon to send your



Lordship a full and clear relation of this glorious victory, and I forward this in the mean time by Samuel Dony, one of my servants, as I have but one messenger with me, who probably must be despatched to St. Petersburg.—I am, &c.,  
—ANDREW MITCHELL."

The fortitude with which Frederick endured reverses is frequently testified to by Sir Andrew Mitchell, whose correspondence verifies the general character of mind which has been attributed to Frederick. He appears, indeed, in Mitchell's letters as more amiable and less of the martinet than he looks in other pages:—a fact which may be attributed to the friendly terms on which the English Ambassador was with the Court of Berlin. Thus, in the following letter, we find the character of the hero and his remarkable inflexibility attested. A couple of months before the memorable battle of Rosbach, at a time when the King was surrounded with difficulties, Sir Andrew writes of him:—

"The celerity of his march, and the terror of his name, have struck the French and the army of the Empire with a pannick, and disconcerted their affairs, at least for some time; but as they are already three times as strong, and their numbers are daily increasing, it is probable they will soon return towards this place, in which case, it is thought we must retire towards *Leipsic* or *Hall*, in order to be at hand to join the detachments which have been made to Torgau and Halberstadt, which all together will form a corps of about 27m, including those that were in garrison in those places. The Prussian army is so scattered in small corps in Saxony, that I fear they may be surrounded or overpowered by numbers, and this must have happened six weeks ago, had the great Austrian army acted with spirit. The King of Prussia bears his misfortunes with great magnanimity, and though they come very thick one upon another, he never appears discouraged or disconcerted. He, even in public, shows a cheerfulness and easiness of mind, difficult to be maintained in such circumstances. He sees and feels at the same time the desperate situation of his affairs, but his resentments are stronger than his political principles."

The battle of Rosbach was perhaps the greatest achievement of Frederick. Its effects on the politics of Europe were of first-rate importance. It made Frederick the object of enthusiasm in England as well as in his native land. "An attentive observer," says the essayist so often quoted by Mr. Bisset, "will at this day find in the parlours of old-fashioned inns, and in the portfolios of printsellers, twenty portraits of Frederick for one of George the Second. The sign-painters were everywhere employed in touching up Admiral Vernon into the King of Prussia." We were disappointed to find how dry and meagre is the matter in Sir Andrew Mitchell's correspondence at such a stirring time. If he were writing of the winners at a cricket match he could scarcely be briefer or less historical. Yet the "particulars had from the King of Prussia" give to his letter the value of authentic detail.—

"My Lord,—As the King of Prussia sends Major Grant to acquaint his Majesty with the particulars of the late action of the 5th, it is almost needless for me to enter into a detail of particulars; that gentleman having been present in the action, will be better able to satisfy your Lordship's curiosity with regard to what happened then, and since, and you may safely depend upon the accounts he will give. But there are some circumstances attending this action of so very extraordinary a nature, that nothing less than the greatest authority can render them credible. I shall, therefore, give your Lordship an account of such particulars I had from the King of Prussia, when I had the honour to congratulate him upon his late victory. The whole number of the Prussian troops upon the field of battle did not exceed 18m, of which 4,500 were dragoons and hussars. The enemy, by the most moderate computation, were from 50 to 60m. Of the Prussians, only seven battalions, and all the cavalry were engaged. The loss on the side of the Prussians, killed, wounded, and

missing, amounts to 373, as I have seen by the returns. Of the combined army, it was reckoned there were killed on the field of battle from 800 to 1,000, upwards of 6,000 prisoners taken, amongst whom are 8 general officers, and a great number of gentlemen of distinguished families. The *déroute* was so general, and the pannick so strong, that the men threw away their muskets, fled in the greatest confusion, and passed the *Unstrut* at *Freyberg*, and at two other places in the night; and it is the unanimous opinion of the Prussian Generals, that had there been two hours more daylight, this French army would have been totally exterminated. There are now in the hands of the Prussians 70 pieces of cannon; and it is expected more will still be found, which were thrown into the river. They have taken 15 standards, eight pair of colours, and two pair of kettle drums. The hussars and dragoons were despatched on the 6th, in the morning, after the fugitives. They have made many prisoners, and pushed the enemy as far as the gates of Erfurth. Some fled to *Jena*, and the whole army is dispersed. What a pity it is that the King of Prussia's present circumstances and situation does not permit him to push this glorious victory with the vigour he is always ready to exert, and consequently that he cannot reap the full fruits of his labours. The King of Prussia returned to Leipzig on the 9th, at night, and will set out forthwith for his army in Silesia, as he has received news that the Austrians have invested *Schweidnitz*. I hear the Duke of Richelieu, immediately after the news of the battle, evacuated the country of Halberstadt, and it is reported that the troops of the Empire, and some of the French, are retired towards Hesse."

The editor prints the diary of Sir Andrew Mitchell after his correspondence. It would have been a much better arrangement to have placed the notes from the diary in immediate connexion with each of the despatches, where the diary writer and the ambassador's letters treat of the same matter. There is no more awkward mode of arrangement than that in which materials are overlaid. The diary, though brief, and by no means so full of particulars as we expected, has some few interesting parts. Here is a picture of Frederick after the death of the Queen-Mother.—

"So soon as the King had notice of the death of the Queen Mother, he for two days had no levée; the Princes only dined with him. He sent for me in the afternoon, and I had the honour to sit with him several hours. He appeared to me to be extremely affected with the death of the Queen Mother—complained that his misfortunes came too thick to be borne; he then was pleased to tell me a great deal of the private history of his family; of the manner in which he had been educated, owning at the same time the loss he felt for want of proper education, blaming his father, but with great candour and gentleness, and acknowledging that in his youth he had been *bien étonné*, and deserved his father's indignation, which, however, the late King, from the impetuosity of his temper, had carried too far. He told me that by his mother's persuasion and that of his sister of Bayreuth, he had given a writing under his hand, declaring that he never would marry any other person but the Princess Amelia of England; that this was wrong, and provoked his father. He said he could not excuse it, but from his youth and want of experience; that his promise unhappily was discovered, the late Queen Caroline, to whom it was sent, having shown or spoke of it to General Diemar. He had betrayed the secret to Seckendorf, who told it to the King of Prussia; upon this discovery, and his scheme of making his escape, his misfortunes followed. He told me, with regard to making his escape, that he had long been unhappy and harshly used by his father, but what made him resolve upon it was, that one day his father struck him, and pulled him by the hair, and in this dishevelled condition he was obliged to pass the parade, and from that moment he had resolved, *coute qui coute*, to venture it. That during his imprisonment at \* \* he had been treated in the harshest manner; brought to the window to see \* \* beheaded; that he fainted away. That [Katt] might have made his escape and saved himself, the Danish minister having given him notice,

but he loitered, he believed, on account of some girl he was fond of. He said the happiest years of his life were those he spent at \* \* a house he has given to his brother Prince Henry. There he retired after his imprisonment, and remained till the death of the late King. His chief amusement was study, and making up for the want of education by reading, making extracts, and conversing with sensible people and men of taste that were then about him. He talked much of the obligations he had to the Queen Mother, and of his affection to his sister the Margravine of Bayreuth, with whom he had been bred. He observed that the harmony that had been maintained in his family was greatly owing to the education they had had, imperfect and defective in many things, but good in this, that all the children had been brought up, not as princes, but as the children of private persons. He mentioned the differences there had been between their family and that of Hanover, and spoke of the late King's testament, but with great moderation. He told me his intention was to remain in Bohemia as long as he could, and to destroy the forage which he could not consume; that his brother the Prince of Prussia would do the same on the confines of Lusatia; this would make it difficult for the enemy to follow him."

When a king turns author, and asks an ambassador at his court to become critic, we fear that it is in the course of things that the strictures on the royal writer will not be very severe. The criticism will evaporate in courtesy, and there will be more of a Chesterfield than an Aristarchus in the censor. In the following letter we have introduced to us the King of Prussia *en philosophe*, and the English Envoy laying claim to the character of the mildest of "Edinburgh Reviewers." Mr. Bisset states that this letter contradicts the accounts previously given of Frederick's overbearing demeanour; but the King, we suspect, must have been arrogant indeed if he chafed under the gentle spitting of Sir Andrew Mitchell.—

"About a week ago, when I came to dine with the King of Prussia, I found a book laid upon the table, which, he told me, he intended for a present to me; the title of it is, '*Œuvres du Philosophe de Sans Souci*.' 'He said it was of his writing, and had been the occupation of his leisure hours; that it contained some imitations of Horace, Lucretius and Ovid; that he never intended it for the public, though a few copies of it had been thrown off in his own press at Potsdam, some of which he had given to particular friends, &c.; that lately the book had been surreptitiously published in France, and since in Holland, with a view to hurt him, but that he had not yet been able to discover who had been guilty of this breach of trust; that, in reprinting, several things were omitted, altered, or mangled, which laid him under the necessity of having it again printed more correctly and carefully; and he was pleased to add, that, so soon as the new edition was ready, he would give me a copy; which I shall not fail to send to your Lordship. In the meantime he desired me to read over that he gave me, and dropt a hint that he should be glad it was known in England 'that this book had been published, not only without his consent, but against his will.' This declaration I considered as a sort of apology for the book, and had nothing more at heart than to look into it immediately; but my curiosity had like to cost me dear, for the *Philosophe* the next day asked my opinion, and, observing that I was shy and reserved upon the point, pressed and encouraged me to speak freely, which I, not caring to dissemble, complied with more easily, as there are really more things to be admired than blamed in the book. I praised with decency and without exaggeration, and blamed with freedom where I thought I was well founded; and this has afforded matter of conversation for 5 or 6 days at table, when only his Majesty was present. The particulars are too minute to be transmitted, therefore I reserve them till I have the happiness to see you in England. It is but justice, however, to acquaint you that the King held with candour and with temper my trifling remarks, and, at the same time, to declare, that of all the authors I ever conversed with, the '*Philosophe de Sans Souci*' bears criticism the best."



We were surprised by stumbling on a letter from "Phil. Francis" in the second volume, together with the editor's own introduction of it.—

"The following letter, written in 1759 to Mitchell, is stated, in the MS. list of the letters, to be from Sir Philip Francis, the reputed author of the 'Letters of Junius;' but, as Sir Philip Francis was only born in 1740, this letter could scarcely be from him; it was, probably, from his father, Philip Francis, D.D. It does not appear that the Philip Francis, *quidvis fuit*, who wrote this letter, ever completed the General History of the Seven Years' War, for which, he says in this letter, he was then collecting materials. It is not easy to see how he could reconcile what he says was his ruling passion (just as Junius is fond of telling us it was his), 'a detestation of tyranny and oppression, a love of liberty, and a reverence for the constitution of the British government,' with making the King of Prussia his hero.

"Sir,—The favour I am going to ask is, I confess, of a very delicate nature. Your refusal to grant it will convince me it was improper, but I trust your good nature will not think it impertinent. Without further apology, give me leave, sir, to tell you, I have been for some time employed in collecting materials for a General History of the present war, to be published whenever the ambition of France and Vienna shall be compelled to give peace to Europe. I have already got some very valuable plans, draughts and journals, from General Braddock's ill-fated expedition to the more fortunate siege of Louisbourg, and our last success at Goree; but where the events of war have been most important in themselves, most interesting to the present world, and most instructive to posterity, there, sir, I am almost totally ignorant. How shall I follow the King of Prussia in sieges, battles, victories—in his retreats, more glorious than his victories? I fear, sir, you will hardly be able to know this great monarch in the lifeless, imperfect accounts of newspapers and gazettes. May not somewhat, then, within the bounds of prudence and the honour due to your station, be hazarded to preserve his fame from the unwilling misrepresentations of error and ignorance? I really believe his Majesty had other nobler motives than even those of glory for entering into the present war; I mean, those of his affection for his people, and his ardour to maintain the liberties of Europe. But what great spirit, sir, is insensible to fame? and surely, if there be that people upon earth whose applause is worthy of his Majesty's regard, it is the people of Great Britain. Their good sense makes the truly great man the certain object of their esteem, and assuredly they have naturally a great deal of the enthusiasm with which heroes are said to be inspired. After these, I know not whether I may call them reasons for your complying, in whatever degree you think proper, with a request which you must now fully understand, I shall not, sir, attempt to influence you to grant it by any insinuation with regard to your own interests; those, I mean, of your future reputation. Yet, surely, sir, to have been honour'd with the confidence of a monarch, who is his own minister in the Cabinet as he is his own general in the field, will be for ever worth preserving to your friends and your country. Even I, while I record things worthy of immortality, shall, perhaps, neither die unknown, nor forgotten by posterity. But, sir, whatever shall be my fate, I hope to preserve so much of the historian's integrity as never to know any other partiality than that which arises from a detestation of tyranny and oppression, a love of liberty, and a reverence for the constitution of the British government. If the conduct of our ministers, and consequently their characters, must necessarily enter into the work I propose, I think it not unhappy that I have never received either favours or obligations that might influence a good heart to be too grateful,—neither injuries nor insults, that might provoke a revengeful spirit to calumny and falsehood. I dare profess a general esteem for every man of merit or virtue, and then, sir, you will not doubt of that very sincere regard with which I have ever been your obliged and most obedient servant,  
PHIL. FRANCIS."

"London, Nassau Street, 20 Feb., 1759."

Mr. Bisset is very hasty in jumping to the conclusion, that, "as Sir Philip Francis was only born in 1740, this letter could scarcely be from

him." Why not? Is it that the composition of the letter is too good for a young man of nineteen? To us the letter reads very like what might have been expected from Sir Philip in his teens. Its lofty tone, its vein of egotism, its vaunting spirit ("Even I, while I record things," &c. &c.) are very like the known character of Sir Philip; and the facts in his early life would warrant the supposition of the letter being from his pen. At sixteen years of age he was a clerk in a Government office, by the favour of Lord Holland. He acted as amanuensis to Lord Chatham; by whom, at the early age of eighteen, he was made private secretary to General Bligh on that officer being appointed to command an expedition against the coast of France. Young Francis saw the landing of the British troops at St. Maloes. The precocity of Sir Philip is an established fact; and we think it very likely that he might in his youthful ambition have thought of aspiring to the distinction of a historian by composing a history of this war. It strikes us also as worthy of special remark, that Sir Philip, shortly after his return from St. Maloes, was nominated Secretary to the Earl of Kinnoul, a Scotch peer, and ambassador at Lisbon. It will be recollected that Sir Andrew Mitchell, to whom the foregoing letter is addressed, had served the office of Under-Secretary to another Scotch Peer—the Marquis of Tweeddale. Again, Mr. Bisset's remark, that the 'History of the Seven Years' War,' designed by the writer of the foregoing letter, was never composed, is more favourable to the supposition that the writer was Sir Philip than to that of its being his father, Dr. Francis. The father had abundant leisure for the composition of such a work; while it was impossible that young Francis, from the events of his early manhood, could ever have realized the wish which he might have entertained of writing such a history.

There are some letters from the Duke of Newcastle and the Earl of Holderness in this collection which are not devoid of interest. Newcastle appears in his correspondence just as we could have fancied him from the inimitable picture which Smollett has drawn of him in one of his best novels. His fussy sense of business and his bustling volubility appear even in his letters; which are quite in the vein of his well-known answer to Lord Ligonier, when he suggested to the Duke the propriety of defending Annapolis.—"To be sure, Annapolis ought to be preserved. Oh! yes! Annapolis shall be defended. Where is Annapolis?"

The few notes of Thomson, the poet, are of no importance. He was too lazy to be a good correspondent. There is a short one from Dr. Armstrong, which is characteristic.—

"Dr. Armstrong to Mr. John Forbes.

[No date.]

"My dear F.—As the d—l, my particular enemy, would have it, I can't go with you. God send us good luck in the lottery! If mine comes up a ten thousand, I intend to turn gentleman; for if I drudge more, poyson me. My service to Thomson.

"I am ever yours, - J. A."

"Sunday, near 10."

In the hands of a literary artist the matter of these volumes might have been worked into an attractive shape. In the present form, we repeat, the letters of Mitchell are of more interest to the writer than to the reader of history.

*The Shoe and Canoe; or, Pictures of Travel in the Canadas: illustrative of their Scenery and of Colonial Life; with Facts and Opinions on Emigration, State Policy, and other Points of Public Interest.* With numerous Plates and Maps. By John J. Bigsby, M.D. 2 vols. Chapman & Hall.

THERE is not a word on the above title-page to acquaint the reader that Dr. Bigsby's "Shoe" is

a shoe of old standing, and that his "Canoe" made its voyages "many a year ago." On the other hand, there are many words in the beginning, middle, and latter portion of these volumes which are calculated to make Allowance's self throw them down with Mr. Burchell's cry of "Fudge!" Finer writing and slacker style we have not often met. What an argument, for instance, of an old and well-known tragedy, is the following:—

"The Duke of Richmond died of hydrophobia very distressingly in the backwoods of the River Ottawa. A Plantagenet dying thus in a hovel in a Canadian wild might be made a very searching text."

In the next page, Lady Dalhousie's conversational powers and miniature painting are grouped very much after the fashion of the accomplishments, family connexions, and claims on beatitude of *Lady O'Looney*, in the epitaph so recently disinterred by Mr. Dickens. Mr. Wilderspin, the promoter of infant schools, is, shortly after, designated as "an aged and wise baby." The "homogeneity of atmosphere" is commended in a landscape as giving great grace to a picture.—Mr. M.—'s singing at a Montreal party, is worth putting on record:—

"The guests at the wine table now joined the ladies for coffee, when one of the Miss M'Gillvray called to Mr. M.—, and insisted upon his singing a wild *voyageur* song, 'Le premier jour de Mai,' playing the spirited tune on the piano at the same time with one hand. Thus commanded, Mr. M.— sang it as only the true *voyageur* can do, imitating the action of the paddle, and in their high, resounding, and yet musical tones. His practised voice enabled him to give us the various swells and falls of sounds upon the waters, driven about by the winds, dispersed and softened in the wide expanses, or brought close again to the ear by neighbouring rocks. He finished, as is usual, with the piercing Indian shriek."

We go on with a pair of good stories, for the truth or exaggeration of which the reader is referred to the Jesse's, Watertons, and other naturalists and travellers more competent to accredit their authenticity than we.—

"When this was over, and the lady had obeyed a call to the piano frankly and well, a gentleman asked Mr. M'Gillvray what truth there was in the accounts of the dancing pheasants in the north-west, adding, that although he was at first incredulous, he could scarcely remain so after Mr. Gould's statements respecting the pastimes of the bower-bird of Australia. Here our friend Mr. Thompson said he had repeatedly stumbled upon what might be called a 'pheasant's ball,' among the glades on the eastern flanks of the Rocky Mountains. In those grassy countries the almost noiseless tread of the horses' feet (unshod) sometimes is not noticed by the busy birds; but the intruder must not be seen. 'The pheasants choose a beech,' said Mr. T., 'for the dance, a tree with boughs, several on the same level, and only full leafed at their ends. The feathered spectators group around. Six or seven pheasants step on the trembling stage, and begin to stamp, and prance, and twinkle their little feet like so many Bayadères, skipping with '*balance et chasses*' from bough to bough; or they sit with curtsy and flutter, arching their glowing necks, and opening and closing their wings in concert; but, in truth, the dance is indescribable, most singular, and laughable. When it has lasted ten minutes, a new set of performers step forward, and the exhibition may last a couple of hours.' I confess to have been at the time greatly staggered by this story; but we see it has been verified, as well as another as incredible, from the same gentleman. He told us that in the far north-west, near the Arctic circle, the ice forms over a river, and the water sometimes deserts its bed. There is a dry channel, with a high arch of rough ice overhead, tinted white, green, and earth-coloured, if the banks are lofty. He said he had travelled for the best part of a mile in such a tunnel, simply because it was the best road."

We will next, and last, treat the reader to a group of real, not drawing-room, *voyageurs*.

"I was disappointed and not a little surprised at



the appearance of the *voyageurs*. On Sundays, as they stand round the door of the village churches, they are proud dressy fellows in their parti-coloured sashes and ostrich-feathers; but here they were a motley set to the eye: but the truth was that all of them were picked men, with extra wages as serving in a light canoe. Some were well made, but all looked weak in the legs, and were of light weight. A Falstaff would have put his foot through the canoe to the 'yellow sands' beneath. The collection of faces among them chanced to be extraordinary, as they squatted, paddle in hand, in two rows, each on his slender bag of necessities. By the bye, all their finery (and they love it) was left at home. One man's face, with a large Jewish nose, seemed to have been squeezed in a vice, or to have passed through a flattening machine. It was like a cheese-cutter—all edge. Another had one nostril bitten off. He proved the buffoon of the party. He had the extraordinary faculty of untying the strings of his face, as it were, at pleasure, when his features fell into confusion—into a crazed chaos almost frightful; his eye, too, lost its usual significance: but no man's countenance (barring the bite) was fuller of fun and fancies than his, when he liked. A third man had his features wrenched to the right—exceedingly little, it is true; but the effect was remarkable. He had been slapped on the face by a grisly bear. Another was a short, paunchy old man, with vast features, but no forehead—the last man I should have selected; but he was a hard-working creature, usually called 'Passe-partout,' because he had been everywhere, and was famous for the weight of fish he could devour at a meal. He knew the flavour of the fish of each great lake, just as the man who had been ordered by Boerhaave to live on broth made of grass came to know the field from whence it was taken. Except the younger men, their faces were short, thin, quick in their expression, and mapped out in furrows, like those of the Sunday-less Parisians. Nothing could exceed their respectful and obliging behaviour. The same must be said of all of this class with whom I had anything to do. Their occupation is now gone—gone for them the hot chase of the buffalo, the fishing-spear, and echoing cliffs of Lake Huron. I look upon them with the same mysterious awe and regret as I should do on the last Dodo or Dinornis, the ultimate vestiges of a lost race. Our worthy priest, M. Tabeau, while on shore, shook every *voyageur* by the hand kindly, and had a pleasant word for each. We then embarked at thirty minutes past three P.M. As soon as we were well settled down in our places, and the canoe began to feel the paddles, M. Tabeau, by way of asking a blessing on the voyage, pulled off his hat, and sounded forth a Latin invocation to the Deity, and to a long train of male and female saints, in a loud and full voice, while all the men, at the end of each versicle, made response, 'Qu'il me bénisse.' This done, he called for a song; and many were gleefully carolled—each verse in solo, and then repeated in chorus, north-west fashion. Of such use is singing, in enabling the men to work eighteen and nineteen hours a-day (at a pinch), through forests and across great bays, that a good singer has additional pay. The songs are sung with might and main, at the top of the voice, timed to the paddle, which makes about fifty strokes in a minute. While nearing habitations, crossing sheets of water, and during rain, the song is loud and long. The airs I suppose to be ancient French. They are often very beautiful."

The above extracts will fairly represent Dr. Bigsby's manner,—and in some degree convey our opinion of his matter. For tiresome, and egotistic, and super-sentimental though he be—and given to indulge in Malaprop-*rieties*, to a degree which more than once made us turn away from his 'Pictures' with derision,—his book nevertheless contains an amount of information, character, colour,—in short, of useful and entertaining matter which should and will rescue it from the disdain liable to be excited by so unfortunate a fashion of writing as his. It is not a work worth dealing with diffusely and analytically—not worth a deliberate sifting of wheat from chaff—but neither is it to be irrevocably dismissed to the Limbo of Waste Paper.

*France and its Revolutions: a Pictorial History, 1789-1848.* By George Long. Knight.

In an early period of its monthly issue from the press, we characterized this new history of the French Revolution as a work of mark—the production of a careful and candid writer. We find no reason to alter that verdict now that it comes before us in the bound volume. We do not use the word *complete*, because the design has evidently suffered a change in the process of execution:—as will be pretty apparent when we say that the history of the *first* of the three French revolutions occupies six-sevenths of the entire work. To have written out the whole series of events on the same scale as that in which the early part is composed, would have required another volume equally huge. The result is now, therefore, to be judged of by intentions other than are indicated on the title-page. The work is in reality a history of the great Revolution of 1789—with a brief abstract of the main course of events down to our own times. Our commendation applies to the portion of the work which the writer has executed according to his own idea. What Mr. Long has done in this way he has done well. Everywhere the reader is sensible that he is under the guidance of a judicious and judicial mind. He acquires the habit of confidence,—and feels that the progress which he makes is really secured. The temper of his guide is so serene and philosophic, that he learns in a short time to take his facts on faith and to accept the conclusions suggested without hesitation. It is no slight merit for an author so to gain the reader's confidence.

Mr. Long is of the school of philosophic thinkers which regards history as a series of facts logically connected and admitting of logical development—in a word, as a science—in contradistinction to that which regards it as a conglomeration of emotions, passions, and vicissitudes. Each of these schools has its peculiar features of advantage. The scientific writer strives after absolute truth—with little care for the interests which it may serve when discovered,—the truth as it respects facts, and the truth as it respects principles to be evolved out of the historical equation. The other pursues a method having in view widely varying objects:—generally the inculcation of certain doctrines or political ideas. He brings to his task the passions and the thoughts of active life. To him history is more than a positive science. It is the stirring record of human existence—the germ of the future. The first goes to History for itself,—the second for its uses; the one because it throws light on the transactions of the past,—the other because it throws light on the transactions of the present. Of methods so different it is not easy to combine the various excellencies; the calm tone, the careful search for facts, the thorough sifting of conflicting evidence, the matured reflection of the one—with the warmth of colouring, the variety of expression, the clash and brilliancy of the second. We cannot say that Mr. Long has achieved this combination of opposite beauties. His tone strikes us as on the whole unnecessarily subdued and guarded. Some of the scenes which he describes were of a nature to stir the very stones of Paris—but he never rises to enthusiasm. This is, no doubt, a drawback on the interest and on the uses of his volume.

From a history so well known as that of the first French Revolution it would be an abuse of our space to offer extracts. But we may mention that a good deal of space is given by Mr. Long to the nature and aims of Maximilian Robespierre. We have before pointed out [*Athen.* No. 1115, p. 247] the difficulty of determining the position of a man so intimately

connected with the history of political ideas; but our philosophic historian undertakes the task—though with but little satisfaction to himself (as the frequent references in the foot-notes prove) or to his reader. His only conclusion is, that, "after all his character was a mystery,"—which is not very novel, to say the least of it. Mr. Long seems to incline to the old opinion that Robespierre wounded himself when about to be arrested in the *Salle de l'Egalité*. If the only evidence to the contrary were the assertion of Meda, the gendarme who actually fired at him, this historical question would still be one on which doctors might disagree. But the document which the Tribune was signing at the moment when the pistol went off is still in existence [see *Athen.* No. 1122, p. 438]—and a sight of it is convincing as to the fact that Robespierre did not attempt to commit suicide to escape the horrors of a public trial and execution.

*Eldorado; or, Adventures in the Path of Empire: comprising a Voyage to California, via Panama; Life in San Francisco and Monterey; Pictures of the Gold Region, and Experiences of Mexican Travel.* By Bayard Taylor, Author of 'Views A-Foot,' &c. With Illustrations. 2 vols. Bentley.

THIS is a capital book:—in whichever way it is considered, brimful of instruction. What a comment on and illustration of the times we are living in, is the fact that the new *Eldorado* is already an 'old story'! Not only have its towns, churches, court-houses, theatres, *burst up* from the earth so rapidly that, like the grass in Wordsworth's ballad, "you can almost hear them growing,"—but we distant people have already been treated to a golden library almost voluminous enough to satisfy *Miss Kilmansegg* herself. The marvel has not lost its brightness, but the shining thereof has lost its wonder by reason of its plenteousness. This premised, we must add that, among the hundred volumes already issued on the subject Mr. Bayard Taylor's seem to us altogether the best and liveliest. Not merely does he possess an open mind,—he has also a discerning eye (as a pilgrim to *Eldorado* should have), and a neat hand at description. An entire early chapter of the discovery, for instance, is conveyed in the grumbling complaints of a woman with whom Mr. Bayard Taylor fell in while sheltering from the rain one evening near the Sacramento.—

"Most especially did the elder express her resentment against the said emigrants, on account of their treatment of the Indians. 'I felt disposed at first to agree with her wholly in her condemnation, but it appeared that she was influenced by other motives than those of humanity. 'Afore these here emigrants come,' said she, 'the Injuns were as well-behaved and bidable as could be; I liked 'em more'n the whites. When we begun to find gold on the Yubers, we could git 'em to work for us day in and day out, fur next to nothin'. We told 'em the gold was stuff to whitewash houses with, and give 'em a hankecher for a tin cup full; but after the emigrants began to come along and put all sorts of notions into their heads, there was no gettin' them to do nothin'.' " "A hankecher for a tin cup full of gold!"—and there is nothing more graphic in Defoe. This trait lands us in *medias res*. Here are two or three facts concerning the settlement, growth and "plenishing" of San Francisco.

"The firm of Findley, Johnson & Co. sold their real estate, purchased a year previous for \$20,000, at \$300,000; \$25,000 down, and the rest in monthly instalments of \$12,500. This was a fair specimen of the speculations daily made. Those on a lesser scale were frequently of a very amusing character; but the claims on one's astonishment were so constant, that the faculty soon wore out, and the most unheard-of operations were looked upon as matters of course. Among others that came under my ob-



servant, was one of a gentleman who purchased a barrel of alum for \$6, the price in New York being \$9. It happened to be the only alum in the place, and as there was a demand for it shortly afterwards, he sold the barrel for \$150. Another purchased all the candle-wick to be found, at an average price of 40 cts. per lb., and sold it in a short time at \$2 25 per lb. A friend of mine expended \$10,000 in purchasing barley, which in a week brought \$20,000."

Let us offer a complete contrast to this in the form of a Post-Office scene; well worthy of being contrasted with the vivid picture taken in St. Martin's-le-Grand which was issued in the first number of Mr. Dickens's 'Household Words.'—

"A day or two after my arrival, the steamer Unicorn came into the harbour, being the third which had arrived without bringing a mail. These repeated failures were too much for even a patient people to bear; an indignation meeting in Portsmouth Square was called, but a shower, heralding the rainy season, came on in time to prevent it. Finally, on the last day of October, on the eve of the departure of another steamer down the coast, the Panama came in, bringing the mails for July, August and September all at once! Thirty-seven mail-bags were hauled up to the little Post-Office that night, and the eight clerks were astounded by the receipt of forty-five thousand letters, besides uncounted bushels of newspapers. I was at the time domiciled in Mr. Moore's garret and enjoying the hospitalities of his plank-table; I therefore offered my services as clerk-extraordinary, and was at once vested with full powers and initiated into all the mysteries of counting, classifying and distributing letters. The Post-Office was a small frame building, of one story, and not more than forty feet in length. The entire front, which was graced with a narrow portico, was appropriated to the windows for delivery, while the rear was divided into three small compartments—a newspaper room, a private office, and a kitchen. There were two windows for the general delivery, one for French and Spanish letters, and a narrow entry at one end of the building, on which faced the private boxes, to the number of five hundred, leased to merchants and others at the rate of \$1 50 per month. \* \* The Panama's mail-bags reached the Office about nine o'clock. The doors were instantly closed, the windows darkened, and every preparation made for a long siege. The attack from without commenced about the same time. There were knocks on the doors, taps on the windows, and beseeching calls at all corners of the house. The interior was well lighted; the bags were emptied on the floor, and ten pairs of hands engaged in the assortment and distribution of their contents. The work went on rapidly and noiselessly as the night passed away, but with the first streak of daylight the attack commenced again. Every avenue of entrance was barricaded; the crowd was told through the keyhole that the Office would be opened that day to no one; but it all availed nothing. Mr. Moore's Irish servant could not go for a bucket of water without being surrounded and in danger of being held captive. Men dogged his heels in the hope of being able to slip in behind him before he could lock the door. We laboured steadily all day, and had the satisfaction of seeing the huge pile of letters considerably diminished. Towards evening the impatience of the crowd increased to a most annoying pitch. They knocked; they tried shouts and then whispers and then shouts again; they implored and threatened by turns; and not seldom offered large bribes for the delivery of their letters. 'Curse such a Post-Office and such a Post-Master!' said one; 'I'll write to the Department by the next steamer. We'll see whether things go on in this way much longer.' Then comes a messenger slyly to the back door: 'Mr. ——— sends his compliments, and says you would oblige him very much by letting me have his letters; he won't say anything about it to anybody.' A clergyman, or perhaps a naval officer, follows, relying on a white cravat or gilt buttons for the favour which no one else can obtain. Mr. Moore politely but firmly refuses; and so we work on, unmoved by the noises of the besiegers. The excitement and anxiety of the public can scarcely be told in words. Where the source that governs business,

satisfies affection and supplies intelligence, had been shut off from a whole community for three months, the rush from all sides to supply the void, was irresistible. In the afternoon, a partial delivery was made to the owners of private boxes. It was effected in a skilful way, though with some danger to the clerk who undertook the opening of the door. On account of the crush and destruction of windows on former occasions, he ordered them to form into line and enter in regular order. They at first refused, but on his counter-refusal to unlock the door, complied with difficulty. The moment the key was turned, the rush into the little entry was terrific; the glass faces of the boxes were stove in, and the wooden partition seemed about to give way. In the space of an hour the clerk took in postage to the amount of \$600; the principal firms frequently paid from \$50 to \$100 for their correspondence. We toiled on till after midnight of the second night, when the work was so far advanced that we could spare an hour or two for rest, and still complete the distribution in time for the opening of the windows, at noon the next day. So we crept up to our blankets in the garret, worn out by forty-four hours of steady labour. We had scarcely begun to taste the needful rest, when our sleep, deep as it was, was broken by a new sound. Some of the besiegers, learning that the windows were to be opened at noon, came on the ground in the middle of the night, in order to have the first chance for letters. As the nights were fresh and cool, they soon felt chilly, and began a stamping march along the portico, which jarred the whole building and kept us all painfully awake. This game was practised for a week after the distribution commenced, and was a greater hardship to those employed in the Office than their daily labours. One morning, about a week after this, a single individual came about midnight, bringing a chair with him, and some refreshments. He planted himself directly opposite the door, and sat there quietly all night. It was the day for dispatching the Monterey mail, and one of the clerks got up about four o'clock to have it in readiness for the carrier. On opening the door in the darkness, he was confronted by this man, who, seated solemnly in his chair, immediately gave his name in a loud voice: 'John Jenkins!' When, finally, the windows were opened, the scenes around the Office were still more remarkable. In order to prevent a general riot among the applicants, they were recommended to form in ranks. This plan once established, those inside could work with more speed and safety. The lines extended in front all the way down the hill into Portsmouth Square, and on the south side across Sacramento Street to the tents among the chapparal; while that from the newspaper window in the rear stretched for some distance up the hill. The man at the tail of the longest line might count on spending six hours in it before he reached the window. Those who were near the goal frequently sold out their places to impatient candidates, for ten, and even twenty-five dollars; indeed, several persons, in want of money, practised this game daily, as a means of living! Vendors of pies, cakes and newspapers established themselves in front of the office, to supply the crowd, while others did a profitable business by carrying cans of coffee up and down the lines."

Thus much by way of illustrating intercourse among the gold mines. Mr. Taylor seems to have found the diggers more willing to take pleasure than former writers have pictured them. We were prepared to read of the gambling houses in Sacramento city. Having, too, a large faith in the odd inconsistencies of "reservation," we were not surprised to read that men who had heretofore been sober citizens lent themselves to "a spell" of hell-keeping as a trade permissible to drive for a short time,—but which they intended to lay aside when they laid by their other habits of Californian travel. We were not, however, prepared to read of such a liberal and festive patronage of Art as is described in the following night-piece.—

"The wail of torture from innumerable musical instruments peals from all quarters through the fog and darkness. Full bands, each playing different

tunes discordantly, are stationed in front of the principal establishments, and as these happen to be near together, the mingling of the sounds in one horrid, ear-splitting, brazen chaos, would drive frantic a man of delicate nerve. All one's old acquaintances in the amateur music line, seem to have followed him. The gentleman who played the flute in the next room to yours, at home, has been hired at an ounce a night to perform in the drinking-tent across the way; the very French horn whose lamentations used to awake you dismally from the first sweet snooze, now greets you at some corner; and all the squeaking violins, grumbling violoncellos and rowdy trumpets which have severally plagued you in other times, are congregated here, in loving proximity. The very strength, loudness and confusion of the noises, which, heard at a little distance, have the effect of one great scattering performance, marvelously takes the fancy of the rough mountain men. Some of the establishments have small companies of Ethiopian melodists, who nightly call upon 'Susanna!' and entreat to be carried back to 'Old Virginny.' These songs are universally popular, and the crowd of listeners is often so great as to embarrass the player at the monte tables and injure the business of the gamblers. I confess to a strong liking for the Ethiopian airs, and used to spend half an hour every night in listening to them and watching the curious expressions of satisfaction and delight in the faces of the overland emigrants, who always attended in a body. The spirit of the music was always encouraging; even its most doleful passages had a grotesque touch of cheerfulness—a mingling of sincere pathos and whimsical consolation, which somehow took hold of all moods in which it might be heard, raising them to the same notch of careless good-humour. The Ethiopian melodies well deserve to be called, as they are in fact, the national airs of America. Their quaint, mock-sentimental cadences, so well suited to the broad absurdity of the words,—their reckless gaiety and irreverent familiarity with serious subjects—and their spirit of antagonism and perseverance—are true expressions of the more popular sides of the national character. They follow the American race in all its emigrations, colonizations and conquests, as certainly as the Fourth of July and Thanksgiving Day. The penniless and half-despairing emigrant is stimulated to try again by the sound of 'It'll never do to give it up so!' and feels a pang of home-sickness at the burthen of the 'Old Virginia Shore.' At the time of which I am writing, Sacramento City boasted the only theatre in California. Its performances, three times a week, were attended by crowds of the miners, and the owners realized a very handsome profit. The canvas building used for this purpose fronted on the levee, within a door or two of the City Hotel; it would have been taken for an ordinary drinking-house, but for the sign, 'Eagle Theatre,' which was nailed to the top of the canvas frame. Passing through the bar-room we arrived at the entrance; the prices of admission are: Box, \$3; Pit, \$2. The spectators are dressed in heavy overcoats and felt hats, with boots reaching to the knees. The box-tier is a single rough gallery at one end, capable of containing about a hundred persons; the pit will probably hold three hundred more, so that the receipts of a full house amount to \$900. The sides and roof of the theatre are canvas, which, when wet, effectually prevents ventilation, and renders the atmosphere hot and stifling. The drop-curtain, which is down at present, exhibits a glaring landscape, with dark-brown trees in the foreground, and lilac-coloured mountains against a yellow sky. The overture commences; the orchestra is composed of only five members, under the direction of an Italian, and performs with tolerable correctness. The piece for the night is 'The Spectre of the Forest,' in which the celebrated actress, Mrs. Ray, of the Royal Theatre, New Zealand, will appear. The bell rings; the curtain rolls up; and we look upon a forest scene, in the midst of which appears Hildebrand, the robber, in a sky-blue mantle. The foliage of the forest is of a dark-red colour, which makes a great impression on the spectators and prepares them for the bloody scenes that are to follow. The other characters are a brave knight in a purple dress, with his servant in scarlet; they are about to storm the robber's hold and carry off a captive maiden. Several acts are



filled with the usual amount of fighting and terrible speeches; but the interest of the play is carried to an awful height by the appearance of two spectres, clad in mutilated tent-covers, and holding spermaceti candles in their hands. At this juncture Mrs. Ray rushes in and throws herself into an attitude in the middle of the stage: why she does it, no one can tell. This movement, which she repeats several times in the course of the first three acts, has no connexion with the tragedy; it is evidently introduced for the purpose of showing the audience that there is, actually, a female performer. The miners, to whom the sight of a woman is not a frequent occurrence, are delighted with these passages and applaud vehemently. In the closing scenes, where Hildebrand entreats the heroine to become his bride, Mrs. Ray shone in all her glory. "No!" said she "I'd rather take a basilisk and wrap its cold fangs around me, than be clasped in the embraces of an 'artless robber.' Then, changing her tone to that of entreaty, she calls upon the knight in purple, whom she declares to be 'me 'ope—me only 'ope!' We will not stay to hear the songs and duets which follow; the tragedy has been a sufficient infliction. For her 'art-reading' personations, Mrs. Ray received \$200 a week, and the wages of the other actors were in the same proportion. A musical gentleman was paid \$96 for singing 'The Sea! the Sea!' in a deep bass voice. The usual sum paid musicians was \$16 a night. A Swiss organ-girl, by playing in the various halls, accumulated \$1,000 in the course of five or six months."

So rapidly does civilization force its way and accumulate its treasures in *Eldorado*, that long ere this time, of course, its strugglers have a Post-Office trimly organized.—Following the same law, the inhabitants of San Francisco and Sacramento may have advanced in taste so far beyond "Susanna," Mrs. Ray, and the Swiss organ-girl, as by this time to be up to the level of M. Henri Herz, the pianist,—on whose share in Californian speculation we only a few weeks ago passed a somewhat disrespectful comment.

Thus much for the present from this excellent and lively book. When California was left behind, Mr. Taylor's homeward journey, through Tierra Caliente, was so full of incident, and he has described this so agreeably, that we will not bind ourselves against returning to his travels.

*A Treatise on Moral Evidence.* By E. A. Smedley, M.A.

SHOULD any reader be led by the imposing designation of this work as a treatise, or the abstract nature of the subject, or the credentials and position of the author as "late Chaplain of Trinity College, Cambridge," to indulge high anticipations as to its worth, he will assuredly, like ourselves, be disappointed. It more resembles one of those long-winded, rambling discourses amounting to nothing that are too often heard from the pulpit, than a philosophical treatise. It might with propriety be called a dry sermon—or rather series of sermons—barren alike of interest and of instruction. The abundance of moral reflections, religious exhortations, and texts of Scripture suggest a suspicion that the author has strung together at random fragments of some of his earlier attempts at sermon-making, which might be passable as the first efforts of a young preacher, but are totally unfit to form the substance of a treatise on a subject that can be successfully handled by none but great thinkers.

Mr. Smedley has read—or at least quotes—some of the best authors:—in fact, his quotations are by far the best parts of the book. The wonder, therefore, is, that he should have thought it necessary to print and publish what he has here given. He surely does not flatter himself with the notion that he has made any valuable addition to the stock of ideas already before the public. It would be hard to find a single remark in his book that is not to be met

with—we will not say in philosophical treatises, but—in the every-day chit-chat of people who make no pretension to anything beyond common sense and ordinary education. The very first sentence in the preface may serve as an apt type of the whole work. "When a builder intends to build a house, his first object is to secure a foundation." The same originality of thought, depth of reflection, extent of research, and richness in valuable information as are displayed in this striking remark will be found to characterize every page. The unconscious simplicity with which the author utters trite truisms as new truths, and hackneyed sayings as original reflections, is amusing. Some people, we are told, are too sceptical, others too credulous. "An excessive readiness to believe is a fault of which the greatness is proportional to such excess." Our faculties are limited, and we are obliged to act on probable evidence. "Party spirit is not favourable to the attainment of truth." "Pain is pain, and pleasure pleasure." "If I see a house fall, I am at once immediately assured of the catastrophe." "Fire when too nearly approached scorches, but otherwise cherishes and warms." "When we endeavour to discharge our duty to God, to our neighbour, or to ourselves, it may be said that we are aiming at a good object."—Some of his remarks touch the point of silliness. "The British minister," he says, "imbued with constitutional principles, knows that when Parliament is adverse he ought to resign. On such a point the uninstructed peasant is wholly incompetent to judge; though he admits that it is his duty to work for his livelihood, and to maintain his wife and children!"

The author tells us, that it was to remove or lessen certain difficulties which he himself had experienced, and which he thought others might feel, that he published this volume. Our great difficulty has been to ascertain from his book the precise nature of these difficulties, or meet with anything worth calling a solution. Here and there we get a dim glimpse of his meaning. The following is the clearest explanation we have been able to find. "Minds, however, which fully acknowledge primary convictions of moral truth, may feel difficulties in raising a superstructure, and admitting as true what is established by inferior, though really sufficient evidence: and it is with a hope of removing, or at all events lessening such difficulties, that these pages are written." What Mr. Smedley considers "primary convictions of moral truth" is nowhere distinctly stated. He takes for granted that the reader is "convinced that what is alleged in regard to religion is true." We presume, however, that he does not mean *all* that has been alleged on the subject of religion, because he elsewhere laments the differences that exist among Christians as to points of religious doctrine;—and yet he does not tell us whose allegations he has in view. It is equally difficult to determine what is meant by truths resting on "inferior though sufficient evidence," which anybody would scruple to admit after acknowledging all that he is here supposed to believe. The author's method of solution consists in asking a series of questions intended to have the force of argument, though often without any force at all,—or giving a quotation from Butler, and then inquiring of the reader whether he does not think it conclusive.

By moral evidence Mr. Smedley seems to imply evidence adduced in support of moral truths,—i. e. according to him, truths "connected with questions of moral conduct." Now, we think it unphilosophical to call evidence moral merely because it is employed for the purpose of establishing moral truths. Its name should

denote its nature, not its uses. The evidence of which he treats ought rather to be called *probable*, as distinguished from *demonstrative*, in admitting of various degrees from mere presumption up to high probability. If he had satisfactorily explained the nature, grounds, and true value of this species of evidence—if he had given us rules, founded on complete induction, for distinguishing the true from the false, with directions for classifying and arranging the different portions of the whole so as to see clearly on which side there is a preponderance of probability, and to how great a degree,—in a word, if he had investigated the subject at all in the spirit of such men as Mill, Herschel, Whately, Whewell, and Lewis—to say nothing of Comte—he would have rendered some service by publishing.

*The Phantom World; or, the Philosophy of Spirits, Apparitions, &c.* By Augustine Calmet. Edited, with an Introduction and Notes, by the Rev. Henry Christmas. 2 vols. Bentley.

Augustine Calmet is one of those men who never think, said Voltaire, but who find the materials for other men's thinking. He was a labourer worthy of the most industrious school even of German collectors. His books are prodigies of work:—but his mind was essentially unselective, uncritical. As the head of a body of literary monks, he heaped up the results of much personal and vicarious reading, not as men build up an intellectual temple or pyramid, but as a mere rude mound remarkable for its size though certainly not for its usefulness or beauty.

Calmet was a churchman; and lived in an age when his mistress, the Scarlet Woman enthroned on the Seven Hills, was fiercer and more militant than now. Yet, in spite of this, there is much in him that is admirable. More tolerant than the men and ideas of his time, he wrote his ponderous Commentaries on the Old and New Testaments in a spirit so free from the vulgar sectarian vituperation then fashionable that Lutherans as well as Romanists were able to adopt it without offence. His other works on subjects connected with history and theology would fill a tolerably large library. In his old age he produced what is now thought his best work; certainly that which is most read,—his '*Dissertation sur les Apparitions des Anges, des Démon, et des Esprits, et des Revenans et Vampires de Hongrie.*' This work is divided into two parts. In the first, Calmet enters into the general subject of apparitions—makes a rather long collection of cases, ancient and modern, and drawn from the experience of all countries—and then offers certain remarks on the different cases which he has cited. These remarks are, for the most part, puerile in the extreme. As a defender of the faith he could not refuse to believe and to teach the doctrines, how absurd soever, which formed the pretensions of his church. It is only when the ghost, miracle, or vampire (*revenant*) is unconnected with the system to which he belonged, that he ventured to exercise an independent judgment and express a free opinion. Even then his opinion is of no value. Voltaire's characterization was as true in the critical as in the epigrammatic sense.

The philosophical standing-point is altogether removed from its position in the days of Calmet. Ghosts belong to the time of metaphysical inquiries. Science has not only banished the demons of an elder age, but has done no little towards rooting out the seeds of superstitious feeling in which they had their origin. While the Lorraine Abbé was acquiring his belief in ghosts, the magistrates of Lancashire were



burning women on pretence of being witches. Looking back on the superstitions of other countries, we in this age are able to extract a philosophy—a historical lesson—out of these collections of human error, which the Reverend Dom Calmet was unable to see. The writer generally thinks it enough to appeal to the decisions of judges and parliaments in proof of apparitions. Such appeals might be quoted in favour of witches,—against the Copernican theory,—and so on. Beliefs pass away as the human mind advances towards maturity; and when once the Dagon of error is cast down, though a child may restore the dishonoured god to his old pedestal, all the parliaments of the world would fail to bring back the divinity to the idol. It is only as clues to history that the records of superstitious eras are of any value now. How much more deeply does the following story let the reader into the real state of knowledge and opinion in France in the so much vaunted reign of *Henri Quatre* than the laboured summaries of historians like Karl von Rotteck?—

“Louis Gaufredi, Curé of the parish of Accouls, at Marseilles, was accused of magic, and arrested at the beginning of the year 1611. Christopher Gaufredi, his uncle, of Pourrières, in the neighbourhood of Beauveras, sent him, six months before he (Christopher) died, a little paper book, in 16mo., with six leaves written upon; at the bottom of every leaf were two verses in French, and in the other part were characters or ciphers, which contained magical mysteries. Louis Gaufredi at first thought very little of this book, and kept it for five years. At the end of that time, having read the French verses, the devil presented himself under a human shape, and by no means deformed, and told him that he was come to fulfil all his wishes, if he would give him credit for all his good works. Gaufredi agreed to the condition. He asked of the demon that he might enjoy a great reputation for wisdom and virtue among persons of probity, and that he might inspire with love all the women and young girls he pleased, by simply breathing upon them. Lucifer promised him all this in writing, and Gaufredi very soon saw the perfect accomplishment of his designs. He inspired with love a young lady named Magdalen, the daughter of a gentleman whose name was Mandole de la Palud. This girl was only nine years old, when Gaufredi, on pretence of devotion and spirituality, gave her to understand that, as her spiritual father, he had a right to dispose of her, and persuaded her to give herself to the devil; and some years afterwards, he obliged her to give a schedule, signed with her own blood, to the devil, to deliver herself up to him still more. It is even said, that he made her give from that time seven or eight other schedules. After that he breathed upon her, inspired her with a violent passion for himself, and took advantage of her; he gave her a familiar demon, who served her and followed her everywhere. One day he transported her to the witches' sabbath, held on a high mountain near Marseilles; she saw there people of all nations, and in particular Gaufredi, who held there a distinguished rank, and who caused characters to be impressed or stamped on her head and in several other parts of her body. This girl afterwards became a nun of the order of St. Ursula, and passed for being possessed by the devil. Gaufredi also inspired several other women with an irregular passion, by breathing on them; and this diabolical power lasted for six years. For at last they found out that he was a sorcerer and magician; and Mademoiselle de Mandole having been arrested by the Inquisition, and interrogated by father Michael Jacobin, owned a great part of what we have just told, and during the exorcisms discovered several other things. She was then nineteen years of age. All this made Gaufredi known to the Parliament of Provence. They arrested him; and proceedings against him commenced February, 1611. They heard in particular the deposition of Magdalen de la Palud, who gave a complete history of the magic of Gaufredi. That for the last fourteen years he had been a magician, and head of the magicians; and if he had been taken by the judiciary power, the devil

would have carried him body and soul to hell. Gaufredi had voluntarily gone to prison; and from the first examination which he underwent, he denied everything, and represented himself as an upright man. But from the depositions made against him, it was shown that his heart was very corrupted, and that he had seduced Mademoiselle de Mandole, and other women whom he confessed. This young lady was heard juridically the 21st of February, and gave the history of her seduction, of Gaufredi's magic, and of the sabbath whither he had caused her to be transported several times. Some time after this, being confronted with Gaufredi, she owned that he was a worthy man, and that all which had been reported against him was imaginary, and retracted all she herself had avowed. \* \* After this exposition of the things related above, the attorney-general drew his conclusions: \* \* required that the said Gaufredi be declared attainted and convicted of the circumstances imputed to him, and as reparation of them, that he be previously degraded from sacred orders, by the Lord Bishop of Marseilles, his diocesan, and afterwards condemned to make honourable amends one audience day, having his head and feet bare, a cord about his neck, and holding a lighted taper in his hands—to ask pardon of God, the king, and the court of justice;—then, to be delivered into the hands of the executioner of the high court of law, to be taken to all the chief places and cross-roads of this city of Aix, and torn with red-hot pincers in all parts of his body; and after that, in the *Place des Jacobins*, burned alive, and his ashes scattered to the wind; and before being executed, let the question be applied to him, and let him be tormented as grievously as can be devised, in order to extract from him the names of his other accomplices. Deliberated the 18th of April, 1611, and the decree in conformity given the 29th of April, 1611.”

Yet, atrocious as all these proceedings seem to us, they might easily be paralleled out of the *causes non célèbres* of our own country. The belief in infernal and supernal influence was as common among the German reformers as among their opponents;—witness the death of the learned and eloquent Carlostadt.—

“The death of Carlostadt was accompanied by frightful circumstances, according to the ministers of Basle, his colleagues, who bore witness to it at the time. They relate, that at the last sermon which Carlostadt preached in the temple of Basle, a tall black man came and seated himself near the consul. The preacher perceived him, and appeared disconcerted at it. When he left the pulpit, he asked who that stranger was that had taken his seat next to the chief magistrate; no one had seen him but himself. When he went home, he heard more news of the spectre. The black man had been there, and had caught up by the hair the youngest and most tenderly loved of his children. After he had thus raised the child from the ground, he appeared disposed to throw him down so as to break his head; but he contented himself with ordering the boy to warn his father that in three days he should return, and he must hold himself in readiness. The child having repeated to his father what had been said to him, Carlostadt was terrified. He went to bed in alarm, and in three days he expired. These apparitions of the demons, by Luther's own avowal, were pretty frequent in the case of the first reformers.”

The following ghost-story was one of the most celebrated in its day, from the importance of the persons connected with it. The reader of French Memoirs will remember numerous references to this case by the gossips of science, fashion and credulity.—

“Business having led the Count d'Alais to Marseilles, a most extraordinary adventure happened to him there: he desired Neuré to write to our philosopher (Gassendi), to know what he thought of it, which he did in these words:—The Count and Countess being come to Marseilles, saw, as they were lying in bed, a luminous spectre; they were both wide awake. In order to be sure that it was not some illusion, they called their valets de chambre; but no sooner had these appeared with their flambeaux, than the spectre disappeared. They had all the openings and cracks which they found in the chamber stopped up, and then went to bed again;

but hardly had the valets de chambre retired, than it appeared again. Its light was less shining than that of the sun; but it was brighter than that of the moon. Sometimes this spectre was of an angular form, sometimes a circle, and sometimes an oval. It was easy to read a letter by the light it gave; it often changed its place, and sometimes appeared on the count's bed. It had, as it were, a kind of little bucklers, above which were characters imprinted. Nevertheless, nothing could be more agreeable to the sight; so that instead of alarming, it gave pleasure. It appeared every night whilst the count stayed at Marseilles. This prince, having once cast his hands upon it, to see if it was not something attached to the bed curtain, the spectre disappeared that night, and re-appeared the next. Gassendi being consulted upon this circumstance, replied on the 13th of the same month. He says, in the first place, that he knows not what to think of this vision. He does not deny that the spectre might be sent from God, to tell them something. What renders this idea probable, is the great piety of them both, and that this spectre had nothing frightful in it, but quite the contrary. What deserves our attention still more is this, that if God had sent it, he would have made known why he sent it. God does not jest; and since it cannot be understood what is to be hoped or feared, followed up or avoided, it is clear that this spectre cannot come from him; otherwise his conduct would be less praiseworthy than that of a father, or a prince, or a worthy, or even a prudent man, who being informed of somewhat which greatly concerned those in subjection to them, would not content themselves with warning them enigmatically.”

This is but the commencement of the philosopher's argument. It was carried on at great length; but no solution was found,—and the count and countess left Marseilles. When they returned, the ghost again appeared. More descriptions of it were sent to Gassendi, and more learned conjectures were sent back in explanation. Three years later the countess confessed that it was a trick of her own contrivance for the purpose of forcing her husband to leave Marseilles,—which she detested.

The vampire tales of Hungary, Bohemia, and Moravia caused a sensation in Europe which it is ludicrous to read of now. But the best minds have been subject to vagaries which should teach us to visit the errors of the weak with considerable lenity. Bacon believed in the elixir of life; and Piso de la Mirandola assures us (*De Auro*) that he had seen gold made artificially. The following vampire story is the one which made most noise in the world. It happened about 1730.—

“About five years ago, a certain Heyducq, inhabitant of Madrega, named Arnald Paul, was crushed to death by the fall of a wagon-load of hay. Thirty days after his death four persons died suddenly, and in the same manner in which, according to the tradition of the country, those die who are molested by vampires. They then remembered that this Arnald Paul had often related that in the environs of Cassovia, and on the frontiers of Turkish Servia, he had often been tormented by a Turkish vampire; for they believed also that those who have been passive vampires during life become active ones after their death,—that is to say, that those who have been sucked, suck also in their turn; but that he had found means to cure himself by eating earth from the grave of the vampire, and smearing himself with his blood—a precaution which, however, did not prevent him from becoming so after his death, since, on being exhumed forty days after his interment, they found on his corpse all the indications of an arch-vampire. His body was red, his hair, nails, and beard had all grown again, and his veins were replete with fluid blood, which flowed from all parts of his body upon the winding-sheet which encompassed him. The Hadnagi, or baili of the village, in whose presence the exhumation took place, and who was skilled in vampirism, had, according to custom, a very sharp stake driven into the heart of the defunct Arnald Paul, and which pierced his body through and through, which made him, as they say, utter a frightful shriek,



as if he had been alive: that done, they cut off his head, and burnt the whole body. After that they performed the same on the corpses of the four other persons who died of vampirism, fearing that they in their turn might cause the death of others. All these performances, however, could not prevent the commencement of similar fatal prodigies towards the end of last year (1732), that is to say, five years after, when several inhabitants of the same village perished miserably. In the space of three months seventeen persons of different sexes and different ages died of vampirism; some without being ill, and others after languishing two or three days. It is reported, amongst other things, that a girl named Stanoska, daughter of the Heyducq Jotuitzo, who went to bed in perfect health, awoke in the middle of the night all in a tremble, uttering terrible shrieks, and saying that the son of the Heyducq Millo, who had been dead nine weeks, had nearly strangled her in her sleep. She fell into a languid state from that moment, and at the end of three days she died. What this girl had said of Millo's son made him known at once for a vampire: he was exhumed, and found to be such. The principal people of the place, with the doctors and surgeons, examined how vampirism could have sprung up again after the precautions they had taken some years before. They discovered at last, after much search, that the defunct Arnd Paul had killed not only the four persons of whom we have spoken, but also several oxen, of which the new vampires had eaten, and amongst others the son of Millo. Upon these indications they resolved to disinter all those who had died within a certain time, &c. Amongst forty, seventeen were found with all the most evident signs of vampirism; so they transfigured their hearts and cut of their heads also, and then cast their ashes into the river. All the informations and executions we have just mentioned were made juridically, in proper form, and attested by several officers who were garrisoned in the country, by the chief surgeons of the regiments, and by the principal inhabitants of the place."

Neither Calmet nor his new editor tells the reader that the king of France, Louis XV., ordered the Duc de Richelieu, his ambassador at the court of Vienna, to investigate the cases, which had grown into the common talk of western Europe. In his report, the duke denied the existence of the vampires, as may be supposed;—the stories, nevertheless, like those of the South-Sea bubble and Johanna Southcote, are interesting as part of human history, and will always hold a place among the records of extraordinary popular delusions.

We have a word to say in relation to the manner in which this work is brought before the public. In the first place, we remark that it was not advertised as Calmet's. The impression conveyed by the advertisement was, that 'The Phantom World' was a new work. In reality Mr. Christmas has had so little to do with it, that we scarcely understand how he could think of writing his name on the title-page. His share in the composition is confined to a meagre introduction, in which he says he does not believe a word of his author,—and a few not very significant notes. The book is worthy of a careful editor. Mr. Christmas does not attempt to sift the evidence, to supply lacunæ, or to add the results of modern science and experience where they offer explanations of the old difficulties. The editorial office could scarcely have been filled more imperfectly.

*Westminster: Memorials of the City, St. Peter's College, the Parish Churches, Palaces, Streets, and Worthies.* By the Rev. Mackenzie E. C. Walcott, M.A. Masters.

*Vestiges of Old London.* By John Wykeham Archer. Part I. Bogue.

We have classed these two works together, inasmuch as both have reference to the antiquities of our Metropolis, and both are intended for popular use. While some attention—although very inadequate—has been paid to the history

of London, a compendious account of the city of Westminster alone has been hitherto wanting. We have sufficient of huge and heavy works—we must, however, make a favourable exception in characterizing some of the illustrated ones—and we therefore welcome these memorials of the city of Westminster as a pleasant attempt to narrate its history by condensing and popularizing the contents of many a dry and recondite volume.

Westminster cannot boast a very high antiquity. She is younger than her sister city by full six hundred years:—the first mention of Westminster occurring in the narrative of the founding of St. Peter's Minster on Thorney Island, in the seventh century. And here, as the reader will perceive, the name of the city is that of the religious foundation. We should think it very unlikely that even a village existed here until near the time of Edward the Confessor. Even as early as the reign of Offa, Chelsea is mentioned,—and more than one ecclesiastical council was held there; but until the rebuilding of the minster, and the erection of the adjoining palace, by the before-mentioned monarch, the name never occurs in the monkish records except in connexion with the abbey. At this period the Thames, which seems to have slowly narrowed its channel, left the intervening space, rowed over by the fisherman in the seventh century, if not "high," at least "dry;" and attracted by the court as well as by the abbey, men began to flock together to till the land and to build rude dwellings. Thorney Island was but of small extent.—

"It was about 470 yards long and 370 yards broad: on the east it was washed by the Thames, a branch of which entered at Canon-row, or as it was probably called from this cause Channel-row, almost close to the south wall of the Privy Gardens; and at the east end of Manchester-court, then running westward, it intersected King-street, and flowed down Gardener's-lane, from the west end of which its course ran to the south by a moat called Long Ditch, by the present line of Princes and Delahay streets. The stream crossed Tothill-street to the west of the Gatehouse, and, sweeping to the east, continued its way under the south wall of the Infirmary garden in College-street, and so fell again into the main stream. This island comprised the precinct of the Abbey and Palace, which were further defended by lofty stone walls; those on the east and south of the College gardens being the last remains of such defences of a later date. They were pierced with four gateways: the first in King-street; the second near New Palace-yard, the foundations of which were seen in December, A.D. 1838, in excavating for a sewer; the third opening into Tothill-street; and the fourth near the mill in College-street. The precinct was entered by two bridges: one crossed the water of Long Ditch, at the east end of Gardener's-lane, having been built by Queen Matilda, the consort of King Henry I., for foot passengers; the other still exists at the east end of College-street, underneath the pavement,—it connected Mill-bank with Dirty-lane."

This, however, constituted a very small part;—for the northern boundary of Westminster extended to Tyburn. The record in Domesday Book designates Westminster as a village; and the number of holders of land under different tenures is given at about fifty. The "pannage for a hundred hogs" proves the existence, even within these limits, of woods:—probably the forest of Middlesex encroached on the north-west. But there is another curious entry which Mr. Walcott has overlooked, and this is "the vineyard lately made by Bainard;"—doubtless one of the Norman followers of the Confessor or the Conqueror. We should think it was about this time that the parish was placed under the guardianship of—

That fair girl,  
Sweet as daisy, pure as pearl,

St. Margaret,—since her legend was a compara-

tively late importation from the East; but it is from about the reign of the first Plantagenet that Westminster rises into notice as a city. The more constant residence of the king at the palace here subsequently to the destruction of that at Winchester, naturally attracted an increasing population; and the encouragement given alike by king and abbot—by the civil and ecclesiastical powers to the inhabitants, in order to render them a kind of counterbalance to the haughty "barons of London"—induced many to become residents. It was not, however, until the reign of Henry the Eighth that Westminster obtained the title of city, in consequence of its having been for a short time the see of a bishop. This title is now "considered to apply only to the parish of St. Margaret, including the ecclesiastical district of St. John the Evangelist; the other parishes constitute the liberties of Westminster." After the Reformation, the government, which had hitherto been in the hands of the convent, passed over to the bishop, and subsequently to the dean and chapter. In the reign of Elizabeth the government was more fitly intrusted to "twelve burgesses and assistants,"—the dean exercising a merely nominal power. At present it is under the government of a high bailiff, together with sixteen burgesses and sixteen assistants. During the reign of Elizabeth, Westminster appears to have been in a most wretched state. The inadequate character of the municipal government, the facilities of escape by water on the one hand and across the wide tracts of thinly inhabited country on the other, proffered advantages to thieves, cutpurses, and disorderlies of all descriptions, of which they were not slow to avail themselves. Nor was the character of Westminster much amended in the reign of her successor; for a contemporary declares that "almost every fourth house is an alehouse, harboring all sortes of lewd and badde people." Westminster, however, continued enlarging rapidly during the seventeenth century, and in 1708 there were 3,079 houses in St. Margaret's parish. The following extract amusingly shows how slowly and deliberately the march of improvement proceeded among our forefathers.—

"In 1661 the streets were directed to be lighted with candles or lanterns, by every householder or occupier fronting the main road, from nightfall to nine p.m., the hour of retiring to bed. In the last year of King Charles II.'s reign, one Edward Heming obtained the right of lighting the streets with lanterns placed over every tenth door, from six on moonless evenings until midnight, between Michaelmas and Lady-day. During the reign of Queen Anne, in July 1708, Mr. Michael Coke introduced globular glass lamps with oil burners, instead of the former glimmering lanterns. In 1716 an Act was passed which enjoined every householder to furnish a light before his door from six to eleven o'clock at night, except on evenings between the seventh night of each new moon, and the third after it reached the full. In a few years a company was formed to light the street from six o'clock until midnight, each householder who paid poor-rates being required to contribute for this purpose six shillings a year. Gas at its introduction, in the beginning of the present century, (now paled by Bude and Electric Lights,) presented such a novel spectacle to the eyes of the Foreign Ambassadors, that they were vain enough to imagine that the brilliant lamps were only a part of a general illumination to celebrate their arrival. In 1722 the Chelsea Waterworks were established,—the ponds of which are now converted into the Grosvenor Canal, with a basin and wharves. In 1842 separate works were formed to supply the Serpentine, the basin in Kensington Gardens, and the lake in St. James's Park: thus, through what might otherwise have been little better than stagnant and unhealthy pools, a constant circulation of fresh water is maintained. In 1762, by Act of Parliament, all sign-boards of trades and water-spouts were to be removed, and the names of streets to be written up



on the corners; the footpaths were widened, and paved with broad flat stones to distinguish them from the roads used by vehicles. Six years afterwards Commissioners were appointed by Parliament for paving, cleansing, lighting and watching the streets, and regulating coach-stands. In 1774, by another Act, fire-cocks were placed in the water-pipes, with conspicuous notices of their distances and situations, and orders were made for keeping fire-engines and ladders in every parish."

With the exception of the Abbey, the church of St. Margaret, and the Hall,—a few portions of the structures which formerly belonged to them, built into modern edifices, are all that now remain of ancient Westminster. Indeed, "beneath the ancestral shadows of her old grey Abbey has sprung up a younger city." The notices, however, of these ancient buildings, connected with so many an important event in our history, are interesting. The parish church of St. Margaret occupies a very pleasant chapter. According to tradition, the Confessor built the first church. This was destroyed by accident; and in the reign of Edward the First the merchants of the woolstaple aided in the re-erection of another,—and in this in the time of Edward the Fourth considerable alterations were made. The beautiful east window, in itself worthy of a pilgrimage of many miles, underwent, it seems, many vicissitudes before it reached its present location. It is believed to be of Flemish work, and is said to have occupied five years in the making. It was originally intended as a present to Henry the Seventh; but, by means which are not stated, it fell into the hands of the Abbot of Waltham,—who kept it until the dissolution. Then, to preserve it, he caused it to be sent to New Hall. Here the Earl of Sussex subsequently resided, and the family sold it to the favourite Buckingham. By Buckingham's son it was sold to General Monk, who is said to have buried it during the Protectorate, and after the Restoration he replaced it in his chapel at New Hall. The succeeding occupier destroyed the chapel, but happily preserved the window, which lay in chests until a Mr. Conyers purchased it for the paltry sum of 50 guineas; and by his son it was finally sold in 1758, for 400 guineas, to the Committee for repairing and beautifying St. Margaret's.

There are many amusing extracts from the churchwardens' accounts and registers of this parish,—memorials of a mighty feast for which a pipe of red wine and a hogshead of claret were provided, with seven dozen chickens and three dozen geese,—besides eleven dozen of conies, two sheep, a fat buck, and beef and veal in proportion. The entries respecting the customs observed on the festival of the patron saint are curious. Her vigil seems to have been observed with great solemnity:—there is hire of rich vestments, and a bonfire before the church door. On St. Margaret's Day the maidens of the parish appear to have gone in gay procession and collected money; for under the year 1498 we find "rec<sup>d</sup> of Maister Tebbe of money gadered bi Maistress Bough and other with the virgins on Sente Margarete Fest, xx. jd." The "organs of the Abbey" were borrowed on this solemn occasion, and vestments "of sylke and of golde." The shrine of St. Margaret was probably carried in the procession; for we have entries of gilding and beautifying it, minstrels to play, and "a dosen garlands" bought. There was also 8s. paid "for a playe on Saynte Margaret's day." There are some curious entries of payments for ecclesiastical vestments, &c.—22l. is paid in 1476 for "ij. grete bokes called Antiphoners." These were, doubtless, splendidly illuminated, for the price is fully equal to more than 200l. Two desks were made for these precious volumes, at the cost of 6s. A new cross was purchased;

silver we should suppose from the price—for it cost 32l. 10s. In 1538, we find "payde for a hole suyte of vestments of blewe velvet, with aungells, 10l.," and then, twenty years after, we have 16s. paid for a Bible and "parafrase," and 10d. for a chain and two staples for them.

Many illustrious men are buried within St. Margaret's. Caxton lies here, and in the church books we find—

"(1491.) 'Item, atte bureyng of William Caxton for iiij torches, vis. viijd.'

"'Item, for the belle atte same bureyng, vjd.'

"Here then, before the era of parochial registers, we have a record of the funeral of the ever-memorable Caxton. His will is not extant; but, from the entries in some subsequent accoimpts, it appears that he bequeathed a certain portion of his stock of printed books to the 'behave' of the parish of St. Margaret's. (His executors, between the years 1505 and 1508, gave to the Parish Guild of the Assumption 'iiij prynted bokes; ij of theym of the Lyfe of Seynt Katerne, and other ij of the birth of our Lady, of the gift of the 'xecutors of Caxton.') There is no account remaining for the two years 1492-1494; and in that for the years 1494-6 there are no entries of the sale of books: but in the next account we first hear something of the produce of the printer's bequest in the following entries:—

"1496-8. 'John Denys, John Fanne.

"'Item, receyved by the handes of William Ryolle for oone of thoo printed bokes that were bequethen to the churche behove by William Caxton, vjs. viijd.'

"'Item, receyved by the handes of the said William for another of the same printed bokes called a legend, vjs. iiijd.'

"'Item, by the handes of the parisshe prest for another of the same legendes, vjs. viijd.'

"There then remained in store,—

"'Item, in bokes called Legendes, of the bequest of William Caxton, xiiijd.'

"Of these thirteen copies of 'The Golden Legend' (printed in 1483), nine copies were disposed of at various prices during the two following years."

These "legendes," were a book that was actually passing through the press at the time of Caxton's death; and it appears to have been sold at prices varying from 5s. to 6s. 11d.,—rather a high price for that period. The registers are full of entries respecting the plague; from which,—doubtless in consequence of its lowness and bad drainage,—Westminster seems to have suffered far more fearfully than London. There are notices of payments to painters for painting blue crosses to be affixed to the infected houses,—and gratuities, at the rate of a penny per head, to authorized dog-killers, the poor animals being believed to carry the infection about in their skins. In 1563—81—94 and 1603 plague occurred in Westminster. The last made fearful ravages.—

"The following entries refer to it in the Records. In August 182 persons had died; in September 353; in October 206.

"To Robert Welles, for serving visited people with water, 4s."

"To the bearer, for burying of 36 corpses, 18s. Oct<sup>r</sup>. Laid out for y<sup>e</sup> bearers, searchers, water bearers, and grave digger, who attended on the visited people, for that they were allwayes endangered, to dwell in by themselves, and other necessities, &c. 30l. 18s. 6d. For pitch and tarre for the visited houses, 12d. For papers with Lord have mercy upon us, 12d. For several watchmen for a week, each 4s."

"Robert Wells, in June and July and August, massacred the amazing number of 500 dogs! and in 1605, 83 other canine victims.

"1603. Payd for the graves of cccclij poore folks, xxxvijs. vijd."

In a pleasant notice of Westminster school we meet with the following story:—the upper and lower schools, it should be premised, were formerly divided by a curtain.—

"An interesting tradition is attached to the bar at the time when it bore a curtain. Two boys at play,

by chance, made a grievous rent in the pendent drapery; and one of the delinquents suffered his generous companion to bear the penalty of the offence—a severe flogging. Long years went by; the Civil War had parted chief friends; and the boys had grown up to manhood unknown to each other. One of them, now a Judge and sturdy Republican, was presiding at the trial of some captive cavaliers, and was ready to upbraid and sentence them, when he recognised in the worn features of one grey-haired veteran the well-remembered look of the gallant boy who had once borne punishment for him. By certain answers, which in the examination he elicited, his suspicions were confirmed; and with an immediate resolve he posted to London, where, by his influence with Oliver Cromwell, he succeeded in preserving his early friend from the scaffold."

At first view, a history of Westminster excluding the Abbey—as is the case in this volume—may appear to the reader almost like the play of 'Hamlet' with the part of Hamlet left out; but, for ourselves, we much approve of Mr. Walcott's determination. The history of the City of Westminster has very little indeed to do with that of the Abbey; and the history of the Abbey, if not treated in reference to architectural history, belongs to the history of England itself. We are much pleased with Mr. Walcott's work, and recommend it to our readers.

The second publication named at the head of this article, it would perhaps be premature to characterize definitively, as only the first number is before us. The attempt to preserve to us the many memorials of Old London which are day by day passing from our sight, is doubtless most praiseworthy, and an undertaking to which we wish every success. We could desire, however, in works of this kind some attempt at classification, since beginning at the fifteenth or seventeenth century, and then going back to the times of the Romans, gives a disjointed appearance to the work which seems to us injurious to the general effect. In the number before us we have three plates referring to old London,—the old bulk shop at Temple Bar, the house believed to have been Dryden's in Fetter Lane, and the Drapers' Almshouses in Crutched Friars,—and three referring to Roman London, consisting of Roman sculptures. Each of these is accompanied by a description, including general remarks which betoken a very fair acquaintance with the subject. The work, we think, promises well.

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#### THE BRITISH MUSEUM REPORT.

It does not appear that the public is likely to get much more out of the Commission which sat to inquire into the constitution and management of the British Museum than the amusement which attended the spectacle and the curiosity which waited for the Report. For three years the public hopes have been deferred by the appearances of such inquiry,—and they have been finally disappointed by the result of the inquiry itself. First, we have the Commission reporting on the most important particulars against the evidence,—and now, we have the Trustees reporting on the Report of the Commissioners,—confirming its verdicts whenever they have denied the necessity of change, and objecting to them only where they have suggested alterations. The general conformity and the particular disagreement are all in the same spirit of letting things remain as much as possible as they were before the loud demand of the public had succeeded in getting a Commission at all.

On the 7th of June last the House of Commons made an order for a return of "All communications addressed to the Treasury by the Trustees of the British Museum, with reference to the report of the Commissioners appointed to inquire into the Constitution and management of the British Museum." That Return has been made; and consists principally of the Report of a Committee named by the Trustees out of their own body to take into consideration the Report of the Royal Commissioners,—and of an "amended statute" offered by the Trustees in conformity with that Report. That is,—the Trustees refer the consideration of their own conduct in the management of the Museum to themselves in the shape of a sub-committee,—and the new reports of itself very favourably back to the whole. Throughout the entire proceedings the Trustees are laudatory of themselves in a very high degree. It is with the utmost complacency that they pick out of the Report of the Commissioners a liberal character for themselves and their arrangements. They quote the Commission as testimonial wherever it approves,—arraign it as mistaken wherever it finds fault. They weaken the authority of the Report to which, nevertheless, they appeal for their vindication. The result to the public is as follows.—

The Commissioners have objected,—with abundant reason, as our readers know—to the constitution of the Standing Committee which undertakes the management of the ordinary business of the Museum. —The Committee of the Trustees seem to think, in answer, that as the vicious constitution of the Standing Committee is ancient and had not been altered before, there is no very good reason why it should be altered now. However, they consent to recommend that the Standing Committee shall henceforth consist of a determinate number of Trustees, to be appointed annually at a general meeting,—and the "amended statute" subsequently fixes the number at eighteen, fifteen to be so elected and the remainder to be the three principal Trustees. In favour of this newly-organized Standing Committee the sub-committees of departments provided by the statutes of 1839 are abolished.—By this partial adoption thus much at least is secured,—that we shall have somebody responsible for attending to transact the business of the Museum. The sacrifice of the sub-committees removes the heads of departments further than ever from that access to the managing Board which is the subject of the next recommendation and complaint.

The Commissioners in their Report urge various objections against the mode of conducting business

by the Board of Trustees and the Standing Committee. They object to the whole arrangement of business being left exclusively to the Secretary; and that the business itself is done by means of written reports—the heads of departments not being admitted to personal communication with the Board of Trustees on the business of their several departments. The Commissioners are of opinion that to this cause is to be ascribed the jealousies which have long existed among the principal officers of the Museum.—The Committee, in reply, consider that these several matters are best as they are:—that the Secretary should continue to arrange the business in his own way, and the heads of departments to communicate with the Trustees by written reports. They consent, however, to recommend that it be notified to the heads of departments that the Standing Committee will be prepared, on signification of a wish to that effect, to enter into personal communication with them on any points in their respective reports which may appear to them to require explanation, or on other matters of importance connected with the business of their departments.

The Commissioners express an unanimous opinion that a change should be adopted involving the offices of Principal Librarian and of Secretary as they exist, and the establishment of a responsible Executive Council. The Committee think a Secretary indispensable,—and recommend a compromise. They are of opinion that the duties can be satisfactorily discharged by the Librarian (if assistance be afforded him) in combination with his own; and Sir Henry Ellis having offered so to understand the matter, they recommend him to remain. As he is to have assistance, this looks to us like combining two offices with one hand, and then dividing the combination into two unequal parts with the other.

The question of the Catalogue is dismissed in a very summary way,—as if there had not been two opinions about it. This is the only question that they do not condescend—or venture—to argue. "In respect of the Catalogue," say the Committee, "the opinion of the Commissioners agrees so nearly with that of the Board of Trustees, that your Committee think it unnecessary to enter into any detailed discussion."—That is all. This part of the subject need not detain them. They cannot descend to trifles:—*de minimis non curat* the Committee.—We trust the discussion will be taken in the House of Commons on which the Committee think it unnecessary now to enter.

The proposal of a plan for a different arrangement of the mineralogical, zoological, and botanical departments is referred to the joint consideration of the officers who preside over those departments.

Then the Committee perform, as we have hinted, a flourish of trumpets in honour of the general body to which they belong: the principal burden being, that as there are defects in all other European institutions of the like kind, defects are allowable in this,—or rather, that as the Commissioners say they are better than their neighbours, there is no reason at all why they should seek to be any better than they are. Virtue is a thing relative, not positive, in the creed of the Trustees.

We find in the "amended statute," at clause 9, a prescription which seems to us to be a most unnecessary piece of interference, at variance with the very objects which it professes to have in view. "The Assistant Keepers are required to have their usual abode within one mile of the Museum." We can understand why the Assistant Keepers should be required to be found at their posts during certain prescribed hours,—but we think they might be left to choose their residences where they will, subject to the due performance of that obligation. Why may the rest of the world after their toils get away to breathe the fresh air of the suburbs, and the Assistant Keepers of the Museum be tied to the Museum night and day by a chain only a mile long? Is this superfluous legislation intended to strike a balance with the deficient legislation to which the Trustees seem to incline in most other respects?

In conclusion, our readers will have seen that the Commission having left us little of all that we had hoped from its appointment, the Trustees have taken away most of the little which it had left:—

and the public are, as regards this institution, pretty nearly where they were before either of these bodies had sat upon the other.

#### ARCHÆOLOGICAL INSTITUTE.

THE Seventh Annual Meeting of the Archæological Institute, which terminated at Oxford on Tuesday last, may in many ways be looked on as the most successful meeting that the Institute has yet had. We believe the attendance to have been greater than on any other occasion (some five hundred members' and ladies' tickets having been sold); and though Oxford and its neighbourhood were thought by some to have been already pretty well exhausted, yet so much that was new was brought to light that the remark, even by its most earnest repeaters, was soon discovered to be unjust. The temporary Museum which the Institute establishes on these occasions was here very fine; the college plate and curiosities were unexpectedly rich and large; the Sectional papers were somewhat more diversified than usual;—but the excursions generally were devoid of novelty and interest.

The meeting (after the usual preliminaries) was opened by a discourse 'On the Study of Archæology,' delivered, in Sheldon's Theatre, by Mr. Charles Newton, of the British Museum. This was a thoughtful paper, the result of a long and careful consideration of the subject,—enforced in language somewhat too ornate. It is, however, far from being a common effort; and if printed by the Institute might effect a good. Too little attention is generally paid by antiquaries to the graces of composition,—and the old slipshod style of communicating facts has extended from Somerset House to Chester and Oxford, and from the Archæologia to the Archæological Journal and the Journal of the British Archæological Association. Mr. Newton, and more especially Prof. Willis, might, we think, have taught other lessons to our antiquaries.

The papers read at the three sections of History, Architecture, and Early and Mediæval Antiquities were both local and general. Among the local papers of interest we may mention—'On the Castle and Provisions of Oxford,' by the Rev. Charles Hartshorne; 'On the Lines round Oxford temp. Charles the First,' by Lieut. Gibbs Rigaud; 'On the Earls of Oxford,' by Mr. J. Gough Nichols; 'On the Jacobean Architecture of Oxford,' by Mr. O. Jewitt; 'On the Architecture of the Cathedral at Oxford,' by Prof. Willis; 'On the Ancient Glass of Oxford,' by Mr. C. Winston; 'On the Monumental Remains in the Cathedral at Oxford,' by Mr. M. H. Bloxam; 'On the Church of St. Mary's,' by the Principal of Brasenose; 'On Dorchester Church,' by Mr. Freeman; 'On the Architectural History of St. John's College,' by the Rev. R. Thornton, of St. John's, and 'Extracts from the Building Accounts of Wadham College, Oxford,' by the Rev. J. Griffiths, M.A., of Wadham College.

The more general papers were those 'On the Construction of Timber Houses in Berkshire,' by the Rev. James Clutterbuck; 'On the Manor House of Mere, Wilts,' by Mr. Alexander Nesbit; 'On Sherborne Church, Dorsetshire,' by the Rev. J. L. Petit; 'On John Carter's Life,' by Mr. Britton; 'On Illuminated MSS.,' by Mr. M. J. Johnson; 'On Sir Robert Dudley, son of Robert Earl of Leicester,' by the Rev. Vaughan Thomas; and 'On the Connexion between Archæology and Geology,' by Dr. Mantell.

The Excursions were fixed for Thursday, Saturday, and Monday; and included visits to Ewelme Church and Hospital, and Dorchester Church on Thursday—to Silchester on Saturday—and to Wantage, Uffington, and the White Horse on Monday. These were the recognized excursions of the Committee of management. Some of the members, however, went to Blenheim,—some to Ditchley and Rousham,—some to Ifley and Abingdon,—some to Cumnor and Stanton Harcourt,—and some to Cuddesden. Dorchester was explained by Mr. Freeman, and Silchester was illustrated by a very careful map prepared by the Committee of the Institute for this particular visit. Within the walls of Oxford, visits were made to Oxford Castle and the Chapter House and the Cathedral,—



two of the sights of Oxford to be seen only on great occasions; to the Arundel and Pomfret Marbles; to the Raphael Drawings in the Randolph Gallery; to the treasures of the Bodleian and Ashmolean; to the Collections of the Oxford Architectural Society; to the City Churches and the chief architectural features of the Colleges.—While some, like Dr. Waagen, M. Passavant, &c., were admitted to see Dr. Wellesley's noble collection of original drawings by Raphael, Titian, Rubens, Vandyke, Claude, and Lely,—others spent profitable hours over Illuminated Manuscripts in the Douce Collection, and in examining the drawings of Inigo Jones at Worcester College, and the three portfolios of drawings of Sir Christopher Wren preserved at All Souls. The rich and varied resources of Oxford afforded something to suit every taste; and at no time have the treasures both of the City and of the University been seen to more advantage.

The Temporary Museum in the Taylor Gallery was enriched with a liberal selection of illuminated MSS. (some of very early date) from the valuable collection of Sir Thomas Philipps, at Middlehill. Wherever the eye turned there was much to merit attention. The funeral pall of Henry VII. was brought to light from the chests of St. Mary's; the vestimental sandals and embroidered stockings of Bishop Wapflete were lent from the muniment room of Magdalen; a beautiful crozier of seventeenth-century work and the staff of Archbishop Laud were contributed by the President of St. John's. Salvers and ewers and hanaps, with copes, &c., and armour, with reliquaries and reliques of every character, including two genuine horn-books of the reigns of Charles I. and Charles II., were to be seen on tables or in glass cases about the room. A genuine and very fine Hemlinck, 'The Decollation of St. John,' received the approbation of Dr. Waagen and M. Passavant; while a table covered with spurs from Edgehill and Ashdown spoke yet more strongly than Oxford herself of Charles I. and the reverses which he endured.

The College plate exhibited in the halls of the several colleges formed off-set exhibitions to the temporary museum. At New College, William of Wykeham's crozier was taken from its case and laid on the table with the cups and salts, and some half-dozen early mazer bowls discovered in a charter chest, and well worthy of greater care than has recently been taken of them. At Corpus was seen all that remained of the plate of Bishop Fox—including some choice examples of goldsmiths' work, which should certainly have been sent to the Mediæval Exhibition at the Society of Arts. Cambridge has set a good example to her sister university on this occasion, and one we trust that will not be lost sight of. The care that was taken at Oxford in examining the several articles will perhaps induce the Heads of houses to be more liberal in future in displaying their plate to the admiration of strangers.

Professor Willis had little to tell that was new about the Cathedral of Oxford. He had been accused, he said, of calling every cathedral on which he had lectured the finest that he had ever seen. This compliment he could not pay to Oxford. He combated the notion (very successfully) that any part of the cathedral was of Saxon work,—and explained in his usually lucid manner how Wolsey cut it down like an old ship to suit his own collegiate purposes, and how much might be done with taste and care to restore it to some of the primitive beauty which it possessed as late as Wolsey's time. The state of the Chapter House, with its fine early English windows was, he said, a disgrace to the University. Yet it was prudent not to restore too hastily. The monuments in Salisbury Cathedral had been treated as so much furniture, and there was a rage for restoration which seemed to have gone almost too far. Some of the ecclesiologists were seen to shake their heads at the Professor's fears,—while some of the graver antiquaries smiled more than doubtfully at the notion that the so-called shrine of St. Frideswide was only a *watching chamber* by the side of the shrine.

The caution recommended by the Professor is in every respect wise. The passion of the Ecclesiologist for parish masons can be fully understood

only by gentlemen who attend the meetings of the Archaeological Institute and of the British Archaeological Association. There are churchmen and architects (grave-antiquaries withal) who would strip Poets' Corner of every monument which it possesses,—would turn out Shakspeare's monument from the chancel of Stratford-upon-Avon, and Bacon's statue from the chancel of the little church of St. Michael's,—would give parish masonry for old associations endeared to us by the wisdom and poetry of our nation,—a sedilia for Shakspeare's bust and a piscina in place of Bacon's statue. At Merton they have turned out Bodley and Saville from the chancel—as at the Temple the grave and learned Benchers have turned Plowden and Selden into the garret. Should this feeling increase, we shall have antiquaries who think all monumental interest ceases with the Reformation,—selling monuments from churches as Charles Surface sold his ancestors in 'The School for Scandal.'

The next meeting of the Institute is to be held at Bristol.

#### OUR WEEKLY GOSSIP.

AN appeal has been made to the public to support the new institution established in the vicinity of Red Lion Square as a home for decayed gentlewomen, the widows or daughters of clergymen, of merchants, of professional men, and others suffering under a reverse of fortune. It is well known that in London there are many cases in which ladies formerly surrounded by comfort or by luxury are wearing out the remains of life in penury entailed on them by death or by misfortune in which their share has been the heavy burden only. To such as these privation comes with a keener pang than the born poor can even conceive. To the physical suffering a heavy moral one is added. The previous condition which sharpens the pang has helped to incapacitate these unfortunates for improving the later condition. All the qualities of distress and all the claims for sympathy seem to meet in their case.—A house has been taken and prepared for the reception of a few of these sufferers. Every room is occupied; and the report of the association states that the greatest harmony prevails in the establishment. It is hoped that after a time the institution will be nearly self-supporting; as each inmate is required to pay 7s. 6d. a week for her food and lodging. The expense of furnishing is, however, large,—and it is on this score, and also to extend the amount of accommodation, that the committee appeal to the generosity of the public.—As will be apparent, the present provisions of this home for reduced gentlewomen must leave untouched a large mass of the misery suffered by this class; it being open only to those whose friends will provide the funds, or who have small annuities not sufficient to maintain them in a decent condition without such help. Still, what good it does is good of a high quality,—and we willingly lend the aid of our columns to extend the knowledge of its case.

In anticipation of the forthcoming anniversary dinner of the Booksellers' Provident Institution and Booksellers' Provident Retreat, the Treasurer of the latter fund has published a statement of receipts and expenditure of the amount subscribed for building the houses and laying-out the grounds at Abbot's Langley, Herts. From this it appears, that there is but a very small balance remaining to meet the annual and incidental expenses, and to keep the buildings in proper and substantial repair. The Treasurer proposes to raise a permanent fund, and apply the interest to these purposes; and has opened an account in the Reduced 3 per cent. Annuities at the Bank of England, in the names of four trustees,—Alderman Kelly, E. Hodgson, J. M. Richardson, and R. Marshall, Esqrs.—with this view.

Among the names of those who perished in the late dreadful and unaccountable wreck of the Orion steamer our readers may have seen the name of Mr. John Roby. What we feared at the time turns out, on the report of the *Leeds Mercury*, to be the case:—the unfortunate gentleman is Mr. Roby, the banker, of Rochdale, who some years ago obtained reputation as the author of 'Traditions of Lancaster,' and subsequently published

some other works of less mark. Mr. Roby was on his way to Edinburgh with his wife and daughter, and was the only one of his family who was not saved.

The University of Oxford has conferred its honorary degree of Doctor in Civil Law on the Marquis of Northampton, late President of the Royal Society,—and on Mr. Prescott, the well-known American historian.

It appears from Scotch papers that the house in Burns Street, Dumfries, in which the bard of 'Tam o' Shanter' and his wife, "bonnie Jean," lived and died, is about to come into the market by way of public auction; and we hear Scottish lamentations making over a step which may eventually sweep away so substantial and interesting a monument of "Scotia's pride." We beg to point out to the gentlemen of Scotland that if they be very much in earnest the case is not without a remedy,—and to remind them, as the editor of the *Dumfries Courier* has done before us, that there is a precedent at Stratford-on-Avon which may put them in the right way. We presume the sum demanded for any house in which the fortunes of Robert Burns were lodged is not so large but that Scotland may pay it if she be seriously in want of a shrine for her national Muse. "Two years ago," says the paper mentioned, "we were led to understand that certain gentlemen in Dumfries contemplated paying the same compliment [alluding to the purchase of Shakspeare's house] to the home in which the bard and his exemplary spouse closed their eyes in death; and if the admirers of posthumous renown wide as the world itself are still bent on the performance of an endearing duty, now or never, we beg to say emphatically, is the time for action."—Scotland rarely indulges in the sentimental when it is expensive, and perhaps the present is as good an opportunity as she is likely to have for some time of showing that she can be as weak on occasion as her neighbours.

The House of Commons is about to be asked for an immediate bill—the Standing Orders being set aside for the purpose—to grant powers for the erection of a temporary bridge at Westminster, from Bridge Street to the opposite shore, to be maintained, it is said, during the repairs and alterations in Westminster Bridge.

The friends of the Evening Classes—to which we have more than once directed the reader—have been supping together at the London Tavern. The speeches, like the viands, were excellent,—and the statements, like the wines, were encouraging; but we are at a loss to conceive the necessity for a public demonstration being made in a place and manner which rendered it impossible for those practically interested in the experiment to be present. Dinners or suppers at the London Tavern are not open to the means of those who are likely to need the assistance of the evening classes.—The reports were, however, we repeat, satisfactory. Twenty-four classes have been established,—and these have been attended by 600 students. Twenty-nine lectures have been given by competent persons gratuitously; and twenty-three teachers, actuated by the same benevolent spirit, have devoted their evenings to the more arduous work of instruction. The state of the funds is good, too:—the receipts for the past year having been nearly double the outlay.

A correspondent writes to us as follows.—"The retrograde movement in Prussia noticed in your paper of last Saturday is not confined to the prohibition of a host of metropolitan and provincial newspapers, but extends also to the Berlin public library. By a recent order of the principal of that establishment not only is the public no longer allowed to consult the Catalogues (which are all in manuscript), but the readers are confined to one work at a time. Besides this, it is stated that of a work consisting of several volumes, only the first shall be lent out at once,—and the second only on receipt of the first. It appears as if these measures have been adopted in order to express the sympathy of the Library authorities with those of the present administration."

A well-known correspondent writes to us:—"Considering the public interest which attaches just now to the subject of crime and its treatment,



I think it may be interesting to some of your readers to know what is being done in the way of improvement in prison discipline in one or two of those great gaols which are now considered as the models in this country. In the course of a ramble through the North of England, I have had an opportunity of looking into several prisons—and noting the course which the great experiment of 'isolation' of prisoners is taking. I am more and more convinced by what I have seen that there are differences of opinion in the Cabinet on the subject of criminal science,—and that some of the heads of this department have but a confused notion of what is going on. Ten years ago the present Premier had a strong feeling in favour of isolation. He obtained an Act making this sort of imprisonment legal in England; he built Pentonville,—and under his influence three or four millions of money have been spent in trying the experiment. It is now failing everywhere:—nay, more, in its essential features it is in progress of being abandoned by order of the Government. The first Minister of the Crown has re-opened the whole question of penal discipline, and a Committee of the House of Commons is now collecting evidence on the subject. At Millbank—a Government prison—they have knocked down the party walls in one wing of the pentagon, and thrown the ranges of cells into large rooms for associated labour. At Wakefield, Government has ordered the party divisions to be removed from the chapel, and the prisoners worship now in common. At Preston,—the best administered gaol in the kingdom,—they have gone still further. There, prisoners exercise, worship, study, and some of them work, in common. From a strictly 'separate,' it has gradually become a purely 'associated' prison. The views of its conductors are under the control of philosophy and common sense; and being practical rather than theoretic men, they have cast out of the system with which they commenced, one obnoxious element after another, until there is little or nothing of the original left. Even at Pentonville they have been compelled to place the prisoners in association before they are discharged; so that the idea with which they started, of preventing one prisoner from making acquaintance with others, is now entirely lost sight of. Yet, we hear of new gaols on this expensive and discredited system about to be erected by Government! I have said above that some of the heads of this department are not perfectly acquainted with the details of what is going on—I add an example. A few weeks ago, one of the Secretaries of State, in his place in Parliament, gave an explanation of the views of Government on the subject. Amongst other things, he informed the House that Millbank has now been fitted up with solitary cells, like Pentonville. The facts are just the reverse. The prison was built with solitary cells:—they are now being taken down by order of Government."

ROYAL ACADEMY, TRAFALGAR SQUARE.  
THE EXHIBITION of the ROYAL ACADEMY is NOW OPEN.—Admission (from Eight o'clock till Seven), 1s.; Catalogue, 1s.  
JOHN PIESCOTT KNIGHT, R.A., Sec.

THE NEW SOCIETY of PAINTERS in WATER-COLOURS.  
—THE SIXTEENTH ANNUAL EXHIBITION of this Society is NOW OPEN, at their Gallery, 53, Pall Mall, near St. James's Palace.  
JAMES FAHEY, Secretary.

PANORAMA of the NILE.—Additions have been made to this Exhibition.—The Nubian Desert, from the Second Cataract to Dongola—War Dance by Firelight—March of Caravan by Moonlight—Morning Prayer.—The Mummy of a High Priest is added to the curiosities. Both Banks of the River are shown in the Painting.—EGYPTIAN HALL, PICCADILLY.—Daily, at Three and Eight o'clock.—Stalls, 3s., Pit, 2s., Gallery, 1s.; Children and Schools, Half-price.

INDIA OVERLAND MAIL.—DIORAMA.—GALLERY of ILLUSTRATION, 14, Regent-street, Waterloo-place.—Additional Picture, MADRAS.—A Giantic MOVING DIORAMA, ILLUSTRATING THE ROUTE of the OVERLAND MAIL to INDIA, depicting every object worthy of notice on this highly interesting journey from Southampton to Madras and Calcutta, accompanied by descriptive detail and appropriate music, is now OPEN DAILY. Mornings at Twelve, Afternoons at Three, and in the Evening at Eight o'clock.—Admission, 1s.; Stalls, 2s. 6d.; Reserved Seats, 3s.—Doors open half-an-hour before each representation.

The DIORAMA, Regent's Park.—Admission, One Shilling.—NOW OPEN, with the finest VIEWS ever exhibited in this country, representing the ROYAL CASTLE of STOLZENFELS, on the Rhine, visited by Her Majesty Queen Victoria in August, 1845; and its Environs, as seen at Sunset and during a Thunder Storm; painted by NICHOLAS MEISTEL, of Cologne. And the much-admired Picture of THE SHRINE of the NATIVITY, at Bethlehem; painted by the late M. KENOX, from a Sketch made on the spot by DAVID ROBERTS, Esq. R.A., with novel and striking effects.

## ROYAL POLYTECHNIC INSTITUTION.

During this week the ALPINE SINGERS from Styria will perform several of their National Melodies, Daily at Four, and in the Evenings at Half-past Eight.—LECTURE, by J. H. Pepper, Esq., on the APPARENT CONTRADICTIONS of CHEMISTRY, daily at a Quarter-past Three, and every Evening at Eight.—LECTURE by DR. BACHOFFNER on VOLTAIC ELECTRICITY, daily at Two, and every Evening at a Quarter-past Nine.—NEW SERIES of DISSOLVING VIEWS, illustrating some of the WONDERS of NATURE; also a Series, exhibiting SCENES in the ARCTIC REGIONS and CEYLON.—DIVER and DIVING BELL, &c. &c.—Admission, 1s.; Schools, Half-price.

## SOCIETIES

GEOLOGICAL.—Sir C. Lyell, President, in the chair.—The following communications were read:—1. 'On a Section of the Lower Greensand, at Seend, near Devizes,' by W. Cunningham, Esq.—2. 'On the Fossiliferous Sands and Gravels of Farringdon,' by R. A. C. Austen, Esq.

SOCIETY of ANTIQUARIES.—Sir R. H. Inglis, V.P., in the chair.—Sir H. Ellis was the medium of communicating an Anglo-Saxon inscription from Dewsbury, Yorkshire, whence so many relics of that period have been procured. Mr. Doubleday had made a cast of it, but it seemed that no person had yet attempted to decipher it.—Mr. Smith sent a great variety of ancient objects, of different dates, from the bronze period to about the middle of the fifteenth century, in iron, brass, and leather. Some Roman sandals, dragged up from the bed of the Thames, were peculiarly interesting. The spear-heads and arrow-points were of more common occurrence, and being of iron were much corroded.—The Hon. Mr. Neville (introduced as a member for the first time) we understand was the owner of several curious objects discovered in Essex. One of these was a sort of salver, of green Roman glass, of peculiar beauty.—Mr. Falkener exhibited two interesting drawings—one, a restoration of a Roman amphitheatre, made up chiefly from actual remains; and the other a large monument discovered by himself in Lycia.—M. Zahn covered the table with coloured engravings from his drawings of the most valuable and interesting paintings and decorations at Pompeii, Herculaneum, and Stabiae. They appeared to be most beautifully and accurately finished; the female figures, perfectly nude, being of the utmost grace both of outline and of detail.—Another paper was contributed by Mr. W. Martin 'On the vexed Question of Crucifixion by the Romans in Britain;' the most novel feature in which was, his admission that the skeletons might be those of Christian martyrs, and not of criminals. He ridiculed the idea that the large nails found with the skeletons had been employed in the construction of the funeral pile; and he was perhaps right, as the Romans almost invariably used wooden pegs in their structures.—Mr. P. Chalmers sent a communication from Scotland 'On Masons' Marks on the Stones of many Buildings in his Neighbourhood.'—The business of the season concluded with the end of Mr. W. Lloyd's paper 'On the François Vase,' which had occupied two preceding evenings.—We ought to have mentioned, that many antiquaries present were puzzled by some small articles in pottery, which some contended had been used as bobbins for lace, and others as the means of curling wigs. It was not a very important topic; but the Hon. Mr. Neville supposed that they were of considerable antiquity. The Society adjourned till the 21st of November.

LINNEAN.—R. Brown, Esq., President, in the chair.—A collection of plants formed by the late W. Griffiths, Esq., chiefly in Assam, was presented by the East India Company.—The President exhibited portions of the trunks of two Winter's bark trees from the Straits of Magellan, cut down in 1826 by Capt. King, R.N., on which were inscriptions made through the bark by a midshipman accompanying the Expedition of Capt. Cordoba in 1786, and by a companion of Capt. Bougainville in 1769; the annual rings in the former case distinctly corresponding with the interval between the two voyages. He made some observations on the structure of the woody vessels of the genus, which he described as closely resembling that of the Coniferae.—Mr. A. White exhibited drawings by Mr. P. Gosse of several species of Rotifera, in which the relation of these animals to the Articulata were well made

out, especially by the presence of mandibles and maxillæ and maxillary palpi. He showed, also, drawings of the development of *Stephanoceros Eichornii* from the egg to the adult.—Mr. White stated his own belief that the so-called *Acorus folliculorum* (*Demodex*, Owen, *Entozoon*, Wilson), probably also the genus *Tardigradus*, were parasitic Rotifera, with legs or leg-like appendages adapted for their peculiar habits.—A paper was read from Dr. Hance entitled, 'Observations on the Structure of the fruit of Punica (the pomegranate).' The author's conclusions were founded on the examination of some monstrous specimens of the flowers and fruit of the pomegranate.—The conclusion of Mr. Bollaert's paper, 'On the Botany of the Texas' was read. The climate and soil of Texas were described as particularly favourable to a rich and varied vegetation. Amongst the natives of the Texas were enumerated species of the genera *Magnolia*, *Rhododendron*, *Quercus*, *Juglans*, *Mimosa*, *Indigofera*, *Vitis*, &c. The family of *Cactaceæ* abound, and, amongst others, the *Opuntia cochinitifera*, or cochineal cactus. An account was given of the great forests of Texas called the "Cross Timbers,"—as also of the cultivated plants. Cotton, tobacco, sugar-cane, and the fruits of sub-tropical climates are easily reared. The paper was accompanied by a list of five hundred species of plants which had been collected in the Texas.

MICROSCOPICAL.—Dr. A. Farre in the chair.—A paper was read from J. C. Sorby, Esq., 'On the occurrence of Non-gymnospermous Wood in the Lias Formation of Gloucestershire.' In a specimen of fossil wood in the author's possession from the lias, he had found, on submitting sections to the microscope, indications of the existence of ducts and imperfect spiral vessels. Drawings of the appearances described were exhibited. This observation was interesting, as hitherto exogenous wood had not been found so low down as the lias.—Part of a paper was read from W. C. Williamson, Esq., 'On the Structure and Habits of the Foraminifera.' In this portion he entered minutely into the consideration of the structure of the animal forming the curious shells of the foraminifera. He supposed that the various chambers of the shell were formed by the creature from within. The animal inhabiting these shells the author regarded as very low in organization, approaching the Difflugie amongst the infusorial animalcules.

## MEETINGS FOR THE ENSUING WEEK.

MON. Entomological, 8.  
TUES. Horticultural, 8.  
THURS. Zoological, 3.—General Business.  
FRI. Botanical, 8.

## FINE ARTS

## NEW PUBLICATIONS.

*The Decorative Arts of the Middle Ages.* By Henry Shaw, F.S.A. Parts 1, 2, 3, and 4.

Mr. Shaw's name is known as the successful gatherer of many particulars that have great interest for the archæologist, whether he be a student in History or in Art. His various series of dresses, decorations, furniture, and illuminated ornaments have made him popular; and in this age of reproductive character, the examples of the past which he sets before us may be far more advantageously followed than those bizarre and tasteless combinations, incongruous in style and various in date, which crowd Wardour Street and other places with side-boards and book-cases. To the conscientious and truth-telling painter of Middle Age subject, too, works like these are of incalculable advantage.

The first plate shows the drawing of a Cup designed by Hans Holbein for Jane Seymour, Queen of Henry the Eighth:—one of the acquisitions to the British Museum which we announced when it was recently made by the present Keeper of the Print Room from the collection of the late Mr. Beckford of Fonthill. As we find no mention by Mr. Shaw in his descriptive notes of the Cup itself, it will not be unacceptable to our readers to know what Rymer says of it in his 'Fodera.' Treating 'De Warranto speciali pro Georgio Duci Buckingham et alii, A.D. 1625,'—he speaks of one of its items thus:—"Item, a faire standing cupp of



goulde, garnished about the cover with eleven diamonds, and two poynted diamonds about the cupp, seaventeen table diamonds and one pearle pendent uppon the cupp, with theis words *bound to obey and serve* and H and I knit together; in the topp of the cover the Queens armes and *Queene Janes* armes houlden by twoe boyes under a crowne imperiall, weighing *threescore and five ounces and a half*." The woodcut which Mr. Shaw has given conveys confirmation of the above, and testifies to the graceful form of the Cup.—Among the numbers before us, we may notice also a specimen of Embroidery, from a picture of Queen Mary, belonging to the Antiquarian Society; the ironwork from the tomb of Eleanor the wife of Edward the First, made by Thomas de Leghtone (Leighton Buzzard), costing 180*l.* of modern currency; the Cup designed by George Wechter, 1620; a specimen of a Gipsière, or Purse, from the collection in the Louvre; a copy of a Book-cover done in colours,—the author unknown; a woodcut of a Grolier binding; Wood Pannelling from a picture by Holbein at Hampton Court,—an example of the prevalent taste of the time, as well abroad as at home; a specimen of Embroidery from a picture by Carlo Crivelli, in the collection of Lord Ward; and a Pyx, from a drawing in the possession of the Society of Antiquaries. Of the examples of stained glass given, none are very highly characteristic.—We observe, in conclusion, that the interest of the work would be increased by reference, where possible, to actual objects or to the designs made for them, rather than deriving them from pictures where they may possibly be but caprices of the painter's invention to suit an especial pictorial purpose.

*The Wilkie Gallery, Parts 18, 19, and 20.*

THE proprietors are on the eve of bringing this work to a close,—the interest of the subject being almost exhausted. Nearly all the principal pictures of the great artist have been represented; and it now only remains for us to make some observations on sketches and designs done during the later period of his life. In this publication re-appears 'The First Ear-ring,' from the picture in the Vernon Gallery. There is also 'The Wardrobe Ransacked'—the artist's title for which was "a man teasing a girl by putting on her cap." This picture was, during its progress, disliked by Haydon as being too trivial. It is remarkable as being the only one of Wilkie's disapproved of by the "Hanging Committee" of the Royal Academy. They recommended it to be withdrawn, as unequal to the former efforts of the painter,—and indeed unworthy of his high reputation. 'Reading the News' was also one of the artist's least felicitous productions in point of story. For the introduction of these we see no good reason. Nor can we applaud the appearance of engravings from such mere sketches or ideas of pictures as 'Wilkie in search of Murillo,' 'A Persian Prince, his Slave bringing him Sherbet,' 'An Arab Sheik,' a group pretending to be 'Hebrew Women reading the Scriptures at Jerusalem'—a far-fetched designation, or 'The Sketch for the Napoleon and the Pope at Fontainebleau.' This last is a most unnecessary reproduction now when we have the fine line engraving by Robinson from the finished picture.—These are accompanied by descriptions, which are spun out and turgid in style. Most of them, too, are presented in poor and uncharacteristic engraving.

*Curtis's Beauties of the Rose, Parts 1 and 2.*

THIS is the first portion of a work containing varieties of specimens of our national emblem. "The illustrations are attempted without the aid of a professed artist, merely from the fear that literal portraiture is too often sacrificed to pictorial effect (frequently causing unintentional disappointment), besides the difficulty which must have existed of effecting that which has been found so essential—the enabling these favorites to sit for their portraits when in their best trim." The prints are rendered accordingly with more regard to botanical truth than to artistic effect.

*Historic Reliques.* By Joseph Lionel Williams. Part 1.

THIS serial professes to give representations of arms, jewellery, gold and silver plate, furniture, armour,

&c. The main object of the author is, to produce such a series as shall have historical interest from having belonged to persons celebrated in history, and are treasured up in royal collections, in colleges or halls, or in public or private museums. In the present number, the candelabrum from the Cathedral of St. Bavon, at Ghent—one of four ranged in front of the high altar, each ten feet in height—is interesting from the tradition that these were made by order of Charles the First, either for Whitehall or for St. Paul's, and that at his death they shared the fate of other royal property, being carried out of England.

*The Gallery of Illustrious Americans.* Nos. 1 and 2.

FROM the cover of this American publication we learn that it is intended to contain the portraits and biographical sketches of twenty-four of the most eminent citizens of the Transatlantic republic since the death of Washington. This instalment gives the portraits of General Taylor, the eleventh President of the United States, and of John Caldwell Calhoun. They are daguerreotyped by Brady, lithographed by D'Avignon, and the biographies are edited by C. Edwards Lister assisted by an association of literary men. The publication is more remarkable for one particular quality than for any artistic or literary excellence. That peculiarity of American physiognomy which results no doubt from American habits of thought and association has here its effect exaggerated by the mechanical agency of the daguerreotype,—which always emphasizes the more obvious and minute particulars that are un-essential to the description of general character. Such themes the portrait-painter who has well studied his art renders with a discrimination and taste that do not interfere with the truth.—There is much ability in the execution of the lithographer; and in the style of the biographies there are the peculiarities of American writing when descending on the characters of American political men.

*The Island of Madeira: Views of Funchal and its Neighbourhood.* By Frank Dillon.

THIS is a very interesting volume, containing a series of twelve ably-executed lithographs, from scenes well selected by the draughtsman, Mr. Dillon, to inform us in the leading features of the island. The good selection is sustained by good drawing and good effect. "A few observations, the result of personal experience, have been appended, under the impression that any information, however slight, tending to smooth the way of the seeker after health may not be unacceptable."

*Haghe's Portfolio of Sketches in Belgium and Germany.*

WE are so accustomed to associate excellence with the name of this artist, that it appears to us almost superfluous to do more than announce that Mr. Haghe has brought out the third volume, which completes the series of these sketches. The book is, however, so filled with novelties of a varied and beautiful kind, that we must not lay it aside without advertent particularly to some of its more marked examples. The subjects which embrace the external and internal construction of domestic and ecclesiastical architecture, chosen with the eye of a painter, have each had their separate and individual interests assigned to them by the addition of scene and circumstance either expressive of the purpose of the building or illustrating some event connected with its history. Thus, 'The Porch of a Private House at Bruges' has the fitting incident—a cavalier and his lady about to mount their horses, which a page holds. 'The Town Hall at Mons' shows the poor of the place receiving food from the public charity of the town, in very expressive actions. One view of 'The Brewers' Corporation Room at Antwerp' presents some brethren of the guild in close parley,—another view of the same shows a family group in the costume of the seventeenth century. 'A Private House at Antwerp' presents one of Mr. Haghe's admirable interiors of domestic life. In 'The Interior of the Town Hall at Antwerp' the artist exhibits a culprit under examination. In 'The Castle of Heidelberg' baronial retainers ready for the sports of the field lounge about in picturesque combination.

Iconoclastic fury is at work in 'The Church of St. Gertrude, Louvain,' with its richly carved stalls. There is solemn effect in 'The Cloister of St. Gertrude and Nivelles;' and here may be remarked the very successful printing of the warm and cold tints,—which has resulted in great effect. 'The Old Bourse at Antwerp' will be looked at with interest as having, it is said, served as the model for the London Exchange built by Sir Thomas Gresham. Then, we have the old carved 'Pulpit of St. Gudule, at Brussels,' with a Dominican friar preaching to an attentive auditory; and a very rich 'Rood Screen and Chandelier in the Church of Aerschot,' under which high mass is in course of celebration. 'The Well designed and executed at Antwerp by Quentin Matsys,' forms the subject of another plate. In the 'Chapel of St. Dymphna, Gheel,' there is a very fine Art incident:—a priest showing relics to pilgrims who resort to the shrine for cures and adoration. The altarpiece is remarkable as being contrived in the style of some of the *retablos* of which, in his work on Spanish artists, Mr. Stirling gives such good account. There is most picturesque material in the 'Altar Piece in the Cathedral, Ratisbon,' with figures that are very appropriate. Indeed, as we proceed, we are fairly stopped by an *embarras de richesses*.

*Roberts's Sketches in Egypt and Nubia.* Parts 19, 20, and 21.

THESE numbers conclude one of the most important works on the subject of topography which have appeared in our day:—bringing before us the unfamiliar scenes and incidents of a country and a people with whom our intercourse may be said to be but now beginning. They fully sustain the reputation of their predecessors. There is the same interest of selection, and in many of the prints increased beauty of execution in the details. Of subjects more immediately belonging to the figure painter, there are, a capital 'Group in the Slave-Market, Cairo,'—'A Turkish Letter-writer,'—'The Coffee-shop of Cairo,' with its listless gossipers inhaling the narcotic plant,—'The Ghâzwanees, or Dancing Girls of Cairo,'—and an 'Interview with the Viceroy (Mehemed Ali) at his Palace in Alexandria in 1839.' Then, we have 'The Approach of the Simoom in the Desert of Gizeh,'—which has given occasion for a striking combination of effect and figures. The camels are well described as they lie with their heads close to the ground. To make the sketch of the Nilometer on the Island of Rhoda, Cairo, "Mr. Roberts got access to it by climbing over the wall, and made a hurried sketch, but at the risk of being drowned in the well of the Nilometer or shot by the sentinel." The mode of making the transit of the river is seen in the 'View of the Nile, with the Ferry to Gizeh.' The Tombs of the Mamelukes are the great features of the Necropolis:—the more modern taste is exhibited in the picturesque doorway of a modern house, showing the arabesque style of building in Cairo. The 'Interior of the Mosque of the Sultan El-Ghoree' is spacious and well drawn;—that of 'Sultan Hassan, from the Great Square of the Rameyleh,' is a fine specimen of its class, venerable from age and fast going to decay.—The title-vignette is, 'The Grand Gateway leading to the Temple of Karnak.'

SALE OF MR. CHARLES MEIGH'S PICTURES.

IT is said that there is no experience so good as that which is bought. The result of many disappointments to the purchasers of rubbed out and repainted and manufactured *originals*, or of inferior copies, with which the lower class of picture-dealers have by themselves and their travelling auctioneers deluged the provinces, is beginning to tell. When these are brought to the London market, fifty or seventy shillings are about the average price at which they are estimated, and if they cover the expense of carriage and the auctioneer's charges the owners may think themselves happy. No advice or warning has sufficed against these impositions. The world has often been told how difficult it is to get a true fine Italian picture,—and it knows that when an authenticated Dutch picture comes into the market many hundreds of pounds will frequently fail to secure the prize, so great is



the competition. Even of modern masters, we could speak of many a Wilson manufactured for the country market. Manchester and her neighbourhood will derive little satisfaction from being told that in exchange for her cottons the London dealers have well stocked her with their canvas under the said name of Richard Wilson and others as renowned. Many a dealer who reads this will acknowledge [to himself] that we have possession of his secret:—and we intend to deal with it at length on some other occasion.

Some pictures of the class to which we have alluded seem to have fallen into the hands of Mr. Meigh. Thus, we find a Van de Velde selling for 29s.—a Backhuysen for 13*l.* 15*s.*—a Ruysdael for 30*l.*—a Watteau for 48*l.*—a Domenichino for 5*l.* 10*s.*!!—and a Carlo Maratti for 3*l.* 12*s.*! These ridiculous prices are the best commentaries on the qualities of the pictures. Let us proceed a little farther.—A Perugino realizes 24*l.* 8*s.*!—a wofully retouched fragment of a fresco, by Raffaele (another discovery of a long-hidden treasure) brings 53*l.* 11*s.*!—a Leonardo da Vinci 24*l.* 3*s.*!—and a grand gallery picture by Rembrandt 'Abraham offering up Isaac,' 63*l.*—All this would be farce if the loss sustained on each of these sales were not borne in mind.

In time Mr. Meigh would seem to have found out the trick of dealers in the foreign masters,—and to have turned his attention in consequence to the artists of his own country and his own time. The wisdom of the step is attested by the second day's sale,—in which these examples were offered. Many fetched double the amounts originally given for them, several half as much again, and most proved valuable investments of the capital which the proprietor had locked up in them only a few years ago. Here, he had not been duped by fictitious originals. 'The Scene on the French Coast,' by Turner, was bought by Mr. Lennox for 69*l.* A small but elegant picture, 'Two Nymphs Bathing,' a fine specimen of flesh painting by Etty, was purchased by Mr. Agnew for 273*l.* An early subject by Webster, 'Evening Prayer,' executed in 1835, which marks that painter's rapid improvement, was bought by Mr. King for 204*l.* 15*s.* 'The Choice of Hercules,' the picture for which Macleise obtained the gold medal of the Royal Academy, was bought by Mr. King for 220*l.* 10*s.* 'A View of a Temple in Egypt,' by Müller, fetched 451*l.* 10*s.*; and the 'Sphinx,' by the same artist, sold for 210*l.*—in our judgment these were enormous prices. Mulready's 'Careless Messenger detected' sold for 131*l.* 5*s.* 'A View over the Thames from Richmond Hill—Sunset,' by Pyne, brought 72*l.* 9*s.* One of Uwins's best pictures, 'Mountaineers Returning from the Festa of Monte Vergino,' was bought by Mr. King for 267*l.* 15*s.*,—and Frazer's well-known 'Robinson Crusoe' for 110*l.* 5*s.* 'A Dog in a Stable,' an early picture by E. Landseer, was bought by Mr. Agnew for 225*l.* 15*s.*; and a small 'Landscape—Sunset' by the same artist brought 36*l.* 15*s.* An early picture by Creswick, 'A Landscape, with Cattle on a Road'—upright, was sold for 69*l.* 6*s.* Figures at a well, by Lee and Goodall—the landscape portions being the most important—sold for 127*l.* 1*s.*; and 'A Halt on the Fells,' an early and not one of the most agreeable of Sidney Cooper's cattle pieces, was bought by Mr. King for 399*l.* A small picture by David Roberts, 'A View of the Church of St. Jacques at Dieppe,' brought 33*l.* 12*s.*,—Uwins's head of 'A Peasant Girl of Gensano,' 42*l.*,—and Müller's 'Interior of the Chamber of Agnes Sorel at Orleans,' 43*l.* 1*s.* James Burnet's group of 'Cows and a Peasant Boy,' one of the few works which the painter lived to complete, realized 43*l.* 1*s.* A small 'Landscape' by Sidney Cooper sold for 59*l.* 7*s.*,—'An Interior at Conway,' by Frederick Goodall, for 63*l.*,—and 'A River Scene,' by Constable, for 24*l.* 13*s.* 6*d.* The 'Musidora Bathing,' an inferior study by Liverseege, brought 22*l.* 1*s.*,—'The Broken Egg,' by Gainsborough, 94*l.* 10*s.* An admirable picture by Morland, 'Pigs in a Farm Yard,' was sold for 90*l.* 6*s.*,—and another called 'Conversation,' for 50*l.* 8*s.* A 'Rustic Landscape' of interest, by Collins, sold for 39*l.* 18*s.*,—and 'A Mill on the River Teign, near Crediton,' for 49*l.* 7*s.* 'Puck seated on a Toad-

Stool,' a poetical treatment by R. Dadd, brought 62*l.* 10*s.*; and the little study for Collins's larger picture 'The World or the Cloister' sold for 61*l.* 19*s.* 'Captives detained for Ransom by Banditti,' an early picture by Herbert, brought only 220*l.* 10*s.*; and his other work 'Boar Hunters taking Refreshment at the Gate of a Monastery,' nearly the same amount.

The result of the sales of modern pictures which have lately taken place,—from that of the Collection of the late Mr. Knott down to the present—serves to show, that if the collector would but visit the artist himself in his studio, dispensing with the services of the middle-man, he might select for himself, avoid deception, and probably save money in his purchases.

**FINE-ART GOSSIP.**—One of the gratifying results of Dr. Waagen's present visit to England has been, we are told, the discovery at the Earl of Suffolk's, at Charlton, in Wiltshire, of the original picture of the fine Holy Family by Leonardo da Vinci known by the name of 'La Vierge aux Rochers,' in which the Virgin is represented kneeling in a rocky scene, with the infant Christ before her held by an angel. M. Passavant and Mr. Eastlake, both of whom accompanied Dr. Waagen to Charlton, concurred immediately in this opinion. The Louvre picture, hitherto thought to have been the original, is much injured. The "real original," if this be indeed it, should find a place in our next year's Exhibition of Old Masters at the British Institution.

Alderman Salomons has, we learn, just presented to the Corporation of the City of London a large folding Screen on which is painted, it is said by Copley, the father of Lord Lyndhurst, the subject of George the Third on one of his visits to the city of London being received at Temple Bar by the then Lord Mayor, the independent Beckford. It is no very remarkable specimen of fine Art; but as a bold record of the costume, &c. of the day it is a valuable present to the body whose former chief officer and dignitaries it represents.

We have heard a somewhat curious statement, that Government, in want of room at Somerset House for public offices for Commissioners and clerks, has it in contemplation, under Mr. Penne-thorne's superintendence, to cart away the whole interior of the quadrangle, and thus throw the basement stories of the building open to greater light and better air. The whole centre of the quadrangle is an enormous catacomb, resting on well-constructed piers and arches subject to damp. Their removal would add, it is affirmed, to the general health and convenience of the inmates of the building:—but would it add to the beauty or harmonious elevation of Chambers's design? The loss of space is, doubtless, very great; but the level of much of the space thus to be retrieved is under high-water mark,—and Chambers, it is clear, constructed his whole design with particular reference to this false foreground. Of course the removal of the present arches would render a carriage approach to any of the offices from the interior of the quadrangle altogether impossible. But this would lead to a change in some respects for the better; the Government plan including, it is said, new entrances elsewhere, and an opening of the noble terrace to the river.—The whole project, however, seems to us problematical; and we mention it rather for the purpose of calling notice to an incipient intention than with any idea that it will ever be carried out.

A clever three-quarter portrait of Shakspeare, a composition from the Stratford bust, the Chandos portrait, and all the accredited memorials of the great poet, has just been painted by Mr. Forde M. Brown,—and is now on view at Messrs. Dickinson's in New Bond Street. Mr. Brown has caught a certain "gentle" enthusiasm and gentleman-like look, as if he had wrought remembering how Shakspeare is additionally endeared to us by the epithet of "gentle" applied to him by so many of his contemporaries. There is no attempt in his picture to portray the poet who drew 'Lear' or 'Macbeth,'—but we have, instead, the mind that

gave us 'Cordelia,' and 'Rosalind,'—and the "gentler" qualities of the great poet.

## MUSIC AND THE DRAMA

### NEW PUBLICATIONS.

*Elements of Singing, &c. &c. &c.*, by Giacinto Marras.—There are two points in this work by Signor Marras which, as occurring in a publication owing its origin to a professor in fashionable practice and high reputation, cannot be passed over. One is, the disregard of tonality in several of the *solfeggi*, which begin in one key and end in another curiously distant. This amounts to a wanton sacrifice of the chance of combining musical with vocal instruction:—it is a gratuitous hindrance to the formation in the pupil of any notions of modulation,—which, let singers disdain them ever so much, are of no small use to the singer's feeling for intonation. Lessons of training for the voice, we know, are not lessons for the in-culcation of musical science; but the one should march in harmony with the other, else the teaching is bad. In another point Signor Marras is too ready to encourage general incapacity in his scholars. To facilitate matters, he more than once desires that the passage before it is sung shall be played two or three times on the pianoforte. A poorer and more slovenly precept than this cannot be imagined, since it virtually amounts to an admission that teaching by the ear is the best. Now, having much at heart the diffusion of singing at sight,—without which (despite of certain magnificent examples to the contrary) there is no real comprehension of the music sung, no intimate feeling for concerted effects so important in the rendering of the greatest works, no unhesitating steadiness on which alone the highest vocal grace and perfection can be based,—we earnestly protest against such a practice being sanctioned as a common and proper means of instruction. These objections made and kept in view, we may add, that the exercises of Signor Marras appear to us calculated to develope without straining the voice.

**CONCERTS OF THE WEEK.**—The Concert yesterday week given at *Her Majesty's Theatre* by M. Benedict was a very brilliant one. We were disappointed of hearing the *beneficiaire's* Festival Overture;—but he played his *Concertante* for two pianofortes, with M. Halle, and further treated his friends to a new "Morning Song," the words of which are by Barry Cornwall. This fresh and elegant composition was charmingly sung by Madame Sontag. In addition to the established corps of *Her Majesty's Theatre*, Herr Molique and Herr Ernst played; the former, a new *fantasia* on English airs, too "theme-full" to content us as a composition. Signor Piatti and M. Vivier, too, were heard on the occasion:—the latter is heard too rarely. Miss Hayes has a new ballad, which is one of Mr. Balfe's best. Madame Frezzolini was somewhat too independent of her partner in the duett from 'Maria Padilla' which she essayed with Madame Sontag:—in the *stretto* of which, and also in a very long double cadence, there were many loose thirds. The theatre was well filled; but for the good of art, it is to be hoped that when M. Benedict resumes his career in England, on returning from America, he will not resume his "Monster Concerts."

That there may be monster-work in miniature, however, the programme of Signor Brizzi's Chamber Entertainment, held yesterday, will prove. It comprised only fifteen singers and five conductors; and the singers were only—Mesdames Grisi and Castellan, Mdles. Vera, De Meric, and D'Angri, Signori Mario, Gardoni, Tambrlik, R. Costa, Brizzi, Colletti, Belletti, Ciabatta, S. Tamburini, and Tamburini. At the pianoforte were Signori Alary, Vera, Pinsuti, Biletta, and Pilotti. The above catalogue would amaze, we think, that pleasant person "An Old Subscriber." In his less satiated days, almost any pair of the above-named singers would have sufficed to make the fortune of a concert. Brilliant though such entertainments be, the



excitement of them can be maintained only at the expense of musical progress. Says *Portia*,—

They are as sick that surfeit on too much,  
As they that starve on nothing.

In another mood let us note, though in a few words, the close of the *Beethoven Quartetts* for this season. By his leading of these, with the able assistance of Messrs. Cooper and Hill and M. Rousselot, Herr Ernst has done his art good service. He has set up a standard of execution higher than has ever been hitherto proposed or attained in England. Nay, we very much doubt whether in Beethoven's own presence, by the Schuppanzigh Quartett at Vienna, Beethoven's music was ever more finely and fervently felt, more exquisitely executed. To such performances and such standards it is a pleasure and a privilege to be able to refer again and again.

Among the minor music of the week, have been, Concerts given by Herr Oberthur, a harpist, (who has chosen a bad year to come to London,)—and by Mdle. Achini, who occupies the debateable ground betwixt amateurship and art, and, shielded from criticism, can still reap the fruit of her talents.

MR. JOHN PARRY'S 'NOTES.'—This new entertainment happens, for a wonder—though it be no wonder when Mr. John Parry is concerned—to be from its first to its last note truly entertaining. There is mirth in the words, wit in the music, and a versatility of power and accomplishment put forth in the execution of both, which will raise Mr. Parry's reputation even with those with whom it has already stood the highest. He talks, he sings, in half-a-score of different voices and styles—he plays the pianoforte more boldly and brilliantly than ever—(during one of his scenes, drawing, with his right hand, while his left hand keeps up an accompaniment to the *cornet-a-piston*, which his voice simulates with whimsical musical accuracy). He changes his dresses with the rapidity of sorcery,—and, we repeat, entertains his company better than any one single-handed has done for the same length of time since Mathews. In his 'Notes' some of his best fun is musical. His sketches of pianoforte players of all ages would enchant a Moscheles by their technical truth; while they are felt as absurdly impressive by the unprofessional part of the audience. His specimens of singing gentlemen might be interwoven as warnings into the course of serious teaching which a Garcia or a Perugini think proper to give, so admirably were hit off the vocal vices and follies that beset the English; yet the most unmusical *Daphnis* or *Chloe* who hears them must be convulsed by their comical truth to every one's drawing-room experiences. The Welsh air, dear old 'Nos Galan,' sung in fine *falssetto* and full costume, is another bit of nature no less excellent in quality, made doubly relishing by its entire contrast with the rest of the entertainment. But further specification is not needed, since every one will take Mr. John Parry's 'Notes' thankfully; and for a twelvemonth to come, at least, he will be spared the necessity of circulating any other.

OLYMPIC.—On Monday, this house was re-opened, "under the patronage of the Nepalese Embassy"; on which occasion a new comediante by Mr. Henry Spicer was produced. The subject is similar to that of the same author's play of 'Protection,'—but the work less ambitious in its structure. It is entitled 'My Son-in-Law,' and turns on the absurd self-interest shown by an avaricious husband, who discovers a lady domesticated with his wife's father. The circumstances are all, of course, satisfactorily explained, and the heroine's character is vindicated.—The part of the lady was performed by Miss Fanny Vining with much feeling and elegance.—The other pieces were, 'Time Tries All' and 'William Tell'; the part of the Swiss patriot being sustained with remarkable vigour and much rough and well-directed pathos by Mr. Davenport.

SURREY.—The tragedy of 'Brutus' was revived on Monday,—the part of the hero being played by Mr. Creswick.

STRAND.—The pleasing drama of 'Gwynneth Vaughan' has been revived here,—and the heroine

in the hands of Mrs. Stirling proved highly effective.

MUSICAL AND DRAMATIC GOSSIP.—It will be remembered that in the former notice of 'La Tempesta' given in the *Athenæum*, specification rather than criticism was put forth; and for this reason, that in some of M. Halévy's former operas we have found the music more satisfactory on a second than on a first hearing. Thus, having every desire that the new work written by him for England should succeed, we were willing to give 'La Tempesta' "the benefit of the doubt," under a first impression of disappointment. We are now in a position to reform our original judgment, were reform needed. But it is not so: 'La Tempesta,' on familiarity, proves to be one of its composer's less happy operas: at least, subsequent hearings have deepened the objections which were merely indicated in our first notice. Subsequent "seings" have convinced us of Mendelssohn's admirable critical judgment, which found difficulties and weaknesses in the *libretto* sufficient to prevent his attempting to clothe it with music. Whatever be the fate of 'La Tempesta' in France, we do not think that the work will keep the stage in England. Independently, too, of its intrinsic beauty or excellence, it will be found singularly difficult to mount; since a combination which shall in anywise represent or supply the peculiar gifts and graces of Madame Sontag, Mdle. Grisi, and Signor Lablache is hardly to be expected in any future "cast."—After penning the above, it has amused us no little to read in the *Gazette Musicale* that Madame Sontag is nightly *encored* in every one of her *morceaux*, from the first *cavatina* to the final *rondo* of her part.—On this we can only remark, like the mother of Mr. John Parry's "Accomplished young Lady" when assailed by some astounding fact, that we—

had not heard of that:

—but we may further inquire, what possible purpose save the generation of habitual mistrust can be served by the circulation of mis-statements so extravagant and so easily contradicted?

The following note from a correspondent, unhappy for the musical profession, speaks for itself.—

Late in the year 1848, Mr. Wessel, the publisher, issued an advertisement offering premiums or prizes for various compositions, to be sent in before the March ensuing; which advertisement set itself forward with some parade as for the encouragement of art by some Society whose title I have forgotten. Some music has been sent,—I myself forwarded two little compositions,—but no measures seem as yet to have been taken either to select or to reject the music. Your journal spoke, at the time, most kindly to young composers, warning them of the uncertain gain and certain investment of time which, in this as in all other plans, was likely to issue to their disadvantage; and following the advice, I did not waste time in writing anything for the object, which might have been of little use afterwards, but sent ready-written music. But though I have suffered little myself beyond the temporary retention of MSS. which I should otherwise have published, others may; and it seems hardly right to let a transaction which took the tone of high patronage and benevolence to British art, thus pass over without some notice.

On this note little comment is called for; though we may express gratification that the very obvious remarks [*Athen.* No. 1094] which the case seemed to demand have in any quarter averted the evils of Time wasted and Hope long deferred which the prospectuses and promises of Mr. Wessel's society were calculated to engender. We apprehend that such existence as 'The Royal German and British Musical Society' ever possessed is now virtually at an end.

The meeting of the Archæological Institute at Oxford was immediately followed, to quote a contemporary, "by the performance of an exercise for the degree of Bachelor in Music:—so good a specimen as to call forth bitter regrets that a better place than the Music School and a better orchestra than Oxford affords were not at hand for the performance of a piece of music showing such evident talent and musical skill."—The new Bachelor is Mr. W. Probert, Commoner of Jesus College. "Sir Henry Bishop," it is added, "conducted the performance."—An exhibition of this kind, which only shows the nakedness of the land in the powerlessness of the conductor to summon efficient disposable means, is a piece of academical mummery—not art.—But if Alma Mater is to

keep Music on her books at all, it will not be long ere inquiry in this matter, and reform, too, must be sought for and granted.

An opera company, with Mdle. Nau as its *prima donna* and Mr. Travers for principal tenor, and conducted by M. Meyer Lutz, is about to commence its operations at the Surrey Theatre on Monday next.

'L'Elisir d'Amore' will shortly be represented at the Royal Italian Opera, with the *Adina* of Madame Viardot to the *Dulcamara* of Signor Ronconi.

The "net proceeds" of the six Concerts given by Mdle. Jenny Lind in the Stockholm Theatre, and handed over by her to the Theatrical Pension Fund, amount, say the foreign papers, to 2,400*l.*

Witnesses on whom we can rely have given very good accounts of Mdle. Ebeling, another Swedish Lady,—whom, if we mistake not, the *Athenæum* has already mentioned. She is reported to have a very beautiful voice and true dramatic instincts; it is added, that no less exacting a master than M. Meyerbeer may possibly intrust her with the principal part in his 'Camp of Silesia' when that opera is revived. They say, moreover, that he is very anxious to bring out this work in London. M. Meyerbeer is enamoured of long-drawn success, and we presume intends to work the 'Prophète' and the 'Camp' aforesaid, and to tantalize the world of musicians and managers for ten years, at least, ere he remodels his 'L'Africaine' with a view of producing it in the theatre.

Sir E. B. Lytton's novels seem to be in favour for opera-subjects at Dresden. 'Rienzi' was composed for the Saxon capital by Herr Wagner—in the "merry days" of art, before Herr Wagner left music for politics. We now see that a new 'Last Days of Pompeii,' by Herr Bapst, of Dresden, set by Herr Bapst, of Königsberg, is about to be produced during the course of the autumn.

With every cordial wish for the best possible success, and an earnest appeal to all who profess to care about the English Drama and the English actor, we give currency and emphasis to the announcement of Mrs. Glover's farewell benefit which is fixed for the 10th of next month at Drury Lane.—We have already recorded that the veteran actress has been fifty-three years on the stage; yet has not reaped a sufficient harvest from her long labours. The *Times* supplies one of the reasons, in the fact that "her earnings have been devoted to five generations of family connexions. Her grandfather, father, husband, children and grand-children have mainly depended on her exertions."

#### MISCELLANEA

Discovery of a Mountain of Gold.—So far as rarity is a test or quality of value, it would seem as if gold were soon to be the most common of all the metals. The crust of the earth would appear to have been all this while made of gold without our knowing it. The world has got suddenly back into the golden age. The following somewhat questionable story appears in the *Pacific News*.—"A party of emigrants by way of the Salt Lake, arrived at Los Angeles, give an account of the existence of gold on that route east of the principal mountain range; when a company then fitting out for a spot about sixty miles from the Pueblo, changed its determination and proceeded in search of this other. The route lay in a north-east direction from the place of departure, and was full of difficulties. Striking the Mahahve river, they followed its course some distance, crossing and re-crossing as necessity compelled, some days as often as fifteen times, leaving it where it makes its bend to the south-east, towards the Colorado, into which it empties. Obstacles were encountered at various points of the journey almost insurmountable, in the shape of mountains of rock which they had to climb, and mountains of snow which they could not avoid, narrow gorges through which they had to pass, and still narrower cliffs along whose crests nothing but a mule could pass with a prospect of safety, and where the slightest mis-step would land rider and all hundreds of feet below; but they pushed on about 230 miles from the Pueblo, the point for which they started. Here among the eastern spurs of the Sierra Nevada they found the object of their search—gold and silver too;



and in such quantities as they had not dreamt of—a perfect mountain of rocks with silver and gold mingled and commingled in solid masses, weighing from one to many tons. The quartz proved to be exceedingly hard, to such a degree that during their short stay all the implements made for this particular purpose before starting were completely worn out in the operation of drilling and blasting. The strangest part of the whole discovery is yet to be told. These large boulders of gold, silver and quartz have the gold in the south end and the silver in the north end. No exceptions were found in their examinations, the silver being the more abundant of the two. In the words of the person who was on the spot, 'there is enough silver there to sink every ship in this harbour.' Possibly, some may look on this account as a jest; and so far as the practicability of putting the discovery to any use, at present is concerned, it is so. All the water to be found for miles and miles around is highly impregnated with salt, or saleratus, or both. Not a single drop of water free from one or other of these properties did one of the party obtain during the ten days of their stay. The whole region is a perfect waste, and disease and death must inevitably follow any prolonged stay. The gentleman named, from whom these facts have been obtained, is now in this city, with specimens in his possession brought from the mother mountain. They are the most singular and beautiful we have ever seen.

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*Josiah Wedgwood.*—In your notice last week of the life of Josiah Wedgwood you state the name of his partner as "Bentley"—it was Byerley. The late Dr. Anthony Todd Thompson of London married one of the daughters of the said Byerley. Mr. Lowndes, late Judge of the Lancashire County Court, married another daughter. I do not know that Mr. Josiah Wedgwood never had a partner of the name of "Bentley,"—but I know that Byerley was the partner who managed Wedgwood's business in London.

AMICUS CURIE.

We insert this notice, as our Correspondent appears familiar with the circumstances. Mr. Marryat states, however, very distinctly that the manager of the London business was Mr. Bentley.

*Industrial Exhibition.*—A striking fact was mentioned to us the other day, as illustrating the deep interest which the preparations for the Industrial Exhibition have already excited throughout Europe. The landlord of a pretty large inn, in the busiest part of London, has applied to his landlord for leave to build an additional story to his house in order to obtain increased accommodation for the numerous visitors whom he expects next summer. The inn which he occupies contains some 90 or 100 bedrooms; and, in addition to that, he has taken two houses adjacent, to prevent being over-crowded next year. Such, however, has been the demand for lodgings for the summer of 1851, especially from Germany, that the whole of his house, with the additions we have named, has already been engaged for nearly the whole of 1851, and he is now about to build an additional story, with a view to provide room for twenty or thirty more guests. If this may be taken as a fair sample of the "coming events" which "cast their shadows before," the tavern-keepers, shopkeepers, and cab-drivers of the metropolis will hail the 1st of May 1851 as the coming of the true golden age to them, whatever it may be to other classes.—*Leader.*

*New Park.*—The proposed park for Finsbury comprises the open fields between Highbury and Holloway bounded by the Great Northern Railway and the reservoirs of the New River Company in the Green Lanes. The western, eastern, and southern districts of the metropolis have already been provided with parks at the public expense; the northern is the only district for which no such provision has been made.—*Leader.*

*Communication between Holyhead and Dublin.*—A new mode of expediting the passage across the Irish Sea has lately been proposed, of which the following is an outline. An immensely powerful vessel, of at least 1,200 horse-power, and from 12,000

to 15,000 tons measurement, drawing only twelve feet of water, is to be constructed. It is calculated that such a vessel would make the voyage at a uniform rate of three hours, possess accommodation for hundreds of passengers, and go so smoothly through the water that sea sickness would be almost unknown. The expenses are calculated as follows:—Cost of vessel, 26,000*l.*, engines, 72,000*l.*; total, 98,000*l.* It is proposed to make only one passage each way every day, except Sunday. It is considered that the number of passengers which would avail themselves of this mode of communication might safely be calculated at 500 per day; which, at 2*s.* 6*d.* per head, or less than 4*d.* per mile, would produce 39,125*l.* yearly. Never has there been such a plan proposed for the regeneration of Ireland and for infusing vitality into all the railways both of England and Ireland. It is worthy of consideration for those companies whom it would do so much benefit to complete it among them. If any loss (which we do not anticipate) should arise in the direct water traffic, it would be completely swallowed up in the indirect advantages which would accrue to all.—*Liverpool Chronicle.*

*Memoirs of George Sand.*—The correspondent of the *Atlas* says:—The literary world is much taken up with the announcement of the forthcoming publication of George Sand, 'Mémoires de ma Vie.' Ten volumes are complete,—ten volumes of impressions, personal, literary, artistic, and political. That little bird of the air which carries every matter in this place has brought some of the first chapters of the work amongst her friends, and enabled them to judge of its tenor. We have hitherto known nothing of the author but the *chefs-d'œuvre* with which she has graced our literature. Shortly we are to be made acquainted with the woman herself,—for here she drops the pseudonyme, and George Sand, the bold adventurous youth who has run for twenty years a career of danger, of poetry, and of glory, disappears to make way for the more modest and retiring Madame Dudevant. Nothing can be more enchanting than the invocation which she has placed, by way of preface, at the beginning of the domestic poem which she gives as the history of her life. The secret of the double existence with which she seems endowed, is explained by the revelation of her birth. Her father was great-grandson of Augustus the Third, King of Poland, who married the daughter of his professor of rackets, who was at the same time superintendent of the royal aviaries. Thus, on her father's side, she is a nearer relative to the Duc de Bordeaux than many of his crowned cousins; while in right of her maternal grandsire, who, flying in terror and disgrace to Paris after the marriage of his daughter, kept a small bird-shop in the Quai de la Ferraille, she claims relationship with the vast family of *prolétaires* which she has undertaken to exalt and to defend. Upon the traditions left in her family concerning this her favourite ancestor she loves to descend; and many a time in the little Arabian boudoir of the Rue Pigalle has the evening worn away amid the *souvenirs* of Antoine Delacorde, the poor bird-catcher, and the divers illustrations of his magnetic power over the feathered hosts of the air, while Chopin would imitate in some inspired improvisation both the subject of the tale and the melancholy and impassioned manner of the narrator. This same sympathetic attraction—this magnetic power, or what you will—George Sand has inherited from the poor and obscure Antoine Delacorde; and so powerful was it in her youth, that there is nothing related in the story of Teverino concerning the various feats of the bird-girl introduced therein which she herself could not execute. Even now it is said that she loves to exhibit to her visitors at La Châtre the facility with which she can fascinate whole flocks of wild birds by means of a scarlet cloak and a few handfuls of millet, exactly as described in the story above mentioned.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.—F. R. U. C.—W. R.—A Sculptor—A. D.—A. R. T.—J. D.—received.

INDUSTRIAL EXHIBITION.—DESIGNS FOR THE MEDALS.—A Correspondent is right who suggests that No. 24 is the design which we intended to designate as the best,—and which we described as "No. 34." The mistake arose from the imperfect formation of the figure 3 on the glass which covers the medallion—but having examined the number again, we see, as we have said, that our correspondent's correction wants making.

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Persons assuring on the Bonus system will be annually entitled to 90 per cent. of the profits on this branch (after payment of five yearly premiums); and the profit assigned to each Policy may either be added to the sum assured, or applied in reduction of the annual premium.

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The Tables on the non-participating principle afford peculiar advantages to the assured, not offered by any other office,—for where the object is the possible outlay, the payment of a certain sum is secured to the Policy-holder, on the death of the assured, at a reduced rate of premium.

Age.	Premiums to Assure £100.			Whole Term.	
	One Year.	Seven Years.		With Profits.	Without Profits.
20	£0 17 8	£0 19 1		£1 15 10	£1 11 10
30	1 1 8	1 2 7		2 5 5	2 0 7
40	1 5 0	1 6 9		3 0 7	2 14 10
50	1 14 1	1 19 10		4 6 8	4 0 11
60	3 2 4	3 17 0		6 12 9	6 0 10

One-half of the Whole Term Premium may remain on credit for seven years, or one-third of the Premium may remain for life as a debt upon the Policy at 5 per cent., or may be paid off at any time without notice.  
Claims paid in one month after proofs have been approved.  
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The Medical Officers attend every day at Throgmorton-street, at a quarter before 2 o'clock. E. BATES, Resident Director.

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4. Exemption from Entry Money.

\* ANNUAL PREMIUM FOR £100, WITH WHOLE PROFITS.

Age 20	25	30	35	40	45	50	55
£1 15 8	1 18 0	2 1 6	2 6 10	2 14 9	3 4 9	4 1 7	5 1 11

\* ANNUAL PREMIUM FOR £100, WITH WHOLE PROFITS, PAYABLE FOR TWENTY-ONE YEARS ONLY.

Age 20	25	30	35	40	45	50	55
£1 7 10	2 10 8	2 14 6	2 19 8	3 6 4	3 14 9	4 7 2	

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This Society is established on the tried and approved principle of Mutual Assurance. The Funds are accumulated for the exclusive benefit of the Policy-holders, under their own immediate superintendence and control. The Profits are divided annually, and applied in reduction of the future Premiums.

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Credit is allowed for half the Annual Premium for the first five years.

The following Table exemplifies the effect of the present reduction:—

Age when Assured.	Amount Assured.	Annual Premium hitherto paid.	Reduction of 30 per Cent.	Annual Premium now payable.
20	£1000	£20 17 6	£6 5 3	£14 12 3
30	1000	25 13 4	7 14 0	17 9 4
40	1000	33 18 4	10 3 6	23 14 0
50	1000	48 16 8	14 13 0	34 3 8

14, Waterloo-place, 10th May, 1850. A. R. IRVINE, Managing Director.

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4 ft. .... 4 10 0 5 ft. 6 in. .... 6 0 0

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WRIGHT, Dr., Professor of Clinical Medicine, Queen's College, Birmingham.  
YEARSLEY, J., Esq. Surgeon to the Metropolitan Institution for Diseases of the Eye and Ear.

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# THE ATHENÆUM

Journal of English and Foreign Literature, Science, and the Fine Arts.

No. 1184.

LONDON, SATURDAY, JULY 6, 1850.

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**CAVENDISH SOCIETY.**—The Members of this Society are informed that the Fourth Volume of **GMELIN'S CHEMISTRY**, the first of the books issued for 1850, is now ready for distribution. Members who have not yet paid the subscription are requested to forward the amount to the Secretary, either directly, or through the Local Secretaries or Town Collectors.  
19, Montague-street, **THEOPHILUS REDWOOD**, Secretary.  
Russell-square.

**HAKLUYT SOCIETY**, established for the purpose of Printing Rare or Unpublished Voyages and Travels.

The Society's first publication for 1850, viz. **MEMORIALS of the EMPIRE of JAPON**, in the 16th and 17th Centuries, by T. RUNDALL, Esq., is now ready, and will be delivered to Subscribers by Mr. T. RICHARDS, 100, St. Martin's-lane, to whom all directions on the subject are to be addressed.

The third book for the Subscribers of 1849, the publication of which has been unavoidably detained through the indisposition of the Editor, will be **HAKLUYT'S DIVERS VOYAGES** touching the **DISCOVERY of AMERICA**, and the Islands adjacent to the same, from the rare edition of 1852. Edited by J. WINTER JONES, Esq., of the British Museum.

The next Works in preparation are—an unpublished Narrative of a **VOYAGE**, made by order of the Dutch East India Company, by **MATTHEUS QUAST and JANSON ABEL TASMAN**, to the **EAST of JAPAN** in 1698, to be translated from the Original Dutch MS. with Notes and Illustrations by the distinguished Traveller, Col. **VON SIEBOLD**. Edited by the Hon. **HENRY E. J. STANLEY**.

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N.B. The Subscription is paid in advance, on the 1st of January.

**HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY of LONDON.**

His Grace the **DUKE of DEVONSHIRE**, President of the Horticultural Society, has kindly directed the Grounds of Chiswick House to be opened for the reception of the Visitors to the Society's Gardens at the next Exhibition, on **SATURDAY**, the 13th of July. Tickets are issued to the orders of Fellows of the Society only, at this Office, price 2s. each; or at the Garden, in the afternoon of the 13th of July, at 2s. 6d. each, but then also only to orders signed by Fellows of the Society. But respectable strangers, or residents in the country, who will forward their addresses in writing to the Vice-Secretary, 21, Regent-street, on or before Thursday, the 11th of July, may obtain from that Office authority to procure Tickets on this occasion. No official orders for Tickets will be issued after that day.

N.B.—No Tickets will be issued in Regent-street on the day of Exhibition.

**CHURCH of ENGLAND SELF-SUPPORTING VILLAGE SOCIETY.**—A PUBLIC MEETING will take place at Willis's Rooms, St. James's, on **TUESDAY NEXT**, July 9, for the purpose of **PRESENTING the PRIZES** offered by the Committee for the three best Essays by Clergymen upon the objects of the Society.

The Honourable **ARTHUR KINNAIRD** will take the Chair at Two o'clock.

Tickets of Admission may be had of Messrs. **DALTONS, HATCHARDS, NISBETS, PARKERS, and SEELEYS**.

**JOSEPH BROWN, M.A.**, Honorary J. M. MORGAN, Esq., J. Secretaries.

**BRITISH ASSOCIATION for the ADVANCEMENT of SCIENCE.**

**THE NEXT MEETING** will be held at **EDINBURGH**, and will commence on **WEDNESDAY**, the 31st of July 1850.

**JOHN TAYLOR, F.R.S.**, General Treasurer.  
6, Queen-street-place, Upper Thames-street, London.

**THE EXHIBITION of the LIVERPOOL ACADEMY** will open early in **SEPTEMBER**.—Works of Art will be received, subject to the Regulations of the Academy's Circular, by Mr. **GREEN**, 14, Charles-street, Middlesex Hospital, and the 12th of August, and at the Academy's Rooms, Old Post-office Place, Liverpool, from the 15th to the 31st of August.

**HENRY C. PIDGEON**, Secretary.

**EXHIBITION of INDUSTRY, 1851.**

**TENDERS for THE BUILDING.**—Notice to Contractors and others.—The time for receiving these Tenders has been extended from Monday next, July 8th, to Wednesday next, July 10th, between the hours of Ten a.m. and Twelve at Noon. For Plans, Bills of Quantities, &c. apply at 1, Old Palace-yard, Westminster.

(Signed) **M. DIGBY WYATT**, Secretary.

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**EDITOR.**—A GENTLEMAN, who for the last twelve months has acted as Sub-Editor, filled a portion of the Literary Department, and done a great deal of other business apart from the general line of a popular Weekly Journal, has resigned his present connexion, and is desirous of forming another where steadiness, industry, judgment, and general ability will be appreciated. He is qualified to instruct his pupils in French (acquired in Paris), Italian, German, Drawing in various styles, and the usual branches of a sound English education.—Address, A. B., Library, 193, High Holborn.

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**PAINTINGS, UNIQUE CABINETS, and**

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**MRS. LOUDON** begs to give notice that she ceased to edit the Weekly Periodical entitled THE LADIES' COMPANION, AT HOME and ABROAD, with No. 2, completing the First Volume, and that she has no longer the slightest connexion with that paper. Baywater, June 24, 1850.







**THE EDINBURGH REVIEW, No. CLXXXV.,**  
will be published on WEDNESDAY, July 10th.

Contents.

1. QUETELET ON PROBABILITIES.
2. MERIVALE'S HISTORY OF ROME UNDER THE EMPIRE.
3. CHURCH AND STATE EDUCATION.
4. MÉRIMÉE'S HISTORY OF PEDRO THE CRUEL.
5. BLACKIE'S ESCHYLUS.
6. GÖTHE'S FESTIVAL.
7. GIZOT ON THE ENGLISH REVOLUTION.
8. THE AFRICAN SQUADRON.
9. THE GORHAM CONTROVERSY.

London: Longman & Co. Edinburgh: A. & C. Black.

**THE WESTMINSTER AND FOREIGN QUARTERLY REVIEW.**  
No. CV. and No. XC. for JULY, 1850.

1. LEONARDO DA VINCI.
2. THE EUPHRATES EXPEDITION.
3. SCHILLER'S WALLENSTEIN.
4. LIFE OF DR. COMBE.
5. CLASSICAL EDUCATION.
6. RAILWAY MANAGEMENT.
7. PROSTITUTION.

Travels in the Netherlands.—Histoire Morale des Femmes.—Storia d'Italia narrata al Popolo Italiano.—The Fall of the Netherlands.—Gratuité du Crédit.—Annuaire de l'Économie Politique.

CRITICAL AND MISCELLANEOUS NOTICES.

G. Luxford, Whitefriars-street, Fleet-street.

**THE FREEMASONS' QUARTERLY MAGAZINE AND REVIEW.**

Contents.—Amalgamation of the Charities—Trevilian on Freemasonry—On the Connection of the Craft and R. A. Degrees—Cousin Bridget—Medieval Heraldry in connection with Freemasonry—What might be done—The Hidden Bond—The Early Masonic Writers—Masonry in Scotland—Obituary—The Charities—Masonic Intelligence—Literary Notices, &c. &c.  
London: R. Spencer, Masonic Publisher, 314, High Holborn; and sold by all Booksellers.

**EDINBURGH PHILOSOPHICAL JOURNAL.**  
Conducted by Professor JAMESON.  
APRIL to JULY 1850.

Contents: Geographical Distribution of Animals, by Prof. Agassiz—Geography and Geology of Mount Sinai, by John Hogg, M.A. F.R.S. &c.—Meteorological Observations at the Observatory, Whitehaven, in 1849, by J. F. Miller, F.R.S. &c.—The completed Coral Island, by J. D. Dana, Geologist to the American Exploratory Expedition—Biographical Notice of Leopold Pilla, the Geologist, by H. Coquard—On the Chronological Exposition of the Periods of Vegetation, and the succession of Floras on the Earth's Surface, according to the Views of M. Brongniart—Glacial Theory of the Erratics and Drift of the New and Old Worlds, by Prof. Agassiz—Description of the Marine Telescope, by John Adie, F.R.S.E.—Investigation into the Changes taking place in the Standard Points of Thermometers, by John Adie, F.R.S.E.—On the Discovery, by Prof. Lepsius, of Sculptured Marks on Rocks in the Nile Valley, in Nubia, by Leonard Horner, F.R.S.S. L. & E.—On the Salmon Tribe—Dr. Davy's Sketch of the Geology of the West Indies, &c.  
Important SCIENTIFIC INTELLIGENCE in Meteorology—Hydrography—Geology—Zoology—and the Arts. LIST OF PATENTS granted for Scotland from 22nd of March to 22nd of June, 1850.  
Adam & Charles Black, Edinburgh; Longman & Co. London.

**THE PRACTICAL MECHANIC'S JOURNAL.**  
N<sup>o</sup>. 24, July 1st, 1850, price 1s. contains:—Notes of an Eye-Witness on the Britannia Tubular Bridge—Oxygen, II.—A Scheme of a Rational Classification for the Science—Bergin's Self-acting Fire Extinguisher—Artificial Light, Improvements in Combustion—Pipe-Fit Cutting Apparatus—Tidal Water Elevator—Siemens's Regenerative Condenser—Stirling's Troughed Iron—Disc Packing for Pistons.  
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**COLBURN'S NEW MONTHLY MAGAZINE,**  
No. CCCLV., for JULY.  
"It is evident that Mr. Harrison Ainsworth is as able an Editor as ever, in its best days, conducted this Magazine. The paper, 'Some Account of the Neapolitan in London,' is full of lively humour; and there are passages in it that lead us to some of the letters in Goldsmith's 'Citizen of the World.' Of the many interesting papers in this number, the most interesting are 'The Romance of the Electric Telegraph,' 'Anatolia de Salis,' 'Paris in June,' 'Sooty's Sporting Tour,' and 'Paul Masterton's Adventures.' There are several other papers almost of equal merit."  
Observer.

London: Chapman & Hall, 186, Strand.

**THE GARDENERS' MAGAZINE OF BOTANY, HORTICULTURE, FLORICULTURE, AND NATURAL SCIENCE.**  
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## REVIEWS

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A history of the Puritans is a theme worthy of the highest genius. The origin of the body, when the most ardent and learned men in England, driven into exile in the reign of Mary, became acquainted with the democratic constitution of the German and Swiss Churches, so apparently in harmony with ancient apostolical ideas, and resolved on their return to their native land to introduce into their own Church a greater simplicity—the protests and the sufferings of this band of reformers under Elizabeth—the gradual propagation of their principles of church government—the iniquitous proceedings taken by the Courts of High Commission and the Star Chamber against them—the consequent rise of political Puritanism—the convocations and tergiversations of James the First—his unpopular attempts to marry his heir to a Spanish princess, and the bitter feelings to which it gave rise—the final separation of the Puritans from the cause of an unreforming Church—the commencement of the civil troubles—the rise of the Presbyterians and Independents—the triumph of Puritan principles under Cromwell—the colonization of the New World, and foundation of the Western Republic—and, the establishment of the great dissenting churches of England:—these topics give the merest outline of a theme which would embrace the best and most attractive pages of English history.

Mr. Marsden's notion of his subject appears to cover only a fragment of what is here stated. In his theory, a Puritan is a man who belongs to the Church—but who wishes it to adopt certain reforms. His views are not very clearly stated: but it is evident enough that he conceives all those who are properly called Puritans to be members of the Church to which he himself belongs, and more strongly attached to it than to their reforming notions,—so that, whatever historical glory now pertains to the Puritans falls into the lap of the Church. This appears to us a very imperfect definition. We have heard of a definition of poetry which excluded the poets: here is clearly a definition of Puritanism which excludes the most illustrious of the Puritans. True to his own premises, Mr. Marsden formally rejects from his list all such men as Cromwell, Milton, and Pym; and his theory, if logically followed up, would lead to the rejection also of Bradford, Vane, Bastwick, Prynne, Cartwright, Penn, and the other great names of the party. Cartwright, indeed, he includes,—but in this he is not consistent with himself. Still less is he so in retaining men like Field and Wilcox, authors of the celebrated Admonition to Parliament for the Reformation of Church Discipline—the great organum of Puritan views and principles. But, in fact, his determination to give to the Church all the glory

which in the minds of Englishmen attaches to these sturdy champions of liberty, confuses and embarrasses him at every turn.

The definition of Puritanism is very simple—it means the reverse of Prelacy. It means democracy in the Church. In England, the Reformation had been effected by the court,—on the Continent it had been effected by the people. Except that the sovereign power had changed its place—Henry become Pope instead of Clement—no alteration of the old system followed. The hierarchy remained as before—bishops and archbishops, and all the spiritual peers and powers which had formerly stood about the throne. In Germany and Switzerland, where the English exiles first saw the actual character of the Lutheran reform, these things had all disappeared with the system of which they were the main supports. In fact, the exiles saw that the two revolutions were essentially different in their natures—the one being strictly monarchical, the other entirely popular; and as they were convinced that the freedom, equality, and simplicity of the Frankfort and Geneva churches were nearer, both in spirit and in form, to the churches of the apostolic age, they wished to see the Reformation carried out and completed in their own country to the same extent and on similar principles. This is the pith of the matter. They contended for the purest Christian democracy. The king, they said, had no power in the Church. Every congregation should elect its own minister—the ministers were all equal—and above them there could be no spiritual powers. The Church could possess no worldly property. These were the material points on which they insisted, as described by Bishop Sandys, in his letter to Bullinger, dated August 15th, 1573. The men who made these demands might be in the Church,—but assuredly they were not of the Church.

As will be seen, these ideas were essentially political. They referred not to doctrine, but to government. They contained the germs of a civil as well as of a religious reform; and of this the ministers of Elizabeth were well aware. It was on political grounds that that sovereign endeavoured to repress the propaganda of Puritan ideas; and when she put down the famous "prophesyings," against the advice of her own Archbishop Grindal, she showed how much more clear-sighted in questions of worldly policy was Richmond than Lambeth. But in the end her imperious temper and Grindal's weakness contributed to produce similar results—persecution being the form of sowing those dragons'-teeth which are certain to rise up against the sower. Let us transcribe a single page from the dark volume of the virgin's reign, as given by our author.—

"All the opponents of the queen were treated with horrible and vindictive severity; many Romish priests were executed with a revolting barbarism; greater numbers were exiled and imprisoned. English law, if we do not prostitute the name in applying it to such transactions, knew little but revenge and cruelty. The political trials of this reign, it has been well observed by a great living writer, the historian of the English constitution, are, with scarcely an exception, disgraceful to humanity. And all religious offences were then political. Justice, like a bird of prey, was ever on the wing; and if it stooped or swerved a little from its course, it was to slake its appetite for blood upon some harmless victim as it passed along in quest of greater prey. Whatever may have been Calvin's share of infamy in the burning of Servetus the Socinian, he does not stand alone. In 1584, one John Lewes was burned at Norwich for denying the Godhead of Christ, and other heresies. In the next year John Hilton, a priest, was required to make a solemn abjuration of the same opinions: this he did in the presence of the convocation; and it is probable that his office

alone saved him from the death of Lewes. He did penance by standing at St. Paul's Cross during the sermon, bearing the significant faggot on his shoulder. Coppin and Thacker, two clergymen of Suffolk, were imprisoned five years, and afterwards hanged at Bury St. Edmunds as Brownists; Brown's writings being first burned in their presence. The persecution raged for ten years. In 1592 a congregation of Brownists being discovered in London, fifty-six were imprisoned; where they died, says their indignant historian Neal, like rotten sheep. Their chief leader and martyr Barrow, a gentleman of good family, addressed a supplication to parliament, in which he says, 'These bloody men' (the high court of commission) 'will allow us neither meat, drink, fire, lodging; nor suffer any whose heart the Lord would stir up for our relief to have any access to us. Seventeen or eighteen have perished within these noisome jails within these six years; some of us had not one penny about us when we were sent to prison, nor anything to procure a maintenance for ourselves and families but our labour; not only we ourselves, but our wives and children, are undone and starved.' After reciting some of their worst oppressions, he concludes with an appeal worthy alike of a patriot and an Englishman, and in the fearless spirit of St. Paul himself:—'that which we crave for us all is the liberty to die openly, or live openly in the land of our nativity; if we deserve death let us not be closely murdered; yea, starved to death with hunger and cold, and stifled in loathsome dungeons.' The latter petition alone was heard. Barrow and Greenwood, with several others, were brought before the archbishop of Canterbury and other members of the court of high commission, but they refused to take the oath, that is, to convict themselves upon their own extorted testimony. They were then indicted for publishing seditious books and pamphlets, tending to the slander of the queen and government. They denied the charge of disloyalty, showed no regret and sought no mercy: their quarrel, they said, was not with the queen and her government, but with the hierarchy and the church. They were of course convicted. Ballot, one of the number, confessed his fault, and, with two others who were only accessories, was reprieved and sent back to prison; where two of them died; the third was banished. Barrow and Greenwood were condemned to die. They were brought in a cart to Tyburn, in order that the sight of the gallows might terrify them into submission, and alarm their followers: but they remained unmoved, and were taken back to Newgate. A fortnight afterwards they were carried a second time to Tyburn, and there hanged."

Tyburn never witnessed a more senseless execution; but it at least witnessed several as wicked. The case of William Hacket is one to make us blush for the farce called administration of justice in such times.—

"William Hacket had given evidences of insanity from his youth: he was violent and a fanatic; he boasted of his intercourse with heaven by visions and revelations; and attested his veracity whenever it was questioned with direful oaths and execrations. He thought himself invulnerable; and challenged any one who pleased, to test his Achillean properties, and wound or kill him. As his disease increased, he successively proclaimed himself the sovereign of Europe, the saviour of the world, and at length the Deity himself. Had not the villanies of Joseph Mormon, and the frenzy of Joanna Southcote, in our own age, taught us that no pretensions of this nature seem utterly preposterous to a certain class of minds, it would have been inexplicable that even two converts should have been gained by such a pleader, and to such a cause. Edmund Coppinger, a person of good descent, undertook to be his 'prophet of mercy'; and Henry Arthington, a Yorkshire gentleman, his 'prophet of judgment.' They proclaimed, from a cart in Cheapside, the advent of Hacket's reign; which they said was supreme in all things, both spiritual and temporal. The crowd was great; but they gained no converts amongst the people, who saw them all three committed to Bridewell the next day, with perfect indifference: though some few even then conceived Bedlam the most



proper place for them. Hacket was tried for high treason and hanged, uttering at the last expressions which would indeed have been horribly blasphemous, had there been the slightest reason to suppose that the unhappy wretch was conscious of their meaning. Coppinger died in prison the next day; having, it was said, starved himself to death. Arthington confessed his folly, and was pardoned."

What follows is almost equally revolting. The madman had no other disciples. The people looked on the whole affair with contempt and indignation. But Whitgift, the archbishop, was not a man to let slip such an opportunity of annoying the Puritans. Cartwright and others were accused of complicity in Hacket's schemes, and no efforts were spared to place them under the ban of public opinion. While the excitement caused by these matters was at its height, the infamous Act of Conformity was passed, which made the refusal to conform to the established but unsettled doctrines of the Church a crime punishable with perpetual exile,—and return without having previously obtained the queen's licence, with death!

This act staggered the Church—estranged its moderate friends—and only embittered its active enemies. From this time began those permanent emigrations which, after temporary settlements in Holland, on the Rhine, and in Switzerland, gradually turned towards the New World, where they laid the foundations of a free and mighty empire. In this interesting portion of his task, Mr. Marsden is more than usually meagre and inexact. The Pilgrim Fathers are evidently not his favourites. Indeed, he betrays a want of acquaintance with their story which is rather surprising in these days of general cultivation. He gives but a slight notice of the sailing of the *Mayflower*; and no account at all of the previous history of its freight, though an incidental observation leads the reader to infer that he locates the primitive church—so pathetically described by Governor Bradford—at Boston, in Lincolnshire. This, as our readers know, is a mistake. The Pilgrim Fathers who went out in the *Mayflower* were originally settled at Scrooby—a short distance from the market-town of Bawtry.—To the settlers in America Mr. Marsden is uniformly unjust. He says the cruelties which they suffered should have taught them forbearance. Morally and didactically this is true; but history has not taught us that such a result is to be expected from cruelty—least of all could it be expected from a sturdy combative nature like that of the Saxon. Men would need to be more than human—at least, more than Englishmen—to come out of the midst of strife, suffering, and vindictive passions with those cool and tranquil habits, those even and philosophic judgments which are the natural growth of a long continuance of freedom, peace and justice. By a candid mind, the antecedents of our countrymen who peopled the Atlantic sea-board of the New World will rather be accepted as an explanation of their faults than as an aggravation of them. But it is not only in the way of insinuation that Mr. Marsden attacks these colonists and their doings:—to serve his purpose, he boldly mis-states facts and garbles his authorities. For example, let us quote from page 301.—

"The Indians had resolved upon the massacre of the white men; the white men resolved to massacre the Indians. A small party was enough, as the slaughter was to be the work of guile. Nor indeed were the Puritans waiting in bravery; so that Captain Standish, with eight companions, were judged to be a sufficient force. They affected a friendly bearing towards the chief conspirators, and lured them into an Indian wigwam. On a signal given the door was closed and the butchery began. Standish himself plunged his knife into the heart of one of the chiefs. The whole party returned in triumph unhurt, carrying with them the head of an Indian warrior,

which, with a brutality unknown in England—where traitors, and not enemies, were thus empaled—was fixed upon the fort. The colonists affected to deplore the dreadful necessity. Their pastor still lived at Leyden; and when they looked for his congratulations, he wrote thus in mournful accents:—"How happy a thing had it been if you had converted some, before you had killed any!" A few years passed, and another scene of carnage defiles the history of the pilgrims of America. A settlement had now been made on the banks of the Connecticut. The Indians were alarmed. They saw their fishing grounds invaded, and began, with reason, to dread the white man's supremacy. No part of New England was more thickly covered with aboriginal inhabitants. One tribe, the Pequods, mustered above seven hundred warriors; the settlers were less than two; and the Pequods showed a hostile spirit. They entered into an alliance with other tribes, and resolved to sweep the hated intruders from the ancient territories of the Indian family. If there be a justifiable cause of war, it surely must be this, when our country is invaded and our means of existence threatened. That the Indians fell upon their enemies by the most nefarious stratagems, or exposed them, when taken in war, to cruel torments, (though such ferocity is not alleged in this instance,) does not much affect the question. They were savages, and fought white men as they and their forefathers had always fought each other. How, then, should a community of Christian men have dwelt with them? Were they to contend as savages or as civilized men?—as civilized men, or rather as men who had forsaken a land of civilization for purer abodes of piety and peace? The Pequod war shows how little their piety could be trusted when their passions were aroused. The staff of office—the marshal's baton—was solemnly delivered to Mason, the leader of the Puritans, by Hooker their most venerated minister; and the greater part of the night was spent in prayer offered up, at the soldier's request, by another eminent minister, and they set out upon their march. The sabbath occurred two days afterwards, and the fierce band halted on their way, and observed it rigidly. After a week's marching, they came, at day-break, on the Indian wigwam, and immediately assaulted it. The massacre (so their own chronicler has termed it) spread from one hut to another; for the Indians were asleep and unarmed. But the work of slaughter was too slow. 'We must burn them,' exclaimed the fanatic chieftain of the Puritans; and he cast the first firebrand to windward among their wigwams. In an instant the encampment was in a blaze. Not a soul escaped. Six hundred Indians, men, women and children, perished by the steady aim of the marksmen, by the unresisted broadsword, and by the hideous conflagration. Of the English only two had fallen. Within an hour the slaughter was ended; and when the sun arose serenely in the East, it was the witness of the victory of the Puritans—and of their endless shame. The work of revenge was not yet accomplished. In a few days a fresh body of troops arrived from Massachusetts, accompanied by their minister Wilson. The remnants of the proscribed race were now hunted down in their hiding places. Every wigwam was burned, every settlement broken up, every corn-field laid waste. There remained, says their exulting historian, not a man or a woman, not a warrior nor a child, of the Pequod name. A nation had disappeared from the family of man."

It is difficult on any argument to undertake the defence of facts like these,—but at any rate, the case should be fully and fairly stated. The necessities of self-preservation are of an uncompromising kind. The original cause of the war is not here in question. Whether the Englishmen had any right to be there is a point to be determined by reference to the law of nature. There they were. Between them and the Indian hunters on the land a war of extermination was raging. The Pequods had shed the first blood, and were resolved to cut off the whole colony of the white men. What could the Englishmen do? One by one the settlers were secretly murdered. No redress could be obtained. They were surrounded by enemies. The Indians had entrenched themselves behind

their rude fortifications, and defied the settlers. Mr. Marsden speaks of the Indian *wigwam*:—he seems to have a very imperfect conception of what this word means. The author whom he professes to follow describes the Pequods as waiting behind their "palisades" and in "strong forts" for the attack. They were *not* asleep and unarmed; they met the attacking party with vigour,—inch by inch disputing the ground from wigwam to wigwam. The white men being vastly inferior in number to their assailants, victory was tardy, and was found to be costing a sacrifice of life which the colonists could ill afford. The fire was suggested by this terrible and pressing argument. In the logic of these dreadful situations, that the work of destruction is complete, so far from being a fault, is the chief merit of such enterprises. Our readers know well our horror of war and bloodshed,—but circumstances have been forced upon men in which acts of bloodshed were the only means of staying the horrors of war. The case was one of death to the one side or to the other.—What follows, however, in the concluding sentence is mis-stated, and it would seem as if with the intention of misleading. But when the "exulting historian" says that "neither man nor woman, warrior nor child of the Pequod name remained," he does not mean that they were slain and burnt off the face of the earth, as Mr. Marsden evidently wishes his reader to understand. On the contrary, he expressly states that the women and children, with all the remnants of their tribe, were adopted into the Mohegan and other tribes of their own nation. It was the *name* only that had disappeared from "the family of man"—as was often the case with the *clans* in Scotland, and is still the case with tribes in all uncivilized countries.

Of a piece with the general confusion which prevails throughout Mr. Marsden's narrative, is the particular confusion with respect to dates. His subject ends, as we have said, with the beginning of the Civil War in 1642. George Fox first began his wanderings in 1644, and it was some years before the word Quaker represented a sect even in England. Yet, Mr. Marsden under date 1610-1623 gives a long account of the doings of Quakers in America—particularly of what relates to the execution of Mary Dyar,—and speaks of it all as occurring during the reign of our first James. These events really took place in 1659.

We could multiply these proofs of Mr. Marsden's unfitness for the task of writing a history of the Puritans. He says, in his preface, that the Civil History of England lay out of his way—apart "from his studies, his tastes and his sacred duties." But Puritanism is a civil as well as a religious fact. Its political aspects, both in England and in the United States, are of as great historical interest as its spiritual;—and a man not fully conversant with civil affairs from the Reformation to the American War cannot write the Puritan history.

*Five Years of a Hunter's Life in the Far Interior of South Africa; with Notices of the Native Tribes, and Anecdotes of the Chase, of the Lion, Elephant, Hippopotamus, Giraffe, Rhinoceros, &c.* By R. Gordon Cumming, Esq., of Altyre; with Illustrations. 2 vols. Murray.

THIS journal has more than once freely commented on the propensity in which these volumes originated, and which has clad the walls of the *ci-devant* Celestial Exhibition-room at Knightsbridge with the "peltry" of the Cape wilds and fastnesses. The gallant sportsman of the old legend who encountered the Wantley Dragon seems hardly a more formidable adversary than Mr. Cumming, of Altyre,—a gentleman who



laughs at lions, and saith to the hippopotamus "Ha, ha!"—who rushes after *rhinoceroi* where the herd is thickest, and who takes even elephants easily,—not to count by the score "such small deer" as brindled leopards, quaggas, wildebeests, springboks, blesboks, gemsboks, and all other *boks*,—gnooks, wild dogs,—and giraffes. How dare critic weekly or critic quarterly march up to such a champion as this, and with his little penful of ink attack sports so sublimely savage as the above? If we do "not draw in our horns" in dread of Lieut. Cumming's "Westley Richards," it is at least prudent not to aggravate the hunter by further questioning, but to take his book for what it is—a curious and characteristic record of feats accomplished such as few hunters have lived to tell, or to sell, in Albemarle-street. A wish may, nevertheless, be meekly expressed, that Mr. Cumming had been more considerate in his orthography, since not a few good pages and passages are spoiled by a parade of the Cape jargon of Boers, Bushmen, and other wild people, difficult to catch, and "pulling up" the reader at the very moment when he is most breathless with curiosity, to consider "what this means," and "what the other man called out." To "*trek*" means to "march,"—to "*inspann*," to "harness"; but what virtue was there in the former words to make the English gentleman discard his own "vernacular" for their sakes?

Having thus by a vindication of critical courage eased our consciences, we will turn to Mr. Cumming's book, and, without further remark, begin to extract from its pages.

To start a lion-hunter's waggon seems to be nearly as elaborate an occupation, in its way, as the freightage of the never-to-be-forgotten *Tarantulas* immortalized by Count Sollogub.—

"When the leader brings up the oxen to the waggon to be inspanned, the waggon-driver if possible sends another Hottentot to his assistance, especially if any of the oxen in the span happen to be young or refractory. These, armed with a huge 'jambok' in one hand and a handful of stones in the other, one on either flank, with shouts, yells and imprecations, urge forward the unwilling team toward the yokes, where the driver is standing with the twelve long buffalo rheims hanging on his left arm, pouring forth a volley of soothing terms, such as—'Ah! now, Scotland! Wo ha, Blaubeurg! you skellam, keer dar Carolus for Blaubeurg, ye stand somar da, ich wienha wha yo hadachta ist.' (Turn there for Blaubeurg; you stand there in an absent state, I do not know where your ideas are.) 'Hol-land, you ould Myfooty!' ('Myfooty' is a common Hottentot term, which I would defy even themselves to construe. The Dutch word 'somar,' mentioned above, is also a word to which I think I could challenge the most learned schoolmaster in the colony to attach any definite meaning. It is used both by Boers and Hottentots in almost every sentence; it is an answer to every question; and its meanings are endless.) 'Slangfeldt, you neuexl!' (Snakefield, you humbug!) 'Wo ha, now Creishmann!' (Crooked man.) 'Orlam, you verdomde Kind, vacht un bidgte, ich soll you krae.' (Civilized! you d-d child; wait a bit, I'll serve you out.) 'Vitfoot, you duivel! slahm dar für Vitfoot, slahm ihm, dat he barst!' (Whitefoot, you devil! flog there Whitefoot, flog him till he bursts.) 'Englandt, you ould ghroote-pench! Ah now! Wo ha! Ye dat so lowe ist in die shwor plach, und dharum so vees at inspanning! Vacht un bidgte, ich soll a plach for you aitsuch. Ye lob da for nett so as ye will, mar ich soll you arter bring, whar ich kann you mach like baikam.' (England, you old big paunch! Ah now! Wo ha! You who are so lazy in the heavy place, and nevertheless so vicious at inspanning. Wait a little. I shall seek out a place for you! You tramp there in front exactly as you please; but I will yoke you farther back, where I can reach you with facility.) This is said in allusion to 'England's' having lately been in the habit of being yoked in the front of the team, and if it is very long the driver cannot reach

the leading oxen with his whip without descending from the box, and, therefore, when a fore-ox becomes lazy, he is yoked farther back in the team, that he may have the full benefit of the persuasive 'fore-slock.' While the driver's tongue is pouring forth this flow of Hottentot eloquence with amazing volubility, his hands and feet are employed with equal activity; the former, in throwing the open noose of the rheim, lasso-like, over the horns of each ox, and drawing it tight round them as he catches him; the latter in kicking the eyes and noses of those oxen which the jamboks and shouts of the leaders behind have driven too far in upon him. At this moment 'Blaubeurg,' who is an old offender, and who acquired in early youth the practice which he has never relinquished of bolting from the team at the moment of inspanning, being this day unusually lively, not having had any severe work for some weeks, suddenly springs round, notwithstanding Kleinboy, well aware of his propensities, has got his particular rheim firmly twisted round his hand; and having once got his tail where his head ought to have been, and thus deprived Kleinboy of all purchase over him, he bounds madly forward, heedless of a large sharp stone with which one of the leaders salutes him in the eye. By his forward career, Carolus is instantly dashed to the ground; and Kleinboy, who has pertinaciously grasped the rheim in the vain hope of retrieving the matter, is dragged several yards along the ground, and eventually relinquishes the rheim, at the same time losing a good deal of the outer bark of his unfortunate hand. Away goes Blaubeurg in his headlong course, tearing frantically over hill and dale, his rheim flying from his horns like a streamer in the wind. His course lies right across the middle of the Cape-Corps barracks, where about forty or fifty riflemen who are lounging about, parade being over, rush to intercept his course, preceded by a pack of mongrel curs of every shape and size, but in vain. Blaubeurg, heedless of a shower of sticks and stones hurled at his devoted head, charges through the midst of them, nor is he recovered for the space of about two hours. The rest of the team, seeing their driver sprawling on the ground, as a matter of course follow Blaubeurg's example: instantly wheeling to the right and left about, away they scamper, each selecting a course for himself, some with and others without the appendage of the streamers. The Hottentots, well aware that it will be useless to follow Blaubeurg in the usual way, as he would probably lead them a chase of four or five miles, now adopt the most approved method usually practised in such cases. They accordingly drive out a small troop of tamer oxen, with which they proceed in quest of the truant. This troop they cunningly induce Mr. Blaubeurg to join, and eventually return with him to the waggon—the driver, with pouting lips and the sweat running down his brow, pouring forth a torrent of threatened vengeance against the offending Blaubeurg. The inspanning is then once more commenced as before, and Blaubeurg, being this time cautiously placed in a central position, well wedged up by the other oxen, whereby he is prevented from turning about, is lassoed with the strongest rheim, and firmly secured to the steady old ox who has purposely been driven up beside him. The twelve oxen are soon all securely yoked in their proper places; the leader has made up his 'fore-tow,' which is a long spare rheim attached round the horns of each of the fore or front oxen, by which he leads the team, and inspanning is reported to be accomplished."

It appears that Mr. Cumming can sleep as soundly under rather trying circumstances as did the late Mr. Ruxton when he bivouacked on the pavement of a country town in Central America.—

"On the 12th I bagged two bull wildebeests and two springboks to the northward of my camp. In the evening I took my pillow and 'komberse,' or skin blanket, to the margin of a neighbouring vley, where I had observed doe blesboks drink. Of these I had not yet secured a single specimen; which I was very anxious to do, as they likewise carry fine horns, which, though not so thick as those of the males, are more gracefully formed. Shortly after I had lain down, two porcupines came grunting up to me, and stood within six feet of where I lay. About midnight an old wildebeest came and stood within ten

yards of me, but I was too lazy to fire at him. All night I heard some creature moving in the cracked earth beneath my pillow; but, believing it to be a mouse, I did not feel much concerned about the matter. I could not, however, divest myself of a painful feeling that it might be a snake, and wrapped my blanket tight round my body. Awakening at an early hour the following morning, I forgot to look for the tenant who had spent the night beneath my pillow. No blesbok appearing, I stalked an old springbok through the rushes and shot him. Having concealed him, I held for camp, and despatched two men to bring home the venison and my bedding. While taking my breakfast I observed my men returning, one of them carrying a very large and deadly serpent. I at once felt certain it was he that I had heard the previous night beneath my pillow; and on asking them where they had killed it, they replied 'In your bed.' On approaching the bedding, they had discovered the horrid reptile sunning itself on the edge of my blanket, until on perceiving them it glided in beneath it. It was a large specimen of the black variety of the puff adder, one of the most poisonous serpents of Africa, death ensuing within an hour after its bite."

The home-keeping reader will be glad of "a general rule" or two regarding the social propensities and ordinary habits of lions.—

"One of the most striking things connected with the lion is his voice, which is extremely grand and peculiarly striking. It consists at times of a low, deep moaning, repeated five or six times, ending in faintly audible sighs; at other times he startles the forest with loud, deep-toned, solemn roars, repeated five or six times in quick succession, each increasing in loudness to the third or fourth, when his voice dies away in five or six low, muffled sounds, very much resembling distant thunder. At times, and not unfrequently, a troop may be heard roaring in concert, one assuming the lead, and two, three, or four more regularly taking up their parts, like persons singing a catch. Like our Scottish stags at the rutting season, they roar loudest in cold, frosty nights; but on no occasions are their voices to be heard in such perfection, or so intensely powerful, as when two or three strange troops of lions approach a fountain to drink at the same time. When this occurs, every member of each troop sounds a bold roar of defiance at the opposite parties; and when one roars, all roar together, and each seems to vie with his comrades in the intensity and power of his voice. The power and grandeur of these nocturnal forest concerts is inconceivably striking and pleasing to the hunter's ear. The effect, I may remark, is greatly enhanced when the hearer happens to be situated in the depths of the forest, at the dead hour of midnight, unaccompanied by any attendant, and ensconced within twenty yards of the fountain which the surrounding troops of lions are approaching. Such has been my situation many scores of times; and though I am allowed to have a tolerably good taste for music, I consider the catches with which I was then regaled as the sweetest and most natural I ever heard. As a general rule, lions roar during the night; their sighing moans commencing as the shades of evening envelop the forest, and continuing at intervals throughout the night. In distant and secluded regions, however, I have constantly heard them roaring loudly as late as nine and ten o'clock on a bright sunny morning. In hazy and rainy weather they are to be heard at every hour in the day, but their roar is subdued. It often happens that when two strange male lions meet at a fountain a terrific combat ensues, which not unfrequently ends in the death of one of them. The habits of the lion are strictly nocturnal; during the day he lies concealed beneath the shade of some low bushy tree or wide-spreading bush, either in the level forest or on the mountain side. He is also partial to lofty reeds or fields of long rank yellow grass, such as occur in low-lying vleys. From these haunts he sallies forth when the sun goes down, and commences his nightly prowl. When he is successful in his beat, and has secured his prey, he does not roar much that night, only uttering occasionally a few low moans: that is, provided no intruders approach him, otherwise the case would be very different. \* \* I remarked a fact connected with the lions' hour of drinking peculiar to themselves: they seemed unwilling to visit the fountains with good moonlight.



Thus, when the moon rose early, the lions deferred their hour of watering until late in the morning; and when the moon rose late, they drank at a very early hour in the night. \* \* \* Owing to the tawny colour of the coat with which nature has robed him he is perfectly invisible, in the dark; and although I have often heard them loudly lapping the water under my very nose, not twenty yards from me, I could not possibly make out so much as the outline of their forms. When a thirsty lion comes to water, he stretches out his massive arms, lies down on his breast to drink, and makes a loud lapping noise in drinking, not to be mistaken. He continues lapping up the water for a long while, and four or five times during the proceeding he pauses for half a minute as if to take breath. One thing conspicuous about them is their eyes, which, in a dark night, glow like two balls of fire."

After the above universal remarks, one special encounter may be selected.—

"We secured the three horses to one another, as there was no tree or bush within miles of us; but these I could dispense with, for I knew very well by the looks of the Hottentots that they would not sleep much, but would keep a vigilant eye over our destinies. I spent a most miserable night. The wind, which had been blowing so fresh in the height of the day, had subsided to a calm when the sun went down, and was now succeeded by an almost death-like stillness, which I too well knew was the harbinger of a coming tempest. We had not lain down an hour when the sky to leeward became black as pitch. Presently the most vivid flashes of lightning followed one another in quick succession, accompanied by terrific peals of thunder. The wind, which during the day had been out of the north-east, now, as is usual on such occasions, veered right round and came whistling up from the south-west, where the tempest was brewing; and in a few minutes more it was upon us in all its fury, the rain descending in torrents on our devoted heads, while vivid flashes of lightning momentarily illumined, with the brilliancy of day, the darkness that reigned around. In a very few minutes the whole plain was a sheet of water, and every atom of my clothes and bedding was thoroughly saturated. My three rifles had excellent holsters, and with the help of two sheep-skins which I used instead of saddle-cloths I kept them quite dry. In two hours the tempest had passed away, but light rain fell till morning, until which time I lay on the wet ground, soaked to the skin. About midnight we heard the lion roar a mile or so to the northward; and a little before the day dawned I again heard him in the direction of the carcass which we had found on the preceding day. Soon after this I gave the word to march. We then arose and saddled our horses. I found my trousers lying in a pool of water, so I converted a blanket into a long kilt by strapping it round my waist with my shooting-belt. The costume of my followers was equally unique. We held for the north end of the lion's mountain at a sharp pace, which we gained before it was clear enough to see surrounding objects. As the light broke in upon us we reduced our pace, and rode slowly up the middle of the vast level plain towards the carcass of the wildebeest, with large herds of wildebeests, springbok, blesbok, and quaggas on every side of us, which were this day as tame as they had been wild on the previous one. This is generally the case after a storm. The mori was cloudy; misty vapours hung on the shoulders of the neighbouring mountains, and the air was loaded with balmy perfume, emitted by the grateful plants and herbs. As we approached the carcass, I observed several jackals steal away, and some half-drowned-looking vultures were sitting around it. But there was no appearance of the lion. I spent the next half-hour in riding across the plain looking for his spoor; but I sought in vain. Being cold and hungry, I turned my horse's head for camp, and rode slowly along through the middle of the game, which would scarcely move out of rifle-range on either side of me. Suddenly I observed a number of vultures seated on the plain about a quarter of a mile ahead of us, and close beside them stood a huge lioness, consuming a blesbok which she had killed. She was assisted in her repast by about a dozen jackals, which were feasting along with her in the most friendly and confidential manner. Directing my followers' attention to the spot, I remarked, 'I see the lion's' to

which they replied, 'What? what? Yah! Almagtig! dat is he;' and instantly reining in their steeds and wheeling about, they pressed their heels to their horses' sides, and were preparing to betake themselves to flight. I asked them what they were going to do? To which they answered, 'We have not yet placed caps on our rifles.' This was true; but while this short conversation was passing the lioness had observed us. Raising her full, round face, she overhauled us for a few seconds, and then set off at a smart canter towards a range of mountains some miles to the northward; the whole troop of jackals also started off in another direction; there was, therefore, no time to think of caps. The first move was to bring her to bay; and not a second was to be lost. Spurring my good and lively steed, and shouting to my men to follow, I flew across the plain, and, being fortunately mounted on Colesberg, the flower of my stud, I gained upon her at every stride. This was to me a joyful moment, and I at once made up my mind that she or I must die. The lioness having had a long start of me, we went over a considerable extent of ground before I came up with her. She was a large, full-grown beast; and the bare and level nature of the plain added to her imposing appearance. Finding that I gained upon her, she reduced her pace from a canter to a trot, carrying her tail stuck out behind her, and slewed a little to one side. I shouted loudly to her to halt, as I wished to speak with her; upon which she suddenly pulled up, and sat on her haunches like a dog, with her back towards me, not even deigning to look round. She then appeared to say to herself, 'Does this fellow know who he is after?' Having thus sat for half a minute, as if involved in thought, she sprang to her feet; and, facing about, stood looking at me for a few seconds, moving her tail slowly from side to side, showing her teeth, and growling fiercely. She next made a short run forward, making a loud, rumbling noise, like thunder. This she did to intimidate me; but, finding that I did not flinch an inch nor seem to heed her hostile demonstrations, she quietly stretched out her massive arms, and lay down on the grass. The Hottentots now coming up, we all three dismounted, and, drawing our rifles from their holsters, we looked to see if the powder was up in the nipples, and put on our caps. While this was doing the lioness sat up, and showed evident symptoms of uneasiness. She looked first at us, and then behind her, as if to see if the coast were clear; after which she made a short run towards us, uttering her deep-drawn murderous growls. Having secured the three horses to one another by their rheims, we led them on as if we intended to pass her, in the hope of obtaining a broadside. But this she carefully avoided to expose, presenting only her full front. I had given Stofolus my Moore rifle, with orders to shoot at her if she should spring upon me, but on no account to fire before me. Kleinboy was to stand ready to hand me my Purdey rifle, in case the two-grooved Dixon should not prove sufficient. My men as yet had been steady, but they were in a precious stew, their faces having assumed a ghastly paleness; and I had a painful feeling that I could place no reliance on them. Now, then, for it, neck or nothing! She is within sixty yards of us, and she keeps advancing. We turned the horses' tails to her. I knelt on one side, and, taking a steady aim at her breast, let fly. The ball cracked loudly on her tawny hide, and crippled her in the shoulder, upon which she charged with an appalling roar, and in the twinkling of an eye she was in the midst of us. \* \* \* I was very cool and steady, and did not feel in the least degree nervous, having fortunately great confidence in my own shooting; but I must confess, when the whole affair was over I felt that it was a very awful situation, and attended with extreme peril, as I had no friend with me on whom I could rely."

To the above let us append Lieut. Cumming's own pithy summing up given in a previous page.—

"I may remark that lion-hunting, under any circumstances, is decidedly a dangerous pursuit. It may, nevertheless, be followed, to a certain extent, with comparative safety by those who have, naturally, a turn for that sort of thing. A recklessness of death, perfect coolness and self-possession, an acquaintance with the disposition and manners of lions, and a tolerable knowledge of the use of the

rifle, are indispensable to him who would shine in the overpoweringly exciting pastime of hunting this justly-celebrated king of beasts."

To propitiate all who may put in their quiet "cui bono?" after the above statement of the law by one so learned therein as Lieut. Cumming, we will pause for awhile ere we further illustrate his sang-froid and physical adroitness as displayed in adventures so desperate as the above.

*Latter-Day Pamphlets.*—*Hudson's Statue.*  
Edited by Thomas Carlyle. Chapman & Hall.

WE agree with Mr. Carlyle that the question of statiship is one of no mean importance,—but we cannot accept his version of either the facts or the morals of that question. When a man or a memory is endowed with the honours of a statue, it is true that the mere outward symbol, the ton of bronze or the block of marble, passes into utter insignificance compared with the moral meaning of the fact. The man so honoured is in his more special character set up as a model for other men to admire and imitate. Such acts of hero-worship are assuredly, so far as they go, to be taken as expressions of the morality of a nation. But we deny that either the morals or the history of a nation can be read in the absolute sense which Mr. Carlyle affirms by the monuments erected in its market-places. This, true of all countries in modern times, is more especially true of England. Our squares and open spaces are notoriously *not* adorned with pedestals and columns in memory of the men whom the people have most delighted to honour. The names which lie nearest to the public heart have no bronze and marble emblems in the city thoroughfares. Shakspeare and Howard, Milton and Cromwell, Sydney and Blake, Burke and Byron are not to be found in these. But why is this? Mr. Carlyle says, because the people are stocks and stones—senseless "and unclean;" and therefore know not to whom honour is due. Is there not a better explanation in the fact, that the people have nothing to do with the erection of statues. Mr. Carlyle suggests that if nine hundred and ninety-nine out of every thousand statues that we pass were cast down as so many unworthy idols, and the metal converted into honest brass kettles and cheap candlesticks, the world would be all the richer for it;—and we assert that not one in a thousand of the people would cry out against the iconoclasm and conversion. If we be in the case—as we are—of a people having heroes without statues and statues without heroes,—what becomes of Mr. Carlyle's vehement denunciation of the *vox populi*, when by his own showing it is not the many who have erected these tributes to the undeserving? His own reasoning should have led him to the very opposite conclusion to that at which he has arrived. See how, for example, he accounts for the origin of a statue.—

"Of course, among the many idle persons to whom an unfortunate world has given money and no work to do, there must be, with or without wisdom (without, for most part), a most brisk demand for work. Work to do is very desirable, for those that have only money and not work. 'Alas, one cannot buy sleep in the market!' said the rich Farmer-General. 'Alas, one cannot buy work there; work which is still more indispensable. One of these unfortunates with money and no work, whose haunts lie in the dilettante line, among Artists' Studios, Picture-Sales, and the like regions,—an idle kingdom much frequented by the idle in these times,—him it strikes, in some inspired moment, that if a public subscription for a statue to Somebody could be started, good results would follow. Perhaps some Artist, to whom he is *Mæcenæ*, might be got to do the Statue; at all events there would be extensive work and stir going on,—whereby the inspired dilettante, for his own share, might get upon committees, see himself named in the newspapers; might assist



in innumerable consultations, open utterances of speech and balderdash; and on the whole, be comfortably present, for years to come, at something of the nature of a 'house on fire.' House innocuously, nay beneficially on fire; a very Goshen to an idle man with money in his pocket. This is the germ of the idea; now make your idea an action. Think of a proper Somebody. Almost anybody much heard of in the newspapers, and never yet convicted of felony; a conspicuous commander-in-chief, duke no matter whether of Wellington or of York; successful stump-orator, political intriguer; lawyer that has made two hundred thousand pounds; scrip-dealer that has made two thousand thousand;—anybody of a large class, we are not particular, he will be your proper Somebody. "You are" then to get a brother idler or two to unite his twenty-pound note to yours: the fire is kindled, smoke rises through the editorial columns; the fire, if you blow it, will break into flame, and become a comfortable house on fire for you, solacing the general idle soul, for years to come; and issuing in a big hulk of Corinthian brass, and a notable instance of hero-worship, by and by."

What has the Suffrage to do with a process like this? Neither in the selection of the hero nor in the "sculptural ugliness" which results have the people properly so called any share. Nay, more, they are not only free from blame, but nearly always deserving of some praise in the matter, for they seldom fail to laugh at the one and condemn the other. If statues were really erected and taken down by suffrage, we suspect that the stranger in the streets of London would soon be reminded that England had once reared a Shakespeare, a Cromwell, a Milton,—and more than one piece of "ugly metal" would be removed out of sight.—That the offence against taste exhibited at Hyde Park Corner should be quoted as an argument against representation and constitutional government, is an instance of the peculiar logic to which Mr. Carlyle has devoted himself—suggesting an illustration of his own favourite dogma that chaos is come again.

The case as against the *vox populi* is, however, stated and illustrated amusingly.—

"The Bishop of our Diocese is to me an incredible man; and has, I will grant you, very much more money than you or I would now give him for his work. One does not even read those Charges of his; much preferring speech which is articulate. In fact, being intent on a quiet life; you generally keep on the other side of the hedge from him, and strictly leave him to his own fate. Not a credible man;—perhaps not quite a safe man to be concerned with? But what think you of the 'Bobus of Houndsditch' of our parts? He, sausage-maker on the great scale, knows the art of cutting fat bacon, and exposing it seasoned with grey pepper to advantage. Better than any other man he knows this art; and I take the liberty to say it is a poor one. Well, the Bishop has an income of five thousand pounds appointed him for his work; and Bobus, to such a length has he now pushed the trade in sausages, gains from the universal suffrage of men's souls and stomachs ten thousand a year by it. A poor art, this of Bobus's, I say; and worth no such recompense. For it is not even good sausages he makes, but only extremely vendible ones; the cunning dog! Judges pronounce his sausages bad, and at the cheap price even dear; and finer palates, it is whispered, have detected alarming symptoms of horseflesh, or worse, under this cunningly devised grey-pepper spice of his; so that for the world I would not eat one of his sausages, nor would you. You perceive he is not an excellent honest sausage-maker, but a dishonest, cunning and scandalous sausage-maker; worth, if he could get his deserts, who shall say what? Probably certain shillings a-week, say forty; possibly (one shudders to think) a long round in the treadmill, and stripes instead of shillings!—And yet what he gets, I tell you, from universal suffrage and the unshackled *ne-plus-ultra* republican justice of mankind, is twice the income of that anomalous Bishop you were talking of! The Bishop I, for my part, do much prefer to Bobus. The Bishop has human sense and breeding of various kinds; considerable knowledge of Greek, if you should ever want the like of that; knowledge

of many things; and speaks the English language in a grammatical manner. He is bred to courtesy, to dignified composure, as to a second nature; a gentleman every fibre of him; which of itself is something very considerable. The Bishop does really diffuse round him an influence of decorum, courteous patience, solid adherence to what is settled; teaches practically the necessity of 'burning one's own smoke;' and does practically in his own case burn said smoke, making lambent flame and mild illumination out of it, for the good of men in several particulars. While Bobus, for twice the annual money,—brings sausages, possibly of horseflesh, cheaper to market than another!—Brick, if you will reflect it is not "aristocratic England," it is the united Posterity of Adam who are grown, in some essential respects, stupider than barbers' blocks. Barbers' blocks would at least say nothing, and not elevate, by their universal suffrages, an unfortunate Bobus to that bad height."

Something of truth there is in this, wrapped up in a good deal of nonsense, no doubt; but folly and mistake—even an incorrect taste in sausages—are among the short-comings to which all men are heirs. The gains of Mr. Bobus, however, are not more wonderful to us than Mr. Carlyle's plan of disfranchising customers on account of their presumed latent longing for horseflesh!

As may be conjectured from the form which our notice has assumed, Mr. Carlyle deals less with the subject which lends its name to his pamphlet than with the general question of statues and the moral which it involves:—but to what he does say on his proper subject we take no exception. On this point he uses his sledge-hammer vigorously and with effect.—

"It was always matter of regret with me that Hudson's Statue, among the other wonders of the present age, was not completed. The 25,000*l.* subscribed, or offered as oblation, by the Hero-worshippers of England to their Ideal of a Man, awoke many questions as to what outward figure it could most profitably take, under the eternal canopy; questions never finally settled; nor ever now to be settled, now when the universal *raguurok*, or 'twilight of the gods,' has arrived, and it is too clear no statue or cast-metal image of that Incarnation of the English Vishnu will ever be molten now! Why was it not set up; that the whole world might see it; that our 'Religion' might be seen, mounted on some figure of a Locomotive, garnished with Scrip-rolls proper; and raised aloft in some conspicuous place,—for example on the other arch at Hyde Park Corner? By all opportunities, especially to all subscribers and pious sacrificers to the Hudson Testimonial, I have earnestly urged: Complete your Sin-Offering; buy, with the Five-and-twenty Thousand Pounds, what utmost amount of brazen metal and reasonable sculptural supervision it will cover,—say ten tons of brass, with a tolerable sculptor: model that, with what exactness Art can, into the enduring Brass Portrait and Express Image of King Hudson, as he receives the grandes of this country at his levées or soirées or couchées; mount him on the highest place you can discover in the most crowded thoroughfare, on what you can consider the pinnacle of the English world: I assure you he will have beneficial effects there. To all men who are struggling for your approbation, and fretting their poor souls to fiddlestrings because you will not sufficiently give it, I will say, leading them to the foot of the Hudson mount of vision: 'See, my worthy Mr. Rigmarole; consider this surprising Copper Pyramid, in partly human form: did the celestial value of men's approbation ever strike you so forcibly before? The new Apollo Belvidere this, or Ideal of the Scrip Ages. What do you think of it? *Allah Talah*; there is still one God, you see, in England; and this is his Prophet. Let it be a source of healing to you, my unhappy Rigmarole; draw from it 'uses of terror,' as the old divines said; uses of amazement, of new wisdom, of unutterable reflection upon the present epoch of the world! For, in fact, there was more of real worship in the affair of Hudson than is usual in such. The practical English mind has its own notions as to the Supreme Excellence; knows the

real from the spurious Avatar of Vishnu; and does not worship without its reasons. The practical English mind, contemplating its divine Hudson, says with what remainder of reverence is in it: 'Yes, you are something like the Ideal of a Man; you are he I would give my right arm and leg, and accept a pot-belly, with gout, and an appetite for strong-waters to be like!' You out of nothing can make a world, or huge fortune of gold. A divine intellect is in you, which Earth and Heaven, and Capel Court itself acknowledge; at the word of which are done miracles. You find a dying railway; you say to it, Live, blossom anew with scrip;—and it lives and blossoms into umbrageous flowery scrip, to enrich with golden apples, surpassing those of the Hesperides, the hungry souls of men. Diviner miracle, what god ever did? Hudson,—though I mumble about my thirty-nine articles, and the service of other divinities,—Hudson is my god, and to him I will sacrifice this twenty-pound note: if perhaps he will be propitious to me? Object not that there was a mixed motive in this worship of Hudson; that perhaps it was not worship at all. Undoubtedly there were two motives mixed, but both of them sincere,—as often happens in worship. 'Transcendent admiration' is defined as the origin of sacrifice; but also the hope of profit joins itself. If by sacrificing a goat, or the like trifle, to Supreme Jove, you can get Supreme Jove's favour, will not that, for one, be a good investment? Jove is sacrificed to, and worshipped, from transcendent admiration: but also, in part, men of practical nature worship him as pumps are primed,—give him a little water, that you may get from him a river. O godlike Hudson, O god-recognizing England, why was not the partly anthropomorphic Pyramid of Copper cast, then, and set upon the pinnacle of England, that all men might have seen it, and the sooner got to understand these things! The Twenty-five thousand pound oblation lay upon the altar at the Bank; this monstrous Copper Vishnu of the Scrip Ages might have been revealed to men, and was not. Unexpected obstacles occurred. In fact, there rose from the general English soul,—lying dumb and infinitely bewildered, but not yet altogether dead, poor wretch,—such a growl of inarticulate amazement, at this unexpected Hudson Apotheosis, as alarmed the pious worshippers; and their Copper Pyramid remains unrealized; not to be realized to all eternity now, or at least not till Chaos come again, and the ancient mud-gods have dominion! The *Ne-plus-ultra* of Statue-building was within sight; but it was not attained, it was to be for ever unattainable."

We cannot conclude without observing that Mr. Carlyle seems to think the country is about to revive the discussion as to whether or not Cromwell shall have a statue. Suppose Mr. Carlyle himself were to set earnestly about the matter,—and to try it in a new direction. If, instead of going to Government, he would just try the Suffrage for once by an appeal to the people—the result might be, that Cromwell would obtain a statue and Mr. Carlyle abandon one of his dogmas.

*Select Speeches of the late Peter Burrowes, Esq. K.C., at the Bar and in Parliament.* Edited, with a Memoir, by Waldron Burrowes, Esq., A.B., Barrister-at-Law. Dublin, Hodges & Co.

Mr. Peter Burrowes was an Irish barrister, of excellent character, but only of second-rate rank in his profession. We may ask what need of a memoir and extracts from the speeches of one who was more estimable as a man than eminent as an orator? The greatest men produced in the sister country have received little posthumous notice. Of Hussey Burgh, confessedly one of the best of the Irish orators, scarcely a relic remains. The speeches of Flood have never been collected, and his "Life" still remains to be written. The eloquent displays of the late Chief Justice Bushe have not been reprinted,—and we are sorry to hear that Lord Plunket has negatived the wish that he should revise his admirable orations. When there has been such neglect of the highest Irish worthies



of the Senate and the Bar, we are, we repeat, rather surprised to find that the honours of a formal biography should be accorded to the late Mr. Burrowes. Perhaps the editor of this volume might have wished at least in one instance to save Ireland from the reproach cast on her by Sir James Mackintosh—"The place of Hutchinson's birth in Ireland is not mentioned in any account known to me. Ireland may be truly said to be *incuriosa suorum*."

Mr. Peter Burrowes, like nearly every Irish barrister of the past age, was an ardent politician. Fifty years since, and even much later, the Irish bar was thronged by a class of men who set up on wit, volubility, and personal audacity. The old parliamentary system of Ireland was first vigorously developed about 1753,—just a century since; and in a country where there was a scarcity of money, and an abundance of marketable talent, the result of that system was that Dublin swarmed with political adventurers. We learn from Walpole, and from Hardy's 'Charlemont,' that up to 1753 the opposition in the Irish House of Commons had never mustered more than twenty-eight steady votes against Government; but in 1754 an Irish borough sold for three times as much money as was given in 1750. Since that time the Irish bar has flourished with great vigour; and we cheerfully concede that the names of Malone, Hussey Burgh, Yelverton, Curran, Bushe, and Plunket would do honour to any bar. From the known character of Irishmen, it might be anticipated that an Irish bar would abound in successful speakers. The Irish mind, plastic and mercurial, is well adapted for forensic and histrionic exertions. In the annals of the Law and of the Stage we find a host of Irish names; and only regret that the scarcity of them in philosophy and in the graver mental pursuits is so obvious as to justify the sarcasm of the elder D'Israeli, who remarks in his 'Curiosities of Literature'—"I quote Dr. Arthur Browne, an Irish philosopher—a character of singular rarity in the sister country." The history of that ill-fated land and the obstructions to civilization are enough to account for the excess of the demonstrative over the reflective faculties of the Irish mind. The progress of education and the extension of collegiate institutions will tend to alter the rhetorical taste of our Irish fellow-subjects, and make thinkers more respected among them than talkers.

The memoir of Mr. Peter Burrowes occupies nearly half of this volume,—and it entitles the writer to an eminent place among the bad biographers of celebrated Irishmen. Not only is the composition of the text ungrammatical and slovenly,—the arrangement of the matter is in the topsy-turvy fashion. Thus, in the tenth chapter of the work (p. 103), when the subject of the biography is brought so far as 1821, the author takes us back to events which occurred in 1783, and describes towards the end of the biography some political exertion in the early life of Mr. Burrowes.

The author, as others have done before him, vindicates Lord Plunket from the calumnies circulated against him in Cobbett's 'Register' with respect to his alleged treatment of the hapless Robert Emmett. He also cites the generous conduct of Lord Plunket to the Burrowes family, and records—as he may with pride—the friendship between Lord Plunket and Mr. Peter Burrowes. What need, then, was there for the writer penning so offensive a sentence as the following, in allusion to Lord Plunket's powerful speech in support of Government, in 1819, on what was called "The Manchester Massacre"? "His (Lord Plunket's) speech was one of great power, and was not more gratifying to Ministers than offensive to

his former friends; Lord Grey describing him, in a letter to a friend at that time residing in this country, as having exhibited 'more than the zeal of an apostate.'" We submit, that it is very unfair that such a liberty should be taken with a private letter, when if Lord Grey were now alive he would doubtless retract the sentiment about apostasy,—if he ever uttered it. The fact is, that so far back as 1806, Mr. Plunket entered the House of Commons as an adherent to Lord Grenville's views,—not to Lord Grey's. There was no inconsistency in his supporting Ministers with Lord Grenville on the occasion alluded to. Those only who are ignorant of the history of the times could treat his conduct as contrary to political honour.

The hero of the volume before us, Mr. Peter Burrowes, will be remembered in Irish political history by one most able speech. In 1793, at the instance of Fitzgibbon (Lord Clare), an Irish Convention Act was passed, with the intention of dispersing the organization of the United Irishmen. This act forbade delegation "for the purpose or under pretence of presenting petitions to the Sovereign, or both or either of the Houses of Parliament, or in any other manner procuring alterations of the law." It was put in force against the Catholic Delegates in 1811, when nearly three hundred of the Catholic nobility and gentry assembled in a delegated body to petition for Catholic Emancipation. The right of the Catholics to assemble in such a manner was disputed by the Government; and the question was tried before a Dublin jury,—when Mr. Burrowes appeared as counsel for Dr. Sheridan, and delivered an admirable speech, arguing the question as one of common law, and vigorously insisting on the right of the subject to petition for a previously defined object not in itself illegal. He sought in his argument to evade the force of the Convention Act by insisting that the Crown should furnish some boundary or criterion in the application of so strict a law. Dr. Sheridan was acquitted, though the jury was "packed." The Attorney General (Saurin) offered to abandon the case against the other delegates; but they refused, insisted on being tried, and in the case of Mr. Kirwan a verdict was found against the Crown. Mr. Burrowes obtained great celebrity by the vigour of his arguments in these cases; and his name should be mentioned in connexion with them by the future historian of Ireland. We are surprised, in turning to Wyse's 'History of the Catholic Association,' that he does not mention the name of Mr. Burrowes while treating of the Trial of Delegates. The biographer of Mr. Burrowes tells us that Bushe (the Irish Solicitor-General) "was considered by the leading English lawyers of the day, Lord Erskine, Sir Samuel Romilly, and Sir Arthur Pigot, then Attorney-General for England (!),† as mistaken in his construction of the Convention Act." Whether or not Mr. Bushe was "considered as mistaken" in his law opinions on the Act, the precedent of the trials of 1811 would be still acted on in Ireland,—for the Convention Act is still in force in that country, though there is no similar act in England. The Act, we believe, is held to be unconstitutional,—but, like occasional suspensions of the Habeas Corpus Act, to be necessitated by the anomalous state of society in the sister country. Our readers will remember that the late Mr. O'Connell was always threatening to name a "Council of Three Hundred." The Convention Act was a barrier against his designs, and the Act is now held by Whig and Tory statesmen to be one of the buttresses of the Union.

† It was in 1806 that Sir A. Pigot was in office. Sir Vicary Gibbs was the Attorney-General in 1811. A barrister ought to be more exact in matters relating to the history of his profession.

There is in this volume an astounding instance given of the political profligacy and corruption in high places existing sixty years since in Ireland. A perfectly trustworthy witness—the late Dr. Miller, a dignitary of the Established Church, and known favourably in literature as the author of a 'Philosophy of History'—testifies to the facts of this scandalous transaction; which deserves particular notice from the circumstance of the corruption having taken place in such a place as the University of Dublin, the seat of clerical education. Hely Hutchinson (grandfather of the present Earl of Donoughmore) was a barrister of remarkable ability, who traded on politics—an energetic political adventurer. He continued to reconcile his own personal interests with the advocacy of popular questions, and was very successful in carrying on together the different vocations of courtier and patriot. It was of him that Lord North said, "Here, your Majesty, is Mr. Hutchinson, to whom, if you gave all Ireland as a present, he would still be asking for the Isle of Man as a potato garden!" There is a traditional joke at Dublin Castle, that when Hutchinson could get nothing else from a particular ministry, he got his daughter gazetted as a major of dragoons. In his cormorant ambition he accepted the Provostship of Trinity College, Dublin—a post for which he was utterly unsuited. Dr. Duigenan, a scurrilous satirist of some talent, ridiculed him in several tracts,—of which 'Prancerianæ' and 'Lacrymæ Academicæ' are still read with zest. "For fifteen years the Provost never enjoyed the repose of a moment. An ingenious and accomplished man, he was almost stung to death by intruding into the hive of the Academy." Such is the language of Grattan, writing to Burke in 1794. It is to the scandalous corruption of Provost Hutchinson that the following letter refers; and coming from such a man as Dr. Miller, it inflicts a terrible blow on the memory of Hutchinson, and casts some discredit on the college over which he presided. The letter is so remarkable, that we print it at full length.—

"Armagh, 21st October, 1845.

"Dear Sir,—The following are the particulars of the transaction of my early life, concerning which you have requested information; though now very remote in time, they have retained a sufficiently distinct place in my memory. In the year 1788 I answered for a Fellowship in the University of Dublin, which was, however, adjudged by the Board to Mr. Magee, afterwards Archbishop of Dublin; whether correctly or not, I considered myself aggrieved by this decision, not only on my own opinion of my answering, but also on that of two very competent authorities, Mr. Stokes, who had been the last elected, and Mr. Russell, who was then, I think, a candidate, and was himself elected in the following year. I resented it the more because I thought I had reason to ascribe it to an exercise of personal influence by Dr. Richard Stack, the tutor of Mr. Magee, over the two leading examiners. Under this impression I prevailed with my father to withdraw my name from the University, and enter it at the Middle Temple, that I might prepare myself for the profession of the law; a vacancy, however, having occurred among the Fellows, or being sure to occur within the limited time, I determined, in the month of October, to resume my pursuit, in compliance with his wish that I should make another trial. My resentment, indeed, was unabated; and, though I was again to submit myself to the judgment of the same men, I refused to hold personal intercourse with any of them. I have mentioned these particulars, though they have long ceased to maintain the same feelings in my mind, to explain how it happened, that so wise a man as Provost Hutchinson may have been led to think himself safe in committing himself so seriously, by sending me most corrupt proposals. The Fellows, senior and junior, were, with few exceptions, opposed to him. I, on the other hand, had not yet attached myself to either



party; and I had, by my undisguised resentment, openly set his adversaries at defiance; it was then not unreasonable that he should believe me favourably disposed towards any overtures which he might make me, especially as he might suppose me to be not free from apprehension of the continued hostility of the Senior Fellows in the approaching trial. About six weeks before the Examination of the year 1789, which was to be held in the middle of May, Mr. Adair, who was then living in the family of the Provost, either being at that time, or having been employed as a private tutor, came to my chamber in the dusk of the evening. I had known his person, but had never before any personal intercourse with him. He introduced himself to me as sent by the Provost, to intimate that he was aware that the Senior Fellows were hostile to me, and was apprehensive that they would be influenced by that feeling in the approaching election, and that he was determined to prevent this great injustice by exercising, in my favour, his power of nomination, if they should continue to be adverse to me as he expected. Mr. Adair further informed me, that to facilitate the proposed nomination, the Provost would furnish me with a list of the questions which he was himself to ask in his intended examination of Ethics, so that I might be sure of answering well in his course. The power of 'arbitrary nomination' had not then been questioned, and was actually exercised in the following year, though for the last time, to exclude a Mr. Allen, who, unable to encounter the obloquy of voting for a son of the Provost, at an election of representatives for the University, had absented himself from the election; then, indeed, it was forever suppressed by the influence of public opinion, except in the permitted case, in which no one candidate should have received a majority of votes. Mr. Adair visited me more than once, I think three times, always in the evening. In the course of the few weeks preceding the examination, and in, I think, the second, he reinforced his original overture, by assuring me that the Provost would, through his influence with the Government, procure the establishment of a professorship of Ethics, to be endowed with a salary of 100*l.*, and that I should be named the first Professor. To these proposals I feared to give a negative, apprehending that the exercise of the power of nomination would, in that case, be turned against me. In this difficulty my expedient was, and it appeared to be successful, to burst into expressions of violent resentment against the Senior Fellows, for their past conduct, whenever I felt that he was pressing me closely for a definitive acceptance of his proposals. Whether it did actually blind him I do not know, but it at least enabled me at the time to avoid giving any answer either of acceptance or rejection. It seemed, however, at length to have been judged necessary to bring me to an explicit declaration, for I received an invitation to dine on the Sunday preceding the examination with Lord Donoughmore, the eldest son of the Provost, who had chambers in the College. To baffle this measure, I pleaded the urgency of the business of my preparation as excuse for declining the invitation. My last communication with Mr. Adair was by a note of congratulation addressed to me after the first trial, congratulating me on my successful answering: to this I sent no reply. The issue of the whole was, that, to the honour of the Board, not less than of myself, I was unanimously elected to the single vacancy which was then to be filled. Shortly after my election there was an election for Representatives of the University, in which a son of the Provost was returned by the Provost as one of the successful candidates. A petition was lodged by Sir Laurence Parsons, afterwards Earl of Rosse; and on the trial of this petition I was produced as a witness for the petitioner, to prove the corrupt dealing of the Provost; on which occasion I swore to the two offers of the nomination and of the list of questions, not at the time remembering the subsequent offer of the professorship. This testimony, however, though it seriously damaged the character of the Provost, did not influence the Committee, because my vote had not been gained. As it was afterwards said, on the part of Mr. Adair and his employer, that I had availed myself of the absence of the former, to bring forward charges which I would not have ventured to urge in his presence,

I availed myself of an opportunity afforded by a Visitation soon afterwards called by almost the whole number of the Fellows, with the aged Vice-Provost Murray at their head, to inquire into the insufficiency and the misgovernment of the Provost. Seeing, at this Visitation, Mr. Adair, who was present as a spectator, I took the liberty of interrupting the proceedings, that I might then, in his presence, repeat my charges. This I was permitted by the Visitors to do; and I then stated also the offer of the professorship, which had before escaped my memory. Mr. Adair appeared to be confounded by this unexpected accusation; not so the Provost, who immediately disowned his agent, reprobating him in the severest terms, as a man who had betrayed his confidence in making an unauthorized offer of the use of papers, to which that confidence had given him access: he passed over the other charges in silence. An order was made that Mr. Adair's name should be struck off the roll of the University, where it had been placed as that of a resident Master of Arts, and the business of the Visitation proceeded as before. The Visitation was brought to a close without any immediate result, by the mere exhaustion of the three days allowed by the Statutes for such an occasion; but the appointment of such a person to the presidency of the College was rendered so odious as greatly to diminish the danger of a repetition of the abuse. I have now, perhaps, gone into a greater detail than you had desired; but you may make your own selection from it. I have much satisfaction in thinking, that I contributed, both in this and another part of my conduct, to effect a salutary change, in consequence of which we have never since had a layman or a stranger as a Provost. Your obedient Servant,

"GEORGE MILLER."

We regret that the speeches of Mr. Burrowes have not been more ably edited. We should be glad to see a volume of judiciously selected speeches from the greatest masters of Irish eloquence,—Grattan, Plunket, Bushe, Curran, and some others. In such a volume the speech of Mr. Burrowes for the Catholic Delegates might appropriately find a place, along with the powerful reply of Bushe on behalf of the Crown. When we think of the "eloquence" with which we were surfeited in the recent State Trials of Ireland, we cannot help feeling that the Irish bar has mournfully degenerated. The distinction between a great speaker and a great *speechifier* is not sufficiently understood in Dublin.

#### NEW ROMANCES.

WHEN Gray, on Elysian pleasures intent, pictured himself as lying on a sofa and "reading novels," it is clear that he had no prophetic view of the duties of a professional reader of romances at Midsummer 1850. The tales which were to enchant his Paradisaic leisure were to be cynical stories by Crébillion. Now, though we cannot agree with the modest English poet in his great admiration for the immodest French novelist, it is hardly possible to avoid wistfully sighing for a page or two of something lively in the midst of so much dreary work as we have been called on to execute when dealing with the majority of the volumes before us. Yet, even in this case, a certain effect may be produced by grouping. Let us see what can be made of a trio of romancers:—giving, of course, precedence to the Lady of the party.

*Julia Howard. A Romance.* By Mrs. Martin Bell. 3 vols. Bentley.—Having owned to some tedium over our task, it is fair to state that we have not been made weary by the want of "romance" language on the part of Mrs. Martin Bell. A heroine is seldom a discreet subject of extract; but then, every heroine is not a Julia Howard. She is thus glowingly pictured,—

"A lamp suspended from the roof shed its soft light over the graceful and luxuriant thickets of exotic shrubs, whose glittering leaves and glowing flowers appeared yet more fresh and fair in that gentle illumination. From the light pillars support-

ing the roof vines flung their rich festoons of fruit and foliage, and a tiny fountain threw up its sheaf of liquid crystal from a shell-formed marble basin. The houri of this paradise sat beside the fountain, tying up a bouquet. She was a girl of rare and exquisite loveliness. Rather below the middle height of female stature, her figure, though rounded to perfect symmetry, seemed almost aerial in its fairy lightness, and her features, like Allaster's, were moulded in the purest lines of Grecian beauty; but there was nothing of the cold marble beauty of sculpture in her living loveliness. All was rich and ripe, and glowing with the warm flush of youth, and health, and joy. She was so very fair, that the blue veins were pencilled on her brow and on her eyelids, and on her rounded cheek the colour varied every moment, from the crimson bloom of the musky carnation to the most delicate hue tinging the half-opened petals of the white moss-rose. Her large soft eyes, of that violet-blue which appears black, veiled their pure, and yet almost voluptuous light, beneath long curling lashes, which, when she looked down, fell like a fringe over her cheek, and when she looked up, almost touched the pencilled line of her eyebrows. Her jet-black hair, luxuriant as that of an Oriental beauty, contrasted well with the transparent delicacy of her complexion; drawn back from her face, of which it left unveiled the sweet oval contour, it formed a low crown of glossy plaits, entwined with strings of pearls, round her head, while the profuse ends of the long tresses fell back again in curls on her neck. Her dress was suited to her style of beauty, with the unconscious coquetry of an exquisite taste; it was a plain robe of black velvet, fitting tight to the faultless form it displayed, and showing the snowy and dimpled arms and shoulders in their own unadorned loveliness."

The scene of the above, it should be added, —since the reader could never have guessed it— is Ireland in 1740. Allaster O'Connor, who has been treated as an apostate by an elderly relative, is that last scion of the ruined race who cannot be dispensed with in the land of Romance—so many and picturesque are his pretensions to the post of hero. Mighty and moving love-scenes succeed to the above commencement: then comes a parting, and the melancholy Irish gentleman, after the fashion of Lady Morgan's *O'Donnells* and *O'Briens*, rushes abroad and enters foreign service—is flung into a maze of court and camp adventures—is breathed upon, too, by a pretty strong "waft" of new love. But the old one retains its spell:—and shortly before the catastrophe occurs the lovers are reunited, with every prospect of felicity. For the catastrophe, the reader whom the aforesaid sketch may have invited is recommended to consult 'Julia Howard.' Enough to assure him that Mrs. Bell keeps the promise of her title, and is romantic enough to content *Sixteen's* self.

*Barba Tassi: the Greek Patriot. A Romance.* Bentley.—Without heeding *Smellfungus*, who asks whether Greek patriotism be not all a romance,—without inquiring how far the English sympathies which were stirred by Trelawney and *Anastasius Hope*, and Leicester Stanhope and Byron, did not virtually die shortly after 'Childe Harold' was buried,—without pointing out how far the recent 'party-debate' in Parliament may have still further contributed to exhaust the subject,—without speculating on the possibility of the modern Greek being capable of such investiture by the novelist as makes and marks the hero,—it may be said—for it must be soon felt after the book is opened—that 'Barba Tassi' has not, as a fiction, power, variety, or character enough to light up the old enthusiasm. It is an imaginative biography not ill executed, and not tedious,—since its pages have a certain life and motion:—but it is feeble. The pictures of Klephts, Caloyers and the other romantic figures dear to our mothers are executed after the fashion of our mothers—tapestry-wise:—that is, with merely the most obvious outlines, and in the most gay, not to say gaudy,



colours. The combinations of incident in the isles

where burning Sappho loved and sung

appear to have been all used; and of such mastery over hearts and humours as makes the author possessing it independent of time, space, or country, 'Barba Tassi' does not offer a single manifestation.

*La Vendée. An Historical Romance.* By Anthony Trollope, Esq. 3 vols. Colburn.—This might almost be called "a romantic history," instead of a historical romance; so well known are the leaders in the war of La Vendée in England. The realities of the peasant life, of the simple loyalty and superstitious devotion which yielded to the Royalist cause such leaders as Cathelineau admit of little added colouring. They have been, moreover, shown to us in all their warmth and worth by Madame de Laroche-jacquelin and other eye-witnesses who have described the struggle. Mr. Trollope, however, has used the romancer's fair privilege fairly, in creating for heroine a Mademoiselle de Laroche-jacquelin, and in giving her as unsuccessful lover a worse sort of *Waverley*—Adolphe Denot, the renegade and repentant. That the author well understands the jealousies which, from the very first moment of popular success spring ready-armed into life among the successful,—and that he has a fair command of dialogue and feeling for humour,—one of the lighter scenes in his romance will prove. A few words will introduce this. After the first successful struggle with the soldiers of the Republic at St. Florent, and their unsuccessful attempt to include in the conscription Peter Berrier the ostler, Cathelineau, the postillion-leader, went up to the chateau of Durbellière to ascertain how far the gentry of the *ancien régime* would take part in the strife so warmly, but so irregularly, begun.—

"When Foret and Cathelineau dismounted, and were taken into the house by Henri and the Curé, they left their steeds in the care of Peter Berrier; but Peter has not been left ever since leading them up and down in sight of the white-washed lions. The revolt of St. Florent had been heard of in the servants' hall as well as in the salon upstairs, and it was soon known that the heroes of the revolt were in the house, and that their horses were before the door. A couple of men and two or three boys soon hurried round, and Peter was relieved from his charge, and courteously led into the servants' hall by Momont, the grey-headed old butler and favourite servant of the Marquis, and Jacques Chapeau, the valet, groom, and confidential factotum of Larochejacquelin. Peter was soon encouraged to tell his tale, and to explain the mission which had brought him and his two companions to Durbellière, and under ordinary circumstances the having to tell so good a tale would have been a great joy to him; but at the present moment Peter was not quite satisfied with his own position; why was the postillion in the salon while he was in the kitchen? Peter usually was a modest man enough, and respectful to his superiors; the kitchen table in a nobleman's house would generally be an elysium to him; he had no idea that he was good enough to consort with Marquises and their daughters; but he did think himself equal to Cathelineau, the postillion, and as Cathelineau was in the salon, why should he be in the kitchen? He quite understood that Cathelineau was thus welcomed, thus raised from his ordinary position in consequence of what he had done at St. Florent, but why shouldn't he, Berrier, be welcomed, and raised also? He couldn't see that Cathelineau had done more than he had himself. He was the first man to resist; he had been the first hero, and yet he was left for half an hour to lead about a horse, an ass, and an old mule, as though he were still the ostler at an auberge, and then he was merely taken into the servants' hall, and asked to eat cold meat, while Cathelineau was brought into a grand room upstairs to talk to lords and ladies; this made Peter fidgety and uncomfortable; and when he heard, moreover, that Cathelineau was to sup up-

stairs at the same table with the Marquis and the ladies, all his pleasure in the revolt was destroyed, he had no taste for the wine before him, and he wished in his heart that he had joined the troops, and become a good republican. He could not bear the aristocratic foppery of that Cathelineau.—'And were you a conscript yourself, Peter Berrier?' said Jacques Chapeau.—'Of course I was,' said Peter. 'Why, haven't you heard what the revolt of St. Florent was about?'—'Well, we have heard something about it,' said Momont; 'but we didn't exactly hear your name mentioned.'—'You couldn't have heard much of the truth then,' said Berrier.—'We heard,' said Chapeau, 'how good Cathelineau began by taking three soldiers prisoners.'—'I had twice more to do with those three prisoners than ever he had,' said Peter.—'Well, we never heard that,' said Momont.—'But we heard,' said Chapeau, 'how Cathelineau led a few of the townsmen against a whole regiment of soldiers, and scattered them through the town like chaff.'—'Scattered them like chaff!' said Peter.—'And we heard,' said Momont, 'how he stormed the barracks, slaughtered all the soldiers, and dragged the Colonel with his own hand through the barrack window.'—'Through the barrack window!' repeated Peter, with an air intended to throw discredit on the whole story.—'And we heard,' said Agatha's confidential maid, 'how he laid his hand upon the cannon and charmed it, so that it would not go off, though the fiery torch was absolutely laid upon the gunpowder.'—'That the cannon wouldn't go off though the torch was laid upon the gunpowder!' said Peter.—'And we heard,' said the cook, 'how all the girls in the town came and crowned him with bay leaves; and how the priest blessed him.'—'And how the young men made him their captain and their general,' said the housekeeper.—'And how they christened him the Saviour of St. Florent,' said the laundress.—'And gave him all the money in the town, and the biggest sword they could find,' said the page.—'You heard all this, did you?' said Peter Berrier.—'Indeed we did,' said Jacques Chapeau, 'and a great deal more from M. de Lescure's own man, who went back to Clisson only an hour since, and who had it all from one who came direct from St. Florent.'—'And you heard not a word of Peter Berrier?'—'Not a word, not a word,' said they all at once.—'Then, friends, let me tell you, you have not heard much of the truth, although M. de Lescure's own man did see the man who came direct from St. Florent; I think I may say, without boasting, and I believe Monsieur the postillion upstairs will not be inclined to contradict me, that without me, there would have been no revolt.—'No revolt without you? No revolt without Peter Berrier? No revolt without M. Debedin's ostler?' said they one after another.—'No—no revolt without M. Debedin's ostler, Madame.' The last question had been asked by the cook. 'M. Debedin's ostler is as good, I suppose, as M. Gaspardieu's postillion.'—'What, as good as Cathelineau?' asked Momont.—'As good as our good postillion!' shouted Chapeau.—'As good as the holy man who charmed the cannon?' said the confidential maid in a tone of angry amazement.—'Would all the girls in St. Florent crown you with bay leaves!' jeered the cook.—'Will they ever make you a great captain!' screamed the housekeeper.—'Or call you the Saviour of St. Florent!' added the laundress.—'Or trust you with all the money, I'd like to know!' suggested the page.—Peter Berrier felt that he was ill-used after all that he had gone through for his King and his country; he sat apart for the rest of the evening, and meditated whether he would go over to the republicans, and bring an army down upon Durbellière, or whether he would more nobly revenge himself by turning out a more enterprising royalist than even the postillion himself.

The above passage has been purposely preferred to one of the graver scenes of escape, onslaught, or massacre, which Mr. A. Trollope has also touched with spirit. Let it be treated ever so lightly, ever so philosophically, the Vendée war is virtually a sad chronicle of noble blood poured like water, and of brave lives laid down with but poor result of victory. We have dwelt on one of its lighter episodes from a natural wish to escape the painfulness of the main record.

#### OUR LIBRARY TABLE.

*Lincoln's Inn: its Ancients and Modern Buildings, with an Account of the Library.* By W. H. Spilsbury, Librarian.—This is a hand-book or guide to Lincoln's Inn, executed with judgment and good taste. The archaeology of institutions for the promotion of learning is a subject exceedingly interesting; and after our national Universities, there are few places of the kind that suggest more pleasing associations than the Inns of Court. After a brief and neatly written introductory chapter on the origin and antiquity of the laws of England, compiled from well-known sources—and two chapters on the topography and remarkable buildings of Lincoln's Inn,—Mr. Spilsbury proceeds to describe with some minuteness the chief books and manuscripts that are to be met with in the library. The greater portion of the work is occupied with this description:—a topic on which the author occasionally dilates with evident fondness, and with considerable ability. Lord Bacon regarded a public library "as a shrine where all the relics of the ancient saints, full of true virtue, and that without delusion or imposture, are preserved and reposed,"—and Mr. Spilsbury is evidently no stranger to feelings like those which suggested this noble comparison. We have no doubt that his book will be well received:—and we could wish that descriptive manuals of a similar kind were to be found in all large libraries.

*The Statistical Companion for 1850.* By T. C. Banfield and C. R. Weld.—It were needless to attempt to point out the utility of such a collection of statistical information as this small and compact volume contains. The wealth of facts and figures is gathered from an almost infinite number of sources—is assayed with care, and distributed in convenient sections for reference. The writer, the statesman, and the merchant should never allow it to escape from the reach of their hands.

*A Career in the Commons; or, Letters to a Young Member of Parliament on the Conduct and Principles necessary to constitute him an enlightened and efficient Representative.* By W. L. Harle.—An elaborate treatise on the duties and tactics of a popular member of the House of Commons,—full of useful information on the practical details of such a career, and containing a number of very sensible and original suggestions. It is evident, however, that Mr. Harle looks for a larger audience for his teaching than the juvenile section of the six hundred and fifty-eight members would furnish him with. His book, though formally addressed to the "young member," is really written at the whole body of sage and practical reformers in the country. It discusses, briefly and lucidly, the chief questions of home and foreign policy—the latter cursorily only—which are now before Parliament and the public, or likely to be so for a number of years to come; and on each and all of these it offers hints and arguments of a sound and sober character. Indeed, we can give Mr. Harle this honourable praise,—that we know of no book to compare with 'A Career in the Commons' as a useful and satisfactory compendium of the duties of a public man.

#### LIST OF NEW BOOKS.

- Adelaide Lindsay, a Novel, ed. Author of 'Emilia Wyndham,' 31s. 6d.  
Birkett (J.) On Diseases of the Breast, and Treatment, 8vo. 13s. 6d.  
De Morgan's Elements of the Aristocracy, new ed. 2 vols. post 8vo. 11. 12s.  
Burke's Ancients of the Aristocracy, 2nd series, 3 vols. 11. 12s.  
Chambers's Educational Course, 'Acoustics,' 12mo. 2s.  
Churton's Library for the Million, Vol. I. 'James's Charlemagne' and 'Present of Mexico,' 12mo. 3s. 6d.  
De Morgan's Compendium of the Aristocracy, new ed. 2 vols. post 8vo. 7s. 6d.  
Dunbar's (G.) Greek-English and English-Greek Lexicon, 4to. 42s.  
Dunbar's (G.) Greek-English Lexicon, 4to. 12s.  
Dunbar's (G.) Greek-English Lexicon, 4to. 11. 11s. 6d.  
Emerigon on Insurance, translated by Meredith, royal 8vo. 11. 10s.  
Meredith (J.) Welland Minor, 8vo. ed. 3s. 6d.  
Green's Prime Essays on Conditions of Working Classes, 1s. 6d. 2s. 6d.  
Gibson's Delston Hall, or Memoirs of Earl of Derwentwater, 12s.  
Halley's (J.) Memoirs, by Arnot, 3rd ed. 3s. 6d.  
Heywood & Wright's Ancient Laws of 15th Century for Colleges, 12s.  
History of a Ship, new ed. 8s. 4s. 6d.  
Hort (Lieut.-Col.) The Man who eloped with his own Wife, 2s. 6d.  
Irving's Tales of Alhambra and Legends of Spain, 1s. (Popu. Lib.)  
Irving's Life and Voyages of Columbus, 12mo. 8s. 6d. cl. gilt.  
Jahr's Pocket Dictionary of Homoeopathic Practice, 12s.  
Jameson (W.) On the Feet, 2nd ed. 18mo. 1s. 6d.  
Joyce's (J.) System of Hand-milling, 8vo. 5s. 6d.  
Jones's (Dr. H. B.) Animal Chemistry, its Application to Stomach and Renal Diseases, 8vo. 6s.  
Johnston's Conchology, 8vo. 1s. 1s. cl.  
London's Hortus Britannicus, new ed. 8vo. 11. 11s. 6d.  
London's Supplement to ditto, to March, 1850, 8vo. 11s.  
Meyer's Birds, Vol. VII, 8vo. cl. 3s. 2s.  
Mountford's Euthanasia, or Happy Talk towards End of Life, 7s.  
Neander's Church History, translated by Torrey, Vol. VI, 8vo. 9s.  
New's (W. G.) Notes on Slave Trade, 8vo. 2s.  
Pictorial Bible, standard ed. 4 vols. 21. 12s.  
Pratt's (J. C.) Poor-Law Statutes, 6th ed. 8vo. 12s.  
Robinson's (Rev. C.) The Church and the People, 8s. 6d.  
Rochefoucauld's Moral Reflections, Maxims, &c. new trans. 4s. 6d.  
Silver (E. D.) On the Rectum, 8th ed. 8vo. 1s.



Sover's Modern Housewife, new ed. post 8vo. 7s. 6d.  
Smith's Wesleyan Methodist Mission in Jamaica and Honduras, 10s.  
Spickmore's Periodical Library, Todd's Sunday School Teacher  
and Lectures to Children, 12mo. 1s. 6d.  
Theories of Regeneration, 8vo. swd. 1s. 6d.  
Turkbull's Enquiry, How far Consumption is Curable, 2nd ed. 4s.  
Vaccines and Vaccines, 8vo. 2s. 6d.  
McIlroy's (T.) Baptism, a Sermon, 8vo. 3d. swd.  
Wheeler's Hebrew for Self-Instruction, 8vo. 3s. 6d. cl.  
Williams's Harmony of the Four Evangelists, f. 8s. 6d.  
Williams's Secular School, First Report, 8vo. 1d. swd.  
Woolley's Elements of Descriptive Geometry, 4to. vol. plates, 8vo. 1s.

#### MEMOIR OF SIR ROBERT PEELE.

Frederick Prince of Wales was fond at one time of riding a fine but vicious horse, and Pope is thought to have paid him a happy compliment on his taste. "After endeavouring in vain to dissuade him from his folly, the poet wound up by hoping 'that England would not be called a second time to lament the death of a protector occasioned by a horse.'" What England lost by the stumbling of King William the Third's horse Mr. Macaulay will tell us in the continuation of his history—what England was to gain by the preservation of the Prince's life is at least very doubtful. What, however, Great Britain has lost within the last week by the horse that carried Sir Robert Peel—our daily contemporaries have told us. But they have not told all. They have delighted to portray and panegyrize the great Financial minister—sinking his patronage of Literature, of Science, and of the Fine Arts in the more showy triumphs due to the statesman and the lawyer. With the politics of the great man whose loss we deplore we have nothing to do. Nor has he any claim to our notice as an author—for he made no attempt at distinction in that way. His title to the sympathy of literary men arises from the sympathy which he had with their cause and works—and the many ways and occasions which he took of showing it. He loved their society,—understood and encouraged Art,—and apprehended and appreciated the labours of the great scientific characters of his age.

To Sir Robert Walpole Sir Robert Peel has been and will continue to be compared. Yet, how different were the sympathies for all that is elegant in Literature and Art of the Sir Robert of King William the Fourth's time from those of the Sir Robert of King George the Second's. Walpole encouraged no kind of literary talent. His bounty and his pensions were bestowed on the lowest pamphleteers of his day, and his time was passed with fox-hunters and hard-drinkers,—not as Harley had passed his, with Pope and Swift, and Parnell, and Prior,—Peel, on the other hand, delighted in the society of the really great men of his time. At his table might be seen many of the distinguished characters of whom posterity is likely to hear. Had he lived in the reign of Queen Anne he would have been fed with dedications, and would have divided the sympathies of men of genius with Dorset and Halifax. Had he flourished in the early part of the reign of George the Third, Goldsmith might have been saved by his timely interference from Newbery and Griffiths, and Burns from gauging ale-kirns and filling a premature grave.

There had been a certain kind of patronage of literary men by the Prime Ministers of this country before Sir Robert Peel set an example which has since been imitated (though somewhat indifferently) by Lord Melbourne and Lord John Russell. But the patronage, though occasionally sound in kind, was often mistaken in principle, and little to the honour of literature and literary men. When Dr. Johnson received a pension from Lord Bute, Shebbeare, and Mallet received pensions at the same time. This on the part of Lord Bute was only a cold fit of encouragement. Later in the century, when Addington drew Pitt's attention to the genius of Burns,—the youthful Prime Minister admitted the truth of his friend's observation,—promised that something should be done,—and forgot the promise in a request that the bottle might not stop. All this was not lost on Sir Robert Peel. His father had risen from the ranks by the vigour of his mind and the sweat of his brow. The son had learned to sympathize with the necessities of literary men. He was their earnest advocate out of power, and their warmest supporter when in power. We well remember a suggestion (it might have been a motion) made in the Commons in 1832, by Mr. Hume, that

some ribbon of honour should be given by the State to men distinguished in literature and science. The suggestion was opposed by Sir Robert Peel. Mere symbols of distinction, he observed, were not what was necessary for the wants of literary men. "Honours to a man in my situation," said Goldsmith, "are like ruffles to a man who is in want of a shirt." The more substantial approbation of the public should assume, he thought, the shape of public pensions for services rendered. When this was said, the statesman by whom it was uttered was not in power. Our readers know that we do not exactly agree in view with this proposition of his;—but it may be recorded to his honour that when two years afterwards he was in power, he nobly illustrated the sentiments announced on that occasion. Sir Walter Scott was dead—but many of the great men who had started and run the race with him were yet alive. Southey received a pension of 300*l.* a year, and was offered a baronetcy; Wordsworth received a pension of the same amount; 150*l.* a year was given to James Montgomery; and during Sir Robert's second administration 200*l.* a year was bestowed on Mr. Tytler, 200*l.* a year on Mr. Tennyson, 200*l.* a year on Mr. McCulloch, and 100*l.* a year on the widow of Thomas Hood. Frances Brown, the blind poetess whose touching story is familiar to the readers of the *Athenæum*, received also a pension at his hands. His patronage was extended to the children of persons eminent in literature. For the sons of Mrs. Hemans he found places under the Crown, which they still enjoy; and the first appointment of his first administration was given to a son of Allan Cunningham.

Sir Robert's love of the Fine Arts was even more fervid than his predilection for literature. He materially assisted in the purchase for the nation of the Angerstein Collection;—and when the National Gallery was established, he was always lending the weight of his influence to further acquisitions. Some of the most valuable of the recent purchases were made during his ministry. His own collection of Dutch and Flemish pictures was formed with the greatest taste and liberality,—and will long be distinguished as one of the most important in the kingdom. His collection of English portraits is made in imitation, as we have heard, of the collection formed by Lord Clarendon and described by Evelyn. He invariably bought what was genuine and good. On the walls of his houses are still to be seen Cowley as a shepherd boy, by Sir Peter Lely,—Wycherley, by Lely,—Otway, by Mrs. Beale,—Butler, by Soest,—Pope, by Richardson,—Dr. Johnson, by Sir Joshua,—Burke, by Sir Joshua,—Southey, by Sir Thomas Lawrence,—Byron, by Phillips, and Wordsworth, by Pickersgill. The face of Sir Walter Scott is there represented in the bust by Chantrey; differing materially, and in some respects for the better, from the earlier marbles at Abbotsford and at Apsley House.

His encouragement of native Art was liberal and active. After King George the Fourth, he was the most munificent patron that Sir Thomas Lawrence ever had. Wilkie enjoyed his friendship; and the picture of 'John Knox Preaching,' one of the most important of the artist's works in his later style, was a commission of his giving. Nor was his encouragement restricted to one or two favourite painters only of the English school. Some of the largest and most valuable commissions received by Collins were of his giving. Robert's large picture of the 'Departure of the Israelites' adorns the walls of Drayton Manor; and the picture by Mr. Clarkson Stanfield in the present Royal Academy Exhibition to which the place of honour has been assigned was expressly painted for Sir Robert Peel. When Drayton shall be visited hereafter—as it often will be for the sake of its founder—the portraits of Chantrey and Wilkie will be looked on with no less interest than the heads of Sir Robert Walpole, Mr. Pitt, Mr. Canning, and the Duke of Wellington; and whenever the history of Art in this country shall be written, and the fate of Haydon related, the timely relief which the sympathy and munificence of Sir Robert Peel extended in the hour of need to the pressing necessities of that clever but misguided artist will make a part of the narration.

Sir Robert's appreciation of persons distinguished in the several paths of science was not less discriminating and sincere. For the place at Greenwich which Mr. Airy fills with so much honour to his country he is indebted to Sir Robert Peel. Mrs. Somerville and Mr. Faraday owe the pensions they enjoy to the same friendly minister; and the Deanery of Westminster was bestowed by him on Dr. Buckland.

In short, while the prominent facts and features of Sir Robert Peel's life and character took him out of that world within which it is our place to expatiate, he was yet linked to it by many a tie which will be long remembered,—and for this sudden bereavement there are many mourners going about its streets.

#### GREAT INDUSTRIAL EXHIBITION OF 1851.

##### The Park Question.

It is possible that the Commissioners have by this time found out the serious mistake into which they have been led by their Building Committee,—even if they fail to see the injustice which has been done to English architects by that body in the process of carrying out their views. The huge dome which they proposed to rear up has already fallen upon their heads in a way they could hardly have expected; and has thereby in all probability averted a much greater calamity—that of its falling on the heads of the people. Out of the great Babel which they projected, with its tower whose top was to "reach unto the heavens," has arisen a confusion of tongues before which we hope the Building Committee will be dispersed,—that the work of providing a home for the Exhibition may be entrusted to some clear-headed practical man, with a single direct responsibility and without a crotchet. If we get, and speedily, an intelligible and appropriate whole instead of a "great feature," good will have come out of one of those unmeaning outcries which in this free and talkative country arise, one scarcely knows how, to mar or impede all projects of more than ordinary greatness or utility.

For months and months past this Industrial Exhibition in Hyde Park has been the theme of a wide and earnest discussion, in town and in country, by tongue and by type. The various topics connected with its principle and management have been argued on their various sides,—and the questions respecting them have one by one gradually settled into accepted conclusions. There is scarcely a point presented by the project which has not undergone the process of question and answer. Objectors, friendly and unfriendly, have turned the matter over every way in search of its weak places;—but to no one of them all did it occur that the intended site of the Exhibition presented ground that was assailable or that needed defence. The locality seemed a thing that was adopted on all hands,—a part of the proposition,—a postulate of the project. "The Industrial Exhibition in Hyde Park" was the accepted title of a scheme whose conditions friend and foe betook themselves to consider or to wrangle about,—and to that complete proposition all the processes of argument adapted themselves and all the resulting conclusions have been fitted. All matters of detail have grown into shape around this central and entire and unquestioned intention. Suddenly, when all the other bones of contention have been consumed,—when the figure of the project stands, as it were, ready and proportioned and attired before Europe,—when the name of the Prince, on the faith of the people, has been attached to programmes that have this site as an essential clause,—when plans and specifications have been constructed and circulated on that understanding, and acted on accordingly,—when details which demand nice adaptation have been determined according to the prescriptions of the place,—when ground has been cleared and broken,—and when the time is so far spent that any necessity for doing these things over again would endanger the whole scheme and place the nation in an attitude of intolerable humiliation before the world,—arises, faintly at first, but waxing loud and impudent as it grows accustomed to its own sound, one of those interested cries which, clothed in a form of plausibility, too often catch the disinterested ear, and



warp the public judgment to a private gain. The aristocratic gentlemen, forsooth, whose windows look upon the Park—who have taken long and costly leases that they may have the perennial enjoyment of its sylvan beauties—who fancy that somehow there is a sort of separate and peculiar enjoyment of this public property which their money has the right to purchase for their private selves—cannot bear that the people should come into the people's park for the people's own great occasion. Then, the people are to be fooled to their faces in the name of their own wisdom,—stripped of their right by men who seek to cover the act by calling out "highwaymen." Under the plea that this great space is to be kept sacred to their holidays, they are entreated to retire from it on the greatest and longest and most general holiday that they will have had for many a long year. Why, no more impudent argument was ever offered by exclusiveness for its own ends than that which urges against this appropriation of the Park the reason, that it will be thronged by the people. The very fact that it is their natural and healthy resort, reached easily and at no expense, would be of itself a reason if there were no other—as there are a thousand—why this should be the site of the great popular Exhibition. The aristocrats have shows and pageanties and resources of their own: most of them have private parks and villas to which they can retire if the sight of a busy and happy crowd offend them. The multitude are not interested in maintaining, as against themselves, the fancied privilege for which these gentlemen say they have been charged in their leases. But this is the people's park,—and let the people on to the green sward, to enjoy it! Here, where there are ample space and free air and verdant glades and leafy recesses—all to be reached without quitting London and without the cost of land or water carriage—the thousands of artisans and manufacturers and the tens of thousands of foreigners may daily assemble at their ease—without crowding and without fatigue—in that grandest of all the congresses which the world has ever seen.—In the sense of constant and extensive occupation, the Champs Elysées in Paris is far more the people's privileged place of resort than the habits of our English public have ever allowed Hyde Park to be; and yet for all gatherings of this and similar kinds the Champs Elysées is chosen as a matter of course. Why? Precisely because it is the public's place of resort.—Where the people do, or can, most readily congregate, there is the place for this Exhibition. And what if the greensward may lose something of its greenness beneath the tread of myriad feet? Nature is a beneficent providence, and will soon repair in this respect the ravages of man. The people is by no means such a monster as the lords and gentlemen whose windows look into the Park may think it,—and will neither rifle the trees nor taint the breeze. A temporary depreciation of the green hue of the Park is a small price to pay for the advantages which this site yields to the occasion in a degree that no other possibly can.

But there is another view of the case which is not without its cogency. The people have to consider not only themselves,—but their guests. Seeing what a company they have invited for 1851, they can scarcely receive it anywhere else than in the best drawing-room—even if they should spoil the carpet. It will scarcely become England to treat the Universe, Timon-fashion, "to smoke and luke-warm water." The noblest site that London can afford is not too good for the occasion.—To say nothing of the bad compliment involved in the choice of an inferior situation, we would desire doubtless that our metropolis should appear to the best advantage in the eyes of foreigners. What sort of impression will the merchants and princes who will visit us carry back to their beautiful cities from habitual consorting in the swamps at Battersea, amid the dreary desolation of Wormwood Scrubs, or amongst the amenities of Whitechapel or Battle Bridge? If chance should show them that we have better sites, what will they think of the courtesy and hospitality which sent them *thither*?—Really, we think this Park question and the arguments on which it has

been maintained exhibit a paltriness of spirit miserably out of keeping with the magnificence that has brought the world to our doors.

It is greatly to be regretted that a certain powerful portion of the press should have lent itself to the support of this selfish cry.—However, for this sudden and mischievous disturbance to their proceedings the Commissioners have themselves only (in the person of their Building Committee) to blame. Their absurd doings have furnished the only argument beyond the selfish one on which it was possible for the objection against the Park to have been maintained. To the proposition—"if the Park be so improper a site, why did you not tell us so before?"—the answer has been already given—to this effect. "We never till now had an idea that you contemplated such a structure as would imply permanent occupation. We cannot for a moment believe you capable of such folly as that of intending to erect a building infinitely more costly than the occasion demands with no view beyond the occasion. We have no belief in your rearing this vast and useless dome without a purpose of hereafter—as, indeed, you hint—finding some use for it. We know now for the first time that you come into the Park in the name of the people's Exhibition, to hold the Park afterwards against the people."—For ourselves, we confess the reason to be a good one,—and the Commissioners have to make the best of it. Perhaps they see now that their Building Committee has stultified them. However, it is not too late, we hope, to mend matters. *They* who say that the fear of a permanent invasion of the Park is the reason why they object now to what they found no objection to before,—of course say, if the fear be removed so is the objection. If satisfied on this head, they must either withdraw their resistance altogether, or else admit that the ground put forward was only one *found* for the occasion, and that they are in the predicament of objecting at this late and inconvenient hour to that site which they had before considered as "offering peculiar advantages." If the public, by all its organs, have acquiesced till change becomes, if not impossible, surrounded by inconveniences, then, the public must submit, in preference, to the other inconvenience which it did not see in time.—Well, then, both the Minister in the House of Commons and the Commissioners in their 'Memorandum of the Grounds on which the Site has been selected' made in return to an order of that House, have pledged themselves that the occupation of the Park is meant to be only temporary. The contracts include conditions for the removal of the building within a specified time after the closing of the Exhibition.—There is an end, we presume, of the opposition. A loan of the Park by the people to themselves is all that is intended.

It remains for the Commissioners to do their part. Since the dome will have to come down again, it is their business to see that it never goes up. Let them get quit, in all courtesy, of their Building Committee and its "great feature." Indeed, in the discussions in both Houses on Thursday night we detect, as we fancy, a hidden and very natural disgust with the last,—and a determination to take leave of it under civil forms. "The Commissioners point out that no expense is to be incurred for merely ornamental purposes, *unless* it should be thought desirable to select a dome for covering in the large space which must necessarily be left in the centre of the building to suit the internal arrangements. A cheaper mode of covering in this space will probably be resorted to; and the Commissioners have directed that a special estimate of the cost of the dome should be laid before them when the tenders are complete, in order that they may judge of the propriety of sanctioning its erection." That will do. Since they put the issue on the expense, we have no fear of the result:—though we think they might also inquire, should the inquiry need carrying any further, how far they dare take the responsibility of assembling the world beneath such a structure to be raised from its foundations between now and the 1st of January next? Let them, then, we repeat, delegate some large-minded and experienced man—Mr. Robert Stephenson, if they will—to construct a home for the Exhibition, simple in its forms, simple in its

materials, and costing that sum—and no more—which may perfectly fit it to the great objects for which it is designed.

#### MR. LEIGH HUNT'S THEORY OF THEATRICAL SUCCESS.

THERE are two passages in the 'Autobiography' of Mr. Leigh Hunt that, in my opinion, singularly lack that toleration and charity which so very abundantly distinguish that gentleman's last published account between the world and himself. Mr. Hunt, it appears, has failed to obtain a stage for certain dramas which he has written. Managers reject them because, according to the implied reasons of Mr. Hunt, he is not a journalist—is not "one of the leaders in *Punch*." Permit me to give Mr. Hunt's words.—

"A manager confessed the other day that he would never bring out a new piece, if he could help it, as long as he could make money enough by old ones. He laughed at every idea of a management but a commercial one; and held at naught the public wish for novelty, provided he could get as many persons to come to his theatre as would fill it. Being asked why he brought out anything new, when such were his opinions, he complained that people connected with the press forced the compositions of themselves and their friends upon him; and being asked what he meant by '*forced*,' he replied, that the press would make a dead set at his theatre if he acted otherwise, and so ruin him."

Then follows the subjoined note in the index:—

"Owing to an accident of haste at the moment, the following remark was omitted after the words '*so ruin him*,' in vol. 3, p. 256:—I know not, it is true, how far a manager might not rather have invited than feared a dramatist of so long a standing, and of such great popularity, as Douglas Jerrold; but it is to be doubted whether even Douglas Jerrold, with all his popularity and all his wit to boot, would have found the doors of a theatre opened to him with so much facility, had he not been a journalist, and one of the leaders in *Punch*."

Within the last five years I have written two comedies, both produced by Mr. Webster—as Mr. Hunt would imply—in timid deference to the Journalist and one of the leaders in *Punch*:—Mr. Hunt moreover assuming that the dramatist, as one of the aforesaid leaders, would have used his pen as a poisoned quill against the interests of the denying manager! I will not trust myself with a full expression of the scorn that rises within me at this surprising assumption on the part of Mr. Leigh Hunt; who, it is clear to me, with all his old before-the-curtain experience, knows little of the working of a theatre. Otherwise, he would readily allow that the treasurer is the really potent critic; the night's and week's return at the doors, not the morning or weekly article, the allowed theatrical voucher to the value of the dramatist. Yet, in the opinion of Mr. Hunt, it is the despotism of the play-writer, when connected with a journal, that forces on a manager the acceptance of a comedy,—moreover condemning him to act the unprofitable production some ninety successive nights:—the audience, it would seem, bowing to the tyrannous infliction of the play, in deference to the journalist and "one of the leaders in *Punch*."

Before I was out of my teens it was my misfortune to be compelled to write for the minor theatres; at a time when even large success at these despised places—degraded by a monopoly that has ceased to exist—was most injurious to the endeavours of the young dramatist desirous of obtaining an original hearing at the patent houses, which, at the time and in their treasury stress, were making free use of the very "minor" drama of the unacknowledged aspirant. I have served full three apprenticeships to the English drama; and though even its best rewards haply fall very short of the profits of a master cotton-spinner, they have never in my case—I can assure Mr. Hunt—been levied on the fears of a manager with a threat of—"Your stage, or my journal."

With every wish to maintain an esteem for Mr. Hunt as a writer—an esteem that dates from my earliest boyhood—I must protest against his painstaking use of my dramatic success—such as it has been—as an illustration of the injustice set down to Mr. Hunt's old brotherhood of journalists; namely, that they would make "a dead set" against any manager who should refuse to risk his treasury on their stage experiments! An odd compliment this, at parting, from the first editor of the *Examiner* to the journalists of 1850!

It is a pity in the summing up of his literary



life—a life that has been valuable to letters and to liberty—that Mr. Hunt should have sought the cause of his own stage disappointments in the fancied stage tyranny and meanness of others. Pity, that his ink, so very sweet in every other page of his 'Autobiography,' should suddenly curdle in the page dramatic. I remain, &c.

July 4.

DOUGLAS JERROLD.

#### FOREIGN CORRESPONDENCE

Paris.

THE Academy of Moral and Political Sciences held its public Annual Meeting on the 15th of last month, under the presidency of M. Barthélemy St. Hilaire; and the most casual observer would have safely concluded after a hasty glance at the crowded assembly that one of those intellectual treats of which Parisians of both sexes are so fond was expected. Such a select auditory had evidently not been attracted by the mere prospect of a Report on the compositions which had competed for the prizes this year, or the programme of subjects to be treated by future candidates. To a stranger, however, even this part of the proceedings must have been interesting; showing, as it did, how deeply the intellectual soil of France is ploughed up daily, and how boldly principles considered elsewhere too fundamental to be questioned are here freely subjected to the dangerous ordeal of public discussion. A circumstance has recently occurred, however, which would indicate that the attempts made some years ago by a certain party to limit (in the interests of the Church) philosophical inquiry, are likely to be renewed against a science which professes to subject commercial institutions to that free examination that Philosophy applies to institutions of a political or even a higher order—I mean Political Economy. The United Councils of Agriculture, Commerce, and Manufactures, which had not been convoked since 1846, have held a session at the Luxembourg, filling the very seats which have been successively occupied by the Peers of Louis Philippe and the Delegates of Louis Blanc. Among many resolutions indicating a spirit of liberal reform, one discrepancy appears. The meeting has officially expressed a desire that "Political Economy should no longer be taught by professors remunerated by the State, according to the theories of Free Trade,—but in accordance with facts and the legislation which regulates French Industry." This pretension to interfere with the liberty of Professorship, and to subordinate principles to transitory facts, is not likely to be allowed in a country where the right of free examination has become a national dogma; but it shows a re-action among a certain influential class against speculative science which I have thought worth pointing out, and which might, if it were persevered in, lead France further back than is generally supposed. The Academy of Moral and Political Sciences, on the other hand, stipulates that the Memoirs presented should treat moral and political subjects in a mode essentially theoretical and speculative; but in a country where the word of to-day may be the deed of to-morrow, it is difficult to draw a definite line of demarcation between the speculative and the real, the theoretical and the practical. The fact is, that notwithstanding its affected reserve and its boasted scientific neutrality, the Academy since the day when it first responded to the call of the Executive, and began the publication of its "Petits Traités," has never ceased to grapple with the questions which are so expressively termed here "burning questions." The whole programme for future candidates is a challenge to, or I should perhaps say a crusade against, Socialism. The "Extinction of Pauperism," the "Utility of the Intervention of the State in Industrial Associations," and a "Critical Examination of those modern systems which make the happiness and improvement of mankind consist in the gratification of their desires, and consider the Passions as the source as well as the standard of men's rights,"—are among the subjects proposed; and the only prize awarded this year was given to M. Koenigswarter, for his Essay describing "The divers phases of the organization of *la Famille* [that untranslatable expression] in France, from the most remote period down to the present day."

After a short speech from the President, recalling—as all presidents' speeches always do—the extreme usefulness of that particular Society of which he is the President, and the happiness of any nation in possessing such an Institution, the real business of the day commenced; and M. Mignet, the Secrétaire Perpétuel, was called on to read his notice on the Life and Works of Cabanis. It is somewhat strange that this accustomed academical tribute should not have been before paid to the memory of Cabanis since the re-establishment of this section of the National Institute in 1832. Founded by the Convention only, it has not the illustrious genealogy of the Académie Française to boast of, and Cabanis was one of its most distinguished members. Indeed, the work which has given celebrity to his name, 'Rapport du Physique et du Moral de l'Homme,' was first published in the shape of twelve Memoirs addressed to the Classe des Sciences Morales et Politiques. Cabanis has, however, been fortunate in the choice of his panegyrist. Although it is now nearly thirty years since M. Mignet and his friend and literary colleague, M. Thiers, left Aix, their native town, for the capital, the former has preserved his Provençal accent to a very perceptible degree; he is, however, notwithstanding this slight drawback, a very agreeable reader and a great favourite with that portion of the public which frequents academical solemnities. His sterling literary merits are doubtless great. His 'History of the French Revolution'—his 'Life of Antonio Perez'—the various collections of historical documents which his situation as Archiviste des Affaires Étrangères has enabled him to publish,—and more than all, the fragments which have appeared of his stupendous work on the Reformation,—give him high claims to public esteem. The secret of his popularity lies chiefly, however, in the numerous biographies, essays, and memoirs which he has been called on from time to time to compose, as a member of two Academies,—and which have kept him before the public, while they afforded him an opportunity of displaying one of the peculiar features of his talent. M. Mignet possesses to a remarkable degree the rare faculty of giving a clear and impartial analysis of any theory or system, and of making it intelligible in a very few words to an auditory possessing no previous knowledge—or, perhaps what is worse, possessing an erroneous notion—on the subject. The public is always grateful for that lucidity of expression the first gratifying effect of which is to raise an auditory in its own esteem. In M. Mignet's Memoir on Sièyes, and in that on Broussais, this power was conspicuously displayed; and on the present occasion it was more than ever called for. The works of Cabanis treat of matters which it is not given to every one to render interesting or even intelligible to the unlearned. His name, too, is erroneously connected in many minds with ideas of the grossest Materialism,—which was likely to create a prejudice. On the whole, the subject required dextrous handling. I could not but reflect that one of the earliest productions of M. Mignet, the success of which brought him first into notice, was an eulogy of Saint Louis, which was crowned in 1821 by the Académie des Inscriptions, and compare involuntarily his first with this last biographical attempt. Worlds as well as ages seem to divide the royal crusader of the thirteenth from the pantheistical philosopher of the eighteenth century,—yet both have received justice at the hands of their impartial biographer.

M. Mignet has not fallen into a very common and perhaps an amiable error, which consists in gratuitously endowing with our own principles and opinions any person in whom we are constrained to recognize superior qualities and undeniable virtues. Many people, starting from the precept that men cannot gather grapes from thorns nor figs from thistles, and from a rather more questionable axiom of their own, that every plant growing elsewhere than in their own peculiar garden must be a thorn or a thistle, either stubbornly deny the excellence of all exotic fruit, or persist in tracing some hidden root, however feeble, into their own orthodox soil. In the case of Cabanis, the facts are these. A life of half a century devoted exclusively to study and to the relief of his

fellow-creatures depose in favour of his moral principles,—his works as clearly expose his pantheistical doctrines. These facts M. Mignet sought neither to palliate nor to disguise. In one respect Cabanis differed widely from the unbelievers of the Voltaire and Diderot school: his irreligion was neither aggressive nor rebellious in spirit. He attacked no man's belief, but simply exposed his own. As to the interest which his biography presents, a hasty sketch will suffice to show how attractive it would necessarily become in able hands.

George Cabanis, the son of a well-known agriculturist, was born in 1757, at Conac, in the Limousin. The chief result of his father's studies in rural economy which has been handed down to posterity, is the introduction into his native province of the potato, in spite of the opposition of the Limousin peasants. But whatever his acquirements may have been, his judicious, though somewhat eccentric treatment of his son shows him to have been a man gifted with more than ordinary penetration and judgment. The boy, who had given promise of great abilities, appeared suddenly, under the severe discipline of his first school, to have lapsed into idleness and stubbornness, from which he was roused only when the progress of his studies threw him into more indulgent hands. His alternatives of studious ardour and wilful supineness seem to have succeeded each other as the different classes through which he went placed him under severe or mild tuition. When no compulsion was used he was always a willing scholar, and to a self-imposed rule he was rigidly submissive. One of his rebellious moods having seized him when he had just attained his fourteenth year, he contrived to get expelled from the school which he considered a prison; and his father, convinced that independence was as necessary in this case as restraint is salutary in others, decided on a somewhat hazardous experiment. George Cabanis was conducted to Paris, and, at an age when other boys are still under strict control, was left entirely at liberty to pursue his studies in his own way. As far as intellectual culture was concerned, the success of the measure was complete. During two years Cabanis devoured a mass of reading which might have sufficed for the lives of many men. He not only repaired the defects of his early education, and made himself acquainted with the literature of his own country—but the Greek and Latin classics, Philosophy and Metaphysics were studied in turn, and all with equal ardour. After two years of intense but delightful study, he was suddenly recalled home by his father. The prospect was death to the young and eager student, and he joyfully embraced the only mode of escape which offered. He accepted a proposal from the Bishop of Wilna, and became his secretary,—preferring the hazards of a life among strangers to the obscurity of his native province. In the year 1773 Poland presented a sad spectacle, which seems to have made a profound and most painful impression on the sensitive mind of Cabanis. He witnessed the anarchy, invasion, and dismemberment of expiring Poland, and watched with all the generous indignation of youth the disgraceful scenes enacted at the Diet which ratified its country's dishonour. After two years of absence, he returned with a premature contempt for human nature, and a disposition to melancholy, which he never completely overcame. His father's friend Turgot was at that time the minister of Louis XVI.; and there seemed a chance of his obtaining a situation fitted to his talents, when the intrigues of the Court unexpectedly overthrew his protector. A few years were spent—and perhaps I should say lost—in literary occupations without any definite object; in desultory studies, and in occasional trifling with the muses, of which some fragments of a rather unpoetical translation of the Iliad are the chief memorial. Time was wearing on; and Cabanis, pressed by his father to embrace a profession, might long have hesitated, unsettled as he was by the universality of his tastes, had not chance decided the question. Ill health made him a physician, by drawing to his bed-side Dubreuil, one of the most eminent practitioners of the day. To an experienced eye it was soon evident that the disorder of the patient was seated in the imagination, and that



ill-digested reading and over study had produced a restlessness of spirit which could be cured only by directing all the energies of an ardent mind into some useful channel. Dubreuil prescribed the study of the natural sciences, and of medicine in particular; and during six years kept his chosen pupil under his own direction. It was at this period that Cabanis conceived a truly filial attachment for the amiable and venerable widow of Helvetius, and that he met in her society the men who were to influence him so powerfully—Diderot, d'Alembert, Thomas, Condillac, Franklin and Condorcet. This little knot of philosophers used to meet in her house at Auteuil. Madame Helvetius bequeathed this house to Cabanis; and a second generation of men, of whom he was the instructor, as he had been the pupil of the preceding group, gathered around him there. He was a link between the eighteenth and the nineteenth centuries. This portion of the life of Cabanis furnished to M. Mignet the opportunity of presenting a piquant and attractive portrait of Madame Helvetius. In the intellectual harvests which the fertile fields of French literature have successively produced, each sheaf of celebrities appears to be bound up by some female name. Of late years it has been so usual on every possible occasion to pay an indirect compliment to Madame Récamier, that the substitution of a new name was a relief. I have no wish to ostracize the memory of the gentle friend of Benjamin Constant, Ballanche, and Chateaubriand, and am not weary of hearing her deservedly called the lovely and the amiable; but yet it was an agreeable surprise to find the claims of one of her predecessors recognized in an academical ceremony.

Cabanis had embraced the medical profession with a firm determination to consecrate to it all his talents and all his energies; and he took his farewell of the Muses in 1783 somewhat whimsically, by drawing up in verse (a free imitation of Hippocrates) the accustomed oaths on entering his profession. To this promise, poetical as it was, he strictly adhered; and as long as his health permitted, he exclusively devoted his talents to the improvement of the moral and physical condition of his fellow-creatures. In 1789, in his 'Observations on the Hospitals of Paris,' he first called attention to the disgraceful condition of the Hôtel-Dieu, "where two, four, and sometimes even six patients were placed in one bed,—often the sick with the dying or with the dead. He first suggested the necessity of keeping a journal of the disease of each patient, and advocated measures of gentleness in the treatment of madness. Nor was his solicitude for the body alone. Cabanis was one of the first to recommend the judicious application of solitary confinement as a punishment; and considering vice as a disease of which crime was the symptom, the physician deemed it within his province to prescribe for the treatment of vice and the cure of crime. An able treatise on public instruction by Cabanis was found amongst the papers of Mirabeau and published after his death. The Revolution came; and Cabanis embraced its first principles with ardour, but remained unsullied by its crimes. Mirabeau's seductive talents had captivated him from the first; and with the incredulity of an honest heart, he never could be brought to believe aught that could be injurious to the honour of his friend. When the Tribune lay on his death-bed, it was Cabanis who was intrusted with the care of prolonging a life on which seemed to hang the destinies of France. Royalty and Liberty looked alike to Mirabeau for support,—and Cabanis has left a curious account of his illness and death. The barricades erected by the people at both ends of the street that the noise of carriages might not disturb the dying man,—the crowds that stood waiting for each new bulletin,—the innumerable and desperate remedies proposed by obscure admirers,—and the offer of a young and healthy man, who, believing in the salutary effect of the transfusion of blood, offered his to fill the veins of Mirabeau,—are most effectively related. The whole narrative is indescribably striking; or, to use the somewhat ambitious phrase of M. Mignet, it is the "episode of a great death in the *épopée* of a great revolution." The Revolution rolled on; the days of philosophical theories of liberty were past, the

friends of Auteuil were proscribed or imprisoned, and Condorcet escaped the scaffold only by swallowing the poison which it is said the friendly and unscrupulous hand of Cabanis supplied. Cabanis, by confining himself more closely than ever within the sphere of his profession, escaped the dangers of that period. After the Convention came the Directory,—and Cabanis was made a member of the "Conseil des Cinq-Cents." The acquaintance which he had formed with Sièyes, who had been an occasional visitor at Auteuil, had refined into friendship; and the disgust which he felt for the Government induced him to join in the revolution of the 18th Brumaire, which threw the sway into the hands of Bonaparte. Cabanis was now a member of the Senate and a Commander of the Legion of Honour; but he was not a man to be blinded by honours, and he soon saw that his country with its new master had purchased order at the price of liberty. At a time when almost all France was subservient, the Auteuil school alone showed some opposition; and it was to punish this boldness on the part of the Idéologues, as he contemptuously termed them, that Napoleon, in 1803, suppressed the "Academy of Moral and Political Sciences,"—of which Cabanis and his friends were almost all members.

Cabanis took no further part in politics; but several medical works published during the few following years gave proof of his untiring zeal for science. In the spring of 1807 unmistakable symptoms warned him that the mind as well as the body required repose; and thenceforward he lived retired in his family, making the care of the sick and the poor of Auteuil his chief occupation. His apprehensions were well founded;—a second stroke of apoplexy carried him off in the following year, 1808. His death was considered as a public calamity by the whole indigent population of the surrounding villages; and his remains, which were interred in the Pantheon with public honours, were followed to the grave not only by the authorities of the day, but by a numerous train of grateful mourners. F.P.

#### OUR WEEKLY GOSSIP.

It is only last week that we said that gold seemed likely, "if all tales be true," to become the commonest produce of the soil of the earth. Rumour is flying about the world in the character of Midas, turning everything she touches on to gold. It is very curious that, whereas a few years ago gold was hardly anywhere to be found, we may now find it wherever we please to turn. What a weary waste of time, and toil, and watching, and aspiration the alchemists expended on that which it would seem they might have had in abundance if they had only turned up the floors of their cells! The axis of the earth and all her cogs are visibly of gold. The worship of the Golden Calf is about to cease throughout the world. The veriest Chelsea pensioner may soon rival Miss Kilmansegg in the possession of a golden leg. Mother Goose's bird is disenchanted;—the poetry is gone from Pactolus. We should like to see it laid down on our maps which is *not* the Gold Coast. The fairies—if there be any left, since the steam-whistle rang through valleys, and the iron horse plunged into the hearts of hills—must find some other mode of tempting man than the false coin with which of old they lured him to perdition. The entrance into the land of happy dreams will be no longer through the Golden Gate. The poetical, like the material, currency will have to undergo a change.—We have been led to these anticipations by the turning up of a new gold district—or rather, of an ancient one. The discovery of a second El Dorado seems to have set the old one on re-asserting itself. A gold region has been detected on a spot supposed to be identical with the dream-land of Sir Walter Raleigh. The *Port of Spain Gazette* publishes a circular, copies of which had just reached Trinidad, headed, says the *Times*, "*El Oro del Yururay*," and announcing the discovery of such a region in the republic of Venezuela. "It sets forth that one Señor Pedro Monasterio, an inhabitant of the province of Barquesimeto, had just arrived from Upata, bringing with him intelligence that rich auriferous grounds

existed in the vicinity of the Yururay rivers, and producing visible tokens of the authenticity of the fact in the shape of samples of the precious mineral to the amount of 150 ounces. These are stated to be composed of grains of various sizes; some of which are as large as lentils or grains of coffee, and some so large as to exceed half an ounce in weight. The standard of the ore is represented as being of the highest purity, being of 24 carats. A postscript appended to this document makes the further announcement, that since the departure of Señor Monasterio the discovery has been successfully followed up.—There is hope, then, that all the cupidity of the world need not gravitate towards California.

It is really interesting, amidst the violence of the gold fever which is raging, to find a body of men directly exposed to its infection retaining their self-possession and escaping unhurt. We gave our readers an account some weeks ago of the hunt for gold which had been making in the rivers of Australia, —and with what success; and stated that companies were, in consequence, forming to wash the sands of the Okaparinga and the Torrens. The South Australian Company in London held its annual meeting a few days since; and the explanations on this subject given by the Chairman we quote from the City article of the *Times*, for the contrast which they afford to the rabid spirit that everywhere else hovers over the gold mines. He said that "Neither the board nor their officers had been affected by the great mineral speculation which had been carried out in South Australia. It was, nevertheless, well known that the colony possessed vast mineral resources; and as their land had presented indications, they had considered it right to test them to ascertain whether that branch of industry would secure any additional revenue. The two prizes of the Burra Burra and the Kapunda, which had resulted from mining adventure, while it incited them to prove their own resources, had not induced them to enter into the general field of speculation. The value of their land had already improved, and was to a certain extent gradually increasing. With respect to the gold discoveries, there was no doubt of the auriferous nature of the sands of the Torrens and the Okaparinga; and it was merely with the view of ascertaining what proportion of the precious metal they contained that the experiments explained in the report were being carried out. Unless it were found that the yield of gold was sufficient to leave a large profit, the directors would not for a moment encourage gold workings."

The Catalogue of the British Museum Library has formed during the present week the subject of a brisk brief fire in the House of Commons. Mr. Hume and Sir H. Verney were the chief speakers against Mr. Panizzi,—Mr. Fox Maule and Sir David Dundas his principal defenders. Mr. Hume said something with a meek about the distant prospect which 1895 presented for the completion of the Catalogue; whereupon Sir David Dundas observed, "If they wanted the work well done, and to have a catalogue for all ages, it would not be unreasonable if it were not finished before 1895." How can that be called a catalogue for all ages of which the age that pays for it cannot obtain the use? If others, however, would speak out as plainly as Sir David Dundas, it is probable that we should find less difficulty in dealing with the question. If the defenders of the Panizzi Catalogue *versus* a Catalogue for the present century would thus boldly "take the bull by the horns," we think, strong as they are, he would toss them.

The doubt expressed last week [see *ante*, p. 692.] by our correspondent "Amicus Curiae" respecting the name of Mr. Wedgwood's partner would seem to be confirmed, and the extent of Mr. Marryat's mistake explained [see *ante*, p. 660] by the following quotation from Garner's 'Natural History of the County of Stafford,' with which a Correspondent has obligingly furnished us. The book in question contains a memoir of Wedgwood, which, as our Correspondent observes, may be said to have been written on the spot.—"Previously to this, Wedgwood had taken Mr. Bentley, a descendant of the famous critic, into partnership: a man of classical



learning and elegant taste, whose connexions with the aristocracy of talent as well as rank were of the utmost advantage to the progress of Wedgwood. And it is related that the partners themselves commenced potting operations at their new manufactory (Etruria) with their own hands,—Mr. Bentley turning the wheel, whilst Wedgwood threw some vases and other vessels. One of these, an imitation of an ancient *terra cotta* vase, now deposited in the incipient North Staffordshire Museum, bears the following inscription:—“June XIII, MDCCLXIX. One of the first day's productions at Etruria, in Staffordshire, by Wedgwood and Bentley. Artes Etruriæ reascuntur.”—From this, it appears that Mr. Wedgwood had a partner of the name of Bentley,—but not that the latter “managed the business in London.” The inference is the other way; and our Correspondent “*Amicus Curie*,” who, as we said, appears to be familiar with the circumstances, is probably right in saying that the name of the London partner was Byerley.

In our notice last week of the proceedings of the Archæological Institute at Oxford, we should not have omitted to mention a paper read in the Historical Section by Mr. W. Sidney Gibson. It contained a memoir of Richard de Bury, Bishop of Durham, and Lord Chancellor of Edward the Third,—who is regarded as the first founder of the Library of the University of Oxford, and is author of the celebrated Treatise on the Love of Books. As Mr. Gibson has, we are informed, long been engaged in collecting materials for the history of this great prelate, we feel ourselves bound to make this addition to our report of the recent proceedings.

The Royal Geographical Society has just lost one of its most esteemed members. By a letter received from Sydney, the sudden death of Capt. Owen Stanley, R.N. (son of the late Bishop of Norwich) is announced.

The beautiful Chapel of the Blessed Virgin eastward of the old Priory Church of Tynemouth, has long fallen to uses which obscured its beauties and threatened them with final destruction. Latterly, it has been employed by the Ordnance authorities as a magazine for gunpowder. Some time since the Society of Antiquaries of Newcastle memorialized the Lords of the Treasury for its restoration to the officers of the parish church,—and were seconded by the Architectural Society of Durham and supported by the Bishop of the diocese. This application has, we learn, been successful:—possession of the interesting little edifice having been yielded as required on Monday last. Our Correspondent on the subject informs us that there is some hope of its now undergoing architectural restoration also.

We know not whether the farmer of Tom Thumb, the Lancashire bell-ringers, &c. is to be held responsible for all that the Barnums do by way of entertaining the American public: but we perceive that an “undertaker” (thus freely to translate the French word) bearing that name has caged the rapping ghost and set it a-going in his “best room”—though not, it is mysteriously added, for the purposes of base exhibition.—The following is transcribed *verbatim* from a Transatlantic newspaper.—

*The Mysterious Rappings.*—The daughters of Mrs. Fish, of Rochester, who are singularly accompanied by what some consider a spiritual influence, which gives token of its presence by a peculiar rapping, have arrived in this city, and taken lodgings at Barnum's Hotel. They came down in the Empire on Wednesday last, and though they do not mean to give any public exhibitions of the mysterious phenomena, they will submit the subject to the private investigations of scientific persons and friends.

We should think that these knocking Fishes and their investigating friends must rather be a disturbance to unscientific lodgers on the same floor, who “rap” not. The idea of young ladies bringing their mysterious ghosts with them in their work-bags to public hotels gives us notions and feelings with regard to spiritual visitations which are jocose and exciting rather than solemn.—But the folly of these shows only deepens the shame of those who by countenancing them provoke their exhibition.

The *École de Droit* in Paris has lost an eminent teacher in the person of M. du Caurroy, Professor

of Roman Law in that institution. M. du Caurroy was only fifty-five years of age when suddenly carried off by apoplexy. “He leaves behind him,” says the *Journal de Débats*, “great works, numerous pupils, and the worthiest of memories.”

The papers of the same capital mention a very narrow escape which has happened to two adventurous men of science. M. Barral, Professor of Chemistry, and M. Bixio, determining to pursue in the highest regions of the air to which they could attain the series of observations to which M. Gay Lussac has attached his name, ascended in a balloon at a quarter past ten in the morning, in presence of several members of the Academy of Sciences and other scientific men. They seem, however, to have been better qualified for making the observations which tempted them skyward than for steering their vehicle across the impalpable plains of space. Ascending with great rapidity, the rapid expansion of the gas threatened them with destruction,—when M. Barral seized a knife and made an opening in the balloon. The rent was so large that the unmanageable machine commenced a descent of a rapidity as dangerous as the alternative from which they had escaped. By dint of assiduously throwing over their ballast, they came to the ground with a shock which though violent was not fatal.—The projected experiments, of course, have not been made; and it is probable that if the savans in question have nerve to repeat the voyage, they will take with them an experienced pilot.

Among publications of interest in France, there is one of which our readers may be glad to have some account. The French Government some years since, we believe, formed the project of publishing a description of Algeria similar to that great work on Egypt which remains to France as her sole triumph from the Expedition to the country of the Pyramids. Men specially qualified in various departments were accordingly united into a scientific Commission, and charged with a careful examination of the African Province, geographically, archæologically, and in reference to the Natural Sciences. Discoveries of the highest interest are said to have rewarded the labours of this Commission. Everywhere—on the coast, and in the interior—in spots, says the *Journal des Débats*, on which it was not hitherto known that the Roman Eagle had alighted were found the traces of its feet. Inscriptions, tombs, roads, bridges, theatres, temples, and triumphal arches attest the complete possession and long occupation of ancient Numidia by the Conquerors of Carthage. For Algiers, archæology found her old name of Icosium,—Cherchell became once more, in her records, Julia Cæsarea,—and Bona yielded up the vast remains of Hippo Regia. Algeria, it is said, has proved more rich in Roman antiquities than the whole of Northern Italy. Such are the materials of that most interesting portion of this great national work which treats of the archæology of the subject:—and this portion, by M. Delamarre, is now in progress of publication in Paris.

ROYAL ACADEMY, TRAFALGAR SQUARE.  
The EXHIBITION of the ROYAL ACADEMY is NOW OPEN.—Admission (from Eight o'clock till Seven), 1s.; Catalogue, 1s.  
JOHN PRESCOTT KNIGHT, R.A., Secy.

BRITISH INSTITUTION, Pall Mall.—The GALLERY, with a Collection of PICTURES by ANCIENT MASTERS and deceased BRITISH ARTISTS, is OPEN daily from Ten to Six.—Admission, 1s. Catalogue, 1s. GEORGE NICOL, Secretary.

SOCIETY OF PAINTERS IN WATER-COLOURS.—The FORTY-SIXTH ANNUAL EXHIBITION is NOW OPEN, at their Gallery, 5, Pall Mall East, each day from Nine till Dusk.—Admission, 1s. Catalogue, 6d. GEORGE FRIPP, Secretary.

THE NEW SOCIETY OF PAINTERS IN WATER-COLOURS.—The SIXTEENTH ANNUAL EXHIBITION of this Society is NOW OPEN, at their Gallery, 35, Pall Mall, near St. James's Palace. JAMES FAIRIE, Secretary.

PANORAMA of the NILE.—Additions have been made to this Exhibition.—The Nubian Desert, from the Second Cataract to Dongola—War Dance by Firelight—March of Coravan by Moonlight—Morning Prayer.—The Mummy of a High Priest is added to the curiosities. Both Banks of the River are shown in the Painting.—EGYPTIAN HALLO, PICCADILLY.—Daily, at Three and Eight o'clock.—Stalls, 3s., Pit, 2s., Gallery, 1s.; Children and Schools, Half-price.

PANORAMA of the LAKES of KILLARNEY.—JUST OPENED at BURFORD'S PANORAMA LOUNGE, Leicester Square, a VIEW of these celebrated and interesting LAKES, taken from Ross Castle, and comprising the numerous adjacent islands and surrounding beautiful scenery.—The VIEWS of the ARCTIC REGIONS and of POMPEII are also now open.—Admission, 1s. each view, or 2s. 6d. to the three. Schools, Half-price.—Open from Ten till dusk.

INDIA OVERLAND MAIL.—DIORAMA.—GALLERY of ILLUSTRATION, 11, Regent-street, Waterloo-place.—Additional Picture, MADRAS.—A Gigantic MOUNTING DIORAMA, ILLUSTRATING the ROUTE of the OVERLAND MAIL to INDIA, depicting every object worthy of notice on this highly-interesting journey from Southampton to Madras and Calcutta, accompanied by descriptive details and appropriate music, is now OPEN DAILY. Mornings at Twelve, Afternoons at Three, and in the Evening at Eight o'clock.—Admission, 1s.; Stalls, 2s. 6d.; Reserved Seats, 2s.—Doors open half-an-hour before each representation.

THE DIORAMA, Regent's Park.—Admission, One Shilling.—NOW OPEN, with the finest VIEWS ever exhibited in this country, representing the ROYAL CASTLE of STOLZENFELS, on the Rhine, (visited by Her Majesty Queen Victoria in August, 1845), and its Environs, as seen at Sunset and during a Thunder Storm; painted by NICHOLAS MEISLER, of Cologne. And the much-admired Picture of THE SHIRINE of THE NATIVITY, at Bethlehem; painted by the late M. BENOUX, from a Sketch made on the spot by DAVID ROBERTS, Esq. R.A., with moral and striking effects.

ROYAL POLYTECHNIC INSTITUTION.  
During this week the ALPINE SINGERS from Styria will perform several of their National Melodies, daily at Four, and in the Evening at Half-past Eight.—LECTURE, by J. H. PEARSON, on the APPARENT CONTRADICTIONS of CHEMISTRY, daily at a Quarter-past Three, and every Evening at Eight.—LECTURE, by DR. BACHHOFFNER on VOLTAIC ELECTRICITY, daily at Two, and every Evening at a Quarter-past Nine.—NEW SERIES of DESSOLVING VIEWS, illustrating some of the WONDERS of NATURE; also a Series, exhibiting SCENES in the ARCTIC REGIONS and CEYLON.—DIVER and DIVING BELL, &c. &c.—Admission, 1s.; Schools, Half-price.

## SOCIETIES

GEOGRAPHICAL.—*Closing Meeting.*—The President, Capt. W. H. Smyth, R.N., in the chair.—B. J. L. Frere, H. Parkes, Com. R. J. Fayrer, R.N., Lord Lonsborough, A. Dunlop, W. Jackson, and the Rev. R. Christmas were elected Fellows. Papers read were:—1. ‘Notes on the Kubbabish, or Camel Arabs,—nomadic tribes inhabiting the Desert between Dongola and Cordofan, by M. Parkyns, Esq.’ 2. ‘Geography of Eastern Africa,’ by Mr. MacQueen, with an account of the latest discovery, by the Rev. Mr. Krapf, of a snow-capped mountain to the N.W. of, and still higher than the renowned Kilimandjaro. 3. ‘Some information on the Northern Frontier of Nepal,’ by Lall Sing, (a member of the Nepalese Embassy at present in London,) collected and communicated by the Hon. H. E. J. Stanley. According to Lall Sing, the boundary-line of the north frontier of Nepal is incorrectly laid down in all our best maps, and should be moved further north. The line should leave the boundary (as at present laid down) at Gosangthan, from which place westwards both slopes of the main chain of the Himalaya belong to Nepal. The boundary then runs along a ridge to the north of the Himalaya, including Mustang, a place about thirty miles from the foot of Dhawalagiri, and much in resort among pilgrims. From Mustang the frontier continues west, including the valley of Humla with the head waters of the river Gogra. Lall Sing (who was present) stated, in answer to a question, that “the distance from the Nepal and Tibet frontier to the Bramaputra or Dsanpro, was about seven kos, fourteen miles.” The Bramaputra is at this place said to be about as wide as the Thames at London, and fordable in some places. The paper was accompanied by sketches of Nepal made during his stay in that country by Mr. J. E. Winterbottom, and by an original map of the Tibetan frontier by Mr. Strachey. The latter gentleman said that he had no doubt that the proposed alteration in our maps of the Nepal frontier would be found to be substantially correct. Judging from the portion of the Himalaya which he had visited, he thought it highly probable that Mustang was similarly situated to Milan or Nili; both of which are considerably to the north of the great snowy peaks in their vicinity. The watershed of the chain which forms the actual boundary between Tibet and the British Himalayan provinces, is a truly natural frontier, following a line twenty or thirty miles more to the north than the line of the great snowy peaks,—and the same thing would probably hold good in Nepal. Mr. Strachey exhibited, in the map hung up, the alterations in the Tibetan frontier which he had been enabled to lay down; and mentioned that his brother, Capt. H. Strachey, who had during the last two years been in Ladak, had collected materials for the construction of a new map of the western portion of Tibet, which would doubtless go far towards illustrating the geography of that part of Asia.

STRO-EGYPTIAN.—Dr. J. Lee in the chair.—The Chairman read extracts from manuscripts and books



in reference to Jaffer, a Mohammedan traveller in Africa.—Major Rawlinson presented the twelfth volume of the Journal of the Asiatic Society of Great Britain.—Mr. D. W. Nash read a paper 'On Cuneiform Inscriptions.' He endeavoured to show that the so-called Median inscriptions were conceived not in a Tartar dialect, as Major Rawlinson supposed,—but in a Semitic tongue, the language of the population of Western Asia prior to the supremacy of the Arian immigrants. This language, though not the modern Pehlvi, is its ancient representative, and the language not as M. Löwenstern supposes of merely the Southern Elymeans, but of the great substratum of the population of Persia and Media.—Mr. D. Sharpe offered remarks on the list of Assyrian kings whose succession and exploits are recorded in the Nineveh inscriptions translated by Major Rawlinson. Finding it impossible to identify their names with those recorded in history, Mr. Sharpe conjectures that many of the supposed names may be titles borne by several kings, and perhaps changed according to the provinces of the empire in which they were used. In failure of identifying the Nineveh kings by name, it only remains to endeavour to recognize them by their actions and order of succession. The history partially unveiled by Major Rawlinson bears so close a resemblance to that of the Assyrian and Babylonian monarchs who overran and finally overthrew the Jewish kingdom, as to suggest the following identification of the names of the two lists of Assyrian kings.—

A. From the Jewish and Greek Historians.

1. Pul.
2. Not mentioned.
3. Tiglath-Pileser.
4. Shalmaneser.
5. Sennacherib.
6. Esar-Haddon or Sargon.
7. Sarrac or Samuges.
- Change of Dynasty.
8. Nabopolassar.
9. Nebuchadnezzar.
10. Evil-merodach.
11. Neglisar.
12. Nabonadius or Belshazzar.

B. From the Nineveh Marbles.

1. Temenbar.
2. Hevenk.
3. Kati-bar.
4. Assar-adan-pul.
5. Temenbar II.
6. Husi-hem.
7. Hevenk II.
- Change of Dynasty.
8. Artiko-sin.
9. Bel-adoni-sha.
10. Assar-adan-assar.
11. Son of No. 10.
12. Son of No. 11.

In the two lists the number of kings nearly corresponds, the change of dynasty occurs at the same place, and the most important names stand opposite to one another. Nabopolassar and his successors were Babylonians:—it is probable that Artiko-sin was a Babylonian, as he dedicated the town of Khorsabad to Bel and Nebo, divinities of Babylon, not of Assyria; and his successor's name, Bel-adoni-sha, is also Babylonian. The principal coincidences lie between Sennacherib and Temenbar II., whose conquests are the same, and whose repeated invasions of Palestine correspond most minutely. —If the above scheme be correct, the Nineveh marbles in the British Museum belong principally to Sennacherib, and Nabopolassar, the father of Nebuchadnezzar.

ENTOMOLOGICAL. —W. Spence, Esq. V.P. in the chair.—J. Lubbock, Esq., and the Rev. H. Clark were elected members, and J. Walker, Esq. was elected a subscriber.—The President announced that the Council had appointed Mr. E. W. Janson Curator to the Society. Mr. S. Stevens exhibited living specimens of *Gracilia minuta*, with the willow basket lid in which they had bred; also *Sericoris littorana* reared from thrift (*Statice armeria*) growing below Gravesend, and *Elachista rufocinerea* and *E. cerusella* taken in copula. He also exhibited a *Pseudocia funerella* taken early in June, near Kirkby Stephen, Westmoreland, by Mr. Hewitson.—Mr. Bond exhibited several *Pseudocia funerella* from Whittlesea Mere; also *Chilo mucronellus*, *Nascia ciliatilis*, *Eupithecia sparsata*, and *Zeuzera arundinis*, from the same locality.—Mr. J. F. Stephens exhibited pupa-cases of *Zeuzera arundinis* protruding from reeds in which the larvæ had fed; and Mr. Bond stated that the pupæ, although possessing but small spines, moved up and down the inside of the reeds with as much rapidity as the larvæ. Mr. Westwood said that he had seen cases of a Dipterous insect, probably a *Cecidomyia*, sticking out of reeds just in the same manner as these *Zeuzera*.—Mr. F. Smith said that having in former years found *Baris laticollis* at the

roots of *Sisymbrium officinale*, he searched for it again this season; but found, instead of those insects, some larvæ which he supposed to be those of *Leiosoma punctata*. He also stated that he had observed attached to the posterior segments of the abdomen of a common *Hydrobius* a receptacle containing eggs, one of which he had examined microscopically and found in it a living larva.—Mr. White read part of a biographical notice of Dr. Leach; and also a letter from Mrs. Hamilton in which the capture of a *Curculio*, probably *Acanthorhax longicornis*, in India, was recorded.—Mr. Westwood exhibited drawings of larvæ and pupæ of *Psyche nigricans*, found by Mr. Weaver in the New Forest; and stated that Mr. Weaver had taken two other species of *Psyche* new to Britain, —and in Scotland *Cetonia cenea* and *Pytho depressus*.—Mr. Westwood exhibited larvæ of *Lygæxylon navale* in wood from Pembroke Dockyard, where it had proved very destructive to Italian oak which had been lying there since 1846.—Mr. Westwood read a portion of a paper entitled 'Notes on Strepsiptera,' and exhibited drawings in illustration.—Mr. Stainton read a description of *Micropteryx aruncella*, Scopoli, as an addition to his monograph of the genus.

MEETINGS FOR THE ENSUING WEEK.

THURS. Zoological, 9.—Scientific Business.  
WED. Literary Fund, 4.  
SAT. Horticultural, 3.—Meeting at Chiswick.

PROF. DOVE'S MAPS OF THE MONTHLY ISOTHERMAL LINES OF THE GLOBE.

THESE Maps show the mean temperature, on Fahrenheit's scale, of every month in the year at 900 stations on the globe. They have been constructed at very great labour, on the basis of the most authentic meteorological observations made by competent parties during a series of years. We shall proceed to notice a few of the most important results arrived at by Prof. Dove.

Dividing the globe at the meridian of Ferro, and computing the temperature of the parallels east and west of that meridian at every ten degrees of latitude, it is found (with the exception of the latitudes of 70°) that the eastern half, which has the largest mass of land, is colder than the western half, the difference diminishing constantly as the equator is approached. Within the tropics the diminution of temperature in going northward takes place with great regularity. The average winter and summer temperature of the northern and southern hemispheres is shown in the following table:—

January	Northern Hemisphere	48° 8'
	Southern ditto	59 5
The Globe		54 15
July	Northern Hemisphere	71 0
	Southern ditto	53 6
The Globe		62 3

The temperature of the whole globe increases, therefore, fully 8° of Fahrenheit from January to July. Taking the mean between these months, we have as the mean temperature of the globe 58° 2'; as the mean temperature of the northern hemisphere 60°, and as that of the southern hemisphere 56° 4'. Prof. Dove observes:—"As when we move southwards we see the northern constellations sink, and the southern rise above the horizon, so the sun, on entering new signs in his annual course, overlooks constantly new portions of the earth's surface. This surface being a highly varied one, the sun's influence upon it is also constantly varying, for the impinging solar heat is employed in raising the temperature of substances which do not change their condition of aggregation; but when engaged in causing the melting of ice or the evaporation of water it becomes latent. When, therefore, the sun returning from its northern declination enters the southern signs, the increasing proportion of liquid surface upon which it shines causes a corresponding part of its heat to become latent, and hence arises the great periodical variation in the temperature of the whole globe which has been noticed."

We shall now briefly consider the monthly isothermal lines as laid down by Prof. Dove. Taking the temperature of 32° Fahrenheit, in January, the line drawn across the globe passes from Phil-

adelphia over the banks of Newfoundland, and through the southernmost part of Iceland up to the Polar circle, which it reaches in the meridian of Brussels. It thence descends perpendicularly, or in the direction of the meridian, to Holland, from whence it proceeds in a south-easterly direction to the Balkan: from the middle of the Black Sea it runs in a west and east course across Asia to the Corea, whence it rises to the Aleutian Islands, and descends again in America to the latitude of Palermo.

Thus, it appears that if we proceed in January from the Shetland Islands down the east coast of Great Britain to the channel, we do not alter the temperature, while with every step to the westward it becomes warmer, and that in no inconsiderable degree; since both the west coast of Ireland and the extreme point of Cornwall are beyond the line of 41° Fahrenheit.

In February the lines of equal temperature begin to move northward in Northern Asia, while in North America they are still moving southward. In March the spaces in America and Africa, inclosed by the isothermal of 81½° Fahrenheit, have united. In April two spaces of unusually high temperature, bounded by isothermals of 86° Fahrenheit, are developed in the middle of Northern Africa and in the interior of Western India. Everywhere in Asia and middle Europe, the isothermals are almost parallel with the parallels of latitude. The line of 32° Fahrenheit still preserves, however, its extraordinary bend. It runs from Cape Breton to the south point of Greenland, through Iceland almost up to Bear Island; thence to the North Cape, and sinks on the crest of the Scandinavian Alps down to the latitude of Drontheim, from whence it bends eastward. The ice drifting down from the coast of Greenland and Baffin's Bay is the cause of this phenomenon. In May this effect of the drift ice is still more decided. From Nova Scotia to Newfoundland the isothermals are crowded most closely together; hence arises in Newfoundland, during the spring, the remarkable appearance called the silver dew, when warm south winds cover the trees with a thick crust of ice; hence, too, the thick fogs which at this season obscure the entrance to Baffin's Bay. Meanwhile the hot space in Africa, bounded by an isothermal of 86° Fahrenheit, has extended and united itself with the hot space in Western India.

In June this line has reacted in Europe up to Christiania. The great outlets of the Arctic Sea show their influence by producing concave inflections in the generally regular course of the isothermal lines in this month. In the southern hemisphere the curves have become extremely flat; and even the difference between the east and west sides of South America is but slightly apparent.

In July the extreme temperatures manifest themselves. Within an elongated space including Nubia and Southern Arabia a line appears bearing a temperature of 90½° Fahrenheit. These are the countries of which Hagi Ismael says, "the earth is fire and the wind flame." But in Western India, also, the temperature has become extraordinarily high since May. In Afghanistan the saying is proverbial—"Great God, why needest thou have made hell when there is Ghizni?" In Europe the isothermals have overpassed the circular form, and begin to be convex in the interior of the Continent. In August, in the old Continent, the east side of Nova Zembla alone resists the still continuing tendency of the curves to become more convex, and hence they assume two characteristic convexities—one at Spitzbergen, and the other at the mouth of the Lena. But on the coast of Greenland, as the cold in the high north already begins to increase, the drifting of ice to the southward is lessened, and the east coasts of North America are thus permitted to retain more of the heat they receive, and the isothermal curves become flatter.

In September this is the case in a still greater degree; and as the cold from New Siberia now begins to invade the continent of Asia, the convex summits are similarly flattened. This is the month, consequently, when the distribution of temperature over the globe is most regular, the continent of America even forming no exception. The isothermals of October show a decided invasion of cold



from the north,—and in November and December they become in both continents concave.

"Thus," observes Prof. Dove, "the wonderful march of the most powerful steam-engine with which we are acquainted—the atmosphere—appears permanently regulated by laws of periodical action. Men often complain that all physical circumstances are irregularly distributed over the earth's surface; but this very irregularity is a preserving principle of the whole terrestrial life. It is probable that the northern hemisphere acts as the condenser, and the southern hemisphere as the water reservoir of this steam-engine; and thus that a greater quantity of rain falling in the northern hemisphere is one cause of its higher temperature, since the heat which became latent in the southern hemisphere is set free in the northern in heavy falls of rain."

The maps (three in number) from which the foregoing results have been deduced are invaluable to the meteorologist. They have been engraved at the expense of the Royal Academy of Sciences at Berlin; and, in the true spirit of scientific liberality, an arrangement has been made by which parties in this country may obtain copies at little more than the cost of the paper and of taking off the impressions.

## FINE ARTS

**FINE-ART GOSSIP.**—Inspired probably by the success of the second sale of Etty's effects—when the slightest memoranda from his hand brought amounts of some importance, and the whole realized a large sum,—the executors of Mr. Müller have contrived, after the intervention of some years, to make a second sale of works in oil and water colours, by bringing together three hundred and twenty-five lots—the majority of very slight definition, and few raised much above the class of *mere* materials for the picture with which every painter's folio is stocked. It is to be regretted that matters for the most part of such trifling character and so little worthy of this artist's deserved reputation, should have been let loose on the world. What care he could bestow when he chose on the delineation of the intricate forms of Gothic and other buildings was, however, evidenced in 'A Door-way at Amboize, France,'—'The Court of Agnes Sorel, Orleans'—and a 'Sketch of a Bridge over the Great Western Railway.' One of the best of the same kind was 'The Court of Château Blois,'—admirably detailed. Among the designs for pictures most noticeable were, a 'Sketch for a picture—Magic Lantern,'—and two compositions (195 and 196) in circular frames. The 'Trial by Touch' is a Rembrandtish conception. There were some good water-colour studies of Fontainebleau, and of sites near Bristol,—and sketches from the neighbourhood of Rome. The studies of animals were of the slightest character. Of those of the human form, 'A Nubian' and 'A Roman Warrior' should, for the credit of the painter's memory, never have been submitted to public gaze. Seven lots occurring at the end of the first day's sale,—the major part of them being *finished* pictures—brought the largest amounts,—and were chiefly purchased, as will be observed, by dealers. 'Conham, on the Bath River—Twilight,' was purchased by Mr. Gritten, for 32*l.* 11*s.*—'The Pyramids, as seen during the overflow of the Nile,' by Mr. Rought, for 21*l.* 6*s.*;—'Hambrook Stapleton, near Bristol,' by Mr. Wethered, for 52*l.* 10*s.* 'Pensford Church, near Bristol,' painted in Bristol during the artist's last illness—a very good picture—was sold to Mr. Gritten for 75*l.* 12*s.* 'East Lyn, Lynmouth, North Devon,' executed about the same time—one of the most finished pictures here—was purchased for 63*l.*, by Mr. Wallis. A large and singular composition—very slight—'Turkish Merchants, with Camels fording the River Mangerchii, by Torchlight—Valley of Xanthus, Asia Minor,'—a very speculative picture—was bought by Mr. Colls, for 105*l.* The principal lot of the sale 'Turcomans' Encampment—Valley of Xanthus, Asia Minor—Domestic Occupations—a work of great merit—passed into the hands of Mr. Rought for 253*l.* 1*s.* The small prices which by far the greater number of the other lots brought is the best expression of the estimation in which they were held.

We have this week to record two additions to the list of honorary distinctions bestowed on artists. Mr. Edwin Landseer and Mr. John Watson Gordon, the Queen's limner in Scotland and President of the Scottish Academy, have received the honour of knighthood at the Levee held on Wednesday last. This seems to be the highest point of social distinction which Art can attain in England. The only artist who ever attained to baronetcy was Sir Godfrey Kneller.

There have been few Exhibitions of late years more deservedly popular than that of the Overland Journey to India; and its attractions are now increased by the addition of a view of the Harbour of Madras. The artists have omitted no particle of the peculiarities of the locality or of the incidents which distinguish it from all other landing-places in the world. The surf which breaks for ever on this coast, compelling vessels to anchor more than two miles from the shore,—the massulah boat, built of soft wood, flat-bottomed, and caulked with straw instead of oakum, which carries the crews and passengers to land,—and the messenger who takes letters or errands from the shore to the off-lying ships in his catamaran of rude pieces of wood lashed together in peculiar fashion,—make up the features of a most living and characteristic scene.

We see in the last report of the Committee of the Architectural Publication Society, that amongst the works which they have in contemplation is one for which they are preparing after the manner explained in the following paragraph.—"The Committee avail themselves of this opportunity of calling the attention of the subscribers to the note which was prefixed to the first portion of a list of articles proposed for the compilation of a Cyclopædia of Architecture. This list has been printed for the purpose of full revision and improvement by the solicited assistance of the profession. The Committee would the more impress this desirable object on the attention of the members, as it is considered that much may yet be effected in the way of amendment, so as to render the list a complete and safe basis upon which the Cyclopædia may be commenced with a fair prospect of its ultimate satisfactory conclusion. The remainder of the list is in course of preparation; and the whole, even without further care expended on it, will serve as a most valuable guide in the compilation of such a work, either by this Society or by private enterprise, and may be at any rate the means of preventing any future abortive attempts."—It was decided at the meeting for receiving this report that the Society is not yet in a position to enable the members to guarantee the efficient continuance of such an important work as the Cyclopædia of Architecture; but they request that the list of terms should be continued "in order to complete that portion of a most desirable object."

## MUSIC AND THE DRAMA

**CONCERTS OF THE WEEK.**—An *erratum* is due to *Herr Otherthür*, whose concert, announced, but not reported in the *Athenæum*, took place yesterday—not yesterday week, as was stated in our last number.

The meetings of the *Musical Union* closed for the season on Tuesday last, with a most choice performance of chamber music, led by Herr Ernst, with Herr Halle at the pianoforte,—the main features of which were Mendelssohn's Quartett in E major and Beethoven's Kreutzer Duett Sonata. It has been interesting to mark how the former work and the two Quartetts which are joined with it in one *opus* are now accepted in England as they should be—namely, as the alternatives to Beethoven's Quartetts. Less strikingly original in their first inventions, less discursively enterprising in their episodes, they have still a poetry, a science, an unflagging animation, a solid and unaffected originality, and a beauty of instrumental combination, which raise them far higher than the contemporary writings of M. Onslow or Dr. Spohr—the only works with which they can be compared. We have encountered no one worth conciliating who has been able to resist the spell of this music: while we have marked, to the credit of their taste and fairness, how one dissentient after another, whether simply a-verse or

expressly per-verse, has been won over to regard these Quartetts in their true light,—to place their master on his merited pedestal. Of the admirable players there is no need to speak.—The past is stated to have been the most prosperous season of the *Musical Union*.

**St. Martin's Hall.**—The performance of unaccompanied music given on Wednesday under Mr. Hullah's direction was excellent,—interesting to those who have their ears open to musical gratification of every school, and welcome as exhibiting the great proficiency of the chorus employed. The fidelity to pitch of the voices during such a long and intricate piece of music as the 'Credo' of Lotti cannot be too warmly praised. And how welcome—how full of effect and variety—how expressive and how solid, is the movement itself!—what a rebuke to the ultra-romancists of modern time who have chosen to write as if voices could convey no divers passions, emotions, or colourings, unless the orchestra, with its flutes, violins, harps, cymbals, and opicleides were there to instruct the public as to the situation and the sentiment by its palpable, and sometimes almost *punning*, appeals to the ear. Then, in Mr. Horsley's beautiful canon, 'Awake, thou that sleepest!' the mastery over time which Mr. Hullah's method of training must produce was no less admirably exhibited.—The sacred music was followed by an act of secular compositions. The performance was enjoyed with great relish; and since such a performance is hardly attainable by any other united body of vocalists, it is earnestly to be desired that from time to time it should be repeated, in whatever direction, as regards the presentation of orchestral works, Mr. Hullah's efforts may move.

**HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE.**—That which Madame Viardot and Madame Castellan were unable to accomplish at the Royal Italian Opera [*Athen.* No. 1077], Mdle. Parodi and Madame Frezzolini will hardly effect at Her Majesty's Theatre. There never was an audience in England for 'I Capuleti,' and now we do not apprehend that there ever will be. On the opera itself we discoursed sufficiently two years ago. A few words will suffice to characterize the new cast. As *Romeo*, Mdle. Parodi does not look well; she gesticulates under the idea of impressiveness—and on Saturday last she sang forcibly out of tune. Madame Frezzolini's *Giulietta* is very fair and Italian "to see;" but she, too, was ineffective,—owing to her too constant resolution to produce an effect with the good notes of her voice. As a duett singer she is eminently unsatisfactory, refusing—it sometimes almost seems on purpose—to blend with or to accommodate herself to her companion. Signor Gardoni reappeared as *Tebaldo*, with an apparent increase of strength, vocal and physical, upon last year. The other principal parts were filled by Signor Lorenzo and by Signor Belletti. The opera was received with every appearance of favour.

Of the novelties in the cast of 'Il Matrimonio Segreto,' given on Thursday, we have but to say, that Madame Sontag as *Carolina* sang deliciously. She acted, however, too softly,—keeping aloof from her sisters, aunt, and father with a reserve not so explicable by the secrecy of her marriage as by the personality of the refined Lady who is afraid of close encounter with her shrewish sister. The *Fidalgos* of Mdle. Parodi indicated instincts for comedy.

On Thursday all such as have made their stand on the aristocratic nature of Her Majesty's Theatre must have received a shock in seeing announced (between Madame Pasta's concert and M. Thalberg's concerto) the *black Malibran*, who is to sing black songs in a *divertissement* on Tuesday next. Race and colour apart, and no prejudication of a new comer meant,—the terms of announcement (the use of a distinguished woman's name included) are such as merely befit a monster;—and this vein being opened by the manager, we are curious to see whether the *Hippopotamus*, the *Mysterious Lady*, Mdle. Vandermeersch, the Arab snake charmers, and any particular novelty from the Surrey and Cremorne Gardens (not forgetting Mr. Pell, the original *Bones*) are in turns to be introduced at a



theatre the fashion, taste, and enterprise of whose management has been again and paraded,—

From low St. James's up to high St. Paul's.

**FRENCH PLAYS.**—*Mlle. Rachel.*—When we have noted that this great actress is here again, in all the plenitude of her powers,—and that she has this week appeared in 'Phèdre,' 'Bajazet,' &c.—we have little more to say. Reiterated panegyric can be excused only by new graces exhibited and new delights called up by its object. These *Mlle. Rachel* does not give us. She appears at once to have come to the maturity of her powers. She sprang by a single leap to the throne of empire over hate, sarcasm, revenge, expressed in dramatic utterance and gesture—in the very first part she played substantiated her claims to the most forcible and highly-finished declamation for many a day enunciated in the temple of the *Corneilles* and *Racines* of classical French tragedy; but, once for all, after having taken her place and seized her triumph, she seems to have paused not like one who would—but like one who could—go no further and effect no more.—It would be ridiculous to speak of *Mlle. Rachel* as a careless or mediocre actress, but it is as impossible to deny that she is monotonous. Nature has bound her round with bars of adamant, through which her genius either cannot or will not break. The softer affections and the tenderer emotions, which even give a redeeming grace to a *Lady Macbeth* and to a *Shylock* (if those characters be rightly conceived), seem to be as far beyond *Mlle. Rachel's* grasp as ever. (She awes, more than she moves, us,—her power *côrrodes*; but it does not subdue.) Few spells so strong as hers leave us with so little wish for their repetition. She appears, however, to have made some change in her manner of utterance,—or else, having become tired of *trésades*, to precipitate many of the passages on which she used formerly to linger. By this her points gain intensity, and her bursts of spoken passion acquire the electric force of the most forcible action; but the balance of the verse is often lost, and the sense sometimes escapes the English ear. Aware that declamation has its conventions in every country,—that the *Kemble* solemnities and the *Macready* familiarities are alike distasteful and unintelligible to our neighbours,—it behoves us to employ the national epithet.—On Monday next *Mlle. Rachel* will appear in the 'Adrienne Lecouvreur' of M. Scribe.

**STRAND.**—We should have thought that the purity, the tenderness, the sanctity of the subject of the 'Alcestis' of Euripides would have preserved it from the profanation of burlesque. Milton's allusion to it even, so tender, so touching—

Met thought I saw my late espoused saint  
Brought to me like Alcestis from the grave,

should have consecrated it to English feeling. Moreover, the vulgar nature of the subject, and the non-acquaintance of the general playgoer with it, might have preserved it from interference. In these days of theatrical parody, however, nothing is too sacred, nothing too far removed from popular familiarity, to escape the excessive demand for this kind of stage amusement. The title of the new burlesque is, 'Alcestis; or, the original Strong-Minded Woman.' It was produced on Thursday, with uncommon success. The scenes of the Greek tragedy are closely followed; the chief alteration being the substitution of an elaborately punning dialogue, and the introduction of a policeman as the hanger-on of Alcestis' servant and hero of the kitchen-larder. The characters are provided with comic and eccentric songs to popular airs—which received much applause. The special merit of the piece lies in its elegance,—the puns being remarkably smart and neat, as well as numerous. It was well acted. Mr. H. Farren as *Orcus* or *Death* was capitally made up,—and, though he somewhat overdid the part, was amusing. Mrs. Leigh Murray as *Alcestis* showed considerable intelligence; and Mr. Compton as *Admetus* was rich in humour. The author has shown talent which we hope hereafter to see better employed.

**MUSICAL AND DRAMATIC GOSSIP.**—It must suffice here to announce that the *Royal Academy Concerts* closed for the season on Saturday last—

with a meeting at which was performed a Symphony by Mr. Banister, of which our contemporaries speak in high terms,—an Overture by Mr. Owen,—and an opera finale by Mr. T. Thomas;—all the above MS. compositions. This is well; but the evidences of training and method in execution which the Academy Concerts put forward are so few, and year by year, as it seems to us, the merits of the pupils so obviously diminish, that we naturally escape from, in place of courting, opportunities to dwell on them.

We hardly know whether to be glad or sorry that Madame Pasta has consented to re-appear. She will sing three times next week; on Monday, in the Opera Concert Room, Haymarket,—on Thursday, on Mr. Lumley's stage, after 'La Tempesta,'—in a scene or two from 'Anna Bolena,'—on Friday at the Concert which is to be given at the Royal Italian Opera in aid of the Italian Exile Fund.—To those who have known her in her prime, these exhibitions must and will have their charm and their interest: since Time cannot destroy the artist's feeling for style, and Memory will supply to the listener what is gone and amend what may require amending. But the younger generation of opera-goers cannot have these recollections and comparisons; and they may be, therefore, without offence, reminded that Madame Pasta was the queen of the stage,—the greatest of the greatest—and that as such she claims welcome and respect, and, it may be, forbearance which could not and ought not to be awarded to any new comer.

We perceive that an extra performance will be given by the Beethoven Quartett Society on Monday next, the 8th, for Herr Ernst's benefit. This will include, amongst other music, the 'Andante and Scherzo' from Mendelssohn's noble posthumous Quartett in F minor, and Beethoven's posthumous Quartett in B flat major. M. Heller will be the pianist.

It is with the greatest pleasure that we transcribe from Mr. Ella's 'Record' a report that Herr Halle intends to settle in London. He would be an acquisition of the highest value. M. Godéfrid, too, we are told, meditates pitching his "harp" in England.

A rumour is current that Mr. Lumley has "signed" with MM. Scribe and Halévy for another opera, to be produced next season. While we rejoice in the prospect of novelty, and applaud every effort in quest of it,—while, too, we do full justice to the power of M. Halévy over his own language and his own theatres and his own public of Paris,—we cannot think that the composer who will "hit" the English audience of an Italian theatre has been touched in such a contract.—If Madame Sontag is to be the *prima donna*, we should have liked to see what M. Auber could do for her display.

*Mlle. Lind* is said to have promised to sing at two Liverpool Philharmonic Concerts, previous to her departure for America, for the sum of 1,000*l.*

A one-act classical trifle for *Mlle. Rachel* has just been produced by M. Ponsard at the Théâtre Français, entitled 'Horace et Lydie.'—Since her departure from Paris, another of M. Alfred de Musset's comedies, 'Le Chandelier,' long ago published in the *Revue de Deux Mondes*, has been performed with great success.

M. Berlioz (whose ironical praise few understand better,—or, *sub rosa*, enjoy more,—than ourselves) writes of a new composer and composition with such earnest seriousness that we must paraphrase his commendation of a new stringed Quartett by M. Auguste Morel, as a notice of good hope and promise. "In this," says he, is to be found "that youthful spirit which may be imitated, but which is always more or less bad in imitation,—that distinction of style in harmony and melody of which we have had too few examples in this order of composition since Beethoven ceased to write. The four instruments are employed with a perfect understanding of the contrasts which arise between the *timbre* of the tenor and violoncello and that of the violin. Each of the four movements has its peculiar physiognomy and character. The first is especially remarkable for the amplitude of its forms and the fire with which it is animated.

The *scherzo* combines great rhythmical vivacity and unexpected and original harmonic developments. As to the *adagio*, a colossal piece in every sense of the word, I seriously think (and as I think it, I say it) that any master living or dead might be happy to have composed it, and proud to put his name to it." Much higher praise than this could not well be given, nor better calculated to excite all those who, like ourselves, rejoice in the prospect of coming genius.

The *Grand Opéra* of Paris is about to close for two months. M. Massol has accepted an engagement to re-appear there. A talent like his is just now much wanted in that company. M. Berlioz, however, speaks in high terms of a pupil of the *Conservatoire*, M. Merly, who possesses a fine baritone voice, and who, adds the critic, sings with the utmost "probity." The epithet is an expressive one.

The Olympic Theatre, we find, is still in the market,—the statement that Mr. Farren had taken it having been premature. There would appear to be some peculiar difficulties at present in the transaction.

#### MISCELLANEA

*The Universal Catalogue.*—We have received so many letters on this subject that it is impossible to publish them. It may, however, be well to notice one error into which several of the writers have fallen—that of supposing that "each title must be mounted on a separate piece of wood; an operation which must be performed with skill, as each piece of metal and wood would require to be squared to a mathematical nicety." Surely, the writers of the above had not read, certainly did not understand, the explanation which we gave a fortnight since [*ante*, p. 661]—that "years since we printed in the *Athenæum* a page of advertisements from a stereotype plate mounted on a block so arranged and prepared that any other stereotype plate might be mounted thereon." We will now add, though it seems to us to be implied in the above statement, that any number of separate stereotype titles compressible within a page may be mounted thereon. But the best explanation will be the page itself,—which is to be seen at our Office in Wellington Street, as we have already said.

*Mr. Prior and Mr. Cunningham.*—We have received from Mr. Cunningham the following letter.—"Mr. James Prior, to whom the public is indebted for a carefully compiled Life of Oliver Goldsmith, has in a letter printed in the *Literary Gazette*, thought fit to assert that I am the author of certain articles in the *Athenæum* full of 'cordial abuse of his books.' To this letter I have made the following reply.—

To the Editor of the *Literary Gazette.*

Sir,—There is only one sentence in Mr. Prior's letter which calls for any remark from me. I never abused Mr. Prior's works in the *Athenæum*; and I beg permission to add, that I wrote a year and a half ago to Mr. Prior, at the request of a mutual friend of his and mine, to inform him that I was not the author of the articles of which he complained. As Mr. Prior has not thought fit to believe my statement, I have written to the Editor of the *Athenæum*, requesting that he will substantiate my denial.

I am, &c.

As Mr. Prior states that I had dined at his house once, and repaid his hospitality by unfavourable criticism in the *Athenæum*, may I request that for my sake you will so far transgress the wholesome rules of periodical literature, and of your journal in particular, as to confirm the statement with respect to the *Athenæum* contained in the above letter. I shall not think it worth my while on any future occasion to trouble you with a similar application.

"I am, &c. PETER CUNNINGHAM."

\* \* \* There is some difficulty in dealing with gentlemen who, like Mr. Prior, jump to their conclusions from premises of their own manufacture,—and yet more, when they do so in angry mood at finding that the price of a dinner has not purchased for them a favourable review. The justice of the principle on which Mr. Prior gives his dinners, however, neither Mr. Cunningham nor ourselves are concerned to discuss in the present instance,—as his immediate application of it is made in pure waste. With the articles which are supposed to have violated the contract implied by Mr. Prior's having fed Mr. Cunningham, the latter gentleman, notwithstanding Mr. Prior's easy assumption, had nothing whatever to do.



*The Comet.*—For some few evenings past the comet discovered by Dr. Petersen, at Altona, on the 1st of May, has been visible to the naked eye in the constellation Bootes. With an ordinary night-glass the tail may be traced to a distance of about two degrees from the head, which is bright; and, without the telescope, resembles a star of the fifth magnitude. This evening (July 6) it will be situate two degrees west of 16 Bootis; on the 7th a little above a line joining the star Rho in the belt, with the well-known star, Cor Caroli, and about one-third of the distance between those stars from Rho. Next evening a line from Rho Bootis to 41 Coma Berenici will pass close to the comet, which will be nearer to the former star. On the 9th it will be two degrees east and a little north of the star numbered 9 in Bootes, and in a line joining it with Rho, of the same constellation; on the 11th, about one degree north of 10 Bootis, below a line from Arcturus to Cor Caroli, 5 degrees from the former star. Next evening the star will be on the parallel of Arcturus, near Eta Bootis; and on the 13th will be situate between Eta and Upsilon, a little east of a line joining them; and on the 14th it will be nearest to the earth, and in a line with Upsilon Bootis and Tau in Virgo, a degree or more south of the former star. After this time moonlight may prevent the comet being seen with the naked eye, but with the telescope it may be traced a week or ten days longer. It will pass the equator on the 19th, two degrees east of Zeta Virginis, and will arrive at its least distance from the sun about midnight on July the 23rd in Right Ascension 13h. 27m., and 10° south declination. The stars to which reference is made above are visible without the telescope, and are marked upon all globes and charts in general use.—*Times*.

*Provision against Shipwrecks.*—Mr. George Catlin has written a letter to a Scotch paper in which he details a plan conceived by him for saving the lives of all persons on board a perishing ship. Mr. Catlin was stopped in proceeding to take out a patent by finding that his invention was essentially the same as that which had already been some years before made the subject of a patent by Capt. Oldmixon. But the plan seems at once so simple and efficient—and in view of the recent terrible calamity, presses so strongly for public notice—that we are tempted to state here the principle of the invention in Mr. Catlin's words.—“My design,” he says, “was to construct disengaging and floating quarter-decks to ocean steamers and other vessels, answering all the purposes of ordinary decks, and which, in case of vessels sinking at sea, could in a few moments be disengaged, and prepared with all the passengers and crew upon them, to float away, as strong and efficient rafts, when vessels go down. These I considered equally available in case of vessels burning at sea; the vessel scuttled might be sent down, and all on board (at least with a ray of hope) might launch themselves upon the middle of the ocean. These quarter-decks or rafts I proposed to be built chiefly of solid timbers which could not sink—they could not be capsized by a wave, nor would they stove or founder like a boat upon a reef, but would float in safety over it, and land their passengers on the beach. Tin or sheet-iron safes, water tight, might be sunk into them, containing provisions, liquors, &c. for twenty or thirty days at sea, and also rockets and other means of making signals of distress.”

*Registry of Joseph Addison's Birth.*—Recently, we were interested in searching the Register for the birth of Joseph Addison; and at the altar of the pretty little church of Milston, in Wilts, we were told that a deceased rector had cut out the leaf which contained it, to satisfy the earnest longings of a particular friend, “a collector”—a poet, too, who ought to have been ashamed to instigate the larceny. It is hoped that his executors—his name has been inserted in a burial register since—will think fit to restore it to its proper place at their early convenience.—*Dickens's Household Words*.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.—A Subscriber—P. V.—Φιλομήλα—J. A.—L. and B.—C. H. B.—received.  
T. S. Jun.—The communication of this correspondent would be of value, as a fact, if communicated to the Meteorological Society, and thus made one of a series of observations—but standing alone it is not of sufficient importance to occupy a place in our pages.

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No. 1185.

LONDON, SATURDAY, JULY 13, 1850.

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If these are the facts, — what are the causes which have produced them? What are the causes which have promoted the *increase* and impeded the *distribution* of public wealth? And is it, or is it not, true that in *other countries* which have also advanced there has been the same order of progression, — that there are the same extreme diversities of condition, — and that the evils of an increasing and hopeless pauperism prevail with them as with us, as painfully apparent and as widely diffused?

To these questions Mr. Laing and Mr. Kay return substantially the same answer. Both testify that in the continental countries which they have examined — more especially in Germany, France, Holland, Belgium and Switzerland — they have found a state of society which does fulfil in a very eminent degree all the conditions of a most advanced civilization. They have found in those countries education, wealth, comfort and self-respect; and they have found that the whole body of the people in those countries participate in the enjoyment of these great blessings to an extent which very far exceeds the participation in them of the great mass of our own population. These two travellers perfectly agree in the declaration that during the last thirty or forty years the inequality of social condition among men — the deterioration towards two great classes of very rich and very poor — has made very little progress in the continental states with which they are familiar. They affirm that a class of absolute paupers, in any degree formidable from its numbers has yet to be created in those states. They represent in the most emphatic language the immense superiority in education, manners, conduct, and the supply of the ordinary wants of a civilized being, of the German, Swiss, Dutch, Belgian and French peasantry over the peasantry and poorer classes not only of Ireland, but also of England and Scotland. This is the general and the most decided result.



There are other points of comparison between the political and social condition of these islands and of the Continent, in which the preponderance of advantage is clearly on the opposite side—palpably in our favour. But with reference to the vital question of the condition and prospects of the peasantry and poorer classes, neither Mr. Laing nor Mr. Kay have any doubt whatever that the advantage rests in the most marked manner with the Continental states which they have examined.

What, then, according to Mr. Laing and Mr. Kay, is the cause of this most important difference? In a single phrase—the *distribution of the ownership of land*. On the Continent, the people own and cultivate the land. In these islands the land is held in large masses by a few persons;—the class practically employed in agriculture are either *tenants or labourers*, who do not act under the stimulus of a personal interest in the soil they cultivate. During the last half century the tendency of all our social philosophy and social changes has been to reduce the number of persons deriving their subsistence directly from the land,—to congregate our population in large cities, and to seek in the extension of manufactures a source of wealth and species of employment more productive and more profitable than could be obtained by the prosecution of a vigorous agriculture.

There can be no doubt that to a great extent we have been successful; but it would be a rash and pernicious error to suppose for a moment that the results of this system have been so strikingly good that we may safely neglect all further inquiry and despise all admonition. The deep and universal anxiety which prevails at this moment, and which has prevailed for some time throughout the whole of this country, on the subjects of Population, Employment, and the extension of Colonies, sufficiently attests the fact, that if our success has been great, it has not been unmixed with evil,—that if we have become richer, we have not escaped the cares and the anxieties of wealth,—and that neither the extension of our trade nor the perfection of our manufacturing system has saved us from some of the most ominous perils that can assail an old and highly artificial state of society. We do not want any rash and violent changes; but certainly no occupation can be more instructive than the calm and circumstantial comparison of the system which we have been pursuing, and of its results, with the opposite system, and the opposite results, which have been pursued and attained in the most advanced states of the Continent. It is precisely because the volumes before us will enable the candid and the philosophical inquirers among us to undertake such a comparison, that we consider their appearance to be in the highest degree opportune and their contents to be of the greatest interest.

We will, in the first instance, extract from Mr. Laing and Mr. Kay one or two passages which contain statements of the general result of their comparison of the condition of the great body of the people in this and in foreign countries. We will then take an opportunity of pointing out some of the qualifying considerations which must be taken into account before we can arrive at an impartial judgment of the whole evidence.

We quote first from Mr. Laing. The following passages will show that in the peculiar style in which he has been accustomed to express himself there is no change; and that one of the greatest merits, and one of the greatest defects, of his book is a style of writing distinguished by much originality and force, but very rarely free from verbosity and repetition.

Mr. Laing says:—

"In Flanders, Holland, Friesland, about the estuaries of the Scheldt, Maëse, Rhine, Ems, Weser, Elbe, and Eyder, in a great part of Westphalia and other districts of Germany, in Denmark, Sweden, and Norway, and in the south of Europe, in Switzerland, the Tyrol, Lombardy and Tuscany, the peasants have from very early times been the proprietors of a great portion of the land. France and Prussia have, in our times, been added to the countries in which the land has been divided into small estates of working peasant proprietors. In every country of Europe under whatever form of government, however remotely and indirectly affected by the wars and convulsions of the French Revolution, and however little the laws, institutions, and spirit of the government may as yet be in accordance with this social state of the people, the tendency during this century has been to the division and distribution of the land into small estates of a working peasant proprietary,—not to its aggregation into large estates of a nobility and gentry. This has been the real revolution in Europe. The only exception is Great Britain. The tendency with us during the present century has been exactly the reverse. It has been to aggregate small estates into large; and in Scotland and a great part of England to aggregate even small tenant occupancies into large farms. What have been the effects on the condition—on the physical and moral well-being of the people—of these two opposite social systems,—of the one of which Great Britain is the type, and now almost the only great example among the European countries; and of the other of which the most ancient type, and that which may most readily be compared with the first, is, perhaps, the country of Flanders? In France and Prussia the distribution of the land through the social body has not been of sufficiently long standing to admit of its results on the social state, and condition of the people being fairly appreciated by the traveller. It is but a change of yesterday forced upon those countries by the French Revolution, and the subsequent wars, and for which the people, who became suddenly the proprietors of the land on which they had lived as serfs, were not prepared. It is not a social arrangement, growing up in a country by the slow and gradual operation of natural causes, and carrying along with it, in its progress among the population, the character, conduct, sense of property, and the prudence which belong to proprietors. It was a sudden leap. The serf, the *leibeigen* peasant of yesterday, became a freeman to-day, and a proprietor the next day of a part of that domain on which he was born, bred, and adscriptus glebe like one of the working cattle, and without any preparatory training for his new condition, or any hereditary traditions of the conduct and character suitable for it. This mighty social change, so rapidly developed, and spread over the whole Continent, is the most important result by far of the French Revolution,—the most pregnant with future good or future evil of any produced by that great event. The rise and fall of dynasties, constitutions, or forms of government sink into insignificance compared to this all-important revolution in the social economy of the European people,—this new social state, as it may justly be called, to which the form, spirit, and administration of government and law in Europe must be adapted if they are to rest on a permanent foundation. The memorable events of the year 1848 show that the Continental sovereigns have not seen, or have misunderstood, the tendency, spirit, and strength of this new social element, which they themselves, in a great measure, created; and prove that even now, in the beginning of its development, the old institutions and spirit of the continental governments are not suited to it, and must be made conformable to it, either by violence, or timely adjustment."

Mr. Laing enforces the same theme further in the following passage.—

"It cannot be denied that, in the small estate occupancy of the land of a country, a considerable amount of national well-being is attained and widely diffused, and also of intelligence and of moral and reflective habits. In this social state also there are, more than in any other, powerful checks, material and moral, arising from the general possession of

property, upon the undue increase of population, and consequently upon the undue deterioration of the physical well-being of the people. The present condition of the peasant proprietors in Switzerland, the Tyrol, Flanders, and many countries or extensive districts of Germany, in all of which this social condition of small estate occupancy of the lands has been of old standing, proves these points in its favour; nor, fairly considered, can any conclusions against it be drawn from the opposite tendency or results; in a class so entirely different from peasant proprietors in social position, interests, and motives of action, as the miserable over-rented Irish or Scotch small tenants or cottagers. But the great question still remains. Which of the two social states—that which is spreading itself over the continent of Europe, the distribution of the land into small estates of working peasant proprietors; or that which exists now in its full integrity and vigour in Great Britain only, the aggregation of the land into the hands of a comparatively small body of great landed proprietors and large farmers—is the more promising for the future well-being and progress of society? There is not, in the social economy of Europe, a question more important, or of more difficult solution. A change, a great revolution in fact, in the social condition, relations, connexions, and interests of the classes or elements of the social body of every European country but our own, has been taking place silently but rapidly, during the last half-century. The overthrow of dynasties and governments; the rise and fall of kings, and the revolutions of states, in the course of those eventful fifty years, will be considered by the future historians as but secondary events—consequences not causes,—compared to this great and radical change in the spirit and elements of society itself, which has produced these convulsions, and which is still going on, and will be producing its own results for good or for evil, when these most recent convulsions of 1848 and 1849 are forgotten like last year's thunder-storms. This greatest of social revolutions in Europe since the establishment of the feudal system, arises from, and consists in, the infusion of a new preponderating element into the social state of the European people, viz., the general distribution of the land among the great mass of the population. The undeniable good, the physical well-being inherent in this new social condition of the Continent which is extending itself over every country, I have endeavoured to illustrate in former works on Norway and Sweden, and in preceding Notes on various parts of Europe; showing the state of those countries in which the land has from the most remote times been in the hands of small proprietors, each working and living on his own small estate. I have endeavoured to show that the comfort, the material enjoyments, the domestic good of this social state, are widely diffused, and that it is not necessarily productive of over-population, of a too minute partition of the land for affording a civilized subsistence, nor of bad or careless husbandry. The social state and husbandry of the countries which have been for many ages in the hands of small peasant proprietors, as Flanders, Switzerland, the Tyrol, may stand comparison with the social state and husbandry of Scotland, under large estate and large farm occupancy of the land, or of Ireland under large estate and small farm occupancy."

The testimony of Mr. Kay as conveyed in the following passage is equally precise and emphatic.—

"As I have already said, the moral, intellectual and physical condition of the peasants and operatives of Prussia, Saxony and other parts of Germany; of Holland, and of the Protestant cantons of Switzerland, and the social condition of the peasants in the greater part of France is very much higher and happier; and very much more satisfactory, than that of the peasants and operatives of England; the condition of the poor in the North German, Swiss and Dutch towns, is as remarkable a contrast to that of the poor of the English towns as can well be imagined; and that the condition of the poorer classes of Germany, Switzerland, Holland and France is rapidly improving. The great superiority of the preparation for life which a poor man receives in those countries I have mentioned, to that which a peasant or operative receives in England, and the difference of the social position of a poor man in



those countries to that of a peasant or operative in England seem sufficient to explain the difference which exists between the moral and social condition of the poor of our own country and of the other countries I have named. In Germany, Holland, and Switzerland, a child begins its life in the society of parents who have been educated and brought up for years in the company of learned and gentlemanly professors, and in the society and under the direction of a father who has been exercised in military arts, and who has acquired the bearing, the clean and orderly habits, and the taste for respectable attire, which characterize the soldier. The children of these countries spend the first six years of their lives in homes which are well regulated. They are during this time accustomed to orderly habits, to neat and clean clothes, and to ideas of the value of instruction, of the respect due to the teachers, and of the excellence of the schools, by parents who have, by their training in early life, acquired such tastes and ideas themselves. Each child at the age of six begins to attend a school, which is perfectly clean, well ventilated, directed by an able and well-educated gentleman, and superintended by the religious ministers and by the inspectors of the Government. Until the completion of its fourteenth year, each child continues regular daily attendance at one of these schools, daily strengthening its habits of cleanliness and order, learning the rudiments of useful knowledge, receiving the principles of religion and morality, and gaining confirmed health and physical energy by the exercise and drill of the school playground. *No children are left idle in the streets of the towns; no children are allowed to grovel in the gutters; no children are allowed to make their appearance at the schools dirty, or in ragged clothes; and the local authorities are obliged to clothe all whose parents cannot afford to clothe them.* The children of the poor of Germany, Holland and Switzerland acquire stronger habits of cleanliness, neatness and industry at the primary schools, than the children of the small shop-keeping classes of England do at the private schools of England; and they leave the primary schools of these countries much better instructed than those who leave our middle class private schools. After having learnt reading, writing, arithmetic, singing, geography, history and the Scriptures, the children leave the schools, carrying with them into life habits of cleanliness, neatness, order and industry, and awakened intellect, capable of collecting truths and reasoning upon them."

And a few pages further on, in his first volume, Mr. Kay continues:—

"When the young men leave the army, after three years' service as soldiers, and when they return to their native parishes, they find themselves in the following position:—They are well educated, healthy, strong, and active. *Nearly all the land is divided into small estates, and is held and cultivated by peasants.* The process of conveying an estate from one owner to another is very simple and cheap. Great numbers of small estates in all parts of the country are constantly in the market to be sold. Each young man finds that many of his friends and relations, who had left the army some years before himself, have bought houses and plots of land, and are engaged in farming for themselves. The young peasant, stimulated by his desire to get married, and to become a householder and a proprietor, hires himself to a farmer who requires a labourer, learns farming, lays by his savings; and if he has no old relation to whose property he would naturally succeed in the course of time, after some years' saving, he invests his little capital as a first payment towards the purchase of a house and farm, raises the remainder of the price by way of mortgage, and enters into possession, paying off the mortgage by regular instalments. Sometimes the purchase is hastened and facilitated by his marriage with a young woman who brings with her some small amount of saved earnings towards the purchase. *The desire to acquire the possession of a house and farm tends very greatly to restrain early marriages, and stimulates very greatly the energies, hopes, and exertions of the peasants.* Doubtless, there are many peasants who cannot make up their minds to present self-denial, to postponement of marriage and to redoubled exertion, in order to attain what seems at first a distant good; but the knowledge that it is possible to buy a

farm, if such present self-denial is exercised, and the desire to purchase one, operate with such force, that in most parts of Germany, Holland, Belgium, Norway, Denmark, Switzerland, the Tyrol, North Italy, and France, the greatest part of the land belongs to the farmers and peasants who cultivate it for themselves. Even the labourers in the small towns of these countries often possess, outside the towns, small gardens or plots of land, to which they resort in the evenings in order to cultivate them, or to carry away their produce for the use of their families. Every peasant, who possesses one of these estates, becomes interested in the maintenance of public order, in the tranquillity of the country, in the suppression of crimes, in the fostering of industry among his own children, and in the promotion of their intelligence. *A class of peasant proprietors forms the strongest of all Conservative classes.*"

We shall resume this subject on a future occasion.

*Five Years of a Hunter's Life in the Far Interior of South Africa, &c.* By R. Gordon Cumming, Esq.

[Second Notice.]

THAT never-to-be-forgotten entry in *Lady Sale's Journal*, "*Earthquakes, as usual,*" is not cooler than *Lieut. Cumming's* record. Long ere we reached the end of his first volume, lions had become matters of course. In the second division of his narrative, he teaches us absolutely to think little of elephants, and to pity the timid Cocknies who crowd to the brim of the bath of the Hippopotamus as though that creature were a rarity. Next comes the question, what is there left for *Lieut. Cumming* by way of excitement?—*Mastodon, Megatherium, and Megalonyx* are no more to be found upon this earth of ours. Whales and white sharks are the only alternatives that present themselves; and the chase of the former is no longer a wild sport, but a science practised in furtherance of commerce. Leaving, however, this not very unnatural speculation, let us dip here and there into *Lieut. Cumming's* second volume, beginning as early as its second page.—

"On the 27th I cast loose my horses at earliest dawn of day, and then lay half asleep for two hours, when I arose to consume coffee and rhinoceros. Having breakfasted, I started with a party of the natives to search for elephants in a southerly direction. We held along the gravelly bed of a periodical river, in which were abundance of holes excavated by the elephants in quest of water. Here the spoor of rhinoceros was extremely plentiful, and in every hole where they had drunk the print of the horn was visible. We soon found the spoor of an old bull elephant, which led us into a dense forest, where the ground was particularly unfavourable for spooring; we, however, threaded it out for a considerable distance, when it joined the spoor of other bulls. The natives now requested me to halt, while men went off in different directions to reconnoitre. In the mean time a tremendous conflagration was roaring and crackling close to windward of us. It was caused by the Bakalahari burning the old dry grass to enable the young to spring up with greater facility, whereby they retained the game in their dominions. The fire stretched away for many miles on either side of us, darkening the forest far to leeward with a dense and impenetrable canopy of smoke. Here we remained for about half an hour, when one of the men returned, reporting that he had discovered elephants. This I could scarcely credit, for I fancied that the extensive fire which raged so fearfully must have driven not only elephants, but every living creature out of the district. The native, however, pointed to his eye, repeating the word 'Klow,' and signed to me to follow him. My guide led me about a mile through dense forest, when we reached a little well-wooded hill, to whose summit we ascended, whence a view might have been obtained of the surrounding country, had not volumes of smoke obscured the scenery far and wide, as though issuing from the funnels of a thousand steamboats. Here, to my astonishment, my guide halted, and pointed to the thickest close beneath me, when I instantly perceived the colossal

backs of a herd of bull elephants. There they stood quietly browsing on the lee side of the hill, while the fire in its might was raging to windward within two hundred yards of them. I directed *Johannus* to choose an elephant, and promised to reward him should he prove successful. Galloping furiously down the hill, I started the elephants with an unearthly yell, and instantly selected the finest in the herd. Placing myself alongside, I fired both barrels behind his shoulder, when he instantly turned upon me, and in his impetuous career charged head foremost into a large bushy tree, which he sent flying before him high in the air with tremendous force, coming down at the same moment violently on his knees. He then met the raging fire, when, altering his course, he wheeled to the right-about. As I galloped after him I perceived another noble elephant meeting us in an opposite direction, and presently the gallant *Johannus* hove in sight, following his quarry at a respectful distance. Both elephants held on together, so I shouted to *Johannus*, 'I will give your elephant a shot in the shoulder, and you must try to finish him.' Spurring my horse, I rode close alongside, and gave the fresh elephant two balls immediately behind the shoulder, when he parted from mind, *Johannus* following; but before many minutes had elapsed that mighty *Nimrod* re-appeared, having fired one shot and lost his prey. In the mean time I was loading and firing as fast as could be, sometimes at the head, and sometimes behind the shoulder. \* \* On one occasion he endeavoured to escape by charging desperately amid the thickest of the flames; but this did not avail, and I was soon once more alongside. I blazed away at this elephant, until I began to think that he was proof against my weapons. Having fired thirty-five rounds with my two-grooved rifle, I opened fire upon him with the Dutch six-pounder; and when forty bullets had perforated his hide, he began for the first time to evince signs of a dilapidated constitution. He took up a position in a grove; and as the dogs kept barking round him he backed stern foremost among the trees, which yielded before his gigantic strength. Poor old fellow! he had long braved my deadly shafts, but I plainly saw that it was now all over with him; so I resolved to expend no further ammunition; but hold him in view until he died. Throughout the chase this elephant repeatedly cooled his person with large quantities of water, which he ejected from his trunk over his back and sides; and just as the pangs of death came over him, he stood trembling violently beside a thorny tree, and kept pouring water into his bloody mouth until he died, when he pitched heavily forward, with the whole weight of his fore-quarters resting on the points of his tusks."

Thus we go on—page after page—with very few notices of natives met with, or of noticeable scenery passed through,—till the very ground seems strewn with tusks, and having had our fill of elephants, we fancy it high time to see after sea-cows!—These also were demolished by *Lieut. Cumming* in that wholesale and desperately courageous fashion which will henceforth make the exploits of all other sportsmen (save, perhaps, the sea-fowlers of the Western Islands) look in comparison like the pop-gun play of babies.

"The next day I rode down the river to seek sea-cows, accompanied by my two after-riders; taking, as usual, my double-barrelled rifles. We had proceeded about two miles when we came upon some most thoroughly beaten old-established hippopotamus paths, and presently, in a broad, long, deep and shaded pool of the river, we heard the sea-cows bellowing. There I beheld one of the most wondrous and interesting sights that a sportsman can be blessed with. I at once knew that there must be an immense herd of them, for the voices came from different parts of the pool; so, creeping in through the bushes to obtain an inspection, a large sandy island appeared at the neck of the pool, on which stood several large shady trees. The neck of the pool was very wide and shallow, with rocks and large stones; below it was deep and still. On a sandy promontory of this island stood about thirty cows and calves, whilst in the pool opposite, and a little below them, stood about twenty more sea-cows, with their heads and backs above water. About fifty yards farther



down the river again, showing out their heads, were eight or ten immense fellows, which I think were all bulls; and about one hundred yards below these in the middle of the stream stood another herd of about eight or ten cows with calves, and two huge bulls. The sea-cows lay close together like pigs; a favourite position was to rest their heads on their comrades' sterns and sides. The herds were attended by an immense number of the invariable rhinoceros birds, which, on observing me, did their best to spread alarm throughout the hippopotami. I was resolved to select if possible a first-rate old bull out of this vast herd, and I accordingly delayed firing for nearly two hours, continually running up and down behind the thick thorny cover, and attentively studying the heads. At length I determined to go close in and select the best head out of the eight or ten bulls which lay below the cows. I accordingly left the cover and walked slowly forward in full view of the whole herd to the water's edge, where I lay down on my belly and studied the heads of these bulls. The cows, on seeing me, splashed into the water and kept up a continual snorting and blowing till night set in. After selecting for a few minutes I fired my first shot at a splendid bull, and sent the ball in a little behind the eye. He was at once incapacitated, and kept plunging and swimming round and round, wearing away down the pool, until I finished him with two more shots. The whole pool was now in a state of intense commotion. The best cows and the bulls at once became very shy and cunning, showing only the flat roofs of their heads, and sometimes only their nostrils. The younger cows were not so shy, producing the whole head; and if I had wished to make a bag I might have shot an immense number. This, however, was not my object; and as there was likely to be a difficulty in securing what I did kill, I determined only to fire at the very best. When, therefore, the sun went down I had not fired a great many shots, but had bagged five first-rate hippopotami, four cows and one bull, and besides these there were three or four more very severely wounded which were spouting blood throughout the pool. The next day I removed my waggons to the bank where I had waged successful war with the hippopotami. Here we halted beneath a shady tree with a very dark green leaf, and having drawn up the waggons we cast loose the trektows, and marching the two spans of oxen down to the edge of the river we dragged out one of the sea-cows high and dry. After breakfast I rode down the river with Carey to seek those I had wounded. Having ridden about three miles down the river, we heard sea-cows snorting; and on dismounting from my horse and creeping in through very dense thorny cover which here clothed the banks, I found a very fine herd of about thirty hippopotami basking in the sun: they lay upon a sand-bank in the middle of the river, in about three feet of water. After taking a long time to make a selection, I opened my fire and discharged my four barrels: one sea-cow lay dead, and two others were stunned and took to the other side, but eventually recovered and were not numbered with the slain. I continued with them till sundown and fired a good many shots, but only bagged one other cow: they were very shy and cunning. On the 20th I again rode down the river to the pool, and found a herd of sea-cows still there; so I remained with them till sundown, and bagged two very first-rate old sea-cows, which were forthcoming next day. This day I detected a most dangerous trap constructed by the Bakalahari for slaying sea-cows. It consisted of a sharp little assagai or pike most thoroughly poisoned, and stuck firmly into the end of a heavy block of thorn-wood about four feet long and five inches in diameter. This formidable affair was suspended over the centre of a sea-cow path at a height of about thirty feet from the ground by a bark cord which passed over a high branch of a tree and thence to a peg on one side of the path beneath, leading across the path to a peg on the other side, where it was fastened. To the suspending cord were two triggers so constructed that, when the sea-cow struck against the cord which led across the path, the heavy block above was set at liberty, which instantly dropped with immense force with its poisonous dart, inflicting a sure and mortal wound. The bones and old teeth of sea-cows which lay rotting along the bank of the river here evinced the success of this

dangerous invention. I remained in the neighbourhood of the pool for several days, during which time I bagged no less than fifteen first-rate hippopotami, the greater portion of them being bulls."

We will give one adventure more. In its very first passage, who can help being struck with the words, "*some of the sea-cows*,"—a piece of taking-for-granted in its way as whimsical as the advertisement beginning "*Anybody wanting a diving bell!*" which has always seemed to us unparagoned as a temptation to the average public. Now, for the adventure in question.—

"The next day, after assisting my men to get out some of the sea-cows, I rode down the river with two after-riders to explore. Having ridden a few miles, I came upon a troop of twelve, the best of which I disabled and killed the next day. This was a most splendid old cow, and carried tusks far superior to any we had yet seen; in the afternoon I bagged six more. From a continued run of good luck in all my hunting expeditions with my horses and oxen, in regard to lions and Bakalahari pitfalls, I had become foolishly careless of them, and I had got into a most dangerous custom of allowing the cattle to feed about the waggons long after the sun was under. I was always boasting of my good luck, and used to say that the lions knew they were my cattle, and feared to molest them. This night, however, a bitter lesson was in store for me. The sun as usual had been under an hour before I ordered my men to make fast my horses; the oxen had of their own accord come to the waggons and lain down; the horses, however, were not forthcoming. My hired natives, who were now anxious to prevent my proceeding farther from their country, were willingly neglecting their charge, and instead of looking after my cattle, they were exchanging the flesh and fat of my sea-cows for assagais, &c., with the Bakalahari. The night was very dark, and the horses were sought for in vain. I remarked to Carey that it was some time since we had heard the voice of a lion; but a few minutes after we heard the low moan of the king of beasts repeated several times at no great distance, and in the very direction in which my horses were supposed to be. The next day the sun had been up two hours, and my horses could not yet be found. I entertained no apprehensions, however, from the lion, but rather suspected some plot between Seleka and my natives to drive my cattle back, and so force me to retrace my steps. I therefore ordered John Stofulus and Hendrick to take bridles and a supply of meat, and to follow up the spoor wherever it might lead; and being anxious to see which way it went, I took a rifle and followed in quest of it myself. Observing a number of vultures to the west, and hearing the voices of natives in that direction, I proceeded thither at top speed. To my utter horror, I found my two most valuable and especially favourite veteran shooting-horses lying fearfully mangled and half consumed by a troop of ruthless lions. They were 'Black Jock' and 'Schwartland,' the former a first-rate young horse, worth 24*l.*, the latter aged, but by far my most valuable steed, being perhaps the best shooting-horse in Southern Africa; he knew no fear, and would approach as near as I chose to elephant or lion, or any description of game. From his back I had shot nearly all my elephants last year; and so fond was I of this horse, that I never rode or even saddled him until we had found elephants, when I used him in the fight, and then immediately off-saddled."

Lieut. Cumming's passion for the chase, however, cost him more than his shooting-horse. Poor Hendrick, shortly after the above loss, was snatched out of the middle of the encampment by a lion, dragged into the wilderness, and devoured. Such an incident is too frightful to be dwelt on in all its hideous details; but it must not be passed over, since it marks the nature of the hunter's life in South Africa,—and thus characterizes his sport, when mere sport it is, and not the self-defence of the pioneer and the colonist. No doubt, travellers so intrepid as Lieut. Cumming—by daring to seek what others hardly dare to see—have their value as adding something to the world's stock of knowledge; but by our hunter's showing the acquisition is dearly bought. The amusement which includes

such frightful casualties, as almost average chances, cannot but be protested against; be our sympathy with manly sport ever so quick and our recognition of courage ever so ready.

*Nineveh and Persepolis: an Historical Sketch of Ancient Assyria and Persia, with an Account of the recent Researches in those Countries.* By W. S. W. Vaux, M.A. Hall, Virtue & Co.

*Notes from Nineveh, and Travels in Mesopotamia, Assyria, and Syria.* By the Rev. J. P. Fletcher. 2 vols. Colburn.

*M. Botta's Letters on the Discoveries at Nineveh.* Translated from the French by C. T. With a Plan, Plates, and Inscriptions. First Series. Longman & Co.

THE many interesting researches and discoveries which have lately been made in Western Asia will naturally cause the publication of a vast number of books. We shall have, of course, epitomes and digests of the labours of original investigators, and the contents of ponderous volumes reduced into readable compass:—and as a trip to Nineveh and back in these days of rapid transit may be accomplished in a long vacation, and as travellers are seldom disposed to undervalue their adventures and experiences, we anticipate a multitude of "Travels," "Tours," "Excursions," and "Pen and Pencil Sketches." It is the glory and honour of literature not only to supply the wants and gratify the taste of the educated and intellectual, but also to inform and elevate the minds of those who, though imperfectly educated, participate in a rational and dignified curiosity; and we ever rejoice to see the treasures of science and erudition rendered intelligible and interesting to all. We entertain a sincere respect, then, for the author of a clear and well-written popular treatise, or of a spirited and entertaining book of travels. To succeed perfectly in writing works of the kind we mean, implies talent much rarer than is commonly supposed.

These reflections were suggested by the perusal of the works now before us. The first is precisely the kind of book which we have expected for some months past. In the words of the author,—

"No work exists that combines the general results of their discoveries, or which brings down to the present time the general information which has been collected. It has been therefore thought that a smaller work, which should bring together within a moderate compass what has been done by travellers, and whatever knowledge can be acquired from other sources, might be not altogether an useless performance, and might serve as a convenient digest of much valuable information at present scattered through many scarce and expensive volumes. It is with this object that the present volume is submitted to the public. Professing no original views, and containing no deep scientific research, it is not the wish of the author to supersede the separate perusal of any one of the many authorities from which it has been compiled, but simply to state with fairness what has been accomplished up to the present time."

Mr. Vaux's work may conveniently be described as embracing an exposition of three distinct topics:—1st. An outline of the history of Assyria and Persia so far as it can be ascertained from the Bible and the works of classical authors,—2nd. A summary of the observations and discoveries of modern travellers in those countries,—and, 3rd. An account of the learned investigations of Grotefend, Rawlinson, and others on Assyrian and Persian antiquities. The first of these topics is discussed with some minuteness. We think Mr. Vaux might with more propriety have confined himself to *results*. A clear and succinct sketch of the best ascertained conclusions of modern scholars on this part of Oriental history is what general



readers require. This sketch should have been given as free as possible from all learned discussion. The epitome of Heeren upon ancient history might have served in many respects as a model. In works of this kind, critical disquisitions, if introduced at all, should be kept separate from historical narration. A system of copious and careful references will always enable the curious to pursue to any extent the subject for themselves. This objection, however, does not apply to the account here given of the Khalafat and of the Turkomans and Moguls. Mr. Vaux enables his readers to follow with ease and interest the rather complicated fortunes of the early Mohammedan kingdoms and dynasties.

After a brief but sufficient mention of the names and works of the early European travellers, Mr. Vaux proceeds to describe the monumental remains still existing in Assyria and Persia. In pursuance of this design, an epitome is given of the labours of M. Botta at Khorsabad, and of Mr. Layard at Nimroud,—which will admirably meet the wants of those to whom the detached memoirs and rather voluminous works of those authors are not accessible. This part of Mr. Vaux's work is well executed; and he gives an accurate and interesting summary of the recent discoveries made on the banks of the Tigris. For his account of Persepolis and its antiquities Mr. Vaux is chiefly indebted to the valuable but rather diffuse work of Sir R. K. Porter, and to the researches of Rich and of Anquetil du Perron.

The partial interpretation of the cuneiform or wedge-shaped inscriptions, is perhaps one of the highest triumphs of philological science and human ingenuity; and the remaining portion of Mr. Vaux's book is devoted to a general and popular explanation of the process by which some of these characters have been deciphered. These inscriptions are engraven on many of the monuments and relics found in Mesopotamia and in various parts of Armenia and Persia. They occur in three different modes of combination,—conjectured, on good grounds, to correspond to as many distinct languages, and called, respectively, the Persian, the Median, and the Assyrian. To the genius and laborious patience of the late Dr. Grotefend we owe the first advances towards an elucidation of the Persian branch; and our knowledge has since been very considerably extended by the researches of Burnouf, Lassen, Rawlinson, Dr. Hincks, and others. We may form some idea of the extreme difficulty of this investigation by recollecting that not only was the phonetic value of each separate combination or letter to be determined, but the language which these characters were intended to represent, and which has been entirely lost for perhaps more than twenty centuries, was to be recovered. The labours of Dr. Young and Champollion in their interpretation of the Egyptian hieroglyphics were facilitated by the possession of the Rosetta stone. Again, in the case of the Himyaritic inscriptions which are met with in the southern parts of Arabia, it has been ascertained that a dialect of the ancient Himyaritic is still spoken by one of the Arab races. The interpretation, then, of the cuneiform characters would seem a much more difficult problem than that of the hieroglyphic or the Himyaritic; and its solution is certainly one of the most wonderful achievements of human intellect. Mr. Vaux gives a clear exposition of the general method which was pursued in effecting this discovery; and for this he will be thanked by many curious and intelligent readers, to whose attention we recommend his ably executed compendium.

The title of the second work prefixed to this article is a sufficient indication of the author's

method of treating his subject. He has thrown into a narrative the notes of two years' residence at Mosul and of excursions made into several remote parts of Assyria; has added a history of the Nestorian and Jacobite Christians; and has enlivened the whole by introducing several Oriental tales,—many of which are amusing and humorous. The primary object of Mr. Fletcher in undertaking his journey was, to assist in a mission of inquiry into the present state of religion and literature among the Christian Churches of the East: We cannot help thinking, however, judging from the work before us, that Mr. Fletcher's forte does not lie in inquiries and investigations of this kind. He has produced two volumes abounding in lively and graphic sketches of scenes visited and of characters encountered; but the work would have been better if the theological portions had been very much condensed or curtailed. We strongly suspect that Mr. Fletcher found himself rather trammelled at times by the necessity of saying something theological. To quote his own words,—

"Men will always prefer amusement to instruction, or at least they will require that the two be blended together; and thus, the novelist, the historian, or even the writer of travels, may seek for his reward in the favour and the support of an amused and gratified public, while the scientific or philological writer will find that his researches must be, like virtue, their own reward."

There is some truth in this; and many readers of this work, ourselves among the number, would have preferred an addition to Mr. Fletcher's amusing stories and often piquant observations on men and manners, even at the expense of some of the compilations from Mosheim, Beausobre, and other learned authorities.

The following quotations are from those parts of Mr. Fletcher's volumes which pleased us most,—and will convey a fair impression of his light and easy style and evidently keen relish for the grotesque. On one occasion Mr. Fletcher was called on by some of the Chaldean Christians to defend the English from the charges of polygamy and atheism.—

"They were dreadfully scandalized at our refusing to acknowledge the authority of the Pope, and one gentleman asked me seriously, and with an air of great concern, whether I ever said my prayers! On one occasion a large party had assembled, among whom was a merchant recently arrived from Aleppo. In the course of conversation he began to attack the English.—'The Ingleez,' he said, 'are a very fierce and intractable nation. They marry many wives, and care very little about Allah, whose name he exalted.'—I here interrupted the speaker, and asked if, in the course of his travels, he had ever heard of the English Church.—'Belli, yes,' he answered, 'I know the whole history of your Church. You must understand,' continued he, turning to the rest, 'that once there lived in England a great sultan whose name was Napoleon Buonaparte. This sultan was like unto Antar and Iskander, the Macedonian, and he made many of the kings of Frangistan his footstool. But his heart was lifted up, and he defied Allah in his pride. And Napoleon's wife was old, and she was no longer pleasing in his eyes. Then it came to pass that he looked upon a certain fair damsel with the glances of love, and he said, 'Inshallah, I will divorce my wife and get me this fair one in marriage. Now the Ingleez were all Catholics then, and, therefore, Napoleon sent a message to our Father the Pope, desiring that he would grant him a divorce. But the Pope reproved Napoleon for his pride and unkind dealing with his wife, at which the Sultan waxed wroth, and said, Surely this Pope is no better than Abou Jahash, even the Father of Stupidity; but Inshallah, I will make him eat abomination. So he went with many soldiers and besieged Rome, and took the Pope prisoner, and shut him up in a great tower in London, which is the chief city of the Ingleez. But the kings of

the Franks all joined together, and made war upon Napoleon Buonaparte, and overcame him. Then their soldiers came to London and set the Pope at liberty. And when the Pope returned to Rome, he cursed Napoleon, and excommunicated him and all the Ingleez. But Napoleon laughed at his beard, and he said, Inshallah, but I will have a Church of my own. So he made bishops, and they divorced his wife, and they married him to the beautiful damsel, after which he founded the English Church.' All the assembly were deeply penetrated and impressed with this narrative, which was delivered with great volubility and lively pantomimic action."

As a specimen of the author's narrative style we offer the following. Mr. Fletcher and one or two Europeans resolved to make an excursion to Nimroud and other places of interest in the vicinity.—

"My old friend Mohammed had come in to smoke a morning pipe, and was much astonished at all this bustle in the court-yard.—'Are you going back to Ingelterra?' inquired he.—'Not this time, my friend,' I said, 'we are merely going to Mar Matti, to Nimroud, and to Rabban Hormuzd.'—'Mashallah!' exclaimed my old companion, 'what people these Franks are. Here have I been living for twenty years in Mosul, and have never gone further, during that period, than to the Mound of Nebbi Yunas. Surely you cannot be in your senses to change this comfortable diwan for a rough saddle and a stony road. Then you will meet Kurds, Yezidees, and other obscene sons of Satan, who may rob you, or cut your throats. Allah knows, Khowajeh Yacoub, whether I shall ever smoke another pipe in your house.'—I endeavoured to quiet his fears by the assurance that he would most probably see my face again in a week; and with this consolatory remark I rode off. \* \* I had not proceeded the length of the street, however, before I heard a voice calling me from behind. I stopped my horse, and, turning round, beheld Mohammed, in a state of breathless exhaustion, carrying a formidable sabre.—'Take at least this with you,' he gasped, as he came up with me.—'O Mohammed,' I exclaimed, 'I am not afraid of the Kurds or the Yezidees; and besides, if a great number attack me, it would be worse than madness to resist.'—But Mohammed had settled in his own mind, that I could not be safe without a sword; and that the sight of one, even though resting peacefully in its scabbard, would scare away whole legions of the much-dreaded Kurds and Yezidees. I yielded to his entreaties, and consented to accept the loan of the formidable weapon.—'It is a true Shami,' said he, as I fastened the belt, 'take it, and go in peace.'—When we arrived at the bank of the river, we found a ferry boat had just come in with some Albanian mercenaries. Nothing could be more repulsive or ruffianly than the general appearance of these men. Their features were wan and sallow, the effects of unlimited debauchery, while their garments hung loose and ragged about them. The white kilts had become brown, and the lace of their jackets was torn and tarnished. They gazed upon us with marked ferocity, and would doubtless have felt great pleasure in cutting our throats and rifling our baggage. They had just returned from laying waste three villages, and carried with them several strings of human ears, which were afterwards suspended near the chief gate of Mosul."

The travellers had scarcely crossed the Tigris when they were overtaken by a storm, which compelled them to seek shelter in one of a collection of huts inhabited by Kurds;—and the evening was passed in telling Kurdish stories and singing Kurdish songs. Mr. Fletcher's friend, Kas Botros, was somewhat celebrated as a story-teller, and lost no tittle of his honours on this occasion. The story is indeed a good one,—but too long for our purpose. We may state in brief, that a whole nation, except the King and his Wuzeer, had drunk of enchanted waters and become mad. The moral is a universal truth.—

"They soon found, however, their condition most solitary and desolate, for every one had abandoned the palace. Once or twice they ventured abroad,



but were driven back by the scoffs and jeers of the crowd, who shouted after them 'there go the madmen.' They attempted to reason with their persecutors, but in vain, for all the insane were convinced that their Prince and his Wuzeer were mad. To such an extent did this opinion prevail, that it was agreed among the citizens that a physician should make a visit to the two unfortunates in the palace. The man of medicine came, he was distinguished by a long beard and the gestures of a mountebank, and the Sultan in reply to his questions, bade him indignantly go home and heal himself. The physician's report was, of course unfavourable, and his remedy for the madness of his two patients would not have been unworthy of the Avicennas of a more civilized age. He ordered that the King and his Wuzeer should suffer the daily infliction of fifty pails of water, and receive each a hundred stripes, till they acknowledged themselves to be mad. At the end of three days this regimen began to work wonders, and the King said to the Wuzeer, 'O, Ibn Fadel, let us drink of the water of the river, and become even as the rest, for to what avail is our reason, if we are persecuted for being mad? My soles are sore from the bastinado, and my garments flow with water even as a fountain; yet the consciousness of my sanity will neither heal the one nor dry the other. Surely the poet has wisely said, that "if a wise man would dwell in peace among fools, he must also become foolish."—The Wuzeer agreed fully with the sentiments of his Sovereign; they both drank of the river, and the next day were received with acclamations by a grateful and frantic crowd.'

The letters of M. Botta describing his discoveries at Khorsabad, were originally published by M. Jules Mohl in the *Journal Asiatique*, during the years 1843-4. The present translation of the first series of these letters, with the accompanying valuable plates, will be especially acceptable to students already familiar with Mr. Layard's work and who wish to extend their knowledge of Assyrian antiquities. The difficulties encountered and successfully overcome by M. Botta are but slightly alluded to in these letters; which are occupied almost entirely with descriptions of the bas-reliefs and other remains found in the monument or temple at Khorsabad. With these our readers are familiar: and we will merely state generally that M. Botta's letters may be regarded as a valuable appendix or supplement to Mr. Layard's work,—or may be read with interest and advantage after the work of Mr. Vaux.

We cannot omit the opportunity of expressing our participation in the respect and esteem with which all who are capable of appreciating liberality and disinterestedness will regard the conduct of M. Botta in the prosecution of his interesting labours. The unselfish way in which he has afforded facilities of investigation for other labourers in the same field is a graceful characteristic of the true lover of science; and we cannot more appropriately terminate this article than by repeating Mr. Layard's ready acknowledgment, that 'To M. Botta belongs the honour of having found the first Assyrian monument.'

*The Lives of the Speakers of the House of Commons.* By J. A. Manning, Esq., of the Inner Temple. Churton.

THE House of Commons occupies so great a space in the history and government of this country, that it furnishes a variety of themes to authors. We are only surprised that the literature of the House (if we may use the phrase) is not more extensive, and that there are not more popular works of an interesting character on our Parliamentary History. The fact perhaps is, that in a critical sense it is hardly possible to separate the history of Parliament from the general history of the country, so closely are they intertwined. Works professing to give the

history of the Legislature would be either essays on the constitution, or narratives recording the contests between Whigs and Tories, diversified with biographic sketches of leading orators. Perhaps a merely literary or legal author is not the best to write a history of the Legislature. It is a remark of Spinoza that all great political writers have themselves been actually conversant with affairs; and he refers to Tacitus as a particular example of the value of experience to historical writers. Clarendon, Bolingbroke, and Burke are also instances in point. Gibbon confessed that his drilling in the yeomanry corps facilitated his studies of ancient military science; and doubtless Mr. Macaulay and M. de Lamartine have found their actual experience of the House of Commons and of the Chamber of Deputies of great advantage to them in their historical compositions. Thoroughly to understand the nature of Parliamentary life requires some actual experience as a member of the House of Commons, or else the closest social intimacy with influential members of the legislature. A barrister composing in the Temple a history of Parliament cannot impart to his composition that reality which is to be acquired only by actual cognizance of the very peculiar habit of thought prevalent in that great assembly which represents the public mind. His is merely an external knowledge of the subject; and in estimating the transactions of past Parliaments he will not probably discriminate between the practicable and the speculatively right like a man habituated to vote on questions of momentous interest.

'The Lives of the Speakers of the House of Commons' is a work evidently suggested by Lord Campbell's 'Chancellors.' But to say nothing of the difference between the authors, the interest of the subject-matter is necessarily far greater in the case of the Chancellors than in that of the Speakers. In the former we were introduced to a number of ambitious men, of characters as remarkable as their talents,—their public lives being identified with the history of the country. But the Speakers of the House of Commons were not men of action in any historic sense; and no great master spirit would consent to hold an office in the discharge of which, as a matter of necessity, he could not take an active part in the debates. We have reckoned that from the days of Sir Thomas Hungerford to the present time there are not less than 115 Speakers. Of these only one can be said to be an illustrious character of the first class—Sir Thomas More. We may quote further the famous names of Sir Edward Coke, and Harley (Earl of Oxford), together with that of the late Lord Grenville. The rest of the list, with some rare exceptions, is composed of names by no means entitled to historic celebrity, however respectable were many of the men who bore them. Amongst these exceptions is the name of Speaker Onslow. With such a list of dubious celebrities, what could the most graceful stylist accomplish? Could even an accomplished author impart interest to lives without events, dramatic interest, or stirring incidents? Mr. Manning, the author of the work before us, is evidently quite inexperienced in the arts alike of compilation and of composition,—and, as might be anticipated, he has produced a very dull book. Unhappily, the faults of the book do not end with its unattractive nature. It is badly arranged. The author assigns nearly the same space to lives of the most insignificant Speakers as to those of the most eminent. To the contemptible Lenthall there is more space given than to the respectable Onslow. Far more room is assigned to Sir Reginald Bray than to Sir Edward Coke. It is only since the reign of Queen Elizabeth that the lives of the Speakers could be made attrac-

tive to general readers; and at least two-thirds (if not three-fourths) of the work should be given to the Speakers since 1600. But Mr. Manning gives far more than half of his big book (ponderous in size as well as in style) to the least agreeable portion of his subject.

The matter of the work does not compensate for its unskillful arrangement. Where we naturally look for most instruction or pleasure the author puts us off with such lame excuses that we are disposed to ask, why did he provoke our attention by publishing a work on such a subject? Thus, on taking up his volume, we naturally turned to the life of the greatest Speaker that the House ever possessed—Arthur Onslow; and we were surprised at finding just five pages assigned to the first man in the long official line. We were still further surprised on examining the contents of these five pages. Here is the way in which the author excuses his non-performance of his duty.—

"Amongst the numerous histories, memoirs, and political publications of that day, anecdote after anecdote might be selected in illustration of the virtues, patriotism, transcendent abilities, and high moral integrity of our Speaker both in public and private life; but as opinions and private judgment are liable to error, the imputation of partiality or political rancour, and as we cannot bestow that time upon the biographical sketch of any one individual in a work destined to contain so many within a limited space, however deserving our best eulogies, we have deemed it more safe, more satisfactory, and more compatible, to adduce this public testimony of Mr. Onslow's worth in the estimation of his contemporaries of all shades of politics, than to pin our faith upon the opinions of writers, however eminent their attainments."

Even in these five pages Mr. Manning omits much that is interesting in the life of Speaker Onslow. He takes no notice of his having resigned the Treasurership of the Navy on the principle that to hold the post was inconsistent with the office of Speaker; and he omits to record the liberal and effective manner in which Onslow patronized the cultivators of literature and science,—a fact attested by the number of works dedicated to him. Neither does he tell the curious anecdote of Onslow's seeking relaxation at the Jew's Harp and enjoying the landlord's jokes, until after the lapse of some years, he found out that he was discovered by the unusual respect which was paid to him. For Onslow's life there are abundant materials, but Mr. Manning has neglected to use them.

Again, we turned with some curiosity to see what the author would say of Manners Sutton;—whose memoirs could be made very readable, from the fact of his having filled the chair during the stirring times when Canning and Brougham were in their prime. We recollected the unprecedented interest felt in the contest for the chair with the present Lord Danferrmilne (then Mr. Abercromby) in 1835, and we remembered the attractive social qualities of Lord Canterbury himself. But we were grievously disappointed to find just four pages assigned to his 'life,' and the great speakership contest disposed of in two lines. It is true that in his cursory notice of Speaker Abercromby Mr. Manning devotes a page and a half to one of the most interesting and striking passages in the whole history of the Speakers. We well recollect the great interest felt about that event, the excessive betting in the clubs, the canvassing and solicitation of members, and the various artifices employed to gain a majority.—The author records his personal acquaintance with Lord Canterbury, and tantalizes the reader by telling him of the brilliant qualities of which he gives no memorials.

"Our admiration of the great qualities of his



lordship's mind, and our sense of his devotion to the service of his country, combined with a personal knowledge of his kind and amiable disposition, his engaging manners, his wit, learning, and brilliant conversational powers, would under ordinary circumstances prove most felicitous adjuncts to the biographer, but even at this distance of time, they tend rather to augment than diminish the difficulties under which we labour in our endeavours to do justice to his memory. We feel our incompetency, from a recollection of his friendship, which is treasured and fondly cherished in our hearts, to give more than a faint outline of Lord Canterbury's personal merits, his public services stand recorded in the archives of history."

The author winds up the sketch by saying that "the memory of Lord-Canterbury will long be revered," as if he were writing of a Hampden or a Somers.—When we recollect the times in which Manners Sutton held the chair, and the number of brilliant debaters who figured before him, we can imagine that an author of moderate talent might make a very pleasant and readable sketch of him. But the flimsy notice of him by Mr. Manning is miserably meagre, besides being extravagantly and fulsomely partial.

Next to Speaker Onslow we would be disposed to say that Abbot (Lord Colchester) was the most meritorious Speaker of the House of Commons. He was a most laborious and painstaking public servant, and the country is indebted to him for many useful measures. He was the originator of the Royal Record Commission, of the Private Bill Office, and he effected an improvement in the printing of the votes. He greatly facilitated the progress of public business by his energy and skill. One thing especially distinguished Speaker Abbot from his predecessors and successors:—his addresses to public persons who received the thanks of the Commons were excellent specimens of the eloquence of eulogy, and had much literary merit. His address to the Duke of Wellington on his return from the Peninsula in 1814 is a model of eulogy; and the whole scene—the Duke at the Bar making a cordial acknowledgment of the support which he had received from Parliament, the Speaker with his hat off addressing the Duke in a speech which moved the House into enthusiasm—is worthy of notice. But the author of 'The Lives of the Speakers' does not even allude to that remarkable day; nor does he give the reader any intimation of the merit of Speaker Abbot's addresses,—a collection of which has been printed since his decease. Nor does Mr. Manning notice the fact of Mr. Abbot, while at the Bar, printing 'The Practice of the Chester Circuit,'—in the preface to which he suggested various improvements in Welsh judicature which have since been carried into effect. How little he is competent to understand the resources of his subject may be shown by the fact that he gives just two lines to the circumstance of Mr. Abbot's having been the casting vote against Lord Melville on Mr. Whitbread's memorable motion. Of that night, when the excitement of parties was at the highest pitch, there is a most graphic account (from Lord Fitzharris's 'Note Book') in the fourth volume of Lord Malmesbury's Diary; where the writer describes his sitting next to Pitt, and seeing the tears coursing down the great minister's face, while he tried to hide them by slouching down his hat over a brow never before abashed in Parliament! Col. Wardle was heard by Lord Fitzharris to say—"Let us see how Billy looks after it," when the division had taken place; but Lord Fitzharris and a few personal friends linked their arms together round Pitt, who stalked out of the House in a melancholy mood, apparently unconscious of the scene around him. When we recollect the friendship between Pitt and Lord Melville, and that the

Speaker was nominated by the Government to the chair, we are justified in saying that never did any Speaker give a vote so inexpressibly painful and trying as that casting vote of Mr. Abbot which decided the motion on the numbers being equal. His conscientiousness deserves special notice;—and yet in his 'Life' Mr. Manning devotes two lines and a half to record the proceedings of a night into which the painful feelings of many years were concentrated.

It has been very rarely that a Speaker has had to give a casting vote. We recollect, however, a sufficiently memorable instance in 1786 during the Speakership of Mr. Cornwall, upon the Duke of Richmond's plan for fortification being proposed to the House. It was the most notable event in Mr. Cornwall's office and career. We turn to Mr. Manning's 'Lives of the Speakers,'—and we find that he does not take the slightest notice of the only interesting and important fact in Speaker Cornwall's official life! Of the four pages assigned to Mr. Cornwall, Mr. Manning gives a third part to the trivial details of unimportant genealogy; telling us of the "illustrious family" of Cornwall, and going back to Agincourt and Henry the Fourth.

There has been no life published of the late Lord Grenville, and the subject was open to Mr. Manning,—but he has given us a meagre notice of four pages of the noble lord, half of which seems to be a reprint, though he does not tell us the source from which he takes it. But the insipid and tasteless compilation of this book is beyond patience. In the life of Fletcher Norton, the author, who is perpetually apologizing for his want of space to do justice to his subject, occupies three long pages with flimsy genealogy, and prints fourteen stanzas *in extenso* of the ballad of 'The Rising of the North,' because the family of Norton were concerned in the insurrection. Indeed, his perpetual reference to pedigrees is quite wearisome and out of place. Mr. Manning is evidently fond of reading pedigrees. Genealogy has its particular value, and is susceptible of being treated with great historic and philosophic interest:—of which one instance occurs to us in the masterly manner in which Mr. Hallam discusses the pedigree of the House of Stuart in its relation to the question of the legitimacy of James the First.† But the popular prejudice is not entirely unfounded in truth, that genealogists are generally people of small minds. Mr. Manning's book is confirmatory of that prejudice. From first to last it is stuffed with bits of pedigrees, to the exclusion of interesting historical matter which might have found a place in his large volume. Indeed, the very people who would take interest in the perusal of this volume would be genealogists and pedigree-mongers. Accuracy, however, is the special virtue of a genealogist; and Mr. Manning so frequently quotes with excessive laudation works not held in high repute by erudite genealogists that we cannot place much value on his bits of pedigrees. Besides, he never gives references to either the page or the edition of the work from which he quotes—a fault deserving of severe critical censure in a work connected with history.

In enumerating the lives of Sir Thomas More already published, Mr. Manning does not notice the best ever written:—we allude to the beautiful sketch written for the 'Cabinet Cyclopædia' by Sir James Mackintosh, which has since been reprinted by itself, as well as in the miscellaneous works of its author. It is one of the best productions of Mackintosh, and is worthy of the subject:—every page being ele-

vated with large views, and a fine ethical feeling pervading the whole composition. It is a little book eminently calculated to develop a moral feeling in the mind of the reader; and if 'The Life of Nelson,' by Southey, ought to be in the hands of every midshipman, 'The Life of More,' by Mackintosh, should be familiar to the mind of every young lawyer and youthful senator.

The descendants of Lenthall gave the author some help in writing a notice of that timeserver. In no other instance does he appear to have had access to original matter. The work might be easily compiled from Browne Willis's 'Notitia Parliamentaria,' Collins's Peerage, and Townsend's 'History of the House of Commons.' It is, as we have said, the Genealogy of the Speakers rather than their Biography. In case Mr. Manning should adopt the practice of quoting exactly the pages of the works from which he takes his information, he might possibly produce some useful works on English genealogies!

*The History of Religion. A Rational Account of the True Religion.* By John Evelyn. Now first published from the original MS. in the Library at Wotton. Edited, with Notes, by the Rev. R. M. Evanson. 2 vols. Colburn.

AFTER a repose of two centuries in the private resting-place which their author designed for these papers, they are dragged forth and offered to the general public. For this addition to the before-known works of Evelyn we are chiefly, it is said, indebted to the suggestions of Mr. Colburn, its publisher. While we are not likely to quarrel with that spirit of research, of enthusiasm, or of trade speculation, to which we are indebted for some discoveries of high interest, we confess that we have risen from the perusal of these volumes impatient and unsatisfied—and with a feeling that the manuscript had better have been left in the seclusion of Wotton Library. It adds nothing to our previous information. The facts and arguments are to be found in the ordinary historians; and the style of treatment belongs to that large and ponderous school of which Raleigh's 'History of the World' is the highest type—wherein the manner was to re-state all the minute and circumstantial evidence connected with the topic in hand which from long use have become the common property of writers, dealing with this material exactly as it was found, sifting nothing, rejecting nothing, and exercising little or no original intellect on it.

But for all this Evelyn must not be called to account. Had this work been published by him in its present form, it would have lessened his reputation; but he was too wise a man in his generation to run such a risk, and as if fearing that some mischance might ultimately make it public, he expressly recorded his own belief that it was unfit for publication. In the face of such a protest criticism is disarmed;—the author's verdict is in union with the critic's own. But we cannot do otherwise than question the wisdom evinced by those admirers of the "model of English gentlemen" who by placing these imperfect—though elaborate—analecta before the reading world, would challenge a judgment against their author on grounds which living he took particular pains to repudiate. Evelyn says, that the work is rather a collection of passages, many of them transcribed from earlier writers and in their very words, than a history; and these were compiled solely by way of building up for his own satisfaction a system of Christian evidences.

His plan was simple, and easily described. Religion has its origin in the idea of God. His existence is, therefore, the first fact in the system. This existence he undertakes to prove

† 'Constitutional History of England,' vol. I., p. 234 (4th edit.)



at the outset—by the general consent of mankind,—the creation of the world,—the nature of the human soul,—the moral government of mankind,—and so forth. These sections offer no novelty in fact or in illustration. The controversy has completely changed its ground in modern times; and the argument in favour of a Supreme Providence has grown more spiritual—and perhaps less logical—than it was in the days of Evelyn. Having, however, demonstrated God, the writer next proceeds to argue that He ought to be worshipped; and this being accepted as a fair conclusion, the intricate question of what form of worship is most acceptable to him, and most worthy of man as an intellectual being, comes on for discussion:—the inquiry of course resulting in the discovery of the ritual of the Church of England.

Of the history of religious parties in his own time Evelyn, unfortunately, says not one word. On this point—for in no part of our history are we more in want of a catholic and liberal digest such as he might have afforded—his evidence would have been truly valuable. As it is, we must take our facts from much inferior sources. The reader will expect from Evelyn a certain refinement of speech, tolerable scholarship, and a calm and tolerant tone of disquisition:—but this 'History of Religion' will displace no former treatise, and not even furnish a hint for any future one.

*The Natural History of British Entomostraca,*  
By W. Baird, M.D., F.L.S., &c. Published  
for the Ray Society.

THE Ray Society can hardly propose to itself a more desirable object than the completion of the natural history of the animals of Great Britain. It is true that Mr. Van Voorst's publications have achieved this object as far as vertebrate animals are concerned,—and the Palæontographical Society is endeavouring to do the same for extinct animals. Yet there is a wide field for exertion in our invertebrate zoology. The zoophytes, infusoria, rotifera, ascidia, jelly-fishes, cirripedes, annelids, and insects have been very imperfectly described and illustrated. The present work is well calculated to illustrate the importance of publications towards the successful study of the natural history of our island. Most of our systematic writers on the Crustacea when treating of the minute family of these creatures have followed Linnæus, and been satisfied with enumerating some only of the more common forms. The family has been, however, industriously studied by Continental writers,—and the number of species that are natives of Britain alone which Dr. Baird has described is considerably above a hundred.

The minute creatures treated of in this work, although inhabitants of the water, were referred by Linnæus to the family of insects; but more recent examination has shown that they truly belong to the family in which are placed shrimps, crabs and lobsters. Their name, Entomostraca, is intended to express the fact of their being insects in a shell. Of all the creatures found in drops of water, and magnified for the benefit of sight-seers at our Exhibitions, these are the most dignified in zoological position and complicated in structure. The animal itself is inclosed in a shell of very curious form, and is supplied with one or two very large and prominent eyes. The antennæ, legs and tail are frequently curiously covered with hairs and projections. The shell is in most cases so transparent that the structure of the creature can be seen through it,—and its organization by this means is thoroughly understood. These animals frequently occur in such large quantities as to colour the waters in which they live.

We have seen those of the reservoir in the Green Park so full of them as to give it a yellow colour. The various species are coloured differently,—as are even the same species at different seasons of the year: and according to their numbers will be the colour of the water. Although most of the species are very small, scarcely visible to the naked eye, yet they occur in the ocean in such quantities as to constitute the food of its most gigantic inhabitants. One of these creatures is described by Vauzème, who—

"was attached to a vessel employed in the whale fishery in the Southern Ocean; and for four months the crew were engaged in the neighbourhood of the island of Tristan d'Acunha, in the South Atlantic, without his ever having been able to observe what formed the food of the whales. Leaving that quarter, however, at the end of that time, and steering for Cape Horn, he one morning, in the month of February, observed the surface of the sea streaked with red lines, of several miles in extent, and giving the appearance of blood to the water. The experienced sailors on board immediately announced that they had now reached the *pasture* of the whales. Accordingly, they very soon afterwards saw them sporting about in the midst of these ruddy banks. Upon examining the water thus coloured, Vauzème found it caused by an immense number of small Crustaceans, which were of a red hue. They swarmed in myriads on the surface of the sea, and when the wind was boisterous a whole bank of them would be taken up by a wave, and carried on board the vessel, covering the deck and the clothes of the sailors. The whales swallowed them in myriads, and they served for food not only to them but to the Cirrhopodes (the Coronulæ and Tubicinellæ), which live as parasites upon their skin. The American fishers on that station informed him that these little creatures, in the fine weather of October and November, remain concealed deep under the water, but that after that time they come to the surface to lay their eggs. In our own seas this same kind of Crustacean has also been observed to be the food of cetaceous animals. In the Frith of Forth, Mr. Goodsir informs us, that during the summer months, great masses of animal matter abound on the surface of the sea, and that this had long been noticed by the fishermen on the coast, and was called by them *maïdres*. Upon examining this matter in the neighbourhood of the Isle of May, he found it to consist of Cirrhopodes, Crustaceans, and Acalepha; but that of all these, the Entomostracous Crustaceans abounded in the greatest quantity, 'or rather masses,' he observes, 'for it gives a faint idea to speak of numbers. \* \* On looking into the water,' he continues, 'it was found to be quite obscured by the moving masses of Entomostraca, which rendered it impossible to see anything, even a few inches below the surface. But if a clear spot is obtained, so as to allow the observer to get a view of the bottom, immense shoals of cod-fish are seen swimming lazily about, and devouring their minute prey in great quantities. Occasionally small shoals of herrings are seen, pursuing them with greater agility. \* \* Great numbers of Cetacea often frequent the neighbourhood of the island at this time, droves of dolphins and porpoises swimming about with great activity; and occasionally an immense roqual may be seen, raising his enormous back at intervals from the water, and is to be observed coursing round and round the island.' On one of his visits to the Isle of May, he observed that at a considerable distance from the land, the sea had assumed a slightly red colour, and that this became deeper and deeper, the nearer he approached the island. The water too, he noticed, presented a very curious appearance on the surface, as if a quantity of fine sand were constantly falling upon it. At first he thought this might proceed from light rain, but, upon more attentive examination, he found both the red hue of the water and the motion on its surface proceeded from an immense number of small Entomostraca. Some of these he collected, and found them to be a species of the genus *Cetochilus*."

These minute animals abound in our estuaries, and in these spots form the principal food of the salmon. Dr. Parnell, who has studied most

carefully the habits of fishes, says that the Loch-levin trout owes its superior richness and sweetness of taste to the fact of its food consisting principally of the Entomostraca. When the fish are removed to waters not containing the Entomostraca they lose much of their fine flavour and colour. The food of these little creatures themselves seems to be a mixture of vegetable and animal substances. Their habits, however, differ in this respect;—some feeding exclusively on plants, others on animals. Wherever they are present, we may be sure that the water has been previously the residence of plants and probably animals both of a low organization. Hence, their presence in water employed for domestic purposes should suggest caution in its use and measures of purification. Speaking of one of the most common of the families, Dr. Baird says:—

"The species belonging to this family are to be found both in fresh water and in the sea. The freshwater species abound in the muddiest, most stagnant pools, and in the clearest springs, and the ordinary water with which the inhabitants of London are supplied for domestic purposes often contains them in great numbers. The marine species are to be found frequently in immense quantities in small pools on the sea shore, within high-water mark, living among the sea-weeds and corallines, which so elegantly fringe the beautiful little wells and clear round pools which are hollowed out in the rocks on the coast, and are to be met with in equal profusion in the open ocean, where, by the curious luminous properties they possess, they assist in producing that beautiful phosphorescent appearance of the sea, which formerly puzzled naturalists to discover the cause of. It is amazing when we examine the pools of water in our fields or sea shores, to find such infinite myriads of little creatures sporting about in all the enjoyment of existence; and it is exceedingly curious and interesting to know the extraordinary fertility of such apparently insignificant creatures. Specimens of the *Cyclops quadricornis* are often found carrying thirty or forty eggs on each side; and though the other species, which have only one external ovary, do not carry so many, still the number is very considerable. Jurine has with great fidelity watched the hatching and increase of the *Cyclops quadricornis* in particular, and has given a calculation which shows the amazing fertility of the species. He has seen one female isolated lay ten times successively, but in order to speak within bounds, he supposes her to lay eight times within three months, and each time only forty eggs. At the end of one year this female would have been the progenitor of 4,442,189,120 young!! The first mother lays 40 eggs, which at the end of three months, at eight layings during that time, would give 320 young."

The larger number of these creatures, of course the more unfit water is for use,—as they can increase to this enormous extent only with an abundant supply of food. Their use in nature appears to be, like that of a great mass of microscopic organisms in water, to carry off those portions of animal and vegetable matter which if left to themselves would undergo decomposition and become a source of impurity to the atmosphere. They form one of the links between inorganic matter and the highest organized bodies, as they supply food to creatures which in turn are eaten by man. Some of these creatures are parasitical. One group, the history of which is still involved in much obscurity, lives entirely on other animals. All that is known of the British species is here given by Dr. Baird. Another species is known to our anglers from its occasionally infesting fish. The following is an account of the habits of this creature.—

"The Argulus in this country is found upon various freshwater fishes. In the neighbourhood of London it is most commonly to be met with upon the stickleback; but it has been taken also upon the carp and the roach; and in other places it has been found upon the trout, the pike, the perch, and even



upon the tadpole of the common frog. An individual taken from the salmon trout at Belfast, by Mr. W. Thompson, was placed by him in water in which salt was dissolved till it became to the taste like seawater, and it remained for four or five hours active and lively. The species which has been described by Dana and Herrick, in North America, was taken from the fish called the Sucker, in the water of Mill River, near Whitteville, into which the tide from Newhaven Harbour enters, and renders, consequently, brackish, so that it would appear this little animal, though in reality a freshwater species, is not injured by an admixture of salt. The *Argulus foliaceus* is an exceedingly pretty and graceful little animal; and as it can leave the fish upon which it feeds, and swim freely in the water, there are many opportunities for watching its gambols through its native element. It generally swims in a straight line, but it frequently suddenly changes its direction, and often turns over and over several times in succession. Ledermüller says he has seen an individual turn over thus a hundred times in a minute, and that it swam afterwards with such velocity, sometimes skimming the surface, at others plunging deeper in the water, that he could scarce follow its motions with his eye. Sometimes it will attach itself to the side of the vessel in which it is kept; and we may then observe that though, as far as progressive motion is concerned, the little creature is at rest, the natatory feet are in constant motion. Like those of the Branchiopoda, they serve the animal not only for swimming with, but also for respiration. Their structure is precisely similar, and their use the same. When swimming free in the water, and wishing again to fasten itself to its prey, the little animal approaches a fish, quietly allows itself to be hurried along in the current caused by its motion through the water, till it touches it, when it immediately fastens itself to it, choosing according to Jurine, as its place of residence the under part of the pectoral fins."

This work is very beautifully got up. It is illustrated by drawings of every species of the creatures described,—most of which are coloured. We doubt not but that amongst the possessors of microscopes this volume will be in greater request than any that has hitherto been published by the Ray Society.

#### NEW NOVELS.

*The Miser's Secret; or, the Days of James the First. An Historical Romance.* 3 vols. Shoberl. —The language employed in the first fifty pages of this romance is such as would richly justify any impatient reader who refused to proceed as far as page 100. More pompous specimens of the "sith," "marry," and "go to" order of composition, so often satirized, because it is so easy to satirize, have not often been presented to the "admiring throng." We do not remember a more liberal assortment of soliloquies than is here displayed to enchant the ear. Perhaps a detached extract may satisfy even the author that we are not cavillers.—

"Truly, now," continued our forlorn pedestrian, "this groping in the dark, besides furnishing forth a monstrosity pretty allegory, doth likewise answer all the purposes and intents of a bridal veil. It doth well save me from envying the possessions of that most worshipful gentleman and puissant knight, the bluish of whose maiden honours is not yet quite faded, being one of the illustrious mushrooms that have sprung up under the feet of His Most Sacred Majesty, James the First—would now that I had a flourish of trumpets—King of Great Britain! Will nothing else satisfy the hunger of this King of Scots? Less did for the lordly lady who knew how to grasp a sceptre and a bridle better than a riband and a fan, though in good sooth His Sacred Majesty, as he is pleased to call himself, hath scarce nerve enough for the smell of gunpowder or the report of a petronel. Queen Bess, so went on our pedestrian's soliloquy, 'knew how to make her bold barons tremble in their saddles, though they sat with mail-glove, cuirass, and casquet on; but our Scotch king contented himself with giving out rations of Latin, sup-

posing that to be a likening of himself unto King Solomon. Good now, this land that I tread upon—pah! that was a false step—I would that his footing on it were as uncertain as mine own—these fields and these broad acres; these woods of groaning oaks; these knotted knolls; these verdant plots; these sylvan shades; these herds of deer gambolling, with their proud antlers; these falcons, that soar heaven high; these lowing herds, and waving corn-fields, rich with ripe plenty; this fair mansion, with its threescore chambers and its crowd of servitors, who once were my liveries, bore my badge, and ate my bread—ha! ha! ha! I describe them as well as if I saw them—and so do I with my mind's eye, though this gentle veil covers all, haply, lest I should envy—mine own—psah! what was mine own, but what now is the veritable possession of this craven knight; this one of the so many hundreds and odd of King James's first batch of gentleman-making; as if even a king could make a gentleman! Howbeit, whether or not the King can make a gentleman, I know somebody who can unmake one!"

The above is the "talk to himself" of an uneasy gentleman on a walking expedition!

Further, the author of "the Miser's Secret" is nearly as well skilled in the "judification" of that necessary evil in society the Mother, as Mr. Leech himself. Lady Sutton, Lady Ellicombe and Lady Coke make up a trio of manoeuvres if not exactly "weird," sufficiently fearful for gentlemen having nerves to cope withal.—The two latter ladies are bent on match-making: and (to carry out the figure) though they bend their bows in the same direction, their arrows most perversely cross, to the wounding of wrong hearts, and to the delaying of straightforward and suitable treaties—making thus as pretty a set of quarrels as ever novelist contrived for his plot.

Such are a few of the characteristics which have struck us as most salient in this romance. But let the reader take courage, and not for want of a little patience lose the chance of a little pleasure. 'The Miser's Secret' is in some degree worth reading; not because it offers any historical portraits of the period in which its scene is laid,—but because its author is a clever hand at a mystery, and knows how to keep alive curiosity. In spite of the portentous and conceited diction reprobated as above, we found it a tale difficult to lay down—and we therefore feel that the writer should be encouraged to try again, because he might do very much better.

*Clarendon: a Tale.* By William Dodsworth. 3 vols. Simpkin & Co.—'Clarendon' is one of those marvellous books which "set us a-thinking," as the song says,—and wondering under what "spell or charm" they can have been commenced, continued, and completed.—In Lady Susan Clarendon we fancy that we can trace some reminiscences of the incomprehensible, tyrannical, tender, and oddly-dressed old woman whom we have met in Miss Ferriar's novels.—In the fortunes of the two brothers Herbert and Cecil we cannot help asking ourselves how far the 'Night and Morning' of Sir E. Lytton may have supplied the invention. Dalton, the watcher-over-everybody, and the cut-throat brood of poachers, night-walkers, and miscreants who are set in motion by Vernon the villain to carry out his wicked purposes, belong to the "tag, rag, and bobtail" orders employed by novelists. It would save trouble to have themselves and their schemes stereotyped. In short, this tale is as tawdrily tiresome as a masquerade, where we are sure of meeting Domino, Deputy-Lieutenant, Clown, Quakeress, Nun, and *Débardeur*,—and, therefore, when such agreeable varieties do appear we are astonished after the fashion of *So Si* in poor Mr. Sealy's 'Porcelain Tower,'—who, when invited to wonder at some rare tea, found

"it very extraordinary that the leaves were so like common leaves after all."

*Yad Namuh: a Chapter of Oriental Life.* Hatchard & Son.—Old East-Indians, at least in comedies or in tales of the Cheltenham waters, are proverbially testy and wrapped up in themselves; so that the author of 'Yad Namuh' may possibly have been writing up to a character in assuming the humour according to receipt which has been ascribed to his class. But—inasmuch as "flat curry" has a worse insipidity than the tastelessness of panada or "lamb tea,"—so is this book, which ought to be spicy and is but stale (in spite of some peppery little passages about Indian misgovernment), a rather dreary piece of light reading. The writer rambles on from one personal adventure to another, without our caring to bid him stop or go on—and his "chapter" it seems to us might have been written in Pentonville (for Pondicherry) by any one commanding half-a-dozen volumes by Miss Emma Roberts, Mrs. Postans, and other travellers who have given the vocabulary of eastern names for everyday things, and who have sketched a few of the outlines of life in the capitals and in the cantonments of India.

*Report of a Commission appointed by the King of Sardinia to ascertain the amount of Cretinism in that Kingdom.* Turin.

THE Commissioners appointed for the above object have published some interesting returns which throw considerable light on the nature of the mysterious disease that casts so much gloom over the district of the High Alps.

The Report commences by defining cretinism as being always accompanied by cerebral defect, with a mal-formation of the cranium, a small amount of muscular energy, impotence, and idiotism to a greater or less degree. The result of very extensive observation tends to prove that cretinism is not directly connected with goitre; as there are a large proportion of the population of the Alpine Sardinian States afflicted by goitres who have no taint of cretinism. Endemic cretinism is confined in Sardinia to the valleys and plains belonging to the loftiest Alpine elevations, having for their centre the three culminating points of Monte-Viso, Mont Blanc, and Monte Rosa.

The valleys where the disease is most prevalent are the deepest, the most confined, the dampest, and those possessing the smallest circulation of air and the least amount of light. The largest proportion of cretins were always found in the most wretched hovels, standing apart from other habitations, and often near marshy ground and surrounded by trees.

In towns and large villages, the cretins were not found spread over the various quarters, but only in those localities furthest removed from commerce and civilization. Taking the population of the Sardinian States at 2,651,106, the following figures show the number of persons afflicted with goitre and cretinism.

Men .. .. .	Goitres.
Women .. .. .	4,323
Sex not specified .. .. .	5,236
Total .. .. .	12,282
Cretins without Goitres.	
Men .. .. .	21,841
Women .. .. .	1,120
Sex not specified .. .. .	891
Total .. .. .	2,011
Cretins with Goitres.	
Men .. .. .	1,953
Women .. .. .	1,959
Sex not specified .. .. .	1,161
Total .. .. .	5,073
Total number of Cretins .. .. .	7,087

Relatively to the intensity of the disease, the cretins were thus sub-divided.—

In the most abject state of cretinism, and bereft of all reasoning powers .. .. .	2,165
Half-Cretins, enjoying some power of speech, but with intellectual faculties limited to their bodily requirements .. .. .	3,518
Cretins, whose intellectual faculties are less imperfect, and who are capable of being taught trades .. .. .	424
Unclassed .. .. .	980
Total .. .. .	7,087



It appears by the foregoing figures that out of the total population of the Sardinian States the number of cretins is 0.27 per cent., and those having goitres is 0.82 per cent. It was M. Saussure's opinion that cretinism did not exist in places 1,000 metres, or 3,280 English feet, above the level of the sea: but this is entirely disproved by the commissioners,—who found numerous cases of cretinism in localities elevated 1,600 metres, or 5,248 feet, above the sea. Indeed, in one village possessing this elevation 90 cases of goitre and cretinism were found in every 1,000 of the population.

#### OUR LIBRARY TABLE.

*Life of Christopher Columbus.* By Horace R. St. John.—The story of Columbus is one that even if moderately well told cannot fail to interest again and again. The long youth of patient thought—the early manhood full of trial and of disappointed hopes—the glory which surrounded Columbus's maturer age—the brilliant discovery—the ingratitude of the world—the neglected death-bed and the regal tomb,

Por Castilla y por Leon  
Nuevo mundo halló Colon,

—these are the elements of a life ever ripe to point a moral and adorn a tale. Nor can the world hear too much of him who not only enlarged the boundaries of science, but found a home for the oppressed of all creeds and nations. His memory is equally dear to Europe and to America. To the reader and to the writer the theme is alike tempting; and it is natural, therefore, that there should be almost innumerable tellers of the immortal tale. Of these, Washington Irving carries off the palm. Not many are the *contenders* who can wield the sorceries of language like the author of 'Rip Van Winkle,'—or weave as he does about the incidents of that mysterious voyage the witcheries of old romance. But Irving's work is large, and inaccessible to the great class of readers who require a briefer statement of its materials. Such a work Mr. Horace St. John has here presented. He says, in his preface, that it was composed, before consulting the American volumes, from the old chronicles. This is pretty evident from the book itself; but, with two or three not very important exceptions, we do not find that his researches have brought out any new facts. The biography is, however, written with care and spirit,—the story is coherently told,—and the reflections are, on the whole, just and pointed. When we say, that we know of no short history of Columbus likely to prove so useful as an introduction to the elaborate work of Washington Irving as this, we mean to convey a high sense of our estimate of its merits.

*Notes on a Map of the World.* By G. J. Brent.—Pursuing the theory of development as applied to other sciences, more especially to comparative anatomy, Mr. Brent believes he has discovered that this law affords some explanation as to the formation of the earth and the geographical distribution of land and water. He first divides the dry surface of the earth into three grand divisions or duplicate continents; dividing them by lines drawn from pole to pole, as follows:—1. Africa-Europe; 2. Asia-Australia; 3. North America-South America. The masses of land so presented to the eye have, he says, a wonderful similarity of configuration. The alleged similarity cannot, of course be the result of chance: a natural law must have operated it; and if so, that law must also have produced other and minor repetitions of the common type. These he sets himself to find, and with great success according to his own showing. But, for our own part, we stop at the first example of uniformity. Draw out the map how he will, we cannot make out the rudest resemblance between his continental systems,—cannot reduce them to any type which will interpret and connect the three. The minor analogies which Mr. Brent indicates strike us as nearly always fanciful,—often enough as absurd. Between California and Corsica—the Aspropotamo and the Alabama—Cornwall and the Caucasus, we find no analogy except the one discovered by honest Fluellen long ago in the case of Monmouth and Macedon—that of the initial.

*Flowers; their Moral Language and Poetry.* By H. G. Adams.—A selection from the verses which English and American authors have dedicated to flowers and their associations, connected but very rudely and artificially by a string of rather tawdry

prose. The only remarkable thing in the collection is, the principle of selection: Chaucer makes but one small contribution.—Spenser only two.—Mr. Adams not less than a dozen!

*A Vindication of the Church of Scotland.* By the Late Patrick Mc Farlan. This work was undertaken as an answer to the Duke of Argyll's 'Essay on the Ecclesiastical History of Scotland.' Our duty ends with the act of putting its title on record.

*On Copyright in Design, in Art and Manufactures.* By T. Turner.—A useful little book, giving the history of this new species of property,—the law cases in relation to it on which judgments of more or less value have been pronounced,—and elaborate definitions to show that, properly speaking, copyright in design is essentially different from literary copyright and from property in patents.

*Six Months in the Gold Mines; from a Journal of Three Years' Residence in Upper and Lower California, in 1847, 8, and 9.* By E. G. Buffum.—Mr. Buffum was a lieutenant in the New York volunteers, who were sent out to California when Mr. Polk was preparing for the war with Mexico. On the disbanding of his regiment, he repaired to the mines,—to put in his claim to a part of the spoil which he had assisted the rest of the Saxons to wrest from the Spaniards. His book contains the account of his way of life at "the diggings,"—his fortunes and misfortunes. It adds little, however, to our previous knowledge.

*A New Latin and English Grammar.* By Bruce Gubbins, Esq., B.A.—Mr. Gubbins's introduction is too rich to be passed over in silence. It were pity that so fine a piece of writing should run the risk of being lost to posterity by lying hid in a Latin Grammar. We have several reasons for wishing that the book had ended with the introduction. The abrupt descent from the lofty sentiment and gorgeous eloquence here displayed in rich profusion to the plain common sense of the grammar, is painful in the extreme. There is some fun in the introduction; but the grammar is as dull and dry, though not so correct and useful, as such books generally are. Let Mr. Gubbins speak for himself,—"Latin is the parent and very foundation of European dialects; through them all, it breathes, exists and flourishes; he who is well versed in its treasures, can in a few months attain any other tongue, and he who is not must content himself with being so long ignorant of the synonymy, sublimity, precision, energy, idioms, and beauties of his own. Other branches of education have their *Furor* and periodical requisition, and then sink into the waters of Lethe; but language, the refulgent lustré of the soul, is ever in being, is ever verdant, commanding by its ascendant dominion and persuasive power the minds of men, and emitting forth its exhilarating light in all times, at all places, and on all occasions, both in court and senate; therefore, in proportion as language is superior to all other literary pursuits, so much the more ought it to be the first and principal object of the youthful mind, as childhood and youth are decidedly the periods favoured by parent nature for the attainment of languages; as soon as the tender organs of articulation can be subservient to oral expression, children will obtain a *flippancy*, power and fluency, never to be acquired at a more advanced age. It is at this crisis that injudicious parents destroy the germ in the bud," &c.

—As specimens of Mr. Gubbins's reasoning we give the following:—"Is it not ridiculous to see a pupil for the sake of learning, translating a Greek or Latin author into his vernacular tongue? If he understands the original, it is evident he has no necessity to translate it, and if he does not, it is as evident he cannot translate it!" \* \* \* At the age of four or five, a child will prattle tolerably well his natal tongue; at twelve or thirteen does he as profoundly understand Latin? No, amidst all the improvements of the nineteenth century, it is clear that the present plan of school training is defective."—Mr. Gubbins tells us his book "is so constituted as to answer a double end, not merely for the speedy acquirement of Latin, but, at the same time, the best initial grammar for a perfect attainment of the English language." We leave our readers to form their own judgment of Mr. Gubbins's English from the above extracts.

*Palestra Latina; or, A Second Latin Reading-Book.* By B. H. Kennedy, D.D.—The first fifty pages of the 'Palestra Latina' consist of short sen-

tences, in Latin and English, to be translated from one language to the other; and, in fact, form a delectus, systematically arranged somewhat after the manner of Kühner and Arnold. Then follow extracts from Professor Lhomond's Abridgment of Roman History, Ovid, Tibullus, Phædrus, and Catullus, to the end of the First Course, which constitutes nearly half the volume. The Second Course commences, like the first, with a sort of delectus, and contains extracts from the same authors, with the addition of some from Virgil and Horace. Whether it is desirable for a pupil to be confined to scraps from many classical writers, rather than to study a few of the best completely, is a question admitting of argument on both sides. To us the system of selections appears unsatisfactory, uninteresting, and to a great degree unprofitable. It seems like trying to give an idea of a building by presenting one or two loose bricks for inspection. Those who think differently will find this a useful book for their purpose. It is compiled with great care by a first-rate scholar and a practised teacher. We are at a loss to know why he should have given translations of the short sentences, and left the more difficult extracts from authors untranslated.

*A Short and Easy Course of Algebra.* By Thomas Lund, B.D.—We quite agree with Mr. Lund, the well-known editor of Wood's Algebra, as to the desirableness of making boys devote to easy algebra some of the time which is now spent in common arithmetic; and we like his respectful consideration for working men who, though possessed of little leisure, are bent on scientific pursuits. For the sake of these two classes, as well as of others who may not have time or inclination to study mathematics deeply, he has composed this valuable little work; which is not made up of extracts from his editions of Wood, but is "an entirely new and original work, planned and constructed with no inconsiderable amount of thought and labour." Other treatises having similar objects are, as he truly observes, more or less incorrect in definition or faulty in arrangement. Generally speaking, his definitions and demonstrations are admirable for clearness and simplicity; though we think some of those on fractions, and others, might have been made easier by the use of equations, without being less correct, if the few axiomatic principles involved in the solution of the simplest equations had been stated at the very beginning of the book. The reasoning in most of the demonstrations does really proceed upon these, though not put in the algebraical form. In explaining the subtraction of a negative quantity from a negative, Mr. Lund has strangely omitted to notice the case in which the numerical co-efficient of the quantity to be subtracted is greater than that of the other.

*Modern State Trials: Revised and Illustrated, with Essay and Notes.* By W. C. Townsend.—We fail to catch the point of interest or to observe the public utility of this collection of state trials. In no respect can it be considered a continuation of Hargreaves and Howell. The principle of selection is also a mystery to us. While several trials of very little importance are included, others of the highest—that of Hone, for example—are omitted. Neither is the whole of any trial given, so that the volumes are useless even for reference. Too many details are offered, to allow the work a chance of being taken as a popular summary of remarkable cases,—too few to admit of its assuming a place in the library of the historian. We will specify only one trial—that of Mr. Moxon for the publication of Shelley's works; in which case we are treated to the whole of Mr. Serjeant (now Justice) Talfourd's speech, but the passages of Shelley's writing which were made the ground-work of the prosecution are not cited! As Mr. Townsend records it, the poet and publisher scarcely appear in the arena,—the only figure seen is that of the pleader. Of the "essay and notes" we can say but little; one purpose only is clearly and distinctly visible in the entire compilation,—a determination to over-praise every man of high mark at the bar and on the bench, and still living.

*Rudimentary Treatise on the Drainage of Districts and Lands.*—*Rudimentary Treatise on the Drainage and Sewage of Towns and Buildings.* By G. D. Dempsey, C.E.—We have read these two neat little volumes with considerable profit and pleasure. The language is clear and forcible,—and Mr. Dempsey is



fairly entitled to the praise of having written an elementary treatise on the somewhat intricate subject of Drainage in such a manner that few readers of ordinary acuteness will have any difficulty in perceiving at least the rationale of the different processes. The first treatise, on the application of Drainage to Agriculture, is very well written.

**A Physical and Political School Geography.** By M. G. Störmer. A useful book, containing a good deal of correct information clearly arranged,—but still dry and lifeless. We too often meet with bare catalogues of names, unaccompanied by anything calculated to win the attention or make an impression on the memory. The entire absence of historical details—which ought never to be separated from geography—makes the work resemble a skeleton rather than a living body. Mr. Cornwell's recently published book on the same subject is decidedly superior to the present in every respect.

**Narrative of the Loss of the Regular, East Indian.**—This little book is dictated by so worthy a motive that we have no desire to apply to it the passionless rules of criticism; it is given to the world as an expression of gratitude to the humane Frenchmen who, so nobly rescued and treated the unfortunate captain and crew of the Regular when wrecked in the Southern Ocean. The recital of the kindness lavished by the officers of the French ships on our distressed countrymen is calculated to produce feelings of the strongest mutual good-will between the nations.

A number of works lie on our library table of which we can only spare room for the titles. Of this character are—*The Spirit of the World, and the Spirit which is of God.* By John Jackson.—*A Criticism on the Pictures and Studies of William Etty*, a reprint from the Eclectic Review.—*A Letter on the Collegiate Church of Manchester; with remarks on the Bill, before Parliament, for the Division of the Parish and other purposes*, addressed to the Lord Bishop of Manchester. By Thomas Turner.—*The New Brunswick Almanac and Register for 1850.*—*Of Induction, with especial reference to Mr. J. S. Mill's System of Logic.* By W. Whewell.—*Cream of the Poets, being Selections from the Writings of Burns, Goldsmith, Gray, Kirke, White, Crabbe, Cooper, and Coleridge.*—*On Marriage; its Origin, Usages, and Duties.* A discourse delivered in the New Jerusalem Church. By the Rev. W. Bruce.—*On the Causes of the Success of the English Revolution.* By M. Guizot. A new and cheaper edition.—*Chamber of Tribunals of Commerce, and proposed General Chambers of Commerce in Liverpool.* By Leoni Levi.—*On the Principles which secure Success in Trade.* A Lecture delivered at the Western Literary Institution. By J. J. Mechi.—*On the Original Language of St. Matthew's Gospel; with particular reference to Dr. Davidson's Introduction to the New Testament.* By G. P. Tregelles.—*The Present Prices.* By the Rev. A. Huxtable.—*On the Expediency of admitting the Testimony of Parties in Suits in the New County Courts and in the Courts of Westminster Hall.* By Andrew Amos.—We have, besides, the two earlier volumes of a cheap reprint of Jacob Abbott's 'Histories for Young People,' issued by Messrs. Simms & McIntyre.

## LIST OF NEW BOOKS.

Allnutt's Practice of Wills and Administration, 2nd ed. 12mo. 15s.  
Arnold's Niblo-narrative Edition, Selections by W. Fitzgerald, 7s. 6d.  
Baker's Shilling Series, Double Volume, Vol. 10, 'Fringes Tales of Athabasca,' Vol. 20, 'Irving's Conquest of Florida,' 6d. each.  
Brown's W. V. Fun, Poets and Poets, or 50s. 6s. cl.  
Calendar of Marlborough College for 1850 and 1851, 8vo. 1s. cl.  
Chapman and his Vicinity described in a Series of Letters, 7s. 6d.  
Colburn's (Rev. J.) The Instructor, Reader, 18mo. 2s. 6d. 5d.  
Collingwood's Church, Aethiopia, Egypt, and Angkor, 8vo. 9s.  
De Porquier's Trésor de l'École Française, 33rd ed. 12mo. 3s. 6d. cl.  
Dictionnaire des Américains, new ed. 8vo. 2s. 6d. cl., 5s. 10s. 6d. cl.  
Edwards (M. C.) Conversations on Human Nature, 1c. 3d. cl.  
Glossary of Terms used in Architecture, 2nd ed. 3 vols. 8vo. 4s. 6d. cl.  
Harvey (W.) On Extension of the enlarged Tonsil, 8vo. 5s. cl.  
Heats in Mortuary and Corrosion, 1 vol. post 8vo. 1s. 6d. cl.  
Holmes's Popular Library, 'Grandmother Gregory's Treasury,' 1s. 6d. cl.  
Hoskins (W.) The Year Book of the Country, 1 vol. post 8vo. 10s. 6d.  
Huntley's (Sir H.) Service on Slave Coast of Africa, 2 vols. 21s. cl.  
Jukes (J. B.) Sketch of Physical Structure of Australia, 8vo. 6s.  
Kings (Mary A.) Poems, post 8vo. 7s. cl. gilt.  
Lambert's C. R. Poems and Translations from the German, 5s.  
Marmaduke Lorrimer, by Jos. Middleton, 3 vols. or 8vo. 11s. 6d.  
Near Home, by the Author of 'Pop of Day,' 2nd ed. 12mo. 5s. cl.  
Parlor Library, Vol. 48, 'Lamartine's Pictures of French Revolution,' 12mo. 1s. 6d. cl.  
People's and House's Questions, new series, Vol. 2, royal 8vo. 4s. 6d.  
Pinner's Manzoni's Questions, new ed. 12mo. 5s. 6d.  
Popular Library, 'Washington Irving's Astoria,' 1s. 6d. cl.  
Rae's (Jno.) Expedition to Shores of Arctic Sea, 8vo. 10s. cl.  
Remains of Roman Art in Gloucester, 8vo. 15s. 10s. cl. plates. 2s.  
Simmonds's (J. L.) Colours, and Light to Be, 12mo. 1s. 6d. cl.  
Trendall's (E. W.) Monuments, Tombs, Tablets, &c. 4to. 21s. cl.

## THE REV. WILLIAM KIRBY.

LAST week we had occasion to offer our tribute of respect to the memory of a great statesman,—we have now to record the demise of one who was scarcely less great in the limited department of human knowledge to which he devoted himself. The death of the venerable naturalist who has just been removed from the ministry in which he laboured for sixty-eight years is accompanied by one consolation which is wanting in the case of the Statesman,—his life having been prolonged much beyond the period usually allotted to humanity.

The Rev. William Kirby, Rector of Barham, Suffolk, who died on the 4th inst., in the 91st year of his age, with his faculties little impaired, ranked as the father of Entomology in Britain; and to the successful results of his labours may be chiefly attributed the advance which has been made in this over other kindred departments of natural history. His reputation is based not so much on the discoveries made by him in the science as on the manner of its teaching. No man ever approached the study of the works of Nature with a purer or more earnest zeal. His interpretation of the distinguishing characters of insects for the purposes of classification has excited the warmest approval of entomologists at home and abroad; while his agreeable narrative of their wonderful transformations and habits, teeming with analysis and anecdote, has a charm for almost every kind of reader.

Mr. Kirby's first work of particular note was the 'Monographia Apum Angliæ,' in two volumes, published half a century ago at Ipswich; to which town he was much endeared, and in whose Museum, as President, under the friendly auspices of its secretary, Mr. George Ransome, he took a lively interest. His admirable work on the Wild Bees of Great Britain was composed from materials collected almost entirely by himself,—and most of the plates were of his etching. Entomology was at that time a comparatively new science in this country,—and it is an honourable proof of the correctness of the author's views that they are still acknowledged to be genuine.

His further progress in entomology is abundantly marked by various papers in the 'Transactions of the Linnean Society,'—by the entomological portion of the Bridgewater Treatise, 'On the History, Habits, and Instincts of Animals,'—and by his descriptions, occupying a quarto volume, of the insects of Sir John Richardson's 'Fauna Boreali-Americana.' The name of Kirby will, however, be chiefly remembered for the 'Introduction to Entomology' written by him in conjunction with Mr. Spence. In this work a vast amount of material, acquired after many years' unremitting observation of the insect world, is mingled together by two different but congenial minds in the pleasant form of familiar letters. The charm, based on substantial knowledge of the subject, which these letters impart has caused them to be studied with an interest never before excited by any work on natural history,—and they have served for the model of many an entertaining and instructive volume. Whether William Kirby or William Spence had the more meritorious share in the composition of these Letters, has never been ascertained; for each, in the plenitude of his esteem and love for the other, renounced all claim, in favour of his coadjutor, to whatever portion of the matter might be most valued.

In addition to the honour of being President of the Museum of his county town—in which there is an admirable portrait of him,—Mr. Kirby was Honorary President of the Entomological Society of London, Fellow of the Royal, Linnean, Geological, and Zoological Societies of the same city, and Corresponding Member of several Foreign Societies.

## OCEANIC CANAL AND NICARAGUAN TREATY.

In the money articles of the *Times* of the 20th and 21st inst. appear two long and well-written papers on this subject, and on the advantages which the late treaty arranged by Sir Henry Bulwer will secure to England as well as to America. A most important subject it is,—and the present moment

no less important for its careful consideration. It seems, however, a pity, that with little local knowledge, and with little forethought of consequences, the attention of England should be directed exclusively to the Nicaraguan line and scheme,—and not as yet, to any other.

The plan of carrying a canal communication up the river San Juan to the Lake Nicaragua, through it to the point nearest to the Pacific (between Tortugas and Nicaragua), and thence through the sixteen or seventeen miles of mountain and valley to the Pacific Ocean,—is a most feasible and excellent scheme; and its accomplishment will not be very difficult, comparatively speaking, and considering its great length and the windings of the river San Juan. From the abundance of water all over the route,—saving the seventeen miles of mountain,—it looks remarkably well in a survey, or on the map. The greater portion of the canal seems almost ready made, and little is left for the engineer and the contractor to do.

But on a careful examination of Mr. Bailey's excellent survey, which may be implicitly depended on for the levels,—and on attentive perusal and study of Mr. J. L. Stephens's remarks on this survey, in his 'Central America,'—the conclusion at once strikes the practical man, that, however well this route is adapted for a canal, it is little so for a ship canal; and that thus the grand desideratum for Europe—viz., a deep canal, to float large ships full of cargo across from the Atlantic to the Pacific—will not be obtained so well by this route as by a shorter one. The difficulty of deepening and locking a rapid river running through the loam of the tropics for 100 miles has been too little thought of in the Nicaraguan plan, and Mr. Bailey dwells somewhat too cursorily on this topic in his survey—in fact, it is scarcely touched on.

Besides these difficulties, the whole route from sea to sea is a very long one,—the river San Juan is difficult of approach from the Caribbean,—and the anchorage is bad. This applies also on the other side, for the Pacific shore is very full of reefs throughout the whole neighbourhood of the Gulf of Papagayo, and northward until far past Realejo. The Nicaragua canal can scarcely extend over less than 150 miles, at shortest.

The general opinion of those who have studied carefully the different proposed routes for a canal across the great western isthmus (including those by Tehuantepec to the north, and Darien and Cupica to the south) has for some time been in favour of the Nicaraguan plan for a shallow canal,—but not for a deep ship canal. The route from Chagres to Panama,—or, to speak with greater exactness, from Navy Bay (Limon) near Chagres, to Vaca de Monte (Chorrera) near Panama,—is, under all circumstances, considered best for this.

There is no doubt that the shallow canal would answer the purposes and wants of the United States: It would be from 7 feet to perhaps 10 feet deep, or thereabouts; and all the coasting vessels from the whole line of sea-board from Newfoundland to Texas would find their object gained and their purpose accomplished, their coasting ground and trade being more than doubled; as by rubbing through this Nicaragua canal in some kind of way, they would find a line of ports and markets extending from Nootka Sound to Panama, and from Panama to Valparaiso and Cape Horn, without a single cape to double, and with no necessity for very deep water or deep-water vessels.

The great maritime trade of the United States is the schooner trade, carried on in small vessels of from 50 tons to 150 tons, and drawing from 6 feet to 9 feet at most,—and for them this canal would suit admirably. The larger American ships and their men-of-war are as near the Pacific just now (doubling Cape Horn) as European ships. The American Government, therefore, have no great reason for making a deep canal when a shallow one will suit their purpose; and this it is which has induced them to draw all attention to the Nicaraguan route. It will be a splendid line of communication, but of little use to us (as at present planned), or for European and deep-sea ships. It is, therefore, to be feared that little real advantage will accrue to England from the late diplomatic arrangements, including those affecting the Mosquito



territory. The route in question will be made principally for American traders, and will do well for them,—for it is much nearer the United States than the Panama route. If Mexico becomes an annexed state by and by, it will be so much the more their own—Nicaragua being in many ways dependent on its more powerful neighbours.

The best points for the *ship* or deep canal—between Navy Bay and Chorrera—have been already selected with judgment and prudence by Mr. Stephens for the railway now in progress of completion. He is the best-informed man on the subject, saving, perhaps, Baron Alexandre Humboldt and Mr. James Macqueen; and it is somewhat magnanimous in Mr. Stephens, being an American citizen, to give up the Nicaraguan scheme, and boldly step upon the untrodden ground of the isthmus, making his line of railway act as "*avant courier*" for the canal. The whole distance of the Panama line of canal communication will be about 40 miles; and with the assistance of Mr. Wyld's large map, or of the Admiralty chart, it can be easily understood. The anchorage and harbour in Navy Bay are good and accessible; and the canal would run from the head of the Bay to a point on the river Chagres about five or six miles from its mouth. The line would then keep by the Chagres to the confluence of the Trinidad river; and then the real difficulties of cutting begin. But they are not insurmountable; and the canal would then run, with frequent lockage, to the nearest point on the river Caymito (or Rio de Chorrera), at which point the cutting would become easy again, and would continue so to a point about five miles or less from the mouth of the Caymito (where there is, unfortunately, a sand-bar). At this point, it would leave the "alveus" of this river, and strike sharp eastward to the beautiful bay of Vaca de Monte (or Bique), where are good anchorage and no bar, and easy approach from the Pacific.

The greatest height of this route above the sea-level would not be so great as that between Lake Nicaragua and the Pacific—the feeders being the rivers Chagres, Trinidad, Caymito, and Bique; and the whole length of passage from ocean to ocean would be less than *one-third* of the Nicaraguan line.

The other difficulties which always accompany so arduous an undertaking as a great canal are also less on the Panama route. Labour is more abundant, from the population being greater. It is a more healthy line, particularly as the Pacific is approached; and Panama itself is one of the healthiest spots in the tropics. The Government of New Granada is more settled and more respectable than that of Nicaragua, or any in Central America; and it doubtless would give all help to an object so beneficial for its territory. It has already assisted Mr. Stephens with labourers for his canal.

The most distinct official reports on this subject are contained in a book published in Washington, and of which the Royal Geographical Society received a copy from Mr. Everett. These reports are conclusive and valuable; and those interested in the subject would find them worth looking over.

It appears most desirable that Europe—and England in particular—should *now* lose no time in considering this topic, so important to herself and to her colonies; for a shallow canal will do little good to the large Australian and Pacific ships and steamers coming from Europe. There is no doubt that an equally advantageous agreement might be made between us and the New Granada Government as that already concluded respecting the Central American canal; and the Panama canal, equally with it, might be for all nations,—its depth being an universal advantage.

A valuable notice was contained in the *Athenæum* of the 22nd inst. [see ante, p. 669] of a canal with an inclined plane, and an ascending and descending floating cradle. For hilly countries this has already been found useful; and it is likely to be more generally adopted on a larger scale from its wonderful saving in lockage, deepening, and cutting.

It is to be regretted that the English Government have never caused efficient comparative surveys to be made of *all* the proposed routes across the isthmus—surveys *for themselves*. The surveys have been generally French, American, or amateur;

and in so important a matter as the Oceanic Canal this ought surely to be otherwise.

It is to be hoped, notwithstanding all that I have said, that the proposed Nicaragua canal will be carried through, will prove effective—as far as its depth will permit,—and will succeed well—so well, that a ship canal and a short canal will be demanded by all nations, and set about immediately after the practicability is demonstrated by proof. Still, this will have involved loss of time, and the sooner the point of a deep ship canal is considered, and the canal begun, the better. A. D. June 27.

#### OLD ENGLISH ACTORS IN GERMANY.

THE attention of your readers has already several times been drawn to a subject which, from its importance to English literature and to the history of the stage, cannot fail to be interesting to those who pursue that branch of literary history;—I mean, the appearance of the so-called English comedians in Germany at the beginning of the seventeenth century. It surely would be a work of supererogation to point out the importance of that phenomenon. It throws a light not only on the first beginnings of the German stage and the commencement of the influence which the English stage exercised on it, but also on the first reception of Shakspeare in Germany:—in proof whereof I need but mention Jacob Ayren's comedy of the 'Fair Phœnicia,' *vis-à-vis* Shakspeare's 'Much Ado about Nothing,'—the tragedy of 'Titus Andronicus,' in the English comedies and tragedies of 1620,—the 'Absurda Comica,' or Mr. Peter Suenz, of Andr. Gryphius,—and the 'History of Romeo and Julieta,' which, according to Devrient's 'History of the German Stage,' was then performed on the German stages.

Being engaged in collecting materials for a history of the Shakspeare literature in Germany and of its influence on German literature, my studies naturally led me to the subject of the English comedians; and as Mr. William J. Thoms lately published some extracts from English sources [see *Athen.* No. 1189], I will, with your permission, furnish your readers with a few remarks culled from German sources.

Though the passages quoted by Mr. Thoms had not been so convincing, the frequency with which the appellation of *English comedians* returns would remove every doubt as to their having really been Englishmen. The objection, that a representation in a language unintelligible to the majority of the spectators would not have afforded them any amusement, will not hold good if it be considered that people formerly went to see even Latin plays performed. Subsequently, English, Dutch, French, and Italian actors were favourites with the Germans; and, on the other hand, we know of German actors in the Netherlands, in Denmark, Sweden, Russia, Hungary, and Croatia. Already in the sixteenth century, we meet with Italian actors in France and Spain; and in the seventeenth century with French and Spanish in London. If we add to this the fact, that those companies from the Netherlands came to Germany after having adopted much of the grotesque taste of the Dutch stage—as testified, for instance, by the reception of the 'Pickelhering,' and the affinity which exists between the English and the German languages,—we may fairly assume that it was not so great a task for them to make themselves intelligible to their audience.

The first trace of their appearance in Germany we discover at Ulm in the year 1602,—according to a passage in Heywood's 'Apology for Actors,' which Mr. Collier refers to that year. They were, in the same year, also in the Netherlands, at Brunswick, and in Hessa—a proof that there existed several separated companies; where, according to Alvensleben's 'Theaterchronik' for 1832, No. 158, they represented a drama about the "Prophet Daniel, the chaste Susanna, and the two Judges in Israel." At the same time the German poet, Valentin Andrea, wrote a Latin play called 'Esther,' in order, as he says, to vie with the English comedians,—(see Andrea's *Dichtungen*, Leipzig, 1786, Introduction, page xxxii.). He no doubt refers to the well-known piece from the English comedies and tragedies,—"*Comedia von der Köni-*

*gin Esther und hoffertigen Hamann*," which may have been performed at that time. Floegel, in his 'History of Comic Literature,' vol. iv. page 389, supposes that this piece—which according to Tieck is of English origin, and was already, prior to 1594, performed in London—bears affinity to a Dutch play in which Haman is hanged, and to Hans Sachs' 'Hester.' Notwithstanding, however, all my endeavours and researches, I have not yet succeeded in meeting with such a Dutch play. The resemblance which exists between several of these German pieces of English origin and the contemporary Dutch plays seems to have escaped L. Tieck's notice; although the conjecture gains probability by the fact, that the plays contained in the volume referred to were represented by those companies. Thus, the Dutch tragedy 'Aran en Titus,' by Jan Vos, is undoubtedly of the same origin as that of 'Titus Andronicus' in the English comedies and tragedies of 1620.

The second trace of their appearance brings us to quite an opposite district of Germany. In Bärensprung's 'History of the Theatre of Mecklenburg-Schwerin' we meet with the following document, taken from the Archives of the city of Rostock.—

To the most honourable Town Council.

Right honourable, high and well learned, high and well-wish Gentleman, to your honours and high mightinesses our most humble servants, with particular esteem before. High-favouring, commanding, beloved Gentlemen,—As your honours and high worthies protected us until now with the greatest and most exceeding favour and advancement, considering also, that we were suffered here for a considerable length of time, to execute our music and religious and worldly histories, comedies and tragedies, for as our art would permit, and serve this town; for which we are not only indebted and thankful with all our power to your honours and high worthies, but will also show our thankfulness by our humble prayer and services, and testify it elsewhere as we can; and though we should not further molest your high worthies, considering all that high favour and advancement; but as in other towns, where we performed before, we used to receive a testification of our demeanour under the common town's seal, we beg most humbly and respectfully,—(as we may say, without glorifying ourselves, that we used in this town, too, always to live quietly and retired, and to execute our music and plays only so as they may be looked at with pleasure and honesty),—your honours and high worthies may extend their favour, until now shown to us, as to give us a testification of conduct under the common town's seal, and we are your honours and high worthies' most humble servants, with the most profound respect. Datum Rostock, 31 Martii, 1606. Your honours and high worthies' most obedient,

The Markgraves of Brandenburg's servants,  
the ENGLISH COMEDIANS.

This record leaves no room for doubt. Besides its importance in general, it furnishes us with a new point of view and with new arguments to meet the objections to the English origin of those theatrical companies. Thus we learn from it, that *Music* was included in the *répertoire* of the artists,—certainly one of the best means for concealing the unintelligibility of the spoken language. It also shows that the orthography and the style used were not those common at the time; thus, for instance, the double consonant at the end of the words [in the German original—which is translated for our readers] characterizes the English more than the German of that period. Almost at the same time, we meet with our travellers at Berlin and Dantzic. I quote the following passage from Loeschin's 'History of Dantzic,' p. 388.—

About this time the Brandenburg Comedians did represent several plays at the fencing-school of Dantzic, whereat they were permitted to take only 2 groschen entry; whereas the English Comedians were permitted to take 3 groschen, but were exhorted to represent no unchaste plays.

Plümcke's 'Outline of a History of the Theatres of Berlin'—has the following passage.—"*A few years previous to the death of the Elector (John Sigismund, of Brandenburg), the Squire, Hanns von Stockfish, received the order to procure a company of comedians from England and the Netherlands. He most probably executed this order; for in the Royal Archives we still find a petition, addressed in the year 1620 to Count Schwarzenberg, in which he asks for the payment of the annual salaries, prays to be reimbursed for the 1,000 thalers which he alleges to have spent in procuring the foreign actors, and asks also for the grant which had ceased to be allowed him in the absence of the Elector, (George William, of Brandenburg);—whereupon an order was issued to pay up to Stockfish the arrears due*



to him; but as to the 1,000 thalers, it would, no doubt, be but reasonable to reimburse him, if he could prove his having indeed expended them upon the company of comedians that had last been at Berlin. It having, however, been reported on authentic grounds that he had not procured them, but that they had come to Berlin of their own accord and volunteered their services, his demand could not be complied with, and he was ordered to keep the peace." Nearly at the same time, a company, among whom was a certain B. Halzhew, (undoubtedly an English name), were engaged, with a stipulation truly and faithfully to attend the Elector on his journeys or at court, readily to display their art, and to use their skill in leaping, playing, and other pastime. About the same period the Elector of Brandenburg recommended to the Elector of Saxony a company of English comedians, under the direction of a certain John Spencer. Here we again have an English name. National allusions also occur:—for instance, in one of the printed plays—

And should I be as chaste as Max Scot.

Also at Dresden a company made its appearance, as appears from a note in Tieck's 'Deutsches Theater.' This celebrated author, whom I went to consult on the subject, told me, that the paper mentioned in that note contained not only the names of some of the members of the company, but also an enumeration of the pieces which they performed. Unfortunately, he has lost the paper, nor does he remember its contents.

These English comedians must have been in favour with the public up to the middle of the seventeenth century and upwards; for as late as 1659 a certain Joseph Joripried himself, at Vienna, on bearing the title of an English comedian, (see Schlager, 'Wiener Skizzen,' New Series, page 253); and about the same time a company of "most humble and obedient comedians, having a few days ago arrived at the city of Güstrow," applied to the Duke Gustav Adolph, for leave to wait on him with some performances "in the English manner." Among the plays represented by them we again meet with the 'Tragödie von hoffertigen Haman und d. demüthigen Esther.'

I continue to collect whatever may contribute to illustrate this obscure subject, and to fill up a gap in the history of literature and of the theatre;—and I shall not fail in due time to publish the result of my researches.

ALBERT COHN.

Berlin.

#### EXPEDITION TO CENTRAL AFRICA.

The following information, derived from letters addressed to the Chevalier Bunsen and Prof. Karl Ritter, by Dr. Overweg, the geographer attached to the Expedition now on its way to Lake Tchad, may prove not uninteresting to your readers. These letters, dated Mürsük, 25th of May, and accompanied by an excellent map, describe the route from Tripoli to that place, through a tract of country hitherto unexplored by any scientific traveller. The direction of this route is almost due south from Tripoli, turning south-east on approaching Mürsük; and beyond the Garian Pass—which is about thirty-five miles from Tripoli, and near which is Mount Tekut, having an elevation of 2,800 feet—the country consists of a continuous table-land. As far as the Well of Tabonia (in about 30° 28' N. lat.) many deep wadis intersect this table-land, and the ruins of several Roman monuments and columns were discovered by the travellers. Beyond (to the south of) Tabonia is the table-land of the Hamada; an immense desert of considerably greater elevation, and extending about 110 geographical miles to the south. As far as the eye can reach, neither trees nor wells are visible, and the scanty vegetation which occurs is to be met with only here and there in the trifling irregularities of the surface. The ground is covered with small stones; pyramids of which erected with great labour serve as road-marks to the intrepid camel-drivers by day,—while the Polar Star and Antares are their guides by night. After six long days' journey, the Expedition reached the southern edge of this table-land; which descends in perpendicular walls to the Wadi el Hessi (in about 26° 30' N. lat.) From hence to the Wadi Shiali is about sixty geographical miles, over

another plateau of less elevation and extent than that of the Hamada, but of equally dismal aspect,—the general direction of the route being S.S.E. It is composed of a black sandstone, the disintegration of which forms a coarse yellow sand, covering the inequalities of the stony surface; and from it stands out prominently the black rock, in high cones of the most fantastic forms, so much resembling basaltic rocks that Dr. Overweg's companions were often led to exclaim—"This must be a basaltic rock." He himself was frequently obliged to examine the rocks closely in order not to be deceived. The monotony of the dreary black rock was relieved by the yellow sand, without which the whole of Fezzan would be a lifeless wilderness,—as it is in the sand that the palm-trees grow, and in the wadis filled with it that the wells are found. In the great Wadi of Fezzan the Expedition passed through a complete forest of palms, as well as through cultivated fields of wheat and barley. Another small table-land was traversed by the travellers before they reached Mürsük; at which place they were awaiting the arrival from Ghat of the Turick escort, headed by Hatila, who calls himself "the friend of the English," from having escorted Oudney and Clapperton to Ghat. The party were all well, and in high spirits.

Of the varied oral information collected by the travellers respecting the interior of Africa, the most interesting, probably, is the statement made to Dr. Overweg, by a Baghirmi negro, that south of the latter's country, is a nation of Kafirs (which means that they do not profess the Mohammedan religion), who are clothed, possess large herds of cattle, and have iron weapons (war-axes) of their own manufacture. Their country is mountainous, and is covered with snow every winter.

With regard to the latter part of this information, it may be remarked, that it seems to connect itself with the results recently arrived at by other travellers, and to afford reasonable grounds for the opinion that the interior of Africa consists of an immense table-land, extending without any material interruption from the Mountains of Mendeli, south of Lake Tchad, as far as the Cape of Good Hope,—and which is inhabited by nations of civilization superior to that of other Africans; and that, in fact, this great plateau from its elevation resembles in its climate and physical characters much more an European than a tropical country, and offers an example analogous to that of the great Andean table-lands of South America. Mr. Rebmann, in speaking of the natives in the interior west of Mombas, from whom he received a very friendly reception, states that the character of the people is free from that savageness which would render it unadvisable for one or two individuals to reside in their country; and that it rather displays composure, gravity and quietness,—as is generally the case with people living in mountainous countries. Again, Mr. Cooley, in alluding to the Mucaranga, or people of Monomoezi, who annually descend in large numbers to Zanzibar to trade,—says that they are decently clothed in cotton of their own manufacture, and bring down their merchandise to the coast laden on asses of a fine breed. Of the natives met with by Mr. Livingston near Lake Ngami we have likewise favourable accounts; so that we may indulge the hope that, as soon as Dr. Overweg and Dr. Barth shall reach the Mandara mountains, they will be beyond the reach of the deadly climate and of the savage inhabitants of the African lowlands,—and that they will afterwards have fewer obstacles in pursuing their way S.E. in the direction of Mombas, their desired goal. It is, in fact, not until they shall have arrived beyond Lake Tchad that these zealous and energetic travellers consider that their real field of exploration will begin. The only fear is, that their pecuniary means may not be sufficient to enable them to carry out their gigantic undertaking.

July 8.

AUGUSTUS PETERMANN.

#### OUR WEEKLY GOSSIP.

OUR contemporaries have stated, on the authority of the French papers, that M. Libri—with the charge against whom for stealing books from the public libraries of France our readers are familiar

—has been condemned *par contumace* (that is, in default of appearance), and sentenced to imprisonment for ten years. This fact they state without a word of comment of their own,—and so, in as far as their authority is concerned, M. Libri is to stand a convicted felon before Europe. In this course of theirs we think they are neither just to a distinguished foreigner who has cast himself on their hospitality,—nor true to themselves, since this cause, so long as M. Libri has a good answer, is in part their own. The cause of learning has something to lose or gain by the characters of its professors.—Our readers have been made so perfectly acquainted with all the facts of this case, that we need do no more here than refer to them. We may remind them that when M. Libri had to fly before the enmity of rivals whose hands the Revolution had suddenly let loose against him, we pointed out how strong must be the case of a man who found himself able in a foreign country to answer, as he did, every allegation which included a single definite circumstance. In No. 1074 of our paper, p. 527, will be found the substance of M. Libri's dissection of the charges made against him in M. Boucley's report; and if the rules of moral or legal evidence are to have any application, it cannot be denied that in that document, standing only on the defensive, he made out a triumphant answer—and that by its means he stood acquitted before the world. When, later, the French Government, seriously compromised by that state of the case, appointed a commission to search the books and manuscripts of M. Libri for further proofs against him, that gentleman, no longer content with defending himself, carried the war into the enemy's quarters.—In his Letter to M. de Falloux, the Minister of Public Instruction [see *Athen.* No. 1124, p. 484], he brought a series of imputations against parties connected with the Revolutionary Government which by throwing light on the animus of the original charges greatly strengthened his former defence.—Nothing whatever has since been done which in any degree alters the state of things as established by that last document. Urged again and again to withdraw their charges or to let some evidence be offered in support of them, in the only court in which M. Libri can appear with safety, that of public opinion,—the French Government have doggedly avoided doing the one or the other. Goaded at last, after an inaction of two years, into doing something,—instead of giving anything like an answer to the case as left by M. Libri, they have recourse to a proceeding which is designed to hoodwink the world by the semblance of an answer. An *acte d'accusation*, (or indictment) which does no more, we believe, than repeat the allegations of M. Boucley's original report, is brought into court;—not an atom of evidence, if we understand rightly the course of proceeding, is offered in support of them;—M. Libri, who even if he had been duly cited dare not have appeared in France in the present state of parties, is, however, as if to make doubly sure the assurance of his absence, *not cited*,—and on the mere reading of this charge (elsewhere refuted) M. Libri is pronounced to be guilty, and sentenced accordingly. This is the very mockery of judicial proceeding,—and should not have deceived a man amongst our contemporaries. The answer which M. Libri had given by anticipation would have been a triumphant defence to this indictment could it have been brought into court to meet it,—and should be recognized as a triumphant defence in the courts of public opinion. If M. Libri had thrown discredit on the charges brought against him before—as we are satisfied our readers think he had,—those charges cannot have gained new force by the mere fact of the French Government repeating, instead of proving, them.—Personally, we know nothing of M. Libri; but we are interested in maintaining the cause of science or of letters in the person of any one of their professors when we can,—and bound to do so when the case at once is a strong one and affects a man who is an exile amongst us.

Coming in the rear of a mass of testimonial greater and more widely diffused than has often followed any man to his tomb, on all hands preparations are making for monuments to the memory of the great



statesman who has been so suddenly snatched from amongst us. Statues are to be the final resulting expressions of a sympathy which has harmonized parties and united nations over a grave so strangely and unexpectedly opened. Many of the towns of England, including the metropolis, are organizing committees to promote subscriptions for the purpose; and Lord John Russell has moved the House of Commons for an address to Her Majesty praying that a monument may be erected in Westminster Abbey, "with an inscription recording the public sense of its irreparable loss." But the most touching of all these memorials, and that which perhaps the deceased statesman would have prized most—springing as he did, and as he was fond of saying, directly from the people—is one which has originated with the working classes. The subscription is to be limited to a penny, and is expected to extend over a basis which will make the universal people the foundations of this monument. Mr. Cobden, in reference to this proposal, has quoted a passage—delivered by Sir Robert Peel in the last speech pronounced by him in that field of his life-long labours, the House of Commons—"It may be that I shall leave a name sometimes remembered with expressions of goodwill in the abode of those whose lot it is to labour and to earn their daily bread by the sweat of their brow, when they shall recruit their exhausted strength, with abundant and untaxed food, the sweeter because it is no longer leavened by a sense of injustice." In piling up the peace of the working classes into a pyramid to his memory," says Mr. Cobden, "let me suggest that the above passage be inscribed upon its base."

Amongst those who perished on the dreadful occasion of the wreck of the *Orion*, we have omitted to single out, as we should have done, for a place beside that of Mr. Roby, the name of Dr. John Burns, Professor of Surgery in the University of Glasgow. The Scottish papers give some particulars of this gentleman's titles to widely extended regret. Dr. John Burns was, they say, for many years a practitioner at the head of the medical profession of the west of Scotland. He "was the eldest surviving son of the late Rev. Dr. Burns, of the barony parish of Glasgow (who previously to his death enjoyed the venerable title of Father of the Church of Scotland); and was, in addition, to many valuable papers connected with medicine and surgery, author of several literary and theological works that bear a standard reputation in the libraries. In 1815 he was appointed to the Chair of Surgery in the University of Glasgow, which, of course, brought him more immediately in contact with his medical contemporaries abroad, and in consequence, he became associated with many of the first professors of surgery and physic throughout Germany and France. Dr. Burns, in a word, enjoyed an European reputation." To this paragraph we may add that the Scotch papers report the death of the Rev. Dr. Gray, Professor of Oriental Languages in the University of Glasgow, and of Craunston, Lord Corehouse, one of the Judges of the Court of Session in Scotland.

A society has just been formed under the name of the British Medical Fund,—being a provident and relief society for medical men, their widows and orphans. This is an instance of one of the thousand forms in which the idea that lies at the root of all socialism is gradually, unostentatiously, and most usefully working throughout all English society. The objects of the institution are two:—first, to offer means whereby the savings of medical men may be made available for their own relief in times of sickness and old age, and of benefit to their families in case of death. A series of tables has been calculated, adapted to meet the wants of all classes of the profession. The other object is, by bequests and donations to raise a fund out of the interest of which cases of severe distress may be relieved, loans granted, and residences provided for decayed members or their widows. We wish this society success, and recommend it as a model to other classes in the community. How is it that no one sets earnestly about forming such an association for literary men? We fear the Literary Fund, whose means are so wasted, and whose constitution

is so abused, stands in the way of efforts to establish an institution more useful, intelligible and comprehensive than itself. If our readers could know the cases of distress and destitution that come under our notice for which the Literary Fund affords no relief, we think they would agree with us that the time is come for the establishment of a Literary and Provident Relief Society; and that some portion of the subscriptions irresponsibly administered—in obstinate defiance of the letter and spirit of a Charter whose originally narrow basis is narrowed by a false interpretation—might be advantageously diverted into a broader and freer channel. It is time that literary men should bestir themselves in this matter. There is scarcely a special body now throughout the community which is not held together and aided by an interest like this; and there is no one body to whom such a measure might seem to suggest itself with more force and urgency than that of the writers of England. But in this and other things the want of union and co-operation has been and is the fault—and makes the weakness—of literary men.

The proprietors of the Polytechnic Institution, we may mention, have voted the sum of 100 guineas as their contribution towards the funds raising for carrying into effect the Exhibition of Industry.

In the Scottish capital, we are informed, a Society for professional objects has been instituted under the title of the "Edinburgh Booksellers' Union." In addition to business purposes, they propose to collect and preserve books and pamphlets written by or relating to booksellers, printers, engravers, or members of collateral professions, rare editions of general works, and generally articles connected with parties belonging to the above professions, whether literary, professional, or personal. It is expected, our informant adds, that members of the trade or their relations will contribute largely to this department.

Arrangements are making for the Peace Congress, which is to assemble at Frankfurt towards the end of August next. At Paris and at Brussels, the missionaries of the cause, who it seems are not to be laughed down, have met with sympathy and co-operation from increasing numbers of those who can throw personal weight into their scale, and America is sending over an influential deputation to join them. As we have all along maintained, the very talk about peace as a principle is a good. They who remember how the belligerent spirit was kept alive by every kind of appeal in the war time, will understand how war may be helped out of credit by this constantly uttered depreciation. The war was a good deal relied on by those whose business it was to set nations "by the ears,"—it may be as sensitive to the peace music. No great truth was ever yet perseveringly put before the world which it did not end by accepting. The Annual Peace Congress is gradually assuming the dimensions of "a great fact," in the face of the scoffers.—Arrangements are said to be in progress for a special conveyance from London to Frankfurt, staying a night at Cologne, en route to the Rhine.

While our ships of war have been giving the Greeks occupation for the present and a hint for the future, it seems that we have been supplying them also with a narrative of the past. Mr. Keightley's "History of Greece" has, we see, been translated into modern Greek and published at Athens,—where, we understand, it has acceptance from all classes.

The Koh-i-noor, or "Mountain of light," the largest known diamond in the world excepting the Brazilian stone among the crown jewels of Portugal, has reached our shores in safety. It was in the year 1550, says the *Times*, "before the Mogul dynasty had been established by the prowess of the great Akbar, that this marvellous stone was first brought to light in the mines of Golconda. The 'mountain of light' passed in the train of conquest and as the emblem of dominion, from Golconda to Delhi, from Delhi to Mushed, from Mushed to Cabul, and from Cabul to Lahore. When first given to Shah Jehan it was still uncut, weighing, it is said, in that rough state nearly 800 carats, which were reduced by the unskilfulness of the artist to 279, its present weight. It was cut by

Hortensio Borgis, a Venetian; who, instead of receiving a remuneration for his labour, was fined 10,000 ruppes by the enraged Mogul. In form it is 'rose-cut,'—that is to say, it is cut to a point in a series of small faces, or 'facets,' without any tabular surface. A good general idea may be formed of its shape and size by conceiving it as the pointed half of a small hen's egg, though it is said not to have risen more than half-an-inch from the gold setting in which it was worn by Runjeet. Its value is scarcely computable,—though two millions sterling has been mentioned as a justifiable price if calculated by the scale employed in the trade. The Pitt diamond, brought over from Madras by the grandfather of Lord Chatham, and sold to the Regent Orleans in 1777 for 125,000*l.*, weighs scarcely 130 carats,—nor does the great diamond which supports the eagle on the summit of the Russian sceptre weigh as much as 200."

Provision has been making on a large scale in Hobart Town for the education of the colony,—and that place is claiming thus early, in language borrowed from older communities, to be "the Athens of the southern world." A sort of Tasmanian University,—or at all events what may be the basis of one—has been founded under the name of the High School, to which, as we understand from the *Hobart Town Courier*, the inhabitants of the colony have contributed liberally both as regards the spirit of the contributions and their pecuniary amount. A building said to be of great architectural beauty—"one of the finest south of the equinoctial line"—has been produced, at a cost of 4,000*l.*; and the teaching is to be unsectarian. Mr. J. Eccleston has been appointed the first Rector and Head Classical Master; and how much of the future character of the colony may be in his hands we hope he feels. In Tasmania there is no past to point to. The lessons of history can do little as guides on her new and untroubled path. The founding of this institution is perhaps the most important event that has as yet befallen her,—and they who are to have its early conduct have a responsibility which they should understand to be heavy with the weight of coming ages.

At Berlin the Academy of Sciences has been holding a sitting, according to its statutes, in honour of the memory of Leibnitz. In the course of the oration delivered on the occasion it was stated that the 4th of August next, being the 50th anniversary of the admission of Alexander Von Humboldt as a member of the Academy, it has been resolved, in celebration of the event, to place a marble bust of the "Nestor of Science" in the lecture-room of the Society.

Excavations made by M. Schayes in the ancient tumuli at Omal and Momalle in the arrondissement of Waremmé, in Belgium, have led to the discovery that they are of the period of the Empire and of Roman origin. Some of them had evidently been disturbed at an earlier period and despoiled of their contents; but in one, with other objects, were found two vases of bronze and silver of a new form, a fine terra-cotta lamp, and a coin in large brass, much corroded, but on which traces of the head of Hadrian are visible. These excavations have thus been proved not to be coeval with the conquest of Belgium by Cæsar, as supposed by Continental antiquaries. The English archaeologist will naturally be reminded of the Barlow Hills in Essex, so long supposed to be the burial places of the Danes, but discovered a few years since to be of a contemporary period with that of the Belgian tumuli.

#### Last Week but One.

ROYAL ACADEMY, TRAFALGAR SQUARE.  
The EXHIBITION of the ROYAL ACADEMY is NOW OPEN.—Admission from Eight o'clock till Seven, 1*s.*; Catalogue, 1*s.* JOHN PRESCOTT KNIGHT, R.A., Sec.

THE NEW SOCIETY of PAINTERS in WATER-COLOURS.—The SIXTEENTH ANNUAL EXHIBITION of this Society is NOW OPEN, at their Gallery, 53, Pall Mall, near St. James's Palace. JAMES FAHEY, Secretary.

INDIA OVERLAND MAIL.—DIORAMA.—GALLERY of ILLUSTRATION, 14, Regent Street, Waterloo-place. Additional Picture MADRAS.—A Graphic MOVING DIORAMA, ILLUSTRATING the ROUTE of the OVERLAND MAIL to INDIA, depicting every object worthy of notice on this highly-interesting journey from Southampton to Madras and Calcutta, accompanied by descriptive detail and appropriate music, is now OPEN DAILY. Morning at Twelve. Afternoon at Three, and in the Evening at Eight o'clock.—Admission, 1*s.*; Stalls, 2*s.* 6*d.*; Reserved Seats, 3*s.*—Doors open half-an-hour before each representation.



**PANORAMA OF THE Nile.**—Additions have been made to this Exhibition.—The Nubian Desert, from the Second Cataract to Dongola.—A War Dance by Fuzelitz.—March of Camavan by Moonlight.—Morning Prayer.—The Mummy of a High Priest is added to the curiosities. Both Banks of the River are shown in the Painting.—**LOFTUS HALL, PICCADILLY.**—Daily, at Three and Eight o'clock.—Stalls, 2s. Pit, 3s. Gallery, 1s.; Children and Scholars, Half-price.

**PANORAMA OF THE LAKES OF KILLARNEY.**—JUST OPENED, at BURFORD'S PANORAMA ROYAL, Leicester Square. A NEW and most celebrated and interesting LAKES taken from Ross Castle, and comprising the numerous adjacent Islands and their surrounding beautiful scenery. THE VIEWS OF THE ARCTIC REGIONS and of POMPEII are also now open.—Admission, 1s. to each view, or 2s. 6d. to the three. Schools, Half-price.—Open from Ten till dusk.

**The Diorama, Recent's Park.**—Admission, One Shilling.—NOW OPEN, with the finest Views ever exhibited in this country, representing the ROYAL CASTLE OF STOLZENFELS, on the Rhine, visited by Her Majesty Queen Victoria in August, 1845, and its Environs, as seen of Sunset and during a Thunder Storm, painted by NICHOLAS MEISER, of Cologne. And the much-admired Picture of THE SHRINE OF THE NATIVITY, at Bethlehem, painted by the late M. RENOUX, from a sketch made on the spot by DAVID ROBERTS, Esq. R.A., with novel and striking effects.

**ROYAL POLYTECHNIC INSTITUTION.**—During this week the ALPINE SINGERS from Styria will perform several of their National Melodies, Daily at Four, and in the Evenings at Half-past Eight.—LECTURE, by J. H. Pepper, Esq., on AN EXPERIMENT CONTRADICTION OF THE HISTORY OF LIGHT, daily at a Quarter-past Three, and every Evening at Eight.—LECTURE, by DR. BACHHOFFNER on VOLTAIC ELECTRICITY, daily at Two, and in the Evenings at a Quarter-past Nine.—NEW SERIES OF DISSOLVING VIEWS, illustrating some of the WONDERS OF NATURE, daily at Half-past Four, and in the Evenings at a Quarter to Ten; also a Series, exhibiting SCENES IN THE ARCTIC REGIONS and CEYLON, daily at One o'clock.—DIVER AND DIVING BELL, &c. &c.—Admission, 1s.; Schools, Half-price.

## SOCIETIES

**ROYAL.**—The Earl of Rosse, President, in the chair.—On the Structure of the Dental Tissues of Rodentia, by J. Thomas.

The Earl of Rosse, President, in the chair.—The following paper was read:—‘Observations on the Nebulæ,’ by the Earl of Rosse.—The object of this paper is to lay before the Royal Society, an account of the progress which have been made up to the present time in the re-examination of Sir John Herschel's Catalogue of Nebulæ published in the *Phil. Trans.* for 1833. Before describing any of the interesting objects the peculiar features of which the extraordinary powers of the telescope employed for their examination have brought to our knowledge, the author enters on some details concerning the instrument itself. This telescope, which for aperture and the consequent power it possesses for the examination of faint details must for a considerable time, at least, remain unrivalled—has a clear aperture of six feet, with a focal length of fifty-three feet. It has hitherto been used as a Newtonian, but by the easy application of a little additional apparatus it may be conveniently worked as a Herschelian; and the author thinks it not improbable that, in the further examination of the objects of most promise with the full light of the speculum undiminished by a second reflection, some additional features of interest will come out. The tube reposes at its lower end upon a very massive universal joint of cast-iron, resting upon a pier of stone work buried in the ground; and it is counterpoised so that it can be moved in polar distance with great facility. The extreme range of the tube in right ascension at the equator is one hour, but greater as the polar distance diminishes. By a little subsidiary apparatus, the movement of the telescope can be rendered almost exactly equatorial; but up to the present time, this apparatus has not been used, as without it the movement was found to be sufficiently equatorial for such measurements as have been required. The whole mounting was planned especially with the view of carrying on a regular system of sweeping; but as yet the discovery of new nebulae has formed no part of the systematic work of the observatory, the known objects which require examination being so numerous that hitherto the observers have been fully occupied with them. A clock movement was part of the original design, but as yet the telescope is not provided with one, and the want of it has not been very much felt. Various micrometers have been tried, but, on the whole, the common wire micrometer with thick lines has been found to succeed the best; for the faint details of the nebulae are extinguished by any micrometrical contrivance which either diminishes the light of the telescope or renders the field less dark;—and thick lines have been found to be visible without illumination in the darkest night. The telescope has two specula,

one about three and a half, and the other rather more than four tons weight. Each is provided with a system of levers to afford it an equable support. Upon this system it was placed before it was ground, and has rested upon it ever since. The systems of levers with the mode of applying them in the support of the speculum are described in the paper; and also the precautions taken to guard against strain and consequent flexure of the metal. Notwithstanding these precautions, undoubted evidences of flexure in the speculum have occasionally shown themselves. It has not, however, been found that flexure, even to the extent of materially disfiguring the image of a large star, interferes much with the action of the speculum on the faint details of nebulae;—although it greatly lessens its power in bringing out minute points of light, and in showing revolvability where, under favourable circumstances, resolution had been previously effected. It is stated that, in the spring of 1848, the heavier of the two specula, for nearly three months, performed admirably, very rarely exhibiting the slightest indication of flexure. It then remained inactive for some time before and after the solstice; and when observations with it were again commenced, it was found to be in a state of strain. On cautiously raising it a little by screws, for the purpose of re-adjusting the levers; it was found that the unequal strain of the screws had produced permanent flexure, so that the speculum did not again perform well until after it had been reground. Recently an alteration has been made in the mode of supporting the lighter of the two specula, which now rolls freely on eighty-one brass balls that support it nearly equally. After referring to other causes of unequal action, among which the varying state of the atmosphere is one of the most serious, the author remarks that the Society will not be surprised should it be in his power at a future time to communicate some additional particulars even as to the nebulae which have been most frequently observed. The very beautiful sketches which illustrate the paper are, it is remarked, on a very small scale, but are sufficient to convey a pretty accurate idea of the peculiarities of structure which have gradually become known. In many of the nebulae they are very remarkable, and seem even to indicate the presence of dynamical laws that we may perhaps fancy to be almost within our grasp. On examining these sketches, it will at once be remarked, as stated by the author, that the spiral arrangement so strongly developed in H. 1622, 51 Mesier, is traceable more or less distinctly in several of the sketches. More frequently, indeed, there is a nearer approach to a kind of irregular interrupted annular disposition of the luminous material, than to the regularity so striking in 51 Mesier; but it can scarcely be doubted that these nebulae are systems of a similar nature; seen more or less perfectly, and variously placed with reference to the line of sight. The author adverts to the description of this nebula by Mesier, Sir William Herschel, and Sir John Herschel; and remarks, that, taking the figure given by Sir John, and placing it as it would be seen with a Newtonian telescope, we shall at once recognize the bright convolutions of the spiral which were seen by him as a divided ring. Thus, with each increase of optical power the structure has become more complicated, and more unlike anything which we could picture to ourselves as the result of any form of dynamical law of which we find a counterpart in our system. After pointing out the importance of measurements, and the difficulty of taking them satisfactorily,—the author states that of a few of the stars with which the nebula is pretty well studded, measurements with reference to the principal nucleus were taken by his assistant Mr. Stoney in the spring of 1849, and that these have been repeated this year during the months of April and May,—and also some measures taken from the centre of the principal nucleus to the apparent boundary of the spiral coils in different angles of position. A hope is then expressed that, as several of these stars are no doubt within reach of the great instruments at Pulkova and at Cambridge, U.S., the distinguished astronomers who have charge of them will consider the subject worthy of their attention. The spiral arrangement of 51

Mesier was detected in the spring of 1845; and in the following spring an arrangement, also spiral, but of a different character, was detected in 99 Mesier. The author considers that 3,239 and 2,370 of Herschel's ‘Southern Catalogue’ are very probably objects of a similar character; and as the same instrument does not appear to have revealed any trace of the form of 99 Mesier, he does not doubt that they are much more conspicuous,—and therefore entertains the hope that, whenever the southern hemisphere shall be re-examined with instruments of great power, these two remarkable nebulae will yield some interesting result. The author briefly refers to the other spiral nebulae discovered up to the present time, which are more difficult to be seen;—and to clusters in the exterior stars of which there appears to be a tendency to an arrangement in curved branches. He then passes to the regular annular nebulae; in which, although they are perceived at once to be objects of a very different character, there still seems to be something like a connecting link. Among the nebulous stars, two objects are stated to be well worthy of especial notice.—No. 450 of Sir John Herschel's Catalogue, and 1 Orionis. A representation of No. 450, as seen with the six-foot telescope, is given. It has been several times examined, but as yet not the slightest indication of resolvability has been seen. The annular form of this object was detected by Mr. Stoney when observing alone, but Lord Rosse has since had ample opportunities of satisfying himself that the object has been accurately represented. A representation of 1 Orionis is likewise given. The remarkable feature in this object, the dark cavity not symmetrical with the star, was also discovered by Mr. Stoney when observing alone with the three-foot telescope. Lord Rosse has since seen it several times, and sketched it. A small double star *n*, *f* i has similar openings, but they are not so easily seen. These openings appear to be of the same character as the opening within the bright stars of the trapezium of Orion, the stars being at the edges of the opening. Had the stars been situated altogether within the openings, the suspicion that the nebula had been absorbed by the stars would perhaps have suggested itself more strongly. As it is, the author thinks we can hardly fail to conclude that the nebula is in some way connected with these bright stars, in fact, that they are equidistant; and therefore, if the inquiries concerning parallax should result in giving us the distances of these bright stars, we shall have the distance of this nebula. The long elliptic or lenticular nebulae are stated to be very numerous,—and three sketches of remarkable objects of this class are given. In proceeding with the re-examination of Sir John Herschel's Catalogue, several groups of nebulae have been discovered, in some of which nebulous connexion has been detected between individuals of the group, in others not. Sketches of some have been made, and measures taken; but although the subject of grouped or knotted nebulae is considered one of deep interest, it has not yet been proceeded with far enough to warrant entering upon it in the present paper.—The conclusion of the paper is occupied with remarks relating to each figure, in order to render the information conveyed by it more complete; and these are stated to be for the most part extracts selected from the Journal of Observations.

**ASIATIC.**—Prof. H. H. Wilson in the chair.—The Secretary read a letter from W. B. Barker, Esq., accompanying some daguerreotype copies of Persian drawings, presented to the Society in the name of M. Claudet. Two of the drawings were portraits,—one of Hajji Mirza Agasi, ex-prime minister of Persia;—the other of Bahman Mirza, uncle of the present King; and the letter contained some biographical notices of the former. Hajji Mirza Agasi was a man of obscure origin, but of some learning and intelligence; and he obtained great reputation as a necromancer and astrologer. In early life, when only an obscure teacher, he once travelled with a caravan of pilgrims, among whom was a daughter of the King, Feth Ali. The Hajji being a religious character, was admitted to frequent interviews with the princess, of which he



took advantage to make her a proposal of marriage; he was treated with the bastinado for his presumption, administered by the servants of the princess. Soon after this, he was brought into the notice of Abbas Mirza, eldest son of the king; and was appointed tutor to his children. In this capacity, he obtained great influence over Mahomed Mirza, the eldest son; and he foretold that Abbas Mirza would die before Feth Ali, and that the young prince himself would succeed his grandfather as king. This actually took place; and on the succession of his pupil, Hajji Mirza was appointed prime minister. His first act was to stop the allowance of the princess who had formerly treated him so scornfully,—and thus he compelled her to marry him. He obtained so great an ascendancy over the mind of the king, that for fourteen years he may be said to have reigned alone. While in power he did some good, as he kept the kingdom of Persia together; but he ruled with great severity, and enriched himself by the opportunities which his station afforded him of amassing wealth and refusing to pay his debts. One of his acts was, to abolish the standing army, for which he instituted a force chiefly composed of irregular horse and a strong body of artillery. He argued that the army could not withstand the forces of Russia; that Persia must depend for her defence on the jealousy of England; and that therefore the money expended in supporting an army might be better applied. He maintained his power until the death of his sovereign; when he was compelled to take refuge in a mosque from the fury of his many enemies, who pursued him to the very gates of the sanctuary, where they dared not enter, although enraged beyond measure at the taunts which he cast at them from a window. He was released at the intervention of Col. Ferrant, then *chargé d'affaires* in Persia; and retired to Kerbela, where he survived only a few months,—having publicly foretold the time of his death, which event occurred as he had predicted.

Mr. B. Strachey, in reply to the inquiries of Prof. Wilson, explained that he had been employed for the last two years by the Indian Government on the prosecution of scientific inquiries in our Himalayan provinces of Kumaon and Gharwal. His attention had chiefly been directed to the botany and geology of those districts; but he had also had opportunities of adding to our knowledge of the geography of the upper and more remote parts of the mountains, as well as of the portion of Tibet immediately adjoining the frontier of the districts above mentioned. He laid before the Society a map drawn up by his brother Capt. H. Strachey from their joint information and surveys. He likewise had paid some attention to the meteorology of those regions, and had obtained hourly observations of the barometer and thermometer up to an elevation of 18,400 feet above the sea. The results of his researches were to be understood as being the property of the East India Company; and the manner in which they would be made public must of course in a great measure depend on the Court of Directors, before whom the matter would shortly be laid.

*Report from the Select Committee of the House of Lords appointed to inquire into the best Means of preventing the Occurrence of dangerous Accidents in Coal Mines.*

*Report on Ventilation of Mines.* By J. Kenyon Blackwell, Esq.

*Report on the Ventilation of Mines and Collieries.* By Prof. Phillips.

The tale of human suffering is told with singular force in the volume placed first in the list. Not that the Report deals directly with the harrowing features of the "dangerous accidents in coal mines"; but throughout the 'Minutes of Evidence' a general expression is given to the feeling that we can no longer defer the attentive consideration and immediate application of means by which their occurrence may be prevented.

Cottage hearths are rendered desolate, and the homes of honest industry made to resound with the wail of the widow and the cries of the fatherless. Mothers weep over the mangled remains of their sons

destroyed in the first glory of manhood. Whole happy villages are suddenly transformed into places of mourning.—At the bidding of what evil spirit are these terrors shed abroad? Within the recesses of the mine, the fire-damp has exerted its fury. The tyrant Flame has broken from control, and exhausted its force in the work of death,—and another monster power has coldly followed in aid along the fiery path. Such persons as have escaped the ravages of the *fire-damp* have been met by the fatal *choke-damp*,—and slain as they fled before the first destroyer!—Such is the story incidentally told in this Report,—and a yet more painful revelation comes in its train. It is shown that, with ordinary care,—and with the proper exercise of human foresight, guided by intelligence,—the frequent sacrifices of human life in our coal mines might have been prevented.

The present state of our coal mines and the prospect of improving them—are described in the following extract from the Report.—

"The actual condition of the coal mines in this country, as respects ventilation, appears to be widely different, and it is to be feared is for the most part seriously defective. In the northern counties of England, where the whole science and practice of the subject is more studied and better understood than elsewhere, there are many examples of collieries, some of them upon a gigantic scale, in which the most enlightened attention is paid to the condition of the workings and to the arrangements for rendering them secure; and, generally speaking, there appear to be but few in those parts where at least the ordinary resources of ventilation are not applied. But in other districts—in the midland counties and in Wales—it is stated that there are many mines altogether unprovided with anything to aid the mere natural action of the atmosphere \*—a state of things involving extreme peril, and, even where this is absent, probably serious injury to the health of those employed. There can be no doubt that in these cases considerable improvement might be easily effected, and ought by some means to be secured; and there is strong evidence, from competent authority, that, even in an economical point of view, a safe and healthy condition of a mine may be ultimately the most profitable to the owner."

In a list appended to 'The Report of the South Shields Committee' we find, amid the numerous comparatively small catastrophes, the following examples of the fearful destruction which takes place from time to time in our collieries:—92 lives were sacrificed at Felling in 1812—57 at Newbottle in 1815—52 at Wallsend in 1821—59 at Rainton in 1823—42 at Jarrow in 1830—102 at Wallsend in 1835—and 51 at St. Hilda in 1839. In the same list are given twenty-five other explosions involving in each case the loss of from ten to thirty lives, and upwards of one hundred instances in each of which the loss of lives was under ten. Since the publication of this list the deaths by explosion have been no less numerous. In 1835 a Select Committee of the House of Commons ascertained that in the preceding twenty-five years 2,070 persons had perished from colliery explosions;—and in the 'Minutes of Evidence' before us, we find it stated that from the 1st of January 1848 to the 30th of June 1849, 346 lives were lost by explosions of fire-damp. This is not the only cause of loss of life in collieries. From other causes, within the same period there were also killed—

By breakage of ropes and chains . . . . .	93
By falling down shafts . . . . .	99
By falling of roof on the men . . . . .	221
By suffocation or drowning . . . . .	16
By trains or waggons . . . . .	23

—giving a total, from all causes, of 798 human lives sacrificed in this employment in eighteen months.

Are there any means by which this condition of things can be remedied? Is it not possible to work our coal mines effectively and economically, without incurring this dreadful death tax? Every Commission which has reported on the question has declared its full conviction that comparative safety is within the reach of proper management. Every Commission has pressed on the Government the necessity of enforcing some system of inspection, which, without being annoying to the proprietor, should secure to the men employed in the mines all the advantages of scientific and practical knowledge. Yet nothing has been accomplished. A fearful calamity occurs,—an inquiry is instituted by the Government,—the inspectors make their report: but the excitement of the moment is by this time over,—and no more is thought of the matter until a fresh disaster comes to re-awaken the dormant powers,—and the drama of inquest and inquiry is played over again, to end as before. "Humanity," says the South Shields Report, "has too frequently to deplore

these fearful accidents. \* \* \* The country cannot intend to abandon this useful class of men (the miners) for ever to such a fate:—"and this has been the key-note of every Report which has been made from 1835 to 1850.

That the question of legislation on this subject is surrounded with difficulties must be admitted; but these are not beyond the solution of science,—and if not absolutely removable, they may be, it is certain, materially reduced. A large majority of the lives which have been sacrificed within the last few years might have been preserved if the measures had been acted on which have again and again pressed on the attention of Parliament. The desire of gain must no longer be allowed to interfere with the cause of humanity. Valuable lives must not be sacrificed because individuals are unwilling to expend a little money in sinking new shafts or adopting improved methods of ventilation.

The question of education has been one which has forced itself on the attention of every Commission; since, it is clear that a very large proportion of the mismanagement and carelessness which have led to these frightful casualties have their birth in the ignorance of those employed as directors of mining operations.—We are, however, somewhat surprised at finding, after the very decided expression of a desire on the part of every witness save one that some system of mining education should be adopted, that the present Committee in their Report should deal so tremulously with the subject.—

"There appears [say they] to be some difference of opinion upon this point; though none as to the ordinary deficiency of the means of useful education nor as to the general desire among these classes to obtain it. There can be no doubt that, on general principles, improved education would have a tendency to induce greater caution among the workpeople, and to raise the qualifications of those who, as subordinate agents in the management of a mine, are charged with the greater part of its effective superintendence."

Again, they state:—

"At present there is little of such instruction within the reach of persons engaged in these occupations; and among some of those best qualified to speak upon the point a want appears to be practically felt of facilities for acquiring it, such as are provided by the mining schools and colleges established in the principal mining districts of the Continent,—apparently with the most beneficial effects."

We trust the time is arrived for the establishment of a system of mining education which shall meet all the desires of this large industrial population; and that England, producing mineral wealth equal to the whole of that raised elsewhere in Europe, will not much longer be without a school of mines which shall be in no respect inferior to the *École des Mines* of Paris or the similar establishments of the German States. In the Government Museum of Practical Geology, now in progress of arrangement in Jermyn Street, we have a nucleus on which might be grafted an educational system which should be at once a credit to the nation and of the utmost practical value to the miners.

Two Inspectors were appointed in 1849, to whom the Government committed the charge of examining into the present condition of the collieries of this country. They have now made their Reports. From the known scientific and practical qualifications of Prof. John Phillips and Mr. Kenyon Blackwell, the two Inspectors in question, we have every reason to believe that no better men could have been selected. In the Report of the Lords' Committee it was remarked that this appointment was—

"judicious as a first advance towards this object; but a Commission so limited in its organization must be very inadequate to the effectual prosecution of such a task,—and the question remains whether it would not be desirable that Parliament should authorize the establishment of some more comprehensive system, which might tend to promote the same end with greater efficiency. Upon this point there is a striking unanimity in the evidence given during the present inquiry."

Notwithstanding this, we find, immediately after, a fear expressed that much opposition will be offered by the coal-owners to any system of Government inspection. We had no fear of this ourselves; and each of these gentlemen, in their respective Reports, give evidence that every facility was offered to them in their progress. A fair and honest inspection would never be objected to,—an annoying one would be strenuously resisted.

Several other important considerations occupied the attention of this Committee:—as, the casualties arising from inundations, from the breaking of



ropes, and from other causes. The subject of the calamities which originate in accidentally coming into old workings necessarily leads to some discussion on the importance and practicability of obtaining mining plans, which should be lodged in some public establishment and open at all times to inspection. The great advantages to be derived from such an arrangement are admitted by all the witnesses examined. In an article on the subject of Mining Records in a recent *Edinburgh Review*, the author has aimed at showing the benefits to be expected from a national depository for the maps of old mine-workings, and plans of mines in process of working, to which all interested parties could refer. He has, however, fallen into some errors. Referring to the Museum of Practical Geology as the proper place for receiving such documents,—he states that that establishment took its rise from the recommendation of a Section of the British Association at their Meeting at Newcastle in 1838. The Mining Record Office originated in such a recommendation. The Museum was established in 1835, on the suggestion of Sir Henry De la Beche.—The same writer says, there is great unwillingness on the part of the owners of mines to deposit plans. The gentleman who has charge of the Mining Record Office has, however, assured us, through a letter in the *Mining Journal*, that "much facility has been afforded, and frequent intimations given that upon sending proper parties to the mines, copies of maps and sections might be freely taken." We understand, also, from other sources, that scarcely any mine proprietor would object to allow copies of the maps and plans of his property to be made by parties authorized to do so by the Government, on proper application being made to him for that purpose.

There can be no longer any trifling with an evil of such terrific magnitude as the accidents in mines. There must be legislation to meet the emergency of the case; and we hope, now that such an enormous amount of evidence has been obtained by Committees and by the examination of appointed Commissions, that the measure about to be brought forward will be distinguished by enlarged views and the most extended humanity,—that the safety of the labourer will not be jeopardized by any foolish fears as to adopting a system of interference with the management of the mines. Without demanding any annoying supervision, we repeat that the imperative duty of securing perfect ventilation, by increasing the number of shafts, or otherwise, and of providing for the safety of the miner under all ordinary circumstances, must at length be placed beyond the carplings of ignorance and the false economy of narrow-minded proprietors.

**SCIENTIFIC GOSSIP.**—M. Cardan has presented a notice to the *Académie des Sciences* on a new system of filter intended to render sea-water drinkable. This apparatus consists of a syphon, the long tube of which is filled with powdered charcoal. The author states that the sea-water after having traversed this syphon has lost its nauseous savour, and that the saline taste which remains is scarcely to be detected after it is mixed with wine. MM. Becquerel and Pouillet are appointed Commissioners to examine into the merits of this communication.

M. Moigno has lately called attention to an important physical fact observed by him some time since, and recently confirmed by the researches of Matteucci, which appears to indicate some striking difference between the calorific and luminous agencies, and to be opposed to the commonly-received views of the identity of light and heat. It has been shown that in all cases the negative pole of a voltaic battery or pile becomes luminous previously to the completion of the electric arc, and that it is relatively much colder than the positive pole. It is hence inferred, that light is developed in virtue of some peculiar function of the negative pole of the battery, independent of the process of combustion which constitutes the phenomenon of the ordinary electric light; and that heat is constantly developed with superior intensity at the positive end of any voltaic arrangement. There are so many important considerations involved in the question of these dissimilar influences, that the results obtained by M. Moigno will without doubt undergo an extensive and careful examination.

Our attention has been called on several occasions

to the peculiar qualities of peat charcoal; and we have now a pamphlet before us by Mr. Jasper Rogers, in which its merits, not merely as a deodorizer, but as a disinfectant, are strongly insisted on. It is to be regretted that, in advocating the introduction of an agent which really is of high promise for many purposes, statements should be made which are contrary to known facts. In speaking of the gases accumulated in the sewers of the metropolis, it is stated that "Science at present knows no means for destroying those gases;" whereas the merest tyro in chemistry could name a dozen preparations by which they might be decomposed or absorbed. The absorptive power of charcoal is not a new discovery; for Saussure ascertained that the rate of absorption for several gases was as follows:—

Ammoniacal gas .....	90 times its volume.
Sulphurous acid .....	65 " " "
Sulphuretted hydrogen .....	55 " " "
Carbonic acid .....	35 " " "
Carburetted hydrogen .....	35 " " "

Peat charcoal cannot under any circumstances absorb a larger volume of either of these gases than the above; but a glimpse at the table will convince any one that it may be employed as a *deodorizer* with very great advantage in virtue of this peculiar property,—and Mr. Jasper Rogers deserves praise for having called public attention to the importance of an agent which can be obtained, as it appears from his statement, at a moderate cost. It must, however, be always borne in mind that it by no means follows because excretory matter is deprived of smell that it is robbed of those principles which are the cause of disease. No greater mistake than this can be committed, and it is most important that it should be corrected without delay. We are satisfied that the annoying odours which arise from decomposing animal and vegetable matter are our great safeguards, since these compel the speedy removal of the putrefying mass from the neighbourhood of our dwellings. Rob it of its smell, and masses of organic matter will be pouring forth their subtle *fever-agencies* unnoticed by us until pestilence proclaim the fact. Charcoal probably has some disinfectant powers, apart from its anti-putrescent and deodorant properties,—but of this we want the proof. Nature has given a peculiarly noxious odour to all exhalations from putrefying matter, by means of which we learn by our sense of smell their presence:—let us not hastily attempt to destroy a property established for an important end.

Prof. H. Reinsch in the *Jahrbuch* of Practical Pharmacy describes a new voltaic battery of considerable power without the use of any exciting metal. A common porous cell is filled with powdered coke, into which is fixed a rod of coke for conducting the current. This porous cell is placed in a jar or glass which is then filled with coarse bruised coke, to which is also connected a rod of the same material. The coke in the inner cell is moistened with nitric acid,—that in the external one with a saturated solution of common salt: conducting wires being attached to the coke cylinders, a tolerably strong current is indicated. Dr. Reinsch has rendered a small electro-magnet sufficiently magnetic by this current to sustain half a pound; but a large electro-magnet was not affected by it. The spark and shock have been very decidedly obtained from a single compound cell; and from the indications afforded, we may hope to obtain much greater power at a small cost of material.

A new gunpowder has been prepared by M. Augendre of Constantinople, and reported on to the *Académie des Sciences* of Paris by MM. Fioberg and Morin, of the following composition.—

Crystallized prussiate of potash, dried ..	1 part
White sugar .. .. .	1 part
Chlorate of potash .. .. .	2 parts.

The Report is favourable to its use for artillery:—but well knowing the dangerous character of all explosive compounds containing the chlorate of potash, we do not expect much benefit will accrue from its introduction.

M. Regnault has communicated to the Academy of Sciences a new photographic process, the discovery of M. Blanquart-Evrard. "The Fluoride of Potassium," says the author, "added to the iodide in the preparation of the negative proof gives an instantaneous image by exposure in the camera obscura. To assure myself of the extreme sensibility of the fluoride, I have experimented on some of the least

sensitive of the photographic preparations, such as plates of albuminized glass simply iodized, requiring an exposure at least sixty times as long as the sensitive paper. By adding the fluoride to the iodized albumen, or by substituting the washing of the plate after the aceto-nitrate with distilled water,—by floating over it a solution of the fluoride of potassium, I have obtained instantly an image by exposure in the camera obscura." It must not be forgotten that previous to 1844 Mr. Robert Hunt published a process discovered by him, and called 'The Fluorotype.' He used both the fluorides of potassium and sodium,—and found the latter salt combined with bromide of potassium the most useful. Papers prepared according to a formula given in that gentleman's 'Researches on Light' are stated by him "to keep for some weeks without injury, and they become impressed with good images in half a minute in the camera."

Mr. Fox Talbot has just completed the specification of his new patent for improvements in Photography. Its only novelty is the use of plates of porcelain instead of glass.

## FINE ARTS

### NEW PUBLICATIONS. BOOKS.

*Elementary Instruction in the Art of Illumination and Mosaic Painting on Vellum.* By D. de Lara.

WE are familiar with some ingenious illuminations by this artist in imitation of the ancient mosaic work. Here he professes to draw up a code of instructions for the pursuit of his art:—of the history of which a glance over the pages of his book satisfies that he is ignorant. He is apparently unacquainted with its practice in the earliest times; and fancies that the pointing out of certain obvious arrangements of colour will conduct to a knowledge of principles, and suffice to revive the school. The subject is one demanding deeper knowledge and thinking than have entered into his philosophy or that of others who have lately ventured to treat of it. This art was to be found anciently in combination with other and far higher arts practised by the same individuals. The great choral-books of Siena, of Venice, and of many of the monasteries of the north and south of Europe were the works of artists of acknowledged *imagination*:—that great secret of their art is just as communicable by teaching as is the power to *originate* a picture or to *design* a building. The inventive faculty of the monks, who are the great authorities in this matter, cannot be conveyed didactically:—how to *copy* their works, when done, *may*. Such books as the present may teach a young lady how to amuse herself by the ingenious embellishment of a fire-screen or an album.

*The Art of Landscape Painting in Water Colours.* By Thomas and L. Rowbotham, Junior.

SOME trite observations in the ordinary drawing-master's style on the materials of pigments and paper—and on the conventional modes of getting up a landscape which make one so like each other when they are exposed on the walls of an exhibition room,—are here made the vehicle of a colour-man's announcement. We give as a sufficient specimen of the style of instruction which the book contains, its directions for manufacturing a moon light!—"Moon-light or moon-rise may be imitated in the same manner as sunset, but gamboge or Indian yellow will be best for tinting the moon (!); over the lower portion of which a faint tone of warmth may, when the moon is near the horizon, be given with light red."—It is fit that the art of making moon-light should be taught in "moon-shine."

*Hints to Amateurs; or, Rules for the Use of the Black-Lead Pencil.* By H. M. Wichelo, jun.

A drawing-master's brochure, which may be classed with the foregoing. It repeats such directions for the use of the pencil as Prout and Harding and others gave us more than a quarter of a century ago; and accompanies them by the customary prints teaching how to make distinguishable an oak, or an elm, or a fir, or any other tree,—and by some general observations on perspective as applied more immediately to the necessities of the landscape stu-



dent. A list, in true chiropodist style, of testimonials from persons who have been operated on by the system concludes a pamphlet whose cover conveys the trade announcement.

PRINTS.

*The Dame School.* Painted by T. Webster, R.A.

Engraved by Lumb Stocks. Mr. Hogarth has well selected his engraver for rendering popularly accessible one of the best of Mr. Webster's productions. We need not now insist on the merits of a picture, so well known and appreciated,—but will say merely that it has met with most successful treatment at the hands of Mr. Stocks. The picture, our readers know, is in the Vernon Collection; and the engraving is appropriately dedicated to the Trustees of the National Gallery.

*Sabrina.* From the picture by W. E. Frost, A.R.A. Engraved by P. Lightfoot.

This is a line engraving executed by order of the Committee of the Art-Union for distribution among its subscribers. The print is of much merit; although by those practised in the modes in which flesh has been represented by the burin, the quality of its representation here may be excepted to. This is, however, one of the best prints that we have yet seen issued under the auspices of the association in question.

*The Three Marys and the Dead Christ.* Engraved after the celebrated Picture by Annibale Caracci, by the late Mr. William Sharp, and finished by Mr. Frederick Bacon.

THIS effective-looking print will not bear the close investigation of the connoisseur in engravings,—as regards either its rendering of the drawing, that of the elevated expression, or the mechanical agency of its own art. The drawing of the heads and hands is caricatured. The uplifted hands of one of the Marys we need not characterize to those who can read such matters. The right hand and arm of Christ indicate the perplexity and want of purpose resulting from the employment of one engraver to finish the work of another whose manner of practice was different from his own. Mr. Bacon by himself might have come to a better conclusion. As it is, we cannot determine whether the bad parts—and such there are in abundance—are by Mr. Sharp or by Mr. Bacon.

*Gardoni.* By C. Baugnet.

HERE, in a golden oval, Mr. Kilburn has published one of the finest specimens of the lithographed portrait that we have seen for years. It would not require an acquaintance with the original to assure the spectator that this is a likeness,—but as a piece of Art the portrait is also remarkable. What the artist has produced so strikingly, the printer has contributed his part to render with effect.

*Mrs. Charles Kean as Beatrice in 'Much Ado about Nothing.'* By M. Baugnet.

*W. R. Hamilton, Esq.* By the Same. THE first is a most spiritedly executed whole-length lithograph. The drawing demands our praise rather from the freedom of its style and the beauty of its handling than from its resemblance to the Lady whom it undertakes to represent. There have been many more favourable examples of M. Baugnet's talent in seizing the individuality of the human head than the present. He has certainly not flattered the physiognomy of the accomplished actress.—We prefer the same artist's likeness of William Richard Hamilton, Esq. This is a faithful rendering of the individuality of the well-known Secretary of the Dilettanti Society. The print is executed, like the other, in a masterly style.

*Portrait of Lord Gough.* Drawn on Stone by James Harwood.

Few things are more disadvantageous to the progress of this branch of Art amongst us than the hurry with which pictures are got up and engravings are brought out to meet some temporary excitement or motive of popularity. No sooner does Lord Gough or his companion in arms arrive from India than painters and publishers are seen rushing after them, and the victorious warriors are besieged by the spirit of speculation. Rude execution and incomplete production are the consequences.

The print-shop window is filled with *ephemeræ*—soon to give place to others as short lived. No artist careful of his fame and conscientious for his art will be bound to conditions which imply insufficient time for the due application of the latter. We may say, that there is considerable resemblance in the head of Lord Gough—in a species of Art to which the artist is evidently new.

*Portrait of Major Edwards.* Painted by Henry Moseley. Lithographed by J. W. Lynch.

THE above observations apply equally to the present work. It is just one of those available likenesses of a brave officer offered at small pecuniary cost and recommended by no quality of artistic skill.

*Catherine Seyton.* Painted by Edwin Landseer. Engraved by W. H. Simmons.

THIS, if we mistake not, is a re-appearance of a study which formerly did duty as one of a series of illustrations of the heroines of Walter Scott. In its present shape it has had the advantage of more favourable translation at Mr. Simmons's hands. It is executed in the mixed species of mezzotint now so popular,—and is creditable alike to painter and to engraver.

*Helena.* Painted by Frank Stone. Engraved by W. H. Simmons.

ANOTHER mezzotint by the same engraver,—but not so successful. The original is one of those agreeable studies of female form which Mr. Stone knows so well how to produce. The present example has less fancy in the design and action of the figure than is usual with this artist; but there are the same pleasing character and feeling which distinguish all his works. These qualities are not done justice to by the black and monotonous print before us. It wants gradation. In its present state there is too much half-tint.

*John Hallah.* Drawn on Stone by T. H. Maguire.

THIS portrait of a gentleman who has done so much to popularize and improve the harmonies of the million is one of Mr. Maguire's very able presentations of individual character. It is drawn on the stone with great care and artistic skill.

*Napoleon's Eagle. Stag crossing a River. Huntsman and Hounds.* Drawn by E. Landseer.

THESE are fac-similes of three sketches made by the painter for the late Lady Blessington, and included in the sale of her effects. The drawings have already had our notice,—and it is unnecessary now to say more than that they are here faithfully imitated.

#### DESTRUCTION OF MONUMENTS IN EGYPT.

Nile, near Sarshout, 80 miles below Thebes.

MY Nile boat is anchored off a sugar factory belonging to Achmet Bey, one of the sons of the late Ibrahim Pasha—and I have just seen here a Belfast-steam-engine which raises water for the irrigation of 100 acres of land. It is to be regretted that this energy in cultivation should be united with a rapacious economy; for though Mahomed Ali actually cleared the great temple of Esnée, and did what was in his power, latterly, to preserve ancient remains,—and though the present Pasha prohibits foreigners from removing antiquities,—yet the son of Ibrahim plunders ancient temples whenever it suits the objects of his commercial enterprises, without even the excuse of public service. Last week, at Thebes, a number of English gentlemen and noblemen as well as myself were witnesses to the dragging away of sculptured and painted blocks from the temple of Karnac (the finest in Egypt) and their shipment for a sugar factory. I here find a large boat full of these fine sandstone blocks (originally cut from the famous quarries of Silsilis) made fast near a capstan fixed for hoisting them on shore. The engine-house is, in fact, being repaired with these stones. I also saw some beautiful blocks deep under its walls which had been brought from Haue (or Howe) (the ancient Diospolis Parva) five miles higher up the Nile. These blocks are sculptured in intaglio and painted with primitive colours:—in fact, they correspond with one or two which I found still remaining at Haue this morning. The peasants said

that large remains of a temple had been removed from thence to the factory less than two years since; and I had the mortification to find that a very fine ancient tomb, described by Sir G. Wilkinson, at Diospolis Parva had totally disappeared. When the professions and apparent interests of the Egyptian Government on this subject are considered, these wanton acts of destruction for the benefit of an individual are abominable,—the more so, as I calculate from the number of boats up the Nile this year that at least 5,000, has been spent by foreigners (almost all English) who have been attracted to this country solely by the antiquities of the Nile valley. But if these acts of a trading Moslem are to be deprecated,—what is to be said to those of learned dilettanti of late years? Great, indeed, has been the liberty assumed by this class of men, to whatever country they may happen to belong,—or whatever country they may happen to get access to. They seem to hold of antiquities what the poacher does of game—that they are *fera natura* and incapable of becoming property; to think that their clever abduction is as laudable as the landing of a ruflet of Hollands used to be thought by the farmers of Sussex or Hampshire. Perhaps the fairest rule may be, that whatever object curious in itself or illustrative of Art or History is capable of being separated from other objects without deteriorating them or prejudicing other investigations concerning them, may be fairly removed; but whatever objects form part of a whole which would be injured by their absence—especially form parts of a series of sculptures, paintings, or inscriptions, less beautiful or comprehensible without them,—should be held sacred by all men of education and character. There are certain monuments in the discovery of which much money has been expended by individuals and nations, which, in a certain sense, become vested in those parties so far as the preservation of them is concerned. There are others which have an inherent value beyond property,—as the house called New Place, built by Shakespeare, and pulled down by the captious owner to spite the overseers. If these canons are admitted by men of education and delicacy, how much must they impress those men of research whose studious lives have been enlivened by journeys made for the verification of the scientific or artistic inquiries of the closet. Especially must such inquirers in Egypt respect the labours of a Salt, a Belzoni, a Hay, a Vyse, a Wilkinson, and what gratitude should be felt to such men by a follower of Champollion who has devoted his life to the investigation of their labours, and visited Egypt for this purpose thrice. Such is the case with the delegate of the King of Prussia, Prof. Lepsius, of Berlin. Nevertheless, in his late visit to Egypt he scrupled not to take away from Thebes (I have it on good authority) three boat-loads of plunder of one kind or other,—presented, no doubt, to His Prussian Majesty, or to the Berlin Museum, as the *spolia opima* of Dr. Lepsius's famous expedition. He left the evidence of his destructiveness on tomb after tomb which, carefully described by Wilkinson as containing beautiful series of paintings, now present only incomprehensible fragments. I will give only one instance. Belzoni's tomb is the richest of all in Art, in illustration of the religion and ceremonies of the Egyptians as well as of their astronomy,—besides having hundreds of square yards of hieroglyphics thickly interspersed with cartouches (or royal names). It is still painted as brilliantly as when the deeply cut letters were first filled with bright colours. From one spot I counted twenty-five white blotches in the limestone, from four to ten inches in diameter, on a wall covered with hieroglyphics, quite perfect. There were as many more beyond my light and eye, no doubt. This was the work of Dr. Lepsius. The effect is the same and the injury similar to what would be produced by cutting out from the illustrated Froissart of Francis the First at Paris all the royal and noble names through twenty pages. But this is not the whole of the case. From the nature of the close-grained limestone it is evident that not one in three names or words could have been cut off whole; and, therefore, the evidence obtained would be inferior to a wax or a paper cast or a careful copy,—all easily made. There is no



work of Art in this case,—no value in the words except as evidence; and the characters are as plain as Dr. Lepsius's many titles on his title-pages in Berlin. What then could be the motive which inspired this laborious robbery, if it were not to conceal from others what the energy of Belzoni and the money of England had made patent to all the world; and this where discoveries as to the period of Ozutaten or Sethos the First, the father of Rhameses [Sesostris], are most anxiously expected and sought for by those who are interested in Egyptian archaeology,—those very persons who buy and appreciate Dr. Lepsius's books? But I will not allege motives, nor dwell on the cutting of the beautiful square pillar in the same tomb thrown down by Champollion. I will only add, that the strongest feelings are displayed on the subject. Travellers have expressed these in the most energetic words, in French, German, and English remarks written in the tombs themselves. The Ex-President of the Royal Society and other noblemen and gentlemen who have been at Thebes this winter can, and no doubt will, bear testimony to the fact. I will quote only the evidence of my poor Arab guide, Aboo Ard. After again and again showing us different illustrations of the Professor's industry, and referring to the written and oral opinions of travellers, Aboo broke out with an energy which made its own language—"Effendi Inglis tell, Lepsius, one kelb kelb, one jackal, one dog"—a sentiment which we heartily concurred in, as some of your readers possibly may.—I remain, &c.

One of the English Gentlemen on the Nile in the winter of 1849-50.

**FINE-ART GOSSIP.**—Something, it appears, is at length to be done towards the restoration of Sir Christopher Wren's beautiful Church of St. Stephen's, Walbrook—which had, as the public too well know, fallen into a condition of decay that threatened ultimate destruction. At a recent meeting of the rate-payers of the joint parishes of St. Stephen, Walbrook, and St. Benet, Sherehog, it was resolved that an amount not exceeding 1,000*l.* should be expended on this object. It is not to be supposed that a sum like this will effect much towards the restoration of this edifice in the sense of those works of the kind which have of late years renovated some of the finest specimens of architecture of a former age throughout Europe. It will do little more, we should suppose, than repair the rents of time and neglect, and bring the church back into a habitable condition. But the parish funds are just recovering from a condition of anarchy which threatened ruin to the pile; and this vote may be taken as proof that the attention of the parishioners is alive to the work of fine art which they have in their keeping,—and that more elaborate restoration will follow on the present acts of repair when the means at their disposal shall be more nearly proportioned to their goodwill in the matter.

The magnificent specimen of the tessellated work of the Romans discovered some time since at Autun, to which allusion has been made more than once in our columns, has been brought to this country by M. Jovet, its owner, and justifies what has been reported of it by us on the faith of the critics abroad. It represents, our readers know, Bellerophon mounted on Pegasus, in the act of slaying the Chimæra.

Messrs. Christie & Manson sold on Thursday a very miscellaneous collection of pictures, the property of the late Earl of Bessborough. Amidst much that was tediously bad, there were a few portraits of historical interest. These sold well,—and in some instances deserved to sell for more than they realized. We will only instance the better pictures. A fine three-quarter portrait of Sir Christopher Wren, with a pair of compasses in his hand, by Kneller, sold for 21 guineas. A clever portrait of Congreve, by Kneller, (kit-kat size, with a pleasing expression of humour about the face) brought 4*l.* 12*s.* A profile of Pope, crowned with bays, by Kneller, was knocked down for 13*l.* guineas. There are a touch of poetry and an elevation of sentiment about this head not commonly seen in Kneller's portraits. A three-quarter portrait of Dean Swift, holding a pen, by Jervas,

brought 8*l.* guineas. Jervas has here caught the quick clever look of Swift in the best period of his life. The head of Addison by the same painter sold for 5*l.* 15*s.* It is a very uncharacteristic likeness of the great essayist,—one, moreover, untrue to the portraits received as genuine. Most of the other portraits sold on the same occasion—a head of Inigo Jones excepted—were, at the best, but contemporary copies by poorer hands.

An attempt is, it seems, in course of being made to redeem the beautiful model of the field and battle of Waterloo, which was exhibited in London some years since, from the hands of a mortgagee, and find a place of safe keeping for it in the museum of the United Service Institution. On the death of Capt. Siborne, this ingenious and laborious work came into the hands of an officer who had advanced money towards its construction, as security for his debt; and a committee of officers has been formed to prevent its passing out of the country or into private hands by promoting a subscription towards securing for it this comparatively public destination at home.

## MUSIC AND THE DRAMA

### NEW PUBLICATIONS.

*Andante, with Variations in E flat major—Andante, with Variations in B flat major*, Op. 82, 3, by F. Mendelssohn-Bartholdy, (*Posthumous Works*, Nos. 10 and 11.)—That Mendelssohn had his own fancies in composition—fancies which leaned in a direction, opposite to that taken by other modern pianoforte writers—every one who knew him or who has studied his works must be aware. Of themselves, these two Themes with variations would suffice to attest the fact. They begin abruptly, without the dalliance of introduction or the preparation of prelude,—like the *ciaccone* of Bach and Handel, and that wonderful subject in c minor, with its long string of changes, by Beethoven, (which, by the way, Mendelssohn delighted in playing.) Again, like the theme of the *Variations Sérieuses*, Op. 54, these *andante*s are at the very antipodes of the lightly-harmonized and piquant melodies which modern variation-makers have affected to an excess of affectation. They suggest organ music,—or a melody *thought*, if not written, for a stringed quartet. They have neither national airs nor operatic graces; and inasmuch they are truly welcome to us, being solid without oppressive dryness or antiquity. Still, neither will seduce, both must be adopted. The author's name is an assurance that the pleasure is well worth waiting for. In themselves both sets of Variations will afford excellent practice to the finger; they are carefully arranged, too, with a view to contrast,—and both are terminated by a *coda*, in which the excitements of the modern school are not disdained, but are effectively brought into play.

**MADAME PASTA.**—The re-appearance of Madame Pasta has been, naturally, an object almost of solicitous interest to those, like ourselves, to whom her name recalls a standard and suggests an example. The reality has been what we had anticipated. We did not look for a miracle, nor expect that Madame Pasta's voice would have recovered its intonation. It is now, as it was when its owner was last in England, painfully uncertain,—incapable, too, of bearing the slightest strain or fatigue; and thus there is more of the Pasta of other days to be heard in the concert-room than on the stage. But all defects admitted, sufficient grandeur of style, breadth of phrasing, decision of accent, and dignity and brilliancy of execution combined, remain to justify the utmost warmth with which we would recommend this distinguished woman as a model to all artists of the younger world. Let them further consider what made her distinguished. A generous and simple mind (evidenced in her conceptions, which with all their force never excluded tenderness, and with all their fineness were never frittered into littleness)—and the most indefatigable labour applied to reduce into order and to harmonize the imperfect and heterogeneous elements of a rebellious voice, and to render it capable of any shade or form of musical or dramatic expression. Possibly an organ heavier or

more uneven than Madame Pasta's never set itself to the labour of practising *soffeggi*. What that practice must have been we can even now hear in the solidity, fire, grace—nay, even volubility—which being acquired, can never be obliterated,—and which still remain to adorn and to characterize her performance.—There was more of the Queen in her *Anna Bolena* as on Thursday evening she swept the stage for the last time than any or all of her successes have been able to call up.—a royalty of bearing totally independent of face and person, over which Time has no power. The cordial grace of her farewells was to us more touching than the most fascinating courtesies of any *Cynthia* "of the minute" in the prime of her powers and the plenitude of her popularity.

**CONCERTS OF THE WEEK.**—It must suffice here simply to announce as having taken place the last Concert at *Her Majesty's Theatre*, at which Mlle. Masson, of the *Paris Académie*, was a novelty,—the last Concert also at the *Royal Italian Opera*, which was given yesterday morning.—We must also record, among other last things which tell that Music is about to cease from its "madness,"—the extra performance given by the *Beethoven Quartett Society* on Monday, for the benefit of Herr Ernst. He has never played more admirably in London than on this occasion.

**ROYAL ITALIAN OPERA.**—This day week, save for its overture which was *enough*, the first act of *Otello* went off without exciting the slightest interest. It mattered little that Madame Grisi was in her best voice, best looks, and best spirits; the *Iago* of Signor Ronconi was out of tune—the *Rodrigo* of Signor Marali uninteresting—the *Elmro* of M. Zelger suffered by comparison with that of Signor Lablache—and (first and cardinal cause of the coldness) the *entrata* of Signor Tamberlik as *Otello* was an entire disappointment. His recitative was well said, but the *aria* "Ah, si per voi" wanted fire, accent and brilliancy. It is a most difficult piece of vocalism, we are aware, lying out of the range of the ordinary tenor voice, and even by Rubini it was altered, embroidered, and essentially changed ere it became the wondrous thing which he made it. But this was not all. It is impossible to conceive the Oriental colour of the character more curiously missed than by Signor Tamberlik. The requisite voice was heard, and the requisite *physique* was presented, but the Moorish and martial spirit was wanting: and a verdict of failure seemed inevitable. In the second act, however, matters went better. The garden duet was so excellently sung by the *Otello* and the *Iago* (due intensity of action and of passion being still wanting to it), that both the second and third movements were *encored*. Later, *Desdemona's* grand *scena*, at the close of the act,—which, indeed, was in every respect magnificently delivered—brought down the curtain with a storm of applause, and entirely changed the fortunes of the night. In the third act, too, the heroine's part was (with little exception) admirably given and sung,—and *Otello* was far more forcible and fiery than he had been in the early third of the opera: though still not "up to the mark."—We almost despair of seeing this grand part adequately filled: partly from the exceptional voice which it claims, partly from the reluctance which Italian singers now show to study executive accomplishment, which it demands in no common degree,—most of all because it is one of the few tenor characters in the range of Italian opera which demand first-rate dramatic power and discrimination.—There is an individual colour in every leading part of the French repertory.—The tenor-singer who is to personate *Masaniello*, *Arnold*, *Robert*, *Eleazar* and *Jean of Leyden* must study the *costume* and habits of each personage, or he will be rejected as totally insufficient. But the Italian tenor has been so long the walking or waiting *lover par excellence*, that when he is called, at rare intervals, to don rage, or scorn, or jealousy, and yet more to express either in the forms of a strongly marked nationality, it is not surprising to find his personation weak, wanting in depth and grandeur and subtlety,—since when the genius



exists, practice is totally wanting. With the present prospect of the French school maintaining its ascendancy, these wants will be gradually supplied—as indeed the progress as an actor made by Signor Mario most welcome illustrates.—Meanwhile an *Otello* is still to seek; and the reputation of Rossini's lovely opera (as we remarked last year *apropos* of Signor Moriani, *Athen.* 1136) suffers accordingly.

**FRENCH PLAYS.**—We do not hold with our contemporaries in rating *Pauline* in the 'Polyeucte' of the great Corneille as among Mdlle. Rachel's best parts. On the contrary, while following the representation yesterday week, the nobility of the character as it grows upon the spectator scene by scene rendered us more alive to the incompleteness of the great French tragic actress than we have yet been. Having accepted, as must needs be done, the hoop and the train and the *coiffure* in which Corneille's Muse is paraded, the almost sublime elevation of her flight strikes us anew on every new attempt to follow it. *Polyeucte*, it is true, is too much of a Christian after the pattern of the *Grand Cyrus* to please us,—but the idea of his wife *Pauline* is of the highest dramatic order, if epithets have any meaning. The character includes the daughter who submits her will to her father,—the matron who, having bound up her fortunes with those of another, binds up also his honour with hers,—the woman who, wife though she be, cannot forget her earlier love, and, while she would fain avoid her lover, will no more lie to him than she will betray her lord,—lastly, the convert whom the sight of Christian forgiveness and fortitude wins over to Christian faith. These things, it may be repeated, has Corneille indicated,—but only "a few of them and far between" does Mdlle. Rachel embody. The earlier scenes of the character appear to us to want tenderness and sincerity. Weariness and pain are expressed, but too little interest in the passing scene. The recital of her husband's sacrilege in the temple by *Stratonice*, is received by Mdlle. Rachel with a coldness strange in an artist who when she personates *Roxane* can make herself all eye and ear,—and who by the intensity of her comprehension can gather to her the sympathies of all who behold her while she listens. Lastly, *Pauline's* avowal of her new faith in the last scene, magnificent as it is in the abstract, has more of the fury of the Oriental slave, the despair of the sister of the *Horatii*, than the divine ardour of the martyr-neophyte. Her look is "of Heaven, heavenly,"—but her speech breathes the defiance and reproach of that lower world which the Christian faith is meant to subdue and to deny. The incomparable force and brilliancy of Mdlle. Rachel's execution cannot disguise from us her inconsistencies of reading. She seems to us in 'Polyeucte' more than ever to have waited for one tremendous "point," in place of having graduated, toned and ripened the part into one of those lovelier, though perhaps less startling, personations which take their place as realities in our gallery of Art.

Probably Mdlle. Rachel's *Adrienne Lecouvreur*, in the prose tragedy by MM. Scribe and Legouvé bearing that name (which has been played three times this week), will prove to be her most popular character in England. Incontestably, it contains passages of execution which have never been surpassed, if they have ever been approached. Her dying scene under the influence of poison is fearful,—her short-lived triumph over

the guilty creature sitting at the play, her rival, the *Duchesse de Bouillon*, in the saloon of the Duchess, is one of those moments which transport an audience by their terrible power and verisimilitude. But the play and the part seem to us full of other matter for comment and comparison; and, having chronicled the success of the tragedian, and specified her great effects, we must reserve minuter remark and analysis for another occasion.

**MUSICAL AND DRAMATIC GOSSIP.**—By the decease of H. R. H. the Duke of Cambridge, Music loses a cordial and cheery patron. There was no pretence in the interest taken in the Art by him. If sometimes it was amusingly demon-

strative, it was always sincere, and for the most part well directed. In his day the Duke of Cambridge bore a fair reputation, too, among amateur performers.

The Philharmonic Directors appointed for the next season are, Messrs. Anderson, Burrowes, J. R. Chatterton, Griesbach, Howell, Lucas, and Potter. It is added, that the differences between the Direction and the proprietors of the Hanover Square Rooms have been "made up." It is to be wished, however, that the measure often urged in this journal, of adding the side-room to the concert-room by the substitution of open arches for the mirrored panels of the wall, might be brought about. The relief of additional space thus gained would be most welcome.—With regard to musical enterprise in the future course of the Philharmonic Society, enough has been said to absolve us from the necessity of again pointing out how mistaken is the policy of standing still,—still more that of going backwards.

Our contemporaries have recorded the anniversary meeting of the Catch Club as held yesterday week,—they have noted, too, that this society seems to be reviving. When will they also note that some of the young English composers who are for ever mourning for want of opportunity are seriously betaking themselves to assist in such revivification, by writing something new which shall circulate? The charming glee by Mr. Goss 'There is Beauty on the Mountain' seems almost the last part-song which has found universal acceptance; and that composition, if we mistake not, is well nigh "out of its teens."—The last meeting for the season of the Melodists' Club has also been held.

Some change has taken place in one of the serious amusements of London. No disrespect is meant by our term,—but a serious amusement it was for strangers and residents to attend the Foundling Hospital, and to hear the anthem sung by Miss —, and Mrs. — and Mr. —. Recently, the Governors (wisely, we think) deciding against such exhibition, and strong in the resources with which their new measures of musical instruction have provided them, have abolished their *solo* engagements, and the choir of "the Foundling," we are told, is now entirely composed of the children of the establishment.

Madame Gavaudan is dead. To many it will be necessary to explain that Madame Gavaudan was in her time one of the most favourite singing-actresses and acting-songstresses belonging to the *Opéra Comique* of Paris; and that, after many years of popularity, she retired from the stage in 1823: to put it otherwise, before the career of her successor, Mdlle. Jenny Colon, began—she, too, has now been dead some years!—and almost before Mdlle. Darcier, the present *Gavaudan* of her theatre, was born.—A daughter of Madame Gavaudan, Madame Raimbaux, some eighteen years ago appeared in England with success as a concert singer.

The first Doctor's degree in Music ever bestowed by the University of Jena has just been awarded to M. Meyerbeer.

The Austrian Government is about, we are told, to award official assistance in the form of a *subvention* to the two opera houses—*La Scala* and the *Canobbiana* Theatre—at Milan.

A new one-act operetta—the music by M. Josse—has been given at the *Opéra Comique* of Paris since our last report of novelties there.

We copy the following from the American papers.—

An original drama, called 'Virginia,' has been produced at the Walnut Street Theatre, in Philadelphia. The *Spirit of the Times* says:—"Miss Davenport, in her character of Virginia excited a deep and thrilling interest that we have never seen equalled—her bidding farewell to the home of her childhood—her household gods—the pledges of love from *Leilus*, and her flowers and bridal garments, was one of those things that can never be forgotten; it was nature itself produced by the genius of the actress. The description of her escape from the house of *Appius*, and of her defence of her virtue from the attack of the Tyrant, was graphically eloquent and produced great applause. Her last scene, where she urges her father to take her life rather than her honour should be sacrificed, was admirably given, and when *Virginia* hesitates, and she excites him to the act by declaring that his irresolution proves that 'she is a slave and not his child,' the climax was complete.—We think the new play better for the stage than the old one by Sheridan Knowles:—it is not so tedious, and the effect is greater and

more natural, being centered in the daughter instead of the father."

Surely this must be the translation made for Mrs. Mowatt by Mr. Oxenford from the 'Virginia' of M. Latour de Saint-Ybars, in which Mdlle. Rachel performs.

Mr. MacKean Buchanan, an amateur of whom high expectations are entertained (according to the papers), is about to appear at the Broadway Theatre in New York.—There seems to be very nearly as much rivalry in opera-matters on the other side of the Atlantic as on this.—A paragraph in the *Home Journal* announces that Madame Bishop is returning northward from Mexico. "While passing through Guanagati last winter," it continues, "the writer saw a large placard of one of her concerts posted up in the streets, whereon it was announced that she would sing in *ten* languages,—viz., Spanish, Italian, French, German, Russian, Tartar, English, Irish, Scotch, and Ethiopian!" The above "and" is very precious.—Miss Cushman has arrived in England; her sudden return to Europe having, it is said, been decided by the illness of a friend.

#### MISCELLANEA

**International Copyright.**—Mr. Wyld asked the President of the Board of Trade if, before the conclusion of the treaty for international copyright between England and France, it was the intention of Her Majesty's Government to examine and obtain information from authors and publishers on the probable operation of the clauses of the proposed treaty.—Mr. Labouchere said, the subject to which the hon. gentleman's question referred had been for some time a matter of discussion between Her Majesty's Government and the Government of France. Indeed, but for the Revolution of 1848, he believed the treaty would have been concluded.—*Times*.

**The Terrors of the Thames.**—It is alarming to contemplate how many inhabitants of London are annually drinking themselves to death by imbibing the water of the Thames. We have given to a certain spirit the name of *aqua vitæ*, and in distinction we should bestow on the river the title of *aqua mortis*, for not even *aqua fortis* is of a more destructive nature than the stuff which flows through our cisterns into our urns, which might properly be termed funeral urns, from their devotion to deadly purposes. There are many more who find a watery grave than those who come to their end by drowning. We have heard that water will always find its level, but if the Thames water found its proper level it would be banished from all decent society. Let any one who delights in Rambles by Rivers, take a stroll along the banks of the Thames between Limehouse and Battersea. He would, after going a yard or two, find himself up to his knees in slush—the sort of Black Death which we are daily drinking—and though every step would add mud, there would be nothing to admire. \* \* If we did not happen to know the source of the Thames, we should imagine it was an arm of the Black Sea, or a leg of the Niger, or a black eye of old father Neptune. It is said that every one, on an average, eats in his lifetime a peck of dirt, but we are convinced that every one who drinks Thames water consumes his peck of dirt in a week or two. \* \* Now that the eyes of the public are opened to the state of the Thames, we wonder that their mouths are not peremptorily shut against it.—*Punch*.

**Medieval Art Exhibition.**—The Society of Arts of London closed its Exhibition of Medieval Art on the 29th ult. This has been by far the most successful exhibition which the Society has yet held. We believe nearly 20,000 visitors have attended it and paid for admission, exclusive of many thousands who have been admitted gratis by the privilege of the members. During the last fortnight the exhibition was open to artisans for threepence each.—In connexion with this institution we may notice, that it is proposed to open the next session with a collection of drawings and models of patents and utility-registrations taken out during the previous year.—*Journal of Design*.

**Chancel Carpet of St. Stephen's, Westminster,**—founded by Miss Couvts.—It will to many seem like the return of the times when Queens wrought banners and embroidered holy vestments, when they



learn that this carpet,—the design of which was sketched by Mr. Ferrey, the architect of St. Stephen's, and carried out by Miss Bessemer,—has been wrought in squares of Berlin wool by forty ladies of rank and distinction; the border by the hands of the little girls in the school which has also been founded by Miss Burdett Coutts, in Westminster. Among others who have contributed, we may name the Duchess of Northumberland, the Marchioness of Ely, and Miss Burdett Coutts herself. The design consists of shields and heraldic devices (framed as it were in tile-work), alternating with panels, in which alternately the *fleur de lis* and the Tudor rose are worked on a blue ground. The effect of this mass of gorgeous colours, intermixed with the least possible shading or attempt at relief, is rich and excellent. The ground of the border is green. The arms on the several shields are in their proper heraldic colours, and are as follows:—No. 1. The arms of England, Scotland and Ireland, within an ornamental compartment, formed by the badges of the Order of the Garter, and the monogram V. R.—No. 2. The arms of England in the time of Edward the Third, the founder of the Order of the Garter, within a similar compartment to the preceding.—No. 3. The arms of Miss Burdett Coutts, in a lozenge, (those of Burdett and Coutts quarterly).—No. 4. The arms of the bishopric of Cape Town, endowed by Miss Coutts.—No. 5. The arms of the bishopric of Adelaide, also endowed by Miss Coutts; in both of which the arms of Burdett Coutts are quartered, in those of Cape Town on a shield of honourable augmentation.—No. 6. The arms of Westminster, long represented in Parliament by the late Sir Francis Burdett.—No. 7. The arms of the Dean and Chapter of Westminster.—No. 8. The arms of the Goldsmiths Company, in honour of the Coutts family.—No. 9. The arms of Burdett.—Nos. 10 and 11. The initials of St. Stephen beneath the palm branches, and the crown of martyrdom.—No. 12. The arms of Canterbury; and No. 13. The arms of London. The initials of the ladies who have contributed are, likewise, to be introduced on a scroll, forming an inner border at the foot of the altar. \* \* It is impossible not to dwell on the artistic superiority of such occupations as this over the pastimes of shapeless shoe-making, casting bread-seals, fabricating ill-proportioned alum-baskets, and other silly diversions, in which, by turns, the ladies of England have cheated themselves into the idea of doing something useful.—*The Ladies' Companion*.

**Popularity of Lord Ashley.**—The country is not aware of the obligations under which it lies to Lord Ashley. "No news," says the proverb, "is good news;" and accordingly all persons residing in the provinces are indebted to his Lordship for the receipt of good news regularly every Sunday morning.—*Punch*.

**The First American Painter.**—At the recent festival of the New Jersey Historical Society, held at Newark, Mr. Whitehead submitted for the inspection of the members a number of sketches and drawings in pencil and India ink, by John Watson, the first limner of whose establishment in America we have any knowledge. They were, with only a few exceptions, miniature likenesses of persons living at that time, most of them originals; and some, in pencil, were beautifully finished. Mr. Whitehead read a brief sketch of the artist, embodying what little information tradition has preserved respecting him. He resided in Amboy, to which place he came from Scotland in 1715, and died there in 1786. From the miniatures exhibited, it was evident he had a reputation beyond the limits of the province; for, besides some of the members of the Schuyler, Johnson and Leslie families of New Jersey, there were likenesses of Governor Burnet and Lady, of New York, Governor Keith, of Pennsylvania, Governor Spotteswood, of Virginia, and various personages from the West Indies and elsewhere.—*New York Evening Post*.

To CORRESPONDENTS.—J. H.—1. C.—A Subscriber—H. H.—P. T. C.—A Traveller in many Lands—J.—Fair Play—Justitia—received.

**Erratum.**—In Mr. Colburn's List of New Publications inserted in last week's *Athenæum*, p. 718, col. 2, the title of Mr. Mills's new work was erroneously printed "Our Country" instead of *Our County*.

## THE GENTLEMAN'S MAGAZINE AND HISTORICAL REVIEW.

AN HISTORICAL MAGAZINE has long been the great desideratum of our literature. Amongst many periodical publications, each appealing to some peculiar or exclusive class, no one has given special attention to that branch of knowledge which engages the feelings of all classes. The omission is the more singular in an age which claims to give peculiar attention to whatever is useful and practical; for History is not only the foundation of all learning, but, in many respects, the most practical of all sciences. It is familiarity with the facts and incidents of past time which teaches us to form accurate and comprehensive judgments upon things present; which fills our minds with lessons of calm, deliberate wisdom; instructs us in the gradual operation and influence of great principles; and binds us to our country with a patriotic affection, by setting before us the deeds of greatness by which every generation of its inhabitants and every nook of its surface have been rendered famous.

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Sum Assured.	Time Assured.	Sum added to Policy in 1847.	Sum added to Policy in 1848.	Sum payable at Death.
£5,000	13 yrs. 10 mths.	£683 6 8	£787 10 0	£6,470 18 8
5,000	12 years	500 0 0	787 10 0	6,287 10 0
5,000	10 years	300 0 0	787 10 0	6,087 10 0
5,000	8 years	100 0 0	787 10 0	5,887 10 0
5,000	6 years	.. ..	675 0 0	5,675 0 0
5,000	4 years	.. ..	450 0 0	5,150 0 0
5,000	2 years	.. ..	225 0 0	5,325 0 0

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ft. 6 in.	2 13 0 3 ft. 5 ft. 6 in.	3 10 0
ft.	2 13 0 5 ft. 6 in.	3 18 0

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ft. wide	£4 10 0 3 ft. 6 in. wide	£5 0 0
ft. 6 in.	4 0 0 3 ft. 5 ft. 6 in.	5 10 0
ft.	4 10 0 5 ft. 6 in.	6 0 0

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# THE LANCET

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No. 1186.

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July 12, 1850.

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LONDON, SATURDAY, JULY 20, 1850.

## REVIEWS

*Correspondence of the Emperor Charles V. and his Ambassadors at the Courts of England and France, from the Original Letters in the Imperial Family Archives at Vienna.* Edited by William Bradford, M.A., formerly Chaplain to the British Embassy at Vienna. Bentley.

THE age of Charles the Fifth must ever continue to be a most attractive period of modern history. The events of the time were memorable from their effects upon mankind; and the changes of society were in themselves attended with much that rivets the attention of a reader. The parts in the political drama were played by persons whose lives and characters are familiarized to the world. Leo and Luther, Wolsey, Henry the Eighth, Francis the First, and the Emperor, with several other personages, supply the historian's page with a great variety of incident. The period has been treated of so successfully by Robertson, that English readers are better acquainted with the general state of Europe at the time of Luther than with its condition during the period of Henry the Fourth or that of Louis the Fourteenth. Hence, any works which give further illustrations of such a striking age can scarcely fail of possessing interest.

Mr. Bradford's volume contains several letters from Charles the Fifth which were published by Baron Hormayr in the periodical *Archiv für Geographie, Historie, Staats und Kriegskunst*. Mr. Bradford, while chaplain to the British Embassy at Vienna, had access to the original documents, and had the favour granted him that all the letters which had appeared in the Baron's collection should be copied for his use. It appears from his Preface that Mr. Bradford did not at first attribute much value to these,—until “a high authority at the British Museum pronounced them to be wholly unknown in this country, and to possess so much historical value as fully to warrant their publication.”

The editor has given neither a table of contents nor an index to his volume; the materials of which are—about sixteen letters of Charles the Fifth, and as many more from influential persons in correspondence with him,—some sketches of contemporary celebrities,—an unpublished narrative of Navayero, Ambassador to Charles from Venice, printed from the MS. now in possession of the Rev. Walter Sneyd, of Denton, Oxon,—and the “Itinerary of Charles the Fifth, by his private secretary, Vandenesse.” Of these, the Itinerary and the Venetian Ambassador's narrative occupy about a fifth of the volume, and the sketches of contemporaries as much more; the rest of its pages being devoted to the letters of Charles, and to a variety of interstitial matter from the editor's pen. At the foot of the pages are the original letters in the old French, and the translation is above them in modern English. The translation is on the whole well executed,—leaning, perhaps, to too much freedom. After the smooth sentences in the English version, it is amusing to turn to the old French originals in an uncouth yet racy dialect. In these letters the character of Charles the Fifth appears exactly as in history; calm, thoughtful, and studiously circumspect,—averse to new opinions, but not allowing his antipathies to prejudice his interests. The tone of the correspondence shows plainly the nature of the Emperor's political system. There is no reference ever made to opinion, and measures are always looked on from the governor's point of view. The unity of idea resulting from such a system is visible throughout; and the direct

manner in which Charles goes to the main question exhibits his clear strong sense. It would be difficult to meet with another instance of so wary and circumspect a sovereign.

In composing his ‘Age of Charles V.,’ Robertson relied chiefly on the various contemporary writers of the period,—more especially on Guicciardini, Sandoval, Sepulveda, Belay, and others. The materials before him were so abundant, and the main facts of which he had to treat were so notorious, however involved and complicated, that we should not expect that his work would be falsified in important particulars—especially when he did not descend to much minuteness in his account of the personages whose actions he related. The volume before us does not make any remarkable revelations, but it gives reality and substance to the general views of the period which the reader derives from Robertson and other writers. It authenticates the transactions of that famous age; and, like all original memoirs of great actors in affairs, it gives the reader a lively view of history in its first formation, before being subjected to the writer's pen.

The most interesting questions brought under discussion in these letters are—the candidature of Wolsey for the Papal chair,—the imprisonment of Francis the First after the battle of Pavia, and the Emperor's treatment of his prisoner,—the views of Charles towards the followers of Luther,—and his letters on the state of Europe to his brother Archduke Ferdinand. The despatches from Chapuys (the Capucius of Shakspeare), Ambassador from Charles at London, are also extremely interesting.

Whether Charles really wished that Wolsey should be elected to the Papacy on the death of Leo, has been a disputed point amongst historians,—opinion inclining to the view that he was not sincere in his avowed intention of supporting Wolsey's claims. The letters in this volume show that Robertson certainly underrated the chances in favour of Wolsey. In book 2 of his ‘Age of Charles V.,’ Robertson says, “Notwithstanding all the Emperor's magnificent promises to favour his (Wolsey's) pretensions, of which that prelate did not fail to remind him, it appears that his name was scarcely mentioned in the Conclave.”—Mr. Bradford quotes the evidence supplied by Mr. Sharon Turner's researches that Robertson was mistaken, as Wolsey on the scrutiny had several votes. The following letter from Charles to Henry the Eighth is certainly full of the “magnificent promises” alluded to by Robertson.—

“From Charles the Fifth to the King of England.

“Dated Ghent, the 27th of December, 1521.

“My good uncle, brother, and father! I most heartily recommend myself to you, having received the letters by your first Secretary Pace, which you wrote with your own hand, and having learned from them, as well as by relation at length from your aforesaid Secretary, all your thoughts and desires touching the election of the new Pope, which bear the most perfect conformity with all I have hitherto myself thought and wished, respecting the person of my especial friend Monseigneur the Cardinal of York; of which sentiments he could not fail to be assured by the letters, which I immediately wrote, on receiving the news of the death of our late holy father. For, certes, the prudence, learning, integrity, experience, as well as other virtues and accomplishments, for which he is distinguished, render him eminently worthy of such a dignity. I have, therefore, in coming to the knowledge of your intentions and his, hastened letters in the best form I could devise, for the promotion of the said Seigneur Cardinal to the said holy see, as will appear by the copies of my letters given to the said Pace, along with the originals; inasmuch, that you yourself as well as the said Seigneur Cardinal may rest perfectly assured of my most earnest co-operation, and that

there is nothing which I would leave undone which might contribute to this good effect; and glad should I be, could he see with his own eyes, and understand the full extent of the assistance I am ready to offer, not only in letters and words of myself and my friends, but also, should need be, by force of hand, in employing all the army which I have in Italy, and that not a small one; for besides the forces I have now in Lombardy, there remain in our Kingdom of Naples, the five hundred men at arms, and the five hundred light cavalry of the rear Guard, which might be brought forward on any sudden emergency, as my Ambassador will more particularly inform you. And now I will conclude, praying the blessed Son of God to give you a good, happy, and long life.”

It was rumoured that Don John Manuel had, on the part of Charles, interested himself in the election of Adrian to the Papacy; whereupon the Emperor addresses a despatch to Mezza, his Ambassador at London, to the following effect.

“With regard to the news which the Sieur Cardinal intimates having received from Rome, you may confidently assure him that Don John Manuel had no sort of commission from us to interest himself in favour of Medicis, or of any other person whatsoever, except Wolsey himself. The letters requiring him to make every possible effort to secure Wolsey's election, had not then arrived; and before the actual meeting of the Conclave, he had no other orders from us than to remind the Members of the sacred college, collectively and individually, strictly to do their duty in making such a choice, as promised to be most conducive to the welfare of the Church, and the cause of Christianity. But since, at the time when the election took place, neither Pace nor the courier had reached Rome, it is in the highest degree improbable that Don John should have made interest for Medicis in particular; and indeed the result seems to prove the contrary. The choice, which fell upon one who was never even contemplated by any party, appears to have been rather the choice of God than of men. And seeing that our dispatch did not arrive in time to operate in favour of the Sieur Legate's election, he may nevertheless be pleased with the choice of one, who of the whole college is the person most likely to do him favour and advantage.”

The letters on this subject from Charles give a certain amount of *prima facie* evidence in favour of his being disposed to support Wolsey:—but even this volume contains so many proofs of his being a thorough diplomatist, that we cannot be sure whether in the very plainest letter there may not be an *arrière pensée*. The letter from Mezza to Charles with respect to this election is enough to make us suspect double dealing in all his transactions. Mezza writes:—

“Besides in a negociation so delicate, where inconvenience might arise, unless conducted with the utmost caution, and particularly when the chances in favour of the said Cardinal of York may turn out less probable than is hoped; it is thought expedient to provide against such a contingency, by taking good care that the Cardinal of Medicis, his most powerful opponent, should not be offended. In order, therefore, to secure his friendship, measures are to be so arranged, as to show that your Majesties in all your proceedings are doing nothing to his prejudice, but even all for his advantage; unless it should appear that his chance was small, and then that every possible effort should be made openly for the most reverend the Cardinal of York. It is with this design that the King of England writes two letters to the Cardinals, one in favour of the Cardinal of York, and the other in favour of the Cardinal of Medicis, and suggests, that your Majesty, if it so please you, should do the like, and that his Envoy associated with your Majesty's Ambassador at Rome (the Sieur John Manuel) should make use of the said letters according to circumstances, and say and do whatever else your Majesty may judge more convenient.”

Plausible reasons may be employed on either side of the question as to the Emperor's sincerity towards Wolsey. Whether the event was in the power of Charles may be doubted very reason-



ably, from the circumstance that the election of Adrian came with surprise on all. The letter of Adrian on his election, addressed to the Emperor, is a very pleasing one, and shows that he felt Charles could not be sorry for his election; but it gives proof also that Charles did not exert his influence for him. The reader will be struck with the sentiments in the first paragraph,—and it would not be difficult to mention another Pope who would echo them.—

“Très cher et très aimé Fils! Health and apostolical benediction. I have been rejoiced on receiving the letter which your Majesty has written to me with your own hand, in finding that it has not escaped your memory what you have heard from me, and learned in our hours of study, that the French are ever rich and abundant in promises, as well as in all fair and soft speeches; whilst their acts of friendship are always measured by the standard of their interest.”

Adrian had been preceptor of Charles the Fifth; and the letter concludes thus:—

“I cannot, therefore, suppress my satisfaction in having attained to this elevation without the exercise of your influence, inconsistent as that would have been with the purity and sincerity which divine and human rights require in such proceedings; and in saying this, you will be assured that I feel as much, if not more truly devoted to your Majesty, than if I had owed to your means and prayers my present advancement. Your Majesty will nowise doubt of the constancy and continuance of my affection; and as hitherto, in all matters of negotiation and treaty, I have ever considered your interests before any personal objects of my own, I shall not cease so to view them; and therefore beg you never to entertain an idea of my being led to reverse this order, and to think of any self-aggrandisement, to the detriment and undervaluing of what may concern your Majesty.”

The treatment which Francis the First experienced while a prisoner has been always a subject of reproach against Charles. That the Emperor intended to extract as much as he could from the political difficulties of his prisoner, is very certain, from the anxiety which he evinced that Francis should not escape. To the Viceroy of Naples, who had the custody of the French King's person, Charles addressed the following letter,—which is a very fair specimen of the wary and thoughtful monarch's despatches.—

“First as to the person of the King of France; it is our desire that he should be well treated, and even better, if it be possible, than he has already been,—provided always that he is well secured; and for this purpose three places have been named to us, which are said to be very suitable. The one is Patina near Valencia, another Chinchilla in Castile, for which it would be necessary to disembark at Carthage, and the third Mora, which is a considerable distance from you and not more than five leagues hence. It appears to us that the said Patina, being situated in an agreeable part of the country, and being the nearest point to Saulo or to any port in Catalonia where you might disembark, would be the best and most secure place we could fix on for the King, always, be it understood, with a good guard about him, as usual, and as you know to be necessary. At the same time, if any other place should appear to you more likely to keep his person in greater safety, and not liable to inconvenience, you are at liberty to determine on this point as you think best, with this condition, that a sea port must not be fixed on, which might be dangerous. As to your coming to us, it is the thing which we have always most desired were it possible, and now that there is so good an opportunity we the more desire it, when you may be sure you will be more than welcome, and not only give us pleasure, but render us service. The sooner you come the better, as you will see by the dispatch which we believe Figueras, who left us two days ago, will have already brought you, in which we inform you of many important things touching the affairs of Italy, that inasmuch as new circumstances require new counsels, it is our intention so with you to advise, conclude and resolve, as may best promote our service. After which it will be necessary with all diligence to make

known our resolves to those in Italy, who ought to be acquainted with them, that no time may be lost in the execution of whatever, as has been intimated, shall in your presence and with your advice be determined on. As every thing therefore must remain in suspense till your arrival, we have dispatched a special courier to M. de Bourbon, begging him to await where he at present is the further communication of our intentions, and another also to the Marquis of Pescara, requiring him not to abate in his endeavours to fulfil the charge which you committed to him, holding out a good hope that his services will not be unrequited. Whether you think good to accompany the said King of France to Patina, or to whatever place he may be conducted, or to come incontinently to us, leaving the aforesaid charge to Alarcon, we commit to your own discretion; begging you not to forget that your presence here is most desirable, and to take care, that the King and his attendants should have no lack of horses on his journey, that he may be sensible of the interest we take in his progress, and of our earnest desire that his treatment in all respects may be good and honourable. We write to our cousin the Marquis of Brandenburg now being at Valencia, that he should pay the King a visit on our part, and see that horses be provided. This letter will be intrusted to your care, and you will read it. —Write also yourself to the said Marquis, giving him your instructions as to what he should do and say, and among them, that he make his visit handsomely accompanied, as he well knows how. As to what is to be done with our said fleet which you have brought, it is my wish on this subject also to consult with you in person, and to have your opinion and advice. It is our desire that before you take your leave of the King of France you should endeavour, if possible, that, besides what he has already accorded, in case it should prove not desirable that his Gallies should return to Genoa, the rest of the French fleet should abstain from making war or causing damage to any of our vassals or servants during the term of fifteen days after the arrival of our fleet on the coasts of Spain. You might indeed prolong this term to two months or less after the expiration of the fifteen days, but for this it would be necessary to take the precaution of sufficient security, and also that the six gallies of the King of France should remain with ours, as you have been at the charge of their equipment. With regard to the ten thousand ducats which you have thought necessary for the said fleet, we have incontinently ordered them to be forthcoming, and will transmit them as soon as possible without fail.”

There are few more interesting passages in the history of the times than the story of the imprisonment of Francis,—his brave spirit at last yielding under his misfortunes, until Charles, fearing that the death of his prisoner would counteract the schemes which he meditated, visited him in his prison and revived him by making kind promises. The historians of the period are not sufficiently full in their accounts of the captivity of the French king; and we have perused with interest the letters in this volume relating to Francis and to the visit paid him in prison by his favorite sister, Marguerite de Valois (Duchess of Alençon), whom Francis called “La Marguerite des Marguerites.” From an autograph minute, Mr. Bradford prints the following note from Charles to his prisoner Francis.—

“It is with pleasure that I have heard of your arrival in this direction, because I hope it will be the cause of a good peace between us, for the great benefit of Christendom, the thing which I most desire. I have ordered my Viceroy of Naples to proceed onwards to me, to inform me of your intentions, and I have charged him to direct the same honourable treatment towards you which has been hitherto observed, or still better, that you may be assured of my desire to be and remain your true good brother and friend.”

When it was determined that the Duchesse d'Alençon should visit Francis, and treat for terms of peace,—Charles in another autograph letter thus addresses his captive.—

“My Viceroy of Naples is arrived, and with him the Mareschal Montmorency, who has delivered to

me your letter, and acquainted me with all he has been commissioned to say. It has given me pleasure to learn the favourable desire you have expressed to expedite the negotiation for an universal peace; for which end I have willingly granted a safe conduct for Madame the Duchess of Alençon your sister, hoping she will come provided with all the necessary powers for the conclusion of so desirable an event, when we may then hope to meet. It is with a view to peace that I made provisions for your coming into this country; and when that is accomplished, we may take counsel together for the execution of what I have much at heart, a war against the Infidels, in which I doubt not you will gladly participate. In thus doing, which I pray may be your desire, you will cause me to remain always your true good servant and friend.”

Charles in person conducted the Duchesse d'Alençon to the captive king; and we find a letter from the duchess acknowledging the kindness of Charles in subsequently visiting Francis.—

“Sire,—The kind visit which you have been pleased to make to the King my brother, and the good words which the present satisfactory messenger has brought him from you, as well as the letters you have condescended to write to me with your own hand, and which I have shown him, have given him so much comfort and ease, that I now see him out of all danger for the present, rejoicing in the hope of a speedy termination of affairs, and the continuation of your entire friendship. Whereupon, Sire, for fear of a relapse, which might prove fatal, and thus deprive you of so good and affectionate a friend and brother as I know him to be, may it please you to permit for the same cause that you kindly agreed to my coming here, that I should shortly go to you, in order that I may at once witness the union of two Princes, whom God has placed together upon earth, and endued with greater power and excellence than others, for some inestimable good. And this I now more than ever hope for.—Your most humble

“MARGUERITE.”

After a treaty had been made between Charles and Francis, the Emperor, fearing that deceit might be employed, stipulated that there should be hostages,—either the two eldest sons of Francis, or else twelve of the chief nobility of France. The Emperor, suspicious that false persons might be substituted for the genuine hostages, addresses to De Praet, his ambassador to the French court, the following caution:—

“In like manner as the said Seigneur King is bound to deliver up to us certain hostages, as you will see by this treaty, we desire that you will well and carefully inform yourself who the said hostages are to be, whether the King's two eldest sons, or Monseigneur the Dauphin and twelve of the principal nobility. We desire that you will advise us of the same, together with every other particular, especially concerning the preparations which they may be making to fulfil their part in the treaty. But the point to which we have principally to direct your attention is, that you take especial notice of, and be regardful of the persons of the three children of France, that you make yourself thoroughly acquainted with the visage, physiognomy, size, and person of each, that when it comes to the delivering of them over according to the treaty, there may be no trickery in substituting one person for another, and that you may be able of a certainty to recognise them as the identical persons whom we ought to have. Our Viceroy of Naples is to take the charge of the said delivery and acceptance, and as you are aware he can have no personal knowledge himself of the said children, it is a matter of necessity that you should be well acquainted with all these particulars; and further we desire that on your arrival at Bayonne you report the same to our said Viceroy, and receive his instructions as to what in this matter he may then require.”

The precautions of Charles were not uncalled for. Francis, feeling that Charles had exacted hard conditions from him, broke the Treaty of Madrid,—and thereby left a great stain on his honour. Before he actually signed this treaty, he exacted an oath of secrecy from his counsel-



lors, and in their presence announced that he would not keep the treaty which he was on the point of signing. He pretended to justify his conduct by recounting what Robertson calls "the dishonourable arts and unprincipled rigour" which he experienced from Charles. The conduct of Francis in violating the Treaty of Madrid, and the diplomacy of Charles as shown in the letters before us, make us feel that the sentiments of an age of chivalry were of the Joseph Surface standard.

Next week we may probably endeavour to find room for some extracts from the despatches of Chapuys to the Emperor.

*Memoirs of Eminent Etonians; with Notices of the Early History of Eton College.* By Edward S. Creasy, M.A. Bentley.

WHEN we saw how richly was spread the table of contents in this portly and handsome volume, and remembered that, betwixt the days of William of Waynflete and of Percy Bysshe Shelley, the "antique towers" sung by Gray had successively sheltered some of the best blood, the bravest natures, and the highest gifts boasted by old England,—we laid the Memoirs aside for a deliberate talk concerning some among the distinguished Etonians whose names are there enrolled. But on returning to Mr. Creasy's book, it proved, what indeed might have been anticipated, a volume to be characterized generally rather than anatomized in detail. It was impossible that a single volume containing more than one hundred biographical notices should be much more than a work to be interleaved with comment, anecdote and additional information: and it speaks well for our author that his task when completed wears so little of a catch-penny air. The proportions of its several parts do not always represent the importance of its subjects; the literary men generally faring better than the scholars or the statesmen. One notice touching a distinguished person who adorned his statesmanship with "literary amenities," will be welcome to the general circle of scholastic readers, though the poem extracted is already familiar to the select few of them. The "eminent Etonian" in question is the Marquis of Wellesley.—

"Much of Lord Wellesley's time during the last portion of his life was passed in the vicinity of Eton, and now in the leisure of his old age he fondly recurred to those classical studies and compositions which had been the delight and the pride of his youthful days. A volume of poems, entitled 'Primitiæ et Reliquiæ,' was printed for private distribution in the eighty-first year of his age. Some of these had been recently written, and they exhibit in an astonishing degree his unimpaired vigour of intellect and his unaltered elegance of taste. One poem in this volume justly attracted universal admiration. In the grounds of the house which was occupied by Lord Wellesley near Eton, there are some very beautiful willows overhanging the Thames, which are of the species introduced into Europe from the East, and called 'The Willow of Babylon.' Lord Wellesley composed the following Latin verses, which he himself translated into English, on this subject:—

*Salix Babylonia.*

Passis mœsta comis, formosa doloris imago,  
Quæ, flenti similis, pendet in amne salix,  
Euphratis nata in ripâ Babylone sub altâ  
Dicitur Hebræas sustinuisse lyras;  
Cum terrâ ignotâ proles Solymæa refugit  
Divinum patriæ jussa movere melos;  
Suspensaque lyris, et luctu muta, sedebat  
In lacrymis memorans Te, veneranda Sion!  
Te, dilecta Sion! frustra sacra te Johavæ,  
Te, præsentem Ades irradiata Deo!  
Nunc pede barbarico, et manibus temerata profanis,  
Nunc orbata Tuis, et taciturna Domus!  
At tu pulchra Salix Thamesini littoris hospes,  
Sis sacra, et nobis pignora sacra feras!  
Quæ cecidit Judæa, mones, captiva sub irâ,  
Victricem stravit quæ Babylona manus;  
Inde, doces, sacra et ritus servare Parentum,  
Juraque, et antiquâ vi stabilire Fidem.

Me quoties curas suadent lenire seniles  
Umbra tua et viridi ripa beata toro,  
Sit mihi, primitiasque meas teneasque, triumphos  
Sit revocare tuos, dulcis Etona! dies.  
Auspice te, summæ mirari culmina famæ,  
Et purum antiquæ lucis adire jubar,  
Edidici Puer, et jam primo in limine vitæ—  
Ingenuas veræ laudis amare vias:  
O juncta Aonidum lauro præcepta salutis  
Æternæ! et Musis consociata Fides!  
O felix Doctrina! et divinâ insita luce;  
Quæ tuleras animo lumina fausta meo!  
Incorrupta, precor, maneat, atque integra, neu te  
Aura regat populi, neu novitatis amor:  
Stet quoque prisca Domus; (neque enim manus impia  
tangat);  
Floreat in mediis intemerata minis.  
Det Patribus Patres, populoque det inclyta Clives,  
Eloquiumque Foro, Judicisq; decus,  
Consilisque animos, magnæque det ordine Genti  
Immortalem altâ cum pietate Fidem.  
Floreat, intactâ per postera secula famâ,  
Cura diu Patria, Cura paternâ Dei.

The English version of the above, though sufficiently academical, is comparatively flat and inelegant.

While glancing over Mr. Creasy's record, we have been arrested by the very last name on its pages—the name of Winthrop Mackworth Praed. This gentleman's fugitive lyrics and arabesque romances, half sardonic half sentimental, have been prized by us ever since we met them side by side with Mr. Macaulay's Cavalier and Roundhead ballads and with Mr. Moultrie's Whistlecraft epic in the numbers of *Knight's Quarterly Magazine*. Here is a political rhyme by Mr. Praed, which may be pitted against the whig "jingles" of Thomas Browne the younger.—

*On seeing the Speaker asleep in his Chair in one of the Debates of the first Reformed Parliament.*

Sleep, Mr. Speaker, 'tis surely fair  
If you mayn't in your bed, that you should in your chair.  
Louder and longer now they grow,  
Tory and Radical, Aye and No;  
Talking by night, and talking by day.  
Sleep, Mr. Speaker; sleep while you may.  
Sleep, Mr. Speaker; slumber lies  
Light and brief on a Speaker's eyes.  
Fielden or Finn in a minute or two  
Some disorderly thing will do;  
Riot will chase repose away.  
Sleep, Mr. Speaker, sleep while you may.  
Sleep, Mr. Speaker. Sweet to men  
Is the sleep that cometh but now and then,  
Sweet to the weary, sweet to the ill,  
Sweet to the children that work in the mill.  
You have more need of repose than they,  
Sleep, Mr. Speaker, sleep while you may.  
Sleep, Mr. Speaker, Harvey will soon  
Move to abolish the sun and the moon;  
Hume will no doubt be taking the sense  
Of the House on a question of sixteen pence.  
Statesmen will howl, and patriots bray,  
Sleep, Mr. Speaker, sleep while you may.  
Sleep, Mr. Speaker, and dream of the time,  
When loyalty was not quite a crime,  
When Grant was a pupil in Canning's school,  
And Palmerston fancied Wood a fool.  
Lord, how principles pass away!  
Sleep, Mr. Speaker, sleep while you may.

If we have not dreamed of such a book, we believe that the poems of Mr. Praed have been collected and re-published in America. There must be many persons in England to whose library shelves such a re-publication would also be a welcome addition.

*A History of the Romans under the Empire.*  
By Charles Merivale, B.D., late Fellow of St. John's College, Cambridge. Vols. I. and II. Longman & Co.

THE latter half of Roman history narrated philosophically would present one of the most impressive proofs within the records of human experience that political immorality, like private vice, is ever pregnant with destruction. The conclusions of abstract ethics have but little inter-penetrating and moulding influence on human character; generally speaking, they neither excite the imagination nor touch the heart. It is only when the operation of the great moral laws is traced in events of actual occurrence, either in the lives of individuals or in the career of nations,—when, to use Lord

Eldon's expression, principles are seen clothed in circumstances,—that the mind is adequately impressed with the might and majesty of moral truth. To exhibit past events as they actually occurred, and yet in a manner that shall most quickly instruct and most permanently impress the mind, is the object of the science of history,—and a historian is worthy of the title exactly in proportion as he realizes this object in his works. The philosophic historian must, therefore, possess rare mental endowments. He must be able to impart instruction, to excite interest, and indelibly to impress the memory at the same time. The poet may rely on imagination, the philosopher on reasoning,—a very high degree of both reason and ideality must belong to the successful historian; and the difficulty of meeting in the same individual a combination of qualities so different from each other explains the rarity of a really good history.

These observations will find their application in our notice of the volumes before us. Mr. Merivale would seem to belong rather to the school of Hallam or Mackintosh than to that of Macaulay; in other words, his reflections are, we think, superior to his descriptions, and the ratiocinative element predominates over the imaginative in the composition and style of these volumes. In a perfect history these two elements would be equally balanced, as we find to be the case in the most celebrated passages of the great historians. Take, for instance, the account given by Thucydides of the Sicilian expedition; or the profound analysis and artistic exhibition of the character of Tiberius interspersed throughout the sixth book of the *Annals of Tacitus*; or, to mention an example perhaps more familiar to our readers, some of the best parts of Carlyle's 'French Revolution.' In all these instances the men of past times—the actors in the drama of the world—are made to rise once more before us, and to play their parts over again. We see them move, we hear them speak, the subtle logic of the historian reveals their very thoughts. Events and the causes of events, actions and the motives of actions, are disclosed in bold distinctness to our intellectual vision,—which thus transcends the limits of ordinary experience, and pierces through the material into the spiritual. Nor is this all. The moral world, when truly portrayed by the hand of a master, is found to present a spectacle not less edifying and consoling than the material. The calm and catholic eye of reason will detect everywhere the firm outlines of symmetry and grandeur, which time shall fill up with tints of beauty. It is the good and the true that are alone permanent, and give character and tone to the whole; and students have read history to little purpose who have not found that its lessons strengthen a sober faith in human nature, develop and intensify every noble aspiration, and by imparting a tone of health and vigour to the mind render it more capable of assisting in the great work of human progress.

The events of Roman history from the first Triumvirate to the death of Julius Cæsar are related in these two volumes. The life and times of that great man were both the close and the commencement of an era.—

"Cæsar prostrated the Roman oligarchy, and laid the foundations of the Empire in the will of the middle classes. He levelled the barriers of municipal, and infused provincial blood into the senate and people of Rome. Preceding emperors had annexed provinces, Cæsar began to organize the conquests of the commonwealth. From an early period of his career he was fully conscious of the real nature of the revolution on which he was embarked; but if it was his hand that moulded and directed it, the change he effected was in fact demanded by his party and enforced by circumstances. Though the struc-



ture of his personal ambition perished with him, the social foundations on which it rested remained firmly rooted in the soil; and the comprehensive imperium of his successors rose majestic and secure from the lines originally drawn by the most sagacious statesman of the commonwealth. The career of Cæsar is the prelude to the history of four centuries."

"Rome," says Montesquieu, "lost her liberty because she completed her work too soon." The improvement of her laws did not keep pace with the progress of her foreign conquests. No government can be permanently free unless it contains within itself a power of self-correction, and of adaptation to new combinations of circumstances. The dwindling away of the middle class into impotence and insignificance is always, the experience of history assures us, a pretty sure indication that this adaptability is enfeebled or diseased, and that a violent political crisis is approaching. The connexion between the welfare of the middle class and the stability of political institutions is never more clearly seen than in the history of the last days of the Roman Republic. The middle class for all political purposes had ceased to exist except in name. Its members had joined the ranks of the retainers and dependents of the oligarchy, or had become satellites of the leading political adventurers. The honourable intentions and adroitness of Cicero, the professed hero of the middle class, were of little avail against the machinations of the demagogue Clodius; and, in order to secure his safety, the "father of his country" was content to lay his political independence at the shrine of Pompey. The following passage, which describes the state of parties just after the defeat of Catiline's conspiracy, will confirm the above observations, and is a fair specimen of Mr. Merivale's manner of treating his subject.—

"The ranks of both parties in the state were filled with men of practical ability, whose lives had been passed in the free and active spheres of the camp and the forum; but, with the exception of Cæsar himself, it would be difficult to point out a single individual of original genius, or one who could discern the signs of the times, and conceive comprehensive measures in harmony with them. The temper of the Roman people at this crisis of their history required the guidance of a mind of more vigorous grasp than was possessed by a Cicero or a Pompeius, whose talents as public men were limited to a capacity for administration, in which respect we shall have occasion more than once to signalize their ability, but who could neither understand nor grapple with the great evil of the Sullan revolution, which had checked the natural progress of reform demanded by the extension of the Roman franchise, and restored the landmarks of a constitution which was no longer the legitimate exponent of the national character. The people had already undergone a marked change in their ideas and motives, of action, while they were still clinging, with the pertinacity for which they were remarkable, to forms from which the living spirit had departed. The extent and rapid succession of their conquests, bringing with them an overwhelming accession of public and private wealth, had filled men's minds with the wildest anticipations. The extravagance of each succeeding year eclipsed the profuseness of its predecessor. M. Lepidus, the consul in the year of Sulla's death, erected the most magnificent dwelling that had been seen up to his day in Rome; within thirty-five years it was outshone by not fewer than a hundred mansions. The same was the case with the extension of the territorial possessions of the nobility, their accumulation of plate, jewels, and every other article of luxury, and not less the multiplication of their slaves and dependents. The immoderate interest which ready money commanded shows that the opening of new channels to enterprize outstripped even the rapid multiplication of wealth. Mines of gold lay, as it were, at the feet of any man who could procure means to purchase the soil above them. The price was trifling compared with the gains to be acquired; but whether the speculator succeeded or was ruined, the usurer

reared a stately fortune in ease and security. All eyes were turned from the barrenness of the past and fixed upon a future of boundless promise. Men laughed at the narrow notions of their parents and even of their own earlier years. It is only once or twice in the course of ages, as on the discovery of a new continent or the overthrow of a vast spiritual dominion, that the human imagination springs, as it were, to the full proportion of its gigantic stature. But even a generation which has witnessed, like our own, an extraordinary development of industrial resources and mechanical appliances, and has remarked within its own sphere of progress how such circumstances give the rein to the imagination, what contempt for the past, what complacent admiration of the present, and what daring anticipations they engender regarding the future, may enter into the feelings of the Romans at this period of social agitation, and realize the ideas of an age of popular delirium. When the mind of a nation is thus excited and intoxicated by its fervid aspirations, it seeks relief from its own want of definite aims in hailing the appearance of a leader of clearer views and more decisive action. It wants a hero to applaud and to follow, and is ready to seize upon the first that presents himself as an object for its admiration, and to carry him forward on his career in triumph. Marius, Sulla, and Pompeius, each in their turn claimed this eager homage of the multitude; but the two former had passed away with their generation, and the last lived to disappoint the hopes of his admirers, for whom he was not capable of extending the circuit of the political horizon. For a moment the multitude was dazzled by the eloquence and activity of Cicero, but neither had he the intellectual gifts which are fitted to lead a people onward. The Romans hailed him as the saviour and father of his country, as another Romulus or Camillus; but this was in a fit of transient enthusiasm for the past, when their minds were recurring for a moment to their early founders and preservers. It was still to the future that their eyes were constantly directed; and it was not till the genius of Cæsar burst upon them, with all the rapidity and decision of its movements, that they could recognize in any of the aspirants to power the true captain and lawgiver and prophet of the age."

Accordingly, the history of this period naturally centres in Cæsar. Of the extraordinary men who have risen to empire by their own genius and force of character, Cæsar is perhaps the greatest. "He was great," says Drumann, quoted by Mr. Merivale, "in every thing he undertook; as a captain, a statesman, a lawgiver, a jurist, an orator, a poet, an historian, a grammarian, a mathematician, and an architect."

"But the province of the historian must be kept distinct from that of the biographer. For the former the survey of Cæsar's character derives its chief interest from the manner in which it illustrates the times wherein he occupied so prominent a place. The disposition and conduct of the great man we have been contemplating correspond faithfully with the intellectual and moral development of the age of which he was the most perfect representative. He combined literature with action, humanity with sternness, free-thinking with superstition, energy with voluptuousness, a noble and liberal ambition with a fearful want of moral principle. In these striking inconsistencies, which none but himself could blend in one harmonious temperament, he represented the manifold conflicting tendencies which appeared in various proportions in the character of the Roman nobility, at a period when they had thrown off the formal restraints of their Etruscan discipline, and the specious indulgence of Hellenic cultivation lured them into vice, selfishness, and impiety."

There hangs but little uncertainty around the occurrences related in this portion of Mr. Merivale's work. The authorities are clear and sufficient, except on two topics,—the conspiracy of Catiline, and the details of the Parthian expedition of Crassus. On the latter Mr. Merivale writes with considerable animation and graphic clearness,—and at times his narrative will pleasantly remind the reader of the parallel passage in Gibbon relating to the expedition of

the emperor Julian. The rhetoric of Sallust and the vanity of Cicero have rendered necessary the application of a searching criticism to the accounts which the works of these authors contain of Catiline and his conspiracy.

"Catilina

Quocunque in populo videas, quocunque sub axe."

Political bigotry always finds many Catilines in the ranks of the hostile party. Political partisans possessed of more genius and talent than regard for truth are not the best biographers of their opponents. It would be almost affectation to doubt the depravity of Catiline; but to what extent, if any, was he a tool in the hands of Cæsar? Cæsar and Pompey, to promote their ambitious schemes, condescended to make use of Clodius, — a man whose vices, if we may credit Cicero, placed him little above the level of Catiline. Mr. Merivale is evidently partial to Cæsar. He is willing to admit that Cæsar speculated, as most probably did Pompey and Crassus, not without complacency, on the result of an outbreak which threatened to divide and weaken the nobility:—but he says there are many circumstances which make it extremely improbable that a personage of Cæsar's character and views would mingle in an enterprise of such a nature. Mr. Merivale has not clearly specified these circumstances. Although Cæsar was perhaps, as we have admitted, the greatest of great men of a certain class, it must not be forgotten that this very admission heightens our idea of his intense selfishness and unscrupulousness wherever the prospect of obtaining dominion was concerned. Besides, cognizance in a man like Cæsar of so infamous a scheme was almost as guilty as participation in it. The fact that Cicero declined to bring such a charge against Cæsar, in our opinion proves nothing:—the deficiency of Cicero in moral courage is well known. We could have wished that Mr. Merivale had written rather more explicitly on this subject. His great erudition and sound judgment, so evident in other parts of these volumes, would then perhaps have enabled him to remove the veil which in some measure still obscures this interesting portion of Roman history.

We had marked many passages for quotation:—one contains a few of the reflections with which Mr. Merivale prefaces his narrative of the final struggle between Pompey and Cæsar.—

"At the moment when great political principles meet in decisive conflict, it may be observed that the inclinations of the mass of the honourable and well-intentioned, who constitute perhaps generally the numerical strength of a party, are swayed in favour of the side which seems to embrace the men of highest renown for patriotism and probity. It is much easier to distinguish who are the most honest men, than to discover which are the soundest principles; and it seems safer to choose the side which boasts of philosophers and patriots in its ranks than that which is branded as the refuge of spendthrifts and apostates. \* \* We may remember that Cæsar, as he appeared to the eyes of the Roman nobility at this period of his career, was an adventurer of dissolute manners and the loosest principles. For many years all his actions had been blackened by the systematic calumnies with which he was assailed, even beyond the common measure which fell to the lot of contemporary statesmen. It required more than usual candour, particularly in his avowed enemies, to divest the mind of a peculiar prejudice against him. Nevertheless, his conduct as a statesman and warrior in his foreign governments might have served to disabuse public opinion of its grossest errors in this respect. Assuredly none could fairly deny that he had formed to himself friends and admirers from among men of the best families and the highest principles. A Cicero, a Crassus, a Brutus, had been his most devoted partisans. \* \* But, in spite of the plainness of this fact, the charge was constantly reiterated; the men whom the arch-traitor could attach to himself could be none, it was insisted, but monsters of vice, cruelty, and profligacy. The lie



prevailed by repetition; and the waverers, unable to see clearly for themselves through the cloud of interested sophistry, were frightened, if not convinced, and learnt to shrink with horror from a cause which was thus atrociously misrepresented. Cicero himself, of all men the most easily deceived by the colouring of political partizans, was deluded by this clamour. Much as he hated and feared the nobles, from whose victory he expected nothing but violence and illegal usurpation, he had not the firmness fairly to review the cause and objects for which Cæsar was in arms. If the invader's personal aim was self-aggrandizement, the same was at least equally true of his opponent. If Pompeius, on the other hand, had refrained hitherto from acts of violence, every one was ready to acknowledge that he was deterred by no principle—it was only because the necessities of the senate had compelled it to throw its powers unreservedly into his hands. The event of the impending contest would undoubtedly place him, if successful, in the position he had long coveted, of a military tyrant. \* \* It is not the province of the historian to condemn or absolve the great names of human annals. He leaves the philosophic moralist to denounce crimes or errors, upon a full survey of the character and position of the men and their times; but it is his business to distinguish, in analysing the causes of events, between the personal views of the actors in revolutions and the general interests which their conduct subverted, and to claim for their deeds the sympathy of posterity in proportion as they tended to the benefit of mankind. He may be allowed to lament the pettiness of the statesmen of this epoch, and the narrow idea they formed of public interests in the contest between Cæsar and his rival. Above all, he must regret that a man to whom we owe so much affection as Cicero should have been deceived by a selfish and hypocritical outcry; for Cicero succeeded in persuading himself that the real patriots were all on the side of the oligarchy, and that it was his duty as a philosopher to follow, not the truth, but the true men—not right judgment, but honourable sentiment."

We pass over the description of the celebration of Cæsar's four triumphs,—reviving all our classic associations of Roman munificence and ferocity:—on the left, the route of triumph leading the conqueror to the Capitoline Temple,—on the right, the road to the Mamertine prison, in the dungeon of which Vercingetorix doubtless met with firmness and dignity the fate to which he had so long been doomed. We pass over Cæsar's visit to Cicero in his villa at Puteoli, where the conversation sparkled with the most refined wit, and the raillery, though rude to modern nations, served at least to exercise and enliven the equanimity of the guests. We refer our readers to Mr. Merivale's volumes with a strong conviction that the author has commenced a work for the composition of which he appears eminently qualified, and which, if continued in the same spirit, will supply a want that has long been felt both by scholars and by the public. Mr. Merivale does not display the brilliancy or *verve* of Gibbon or Macaulay; but he evidently has ample powers of doing justice to his subject, and of producing a work on Roman history which will take a very high position in English literature.

*An Introduction to Conchology; or, Elements of the Natural History of Molluscous Animals.*  
By George Johnston, M.D., L.L.D. Van Voorst.

In our obituary notice last week of the Rev. William Kirby, we remarked that the 'Introduction to Entomology' written by him in conjunction with Mr. Spence, in the form of familiar letters, had served for the model of many an entertaining and instructive volume. The work before us is one of these,—and is from the pen of an accomplished writer. Dr. Johnston has long been honourably distinguished among naturalists for his researches on the

history of sponges, corallines and other minute animals, but his attention has been almost wholly confined to British zoology. His 'Introduction to Conchology' will scarcely rank with that on which it is founded, for the reason that the author is less practically acquainted with the foreign history of his subject. His work, of which the material portion was contributed some twenty years ago to 'Loudon's Magazine of Natural History,' is an industrious compilation of many an oft-told tale, real, fabulous, traditional, humorous and abstruse, delightfully written in some parts, but rather ponderous in others,—the last hundred pages, for example, being occupied by a tedious history of systems, which increases the weight of the book without adding to its usefulness.

The author has, moreover, relied too much on communicated materials published elsewhere, and much in need of criticism. Take, for instance, that in which the operculum of the univalve mollusk is said to be the analogue of the second valve of the bivalve mollusk,—a theory demolished long since. The works of other contemporary writers recording facts observed by living travellers abroad, in place of generalizations at home, are apparently unknown to him. A chapter on the geographical distribution of molluscous animals, on their arrangement in zones and provinces of types, and on their palæontological relations—an interesting summary of which might be gleaned from the writings of Prof. Edward Forbes, Mr. John H. Redfield, Mr. Lovell Reeve and others,—would have been more acceptable.

The strength of Dr. Johnston's work as a book of entertaining reading lies in the first half-dozen letters, notwithstanding that they open with a somewhat uninviting paradox. We pass this over, for an example of the fabulous.—

"Had you a spark of the amiable credulousness of our forefathers; or were you one of those accommodating good-natured people who, like the brother in a tale of Mr. Crabbe's, are ever

Ready wonders to receive,  
Prone to assent and willing to believe,

this would be my place to speak of 'things that are rather wonderful than true,'—of a cuttle in the ocean of Gades between Portugal and Andalusia, which, like a mighty great tree, spread abroad its arms, 'that in regard thereof only, it is thought verily it never entered into the streights or narrow sea thereby of Gibraltar;' of another with a head as large as a hog's-head, and with arms thirty feet long, furnished with cups like great basons, capable of holding four or five gallons a-piece, and which, being over fond of salt fish, used to venture ashore and pilfer the sailors' stores, until he was killed in a desperate battle with dogs and men. \* \* That the Cephalopods have size and strength enough for the truculent deeds ascribed to them may be admitted, but the will and necessary agility is wanted."

We can assure our author, however, that a gentleman lately informed us of an accident that placed his life in imminent peril from one of these creatures. Whilst bathing in the Bay of Naples, a huge *Octopus* caught him by the leg, and on seeing a streak of blood in the water, he only just saved himself by striking the beast down with an oar which he had at hand. Dr. Johnston also cautions his reader—we think unnecessarily—"against the assertion of those who say that the *Mitra episcopalis* wounds with a kind of pointed trunk." The Mollusca are a very inactive tribe of animals, but not so harmless as here described. We know of an instance in which a captain of the Navy, a well-known collector of shells, was very severely wounded at Panama by a Cone, which plunged his proboscis through the fleshy part of the thumb, causing very alarming pain.

Many of the Mollusca furnish excellent eating beyond the delectable *hors d'œuvres* of our own shores.—

"In India the favourite dish *bacassan*, extolled by Rumphius as the most grateful of all kinds of food, is prepared from the *Tellina gari*; and in South America they use a mussel eight inches long, and of excellent flavour, of which the name is unknown to me. They are often salted and dried; after which they are strung on slender rushes, and, in this manner large quantities are exported. This practice reminds me of a somewhat similar one adopted by the Africans in the neighbourhood of the river Zaire or Congo. They take large quantities of a species of *Mya* from out the mud round Kampenzy Island, and, as in a raw state the animals are without flavour, they stick them on wooden skewers as the French do frogs, and half dry them. They pass thus into a state of semi-putrefaction and become entirely to the taste of the negroes. The natives of New Holland and New Zealand did at the time of their discovery use the *Tridacna gigas* or Dutchman's cockle, a very large shell, a pair of the valves of which were presented as natural curiosities to Francis I. by the Venetians; and which Louis XV., more zealous, as he has himself taken care to let us know, for the glory of God, destined to hold holy water in the magnificent church of St. Sulpice in Paris, where they to this day actually serve the purpose of baptismal fonts."

The Cephalopods of the Mediterranean are said to have afforded many a dainty dish to the inhabitants of ancient Greece and Rome, and are still sold in the Neapolitan market.—

"At the nuptial feast of Iphicrates, who married the daughter of Cotys, king of Thrace, a hundred polypi and sepia were served. The Greek epicures prized them most when they were in a pregnant condition, and had them cooked with high sauces; while the hardy Lacedæmonian boiled the animals entire, and was not disgusted by the black broth formed by their inky liquor diffusing itself in the water. The good old story of Philoxenus may be quoted in illustration.—

Of all fish-eaters  
None sure excell'd the lyric bard Philoxenus.  
'Twas a prodigious twist! At Syracuse  
Fate threw him on the fish call'd "Many-feet."  
He purchased it and drest it; and the whole,  
Bate me the head, formed but a single swallow.  
A crudity ensued—the doctor came,  
And the first glance informed him things went wrong.  
And, "Friend," quoth he, "if thou hast aught to set  
In order, to it straight;—pass but seven hours,  
And thou and life must take a long farewell."  
"I've nought to do," replied the bard: "all's right."

\* \* \* \* \*

I were loath, howe'er,  
To troop with less than all my gear about me;—  
Good doctor, be my helper then to what  
Remains of that same blessed Many-feet."

The author's letter on the economical uses of shells as ornaments and drinking-cups is interesting, and refers not only to tropical countries, but to our own.—

"In the days when Ossian sang, the flat valves of the shallow were the plates and the hollow ones the cups of Fingal and his heroes; hence the term *shell* became expressive of the greatest hospitality. 'Thou, too, hast often accompanied my voice in Branno's hall of shells.' 'The joy of the shell went round, and the aged hero gave the fair;' and there are many passages of a similar import in the poems of the Celtic bard; nor, perhaps, is the custom to which they allude yet wholly extinct. 'We were entertained in the island of Col,' says Boswell, in his tour with Johnson to the Hebrides, 'with a primitive heartiness. Whiskey was carried round in a shell according to the ancient Highland custom. Dr. Johnson would not partake of it; but being desirous of doing honour to the modes 'of other times,' drank some water out of the shell.'"

It must not be supposed from these extracts that Dr. Johnston's book is all of this light reading. By far the greater portion of it is occupied with details of physiology, intelligible only to those who are specially learned in the subject. Even these, however, are relieved by occasional anecdotes. With the following pleasantry by Charles Lamb, written anterior to the age of railroads, we conclude:—

"Travelling is not good for us, we travel so seldom. How much more dignified leisure hath a mussel, glued to his impassable rocky limit, two inches square! He hears the tide roll over him backwards and for-



wards twice a day (as the Salisbury long coach goes and returns in eight-and-forty hours), but knows better than to take an outside place a-top o't. He is the owl of the sea, Minerva's fish—the fish of wisdom."

Taken as a whole, the work is one of very meritorious research; and it will doubtless bring many to the cultivation of a science from which they have been hitherto repulsed by the dry-as-dust style in which it has been taught.

*The Life and Correspondence of the late Robert Southey.* In Six volumes. Edited by his Son, the Rev. Charles Cuthbert Southey. Vol. V. Longman & Co.

IN proportion as we approach nearer to times and to persons included within the range of our own experience, do we become increasingly aware of the large amount of blanks and suppressions here existing, and of the mistakes in selection, which deprive the Laureate's biography of much of the relish and savour that it should have possessed.—This volume is less interesting than its predecessor, though it relates to the most interesting portion of Southey's life—his maturity. At the period referred to in its commencement the indefatigable author had just completed 'The Life of Wesley'—was "busily employed upon" 'The Peninsular War,'—was, thirdly, proceeding with 'The Book of the Church' and 'The Colloquies of Sir T. More,'—and by way of "refreshing the machine" (as Scott phrased it) was turning to poetry after tea. Foremost among the Laureate's efforts in verse of this date, must be numbered his unfortunate and tasteless 'Vision of Judgment.' Having allowed for the courtly genuflections of its poet, which, indeed, in such an upright man as he strike us as being little short of melancholy prostrations,—having noticed the temptation which the mixture of solemnity and puerility in its imagery and machinery (the blending of the church organ and the baby's rattle in its music) could not fail to offer to a keen and bitter and *sore* satirist such as Byron—we still think that this *apotheosis* must live in antiquarian literature, merely for the sake of the form of its versification. It may be said to have commenced the attempts at modern English hexameter-making recently continued so elegantly yet so incompletely by Mr. Longfellow, and closed (shall we say?) the other day by Mr. Walter Savage Landor, in his spirited contribution to *Fraser's Magazine*.—Like all eccentric and experimental writers, however, Southey, while he could defend his own crotchets with the gravity of a judge and with the logic of a senior wrangler, had small patience with the eccentricities and experiments of others. We find him, in 1820, writing as under.—

"A fashion of poetry has been imported which has had a great run, and is in a fair way of being worn out. It is of Italian growth,—an adaptation of the manner of Pulci, Berni, and Ariosto in his sportive mood. Frere began it. What he produced was too good in itself and too inoffensive to become popular; for it attacked nothing and nobody; and it had the fault of his Italian models, that the transition from what is serious to what is burlesque was capricious. Lord Byron immediately followed; first with his 'Beppo,' which implied the profligacy of the writer, and, lastly, with his 'Don Juan,' which is a foul blot on the literature of his country, an act of high treason on English poetry. The manner has had a host of imitators. The use of Hudibrastic rhymes (the only thing in which it differs from the Italian) makes it very easy."

The "easiness" of Hudibrastic rhyming, we submit, has still to be proved. Long ago in this journal attention was called to the consummate art of Butler's versification,—the variety of musical knowledge and the entire control over language comprehended in the style which is at best called burlesque, at worst doggerel. We

can name no poet betwixt Byron and Browning who has thoroughly mastered the secret, or trick,—if trick it be,—who has thoroughly combined the wildest and most freakish audacities with that perfectly-cadenced euphony which gives to the forced epithet and the dragged-in-by-the-hair combination of words the air and tune of a natural and spontaneous melody.—Some, indeed, have maintained that nothing is more difficult in Art than a first-class grotesque; and hence have claimed for the style power as a vehicle for the conveying of all manner of sentiments,—fitness as a drapery for the clothing of all manner of subjects. But we will not here argue the question, neither assent to nor dissent from their canon; satisfied to have protested as above against Southey's denunciation of a metre and mode which it did not suit his own humour to attempt.

A sketch given by the poet's self of his own literary occupations will complete the picture of his creative and intellectual life during the period referred to.—

"But I have not been absolutely idle, only comparatively so. I have made ready about five sheets of the Peninsular War for the press (the main part, indeed, was transcription), and William Nicol will have it as soon as the chapter is finished. I have written an account of Derwent Water for Westall's Views of the Lakes. I have begun the Book of the Church, written half a dialogue between myself and Sir Thomas More, composed seventy lines for Oliver Newman, opened a Book of Collections for the Moral and Literary History of England, and sent to Longman for materials for the Life of George Fox and the Origin and Progress of Quakerism, a work which will be quite as curious as the Wesley, and about half the length. Make allowances for letter writing (which consumes far too great a portion of my time), and for the interruptions of the season, and this account of the month will not be so bad as to subject me to any very severe censure of my stewardship. The other day there came a curious letter from Shelley, written from Pisa. Some of his friends persisted in assuring him that I was the author of a criticism concerning him in the Quarterly Review. From internal evidence, and from what he knew of me, he did not and would not believe it; nevertheless, they persisted; and he writes that I may enable him to confirm his opinion. The letter, then, still couched in very courteous terms, talks of the principles and slanderous practices of the pretended friends of order, as contrasted with those which he professes, hints at challenging the writer of the Review, if he should be a person with whom it would not be beneath him to contend, tells me he shall certainly hear from me, because he must interpret my silence into an acknowledgment of the offence, and concludes with Dear-Sir-Skip and civility. If I had an amanuensis I would send you copies of this notable epistle, and of my reply to it."

This life of George Fox was one of the works meditated by Southey which he never completed. By some extracts from a correspondence with Bernard Barton, it appears that the respectable and cautious Society of Friends manifested a reluctance to entrust him with the needful materials. To no body of religionists, indeed, could the mixture of sympathy, superiority, severity and gentle sarcasm which he would have thrown into the narrative have been so utterly distasteful as to the "body called Quakers"; for by none is close observation so perpetually confounded with uncharitable interference, and among none is the Hero-worship of their own Sanhedrim of Heroes so implicitly maintained.

That Southey was an imaginative as much as controversial student of theology, the following acute remarks on the writings of a very popular American divine will illustrate.—

"You have sent me a good specimen of American divinity. I very much doubt whether we have any contemporary sermons so good. For though our

pulpits are better filled than they were in the last generation, we do not hear from them such sound reasoning, such clear logic, and such manly and vigorous composition as in the days of South and Barrow. What is said in the memoir of Mr. Buckminster of the unimpassioned character of our printed sermons is certainly true; the cause of it is to be found in the general character of the congregations for which they were composed, always regular church-going people, persons of wealth and rank, the really good part of the community, and the Formalists and the Pharisees, none of whom would like to be addressed by their parish priests as miserable sinners standing in need of repentance. Sermons of country growth seldom find their way to the press; in towns the ruder classes seldom attend the Church service, in large towns because there is no room for them; and indeed, in country as well as town, the subjects who are in the worst state of mind and morals never enter the church doors. Wesley and Whitfield got at them by preaching in the open air, and they administered drastics with prodigious effect. Since their days a more impassioned style has been used in the pulpit, and with considerable success. But the pith and the sound philosophy of the elder divines are wanting. Your Buckminster was taking the right course. The early death of such a man would have been a great loss to any country."

The purely descriptive passages in this published correspondence are few, but good. One of these is contained in the letter immediately following the above, which describes an old house belonging to an old Cumberland family.—

"Since I received your letter I made my proposed visit to the sea-coast with the two Ediths and Cuthbert. We were at Netherhall, the *solar* of my friend and fellow-traveller, Senhouse, where his ancestors have uninterruptedly resided since the days of Edward II. (when part of the present building is known to have been standing), and how long before that no one knows. Some of his deeds are of Edward I.'s reign, some of Henry III.'s; and one is as far back as King John. We slept in the tower, the walls of which are nine feet thick. In the time of the great Rebellion the second of the two sons of this house went to serve the King, the elder brother (whom illness had probably detained at home) died, and the parents then wished their only surviving child to return, lest their ancient line should be extinct. A man who held an estate under the family was sent to persuade him to this, his unwillingness to leave the service in such disastrous times being anticipated; but the result of this endeavour was that Senhouse, instead of returning, persuaded the messenger to remain and follow the King's fortunes. They were at Marston Moor together, and at Naseby. In the last of those unhappy fields Senhouse was dreadfully wounded, his skull was fractured, and he was left for dead. After the battle his faithful friend searched for the body, and found him still breathing. By this providential aid he was saved; his skull was pieced with a plate of metal, and he lived to continue the race. His preserver was rewarded by having his estate enfranchised; and both properties continue at this day in their respective descendants. This is an interesting story, and the more so when related as it was to me, on the spot. The sword which did good service in those wars is still preserved. It was made for a two-fold use, the back being cut so as to form a double-toothed saw. Netherhall stands upon the little river Ellen, about half a mile from the sea, but completely sheltered from the sea-wind by a long high hill, under cover of which some fine old trees have grown up. The Ellen rises on Skiddaw, forms the little and unpicturesque lake or rather pool which is called Overwater, near the foot of that mountain, and, though a very small stream, makes a port, where a town containing 4,000 inhabitants has grown up within the memory of man, on the Senhouse estate. It was called Maryport, after Senhouse's grandmother, a very beautiful woman, whose portrait is in his dining-room. His father remembered when a single summer-house standing in a garden was the only building upon the whole of that ground, which is now covered with streets. The first sash windows in Cumberland were placed in the tower in which we slept, by the founder of this town; and when his son (who died about six years ago at the age of eighty-four or five) first went to Cambridge,



there was no stage coach north of York. Old as Netherhall is, the stones of which it is built were hewn from the quarry more than a thousand years before it was begun. They were taken from a Roman station on the hill between it and the sea, where a great number of Roman altars, &c. have been found. Some of them have been described by Camden, who praises the Mr. Senhouse of his time for the hospitality with which he received him, and the care with which he preserved these remains of antiquity. . . . It was a Bishop of this family who preached Charles I.'s coronation sermon, and the text which he took was afterwards noted as ominous; 'I will give him a crown of glory.' The gold signet which he wore as a ring is now at Netherhall."

A page or two later we find a character shrewdly comprehended and finely touched,—the subject being William Taylor of Norwich.—

"You form a just opinion of the character and tendency of William Taylor's conversation. A most unfortunate perversion of mind has made him always desirous of supporting strange and paradoxical opinions by ingenious arguments, and showing what may be said on the wrong side of a question. He likes to be in a state of doubt upon all subjects where doubt is possible, and has often said, 'I begin to be too sure of that, and must see what reasons I can find against it.' But when this is applied to great and momentous truths, the consequences are of the most fatal kind. I believe no man ever carried Pyrrhonism farther. But it has never led him into immoralities of any kind, nor prevented him from discharging the duties of private life in the most exemplary manner. There never lived a more dutiful son. I have seen his blind mother weep when she spoke of his goodness; and his kindness and generosity have only been limited by his means. What is more remarkable is, that this habitual and excessive scepticism has weakened none of the sectarian prejudices in which he was brought up. He sympathises as cordially with the Unitarians in their animosity to the Church and State, as if he agreed with them in belief, and finds as strong a bond of union in party-spirit as he could do in principle. With regard to his talents, they are very great. No man can exceed him in ingenuity, nor in the readiness with which he adorns a subject by apt and lively illustrations. His knowledge is extensive, but not deep. When first I saw him, three-and-twenty years ago, I thought him the best informed man with whom I had ever conversed. When I visited him last, after a lapse of eight years, I discovered the limits of his information, and that upon all subjects it was very incomplete. Of his heart and disposition I cannot speak more highly than I think. It is my belief that no man ever brought a kinder nature into this world. His great talents have been sadly wasted; and, what is worse, they have sometimes been sadly misemployed. He has unsettled the faith of many, and he has prepared for his own old age a pillow of thorns. To all reasoning, the pride of reason has made him inaccessible; and when I think of him, as I often do, with affection and sorrowful foreboding, the only foundation of hope is, that God is merciful, beyond our expectations, as well as beyond our deserts."

The man of letters above portrayed, it will be recollected, was Southey's particular friend. Thus charitable and tolerant could love make the pourtrayer! It is impossible to read the passage without imagining in how different a tone would the author of the 'Vision of Judgment' have couched his protest and dissent had his subject been an antagonist, or even a stranger:—for Southey it will be recollected (*vide* his abuse of Godwin) cherished, maintained and defended the righteousness of antipathy.

It will be recollected, too,—to change the subject,—that the poet's proclivity towards Dutch literature has been already noticed as indicating his humour in pursuit. This made him especially enjoy a tour in Holland (a land, let us say, parenthetically, which is prosaic only to the prosaic); and the pleasantest letters in this volume are the three or four which relate to a forced sojourn made by Dr. Southey at Leyden. An accident which happened to his foot compelled him to halt there. By good hap, that

University town was the residence of the Bilderdijk family, to whom he was known. Mrs. Bilderdijk, wife of the well-known man of letters, had translated his 'Roderick' into Dutch,—and with true Dutch hospitality (the fashion of which must have struck all who have partaken of it as closely approaching the un-professing cordiality and refinement of English welcome to the guest) the pair insisted that the poet should be nursed under their roof.—

"You may imagine how curious I was to see the lady of the house, and yet I did not see her when we first met, owing to the shade of the trees and the imperfectness of my sight. She was kind and cordial, speaking English remarkably well, with very little hesitation and without any foreign accent. The first night was not well managed; a supper had been prepared, which came so late, and lasted so long by the slowness which seems to characterize all operations in this country, that I did not get to bed till one o'clock. My bedroom is on the ground floor, adjoining the sitting-room in which we eat, and which is given up to me. Everything was perfectly comfortable and nice. I asked for my milk at breakfast; and when Mr. Droesa, the surgeon, came in the morning, I had the satisfaction of hearing that he should not dress the wound again in the evening, but leave it four-and-twenty hours, because there was now a disposition to heal. Mr. Bilderdijk brought me some curious manuscripts of the eldest Dutch poets, the morning passed pleasantly. Henry Taylor dined with us at half-past two; dinner lasted, I hardly know how, till six or seven o'clock. I petitioned for such a supper as I am accustomed to at home, got some cold meat accordingly, and was in bed before eleven. I slept well, and the foot is proceeding regularly towards recovery. Mr. Droesa just left me before I began to write. By Sunday I hope to be able to walk about the house, and then my imprisonment will soon be over. I am in no pain, and suffer no other inconvenience than that of keeping the leg always on a chair or settee. You will now expect to hear something of the establishment into which I have been thus, unluckily shall I say, or luckily, introduced. The house is a good one, in a cheerful street, with a row of trees and a canal in front; large, and with every thing good and comfortable about it. The only child, Lodowijk Willem, is at home, Mr. Bilderdijk being as little fond of schools as I am. The boy has a peculiar and to me an interesting countenance. He is evidently of a weak constitution; his dress neat but formal, and his behaviour towards me amusing from his extreme politeness, and the evident pleasure with which he receives any attempt on my part to address him, or any notice that I take of him at table. A young vrouw waits at table. I wish you could see her, for she is a much odder figure than Maria Rosa appeared on her first introduction, only not so cheerful a one. Her dress is black and white, perfectly neat, and not more graceful than a Beguine's. The cap, which is very little, and has a small front not projecting farther than the green shade which I wear sometimes for my eyes, comes down to the roots of the hair, which is all combed back on the forehead; and she is as white and wan in complexion as her cap; slender, and not ill made; and were it not for this utter paleness she would be rather handsome. Another vrouw, who appears more rarely, is not in such plain dress, but quite as odd in her way. Nothing can be more amusing than Mr. Bilderdijk's conversation. Dr. Bell is not more full of life, spirits, and enthusiasm; I am reminded of him every minute, though the English is much more uncouth than Dr. Bell's. He seems delighted to have a guest who can understand, and will listen to him; and is not a little pleased at discerning how many points of resemblance there are between us. For he is as laborious as I have been; has written upon as many subjects; is just as much abused by the Liberals in his country as I am in mine, and does 'contempt' them as heartily and as merrily as I do. I am growing intimate with Mrs. Bilderdijk, about whom her husband, in the overflowing of his spirits, tells me everything. He is very fond of her and very proud of her, as well he may; and on her part she is as proud of him. Her life seems almost a miracle after what she has gone through."

We must give another Dutch letter, for the sake of its pictures,—which are new.—

"My dear Edith,—This is our manner of life. At eight in the morning Lodowijk knocks at my door. My movements in dressing are as regular as clock-work, and when I enter the adjoining room breakfast is ready on a sofa-table, which is placed for my convenience close to the sofa. There I take my place, seated on one cushion, and with my leg raised on another. The sofa is covered with black plush. The family take coffee, but I have a jug of boiled milk. Two sorts of cheese are on the table, one of which is very strong, and highly flavoured with cummin and cloves; this is called Leyden cheese, and is eaten at breakfast laid in thin slices on bread and butter. The bread is soft, in rolls, which have rather skin than crust; the butter very rich, but so soft that it is brought in a pot to table, like potted meat. Before we begin Mr. B. takes off a little gray cap, and a silent grace is said, not longer than it ought to be; when it is over he generally takes his wife's hand. They sit side by side opposite me; Lodowijk at the end of the table. About ten o'clock Mr. Droesa comes and dresses my foot, which is swathed in one of my silk handkerchiefs. I bind a second round the bottom of the pantaloons, and if the weather be cold I put on a third: so that the leg has not merely a decent, but rather a splendid appearance. After breakfast and tea Mrs. B. washes up the china herself at the table. Part of the morning Mr. B. sits with me. During the rest I read Dutch, or, as at present, retire into my bed-room and write. Henry Taylor calls in the morning, and is always pressed to dine, which he does twice or thrice in the week. We dine at half-past two or three, and the dinners, to my great pleasure, are altogether Dutch. You know I am a valiant eater, and having retained my appetite as well as my spirits during this confinement, I eat every thing which is put before me. Mutton and pork never appear, being considered unfit for any person who has a wound, and pepper for the same reason is but sparingly allowed. Spice enters largely into their cookery; the sauce for fish resembles custard rather than melted butter, and is spiced. Perch, when small (in which state they are considered best), are brought up swimming in a tureen. They look well, and are really very good. With the roast meat (which is in small pieces) dripping is presented in a butter-boat. The variety of vegetables is great. Peas, peas of that kind in which the pod also is eaten, purslain, cauliflowers, *abominations*,\* kidney beans, carrots, turnips, potatoes. But besides these, many very odd things are eaten with meat. I had stewed apples, exceedingly sweet and highly spiced, with roast fowl yesterday; and another day, having been helped to some stewed quinces, to my utter surprise some ragout of beef was to be eaten with them. I never know when I begin a dish whether it is sugared, or will require salt; yet every thing is very good, and the puddings excellent. The dinner lasts very long. Strawberries and cherries always follow. Twice we had cream with the strawberries, very thick, and just in the first stage of sourness. We have had melons also, and currants; the first which have been produced. After coffee they leave me to an hour's nap. Tea follows. Supper at half-past nine, when Mr. B. takes milk, and I a little cold meat with pickles, or the gravy of the meat preserved in a form like jelly; olives are used as pickles, and at half-past ten I go to bed. Mr. B. sits up till three or four, living almost without sleep. Twice we had a Frisian here, whom we may probably see at Keswick, as he talks of going to England on literary business. Halbertsma is his name, and he is a Menonite pastor at Deventer. Twice we have had the young Count Hoogmandorp, a fine young man, one of the eight who for six weeks watched day and night by Mr. B. in his illness; and once a Dr. Burgman, a young man of singular appearance and much learning, drank tea here. My host's conversation is amusing beyond anything I ever heard. I cannot hope to describe it so as to make you conceive it. The matter is always so interesting, that it would alone suffice to keep one's attention on the alert; his manner is beyond expression animated, and his language the most extraordinary that can be imagined. Even my French cannot be half so odd. It is English pronounced like Dutch, and with such a mixture

\* Broad beans, which he always so denominated."



of other language, that it is an even chance whether the next word that comes be French, Latin, or Dutch, or one of either tongues shaped into an English form. Sometimes the oddest imaginable expressions occur. When he would say 'I was pleased,' he says 'I was very pleasant;' and instead of saying that a poor woman was wounded, with whom he was overturned in a stage-coach in England, he said she was severely *bleessed*. Withal, whatever he says is so full of information, vivacity, and character, and there is such a thorough good nature, kindness, and frankness about him, that I never felt myself more interested in any man's company. Every moment he reminds me more and more of Dr. Bell. I gather by one word which dropt from him that Mrs. B. is his second wife. They are proud of each other, as well they may. She has written a great many poems, some of which are published jointly with some of his, and others by themselves. Many of them are devotional, and many relate to her own feelings under the various trials and sufferings which she has undergone. In some of them I have been reminded sometimes of some of my own verses, in others of Miss Bowles's. One would think it almost impossible that a person so meek, so quiet, so retiring, so altogether without display, should be a successful authoress, or hold the first place in her country as a poetess. The profits of literature here are miserably small. In that respect I am in relation to them what Sir Walter Scott is in relation to me. Lodowijk (thus the name is spelt) is a nice good boy, the only survivor of seven children. He is full of sensibility, and I look at him with some apprehension, for he is not strong, and I fear this climate, which suits his father better than any other, is injurious to him. Tell Cuthbert that the oyevaar has paid him another visit, and that Lodowijk's other playmate is a magnificent tabby cat, as old as himself, who, however, is known by no other name than puss, which is good Dutch as well as English. English books are so scarce here, that they have never seen any work of mine except Roderick. Of course I have ordered over a complete set of my poems and the history of Brazil; and as E. May is in London I have desired her to add, as a present from herself to Mrs. B., a copy of Kirke White's Remains. I can never sufficiently show my sense of the kindness which I am experiencing here. Think what a difference it is to be confined in an hotel, with all the discomforts, or to be in such a family as this, who show by every word and every action that they are truly pleased in having me under their roof. I manage worst about my bed. I know not how many pillows there are, but there is one little one which I used for my head till I found that it was intended for the small of my back. Everything else I can find instruction for, but here is nobody to teach one how to get into a Dutch bed, or how to lie in one. A little bottle of brandy is placed on the dressing-table, to be used in cleansing the teeth. Saffron is used in some of the soups and sauces. The first dish yesterday was marrow in a tureen, which was eaten upon toast. I eat every thing, but live in daily fear of something like suety pudding or tripe. About an hour before dinner a handsome mahogany case containing spirits is produced; a glass waiter is taken out of it, and little tumblers with gilt edges, and we have then a glass of liqueur with a slice of cake. Deventer cake it is called; and an odd history belongs to it. The composition is usually intrusted only to the burgo-master of that city, and when the baker has made all the other ingredients ready, the chief magistrate is called upon, as part of his duty, to add that portion of the materials which constitute the excellence and peculiarity of the Deventer cake."

The above long extract makes it incumbent on us to leave the volume without formal leave-taking. To touch on all its contents, "expressed and understood," would be impossible.

*Observations on the Social and Political State of the European People in 1848 and 1849.* By Samuel Laing, Esq.

*The Social Condition and Education of the People of England and Europe.* By Joseph Kay, Esq.

[Second Notice.]

THE extracts which formed the concluding part of our former notice will have placed before the

reader a somewhat important fact. They will have informed him that in the decided opinion of these two travellers, the "moral, intellectual, and physical condition [we use the categorical language of Mr. Kay himself] of the *peasants* and *operatives* of Prussia, Saxony, other parts of Germany, of Holland, and of the Protestant cantons of Switzerland, and the social condition of the *peasants* in the greater part of France, is very much higher and happier and much more satisfactory than that of the *peasants* and *operatives* of England; that the condition of the *poor* in the North German, Swiss, and Dutch towns presents as remarkable a contrast to that of the *poor* of the English towns as can well be imagined; and that the condition of the *poorer classes* in Germany, Switzerland, Holland, and France is rapidly improving." We have re-quoted these sentences thus prominently, because they contain the pith of the whole matter,—and because we have found no passage in either of the works before us which states so accurately and completely the general conclusions to which both these travellers have been gradually conducted by their extended inquiries, and by what they have seen with their own eyes, in the countries of the centre and west of Europe. If, therefore, we are compelled by positive evidence to regard it as a fact, that the "moral, intellectual, and physical condition" of the poorer classes of England is worse than that of the same classes in some of the Continental countries, there can be no difficulty in arriving at the next step of the inquiry. We know the fact,—we must see if we cannot discover the origin of that fact. Why are our own poor worse fed, worse clothed, and worse instructed than the poor of Prussia, Holland, Saxony, or the Tyrol? The political liberty of Englishmen rests on a firmer foundation, is surrounded with stronger safeguards, affords an infinitely wider scope for the exercise of every human faculty, than the political liberty of any of these countries. Englishmen are richer, hardier, more industrious, skilful, persevering, patient, and adventurous than Germans, Dutchmen, or Swiss. Why, then, are the poor of England worse off than the poor of the Continent? That is the great question of the controversy which has been raised by Mr. Laing and Mr. Kay.

We are quite sensible that an inquiry of this nature may be met by denying the premises. It may be said, that the allegation of Continental superiority is not proved. For ourselves, we must be permitted to say that, fully and beyond all cavil, perhaps it is not. But it is proved so far, that, unless we reject all the acknowledged rules of evidence, we are bound to admit that, at all events in the present stage of the discussion, Messrs. Laing and Kay are entitled to assume the facts of the case, as represented by them, to be substantially admitted as the basis of the discussion. We cannot bring in contradiction of the statements of these two travellers statements equally precise, recent, and authentic from any quarter possessing corresponding claims on our attention.

In a few words, then, we repeat,—What is the cause as far as we can see at present of the inferiority of the social condition of the poor of this country as compared with the poor of the Continent? Mr. Laing and Mr. Kay give in effect the same answer: namely, that it is the concentration of the industry of the English people in manufactures and trade,—and the concentration of the industry of the Continental people in agriculture. We have multiplied the number of persons who depend on wages,—*they*, the number of persons who depend on the produce of peasant properties. We have gone on for the last fifty or a hundred years diminishing

the importance and the numerical strength of the class who, as yeomen, have an interest in the soil,—on the Continent the tendency of all the social and political changes of the same period has been to create that very class of yeomanry. In England, we have been gathering our population within the circles of large cities. We have in a great measure depopulated what is called emphatically the country. We have done so under the influence of a twofold motive:—on the one hand, the peculiar nature of our national industry has led to a concentration of human labour within the smallest possible circles; and on the other, the tendency of our modern agriculture has been to aim at a large surplus produce by a concentration of a different kind,—by a concentration, not of labour, but of territory,—by the amalgamation of small farms into large, and the introduction of the manufacturing principle into husbandry.

Whatever may have been the effects of the system of which this statement presents a very general outline, there can be no dispute about the facts. We have filled our towns and emptied our villages; we have increased vastly and in every part of the island the numerical strength of the class who live by wages and by handicraft,—and we have diminished in a degree almost as marked the numerical strength of the class who depend directly on the soil as yeomen, as small farmers, and as the holders on lease or in fee of small landed properties.

There is no doubt that we have achieved great success. Our manufactures and our large-farm husbandry are both marvellous in their perfection and in their results. The evil which we have to fear is not the failure of our trade in cotton or in corn,—but the failure of intelligent men among us to perceive that we have accomplished only half the mission on which we started. No reasonable human being will surely permit himself to suppose that it is the peculiar function of the English people to exist for the single purpose of manufacturing calico at twopence a yard and growing grain at an infinitesimal expenditure of human labour and poor-rate. That is a version of the problem quite out of date. We have to produce many things besides wealth. We have to produce a population which at least shall be free from the reproach of falling below the working people of Dutch and Prussian villages in intelligence, decency, order and comfort. So far, we have not done this:—and that is a fact to be constantly borne in mind. One of the principal arguments, and perhaps the strongest, in favour of the English system of farming—that is, the large-farm system—is founded on the consideration of what is called the net surplus produce. If, for example, ten men inhabit an island and seven of them are unceasingly occupied in growing food for themselves and their three companions, then it is plain that there are only the unoccupied services of three persons to perform all the diversified operations required for the comfort, convenience, and advancement of ten—to weave, build, forge, mine, explore, invent, and think. But if by some happy device the labour of two men can be made to produce as much food as was formerly produced by the labour of seven, then the net surplus produce would be so materially increased that the handicraft labour of the island might be performed and prosecuted by eight people instead of three. Now, in the case of Great Britain it is contended that the large-farm system enables us to increase in some astonishing degree the net surplus produce; in other words, that that system enables us to raise food for the whole population by the labour of the smallest possible number of our people,—or, to simplify the doctrine still further, that it permits, or rather compels, us to employ in agriculture a very



small and perhaps a constantly diminishing minority of the population.

To this argument there appear to be two cogent answers. In the first place, with the evidence collected by Mr. Laing and Mr. Kay before us, we conceive that cautious inquirers will be very guarded in their assertion of the superiority of the large over the small farm system even with reference to the net surplus produce. We would refer particularly to the first four chapters of Mr. Laing and to the first volume of Mr. Kay, on this subject. These gentlemen speak specifically on this very point; and they allege in the most positive terms that peasant proprietors can and do produce as much agricultural produce per acre as, or more than, the best farm in Great Britain managed on the Lothian principle. These are statements to be answered not generally, but in detail,—and awaiting such an answer, we leave them as they stand.—In the next place, there appears to be an essential fallacy in supposing that at all stages of the social progress of a country it is advantageous to employ only the smallest possible number of persons in the cultivation of the soil. In the early part of the career of a society, when almost everything depends on the prosperity of the handicraft arts, it is no doubt desirable that as large a number of the community as possible should be at liberty to exert their ingenuity and their strength in pursuits not agricultural. But as the country grows populous this state of things gradually disappears. Then it becomes of the highest importance that the inconvenient competition of the handicraft classes should be kept in check by the absorption of labour in the prosecution of a vigorous husbandry. It seems to us that this country has long since passed out of the first of the stages of progress just described into the second,—and therefore that our present policy of continuing handicraft as a staple means of employment for our people is essentially unsound.—This is the general conclusion towards which most of the facts and arguments contained in both the works before us certainly point in the most striking manner; although in neither of them have we found any passages which express precisely the meaning we have just endeavoured to convey.

We have no difficulty, therefore, in believing with Mr. Laing and Mr. Kay that in old countries on the Continent where competition among the handicraft classes has been kept in check by the diffusion of landed property among those who are essentially working cultivators, a most remarkable, decided and beneficial effect has resulted. This course has perhaps retarded the very rapid accumulation of public wealth and the attainment of a great and gorgeous external civilization; but it has certainly not failed to produce other results of the value of which there can be no doubt whatever. There is no chronic pauperism in the regions of peasant farms;—there are few repulsive and dangerous contrasts of condition;—and there certainly are not that perpetual heat and clamour, that incessant inquietude and competition, that proneness to occupy human life as if in the reckless plunges of a steeple-chase, which have begun to distinguish the English people.

Let us, however, not be misunderstood. We are fully sensible of the evils as well as the recommendations of a sweeping adoption of the small-farm theory and practice. Mr. Laing is quite sensible of the same thing. His fourth chapter is especially devoted to a consideration of the arguments against small farms: and we confess that we have seldom read any disquisition of greater ability and value than the whole of those portions of Mr. Laing's book which are devoted to this part of his subject. The prac-

tical measure which seems to be required among ourselves is, such a reform of the law of real property as will fairly place the land of the country within the reach of the people of the country—not by any political redistribution, not in pursuance of any agrarian law, but in the form of a purely commercial transaction. It is very true, that the feudal law of entail has been in effect repealed,—and that every Englishman enjoys a perfect right to dispose of his property by will; but it is quite well known that these alterations in our system of territorial jurisprudence have been altogether insufficient to set the land at liberty and render it an easily transferable commodity. If we have no entails, we have settlements,—and if we have wills, we have also life estates. So long as we permit a landed estate to be virtually bound up by one generation of owners for a period of seventy or eighty years, and incumbered with all sorts of contingent and reversionary interests, we shall look in vain for any real improvement in the laws which affect the transfer and descent of real property. A registry of titles would do a great deal; but a registry of titles overlaid with our present covenants and remainders would not be long before it became almost as incomprehensible as the state of confusion which it was intended to remove.

If the land of this country were really free in a commercial sense, we might entertain a confident hope that the system of small landed properties would not be long in making its appearance among us in the best of all forms; in a form mixed and modified so as to suit the actual circumstances of the country and age—including the extremes of the old and the new systems, but like a long and constantly expanding river connecting those extremes only by a gradual ascent from a lesser to a larger type of development.

This is the general view of the subject: and considering the extent of the field and the intricacy of many of the topics connected with the inquiry which the volumes before us are intended to promote, we have been desirous rather to indicate the general scope of the discussion than to entangle ourselves in any of its details. To examine with any degree of care even the least important of the controversies which are raised by Messrs. Laing and Kay would lead us far beyond the limits within which we must restrain this notice. We are quite sensible, however, that a critic going further into the matter would easily fix on many passages in which both the authors before us have fallen into serious errors. We will refer to only a single case in point. That the doctrine of population as laid down by Mr. Malthus requires a very essential modification we are quite disposed to believe; but we can have no difficulty in saying, that the pretended refutation which Mr. Laing persuades himself that he has inflicted on it in the early part of his volume, is a pure delusion. Mr. Laing has said nothing in opposition to Mr. Malthus which a very youthful disciple of that philosopher might not easily dispose of.

Mr. Laing's strength does not lie in dialectics—but in the use of his eyes and ears. How well and shrewdly he can employ these, the following passage will testify.—

"Every traveller on the Continent must have observed that the *Town* and *City* populations live much more apart and separate from the country population than with us, each city or town is like a distinct island, or small nation, with its own way of living, ideas, laws, and interests, and having little or nothing in common with the country population around it. The ancient municipal governments of the towns, with their exclusive privileges, their incorporations and town taxes on all articles brought to market, and levied at the town-gates in a rough vexatious way,

keep alive a spirit of hostility rather than of friendly intercourse between town and country. Some of these grievances exist where the traveller least expects to find them. In constitutional France, in constitutional Belgium, and even in the city of Frankfort, where a model constitution of civil and political liberty was being manufactured by all the philosophy of Germany in a constituent assembly, the country-girl's basket is opened at the town-gate, to see if it contain any bread, cheese, beer, or other articles subject to town dues. The peasant's cart, loaded with hay or straw, is half unloaded, or is probed with a long rod of iron by the city official, to discover goods which ought to have paid town dues. The kind of domestic smuggling into and out of the Continental cities which this system of town dues gives rise to, is of a very demoralizing influence. These restrictions and town dues raise a spirit of antagonism, not of union, between the two populations. The towns and cities in consequence of this estrangement, have less influence on the civilization of the country, on the manners, ideas, and condition of the mass of the population, than with us. Our town or city population form no mass so distinct in privileges, intelligence, and interests, from the rest of the community, as the town populations are abroad. The city on the Continent sits like a guard-ship riding at anchor on the plain, keeping up a kind of social existence of her own, shutting her gates at sunset, and having privileges and exactions which separate her from the main body of the population. In Germany and France, the movements and agitations of 1848 were entirely among the *town* populations. The country population has not advanced either towards good or evil with the progress of the cities. In Hamburg, Berlin, Munich, Dresden, Frankfort, and other great cities, taste, literature, refinement, wealth, or the pleasures and enjoyments proper to wealth abound; but in the country outside of these oases of civilization, the people are in the same condition in which they have been for ages. The town civilization has not acted upon them as it has on the general population of England. The people of the Continent have more coffee, sugar, tobacco, and music, and more school and drill than their forefathers; but not more civil liberty or freedom of action, not more independence of mind, nor a higher moral, religious, and intellectual character. This isolation of the towns has a very prejudicial effect both on the town and country populations. It has kept the *latter* almost stationary, while the *former* has been advancing out of all proportion to the great body or to the means, intelligence, or requirements of the state or the people. This has divided the people of Germany into two distinct divisions: the great mass of the population living by husbandry and altogether unprepared for self-government, or civil or political liberty; and an educated, or half-educated, idle and debauched city population, half-crazed with theories and dreams of an unattainable perfection of society." Mr. Laing is quite right. The species of antagonism between the town and country populations of the Continent is so decided as to form a prominent and a distinct feature in the political systems of the countries where it chiefly prevails.

But Mr. Laing has an eye for the past as well as for the present. He went over the valley of the Loire; and while he did not forget to inquire diligently after his "middle class" and his "useful arts," he contrived to spare a thought or two for subjects which do not often occupy his attention—we say candidly, to his own loss and to that of his readers.—

"To the English traveller, Touraine is a very interesting country. The changes in the dwellings, habits of the people, and face of the land and houses, have probably been few since it belonged to England, or rather since England belonged to it; for the Continental possessions of Henry the Second and his successors must have been of more value and importance than their English. Avignon, Amboise, Blois, Tours, all the towns and castles and monasteries belong to, and are important historical points in English story; and they remain—the cottage, the country mansion, the roads, woods, gardens, the town dwellings, the streets, lanes, market-places—but little altered probably in appearance—



even where they have been renewed or rebuilt. The castles, the monasteries, the baronial châteaux, are dilapidated indeed, and in ruins; but the locality of each, and its features, its woods, orchards, vineyards, fish-ponds, avenues, roads, are still where they were, and probably very much as they were, in the twelfth century. It is pleasing at any rate, as one travels through this country to imagine so. The salamander, the device of the ducal families of Guienne and Poictou, whose heiress Eleanor, the divorced Queen of Louis the Seventh, carried her extensive domains and mature charms into the arms of our young Henry the Second, is still seen upon the carved keystone of many an arched gateway and porch in and about Tours, Saumur, and other towns on the Loire. The England of our days is but the canvas on which an old picture has been painted, and a new one now covers almost every inch of the old work. But this country is an old picture still, notwithstanding the cleaning and obliterating by the artists of the Revolution. Decayed indeed it is, and worm-eaten in parts; but original outlines and tints are still to be traced in some corners of the canvas, and are even lively in the habitations and household ways and accommodations of the people. \* \* The old-fashioned cottage of a date prior to the revolution in France, is a spacious dwelling, of low side walls buried under a mountain of thatch, a huge roof, and very massive beams of oak or walnut tree support an upper floor, of which the windows peep through the thick bed of straw or reed thatch in which they are sunk, and which appears to have been accumulating, layer above layer, for many generations. The ground floor is divided into a large kitchen, which is the sitting-room of the family, and an inner apartment—the 'but and ben' of the Scotch cottage dwellings of the same class of peasantry in the lowlands in former times. In this richer country the lodging of the people has been better than it ever was in Scotland, and better perhaps than it ever was in England, for the labouring agricultural population, because the material for building—the rye straw or reeds for roofing the timber, the bricks or stone—had little commercial value in a country of bad or no roads for transport, and could only be applied to buildings on the spot. The resemblance, real or imaginary, which the traveller finds in the style of building, of husbandry, of domestic life and arrangements, between this part of France and England, and especially Scotland, as these things were in England and Scotland of old, is very interesting; but, perhaps, is more in fancy than reality, and arising from his previous knowledge that all this country was once part of the dominions of the English crown, and was, for many generations, the resort of the nobles and gentry of Scotland, who took service in the body-guards of the kings of France. A favourite article of furniture in these ancient dwellings of the French peasantry, equivalent to the eight-day clock as a general piece of household goods among our labouring country people, is a large shining walnut-tree press or wardrobe, reaching from the floor to the ceiling, with carved folding doors hung upon long bright swivel hinges of polished steel. In the best apartment of substantial peasants four of these wardrobes opposite to each other, so well polished by rubbing that they are quite ornamental, contain the stock of household linen and all such valuables. The ordinary sitting-room or hall in those old cottages, with its huge beams of oak or walnut-tree across the ceiling, its great fire of logs on the wide hearth, around which the females are busy with their household work; the distaff and spindle in the hands of the house-mother, and, if it be the village inn, the nice little table with the cleanest of table-linen, the lively buxom girl cooking, talking, and waiting on the guests, and the plenty to eat and drink, give the traveller who walks through the valley of the Loire, the impression that in Chaucer's days, such may have been the hostelries in the pleasant land of Kent, at which the pilgrims to the shrine of Sir Thomas in Canterbury put up."

In concluding our notice of these two works, we must again express our deep sense of the important nature of the subjects of which they treat,—and our deliberate conviction that the mass of evidence which they present, the circumstances under which they have been written,

the ability, candour, and sound sense which distinguish them throughout, and the established reputation and position of their authors, give to their pages a special claim on the attention of those inquirers among us who are desirous of considering the great social questions of the day under the direction of the most competent guides and the influence of the most suggestive thinkers. We must also again point out that the two works should be read together. Taken apart, they will mislead and mystify,—taken together, we can anticipate none but the best results from an extensive dissemination of nearly all the facts and arguments they contain, and by the publication of which in their present accessible form the authors have laid their countrymen under a further obligation.

## LIST OF NEW BOOKS.

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## REPORTED GOLD MINES OF YURUARI.

As I read in the *Times* of the 4th a confirmation of the statement of the discovery of gold in the Yuruari, canton of Upata, province of Guayana, in Venezuela, [see *ante*, p. 712], and as that country is little known here,—may I trespass on your columns with an account of the canton of Upata, derived from a visit that I made eight years ago to the missions of the Caróni, on my passage down the Oronoco, from the Apure to Demerara. The Yuruari, a river of the second class in Venezuela, is a branch of the Cuyuni, which arises from the north side of the Cordillera of Parima, the south side of which gives origin to the Parima, Pirara and Tacutu, which unite to form the Rio Branco, a branch of the Rio Negro which joins the Amazons. Thus there is another perfect line of communication between the Oronoco and the Amazons, east of the grand natural canal of the Cassiquiare. The east end of the Cordillera of Parima, the site of Sir Walter Raleigh's Lake Amucu and city of Manoa, or El Dorado, which I reached in 1841 by ascending the Essequibo and Rupununi, gives rise to the latter and to the Siperouni and Mazerouni branches of the Essequibo. It would be strange if, after all, it should turn out that Sir Walter Raleigh and the Spaniards were right in their notion of the existence of gold in this region. The course of the Yuruari lies between the Sierra Usupama, a branch of the Cordillera of Parima, and the Sierra Inataca, but nearer the latter and east of the Caróni, with

which it communicates in the rainy season. It has a course of 75 leagues.

There formerly existed many missions of civilized Indians on the banks of the Yuruari; and when the Dutch owned Demerara and Essequibo, they had a road by which they drove cattle from the Cuyuni to the Essequibo. In the time of the Dutch, and even since the English got possession of Demerara and Essequibo, the neighbourhood of the Yuruari was the theatre of many expeditions in quest of runaway slaves, or bush negroes. The lower part of the course of the Cuyuni is in British Guiana. The canton of Upata, containing just 6,000 square leagues, and a population of only 12,000, three-fourths of whom are independent Indians, Guayanas, Caribice, Guayacas, Warrows, Pariagotos, and Aruaaks, is the most beautiful district in the whole course of the Oronoco. It consists of undulating elevated savannahs, never liable to inundations, traversed by ranges of wooded hills, and presenting a more varied and European scenery than I have ever observed in South America. The climate is more temperate than in other parts of the Lower Oronoco. Vast herds of wild cattle and horses graze over these immense plains. In the woods on the hills grow the Cinchona and the Cusparia, which gives the Angostura bark. The Capuchins of Catalonia had formerly thirty missions in the neighbourhood of the capital of the canton; and when Humboldt was in Venezuela, the territory of the religious of the order of St. Francis contained 7,300 inhabitants, and that of the Capuchins of Catalonia 17,000. But at the breaking out of the War of Independence, the civilized Indians dispersed, and the missions were mostly abandoned. Just before I visited the missions of the Caróni, some clergymen, who had been attached to the cause of Don Carlos, in Spain had arrived, and were collecting together the Indians. One of those missionaries, Padre Juan Bautista de Duesto y Erquinquo, hospitably entertained me at Upata for upwards of a week. Besides the town of Upata—elevation 351 yards above the level of the sea, (lat. 7° 49' 31" north, long. 4° 31' west of Caracas)—the principal missions in the canton are Altagracia, Cupapui, Sa. Rosa de Cura, Guri, Caróni, Caruachi, Sa. Clara, &c., and near the Yuruari, Guasipati, Tupquen, and Tumurenio. At the last place is the estate of Mr. Fred. Hamilton, son of Colonel Hamilton, who formerly had the contract for navigating the Oronoco by steamers. Mr. Hamilton had 30,000 head of cattle branded, and used to export some to Demerara and the West Indies. The town of Upata is a square, beautifully situated. It contains a handsome church and a population of about 600. It is 31 leagues distant from Angostura, the capital of the province of Guayana. A great deal of coffee, cotton, sugar, and most excellent tobacco is exported from the *labranzas* in its neighbourhood. The nearest port on the Oronoco to Upata is Puerto de las Tablas—reached by a ride of seventeen leagues over a beautiful country. On this road, between San Miguel and San Felix, the Royalists under La Torre were defeated by General Piar on the 11th of April 1817. Puerto de las Tablas is near the mouth of the Caróni, and a few hours' pull above Guayana Vieja, which Keymis took, and where Sir Walter Raleigh's son was killed. This strong fortress was also taken by the Irish in the service of Bolívar. The steamer that now runs between Trinidad and Angostura calls at Puerto de las Tablas.

I am, &c., EDWARD CULLEN, M.D.  
 Dublin.

P.S. In 1842, a military expedition, consisting of a detachment of the 3rd West India regiment, was sent up the Essequibo and Rupununi to Pirara, to dislodge the soldiers whom the Brazilians had posted at Pirara,—who, according to Mr. Schomburgk, were in the habit of kidnapping the Indians from British Guiana. Subsequently, a party went up for the purpose of establishing a colony on the Roraima or Pacaraima mountains;—but the great length of the journey proved fatal to their success.

## ANCIENT MONUMENTS OF CENTRAL AMERICA.

WE borrow from an American paper, the New York *Literary World*, some particulars relating to an archaeological discovery of interest, the fruit of



the researches of the Hon. E. G. Squier in the Islands of Lake Nicaragua. The narrative, from which we have extracted what is most important, is of considerable length,—and was read before the Ethnological Society of New York, pursuant to an express resolution at a previous meeting.

This afternoon we prevailed upon Pedro—who, with his six stout sailors, had been drunk for a week, but who were now sober and anxious to lay in a new supply of reals for another debauch—to take us over to the little island of Pensacola, almost within cannon-shot of the old castle of Grenada. A young fellow, whilom a sailor, but now in the Doctor's service, on half-pay, as honorary man of all-work, avowed that upon this island were "*pie-dras antiguas*" of great size, but nearly buried in the earth. It seemed strange that in all our inquiries concerning antiquities of the *padres* and *licenciados*, indeed of the "best informed" citizens of Grenada, we had not heard of the existence of these monuments. The Doctor was not a little sceptical; but experience had taught me that more information upon these matters was to be gathered from the bare-footed *micos* than from the black-robed priests, and I was obstinate in my determination to visit Pensacola.

It was late in the afternoon when we started, but in less than an hour we leaped ashore upon the island. It is one of the "out-liers" of the labyrinth of small islands which internal fires long ago thrust up from the depths of the lake around the base of the volcano of Momobacho; and its shores are lined with immense rocks, black and blistered with the terrible heat which accompanied the ancient disruptions of which they are the evidence. In some places they are piled up in rough and frowning heaps, scarce hidden by the luxuriant vines which nature trails over them, as if to disguise her own deformities. In the island of Pensacola these rocks constitute a semicircular ridge, nearly inclosing a level space of rich soil,—a kind of amphitheatre, looking towards the west, the prospect extending beyond the beach of Grenada to the rugged hills and volcanic peaks around the Lake of Managua. Upon a little elevation, within this natural temple, stood an abandoned cane hut, almost hidden by a forest of luxuriant plantains, which covered the entire area with a dense shadow, here and there pierced by a ray of sunlight falling like molten gold through narrow openings in the leafy roof.

No sooner had we landed than our men dispersed themselves in search of the monuments, and we followed. We were not long kept in suspense; a shout of "*aquí, aquí!*" "here, here," from the Doctor's man, announced that they were found. We hurried to his side. He was right; we could distinctly make out two great blocks of stone, nearly hidden in the soil. The parts exposed, though frayed by storms, and having clearly suffered from violence, nevertheless bore evidences of having been elaborately sculptured. A demand was made for the machetes of the men; and we were not long in removing enough of the earth to discover that the supposed blocks were large and well-proportioned statues, of superior workmanship and of larger size than any which we had yet encountered. The discovery was an exciting one, and the Indian sailors were scarcely less interested than ourselves. They crouched around the figures, and speculated earnestly concerning their origin. They finally seemed to agree that the larger of the two was no other than "Montezuma." It is a singular fact that the name and fame of the last of the Aztec emperors is cherished by all the Indian remnants from the banks of the Gilla to the shores of Lake Nicaragua. Like the Pecos of New Mexico, some of the Indians of Nicaragua still indulge the belief that Montezuma will some day return, and re-establish his ancient empire. \*

By dint of alternate persuasions and threats, we finally succeeded in getting the smaller of the two figures completely uncovered. It had evidently been purposely buried, for one of the arms had been broken in its fall into the pit that had been previously dug to receive it, and the face had been mutilated. In this way the early Catholic zealots had endeavored to destroy the superstitious attachment of the aborigines to their monuments. It was, however, satisfactory to reflect that the figures were probably, on the whole, better preserved by their long interment than if they had been suffered to remain above ground. The next difficulty was to raise the prostrate figure; but after much prizing, propping, lifting, and vociferation, we succeeded in standing it up against the side of the hole which we had dug, in such a position that M. could proceed with his sketch. It represented a human male figure, of massive proportions, seated upon a square pedestal, its head slightly bent forward, and its hands resting on its thighs. Above the head rose a heavy and monstrous representation of the head of an animal, below which could be traced the folds of a serpent, the fierce head of which was sculptured, open-mouthed, and with life-like accuracy, by the side of the face of the figure. The whole combination was elaborate and striking; but the fact of most interest, in an archaeological point of view, is that the surmounting animal head is the sacred sign of *Tochtli* of the Mexican calendar,—corresponding very nearly, if not exactly, with the bas-relief of that sign on the great calendar stone of Mexico, and with the painted representations in the Mexican MSS. This is not the only, nor yet the most conclusive, proof of the assertion of the old chronicles that there was a Mexican colony in Nicaragua. The stone from which the figure here described is cut, is a hard basalt; but the sculpture is bold, and the limbs, unlike those of the monoliths of Copan, are so far detached as could be done with safety, and are cut with a freedom which I have observed in no other statuary works of the American aborigines.

To enable M. to make a drawing of the monument just disclosed, and to relieve him from the annoyance of our men, I deferred proceeding with the exhumation of the other statue until he had finished, and therefore summoned all hands to search the island for others,—stimulating their activity by the offer of a reward of four reals (equivalent to two days' wages) to any one who should make a discovery.

I also joined in the search; but after wandering all over the little island I came to the conclusion that, if there were others, of which I had little doubt, they had been successfully buried, and were past finding out, or else had been broken up and removed. So I seated myself philosophically upon a rock, and watched an army of black ants, which were defiling past, as if making a tour of the island. They formed a solid column from five to six inches wide, and marched straight on, turning neither to the right hand nor to the left, pertinaciously surmounting every obstacle which intervened. I watched them for more than half an hour, but their number seemed undiminished; thousands upon thousands hurried past, until finally, attracted by curiosity, I rose and followed the line, in order to discover the destination of the procession,—if it were an invasion, a migration, or a simple pleasure excursion. At a short distance, and under the cover of some bushes, the column mounted what appeared to be simply a large round stone, passed over it, and continued its march. The stone attracted my attention, and on observing it more closely, I discovered traces of sculpture. I summoned my men; and after a two hours' trial of patience and temper, I succeeded in raising from its bed of centuries another idol of massive proportions, but differing entirely from the others, and possessing an extraordinary and forbidding aspect. The lower half had been broken off, and could not be found; what remained was simply the bust and head. The latter was disproportionately great; the eyes were large, round, and staring; the ears broad and long; and from the widely-distended mouth, the lower jaw of which was forced down by the two hands of the figure, projected a tongue which reached to the breast, giving to the whole an unnatural and horrible expression. As it stood in the pit, with its monstrous head rising above the ground, with its fixed stony gaze, it seemed like some grey monster just emerging from the depths of the earth at the bidding of the wizard-priest of an unholy religion. My men stood back, and more than one crossed himself as he muttered to his neighbour, "*¡es el diablo!*" "it is the devil!" I readily comprehended the awe with which it might be regarded by the devotees of the ancient religion, when the bloody priest daubed the lapping tongue with the yet palpitating hearts of his human victims!

It was long past noon before we commenced the task of raising the largest and by far the most interesting idol to an erect position. \* The figure erect was truly grand. It represented a man with massive limbs, and broad, prominent chest, in a stooping or rather crouching posture, his hands resting on his thighs just above the knees. Above his head rose the monstrous head and jaws of some animal; its fore paws were placed one upon each shoulder, and the hind ones upon the hands of the statue, as if binding them to the thighs. It might be intended—it probably was intended—to represent an alligator, or a similar mythological or fabulous animal. Its back was covered with carved plates, like rough mail. The whole rose from a broad, square pedestal. The carving, as in the other figure, was bold and free. I never have seen a statue which conveyed so forcibly the idea of power and strength; it was a study for a Sampson under the gates of Gaza, or an Atlas supporting the world. The face was mutilated and disfigured, but it still seemed to bear an expression of sternness, if not severity, which added greatly to the effect of the whole. The finer details of workmanship around the head had suffered much; and from the more decided marks of violence which the entire statue exhibits, it seems probable that it was an especial object of regard to the aborigines, and of corresponding hate to the early Christian zealots. \*

M. returned the next day and completed his drawings, while I busied myself in preparing for a voyage to the great uninhabited island of Zapatera. \*

One hour's hard pulling and we were among the islands. Here the water was still and glassy, while the waves dashed and chafed with a sullen roar against the iron shores of the outer rank, as if anxious to invade the quiet of the inner recesses,—the narrow verdure-arched channels, the broad crystal-floored vistas, the cool, shady nooks in which graceful canoes were here and there moored.

Perhaps a more singular group of islets cannot be found in the wide world. As I have before said, they are all of volcanic origin, generally conical in shape, and seldom exceeding three or four acres in area. All are covered with a cloak of verdure; but nature is not always successful in hiding the black rocks which start out in places, as if in disdain of all concealment, and look frowningly down in the clear water, giving an air of wildness to the otherwise soft and quiet scenery of the islands. Trailing over these rocks, and dropping in festoons from the over-hanging trees, their long pliant tendrils floating in the water, are innumerable vines, with bright and fragrant flowers of red and yellow, mingled with the inverted cone of the "*gloria de Nicaragua*," with its overpowering odour, with strange and nameless fruits, forming an evergreen roof so dense that even a tropical sun cannot penetrate. Many of these islands have patches of cultivated ground, and on such, generally crowning their summits, relieved by a dense green background of plantations, and surrounded by kindly palms and the papaya with its great, golden fruit, are the picturesque cane huts of the inhabitants. Groups of naked, swarthy children in front,—a winding path leading beneath the great trees down to the water's edge,—an arbor-like miniature harbour, with a canoe lashed to the shore,—a woman naked to the waist with a purple skirt of true Tyrian dye (for the famous murex is found on the Pacific shores of Nicaragua), her long, black, glossy hair falling over neck and breast, reaching almost to her knees,—a flock of noisy parrots in a congressional squabble among the trees,—a swarm of parrots scarcely less noisy,—a pair of vociferating macaws like floating fragments of a rainbow,—inquisitive monkeys hanging among the vines,—active iguanas scrambling up the banks,—long-necked and long-legged cranes in deep soliloquy at the edge of the water, their white bodies standing out in strong relief against a background of rock and verdure,—a canoe glancing rapidly and noiselessly across a vista of water,—all this, with a golden sky above, the purple sides of the volcano of Momobacho overshadowing us, and the distant

shores of Chontales molten in the slanting sunlight,—these were some of the elements of the scenery of the islands—elements constantly shifting, and forming new and pleasing combinations. \* \*

After toiling for a long time, we came suddenly upon the edge of an ancient crater of great depth, at the bottom of which was a lake of a yellowish green or sulphurous colour, the water of which Manuel assured me was salt. This is probably the fact, but I question much if any human being ever ventured down its rocky and precipitous sides. Manuel now seemed to recognize his position; and turning sharp to the left, we soon came to a broad level area, covered with immense trees, and with a thick undergrowth of grass and bushes. There were here some large, regular mounds composed of stones, which I soon discovered were artificial. Around these Manuel said the *freyles* were scattered, and he commenced cutting right and left with his machete. I followed his example, and had not proceeded more than five steps, when I came upon an elaborately sculptured statue, still standing erect. It was about the size of the smaller one discovered at Pensacola, but was less injured, and the face had a mild and benignant aspect. It seemed to smile on me as I tore aside the bushes which covered it, and appeared almost ready to speak. In clearing further I found another fallen figure, but a few feet distant. From Manuel's shouts I knew that he had discovered others, and I felt assured that many more would reward a systematic investigation—and such I meant to make. \* \*

While M. commenced drawing the monument which still stood erect, I proceeded with the men to clear away the bushes and set up the others. \* The first monument which claimed our attention was a well-cut figure, seated crouching on the top of a high ornamented pedestal. The hands were crossed below the knees, the head bent forward, and the eyes widely opened as if gazing upon some object on the ground before it. A conical mass of stone rose from between the shoulders, having the appearance of a conical cap when viewed from the front. It was cut with great boldness and freedom, from a block of basalt, and had suffered very little from the lapse of time.

A hole was dug to receive the lower end, ropes were fastened around it, our whole force was disposed to the best advantage, and at a given signal I had the satisfaction to see the figure rise slowly and safely to its original position. No sooner was it secured in place than our sailors gave a great shout, and forming a double ring around it, commenced an outrageous dance, in the pauses of which they made the old woods ring again with their favourite "*hoopah!*" I did not like to have my *ardiente* effervescence in this manner, for I knew the excitement once cooled could not be revived; so I broke into the circle and dragging out Juan by main force, led him to the next monument, which Manuel called the *cannon*. It was a massive cylindrical block of stone, about as long and twice as thick as the twin brother of the famous "*peacemaker*" now in the Brooklyn navy yard. It was encircled by raised bands, elaborately ornamented; and upon the top was the lower half of a small and neatly cut figure. In the front of the pedestal were two niches, deeply sunk and regular in form, connected by a groove. They were evidently symbolical. Notwithstanding the excitement of the men, they looked dubiously upon this heavy mass of sculpture; but I opened another bottle of the *ardiente*, and taking one of the levers myself, told them to lay hold. A hole was dug as in the former case, but we could only raise the stone by degrees, by means of thick pries. After much labour, by alternate prizing and blocking, we got it at an angle of forty-five degrees, and there it appeared determined to stay. We passed ropes round the adjacent trees, and placed *falls* above it, and when all was ready, and every man at his post, I gave the signal for a *coup-de-main*. The ropes creaked and tightened, every muscle swelled, but the figure did not move. It was a critical moment, the men wavered; I leaped to the ropes, and shouted at the top of my voice, "*¡Arriba! arriba! viva Centro America!*" The men seemed to catch new spirit; there was another and simultaneous effort,—the mass yielded; "*poco mas, muchachos!*" "a little more, boys!" and up it went, slowly, but up, up, until, tottering dangerously for a moment, it settled into its place and was secured. The men were silent for a moment as if astonished at their own success, and then broke out in another paroxysm of *ardiente* and excitement. \* By the afternoon, we had all the monuments we could find, ten in number, securely raised and ready for the draughtsman. Besides these, we afterwards succeeded in discovering a number of others,—amounting in all to fifteen perfect ones, or nearly so, besides some fragments.

The men, exhausted with fatigue, disposed themselves in groups around the statues, or stretched themselves at length amongst the bushes. Worned myself, but with the complacency of a father contemplating his children, and without yet venturing to speculate upon our singular discoveries, I seated myself upon a broad flat stone, artificially hollowed in the centre, and gave rein to fancy. The bushes were cleared away, and I could easily make out the positions of the ruined *teocalli*, and take in the whole plan of the great aboriginal temple. Over all now towered immense trees, swathed in long robes of grey moss, which hung in masses from every limb, and swayed solemnly in the wind. I almost fancied them in mourning for the departed glories of the place. In fact, a kind of superstitious feeling, little in consonance with the severity of philosophical investigation, began to creep over me. Upon one side were steep cliffs, against which the waters of the lake chafed with a subdued roar, and upon the other was the deep extinct crater, with its black sides and sulphurous lake; it was in truth a weird place, not unfittingly chosen by the original priesthood as the site of their strange and gloomy rites. While engaged in these fanciful reveries, I stretched myself, almost unconsciously, upon the stone where I was sitting. My limbs fell into place as if the same had been made to receive them—my head was thrown back, and my breast raised; a second, and the thought aroused my mind with startling force—"the stone of sacrifice!" Was it the scene,



the current of my thoughts?—but I leaped up with a feeling half of alarm. I observed the stone more closely; it was a rude block altered by art, and had beyond question been used as a stone of sacrifice. I afterwards found two others, clearly designed for the same purpose, but they had been broken by the devotees of a rival superstition. \* \*

It is impossible, without engravings and plans, to give any clear comprehension of these monuments, and I shall not attempt a detailed account of them. They are very different from those discovered by Mr. Stephens at Copan. Instead of the heavy and incongruous mass of ornament with which those were loaded, most of these are simple and severe,—and though not always elaborately finished, are cut with great freedom and skill. There is no attempt at drapery in any of the figures. Some are erect, others seated, and still others are in crouching or reclining postures. One, which our men called "Gordo," "the Fat," might pass for one of Hogarth's beer-drinkers, petrified. He is seated, or rather thrown back in his seat, with an air of the intensest abdominal satisfaction.

The material, in every case, is a black basalt. A few of the figures, from defects of the stone, have suffered somewhat from the weather, but less from this cause than from the fanaticism of the conquerors. They all bear marks of the heavy sledges, or other instruments, with which the Catholic zealots endeavoured to destroy them; but the task was not an easy one, and fortunately for the archaeologist, the massive stones resisted their assaults.

Although the style of workmanship is the same throughout, yet each figure has a marked individuality. I have selected three for the purpose of illustration.

No. 1 is one of the latest which I discovered, and is the only single figure of an animal which was found. It was nearly covered with the debris of one of the ruined *teocalli*, and is a colossal representation of what is here called the "tiger," seated upon its haunches. It is very boldly sculptured, and the base or pedestal is ornamented. A considerable portion of the base, some two feet or more, is buried in the ground. The entire height is 8 ft.

No. 2 I have already briefly described above. It is between 8 ft. and 9 ft. high above the ground, and the pedestal is about 20 in. square.

No. 3. This figure was discovered not far from No. 1, and is one of the most remarkable of the entire series. It is upwards of 10 ft. in height, and represents a very well proportioned figure, seated upon a kind of square throne, raised 5 ft. from the ground. Above the figure is a monstrous symbolical head, similar to those which surmount the statues in the island of Pensacola. The resemblance to some of the symbolical heads in the ancient Mexican rituals cannot be overlooked; and I am inclined to the opinion that I shall be able to identify them, as also to find the divinities corresponding to these statues amongst the secondary deities of the Aztec Pantheon. The surmounting head is 2 ft. 8 in. broad, and is smoothly and sharply worked.

The other figures differ as widely among themselves as those here presented. Some of the larger ones are more laboriously wrought, but less care seems to have been bestowed upon the smaller ones. In fact, a number of the latter are worked upon one side of the stone only, in a kind of high relief.

These monuments, like those of Copan, do not seem to have been originally placed upon the *teocalli*, but erected around their bases. I have some reasons for believing that the early Spaniards threw many of them into the lake of the crater to which I have elsewhere alluded. Its precipitous walls are only about 100 yards distant from the *teocalli*. These *teocalli* are composed wholly of stones, but uncemented, and in their rough state. I made some partial excavations, but without any result, except the discovery of much broken pottery. Many of the fragments are painted in bright colours.

With great trouble, I succeeded in carrying away two of the smaller statues, which will probably reach New York as early as this letter. One of them represents a tiger springing, with distended jaws, upon the head and back of a sitting figure. I would gladly have taken away with me some of the larger and more important sculptures; but it was a mile to our boat, and without artificial aids, unfortunately not at hand, it was impossible to move them. I, however, lay a proprietary claim, not only to these, but to various others which "I wot of," but have not the time to describe to you; and it is not impossible that some of the ancient gods of Zapatera may one day look silently down from their high pedestals upon the busy crowds which pour along the avenues surrounding Union Square or the Bowling Green? "*Quien sabe?*"

#### OUR WEEKLY GOSSIP.

At length the Commissioners appointed for the direction of the great Industrial Exhibition have determined on the form and materials for the building in Hyde Park. The huge absurdity of their Building Committee—based on a singular depreciation of the Architects of England, and which threatened to take possession of the Park in a shape so questionable as to have raised a very storm of question—is happily dismissed to the limbo of all wild fancies; and the Commissioners having decided to live in a glass house, will we suppose be careful that no more stones be thrown by parties acting in their name. It will be no easy matter, we apprehend, to allay the ill feeling which the eccentricities of this Committee have brought about the ears of the Commissioners,—and we only hope the consequences of their "vaulting ambition" may not yet visit the Commission in the shape of further trouble and vexation. But with

their brick and mortar Babel is gone, we apprehend, every argument on general grounds which could be urged, in defence of a few private interests, against the occupation of the best site which London yields for the grandest purpose that for many a long day she has conceived. The materials now to be used are of a kind easily accumulated and dispersed,—transportable to and from the site intended with little injury to the place and its approaches. The plan which has been finally adopted is one proposed by Mr. Paxton,—and is in fact nothing more or less than a conservatory on a gigantic scale. The materials being wholly glass and its framings, will not, according to Mr. Paxton's estimate, exceed in weight a fourth of the materials which would be necessary to the erection of a brick building,—and three-fourths of the pressure attending transport are thus at once removed. The advantages of light and its regulation by calico shades, easy ventilation, and immunity from risk of fire, are suggested as further recommendations of the scheme; and the erection will have a light and cheerful appearance, without subjecting us to the peril of European criticism on the score of some "great feature." The plan of Mr. Paxton evades the sort of difficulty in which we were placed by the circumstance of the Building Committee having challenged the world and decided in its own favour.—His plan is no doubt greatly to be preferred to the brick and mortar and the "great feature" of the Committee:—but still, this construction will, in our opinion, be far more costly than the occasion demands. No doubt, however, this is a consequence of the magnificence of the Committee's own scheme. They have pitched the idea of a building for the Exhibition so high, that no designer can get down to the tone of mere common sense and common requirement.—Let us, however, if we are to accept this scheme at this cost, take guarantees for the due execution of the first and against any future augmentation of the last. Let the person—and there must be such a person—to whose supervision the execution of the work by the contractors shall be intrusted, be invested with full authority and discharged from all control. His appointment presupposes intelligence, integrity, and competent skill,—and to these should be attached full and undivided responsibility. Let us know distinctly where to look for the redress, or on whom to fix the blame, of anything that may be wrong. Neither he nor any man or body of men should have power to alter, or modify, or tamper with the plan agreed on by the Commissioners; and to insure this, the officer whose distinct duty it is to watch over its execution, should have no facility for passing his responsibility to some one else when we are in search of it on behalf of the public.

One or two other moves have been made in reference to this Exhibition which the manufacturers of England may lay to heart or not as they will. In the first place, Prussia, taking a hint in her own way out of our great scheme, is about to establish in Berlin a permanent Exhibition of the most remarkable productions of all nations, to serve as models for her national industry. In all probability this hint will spread; so that the various capitals of Europe will have a sort of universal museums,—indexes, as it were, to the geographical page at which any particular manufacture is most easily, or cheaply, or excellently producible.—In the next place, the proposals to which we some time since alluded for the transfer to America of selections from our own forthcoming Exhibition, have taken substantive form, and been submitted to the City Local Committee. The improvements in connexion with manufactures are said to be "their first object, and the profits of the Exposition are to be given to that American city which will make the most liberal arrangement for its reception. In other relations the undertaking is intended to be thoroughly commercial, and strong inducement is held out to all the European nations by proposing the vast and increasing market of the Transatlantic continent for the display and competition of their productions. The occasion will, it is calculated, be earnestly embraced by our own manufacturers for impressing their American customers with an increasing sense

of the immense variety and excellence of the productions of the looms and the lathes, the moulds and the anvils, the chisels and the gravers, and all the other apparatus and implements of the mighty industry of England." It is worth while further to quote a couple of sentences from the American documents transmitted.—"It is for the advantage of the maker that his goods should be seen in a very extensive and growing market, where expensive articles are in demand and of ready sale; it is also the interest of the American consumer to see the goods in his own country, where, if they are superior to the growth and manufacture of that country, a paramount and extensive patronage is sure to follow."—Well then, it is for the English manufacturers to consider how far they can afford to stand aloof from a competition like this. If they choose to sit sulkily apart while the world is in motion,—why, the world will pass them by. There is no Protection possible against such a Spirit as has been evoked. At present England stands at the head of this great movement. If she fall into the rear, it will be the fault of her manufacturers:—and let them count the cost in time.

We are informed by a Correspondent that the statement made in the *Athenæum*, [ante, p. 709] relative to the appointment by Sir Robert Peel of Mr. Airy to the office of Astronomer Royal is not strictly correct. Mr. Airy was appointed to that office under Lord Melbourne's administration in the summer of 1835. But Sir Robert Peel had previously conferred a far more important favour on Mr. Airy. One of Sir Robert's earliest acts, during his short tenure of power in 1834-5, was to offer to Mr. Airy a pension, with the express assurance that his acceptance of it should not imply any private or political obligation, and with the option of having it settled on himself or on his wife. The offer was accepted under the latter condition; and a pension on the Civil List was immediately settled on Mrs. Airy.

One curious fact has, it is said, already arisen out of the proposal for the restoration of Chaucer's Monument,—which invests with a deeper interest the present undertaking. One of the objections formerly urged against taking steps to restore the perishing memorial of the Father of English Poetry in Poets' Corner was, that it was not really his tomb, but a monument erected to do honour to his memory a century and a half after his death. An examination, however, of the tomb itself by competent authorities has proved this objection to be unfounded:—inasmuch as there can exist no doubt, we hear, from the difference of workmanship, material, &c., that the altar tomb is the original tomb of Geoffrey Chaucer,—and that instead of Nicholas Brigham having erected an entirely new monument, he only added to that which then existed the overhanging canopy, &c. So that the sympathy of Chaucer's admirers is now invited to the restoration of what till now was really not known to exist—the original tomb of the Poet,—as well as to the additions made to it by the affectionate remembrance of Nicholas Brigham.

We spoke last week of the simultaneous demonstration which was making all over the country in honour of the deceased statesman Sir Robert Peel,—and of the statues which were in all directions about to rise up as its resulting expression. We must say, there is a poverty of thought in this singleness of phrase, as well as a waste of means in this repetition of a single object, which are very strongly forced on our attention by the number to which these memorials are now running and the probable largeness of many of the subscriptions. Once for all, we would have a national monument to Sir Robert Peel in Westminster Abbey; and then, the residue of the funds which the people, of every degree, are so liberally contributing for testimonial to the man whom they are agreed to honour should be combined in some great institutional purpose for the teaching or protecting of the principles by whose advocacy he won their regard. There should be a living soul in the memorials that are to perpetuate intellectual greatness. A statue points merely to the past of a great man—an institution of the kind indicated connects it with the future. A monument of brass or marble



records the death of intellect,—an institution like this translates it into the coming ages.

Messrs. Puttick & Simpson sold during the present month, and for the sum of 43*l.*, a contemporary Manuscript of the works of Occleve the poet, and of other works of Occleve's time. The middle of the book contained the 'Epistle to Cupid' usually ascribed to Chaucer, but which Ritson conjectures to have been written by Occleve. The date, May 15, 1463, is attached to a curious inventory of goods at the end of the volume.

Among the estimates brought forward last week, the House was considerably startled by the demand of no less a sum than 24,000*l.* for a railing for the front of the British Museum. This was a pleasantry beyond the digestion of the members:—and the matter was postponed. Now, when a movement is actually making to get quit of some of our railings, and a desire is exhibited to throw our great public edifices open to esplanades, it were something of a stultification to set up another—and pay 24,000*l.* for it. An inclosure of iron railing is a very questionable accessory to any great public building. If, however, a railing the Trustees of the British Museum must have, we suggest, a compromise. The press has not been able to rail down the railing of St. Paul's,—but the Dean and Chapter are, we know, sensitive to a money argument. By an experiment on that sensitiveness it is not impossible that the public might get the open space around the Cathedral which they desire and the Trustees a handsome railing at the price of old iron.

A correspondent, who signs with the initials A.L.X., has suggested a speedy mode for the conveyance of letters. "Introduce," he says, "into a solid metal tube communicating between the places a metal sphere or canister filled with letters, &c. (or a series of them linked together),—exhaust the tube by means of a stationary engine similar to that used on atmospheric railways,—and in a very short time it will deliver its burthen at its destination.—This plan, though of course not so rapid a mode of communication as the electric telegraph, has, amongst other advantages over it, these:—it cannot meet with interruption from the state of the atmosphere;—the tube being buried in the earth is not liable to be injured by interested persons, which wires are;—the nature of the correspondence need be known by no one unconnected, —and not only more than one, but any number almost of letters may be sent at the same time."

It may perhaps be considered matter of surprise that after so long and persevering a practice of the mystery of ballooning that machine should have done so little in the cause of science, and been turned to no account for any other useful or intelligible purpose. On summer evenings these light aerial locomotives may be seen sailing above our cities through the uncrowded thoroughfares of the sky with an ease and steadiness that might suggest the possibility of their being made applicable to some useful end. With the exception, however, of the balloon excursion of M. Gay-Lussac, and the balloon freight sent out to aid in the search for Sir John Franklin, we have never heard of the appropriation of this beautiful machine to any use which attempted to justify the cost and labour that have been expended on it. Failing any valuable object, it seems to have been thought necessary that an object of some kind should be found for this peculiar vehicle;—and science having neglected to appropriate it, it has been taken possession of by the fools. These gentry have appropriately used it to make themselves more than commonly ridiculous, and to lift their absurdity above the heads of the crowd. We will make no unkind allusion to the fate of poor Mr. Cocking, who perished miserably some ten years ago, in London, in the attempt to descend from a balloon by means of a parachute scientifically contrived to insure his destruction,—because that unhappy gentleman's folly had a worthy motive, and is predicable only of the means, not of the end. Nor are our above remarks intended to include the folly—for it *was* a folly—of Messrs. Barral and Bixio; who went skyward on a mission from the French Academy of Sciences, neglecting to take with them any one who had ever driven a balloon before,—and whose

balloon, as might have been expected, ran away with them, and upset them in a vineyard. Neither will we be severe on Lieut. Gale, who some evenings ago took an airing in his balloon above the Sussex coast, and was blown out to sea from Shoreham. But we beg of the police to keep their eye on the aeronautic mountebanks who make the balloon a stage for the conspicuous exhibition of their idle feats,—and we solicit the attention of the Society for the Punishment of Cruelty to Animals to the tricks of one madman of this class, that they may be on the alert in case there should appear any symptoms of an imitation in this country.—So long, we repeat, as these ascents had the scientific or experimental motive, rash as they may have seemed, they were worthy of honour. But then began the mere amateur fool-hardiness of taking up fireworks and discharging them under the balloon, to make a gratuitous increase of the danger. We know how contagious a thing is folly,—and how one great absurdity suggests a greater. Not many weeks ago a worthy of the school of Folly—in France or America, we forget which—took it into his head to ascend with his feet tied to the balloon and that foolish head downwards! That the gentleman's head was not turned by such a proceeding is accountable by the obvious fact of its having been turned before.—But all these clever persons risked only their own lives, or those of volunteers. The gentleman for whom we have above bespoken a special audience took with him an unwilling and terrified companion and perilled for the enhancement of his folly a life more valuable than his own. A M. Poitevin has been making balloon ascents in Paris on horseback!—that is, the horse which he rides being attached to the balloon in the place of the car, and with its feet hanging in the air. We think we see this gentleman sitting jauntily on his horse high above the people—thinking himself, no doubt, in his egregious folly, a good imitator of Bellerophon,—waving his hand condescendingly in the excess of his cleverness,—and taking no account of the mortal anguish of his floating steed and of the blood that rushed from its mouth and nostrils. Then, the rider, while in the air, left his horse to climb a ladder up to a platform six or seven feet high on which was deposited the basket that held his ballast—performing with great self-satisfaction the feat of a clever bricklayer. Now, it is a question how far the people are to be restrained by authority in the perilous exercise of their ingenuity or their limbs,—and we certainly would be among the first to complain of any unnecessary interference. But two principles seem to be laid down as an established compromise of the question,—both of which are applicable in a case like this. The law restrains suicides,—and exercises also restraining right over fools and children. Certainly if we were to see Phaeton again about to venture on driving the chariot of the Sun, we should call in the police. But, at any rate, if the heads in question be thought not worth protection,—we claim an unquestionable right to protection for the horse. Again we beg that the Society whom we have above invoked and the police will both keep a good look out in case this folly should pass the Channel.

#### Last Week.

ROYAL ACADEMY, TRAFALGAR SQUARE. NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that the EXHIBITION of the ROYAL ACADEMY will continue OPEN until SATURDAY NEXT, when it will be FINALLY CLOSED.—Admission (every day from Eight o'clock till Seven), 1*s.*; Catalogue, 1*s.* JOHN PRESCOTT KNIGHT, R.A., Sec.

Exhibitors are requested to send for their works on Wednesday, the 31st inst., or Thursday, the 1st of August.

BRITISH INSTITUTION, Pall Mall.—The GALLERY, with a Collection of PICTURES by ANCIENT MASTERS and deceased BRITISH ARTISTS, is OPEN daily from Ten to Six.—Admission, 1*s.* Catalogue, 1*s.* GEORGE NICOL, Secretary.

SOCIETY OF PAINTERS IN WATER-COLOURS.—The FORTY-SIXTH ANNUAL EXHIBITION will CLOSE, at their Gallery, 5, Pall Mall East, on SATURDAY NEXT, July 27.—Admission, 1*s.* Catalogue, 6*d.* GEORGE FRIPP, Secretary.

THE NEW SOCIETY OF PAINTERS IN WATER-COLOURS.—The SIXTEENTH ANNUAL EXHIBITION of this Society is NOW OPEN, at their Gallery, 63, Pall Mall, near St. James's Palace. JAMES FAHEY, Secretary.

PANORAMA of the NILE.—Additions have been made to this Exhibition.—The Nubian Desert, from the Second Cataract to Dongola.—War Dance by Firelight.—March of Caravan by Moonlight.—Morning Prayer.—The Mounting of a High Priest is added to the curiosities. Both Banks of the River are shown in the Painting.—EGYPTIAN HALL, PICCADILLY.—Daily, at Three, and Eight o'clock.—Stalls, 3*s.*, Pit, 2*s.*, Gallery, 1*s.*; Children and Schools, Half-price.

INDIA OVERLAND MAIL.—DIORAMA. GALLERY of ILLUSTRATION, 11, Regent-street, Waterloo-place.—Additional Picture, MADRAS.—A Giantlike MOVING DIORAMA, ILLUSTRATING THE ROUTE of the OVERLAND MAIL to INDIA, depicting every object worthy of notice on this highly-interesting journey from Southampton to Madras and Calcutta, accompanied by descriptive detail and appropriate music, from O'FLYNN DAILY. Mornings at Twelve, Afternoons at Three, and in the Evening at Eight o'clock.—Admission, 1*s.*; Stalls, 2*s.* 6*d.*; Reserved Seats, 3*s.*—Doors open half-an-hour before each representation.

The DIORAMA, Regent's Park.—Admission, One Shilling.—NOW OPEN, with the finest VIEWS ever exhibited in this country, representing the ROYAL CASTLE of STOLZENFELS, on the Rhine, (visited by Her Majesty Queen Victoria in August, 1845) and its Environs, as seen at Sunset and during a Thunder Storm; painted by NICHOLAS MEISSENER, of Cologne. And the much-admired Picture of THE SIBIRIAN OF THE NATIVITY, at Bethlehem; painted by the late M. RENOUX, from a Sketch made on the spot by DAVID ROBERTS, Esq. R.A., with novel and striking effects.—Open from Ten till Six.

#### ROYAL POLYTECHNIC INSTITUTION.

During this week the ALPINE SINGERS from Styria will perform several of their National Melodies, Daily at Four, and in the Evenings at Half-past Eight.—LECTURE on CHEMISTRY, by J. H. PEPPER, Esq., daily at a Quarter-past Three, and in the Evening at Eight; ILLUSTRATING THE ANCIENT FIERY ORB and the HANDLING of RED-HOT METALS.—LECTURE by DR. BACHHOFFNER on VOLTAIC ELECTRICITY, daily at Two, and in the Evenings at a Quarter-past Nine.—NEW SERIES of DISSOLVING VIEWS, illustrating some of the WONDERS of NATURE, daily at Half-past Four, and in the Evenings at a Quarter to Ten;—also a Series, exhibiting SCENES in the ARCTIC REGIONS of CEYLON, daily at One o'clock.—DIVER and DIVING BELLS, &c. &c.—Admission, 1*s.*; Schools, Half-price.

#### MEETING FOR THE ENSUING WEEK.

TUES. Zoological, 9.—Scientific Business.

#### FINE ARTS

*The Life of Fra Angelico da Fiesole.* Translated from the Italian of Vasari, by Giovanni Aubrey Bezzani. Published for the Arundel Society.

THE love of Fine Art is decidedly on the increase in Britain. The leisure which thirty years of peace have brought, and the facilities of intercourse with the Continent which have been a consequence, have conduced to an enlarged knowledge of the treasures in every branch of the formative arts which in the South of Europe meet the eye at every step. The improvement in taste has, however, been of slow growth, and has made but little outward manifestation,—save in the few instances in which the connoisseur has transported to these shores such examples of Art as chance or the exigencies of their foreign possessors threw in his way, in the rare enthusiasm of some individual artist, or in the occasional literary lucubrations of some enlightened traveller. The condition of Art-Literature in this country has hitherto been of but humble order,—confined chiefly to the class of general observation which befits professional chairs, and dealing little with æsthetic principle or analysis. To the disadvantage under which the student of Art has laboured on this account, may be added—that we have on a former occasion observed—that the examples of the best Italian art which he could see on these shores, in illustration of the generalities which he was taught, were few, and scattered principally throughout the country residences of the nobles and men of abounding wealth. The quality of even these was rarely representative of the highest periods of art,—and the student wanted the data for estimating their relative value. He had few opportunities of knowing more than the names of those intermediate masters the consideration and study of whose practice are the key to the value of the most accomplished works. It is by such key only that the rapid stride which the "divine painter," who in his practice combined all the excellencies of the great artists of preceding ages, made, can be measured. The Cartoons at Hampton Court would rise in estimation after a careful consideration of the works of Masolino di Panicale and Masaccio:—the growth and development of a great idea being thus exhibited.—The opinions of Reynolds, so universally accepted as canon, lose their force when they cannot be illustrated by the examples to which he alludes,—and the page of Fuseli becomes a scholastic disquisition and an enumeration of dry facts from the same cause.

On the Continent, a different spirit—we will not digress to ask why—has prevailed; and Germany as regards Art has followed a path more characteristic of analytic tendencies than of originaive power. The mass of matter which has there been accumulated is great, ranging from the earliest periods of the known existence of Art. The subject has been treated variously—from Winkelmann, on the stages of its remote antiquity, down to



Waagen, on its present practice,—through a range of history, biography, and documentary evidence that has made the German tongue a vocabulary of Art. Modern Italian times have produced a number of writers on these subjects; but they are generally so uncritical and so partial that they may be valued as chiefly industrious compilers of facts. Lanzi and Rosini and Cicognara are those to whom in Italy we are to look for comprehensive views,—Vasari having led the way in supplying the details;—in Germany we have Rumohr and Passavant and Waagen;—in France, Quatremère and Raul Rochette are of the very few who have treated the subject with soundness and intelligence. In England, with the exception of Reynolds—who stands prominently out as the philosophic critic, and whose *dicta* have become aphorisms, not only in our own tongue, but in the several languages into which they have been translated—there has been but little spirit of artistic inquiry worthy of the dignity of its theme. The examples of the highest conditions of Greek Sculpture in which our Museum is so rich, awakened, it is true, the pen of the unfortunate Haydon. His enthusiastic but erratic mind was almost the first to perceive their true intention; but his views had become so diffuse, his temper so spoilt, and his style so habitually exaggerated, that it was often difficult to discover his meaning, constantly obscured as it was by prejudice and personality.—A writer of our own time, whose soundness of view, clearness of definition, and great knowledge have been illustrated by his able papers on Sculpture, and on the conditions under which the decoration of the Senate Houses should be carried out, awakens our regret that the exercise of his qualities should take no higher ground than the materialism of Art,—that the author of the 'State and Prospects of the English School' should not amplify a subject so vital to the interests of British Art to those useful results for which his learning so eminently fits him.—To remedy the deficiency thus existing in the Art-literature of our country, was one of the chief objects for the establishment of the Society the first of whose publications it is our office now to comment on. This opening experiment offers—bating an exception which we shall have to take hereafter—good presage of the spirit with which the object is likely to be carried out. By the side of the text, it supplies the illustration,—that the untravelled artist or connoisseur may turn from the description of, or panegyric on, the work to test its value by a careful rendering of the work itself. The value of engravings from the works of Fra Angelico is great in this or any country where pictures by his hand are of rare occurrence. These are seldom to be found out of Tuscany,—and those which are so found but indifferently represent the true characteristics of the Master. The 'Coronation of the Virgin,' at the Louvre, will be remembered by our readers,—and two pictures at Berlin. So far as we know, there are in this country only a 'Last Judgment,' an exquisite specimen, once in the collection of Cardinal Fesch, and now belonging to Lord Ward—and a picture of 'Angels and Saints adoring the Virgin,' which was once in the possession of Van Rumohr, and now belongs to Mr. Heywood Hawkins. The little picture in Mr. Rogers's rooms may rather be attributed to Pesellino. There is another small picture, most probably by the Frate, in the possession of Lord Northwick.

The biography which has been the first literary matter selected for this publication, is one which, though short, offers varied attractions. In the first place, it is that of one of the purest-minded and most spiritual painters of any age,—with a refined nature which is reflected in everything that he ever touched. The 'Life of Fra Angelico da Fiesole' is one of the few that are more free than usual from the amount of gossip in which Vasari so habitually indulged. He seems to have instinctively felt as if in the treatment of such a life any departure from the plain narration of facts would be unworthy of the dignity of the man and of the sanctity of his art. The pictures recorded in that biography yet exist, possibly in greater number and in better preservation than those of many others of his contemporaries. In

instances where they were not painted on the walls, as frescoes, many are yet in high preservation in Florence—the city in which they were executed; and where in the Academy to which they have been removed, they may be seen in conjunction with a series of works so arranged as to mark the chronology of the art. By this arrangement, we learn to value the precise phase which each occupies in the history of Art.

The translation of this work by Mr. Bezzi, sufficiently literal, preserves yet the style of the Aretine biographer,—the Tuscan idioms having where necessary found corresponding English phraseology. The translator has not neglected to give us those notes which the edition of 1832—8, edited by Masselli and printed by Passigli, contains,—perhaps the most valuable working edition for the student of the many which have been published; and where necessary he has given supplementary notes of value. In the *Memorie di Marchese*, himself a Dominican monk, writing a history of the most renowned Dominicans who in past times have followed the arts of Painting, Sculpture and Architecture—a most valuable Florentine publication of few years' existence—will be found a more extensive history of Fra Giovanni da Fiesole, wherein some interesting information is supplied relative to the materials from whence Vasari himself drew the information which is the subject of the present translation. In these pages we are instructed that three monks of his order had about the same time written brief descriptions of his life. Of these, the chronicler of the Convent of St. Dominic at Fiesole, the Padre Giovanni di Tolosani, was so negligent a writer, that he omits to record the date of his birth and that of his death. The Catalogue of the pictures which this Chronicler gave sufficed for the purposes of Vasari; and though uncritical, it had other particulars of service as throwing light on the life of the artist. The writer of the annals of another monastery of the order,—St. Mark's at Florence,—the Padre Roberto Ubal dini, and the Padre Leandro Alberti, of Bologna, supply briefly such information as the first neglected; although Marchese contends that the precise dates of the birth and death were not established till he established them himself. There is much discrepancy in the various statements respecting the birth and death of this painter. He died at about the age of sixty-eight or sixty-nine. In his first edition, Vasari says he was in his sixty-ninth year when he died,—which would make him to be born in 1386. Baldinucci says that he was born in 1387,—and that he died on the 18th of February 1455. Marchese agrees with Baldinucci as to the years of his birth and death,—but differs as to the month of the latter, making it the 18th of March.

Subsequently to the appearance of Vasari's 'Lives,' the Florentine Father, Serafino Razzi, in his History of the Illustrious Men of this order,—and the Father Timoteo Bottonio, in his Annals of the order, still preserved in manuscript in the church of St. Dominic at Perugia,—speak incidentally of the Fra Angelico. The father Marchese conjectures that Vasari,—who in his first edition was much assisted by Friar Eustachio, an illuminator and lay-brother of St. Mark's, who received the habit of the order from the hands of Savonarola in 1496, forty years after the death of Fra Angelico,—furnished to the Aretine biographer many other particulars which have enriched it.

There is so much circumstantiality in Vasari's life of Fra Angelico, and so many of the pictures which that writer records him to have executed in certain localities are to be found in fair preservation at the present day in their respective places,—that we may grant the probability of the hypothesis which Marchese has set up respecting the value of the sources of other information.

We will let Mr. Bezzi speak for himself as to the birthplace of the subject of this memoir.—

"Fra Giovanni was born, according to Padre Marchese, in the neighbourhood of Vicchio, a fortress situate between Dicomano and Borgo a San Lorenzo, near the Sieve, in the beautiful province of Mugello, (he was certainly known in the Dominican Chronicles as Frater Johannes Petri de Mugello), and but a few miles from Vespignagno, the birthplace of Giotto—the adjunct of Fiesole being derived not from his birth-place, but from his convent;—the titles 'Beato' and 'Angelico' being epithets by which the painter

was popularly distinguished in testimony both of the purity of his life and the devotional spirit of his works."

The page of Vasari conveys curious testimony to the holy life and bearing of this monk-painter.—

"To those who asked for his works he invariably answered with incredible benignity, that they had only to obtain the consent of the Prior, and then he would not fail to do their pleasure. In fine, this monk, whom it is impossible to praise overmuch, was in his works and words most humble and modest, and in his pictures of ready skill, and devout; and the Saints which he painted have a more saint-like air and semblance than those of any other painter whatever. It was his rule not to retouch or alter any of his works, but to leave them just as they had shaped themselves at first; for he believed, and he used to say, that such was the will of God. It is supposed that Fra Giovanni never took up a brush without a previous prayer. He never painted a crucifix without bathing his own cheeks with tears; and therefore it is that the expressions and attitudes of his figures clearly demonstrate the sincerity of his great soul for the Christian Religion."

The modesty and humility of the painter is illustrated also in the following extract. The Pope—

"seeing that Fra Giovanni was a most holy, peaceful, and humble-minded man, (as in very deed he was), thought this simple monk worthy to fill the archiepiscopal chair in Florence, which happened at that time to become vacant; but upon its being offered to him, Fra Giovanni entreated his Holiness that this dignity might be bestowed upon some other person, inasmuch as he did not consider himself fit to rule over men; and he pointed out a monk of his order, who loved the poor, was most learned, and capable of governing, and upon whom that high office might be conferred much more fitly than upon himself. Hearing this, and being aware of its truth, the Pope most freely granted the request, and it was thus that the Dominican monk Antonio came to be Archbishop of Florence."

Traits like the foregoing are expressive of the motives of the pictures themselves, as well as of the general character of the man whose angelic disposition was reflected in them.

The graphic portions of the present issue remain now for our notice. The larger print, 'St. Lawrence distributing Alms,' engraved by Lewis Gruner, is from a subject which has had minute description neither from Vasari nor from Marchese. The print is an instalment of a series which the Society intends to publish on the same scale,—they having been only very inadequately given in other works. Mr. Gruner's style, if he will devote himself to the work with that earnestness which won him reputation in his earlier labours, may aid the Society very much in the completion of this beautiful series. We are glad here to renew our acquaintance with him, and hope that he may continue the series with no diminished sense of refinement. These works demand for their proper rendering the keenest sensibility of taste and greatest delicacy of hand. Even on the printing depends in no small degree the successful result, that the impression of extreme delicacy which so strikes us on beholding the pictures themselves may be preserved in the prints. Our great matter of regret is, that eighteen of those subjects which accompany the volume of biography had not been executed on the larger dimensions,—corresponding with the above and with Nocchi's 'Vita e Passione de Gesu Cristo.' A smaller scale seems hardly fitted to the true representation of the pathos and expression of this artist's style. On the less extended dimensions we admit that much is conveyed in those prints after the Frate which occur in the 'Galleria dell' Accademia delle Belle Arte di Firenze'; but to attempt anything like justice to the merits of the great 'Crucifixion' at St. Mark's on the scale of a small octavo,—or to the exquisitely designed 'Coronation of the Virgin,' which captivated us so when it was shown to us a few years since by Fra Serafino, a monk painter who inhabits the cell next to that of his great predecessor,—or to suppose that 'The Madonna and Saints,' or 'The Descent from the Cross,' both distinguished ornaments of the Florentine Academy, or 'The Tabernacle' in the Uffizi, or 'The Last Judgment,' also in the Florentine Academy, or 'The Marriage of the Virgin,' or the 'St. Peter Preaching, with St. Mark taking Notes,' or 'The Adoration of the Kings'—all great ornaments of the Uffizi, or 'The Annunciation of Sta. Maria Novella,'—can find adequate representation here, is to be unjust to the character of the originals. To those who have not seen the pictures themselves, these prints may serve as hints,—to those who have, they will form subjects of regret. The group of 'Prophets' presented by Della Valle in his Duomo of Orvieto gives, from their scale, a better idea of the master's style than the small en-



graving from it here introduced. The subjects from the Life of Christ will not satisfy those who may possess the other versions in the before-named works; while a 'Coronation of the Virgin,' now so great an ornament of the Louvre, makes us remember how much better representation the parts of this magnificent work found even in the lithographs by Gsell.—It is because we wish every success to the well working of a Society the tendency of whose operations may be to act as a wholesome corrective on the taste of both artist and amateur,—labouring so long under the less exalting influences of the lower schools of more imitative and more mechanical art,—because we wish to see the higher schools as well known as the lower, while of the former there are but few pictures in the country,—that we make these remarks. If the Arundel Society will issue engravings like that of 'St. Lawrence distributing Alms to the Poor,' it will prove itself true to its professions and highly "worthy of public support."

**FINE-ART GOSSIP.**—The Medal Committee in connexion with the Exhibition of 1851, whose nomination we recorded some weeks since, have made their report to the Commission,—and have selected Nos. 65, 24, 105 (1); 104 (3), 28, and 68 as the medals entitled to the prizes. On opening the mottoes attached to these designs, it was found that the first prize had been awarded to M. Hippolyte Bonnardel, of Paris,—the second to Mr. Leonard C. Wyon, of London, the third to Mr. G. G. Adams, of London; and to these three gentlemen the prizes of 100*l.* each have been awarded. Mr. John Hancock, of London, M. L. Wiener, of Brussels, and M. Gayard, of Paris, were the three other successful candidates,—and will receive the 50*l.* prizes.—Our readers will remember that in our notice of the designs sent in for competition, on the occasion of their exhibition, we pointed out two of those now rewarded with first-class prizes, and one which has obtained a second, as deserving of qualified commendation. No. 24, which turns out to be the work of Mr. Leonard Wyon, we stated to be in our opinion the best of these models,—and Nos. 104 and 105 we picked out also from the mass of mediocrity and commonplace.—We understand that the Commission have decided that the first prize shall be engraved by M. Bonnardel, if a medallist,—or by M. Barre, the Chief Engraver to the Mint of France. Mr. Leonard Wyon and Mr. Adams—both pupils of Mr. W. Wyon, R.A.—are respectively to engrave their own designs. Mr. William Wyon, R.A., the Medallist at the Mint, has been entrusted to prepare the obverses in each case.

The Commissioners appointed by the Government to inquire into the state and condition of the pictures in the National Gallery have not as yet made their Report; but Mr. Banks, one of the Commissioners, communicated the other night to the House a very important piece of evidence that had been given to the Commissioners. Dr. Waagen, the Director of the Berlin Gallery, has stated his astonishment at finding, after an interval of ten years, the pictures in the National Gallery so very unlike what he remembers them to have been during his previous visit. He attributes this change to the smoke and dirt of London. Ten years then—only ten years—have, it seems, effected so great a change for the worse in pictures of which we should become the guardians not for ourselves alone or for foreign nations—but for ages of Englishmen and myriads of people yet unborn. Surely if this be so, it is high time to abandon the National Gallery as a repository for our pictures, and to find a place at some convenient distance out of town, remote from smoke and the pernicious consequences of a London atmosphere. Our collection of pictures is not subject to the old remark applied to our Metropolitan Cathedral, that St. Paul's deserves to wear a sooty coat inasmuch as it was paid for by a tax on coal.

The usual obituaries announce the death of Mr. S. Joseph the sculptor, known by his statue of Wilberforce in Westminster Abbey and his statue of Wilkie in the National Gallery. We would point, however, in preference, to his busts,—some of which exhibit a fine perception of character

and many a delicate grace in the modelling. Mr. Joseph was long a resident in Edinburgh. He modelled a bust of Sir Walter Scott about the same time that Chantrey modelled his—that bust which best preserves to us the features and character of the great novelist.

Late in the season, when purchasers and their purses may be supposed to be nearly exhausted, comes suddenly into the market a collection surpassing in value and attraction all the preceding sales of the season. The sale at Messrs. Christie & Manson's of Italian, Flemish, Dutch and French pictures belonging to the Earl of Ashburnham comprises some of the finest specimens of the various schools. Pictures by Rembrandt, Claude, Gaspar Poussin, Cuyt, David Teniers, Salvator Rosa, Murillo, Paolo Veronese, Carlo Dolce, Guido, Van Dyck, Caravaggio, Niccolò Poussin, Guercino, Van de Velde, and other masters, have made this collection a centre of great interest during the past week. Some of the specimens are of the very highest class. The sale takes place to-day.

The merciless hammer of Messrs. Sotheby & Wilkinson has during the last eight days disposed of the very select and rich cabinets of ancient and modern coins of Viscount Holmesdale. This beautiful and extensive collection has produced 2,000*l.* The respective prices obtained for most lots were considered by numismatists as good,—so much so that the foreign commission-agents obtained but little for the Continent. We must remember, too, that the unsatisfactory state of affairs on the Continent has vastly lowered the value of numismatic treasures everywhere excepting in our own country. Lord Holmesdale possessed twelve of the rare large Syracusan medallions in silver, of great price and beauty. With the exception of the Thomas cabinet (sold in 1844), we are not aware of any other collection having ever possessed so many of the above superlative Greek productions of the golden age of Art;—they were all very fine, and produced from 7*l.* to 29*l.* each coin. A noble Lord, Mr. Brown and Mr. Curt were the chief purchasers of the Greek and Roman gold coins at this sale; they were generally very select productions of the best engravers of the different periods. The modern gold and silver medals were also of admirable execution,—and it was justly remarked that so many have seldom been disposed of at any previous auction. The curious and rare Oriental coins, as fresh as from the mint, were objects of great interest to most of the *virtuosi*, and sold well.—Yesterday, a small collection of antiquities, the property of Messrs. Rollin, of Paris, was sold,—and very well as far as the antique glass was concerned, being chiefly fine and authentic.

Among the objects of interest that will invite the attention of the members of the British Association during their approaching visit to Edinburgh, there is much talk of a plaster mask said to be taken from the face of Shakspeare. Mr. Becker, a gentleman now on a visit in the modern Athens from Mayence, is said to have derived this mask from an ecclesiastical personage of high rank at Cologne—a city which is known to have had in the time of Shakspeare intimate relations with the British Court. The mask has the date 1616 marked on its back. Phrenological speculation from this asserted representation of the great bard is denied by the circumstance of the absence of craniological development,—there being nothing more here than mere facial presentment. Physiognomical examination justifies, it is said, the ascription of this copy to an original of much imagination and great sensibility. The nobleness of the contours is stated to have furnished Vandyke himself with subject-matter for his pencil in *ingrissaille*.

The bust of Henry Beaufoy, Esq., whose liberal donations to the City of London have been so often chronicled in our columns, has been entrusted to Mr. W. Calder Marshall:—and will be erected, it is understood, in the Common Council Chamber in the Guildhall.

The colossal statue of the Duke of Rutland by Mr. Edward Davis, to be placed in the market square at Leicester, is on the eve of being cast in bronze. As a work of Art it has great merit. The action is simple,—the Duke being represented in the precise attitude in which he addressed the

populace at Leicester when they voted him this statue as an acknowledgment of the services which he has rendered to the county during the half century that he has held its Lord-Lieutenancy. The general treatment is unconventional. The likeness is faithful: a broad masculine character being conveyed by the whole,—while the parts are arranged into picturesqueness, without degenerating into minute or unworthy particular. Into the management of the drapery there is introduced a larger amount of the accidents that meet the eye in nature than is usual in sculpture.

We have visited the church at Ware in Hertfordshire recently restored under the superintendence of Mr. George Godwin. It is a well-proportioned church of good character, exhibiting a mixture of the Decorated and Perpendicular styles,—which Mr. Godwin has understood and sought successfully to complete and restore. There is a charming little chapel abutting from the south side of the chancel, which he has brought from obscurity into its proper position. We are almost sorry, however, to observe that he has removed the monument which Lady Fanshawe erected to her husband, the poet. Though he has put it, it is true, in a place where it can be seen, he has at the same time destroyed an association. The "*forlorn Hic jacet*" is no longer a truth. But Mr. Godwin has done only what every Ecclesiastical or Archæological Institute in the kingdom would have done. There is too great a rage for removing the monuments of great men. Why did Mr. Godwin transplant Sir Richard Fanshawe and leave the very ugly and very modern monument to William Murvell, Esq. "shouldering God's altar"?

## MUSIC AND THE DRAMA

### NEW PUBLICATIONS.

*Songs of a Student.* The Poetry selected from the works of Lord Byron, Shelley, Coleridge, Leigh Hunt, Sir Edward Bulwer Lytton, Laman Blanchard, Sidney Godolphin, Mrs. Hemans, &c. The Music composed by Edward Francis Fitzwilliam.—We too well remember the impression some years ago produced on us (in spite of its wretched, unrehearsed performance) by a certain 'Stabat Mater,' not to have turned to this *next* appearance of the Stabat's composer with more than ordinary expectation. By this time, however, Mr. Edward Fitzwilliam ought to have been more than a "Student," unless we are to suppose that his self-designation means to say that the artist's education is never finished. If this be so, the title is a good title, honourable to its giver. Nevertheless, it justifies us in asking what there is within our young Englishmen—what there is about our English—life that seems to hold our musicians in a perpetual state of scholarship, as distinguished from mastery? The question is susceptible of an answer which is painful to vanity, and perhaps hardly intelligible to worldly wisdom. They will not work for fame—they will not wait for money. Haydn starved in his garret—but he was resolute to "arrive" (as the French say) and he *did* "arrive" accordingly. Mozart found no novelty beneath his examination or above his reach—and thus Mozart made up that wonderful style which as a style is faultless. In no ungenerous spirit, we must ask our English students how far as a class they emulate either the self-sacrifice and patience under privation or the versatile study and universal sympathy.

To come to the case before us.—Betwixt the 'Stabat' and the present Songs there has been too long a chasm,—seeing that the latter (so far as memory serves) show small advance on the former. Like the Catholic Hymn, these compositions give evidence of thought, pains and a certain enterprise. The more ambitious among them fail because of their ambition,—the idea is sometimes pigmy when the clothing is most heroic;—but the minor ones, such as 'The Virgin's Cradle Hymn,' the charming 'Oh! love me less,' and the setting of Mrs. Hemans's 'Night-blowing Flowers,' have a grace and easy-flowing sweetness which justify our regret that Mr. E. Fitzwilliam has so sparingly accosted his public. By more frequent appearances the scholastic complication and crudity against which complaint may be made in his larger efforts must have been abandoned—must have been



rubbed smooth. There is a time when both defects become organic—and then their owner is in danger of taking refuge in the self-love of a neglected genius by way of escaping the self-reproach of one who has not braved sacrifices and surmounted obstacles in his resolution to win a prize and to establish an individuality. The amounts of merit to be recognized in these Sea Songs, and of beauty to be praised in them, bear no proportion one to the other,—and the former may possibly be overlooked, owing to the limited manifestation of the latter.—Let us hope that Mr. Edward Fitzwilliam will not make us wait for another half-dozen years ere we hear from him again.

HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE.—Believing, as we have already more than once expressed, that 'I Puritani' was drained of its attractiveness as an opera by the original quartett of artists for whose use and glory it was written, it implies no reflection on the powers or on the popularity of Madame Frezzolini to state that she has not succeeded in doing what Mdle. Lind and Madame Sontag before her have been unable to accomplish—namely, to make a new sensation in Bellini's last opera.—On Thursday evening, Donizetti's 'La Figlia del Reggimento' was given, with Madame Sontag for its heroine. This is an opera which, unlike 'I Puritani,' possesses a vitality in the individuality of its heroine's character and in the *gaillard* prettiness of its music. Every *prima donna* gifted with comic instincts and executive brilliancy may for some years to come desire to try the part of the merry *Maria*;—and since her desire is capable of being worked out in more ways than one, in proportion as she may choose to be military or maidenly, there is always a chance of her making an impression on the public in the part, no matter who has been before her. For this result should authors seek,—not for those peculiarities which alone will fit, or can be finally exhausted by, one peculiar artist.—The success of Thursday's performance at all events justifies the opinion above expressed. In the first act it was to be felt that Madame Sontag's voice wants that clarion brilliancy for which Donizetti provided when writing the camp tunes for its heroine; but she gave the pathetic couplets 'Convien partir' in the first *finale* exquisitely,—making a great effect by a *sostenuto* E, the delicacy and length of which spoke volumes as to the training of the singer, whether young or mature, able to command a note so true, so fine, and so firm. But the triumph of the evening was *Maria's* lesson-scene in the second act. This was acted by Madame Sontag with a comic *gusto* which she has not heretofore displayed. The tasteless finery of her toilette was whimsically contrasted and commented on by her masculine and almost uncouth behaviour. Yet her camp and canteen ways were harmonized by a cordial good nature which made us delight in the creature though she might be a little too vulgar for a drawing room. Madame Sontag's singing, however, was a positive blaze of brilliancy—a feast of cadences, flourishes, trills, lavished in a profusion and of a difficulty unproducable and unmanageable by any other songstress. The "*point d'orgue*" before *Maria* dashes the tiresome old *Dresden-china* opera-air on the floor, and breaks off into the dear jovial *Rataplan* tune,—in itself contained the quintessence of all Rode's variations. In short, the songstress has never so charmingly vindicated her reputation as in this opera,—although some might have fancied the work to have been closed against new-comers for the next half-dozen years to come by the *furor* therein excited by Mdle. Lind.

It appears as if the Negro exhibition had been once for all emphatically discouraged,—since we observe that the name of "the black Malibran" is withdrawn from the bills of *Her Majesty's Theatre*.

ST. JAMES'S.—*French Plays*.—On returning to *Adrienne Lecouvreur*, because of its having been Mdle. Rachel's most popular character in London, a few words are claimed by the drama as a work of art. The characters of this play are excellently contrasted. *The Comte de Saxe*, a better sort of *Phubus de Chateaupers*, with his willingness to profit by the kindness of the *Princesse de Bouillon*, and his

resolution to bestow his heart elsewhere, ranges well against the homely, faithful theatre-official, poor *Michonnet*, to whom the actress-heroine of the drama is half goddess, half child,—a creature to be at once admired, loved, looked up to, and cherished. Then, *Adrienne* herself is a charming vindication of the nobility of genius as superior to the nobility of old blood,—the latter impersonated in the passionate, corrupt and frivolous *grande dame*. With four such personages, there is matter enough to fill a play, whether festive or serious; but we question whether the material have not been disposed somewhat too coquettishly for the production of the greatest effects of which the combination was susceptible. The situation in the dark boudoir of the *petite maison*, (what a nest within nest of refined corruption!) where the two women who are in love with the same man endeavour to discover each other—the reading party at the house of the Princess, when both throw the mask by, and the encounter of hate gives rise to an encounter of tongues sharp to the death—are both, in spite of their excellent effects, too obviously forced to befit the simple dignity of tragedy. But excess of contrivance is not generally the English writer's fault; and however we may criticize it as not well placed, we cannot but admire the never-failing ingenuity of M. Scribe in this as also in his lighter productions. In any event, the character of *Adrienne*, as it stands, demands that *finesse* and filling-up which Mdle. Mars would have given to it—but which Mdle. Rachel does not.—In the green-room scene with which her part opens, she had neither the tone of the *Roxane* who is about to meet her audience, nor of the *Adrienne* who listens to *Michonnet* because she loves the old man. She was too indifferent, and (as *Lear* put it) "too untender."—In the boudoir scene, where the unconscious purity and intensity of the heroine's love is the power which gives her the ascendancy over the *grande dame*, she hectored too much, like one to whom such encounters were familiar, who knew her antagonist and her 'vantage ground.—At the reading party, where she might have towered above the frivolous creatures of the *faubourg* by the simplicity of her genius, there was too much toilette, too haughty a reserve. She might have been studying her *impromptu* vengeance *en route*.—Nor in the last act was the harshness of conception above indicated laid by. There was baffled rage in her sobs over her returned bouquet;—there was an appalling despair in her struggles with death, which deprived the character of its sweetness and the catastrophe of its pity.—It is only to a Rachel that such tests and qualifications as these can be applied. Stated with reference to an average tragedian they would be absurd. We do not, however, imagine that that which we find wanting in Mdle. Rachel's *Adrienne* will ever be numbered among this artist's attributes; and hence we are unable to join the chorus of those who enthrone her as greatest of her compeers,—greater than any of her predecessors,—though we enjoy her personations, and number them among the most exciting pleasures of the artistic year.

MUSICAL AND DRAMATIC GOSSIP.—On Friday week was celebrated, to use the only proper word, the long announced benefit for Mrs. Glover—to which subsequent events have given a mournful significance. The retirement of the veteran actress from the theatrical stage preceded by only a few days her retirement from the stage of life. Like Molière, she may be said to have been dying before the audience. The most eminent members of the profession had assembled on the night in question to assist at the last public appeal of "the Mother of the Stage,"—and a brilliant audience was gathered together to answer it. Even then, however, the triumph had its shadow—flung from an awful Presence that was close at hand. Mrs. Glover had taken to her bed for a fortnight previously,—and it was with much difficulty that on that night she went through her allotted task. It may be doubted whether she should have been permitted to attempt it:—but it is stated that her medical advisers were of opinion that "the nervous irritability arising from severe illness would have rendered it more dangerous to check the impatience which she felt to keep faith with the public, than

to yield, however reluctantly, to her strong anxiety. Mrs. Glover had announced that she would appear,—and with thorough English courage she did appear." But, though she got through the character of *Mrs. Malaprop*, she proved unable to deliver the farewell address prepared for the evening. Instead of this, the curtain was drawn up, and the exhausted actress was seen seated in a chair, and surrounded by the most eminent of her contemporaries. There were many apprehensions in the house which saw dimly the Shade that mingled in this final tableau,—and made it at once awful and affecting. On the Tuesday following the object of this final show had passed from the realities of life.—We understand that the receipts on Friday were very large, and will go far to relieve the necessities of the large family which the veteran actress leaves behind her.—Mrs. Glover was emphatically a member of the old school of actresses. Her name connects itself with that of Betterton, the contemporary of Garrick and of Quin. She was of that family—so it is believed—at any rate, of that name. Julia Betterton was born in Newry, Ireland, on the 8th of January 1781. Commencing her theatrical career at the age of six, we find her belonging to the York Circuit in 1789. She then appeared as the *Page* in Otway's tragedy of 'The Orphan,'—and shortly afterwards as the *Duke of York* to Cooke's *Richard the Third*. In 1796 she had risen into reputation; and played, at Bath, *Juliet* and *Lydia Languish*, with such success, that Mr. Harris engaged her for Covent Garden in the year 1797, at a salary of 12l. per week, for five years—which was afterwards progressively raised to 18l. Her first appearance at this theatre was on the 12th of October 1797, in the character of *Elwina*, in Hannah More's stupid tragedy of 'Percy'; in which, notwithstanding the weight of the part and of the play, she is recorded to have had immense success. But Miss Betterton had soon to yield to a Miss Campion, from Dublin, whose tragic excellence compelled the former to turn her attention to comedy. During the days of Kean's triumphs at Drury Lane, Mrs. Glover formed one of the company at that theatre, and supported the great actor in many of his best parts. As time wore on, the extended range of characters which she played settled into assumptions of such characters as *Mrs. Heidelberg* and *Mrs. Malaprop*; and in these she commended herself afresh to the discerning critic, who detected in her performance of them new merits. Failure, indeed, with her was unknown—for her acting derived directly from nature, and was truth itself.—On the 20th March 1800, the celebrated actress married Mr. Glover.—We may state finally that Mrs. Glover was an intense student of Shakspeare, and that her readings of the great poet were justly esteemed. "Take her for all in all," it will probably be long ere we shall "look upon her like," as an actress, again.

Our Concert season is coming to a close by a gentle and not unpleasant *diminuendo*—morning parties given by Mdle. Graumann and by Miss Messent being among the events of the week.—Signor Biletta, who seems among Italian composers to be "taking the line" of Signor Gabussi, has also held his *Matinée*. Spirit and novelty have been given to some of these meetings by the presence of Madame Sontag, who seems now at liberty to exercise her enchanting powers (they are nothing less) as a concert-vocalist.

Having written in but "tepid ink" (to adapt a French conceit) of Signor Tamberlik's *Otello*, we are bound to say that his second was a welcome advance on his first performance. Due accent and style are still wanting, but passion and power have been added. A c sharp in chest-voice thrown out in the *encore* of the garden duett—half a tone higher than the famous "*ut de poitrine*" of Duprez,—claims a record as the most amazing feat which we have ever encountered in our experience of tenors. But the whole treatment of the character was raised; and that is better than any *altissimo* note, be it even as triumphant as this wondrous c sharp in question.

A broadside, signed by S. K. E., devoted to remarks on 'Compositions for the Pianoforte, by E. Silas,' has been laid before us,—it is to be presumed for notice. The purport of this pamphlet



hardly accords with the professions of its writer. He "unequivocally denies the influence of any interested motives in announcing 'our' opinion" of some new music by this young gentleman recently published,—goes on to assert that "M. Silas' genius is beyond all peril,"—that "his powers are too highly developed to be now impeded by any casualties,"—that "he has already produced works of such maturity and perfection, that will, whatever may be their present fame, carry his name to posterity to be pronounced in accents as familiar as those of Beethoven, Weber, and Mendelssohn." Yet, after the above, we are informed that the argument of this broadside is, to vindicate M. Silas against an "audacious," "cruel," "malignant" criticism which was put forth respecting his playing by a contemporary.—

That is, hot ice and wondrous strange snow:  
Where shall we find the concord of these discords?

Defence of one who is beyond peril!—A trumpet-blast after the battle is won! Surely here we have a puff of warlike air wasted if there was ever such a thing.—The reader may recollect that the *Athenæum* differed from the criticism complained of regarding M. Silas, whether as a player or as a composer, having in both capacities spoken of him favourably. But this opinion having been restated, we must add that we yet more emphatically differ from the fulsome friendship of this broadside,—the outrageous flattery of which is calculated to injure a young man of talent by irritating his vanity so as to impede further progress; and by raising that evil spirit of suspicion, imputation, and personality which, whether it be a demon employed by critic against artist, or by artist against critic, is an evil influence, breathing poison fatal to Art. It is to be hoped that M. Silas has other friends and counsellors (most of all, one within himself) who are more wise than S. K. E.—Since the above was written, we observe that new works by M. Silas are advertised in the papers as by "this great composer." Seeing that Beethoven, Spohr, Mendelssohn, Meyerbeer, &c. &c. are not thus ticketed, while the newest namby-pamby ballad is, we cannot but add a codicil of emphasis to the above paragraph, warning M. Silas not to keep his place among the ballad-mongers!

There is little musical news from the Continent of any "mark or likelihood." Herr Schumann's opera, 'Généviève,' was produced at Leipzig on the 28th of last month. "This work," says the *Gazette Musicale*, "after having been much recommended beforehand, does not seem to have satisfied public expectation, being concert music, without any dramatic force." For the verdict which will finally be passed on 'Généviève' every one must be curious who has at all followed the journals of Young Germany in the recent crusades which they have made, not so much to establish Herr Schumann as a great composer, as to prove him greater than Mendelssohn.

This evening, it was announced, will be produced in that hot-bed of novelties, the *Opéra Comique* of Paris, a new three-act work, to be called 'Géraldine, or the New Psyche,' by that most fertile of librettists, M. Scribe, and that lightest of French melodists, M. Adolphe Adam.

#### MISCELLANEA

*Sunday Postal Question.*—Of the 400,000 respectable well-meaning persons who have affixed their signatures to this extraordinary prayer for summarily destroying a piece of mechanism as scientifically planned and as carefully put together as one of Arnold's chronometers, what proportion, it may be asked, have a clear idea, or any idea at all, of the general acquirements of the British postal system—of its political, fiscal, and commercial importance, of the arterial and venous circulation by which it breathes, or of the innumerable organized moving particles or animalculæ of which it is composed? Have the majority of the petitioners—some of whom may possibly belong to that large class of the community who, to say the least, have seldom occasion to write or read letters—a superficial idea, or any idea at all, of the deep meaning of "the correspondence" of, for instance, our Manchester, Liverpool, Glasgow, or London merchants? Are they aware

of the heavy losses that even the revenue of the kingdom might sustain by great mercantile and manufacturing houses being unable on Monday, previous to the sailing of steam-packets, or of their own vessels, to receive the latest possible communications from all parts of the country? Have they considered the confusion that would be created in rival towns of the same trade from the contents of East or West India mails being communicated to some, and on the striking of the clock on Saturday night cut off from the rest? In case of an extensive robbery of bank-notes or bills, in cases of forgery, or even of bankruptcy, in cases involving life and death, and of an infinity of other private business of extreme importance, have they reflected on the serious and cruel consequences that might arise from Parliament irrationally ordaining—1st, that it is illegal to send letters otherwise than by post; and, 2ndly, that by post they shall not be transmitted? Again, have they considered the inconvenience the inhabitants of, say, the whole of England would suffer from being forcibly restrained from despatching letters on Saturday on account of London's Sabbath, and on the following day because that is their own? Again, of the losses and vexations which upwards of 2,000,000 of persons congregated, principally for the transaction of business, in London, the shops of which have been closed the whole of Sunday, would sustain, from being on Monday morning debarred receiving letters from beyond a given radius, although some of them may have been posted on Friday? In short, have they calculated the sum total of the results of a decree from Parliament ordaining that in almost every city, town, village, hamlet, and habitation throughout the kingdom there should be two or more blank postal days per week, the one for the Sabbath of the locality, and the other for those of places more or less remote?—*Quarterly Review.*

*The Celt.*—The form of the little chopping instrument called "Bülong," used by the Malays here, has suggested to me an explanation of the use of that antiquarian puzzle—the Celt. The handle of the bülong consists of a thin tough stick, cut with a part of the branch from which it grew; the thicker part is shaped with a groove in front to receive the iron, and over this a piece of raw hide is lashed with strips of rattan, the other end is filled with a piece of soft wood for the handle. The blade is forged with a long sharp tang, which is inserted into the hollow formed by the groove and the piece of hide, and is of course fixed very firmly by the mere act of chopping. It will be seen that the blade can thus be set at any angle to the plane of the handle, so that the Malay uses his bülong both as axe and adze; or, in hollowing out a canoe, for example, set obliquely between the two. Now if, instead of the blade being inserted into the handle, we imagine such a handle inserted into the hollow of a celt, and tied fast by the loop usually found on these instruments, a very efficient and simple tool would be the result, and I think of a form very likely to occur to the mind of a savage.

I am, &c. JAMES MOTLEY.

Tanjong Kubong, Labuan.

*The First Printing Press manufactured in California.*—On Saturday we had put up in this office the first printing press ever manufactured on the "Pacific side," and for which we intend to bespeak a small niche in the temple of fame alongside of the press rendered sacred as the one used by the immortal Franklin. It is of a size to print a foolscap sheet of paper: the frames and ribs are of wrought-iron, the bed and platten taken from a medium sized copying press; the bed enlarged by a wrought bar of iron welded to the sides, and planed down to an even surface.—*Pacific News.*

TO CORRESPONDENTS.—H. G. S.—D. H., Jun.—J. S. B.—A. B.—C. R. T.—Imo—G. B.—L. P.—received.

J. D.—This correspondent has drawn a wrong inference from the paragraph in a former number to which he alludes. DANIEL HARCASTLE, JUN.—In reply to this correspondent, we have to say that the anecdote to which he refers had escaped our notice when we looked over the pages of his volume. The version of the story given in the *Athenæum* of the 29th ult. was communicated to us from what we believe to be an original and well-informed quarter. It would seem, therefore, that the ultimate decision between Mr. Harcastle and ourselves as to the real hero of the story must be left to future inquirers into the curiosities of Banking.

*Erratum.*—Last week, in the article on Madame Pasta, p. 743, col. 3, l. 10, for "successes" read *successors*.

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## REVIEWS

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M. Max Schlesinger is by birth a Hungarian,—by the accidents of fortune a German. For some time a resident in Prague, and more recently settled in Berlin, he has had excellent opportunities of seeing the men and studying the questions connected both in the literary and political sense with the present movement of ideas and races in Eastern Europe. His acquaintance with the aspects of nature in his native land—his knowledge of the peculiar character of its inhabitants, their manners, modes of thought and habits of life—his familiarity with its past history—his right conception of the leading men in the recent struggle—are all vouched for as "essentially accurate" by no less an authority than Count Pulszky. It would be an injustice merely to say that M. Schlesinger has given in an original and picturesque way a general view of the course of events in the late war more complete and connected than is afforded in any account hitherto presented to the public. He has done more; he has enabled the German and English reader to understand the miracle of a nation of four or five millions of men rising up at the command of a great statesman and doing successful battle with the elaborately organized power of a first-class European state, shaking it to its very foundations, and contending, not without hope, against two mighty military empires,—until the treachery from within paralyzed its power of resistance. The struggle, brief as it was, brought out, to the surprise of Europe, almost every element which might have contributed to success—great statesmen, great generals, expert financiers, adroit diplomats, heroic soldiers. Into these mysteries M. Schlesinger has contrived to throw many and interesting side-lights. So far as affects the political and military question, we have here the social organization of the country laid bare,—we become familiar with the Csikos, the Kanasz, the Gulyas, and the Halaszcs in their homes and among their native forests and heaths. We find the material of armies, so to say, waiting for the forming hand of genius—ready to obey its pressure and take the shape desired. We feel almost present in the scene; and, as the Americans say, can realize the mode in which Kossuth's extraordinary power was exercised. The effect rather increases in grandeur when we come to understand the means. The thing ceases to be a mystery,—but remains a miracle.

We refer our readers to the volumes for M. Schlesinger's account of the Csikos, the Kanasz, and the Gulyas. The first is the hunter of the half-wild horses reared on the great Hungarian plains; the second is a swineherd, in a country where the profession is one of great hardship and peril; the third, is the lord of the heath on which his cattle feed. The Csikos makes a magnificent hussar when well trained; but in the late war they fought with their long whips, and with these did excellent service.—

"The foot-soldier who has discharged his musket is lost when opposed to the Csikos. His bayonet, with which he can defend himself against the Uhlans

and Hussars, is here of no use to him: all his practised manoeuvres and skill are unavailing against the long whip of his enemy, which drags him to the ground, or beats him to death with its leaden buttons; nay even if he had still a charge in his musket, he could sooner hit a bird on the wing, than the Csikos,—who riding round and round him in wild bounds, dashes with his steed first to one side, then to another, with the speed of lightning, so as to frustrate any aim. The horse-soldier, armed in the usual manner, fares not much better, and woe to him if he meets a Csikos singly; better to fall in with a flock of ravenous wolves. It was fortunate for the Imperialists that the Csikoses, from the nature of their weapon, were incapable of fighting in close ranks, or they would have constituted a most formidable power. Nevertheless, in a semi-official report it was stated that they had broken the centre of an Austrian corps before Komorn; but their boldness and the discouragement of the Austrians must on this occasion have assisted them quite as much as their whip and the short hook, which in case of need they hurl with dexterity. At Wieselburg the Imperialists caught one of these fellows alive, and brought him as a curiosity to the camp. The General in command and his officers had a mind to see the brown bird on the wing, and stuck up a man of straw in front of the tents, on which the Csikos was ordered to exhibit his skill. The lad consented, only desiring to be shown the point where his leaden ball was to strike. He then galloped at full speed several times round the straw figure, whirled his whip in the air, and to the astonishment of all present, the ball struck exactly the spot marked. The spectacle was, by general desire, ordered to be repeated a second and a third time, when possibly it occurred to the poor hunted Csikos that he might make a better use of his weapon than against a harmless man of straw; and with a wild scream he whirled his whip into the midst of the gaping circle, dashed through it on his trusty horse, and away over the country through the green corn-fields to the Danube. A dozen shots were fired after him, but fortune favoured the fugitive: he reached the opposite shore and the camp of his countrymen in safety.

Out of such men it was not difficult to make warriors, when generals, stores, arms, equipments, money had been obtained,—but these all required also to be created. We look back with astonishment at the working power of Kossuth. He stamped his name on bits of paper, and his countrymen took them as gold. They exchanged for them all the Austrian bank-notes in the country. These were sent to Vienna, and cashed. Arms, ammunition, army clothing, were smuggled in from abroad; a system of telegraphs arose at his bidding; and the comfort and even the lives of delicate women were placed at his disposal to expedite despatches. M. Schlesinger vividly describes this system.—

"No one had ever before heard of telegraphs in Hungary, and now on a sudden we are told of the existence of an immense net! This might give rise to misconception, without some explanation. It is true that there are no proper telegraphs, nor ever have been, in Hungary. On the heights, and on the church-towers, we find no telegraphic apparatus by day, nor fire-signals by night; we find no electric wires or batteries on the plains,—and yet Kossuth had his telegraphs. Let the reader now cast a glance over the meadow at Buda. A motley crowd is there in motion. Adjutants are galloping to and fro,—camp-sutlers are packing up their goods, the horses are put to the pontoon-equipage, the drums beat and trumpets sound, the horses neigh and snort, the harness cracks and snaps, knapsacks are strapped, the cannon advance in order of march, the columns are set in motion, and gradually the immense train falls into order, and crosses the bridge to Pesth with a hollow, measured step on its road to Szolnok. The inhabitants of Pesth are gathered in dense crowds and silent; the women gaze out of the windows with sad and anxious looks; but all is still—not a single cheer is heard for the soldiers who are going forth to battle; but a hundred thousand prayers, breathed in silence for the enemies whom they are going to encounter, is all the farewell salutation they take with

them on their march. A dashing cavalry officer has meanwhile ridden on before through the streets, and lighted his cigar at the pipe of a countryman standing idle at the barrier. In doing so the man's pipe goes out: what can it be that moves him so powerfully? He runs aside to a sand-hill, quickly strikes a light again with a flint and steel, but instead of lighting the tobacco in his pipe, he kindles a faggot, extinguishes it again, once more lights it, and goes his way. The man must be a dreamer or a madman, for he has thrown his short pipe also into the fire, to make it burn the brighter. . . . Let us look further. At short distances another column of smoke, and another, and still another! A little hump-backed gipsy-lad, who has been gathering faggots in the woods from early in the morning, perceives a column of smoke, and immediately throws on the ground the bundle he has collected with such labour, sets fire to his treasure—a second Sardanapalus. We now turn our view still further to the east. A boy is seen running through the village—a horseman is flying over the Heath—a dog swims across the river,—and horse and rider, dog and boy, are all links in that great, living, invisible net of telegraphs. A few hours after the Imperial army has set out from Buda, the route of its march is known on the banks of the Theiss, and the necessary precautions are taken, whilst the Imperial General with all his power cannot bribe one trusty spy. Such is the history of the Hungarian telegraphs, which were used in the Netherlands as early as by Philip II., and will always find employment where a national war is waged against a foreign standing army."

This is one side of the picture. Then let us glance at another. It is in these things that the secrets of the grand results which amazed the west of Europe are to be sought,—

"It was on the second evening after Razza's execution, that a carriage stopped at the door of a nobleman's mansion in the county of T\*\*\*. This country house was situated in one of the finest parts of the noble valley of the Waag, aside from the high road. . . . During the whole year all had been quiet in this mansion; its possessor had followed Kossuth from Pesth to Debreczin; his beautiful wife and her younger sister kept house alone, with a few trusty servants. The two ladies had hastily stepped on to the balcony, to see whether the visit was to them, and what guest could have wandered into the solitude of their retired valley. In a few minutes the stranger stood before them, and delivered a letter from Debreczin. The master of the house introduced him as a friend and patriot, adding that he was the bearer of papers of great importance, which had to be conveyed to Vienna, and forwarded from thence to Teleki at Paris. The ladies were requested to do all in their power to assist him. Half the night was passed in taking counsel together and relating occurrences. The young man, who was here first informed of the execution of Razza, his friend and tutor, took a solemn oath to avenge his death. His passionate spirit, which might endanger the enterprise, the difficulty of reaching Vienna at that time, when the frontier and the line of the Waag were doubly watched, together with the importance of the mission, inspired the two ladies with the adventurous idea of undertaking the journey, and executing the commission themselves. The scruples of their guest were removed by the force of circumstances: the same night he returned, and at an early hour the following morning these two delicate ladies set out on foot, clad as peasant-women, on their way to Pressburg. Two days and three nights lasted this wearisome journey, which at other times, with their fine horses, they would have accomplished in a few hours. Frequently they had to climb steep mountain paths, to avoid the picket of an Austrian outpost; and when, exhausted by fatigue, they reached the spot where they had expected to find an open path, they descried in the distance a horse patrol of the enemy, and had to crouch down half the night in a thicket almost dead with fatigue, tormented with hunger, in nervous dread of discovery, shivering on the damp ground in the forests,—two noble, rich, proud ladies of Hungary. One moment was the most dreadful of all. They had, in the darkness of night, entered the border of a thicket, without observing a post of the enemy



which was on watch there. Suddenly they hear, not far off, a voice—"Who goes there?" then again, and yet a third time. In alarm they retreat behind the trees—a flash startles them at scarcely fifty paces distance—a shot—a rustling in the branches—the whistling of a musket ball—then cries, exclamations, the steps of men close to them. The younger Countess had sunk fainting on the ground; and her sister, who believed her struck dead, fell on her knees in despair beside her. To this circumstance they owed their safety; the low bushes between the slender stems of the trees concealed them from the observation of the soldiers in search, who with lanterns were scouring the thicket and firing at random. It was not until after an hour of unspeakable anguish that the sisters recovered strength to steal back again. The following evening they reached Pressburg in safety, and were there concealed by a female friend, who sympathized with them. \*\* The following night they slept in Vienna, in the apartment of a student, to whom they had been referred from Pressburg. The young man, happy in being able to shelter two of the noblest ladies of his country, took charge of their despatches, and, like a faithful guardian, slept through the night outside the door of their room. The despatches were written in the language of the country, provided with the great seal of the Government, and destined to be transmitted to the Ministries of France and England. These noble ladies journeyed by Oedenburg back to their quiet valley on the Waag, where they remained until the conclusion of the war."

Nor were they only the inferior agents of the statesman who found themselves in these romantic and perilous positions. The reader will remember that when Prince Windischgrätz arrived in Pesth, few persons in England expected the Magyar struggle to be renewed. Of the west of Hungary, Comorn only held out; and the agents of Vienna almost persuaded the commander of that fortress to surrender on the ground that the war was ended. It was thought impossible for Kossuth to communicate with the garrison; but as soon as the armies began their movements from Debreczin, he appointed our countryman, General Guyon, to the command, with orders to get to his post in the best way he could. An absurd story was told at the time in all the German and English newspapers, to the effect that at the head of a dozen hussars he fought his way through all the beleaguering armies of Austria. The real facts are given by M. Schlesinger as follows.—

"A dirty-looking Jew, in a torn shabby coat, an old hat, and with uncombed hair, is seen wandering up and down one street after another at Baja, and inquiring for a cheap conveyance to carry him to Bonyhad. The Jew, according to ancient custom, wears ostentatiously over his coat a jacket yellowed with age: at his back he carries a box containing matches, needles, and shoe-blackening,—the portable booth out of which he has to get his livelihood, and whose contents he offers for sale to the passers-by with greedy importunity. One man snubs him and buys a pennyworth of some article; a second purchases nothing, but takes the liberty of bestowing on him some abusive epithet; the village boys, just broken loose from school, where they have been reading of the sufferings and meekness of Christ, vent their wrath on the accursed race by pelting the unhappy Jew with dirt; nay, even the dogs in the street seem to know the Paria, and run barking round him. Last of all, a troop of Croat soldiers, reeling out of a tavern, plunder his store of blacking, and in their drunken wantonness fall to blackening the feet of St. Nepomuk, who stands under the two white poplars. Fortunately a clergyman, chancing to pass that way, takes the poor pedlar to his vicarage, to shelter him from ill-treatment. The name of this kind Samaritan we know not, but we remember the name of the Jew—it has an outlandish sound—Guyon de Gey, Baron of Pamplun. The high-born Briton had adopted this disguise not without reason. The pedlar has at all times the privilege of roving through field and forest, village and town; and of all the various languages spoken between the Leytha and the Maros, Guyon was acquainted with none except

the dialect of the Polish Jews. He was a perfect master of this language, in which respect, as well as in personal bravery, he had no equal among the Austrian officers except Count Schlik. This General gained his knowledge of oriental languages from his long residence in Galicia, where intercourse with the Jews is as indispensable to existence as the air to breathing. Probably Guyon likewise, during his service in the Imperial army, had been in garrison there long enough to be able now to try his hand in the character of a Jewish pedlar. How far Guyon travelled about in this disguise, remains a secret with himself; but the skill and success with which he acted his part are proved by his safe arrival at Komorn. The story of his having, with twelve Hussars, fought his way through the midst of the investing corps of the enemy, is a mere fable. People are never at a loss when inventing marvellous stories of their favourite heroes, and there was no enterprise of danger and heroism which the Hussars were not ready to attribute to Guyon. Guyon's sudden appearance in the fortress, the fame which had preceded him, his resolute character, together with the accounts he gave of the enemy's positions, of the general enthusiasm of the country and the increased strength of the Magyar army, of Görgey, Bem, and Kossuth, restored the confidence of the officers in the garrison."

From this scene we pass towards the mournful conclusion of these high hopes and heroic efforts. The overpowering forces of Russia have succeeded—Görgey has given up to despair the last hopes of Hungary—the hangman, Haynau, is at his work.—

"On the 6th of October thirteen generals and staff-officers were executed. Four of these heroic men met their end at daybreak, the commutation of their sentence to 'powder and lead' exempting them from the anguish of witnessing the death of their companions-in-arms. Amongst the rest was Ernest Kiss. His brother had become insane after Görgey's treachery; his cousin had fallen, a second Leonidas, in the defence of the Rothenthurm-Pass; he himself, the richest landed proprietor in the Banat, whose hospitable castle was all the year round filled with Austrian cavaliers and officers, was on the 6th of October sentenced to death by the Austrian court-martial, on which sat many of the former partakers of his hospitality. His friends at Vienna had interceded to save his life, but in vain. He died a painful death: the Austrian soldiers who were ordered to carry the sentence into effect, and who for a whole year had faced the fire of the Hungarian artillery, trembled before their defenceless victim: three separate volleys were fired before Kiss fell.—His death-struggles lasted full ten minutes. The report of the firing was heard in the castle, where those officers sentenced to be hung were preparing for death. Pölsenberg had been in a profound sleep, and startled, as he told the Austrian officer, by the first volley, he had jumped out of bed. The unhappy man had been dreaming that he was in face of the enemy, and heard the firing of alarm signals at his outposts:—it was the summons from the grave. At 6 o'clock in the morning the condemned officers were led to the place of execution. Old Aulich died first: he was the most advanced in years, and the court-martial seemed thus to respect the natural privilege of age. Distinguished by his zeal and efforts in the cause of his country, more than by the success which attended them, Aulich was inferior to many of his comrades in point of talent; but in uprightness and strength of character none surpassed him. Count Leiningen was the third in succession, and the youngest. An opportunity had been offered him late on the preceding evening of escaping by flight; but he would not separate his fate from that of his brother-in-law, who was a prisoner in the fortress. His youth, perhaps, inspired him with a desire of giving to his elder companions in sorrow around him an example of heroic stoicism in death; and, on reaching the place of execution, he exclaimed, with melancholy humour, 'They ought at least to have treated us to a breakfast!' One of the guard of soldiers compassionately handed him his wine-flask. 'Thank you, my friend,' said the young General, 'I want no wine to give me courage,—bring me a glass of water.' He then wrote on his knee with a pencil the following farewell words to his brother-in-law: 'The shots which this morning

laid my poor comrades low still resound in my ears, and before me hangs the body of Aulich on the gallows. In this solemn moment when I must prepare to appear before my Creator, I once more protest against the charges of cruelty at the taking of Buda which an infamous slanderer has raised against me. On the contrary, I have on all occasions protected the Austrian prisoners. I commend to you my poor Liska and my two children. I die for a cause which always appeared to me just and holy. If in happier days my friends ever desire to avenge my death, let them reflect, that humanity is the best political wisdom. As for \*\* here the hangman interrupted him: it was time to die. Török, Labner, Pölsenberg, Nagy Sandor, Knežich, died one after the other. Vecsey was the last; perhaps they wished, by this nine-fold aggravation of his torments, to make him suffer for the destruction caused by his cannon at Temesvar. Damianich preceded him. The usual dark colour of his large features was heightened by rage and impatience. His view had never extended further than the glittering point of his heavy sabre; this was the star which he had followed throughout life; but now he saw whither it had conducted him, and impatiently he exclaimed, when limping up to the gallows, 'Why is it that I, who have always been foremost to face the enemy's fire, must here be the last?' The deliberate slowness of the work of butchery seemed to disconcert him more than the approach of death, which he had defied in a hundred battles. This terrible scene lasted from six until nine o'clock."

A good deal of space is given by M. Schlesinger to a development of the characters of the good genius and the evil one of the struggle—Kossuth and Görgey. Count Pulszky also furnishes a separate biography of the general. Their estimates, taken from entirely different points of view, are not incompatible. They both acquit him of the charge of having sold his country for gold. They cannot forget that he is an Hungarian. They attribute his treachery simply to envy of Kossuth; a passion which they think became powerful enough to induce him to disregard his own fair fame, his country's rights, and the lives of his companions in glory to the prompting of a remorseless vanity. He would not be second to the man whom history will pronounce to be immeasurably his superior. This view of his character and case we find it difficult to adopt. While Pölsenberg (who loved him) and Damianich and Vecsey lie in dishonoured graves,—and while Kossuth, who raised him from an obscure position to the highest rank, languishes in a foreign prison,—he lives, a guest, on the Austrian soil, and is rewarded with a pension by the Viennese government! This fact involves the whole moral of his story.

Hungary and Europe have pronounced upon these two men: Kossuth in a dungeon is still a power: the hearts and the hopes of his countrymen are still with him in his exile. Should events lead to fresh changes in the east, says M. Schlesinger, "Kossuth will re-enter his country, hailed with a welcome such as no man on earth has ever received from a nation."

The second work whose title heads this article is a book avowedly on the Austrian side. "Among the many interesting narratives and articles," says Mr. Tyndale, "which have been laid before the English public relative to the late Austrian and Hungarian war, the greater part have proceeded either from Hungarian sources or from the advocates of the cause adopted by that nation." The present volume is, therefore, offered as a slight contribution the other way. So far as we can judge either from internal evidence or from Mr. Tyndale's own extremely indistinct statements, the manner in which the book has been got up seems to be this.—One or two subalterns in the Austrian army of the South either kept notes of their marchings and skirmishings during the campaign, or were induced to scribble off their re-



collections of the same afterwards; and these notes and jottings came into Mr. Tyndale's hands, were by him reduced to form and adapted to the English market. The sketches, he says, "are offered with no pretensions to polish or brilliancy; but simply on their sole and intrinsic value of being statements of eye-witnesses." Even in this respect, we must say, their value is very small. In the first place, so ill are the jottings arranged, and so little care is taken to keep the general tenor of the story to which they belong before the mind of the reader, that the book can be of no use to one who wants to know anything of the history of the Hungarian war. Again, the spirit of the book is poor and coarse,—just what might be expected from a rough, truculent subaltern, caring nothing about the right or wrong of the struggle in which he was engaged,—knowing nothing about its general bearings,—and interested only in his own little bit of the affair; as, how he slashed down a Hungarian in such and such a fight,—how he and his comrades had nothing to eat or drink, and were all but frost-bitten on such and such a night,—how, after the taking of Vienna by Windischgrätz, he and the said comrades swaggered about the streets, got plenty of cigars, and amused themselves with "applying their toes" to the "students," the "prolétaires," and other "vagabondish, barricading-looking fellows" who came in their way, having now no farther desire to cut such "animals" down,—how, at such and such a village they entered a Hungarian monastery, and gave the godly fathers a good beating, &c. Occasionally, notwithstanding, there occurs in the book a little trait or particular of some picturesqueness, capable of being wrought into a better narrative: but this is the utmost that can be said in favour of the book. We give an instance.

"A Croat had broken into a house and stolen a small bottle of brandy, but having been discovered in the theft, and the case having reached his commander's ears, he was left behind to meet his fate. Some of our officers happened to come up as the poor fellow was led out for execution; and they described the scene as one of the most phlegmatic exhibitions they ever witnessed. He was perfectly cool, quiet, and at his ease, and showed not the slightest fear of death; the only thing that troubled him was the idea that he was to be deprived of life, and of all further Slikowitz, for having taken merely one small bottle of it; the act he considered justifiable, because he was 'bidden to do so by the intense cold,' though he acknowledged his indiscretion in having obeyed the order so clumsily as to be found out." This Predestinarian and Spartan reasoning seemed to weigh also with many of the bystanders: but the moral effect was good, especially as it tended to show the falsity of the Hungarian statements of our laxity of discipline, and neglect to restrain our men from disorder and libertinage. There was little ceremony, either military, civil, or religious; no touches of sentiment gave an exciting interest or gloss to the bare facts of Slikowitz and shooting; the bandaging his eyes, tying his hands, kneeling, and lodging half-a-dozen bullets in his breast, were of so un-dramatic a nature, and so speedily performed, that it gave rather the idea that the Croatian officers who carried out the sentence, in their comparison of the value of time, cold weather, and human life, considered the two former to be of far greater importance than the latter."

About a third part of the volume consists of a kind of appendix, containing biographical sketches of Görgey, Kossuth, Bem, Dembinski, Klapka, Batthyányi, &c. These are said to be freely translated from the German,—though from what particular German sources is not stated. Although no evidence is adduced to prove their authenticity, and although a low and sneering tone pervades them, they are tolerably clear and lively; and at all events, much more readable than the narrative to which they are clumsily appended.

*Anecdotes of the Aristocracy, and Episodes of Ancestral Story.* By J. Bernard Burke, Esq. Second Series. 2 vols. Churton.

TITLE and book are here not quite agreed. For the sake of a good story Mr. Burke has let in among his "aristocracy" more than one character with whom *Fitz* and *Ville* might object to fraternize, as not belonging to their "order." Waiving, however, grandeur and exclusiveness, and warning the reader that no remarkable amount of research awaits him in these volumes, the "Anecdotes" which they contain may be commended as pleasant summer reading. A few pages are more than pleasant; interesting as contributing information to those who love "family secrets,"—and to whom the rise, progress, and fall of ancient races is a matter of pursuit. Take, for example, the following paragraphs on 'The Decadence of Families.'—

"What race in Europe surpassed in royal position, in personal achievement, our Henrys and our Edwards? and yet we find the great-grandson of Margaret Plantagenet, daughter and heiress of George Duke of Clarence, following the craft of a Cobbler! at the little town of Newport in Shropshire, in the year 1637. Besides, if we were to investigate the fortunes of many of the inheritors of the royal arms, it would soon be discovered that

The aspiring blood of Lancaster had sunk into the ground. The princely stream flows at the present time through very humble veins. Among the lineal descendants of Edmund of Woodstock, Earl of Kent, sixth son of Edward I., King of England, entitled to quarter the royal arms, occur Mr. Joseph Smart, of Hales Owen, butcher, and Mr. George Wilmot, keeper of the turnpike gate at Cooper's Bank, near Dudley; and among the descendants of Thomas Plantagenet, Duke of Gloucester, fifth son of Edward III., we may mention Mr. Stephen James Penny, the late sexton at St. George's, Hanover Square.

"The last male representative of the great Dukes of Buckingham, Roger Stafford, born at Malpas in Cheshire, about the year 1572, was refused the inheritance of his family honours on account of his poverty, and sunk into utter obscurity. This unfortunate youth went by the name of Fludd; indignant that his patronymic of Stafford should be associated with his humble lot.

"Of the Nevills—the direct heir in the senior line, Charles, sixth Earl of Westmoreland, lived to an advanced age in the Low Countries 'meanly and miserably,' and George Nevill, who was created Duke of Bedford by King Edward IV., that he might be of suitable rank to espouse the Lady Elizabeth Plantagenet, was eventually degraded from all titles and rank, on the ground of indigence.

"The Cromwells were of consideration and high county standing, in Huntingdonshire, seated at the fine old mansion of Hinchinbroke, and descended in the female line, from Cromwell, Earl of Essex, of the time of Henry VIII. Its chief, as well as many of its members, fought manfully under the royal banner. At the present time, seven Peers of the realm trace descent from the Lord Protector, viz., the Earls of Morley, Chichester, Rothes, Cowper, Clarendon, De Grey, and Ripon, but, as a contrast to this fair side of the picture, we must honestly confess, that within a hundred years after Oliver's death, some of his descendants were reduced to the depths of poverty, almost begging their daily bread. It is a singular fact, that an estate, which was granted to George Monk, Duke of Albemarle, for restoring the monarchy, should, by intermarriages, eventually vest in the late Oliver Cromwell, Esq., of Cheshunt, who died in 1821, being then the last male descendant of the Protector.

"It has been asserted, we know not exactly with what truth, that in Herefordshire, a county peculiarly rich in ancient families, there are but two or three county gentlemen who can show a male descent from the proprietors recorded in the Visitations. In the North, these genealogical vicissitudes have been hastened by the influence of manufacturers' gold, which has done so much to uproot the old proprietary of the soil, that we marvel how in Lancashire and the West Riding of Yorkshire such families as

Townley, Gerard, Blackburne, Blundell, Trafford, Fairfax, Foljambe, Hamerton, and Wentworth, 'have stood against the waves and weathers of time.'

"The story of the Gargraves is a melancholy chapter in the romance of real life. For full two centuries, or more, scarcely a family in Yorkshire enjoyed a higher position. Its chiefs earned distinction in peace and war; one died in France, Master of the Ordnance to King Henry V.; another, a soldier too, fell with Salisbury, at the siege of Orleans; and a third filled the Speaker's chair of the House of Commons... Thomas Gargrave, the Speaker's eldest son, was hung at York, for murder; and his half-brother, Sir Richard, endured a fate only less miserable. The splendid estate he inherited he wasted by the most wanton extravagance, and at length reduced himself to abject want. 'His excesses,' says Mr. Hunter, in his History of Doncaster, 'are still, at the expiration of two centuries, the subject of village tradition, and his attachment to gaming is commemorated in an old painting, long preserved in the neighbouring mansion of Badsworth, in which he is represented playing at the old game of Put, the right hand against the left, for the stake of a cup of ale.' The close of Sir Richard's story is as lamentable as its course. An utter bankrupt in means and reputation, he is stated to have been reduced to travel with the pack-horses to London, and was at last found dead in an old hostelry! He had married Catherine, sister of Lord Danvers, and by her left three daughters. Of the descendants of his brothers, few particulars can be ascertained. Not many years since, a Mr. Gargrave, believed to be one of them, filled the mean employment of parish clerk of Kippax.

"A similar melancholy narrative applies to another great Yorkshire house. Sir William Reresby, Bart., son and heir of the celebrated author, succeeded, at the death of his father, in 1689, to the beautiful estate of Thrybergh, in Yorkshire, where his ancestors had been seated, uninterruptedly from the time of the Conquest, and he lived to see himself denuded of every acre of his broad lands. Le Neve states, in his MSS. preserved in the Herald's College, that he became a tapster in the King's Bench Prison, and was tried and imprisoned for cheating in 1711. He was alive in 1727, when Wotton's account of the Baronets was published. In that work he is said to be reduced to a low condition. At length he died in great obscurity, a melancholy instance how low pursuits and base pleasures may sully the noblest name, and waste an estate gathered with labour and preserved by the care of a race of distinguished progenitors. Gaming was amongst Sir William's follies—particularly that lowest specimen of the folly—the fights of game cocks. The tradition at Thrybergh is (for his name is not quite forgotten) that the fine estate of Dennaby was staked and lost on a single main. Sir William Reresby was not the only baronet who disgraced his order at that period. In 1722 Sir Charles Burton was tried at the Old Bailey for stealing a seal; pleaded poverty, but was found guilty, and sentenced to transportation, which sentence was afterwards commuted for a milder punishment."

Let us just glance at a moral which could be derived from the above, and—for the sake of such readers as have a lingering love of "oracles" and old saws, and as will treasure up tales of "the Worme of Lambton," and of Scott's *Laird Nippy*, as though, indeed, laws were to be drawn therefrom and conclusions built on them, respecting the perpetuation and extinction of families,—let us venture to point out how "low pursuits and base pleasures" will in every case supply that mysterious canker which the lovers of the marvellous delight in assigning to certain institutions or races as having a periodicity independent of circumstance. Out of coincidences let the coffee-cup sorcerers shape their horoscopes,—shaking their heads over numbers elected by Fortune or Misfortune, over epochs in every century when peoples are to "wax fat and kick" and monarchs are to fall down like the mouse in the nursery song, over junctures in every family when, like Plane and Pippin, the "old stock" is to be exhausted and must die out:—but to



coffee-cup sorcerers, and not to philosophers, legislators, or even poets, will we hand over such experiences as *data* worth a second thought.

'The Eccentric Mirror,' or some such periodical, may have yielded Mr. Burke the grotesque full-length of amiable Sir John Dinely on his pattens, perpetually advertising for a wife, as under:—

"To the angelic fair of the true English breed,—worthy notice. Sir John Dinely, of Windsor Castle, recommends himself and his ample fortune to any angelic beauty of good breed, fit to become, and willing to be, a mother of a noble heir, and keep up the name of an ancient family, ennobled by deeds of arms and ancestral renown. Ladies at a certain period of life need not apply, as heirship is the object of the mutual contract offered by the ladies' sincere admirer, Sir John Dinely. Fortune favours the bold. Such ladies as this advertisement may induce to apply, or send their agents (but not servants or matrons), may direct to me at the Castle, Windsor. Happiness and pleasure are agreeable objects, and should be regarded as well as honour. The lady who shall thus become my wife will be a Baroness, and rank accordingly as Lady Dinely, of Windsor. Goodwill and favour to all ladies of Great Britain; pull no caps on his account, but favour him with your smiles, and paeans of pleasure await your steps."

"Grace O'Malley," *alias* Granu Waile, the old-world Queen of Connemara, is a personage who has already figured largely in the legendary literature of "the Emerald Isle." What an odd contrast does such a sublime, romantic "Wild Irish" woman make to the "actresses raised by marriage," to the Anastasia Robinsons and Lavinia Bestwicks,—to the Bruntons and the Farrens, who are, a few pages later, succinctly clubbed in one and the same paragraph by Mr. Burke!

The chapter describing Fonthill Abbey—that "romance in stone and lime," if there ever was such a thing—might have been with small trouble enriched, to its great benefit, by such a simple measure, for instance, as a reference to the illustrated work of Mr. Rutter, of Salisbury, in which some of the most remarkable features of that magical pile were depicted and described.—There was more to be said, too, concerning "old Q," though much more still remained behind which no Burke or other anecdote-gatherer could or should record.—The Lives of the Lindsays and the 'Memoirs of Lady Hester Stanhope' have yielded their *quotas* of anecdote.—But here is a family history, which, being strange to ourselves, we may be justified in giving to our readers, as being less familiar than any of the above.—

"Prince George of Denmark, in passing through Bristol, went to the Exchange, accompanied by one of his attendants, and remained there until the merchants had pretty generally withdrawn, none of whom had sufficient resolution to address his Highness! At last, one Duddelstone, a bodice-maker, mustered courage, and inquired of the Prince if he were not the husband of Queen Anne. Having received an affirmative reply, Duddelstone expressed the deep concern he felt that none of the merchants had invited his Highness home, assured him that the neglect arose from no disrespect to the Queen, but from a diffidence of their means of entertainment, and finished by entreating the Prince and the gentleman who was with him, to accompany him to his house, 'where,' added Duddelstone, 'a good piece of beef and a plum-pudding, with ale of my dame's own brewing, and a welcome of loyalty and respect await your presence.' Prince George was much amused with the bodice-maker's request, and, although he had ordered dinner at the White Hart, cheerfully accepted the invitation. Duddelstone, on arriving at home, called his wife, who was upstairs, desiring her to put on a clean apron, and come down, for the Queen's husband and another gentleman were come to dine with them. In the course of the repast, the Prince requested the bodice-maker to return the visit at the palace, and to bring his wife with him, giving him a card to facilitate his introduction at court. A few months after, Dud-

destone, with his wife behind him on horseback, set out for London, where they soon found the Prince, and were introduced to the Queen. Her Majesty received them most graciously, and invited them to an approaching dinner, telling them that they must have new clothes for the occasion. Dresses of purple velvet, the colour they selected, were consequently prepared, and Duddelstone and his worthy dame were introduced by the Queen herself as the most loyal persons in Bristol, and the only ones in that city who had invited the Prince, her husband, to their house. After the entertainment was over, the Queen desired Duddelstone to kneel, laid a sword on his head, and, to use Lady Duddelstone's own words, said to him, 'Ston up, Sir Jan.' He was then offered money or a place under government; but he would not accept either, informing the Queen that he had 50*l.* out at interest, and he apprehended that the number of people he saw about court must be very expensive. The Queen made Lady Duddelstone a present of her gold watch from her side, which her ladyship considered so great an ornament, that she never went to market without having it suspended over her blue apron! Sir John Duddelstone, rising still higher in royal favour, was created a baronet, 11th January, 1691, but the sun of his prosperity soon set. In the great storm of 1704, he lost more than 20,000*l.*, and was sadly reduced, so much so, indeed, that his grandson and heir, Sir John Duddelstone, the second baronet, held an humble appointment in the Customs at Bristol, and was living in the year 1727, in a very low condition."

We could continue such desultory annotations and illustrations as the foregoing, for some score of columns to come; but enough has been given to recommend Mr. Burke's 'Anecdotes' to the miscellaneous reader without his being led to expect anything very recendite from the series.

#### *Narrative of an Expedition to the Shores of the Arctic Sea in 1846 and 1847. By John Rae. Boone.*

It is recorded of a gentleman who was fated to spend some dreary months in a high northern latitude in America, that the usual reply which he received from his servant to the question—"What sort of night has it been?"—was, "Why, Sir, in the fore part of the night it snowed, but toward morning it frizzed horrid." Adding day to night this meteorological bulletin would hold good for the greater portion of the seasons spent in the Arctic regions by that hardy company of explorers who have shed lustre on the country that sent them out on the perilous mission of planting her flag in the regions of "thick-ribbed ice." To that gallant band is now to be added the name of John Rae; who with power of endurance, combines excessive fortitude and coolness in the hour of danger. His high moral and physical qualities won the esteem and admiration of Sir John Richardson,—and the unpretending narrative now before us will tend to confirm the sentiment pre-existing in his favour.

The Expedition which forms the subject of Mr. Rae's narrative was, our readers know, suggested so long ago as 1840; and was intended to have been placed under the command of that able and enterprising traveller Mr. Thomas Simpson,—whose indefatigable exertions, in conjunction with those of Mr. Dease, had during the three preceding years added so much to our geographical knowledge of Arctic America. His untimely end prevented that intention from being carried into effect, and the survey of the coast was discontinued for a few years. In 1845 the matter was taken up by Sir George Simpson, governor-in-chief of the Hudson's Bay Company's territories;—who planned an Expedition, the leading features of which were as follows.—To leave Churchill in two boats manned by thirteen persons, including two Esquimaux interpreters, on the breaking up of the ice, and coast along the western shore of Hudson's Bay to the northward as far as Repulse Bay,—or, if thought neces-

sary, to the Strait of the Fury and Hecla. From this latter point the shore of the Arctic Sea was to be traced to the point of Dease and Simpson's farthest discoveries eastward; or, if Boothia Felix should be found to form part of the American continent, then it was to be examined, to the point where the surveys of Sir John and Sir James Ross terminated.

The command of the Expedition was offered to Mr. Rae,—who "most joyfully accepted the trust." The boats selected were two strong clinker-built craft, 22 feet long by 7 feet 6 inches broad, named the North Pole and the Magnet, each capable of carrying between fifty and sixty bales of 90 lb. a piece. They were rigged with lug sails and a jib, under which with a strong breeze of wind they were found to work admirably. The Expedition left Churchill on the 5th of July, 1846, and reached Repulse Bay on the 24th. From thence they crossed Rae Isthmus, and with great difficulty proceeded as far as a few miles past Point Hargrave,—when, on the 3rd of August, they were completely stopped by the ice. They ran ashore, and found a large wooden sledge, which they cut up for fuel. "The wood," observes Mr. Rae, "was evidently the planks of some vessel, (probably of the Fury, or of Sir John Ross's steamer the Victory), as there were holes in it bored by an auger." Inquiries from the Esquimaux failed, our readers are aware, to elicit any intelligence respecting Sir John Franklin. Mr. Rae returned to Repulse Bay, where preparations were forthwith made to pass the winter. The prospects of the party were not very cheering; nevertheless they seem to have set to work with great zeal and goodwill.

"All hands were now busily employed making preparations for a long and dreary winter; for this purpose four men were set to work to collect stones for building a house, whilst the others were occupied in setting nets, hunting deer, and gathering fuel. Our work was much impeded by rainy weather, particularly the house building, as the clay or mud was washed away as soon as applied. We found that our nets were so much cut up by a small marine insect from a half to three-quarters of an inch long, resembling a shrimp in miniature, the favourite food of the salmon,—that it was quite impossible to keep them in repair. I thought, to destroy their taste for hemp by steeping the nets in a strong decoction of tobacco, but it had no effect. On the 2nd of September our house was finished; its internal dimensions were 20 feet long by 14 feet broad, height in front 7½ feet, sloping to 5½ feet at the back. We formed a very good roof by using the ears and masts of our boats as rafters, and covering them with oilcloth and moose skin, the latter being fixed to the lower or inside of the rafters, whilst the former was placed on the outside to run off the rain. The door was made of parchment deer-skins, stretched over a frame of wood. The walls were fully two feet thick, with three small openings, in which a like number of windows, each having two panes of glass, were placed. Our establishment was dignified with the name of Fort Hope, and was situated in 66° 32' 16" N.; longitude (by a number of sets of lunar distances with objects on both sides of the moon) 86° 53' 51" W. The variation of the compass on 30th August was 62° 50' 30" W.; mean dip of the needle, and the mean twice of a hundred vertical vibrations in the line of declination 226°. A sort of room was formed at one end by putting up a partition of oilcloth. In this, besides its serving as my quarters, all our pemmican and some of the other stores were stowed away."

The little Expedition suffered under the terrible disadvantage of being entirely ignorant of the resources of the country. It was not likely that the deer would remain near them during the winter; and it was evident that after the snow should begin to fall, which would be early in September, fuel would not be procurable. No time was, therefore, to be lost in obtaining a sufficient supply of provisions for the



winter consumption. In September the animals killed amounted to 63 deer, 5 hares, 1 seal, 172 partridges, and 116 salmon and trout; and in the following month 69 deer were shot, but the nets produced only 18 salmon and 4 trout. All the rigour of an Arctic winter now came upon the party, aggravated by the circumstance that they could not afford fuel to dry their clothes. Nevertheless, we are told that—

“Christmas-day was passed very agreeably, but the weather was so stormy and cold that only a very short game at football could be played. Short as it was, however, it was sufficiently amusing, for our faces were every moment getting frost-bitten either in one place or another, so as to require the continual application of the hand; and the rubbing, running about, and kicking the ball all at the same time, produced a very ludicrous effect. Our dinner was composed of excellent venison and a plum-pudding, with a moderate allowance of brandy punch to drink a health to absent friends. For some time past washing the face had been rather an unpleasant operation, as any water that got among the hair froze upon it immediately. This is mentioned by Sir George Back as having occurred once to him at Fort Reliance, in 1833. On the 28th, North Pole River got frozen to the bottom, so that we were forced to go to a lake to the S.W. of Beacon Hill, about half a mile distant, for water. The 1st of January was as beautiful a day as we could have wished to begin the new year with. There was a light air of wind, and the temperature varied from  $-23^{\circ}$  to  $-26^{\circ}$ . After a most excellent breakfast of fat venison steaks, all the party were occupied for some hours with a spirited game at foot-ball, at which there was much fun, the snow being so hard and slippery that several pairs of heels might be seen in the air at the same time. My dinner consisted of part of a hare and rein-deer tongue, with a currant pudding as second course. The men's mess was much like my own, except that they had venison instead of hare. A small supply of brandy was served out, and on the whole I do not believe that a more happy company could have been found in America, large as it is. 'Tis true that an agreeable companion to join me in a glass of punch, to drink a health to absent friends, to speak of by-gone times and speculate on the future, might have made the evening pass more pleasantly, yet I was far from unhappy. To hear the merry joke, the hearty laugh, and lively song among my men, was of itself a source of much pleasure.”

So the winter passed:—the lowest temperature which was experienced being  $-47^{\circ}$ . In April 1847 preparations were made to proceed to the north,—and the entire east coast of Committee Bay as high as  $69\frac{1}{2}^{\circ}$  latitude was explored. We must refer our readers to Mr. Rae's narrative for the exciting account of the many adventures and hardships encountered by the party;—which strongly remind us of those in Franklin's celebrated land journey. On one occasion provisions ran so low, that it was contemplated to boil a piece of parchment skin for supper; from which necessity the party were relieved by killing a few marmots. The excessive fatigue which they endured is strikingly evidenced by the following extract.

“I have had considerable practice in walking, and have often accomplished between forty and fifty, and, on one occasion, sixty-five miles in a day, on snow shoes, with a day's provisions, blanket, axe, &c. on my back; but our journey hitherto had been the most fatiguing I had ever experienced. The severe exercise, with a limited allowance of food, had much reduced the whole party, yet we were all in excellent health; and although we lost flesh, we kept up our spirits, and marched merrily on, tightening our belts—mine came in six inches—and feasting our imaginations on full allowance when we arrived at Fort Hope.”

The exploration of the west coast of Committee Bay as high as Lord Mayor's Bay formed another Expedition, and resulted in the acquisition of considerable geographical knowledge. Barren tracts of land were formally taken pos-

session of in the name of Queen Victoria. The weather was very unpropitious during this journey; but the party met with much kindness from the Esquimaux with whom they fell in. Indeed, throughout their wanderings these people appear to have acted in the most friendly manner. On one occasion, when Mr. Rae was about to put on a pair of boots which were stiff and hard from the intense cold, a female Esquimaux took them from him and began chewing the leather with her strong teeth. “This,” adds our author, “is the mode in which they prepare and soften the seal skin for their boots, and they are seldom without a piece of leather to gnaw when they have no better occupation for their teeth.”—Before the winter of 1847 had set in, Mr. Rae had conducted his party to York Factory; having succeeded in accomplishing the main objects of the Expedition. A list of the Fauna collected during the journey, with their localities, is appended to the work,—as are also a valuable series of magnetical and meteorological observations which Mr. Rae succeeded in making despite the most trying meteorological difficulties.

*The People of the Caucasus, and their Struggle for Liberty with the Russians*.—[*Die Völker des Caucasus, &c.*]. By Friedrich Bodenstedt. Second Edition. Frankfurt am Main, Lizius; London, Nutt.

THE vicissitudes of the war in the Caucasus of late have been surprising enough to awaken the interest of Western Europe, even amidst her own nearer anxieties. Last year it was said that the conquest of Achulgo, the stronghold of the redoubtable Schamyl, had effectually broken the power of that daring leader. In direct contradiction to such reports, later accounts from Daghestan tell of the re-appearance of the notable partisan amidst the lines of the Russians, and of a defeat of the latter, the most severe, if the details of the event be true, that they have yet suffered in the Caucasus. In any case, these exciting changes of fortune would be in favour of a book professing to describe this interesting region and to add to our knowledge of its brave inhabitants. The main interest of Herr Bodenstedt's work will now be enhanced by its undertaking to give a more precise account than had previously appeared of the priest-warrior of Daghestan, and of the new sect as the prophet of which he succeeded in arraying the independent mountain clans against their common enemy with a kind of combination unknown in earlier periods of the struggle.

The author has evidently lived for some time in the region which he describes, or in the bordering districts along the Caspian, both in Georgia and in North Daghestan. His acquaintance with Asiatic and Russian languages and customs appears to have been gained both by study and from intercourse with the natives of the south-eastern frontier. He is not ignorant of Oriental writings that refer to his subject; and his Russian statistics prove an access to official authorities which are not to be found in print. These, however obtained, can scarcely have been imparted to him as one of those writers whom the Court of St. Petersburg hires to promote its views through the press of Western Europe. His sympathies are declared against Russian usurpation; and the tendency of his essay is to prove how little real progress it has yet made in subduing the Caucasus, the enormous waste of money and life with which its fluctuating successes have been bought, and the fallacy of expecting a better result hereafter. In this view he agrees with Wagner,—of whose travels in the Caucasus we have already given some account [*Athen. No. 1119*].

We should, indeed, hear what he has to say

with more satisfaction, had he, like Wagner, plainly stated the nature and extent of his personal experiences in this region; what places he visited, and the time of his stay in them: still more had he told us precisely how much of the present volume—especially as regards the war between 1835 and 1842—is the result of his own observation, and what merely compiled from the notes of others. Of such second-hand materials many of the sketches from that period are avowedly made up; some principal chapters, on important passages of the war, and on the conduct of the leaders on both sides, being taken, as we are told, “from the diary of a distinguished Russian officer, long resident in Daghestan,” and from the “communications of well-informed Uléma and officers, whose materials, gathered on the spot, we have been permitted to use ‘at pleasure;’” while “as regards the main substance of the narrative,” he refers to “a MS. in Russian,—of which several transcripts have been circulated in Tiflis,—drawn up by an officer, who fell in the late excursion into Daghestan.” A section in the appendix, on the campaigns of 1841-2 is supplied, *verbatim*, by a known writer, Budeus; and is, we may add, the clearest and most graphic chapter in the book. The other materials, having been submitted, “at pleasure,” to some kind of fusion by the editor, can neither be regarded as mere extracts nor as original notices: and while the unequal texture of the work betrays its mixed ingredients, the style in which they are dressed up by the compiler has a flavour of romance, more proper to the novelist than to an historian, which impairs our faith in the exact truth of all the details that he offers us. The best part of his work is that which delineates some features of the later movement in the Caucasus hitherto but little known in Western Europe. The historical survey with which the book opens, comprising,—with a sketch of Russia's usurpation of Georgia, and a keen discussion of the pretences on which she claims the sovereignty of the Caucasus,—an account of its several clans, and of the topography and statistics of that region, and an able sketch of the origin and settlement of the Cossack tribes, is also drawn up in a soberer tone, and bears a more authentic character than the latter or narrative part. These materials it would be impossible to compress within our limits: of the ethnographic materials some idea may be formed by referring to our notice, as above, of Wagner's ‘Caucasian Sketches.’

From this part we will take only the following rough estimate of the numbers of the male population of the Caucasus able to bear arms. They are given by Herr Bodenstedt, with the proviso that they are but approximate, as follows:—

Belonging to the race of Kartvel,—including, as branches of one parent stock, the Georgians, Iberians, Surians, Mingrelians and Suanefes	300,000
Abshadian and Tcherkessian tribes, occupying the region between the Kuban and the Black Sea, (or those commonly known to Europe under the denomination of “Circassians”)	150,000
Lesghians	350,000
Armenians	135,000
Of Turkish and Persian descent	350,000
	1,285,000

Other authorities compute the number variously, between one and one and a half millions. The larger estimate may not be found excessive when the extent of the region† is considered. The Lesghians we see are here rated at 350,000 fighting men:—of these, some 100,000 must be struck off, as tribes under Russian control,—the remainder will form the able male

† It is scarcely needful to observe here that it comprises, in Daghestan especially, large tracts, below the mountain ranges, of open country, which, as well as many valleys in the upper region, are of the richest fertility.



population of that region, in which the chief warfare of the last ten years has raged. What it has cost in life on the Russian side to attack—hitherto with no lasting effect—this handful of mountaineers, may be guessed from a single note inserted in the Appendix, dated 1847.—“The present Russian force in the Caucasus”—including, of course, the armed Cossacks on the Kuban and Terek—“amounts to 200,000.” Taking into account the numbers yearly cut off by disease, more fatal even than the mountain war, every step of which must be won by the most reckless waste of life,—the “Russian Officer” may perhaps truly affirm that the annual expenditure of life by Russia in her warfare with Schamyl has for many years past exceeded the whole number of the population at any one time directly under the rule of that chieftain.

The editor's caution on the subject of Russian statistics is, however, worth remembering here.—

The foreign traveller, who wishes to obtain a glimpse of the statistical relations of this country, will do well to put more faith in printed Russian documents than in the oral data of Russian officials—those, even, whose position renders an exact knowledge of the internal circumstances of the country a positive duty. For your true Russians are never more delighted than when a foreign author sets forth in public with a good round budget of nonsense concerning their nation,—but they dread the truth, as owls do the light: like the basilisk, they would die, were they by accident to behold their own real image. For this reason, therefore, every Russian of the right sort will frankly contribute his mite to perplex the traveller's notions, and to keep truth out of the way as much as possible. \* \* With what satisfaction do these gentry then rub their hands when they detect mistakes which they themselves have begotten! What a rejoicing there was in the Boyar drawing-rooms when M. d'Arincourt, in his ‘Étoile Polaire,’ brought into the book-market all the absurdities and obsolete fictions with which he had been crammed in Moscow and Petersburg!—so many false numbers to discover! and so many wrong names! such a mass of fables, and so little truth! and Russian society depicted in a manner at once so preposterous and so highly scented—as if the author had written with a dottrel's feather dipped in attar of roses! In short, it was an ecstatic triumph: a pleasure more than enough for the heart of an orthodox Muscovite. It was but fair in the Emperor to repay the innocent delight which the noble Vicomte had thus afforded to his Majesty's subjects who speak French,—with the gift of an order.

We have said that the most instructive part of Herr Bodenstedt's essay is his sketch of that politico-religious scheme which made Schamyl formidable to the Russians. This system, it is to be observed, arose and has since been fully developed only in the Eastern Caucasus, where of late the main stress of the war has been. The western tribes (our “Circassians”) who took the lead at an earlier stage of the contest, were not then, nor have they since been inspired by the fanatic zeal which united the tribes of Daghestan. They fought from a mere love of independence, each little republic by itself; and their efforts, however heroic, being without concert, gradually declined before the vast force of the invader. In the region looking westward from the Georgian frontier on the Euxine, on the one side of the Caucasian range, and along the lower Kuban on the other, the Russian posts are now seldom threatened but by small predatory bands;—the natives, retired to their mountain villages, have for some time made but few more formidable incursions. The war is transferred to the region spreading eastward from the Elbrus to the Caspian; where the strife for free existence is animated not less by the hatred of Russian slavery than by a fresh outbreak of Mohammedan zeal against Infidel invasion,—a revival, in fact, of that warlike fanaticism which made the Mos-

lem name terrible from the eighth to the sixteenth century.

It dates from the years 1823-4; at which period a “new doctrine” began to be preached secretly at first, to the select Uléma, afterwards to greater numbers, in word and writing, by one Mullah Mohammed, a famous teacher and a judge (or *kadi*) of Jarach, in the Kurin district of Daghestan. He professed to have learnt it from Hadis-Ismaïl, an Alim of Kurdomir, highly famed for wisdom and sanctity. It laid bare the degradation into which his countrymen had sunk by irreligion and by the jealousy of sect; their danger, in consequence, from enemies of the true faith; and urged the necessity of reform in creed and practice, in order to regain the invincible character promised by the Prophet to believers. The theoretic part of the reformed doctrine seems to be a kind of Sufism,—the general character of which mode of Islam, long prevalent in the adjacent kingdom of Persia, has been described by our own orientalists. Disputed questions as to its origin, whether in Brahmin philosophy or in the reveries of Moslem mystics, cannot be discussed here; it must suffice to indicate those points which appear to connect it with the hieratic policy that has given a new aspect to the war in the Caucasus.

Proceeding nominally on the basis of the Koran, it inculcates or expounds a kind of spiritual transcendentalism; in which the adept is raised above the necessity of formal laws, which are only requisite for those who are not capable of rising to a full intelligence of the supreme power. To gain this height by devout contemplation must be the personal work and endeavour of each individual. The revelation of divine truth, once attained, supersedes specific moral injunctions; ceremonies and systems, even, of religion become indifferent to the mind illuminated by the sacred idea. A higher degree is the perfect conception or ecstatic vision of the Deity;—the highest—reserved only for the prophetic few—a real immediate union with his essence. Here, it will be seen, are four steps or stages; each of which has its sacred manual or appropriate system of teaching. In the hieratic system of which Schamyl is the head, the divisions seem to correspond pretty nearly with this arrangement, as follows:—

The *first* includes the mass of the armed people; whose zeal it promotes by strict religious and moral injunctions—enjoining purity of life, exact regard to the ritual of the Koran, teaching pilgrimages, fasting, ablutions; the duty of implacable war against the Infidel, the sin of enduring his tyranny.

The *second* is composed of those who, in virtue of *striving* upwards to a higher Divine intelligence, are elevated above ceremonial religion. Of these the *Murids* (*seekers or strugglers*;) are formed: a body of religious warriors attached to the Imam, whose courage in battle, raised to a kind of frenzy, despises numbers and laughs at death. To accept quarter, or to fly from the Infidel, is forbidden to this class.

The *third* includes the more perfect acolytes, who are presumed to have risen to the ecstatic view of the Deity. These are the elect, whom the Imam makes *Naibs*, or vicegerents,—invested with nearly absolute power in his absence.

The *fourth*, or highest, implying entire union with the Divine essence, is held by Schamyl alone. In virtue of this elevation and spiritual endowment, the Imam, as an immediate organ of the Supreme Will, is himself the source of all law to his followers, unerring, impeccable; to question or disobey his behests is a sin against religion, as well as a political crime. It may be seen what advantage this system must have given to Schamyl in his

conflict with the Russians. The doctrine of the indifference of sects and forms enabled him to unite the divided followers of Omar and of Ali, in a region where both abound, and where the schism had formerly been one of the most effectual instruments of the enemy. The belief in a Divine mission and spiritual powers sustains his adherents in all reverses; while it invites to defection from the Russian side those of the Mohammedan tribes who have submitted to the invader. Among these, however, Schamyl—like his predecessors in the same priestly office—by no means confides the progress of his sect to spiritual influences only. The work of conversion, where exhortation fails, is carried on remorselessly by fire and sword; and the Imam is as terrible to those of his countrymen whom fear or interest retains in alliance with Russia, as to the soldiers of the Czar. With a character in which extreme daring is allied with coolness, cunning, and military genius,—with a good fortune which has hitherto preserved his life in many circumstances where escape seemed impossible,—it may be seen that the belief in his supernatural gifts and privileges, once created, must always tend to increase in intensity and effect among the imaginative and credulous Mohammedans of the Caucasus; and that this apt combination of the warrior with the politician and prophet accounts for his success in combining against the Russians a force of the once discordant tribes of Daghestan, possessing more of the character of a national resistance than had been ever known before in the Caucasus,—and compelling the invaders to purchase every one of their few, trifling and dubious advances by the terrible sacrifice of life already noticed.

In this formidable movement the highlander's natural love of freedom is fanned into a blaze by a religious zeal like that which once led the armies of Islam over one half of Asia and Europe. Although it reached its highest energy and a more consummate development under Schamyl, it was begun by his predecessors. Of the Mullah Mohammed, who first preached the duty of casting off the yoke of the Giaour, and the necessity of a religious reform and union of rival sects, as a means to that end, we have already spoken. This founder of the new system, an aged man, untrained in arms, never himself drew the sword in the cause; but was active in diffusing its principles and preparing a warlike rising by exhortations and letters circulated through all Daghestan. Suspected of these designs, he was seized, in 1826, by the orders of Jermoloff; and although he escaped,—by the connivance, it is said, of the native prince employed to capture him,—he afterwards lived, in a kind of concealment, for some years. The post of Imam was thereupon assumed by a priest who was able to fight for the new doctrine as well as to preach it. The first armed outbreak took place under Kasi-Mullah, about the year 1829; from which time, until his death in a battle at Himry, in 1831, he waged a terrible and, although often defeated, a virtually successful warfare, against the Russians, while he prosecuted the work of conversion among the tribes of Islam who delayed to acknowledge his mission, and to join in his enmity to the Russians, by the extremities of bloodshed and rapine. His death, after an heroic resistance, was hailed as a triumph by the Russians. They counted on the extinction of the new sect in the defeat of its leader:—whose dead body they carried about the country to prove the imposture of his pretensions. This piece of barbarism produced an effect the reverse of what they expected. The venerable face of the Imam, the attitude in which he had expired, with one hand pointed, as if to heaven, was more impressive to those



who crowded round the body than his fearless enthusiasm had been,—and thousands who till then had held aloof, now joined his followers in venerating him as a prophet. Of this first warrior-priest of Daghestan, Schamyl was the favourite disciple and the most trusted soldier. Kasi-Mullah was not killed until Schamyl had already fallen, as it seemed, under several deadly wounds:—his re-appearance after this bloody scene was but the first of many similar escapes, the report of which sounds like a fable. He did not, however, at once succeed to the dignity of Imam: the office was usurped for more than a year by Hamsad Beg (Bey), whose rapacious and savage treatment of some of the princely families of Daghestan nearly caused a fatal reaction against the new sect, and the destruction of its main support, the Murids. Hamsad Beg performed no action of consequence against the Russians; but expended his rage upon the natives allied with them, or reluctant to obey his mandates. He was assassinated in 1834, by some kinsmen of a princely house whose territories he had usurped after a massacre of its princes. In the affray which took place on this occasion, there perished with him many of the fanatic Murids, who had become odious as instruments of the cruelties of their Imam. On his death, Schamyl was raised to the dignity,—but it was some time before the mischief done by his predecessor was so far repaired as to allow him to act with energy as the prophet of the new doctrine. One of the ill effects of Hamsad Beg's iniquities had been the defection to the Russians of a notable partisan—Hadji Murad—for many years a fatal thorn in the side of the independent party.\* This and other difficulties, among which was the unpopularity of the Murids under Hamsad Beg, were removed by new alliances and precautions, while all that eloquence and skill could perform was applied to restore the credit of the religious system—before Schamyl could hazard a direct attack of the Russian enemy:—who meanwhile had taken advantage of the delay and disunion to gain ground in many parts of Daghestan. From the year 1839, however, the tide rapidly turned; and the result, from that date until the period at which the account closes (1845),—when Woronzow was appointed to command in the Caucasus, with nearly unlimited powers,—has been, that the Russians, in spite of tremendous sacrifices, were constantly losing ground and influence, while Schamyl gained both in equal proportion. The details of the campaigns during this interval are highly interesting; and we regret that conditions of space forbid us to translate some of the exciting episodes recorded by Herr Bodenstedt. We may, however, extract the following account of the Caucasian hero,—whose portrait, we believe, has never before been so fully exhibited to European readers.—

Schamyl is of middle stature; he has light hair, grey eyes, shaded by bushy and well-arched eyebrows,—a nose finely moulded, and a small mouth. His features are distinguished from those of his race by a peculiar fairness of complexion and delicacy of skin: the elegant form of his hands and feet is not less remarkable. The apparent stiffness of his arms, when he walks, is a sign of his stern and impenetrable character. His address is thoroughly noble and dignified. Of himself he is completely master; and he exerts a tacit supremacy over all who approach him. An immoveable stony calmness, which never forsakes him, even in moments of the utmost danger, broods over his countenance. He passes a sentence of death with the same composure with which he distributes

\* It is worth noting,—as characteristic of Russian misrule and of its consequences,—that this chieftain, after having been a devoted soldier of the Emperor for seven years, was goaded by the ill treatment of his officers into abjuring the service; made the offer of his sword to Schamyl, against whom he had fought with the utmost animosity; was heartily welcomed by that prudent leader; and became one of his principal lieutenants.

“the sabre of honour” to his bravest Murids, after a bloody encounter. With traitors or criminals whom he has resolved to destroy he will converse without betraying the least sign of anger or vengeance. He regards himself as a mere instrument in the hands of a higher Being; and holds, according to the Sufi doctrine, that all his thoughts and determinations are immediate inspirations from God. The flow of his speech is as animating and irresistible as his outward appearance is awful and commanding. “He shoots flames from his eyes, and scatters flowers from his lips,”—said Bersek Bey, who sheltered him for some days after the fall of Achulgo,—when Schamyl dwelt for some time among the princes of the Djighetes and Ubiches, for the purpose of inciting the tribes on the Black Sea to rise against the Russians. Schamyl is now (circa 1847:) fifty years old, but still full of vigour and strength: it is however said, that he has for some years past suffered from an obstinate disease of the eyes, which is constantly growing worse. He fills the intervals of leisure which his public charges allow him, in reading the Koran, fasting, and prayer. Of late years he has but seldom, and then only on critical occasions, taken a personal share in warlike encounters. In spite of his almost supernatural activity, Schamyl is excessively severe and temperate in his habits. A few hours of sleep are enough for him: at times he will watch for the whole night, without showing the least trace of fatigue on the following day. He eats little, and water is his only beverage. \* \* According to Mohammedan custom, he keeps several wives—[this contradicts Wagner, who affirms that Schamyl always confined himself to one];—in 1844 he had three, of which his favourite, *Dur Haremen*, (Pearl of the Harem) as she was called, was an Armenian, of exquisite beauty.

Will Russian arms prevail in the end? The following is Herr Bodenstedt's answer; after noticing the arrival of Woronzow, and the expectations raised by his talents, by the immense resources at his command, as well as by such events as the storm of Schamyl's stronghold of Dargo.—

He who believes that the issue of this contest hangs on the destruction of stone fortresses, on the devastation of tracts of forest, has not yet conceived the essential nature of the war in the Caucasus. \* \* \* This is not merely a war of men against men—it is a strife between the mountain and the steppe. The population of the Caucasus may be changed; the air of liberty wafted from its heights will ever remain the same. Invigorated by this atmosphere, even Russian hirelings would grow into men eager for freedom; and among their descendants a new race of heroes would arise, to point their weapons against that servile constitution, to extend which their fathers had once fought, as blind, unquestioning slaves.

To this answer of Herr Bodenstedt's we will add nothing of our own. We are weary with waiting for the events of history such as we would have them.

*Correspondence of the Emperor Charles V. and his Ambassadors at the Courts of England and France, from the Original Letters in the Imperial Family Archives at Vienna.* Edited by William Bradford, M.A., formerly Chaplain to the British Embassy at Vienna.

[Second Notice.]

WE said last week that we might probably return to this volume, for the purpose of presenting our readers with some extracts from the despatches of Chapuys to the Emperor. Chapuys was Charles's ambassador at London, and his letters are very interesting. The mis-spelling of English names in the French originals is amusing. Thus, the father of Anna Boleyn (created Earl of Wiltshire) is called *Condé de Pulcher*.—*Grennevys* stands for Greenwich:—and so on. While Henry was staying at Greenwich he had many conversations with Chapuys:—from whose account we make the following extract.—

“Sire! Presently afterwards the King passing on his way to Mass, came up directly to me, with the utmost graciousness and courtesy, much more than

on a former occasion, and said, taking me by the sleeve, ‘so you have news for me, from my brother the Emperor?’ On answering in the affirmative, he enquired the date of the letters, and being informed, he spoke of the great care your Majesty took to inform me of the news. I assured him in reply, that it was one of the principal cares of Your Majesty to make him participate in all the affairs which most nearly concerned you, both in the communications you had with others, and in your own deliberations, and thus to prove the amity, brotherly affection and entire confidence cherished for him by your Majesty on all occasions, persuaded as you were that he in like manner would feel and act towards you,—which he cordially assented to. I then presented the letters of Your Majesty and declared the tenor of my credentials, adding that although your Majesty had been advised that the Pope would himself write to him on the same subject, it was nevertheless suitable to the friendly sentiments which subsisted between you, as well as to the importance of the affair itself, that a special communication of it on Your part should not be wanting. It was true, he told me, that the Pope had written to him, but it was not the less agreeable to learn from Your Majesty the motives and object of this proceeding; and touching the particulars referred to in my said credentials, he had already provided for them, he said, in orders given to his Ambassadors now sent to Your Majesty's court, who were authorised to confer, to treat and conclude on the whole affair. Speaking of the cause and occasion of Your Majesty's journey into Italy, I observed, that in this instance he would surely not be the last to advance so good and holy a work. He replied certainly not, and that he should be very sorry to give cause to any such suspicion. But as it was now time for going to Mass, the King, wishing to discourse with me more at large, put off our further conference till his return. Sire! immediately after Mass the King coming up to me resumed the same subject, asking me if I thought it were possible that he could be backward in such a proceeding? I then laid before him more expressly and more particularly the great necessity there was to resist without further delay this formidable enemy the Turk, which would appear most pressing from extracts of letters which the king of Hungary had addressed to Your Majesty, as well as from the tenor of those which Madame had been pleased to write to me. I told him that I had reason to fear also that the Pope's expected arrival at Bologna on the 5th of this month, would scarcely admit of his ambassadors who were to set out and travel at their ease, being in time for the conference; and therefore it might be expedient I observed, were he to send another power by post to the Ambassadors already with his Holiness, that they might treat on all the subjects in question, should the case require it. He told me that he had given the Ambassadors sent to your Majesty especial charge to expedite their journey, and that he would repeat his injunctions on this point. With regard to Your Majesty's expectations from him in this war with the Turk, it was right, he said, to be clearly understood, that he could only do little, but that he was ready to do all in his power. I was unwilling to let this observation on the smallness of his ability pass without remarking, that it could not be inconsiderable as to men, and certainly was very far from being so as to money, with which, it was well known he was provided at least as well as any Prince in Christendom. Were it indeed otherwise, I added, since he was absolute as the Pope, in his dominions, and had moreover such an abundance of rich ecclesiastics, he could hardly plead a want of wealth. He would not be wanting, he rejoined, to assist and promote the enterprise in view as far as the object appeared to him to require his exertions; but Your Majesty, he strongly intimated, as the principal in the affair, the greatest personage, and the most powerful, ought to be the conductor and leader of the way to others, and the more effectually to accomplish this, ought without delay to make peace with the potentates of Italy. He said that all the success you could gain there, would not add one jot to your greatness or your power, and the more Your Majesty could abstain from wasting means in that quarter which might be employed on a much greater and fitter object elsewhere, the more would it redound to Your Majesty's honour, praise, and



reputation in the face of all the world. It was not, he said, out of any favour or affection towards the Italian powers, to whom he was bound by no tie or obligation, but out of a sense of duty to Your Majesty, that he made this remark, for whose exaltation and glory he was always anxious. Not that he presumed to offer advice to Your Majesty, he continued, who was not only provided with a store of faithful counsellors, but who was yourself greatly distinguished for your prudence. Your Majesty, I assured him, had never ceased to use your best efforts for bringing about a safe peace, union, and tranquillity in Italy, and that this was one of the motives of the present journey, as I had before observed. I told him that the parties with whom you had to deal were so difficult to bring to reason, having always some reserved point in their proposals, that caution in proceeding with them was, so to speak, no less necessary than with the Turks, and consequently that their very offers of amity were not immediately to be acceded to, much to the discomfiture of Your Majesty; as might be seen in the case of the Duke Francisco Sforza."

Chapuy thus describes Henry's treatment of Queen Katharine:—prefacing it by referring to Fisher, Bishop of Rochester:—

"Sire,—Since my last letters, the Bishop of Rochester urged by his care for the King's conscience, for the good of the country, the benefit of the Queen, and his own respect for truth, has finished revising and correcting the book which he lately wrote, and which I sent to Your Majesty. He has also written another, which the Queen has directed me to forward immediately by the present courier, in order that the persons deputed by Your Majesty to support her rights, may have leisure to examine it thoroughly, before the arrival of those who are about to oppose them on the King's part. The said Bishop has entreated the Queen to do so, although he greatly fears being known to be the author of this last work, as the said Queen has informed Your Majesty. His great learning, and the pains he has taken in compiling these works, will be seen in the works themselves, and cannot fail to add great weight to his opinion. His good and pious life, well known at Rome and elsewhere, and his being a subject of the said King's, will also prove, that there need be no suspicion of unfair dealing from him, as there is from many who advocate the King's cause. Sire, the treatment of the Queen continues as bad, I might even say worse than ever. The King absents himself from her as much as possible, and is always here with the lady, whilst the Queen is at Richmond. He has never been so long without visiting her as now, but states as an excuse, that a death from the plague has taken place near her residence. He has also resumed his attempts to persuade her to become a nun; this, however, is only lost time, for the Queen will never condescend to such a step. The continued trouble and annoyance which she undergoes, constrain her to persevere in importuning Your Majesty, both by her own letters and by mine; nor will she cease to do so, until her suit is brought to a final conclusion, which she trusts it will be before Your Majesty leaves Italy."

The divorce of Henry is thus referred to:—

"Eight days ago, the Dean of the Chapel, as King's attorney in this cause, appeared officially before the Archbishop of Canterbury's chancellor, and presented him with eight documents, which he required should be put into an authentic, juridical, and probative form. These were the decisions of the Universities respecting this matter of the divorce; whereof two were from Paris, one from the theological faculty, and one from the Canonists; the others from the Universities of Toulouse, Orleans, Burgos, Bologna, Padua, and Pavia. I think it more likely that they will publish these documents rather than any book, since they cannot be so easily answered, and the people will rely on their authority with more confidence. In case they do so, the best remedy would be, to get the attestation of those votes which were in favour of the Queen in Paris, and to publish the opinions of such Universities as decided against the King. Also, to circulate any of the best books which can be found, as was done in Spain with the Bishop of Rochester's. Some people thought that the good bishop would be annoyed about it, for fear of the King's displeasure; but, see-

ing that it had been done without his own knowledge, he has proved perfectly indifferent. I therefore conclude that he will not be displeased if the two books which he has written since are printed also, and I have commissioned M. May to get them done. It would be well to have several copies of them here, to be distributed as the case may require, at the opening of the said Parliament. Sire, within the last few days a present of poultry has been sent to the Queen by the Duchess of Norfolk, and with it an orange, in which was inclosed a letter from Gregory Cassal, which I deem proper to send to your Majesty. The Queen thinks that the Duchess sent her this present of her own accord, and out of the love she bears her, but I fear it was done with the knowledge of her husband; at all events, this seems to open a way for the Queen to communicate secretly with her more easily. Eight days ago the King ordered the Cardinal to be brought here; on hearing which the said Cardinal abstained from food for several days. It is said that he hoped rather to end his life in this manner than in a more ignominious and dishonourable one, of which he had some fears; and in consequence of this abstinence he has been taken ill on the road and is not yet arrived. They say, also, that a lodging is prepared for him in the Tower, in the same part that the Duke of Buckingham occupied; many reasons are assigned for his arrest, but they are all mere conjectures."

One of the most valuable portions of this volume is Navagiero's account of the court of Charles:—

"The Emperor is now forty-six years of age. He is a prince who amidst all his greatness and victories has retained a most humble and modest demeanour. He appears to be very studious of religion, and wishes by his example to excite the fervour of divine worship in his court; so that in order to acquire his favour there is no surer method than propriety of conduct, and the profession of sincere Christianity. His court is more quiet and modest than I can describe; without any appearance of vice, and perfectly well ordered. In his audiences, especially towards persons in official situations, he is extremely patient, and answers everything in detail; but seldom or never comes to an immediate resolution on any subject. He always refers the matter, whether it be small or great, to Monsr. de Granvelle; and after consulting with him he resolves on the course he has to take, but always slowly, for such is his nature. Some people find fault with this, and call him irresolute and tardy; whilst others praise him for caution and discretion. With regard to private audiences, he used to be more diligent than he now is; but even now he generally has two or three every day after dinner. These private audiences are generally left to his ministers; and they being few, and the affairs many, no one can come to court for any matter, whether of importance or otherwise, without being detained much longer than is agreeable to them. The Emperor dines in public almost always at the same hour—namely, twelve o'clock at noon. On first rising in the morning, which he does very late, he attends a private mass, said to be for the soul of the late Empress. Then, after having got over a few audiences, he proceeds to a public mass in the chapel, and immediately afterwards to dinner. So that it has become a proverb at court; 'Dalla messa alla mensa,' (from the mass to the mess). The Emperor eats a great deal; perhaps more than is good for his health, considering his constitution and habits of exercise. And he eats a kind of food which produces gross and vicious humours, whence arise the two indispositions which torment him; namely, the gout and the asthma. He tries to mitigate these disorders by partial fasts in the evening; but the physicians say it would be better if he were to divide the nourishment of the day into two regular meals. When his Majesty is well he thinks he never can be ill, and takes very little notice of the advice of his physician; but the moment he is ill again, he will do anything towards his recovery. He is liberal in some things, such as recompensing those who have served him in the field, and those for whom he has any particular regard; but even in this he proceeds slowly. In his dress, his table, furniture and equipages, and the chase, he affects rather the state of a moderate prince, than of a great emperor. Although not by nature inclined to do so, his Majesty is constrained to dispense

gifts on a very large scale; for all the incomes of the three orders in Spain, which are extremely rich, must of necessity be distributed by the Emperor, as also the many benefices and bishoprics of Spain and his other dominions. It is plain that he proceeds very cautiously in these matters, and gives away with much discrimination; having respect only to the good character and virtuous conduct of those to whom they are given; and on the subject of these bishoprics His Majesty generally acts by the advice and opinion of his confessor, a Spanish monk of the order of St. Domenick. The Emperor professes to keep his word, to love peace, and to have no desire for war, unless provoked to it. He is consistent in keeping up the dignity of those whom he has once made great; and whenever they get into difficulties he trusts rather to his own judgment in their case than to what is said of them by others. He is a prince who will listen to all, and is willing to place the utmost confidence in his friends, but chooses to have always the casting voice himself; and when once persuaded in his own mind, it is rare indeed that any argument will change his opinion. His recreations consist chiefly in following the chase, sometimes accompanied by a few attendants, and sometimes quite alone, with an arquebus in his hand. He is much pleased with a dwarf given to him by His Highness the King of Poland, which dwarf is very well made and quick witted. The Emperor sometimes plays with him, and he seems to afford him infinite amusement. There is also a jester lately come from Spain who makes His Majesty laugh, and causes a deal of merriment at Court. His name is Perico, and in order to please the Emperor, whenever Philip his son is named, he calls him *Sor di Todo*. And now, though I might enlarge much more upon the nature, habits and virtues of the Emperor, I will only remark as a brief summary, that from all I have seen in my time and from what others who frequent his Court are obliged to confess, there does not exist in these days a more virtuous prince or one who sets a better example to all men than His Majesty Charles V.

"The Emperor's body-guard consists of two hundred halberdiers; one-half of whom are Spanish, and the other half German; and of one hundred archers, who receive more than twice as much pay as the former. His household is divided into three principal departments. The first is under the direction of the 'Sommelier du corps' (King's Butler, or Comptroller of the Household), who now performs the duty formerly devolving on the Grand Chamberlain, for since the death of Monsr. de Nassau, the Emperor has not chosen to appoint any one in his place. The second department is under the 'Maggiordomo Maggior' (Chief Majordomo, or Master of the Household), and the third under the 'Gran Scudier' (Master of the Horse). The first of these appointments is now held by Monsr. de Rice, a Burgundian, and in his absence by the eldest of the Gentlemen of the Chamber (il 'Camerier piu vecchio'). Under his orders are all those whose duty or privilege it is to enter the private apartments, and to whose care the guard of the Sovereign's person is committed; such as the Gentlemen of the bed-chamber, the household servants, and the medical men and other officials, who are concerned in the preservation of human life. As soon as the Emperor leaves his own apartment, the charge of guarding his person devolves upon the Chief Majordomo, the Duke of Alva. Under him are two other Majordomos. One of them is a Piedmontese, called Monfalconto, and the other is a Spaniard, named Giovan Manzi Guediara, who is brother to the Duke de Nagara. Under their orders are all the gentlemen of the kitchen and of the household, who are occupied with the arrangements of the Emperor's table, and the necessary household expenditure. There is a stated number of these attendants, but it sometimes varies at the Emperor's pleasure. They all attend His Majesty in time of peace and of war, some with two, some with four, and some with six horses. During a campaign they are embodied into what is called, the Squadron of His Majesty's Household. As soon as the Emperor puts his foot into the stirrup, the charge of guarding his person is transferred to the Master of the Horse, the Count de Bresse. Under his command are all the horsemen and pages of His Majesty; and the arms and every-



thing pertaining to war, are in his keeping. I have been told by one who manages the Emperor's household expenditure, including his private chapel, music and the chase, that it amounts to no less than 250,000 ducats a year; which payments are now made out of the Spanish monies when the Court is in Spain, and out of the Flemish ones when it is in Flanders. He also told me, that the plan of distributing the several offices as above referred to, and the salaries of the various officials, are entirely founded on the household arrangements of the Dukes of Burgundy."

We trust that the editor of this curious volume will favour the public with more contributions to history. His present work will be valuable as a companion to Robertson.

OUR LIBRARY TABLE.

*Hearts in Mortmain, and Cornelia.*—Not only the subject, but also the style, of these two stories has recalled to us a miscellany little read at the time of its appearance, but not forgotten by the few who read it,—we mean, 'The Gossip's Week,' by the late Mrs. Bodding. Those tales were remarkable for a mixture of fervour of emotion and elegance of diction, far removed from the tone of hack-authorship,—so are these. Those were passionate and picturesque without being powerful:—so are these. Neither of the works compared can, however, claim a very high rank among fictions. By many these two tales will be found super-sentimental and unnatural,—by all they must be felt to want clearness of narration and closeness of structure. Yet, by all they will be acknowledged as in some important points superior to the average manufactures showered forth on the counters of the circulating libraries. 'Hearts in Mortmain' and 'Cornelia' may both be described as tales of "delicate distress." In both, the love of the generous and the happiness of the young are traversed and intercepted by something akin to the Fate of ancient tragedy,—by doom and denunciation referable to the crimes and sorrows of a former generation. In the first story, Ethel and Edward must not marry each other, because of ... we will not describe the cause,—accordingly, they marry elsewhere,—and long-drawn misunderstandings and pains and distresses ensue, ending in a catastrophe the nature of which (though not its precise victims) must have been from the very first foreseen. In 'Cornelia' the orphaned and deserted child who is handed over from one kind protector to another, is thrown when a girl into the way of the very being against whom her benefactress is the most implacable,—drawn towards him by a mysterious sympathy,—and only at the very last moment allowed to learn what he is to her and what she is to him. But while we advert to the cast of incident of both tales as romantic rather than real, in neither is the sentiment morbid rather than just or generous. The writer obviously prefers to dally with sorrow,—but never for a passing word's length tampers with impurity. This distinction implies no ordinary praise, the argument of these two tales considered,—and would justify us (had we no other reason) for dwelling on them with commendation.

A Letter addressed to R. M. Milnes, Esq.; M.P., on the Condition and Unsafe State of Ancient Parochial Registers in England and the Colonies. By W. D. Bruce.—The urgency of the facts stated by Mr. Bruce cannot be denied; and in any country where the importance of such matters is clearly understood, it would furnish an unanswerable argument for an immediate measure of relief. The act for the establishment of a general system of registration has provided for the future,—but the past is left entirely to take care of itself. As Mr. Bruce shows, documents of the highest legal importance,—and many of great historical interest,—are daily lost, beyond all power of redemption. We recommend our readers to peruse this letter.

A Grammar of the English Language for the use of Commercial Schools. By R. G. Latham, M.D.—Dr. Latham is rendering good service to education by publishing these compendious practical introductions to his great philosophical treatise on the English language. The plan on which the present is constructed is excellent. It begins with a brief but practically sufficient history of the language. Then

follows an account of the sounds and letters, the former being rightly discussed first, so that the pupil is enabled to see clearly the intimate connexion between the changes of the latter and the laws of the former. Another excellence peculiar to this work is, that it explains the structure of propositions before describing the parts of speech, which are consequently defined much better than in ordinary grammars. Declension and inflection are made to illustrate the principles previously laid down with regard to sounds and letters. The syntax and prosody, which form the conclusion, are remarkable for clearness, conciseness, and sufficiency of sound information. We are not sure, however, whether the author's arrangement of what are called irregular verbs is as good as that in Allen and Cornwell's Grammar.

*Histoire de France.* Par A. R. Montarais et S. A. Mayeur.—We have here a history of France from the earliest times to the end of last year, written for educational purposes, and adopted by the University of France for the use of elementary schools. It would have been both more interesting and instructive if the authors had entered more into detail,—particularly in treating of the period that has elapsed since the commencement of the great Revolution. As they themselves acknowledge, it now has the air rather of a dry chronological arrangement of events than of a pleasing narrative. While we utterly repudiate the practice of sacrificing real utility for the sake of "making things pleasant," and scorn the notion that young people are only to be expected to learn what they like and as they like,—we think it desirable to present information to them in the most attractive form that can be adopted without impairing its worth. At the same time, we do not wish to be understood as at all disapproving of this work. On the contrary, we consider it a useful reading-book for schools. The list of inventions, &c., chronologically arranged at the end of each reign, and the notes to assist translation appended to the whole, greatly enhance its value.

*Impediments to the Improvement of Ireland.* By W. N. Hancock.—This is a cheap reprint of a series of lectures delivered by Mr. Hancock, Professor of Political Economy in the University of Dublin, on the subject indicated. The success which M. Bastiat's little work called '*Sophismes Economiques*' has met with in England seems to have suggested the publication. Mr. Hancock arrives at the conclusion, that the evils which afflict the sister country are the result of bad legislation, and not of faults inherent in the Celtic race. This doctrine, whether true or not, is the more hopeful and consolatory,—as it is easier to amend bad laws than to root out natural defects of character. The work cannot fail to be useful as pointing out in a sober way, as becomes a man speaking in the name of science, practical remedies for the existing evils.

BOOKS FOR CHILDREN.

*Aunt Atta: a Tale for little Nephews and Nieces.* By the Author of 'Tales of Kirkbeck.'—This is a pleasant story for children, of children,—not altogether innocent of being too babyish in some of its details, and liable (though in moderate degree) to the objection which we must never cease to urge so often as we encounter the fault. Here, every character (save one, the presiding spirit, who can do no wrong) is laid on the table for anatomical analysis. Here, nothing is implied as too sacred, nothing admitted as too secret, to be bared to view. It is like being compelled to pass a day in a confessional. Now, all theology apart, this spirit in fiction makes but fatiguing art. With the solitary exception of Richardson perhaps, by no author have all the complexities of one human heart and character been exhibited with any success. We are able to guess, speculate, and doubt, with regard to *Macbeth*, *Leah*, *Hamlet* (as we do about human beings)—hence the hold of startling reality which they retain upon us. The same principle which applies to the pleasure of the great applies to the profit of the small. Children can hardly read these minute accounts of naughty children, and of what made them good, without danger of encouraging censoriousness in them, or of their receiving some impressions of human infallibility by fiat of which these peccadilloes are righted. With every desire to cherish a sense of justice and

to keep alive a spirit of reverence, we cannot think that the expedients now so perpetually resorted to for those purposes are the best. But 'Aunt Atta' will with many be popular for the very reasons which have called from us yet once again the above protest.

*The Amyotts' Home; or, Life in Childhood.*—An unaffected, natural little book, narrating childish amusements and troubles, "accidents and offences," with a truthfulness and a freshness of manner which will attract childish readers.

We cannot bestow the same sort of praise on *Oceanus; or, a Peaceful Progress over the Unpathed Sea.* By Mrs. David Osborne.—The above title of itself may and probably will convey to most readers a certainty that, whatever be the matter of the book, its manner is somewhat too elaborate and stilted. There is much closely-packed information about sea-wonders, and the curiosities on the shores of the sea;—and hence, as a piece of florid geography 'Oceanus' merits its praise. But a simpler fashion of writing would have been more pleasing and effective,—since, in spite of their charity with much that taste teaches them to reject in after life, instincts for style begin to stir at an early age in children, and it is as well that these should be rightly developed.

LIST OF NEW BOOKS.

Arthur's (T. S.) *The Lady at Home*, 32mo, 8d. swd.  
Atlas of Scotland, 24 coloured maps, imp. folio, 6s. half mor.  
Bell's (R. C.) *The Modern Reader and Speaker*, 2nd ed. 12mo, 6d. cl.  
Britt's (J.) *The Happy Mate, Memoir*, by C. E. 18mo, 1d. cl.  
Brown's (J.) *Course of Drawing for Primary Schools*, Part I. 6s.  
Bushnan's (J. S.) *Cholera, and its Cure*, 8vo, 3s. 6d. cl.  
Hambro's *Papers for the People*, Vol. III. post 8vo, 1s. 6d. bds.  
Chambers's *Lib. for Young*, Vol. XVI. *Duty and Affection*, 1s. 6d. cl.  
Cooke's (L.) *The Agricultural Refresher*, royal 8vo, 1s. 5s. cl.  
Cochrane's (A. B.) *Young Italy*, post 8vo, 10s. 6d. cl.  
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Every-Day Things, or Useful Knowledge, by a Lady, 18mo, 2s.  
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Herodotus's *Clio*, by Negris, 12mo, 7d., with notes, 1s. swd.  
Herodotus's *Clio*, with notes by W. Wheeler, 12mo, 1s. 2d. swd.  
Jobert's (A. C. G.) *Art of Questioning*, in French, 2nd ed. 3s. 6d. cl.  
Kelly's (Rev. J.) *Discourses on Holy Scripture*, 6s. 6d. cl.  
Lord of the Harvest and his Vassal, an Allegory, 32mo, 3s. 6d. cl.  
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Peel's (Sir R.) *Life and Times*, by Dr. W. C. Taylor, 3 vols. 31s. 6d.  
Pictorial Government, by Mrs. Treloare, 3 vols. post 8vo, 14. 11s. 6d.  
Poetical Works of Moschus, 2 vols. 6s. 5s. 15s. cl.  
Railway Library, August, James's Dark Scenes, 12mo, 1s. 6d.  
Ruins of Historic and Sacred Lands, 6s. 8vo, 3s. 6d. cl.  
Slack's (B.) *Speculum Regium, or Pastoral Incidents*, 18mo, 3s. cl.  
Sigourney's (S. L. H.) *Poetical Works*, new ed. 31mo, 2s. cl. gilt.  
Searchings of the Heart, by Author of '*Meditative Hours*,' 2s. 6d.  
Stewart's (Dugald) *Elements of Philosophy*, new ed. 8vo, 7s. cl.  
Talbot and Vernon, a Novel, 3 vols. post 8vo, 14. 11s. 6d. cl.  
Tomlinson (E.) *On Warming and Ventilation*, 12mo, 2s. cl. (Weale).  
Vessels and Voyages, by Lieut. George, 2s. cl.  
Welsh Poems, by Thomas, 8vo, 2s. cl.  
White's (W.) *History and Directory of Devonshire*, 12mo, 12s. 6d.  
Wordsworth's (W.) *The Prelude*, a Poem, 8vo, 14s. cl.  
Xenophon, by Negris, 1s. 6d. with notes, 2s. cl.

KEW GARDENS.

Few places accessible to the inhabitants of the metropolis are more worthy of a visit than the Royal Gardens at Kew. Although these gardens have been celebrated as containing a vast number of botanical treasures for upwards of a century, it is only within the last ten years that they have attracted general attention,—or been in a condition to challenge, as they now may, any similar establishment in Europe. We have from time to time noticed in our columns the improvements that have been made here since the appointment of the present director, Sir W. Jackson Hooker, in 1841; and we propose now to make a few remarks on the present condition of the gardens and on their more conspicuous attractions.

The most remarkable feature to those who have not visited the gardens for three or four years past, will be the new Palm house or Palm stove. This is an elegant building, formed entirely of glass in an iron framework, consisting of a centre and two wings. The centre is 100 feet wide and 66 feet in height, and the wings are 50 feet wide and 30 feet high. This large building, occupying an area of 362 feet in length, is heated by means of hot-water pipes and tanks,—the water in which is heated in furnaces upwards of 400 feet from the house. This distance has been given for the purpose of preventing the erection of unsightly chimneys near so handsome a structure. The shaft employed for conducting the smoke from the furnaces is so constructed as to form an ornamental object in the gardens. This grand Conservatory, far exceeding in size any other of the kind now existing, was completed in 1848. Up to this time its success has greatly exceeded the most sanguine hopes of its



projectors; and a finer collection of plants, or a collection in a better state of preservation, was probably never got together than may now be seen within its walls of glass. The most conspicuous of the plants in this house are, as the name implies, several species of Palms. Amongst these, the *Cocos plumosa*, the *Cocos coronata*, and the *Plectocomia elongata* are the loftiest and most conspicuous. Under the broad leaves of these graceful and stately palms, a number of others more familiar to our English eyes find shelter:—such as the Cocoa-nut palm (*Cocos nucifera*), the Ivory-nut palm (*Phytelphas macrocarpa*), the West Indian Fan palm (*Sabal umbraculifera*) the Jaggary palm of Ceylon (*Caryota urens*), the Date palm (*Phoenix dactylifera*), the Dwarf palm of Europe (*Chamaerops humilis*), the Oil palm of Africa (*Elaeis Guineensis*), and many others less known. Such a display of palms could not be met with in any one district of the tropics themselves; and we have heard it remarked by a traveller, that no opportunity is afforded in tropical forests of viewing these plants in so perfect a condition as they are found in the stove-house at Kew.

To those who look for rarities, the next most attractive group of plants in this large house will be the Tree Ferns. Of these very rare plants there are several specimens now in full leaf in the collection. Amongst the foliar forms of the vegetable kingdom there are none which exceed in variety and elegance the fronds of these plants. Independently of their intrinsic beauty, these tree ferns have great interest as the representatives of the gigantic plants which were the most conspicuous feature of the forests out of which our coal deposits were formed.

As next to these in interest the botanist will turn to the very fine collection of Cycads, in the same house. These plants have a claim on the attention of the geologist as being allied to those which are found in the formations subsequent to the coal deposits. There are several species, belonging to the genera *Cycas*, *Zamia*, and *Encephalartos*. A specimen of *Cycas revoluta* is now unfolding its flowers,—and affords a good opportunity of studying the peculiar inflorescence of these plants. We can do no more in addition to the above particulars than state generally, that in this house almost all the plants yielding the fruits, juices, oils, or other secretions which we obtain from tropical climates are to be found. Here are the plants bearing cinnamon, cloves, camphor, pepper, tapioca, coffee, tea, chocolate, sugar, arrow-root, tamarinds, mangoes, and bread-fruit. Here, also, are the Indian-rubber, cotton, gutta-percha, and indigo plants. Pitcher-plants, convolvuluses, passion-flowers, and aristolochias climb up the sides of the building and ornament the balustrades and railings.

The Palm house, though the largest, is only one of twenty similar buildings here devoted to the rearing and culture of plants. One of these houses, formerly employed for the cultivation of Orchises, is now—under the name of the Tropical Aquarium, or Victoria House—devoted to the growth of the Victoria Water-Lily. This queen of the waters, it will be recollected, was discovered by Sir Robert Schomburgk, in 1837, in Guiana; and although many attempts have been made to grow it in this country, they have failed till within these last few months. Plants of it are now to be seen in flower at Syon, Chatsworth, and Kew. In the Kew Gardens the plants are not yet so healthy as in the two former; but every day is improving the appearance of the Kew plants,—and their present condition is quite enough to suggest what must be the size and beauty of this elegant aquatic in its native waters. The cause of the failures in the attempt to cultivate this plant appears to have been the use of hard water. Even the water of the Thames—which is that now used at Kew—seems to contain too much saline matter; and the better success of the culture at Syon and at Chatsworth appears to have depended on the employment of soft water,—for the use of which there is no provision at Kew.

All the other houses in these gardens contain plants more or less worthy of inspection; but at this time of the year the Australian house is par-

ticularly worth a visit,—containing, as it does, a unique collection of the flowering plants of that new world. Here will be found the species of *Acacia* and *Epacris* in almost every imaginable form,—with a large number of other plants bearing gaily-coloured or sweetly-scented flowers. To complete the visitor's idea of the vegetation of New Holland, the Araucarias and Eucalyptuses—which are now, as half-hardy plants, placed in various parts of the gardens—should be inspected; as well as the collection of Proteaceous plants now in the conservatory,—removed from Buckingham Palace by King William the Fourth.

As other objects of general interest in these gardens we may mention the collections of the Cactaceæ, the Orchises, the Grasses, and the New Zealand plants. In the open grounds are some very fine trees demanding attention:—amongst others, a magnificent specimen of the *Araucaria imbricata*, and very fine specimens of the Turkey oak (*Quercus cerris*), the common elm, lime, chestnut, and of various species of coniferous trees. The beds of British plants arranged according to the natural orders cannot fail to interest those who cultivate our native Botany.

Of the many objects worth notice which these Gardens contain none perhaps is more deserving of encouragement than the Museum. The establishment of this Museum is a novelty not only in the Gardens, but also in this country. Strange to say, though of all people in the world the English are most dependent on the produce of the vegetable kingdom for the materials of their manufacture, they have thought less perhaps than any other nation of improving and developing their industry by the study of plants and the knowledge of what other nations are doing with the same materials. Such a collection of the produce of plants used in arts, manufactures and medicine as is now forming at Kew ought long since to have found existence in our national Museum in Great Russell Street:—and now, this collection at Kew should, as we have before suggested, be removed to London. There is no necessary connexion between the dried specimens of a museum and the living plants of a garden. Removed or not, however, this collection reflects great credit on the Director and Curator of the Gardens at Kew. In an incredibly short space of time they have brought together a vast number of specimens consisting of the raw materials and manufactured produce of the vegetable kingdom. Amongst the substances obtained from plants used in the arts, there is here a very complete series of the stages of manufacture and the various applications of caoutchouc and gutta percha. Here at one view is gained a knowledge not only of these substances in their

raw and manufactured condition, but of the various stages of the process,—as also a history of their various applications. A like series of specimens illustrates the manufacture of flax; and steps are in progress for the same thing with respect to hemp and cotton.—A recent arrival of interest is, a complete set of implements, with a series of illustrative drawings, for the growth and preparation of opium, in Patna, in the East Indies,—sent over by Dr. J. Hooker. There are here also specimens of opium from Turkey, the East Indies, and other parts of the world.—This department of the museum is likely to be of great interest as throwing light on the preparation of important medicines, and directing attention to the best kinds and the best modes of preparing them.

The specimens illustrative of vegetable substances used as food are numerous and instructive. Thus, there are—a series illustrative of the varieties of, and the modes of preparing, tea,—specimens of the various kinds of coffee,—of the Paraguay tea,—of chocolate and cocoa,—of various kinds of sugar,—of shea butter,—and many other things.

Another useful department here is, the collection of woods used in cabinet-making and other arts. By the side of these is a series of specimens exhibiting the diseases to which wood is subjected, and the injuries from bad pruning, from the attacks of insects, &c.—The fruits of plants are often their most characteristic organs. These are not unfrequently badly preserved, or not preserved at all, in our herbaria,—and a museum is a fitting place for their collection and exhibition. Already, in this establishment there are a large number of fruits preserved both dry and moist. Amongst the dry are, collections of the fruits of the Coniferae, the Palms, and the proteaceæ. This department may be made very valuable to the botanist.

There are also to be seen here a few wax models of plants. The art of the wax modeller might be of great use in such an institution as this for securing and rendering permanent forms that cannot well be transferred to paper or accurately described. In such subjects the museum at the Jardin des Plantes is very superior to anything in England; but we may now expect to find every deficiency supplied. As no country in the world has so great an opportunity as our own, of heaping together vegetable treasures, we hope soon to see the Museum at Kew unequalled for the extent and variety of its objects.

#### BIRTHS AND DEATHS IN LONDON DURING THE LAST TEN YEARS.

THE Registrar General has recently published a series of vital statistics returns; from which we have compiled the following interesting table.—

	1840.	1841.	1842.	1843.	1844.	1845.	1846.	1847.	1848.	1849.
BIRTHS. { Males .....	28,412	29,298	30,946	31,172	32,949	33,625	35,318	34,736	36,339	37,168
{ Females .....	27,351	28,044	29,294	29,925	31,380	32,259	34,564	33,595	34,926	35,494
DEATHS. { Males .....	23,851	22,995	22,841	24,061	25,729	24,496	24,941	30,347	29,339	34,032
{ Females .....	22,430	22,288	22,430	23,613	24,694	23,036	24,148	30,095	28,299	34,400
Excess of Births over Deaths ....	9,462	12,059	14,969	12,523	13,906	17,552	20,793	7,889	13,637	4,230

By this table it appears that the average annual number of births during the last ten years in the metropolis has been 64,679, and the average annual number of deaths 51,975; making an annual average excess of births over deaths of 12,704. The estimated population of the metropolis at the close of 1849, was 2,206,076. The great mortality during the past year arose from cholera,—the deaths from which far exceeded those of previous years. The numbers stand thus:—1840, 60; 1841, 28; 1842, 118; 1843, 85; 1844, 65; 1845, 43; 1846, 228; 1847, 117; 1848, 652; 1849, 14,125. The mortality during the past year was thus divided in the different districts: West district, 9,388; North, 11,053; Central, 10,846; East, 14,847; South, 22,298. The mean temperature during the last ten years was as follows: 1840, 47° 8'; 1841, 48° 7'; 1842, 49° 6'; 1843, 49° 4'; 1844, 48° 6'; 1845, 47° 6'; 1846, 51° 3'; 1847, 49° 10'; 1848, 50° 2'; 1849, 50° 10'.

#### LIBRARY OF THE BRITISH MUSEUM.

IN common, with all students at this institution, I have to thank you for the remarks which you

have made from time to time on the defects of the present Catalogue, and on the necessity of immediately having a "Finding" or common-sense Catalogue completed, to guide authors and readers to the treasures which it contains. Amongst other restrictions by which such students suffer, the rule laid down by the Museum which excludes all books from the Catalogue till after one year from the date of publication, operates very injuriously to them without yielding any advantage to authors and publishers; and I am authorized by the principal publishers to state that the rescinding of this rule would have no injurious effect on them.

My researches at the Library have been chiefly in connexion with the subjects of the discovery of the Coal Fields in the Islands of the Pacific Ocean and the adjacent Continents,—and the capabilities of our colonies to sustain an increase of population, with a view to assisting emigration from densely-populated countries. I have had, therefore, to refer to the journals of missionaries and other residents in those distant countries, and to consult recent works on practical geology.



Amongst other instances of my disappointment at not being able to refer to some valuable modern books, I may mention that I required in connexion with the extension of steam to Australia—having been one of the first projectors with the late Lieut. Waghorn—Stork's 'Survey of Torres Straits,' published some years since under the patronage of the Admiralty. I inserted the title of the work in the book kept in the Library for omissions, &c., three years ago:—but it has never yet appeared in the Catalogue.

With regard to the question of time in the preparation of such a Catalogue as the public want,—surely, if at Lloyd's they can register all the daily arrival of ships with casualties,—and if every banker contrives to ascertain the "balance" of every customer, however many he may have, before the clerks leave,—Government has but to pay a few clerks to post up the arrears in the Catalogue of this important institution, or to remunerate the present staff for extra attendance. Some of the officers in this department now leave at the early hour of 3 o'clock,—although the Library is open till 7 o'clock.

I am, &c. H. SMITH EVANS.

#### OUR WEEKLY GOSSIP.

THE Commissioners for the management of the Industrial Exhibition of 1851 met yesterday, for the purpose of deciding finally on the details of the building plan; and as late as 6 o'clock in the evening came to the resolution that Mr. Paxton's original plan should be adopted, with the addition of transepts and a barrel-roof for these transepts alone. The roof of the longitudinal portion is to be flat, as proposed in the first instance. The transepts will be useful as breaking the monotony of the long straight line of glass:—the keel-shaped roof for the transepts, though more costly than a flat roof, is justifiable by the reason that the additional elevation gained will permit the inclosure of a line of trees which stand about the middle of the space. The building is to be prepared with galleries. The following statistics will convey a notion of the extent of its capacities. "There will be on the ground-floor alone seven miles of tables. There will be 1,200,000 square feet of glass,—24 miles of one description of gutter, and 218 miles of "sash bar;" and in the construction 4,500 tons of iron will be expended. The wooden floor will be arranged with "divisions," so as to allow the dust to fall through. The contract has, we believe, been signed with Messrs. Fox and Henderson, of the Smethwick Works, Birmingham, for the sum of 77,500*l*.

Speaking of the alterations which have been made in this design, we have to repeat the warning which we gave last week. We hope that no more alterations are to be made, and that the design as now fixed is to be handed over to Mr. Cubitt to be peremptorily carried out. No discretion is, we trust, to be reserved or given. We have before us some fearful examples of the consequences of elasticity in such matters, and of the convenient manner in which the responsibility of these consequences is passed from one to the other in the face of the amazed and baffled public for want of a party to stand directly between them and all interference. The Building Committee have, we know, active imaginations,—which it is dangerous to trust. The slightest discretion reserved might yet generate a "great feature." On the basis of the merest doubt these men would in all probability still build up their dome. They have no assurance and the public no protection against the calenture of their imaginations but in the entire and absolute divestiture of all right to intermeddle. We have been long accustomed to have our contracts of this kind read in a sense too spiritual:—let us by all means have some one set over this work whom we can hold fast by the letter.

Among the monuments which are getting up on all sides to Sir Robert Peel, it has been determined by the inhabitants of Tollington and its neighbourhood to erect a column in his honour on the summit of Holcombe Hill. The view from the top of the column,—which is to be accessible by means of

a staircase—will command a panoramic scene of two hundred miles in circumference, embracing a sight of Yorkshire over Blackstone Edge, the Derbyshire hills overlooking Buxton, the Staffordshire range of hills, Cheshire, the Irish Channel, the Cumberland hills, and the watering-places on the Lancashire coast. Holcombe Hill is within a few miles of the birthplace of the late Sir Robert Peel.—A correspondent, in reference to our remarks last week on the waste of means and poverty of thought which in this advanced age of the world builds for all time with such perishable materials as statues, suggests that our design of a more living and intelligent memorial should take the form of a national University for the education of the sons of the middle classes. He justly observes that ours are not the days for copying the forms of ancient Rome as interpreters of the new feelings and aspirations which the Romans never knew; and he adds, that, while the statues which the Romans reared are dispersed and their columns crumbling to decay, their thoughts as embodied in their literature are with us yet, testifying for ever of the great spirits which perished from amongst them but left in this sure and abiding form the legacy of their minds.

The Woods and Forests' estimate for a Public Record Office, on the Rolls estate in Chancery Lane, has—we are glad at length to announce—received the approval of the Government; and 30,000*l*. of the 45,000*l*. required has been voted in Parliament during the past week. The architect engaged is Mr. Pennethorne,—to whom we are indebted for the useful building in Piccadilly recently erected for the Museum of Practical Geology. It is to be a classic building, accommodating itself to what Launcelot Brown would have called the *capabilities* of the place, and to the introduction of such portions of the Rolls House (a work of the last century, built by Colin Campbell) as Mr. Pennethorne may think worthy of preservation. We are glad to observe that the Rolls Chapel, with its curious monuments, is to remain intact; and we should not quarrel with Mr. Pennethorne if he could apply one thousand of his 45,000*l*. in doing something, however small, to restore a very interesting little edifice to some of its pristine beauties. We would willingly sacrifice the Rolls House to preserve the Rolls Chapel. The new Record Office will be erected in about three years; and Parliament has shown its sense of the necessity of such a building by voting in advance two-thirds of the sum required. It is calculated, we observe, by Sir Francis Palgrave, that the new office will not only contain the whole of the public records but will be large enough to receive all the additions that we are likely to make to it in the next fifty years. It will relieve the Norman Chapel in the White Tower and the Early English Chapter House at Westminster Abbey from the mass of presses which disfigure those buildings, and really exclude the people from seeing what the public has often expressed a desire to see. The Norman Chapel in the Tower of London is not only the most ancient edifice remaining in London, but it is the best example we have of a Norman Chapel in a place of strength—and is, moreover, a memorable portion of the most celebrated fortress connected with the history of the country. Then, the Chapter House at Westminster—so integral a portion of the whole Abbey—will be a sight for millions when its mural paintings of fourteenth-century work are brought to light and its fine floor of heraldic tiles is no longer boarded over. This 45,000*l*. is a sum well laid out,—on a purpose for which we have contended year after year. The new building will enable Government, moreover, to turn the State Paper Office in St. James's Park to another purpose. Mr. Pennethorne's building will be fire-proof,—that is, no fires will be introduced: Sir Francis Palgrave having discovered, in conjunction with Sir William Hooker, that parchments and papers are best preserved not by artificial heat but by natural ventilation in dry weather. In short, we are to keep our records as Linnæus kept his Herbarium and as the Duke of Bedford keeps his muniments in London:—the only record office which Sir Francis Palgrave and Mr. Pennethorne inspected at all exhibiting care and insuring preservation among the many which they have had

the opportunity of visiting with a view to the inquiry which they have just completed.

The following is from a Correspondent who dates from Lincoln's Inn, and signs H. G.—"There cannot, I think, be much doubt that the opinion of the 'competent authorities' who have examined the tomb of Chaucer [*ante*, p. 768] is well founded. I inspected the monument this morning more closely than I had ever done before, and was struck with the difference observable between the workmanship of the tomb itself and that of the canopy which overhangs it. The tomb itself, so far as its mouldering condition permits one to judge, is skillfully wrought, and its date seems to be not long subsequent to Chaucer's death; but the canopy seems to be a copy of one of the earlier part of the reign of Henry the Seventh, accurate enough in its general form, but coarse and clumsy in its details.—But how are we to account for the position of the tomb, which stands, contrary to the universal position of the Christian Church, with the head northwards? Surely it must have been removed from its original site by Nicholas Brigham.—It is a curious coincidence that the tomb of Gower now stands north and south in the transept of St. Mary Overie. It was, if I mistake not, removed from its original position about 20 years ago.

Dr. Macdonald has been appointed to a professorship of Natural History in the University of St. Andrew's. This chair is in the gift of the Marquis of Ailsa, and was formerly occupied by the late Dr. Ferrie as a chair of Civil History. It has, however, been deemed advisable to change the subject; and Dr. Macdonald, who is well known for his devotion to the sciences of natural history, has been appointed, as we have said, to the vacant chair. We should hope from this and other changes that the University of St. Andrew's may recover something of its former importance as an educational institution.

A French paper, the *Presse*, gives some account of experiments made at the house of M. de Girardin with a new telegraphic dictionary, the invention of M. Gonon. Despatches, in French, English, Portuguese, Russian, and Latin, including proper names of men and places, and also figures, were transmitted and translated, says this account, with a rapidity and fidelity alike marvellous, by an officer who knew nothing of any one of the languages used except his own. Dots, commas, accents, and breaks were all in their places. This dictionary of M. Gonon is applicable alike to electric and to aerial telegraphy, to transmissions by night and by day, to maritime and to military telegraphing.—The same paper speaks of the great interest excited in the European capitals by the approaching experiment of submarine telegraphic communication between England and France. The wires, it says, on the English side are deposited and ready for laying down. It is probable that in a very few days the experiment will be complete.

The French papers report the death, at Paris, of M. Mora, the Mexican Minister Plenipotentiary at the Court of St. James's. M. Mora was the author of a History of Mexico and its Revolutions since the establishment of its independence, and editor-in-chief of several journals in Mexico.

Germany has just lost her celebrated Protestant theologian, John Augustus William Neander—first Professor of Theology in the Royal University of Berlin. Neander was born at Göttingen on the 16th of January, 1789,—and was consequently upwards of sixty-one when he died. He was the child of Hebrew parents. He studied at Halle and Göttingen; and at the early age of twenty-three was appointed professor at Heidelberg. Neander has published a great number of works:—among which may be named, 'Memoirs of the History of Christianity and of the Christian Life,' 'A History of St. Bernard and his time,' 'A History of St. Chrysostom and of the origin of the Eastern Church,' the 'Development and Explanation of the various Gnostic Systems,' and a 'History of the Establishment and Government of the Church by the Apostles.'

The annual distribution of the Rewards of the Society of Arts took place on Monday, at the House in John Street, Adelphi:—Lord Colborne,



the Vice-President, being in the chair, in the place of Prince Albert, whom the death of the Duke of Cambridge prevented from presiding. The Address of the Council exhibited the Society as in a more flourishing condition than it has been for years,—250 new members having joined during the past twelve months. The Exhibition of Ancient and Mediæval Art has, it was stated, been highly successful. That the articles and essays for which rewards were distributed were not on the present occasion equal in interest to those of last year, was explained by the fact that inventors and manufacturers are reserving themselves for the Great Exhibition of 1851. Before presenting the medals, two silver cups, executed by Messrs. Garrard after the design of Mr. MacIise, were presented to Dr. Paris, President of the Royal College of Physicians, and Mr. J. S. M. Fonblanque,—the two cups being in place of a single one which, in accordance with the will of the late Dr. Swiney, was last year given to these gentlemen, as joint authors of the best treatise on Medical Jurisprudence.—The medals were then distributed in the following order:—

*In the Section of Trade and Manufactures:* To Messrs. Rufford & Finch, for their Porcelain Bath in one piece,—the Gold Isis Medal.—*In the Section of Fine Arts and Manufactures:* To Messrs. Campbell, Harrison & Lloyd, for their Figured Silks for Dresses,—Messrs. J. Crossly & Sons, for their Printed Carpets,—Messrs. E. Henry & Sons, for their Embroidered Garment Fabrics,—Messrs. Keith & Co., for their Silk Furniture Damasks,—Messrs. Lambert & Bury, for their Tamboured Lace,—Messrs. Reckless & Hickling, for their Machine-made Lace,—and Messrs. Swainson & Denny, for their Sweet-Pea Chintz,—the Gold Isis Medal. To Messrs. G. Bacheus & Sons, for their Specimens of Table Glass,—Messrs. Cornell, Lyell & Webster, for their Seven-inch Ribands,—Messrs. Keith, Shoobridge & Co., for their Printed Shawls,—J. Coulston, for his Damasks,—Miss Stanley, for her Norwich Hand-made-Lace,—Messrs. Stone & Kemp, for their Silk Damasks,—T. W. Wallis, for his Specimens of Carving in Wood,—E. Webb, for his Horsehair Damasks,—and Messrs. J. & W. Wilson, for their Carpets,—the Silver Medal. To Messrs. R. S. Cox & Co., for their Seven-inch Ribands,—and G. Cook, for his Specimens of Carving in Wood,—the Isis Silver Medal. To Mrs. Temple, for her Flowers in Wax Composition,—the Manager of the School of St. Clair, for Specimens of Knitting executed by the Children under her charge,—J. M. Levin, for his Introduction and application of New Zealand Woods for Furniture,—and W. Potts, for his Ornamental Metal Work,—the Honorary Testimonial.—*In the Section of Chemistry:* To Messrs. M'Nair & Co., for their Coating for Electric Telegraph Wires,—the Silver Medal.—*In the Section of Mechanics:* To Henry Bessemere, for his Sugar-Cane Press,—and C. W. Siemens, C. E., for his Regenerative Condenser,—the Gold Medal. To G. Eaton, for his Plan for preventing Oscillation in Locomotives,—and W. H. Smith, C. E., for his Flexible Breakwater and Lighthouses,—the Gold Isis Medal. To A. F. G. Claudet, for his Glass-cutting Machines,—T. Syson Cundy, for his Pyro-Pneumatic Stove,—J. Imray, for his Investigation of the Action of the Crank,—D. M'Kenzie, for his Reader for Jacquard Looms,—W. Melvine, for his Aphonic Clock,—W. Pole, for his Investigation of the Action of the Crank,—and C. J. Varley, for his Improved Air-pump,—the Silver Medal. To Francis F. Colegrave, for his Spring Saddle-Girth,—the Silver Isis Medal. To Goodhue, Clinton & Co., for their Method of Constructing Metallic Attachments to Mineral Substances,—J. E. M'Donnell, for his Vibrating Archimedean Drill-Stock,—and J. Veitch, M.D., R.N., for his Medico-Chirurgical Ambulance,—the Honorary Testimonial.

The Council have materially altered the scheme of their Prize List for the ensuing session:—the intimate connexion of the Society of Arts with the Exhibition of the Works of Industry of All Nations in 1851 having appeared to them, as they say, to render altogether superfluous any attempt on the part of the Society to pursue its ordinary course for the encouragement of arts, manufactures, and commerce by the offer of its usual prizes for the session of 1850 and 1851. Having therefore considered how they might most usefully apply that portion of the revenue of the Society to the particular circumstances of the year, the Council are of opinion that the most useful work they can undertake will be to encourage the production of philosophical treatises on the various departments of the Exhibition, which shall set forth the peculiar advantages to be derived from each to the arts, manufactures, and commerce of the country. They accordingly offer the large medal and twenty-five pounds for the best, and the Society's small medal and ten pounds for the second-best treatise on the objects exhibited in the section of raw materials and produce;—the same for the best and second-best treatises on the objects exhibited in the section of machinery,—for treatises on the objects exhibited in the section of manufactures,—and for treatises on the objects exhibited in the section of Fine Arts.

Each treatise is to occupy, and not exceed, eighty pages of the size of the Bridgewater Treatises. The Society will also award its large medal and twenty-five guineas for the best general treatise on the Exhibition, treated commercially, politically, and statistically; and small medals for the best treatises on any special object or class of objects exhibited. The treatises for which rewards are given are to be the property of the Society; and if deemed suitable for publication, should the Council see fit, they will cause the same to be printed and published, and will award to the author the net amount of any profits which may arise from the publication after the payment of the expenses. The treatises are to be delivered at the Society's House on or before the 30th of June, 1851. The Council announce that they do not intend to confine the rewards of the Society to the subjects above named; though, for the reasons given, they do not anticipate that communications of interest on other subjects will be submitted.

THE EXHIBITION OF PICTURES BY ANCIENT MASTERS and deceased BRITISH ARTISTS at the GALLERY of the BRITISH INSTITUTION, 62, Pall Mall, is OPEN daily from Ten to Six.—Admission, 1s. Catalogue, 1s.  
GEORGE NICOL, Secretary.

PANORAMA OF THE NILE.—Additions have been made to this Exhibition.—The Nubian Desert, from the Second Cataract to Dongola.—War Dance by Firelight.—March of Caravan by Moonlight.—Morning Prayer.—The Mummy of a High Priest is added to the curiosities. Both Banks of the River are shown in the Painting.—EGYPTIAN HALL, PICCADILLY.—Daily, at Three, and Eight o'clock.—Stalls, 3s., 1st, 2s., Gallery, 1s.; Children and Schools, Half-price.

INDIA OVERLAND MAIL.—DIORAMA.—GALLERY of ILLUSTRATION, 14, Regent-street, Waterloo-place.—Additional Picture, MADRAS.—A Gigantic MOVING DIORAMA, ILLUSTRATING THE ROUTE OF THE OVERLAND MAIL TO INDIA, depicting every object worthy of notice on this highly-interesting journey from Southampton to Madras and Calcutta, accompanied by descriptive detail and appropriate music, is now OPEN DAILY, Mornings at Twelve, Afternoons at Three, and in the Evening at Eight o'clock.—Admission, 1s.; Stalls, 2s. 6d.; Reserved Seats, 3s.—Doors open half-an-hour before each representation.

THE DIORAMA, Regent's Park.—Admission, One Shilling.—NOW OPEN, with the finest VIEWS ever exhibited in this country, representing the ROYAL CASTLE of STOLZENFELS, on the Rhine, (visited by Her Majesty Queen Victoria in August, 1845), and its Environs, as seen at Sunset and during a Thunder Storm; painted by NICHOLAS MEISTER, of Cologne. And the much-admired Picture of THE SHIRE OF THE NATION, at Bethlehem; painted by the late M. RENOUX, from a Sketch made on the spot by DAVID ROBERTS, Esq. R.A., with novel and striking effects.—Open from Ten till Six.

ROYAL POLYTECHNIC INSTITUTION.  
During this week the ALPINE SINGERS from Styria will perform several of their National Melodies, Daily, at Four, and in the Evening at Half-past Eight.—LECTURE on CHEMISTRY, by J. H. Pepper, Esq., daily at a Quarter-past Three, and in the Evening at Eight, ILLUSTRATING THE ANCIENT FIERY ORDEAL and the HANDLING of RED-HOT METALS.—LECTURE by DR. BACHOFNER on VOLTAIC ELECTRICITY, daily at Two, and in the Evenings at a Quarter-past Nine.—NEW SERIES OF DISSOLVING VIEWS, illustrating some of the WONDERS OF NATURE, daily at Half-past Four, and in the Evenings at a Quarter to Ten; also a Series, exhibiting SCENES in the ARCTIC REGIONS and CEYLON, daily at One o'clock.—DIVING and DIVING BELL, &c. &c.—Admission, 1s.; Schools, Half-price.

## SCIENTIFIC

### A PHENOMENON OF OCCULTATION REFERRED TO THE FLEXION OF LIGHT.

In the paper some time since read by Lord Brougham before the French Academy of Sciences, giving an account of his experiments and observations on the Properties of Light, extracts from which are contained in your number of the 26th of January, I observe that the principal subject upon which he treats is, the flexion or bending of rays of light out of their course in passing near bodies. I have not had the opportunity of referring to the paper at large, to ascertain in what way Lord Brougham illustrates this subject, and explains the cause producing the flexion of rays of light,—and therefore I may be only repeating one of his own illustrations in calling the attention of your readers to the phenomenon which often occurs on the occultation of a star by the moon, when the star appears as if on the disc of our satellite; but if unnoticed by Lord Brougham, it may be not uninteresting to your readers to have their consideration led to the phenomenon, hitherto unexplained, as a confirmation of Lord Brougham's propositions.

Under the head "Occultation," in the Penny Cyclopædia, the phenomenon is well described.

On referring to this article some months since, when I had been asked for an explanation of the phenomenon, it occurred to me that the cause might be satisfactorily explained, and all the attendant circumstances accounted for, if rays of light in their passage through space were, by the attraction of

gravitation, inflected or bent towards bodies near to which they passed. The occultation of a star is the interception by the opaque body of the moon of the rays of light emitted from the star, and which, but for being intercepted, would have reached the earth. Assume, then, that on the moon approaching a ray of light emitted from a star in the direction of the earth, the ray is inflected or bent towards the moon by the force of the moon's attraction. If a line be drawn through the centre of the moon at right angles with the ray of light in its direction towards the earth, that point of the moon's circumference cut by the line so drawn will be the point nearest to the ray of light, and which would, therefore, be the point at which the inflexion of the ray would be greatest; that point, also, would be on the edge of the moon's disc, as seen by a spectator on the earth. In the ray's onward progress across the moon's surface it would be inflected or bent in a curved line towards the moon, the inflexion decreasing as the convex surface of the moon receded, causing the attraction to diminish, the curvature of the ray being inverse to the curved surface of the moon. At 15° from the point of the greatest attraction and inflexion, the perceptible attractive influence of the moon would in all probability cease, and the ray of light would thence follow its onward course in a straight line parallel to its original course; thus, that point of the star from which the ray emanated would, to an observer on the earth, appear to be in the direction which the ray took after its inflection ceased,—that is, at the lowest point of the curve, so that the star would appear to hang on the moon's edge, or possibly to pass a short distance over the moon's surface, as in the observations recorded it has often appeared to do. It will be obvious that it must in some measure depend upon what portion of the moon's edge, as seen from the earth, approaches the star whether the phenomenon will be produced or not to an observer on the earth. The change of colour in the star, sometimes observed, may be produced by the inflected rays emitted from the star being blended with the rays reflected from the moon's surface, or one of the effects of inflexion may be to produce a change in the constituent character of the ray. If "the moon has an atmosphere close to the surface which reflects the sun's light and appears opaque like the body of the moon, but is sufficiently transparent to allow the star to shine through it," then on an eclipse of the sun, the apparent diameter of the moon as seen between the earth and the sun would be less than the apparent diameter when reflecting the sun's rays. Some have supposed that the phenomenon may be accounted for on the principle, that the moon has an atmosphere which refracts the star's rays; but it must be borne in mind that the ray reflected from the moon's surface would pass through the moon's atmosphere in the same direction as the star's ray, which had entered and had been refracted; their direction would be parallel also after quitting the refracting atmosphere, so that, though the apparent position of the point from which each ray started would to an observer on the earth be different from its actual position, yet the relative apparent position of each point would be the same. If a thin plate of metal which has a small hole bored through it be placed close to the inner surface of a glass vessel filled with water, and a strong light be put immediately behind the aperture, it will be found that the rays of light passing through the aperture and the rays reflected from the surface of the metal plate are both refracted in an equal degree, and have a parallel direction: if it were not so, there would appear on the surface of the plate a bright point of light distinct from the aperture through which the rays passed.—I am, &c.

SCIENTIFIC GOSSIP.—*Gas from Water.*—Several of our contemporaries have been circulating an account of a supposed discovery, of the decomposition of water by very easy means, by a Mr. Payne, of Worcester, U.S. In the *Builder* we find the following, given on the authority of Elihu Burritt:—

"Mr. Paine does not claim the discovery of decomposing water, but he does claim the discovery of a new principle of electricity, by which the decomposition of water is very rapidly produced, at a merely nominal cost. . . . The entire labour required to make a day's supply of gas for a common dwelling-house does not occupy two minutes in turning a crank; and the machine takes up about as much room as a



common mantle clock. Writing upon this subject, Elihu Burritt says:—There is not only a saving of expense, but of work, and the inconvenience and care of wood, coal, and ashes, and the danger from fire are almost completely annihilated. This is not supposition: we saw the lights, followed the pipes to the cellar, and saw the apparatus employed for the decomposition of the water; and we must say we can hardly find words to express our astonishment at the simplicity of the machine, when, at the same time, we think of the greatness and grandeur of the discovery. This must rank, if not above, certainly equal with, the greatest discoveries and inventions of the age. Wood, and coal, and oil, and fluid may all be dispensed with by the use of Mr. Paine's apparatus. Mr. Burritt further says:—Two jets such as were burning in his house would be sufficient to light a moderate-sized hall every night, at an expense of the interest on the cost of the machine (about six dollars per annum), with only the little trouble of occasionally filling the water cistern. It is understood that Mr. Paine has disposed of his proprietary right to his discovery for a sum which may at first seem incredible. The terms of purchase are reported to be five millions of dollars, half a million down. Mr. Paine is expecting a visit from the committee on gas of our city government, at Worcester to-day, to look into this matter.

Without doubting the correctness of Mr. Burritt's description of what he saw; we are quite prepared to expect that the whole matter will turn out to be no mistake. On the very face of the description we have the evidence of a great want of scientific knowledge. The "new principle of electricity" is a myth. Hydrogen alone has scarcely any illuminating power. How is carbon combined with it? and however useful the combination of oxygen and hydrogen may be as a source of heat, it is not suited for any ordinary system of illumination. Lastly, no physical force, whether light, heat, or electricity, can be produced without the change of state of some material agent somewhere, and consequently a source of expense exists of which we were not told. The following commentary of a correspondent to a New York paper is, in its way, instructive:—

"The scientific world is much excited by the supposed discovery of Mr. Payne, by which he decomposes water in a mechanical manner, producing light and heat by the evolution of hydrogen and oxygen. A number of gentlemen proceeded the other day to his residence in Worcester to examine his apparatus, previously to paying him an immense sum of money for his patent right. They did not happen to be very scientific men, and came back as wise as they went. They found a cistern of water, a gasometer floating in it, and in his room a small cylinder from which issued a jet of inflammable gas. No further explanation was made of the mode of producing it, as the payment of a large sum of money was required before the secret could be explained. As the parties are respectable and wealthy, if not so scientific, I think Mr. Payne missed a figure, if he be in earnest, in not exhibiting the interior of his machine. Sir Humphrey Davy, if I am not mistaken, predicted a similar discovery. Mr. Payne says he has made it, and now all he has to do is to light up a hotel and these gentlemen will pay him a round sum for his invention. Most people think he is a humbug;—and yet they may be mistaken.

In America, as at home, this is most especially an age of pretension.

#### MEETINGS FOR THE ENSUING WEEK.

THURS. Zoological, 3.—General Business.  
FRI. Botanical, 8.

#### FINE ARTS

##### SALE OF THE EARL OF ASHBURNHAM'S PICTURES.

WITH the motives which may have induced the sale of a collection of works of Art, we in our character of trustees for the public can, of course, have no possible concern,—but we are bound to comment on any proceeding which implies want of ingenuousness towards that public. In this case the announcement of a collection of works of Art for sale attracted a host of visitors during an entire week; the great features of the attraction being a few matchless works which, having served their purpose as a decoy, are subsequently found to have been, determinately reserved,—the price at which they were put up being such as to defy any chance of competition. Thus, for instance, the 'Portrait of Rainier Anso and his Mother'—one of the most superb portraiture compositions of Rembrandt, bold in relief, picturesque in grouping, rich in colour, refined in its treatment, vigorous as well as delicate in handling, was bought in at the price of 4,000 guineas. The 'Village Fête' of David Teniers—one of his largest compositions, with figures also on a rather large scale and full of his accustomed character, spiritedly touched, but heavy in its tinting,—was bought in for 3,000 guineas:—so was 'A Ruined Château,' by Cuyp—a glowing picture

by a master whose reputation stands higher here than elsewhere—at 2,000 guineas. Many others we have reason to believe, were deliberately reserved, though used to swell the interest of the Catalogue. The following are the sums at which the principal pictures that found bidders were knocked down.

'St. Francis kneeling in Prayer,' by Murillo, fetched 1,050*l*. This is one of those transparent tinted and vapoury treatments proverbial in the best works of the artist.—An admirable portrait of the same painter by himself—better than those in Florence, or in the Standish or Taylor collections at Paris, showing a physiognomy corroborating all the qualities for which this painter's art is conspicuous—brought 829*l*. 10*s*.—The 'View near Rome, with the Ponte Molle,' by Claude—simple and broad in its effect, with a most sunny and luminous sky, engraved in the "Liber Veritatis," fetched 1,890*l*.—A 'View in the Bay of Naples,' by the same master,—presenting a striking contrast to the last in tone as in subject,—inferior in quality, and, notwithstanding the notice in the front of the Catalogue which informed us that "it is believed that none of these pictures have been in the hands of a picture-cleaner," exhibiting in the vivid present look of its sky and the heavy execution of the water (reflecting a very different condition of atmosphere), as well as by sundry other evidences, the mal-treatment of such an operator—sold for 1,123*l*. 10*s*. This is also engraved in the "Liber Veritatis."—An old Man seated before a cottage playing the hurdy-gurdy—a beautiful work by Teniers—sold for 815*l*.—A Mathematician leaning over a table,—certainly not by Rembrandt, scarcely by Lievens, but by which of the Master's minor scholars it is difficult to say—fetched 1,050*l*.—St. John baptizing Christ in the Jordan, by Albano, realized 315*l*. It was a fair example of the artist.

There was nothing in two of the pictures by Salvator Rosa to justify any high reputation or price. The 'St. John preaching in the Wilderness' and 'Philip baptizing the Eunuch' are full of caprice in invention, bad drawing, and extravagant light and shade. They fetched 1,050*l*.—What this master could do when he chose was better exemplified in a 'Grand Landscape, with figures in the foreground, representing the story of Apollo and the Sibyl.' Certainly this is one of the best works of the master in this department. It was purchased by the Marquis of Hertford for 1,785*l*. The picture is known by an engraving by Sharp.

The 'Portrait of Don Livio Odescalchi,' by Vandyke, is one of the fine manly portraits of this great artist, with a richness of colour and force of effect usual with him in those subjects which he painted during his Italian sojourn. The hands, however, are awkward in pose and in drawing. It fetched 475*l*. 10*s*. The 'Portrait of Vander Werf,' by himself, was of a certain interest. Though a master of great insipidity, his present picture is an exception to that fault of his style. It has good colour, and more freedom of touch than is usual with the master. It realized 126*l*. Among the Roman views by Occhiali, the best was the 'View of Rome from the Tiber, with St. Peter's on the right and Figures in the foreground.' It is free from any affectation and liberal in style. Two landscapes by Zuccarelli were singular contrasts to the foregoing,—unlike nature in their parts, fantastic and decorative in their ensemble. They fetched respectively 45*l*. 3*s*. and 38*l*. 17*s*. The 'Portrait of a Venetian Lady,' by Paul Veronese, was in so dirty a condition as completely to obscure the proverbial silvery tints of this artist's flesh-painting.—Carlo Dolce's 'Daughter of Herodias holding John the Baptist's head' is one of several *repliche* of the subject. The one here is less blue in the general hue of its drapery and less fresh in its flesh tints than usual. It realized 735*l*. A study of Four Boys' Heads, ascribed to Parmegiano,—certainly of a clever paternity, but which we should be slow in assigning to that hand—was sold for 71*l*. 8*s*. The 'Bacchus and Ariadne, with Nymphs and Satyrs, on the Shore of the Isle of Naxos,' attributed to Guido, had certainly as ill-proportioned forms as have ever been looked on. It went for 420*l*. Rembrandt's 'Portrait of a Cavalier' is a less for-

cible representation than usual of the artist's style in effect as in touch. It brought 724*l*. 10*s*.

The large picture, a 'View of Tivoli,' by G. Poussin, is so discoloured that little else than a grand general effect can be observed. It sold for 504*l*. 'Lucretia stabbing herself,'—one of those small size presentations of female form in which Guido was so successful,—realized 325*l*. 10*s*.

The large picture by Caravaggio, 'St. Peter accused by the Damsel, who is pointing out the Disciple to two Soldiers in armour,'—obviously an early work, hard and unrefined,—sold for 115*l*. 10*s*. 'A Calm' and 'A Storm,' two charming little specimens by W. Van de Velde, fetched 168*l*. The 'Portrait of a Nobleman,' ascribed to Subterman, was a picture to provoke much difference of opinion. It is most carefully wrought, with a hand painted with that skill which would have done no discredit to Vandyke himself.

By some other hand than that of Rubens the figures must be in that combination of fruit and forms ascribed to him and entitled 'Nature unveiled by the Graces.' Despite of the lengthy description afforded by the Catalogue, there is internal evidence in the picture that bespeaks the hand of an inferior artist. The female forms, which have suffered much from cleaning, show none of the preparation peculiar to the master assumed. That Rubens ever painted the most minute details as is here pretended is a notion to raise a smile. The picture was purchased by Mr. Nieuwenhuys, for 1,050*l*.

Of the two classic combinations by Niccolò Poussin, 'The Triumph of Pan' was most to our taste. It is the best in composition, in colour, and in finish. It fetched 1,234*l*. 'The Triumph of Bacchus,' by the same artist, sold for 1,213*l*. 'Il Riposo' is a good specimen of Bolognese Art, ascribed to Annibale Carracci. It realized 315*l*. A singular work, a long 'Line of Heads of Persons looking down from a Gallery on a Spectacle,' by Schiavone, has much merit for its variety of character, costume and colour. It realized 86*l*. 4*s*. 'The Horn Book,' by Schedone, is so well-known a celebrity that the price which it fetched is easily accounted for. It was knocked down for 787*l*. 10*s*. 'A Youth in a White Dress,' said to be by Giorgione, sold for 262*l*. 10*s*. The remarkable little picture of 'St. Joseph and the Virgin presenting the infant Christ to the High Priest,' by Guercino, brought 420*l*.

A single paragraph must dispose of the remainder.—'Interior of a Cathedral,' by J. de Witte, brought 46*l*. 4*s*.; 'A frozen River,' by Schellincks, 99*l*. 15*s*.; 'Dutch River Scene,' by S. Ruysdael, 85*l*. 1*s*.; 'The Marriage of St. Catherine,' by N. Poussin, 189*l*.; 'Story of Apollo and Cyparissus,' by Rubens, 136*l*. 10*s*.; 'Louis XIV. with his army before Dunkirk,' 99*l*. 15*s*.; 'Portrait of Titian,' by himself, 388*l*. 10*s*.; 'The Martyrdom of St. Andrew,' by Carlo Dolce, 210*l*.; 'St. John in the Island of Patmos,' by Mola, 157*l*. 10*s*.; 'View in Italy,' by Lingelback, 262*l*. 10*s*.; 'Cockfighting and a Basket of Grapes,' by Snyder, 420*l*.; 'A romantic mountainous Landscape,' by G. Poussin, 105*l*.; 'A View on the Coast of Italy,' by G. Poussin, 105*l*.; 'A grand Landscape, with Cephalus and Procris in foreground,' by N. Poussin, 420*l*.; 'A mountainous Coast Scene,' Pynaker, 122*l*. 15*s*.

FINE-ART GOSSIP.—This is, amongst other features which characterize it, an age of Panorama-painting. The public is growing attached to this mode of seeing the world without the trouble or expense of locomotion; and this spreading inclination has naturally determined the application of much artistic talent in the direction in question. Mr. Allom's ability has been attested by his many sketches of Oriental and other scenery; and his Panorama of 'Constantinople, with the Bosphorus and Dardanelles,'—a private view of which took place at the Gallery in Regent Street on Saturday last,—will help his reputation. Among its most striking features may be enumerated, the Sultan's residence of Arnaout-Keul, and Babec on the Bosphorus,—the Castle of Asia,—the Sweet Waters of Asia (a fashionable lounge, and a gay and brilliant scene, with a richly



ornamented fountain as a leading object).—Therapia, the summer residence of the English and French ambassadors, with one of the aqueducts constructed to supply Constantinople with water seen in the distance,—and Encampments, with good groupings and picturesque scenery.—The view where the Black Sea joins the Bosphorus is also very interesting:—a combination of fine scenery, with great variety of wood, water, sky, and figures, forming elements of a highly effective treatment. The second part of this Panoramic Exhibition opens with a solemn presentment of the Cemetery of Eyoub, an extramural place of burial of the Faithful. The Street of Tombs next claims attention. The entrance to the Mosque of Eyoub is, we are told, the place of inauguration of a new sultan; and the artist has here introduced some capital characteristic grouping. The Golden Horn is seen from the Eyoub landing-place, where the Sultan appears in his magnificent caïque. We have also shown to us the picturesque Mosque and Tombs of Shah-za-deh Djamesi,—the Interiors of the Baths, where all the various processes of steaming, shampooing, &c. are going on,—the Subterranean Palace, Yere Batan Serai,—the Slave Market, with excellently disposed figures,—the Mosque of Sultan Soliman, with its very tall minarets,—Loungers listening to music in the Coffee House,—the crowded Bazaar, with its eager occupants,—the spacious Atmeidan, or Hippodrome,—the interior of Sta. Sophia, with the faithful at their devotions, (a building closely resembling St. Mark's at Venice,—which, in fact, was copied from it),—the Sublime Porte, a plain simple gateway, which from being the chief approach to the Sultan's palace has given its title to his government,—and the Garden of the Seraglio, with handsome brick buildings and roofs, reminding us of the Dutch taste of William the Third at our own Kensington Palace. These and many more are the attractions of a Panorama by means of which the painter has conveyed information at a glance which volumes would have failed so vividly to describe. The value of the picture as a work of Art is somewhat diminished by the artist's want of more extensive experience in the department of distemper painting.

The British branch of the National Gallery—containing the Vernon Collection of the English school, and such specimens as we possess in further illustration of the history of Art in this country—has been brought together in Marlborough House,—and will be open to the public in the course of next week. The private view is fixed for the 1st of August. The Vernon collection is properly kept together; and every room containing any portion of the gift is distinctly marked as "Vernon Collection." The Hogarths, Wilkies, Reynolds, &c., are in other rooms.

We have received the following from a correspondent.—"In your review last week [see ante, p. 769] of the first publication issued under the auspices of the Arundel Society, you make some observations on the inefficient scale in which some of the most conspicuous works of the hero of the memoir, Fra Angelico, are rendered. This error—for such I agree with your reviewer that it is—must be the result of want of knowledge or of proper direction on the part of those who have the management of the concerns of that Society. I write, therefore, to ask, which among the leading artists of our day conversant with such matters can have led the Society into such a mistake? To have executed properly the principal works of the artist here so imperfectly represented would, I am aware, have occupied much time and occasioned much expense to the Society, and the publication of the entire series would necessarily have spread over a large number of years. But no one anxious for the important objects of which this Society has taken charge would grudge waiting until such time as these could be adequately realized.—Being myself one of those who are not entirely led away by some of the more florid styles of our present painters,—having much respect for the sincerity of some of the early masters, and being anxious to see their productions engraved with truth,—I have ventured to intrude on your space for the purpose of asking you, as above, if you know by

whose advice the present course has been followed?—I am, &c. AN AMATEUR OF THE ART."

The lovers of Art will be pleased to hear that the Great Bull and upwards of 100 tons of sculpture, excavated by our enterprising countryman Dr. Layard, are now on their way to England and may be expected in the course of September. In addition to the Elgin, Phigalian, Lycian and Boodroom marbles, our Museum will soon be enriched with a magnificent series of Assyrian sculptures. It is said at Nineveh that the French Government are determined to excel us in the exhibition of Assyrian works of Art, in order to compensate the comparative deficiency which the Louvre is obliged to acknowledge as to the treasures it possesses in the other great catalogues, and that large sums have been accordingly voted for the expenses of excavation. A drawing which represents the shipping of the sculpture has been just brought over by one of the Messrs. Lynch, of Bagdad, who has been with Dr. Layard exploring the remains of Nineveh. It represents the action of placing the Great Bull on board the Apprentice at Morghill, on the right bank of the Euphrates, about three miles above the old city of Bussorah. This place long formed the country residence of Col. Taylor, lately the political agent of this country at Bagdad and Bussorah, and is now rented, by Messrs. Stephen Lynch & Co., to the Hon. East India Company as a dépôt for their vessels on the Euphrates. Alongside the Apprentice is the Nicotris steamer, under the command of Capt. Jones, I.N.; whose influence with the natives is most powerful, and to whose assistance the success in effecting the difficult operation on the muddy and deserted banks of the Euphrates is in a great measure attributable. The Apprentice was sent out from this country by Mr. Alderman Finnis, at the instance of the Trustees of the British Museum, and to that gentleman, and his nephews Messrs. Lynch, the public are indebted for a periodical communication between the Thames and the Euphrates. Another vessel belonging to the Alderman is, we understand, about leaving London, and it is hoped that she may in like manner return home laden with the monuments and trophies of what we have been too apt to regard as the semi-fabulous metropolis of the ancient world.

The Royal Association for the Promotion of the Fine Arts in Scotland—the first, we believe, of those Art-Unions which have since sprung up in the Metropolis and other large towns of England and Scotland, and which must exercise so large an influence for good or for evil on Art—has been holding its anniversary meeting at Edinburgh. If with its objects this Association had been able to transmit to its imitators the principles on which they are carried out, many evils would have been avoided which are tending to the degradation of Art among ourselves and the misery of its professors. Most of the wholesome rules which we have again and again urged on the Art-Union of London—and which the Board of Trade, after insisting on their necessity, most unintelligibly waived—are in wholesome operation in this Scottish Association. The pictures for distribution are chosen by a committee selected for the purpose, under a rule which is expressed as follows.—"Resolved, that in order to afford the members of committee an opportunity of deliberately examining the merits of the works of Art to be proposed for purchase for the Association, each member of committee should, within eight days after the opening of the Exhibition of the Royal Scottish Academy, send in to the secretary a list of works, not exceeding twelve in number, which appeared to him worthy of being considered for purchase: that the secretary, within three days thereafter, should circulate among the members of committee a list embracing the whole works thus selected; and that the proposals for purchase at the first meeting of committee held for this purpose should be confined to those works of Art enumerated in the said list."

In addition to the prizes so purchased, out of the money subscribed a sum is set apart for the purchase of some one work of high merit, to be placed in the national galleries of Scotland;—and this year the Committee have purchased Mr. Noel

Paton's 'Quarrel of Oberon and Titania,' for the price of 700*l*. The picture is to be placed in the galleries of the Royal Institution, which are open to the public. A marble statuette of Sir Walter Scott, made by Mr. Steell after his colossal statue of the great novelist, executed by him some years ago for the Scott Monument, has been purchased by the Committee for a sum of one hundred guineas, and Mr. Copeland was employed to make one hundred copies of the statuette in statuary porcelain. The original was made a prize as well as the copies; but the copyright it was provided should remain the property of the Association, with a view to guarding against piracy, and rendering the copies issued by the Association more select and valuable. A mould is therefore to be made by Mr. Steell from the original marble before it is sent off to its proprietor, and the mould to be retained in the hands of the secretary, for behoof of the Association.—It was stated that the amount of subscriptions for the year is 3,480*l*; and that of this sum 1,253*l*. has been expended on paintings, 405*l*. on the productions of sculpture, and 775*l*. on engravings.

The *Brussels Herald* says.—The carriage which is to be used at the coronation of his Majesty the Emperor of Austria, and which is to be restored, was constructed during the reign of the Emperor Charles, who had it made for the marriage of his daughter, Maria Theresa. Since that time, this vehicle was only made use of on the occasion of the coronation of the Emperors at Frankfort. The gilding alone cost 18,000 florins, and the paintings which adorn the panels are from the pencil of Rubens, and cost 60,000 florins.

A Frankfort journal states that the colossal statue of Bavaria, by Schwanthaler, which is to be placed on the hill of Seudling, surpasses in its gigantic proportions all the works of the moderns. It will have to be removed in pieces from the foundry where it is cast to its place of destination,—and each piece will require sixteen horses to draw it. The great toes are each half a metre in length. In the head two persons could dance a polka very conveniently,—while the nose might lodge the musician. The thickness of the robe—which forms a rich drapery descending to the ankles—is about six inches, and its circumference at the bottom about two hundred metres. The Crown of Victory which the figure holds in her hands weighs one hundred quintals (a quintal is a hundred-weight).

## MUSIC AND THE DRAMA

CONCERTS OF THE WEEK.—As a foreign friend remarked on the occasion, such a concert as that offered to her friends by *Mlle. Ida Bertrand* on Monday last would have turned the heads of the "gentle and simple" lovers of music in many a German *Residenz*; whereas, offered to our London public in this blazing month of July, it was attended by but a thin audience.—The concert-giver, who is much more attractive as a concert mezzo-soprano than as a theatrical contralto, was assisted by almost all her playmates at *Her Majesty's Theatre*:—*Madame Sontag* sang for her liberally. In her *solos* this lady is almost *sans reproche*; in her duets, however, she does not—perhaps she cannot—blend with her partner, being obliged to reserve her voice for her cadences and ornaments. A novelty was, the pianoforte playing of a Herr Lubeck, from the Hague. Like *M. Silas*, this young gentleman meritoriously asserts the wakening activity of Holland in the matter of music. He is certainly one among the best of the new pianists—frank in style, brilliant in finger—natural in his reading, as distinguished from the players of the hyper-expressive school,—and only wanting a touch or two of grace and elegance to be highly attractive as well as praiseworthy. Herr Lubeck performed a clever study (we believe of his own composition), and afterwards Mendelssohn's charming *capriccio* in E minor.—We hope and expect to hear of him often again.

ROYAL ITALIAN OPERA.—The late period of the week at which 'La Juive' has been produced at Covent Garden renders such lengthened notice as so magnificent a production demands a matter for



postponement. The epithet is claimed in every sense of the word by the scale of scenic decoration (essential to M. Halévy's master-piece), by the orchestral and choral execution, and by the presentation of one principal character—the *Rachel*—by Madame Viardot which demands future analysis and remark. The entire success of the opera was won the evening before last under circumstances of peculiar peril. At "the eleventh hour" Signor Mario was indisposed—and the performance must needs have been postponed had not Signor Maraldi sung the part in French abroad and announced himself ready to do as much in Covent Garden without rehearsal. The excellent manner in which he went through his task, arguing the preparation of a thorough artist and displaying vocal powers unsuspected by the majority of the opera frequenters, was not lost on the public. The improvised *Lazaro* was received with most merited cordiality. But of the opera and the artists more next week.

**MUSICAL AND DRAMATIC GOSSIP.**—Among the principal vocalists already engaged for the Gloucester Festival, are Madame Sontag and Madame Castellan.—It is said that Madame Sontag will possibly join Signor Ronconi's Italian opera *corps*, at Paris, during the winter:—which throws a certain colour of possibility on another report—to the effect, that Mr. Lumley is still anxious to associate himself in the management of that establishment, and is now negotiating with such an object in view.

Meanwhile, for the first time in our memory, *Her Majesty's Theatre* is to be opened in October, for a series of grand national Concerts vocal and instrumental.—In announcing these as projected by a society of most influential personages and wealthy speculators, the *Morning Post* of Tuesday last, promised that the scale of these entertainments shall be unprecedentedly superb, the engagement of artists home and foreign unprecedentedly liberal, and the selection of music unprecedentedly wide and choice, (the two things being by no means incompatible). We are most happy to receive such a promise of pleasure during the dreary days "when the English hang and drown themselves." Mismanaged as the Wednesday Concerts were, their partial success, nevertheless, was significant of the desire of the Londoners for some winter musical entertainment differing from those provided by M. Julien and by the several choral societies. If this can be cheap as well as good—so much the better.—With regard, however, to price a word has to be said; and if a vast audience is to be collected on terms of entrance which leave when the season is over a beggarly "amount" of debt to the exhibiting artists—"hollow murmurs" coming from a band unpaid—*solo* singers unpaid—instrumentalists unpaid—harm, rather than good, is done by the low price of ticket. This law is laid down with no desire of arbitrary and aristocratic demarcation; but from some observation of facts as they exist,—from some conviction that the best concert-music cannot be worthily presented to audiences exceeding a given number,—and from some fear that within these limits the low rates of payment affected by those in quest of popularity—may mean large arrears of debt to those whose exhibitions have furnished the main attractions to the bills.—The conductor is not named. On his appointment much of the success of the undertaking will depend.

Odd phenomena present themselves in both of our opera-houses, showing anew (did any one need new proof) with how little wisdom those worlds are governed. For instance, why give an act of "Semiramide" for Madame Sontag's benefit, when she has only just made her greatest hit as 'La Figlia,' when her Queen can be but "a gracious," not a "guilty" queen at strongest, and when her *Arace* is still "to seek"?—And why give "Semiramide" entire at the rival theatre, where the attraction of the work was worn out during its first—the *Albani* season—being susceptible of no revival under Mlle. Angri's fiery reign—and where it must be now seriously lessened owing to the declining vocal powers (there is no concealing facts

which artists will not themselves conceal) of Signor Tamburini?

The Bach Society is about to open its doors on Monday evening to a few friends—for the purpose of treating them to a hearing of some of the much-talked-of Motetts by the great composer. A selection from his pianoforte compositions will also, we hear, be performed.

In addition to the melancholy record which we had last week to make under this head, we have to note the death of Mr. Munyard, the comedian of the Adelphi. He died on Monday week, the 15th inst.

#### MISCELLANEA

*The Sting of the Passport System.*—What I write I write as a warning for the wives of England, that, if they do travel, they may take care and go abroad with their husbands, on the same piece of paper. \* \* The Ambassador smiled a bit, and went on writing. "There go my eyes upon the paper," said I to myself, as he looked at me; and whether or no, I did feel 'em twinkle. "And that's my nose, I'm sure of it," for it suddenly burnt so; "and that's my mouth," and I couldn't help smiling at the thought,—"and that's my complexion,"—for I felt a flush,—and that's my hair; and now I'm finished." And having given my name, of course, I thought it was all over; when the Ambassador—as if he had been asking for the coolest thing in life—said, in a sort of English that even a poodle might be ashamed of—"What is your age?"—"What!" cried I, and they might have heard me in the street.—"What is your age?" said the Ambassador once more, twisting his ferret moustachio in such an aggravating way that I could have torn it off.—"Well!" said I, "what next?" And that's all he got out of me.—"What is Madame's age?" said the Ambassador, beginning to laugh.—"What a question for a polite Frenchman!" said I, laughing too. "Ask a lady's age! Well I'm sure!"—"I must know Madame's age," said the Ambassador.—"It's like your impudence," said I, "and you'll know nothing of the sort."—"Then Madame can't go to France," said the Ambassador, throwing down his pen.—"What is it to France how old I am? France is very curious. Perhaps I'm five-and-twenty," said I.—"Five-and-twenty," cried the Ambassador, and where he learnt the words I can't tell, "suppose, Madame, for sport, we go double or quits?"—"My blood *did* boil, but I contrived to say nothing—only to laugh.—"Really, Madame," said the brute, beginning to be gruff, "I must have your age."—"Well, then," said I, throwing my veil quite back as if daring him to do his worst, "as for my age, there's my face; and take what you like out of *that*." The wretch laughed—wrote something—and gave me my passport, which I did not look at, I was in such a passion, till I'd locked myself fairly in my room at home. Would you believe it? When I unfolded the passport, I saw within as my description:—"Agée"—which is French for "Aged."—But no, Mr. *Punch*, not even to you will I reveal the insult that's been put upon me.—Mrs. Amelia Mouser, in 'Punch.'

TO CORRESPONDENTS.—M. H. B.—J. W. L.—S. C. W.—A. B.—V. B.—D. G. R.—J. A. S.—H. H.—J. E.—J. B.—J. G. F.—W. D.—received.

YOUR CONSTANT READER.—We cannot venture to make the contradiction which this correspondent, who writes from Berlin relative to the Royal Library, desires, unless we know the authority on which we do so,—the writer's means of knowledge and his connexion or otherwise with the subject. If he be a party interested, we will insert any contradiction made in his own name.

AN OLD RESIDENT ON THE LOIRE must permit us to say that he has mistaken the nature of our commendation of Mr. Laing's work. We expressly guarded ourselves against discussing any question of detail with Mr. Laing,—our inquiry being confined to the far more important subject of the principles involved in his book. Even in quoting the passage to which our correspondent refers we contented ourselves with merely presenting it as proof that Mr. Laing can use his eyes and ears exceedingly well.—Our correspondent thinks that Mr. Laing has fallen into certain archaeological inaccuracies. That is a question which could not, as he should see, have been profitably discussed in the course of our recent articles. But we must say that had it suited our object to inquire into that matter, we are not sure that we could not have shown Mr. Laing to be by no means so far wrong as our correspondent would make him out.

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Years.	Years.	£.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.	Per Cent.	
12	63	2,000	773 7	0	149 16 8	83 13 0	56
	32	1,000	166 9	0	26 5 10	9 7 40	40
10	50	1,000	213 4	0	45 10 0	19 0 10	42
	27	700	91 6	0	16 5 8	5 11 9	34
	28	500	104 9	0	30 8 9	11 19 10	39
8	32	2,000	232 2	0	52 18 4	17 3 4	32
	50	5,000	826 0	0	329 11 8	119 15 10	36
6	27	2,000	160 2	0	46 10 0	14 6 8	31
	65	300	48 4	0	24 12 6	8 15 11	36
	30	2,000	137 10	0	60 3 4	15 0 0	30
4	42	1,000	119 5	0	71 14 2	20 13 2	29
	28	500	26 12	0	11 18 4	2 14 10	23
3	54	1,000	65 10	0	52 7 6	9 14 2	18
	21	3,000	111 0	0	69 7 8	10 5 0	17
	27	500	23 2	0	29 6 8	3 10 8	12
2	29	1,000	25 19	0	24 9 2	2 12 9	10
	59	2,000	46 10	0	126 11 8	7 4 2	5
1	27	500	6 1	0	11 12 6	0 11 9	5

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30	1 1 8	1 2 7	2 5 5	2 0 7
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30	1000	25 13 4	7 14 0	17 9 4
40	1000	33 18 4	10 3 6	23 14 8
50	1000	48 16 8	14 13 0	34 3 8

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\*\* The Twelfth Annual Report is now published, and may be had on application.

## YORKSHIRE FIRE AND LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY. Established at York, 1824.

Low rates are charged by this Company, thus giving an immediate bonus, in view of a prospective and uncertain one. The Premiums for Female lives have been materially reduced. Fire Insurances on favourable terms. Prospectuses may be had of the

London Agent:

Mr. Henry Dinsdale, 12, Wellington-street, Strand,  
Or Mr. W. L. NEWMAN,  
Actuary and Secretary, York.

## EUROPEAN LIFE INSURANCE AND ANNUITY COMPANY. Established January, 1819. Office, 10, Chatham-place, Blackfriars, London.

The European Life Insurance Company has been established 31 years, and its success has been great.

New tables have recently been calculated to meet every description of life insurance, and a few of the advantages of the Company may be thus enumerated:—

Long standing—established 1819.  
Undoubted security, from a large paid-up capital and accumulated premiums, amounting together to upwards of 240,000l.

Lives insured at equitable rates.

Losses granted to policy holders on favourable terms.

Medical men remunerated for their reports.

A liberal commission to Solicitors and others bringing business.

By order of the Court, WM. BARTON FORD, Secretary.

DIVISION OF PROFITS.

## IMPERIAL LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY, 1, OLD BROAD-STREET, LONDON.

Charles Cave, Esq. Chairman.  
Thomas Newman Hunt, Esq. Deputy-Chairman.

The third decennial and second quinquennial appropriation of Profits will be made in the year 1851, and Policies effected during the current year will be included in the quinquennial division of 50 per cent. of the whole Profits.

Security.—In addition to an adequate reserve to meet the liability under every Policy, valued separately, this Company affords the Security of a subscribed Capital, exceeding in amount 100 per cent. of the gross value of all its liabilities, at a charge of less than 3 per cent. on the Premiums received during the last quinquennial period.

The Profits added to many of the oldest Policies are sufficient to extinguish all the future Premiums.

One-third of the Premium from the commencement may remain on credit, by which 1,500l. may be insured on payment of a Premium for 1,000l.

Insurances without participation in Profits are granted at reduced Premiums.

Prospectuses and further information may be had at the Chief Office, as above; at the Branch Office, No. 16, Pall Mall; or of the Agents in Town and Country.

SAMUEL INGALL, Actuary.

## TABLE AND DESSERT KNIVES, in CASES.

—MECH. CUTLER, 4, LEADENHALL-STREET, has Agate DESSERT KNIVES, in Ivory, Pearl, and other materials, and every description of Table Knives, excellent in quality and reasonable in price. Also a variety of Knife Sharpeners, several new patterns, Wharfedale Penknives, Sissors, Razors, Strops, Paste, and Shaving Brushes, &c. His Razor-strops and Paste are well worth the attention of those who find shaving difficult.

## CHANDLERS.—The most extensive and best

assorted STOCK of CHANDLERS, of British manufacture, is at the Falcon Glass Works, Holland-street, Blackfriars.—APLEY PELLATT & Co. solicit an inspection of the quality of their work, which will be found very superior; all new glass of the most pellucid character, and no foreign drops being used in their chandeliers. The Manufactory may be viewed the first four days of the week.

## SAFETY FOR STREET DOORS.—CHUBB'S

PATENT LATCHES, with very small and neat keys, are perfectly safe from the attempts of picklocks and false keys. They are very strong, not liable to get out of order, and the price so low as to place them within the reach of all classes. Chubb's Patent Fire-proof safes and Boxes form a complete preservation for deeds, plate, books, &c. from fire and thieves. C. Chubb & Son, 57, St. Paul's-churchyard, London; 28, Lord-street, Liverpool; 16, Market-street, Manchester; and Horsley Fields, Wolverhampton.

## DECORATIVE PAPER-HANGING MANU-

FACTORY, and General Furnishing Establishment, Carpet and Floor-cloth Warehouse, 451, Oxford-street.—E. T. ARCHER solicits an inspection of his superior PAPER-HANGING, made by his patented inventions, fitted up on the walls of style of artistic arrangement, in panels, &c., in every division the rooms are furnished with superior furniture, (marked for reception. Bed-room and other Paper-hangings, 1d. per yard; and Tapestry Carpets at 2s. to 3s. 6d. per yard; best warranted Floor-cloth, eight yards wide, cut to any dimensions, 2s. 3d., 2s. 6d., and 2s. 9d. per yard.

## DENT'S IMPROVED WATCHES &amp; CLOCKS.

—E. J. DENT, Watch and Clock Maker by distinct appointment to the Queen, H.R.H. Prince Albert, and H.M. the Emperor of Russia, most respectfully solicits from the public an inspection of his extensive STOCK of WATCHES and CLOCKS, embracing all the latest modern improvements, at the most economical charges. Ladies' Gold Watches, with gold dials, jewelled in four holes, 8 guineas. Gentlemen's, with enamelled dials, 10 guineas. Youths' Silver Watches, with jewelled dials, 4 guineas. Substantial and accurate going Lever Watches, jewelled in four holes, 6 guineas.—E. J. DENT, 62, Strand, 33, Cockspur-street, and 34, Royal Exchange (Clock Tower Area).

## ORNAMENTAL CLOCKS.—Recently received

from Paris a large variety of Fourteen-day CLOCKS, to strike the hours and half-hours, in Ormolu, Marble and China. The designs are pastoral and historical, and include a few of great merit in the style of Louis XIV. The prices four, five, and seven guineas each, and upwards.

A. B. SAYOR & SONS, 9, Cornhill, London, opposite the Statue of the Duke of Wellington.

## PORTABLE ALARMS, complete in themselves (i. e. not requiring to be attached to a watch or clock), can be set to warn at any required time, and emit a shrill ringing sufficient to awaken the soundest sleeper. Price 15s.; post-free, 17s. 6d.—REID &amp; SONS, Clock and Watch Makers to the Admiralty, 14, Grey-street, Newcastle-upon-Tyne.

## FLOOR CLOTHS.

Best Quality Warranted ..... 3s. 6d. per square yard.  
Persian and Turkey pattern ..... 3s. 9d. do.  
Common Floor Cloth ..... 2s. 6d. do.  
COCOON-FIBRE MATS AND MATTING.  
India Matting, plain and figured.

JOWETT, Manufacturer, 532, New Oxford-street.

## CARPETS.—BRIGHT &amp; CO'S PATENT

POWER-LOOM BRUSSELS CARPETS.—These Goods are strongly recommended to the Trade and the Public on the following grounds:—They are woven by steam power, and are therefore more firmly made than can be the case with hand-woven goods. They have the same good quality of worsted throughout, whereas in the common Brussels the dark colours are generally made of an inferior worsted. They are printed by a patent process and by standard more accurate tests than of any other description of carpet. The patent printing admits of an almost unlimited variety of shades or colours; the patterns are therefore more elaborate, as there is greater scope for design. They can be offered at a price about 20 per cent. below that of goods of equal quality made in the ordinary mode. In quality, in pattern, in variety of colours, and in price the Patent Power-Loom Brussels Carpets offer great advantages to the public.—Wholesale, 30, Skinner-street, Snowhill, London; 22, New Brown-street, Manchester.

## GERMAN SPRING MATTRESSES,

permanently Elastic, very Durable and Cheap.  
3 ft. wide ..... £2 8 0  
3 ft. 6 in. ..... £2 13 0  
4 ft. ..... £2 18 0  
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## STANDARD SCHOOL-BOOKS

PUBLISHED BY

CRADOCK &amp; CO.

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LONDON, SATURDAY, AUGUST 3, 1850.

## REVIEWS

*The Prelude, or Growth of a Poet's Mind; an Autobiographical Poem.* By William Wordsworth. Moxon.

This is the poem which nearly forty-five years ago was quoted by Coleridge in his 'Friend,' and distinguished amongst his 'Sibylline Leaves' as—

An Orphic tale indeed,—  
A tale divine of high and passionate thoughts  
To their own music chaunted,—

but which the author nevertheless kept back from the world, and reserved for posthumous publication. It was commenced, we are told, as early as 1799, and completed in 1805; occupying more than six years in composition. It contains a sort of autobiography in blank verse, divided into fourteen books; in which the poet records the incidents and feelings of his life from childhood,—his experiences at home, at Cambridge, in London, and in Paris during the period of the French Revolution, until his return to England. At that time, as he records in language about as prosaic as ever took the poetical form, a young man of the name of Colver enabled him by a generous bequest to pursue poetry as an art; and Wordsworth, feeling that a duty was thus laid on him, began to examine how far nature and education had qualified him for his high commission. As subsidiary to this object, we are told that "he undertook to record in verse the origin and progress of his own powers, as far as he was acquainted with them." The work, he adds, was, "addressed to a dear friend, most distinguished for his knowledge and genius, and to whom the author's intellect had been deeply indebted." So much we know from the preface to 'The Excursion.' The friend alluded to was Coleridge, who throughout the poem is largely recognized as one who, though then young, had established an indisputable renown, and was worthy to be named as the equal of the Titan intellects of the world. For himself, also, Wordsworth, with an easy and somewhat amusing egotism, assumes all but the highest ground—asserting that from the first he was a specially dedicated man, appointed to shed extraordinary light on mankind. The self-consciousness of power expressed in Shakspeare's Sonnets is mere suggestion compared with the open declaration made by Wordsworth of his own poetic apostleship, and his determination to vindicate its claims. The latter, indeed, explicitly states the doctrine of an apostolic succession among poets.

—the animating faith

That Poets, even as Prophets, each with each  
Connected in a mighty scheme of truth,  
Have each his own peculiar faculty,  
Heaven's gift, a sense that fits him to perceive  
Objects unseen before;—

and adds, apostrophizing Coleridge,—

Thou wilt not blame  
The humblest of this band who dares to hope  
That unto him hath also been vouchsafed  
An insight that in some sort he possesses,  
A privilege whereby a work of his,  
Proceeding from a source of untaught things,  
Creative and enduring may become  
A power like one of Nature's. To a hope  
Not less ambitious once among the wilds  
Of Sarum's Plain, my youthful spirit was raised;  
There, as I ranged at will the pastoral downs  
Trackless and sunlit, or paced the bare white roads  
Lengthening in solitude their diurnal line,  
Time with his retinue of ages fled  
Backwards, nor checked his flight until I saw  
Our dim ancestral Past in vision clear;  
Saw multitudes of men, and, here and there,  
A single Briton clothed in wolf-skin vest,  
With shield and stone-axe, stride across the wold;  
The voice of spears was heard, the rattling spear  
Shaken by arms of mighty bone, in strength,  
Long mouldered, of barbaric majesty.  
I called on Darkness—but before the word  
Was uttered, midnight darkness seemed to take  
All objects from my sight; and lo! again

The Desert visible by dismal flames;  
It is the sacrificial altar, fed  
With living men—how deep the groans! the voice  
Of those that crowd the giant wicker thrills  
The monumental hillocks, and the pomp  
Is for both worlds, the living and the dead.  
At other moments (for through that wide waste  
Three summer days I roamed) where'er the Plain  
Was figured o'er with circles, lines, or mounds,  
That yet survive, a work, as some divine,  
Shaped by the Druids, so to represent  
Their knowledge of the heavens, and image forth  
The constellations; gently was I charmed  
Into a waking dream, a reverie  
That, with believing eyes, where'er I turned,  
Beheld long-bearded teachers, with white wands  
Uplifted, pointing to the starry sky,  
Alternately, and plain below, while breath  
Of music swayed their motions, and the waste  
Rejoiced with them and me in those sweet sounds.

The above passage drew from Coleridge much speculation on the faculty implied in the dream and in the dreamer.

A word or two more on the external history of the poem. 'The Prelude,' now published, was designed as an introduction to the epic of 'The Recluse,'—which in the preface to 'The Excursion' was, our readers know, announced as a philosophical poem, containing views of Man, Nature and Society. The projected work, however, seems never to have been executed as a whole. "The First Book of the First Part," we are informed, "still remains in manuscript; but the Third Part was only planned." The Second Part we have long had in 'The Excursion.'

A metrical work on a scheme so extensive and only partially executed reminds us of Spenser's 'Faery Queen.' The early books differ from the later in style,—and also from the style of 'The Excursion' generally. They are characterized by a closer use of poetical diction, and an evident tendency to imitate in the verbal composition certain favourite passages of preceding poets.—Direct passages of imitation are also frequent from Milton's prose-writings:—those, for instance, in which the Poet of Paradise anticipates his future greatness and proposes subjects for the employment of his muse. It was probably the example of Milton which in his own estimation originally justified Wordsworth in recording that inner sense of his own powers in which he triumphed. Like Milton, he enumerates the various themes of which he longed to make trial,—but which were finally rejected in favour of one more congenial to his habits of thought and course of destiny.—We leave behind us these passages, in which the Student was evidently fitting his mind to his Teacher's, to come to the more descriptive ones in which we find him contemplating Nature and interpreting her from his own native impulses. His opportunities, as he acknowledges, were extraordinary.—

Fair seed-time had my soul, and I grew up  
Fostered alike by beauty and by fear;  
Much favoured in my birth-place, and no less  
In that beloved Vale to which ere long  
We were transplanted—there were we loose  
For sports of wider range. Ere I had told  
Ten birth-days, when among the mountain slopes  
Frost, and the breath of frosty wind, had snapped  
The last autumnal crocus, 'twas my joy  
With store of springs o'er my shoulder hung  
To range the open heights where woodcocks run  
Along the smooth green turf. Through half the night,  
Sneaking away from snare to snare, I plied  
That anxious visitation;—moon and stars  
Were shining o'er my head. I was alone,  
And seemed to be a trouble to the peace  
That dwelt among them. Sometimes it befel  
In these night wanderings, that a strong desire  
O'erpowered my better reason, and the bird  
Which was the captive of another's toil  
Became my prey; and when the deed was done  
I heard among the solitary hills  
Low breathings coming after me, and sounds  
Of undistinguishable motion, steps  
Almost as silent as the turf they trod.

The boy-criminal confesses that his object in such pursuits was "mean and inglorious."

Another incident of a poetic boyhood is more finely related.—

One summer evening (led by her) I found  
A little boat tied to a willow tree  
Within a rocky cave, its usual home.  
Straight I unlocked her chain, and stepping in  
Pushed from the shore. It was an act of stealth  
And troubled pleasure, nor without the voice  
Of mountain-echoes did my boat move on;  
Leaving behind her still, on either side,  
Small circles glittering idly in the moon,  
Until they melted all into one track  
Of sparkling light. But now, like one who rows,  
Proud of his skill, to reach a chosen point  
With an unswerving line, I fixed my view  
Upon the summit of a craggy ridge,  
The horizon's utmost boundary; far above  
Was nothing but the stars and the grey sky.  
She was an elfin pinnace; lustily  
I dipped my oars into the silent lake,  
And, as I rose upon the stroke, my boat  
Went heaving through the water like a swan;  
When, from behind that craggy steep till then  
The horizon's bound, a huge peak, black and huge,  
As if with voluntary power instinct  
Upreared its head. I struck and struck again,  
And growing still in stature the grim shape  
Towered up between me and the stars, and still,  
For so it seemed, with purpose of its own  
And measured motion like a living thing,  
Strode after me. With trembling oars I turned,  
And through the silent water stole my way  
Back to the covert of the willow tree;  
There in her mooring-place I left my bark,—  
And through the meadows homeward went, in grave  
And serious mood; but after I had seen  
That spectacle, for many days, my brain  
Worked with a dim and undetermined sense  
Of unknown modes of being; o'er my thoughts  
There hung a darkness, call it solitude  
Or blank desertion. No familiar shapes  
Remained, no pleasant images of trees,  
Of sea or sky, no colours of green fields;  
But huge and mighty forms, that do not live  
Like living men, moved slowly through the mind  
By day, and were a trouble to my dreams.

The famous skating scene long since quoted by Coleridge is well known to those who are readers of 'The Friend'; but it is in itself so graphic and belongs so eminently to this place in the history of Wordsworth's political development, that we cannot persuade ourselves to omit it here.—

And in the frosty season, when the sun  
Was set, and visible for a mile  
The cottage windows blazed through twilight gloom,  
I heeded not their summons: happy time  
It was indeed for all of us—for me  
It was a time of rapture! Clear and loud  
The village clock tolled six,—I wheeled about,  
Proud and exulting like an untired horse  
That cares not for his home. All shod with steel,  
We hissed along the polished ice in games  
Confederate, imitative of the chase  
And woodland pleasures,—the resounding horn,  
The pack loud chiming, and the hunted hare.  
So through the darkness and the cold we flew,  
And not a voice was idle; with the din  
Smitten, the precipices rang aloud;  
The leafless trees and every icy crag  
Tinkled like iron; while far distant hills  
Into the tumult sent an alien sound  
Of melancholy not unnoticed, while the stars  
Eastward were sparkling clear, and in the west  
The orange sky of evening died away.  
Not seldom from the uproar I retired  
Into a silent bay, or sportively  
Glanced sideways, leaving the tumultuous throng,  
To cut across the reflex of a star  
That fled, and, flying still before me, gleamed  
Upon the glassy plain; and oftentimes,  
When we had given our bodies to the wind,  
And all the shadowy banks on either side  
Came sweeping through the darkness, spinning still  
The rapid line of motion, then at once  
Have I, reclining back upon my heels,  
Stopped short; yet still the solitary cliffs  
Wheeled by me—even as if the earth had rolled  
With visible motion her diurnal round!  
Behind me did they stretch in solemn train,  
Feebler and feebler, and I stood and watched  
Till all was tranquil as a dreamless sleep.

We pass over descriptions of fly-fishing, kite-flying, and in-door recreations, more or less poetical—to select at random such as please us from the many examples, whether of description or of emotion, with which this posthumous work abounds. The sports and experiences of "School-time" form the subject of the second book of 'The Prelude':—

We ran a boisterous course; the year span round  
With giddy motion.

Boat-racing, horse-riding, inn-haunting—all innocently indulged in, according to the record—served to enlarge the neophyte's sympathies, and to make "daily the common range of visible things grow dear" to him,—until Nature,



hitherto secondary, became loved for her own sake. The third book takes us and the Poet to Cambridge:—but the stated studies of the University, it seems, had no attractions for him. His education still continued to be of an out-of-door character. We recognize throughout the course of his life at this period a boy of ardent impulses combined with large self-respect.—Passing on, we meet with a strange visionary speculation which we must quote. Wordsworth had already told us that the Poet and the Lover are in some things alike:—each has “fits when he is neither sick nor well, though no distress be near him but his own unmanageable thoughts.” One of these fits was apparently on the “Recluse” when he was smitten with sudden grief in reflecting that the noblest works of human genius are confided to frail materials,—that “the consecrated works of Bard and Sage” are perishable, and might be destroyed by a universal earthquake or by the descent of fire from heaven. He confesses that to indulge in such misgivings “was going far to seek disquietude;”—one of the dreamiest of poetic visions, however, grew, as we have said, on this despairing mood.—

Once in the stillness of a summer's noon,  
While I was seated in a rocky cave  
By the sea-side, perusing, so it chanced,  
The famous history of the errant knight  
Recorded by Cervantes, these came thoughts  
Beset me, and to height unusual rose,  
While listlessly I sat, and, having closed  
The book, had turned my eyes toward the wide sea.  
On poetry and geometric truth,  
And their high privilege of lasting life,  
From all internal injury exempt,  
I mused, upon these chiefly; and at length,  
My senses yielding to the sultry air,  
Sleep seized me, and I passed into a dream.  
I saw before me stretched a boundless plain  
Of sandy wilderness, all black and void,  
And as I looked around, distress and fear  
Came creeping over me, when at my side,  
Close at my side, an uncouth shape appeared  
Upon a dromedary, mounted high.  
He seemed an Arab of the Bedouin tribes:  
A lance he bore, and underneath one arm  
A stone, and in the opposite hand a shell  
Of a surpassing brightness. At the sight  
Much I rejoiced, not doubting but a guide  
Was present, one who with unerring skill  
Would through the desert lead me; and while yet  
I looked and looked, self-questioned what this freight  
Which the new-comer carried through the waste  
Could mean, the Arab told me that the stone  
(To give it in the language of the dream)  
Was “Euclid's Elements;” and “This,” said he,  
“Is something of more worth;” and at the word  
Stretched forth the shell, so beautiful in shape,  
In colour so resplendent, with command  
That I should hold it to my ear. I did so,  
And heard that instant in an unknown tongue,  
Which yet I understood, articulate sounds  
A loud prophetic blast of harmony;  
An Ode, in passion uttered, which foretold  
Destruction to the children of the earth  
By deluge, now at hand. No sooner ceased  
The song, than the Arab with calm look declared  
That all would come to pass of which the voice  
Had given forewarning, and that he himself  
Was going then to bury these two books:  
The one that held acquaintance with the stars,  
And wedded soul to soul in purest bond  
Of reason, undisturbed by space or time:  
The other that was a god, yea many gods,  
Had voices more than all the winds, with power  
To exhilarate the spirit, and to soothe,  
Through every clime, the heart of human kind.  
While this was uttering, strange as it may seem,  
I wondered not, although I plainly saw  
The one to be a stone, the other a shell;  
Nor doubted once but that they both were books,  
Having a perfect faith in all that passed.  
Far stronger, now, grew the desire I felt  
To cleave unto this man; but when I prayed  
To share his enterprise, he hurried on  
Reckless of me: I followed, not unseen,  
For oftentimes he cast a backward look,  
Grasping his twofold treasure.—Lance in rest,  
He rode, I keeping pace with him; and now  
He, to my fancy, had become the knight,  
Whose tale Cervantes tells; yet not the knight,  
But was an Arab of the desert too;  
Of these was neither, and was both at once.  
His countenance, meanwhile, grew more disturbed;  
And, looking backwards when he looked, mine eyes  
Saw, over half the wilderness diffused,  
A bed of glittering light: I asked the cause:  
“It is,” said he, “the waters of the deep  
Gathering upon us;” quickening then the pace  
Of the unwieldy creature he bestrode,  
He left me: I called after him aloud;  
He heeded not; but, with his twofold charge  
Still in his grasp, before me, full in view,

Went hurrying o'er the illimitable waste,  
With the fleet waters of a drowning world  
In chase of him; whereat I waked in terror,  
And saw the sea before me, and the book,  
In which I had been reading, at my side.

From Cambridge, the Poet leads us to France,  
Switzerland and the Alps. The most significant  
facts of the time with which he met in this  
journey were, the attempted expulsion of the  
inmates from the Convent of the Chartreuse,  
and that—

when shortening fast  
Their pilgrimage, not distant far from home,  
They crossed the Brabant armies on the fret  
For battle in the cause of Liberty.

Ere long, Wordsworth was to manifest a soul  
kindled by that cause almost to conflagration.  
But a residence in London intervened; and the  
description of our own metropolis in the last  
half of the last century occupies no inconsider-  
able portion of the poem. Indeed, the book in  
which it is contained might be treated as a com-  
plete poem in itself. To the child's and youth's  
imagination London had been a golden city.  
Experience of course corrected this extravagance.  
In London the Poet has, however, an eye for  
every peculiarity, and in the great multitude  
discriminates the individuals composing it—the  
beggar—the sailor—the ballad-singer—the  
Savoyard.—

The Italian, as he thrills his way with care,  
Steady, far-seen, a frame of images  
Upon his head; with basket at his breast  
The Jew; the stately and slow-moving Turk,  
With freight of slippers piled beneath his arm!

\* \* \* \* \*  
The Swede, the Russian; from the genial south,  
The Frenchman and the Spaniard; from remote  
America, the Hunter-Indian; Moors,  
Malays, Lascars, the Tartar, the Chinese,  
And Negro Ladies in white muslin gowns.

He records that he was a haunter of theatres,  
and took great delight in the Drama. The only  
theatre, however, that he distinguishes is Sadler's  
Wells,—then the home of melo-drama and spec-  
tacle; where the future great Poet sat to see—and  
he adds, “with ample recompence”—“giants  
and dwarfs, clowns, conjurors, posture-masters,  
harlequins, and the uproar of the rabblement.”  
Much of all this is the merest common-place  
—both as regards the facts and the manner in  
which they are conveyed.

Reflections on the Houses of Parliament suc-  
ceed—and Wordsworth pays a tribute to the  
eloquence and wisdom of Burke. He then  
passes on to the Church—satirizes the pulpit  
orator, somewhat in the style of Cowper—and  
arrives by an immediate transition at the glories  
of Bartholomew Fair. As the Fair is—what the  
Market held here is soon to be—one of the lost  
delights of the metropolis,—it may be worth  
while to preserve the record of its enchantments  
as they presented themselves to Wordsworth.—

For once, the Muse's help will we implore,  
And she shall lodge us, wafted on her wings,  
Above the press and danger of the crowd,  
Upon some showman's platform. What a shock  
For eyes and ears! what anarchy and din,  
Barbarian and infernal,—a phantasma,  
Monstrous in colour, motion, shape, sight, sound!  
Below, the open space, through every nook  
Of the wide area, twinkles, is alive  
With heads; the midway region, and above,  
Is thronged with staring pictures and huge scrolls,  
Dumb proclamations of the Prodigies;  
With chattering monkeys dangling from their poles,  
And children whirling in their roundabouts;  
With those that stretch the neck and strain the eyes,  
And crack the voice in rivalry, the crowd  
Inviting; with buffoons against buffoons  
Grimacing, writhing, screaming,—him who grinds!  
The hurdy-gurdy, at the fiddle weaves,  
Rattles the salt-box, thumps the kettle drum,  
And him who at the trumpet puffs his cheeks,  
The silver-collared Negro with his timbrel,  
Equestrians, tumblers, women, girls, and boys  
Blue-breeched, pink-vested, with high-towering plumes.—  
All moveables of wonder, from all parts,  
Are here—Albions, painted Indians, Dwarfs,  
The Horse of knowledge, and the learned Pig,  
The Stone-eater, the man that swallows fire,  
Giants, Ventriloquists, the Invisible Girl,  
The Bust that speaks and moves its goggling eyes,  
The Wax-work, Clock-work, all the marvellous craft  
Of modern Merlins, Wild Beasts, Puppet-shows,  
All out-o'-the-way, far-fetched, perverted things,  
All freaks of nature, all Promethean thoughts

Of man, his dullness, madness, and their feats  
All jumbled up together, to compose  
A Parliament of Monsters. Tents and booths  
Meanwhile, as if the whole were one vast mill,  
Are vomiting, receiving on all sides,  
Men, Women, three-year Children, Babies in arms.

In the selection of topics for this autobiogra-  
phical poem, there is an evident desire on the  
part of the experimental Poet to make trial of  
a variety of subjects and modes of treatment.  
At the same time, he was as evidently training  
his moral faculty and his affections, and through  
the love of Nature guiding himself to the love  
of Man. The following passage, with its ex-  
quisite music, may serve to symbolize many,—

Smooth life had flock and shepherd in old time,  
Long springs and tepid winters, on the banks  
Of delicate Galesus; and no less  
Those scattered along Adria's myrtle shores:  
Smooth life had herdsman, and his snow-white herd  
To triumphs and to sacrificial rites  
Devoted, on the inviolable stream  
Of rich Clitumnus; and the goat-herd lived  
As calmly, underneath the pleasant brows  
Of cool Lucretilla, where the pipe was heard  
Of Pan, Invisible God, thrilling the rocks  
With tutelary music, from all harm  
The fold protecting. I myself, mature  
In manhood then, have seen a pastoral tract  
Like one of these, where Fancy might run wild,  
Though under skies less generous, less serene:  
There, for her own delight had Nature framed  
A pleasure-ground, diffused a fair expanse  
Of level pasture, islanded with groves  
And banked with woody risings; but the Plain  
Endless, here opening widely out, and there  
Shut up in lesser lakes or beds of lawn  
And intricate recesses, creek or bay  
Sheltered within a shelter, where at large  
The shepherd strays, a rolling hut his home.  
Thither he comes with spring-time, there abides  
All summer, and at sunrise ye may hear  
His flageolet to liquid notes of love  
Attuned, or sprightly life resounding far.  
Noble there is none, nor tract of that vast space  
Where passage opens, but the same shall have  
In turn its visitant, telling there his hours  
In unlabouring pleasure, with no task  
More toilsome than to carve a beechen bowl  
For spring or fountain, which the traveller finds,  
When through the region he pursues at will  
His devious course. A glimpse of such sweet life  
I saw when, from the melancholy walls  
Of Goslar, once imperial, I renewed  
My daily walk along that wide champaign,  
That, reaching to her gates, spreads east and west,  
And northwards, from beneath the mountainous verge  
Of the Hercynian forest. Yet, hail to you  
Moors, mountains, headlands, and ye yellow vales,  
Ye long deep channels for the Atlantic's voice,  
Powers of my native region! Ye that seize  
The heart with firmer grasp! Your snows and streams  
Ungovernable, and your terrifying winds,  
That howl so dismally for him who reads  
Companionless your awful solitudes!  
There, 'tis the shepherd's task the winter long  
To wait upon the storms: of their approach  
Sagacious, into sheltering caves he drives  
His flock, and thither from the homestead bears  
A toilsome burden up the craggy ways,  
And deals it out, their regular nourishment  
Strewn on the frozen snow. And when the spring  
Looks out, and all the pastures dance with lambs,  
And when the flock, with warmer weather, climbs  
Higher and higher, him his office leads  
To watch their goings, whatsoever track  
The wanderers choose. For this he quits his home  
At day-spring, and no sooner doth the sun  
Begin to strike him with a fire-like heat,  
Than he lies down upon some shining rock,  
And breakfasts with his dog. When they have stolen,  
As is their wont, a pittance from strict time,  
For rest not needed or exchange of love,  
Then from his couch he starts; and now his feet  
Crush out a livelier fragrance from the flowers  
Of lowly thyme, by Nature's skill enwrought  
In the wild turf: the lingering dews of morn  
Smoke round him, as from hill to hill he hies,  
His staff protending like a hunter's spear,  
Or by its aid leaping from crag to crag,  
And o'er the brawling beds of unbridged streams.  
Philosophy, methinks, at Fancy's call,  
Might deign to follow him through what he does  
Or sees in his day's march; himself he feels,  
In those vast regions where his service lies,  
A freeman, wedded to his life of hope  
And hazard, and hard labour interchanged  
With that majestic indolence so dear  
To native man. A rambling school-boy, thus  
I felt his presence in his own domain,  
As of a lord and master, or a power,  
Or genius, under Nature, under God,  
Presiding; and severest solitude  
Had more commanding looks when he was there.  
When up the lonely brooks on rainy days  
Angling I went, or trod the trackless hills  
By mists bewildered, suddenly mine eyes  
Have glanced upon him distant a few steps,  
In size a giant, stalking through thick fog,  
His sheep like Greenland bears; or, as he stepped  
Beyond the boundary line of some hill-shadow,



His form bath flashed upon me, glorified  
By the deep radiance of the setting sun:  
Or him have I descried in distant sky,  
A solitary object and sublime,  
Above all height! like an aerial cross  
Stationed alone upon a spiry rock  
Of the Chartreuse, for worship. Thus was man  
Emnobled outwardly before my sight,  
And thus my heart was early introduced  
To an unconscious love and reverence  
Of human nature; hence the human form  
To me became an index of delight,  
Of grace and honour, power and worthiness.  
Meanwhile this creature—spiritual almost  
As those of books, but more exalted far;  
Far more of an imaginative form  
Than the gay Corin of the groves, who lives  
For his own fancies, or to dance by the hour,  
In coronal, with Phyllis in the midst—  
Was, for the purposes of kind, a man  
With the most common; husband, father; learned,  
Could teach, admonish; suffered with the rest  
From vice and folly, wretchedness and fear;  
Of this I little saw, cared less for it,  
But something must have felt.

With this deep love and reverence for man and nature, we next find Wordsworth plunged into the midst of the French Revolution in Paris, his feelings all alive and his soul penetrated to its very depths. Here we fancy that we begin to see why this autobiography has been so long suppressed. That Revolution the Poet justifies in principle and in fact. He enters into its spirit and purpose; and when the period of reaction came, and he had to lament the disappointment of his ardent hopes, he was reluctant to blame for the event either the republic or the people. For the blame of all he looks further back.—

When a taunt

Was taken up by scoffers in their pride,  
Saying, "Behold the harvest that we reap  
From popular government and equality,"  
I clearly saw that neither these nor aught  
Of wild belief engrafted on their names  
By false philosophy had caused the woe,  
But a terrific reservoir of guilt  
And ignorance filled up from age to age,  
That could no longer hold its loathsome charge,  
But burst and spread in deluge through the land.

This argument of France and its first revolution extends through three books, containing much that is interesting and eloquent. But the subject was too near to be contemplated strictly with the poetic eye. Grouping and outline and character are, for the most part, wanting, and reflection superabounds. The failure of the French Revolution haunted Wordsworth's dream with a sense of wrong and indignation; and when England declared war against France his political feelings appear to have been roused to fearful energy. He confesses to have "exulted, in the triumph of his soul" when he heard that "Englishmen by thousands were o'erthrown." Nay, he proceeds to say that—

It was a grief,—

Grief call it not, 'twas anything but that,—  
A conflict of sensations without name,  
Of which he only, who may love the sight  
Of a village steeple, as I do, can judge,  
When in the congregation bending all  
To their great Father, prayers were offered up,  
Or praises for our country's victories;  
And, 'mid the simple worshippers, perchance  
I only, like an uninvited guest  
Whom no one owned, sat silent,—shall I add,  
Fed on the day of vengeance yet to come.

These sentiments, as originally expressed, appear not to have been mitigated by any after-correction of the passages. Wordsworth, nevertheless, felt that he might perhaps have formed an erroneous estimate of man and of his political rights. With the loss of his faith in human perfectibility he confesses to have suffered abatement of his imaginative power and taste. To recover these, he tells us that he returned to his Westmoreland hills; and in order to ascertain if in the natures of humble and half-educated men there were any vestiges of those noble principles which were necessary to sustain his hope of human progress, he turned his attention to the peasants and statesmen of his native district. These he subsequently made the subjects of his song. In them he

found the evidence which he sought; and he was thereby enabled somewhat to recover the exercise of the faculties whose action had become impaired by the influence of a contrary experience. Such is the spirit and purpose of Mr. Wordsworth's posthumous poem;—which will doubtless be received with mixed feelings by his admirers. To some it will be as great a surprise as Sir Robert Peel's repudiation of aristocratic honours for himself and his family; others will believe that the Poet survived his early feelings,—and these will not be without warranty for their judgment in some of his later works.

*The Historie of Travaille into Virginia Britannia; expressing the Cosmographie and Commodities of the Country, together with the Manners and Customes of the People. Gathered and observed as well by those who went first thither as collected by William Strachey, Gent., the first Secretary of the Colony.* Now first edited from the original Manuscript, in the British Museum, by R. H. Major, Esq., of the British Museum. Printed for the Hakluyt Society.

THIS is a suggestive book,—with its prophetic motto,—its dedication to Lord Bacon, the fit patron of discoverers,—and its curious map, "described by Captayn John Smith," adorned with ships, and huge whales, and all the land so closely dotted over with tall trees and mole-hill-sized mountains, and here and there the mark of an Indian settlement just visible. Worthy William Strachey, Gent., what would be his surprise to look over a map of Virginia Britannia,—that "ample tract of land," with "sufficient space and ground enough to satisfie the most covetous,"—in the year 1850; and to mark the teeming and busy population, the steamboats that navigate the "five faire and delightfull navigable rivers" within the Chesapeake Bay, the railroads that intersect the whole country and the vast human tide still pouring westward? "This shall be written for the generation to come," is his motto; and interesting it is to the reader to follow him in his narrative of the toils and privations of the good company to which he was secretary, and in his full and minute account of the produce of the country, and of its strange inhabitants. Who William Strachey was, Mr. Major, notwithstanding all his diligence, has not been able to ascertain. In his dedication to Lord Bacon, he describes himself as having been "one of the Graies-Inne Societe,"—and his narrative affords ample proof of his being a man of learning and worth; but of his family, the date of his birth or of his death, we have no record.

The earlier attempts to colonize North America were numerous, but all unfavourable. "Divers voyages" were made thither from the year 1578 to the close of the reign of Elizabeth, but without success: nor were the first adventurers in the reign of her successor more fortunate.—

"At the time of the death of Queen Elizabeth, one hundred and eleven years subsequent to the great discovery of the Western World by Columbus, the Spaniards, on whose behalf his discovery had been made, were the sole permanent settlers in this wide and wealthy continent. In 1606, the French began to make settlements in Canada and Acadie, now Nova Scotia, but it was not till 1607 that the enterprise, which was finally destined to lay the foundation of British occupancy of American soil, was undertaken. Twenty-three years had expired since the patent had been granted to Sir Walter Raleigh to discover and take possession, with little less than royal privileges, of remote heathen and barbarous lands, hitherto not actually possessed by any Christian prince; and yet not an acre of American soil had hitherto become the property of the English.

\* \* It was shortly after this period, viz., A° 1605-6, that Richard Hakluyt, the '*presidium et dulce decus*' of our Society, to whom, as Robertson justly remarks, 'England is more indebted for its American possessions than to any man of that age,' used influential arguments with various gentlemen of condition, to induce them to present a petition to King James, to grant them patents for the settlement of two plantations on the coast of North America. This petition issued in the concession of a charter, bearing date the 10th of April, 1606, by which the tract of country lying between the thirty-fourth and forty-fifth degrees of latitude was to be divided into nearly equal portions, between two companies; that occupying the southern portion to be called the first colony (subsequently named the London Company), and that occupying the northern, to be called the second colony (subsequently named the Plymouth Company). The patent also vested in each colony a right of property over fifty miles of the land, extending along the coast each side of the point of first occupation, and a hundred miles inland. The chief adventurers in the London or South Virginian Company, with which as the first settlement we now have principally to do, were Sir Thomas Gates, Sir George Somers, Richard Hakluyt, and Edward Maria Wingfield. The command of the expedition was committed to Captain Newport."

"By a strange caprice of the king, these instructions were sent carefully sealed up and inclosed in a box, not to be opened till their arrival in Virginia." Thus, destitute of a leader at the time when they most needed one, they chose the gallant Captain John Smith, so well known from "the romantic tale of his own life and Englishmen's lives, for his sake, being saved, once and again, by the personal devotion of the generous but ill-requited Pocahontas." Under him the first permanent settlement of the English in America was effected, and James Town built. In 1609 the expedition under Lord Delawarr set out; and "under his enlightened and beneficent auspices the colony soon assumed a wholesome and active appearance." Ill health, however, compelled him within two years to return to England; but Sir Thomas Dale arriving soon after, with a fresh supply of emigrants, the colony continued prosperous. Its affairs subsequently retrograded; and Lord Delawarr again went out in the year 1618,—but unfortunately only to die, near the bay which still bears his name.

"Finally it was not till 1620, after so many abortive efforts had been made both by Government and powerful bodies to form an establishment in North Virginia, that at length it received, under unexpected circumstances, an influx of settlers which soon rendered it by far the most prosperous of all the colonies in North America. This was the emigration of a large band of Puritans, who suffering under the intolerance of the English Government, on account of non-conformity, first passed into Holland, and afterwards found an asylum in America."

The "Historie" very properly begins with a description of the land,—the fruitfulness of which is dwelt on; and a hint is given of the probability that even gold may be discovered,—and "sure it is that some mineralls have ben there found." "The temperature of the country" "doth well agree with the English constitutions;" and moreover, not only all "needfull fruits and vegetables which we transport from hence and plant there thrive and prosper well," but vines and tobacco and oranges, and probably sugar-canes, will grow there,—for the soil is "aromaticall," and moreover abounds with medicinal plants and drugs. All this is the favourable side of the picture;—but then, "the savages and men of Ind" whose strange appearance and barbarous usages had excited so much fearful curiosity at home!—Why, says Master Strachey, "let me truly saie, how they never killed man of ours, but by our men's owne folly and indiscretion, suffering then's lves to be beguiled and enticed up into



their howses without their armes; for fierce and cunning as they are, still they stand in great awe of us." Among them the Sasqueshannongs "came to the discoverers with skynns, bowes, arrowes, and tobacco pipes"—doubtless the calumet of peace—"for presents." But the chief object of interest is, "the great King Powhatan,"—already well known by name as the father of the interesting Indian girl, Pocahontas; "the greatnes and boundes of whose empire, by reason of his powerfulness and ambition in his youth, hath larger lymitts than ever had any of his predcessors."

"The great King" was not deficient in that important mark of royalty—and which doubtless corroborated the opinion, then widely prevailing, that these Indians were of eastern origin—a goodly number of wives. Indeed, "he is supposed to have many more than one hundred, all which he doth not keepe, yet as the Turk, in oneseraglia or howse, but hath an appointed number, which reside still in every their severall places, amongst whome, when he lyeth on his bedd, one sitteth at his head and another at his feet; but when he sitteth at meat, or in presenting himself to any strangers, one sitteth on his right hand, and another on his left." And here we have the picture of the great Powhatan, sitting pipe in hand, "the very moral" feather-head-dress and all, of the protecting genius of the tobaccoist's shop, with a rather pretty-looking wife on each side and twenty more, laughingly huddled round a huge fire, at his feet. His family was rather patriarchal; consisting at this time of twenty sons and ten daughters, besides "a young one, a great darling," and Pocahontas, "now married to a private captain." Some of his "weroances," or under governors, took somewhat of kingly state on them, and so did their favourite wives. One, a very handsome "savage woman," took on her "a shewe of greatnes" in this manner.—

"I was once early at her howse (yt being sommer tyme), when she was layed without dores, under the shadowe of a broad-leaved tree, upon a pallett of osiers, spred over with four or five fyne grey matts, herself covered with a faire white drest deare skynne or two; and when she rose, she had a mayd who fetcht her a frontall of white curral, and pendants of great but imperfect couloured and worse drilled pearles, which she put into her eares, and a chayne, with long lyncks of copper, which they call Tapoan-taminais, and which came twice or thrice about her neck, and they accompt a jolly ornament; and sure thus attired, with some variety of feathers and flowers stuck in their haire, they seeme as *debonaire* quaynt, and well pleased as (I wis) a daughter of the howse of Austria behune [decked] with all her jewells; likewise her mayd fetcht her a mantell, which they call puttawus, which is like a side, cloak, made of blew feathers, so artefically and thick sewed together, that it seemed like a deepe purple-satten, and is very smooth and sleeke; and after she brought her water for her hands, and then a branch or two of fresh greene asshen leaves, as for a towell to dry them. I offend in this digression the willing, since these were ceremonies which I did little looke for, carrying so much presentement of civility."

The description of the Indian dress does not differ from the modern accounts; the style of the "ear-rings," however, seems to have interested Strachey greatly,—especially the "wild beasts' claws" stuck in, and, above all, "a small greene and yellow-coloured live snake, neere half a yard in length, crawling and lapping himself about his neck." Truly, we can scarcely be surprised that the early settlers looked with suspicion on men who wore such unchristian-like ornaments, and that they more than suspected them to be in league with "the old serpent." A full description is given of their modes of hunting and fishing; and also of their amusements,—especially their dances, which resemble those of "frantique and disquieted bachanalls." The

writer was not able to obtain much information as to their religion. From some scattered hints, it seems to have resembled the Mexican, both in the human sacrifices and in the secrecy attending them. They also used a sort of embalming for their kings, whose bodies were kept in one of their temples.

Their principal temple "is at Vtmussack, proper to Powhatan, upon the top of certaine red sandy hills; and it is accompanied by two other, sixty feet in length, filled with images of their kings and deviles, and tombes of the predcessors. This place they count so holy as that none, but the priests and kings dare come therein." They are not observed to keep any specific days of devotion; but from time to time the whole population assemble "to make a great fier in the house or fields, and all to sing and daunce about yt, in a ring like so many fayries, with rattles and showtes." This points to an eastern source: so does the following.—

"They have also divers conjurations: one they made at what tyme they had taken Captain Smyth prisoner, to know, as they reported, if any more of his countrymen would arrive there, and what they intended; the manner of yt Captain Smyth observed to be as followeth: first, soe sone as daie was shut in, they kindled a faire great fier in a lone howse, about which assembled seven priests, takinge Captain Smyth by the hand, and appointing him his seat; about the fier they made a kynd of enchanted circle of meale; that done, the chiefest priest, attyred as is expressed, gravely began to sing and shake his rattle, solemnly rounding and marching about the fier, the rest followed him silently untill his song was done, which they all shutt up with a groane. At the end of the first song the chief priest layd downe certayne graines of wheat, and so continued howling and invoking their okous to stand firme and powerful to them in divers varieties of songs, still counting the songs by their graynes, untill they had circled the fier three tymes, then they devided the graynes by certayne number with little sticks, all the while muttering some ympious thing unto themselves, oftentimes looking upon Capt. Smyth." In this manner they contynued ten or twelve howers without any other ceremonies or intermission, with such violent stretching of their armes, and various passions, jestures, and symptoms, as might well seeme strang to him before whom they so conjured, and who every hower expected to be the hoast and one of their sacrifice. Not any meat did they eat untill yt was very late, and the night far spent. About the rising of the morning starr they seemed to have finished their work of darknes, and then drew forth such provision as was in the said howse, and feasted themselves and him with much mirth."

Some part of this narrative reminds us of the conjurations of the Scandinavian propheetess before she poured forth "the Runic rhyme," as related by Bartolinus; we wish the writer had mentioned whether they moved eastward or westward. The propheetess we have just alluded to, grasped her staff carved with Runic characters, all the time, and singing a low monotonous chant, she proceeded, *contrary* to the course of the sun, round and round the charmed fire. The coincidence is, however, striking.

The first book ends with a high eulogy on the capabilities of the country; the probability of its containing great mineral wealth, as well as the certainty of its yielding abundant produce, "for yt hath (even beside necessary helpes, and commodities for life) appaunt proufs of many naturall riches." The second book gives a very interesting account of the various attempts to colonize this portion of America, from the time of the discovery to the expedition of Lord Delawarr,—of which Mr. Major has given an excellent epitome in his introduction.

Looking at the period when this work was probably written, and especially at the arguments

used by the earnest writer, we cannot but think it likely that it may have aided the Pilgrim Fathers in their determination to seek on the farther shores of the Atlantic that freedom which was denied them here. Although in manuscript, it may have been well known; for we have several instances of copies being made of works not intended for the press. In this instance, two copies are still extant; and the circumstance of that in the Ashmolean Collection being dedicated to Sir Allen Apsley, Lucy Hutchinson's father, affords strong probability that it would soon become known to the Puritans, since the wife of Sir Allen,—as we learn from her daughter's delightful memoir,—was a warm adherent to their cause. The incidental benefits which Strachey anticipates for the natives by their intercourse with civilized and Christian people were strongly dwelt on by the exiles at Amsterdam; and the very motto on the title-page of the work before us—"This shall be written for the generation to come; and the people which shall be created shall praise the Lord"—was so often used by them, that in the record of their settlement at Plymouth it might almost have been taken for their motto. If such were the case, if the book before us gave, indeed, the impulse to that devoted band of settlers, how mighty was its influence;—for seldom have greater destinies been enshrined in a frail bark than those that freighted the May-flower!—Mr. Major merits much commendation for his careful editorship and his illustrative notes;—nor should the excellent etchings by his lady be overlooked, inasmuch as they give additional interest to a very interesting volume.

*Life, Poetry, and Letters of Ebenezer Elliott, the Corn-Law Rhymers. With an Abstract of his Politics.* By his Son-in-Law, John Watkins, Author of the 'Life of James Myers;' 'George Chambers,' &c. Mortimer.

THIS is not a life of the Corn-Law Rhymers, so much as a reprint of the autobiographical fragment which appeared in the *Athenæum* (July, p. 46), followed by abundance of washy talk about Elliott's poetry, and by selections from his correspondence, in which the "Author of the Life of James Myers" seems to put forward everything that relates to himself rather than to his subject. We cannot conceive but that a little inquiry must have yielded many communications to other correspondents, literary and political, somewhat more famous than those here paraded, and are encouraged in this conception by observing that the tone of assumption in Mr. Watkins is borne out by want of knowledge. Surely we are warranted in this censure when we find at this time of day a blunder like the following,—in which Miss Jane Austen, the authoress of novels, and the admirable German translator are made to exchange places.—

"He dedicated his 'Vernal Walk' to Miss Smith Austin, the writer of 'Pride and Prejudice,' and styles her what no doubt he had found her, 'A man in counsel.'"

Nevertheless, having plainly asserted that this book is no "Life," and proved that its writer is no Solomon, let us no less plainly declare that the volume contains a few pages so graphically effective in continuation of the fragment above said, as to increase our vexation at the general want of taste and want of pains which have spoiled a record that otherwise might have paired off with the biography of Crabbe! Mr. Watkins became personally acquainted with Mr. Elliott only of late years.—

"The working-men of Whithy having called on me to come forward and be their advocate, I accepted their call, after having in vain referred them to one or two more distinguished reformers in the



town. I proceeded to organise them as a branch of the National Charter Association. For this purpose I was desirous to obtain more information than an obscure local district could afford, and I resolved to visit my friend Elliott. I had also hopes that my play of 'Wat Tyler' would be brought out at the Sheffield theatre. After a ride of 100 miles, on a cold, clear, frosty day in December, 1838, I arrived at Sheffield. \* \* The first time I saw this remarkable man he was coming out of a bookseller's shop in the neighbourhood of his own business-premises, in Gibraltar-street, for he had removed from Burgess-street. I immediately recognised him by the portrait in his works, published in three volumes, by Steill, of Paternoster-row, though he looked older and yet better. I followed him into his premises, but though I was not a minute behind him, he had gone out again. I was desired by a tall young man, his son and foreman, to sit down and wait his return, which, he said, would not be long first. I accordingly took a seat in the counting-house, a dingy place, up a flight of wood stairs, proper enough for the business of an iron and steel merchant, but giving no indications of the poet, and, with the exception of a newspaper and a franked letter or two, none of the politician. I was with difficulty reconciling my previous impressions of Elliott from his poetry with the scene around, when the poet himself made his appearance; a man rather under the middle size, slightly formed, with features marked by the small-pox, a light blue eye, eye-brows very shaggy, thick grey hair, and long upper lip; his looks were expressive of one 'frenzied by disease or woe,' as Byron says of Rousseau, but sometimes a smile like a wintry sun-beam lit up the habitual sadness of his countenance. I rose on his entrance and shook hands with him, telling him my name. On resuming my seat, I said I had come from Whitby to see him. \* \* He said he would take me to the Secretary of the Working-Men's Association, but proposed a walk in the meanwhile, asking me if I was a good walker. I told him I should not tire if I had him for a companion. He led the way, talking as he went on various subjects, among which the Corn-laws were the most prominent. \* \* I told him of the ferocious idea which those who did not know him entertained of him from his writings; he smiled at this, and said:—'I would not hurt a fly, not even if it stung me.'—He spoke of his family, saying he had two sons in the Church; it was not a trade that he would have chosen for them. We met a poor man dirty and drunken. Elliott exchanged a nod with him; he told me that that man had been a fellow-workman of his in his younger days; he said that he himself was once a sad drunken dog, but that he had got a taste for botany, which led him into the fields, and poetry followed.—We reached a wood with pathways through it—he lamented that, being winter, everything appeared to disadvantage, and a mist which hung over the scene prevented a distant view. He pointed out the scene of 'The Ranter,' which first made him popular as a poet. He had taken a Sabbath walk with his children, when he saw a preacher holding forth in the open air. The scene struck his fancy; and, shifting the *venue* to Shirecliffe, he had painted the view as in his poem. He pointed out a tree, into which he had climbed to obtain a better view, and which he had distinguished by driving a nail into it. Sheffield was hid by its smoke; but a diversified prospect lay before us. There was Loxley, where he had purchased a piece of land for a burial-ground. We returned by a different route. \* \* He took me to the Mechanics' Institute, where I heard him argue in a very tolerant humour with one who differed from him, as if seeking to gain a point for the other rather than for himself. He left me here, after telling me to call at his warehouse and he would give me a letter to the Sheaf-works. I availed myself of this, and saw the process of iron from the raw material to the finished razor. Also his son showed me their process of converting iron into steel in the furnace. He invited me to come on the following Sunday, and spend the day with him at his house at Uppertorpe; but I was engaged to go to Castleton on that day—so he appointed Saturday, and said he would have a walk up the Rivelin, his favourite valley, and the scene of many of his poems. I accordingly went, and found his dwelling-house at Uppertorpe from his description of it—a neat stone building, with a

slated roof, standing on an eminence in the midst of a large garden that was surrounded with a wall. The postern-door was left open for me, and he himself opened the front-door of his dwelling, and ushered me into a breakfast-parlour which had two windows, commanding different prospects. The room was genteelly furnished. The first thing that struck me was a portrait, in oil, of himself, which, though a likeness, I did not much admire, because it rather caricatured him. His wife told me it was taken during the agitation for the Reform Bill, and that might account for its wild look. There was another picture, a better one, that of his son William, who had died of consumption, well painted, and very lifelike, especially about the eyes. There was also a bust of himself, with rather a ludicrous expression, which was increased by a woman's cap that had been placed, either by accident or design, on its head. On the mantelpiece stood a full-length small figure of Scott, and an extract from Channing, 'On the Reasonableness of Christianity,' written in his own bold hand, and framed. A few books lay on a table with Sowerby's 'Botany,' which he told me first made him a poet.

"After breakfast we sallied forth, and took our course up a hill, till the vale of the Rivelin opened to our view, which he described with the eye of a painter. The mills on the stream, and the weirs belonging to them, made a succession of beautiful landscapes. We looked in at one of those mills, and saw an old man of thirty, a grinder. He said they seldom reach forty, yet would not use the grinder's life-preserver, because, if they prolonged their lives, there would not be work for them all, and they preferred to die of the disease rather than of starvation. The poet was now at home—he pointed out the little pink buds on the firs, and seemed to be acquainted with every tree and flower, speaking of them as of personal friends. We walked about five miles up the valley, till we came to a streamlet which he had christened Ribbledin, from the music of its waters as it flowed. We came to a little waterfall at the head. He said it was Nature's boudoir; and indeed it might have served for a fountain for Diana. After crossing the stream on bridges of fallen trees, and remarking the great age of the hollies, we clambered, with some difficulty, which he made light of, up a rocky ascent, and returned by the moors, first sitting down on a large grey rock to partake of luncheon. Our drink was a flask of home-made wine, concocted from the fruits of his own garden, and racy enough. In listening to his talk, I almost forgot the scenery, till we reached a point where a circumference of landscape was visible, which we stood to admire. We arrived at his house with a good appetite for dinner; after which we resumed our table-talk over a bottle of claret. \* \* I had now an opportunity of studying him more closely. When I had first seen him at his warehouse, he was dressed in a suit befitting the place, but now his appearance was that of the gentleman. He wore a black surtout with a velvet collar, and bore eye-glasses suspended with a ribbon. He walked with a rather jaunty air, or with a slight swing of the body from side to side, as one desirous to appear younger than he really was, though he did not disguise that he was fifty-eight. He was somewhat nervous, and had got an idea that he would not live long; indeed, he said he had been dying four years of consumption. His general look expressed a kind of severe benignity. His head was not what phrenologists would term a good one; it was small, and of an oval shape, but his forehead was neither high nor broad. He said his wife was his critic. Her familiarly affectionate manner of addressing him as Ebby or Eb, sounded rather oddly in my ears. He could not write, he said, unless he was warm and comfortable, and generally sat near the oven, which was his muse. \* \* Two anecdotes which I heard of him may serve to indicate the fearless self-will of his character. He had taken a pipe of wine from a merchant, in liquidation of a debt. The merchant's creditors requested the wine to be given up, and employed a solicitor to write to him about it. The cholera was then raging, and he returned for answer, 'If you were all dying of the cholera, and one drop of that wine would save your lives, you should not have it!' It was his custom, when speaking in public, to hold a card in his hand, on which he had written the heads of his address. Getting up on one occasion,

putting on his spectacles, and taking out his card, a person in the meeting said, 'He's going to read his speech!' Elliott glanced with ineffable disdain at this person, and said, 'Do you think I am such a fool as you—to come here and not know what I am going to say?'

The above is a long extract, but we must still find room for one of the Corn-Law Rhymer's letters, which is one of the most vigorous and characteristic of the series.—

"Ebenezer Elliott to John Watkins.

"Great Houghton Common, near Barnsley,  
"3rd June, 1842.

"Dear Sir,—I thank you for your beautiful letter of the 1st instant. Your fine descriptions of the localities of Battersea make me ashamed of those of Great Houghton, and, lest you should form extravagant expectations relative to my present residence, I will briefly describe it to you. It is found fault with by architects, landscape-gardeners, and other such cattle, because the kitchen-garden is seen from the windows; but to a cottager, whose motto, copied from the squire's, is, 'Beware of poachers,' the cab-bages, all round which he has so often travelled, is an object of importance. My impugners would be right if my house were a villa or a mansion; but it is a simple, gable-ended, old English farm-cottage, with its garden, orchard, croft, and field (about ten acres in all), a plain dwelling for a plain, retired old man: just such a place as a sensible bachelor of 300l. a-year, with his black hair turning gray, would like to live in for the shooting season. The orchard, from behind the house, breaks over a steep bank in front of it, mingling with the kitchen-garden; and immediately before the porch is a flower-garden or lawn. The high ground on which the house stands commands varied and extensive prospects, but I am happy to say they are not all visible from the house itself; and I think of excluding some that are visible, for the greatest defect of the place is want of seclusion. I have, as yet, no walk in my grounds where I can saunter unobserved to collect and enjoy my thoughts in the cool of the evening. Poets, you seem to think, are not swans. But neither are they birds of any kind. They are fish; and I think they have a right to complain that they are not cased in shell, like lobsters. Unable to provide meat and clothing for themselves—the only article they can command for outside and inside wear being water—they must be fish of some sort. In my opinion it is wrong to pension them off on anything but water. I don't say, Drown them; but I say, Throw them into their proper element! If they sink and rise no more, so much the better for them and the other fish, or such of them as can eat bones. I have had a contest with the Owenites myself. They will not see that competition is the law of God, unerring as that which carries the earth round the sun. Repeal that law, and there will be no pig so swinish as man. What worse than beasts we should be but for our necessities! The food-monopoly is a vain attempt to repeal the eternal and all-merciful law of competition. Look at the consequences."

To this a glimpse of the Poet in the last year of his life must be added.—

"His features more pale and thin, his form more attenuated, and his hair almost white, told a ten years' tale of sorrow, and suffering, and age; but his voice was still loud, and his manner as flatteringly kind as ever. \* \* A fire like a furnace blazed in the chimney—a harp and a piano stood in the room, and there was a one-eyed pet canary which flew about, perching on the heads of those present. The poet's only drink was an invalid's glass of French brandy. He reclined on an American rocking-chair, propped with pillows. Mrs. Elliott occupied a similar one opposite; Miss Elliott played and sang some favourite tunes, introducing one or two lyrics of her father's which had been set to music. Ten was the hour of good night. Next morning, at breakfast, I was startled with observing him suddenly pause, and fix an expression of awe on me, while he solemnly exclaimed, 'How like that cut-throat you look!' I found he alluded to Napoleon. We took one of his favourite walks on the common. I could not but smile at his eccentric appearance. He wore a little low-crowned broad-brimmed hat, not particular in its block, a grey tippet over a blue surtout, blue



cloth vest and pantaloons, a steel watch-chain, hanging in the old fashion, black handkerchief knotted round his neck, common yarn stockings, ankle-boots, and was armed with a holly staff, rough from the wood. You might have taken him for a quack-doctor going to seek simples."

The above passages, in addition to those already before the public, indicate such a richness of matter in the subject, that we cannot take leave of this so-called "Life" without restating our opening proposition in another form. It is to be hoped that some one more patient to gather and better instructed in contemporary letters than Mr. Watkins may still undertake and complete a personal and poetical biography of one of the remarkable men of modern times.

*Bombay Cotton and Indian Railways.* By Lieut.-Col. C. W. Grant, Bombay Engineers. Longman & Co.

Col. Grant is, we believe, one of the most distinguished and useful officers in the very effective corps of Engineers maintained in the western Presidency of British India. In undertaking to write on the subject of Indian Railways, that he has not ventured on a topic unfamiliar to him the volume before us conclusively testifies. We have paid some degree of attention to the question of railway transit both in Bengal and Bombay, and are not unacquainted with most of the reports and treatises which have appeared from time to time on that very important and interesting question. We have no hesitation in saying that this publication by Col. Grant is among the most select and valuable of all the additions that have been made to the common stock of knowledge relative to inland transit in India by means of steam locomotives. Col. Grant has the eminent advantage of approaching the subject of his volume with an intimate acquaintance with the topography and natural features of the part of India the eligibility of which as a field for railway enterprise he undertakes to discuss. He describes himself as having resided for twenty-seven years within the Bombay Presidency; and as his preface is dated from Poonah in December last, we conclude that the work before us has been written on the very spot from which the principal facts that it contains have been collected. The entire scope of the volume is eminently practical. It is in no sense whatever a general essay on the subject of Indian railways,—but a plain, earnest and business-like treatise on the actual facts of the question. The style is clear, precise and simple, and the arrangement of the topics is sufficiently perspicuous. Col. Grant has not hesitated to reduce not only his own proposals but also the proposals of others to the decisive test of actual calculation and estimate; and we regard as the most valuable parts of the volume those sections in which he has staked his own high professional reputation on the statement of most important technical facts connected with the subject. It is beyond our province to follow Col. Grant through the greater part of his topics; and we shall restrict ourselves to a mere indication of those conclusions of his treatise on which he lays the most marked stress.

In the first place, Col. Grant is of opinion—and we think with justice—that a system of canals and irrigation at certain points of the great cotton districts of Bombay, and particularly in connexion with the great stream of the Nerbudda, is as essential to the successful development of the cotton trade of Western India as any scheme of railway communication between the island of Bombay and one or two points in the interior. The observations of the Colonel on this point, and on the results of the experiments already made in Bombay in the culture of the cotton plant from native and

foreign seeds, are perhaps the most important in his volume. In the next place, Col. Grant suggests, apparently on very sufficient grounds, the substitution of viaducts constructed mainly of the native teak-wood of the country for the embankments commonly raised on a line of railway. For the apparently conclusive reasons on the score of safety and economy in favour of the adoption of these viaducts we must refer to the volume itself. Col. Grant is a most decided advocate for the construction in the first instance in India of *cheap and serviceable* lines of railway; and for the employment of none but engines and trains of *light weight*. In these views we believe he will meet with very general concurrence. The concluding, and at this moment not least interesting, part of the volume is devoted to a topographical disquisition on the most eligible routes that are presented at Bombay for the first net-work of main lines and branches.

*The Year-Book of the Country; or, the Field, the Forest, and the Fireside.* By William Howitt. With Illustrations from designs by Birket Foster. Colburn.

The world is always happy to hear from Mr. Howitt concerning "the seasons and their signs,"—the garden, the woodland, and their ever-changing shows of beauty,—and the characters and humours which animate and chequer rural life. He treats of these topics with that affluence of poetical imagination and experience which there is no counterfeiting,—with that thorough love which, coming from the heart of the writer, goes direct to the heart of the reader. Though he has travelled over much of the ground here taken already in his 'Book of the Seasons' and his 'Rural Life,' the present volume is as fresh in spirit and as rich in matter as if it were not the third—but the first—of its family. Some pages and portions have appeared in the periodicals,—and this is honestly confessed in the preface. The illustrations by Mr. Birket Foster are excellent, fully bearing out the favourable idea of this gentleman which the decorated 'Evangeline' [see *ante*, p. 205] led us to entertain. The book is at once welcome to read and goodly to see.

To prove our good words by good things gathered from this 'Year-Book,'—our first extract, after one or two genial pages about the country schoolmaster as he was in days when Kay Shuttleworths were not—ere Tuffnells and Tremeneers rummaged England to see that the schoolhouse was ventilated and the course of instruction sound—shall be a love-letter from a *Dominie* which is worth its weight in gold.—

"I happen to have in my possession the actual love-letter of a country schoolmaster, which, as a curiosity, is worth transcribing. The dominie has now long been married to his fair one, who is as pretty a little Tartar as any in the country. He writes something in the phraseology of a Quaker; but he is, in fact, the parish-clerk. In copying this letter, whatever any of my readers may think, I alter not a word, except the actual names of places.

"Nuthurst, Nov. 1st, 1816.

"Esteemed Friend,—I embrace the present opportunity of addressing these few lines unto thee, hoping they will find thee in good health, which leaves me the same, thank my God! Respected P., I have often told thee I don't much like illustrating my sentiments by correspondence, but I write with a majestic air of animation and delight when I communicate my thoughts to one that I love beyond description: yes! to one that is virtuous, innocent, and unblemishable! which has a comely behaviour, a loving disposition, and a goodly principle. And thou the person! charming fair one, which may justly boast of thy virtue, and laugh at others' aspersion. Dear P., when I reflect on all thy amiable qualities, and fond endearments, I am charmingly exalted,

and amply satisfied. My senses are more stimulated with love, and every wish gives thee a congratulation. Amiable P., I've meditated on our former accompaniments, and been wonderfully dignified at thine condescending graces. I, in particular, admire thy good temper, and thine relentful forgiveness. For when we have partook of a walk together, some trifling idea has exasperated my disposition, and rendered my behaviour ungenerous and disreputable. Thou, like a benevolent friend, soothed the absurd incensement, and instantly resuscitated our respective amorousness, and doubly exaggerated our beloved enamours. While above all others I thee regard, and while love is spontaneously imprinted in our hearts, let it have its unbounded course. Loving friend, I was more than a little gratified that thou wrote to thy mistress, which was thy duty, for she has been thy peculiar friend, and gave thee competent admonition. She is a faithful monitor, and a well-wisher to thine everlasting welfare. I was absolutely grieved when I heard of thee not being well, and completely fretted that I was aloof, and could not sympathise with thine inconsolatory moments. I candidly hope thy cough is better, and I earnestly desire that our absence may be immediately transformed into lasting presence, that we may enjoy our fond hopes and loving embraces. My dear, the last Sunday that I was at Bevington, I parted with thee about four o'clock; and I stopped in the market-place looking at the soldiers parading, and harkening the band playing till about six o'clock; then I proceeded on my nightly excursion. I called at the public-house, and was spouting a little of my romancing nonsense, and I instantly received a blow from a person in the adjoining company. I never retaliated, which was very surprising, but a wisely omission. I should not have troubled thee with this tedious explanation hadst thou not been preposterously informed about the subject. Thy ingrateful relations can't help telling thee of my vain actions, which is said purposely to abolish our acquaintance. But we are so accustomed to their insinuating persuasions and ambi-dexterous tales, that renders them unlikely to execute their wilful designs. Our loves are too inflexible than to be separated by a set of contemptuous oafs. My dearest Dear, at this present time I wish I had thee dandling between my arms. I would give that sweet mouth ten thousand kisses, for I prefer thy well-composed structure above all other secular beauties. Loving P., I will positively come to fetch thee at the respective period, when we can have a consolable and delightful journey homeward, re-animate our fond and innocent delights, salute at pleasure, and every kiss will sweeten our progressive paths; they will add delightfully to our warm affections, and invigorate us to perform our journey with the greatest facility. I thank thee for sending thy complimentary love to me, which I conclude with ten thousand times ten thousand respects. —I remain thine ever faithful and constant lover,

"S. G."

Surely S. G. deserves the hearty thanks of all who have any taste for the humorous, if only for that one phrase of "complimentary love!"

Here, at a later page, is a picture no less unfamiliar to the eyes of the dweller in towns—and even to the dweller in those trimmed, trained counties where betwixt villa and villa, large farm and large farm, oddity secular or originality spiritual can find no niche to creep into. Mr. Howitt has a keen eye for the picturesque of Dissent;—which grim and coarse and strange as it may seem to Collegiate, Cathedral, and Academical people, has a picturesque and a poetry of its own well worth studying.—

"Bryonites and Thornites.

"I have been much struck, as every stranger must be who traverses that singular county, with the religious people of Cornwall. John Wesley laboured long and zealously amongst its swarming, and then half-wild, population. He was rudely treated by them on many occasions; but at length he succeeded in gaining an ascendancy over them, and civilised and christianised a vast number of them. Nothing is more striking in that populous county of mines than the still abounding number of Methodists.



Where there is no church there is sure to be a Methodist chapel; and where there is a church there is a chapel twice as big. If you chance to be crossing one of their grey moors in an evening, amongst the cottages so numerous scattered over them, you are continually coming to one in which a prayer meeting is holding; and it is curious to pause and peep in at the little window, and see the hut so jammed full of people that it seems ready to burst. There is the fire, and the old dresser, and shelves, with its rows of plates shining in the fire-light, and all the rest is one mass of bowed heads, while some one is pouring forth a most zealous supplication, responded to by exclamations and groans as zealous. On most occasions you may hear language and metaphoric illustrations, which nothing but the mother-soil and pure growth of the district and people could give birth to. 'Brother!' exclaimed one of those rude miners, as I stopped a moment in passing such a hut; 'brother, how excellent a thing is prayer! How often have we kneeled down with hearts as hard as the bricks under our knees, and spirits as dry as the dust in the chinks between them, and presently we have risen up half way in the Lord?' I was lying one Sunday on the top of an old stone wall, near Boscastle, protecting myself from the sun, partly with my umbrella, and partly by the shade of a small tree—which, by a rare chance, happened to be growing on that treeless coast—when two young men passed me, and gave me a passing salutation. I looked at them, and made myself certain that they were Ranters, or Primitive Methodists, as they are called in the midland counties. They had on blue coats without collars, and broad-brimmed hats, having a certain resemblance to the Quaker costume, but yet never to be mistaken for the Quaker costume. As the female Methodist dresses much like a female Friend, yet, by a knowing eye, can never be confounded with the female Friend—the colours and materials of her dress, as well as some particular cross-plaits in the crown of her bonnet, betraying the difference. Wishing to learn something of the numbers of the Primitive Methodists down there, I quickly got up and followed them. I soon found that they were Methodists, and going to preach in two villages not far off; but when I asked them if they were Primitive Methodists, they said—'Primitive Methodists, sir, what are Primitive Methodists?'—'Oh, Ranters, I mean—we call them Ranters.'—'Ranters, sir; what are Ranters?'—'What, don't you know what Ranters are?'—'No, sir.'—'Then, what do you call yourselves?'—'Oh, we are Bryonites, sir.'—'And what are Bryonites? In what do you differ from the Wesleyan Methodists?'—'Oh, we don't differ at all, sir; we are all one, sir.'—'Then why do you differ?'—'Why, Mr. Bryon did not exactly agree with the Conference, and so he left the old connexion; and so we followed Mr. Bryon.'—A little farther on, I saw a great number of people pouring out of a chapel; and I stopped, and addressing a little knot of them, said—'Well, I suppose you are Bryonites?'—'No, sir, we are Thurnites.' (Thornites)—'Oh, and pray what are Thornites? In what do you differ from the Bryonites?'—'Oh, we don't differ at all, sir; we are all one, sir.'—'Then I again asked—'Why do you differ?'—'Oh, Mr. Thurn left Mr. Bryon, and so we followed Mr. Thurn.'—'Really! that was it? I suppose you read your Bible?'—'Yes, sir! oh, yes, sir!'—'Well, there is one tenet that I wonder you have not happened to meet with.'—'What is that, sir?'—'Why, "Some are for Paul, and some for Apollos, and some for Cephas, but I am for Jesus Christ." You seem to be following after your preachers and not after principles.'—'Oh, very good, sir—all very good, sir.'—And so I left these very acquiescing Thornites, wondering what John Wesley would have made of them.

Here, to change "the spirit of the dream," is a June melody so musical that we must give it, even at the risk of its being a reprint.—

*Spring-Flowers.*

But, oh, ye spring-flowers! oh, ye early friends!  
Where are ye, one and all?  
The sun still shines, and summer rain descends,  
They call forth flowers, but 'tis not ye they call.  
On the mountains,  
By the fountains,  
In the woodland, dim and grey,  
Flowers are springing, ever springing,  
But the spring-flowers where are they?

Then, oh, ye spring-flowers! oh, ye early friends!  
Where are ye? I would know  
When the sun shines, when summer rain descends,  
Why still blow flowers, but 'tis not ye that blow?  
On the mountains,  
By the fountains,  
In the woodlands, dim and grey,  
Flowers are springing, ever springing,  
But the spring-flowers, where are they?  
Oh then, ye spring-flowers! oh, ye early friends!  
Are ye together gone  
Up with the soul of nature that ascends,  
Up with the clouds and odours, one by one?  
O'er the mountains,  
O'er the fountains,  
O'er the woodlands dim and grey,  
Flowers are springing, ever springing,  
On heaven's highlands, far away!  
Hotter and hotter glows the summer sun,  
But you it cannot wake,  
Myriads of flowers, like armies marching on,  
Blaze on the hills, and glitter in the brake.  
On the mountains,  
Round the fountains,  
In the woodlands, dim and grey,  
Flowers are springing, ever springing,  
But the spring-flowers, where are they?  
Oh! no more! oh, never, never more!  
Shall friend, or flower return,  
Till deadly Winter, old, and cold, and froze,  
Has laid all nature lifeless in his urn.  
O'er the mountains  
And the fountains,  
Through the woodlands, dim and grey,  
Death and winter, dread companions,  
Have pursued their destined way.  
Then oh, ye spring-flowers! oh, ye early friends!  
Dead, buried, one and all;  
When the sun shines, and summer rain descends,  
And call forth flowers, 'tis ye that they shall call.  
On the mountains,  
By the fountains,  
In the woodlands, dim and grey,  
Flowers are springing, souls are singing,  
On heaven's hills, and ye are they!

We must lastly show a forest picture, introduced in Mr. Howitt's chapter on the present month—August.—

"There is a piece of scenery about eight miles from Nottingham, which very likely has attracted very little of the attention of the inhabitants of that great stocking-weaving and lace-weaving place, but which is to me very delightful. Entomologists often visit it in the summer, for it abounds in a variety of curious and splendid insects; but otherwise you seldom encounter anything there, except it be a person from the adjacent farms, or the neighbouring village of Oxtou. But I have traversed it summer after summer, and always with renewed pleasure. It is a remnant of the fine old forest of Sherwood, denuded, it is true, of its grand old oaks, but still studded with furze-bushes, carpeted with most elastic turf, and inhabited by a host of the wild denizens of nature. You first become aware of its picturesque beauty by finding yourself at a little bridge, beneath which a most clear and swift trout-stream runs; and, arrested by that charming object, you look around and onward, and discover a long valley, all filled with wild sedges, and showing afar off the glancing light of waters that tempt you to visit them. Below you the stream widens into a little lake, with an island in the centre, where you see the water-hens swimming about and enjoying themselves; and all about the margin of the water, the tall, hassocky sedge stands in such shaggy and isolated masses as Bewick delighted to draw. It is exactly the sort of scenery that he gloried in, and depicted over and over in the haunts of his water-birds, and always with new traits. Lower down, the prospect is bounded by woods and copses; but upward, the valley stretches most invitingly—on the left bounded by green fields, on the right by heathy hills and true moorland grace. When I last traversed this scene, it was in the middle of May. It was in the company of an old friend, who was as much a child about out-of-doors delights as myself. No sooner had we stepped off the highway than we set foot on the heath, and were surrounded by sights of beauty, smells of wild fragrance, and sounds of waters running and even roaring amongst the wild sedges of the morass. Here, close to the stream, was a shepherd's hovel, erected of heath and turf, and provided with a seat, where the summer sheep-washers took their meals. We entered and sat down, having around us only the heathy hills, the sound of those hurrying waters, and, at some little distance, two little girls, who watched the gate through which we had passed to this moorland—two little

rustic creatures, who there wait all day long, and all summer long, to act the janitors to all passengers, whether mounted or not, and are rewarded with a few halfpence by the more liberal, and amuse themselves during the intervals of business with all sorts of childish contrivances. Scarcely were we seated in our pleasant hut, when there came birds of various kinds—yellow-hammers, gorse-linnets, with their rosy-breasts, pied wagtails, and graceful yellow wagtails, winchats of the richest colours, titlarks, and wheat-eats,—all come to drink and cool themselves. It was beautiful to see them in their happy freedom, believing themselves unobserved by man. Into the transparent waters they waded up to the very necks, twittering, and even singing in their delight; and some stood perfectly still, enjoying the cool liquid as it streamed through their feathers, and others dipped and fluttered it over their bodies, and made a ruffling and a scuffling in the brook that was truly delightful to see. As these flew away, others were continually coming and taking their places. It was evidently a fashionable bathing-place with them, and that obviously because the stream here was shallow, running over the clear, bright gravel most temptingly and accommodatingly. It was a peep into the life of these lowly but lovely creatures which is rarely attained, and for the rareness of which we have to thank our tyranny. The happy creatures seldom stayed long; the sense of duty lay even upon them. They had their household cares and their young families in the bushes and amidst the shaggy retreats of the moorland. We went on, and the next moment came upon the banks of a sunny mere, out of which the wild-fowl rose in numbers, and flew round and round, and then off to more distant waters; and when they were gone, we perceived little voices, which had been drowned in their louder ones. These were the cries of large flocks of ducklings, young teal, coots, &c., which they had left, and which went sailing to and fro amongst the tall pillars of sedge, and, ever and anon, emerging from beneath their drooping masses of leaves, with open beaks, in pursuit of flies, with an active eagerness that made them proof to fear. It was beautiful to see them. Then came the cuckoo, flying past with its cowering motion, and leaden-hued plumage, and that quaint guttural note of which naturalists seem to have taken no notice, and which listeners are in general too distant to hear, catching only its more common monotone, whence it derives its name. We plunged into the very midst of that mass of jungle, as it may properly be termed, stepping from pillar to pillar of sedge; for this singular plant grows up in solid masses of two or three feet high, whence its long, hard, grassy leaves hang all round, and overshadow the depths of the bog below. From crown to crown of these we went, enlightening each other on the wonderful use these stepping-stones of sedge must have been to our ancestors, in the old, far-off, uncultivated days of the country. Without them, indeed, many parts of forests would have been impassable. From crown to crown we went, now making a false step, and plunging with cries and laughter into the stream below; now scaring the pheasant from her retreat; and now startling the trout, as we came suddenly on a bend of the brook that wound through them. But we could not discover what we sought most earnestly—the nests of snipes which are said to be found here. \* \* We made our way out of the bogs to the solid ground, and thence to the hills; and there the scene which now presented itself was like what we may suppose in some enchanted land. The whole valley and open hills were scattered with heaps of the most resplendent gold—in other words, the gorse-bushes were in full bloom, and not only filled the air with their rich orange-odour, but every branch was covered with a profusion of such large and lustrous blossoms, as those who see the furze only in dusty lanes have no conception of. In the larch-wood, on the opposite side of the valley, we could see all the openings and ridings filled with this vegetable glory, just as if it were a fairy-land itself, and all its green avenues were paths of woven gold. To talk of such a thing gives no adequate idea of its beauty. To contemplate this scene, we threw ourselves down in a little glen on the turf, and lay and looked on the rich expanse."

We need not go further to satisfy the reader that this 'Year-Book' is richly, poetically, pic-



turesquely various. We cannot doubt its having a welcome as wide as its range of contents, and as cordial as the love of man and of nature which every line of it breathes.

#### OUR LIBRARY TABLE.

*Milton: a Sheaf of Gleanings after his Biographers and Annotators, &c.* By Joseph Hunter.—The Rev. Mr. Hunter—who has dropped his professional designation on the title-page of this tract—has put forward such information as he possesses regarding Milton and his family in a very unpretending form:—and we must own that it is not of a nature to require any particular emphasis in its promulgation. After what has been collected and printed by biographers and annotators, much was not to be expected in the way of “gleanings”; although the quantity of scattered ears is not in all cases regulated by either the abundance or the scantiness of the harvest. The new facts relating to the family of Milton’s third wife, Elizabeth Minshul, Mr. Hunter has adopted from the *Athenæum* [No. 1143, p. 953]. It has been thought that she was one of the Minshuls of Stoke, in Cheshire; but it is there, and by Mr. Hunter, urged on strong grounds that she belonged to the Minshuls of Wistaston, near Nantwich. This, however, is a point which illustrates nothing in connexion with the works of our great poet. The same remark will apply to the details which Mr. Hunter supplies respecting the Powells. We are thankful for them; but we should have been more glad if they had explained anything, however trifling, in the conduct, character, or writings of Milton. One of the divisions of the tract relates to Milton’s mother, whom the son declares to have been “*probatissima, et elemosynis per viciniam potissime nota*,”—a somewhat parsimonious tribute, considering what other illustrious authors have said of their maternal obligations. Mr. Hunter does no more than sum up the evidence regarding the family of which she came,—and fairly admits at the close that he is “compelled to leave the question” as he found it. We do not at all blame him for so doing;—we only regret that he has nothing to contribute. The notice of the copy of Fitzherbert’s “*Natura Brevium*,” with Milton’s autograph, when he designed to study the law, is curious; as well as his notes in his wife’s Bible, which we have on the authority of Dr. Birch’s MS. in the British Museum. What we most value in this contribution to the biography of Milton relates to his residences in London,—and to the names of his neighbours, first when he took up his abode in Aldersgate Street, and subsequently when he lived and died in Artillery Walk.

*Free Trade and its so-called Sophisms, a Reply to The Sophisms of Free Trade.* Second Edition.—Before we have noticed the first edition, this defence of Free Trade has reached a second:—a proof that it is appreciated by the public, and that we need not further describe the contents of the little volume.

*A few Thoughts on Commission, Division of Profits, Selection of Lives, the Mortality of India, and other Subjects relating to Life Assurance.* By Samuel Browne.—A republication of letters which originally appeared in the *Post Magazine*.

*The Advantages of Literary and Scientific Institutions for all Classes.* By Connop Thirlwall.—We have never seen the Bishop of St. David’s to so little advantage as in this pamphlet:—the report of a lecture delivered by him at the Town Hall, Carmarthen. Perhaps it is not reasonable to expect novelty on such a subject; but we had no expectation of finding such mere commonplace, needless digression, and small moralizing, from the learned author of the “History of Greece,” as are here set down in his name. A long dissertation on Pope’s dictum—“A little learning,” &c.—sundry extracts from a book of travels in America, to show that the habit of reading is not an evil—and a little quarrel with Channing for calling books the “true levellers” as “giving to all who faithfully use them the society and spiritual presence of the greatest and best of our race:”—these are the points on which the hour’s discourse is expended.

*The Five latter Books of the first Decade of Livy, VI. VII. VIII. IX. X., adapted to the Use of Schools and Colleges: with a Preface and Notes.* By Prof. Pillans.—Because Dr. Arnold disliked and

under-rated Livy, Prof. Pillans feels it necessary to resent this want of appreciation by expressing his scorn of the “dry narrative of Thucydides” written to commemorate the “petty squabbles of the Greeks.” Surely the admirers of the Roman may admit the merits of the Greek,—and even those of other Roman writers who are his more immediate rivals. The dictum of Martial is well known on the title-page of Sallustius—*Primus Romanus Crispus in Historiâ*; and a person need not quarrel with this dictum, though his own tastes should lead him to prefer Tacitus or Livy. Many men, many minds. If culture will not produce charity in matters of taste, the argument of the ascetics against pagan literature will find itself very materially strengthened out of the practice of those who desire to champion the classics.

*Fables.* By the Baron de Stassart. Translated by John Henry Keane.—It is hardly necessary to speak favourably of a book of fables which has passed in a few years through seven French editions. The inference, however, thus raised in behalf of the Baron de Stassart will not be found to reach his translator. Much of the original point is lost by the change of idiom,—and the translation is otherwise carelessly executed.

*The Principles of English Grammar.* By J. Douglas.—A school-book, neither distinguished by any striking excellencies nor disfigured by any glaring faults or deficiencies. One fault, however, we feel bound to notice,—we mean that of presenting bad English to be corrected by the pupil. There cannot be a worse method of teaching good English than that of familiarizing the mind of the learner with what is bad. The study of good models is the only way to excellence.—We cannot see any satisfactory reason why Mr. Douglas should have added his to the innumerable English grammars already in use. Surely some might have been met with as “thoroughly adapted to the purposes of school instruction.”

*The Necessity of a Royal Commission of Inquiry into the Condition of the Universities.* By the Rev. James Inman.—This pamphlet appears in the shape of a letter to Lord John Russell. It adds, however, no new fact to the case as already familiar to the readers of the *Athenæum*:—but its argument is sound and practical.

*The Old Man; or, Rovings and Ramblings about Conistone.*—A right good specimen of an idle-gossiping guide to his favourite lake is the Old Man of Conistone. His love for his subject, his quaint and sometimes rather irreverent anecdotes of its “illustrations” past and present, even his badinage and flippancy, are pleasant to read. So hearty and so earnest is he in his way, that we can almost hear the splash of the oar and feel the delicious moisture settle on the heated brow as we read.—Commend us to such a companion for a trip to Conistone.

*Eastern Churches.*—By the Author of ‘Proposals for Christian Union.’—A meagre and unsatisfactory account of the Nestorian, Armenian, Jacobite, Coptic, and Abyssinian churches,—derived from Gibbon, Lane, and other well-known and easily accessible writers.

*How to Emigrate; or, the British Colonists. A Tale for all Classes.* By W. H. G. Kingston. A very foolish tale, both in itself and as to the purposes which it is intended to serve. The poetry and the patriotism are equally faulty.

*A Visit to Sherwood Forest.*—An interesting guide-book,—consisting, it is said, of a series of *bond fide* letters—to the neighbourhood of Mansfield; including graphic and picturesque accounts of the abbey of Newstead, Rufford, and Welbeck,—the halls of Annesley, Thoresby, and Hardwick,—Bolsover Castle,—and other interesting relics of poetry and history. These scenes are agreeably illustrated. To the whole is added a critical essay on the life and times of Robin Hood, and the deeds and misdeeds of his merry bowmen.

*Gorham versus the Bishop of Exeter.*—Professing to be a true and particular report of the arguments of counsel in this important case before the Judicial Committee of the Privy Council, and of the judgment pronounced by that Court.—With the doctrinal points raised in this controversy we as reviewers have no concern.

*The Charities of London: comprehending the Benevolent, Educational and Religious Institutions: their Origin and Design, their Progress and Present Position.* By Sampson Low, jun.—“These are the memorials that renown our city,” says an old writer. No capital in the world can boast of such an extent, variety, and completeness of charitable institutions as London:—as this very book might prove, if proof were needed. Here, we have nearly five hundred pages of closely packed type, giving only the summaries of each. Besides local charities and charitable institutions connected with the hundred companies of the city, we have, by Mr. Low’s computation, four hundred and ninety-one large, active, and permanent institutions devoted to the alleviation of all the ills that flesh is heir to:—altogether, probably not less than a thousand. On this interesting subject Mr. Sampson Low has collected a vast amount of useful information. Indices to these charities we have had before,—but nothing approaching to the completeness of detail now presented.

#### LIST OF NEW BOOKS.

Antonina, or Fall of Rome, by W. W. Collins, new ed. 11. 11s. 6d.  
 Barons (Archdeacon) Thirty-three Village Sermons, new ed. 4s. 6d.  
 Bohn’s Shilling Series, Irving’s Abbotford and Newstead Abbey, 1s.  
 Bohn’s Shilling Series, ‘Salmagundi,’ 1s. 6d. bds.  
 Bohn’s Classical Lib. August, ‘Aristotle’s Ethics,’ by Brown, 3s.  
 Bohn’s Illustrated Library, August, ‘Pickering’s Races of Man,’ kind, post 8vo. 3s. plain, 7s. 6d. colored.  
 Brewer’s (Rev. Dr.) Book-Keeping by Single Entry, 4th ed. 12mo. 3s.  
 Brown’s (Dr. J.) Discourses and Sayings of Our Lord, 3 vols. 31s. 6d.  
 Chambers’s Instruc. Lib. Vol. 13, ‘Butler’s Analogy,’ 2s. swd. 2s. 6d. cl.  
 Chalmers, Memoirs of his Life, by Rev. W. Hanna, Vol. 11. 10s. 6d.  
 Christian Songs in the 19th Century, 2nd ed. 4s. 6d.  
 Cooper’s (Miss Fenimore) Rural Hours, 2 vols. cr. 8vo. 17. 7s. cl.  
 Coleridge’s (S. T.) The Friend, 4th edition, 3 vols. 6s. 15s. cl.  
 Cust’s (Hon. Sir E.) New Testament Narrative Harmonized, 11. 1s.  
 Dickson’s (Rev. J.) Teaching of the Bible, 1s. 6d. swd. 2s. cl.  
 Domestic Worshipper (The), ed. by Rev. Samuel Green, 5s. cl.  
 Douglas’s (J.) Structure of Prophecy, 8vo. 3s. 6d. cl.  
 Duff’s (Dr. A.) Missionary Addresses, 12mo. 3s. 6d. cl.  
 Ency. Met. Vol. 10, ‘Maurice’s Ancient Philosophy,’ cr. 8vo. 5s. cl.  
 Elliott’s (E.) Life, Poetry, and Letters, by J. Watkins, 7s. 6d. cl.  
 Goryder’s (Rev. T.) Miscellaneous Sermons, with Life, 7s. 6d. cl.  
 Green’s Juvenile Library, Vol. VII, ‘Charles Hamilton,’ 1s. bds.  
 Green’s Sund. Sch. Lib. Vol. VI, ‘Outlines of S. S. Addresses,’ 1s.  
 Holland’s (G. C.) Cases Illustrative of Cure of Consumption, 3s. 6d.  
 Homer’s Iliad, Books I.—IV, by Rev. T. K. Arnold, 12mo. 7s. 6d.  
 Huish’s (R.) Scripture Characters, 2 vols. sq. 8s. cl.  
 Illustrated Book of Songs for Children, small 4to. 5s. cl.  
 Jameson’s (Mrs.) Legends of the Monastic Orders, sq. 8vo. 11. 8s. cl.  
 Jones’s (Rev. J.) Plain Instructor, Part II. 12mo. 4s. 6d. cl.  
 Keble’s (Rev. J.) Conversations on Botany of the Bible, Part I. 1s. 6d. cl.  
 Lectures on the Evidences of Revealed Religion, 12mo. 3s. 6d. cl.  
 Longfellow’s Voices of the Night, illustrated by a Lady, 10s. 6d.  
 Lynch’s Expedition to the Dead Sea, 3rd ed. royal 8vo. 11. 1s. cl.  
 Meikle’s (J.) Solitude Sweetened, new ed. 12mo. 3s. cl.  
 Moore’s (D.) Notes of British Grasses and Herbs, Part I. 7s. 6d. bds.  
 Murphy & O’Brien’s Nautical Routine, royal 8vo. 13s. cl.  
 Norah Dalrymple, a Woman’s Story, 3 vols. post 8vo. 11. 11s. 6d. bds.  
 ParLOUR Lib. Vol. XLVI, ‘James’s Darnley,’ 7s. bds. 1s. 6d. cl.  
 Peck’s (B. C.) Recollections of Sydney, map, 12mo. 6s. cl.  
 Pictorial Hall Hours, or Miscellaneous Reading, Vol. I. 3s. 6d. cl.  
 Southey’s Commonplace Book, 3rd series, sq. 8vo. 11. 1s. cl.  
 Stella and Vanessa, a Romance, by Lady Duff Gordon, 2 vols. 11. 1s.  
 Stafford’s (C. T.) Compendium of Universal History, 3s. 6d. cl.  
 Timper’s (M. E.) Proverbial Philosophy, new ed. 4s. 6d. 7s. 6d. cl.  
 Wilson’s (Rev.) Christian’s Struggle against Sin and Satan, 1s. 6d.  
 Woolley’s (T.) Reminiscences of Life of a Bushman, 12mo. 6d. swd.  
 Yonge’s (C. D.) Exercises in Greek Prose Composition, 12mo. 6s. 6d.

#### TO A CATHEDRAL TOWER ON THE EVENING OF THE THIRTY-FIFTH ANNIVERSARY OF WATERLOO.

BY SYDNEY TENDIS.

[We have printed the following fine lines by the author of ‘The Roman,’ although if we rightly apprehend the morals intended to be conveyed—about which there is some obscurity—we are not quite in harmony with the poet.]

And since thou art no older, ‘tis to-day!  
 And I, entranced,—with the wide sense of gods  
 Confronting Time—receive the equal touch  
 Of Past and Present. Yet I am not moved  
 To frenzy; but, with how much calm befits  
 The insufficient passions of a soul  
 Expanding to celestial limits, take  
 Ampler vitality, and fill, serene.  
 The years that are and were. Unchanging Pile!  
 Our schoolboy fathers play in yonder streets,  
 Wherethro’ their mothers, new from evening prayer,  
 Speak of the pleasant eve, and say Good Night.  
 Say on! to whom oh never more shall night  
 Seem good; to whom for the last time hath eve  
 Been pleasant! Look up to the sunset skies  
 As a babe smiles into his murderer’s face,  
 Nor see the Fate that flushes all the heaven  
 Unconscious Mother! Hesper thro’ the trees  
 Palpitates light; and thou, beholding peace,  
 Keepest thy vigil and art fond to think  
 His heart is beating for a world of bliss.  
 “Oh Sabbath Land!” Ah Mother, doth thine ear  
 Discern new silence? Dost thou dream what right  
 The earth may have to seem so still to thee?  
 Oh Sabbath Land! but on the Belgian plain  
 The bolt has fallen; and the storm draws off  
 In scattered thunders roaring round the hills  
 And tempest-drops of woe upon the field.  
 The king of men has turned his charger’s head  
 Whose hoofs did shake the world, but clatter now.



Unheeding sod. He turns, and in his track  
The sorrows of the centuries to come  
Cry on the air. He rides into the night,  
Which as a dreadful spirit hails him in  
With lightning and with voices. Far behind,  
In the War-mariash, Victory and Glory  
Fall by each other's hands, like friends of old,  
Unconquered. And the genius of his race  
Pale, leaning on a broken eagle, dies.  
High in the midst departing Freedom stands  
On hills of slain; her wings unfurled, her hands  
Toward heaven, her eyes turned, streaming, on the  
earth,

In act to rise. And all the present Fortunes,  
Hopes, Oracles, and Omens of the world  
Sitting a low, as mourners veiled and dumb,  
Draw, with weird finger, in the battle-slime  
The signs of Fate. Behold whom War salutes  
Victor of victors! War, red-hot with toil,  
Spokesman of Death! Death, pale with sated lust  
And hoarse with greed. Behold! At his strong call  
The bloody dust takes life, and obscene shapes  
Clang on contending wings, wild wheeling round  
His head exulting. How they hate the light  
And rout the fevered sunset that looks back  
Obtesting! How they scream up at the stars  
And smite in rage the invisible air! How, like  
A swoop of black thoughts thro' a stormy soul  
They rush about the Victor and snatch joys  
For all the tyrants of the darkened globe.  
Who shall withstand him? Him the evening star  
Trembled to see. Our despots, from the first,  
Bequeathed him each a feature, and he walks  
The sum of all oppression and the sign.

O Earth! O Heaven! O Life! O Death! O Man!  
Flesh of my flesh, my brother! Is there hope?  
Soul, soul! behold the portent of the time.  
High in the heaven, the angels, much-attent,  
With conscious faces and averted eyes  
(As one who feels the wrong he will not see,) Gaze upon God, and neither frown nor smile.  
Grey Pile,  
Who lookest with thy kindred hills upon  
This quiet England, shadow-robed for sleep,  
I also speak to thee as one whom kin  
Emboldens. Demigod among the gods  
I charge thee by thy human nature speak!  
Doth she sleep well? Thou who hast watched her  
face

Tell me, for thou canst tell, doth the flesh creep?  
Ah! and the soil of Albion stirred that day!  
Ah! and these fields, at midnight, heaved with graves!  
The vision ends. Collapsing to a point  
In Time, I see thee, oh red Waterloo,  
A deadly wound now healed. From whose great scar  
Upon the brow of May, the bloody husks  
Have newly fallen. 'Twas a Felon's blow  
On one who reeling, drunk with life, above  
A precipice, fell by the timely steel;  
Bled, and, deplete, was whole; saw with sane eyes  
The gulph that yawned; and rises, praising God,  
To bind the Assassin.

#### TWENTIETH MEETING OF THE BRITISH ASSOCIATION FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF SCIENCE.

EDINBURGH, JULY 31.

[From our own Correspondents.]

#### GENERAL COMMITTEE.

THE twentieth meeting of the Members of this Association commenced at Edinburgh on Wednesday last. As far as can be judged from appearances at this early period of the Meeting, the present bids fair to be one of the most successful assemblages that the Association has held for many years. Members are arriving by every train, and up to Wednesday night above 900 names have been recorded. The receipts amounted to 814*l*. Everything has been done to promote the comfort of the visitors, and to facilitate the business of the Meeting. All the Sections are to meet in the College.

The meeting of the General Committee was held in the Board Room of the Royal Institution. Dr. Robinson in the chair. Prof. Phillips having read the minutes of the last meeting at Birmingham, Sir Roderick Murchison moved, and Sir Charles Malcolm seconded, that the name of Prof. Jamieson, which had been accidentally omitted at Birmingham, be added to the list of Vice-Presidents.

The Report from the Council was then read by Dr. FORBES ROYLE and adopted.

#### Report of the Council to the General Committee.

I. With reference to the subjects referred to the Council by the General Committee assembled at Birmingham, the Council have to report as follows:—

1st. In respect to the proposed recommendation to Her Majesty's Government, to establish a reflecting telescope of large optical power at a suitable station for the systematic observation of the nebulae of the southern hemisphere, the Council having communicated with the President and Council of the Royal Society, had the satisfaction of being informed of the entire agreement of that body in the importance attached by the British Association to the active use of a large reflector in the southern hemisphere, of their readiness to concur in a recommendation to that effect to Her Majesty's Government. The Council have farther to report that a Memorial has been drawn up by the Rev. Dr. Robinson, President of the British Association, with the concurrence of the Earl of Rosse, President of the Royal Society, and has been presented to Lord John Russell.

2nd. In consequence of the resolution passed by the General Committee relative to the connexion of the Levels of the Ordnance Survey of Ireland, the President communicated with the Rev. Dr. Floyd, President of the Royal Irish Academy, and the President and Council of the Royal Irish Academy have addressed the Master-General of the Ordnance, recommending that the connexion should be made, and have received a favourable reply.

3rd. In respect to the proposed application to the Master-General of the Ordnance to have the British arc of the meridian published in its full extent, the Council have had the satisfaction of learning, that the President and Council of the Royal Society entirely agreed with the British Association in their estimate of the importance of the proposed publication, and that with the concurrence of the Marquess of Anglesey, Master-General of the Ordnance, an application has been made by the President of the Royal Society to Lord John Russell, to place the necessary funds at the disposal of the Ordnance department, and that the application has been favourably received by Lord John Russell on the part of Her Majesty's Government.

4th. The Sub-Committee who were appointed to organize a committee of members of the Association who are also members of the Legislature, for the purpose of watching over the interests of science, request permission to submit their plan of proceeding to the Committee of Recommendation, in order that it may come before the General Committee.

5th. In pursuance of the authority granted by the General Committee to the Council to make arrangements for the proper distribution of the unsold copies of the volumes of Reports of the British Association, the Council appointed a Select Committee to consider and report on the subject. A first report of the committee has been received, and will be taken into early consideration.

6th. For the more effectual discharge of the trust reposed in them of general superintendence of the Observatory at Kew, the Council named a committee, consisting of members of their own body, who, at their request, undertook the duty of frequent visitation, and of special superintendence over the experiments and observations to be made there. The Council have great satisfaction in stating, that the gentlemen who undertook the duties of this committee have discharged them with remarkable assiduity, and that they have been assisted at their meetings by the attendance of the other members of the Council, who participate in the desire of rendering Kew an effective and important establishment. The Council have received from the committee the subjoined report on the present state and prospects of the Observatory:

"The grant made by the General Committee for maintaining the establishment at Kew Observatory during the present year, being in a considerable degree founded on the results actually secured, and others likely to be obtained by the electrical observations which have been instituted there, the committee for superintending the Observatory have kept the prosecution and extension of these experiments steadily in view.

"Ever since 1843, a series of measures of the intensity of atmospheric electricity has been accumulated at Kew. By direction of the General Committee in 1848, Mr. Birt was engaged in the discussion of these, and his report is published in the Transactions of the Association for 1849. By this investigation the seeming irregularity of these phenomena has been in some degree elucidated, and results having a general and systematic value obtained. For example, during the twenty-four hours the electrical tension of the atmosphere acquires two maxima, viz. about 1 A.M. and 10 P.M., and suffers two minima, viz. about 4 A.M. and 4 P.M., these being also nearly the hours of barometrical maxima and minima. Moreover, in the course of the twelve months there is distinctly a periodicity of electrical tension; the maximum for the year being in the depth of winter, and the minimum in the height of summer. Mr. Birt has shown the relation of the curve which represents the annual movement of the electrical tension to that which describes the humidity of the air.

"To the experiments from which these and other interesting relations have arisen, the committee has been enabled to add a new series of observations on electrical frequency, by which, not the intensity of the atmospheric change, but the rate at which the instrument receives it, will become known. These observations were begun under Mr. Ronalds's direction in March 1850, and were continued for three weeks; but unfortunately the state of Mr. Birt's health has not only stopped the observations, but deprived the Observatory of the further services of that gentleman.

"The committee will be able to supply the deficiency thus occasioned, and conduct these and other researches in a satisfactory manner, if the General Committee shall think fit to empower them, by the appointment of Mr. Welsh, late assistant in the Observatory of Sir Thomas Brisbane, a gentleman of whose qualifications for the duties of Observer at Kew, the committee have ample testimony.

"In originally accepting the charge of this Observatory (1842), the Association was influenced by the facilities which it would afford for the prosecution of experimental inquiries in the physical sciences, for which its locality is peculiarly suitable, and at the close of the first year the

Council had established the following registers in addition to the electrical observations already noticed:—

"An ordinary meteorological record with standard instruments; and had made arrangements with Prof. Wheatstone for the completion of a self-registering meteorological instrument on a new construction.

"These observations are continued.

"The advantage to be derived from self-recording instruments by meteorology and magnetism has been often expressed by votes of the Association from an early period of its career. The establishment of Kew Observatory brought these ideas into practical operation. That Observatory has given to science self-recording instruments for electrical, magnetical, and meteorological phenomena, already of great value, and certainly capable of great further improvement. There Mr. Ronalds, whose valuable services have been given gratuitously to the Observatory from nearly its foundation, is still intent on these improvements; and, lately, by employing the new invention of gelatine paper, he has not only been able to copy exactly the line which is traced on the plate by light, but further to print other copies for distribution. Mr. Ronalds's report of the proceedings at Kew during the past year, which is prepared for reading in the Physical Section, will make known other facts illustrative of the state of the Observatory. Kreil's Barometograph, which was received in 1845, has been put in working order. Electrical, magnetical, and meteorological phenomena are those for which the apparatus now collected at Kew is specially adapted; and it is in a condition to admit of their being regularly and constantly registered in a great degree by self-recording instruments. But to provide for the constant and regular registration of all these phenomena would be quite incompatible with the limited funds at the disposal of the Association, and inconsistent with the general intention of the establishment, which is an *Experimental Observatory* devoted to open out new physical inquiries, and to make trial of new modes of inquiry, but only in a few selected cases to preserve continuous records of passing phenomena.

"It is on this view of the character of the Observatory that the committee found their opinion, that it may be maintained in a state of efficiency, and kept always ready to take its proper share in the advancement of science, by means of a moderate annual grant from the Association. They have further the satisfaction to report that the progress of the Observatory, in its peculiar field of research, is likely to be materially aided by funds provided from another source; the Royal Society having allotted 100*l*. out of the sum placed at their disposal by Her Majesty's Government for the purchase of new instruments to be tried at Kew."

"W. H. STOKES."

II. The Council have been informed by Sir John Burgoyne, Inspector-General of Fortifications, that the publication of the Mountjoy meteorological observations will be at once proceeded with, in compliance with the directions of the Marquess of Anglesey, Master-General of the Ordnance.

III. The Council have added the following names to the list of the corresponding members of the British Association, viz.—Professor Gustav Magnus, of Berlin,—Professor W. B. Rogers, of Virginia.

Mr. JOHN TAYLOR, the Treasurer, then read the following Report:—

THE GENERAL TREASURER'S ACCOUNT,  
From the 13th of September 1849 (at Birmingham), to the  
31st of July 1850 (at Edinburgh).

RECEIPTS.		£.	s.	d.
To Balance brought on from last Account	..	360	7	0
Life Compositions at Birmingham and since	..	130	0	0
Annual Subscriptions	.. ditto ..	206	1	0
Associates	.. ditto ..	44	7	0
Ladies' Tickets	.. ditto ..	23	0	0
Book Compositions	.. ditto ..	25	0	0
Dividends on Stock (3,500 <i>l</i> . 3 per cent. Consols.)	..	101	18	10
From Sale of Publications:				
Volume 1	..	0	8	1
" 2	..	0	15	3
" 3	..	1	17	0
" 4	..	0	8	1
" 5	..	1	9	7
" 6	..	3	12	7
" 7	..	1	7	0
" 8	..	1	13	3
" 9	..	2	16	0
" 10	..	0	19	7
" 11	..	1	14	10
" 12	..	1	11	2
" 13	..	1	17	0
" 14	..	7	10	8
" 15	..	5	12	9
" 16	..	12	1	3
" 17	..	4	11	0
" 18	..	4	16	6
British Association Catalogue of Stars	..	84	17	5
Lalande's .. ditto	..	7	13	11
Lacaille's .. ditto	..	0	8	1
Dove's Isothermal Lines	..	23	10	0
Lithograph Signatures	..	0	6	0
				214 6 0
				£1,721 12 10

PAYMENTS.		£.	s.	d.
For sundry Printing, Advertising, Expenses of Meeting at Birmingham, and sundry Disbursements made by the Treasurer and Local Treasurers	..	308	12	4
Printing, &c. 17th volume	..	290	11	0
Engraving for 18th ditto	..	22	1	11
Salaries, Assistant General, Secretary, and Accountant	..	350	0	0

Carried over .. .. £971 6 1



Brought forward .. ..	£971 6 1
Maintaining the Establishment at Kew Observatory:	
Balance of Grant of 1848 .. ..	44 13 2
Part of Grant of 1849 .. ..	211 4 10
	255 18 0
Transit of Earthquake Waves .. ..	50 0 0
Periodical Phenomena of Animals & Vegetables:	
Balance of Grant of 1848 .. ..	5 0 0
Grant of 1849 .. ..	10 0 0
	15 0 0
Meteorological Instruments for the Azore Islands	25 0 0
Balance in the Bankers' hands .. ..	383 14 0
Ditto in General Treasurer's and Local Treasurer's hands .. ..	20 14 9
	404 8 9
	£1,721 12 10

The officers of Sections were then appointed. We shall give their names in the reports of the various Sections. The Committee of Recommendations was elected:—and the Committee adjourned till Monday.

#### GENERAL MEETING.

The Association held its first General Meeting on Wednesday night in the Music Hall,—and had a numerous attendance. The chair was filled by the retiring President, Dr. Robinson. The Doctor congratulated himself on being able to surrender his dominion to his successor in a more prosperous condition than he had received it, and spoke in glowing terms of the character and scientific achievements of that successor. Dr. Robinson then introduced Sir David Brewster to the meeting, and vacated the chair.

Sir DAVID BREWSTER proceeded to address the Meeting as follows.—

#### *The President's Address.*

The kind and flattering expressions with which Dr. Robinson has been pleased to introduce me to this chair, and to characterize my scientific labours, however coloured they are by the warmth of friendship, cannot but be gratifying even at a time when praise ceases to administer to vanity or to stimulate to ambition. The appreciation of intellectual labour by those who have laboured intellectually, if not its highest, is at least one of its high rewards. When I consider the mental power of my distinguished friend, the value of his original researches, the vast extent of his acquirements, and the eloquence which has so often instructed and delighted us at our annual réunions, I feel how unfit I am to occupy his place, and how little I am qualified to discharge many of those duties which are incident to the chair of this Association. It is some satisfaction, however, that you are all aware of the extent of my incapacity, and that you have been pleased to accept of that which I can both promise and perform—to occupy any post of labour, either as the impelling or as the working arm of this gigantic lever of Science. On the return of the British Association to the metropolis of Scotland, I am naturally reminded of the small band of pilgrims who, in 1831, carried the seeds of this Institution into the more genial soil of our sister land—of the zeal and talent with which it was fostered and organized by the Philosophical Society of York—of the hospitality which it enjoyed from the Primate of England—of the invaluable aid which it received from the Universities and Scientific Societies of the south—and of the ardent support with which it was honoured by some of the most accomplished of our nobility. From its cradle at York the infant Association was ushered into the gorgeous halls of Oxford and Cambridge—the seats of ancient wisdom, and the foci of modern science. University honours were liberally extended to its more active members; and, thus decorated, our Institution was eagerly welcomed into the rich marts of our commerce, and into the active localities of our manufacturing industry. Europe and America speedily recognized the importance of our rising Association; and deputies from every civilized nation hastened to our annual congress, assisted at our Sectional meetings, and have even contributed to our Transactions valuable reports on different branches of science. It may be interesting to those who are here for the first time to learn the names of some of those distinguished individuals by whose exertions and talents this Association has attained its present

magnitude and position; and I feel as if it were peculiarly my duty to do honour to their zeal and their labours. Sir J. Robinson, Prof. Johnston and Prof. Forbes were the earliest friends and promoters of the British Association. They went to York to assist in its establishment, and they found there the very men who were qualified to foster and organize it. The Rev. Vernon Harcourt, whose name cannot be mentioned here without the expression of our admiration and gratitude, had provided laws for its government, and along with Mr. Phillips, the oldest and most valuable of our office-bearers, had made all those arrangements by which its success was insured. Dalton, Pritchard, Greenough, Scoresby, William Smith, Sir Thomas Brisbane, Dr. Daubeny, Prof. Potter, Lord Fitzwilliam, and Lord Morpeth assisted at its inauguration; and so great was the interest excited by its proceedings, that Dr. Daubeny ventured to invite the Association to hold its second meeting at Oxford. Here it received the valuable co-operation of Dr. Buckland, Prof. Powell, and the other distinguished men who adorn that seat of literature and science. Cambridge sent us her constellation of philosophers—bright with stars of the first magnitude—Whewell, Peacock, Sedgwick, Airy, Herschel, Babbage, Lubbock, Challis, Kelland, and Hopkins; while the metropolitan institutions were represented by Sir Roderick Murchison and Col. Sabine, our two General Secretaries; Mr. Taylor, our Treasurer; Sir Chas. Lyell, Col. Sykes, Mr. Brown, Mr. Faraday, Profs. Owen and Wheatstone, Dr. Mantell, Lord Northampton, Lord Wrottesley, Sir Phillip Egerton, and Sir Charles Lemon. From Ireland we received the distinguished aid of Lord Rosse, Lord Enniskillen, Lord Adair, Dr. Robinson, Dr. Lloyd, Sir William Hamilton, and Prof. Macculagh; and men of immortal names were attracted from the continents of Europe and America—Arago, Bessel, Struve, Liebig, Jacobi, Le Verrier, Encke, Erman, Kupffer, Ehrenberg, Matteucci, Rogers, Bache, and Agassiz. The younger members of the Association, to whom we owe much, and from whom we expect more, will excuse me for not making an individual reference to their labours. Their day of honour will come when our brief pilgrimage has closed. We bequeath to them a matured institution, and we trust that they will leave it to a succeeding race with all the life which it now breathes, and with all the glory which now surrounds it.

It has been the custom of some of my predecessors in this chair to give a brief account of the progress of the sciences during the preceding year; but however interesting such a narrative might be, it would be beyond the power of any individual to do justice to so extensive a theme, even if your time would permit and your patience endure it. I shall make no apology, however, for calling your attention to a few of those topics, within my own narrow sphere of study, which, from their prominence and general interest, may be entitled to your attention. I begin with Astronomy, a study which has made great progress under the patronage of this Association—a subject, too, possessing a charm above all other subjects, and more connected than any other with the deepest interests, past, present, and to come, of every rational being. It is upon a planet that we live and breathe. Its surface is the arena of our contentions, our pleasures, and our sorrows. It is to obtain a portion of its alluvial crust that man wastes the flower of his days, and prostrates the energies of his mind, and risks the happiness of his soul; and it is over or beneath its verdant turf that his ashes are to be scattered or his bones to be laid. It is from the interior too—from the inner life of the earth that man derives the materials of civilization—his coal, his iron, and his gold. And deeper still, as geologists have proved—and none with more power than the geologists around me—we find in the bosom of the earth written on blocks of marble—the history of primeval times, of worlds of life created, and worlds of life destroyed. We find there, in hieroglyphics as intelligible as those which Major Rawlinson has deciphered on the slabs of Nineveh, the remains of forests which waved in luxuriance over its plains—the very bones of huge reptiles that took shelter under

their foliage, and of gigantic quadrupeds that trod uncontrolled its plains, the law-givers and the executioners of that mysterious community with which it pleased the Almighty to people his infant world. But though man is but a recent occupant of the earth, an upstart in the vast chronology of animal life, his interest in the Paradise so carefully prepared for him is not the less exciting and profound. For him it was made, he was to be the lord of the new creation, and to him it especially belongs to investigate the wonders it displays and to learn the lesson which it reads. But while our interests are thus closely connected with the surface and the interior of the earth, interests of a higher kind are associated with it as a body of the solar system to which we belong. The object of Geology is to unfold the history and explain the structure of a planet; and that history and that structure may, within certain limits, be the history and the structure of all the other planets of the system—perhaps of all the other planets of the universe. The laws of matter must be the same wherever matter is found. The heat which warms our globe radiates upon the most distant of the planets, and the light which twinkles in the remotest star is, in its physical, and doubtless in its chemical properties, the same that cheers and enlivens our own system; and if men of ordinary capacity possessed that knowledge which is within their reach, and had that faith in science which its truths inspire, they would see in every planet around them, and in every star above them, the home of immortal natures—of beings that suffer and of beings that rejoice—of souls that are saved and of souls that are lost. Geology is, therefore, the first chapter of astronomy. It describes that portion of the solar system which is nearest and dearest to us,—the cosmopolitan observatory, so to speak, from which the astronomer is to survey the sidereal universe, where revolving worlds and systems of worlds summon him to investigate and adore. There, too, he obtains the great base lines of the earth's radius to measure the distances and magnitudes of the starry host, and thus to penetrate by the force of *reason* into those infinitely distant regions where the imagination dare not follow him. But Astronomy, though thus sprung from the earth, seeks and finds, like *Astræa*, a more congenial sphere above. Whatever cheers and enlivens our terrestrial paradise is derived from the orbs around us. Without the light or heat of our sun, and without the uniform movements of our system, we should have neither climates nor seasons. Darkness would blind, and famine destroy, everything that lives. Without influences from above, our ships would drift upon the ocean, the sport of wind and wave, and would have less security for reaching their destination than balloons floating in the air and subject to the caprice of the elements. But while the study of Astronomy is essential to the very existence of social life, it is instinct with moral influences of the highest order. In the study of our own globe we learn that it has been rent and upheaved by tremendous forces—here sinking into ocean depths, and there rising into gigantic elevations. Even now, Geologists are measuring the rise and fall of its elastic crust; and men who have no faith in science often learn the truth to their cost, when they see the liquid fire rushing upon them from the volcano, or stand above the yawning crevice in which the earthquake threatens to overwhelm them. Who can say that there is a limit to agencies like these? Who could dare to assert that they may not concentrate their yet divided energies, and rend in pieces the planet which imprisons them? Within the bounds of our own system, and in the vicinity of our own Earth, between the orbits of Mars and Jupiter, there is a wide space which, according to the law of planetary distances, ought to contain a planet. Kepler predicted that a planet would be found there—and strange to say, the astronomers of our own times discovered at the beginning of the present century four small planets, Ceres, Pallas, Juno and Vesta, occupying the very place in our system where the anticipated planet ought to have been found. Ceres, the first of these, was discovered by Piazzi, at Palermo, in 1801; Pallas, the second of them, by Dr. Olbers, of Bremen, in 1802; Juno, the third, by Mr.



Harding, in 1804; and Vesta, the fourth, by Dr. Olbers, in 1807. After the discovery of the third, Dr. Olbers suggested the idea that they were the fragments of a planet that had been burst in pieces; and, considering that they must all have diverged from one point in the original orbit, and ought to return to the opposite point, he examined these parts of the heavens, and thus discovered the planet Vesta. But though this principle was in the possession of astronomers, nearly forty years elapsed before any other planetary fragment was discovered. At last, in 1845, Mr. Hencke, of Driessen, in Prussia, discovered the fragment called Astræa, and, in 1847, another, called Hebe. In the same year our countryman, Mr. Hind, discovered other two, Iris and Flora. In 1848 Mr. Graham, an Irish astronomer, discovered a ninth fragment called Metis. In 1849 Mr. Gasparis, of Naples, discovered another, which he calls Hygeia; and within the last two months, the same astronomer has discovered the eleventh fragment, to which he has given the name of Parthenope.\* If these eleven small planets are really the remains of a larger one, the size of the original planet must have been considerable. What its size was, would seem to be a problem beyond the grasp of reason. But human genius has been permitted to triumph over greater difficulties. The planet Neptune was discovered before a ray of its light had entered the human eye; and by a law of the solar system just discovered, we can determine the original magnitude of the broken planet long after it has been shivered into fragments,—and we might have determined it even after a single fragment had proved its existence. This law we owe to Mr. Daniel Kirkwood, of Pottsville, a humble American, who, like the illustrious Kepler, struggled to find something new among the arithmetical relations of the planetary elements. Between every two adjacent planets there is a point where their attractions are equal. If we call the distance of this point from the Sun the radius of a planet's sphere of attraction, then Mr. Kirkwood's law is, that in every planet the square of the length of its year, reckoned in days, varies as the cube of the radius of its sphere of attraction. This law has been verified by more than one American astronomer, and there can be no doubt, as one of them expresses it, that it is at least a physical fact in the mechanism of our system. This law requires the existence of a planet between Mars and Jupiter; and it follows from the law that the broken planet must have been a little larger than Mars, or about 5,000 miles in diameter, and that the length of its day must have been about 57½ hours. The American astronomers regard this law as amounting to a demonstration of the nebular hypothesis of Laplace; but we venture to say that this opinion will not be adopted by the astronomers of England. Among the more recent discoveries within the bounds of our own system, I cannot omit to mention those of our distinguished countryman, Mr. Lassels, of Liverpool. By means of a fine 20-feet reflector, constructed by himself, he detected the satellite of Neptune, and more recently an eighth satellite circulating round Saturn—a discovery which was made on the very same day, by Mr. Bond, director of the Observatory of Cambridge, in the United States. Mr. Lassels has still more recently, and under a singularly favourable state of the atmosphere, observed the very minute, but extremely black, shadow of the ring of Saturn upon the body of the planet. He observed the line of shadow to be notched, as it were, and almost broken up into a line of dots; thus indicating mountains upon the plane of the ring—mountains doubtless raised by the same internal forces and answering the same ends as those of our own globe. In passing from our solar system to the frontier of the sidereal universe around us, we traverse a gulf of inconceivable extent. If we represent

the radius of the solar system, or of Neptune's orbit (which is 2,900 millions of miles) by a line two miles long, the interval between our system, or the orbit of Neptune, and the nearest fixed star will be greater than the whole circumference of our globe—or equal to a length of 27,600 miles. The parallax of the nearest fixed star being supposed to be one second, its distance from the sun will be nearly 412,370 times the radius of the earth's orbit, or 13,746 times that of Neptune, which is thirty times as far from the sun as the earth. And yet to that distant zone has the genius of man traced the Creator's arm working the wonders of his power, and diffusing the gifts of his love—the heat and the light of suns—the necessary elements of physical and intellectual life. It is by means of the gigantic telescope of Lord Rosse that we have become acquainted with the form and character of those great assemblages of stars which compose the sidereal universe. Drawings and descriptions of the more remarkable of these nebulae, as resolved by this noble instrument, were communicated by Dr. Robinson to the last meeting of the Association; and it is with peculiar satisfaction that I am able to state that many important discoveries have been made by Lord Rosse and his assistant, Mr. Stoney, during the last year. In many of the nebulae the peculiarities of structure are very remarkable, and, as Lord Rosse observes, “seem even to indicate the presence of dynamical laws almost within our grasp.” The spiral arrangement so strongly developed in some of the nebulae is traceable more or less distinctly in many; but “more frequently,” to use Lord Rosse's own words, “there is a nearer approach to a kind of irregular, interrupted, annular disposition of the luminous material, than to the regularity observed in others;” but his Lordship is of opinion that those nebulae are systems of a very similar nature, seen more or less perfectly, and variously placed with reference to the line of sight. In re-examining the more remarkable of these objects, Lord Rosse intends to view them with the full light of his six-feet speculum, undiminished by the second reflexion of the small mirror. By thus adopting what is called the *front view*, he will doubtless, as he himself expects, discover many new features in those interesting objects. It is to the influence of Lord Rosse's example that we are indebted for the fine Reflecting Telescope of Mr. Lassels, of which I have already spoken; and it is to it, also, that we owe another telescope, which, though yet unknown to science, I am bound in this place especially to notice. I allude to the reflector recently constructed by Mr. James Nasmyth, a native of this city, already distinguished by his mechanical inventions, and one of a family well known to us all, and occupying a high place among the artists of Scotland. This instrument has its great speculum 20 ft. in focal length, and 20 in. in diameter; but it differs from all other telescopes in the remarkable facility with which it can be used. Its tube moves vertically upon hollow trunnions, through which the astronomer, seated in a little observatory, with only a horizontal motion, can view at his ease every part of the heavens. Hitherto, the astronomer has been obliged to seat himself at the upper end of his Newtonian telescope; and if no other observer will acknowledge the awkwardness and insecurity of his position, I can myself vouch for its danger, having fallen from the very top of Mr. Ramage's 20-ft. telescope when it was directed to a point not very far from the zenith. Though but slightly connected with astronomy, I cannot omit calling your attention to the great improvements—I may call them discoveries—which have been recently made in *Photography*. I need not inform this meeting that the art of taking photographic *negative* pictures upon paper was the invention of Mr. Fox Talbot, a distinguished member of this Association. The superiority of the Talbotype to the Daguerreotype is well known. In the latter the pictures are reversed, and incapable of being multiplied; while in the Talbotype there is no reversion, and a single negative will supply a thousand copies, so that books may now be illustrated with pictures drawn by the sun. The difficulty of procuring good paper for the negative is so great, that a better material has been eagerly sought for;

and M. Niepce, an accomplished officer in the French service, has successfully substituted for paper a film of albumen, or the white of an egg, spread upon glass. This new process has been brought to such perfection in this city by Messrs. Ross & Thomson, that Talbotypes taken by them and lately exhibited by myself to the National Institute of France, and to M. Niepce, were universally regarded as the finest that had yet been executed. Another process, in which gelatine is substituted for albumen, has been invented, and successfully practised by M. Poitevin, a French officer of engineers; and by an ingenious method which has been minutely described in the weekly proceedings of the Institute of France, M. Edmund Becquerel has succeeded in transferring to a daguerreotype plate the prismatic spectrum, with all its brilliant colours, and also, though in an inferior degree, the colours of the landscape. These colours, however, are very fugacious: yet, though no method of fixing them has hitherto been discovered, we cannot doubt that the difficulty will be surmounted, and that we shall yet see all the colours of the natural world transferred by their own rays to surfaces both of silver and paper. But the most important fact in photography which I have now to mention, is the singular acceleration of the process discovered by M. Niepce, which enables him to take the picture of a landscape illuminated by diffused light, in a single second, or at most in two seconds. By this process he obtained a picture of the sun on albumen so instantaneously, as to confirm the remarkable discovery previously made by M. Arago, by means of a silver plate, that the rays which proceed from the central parts of the sun's disc have a higher photogenic action than those which issue from its margin. This interesting discovery of M. Arago is one of a series on photometry which that distinguished philosopher is now occupied in publishing. Threatened with a calamity which the civilized world will deplore—the loss of that sight which has detected so many brilliant phenomena and penetrated so deeply into the mysteries of the material world, he is now completing, with the aid of other eyes than his own, those splendid researches which will immortalize his own name and add to the scientific glory of his country.

From these brief notices of the progress of science I must now call your attention to two important objects with which the British Association has been occupied since their last meeting. It has been long known both from theory and in practice, that the imperfect transparency of the earth's atmosphere, and the unequal refraction which arises from differences of temperature combine to set a limit to the use of high magnifying powers in our telescopes. Hitherto, however, the application of such high powers was checked by the imperfections of the instruments themselves; and it is only since the construction of Lord Rosse's telescope that astronomers have found that, in our damp and variable climate, it is only during a few days of the year that telescopes of such magnitude can use successfully the high magnifying powers which they are capable of bearing. Even in a cloudless sky, when the stars are sparkling in the firmament, the astronomer is baffled by influences which are invisible; and while new planets and new satellites are being discovered by instruments comparatively small, the gigantic Polyphemus lies slumbering in his cave, blinded by thermal currents more irresistible than the firebrand of Ulysses. As the astronomer, however, cannot command a tempest to clear his atmosphere nor a thunderstorm to purify it, his only alternative is to remove his telescope to some southern climate, where no clouds disturb the serenity of the firmament, and no changes of temperature distract the emanations of the stars. A fact has been recently mentioned, which entitles us to anticipate great results from such a measure. The Marquis of Ormonde is said to have seen from Mount Etna, with his naked eye, the satellites of Jupiter. If this be true, what discoveries may we not expect, even in Europe, from a large reflector working above the grosser strata of our atmosphere? This noble experiment of sending a large reflector to a southern climate has been but once made in the

* Ceres .....	1801, January 1 ....	Piazzi.
Pallas .....	1802, March 28 .....	Olbers.
Juno .....	1804, September 1 .....	Harding.
Vesta .....	1807, March 29 .....	Olbers.
Astræa .....	1845, December 8 .....	Hencke.
Hebe .....	1847, July 1 .....	Hencke.
Iris .....	1847, August 13 .....	Hind.
Flora .....	1847, October 18 .....	Hind.
Metis .....	1848, April 25 .....	Graham.
Hygeia .....	1849, April 12 .....	Gasparis.
Parthenope .....	1850, May 11 .....	Gasparis.



history of science. Sir John Herschel transported his telescopes and his family to the south of Africa, and during a voluntary exile of four years' duration he enriched astronomy with many splendid discoveries. Such a sacrifice, however, is not likely to be made again; and we must, therefore, look to the aid of Government for the realization of a project which every civilized people will applaud, and which, by adding to the conquests of science, will add to the glory of our country. At the Birmingham meeting of the Association, their attention was called to this subject; and being convinced that great advantages would accrue to science from the active use of a large reflecting telescope in the southern hemisphere, they resolved to petition Government for a grant of money for that purpose. The Royal Society readily agreed to second this application; and as no request from this Association has ever been refused, whatever Government was in power, we have every reason to expect a favourable answer to a memorial from the pen of Dr. Robinson, which has just been submitted to the Minister. A recent and noble act of liberality to science on the part of the Government justifies this expectation. It is, I believe, not yet generally known that Lord John Russell has granted 1,000*l.* a-year to the Royal Society for promoting scientific objects. The Council of that distinguished body has been very solicitous to make this grant effective in promoting scientific objects, and I am persuaded that the measures they have adopted are well fitted to justify the liberality of the Government. One of the most important of these has been to place 100*l.* at the disposal of the committee of the Kew Observatory. This establishment, which has for several years been supported by the British Association, was given to us by the Government as a depository for our books and instruments and as a locality well fitted for carrying on electrical, magnetical and meteorological observations. During the last six years the Observatory has been under the honorary superintendence of Mr. Ronalds, who is well known to the scientific world for his ingenious photographic methods of constructing self-registering magnetical and meteorological apparatus. On the joint application of the Marquess of Northampton and Sir John Herschel, Her Majesty's Government have granted to Mr. Ronalds a pecuniary recompense of 250*l.* for these inventions; and I am glad to be able to state that Mr. Brooke has also received from them a suitable reward for inventions of a similar kind. Under the fostering care of the British Association the most valuable electrical observations have been made at Kew, and Mr. Ronalds has continued from year to year to make those improvements upon his apparatus which experience never fails to suggest. But I regret to say, that in consequence of our diminished resources the Association, at its meeting in 1848, came to the resolution of discontinuing the observations at Kew, appropriating at the same time an adequate sum for completing those which were in progress, and for reducing and discussing the five years' electrical observations which had been published in our Annual Reports. I trust, however, that means will yet be found to maintain the Observatory in full activity, and carry out the original objects contemplated by the Committee. Having had an opportunity of visiting this establishment this summer, after having inspected two of the best conducted observatories on the Continent where the same class of observations are made, I have no hesitation in speaking in the highest terms of the value of Mr. Ronalds's labours, and in recommending the institution which he so liberally superintends to the continued protection of the Association and the continued liberality of the Royal Society. From the facts which I have already mentioned, and from many others to which I might have referred, the members of the Association will observe, with no common pleasure, that the Government of this country has, during the last twenty years, been extending their patronage of Science and the Arts. That this change was effected by the interference of the British Association, and by the writings and personal exertions of its members, could, were it necessary, be easily proved. But though men of all shades of political feeling have applauded the

growing wisdom and liberality of the State, and though various individuals are entitled to share in the applause, yet there is one statesman, alas! too early and too painfully torn from the affections of his country, whom the science of England must ever regard as its warmest friend and its greatest benefactor. To him we owe new institutions for advancing science, and new colleges for extending education; and had Providence permitted him to follow out in the serene evening of life, and in the maturity of his powerful intellect, the views which he had cherished amidst the distractions of political strife, he would have rivalled the Colbert of another age, and would have completed the systematic organization of Science and Literature and Art which has been the pride and the glory of another land. These are not the words of idle eulogy, or the expressions of a groundless expectation. Sir Robert Peel had entertained the idea of attaching to the Royal Society a number of active members, who should devote themselves wholly to scientific pursuits; and I had the satisfaction of communicating to him, through a mutual friend, the remarkable fact, that I had found among the MSS. of Sir Isaac Newton a written scheme of improving the Royal Society precisely similar to that which he contemplated. Had this idea been realized, it would have been but the first instalment of a debt long due to science and the nation, and it would have fallen to the lot of some more fortunate statesman to achieve a glorious name by its complete discharge.

It has always been one of the leading objects of the British Association, and it is now the only one of them which has not been wholly accomplished, "to obtain a more general attention to the objects of science, and a removal of any disadvantages of a public kind which impede its progress." Although this object is not very definitely expressed, yet Mr. Harcourt, in moving its adoption, included under it the revision of the law of patents and the direct national encouragement of science, two subjects to which I shall briefly direct your attention. In 1831, when the Association commenced its labours, our patent laws were a blot on the legislation of Great Britain; and though some of their more obnoxious provisions have since that time been modified or removed, they are a blot still, less deep in its dye, but equally a stain upon the character of the nation. The protection which is given by statute to every other property in Literature and the Fine Arts, is not accorded to property in scientific inventions and discoveries. A man of genius completes an invention, and after incurring great expense, and spending years of anxiety and labour, he is ready to give the benefit of it to the public. Perhaps it is an invention to save life—the life-boat; to shorten space and lengthen time—the railway; to guide the commerce of the world through the trackless ocean—the mariner's compass; to extend the industry, increase the power, and fill the coffers of the State—the steam-engine; to civilize our species, to raise it from the depths of ignorance and crime—the printing press. But whatever it may be, a grateful country has granted to the inventor the sole benefit of its use for fourteen years. What the statute thus freely gives, however, law and custom as freely take away, or render void. Fees, varying from 200*l.* to 500*l.*, are demanded from the inventor; and the gift thus so highly estimated by the giver, bears the Great Seal of England. The inventor must now describe his invention with legal precision. If he errs in the slightest point—if his description is not sufficiently intelligible—if the smallest portion of his invention has been used before—or if he has incautiously allowed his secret to be made known to two, or even to one individual,—he will lose in a court of law his money and his privilege. Should his patent escape unscathed from the fiery ordeal, it often happens that the patentee has not been remunerated during the fourteen years of his term. In this case the State is willing to extend his right for five or seven years more; but he can obtain this extension only by the expensive and uncertain process of an Act of Parliament,—a boon which is seldom asked, and which through rival influence has often been withheld. Such was the patent law twenty years

ago. Since that time it had received some important ameliorations; and though the British Association did not interfere as a body, yet some of its members applied energetically on the subject to some of the more influential individuals in Lord Grey's Government,—and the result of this was, two Acts of Parliament passed in 1835 and 1839, entitled "Acts for amending the law touching letters patent for inventions." Without referring to another important Act for registering designs which had the effect of withdrawing from the grasp of the patent laws a great number of useful inventions depending principally on form,—I shall notice only the valuable provisions of the two Acts above mentioned, Acts which we owe solely to Lord Brougham. By the first of these Acts the patentee is permitted to disclaim any part either of the title of his invention, or of the specification of it, or to make any alteration in the title or specification. The same Act gives the Privy Council the power of confirming any patent, or of granting a new one, when a patent had been taken out for an invention which the patentee believed to be new, but which was found to have been known before, but not publicly and generally used. By the same Act, too, the power of letters patent was taken from Parliament, and given to the Privy Council, who have, on different occasions, exercised it with judgment and discrimination. By the second Act of 1839 this last privilege was made more attainable by the patentee. These are doubtless valuable improvements, which inventors will gratefully remember; but till the enormous fees which are still exacted are either partly or wholly abolished, and a real privilege given under the great seal, the genius of this country will never be able to compete with that of foreign lands, where patents are cheaply obtained and better protected. In proof of the justness of these views, it is gratifying to notice that, within these few days, it has been announced in Parliament that the new Attorney-General has accepted his office on the express condition that the large fees which he derives from patents shall be subject to revision.—The other object of the British Association, mentioned by Mr. Harcourt, the Organisation of Science as a National Institution, is one of a higher order, and not limited to individual, or even to English, interests. It concerns the civilized world; not confined to time, it concerns eternity. While the tongue of the Almighty, as Kepler expresses it, is speaking to us in His Word, His finger is writing to us in His works; and to acquire a knowledge of these works is an essential portion of the great duty of man. Truth secular cannot be separated from truth divine; and if a priesthood has in all ages been organized to track and exemplify the one, and to maintain, in ages of darkness and corruption the vestal fire upon the sacred altar, shall not an intellectual priesthood be organized to develop the glorious truths which time and space embosom,—to cast the glance of reason into the dark interior of our globe, teeming with what was once life,—to make the dull eye of man sensitive to the planet which twinkles from afar, as well as to the luminary which shines above,—and to incorporate with our inner life those wonders of the external world which appeal with equal power to the affections and to the reason of immortal natures. If the God of Love is most appropriately worshipped in the Christian temple, the God of Nature may be equally honoured in the Temple of Science. Even from its lofty minarets the philosopher may summon the faithful to prayer; and the priest and the sage may exchange altars without the compromise of faith or of knowledge. Influenced, no doubt, by views like these, Mr. Harcourt has cited the opinions of a philosopher whose memory is dear to Scotland, and whose judgment on any great question will be everywhere received with respect and attention; I refer to Prof. Playfair, the distinguished successor in our Metropolitan University of the Gregorys, the MacLaurins, and the Stewarts of former days, who in his able dissertation 'On the Progress of the Mathematical and Physical Sciences,' thus speaks of the National Institute of France:—

"This institution has been of considerable advantage to science. To detach a number of ingenious men from every thing but scientific pursuits—to deliver them alike from



the embarrassments of poverty and the temptations of wealth—to give them a place and station in society the most respectable and independent, is to remove every impediment, and to add every stimulus to exertion. To this Institution, accordingly, operating upon a people of great genius and indefatigable activity of mind, we are to ascribe that superiority in the mathematical sciences which, in the last seventy years, has been so conspicuous.”—*Diss. 3rd, sec. 5, p. 500.*

This just eulogy on the National Institute of France, in reference to abstract mathematics, may be safely extended to every branch of theoretical and practical science; and I have no hesitation in saying, after having recently seen the Academy of Sciences at its weekly labours, that it is the noblest and most effective institution that ever was organized for the promotion of Science. Owing to the prevalence of scientific knowledge among all classes of the French population, and to their admirable system of elementary instruction, the advancement of science, the diffusion of knowledge, and the extension of education are objects dear to every class of the people. The soldier as well as the citizen—the Socialist—the Republican and the Royalist—all look up to the National Institute as a mighty obelisk erected to science, to be respected and loved and defended by all. We have seen it standing unshaken and active amid all the revolutions and convulsions which have so long agitated that noble but distracted country—a common centre of affection, to which antagonist opinions and rival interests and disaffected hearts have peacefully converged. It thus becomes an institution of order, calculated to send back to its contending friends a message of union and peace, and to replace in stable equilibrium the tottering institutions of the State. It was doubtless with views like these that the great Colbert established the Academy of Sciences in Paris, and that the powerful and sagacious monarchs on the Continent of Europe have imitated his example. They have established in their respective capitals similar institutions—they have sustained them with liberal endowments—they have conferred rank and honours on their more eminent members, and there are now here present distinguished foreigners who have well earned the rewards and distinctions they have received. It is, therefore, gentlemen, no extravagant opinion that institutions which have thus thriven in other countries should thrive in ours—that insulated societies, which elsewhere flourish in combination, should when combined flourish among us—and that men ordained by the State to the undivided functions of science should do more and better work than those who snatch an hour or two from their daily toil or from their nightly rest. In a great nation like ours, where the higher interests and objects of the State are necessarily organized, it is a singular anomaly that the intellectual interests of the country should, in a great measure, be left to voluntary support and individual zeal—an anomaly that could have arisen only from the supineness of ever-changing administrations, and from the indigence and liberality of a commercial people—an anomaly, too, that could have been continued only by the excellence of the institutions they have established. In the history of no civilized people can we find private establishments so generously fostered, so energetically conducted, and so successful in their objects as the Royal Societies of London, Edinburgh and Dublin, and the Astronomical, Geological, Zoological and Linnean Societies of the metropolis. They are an honour to the nation, and will ever be gratefully remembered in the history of science. But they are nevertheless defective in their constitution, limited in their operation, and incapable, from their very nature, of developing and directing and rewarding the indigenous talent of the country. They are simply subscription societies, which pay for the publication of their own Transactions, and adjudicate medals intrusted to them by the beneficence of others. They are not bound to the exercise of any other function, and they are under no obligation to do the scientific work of the State, or to promote any of those national objects which are intrusted to the organized institutions of other lands. Their President and Council are necessarily resident in London, and the talent and the genius of the provinces are excluded from their administration. From this

remark we must except the distinguished philosophers of Cambridge and Oxford, who, from their proximity to the capital, have been the brightest ornaments of our metropolitan institutions, and without whose aid they never could have attained their present pre-eminence. It is, therefore, in the more remote parts of the empire that the influence of a national institution would be more immediately felt, and nowhere more powerfully than in this its northern portion. Our English friends are, we believe, little aware of the obstructions which oppose the progress of science in Scotland. In our five universities there is not a single Fellowship to stimulate the genius and rouse the ambition of the student. The church, the law and the medical profession hold out no rewards to the cultivators of mathematical and physical science; and were a youthful Newton or Laplace to issue from any of our universities, his best friends would advise him to renounce the divine gift and to seek in professional toil the well-earned competency which can alone secure him a just position in the social scale and an enviable felicity in the domestic circle. Did this truth require any evidence in its support, we find it in the notorious fact that our colleges cannot furnish professors to fill their own important offices; and the time is not distant when all our chairs in Mathematics, Natural Philosophy, and even Natural History, will be occupied by professors educated in the English universities. But were a Royal Academy or Institute, like that of France, established on the basis of our existing institutions, and a class of resident members enabled to devote themselves wholly to science, the youth of Scotland would instantly start for the prize, and would speedily achieve their full share in the liberality of the State. Our universities would then breathe a more vital air. Our science would put forth new energies, and our literature might rise to the high level at which it stands in our sister land. But it is to the nation that the greatest advantages would accrue. With gigantic manufacturing establishments, depending for their perfection and success on mechanics and chemistry,—with a royal and commercial marine almost covering the ocean,—with steam ships on every sea,—with a system of agriculture leaning upon science as its mainstay,—with a net-work of railways demanding for their improvement, and for the safety of the traveller, and for the remuneration of their public-spirited projectors, the highest efforts of mechanical skill,—the time has now arrived for summoning to the service of the State all the theoretical and practical wisdom of the country,—for rousing what is dormant, combining what is insulated, and uniting in one great institution the living talent which is in active but undirected and unsupported exercise around us.

In thus pleading for the most important of the objects of the British Association I feel that I am not pleading for a cause that is hopeless. The change has not only commenced but has made considerable progress. Our scientific institutions have already to a certain extent become national ones. Apartments belonging to the nation have been liberally granted to them. Royal medals have been founded, and large sums from the public purse devoted to the objects which they contemplate. The Museum of Economic Geology, indeed, is itself a complete section of a Royal Institute, giving a scientific position to six eminent philosophers, all of whom are distinguished members of this Association. And in every branch of science and literature the liberality of the Crown has been extended to numerous individuals whose names would have been enrolled among the members of a National Institution. The cause, therefore, is far advanced; and every act of liberality to eminent men, and every grant of money for scientific and literary purposes, is a distinct step towards its triumph. Our private institutions have in reality assumed the transition phase; and it requires only an electric spark from a sagacious and patriotic statesman to combine in one noble phalanx the scattered elements of our intellectual greatness, and guide to lofty achievements and glorious triumphs the talents and genius of the nation. But when such an institution has been completed, the duties of

the State to science are not exhausted. It has appreciated knowledge but in its abstract and utilitarian phase. It would be of little avail to the peace and happiness of society if the great truths of the material world were confined to the educated and the wise. The organization of science thus limited would cease to be a blessing. Knowledge secular and knowledge divine,—the double current of the intellectual life-blood of man—must not merely descend through the great arteries of the social frame. It must be taken up by the minutest capillaries before it can nourish and purify society. Knowledge is at once the manna and the medicine of our moral being. When crime is the bane, knowledge is the antidote. Society may escape from the pestilence and may survive the famine; but the demon of Ignorance, with its grim adjutants of vice and riot, will pursue her into her most peaceful haunts, destroying our institutions, and converting into a wilderness the paradise of social and domestic life. The State has, therefore, a great duty to perform. As it punishes crime, it is bound to prevent it. As it subjects us to laws, it must teach us to read them; and while it thus teaches, it must teach also the ennobling truths which display the power and the wisdom of the great Lawgiver,—thus diffusing knowledge while it is extending education,—and thus making men contented and happy and humble while it makes them quiet and obedient subjects. It is a great problem yet to be solved, to determine what will be the state of society when man's physical powers are highly exalted, and his physical condition highly ameliorated, without any corresponding change in his moral habits and position. There is much reason to fear that every great advance in material civilization requires some moral and compensatory antagonism; but however this may be, the very indeterminate character of the problem is a warning to the rulers of nations to prepare for the contingency by a system of national instruction which shall either reconcile or disregard those hostile influences under which the people are now perishing for lack of knowledge.

The LORD JUSTICE GENERAL proposed, and LORD CATHART seconded, a vote of thanks to the President for his admirable Address,—which afforded, the mover said, a new proof of the wisdom of the choice made by the British Association. The motion was, of course, cordially carried.

Prof. PHILLIPS detailed the various arrangements of the coming business,—and the Meeting adjourned.

#### OUR WEEKLY GOSSIP.

THE ground in the Park to be appropriated for the great Industrial Exhibition of 1851 has been formally handed over by the Commissioners of Woods and Forests to the Executive Committee, and the contractors are at work in preparing the foundations of the building as finally settled. As the works progress, the public will have an opportunity of testing the value of the argument built on the supposed amount of incumbrance to the many which was so noisily urged in support of the dainty exclusiveness of the few. We believe the end will reconcile all parties—if there be, indeed, more parties than one—save those who have for once failed to defeat a great public object on the ground of aristocratic privilege. The industrial classes have successfully maintained their right to have their grand review, as well as others, in Hyde Park,—and the ground is already kept by a company of their own body in their behalf.

The Annual Financial Meeting of the Society of Arts, held on Wednesday evening, closed the session. By the Council's Report and the balance sheet laid before the meeting, it appeared that during the session such an increase has taken place in the revenue that the surplus over the expenditure has been more than 1,100*l.*; large arrears have been discharged, and the Society finds itself with a balance of nearly 1,000*l.* in hand. The increase has been for the greater part of a permanent character, too;—members having joined in greater numbers than for many years past. The Council promise reforms in the expenditure—as to both amount and efficiency. It is intended, we believe, to open



the coming session with an Exhibition which shall show what has been done by invention during the last twelve months:—one of models and specimens of patented and registered articles. The idea is a good one,—and we hope it will be well carried out.

The experiment of conveying messages by a submarine telegraph from Dover to Calais, which we have already announced as nearly ready, is, it seems, likely to take place in the course of next week. The *Times* says:—"A company, consisting chiefly of English shareholders, has been constituted in Paris, where all the shares have been taken up, and the entire length of wire is completed and in a condition to be laid down. House's telegraph, which has long been in successful operation between New York and Philadelphia, is the one that is to be used; and should the experiment succeed, the public may shortly be gratified by the sight of printed communications transmitted from shore to shore at the rate of more than 100 letters per minute."

The toll taken from the public at the doors of St. Paul's Cathedral is, it seems, in a fair way of being abolished:—the money changers are about to be expelled from the Temple. In answer to a motion made by Mr. Hume in the House of Commons for an address to Her Majesty praying her interference, Sir George Grey announced that he had been in communication with the Dean on the subject,—and that there were difficulties arising from the facts, that this money went to pay the vergers, and that the control now exercised by the Ecclesiastical Commissioners stood in the way of the Chapter's providing a substitute in their behalf for the tax now levied on the public. It was understood that all parties are agreed in the desire to have the matter put on a more satisfactory footing, and it is probable that the legislature will be the *Deus ex machina* called in for the solution of the difficulty.

A correspondent, to whom we alluded in our 'Notices to Correspondents' last week, insists on the propriety of having Mr. Laing put right as to certain archaeological mistakes into which he is alleged to have fallen. The Salamander—which Mr. Laing has mentioned as a device of the ducal families of Guienne and Poitou, found on many an arched gateway at Tours—belonged, says "An Old Resident on the Loire," exclusively to Francis the First, who adopted it with its Italian motto at the period of his wars in Italy,—designing to show his intentions in his claims on the Milanese. "No one," he adds, "who has been in Touraine can well mistake Henry II. of England, of whose time Chinon (not on the Loire) alone remains.—Henry II. of France, with all his Medici connexions, has left plenty of recollections at Blois, Amboise, &c.—Louis XI. at Tours, where there is not a single Salamander to be found, however they abound at Blois and Chambord. Nothing of the 12th century exists, except a ruined tower or two at Beaugency and a few other places,—always built into the comparatively modern castles of Louis XII. and the Valois. The 'gardens,' and 'avenues,' and 'roads' of that early time have long since disappeared, if they ever existed; which is not probable, as all the castles were fortified up to the moats, and what garden there might be was on the top of a tower. The buildings in every town on the Loire, and in Touraine generally, are not older than Charles the Seventh's time; and to see remains of the heiress of Aquitaine in that part of France is altogether out of the question.—How Avignon came there is a mystery. Does Mr. Laing mean Orleans?—Perhaps Mr. Laing mistakes the Crescent of Diana of Poitiers for a device of Elionor of Guienne? The country abounds in historical interest,—but the time is quite mistaken by this author."

The great question of inter-national copyright with America is being fought about while we write, in Lincoln's Inn Hall, before Vice-Chancellor Bruce. Mr. Murray has applied for an injunction to restrain Mr. Bohn and Mr. Routledge from printing certain works of Mr. Washington Irving, of which Mr. Murray had bought the copyright,—and of which till a very recent decision of Chief Baron Pollock (of which our readers are well aware) he was generally believed to possess the

legal monopoly. We have heard it asked, is Mr. Washington Irving an alien?—and perhaps before the week is over the Vice-Chancellor will have determined this question.

Mr. Robert Stevenson, the eminent civil engineer who designed and executed the Bell Rock Lighthouse, died on the 13th ult., at the age of 78. Mr. Stevenson, says the *Scottish Railway Gazette*, "first brought into notice the superiority of malleable iron rails for railways over the old cast-iron,—a fact which has been fully acknowledged. He also surveyed the line between Edinburgh and Glasgow; and though his plan was not adopted, it was much admired. The coast of Scotland, however, is the place where the labours of Mr. Stevenson are principally to be seen. Not a harbour, rock, nor island but bears evidence of his indefatigable industry; and it is incalculable to think of the amount of life and property which by his exertions have been saved. In matters relating to the construction of harbours, docks, or breakwaters he was generally consulted as an authority."

The Annual Meeting of the Cambrian Archaeological Association will be held at Dolgellau on the 26th of August, and the five successive days. The neighbourhood abounds in objects calculated to attract the attention of archaeological inquirers. This Association was established, our readers know, in 1846, for the purpose of promoting the study and preservation of the antiquities of Wales and its marches. Since that time it has held annual meetings, at Aberystwyth, Caernarvon, and Cardiff. It now numbers, we are told, in its ranks nearly all the antiquaries of Wales, and a considerable number of others who, though not immediately connected with the Principality, take an interest in whatever concerns its national and historical remains.

The papers of the locality state that a silver mine has recently been discovered at Tytherington, near Thornbury, Gloucestershire. Scientific gentlemen and others have gone down, it is said, from London for the purpose of inspecting it,—and it is stated that they have most encouraging prospects before them.

We have often had occasion to remark that it is a property of all qualities to propagate themselves,—but it is lamentable to observe how much more rapid is the contagion of folly than that of wisdom. All the idle spirits of a community who have destroyed their moral constitutions by living on stimulants are in a condition for the reception and propagation of the virus,—and thus absurdity is always epidemic in the land. Now and then it breaks out in a form more than commonly virulent, and then the thousands who live in unwholesome mental atmospheres are instantly caught by the infection. It is but a fortnight since we noticed the disgusting and dangerous exhibition in which a M. Poitevin—whose friends should take charge of him, if the police will not—is priding himself in Paris; and we earnestly called attention to the state of public health at home, lest the folly should pass the Channel. We lament to say that, notwithstanding our precautions, Mr. Green has been attacked by the disease in a mitigated form. The Secretary of the Society for Prevention of Cruelty to Animals has done his duty on the occasion; but Mr. Green succeeded in persuading the magistrate before whom he was brought for examination that the worst symptom of the Poitevin morbus was wanting in his case—and that there was no pretence for interference on the ground of cruelty. We are by no means prepared to accept Mr. Green's account of the matter. We believe that the complaint cannot be divested of that quality—though we admit that Mr. Green has taken pains to subdue that particular pronunciation of his malady. The magistrate, Mr. Norton, treated this melancholy case with great compassion. He gently suggested to this patient that if he must needs "ride a cock-horse" to the skies, a wooden one might serve his turn. As there was less of danger and no cruelty, however, in that form of the folly, the diseased man could not see that the exhibition would be just the same. A very little way up, and we defy the spectators to tell whether a horse so fettered by the limbs as to make motion impossible is of timber or of flesh and blood. However, Mr. Green

has been allowed to ride his hobby in his own way,—and such of the idle spirits of the metropolis as chose have had the opportunity of seeing a man go upwards to heaven on horseback. As yet the disease has not terminated fatally.—We cannot help observing that Mr. Green's is a poor ambition, after all. He comes in as a mere imitator of M. Poitevin,—and that only imperfectly. If he must emulate the Frenchman, why does he not improve on his model? Why does he not go up on the hippopotamus?

While on the subject, we may mention that Messrs. Bixio and Barral have made another excursion into the higher atmospheres with their balloon. As their object was something far higher than a stupid whim, they did not go on horseback; but their air-boat had a stormy time of it, and they were in great danger of being wrecked. They have no experimental knowledge of the navigation. However, they landed safely from their dangerous voyage,—and are understood to have made some valuable scientific discoveries in cloudland.

The Geographical Society of France has been holding its annual general assembly, under the presidency of the Minister of Agriculture and Commerce. The Report of a special commission appointed by the Society, after taking a review of the principal voyages and journeys undertaken or executed in the course of 1847, entered on a detailed analysis of the labours of the brothers Antoine and Arnaud d'Abbadie, who, during a period of eleven years, have, as our readers know, devoted their time and fortune to the exploration of the eastern portions of Africa. The gold medal was awarded to them for the additions made to geography by their labours in Abyssinia.—This award was followed by the reading, by M. de la Roquette, of a necrologic notice of M. Hommaire de Hell, known by his voyage to the Steppes of the Caspian Sea and his explorations of Turkey and Persia,—in which latter country, our readers will remember, he fell a victim to his love for science. It is said that very valuable manuscripts, maps, and drawings left by the traveller have been brought to France by M. Jules Laurens, a young painter attached to his mission.

The *Builder* says that Signor Clemente Masserano, of Pignerol, Piedmont, has patented a new machine analogous to the American tread-wheeled coach some time since described in that paper. In the present instance the horses work on a platform, called a pedivella, inside the vehicle; and the power of their weight, as well as of their motion, is made use of by means of ropes communicating with the axle-trees of the leading wheels. It is alleged that a speed of even sixty miles an hour can be realized by means of the mechanism, without any increase in the rapidity of the motion of the horses, which is merely a walk, in which the animal does not actually advance beyond a single step, the platform retreating instead. A model "impulsoria," as it is called, has been brought to this country, and is at work, but at a much more moderate speed than the maximum boasted of, on the South-Western Railway. It is thought that, as feeders on branch lines such vehicles might be both economical and useful.

The *Brussels Herald* says that the tombstone of Robert the First, surnamed *Le Frison*, was discovered recently on the estate of a M. Poillon, at Cassel, in the department of the Nord.

A correspondent writes to us as follows.—"A gentleman of my acquaintance, in travelling through Egypt last year, picked up a large copper coin among the ruins of Thebes which bears the marks of high antiquity. It is considerably larger than a dollar; and bears on one side a figure of Ammon, seated, with the ram's head and horns. On each side of him stands a large vulture-like bird, somewhat like those that attend gods, and overshadow kings,—with one wing raised over his head, so that the wings of the two touch each other. Above this point is the globe, with the uræus or basilisk on each side, as it is usually seen. Beneath the figure of Ammon is a fish with what appears to be a lotus in its mouth. On the reverse is a man leading a deer or a gazelle, with his arm over its head, or round its neck,—and on the back of the animal is seated a monkey. They seem to be walking amidst a bed



of lotus plants, with which the whole of this side of the coin is covered. The coin is well formed; the figures in relief, and well defined; but there are no hieroglyphic marks by which its age can be determined.—Can you or any of your correspondents who are versant in Egyptian studies inform me whether such a discovery has been made before, or whether it is of any antiquarian value.

Dunse. DANIEL KERR."

We observe in the Proceedings of the American Academy of Natural Sciences at Philadelphia, that the Hon. John Short, of Cincinnati, and Prof. Charles Short, of Louisville, have munificently offered to bear all the expense of a botanical mission to Africa, provided a person can be engaged duly qualified for the service.

According to Humboldt the volcanic mountain of Popocateptl had never at the period of his visit to Mexico been ascended since the time of Cortez. We have been favoured with an extract of a letter from Mexico, dated June 10, 1850, which announces that this feat has now been accomplished. The names of the parties making the ascent have been communicated to us,—and it is possible that the public will hereafter hear more of the matter. The extract is as follows.—“Three English gentlemen have just returned from a trip to the crater of Popocateptl, of which one of them sends me an interesting account. I did not know of their intention until too late, or it would have been an excellent opportunity to have tried the Aneroid at a great elevation. They were five hours ascending and only one hour and a quarter returning; having remained four hours and a half on the summit,—where they found no difficulty in breathing, smoking, or drinking, or even walking fast on the level edge of the crater. The crater was a grand sight, like a very deep barranca, with sides nearly perpendicular, about 1,000 feet deep and a league in circumference. At the bottom was a pond of sulphur, which was bubbling away in fine style, of a bright yellow colour, and emitting a great volume of smoke, the greater part of which was condensed in the crater before reaching its top. At the crater the barometer stood at 16°·015 inches, Centigrade thermometer 2°; water boiled at 184° Fahr.,—corresponding to about 17,000 feet of altitude.”

**PANORAMA OF THE NILE.**—Additions have been made to this Exhibition.—The Nubian Desert, from the Second Cataract to Dongola—War Dance by Firelight—March of Caravan by Moonlight—Morning Prayer.—The Mummy of a High Priest is added to the curiosities. Both Banks of the River are shown in the Painting.—**EGYPTIAN HALL, PICCADILLY.**—Daily, at Three, and Eight o'clock.—Stalls, 2s. 6d., Gallery, 1s.; Children and Schools, Half-price.

**INDIA OVERLAND MAIL.—DIORAMA.—GALLERY OF ILLUSTRATION, 14, Regent-street.**—Water-colour-places.—Additional Picture, MADRAS.—A Gigantic MOVING DIORAMA, ILLUSTRATING THE ROUTE OF THE OVERLAND MAIL TO INDIA, depicting every object worthy of notice on this highly-interesting Journey from Southampton to Madras and Calcutta, accompanied by descriptive detail and appropriate music, is now OPEN DAILY, Mornings at Twelve, Afternoon at Three, and in the Evening at Eight o'clock.—Admission, 1s.; Stalls, 2s. 6d.; Reserved Seats, 3s.—Doors open half an hour before each representation.

The DIORAMA, Regent's Park.—Admission, One Shilling.—NOW OPEN, with the finest VIEWS ever exhibited in this country, representing the ROYAL CASTLE OF STOLZENFELS, on the Rhine, (visited by Her Majesty Queen Victoria in August, 1845,) and its Environs, as seen at Sunset and during a Thunder Storm; painted by NICHOLAS MEISLER, of Cologne. And the much-admired Picture of THE SHINE OF THE NATIVITY, at Bethlehem; painted by the late M. RENOUX, from a sketch made on the spot by DAVID ROBERTS, Esq. R.A., with novel and striking effects.—Open from Ten till Six.

**PANORAMA OF THE LAKES OF KILLARNEY.—JUST OPENED at BURFORD'S PANORAMA PALACE, Leicester Square.**—A VIEW of these celebrated and interesting LAKES, taken from Ross Castle, and comprising the numerous adjacent islands and surrounding beautiful scenery.—THE VIEWS OF THE ARCTIC REGIONS and of POMPEII are also open.—Admission, 1s. each view, or 2s. 6d. to the three. Schools, Half-price.—Open from Ten till dusk.

#### MEETINGS FOR THE ENSUING WEEK.

Mon. Entomological, 8.  
Tues. Horticultural, 3.

#### FINE ARTS

##### ARUNDEL SOCIETY.

We have received the following in reply to the query last week [*ante*, p. 794] of our Correspondent, “An Amateur of the Art,” on the subject of the mistake made by the management of the Arundel Society in its manner of illustrating its first work, ‘The Life of Fra Angelico.’—The question ‘Which of the artists of the day conversant with such matters can have led the Society into such

a mistake?’ has touched on one of those anomalies that weigh most injuriously on Art in this country and on the body of its professors. The fault, however, I apprehend lies in the want of moral courage on the part of the artist himself. There is no other profession than his, I take it, in which the mere possession of wealth or rank would be admitted as a title to obtrude officiously in the direction of affairs which concern Art to the almost exclusion of the artist himself. In Literature such absolute control from without is out of the question. The Sciences, the Bar, and Medicine have all their respective professional associations independent—most of them wholly, and all to a great extent—of extraneous government. The Liberal Arts are those alone in which it seems to be held right that associations for their promotion should be perpetually interfered with by those who, unqualified for the vocation, misgovern by their defective education and by the low standards which they may have erected for themselves. The opportunities sought to be made available for the guidance of Art are thus converted into the means of gratifying private tastes and personal predilections. A few other examples may show the ‘Amateur’ that he need not marvel at the constitution and proceedings of the Arundel Society,—which has, after all, but followed the example of many of its predecessors. The British Institution, founded for the promotion of historical painting, rarely rewards or makes any acknowledgment for historic presentment:—always preferring in the arrangement of its Exhibitions portraits baptized with fancy-titles, tableaux de genre, prodigies of still-life, or commonplace landscapes. The Commissioners of Fine Arts—composed almost exclusively of the aristocracy—made no small mistakes in their several awards in Westminster Hall:—many of the artists preferred by them having by such preference been placed at the time in false positions and labouring seriously now under the consequences of such mis-direction. The mischievous interference of the Edinburgh Board of Trustees in the concerns of the Academy has been long since pointed out in your columns:—as have been over and over again the mistakes committed by the London Art-Union, which formally repudiates the idea of professional advice. The qualification deemed satisfactory for the direction of the affairs of these several institutions is, the possession of a certain superficial taste—generally devoted to some of the humbler manifestations of Art,—especially when such dilettantism is decorated by a title. It is impossible that Art should descend to the condition of a flunkey,—though its professor may. Art Societies may wear the livery of some noble patron,—but they cease to be Societies for the promotion of Art. Other influences there are which win their way to a place on these Councils assuming to have authority over Art,—whose title it is the business of the true artist boldly to challenge. Strange, wild, ranting prophets who come from one knows not where into the streets of Art distributing phylacteries,—and small talkers who hang about her temples idly and convey their gossip.—A glance over the list of the Council of the Arundel Society for 1850 will suggest the explanation which your reviewer and the ‘Amateur’ demand. Though there are to be found in the list of the members of this Society, contributing for a highly intellectual and artistically a very useful object, almost all the leading artists of the country, not one of these is to be found in the direction of its affairs. Again, I say that want of moral courage amongst the artists to assert their own superior knowledge on what pertains to their own art,—a condition of society which (partly on that account) does not yet sufficiently admit the native aristocracy of intellect,—a coarse and vulgar worship of heroes in high places, such as in one of his letters from the East Wilkie recommends to Collins—these are the reasons which enthrone in the management of our Art-interests persons who rule rather because of their station than because of their knowledge. To this, amongst other things, it is owing that our great national Art-interests suffer when occasions offer for their advancement,—that our public places are thronged with ineffective statues born of the par-

tialities of ennobled committee-men,—and that London is encumbered with unsightly edifices.”

**FINE-ART GOSSIP.**—Marlborough House is not one of Sir Christopher Wren's great masterpieces in his art. It is badly lighted throughout,—but Wren perhaps is hardly to blame for this. He was called in at the last moment, to vex Vanbrugh; and as old Sarah of Marlborough was her own mistress in political and even domestic matters, so was she her own mistress when the freak was on even in bricks and mortar. The future residence of the Prince of Wales is not therefore particularly well adapted for an exhibition of pictures. We are partial, we must confess, to a side light now and then when the pictures to be seen are smaller than what is called gallery size,—but Marlborough House has no good lights. Angerstein's old House in Pall Mall (the first National Gallery) was ten times better adapted for the purposes of Art than Marlborough House. But we are not sorry to see or rather to find the Vernon Collection and such pictures as the National Gallery possesses of the British School brought together for the first time and placed alone. Mr. Uwins has done all that tact and impartiality could do to make every picture be seen; and where he has failed, success was all but impossible.—There is another advantage in this arrangement besides the single and national purpose of the Exhibition. This temporary and indifferent location of some of our best pictures must bring the National Gallery question to a close before another session of Parliament is over. The Hogarths (those real treasures of the British School) are recognized here only by their frames and the well-known arrangement of the several figures. All character and detail—age and colour too (for which they are so wonderful)—are placed under the dark lantern of the Marlborough House windows. The large Wilsons (the Beaumont Wilsons) have been varnished and washed (we must not say cleaned in these days),—and never were they seen to such advantage as they appear at present. Sir George Beaumont himself, were he alive, would have found new beauties in his favourite pictures. The walls indeed are nobly hung;—and the hurry exhibited this week by Her Majesty's Ministers to settle Marlborough House on the Prince of Wales would look, were we living in more tyrannical times, as if the Prince intended to lay his carpets down and take possession of the house and pictures forthwith.—The collection, notwithstanding the surmise, will be open to the public on Monday next.

At a general assembly of the members of the Royal Academy held on Tuesday last for the purpose of selecting a student to go to Rome for three years, on examination of the models sent in to compete for that distinction and advantage, the decision was, we understand, in favour of Mr. E. J. Physick. The subject of Mr. Physick's medal is the Creation of Adam,—taken from Milton's ‘Paradise Lost,’ Book the Eighth.

The Scotsman says:—“The renovation of the royal apartments in Holyrood Palace to adapt them for the temporary residence of Her Majesty during her brief visit to the Scottish capital in autumn is now all but completed. It involves no material alteration of the building, but is principally decorative. The restoration of the beautiful old oak carving, long concealed beneath thick coatings of white paint, is a striking improvement. The ceilings of all the restored rooms are singularly rich and beautiful, and they have been well and carefully cleaned,—though there may be question, we think, as to the style in which they have been coloured.”—We may add, that measures are taking for erecting within the quadrangle of the Palace a statue to mark the grateful feelings with which the people of Scotland regard the occupation of that ancient structure by Her Majesty.

The Free Society of the Fine Arts in Paris has instituted a subscription for a statue, to be erected on the ground where stood of old the Convent of the Chartreux, in honour of Lesueur. To this convent the painter retired to die,—and there he painted the famous passages of his ‘Life of Saint Bruno.’

It is stated from Stockholm that Dr. Marilignis,



Professor at the Royal Academy of the Fine Arts in that capital, has completed the mission, of exploring the island of Gothland for remains of ancient Art, intrusted to him by that body. In the eighteen months over which his researches extended he is said to have discovered more than a thousand paintings and sculptures, of dates ranging between the eighth and sixteenth centuries. A great number of these were found in the churches and chapels erected during the eleventh and twelfth centuries. They were covered with thick coatings of plaster, which had to be removed with great care. The results of M. Marilignis's researches are to be published at the cost of Government.—The artists of the same capital have been striking a medal in honour of Jenny Lind.

### MUSIC AND THE DRAMA

**BACH SOCIETY.**—The centenary anniversary of the death of Sebastian Bach, which "came round" on Monday last, justified the Bach Society in opening its doors for the first time,—though the performance given on the occasion must be treated by all who attended it as an exercise in the presence of friends rather than as an exposition laid before a general public. This caution, however, applies merely to the vocal compositions; since it is needless to specify that the instrumental specimens given by Mr. W. S. Bennett, Mr. W. Dorrell, and Herr Mohique, were entirely up to "concert pitch." The vocal music consisted of *Chorales* (Psalm tunes) and *Motets*; all of which, as being new to England, were followed with the most close attention. They were passably got through—not more—by a small chorus, principally consisting of professional singers and expert readers of music, who had devoted some time to their preparation. Thus, of the skeleton form of these compositions, and on their order of structure, some notion could be formed,—though, of course, no judgment could be passed on the full effect of which they are susceptible supposing that they can be ever made to go smoothly. Nothing can be ripier and bolder as regards scientific combination. The harmonies both satisfy and startle; the first ideas have a prodigal variety and a closeness of expression which we do not seem to have elsewhere met in music bald of instrumental adjuncts. We wait to learn whether the ear will ever lose a certain impression of crudity and discomfort attaching to them, which is ascribable to the tremendous and gratuitous difficulty of their author's manner of writing. Having a mass of voices under his hand, Sebastian Bach seems to have moulded this very much as he would have moulded a mass of instruments, and either wilfully or witlessly to have neglected the special powers and beauties belonging to the style of composition selected. This is not greatness; any more than it would be greatness in a *fresco* painter to strain after oil effects, or in an oil painter to confine himself to the simplicity of *fresco*. It is a fault arising from want of knowledge and want of opportunity, which does not cease to be a fault though a Bach or a Beethoven perpetrates it. But the characteristic (if characteristic it prove) though it must limit the popularity does not diminish the interest of this remarkable ancient music; while it quickens our gratitude to any body of persons willing to bestow time and pains in enabling the connoisseur to judge it as all music must finally be judged—by the eye, first,—but lastly, by the ear.

**ROYAL ITALIAN OPERA.**—To listeners, both amusement and instruction lie in the fact that controversy is now as busy in London regarding the merits of M. Halévy as it was fifteen years ago in Paris when 'La Juive' was produced. After 'La Juive,' the next opera brought forward was 'Les Huguenots;' but M. Meyerbeer's brilliant success did not utterly efface that of M. Halévy,—in spite, moreover, of the attacks and doubts aforesaid. The work thus cradled in the midst of scolding, having in its youth made the tour of France and Italy, comes in its maturity to London; and some among the English faculty are still undecided whether its writer is to rank as a composer or not.

For ourselves we have little doubt; but so

largely have we written concerning M. Halévy on former occasions [*vide Athen.* Nos. 979, 1111, 1122, &c.], that we will not here discuss again his manner, nor again point out in detail why its very consonance with French sympathies may have in it something discordant to English ones.—We will not again reply to those who object that "there is no melody" in M. Halévy's music, how easily the complaint may be applied to other more favorite composers, whose melody will not speak to those who have not mastered its alphabet:—in this, differing from the spontaneous tunes of the Mozarts and Rossinis. Let us simply call attention to the fact, that "without melody" (*argumenti gratia*) 'La Juive' keeps the stage; whereas other operas, not undramatic in story either,—witness Donizetti's 'Don Sebastian' and 'Les Martyrs,' written for the same theatre—do not. On this truth for basis, it may be predicated that the music must possess individualities and characteristics which should rescue it from wholesale condemnation, to state its claims at the lowest figure. This done, we may turn from our share of the strife of opinions to the specialities of the present execution of 'La Juive.' With regard to one important feature in the cast, Signor Mario's *Lazaro*, we have been disappointed. This day week he looked too young—he sang imperfectly—he acted very little—he had, in short, neither put on the Jew nor learnt the music; and accordingly he produced less effect than Signor Maraldi did on the Thursday previous. On Tuesday he was more perfect and more energetic, yet still not satisfactory. Signor Tamberlik's *Leopoldo* is good, though (as was to be felt in the case of his *Roberto*) he will require further apprenticeship in French opera ere he arrives at that sharpness of accent and close attention to detail which are indispensable to its execution. Herr Formes is not so good a *Cardinal* as M. Zelger, who took the part on Saturday evening, owing to the Herr's indisposition. There is not a hair of the calm, high-bred, grave yet not passionless Churchman on the head of the German *basso*, who droned out the ponderous music of his part as though he would never bring it to an end. Mlle. Vera, vexatiously enough, seemed to come to a stand-still some two or three operas ago, and has not stepped forward as the *Princess Eudossia*:—a part which, though a secondary one, admits of elegant singing and dignified behaviour.—Madame Viardot's *Rachele*, seen after her *Zerlina*, her *Fides*, her *Desdemona*, justifies the most exigent critic in giving her henceforth blank credit as an operatic artist of all styles of music,—as an actress whether of tragedy or of comedy. The pure *soprano* music of which *Rachele*'s part mainly consists gave us occasion to hear how much Madame Viardot's voice has steadied itself,—has become sweeter and more flexible by practice. Her declamation was what hers always is. Her acting is incomparable. Though the part is full of such situations and effects as tempt the mediocre to commonplace and the superior to eccentricity, Madame Viardot contrives to go through it without a single foreseen burst or attitude—without the slightest melo-dramatic violence repulsive to taste. The intense yet girlish passion of a fervid nature, cherished by one of a proscribed race, is to be felt in the first two acts,—in the third, the reckless vengeance of an outraged heart,—in the fourth, the recoil from this upon the high thoughts which must belong to deep and sincere love, and which make forgiveness its only revenge,—in the fifth, the terror of death. The manner in which, while the dismal funeral Psalm was sung on the place of execution, the victim moved across the stage to her father, paralyzed by the real and near horror of her doom—her limbs scarce able to sustain her,—and the low, hollow tone of her 'Ho paura,' as she nestled close to him,—were art of that highest order in which with all that is most appalling there is still mingled an element of beauty. So admirably youthful, so orientally coloured, too, was the general demeanour of Madame Viardot's *Rachele*, as to make it hard to conceive how its representative could only the other night have been the Flemish burgher heroine.—We have merely room to add, that the scenic splendours of 'La Juive' are greater than is ordinary even at the Royal Italian Opera.

**OLYMPIC.**—This theatre was re-opened on Monday, for six nights, under the management of Mr. George Bolton. The experiment has been tried for the purpose of testing the merits of an Elizabethan play by Mr. J. Marston,—'The Malcontent,' which has the advantage of having for its hero a sarcastic character whose satire is sure to tell. The part was undertaken by Mr. James Johnstone,—who had here an opportunity of trying his talents on a scale hitherto denied him. He got through the task respectably. The rest of the play was tolerably well done. Suffice it, that the audience were pleased,—and at the conclusion summoned the *extempore* manager and the principal performer before the curtain.

**ST. JAMES'S.**—*Mrs. Kemble's Readings.*—Mrs. Fanny Kemble,—as the late Mrs. Butler styled herself—last Monday began a series of Shakspearian Readings:—the play of 'The Tempest' being selected for the first. She was in more than usual vigour,—and accomplished her task with power and effect. The sustained elocution of her school is well adapted for dramatic readings. It brings out the poetic meanings into vivid relief. Mrs. Kemble was careful to vary her style and tone with each character; and did this so skilfully that the different speakers could be distinguished without their names being constantly announced. Mrs. Kemble's comic powers are considerable,—and she gave the scenes between *Caliban*, *Trinculo*, and *Stephano* with force and humour. Perhaps these passages were the best interpreted in the play;—but all were artistically managed. On Wednesday Mrs. Kemble read the 'Midsummer Night's Dream,'—and with like ability. Her delivery of this, with its three groups—of the lovers—the mechanics—the fairies—was rarely discriminated, passionately—genially—musically touched. It is a pity that these choice entertainments have commenced at so late a period of the season. Mrs. Kemble appears at once to hazard herself more variously, and to finish more exquisitely than she did when last she read Shakspeare in London.

**MUSICAL AND DRAMATIC GOSSIP.**—In addition to the singers already announced as engaged for the Gloucester Festival, which is to commence on the 17th of next month, we perceive that Miss Lucombe, Miss Dolby, Miss M. Williams, Mr. Sims Reeves, Mr. Lockey, Mr. H. Phillips, Mr. Lawler, and Herr Formes, are engaged. We apprehend, as regards works to be performed, no musical novelty is to be expected.

By a communication from the *Sacred Harmonic Society* we learn that the extensive alterations in progress at Exeter Hall (which were eminently needed to make it a good music room) are expected to be completed "about the last week in October."

M. Halévy has contributed to the *Constitutionnel* a warm panegyric on the *Opéra* 'Giralda, ou la Nouvelle Psyché,' just produced by MM. Scribe and Adam at the *Opéra Comique* of Paris last season.

The solitary scrap of news worth transcribing from this week's *Gazette Musicale* is, that yet another 'Deluge,' by M. le Comte Capstelbarco, has been produced at the *Teatro Carcano* at Milan.

Madame Boulanger is dead,—the Mrs. Glover of the Paris *Opéra Comique*. Our neighbours, in their musical comedies, cherish *dramatis personæ* of a maturity not known on any other musical stage, save among the background figures. So often as we think of the good lady in question, with hardly a note of voice left, but overflowing with quaint humour, and willingly turning her years and ill looks to the utmost account, with a readiness to be absurd, if the part needed, which even a Lablache could not outdo, so often as we recollect her *Madame Bernier*, in 'L'Ambassadrice,' and her *La Bocchetta* in 'Polichinelle,' some of our most comic operatic impressions will be revived. Madame Boulanger was buried on Thursday week:—all the corps of the *Opéra Comique* assisting at her obsequies, which were celebrated in the church of Notre Dame de Lorette.

On her way towards England,—we suppose within the next seven or eight days—Mlle. Lind is expected to sing at Wiesbaden, at a concert given by



M. Vivier. This intimation may be welcome to some of the Rhine tourists; whose number, we are told, is this year to be very great.

About this period of the season the Opera gossips generally begin "to stir and to quicken,"—and they are not less busy in 1850 than they were in 1849. The only authentic news, however, which has reached us, states that Mdle. de Meric is engaged for next year at *Her Majesty's Theatre*.

Being requested to announce that Mdle. Anna Zerr intends visiting London next season, we do so accordingly,—mentioning, in addition, that the note containing this piece of news, forwarded by a friend for publication, favours us with a most flattering account of this Lady's gifts as a singer and an actress.—Somewhat too much of this. The open and indefatigable praise with which German *cantatrici* are wont to herald and to present themselves to those who are supposed to have influence over the English public seems now becoming so much a habit, that it may be openly commented on without indelicacy or undue severity towards any individual. As the *Athenæum* has readers in Germany, it is possible that a general remark on the subject may have its use, and may prevent future ladies from arriving under a disadvantage so heavy as that complained of. Mdle. Zerr bears too high a reputation for her to stand in need of underhand puffery from those "who do not wish their names to appear"; and we mention the practice, in her case, precisely because we believe that she is less in want of it than many of the harsh and tuneless *prime donne* who hope by aid thereof, circulated among the journalists, to pass for "nightingales, larks, or linnets" in the concert-rooms and theatres of London.

On Wednesday evening last, a body of amateurs gave a performance at the Soho Theatre, in aid of a fund for relieving the necessities of Mr. George Stephens,—well known in dramatic circles as the author of 'The Patriot' and other tragedies, and in general literary society as the author of 'The Manuscripts of Erdeley.'—The pieces selected for the occasion were, Shakspeare's play of 'Henry the Fourth,' Part I,—the last act of Mr. Stephens's tragedy of 'Martinuzzi,'—and the *petite comedy* of 'Time Tries All.' The performances took place under the auspices of a body of literary men and dramatists who are combined to bring Mr. Stephens's unfortunate case under the notice of the public.—Were it not our rule to consider performances under such circumstances as these exempt from criticism, we could say much for the way in which the pieces were got up and the parts filled at this little theatre. But it is only by adhering to our rule of indulgence in cases where it is not needed, that we can make it effectual in those cases for which it is established.

**MISCELLANEA**

*Coffins of Baked Clay of the Chaldeans.*—Mr. Kennet Loftus, the first European who has visited the ancient ruins of Warka in Mesopotamia, and who is attached to the surveying staff of Colonel Williams, appointed to settle the question of the boundary line between Turkey and Persia, writes thus:—"Warka is no doubt the Erech of Scripture, the second city of Nimrod, and it is the Orchoe of the Chaldees. The mounds within the walls afford subjects of high interest to the historian and antiquarian; they are filled, nay, I may say, they are literally composed of coffins, piled upon each other to the height of forty-five feet. It has, evidently, been the great burial-place of generations of Chaldeans, as Meshad Ali and Kerbella at the present day are of the Persians. The coffins are very strange affairs; they are in general form like a slipper-bath, but more depressed and symmetrical, with a large oval aperture to admit the body, which is closed with a lid of earthenware. The coffins themselves are also of baked clay, covered with green glaze, and embossed with figures of warriors, with strange and enormous coiffures, dressed in a short tunic and long under garments, a sword by the side, the arms resting on the hips, the legs apart. Great quantities of pottery and also clay figures, some most delicately modelled, are found around them; and ornaments of gold, silver, iron, copper, glass, &c. within.—*Art-Journal*.

*St. Bartholomew of the Exchange, London.*—The western gallery of the new church of St. Bartholomew of the Exchange, re-erected under the direction of Professor Cockerell, in Moor Lane, Fore Street, presents a new and agreeable architectural feature, and obviates a perspective defect evident in most of the city churches in this style on entering the church from the western door. The front pew in the centre is omitted; the second and third pews, raised upon an arch, are thrown into one, forming a choir gallery in front of the organ. The sacrifice of actual space is therefore small, but the scenic advantage is considerable; for, on entering the western door of the church, the whole interior to the east end is discovered through this triumphal arch,—forming in itself a frame to the picture, and thus obviating that perspective error which commonly obstructs this view, and mars the architectural effect, by the continuation of the beam of the western gallery. From the church itself this arch, surmounted by the organ and the choir gallery, forms a highly architectural feature: underneath the soffit of the arch the font is placed, appropriately as respects its canonical position. The old fittings, organ, font, &c. of the original church have been re-employed to the best advantage; but in a new structure we foresee a variety of applications of this hint, which our readers will not fail to appreciate.—*Builder*.

*Lewiston and Queenston Suspension Bridge.*—This bridge, which when completed will be by many feet the longest in the world in one clear span, has recently been put under contract by the joint companies holding the charters from the New York and British Governments. Capt. E. W. Serrell has been appointed the engineer to carry the project out to completion. The bridge will connect the shores of the Niagara River at Lewiston, New York, and Queenston, Canada West, and will be 1,042 feet between the points of support; the roadway will be 75 feet above the water, 19 feet wide, and will be capable of sustaining a load of 800 tons. The towers of support are to be built of hydraulic masonry, surmounted with cast-iron caps, which are 76 feet above the roadway. The natural advantages of the locality are so great, that it is estimated to cost much less than so large a work would in almost any other place. It is proposed to have it so far completed by September that it may be opened for travellers going to the provincial fair.—*Architect*.

*The Industrial Exhibition of 1851.*—The *Art-Journal* recommends for consideration that some portion of the surplus likely to arise from the profits of the Exposition be expended in the purchase of a selection from the best of those foreign productions in which we are excelled, and that these should be sent round to the different provincial towns in which those branches are prominently carried on. "Let the best available specimens of Sèvres and Dresden porcelain, together with examples of the delicate manipulation of the Orientals, be sent to the Staffordshire potteries; the choicest metallurgical works, together with the lacquered ware of China and Japan, to Birmingham and other towns eminently the seat of those manufactures; Persian shawls of the Keron wool, those of Cashmere and Delhi, with the muslins of Decca, Chunderee, &c. to Manchester, Paisley, &c. &c. In towns where museums are already formed these examples might be deposited as heir-looms; and where at present they are without those advantages, the hope of securing such valuable deposits will be mainly instrumental in causing their speedy establishment. The results to the practical operative classes attending the examination and repeated observation of the best products of their separate trades, would be of a most salutary and immediate nature. Access to the works should be ready, and investigation into the processes which have achieved the successes invited, encouraged and assisted. Volumes of description fail to convey to the general mind what one glance of the actual object will presently reveal. This is the practical teaching so much required; it is not only the most permanently effective, but is also the most readily imparted and most thoroughly understood."

TO CORRESPONDENTS.—W. W.—A Constant Reader.—M. B.—M. H. B.—R. V.—received.

F. H.—This Correspondent will find some remarks on the subject to which he alludes in our columns next week, if the pressure of other matter will permit.

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**ROYAL AGRICULTURAL COLLEGE, GLOUCESTER.** THE SUMMER SESSION will commence on SATURDAY, the 17th of AUGUST, 1850. New Students are required to attend for examination on the preceding day. Those who purpose entering as Students for the ensuing Session are requested to apply (either by letter or personally) to the Principal, at the College, Gloucester, Gloucestershire, for the necessary Admission Papers. London Office, PHILIP BOWES, Secretary. 22, King William-street, West Strand.

## CAVENDISH SOCIETY.

THE MEMBERS of this SOCIETY are informed that the FOURTH VOLUME of GMELIN'S CHEMISTRY, the first of the books issued for 1850, is now ready for distribution. Members who have not yet paid the Subscription are requested to forward the amount to the Secretary, either directly, or through the Local Secretaries or Town Collector. THEOPHILUS REDWOOD, Secretary. 19, Montague-street, Russell-square.

## SOCIETY OF ARTS.—SPECIAL PRIZE-LIST for 1850 and 1851.

The intimate connexion of the Society of Arts with the Exhibition of the Works of Industry of all Nations in 1851, which is a subject of congratulation to the Members of the Society, as the successful enlargement of an idea the Society has long aimed to realize, has appeared to the Council to render altogether superfluous any attempt on the part of the Society to pursue its ordinary course for the encouragement of Arts, Manufactures and Commerce by the offer of its usual Prizes for the Session of 1850 and 1851.

The Council have therefore considered how they might most usefully apply that portion of the revenue of the Society to the particular circumstances of the year. The Council are of opinion that the most useful work they can undertake, and one they believe to be strictly auxiliary to the views of their Royal President, H.R.H. the Prince Albert, and Her Majesty's Commissioners for the Exhibition, will be to encourage the production of philosophical Treatises on the various departments of the Exhibition, which shall set forth the peculiar advantages to be derived from each to the Arts, Manufactures, and Commerce of the country.

The Council accordingly offer, in the name of the Society, the large Medal and twenty-five pounds for the best Treatise on the small Medal and ten pounds for the second best Treatise on the objects exhibited in the section of Raw Materials and Produce.

A large Medal and twenty-five pounds for the best, and a small Medal and ten pounds for the second best Treatise on the objects exhibited in the section of Machinery.

A large Medal and twenty-five pounds for the best, and a small Medal and ten pounds for the second best Treatise on the objects exhibited in the section of Manufactures.

A large Medal and twenty-five pounds for the best, and a small Medal and ten pounds for the second best Treatise on the objects exhibited in the section of Fine Arts.

Each Treatise must occupy, and not exceed, eighty pages of the size of the Bridgewater Treatises.

The Society will also award its large Medal and twenty-five pounds for the best general Treatise upon the Exhibition treated commercially, politically, and statistically; and small medals for the best treatises on any special object or class of objects exhibited.

The Treatises for which rewards are given are to be the property of the Society; and if deemed suitable for publication, should the Council see fit they will cause the same to be printed and published, and will award to the author the net amount of any profits which may arise from the publication after the payment of the expenses.

The Treatises to be delivered at the Society's House on or before the 30th of June 1851.

In announcing this List, there is no intention on the part of the Council to confine the rewards of the Society to the subjects named there; though, for the reasons given, they do not anticipate that communications of interest on other subjects will be submitted. GEORGE GROVE, Secretary. 12, John-street, Adelphi, August 8, 1850.

**EDUCATION.—ENGLISH, FRENCH, and GERMAN EDUCATION.**—The Principals of a long-established LADIES' SCHOOL in the vicinity of London, offer to a Young Lady of genteel connections a liberal Education, founded on Christian principles, combined with the domestic comforts of home, on moderate and moderate terms, and, of course, free, to P. S. Mr. SLOPER, Stationer, 47, Holborn-hill, London.

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**TESTIMONIAL TO 'DR. CONOLLY.'**—At a Meeting held at 12, Old Burlington-street, Saturday, August 3, 1850. The Right Hon. LORD ASHLEY in the Chair. The following Resolutions, among others, were unanimously agreed to:—

That Dr. JOHN CONOLLY, of Hanwell, is eminently entitled to some public mark of esteem and gratitude, for his long, zealous, disinterested, and most successful labours in ameliorating the treatment of the Insane.

That a Committee be now formed, to make arrangements for the presentation to Dr. Conolly, of a Public Testimonial, commemorative of his invaluable services in the cause of humanity, and expressive of the just appreciation of those services by his numerous friends and admirers, and by the public generally. That the most appropriate Testimonial will be a PORTRAIT of Dr. Conolly, by which he is best remembered, and which is presented to his Family, and an ENGRAVING of the same, to be presented to the Subscribers.

Individual Subscriptions are to be limited to Five Guineas; Subscribers of Two Guineas and upwards will receive a Proof Impression of the Engraving; and Subscribers of One Guinea, a Print. Subscribers' names and subscriptions will be received by the Secretaries, at 12, Old Burlington-street, and to Burlington-gardens; and by the Treasurers, at the Union Bank, London, Regent-street Branch. Post-office Orders should be made payable at the Post-office, Piccadilly, to one of the Secretaries.

JOHN FORBES, RICHARD FRANKUM, Secretaries. **WEDDING and ADDRESS CARDS.—Silver** Enamel Envelopes—Breakfast Invitations—"At Home" Notes, &c., in the latest fashion and perfection—Stamping in Silver, Brilliance, &c., unequalled for heraldic correctness and brilliancy—French Enamel backed Cards, as in Paris. Crest Dies engraved without charge where the worth of Stationery is taken. A Ream of Paper and 500 Envelopes, stamped with any Crest, for 21s., including every charge—H. DORRIS, 56, Regent-street, Quadrant, three doors from County Fire Office.

## TO the AFFLUENT and CHARITABLE.

THE WIDOW of a late highly respectable member of the LEGAL PROFESSION, has, owing to circumstances over which neither her late Husband nor herself had any control, been left with Seven Children totally unprovided for. Having some local interest at Adelaide, in South Australia, she is anxious to emigrate to that place with her Family, and most humbly and confidently appeals to a generous Public to assist her in this undertaking. Subscriptions will be thankfully received at the London and Westminster Bank, St. James's-square; by the Rev. T. Dale, M.A., Vicar of St. Pancras, Russell-square; the Rev. S. Benson, B.A., 11, Anchor-terrace, Southwark Bridge-road; F. E. Hicks, Esq., 7, Henrietta-street, Cavendish-square; B. Muriel, Esq., Wellington-street, London Bridge; J. P. Fearon, Esq., 21, Great George-street, Westminster; G. M. Clode, Esq., 7, Staple Inn, and Messrs. Clutton & Ade, High-street, Southwark, who have kindly consented to vouch for the urgency and respectability of the application.

**EDWARD J. MILLIKEN,** FOREIGN BOOKSELLER, 15, COLLEGE GREEN, DUBLIN.

**SUTHERLAND HOUSE,** Upper Lansdowne-terrace, NOTTING HILL, ESTABLISHMENT FOR YOUNG LADIES, conducted by Mrs. and Miss HUTCHINS.—THE INTRODUCTORY LECTURE will be delivered by TREVELYAN SPICER, M.A., on THURSDAY, the 15th instant, at 5 P.M. Subject, 'The Philosophy of Education.'—Invitations to be obtained by application to the Lecturer or Principal, as above.

**ACCOUNTS.**—A Gentleman, experienced in BANKING and INSURANCE ACCOUNTS, is open to an ENGAGEMENT for two hours daily, to keep (or adjust) Accounts either for a Company or Private Gentleman. Terms One Guinea per week.—Address, pre-paid, to F. P. care of Mr. STRAKER, Bookseller, 3, Adelaide-street, West Strand.

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**TO CONTINENTAL TOURISTS.**—A Gentleman of independent fortune is meditating a Tour through the Southern States of Germany to Greece and Constantinople, and from thence to Egypt for the winter, passing on to Syria, &c. He would be glad to meet with a TRAVELLING COMPANION who would accompany him in such an expedition, and would wish to combine information with amusement, and bear a fair share of the ordinary travelling expenses. The Advertiser purposes setting out in the course of three weeks, and continuing abroad seven or eight months according to circumstances. Letters addressed to A. B. Messrs. BELL, Broomfield & Co., Bow Churchyard, London, will be duly acknowledged, and personal application attended to.

**TO COUNTRY BOOKSELLERS.**—Mr. WHITE presents his compliments to his brethren in the Provincial Towns and Cities, and will be glad to RECEIVE their CATALOGUES OF SECOND-HAND BOOKS as soon as published, when the same can be forwarded free of expense. 24, Pall Mall, August, 1850.

**FOR SALE.—A COMPOUND ACHROMATIC MICROSCOPE,** with powers up to 400 linear. Quite new. Price 8l.—Also, a Three-and-a-half-inch ACHROMATIC TELESCOPE, 24 inch aperture, with one day, and three astronomical powers. Price 12l. 10s.; and a GALVANIC COIL MACHINE, with Battery, complete. Nearly new. Price 1l. 12s.—Address P. Q., 3, Albion-terrace, Woodbridge-road, Ipswich.

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**TO ARTISTS and OTHERS.—FOR SALE,** at Meids Hill, Paddington, a moderate-sized HOUSE, with STUDIO (detached). The house contains double dining-room, drawing-room 16 by 12, four bedrooms, kitchen, larder, scullery, and two water-closets, with garden back and front; the whole in thorough repair. The Studio and Picture Gallery consist of two large rooms, the principal of which is 25 by 16; they have appropriate fittings, and are well lighted with skylights. Both premises to be sold for 800l., with immediate possession.—Apply to Mr. ALFRED COX, Auctioneer, 108, New Bond-street.

**THE LION HUNTER.** COPIES of 'The LION HUNTER,' and every other recent Work of interest, remain for SALE or HIRE at MURDIN'S ELECTRIC LIBRARY, in Upper King-street, Bloomsbury-square. The Secretaries of Public Institutions and Book Societies may obtain Prospectuses of this extensive Library on application. Terms of Subscription from One to Fifty Guineas per Annum.

Public Library, Conduit-street. **READING and BOOK SOCIETIES.** THE BEST MODE for the Establishment and Supply of Reading and Book Societies in Town and Country, is that detailed in a little Work recently published, entitled, 'Hints for the Formation of Reading and Book Societies,' which is sent gratis and post free to orders inclosing two stamps, addressed, Messrs. SAUNDERS & O'LEY, Publishers, Conduit-street.

**LONDON, BRIGHTON, and SOUTH COAST RAILWAY.—ADDITIONAL EXPRESS TRAIN.**—On and after SATURDAY, the 10th instant, and until further notice, an ADDITIONAL EXPRESS TRAIN will leave London Bridge Station FOR BRIGHTON every Afternoon (except Sundays at 4 o'clock, arriving at Brighton at 5 P.M.). FREDERICK SLIGHT, Secretary. London Terminus, August 7, 1850.



## WILLIAM WORDSWORTH.

At a MEETING, held at the House of Mr. JUSTICE COLERIDGE, on Monday, the 13th of May,—

The LORD BISHOP OF LONDON in the Chair,—

It was Resolved,—

That a Subscription be raised to do honour to the Memory of WILLIAM WORDSWORTH, and that a Committee be appointed to carry this object into effect.

The Committee having met at the same place, on the 10th of June,—

A. J. B. HOPE, Esq. M.P. in the Chair,—

It was Resolved,—

That the objects of the Subscription be

1. To place a whole-length effigy of Wordsworth in Westminster Abbey.

2. If possible, to erect some Monument to his Memory in the neighbourhood of Grasmere, Westmoreland.

## Committee.

## THE LORD BISHOP OF LONDON, Chairman.

His Grace the Duke of Argyll.  
The Chevalier Bunsen.  
The Lord John Manners, M.P.  
The Lord Lindsay.  
The Lord Bishop of St. David's.  
The Lord Bishop of Oxford.  
The Lord Lyttelton.  
The Lord Montagu.  
The Right Hon. W. E. Gladstone, M.P.  
The Right Hon. Sir James Stephen, K.C.B.  
The Hon. R. Cavendish.  
The Hon. S. Spring Rice.  
The Hon. Mr. Justice Coleridge.  
The Hon. Mr. Baron Rolfe.  
The Hon. Mr. Justice Talbot.  
Sir Archibald Edmonstone, Bart.  
Sir Robert H. Inglis, Bart. M.P.  
Sir F. H. Doyle, Bart.  
Sir Benjamin Brodie, Bart.  
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The Rev. the Master of Trinity.  
The Rev. the Master of St. John's.  
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Philip B. Duncan, Esq.  
W. Dyce, Esq. R.A.  
C. L. Eastlake, Esq. R.A.  
Frederick Eliott, Esq.  
Copley Fielding, Esq.

The Committee appointed the following gentlemen a Sub-Committee, with power to add to their number, to superintend and carry on the details.

The Lord Bishop of St. David's.  
The Hon. Mr. Justice Coleridge.  
The Ven. Archdeacon Hare.  
W. Butterfield, Esq.  
W. Strickland Cookson, Esq.  
W. Dyce, Esq. R.A.  
C. L. Eastlake, Esq. R.A.  
Copley Fielding, Esq.

WILLIAM BOXALL, Esq. 14, Welbeck-street, Cavendish-square, and JOHN DUKE COLERIDGE, Esq. 26, Park-crescent, have consented to act as Secretaries; to whom all communications may be addressed.

Subscriptions will be received by the Secretaries, and at Messrs. Herries, Farquhar & Co., 16, St. James's-street; Messrs. Hoare & Co., Fleet-street; Messrs. Twining, 215, Strand; Messrs. Barnard & Dimdale, 50, Cornhill; Mr. Moxon, Publisher, 44, Dover-street; Also by Messrs. Macmillan, Booksellers, Cambridge; Mr. J. Parker, Bookseller, Oxford; and Mr. Simms, 16, St. Anne's-square, Manchester, who have consented to act as Local Secretaries.

## List of Subscriptions.

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LONDON, SATURDAY, AUGUST 10, 1850.

## REVIEWS

*The History of the Papal States, from their Origin to the Present Day.* By the Rev. John Miley, D.D., Author of 'Rome under Paganism and the Popes.' 3 vols. Newby.

IN a very long and very unnecessary Preface, the author of this book tells us that it is an attempt to supply what has been hitherto a desideratum in European literature. "Histories of the Roman Catholic Church," he says, "there are, of all sorts, in every dialect and in every form;" and, though there is still no perfect history of the Popes, yet "the series of Papal biographies may also be regarded as tolerably complete." But "a history of that region of Central Italy—of that realm over which the Popes have swayed the sceptre for more than a thousand years,—one may search for in vain. In no language, dead or living,—in no shape, whether as a consecutive narrative or as a digest of materials,—under no title, is any such work to be met with." Again, a few lines further on, he says, "Let the question be put to the most eminent bibliopols of London, Paris, Vienna, Rome,—their answer will be, there is no such book as a History of the Papal States. Make the round of the great libraries, from the British Museum to the Vatican, the answer will be still the same."

After such a flourish of trumpets, we naturally expect something valuable. Nor does the author promise little. Though presenting his volumes to the public "with a most oppressive sense of their faults and defects,"—and though conscious that he possesses "no magic wand that, on a sudden, could metamorphose a howling wilderness into a paradise,"—he yet believes that "he has done a good deal in the way of those preliminaries without which the genius even of a Michael Angelo could not proceed with a superstructure. The foundations of the history he has excavated thoroughly: he flatters himself he has made some approximation to the proper plan. That (beginning in the Catacombs and closing with the Earl Mount-Edgcumbe's pamphlet) he has searched up, collected, sifted, and reduced to something like order and appropriate grouping an immense mass of solid, authentic materials, he has no shadow of doubt whatever." This good opinion of his book, so very modestly drummed into the reader by the author at the outset, (and we think it was very prudent of him to do it there, seeing that it would have been more difficult for him to obtain belief for the same statement at the close,) is somewhat shaken, however, by a candid announcement made in the Preface itself as to the manner in which the book was composed.—

"Happening [he says] to be at Rome in the year 1833, for the recovery of his health, he occupied his leisure with some studies and researches as to the contrasts and reciprocal relations of Rome under Paganism and under the Popes. In the course of these studies he became sensible of the deficiency referred to; and although the idea of attempting to supply it did not for a moment so much as cross his mind, and was never seriously thought of by him until a very recent period, nevertheless, such odds and ends of leisure as the active duties of a missionary career in Ireland left within his reach were from that time to the present so assiduously devoted to investigating the sources of what he ever regarded as a branch of the human annals as momentous as it is extraordinary, that when he was prompted by recent events in Rome to actually set foot, in the way of composition, on the untrodden region, he found that his materials—in the form of notes, and extracts, and sketches—had so accumulated for the entire cycle of two thousand years, that the chief difficulty to be contended with in the attempt to execute his task

was, not to discover materials for his book, but to compress those he had ready at hand into something of a reasonable compass."

In the actual composition of the book, however, it seems he laboured under "many and singular disadvantages." Of these, he will "obtrude only one on the attention of his readers;" to wit, that "at the outset he found himself in this dilemma—either to commit to the flames the notes from which these volumes have been written, or to complete the task of composition within six months." What special combination of circumstances it was that gave rise to this cruel dilemma, he does not inform us, farther than by hinting that the fact of his being one, of those that were "drawn most deeply into the hideous vortex of misery during the Irish famine of 1849," had something to do with it. The first volume, it appears, was already finished when that terrible calamity occurred; then, for two months, during which he had to give his mind to other and more harassing occupations, the work of composition was interrupted. The second volume was commenced, however, "on the 15th of August 1849; and, until the postscript of the third was written, on the 15th of January 1850, the author's pastime consisted, exclusively, in the transition from the process of arranging his notes in something like a rude narrative to that very entertaining process of correcting the press."

We call attention so particularly to these gratuitous communications of Dr. Miley respecting the gestation of his book, partly because they are themselves characteristic,—the same boastful and egotistic style being kept up, under another guise, throughout the work; partly because it is purely on account of its being one of the most flagrant examples of literary delinquency we have ever met with,—and not on account of its special merits or demerits as a 'History of the Papal States,' that we have resolved to notice the book at all.

And, first, we think our readers will agree with us that the public can take no cognizance of such excuses for bad or imperfect literary workmanship as that offered by Dr. Miley. There are cases, indeed,—as, for instance, in the preparation of an official Report on any sudden emergency,—where the public may allow for faults or defects occasioned by hurry; but it is not so with a literary composition, properly so called. What the public demands is a good book. It cares nothing about the methods by which an author may have proceeded in his attempt to supply this want,—nothing about the obstacles he may have had to encounter. These are his own business; and it is to be considered that every author has settled with himself whether his opportunities have been sufficient for his purpose before he produces his book for public inspection at all. How fast he had to write it,—how he was interrupted by illness, by domestic affliction, or by other occupations,—how the printer dogged him at the heels,—all these are matters that may be interesting to his private friends, and may render them indulgent in their criticisms: but to the plea of hurry as a ground for lenient judgment, the public is, and ought to be, sternly deaf.—There was no vehement necessity why Dr. Miley's book should exist: there was no particular mundane or national clamour for it,—as there was some time ago for a Report on Cholera from the Board of Health. There was nothing to make it incumbent on Dr. Miley to take such very vigorous measures with himself in the process of getting it up. The public could very well have waited his leisure. In short, in the dilemma in which Dr. Miley says he was placed last year, of committing his notes

to the flames or completing the task of composition within six months, we greatly fear that he selected the selfish instead of the philanthropic alternative.

At first, while reading the author's Preface, we were led, notwithstanding the somewhat offensive egotism to which we have already alluded, to conceive a prepossession in his favour; occasioned in part, it may be, by the very strength of his apparent self-confidence,—but more especially, we think, by our liking for the plan of his work as clumsily pre-announced by him, though still in language indicating some theoretic sense of its merits. As this is really the best thing we have discovered in the whole book, we think it fair to give Dr. Miley the full benefit of it. The following are the passages referred to.—

"An idea sufficiently clear and comprehensive, with respect to the author's mode of viewing his subject, may be conveyed in a very few words, on each of its two great constituent features, viz., the theatre of the events, and the drama which these events compose. And, first, as to the theatre of the events: we have not hesitated to lay great stress on the description of it, in its entire extent, and in great detail. We have endeavoured, in short, to place it in every light that we thought could help the reader to feel himself perfectly at home in the territory, and to carry with him, throughout, a conception as vivid and truthful as possible of the scenery and other accessory circumstances of peculiarity, in the midst of which the historic actions and occurrences take place. \* \* For, if it be at all a legitimate object of history,—as it most undoubtedly is a lofty and important object,—in some sort to reproduce the successive generations, events, and revolutions of which it treats, and cause them once more, with as much as possible of life-like circumstance, to pass before the imagination of the reader, how is this effect to be obtained, if the *dramatis personæ* are introduced on any sort of platform, no matter how commonplace, without heeding in the least whether the scenery harmonize or be at variance with the characters that play their parts? \* \* From the scenery, we pass to the drama itself; and of this it is sufficient to observe, that, disengaging ourselves at the outset from a labyrinth of what we can only regard as technical litigation, with reference to the precise instant at which the Popes became temporal sovereigns, we trace the tide of this dominion at once to its fountain-head; and in viewing it in its after development, we have endeavoured to throw ourselves into the centre of each of the great epochs or cycles into which its career, on being fully considered, is found to divide itself; and then, by grouping the figures and transactions round that centre, endeavour thus to bring the reader acquainted not only with the annals of this realm from century to century, or from cycle to cycle, but also to picture each epoch as to its own characteristic identity, without losing sight of the unity and harmonious relations pervading the entire plot, and combining all the separate cycles like so many acts of the same drama."

Now this is a fair promise. A work prepared according to this plan would be a really good history of the Papal States.

But when we come to look at the execution—when we turn from Dr. Miley's boastful preface to the body of the work—our feeling of disappointment is the greater for our previous disposition to indulgence. The topographical survey of the Papal States, indeed, wherein, according to promise, Dr. Miley lays out the theatre of his intended History, we might allow to pass as a tolerably compiled repertory of facts relative to the central parts of Italy; though even here there is reason to complain of the unnecessary length of the survey for the purposes of the book (it occupies no fewer than 185 pages)—as well as of the total want of pictorial power displayed in the grouping of the facts, and the total absence of that perception of the interesting or characteristic in topographical details by which alone such surveys are pre-



vented from being mere wearisome trash. But it is in the history itself, in the pretended evolution of the great drama of the Papal fortunes, act after act,—or, as the author expresses it in his own big language, “from century to century” and “from cycle to cycle,”—that the worthlessness of the book and the hollowness of the author’s professions begin to be distinctly seen.—If it was a history of the Papal States that Dr. Miley intended to write, the intention must have slipped out of his mind almost as soon as he began to put it in execution. The history of the Papal States that we were entitled to expect from Dr. Miley, should have been a distinct narrative, in the first place, of the fortunes and social progress of that portion of Central Italy of which the Popes had become possessors; and in the next place of the gradual development of the theory of the Papacy itself in its relations with those States, as well as, through them, with the rest of the world. Nothing of this kind do we get from Dr. Miley. What we have instead is a collection of all kinds of odds and ends,—topographical, bibliographical, antiquarian, and ecclesiastical,—thrown together without care or order, and hardly even with sense,—and connected merely by this one circumstance, that they all do bear some reference or other to the Papacy or to Papal Rome. We have anecdotes and jejune sketches of the Popes, accounts of buildings in Rome, allusions to the state of the world everywhere, lists of the bishops who were present at certain ceremonies and processions, extracts without end from all kinds of books,—a few from old and original authorities, but the greater number from the most patent and accessible of modern writers, such as Robertson, Guizot, Gibbon, Sismondi, Ranke, Macaulay, Mariotti, Bulwer, Sir James Stephen, &c. &c.; and, in the midst of all this, an occasional piece of declamation, in the style that Sir Walter Scott used to name *bow-wow*, from the author’s own pen.

We cannot give a truer idea of the book than by saying that it appears to consist of the vapid contents of an ill-kept note-book emptied out into three printed volumes. The typographical appearance of the pages themselves, especially in the last two volumes, betrays this. Instead of a continuous text in which information is bedded or woven forth in an orderly manner by a painstaking author, we have mere loose paragraphs of miscellaneous rubbish put down any how, and often separated from each other, as in a note-book, by black lines drawn across the page. Nor is it as if the author, oppressed by the magnitude of the subject, and perceiving that the work of artistically combining his materials into a fluent narrative would—as in Gibbon’s case—be a work of many years, had determined simply to present the materials themselves, so as to suggest reflections of value in the mean time, and render the task of the future historian easier. Even in this case it would have been a gross misnomer to entitle the book ‘A History of the Papal States’;—still, as an accumulation of materials, it might have been worth something. But here we have no accumulation of materials capable of serving the slightest useful end. That Dr. Miley has “begun in the Catacombs and closed with the Earl Mount-Edgumbe’s pamphlet” is true enough; but that his route between these two points has been through “an immense mass of solid authentic materials” is a pure declaration of the author’s own. In contradiction to it, we would set up the declaration, that it has simply been through an old book or two, and a few modern popular essays:—and, through these, with a very moderate share of culture or intelligence.

In the first volume, indeed, there is a kind of

attempt to illustrate, or rather to assert that common and very probable theory of the origin of the temporal Papacy, which traces it to the spontaneous deposition of power from all sides in the hands of the successors of St. Peter; but after clearing this little portion of his task, the author breaks away into every possible manifestation of a mere propensity to book-stuffing. Hopping, as it were, along the series of Popes, and picking up in connexion with each any morsel of raw information that offers itself,—such, for example, as the fact of Charlemagne’s influence on the Papacy in the ninth, and the anti-papal efforts of the Cenci and others in the tenth century,—he hastens clamorously on to the age of Hildebrand, the greatest of the Papal heroes. “Hildebrand and his Age” is the subject of the greater portion of the latter half of the second volume. And here, where we should naturally expect that the author would exhibit his best, what does he do? He cries out that Hildebrand has been misrepresented, that he was a great man—a very great man; that he (Dr. Miley) will show that he was so by opposing extracts from his own (Hildebrand’s) letters to the ordinary accounts of him—(for are not letters the genuine evidences of a man’s character, the revelations of the soul of the man, as it were?) &c. &c. And then he transfers Sir James Stephen’s ‘Essay on Hildebrand,’ which appeared recently in the *Edinburgh Review*, and has since been republished, almost bodily, into his own pages,—on the pretext, forsooth, that as Sir James Stephen is a more disinterested witness than himself, his appreciation of Hildebrand will be less suspected of partiality! This is book-making with a vengeance! Nor is this the only instance of it. When he comes to the times of Dante, for example, he makes precisely the same kind of use of Mariotti’s popular work on Italy—quoting page after page of that writer’s account of the great Italian poet, and interfering no farther himself than occasionally to insert an exclamation—“How true!”—“This from an enemy to the Papacy!”—or such like. But in no part of the whole book is the method by which it has been got up more curiously illustrated than towards the close. Will it be believed that in this ‘History of the Papal States’ the Reformation occupies even nominally but ten or eleven pages,—while, in these, Luther’s name appears but in two or three sentences? Dr. Miley, already at the 470th page of his third volume when he reached this subject, was rushing on post haste to the termination which he had prescribed to himself,—namely, to a view of the modern state of the Papacy, in the shape of a rabid denunciation of the Carbonari, of the Italian liberals, and, above all, of the “firebrand” Mazzini and his “armed interlopers, who transformed the capital of the Christian world into something incomparably more horrible than a den of ravenous wild beasts.” Even here, where it might have been thought he would be able to supply a good quantity of the writing out of his own abundance of wrath, he is obliged, in his haste we suppose, to fill up his pages with quotations from the *Times* newspaper and from Mr. Mac Farlane’s book on Italy,—which latter he finds much to his taste, and which the bitterest enemy of the Papal supremacy must accept, he says, as trustworthy, seeing that Mr. Mac Farlane is, as he has heard, “a zealous member of the Kirk of Scotland,” and therefore “above the suspicion of being prejudiced” in favour of any Pope. And thus, at last, Dr. Miley finishes his tour from the Catacombs to Earl Mount-Edgumbe’s pamphlet.

The close of the book renders the object of the author sufficiently evident. Filled with a vehement antipathy to the cause of Italian

liberalism, and above all with a vehement hatred of the theory of a dissociation of the temporal from the spiritual power of the Popes, he resolved to discharge this antipathy and this hatred through a book (previously contemplated) that might be called ‘A History of the Papal States.’ That, even under such circumstances, his book is so bad, must be attributed to the author’s inherent deficiencies, to his want of real culture or real power of any effective kind. What, for example, shall we say of the culture of a man who, at this time of day, and even while ostentatiously quoting Niebuhr, exhibits such ignorance of Niebuhr’s ideas as to continue to talk of “the outlaw Romulus” as if he were a real personage, and of the murder of Remus as if that were a fact of history? Is it a man thus ignorant of the first principles of historical belief, thus poor and restricted in his intellectual grasp, who is to pass the grand career of the Papacy under review, or say the right word regarding such stupendous apparitions as a Charlemagne, a Hildebrand, or a Dante?

*A System of Aeronautics, comprehending its Earliest Investigations, and Modern Practice and Art. Designed as a History for the Common Reader, and Guide to the Student of the Art.* By John Wise, Aeronaut. Philadelphia, Speel.

“HE who can swim need not despair to fly,” said the Philosopher of Fleet Street, in his charming romance;—and the thought expressed is nearly as old as the hills. Dreamers in all ages have revived the theory of “man’s right to mount the skies,”—and from time to time science has held out a hope that the human brain might accomplish what the human heart so strongly wished. “It will be as common hereafter,” wrote the learned Bishop Wilkins, “for a man to call for his wings, when about to make a journey, as it is now to call for his boots and spurs.” The wings—at least, in the shape anticipated—have not yet come into general use,—and, indeed, it is now known that they would be an incumbrance. When anatomy discovered that the human frame would not supply muscular power sufficient to work appendages in the form of wings large enough to support it in the atmosphere, the discovery was felt as a sad rebuke to the upward aspirations,—as a fact which placed man in one respect, not only “a little lower than the angels,” but a little lower than the eagles. The desire to monopolize all the powers of nature—to swim like the fish, to fly like the birds, to walk the earth like the animals, to combine the strength of the lion with the swiftness of the horse—is inherent in man. He is not content to be the head. He strives to concentrate in his own person all the attributes of creation;—and in his own way he does so. Out of the fiery and the watery elements he has made himself wings,—the horse in its race and the eagle in its flight are left far in his rear,—and out of the lightnings of heaven he has created messengers who “put a girdle round about the earth in forty minutes” for his service.

The desire to fly is the dream of childhood. The history of aerial navigation has its mythical age, like other history,—its tales of wonder and mystery,—the flying pigeon of Archytas,—the story of the luckless aeronaut of the time of Nero,—and so forth. But it is only in modern times that the subject of air-sailing came to be popularly comprehended as different from magic and witchcraft, and to be pursued on scientific principles. Roger Bacon proposed to fly by means of thin copper globes filled with “ethereal air or liquid fire”:—and as the true nature of the atmosphere came to be understood by



the learned, numerous plans for flying were proposed. None, however, had much success until the Montgolfiers invented their balloon, in 1782. This at once turned the attention of the public and of learned bodies to the subject. The heated air with which the Montgolfiers inflated their machine soon gave place to the lighter hydrogen; and the possibility of carrying huge weights through the atmosphere was demonstrated by experiment. It is difficult to read the contemporary records of the state of public feeling in regard to this discovery without a smile. Geographical discovery had lost a portion of the romantic and absorbing interest which had attached to it in the time of the earlier voyagers,—but here was a new and grander field of operation. Columbus had discovered a new continent,—now men were about to find a new world! Voyages to the moon and planets began to be discussed as feasible matters. The new region of space opened up for the investigation of man was boundless—and the idea of scaling the heavens was popularly received in every coffee-house in Paris. Even science was startled from its calm attitude by this event. The genius of Europe turned to the Academy, as it had done to Seville in the days of Columbus,—and the *Conservatoire des Arts* was looked on as the point of embarkation for the skies.

Of course, this enthusiasm died away as the experiments proceeded; but aerial voyages retained some of their interest for the public after the first brilliant dreams had passed away in disappointment,—partly from their danger, and partly from the lurking idea that they might yet be turned to practical account. From both these causes, they are still attractive,—as the almost daily ascents from London prove. In America, Mr. Wise assures us, they are extremely popular; although as yet very little practical value has been extracted from them, in spite of the skill and intrepidity exhibited by the race of air-navigators.

From the account of a few remarkable voyages collected by Mr. Wise, we will present an extract or two. The following relates to the first trip across the sea ever attempted in a balloon.—

"The most remarkable aerial voyage that was made soon after the discovery of aerostatic machinery, was accomplished by M. Blanchard, in company with Dr. Jeffries, an American physician, who was at the time residing in England. On the 7th of January, 1785, in a clear frosty day, the balloon was launched from the cliff of Dover, and, after a somewhat perilous adventure, they crossed the Channel in something less than three hours. The balloon, after its release, rose slowly and majestically in the air; they passed over several ships, and enjoyed a grand prospect of the numerous objects below them. They soon, however, found themselves beginning to descend, which put them to the necessity of throwing over half their ballast, when they were about one-third way across the Channel. When they got about half way across they found themselves descending again, upon which they threw over the balance of their sand; also some books they had with them. All this failed to overcome the gravitating power of the balloon. They next commenced throwing overboard their apparatus—cords—grapples, and bottles. An empty bottle seemed to emit smoke as it descended, and, when it struck the water, the shock of the concussion was sensibly felt by the aeronauts. Still, their machine continued to descend, when they next betook themselves to throwing off their clothing; but, having now nearly reached the French coast, the balloon began to ascend again, and rose to a considerable height, without compelling them to dispense with much of their apparel. They passed over the highlands between Cape Blanc and Calais, and landed near the edge of the forest of Guignes, not far beyond Calais. The magistrates of the town treated the aerial travellers with the utmost kindness and hospitality. The King of France made M. Blanchard a present

of 12,000 livres, as a token of appreciation of the aeronaut's perseverance and skill in the newly-discovered art."

The voyage of M. Testu is one of the most curious in the annals of aerostation.—

"On the 18th of June, 1785, M. Testu ascended from Paris. His balloon was twenty-nine feet in diameter, constructed by himself, of glazed tiffany, furnished with auxiliary wings, and filled, as had now become the fashion, with hydrogen gas. It had been much injured by wind and rain during the night before its ascension; but, having undergone a slight repair, it was finally launched, with its conductor, at four o'clock in the afternoon. The barometer then stood 29.68 inches, and the thermometer as high as eighty-four degrees, though the day was cloudy and threatened rain. The balloon had at first been filled only five-sixths; but it gradually swelled as it became drier and warmer, and acquired its utmost distension at the height of 2,800 feet. But to avoid the waste of gas or the rupture of the balloon, the navigator calculated to descend by the reaction of his wings. Though this force had little efficacy, yet at half-past five o'clock he softly alighted in a corn-field in the plain of Montmorency. Without leaving the car, he began to collect a few stones for ballast, when he was surrounded by the proprietor of the corn and a troop of peasants, who insisted on being indemnified for the damage occasioned by his idle and curious visitors. Anxious now to disengage himself, he persuaded them that, his wings being broken, he was wholly at their mercy. They seized the stay of the balloon, which floated at some height, and dragged their prisoner through the air in a sort of triumph towards the village. But M. Testu, finding that the loss of his wings, his cloak, and some other articles, had considerably lightened the machine, suddenly cut the cord, and took an abrupt leave of the clamorous and mortified peasants. He rose to the region of the clouds, where he observed small frozen particles floating in the atmosphere. He heard thunder rolling beneath his feet, and as the coolness of the evening advanced, the buoyant power of his vessel diminished, and at three quarters after six o'clock, he approached the ground with his car near the Abbey of Royamont. There he threw out some ballast, and in the space of twelve minutes rose to a height of 2,400 feet, where the thermometer stood only at sixty-six degrees. He now heard the blast of a horn, and descried some huntsmen below in full chase. Curious to witness the sport, he pulled the valve and descended at eight o'clock, between Etouen and Varville, when, rejecting his oars, he set himself to gather some ballast. While he was thus occupied, the hunters galloped up to him. He then mounted a third time, and passed through a dense body of clouds, in which thunder followed lightning in quick succession.

'With fresh alacrity and force renewed,  
Springs upward, like a pyramid of fire,  
Into the wild expanse, and through the shock  
Of fighting elements, on all sides round  
Environed wins his way.'

The thermometer fell to twenty-one, but afterwards regained its former point of sixty-six degrees, when the balloon had reached an altitude of 3,000 feet. In this region, the voyager sailed till half-past nine o'clock, at which time he observed from his 'watch-tower in the sky' the final setting of the sun. He was now quickly involved in darkness, and enveloped in the thickest mass of thunder clouds. The lightnings flashed on all sides, and the loud claps were incessant. The thermometer, seen by the help of a phosphoric light with which he had provided himself, stood at twenty-one degrees, and snow and sleet fell copiously around him. In this most tremendous situation the intrepid adventurer remained the space of three hours, the time during which the storm lasted. The balloon was affected by a sort of undulating motion upwards and downwards, owing, he thought, to the electrical action of the clouds. The lightning appeared excessively vivid; but the thunder was sharp and loud, preceded by a sort of crackling noise. A calm at last succeeded, he had the pleasure to see the stars, and embraced this opportunity to take some necessary refreshments. At half-past two o'clock the day broke in; but his ballast being nearly gone, he finally descended a quarter before four o'clock, near the village of Campremi, about sixty-three miles from Paris."

Closely connected with balloons is the subject of parachutes,—the machine for enabling the aeronaut to descend from the sky without the aid of his balloon. In the first instance the idea was taken from the umbrella or parasol.—

"Father Loubere, in his curious account of Siam, relates that a person, famous in that remote country for his dexterity, was accustomed to divert exceedingly the king and the royal court by the prodigious leaps which he took, having two umbrellas with long slender handles fastened to his girdle. He generally alighted on the ground, but was sometimes carried by the force of the wind against trees and houses, and not unfrequently into the river. Not a great many years ago, the umbrella was, at least on one occasion, employed in Europe with similar views, as well as in our own country. In the campaign of 1793 a French general, named Bournonville, having been sent by the National Convention, with four more commissioners, to treat with the Prince of Saxe-Coburg, was, contrary to the faith or courtesy heretofore preserved in the fiercest wars that have raged in civilized nations, detained a prisoner with his companions, and sent to the fortress of Olmutz, where he suffered a rigorous confinement. In this cruel situation he made a desperate attempt to regain his liberty. Having provided himself with an umbrella, he jumped from a window forty feet high; but, being a very heavy man, this screen proved insufficient to let him down safely. He struck against an opposite wall, fell into the ditch, and broke his leg, and was carried in this condition back again to his dungeon. Blanchard was the first person who ever constructed a parachute for the purpose of using it with a balloon in cases of accident while aloft. During an excursion which he took from Lisle, about the end of August 1785, during which he traversed without halting a distance not less than 300 miles, he let down a parachute, with a basket fastened to it containing a dog from a great height, which fell gently through the air, and let the animal down to the ground unhurt. Since that period the practice and management of the parachute have been carried much farther by other aeronauts, and particularly by M. Garnerin, who has dared repeatedly to descend from the region of the clouds with that very slender machine. This ingenious and spirited Frenchman visited London during the short peace of 1802, and made two fine ascents with his balloon, in the second of which he let himself fall from an amazing elevation with a parachute. This consisted of thirty-two gores of white canvas formed into a hemispherical shape of twenty-three feet in diameter, at the top of which was a round piece of wood ten inches in diameter, and having a hole in its centre admitting short pieces of tape to fasten it to the several gores of the canvas. About four feet and a half below the top a wooden hoop of eight feet diameter was attached by a string from each seam; so that when the balloon rose, the parachute hung like a curtain from this hoop. Below it was suspended a cylindrical basket covered with canvas, about four feet high and two and a quarter wide. In this basket the aeronaut, dressed in a close jacket and a pair of trowsers, placed himself, and rose majestically from an inclosure near North Audley Street, at six o'clock in the evening of the 2nd of September. After hovering seven or eight minutes in the upper region of the atmosphere, he meditated a descent in his parachute. Well might he be supposed to linger there in dread suspense, and to

— look awhile  
Pondering his voyage; for no narrow frith  
He had to cross. \* \* \* \*  
He views the breadth, and, without longer pause,  
Downright into the world's first region throws  
His flight precipitant, and winds with ease,  
Through the pure marble air, his oblique way.

He cut the cord by which his parachute was attached to the net of the balloon; it instantly expanded, and for some seconds it descended with an accelerating velocity, till it became tossed extremely, and took such wide oscillations that the basket or car was at times thrown almost level or horizontal with the parachute. Borne along at the same time by the influence of the wind, the parachute passed over Marylebone and Somers'-town, and almost grazed the houses of St. Pancras. At last it fortunately struck the ground in a neighbouring field; but the shock was so violent as to throw poor Garnerin on his face, by which



accident he received some cuts and bled considerably. He seemed to be much agitated, and trembled exceedingly at the moment he was released from the car. One of the stays of the parachute had chanced to give way, which untoward circumstance deranged the apparatus, disturbed its proper balance, and threatened the adventurer, during the whole of his descent, with immediate destruction. At the moment of separating the parachute the balloon took a rapid ascending motion, and was found, next day, twelve miles distant from the place of departure."

M. Garnerin, however, was not daunted by this accident. He became bolder and bolder in his experiments, and at length ventured to ascend in the darkness of the night:—a feat common with the aeronauts of our own country, but forty years ago new to the public, and considered a proof of extraordinary daring.

Mr. Wise is, of course, highly impressed with the dignity and importance of his calling. He thinks the balloon might be usefully employed in the public service, both in peace and in war. He proposed, during the war with Mexico, to capture the fortress of St. Juan d'Ulloa by means of a war-balloon filled with rockets and other destructive missiles; but the government refused his offers,—and the failure of the more recent attempt of the Austrians to blow up Venice by means of balloons may help to justify their refusal. The suggestion for a leaping machine to assist exploring parties is at least curious.—

"If we take a balloon of limited size, about eighteen feet in diameter each way, it will, when inflated with hydrogen gas, be capable of raising 160 pounds, independent of its own weight. Now, if this be so fastened to a man's body, as not to interfere with the free use of his arms and legs, he may then ballast himself so as to be a trifle heavier than the upward tendency of the balloon, which will be nearly *in equilibrio*. If then he provides himself with a pair of wings, made on the bird principle, with socket joints to slip over his arms at the shoulders, and a grasping handle internally of each one, at the distance from the shoulder joint of the wing, as the distance is from the shoulder to his hand, he may beat against the air with his wings, and bound against the earth with his feet, so as to make at least a hundred yards at each bound. This the writer has often done, in the direction of a gentle wind, with the aid of his feet alone, after his balloon had descended to the earth; and, on one occasion, traversed a pine forest of several miles in extent, by bounding against the tops of the trees. Such a contrivance would be of inestimable value to exploring expeditions. Landings to otherwise inaccessible mountains; escapes from surrounding icebergs; explorations of volcanic craters; traversing vast swamps and morasses; walking over lakes and seas; bounding over isthmuses, straits, and promontories, or exploring the cloud-capped peaks of Chimborazo, could thus all be easily accomplished."

The author gives a long account of his own air voyages:—but none of these seem of sufficient importance to justify transcription. Those of our readers interested in the subject may profitably turn to the work for themselves.

*The Progress of the Intellect, as exemplified in the Religious Development of the Greeks and Hebrews.* By Robert William Mackay. 2 vols. Chapman.

THE readers of this journal are sufficiently acquainted with our rule of avoiding controverted points in politics and theology; and this rule requires us to dismiss the controversial portion of Mr. Mackay's work with a very brief notice. To do complete justice to the contents of his volumes would involve ourselves and our readers in several vexed questions the discussion of which may be more appropriately conducted in other periodicals than in ours. Without transgressing our principle we may, however, give an idea of Mr. Mackay's opinions. This

we will do without comment:—employing, when possible, the phraseology of the author himself.

According to the views of Mr. Mackay, the mythical element still holds its ground in the religion and philosophy of the present day. Mythology is but the exaggerated reflection of our own intellectual habits; and the understanding of this may serve as a useful warning against that tendency in the human mind which leads us to mistake the subjective for the objective,—the inner sense for the external envelopment. Habitual modes of thought are reflected in language; and mankind are frequently deceived by their own figurative expressions, and often give a matter-of-fact interpretation to what was meant by the writer for bold metaphor. Everything appears miraculous before it is understood; and miracles in the ancient sense did not necessarily involve the difficulties which they do in the modern. In the modern sense, a miracle implies a direct infraction of the order of nature:—with the ancients a miracle was little more than a signal exhibition of superior wisdom or address. Miracles die out as they approach the confines of civilization; and narratives which are generally understood to imply miraculous or supernatural agency, when correctly rendered into modern phraseology must be regarded as *mythi*. The religious sentiment is forced into a different direction without being weakened by the cultivation of the reason; so that, at some future period artificial forms and transmitted dogmas will have completed their mission, and will be absorbed in a system more philosophical and natural. Even if miracles in the modern sense were credible, their value as a proof of doctrine would be questionable. Science is methodized experience. At first, all science appears merged in religion:—afterwards, religion is, as it were, swallowed up in science. The more we know, the more we venerate; and the reverence only which is the joint result of sentiment and knowledge can survive the attacks of change and time, because it is never chained to an obsolete opinion or to an immoral practice. Hence Mr. Mackay contends that the religious sentiment can be matured only through scientific cultivation. Religion, including morality, he says, is nothing more than well-directed education. If the mind attempts to forestall the industry of future ages by premature theories and creeds, to idolize its notions as entities, and, whether on scientific or on religious grounds, to treat its acquired experiences as final, all mental progress is arrested. Religion is the *ascensio mentis in Deum per scalas creaturarum rerum*,—the evolving of the grounds of hope, faith, and duty from the known laws of our being and from the constitution of the universe. True faith is a belief in things probable,—the assigning to certain inferences a hypothetical objectivity; and on the conscious acknowledgment of this hypothetical character alone depends the advantage of faith over fanaticism,—its moral value and dignity. If man is not permitted to solve the problem of existence, he is at least emboldened to hope and to infer so much from its actual conditions as to feel confident as to its results:—faith takes up the problem where knowledge leaves it. The material world is as much the object of faith as the unseen Deity, or as the anticipated renewal of our existence. By faith, or that transcendental view which the spirit of religion superadds to science, the distant is brought near, the temporary is made continuous, the finite infinite:—we see evil, yet believe in universal good,—we see diversity, but believe in unity,—we are surrounded by change and death, yet cling to the certainty of stability and eternal life.

We have said enough to enable our readers to understand the general scope of Mr. Mackay's

work. The above opinions will be no novelty to those who have some acquaintance with recent theological literature. The acceptance of the philosophy of Kant, modified by the study of the works of Fichte so far as the latter are intelligible, naturally results in conclusions like the above. Mr. Mackay brings forward in support of his views an amount of erudition which will prove formidable to his antagonists. Most of the best German editions of the Greek and Latin classics seem to be perfectly familiar to the author; who knows well how to wield such ponderous materials, though occasionally his style may be considered rather diffuse. The account of the theosophy of Aristotle, given in the first volume, is evidently the production of a master of the subject.

*Stella and Vanessa: a Romance from the French.* By Lady Duff Gordon. 2 vols. Bentley.

THREE among the modern professors of *belles lettres* in France have taken real interest in—not given compulsory attention to—our English literature and history,—have cordially commented on our "celebrities," or attempted to introduce them in fiction. One is M. Alfred de Vigny, whose *Chatterton* and *Collingwood* make a figure among the *Quasimodos* and *Bug Jargals* of his contemporary dramatists and romancers. The second is M. Philariète Chasles, whose criticisms express a loving study of the literature to which the criticized parties belong. The third is M. Leon de Wailly, who is known to all conversant with the select literature of the two countries as having translated 'Hamlet' and the Songs and Poetry of Burns,—the last about as untoward a task as ever French ingenuity proposed to itself. Some of us have read with pleasure, too, his novel of 'Angelica Kauffmann,'—where, in spite of tediousness and weak conduct of story, a considerable knowledge of English life and letters was evidenced. The same characteristic will be found, united with more of the conditions of a work of art, in the tale before us. It originally appeared in the scattered form of the *feuilleton*, and has now been thought worthy of collection and paraphrase by a translator no less exact, spirited and lively than Lady Duff Gordon.

It was an odd idea on the part of a French writer to undertake the defence of Dean Swift in those mysterious sentimental transactions wherein the happiness of two—if not three—persons was irretrievably destroyed by vacillation, eccentricity, and selfishness. The position which the bitter wit and intriguing politician accepted and maintained with regard to Mrs. Johnson and Miss Vanhomrigh is, after all, not a solitary instance of its kind. There are many men whose vanity is to be satisfied only by the exclusive and solitary sacrifice of other existences to theirs. Aware of the unworthiness of this engrossing coquetry, they are unable to resist the satisfaction which it ministers to them; and yet, when the reckoning comes, they will appeal to "gods and men" as piteously as though they were persecuted by some tyrannical and malicious destiny. This is, however, our view of the case,—not M. Leon de Wailly's. Without any recourse to unnatural combinations or furious *coups de théâtre*, he has set himself seriously to apologize for the Dean of St. Patrick's. He paints him not as the male coquet, but as the victim of circumstances and of his own self-sacrificing resolution not to give pain. In this fictitious defence M. de Wailly has, voluntarily perhaps, overlooked one point of the case, which might have been thought tempting,—namely, the hypothesis that the torments to which the satirist exposed his victims were the unconscious cruelties of one whose composition was "freaked" by insanity long unsuspected.



On the other hand, by this very avoidance of one piquant and primary tint, the picture may possibly have gained something of unity. As it is, we have merely a sober, delicately-touched piece of heart-history:—the manner of which will be best indicated by an extract of one of the principal scenes.—

"The watchman was calling twelve as the ladies of St. Mary's started on their way to the Deanery, under Tisdal's escort. It was freezing and the streets were dry. They took advantage of this to go discreetly on foot. This furtive walk was very unlike the triumphal procession which Mrs. Dingley had formerly pictured to herself for her young friend's wedding. \* \* As far as Esther was concerned, Swift had willed it so: and except when her jealousy was roused, she could have no other will than that of Swift. It was a night most favourable to concealment, a night without moon or stars. The two ladies had purposely prolonged their visit in order to be more sure of not meeting any one, and accordingly when they started the whole town seemed buried in sleep, and the monotonous voice of the watchman was the only sound that broke the silence of the streets. When they left the house, however, Esther thought that she saw on the other side of the street a man standing motionless and apparently on the watch. Although the necessity for concealment naturally disposes every one to suspicion, a circumstance so slight as that of a man standing at the corner of the street would hardly have been sufficient to cause her any uneasiness. But some hours earlier, when coming out of their house in Stafford Street, she had likewise observed a man who seemed to be mounting guard before their lodging. But for this second occurrence she would have attached no importance to the first,—this time, however, she could not refrain from remarking it to Mrs. Dingley. 'What a fancy!' said Mrs. Dingley, determined to deny the possibility of danger, in order to keep herself from getting frightened. And apparently she was justified by the event, for they continued their solitary walk in peace. However, when they had reached their destination, the same human figure re-appeared at a distance, while Tisdal was opening the little garden gate. Supposing it to be a spy, it would have been more prudent to walk on further, and try to mislead him. But fear is unreasoning, and Mrs. Dingley, who began to feel terribly frightened, could only hurry the Canon to let them in and to shut the door behind them as quickly as possible. \* \* The blazing logs on the hearth of the pavilion into which Swift conducted them dispelled the phantoms conjured up by the darkness of night, and called up a fresh train of thought in their minds. The room they were in was a sort of summer saloon, where nothing indicated the ceremony about to be performed. But Stella could not enter it without a certain religious awe; in her eyes the saloon was a chapel, and the table, with its green baize cover and wax candles, an altar. \* \* Tisdal was in the garden, waiting for the Archbishop, and as soon as Swift had installed the ladies, he joined him there. The cathedral clock struck half-past twelve. 'Not yet come!' cried he, finding Tisdal alone. 'No, not yet.'—This is unheard of conduct,' resumed Swift, stamping. And he began to pace rapidly up and down before the door. His impatience was perfectly intelligible. He must be anxious to place between himself and the image of Mrs. Vanhomrigh the obstacle of an irrevocable act, the adamant wall of necessity.—'Nothing but the age and infirmity of our good Archbishop,' said Tisdal, 'could render it excusable in him to keep others waiting under such circumstances.'—'You are quite right: it's so cold.'—He was always the same!—Tisdal made no answer, and they walked up and down together without speaking until two gentle taps at the garden gate announced the arrival of the Archbishop.—'I'm afraid, Mr. Dean, that I'm late,' said the Archbishop. 'Pray conduct me at once to the ladies, that I may ask their pardon. I hope they will forgive me. These nocturnal expeditions are not much suited to my age.'—The pardon had been granted before it was asked. Mrs. Dingley had taken advantage of the time to repair the disorder of her own dress, and to impart a bridal appearance to that of her young friend. This was no easy task; for to the great disappointment of Mrs. Dingley, Swift had

desired that Stella should remain as she was, in her grey silk gown. But she was sufficiently adorned by the modest looks and downcast eyes which are more becoming than all the bridal wreaths and laces in the world. She looked charming thus.—Poor Tisdal! The Archbishop could not refrain from stealing a look at him. He was watching Mrs. Johnson with deep interest, but with perfect calmness. The Archbishop proposed to begin the ceremony. The form of asking whether there be any one that knows 'any just cause or impediment why the marriage should not take place,' filled all present with a sort of terror. They felt as if Mrs. Vanhomrigh would come into the room and raise her voice to protest against the marriage; and it was not until after a much longer interval than usual between this question and that which follows it, that the Archbishop, still visibly agitated, was able to address to Swift the hallowed question:—'Wilt thou have this woman to thy wedded wife, to live together after God's ordinance in the holy estate of matrimony? Wilt thou love her, comfort her, honour and keep her in sickness and in health; and forsaking all other, keep thee only unto her so long as ye both shall live?'—'I will,' answered Swift, in a firm voice. The Archbishop recovered his composure, and turning towards the bride, he said:—'Wilt thou have this man to thy wedded husband, to live together after God's ordinance in the holy estate of matrimony? Wilt thou obey him and serve him, love, honour and keep him in sickness and in health; and forsaking all other, keep thee only unto him so long as ye both shall live?'—'I will,' said Esther, in a timid but heartfelt tone. The Archbishop went on:—'Who giveth this woman to be married to this man?'—All present looked at one another—who was to act as father to the bride? In the general hurry no one had thought about it. Stella turned pale. Tisdal stepped forth from the second row whither he had withdrawn, and taking her by the hand led her up to the Archbishop. Great heaven, was he the man to do it!"

To those who are accustomed to the average ways of the French novelists, the almost Quaker-like dryness of tone of the above will come with the air of a surprise. To ourselves, after so much inflation, exclamation, epithet, contortion, as we are used to expect from our neighbours, its effect is welcome and agreeable. We cannot commend 'Stella and Vanessa' as rich in incident; but by all who can dispense with high excitements for the sake of delicacy and quietness, and by all whose nationality leads them to regard such exercises as M. de Wailly's with approving curiosity, his romance (as he calls it) may be found an agreeable variety.

*Address delivered by the President of Queen's College, Galway, at the close of the Session 1849-50. Dublin, Hodges & Co.*

It behoves all who feel an interest in the prosperity of Ireland to inform themselves of the real constitution and merits of the new Colleges; and we can recommend no more ready method of gaining this information than by an attentive perusal of Mr. Berwick's admirable Address. We could propose no more efficacious antidote to the mischief that may possibly be attempted at the Roman Catholic Synod to be held at Thurles on the 15th instant, than the extensive circulation of this discourse, printed, if possible, in a very cheap form. It is a model of lucid exposition, and of calm but eloquent argument.

The history of the foundation of these colleges is familiar to most of our readers. When the bill was introduced to parliament for founding these institutions upon the principles of "united education and religious equality," defects were pointed out.—

"No provision was made for religious instruction; no chaplains were appointed to superintend the spiritual interests of the students; no boarding-houses were placed under their superintendence and control; no obligations were imposed on the professors not to interfere with the peculiar views of their pupils."

All these defects have since been remedied. The moral care and spiritual charge of every student are committed to a clergyman or minister of his own creed, called a Dean of Residence. We quote the statute.—

"That the Deans of Residences shall have authority to visit the licensed boarding-houses in which students of their respective creeds reside, for the purpose of affording religious instruction to such students, and shall also have power, with the concurrence of the bishop, moderator, or other ecclesiastical authority, respectively, to make regulations for the due observance of the religious duties of such students, and for securing their regular attendance on Divine Worship;—such regulations, before coming into force, to be laid before the President, and certified by him, as not interfering with the general discipline of the college. But in case the said President shall find that such rules do interfere with such discipline, in such case he shall have power to send back the same to such Dean for re-consideration and amendment in that respect. That the President shall require every person applying for licence to keep a general boarding-house, to produce a certificate of moral and religious character from his clergyman or minister, and shall obtain satisfactory evidence of the suitability of the proposed establishment, and of its means of providing for the health and comfort of the students. That no clergyman or minister shall be competent to assume or continue to hold the office of Dean of Residences, unless approved by the bishop, moderator, or constituted authority of his church or religious denomination."—Chap. xviii. sects. 7, 4, 8, 9."

But, it may be said, "this looks very well on paper—very well on the statute book; but how does it work in practice?" Mr. Berwick answers this question by giving the reports of the Deans of Residences, Anglican, Catholic and Presbyterian. These ministers, appointed to watch over the moral and spiritual interests of the students, in no case express the slightest apprehension that those interests are likely to be tampered with. Mr. Berwick asks,—

"Are the Protestant and Presbyterian creeds so full of truth, and health, and vigour, that they can stand before, and look, with eagle eye, upon the beams of knowledge, and must the Catholic faith retire into darkness to maintain security?"

And thus he replies to his own question:—

"If I were to say so, is there a Catholic who hears me whose blood would not boil with honest indignation at the opprobrious and unfounded insinuation? In these colleges all persuasions stand on the common platform of complete religious equality; in these colleges the advantages are impartially distributed to all; in these colleges the same identical securities exist for all. Well, then, I appeal to the common sense, to the calm judgment, to the manly reason, to the honest pride of Catholics, and their implicit confidence in the truth of their own faith, will they, by assenting to the calumnies against us, allow it to be said that their religious tenets, unlike those of others, cannot stand the test of knowledge? When I read the history and consider the position of the Catholic Church—when I see the numerous and mighty nations, teeming with the fruits of civilization and intelligence, that walk in her light and bend at her altars—when I see communities, distracted or corrupted for a while, returning to her bosom for consolation and repose—when I see the glorious names that, in bright and endless succession, are ever coming forward to combat in her behalf—when I see, in every clime, her missionaries scaling the steepest ramparts of superstition, and planting on its highest citadels the triumphant banner of her faith—when I see her in this country, unmoved by all the storms of persecution, and breaking into froth those waves that raged and dashed against her—when I see all this, I own I cannot help a smile when I hear that serious danger is impending over her, because a few Protestant professors in Galway and in Cork are permitted to teach her students even such soul-destroying mysteries as Latin, Greek and Arithmetic."

We have said sufficient to indicate our sympathy with the cause of "united education" in



*Ireland*,—and to express our satisfaction at the masterly way in which that subject is treated in Mr. Berwick's calm but powerful Address. Surely, a system of "united education" would be possible still nearer home.

#### OUR LIBRARY TABLE.

*Rural Hours.* By Miss Cooper. 2 vols.—This pleasant book is said to be the maiden production of the well-known American novelist's daughter. We have hitherto been treated to no minute pictures of such life and nature from the other side of the Atlantic as are here exhibited. Mr. Audubon gave us the wonders of the wilderness,—Mrs. Clavers sketched the oddities of life in a new settlement,—the sister of Mrs. Howitt in 'Our Cousins on the Ohio,'—and Mr. Headley in his 'Adirondack,'—have severally and variously contributed stores to that treasury out of which imagination can conjure up visions of transatlantic places,—but Miss Cooper's year-book fills a niche which none of the pen-and-ink painters aforesaid have occupied. She chronicles village, wood, and meadow life,—tells how spring wanes into summer, and autumn is followed by winter, in districts where nature is not so wondrous nor man so "unhewn" as in the scenes selected by the writers enumerated. Her entries remind us in their poetical feeling and gentle perspicacity of Gilbert White's. Miss Cooper's allusions to books, too, though not very numerous, are of good quality and in good taste.

*Agincourt: a Contribution towards an Authentic List of the Commanders of the English Host, &c.* By Joseph Hunter.—The interest of this tract is derived, as the author intimates, from the list which it contains of many of the persons of rank and importance who followed Henry the Fifth to France in 1515, and were present either at the siege of Harfleur or at the battle of Agincourt. In fact, there is in it nothing else to claim particular notice; but the introduction of the documentary evidence is concise and useful,—and all pains have been taken by a very competent person to be accurate. However, it would not be easy to err on so notorious a part of history, and the author obtained his dates from the ordinary sources. Amongst the nobility and others who assisted the King in his French Expedition, the author, from documents recently discovered among the public records, enumerates four royal Dukes, besides the Duke of Exeter (then Earl of Dorset), and eight Earls. Thirteen Barons, and fifty-three Baronets and Knights, with their retainers, Esquires and persons of lower rank, also helped to compose the army,—and respecting these Mr. Hunter gives such information as he happens to have met with. It is sometimes interesting, and generally valuable as a contribution to genealogy. It is, however, to be borne in mind that all the individuals were not in the battle of Agincourt; for some remained in garrison at Harfleur, and others returned to England early in such a state of health as to be unfit for service. We think the author might have omitted the old French forms of indenture between the King and his subjects,—which add nothing to the information, especially as we have elsewhere the substance of them. The only really remarkable point is, the mode in which Henry the Fifth pledged his jewels (including his royal crowns) to some of his nobles as security for the pay which he undertook to give them. There is some amusement in the latter portion of this *brochure*, where it is shown that the King was attended in this expedition by eighteen minstrels, and by six "valets tailors,"—the last under Sir W. Troppenel, who was knighted, and who was called *Serviens scissorie infra magnam Garderobam*. We believe that a Serjeant-Tailor is still attached to the royal household.

*Spring Tide; or, the Angler and his Friends.* By John Yonge Akerman.—We confess to a want of sympathy with the literature of the rod and line,—not excepting even that of old Izak. We have never yet come across a book professing to describe the pleasures of angling that was not as dull as the so-called sport itself. Mr. Akerman will not mind this proposition of ours, since old Walton comes within its meaning.

*Memoirs of the Life and Labours of the late Rev. Josias Wilson.* By H. Hastings.—Narrow-minded, untravelling, unlettered, Mr. Wilson appears to have

been a fair specimen of the Orange dissenter of Ireland. His life consisted in two or three voyages to England and one "Continental journey," as his biographer is pleased to call a three days' trip to Paris; and his labours in a series of begging excursions. We should not expect to find many lessons as the result of such a career; but out of the traveller's ignorance and intolerance of what he so imperfectly observed in France, and twaddled about on his return, we may learn to stay our impatience when we hear our own country and countrymen abused on the other side of the Channel by those who are equally unable to comprehend what they condemn.

*The Early Conflicts of Christianity.* By the Rev. W. J. Kip.—This is a reprint of a little book by an American author, the first of a promised series on the development of Christianity,—not, as we understand it, internally, in its doctrine or discipline, but merely in its outward fortunes, as an historical fact. There is no novelty in the design. Every history of the Church does this—some much more. Nor is there anything in the manner to compensate for the want of novelty of thought. The book is easily written, in the ornate and flowing style now common to transatlantic oratory; but there is no point in the composition, little grace,—and although elaborate attempts are made to paint pictures, no success is achieved. There is nothing in these 'Early Conflicts' which could induce us to advise Mr. Kip to carry the campaign into the middle ages and modern times, as he threatens to do on proper encouragement being afforded.

*The Reformation in Spain: a Fragment.* By A. F. R.—One of those small works on the cruelties which the Reformers had to suffer in the sixteenth century, which are intended to inform and inflame Protestant zeal. All such stories are in their relation one-sided. Of course it is a melancholy thing to see an *auto-da-fé* in Ghent or Valladolid; but it is equally sad to find the burnings of heretics common in London under both Catholic and Protestant princes. The appeal to history is unfortunately as favourable to one side as to the other; and the attempt to get from it the elements of a sentence for either is radically to mistake the character of that striking period. The soldiers of God—as they thought themselves—asked no quarter, and they gave none.

*An Address to Ladies on the Duty and Advantages of Industry and Perseverance in the Attainment of Useful Knowledge.* By the Rev. H. Clissold.—This short and sensible address was delivered by its author at the opening of the Ladies' College, Woodlands, Clapham Rise:—an institution founded on the same principles as the Queen's College in London.

*A Defence of the Committee of Council on Education: in a Letter to the Hon. Mr. Talbot.* By the Rev. Sir Erasmus Williams.—Mr. Talbot having officiated as chairman at the meeting in Willis's Rooms when the Government scheme of education received such ill usage, the Rev. Baronet discharges at him the arrows of his wrath. The defence is, however, rambling and pointless.

*The Principal Roots of the Greek Language.* By W. Hall.—Is it true, as Mr. Hall asserts, that all philologists consider a study of roots to be the first step towards the most solid and expeditious acquaintance with a language? We think not. To those who prefer this method of learning Greek we can honestly recommend the above work, as exhibiting accurate scholarship and careful preparation. At the same time, it appears to us that Mr. Hall somewhat exaggerates its superiority over its predecessors in this department. It is true, he has wisely availed himself of the great law of suggestion, to which so many operations of the mind are subject, by associating with each Greek root some English word derived from it. But if any one will take the trouble to examine these derivatives, he will find that not more than half of them are words familiar to an ordinary learner of Greek. Many are strictly technical, and others never heard or seen. For instance, who ever meets with such terms as *apozem, zetetic, ethmoid, iatralcixptes, colocasia, acomatos, anacamptics, or coris*?—all which, with several other technical words, we observed at one opening of the book (pp. 56 and 57). There is no association of the known with the unknown in such cases as these, for the English word—if so it can be called—is as hard to remember as

the Greek. What we want is, a good imitation of the French 'Jardin des Racines Grecques,'—which contains all the principal Greek roots, each forming with its meaning a separate verse, and accompanied, as in Mr. Hall's book, by useful notes at the foot of the page.

*Educational Outlines.*—These are letters by a Lady on what she calls "practical duties." They contain some judicious remarks; and a journal which is appended to them exhibits in a favourable manner the talents of the pupils engaged in its production.

*Precious Stones, Aids to Reflection, from Prose Writers of the Sixteenth, Seventeenth and Eighteenth Centuries.* Collected by the Rev. R. A. Willmott.—Mr. Willmott is of opinion that his little collection contains some of the costliest thoughts in our English prose; but, with every allowance which can be reasonably asked in favour of a collector's pets, we are compelled to doubt the justice of such a claim. No doubt, many of the "thoughts" here clustered together are of the highest kind:—but how can a collection of "beauties of English prose" be other than imperfect, when writers like Steele, Sterne, Swift, Dryden, Pope, Butler, Burke, Johnson, Goldsmith, and a score of other masters in the arts of high thinking and nervous writing, are omitted? Surely such men have stronger claims to fellowship with the great prose authors of our country than such writers as Blair, Doddridge, Brett, Smith, Kettlewell, and Horneck.—But if we have fault to find with Mr. Willmott's selection, we have still greater objection to his criticism. We refer to only one example. While Dryden is omitted from this new list of prose writers, no less than a dozen pages are given up to Collier,—who was not only "the antagonist," but "whose masculine eloquence may claim for him the glory of being the rival of Dryden." This is an opinion of which we suspect Mr. Willmott will continue to enjoy a monopoly.

*A Selection from Percy's Reliques of Ancient English Poetry and from Evans's Old Ballads.* By the Rev. H. Tripp, M.A.—The title explains the character of this collection; which is very limited in its range,—not containing in all so many as fifty ballads. The compiler's principle of selection having been adopted with reference to educational purposes, he has been mainly solicitous to select pieces of such moderate length as might most readily be committed to memory. He has, moreover, preferred the historical to the sentimental.

*Money versus Life.* By C. Colwell.—This volume professes to pass in review the general subject of colliery accidents, and to show their causes and extent. It treats of the parsimony of coal-owners,—the concealment of deaths in mines,—inaccuracy of returns by coroners,—the iniquitous mode of pillar working,—the necessity for Government inspection, for more shafts,—and the propriety of an adequate provision for widows and orphans of the victims of explosion, &c. Some additional light is thrown on these points, as our readers know, by the Report of the Royal Commissioners employed in collecting information in the great coal-fields of the north:—and, as in the case of factories and prisons, the State will probably see the wisdom of establishing an independent board of inspection for mines.

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# CATALOGUE OF THE BRITISH MUSEUM LIBRARY.

It is of the utmost importance that the House of Commons should not be allowed to separate without some formal protest on the part of the literary men of London against the Report of the Commissioners on the British Museum, so far as it relates to the subject of the Catalogue. In March 1847, after a long and provoking experience of the evils arising out of the want of a finding Catalogue—which Catalogue Mr. Panizzi had been expressly appointed to provide—fifty-seven members of the British Association signed a memorial to the Queen praying for relief in the matter, —and in June following a Royal Commission issued to inquire into the grounds of complaint. So gross and patent was the necessity for interference, that the establishment of that Commission was at the time looked on as an equivalent to relief; and we have from that day to this never failed to keep the interests of the public then put in issue prominently in view. The needless delays which followed and the spirit evinced in the conduct of the examinations gradually weakened that first faith in the men to whom those interests had been committed; and the unwillingness to publish their Report when the inquiry was complete gave ominous confirmation to the unwelcome rumours which had crept abroad in relation to the conduct of that inquiry and the character of that Report. Yet, we will venture to say that no man who had not access to the mysteries of the Commission was prepared for a Report in which nine-tenths of the evidence in one direction was made the formal ground of a decision in the other. We scarcely remember such another denial of the public claim and abuse of the public patience. To this day the Report is incomplete, by the terms of its own letter. The Appendix, constantly referred to as amongst the grounds of justification, is cautiously and determinately withheld,—and the Index promised, to facilitate its examination, no amount of remonstrance has been able to obtain. The Commissioners have obviously caught the spirit of procrastination in whose favour they adjudicate. The Index is for our children, we presume,—as the Catalogue is for their children's children.

It is impossible that the pressing interests of literature shall be thus tamely yielded up to the arbitrary dictation of a clique—and the funds voted by the public through their representatives for the supply of a great and immediate need suffered to be diverted to the support of a private and most costly crotchet. The money appropriated in this case is the least part of the waste. Treasures which represent an amount of value far beyond their money worth are lying comparatively idle for want of arrangement,—a library which is one of our great national features is in a sense shut up for want of this door to its contents. It would be as rational for the nation to maintain public clocks without dials. The cause is that of all the reading men of England,—a mighty constituency in these days; and their business is to enforce it in that court which is responsible for the due appropriation of the national funds. A petition for a Finding Catalogue accordingly lies now at Messrs. Reeve & Benham's, booksellers, 5, Henrietta Street, Covent Garden; and will be presented to the House of Commons on Tuesday evening next,—the latest practicable time. The petition is temperately worded as follows:—

To the Honourable the Commons of Great Britain and Ireland in Parliament assembled.

The Petition of the undersigned, authors or editors of literary works published in the United Kingdom, persons connected in other ways with English literature,

or persons generally using the Library of the British Museum,

Humblly sheweth,

That your Petitioners are acquainted with the Catalogue of the Printed Books in the British Museum, which is kept in the Reading Room for the use of persons who desire to consult the Library; and, also, with the state of the Library so far as the same is made apparent by such Catalogue.

That such Catalogue is inaccurate and confused, extremely defective in arrangement and altogether wanting in completeness.

That the entries in that Catalogue are several years in arrear.

That the Library is very discreditably defective in many branches of literature; and does not contain such a collection of the works of English authors as is necessary for the purposes of reference and study, and as ought to be found in our National Library.

That these defects, if they have not arisen from the want of a simple published Catalogue of the books which the Library contains, have been encouraged and are perpetuated by that want.

That the non-existence of such a Catalogue is a serious injury to your Petitioners and to all literary persons, and a great impediment to them in their pursuits and studies.

That it deprives them of the advantages which they have a just right to expect from the possession of a great national library which has been for the most part collected, and is now altogether maintained, at the public expense.

That it is also highly prejudicial to the interests of literature, an impediment to public education, extremely detrimental to the usefulness of the British Museum, and calculated to shield and conceal imperfections and mismanagement in that highly important National Institution.

Your Petitioners, therefore, humbly pray that your honourable House will take the circumstances into your serious consideration, and will direct that a simple, concise Finding Catalogue of all the Printed Books in the National Library may be prepared, printed and published in the cheapest form and with the least possible delay.

And your Petitioners, &c.

We trust that the many of our readers who feel strongly on this matter will not lose this important opportunity of putting their feelings personally on record.

## EXPEDITION TO CENTRAL AFRICA.

SINCE my former communication, [see *ante*, p. 739], giving an account of the progress of this Expedition from Tripoli to Mursük, several letters have been received from Dr. Overweg and Dr. Barth,—and from the latter a valuable map, on a large scale, with a detailed description of the country round Tripoli, comprising the mountainous region to the south, which was explored by the travellers during their stay in Tripoli. The following are a few particulars of the general character of this mountainous region.

Three divisions are distinguished, the *Jebran* (or *Jebel*), the *Garian* (or *Ghurian*), and the *Tarhóna* (or *Tarhuna*). The first lies S.W. from Tripoli, being intersected by the route to Ghadanus, and it forms the western-most part of the range. Geologically, it consists in the lowest strata of the Wadis, of "bunter Mergel" and gypsum, above which follow sandstone, marl, and especially limestone. No traces were discovered here of volcanic formation; which appears only in the Garian Mountains,—namely, that portion of the range which is situated due south from Tripoli. In this group, basaltic cones surmounted by fine columns break through the white limestone hills. The mighty Mount Tekut, near the Garian Pass, is a fine extinct crater. In the third group, the Tarhóna Mountains, S.E. from Tripoli, volcanic formation again entirely disappears. The average elevation of the table-land stretching from these mountains southwards is, 2,000 feet towards the western extremity, gradually descending to 1,000 feet towards the east at the Tarhóna Mountains. The table-land and higher parts of the Jebran district are of a stony and arid character; and it is only in the Wadis that dates, olives and figs are cultivated. On the other hand, the surface of the Garian district consists of a rich red loam, in the highest degree fertile, and covered with the most luxuriant plantations of olive trees and fields of saffron. It is in this rich loam that the inhabitants have dug their subterranean dwellings. The Tarhóna Mountains are characterized by the general cultivation of corn, and by the abundance of ruins of Roman settlements, towers and monuments.

Mursük and its environs are described by the travellers as a dreadful "sand pit," completely surrounded with sand hills; which, coupled with the pestilential evaporations of the salt lakes near the

town, renders the climate so unhealthy as frequently to prove fatal to Europeans. Happily, none of the members of the Expedition were affected by it. They left Mursük in good health and spirits, on the 12th of June, on their way to Aghadis; Mr. Richardson by Ghat, and Dr. Barth and Dr. Overweg by Arikim,—which latter place is eighteen days' journey S.W. of Mursük and three days S. of Ghat. They travel with a large caravan, and under the escort of several Tuarick chiefs; the Expedition having for their own use about forty camels, laden with their effects and merchandise, which latter they consider the best substitute for money in the countries they will have to traverse. They hope to reach Aghadis in about sixty or seventy days. Dr. Overweg, in his last letter, dated the 17th of June, and written while on the march to Arikim, thus alludes to the increasing heat.—"Yesterday the thermometer rose to 45° C. (or 113° Fah.); but we are getting accustomed to this,—for just now (4 p.m.) on entering the tent I find the air in it delightfully cool, as contrasted with the heat outside, but on looking at the thermometer I find, to my surprise, that the temperature of this 'cool' air is 42° C. (or nearly 108° Fah.)."

August 6.

AUGUSTUS PETERMANN.

## OUR WEEKLY GOSSIP.

FEW meetings of the British Association have been more entirely successful than the one just closed. If any doubt could now be entertained of the progressive usefulness of this great body, it would be removed by a comparison of the Edinburgh meeting just past with the first meeting in the same place. The discussions were of a more elevated character,—the papers more valuable; and in every instance it has been felt that the Association has done much to create the spirit in which so much has been achieved for science. Edinburgh, in respect of its University, the love of science that pervades its population, and its beautiful and interesting situation, is well suited as a site for the meetings of the Association. The entertainments given by public bodies and private individuals maintained the character of the Scotch for hospitality. In this instance it has not been the titled men, but the learned and scientific, who have taken the lead. The College of Physicians gave a grand entertainment on Friday; and on Tuesday the President of the College of Surgeons, Mr. Syme, invited one hundred and fifty guests to a splendid *fête* in his own residence at Morningside.

The Ray Society held its seventh Anniversary during the meeting of the British Association in Edinburgh. Sir William Jardine, Bart. occupied the chair. The Report stated that there were 775 members in the Society,—which is a slight diminution from the numbers of last year. The Council propose to publish for the year 1850 the second volume of Agassiz's 'Bibliographia Zoologiæ et Geologiæ' and a fifth part of Alder and Hancock's 'Nudibranchiate Mollusca.' Instead of a third volume, it is proposed to increase the number of plates in the great work of Alder and Hancock, which it is expected will be complete in two more parts. It was also announced that the first part of Mr. Darwin's 'Monograph on the Barnacles' was ready for publication,—and that the Society might hope for a work on the Diatomaceæ, by Messrs. Ralfs and Jenner. Prof. Allman stated that his work on the British Zoophytes would be of more value the longer it was delayed, on account of the great increase in the number of species which was constantly going on.—The President urged on the members the necessity of obtaining new subscribers,—as every additional subscription enabled the Council to publish more matter.

Among the notes of preparation that are sounding on all sides for the Exhibition of 1851, we may mention that papers have been transmitted to the Commissioners announcing that it is the intention of the inhabitants of Canada to hold a Grand District Industrial Fair in the city of Montreal, in September or October next, in connexion with the International Exhibition to be held in London in 1851. The intention of the Committee is to give the Canadian public an opportunity of presenting for exhibition specimens of the natural and manu-



factured articles of agriculture, commerce, art, scientific ingenuity and skill, and generally of every species of production that will represent the industry and resources of that country. From the articles exhibited competent judges will select such as may be deemed worthy of transmission to the Great Industrial Exhibition in London.—The Government of Wurtemberg have appointed a Commission to take charge of the interests of that country in the approaching industrial contest. M. Sauttar is the chairman of the committee.

The banquet intended to be given in York to the Lord Mayor of London by 104 of the mayors of the principal boroughs in the United Kingdom, in return for his splendid hospitality to them at the Mansion House by way of inaugurating the great idea of the Industrial Exhibition, is to take place on Friday, the 25th of October—that day having been named by his Royal Highness Prince Albert, who has signified his intention to take part in the entertainment. The committee which has been appointed from the number to carry out the necessary arrangements will invite the Royal Commissioners of the Industrial Exhibition, the Executive Committee, and the Secretaries,—with “such other noblemen and gentlemen as they may think most interested in the objects of the meeting.” Each mayor is invited to appear at the banquet in his robes of office; and is further requested to procure a banner, with his own arms, or the arms of his city or borough, delineated thereon, for the purpose of decorating the Guildhall of York, which is to be the scene of the entertainment.

Under the title of the Epidemiological Society, the members of the medical profession and others are forming an association to investigate the history, origin, causes and laws of the propagation of epidemic diseases, with a view to their more effectual prevention or improved treatment. Dr. Babington has been elected its President. It is explained that the Society has no intention of interfering with the investigations of individuals. On the contrary, it proposes to aid them with funds, with a good library, and by putting them in communication with the eminent men of other countries,—and to facilitate their efforts in every way.

We are living, our readers know, in an age emphatically of statues and testimonials. The virtues of the time are giving daily increasing employment to the manufacturers of busts and silver teapots. We know not how many additions are made year by year, in public edifice or private closet, to the volume of English Worthies. It is true, that by this means the editions vary,—and there are pages interpolated in individual copies not to be found in the public library. Each particular society makes notes and writes names of its own in the Book of Merit,—which are adopted with more or less reserve into the State copy or therein rejected altogether. We must confess that the State has not always done its editing to our satisfaction. It is not always the worthiest names that have the best place in its records. It is not often that its commemorations are for those with whom our sympathies are most warmly engaged. We would make many a substitution in its list of honours if we had our will. The men who have laboured in the cause of intellectual light or of moral health should stand on the pedestals that are usurped by more vulgar figures if we had the ordering of the world's Pantheon. We would depose Hannibal in favour of Howard, and give Watt the place of Alexander the Great. But the herald has not yet learned in England to shout the name of the philanthropists. The very darkness amid which these men labour is a cause which hides them from him,—who has an eye for colours. The clients of the philanthropist are for the most part the low castes of the world,—and they are not consulted in the distribution of the public crowns.—It is greatly to the honour of a body of men who met last week at the house of Dr. Forbes that they have undertaken to assert the title of one of these workers in the by-ways of humanity. For many years of his useful life Dr. Conolly has maintained the cause of the most neglected and stricken of all the children of misfortune; and therefore it is declared by a resolution passed on the occasion in question that “Dr. John Conolly, of Hanwell, is, in the opinion of this

Meeting, eminently entitled to some public mark of esteem and gratitude, for his long, zealous, disinterested and most successful labours in ameliorating the treatment of the Insane.” To estimate the full amount of his title, the reader must travel back to the recollection of what asylums for the lunatic were before Dr. Conolly's time; when all the forms of insanity were treated as cases of moral death,—or worse, when men so smitten were separated from human sympathies as of old were the wretches stricken with the plague. But this was not all. To misfortune in the saddest of its shapes was added pain in the meanest of its forms. The wandering mind was addressed through the tortured body. The remedies tried on the madman were such as would drive sane men mad. The whip and the strait-waistcoat were the prescriptions for his disease.—Owing in a great degree to the persevering efforts of Dr. Conolly, all this is now at an end. The worst of maladies is divested of the worst of its features. That shadow, darker than the shadow of death, which was supposed to fall for ever between the patient and the loving hearts without, is exorcised. “Lasciate ogni speranza voi che entrate” is no longer the legend over the madhouse door. The horrid counter-irritation of the whip is abolished,—all the fever-creating forms of personal restraint are removed. The asylum is now a hospital, not a dungeon. Mental disease is treated by appeals to the mind. Imperfect sympathies are nourished, broken memories sought to be repaired, old familiar habits brought forward as mental prescriptions, the wandering intellect taken kindly by the hand, and by every rational means led gently towards home. All means of moral action on the diseased mind are resorted to:—the persuasion of music, the imaginative argument of drama, the power of old pursuit. Every chance is taken that a sudden gleam or effort of thought, struck out by this playing on the old chords, may light, or lift, the mind back to the balance whence, in many instances, it was shaken none knows how or when. The spirit is treated, not as a lute that is stringless, but as one whose strings make discords. The wits are dealt with like “sweet bells out of tune.”—Now, even if the statistics of the matter did not confirm the suggestions of common sense as to the efficacy of this system for cure, think of the amount of positive happiness substituted thereby for the old infliction of pain. The door back into the world is left wide open, and the old voices and familiar looks come and go across its threshold. The spirits with which the now disordered intellect consorted in its sane time cross and recross the lunatic's dim path:—who can know that one of them may not be suddenly recognized, and take its old acquaintance home?—Who shall tell what accidental tone may recal the echoes?—Who shall say how the capsize mind may right itself beneath some sudden upheaving of the heart?—At any rate, what are left to it of its powers are scientifically employed in the work of its own renovation,—and if the effort fail, what remain of its sympathies are made ministers to its enjoyment. Who knows, in the worst cases, what angel thoughts may walk the mental darkness, whispering consolation, and keeping down the demon, now that we have expelled the “seven spirits worse than himself,” whom of old man cruelly introduced to strengthen him?—So, we, too, are of opinion that Dr. Conolly is “eminently entitled to some public mark of esteem and gratitude,”—and that the world should pay him some portion of the debt of those who cannot pay it for themselves.

The American copyright case—*Murray v. Bohn* and Routledge—has advanced one stage in the Court of Chancery. Vice-Chancellor Bruce on Thursday last ordered that both Mr. Bohn and Mr. Routledge shall keep accounts of what they sell of Mr. Irving's works, pending the removal of the cause to another court, and without prejudice. “The point in dispute,” he observed, “was beyond all doubt a very important one, and one which some day must reach the House of Lords.”—adding, as appears by the reports in the daily papers, that “it was impossible to say that the questions which the case involved were settled.” The defence will rest in part on the plea that Mr.

Washington Irving is an alien, and on the authority of the case decided in the Court of Exchequer by Sir Frederick Pollock. The claim to the injunction will rest in part, it is said, on the plea that Mr. Irving is not an alien; that his father was a native of the Orkneys and his mother a native of Falmouth, and that though he himself was born in New York he is the son of British born subjects, and therefore no alien.

The glaring anachronisms contained in the story of Sir John Duddlestone as related by Mr. Burke in his ‘Anecdotes of the Aristocracy, and Episodes of Ancestral Story,’ and copied into our columns a fortnight ago [*ante*, p. 783] have aroused the inquiries of more than one correspondent.—The story, says one of these, writing from Bristol, “is well known here. I have seen and heard it repeatedly, and nearly in the words quoted. It is one of our popular legends, and, like most others, has some foundation in fact. Sir John Duddlestone was in all probability knighted, as will presently be seen, about the year 1686, and created a baronet in 1691; yet he is represented addressing Prince George as husband of Queen Anne,—and as being knighted by her some sixteen years before she succeeded to the throne, in 1702. Again—if Prince George at the time of his supposed visit to Bristol had been husband of the Queen, would not the principal merchants of the city have rather courted than avoided his company? The storm of 1704 would scarcely have ruined a bodice-maker;—it might a tobacco-merchant. A few extracts from ‘The Chronological Outline of the History of Bristol,’ published in 1824, will suffice for my present purpose:—

‘1686, Aug. 25.—The King (James) came here accompanied by George Prince of Denmark, &c. &c.’

‘1690, Sept. 5.—The King (William) and Prince George of Denmark sailed from Ireland.

‘Sept. 7.—They came in the Duke of Beaufort's coaches to Bristol, and without staying any, rid directly to the Duke of Beaufort's house, (old MS.)’

‘1691, Jan. 11.—Sir John Duddlestone, knt. and tobacco-merchant, created a baronet.’

Then follows a foot note which alludes to, but does not relate the above inconsistent tale.

‘When did John Duddlestone previously receive the honour of knighthood? \* \* This addition to Sir John's dignity would imply belief in the story, so ridiculously related, of his exclusive hospitality to Prince George. The Prince had visited Bristol with his father-in-law, James, in 1686, and dined at Sir William Hayman's in Small Street. Perhaps his visit in 1690, was when James became unpopular, and those who envied Sir John's ‘blushing honours’ trumped up the story alluded to, in which he is said to be a bodice-maker, and his lady the wearer of a blue apron, with a style of phrase not exactly suited to a resident in so principal a situation as that of Mr. Norton's, the bookseller, where they lived. Both lie in All Saints' Church.’

I may add that the mural tablet to the memory of Sir John's married daughter, who died in 1704, is still in excellent preservation in All Saints' Church. All Saints' Church is in the very heart of the city, within fifty yards of the site where stood the High Cross. Next to the Church is the Exchange—then the Post Office, being a detached wing of the Exchange,—and then a modern built house on the spot formerly occupied by Sir John Duddlestone.”

The Executive Committee of the Lancashire Public School Association have taken a step for the extension of the principle on which they are combined, by the following important resolution:—“Resolved—That it is desirable that a Second Conference of the Friends of National Secular Education should be held in October next: to decide,—whether the Education movement which has originated in this county, and which has hitherto been prosecuted for a nominally local purpose, should not now be made national in its character; and, in case such change should be determined on, to consider and adopt the principles and provisions of an Education Bill, and arrange for its introduction into the House of Commons in the next session of Parliament.—That the Secretary put himself into Communication with as many as possible of the Friends of National Secular Education resident in various parts of the country, communicating this resolution, and requesting them to arrange public meetings, in their respective localities, for the election of Delegates to the said Conference.”

The Acte d'Accusation which specifies the charges against M. Libri has, after a further delay, been published by the *Moniteur* and the law



journals of France. In the absence of this document, we are given to understand that M. Libri had been engaged in preparing for immediate publication a reply to what he has presumed to be its leading points,—and we are further assured that he will now follow up that impromptu answer by a more elaborate and detailed refutation of the published indictment.

We have received an answer, which we are entitled to regard as official, to a paragraph which appeared in our columns some weeks ago (*ante*, p. 687), complaining that the prohibitory system which marks the spirit of reaction in Prussia had found its way into the Royal Library of Berlin. The specific charges of our correspondent on that occasion are formally denied. "Neither," says our informant, "do these regulations preclude any gentleman or lady from consulting the catalogues of the library, nor is any reader confined to one work at a time. The reader may have as many works at once as he can make use of. That a work," adds our informant, "consisting of several volumes, each of which is independent of the other, should in general be given out of the establishment volume by volume, is a rule introduced for the benefit of the great numbers of readers; as it must be evident that a reader detaining twelve or twenty volumes of the same work at a time will keep them much longer at home than if he be required to exchange them one by one, or two by two."

THE ARCHITECTURAL EXHIBITION at the GALLERY, 53, Pall Mall, opens this day to the Public FREE, except on Saturdays, the admission then being One Shilling.

GEORGE TRUEFIT, Hon. Secs.  
JAMES K. COLLING, Hon. Secs.

PANORAMA of the NILE.—Additions have been made to this Exhibition.—The Nubian Desert, from the Second Cataract to Dongola—War Dance by Firelight—March of Caravan by Moonlight—Morning Prayer.—The Mummy of a High Priest is added to the curiosities. Both Banks of the River are shown in the Painting.—EGYPTIAN HALL, PICCADILLY.—Daily, at Three, and Eight o'clock.—Stalls, 3s., Pit, 2s., Gallery, 1s.; Children and Schools, Half-price.

INDIA OVERLAND MAIL.—DIORAMA.—GALLERY of ILLUSTRATION, 14, Regent-street, Waterloo-place.—Additional Picture, MADRAS.—A Gigantic MOVING DIORAMA, ILLUSTRATING the ROUTE of the OVERLAND MAIL to INDIA, depicting every object worthy of notice on this highly-interesting journey from Southampton to Madras and Calcutta, accompanied by descriptive detail and appropriate music, is now OPEN DAILY. Mornings at Twelve, Afternoons at Three, and in the Evening at Eight o'clock.—Admission, 1s.; Stalls, 2s. 6d.; Reserved Seats, 3s.—Doors open half an hour before each representation.

THE DIORAMA, Regent's Park.—Admission, One Shilling.—NOW OPEN, with the finest VIEWS ever exhibited in this country, representing the ROYAL CASTLE of SPOLZENFELS, on the Rhine, (visited by Her Majesty Queen Victoria in August 24th) and its Environs, as seen at Sunset and during a Thunder Storm; painted by NICHOLAS MEISTER, of Cologne. And the much-admired Picture of THE SHRINE OF THE NATIVITY, at Bethlehem; painted by the late M. RENOUX, from a Sketch made on the spot by David Roberts, Esq. R.A., with novel and striking effects.—Open from Ten till Six.

ROYAL POLYTECHNIC INSTITUTION. During this week the ALPINE SINGERS from Styria will perform several of their National Melodies, Daily at Four, and in the Evenings at Half-past Eight.—LECTURE on CHEMISTRY, by J. H. Pepper, Esq., daily at a Quarter-past Three, and in the Evening at Eight, ILLUSTRATING the ANCIENT FIERY ORDEAL and the HANDLING of RED-HOT METALS.—LECTURE by DR. BACHOFNER on VOLTAIC ELECTRICITY, daily at Two, and in the Evenings at a Quarter-past Nine.—NEW SERIES of DISSOLVING VIEWS, illustrating some of the WONDERS of NATURE, daily at Half-past Four, and in the Evenings at a Quarter to Ten; also a Series, exhibiting SCENES in the ARCTIC REGIONS and CEYLON, daily at One o'clock.—DIVER and DIVING BELL, &c. &c.—Admission, 1s.; Schools, Half-price.

## FINE ARTS

FINE-ART GOSSIP.—The sale of the rich gallery of the late King William the Second is appointed to take place at the Hague on the 12th of August (Monday next) and following days. Many reports have been in circulation as to the future destiny of this collection. On the one hand, it was asserted, says the *Brussels Herald*, that the Queen Dowager of the Netherlands had resolved on making the greatest sacrifices rather than it should leave the country; on the other hand, it was said that the Emperor of Russia was on the point of purchasing it *en masse*, to increase the importance of the Museum of the Hermitage. Neither of these presumptions has been realized. We borrow from a contemporary the following particulars of the treasures brought together in this gallery, and now about to be dispersed by the hammer. The gallery "is divided into ancient and modern paintings, drawings, and sculptures. There are 192 paintings by the old masters, 162 modern, 370 drawings ancient and modern, and 26 busts and statues—total, 750 items. The Flemish, Bruges, Dutch, German, Spanish, and Italian

schools are represented by the most celebrated of their masters—such as Van Eyck, Hemling, Quentin and Jean Matsys, Mabuse, Pourbus, Holbein, Lucas of Leyden, Rubens, Vandyck, Teniers, Rembrandt, Ruysdael, Hobbema, Murillo, Velasquez, Ribeira, Albano, Guido, Canaletti, Palma Vecchio, Raphael, Julio Romano, Titian, and Leonardo da Vinci. Among the painters of the French school are—Charles Armand, Clouet, Claude Gelée, and Poussin. In the collection of modern pictures every country in which the arts are cultivated has been laid under contribution. Among them are mentioned several interesting pieces by Wilkie, produced in the best days of his subtle and keenly observant talent. Nor has France been forgotten. The names of Bracassat, Decamps, Gudin, Jacquand, Lapote Poitevin, Ary and Henri Scheffer, are honourably inscribed in the catalogue of the late King's pictures. The greater part of the original drawings are by Raphael, Rubens, Da Vinci, Correggio, Michael Angelo, Sebastiano del Piombo, Andrea del Sarto, Tintoretto, Caravaggio, and Vandyck. The palace of the Hague was especially distinguished for containing the works of the most celebrated masters of the Flemish and Bruges schools; and, without doubt, the very curious productions of Vandyck of Antwerp, Van Eyck, Van Orley, Lucas of Leyden, Mabuse, and Holbein, which have escaped the ravages of time, will meet with eager purchasers."—Amateurs, we believe, are flocking to the Hague from all directions, to be present at this remarkable sale.

We understand that the Exhibition of the Designs for the medals in connexion with the Exhibition of Industry is closed:—and that the designs may be had by competitors on their forwarding to the secretary of the Society of Arts the name inclosed in the sealed letters.

A very clever picture, by Mr. Noel Paton, of Oberon and Titania, from the 'Midsummer Night's Dream,' is on view at Messrs. Graves's in Pall Mall. Mr. Paton first obtained distinction for a smaller picture of the same or a very similar subject, exhibited at one of the Westminster Hall Exhibitions. The picture now on view has, our readers know, been purchased for the National Institution of Scotland, at the price of 700 guineas. Here Mr. Paton revels in fairy-land, like Michael Drayton,—or, shall we say, like Shakspeare himself. His picture is full of poetry, and of the fine feeling and rarer resources of his art.

Mr. Labouchere has recently purchased a marble bust of Milton, made, it is said, from the life by an Italian sculptor during the poet's visit to Italy. The sum paid—200 guineas—and the known good taste of Mr. Labouchere speak in favour of the excellence of the bust as a work of Art and also in favour of its authenticity. We have not seen it.

Dr. Waagen, we can announce, has entered into arrangements with Mr. Murray for the publication of a work to be called 'The Treasures of Art in England.' Dr. Waagen's former publication, 'Art and Artists in England,' has been long out of print. The new work will contain extended notices of all our public and private collections of note, and will include critical descriptions of miniatures, missals, rare prints, &c. The treasures of Art on the Continent are to be found in some dozen or twenty great galleries,—the treasures of Art in England are scattered over palaces, public buildings, nobleman's mansions, gentlemen's seats, and merchants' houses. The ready access that Dr. Waagen has found to the several private collections is creditable to our advanced feeling for Art. Had his visit been twenty years back, he would have had a different reception.

## MUSIC AND THE DRAMA

HAYMARKET.—The Adelphi company is located here for the present. On Monday Madame Celeste and Miss Woolgar, with Paul Bedford, Wright and Hughes, appeared in 'The Willow Copse,' 'Jack in the Green,' and 'The Double-bedded Room.' These revels, however, are to last but a few nights, while the more appropriate theatre for them undergoes temporary repair; after which, these boards will, we presume, be restored to their legitimate uses. Mr. Webster must provide for

competition, since he is likely during the ensuing season to have six respectably conducted theatres to contend against:—a circumstance which will require on his part all diligence, with the best aid that he can obtain both from authors and from actors.

NEW STRAND.—A new drama of remarkable merit was produced here on Monday. It is from the pen of Mr. Shirley Brooks, and is entitled 'The Daughter of the Stars.' The piece is in two acts; the first of which is remarkable for its wit. In this respect it approaches to the brilliancy of Congreve—both as regards the quality and its misapplication; the wit being respectively distributed in about equal proportions to every character. The second act is sentimental; its incidents are intricate and of a legal complexion,—memoranda from the note-book of experiences in an attorney's office, appropriate to the uses of the minor drama. The entire play is designed for an attack on social convention and mammon respectability. Poverty is recognized as the only crime by the principal in the action, *The Hon. Antony Hawkstone* (Mr. Farren),—and expediency as the only rule of a wise man's life. He is offended with his nephew *Lieut. Ernest Dalton* (Mr. W. Farren, jun.), not only for having married without his consent, but for having brought his superior officer to trial and conviction by a court-martial. He scorns the young man's honourable principles; and asperses the character of his parents, from whom he had purchased the property which he now enjoys. Having instructed his attorney, one *Crawley*, admirably acted by Mr. G. Cooke, to seek out a missing niece to take the discarded nephew's place, a gipsy, named *Miriam*, or 'The Daughter of the Stars,' most strikingly impersonated by Mrs. Stirling, is introduced into the house. In her own tribe the girl had won reputation as an expert thief, and her naïve remarks on society constitute the sarcasm of the dialogue. But she is destined to be a victim to the conventions which she shames. Educated to enable her to fill with propriety her new situation, and led by gratitude to form a devoted love for *Dalton*, she is doomed at last to find that her instructor was his wife, and that she herself is the daughter of a rascally lawyer. This *dénouement* is unsatisfactory; nor is the painfulness of the situation much atoned for by the poor girl's closing speech—"My destiny is in the hands of Heaven." The success of the drama is owing to the good writing and good acting; not at all to the interest of the story, or to any skill shown in its structure.

MUSICAL AND DRAMATIC GOSSIP.—Contemporaneously with the performing operations of the London Bach Society noticed by us last week—and which we hope are only the first of a series—the Leipzig Bach Society has issued a prospectus announcing its intention to publish a complete edition of the works of the Cantor of the *Thomas Schule*:—under the direction of a list of members, otherwise a committee, which seems to us more showy in its composition than calculated to prove serviceable. The names of M. Breitkopf and Härtel, Hauptmann, Moscheles (of Leipzig), Marx (of Berlin), R. Schumann (of Dresden), Spohr (of Cassel), Winterfeld (of Berlin) the learned and accomplished writer on ancient music—are judiciously selected; but what benefit or co-operation, beyond sale and subscription-agency, are to be derived from gentlemen residing in places so distant from Leipzig as Breslau, Emden, Munich!—or so utterly unable to superintend a musical publication as His Excellency the Prussian Ambassador in London? It is hardly within the possibilities that these scattered persons can communicate with each other, far less meet; while the unwieldiness of such a body is calculated to exercise a most unfavourable influence on a publication which should and which must appear regularly. Small is the chance of any of this present generation living to see the completion of an edition of the works of Bach thus undertaken. Nor is our misgiving ascribable merely to the construction of the Society; but also to the voluminousness of matter and to the difficulties of editorship, which can only



be grappled with according to one system, and disposed of by the undivided labour of one qualified and competent musician. The Leipzig Society, however, seems in one matter to have made a wise decision:—we mean by commencing with the vocal works of Sebastian Bach. Of these a uniform edition cannot fail to be welcome. The publication of Bach's instrumental compositions has already advanced largely under the care of M. Peters of Leipzig; and the wisest thing that the new Society could do would be, to arrange their publications in completion of, not in competition with, his,—and, by coming to some understanding and arrangement on the subject, at once to preclude rivalry and prevent waste of labour. In any event, the new project is one full of interest.

We are informed by the *Musical Times* that the Dean and Chapter of Westminster Abbey have lately instituted prizes by way of encouragement to their choir boys; and that an examination recently took place in the presence of the authorities of the cathedral. It was conducted by Sir George Smart, at the request of the organist. The boys were divided into three classes, and the most advanced in each class received a prize.

An advertisement in the same journal acquaints us that the second eight-guinea prize for the best vocal composition given by the proprietors of Novello's 'Part Song-Book,' has been awarded to Miss E. Stirling, of Poplar. We presume that this is the young lady whose organ-playing some dozen years ago excited so much attention, and of whom the public has since lost sight. For the first prize, which was carried off by Mr. Walter C. Macfarren, we are informed that there were no fewer than fifty-eight candidates.—The 'Part Song-Book,' by the way, gives tokens of improvement. In the fourth number is a new setting for four voices of Shakspeare's delicious 'Orpheus with his lute,' by Mr. G. A. Macfarren. This would be a beautiful glee, were not three or four of the passages spoilt by progressions and harmonies the effect of which on the ear is nothing short of cruel. In the second stave of page 47, the passage of contrary motion in the middle parts to the word "or hearing" produces harmonies to our ears desperate, and the more to be deprecated since the first idea and general ordinance of the composition are felicitous and elegant.

Prizes for part-songs appear to be growing in fashion. The Sheffield Apollo Glee Club is tempting competition with a promise of ten guineas to be given in reward for the best new composition:—all manuscripts to be sent in before the 1st of September next.

A new concert-room—in connexion, if we mistake not, with one of the spas—is about to be opened in Cheltenham, with some musical state and ceremony.

Miss L. Pyne is said to have accepted an engagement for the winter season at the Italian Opera of Vienna.—Madame Grisi is not going to Russia this winter.

We observe that "the powers that be" in Paris are passing measures to rid the theatres not merely of the purient trash which has of late been represented there, but also of the success-manufacturers—in other words, the *claqueurs*—whose exactions and audacities have ended in binding managers hand and foot, and in preventing the *vox populi* from accepting or rejecting artist or work of art. It is impossible, supposing that public amusements are to go on, that this abuse should not work its own undoing; but we are glad to see that in the quarter where the plague was nursed into being and activity, sanitary measures are in progress—since the example may tell on this side of the water. With the discouragement of *claque*, the discomfiture of *clique* also must, more or less, keep pace; and we shall have fewer and fewer obstacles thrown in the way of the deserving, by testimonials given at random, by superlatives on solicitation accorded to the mediocre, by "puffs preliminary" of either the chest or of the good heart of the coming *Romeo* or *Giulietta*.

M. Bocage has just been dispossessed of the management of the *Odéon Théâtre* in Paris:—it is said by some of the journals, in consequence of his

perpetually producing pieces there calculated to bring the present Government into disfavour.

Holland seems bestirring itself among the musical countries. The fifth meeting of "The Society for the Encouragement of Music" was held the other day in the fine church of Haerlem, with an orchestra and chorus amounting to six hundred persons. One of the days was mainly devoted to idyllic contests betwixt the different local male singing societies of the Low Countries. On the second day a selection of sacred music was performed,—including a Motett by Sebastian Bach, and a Hymn by Mynheer Verhulst, (whose name is beginning to be heard of "outside the dykes"). On the third day Mendelssohn's 'Elijah' was executed. There was also organ-playing—as was, indeed, only fit, the locality considered.

The title of the new opera to be written by Signor Verdi for the early winter season of Trieste is 'Stifello.'

Sadler's Wells Theatre, it is announced, will be re-opened on Saturday next. It is understood that the tragedy of 'Hamlet' will be the piece then produced. The company, we are informed, has undergone extensive and important alterations. Miss Glyn is re-engaged, and will appear in several new parts.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.—W. W.—W. M. T.—received.

J. L.—This correspondent, who charges us with discourtesy, might very readily see that if our courtesy were taxed to answer privately all such questions as he puts to us, our correspondence must of necessity take the place of our literary duties,—and if publicly, our general readers must be sacrificed by the amount of many of our columns to our particular ones. The rule of not answering is maintained only by making no exceptions.

A SUBSCRIBER, DURHAM.—We cannot do what this correspondent requests,—for reasons which he may readily guess.

#### TWENTIETH MEETING OF THE BRITISH ASSOCIATION FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF SCIENCE.

[From our own Correspondents.]

THE order of proceeding at this Twentieth Meeting of the British Association has followed the old precedents, adapted to the resources and suggestions of the particular locality. The summary of these proceedings is as follows.—On Wednesday, the 31st ult. the General Committee assembled, and the first General Meeting was held in the evening,—as we last week recorded.—On Thursday, business began, as usual, in all the Sections; and in the evening Prof. Bennett delivered a Lecture, in the Music Hall, on the passage of the blood through the minute vessels of animals, in connexion with nutrition.—On Friday an excursion party, to the number of about seventy, started, under the direction of Mr. R. Chambers, to visit Corstorphine Hill and Arthur's Seat. They examined the groovings on the western face of Corstorphine Hill, and the stræ on the sandstone near Ravelstone. They afterwards visited Arthur's Seat and St. Margaret's, where they examined the striated rocks and stones. In the evening there was a *Conversazione* and promenade in the Music Hall.—We should mention that the Prince's Street Gardens were open at all times to the members of the Association.—On Saturday, no business was done in the Sections,—but the day was devoted to excursions. One to North Berwick and the Bass Rock mustered more than two hundred members. On arriving at North Berwick, Mr. Daniel Wilson led a detachment of this party to the Bass; whilst others passed onward to Tantallon, the ancient stronghold of the Douglasses, under the guidance of Dr. Adams and Mr. Seton. They visited, too, the Castle of Dirlton, founded by the great Anglo-Norman house of De Vaux, and said to have been reduced to its present shattered state by the Parliamentary General Lambert. A projected excursion to the Pentland Hills was all but a failure in consequence of some misarrangement about the carriages,—and, as regards the main body of the intending excursionists, resolved itself into a geological ramble round the neighbourhood of Edinburgh,—embracing, of course, the Calton Hill and Arthur's Seat. This ramble was scientifically illustrated by Mr. Maclaren. On the same day, an extra Horticultural Exhibition was held in the Experimental Gardens, Inverleith, to which members

of the British Association had free admission.—On Monday afternoon, the General Committee held a meeting for the purpose of fixing the time and place of their next meeting, and of electing the office-bearers for next year; and on the same afternoon, upwards of two hundred members dined together in the Hopetoun Rooms,—Sir David Brewster presiding. In the evening, Dr. Mantell delivered a Lecture on the extinct birds of New Zealand, in the Music Hall, to a numerous audience.—On Tuesday evening, there was a second full-dress promenade and *Soirée* in the Music Hall.—The business of the Sections on the several days will be found detailed in our columns.—On Wednesday, the General Committee assembled to sanction the grants that had passed the Committee of Recommendations:—and in the afternoon of the same day the concluding General Meeting of the Association, for the accustomed ceremonial proceedings, was held.—This meeting brought the proceedings of the Twentieth Congress to a close.

#### GENERAL COMMITTEE.

##### MONDAY.

THE PRESIDENT in the chair.—Mr. PHILLIPS stated that invitations had been received from the towns of Ipswich, Manchester, Belfast, Hull and Liverpool. Deputations were heard from the various places (and from Leeds in addition), in support of their respective claims; but while all seemed equally anxious for the honour of the visit in 1852, it seemed to be the general opinion that the Association was, to a certain extent, pledged to visit Ipswich in 1851.

THE MARQUIS OF NORTHAMPTON, after enumerating the claims which Ipswich possessed to the visit of 1851, especially in being situated on the eastern coast, and in a part of England not hitherto visited by the Association, moved that the next meeting be held in that town.—Sir R. I. MURCHISON seconded the motion, which was unanimously agreed to.

On the motion of Dr. ROBINSON, the ex-President, G. AIRY, Esq., the Astronomer-Royal, was appointed President for the next year; and the following parties were appointed office-bearers:—

Vice-Presidents.—The Right Hon. Lord Rendlesham, the Bishop of Norwich, Rev. Prof. Henslow, Rev. Prof. Sedgwick, Sir J. Boileau, Bart., Sir W. Middleton, Bart., J. G. Cobbold, Esq. M.P., and T. B. Western, Esq. Secretaries.—G. Ransome, Esq., C. May, Esq., C. D. Sims, Esq., and G. A. Biddell, Esq. Treasurer.—J. B. Alexander, Esq.

Sir R. I. MURCHISON proposed that the meeting should be held some time in the month of June; but after some discussion (during which, however, a general opinion was expressed in favour of an early meeting), it was resolved to leave the precise period to the decision of the Council.

The following noblemen and gentlemen were appointed as the Council for the ensuing year:—

Sir H. De la Beche, Prof. E. Forbes, Prof. Graham, Mr. Greene, Mr. Hutton, Rev. Prof. Gassiot, Sir C. Lyell, Sir C. Malcolm, Prof. Owen, Mr. G. R. Porter, Mr. Hopkins, Col. Sykes, Prof. Wheatstone, Sir C. Lemon, Sir P. Egerton, Lord Wrottesley, the Duke of Argyll, Dr. Daubeny, Dr. Whewell, Master of Trinity, Rev. W. C. Harcourt, Dr. Robinson, Rev. Dr. Lloyd, Sir W. Jardine, Prof. Faraday, and Sir J. Richardson.

##### WEDNESDAY.

THE GENERAL COMMITTEE held their final meeting,—the PRESIDENT in the chair. The minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed.

The following recommendations then received the sanction of the Committee.—

##### Involving Grants of Money.

The establishment at Kew Observatory, 300*l*.

That Prof. J. D. Forbes be requested to institute a series of experiments, for the purpose of testing the results of the Mathematical Theory of Heat; that Prof. Kelland be requested to co-operate with him; and that 50*l*. be placed at the disposal of Prof. Forbes for the purpose.

That the Committee for Superintending the Publication of the Tabular Forms in reference to Periodical Phenomena of Animals and Plants be continued, with 5*l*. at their disposal.

That Prof. E. Forbes and Mr. Bell be requested to continue their assistance to Dr. T. Williams in his researches on the Amelida, with 10*l*. at their disposal.

That the Committee on the Vitality of Seeds be requested to continue their attention to that subject, with 11*l*. at their disposal.

That a Committee, consisting of Mr. R. Hunt, Dr. G. Wilson and Dr. Gladstone, be requested to investigate the influence of the solar radiations on chemical combinations, electrical phenomena, and the vital powers of plants grow-



ing under different atmospheric conditions, with 50*l.* at their disposal.

That Dr. Smith be requested to continue his investigation on the Air and Water of Towns, with 10*l.* at his disposal.

That, as the printed Queries formerly circulated for the purpose of obtaining Ethnological data are now out of print, a new and revised edition of them be issued by Sir C. Malcolm and Dr. Hodgkin, with 12*l.* at their disposal for the purpose.

*Involving Application to Government or Public Institutions.*

That a Committee, consisting of the President, the Duke of Argyll, Sir R. I. Murchison, Prof. Forbes and Lord Breadalbane, be appointed for the purpose of urging on Her Majesty's Government the completion of the Geographical Survey of Scotland, as recommended by the British Association at their former meeting in Edinburgh, in 1834.

That application be made to the Admiralty for the Publication of the Reports of their Committee on Metals.

That a Committee be appointed by the Council for the purpose of waiting upon Her Majesty's Government, to request that some means be taken to insure to the science of Natural History effective representation in the Trusteeship of the British Museum.

That the Council of the Association be requested to communicate with the Council of the Royal Society, and also with the Government, if necessary, respecting the possibility of relieving the Association from the expense of maintaining the establishment at Kew.

That Her Majesty's Government be requested to institute a Statistical Survey relative to the Extent and Prevalence of Infantile Idiocy, as a measure greatly conducive to the public welfare.

#### Rules.

That the subject of Geography be separated from Geology, and, combined with Ethnology, to constitute a separate Section, under the title of the Geographical and Ethnological Section.

That in future no Section shall omit to meet on account of Excursions, unless specially so determined in each case by the Sectional Committee.

#### Reports requested.

Prof. Stokes.—On the General Theory of Vibratory Motions in Elastic Media.

Prof. Willis.—On Acoustics.

Mr. G. Buchanan.—On the Strength of Materials.

Mr. T. Stevenson.—On the various modes of constructing Sea Walls, and the actual state of knowledge as to their power of resisting the forces to which they are exposed.

Mr. J. Whitworth.—On his Experiments for the purpose of constructing Accurate Standards of Measure.

Dr. H. Cleghorn, Prof. Royle, Messrs. R. Baird Smith and R. Strachey.—On the probable effects, in an economical and physical point of view, of the Destruction of Tropical Forests.

#### Researches, &c.

That the Committee on the influence of Carbonic Acid on the growth of Ferns, be requested to continue their investigations.

That Dr. Percy and Prof. Miller be requested to continue their researches on Crystalline Slags.

That the Committee on Shooting Stars and Auroral Phenomena be re-appointed.

That the Committee on the Instrumental Measurement of Earthquake Waves be re-appointed.

On the recommendation that Dr. Laycock be added to the Committee recommended by Section D to report on the History and Advances in our knowledge of the Anatomy and Physiology of the Nervous System,—it was stated that the recommendation had been accidentally omitted, and that the gentlemen originally appointed were Prof. Goodsir, Prof. Sharpey, and Prof. Allan Thomson. Another report omitted in the same way was, on the History and Advance of Vegetable Physiology; to which Dr. Lindley, Mr. A. Henfrey and Dr. Lankester were appointed.

#### Miscellaneous.

That two Botanical Works, presented by Prof. Parlatores, be deposited in the Library of the University of Edinburgh.

That the Committee of Members of Legislature who are also Members of the British Association, who were requested to watch over the interests of science, and to inspect the various measures which might from time to time be introduced into Parliament likely to affect such interests—be re-appointed, and that the further steps to be taken in this matter be referred to the Council.

That the Tables of the Distribution (in depth) of Marine Animals, by Mr. McAndrew, be printed *in extenso* in the volume of Reports of this Meeting of the Association.

That the President of Section A be requested, with such assistance from the Members as he may find desirable, to revise the recommendations which have from time to time been adopted in reference to Mathematical and Physical Science, and to communicate thereon with the Assistant General Secretary previous to the next Meeting.

That the sum now paid for Life Composition and Book Subscription (viz. 10*l.*) be divided into two sums of 5*l.* each, the first sum being a necessary payment by all who compound for Annual Subscription; the latter an optional payment as a special Book Subscription.

That the Committee of Superintendence of the Kew Observatory be continued.

That Major-General Briggs's paper 'On the Aboriginal Tribes of India' be printed.

That for the future the names of officers not attending the meetings of the Association be not published.

That a committee be appointed to communicate with the Pulkowa Observatory on the subject of the next general total eclipse.

That the paper of M. Kupfer be printed for circulation amongst the officers.

The Assistant Secretary called attention to the fact that the Council which meets in London is composed not only of those appointed by the General Committee, but of the officers of the last and next Meetings of the Association.

#### GENERAL MEETING.

WEDNESDAY.

The final General Meeting was held in the Music Hall, in the afternoon,—and was very numerously attended. The formal business having been gone through,—the customary votes of thanks to the governing bodies, the local officers of the city, and other parties, were passed:—and after a vote of thanks to the President, and its acknowledgment,—the Meeting separated.

THURSDAY.

#### SECTION A.—MATHEMATICAL AND PHYSICAL SCIENCE.

President.—Prof. JAMES D. FORBES.

Vice-Presidents.—Sir T. M. BRISBANE, Bart., Bishop TERROT, Prof. W. THOMSON, Lord WROTTESLEY.

Secretaries.—Prof. STEVELLY, Prof. G. G. SCOTER, Mr. W. J.

MACQUORN RANKINE, Prof. SMITH.  
Committee.—Mr. J. C. Adams, Sir David Brewster, Mr. J. A. Broun, Prof. Gray, Mr. J. P. Gassiot, Rev. Dr. Hinks, Rev. Prof. Kel-land, Dr. Lee, M. Otto Struve, Mr. F. Osler, Prof. Phillips, Rev. Dr. Scoresby, Prof. Wilson, Mr. J. Scott Russell, Rev. J. B. Reade, Mr. F. Ronalds, Col. Sykes, Lieut. R. Strachey, R.E.

Prof. Forbes, the President, being confined by severe illness, Lord WROTTESLEY, on taking the chair, explained briefly that Reports drawn up at the request of the Association took precedence of all voluntary communications, and called on Mr. F. RONALDS for his Report on the 'Observations and Experiments at the Kew Observatory.'

This Report, which was voluminous and elaborate, detailed the arrangements of the buildings and the improvements which had taken place during the last year; the instruments, and the peculiarities of their construction and late improvements, the most important of which was that, by the use of transparent gelatine paper, a light line could be etched on it exactly corresponding with the curve traced by any of the self-registering instruments, which piece of gelatine paper being then sent to the copperplate printer, he was able to strike off from it any number of copies that might be required for distribution.—Prof. PHILLIPS then gave a sketch of the observations which had been established under the unpaid and invaluable superintendence of Mr. Ronalds since 1842–3, when the Observatory was placed by Government at the disposal of the British Association. He gave a brief description of the manner in which a piece of photographic paper, being carried by clock-work across the direction in which the instrument moved whose changes were to be noted, received a succession of impressions which appeared as a curved line, recording the several indications of the instrument as the time elapsed.—Sir D. BREWSTER wished to suggest to Mr. Ronalds that by taking a negative impression of the positive photographic curve, copies might in a much simpler manner be multiplied to any extent,—as was now practised in this city; and he promised to exhibit specimens on some future occasion to the Section.

'Report on Luminous Meteors,' by the Rev. B. POWELL.—In continuing this Report for the year elapsed, the author acknowledged the communications of several scientific friends; among whom Mr. Lowe, as on former occasions, has been pre-eminent. Dr. Buist favoured him with some from India; but others, though promised, had not arrived in time for the present Report. The tables are now somewhat extended in form. The columns which they comprise are, Date,—Hour,—Magnitude,—Colour,—Train,—Explosive,—Velocity or Duration,—Direction,—Remarks,—Place,—Observer,—and Reference. The time is in general common clock time, and therefore open to much uncertainty, unless otherwise expressed; but in all Mr. Lowe's observations it is Greenwich mean time. The Report contained detailed accounts of some of the more important or interesting displays of luminous meteors.

'On the Laws of the Elasticity of Solids,' by W. J. MACQUORN RANKINE.—The object of this paper is to investigate the relations which must exist between the elasticities of different kinds possessed by a given solid substance, and between the different values of these elasticities in different directions. The different kinds of elasticity possessed by a solid substance are distinguished into three: first, *longitudinal elasticity*,

representing the forces called into play in a given direction by condensation or dilatation of the particles of the body in the same direction;—secondly, *lateral elasticity*, representing the force called into play in a given direction by condensation or dilatation of the particles of the body in a direction at right angles to that of the force;—and thirdly, *transverse elasticity or rigidity*, being the force by which solid substances resist distortion or change of figure, and the property which distinguishes them from fluids. The author's researches refer chiefly to substances whose elasticity varies in different directions. His first endeavour is to determine the laws of elasticity of such substances, as far as they are independent of hypotheses respecting the constitution of matter,—a method which has not hitherto been followed. The first proposition respecting such substances is the following: *Theorem 1.* In an elastic substance which is homogeneous and symmetrical with respect to molecular action, there are three directions at right angles to each other, in which a longitudinal strain (viz. dilatation or condensation) produces a pressure in its own direction. These three directions are called axes of elasticity. They are the proper directions for the reduction of all molecular displacements and pressures. Their existence has been demonstrated according to various hypotheses as to the constitution of matter; but the truth of the demonstrations is independent of the particular hypotheses. The elasticity of a body, referred to these three axes, is expressed by twelve coefficients—three of longitudinal and six of lateral elasticity, and three of rigidity, which are connected by the following laws:—*Theorem 2.* The coefficient of rigidity is the same for all directions of distortion in a given plane.—*Theorem 3.* In each of the co-ordinate planes of elasticity, the coefficient of rigidity is equal to one-fourth part of the sum of the two coefficients of longitudinal elasticity, diminished by one-fourth part of the sum of the two coefficients of lateral elasticity in the same plane. The investigation having now been carried as far as is possible without the aid of hypotheses, the author determines, in the first place, the consequences of the supposition of Besovich, that elasticity arises entirely from the mutual action of atomic centres of force. The author denominates bodies so constituted *perfect solids*, and respecting them proves the following propositions:—*Theorem 4.* In each of the co-ordinate planes of elasticity of a perfect solid, the two coefficients of lateral elasticity and the coefficient of rigidity are all equal to each other.—*Theorem 5.* In each axis of elasticity of a perfect solid, the coefficient of longitudinal elasticity is equal to three times the sum of the two coefficients of rigidity for the co-ordinate planes which pass through that axis, diminished by three times the coefficient of rigidity for the plane normal to that axis. Thus, in perfect solids, all the coefficients of elasticity are functions of three independent coefficients—those of rigidity. In no previous investigation has the number of independent coefficients been reduced below six. To represent the phenomena of *imperfect solids*, there is introduced the *hypothesis of molecular vortices*, in addition to that of atomic centres; that is to say, each atomic centre is supposed to be surrounded by a fluid atmosphere, retained round the centre by attraction, and diffused from it by the centrifugal force of revolutions constituting heat. The author has already applied this hypothesis to the theory of the elasticity of gases and vapours, in a paper read to the Royal Society of Edinburgh, and published in their Transactions, vol. xx. Applied to solids, it leads to the following conclusion:—*Theorem 6.* In an imperfect solid, according to the hypothesis of molecular vortices, each of the coefficients of longitudinal and lateral elasticity is equal to the same function of the coefficients of rigidity which would be its value in a perfect solid, added to a coefficient of fluid elasticity, which is the same in all directions. Thus the number of independent coefficients is increased to four.—The rest of the paper is occupied by the deduction of some important consequences from these principles. This paper is intended to form the foundation of the theoretical part of a series of researches on the strength of materials.

Sir D. BREWSTER begged to suggest to Mr. Rankine that by an examination of the action of parent solids on polarized light, the method found these theoretic views might be better method found and so accurate and simple.



to be of testing the nature of the constraint under which the several elements of a strained body were, that models of pieces of carpentry were now actually constructed in glass, subjected to the kind of strain to which their representatives would be exposed; and the kind and degree at each part rigorously ascertained by polarized light.—Sir D. Brewster then read a letter to the Section, on which he intended to found a motion for the formation of a committee to proceed and examine the state of a tree struck by lightning in this neighbourhood, and report to the Section:—

Edinburgh, July 31.

My dear Sir,—Mr. Wauchope, of Edmonstone, has expressed his wish that members of the British Association should have the first access to the tree which was some time ago struck by lightning; and, provided some other day than Friday be selected, he will, on a day's previous notice, have workmen on the spot to cut it down, or expose the roots, with a view to tracing the electric current downwards, if it be wished.—Believe me, &c.

Professor Forbes.

A. COVENTRY.

M. Martins, now present at the Association, had made some very curious observations on this subject. On some occasions large volumes of steam were seen to envelope growing trees struck by lightning,—no doubt caused by the dispersed sap; and, on one occasion, a tree was split up internally into pieces as small as lucifer matches.—It was suggested to Sir D. Brewster that it was in the committee, not in the Section, that the formation of a sub-committee must originate.

'On Atlantic Waves, their Magnitude, Velocity, and Phenomena,' by Dr. SCORESBY.—During two passages across the Atlantic in 1847-8, I had opportunities for investigating certain elements respecting deep-sea waves more favourable than had ever before occurred within my experience in navigation. These observations, it should be noted in the outset, and the results deduced from them, were entirely uninfluenced by, and separate from theory. They form but a contribution to this interesting branch of natural phenomena; but I offer them the more readily from the circumstance of their entire independency and speciality. It was in our return voyage from America that the highest seas occurred, when the circumstances adapted for interesting observations were singularly favourable; for, whilst the magnitude and the peculiar construction of the upper works of the ship—the *Hibernia*—afforded various platforms of determinate elevation above the line of flotation for observations on the height of the waves, the direction of the ship's course, with respect to that of waves, was generally so nearly similar as to yield the most advantageous agreement or accordance for observations on their width and velocity. These observations I shall extract, in their order, from my Journal kept during the homeward passage. My first observation worth recording is under the date of March 5, 1848, when the ship was in latitude about 51°, and longitude (at noon) 38° 50' W.—the wind then being about W.S.W., and the ship's course, true, N. 52° E. At sunset of the 4th the wind blew a *hard gale*, which, with heavy squalls, had continued during the night; so that all sail was taken in but storm-staysail forward. The barometer stood at 29.50 at 8 P.M., but fell so rapidly as to be at 28.30 by 10 the next morning. In the afternoon of this day I stood some time on the saloon deck or cuddy roof,—a height, with the addition of that of the eye, of 23 feet 3 inches above the line of flotation of the ship,—watching the sublime spectacle presented by the turbulent waters. I am not aware that I ever saw the sea more terribly magnificent. I was anxious to ascertain the height of these mighty waves; but found almost every wave rising so much above the level of the eye, as indicated by the intercepting of the horizon of the sea in the direction in which they approached us, as to yield only the *minimum* elevation, and to show that the great majority of these rolling masses of water possessed a height of considerably more than 24 feet (including depression as well as altitude,) or, reckoning from the mean level of the sea, of more than 12 feet. Exposed as the situation was, I then adventured to the larboard paddle-box, which was about 7 feet higher, where the level (as ascertained afterwards at Liverpool, allowance being made for the 24 inches in the draught of water of the ship) was 5 feet 6 inches above the sea. This position, with the height of my eye, gave an elevation of 24 feet 3 inches for the level of the

view then obtained,—a level, it should be remarked, which was very satisfactorily maintained during the instants of observation, because of the whole of the ship's length being occupied within the clear "trough of the sea," and in an even and upright position, whilst the nearest approaching wave had its maximum altitude. Here, also, I found at least *one half* of the waves which overtook and passed the ship were far above the level of my eye. Frequently I observed long *ranges* (not acuminate peaks) extending 100 yards, perhaps, on one or both sides of the ship,—the sea then coming nearly right aft,—which rose so high above the visible horizon, as to form an angle estimated at 2 to 3 degrees (say 2½°) when the distance of the wave summit was about 100 yards from the observer. This would add near 13 feet to the level of the eye. And this measure of elevation was by no means uncommon,—occurring, I should think, at least once in half a dozen waves. Sometimes peaks of crossing or crests of *breaking* seas would shoot upward at least 10 or 15 feet higher. The *average wave* was, I believe, fully equal to that of my sight on the paddle-box, or more,—that is, 39=15 feet, or upwards; and the *mean highest waves*, not including the broken or acuminate crests, about 43 feet above the level of the hollow occupied at the moment by the ship. Illuminated as the general expanse not unfrequently was by the transient sunbeam breaking through the heavy masses of the storm-cloud, and contrasting its silvery light with the prevalent gloom, yielding a wild and partial glare, the mighty hills of waters rolling and foaming as they pursued us, whilst the gallant and buoyant ship—a charming "sea-boat"—rose abaft as by intelligent anticipation of their attack, as she scudded along, so that their irresistible strength and fierce momentum were harmlessly spent beneath her and on her outward sides,—the storm, falling fiercely on the scanty and almost denuded spars and steam chimney raised aloft, still indicated its vast, but as to us innoxious, power, in deafening roarings,—altogether presented as grand a storm-scene as I ever witnessed, and a magnificent example of "the works of the Lord," specially exhibited to sea-going men, "and his wonders in the deep." In the afternoon of the same day the gale again increased, blowing, especially during the continuance of a much protracted hail-shower, terrifically,—roaring like thunder whilst we scudded before it, causing the ship to vibrate as by a sympathetic tremor, and the tops of rolling waves, too tardy, rapid as was their actual progress, for the speed of the assailing influence, to be carried off and borne along on the aerial wings in a perfect drift of spray! But during the period of these most vehement operations of nature, I was fortunately enabled, from familiarity with sea enterprise, to pursue my observations with entire satisfaction. The next day—March 6—added to the interest of these investigations by developing the character of the Atlantic waves under a long and fiercely-continued influence of a little varying wind. It had blown a heavy gale, violent in the showers, from the north-westward, from Saturday evening the 4th, to the evening of Sunday, from 26 to 30 hours; during the night, too, of Sunday it had again blown hard (abating towards the morning of Monday), and making a total continuance of the storm, in its violence, of about 36 hours.\* I renewed my observations on the waves at 10 A.M.—the storm having been then subdued for several hours, and the height of the waves having perceptibly subsided. Soon I observed, when standing on the saloon-deck, that ten waves, in one case, came in succession, which all rose above the apparent horizon,—consequently they must have been more than 23 feet, probably the *average* might be about 26 from ridge to hollow. At this period I also found that occasionally (that is, once in about four or five minutes,) three or four waves in succession, as seen from the paddle-box, rose above the visible horizon,—hence they must, like those of the preceding day, have been 30 feet waves. But one important difference should be noted—viz. that they were of no great extent on the ridge, presenting, though more than mere conical peaks, but a moderate elongation. Another subject of consideration and investigation, on this occasion,

\* The barometer on Saturday, at 8 P.M., was at 29.50; at 6 A.M. of Sunday it had fallen to 28.30, being 1.2 inches in 10 hours. At 6 P.M. of the latter day it had risen to 30.00 inches.

was the period of the regular waves overtaking the ship, and the determination, proximately, of the actual width or intervals, and their velocity. 1. The ship was then going *nine* knots only, the free action of the engines being greatly interfered with by the heavy sea running, and the lines of direction of the waves and the ship's course differed about 22½ degrees, the sea being two points on the larboard quarter,—in other words, the true course of the ship was east; the direction from whence the sea came was W.N.W. 2. The period of regular waves, in incidental series, overtaking the ship were observed as follows:—

Waves.	Min.	Sec.	Mean.
20 occupied	5	30	16½
10 "	2	35	15.5
10 "	2	50	17.0
10 "	2	45	16.5
8 "	2	16	17.0

General average.... 16.5

3. The length of the ship was stated to be 220 feet. The time taken by a regular wave to pass from stern to stern appeared, on a mean of several observations, to be about six seconds. Hence 6" : 220 feet (the width passed over in that time) :: 16.5 feet to 605 feet (the width passed over betwixt crest and crest.) But this extent, by reason of the obliquity of the direction of the waves to the course of the ship, is found to be elongated about 45 feet, reducing the probable mean distance of the waves to 559 feet. Independently of this process, I had previously estimated the distance of the wave crests, ahead and astern when the ship was in the hollow, as I stood near the centre of the ship's length on the paddle-box, at 300 feet each way, by comparing the intervals betwixt my position and the place of the wave-crest, with the known length of the ship. This comparison frequently re-considered and repeated, subsequently yielded, in much accordance with the former, a total width, in the line of the ship's course, of about 600 feet. 4. But the total distance betwixt the crests of two waves, then reckoned at 550 feet, a distance passed by the wave in 16.5 seconds of time, by no means indicates, it is obvious, the real velocity of the wave, as the ship meanwhile was advancing nearly in the same direction at the rate of nine knots, that is, nine geographical miles, or (6,075.6 feet × 9 =) 54,680.4 feet per hour, or 15.2 feet per second. During the time, therefore, of a wave passing the ship = 16.5", the ship would have advanced on its course 16.5 × 15.2 = 250.6 feet. Reducing this for the obliquity of two points we have 231.5 feet to be added to the former measure, 559 feet, which gives 790.5 feet for the actual distance traversed by the wave in 16.5 seconds of time, being at the rate of  $\frac{3,600'' \times 790.5}{16.5} = 17,251.7$  feet, or 32.67 English statute miles per hour. To know how far this result is but proximate, it should be considered that, of the several elements employed in the calculation, all but one might be deemed accurate. The interval of time occupied by the transit of a wave with respect to the position of the ship, the *direction* of the ship's motion with relation to that of the waves, and the speed of the ship through the water,—may all be recorded as, essentially, accurate. The element in doubt is that of the average distance from summit to summit of the waves. This distance, it has been seen, was, by a twofold process of observation or comparison accordantly assumed. The value of the judgment derived from rapid comparison of measures by an eye accustomed to such estimations is, it should be observed, far higher than might be generally considered. The practical military commander or engineer officer is able to make, by mere inspection of the ground before him, remarkably close estimates of spaces and distances. When engaged in the Arctic whale fishery, I was enabled, from habit and comparison of unmeasured spaces with known magnitudes, to estimate certain distances with all but perfect accuracy. Thus, as to a circumstance in which we were most deeply interested—the near approach of a boat to a whale—I found it quite practicable, whenever the pursuing boat approached within twice or thrice its length (except when the position was near end on) to estimate the distance to less than a yard. Now, the means of comparison by the eye as to the estimation of the breadth of the Atlantic waves, was that of the ship's length of 220 feet. When the ship was fairly in the



middle of the depression betwixt two waves it was assumed, with reference to this known measure, that something obviously less, but not greatly so, than the ship's length, was the distance of each of the two waves then contemplated—giving a total width of about 600 feet. But the comparison of the time required by a wave to pass from stem to stern, with the average time of transit of an entire wave, yielded a much better result; and, on much consideration of the subject, I am inclined to believe that the estimate is a tolerably close approximation to the truth. It should be observed, too, that as the headway of the ship, in the direction of the course of the wave—being a known quantity—it was favourable to the accuracy of the estimate. For, assuming an error in the width of the waves to have occurred, say to the amount of one-twelfth of the whole, or 49 feet—the effect upon the calculated velocity of the wave would have been only about a sixteenth, or 2·16 miles per hour. The form and character of these deep-sea waves became at the same time interesting subjects of observation and consideration. In respect to form, we have perpetual modifications and varieties, from the circumstance of the inequality of operation of the power by which the waves are formed. Were the wind perfectly uniform in direction and force, and of sufficient continuance, we might have in wide and deep seas waves of perfectly regular formation. But no such equality in the wind ever exists. It is perpetually changing its direction within certain limits, and its force too, both in the same place and in proximate quarters. Innumerable disturbing influences are therefore in operation generating the varieties more or less observable in natural sea waves. In regard to my own observations of the actual forms of waves, nothing particularly new could be expected from an inquiry of this kind in regard to phenomena falling within the perpetual observation of seagoing persons; yet, at the risk of stating what might be deemed common, I will venture to transcribe from my notes made with the phenomena before me, the leading characteristics which engaged my attention. During the height of the gale (March 6th) the form of the waves was less regular than after the wind had, for some time, begun to subside. Though in many cases when the sea was highest the succession of the primary waves was perfectly distinct, it was rather difficult to trace an identical ridge for more than a quarter to a third of a mile. The grand elevation in such case sometimes extended by a straight ridge or was sometimes bent as of a crescent form, with the central mass of water higher than the rest, and, not unfrequently, with two or three semi-elliptical mounds in diminishing series, on either side of the highest peak. These principal waves, too, it should be noted, were not continuously regular, but had embodied in their general mass many minor, secondary and inferior waves. Neither did the great waves go very prevalently in long parallel series like those retarded by shallow water on approaching the shore; but every now and then changed into a bent cuneiform crest with breaking acuminating peaks. On the following morning (March 7), after a second stormy night, wind S.S.W. (fine), we had a heavy and somewhat cross sea (from the change of wind from W.S.W. to S.S.W.). But the almost unabated magnitude of the more westerly waves indicated a continuance of the original wind at some distance astern of us. The gale had moderated at daylight, and the weather became fine; but as the sea still kept high, its undulations became more obvious and easily analyzed. At three in the afternoon, when about a third part of the greater undulations averaged about 24 feet from crest to hollow, in height, these higher waves could be traced right and left as they approached the ship to the extent of a quarter of a mile on an average, more or less. Traced through their extent the ridge was an irregular roundbacked hill, precipitous often on the leeward side of waters. The undulations, indeed, as to primary waves, consisted mainly of these roundbacked masses, broken into or modified by innumerable secondary and smaller waves within their general body. The time in which these waves passed the ship was now, on an average, about 15 seconds, the ship's speed being increased from 9 to 11 knots, and the obliquity of the ship's course to the direction pursued by the waves was 3 points. On the 9th, two days after the above condition of the waves—whilst the sea yet

ran high—few waves could be traced, continuously, above 300 or 400 yards in extent along the same ridge. The crests often curled over, but none so as to reach the height of a 30-foot wave, and broke for a wide space, estimated at 50 to 100 yards in continuity. *Miscellaneous Notes and Suggestions.*—The mode adopted in these researches of finding the height of wave is, I believe, quite satisfactory, and, observed with care and with relation to numbers or proportion of waves, as accurate as need be. The depression of the horizon in respect to the elevation of the observer is too small to form even a correction. As the horizon from the paddle-box  $\frac{39}{2} = 15$  feet, had only a depression of  $3' 49''$ , the distance of the visible horizon, as seen from this elevation, would be 4·45 statute miles, and the actual depression in feet due to the distance of the summit of the wave when the ship was in the midst of the hollow, could only be 0·18 foot or 2·16 inches. Other modes of determining the width of a wave—or the extent betwixt summit and summit—much preferable to that described (the only available one I could devise) might easily be adopted where the management of the ship was in the hands of the observer. In steam ships the simplest mode for high seas, perhaps, would be, altering the speed of the ship when going in the direction of the wave or against the wave; the ratios of the times of transit of wave-crests, under different rates of sailing of the ship might yield results very close to the truth. In moderate sized waves the plan adopted by Capt. Stanley—whose observations I met with before this meeting—seem satisfactory. But in calms, or moderate weather after a storm,—that is, for the determination of the velocities of less elevated waves—a variety of processes might be available.

The author referred, in conclusion, to the forms of wave crests, and heights, modified by crossings, interferences, and reflections.

Mr. SCOTT RUSSELL felt a familiar interest in the results of these observations. The Section was aware that great doubts existed as to the actual heights of the waves of the open ocean. It was now past all doubt that waves 24 feet high, 30 feet high, 43 feet high, and with the swelling crest even exceeding 45 feet high, actually existed and were observed. From the observations which he had conducted many years since, he had ventured to draw up a table predicting the velocities of sea waves up to even 1,000 feet from trough to crest in length. Although the apparatus which he had used did not enable him to experiment on waves which exceeded 16 inches in length,—yet from these pigmy waves it was most interesting to see how accurately the law was obtained; for in his table the velocity of a wave whose length was 600 feet was set down at 30 or 31 miles per hour. Dr. Scoresby's actually observed velocity for this wave was 32 miles and a fraction.—Lord NORTHAMPTON begged to remark that this was one of the many instances of the value of the British Association as a handmaid to science. It brought together two such gentlemen as Mr. Russell and Dr. Scoresby, and showed the accuracy of the laws deduced by one from experiments conducted on a microscopic scale, by the test of others observed amid the sublime scene of the great Atlantic.

'On Metallic Reflexion,' by Prof. G. G. STOKES.—The effect which is produced on plane-polarized light by reflexion at the surface of a metal shows that if the incident light be supposed to be decomposed into two streams, polarized in and perpendicularly to the plane of reflexion respectively, the phases as well as the intensities of the two streams are differently affected by the reflexion. It remains a question whether the phase of vibration of the stream polarized in the plane of reflexion is accelerated or retarded relatively to that of the stream polarized perpendicularly to the plane of reflexion.

This question was first decided by the Astronomer Royal, by means of a phenomenon relating to Newton's rings, when formed between a speculum and a glass plate. Mr. Airy's paper is published in the Cambridge Philosophical Transactions. M. Jamin has since been led to the same result, apparently by a method similar in principle to that of Mr. Airy. In repeating Mr. Airy's experiment, the author experienced considerable difficulty in observing the phenomenon. The object of the present communication was to point out an extremely easy mode of deciding the question experimentally. Light polarized at an azimuth of about  $45^\circ$  to the plane of reflexion at the surface of the metal was transmitted, after reflexion, through a plate of Iceland spar cut perpendicular to the axis, and analyzed by a Nicol's prism. When the angle of incidence was the smallest with which the observation was practicable, turning the Nicol's prism properly the dark cross was formed almost perfectly; but on increasing the angle of incidence, it passed into a pair of hyperbolic brushes. This modification of the rings was described and figured by Sir D. Brewster, in the Philosophical Transactions for 1830. Now, the question at issue may be immediately decided by observing in which pair of opposite quadrants it is that the brushes are formed. In this way the author was led to Mr. Airy's result, namely, that as the angle of incidence increases from zero, the phase of vibration of light polarized in the plane of incidence is retarded relatively to that polarized in a plane perpendicular to the plane of incidence.

'On a Fictitious Displacement of Fringes of Interference,' by Prof. G. G. STOKES.—The author remarked that the mode of determining the refractive index of a plate by means of the displacement of a system of interference fringes, is subject to a theoretical error, depending upon the dispersive power of the plate. It is an extremely simple consequence (as the author showed) of the circumstance that the bands are broader for the less refrangible colours, that the point of symmetry, or nearest approach to symmetry, in the system of displaced fringes is situated in advance of the position calculated in the ordinary way for rays of mean refrangibility. Since an observer has no other guide than the symmetry of the bands in fixing on the centre of the system, he would thus be led to attribute to the plate a refractive index which is slightly too great. The author has illustrated this subject by the following experiment:—A set of fringes produced in the ordinary way by a flat prism were viewed through an eye-piece, and bisected by its cross wires. On viewing the whole through a prism of moderate angle, held in front of the eye-piece with its edge parallel to the fringes, an indistinct prismatic image of the wires was seen, together with a distinct set of fringes, which lay quite at one side of the cross wires, the dispersion produced by the prism having thus occasioned an apparent displacement of the fringes in the direction of the general deviation.

'On the Refractive Indices of several Substances,' by the Rev. Prof. POWELL.—Having on former occasions endeavoured to extend the list of observed indices for the standard rays of the solar spectrum given by prisms of different media, by means of an apparatus described, along with the statement of the results, in my report to the British Association, 1839, I now beg to offer to the Association the indices in like manner obtained for the four following. The rare oil of spikenard I received through a friend from the late Mr. Hatchett, by whom it was carefully prepared, perfectly pure; for the other three I am indebted to Mr. N. S. Maskelyne. The results in each case are the mean of several repetitions. In two instances (the oils of lavender and sandal wood) the absorption of the violet rays (as in so many other oils) was such as to render the line H very indistinct; its index is therefore marked as doubtful.—

MEDIUM.	$\mu$ for the Standard Rays.						
	B	C	D	E	F	G	H
Oil of Spikenard, Temp. 22 deg. Centig. ....	1·4732	1·4746	1·4763	1·4829	1·4868	1·4944	1·5009
Oil of Sandal Wood, Temp. 20 deg. Centig. ....	1·5034	1·5053	1·5091	1·5117	1·5151	1·5231	1·5398 ?
Oil of Lavender, Temp. 20 deg. Centig. ....	1·4641	1·4658	1·4660	1·4728	1·4760	1·4837	1·4930 ?
Benzole, Temp. 18 deg. Centig. ....	1·4895	1·4961	1·4978	1·5041	1·5093	1·5206	1·5310



In my report (1839), I stated the impossibility of obtaining measures in chromate of lead from the absence of all appearance of lines, and the entire absorption of the blue and violet portion of the spectrum. I have since thought that in the absence of any determinations of the kind it might not be useless to give the very rough estimates which my former attempts enable me to obtain by means of the absorption of blue glass, which gave a point roughly corresponding to about B, another to D, and the extreme green space visible might be about E. The most refracted of the two spectra (given by the double refraction of the substance) was the worst defined, and in this the part corresponding to D is extremely uncertain. The mean of two sets of observation was as follows:—Prism of chromate of lead, axis of prism perpendicular to axis of crystal, mean angle obtained by reflexion and by measurement =  $14^\circ$  nearly.—

RAY.	1st Spectrum.		2nd Spectrum.	
	$\Delta$	$\mu$	$\Delta$	$\mu$
Extreme red,				
about B	$22^\circ$	2.53	$26^\circ 30'$	2.84
about D	$23^\circ 16'$	2.55	$29^\circ ?$	3.00 ?
about E	$24^\circ 30'$	2.70	$30^\circ 30'$	3.10

While upon the subject, I may be allowed to remark, that as attempts are now making, with so much promise, for procuring optical glass of a superior quality, it would be highly interesting if specimens were cut into prisms (portions of half an inch cube, or even less, will do, and two sides only need be polished, containing an angle of about  $60^\circ$ ), so as to subject the glass to the very delicate test of the *visibility of the finer lines of the spectrum*. I have reason to think that working opticians are not generally aware that in many specimens, *apparently very clear*, only a few of the broader lines can be seen, and *very often none*; in Fraunhofer's glass nearly 600 were visible.

## FRIDAY.

Prof. FORBES in the chair.

'Notice of the Working of the New Integrating Anemometer during the past year,' by Mr. FOLLET OSLER.—A sheet of *plain paper* placed in the instrument under a registering pencil is moved forward by rotating hemispherical fans, at the rate of one inch for every ten miles of air that passes; this same pencil, having a lateral motion given to it by a vane, records the point of the compass from which the wind blows, and a clock hammer descending every hour strikes its mark on the margin of the paper to express the time. Thus, in a *single line* are given, firstly, the length of the current; secondly, the direction of it; and thirdly, the time occupied in passing a given station marked hourly or at any shorter interval that may be desired.

'On the Magneto-optic Properties of Crystals, and the Relation of Magnetism and Diamagnetism to Molecular Arrangement,' by Messrs. J. TYNDALL and HERMANN KNOBLANCH.—During the investigation carried on more than one hundred natural crystals had been examined. The results were thus briefly summed up:—We have on the one side four new forces assumed,—the optic attractive force and the optic repulsive force, the magno-crystallic force and the magneto-crystallic force; and on the other side no new force whatever, but simply that modification of existing forces which we have named electro-polarity. By attention to the compression of amorphous bodies, every single experiment cited in proof of these four forces can be reproduced. Exactly the same can be exhibited with wax, dough, artificial layers, gutta percha and ivory. The alternative then appears to be, either to explain the action of these substances by the assumption of optic and crystallic forces, or to explain magno-crystallic action by electric polarity.

This paper gave rise to a very animated discussion.—The PRESIDENT said, that although he was ready to admit that Mr. Tyndall's theory was most ingenious, and the arguments and experiments by which he sustained his views were apparently well conceived and sound, yet time must be given to weigh them well before a satisfactory conclusion could be reached.—Prof. THOMSON thought that Mr. Tyndall's views would be found to be substantially consonant with Dr. Faraday's and the theory of Poisson.

Mr. J. A. BROWN presented papers 'On Magnetic

Forces.'—His first paper related to 'The Effects of Height in the Atmosphere upon the Diurnal Variation of the Magnetic Declination.' He had two stations of observation: the first, the low level, being at Makerstoun, and the second, the high station, at the top of one of the highest of the Cheviots, at an elevation of 2,650 feet. His conclusions were, that the diurnal ranges did not differ one-tenth of a minute.

The ASTRONOMER ROYAL considered the experiments important, and suggested that there should be two stations of reference,—one directly below the higher station.—Prof. W. THOMSON suggested the making observations on the variations of the vertical force.—Mr. BROWN stated the difficulties of doing this; and the ASTRONOMER ROYAL said he had quite overcome those difficulties.

'On the Construction of the silk Suspension Threads for the Declination Magnetometer,' by Mr. J. A. BROWN.—Silver wires had been used in the Russian declinometers, but expansion impaired their accuracy. Mr. BROWN tried three threads prepared by the methods of Cassini, Nervander, and by his own method, and had found that his own process was at least twice as good as Nervander's, and thrice as good as Cassini's.

'On Mechanical Compensations for the effect of Temperature on the Bifilar and Balance Magnets,' by Mr. J. A. BROWN.

'On the Polarizing Structure of the Eye,' by Sir D. BREWSTER.—The author said that when he sat down to this paper he was not aware that Prof. Stokes was intending to make the communication which was placed next on the list—as his was an attempt to account by the polarizing structure of the eye for the phenomena of Haidinger's brushes, which would be explained to them immediately by Mr. Stokes. He would, therefore, confine himself to showing that the eye contained within itself amply sufficient to account for the phenomenon, because constituting the eye itself an ever ready polariscope or analyzer of polarized light.—He proceeded by diagrams to show that the crystalline lens of the eye, its posterior enclosing membrane, with the concave parallel membranes immediately in front of the retina, which together acted similarly to a number of water crystals placed one within the other, constituted a polarizing apparatus, which by analyzing the polarized light from the blue sky, would give two blue skies, bounded by hyperbolic curves, with an interposed space of a yellow of the third order, or a brownish yellow, which would constitute the brushes, or bouchals, of Haidinger. One only difficulty still confronted him in this explanation, viz., that it ought to turn round the brush  $45^\circ$  from the plane of polarization,—in which plane, on the contrary, the brush was found to arrange itself.

'On Haidinger's Brushes,' by Prof. G. G. STOKES.—It is now several years since these brushes were discovered, and they have since been observed by various philosophers; but the author has not met with any observations made with a view of investigating the action of different colours in producing the brushes. The author's attention was first called to the subject by observing that a green tourmaline which polarized light very imperfectly enabled him to see the brushes distinctly, while he was unable to make them out with a brown tourmaline which transmitted a much smaller quantity of unpolarized light. He then tried the effect of combining various coloured glasses with a Nicol's prism. A red glass gave no trace of brushes. A brownish yellow glass, which absorbed only a small quantity of light, rendered the brushes very indistinct. A green glass enabled the author to see the brushes rather more distinctly than they were seen in the light of the clouds viewed without a coloured glass. A deep blue glass gave brushes of remarkable intensity, notwithstanding the large quantity of light absorbed. With the green and blue glasses the brushes were not coloured, but simply darker than the rest of the field. To examine still further the office of the different colours in producing the brushes seen with ordinary daylight, the author used a telescope and prism, mounted for showing the fixed lines of the spectrum. The sun's light having been introduced into a darkened room through a narrow slit, it was easy, by throwing the eye-piece a little out of focus, to form a pure spectrum on a screen of white paper

placed a foot or two in front of the eye-piece. On examining this spectrum with a Nicol's prism, which was suddenly turned round from time to time through about a right angle, the author found that the red and yellow did not present the least trace of brushes. The brushes began to be visible in the green, about the fixed line  $\epsilon$  of Fraunhofer. They became more distinct on passing into the blue, and were particularly strong about the line  $r$ . The author was able to trace them almost as far as the line  $g$ ; and when they were no longer visible the cause appeared to be merely the feebleness of the light, not the incapacity of the greater part of the violet to produce them. With homogeneous light the brushes, when they were formed at all, were simply darker than the rest of the field, and as might have been expected did not appear of a different tint. In the blue, where the brushes were most distinct, it appeared to the author that they were somewhat shorter than usual. These observations account at once for the colour of the brushes seen with ordinary daylight. Inasmuch as no brushes are seen with the less refrangible colours, and the brushes seen with the more refrangible colours consist in the withdrawal of a certain quantity of light, the tint of the brushes ought to be made up of red, yellow, and perhaps a little green, the yellow predominating, on account of its greater brightness in the solar spectrum. The mixture would give an impure yellow, which is the colour observed. The blueness of the side patches may be merely the effect of contrast, or the cause may be more deeply seated. If the total illumination perceived be independent of the brushes, the light withdrawn from the brushes must be found at their sides, which would account, independently of contrast, both for the comparative brightness and for the blue tint of the side patches. The observations with homogeneous light account likewise for a circumstance with which the author had been struck, namely, that the brushes were not visible by candle-light, which is explained by the comparative poverty of candle-light in the more refrangible rays. The brushes ought to be rendered visible by absorbing a certain quantity of the less refrangible rays, and accordingly the author found that a blue glass combined with a Nicol's prism enabled him to see the brushes very distinctly when looking at the flame of a candle. The specimen of blue glass which showed them best, which was of a tolerably deep colour, gave brushes which were decidedly red, and were only comparatively dark, so that the difference of tint between the brushes and side patches was far more conspicuous than the difference of intensity. This is accounted for by the large quantity of extreme red rays which such a glass transmits. That the same glass gave red brushes with candle-light and dark brushes with daylight, is accounted for by the circumstance that the ratio which the intensity of the transmitted red rays bears to the intensity of the transmitted blue rays is far larger with candle-light than with daylight.

'On some Phenomena of Mirage on the east Coast of Forfarshire,' by the Rev. C. F. LYON.—He had noticed the Red Head at Montrose, distant twenty-five miles from St. Andrews, assume a square form, then notched, then double notched. The outlines of the sea had risen up with angular corners, and pieces of the sea seemed raised up as if seen through unequal glass.

Dr. SCORESBY had seen many such peculiarities. They occurred chiefly at seasons when the temperature changes suddenly from cold to heat, thus giving rise to inequalities in the density of atmospheric strata. Two mirages of the same object were frequently seen, as noticed by the late Dr. Young. I (said Dr. Scoresby) once saw a remarkable case of this kind, the land appearing raised up like basaltic cliffs. I then took a different elevation, by ascending to the top of the house, and was delighted to observe that the phenomenon had wholly disappeared. I came down, and now saw it as formerly. Again I descended to the bottom of the rising ground, and saw nothing unusual.—Mr. HOPKINS thought that proper attention had not been paid to the influence of reflexion, as well as refraction, in such cases.

'Experiments on the Expansion of Glass, Woods and Metals from changes of Temperature,' by Mr. ROBERTS.—He was led to these experiments by finding the published tables of relative expansion of bodies



by heat very incorrect on an occasion when he wished to make a good compensating pendulum. His method was:—he had a stove in which he could heat the rods and bars experimented on to a determined heat, say 130°. These rods, wrapped in listing to protect them from sudden change, were then laid rapidly upon supports along a hand-rail laid sloping on the outside of the building, one end bearing on a fixed stay; a screw adapted to determine the 0·001 of an inch was brought to bear on the upper end of the rod; the time occupied in this part of the operation never exceeded forty seconds. After the rods and bars there cooled the contraction was determined by turning the screw. Mr. Roberts exhibited tables which differed materially from those in common use.

## THURSDAY.

## SECTION B.—CHEMISTRY, INCLUDING ITS APPLICATIONS TO AGRICULTURE AND THE ARTS.

President.—Dr. CHRISTISON, V.P.R.S.E.

Vice-Presidents—Dr. GREGORY, Dr. TRAILL, Dr. DAUBENTY.

Secretaries—Mr. R. HUNT, Dr. G. WILSON, Dr. T. ANDERSON. Committee—Dr. L. PLAYFAIR, Mr. J. P. GASSIOT, Prof. Johnston, Dr. J. Stenhouse, Mr. J. P. JOULE, Prof. Voelcker, Prof. Blyth, Messrs. S. Ward, T. Fearsall, Prof. Penny, Dr. Gladstone, Mr. A. Kemp, Dr. D. MacLagan, Messrs. J. Tennant, J. Young, H. L. Pattinson, H. C. Sorby, Dr. Schunck, Prof. Williamson, Dr. R. D. Thomson, Dr. Andrews, Prof. A. Fleming.

'A few unpublished Particulars concerning the late Dr. Joseph Black,' by Dr. G. WILSON.—Dr. Wilson exhibited Dr. Black's pneumatic trough, with which he showed his experiments on fixed air; his balance, and some other relics of this great man.

'Report on the Influence of Carbonic Acid on the Growth of Ferns,' by Dr. DAUBENTY.—This was merely a statement that the inquiry on this subject was still in progress, although no very satisfactory results had as yet been arrived at. The ferns were now growing in an atmosphere containing one per cent. of carbonic acid in excess above that ordinarily contained in air; and although it was thought that similar ferns growing under the same conditions, but without carbonic acid in excess, were the most luxuriant,—it appeared that they thrived well in this artificial atmosphere.—Mr. R. HUNT explained that he was not prepared to furnish a report at this meeting, owing to the great uncertainty which appeared to surround the inquiry. He stated that he found the diversified influences of light materially to affect the quantity of carbonic acid which the plants could absorb without immediate injury. He would still pursue his investigations, and he hoped to arrive at something more definite by the next meeting.

'On the Per-centage of Nitrogen as an Index to the nutritive Value of Food,' by Dr. A. VOELCKER.—The object of this paper was to show, that the usual estimation of the nutritive qualities of an article of food is frequently attended with inaccuracies, which renders it desirable to modify our present methods in this respect in many cases. A circumstance which leads to considerable error is, the presence of ammoniacal salts in the juices of plants. In order to prove experimentally the presence of ammoniacal salts in larger quantities than hitherto suspected, and to avoid the objection that they might result from a partial decomposition of albuminous substances during the analysis, the author chose fungi for his experiments, which are rich in nitrogen and known as being highly nutritious. The species used was *Agaricus prunellus*, a species which is edible, and remarkable for forming most beautiful fairy rings. After having separated all soluble protein compounds by means of basic acetate of lead, which reagent throws down these completely, the amount of nitrogen still present in the juice of these agarics, in the form of ammoniacal salts, was found to be 0·204 per cent. for the fresh fungi, or 1·82 per cent. for the dry fungi. The whole amount of nitrogen in the same agarics, collected at the same time, determined by combustion, was found to be 0·74 per cent. for the fresh fungi, or 6·61 per cent. for the fungi dried at 212° F. Deducting from the last stated numbers the quantity of nitrogen found to exist in the juice in the form of ammonia, we find that only 0·536 per cent. of nitrogen in the fresh, or 4·799 per cent. of nitrogen in the dry fungi, exists in the state of protein compounds, and that nearly one-third of the nitrogen obtained by direct combustion exists in the form of ammonia in the juice, or at all events in a form in which the nitrogen adds nothing to the nutritive value of the fungi. The nutritive value of

fungi has thus been overrated considerably; and there can be little doubt that the same is the case with many vegetables, which according to the author's experiments contain sometimes considerable quantities of ammonia in the form of ammoniacal salts.

Dr. CHRISTISON remarked that he had long been convinced that there was a considerable fallacy in the methods of determining the value of nitrogen, and he hoped Dr. Voelcker's communication would direct inquiry in a more satisfactory direction.—Dr. DAUBENTY made some observations on this paper; and particularly noticed the researches of Prof. Hoffman on the substitution of ammonia, or of its elements, for carbon, which it appeared to him pointed to some laws in connexion with the processes of assimilation of nitrogenous materials by growing vegetables.—Dr. R. D. THOMSON offered some objections to the reception of the doctrine that nitrogen was the principal source of nutrition, since it is found that blood and the other animal constituents contain many other substances.—Dr. L. PLAYFAIR was pleased that Dr. Voelcker had pointed out a source of error in the determination of nitrogen. Having been engaged in examining the dietaries of a large number of extensive establishments, he should lay the results before the Meeting.

'On the Chemical Composition of the Rocks of the Coal Formations,' by Mr. H. TAYLOR.—This was an examination of the composition of the successive series of strata taken principally from "Buddle's Hartly Colliery," in the Newcastle coal-field. It was a paper of great chemical interest,—but too purely technical for our columns.

'On the Tri-morphism of Carbon,' by Mr. H. C. SORBY.—The object of this paper was to show that the great difference between the various states of carbon is produced by its existence in different crystalline forms and volumes.

'On a Peculiar Form produced in a Diamond when under the influence of the Voltaic Arc,' by J. P. GASSIOT.—M. Jaquelin was the first to show that when the diamond is submitted to the high temperature and influence of the voltaic arc, it quickly becomes converted into a black carbonaceous matter having all the appearance of coke:—the diamond when in a native state is an insulator or non-conductor of electricity, but when thus changed into coke it becomes an excellent conductor. At the Chemical Section of the British Association, held at Oxford, in 1847, Dr. Faraday exhibited some specimens of the diamond coke which had been forwarded to him by M. Jaquelin, and subsequently, on the 16th of June 1848, he publicly showed the experiment in London, in the theatre of the Royal Institution. On repeating the experiment a short time since before a few private friends, I obtained a product so totally different from that of M. Jaquelin, that I am induced to bring the subject before this Section, in the anticipation that it may tend to elicit some observations on a phenomenon which at the time attracted the attention of many electricians. The apparatus I used in the experiment consisted of forty series of the usual size of Grove's nitric acid battery,—the terminals were made from two pieces of well burnt box-wood charcoal, that attached to the positive or platinum end of the battery being formed in the shape of a small cup or crucible, in which the diamond was placed,—to the negative or zinc end of the battery, a piece of the same charcoal (but pointed) was attached. The experiment was then made in the same form as described by M. Jaquelin, by first making contact with the two charcoal terminals, then bringing the flame in such a position as to cause it to surround the diamond;—in less than one minute the diamond as well as the electrode became in a state of intense ignition. The diamond gradually increased in size, rolling about in the heated crucible; when it suddenly expanded, forcing itself upwards on the negative terminal, at which moment I separated the electrodes. The diamond, which was in a state of intense ignition, remained attached to the negative terminal. When cool it exhibited the same state as it now presents. It was expanded to eight or ten times its original bulk. Instead of becoming a black carbonaceous substance, and a good conductor, it has a vitreous white opaque appearance, and remains a non-conductor. It has also a deep circular cavity on that portion which was opposite and nearest to the positive electrode; that part which was in contact with the negative

electrode being clearly discernible by a small portion of the box-wood charcoal remaining attached to it. The centre of the cavity appears to be still brilliant, as if that portion of the diamond had not been in a complete state of fusion. In one or two other experiments the diamonds disintegrated, the fragments remaining in a carbonaceous state. Since which I have not had the opportunity of repeating the experiment.

'On some Amalgams,' by J. P. JOULE.—The author had procured an amalgam of iron by precipitating it on mercury by the electrolytic process. He had subsequently pursued the research with a view to form definite amalgams by a simple chemical or mechanical process. When mercury was made negative under a solution of sulphate of copper an amalgam of copper was formed which, when fully saturated with copper, was found to be represented by the formula  $\text{Cu} + \text{Hg}$ . The author also exhibited a small apparatus whereby amalgams could be made to endure a pressure of sixty tons per square inch of surface. The superfluous mercury was thus expelled through the openings in the sides of the press, leaving an amalgam of definite chemical composition. In this way he had procured the following compounds.—

Pt	+	2 Hg
Ag	+	2 Hg
Cu	+	Hg
Fe	+	Hg
2 Zn	+	Hg
2 Pb	+	Hg
7 Sn	+	Hg

## FRIDAY.

'On a new and ready Process for the Quantitative Determination of Iron,' by Dr. F. PENNY.—The author recommends the employment of the chromate and bichromate of potash for the estimation of iron in the common ores of the metal, and especially for the analysis of the clay-band and black-band ironstone of this country. He was led to the application of these salts in the course of some recent investigations on the materials and products of the manufacture of alum from "alum-shale," in which he was much retarded by the want of a ready method for estimating the oxides of iron. The chromates of potash give very exact results, and possess the great advantage that a much larger quantity of material may be operated on than can be conveniently treated by the usual methods. For practical purposes, he says, the bichromate is to be preferred. The process requires no other apparatus than that commonly used for centigrade testing, which is familiar to all persons engaged in chemical pursuits. It may be easily and rapidly executed, occupying only a fraction of the time required for the process of estimating iron by precipitation as the sesquioxide; and it is not interfered with by the presence of alum and phosphates which usually exist in the ore. The method is based on the well-known reciprocal action of chromic acid and protoxide of iron, whereby a transference of oxygen takes place, the protoxide of iron becoming converted into sesquioxide and the chromic acid into sesquioxide of chromium.

'Report on the present State of our Knowledge of the Chemical Action of the Solar Radiations,' by Mr. R. HUNT.—In this report the author gave an historical sketch of the progress of inquiry on this subject, from the period when Scheele first observed that the chloride of silver was blackened much more speedily by the rays at the blue end of the spectrum than by those at the least refrangible, or red end, to the announcement of the discovery of the sensibility of the iodized tablets to the solar influences by Daguerre and the discovery of the action of gallic acid in the Calotype process by Mr. Fox Talbot. He then proceeded to show the extent of knowledge we had obtained as to the peculiarities of the phenomena which may be summed up as follows. The chemical action of the sun's rays is proved, by its influence on organic and inorganic bodies, to extend over all the luminous rays of the prismatic spectrum—and slightly beyond them at the least refrangible end, and considerably beyond them at the most refrangible extremity. Living organisms and the products of organic life appear to be influenced by light—the luminous power—as distinguished from the purely chemical, or calorific, powers. The vitality of plants is stimulated by light; and although many



functions are performed in the absence of luminous radiations, they appear to be all quickened by its exciting powers: at the same time we have evidence to show that the chemical principle is necessary to the processes of assimilation, and consequently to the production of many of the proximate constituents of plants. The author is of opinion—though he regards the subject as open to serious inquiry—that the processes of germination and budding are essentially influenced by the chemical principle *Actinism*:—that the decomposition of carbon is peculiarly due to the luminous principle; and hence that the formation of wood in plants is a function of their vitality excited by *Light*:—that the development of the flower is due to a delicate balance of the forces *Actinism* and *Light*, since we find that both the luminous and chemical agencies are very active during the process, and that the ripening of fruit and the perfecting of the healthful conditions of the seed are due to a combination of the calorific and chemical forces—as evidenced in the so-called parathermic rays,—many of the properties of which have been examined by Sir John Herschel and Mrs. Somerville. Returning to the consideration of the influence of the solar rays upon inorganic bodies, the author thought it established beyond a doubt—1st, That the maximum of chemical (actinic) phenomena was to be found where there was the least quantity of light and heat.—2, That as the luminous power increased—either in the spectrum or in natural phenomena—the chemical (Actinic power) diminished, until it came to its minimum, where light—luminous power—existed at its maximum.—3rd, That although the chemical influence extended to the red or heat-giving rays, its operations were materially modified, and to all appearance changed, by the combined operation of the calorific power, and that results standing in direct opposition to those obtained by the pure chemical rays were given by the chemico-calorific rays. In conclusion, the author pointed out the wide field for investigation which was opening up to the experimentalist,—and he showed that, although much had been achieved by the experiments already undertaken, there yet remained a most extensive ground for inquiry which may be considered as absolutely unbroken:—chemical action—vital power—electrical phenomena and phosphorescence were proved to be directly dependent on the solar influences; but we yet want the researches which shall satisfactorily show whether these phenomena are due to one great principle modified by the matter on which it acts, or if they result from the operation of forces combined in action, although very different in their resulting effects.

‘On the Influence of Sunlight over the Action of the dry Gases on Organic Colours,’ by Dr. G. WILSON.—The object of this communication was to report the result of a series of experiments made this summer on the effect of daylight in modifying the chemical action of eight different dry gases, viz.: chlorine, sulphurous acid, sulphuretted hydrogen, carbonic acid, a mixture of sulphurous and carbonic acid, oxygen, hydrogen, and nitrogen on organic colouring matters.

‘On the Condensation of Volume in highly Hydrated Minerals,’ by Dr. LYON PLAYFAIR.—This was a continuation of the very extensive examination of the atomic constitution of salts, which has long occupied the author's attention. The remarkable point is the condensation of water in those bodies containing that fluid in combination with the solid matter.—If a salt containing water of crystallization is dissolved in a measured quantity of water, it is found that its solid matter occupies really no space—the water in which it is dissolved increasing in bulk only by the quantity of water which is contained in it.—Numerous instances were adduced of this extraordinary power of solids to condense liquids thus powerfully within the interstitial spaces of which it is composed.

‘On the Action of Oxidizing Agents on certain Organic Bases,’ by Dr. T. ANDERSON.

‘On the Theory of Etherification,’ by Prof. WILLIAMSON.—The process by which the remarkable transformation of the elements of alcohol is effected has been the subject of much discussion; and of the two theories which have been devised to explain it, each counts among its supporters many first-rate chemists.—The class of facts upon which the contact theory lays peculiar stress are more physical than those to which the appropriately designed chemical theory

refers for its evidence; but there is one point upon which the two differ essentially, and that is the composition of alcohol,—one maintaining that the two products, ether and water, are made from two atoms of alcohol, the other that they are both produced from one atom of double size. This being a difference of a fact, is capable of being decided by experiment.—The examination of the subject by Prof. Williamson cannot be regarded as complete,—and, indeed, it is the author's intention to extend his examination. At present he supposes that the changes are effected by the transfer of homologous molecules in alternately opposite directions; which he has endeavoured to show is the course of continuous action of sulphuric acid in this remarkable process.

#### MONDAY.

‘New Researches on the Conductibility of the Earth,’ by Prof. MATTEUCCI.—Although the good conducting power of the earth is at present generally admitted, and is advantageously applied to the construction of electrical telegraphs, it must be confessed that nothing has been hitherto known of the laws and theory of this singular phenomenon. In England, Germany, and Russia, it has been found advisable, for several years past, to form the telegraphic circuit partly with the earth and partly with a metallic wire, instead of forming the whole circuit with metallic wire only. I was, I believe, the first to show, by exact experiments, made in 1844 at Pisa, and by others performed according to my propositions at the Scientific Congress of Milan, that the resistance of the earth to the passage of the electrical current, which is sensible in short distances, ceases to increase and remains constant when the distance between the electrodes plunged in the earth has attained a certain length. Having latterly renewed my studies on this subject, I have confirmed and extended in a complete and general manner the conclusions drawn from my former researches; I have also demonstrated the principal result, given above, by different experimental processes. I have compared the resistance of a mixed telegraphic circuit with that of an entirely metallic circuit, containing a length of wire twice as great as that employed in a mixed circuit. I have also formed metallic circuits of very fine brass wires, having the same resistance as the metallic portion of a very long mixed telegraphic circuit; and finally, by making use of long metal wires covered with gutta percha, I have been able to compare the resistance of an entirely metallic circuit with that of a mixed circuit, in which the metallic portion remained constantly the same, and to which were added different lengths of earth. The following are the principal conclusions drawn from experiments which have occupied me for about a year.—The resistance of a layer of earth to the passage of the electrical current varies according to the quantity of water contained in the earth of which it is composed,—according to the specific gravity of that earth,—according to its depth beneath the surface,—according to the nature of the electrodes and extent of their surface. This resistance does not increase with the increased length of the layer of earth; on the contrary, beyond a certain limit of length, which varies according to the different circumstances just indicated, but which in all cases is of little extent, the resistance of a layer of earth remains constant whatever be its length. It is unnecessary to say that I could not prove this fact by experiment on circuits exceeding eighty miles in length, such being the average of the telegraphic circuits in Tuscany. In making the experiment near the surface of the soil, it is difficult to plunge the electrodes in earth of exactly the same conducting power; different portions of the surface of soil possessing either better or worse conductivity than that on which I began to operate, it follows that in increasing the distance between the electrodes we may find either an increase or diminution in the resistance of the earth. Likewise, in operating on a long mixed telegraphic circuit, which is not perfectly isolated, owing to the effect of the different derived circuits formed between the posts and the earth, the electric current is stronger near the pile than at a distance, and stronger than in a circuit which is formed only of metal wire equal in length to that which enters into the mixed circuit. This explains the results which I had obtained from my former uncompleted experiments. The resistance of a layer of earth appears to diminish as its length

increases only in cases where we meet with other layers of better conducting power. In every layer of earth of a certain constant conducting power, the resistance which at first increases very feebly with the increased length of the layer, becomes very soon constant, and continues the same for all the subsequent lengths, however great, on which experiments have been made. Now, it is evident that as the increase of resistance in a long metallic circuit is scarcely perceptible when we add to the circuit, by means of two large electrodes, a thin stratum of water; so we ought to find in the long mixed telegraphic circuits that the resistance of the earth is null or nearly so, since it is equal to that of a thin stratum of water of a very large section. The law of the conducting power of the earth being established, it remains to give the theory of this phenomenon. The opinion of the scientific world is divided on this point. Some explain the good conducting power of the earth by the almost infinite section of the earth compared with the distance of the electrodes; others, again, suppose that the electricities at the two extremities of the pile are dissipated in the earth, in the same manner as the electricity of the conductor of an electrical machine. This second explanation will not bear the slightest examination, nor can it be made to tally with the results of the most elementary experiments relative to the conducting power of the earth. In fact, we cannot on this supposition explain why the resistance of the earth increases at first with the length of the layer; why it varies with the depth and the degree of moisture of that layer; why it changes if the mass of earth interposed between the two electrodes happens to decrease or to be wanting, as I have proved by experiments made in mountainous districts; why the interposition of a portion of earth of a different conducting power produces a variation in the resistance of the entire mass; why this resistance becomes infinitely greater when we keep this layer in a wooden trough separate from the earth, but in communication with it by means of large metallic plates. Finally, according to this explanation, the resistance of the metallic part of a mixed circuit ought to disappear,—a thing which never happens. I think that I may be able to give a satisfactory explanation of the good conducting power of the earth, founding my assertions on very simple experiments and on theoretical views already known. As long ago as 1837, I proved in a memoir published in the *Annales de Physique et de Chimie*, that in operating on a certain liquid mass, very considerable compared with the distance of the electrodes plunged in it, the length of the intermediate liquid stratum has no sensible influence on the intensity of the current. I have recently verified this result on a very large scale. I had a wooden case made seven metres in the side. I keep this case isolated from the earth, and filled with water. Operating on this mass of water, we find that the resistance of a certain stratum of water, variable within certain limits, is independent of its length. In like manner, in studying the conducting power of spherical masses of water varying in diameter from 2<sup>m</sup> to 30 or 40<sup>m</sup>, I have found that the resistance of these spherical masses of water was the same, and independent of their diameter. I have already said that this result may be deduced from the theory, and this is done as follows:—From the same differential equations, given first of all by Fourier in his celebrated theory of heat, and which Ohm has applied to electricity, suppressing in the latter case the terms which expressed the dispersion of heat in the air, are deduced in the case of the sphere the results which I have obtained by experiments on the propagation of electricity in the earth. Although we are as yet ignorant of the physical value of that variable *U* which figures in the fundamental equation of Ohm at three partial differentials, which is the same as that of Fourier in the propagation of heat, and although that equation would really be more applicable to the case of the metallic wire which communicates at one extremity with the conductor of an electrical machine in action, and at the other extremity with the earth, than to the case of the electrical current defined by its electro-chemical and electro-magnetical action; it is no less true that a certain number of the phenomena of the electrical circuit are explained by representing the propagation of the electrical current by the same equation given by Fourier in his theory of heat.



Among these phenomena may be placed the fundamental law of the propagation of electricity in metallic wires according to their section and length, and the other more general cases of the propagation of the electrical current, and of derivation, in large metallic plates, or in spherical masses and in the earth, such as they have been found by MM. Kirchhoff and Smaeen in Germany, and in Italy by my friends Ridolfi and Felici.

The reading of the communication from Prof. Matteucci led to a conversation on the various methods employed by the Electric Telegraph Company and others, and on the question of the investigations of Messrs. Bain and Wheatstone in England, and several experimentalists on the Continent prior to these investigations of M. Matteucci as to the power of the earth to conduct electricity.—Mr. R. HUNT explained that in speaking of the conductivity of the earth it should be distinctly understood that the water contained in the superficial stratum is the conducting medium;—since he has proved that non-metalliferous rocks and dry earth will not conduct an electric current.

‘On the Sugar Produce of the South of Spain, chiefly in connexion with the employment of the Acetate of Lead and Sulphurous Acid as purifying agents,’ by Dr. SCOFFERN.—On the southern coast of Spain, in a region limited by Almeria on the east and Malaga on the west, bounded on the north by mountain ranges and on the south by the Mediterranean, is a tract of land which, so far as its climate and productions are concerned, may be aptly denominated tropical. In it the date, palm, indigo, cotton, and sugar-cane flourish with vigour, yielding products equal both in quantity and quality to those of the tropics themselves. The sugar-cane first introduced by the Arab conquerors is not only consumed in large quantities as a dessert, but also gives rise to a considerable manufacture of raw and refined sugar, a circumstance which beyond Spain itself seems to be very little known. There is perhaps no example on record of any operation involving a commercial result attended with such an enormous destruction of material as the operation of extracting sugar from the cane. One portion of this loss is due to mechanical, another to chemical causes. The sugar-cane has been stated by most writers who have found opportunities of practically examining the subject to contain no more than 10 per cent. of solid non-saccharine matter, leaving 90 per cent. of juice to be extracted. Of this 90 per cent., most writers concur in testifying that in practice scarcely 50 per cent. are actually obtained; at least in the British West India possessions. Cane juice itself has usually been stated to contain from 17 to 23 per cent. of crystalline sugar, of which scarcely 7 per cent. in practice is actually extracted. Considerable doubts having been expressed as to these statements of the amount of juice in the cane, and sugar in the juice, I have lately gone through a series of experiments having for their object the settlement of the doubt, and with the result of amply confirming the testimony of other experimenters. Having operated on canes from various parts of this district, by slicing them,—exhausting first by hot water and then by hot alcohol, and finally drying, I obtained as my mean result about 10 per cent. of woody or insoluble matter,—whilst the sugar extracted and crystallized ranged from 17 to 23 per cent., as had previously been stated. It would consequently appear that 40 per cent. of juice is actually lost in the practice of our West India workings; and now arises, as a most important consideration, the question as to what extent this loss is inevitable, and to what extent it might have been obviated by altered machinery or improved manipulation. Instead of 50 per cent. of juice extracted, 70 per cent. is much nearer the average amount yielded by the sugar-mills of this coast, although occasionally the result is as high as 75 per cent., and this, in some cases, with mills of very inferior construction. The cane, however, is passed between the rollers of the mill four times, until the refuse or megass, as the pressed cane is called, has been reduced to a state of disaggregation resembling ground tan, whereas the West India cane refuse is represented to be in the form of long strings, a sufficient proof that the pressure applied has been very inadequate. After the cane has finally left the mill

it is immediately, in the Spanish sugar regions, subjected to the operation of pressing, sometimes by the agency of a screw, but in many cases by hydrostatic force. By the latter method, I have seen 13 per cent. of juice extracted from megass which had already yielded up 73 per cent. of juice to the mill, thus elevating the total quantity extracted to 86 per cent. out of the original 90, and consequently as a manufacturing operation leaving very little more to be desired. The hydrostatic press I consider to be an apparatus which is indispensable to the economy of every sugar estate:—not only does it largely contribute to the amount of juice extracted,—but what is most remarkable is, the juice resulting from hydrostatic pressure of megass is invariably, so far as my observations have gone, richer in sugar than juice yielded by the mill,—a fact which seems to be only explicable on the supposition that the hydrostatic press in virtue of its great power is enabled to extrude those particles of sugar which microscopic examination demonstrates to exist in the cane in the solid and crystalline form. The subsequent stages of the sugar manufacture as carried on in Spain do not materially differ from those in operation in Cuba, and many other tropical countries. The juice is defecated or purified by lime, skimmed, evaporated to the requisite degree, and poured into earthenware moulds, the contents of which are finally exposed to the operation of claying. In one manufactory, however, witnessed by me, at Almuncar, lime is no longer used on account of its well-known injurious effects on sugar:—no other agent having been substituted in its stead, but sole reliance being placed on the coagulation by heat of albuminous matters present in the juice, and their final removal by skimming. Under this system of manufacture the sugar produced is light coloured, but badly grained, and the unseparated albuminous matters are present in such quantity that every 100 parts of the concentrated saccharine juice as it comes from the teache, or last evaporating pan, only yield 40 parts of crystallized sugar on cooling, the other 60 per cent. remaining in the condition of molasses perfectly uncrystallizable until some adequate means for defecation be had recourse to. The chief object of my residence in this sugar district was to superintend the erection of machinery for manufacturing sugar by means of my own process. The site of our operations is Montril, about forty-five miles south of Granada,—in a manufactory furnished with apparatus of the rudest character. Up to this period (July 9) our own vacuum apparatus has not been sufficiently advanced to enable us to pursue our operations by its aid; nevertheless, owing to the superior defecating power of the sub-acetate of lead, we have, even with the old and rude machinery, obtained a result of more than 16 instead of 7 per cent. of sugar. Our striking teaches, or final evaporating pans, we were under the necessity of removing in order to afford the requisite space for our own machinery; hence we were reduced to the necessity of concluding our process of concentration in a brass pan of conical form and holding about 600 imperial gallons, thus materially increasing the difficulty of the evaporative process. Hitherto only one-sixth per cent. on the juice of sub-acetate has been used,—but I imagine the quantity may be advantageously increased. As filtration is indispensable for the conducting of this process, considerable fear was entertained lest fermentation might supervene. This fear, however, practice has demonstrated to be groundless, inasmuch as we possess in sulphurous acid an agent most antagonistic to fermentation. Another speculative fear was lest danger might arise from the lead employed: this fear, too, practice demonstrates to be entirely without foundation, for not only is the sulphite of lead most easily removed,—but even were it to remain no injury could supervene, inasmuch as this agent is as harmless as chalk.

In continuation:—Observations on the Sulphite of Lead were made by Dr. GREGORY, who stated that he had made experiments on the sulphite of lead formed in this process. He admitted that an infinitely small proportion might still remain in the sugar, but that he considered it quite innocuous. He had indeed fed rabbits and dogs with food which had been united with this sulphite of lead, and the result was that they thrived amazingly, showing no symptom of any of the known effects of lead. Dr. Gregory, also remarked that in testing sugar for lead with the

hydro-sulphuret of ammonia iron was often mistaken for the former metal.

Dr. CHRISTISON contended that we had no evidence that the sulphite of lead was innocuous. It was true that in cases of poisoning by carbonate of lead sulphuric acid was administered to convert it into the comparatively insoluble sulphate; but this was a case widely different from the slow accumulation of lead upon the system. Dr. Christison adduced some examples of exceedingly small doses of lead being taken in water for more than twelve months before its evil effects became apparent. He, therefore, thought it yet remained to be proved that the sulphite of lead was without action on the system, since we know nothing of the influence of the solvents it would meet with in the system, or of the influences of vital action. Rabbits, he was prepared to say, should be entirely rejected in these inquiries, since he had found that they were not affected by many poisons. Dogs and cats were the only animals which could, from their internal structure be regarded as the representatives of the human system in these investigations.

‘Some Observations on the Growth of Plants in Abnormal Atmospheres,’ by Dr. J. H. GLADSTONE and Mr. G. GLADSTONE.—Whereas oxygen is the most important constituent of the atmosphere so far as animal life is concerned, it is upon the carbonic acid, ammonia, and aqueous vapour that the vegetable world is supremely dependent. The question arises, Does the oxygen and nitrogen of the air play no important part in the process of vegetation? The following preliminary experiments, with a view to the solution of this and similar inquiries, were detailed by the authors. A pansy lived for the length of twenty-four days in an atmosphere of hydrogen, containing 5 per cent. of carbonic acid; one similarly placed in an atmosphere of common air remained healthy for a longer period. Five onions just commencing to sprout were severally placed in carbonic acid, carbonic oxide, coal gas, air containing 8 per cent. of light carburetted hydrogen, and ordinary atmospheric air. The germination of the first two was entirely stopped; while the hydrocarbons appeared considerably to accelerate the growth of the vegetable. The plants in each instance lost weight. A pansy in flower, a young stock, and a grass plant were placed in pure nitrogen gas. The former two soon died, but the grass was left growing a month after the commencement of the experiment. Another pansy was placed in a mixture of oxygen and hydrogen gases in the proportion requisite to form water. In order to imitate the balance that obtains in nature between animal and vegetable life, some flies were introduced, along with some sugar to serve as their food. The experiment was commenced a fortnight since, and the plant, when last observed, was in good condition. Owing to the low specific gravity of the mixed gases, the flies were unable to mount on the wing, or make the usual buzzing noise; but the substitution of hydrogen for nitrogen in the atmosphere had no marked effect upon their breathing, thus confirming the observations of M. Regnault by an instance drawn from the Articulate.

‘On the Air and Water in Towns, and the action of Porous Strata on Water and Organic Matter,’ by Dr. R. A. SMITH.—It is a matter of great importance to find from what source it is best to obtain water for large towns, and how it is to be collected. To these points Dr. Smith particularly directs attention. Regarding the conditions of many springs, which never become muddy, but possess a constant brilliancy and a very equal temperature at all seasons of the year, the author thinks that there is a purifying and cooling action going on beneath. The surface water from the same place, even if filtered, has not the same brilliancy; it has not the same freedom from organic matter, neither is it equally charged with carbonic acid or oxygen gas,—there are other influences therefore at work. The rain which falls has not the purity, although it comes directly from the clouds; it may even be wanting in cleanness, as is often the case. Springs rise through a great extent of soil, and collect a considerable amount of inorganic salts; and it is shown by Dr. Smith that their purity is due entirely to the power of the soil to separate all organic matter, and at the same time to compel the mixture of carbonic acid and oxygen. The amount of organic matter removed in this way is surprising,



and it is a most important and valuable property of the soil. The change even takes place close to cess-pools and sewers; at a very short distance from the most offensive organic matter there may be found water having little or none in it. As an agent for purifying towns, this oxidation of organic matter is the most extraordinary, and we find the soil of towns which have been inhabited for centuries still possessing this remarkable power. St. Paul's Churchyard may be looked upon as one of the oldest parts of London, and the water from the wells around it is remarkably pure, and the drainage of the soil is such that there is very little of any salts of nitric acid in it. If the soil, says Dr. Smith, has such a power to decompose by oxidation, we want to know how it gets so much of its oxygen. We must, however, look to the air as the only source, and see how it can come from it. When water becomes deprived of oxygen, it very soon takes it up again,—as may be proved by experiment. This shows us that as fast as the oxygen is consumed by the organic matter it receives a fresh portion, conveyed to it by the porous soil. Several experiments of the following character were given, to show the filtering power of the soil. A solution of peaty matter was made in ammonia; the solution was very dark, so that some colour was perceived through a film of only the twentieth of an inch in thickness. This was filtered through sand, and came out perfectly clear and colourless. Organic matter dissolved in oil of vitriol was separated from it by a thickness of stratum of only four inches. A bottle of porter was by the same process deprived of nearly all its colour. The material of which this filter is made is of little importance. One of the best, according to Dr. Smith, as far as clearing the water is concerned, being of steel filings,—oxide of iron, oxide of manganese, and powdered bricks all answering equally well. This shows that the separation of the organic matter is due to some peculiar attraction of the surfaces of the porous mass presented to the fluid.—This paper was a continuation of Dr. Smith's Report published last year,—and he purposes continuing the inquiry.

'On the relative values of the Dietaries in use by different classes of the Population,' by Dr. LYON PLAYFAIR.—Dr. Playfair has been engaged for some time in an examination of the dietaries adopted in the union houses, schools and other great establishments in this country:—the object of the inquiry being the determination of the most nutritious diet. The result of this inquiry has proved that no system of any value has been adopted by any of the boards controlling our national schools and charities; and hence the high importance is shown of some accurate examination—such as that brought forward by Dr. Playfair—of the value, chemically and physiologically, of the dietaries adopted.

The reading of this paper gave rise to a discussion as to the merits of the hypothesis upon which the reductions of these dietary tables have been made,—and it was argued that we had no distinct evidence to prove that nitrogen alone fairly represented the amount of nutrition contained in an article of diet.

'On the Incrustation which forms in the Boilers of Steam-Engines,' in a letter addressed to Dr. G. Wilson, F.R.S.E., by Dr. J. DAVY.—On entering on this inquiry, which I did after my return from the West Indies in December, 1848, and after communicating a short paper to the Royal Society 'On Carbonate of Lime in Sea-water,' it appeared to me desirable to collect as many specimens as possible of incrustation from the boilers of steam-vessels, now so widely employed in home and distant navigation. By application to companies and to friends in our sea-ports, as Dundee, Hull, Southampton, Hayle, Liverpool, Whitehaven, I have succeeded in procuring specimens of incrustation formed by deposition in voyages from port to port, in the British and Irish Channels and the North Sea, between Southampton and Gibraltar, in the Mediterranean and the Black Sea, and in the Atlantic Ocean, between Liverpool and North America, and between Southampton and the West Indies. I am promised specimens from the Red Sea and the Indian Ocean,—but these I have not yet received. The character and composition of the incrustation, whether formed from deposition from water of narrow seas or of the ocean, I have found very similar,—with few excep-

tions, crystalline in structure, and, without any exception, composed chiefly of sulphate of lime; so much so, indeed, that unless chemically viewed, the other ingredients may be held to be of little moment, rarely amounting to 5 per cent. of the whole. From two specimens of incrustation from the boilers of steamers crossing the Atlantic, one of which you sent me, in which you had detected a notable portion of fluorine, judging from its etching effect on glass,—I also procured it, it was in combination with silica; and procured it also so combined from two obtained from steamers navigating our own seas, one between Dundee and London, the other between Whitehaven and Liverpool. Of this I had proof, by covering with a portion of glass or platina foil a leaden vessel charged with about 200 grains of the incrustation mixed with sulphuric acid, and by keeping the glass cool by evaporation of water from its surface, and by supplying moisture for the condensation of the silicated gas by a wet band round the mouth of the vessel. After about twenty-four hours under this process, a slight but distinct deposition was found to have taken place, corresponding to the margin of the vessel,—a deposition such as that produced by silicated fluoric acid gas under the same circumstances. Thus it was not dissipated by heat nor dissolved by water, and yet admitted of removal by abrasion, either entirely or in great part;—the former in the instance of the platina foil, the latter in that of the glass. Besides the ingredients above mentioned, I may add that, in many instances, oxide of iron, the black magnetic oxide, was found to form a part of this incrusting deposit, collected in one or more thin layers, and further, that in some, especially of steamers navigating the narrower and least clear part of the British Channel, the depositions presented a brownish discoloration produced by the admixture of a small quantity of muddy sediment. Incrustations so discoloured, I may remark, are reported to be most difficult to detach. I have said that the incrustations, with few exceptions, were similar in their structure, and that that was crystalline;—it was not unlike the fibrous variety of gypsum of the mineralogists.—The specimens received, as might have been expected, varied very much in thickness, viz., from one line and less to half an inch. I have endeavoured, by a set of queries which I had distributed, to obtain information respecting the exact time in which the incrustations were formed, and under what circumstances; but with partial success only, owing, it may be inferred, to a want of exact observation. In one instance, that of the North American mail-ship *Europa*, which arrived at Liverpool on the 15th of November, at 4 P.M., having left Boston on the 7th of the same month at 9 A.M., an incrustation was found in her boiler of about one-fiftieth of an inch in thickness; and it is stated that an incrustation of about the same thickness was found on her outward voyage. This example may aid in giving some idea of the degree of rapidity with which the incrustation is produced, at least in the Atlantic, with the precaution of "blowing off" every three hours, and with the "brine pumps" kept in constant work. In other seas, especially contiguous to shores, and more especially of shores formed by volcanic eruptions, it is probable, *ceteris paribus*, the rate of the deposition of the incrusting sulphate of lime will be more rapid. The results of the trials of several portions of sea-water taken up on the voyage from the West Indies to England noticed in the paper of mine already referred to, are in favour of this conclusion. To endeavour to prevent the deposition of the incrusting matter or to mitigate the evil, various methods, it would appear, have been had recourse to,—some of a chemical kind, as the addition of muriate of ammonia and sulphate of ammonia to the water in the boiler,—without success, as might be expected;—others, of a mechanical kind, with partial success,—as the introduction of a certain quantity of saw-dust into the boiler, or the application of tallow, or of a mixture of tallow and plumbago to its inside, to prevent close adhesion, and the more easy separation of the incrusting matter either by percussion, using a chisel-like hammer,—or by contraction and unequal expansion, by means of flame kindled with oakum, after emptying the boiler and drying it. Of all the methods hitherto used, that of "blowing off,"—that is, the discharging by an inferior stop-cock a certain quantity of the concentrated water of the boiler by the pressure of

steam, after the admission above of an equivalent quantity of sea water of ordinary density, appears to be, from the reports made, the most easy in practice, the least unsuccessful, and the most to be relied on. But, as in the instance given of the North American steamer, it can be viewed only as a palliation. Considering the composition of the incrusting matter and the properties of its principal ingredient—the sulphate of lime, a compound soluble in water and in sea water, and deposited only when the water containing it is concentrated to a certain degree, there appears to be no difficulty theoretically in naming a preventive. The certain preventive would be the substitution of distilled or rain water in the boiler for sea water. Of this we have proof in the efficacy of Hall's condenser, which returns the water used as steam, condensed, after having been so used:—but, unfortunately for its practical success, the apparatus is described as being too complicated and expensive for common adoption. Further proof is afforded in the fact, that the boilers of steamers navigating lakes and rivers in the waters of which there is little or no sulphate of lime, month after month in continued use, remain free from incrustation. This I am assured is the case with the steamers that have been plying several summers successively on the lake of Windermere. And it may be inferred, that in sea-going steamers in which sea water is used in the boiler,—or, indeed, any water containing sulphate of lime, the prevention of deposition may be effected with no less certainty by keeping the water at that degree of dilution at which the sulphate of lime is not separated from the water in which dissolved. From the few trials I have made, I may remark, that sulphate of lime appears to be hardly less soluble, if at all less, in water saturated with common salt than in perfectly fresh water. This seems to be a fortunate circumstance in relation to the inquiry as to the means of prevention, and likely to simplify the problem. If these principles be sound, their application under different circumstances, with knowledge and judgment on the part of the directing engineer, will probably not be difficult. His great object will be in sea-going steamers to economize the escape of water in the form of steam, and thereby also economize heat and fuel;—also, when fresh water is available to use it as much as possible; and further, to avoid using sea water as much as possible near coasts and in parts of seas where sulphate of lime is most abundant. From the incrustation on the boilers of sea-going steamers, the attention can hardly fail to be directed to that which often forms, to their no small detriment, in the boilers of locomotive-railway engines, and of engines employed in mines and in the multifarious works to which steam power is now applied. These incrustations will of necessity be very variable, both in quantity and quality, according to the kind of ingredients held in solution in the water used for generating the steam. Hitherto I have examined two specimens only of incrustations taken from the boilers of locomotive engines, and a single one only from the boiler of a steam-engine employed on a mine—a mine in the west of Cornwall. The latter was fibrous, about half an inch thick, and consisted chiefly of sulphate of lime, with a little silica and peroxide of iron, and a trace of fluorine. The former were from one-tenth of an inch in thickness to one inch. They were laminated, of a grey colour, and had much the appearance of volcanic tufa; they consisted principally of carbonate and sulphate of lime with a little magnesia, protoxide of iron, silica, and carbonaceous matter—the last two, the silica and carbonaceous matter, probably chiefly derived from the smoke of the engine and the dust in the air. From the engineer's report it would appear that the thinnest—the incrustation of about one-tenth of an inch—had formed in about a week, during which time the locomotive had run about 436 miles, and consumed about 10,900 gallons of water.

'Remarks on the Isomorphous Relations of Silice and Alumina,' by Prof. CHAPMAN.

'On the Proportion of Phosphoric Acid in some Natural Waters,' by Prof. VOELCKER.—The object of this paper was to draw attention to a natural source from which many of our fields may be economically supplied with phosphoric acid. Prof. Fownes has shown that traces of phosphoric acid are met with in many rocks of igneous origin, but also in stratified rocks, particularly in limestone



rocks, the presence of phosphoric acid has been indicated by several chemists. The author found the proportion of phosphoric acid in graptolite, from the neighbourhood of Cirencester, amounting to 0.124 per cent., equal to 0.260 of bone-earth, and in Stonesfield slate from the same locality amounting to 0.117, equal to 0.244 per cent. of bone-earth. As water, charged with carbonic acid, is capable of dissolving bone-earth, this important fertilizing substance is found in many natural waters, percolating rocks which contain phosphoric acid. Such waters, therefore, may be applied with advantage for irrigation. The advantages derived from this too often neglected natural source, are strikingly exhibited in the irrigated meadows in the neighbourhood of Cirencester; and it is the opinion of the author that one of the chief causes of the beneficial effects which follow the application of the water for irrigation in this locality, is to be found in the phosphate of lime it contains. In a tea-kettle incrustation formed in a short period by this water, the proportion of phosphoric acid was found to amount to 1.25 per cent., showing a considerable quantity of this acid present in the water. A very hard water from Edinburgh likewise proved to contain phosphoric acid, but its proportion was not so large as that in the Cirencester water, the quantity of phosphoric acid in a boiler incrustation formed by this Edinburgh water being only 0.427 per cent. Sea water also contains phosphoric acid, but the proportion of the latter amounts to mere traces. A quantitative determination of phosphoric acid in the boiler deposit of a Canada steamer gave only 0.0306 per cent., and that in a boiler incrustation of a steamer plying between Dublin and Liverpool 0.424 as the per-centage of phosphoric acid. In conclusion, the author recommended Swanberg's test, molybdate of ammonia, as a ready means for deducing the presence of phosphoric acid in natural waters.

## THURSDAY.

## SECTION C.—GEOLOGY AND PHYSICAL GEOGRAPHY.

President.—SIR RODERICK I. MURCHISON.

Vice-Presidents.—PROF. JAMESON, SIR PHILIP DE GREY EGERTON,

MR. C. M. LARSEN, PROF. SEDGWICK,

Secretaries.—PROF. NICOL, MR. HUGH MILLER, MR. A. KEITH

JOHNSTON.

Committee.—The Duke of Argyll, Capt. Sir G. Back, Messrs. R. Allan, Binney, Dr. Black, Mr. J. Bryce, Count Breunner, The Earl of Cathcart, Mr. R. Chambers, The Earl of Enniskillen, Sir G. Fellows, Prof. E. Forbes, Prof. Hitchcock, Messrs. Hopkins, J. Hogg, J. B. Jukes, Sir C. Lemon, Sir G. Malcolm, Mr. M'Adam, Dr. Mantell, Mons. Martins, The Marquis of Northampton, Mr. J. B. Pentland, Prof. Oldham, Prof. Phillips, Messrs. S. P. Pratt, G. W. Ormerod, Prof. Owen, Prof. Ramsay, Major Rawlinson, Mr. Smith.

'On the Gradual Subsidence of a Portion of the Surface of Chat Moss, in Lancashire, by Drainage,' by MR. G. W. ORMEROD.—This was the continuation of a paper read at the Swansea Meeting. It was shown by a series of levellings made in the last four years, over an extent of about 200 acres, where drainage was carried on, that a subsidence had taken place to the amount of one foot per annum.

'On the Succession of Strata and Distribution of Organic Remains in the Dorsetshire Purbecks,' by PROF. E. FORBES.—These observations were made in the autumn of 1849, in conjunction with Mr. Bristow. The formation had been previously described in various memoirs by Prof. Webster, Dr. Fitton, Dr. Buckland and Dr. Mantell, but not very minutely; and only twelve species of mollusca and crustacea had been determined,—whereas more than seventy were now enumerated. The strata examined occur along the coast between Weymouth and Dorchester, at Durlstone Bay, near Swanage, and in the quarries at Swindon, Wilts, where the bar of the Purbeck series is exposed, and corresponds exactly with the Dorsetshire beds. After describing these strata, Prof. Forbes says:—It is very remarkable that, whilst the Purbeck can be divided into upper, middle, and lower, each with its peculiar assemblage of organic remains, the lines of demarcation between them are not lines of disturbance, or physical or mineral change. The features which attract the eye, such as the dirt-beds, the dislocated strata at Lulworth, and the cinder-bed, do not indicate any breaks in the distribution of organized beings. The causes which led to a complete change of life three times during the deposition of these freshwater and brackish strata must be sought for, not simply in a rapid or sudden change of their area into land or sea, but in the great lapse of time which intervened between their epochs of deposition. A most striking feature of the mollusca Fauna of the

Purbecks is this, so similar are the generic types to those of tertiary freshwater strata and those now existing, that had we only such fossils before us and no evidence of the position of the rocks in which they are found, we should be wholly unable to assign them a definite geological epoch.—A comparison of these fossils with the collections from the Hastings sand and Weald clay leads the author to believe that the Fauna of the middle and upper Wealden series is almost entirely distinct, as far as species are concerned, from those of the lower or Purbeck division. Some of the species reputed identical prove to be distinct; and others are derived from certain anomalous beds near Tonbridge Wells, believed to be true Purbeck strata by the author. The excellent monograph on the Wealden of N. Germany by Dunker and V. Mayer, affords the strongest confirmation of these views, showing that the Fauna of the German Wealden essentially corresponds with the British, and that the organic contents of the Purbecks of the Continent correspond with ours, and differ almost entirely from those of the upper beds.

SIR R. MURCHISON remarked on the small physical extent of the Purbeck strata compared with their palæontological importance, confirming the belief that a whole epoch may be represented by a few feet of deposit.—Prof. OWEN confirmed the inference of Prof. Forbes respecting the connexion of the Wealden with the oolites; of the large Wealden Reptilia, all except the Iguanodon were oolitic and not cretaceous.—Prof. RAMSAY stated that the whole oolitic series had been deposited in a diminishing area, with the land rising to the west, and the last of the series, the Wealden, had been deposited in the estuary of a great river, which must have flowed from the north-west at a time when what is now Wales and Derbyshire was very high land.—Prof. FORBES observed, that no inference as to the age of the Purbecks could be drawn, without the evidence of geological position; the freshwater mollusca and Cyprides differ less from living British species than the living species differed from those of other countries; the Wealden of Scotland was not identical with that of England, but probably belonged to an older period.

'On the Discovery of Palæozoic Fossils in the Crystalline Chain of the Forez, in France, and on Lines of Dislocation between the Lower and Upper Carboniferous Deposits of France and Germany,' by SIR R. I. MURCHISON.—The chain of the Forez (Allies) consisting of slate, schistose and quartzose rocks, has been hitherto considered unfossiliferous; but in a visit made this summer Sir R. Murchison discovered on the banks of the Sichen, remains of Emericites, Trilobites (*Phillipsia*), shells (*Chonetes* and *Productus*), and corals, all of lower carboniferous forms. These lower carboniferous deposits in many parts of France and in the Rhenish provinces are conformable to the older palæozoic strata, and unconformable to the small overlying patches of true coal-measure,—a fact contrary to the former theory of M. Beaumont, that lines of dislocation afforded good systematic divisions of the strata;—a view which could not be carried out in Russia or the British Isles.

Prof. PHILLIPS stated that in the north of England and south of Scotland the passage of lower carboniferous into coal-measure strata was so gradual, and attended with alternations of rocks and fossils also, that any lines of distinction must be arbitrary. He was not disposed to measure geological time by the evidence of fossils only, since changes in organic life must have depended on changes of physical condition, and these on time; the progress of research had shown that the interruptions in a series were not the most important elements for classification, as M. Beaumont believed, nor the mineral characters the most constant, as Jamieson had formerly taught.—MR. PAGE said that in the Scotch coal series there was an apparent line of disturbance caused by the intrusion of the trap-rocks, but no real separation; he also remarked that the trap-rocks connected with the lower carboniferous were much less bituminous than those produced after the formation of the coal, and that in this district there were not only alternations of freshwater and marine strata, but also there were true sub-aerial sandstones accumulated by the wind.

'On the Lesmahagow and Douglas Coal Field, near the Head Waters of the Clyde,' by MR. BRYCE—who exhibited maps and sections.—This coal-field

forms a distinct barrier from all the rest, being separated by a barrier of old red-sandstone; it measures about 10 miles by 5 or 6, and contains twelve or fourteen beds of coal, amounting in all to 65 feet, one bed being 15 feet thick, and another 9. In some of the deep valleys the coal is worked on a level. Several beds of clay-ironstone occur, averaging 8 inches thick, and one black band (bituminous ironstone) 11 inches thick, is found throughout the northern part. Fire-clays have been noticed under some of the coal-beds; the largest fault is one of 25 fathoms, running north-west and south-east.

MR. LANGLAND was of opinion that this coal-field was connected with the Ayrshire coal-field and not separated by old red sandstone as described; throughout the Scotch coal-fields the carboniferous limestone was split up into a number of beds and intercalated with the coal.—MR. BRYCE, in reply to a question, stated that he considered all the Scotch coal-fields had once been continuous, but had become more or less separated by the outburst of the trap, and in this one instance by an upheaval of the old red sandstone.—MR. HUGH MILLER said that there were beds of red sandstone with coal fossils overlying the coal, and that it was extremely difficult to determine the exact line of junction of the two systems, but such a line did exist, and he believed Agassiz was right in asserting that no species of fish was common to the old red and carboniferous series.—Prof. NICOL stated that Mr. Bryce's sections were exceedingly like Mr. Mills's Berwickshire sections; he thought that all the red sandstone on the north flank of the Lammernuir hills might with more propriety be referred to the carboniferous series.—DR. FLEMING described some instances in which there were true old red sandstone, with scales of the *Holopterychius*, followed by numerous alternations of very thin coal seams with carboniferous limestone; some of the trap rock after its ejection appeared to have been arranged by water.

'On the Gold Mines of Darien, Emigration to New Granada, and Canalization of the Isthmus of Darien,' by DR. CULLEN.—1. The Isthmus is a territory of the Republic of New Granada; its most important part, and that which appears naturally best adapted for communication between the Atlantic and Pacific lies between the Gulf of Darien and the Gulf of San Miguel. Numerous rivers flow into the Bay of Panama on one side, and into the Atlantic on the other; the principal stream is the river Santa Maria, forty miles long, and falling into the Gulf of San Miguel, unobstructed by sand-banks or bars. A few estates are still occupied by the Spanish, but most of the old towns and villages and forts have been long since deserted. About eight miles up the river Santa Maria (or Tuyra) is the village of Chapigana, with a corregidor and about 100 inhabitants, mostly Sambos and Negroes; Mr. Hossack, a Scot, and Don Pepe, a Portuguese, are settled here. A few miles above this village gold occurs abundantly, and about thirty miles above is the town of Yavisa, the capital of the territory and residence of the prefect Don Antonio Baraya. The population is scarcely 100, and the large fort is in good condition, but not garrisoned. The largest vessels can ascend nearly to the Chuquanagua, a branch of the river Tuyra, a few miles below Yavisa, and up to which the tide extends. This country has been the scene of successful gold-mining under the Spaniards, and of much buccaneering and futile attempts at colonization on the part of the British, from the days of Sir Francis Drake and Basil Ringrose (1680) to Macgregor (1819). In the archives of the treasury of Panama is an account of former mining operations at the Mina Real, on the river Cana (a source of the Tuyra), in the Cerro del Espiritu Santo; the royal quinto or 5 per cent. on this mine averaged for a number of years 3½ millions of dollars per annum, which would give seventy millions per annum for the whole produce; the mining was performed by negroes (never more than three or four hundred) who hewed out the rock, ground it in mortars by means of oxen, and washed it by a stream of water whilst grinding. The mines were closed in 1685 by command of the king of Spain, although in full operation at the time, on account of the numerous incursions of the buccaneers; they have never been re-opened, and the neighbouring mountains, though rich in gold, have never been worked. Dr. Cullen found the soil on the banks of the streams very fertile, and himself



collected 3lb. of gold at various spots, and several pieces of quartz-rock with veins of gold in it. As an agricultural country, Darien presents the most favourable prospects; its fertile soil, and the rapid growth of the plantain sugar-cane, which arrives at maturity in nine months, make it superior to Demerara, and, though abounding in rivers, it is free from swamps and land liable to inundation; the timber is equal to British Guiana, and game (including alligators and "tigers") is abundant. 2. The government of New Granada affords great advantages to immigrants in the form of employment, loans and grants of land; the average passage to Carthage or S. Martha is thirty days, and emigrants can go out for 6*l.* per head. The tracts to be colonized consist of high table-lands and elevated valleys (nearly 9,000 feet), with a temperate climate (50° to 80°) all the year. On the table-lands wheat will grow, and in the valleys coffee, cotton, cocoa, sugar-cane, and other tropical crops. The settler has his choice of climate, from the level of tropical vegetation to regions of perpetual snow; the country is scattered over with towns affording supplies, and means of internal and external communication. The population consists of old Creole Spaniards, and the religion is Roman Catholic, but perfect liberty is allowed; the government is a pure democracy. The population of the capital, Bogota, is 60,000. The Cordilleras form a great table-land or platform, on which are piled numerous mountains intersected by valleys in every direction. 3. In conclusion, the writer recommends the rivers Chiquanqua and Savana as the most direct and feasible mode of communication with the Atlantic; the Savana is navigable by large vessels for ten miles, above which for fifteen miles it would require deepening, and then there remains only ten miles to the Atlantic, where the cutting would be assisted by a ravine. From a mountain on the river Lara, a branch of the Savana, both Atlantic and Pacific were visible. The canal would open near the old Scotch settlement of New Edinburgh at Punto Escoces.

## FRIDAY.

'On the Glacial Phenomena of the Neighbourhood of Edinburgh, with some Remarks on the General Subject,' by Mr. R. CHAMBERS.—The author compares the glacial phenomena of Scotland with those of Sweden, with this difference, that in Scotland much of the surface has been masked, and many of the glacial markings obliterated since the glacial epoch. The trap-districts near Edinburgh often form long and narrow hills, running east-north-east, some of them 800 ft. high, and several of them presenting cliffs to the west, and long gentle declivities on the east. Mr. Chambers described the Corstorphine Hill as a stratum of trap dipping to the west, and with a cliff in a line north and south. In its crest, which rises to 470 feet above the sea, are three or four transverse clefts. On the west surface of the hill, the rock, wherever it is exposed, is found to be rounded (*moutonnée*), smoothed, and grooved. The grooves, and the clefts in the crest of the hill, all lie in one direction, viz., directed to a point to the north of east. There are also, to the east of the hill, long hollows, with rounded intervening swells; and these run in precisely the same direction. At various places between the hill and the sea are seen sandstone surfaces, worn down to a remarkable flatness and smoothness, and in several instances marked with striae, all pointing in the same direction. In Edinburgh itself, the north side of the Castle rock is smoothed and horizontally grooved, as if by ice passing along the hollow below. In forming the Queen's drive, on the south side of Arthur's Seat, the surface of the rock in the hollow between that hill and "Sampson's Ribs," was found to be wholly smoothed, polished and furrowed and striated in the direction of the passage, which is easterly; on the north side of the same hill, the railway works have also laid bare a prominent mass of rock, polished and striated on its upper and western sides; other rounded and polished rocks occur up to a height of 400 ft. Throughout the Valley of the Forth, from the Pentlands on the one side to the Fife hills on the other, from Linlithgow to Dunbar, the sandstone surfaces, wherever they come up, are likewise smoothed, and in many instances striated in an east-north-east direction. The trap hills rising in this valley are all long and narrow, generally free from abruptness on the sides, often abraded on the

west, and generally sloping away gently to the east; the direction here also is always to E.N.E. Surfaces on the Pentlands and in Fife exhibit striation precisely conformable. In short, if a deep ice-flow passed through this valley, it might be expected to produce precisely the phenomena which have been observed. The similar markings in other districts of Scotland were shown for the most part, though not without striking exceptions, to be directed towards the east and south. Mr. Chambers adverted to the theory of debacles, which was started to account for the appearances, as now nearly given up. Ice was generally acknowledged as concerned in producing them, because the appearances were precisely those which the existing glaciers produce. But there was great room for speculation as to the circumstances under which the presumed glacial agent was applied. Mr. Chambers declined theorizing on the subject, but pointed out various conditions which any theory on the subject must explain. (1.) How ice could move over so large a portion of the North American continent, in a direction admitted to be tolerably uniform, allowing for slight deviations, easily explicable, as owing to inequalities in the original surface, and this without any mountain chain to give it forth. (2.) How this ice was capable of ascending slopes and topping mountains of considerable height. (3.) How, in such a valley as that of the Forth, there could be an ice-torrent of undeviating flow for many miles, and deep enough to envelope hills many hundred feet high.

'On peculiar Scratched Pebbles and Fossils from the Boulder Clay,' by Mr. H. MILLER.—When examining the boulder clay at Ross and Cromarty in an unsuccessful search for shells, the writer found that not only the large boulders, but even the small pebbles were scratched, though less deeply than the others, unless their texture was unfavourable to receive and retain impressions. Those of limestone, shale, fine-grained sandstone or trap, were scratched and polished, invariably on one, most commonly on both sides, and in four cases out of five the scratchings were in the direction of the longer axes of the pebbles. On the western coast of Scotland, in the Hebrides, in Sutherlandshire, and near Edinburgh, scratched and polished surfaces have been found without boulder clay; but nowhere has boulder clay been discovered without surfaces of this kind below, except in the case of the ordinary brick clays, which are a re-formation of the old materials. It is inferred that the markings on the rocks must have been produced at the time the clay was accumulated, or immediately before; and as the pebbles throughout the deposit are worn and scratched, it is concluded that the process continued during the entire period of the formation. Proceeding to inquire into the origin of these markings, the writer points out, first, that if these stones had been rolled in a stream the markings would have been transverse, and not longitudinal; and next, that they would not have been scratched so deeply unless held fast, or under great pressure from above. For instance, supposing them to have formed a bank, some fathoms beneath the sea, on which drift ice grounded, the motion of the ice would be greater than that of the loose stones below, and they would be worn on both sides in consequence. In order to obtain a cause sufficiently extensive, we must suppose that the disposition of the Arctic continents has been changed, and that during the British Glacial period, the Arctic currents, with their thousand icebergs and frozen fields, were spreading over what is now Northern Europe, until arrested by a former gulf-stream. The ice grinding heavily over the submerged surfaces would grind and polish the harder rocks, and reducing the softer materials into clay, propel them in a direction eastward (or S.E.) of their source. At the close of his paper, Mr. Miller exhibited some boreal shells, and fragments of oolite fossils, chalk and chalk-flints from the boulder clay of Caithness, and referred to the labours of Mr. R. Dick, of Thurso, the discoverer in that country of the fossils and chalk, and the collector of most of the shells.

'On the Dispersion of Granite Blocks from Ben Cruachan,' by Mr. W. HOPKINS.—The north-east side of Ben Cruachan consists of granite, which is seen also in the large quarries on Loch Etive; angular fragments of this rock, often several tons in weight, and of every smaller size, may be traced to

some distance from the mountain; they are seen on the beach at Oban and on the island of Kerrera, extending from the sea up several hundred feet, to the highest part of the island; on the shores of Loch Lomond they are in considerable numbers, and from Tarbet to the head of Loch Long they occur in profusion along that narrow and deep valley; on the shores of Loch Fyne they occur at a considerable elevation, and of large size, all the way up to the head of the valley which extends beyond the Loch. Looking at the country, it would appear that had these blocks been dispersed by glaciers, they would have found an easy route in the direction of Glen Orchy and Taymouth, where none have been detected, whilst their passage to Loch Fyne would be opposed by an insuperable barrier, and their ascent of the island of Kerrera altogether impossible. Mr. Hopkins was disposed to think that several agencies,—glaciers, floating ice, and currents,—had taken part in producing the phenomenon in question, for supposing the whole country to have been submerged, with the exception of the higher mountains, any glaciers descending from these mountains would soon become floating icebergs, and the rocks thus dispersed might be still further distributed by currents; in the valley of the Clyde the granite blocks from Cruachan were smaller and more water-worn. The Swiss glaciers originated at a height of a mile or a mile and a half; here the entire altitude of the mountain was only 3,000 feet, and it was impossible that glaciers should form on such an elevation capable of carrying blocks of granite across the sea to the summit of an island three or four hundred feet high, or across a ridge four or five hundred feet high to deposit them in Loch Fyne; but these difficulties would vanish by taking into account the transporting power of floating ice and the further distribution produced by oceanic currents.

'On Scratched Surfaces in the Lake District of Westmoreland,' by Mr. T. BRYCE.—The writer stated that Mr. Wakefield, of Kendal, had discovered three or four places near Windermere where glacial action was evident. About a mile south of Staveley a surface had been cleared of the boulder clay fifty feet across for railway purposes, disclosing four rounded and polished surfaces, with grooves running a little west of north; the scratches were directly across the lines of bedding, and the rock (Lower Ludlow) was very hard and tough, requiring to be blown with gunpowder. At the station of the Windermere railway the surface of the rocks was scratched in a direction 24° west of north. At the Borthwick station the perpendicular surfaces of rocks were grooved; and between Kendal and Kirkby Lonsdale there were diluvial ridges ranging with the valleys and coinciding with the direction of the glacial striae.

The Rev. J. LONGMUIR exhibited a collection of chalk-flints and greensand fossils from Aberdeen-shire, where they are found for a space of ten miles over a granitic region. Flint arrow-heads and stone chisels have been dug up in the fields; and in one place, near Peterhead, the flints lie so thick that not the space of a hand's-breadth is free from them; the flints are always water-worn and globular or oval, of a light grey colour outside and ochrey within. They sometimes contain ventriculites, echinidæ, and bivalve shells, of which Mr. Longmuir has a large collection. Fragments of chalk, greensand, lias, and magnesian limestone have also been obtained from the superficial deposits; the greensand fossils are numerous and like those found in Wiltshire. He considered the chalk fossils indicative of a former extension of that stratum to the east of Scotland,—as it is still found in the south of Sweden, various Danish islands, and the north of Ireland. It was probable that the upper greensand had also extended as far.

Mr. C. MACLAREN described some ridges in Glenmerran, Argyleshire, resembling the terminal moraines of a Swiss glacier; they were transverse to the valley, shaped like the roof of a cottage, and composed of unstratified clay, gravel and angular blocks.

The CHAIRMAN coincided with Mr. Hopkins in considering it necessary to take into account more than one agency to explain the polished and striated surfaces of rocks; Sir J. Richardson, who was present, had given his opinion that in North America, where glacial phenomena were conspicuous, glaciers had



not, at any epoch, been the cause of these phenomena, but that they were caused by the drifting of icebergs, when the country was submerged.—Mr. J. SMITH, of Jordan-hill, stated that in Scotland, scratched rocks were almost universal; in one instance, at Duntrun, Argyleshire, he had noticed a case where the lea side of the scratched rock was at the west; indicating a force from the east. The proofs of submergence during the glacial epoch were also continually multiplying.—Prof. HITCHCOCK stated that the glacial phenomena of America were like those of Scotland, but not like those of Wales, where he could not resist the impression that he was in a glacial region; in North America there was no evidence of glaciers.—Dr. FLEMING called attention to the materials of which the boulder-clay was composed, sometimes finely stratified layers of sand and clay occurred in it, and sometimes horizontal lines of large boulders; on the coast of Aberdeen, 40 feet above the sea, there was a layer of rounded blocks of granite and gneiss in the brick-clay; with chalk-flints and blocks of chalk, caking coal, and wood resembling birch.—Prof. J. FORBES stated that the specimens of scratched rocks from North America were identical with those of Scotland; he was in favour of the comparison with glacial action in Switzerland, but admitted that he could not conceive the existence of a glacier so circumstanced as to produce the markings on Arthur's Seat; the introduction of floating ice-rafts would render the solution more easy.

## THURSDAY.

## SECTION D.—NATURAL HISTORY, INCLUDING PHYSIOLOGY.

President.—Prof. GOODSIR.

Vice-Presidents.—Sir J. G. DALYELL, Sir J. RICHARDSON.

Dr. R. K. GREVILLE, Mr. G. BENTHAM.

Secretaries.—Dr. LANKESIER, Prof. J. H. BENNETT.

Dr. DOUGLAS MACLAGAN.

Committee.—Prof. Allman, Mr. C. C. Babington, Prof. J. H. Balfour, Dr. Black, Mr. G. Busk, Dr. H. Cleghorn, Rev. Prof. Fleming, Mr. W. Gornlie, Rev. L. Jenyns, Dr. W. H. Lowe, Mr. R. MacAndrew, Prof. W. Macdonald, Dr. MacWilliam, Mr. R. Patterson, Rev. J. Reid, Messrs. W. Spence and Wylie Thomson, Prof. Walker-Arnott, Mr. J. Wilson, Dr. P. Neill, Prof. Parlatore, Prof. E. Forbes, Prof. W. Carpenter, Sir W. Jardine, Mr. Hugh E. Strickland, Prof. A. Fleming, Prof. Dickie, Prof. Daubeny, Dr. Redfern, Dr. Tilt, Prof. Owen, Dr. Fowler, Mr. R. Stacey, Prof. Van der Hoeven, Mr. J. E. Winterbottom, Prof. Hyatt, Messrs. T. C. Eytun, P. J. Selby, Prof. Buchanau, Prof. Sharpey, Mr. C. W. Peach, Dr. D. Mackay, Messrs. Joshua Clark, Hamlyn Lee, Dr. George Johnston.

C. C. BABINGTON, Esq., in the name of Prof. Parlatore, of Florence, who was then attending the Meeting of the Association, presented two works,—one 'On the Vegetation of Mont Blanc and the Great St. Bernard,'—the other the 'First Volume of an Italian Flora, arranged according to the Natural System, and embracing a Description of the Grasses.'

'On the Hedge Plants of India, and the Conditions which adapt them for Special Purposes and Particular Localities,' by Dr. CLEGHORN.—The author first made some remarks on the low condition of agriculture generally throughout India, and stated that his remarks more particularly applied to the south of that continent, in the district of Mysore. Having referred to the importance of hedges in any well-developed system of agriculture, he pointed out their especial importance in a country infested with wild animals, and where the crops needed especial protection. He stated, however, that those plants alone could be used for hedges which were adapted to the particular soil and climate where they were employed. Sandy districts produced a very different vegetation from that which is found in a rich alluvial soil. The following plants were named as those which might be used with advantage for hedges in various parts of India. Most of these plants are characterized by possessing spires, prickles and thorns, which render them dangerous to animals. *Opuntia Dillenii*. This plant was originally introduced from America, but grew very abundantly, was easily propagated, and required little or no soil. It might be used for military defences. Its fruit is eaten. It, however, harbours vermin, and is to be used only when other plants cannot be obtained.—*Agave Americana*, another introduced plant. It is propagated by suckers, grows easily, and when decayed the leaves may be used as fuel.—*Euphorbia antiquorum*. This, combined with other species of *Euphorbia*, forms an excellent fence. Its juice is very acrid, and care must be taken in pruning it. Several species of plants belonging to the divisions Mimoseæ and Cæsalpinieæ, were also mentioned as thorny shrubs adapted for the purposes of inclosure. Many of these have

elegant flowers.—*Acacia Arabica* yields gum, and the pods and seeds are eaten. They are all plants easily cultivated.—The Bamboo (*Bambusa arundinacea*) is also a plant highly recommended for forming inclosures. Several other species of *Bambusa* have been employed for the same purpose.—Other plants used for hedges are *Pandanus odoratissimus*, the lime, the mulberry, species of *Hibiscus*, &c. The paper was illustrated by drawings of the species of plants described by the author.

Dr. ROYLE observed that the name of the author's paper was too modest for its comprehensive treatment of the details of the distribution of plants mentioned by the author. It was of the utmost importance in all attempts at cultivating plants in foreign climates that the adaptation of one to the other should be consulted. The plants of the rich alluvial soils in India would not grow in sandy deserts, and *vice versa*. Frequently, an introduced plant was of more value than an indigenous one; as was remarkably exemplified in several of the species mentioned by Dr. Cleghorn. Some doubt existed about introduced plants in India because they had ancient Sanscrit names; but it frequently happened that the Hindoo gave an old name to a new plant.

'On Exuviation, or, the Changes of Integuments by Animals,' by Sir J. G. DALYELL.—The observations of the writer were confined to the family of Crustacea. He described minutely the changes undergone by crabs during the process of moulting, and, in several instances, counted the number of days from one moult to another. These varied from 60 to 194 days. In all cases he found that no reparation of wounded, mutilated, or destroyed parts took place till after the moult which succeeded the injury. He described minutely several cases in which injuries of various kinds had been repaired. In one case of the moult of a crab only the two claws of the dermal skeleton were developed, whilst the eight legs were entirely suppressed. At the next moult the animal produced its usual number of legs.

Prof. OWEN wished to express the obligations under which naturalists were to Sir J. Dalzell for his numerous observations in natural history. The subject of the present paper was one of great interest and demanded further investigation.—Prof. VAN DER HOEVEN stated that the remarks of Sir John confirmed those of Mr. Newport on the change of skin and the reproduction of lost members in the family of spiders.—Mr. PEACH said that the white colour of the young crabs mentioned by Sir John was owing to confinement. He believed that limbs were only reproduced after exuviation, from his own observations. Amongst the Crustacea which he had observed, the hermit crabs shed their skin most frequently:—sometimes as often as five or six times in a month.

'Notes on Crustacea,' accompanied by drawings, by Dr. T. WILLIAMS.—The notes were, first,—on the development of the shell. Under this head the author gave an account of the changes observed in the shell during its growth under the microscope. In the first place a production of cells was observed over the region of the heart. This gradually spread and formed the upper layer of the dermal skeleton. Under this was formed a layer of pigment cells, and below this again layers of smaller cells till the whole integument was formed. The younger the animal the oftener this process went on,—till at last it went on very slowly or ceased altogether. Second,—the shedding of the exuvia. This process seemed in a great measure under the control of the animal; as when watched it frequently suspended this operation, or when excited, hastened it. It seems to be attended with excitement of the nervous system,—as at this period the animal was more pugnacious than at any other. Third,—the reproduction of limbs. This process only took place after the exuviation of the old skin, although a reparative process was evidently set up in the injured part. At the moult immediately subsequent to the loss of a limb, the new limb was not so large as those which represented uninjured limbs.

'Notice of the Distribution of the Herbaria of the Honourable East India Company,' by Dr. ROYLE.—The collections in the possession of the Company consisted of the plants collected by Royle, Griffiths, Falconer, Harris, Stocks, and others. Duplicates of

the specimens contained in these collections had been sent to various public bodies.

Prof. WALKER-ARNOTT complained that although public bodies had been presented with these plants, private individuals who were much more likely to use them had been overlooked.—Prof. BALFOUR expressed his thanks to the Hon. East India Company for their munificent gift to the University of Edinburgh.—Dr. ROYLE stated that in the distribution of their Herbaria, the East India Company had supposed that the plants were most likely to be useful in institutions to which all had access.

'On the Anatomy of Doris,' by A. HANCOCK and Dr. EMBLETON.—The paper contained a description of the different internal organs and embraced several new points, namely:—Some hitherto unnoticed modifications of the digestive organs. A full account of the complicated organs of reproduction and their varieties:—these organs have long been matter of dispute. A notice of an additional heart having a portal character, and driving along its artery, whose branches form a net-work with the hepatic twigs of the aorta, venous blood,—thus a mixed current is sent to the liver for the secretion of the bile. A description of a renal organ, on the walls of which the net-work of aortic and portal vessels is spread out before they reach the liver. A new version of the course of the circulation of the blood in these mollusks, showing that the blood which is returned from the liver-mass, *i. e.* liver, renal organ and ovary, is the only portion of that fluid that traverses the branchia before reaching the heart, the rest being returned from the other viscera and the skin directly to the auricle, and there mixed with that which has passed through the branchia. Lastly, an account of a true sympathetic nervous system in Doris and other mollusks, consisting of plexuses of nerves and ganglia on all the viscera,—a system quite analogous to that of the higher animals. Thus it appeared that the œsophageal circle of ganglia corresponds to the cerebro-spinal nervous system of the vertebrata. The individual ganglia of the mollusk were then compared to their counterparts in the vertebrate cerebro-spinal axis, so as to bring out their true signification. From the whole paper it was evident that the mollusca are much more highly organized than has been supposed, and that as regards the organs of vegetative life, at least much more richly endowed than the articulata have yet been shown to be.

Prof. MACDONALD would offer his opposition to the views of the authors if they intended to convey the notion that the œsophageal ganglia in the mollusca were not the representatives of the cerebro-spinal axis.—Dr. CARPENTER explained that the last speaker had entirely misapprehended the purport of the remarks made by the authors of the paper. There was no doubt that the infra and supra œsophageal ganglia were the representation of the cerebro-spinal axis, but as to what parts of the cerebrum were represented in the mollusca it was still difficult to say.—Prof. GOODSIR congratulated the Meeting on having so valuable a paper as this brought before it. The anatomy of Doris was one of great difficulty on account of the intricate and condensed structure of the creature. Cuvier's dissection of this animal could not be relied on. The observations of the authors on the nervous system of these animals were highly important and novel.—Prof. VAN DER HOEVEN could not allow the opportunity to pass without expressing his sense of the importance of this paper and its value as a contribution to physiological science.

'On the Vertebral Homologies of the Basicranium,' by Prof. W. MACDONALD.

'Remarks on the *Anacharis Alsinastrum*,' by C. C. BABINGTON,—who exhibited specimens.—The plant was gathered in a river in Berwickshire where it had been seen by Dr. Johnston ten years ago. It was not, however, till recently that it had been recognized as a British plant. It appears now to be very generally diffused,—and where once introduced, to grow with the greatest possible rapidity. In some places where it had not been introduced more than two years it had already quite filled up the reservoirs or parts of canals in which it was growing. A species of *Anacharis* grew in North America; but Mr. Babington considered the British species peculiar, and had named it accordingly. It belonged to the same order of plants as *Vallisneria*, and produced its flowers in the same way. Although filaments had



been seen in the stamiferous flowers, no anthers had yet been discovered in the British species.

#### SECTION F.—STATISTICS.

President—Dr. J. LEE.

Vice-Presidents—Rev. Dr. GORDON, Dr. H. MARSHALL, Prof. W. P. ALISON, Mr. G. R. PORTER.  
Secretaries—Prof. HANCOCK, Messrs. J. STARR, J. FLETCHER.  
Committee—Mr. T. Tooke, Col. Sykes, Sir J. P. Boileau, Messrs. F. G. P. Neison, G. L. Finlay, W. T. Thomson, J. Finlaison, F. Sopwith, W. Jordan, W. Felkin, J. Shuttleworth, R. Christie, W. Chambers, Sir C. Lemon, Messrs. J. Gibson, J. W. Orpen, J. Ball.

'On the Self-imposed Taxation of the Working Classes in the United Kingdom,' by Mr. G. R. PORTER.—The writer referred, of course, to that self-imposed taxation which consists in the use of articles from which we could very well abstain, which are of little or no use to us either bodily or intellectually, and by foregoing the consumption of which we should become, individually and nationally, better able to bear the necessary expenses of Government. The particular instances to which he called attention were the consumption of ardent spirits, beer and tobacco; the yearly expenditure for which articles in the United Kingdom amounts to a sum which must appear perfectly fabulous until the reasonableness of the result be shown by means of calculations adopted and formed on good authority. The quantity of spirits of home production consumed in 1849 within the kingdom was—

In England .....	9,053,676 imperial gallons.
Scotland .....	6,935,003 "
Ireland .....	6,973,333 "

Together .. 22,962,012 "

—the duty upon which quantity amounted to 5,793,381*l*. The wholesale cost, including the duty, would probably amount to about 8,000,000*l*., a sum which would, however, be very far short of that paid by the consumers. In all trades which, like that of the distillation of spirits, are carried on for the supplying of very numerous customers, and where the sum paid at any one time by each individual is very small, the retail profits must necessarily be great, in order to reimburse the expenses attendant on the trade, and to afford a living to those engaged in it. It may likewise be fairly assumed, that something greater than the average rate of profit would be required in order to induce persons with the necessary capital to embark in a business accompanied by, or at least liable to, circumstances of an unpleasant character. It is not possible to make any precise calculations of those expenses and profits; but a good deal of trouble has been taken in order to make as near an approximation as possible to the truth, and it has been given as the opinion of several distillers who have been consulted, that the consumer pays for every gallon of spirits used three times the amount of the duty. Assuming this estimate, it would appear that the cost of British and Irish distilled spirits to the people of England, Scotland and Ireland respectively, in 1849, was 17,381,643*l*., thus divided:—

England .....	£8,838,768
Scotland .....	5,369,868
Ireland .....	3,173,007

£17,381,643

To this must be added the sum spent for rum, nearly the whole of which is used by the same classes as consume the gin and whiskey, of which the cost is here estimated. The consumption of rum in 1849 amounted to 3,044,753 imperial gallons, the duty paid on which was 1,142,855*l*.. The class of consumers being the same, and the means of distribution nearly if not wholly identical, it may fairly be assumed that the cost to the consumer bears an equal relation to the duty with that assigned to British spirits, in which case the expenditure for this kind of spirit will reach 3,428,565*l*., making the whole outlay of the people for these two descriptions of ardent spirits 20,810,208*l*., thus locally divided:—

England .....	£8,205,242
Scotland .....	6,205,114
Ireland .....	6,319,852

£20,810,208

If, for the purpose of the calculation, we assume that the population of the three divisions of the United Kingdom was the same in 1849 as it was found to be at the enumeration of 1841, the consumption per head in the year was—

In England .....	0.569 gallons.
Scotland .....	2.647 "
Ireland .....	0.863 "

These proportions are such as would fall to the share of each man, woman and child throughout the land; but it must be evident that many, and especially the women and children, can count for very little in the calculation, if indeed they should not be wholly discarded from it. Adopting this latter view, and dividing the quantity consumed among the adult males in all ranks of life, as they were ascertained in 1841, the following portions would fall to the share of each—

In England .....	2.330 gallons, or about 2½ gallons.
Scotland .....	11.168 " " 11½ "
Ireland .....	3.469 " " 3½ "

Brandy is for the most part drunk by persons not of the working class, as that term is generally, but somewhat arbitrarily, understood. The quantity consumed in 1849 was 2,187,500 imperial gallons.—The first or wholesale cost of which was about £546,875 And the duty paid amounted to..... 1,640,282

Together..... £2,187,157

The system of distribution is, for the most part, quite different from that used with respect to British and colonial spirits,—a large proportion being purchased in quantities of two gallons and upwards for use in private families, so that a much smaller rate of gross profit will be required by the dealers. Some part is, however, sold at inns and public houses by the glass, and for this portion a very high profit will be received, so that it cannot be considered an over-estimate if we assume that each gallon costs, on the average, to the consumers, 30*s*. or 50*s*. per cent. advance upon the import cost and duty. This would exhibit an expenditure for brandy of 3,281,250*l*., which, added to the sum formerly stated, gives a total expenditure within the year for ardent spirits of the enormous sum of 24,091,458*l*.. The data at command by means of which to estimate the money spent for beer in its various forms, is not so satisfactory as that used in regard to spirits, but is sufficiently precise to enable us to approximate to the truth within a reasonable degree of accuracy. The number of bushels of malt subjected to duty in 1849 was 37,999,032, or 4,749,879 quarters, but of this quantity only 3,719,145 quarters is set down as having been used by licensed brewers. Of the remaining 1,030,734 quarters, the greater part was, no doubt, used by private families, and the remainder was worked up by the distillers. In order to be on the side of moderation, let us assume that only the quantity (3,719,145 quarters) used in licensed breweries was employed in making beer, and we shall find, upon the usual calculation of 3¼ barrels of beer, of average quality and strength, as the product of each quarter of malt, that the number of gallons brewed from the above-mentioned quantity was 435,139,965. The price at which porter is retailed to the consumer varies with the circumstances attending the sale. When it is taken away in the jugs of the buyers for consumption elsewhere, the charge is 3*d*. per quart, or 1*s*. per gallon, but when drunk on the premises of the seller, the charge is one-third more—viz. 4*d*. per quart, or 1*s*. 4*d*. per gallon; a difference of price which, considering the check upon exorbitant profits offered by the great amount of competition among the sellers, affords good evidence of the necessity for a large advance upon the actual cost in order to meet and cover the expenses of retail dealers. The prices here mentioned are for porter. Ale is higher in price, and is retailed at 4*d*., 6*d*. or 8*d*. per quart, according to its quality, which mainly depends upon the proportion of malt and hops used in its production. On the other hand, table-beer, which is very largely drunk in families, is frequently sold at a lower price than 1*s*. per gallon, but in such cases a smaller or larger quantity is produced from a like quantity of ingredients. As no means can be found for determining the quantities of each kind and quality of beer consumed, let it be assumed, as very fairly it may be, that taking all qualities into the account, the price to the consumer is a mean between the two prices above stated for porter—viz., 1*s*. 2*d*. per gallon, and we arrive at the sum of 25,383,165*l*.. annually spent by the population of this kingdom, and chiefly by the labouring portion, for beer. It is shown by a statement recently presented to the House of Commons, that the number of persons who are engaged as producers and distributors of beer in England and Wales, is as follows:—

Brewers .....	2,507
Victuallers .....	68,496
Persons licensed to keep beer-houses ..	38,070

129,073

The quantity of manufactured tobacco upon which duty was paid in 1849 was 27,480,621 lb., and of manufactured tobacco and snuff 205,066 lb., yielding a revenue of 4,408,017*l*. 14*s*. 11*d*.. The retail price ranges from 4*s*. to 14*s*. per lb., 17-20ths, or 85 per cent., of the whole being of the lowest price here named, and only about 2 per cent. being of the highest quality, proportions which were stated by several respectable manufacturers who gave evidence before a committee of the House of Commons in 1845. On the same authority we are told that an addition is made of other ingredients in the processes of manufacture, amounting to 15 per cent. upon the 85 per cent., which consists of cut or shag, and roll tobacco, while the snuff, which comprises 13 out of 15 parts of the remainder, admits of an increased weight to the extent of from 50 to 60 per cent. Applying these percentages to the quantity taken for consumption in 1849, we arrive at the following results:—

	Pr. ct.	Lb.		Pr. ct.	Lb.
Shag and roll tobac.	85	23,358,529	adding	15	26,862,308
Snuff of var. kinds,	13	3,572,480	increase	55	5,537,344
Segars.....	2	549,612	no increase		549,612
		Lb. 27,480,621			Lb. 32,949,264
Manufactured when imported .....					205,066

So that the quantity for which the public pays as tobacco and snuff is .....

The retail prices, obtained from a respectable shop in a leading thoroughfare in London, at this time (June 1850) are:—

	Per oz.		Per oz.
Good Shag .....	3 <i>d</i> .	Princes' Mixture .....	6 <i>d</i> .
Best do. ....	3½ <i>d</i> .	Brown Rappee .....	4½ <i>d</i> .
Bird's Eye .....	3½ <i>d</i> .	Pale Scotch .....	4 <i>d</i> .
Returns .....	3½ <i>d</i> .	Do. best .....	4½ <i>d</i> .
Cavendish .....	4 <i>d</i> .	Black Rappee .....	4 <i>d</i> .
K'naster .....	6 <i>d</i> .		

The average price of the six qualities of tobacco here given is at the rate of 5*s*. 2*d*. per lb., and that of the five qualities of snuff is 7*s*. 6*d*. per lb. The great bulk of the consumption falls upon the lowest priced quality of tobacco, which is 3*d*. per oz. or 4*s*. per lb. It cannot, therefore, give an exaggerated view of the sum expended for this article if we assume that lowest price as being paid for the whole. In regard to snuff a larger proportion of the whole than in the case of tobacco is used by the middling and easy classes, to whom the difference of a penny in the price of an ounce of snuff cannot be any object, and who rarely, if ever, will buy the most inferior quality. The prices, it will be seen, run from 5*s*. 4*d*. to 8*s*. per lb.; if we take the mean of these two prices as the average of the whole, i.e. 6*s*. 8*d*. per lb. we shall probably be within the mark. At these rates, the cost to the consumers generally will be as follows:—

26,862,308 lb. of tobacco at 4 <i>s</i> . per lb. ....	£5,372,461
5,537,344 lb. snuff at 6 <i>s</i> . 8 <i>d</i> . ....	1,845,781
549,612 lb. English-made segars at 9 <i>s</i> . ....	247,325

Total for British-manufactured. ....	£7,465,567
205,066 foreign-manufactured at 12 <i>s</i> . ....	123,040

Total value as paid by consumers. .... £7,588,607

which amount would yield 50 per cent. above the cost of the tobacco as imported, and the duty paid thereon,—a moderate increase to defray all the expenses of manufacture, and the charges attendant upon the retailing of an article nearly the whole of which is paid for in copper coins. There can be no reason to suspect that the amount can be at all overcharged, which leaves no larger margin than this for the gross profits of 209,537 persons the number which, in the year 1848, took out and paid for licences to deal in tobacco and snuff, in addition to 642 persons licensed to manufacture those articles. It must be remembered, that with regard to two of the three articles the expenditure for which Mr. Porter had endeavoured to estimate, an indefinite sum should be allowed for the quantities illicitly produced and imported, but as to the amount of which it is altogether impossible to form any trustworthy estimate. We know, however, from the seizures and discoveries that are continually made, that a very large additional amount must be drawn from the pockets of the people in order to compensate for the risks of the smuggler and the illicit distiller.

If it be conceded that the sums here brought forward



are justified by the facts and calculations on which they are based, it would appear, that the people, and chiefly the working classes of England, Scotland, and Ireland, voluntarily tax themselves for the enjoyment of only three articles, neither of which is of any absolute necessity, to the following amount.—

British and Colonial spirits .....	£20,810,208
Brandy .....	3,281,250
Total of spirits .....	£24,091,458
Beer of all kinds, exclusive of that brewed in private families .....	£25,383,165
Tobacco and Snuff .....	7,588,607
	£57,063,230

At the beginning of this paper it was remarked, that the amount of money expended upon articles which, like spirits, beer and tobacco, are not of first necessity, forms a measure of the prosperity of the nation and of the ability of the community to bear those national burthens which cannot be avoided,—a remark the justice of which hardly admits of question; but it would by no means follow that the diminished use of the three articles named would afford proof in itself of lessened means of comfort on the part of the working people, and of diminished prosperity in the nation generally. On the contrary, if it were seen that, as respects gin and whiskey, the two and one-third gallons consumed in the year in England—the eleven and one-sixth gallons so consumed in Scotland—and the three and a-half gallons consumed in Ireland, by each adult male, were diminished to one-half those proportions, while a larger sale should be effected of sugar, of tea, of articles of decent clothing, and of other matters whereof the females and children should be partakers, there can be no disputing about the advantageous nature of the change, and but little ground for asserting that the general sum of prosperity were lessened. The probability, on the contrary, is, that money thus expended would afford greater means for employment throughout the country in other branches of industry, and thus open additional sources of prosperity to all. There is one consideration arising out of this view of the subject which is of a painful character, and which, if it were hopeless of cure, would be most disheartening to all who desire that the moral progress of the people should advance at least at an equal pace with their physical progress—it is, that among the working classes so very large a portion of the earnings of the male head of the family is devoted by him to his personal and sensual gratifications. It has been computed that, among those whose earnings are from 10s. to 15s. weekly at least one-half is spent by the man upon objects in which the other members of the family have no share. Among artisans, earning from 20s. to 30s. weekly, it is said that at least one-third of the amount is in many cases thus selfishly devoted. That this state of things need not be, and that, if the people generally were better instructed as regards their social duties, it would not be, may safely be inferred from the fact that it is rarely, if ever, found to exist in the numerous cases where earnings not greater than those of the artisan class are all that are gained by the head of the family when employed upon matters where education is necessary. Take even the case of a clerk, with a salary of 80*l.* a-year, a small fraction beyond 30*s.* a-week, and it would be considered quite exceptional if it were found that anything approaching to a fourth part of the earnings were spent upon objects in which the wife and children should have no share. The peer, the merchant, the clerk, the artisan, and the labourer, are all of the same nature, born with the same propensities and subject to the like influences. It is true they are placed in very different circumstances—the chief difference being that of their early training—one, happily, which it is quite possible in some degree to remedy, and that by means which would in many ways add to the sum of the nation's prosperity and respectability.

‘On the Cost of obtaining Patents in different Countries,’ by Prof. HANCOCK.—He proposed to direct attention to a table showing the cost of obtaining patents in different countries. The principal points in the table worth noticing were:—1st, That the cost of obtaining copyright for designs, under recent legislation, was from 1*l.* to 15*l.*, being less than in any country in the world. 2nd, That the cost of

obtaining a patent in England was 110*l.*, being greater than in any other European state. 3rd, That the cost of obtaining a patent in Ireland was 135*l.*, being greater than in any other country in the world. 4th, That the cost of obtaining a patent for the entire British dominions was 375*l.*, being three times the cost of a similar privilege in any other collection of territories under one government in the world. He then proceeded to inquire whether there was any good reason for maintaining the great cost of obtaining patents in Great Britain; and proposed the following questions for consideration:—1st, Should separate patents be required for each portion of the United Kingdom? 2nd, Was the expense of English patents caused by wise arrangements, for affording to the public facilities for searching for previous inventions? 3rd, Was the great expense of British patents caused by arrangements for affording security to the inventor in the enjoyment of his property? 4th, From what causes did the cost of British patents arise? 5th, What were the benefits which patents of invention conferred on the community? 6th, By what means could the cost of obtaining British patents be diminished? He showed that if the system of having one registration for the United Kingdom, like that for registration of designs, were extended to patents, the cost of obtaining patents would be at once reduced from 276*l.* to 110*l.*,—that the cost of obtaining patents in Great Britain did not arise from arrangements for affording to the public facilities for searching for previous inventions, nor for affording security to the inventor. He then proceeded to point out the causes of the great cost of British patents to be:—1st, The prolix and complicated forms of procedure for obtaining patents. 2nd, The fees to the Attorney General and other public officers on these forms of procedure. 3rd, The stamp duties on patents and on the specifications required from patentees. It seemed very unwise to require the intervention of a Master in Chancery, a Secretary of State, an Attorney General, and a Lord Chancellor to the issue of a document that was a simple certificate of registration. The system of paying public officers by salaries instead of fees had been generally recognized, but not extended to the case of patents. The tax on patents was unequal, being the same no matter what was the value of the invention. The tax was also imposed at the time most inconvenient for the inventor to pay, namely, before he had derived any profit from his invention. The benefits arising from the granting of patents were threefold:—1st, securing a reward to the inventor; 2nd, securing to the public a disclosure of the process used; and 3rd, encouraging the inventive genius of the community by forcing inventors to make really new discoveries. The means of reducing the cost of obtaining patents were threefold:—1st, By having only one patent for the United Kingdom. 2nd, By adopting for all inventions the simple process of granting certificates of registration of designs, instead of the prolix and complicated forms now required in obtaining patents. 3rd, By substituting for all inventions the moderate fees and stamps on the registration of designs for the official fees and stamps or patents.

A discussion followed, in which Mr. W. CHAMBERS, Mr. PORTER, Mr. NASH, Mr. GIBSON, Mr. NEWALL, Col. SYKES, Mr. FILKIN, and Mr. SIMPSON took part.

‘On the Causes of Distress at Skull and Skibbereen during the Famine in Ireland,’ by Prof. HANCOCK.—This district suffered more than any other during the famine in Ireland. Was the distress entirely caused by the potato failure? This depended on the question, What was the state of the Skibbereen district before 1846? The *Times* Commissioner had visited it in 1845, and described the people as being then in the most abject state of destitution. Hence it followed that the real sources of the calamities which the people suffered were the distress and wretched system of agriculture which prevailed before the famine. Had the people not been reduced to the verge of starvation,—had their wages not been at the lowest point consistent with human existence before that time,—the failure of the potato would, as in other districts, have caused privation only, and not death. The next inquiry was, To what causes are the wretched agriculture and

consequent distress before 1846 to be ascribed? To solve this question, Mr. Mill had started the theory that peasant-rents fixed by competition was the foundation of the economic evils of Ireland. He proposed to test Mr. Mill's theory, and to contrast with the conclusions to which he had been led, that the state of the law respecting land was the cause of distress. The facts respecting this district he had collected from a petition in the case of the late Lord Audley, in the Incumbered Estates Court. The Audley estate included a large tract of land lying between Skull and Skibbereen. The entire of this estate was held by a middleman, whose lease would expire in 1854, so that in 1846 and 1846 no occupier had any interest exceeding nine years in the land;—so that neither middleman nor occupiers were able to improve the estate. As to interest of the head landlord, it appeared that as far back as 1829 the incumbrances on the Audley estate had far exceeded its value, being 25,000*l.* on a rental of less than 600*l.* a-year. That they increased rapidly, so as to amount to 89,400*l.*, exclusive of interest and law costs, at Lord Audley's death in 1837. That the interest and law costs increased the charges against the property in 1846 to the enormous amount of 167,300*l.*, on a rental of 577*l.* a year. It appeared that from Lord Audley's death, in 1837, to the present hour, instead of there being one landlord to deal with the property, there were eighty incumbrancers, whose consent was necessary to enable anything being done. Hence the folly of speaking of competition in such a case when this state of the property rendered real competition impossible. The economic evils of Ireland, in his opinion, did not arise from peasant rents fixed by competition, and consequently those evils could be removed by having peasant rents fixed by law. Of those causes that were within human control, the chief cause of distress in Ireland, he thought, was the state of the law with regard to land. The laws respecting property in land, he stated, were defective in these particulars:—1st, in opposing impediments to the free sale of land, and encouraging instead terminable leases; 2nd, in denying security to the capital of tenants, by providing that, in the absence of contracts, improvements shall not belong to the improver; 3rd, in impeding the search for incumbrances, by maintaining a complicated and defective system of registration of debts and charges affecting land; and 4th, in the want of simple, cheap and expeditious forms of procedure for the enforcement of debts and contracts affecting land.

FRIDAY.

‘An Inquiry into the question, whether, under our existing social system, there is a Tendency for the Increasing of Capital in the hands of those already possessing Riches?’ by Mr. G. R. PORTER.—The sources of information bearing upon this interesting social question which are open to us are not many. An examination of the amount of Savings Banks will show that the deposits in England, Wales and Ireland, proportioned to the population, amounted in 1831 to 12*s.* 8*d.* per head; in 1836 to 16*s.* 4*d.*; in 1841 to 19*s.* 10*d.*; and in 1848 to 20*s.* 11*d.* In Scotland the deposits were—in 1836, 7*d.* per head; 1841, 4*s.* 8*d.*; 1848, 7*s.* 5*d.* The largest amount of these savings occurred in 1846, when they reached in England to 26,759,817*l.*; Wales, 674,657*l.*; Scotland, 1,383,866*l.*; Ireland, 2,924,910*l.*; in all, 31,743,250*l.*; being equal to 24*s.* per head on the population of England, Wales and Ireland, and 10*s.* 1*d.* per head on that of Scotland. The diminution in 1847 and 1848 is clearly the result of the high prices of provisions, and consequent falling off in wages caused by the potato rot and its attendant circumstances. The comparative smallness of the deposits in Scotland arises from two causes: first, the system of allowing interest upon very small sums deposited in private and joint-stock banks; and secondly, the more recent connexion of savings banks with the Government in that division of the kingdom. There is no reason for supposing that the labouring classes of Scotland are less saving than those of England or Ireland; and, presuming that the disposition to save is naturally as great in each part of the kingdom, the workmen of Scotland have until very recently had a much stronger incentive than their English fellow-subjects to set aside a part of their



earnings, because of the absence of any legal provision for the wants of their old age, and against the occurrence of sickness or accident. The next test to which I would direct attention varies essentially from that afforded by the progress of savings banks; inasmuch as it excludes all evidence of actual saving or accumulation, while it offers a strictly comparative view of such saving as between different classes of the community. The accounts furnished to Parliament of the number of persons entitled to dividends upon portions of the public debt, divide the fundholders into ten classes, according to the amount of which they are so entitled. Mr. Porter here contrasts by tables the numbers in each class as they stood on the 5th of April and 5th of July of the years 1831 and 1848 respectively; and he then goes on to say, that it will be seen that there has been a very large addition between 1831 and 1848 to the number of persons receiving under 5*l.* at each payment of dividends, and a small increase upon the number receiving between 5*l.* and 10*l.*, while, with the exception of the largest holders—those whose dividends exceed 2,000*l.* at each payment, and of whom there has been an increase of five—every other class has experienced a considerable decrease in its numbers. That there has been a diminution of more than 8 per cent. in the numbers receiving between 300*l.* and 500*l.*; of 12½ per cent. of those receiving between 500*l.* and 1,000*l.*, and of more than 20 per cent. among holders of stock yielding dividends between 1,000*l.* and 2,000*l.*, would seem conclusively to show, that at least as respects this mode of disposing of accumulations, there is not any reason to believe that the already rich are acquiring greater wealth at the expense of the rest of the community. The branch of this inquiry to which my attention was next directed, was that elucidated by returns showing the sums assessed to the Income-tax in respect of incomes derived from trades and professions in 1812, compared with the like returns in 1848, excluding from the former period the incomes below 150*l.*, which, under the existing law, are allowed to pass untaxed. The total amount thus assessed, after deducting exemptions, was in 1812, 21,247,621*l.*; while in 1848 the amount was 56,990,224*l.*; showing an increase in 36 years of 35,742,602*l.*, or 168.21 per cent., being at the rate of 4.67 per cent. yearly, an increase very near threefold greater than the increase during the same period of the population of that part of the United Kingdom which is subject to the Income-tax. The object now in view is not that of showing the increased wealth of the country at large, but in what degree such increase has been experienced among different classes of the people, or occasion might be taken to express the satisfaction which every Englishman must feel at this unmistakable evidence of the well-being and continued progress of our country; which feeling is shown by the results to which I thus venture upon calling attention to be unalloyed by any well-founded fears concerning the oft-alleged deteriorated condition of the bulk of the people. The returns examined give the sums assessed to Income-tax in various classes, and for the purpose of the present examination I have distinguished the incomes thus given between 150*l.* and 500*l.*; between 500*l.* and 1,000*l.*; between 1,000*l.* and 2,000*l.*; between 2,000*l.* and 5,000*l.*; and above 5,000*l.*.—Between 150*l.* and 500*l.* per annum, I find a positive increase in 1848 of 13,724,949*l.* upon the incomes assessed in 1812. Between 500*l.* and 1,000*l.* per annum, the increase since 1812 has been 5,100,540*l.* On incomes between 1,000*l.* and 2,000*l.* the increase has amounted to 4,078,095*l.* In incomes between 2,000*l.* and 5,000*l.* there is an increase of 4,059,743*l.*; while in the highest class, which includes all incomes above 5,000*l.* per annum, the increase is found to be 8,779,275*l.* Comparing the lowest with the highest of those classes, it is shown that the increase has been greater in the lowest class by 4,945,674*l.* or 56.33 per cent. The only remaining documents bearing an official character to which recourse can be had in order to throw light upon this subject, are the returns made from the office of the Commissioners for Inland Revenue, showing the sums upon which probate duty has been paid in respect of personal property left by persons deceased. Stated at intervals of five years, beginning with the present century, it has been as follows:—

1801	£ 3,541,931	1826	£ 31,024,593
1806	7,039,031	1831	39,532,397
1811	14,757,420	1836	41,768,806
1816	24,073,456	1841	41,476,521
1821	33,028,060	1848	44,348,721

After making a liberal allowance for evasion of the tax in the early years following its first imposition in 1797, and for the collection of arrears in 1848, the increase, during less than half a century, of property thus brought under the operation of the probate duty is such as must strike us with astonishment. Our present business, however, is with the comparative amount of estates in different classes, for which purpose a calculation has been made of their value in 1833, the earliest year for which the returns enabled us to make the same, and in 1848. Dividing the sixteen years from 1833 to 1848 into equal periods of four years each, and ascertaining the average duty paid in each year of such division, it appears that the sum received in the four years—

1833 to 1836 averaged	£238,306
1837 to 1840	230,338
1841 to 1844	229,162
1845 to 1848	223,962

while the average receipts from the probate duty generally has been steadily and progressively advancing with the increasing wealth of the country. Having examined all the official returns which afford means for arriving at the truth upon this really important subject, we observe the most perfect agreement in their results; and it cannot but be satisfactory to every one to find that the fears entertained and expressed by many as to the probable disappearance of the middle classes from among us are unfounded; that it is far from being true that the rich are growing richer and the poor are becoming poorer; but that, on the contrary, those who occupy a middle station (perhaps the safest station as regards personal respectability, and that which offers the surest guarantee for the progress and continued well-being of the country) are progressively increasing in number and in the proportion which they bear relatively to the population of the kingdom.

‘On the Relations of Crime and Ignorance in England and Wales,’ by Mr. J. FLETCHER.—The general result of the criminal returns for 1848 resembles very closely that for the average of the three years 1845-6-7 (being three years of reviving industry), since in these there is a balance of 11.8 per cent. in favour of the districts of most instruction; and in the year 1848 one of 12.7 per cent. The balance in favour of the more educated districts is seen, however, to be greatly augmented in the great northern and midland mining and manufacturing region, and in the northern and north midland agricultural counties bordering upon it; while the favourable balance is lowered in every other. This appears to be attributable to the steadily improving industry of the mining and manufacturing districts of the north; while the comparative poverty and distress among the Cornish mines give a positive balance against that more educated Celtic district, as compared with Wales, of 9.8 per cent. instead of 9.1 per cent. on the opposite side; precisely changing place with the counties of Leicester, Northampton, and Rutland, which show 13.8 per cent. in favourable comparison with Hereford and Salop, instead of 12.2 on the opposite side. Regarded in every light, therefore, whether under industrial or political agitation, the more instructed localities show the most buoyant and favourable character. But the absolute increase upon the year is distressingly great, being 1,516 upon the total commitments, as compared with 1847; 5,242 as compared with 1846; and 6,046 as compared with 1845; the gross commitments of 1848 being 30,349; and the increase since 1845 is, therefore, of no less than 25 per cent. in the face of improving industry. Public opinion appears certainly to have effected a change, which it is hoped will prove salutary in the proportion of young persons under fifteen years of age committed for trial at assizes and quarter sessions in England and Wales, which is seen to have suddenly declined nearly one-half from 6.1 to 3.6 per cent.

A discussion took place on the subject of this paper, which was participated in by Col. SYKES, Mr. G. R. PORTER, Mr. F. G. NELSON, and Prof. HANCOCK.—Col. SYKES said he hoped they would guard against assuming that an increase of crime was neces-

sarily and entirely to be attributed to defective education, for, in his opinion, there were many other elements to be considered.

‘On the Civil and Criminal Justice of the North-west Provinces of British India,’ by Col. SYKES.—The tendency of the Colonel’s paper went to show the propriety of native judges being appointed, whose decisions gave greater satisfaction to the natives than those of the judges from this country.

## THURSDAY.

## SECTION G.—MECHANICAL SCIENCE.

President—REV. DR. ROBINSON.  
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Committee—Messrs. J. Taylor, J. Nasmyth, H. Napier, — Roberts, J. Leslie, Prof. Fischer, Major-Gen. Pasley, Mr. T. Stevenson.

The President opened the meeting by an exposition of the peculiar objects of this Section, and its relation to the other Sections of the Association. Originally this Section was merely a sub-section of Section A. It was no sooner instituted, than the importance and number of the applications of mathematical and physical science to the practical uses of life, which were brought forward, raised it to an importance which has made it one of the most useful of the Sections of the Association. He believed that some of the most valuable of the measures of the Association had emanated from it, and some of the most important researches had been carried out by means of grants of money recommended by this Section.

Mr. SCOTT RUSSELL read a Report from Rio Janeiro, which narrated the progress that had been made in the Brazils, within the last six years, in the application of the principles of the Wave System to the practical construction of ships, both of steam vessels and of sailing vessels. Mr. Butler Dodgson is a naval architect, employed in the Parta de Aria Iron Works and Dockyard, an establishment largely engaged for Government in the construction of ships and steam vessels. He had early read the Reports of the British Association which contained an account of the wave system, and had been enabled to construct a number of vessels upon that system, and the present communication showed that he had done so with perfect success. The vessels built on this principle possess not only greater speed than others, but also every other good quality as sea-going vessels. Mr. Butler Dodgson encountered the usual opposition from the interests of rivals and the prejudices of men in office; but having tested and established the value of the principle he is now employed to build large steamers for the Government on that principle.—Dr. ROBINSON expressed his regret that knowledge of which foreign Governments were thus enabled to avail themselves was not turned to practical account by Government at home. The British Association had made application to the Government of this country to render the researches of Mr. Scott Russell, which had been carried on under the auspices of the Association, available to the public service; but hitherto without success.—A discussion arose regarding the recent applications of the wave principle to the construction of sailing-yacht schooners in England. The Titania had proved herself to be the fastest yacht of her size, and to possess in a high degree the qualities of a sea-going vessel, and she was built on the wave principle.

‘On the Hyperbolic Law of the Elasticity of Cast-Iron,’ by Mr. HOMERSHAM COX.

‘On Improvements in Propelling and Navigating Steam Vessels,’ by Mr. RUTHVEN.—He employs the steam-engine to propel water through two apertures or nozzles in a bent pipe, and by turning these nozzles either forwards or backwards he propels the vessel either way. The water issues near the water line, and he conceives that by this means speed would be obtained without sacrificing the sea-going qualities of a ship.

Dr. ROBINSON explained, that although progression may be obtained in this way, yet there is reason to suppose that it will be obtained in a manner by no means economical at high velocities.

The meeting closed with a verbal communication from Mr. NASMYTH on his improvements in forging Iron.



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Budding, time of year, day, time of day, state of the plant, care of buds	Shortening wild shoots
Budding upon body	Stocks, planting out for budding upon; the means of procuring; colour, age, height; sorts for different species of Rose; taking up, trimming roots, sending a distance, shortening heads, &c.; saw proper for the purpose.
Bud, insertion of, into stock	
Bud, preparation of, for use	
Buds, dormant and pushing	
Buds, failing	
Buds, securing a supply of	
Caterpillars, slugs, and snails, to destroy	
Causes of success	
Dormant buds, theory of re-planting with explained	
Guards against wind	
Labelling	
Loosing ligatures	
March pruning	
Mixture for healing wounds	
Roses, different sorts on the same stock	
Pruning for transplantation	
Pushing eye, spring treatment of dwarf shoots from	
Roses, different sorts on the same stock	
Roses, short list of desirable sorts for budding with a pushing eye	
Scap-bud, treatment of	
Shape of trees	
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	Free-growers, remarks on
	Graft, binding up and finishing
	Grafting, advantage of
	Grafting, disadvantage of
	Operation in different months
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Sum Assured.	Time Assured.	Sum added to Policy in 1841.	Sum added to Policy in 1843.	Sum payable at Death.
£5,000	13 yrs. 10 mths.	£683 6 8	£787 10 0	£,047 16 8
5,000	1 year	.. ..	112 10 0	5,112 10 0
1,000	12 years	100 0 0	157 10 0	1,257 10 0
1,000	7 years	.. ..	157 10 0	1,157 10 0
1,000	3 years	.. ..	23 10 0	1,022 10 0
500	12 years	50 0 0	78 15 0	628 15 0
500	4 years	.. ..	45 0 0	545 0 0
500	1 year	.. ..	11 5 0	511 5 0

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Persons assuring on the Bonus system will be annually entitled to 80 per cent. of the profits on this branch (after payment of five yearly premiums); and the profit assigned to each Policy may either be added to the sum assured, or applied in reduction of the annual premium.

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Premiums to Assure £100. Whole Term.

Age.	One Year.	Seven Years.	With Profits.	Without Profits.
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20	£0 17 8	£0 19 1	£1 15 10	£1 11 10
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30	1 18 8	1 2 7	2 5 5	2 0 7
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40	1 5 0	1 6 9	3 0 7	2 14 10
----	-------	-------	-------	---------

50	1 14 1	1 19 10	4 6 8	4 0 11
----	--------	---------	-------	--------

60	3 2 4	3 17 0	6 12 9	6 0 10
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One-half of the Whole Term Premium may remain on credit for seven years, or one-third of the Premium may remain for life as a debt upon the Policy at 5 per cent., or may be paid off at any time without notice.

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Credit is allowed for half the Annual Premium for the first five years.

The following Table exemplifies the effect of the present reduction:—

Age when Assured.	Amount Assured.	Annual Premium hitherto paid.	Reduction of 30 per Cent.	Annual Premium now payable.
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20	£1000	25 17 6	£6 5 3	£14 12 3
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30	1000	25 13 4	7 14 0	17 9 4
----	------	---------	--------	--------

40	1000	33 18 4	10 3 6	23 14 10
----	------	---------	--------	----------

50	1000	48 16 8	14 13 0	34 3 8
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14, Waterloo-place, 10th May, 1850. A. R. IRVINE, Managing Director.

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The Premiums required by this Office on Young Lives are lower than those of many of the old established Offices.

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6. Claims to be paid within three months.

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HENRY MALDEN, A.M. Dean of the Faculty of Arts and Laws.

CHAS. C. ATKINSON, Secretary to the Council.

University College, London, August, 1850.

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August, 1850.

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August, 1850.

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August 9, 1850.

EDMUND BELFOUR, Secretary.

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# SOCIETY OF ARTS.—SPECIAL PRIZE-LIST for 1850 and 1851.

The intimate connexion of the Society of Arts with the Exhibition of the Works of Industry of all Nations in 1851, which is a subject of congratulation to the Members of the Society, as the successful enlargement of an idea the Society has long aimed to realize, has appeared to the Council to render altogether superfluous any attempt on the part of the Society to pursue its ordinary course for the encouragement of Arts, Manufactures and Commerce by the offer of its usual Prizes for the Session of 1850 and 1851.

The Council have therefore considered how they might most usefully apply that portion of the revenue of the Society to the particular circumstances of the year.

The Council are of opinion that the most useful work they can undertake, and one they believe to be strictly auxiliary to the views of their Royal President, H.R.H. the Prince ALBERT, and of Her Majesty's Commissioners for the Exhibition, will be to encourage the production of philosophical Treatises on the various departments of the Exhibition, which shall set forth the peculiar advantages to be derived from each of the Arts, Manufactures, and Commerce of the country.

The Council accordingly offer, in the name of the Society, the large Medal and twenty-five pounds for the best, and the Society's small Medal and ten pounds for the second best Treatise on the objects exhibited in the section of Raw Materials and Produce.

A large Medal and twenty-five pounds for the best, and a small Medal and ten pounds for the second best Treatise on the objects exhibited in the section of Machinery.

A large Medal and twenty-five pounds for the best, and a small Medal and ten pounds for the second best Treatise on the objects exhibited in the section of Fine Arts.

Each Treatise must not exceed, and not exceed, eighty pages of the size of the Bridgewater Treatises.

The Society will also award its large Medal and twenty-five guineas for the best general Treatise upon the Exhibition treated commercially, politically, and statistically; and small medals for the best treatise on any special object or class of objects exhibited.

The Treatises for which rewards are given are to be the property of the Society; and if deemed suitable for publication, should the Council see fit, they will cause the same to be printed and published, and will award to the author the net amount of any profits which may arise from the publication after the payment of the expenses.

The Treatises to be delivered at the Society's House on or before the 30th of June, 1851.

In announcing this List, there is no intention on the part of the Council to claim any rewards of the Society; to the subjects named there, though, for the reasons given, they do not anticipate that communications of interest on other subjects will be submitted.

GEORGE GROVE, Secretary.

18, John-street, Adelphi, August 8, 1850.

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Nor did the above expression of resolute disapprobation confine itself to the reverend correspondent to whom it was addressed. So intolerable and hampering did Dr. Chalmers find the interruptions to which he was exposed, and the secondary tasks in which he was expected to figure, if not to act,—that some twelve months after he had taken up his permanent residence in St. Mungo's capital, he fairly got up in the *Tzen* pulpit one Sunday morning to preach this Hydra of oppression down.—

"The forenoon discourse was devoted to a minute

and most singular detail of the multiform exactions and services by which the ministers of the Gospel in Glasgow had been withdrawn from prayer and the ministry of the word. He told his wondering audience of schedules, and circulars, and printed forms, with long blank spaces which the minister should have the goodness to fill up, and how of all his doings in this one department the simple achievement of seventy signatures in a day was all that his dizzy recollection had been able to retain. Pursuing the strange narration, in which pathos, and satire, and burning indignation were all blended, 'I have already said much,' he continued, 'of the interruption and the labour which the public charities of the place bring along with them; and yet I have not told you one-half the amount of it. I have only insisted on that part of it which takes a minister from his house, and from which the minister, at the expense of a little odium, can at all times protect himself, by the determined habit of sitting immovable under every call and every application. All that arrangement which takes a minister away from his house may be evaded—but how shall he be able to extricate himself from the besetting inconveniences of such an arrangement as gives to the whole population of a neighbourhood a constant and ever-moving tendency towards the house of the minister? The patronage with which I think it is his heavy misfortune to be encumbered, gives him a share in the disposal of innumerable vacancies, and each vacancy gives rise to innumerable candidates, and each candidate is sure to strengthen his chance for success by stirring up a whole round of acquaintances, who, in the various forms of written and of personal entreaty, discharge their wishes on the minister in the shape of innumerable applications. It is fair to observe, however, that the turmoil of all this electioneering has its times and its seasons. It does not keep by one in the form of a steady monsoon. It comes upon him more in the resemblance of a hurricane; and like the hurricanes of the atmosphere, it has its months of violence and its intervals of periodical cessation. I shall only say, that when it does come, the power of contemplation takes to herself wings and flees away. She cannot live and flourish in the whirlwind of all that noise and confusion by which her retreat is so boisterously agitated. She sickens and grows pale at every quivering of the household bell, and at every volley at the household door, by which the loud notes of impatience march along the passages, and force an impetuous announcement into every chamber of the dwelling-place. She finds all this to be too much for her. These rude and incessant visitations fatigue and exhaust her, and at length banish her entirely; nor will she suffer either force or flattery to detain her in a mansion invaded by the din of such turbulent and uncongenial elements. But though I talk of cessations and intervals, you are not to suppose that there are ever at any time the intervals of absolute repose. There is a daily visitation, though it is only at particular months that it comes upon you with the vehemence and force of a tornado. There was of late an unceasing stream of people passing every day through the house, and coming under the review of the minister on their road to the supplies of ordinary pauperism. This formed part of the prescribed conveyance through which each of them trusted to find their way to the relief they aspire after. This always secured a levee of petitioners, and kept up a perennial flow of applications, varying in rapidity and fulness with the difficulty of the times—but never, in the whole course of my experience, subsiding into a rill so gentle that it only ministered delight and refreshment to the bosom by the peacefulness of its murmurs. Oh, no! my brethren—there is a something here about which our tearful sons and daughters of poetry are most miserably in the wrong. I know that they have got many fine things to say about the minister of a beneficent religion having a ready tear for every suffering, and an open ear for every cry, and room in his house for every complainer, and room in his heart for a distinct exercise of compassion on the needs and the distresses of every afflicted family, and an open door through which the representations of dejected humanity may ever find a welcome admittance, and a free unoccupied day throughout every hour of which it is his part to act the willing friend of his

parishioners, and to yield the alacrity of his immediate attentions in behalf of all the wants and all the wretchedness that is among them. Yes! all this ought to be done, and agents should be found for the doing it. But the minister is not the man who can do it. The minister is not the man who should do it. And beset as we are on the one hand by a hard and a secular generation, who, without one sigh of remorse, could see every minister of the city sinking the spiritualities of his office under the weight of engagements which they themselves will not touch with one of their fingers; and deafened as we are on the other hand by the outcry of pining sentimentalists, who, without thought and without calculation, would realise all the folly and all the fondness of their fancy-sketches upon us, I utterly refuse the propriety of all these services—and yet proclaiming myself the firm, the ardent, the devoted friend of the poor, do I assert these advocates of theirs to be the blind supporters of a system which has aggravated both the moral and the physical wretchedness of a most cruelly neglected population."

What the Doctor began in the morning he continued at afternoon service:—to the no small amazement, we should imagine, of his hearers. How Dr. Chalmers succeeded in establishing his point and working out his purposes, (never, we suspect, with the entirely acquiescent sympathy of the overruled Glaswegians,) cannot here be followed; but the above passage is too characteristic to be passed over, in its earnest fervour, its eloquence, its straightforward self-assertion of the rights as well as the duties of the preacher.—In truth, while we can never forget the claims and services of Dr. Chalmers as a philanthropist, and can still less overlook his powers as a writer—which were brilliant enough to keep Hazlitt for a whole morning thrallured under an apple-tree by "the Astronomical Sermons,"—it is as an orator that this book most clearly and forcibly presents him to us. Whether by design or not, Dr. Hanna most clearly exhibits the oracle, to hear whose discourse lay broadcloth was rent, dowagers of quality were smuggled in across unsafe planks into chapel windows, and "reserved benches" were charged and taken possession of by excited crowds, weary of pressure and resolute to "sit and be wrung." In such a celebrity as this, whether it belong to a Dean Kirwan who can preach the watches of his congregation into the collection-plate, or to an Irving who terrifies the *Lord Georges* and *Lady Celestinas* of Almack's by threatening them with more fiery dances elsewhere,—there may be more of what is fascinating than of what is profitable to either priest or people. When Wilberforce diarized that the world was "wild about Dr. Chalmers," he little thought how closely the spirit of his entry approached the enthusiasm of those who

worshipped Catalani's pantaloons

at public places of secular performance.—We have never, however, met with any one better calculated to brave the storms of success raised by himself than Dr. Chalmers as here described. Know his power he certainly did; but he seems to have acted on the knowledge with a manly absence of mock humility—an honest consciousness of its importance, and of his duty to nourish it by private study and meditation. Many of the fevers, most of the failures, of his class appear to have been spared him. Others may have been more suave and amiable; but he was strong, like a steward intent on his stewardship, who feels that he has small time and less patience for the bandying of courtesies on insignificant subjects. Such is the impression which Dr. Hanna's portraiture of him makes on us.

We may here introduce three characteristic anecdotes which have reference to this period of Dr. Chalmers's life,—and which in some measure illustrate our remarks. It appears that at first his Scottish congregations were not



altogether satisfied at the form of his delivery. On one occasion, says Dr. Hanna,—

"The wind interfered with the preacher's reading, as well as the people's hearing. He had much difficulty with his manuscript; and I believe that it was upon this occasion that one portion of it escaped from his hands altogether—the people making great efforts to recover it, and the preacher assuring them that it was of no consequence, as nobody could make any use of it but himself. It had been written, in fact, in short-hand. His power of reading so fluently from this kind of manuscript has often surprised even the most expert stenographers; but from all kinds of manuscript his mode of reading was unique,—so entirely peculiar as to prevent his example being turned into an argument or precedent upon the general question as to how sermons should be delivered. He was himself greatly amused by the manner in which this peculiarity of his had once been described. After dinner one day, at his friend Mr. Bruce's, the conversation happened to turn on the prevalent intense dislike of our common people to the reading of sermons, or what they call the *paper*. One of the company remarked, that if ministers who read would but do it with more spirit, the popular prejudice would ere long disappear, adding that she knew of a country wife who, in spite of her great general abhorrence of the 'paper,' was much attached to the preaching of a 'paper minister,' and who, on this strange inconsistency being remarked upon, replied in her own defence—'Ay, very true; but then he has a *pith* wi' his paper.'—That reminds me," said Dr. Chalmers, "of an old anecdote of myself. A friend of mine expressing his surprise to a country woman in Fife, that she who so hated reading should yet be so fond of Mr. Chalmers, she replied, with a serious shake of the head,—'Nae doubt; but its *fell readin' thon*.'"

The following, too, is characteristic.—

"While Dr. Chalmers was very busily engaged one forenoon in his study, a man entered, who at once propitiated him, under the provocation of an unexpected interruption, by telling him that he called under great distress of mind. 'Sit down, Sir; be good enough to be seated,' said Dr. Chalmers, turning eagerly and full of interest from his writing-table. The visitor explained to him that he was troubled with doubts about the Divine origin of the Christian religion; and being kindly questioned as to what these were, he gave among others what is said in the Bible about Melchisedek being without father and without mother, &c. Patiently and anxiously Dr. Chalmers sought to clear away each successive difficulty as it was stated. Expressing himself as if greatly relieved in mind, and imagining that he had gained his end—'Doctor,' said the visitor, 'I am in great want of a little money at present, and perhaps you could help me in that way.' At once the object of his visit was seen. A perfect tornado of indignation burst upon the deceiver, driving him in very quick retreat from the study to the street door, these words escaping among others,—'Not a penny, Sir! not a penny! It's too bad! it's too bad! And to haul in your hypocrisy upon the shoulders of Melchisedek!'"

How many a burden of hypocrisy have these same "shoulders of Melchisedek" been called on to bear!—Our next and last extract is more whimsical in its rueful way.—

"Scarborough was the chief favourite, scarcely a Sabbath passing in which the precentor did not get specific instructions to close the service by singing it; and they were once opened by it in St. John's in rather a singular manner. A half-witted woman, who was a most faithful attendant on Dr. Chalmers's ministry, seized the opportunity, and as soon as the first line of the psalm had been given out from the pulpit, struck up the favourite tune. The precentor had no time given him to interfere, and so well and so powerfully was his office performed for him that he wisely let her singing stand for his own, and struck in at the second line of the psalm. This woman's extreme love for the ministry turned at last into an extreme love for the person of Dr. Chalmers, a love which became with her an absorbing passion. She firmly believed it to be returned. 'Mrs. Chalmers folks said was his wife, but she kent better, and so did the Doctor himself.' At first she had

been perfectly harmless, and had been freely admitted to the church; but now persecuted by all kinds of strange attentions from her, and alarmed as to what her singular passion for him might tempt her to do, Dr. Chalmers was seized with a nervous terror of her. One Sabbath, when the church was very crowded, she had got up to the top step of the pulpit stair. Dr. Chalmers entered the pulpit without noticing her, but on turning round there she was by his side. 'John,' said he to the beadle, shrinking back to the furthest side of the pulpit in extreme terror—'John, I must be delivered conclusively from that woman.' She was now forbid access to the church, as the very sight of her disturbed him. Nevertheless, she faithfully attended in Macfarlane Street, and when she could not get near to him she would stand wiping with her handkerchief the froth off the mouth of the horse which had carried him to church. At one time she was seized with the dread that he did not get enough to eat at home. Coming upon him once unexpectedly at the corner of the street, 'Come, Doctor, do come, and get a plate of parritch; I hae fine meal the noo.' As he would not take the food that she thought so necessary at her house, she resolved to carry it to his own. One evening, at Kensington Place, the servant, on opening the door, was surprised by a large round bundle, covered with a red handkerchief, being thrown into the lobby. On unwrapping it it was found to contain oat cakes and sheep's trotters, for the special sustentation of the minister. On his return to Glasgow, a year after going to St. Andrews, he entered the house of one of his elders in great agitation. 'Mr. Thompson,' he said, 'that daft woman is in pursuit of me. Can you not carry me to my brother's by some way that she cannot track our path?' Mr. Thompson undertook and executed the commission; but they had not been long gone when she appeared at the door with a large jug of curds and cream, nor would she be satisfied till Mrs. Thompson had taken her through all the rooms of the house to convince her that Dr. Chalmers was not there."

We should be ill satisfied with ourselves could any reader imagine from the above remarks that we hold Dr. Chalmers to have been one of those exhibitors who take out the full amount of their public virtue in the private licences of arrogance, bad temper, and domestic neglect. He appears to have been respectively dutiful, confidential, and kind (if not indulgent) in his domestic relations,—to have been loved as well as looked up to,—to have borne with a truly Christian tolerance differences from himself in his nearest kindred which in form were almost offensive. It is the mixture of strength with excitability which principally strikes us in looking at the sketch here presented; but neither the vigour nor the enthusiasm appears to have excluded the love and the duty which give a beauty and a balance to the homely passages of everyday life and action.—This second volume closes with the removal of Dr. Chalmers from Glasgow to St. Andrews, on his being elected to the chair of Moral Philosophy in St. Rule's University.

*Young Italy.* By Alexander Baillie Cochrane, M.P. Parker.

THE reason why this volume—bound in virgin white—is called 'Young Italy,' seems to be, partly because the author delights to remind his readers that he is a member of that "oldest juvenile house" in the kingdom, Young England,—partly because the subjects chiefly discussed in it are the state and prospects of Italy at the present moment, while so many seeds are there germinating. Of the thirteen papers and sketches, however, of which the book consists, three or four have no bearing whatever on present affairs, and appear to have been added merely for the purpose of filling up. Of the remaining papers, the most interesting are those on 'The History of the Roman Republic,' on 'The Temporal and Spiritual Authority of the Pope,' on 'The Murder of Rossi,' on 'The

Prisons of Naples,' and on 'The Pope's Return to Rome.'

These papers may be regarded as an exposition of Mr. Cochrane's—and generally also, we should suppose, of Young England's—views on the present state of Italian politics. Their gist may be thus summed up. Mazzini and the Italian Revolutionists are a set of firebrands and fanatics, backed by all that is loose and worthless in Italy; Austrian rule is mild, admirable and beneficial, and is extremely popular in Lombardy; the attempt of Carlo Alberto was a mad folly, stimulated by false hopes of English assistance; the policy of England in Italian affairs as represented in the persons of Lords Palmerston and Minto has been throughout wretched and degrading—in short, an encouragement of Revolution; the Pope, a good sort of man, was gulled into measures of reform, but has probably now regained his senses, and will act with more discretion; and the much-abused King of Naples is in reality a very honourable and well-meaning prince, whose only fault is that he allows his prisons to be fuller of political prisoners, and worse kept than might be desirable.—An extract or two will convey Mr. Cochrane's notions more precisely.

The recent movement in Piedmont, Mr. Cochrane thinks, has ruined the character of the people in that part of Italy.—

"It has entirely revolutionized the people, who are now never satisfied unless daily concessions are made to them. In point of fact, Victor Emanuel is allowed to possess the crown and a sufficient civil list, on condition that he will adopt all the schemes and views of the Utopian financial reformers. Piedmont at the present moment is to all intents and purposes a republic, with a timid sovereign at the head: he can originate nothing and refuse nothing; his throne entirely depends on his subserviency to the popular party. A stranger, on arriving at Turin is surprised to find in a city full of palaces, and where royal carriages with scarlet liveries and royal trappings are flitting by him at every corner, that the people are as insolent in their demeanour, as they could have been in the days of the great Republic, one and indivisible. In the cafés the waiters will sit down at the same table, take the paper out of your hands, and smile contemptuously at any expression of indignation called forth by such lapses of social etiquette. As for the cafés, they have assumed names adapted to the present order of times, but the signs have been selected without much regard to the truth of their signification: thus, we have *Café dell' Indipendenza d'Italia*, *Café dell' Unità d'Italia*, *Café della Speranza d'Italia*: there being no Italian independence, no Italian unity, and, we are compelled to add, little Italian hope, which can in any way be justified."

The following is Mr. Cochrane's romantic story (authority not given) of a meeting of the conspirators for the murder of Rossi, the night before that atrocious affair took place.—

"On the night of the 14th of November, in one of the lowest and least frequented quarters of Rome, at an hour when the streets were quite deserted, men, evidently bent on some sinister and dangerous design, from the caution with which they walked and the timid glances which they cast around them, were seen to approach the door of one of those half-decayed, black-looking buildings which seem the natural abodes of low, reeking vice, and foul conspiracy. Sometimes these men came alone—at others, in groups of two or three; but all, before they attempted to open the door, gave a significant tap at the shutter, when a low bell was heard, the latch of the door was raised, and the conspirators—for no one can doubt the character and purpose of these men—were shown into a small room, where many others, all disguised alike, with slouched hats and large cloaks, were collected. A most mysterious silence was preserved; but when the number, thirty-six, was completed, the names, written on separate pieces of paper, were thrown into a hat, and drawn out by lot, and each man held his breath while he examined the slip of paper which was to decide his fate and that of



the great minister. This fearful lottery ended, one of the leaders showed them into another room, where, to the ill-suppressed horror of the less daring, a corpse was lying, with the damps of death still clinging to the brow. One of the heartless assassins, well skilled in surgery, took a knife, and pointed to the precise spot in the neck where a vital blow might be struck with instantaneous effect. The selected murderer, recoiling, not from horror of the crime, but from terror at the revolting spectacle of this body, newly dead, exposed to view in the dimness of the night, with the pale light flickering over the pale countenance, was dragged to the table—his finger was guided by the more experienced hand to the vital part—the exact place in which he was to stand in relation to his victim, was shown him—those who were to group themselves in his more immediate vicinity, and to divert his attention, were selected. Never was murder rehearsed for the stage with a more perfect composure."

Mr. Cochrane cannot contain himself when he names the Triumvirate, and describes the state of Rome under their Government; but bursts forth as follows.—

"On the 30th of March, the famous triumvirate consisting of Mazzini, Armellini, and Saffi, was named—Mazzini having arrived at Rome on the 8th of March. A system of wanton spoliation, of unbridled excess, of cruelty, perhaps without parallel, commenced. It is true, that the guillotine was not erected in the public places; there was no Place de Grève, no Abbaye, or Carmes. No prison vomited forth every morning tumbrils of miserable victims, devoted to the scaffold. But those human tigers of the French Revolution, were they much worse than the base faînânes who now assumed the authority of the papal purple—men whose ambition appeared to grow with the weakness of their capacity—men who throughout never performed a great action, or pronounced a great word—men to be classed amongst those who—

Are willing to wound, but yet afraid to strike—who, when they did strike, invariably did so under a cloak, and persecuted not indeed in the name of the Goddess of Reason, but in the name of the Deity." Really Mr. Cochrane would seem to make a charge against these revolutionists of the absence of the ordinary revolutionary crimes!

Mr. Cochrane visited the prisons of Naples; and had afterwards an interview with the King, —which and its results he thus describes.—

"When I had the honour of seeing him, he at once came to the point by remarking, that I had discovered the injustice of the accusations brought against him, for I had not found fifteen thousand prisoners. 'True, sir,' I answered, 'but I found six hundred and fourteen; and, permit me to say, it is six hundred and fourteen too many.' 'How is this?' said his majesty; 'we have not had one execution for political offences!'—I took the liberty of suggesting, that, to many people, years of imprisonment is even a greater evil than death; that, at any rate, the state of the prisons, and the mixture of all classes of prisoners, could never be justified. I took the liberty of observing, that, as his majesty had been the first of sovereigns to arrest the republican movement, so he should be the first to pardon its excesses; that no constitutional party in Europe could support the principle of imprisoning men without any pretence at a trial, and sometimes on the most unfounded accusations; that it was unworthy of a government to lend itself to petitions against the constitution, which the King had sworn to maintain. Nothing could be more noble, more generous, more sensible than the king's language. \* I do but justice to the King's character in mentioning, that when, on leaving, I expressed my acknowledgments to him for his condescension, and apologized for the frankness with which I had spoken, he said, 'I am delighted to have heard the truth—I wish to hear it; no one is more anxious than I am, to do what is right. I have been shamefully traduced and calumniated—most unjustly so; but you have spoken from your heart bravely and honourably, and I thank you for it!' The result of this interview was, that in a few days the political prisoners were separated from the general mass. Some few, I believe, were released; and an article appeared by government authority, severely blaming the petitions which were signing against the constitution. So far

so well; but to my very deep regret, I have heard from Naples that the political prisoners have been only removed to a much worse place, that their communications with their families have been more restricted; that the few who were released were men quite unimportant, and would have been discharged at any rate; and what does give countenance to several other reports is, that within the last few weeks, I see by the papers that the constitution has been virtually abolished."

These extracts show the spirit of the book. Its sentiments are pretty enough,—reminding the reader of white waistcoats and white kid gloves. The thought wherewith these sentiments are endowed may be appraised at the smallest circulating literary coin.

The only practical suggestion of a political kind with reference to Italy contained in the volumes is, that it might be well for Italy if either, on the one hand, the temporal sovereignty of the Pope were entirely destroyed, the Papal dominions being put civilly under the rule of Austria, or of Naples, or of both, and the Pope being left a purely spiritual monarch with a certain fixed income,—or if, on the other hand, according to the recommendation in Lord Mount-Edgumbe's pamphlet, the temporal government of the Pope were contracted to the mere limits of a municipality manageable by a police force, the remainder being distributed between Naples and Tuscany.

Mr. Cochrane's volume is, we have hinted, very agreeably written:—but there are some curious literary peculiarities in it. It is the author's habit, for example, to weave his quotations from the French and Latin into his text in an abrupt manner and with no distinction of type,—as if he meant to say to his reader "Really, sir, Latin and French come so easily to me, that I don't know when I write them."—Occasionally, too, there are a clumsiness of expression and a mixture of metaphor:—as when the writer calls Switzerland "the rusty hinge of European diplomacy, the spoiled offspring of diplomatic necessities, the Mecca of all political refugees, the asylum for broken-down statesmen." There are other minor errors,—which we do not particularize, because there seems a possibility that they may be the printer's.

*Junius.* By John Wade. Vol. II. Containing the Private and Miscellaneous Letters, and a New Essay on the Authorship. Bohn.

Mr. Wade has had the modesty and good sense to eat his leek and hold his tongue; and we are therefore saved from the necessity of entering into any elaborate criticism on the demerits of this the concluding volume. He says—what we should never have suspected—that "the labour and anxiety bestowed on the present volume have been very considerable;"—which, however, may be true, for it depends on the amount of knowledge that he possessed when he entered on the duties of his office. He certainly appears to have sought for information—from others; we wish he had hunted a little more diligently himself. The commonest sources of information have not been consulted,—the slightest examination has not been made. He has not even compared Good's edition of the *Miscellaneous Letters* with the originals in the *Public Advertiser*, but has reproduced them with all their errors, even the typographical:—nor has he compared one page of his own volume with another.

Respecting the "Miscellaneous Letters," he tells us that they are not all "believed to be from the pen of Junius; and in the notes it has been attempted to distinguish such as are indisputably his from those which cannot be affiliated with certainty." After such an announcement, the reader, perhaps, will be more surprised than

we were to find that Mr. Wade says not one word—hazards not a conjecture—for or against the authenticity of about three-fourths of these letters. On all questions of interest he is silent. He puts in no claims for "the bays" which we promised him if he would solve the mystery about "C." On occasions, however, he is profound and conclusive:—as when he observes that a letter "may or may not" have been written by Junius; on other occasions he is a little obscure:—as when we are told that "the first authentic public letter of Junius is dated January 21, 1769," though amongst the "Miscellaneous Letters" are two signed Junius, one dated the 21st of November, the other the 15th of December 1768,—and of the authenticity of these Mr. Wade has "no doubt." Other letters, again, he pronounces to be genuine on the authority of the date of one or other of the private letters,—but he has not answered our question as to the authority for the dates of these "private letters." He does not, indeed, appear to be in the least degree the wiser for our hint that some of them are manifestly wrong; and perhaps will not be so for our assurance that the dates of nineteen-twentieths—we speak by the card, and are to be understood literally—were assigned conjecturally by Mr. George Woodfall and Dr. Good more than forty years after they were written. This, it is true, was not done without consideration and investigation; but still Good and Woodfall might err,—and we are prepared with proof that they did err. How much it is to be regretted that this fact was not mentioned in Good's 'Preliminary Essay,'—what an amount of profitless and ridiculous speculation would thereby have been saved! Still, though Mr. Wade knows nothing, he has had the faith shaken out of him by the *Athenæum*, and gives up "Poplicola"—"Anti-Sejanus, jun."—the indisputable "Correggio," authenticated by the celebrated "C." in the notice to correspondents—"Downright," for insufficient reasons—"Bifrons," as "spurious"—and even "Atticus," as "improbable." We suspect, however, that these particular letters are not got rid of because Mr. Wade has any especial doubts as to their authenticity, but because the opinions therein advanced run counter to his theory as to the authorship.

The claim to attention which Mr. Wade seems to put forth prominently in favour of this edition is, the Index.—

"The Index has derived considerable advantage from Sir Harris Nicolas's labours, and is, in consequence, much enlarged; the research occasioned by the operation of blending his materials with our own, has led us to discover the curious fact, that in the previous edition of Junius, published by Woodfall, the name of Sir Philip Francis is entirely excluded from the Index, which is the more remarkable, as in other respects it is singularly minute."

We shall not trouble Mr. Wade to explain how an Index can receive "considerable advantage" from being "much enlarged" when it was already "singularly minute"; and we will assume that he means simply "omitted" when he states that Francis's name was "entirely excluded" from the Index; a distinction not without a difference in reference to this Junius question,—as an anecdote will illustrate. Many years since, the booksellers published an edition of Junius with portraits; and in a stray copy which reached America it happened that the portrait of Lord Temple faced the title-page. This gave rise to an octavo volume by a Mr. Newhall, wherein he undertook to prove that Lord Temple was Junius, acknowledging, at the same time, that he should never have suspected Temple but for this very significant hint. Now, if Mr. Wade's "curious fact," "more remarkable" and "entirely excluded,"



be allowed to pass without comment, it will be thought not merely a significant, but a conclusive hint, by all the Newhalls, equally in the Old World and in the New. We submit, then, for Mr. Wade's consideration, whether the insertion of Francis's name in that very imperfect Index would not have been much more curious than its omission; seeing that Francis is only once, and then incidentally, mentioned in one of the "Miscellaneous Letters,"—and that no speculator on the subject of Junius had ever thought of Francis until, as Mr. Wade himself tells us, that edition was published! Mr. Wade, we think, must admit, too, that this omission is not a more "curious fact" than the omission of the names of such men as the Marquis of Rockingham, Sir Fletcher Norton, Col. Barré, Mr. Wedderburne, Serjeant Leigh, Lord Littleton, Alderman Oliver, Mr. Calcraft, and some dozen more, all of as much importance as a clerk in the War Office. It is not a more "curious fact" than the omission of the names of the writers of some of the miscellaneous letters:—of "Vindex," "Recens," "Q in the Corner," "Anti-Stuart,"—left out also in Mr. Wade's "much enlarged" Index.

As to the "New Essay on the Authorship," we shall reserve what we have to say for the present, having received a pamphlet on the subject written by Sir Fortunatus Dwaris; and as both gentlemen fight under the same banner, advocate essentially the same claims, are both "Franciscans,"—we think it better to discuss the question generally. Enough now to observe, that Mr. Wade has exactly fulfilled our prophecy:—his hero turns out to be Sir Philip Francis, the "old friend without a new face";—and his arguments "are condensed from 'Junius Identified,' with such additional anecdotes as have become current since 1818."

*The Decline of England*.—[*De la Décadence de l'Angleterre*]. By Ledru-Rollin. Churton.

THE first Frenchman, whoever he was, who for the first time, a very long while ago, compared England to Carthage, has a great deal to answer for. He has been the progenitor of a numerous class of French writers who, converting his comparison into an absolute similarity, have considered themselves justified in arguing from thence the infallible decline of England and the ultimate and inevitable triumph of her rival, France. One of the most curious productions of this Punic school was, a book written by a certain M. Elias Regnault in 1841. *Delenda Carthago* was the menacing epigraph on its cover; and its lengthy title—a condemnation in itself—was as follows: 'Histoire criminelle du Gouvernement Anglais depuis les premiers massacres de l'Irlande jusqu'à l'empoisonnement des Chinois.' The conclusion suggested by the author was, that a European crusade should at once be undertaken against the obnoxious successor of Carthage. Fortunately, M. Elias Regnault was not a Cato, any more than M. Ledru-Rollin is likely to prove a Scipio; and his counsel did not bring the wished-for destruction on this country. Nevertheless, his book, like all other foolish books, has had its evil consequences. It has furnished at least one-third of the materials for M. Ledru-Rollin's still worse production.—We advert to it now so long after publication, because, though dealing for the most part with matters not usually discussed in our pages, it has certain aspects which we have not yet seen referred to, and with which we may deal.

In due deference to the laws of literary precedence, we have mentioned M. Regnault before entering on M. Ledru-Rollin's work: à tout seigneur tout honneur, says a proverb of their own country,—and original abuse is deci-

dely entitled to place before second-hand vituperation. There are, too, extenuating circumstances—we should say, doubts—in the case of the former *chef du cabinet du Ministre de l'Intérieur* (M. Regnault) which do not exist in favour of his former patron. M. Regnault's book was published in 1841. He may have been—let us hope he was—a young man at the time; and his so-called history of the Anglo-Carthaginian Government may have been only a manifestation of that Roman spirit which attacks most Frenchmen on their entrance into life,—and which in more healthy subjects takes the less malignant form of a five-act tragedy on the subject of 'Lucrece,' or 'Virginie.' At any rate, he was an obscure man of letters then; and when his talents, aided by the caprice of Revolutions, made him the "chef du cabinet" of M. Ledru-Rollin, he employed his pen in tracing a history of the Provisional Government which—the writer's political views being taken into consideration—exhibits some of the essential qualities of a historian. There is some hope for him. But that M. Ledru-Rollin, who has "handled"—to use a French phrase—great matters, should condescend to the paltry compilation before us,—that a man whose talents are undeniable should have put his name to the blunders which it contains,—and, above all, that a professed lover of liberty should fail to recognize her under the shape which she assumes in this country, though that form be not the one under which he might wish to see her worshipped,—are things which seem inexplicable.

We wish it first, and above all, to be distinctly understood, that we completely set aside the reproach of ingratitude which M. Ledru-Rollin seems to foresee and to meet half-way in his preface. We perfectly recognize the right of every refugee to use and abuse this country,—to use it for his own convenience, and then to abuse it for his own profit or satisfaction; and we see no reason why an exile, from that circumstance alone, should be debarred from the use of his eyes and ears, or of his pen if he happen to have one. We only regret that in this case M. Ledru-Rollin should not have made a better use of his advantages. We claim no gratitude for hospitality which our laws impose on us as a duty, and which they afford indiscriminately to all political victims. Indeed, did the claim exist, England has been taught by too many contrary examples—from M. d'Haussez, the ex-minister of Charles X. to M. Ledru-Rollin, the ex-tribune—to expect that it will be allowed by her guests. M. Ledru-Rollin need feel no self-reproach for having ill requited a hospitality which would have been equally extended to Haynau or Mazzini, to Montemolin or to Proudhon. Indeed, we may even add, to set his conscience quite at rest, that had the matter implied any particular personal sympathy instead of being the natural result of our laws, we think it more than probable that M. Ledru-Rollin would never have enjoyed the opportunity of giving his accusations to the world with the authority of an eyewitness.

But if we admit that M. Ledru-Rollin's liberty as an author remains entire notwithstanding his peculiar situation, it follows as a natural consequence that our privileges as critics are also unimpaired thereby; and the right of undertaking his task once recognized, we remain at liberty to pronounce that the attempt has been a complete failure. In saying this, we have no fear of being accused of giving way to undue national susceptibility; our columns afford proof of the impartiality with which volumes scarcely more flattering to England than M. Ledru-Rollin's have been treated.

This work is not only unfair and erroneous in many of its statements;—it is deficient in a quality which most French works, even of the worst kind, possess. There is no proportion in its parts,—no method in its composition. It has been said of us—and perhaps with some truth—that many Englishmen write fine pages, but that scarcely one knows how to make a book. If it be true, in this respect M. Ledru-Rollin has proved himself English. He is totally wanting in that methodical clearness with which his countrymen generally expose even their least tenable propositions. We have said, that for about one-third of his book he is indebted to M. Elias Regnault: about an equal portion is composed of extracts from the Reports published recently by the *Morning Chronicle* on the distress of the working classes,—while fragments of political speeches, extracts from blue-books and black-books, and from the 'Song of the Shirt,' serve to make up the remainder. Of the chapter headed "India," more than a third is devoted to Warren Hastings:—and the same want of proportion is observable all throughout.

On the rare occasions in which M. Ledru-Rollin speaks in his own name, some of his judgments are curious. We leave to others the care of pointing out his blunders in figures and legislation; and will take our examples from a chapter which treats of subjects especially within our province. Of Shakspeare M. Ledru-Rollin thus writes.—

The English drama no longer exists:—it expired with Sheridan. It has become merely a gross and monotonous echo of the vaudevilles and melodramas of the Continent; and if Shakspeare—so long forgotten—is now in honour, he owes it not to his fiant and immortal genius. It is the client sheltered beneath the Elizabethan purple, the partial chronicler of national wars, the great poet glorified by foreign applause and the idolatry of Europe, that England reveres in him. She glasses herself in his divine poems, unconscious of their depths;—and her worship is but the pride of self.

Who in this portrait would recognize the ideal of honest Will Shakspeare; whom popular tradition, far from associating with courtly splendour, delights in making the hero of poaching exploits and tavern adventures, and whose fame, instead of being the reflection of Continental celebrity, was scarcely allowed out of his own country only a few years ago! Surely M. Ledru-Rollin does not pretend to say that it was the mutilator Ducis who first brought Shakspeare into notice,—or that it was Voltaire, who first signaled the "*savage ivre*" to the admiration of his countrymen? Really, if M. Ledru-Rollin had been residing in Paris lately, we might suspect him of having derived his notions of Shakspeare from the little comic opera entitled '*Un Songe d'une Nuit d'été*,'—in which "good Queen Bess" is so sadly compromised with our poet.

The remarks on Milton are stranger still.—

Milton has no lamp in his sepulchre. Protestant England has never felt aught but ill-will towards that austere and noble genius who three centuries ago took his place between Dante and Shakspeare. England admires 'Paradise Lost' less than she remembers the death-warrant of Charles the First.

As M. Ledru-Rollin accuses us of being a people of facts and figures, he will doubtless attribute to an inherent national defect the minuteness which prompts us to remark that "three centuries ago" carries us back to 1550. It is difficult to suppose that there could have been any confusion in the author's mind between Edward the Sixth and Oliver Cromwell, and it is more charitable to imagine that he supposes Milton to have been born in 1550 and to have lived in consequence 124 years.—In the same spirit of arithmetical criticism, we will



venture to assert that out of one hundred Englishmen who read 'Paradise Lost,' some fifty know little about Milton's political career,—and perhaps not ten have read any of his political works.

A few pages before this, we had been told à propos of Bacon:—

One vigorous and transcendent genius had aspired to spiritualism and generalization: for England had produced Bacon, the great encyclopædist of the sixteenth century. But facts, always facts, were to re-act against the ideal; and Bacon was set aside for Locke, the anatomist of Sensation,—in the same manner that More and his generous aspirations were to be discarded for the figures of Malthus. And of a truth it was but just;—for to a polity of facts, a religion of facts, a social economy of facts, what philosophy could ally itself so well as the philosophy of facts or of sensation?

How far M. Ledru-Rollin has erred in his appreciation of the comparative popularity (if we may use the word) of Bacon and Locke, we leave to the judgment of our readers:—but the passage in which Sir Thomas More and Malthus figure in such strange juxtaposition deserves a commentary. Does the author mean seriously to reproach England with not having adopted the Utopia as her guide?—and if so, why lay the blame of the rejection on Malthus? Surely, Malthus came long enough after More to be not answerable for what the world had been doing in the mean time. Were all Englishmen Utopians until the doctrines of Malthus made their appearance? At any rate, it ill becomes M. Ledru-Rollin,—who during his temporary dictatorship neither followed the "generous aspirations" of More or Campanella, nor encouraged the more recent "aspirations" of Cabet,—to reproach us with our scepticism as regards Utopia.

M. Ledru-Rollin's politics are too well known to require comment. They are exhibited in these volumes chiefly by his attributing to the gold or the perfidy of England every wrong and every misfortune which has befallen revolutionary France, from the depreciation of her *assignats* to the death of Kleber by an Egyptian dagger. He is, however, unusually severe on a man for whom it might have been expected that he should feel at least the sympathy of a fellow-agitator. It becomes evident that no one born in the British Isles can find favour in M. Ledru-Rollin's eyes, since he writes of O'Connell thus:—

O'Connell, who had been the great promoter of Catholic emancipation, took good care not to lead his country into the real paths of freedom. After having condemned, betrayed, and denied the great revolutionary tradition of the Wolfe Tones and the Fitzgeralds—those unavenged martyrs—he fed famishing Ireland with his ballads, and as a last hope threw her a new dream—the Repeal of the Union. He, the friend of the Whigs, the courtier-tribune, who had so often humbled Ireland at the feet of his gracious Queen, he well knew that his promise scattered to the winds was but a lie; that England would never suffer the doors of the Irish Parliament to be re-opened except by a revolution; and that in any case, that Parliament would not restore to his native land its independence, its wealth, and its nationality. But he also knew that great sorrows are easy to delude, and while he continued to be richly provided for by the rent levied on the paupers whose rags formed his *cortège*, he pointed to the ever-receding horizon, and showed them the resplendent gates of their future Jerusalem. The name of that man, who was great by his intelligence but cowardly at heart, will be branded in history with a traitor's cross; and a day will come when Ireland, liberated by her revolutionary democracy, will reject and curse his memory. In what condition was Ireland left by that man whom she had fed for thirty years with her bloody sweat, and whom she would have followed—turning her last ploughshare into a sword—into the midst of the enemy's citadels—into the very heart of England itself?

This must be our last extract;—but, in concluding, we must make one remark. M. Ledru-Rollin boasts that his gloomy picture of the deplorable state of this country is borrowed from our own reports, speeches, &c. He forms his opinion of England in general from what Whigs say of Tories, Tories of Whigs, and Radicals of both. It is scarcely fair to take us at our own valuation,—for we are essentially a grumbling people; but this very grumbling disposition bears in it the seeds of every improvement. No one need fear for a nation so keenly alive—by M. Ledru-Rollin's own showing—to its wants and deficiencies. One lesson, however, Englishmen of all shades of politics may learn from these volumes—when they quarrel, not to abuse each other quite so loud, lest foreigners should be listening.

*Glimpses of Spain; or, Notes of an Unfinished Tour.* By Samuel Wallis. New York, Harper & Brothers; London, Low.

THE republication here of an American book on a subject well worn by our own travellers, would seem to require the inducement of some merits not to be found in English works. A description of the writer's means and manner of viewing Spain will show what reasons exist for offering his "Notes" to any but the public for which, we suppose, they were taken.

On the results of his personal inspection, in spite of some formal apologies for its insufficiency, Mr. Wallis reports in a very confident tone. His opportunities for judging are, therefore, to be kept in view, notwithstanding these apologies. In the first place, however, let us say that he appears to have been conversant, before leaving home, with the language and literature of Spain. This, of course, might have been of great use in any deliberate study of its features; it must have added to the pleasure and ease of the most cursory visit; and it would have been serviceable to him in writing at home on Spanish history or letters. But on a fugitive glimpse of the country, it could not supply the defects of observation, however it might heighten its passing interest.

Mr. Wallis seems to have reached Europe in the winter, travelling in search of health; and having failed to find it in "the mists and blasts of beautiful France, and the snow and sleet of sunny Italy," and being still in a rather bilious condition, he turned his eyes towards Spain, which had been from boyhood his land of promise. It did not, however, produce the desired effect, and his stay was suddenly curtailed by renewed illness. He returned to America; more dyspeptic, it is to be feared, than when he first embarked for Spain.

Dates are useful things. Here they enable us to fix the current value of the "Notes" sent hither for circulation. Mr. Wallis left Marseilles in a coasting steamer on April 1, 1847, and sailed from Gibraltar in the Southampton packet on the 27th of the June following. Of the eighty-six days included between these dates, nine were passed in a sick room at Granada, eight at Gibraltar, "waiting for the steamer," and more than a dozen at least on coasting voyages, or in stage conveyances. If we allow fifty days for the time during which he can have been taking any "glimpses," excepting such as may be seen from the deck of a steamboat or the window of a diligence, we shall not have much underrated the space that can have been devoted to an immediate view of the country. What he saw was gathered as follows.—Proceeding first to Barcelona, he stayed there, and at the other ports of Valencia, Alicante, Cartagena, and Almeria, just so long as the steamer remained at each; in the longest instance no more than three days (at

Barcelona),—at most places about twelve hours. At Malaga, where this summary way of travelling ceased, he spent above a week; then went on by steam to Cadiz and Seville,—where alone any considerable pause took place. Hitherto he had merely skirted a part of the coast, landing here and there, and hurrying on. From Seville his only inspection of a small part of Andalusia was made; first on a run to Cordova, in diligence both ways, where he remained for *four hours*,—next, in a three days' ride from Seville to the fair of Ronda,—his solitary experience of any travelling peculiar to Spain: then, after returning to Malaga, in a fortnight's stay at Granada,—half taken up with sickness. From thence he hastened back in a diligence to embark at Malaga in a coaster for Gibraltar; and there took leave of Spain: passing glimpses of Lisbon and Vigo, while the packet lay there, being incidents that could add nothing to his personal knowledge of the Peninsula.

Thus, what he saw of it was confined to hasty views of a few cities on the coast, with short residences at Seville and Granada, and excursions to Cordova and Ronda. A glance at the map will show how small a part of Spain is included in these limits. The incompleteness of such a survey is confessed by the author in his Preface,—where he admits its "humble pretensions;" and he elsewhere allows that "the limited sphere of his own observations would make it quite ridiculous to set up his judgment on the results of what he saw as anything but *very partial and imperfect*." Nor should we have insisted on this disadvantage had the recollection of it prevented Mr. Wallis from adopting throughout his 'Notes,' in respect of the statements and opinions of experienced and competent reporters, the tone which he himself instructs the reader to describe as "ridiculous." The contrast between an admission of his "partial and imperfect" observations and the confident air with which he steps out of his way to censure other travellers, is one of the many inconsistencies which will be found in these 'Notes of an Unfinished Tour.'

It is clear that as regards the scope of Mr. Wallis's view of Spain, he can add nothing to what we know already on this subject. Indeed, with the exception of a few pages on Seville, and of the account of his ride with a party of bull-fighters to Ronda, there is absolutely nothing in his 'Notes' belonging to the country itself, that has not been often and better told already. Of the beauties of the Alhambra we have sketches in abundance; and bull-fights have been described till the subject is quite exhausted. The rest of what he saw could, of course, be only a superficial view of the cities which he visited in the summary way above stated.

The matter being thus scanty, the manner of presenting it could alone give the book a merit worth producing abroad. In the shortest journey, a traveller from the New World, with an open sense and a genial spirit, may find enough to make a pleasant journal if he can write simply and agreeably of what he has seen with healthful eyes. In neither respect is Mr. Wallis peculiarly fortunate. His mode of writing is neither unaffected nor elegant: the effort to be smart or satirical is more apparent than its success; and he is not a little prone to a kind of rhetoric which in this country is used chiefly by the caterers of small paragraphs for country newspapers.

But a worse fault of his 'Notes' is, a certain soreness of temper which constantly breaks out in them; chiefly on matters of grievance that, at all events, have nothing to do with impressions of Spain, but which seem to haunt the author in a way that must have been unfavourable to his enjoyment of any country. At every place



some fretful reference to England seems to vex his mind; and sallies, meant to be sarcastic, against "John Bull" and "Anglo-Saxondom" are painfully obtruded in scenes where we might have thought the most irritable traveller would have forgotten all grudges that must have had their origin elsewhere. The frequent intrusion of this sour element, aggravated perhaps by the bilious vein of an invalid, is not likely to compensate, to English readers at least, for the want of other novelty in the proper objects of a Spanish tour. If this seasoning be a merit with readers in the United States, the taste which can relish such misplaced asperities may indeed be regretted for their sakes,—although it is no business of ours to question or correct it. But as the book has been offered to the English public too, we are justified in stating how the contents of a book, otherwise of no surpassing merit, are leavened,—in order that readers here may understand the claim which it has to their attention and welcome.

This unhappy vein, which oozes out all through the journey, appears in the earliest pages; where Mr. Wallis finds occasion for a "traveller's story," the sole point of which is the unsociable taciturnity of the English as compared with conversible and cheerful Americans,—*à propos* of a "representative of Anglo-Saxondom" whose offence was "persisting in cackling at all hazards;" in other words that he was *not* taciturn or unsociable! The same temper is displayed wherever an innuendo can be suggested, without any apparent provocation,—and gives rise to not a few inconsistencies like that above mentioned. To this we must ascribe the constant desire of criticizing Mr. Ford, whose 'Hand-book' seems to have been a standing topic of uneasiness. After the critic's own definition of the "ridiculous" character of any attempt to "set up judgments" of Spain on the "partial and imperfect" acquaintance of a six weeks' trip, it will scarcely be believed that he nevertheless ventures, with no very "humble pretensions," to sit in judgment, with the confidence of one that had lived in Spain for years, on the accounts of travellers of all nations in general, and on Mr. Ford's in particular:—summing up with a *dictum* to the effect that of all and sundry accounts of Spain there is none to be trusted but that of a certain Captain Widdrington,—who, of course, writes U.S. after his military title. This sentence is rendered more diverting by coming immediately after the confession, already cited, of incompetence to judge at all; and some few pages only after a remark that "the traveller who visits Spain for pleasure or improvement will fail egregiously of both, unless he makes up his mind to forget . . . the prejudices of his social, political, and religious education." A droller instance of the degree to which self-love may grow blind to self-contradictions could hardly be devised.

To the same disposition other inconsistencies may be traced. In Granada, Mr. Wallis is very busy in detecting an error in Irving's small account of the act of surrender by Boabdil; and thinks he has done well in correcting a mis-statement of its precise locality. But he is much offended by Mr. Ford's simple exposure of certain fictions in the same author's 'Sketch Book,' respecting more modern inhabitants of the city. He testifies, on more than one occasion, to the practical mischief, folly, and impotence of the Spanish custom-house prohibitions, with the universal contraband which they have provoked,—relates the fact of the very Barcelonense manufacturers themselves ordering imitations of their wares from England, to be smuggled into Catalonia,—rises into a fever of indignation at the immorality of our countenance

to the lawless trade at Gibraltar,—quotes Lord Londonderry as authority for the statement that Spain buys from us as many smuggled goods as she could take if the trade were free,—and yet sneers at Mr. Cobden for trying to persuade Spanish statesmen of the fiscal and moral advantage to themselves of amending this noxious system. On the ethics of smuggling, Mr. Wallis moots a question on which the answer that he professes to desire can be easily given. After quoting some random speech of Lord Brougham's, to the effect that the chief value of Canada to England is the contraband trade on its frontier,—he goes on to say "It only remains for us to have an essay from the same noble and philosophical hand upon the difference in point of 'natural theology' between *thieving* of the sort which he defends and what they call in England 'Pennsylvania ethics.' " Mr. Wallis, being a lawyer, would hardly thank us for supposing him unable to perceive the distinction. On reflection he will see that the difference is "pretty considerable" between an artificial offence and one which natural ethics condemn. In the one case, the "thieving" consists of selling to the subjects of a foreign country wares which they are eager to obtain, when the folly of a Government to which the alien trader owes no allegiance forbids them to obtain such wares in the natural way of trade. In the other case, the offence imputed breaks an eternal obligation—of good faith between man and man,—not created by fiscal law merely, but resting on ground as old, at least, as the Decalogue. The slightest notion of what Mr. Wallis terms "natural theology" will suffice to show that there is no parity between such different kinds of delinquency.

While Mr. Wallis somewhat roundly lectures those wayfarers who expect to find home comforts wherever they go, we observe that on the only occasion when he has to "rough it" in Spain he cries out against "dog-holes" of *ventas* and their fleas, complains of bad roads, hot sun, and sorry fare, about as loudly as any traveller whose journal has been published since the days of Horace. Those who wish may compare the humour with which our last English traveller, the Hon. Mr. Murray, faced much ruder hardships in the same region, with the bearing under such rubs of the American lecturer on hardihood, in order to see whether the fault imputed to our countrymen is either so universally or so exclusively an English offence as Mr. Wallis desires his readers to believe.

Had he been well advised before publishing this book, Mr. Wallis would have expunged from his "Notes" either the sneers at Mr. Ford's "Greek and Latin," or his own scraps of the latter, which are pressed into service with more pains than felicity. If it be well in him to adorn his pages with trite patches of school-boy or law Latin, it cannot be very becoming to scoff at elegant scholarship and apt quotation from more recondite sources, in the book of another writer,—whose happy use of classical learning is justly admired by educated readers.

Mr. Wallis seems to be aggrieved by the frequent mention of "the sempiternal Duke" in the 'Hand-Book.' Here his impatience of "English passions, grudges, and partialities" has led him to make rather too hasty a display of some American dispositions of the same kind. We need not point to the fact, that a guide for English pilgrims naturally leads them to scenes which they must view with interest,—however little pleasure these may afford to a traveller whose admiration of military glory is engrossed by the exploits of the Mexican war. Another point of more general significance, which Mr. Wallis has quite overlooked, is, the plain fact

that the events of the Peninsular War have now, and will evermore possess, an historical interest to visitors—not from England only, but from all other civilized countries—as strong as that which lives in the spots impressed with memories of Scipio or of Pompey, of the Moorish Emirs or of the Gothic Pelayo or Cid. He can scarcely require to be told that those events fill one of the most notable chapters in Spanish history, in which "the sempiternal Duke" must to all time be the principal figure; so that future historians, of whatever nation, when identifying the scenes connected with the hero of those transactions, will thank Mr. Ford for the very diligence which seems to have offended this American traveller.

Mr. Borrow, too, is brought up to be reprimanded for inaccuracy. On this case, our room being limited, it will suffice to observe that as regards him, as well as Mr. Ford, both long residents in Spain and familiar with all its regions, Mr. Wallis has himself told us what to say of the writer who ventures to "set up his judgment" on persons of such experience as theirs, from "the limited sphere" of an observation of some six or seven weeks, confined to a mere strip of the Spanish frontier. This, on his authority, we shall once more describe as highly "ridiculous"; and note, as a last instance of the perversity that warps his comments on the doings of the English, that he imputes a want of judgment and of "earnest desire" for the objects of his mission to Mr. Borrow *personally*, on the ground that he—being, as all know, sent out by the Bible Society to circulate the Protestant Scriptures—did not, instead of attempting to fulfil that special object of his mission, employ himself in diffusing the Roman Catholic version of the Vulgate set forth by the Spanish hierarchy.

It remains to add, that the style of the work which contains these specimens of "imperfect and partial" judgments is not choice enough to redeem ungenial displays of captiousness. Mr. Wallis is more prone to dress up slight things in heavy words than will be liked by readers of good taste. An instance or two of this kind of facetiousness will suffice. A scold is, "one of those ladies, of lively and elocutionary propensities, for whose weaknesses the common law has provided, in its gallantry, a pleasant hydropathic remedy." A kitchen-room in the Giralda "compels you sometimes to pay an olfactory tribute to an especially culinary atmosphere." An old woman is, "a brown-skinned executive-looking matron, arrived at that period of life when ladies sometimes acquire a fondness for a narrative style." This elaborate drollery is now and then set off by a kind of diction pretty well known as one manner—not the best—of Transatlantic writing. Of a dancing-girl, it is said: "The silkiness of her hose was not much to speak of; but her dancing implements were excellent to look upon as such things now-a-days go." Of the salutation "At your feet, lady" (*à los pies de Vmd., Señorita*) we are told that, on the Alameda of Cadiz, "at the first view of the article" the compliment is seen to be far from humiliating. At times a more serious flight is made towards the sublime:—with what success a specimen of Mr. Wallis's elevated manner will show. Zamora, "one of those high horns of earth on which the Moor loved to hang his turban," is further described as "a rocky cone, to which it seemed the very eagles would have need of scaling-ladders!" We need not dwell on minor peculiarities of speech, such as "in-dorse your taste," "well posted in geography," "moving back and forth." But we pause for an instant at the tomb of Fernando Columbus, when told that the inscription is copied verbatim,



in order that "the reader may depend on having before him the *genuine article*!"

To such beauties of diction Mr. Wallis adds some novelties in spelling,—which, until we found them constantly repeated, were unjustly charged by us to the printer's account. He writes *theater*, *traveler*, *center*, *somber*, *defenses*, *vails* (veils), *luster*, *accouterments*, *moldering*, *plow*, &c. This defiance of etymology,—following in part the unlearned example of the Phonetic school,—if pursued and extended, with the aid of such varieties of speech as are noted above, will, no doubt, go far towards banishing all traces of "Anglo-Saxondom" from American literature. The words, however, to which Mr. Wallis has so far confined his enterprise being mostly derived from classical roots, his attack on them may possibly be only another way of expressing the contempt which he insinuates for "Greek and Latin." The effect, whatever may be the motive, will not please readers "prejudiced" in favour of the usual mode of spelling English, who will be apt to think the new method no better than the return to a style now no longer universal even in butchers' bills or cookmaids' valentines.

In fine, we see no sufficient reason for bringing Mr. Wallis hither for publication. He adds nothing to the matter of our knowledge of Spain; his manner is not so exquisite as to make precious the hasty gleanings of a very limited excursion:—and his fretful ebullitions, where there could be no fair motive for stirring up any bitter sources, cannot of themselves recommend his book to English readers. The productions of foreign genius or wisdom may always be sure of finding due welcome in this country; nor shall we the less readily appreciate them on account of anything sharp or even severe against us that they may contain. But we cannot extend this allowance to works the mediocrity of which is not even made pungent by a seasoning of ill-will towards those who are asked to buy them. If we are to receive inferior books from the United States, we may fairly require that they shall at least present themselves, not with airs of cavil and offence, but with the graces of good humour and good manners:—to which shall we add good spelling?

*Memoirs of the Life of William Wirt, Attorney-General of the United States.* By John P. Kennedy. 2 vols. Philadelphia, Lea & Blanchard.

THERE is no man, said Goethe, so commonplace that a wise man may not learn something from him. This is true in all countries. Dr. Johnson wished to see the actual history of a few of the very humblest well written out,—certain that it would contain much that might interest the scholar and the statesman. The wish has found a larger expression and some realization in our own day. The life of Mr. Smith may contain few of the elements of romance perhaps,—the career of Mr. Jones may not have been so varied and dramatic as those of the older heroes of biography; but the interest that would fail to attract attention to the individual, as such, does not fail us when we think of him as the representative of a large portion of the race. In mental conditions, in outward fortunes, in opinion, and in moral character, Mr. Smith or Mr. Jones is the type of perhaps nine-tenths of our population. This circumstance lends a sort of importance, if not of dignity, to his position. With much more truth than ever Louis-Quatorze or Napoleon used the phrase, either of these personages might say,—"*L'État? c'est moi!*" A friend of ours, whose duties—unlike our own—are of political complexion, when any great catastrophe

has occurred—any revolution abroad or commercial panic at home—to threaten the machine of government or the orderly march of society, goes instantly to consult Mr. Smith as to what ought to be done under the circumstances; not because Mr. Smith is thought to be wiser than his neighbours, and better able to disentangle the threads of an intricate policy,—but simply because he is an elector of Great Britain, and represents in his own person the opinion of at least a million of the eleven hundred thousand respectable adults who compose the rate-giving community. Such a man is of more consequence in the world than the superficial will be apt to imagine.

The life of William Wirt—a respectable member of the great family of Smiths—has just the sort of attraction that would belong to the clearly written-out life of any undistinguished but moderately successful individual in almost any other walk of life. The name will be strange to the great majority of English readers. Though Attorney-General to the United States, he has been heard of by few persons out of his own country, and was not extensively known even in it. He was not blessed with brilliant talents—nor did any of those unaccountable accidents which sometimes make the fortune of public men with little or no action on their own part raise him to any very brilliant and commanding position. His career was one of professional routine, unchequered by important or exciting events, and the even tenor of which was hardly disturbed by the usual amount of incident. It may, therefore, seem to many unnecessary to have endowed him with the public honours of biography,—at least on the colossal scale adopted by Mr. Kennedy; who has thought it right to expend more ink on the memoirs of this obscure American lawyer than Thucydides considered necessary for the whole record of the Peloponnesian War!

Nevertheless, on the principle before stated, we are not sorry to have received these volumes—nor do we rise from their perusal with the feeling that our time has been thrown away on a profitless task. Mr. Wirt was in every sense an ordinary man—in his virtues and in his frailties, in his weakness as in his strength. To ordinary men his life may, therefore, afford more useful lessons perhaps than the memoirs of an individual more completely *sui generis*, like Washington or Bonaparte. He commenced life with the advantages of good average ability and a restless and far reaching ambition. His great aim was to acquire literary fame and leave lasting monuments of thought behind; he cultivated letters, therefore, with assiduity,—and, we must add, with some success. But his inspirations were not of that noble and self-denying order which the worship of the Muses demands. He wanted that true enthusiasm which can sacrifice the world to gain immortality. Wirt had not sufficient courage to reject the pomps and vanities of life. He felt a morbid craving after dollars,—and was drawn on to become a lawyer in order that through the law he might become rich and powerful. His weak and essentially ordinary character is apparent throughout. He dared not accept poverty and renown such as he might win; he could not reconcile his mind to obscurity and wealth. He tried to compromise the matter,—and, like nearly all compromisers, he failed. That it is possible at one and the same time to coquette with Letters and flirt with Law several instances in our own country, ancient and modern, have proved; but of the attainment to a distinguished position in both branches of culture, Bacon is at once the example and the exception.

William Wirt was certainly not a Francis

Bacon; but he had talents which a steady devotion to one object might have enabled him so to cultivate and develop as to have given him a fair place among the legal or literary names of his own country. He failed in all through his infirmity of purpose. A man cannot serve two masters. He failed to achieve a fortune—and he failed to achieve renown—because he could not make his election and throw his whole mind into his task. He wrote books which, though in their day they had a sort of success, are now forgotten; he made speeches few of which anybody thought it worth while to report; and he became Attorney-General of his native land without growing rich or connecting his name with the current history of his time. This is the lesson of his career.

In itself the Memoir is not what the reading world calls interesting. There is no action and little incident. The letters are the best portion. Wirt could write in an agreeable manner; his correspondence and his speeches are perhaps better than his more elaborate compositions, such as 'The British Spy' and the 'Life of Patrick Henry,'—for his style was large and ornate, and not unapt to run into hyperbole and extravagance.

In this collection there are several letters of advice to young law-students. The following was written to one of the order in Wirt's mature age, and, judging from the style, when his mind was most vigorous.—

"Have you ever dipped into the works of Edmund Burke? I do not think he is properly estimated in our country, nor, I suspect, in his own, except by a few. His speeches have so much richness and splendour of imagination, that the great mass of readers seldom look farther, and know nothing of the abundance, the greatness and accuracy of his thinking. I have been conversing with him in the first volume of his works, which I have found here, and have been much struck with the powerful grasp of his mind, compared with some other modern writers who had just passed through my hands. He is indeed a *masterly thinker*, and I commend him to your acquaintance. I like his essays better than his speeches—for they are *all thought*, without any ambition of ornament, and show the great play of his mental machinery, in the naked majesty of its strength. Such are the models on which I would wish you to form the action of your mind. You must look far above and beyond the living models that meet your daily view. These are, some of them, good examples of energy, pushing industry, and untiring perseverance, and are, so far, highly worthy of imitation. But when you come to the article of *thinking*, with reference to professional preparation, you must look far, very far, beyond and above them. You must take a wider horizon—sweep in larger circles—draw your arguments from greater depths—and learn to fold your adversary in coils of a more *Anaconda* gripe. This pungency and force of thinking, this fertility of resource, this depth and breadth and amplitude of view, is to be learned only by *studying* the greatest masters. Take up, for example, Butler's Analogy of Natural and Revealed Religion, and study it as a specimen of thinking and reasoning. Observe how profoundly and widely he surveys his subject—how carefully and beautifully he evolves his argument—and with what resistless cogency he draws his conclusions. Bacon's Essay on the Advancement of Science, Locke on the Human Understanding, and on Government, and some of the preliminary chapters of Hooker on Ecclesiastical Polity, are on the same gigantic scale of thinking. These Essays of Burke, and the constitutional opinions of Chief Justice Marshall, belong to the same great class of intellectual effort, and you ought to become familiar with them. In composing, think much more of your matter than your manner. To be sure, spirit, grace, and dignity of manner, are of great importance both to the speaker and the writer; but of infinitely more importance is the weight and worth of matter. The fashion of the times is much changed since Thomson wrote his Seasons, and Hervey his Meditations. It



will no longer do to fill the ear only with pleasant sounds, or the fancy with fine images. The mind, the understanding, must be filled with solid thought. The age of ornament is over: that of utility has succeeded. The *pugna quam pompæ aptius* is the order of the day, and men fight now with clenched fist, not with the open hand—with logic and not with rhetoric."

This is true and well expressed.

We have no idea of going over the Memoir methodically. Beyond the moral which we have adverted to, it yields little in the shape of result. This moral is, however, forcibly exhibited in the Letters—though it never once catches the attention of the biographer. In one place Wirt writes—"This indiscriminate defence of right and wrong—this zealous advocacy of causes at which my soul revolts—this playing of the nurse to villains, and occupying myself continually in cleansing them—it is sickening, even to death." Yet the desire for dollars kept him to his tasks.—Mr. Kennedy has done what he had to do with zeal and ability. But the book is not likely to take much hold of English readers, from the absence of all stirring interest in the narrative.

#### OUR LIBRARY TABLE.

*Tales and Sketches in Prose and Verse.* By the Hon. Mrs. Norton.—This is one of the pleasantest cheap volumes of late put forth, being a reprint (or memory has tricked us strangely) of Mrs. Norton's contributions to the *Court Magazine* some sixteen years ago. When we return to these touching prose sketches, and these musical lyrics, many of them the spontaneous utterance of true feeling,—how can we forbear regretting that their gifted writer has not more completely worked out her destiny as a songstress and a novelist? In these fragments there is promise of a high order, to which Mrs. Norton's performance has borne little proportion.—The book forms part the third of Churton's 'Library for the Million.'—Part the second may as well here have a notice of a somewhat different import from the above. We perceive that it consists of Mr. Prescott's 'History of the Conquest of Mexico' condensed by the Rev. J. Hobart Caunter, and advertised in the following prospectus.—

"It is so true that a 'man's time is his money,' that he may be considered a public benefactor who can devise the means of obtaining an object at the least possible cost of time, but he who can point out the means of saving both time and money confers a double benefit on the community. It is the aim of the projector of this library to attain these ends by reproducing in an abbreviated form, carefully condensed and rewritten, such STANDARD AUTHORS as are at present too voluminous to suit the time, or by reprinting in their entirety such as are too expensive to suit the purse of the general reader."

The above proclamation, it will be owned, is a cool announcement on Mr. Churton's part of a piratical scheme for spoiling, in more ways than one, the authors whose copyrights he has not purchased.

*The Orphan, a Romance.* By "Mootoo."—We will leave Mr. Ainsworth and Sir E. Bulwer Lytton, or some other author versed in gipsy dialect, to accredit or discredit the romantic and resonant dialogues put into the mouths of the gipsies by whom the separate scenes of "Mootoo's" mystery are conducted. When we come to the level narrative we are reminded of the schoolboy's letter (written, we think, by Hood) in which all manner of topics run on one after the other, without stop, let or hindrance. We are sorry, after "Mootoo's" deprecatory address, to be unable to speak more flatteringly of his 'Orphan,'—but it is really a very poor little one.

*Fun, Poetry and Pathos: or, the Cornucopia: a Miscellany.* By William Young Browne, with an illustration by John Leech.—Mr. Young Browne shall be allowed to describe his cornucopia as he will—without our inquiring, as a Lindley might on a Chiswick day, into the value of its flowers—or as a Covent Garden haunter on marketing intent should, into the ripeness of its fruits: and this permission shall stand us in stead of review, since it will sufficiently indicate to "the stranger" that we may possibly be harder to please than would please Mr. Browne, or suit his means to satisfy.

*Vert-Vert; from the French of Gresset.* By R. Snow.—This poem is, from its elegance, very difficult

to translate satisfactorily. Many of the renderings, however, in this version are clever,—and the whole is accomplished with considerable grace and facility of execution. Sometimes the letter is sacrificed; but in general the spirit of the poem is sufficiently preserved. Its perusal will afford pleasure to the reader of taste; notwithstanding that he may be disposed to rebel here and there against some of the translator's liberties and substitutions, together with a licence and variety of versification not warranted by the original.

*Hints to all about to Rent, Buy, or Build, House Property.* By Francis Cross.—We have been amused and informed by the perusal of this little volume. Every man, or nearly so, is "about to rent, buy, or build a house;" and in whichever case he may find himself for the moment, Mr. Cross's hints will be useful to him. A vein of satire runs through his pages which renders them sufficiently lively to be interesting to the general reader also.

*The Relations of Faith and Philosophy.* By H. B. Smith.—In this address, delivered by a professor of Amherst College, Massachusetts, at the anniversary of the Porter Rhetorical Society, the orator seeks to find an identity between the principles of true philosophy and the realities, as distinguished from the formula, of religion.

*Progressive Lessons in Social Science.* By the Author of 'Outlines of Social Economy.'—This little résumé of the doctrines of political economy as now accepted by a large class, is intended for the use of teachers and conductors of schools and of the discussions of mutual improvement societies. It sets forth the current opinions in a clear way,—and in saying this we are giving high praise to the writer. It is a proper introduction to the use of the 'Outlines.'

*History of Great Britain and Ireland; with an Account of the Present State and Resources of the United Kingdom and its Colonies.* By Henry White.—A carefully compiled history of England for the use of schools. The writer has consulted the more recent authorities: his opinions are liberal, and on the whole just and impartial: the succession of events is developed with clearness, and with more of that picturesque effect which so delights the young than is common in historical abstracts. The book is strongly bound—and is accompanied by a good map. For schools, parish and prison libraries, workmen's halls, and such institutions, it is better adapted than any abridgment of the kind we know.

*Observations on the Working of the Government Scheme of Education; with Practical Suggestions for rendering it a Means for diffusing more equally a Suitable Education for all Classes of the Poor, in a Letter to the Lord Bishop of London.* By a National Schoolmaster.—The National Schoolmaster has some objections to urge against the minor details of the scheme of education. It was to be expected that difficulties would arise; that experience would yield results more valuable than the very best theories could predict and prepare for. Among other things, he objects to the promise held out in the broadsheet to unsuccessful teachers—apprentices, that to "certain of them Government will open the way to appointments in the public service which have hitherto been considered as political capital." He thinks this promise cannot be kept on a large scale; while, on the other hand, every apprentice will look to have a certain appointment in case he fails to establish his title to the rank of a teacher. This delusion will lead to evil consequences, when it applies to a body of men 80,000 or 100,000 strong. To those who are studying the education question as a practical operation, we can recommend a perusal of the details and suggestions of this pamphlet.

*Political Equity; or, a Fair Equalization of the National Burdens, comprised in some intermingled and scattered Thoughts, suggesting an Anti-Distribution Policy, a Graduated System of Taxation on Real Property and Regular Incomes, a Non-Inquisitorial Mode of collecting the Tax on Trade, a gradual Liquidation and an ultimate Extinction of the National Debt, &c.* By Theophilus Williams, Author of 'Academical Stenography.'—We quote the whole of this extraordinary title,—there being a statement in the short Preface annexed to it which excludes the idea of applying criticism to a work so heralded into the world. The author says, he is suffering

"from two attacks of paralysis;" and that he has "devoted the last glimmers of perception" to composing this treatise.

#### LIST OF NEW BOOKS.

Alton Locke, Tailor and Poet, 2 vols. post 8vo. 18s. 6d.  
Art of Verse, a Poem, by a Practitioner. 8vo. 2s. 6d. bds.  
Baker's (T. H.) Rudimentary Treatise in Mensuration, 12mo. 1s.  
Bonnycastle's Elements of Algebra, Key to, 15mo. 1s. 6d.  
Bright's (Dr. J.) Synopsis of Diseases of the Chest, &c. 8vo. 6s. 6d.  
Chapman's (Dr. E.) Manual of Materia Medica, &c. 12mo. 9s. 6d.  
Christopher's Shipwrecks and Collisions at Sea, 8vo. 3s. 6d. cl.  
Clans of the Highlands, ed. by S. Smibert, 8vo. 3s. 6d. cl.  
Cunningham's (R. G.) The Lion Hunter, 2nd ed. or 8vo. 1s. 4s. cl.  
De Bury's (Baroness) Germania, its Courts, Camps, &c. 2 vols. 28s.  
Garnett (The), a Tale of 1845, royal 12mo. 3s. cl.  
Gleanings from Pious Authors, new ed. 12mo. 3s. cl.  
Gray's (Mr. H.) The Emperors of Rome, 12mo. 6s. 6d. cl.  
Griesbach's Greek Testament, new ed. 12mo. 6s. 6d. cl.  
Guthrie's (Rev. W.) The Christian's Great Interest, new ed. 1s. 6d.  
Handel's Oratorio, 'Sampson,' ed. by Vincent Novello, 7s. 6d. cl.  
Hiley's (R.) Arithmetical Companion, 3rd ed. 2s.; Key, 1s. 6d. cl.  
Horace, Odes, Epodes, &c. trans. by G. J. Whyte Melville, 7s. 6d.  
Huddleston's (Rev. A.) Sermons, 8vo. 10s. 6d. cl.  
In Memoriam, 3rd ed. 12mo. 6s. cl.  
Kaloolah, or Journeyings to the Djebel Kumri, new ed. 5s. cl.  
Kenrick's (J.) Ancient Egypt under the Pharaohs, 3 vols. 1s. 10s. cl.  
Langford's (A. J.) Religious Skepticism, &c. 8vo. 5s. cl.  
Lee's (E.) The Baths of Rhenish Germany, &c. 8vo. 4s. cl.  
Legge's (G.) Christianity in Harmony, &c. 8vo. 3s. 6d. cl.  
Lizars's Scottish Tourist, 18th ed. 12mo. 8s. 6d. cl.  
McCosh's (Rev. J.) Method of Divine Government, 2nd ed. 12s. cl.  
Mills's (G.) Our Country, a Novel, 2 vols. post 8vo. 1s. 11s. 6d. bds.  
Oliphant's (G. H. H.) The Law of Pews in Churches and Chapels, 5s.  
Rennie's (J.) Alphabet of Scientific Gardening, new ed. 18mo. 1s. 6d.  
Smith's (Rev. Sydney) Elementary Moral Philosophy, 2nd ed. 12s.  
Stewart's (G.) Religion the Veal of the Church, 8vo. 6s. 6d. cl.  
Wharton's (J. J.) Law for Clerks, 6th ed. 12s. 6d. cl.  
White's (J.) System of English Grammar, 18mo. 1s. 6d. cl.

#### SOME REFLECTIONS ON THE MISSION ASSIGNED TO THE HELLENES IN THE WORLD'S HISTORY.

By DR. WAAGEN.

ALL who study the history of mankind with attention must be struck by the remark, that every nation which has attained any prominent place in that history by a high degree of spiritual cultivation, has also been intrusted with the fulfilment of a specific mission or office, through which it contributes its share to that general store of spiritual culture, the common stock of the human species, whereby alone the latter asserts its divine origin and strives towards a reunion with it.

Among these different functions, I will more closely examine that particular one which was allotted by the Deity to the Hellenic people. It consisted unquestionably in the revelation of Beauty in the closest alliance with Moral force—as we find the combination expressed in their own word *καλοκαγαθία*,—and in the most complete realization possible, by means of those qualities, of a purely ideal element, as opposed to the merely useful in the common sense of the term.

In every fibre of their nature, Beauty of Form—in which they required that the effective and good should appear clothed—was felt to be so profound a necessity, that they required it not only in those mental productions whose peculiar province is the Beautiful,—in Art namely, with its various branches, as Poetry, Architecture, Sculpture and Painting,—but in those, also, which especially strive after cognition,—Science, with its several appearances, History, Philosophy and Physics. Nay, even in oral discourse, on strictly practical concerns, whether of the State or of individuals, the charm of beauty could not be dispensed with:—hence the high perfection of their oratory.

But this spiritual craving of the Hellenes for beauty of form could have been excited only by an uncommonly vivid sense, nor could have been gratified without a quite peculiar aptitude for the plastic development of it; and, in fact, we know of no other nation endowed with both gifts so largely as they were. The earliest evidences of this inclination towards beauty of form appear in the religious lessons of Orpheus and Mæuseus; of which, indeed, no remains have come down to us,—but concerning which, at least, we certainly know that they were expounded in verse;—thus early appearing in an artistic form with tendencies towards Beauty. How early, too, the Hellenes had arrived at the development of this beauty in speech, is proved by the high perfection of the hexameters of Homer, who lived a thousand years before our era; from which may be decisively inferred a longer previous use of that measure. We see the talent for beauty in plastic arts already showing itself above five hundred years before their entire perfection, in the admiration of beauty in individual men, and in the high estimation which it receives in the poems of Homer. In this respect,



there is a very characteristic passage in the 2nd canto of the 'Iliad,' where it is said of Nireus, in the catalogue of the ships:—

Nireus of Syma with three vessels came;  
Nireus, Aglaia's offspring, whom she bore  
To Charopus the king; Nireus, in form,  
(The faultless son of Peleus sole exempt),  
Fairest proportioned of the sons of Greece:  
But he was heartless, and his men were few.  
(*Iliad*, II. 778, &c.—*Cowper's Transl.*)

The Greek disposition is here strongly marked by the circumstance that, although he is allowed one element of the *καλλοκαγαθία*, the highest aim of Hellenic endeavour, Beauty, namely, in the fullest measure,—there instantly follows the remark that he was wanting in the other element, *αγαθία*, or excellence of character. Now, the reason why Achilles, by Homer and all the Greeks, was extolled as the principal hero, was, his possessing both these properties in the highest degree; on which account, too, Homer distinguishes him alone by the epithet *ἀμύμων*—the faultless. Still, how well the Greeks could nevertheless appreciate spiritual worth, even when quite destitute of beauty, there needs no more striking proof than the boundless reverence paid by the first men of his time to Socrates, the noblest and purest incorporation of *αγαθία*,—although his exterior presented the harshest contrast to the so-called Grecian Ideal. As for the worship of Beauty peculiar to the Greeks, it might be further proved by many examples; of which, however, I will adduce only the following here. On the occasion of the Battle of Plataea, where the very existence of all Greece was at stake, Herodotus does not fail to notice that the Spartan Kakirates was "the most beautiful of all in the Greek army," not of the Lacedæmonians alone, but of all the other Hellenes as well. In Ægimus, an Achaian city, Pausanias tells us, where there was an image of Zeus in the age of boyhood, they used in ancient times always to choose for his priest the most beautiful stripling that could be found there.

In short, if ever a higher Providence overruled the spiritual faculties of a genial race, so as to bring them to entire development by a marvellous co-operation of the most favourable conditions,—such was certainly the case with the Hellenes.

Greece, the western coast of Asia Minor, and its islands combined in the rarest degree all the conditions of site and climate of which any single one is of itself deemed favourable to the progress of human culture. If we cast a comparative glance over all the countries of this globe, we shall seek in vain for any other so finely articulated, or which in so limited a compass contains in equal measure those contrasts of mountains, fruitful plains, and sea, which are best adapted to liberate and exalt the human soul. The sea and mountain air, too, makes the body robust and fresh; and the views from hill tops and over the waters sharpen the vision. These conditions also promote the most various exercise of the human activities,—the rearing of cattle, agriculture, merchandise, and seafaring. While the latitude of their soil permitted the Hellenes to raise the generous olive, the exhilarating grape,—and so favoured the growth of every kind of fruit that the whole strength of man was not exhausted in securing their produce,—the nature of the ground, often stony, and in many places but moderately fruitful, did at the same time call for strenuous industry, which kept them from sinking into languor.—The oppressive glow of the sun, too, except for a few months yearly, was mitigated by the cool breezes of the mountains.

These beneficent influences of Nature were met by a system of training which promoted the harmonious development of body and mind to a degree unknown among any other people. The Greeks, by assigning the highest honours to the victors in the great national games, proved the value which they set on this part of education. Those exercises of wrestling, running, boxing, and leaping in the Palestrias, did not only quicken the senses, inure and supple the body of the athlete,—not only did the development of the muscular and the reduction of the grosser and laxer parts of the frame make it beautiful;—beyond this, a joyful courage and quickness of spirits were infinitely heightened by the same process.

It must indeed be admitted that the indispensable condition which allowed every free Greek to enjoy more or less of the advantages of such an education was the universal existence throughout Greece of the institution—justly abhorred in our days—of slavery.

Now, the most important spiritual cause of the full expansion of the Hellenic genius for Art is to be sought in the fact, that with them (not as in India and Egypt Religion took possession of Art,) the Arts at a very early period, by means of their poets, Homer and Hesiod, already laid hold of Religion, and moulded it at will according to their peculiar genius. Thus Herodotus himself declares, that it was those Poets who gave the Hellenes their Divinities.

In the next place, we have to consider their magnificent conceptions of the civic and public celebrations of Religion and of the State:—together with the simplicity of their private life. This combination alone made it possible for so small a people, by no means overflowing with riches, to produce monuments of Art in such numbers and on so grand a scale as they did.

The attainment of perfection in the Arts was, further, marvellously aided by the contrasted qualities of the different branches of the Hellenic race: among which the Doric and Ionian, and, next to these, the nearest relation of the former, the Æolian, were the most generally and prominently distinguished. While we see the Dorians, whose principal site during the period of their highest development was the rugged Peloponnesus, manly, vigorous, harsh, substantial, adhering with the utmost tenacity to their original dispositions and to those forms of Art which they had already wrought out,—the Ionians, on the contrary, chiefly occupying the coast of Asia Minor, under a mild climate, display a more soft, poetic, gracious and impressive nature. This difference appears the earliest and most immediately in the Doric and Ionic dialects; but it was afterwards visible in their respective performances in Art.

Finally, I have to notice some points in the history of the Hellenes as highly favourable to the development of the Arts,—in which term I must in these remarks be understood as always including Poetry.

The moderate degree of cultivation, the patriarchal sway of a number of petty kings who ruled in Greece before, during, and after the Trojan War, formed the very soil in which Epic Poetry, as known to us in Homer, could best strike root with such inimitable perfection.

The subsequent rise of the many little republics, with their state of passionate excitement, kept up as well by rivalry with their neighbours as by the intestine party struggles of each, was not less favourable to the somewhat later lyrical poetry than the public spirit which they fostered was to the construction of the Acropolis, the Temple, and other public edifices.

Finally, the victory gained by extraordinary efforts over the domineering Persians, just at the time when Dramatic and Plastic Art were advancing towards perfection, gave to the national character an incalculable impulse, and prompted on all hands the expression of an ardent gratitude towards the protecting Divinities by the erection of Temples and Statues of the utmost attainable beauty and splendour.

Thus, aided by so many favouring circumstances, Grecian Art is seen to unfold itself in every branch, throughout the long period of six centuries, by a process so marvellously organic as was never witnessed in any other nation.

Among the Hellenes, as in all races, Poetry—that art which uses speech for its medium of representation—preceded the others. Here, the Ionians in Asia Minor, both favoured by conditions of climate and in virtue of their singularly poetic and plastic nature, head the procession. In the 11th century before our era, there already flourished among them a school of Poets which in the beginning of the 10th sent forth Homer. With him Epic Poetic, wherein the whole universe is mirrored in the contemplative soul of the poet as in a tranquil ocean, reached its highest perfection.

Whoever may have written the 'Works and

Days' ascribed to Hesiod, the part of that poem containing ethical sentences is in any case a very notable proof of the early desire of the Greeks to impress a beautiful artistic form even on rules of this severe character. The conjecture that the author of the poem flourished some 800 years before our era, or about 200 after Homer, appears to me, from the strikingly different tone and composition of the former, to be very probable.

The beautiful artistic expression of the tempest of passion in the human soul stirred to its utmost depths, thrills us for the first time in the lyric poems which Alcæus and Sappho sang in the Æolic dialect, about 600 years before the Christian period.

Meanwhile, at some date between the ages of Hesiod and of these lyrists, Greek genius had begun to stamp its peculiar impress on that form of Art which subdues rude sensible matter to the aim of creating forms obeying the laws of a beauty dwelling in the conceptions of the human mind;—namely, on Architecture. How entirely its rules, whether of Harmony in its main relations or of the fit composition of its details, sprang from the Artistic Spirit common to all the Hellenic race, needs no stronger proof than the nearly simultaneous birth of the Doric and Ionic orders,—both of which possess those qualities in the highest degree, while respectively reflecting at the same time the peculiar mental complexion of each separate race;—so that, the strong and massive Doric has been not inaptly compared to the man,—the slender and more ornate Ionic order to the woman.

Thus, by the beginning of the 5th century before Christ, every thing was most happily prepared for the development of Dramatic Poetry, for the highest productions both of Sculpture and of Painting; which in the course of two preceding centuries, by gradually possessing themselves of technical resources of all kinds, and by studies from Nature, had at length gained a full command of their proper means of representation. From Homer, presented anew in a complete body to the liveliest feelings of the nation, or the collection of his poems by the Pisistratidæ, the Dramatists gained the advantage of having merely to transfer figures at will from his epic composition—as from a bas-relief in sculpture—to the dramatic or wholly detached form; while the Lyrical Poets gave them a perfect model for the Chorus, whose office was to contemplate and comment on the destinies of these personages. In the same Homer and in other epic poets, now lost to us, the sculptors and painters found such fine and distinct sketches for the conception of their gods and heroes, that their imagination thus kindled soon discovered physical forms in harmony with the spiritual notion; and by the command already noticed of the technical materials of their respective Arts could completely embody them in practice. Finally, the forms of space to which they must apply their productions, the laws of style to be followed in fashioning them, were already most happily prescribed by Architecture, which by that time had arrived at its full development.

As the consummation of these conditions, so marvellously conducive to the attainment of perfection, it was now ordained by the good genius of Greece that, after the Persian wars, not only did Athens, raised to the head of Grecian affairs, acquire the command of enlarged means,—but also that in the same Athens so magnificent a statesman as Pericles became the chief of the Government, and applied those means to the execution of the noblest monuments of Art. At this period the Athenians were impressed by influences from all of the different Grecian tribes; and thenceforward, resolved these into perfect harmony, unfolded the most consummate flowers of Hellenic cultivation. Derived from the Ionic stock, its soft, delicate, and sensitive temperament was in them improved by a tone of strength evoked by the necessity of strenuous labour on the unyielding soil of Attica. Nor did the Dorians, settled in great numbers around them, fail to exert a considerable influence over their Attic neighbours. Thus, the Athenians had borrowed from them the Doric order of architecture; but this, with the elegant taste of their race, they modified in so refined a manner, that the buildings erected in Athens in that style—the Parthenon, the Pro-



pylæ, the Temple of Theseus—are the finest specimens of this order extant. Thus, also, amongst them, the Ionic dialect, becoming more masculine, grew into that form termed the Attic:—but the Dramatists, in addition to this, following in the steps of Pindar, adopted for their chorus the Doric dialect,—the fuller and sterner mould of which admirably corresponded with the feeling of solemnity which prevails in these choral strains. As to Athenian sculpture in the age of Phidias, its genesis has only become thoroughly intelligible since the recent discovery of the Triumphal Monument at Xanthus, in Lycia. This monument, which, according to Sir Charles Fellows's luminous discussion, is certainly not later than about 500 years A.C., is in relation to the Ionic school of the same importance as the Æginetan statues are to the Doric. From it we learn firstly, that, in accordance with the nature of the Ionians, sculpture had reached with them, earlier than with the Dorians, the development of a marked individuality in the forms of consummate art. We further see that this Ionic element plays a most important part in the sculptures of the Parthenon; and that their marvellous sublimity results from that practical mastery of hand and true representation of natural forms which we behold (the heads excepted) in the statues of Ægina, interpenetrated with the freedom, grace, and sensitive feeling which we recognize in the Tropic monuments of Xanthus. The influence of the Ionic school on the Attic is above all most peculiarly apparent in the treatment of draperies.

To this artistic cultivation of the Athenians the words of Schiller are especially applicable.—

For where the Stubborn weeds the Supple,  
Where energy and softness couple,  
Then only rings the faultless tone.

*Song of The Bell.*

In no other place or time on our globe have so many distinguished and highly trained intelligences existed within so short a period as Athens can exhibit during the interval between 480 and 380 A.C. Statesmen, generals, orators, historians, such as Herodotus, Thucydides, and Xenophon,—philosophers like Anaxagoras, Plato, Socrates,—dramatists, like Sophocles, Euripides, and Aristophanes,—artists, such as Ictinus, Mnesicles, Phidias, Polygnotus, Alcameides, and Myron,—were chief jewels in this precious crown. Among such spirits as these, of whom most, as contemporaries, were in personal contact with each other, how vivid must have been the reciprocal action, both in urging each individual onward and in raising the general tone of all! To what heights of multiform intellectual cultivation must the human species in Athens have been elevated during that period!

Let us now especially contemplate for a moment the position of the architect and of the plastic artist in that age, so auspicious to the ascent of the highest point ever yet reached by human capacities. The kindness of nature had bestowed in abundance the noblest materials in the marbles of Pentelicus and Paros. Mining and commerce brought them brass, gold, and ivory. For models of the nude figure, the Palestra afforded incomparable studies in the most beautifully trained bodies of all ages, from early youth to robust manhood, in varied and voluble motion. For draped figures, in every street, in every square, at rest and in every kind of movement, the richest store of subjects offered themselves to the artist in beautiful picturesque costume. His general mental education was admirably furthered by intercourse with men such as Sophocles and others of those already named. Finally, his moral self-respect could not fail to be infinitely raised in tone by the consciousness that the Hellenes bowed in reverence before the images of gods which he had fashioned; that it was he who bestowed on man the highest of known honours,—by the production of the iconic statue. A kindred feeling must in like manner have possessed the dramatists, when the noblest and richest men of Athens contested the honour of rehearsing the choruses of their plays, and of displaying them at enormous cost, with splendid costumes,—while the most select of the highly cultivated Greeks listened in rapture at the words which they had put into the mouths of their gods, heroes, and choruses.

Here, too, during this most flourishing epoch, Poetry still moves in advance of the plastic Art; and both again mutually reflect each other in their chief productions. The sublime Æschylus has his counterpart in Phidias, the sculptor of the lofty Zeus,—by whose image, as the ancients expressed it, he added a certain new dignity to religion,—an image which it was counted by any of the Hellenes a misfortune not to have seen once in their lives; the sculptor, too, of the grave and pensive Pallas:—and after Phidias, in Polycleetus, the sculptor of the proud and majestic Juno. To the graceful and pathetic Sophocles corresponds Scopas, the sculptor of Niobe, and of the Venus (of Milos), the noblest conception of that goddess. The passionate, touching, and more sensual Euripides is reflected by the elegant and voluptuous Praxiteles, the sculptor of Venus as the ideal of amorous enchantment,—as also of the Eros.—But now, when with Lysippus, in his representation of Alexander, the plastic Art of the Hellenes gradually descended from gods and heroes to the most consummate exhibition of merely human forms, it kept its place, under Alexander's successors, even while in the service of domineering Rome, until the days of Hadrian, although in a slow decline, yet still at a considerable pitch of excellence:—and thus flourished, we may say, throughout a period of six centuries. This long continuance is, in my opinion, chiefly attributable to the delicate tact of the Greeks, which taught them to avoid deviating essentially from any Ideal which had once been embodied to perfection,—without falling the while into merely servile and spiritless copying. The most ingenious artists, indeed, well know how to make their own individuality sufficiently prominent, by an infinite variety of delicate modifications, while strictly adhering to the general character of their standard. In this very circumstance lies one of the most engaging attractions of Hellenic Art to its admirers. Hereby, at all events, the universal eagerness for works of plastic Art in those ages of Greek antiquity could be qualified in a manner at once becoming and complete,—so that, all the masterpieces of sculpture, on every scale, from the Colossus down to the smallest coin, and in every material, from gold and silver to baked clay and wood, as well as the finest works and designs of the great painters, were preserved in innumerable repetitions, from the decoration of earthenware vases to the fugitive wall painting of the humblest dwellings—even in such a petty town as Pompeii. To this last-named circumstance we owe the preservation to our days of so vast a treasure of the genuine inventions of Greek Art.

In conclusion, the individuality of Hellenic Art-genius resulting from the co-operation of so many fortunate conditions fostering its highest development, consists—not only in works of poetry and architecture, but essentially also in those of sculpture and painting—in a union of the most original and the most beautiful invention, always completely exhausting the subject chosen,—in the most precise and natural delineation of character, with a measure of beauty of form the highest in degree which the latter will permit,—in a thoroughly simple and natural grace of action,—and in a strict regard of the laws of style respectively prescribed to each several branch of Art as well by the materials with which it deals as by its distribution in time and space.

#### OUR WEEKLY GOSSIP.

ON Wednesday last, the petition for a Finding Catalogue of the books in the Library of the British Museum which we printed last week was presented to the House of Commons by Mr. Wyld. The evil against which it protests is one that is becoming daily more and more grievously felt; and it is to be lamented that the extreme period of the session at which the impatience of parties injured was driven into utterance, necessarily limited the expression of that impatience to the mere form of protest. Before another session, however, we hope that the public will have bestirred themselves in such a manner as shall show the necessity of unlocking the public library with something more available for common use than a costly, complicated patent key, however curious as a piece of workmanship; and we trust

they will then again claim the interference of their representatives—the Trustees for *them* of the British Museum—in such terms and numbers as shall insure their obtaining access to their own treasures by the easiest mode of ingress and from all parts of the kingdom.—The peculiarities of the Catalogue now preparing which unfit it for the people's pressing want, are—that it is for posterity only—that that posterity, for the London portion only—that London posterity, for one man at a time only—of the men who shall then be entitled to use it singly at a time, suitable to the leisure and patience of probably one in ten only. The Catalogue wanted is one that men now living may consult in their own persons not in that of their heirs,—whether they be at Kirkwall or at Penzance,—and as many at once as may have need.

Last week we called attention to the plea that, it is said, will be set up by Mr. Murray in defence of his property in Mr. Washington Irving's works—namely, that the American author is not an alien. While the adoption of this course of argument narrows the ground of the dispute in this particular case, it will, if persevered in, be followed by some curious consequences, and bring out features of peculiar—we may say of dramatic—interest. Suppose that Washington Irving should be proved in a court of law to be no alien—no citizen of the United States, but a British subject, born to all the rights, dignities, privileges, and obligations expressed in that term. This is what the defence contemplates. In the first place, can a man be a native of two separate and sovereign States? If he be an Englishman, can he be an American? To establish the right of citizenship on one side the Atlantic, is it not to forego it on the other? If so, can Mr. Irving desire in his old age to forswear the land of his birth and of his early devotion—the State which has employed his genius in the discharge of its highest diplomatic functions? Spanish embassies are not confided to men of letters in the country which by the presumption he now seeks to make his own.—There is another curious consequence of the issue sought to be established. If Mr. Irving gains a right to hold literary property in England, will he not lose his claim to hold it in America? Which may be the greater loss we know not; but we fancy the holders of his copyrights in the States may object to have their property placed in jeopardy.—The final issue of a successful defence on the plea now put forward may be more curious still—and far graver. Mr. Irving has served his country in peace and in war. In the latter service he has borne arms against Britain. Should his friends prove him to have been a British subject at the time, he is, of course, a rebel,—and is liable to be taken from Westminster Hall to a court-martial, and ordered to be shot!

At the meeting on Thursday of Her Majesty's Commissioners for the Exhibition of 1851, it was decided that the last day for receiving demands for space in the building from local committees in the United Kingdom and the Channel Islands should be the 31st of October. Parties failing to give such notice as their nearest local committee may require, cannot be assured that their claims for space will receive any consideration.

We observe that the Peace Society have taken up their ink-stand—as Luther did in his conflict with the devil—against war and its atrocities in a formal and imposing manner. Hitherto, the especial literature of the Peace Movement, so far as it has come under our notice, has been weak and inefficient—wanting in the elements of vigorous thought and graceful expression, absolutely needed to command popular attention in these times. The new organ of the movement—*The Herald of Peace*—promises to be better than its predecessors; but the tone, we fear, is not laical enough to catch the ear of the masses. This may be amended as the writers come more and more to perceive the necessity of employing human means to bring about a human end. The arguments in favour of peace are of every rational kind,—and they are needlessly narrowed when they are addressed to those only who entertain strong religious views.

A termination of the late dispute about the Lincoln Grammar School has been arrived at. The



school has been given up, by a majority of the town council in the city, to the Dean and Chapter, to be dealt with as they shall see fit.—There is sufficient amount of precedent before the world to suggest what will become of this educational endowment under its new masters. Under careful civil management, this school might have been rendered the means of giving useful training to a considerable number of the rising generation of Lincoln. As it is to be, the foundation becomes an exclusive and sectarian institution for the benefit of a few children who have no better legal claim on its provisions than the sons of every inhabitant of the city.—Every case of this kind which comes before the public strengthens the demand for a searching Parliamentary inquiry.

It may save annoyance to some of our readers who are intending tourists at this season of Continental touring, if we state, on the authority of the Belgian Consul—who has addressed us to that effect,—that a statement which has appeared in some of the English papers affirming the suppression of the passport system in Belgium is incorrect. Belgium has yet the merit of retaining in full force that senseless and oppressive restriction,—which, in addition to its other qualities of absurdity, has the peculiar absurdity of being a strongly expressed anachronism in an age when the iron horse is riding down all the barriers that separated nations and in a sense annihilating the space that lay between them. Nations which have got the lightning for a messenger might seem to have done with the passport police; but it is well that our readers—who would have been extremely likely to believe the newspaper paragraph on the ground of its inherent rationality—should be warned that, like a sovereign of England entering the city of London, they must still go through this idle form of knocking at the gates in the kingdom of Belgium.

In spite of political excitement it is gratifying to see that the true principles of social reform are making their way in France. The President of the Republic has caused to be translated Mr. Roberts's plans for improving the dwellings of the labouring classes,—and copies of the work have been sent by the Minister of Agriculture and Commerce to the prefects of all the departments. Several papers in Paris have recently given up some of their space to a discussion of these practicable reforms. The *Moniteur* quotes from Mr. Dixon's recent Life of Howard the example of Cardington, and the changes effected there by an earnest man who set about his work in a wise and humane spirit; and holds up the English philanthropist as the model for the youth of France to imitate. The mere discussion of such topics may be welcomed as a sign of returning health in the country.

A letter from Ratisbon states, that the Museum of the Zoological and Mineralogical Society of that town has made a curious acquisition,—that of two mummies found in the sands of the desert of Atacama in Upper Peru, by Dr. Ried, a Bavarian physician resident at Valparaiso. These mummies, male and female, both of American race, are natural mummies,—that is to say, dried without embalming or any other species of preparation. The man is in a stooping posture, his head sustained on his hands, and his elbows resting on his knees. The face has an expression of pain which seems to indicate a violent death. The woman is stretched at length, with arms crossed on her breast. Both heads are covered with long hair, dark and silky, and divided into an infinity of small plaits. When Dr. Ried discovered these mummies both had their teeth complete; but during their transport to Europe many of these have fallen out, and were found at the bottom of the cases containing these curious relics of American antiquity.

Our readers know that we have great fears of the American penny-a-liner, and are carefully on our guard against his feats. Our own specimens of the class are commonplace artists compared with their American brethren. The season is at hand when we are looking out for the performances of the former,—but we expect little from them beyond the old routine. In their sluggish imaginations, the annual pike is doubtless already growing up to his great dimensions, which, on failure of the ac-

customed springs of intelligence, we are soon to find floating in the newspaper shallows,—and the preposterous cucumber is probably having an inch added to its stature, which will shortly shoot rankly up where the parliamentary harvest has been cut down. The most daring thing that we can expect from these geniuses is, a trick or two perhaps with the Nelson Column.—But the American penny-a-liner, our readers know, does the thing on the vast scale of his country. He takes down Niagara at his pleasure,—and puts it up again, in its place or anywhere else that he will. He transports the great Falls about the soil of his country at half a crown an adventure,—and for five shillings would probably set them playing in the moon. We have thought it necessary to make these remarks by way of preface to the following extract from the *Buffalo Courier*.—"The falling of Table Rock at Niagara Falls, on Saturday last, was an event which has been prognosticated from time immemorial, though the precise period at which the affair would 'come off' was not designated. The portion that fell was from one hundred and fifty to two hundred feet long, and from thirty to seventy feet broad, making an irregular semi-circle, the general conformation of which is probably well remembered by those who have been on the spot. It was the favourite point for observation. The noise occasioned by the crash was heard at the distance of at least three miles, though many in the village on the American side heard nothing of it. It is a very fortunate circumstance that the event took place just at dinner time, when most of the visitors were at the hotels. No lives were lost. A carriage from which the horses had been detached stood upon the rock, and a boy was seated inside. He felt the rock giving way, and had barely time to get out and rush to the edge that did not fall before the whole immense mass was precipitated into the chasm below. A gentleman and a lady, accompanied by the guide, had quite a narrow escape from below. They were passing under the rock at the time it commenced falling, but were so fortunate as to escape without the slightest injury."—Our readers have the passage as we find it,—and we offer no opinion on its credit one way or the other. We are very sensitive about these Falls. We were once seriously tricked by them; and the parties have "tried it on" once or twice since,—we are happy to say, without success. The carriage with the boy inside, who leaped out when the rock was falling, and lighted just where the rock did not fall—and the lady and gentleman who were under the rock as it fell, and escaped unhurt—belong to a "Roman hand" extremely well known to us.—We shall not be surprised to find the rock "restored" in a future number of the *Buffalo Courier*.

Closing of the Exhibition.

The EXHIBITION of PICTURES by ANCIENT MASTERS and deceased BRITISH ARTISTS at the GALLERY of the BRITISH INSTITUTION, 23, Pall Mall, is OPEN daily from Ten to Six, and will CLOSE on SATURDAY, AUGUST 31.—Admission, 1s. Catalogue, 1s. GEORGE NICOL, Secretary.

THE DARDANELLES, CONSTANTINOPLE, and the BOSPHORUS.—By this gigantic MOVING PANORAMA, the spectator is conducted through the far-famed CITY of the SULTAN, and, among all that is singular and interesting in that classic region, will visit the Mosques, Bazaars, Baths, Slave-Market, Seraglio, and Harem.—Daily at Twelve, Three, and Eight o'clock, at the POLYORAMA, 309, Regent Street, adjoining the Polytechnic Institution.—Admission, 1s.; Stalls, 2s. 6d.; Reserved Seats, 3s.

PANORAMA of the NILE.—Additions have been made to this Exhibition.—The Nubian Desert, from the Second Cataract to Jonglei.—War Dance by Firchib.—March of Cambray by Moonlight.—Morning Prayer.—The Mummy of a High Priest is added to the curiosities. Both Banks of the River are shown in the Painting.—EGYPTIAN HALL, PICCADILLY.—Daily, at Three, and Eight o'clock.—Stalls, 3s.; Pit, 2s.; Gallery, 1s.; Children and Schools, Half-price.

INDIA OVERLAND MAIL.—DIORAMA.—GALLERY of ILLUSTRATION, 14, Regent-street, Waterloo-place.—Additional Picture, MADRAS.—A Gigantic MOVING DIORAMA, ILLUSTRATING the ROUTE of the OVERLAND MAIL to INDIA, depicting every object worthy of notice on this highly-interesting journey from Southampton to Madras and Calcutta, accompanied by descriptive detail and appropriate music, is now OPEN DAILY, Mornings at Twelve, Afternoons at Three, and in the Evening at Eight o'clock.—Admission, 1s.; Stalls, 2s. 6d.; Reserved Seats, 3s.—Doors open half an hour before each representation.

The DIORAMA, Regent's Park.—Admission, One Shilling.—NOW OPEN, with the finest VIEWS ever exhibited in this country, representing the ROYAL CASTLE of STOLZENFELS, on the Rhine, (visited by Her Majesty Queen Victoria in August, 1845), and its Environs, as seen at Sunset and during a Thunder Storm; painted by NICHOLAS MEISTER, of Cologne. And the much-admired Picture of THE SHRINE of the NATIVITY, at Bethlehem; painted by the late M. RENOU, from a Sketch made on the spot by Davin Roussier, Esq., R.A., with novel and striking effects.—Open from Ten till Six.

The ARCHITECTURAL EXHIBITION, at the GALLERY, 63, Pall Mall, is NOW OPEN to the Public FREE, except on Saturdays, the admission then being One Shilling.

GEORGE TRUFFITT,  
JAMES K. COLLING, } Hon. Secs.

ROYAL POLYTECHNIC INSTITUTION.

During this week the ALPINE SINGERS from Styria will perform several of their National Melodies, Daily at Four, and in the Evenings at Half-past Eight.—LECTURE on CHEMISTRY, by J. H. Pepper, Esq., daily at a Quarter-past Three, and in the Evening at Eight. ILLUSTRATING the ANCIENT FIERY ORDEAL, and the HANDLING of RED-HOT METALS.—LECTURE by DR. BACHHOFFNER on VOLTAIC ELECTRICITY, daily at Two, and in the Evenings at a Quarter-past Nine.—NEW SERIES of DISSOLVING VIEWS, illustrating some of the WONDERS of NATURE, daily at Half-past Four, and in the Evenings at a Quarter to Ten; also a Series, exhibiting SCENES in the ARCTIC REGIONS and CEYLON, daily at One o'clock.—DIVING and DIVING BELL, &c. &c.—Admission, 1s.; Schools, Half-price.

FINE ARTS

FINE-ART GOSSIP.—We have already spoken of the large sums raising all over the country for monuments to Sir Robert Peel,—and remember no case in our time of a demonstration so eminently national. It is fitting, of course, that the most remarkable expression of this universal sentiment should be in the metropolis; and if the monument to be there erected does justice to the greatness which it is designed to commemorate, we shall have a work of which the country may be proud. In order that this may be the case, it is more than ordinarily important that the spirit of jobbery—a familiar at too many of our great works—shall be forbidden to approach the Peel testimonial. Now, a letter which appeared some days since in the *Times* is calculated to arouse—and, we hope, will arouse—suspicion. It is there announced that, in reply to a question of Mr. C. B. Wall, Lord John Russell stated that the principle of competition is not to be applied to this work. He affirmed that the sculptor was not yet selected,—but that "his wish was, that it should be in the hands of some artist acquainted with the lineaments of Sir Robert Peel." With the copious precedents which we have as interpreters of such language as this, it is impossible to escape the impression that a particular artist is intended to be here predestinated. This assignment of a minute and especial qualification beforehand has a most suspicious look. We beg to inform Lord John Russell that the likeness of Sir Robert Peel is but one incident of such a monument as should express the national grief and the national estimation in the first city of the empire,—and, moreover, that there is sufficient general acquaintance with the features of Sir Robert Peel amongst all the sculptors of the metropolis, and abundant materials out of which to refresh their memories, to make any of them competent to execute the work on that minor score. There is no difficulty whatever in preserving faithfully and ably the lineaments of Sir Robert, either in marble or in bronze. The portrait at Drayton by Sir Thomas Lawrence and the bust by Chantrey in the possession of the Earl of Aberdeen are the two best likenesses of the deceased statesman, and the two particular representations of him on which his portrait-statue should be founded.—All this is so obvious—the particular laying down of Lord John's qualification has so little general propriety, that it is difficult not to apply it to a personality. That Sir Robert Peel sat to this artist or to that should not be made the ground of claim for his having the work assigned to him. If a work of art be wanted, let the monument be given to the sculptor who produces the finest model,—if likeness only is wanted, the modeller at Madame Tussaud's may serve the turn. We have three very fine portrait statues in this country: Sir Isaac Newton, by Roubiliac, at Trinity College, Cambridge,—the great Lord Mansfield, by Flaxman, in Westminster Abbey,—and Cyril Jackson, by Chantrey, in Christ Church, Oxford. The Newton was composed from pictures by Kneller and Jervas, and from a cast after death; the Mansfield was composed from the picture by Sir Joshua Reynolds; and the Cyril Jackson from a picture (we believe by Owen) and from an indifferent cast after death.—Let us be careful that we do not throw away the sum which we have voted (5,250*l.*) on a work of art that will justify the observation



of the great foreign sculptor now amongst us for the first time,—that here in England we waste unparalleled execution in marble in carrying out the commonest combinations of the fancy.—Lord John Russell should be told that the public are very weary of arbitrary appropriations,—and of the sort of results that have come of them; and there never was a case of the kind in which they have been more disposed to resent a narrow dictation than they will be in this. Out of a universal sympathy, as we have said, comes the demand that calls this art into exercise,—and the public have a right to the very best art that competition can produce. The nation is entitled to choose its own sculptor this time if ever it was. To make the monumental expression of its deep and spontaneous feeling a piece of private patronage, is an insult to the feeling itself.—Neither if this were not so, can we afford to intrust Lord John Russell with the farming of the public taste.—We hope the matter will be jealously watched,—and that a wide and generous impulse will not be allowed to feed a "job."

A curious example of the unfitness of the present locality for the preservation of the national collection of pictures may be found on the threshold of the building itself. It is only seven years since there was placed in the hall of the National Gallery the subscription statue of the late Sir David Wilkie. It was executed by the late Mr. Samuel Joseph out of a block of the purest white marble,—but the colour is already strangely changed. By its rapid discolouration a test is supplied of the amount of injury to which the surfaces of the pictures in the same building have been subjected during the same short interval. The statue has become a sort of dirt-ometer. There is scarcely any ancient statue in the Townley, Elgin or other collections in the British Museum of deeper or dirtier tone than it has in so short a time acquired.

The following Returns in connexion with the School of Design have been moved for by Mr. Milner Gibson, and granted.—Papers in continuation of the Report on the School of Design made in 1849. Copies of all Reports on the state of the Head or Provincial Schools made to the Board of Trade since August 1849. Return of all the Appointments of Masters and otherwise to the Head School and Provincial Schools since August 1849. Copy of any Minutes of the Board of Trade affecting the Management of the School passed since August 1849. Return of the Subscriptions and Donations to the Provincial Schools in the year 1849, and the amount of the debts or liabilities (if any) of each School. A Return of all Expenses incurred in the inspection of the Provincial Schools, the number of the inspections made in each school, the date when made, and the period over which the inspection lasted.

Among recent votes of the House of Commons is one of 11,000*l.* for taking down and putting up again the Marble Arch—that great Government puzzle,—and for iron railings in front of the Palace. What he is to do with the Arch, the Chancellor of the Exchequer confesses to be a problem beyond his philosophy.

The increasing taste for Fine Art is manifesting itself in many ways. To the Kembles has been ascribed the merit of having improved everything that pertains to the mounting of dramatic representations,—and Mr. Macready and others have contributed to carry out the new dramatic feature which they introduced. With our present improved knowledge of costume, we should be little inclined to see Macbeth presented as in the days of Garrick, when he and Mrs. Pritchard enacted the principal parts in the bag-wig and hoops which were the court costume of the time. There have been recently no more conspicuous examples of this improved accessorial illustration than were presented in the two operas which have of late had such success at Covent Garden Theatre,—‘The Prophet’ and ‘The Jewess.’ The scene in Münster Cathedral after the coronation of the Prophet, when he presents himself to the populace, is gorgeous in the extreme. The tableau has been arranged with the eye of a painter, and every element of especial truth has been enlisted to conduce to the look of general probability. Every appointment of cos-

tume is consistent,—the scenery is well devised,—and the grouping is so managed as to make picturesque and agreeable combinations.—In ‘The Jewess,’ the exterior of the cathedral, with the ingress and egress of the populace,—the splendid cavalcade which traversing the stage subsides under the archway of a stately gate,—the well-ordered banquet scene,—and the closing one where the heroine is led to her execution,—are all examples of a mastery of direction, which speaks highly for the party intrusted with these gettings-up.

Mr. Rock has written to the *Builder* to say what is intended to be done in the way of repair at the beautiful ruin of St. Stephen's Church, Walbrook. To do all that is desirable, he says, "would entail buying and removing the house attached to its tower, chipping off its unsightly stucco and working down to the original stone, or possibly refacing it from the ground to the balustrades. The committee have not, however, found out the way of making 1,000*l.* do the work of 5,000*l.* They have, consequently, decided on doing to the exterior only what is necessary for due preservation; and they hope the remainder of the sum at their disposal will enable them to restore the interior to its best appearance in its best days. To direct them in this, they have visited most of the churches of Sir Christopher's erection, and have unanimously agreed that every attempt (and they have been many) to alter his original work or to add to his original embellishment has signally failed. They have consequently determined not vainly to try to improve the beautiful building confided to their care, but they will endeavour to restore and repair it."

The sale of the pictures forming the gallery of the late King of Holland commenced at the Hague on Monday last. The interest attaching to the dispersion of this great collection has filled the Dutch capital with visitors, and the palace has been crowded during the period of the public view. The sale takes place in the great hall of the palace,—which a contemporary describes as a noble Gothic room of 80 feet long and about 40 feet wide, with a lofty roof of carved oak. All the distinguished amateurs and collectors of Europe are said to be present; and our own Correspondent informs us that agents are there from every Government excepting England. We give a few of the prices obtained at the first day's sale, in florins, with the names of some of the purchasers:—premising that 1,000 florins, with the  $\frac{7}{8}$  per cent., may be reckoned as 100*l.* sterling.—*Dutch School*: B. Van der Helst, a noble gallery picture, a family party in a garden, with falcon, dogs, &c., 11,900 florins: M. Bruni, believed to be for the Emperor of Russia.—*Rembrandt*, Portrait of a Rabbi, with cap and black robe trimmed with ermine, very fine, 3,400 florins: M. Weimar.—*Same*, Artist's own Portrait, 3,750 florins: M. Nieuwenhuys.—*Same*, Portrait of a Young Lady, in handsome costume, 7,000 florins: M. Leroy, for the National Gallery at Brussels.—*Same*, Portrait of Rembrandt's Son, 4,000 florins.—*Same*, the Owner of the Vineyard paying his Labourers, a noble composition, 4,000 florins: Dr. Van Cleef.—*Same*, a figure of a Vizir in rich oriental costume, a splendid picture, 4,500 florins: M. Nieuwenhuys.—*Wouwermans*, ‘St. Hubert,’ 3,000 florins: M. Nieuwenhuys, for the Musée.—*J. and A. Both*, a fine Italian Landscape, with figures, &c., 10,400 florins, bought for the National Gallery at Brussels.—*Ruysdael and A. Van de Velde*, a superb Landscape, with water, figures, cattle, &c., 12,900 florins, also for the National Gallery at Brussels.—*W. Van de Velde*, a Fleet in a Calm, a warm and splendid scene, 2,500 florins.—*Backhuysen*, Marine View, vessels in a storm, a very fine picture, 5,650 florins.—*Jan Steen*, Interior of a Dwelling, with a festive party, a fine composition, 3,000 florins.—*J. Van Huysum*, a Vase, containing a beautiful collection of flowers, 3,000 florins: M. Nieuwenhuys.—*Weenix*, a Dog and Dead Game; a very fine picture, 3,300 florins: M. Schurner.—*Old Flemish School*: Lambert Lombard, a Vision, in which appears the Archangel Michael in the rich costume of a warrior, and three other angels, one carrying the sword of Divine Justice; very curious, and well preserved, 1,900

florins.—*Same*, another curious old Picture, with splendid colouring, 1,850 florins.—*Martin Schoon*, a beautiful and highly finished small picture, representing the Death of the Virgin, surrounded by the Twelve Apostles, 2,950 florins: M. Nieuwenhuys.—*Michel Coxie*, after Van Eyck, Six fine copies, made for Philip II. King of Spain, 2,400 florins.—*German School*: Albert Dürer, a beautiful little composition, ‘St. Hubert,’ kneeling before the miraculous Stag, 3,800 florins.—*French School*: Claude de Lorraine, a Seaport on the coast of the Mediterranean, with many vessels, figures, &c.: a very fine picture, 8,600 florins.—*Attributed to the Same*, Rejoicings on the Marriage of Isaac with Rebecca; a splendid landscape, with lake, figures finely grouped, &c., 2,500 florins.—*Attributed to the Same*, ‘The Departure of the Queen of Saba,’ companion picture, and rivaling it in richness and beauty, 2,500 florins.

The *Brussels Herald* states that the artistic value of the works of Art contained in the churches of Antwerp, eleven in number, is by the late financial report of the province estimated at 49,763,000*fl.*,—nearly two millions of English money.

A fatality seems to attend the statues of the American sculptor Hiram Powers. It is only a few months since we had to announce the accident which befel his ‘Eve,’—wrecked at Carthage in the vessel which was conveying it to America. A similar fate has now overtaken his statue of the late Mr. Calhoun,—said by the American papers to have cost the artist years of toil, and which had been anxiously expected in his native country. On the 7th of April, Mr. Powers wrote from Florence that the statue had been encased for shipment,—and congratulated himself that it was not ready to be put on board the Swedish ship Westmoreland, in which his statue of ‘Eve’ was shipped!—Some hopes are expressed that the statue may be recovered.

#### MUSIC AND THE DRAMA

HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE.—It is impossible to ignore the triumphant inroads of late years made and making by the English *prima donna* into the opera-houses of Europe. Successively have Miss Kemble, Mrs. Shaw, Miss Novello, Madame Thillon, Miss Hayes, Miss Bassano, (not to vouch for a score of Ladies with whose perfections we are unacquainted save through the questionable channels of common fame) made good their country's claims in Italy, Germany, and France,—and here is a new aspirant to *Norma's* wreath and to *Donna Anna's* mask and mourning, who after only a few months of Continental practice, has not feared to adventure herself on boards no less worshipful than those over which *Mdlle. Lind* and Madame Sontag lately reigned,—the stage of *Her Majesty's Theatre*. Neither was *Mdlle. Lind* on her first appearance nor Madame Sontag on her return greeted with more signs of triumph, welcome, and approval than cheered Madame Fiorentini when on Tuesday last she appeared in ‘*Norma*.’—She is very handsome; and her voice is a legitimate *soprano*, the upper octave of which from *c* to *c* is of the finest possible quality—true, sonorous, powerful. The lower part of the register is weaker.—Madame Fiorentini has appeared two years too soon on our, if not on any, stage: since neither declamation nor execution are perfected. Her voice has not undergone the training which it required, and her style is more ambitious than expressive. This may sound strange in the ears of the Lady and her friends after the tumultuous raptures excited by her singing on Tuesday; but though strange, it is true—true after the largest possible allowance has been made for the terrors of a first appearance and the inexperience of one to whom her profession is new; and we are better friends in now stating the fact plainly than those who assure Madame Fiorentini that her Tuesday's position, with her present amount of accomplishment, is tenable.—It rests with herself, where she will ultimately take her place,—with such a voice as hers, that place ought to be in the very first rank of vocalists.

HAYMARKET.—A new farce was produced here on Monday, entitled ‘The Hippopotamus.’—a



zoological extravaganza, not exactly to the taste of the audience at this theatre. It is enacted by the Adelphi company,—and may fare better when transferred to its proper stage. As usual, Mr. Wright and Mr. Bedford are the persons suited with parts, contrasted in size and vigour. Mr. Wright is a ham-and-beef shop proprietor, named *Tiddywink*, and Mr. Bedford is a "colossal life-guardsmen," called *Serjeant Bulbous*. The unwieldy wonder of the Regent's Park is represented on the stage, in contact with the lion of the Gardens; and the ignoble brute succumbs at once to the menacing attitude of his more valiant opponent. This *dénouement* is led up to by Mr. Tiddywink going in chase of his wife, who is perpetually absent from her duties on the plea of seeing the Hippopotamus; and who enacts a scene of flirtation with Bulbous in order to punish her husband for his suspicions.—Mr. Wright was very droll,—and to him the piece was indebted for the small degree of success which it met with.

STRAND.—A new farce, by Mr. Simpson, under the title of 'Without Incumbrances,' was produced here on Monday. The plot turns on the temporary perplexities of one *Paul Pitapat* (Mr. Compton), ci-devant usher of Homer House Academy, in search of a situation. He replies to the advertisement of *Lady Buckram* (Mrs. B. Bartlett), the intending foundress of an infant school, for which she wants "a master of high moral principle, firm discipline, and without incumbrance." On his arrival at the neighbouring inn the worthy pedant finds an *imbroglio* commenced, of which he presently becomes the central point. The only incumbrance which he possesses on his appearance is a carpet-bag; but he soon has palmed on him the wife of one traveller and the eloped lady of another—the latter in male attire,—by whom he is claimed as husband and father. This for a while destroys every hope which he had of *Lady Buckram's* situation, and Paul is reduced to a state of ludicrous distress. The parties to this hoax are, *Mr. Dumbrown Stagge* (Mr. Shalders) with *Mrs. Stagge* (Miss Isabel Adams), and *Mr. Fred. Buckram* (Mr. W. Farren, Jun.) with *Miss Frances Sniffe* (Miss Adams). The latter lady is pursued by old Mr. Sniffe, her father, and a director of the "West Diddlesex Junction," now defunct,—but the capital stock of which Mr. Stagge has secured and seeks to carry off to Folkestone. There is a contest for the only chaise in the inn. Amidst an infinite deal of bustle, all matters get finally arranged; and Paul obtains the desired preceptorship of the proposed educational establishment. Mr. Compton bestowed on this character great richness of colouring. The piece itself possesses unusual merits.

SURREY.—'Tricks and Trials' is the title of a new piece produced here. It proposes to give a picture of "Life as we find it in 1850." All in a drama of the kind must be expected to be of the *ad captandum* order; and the attempt in the present one is to instruct the pit in the various "dogges" of the time. There are *Bob Shuffle* (Mr. H. Widdicombe), *Macgregor Peter* (Mr. Bruce Norton), and *Timothy Bricks* (Mr. W. Collier),—who are charged with illustrating the different possible means of getting on in the metropolis without money or character. Bob from selling penny rings becomes the Director of a public company; and he and Tim at last make advantageous matrimonial engagements. The three worthies at the fall of the curtain appear at Vauxhall Gardens in a *bal masqué* as the Nepaulese Princes. From these specimens the reader may judge of the stuff of which the drama is composed. It is amusing, and was thoroughly successful,—being placed on the stage with considerable care in respect of costumes and scenery.

MUSICAL AND DRAMATIC GOSSIP.—It is announced that the gains on the eight Philharmonic Concerts of the series have been no less than 350*l*. This is somewhere about 200*l*. too much. The expenditure of 125*l*. (say) in commissions, and the application of the remaining 75*l*. to the amending of the *solo* engagements and the introduction of vocalists less inferior than

Madame Nottes and Madame Maillard, would have been only an honourable and worthy acknowledgment of public patronage and an artistic liberality towards artists. Ere another season sets in, there is ample time for the Philharmonic Directors rightly to lay out some portion of their accumulations. It would be easy to particularize the direction which might wisely be taken were we not anxious for progress. The managing powers of 1850, it is said, resolute to maintain their independence, and to rise superior to press-dictation, were determined, on principle, to resist every measure of amelioration recommended to them in print. No line of conduct is so easy, besides being so "spiritful and victorious," as that of a perpetual "no." Hence, having the cause of good music more at heart than the vindication of our own individual sagacity, we will not destroy the chance of a single enterprising step being taken by offering hint, counsel, or specification. Perhaps already too much has been here said for Philharmonic independence to digest,—in the above simple expression of our hope that the season under the Directors for 1851 may be better than it was under the Directors for 1850. Let us entreat that in retaliation for so bold a wish we may not be put back to Vanhall, Hullmandel, and Boccherini.

The day before yesterday a new organ, built by Messrs. Bishop, was opened at Lee, Blackheath, by Dr. Wesley. It is vexatious to have been prevented from enjoying the rare treat of good organ-playing by the shortness of the notice, which did not arrive till too late for it to be profited by.

A correspondent, who dates from the Athenæum, asks, what no one, we suspect, at these early days, can answer. *Contralti* are, of all musical stars, the greatest wanderers—in part because, now-a-days, they seem never contented to remain within their own orbit of voice. For the winter season, Mdle. Alboni is said to be going to Madrid, and Mdle. Angri to Vienna. These, however, are the merest rumours.—We are told that Miss C. Hayes has signed an engagement to winter in Rome—that Herr Fornes has taken service in Spain—that Mr. Sims Reeves will sing at the Italian Opera in Paris.—Madame Tacani, a *prima donna* with a small flexible voice, who sang in Paris before Madame Persiani, and who disappeared from the opera-houses in consequence of marriage, has just followed the way of "all and sundry" married *prime donne*, by returning to the stage for a campaign during what may be called her "Indian summer."

A contemporary states that Mr. E. Loder is about to bring out an Opera of his composition at Brunswick.

Musical and dramatic ceremonies in inauguration of the statue of Herder will take place at Weimar towards the close of this month. On the 24th will be represented at the theatre the 'Prometheus Unbound,' with overture and choruses by M. Liszt. On the 25th, after the inauguration of the statue, Handel's 'Messiah' will be performed in the Cathedral, where Herder used to preach, and where he lies buried. On the 28th will be given at the theatre the first representation of 'Lohengrin,' a new opera, by Herr Wagner, with a prologue written for the occasion by Herr Dingelstedt.—Weimar is now accessible by railway from Ostend.

#### MISCELLANEA

*Sunday Postage*.—The Commissioners have reported in favour of restoring a delivery of letters and newspapers on Sunday; and have offered various suggestions for the mitigation of the slight amount of Sunday labour in the Post-Office, so that every opportunity may be afforded to postmasters and their assistants of attending Divine worship on alternate Sundays.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.—C. De la P.—Sylvanus—U. S.—A Spectator—received.

W. W.—The argument of our correspondent being based on the theory of the emission of luminous particles—which has not stood the test of examination,—does not at all improve our conception of the *flexion* of light.

J. W. R.—To this correspondent,—who writes to us on the subject of Peat Charcoal,—we will reply when the conclusion of our report of the proceedings of the British Association shall leave us more at leisure to deal with subjects of its class.

#### TWENTIETH MEETING OF THE BRITISH ASSOCIATION FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF SCIENCE.

[From our own Correspondents.]

MONDAY.

#### SECTION A.—MATHEMATICAL AND PHYSICAL SCIENCE.

'Report of the Committee on the Instruments for the Measurement of Earthquake Waves.'—Mr. MALLET reported provisionally that the Committee had examined one branch of the subject with the aid of the new seismometer, and had arrived at unexpected and important results. This branch was the effect of concussions propagated through beds of sand, earth, &c. They proposed communicating these results in a full report as soon as they had examined the transmissions of concussions through rocks. The former concussions they had produced by exploding gunpowder,—these they proposed producing by the blow of a heavy mass of matter descending on the rock.

'Report of the Meteorology of the Azores,' by Mr. J. C. HUNT, communicated by Col. Reid.—Three barometers and thermometers were sent to the Azores through Col. Reid at the expense of the British Association, and placed in charge of Mr. Hunt. Two of them had been forwarded to the Vice-Consuls at Flores and Fayal; and the third reserved for the Vice-Consul at Terceira. The Table of Meteorological Observations which accompanied the Report was the result of a year's observations at St. Michael's, and was interesting as we have so few from the Atlantic Islands. It contained for each month the maximum, minimum, and mean of the barometer, thermometer, hygrometer, rain in inches, evaporative strength and direction of the winds and state of the weather, besides being reduced to means for the summer half year, winter half year, and whole year.

Dr. MARTINS addressed the meeting in French 'On the Six Climates of France.' He commenced by stating that France partook of the climates both of continental and sea-girt countries. He wished at present to consider six climatoreal subdivisions, viz.—1. The North-east or Vosgien—2. The North-west or Séquanien—3. That of the West or Armorican—4. The South-west or Girondin—5. The South-east or Rhodanien—6, and finally, the Mediterranean or Provençal climate. Upon each of these subdivisions he enlarged; detailing the features of the country, the rivers, mountain-ranges, sea-coasts, geological structure, differences of level, and state of cultivation in each case, with the prevailing and most important features in the actual climate of each. Dr. Martins exhibited a map of France with these six regions distinguished. He stated that hitherto the labours of the Meteorologists of France had no channel of publicity at their command, but that a journal devoted exclusively to Meteorology was about to be established.

Mr. RONALDS inquired whether the state of the dew point had been attended to in this classification, as in his opinion that was one very important element.—Dr. MARTINS replied that it had been carefully attended to.—The ASTRONOMER ROYAL inquired whether the difference of climate during the day and during the night, that of the summer as distinguished from the winter had been attended to, as his experience led him to know that most important distinctions existed between these.—Mr. R. RUSSELL added his testimony to the same effect; and said, that in an agricultural point of view mean temperatures were not so important as was usually supposed. Along the west coast it was now found that the maximum for the summer or ripening portion of the year was of much greater importance to the agriculturist than the mean.—Sir D. BREWSTER said that means were not to be neglected, for it had been well established that unless the mean rose in the season that might be characterized as the vegetating season to at least 58°, it was not found to be favourable; but of course he did not mean to say that the rising of the mean of the hot season above this, or the falling of the cold much below it, were not important and to be attended to.

Dr. LEE made a communication on the Meteorological Registry kept at Alten and Christiania—and some Observations on the British Meteorological Society.



'Report of a Committee appointed to examine the Effects produced by Lightning on a Tree near Edinburgh,' by Prof. PHILLIPS.—The tree in question stands in the grounds of Mr. Wauchope, at Edmonstone, about four miles from Edinburgh, on the Dalkeith road. The surface slopes gently to the north; the substrata are part of the coal formation, and contain at a small depth an abundance of the rich "black band" ironstone. The locality appears remarkably liable to lightning strokes; several other trees having been destroyed there since 1834. The tree examined by the Committee was struck on the 11th of June 1849, on a still sultry day. It is an oak tree. It stood in rather a clear space—the surrounding trees being chestnut, elm, &c. It was a large tree (14 feet in girth), but there were others as high and of rather greater diameter. When struck it was full of sap. The mechanical effects of the lightning were violent. The main trunk of the tree, which appears to have stood about 12 feet high before sending off branches, was rent from top to bottom; some of the branches were broken off; all were thrown down and implicated together, and for some distance upward fissured and twisted: some of the roots were split for a yard or more from the stem. A large mass from the northern side of the tree was driven out, and carried through the air 127 feet, in the direction of the magnetic meridian to N.N.W. Its weight was 2½ cwt. The main stem was entirely denuded of the bark, which was scattered widely around, but most abundantly in a direction opposite to that in which the log of wood was conveyed. Shreds of wood were carried to the north-west and left hanging in the trees. What remained standing of the stem, as well as the parts which had been displaced, was cleft into wedges, by vertical radiating fissures parallel to the laminae of medullary rays; and these wedges were again cleft by other vertical fissures concentric to the axis of the tree and coinciding with the annual bands of large vertical vessels which are conspicuous in cross sections of the oak. Where these cleavages produced the fullest effect, the wood was divided into long slender prismatic shreds like lucifer matches. The smaller split masses were much twisted. For all these phenomena a simple mechanical cause appears sufficient; viz. an internal expansion and bursting of the main stem of the tree along the surfaces, which by the structure of the tree admitted of the most easy separation, and contained at the time abundance of liquid sap capable of assuming the form and force of elastic vapour. Hence, in the first place, the destruction of the main stem by explosion; the projection of the bark and woody fragments, and the minute and regular cleavage of the fibres. The stem being destroyed as a support, the branches fell in ruinous aggregation round it. It appears that a laburnum tree situated about 12 yards to the east had been twice struck by lightning, first (I believe) in 1834, and again in 1844. It was split, but not barked. An elm situated about 100 yards to the north was struck, and in like manner split, but not barked. These differences may perhaps be due to the difference of structure in the wood; but in all cases before attempting to explain the phenomena observed as the effects of lightning, it is desirable to be informed of the times of year when the trees were struck. The precise points of entrance and exit of the lightning cannot be stated. A small quantity of black powder was found in the fissured part of the wood, at the base of the twisted branches; but nothing was observed which could determine the course or the chemical effects of the electrical agent.\*

'On the Climate of the Valley of the Nile,' by Mr. T. S. WELLS.—The observations extend from the 6th of December 1849 to the 16th of March 1850. The instruments were kept in a cabin in the boat of an invalid. The cabin was six feet high, 12 feet broad, and 10 feet deep. Its floor was from 1 to 2 feet above the level of the river. The dry and wet bulb thermometers, and the barometer were fixed to a beam in the centre of the cabin, where they were not exposed either to the direct or reflected rays of the sun. There were six glass windows to the cabin, provided with open blinds. Some of these windows were always open during the day, so that the morning and afternoon observations may be con-

sidered to represent the temperature of the open air in the shade. Sometimes a window was open until after the evening observations, but more frequently this was not the case, and to this I ascribe the fact that the mean of the evening observations is above that of the morning. A register night thermometer was fixed outside one of the windows, and the lowest temperature observed each day is recorded. These daily observations were made at the hours of 9 A.M., 3 P.M., and 11 P.M., and an abstract of these daily observations was exhibited.

The mean temperature of the air for the period of my observations at Greenwich was 39° 3', on the Nile it was 61°. Thus there was a difference of 22 degrees in the mean temperature of Egypt over that of Greenwich during these months.

The mean temperature of evaporation at Greenwich was 37° 4', in Egypt 55°, being 18 degrees above the mean at Greenwich for the same period.

The mean temperature of the dew point at Greenwich was 34° 1', in Egypt 50° 8'. Thus in England the air was saturated by the quantity of vapour contained in it at a temperature 16 degrees below that at which saturation occurred in Egypt.

The mean elastic force of vapour in Egypt was 0.384, at Greenwich 0.214. In other words, the pressure of the watery vapour mixed with the air was capable of supporting a column of mercury higher by  $\frac{17}{100}$  of an inch in Egypt than in England.

The mean weight of water in a cubic foot of air in England was 3 grains, in Egypt 4 grains and  $\frac{2}{10}$ , but still, owing to the higher temperature, the air was much drier in Egypt. When the temperature of the air is considerably above that of the dew point, the air is dry, dissolving or absorbing aqueous vapour without any tendency to precipitation in the form of rain, and it is dry in proportion to the difference between the two temperatures. Thus, although the mean weight of water in a cubic foot of air was greater last winter in Egypt than in England, yet the air was much more nearly saturated with moisture in England than in Egypt. At Greenwich the mean additional weight of water required to saturate a cubic foot of air was only  $\frac{1}{10}$  of a grain, while on the Nile it was 1 grain and  $\frac{3}{4}$ . If we represent air completely deprived of moisture by Zero, and air completely saturated as unity, the mean degree of humidity on the Nile was 75 per cent., while at Greenwich it was 85 per cent.

The mean readings of the barometer in the two countries very nearly approach each other; in Egypt being 29.99, at Greenwich 29.87. A glance at the table however showed how very small the extreme range of the instrument was on the Nile.

The average weight of a cubic foot of air at Greenwich was 549 grains, in Egypt 527 grains.

Rain fell in various districts of England on averages from 31 to 61 days, while in Egypt it only fell on 5 days, and on three of these a shower was of but a few minutes duration. On two days rain fell heavily at Cairo for several hours.

The mean daily range of the temperature of the air at Greenwich was 11.37, in Egypt 10.31; but while the mean extreme range in Egypt was 38, at Greenwich it was but 29; the mean extreme range in the cabin being only 7 degrees below that on the grass at Greenwich in the open air.

Fog was occasionally but rarely observed. It was general in the Delta in the early morning; but above Cairo was only observed on three occasions.

'On Hourly Meteorological Observations made at Thibet, at an elevation of 18,400 feet,' by Lieut. STRACHEY, R.E.—Great interest attached to these observations from their having been made during 24 hours at an elevation so seldom attained by man, and quite above the clouds and most ordinary disturbing influences, and with a barometer pressure somewhat about 14 inches of mercury. The chief result was that the curves followed very nearly the same changes as in the lower regions they were observed to do.

Col. SYKES went somewhat into detail regarding these and other observations of Lieut. Strachey, in the course of which he stated that the formula of Dr. Apjohn for the reduction of the wet and dry bulb hygrometers was found to be quite inapplicable to Indian climates; the dry bulb being lowered in its indications by the proximity of the wet, and the wet bulb collecting and retaining a wet

atmosphere of its own whose temperature it gave,—not that which it would attain at the lowest were this atmosphere continually removed; one consequence of which was great discrepancy of result according to the part of a room in which it was placed.—Lieut. STRACHEY corroborated this, and said he had found the numerical coefficients of Mr. Glaisher, which varied with the temperature, and which that gentleman had tabulated, much more applicable to Indian hygrometry.

Col. SYKES then gave a brief account of several Storms of Hail which had occurred in India, collected from various sources by Dr. Buist. The weight of some of these masses of ice were over 14 lb. Many of them under a rough external coat contained clear ice within, and with that peculiar radiated structure which he had elsewhere described. Immense aggregated masses of these great hailstones were in some places brought down from the mountain ravines by the succeeding torrents, and in one of these conglomerations a snake was found frozen up and apparently dead, but it soon thawed and revived.

'On the means of computing the quantities of Aqueous Vapour in the Atmosphere at various places and heights,' by Mr. T. HOPKINS.—The author stated that meteorologists usually estimated the total amount of vapour in a vertical column of the atmosphere from the dew point at its base, from which they inferred its tension, and thence the total quantity. This he asserted was an erroneous method, as it neglected the effort of the vapour expanding and forcing itself upwards through the air, a colder medium than would exist in each successive foot if nothing but the vapour itself were present. This opinion he illustrated by diagrams.

'On the Causes of the Rise of the Isothermal Lines in the Winters of the Northern Hemisphere,' by Mr. T. HOPKINS.—Mr. Hopkins examined some of the isothermal lines exhibited in the maps recently constructed by Prof. Dove, and objected to the theory which is put forward to account for the irregular rise of the winter isothermals in the Northern Pacific, Atlantic and Arctic Oceans through the warming influence of the water of those oceans. But if neither the proportional extent of the surface of the sea, as compared with the land, nor the flow of a warm current of water carries high temperature to these northern latitudes, what is the cause of such temperature being found there? A reply is prepared by Prof. Dove himself, where he says,—“This surface,” meaning the surface of the globe, “being a highly varied one, the sun's influence on it is also constantly varying, for the impinging solar heat is employed in raising the temperature of substances which do not change their condition of aggregation;—but when engaged in causing the melting of ice or the evaporation of water it becomes latent. When, therefore, the sun, returning from its northern declination, enters the southern signs, the increasing proportions of liquid surface upon which it shines causes a corresponding part of its heat to become latent, and hence arises the great periodical variation in the temperature of the globe which has been noticed above,”—meaning the difference of temperature of the northern and southern hemispheres. Why suppose that this effect of the evaporation of water is experienced only in the relative temperatures of the northern and southern hemispheres? And why not trace the effects of condensation of vapour, as well as of the evaporation of water? It is evident that heat is absorbed and made latent wherever vapour is produced, and it is equally clear that that heat is given out and made active wherever the vapour is condensed! It does not appear from the atmospheric currents which prevail that any portion of the vapours of the southern hemisphere passes into the northern, to be condensed within or near to the basin of the Pacific, and there is no reason to suppose that it does;—but in the basin of the Atlantic it is sufficiently evident that vapour does not so pass. The vapour which passes over the Northern Atlantic, and is condensed beyond the British Islands and Norway, is supplied from the tropical and other seas north of the equator. The West Indies constitute the principal point of departure of this vapour, and in the month of January it is carried by south-western and western winds to those localities where the isothermal lines advance farthest towards the Pole. It is accordingly to the condensation of this vapour, and not to the

\* Since the Report was presented, Mr. Wauchope has cleared a larger portion of the roots, and has found them split and blackened considerably.



neighbourhood of the Atlantic Ocean, in the latitude that we are to attribute the high temperature of this part of the world in the winter. The Atlantic Ocean is as near to Labrador as to Norway, but there is little condensation on the coast of the former, whilst there is much about the latter. Indeed, as far as we know, condensation of vapour is the only influence that operates exclusively on the eastern coasts of the two oceans, the Pacific and the Atlantic, and therefore to it we may attribute the warming of the localities, particularly in the Arctic Ocean, as indicated by the isothermal lines. Condensation, we know, furnishes a constant and abundant supply of heat, not like diffusion by contact, nor radiation from surfaces nearly equal in temperature, but by the energetic chemical action which converts an aeriform substance into a liquid, and consequently changes the heat from a latent to an active state. The greatest irregular rise in the isothermal lines is found in the winter of the northern hemisphere, just at the time that the condensation of vapour produces the greatest effect on the temperature of the air; and the temperature rises the most along that line or stripe where the largest amount of condensation takes place; and in that locality the same temperature reaches the highest latitude, showing that condensation of vapour is the cause of the rise of the isothermal lines in the parts.

‘On the Daily Formation of Clouds at Makerstoun,’ by Mr. T. HOPKINS.—The author went into an examination of the meteorological registers kept at Makerstoun for the year 1844, to prove that the facts registered were in harmony with and tended to establish the theory he had advanced, that the horary fluctuations of the barometer were attributable to the daily vaporization of water by the sun, and the daily condensation of a portion of that vapour into cloud. The great difficulty being to account for the fall of the barometer from ten in the morning till four in the afternoon. At Makerstoun, the state of the atmosphere as to cloud was registered by noting an overcast sky by 10, a cloudless sky by 0, and intermediate states by intermediate numbers. The state of the wet and dry bulb thermometers was also regularly noted, showing both the activity of vaporization and the tension of vapour.

‘On the Passage of Storms across the British Islands,’ by Mr. R. RUSSELL.—The views of the writer were illustrated by reference to the storm in October last.

‘On Remarkable Thermometrical Maxima at or near the Moon’s First Quarter, during twelve years, from 1839 to 1850,’ by Mr. R. EDMONDS.—In continuation of a paper on the same subject read at the meeting of the Association in 1845.

‘On some extraordinary Electrical Appearances observed at Manchester on the 16th of July 1850,’ by Mr. P. CLARE.—About nine o’clock, the clouds being very dark to the west and south-west of Manchester, but not so dense to the south and south-east, very frequent flashes of sheet lightning were observed, whilst for a period of nearly half an hour there were frequent corrugations of lightning observed between the south and south-west, all moving in a direction from south-west towards south, at an elevation of from 14° to 20° above the horizon. Sometimes the appearances were like the roots of a tree, and occasionally with bright balls at the termination of all or some of the branches. On several occasions, immediately after a stream of light seemed to pass from near the south-west towards the south, through a space of 10° or 12°, a luminous ball of considerable size suddenly appeared and moved along the line of the stream with a velocity so slow that its progress was easily observed, and this was repeated several times near the same place.

‘On Meteorological Phenomena at Huggate, Yorkshire, for 1849,’ by the Rev. T. RANKINE.—The results may be thus abstracted:—*Thermometer*, coldest day, January 3, night thermometer, 19°, being 5° less cold than in 1848; hottest day, July 12, thermometer, 71°, being 5° less heat than in 1848; lowest range (or change), June 11 and December 13, viz., 1°; greatest range, May 12, viz., 26°, being same as on May 18 last year. *Barometer*, lowest point, 28.20 in., Jan. 10, being 0.18 in. higher than in 1848; highest, 30.42 in., October 29, or 0.16 in. higher than in 1848; lowest range, 0.01, January 17 and February 8; greatest range, 0.66 in., February 14, being 0.19 in.

less than in 1848. *Hygrometer*, dry bulb, minus wet, lowest, 0.5°, March 23, June 5, October 25; greatest depression of wet bulb, 8° 5', June 27, being 3° 5', less than in 1848; during heavy rain and intense frost both are nearly equal. The author found the cold water in the tube to affect by radiation the dry bulb; but a sheet of paper interposed got rid of this source of error. *Rain*, total, 29.770 in., being 12.855 in. less than in 1848; least rain in February, 0.720 in.; most in July, 4.750 in. *November Atmospheric Wave*, edge of anterior trough, 29.95 in., barometer, on November 10, gentle breeze S.; bottom of trough, 29.17 in., on November 15, wind W.; crest of wave, 30.00 in. on the 17th, wind W.; bottom of posterior trough, 28.95 in., on the 24th, wind W.; height of the edge, 29.87 in., on the 27th, wind N.W.; seventeen days passing, same as in 1848. *Aurora* on August 12, resembling a fan; on the 28th, perpendicular beams; December 23, sky dappled in shape of a dome. *Halo*, a beautiful one, about 8° around the moon, December 26, between 9 and 10 P.M., moon nearly full, wind W. *Hurricane*, night of December 26, about twelve o’clock, barometer fell from 29.80 to 29.11 in.; thermometer, 34°; a hurricane from W. followed; previously vast masses of cirro-cumulus had been floating about. *Winds*, E., 6; W., 44; N., 2; S., 15; N.E., 31; N.W., 22; S.E., 15; S.W., 26. *Thunder*, April 28; June 14; July 18, 21, 30; August 17, 18. *Weather*, 129 days clear, 66 days occasional rain, 22 days frost, 15 days occasional snow, 226 days wholly or partially dull; in 1848 there were 229 days wholly or partially dull.

## TUESDAY.

‘On Isoclinical Magnetic Lines in Yorkshire,’ by Prof. PHILLIPS.—The author stated that about fifteen years since, in the course of some experimental researches in terrestrial magnetism, his attention was caught by the apparently deep flexures of the isoclinical lines in Yorkshire,—flexures entirely independent of local magnetic polarities. As a general inference from his inquiries, he suggested the dependence of these flexures on the physical configuration of the country, the isoclinals advancing northwards on and towards the hills, and retiring southward in the valleys. (See Brit. Assoc. Report for 1836, p. 51.) The observations on which this conclusion was based were made by means of instruments which the author had himself constructed. For verification of these and other results, he procured in 1837, an excellent 6-inch dip circle by Robinson, and has now obtained an additional set of determinations with this new instrument, which may be confidently trusted, with careful manipulation and in magnetic weather not unfavourable, to a minute of a degree or less. The results being collected either by combination into five lines nearly parallel to the magnetic meridian, or into groups which represent separately the elevated and depressed portions of the surface, agree with the inferences which were presented to the Association in 1836; the isoclinals retiring southward in the vale of York, and advancing northward both in the eastern and the western hills. The author showed the general probability of this result from other sources of evidence; remarking on the fact, that in plains and even countries the *local isoclinals* were parallel to, or deviated but little from, the *general isoclinical* obtained by the method of least squares, while in hilly districts, as the Cambrian tract, North Wales, South Wales, and the mountain tracts of Ireland, the *local isoclinals* were much, but still systematically bent from their general direction, and sometimes (as between Criffel and Chiddaw) crowded together in a singular manner. He noticed as desirable for the complete reduction of delicate observations of this nature, a set of careful measures on the diurnal variations of dip. His own researches on this point indicated a single daily progression, with a maximum at 9 A.M., mean at 3 P.M., and minimum at 9 P.M. The hours, however, and the amount of difference from maximum to minimum appeared subject to much fluctuation. As an average, about 3' appeared to be the difference (in summer) between maximum and minimum. Possibly, the deduction of this variation, by resolving the horizontal and vertical forces in the direction of total force, would be preferable. (The late researches of Mr. A. Broun, by whom the periodical variations of the dip had been traced at Makerstoun, were here referred to). The annual variation at York appeared to be on an

average of thirteen years about  $-2.3'$ . The author proposed to increase the number of stations to fifty, before submitting the results to a final and rigorous computation.

Prof. FORBES had investigated this subject to some considerable extent, with the aid of an excellent dipping-needle by the late Mr. Robinson; and had satisfied himself that differences of level in the surface of the earth did sensibly affect the indications of the needle. There were also some excellent observations on record by M. Necker, made among and in the neighbourhood of the Alpine ranges; and the conclusion at which he arrived was, that elevations exercised an influence on the needle irrespective of the masses of magnetic minerals which they contained in some localities.—The ASTRONOMER ROYAL bore testimony to the importance of these researches of Prof. Phillips, and thought there could be no doubt that they proved that a law existed which regulated them. He considered it was of importance to determine the horizontal and vertical forces. The instruments and experiments had arrived at a more perfect state as to the former; but the latter were equally, if not more important.

‘On a Question of Probabilities which occurs in the use of a fixed Collimator for the verification of the Constancy of Position of an Azimuth Circle,’ by the ASTRONOMER ROYAL.—The author said, his chief object in bringing this communication before the Section was, to obtain the assistance of its mathematicians in extricating him from a difficulty, or at least a doubt, in which he found himself involved. In determining an azimuth say of the moon, or of any other object, there were three independent elements which he used, and the probable errors of which he wished to compare with each other. There was first the fixity of the circle itself, when once placed; there was next the indication of the floating collimator, which was used as an independent check; and thirdly, the stars themselves were used as a means of obtaining the required azimuth. The object was to determine and compare the probable error of each of these. By observations on any one day, he got numerical values of the differences of the azimuths determined each way. Then calling their probable errors great X, Y, and Z respectively, and dividing each by its probable error, adding the squares, and making the sum a minimum, he was able to obtain each in terms of these probable errors, and of the numbers obtained or the differences. Then, by taking a series of such daily observations, and resorting to the calculation for each, he conceived he was warranted in applying the theory of probabilities to obtain from this series the probable error of each. He thus got finally three equations and three unknown quantities, from which, by elimination, each was obtained separately. The result was very striking; it was, that the probable error of the fixity of the instrument was ten times less than that of the stars, which, however, included the personal equation of the observer, error of clock, transit telescope and others. The doubt, however, which assailed him was, whether he was justified in applying the doctrine of probabilities to obtain from those series the probable error of quantities which were not themselves mere results of actual observation, in which case there would be no doubt of its legitimate application, but where the quantities were, in each term of the series, partly the result of observation and partly deductions of formulæ. From this doubt he requested their assistance, either to extricate him or convince him of the incorrectness of the method he used. One thing was surprising, if the method were unsound, viz., that the result was the same from many independent calculations.—Another question he begged to propose to the mathematicians for their assistance. It was well known that an equation of any order could be lowered one dimension, if one of its roots could be obtained. Now, the question he wished to propose was, whether any mathematician knew any similar mode of lowering an equation, say of the third degree, which involved say three unknown but independent quantities?

‘On the Argument for the Physical Connexion of Double Stars, deduced from the Theory of Probabilities,’ by Prof. FORBES.—The author read a passage from Herschel’s ‘Outlines of Astronomy,’ where this argument is set forth. Mitchell, in the year 1767, in a paper in the Philosophical Transactions, was the



first who advanced this argument. He calculates the odds as 500,000 to 1 against the stars which compose the group of the Pleiades being fortuitously concentrated within the space they occupy, and thence infers the probability of some physical connexion between them. Struve has pushed this argument much further. In his classification of double stars he has applied it to estimate the improbability of the occurrence of even double stars in close proximity. He calculates the odds as 9,570 to 1 against any two stars from the first to the seventh magnitude falling, if fortuitously scattered, within  $4''$  of one another. The number of such binary combinations actually observed at the date of the calculation, was 91, and more have since been added to the list. Again, he calculates the odds against any two stars of a number fortuitously scattered, falling within  $32''$  of a third, so as to form a triple star, as not less than 173,000 to 1, while four such stars triple were known to exist. The conclusion, adds Sir John Herschel, of a physical connexion of some kind or other is, therefore, unavoidable. Against the principle of this argument, Prof. Forbes, though with much diffidence, felt himself called on to protest. He owned he could not attach any idea to what would be the distribution of stars, or of anything else if "fortuitously scattered," and therefore he must regard with hesitation, if not doubt, an attempt to assign a numerical value to the antecedent probability of any given arrangement or grouping whatever. To him it appeared that an equable spacing of the stars over the sky would seem to be far more inconsistent with a total absence of law or principle than the existence of spaces of comparative condensation, including binary or even more numerous groups, as well as regions of great paucity of stars. As an illustration of this, he adduced the representation of stars and their grouping by sprinkling viscid white paint from a coarse brush upon a dark ground; by which, although it was impossible to conceive a nearer approach to "random scattering," yet he had witnessed the production by it of an artificial galaxy, presenting every variety of grouping with double and triple points innumerable; nor could he conceive how on any reasonable theory of chance it should be otherwise.

'On the Lunar Surface, and its relation to that of the Earth,' by Mr. NASMYTH.—The subject was illustrated by a series of drawings which the writer has executed by the aid of a powerful telescope, which he has made for himself for the express purpose of following up his investigations on the subject in question. These appear from the drawings exhibited and the description given by Mr. Nasmyth to afford striking illustrations of the nature and action of some of those agencies which in remote periods of the Earth's geological history has given to its surface many of its most remarkable features; namely, as to the causes of volcanic action, the protrusion of igneous rocks, the upheaving of mountain ranges, as well as the submersion of extensive portions of the Earth's surface,—all of which vast geological phenomena Mr. Nasmyth appears to assign to a few grand and simple prime causes, resulting from the consolidation and alternate contraction of the crust and interior of the Earth and Moon—both of which planets appear to have originally been in a molten condition.—After drawing attention to the vast number and magnitude of crater-formed mountains with which every portion of the Moon's surface appears to be covered, Mr. Nasmyth proceeded to give the reasons for the conclusion, that these crater-formed mountains are really the craters of extinct lunar volcanoes; pointing out the frequent occurrence of the central cone, the result of the last eruptive efforts of an expiring volcano, a feature so familiar to all those who have observed volcanic craters on the Earth's surface. This central cone Mr. Nasmyth showed to exist in the majority of the lunar craters; and thereby drew the conclusion, that they were the result of the same kind of action which has produced them on the volcanoes of the Earth. The cause of the vast numbers of such volcanic mountains with which the lunar surface is bespattered was next considered;—and traced to the rapid consolidation and contraction of the crust of the Moon; whose mass or bulk being only  $\frac{1}{4}$  of that of the Earth, while its surface is the  $\frac{1}{16}$ , has, in consequence of these proportions, a radiating or heat dispensing surface four times greater than

that of the Earth in relation to its bulk. From this geometrical consideration Mr. Nasmyth explained how it was that by the rapid cooling and collapse of the crust of the Moon on its molten interior, the fluid matter under the solid crust was by this "hide-binding" action forced to find an escape through the superincumbent solid crust, and come forth in those vast volcanic actions which in some remote period of time have covered its surface with those myriads of craters and volcanic features that give to its surface its remarkable character. The cause of the vast magnitude of the lunar craters was next alluded to; and assigned, as in the former case, to the rapid and energetic collapse of the Moon's crust on its yet molten interior,—the action as regards the *wide dispersion* of the ejected matter being enhanced by the *lightness* of the erupted matter, seeing that the force of gravity which gives the quality of *weight* to matter on the Moon as on the Earth is so very much less on the surface of the Moon than on the Earth,—so that the collapse action had to operate on material probably not half the weight of cork, bulk for bulk. The causes of those vast ranges of mountains seen on the Moon's surface was next touched on; and Mr. Nasmyth endeavoured to explain them by the continued progress of the collapse action of the solid crust of the Moon crushing down or following the contracting molten interior, which by the gradual dispersion of its heat would retreat from contact with the interior of the solid crust, and permit the crust to crush down and so force that portion of the original surface *out of the way*, and in consequence of this action assume the form and arrangement of mountain ranges. Mr. Nasmyth, in illustration of this important action, adduced the familiar case of the wrinkling of the surface of an apple, by reason of the contraction of the interior and the inability of the *surface* to accommodate itself to the change otherwise. The mountain ranges in question Mr. Nasmyth considers to be nothing more or less than the material which in the original expanded globes formed the comparatively level crust of the Moon and Earth. The fall of the unsupported crust on the retreating nucleus resulting in a tremendous splash on the subjacent molten mass, was described to yield a very probable explanation of the appearance of granitic and igneous centres of certain mountain ranges, as well as the injection of igneous rocks in the form of trap dykes and basaltic formations, which appear to have come forth in this manner from below the crust of the Earth and overlay formations of comparatively very recent formation. The origin or cause of those bright lines which radiate from certain volcanic centres on the Moon's surface (Tycho, for instance) is alluded to, and illustrated by a very striking experiment of causing the surface of a globe of glass filled with water to collapse on the fluid interior by rapidly contracting the surface while the water had no means of escape. The result was the splitting or cracking up of the surface of the globe in a multitude of radiating cracks, which bear the most remarkable similarity to those on the Moon. Mr. Nasmyth further illustrated this subject by reference to the manner in which the surface of a frozen pond may be made to crack by pressure from underneath,—so yielding radiating cracks from the centre of convergence, the chief discharge of water will take place, while simultaneously all along the lines of radiating cracks the water will make its appearance:—thus explaining how it is that the molten material, which had in like manner been under the surface of the Moon during that period of its history, came forth simultaneously up through the course of the cracks, and appeared on the surface as basaltic or igneous overflow, irrespective of surface inequalities.

This communication was considered so important that, at the special request of the President and other officers of the Association, it was repeated at the Evening Meeting of the Association in the Music Hall.

'On a Tissue woven by Caterpillars,' by Mr. J. DENNISTOUN.—In the early part of this century there lived at Munich a retired officer, Lieut. Hebenstrait, who amused himself by experiments on the means of giving consistency to the gossamer produced by caterpillars, which is occasionally seen blown about in flakes over the fields in Germany, and he was at one time sanguine of rendering it available as a

material for ladies' dress. It is said that his plan was to prepare a paste of lettuce or other leaves beat up with butter, and, after spreading it thinly over a smooth surface of stone or wood on an inclined plane, he placed at the lower end a number of chenilles or caterpillars of the proper species. These animals gradually ascended the incline, devouring the paste, and depositing as they proceed a sort of tissue until the whole surface was uniformly covered with it. He is reported to have produced open work designs by drawing the pattern with a hair pencil dipped in olive oil before the animals begin to work. These I never saw, but I have seen one veil on which were some letters exactly resembling a watermark on paper, the secret of which I do not know. The inventor pursued his experiments with great secrecy, in the hope of turning his invention to valuable account; but finding this impracticable, it appears that he produced but very few specimens, which are now preserved in various museums on the Continent. I have seen two besides my own, which I procured at Munich, in 1837, after having advertised for it several months. The objections to using this tissue seem to be chiefly its exceedingly flimsy quality, and its very adhesive properties, which render its management and preservation extremely difficult, attaching itself closely even to the smoothest surfaces, from which it can be separated only by the breath. My veil is about 42 in. by 24 in. One of 26½ in. by 17 in. is said to have weighed only 1½ grain. Another containing 9 square feet is mentioned as weighing 4½ grains, while the same surface of silk gauze weighed 137 grains, and of fine lace 262½ grains. It would seem that the art was in some degree known at an earlier period, and occasionally practised in convents, where coloured drawings on small bits of it are said to have been made. I have seen in all four of these on the Continent, and two or three on which impressions from copper plate had been taken,—always of sacred subjects. One of the drawings is in my possession, about 7 in. by 5 in., executed apparently in the last century, and I have seen one dated about 1770.

This beautiful tissue was unfolded to the Section by Mr. Dennistoun and Sir D. Brewster. It was rather more transparent than the finest lace veil, but it floated about with every slight current in the air of the Section-room, after a manner quite its own.

At this stage of the proceedings, Sir D. BREWSTER exhibited to the Section several Talbotypes from negatives on albumen, by Messrs. Ross & Thomson, Edinburgh, and by M. Constant, of Rome; from negatives on paper, by Mr. S. Buckle, Peterborough; and from negatives on gelatine, executed in Paris by M. Bolard.

'On a New Solid Eye-piece,' by the Rev. J. B. READE.—The author stated that he had been able to get rid of the two well-known defects of the common negative eye-piece, viz., a play of false light and the formation of a false image, or as it is generally termed, a *ghost* of a planet or star, by simply filling the eye-piece with water. The addition of the water causes the ray of light to pass to the eye without suffering any inner reflexions from the surfaces of the lenses of the eye-piece. It also makes the eye-piece positive instead of negative; while at the same time the magnifying power remains nearly the same,—the magnitude and flatness of the field are preserved,—and the achromatism is not disturbed. It is, however, desirable to make the inner surface of the field lens a little convex, as the ray now passes out of glass into water, and not into air. The Astronomer Royal of Scotland, after trying the eye-piece upon Saturn, double stars and clusters, expressed a very decided opinion as to its admirable performance generally, as well as on the increased blackness of the field, owing to the absence of all false light. To avoid some little trouble arising from the use of water, the author proposes to substitute glass or rock-crystal for the water, and to cement the surfaces together with Canada balsam; but in this case the inner surfaces of the eye and field lens must have a diminished radius of curvature. It was added that the use of an eye-hole, exactly as in the eye-piece of a Gregorian telescope, is not only desirable, but for large object-glasses indispensable. Without it, the aperture of an object-glass must be reduced to 3 or 4 inches when turned upon the sun, or the dark glasses will infallibly be cracked; but with it, all injurious heat is stopped out, and the full aperture can



be used as in the case of a Gregorian of 7 or 8 inches in diameter. This arises from the different refrangibility of the rays of light and heat. In the ordinary use of a prism, it is well known that the rays of heat are less refrangible than the rays of light, and are in fact at a maximum beyond the rays of the spectrum; but when the sun's rays are brought to a focus by means of an achromatic object-glass, the author finds that the point of most intense heat is within the focus of the compound lens. In a direct experiment with a 6-inch object-glass of Tully's, he found that black glazed paper was not burnt but only smoked when held two inches beyond the focus,—at 1 inch it took fire in 39 seconds,—at half an inch in 27,—at the focus in 24,—at a quarter of an inch within the focus in 11,—at half an inch within in 14,—and at 1 inch within in 19 seconds. Hence it follows, from the different positions of the principal foci of light and heat, that the eye-piece which makes the image rays parallel, leaves the hot rays divergent, and passing to some extent on the outside of the illuminating rays, and the eye-hole becomes essentially important, not only for the general purpose of stopping out false light, but particularly for stopping out all injurious heat during the examination of the sun with large telescopes.

'On Polygons inscribed on a Surface of the Second Order,' by Sir W. R. HAMILTON.—This problem, though suggested by the theory of Quaternions, yet admitted of a purely mathematical solution,—the outline of which Prof. Sir W. Hamilton gave to the Section.

'On the Theory of Magnetic Induction,' by Prof. THOMSON.—The author said the idea of making this communication arose out of the paper read on Friday last by Mr. Tyndall, though they were not directly connected. He conceived that a foundation for a complete theory of magnetic induction in crystallized or non-crystallized matter could be laid on two principles. 1st. Any different rigidly magnetic magnets, perfectly hard steel magnets for example,—or electromagnets without soft iron cores, or groups of such magnets, would produce the same inductive effect on a given substance when separately brought into its neighbourhood, if they produce the same force in the space occupied by it; or the inductive manifestation of a body depends only on its own form and constitution, and on the field of magnetic force in which it is placed. Here it is to be noted that in the mathematical theory of magnetism, the "magnetic force" or the resultant magnetic force at any point is defined as the force which the north pole of an infinitely thin uniformly and longitudinally magnetized bar of standard or unit strength would experience when placed at this point:—these may be called unit bars or bars of unit strength. 2nd. When any number of magnets act simultaneously in inducing magnetism in a given body, each produces the same induction as if the others were removed; and the active state of a body is the state of magnetization which results from the co-existence or superposition of the separate distributions of magnetism due to the different magnets. The author stated that he did not apprehend any doubt could be raised as to the truth of the first of these principles. But the second is one which must be proved or disproved by experiment; and although probably as far as experiments hitherto made have reference to it, they support it, yet we cannot consider it as a rigorously established experimental law. Thus, even if it be confirmed by ordinary cases of induction in soft iron, it is possible that a piece of soft iron when very strongly magnetized, as it may be, for instance, by an electro-magnetic helix, is in a state in which it is not susceptible of magnetization to the same extent or with the same symmetry as regards the substance of the iron by the action of an independent magnet brought up to it, as it would be if originally unmagnetic; or only magnetized by the earth's influence. It is natural to expect that the principle as stated above is strictly applicable to bodies susceptible of but feeble inductive magnetization: in fact, to all bodies ferro-magnetic or diamagnetic which contain little or no iron in their composition; but Plücker's experiments, in the description of which an increase of the magnetizing force, unaccompanied by any alteration of the "lines of force," is asserted to make a change from attraction to repulsion in certain cases of bodies commonly called diamagnetic placed in fixed positions in the

neighbourhood of a magnet seem to be at variance with it. It is, therefore, a matter of the utmost importance to test this principle experimentally, which when it shall be accomplished it will only be necessary to give determinate variable expressions to certain co-efficients, which, for the want of such experimental data, are at present taken as constant. The author said he ventured to suggest that an explanation of the very remarkable phenomena described by Plücker in papers in the 54th and 55th volumes (1848 and 1849) of Poggendorff's 'Annalen' may be found in an alteration in the lines of force of the inducing magnet accompanying an increase or diminution of its strength, and depending on the not improbable circumstance that the soft iron core does not receive magnetism with an invariable distribution.

'On the reduced Observation for Six Years of the Winds in the Regions of Glasgow,' by Prof. NICOL.—The Professor exhibited and explained the tabulated results of six years' work of Osler's Anemometer,—also diagrams showing at a glance the direction, strength and total resultant direction of the winds which blew at Glasgow during each of the four seasons of each of the six years; and stated that this was one branch of a general investigation which he was proceeding with of the entire meteorology of Glasgow.

The Section, having still many papers on the list, and the hour of the meeting of the General Committee having arrived, adjourned until half-past ten o'clock on the next (Wednesday) morning.

#### SECTION B.—CHEMISTRY, INCLUDING ITS APPLICATIONS TO AGRICULTURE AND THE ARTS.

'On the action of the Soap Test upon Water containing a salt of magnesia only, and likewise upon water containing a salt of magnesia and a salt of lime,' by Mr. D. CAMPBELL.—This was an examination of the value of the soap test of Dr. Clarke. The conclusions arrived at were—1st. That water containing sulphate of magnesia alone, acts towards the soap test in producing with it a perfect lather, similarly or nearly so, as does water containing a lime salt alone,—but only when the equivalent of magnesia salt does not exceed six grains of carbonate of lime in a gallon of water.—2nd. That the degrees of hardness of an ordinary water cannot be inferred by the rule. Compute the grains of lime, magnesia, oxides of iron and alumina, in a gallon of water, each into its equivalent of chalk. The sum of these equivalents will be the hardness of the water.—3rd. That the degrees of hardness of a water containing magnesia and lime salts, as shown by the soap test as it is now applied, cannot in every case be taken as representing the amount of these salts in the water; nor in nearly any instance can it be considered as giving the amount of lime in a water when magnesia is present.—4th. That water might show by the soap test a small degree of hardness in comparison to the considerable quantities of salts of magnesia and of lime it might contain,—and trusting to this method of analysis alone when selecting water for ordinary use and for steam purposes, might lead to a water being adopted which might not be conducive to the general health, and which would leave considerable deposit in vessels in which it was boiled—a great deterioration to its use in steam generating.

'Remarks on some Chemical Facts connected with the Tessellated Pavements discovered at Cirencester (the Roman Corinium),' by Prof. BUCKMAN.—In this paper it was shown that the materials of which pavements are composed are of two kinds:—the first derived from rocks of the district and termed natural, the second composed of clay, fclilla and glass, artificial tessellæ. The natural tessellæ, many of which are so altered by chemical manipulation as to cause many of them to be referred to foreign rocks, consist of bits of stone from the chalk, oolite, lias, and red sandstone formations, were clearly referred to their origin, and the processes by which they were prepared for pavements were pointed out. Thus, a grey colour was produced from a cream-coloured oolite, the change of colour being caused by a process of roasting. This is dependent upon the fact that the oolite bed of which they are made contains iron and organic matter, the latter of which prevented the iron peroxidizing, and thus the grey was due to a protoxide of that metal. The artificial tessellæ from pottery consists of shades of red and

black; the reds all being due to a peroxidation of the iron in the clays from which they were made,—whilst the blacks were the result of baking in "smother furnaces," as long since pointed out by Mr. Artis, so that the carbonaceous matter of the fuel with which the baking was effected was prevented from escaping, and, as he would lead us to infer, the black smoke penetrates the clay and thus blackens it. The author, however, showed that this smoke acted chemically, by preventing the oxidation of the iron, and thus the change from the dark colour of the clay to red which usually occurs in burning pottery and bricks was prevented. Reference was then made to a medallion of the pavement representing Flora, in the first drawing of which the head-dress and flowers held in the hand were coloured verdigris green, the hue these objects presented on being exhumed; but as this was unsatisfactory in chromatic arrangement, the author suspected some subsequent chemical change,—and on scraping away the green from the surfaces of the tessellæ in question, a beautiful ruby glass presented itself. New drawings (which were also exhibited) were then made with ruby instead of green colour: the result of which was, that what was before inharmonious in colour and grouping, at once assumed harmony in these respects, and became perfectly intelligible. An analysis of the glass made by Prof. Voelcker showed the cause of change from ruby to green to have been due to the fact that the antique ruby glass had derived its colour from peroxide of copper, and that the tessellæ had become covered with carbonate of copper from a decomposition of their surfaces.

The 'Phosphorescence of Potassium,' by Mr. W. PETRIE.—While speculating on the consequences of the dynamical theory of heat, I was led to the conclusion that cold potassium ought to be found luminous; and farther, that it ought to be only about a tenth part as luminous as phosphorus.—On testing this experimentally, with the precautions for sensitive vision which the anticipated feebleness of the light indicated to be necessary, the result was, that on dividing a bit of potassium, (which was quite dry, being protected only by a coating of bees' wax,) the halves showed two distinctly luminous sections; the light being about a tenth of that from a similar surface of phosphorus, as far as the eye could make the comparison. The light diminished, naturally, as a protecting coating of oxyde was formed, but remained just perceptible to the most sensitive sight, as long as half an hour.

'On the presence of Fluorine in Blood and Milk,' by Dr. G. WILSON.—In 1846 I announced to the Royal Society of Edinburgh that after finding that fluor spar was soluble in water, and occurred in many natural waters, I thought it well to seek for it in milk and in blood, and found distinct evidence of its presence in both. The proofs however were not so decisive as I could have wished. This summer, however, I have employed the fresh drawn blood of the ox. About 26 imperial pints or 3 gallons of blood were made use of. From the large scale on which the experiment was conducted, and the simplicity of the process followed, the evidence in favour of the presence of fluorine in the blood of the ox seems unexceptionable; and it cannot be doubted that the blood of other animals will be found to contain the same element. I presume it to be present in the state of fluoride of calcium, and that its amount is very small, but I have not attempted its quantitative determination. Milk was examined in a similar way, with nine imperial pints of rich milk from a country farm. The vapour which they evolved etched glass distinctly. The ashes of 12 lb. of new skim-milk cheese made this spring treated in the same way occasioned deep etching of glass. The ashes of four imperial pints of whey treated in the same way have barely marked glass so as to show the faintest outlines when breathed upon. In all probability the fluoride of calcium is associated with the phosphate of lime, and when milk is coagulated separates along with the caseine.—Dr. WILSON also stated that he had repeated the inquiry into the solubility of fluoride of calcium in water, reported to the Association at its Southampton meeting, and with the same result, viz., that 16 fluid ounces, or 7,000 gr. of water, at 60°, dissolve 0.26 gr. of fluor spar.

'On the presence of Carbonates in Blood,' by



Prof. G. I. MULDER, of Utrecht.—The intention of Prof. Mulder was to show experimentally that blood contains carbonic acid not merely in solution, but also in chemical combination with bases and organic substances, as globulin, albumen, &c.

'On a compound of Iodine and Codeine,' by T. ANDERSON, M.D.—The compound of Iodine and Codeine which formed the special subject of this communication is obtained by mixing together alcoholic solutions of equal quantities of Codeine and Iodine, and leaving the mixture to spontaneous evaporation, when the new compound is deposited in crystals. The compound is insoluble in water, sparingly soluble in cold alcohol, but readily in boiling, and it is again deposited in small triangular plates as the solution cools. Its crystalline form has been determined by Prof. Haidinger, of Vienna, who finds it to belong to the doubly oblique system. The crystals have a fine diamond lustre and a deep purple colour by reflected, and ruby red by transmitted light. In powder its colour is cinnamon brown.

'On a direct method of separating Arsenious from Arsenic Acid, and on its application to the estimation of Nitric Acid,' by Mr. J. STEIN.

#### MONDAY.

#### SECTION C.—GEOLOGY AND PHYSICAL GEOGRAPHY.

'On Erosion from River Action,' by Prof. HITCHCOCK.—The Professor stated that in New England it was easy to distinguish the phenomena produced by diluvial (or drift) action from those produced by the agency of rivers. The drift had acted from the north on the northern sides of the hills, planing away their protuberances; whereas the rivers had cut for themselves deep winding channels. The most remarkable river-actions now going on were the increase in the deltas of rivers and the recession of cataracts. The principal examples of river-action adduced by the Professor, were the gorge in the valley of the river Connecticut, 8 miles long and 500 feet deep; the walls of rock, 60 feet or 70 feet high, on the Potomac, near Washington; the falls in Wisconsin river, where for  $1\frac{1}{2}$  mile the trap-rock is worn to the depth of 150 feet; the gorge of the river Genessee, 7 miles long and 100 feet deep. The following conclusions were deduced from these observations:—1. Most rivers have now ceased to wear away their beds;—2. Originally, barriers existed, which raised the level of many rivers above what it is at present;—3. The amount of erosion was the same in all parts of the world where the rocks were the same;—4. That if the crystalline rocks had been eroded to the depth of several hundred feet by rivers, it was probable that all other gorges in softer rocks had been made by the rivers in them;—5. That the period required for this purpose must have been inconceivably long,—a conclusion which harmonized with deductions from other geological data.

'On River Terraces in New England,' by Prof. HITCHCOCK.—The banks of the river Connecticut were covered by a deposit of unstratified drift, consisting of angular blocks, sand and mud, extending for a distance of 300 miles, and rising to a height of 1,000 feet or more on the hills: above this drift the river deposits formed a series of terraces on either bank, of which the highest consisted of coarse materials, derived from the drift, and not much stratified; the lower terraces were successively formed of finer materials and were regularly stratified. The Professor considered that these terraces had been formed by the river when at higher levels; and that the surface of the country had been rising in a quiet way, without paroxysmal movements.

Mr. SEDGWICK argued that it was incorrect to assume that because many American rivers, having cataracts, had formed deep gorges, that, therefore, all rivers had excavated the ravines and valleys through which they flowed. In Britain the rivers flowed in cracks and valleys, formed during previous periods of elevation, and had done scarcely anything to modify them; the whole of our rivers were newer than the period of the boulder clay, and the epoch of their agency went back but a few thousand years. He referred to De Luc's Treatise as a triumphant refutation of the idea that river-valleys could be formed by the streams now flowing through them in any lapse of ages.—Mr. R. CHAMBERS took the same view: all our rivers were newer than the glacial epoch, and had done very little to

modify the form of the surface. In Scotland as in America, the materials of the lowest river terraces were finer than in the upper; but he believed the true reason was, that it had been brought from a greater distance.—Gen. PORTLOCK also argued that the case of Niagara and other American cataracts could not be used to explain ordinary river-valleys; he doubted whether the boulder clay was continuous below the river-terraces of Prof. Hitchcock.—Prof. NICOL quoted a remark of Playfair's, which seemed to favour the argument for attributing some valleys in Scotland to the agency of existing streams.—Mr. STRICKLAND mentioned instances in Asia Minor where streams meandered through ravines 500 feet deep, cut by themselves in hard tertiary limestone.

'On the Constant Increase of Elevation of the Beds of Rivers, and on the earlier existence of the Binnen or Inland Lake,' by Dr. BECKER.—It is well known that old buildings in river-side towns often appear as if they had partially sunk into the ground; churches sometimes have their floors beneath the level of surrounding streets, the basements of gates, towers, and ancient walls are buried up, and old pavements and quay steps are no longer visible. These circumstances are well illustrated at Mayence, a town 2,000 years old. About 1846 an ice-house was dug near the centre of the town through twenty feet of old building materials, charcoal, stones, mortar, &c., arranged in three strata of six feet each, covered by two feet of garden mould. In the lowest layer was discovered Roman coins of the time of Commodus, and bronze and earthen vessels of a Roman dwelling-house. In the next stratum, and conspicuously different in form and colour, were the remains of a house of the 14th century, with its coins and other works; above this were other coins and articles of the 16th century, and lastly a bullet mould, and the remains of materials of modern war. From these and similar observations in Cologne, Castel Bingen, &c. on the Rhine, Dr. Becker concludes that a town consisting of middle-sized houses would form a stratum of ruins about six feet thick. In these old towns the less durable class of buildings have been many times destroyed by fire or war, and reconstructed on the ruins of their predecessors, whilst the churches and other more substantial structures have stood through each change. Mayence also affords good evidence of a second cause of these phenomena, which are still in operation,—namely, the increase in the elevation of the bed of the Rhine. Close to the river, and forming part of the city walls, is the Fish-gate, built in 1050, and now so low as to be dangerous alike to loaded waggons and the heads of foot passengers; recent excavations have brought to light the sole of the stone gate-pillars and the street pavement of 1050, nearly six feet lower than the present carriage way. On repairing the river quay near this gate two strata of road paving were found, —one  $2\frac{1}{2}$  feet and one 6 feet below the present way. From a variety of other indications, it is inferred that the bed of the Rhine was lower than it is now, at the commencement of our era by 13 feet; in 1050, by 5 feet 9 inches; and in 1750, by 8 $\frac{1}{2}$  inches. The rising of the bed of the Rhine has been attended with a corresponding rise of its waters, and the flooding of the neighbouring lands has only been prevented by raising their banks from time to time. M. Becker concludes by recommending that flood-water should be admitted to marsh lands whenever it is practicable, that it may deposit its sediment there.—2. As to the existence of the Binnen or Inland Lake, which formerly covered the Rhine valley from Strasburg to Bingen. To the epoch of this traditionary lake, M. Becker attributes a line of ancient water level, marked by small precipices and beds of diluvial loam and pebbles, 115 feet above the present river. In 1846 a hill side in Mayence was lowered, and exhibited at the depth of fifty feet a bed of clay with innumerable fishes of the genus *Perca*, amongst others *P. Moguntina v. Meyer*, also fragments of crocodiles, tortoises, microtherium, &c. In these tertiary beds were hollows or crevices 10 to 30 feet wide and 20 to 50 feet deep, filled with sand and gravel, containing bones of the horse, deer, marmot, &c. These deposits, filling ancient crevices more than 100 feet above the Rhine, are regarded as further indications of the Inland Lake, whose outlet was apparently at

\* Since this paper was written the arch of the gate has been removed.

Bingen, over a barrier since removed. Boring experiments at the confluence of the Maine and Rhine showed nothing but alluvium to a depth of 240 feet, a thickness which, according to M. Becker's calculation, would require 30,000 years for its formation.

'On a Tertiary Fossiliferous Deposit underlying Basalt in the Island of Mull,' by the DUKE OF ARGYLL.—The island consists of trap, granite, and mica slate, all of which are seen in the small bay near Ardtun, and at this place are some small veins of coals interstratified with columnar basalt. A little north of the bay is Ardtun Head, a perpendicular cliff of 130 feet, intersected by a deep fissure or ravine, accessible from the moor above. The cliff consists of the following horizontal beds:—1. At the top, 20 or 30 feet of rudely columnar basalt; 2. A thin laminated stratum containing fossil leaves; 3. Volcanic ashes; 4. A second leaf-bed; 5. A second bed of volcanic ashes; 6. A third leaf-bed; 7. Amorphous basalt; 8. Columnar basalt, occupying the base of the cliff. The volcanic ash-beds are undistinguishable from some modern formations at Vesuvius, and from the tuff at Madeira and Auvergne. The second leaf bed is  $1\frac{1}{2}$  to 2 feet thick, and in its lower part is a mere mass of vegetation. In the third bed the leaves are less numerous, and imbedded in a volcanic mud, which now forms a hard whinstone; the leaves are black and look charred, but this is not necessarily the case: no trunks, boles, or even small twigs were found. From these appearances the Duke concluded that the leaves had accumulated from autumn to autumn in a shallow lake, and had been overflown by soft mud, in which they were preserved. The only indication of living animals found with the leaves was the track of a worm. Chalk flints were found entangled in the trap; and on the neighbouring island of Tiree pieces of undoubted pumice were obtained. The Duke also mentioned that the first recorded visit to this spot was paid by Dr. Johnson in 1773. In 1790 Mr. Mills (Phil. Trans.) visited the ravine, but did not notice the leaf-beds; and subsequently, Dr. McCulloch and Prof. Jameson had coasted the island, and supposed the horizontal ash-beds were secondary strata.

Prof. FORBES stated that the leaves were in a very beautiful state of preservation, and belonged to species of plane, alder, pine, equisetum, and some others. From the presence of flints the deposit appeared to be newer than the chalk, whilst in the latest tertiary only vegetable remains of a more boreal character were found. The leaves most resembled some eocene specimens from Styria, figured by Dr. Unger, and those found in the (eocene) pipe-clay beds of the Isle of Wight. Sir John Richardson had also discovered leaves of similar character at Mackenzie River, Arctic America. With respect to their situation, fossil leaves had been found in beds under basalt in Iceland; and Prof. Oldham had just mentioned to him, that he found vegetable remains and leaves in a similar situation in the north of Ireland, but neither of these cases had been examined or published.—Mr. J. SMITH said that the only clue to the discovery the Duke had made was the accidental finding of a "stone that looked like a leaf" by a sportsman.—Mr. SEDGWICK, referring to the idea that dicotyledonous leaves (unless coniferous) were unknown in secondary strata, said that he had found such in the greensand bordering the Hartz mountains. The trap rocks of the Hebrides had been considered of older tertiary date by Buckland and Conybeare thirty years since.

Sir R. I. MURCHISON exhibited and explained a 'Geological Sketch-map of Spain,' communicated by M. E. De Verneuil.—In the centre of Spain are three conspicuous mountain chains,—the Guadarrama, the Monte de Toledo, and the Sierra Morena, all elevated before the secondary period, and having a direction a little S. of W. The Guadarrama consists of granite, gneiss, and crystalline schists; the Sierra Nevada, of mica, schist, and metamorphic nodes; the Sierra Morena and Monte de Toledo consist of Palæozoic strata, and Silurian fossils have been discovered in the former. In a section from Almadon to Cordova (from N. to S.), the strata succeed in an ascending order: the oldest slates contain Silurian trilobites, *Calymene Tristani* (which has been found at places 50 miles apart, on the strike of these beds, which is E. and W.), and species of *Cheirurus*, *Illenus* and *Phacops*, *Ogygia Buchii* and *Bellerophon bilobatus*,



corresponding to Barrande's third series of Trilobites in Bohemia. About 20 miles N.E. of Cordova, the upper Silurian is represented by beds of calcareous concretions, containing *Cardioides* and *Orthoceras*. Devonian strata occur both N. and S. of Almadon, including the quartzites and schists of the mercury mines\*; fossils of the genera *Productus*, *Leptæna*, *Spirifer*, &c. were enumerated. Carboniferous deposits are found further south, consisting of masses of limestone with *Productus semi-reticulatus*, and true coal-measures, of great value, but little worked for want of roads. The Sierra Cantabrica has an axis of Devonian rocks with fossils; and on its southern flank is the richest coalfield in Spain; the beds are vertical, but can be worked in the mountains 1,200 feet or 1,300 feet above the level of the streams; there are more than eighty workable beds, and the total thickness of the system must be 10,000 feet or 10,200 feet. The red magnesian limestone and gypsiferous marls of Montiel have been doubtfully referred to the Permian system. In this formation are the caves of Montesinos, explored by Don Quixote. The Trias has been traced from the Pyrenees to Santander, Asturias, and Leon, on both sides of the Cantabrian chain; it also occurs east of Madrid. Jurassic and Cretaceous formations extend over much of eastern and southern Spain, lying on the Trias, and constituting most of the high land east of Madrid. In Portugal, according to Mr. Sharpe, they are confined to the coast. In the south of Spain (Malaga and Ronda), these rocks have become so metamorphic that it is difficult to distinguish one from the other. Most of the Jurassic beds belong to the upper lias, characterized by *Ammonites Walcottii* and *Spirifer verrucosus*. The cretaceous system of Spain consists of the Hippurite limestone, or equivalent of the lower chalk, and of the equivalent of the green-sand, well developed in Santander and Biscay. Above the chalk is the *nummulitic rock*, now considered Eocene, seen at Santander, and containing *Conoclypus conoides* and *Serpula spirulea*. Nummulites are also found at Malaga, Motril, Tarragone, Olot, &c. The Miocene tertiary strata, chiefly of freshwater origin, are generally horizontal, extending as vast plains over Old and New Castile, from the Cantabrian chain to the Guadarrama, and from this to the Sierra Morena, sometimes reaching an altitude of 2,500 feet. The most recent beds contain living freshwater shells and bones of the elephant, near Madrid.†

\* Notes on the Geology of the Southern Extremity of Cantyre, Argyshire, by Prof. NICOL.—The peninsula of Cantyre is connected with the mainland by an isthmus only a mile broad, and a depression of a few feet would convert it into several islands. The fundamental rock is an arenaceous mica slate, which runs nearly N. and S., and dips about 30° E. The red sandstone and conglomerates rest upon it almost conformably; the conglomerate attains an immense thickness, and consists of sand, pebbles, and rounded blocks, sometimes three feet or more in diameter; the blocks consist of porphyry, sandstone, hornstone, quartz, and trap, all of local origin. The red sandstone above is often almost a tufa of re-composed claystone-porphry. West of Campbelltown some beds of coal are wrought; it contains *Stigmæria*, *Sigillaria*, and *Lepidodendra*; with the coal are beds of porphyry and green-stone, by which it is singularly altered. In the cliffs south of Tosset some splendid veins of trap are seen, rising up through the mica slate, sandstone, limestone, and shale, and spreading out in the overlying beds. On the shore at Kilhouseland is a mass of trap like a miniature Giant's Causeway; the vertical columns are divided by veins of calc spar, hæmatite and malachite. No lias or oolitic coal was seen, as represented by Dr. McCulloch, but there is a large mass of ordinary red till or boulder clay, with shingle beds above, often forming terraces. In the hollows of this drift are masses of peat, of great antiquity, and still increasing; leaves of the alder and other trees, nuts, &c. occur in the peat, whilst roots of birch and oak are found in the red clay beneath. All round the shore are cliffs and caves above the present level of the sea. Two caves in the hard porphyry of Davar

\* The mercury is not in veins, but dispersed through vertical strata of sandstone and carbonaceous slates; in the Asturias it occurs in coal-measure strata.

† There are three districts of extinct volcanoes in the Peninsula,—one at the Cape of Gata, one near Ciudad Real, and the third near Olot, in Catalonia.

Island are 130 feet long, meeting in the interior. Regarding the mica slate of the Grampians as altered Silurian rocks, the author suggests that the arenaceous mica slate of Cantyre may be newer Silurian or Devonian rock in a similarly metamorphosed condition. The discovery of the large mass of trap (coloured as mica slate by McCulloch) brings Cantyre into parallelism with the south of Arran, and completes the band of igneous rock, commencing near Montrose, ranging across Scotland, and reappearing on the north of Ireland.

Dr. FLEMING remarked, that the interval between columns of basalt, amounting sometimes to six inches, indicated a remarkable degree of contraction on cooling.

'On the Representatives of the Mountain Limestone as they occur on the south and east of Dumfries-shire,' by Mr. R. HARKNESS.—This stratum was described as consisting of three divisions:—1. The lowest beds, hard white grits, 350 yards thick; 2. White and red sandstone, flagstone, limestone, ironstone, and thin seams of coal and slate, above 300 yards; 3. Variegated grits and conglomerates, from 150 to 200 yards. The hills formed by these strata are low and flat-topped, and the grit beds are exceedingly sterile, producing only gorse and heather, contrasting with the fine pasture of the sheep-walks on the tracts occupied by the altered Silurian strata.

Mr. HARKNESS exhibited a drawing of the foot-prints of a biped from the new red sandstone of Western Point, Dumfries;—and Sir W. JARDINE gave an account of the foot-prints in the same formation at Corncockle Mines, in the vale of the Annan, first noticed by Dr. Duncan, and described and figured by Dr. Buckland in the Bridgewater Treatise, where he compares them to the foot-prints of tortoises. The tracks run mostly in an east and west direction, as if the creature had made periodical journeys across the sands at low water.

#### TUESDAY.

'On the Geological Position of the Black Slates of the Menai Straits,' by Prof. RAMSAY.—The Professor exhibited a map of North Wales geologically coloured, and explained his reasons for regarding these black slates of the Menai as the equivalents of the 'Lingula beds' of Prof. Sedgwick. He stated that the purple slates and sandstones of Llanberis were 3,000 or 4,000 feet thick, and overlaid by beds containing *Lingula*, interstratified with 'volcanic ash' and feldspar porphyries, the whole being 10,000 or 12,000 feet thick. Near Bala there were small beds of this volcanic ash, two or three feet thick, overlaid by the Bala limestone; but these beds became more important westward, until they attained a thickness of several thousand feet. The summit of Snowdon was formed of them. He then pointed out that the trap-rocks of North Wales were of three dates:—1st, contemporaneous traps; 2nd, greenstones, at first appearing as if interstratified but in reality injected along lines of bedding; 3rd, great eruptive masses, such as those in the Horn of Caernarvon. The chlorite and mica slate of Caernarvon were probably altered Cambrian rocks. Their metamorphic condition had been induced at a very early period, since pebbles of them were found in the lower old red sandstone and pebbles of the trap rock in the carboniferous limestone.

Prof. Sedgwick said that he had explored North Wales before the labours of the Survey commenced, and had arrived at and published most of these results; however, he was glad that what he had sketched out was being now done in detail, and that points of which he was doubtful were now being rendered certain. He objected to the term 'volcanic ash,' as being already in use for sub-aerial deposits, whilst these were plutonic.

'On the Parallel between the Superficial Deposits of the Basin of Switzerland and those of the Valley of the Po, in Piedmont,' by MM. MARTINS and GASTALDI.—1. *Ancient moraines*. In proceeding from the higher to the lower ground in both basins they met with numerous ridges, formed of erratic blocks, striated pebbles from the Alps, sand, gravel and clay mixed together, without any trace of stratification, indicating the long existence of glaciers. In Switzerland, Berne, Sursee, and other towns are built on moraines; and examples were seen in the great moraine of Mont Sion, between Geneva and Annecy, and that of the ancient glacier of the Rhone,

extending from Fort Ecluse to Soleure, along the eastern declivity of Jura. In Piedmont, the moraine of Rivoli, at the opening of the valley of Susa, that of Ivrea formed by the ancient glacier descending from Mont Blanc, Mont Rose, and Mont Coque, filling the valley of Aoste and extending over the plains as far as Calasso. 2. *Scattered erratic formation*, composed of gigantic angular blocks from the Alps, gravel with striated angular pebbles, and mud, brought down by the glaciers at the period of their greatest extension. In Piedmont it forms a band round the moraine, and is seen on the hill of Superge. In Switzerland it covers all the plain, from the lake of Geneva to the lake of Constance and penetrates the valley of Jura. 3. *Glacier diluvium*, formed of rolled and rounded pebbles from the Alps, which are never striated; it is sometimes stratified, but without fossils. It covers a great part of the basin of Switzerland, and is very deep round Geneva and Berne. The authors attributed its origin to the fusion of glaciers at the period of their oscillations. 4. *Ancient alluvium*, with small rolled pebbles, not derived from the Alps, and bones of pachyderms, *Elephas primigenius*, *Rhinoceros tichorhinus*, *Bos priscus*, *Cervus euryceros*, &c. In Switzerland it rests on miocene molasse, and in Piedmont on marine pliocene beds. Northern Europe and America having been submerged at this period, many marine deposits were accumulated of the same age with these glacier formations.

'On recent Changes of Sea Level,' by Mr. R. AUSTEN.—After remarking that many phenomena formerly classed as 'raised marine beds or beaches' are now referred to distinct periods of time, the author proceeds to describe evidences of a former line of sea level on the headland west of Falmouth harbour. This 'raised beach' is only eight or ten feet above the existing beach, and therefore partly within the influence of the present tides, which rise eighteen feet above low-water mark.

'Additional Observations on the Temperature of Mines in Ireland,' by Prof. OLDHAM.—Alluding to the former report, the deepest mine in Ireland was only 800 feet, and the increase of temperature, making all requisite allowances, amounted to only 1° for every 85 feet below the level of no variation; whilst in England and on the Continent the average increase was 1° for every 45 feet. Since then the same mine has been deepened to 1,200 feet and new observations have been made, but the results were the same. In another and older part of the same mine, 300 yards distant and 50 fathoms deep, the increase of temperature was ascertained to be 1° for every 52 feet.

A paper was communicated by the Rev. P. B. BRODIE, 'On the Inferior Oolite near Grantham.' (Not read, but recommended to be transferred to the Geological Society.)

'On certain extraordinary Peculiarities of Structure in the more ancient Ganoids,' by Mr. H. MILLER.—The fishes exhibited and described were obtained from the lower part of the old red sandstone in Scotland; they were in a very complete state of preservation and some of them entirely new or but imperfectly known from Russian specimens.

'On the Palæozoic Rocks of the South of Scotland,' by Prof. SEDGWICK.—After describing the development of the Silurian rocks in Cumberland, the Professor pointed out their parallels in the great chain of graywacke, of which the Lammernuir forms part; in the central part, or axis of the chain, the rocks consisted of coarser materials, and were more contorted, as at St. Abb's Head, whilst the newer rocks, both on the north and south, had a generally lower inclination.

Sir R. I. MURCHISON announced to the Meeting that M. Barrande was preparing a work on the Silurian rocks of Bohemia, and explained that in Bohemia they formed but a small basin, about 25 miles across, but abounding in fossils, and exhibiting an older series of organic remains than any known in England. Thus, although M. Barrande was no species-maker, but had united many which his predecessors had considered distinct, he still possessed 250 species of trilobites alone; and amongst these he had discovered sexual differences and changes in the course of growth.

Dr. ANDERSON exhibited a collection of fishes from the yellow sandstone of Dura Den, and pointed out



the geological relation of these beds, which he said were 10,000 ft. above the beds from which Mr. Hugh Miller obtained his ichthyolites.

Prof. FORBES exhibited some plates of remarkable Fossil Radiata, engraved for the Decades of the Geological Survey.

Prof. PARLATORE, of Florence, communicated an account of the discovery of Fossil Plants, apparently carboniferous (*Pecopteris arborescens* and *Annularia longifolia*), in the *Verrucano*, a sandstone rock, inferior to the real Oxfordian limestone, and hitherto considered unfossiliferous; they were found by Prof. Meneghini and Prof. Paolo Savi, of Pisa.

Lieut. STRACHEY, Bengal Engineers, exhibited a large Map of the Himalaya and Plain of Tibet, and gave a sketch of the geology of the country. In this plateau, which averages 15,500 ft., Lieut. Strachey has discovered the same series of fossils with those obtained by Major Cautley and Dr. Falconer, in the Sub-Himalaya. The plateau consists chiefly of boulder-drift in horizontal strata; whilst the high inclination of the tertiary beds shows that the great mass of the Himalaya is of post-tertiary elevation. The plateau is devoid of trees, and supports only a scanty vegetation over a very small part of its surface; as there is no water, it is almost uninhabited, except by nomadic tribes, whose villages are in the ravines. Fishes (of a species not determined) are found in the lake and streams of the plateau. The ravines that intersect the plain are very extraordinary; that of the Sutlej is 3,000 ft. deep, and its sides have been mistaken for mountains; indeed, Moorcroft did not discover the existence of the plain on his first passage to Tibet. Lieut. Strachey has not detected signs of river action more than 200 ft. above the present streams, and considers that they have had little influence in forming these vast chasms. The glaciers exhibit signs of former extension, but of very inconsiderable amount.

Gen. PORTLOCK described conglomerates of the old red sandstone between Tantallon Castle and North Berwick, which exhibit a metamorphic condition when in contact with the trap rocks, and become less so as they recede from them.

'On a Quartz Formation in the South of Scotland,' by Mr. W. STEVENSON.—The Secretary, Mr. H. MILLER, remarked that it was probably an altered sandstone like the quartz rock of the Lickey and Stiper stones, which was altered Caradoc sandstone.

'Notices of Earthquakes in South America in the Years 1844, 5, 6, 7,' by Dr. M. HAMILTON.—The paper was not read, but the following is a brief abstract. In 1843 the writer took with him to Peru a seismometer from the British Association, and a mountain barometer, placing the latter at Tacna, where it remained from 1843 to 1848; no very destructive earthquakes occurred in these four years, and hardly any variation appeared in the barometer. The writer says, that "brief notice may be taken of the seismometer, and as to the pendulum it was of little use for ascertaining the direction or points whence the shocks originated; but the sand-glass instrument acted well, and realized expectations in its workings," indicating an upward heaving of the ground even in very gentle shocks. Delicate instruments, for the slight earthquakes, are most wanted, for violent shocks afford evidence readily: thus it often occurred at Tacna that the church bell tolled through lateral movements in shocks considered moderate. From other parts of America Dr. Hamilton received accounts of many destructive convulsions. On the 18th of October, 1844, at 10½ P.M., the provinces of Salta, Tucuman, Santiago-del-Estero, and others experienced a terrible earthquake, which was felt over a tract above 1,000 miles N. and S. and several hundred miles wide; every house in Salta was damaged, and many fell; on some estates the subterranean tanks of cane-juice were destroyed. At Xuxuy and Tucuman the earthquake happened at the same time, reducing those towns to ruin; there were two great movements, and in the suburbs of Salta and other places the earth opened and exploded quantities of water and various coloured sands. Before the concussion dogs began to bark, and beasts of burden to stop and place themselves firmly; the air was profoundly calm; after the earthquake heavy rain fell till sunrise. On the 26th of November, 1846, a new volcano in Chili appeared in action; its first eruption was preceded by many loud reports, heard

over a circumference of twelve leagues; it was on one of the highest points of the Cordillera, known as the Cerro Azur, thirty leagues from Talca, at which distance the sulphurous smell of the eruption was perceptible.—Jan. 19, 1847, A severe earthquake at Copiapo, which threw down many houses and damaged all the town; fourteen shocks occurred within four hours after the first; they were mostly vertical, and considered the worst since 1822. On the 24th of May, 1847, a violent movement of the sea in the bay of Callo, and vessels anchored near shore were endangered; this submarine earthquake was felt on board an American whaler, distant sixty miles W.S.W. from the island of San Lorenzo.—June 4, 1847, The town of Huancarana, Talavera, and other places were visited by an earthquake.—June 28, A severe earthquake at Ica, continuing at intervals for two days, with shocks both vibratory and vertical.—Sept. 11, Tacna was visited by a violent earthquake, with both a vertical movement and an oscillation of the land; rain fell during the whole of the previous day, and continued during the 11th; the barometer fell  $\frac{3}{8}$  before the shock. Two shocks were felt at Arequipa on the same day and hour, a direct distance of 200 miles.—Oct. 8, An earthquake was felt throughout Chili, from N. to S., and most severely at Melepillá, where it continued two days, and several hundred shocks were distinguishable; it was the worst since 1822. Many persons in Peru were of opinion that a disagreeable odour or state of the atmosphere might be perceived before any serious earthquake; between 1843 and 1848 this phenomenon was more rarely noticed than in 1826 and other years remarkable for earthquakes. Another indication of a coming shock is said to be the profoundly calm and stagnant condition of the atmosphere; these and other premonitory symptoms are worthy of diligent observation, seeing how much these visitations affect life and property.

Mr. A. ROSE exhibited a specimen of Plumbago, from the Island of Mull, in the Hebrides, where it was discovered last June by Mr. C. M. Barstow, on the estate of Killmore, north side of Loch Scriden. It occurs in detached masses, from a few inches to a foot or eighteen inches across, imbedded in trap, or perhaps metamorphic rock, over an area probably half a mile square and 150 feet thick. Some attempts at blasting with gunpowder had been made, and the mass exhibited, which weighed 30 lb., had been obtained with about as much more in fragments.

#### FRIDAY.

#### SECTION D.—NATURAL HISTORY, INCLUDING PHYSIOLOGY.

The PRESIDENT on taking the chair announced that on account of the large number of physiological papers it had been found necessary to constitute a Sub-Section of Physiology, and that Prof. Bennett had been appointed President.

Prof. OWEN gave an exposition of his views upon the nature of the segments of the vertebrate skull. His remarks were illustrated by a series of preparations of the skulls of the various forms of vertebrate animals.

Dr. LANKESTER read a letter from Mr. G. Newport, 'On the reciprocal Relations of the Vital and Physical Forces.'—The author stated that as early as November 1845, he had advocated in a paper read before the Linnean Society, and published in an abstract of that paper at the time in the *Athenæum* and *Gardeners' Chronicle*, views similar to those which had since been advocated by Prof. Matteucci, Dr. Fowler, and Dr. Carpenter. These views were considered by the Council of the Linnean Society as of too startling a nature to admit of publication without further evidence, and they had accordingly omitted all reference to the subject in Mr. Newport's paper as published in their Transactions. The report of the proceedings of the Linnean Society in the *Athenæum* and *Gardeners' Chronicle* was read to the Section, as well as the original passage from the paper as presented to the Linnean Society. Some new remarks of Mr. Newport on the subject were subsequently read at the Physiological Sub-Section.

Dr. CARPENTER stated that it frequently occurred that such was the condition of science that the same thought occurred to many observers at the same time. He freely admitted that Mr. Newport had preceded him in pointing out the correlation of vital

and physical forces. It was due, however, to Dr. Fowler to say that fifty years ago he had prosecuted researches on this subject. There was, however, a great difference between the idea of the correlation of physical and vital forces and the mere hypothesis of their identity. The investigation of their correlations was likely to lead to important results. Mr. Grove had the merit of first appreciating the importance of studying the correlation of physical forces; but this was no less obvious between such forces as motion, chemical affinity, heat, light, magnetism, and electricity, than between these and various forces observed in the animal body, as the nerve force, muscle force, &c.—Dr. FOWLER stated that his earliest experiments were made in Edinburgh in 1792.

Prof. PARLATORE, of Florence, made some remarks in French, 'On some Peculiar Bodies which occur in *Aldrovanda vesiculosa*, *Utricularia*, and other aquatic plants.'—The author described minutely the structure of the intercellular cavities of the above mentioned plants, as well as those of *Pontederia*, the species of *Nymphæaceæ*, &c., also the structure of some peculiar irregular bodies of a stellate form lying in the interior of the cavities, more especially in *Nuphar* and *Nymphaea*, and crystalline bodies in *Myriophyllum*.

Dr. DAUBENY gave an account of the experiments he was carrying on, at the request of the Association, 'On the Action of Carbonic Acid on Plants.' These experiments were not yet concluded; but the result of his experiments was, at present, that when plants of the fern tribe were supplied with water containing 1 per cent. of carbonic acid, that they grew much more luxuriously than those which were supplied with pure water,—so that the conclusion might be come to, that although very large quantities of carbonic acid were injurious to plants, yet that when present in water from 1 to 5 per cent. it was beneficial.

Profs. KELLAND and GOODSIR successively addressed the Meeting on the subject of Mr. D. R. Hay's views of the geometrical principles of Beauty in general, and more particularly as applied to architecture and the human form. Prof. Kelland gave an exposition of the geometrical principles, and Prof. Goodsir confined himself to the explanation of the anatomical part of the question. The fundamental principles thus elucidated were as follows:—That the eye is capable of appreciating the exact subdivision of spaces, just as the ear is capable of appreciating the exact subdivisions of intervals of time; so that the division of space into an exact number of equal parts will affect the eye agreeably in the same way that the division of the time of vibration in music, into an exact number of equal parts, agreeably affects the ear. But the question now arises, What spaces does the eye most readily divide? It was stated that the author supposes those spaces to be angles, not lines; believing that the eye is more affected by direction than by distance. The basis of his theory, accordingly, is, that bodies are agreeable to the eye, so far as symmetry is concerned, whenever the principal angles are exact submultiples of some common fundamental angle. According to this theory we should expect to find, that spaces, in which the prominent lines are horizontal and vertical lines, will be agreeable to the eye when all the principal parallelograms fulfil the condition that the diagonals make with the side angles which are exact submultiples of one or of a few right angles. The author was stated to proceed to apply his theory to the construction of the human figure, in which we should expect *a priori* to find the most perfect development of symmetric beauty. Diagrams were exhibited which represent, with remarkable accuracy, the human figure; and it was explained that not a single lineal measure was employed in their construction. The line which shall represent the height of the figure being once assumed, every other line is determined by means of angles alone. For the female figure, those angles are, one-half, one-third, one-fourth, one-fifth, one-sixth, one-seventh, and one-eighth of a right angle, and no others. It must be evident, therefore, that, admitting the supposition that the eye appreciates and approves of the equal division of the space about a point, this figure is the most perfect which can be conceived. Every line makes with every other line a good angle. The male figure was stated to be con-



structed upon the female figure by altering most of the angles in the proportion of 9 to 8; the proportion which the ordinary untempered flat seventh bears to the tonic.

Mr. SCOTT RUSSELL was afraid that artists would not admit of such a mathematical definition of beauty as Mr. Hay was attempting to establish. Still that there was truth in the theory all analogy supported. A few centuries ago the philosopher would have laughed at the man who should have announced that the great irregular rocks of the earth and the stones on the road were all formed on mathematical principles, and yet every one knew now that such was the fact, and that the science of mineralogy used these mathematical forms as the basis of its classification. So in the plant, and so in the animal, are frequently found such regular repetition of the same form, and such perfect obedience to mathematical principles that it could but be felt that one day we should be able to reduce all typical beauty to mathematical forms.—Dr. R. G. LATHAM said that these researches of Mr. Hay were important as methods. He did not think, however, that we should get at the true form of beauty either by an *à priori* measurement or by appealing to any existing type. That was only really beautiful which mankind in all ages pronounced as such. We must always wait patiently for the judgment of the common sense of mankind, and we could only get a typical form of beauty in such a way.

'On the Infra-littoral Distribution of Marine Animals on the Southern, Northern and Western Shores of England and Scotland,' by Prof. E. FORBES.—In the year 1839, a Committee of the British Association was formed for the purpose of investigating the natural history of the British seas by means of the dredge. A chief object of the research proposed was the ascertaining of the exact relation of the Fauna of the British seas at the present epoch to that of the same area during the epoch of the so-called northern drift. A vast body of accurate observations and carefully stated facts have been obtained. This Report consisted chiefly of tables of two kinds. 1st. Tables systematically arranged of the species of animals dredged, all the depths at which they were taken during the inquiries, and the mineral character of the sea-beds on which they were found being stated in each species. These tables are extremely full, so far as Mollusca and Echinodermata are concerned, less so respecting other tribes of animals, but nevertheless more extensive than any yet made known. 2nd. Tabulated abstracts of the dredging papers, each separately abstracted; the year and place of observation, the distance from shore, the depth, the ground, the number of species of univalve testacea taken alive, and of those taken only dead; the same as regards bivalves. The number of species of Echinodermata, and Remarks under which the creatures taken most abundantly in each instance are recorded. More than a hundred papers, all relating to the district under report, are so abstracted. In these tables the region so explored is divided into ten provinces, five upon the English coasts and five on those of Scotland. These provinces are not arbitrary sections, but represent areas, each presenting peculiar geological features. The five English provinces are:—1. The coasts of Dorset and Hants, a region peopled from the general Fauna of the English Channel, but deficient in many of the species which give a character to the 2nd province, the coasts of Devon and Cornwall, where we have the most southern type of the Fauna of Great Britain, and the greatest number of Lusitanian forms appearing. 3. The Bristol Channel and southern shores of Wales, where we have a southern character still presented by the Fauna, but less intense. 4. The coast of North Wales, where we have the characteristic Fauna of the Irish Sea, marked more by deficiencies than by many peculiar species. 5. The seas around the Isle of Man, where the northern and southern types of the British marine Fauna, each faintly indicated, meet as it were in the middle of a region markedly of the British or Celtic type. 6. The region of the Clyde and the lochs which branch from it, an area of great interest, for in these great sea lakes we find as it were imprisoned assemblages of marine creatures which remind us of the inhabitants of the Arctic Seas, and strikingly of the population of the British Seas during

the glacial epoch. 7. The seas of the inner Hebrides, presenting similar phenomena, but influenced by the currents of the North Atlantic. 8. The seas of the outer Hebrides and the district around Cape Wrath. 9. The Orkneys, where the peculiarities of the northern part of the German Ocean come in contact with those of the Atlantic regions,—and 10, the Zetland Isles, where we find the marine races of Britain mingled abundantly with creatures of unquestionably Scandinavian and Arctic parentage, not isolated or straggling, as those of similar character in the western provinces are, but seated at the true bounds of the great boreal province which here intersects the British Seas. The dredge has been used within the area reported on in all depths between four and a hundred fathoms. Everywhere do we find the distinction of Littoral, Laminarian and Coralline zones maintained, and in the Scottish provinces, that deeper region to which Prof. E. Forbes had previously given the name of "deep-sea coral," on account of the numbers and abundance of calcareous, zoophytic and bryozoic polypedons procured from the greater depths. Between the coasts of Cornwall and Ireland Mr. Mac Andrew has dredged and carefully noted the Mollusca inhabiting the region of fifty fathoms; and it is very curious and interesting to observe that only at such depths, and in peculiar localities, in the southern part of the British Seas, do we find those species of Scandinavian origin which give a feature to even the shallower zones in the sea-beds of North Britain. The tables now presented show that whilst certain species of marine creatures are absolutely restricted to defined provinces of depth, those of the Littoral and Laminarian zones being especially limited in range alters, and not a few have a power of enduring all the various conditions between the coast line and 100 fathoms, but in every case of wide range there is some portion in each region where the individuals of each species attain a maximum in number. The higher zones of our sea are distinguished by the presence of peculiar genera as well as species, but in the lower zones, the peculiarity is maintained almost entirely by peculiar species of genera, which have a wide bathymetrical range. According to the nature of the sea-bottom the proportion of species and of individuals of particular tribes of Mollusca and Radiata is determined. Among the former, the Acephalous species prevail over the Paracephalous in proportion to the more sandy or muddy character of the soundings, whilst the latter equal or exceed the former when the bottom is of mulipore, or hard, or abounding in stones of any size. A comparison of the species of Mollusca and Radiata, in the several provinces before enumerated, shows beyond question that there is a distinct distribution of them horizontally, and that the elements of our marine Fauna are derived from opposite directions, mingled, however, with a general assemblage, of which the British Seas may be regarded as the centre. To the influence of the Rennell's current we may attribute much of the southern element in our marine Fauna; to that of currents setting in from the north, the Scandinavian and arctic elements. But when all the cases of distribution clearly to be attributed to such influences are enumerated, there remains a residue which we can only explain by going back to epochs anterior to our own, and to a different conformation of the coast of Europe, and a different set of currents from those which now prevail.

'On the European Species of Echinus, and the Peculiarities of their Distribution,' by Prof. E. FORBES.—When the author published his account of the British Echinodermata, he laid great stress on the distinctive character furnished by the sculpture of the spines in each species. In this communication he endeavoured to show that these characters bear definite relations to the more important features of the organization of the test, and that through them we are enabled easily to recognize even the most aberrant varieties of each species.

Mr. H. E. STRICKLAND read the Report of the Committee appointed for making experiments on the Vitality of Seeds. The experiments were going on, and the Committee would be glad to receive more seeds.

Dr. DAUBENY stated that generally seeds enough were not sent; in order to carry on the experiments through a series of years, a large number of seeds should be sent, as many as two or three thousand.

There was one thing which this Committee was succeeding in doing, and that was, abolishing the notion of the lengthened vitality of seeds which was very generally prevalent.

MONDAY.

'On the Influence of Salt on Vegetation,' by Dr. VOELCKER.—This paper contained the result of a series of experiments on the influence of solutions of salt on various plants, as cabbages, beans, onions, lentils, chick-weed, groundsel, the thistle, radishes, and some grasses. None of these plants were affected during one month by solutions containing 24 grains of chloride of sodium to the pint of water, with the exception of *Anthoxanthum odoratum* which was killed. Cabbages, radishes and lentils were benefited by this solution, and not injured by solutions containing 48 grains to the pint. Solutions of 96 grains injured the others, but had no effect on onions, radishes, and *Carduus pratensis*. Onions were not injured by solutions containing 192 grains of salt in the pint. Many of the plants had taken up so large quantities of salt that they tasted like strong brine.

Prof. WALKER-ARNOTT said that some of the plants experimented on by Dr. Voelcker, although not exclusively sea-shore plants, were yet of a kind that would grow near the sea, as, for instance, *Poa annua*; and he knew as a fact that the seeds of plants which grew near the sea would bear larger quantities of salt than those of the same species which grew away from the sea.

'On the Epidermal Appendages of Callitriche, Hippuris, Pinguicula, and Drosera,' by Dr. LANKESTER.—The author stated that since he had described the stellate bodies covering the surface of Callitriche, he had discovered the same bodies in Hippuris. That these bodies were hairs and not stomates, as had been supposed, was proved, the author thought, by the occurrence of the same bodies in Pinguicula, which were elevated on cells so as to form the crown of a hair. He described also similar bodies on the surface of the so called hairs of *Drosera rotundifolia*.

Dr. MACKAY, of Dublin, gave an account of an experiment on a *Dracena Draco* (Dragon Tree) in the Botanic Garden of Trinity College, Dublin. The plant had grown too tall for the house in which it was in, the stem was gradually cut through four feet above the surface of the soil, and the upper part suspended in the air, when it sent down secondary roots, and eventually was planted again. The author thought that the same plan might be pursued with regard to the palms and other Endogenous plants when they became too tall for the house.

'On the Species of Gossypium, and the effects of Climate in altering the character of Cotton,' by Prof. ROYLE.—The author considered that the number of species of the cotton plant had been unnecessarily multiplied, and showed the great influence that climate has in modifying the characters of admitted species of Gossypium.

Dr. Lankester read a paper from Mr. G. READ, 'On the subject of Ropy Bread.'—This kind of bread, which is unpleasant and almost useless, is not unfrequent. It occurs at times throughout a whole district, and when once it gets into the bakehouse it is with difficulty expelled. The only way to get rid of it, is to cast away all the old materials of bread-making and use everything clean and new. When examined under the microscope, the bread was found to have lost much of its cellular character, and everywhere the presence of a minute fungus could be detected.

'On the genus Perodicticus of Bennett, and its relation to Stenops,' by Prof. VAN DER HOEVEN.—The *Lemur Potto* of Gmelin, a species from the coast of Guinea, had hitherto only been known very imperfectly, the two specimens observed by the late Mr. Bennett and by the author of this notice having been both young and not having all their teeth. The author has had the opportunity of examining an adult specimen in the past year, and found the dentition quite similar to that of the genus Stenops.

Dr. H. LOWE made a Report 'On the Progress of Entomology in Scotland during the last few years.'—The Report was illustrated by a large collection of insects. Several insects recently added to the Scottish list were mentioned, and the author stated that in the destruction of insect life for preserving them



in museums, he had found nothing so successful as chloroform.

Report called for at the last Meeting of the Association 'On the Present State of our Knowledge of the Freshwater Polyzoa,' by Prof. ALLMAN.—Freshwater Polyzoa have in a zoographical point of view been examined chiefly by Gervois and Van Beneden, on the Continent, and in this country by Sir J. G. Dalyell, while Van Beneden and Dumortier have given us valuable details of their anatomical structure, and recently Mr. Hancock has published an excellent paper on the anatomy of certain genera with descriptions of some new species. Still, however, much remained to be determined, and in the present report, Prof. Allman brought forward the result of several years' laborious research into this subject. In consequence of our increased knowledge of the Polyzoa and their separation from the Polypes, rigid exactness as well as facility of description required some reform in the terminology hitherto employed in speaking of these animals, and which contained several terms also applied to the Polypes, and consequently to parts in no respect homologous. The Report contains a detailed account of the anatomy of the different genera in which the dermal, digestive, respiratory, circulatory, muscular, nervous, and reproductive systems are described under distinct heads.

Prof. E. FORBES said that such papers as these afforded abundant evidence of the value of the services of the British Association to science. This report with many others, bringing up our knowledge of science to the present day, would not have been produced but for the Association.

'A List of Zoophytes found in the vicinity of Peterhead, N.B., with a notice of some new to the British list,' by C. W. PEACH.—He commenced by stating that when he went to Peterhead in December last, he took with him a paper of Mr. J. M'Gillivray's containing a list of the zoophytes found on the coast of Aberdeen: this list he has verified with the exception of two, and, as well, added more than as many more, some of the flexible, amongst the rarest—the principal additions being calcareous, mostly Lepralians. He observed that many which are most abundant on the coast of Aberdeen, are either very rare or altogether wanting on the Cornish coast, and *vice versa*. The list now contained 107 species, all of which he had carefully examined before admitting them to the list. The first new one which he mentioned is a Cellularia of great beauty, differing from all figured in Dr. Johnston's edition of the British zoophytes, in the shape and arrangement of the cells, and having one tooth on the upper edge of the cells induced him to propose the name of Unicornis. The next is an Actinia, which from its colour and markings he would name the Carnation.

Prof. E. FORBES gave an account of the zoological researches made by Messrs. M'Gillivray and Huxley during the voyage of H.M.S. Rattlesnake, under the command of the late Capt. Owen Stanley.

Mr. BUSK then gave an account of the Zoophytes discovered on the same voyage—and afterwards a list of Zoophytes, &c. found at Port Natal, Algoa Bay and Table Bay, in South Africa—illustrated by a beautiful series of preparations of the animals described.

Prof. FLEMING, Prof. ALLMAN, and Prof. E. FORBES expressed their sense of the value of this paper, and their admiration of the manner in which the specimens had been prepared.

#### TUESDAY.

Dr. CARPENTER read two papers—one 'On the Reparation of the Spines of Echinida,' the other 'On the Gigantic Foraminifera of the Eocene Period, and their existing Representatives.'

Prof. E. FORBES stated that with regard to the Marginipora and Orbitoides, the observations of Mr. Williamson had convinced him that they were true Foraminifera. At the time that he had maintained that they were Brizozoa, no observations had been made that could be supposed to confirm their foraminiferous structure. Prof. Forbes then described a species of Foraminifera he had caught in the Zetlands, which projected from its head several apparent tentacula. He believed that an observation of this kind, in conjunction with the cephalopodoid character of the shell of some of the Foraminifera, had originally led D'Orbigny to suppose that these animals were Cephalopods.—Prof. GOODSIR quoted the opinion of

Dujardin, that the Foraminifera were related to the infusorial genus Amiba. These animals had the power of projecting lobes from their bodies, and probably in the same way as described in the creature seen by Prof. E. Forbes.

Dr. CARPENTER exhibited a specimen of stamped gilt paper, prepared by Mr. Warren De la Rue, which he said, when held up to the light reflected it in various ways, in the same manner as the markings upon the shells of mollusca.

Dr. MANTELL exhibited and described a portion of the upper jaw of the Iguanodon, with many mature teeth and dental grooves, which confirmed his opinion of the ruminant-like alternate arrangement of the teeth as given in his memoir on the Iguanodon in the Philosophical Transactions for 1848.—Prof. GOODSIR could not, on so brief an examination as he had been able to make of the teeth, give an opinion as to their true character.

Prof. E. FORBES gave a short analysis of the researches of Mr. W. Thomson on the structure and management of the lingual teeth of the British Pulmono-branchiate Mollusca.

'On the Grass-cloth (Chū Inā) of India,' by Dr. H. CLEGHORN.—The author stated that several species of plants belonging to the order Urticaceæ were employed in Hindostan for the purpose of yielding fibres used in the manufacture of textile fabrics. He exhibited several articles of dress very white and light, which were made from the fibres of an Urticaceous plant, the *Bohmeria nivea*.

Dr. D. MACLAGAN inquired if the fibres of this plant had been examined microscopically, as he had found that on being used for rubbing the glasses of optical instruments it scratched them. Should it become generally used in this country care must be taken to avoid its application to delicate objects.

—Mr. GOURLIE, of Glasgow stated that we knew very little of the raw material of many of the fabrics from other parts of the world. We were for a long time ignorant of the materials from which Manilla handkerchiefs were made. It was said to be the fibres of the leaf of the pine-apple, but we had not succeeded in manufacturing them in this country.—Dr. LANKESTER remarked on the importance of an increase of our knowledge of those forms of plants which were capable of yielding materials for manufacture. Although the exhibition of raw materials had been deprecated by some in the coming Exhibition of 1851, he believed that it might be made one of the most important and valuable features of the Exhibition.—Dr. ROYLE said that it had been long doubtful what plant yielded the grass cloth of India, and now that we know the plant, it would undoubtedly lead to its further employment. There were many other fabrics in India of which we knew nothing of the materials. He thought that one of the most important branches for the manufactures of this country of the Exhibition of 1851 was that of raw materials. Every pains should be taken to obtain the name and history of every species of plant which yielded any substance useful in the arts, manufactures or medicine.

Dr. D. MACLAGAN read a paper, from Mr. James Hardy, 'On an Acarus and Vibrio that attack Grasses.'

'On a peculiar Structure in the submedial pair of Rectrices of *Vidua paradisæa*,' by Mr. H. E. STRICKLAND.—When these feathers are in a young state the barbs of both webs are united at their extremities to an intermediate filament, which becomes detached as the growth of the feather advances, and ultimately falls off. This filament is furnished on both sides with alternate tufts of "barbules," and these barbules possess hooked "barbicels," similar to those which exist on the distal side of the ordinary feather barbs. By means of these hooks the filament embraces and clasps the barbs which are attached to its two opposite sides. This structure appears to be peculiar to the *Vidua paradisæa*, and to the submedial rectrices only in that bird. Its object is probably the protection of the feather-barbs during the course of their development. But it is difficult to account for so complex a structure occurring in two feathers only, in a single species (so far as known) of birds.

'On the Birds of the Faroe Islands,' by Mr. J. WOLLEY.—In illustration of the abundance of certain kinds of food was mentioned the phenomenon of the sudden rise of a compact shoal of small marine

animals, probably crustaceous; which, on the authority of an intelligent native, has given origin to the belief in the existence of the huge flat sea-monster, the Kraken of Pontoppidan, called in Faroe Kraka or Tæra-bue. The particulars given by the Bishop and those related by credulous eye-witnesses in the islands are mostly consonant with this explanation. Such are the choice of particular localities, the seaweed bank appearance, the birds hovering over it, and the fishes feeding upon its dung, with the calmness and heat of the weather; the latter also necessary for a sight of another of the sea-monsters, the Soe-ormen,—for which the effects of electrical jets of air, little whirlwinds or water-spouts have undoubtedly been mistaken by at least some of Pontoppidan's witnesses. In a list of thirty-six birds found breeding in 1849, there were the names of only two not known to breed in Britain,—the Snow Bunting, *Emberiza nivalis*, and the Purple Sandpiper, *Tringa maritima*,—both of which frequent the tops of mountains.

Mr. A. STRICKLAND read a paper, 'On the Changes of Colour undergone by British Birds.'

Dr. LANKESTER brought before the Section the following papers and reports:—1. 'A Record of the Distribution of Marine Animals in Depth in a Cruise from Vigo to Tunis,' by Mr. R. MAC ANDREW.—The paper had been recommended by the Committee of the Section for publication entire in the next volume of the Transactions of the Association.—1. 'Report on the Structure and Forms of the family Annelida,' by Dr. T. WILLIAMS, of Swansea. Several drawings illustrated this report, which was still in progress; and the Committee had recommended that Dr. Williams be requested to continue his researches on the Annelida.—3. Report of a Committee for the Investigation of the Periodic Phenomena of Plants and Animals.' The Committee had had two sets of tables sent in during the present meeting, one from Mr. James Hardy, of Penmanshiel by Cockburnspath, the other from Mr. Matthew Moggridge, of Swansea. The Committee urged upon those who had applied for their tabular forms to retain them, as only a few accurate observations when concluded with others were of importance.

Mr. T. C. THOMPSON read a notice of the application of photography to the compound microscope.

Dr. CARPENTER stated that he had used this plan himself for obtaining microscopic drawings: it had been first employed by the late Mr. Edwin Quekett.

Mr. ZAGLUS gave an exposition of his views of the Morphology of the muscular system. He showed that by tracing the development of the muscles from the fishes up to the higher mammalia, there were certain general laws which governed their form and relationship one to another.

Prof. A. THOMSON remarked on the novelty of the author's views. He saw no occasion why we should not have the same general laws applying to the muscular system as we found prevailing with regard to the nervous and osseous systems.—After some few remarks from the President, the Section was closed for the session.

#### MONDAY.

#### SECTION F.—STATISTICS.

'Remarks suggested by an examination of the recent Statistics of the Cotton Manufacture in Great Britain,' by Mr. G. R. PORTER.—The fear of being dependent upon foreign countries for the supply of any article of first necessity has often influenced the mind of the public, although the cases can be but very few in which that fear can have any just foundation. It must be evident, upon the slightest reflection, that if the industry and capital of any country have been applied to the production of any article, the market for which is habitually found in some other country, it must be at least as disastrous for the producing country to be deprived of its market as it could possibly be for the consuming country to have its supplies cut off. In point of fact, both countries would necessarily be placed by the interruption in the same condition of distress, since, to be in a condition to deal together, both must be producing and both consuming countries. There are circumstances, however, under which it might be unwise for a country to be willingly dependent upon another for the means of setting its industry in motion, viz., when the causes of the interruption that



will operate injuriously are beyond the control of the country of supply; and such a case actually exists in respect of the, to us, all-important article, cotton. Our supply of cotton has hitherto been drawn in very fluctuating proportions from British India, Brazil, Egypt, our West India Colonies, and the United States of America. From this last-named country the quantities were for a long series of years in a continual condition of increase. From Brazil our importations have sensibly lessened without any reasonable prospect of future increase. From Egypt the quantities fluctuate violently, and depend greatly upon causes not falling within ordinary commercial considerations. In the British West Indies the cultivation of cotton has for some time ceased to form a regular branch of industry, and it is hardly to be expected that having thus ceased to be profitable when prices in Europe were uniformly at a higher level than they have been for now a long series of years, the cultivation of cotton to any important extent will be resumed in these colonies. From British India the quantities received depend upon a different set of circumstances, but of such a nature as to forbid any very sanguine hope of great and permanent increase in the shipments. To those who reflect seriously upon these facts, it must appear a matter of grave importance how any continued failure of cotton crops is to be met; and not only so, but also, how a substitute is to be found for the hitherto constantly increasing amount of those crops; for it will not be enough to provide the same amount of employment as before for our continually growing numbers in a branch of industry which, by its ordinary operations, necessarily brings forward those increased numbers. The uneasiness which it is natural to feel under the circumstances here described, has led to the inquiry, as diligently and as carefully as opportunity has allowed, whether some substitute or auxiliary may not be called into action which shall meet the evil that threatens us; and this, it is suggested, may be found in a kindred branch of manufacture—that of flax. A very few years ago, when first anxiety began to arise concerning the prospects of our cotton manufacture, the resource which has just been named did not present itself. At that time, our linen manufacture had not made the progress by which it is at present marked—a progress proportionally equal to any that has been made at any time in the cotton manufacture. Hitherto we have, in this kingdom, been greatly dependent upon our foreign importations for supplies of flax; and while the law imposed restrictions upon the importation of grain for human food, there existed a kind of moral impediment in the way of increasing our home growth of articles for any purpose not of equal primary necessity. That impediment is now removed; and there can be no reason given why our fields should not be henceforth used for the production of any article that promises an adequate profit to the farmer. It is especially desirable so to apply the productive power of the soil for the supply of articles as indispensable to the support of millions of people as corn itself; and an additional inducement to the growth of flax beyond that offered by other articles, may be found in the fact that to bring it to the same condition as that in which it is usually imported from foreign countries, calls for the employment of a considerable amount of human labour. There is no part of the United Kingdom in which the flax plant cannot successfully be cultivated; and there is hardly any country where it might not be brought to supply our deficiencies, should such arise. It should not in any degree interfere with the prosperity of the present race of cotton manufacturers if flax were to be substituted in part for the material now employed by them. Some changes are doubtless necessary in order to adapt their present machinery for the spinning of flax, but not to any important extent; and the expense to which the proprietors might thus be subjected would be well compensated during the first year of short supply of cotton that might arise, by the security that they would feel in the future regularity of their operations; assured as they then would be against the irregularity of seasons, or those disturbances which have arisen, and which always may arise, to disarrange their operations and to interfere with the regular employment of their hands. It would not appear difficult so to order the arrangements of a spinning-wheel or a weaving shed that both flax and

cotton might be included within its operations, and that the preponderance in those operations might be given from time to time either to the one or to the other, according to the capabilities of the markets of supply on the one hand, and the requirements of the markets of consumption on the other.

‘On the Geographical Distribution of Disease, as indicating the Connexion between Natural Phenomena and Health and Longevity,’ by Mr. K. JOHNSTON.—In this paper, which was illustrated by maps and diagrams, the author gave general views of the distribution of endemic disease over the globe, showing, by means of colours, the regions visited by particular diseases, and the proportionate amount of mortality occasioned by each among natives and Europeans. He showed by means of diagrams the effect of climate in the production and extension of disease, as exhibited in the moist and marshy districts of tropical regions;—that, for example, remittent fever increases progressively with the increase of temperature from north to south; as strikingly shown by the returns of the health of the army of the United States of America. He stated, that in order to judge of the effects of climate, it is necessary to compare the amount of sickness and mortality among the indigenous population of a country with that of strangers to the soil; that in India the average amount of mortality among European troops is nearly three times as great as among natives. He then drew attention to the remarkable differences between the health of the army as compared with that of the navy and with the civil population of a country. After adverting to the successful means that have been adopted for the prevention of disease, and the greatly increased value of human life thence resulting, he intimated his intention of following up the important inquiries now commenced with a special view to the subject of life assurance.

‘Account of the System of Croft Husbandry and the Reclamation of Waste Lands, chiefly by spade culture, adopted at Gairloch, in Ross-shire, since 1846, and its results, as illustrating the conditions under which the labour of paupers and criminals may safely be made productive,’ by Dr. ALISON.—The object of this paper was to establish chiefly by statistical evidences the following propositions:—That where the system of *petite culture* practised in Belgium had been introduced in the arable lands in Ross-shire,—i. e., stall-feeding of stock, collection and economical management of manure, proper rotation of crops, and careful cultivation of small crofts by the spade,—the result had been almost exactly the same as in Belgium; viz., that a family of five persons could be maintained on such land, in comfort, on a croft of five or six acres, and pay a rent of 10s. or more to the landlord; and that the reclamation of arable but waste lands for this purpose could be effected in a very few years by the population now in their neighbourhood, under due regulations as to instruction and inspection. 2. That great tracts of such land now absolutely unproductive exist in Great Britain, and at least 1,500,000 acres in Ireland, known by official surveys to be at least equal to that in Belgium, requiring only a small outlay of capital for draining, &c., and large outlay of labour, to make them equally productive as that in Belgium or the best of those at Gairloch. 3. That the objections made to the productive employment of paupers or criminals on such land are in most such cases distinctly inapplicable; these objections being, first, that pauper farms generally prove failures, and are a loss instead of a profit to the parish; second, that the employment of paupers in any productive employment interferes with the labour market and injures independent labourers. To the first objection the answer made is, that it is not necessary in order to establish the importance of productive employment of paupers, that they should furnish a profit for the parish; they may be very usefully employed, even in a merely economical view, if they only effect a saving to the rate-payers, who must find, clothe, and lodge them and their families whether they employ them or not. To the second objection it is answered, that lands on which no work has been done within the memory of man are not in the labour market, and any production raised on them are clear additions to the wealth of a country, and no injury to any other labourers; and that all that sound political economy requires is, not that the labour of paupers (or of criminals) should yield no

remuneration, but only that such remuneration as it does yield should be clear addition to the resources of a country, not the substitution of the produce of their labour for that of independent labourers. 4. That great numbers of able-bodied destitute poor have been maintained in the workhouses in Ireland since 1846 in absolute idleness, and at a great expense to the rate-payers there and to Britain likewise; that many have died in Ireland of the effects of destitution; and great numbers more have wandered thence, and caused expense and carried disease wherever the English language is spoken, who might have been employed in reclaiming these waste lands, with a saving, if not a profit, to those who have now to support them; examples having been recently furnished by the experience of several English unions,—particularly Chorlton and Sheffield—of the reclamation of waste lands by pauper labour, with a decided saving to the parishes even within a very few years. 5. That when landed proprietors, as in Ireland, have their land occupied by a redundant and destitute population, for which they are legally bound to make some provision, their natural resource—as the best authorities, e. g. Mill, Sir R. Kane, and Mr. Nicholls, Poor Law Commissioner in Ireland, agree—ought to be, the establishment of the *petite culture*, as in Belgium, and as imitated at Gairloch; and that any law which impedes the sale of portions of their property for that purpose is truly a suicidal law, injurious to all the interests of the country. 6. That a poor law providing for the unemployed able-bodied, rightly worked, may be of the most direct and essential use in Ireland, or in any other country, in bringing the waste lands “and idle hands” together, and aiding the general establishment of this kind of husbandry—first, because numbers of the able-bodied paupers in any union may be employed immediately in reclaiming and then cultivating such lands taken possession of in default of payment of rates, or purchased or rented for this purpose, as has been done at Sheffield and at Chorlton; and, secondly, because such operations, carried on in every union in Ireland, and under the direction and control of such experienced agriculturists as Government may easily obtain for the purpose, may become a normal school for instructing owners and occupiers of land in a system of cultivation which requires little expenditure of capital even from the first, but some knowledge of the subject, and especially constant attention and industry, such as the examples of Gairloch as well as of the English unions show, may gradually be enforced among the people by the owners of the land and their agents, when themselves duly sensible of its advantages.

Prof. HANCOCK was of opinion that the employment of pauper labour would be a failure. It could not be made productive, and the poor-law guardians could not manage it. He held that if waste land was to be made productive, it should be undertaken by private enterprise. The waste land of Ireland, however, was completely locked up by the difficulty and expense of making out a title.—Mr. J. H. BURTON said an important distinction should be kept in view on this subject—it was that between the employment of pauper labour in the mere reclamation of waste land under the labour test, and any approach to the system of colonizing such land with paupers. The latter system was liable to grave objections, to which the former did not seem amenable.

#### TUESDAY.

Mr. W. T. THOMPSON made some observations with reference to an investigation of the fund established by Act of Parliament for a provision for the widows and children of the ministers of the Church of Scotland, and of the Principals and Masters of the Universities of Scotland, from 1744 to 1849.—Mr. Thompson divided his observations into two parts. The first related to the rate of interest on money in Scotland as invested by bond on landed security, comparing the result with the rate of interest on other classes of securities. The second related to the deaths and marriages, widows and families, and other similar statistics afforded by the fund. It appeared that the average rate of interest from 1784 to 1850 (66 years) was 4l. 7s. 7d. per cent.; the average rate of interest from 1816 to 1850 (34 years) was 4l. 4s. 5d. per cent.; the average rate of interest from 1830 to 1850 (20 years) was 3l. 19s. 10d. per cent. After drawing some general conclusions, the



author proceeded to state the result of his observations on the vital statistics of the fund. The period to which he directed particular attention was from 1797 to 1842—the former date being about the time when the fund attained its full proportions, and the latter being before its operations were disturbed by the secession from the Church in 1843. A few out of the leading results brought out were, that the average number of members during the period stated was 1,020; that the average age of the living was about 48-9; that the average age of entering the church was 28-9; that the average duration of the lives of the members after admission was 33-4 years; that the average duration of the life of each widow after her widowhood was 19 years; that the average number of widows existing at one time was 338; that the number of ministers who died yearly was on the average under 30.

'Some Statistics respecting the Sale of Incumbered Estates in Ireland,' by Prof. HANCOCK.—The questions he proposed to illustrate by his statistics were—1st. Did it appear that any necessity existed for establishing the cheap, simple, and expeditious forms of procedure of the Incumbered Estates Court in lieu of the proceedings previously required in the Courts of Chancery and Exchequer? 2nd. Was there any evidence of the parties most interested having confidence in the proceedings of the Court? 3rd. At what rate of purchase had the estates been really sold? 4th. To what causes were the differences of prices of the different classes of estates to be ascribed? As to the first question, it appeared, that of cases transferred from the courts of equity to the Incumbered Estates Court, no less than 89 cases had been pending in Chancery or Exchequer for 10 years; 40 cases for 20 years; 26 cases for 30 years; 13 cases for 40 years; 8 cases for 50 years; 5 cases for 60 years; and 1 case for 70 years. The result of this delay was to make the bulk of these estates bankrupt. It appeared that the estates owed the following sums:—

	Incumbrances.	Possible Price.
5 cases, pending 60 years,	£202,602 .....	£176,700
8 " " " 50 years,	339,051 .....	258,480
13 " " " 40 years,	476,124 .....	341,480
26 " " " 30 years,	635,699 .....	444,250

In only 2 of the 26 estates would the proprietors receive any part of the purchase-money, and they would get only 18,000*l.*, leaving 422,000*l.* to pay incumbrancers having charges to the amount of 635,699*l.*; so that the incumbrancers must lose upwards of 200,000*l.* The effect of the rapid sales of the incumbered estates was not to ruin puisne incumbrancers, but to make manifest the ruin that the dilatory proceedings in equity had produced. As to the second question, it appeared that out of 1,003 petitions presented up to June last, 155 had been presented by the owners themselves, relating to a rental of 180,000*l.*, subject to incumbrances amounting to 2,892,000*l.* As to the third question, it appeared, that 25 sales of fee simple had produced 125,176*l.*, or a nominal rental of 7,872*l.*; or, making an abatement of 20 per cent. on a real rental of 5,658*l.*, being 22 years' purchase. That 13 sales of leases for lives renewable for ever had produced 22,930*l.* on a gross nominal rental of 2,285*l.*, subject to a head rent of 278*l.*; making an abatement of 20 per cent. to get the real rental of 1,814*l.*, and taking 30 years' purchase of the head rent as added to the purchase-money, this gave an average of 17 years' purchase. That 14 sales of long terms of years produced 33,155*l.* on a nominal rental of 4,195*l.*, subject to a head rent of 768*l.*, which gave an average of 16½ years' purchase. That 6 sales of estates subject to annuities produced 57,285*l.*, on a nominal rental of 1,014*l.* In these cases, as the ages of the annuitants were not given, it was impossible to ascertain the rate of purchase. As to the fourth question, the difference of price of the land in fee and the leaseholds arose partly from renewal fines and the reservations and covenants in the leases, but was chiefly caused by the circumstance that in the case of leaseholds the Commissioners gave parliamentary title not to the land, but to the lease only; and consequently, parties buying leaseholds ran a risk of losing their purchase if it should turn out that the original lessor had no right to grant the lease, or if there was any technical defect in the lease. It followed, therefore, that the Incumbered Estates Court was absolutely necessary; that the owners of

land had shown great confidence in it; that the land of Ireland was not depreciated, as it had brought 22 years' purchase; that the system of giving a Parliamentary title had prevented any depreciation from complication of title; that the want of a complete Parliamentary title in the case of leaseholds had caused a depreciation to the extent of nearly five years' purchase in their sale; and that this depreciation could be removed by wise legislation.

The SECRETARY read a paper by Mr. A. MILWARD, entitled, 'Some Remarks on the City and Neighbourhood of Malaga, and on the Preparation of Raisins.'

'On the recent Progress of Glasgow, in Population, Wealth, Commerce and Manufactures,' by Dr. J. STRANG.—In 1801, the population was 77,000; in 1821, 147,043; 1831, 202,426; 1841, 282,134; and in 1850 it was estimated to amount to 367,800. The population had thus quintupled itself in fifty years and doubled itself in twenty years. In 1845, the gross number of houses and other possessions was 65,028; and the rental 866,150*l.* In 1850, the number of possessions was 76,034; and the rental 1,017,362*l.*; showing an increase, in five years, of 11,006 possessions, and of 151,212*l.* of rental. In 1800 the streets and roads within the Parliamentary bounds of the city extended to 30 miles; at present the formed and paved streets alone extended to 96 miles. In 1800 there was little or no sewerage in Glasgow. At present there were 42 miles of main sewers, 21 of which had been formed during the last six years, at a cost of 1,200*l.* per mile. Dr. Strang then referred to the deepening of the river Clyde, and stated that in 1800, vessels of only some thirty or forty tons could come up to the Broomielaw. In 1820 the high water at neap tides was 9 feet; in 1840 it was 14 feet; and in 1850 it had increased to 16 feet, so that vessels of 1,000 tons register could come up to the harbour of Glasgow, while steam-ships of 2,000 tons had been built on the banks of the river near the city. The tonnage of vessels belonging to Glasgow was as follows:—

	Sailing Vessels.	Steamers.
1828 .. ..	214,315 tons.	481,946 tons.
1848 .. ..	271,942 "	894,387 "
1850 .. ..	392,033 "	873,159 "

The decrease in the tonnage of steamers was to be accounted for by the trade having gone partly into railways. The revenue of the Clyde Trust in 1800 was 3,319*l.*; in 1820 it was 6,328*l.*; in 1830, 20,296*l.*; in 1840, 46,481*l.*; in 1850, 64,243*l.*; showing an increase of revenue twenty-fold since the commencement of the century, and three-fold during the last twenty years. The Customs duties in Glasgow, in 1801, were 469*l.*; in 1820, 11,000*l.*; in 1830, 59,013*l.*; in 1840, 468,974*l.*; and in 1850, 640,568*l.* The letters put in the Post Office in 1840 were 54,522; while in 1850, they were 111,504. Cotton-spinning was first introduced in Glasgow in 1792; and at present there were 1,800,000 spindles, which annually consumed 45,000,000 lb. of cotton. Dr. Strang then referred to the increase that had taken place in the consumption of gas and water—the former having been nearly quadrupled within the last ten years. The increase that has taken place in the assessment for the poor over the whole of Glasgow cannot be determined; but some idea may be formed of it from the state of matters in the old burgh of Glasgow. In 1784 it was 1,032*l.*; in 1816, 12,378*l.*; and in 1850, 47,787*l.* Taking the whole Parliamentary bounds of the city the annual assessment for the poor at present is 80,000*l.* The cost of prisons in 1820 was 1,058*l.*; but now it was 8,550*l.* The daily average of persons in prisons was 717; and the cost of their maintenance per head 12*l.* 1*s.* 3*d.*

'On the Prevalence and Mortality of Cholera in the Indian Armies,' by Dr. C. FINCH.—The scope of this paper was to show that the disease was neither so frequent nor so fatal in the East as is generally believed in this part of the world. A summary of these per-centages show that of the European force, 11,429 strong, stationed in the Madras Presidency during the year 1847, there were attacked by cholera only 271 per cent.,—little more than 1 man in 500; and of whom died 192 per cent.,—less than 1 man in 500. Of the European troops, 8,756 strong, serving in the Bombay Presidency in 1847, there were sufferers from cholera 515 per cent., or 1 man in 200; of whom died 274 per cent., or about 1 man in 400. Of the Madras Native Army, consisting of

67,950 men, those attacked by cholera were 334 per cent., or about 1 man in 300; of whom died only 114 per cent., or 1 man in 900. Of the Bombay Native Army, comprising 43,930 sepoys, the ratio of sick to strength was 575, or little more than 1 man in 200; but the loss occasioned by the disease did not exceed 227 per cent., not amounting to 1 man in 400. These results demonstrate that though epidemic cholera is still a frequent and fatal disease in the Indian armies, it is neither so prevalent nor so mortal as it is generally believed to be, and show that military service in India does not necessarily entail so great a risk of life from this disease as is generally supposed in this part of the globe.

## FRIDAY.

## SECTION G.—MECHANICAL SCIENCE.

Mr. NASMYTH gave an account of his new arrangement of the reflecting telescope, by which great additional comfort was afforded to the observer. This consisted in having the centering or trunions at the centre of gravity; through one of which, in a tubular form, the rays from the reflector within were thrown into the eye thus placed, as in the Newtonian telescope at the side. The advantage from this arrangement is, that the eye does not require to move upon a movement of the telescope. Mr. Nasmyth then described his plan of casting specula, by which unsoundness was avoided.

Prof. SMITH explained a new form of equatorial at present constructing for the Edinburgh Observatory, and a folding dome for extra meridian instruments. After this he explained a mode of cooling the air in tropical climates. This was in the first instance to condense air by mechanical means. Then to allow the air thus condensed, and consequently heated, to fall to the common temperature. The condensed air thus let loose, and allowed to fall into a room, would, by its expansion, lower all the air with which it comes in contact. He had tested the principle on a large scale, and found it to answer his expectations.

Mr. TAYLOR knew of men working in one of the Cornwall mines at a temperature of 110°. It would now be possible to send them down a treat of cold air, which he had no doubt they would relish as much as a lady does an ice on a hot day.—Mr. RANKINE said, in reference to the power required, that he had made the calculation, and the result was, that one horse working for one hour lowers 9,000 cubic feet of air 20°; and, of course, in this proportion for all other cases. This was exclusive of friction.

'On a Register Hygrometer for regulating the Atmospheric Moisture of Houses,' by Mr. APPOLD.—This instrument, with a variation of one quarter of a degree in the hygrometric state of the atmosphere, opens a valve capable of supplying ten quarts of water per hour, conveying it on to the surface of warm pipes covered with blotting paper, by which the water is evaporated until the atmosphere is sufficiently saturated, and the valve thereby closed. A lead pencil attached registers the distance the hygrometer travels, and thus a sheet of paper moved by a clock would show the hygrometric state of the atmosphere at any period of time.

'On a Gas Stove,' by Mr. W. S. WARD.—The novelty of this consists in constructing the stove in a vertical position, so as to expose considerable surfaces for the absorption of heat from gas burners, and for the radiation of the heat. The author found that his apparatus was sufficient to raise the temperature of a moderate sized room from 5 to 10 deg. Fah., with a consumption of about 3 feet of gas per hour, costing about 2*d.* for ten hours; and that it was particularly useful in warming a bed-room, where only a slight elevation of temperature was required, and free from the production of dirt or smell.

## MONDAY.

Mr. LASSELL, of Liverpool, gave an account of his new method of supporting a large speculum free from sensible flexure in all positions. This he proposed to do when in a horizontal position, by supporting it at eighteen different points on which the weight might bear equally; and by casting the speculum with ribs, he proposed to adapt levers, that when the telescope is elevated, they might bear the weight among them, and thus prevent it from disturbing the true form of



the speculum.—The PRESIDENT of the Section said that the evil arising from flexure was much felt in Lord Rosse's telescope, and of course lay much in the way of its efficiency.

Mr. WHITWORTH's communication 'On a New Duplex Turning-lathe,' was then read by Mr. Scott Russell.—The improvement suggested not only doubled the quantity of work, but did it in a much better style. It was to have two cutters on opposite sides of the cylinder to be turned, thus at once increasing the performance, and rendering that better by removing the tremor which would necessarily arise.

'On the Value of the Gaseous Escape from the Blast Furnaces at the Ystafra Iron Works,' in continuation of a paper read at the meeting of the Association in 1848, by Mr. PALMER BUDD.—Mr. Budd stated that, since the meeting of the Association at Swansea, he had continued, and with increased success, to apply the waste gases that escaped from the top of blast furnaces, to the manufacture of iron; and it was the result of his further experience applied to the whole of his furnaces (nine in number) since that period, that he now wished to submit to the Section. Mr. Budd then referred to his mode of applying the gaseous escape, and said it was well known that there were two descriptions of furnaces used for metallurgical purposes. The one was the blast furnace, into which air was injected, by mechanical means, at a great density, so as to penetrate upwards of 40 feet of dense materials; and the other was the reverberatory furnace, where the fire was produced by means of the draught of a chimney stack. What he had accomplished was by combining these two, so that the gaseous products of the furnace, instead of escaping through the tunnel head, were drawn sideways by a high stack, and passing through the stoves and boilers, leave behind the necessary temperature of the blast and of the steam. In a blast furnace the ores are smelted before the *tuyères* by the conversion of the solid carbon into carbonic acid, which, passing up through the middle region of the furnace into a bath of carbon, was reconverted into carbonic oxide, capable of combining with a further dose of oxygen. It would be thus seen that the whole of the carbon of the fuel should be present at the top of the furnace in a gaseous form. When the British Association met at Swansea, he had not used the gaseous escape at any great distance from the furnace, his stoves and boilers being very closely contiguous. Further experience, however, had proved that by the aid of a stack at the end of the chain of sufficient dimensions, the gaseous escape from the furnace might be made to travel in the most tortuous directions, descending to the stoves built for heating by the usual fire-places, and traversing the boilers; the only condition absolutely necessary being that there should be an unbroken communication with the high stack at the end, into which the gaseous escape might at last pass, and by which it was drawn forward, instead of passing off wastefully at the tunnel-head. When, however, the draft was carried downward, and to long distances, he had found it necessary to drop into the top of the furnace a hopper or funnel, made of sheet-iron, which acted as a shield at the mouths of the horizontal flues, and prevented them from either being affected by high winds, or from being choked up by materials thrown into the furnace. The reason, no doubt, why this funnel was not applied before was the great apparent temperature at the tunnel-head. In practice, however, it was found that until the gaseous escape mingled with the atmosphere, its heating power was not such as to injure sheet-iron, or even to make it red-hot. In fact, so long as there was an escape upwards, the iron funnel would not be injured. The damage arose during and after stoppages of the furnace, when the blast was obstructed in its passage upwards by the settlement of the materials in the furnace, so that the atmosphere rushed down to meet the ascending gases, and, of course, caused a very high local temperature. His practice was to exclude the atmospheric air as much as possible. The affinity of the gases for oxygen was so great that the air leakage raised the temperature quite sufficient for safety, whilst the full combustion of the gaseous escape would melt down the bricks in the flues, and destroy the texture of the iron tube. It was not possible for him to say what combinations took place at high temperatures, where carbonic oxide, carbonic acid, hydrogen, and nitrogen, were mixed in such proportions. At

any rate, he found a smothered combustion to be the most suitable and economical for the purposes in view. He was happy to say that, at length, the application of the gaseous escape had been tried in Scotland; and that at Dundee and elsewhere it was now in successful operation. The peculiar quality of the furnace coal of Scotland being what was called in South Wales "free burning," which, when put into the furnace raw, coked sufficiently in its descent, gave out an enormous escape, so much so that, upon a rough estimate, he calculated that the waste from one furnace in Scotland was sufficient to heat the blast, and to raise the steam for three. With anthracite coal, the minimum effect was obtained, as it was a dense fuel of nearly 95 per cent. of solid carbon; but in Scotland there would be an enormous surplus at the tunnel head. He observed that the saving at the Dundee Iron-works was stated to be about  $1\frac{1}{2}$  tons for each ton of iron produced. Supposing, therefore, 600,000 tons of iron to be the produce of Scotland, and supposing the value of the coal used to be 3s. a ton, the saving that would thus be effected on the make of Scotland would amount to 112,500*l.* a year; to which might be added 20,000*l.* a year of saving in wages and repairs, which would make a total saving of 132,500*l.*, or about 4*s.* 5*d.* a ton on the produce of Scotland, which on the present price of 44*s.* per ton, was about 10 per cent. on the value. If the gaseous escape could be extended to the uses of the forge, a further saving of three tons of coal would be effected,—thus making, at least, a saving of 20*s.* a ton on all the iron manufactured into bars, sheets, and rails.

Mr. G. BEATTIE gave a description of his new Door Spring, and exhibited one of the springs in working order—the motive power being the pressure of the atmosphere. Mr. Beattie's application of this natural law is simple in the contrivance. When the door is opening, it withdraws a tight piston from the closed end of a cylinder, which leaves a vacuum behind the piston, and the pressure of the atmosphere upon the piston forces it back to its place, and closes the door. This cylinder has an exhausted chamber in connexion with it for giving the door a maintaining power when shut. There is also working with the first cylinder and piston a dwarf cylinder and piston for regulating the speed the door is wished to be closed at, which has perfect control over the travel of the door, either in allowing it to shut at once or to take any given time. The advantages this door-closer possesses are that the resistance is uniform when opening the door; and when shutting it there can be no increase of speed beyond that to which it is set, and consequently no slamming or noise.

Mr. STEVENSON made a statement of the result of certain observations made by him on the Force of the Waves with reference to the Construction of Marine Works. The object of Mr. Stevenson's experiments is to ascertain by means of a self-registering instrument the force of the waves per square foot of surface. The instrument consists in a disc on which the sea impinges, and the impact is registered by means of a spiral spring. The result of the experiments hitherto made, may be stated to be a force of about  $1\frac{1}{2}$  tons per square foot for the German Ocean, and of three tons for the Atlantic Ocean. The experiments from which these results were obtained being made at the Bell Rock and Skerryvore Lighthouses.

'On the Limits to the Velocity of Revolving Lighthouse Apparatus, caused by the time required for the production of Luminous Impressions on the Eye,' by Mr. SWAN.—Mr. Swan having referred to the well-known fact that the impressions of light remain for a definitive portion of time, about one-tenth of a second, said that no experiments so far as he knew had been made as to the time required for making the impression. His experiments had been undertaken with this view. The brightness of the impression he found to be in proportion to the time of making it. When the time was one-fiftieth of a second, for example, the brightness of the impression was about one-tenth of the brightness of the full light. From this Mr. Swan inferred that the light could not exceed a certain rate of revolution, otherwise a sufficiently vivid impression could not be made upon the eye.

TUESDAY.

'On Improvements in Valves and Stop Cocks for regulating the Passage of Fluids,' by Mr. G. Bu-

CHANAN.—Mr. Buchanan explained the principles of his improved valves or stop-cocks, and illustrated their operations by various experiments on working models.

Prof. DONALDSON gave an explanation, illustrated by numerous experimental examples, of the apparatus invented by the Baron De La Tour, for producing Musical Sounds, whether in air or water.

Mr. BUCHANAN read a paper 'On the Construction of the Rubble Bridge at Ashestiel.'

The PRESIDENT then communicated the substance of a note which he had received from M. Jules Guyot, claiming the priority of the invention of the tubular bridge, and contending, it would appear, that English engineers had taken the idea from him.—Sir C. PASLEY said that Mr. Stephenson laid claim to the invention of iron girders, whether great or small, and upon this he rested his claim to the invention of the tubular bridge. He had seen his first idea, which was rejected by the Admiralty from its not affording space enough for the navigation of the Strait. His next idea was two oval tubes, resting upon a pillar on the Britannia Rock. He believed that up to this time no idea had been formed of a tubular bridge. The next step was the rectangular form, which was shown to be the best, by the experiments of Fairbairn. He thought that the particular form was due to Fairbairn, while he believed the original idea of the tubular bridge to be due to Stephenson.—Sir D. BREWSTER observed, that if Stephenson admits, which he seems to have done, that the invention of the girder was the invention of the tubular bridge, then it certainly did follow that, just as a telescope of a foot long was as much a telescope as that of Lord Rosse's, the invention was due to Stephenson. He did think, however, that Stephenson had claimed too much, and the risk was, he would get credit for less than was his due.—Dr. ROBINSON remarked that if the letters arising out of the controversy touching this affair between Stephenson and Fairbairn were to be relied on, he was of opinion that Stephenson had extended his claim too far. It did appear to him (Dr. Robinson) that up to a late period Mr. Stephenson had no idea at all of any other than the tensile force, and that the resistance to a compressive force had not yet entered his mind.—The ASTRONOMER ROYAL expressed his great regret that a controversy of this kind had been admitted into the British Association. He protested against all discussions of this kind, as being foreign to its objects, and calculated in no small degree to disturb the harmony of its deliberations.—Sir D. BREWSTER having been boldly told when in France that the idea of the tubular bridge had been stolen by the English, he felt bound to defend his countrymen from such an allegation. He did not see why the discussion could not be conducted in kindness, and with the simple idea of determining the truth.

Sir D. BREWSTER made a communication 'On a Tabular Crane proposed by Mr. Fairbairn.'

'On the Dynamic Equivalent of Current Electricity, and on a fixed scale for Electromotive Force in Galvanometry,' by Mr. W. PETRIE.—The dynamic value of a current of voltaic electricity is represented by the product of the rate at which electro-chemical action is taking place at any cross section of the current, (in other words, the quantity of the current), and the electromotive force with which the current is sustained, which may be briefly termed its energy or intensity, (provided the idea of quantity be kept distinct from this). The first object was to secure such units of comparison for both these elements as should be at all times recoverable. This is given in respect of quantity by the rate of chemical action, and the atomic weights. In respect of intensity of the current, we have no such fixed data, and the intensity of most voltaic arrangements cannot be relied on as constants for comparison. But the elements of Daniell's Battery, and those of nitric acid batteries with negative surface of platinum, carbon, or cast-iron, give an electromotive force or intensity that can be recovered with considerable exactitude, if uniformity of circumstances, materials, &c. be tolerably attended to: these, therefore, may be used to give a fixed and recoverable point in a galvanometric scale of intensity. Now it so happens, that if we assume the degrees of the scale to be of such a size that the intensity of Daniell's (standard) elements shall be 60 of the degrees, temperature be-



ing 70 Fahr.—that of nitric acid batteries will be from 100 to 112 of the same degrees; the author, therefore, has always used this scale, to which all other voltaic arrangements can be referred. Which scale, he would suggest, would be most conveniently used in assigning the electromotive power of electric currents from any source. The mean result of careful experiments, tried directly and conversely, is that a voltaic current of one unit in quantity, (or that from one grain of zinc electro-oxidized per minute) and of 100 degrees intensity, represents a dynamic force of 302½ pounds raised one foot high per minute. This datum is of great interest as a scientific truth in connexion with the other correlative agents of nature, (heat, electricity, light, and chemical affinities, neuralgic power, &c.), most of which we may hope soon to see reduced to a mutually comparable relation to each other, in terms of the great centre and medium of comparison, mechanical force. This paper was accompanied by a table of the relative and absolute powers of electro-motors.

‘On the application of Electricity and Heat as Moving Powers,’ by Mr. W. PETRIE.—From the dynamic equivalent of electricity already given, we can infer an important fact, that one horse power is the theoretic or absolute dynamic force possessed by a current of electricity derived from the consumption of 1.56 (one and fifty-six hundredths) pound of zinc, per hour, in a Daniell’s battery. But the best electro-magnetic engine that we can hope to see constructed cannot be expected to give more than half or a fourth of this power; in any case we see here the limit of power, which no perfection of apparatus can make it exceed. The peculiar mode in which the electric current produces dynamic effects has led to much miscalculation respecting the power obtainable from it. In any sort of electric engine the material to which the neighbouring current gives motion, whether it be another moveable current, or, what is more usual, a magnetic body, is impelled in one direction with a constant force, and this force, whether it be attraction, repulsion, or deflection, is, like the power of gravity, sensibly constant at all velocities, however fast the body recedes before the action of the force; provided only the same quantity (per minute) of electric current be maintained. This is quite different from the action of steam power, in which, the faster the piston moves the greater is the volume of steam per minute that must be supplied to move it, or else the less will be the power with which it moves. This fact, then, that the force with which an electric current of a given “quantity” moves the machine is the same at any velocity of motion, bears no analogy to the case of steam, but would indicate that the dynamic result obtainable from a given electric current might be infinitely great; and so it would be, were it not that the part moved always tends to induce a current in the wire in the reversed direction; and this inducing influence, which increases with the velocity of motion, conflicts with the original current, and reduces its quantity, and consequently reduces the power of the motion, as well as the consumption of materials in the battery. Some have imagined that possible alterations in the position of the parts of the machine, or in its mode of action, would avoid the evil, or even might make the induced current to flow with the primary current instead of against it; the impossibility of this, though not readily proved in detail, can be at once proved by reference to general principles; it would, if true, be a creation of dynamic force; the evolving an unlimited force from a limited source. The tendency to an opposing induced current in the primary wire must, therefore, be involved in the very principle of the system; so that no ingenuity can ever get rid of the retarding influence of the induced action; and the only way to overcome its power, so as to maintain the primary current from falling below a given rate or quantity, when the machine is allowed to attain rapid motion, is to increase the electro-motive power of the battery, the intensity (not the quantity) of the current, so that it shall be less affected by the opposing induction. The practical importance of these not altogether unknown truths may justify the above somewhat particular notice of them. For want of a clearer apprehension of them, inventors have misapprehended the direction in which improvements were to be made, and much ingenuity and means have been wasted. Some of the best electro-magnetic engines of other

inventors, that have been properly tested by the author and others on a practically useful scale, have only given a power at the rate of 50 to 60 lb. of zinc, per horse power, per hour. The smallness of this power in comparison with the absolute value of the current (1.56 pound zinc, per horse power, per hour), should not occasion surprise if we consider the present case of steam after many years of improvement. According to the determinations of Joule and of Rankine on heat, 1 lb. of water raised 1° of temperature, is equivalent to 700 lb. weight, raised 1 foot. The author thence proceeded to show that the best Cornish engines only yield one fourteenth of the power that the combustion of the carbon actually represents, and many locomotives only one hundredth part;—showing what great rewards may yet await the exercise of inventive genius in this department, and that we need not wonder that we have as yet only obtained one thirty-second part of the power possessed by electricity. But it is to be remembered that there is a far greater likelihood of obtaining a larger proportion of the real power from electricity than from heat owing to the character of the two agents. The author then proceeded to explain the reasons why so little of the power of heat could be obtained in a useful form even in the best steam-engines, and what were the difficulties for invention first to overcome, in order to a better result. In the case of electricity however, there is no analogous difficulty, but we have instead, the difficulty and expense of developing current electricity by the chemical actions now requisite. If carbon could be burnt or oxidized by the air, directly or indirectly, so as to produce electricity instead of heat, 1 lb. of it would go as far as 9½ lb. of zinc (in a Daniell’s battery) chiefly because there are as many atoms in 1 lb. of carbon as there are 5½ lb. of zinc, and partly because the affinity (for oxygen) of each atom of (incandescent) carbon is greater than that of an atom of (cold) zinc, minus the affinity of the hydrogen for the oxygen in the water of the battery. Apart, however, from such prospects of improved means of obtaining electricity, its favourable feature, on the other hand, in comparison with heat, is the reasonable expectation that we may obtain from electricity a considerable portion of the power which the author has determined as being the dynamic equivalent of the electric current.

‘On the Powers of Minute Vision,’ by Mr. W. PETRIE.—Results from experiments for determining the best sort of station-marks, and the errors liable, in observing with optical instruments that measure on the principle of bringing two reflections together. The experiments were performed in bright daylight (but not sunshine), being light of the maximum of advantage for perceiving black against a white ground. The general circumstances of the experiments were arranged rather to determine the facts of common practice, than the theoretic powers of vision. The author then detailed the various distances at which circular spots, lines, &c., white on black as well as black on white, could be seen, the distances being given in terms of the breadth of the object seen. An arrangement of lines was described, by which an alteration of their position to the extent of only one millionth part of the distance of the observer was made visible. One result of the experiments would be to show what should be the proper proportions of parts to be observed in forming letters to be read with the greatest distinctness at a distance,—a subject of much practical use in the present day, and admitting of a strictly scientific system, although generally left to the fancy of incompetent persons. White letters on a black ground should have their component lines of only half the breadth that black letters should have on a white ground. The direction of the eye, while appearing to gaze steadily at any object, does in reality keep wandering to an imperceptible distance on every side of the object looked at, but very rapidly. This wandering is not accidental or an imperfection of sight, but an essential feature of vision; because it is not the continuance of an impression that is perceived (by any of the animal nerves), but its commencement and termination, or, more strictly speaking, its increase and decrease. This principle is probably analogous to that by which a magnet creates an electric current in a neighbouring wire, not by its constant presence, but by the increase or diminution of its influence,

either by a variation of its power, or of its position. This wandering propensity of the eye was shown to account for the relative facility with which different sorts of marks were seen at great distances: it takes place, apparently, in a minimum case, to the extent of an angle of 1 in 2,500. A dislocated line (as in a vernier), its *fall* being half its breadth, can be perceived to be so at a distance of 10,000 times its *fall*, if black on a white ground; and at 12,000 times, if white on a black ground. It shows itself, however, by giving the line a *less steady* appearance, than a perfectly even line would have, when narrowly watched, by running the eye along the line, at about half as far again. Experiments were then described, on the visibility of the positions of the *ends* of lines, and of *hiatuses* in lines, and of *square* dots as compared with round. But the last conclusion of practical importance was in respect of observing the angular position of station-marks, or of stars, by reflection, as in a sextant. From these experiments it appeared that the position of two closely adjacent dots or images, in sensible parallelism to a given direction, while it affords one of the *simplest* kinds of observation, is more accurately observable than their actual coincidence, or even than the junction of two lines, as if in a vernier.

After some observation by Mr. D. STEVENSON ‘On the Visibility of Beacon Lights,’—the PRESIDENT expressed a desire that Mr. Petrie would continue his researches on the subject, with regard to objects of various colours.

‘On the Subject of a Telescope Light for Rifles,’ by Prof. P. SMITH.—Instead of the eye having to look at three points, viz., the niche at the eye, the niche at the extremity of the barrel, and the object to be hit,—there were but two in his rifle, the cross wires in the telescope and the object.

Mr. USHER then gave an account of his Steam Plough, which he afterwards showed in operation.

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# THE ATHENÆUM

Journal of English and Foreign Literature, Science, and the Fine Arts.

No. 1191.

LONDON, SATURDAY, AUGUST 24, 1850.

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**KING'S COLLEGE, LONDON.—THEOLOGICAL DEPARTMENT.**—This Department will RE-OPEN on FRIDAY, October 4, 1850. Candidates for admission, not being Associates of King's College, or Graduates of Oxford, Cambridge, and Durham, must present themselves for Examination at half-past one o'clock on WEDNESDAY, October 2. Printed forms of application, which should be sent in a week previously to the Examination and the prospectus, containing all information as to the course of study and expense, may be obtained from J. W. CUNNINGHAM, Esq. Secretary.  
July 30, 1850. R. W. JELF, D.D. Principal.

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Two Scholarships of 30l. each, for three years, and two of 20l. each for two years, will be filled up at Easter next.  
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New Students must be above the age of 15.  
The Oriental Languages may be learnt by those intended for the service of the Hon. East India Company.  
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July 30, 1850. R. W. JELF, D.D. Principal.

**KING'S COLLEGE, LONDON.—MEDICAL DEPARTMENT.**—The WINTER SESSION, 1850-51, will COMMENCE on TUESDAY, October 1, 1850, on which day all Students are expected to attend the INTRODUCTORY LECTURE, by Professor Edward Forbes, F.R.S. at 2 o'clock.  
The following Courses of Lectures will be given during the Session:  
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July 30, 1850. R. W. JELF, D.D. Principal.

**KING'S COLLEGE, LONDON.—The SCHOOL.**  
—The next TERM will COMMENCE on TUESDAY, September 17, 1850, when New Pupils will be admitted.  
All Pupils are required to attend Chapel on this day.  
Two Scholarships of 30l. each, for three years; two of 20l., one of 10l., one of 5l., one of 7l., and one of 6l. each, for two years, will be filled up at Easter next.  
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**GUY'S.—The MEDICAL SESSION commences on TUESDAY, the 1st of OCTOBER.** The INTRODUCTORY ADDRESS will be given by BRIANBY B. COOPER, Esq. F.R.S., at two o'clock. Gentlemen who desire to become Students must give satisfactory testimony as to their education and conduct. They are required to pay 40l. for the first year, 40l. for the second year, and 10l. for every succeeding year of attendance; or the sum of 100l. in one payment will entitle a Student to a perpetual ticket.  
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## SOCIETY OF ARTS.—SPECIAL PRIZE-LIST for 1850 and 1851.

The intimate connexion of the Society of Arts with the Exhibition of the Works of Industry of all Nations in 1851, which is a subject of congratulation to the Members of the Society, and the successful enlargement of an idea the Society has long aimed to realize, has appeared to the Council to render altogether superfluous any attempt on the part of the Society to pursue its ordinary course for the encouragement of Arts, Manufactures and Commerce by the offer of its usual Prizes for the Session of 1850 and 1851.

The Council have therefore considered how they might most usefully apply that portion of the revenue of the Society to the particular circumstances of the year.

The Council are of opinion that the most useful work they can undertake, and one they believe to be strictly auxiliary to the views of their Royal President, H.R.H. the Prince ALBERT, and of Her Majesty's Commissioners for the Exhibition, will be to encourage the production of philosophical Treatises on the various departments of the Exhibition, which shall set forth the peculiar advantages to be derived from each to the Arts, Manufactures, and Commerce of the country.

The Council accordingly offer, in the name of the Society, the large Medal and twenty-five pounds for the best, and the Society's small Medal and ten pounds for the second best Treatise on the objects exhibited in the section of Raw Materials and Produce.

A large Medal and twenty-five pounds for the best, and a small Medal and ten pounds for the second best Treatise on the objects exhibited in the section of Machinery.

A large Medal and twenty-five pounds for the best, and a small Medal and ten pounds for the second best Treatise on the objects exhibited in the section of Manufactures.

A large Medal and twenty-five pounds for the best, and a small Medal and ten pounds for the second best Treatise on the objects exhibited in the section of Fine Arts.

Each Treatise must occupy, and not exceed, eighty pages of the size of the Bridgewater Treatises.

The Society will also award its large Medal and twenty-five guineas for the best general Treatise upon the Exhibition treated commercially, politically, and statistically; and small medals for the best treatises on any special object or class of objects exhibited.

The Treatises for which rewards are given are to be the property of the Society; and if deemed suitable for publication, should the Council see fit, they will cause the same to be printed and published, and will award to the author the net amount of any profits which may arise from the publication after the payment of the expenses.

The Treatises to be delivered at the Society's House on or before the 30th of June, 1851.

In announcing this List, there is no intention on the part of the Council to confine the rewards of the Society to the subjects named there, though, for the reasons given, they do not anticipate that communications of interest on other subjects will be submitted.

GEORGE GROVE, Secretary.  
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LONDON, SATURDAY, AUGUST 24, 1850.

## REVIEWS

*The Italian Campaign of 1848*—[*Der Italienische Feldzug des Jahres 1848*]. Described and commented on by W. von Willisen, Major-General. Berlin, Duncker & Humblot; London, Williams & Norgate.

THE author of this treatise, having first distinguished himself as a writer on military tactics, is now the commander-in-chief of the Sleswig-Holstein army;—called on to show, in the face of Europe, how far he can justify by practical results in the field the soundness of his published theories of the art of war. This circumstance imparts a new interest to his work, independent of that which in any case the character of its subject, and the method of its treatment, as a lesson in military science, would command. The author's first essay of the kind—including a complete system of modern strategy—was the history of the Russo-Polish Campaign of 1831. Its object was to show, by a reference to the issues of real war, that success or failure would be found to occur in practice in exact correspondence with the degree to which the author's theory had been observed or departed from in any given case:—in other words, to prove his system of the art by subjecting it to the magisterial test of experiment. His views, indeed, were not unquestioned by military critics,—among whom the late General von Clausewitz was the foremost. It is not for civil reviewers to "compose such differences:" it must suffice to say that his exposition of the art—agreeing in the main with the system of Jomini—has, at all events, the merit of being intelligible. Its rules are stated in a way that an unprofessional reader—however unqualified to weigh disputed questions of tactics—may generally understand by the aid of a good map and the due exercise of attention and common sense. In fact, the broad outlines of military art—its object being to use a given force with the utmost possible effect against an adversary and to frustrate as much as possible the effect of his force—are, after all, not cabalistic forms which only adepts can read; but results of pure reasoning and calculation, the principles of which must be appreciable by any intelligent mind. It was this property of the science that enabled a young Napoleon, by the native force of a mind endowed with vast powers of combination, to elicit a new method of war: to out-general, by a system conceived in the closet, leaders who had grown grey in practising the old routine,—by bringing the conclusions of natural logic and vigorous good sense to bear on the objects of a campaign and on the material elements with which it must deal. In the axioms laid down by General von Willisen, and in the reasons given for them—in a style remarkably terse and clear—the civil reader will meet with nothing to prevent him from tracing the argument from ends to means by which his view of the art military is justified. With a moderate share of attention, he will find the application of theory to the actual events of a given war clear enough to impart a new perception of the bearing of its incidents; which as related in the common accounts of a campaign seem a mere maze of unintelligible manœuvres, with here and there only a point of plainer meaning—on the occasion of some particular exploit, a pitched battle, a siege, or a retreat.

The General, moreover, does not confine himself wholly to the strategic discussion of the wars which he describes. Historical antecedents and accessories are so introduced as to render his work something broader than a strictly professional essay. He writes, too, like a man

of sense and education; with an apparent desire to do equal justice to both sides, as well in the civil as in the military view of his subject,—and in a spirit which it is said was thought too liberal for a Prussian officer. If to this be added the hint, that a certain feeling of rivalry has been usually supposed to exist between Prussian and Austrian soldiers—and if so would here prevent any bias to the side of the latter;—we may perhaps not erroneously conclude that General von Willisen's account of the Italian campaign of 1848, gives on the whole as fair and sound a view of its military transactions as we can expect for some time to obtain:—one, certainly, safer than any report from either of the parties directly engaged. It was partly drawn up on the very scene of action; the gallant author having completed his work at Milan, after a personal survey of the ground on which the cardinal movements of the war took place. We find from the documents quoted that he obtained good information on both sides; and he has taken on the spot, from the mouths of the actors themselves while every incident was freshly remembered, many interesting features of the struggle. Thus, the work, besides its value as a review by an able judge of the military actions on both sides, has something of the vivacity of the report of an eye-witness.

As we had occasion not long since to sketch the principal outlines of this campaign in a notice of Field-Marshal Radetzky [*Ath.* No. 1141], we shall, instead of repeating them here, first state the direct result of General von Willisen's survey of its events; and then borrow from him some notices that have a more general historical interest. He urges, with considerable point, that here, as well as in the Russo-Polish war, the course of fact sustains the conclusions of theory: that the successes and the reverses of the war may be respectively traced to the regard or neglect of its instructions, to the possession or want of its essentials,—and that whether advantages have been fully used, partially seized, or entirely thrown away, the issue will in each case be found to agree with what the principles of strategy would have declared *à priori*—the final result being, that in war on a grand scale, the ultimate decision is by no means an affair of chance-medley; but that, with materials of an average class, such as troops, &c., and a pretty even balance of numbers, victory will belong to the commander who knows best how to practise the scientific theory of his profession.

By a discussion of the critical circumstances of the war, placing himself alternately in the Austrian and in the Sardinian camp, and testing the operations of each by the objects that each respectively had to pursue, the author arrives at the conclusion that the failure of Charles Albert, at the beginning, to make any effectual impression on Radetzky's smaller force, was the combined result of want of skill in the one party and of eminent skill in the other: that to the same combination may be traced alike the indecisive result of the middle stage of the campaign, and its rapid conclusion by the victorious advance of the Austrians, as soon as their commander—in spite of many difficulties, political as well as material—had reaped, by the consolidation of his forces, the advantage of his prudence in gaining time and of his adversary's waste of it. The military conduct of Radetzky the author praises; as uniting, with scarcely an exception, the judgment of a consummate soldier with as much quickness and intrepidity as could be expected from the fire of youth,—even taking as an element of his resolution the confidence which he had in the spirit and discipline of his troops. The management of the Piedmontese force, on

the other hand, is depicted as betraying, in all essentials, a nearly total ignorance of the art of war on a great scale: both its successes while greatly outnumbering its adversary, and its speedy defeat the instant the numbers became equal, are ascribed, not to the quality of the troops, whose gallantry is often praised, but to errors, delays and oversights, at variance with the first rules of military science, which are said to have lamed the action of Charles Albert's army from the moment of his invasion of Lombardy to that of his fatal overthrow on the Mincio.

The deduction of these results from the incidents of the war is ably managed. An intelligible sketch is first given of each principal stage of the campaign: the rule of theory is explained and applied as the test of every one of its chief moves; and the correspondence of the event with the conclusion on scientific grounds alone is then traced with address and precision. That the gallant author's mode of demonstration is not merely an empirical reduction of a theory flexible enough to agree with any accomplished fact, may be seen from the circumstance that every feature of the campaign of 1848 is measured by rules already specified in his work on the campaign of 1831. Thus, the only matter for dispute is, their forced or proper application in the later instance: and here it would be less difficult than usual to detect serious errors, so marked are the features of the Italian campaign,—whether the relation of the opposite forces, the features of the country, the narrow stage of the war, its cardinal actions, striking turns of fortune, or its rapid consummation be considered. But the events of the following year further enabled the author to prove that his commentaries do not rest on purely imaginary grounds. When the news of the resumption of hostilities by Charles Albert in the spring of 1849 and of the first battle (of Mortara) reached Berlin, the General, in a letter sent to the *Constitutionelle Zeitung*, dissected the military facts of the case, and predicted that "this second advance of the improvident King of Sardinia would lead to a defeat more rapid and humiliating than that of last year, which most likely would be found to have taken place already" (March 28). The writer detected, from the reports of the situation of his troops, the faulty course which the King had taken; and in calculating the result of the first action (of Mortara), and the movements which a knowledge of Radetzky's skill justified the belief that he would make, went on to say—

The defeat of the Duke of Genoa at Mortara seems to have been a pretty complete one. The Austrians, indeed, are not apt to confess when they lose, but they never exaggerate their victories. Supposing it thus, and that the Field-Marshal, as—from the sound knowledge of strategy possessed by himself and by his staff—we cannot for an instant doubt that he will, should at once turn from Mortara northwards towards Novara and Vercelli, he will there fall in with the rest of the enemy's army, retiring from the Ticino. \*\* The result of the battle of Novara or Vercelli can hardly be doubtful; \* \* we shall not be surprised if to-morrow should bring us news of the most decisive defeat of his adversary.

On the day after this letter was written, came the expected tidings that Radetzky had moved, as the General had predicted; and had entirely overthrown Charles Albert at Novara.—The next post made known the sudden close of the war,—in exact accordance with the conclusion deduced for it on scientific grounds. This instance might fairly give weight both to the General's other expositions of theoretic rules, and to his opinion of Radetzky's proficiency in the art of war.



After these prolixions, he has now arrived at the cardinal process by which all written systems are tried: and his conduct of the Holstein war will be important not only to the cause he serves, but to the fate of his military theory also. For the professor of strategy no test could be devised more anxious and exciting.

The result of the campaign of 1848 having been inevitable according to the author's estimate of the capacity and force respectively of the assailants and defenders of Lombardy, the inquiry will occur,—what issue might have been expected, other things remaining as they were, had the resources of the Italian army been directed with adequate skill? and what might the event have been if the superiority of tactics had been with the invaders instead of with the Austrians? It may easily be collected from the General's remarks that, in the second of the two supposed cases, the army of Radetzky must have been driven across the Alps, if not compelled to surrender before it could have reached their defiles. To the first question, the answer—if we rightly understand his explanation—would be, that in such a case, with equal skill in both leaders, the struggle would have been violent and protracted; but that the possession by the Austrians of the "system of connected fortified places" between the Mincio and Adige, including Verona and Mantua, with the secondary posts of Peschiera and Legnago, giving absolute military "command" of the Mincio, was an advantage in the hands of a skilful commander important enough to compensate even such a disproportion of numbers as existed at the opening of the campaign. It must, however, be remembered that, had the advantages of numbers and of time, both of which were at first on the Italian side, been improved as they might have been, the difference in strength between the opponents, instead of diminishing as it did, would certainly have gone on advancing in favour of the Italian army. The whole Peninsula would have been attracted to its banners by a prolonged appearance of success; while, in the then political state of Austria, the embarrassments of Radetzky could not have been promptly relieved, if at all.

The military estimate of position to which the answer to all such hypothetical questions must be referred supplies conclusions of more practical interest as to the future destiny of the kingdom. General von Willisen has given a survey of its tenable condition under two points of view:—as held by Austria against a reluctant population, while threatened with invasion from the west (Piedmont),—or as possessed by an Italian sovereign favoured by the people. The first of these cases alone has now—for the moment at least—much historical importance. The result of the General's view of the country as a possession to be kept by the strong hand will not be welcome to those who desire to see the Italian soil free from foreign dominion. There are two positions in Lombardy, he says,—one of which might be made, another of which even now is, nearly impregnable, when maintained by adequate strength directed by sufficient skill. The line of the Po, with suitable works—at the confluence of the Ticino, as here indicated—and the erection of Pavia and Cremona into fortified places commanding the river (Milan being also properly strengthened), would supply every condition requisite for maintaining the country against all attacks by way of Piedmont. The line of the Mincio, as it is now, studded with a group of strong cities, presents all the substantial requisites of a tenacious defence and ultimate command of the whole country. With certain supplements—among which, as a modern addition to the elements of warfare, lines of railway will be spe-

cially noted by the historian—this ground, already secure in a high degree, may, in the General's opinion, be made perhaps the strongest military position in Europe. That Austria will shut her eyes to such possibilities and suggestions is not likely,\* after her dear experience in the late war; unless, indeed, the desire of retaining the Lombardo-Venetian kingdom should be abandoned. If, therefore, General von Willisen's opinion of the scientific proficiency attained by the Austrian war department be well founded, it may be inferred that the military grasp of the Lombard kingdom—if the means be not wanting—will soon be rendered too strong for any Italian power that can be brought against its present holders. This is a view of the case that cannot fail to command attention. It will be found very ably stated and explained in the present volume. On the same theory, it is obvious that the defensive strength of the region in native hands, with Piedmont a friend instead of an enemy, would be incalculable,—granted always the requisite military forces and skill. But this hypothesis presupposes the expulsion, in the first place, of a power which, as we have seen, cannot be easily dispossessed:—provided, as said above, that means be not wanting. This, however, is the indispensable condition of holding any such possession by the strong hand alone. Every foot of the ground retained must be maintained by what in fact amounts to a tribute levied, either in gold or in men, on the foreign state. If the subjected country be overtaxed to pay the garrison, it is clear that no troops can safely be raised among its natives. To follow out this interesting subject would lead us too far: this, only, must be observed, that in the present day the power of long securing any result by military processes alone may be seen to have vanished from the list of historical possibilities.

Of the conduct of Charles Albert, and of the strategic talents of himself and his staff, the Prussian officer speaks with little respect; and he dwells with severity on the contrast between the loud boasts and the scanty performances of the Lombard national party,—whom he describes as generally unwilling to make due exertions to support a war the seriousness of which, with an enemy like Radetzky, they were too much inflated by a first show of success to comprehend. On this part of the subject he will be read with impatience by the adherents of the losing cause;—but he seems to have taken some pains to guard the severest of his censures against refutation by authorities taken, not from Austrian, but from Italian documents. Some of these, regarding the close of the struggle, and in particular the reception of Charles Albert at Milan,—where for a time he was kept in actual durance, not without imminent danger to his life from the populace,—are very striking. We can give but one of such extracts—from the Report of General Bava, chief of the Sardinian staff:—an officer, we may add, whose capacity and knowledge General von Willisen rates above those of most others in the Italian service. The passage describes what happened after the affair of Basiaco (August 2), a few days only before the convention of Milan, where the head-quarters of the army already were.—

About five in the evening, a cannonade was

\* There appeared some time since a statement in one of the German newspapers, to the effect that Marshal Radetzky had determined to transfer the seat of government from Milan to Verona, "as a punishment of the former capital for its rebellion." Had this intention been really entertained, it would appear, from General von Willisen's report, that a stronger reason than the journal alleges might be given for the change. In a low state of finances, Austria might find it more expedient to make use of a post already well secured than to incur the expense of rendering the advanced position of Milan tenable.

heard in the direction of Lodi. I hastened thither on horseback, with my staff, and met on the Caviaga road, at little more than a musket shot from that town, a whole brigade in retreat. I stopped, formed them, and occupied some houses situated in the front. But while I was engaged in ordering this, many of the men took flight across the open fields; whereupon I commanded a handful of the cavalry of my escort to overtake and bring them back to their ranks; but some thirty of these cowards threw themselves on the ground, protesting that they could march no further; although in fact they had received provisions on that day, and had been resting until five in the evening. The officers of my staff took all the pains they could to drive them up and bring them in; but they would rather let themselves be trampled down by the horses than move.

General Bava's comment on this painful incident is worth noting.—

Never, in the whole course of my military life, have I beheld such degradation: they would endure everything—even Death, without complaint, without uttering a word—but fight they would not! Such obstinacy was enough to make one desperate: but it proved that in reverses of war nothing can be expected from a military system that composes its armies of fathers of families only.

It must be added, that General von Willisen shows no disposition to underrate the bravery of the Piedmontese and other Italian troops, although he describes them as on the whole greatly inferior in steadiness and discipline to the trained veterans whom Radetzky led.—Nor is he slow to praise whenever he finds operations judiciously conducted on the Italian side;—and in the case of General Durando he expresses generous indignation at the calumnies with which his good conduct was rewarded by his countrymen. This officer commanded in Friuli some 10,000 Italian troops, which for a time retarded the movements of Count Nugent's reserve to join Radetzky; and is described as having shown more both of spirit and of sagacity than any other of the Italian generals. His movements, carefully disguised, are applauded as soldierlike and effective; and his good fame is warmly vindicated from the censures of those who have charged him with betraying the Italian cause. It is clearly the General's opinion that, had that cause been conducted with equal capacity by all its soldiers, its issue would have been, if not triumphant, at least far less destructive and humiliating than it actually proved.

*The Burden of the Bell, and other Lyrics.* By T. Westwood. Lumley.

*The Forest-House, and other Poems.* By Mary Isabella Irwin Rees. Ramsay.

It has been our habit, our readers know, about this period of our annual labours, when the Muse of Science has had it nearly all her own way in our columns for a time, to call in her more light-footed and graceful sister by way of conciliating those who love not the hard look and ponderous tread of the grave and high-thoughted maiden. Between the various sisters of this immortal family it is in the ordinary nature of things that our various readers should have preferences; but those of them who cannot at the same time recognize and respect the family relation, may feel well assured that they have no true love for any of its members. The Muse of Song has no grander themes for her anthems than such as the Muse who presides in the Meetings of the British Association can supply; and the Scientific Muse may be very grateful for the high tones in which the former has enforced her lessons in the ears of a willingly listening world. In fact, as they have one common birth, so have the Muses one common end; and they adapt their several teachings to the several geniuses of mankind only that they may combine by many ways to the teaching of the same one and eternal truth.



It is not to be denied that there is much of the matter which has a large monopoly of the *Athenæum* for certain weeks in the year that is somewhat dry-as-dust on the palates of a portion of our readers; and for their thirst we think it necessary to bring a draught from Helicon,—in such vessels as we happen to have at hand. We find that at such a time the very faintest flavour of the true Pierian is grateful to tastes that might be more fastidious at a less thirsty season. On the present occasion, notwithstanding, we shall not take advantage of the exaggerated appetite of the unscientific to satisfy them with the poetic waters of the Millon. They shall be ministered to on the present occasion by two of the servants of song whose quality has been at times less pressing tested and approved by the readers of the *Athenæum*.

Mr. Westwood is an old contributor to our columns,—and has a dry and sportive tone whose fresh and pleasant character is, as we have said, familiar to those for whom we write. Understanding the range of his lyre, he is content with the music for which its chords are fit, and does not peril the strings in attempts beyond its capacity to reach. It happens unfortunately—for our present occasion—that of the poems included in this collection so many of the best originally appeared in our columns, that we cannot now present the writer's best quality in recommendation of his volume. With this qualification, necessary to do him justice, we offer a specimen of the sort of woodland singing to which we have alluded.

*The Brook and the Sycamore.*

"Shade me, oh! shade me!" the streamlet said,  
To the tall and stately Sycamore;  
"Over my bosom thy branches spread,  
Till the fiery noontide heat is o'er,  
And I'll promise you a guerdon meet—  
For such true service, friendly tree;  
A guerdon, simple, but passing sweet—  
Bend low—I'll whisper what it shall be:  
I'll sing you a song, I'll sing you a song,  
That shall fill the silence all night long;  
A song, whose music shall seem to you,  
As the fanning wind and the dropping dew;  
A song that shall hush you to slumber deep,  
Then weave its witchery through your sleep;  
That shall bathe as with freshness of early showers  
Each leaf o'ertasked by the sunny hours;  
That shall win all wandering odours up  
From purple bell and from golden cup,  
To float and languish your boughs among—  
All this, I'll promise you in my song,  
All this and more,  
O Sycamore,

For your shade till the noontide heat is o'er,  
Then the Sycamore broad his leaves unfurled  
O'er the little stream.

For pride hath no place in Nature's world,

As in ours, I deem.

So the Sycamore deigned, though stately and tall,  
To shield from the sunbeams, one and all  
The stream at its feet, till the noontide's reign  
Was ended, and over wood and plain  
The cool eve shadows fell soft again.  
And the little brook, as wood-folks tell,  
Its plighted promise fulfilled so well,  
That at dawn, when the season of dreams was past,  
Of all the trees in that forest vast  
The Sycamore woke from sleep the last,  
Woke with a sigh too, that clearly meant  
A feeling of inward discontent  
At the change, from wonder and witchery,  
From honey-dew, odours and harmony,  
To the common earth and the common sky.  
And I've heard the learned in leafy lore  
Declare of all sounds in the Sycamore,  
That this is their burden and this their strain—  
"Sing me, oh sing me that song again!"

The following strikes a higher note,—keeping yet the light and playful manner to which we have also alluded.—

*Lenora.*

She hath left me, cold, ice-cold,  
Grew the fervent love of old;  
I waxed weary,—truth be told!  
Weary of her love's excess,  
Of her heart's wild restlessness,  
And her proud caprice, no less.  
Fairest woman ne'er can be,  
By her fairness, more to me  
Than a moment's phantasy.  
So, I mind me, one day lying  
At her feet, my sole replying  
To her love's impatient sighing,

And her questionings of all  
That might haply yet befall,  
Change and wrong and evil thrall,  
Was—"Bend low, Lenora, low—  
Shower thy dark hair o'er my brow—  
In that midnight, hear me vow—  
I do love thee—ask no more—  
For the future's stock and store  
Give I thee no pledge, Lenore.

No pledge—change may well befall  
Unto us as unto all,  
Ay and wrong and evil thrall."

Back she swept her hair's dark wreath,  
Passionate—I saw beneath,  
All her face was white as death.

I could read that agony,  
Beauty's strong supremacy  
Smitten in its place on high,

At the moment when it fain  
Would be soothed with promise vain  
Of a never-ending reign.

Do I scorn this human love?  
Scorn!—I kneel before it—Dove,  
That o'er life's wild sea dost move

With strange healing on thy wings,  
Angel thou, whose minst'ring  
Glorify earth's saddest things.

Holy angel, sent to prove  
God's high meanings, wrought above—  
God be praised for thee, O Love!

But mere passion's beauty—psha!  
These I take for what they are,  
For a fallen and falling star.

So she left me, yesterday,  
Grandly, like a queen, whose sway  
Brooks not mention of decay.

And I sit alone, and stare,  
With half-pleased, half-puzzled air,  
At sole trace, her empty chair—

Pleased! And yet if you had seen  
All her beauty in its sheen,  
As she turned, with stately mien,

To say farewell,—the great eyes,  
Shrines for world-idolatries,  
Flashing, like a broad sunrise,

Full upon me, and the fair  
Cheek,—the rose-flush glowing there  
In the radiance, ripe and rare,

Of a smile, whose syren light  
Haunts e'en yet my dreaming sight—  
All good-angels guide her right!

With a sample more severe, we must take our leave of Mr. Westwood's volume.—

*The World and the Poet.*

A THOUGHT OF KEATS.

"We heed thee not!—give o'er, give o'er!"  
Said the World, as the Poet poured  
The wealth of his soul and its glory forth  
In burning thought and word—  
"Give o'er, give o'er!"

Then a darkness fell on the Poet's face,

An omen of death and doom,

Ah me! ah me! what tears rained down

When soon, in the shadowy tomb,  
His rest was won.

"We will weave a crown for this Poet's brow,"

Said the World: "we will build a throne—  
For his kingly fame; and from shore to shore  
For aye shall his name be known—  
For aye, for aye!"

Amén! to that loving deed, O World!

Amén! brave world art thou;

With thy bitter scorn for the beating heart,

And thy croon for the corpse's brow—  
Amén! O World!

Miss Rees, the authoress of 'The Forest-House,' is a lady with whose muse, also, the readers of the *Athenæum* have made familiar acquaintance in its columns, under the signature "M. R." As she is, we believe, very young, we doubt not they will have agreed with us that if she keep clear of certain mannerisms—or rather, we should say, certain tendencies of a bad and prevailing school—much may be expected from her. Her poetical sensibilities are of a high order,—and their expression is at times too intense not to make it matter of regret that it should ever be careless. More than in the case of Mr. Westwood we are limited in our power of here duly presenting her by our own antecedents. Nearly all the minor poems in her very small volume were published originally in our columns,—and to their recollection of these we would refer our readers for the purpose of doing her all the justice which is due to her.

'The Forest-House,' which gives its leading title to the volume, is very slight,—and not of her best order. Under the circumstances, however, we must borrow from it a passage which conveys skilfully enough, in a low sweet music, the childish loneliness intended to be described.—

There was no countenance that smil'd  
Upon the lonely orphan child:  
Save sometimes when he was asleep,  
His parents, smiling, made him weep.  
On the wide staircase of his home  
The silent child would go and come;  
Still pausing at his nursery door,  
Showing his pale face and no more—  
And ever, if he was aware  
Of the harsh creak that nurs'd him, there,  
Soft creeping down from chamber dim,  
And loveless guardian grey and grim,  
Back to the length of his short tether,  
The weedy garden sally fair,  
With all the flowers of June's blue weather  
Dying of thirst beneath the glare,  
Almost unnotic'd and unlov'd—  
And through them all the orphan rovd,  
(Forlorn as they in time of gladness,  
Yet still less lov'd—for he lov'd them;)—  
Like any fair thing full of sadness,  
Meant to look hopeful and light-hearted—  
A bud, upon a broken stem,  
A smile, bequeath'd by some dear soul departed,  
Sunbasking forests round about,  
The mournful quiet made not less;  
Miles of green light within, without,  
Great rounded walls of leafiness,  
Close-standing elms that flowery waste  
Did bound with branches interlac'd—  
Of, stealthily, as if 'twere sin,  
The child poer'd through with heavy eye,  
And saw the flickering greenery  
And beech-boles gleaming far within.  
From far within, and faintly sweet,  
Came falling through the sultry air  
That noise which thrills the woods, to greet  
The little listening hermit there:  
For something seem'd to spoil the spot,  
The very wood-birds lov'd it not,  
Nor haunted any branches near;  
And if a blackbird tried to cheer,  
With sudden whistle bold and clear,  
The silent child and silent place,  
He check'd his song in briefest space;  
And, darting off the quivering spray,  
Was heard from green depths far away.  
So went the child's time wearily:  
No beauteous infant thoughts had he;  
But, like a sullen misanthrope,  
Liv'd without charity or hope—  
Liv'd without love! for, what was there  
For him to love? that garden fair,  
With all its daunting sweets aglow,  
Which, tending with a kindly will,  
He slew in ignorance of skill?  
Right to his heart this thought would go,—  
"The flowers when I touch them—die—"  
Whereon he left their ministry.  
For him were broken all the charms  
That circle babes; no fondling arms  
To tender bosom ever drew;  
Nor holy kiss did fall like dew  
Upon his closing lids at night;  
Nor sleep brought shadow of delight;  
That hapless, loveless little one  
Had weary evil dreams; for none  
Of childhood's angels gave the boy  
His privilege of airy joy.

The last poem in the volume furnishes us with a better extract,—which will also be new to our readers.—

*Peace.*

Burn the tapers round the bed  
Where a woman lieth dead:  
Kneels the mother, praying humbly;  
Kneels the husband, grieving dumbly;  
Slipping gradual from his hold,  
Sleeps a child with locks of gold,  
Breathing sweetly on the bed  
Where a woman lieth dead.

All the years since she was wed  
Wept the woman lying dead;  
With her grief and God alone;  
Secret prayer and secret moan:  
That the darling spouse and mother  
Loving her should hate each other,  
With a hate the years but fed—  
Wept the woman lying dead.

In their hearts the last word said  
By the woman lying dead,—  
Awful as a distant sea,  
Breaks and breaks continually—  
Till the husband and the mother  
Turn, and sob, and clasp each other  
Without speaking, by the bed  
Where the woman lieth dead.

Sleeps the child with golden head  
By the woman lying dead;  
Sleep the taper-flames around—  
And God's Dove without a sound



Casts her pinions o'er the place  
Where the Reconciled embrace:—  
It is 'PEACE,' the last word said  
By the woman lying dead.

Of a lady who sings like this we hope to hear  
more, hereafter.

**Latter-Day Pamphlets.—Jesuitism.** Edited by  
Thomas Carlyle. Chapman & Hall.

THIS is—we are thankful for it—the last of the series of Latter-day Pamphlets. Now that they are finished, the aim and object of their writer in issuing them seem as much a mystery as ever. Stripped of their grotesque jargon, they offer no great novelty of doctrine,—no very fresh form of bigotry,—certainly, so far as we are able to comprehend them, no new and wondrous revelation such as those who wait for signs and wonders had expected. The favourite doctrine of, "work or hang," was already familiar to the world in Mr. Carlyle's favourite story of Francia; the deification of brute power had found sufficient utterance in his well-known "sculch goes the rat!" In fact, the new heresies in matters of faith, work, and hero-worship—to say nothing of history, politics and prisons—were all as well known to the erratic youth of this present generation as nightmare, indigestion, and other of the ills that flesh is heir to. Dressed up in somewhat worse English, a little more extravagant in their terms, with generally less beauty in the contortion and less strength in the nodosity, these pamphlets are substantially 'Sartor Resartus,' 'Chartism,' and 'Past and Present,' over again. Mr. Carlyle has given the world a good scolding, pedagogue and pedant fashion,—that is all. We do not say the world does not eminently deserve a scolding,—but there is no denying that this administration in Cambryses' vein has done it little good. It has laughed when it was to have trembled,—held its sides when, according to the design, it should have bent its knee. We think Mr. Carlyle is badly informed if he imagines that these monthly explosions have alarmed the people of England, or in any way shaken the isle from its propriety. We suspect the Latter-day Saints—some of whose doings we chronicle in another column—will make a greater sensation than the Latter-day Pamphlets.

As from the first, so now at the last, we find ourselves unable to deal seriously with Mr. Carlyle's series. We are amused at his caprices; but, unable to bring them under any category for reasonable discussion, we must allow him to produce them after his own wild manner. For example.—

"A young Spanish soldier and hidalgo with hot Biscayan blood, distinguished, as I understand, by his fierce appetites chiefly, by his audacities and sensualities, and loud unreasonable decision. That this Universe, in spite of rumours to the contrary, was a Cookery-shop and Bordel, wherein garlic, jamaica-pepper, 'unfortunate females and other spicery and garnishing awaited the bold human appetite, and the rest of it was mere rumour and moonshine': with this life-theory and practice had Ignatius lived some thirty years, a hot human Papin's digester and fiddle other; when, on the walls of Pampeluna, the destined cannon-shot shattered both his legs, leaving his head, hitting only his legs, so the Destinies would have it,—and he fell at once totally prostrate, a wrecked Papin's digester; lay many weeks horizontal, and had in that tedious posture to commence a new series of reflections. He began to perceive now that 'the rest of it' was not mere rumour and moonshine; that the rest was, in fact, the whole secret of the matter. That the Cookery-shop and Bordel was a magical delusion, a sleight-of-hand of Satan, to lead Ignatius down, by garlic and finer temporal spiceries, to eternal Hell;—and that in short he, Ignatius, had lived hitherto as a degraded ferocious Human Pig, one of the most perfect scoundrels; and was, at that date, no other than a blot on Creation, and a scandal to mankind.

With which set of reflections who could quarrel? The reflections were true; were salutary; nay there was something of sacred in them,—as in the repentance of man, in the discovery by erring man that wrong is not right, that wrong differs from right as deep Hell from high Heaven, there ever is. Ignatius's soul was in convulsions, in agonies of new birth; for which I honour Ignatius. Human sincerity could not but have told him: 'Yes, in several respects, thou art a detestable Human Pig, and disgrace to the family of man; for which it behoves thee to be in nameless remorse, till thy life either mend or end. Consider, there as thou liest with thy two legs smashed, the peccant element that is in thee; discover it, rigorously tear it out; reflect what further thou wilt do. A life yet remains; to be led, clearly, in some new manner: how wilt thou lead it? Sit silent for the rest of thy days? In some most modest seclusion, hide thyself from a human kind which has been dishonoured by thee? Thy sin being pruriency of appetite, give that at least no farther scope, under any old or new form?' I admit, the question was not easy. Think, in this his wrecked horizontal position, what could or should the poor individual called Inigo, Ignatius, or whatever the first name of him was, have done? Truly for Ignatius the question was very complicated. But, had he asked from Nature and the Eternal Oracles a remedy for wrecked sensualism, here surely was one thing that would have suggested itself: To annihilate his pruriency. To cower, silent and ashamed, into some dim corner; and resolve to make henceforth as little noise as possible. That would have been modest, salutary; that might have led to many other virtues, and gradually to all. That, I think, is what the small still voices would have told Ignatius, could he have heard them amid the loud bullyings and liturgies; but he could not, perhaps, he never tried,—and that, accordingly, was not what Ignatius resolved upon. In fact, Christian doctrine, backed by all the human wisdom I could ever hear of, incline me to think that Ignatius had been a good and brave man, should have consented, at this point, to be damned,—as was clear to him that he deserved to be. Here would have been a healing solace to his conscience; one transcendent act of virtue which it still lay with him, the worst of sinners, to do. To die for ever, as I have deserved; let Eternal Justice triumph so, by means of me and my foul scandals, since otherwise it may not! *Selbsttödtung*, Annihilation of Self, justly reckoned the beginning of all virtue: here is the highest form of it, still possible to the lowest man. The voice of Nature this, to a repentant outcast sinner turning again towards the realms of manhood;—and I understand it is the precept of all right Christianity too. But no, Ignatius could not, in his lowest abasement, consent to have justice done on him, not on him, ah no;—and there lay his crime and his misfortune, which has brought such penalty on him and us."

This young profligate, then, who would not allow himself to be quietly damned, begins to preach a new gospel;—and this new gospel, it is alleged, has now superseded Christianity altogether. This is more especially the case in England, as the following paragraph testifies.—

"What a man's or nation's available religion at any time is, may sometimes, especially if he abound in Bishops, Gorham Controversies, and richly endowed Churches and Church-practices, be difficult to say. For a Nation which, under very peculiar circumstances, closed its Bible about two hundred years ago, hang-d the dead body of its Cromwell, and accepted one Charles Second for Defender of its Faith so-called; for such a Nation, which has closed its Bible, and decided that the sufficient and much handier practice would be to kiss the outside of said Bible, and in all senses swear zealously by the same without opening it again,—the question what its 'religion' is, may naturally be involved in obscurities! Such dramatic fable-worship going on everywhere, and kissing of the closed Bible, what real worship, religion, or recognition of a Divine Necessity in Nature and Life, there may be.—Or, in fact, is there any left at all? Very little, I should say. The religion of a man in these strange circumstances, what living conviction he has about his Destiny in this

Universe, falls into a most strange condition;—and, in truth, I have observed, is apt to take refuge in the stomach mainly. The man goes through his prescribed fable-motions at church and elsewhere, keeping his conscience and sense of decency at ease thereby; and in some empty part of his brain, if he have fancy left, or brain other than a beaver's, there goes on occasionally some dance of dreamy hypotheses, sentimental echoes, shadows, and other inane make-believes,—which I think are quite the contrary of a possession to him; leading to no clear Faith, or divine life and death Certainty of any kind; but to a torpid species of *delirium somnians* and *delirium stertens* rather. In his head or in his heart, this man has of available religion; none. But descend into his stomach, purse and the adjacent regions, you then do awaken, even in the very last extremity; a set of divine beliefs, were it only belief in the multiplication-table, and certain coarser outward forms of *meum* and *tuum*. He believes in the inalienable nature of purchased beef, in the duty of the British citizen to fight for himself when injured, and other similar faiths:—an actual 'religion' of its sort, or revelation of what the Almighty Maker means with him in this Earth, and has irrefragably, as by direct inspiration, charged him to do. This is the man's religion; this poor scantling of 'divine convictions' which you find lying, mostly inarticulate, in deep sleep at the bottom of his stomach, and have such difficulty in raising into any kind of elocution or conscious wakefulness. Alas, so much of him, his soul almost wholly, is not only asleep there, but gone drowned and dead. The 'religion' you awaken in him is often of a very singular quality; enough to make the observer pause in silence. Such a religion, issuing practically in Hudson Statues, and, alas, also in Distressed Needlewomen, Cannibal Connaughts, and 'remedial measures suited to the occasion,' was never seen among Adam's Posterity before. But it is this modern man's religion; all the religion you will get of him. And if you can winnow out the fable-motions, fantasies, sentimentalisms, make-believes, and other multitudinous chaff, so that his religion stands before you in its condition, you may contemplate it with scientific astonishment, with innumerable reflections, and may perhaps draw wise inferences from it."

Some glimmering lights of truth there are in this account, no doubt,—if our readers can make them out through the coarse, lumbering folds of language in which they are involved.—We want, Mr. Carlyle says, new artists, poets, historians. Their work lies waiting.—See to what our wealth, knowledge, and civilization have brought us, if the following be a true example of what is called society in the nineteenth century.—

"Given an idle potentate, monster of opulence, gluttonous bloated Nawaub, of black colour or of white,—naturally he will have prating story-tellers to amuse his half-sleepy hours of rumination; if from his deep gross stomach, sinking overloaded as it forwards its last torpor, they can elicit any transient glow of interest, tragic or comic, especially any wrinkle of momentary laughter, however idle, great shall be their reward. Wits; story-tellers, ballad-singers, especially dancing-girls who understand their trade, are in much request with such gluttonous half-sleeping, black or white Monster of Opulence. A bevy of supple dancing-girls, who, with the due mixture (mixture settled by custom), and with not more than the due mixture, of lascivious fire, will represent to him, brandishing their daggers, and rhythmically chanting and posturing, the Loves of Vishnu, Loves of Adonis, Death of Psyche, Barber of Seville, or whatever nonsense there may be, according to time or country: these are the kind of artists fit for such unfortunate stuffed stupified Nawaub, in his hours of rumination; upon these his hot heavy-laden eye may rest without abhorrence; if with perceptible momentary satisfaction emerging from his bottomless ennui,—then victory and gold pursues to the artist; be such artist crowned with laurel or with parsley, and declared divine in presence of all men. Luxurious Europe, in its repding publics, dilettanti, cognoscenti and other publics, is wholly one big ugly Nawaub of that kind; who has converted all the Fine Arts into after-dinner amusements; slave adjuncts to his cookeries, upholsteries, tailories, and other palpably Coarse Arts. The



brutish monster has turned all the Nine Muses, who by birth are sacred Priestesses of Heaven, into scandalous Bayadères; and they dance with supple motions, to enlighten the vile darkness of his ennui for him. Too truly mad, these poor Fine Arts! The Coarse Arts too, if he had not an authentic stomach and skin, which always bring him a little right again in those departments, would go mad. How all things hang together! Universal Jesuitism having once lodged itself in the heart; you will see it in the very finger-nails by and by. Calculate how far it is from Sophocles and Æschylus to Knowles and Scribe; how Homer has gradually changed into Sir Harris Nicolas; or what roads the human species must have travelled before a *Psalm of David* could become an *Opera at the Haymarket*, and men, with their divine gift of Music, instead of solemnly celebrating the highest fact, or 'singing to the praise of God,' consented to celebrate the lowest nonsense, and sing to the praise of Jenny Lind and the Gazza Ladra—perhaps the step from Oliver Cromwell to Lord John Russell will not seem so unconscionable!"

If it were possible for a moment to look at all these Sibylline effusions gravely, we should protest against this as only a fragment of the truth. Bad as the world is now, we fear it was worse before. Even in the age in which the saints whom Mr. Carlyle worships so devoutly did their spiriting, the most venal and profligate generation of men that England had ever seen received their education and moral training. Reckless vituperation in such matters goes for nothing. It is easy to abuse the world at any time; but to ask it to go back in its course to the types and ideas of a past period, is as idle as to ask a planet to go back in its orbit. We confess to being somewhat more hopeful for mankind than Mr. Carlyle is,—and that our look is onward. Were it worth while seriously to answer rhapsodies like Mr. Carlyle's,—which surely can be meant only as logical tricks, and are very unwholesome ones,—we could depict the age in which he says the Bible was closed in England—his age of saints and heroes—in such colours as would make the reader most thankful that it has passed away. Much as we may admire individual men of that period, we can have no desire to return to the period itself.—The true golden age is in the future.

*The Two Brothers; or, the Family that lived in the First Society.* 2 vols. Bentley.

THIS novel will be welcome to the many who enjoyed 'The Initials.' Like that book, it contains a faithful picture of German domestic life. This time, moreover, it is a native, and not a foreigner, who has "played the painter."

As a tale, the novel before us is far more painful than 'The Initials.' There, we had more than enough of the cookery of every-day life,—there we were shown an open and unaffected desire to be married on the part of the *Fraulein*, which at least takes less visible and eager forms in English *Miss* or in French *Made-moiselle*; but these things were arranged in a good-humoured sort of drama; with merely a suicide episodically flung in to give (as it were) the melo-dramatic flavour of cayenne to a confection which might otherwise have been railed against as insipid.—Here, the general *animus* is graver and bitterer—the tragedy is longer drawn.—In both stories, the love of appearance and establishment is shown as uppermost in a German woman's mind, to a degree which will shock all who have given her a blank credit for simplicity; but in 'The Two Brothers,' the foible is mingled with, and crossed by, class and caste prejudices of a force and a folly which justify the sharpest satire because they bring on the saddest consequences. One of the two brothers is an advocate, contented with middle-class life and middle-class want of fashion: the other is a soldier, who, in addition to the mili-

tary feather in his cap, has chosen that of aristocratic distinction by marrying a lady of noble family. Mrs. Lieutenant-Colonel von Hattesoht, née Emmendingen, ruins the happiness of her son and one daughter, and does her best to make a sacrifice of the peace of another girl; the *Cinderella* of her family; but the latter chooses—under the sanction of her uncle and aunt—to cherish vulgar tastes, to love a Professor, and not to be diverted from her love by either mockery, tyranny, or vicissitude. At the persecutions of Clara, we must not cry "*How German!*" when we recollect what befel the *Lady Clarinda*, who married her brother's tutor, in 'The Provisions of Lady Evelyn,' and when we call to mind the place which the Governess still holds in an English family. Nevertheless, the entire tone of the picture is in some respects different from any picture of English society in any phase. Poverty and show making strange faces at each other—delicacy and immodesty joining hands without the one questioning the other's nature—the meddler and the family counsellor almost becoming one,—such are its elements; nor can their combinations be encountered again and again in domestic pictures of foreign life,—whether a M. Töpffer draw them in Switzerland, or a Fredrika Bremer in Sweden, or a German, as here, in Germany,—without an impression of falsity, meanness, and discomfort, being at last stamped upon our minds. So often, so loudly, so insultingly are we English rebuked for our "conventionalisms" (as the jargon runs) on the Continent,—that it is only fair, after some experience of Continental life as drawn by Continental authors and confirmed by the experience of Continental residents, to point to "the reverse of the shield,"—to inquire of those who are so quick in railing against our sophistications whether they have none of their own to cover or to confess. We can call to mind no story of English life—including the *silver-fork* novels in the hey-day of their abomination—so depressing as this 'Two Brothers,'—which is no picture of "faultless" and of "faulty" monsters, but one of average every-day people!

So much for the moralists: for the more superficial reader this tale will be found to possess deep interest and welcome freshness. The characters are capitably marked. We have never met with a better study of fine frivolity than in the person of the noble Madame Hattesoht. Poor Amelia, her victim,—and Steinheim her son-in-law, chosen, but not choosing,—are delicately and clearly drawn, without exaggeration. The good people, of course, are more strained in their proceedings, and less palatable to us. But good and bad together, the *dramatis personæ* of 'The Two Brothers' should—and we think will—assemble a large party of Midsummer readers in England.

*Memorials of the Empire of Japon: in the Sixteenth and Seventeenth Centuries.* Edited, with Notes, by Thomas Rundall. Printed for the Hakluyt Society.

THERE is a good deal that is curious in this book,—but nothing that is absolutely new; for the materials are professedly drawn from well-known sources, from the time of Purchas down even to the visit of H.M.S. Samarang in 1845. The collection is, however, very complete; and the Editor has generally taken much pains with his subject,—although he seems to have left the preparation or superintendence of some parts of the work to persons not as competent, or at least not as careful, as himself. We will illustrate this position by a single instance. At p. 153 is given a printed translation of certain "Privileges" granted by the Emperor of Japan (or Japon) to Sir Thomas Smith, Governor of the

East India Company. It is from a manuscript in the East India House, and a fac-simile of the original is inserted on p. 67; but what is singular is, that the printed copy at p. 153 and the fac-simile at p. 67 by no means agree, and the differences are of considerable importance to the sense of the document. It has been printed twice before;—once by Purchas in his 'Pilgrims' (I. 376),—and again in the Minutes of Evidence before a Committee of the House of Commons as recently as 1847. We are told by Mr. Rundall that the latter is "not to be commended for its fidelity"; yet he himself follows up this censure by a printed copy, not only "not to be commended for its fidelity," but strongly to be censured for its inaccuracy. We have never seen the original, which is among the archives in Leadenhall Street; but we judge from the fac-simile furnished by Mr. Rundall himself, which can be compared by any of his readers, and which will prove that the variations are not merely numerous but material. We point out this circumstance unwillingly,—but it is forced on us by the Editor; who no doubt intending to make his work as perfect as he could, thought proper to give these "Privileges" in ordinary type, as well as in an accurate imitation of the original. But they who either are not able, or do not take the trouble, to make out the fac-simile at p. 67, will be misled by what they find printed at p. 153.—There are errors of the same kind in the copy of "the modified Privileges" at p. 155; but they are not so glaring nor so numerous. Generally speaking, as we have already remarked, the work has cost the Editor a good deal of labour and research,—and we cannot but commend his diligence. The map, which is made the frontispiece to the volume, is a very useful compilation from Kœmpfer and Krusenstern, and must have cost Mr. Rundall much time and trouble.

There are some portions of this book—especially those which relate to the modern condition of the island of Japan—which we might not have felt disposed to include; but the Editor does not seem to have liked to omit anything, whether old or new, that could illustrate the history, state, laws, &c. of the empire. This we presume was his reason for subjoining the Appendix,—which is merely a reprint of what appeared at length in *The Asiatic Journal* of 1830. His Preface is a comprehensive and able production; and from it we quote the following remarks on Japan and the Japanese,—a part of the world and a people with which we are even now very imperfectly acquainted.—

"In fact, the infinite variety in the productions of the empire, and the astonishing abundance in which each variety is produced, render the inhabitants of Japon completely independent of foreigners for the necessities of life; and, as yet, they are unacquainted with, and consequently have no desire for, the elegancies and luxuries that lend a charm to European life. It must be considered, moreover, the people of the empire are not destitute of the advantages of commerce; but, on the contrary, that an extensive and lucrative traffic exists within the empire. This results from the physical peculiarities of the country. Extensive tracts of land, each with its own climate and its peculiar productions, separated from each other by ranges of rugged mountains, by impervious forests, or by broad arms of the sea, promote an immense coasting trade, by which the various productions are disseminated and circulated, to the great comfort of the population and the no small gain of the trader. \* \* \* By a well-regulated intercourse between nations, intelligence may be promoted, intellect improved, science advanced, the fine and mechanical arts perfected, and the germs of noble qualities so cultivated as to be made to flourish and to produce good fruits. In science, the Japanese have made some advances; and they are represented to be desirous of making further progress. In some of the mechanical arts they exhibit



great skill, and are said to possess great aptitude for improvement. The knowledge of the fine arts is limited in extent; but in those branches to which their knowledge extends their performances are admirable. To poetry and the drama they are enthusiastically devoted; and in their compositions they are represented to show talents of no mean order. To music they are greatly addicted, though sadly deficient in skill. If daring crime may be imputed to this people, they are not disgraced by any mean vices. They exhibit the elements of some noble impulses, which only require full development to elevate them in the rank of nations; an effect which might, probably, be produced by means of well-regulated intercourse with foreigners.

The body of the work commences with a description of the empire of Japan in the 16th century, from MS. Harl. No. 6249; and this is followed by six letters from persons resident in the island at an early date, including several of William Adams, who was so greatly favoured there for many years that he rose to posts of the highest influence and importance. Some of these letters are to be found in Purchas; but we have them here from the originals belonging to the East India Company, and from the strange mistakes pointed out in the transcripts used by Purchas we are led to believe that we now have a faithful representation of their contents. The fourth letter is from Captain Saris; and as he was a man, not perhaps of greater intelligence, but of better education and more enlarged views than Adams, we make a brief extract from his communication respecting an execution in Japan; where the laws are not only severe, but enforced with the utmost rigour and certainty.—

"The tenth, three more were executed as the former, for stealing of a woman from Firando, and selling her at Langasacque long since, two of them were brethren, and the other a sharer with them. When any are to be executed, they are led out of the towne in this manner: there goeth first one with a pick-axe, next followeth an other with a shouell for to make his graue (if that bee permitted him), the third man beareth a small table whereon is written the parties offence, which table is afterwards set vp vpon a post on the graue where he is buried. The fourth is the partie to be executed, his hands bound behind him with a silken cord, having a litle banner of paper (much resembling our wind-vanes) whereon is likewise written his offence. The executioner followeth next, with his cattan by his side, holding in his hand the cord wherewith the offender is bound. On either side of the executioner goeth a souldiour with his pike, the head thereof resting on the shoulder of the partie appointed to suffer, to skare him from attempting to escape. In this very manner I saw one led to execution, who went so resolutely and without all appearance of feare of death, that I could not but much admire him, neuer having seene the like in Christendome. The offence for which he suffered was for stealing of a sacke of rice (of the value of two shillings six pence) from his neighbour, whose house was then on fire." This letter is accompanied by a fac-simile of the signature of Captain Saris,—of which we do not see the value; particularly as we are not told to what document it appertains, and as we are not aware that the Captain distinguished himself in any other way.

The "Notes" by the Editor are numerous and copious. They belong to all periods of the history of Japan subsequent to its discovery; and comprise all the information regarding it that is scattered over many productions, from the time of Marco Polo and Mendez Pinto to our own day. We have, therefore, in this volume the whole that is known on the subject, and the mode in which Mr. Randall quotes his authorities at the end of his notes is highly satisfactory. From this portion of the work we select the following singular story, illustrating the manners of the people, and giving an account of a sort of Japanese Lucretia.—

"A man of rank went on a journey, and a noble in authority made overtures to his wife. They were rejected with scorn and indignation; but the libertine, by force or fraud, accomplished his object. The husband returned, and was received by his wife with affection, but with a dignified reserve that excited his surprise. He sought explanations, but could not obtain them at once. His wife prayed him to restrain himself till the morrow, and then before her relations and the chief people of the city, whom she had invited to an entertainment, his desire should be satisfied. The morrow came, and with it the guests, including the noble who had done the wrong. The entertainment was given, in a manner not unusual in the country, on the terraced roof of the house. The repast was concluded, when the lady rose and made known the outrage to which she had been subjected, and passionately demanded that her husband should slay her, as an unworthy object, unfit to live. The guests, the husband foremost, besought her to be calm; they strove to impress her with the idea that she had done no wrong, that she was an innocent victim, though the author of the outrage merited no less punishment than death. She thanked them all kindly. She wept on her husband's shoulder. She kissed him affectionately. Then suddenly escaping from his embraces, rushed precipitately to the edge of the terrace, and cast herself over the parapet. In the confusion that ensued the author of the mischief, still unsuspected, for the hapless creature had not indicated the offender, made his way down stairs. When the rest of the party arrived, he was found weltering in his blood by the corse of his victim. He had expiated his crime by committing suicide in the national manner, by slashing himself across the abdomen with two slashes, in the form of a cross.

This self-immolation, as the Editor informs us, is a trait of national character. It is the most ordinary method of committing suicide in Japan; where, it seems, the young men are instructed in graceful, dexterous and effectual modes of destroying themselves.

The great merit (and it is a great merit) of the work before us is, as we have said, its completeness. We are hardly aware of any source of knowledge in relation to the subject that has not been consulted and here laid under contribution.

#### OUR LIBRARY TABLE.

*The Ministry of the Beautiful.* By H. J. Slack. —The title of this brochure is attractive, and makes us think of Plato and German aesthetics. The principle of the work is, that "truth can be presented to our sympathies as well as to our reason;" and "the idea," we are told, "was suggested many years ago by reading Sir Humphry Davy's 'Last Days of a Philosopher.' The author confesses his obligations also to Sir Thomas Brown. This statement will sufficiently indicate the style and spirit of the production. The different arguments which it contains are treated in the method of conversation, in which we detect the luxury of description as well as the mysticism of debate. Dreams of both the outer and the inner world are indulged in with equal confidence; and the fancy, as might have been expected from the tone of the subject, is held in as much estimation as the reason. The prose is relieved by songs,—which we are told have been set to music by Mr. William Thorold Wood, the composer of 'The People's Anthem.' The doctrines of the book are all of an elevated kind. Art, with the interlocutors, is "a hieroglyphic or sacred language, in which noble thoughts should be expressed;" and the world is a place of beauty, shared by other beings with ourselves, though we know them not. Nevertheless, the writer recognizes in it "deep suffering" as well as "gorgeous hope,"—but his theory of the beautiful is one that reconciles all opposites.

*God and Man.* By the Rev. R. Montgomery. —This is a book with a large title, proposing a subject more than co-extensive with the universe. Mr. Montgomery has, however, limited its argument, proposing only a series of "Outlines of Religious and Moral Truth according to Scripture and the Church." As usual with this author, there are ambitiousness in his mode of treating the theme and an affectation of singularity in the choice of

topics. The volume, nevertheless, exhibits some hard thinking, and considerable eloquence, though not always in the best taste.

*The Moral Statistics of Glasgow.* By William Logan. —An indifferent collection of facts gathered together without care or criticism, and under a title which suggests an interest much higher than the publication is intended to gratify. Mr. Logan was employed as an agent by the Scottish Temperance Society to collect evidence in Glasgow in favour of the proposition, that dram-drinking is the cause of all the evils which afflict society,—a proposition evidently absurd in itself. The plan adopted in the investigation was to write a series of questions to the physicians of public hospitals, governors of prisons, and officers of the Excise department, so framed as to induce answers of the kind desired. Most of the information so applied for was withheld,—the opinions given are contradictory,—and the question rests precisely where it did. Even as a collection of "moral statistics," the result of the labour expended is valueless; for Mr. Logan's report does not add a single new fact to our knowledge of the moral condition of the people of Glasgow.

*Christian Doctrine and Practice in the Twelfth Century.* —This is No. 17 of Mr. Fisker's series of 'Small Books on Great Subjects'; and consists of extracts from the writings of St. Bernard, the celebrated Abbot of Clairvaux,—with certain documents and statements illustrating the evils of asceticism and the defects of the monastic system, as contrasted with the religious spirit and superior morality of modern times.

*Conversations on Human Nature for the Young.* By Mrs. Conyngham Ellis. —This book is printed with an affectation of old type, and is preceded by an introduction from the pen of the Bishop of Oxford. It consists of essays on 'Conscience,' 'The Love of Ourselves,' 'The Love of our Neighbour,' 'Resentment,' 'Compassion,' 'Habit,' and 'The Love of God,'—in all which the system of morals contained in Bishop Butler's sermons is followed. The style is studiously simple,—and philosophical terms and propositions are avoided. In rendering the topics familiar, however, they are deprived of much of their depth. They may have been made easy to the meanest understanding, but they have lost thereby the interest which they have for the highest reason.

We are strongly tempted to doubt the utility of such compilations. The truths that they would teach are not to be taught dogmatically;—they must be suffered to grow and develop themselves in the consciousness, and become one with the heart and the affections. The time is past for accepting them on authority;—they must be demonstrated to the feelings.

*The Working Classes of Great Britain.* By the Rev. S. G. Green. —This little work,—which is a prize essay,—treats of the present condition of the working classes, and proposes certain means for their improvement and elevation. The author grapples with the question how to prevent a redundancy of labourers,—and concludes that prevention is the proper business of the working classes themselves. His means are, prudence in the formation of matrimonial engagements, frugality, and habits of saving. The workman in favourable times should "secure resources on which to fall back when work is slack, and so, by voluntary withdrawal, help to equalize the supply of labour with its demand." This kind of self-denial is, we take it, more easily preached than practised; and the labourer will reasonably demand a more satisfactory solution of the difficulty proposed.—It is fair to add, however, that this little work contains some suggestions, particularly in a moral point of view, which may be useful to both the employer and the employed.

*Hints towards Reforms.* By Horace Gruby. —Mr. Gruby is a name beginning to be heard on this side of the Atlantic. In his own country he is well and honourably known as a man of letters, the son-in-law of Bryant, and editor of a high class paper in New York. The 'Hints' now published consist of a number of lectures, essays and orations, somewhat in the manner of his countrymen, but with fewer of their faults. 'Organization of labour,' if we may take Mr. Gruby as a sample of his order, is making progress in the United States; as, indeed, it is in our own country, faster than they who do not minutely watch the tendencies of opinion are at all aware.



On the whole, we have read Mr. Gruby's orations with pleasure. Their literary merits are unequal,—but there is always a mine of good sense and wise counsel in them.

LIST OF NEW BOOKS.

Anderson's (W. H.) *The Words from the Cross*, 3rd edit. 12mo. 2s. 6d. cl.  
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 Smart's *Walker's Pronouncing Dictionary*, new edit. 8s. 6d. cl.  
 Soane's (G.) *New Curiosities of Literature*, 2 vols. 8s. 6d. cl.  
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OBITUARY.

OUR tidings of the week are more than ordinarily saddened by obituary records.—Elsewhere in our columns will be found under their melancholy head the name of Sir Martin Archer Shee.—The daily papers announce the death, on the 13th inst., of Mr. Perceval Weldon Banks;—better known as the *Morgan Rattler of Fraser's Magazine*. Mr. Banks, though only in his 45th year, was the last of the race of writers who, with Dr. Maginn, Mr. Churchill, and others, gave a sting and pungency (of a vicious and unwholesome kind, however,) to the early numbers of that journal. He seldom did justice to his own talents,—for he wrote too often in haste, always at the last moment, and too rarely with good taste.—He was by profession a barrister.—From the same source we learn the death of Mr. Thomas Dodd, a well-known connoisseur, of sixty years' standing, in ancient prints,—whose judgment in matters of caligraphy was deemed second to none. Mr. Dodd was the author of a well-esteemed work entitled *'The Connoisseur's Repertory.'* He died at Liverpool, in the 80th year of his age.

French fiction has lost one of its most forcible, fertile, and popular authors, by the recent death of M. de Balzac, which our foreign contemporaries have just announced. We will not here attempt to offer a chronicle of the literary works of this voluminous and vivid writer. Many curious particulars of the history of his mind and works were given by M. Jules Janin in the French series which he contributed to the papers on the *'Literature of the Nineteenth Century,'* that appeared in our columns seventeen years ago [see *Athen.* No. 499]. It will be enough to state here that M. de Balzac was a native of Touraine, by some years older than the present century. He was educated at college, and thence passed at once into the whirl of Parisian literary life; for many years writing and publishing obscurely under the pseudonyme of Horace de St. Aubin,—and only in 1829 signing his *'Peau de Chagrin'* with the real name which was subsequently to become so famous. His earlier tales, so far as we recollect them, were comparatively crude and hasty sketches, lacking truth and distinctive character. To some writers, however, this profusion of attempt by way of preparation, is necessary—ripening in place of exhausting their faculties. While a Scott comes at once to his meridian as a novelist in *'Waverley,'*—a Thackeray tries his hand year after year on this and the other combination ere he arrives at a *'Vanity Fair.'* It is the career not before, but after the arrival which marks the place of the author; and among some hundred novels which succeeded the proclamation of M. de Balzac's identity, we need

but mention *'Le Pere Goriot,'* *'La Femme de Trente Ans,'* (that most exquisite picture of Beauty in the afternoon of her charms and triumphs—still charming, still triumphant!) *'Eugenie Grandet,'* and *'Un Grand Homme de Province à Paris,'* as indications of the richness of the vein, when once, by experiment, and after difficulty and with experience, it was opened. Greater power has rarely been put forth in fiction than the above works display. It is true that we have in them too much of the anatomy of bad passions and false morals, (the fault of the author, or of the society depicted by him?) but withal such a clearness of vision—such a direct attack on our sympathies, or antipathies—such a mastery over the craft of story-telling, as enthrall us with a fascination the like of which is rarely evoked on this side of the Channel. Though we are grieved—pained—revolted—we are still held as fast by one of M. de Balzac's novels as was the Wedding Guest by the *'Ancient Mariner'* till the tale was told out. For the moment the prodigious fecundity of M. de Balzac may have stood in the way of his gaining a high literary reputation; but it is assured, we think, for the future, in right of the works specified and some dozen besides.—Tempted by the great gains which attend theatrical success in Paris, M. de Balzac frequently, of later days, tried the stage; but there he kept his repulsiveness, without making any dramatic effect. It is as a novelist that he must live in the history of French literature of the nineteenth century.—before M. Sie the social, and M. Paul de Kock the comical,—betwixt M. Hugo, the poet-romancer, and M. Dumas, the manufacturing poet.

The American papers announce, that among the other persons who have perished by the wreck of the *Elizabeth* (the vessel which had Mr. Powers's statue of Mr. Calhoun on board) was the Countess d'Ossoli, best known to us by her maiden name of Margaret Fuller and by the wild but remarkable books published by her with that signature. She was on her way home from Italy, after an absence of nearly five years, with her husband and their only child. We borrow a few particulars of her life. Margaret Fuller was the daughter of the Hon. Timothy Fuller, a lawyer of Boston, and a member of Congress from 1817 to 1825. Soon after his retirement from Congress, he purchased a farm at some distance from Boston, and abandoned law for agriculture. His daughter Margaret gave promise of remarkable intellectual powers at an early age, and these were fostered to an extent which severely taxed and ultimately injured her physical powers. At eight years of age he was accustomed to require of her the composition of a number of Latin verses daily; while her studies in philosophy, history, general science, and current literature were in after years extensive and profound. After her father's death, she applied herself to teaching. In 1844, she undertook the literary department of the *New York Tribune*; where her articles on Art, Music, and the current literature of the day, assisted in giving to that paper the high character which it possesses as a first-class American journal. In the summer of 1846 she accompanied the family of a friend to Europe, visiting England (in whose literary circles her somewhat remarkable bearing will be remembered), Scotland, France—and passing through Italy to Rome, where they spent the ensuing winter. While in Rome she was married to the Count d'Ossoli; and she continued to reside there till last June, when she and her husband embarked for New York,—which port they were destined never to reach.—The works by which Margaret Fuller is best known are, her *'Woman in the Nineteenth Century,'* and a selection from her essays entitled *'Papers on Literature and Art'* published by Wiley & Putnam a few years ago.

SYLLOGISTIC SYSTEMS.

Edinburgh, August 7.

MAY I request the favour of being permitted, through your Journal, to say a few words on a somewhat abstract subject, and in answer to Professor De Morgan's paper *'On the Symbols of Logic,'* &c. in the volume of the *'Transactions of the Philosophical Society of Cambridge'* which has

just appeared. With that gentleman's logical theories, in general, I should not have thought of interfering; and even his errors concerning my own doctrines I would have willingly left to refute themselves. Not that I entertain a low opinion of Mr. De Morgan's talent; so far as I am qualified to judge, he well deserves the high reputation as a mathematician which he enjoys. But as a writer on the theory of reasoning, I cannot think that he has done his talent justice. I am persuaded, indeed, that had he studied mathematics as he has studied logic, and were the members of the Cambridge Philosophical Society as competent judges in the one science as in the other,—his character as a mathematician would rank very differently from what it does, nor would their *'Transactions'* have introduced his logical speculations to the world. It is because Mr. De Morgan has not merely erred himself, but put into my mouth his own rudimentary mistakes,—and because so far from these mistakes being detected when his paper was read and discussed, that paper has been deemed by the Society a contribution worthy of publication as a part of its proceedings,—it is these special causes alone which now constrain me to a brief exposition of the unintentional misrepresentation.

The present observations relate exclusively to Mr. De Morgan's strictures on my abstract notation of syllogistic forms, a specimen of which has been published by Mr. Thomson in his *'Laws of Thought.'* But though that fragment contains only affirmations, and of these only the naked symbols, Mr. De Morgan excoagulating the negative forms, translates them into concrete language, according to his conception of what they ought to express; and then, *without a word of explanation, makes me their author.* Farther; finding that these expressions, as those which he attributes to logicians in general, are repugnant to *'common thought,'* to *'common language,'*—he might have fairly added, and to common sense; he has swelled a memoir of more than fifty quarto pages with objections to Aristotle's doctrine and to mine: but radically misapprehending both; the illustration of his errors at once dispels the objections themselves, and therewith the two novel systems reared on the same imaginary foundation.

Mr. De Morgan says:—*'The following phrase of Sir William Hamilton's system, "All A is not some B," is very forced; both in order and phraseology; one who sees it for the first time finds it hard to make English or sense of it. The meaning is, "Each A is not any one among certain of the B's," and in its place in the system alluded to, the uncouth expression helps to produce system, and the perception of uniform laws of inference.'* (p. 5). And again: *'The logician, who must have forms, has to make a choice, and he has invented cumular expressions which do not suit the genius of common thought or common language. "All man is not fish," is the form in which a logician denies that any man is a fish.' Sir William Hamilton says, "All man is not all fish." Common language would deny the first by saying, "No, nor any part of him." Even "All men are not fishes," only means, in common language, "some men are not fishes," with emphasis upon the great number that are implied to be so; and would therefore be held false. The predicate of a negative must be exemplar: it is, "Every man is not any one fish." The examination of the following table will show that there is much less forcing of common expression in a list of nothing but exemplars than in a list of nothing but cumulars.'* (p. 24).

This attribution of certain phrases for certain forms of predication to the logicians and to me, is a mere imagination by Mr. De Morgan. Tadm, that had we thus spoken, we had spoken, not only ungrammatically, but nonsensically. But this we have not; and Mr. De Morgan's imagination of the fact is the result of a strange oversight on his part of the commonest principles of common logic and of common language. For language is logical in its forms; and a logic which cannot be unambiguously expressed in language, is no logic at all. Logic, language and common sense are never at variance. Mr. De Morgan, I say, misunderstands the nature and contrast of Affirmation and Negation.



tion, and the counter expressions in which that contrast is embodied by language. I regret to tarry for a moment on so elementary a point; but, as the mistake is of that very point, it is necessary to state, even to explain, what I feel irksome not to suppose known.

Mr. De Morgan's error is twofold; and of these each is compound.

1°. He thinks, that in universal negation, the logicians employ the predesignation "*all*,"—which they do not; and do not employ the predesignation "*any*,"—which they regularly do. On this complex reversal of the fact, he fancies an obnoxious system,—wars strenuously against this hostile phantom,—fathers it on others,—and finally adjudges it to righteous condemnation, by the style of "*Cumular*."

2°. He thinks, that the predesignation "*all*" can be superseded, and the predesignation "*any*" applied to universal affirmation;—both erroneously. From the conjunction of these two impossibilities, the new-born system is engendered which he fosters as his own, and fondly baptizes by the name of "*Exemplar*."—But these errors must be explained.

To speak, then, of *Affirmation and Negation*.—In result; Affirmation is *inclusion*, and universal affirmation, absolute inclusion—the inclusion of a *definite this* or *all* (individual or class); Negation is *exclusion*, and universal negation, absolute *exclusion*—the exclusion of a *definite this* or *all* (individual or class). (Laying individuals aside):—In *process*:—the one proceeds downwards or inwards, from greatest to least, from the constituted whole to the constituent parts; the other, upwards or outwards, from least to greatest, from the constituent parts to the constituted whole.—The counter qualities are also contrasted, in and as the two counter *quantities*. In proportion:—to *depth* or *intension*, is affirmation; to *breadth* or *extension*, is negation. At the *maximum of breadth*, there is predicated:—by affirmation, the least of the most (that is, there is given the fewest attributes to the greatest number of things); by negation, the most of the least (that is, there is withdrawn the greatest number of attributes from the fewest things). At the *maximum of depth*, there is predicated:—by affirmation, the most of the least (that is, there is given the greatest number of attributes to the fewest things); by negation, the least of the most (that is, there is withdrawn the fewest attributes from the greatest number of things).—Again, from the higher view of an *abstract or scientific notation*, which regards and states only the *result*; negation appears as a positive and irrespective act,—an act of *exclusion*. Here, all the signs of affirmative and negative quantity are the same; what is absolutely included or excluded is *all*. From the lower view of *concrete or common language*, which is conversant about the *process*, negation (what its name expresses) shows only as a privative and correlative act,—as the undoing, as the reversal of inclusion or affirmation. Here the predesignatory words for universally affirmative and universally negative quantity are *not the same*. In ordinary speech we say:—for absolute affirmation, *all is*, &c.; for absolute negation, *not any is*, &c., thus accomplishing the *exclusion of ALL* through the *non-inclusion of ANY*. To use, in common language, the *same verbal* predesignation of quantity for an affirmative, as for a negative, universal, would be, in fact, to do nearly the opposite of what is intended to be done. Every logician knows explicitly, as every unlearned man knows implicitly, that in common language the negation of a universal affirmative predesignation yields only a particular negative, as the negation of a universal negative predesignation yields only a particular affirmative. The logician, therefore, to designate a universal affirmative, familiarly uses "*all is*," the "*all*" (*πᾶς*, *omnis*, &c.) containing under it, and therefore meaning, sometimes, collectively, "*whole*," &c. (*ὅλος*, *totus*, &c.), and sometimes distributively, "*every*," &c. (*πᾶς τις*, *quisque*, &c.); and for a universal negative (eschewing "*all is not*"), he employs "*no-one* (not one) *is*," "*not any is*," "*any is not*," &c. To quote my version of the "*Asserit A*," &c., a version with which Mr. De Morgan may be acquainted:—

"A, it affirms of *this, these, all*,  
Whilst E denies of *any*," &c.

In this, common logic and common language (from which last many curious illustrations might be given) are at one. As a single example:—the Latin *ullus* (a word in which that tongue is, in this instance, richer than the Greek, which has only the ambiguous *τις*), affords a beautiful illustration. *Ullus* (*unulus*); *nullus* (non or *ne ullus*, *οὐδείς*, *μηδείς*); *nonnullus* (non nullus). The Hebrew is, in fact, so far as I am aware, the only language which does not always discriminate, by verbal contrast, the affirmative from the negative universal.

Now, the predesignation of *universal negation*, which Mr. De Morgan marvellously makes "the logician" to employ, may even to have "invented" for himself, as a technical expression,—this predesignation (in his example—"All man is not fish," in mine—"All men are not blackamoors") is in LOGICAL, as in ordinary, language, *not a universal* at all, but a *particular negative*—a mere denial of omnitude—tantamount, therefore, it may be, to a *particular affirmative*. *Ὅτι πᾶς ἄνθρωπος ἰσθμίου* is, indeed, the common expression of Aristotle and the Greek logicians for "some is not." If Mr. De Morgan, therefore, can name (as I know may be done) *any* writer on logic who employs the expressions thus attributed to *all* logicians, Mr. De Morgan is heartily welcome to treat the blunderer as he may deem his ignorance to deserve.—So much for "the logician."

As for myself:—The language I use is that of the logicians; only the quantity of the predicate, contained in thought, is overtly expressed, whereas, in common language, followed by common logic, that quantity is, usually, merely understood. Therefore, reversing the expression of "the logician," Mr. De Morgan naturally reverses mine; and the distorted nonsense which he lays to my account is, I am assured, only what he conceived a fair version of my abstract notation. But, as all that has been said of Mr. De Morgan in relation to the logicians in general, equally applies to him in regard to me in particular, it is needless to say anything in addition.

So much for Mr. De Morgan's mistakes about "the Cumular System," laid to the logicians and myself. I proceed to the counter scheme, his own "*Exemplar System*," proposed in supplement and correction of the other, and founded, as said, on the employment of the predesignation "*any*" as a *universal*, not only in negative, but also in *affirmative*, propositions.

Our English "*any*" is of a similar origin and signification with the Latin "*ullus*" (*unulus*), and means primarily and literally *even the least or fewest*. But now, to speak with the schools, it is of quodlibetic application, ranging from least to greatest; and (to say nothing of extra-logical modes of speech, as interrogation, extenuation, intension,) is exclusively adapted to negation. For example, we can say as we can think, *affirmatively*:—"All triangles are all trilaterals"; this collectively,—"*The whole (or class) triangle is the whole (or class) trilateral*"; this distributively,—"*Every (or each several) triangle is every (or each several) trilateral*." Now, let us try "*any*" as an *affirmative*:—"Any triangle is any trilateral." This is simple nonsense; for we should thus confound every triangle with every other, pronouncing them all identical. Nor, in fact, does Mr. De Morgan attempt this. He wisely omits the form;—but what an omission! Still, however, the "*Table of Exemplars*," which he does present, stands alone, I am persuaded, in the history of science. And mark, in what terms it is ushered in:—as "*a system of predication free from the objections urged against the cumular forms, as far as contradiction is concerned*," nor, like them, "*unsuited to the genius of common thought or common language*." Nay, so lucid does it seem to its inventor, that, after the notation is detailed, we are told, that it "*needs no explanation*."

Now, then, let us take, as a specimen of this system, the fifth proposition of the Table,—"*Some one X is any one Y*;" and applying this form, by interpretation, to a concrete matter, we have,—"*Some one figure is any one triangle*." Here, however, the proposition is in terms absurd; nor

does it even express what it is intended to mean. For *not any*—for *not any one*—for *no one* figure is *any one* triangle.—Again, taking the first proposition of the Table,—"*Any one X is any one Y*." This, we are told, "*gives*" or is supposed to mean,—"*There is but one X and one Y, and that X is Y*." But it means—it can mean—nothing of the kind; it is only doubly unmeaning, or doubly contrary to all meaning. For, in the first place, "*any*" and "*any one*" necessarily imply that there are more—more than one; and, in the second, the whole proposition becomes, on such hypothesis, absurd. This "*Exemplar*" proposition is, however, a favourite with Mr. De Morgan, who thinks it to afford a conclusion not competent in the "*cumular forms*" (p. 26). In so far as the proposition remains void of sense, this undoubtedly is true, but not certainly if interpreted into meaning.—The inconsistency of the "*Exemplar System*" is farther shown in this,—that its propositions, even when not immediately suicidal, do not admit of an intelligible conversion. Thus, the sound without signification—the proposition first adduced, is the converse of another which is not self-contradictory; to wit,—"*Any one Y is some one X*,"—"Any one triangle is some one figure." The reason is obvious.

But enough! Mr. De Morgan gravely propounds all this as "*sense and English*," as standing in honourable contrast to the uncouthness and violence and contradictions of the "*Cumular System*." He surely does not mean to turn logic into ridicule; but, assuredly, if logic were responsible for the forms and systems thus seriously proposed, it would no longer be respectable enough even for a jest. "This notation," says Mr. De Morgan, "*needs no explanation*." Right;—

"Emendare jocos, sola litura potest."

The more special objections of Mr. De Morgan—one and all—it would be equally easy to refute; but whilst the principal part, now considered, of his paper is a fair specimen of the whole, I am unwilling to trespass farther on your indulgence, by discussions of so limited an interest.

I remain, &c. W. HAMILTON.

#### OUR WEEKLY GOSSIP.

WE have from time to time noticed in our columns the doings of the Mormons in America. Few incidents in modern days are more strange and interesting to the reader of history than the rise, progress, and present state of this singular sect. It arose—not in a dark age, not in an obscure desert, not among an unknown race, not distant from the lights of science and civilization,—but in our own day, in New York, the most prosaic state in the world, among men of Saxon blood, in the reign of magazines and newspapers. We have seen it ascending step by step from the first grotesque imposture, through various stages of persecution and proscription, till it emerged from the conflicts on the Mississippi an armed and self-supporting polity,—to found in the region of the Great Salt Lake the new State of Deseret. The early course of some movements which have left lasting traces in the world's history may receive curious illustration from such a series of contemporary events. Niebuhr sought in the annals of the French Revolution for lights on the political changes in ancient Rome: the future historian of religious movements will find the records of Mormonism full of suggestiveness. As a creed, and as a polity, it has now taken its place on the stage of nations. The latest advices from Deseret represent it as in flourishing condition. Whether its origin was knavery or fanaticism,—whether we laugh at the low vices of its founder, or consider them as the failings to which history shows that prophets have been liable,—the State of Deseret is there. This State, with its foundations laid in what would seem the grossest ignorance and superstition, has established a University; and if we may judge from the address of the chancellor, the Mormons intend to engage learning largely in their service. Languages especially they wish to cultivate. If we had no example of bigotries nearer home, this might look like reaction. The measure might seem a suicidal one. It will be curious to follow its effects. Hitherto, we have been accustomed



merely to smile at Smith's revelations and discoveries:—it will be a curiosity to receive a history of them from a devout and learned Mormon. Though the language of the new sect have a strange sound, becoming the utterances of a new people, yet the practical good sense of their Saxon nature informs and controls their civil polity. They will have no idle students. All the learning is to be made available. The first effort is to be directed to the proper training of teachers; to the collection of books and philosophical apparatus, and the printing of books for primary education. They intend to gather together learned men and teachers of all tongues. The works of all dead languages are to be translated for general use. Among other changes, it is intended "to purge the English alphabet of all needless letters,"—a proceeding which will bring the Mormons favour in the eyes of our Phonetic reformers. It may be hoped—though we dare not be sanguine about it—that the diffusion of so much knowledge may help to discredit the crude impostures on which the Mormon faith is based.

By the will of the late Sir Robert Peel, which has been proved at Doctors Commons, he directs that his pictures at Drayton shall be held by his trustees in trust for the person who shall for the time being be entitled to the possession of the house at Drayton. His books and prints are bequeathed to the present baronet. By a codicil, executed on the 24th of March, last year, which relates solely to his literary possessions, he bequeaths all his manuscripts and correspondence, which he states he presumes to be of great value as showing the character of great men of his age, to Lord Mahon and Mr. Cardwell, with the fullest powers to destroy such as they think fit; and he directs that his correspondence with Her Majesty and her Consort and himself shall not be published during their lives without their express consent. The trustees are to make arrangements for the safe custody and for the publication of such of his manuscripts as they may think fit, and to give all or any of them to public institutions; and the codicil contains general directions for the custody of such as shall not be disposed of in such manner.

The following we believe to be a correct statement of the sums paid by Mr. Murray and his father for copyright to Mr. Washington Irving:—

Sketch Book .. .. .	£ 467	10	0
Bracebridge Hall .. ..	1,050	0	0
Traveller .. .. .	1,975	0	0
Columbus .. .. .	3,150	0	0
Companions of Columbus ..	525	0	0
Grenada .. .. .	2,100	0	0
Tour on the Prairies .. ..	400	0	0
Abbotsford and Newstead ..	400	0	0
Legends of Spain .. .. .	100	0	0

£29,767 10 0

Had these works been recently written, not one farthing of copyright money would have been paid for them in England under the law as lately explained by the Lord Chief Baron; but we shall see before long what a Vice-Chancellor and the Lord Chief Justice of England have to say on the subject.—Why is it that Government does not take up the subject of an international copyright,—for which the American public seems as ripe as our own?

The Committee on the Corporation Library have decided to recommend the City authorities to try the plan of lending out their books to the members of the municipal body. At present the Guildhall library is very little used; indeed the collection consists of works which are but little adapted for general circulation,—bearing chiefly, as they do, on points of interest connected with the history of the City. It is worth while, however, to mention this encroachment on the old Roman plan of public bodies locking up their literary treasures as if they were sacred.

The doctrine of association spreads among our neighbours. The last instance of it is not unamusing. A spirited hotel-keeper, who holds the theories of Proudhon and Louis Blanc to be destructive of society, has, nevertheless, perhaps without suspecting it, taken a hint from the Socialists. Pleasure, not business, is however in this case the object of association,—the special purpose being to enjoy, for a week, at the moderate rate of 175 francs, all the luxuries of Paris. This new and temporary form of the Club is very curious.

The bill of fare we translate as follows:—"Meals and lodging to be taken at the celebrated Hôtel des Princes, Rue Richelieu. The evenings to be spent in the first places of the leading theatres, concerts, and public gardens; the days to be occupied in visiting the public monuments, palaces, gardens, libraries, museums, &c. &c., and several large private establishments. Visit to the Museum and Park of Versailles,—going and coming in first-class places by the railway. The transport from place to place in Paris to be in carriages expressly engaged for the use of the company."—This opportunity of for once in a lifetime tasting the metropolis *en grand seigneur*—this week's repast on Essence of Paris—has very naturally suggested a supplementary festival, a banquet on Extract of London. The courses at this foreign feast are set forth in the columns of the French papers in terms which make the advertisers grow poetical. In type of more than an inch in stature the announcement is headed:—"The Grand Greenwich Dinner! *Voyage de Luace!*" The caterer promises "railways and steamers thither and back, a week's sojourn, lodging, breakfasts, dinners, theatres, parks, pleasure gardens, monuments, interpreters, expenses on the way, repasts, carriage of luggage, the famous dinner at Greenwich," &c. &c. at a price which he defends by what is in substance an aphorism and in form a poem. "When," he exclaims, "for the sake of a few francs less, we are deprived of comfort in a journey, is that economy? *'That is the question (c'est la question)'*—Shakespeare." The quotation from Shakespeare is delicious—"n'est ce pas? (isn't it?)"—Molière.—However, numbers of Parisians have been amongst us on this *Voyage de Luace*. The Folkestone train brought up 1,400 a few evenings ago; when even the capacities of Leicester Square for swallowing up foreigners was exhausted by the supply,—and a portion of our friendly guests had to be transferred to the environs of the Strand.—All jesting apart, these mutual visits will do good. A great many other questions, for which also Shakespeare may be quoted, that have been hitherto discussed between France and England with the argument of the sword, will be settled as between brothers when the two nations shall have become accustomed thus easily and familiarly to shake hands across the narrow Channel which divides but no longer separates the shores.

As we were the first to announce the paltry pension which Her Majesty's Government were pleased to bestow on the widow of Lieut. Waghorn,—it is right that we should also announce the magnificent addition which has now been made. Government has admitted that it had under-estimated the claim of the widow in respect of her husband's persevering and useful services by the exact annual amount of 15*l*.—The pension list furnishes a very curious study of the scale of services which the public, as represented by the minister, are supposed to honour.

Some of our daily contemporaries have been taken in by the assertion of a wag in print, that the Dean and Chapter of St. Paul's had abolished their Paul's "two pences" at the door for admission to see her monuments. The hoax took,—but was soon found out.—The so-called difficulty with the vergers which the Dean and Chapter are understood to have put forward, is one unworthy of a body boasting of the former intelligence of deans like Donne, Sancroft, and Tillotson. But if two pence is to be charged for the show, let it be at least better got up. Let the money be taken at the west portico,—so that the visitors may enter the temple by that door by which its architect designed that it should be entered. We had expected greater liberality from Dean Milman,—but he has perhaps after all a difficult Chapter to deal with. The leaven of ignorance and malice of Sydney Smith on this subject is not yet exhausted.

To-day the members of the Peace Congress hold their first sitting in Frankfort. The authorities of the city have allowed them the use of St. Paul's Church, fitted up in 1848 for the reception of the German Parliament. As on former occasions of these meetings of this Congress, the Belgium and French Governments have signified their desire to exempt the members from the troubles of the pass-

port and custom-house systems. Prussia has done the same. 'M. de Humboldt has declined to preside on the score of his great age and physical infirmities; but sends the expression of his entire concurrence in the object sought to be forwarded by these meetings.—We trust the delegates will not this year lay themselves and their cause open to sarcasm, as they did in Paris and Versailles,—but act in conformity with the spirit of the mission on which they profess to meet together as the representatives of nations.

We have had placed at our disposal the following extract of a letter from Mr. Finn, the English consul at Jerusalem.—"It may not be uninteresting to you to learn that our small English colony in Jerusalem has instituted a Society for the investigation of all subjects of interest, ancient or modern, scientific or literary, belonging to the Holy Land; with his Lordship the Anglican Bishop for our patron, and corresponding members in Jaffa, Safed, Beyroot, and Damascus. We have also commenced the formation of a library and a museum; and liberal access will be afforded to persons of all nations and religions under certain simple regulations. The library, it is proposed, shall be not only of a general character, but shall have an express Oriental department, for books and manuscripts in Asiatic languages. The trustees are, his Lordship the Bishop, R. Sandford, Esq. M.R.C.S., and myself,—all being members of the Literary Society with which the idea of a Public Library originated. But we are under the necessity of appealing to patrons of such associations, and friends of such pursuits as ours, in Europe, for pecuniary aid in the purchase of books—especially old books relating to this country,—and a few philosophical instruments. During the few months of our literary existence, we have had twenty-two weekly meetings for reading original papers and exhibition of curiosities, and have erected a handsome sun-dial for public benefit. We are now about to begin an experimental garden for practical horticulture. The interest felt for this country by Europeans is now far greater than has been known for many ages past; and it is chiefly shown by the increase of travellers resorting hither, many of them being persons eminent in rank and learning. For their advantage as well as our own, it becomes desirable to have a library of reference and something of literary intercourse to offer them."—We believe that any further information, either as regards the Literary Society generally, or the Library and Museum, may be obtained from J. B. McCaul, Esq., at St. Magnus Rectory, London Bridge.

The lovers of mystery are familiar with the upper portion of the second column of the *Times* newspaper. There, are daily propounded riddles which would have baffled the Sphinx. A curious subject of speculation is that interesting corner of the broadsheet. Of course we meddle not with the passionate griefs that are too often symbolized in the studied coldness or the earnest pleading of that place of sighs. Many a heart-ache lies under those formal hieroglyphics on which we would not look with prying eyes. Here, is the Morgue in which many a drowned hope and dead happiness is exposed, that it may be recognized by some yearned-for friend, and at the least get decent burial.—But there are other records in this curious corner of the broadsheet,—which, not appearing to cover morals so tragic, unconsciously set the fancy speculating. In the old time, the lover and his mistress corresponded through the moon: Love's telegraph now goes through Printing-house Square. Here, Blutundfener, the unknown conspirator, safe in the use of his ciphers, transmits the germ of a revolution in unsuspecting ink to his comrades in the Schwartzwelt: here, tokens and messages that seem commonplace enough, yet may be conspiracies too, are conveyed in hieroglyphics which only the initiated can hope to read. A. requesting E. to write before he goes from home, signs "Huit Astres, non pas L'Astre,"—and adds oracularly that "There are sermons in stones."—"Jennie" writes, with what seems a strange confusion of sex,—"His honor ne manque que toi seul. Welcome in poverty. Eeris. Viens. Je meurs." Here are the headings of a romance ready to hand. The mixture of tongues has a good mosaic effect, too, familiar



to novel readers.—The next specimen has a significance which there is no mistaking for romance.—“If C. H. will immediately return the book, agreeable to promise, A. D. will think nothing further of the matter.” We will not look into the mystery of that announcement further than to say that there is some imprudence in this apparent offer to compound a felony before so many witnesses! We take refuge, however, from its cold prosaic, in a strain of advertised poetry.—“The One-winged Dove must die unless the Crane returns to be a shield against her enemies.”—The following we offer to the skillful in conundrums.—“No. 6.—Slmp! at Cogl and Epnk! Fmqho olhi Chgo, Fpgm Eomin 22d Fmthq, sing Epqig, and Fnpkl by Enhpk, Foghm npmq ogpi! Chgik and Chnqh Fnpqm, Cqkup in Fhbio, Cponl Snigl Enpoh Spnqh, Fkqpo hiph mqho olhi, Enqkh. Cigi S. to Fmgi Cqkin, J. de W.” After that, we will go no further. It is dark, and may be dangerous. Many a man has been shot for as little. We should not like to have been caught travelling in Hungary with the paper that contained it in our pocket.

**PANORAMA of the NILE.**—Additions have been made to this exhibition. The Nubian Desert, from the Second Cataract to Dongola—War Dance by Firelight—March of Sarayan by Moonlight—Morning Prayer. The Mummy of a High Priest is added to the curiosities. Both Banks of the River are shown in the Painting.—**EGYPTIAN HALL, PICCADILLY.**—Daily, at Three, and Eight o'clock.—Stalls, 3s. Pit, 2s. Gallery, 1s.; Children and Schools, Half-price.

**INDIA OVERLAND MAIL.—DIORAMA.—GALLERY of ILLUSTRATION, 14, Regent-street, Waterloo-place.**—Additional Picture, MADRAS.—A Gigantic MOVING DIORAMA, ILLUSTRATING THE ROUTE of the OVERLAND MAIL to INDIA, depicting every object worthy of notice on this highly-interesting journey from Southampton to Madras and Calcutta, accompanied by descriptive detail and appropriate music, is now OPEN DAILY. Mornings at Twelve, Afternoons at Three, and in the Evening at Eight o'clock.—Admission, 1s.; Stalls, 2s. 6d.; Reserved Seats, 3s.—Doors open half an hour before each representation.

**THE DIORAMA, Regent's Park.**—Admission, One Shilling.—NOW OPEN, with the finest VIEWS ever exhibited in this country, representing the ROYAL CASTLE of STOLZENFELS on the Rhine, (visited by Her Majesty Queen Victoria in August, 1845), and its Environs, as seen at Sunset and during a Thunder Storm; painted by NICHOLAS MEISTER, of Cologne. And the much-admired Picture of THE SINKING of THE SCARLITY, at Bethleem; painted by the late M. RINOUX, from a Sketch made on the spot by DAVID ROBERTS, Esq. R.A., with novel and striking effects.—Open from Ten till Six, p.m. and in the morning.

#### ROYAL POLYTECHNIC INSTITUTION.

During this week the ALPINE SINGERS from Styria will perform several of their National Melodies, Daily at Four and in the Evenings at Half-past Eight.—LECTURE on CHEMISTRY, by J. H. PEPER, Esq., daily at a Quarter past Three, and in the Evening at Eight, ILLUSTRATING THE ANCIENT FIERY ORDEAL and the HANDLING of RED-HOT METALS.—LECTURE by DR. BACHHOFFNER on VOLTAIC ELECTRICITY, daily at Two, and in the Evenings at a Quarter past Nine.—NEW SERIES of DISSOLVING VIEWS, illustrating some of the WONDERS of NATURE, daily at Half-past Four, and in the Evenings at a Quarter to Ten; also a Series, exhibiting SCENES in the ARCTIC REGIONS and CEYLON, daily at One o'clock.—DIVER and DIVING BELL, &c., &c.—Admission, 2s.; Schools, Half-price.

#### FINE ARTS

##### NEW PUBLICATIONS.

*Characters, Costume, and Modes of Life in the Valley of the Nile.* By T. PRISSE. Part I.

This is the commencing number of a work in which the author's object is, to make pictorial records of the ancient practices and customs of the Egyptian people,—practices and customs which in all probability will ultimately give way before the universal habits that civilization will introduce. The leading rule is, to sacrifice no element of truth to mere Art,—yet, to make, them coincide where they may. The work, as regards the augury of its first number, promises well. There is much character in the print of the Arnaut and Osmanli soldiers; and in strong contrast with this is that of the Egyptian lady in the Harem.—When the name of Mr. St. John is announced as the author of the descriptive letter-press, there is sufficient guarantee for the local knowledge which will be brought to bear on the subjects and the narrative taste with which it will be conveyed.

*Manners and Customs of the English, drawn from Mr. Pips his Diary.* By Richard Doyle. Volume ye Second.

In the domain of popular art the name of Doyle has become a Household Word. Familiarity with his works is far from exhausting the respect which his prolific fancy has earned. His range of observation seems boundless, and his art is a stenography that puts down the spirit of subjective or objective

particular in characters universally understood and relished. His fertile fancy is well supported by his ready hand. His satire is untainted by ill nature, and his humour never degenerates into coarseness or vulgarity. Laying his illustrations mainly amongst low castes, this must be acknowledged to be no mean quality of Mr. Doyle's art. In this volume the public will gladly renew their intimacy with “A Railway Station, shewing ye Travellers refreshynge themselves,” when they are disturbed by the guard's bell summoning them to resume their seats.—“The Cydere Cellar during the Comycke Song (?) Sam Hall,”—“Regente Streete at Four of ye Clocke, P.M.”—“Punte Fyshynge off Rychmonde,” an exemplification of human endurance.—“The delights of White Bait” at Lovegrove's at Blackwall.—“The Chamber of Horrors” of Madame Tussaud.—“Deere Stalkynge,” a capital travesty of a celebrated painter's style.—“Tricks of Advertising Linen Drapers,”—the “Election” scene.—“Wine Tastyng in the Docks,”—“The Weddynge Breakfast,”—“The Theatre, shewynge ye House amused by ye Comycke Actor,”—“The Prospekte of ye Zoological Society its Gardens,”—“The First Day of Term,”—“Westminster Hall, shewynge ye Ceremonie of Openynge it,”—“Guy Fawkes' Day,”—“A Banquet shewing the Farmer's Friend [Disraeli] presiding over an Agricultural Meeting,”—and the interior of a “Criminal Court during an interesting Trial for Murder.” All these and many more re-appear as so many distinct evidences of that singular talent which stamps Mr. R. Doyle as among the best graphic satirists of his day.

*The Earl of Harewood and his Hounds.—Sir Tatton Sykes on horseback.* Both engraved in mezzotint by Mr. G. R. Ward, after Mr. Frank Grant.

BOTH these engravings are executed in a bold and vigorous manner.

*Portrait of the Warden of Winchester College.* Painted by Mr. Frank Grant, and engraved by Mr. G. R. Ward.

THIS is also well executed. As a piece of manipulation it excels the two just mentioned.

*Voices of the Night, with Illustrations.* By a Lady.

IT is not long since we had occasion to notice from the hand of this lady, Mrs. Lees, a more extensive series of illustrations of ‘Byron's Dream’—more finished, too—than the present. This volume displays much fancy; and accepted as the work of an amateur may, in right thereof, be dealt with leniently. The professional artist who should so neglect the aids that anatomy, perspective, and the delineation of fine form would impart to creations of his fancy, we should be compelled to handle more severely.

*Queen's College, Cork.* Drawn by Mr. Robert L. Stopford. Lithographed by Mr. J. Picken.

BOLDLY executed, but wanting in atmospheric effect.

*Portrait of Amelia Ferraris.* Drawn by Mr. A. Salome. Lithographed by Mr. A. Selb.

THIS is the portrait of a dancer performing a movement which, physiologically considered, is impossible; and which, were it possible, would excite no more pleasurable feeling than do the tricks of jugglers in the streets,—whose dexterity only makes us regret that so much time should have been mispent in endeavouring to contravene the laws of nature. The engraving may gratify those who prefer the cultivation of the heels to that of the head.

*Portrait of the Rev. R. W. Jelf, D.D.* Drawn from life by T. H. Maguire.

A faithful and well-executed resemblance of the Principal of King's College, London.

*Portrait of the late Charles Fox, the Engraver.* Etched from Nature by Mr. William Carpenter,

June 25 to 26 1846. This is a very striking resemblance of an engraver well known by many successful prints.—Amongst them ‘The Queen's first Council,’ after Wilkie, a mezzotint—and the line engraving of ‘Sir George Murray,’ after Pickersgill. The etching is a

favourable specimen of Mr. Carpenter's power in portrait delineation.

*Fancies and Truths, in Six Engravings.—The War between Light and Darkness, in Five Engravings.*

Both by Herr Moritz Retzsch.

ON more than one occasion we have had to deprecate a disposition which exists among some of our own artists to imitate the style of the author of the works now under our notice. The popularity of his designs from his native poets—Schiller more especially—and the picturesque assigned to scenes derived from our own Shakespeare have led many astray who have not discriminated between his early original freshness, with its romance and poetic allusion, and his later convention and manner. In the obviousness of this latter some members of our own school have taken refuge; and amateur directors of some of our Fine-Art associations have much to answer for in having given encouragement to such pictorial forms of expression.

The first of the publications now under review shows a collection of stray fancies that breathe the fresher and purer spirit of an earlier time in the artist's career,—thoughts on which he has evidently dwelt with enthusiasm, and which he has revealed with elegant allusion and much beauty of Art-appliance. Thus, ‘Apollo denied and despised’ may be looked on as an essay on the character of pictorial criticism. ‘The Mother’ is an exquisite little group, showing a lady of high degree whom maternal joys have brought to the level of mothers of inferior rank. ‘The Human Heart’ is an ingenious allegory of the power of love, manifested in a boy who is attempting to open one of twelve volumes that treat of the secret depths of the human heart,—locked by a sphynx's head (the emblem of mystery), with the one of a bunch of keys which may fit it. Each key shows different forms, emblematic of the various modes which the passion takes, of addressing its object,—while Philosophy in vain throws the rays of her light on the attempt. The scene entitled ‘The Kiss,’ where a priest is saluting a maiden, is not so clear an exemplification of how contrary to nature is the prohibition of lawful love. ‘A Country Girl resting with her Burden,’ who while caressing her dog is not inattentive to horsemen in the distance, is a beautiful little composition. ‘The Sleep of Infancy,’ where angels guard the slumbers of a boy and girl, interlaced in each other's arms, as they have fallen asleep whilst playing with flowers, is a charming thought expressed in a mystical form peculiar to the artist.

Of this latter class is also *The War between Light and Darkness*; a species of pictorial sermon, in which, in five prints, are set forth the contention between the good and evil principles. The artist has given first the ‘Fall of the Angels,’ a scene of strife,—in opposition to which ‘Christ as the Messiah,’ in the next print, proclaims himself ‘the Truth and the Life.’ The background exhibits Scribes, Pharisees and Priests as his persecutors and enemies. ‘The Reformation’ introduces us to Luther, supported in the pulpit by the Evangelists. Peter and Paul flank the composition, as the pillars of the Church;—while the scourging of the Money-changers and the Temptation on the Mount form the background episodes. ‘The Strife between Light and Darkness’ presents the conflict between ignorance and the light of the Gospel personified in human, animal and chimeric forms. The lustre of the first forces the enemy to abandon the field to its conquering power. The last scene, ‘The Victory of Light over Darkness,’ presents the Genii of Truth and Reason dispelling for ever the dark clouds that sought to obscure the light of the Gospel. Satan and his train are vanquished, and are descending in impotent rage. The emblem of Christianity divides the dense masses below; the sound of the trumpet, proclaiming victory to the universe, deafens and disperses the powers of darkness;—and angels of light appear.

These two works make their appearance opportunely for the reputation of the artist, at a time when it was somewhat impeached by the conventions which the Shakespeare illustrations betrayed.



SIR MARTIN ARCHER SHEE.

Sir Martin Archer Shee—portrait-painter and poet—died at Brighton on the 13th inst., after a long and severe illness, in his eighty-first year. Sir Martin was at once President and senior member of the Royal Academy. He was a native of Ireland; and in the *Somerset House Gazette*, by the pleasant author of 'Wine and Walnuts,' is the following account of his first appearance in London.

"I well remember this gentleman [Mr. Shee] on his first arrival from Ireland to the British metropolis; he was introduced to the notice of Sir Joshua Reynolds, and to some other distinguished persons by his illustrious friend and countryman Mr. Edmund Burke. I was at that time making a drawing in the Plaster Academy in Somerset House, and perfectly recollect the first evening Mr. Shee joining the students there. He selected the figure of the Discobolus for his probationary exercises to procure a permanent student's ticket. I need not say that he obtained it,—for it was acknowledged to be one of the best copies that had yet been seen of that fine figure. I further remarked that Mr. Wilton, the then keeper of the Royal Academy, was so pleased with the performance that he expressed a wish to retain it, after Mr. Shee had received his ticket; and Mr. Shee with that politeness which marked his early career, presented it to the worthy old gentleman."

Mr. Shee became an exhibitor at the Royal Academy for the first time in the year 1789,—when he sent his 'Portrait of an Old Man' and 'Portrait of a Gentleman.' He was then living at No. 3, Craven Street, Strand. He abstained from exhibiting in the following year, wisely husbanding his strength—worked hard at his art—gave his nights and days to Sir Joshua; and in 1791 took handsome apartments in No. 115, Jermyn Street, and sent four portraits to the Exhibition. One was a portrait of his brother,—another of, as we believe, *Irish Johnstone*;—for in the early days of the Academy the members were extremely cautious of calling a nobleman or gentleman in print by his proper name. In 1792 he removed to yet better rooms in the same street, and sent in all seven works to the Exhibition. One was a portrait of Lewis the actor as the Marquis in 'The Midnight Hour';—another, of the then celebrated Anthony Pasquin. In the same year he walked as one of the students of the Royal Academy at the funeral of Sir Joshua Reynolds. In 1793 he reached what is now the full Academical number of eight portraits;—including that of Mrs. S. Kemble in the character of Cowslip, in 'The Agreeable Surprise.' The Exhibition of the following year (1794) contained his as yet most ambitious efforts:—a portrait of a young lady as Miranda in 'The Tempest,' and 'Jephtha's Daughter' from the Book of Judges. In 1795 he exhibited a portrait of himself,—and a portrait of Mr. Adington, afterwards Lord Sidmouth. In 1797 he removed to 13, Golden Square, and exhibited in all ten works; including portraits of Pope and Fawcett the actors;—Fawcett as Touchstone. He continued equally industrious for many successive years; and was in such favour with his fellow artists that he was elected an Associate of the Royal Academy in 1798,—immediately after the election of the great Flaxman into the same honorary rank. The same year, on Romney's withdrawal from London, he removed to the house which that artist had built for himself in Cavendish Square; and in this he continued as Romney's successor to reside until age and growing infirmities compelled him to withdraw to Brighton, and abandon his pencil. A portrait of Romney was one of the productions of this period of his art,—and was considered clever and like. In 1800, Mr. Shee was elected a full Royal Academician;—and of his thirty-nine brethren by whom he was chosen he was, as we have already observed, the last survivor.

It is interesting to look at the composition of the Academy fifty years ago, when Shee first became a full member of its body. Two women, Mary Lloyd and Angelica Kauffman—and one engraver, Bartolozzi, were members:—so were Flaxman, Banks and Nollekins,—so were West, Fuseli, Stothard, Zoffany, Smirke, Lawrence and Hoppner. The remainder were smaller names—such as Garvey and Gilpin, Burch and Bourgeois, Hamilton and Humphry Richards and Rigaud, Tyler and Tresham, Wheatley and Yenn. What will an Academician elected in 1850, should he live like Shee for half a century an R.A., have to say in

1900 of the composition of the Academy at the period of his election?

We shall not weary our readers by attempting a catalogue of the numerous portraits which Mr. Shee continued to produce for years with amazing readiness of hand and fertility in posture. People of all ranks in life, with money to spend in perpetuating their faces on canvas, came to Cavendish Square; and for a time Shee was in greater request than either Beechey or Hoppner,—though not so much so as Lawrence, or even as Owen or Phillips somewhat later. Lord Spencer was, we believe, the first nobleman who sat to Mr. Shee; and his example was soon followed by the Duke of Clarence, the Duke of Leinster, the Marquis of Exeter, and other noblemen. The ladies flocked less readily around him; for Lawrence had then, as he continued to have, the entire artist monopoly of the beauty of Great Britain.

Much to the surprise of his friends, and to the infinite wonder of some of his brethren in the Academy, Mr. Shee made his appearance as a poet by the publication, in 1805, of his 'Rhymes on Art, or the Remonstrance of a Painter; in two parts, with Notes and a Preface, including Strictures on the State of the Arts, Criticism, Patronage and Public Taste';—and the wonder had not ceased with Nollekins and Northcote, when, in 1809, he published a second poem, in six cantos, entitled 'Elements of Art.' It is to these poems that Byron alludes in his 'English Bards and Scotch Reviewers':—

And here let Shee and Genius find a place;  
Whose pen and pencil yield an equal grace;  
To guide whose hand the sister-arts combine,  
And trace the poet's or the painter's line;  
Whose magic touch can bid the canvas glow,  
Or pour the easy rhyme's harmonious flow;  
While honours, doubly merited, attend  
The poet's rival, but the painter's friend.

The *Quarterly* was complimentary, but less kind to the painter than the noble lord.

Mr. Shee's taste for the stage our readers have already had an opportunity of divining from the number of portraits which he painted in early life of celebrated actors in their most popular parts. He appears to have always evinced a hankering for the theatre; and when his gravity of years and his position as a popular portrait-painter forbade his any longer entertaining a wish to appear there, he began to woo the dramatic Muse, and commenced a tragedy called 'Alasco,'—of which the scene was laid in Poland. The play was accepted at Covent Garden,—but excluded, it was said, from the stage by Colman, who was then licenser. This is not strictly true. Colman objected to about eighty-five lines, which Shee refused to alter. Colman was equally obstinate; and Shee in 1824 printed his play, and appealed to the public against the licenser in a lengthy and angry preface. 'Alasco,' notwithstanding, is still on the list of the unacted dramas.

On the death of Lawrence in 1830, Shee was elected President of the Royal Academy, and immediately knighted. His election was by a large majority, though Wilkie was a candidate; the members being governed in their votes rather, it is said, by the necessities of their annual dinner than by their sense of the merits of Shee as a painter. Sir Martin excelled in short well-timed and well-delivered speeches. He was seldom at a loss; and so highly was his eloquence appreciated within the walls of the Academy, that it has been common with more than one Royal Academician to remark whenever a great speaker was mentioned:—Did you ever hear the President—you should hear the President,—as if Canning and Stanley had been united in Sir Martin Archer Shee.

Sir Martin has but little claim to be remembered as a poet. His verse wants vigour, and his examples are deficient in novelty of illustration. The notes to both his poems are, however, valuable, and his poetry is perhaps more frequently read for its prose illustrations than for the beauty of its versification or the value of the truths which it seeks to inculcate. As a portrait-painter he was eclipsed by several of his contemporaries,—by Lawrence and by Hoppner,—by Phillips, Jackson, and Raeburn. He had a fine eye for colour; while his leading

want was, proportion, more especially in his heads. Compare his head of Chantrey with the portraits of Chantrey by Jackson and Raeburn,—and the defect is at once obvious; or compare his head of Mr. Hallam with the head of Mr. Hallam by Phillips, or with the living head—since happily Mr. Hallam is still amongst us. How, then, it will be asked is Sir Martin to be remembered?—by his poems or by his portraits?—by his speeches or by his annual addresses to the students? The question is not difficult of solution. His pictures in the Vernon Gallery will not preserve his name,—nor will his portraits viewed as works of Art. His name will descend in the History of Painting as a clever artist with greater accomplishments than have commonly fallen to the class to which he belongs,—and as the painter who has preserved to us the faces and figures of Sir Thomas Munro, Sir Thomas Picton, Sir Eyre Coote, Sir James Scarlett, and Sir Henry Halford. There was merit, we may add, in his portrait of the poet Moore.—Principally, however, he will be remembered as one of the Presidents of the Royal Academy.

FINE-ART GOSSIP.—A picture by Winterhalter, of much interest, is on view at Messrs. Colnaghi's in Pall Mall East, exhibiting side by side the great Captain who may be said to represent the art of war, and the advocate of those principles of progress which involve the maintenance of peace. Here for the first time are grouped together the portraits of Wellington and Peel. The characteristic expressions of the several individuals have been strictly kept in view. The proverbial attitude of the Duke has been caught:—Sir Robert Peel exhibits the change of feature which the wear and tear of ministerial occupation for more than twenty years had induced. To mark this change, it is only necessary to turn from this late representation by Winterhalter, to the admirable mezzotint by Cousens from the well-known picture by Lawrence,—the best likeness that has been hitherto published.—Although the present picture may not claim high ground as a specimen of fine colour or of manipulative skill, there is great merit in this faithful rendering of the characters. The work is the property of Her Majesty, and is now in progress of engraving by her command.

Busts and statues of the deceased Statesman are springing up on every hand. Of these a majority are awaiting the competitions which may reasonably be expected to be summoned into action by the monumental spirit that is walking the towns of England in Sir Robert's name;—and of them we shall speak when they come legitimately before us.—Meantime, we have seen a small bust published by Mr. Copeland, in his material which so well represents marble,—being a portrait of the well-known head, modelled by Mr. J. S. Westmacott, after a picture by Mr. James Palmer. Mr. Westmacott is the sculptor of the 'Evening' and 'Morning,' two bas-reliefs of which we were enabled to speak in terms of high praise when they were shown at the recent Exhibition of the Royal Academy; and he has here had conspicuous success in another variety of his art. The strongly marked features of Sir Robert Peel have been cleverly rendered; and the spirit and fidelity of the work will probably make it a familiar form by many a fireside where Sir Robert's name will long be a familiar word.

Once more let us repeat our hope that the metropolitan movement which is to represent in the highest place the sentiment of admiration and grief to which all these demonstrations owe their birth, may be made the means of demanding what sculpture can do in this country for her own fame. To the hardships and evils involved in the principle of competition we have never been blind; but the practice of favouritism in the dispensation of the public Art-patronage works far greater evil,—and adds to the evil which more or less is inseparable from the distribution of so few leaves among so many, the infliction of a wrong. In the abstract, the principle of competition for works of this nature is the true principle; and means may be contrived, as we have more than once pointed out, for diminishing the inconveniences that are not altogether separable from any method of election. One



thing is clear:—the national money, voted or contributed under a highly excited feeling, the minister has no right to deal with as his pocket-money to be dealt out to the artist at his private door. The grant should be appropriated, as it was voted, in the face of the public. This is a popular field of honour, and the lists should be open to all. Let all who choose to risk something for a chance of executing a work about which the national sympathies will be so warmly engaged, have the opportunity of putting in their credentials; and let the public be a jury, to pronounce its opinion, however the Court may be constituted. Many ways might be devised of framing a tribunal for the final award so as to insure comparative satisfaction with its verdict. For example, might we not in this matter borrow and adapt a hint from the old military competition practice of the Greeks? Let the competing artists themselves award the work. Why should not each of the competitors be called on to say which of the models sent in he thinks the best, excepting his own? Out of such a mode of gathering the suffrages, we have little doubt that the public would obtain the highest work, and the ablest competitor the commission.

While on the subject of these Peel testimonials, we may mention that it has been decided with respect to the Working Man's Memorial, that preparations shall be made for a simultaneous collection, on the same day, throughout the United Kingdom,—and Saturday the 31st inst. has been fixed on for that purpose.

Middle. Jenny Lind has been sitting to Mr. Kilburn for a daguerreotype portrait; and the artist has produced a remarkable work of his art. The lady is not, unfortunately, a very favourable subject for the limner's practice, and it is not in every sense that the merit of the work which represents her increases as the likeness increases. The sun is not a court painter, and does not embellish the natural traits which his sitters present for his rendering. They, however, who invest Jenny Lind's form and features with the harmonies which they have drunk from her voice will find a charm in this picture where the uninformed might miss it. The features and sentiment of the singer are lively conveyed;—her attitude is easy, graceful and unconstrained. The hands are beautifully rendered; and with the exception of certain minor parts which have been burnt out, the folds of the white satin dress yield rich poetic effects. That the draperies have a somewhat metallic look is a quality common to the species,—and here more than commonly displayed. But there is no doubt, that, in spite of the deductions at which we have hinted, the whole makes an effective and pleasing picture.

A correspondent of the *Literary Gazette*, writing from Paris says that the ex-king Louis Philippe having demanded that the Standish and Spanish Galleries in the Museum of the Louvre should be given up to him, the Government, unwilling to assume the responsibility of granting or refusing the request, referred the matter to the Council of State; and it has been by them decided that the two collections shall be restored to the deposed sovereign.

The Parisians have been inaugurating a statue of Baron Larrey—Napoleon's famous Chief of the Surgical Staff—in the Court of the Val de Grace. The ceremonial was attended by deputations from all the learned bodies of which the Baron was a member, and one from the old soldiers of the Empire clad in the costume of that time. The statue is the work of M. David; and the bas-reliefs which decorate the sides of the pedestal represent respectively the Beresina, the Pyramids, Austerlitz, and Somosierra.

The French papers state, that the Archaeological Society of Rodez have purchased the ancient tower of Calmont-de-Plancaigne,—for the purpose of rescuing from destruction one of the finest relics of military architecture of the eleventh century. This feudal monument belonged to the Arpajon family,—one of the most considerable in the ancient Rouergue. Several kings of France received its hospitality.

The total sums realized by the sale of the late

King of Holland's Gallery are, we believe, as follows. The first day's sale brought 9,511*l.* 7*s.* 3*d.*—the second, 9,436*l.* 13*s.* 4*d.*—the third, 17,500*l.* 16*s.* 8*d.*—the fourth, 8,447*l.* 18*s.* 4*d.*—and the fifth, we believe, upwards of 50,000*l.* This will give a total of about 96,000*l.*, independently of the Raphael drawings and the sculptures. The pictures have been widely distributed:—Prussia, Frankfurt and Paris coming in for their share. The Emperor of Russia's agent, it is said, was authorized to purchase to the extent of 60,000*l.* The English Government, as we have already stated, was not represented at this spirited contest; but the Marquis of Hertford took its place for England,—and wrung many lots from the Czar at any price. The following are the prices and purchasers of some of the lots.—Brascassat, Prairie, with cattle, goats and sheep, 6,300 florins.—Charles Brias, An Interior, 3,350 florins.—J. L. Dijkmans, View of the Vegetable Market at Antwerp, with many figures, 3,500 florins: M. Nieuwenhuys.—Louis Gallait, the Abdication of Charles V., 3,000 florins.—Theodore Gudin, A view in Algeria, 3,150 florins.—Keijser, The battle of Newport, 5,700 florins.—Same, Battle of Senef, 7,500 florins.—Same, Albert and Isabella, surrounded by many lords and ladies, &c., 4,750 florins.—Jean Kobell, Prairie, with cattle, &c., 4,900 florins.—Koekkoek, a landscape, 3,500 florins.—Same, Landscape in the Duchy of Luxembourg, 2,300 florins.—Same, Landscape in Luxembourg, 2,470 florins.—Kruseman, St. John the Baptist preaching in the Wilderness, 5,000 florins.—P. A. Labouchere (an amateur artist), Four Reformers, 3,500 florins.—Leys, Interior of a Town, 2,450 florins.—Same, an Interior, 2,530 florins.—Jean Van Eyck, 'The Annunciation of the Virgin,' 5,375 florins: M. Bruni, for Russia.—The same, 'La Vierge de Lucques,' 3,000 florins: M. Engleheart.—Dirk de Haerlem, Historical Subject, 'The Emperor Otho and the Empress Maria,' 9,000 florins.—Jean Hemling, 'The Life of St. Bertin,' two subjects, 9,000 florins.—The same, St. John the Baptist and Mary Magdalene, 4,900 florins.—The same, 'St. Stephen' and 'St. Christopher,' 4,500 florins.—The same, 'The Repose in Egypt,' 2,600 florins: Mr. Heres, Brussels.—The same, 'The Adoration of the Magi,' 6,450 florins.—Attributed to the same, A composition, in three parts, 'The Descent from the Cross,' in the centre; on the left, 'Repose in Egypt,' and on the right, 'The Resurrection of Christ,' 6,000 florins: Berlin Museum.—The same, the Birth of St. John, and the Baptism of Christ, 4,000 florins: Mr. Weber, also for the Royal Museum at Berlin.—Quinte Metzys, the bust of Christ, and the bust of the Virgin, 2,350 florins.—Bernard Van Orleij, five subjects, taken from the Life of Job, 6,400 florins: J. de Mabuse, 'The Descent from the Cross,' 2,500 florins.—The same, 'St. John the Baptist' and 'St. Peter,' enriched with Byzantine architecture, 4,350 florins.—Jean Metzys, 'Portement de la Croix,' 2,450 florins.—Holbein, Portrait of a lady of quality, 5,000 florins: Mr. Heres for Mr. Rothschild.—Spanish School: Murillo, 'The Assumption of the Virgin,' 36,000 florins.—'St. John of the Cross,' 2,500 florins.—The same, 'The Holy Family,' 4,450 florins.—Velasquez, Portraits of Philip IV. of Spain and of the Duke d'Olivarez, 38,850 florins: M. Bruni, for the Emperor of Russia.—Ribeira Spagnoletto, 'The Holy Family,' 8,500 florins.—Rembrandt, Portraits of John Pellicorne and his son, and Madame Pellicorne and her daughter, 30,200 florins: Mr. Mawson, for the Marquis of Hertford.—Hobbema, 'The Water-mill,' a picture renowned throughout Europe as the *chef-d'œuvre* of the master: Mr. Mawson, for the Marquis of Hertford.—Italian school:—Fra Bartolomeo, 'La Vierge au Palmier,' 14,000 florins: M. Roos.—A. Bronzino, one of the daughters of Cosmo de' Medici, 5,000 florins: M. Chameaus. Believed to be for the Emperor of Russia.—An. Carracci, 'The dead Christ on the knees of the Virgin,' 2,300 florins.—Carlo Dolci, 'St. Luke,' 5,900 florins.—Guido, 'St. Joseph, the Virgin, and Infant Saviour,' 7,900 florins.—Attributed to Guido, the Magdalen, 2,400 florins.—Guercino, the Martyrdom of St. Catherine, 10,100 florins: M. Bruni, for the Em-

peror of Russia.—Attributed to Giorgione, three portraits, a Physician, a Sick Lady, and a Gentleman, 2,250 florins.—Innocenza da Imola, the Holy Family, 2,960 florins.—Bernardino Luini, St. Sebastian, 'with the Madonna, the Infant Saviour, and St. John,' 7,400 florins.—The same, the Holy Family, 15,500 florins.—Moroni, Portrait of a Portuguese Captain, 2,400 florins: Nieuwenhuys.—Luini, 'St. Catherine with three Angels,' 7,000 florins.—Perugino, 'St. Augustin,' 7,400 florins.—The same, 'The Holy Family,' purchased for the Gallery of the Louvre for 23,500 florins, after a strong competition with the agents of Russia and other courts.—Palma Vecchio, Holy Family, 3,800 florins.—Sebastian del Piombo, Portrait of a lady of the family of the Medici, 3,500 florins, Engleheart.—The same, 'Christ at the Tomb,' 28,000 florins.—Raffaello, 'The Holy Family,' 16,500 florins: supposed to be bought for one of the royal family of Holland.—Raphael Sanzio, 'Portrait de Salezar,' 16,000 florins: M. Bruni, for the Emperor of Russia.—Andrea del Sarto, 'The Holy Family,' 8,500 florins: Brondgeest. Believed to be bought for one of the royal family of Holland.—Andrea del Sarto, 'La Vierge de Pade,' considered to be a *chef-d'œuvre* of this master. Almost all the Continental courts, Russia, France, Prussia, Saxony, and Belgium, entered the lists for this favourite picture with the Marquis of Hertford, and the contest was continued with great obstinacy by the Emperor's agent for full half an hour. But it was finally knocked down to Mr. Mawson for the Marquis at 30,250 florins.—Sasso Ferrato, 'The Virgin with the Infant Christ,' 3,000 florins: Nieuwenhuys.—Schidone, 'La Madeleine,' 2,700 florins: believed to be bought for one of the royal family of Holland.—Titian, 'Philippe II. jouant de l'orgue en présence de sa Maitresse,' 10,000 florins.—Same, portrait of Clement Marot, the poet, 2,300 florins.—Leonardo da Vinci, 'La Colombine,' 40,000 florins: contended for by France, Russia, Prussia, Belgium, &c. and many amateurs, but Russia prevailed.—Leonardo da Vinci, 'Leda,' 24,500 florins: believed to be for one of the royal family of Holland.—School of Bruges:—Rubens, 'Christ giving the Keys to St. Peter,' 18,000 florins, Mr. Mawson, for the Marquis of Hertford.—Same, 'The Holy Trinity,' 7,000 florins: believed for one of the royal family.—Same, 'The Tribute Money,' 8,950 florins: for one of the royal family.—Same, 'La Chasse au Sanglier,' 20,000 florins: for one of the royal family.—Same, Portrait of the Baron Henri de Vico, 7,025 florins: for the gallery of the Louvre.—Same, portrait of Maria de' Medici, 3,960 florins.—Same, the Archduke Albert and the Queen Isabella of Spain, 5,200 florins: for one of the royal family.—Vandyke, portraits of Philippe le Roy and Madame le Roy. For these two portraits there was a long and determined competition for nearly an hour. After the many had dropped off, it was kept up on account of three or four royal galleries to 40,000 florins; the race then was between 'the Emperor' and 'the Marquis,' whose high blood carried him through, beating by a head and neck easy. Victory was declared, at 63,600 florins, 'for the Marquis of Hertford,' which was followed by a general cheer.—Same, portrait of Martin Pepin, 4,500 florins: for Brussels Gallery.—Same, 'La Madeleine,' 2,500 florins: Mr. Dingwall.—Gonzales Coques, 'Le Repos Champêtre,' 7,200 florins: for Brussels Gallery.—The Wilkie fetched 10,100 guilders,—nearly 1,000*l.*, with the 7½ per cent.

## MUSIC AND THE DRAMA

### NEW PIANOFORTE MUSIC.

*Sonata (Ré Mineur) pour le Forte-piano, Op. 30.*—The celebrated Octave Exercise for the Pianoforte, always performed by the Author as a Coda to his Rhapsodie 'Zum Winter Märchen.'—Wienigied.—Romance, en forme d'Etude.—Première Mélodie.—Seconde Mélodie.—La Fête des Innocents, Rondeletto.—Ballata.—Three Marches.—Exercises and Scales for the Pianoforte, by A. Dreyshock.—By the above ample list, it will be seen that Herr Dreyshock has fairly entered the arena of classical and popular composition: the first production spe-



cified being a work of the most ambitious form. But though the *Sonata* has been only just published in England, it is not a recent composition, having been frequently performed by Herr Drey-schock some years ago. The ambition to write a *Sonata* seems even in these frivolous days, "*alla fantasia*," to have seized even the slightest of wonder-composers at some time or other of his career. Whether, however, the genius no longer exists or the form can no longer be tolerated, certain it is that many writers who are capable of producing individual and graceful studies, caprices, *notturni*, (otherwise of originating ideas), seem to be utterly deserted by their "demon" when the task is on so large a scale as the present one. Nor can Herr Drey-schock be considered as the exception proving the rule. Parts of his *Sonata* are well laboured: the principal *allegro con brio* satisfies us that he has preferred the best models,—since it begins in close emulation of Beethoven's 'Sonate Pathétique.' The *scherzo* is less distinguished in its phrases, though it contains some good passages; but here our praise must end.—Nor needs much be said with regard to the other music by its author before us,—save that the 'Octave Exercise' is the best octave study in our acquaintance, as was, indeed, to be expected from the best player of octaves; and that the *Notturmi* and Melodies have graceful passages here and there. The want is, style;—and until a style can be established, the best pains will not make a composer of a pianist, even if he be as incomparable a mechanist as Herr Drey-schock.

*Introduction et Variations pour le Piano sur la Barcarolle de 'L'Elisir d'Amore,' Op. 66.*—*Grande Fantaisie pour le Piano, sur des Motifs de Don Pasquale, Op. 67.* Par S. Thalberg.—Of the truth enunciated in the last paragraph, we have an ample illustration in these 'Variations' and this *Fantaisie*. In many of the requisites of a composer M. Thalberg is not rich. He has little melody, is given to rash and crude modulations, and appears—save in his one elaborate effort of a *Sonata*—to have turned away from, rather than courted, the invention and development of original ideas. Yet so much self-consistent individuality of form and harmony of treatment characterize M. Thalberg's works (as calculated for M. Thalberg's exhibition), as to give him a *status* among modern composers of which the parrot-writers in classical forms, or the mystics who profess to abrogate all form and ceremony, will hardly be able to deprive him. In the 'Variations,' besides the novelty and brilliancy of some among them (we may instance the *martellato* variation beginning at the close of p. 9) great *naïveté* and freshness are given to the composition by the burden on every repetition varied by the pianoforte-player, which replaces the ancient orchestral *tutti* at the end of each change.—In the *Fantaisie*, the treatment of the Serenade 'Come è gentil' is delicious in its grace and delicacy; and though we despair of hearing it even reasonably well played by any pianist save its writer (since with metallic precision and volubility of execution should be combined charm of tone and elegance of style), the very remarkable difficulty of the work as a *solo* does not invalidate the beauty of the arrangement.

We shall, lastly on the present occasion, devote a few lines to *Caprice No. 1.*—*Les Faunales, Caprice Caractéristique. No. 2.*—*Deuxième Recueil de Cinq Romances sans Paroles.*—*Deux Pensées Fugitives*,—all for the piano, by M. E. Silas, and all meritoriously exhibiting that in their author's case the injudicious puffing on which we had recent occasion to animadvert was a superfluity. Taking into consideration the age and standing of M. Silas, they not merely display symmetry of form without affectation, they also indicate originality. They contain passages of sweet melody and of solid harmony: they are tolerably easy to execute. In short, with such credentials as these to produce, M. Silas should rise superior alike to unmerited severe criticism and preternatural recommendation.

**SADLER'S WELLS.**—This theatre, in an improved and re-decorated condition, opened on Saturday for a new season. The tragedy of 'Hamlet' was the play selected for the occasion. The cast was partly new: a Mr. Waller appearing as *Luertes*, and a

Miss Travers as *Ophelia*. The former exhibited a fine person; his voice is deep and sonorous, but requires some discipline. The same may be said of his action and general deportment, which demand careful attention to subdue an evident tendency to extravagance. At present, his manner is not so purely dramatic as might be desired. In the character of the princely and meditative young Dane, Mr. Phelps showed that he had studied the text with minute attention, and gave a reading marked by precision and care. The great soliloquy after the interview with the players was delivered with a subtlety of interpretation not often exceeded. Miss Glyn fully sustained her high reputation by her performance of *Gertrude*. Wherever an opportunity occurred for the display of dramatic power, she availed herself of it with equal discrimination and effect. Her astonishment at the King's consternation during the inter-play was well conceived and executed; and her display of emotion during the subsequent interview with her son in the royal closet was varied and expressive. Mr. Graham made an excellent *Horatio*; and his wife as *The Actress* delivered the speeches of the Duchess of Gonzaga with good propriety. The tragedy in all its parts was excellently mounted, and throughout respectively performed. The house was crowded.

On Thursday Mr. Leigh Hunt's fine play, called 'The Legend of Florence,' was revived. To those who recollect how on its first representation this drama was sacrificed to the exigencies of theatrical management, its restoration to the stage is an interesting fact. Justice both in the acting and mounting has now been accorded to it. An Italian contour has been given to the scenery and costume, accordant with the feeling of the action,—which floats in an atmosphere, as it were, of Italian sentiment and beauty. The thoroughly Italian character of the subject makes, indeed, the one difficulty in its representation to an English audience. The latter would fain sympathize with the respectability and peculiar position of the jealous, suspicious, and over-righteous husband; but the poet will not permit them, and refers them from all external circumstances to the inner disposition of the man—the domestic tyrant, and slow wife-killer, incapable of loving, and never himself beloved. There is a tedious agony in the situations, which is terrible. Mr. Phelps, in *Agolanti*, most successfully realized the self-tormenting, all-hated household despot. The cherished sense (though false) of having justice on his side, seemed to give a sort of basis to the unreasoning anger that perpetually plagued him. The homespun truths which came perverted from his lips were so many vindications justifying his conduct. Yet that conduct was essentially barbarous and wrong. To hit the line between the moral and the conventional was hard,—but the actor did it to the satisfaction of a numerous house, who testified their appreciation by repeated plaudits. In the wife, *Ginevra*, Miss Glyn had one of those patient and resigned characters which she has already shown so much skill in touchingly portraying. Such parts are very difficult; for the success lies not in the exhibition, but in the restraining, of power. They imply and require a large measure of self-denial. But the actress was rewarded by the sympathy which she elicited, and the verdict of artistic treatment conceded by the critical judgment. *Rondinelli*, the lover, was impersonated by the new actor, Mr. Waller. The masterly manner in which he supported the part establishes his claim to public favour. The parts of *Colonna* and *Da Riva* were assigned to Mr. Hoskins and Mr. Younge,—and that of the page was cleverly enacted by Miss Travers. The success of the performance was complete.

**OLYMPIC.**—Mr. Bolton's management, we understand, concludes with the present week. The play of 'The Malcontent' seems, however, to have been reasonably attractive. Another revival has been ventured on. The 'Pasquin' of Fielding has been restored, as if to exemplify the kind of licence which led to the enslaving of the stage. The dramatist by this and other similar pieces, in which he personally attacked the powers that were, drew on himself and his craft the surveillance of the Lord

Chamberlain. To him we owe the Licensing Act.—Mr. Bolton has not performed Fielding's pasquinade in its integrity. Two rehearsals are included in the original piece;—the comedy of 'The Election,' and a tragedy entitled 'The Life and Death of Common Sense.' The last alone is retained at the Olympic. Much of the satire is yet applicable. The controversy between the High Priest of the Sun and Common Sense was interpreted by the audience to mean the great Gorham case,—and the tirades against foreign amusements had an application which the pit was sure to adopt.

On Wednesday a *débütante* appeared at this theatre who was announced as "a pupil of Mrs. W. West." The young lady's name is Miss S. Lyons; and she undertook for the evening the part of Shakspeare's *Juliet*—a fitting trial, perhaps, of her powers, her age and appearance being considered. A juvenile *Juliet* is just now an advent wanted for the stage;—and Miss Lyons has in a pretty sylph-like person and a natural graceful manner some at least of the external requisites. She manifested the fruits of her tuition, and went through the part with considerable propriety and strength of nerve. She has, however, been more elaborately than skilfully taught. Her voice is sweet and strong—but her elocution is hurried, tricky, and defective. She made the usual stage-points—but not always in the best taste. She gained, however, much applause. Practice and good counsel may correct her short-comings and errors. Enough was done to justify expectation of better things.

**MUSICAL AND DRAMATIC GOSSIP.**—We can only make room for a line to advert to, and animadvert on, the vexatious lateness of the season at which the pretty and saucy 'Elisir' of Donizetti has been produced at the Royal Italian Opera. The cast of this opera was perfect. It had new "aids and helps" no less piquant and brilliant than the *Adina* of Madame Viardot, and the *Dulcamara* of Signor Ronconi:—the Lady the most vivacious of coquettes, without a touch of the shrew in her composition,—the charlatan, the very *ne plus ultra* of shabby, mean village quacks—less regally self-complacent than Lablache, but truer from this very absence of *bonhomie* and conscious merriment. Then, Signor Mario has never sung this season so well as he sang in *Nemorino*; while to make the whole complete, we had Signor Tamburini—the *Belcore* of *Belcores*—in his old part. The campaign of both Opera-houses is now virtually over; and next week we may offer a few general remarks on their past conquests and future prospects.

Mdlle. Lind's farewell Concerts at Liverpool appear to have gone off with more than even the usual *furor* which has attended her in England. She is described as having set sail for America in her best looks, best voice, and best spirits.—From the same authorities (our contemporaries) we learn that Signor Beletti made a most favourable impression on his public by his singing and saying of the bass part in 'The Messiah.' The progress of this excellent artist and modest man has been steadily upward since his arrival in England, and his departure hence, accordingly, leaves a vacancy which will be some time felt, we apprehend, ere it is filled.

We are already beginning to hear of music bestirring itself abroad to take its honourable part in our Great Exhibition of next year. It is said that among other visitors whom we may expect, will be a German chorus, made up of many *Liedertafel* societies, rivalling in number the never-to-be-forgotten Cologne gathering (an assemblage of more than two thousand voices), the intention of which is to give performances in London.

A correspondent writes to assure us that Madame Grisi has re-considered her determination, and is going to Russia, for the coming winter, after all.

It might have been fancied that long ere this every concert-sound that could be made had been made, and that every concert-penny that could be spent had been spent. Yet there have been two entertainments given since our last publication,—chamber music by *Madame Goffrie*, and that excellent violin-player, her husband, —and a very agreeable *Matinée* by Mr. T. M.



Mudie; who there performed some new compositions of more than ordinary grace and elegance. Since this gentleman's withdrawal from London his talent seems to have taken that shape and individuality which we are always glad to recognize as indicating the step from the scholar to the master.

Mr. John Langford Pritchard, the manager and sole lessee for the last nine years of the York theatrical circuit, died on the 5th inst., aged fifty-two, after a long and painful illness. He is stated to have been born at sea, and not to have known who were his parents. He became, however, a respectable performer at Covent Garden, Dublin, and Edinburgh. At the first-named theatre he was, if we recollect rightly, Mr. Macready's stage manager, and supported some leading parts. He was for many years the honorary secretary to the Edinburgh Theatrical Fund; and acted as one of the stewards at the dinner of that society on Feb. 23, 1827, when Sir Walter Scott acknowledged himself to be the author of 'Waverley.' Mr. Pritchard was buried in the Leeds Cemetery.

### MISCELLANEA

**Peat Charcoal.**—We have received a long letter from Mr. Jasper Rogers—which it is not necessary that we should print entire—objecting to our views on the question of the value of Peat Charcoal. Mr. Rogers conceives that we have wronged him in our remarks on deodorization and disinfection. He says, referring to his pamphlet:—"On re-perusal you will see I do not use the word disinfectant from beginning to end. I am perfectly aware how difficult is the question of disinfection, and when so many men of the first eminence hold that 'deodorization' is not 'disinfection,' it would be very presumptuous in me to set it down as fact that they were wrong.—Hence I have always used the term 'deodorization.' This is exactly our point. We must submit that although the word is not used, it is in every page implied that the Peat Charcoal, by removing noxious gases—of which we are not satisfied—takes away the cause of disease.—Mr. Rogers states that peat charcoal possesses "the power of absorbing 80 per cent. of aqueous matter, and at least 90 volumes of those gases which are inimical to animal existence." From the confusion of per-centage and volume, it is possible that we may not quite understand him. If he means that 100 grains of charcoal will absorb 80 grains of water, we can receive the statement as, of course, the result of an experiment fairly performed; but it cannot be intended to convey, that these 100 grains of peat charcoal having absorbed 80 grains of water will then condense 90 times their volume of mephitic gas. The experiments of Graham and others have proved that charcoal deprived of air and moisture, will absorb nearly 90 times its own bulk of ammoniacal gases. This is a property operating in virtue of a peculiar action of surfaces to condense with great force all mobile bodies about themselves. Charcoal, being porous, presents a most extensive system of such surfaces, and the condensation is effected with great energy by the combined force of the sides of every minute cell. All matter has this property, in common with charcoal,—but charcoal certainly possesses it in a high degree.—Into the question of the advantages of the mechanical action of charcoal over the chemical one of chlorine and other substances, it is unnecessary that we should enter; but we reiterate our statement that Mr. Rogers was over-urging his own argument in stating, that "science at present knows no means for destroying those gases," and the addition in his letter, which does not appear in his pamphlet, "in the vast bodies in which they are accumulating daily in the sewers," does not in the least improve his statement. It is well known that any chemical manufactory could furnish materials as easily applied and equally as effective as peat charcoal, for removing "the millions and millions of square feet which from year's end to year's end undermine our streets and our dwellings."—We are still of opinion that the entire removal of all decomposing animal matter is an essential means for improving the health of towns; and that deodorization is dangerous,—as removing a temporary annoyance, to the probable production of a gigantic evil.—We

admitted, and still admit, that peat charcoal may be applied most beneficially in numerous cases; but we strongly object to the dangerous system of assuming that one result is to be produced by any given agent because it is found to effect another.

**Hogarth's Tomb.**—Hogarth's tomb is towards the east end of the church, and is a design of humble yet not mean construction, inclosed by an iron rail. Alas! twenty years have made sad inroads on its stability and beauty; for since I saw it last it has fallen considerably out of the perpendicular, the iron rails have become oxydized, the inscription indistinct, and rank grass was growing out of its masonry.—*Ladies' Companion.*

**Scene Painting.**—No one can desire less than myself to detract from the merit of English artists whether they paint for church, chamber, or theatre,—but in your last week's notice of the scenery of 'La Juive' and 'Le Prophète' a fact was overlooked worth calling your attention to. In both cases the pictorial effect (with the exception of the bridge in the ice-scene in 'Le Prophète') has been copied from the *Grand Opera* of Paris; as, indeed, must be the case, when the "stage business" is so complicated as in the operas mentioned. Some fourteen or fifteen years ago, Mrs. Trollope in her 'Paris' called attention to the elaborate and picturesque "decorations of 'La Juive';" this one of the claims which French grand opera has, to offering a perfect combination of drama, music, acting, and spectacle having been of late closely studied and attended to,—under the superintendence of artists of the highest skill. So long ago as the production of 'Robert le Diable,' artistic intention was shown in the *toning* of the mind of the spectator, to the "Mystery" about to be presented. "The audience" (says the author of 'Music and Manners in France') "is to be prepared for a story of Satanic influence; and accordingly the drop-curtain which is displayed before the dark and mystic introduction to the fable begins, represents a wild scene of volcanic rocks, in the midst of which, from a chasm, a demon shape is seen winging its flight upwards to earth. Thus, again, before the commencement of the last act, that none may escape from the consummation of the legend—the victory of Good over Evil—another significant decoration exhibits the figure of a white-robed and white-winged angel floating downwards from Heaven to announce peace and forgiveness." Nevertheless, truth, in this branch of art, must needs sometimes give way to convenience. In the fourth act of 'Le Prophète,' for instance, the cathedral is a fancy cathedral—not the slightest attempt having been made to represent that interesting and singular building the Cathedral at Münster. In this case the lowness of the real arches, and the huge massiveness of the real piers, by intercepting the perspective, (if the procession was to move transversely, as necessary), probably made literal portraiture ineligible.—Now, having re-stated the case, I ought also to say, that while the French artists understand architectural and interior stage-pictures so well, they cannot compete with our Stanfields, Grieves, and Marshalls in open air scenery. Their best trees do not get beyond the forest-work of a Berlin pattern, their clouds are clumsy, and their air is hot;—and we may cite our 'Acis and Galatea,' our 'Masaniello,' our 'Donna del Lago,' and more than one background at *Her Majesty's Theatre*, in proof that we are not distinguishing without a rightful difference, having the advantage on our side. *It is not printed.* C.

**A Strangers' Leaf for 1851.**—Mr. Dickens, in his *Household Words*, recommends a register, under some such title as the above, to be kept for the publication of the names and addresses of the tens of thousands of foreigners and provincials who will visit London during the Great Industrial Exhibition,—the search after whom, without some such guide, he thinks will closely resemble the hunt after needles in bundles of hay. "The duties of the editor of the 'London Strangers' Leaf,'" he says, "would not be very onerous. The names and intended addresses of every individual coming from abroad it will not be difficult to obtain. To reach us Islanders every visitor must arrive by sea, and at each port we are blessed with a custom house. The captain of every steamer is bound for custom-house purposes to have the name of each of his passengers set down in a sort of Way-bill; and, for a slight consideration, the person who performs that office (generally the steward) would doubtless learn and add the address to which each of the passengers is going to London. An arrangement with the custom-house clerk at each of the ports could be made for forwarding daily a copy of the list. Thus a complete record of arrivals from abroad could be obtained with little trouble. The names and lodgings of persons from the provinces would be more difficult of access; but a good understanding with hotel-keepers, and some assistance from the 'Lodging-house Committee' (for of course there will be one) of the Executive of the Great Congress, would insure the editor a tolerably complete 'List of the Company' who assemble, even from the country. 'The Strangers' Leaf' might be published early each afternoon, so as to give the arrivals of the morning."

### TWENTIETH MEETING OF THE BRITISH ASSOCIATION FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF SCIENCE.

[From our own Correspondents.]

WEDNESDAY.

#### SECTION A.—MATHEMATICAL AND PHYSICAL SCIENCE.

A large amount of business remaining undisposed of, the Section met this day.

**On Cometary Physics.** by Prof. SMYTH.—The author said that the points in the Physics of Comets which he had intended to bring in, detail under the notice of the Section, might be comprehended in the twelve following axioms or aphorisms:—viz. 1. A comet consists of a nucleus and one or more gaseous envelopes. 2. The nucleus if solid and material is extremely small. 3. This nucleus is essentially situated in the gaseous envelope. 4. Comets of longest periods have the largest bodies. 5. The more excentric the orbit of a comet the more excentric is the body of the comet. 6. A comet revolves round its shortest nucleoid axis in the time it revolves round the sun. 7. This axis is not always at right angles to the plane of the orbit. 8. There is also a quicker rotation round its longer axis. 9. A comet shines by reflected light, and shows a sensible phase. 10. In proportion to the excentricity of its orbit a comet increases in density, and decreases in size in approaching perihelion, and *vice versa*. 11. The longer axis of a comet is straight at perihelion and aphelion; but between these is concave towards the aphelion, the curvature being nearly proportioned to the excentricity of the orbit. 12. (Sir J. Herschel.) The component molecules of a comet are held together only by their mutual gravitation, each constituting almost a separate projectile, and describing its own orbit round the sun.—In consequence of the great press of business before the Section the author confined himself to the illustration of the 9th and 10th of these axioms in connexion with the 12th, showing, by diagrams, how the changing appearances both of the head, the nucleus, and the tail as it swept past perihelion; and particularly the forking observed in the tails of some comets, were simple effects of phase arising from the changing relative position of the illuminating sun, the comet and the observer. The 10th he illustrated by showing that towards perihelion the several parabolic paths of the parts of the comet by becoming crowded together caused the condensation of the comet, while the contrary took place by the separation of these several orbits towards aphelion. The author exemplified these principles by reference to the great comet of 1845, which, though visible to the naked eye for about three weeks, and to the telescope for more than five, yet in the very short time of less than twenty-four hours swept through that part of its perihelion path cut off by a plane through the sun parallel to the ecliptic, having approached within about 60,000 miles of the sun—the nearest approach to that luminary ever actually observed. *It is not printed.*

Mr. RANKINE observed, that if the 12th axiom (attributed to Sir J. Herschel) were a correct representation of facts, he conceived it would follow that the tail of a comet, which was known to be turned straight from the sun at perihelion, must be turned straight towards the sun at aphelion; and at other parts of the orbit must have intermediate positions. This he proceeded to illustrate by a diagram, in which a number of ellipses with the same major axis were so arranged, respecting the sun occupying a focus common to all, as that their perihelia might all be ranged in one line, embracing the sun also.—Prof. SMYTH did not concur in Mr. Rankine's argument; though time would not now admit of his going farther into it than to remark, that in the history of comets no fact was better established than that their tails were always turned, though with a slight curvature, directly from the sun; that this fact was well known to Sir J. Herschel, and was one basis of his induction.

On some powerful Magnets made by a process devised by M. Elias, and manufactured by M. Logeman, optician, at Haarlem, by Sir D. BREWSTER.—Sir David exhibited two of these magnets: one weighing about 1 lb., a single horse-shoe magnet, capable of lifting 28½ lb.; the other a triple horse-shoe magnet, about 10 lb. weight (we believe), and capable of lifting about 150 lb. He read letters from M. Logeman detailing the prices and qualities



of the magnets, which he made for sale, some of which would support 5 cwt. He said that these were made by some peculiar process, in which a helix of copper and galvanic battery were used; that they were so permanent that they suffered little, if at all, from having their soft iron guards forced off several times abruptly; that the common formula by which the power of a magnet was judged, of was, the weight which it lifted being ten times the cube root of the square of its weight,—but that these were about twice as powerful. They were accompanied by small traps, made with fine emery, for cleaning and polishing the poles and litter previous to use, which was found to be of much consequence.

The Rev. Dr. SCORESBY said he had examined these magnets as carefully as the means which he had here at his command would admit, and had no doubt they were capable of performing the several matters asserted by their makers. They were of peculiarly good forms for performance,—in fact, precisely the broad flat form, which he had recommended in his book published so long back as 1843; and he had little doubt that by the methods described in that book he was able to produce as permanent and as powerful steel magnets. In fact, for these qualities, the using of the best Swedish cast steel and tempered as hard as possible, was the great secret; and although by the common modes of magnetizing it was difficult to give the full charge to a magnet, yet by the methods which he had described, especially the interposing a thin plate of very soft iron between the poles of the magnet used to impart the charge and the steel to be magnetized, it became a very easy task. His methods had been adopted by the Admiralty, without acknowledgment or thanks.—Mr. HUNT said he thought it highly probable, that in imparting the charge to his magnets M. Elias raised their temperature, but taking care to do so not to any extent that would injure their temper. He also thought it probable that, as it was well known that ferro-prussiate of potash was used in the case hardening of iron, he used solutions of that salt in some way in his process.—Mr. WAUGH stated that a most successful way of imparting magnetism to steel was, as soon as it was ready to be magnetized, placing it in a copper helix midway between the poles; then connect the helix with the poles of a galvanic battery; then pass the bar or horse-shoe towards the one end or pole through the helix, then back along its whole length to the other pole, and then back again to the middle; the connexion with the galvanic battery being then broken, the bar, when removed from the helix, would be found fully magnetized.—Mr. PERRIE had made many experiments on the best materials, form, and modes of magnetizing; and though he acknowledged the general accuracy and value of Dr. Scoresby's determinations, yet he could not say he found that the hardest steel was the best. He also thought it highly probable that the methods pointed out by Mr. Hunt would enable the steel to receive the magnetism more readily,—perhaps the very heat imparted by the galvanic action to the helix in close proximity to the magnet might aid the effect.—Dr. SCORESBY had tried numerous experiments on the influence of heat in aiding the reception of magnetism; the conclusion he had come to was, that up to 500° it might not be injurious, if proper precautions were taken to prevent the temper, or rather hardness, of the steel from being injured. At and above that temperature he was sure that it prevented the full charge from being imparted.

‘On the Optical Properties of Cyanuret of Magnesia and Platina,’ by Sir D. BREWSTER.—The author said, that as the time of the Session was so limited, he would only exhibit some very beautiful specimens of these salts, which he had lately received from a friend on the Continent. It was his intention to examine with minute care their very peculiar action on light; and he would at present only add, that he thought it not improbable that curious and important results would follow from the examination of their peculiar internal action upon light; that one portion of the entire action took place while the light was yet at a small distance from the actual surface of the substance; and the rest while it was penetrating a very short distance within that surface.

‘On a New Membrane Investing the Crystalline Lens,’ by Sir D. BREWSTER.—The author drew a diagram representing the crystalline lens of an ox with

its inverting capsule; and said that having lately had occasion to examine the crystalline lens of an ox, which had been killed the day before, he had put it into water,—by imbibing which it had soon swelled, and at length the capsule burst. Before it had burst, however, he had observed distinctly a membrane not before recognized by anatomists, which had at one part detached itself from the body of the lens which it manifestly invested; and risen up within and towards the capsule at one spot.

‘On some Phenomena of the Polarization of the Atmosphere,’ by Sir D. BREWSTER.—The author stated that by the aid of a polariscope, which he had formerly described, formed with two wedges of rock crystal cut in a peculiar way, he was enabled to determine, by an examination of the parallel bands, the neutral points of the sky, and the plane of polarization. This he illustrated by a diagram; and added, that he had now convinced himself that not only was the light from the blue sky polarized by reflection in one plane, but under certain circumstances the refraction caused by some of the clouds polarized the light in quite a different plane; and he had actually in this instrument observed clouds by the action they exerted on the light, which were quite imperceptible to the eye unassisted by it.

Prof. STOKES observed that heretofore it had been universally supposed that the clouds always exerted a depolarizing action on the light which they reflected or transmitted to the eye.

‘On the Dynactinometer,’ by Mr. CLAUDE.—In the introductory portion, the author insisted on the great importance of distinguishing between the optical foci of the lenses used in photographic cameras and the foci of the photogenic rays. He said that ignorance of this distinction, or inattention to it, was the source of one of the greatest defects in photographic pictures. He had invented a simple instrument, which was exhibited and explained, for accurately distancing the object to be depicted and determining the corresponding foci of the photogenic rays, in any given camera. It consisted of a number of marked sectors arranged in a spiral order at several equal distances along a cylinder supported in a frame. By placing this before a photographic camera, the sector of which the image was most distinct could be at once seen, and this determined the distance at which the object should be placed in front of the camera. Since he had invented this, he had found that there was a proper time for exposing an object on a given day, and under given circumstances, before the camera; and that a longer or a shorter time than this was injurious to the effect. To ascertain readily this proper time, he had invented the dynactinometer, which he now exhibited. It consisted of a square frame of card, with a circle of card capable of being turned round either by hand or by clock-work; in one position of this circle the whole surface of the frame exposed to the camera at the proper photogenic distance was black; but as the circle turned a neatly divided sector of white card was exposed, and by causing the circle to turn so as to expose a given number of divisions each successive equal number of seconds, the part of the sector whose image was most clearly defined on examination of the photogenic drawing, gave the number of seconds best for exposing the object to the camera. But as the several photogenic plates were not all equally sensitive, the sensitiveness of the plates was determined by placing them in a small frame, and allowing them to descend along an inclined plane, during a certain part of which descent small circular spots were exposed to the action of light, the rest being quite protected. The action of the light on these spots gave a ready and exact means of comparing the sensitiveness of the several plates.

Prof. STEVENS attempted to explain the occasional distinct vision of rapidly revolving coloured sectors. He exhibited an instrument for whirling cards with coloured sectors on them, devised by Mr. Grattan, of Belfast, to teach his children the effect of combining colours. He had shown this at the Natural History Society with an application for enabling painters to determine, experimentally, the exact mixture of any number of colours, and their relative proportion to produce the exact effect which they required. This apparatus he had lent to Prof. Stevely to show his class; and while doing so he was surprised to observe that while the cards were revolving rapidly, if he

suddenly turned away his head he caught a distinct view of the individual coloured sectors at the instant he was losing sight of them by a side view. A few weeks before this he had attended the lectures of Prof. Carille, of the Queen's College, Belfast, on the anatomy of the eye and of the ear; and had then become acquainted with a fact connected with the arrangement of the optic nerves and their relation to the retina, which seemed to him to afford an explanation of this curious fact. The optic nerve which originated in the right side of the brain, crossed over to the left eye, but on entering that eyeball only spread out into that part of the retina which spread over the portion of the eyeball next the nose; and the similar portion of the retina of the right eye was supplied by the optic nerve which sprang from the left side of the brain. These nerves, however, were united in their action by a commissure nerve, which stretched in an arch from the one to the other. The other and larger portion of the retina of each eye, and that on which the images of objects as usually seen were depicted, was formed by nerves which sprang from the brain in each case on the side next the eye to which they went; these, after accompanying the optic nerve of the other eye to the place where it crossed the optic nerve going to its own eye, turned round with a bend and accompanied it in its passage into the eyeball. These portions of the retina of the different eyes, were also united into one nervous action by the commissure of the retina. So that, the retina of each eye was divided into two portions,—the portion next the nose, and the outer and larger portion; and these two portions of each eye were supplied by nerves springing from opposite sides of the brain, and not united in their action by any commissure or connecting nerve. Now, the consequence of the sudden turn of the head was, to throw the image from its usual place on to the portion of the retina next the nose, affecting a new and fresh part of the retina for an instant only,—for the motion of the head instantly interposed the socket of the eye and shut off the object. The sectors therefore became distinct at that instant, for a similar reason that in the beautiful experiment of Prof. Wheatstone the electric spark showed them distinct,—viz. the instantaneousness of the impression.

Sir D. BREWSTER said that the crossing of the optic nerves had been known to Sir Isaac Newton, and a description of the arrangement of the nerves had been found among his papers, and since published. As to the commissure or connecting nerve, he was not so clear about them; but he would consider the entire explanation.—Prof. FORBES said, that as to assisting painters in producing the effect which they might desire by blending of colours by motion, he feared that in some cases this would not answer. For example, he never could by whirling any combination of blue and yellow papers produce a good green, though it was well known that painters by mixing these colours could produce that colour in all its shades.—Sir D. Brewster said the reason of this was, that the blues and yellows of coloured paper were themselves very compound colours, containing usually a very large proportion of red in their composition, and so to speak blending red and green.

‘On a Geometrical Relation between Ten Points, on a surface of the second order,’ by Sir W. R. HAMILL.—The author explained this relation. He said it admitted of a geometrical demonstration, though discovered by the theory of quaternions; and he showed some of its cases in properties of the conic sections.

‘On the Mode of Disappearance of Newton's Rings in passing the Angle of total Internal Reflexion,’ by Prof. G. G. STOKES.—When Newton's Rings are formed between the under surface of a prism and the upper surface of a lens, there is no difficulty in increasing the angle of incidence so as to pass through the angle of total internal reflexion. When the rings are observed with the naked eye in the ordinary way, they appear to break in the upper part on approaching the angle of total internal reflexion, and pass nearly into semicircles when that angle is reached, the upper edges of the semicircles, which are in all cases indistinct, being slightly turned outwards when the curvature of the lens is small. The cause of the indistinctness will be evident from the following considerations. The order of the ring (a term here used



to denote a number not necessarily integral) to which a ray reflected at a given obliquity from a given point of the thin plate of air belongs, depends partly on the obliquity and partly on the thickness of the plate at that point. When the angle of incidence is small, or even moderately large, the rings would not be seen, or at most would be seen very indistinctly, if the glasses were held near the eye, and the eye were adapted to distinct vision of distant objects, because in that case the rays brought to a focus at a given point of the retina would correspond to a pencil reflected at a given obliquity from an area of the plate of air, the size of which would correspond to the pupil of the eye; and the order of the rays reflected from this area would vary so much in passing from the point of contact outwards that the rings would be altogether confused. When, however, as in the usual mode of observation, the eye is adapted to distinct vision of an object at the distance of the plate of air, the rings are seen distinctly, because in this case the rays proceeding from a given point of the plate of air, and entering the pupil of the eye, are brought to a focus on the retina, and the variation in the obliquity of the rays forming this pencil is so small that it may be neglected. When, however, the angle of incidence becomes nearly equal to that of total internal reflexion, a small change of obliquity produces a great change in the order of the ring to which the reflected ray belongs, and therefore the rings are indistinct to an eye adapted to distinct vision of the surfaces of the glass. They are also indistinct, for the same reason, as before, if the eye be adapted to distinct vision of distant objects. To see distinctly the rings in the neighbourhood of the angle of total internal reflexion, the author used a piece of blackened paper in which a small hole was pierced with the point of a needle. When the rings were viewed through the needle-hole, in the light of a spirit-lamp, the appearance was very remarkable. The first dark band seen within the bright portion of the field of view where the light suffered total internal reflexion was somewhat bow-shaped towards the point of contact, the next still more so, and so on, until at last one of the bands made a great bend and passed under the point of contact and the rings which surrounded it, the next band passing under it, and so on. As the incidence was gradually increased, the outermost ring united with the bow-shaped band next above it, forming for an instant a curve with a loop and two infinite branches, or at least branches which ran out of the field of view; then the loop broke, and the curve passed into a bulging band, similar to that which had previously surrounded the rings. In this manner the rings, one after another, joined the corresponding bands, until all had disappeared and nothing was left but a system of bands which had passed completely below the point of contact, and the central black spot which remained isolated in the bright field where the light suffered total internal reflexion. Corresponding appearances were seen with daylight or candlelight; but in these cases the bands were of course coloured, and not near so many could be seen at a time.

'On the Distribution of Shooting Stars in the Interplanetary Spaces,' by Mr. H. HENESSY.

'On Electrical Figures of Dust on Plate Glass,' by Mr. J. A. BROWN.—The author had observed the dust which collected on the plate in front of a transit clock case, and on the cases of some other philosophical instruments, to arrange itself in very regular figures, of which he had taken some drawings, which he exhibited. These bore no relation to the figures which ice was found to affect on panes of glass. The latter would form on any glass, but the dust figures only on plate or polished glass. He considered them electrical. The strain left on the glass in the process of polishing might be supposed to afford points of attachment for some particles of the dust to which others would electrically attach themselves in these forms afterwards.

'A Magnetic Chart' was exhibited by Mr. BESWICK.—This chart contained the magnetic lines of equal declination for the Atlantic Ocean, America, and parts of Europe, Asia, and Africa, laid down at the suggestion of Col. Sabine, with minute accuracy, from the formula of Prof. Gauss, for the same year in which Col. Sabine's map was constructed from actual observation. The author asserted that it was curious to compare the two charts, as they were

almost identical; thus testing the accuracy of the formula and of the theory on which it was based. There was another test of these which it was found to stand surprisingly. It was applicable to the calculation of the position of these lines at former and at future epochs. Now, he had computed the position of the line of no declination at the era of the first voyage of Columbus, the discoverer of it, and found it to be exactly as laid down by him. Also, the position of other lines of declination as recorded at several other epochs, and he found them most rigidly to agree. This was a most trying test to apply to Gauss's formula.

#### SECTION C.—GEOLOGY AND PHYSICAL GEOGRAPHY.

This Section also met. There were no papers read; but about an hour was occupied by a description, given by Mr. C. Maclaren, of the geological features of Arthur's Seat, illustrated by a small model.—The deliberation was almost entirely of a conversational character.

#### MONDAY.

##### D.—SUB-SECTION.—PHYSIOLOGY.

President.—Prof. BENNETT.  
Vice-Presidents.—Prof. OWEN, Prof. A. THOMSON,  
Prof. CARPENTER.  
Secretaries.—Dr. LAYCOCK and Dr. W. T. GAIRDNER.

The hiatus observable in the Sections of the British Association between D and F was formerly occupied by the Medical Section, to which all physiological papers were referred. It was, however, found impossible to work this Section in a satisfactory manner, and practical medicine was given up by the Association, and the Natural History Section was made to include Physiology. The papers on this subject were so numerous during the present meeting that it was found necessary to form a Sub-Section for the reading and discussion of the physiological papers. The first sitting of this Sub-Section was on Monday.

'On the Use of the Bofaireira (*Ricinus communis*), of the Cape de Verd, as a means of exciting Lactation,' by Dr. M. WILLIAM, R.N.

'On the Relation of Consciousness to Reflex or Automatic Action,' by Dr. LAYCOCK.

'On the Relative Functions of the Cerebral Hemispheres, and Sensory Ganglia, in Intellectual Operations,' by Dr. CARPENTER.

A long discussion followed the reading of the last two papers.

'On Hysteria, Hydrophobia, and other Convulsive Affections,—containing an analysis of the Phenomena of Water-dread,' by Dr. J. DALZIEL.—The author maintained the following propositions:—1. That *globus hystericus*, as well as the similar affection of the throat in hydrophobia, which is occasioned by the idea of liquids, &c., is a spasmodic stricture of the glottis. 2. Obstructed respiration, whether suspended or impeded, occasions cerebral congestion as well as the feeling of general uneasiness designated "sensation of suffocation," which is an attendant on the diseases under consideration. 3. Cerebral congestion and this "general uneasiness" separately or conjointly may, especially in an irritable habit, occasion convulsion.

#### TUESDAY.

'On the Reciprocal Influence of Vital and Physical Forces,' by Mr. NEWPORT.—The author adduced some further instances to support the view of vital forces being dependent on and representative of physical forces.

'On the Existence of Fluorine in Blood and Milk,' by Dr. G. WILSON. [Read also in Section B, and reported *ante*, p. 877.]

'On the Molecular Element of Growth in Plants and Animals,' by Dr. BENNETT.

'On some Facts in relation to Pathological Cell-Development,' by Dr. W. T. GAIRDNER.

'On the supposed Relation of the Spleen to the Development of the Coloured Blood Corpuscle in the Adult,' by Mr. SANDERSON.—The inquiries of which the results are detailed in this paper were undertaken with a view of repeating and, if possible, verifying the results of several series of researches which have been brought forward by various Continental physiologists, as to the connexion of the spleen with the origin or disintegration of the coloured blood corpuscle. It had been maintained by Dr. J. Gerlach, as well as by Dr. Schaffner, of Hirschstein,—that cells containing blood-discs in various

stages of development were always to be found among the contents of the Malpighian corpuscles. On the other hand, it had been maintained by Prof. Kölliker, by Dr. Ecker, as well as by Sandis, that the special purpose of the spleen was the disintegration of the coloured blood corpuscles, and that this was brought about by the aggregation of these bodies into rounded masses, and then subsequently breaking down into granular pigment, this process being effected with or without the inclosure of the masses in question in an apparent membrane, the seat of the process being not the Malpighian sacculi or parenchyma, but the dilated veins of the organ. The conclusions which it is attempted to arrive at, are—1st, That cells containing blood corpuscles never occur in the Malpighian sacculi of the spleen, and that the bodies which Dr. Gerlach described as such, were more probably cells which are here and there observed in that position and which contain five or six round highly refractive nuclei, which resemble blood-discs, somewhat in appearance. 2ndly, That the structures described by Kölliker as cells containing blood corpuscles are similar (as he himself believes) to the so called "inflammation globules" containing blood corpuscles which occur in the substance of the brain, and that they also correspond in nature and mode of production with the spherical, cell-like bodies containing blood corpuscles which occur in the *area vasculosa* of the chick at an early period of incubation, and that all these forms are probably produced round masses of blood corpuscles in extravasated or stagnant blood. 3rdly, That wherever extravasation or retardation of the circulation occurs, the changes described by Kölliker in the spleen will take place; and that, although from the frequency of these conditions in that organ, the changes in question may be more frequently seen in it than in other structures, these changes bear no relation to the most important part of the function of the organ, viz., that which is performed by its constituent cells. 4thly, That none of the cellular elements of the spleen are set free and normally enter the circulation as such. 5thly, That granular pigment is formed in the spleen as in other organs, and not by direct transformation from blood globules.

'On a Physiological Mode of Investigating the Metaphysical Difficulties in regard to the Origin of the Notions of Space, of Motion, of the External of Substances, &c., in connexion with the Laws of Nervous Action,' by Dr. SELLER.

'On the Influence which our Instinctive Propensities have on our Intellectual and Active Powers,—that is, on Acting in consequence of Thinking,' by Dr. FOWLER.

'On the Reproduction of Limbs after Amputation in the Human Subject,' illustrated with specimens, by Dr. SIMPSON.—Dr. Simpson showed that the power of reproducing and repairing lost parts was greatest in the lowest classes of animals, and decreased as we ascended higher and higher in the scale of animal life. He then pointed out that the human embryo approached in this, as in other respects, the physiological life and powers of the lower animals; and, consequently, when the arm or leg was amputated during embryonic existence, as not unfrequently happened from bands of coagulable lymph, and the results of disease, the stump structures reproduced a small rudimentary hand or foot—as the crab or lizard does. He showed various casts and drawings of cases of hands thus reproduced; and two living examples were exhibited.

'On the Laws regulating the Development of Monstrosities,' illustrated with specimens, by Dr. A. WOOD.—'Suggestions regarding the Expediency of ascertaining the Extent to which Infantile Idiocy prevails in Great Britain and Ireland generally, and of Inquiry into the Causes of its Prevalence in certain Quarters, with a view to the adoption of some means of deliverance from it,' by Dr. COLDSTREAM.

#### THURSDAY.

##### D.—SUB-SECTION.—ETHNOLOGY.

President.—Vice-Admiral Sir C. MALCOLM, K.C.R.  
Vice-Presidents.—Prof. J. Y. SIMPSON, Dr. R. G. LATHAM,  
Rev. Dr. E. HINCKS, Major RAWLINSON.  
Secretaries.—Mr. D. WILSON, Prof. J. S. BLACKIE, Sir  
Committee.—Rev. W. L. ALEXANDER, Prof. J. P. BULLMAN, Prof. BUCKMAN, Prof. CHRISTIAN, Sir C. FELLOWES,  
Mr. J. FLETCHER, Prof. GOSLIN, Dr. W. JONES, Mr. J. HOGG, Prof.  
R. LEE, Dr. D. SKAE, Messrs. W. F. SKENE, W. SPENCE, and  
W. WALKER.

'On the Language and Mode of Writing of the Ancient Assyrians,' by Dr. E. HINCKS.—The re-



mainder of this paper was read and discussed on Monday.

“Notices of some Additions made to our Knowledge of the Ancient Greeks by recent discoveries in Greece,” by Prof. RANGABE, of Athens.

“Inquiry into the Evidence of the Existence of Primitive Races in Scotland prior to the Celts,” by Mr. D. WILSON.—He began by expressing his regret that the branch of physical archaeology under consideration had heretofore been so little esteemed in this country in comparison with the contributions afforded by philological researches to Ethnology. Many important points still remain in doubt which it alone can answer; and while the philological evidence affords valuable and precise information in regard to the diffusion of the Arian nations over Europe, it is a very important desideratum, even in this branch of the inquiry, to know whether the nomadic Celts peopled for the first time the unoccupied wastes and forests of Europe, or superseded elder aboriginal races. Still greater is its value in relation to the other questions which demand a reply from the ethnologist as to the origin of the human family from one or more stocks, and their migration from a common centre or cradle land,—which, in so far as relates to the historic races, appears distinctly to coincide with the Mosaic history of the human race. Philological research has not as yet thrown light on the Allophylian nations of Europe, nor is there much probability that it can do so; and from the general misapprehension of men of science in England of the value of archaeological investigations, they have been rendered nearly valueless as a means for the ascertainment of truths relating to primitive ethnology. On the Continent it is otherwise; and, especially in Sweden and Denmark, much has already been done in this department of inquiry, not without valuable results. Having briefly glanced at Prof. Nilsson’s conclusions in regard to the primitive inhabitants of Scandinavia, Mr. Wilson proceeded:—With relation to the primitive inhabitants of Britain, we know that a Celtic people appear to have existed here at the earliest period in which we have any authentic historical information respecting them. At the period of the first Roman invasion, in the century before Christ, we obtain distinct evidence that the Celtic population of the southern parts of the British Isles had already given way before later Teutonic migrations, excepting in the more isolated and peninsular portions of the south-west of England, including the Cornish mineral districts. So far, therefore, as regards the intrusion both of the Celtic and Teutonic races into Britain, there is obviously no chronological parallel with the succession of races in Scandinavia as assigned by Prof. Nilsson, nor have we any historical evidence as to the period when the Celts first crossed the British Channel. It is not possible, within a reasonable compass, to point out all the arguments which prove the presence of a human population at a very remote period; but in the museum of the University of Edinburgh there are preserved the remains of a fossil whale dug up in the Blair-Drummond moss, at a distance of seven miles above Stirling Bridge, and fully twenty miles from the nearest part of the river Forth, where by any possibility a whale could not now be stranded; yet along with this was found the rude harpoon of deer’s horn, which proved that this fossil whale pertains to the historic era, and points to a period more recent than that of the first colonization of the British Isles. In the same moss other fossil whales have been found—two of them accompanied with similar indications of the primitive arts of the aborigines. Many other relics, such as flint arrow heads, stone hatchets, and bone implements, have been met with in the same moss, as well as in the carse of Stirling. And it is interesting to note that we learn, not only from the historians of the fourteenth century, that the field of Bannockburn was surrounded by impassable mosses at that period, but still earlier remains prove that it was in the same state in the second century, when the Roman legions first crossed it on their route to Ardoch. Yet on clearing away this moss by the ingenious process which has given a peculiar interest to it in the eyes of our political economists, it was found to cover the indications of an ancient population, and even in some cases to surround their stone cists and cinerary urns. Similar evidence—which he stated his intention of producing

hereafter in a more detailed form—justifies the conclusion that at a period nearly as remote as historic chronology will permit us to assume, there must have been a human population spread over the British Isles. Their rude canoes, formed for the most part out of an oaken trunk, have been found in various districts of the country, many feet below the accumulated alluvium, and accompanied in some cases with the rude tools of their builders,—proving them to be the work of the aboriginal races, destitute of metallurgic arts, and supplying their simple wants with the imperfect implements of horn and silex. It is a question worthy of the consideration of ethnologists,—Was this aboriginal race Allophylian, or was it only the first Celtic emigration, which had lost, in the nomadic state, the primitive metallurgic arts? Along with other methods of investigation, Mr. Wilson stated that he had adopted that which Nilsson and Retzius have already employed, comparing and measuring the forms and dimensions of the crania. Mr. Wilson then gave the result of a comparative examination of thirty-nine skulls, and stated that three skulls on the table would afford a very satisfactory comparative estimate of the cranial capacity of the races of the Scottish tumuli. With these he compared certain skulls figured in Morton’s ‘Crania Americana.’ One is thus described by Dr. Morton:—“With a better forehead than usual, this skull presents all the prominent characters of the American race,—the prominent face, elevated vertex, vertical occiput, and the great swell from the temporal bones upward.” The second closely corresponds with the other in type. These, therefore, afford a fair comparative criterion of the capacity of the tumuli builders of Britain for the practice of arts analogous to those in which the later American races so greatly excelled at the epoch of the Spanish conquest. It will be seen, he added, that the comparison is, on the whole, in favour of the superior intelligence of the British race, in so far as this may be assumed to be indicated by the cerebral mass and frontal development. The crania described (inclusive of others not enumerated in this abstract) may be received as offering some trustworthy examples of the cranial characteristics of the Scottish races. They have been selected from different localities, by various individuals, with no single purpose in view, and probably afford a fair average criterion of the primitive types of crania. After referring to these, Mr. Wilson went on to say—Dr. Prichard remarks, in reply to the question,—“Was there anything peculiar in the conformation of the head in the British or Gaulish races?”—“There are probably in existence sufficient means for deciding this inquiry, in the skulls found in old British cairns or places of sepulture. I have seen about half-a-dozen skulls found in different parts of England, in situations which rendered it highly probable that they belonged to ancient Britons. All these partook of one striking characteristic, viz., a remarkable narrowness of the forehead compared with the occiput, giving a very small space to the anterior lobes of the brain, and allowing room for a large development of the posterior lobes. There are some modern English and Welsh heads to be seen of a similar form, but they are not numerous.”—The skulls, Mr. Wilson observed, noticed from Scottish tumuli cannot with strict propriety be described as either remarkably narrow or very small in the forehead, when compared with the occiput. The first class might rather, he thought, be familiarly described as boat-shaped, the head being long and narrow, and tapering alike in the forehead and occiput; and to these appear to succeed a race closely corresponding in their cranial development to the first, or aboriginal Scandinavian race, of Prof. Nilsson. On the whole, there is reason to conclude, from the imperfect and scanty evidence yet brought to bear on the subject, that the primitive race of the British tumuli, whether regarded as Allophylian or Celtic, was one abundantly capable of civilization, and with a cerebral development fully equal to that of races which have carried the practical and decorative arts far in advance of a mere Archaic period. One characteristic feature in the skulls of various tumuli is the state of the teeth. It is rare to find among them any symptoms of irregularity or decay. In a tumular cemetery at North Berwick, however, the teeth of the skulls, though sound, were worn in most cases completely flat, like

those of a ruminating animal. Dr. Thurnam remarks the same to have been the case with the teeth in those found in the Anglo-Saxon cemetery at Lamelhill; and it is also observable in an under-jaw found along with other remains of a human skull, an iron hatchet, and several large bears’ tusks, in a deep excavation on the south bank of the Castle Hill of Edinburgh. This peculiarity in the teeth of certain classes of ancient crania is of very general application. The inferences to be drawn from such a comparison are of considerable value, in the indications they afford of the domestic habits and social life of a race, the last survivor of which has mouldered underneath his green tumulus perchance for centuries before the era of our earliest authentic chronicles. As a means of comparison, this characteristic appearance of the teeth manifestly furnishes one means of discriminating between an early and a still earlier, if not primeval period; and though not in itself conclusive, it may be found of considerable value when taken in connexion with the other and still more obvious peculiarities of the crania of the earliest barrows. We perceive from it at least that a very decided change took place in the common food of the country from the period when the native Briton of the primeval period pursued the chase with the flint lance and arrow, and the spear of deer’s horn, to that comparatively recent period when the Saxon marauders began to effect settlements and build houses on the scenes where they had ravaged the villages of the older British natives. But the social state in the British Isles was a progressive one. Whether by the gradual improvement of the aboriginal race, or by the incursion of foreign tribes, who were already familiar with the fruits of agricultural labour, the wild pastoral or hunter life of the first settlers was exchanged for one more suited to call forth the social virtues. The increase of the population, whether by the ingress of new tribes or by the numerical progression of the first settlers, would of itself put an end to the possibility of finding subsistence by means of the chase. Thus, it might be from the inventive industry which privations force into activity that new wants were first discovered, and new tastes were created, and satisfied by the annual harvests of golden grain. The ploughshare and the pruning-hook divided attention with the sword and the spear, which they could not supplant; and the ingenious agriculturist devised his oaken querne, his stone rubbers, and at length his simple yet effective hand-mill, which resisted, during many centuries of change and progress, all attempts to supersede it by more complicated machinery. After some further observations, Mr. Wilson concluded as follows:—There is only one other point to which I would wish to advert, in reference to the archaeological evidence which we possess in relation to the British Allophylian races, and to which, I venture to hope, ethnologists will be induced to devote more attention than they have hitherto done. The term Archaic has been very fitly applied to the period in relation to its arts. The ornamentation employed in the pottery is almost, without exception, only improvements on the accidents of manufacture. The same indefinite and archaic character prevails throughout the whole of our primitive ornamented relics, which are by no means rare. In the pottery, for example, the incised decorations are characterized by great variety, and an obvious progress is traceable; but in no single instance is any attempt made at the imitation of a leaf or flower; of animals, or of any other of the most simple natural objects. The same is the case with the most beautiful gold and silver ornaments, and the decorated bronze weapons. It is curious and noteworthy to observe this entire absence of all imitation in the primitive British arts, because it is by no means a universal or even very general characteristic of the arts of Allophylian nations. The relics recovered from the sepulchral mounds of the great valley of the Mississippi, as well as in the regions of Mexico and Yucatan, display, along with the weapons and implements of stone, silex, and obsidian, numerous rude indications of imitative skill. The same is the case with the modern Polynesians. What I would especially note in connexion with this is, that both in the ancient and modern examples, the presence of the imitative arts accompany the existence of idols, and the abundant evidences of an idolatrous worship. So far as we yet know, the converse holds true in



relation to the primitive British races; and as Dr. Prichard has already attached so marked an importance to the contrasting creeds and modes of worship and polity of the Allophylan and Arian nations, I venture to throw out this suggestion as not unworthy of further consideration. Another peculiarity in which all the earlier races appear to differ from those of Teutonic origin is of a purely physical nature. In the tumuli we find the weapons and implements buried with the deceased, and wherever these have been obtained sufficiently perfect to admit of positive conclusions being drawn, they show that the hands of the earlier British races must have been extremely small, when compared with those of very moderate stature in our own day. It is curious that we possess the most indisputable evidence of the same characteristic having pertained to the primitive temple builders of the New World. Mr. Stephens remarks, in describing the well-known symbol of the red hand, first seen by him at Uxmal:—"Over a cavity in the mortar were two conspicuous marks which afterwards stared us in the face in all the ruined buildings of the country. They were the prints of a red hand, with the thumb and fingers extended, not drawn or painted, but stamped by the living hand, the pressure of the palm upon the stone. There was one striking feature about those hands; they were exceedingly small. Either of our own spread over and completely hid them." This also I think is worthy of note; I have examined primitive British swords and daggers, the handles of which would be straitened for the grasp of many a delicate lady's hand.

A discussion followed the reading of Mr. Wilson's paper, in which the value of his researches, as the first steps in an entirely new course of scientific investigation, was repeatedly commended. Mr. R. Cramb took occasion, from a reference to some geological theories advanced in his work, entitled "Ancient Sea Margins," to state that, since the publication of that work, he had been led entirely to change his views on the subjects there treated of.

## FRIDAY.

'On the Sicilian and Sardinian Languages,' by Mr. J. Hogg.

'Remarks on the Present State of the Natives of New Zealand,' by the Rev. J. F. H. Wahlers, of Otago.

'Observations on the Religious Rites, and the affirmed practice of Cannibalism, of the New Zealanders,' by Dr. T. Hodgkin.

'Remarks on the Scottish Picts; and on that remarkable event in our national history known as the "Scottish Conquest,"' by Mr. D. Wilson.—Mr. Wilson went into an investigation of evidence, which indicated, first, that the Picts were the earlier native Celtic race; that the Scots were also a Celtic race, of later intrusion, and probably, as he showed, passing from Spain to Ireland, about the second century B.C.

## MONDAY.

'On the Language and Mode of Writing of the Ancient Assyrians,' by the Rev. Dr. Hincks.—In this paper (which was partly read on the last inst.), the author began by observing that the language and mode of writing of the Assyrians are themselves two important ethnological facts. The language of the Assyrio-Babylonian inscriptions is generally admitted to be of the family called Semitic. It is in many respects strikingly like the Hebrew; but has some peculiarities in common with the Egyptian, the relationship of which to the Semitic languages has been already recognized. The mode of writing of the Assyrians differed from that of the Hebrew and other Semitic languages, and agreed with the Egyptian in that it was partly ideographic. Some words consisted entirely of ideographs, others were written in part phonetically, but had ideographs united with the phonetic part. As to the part of the writing which consisted of phonographs, Dr. Hincks maintained, in opposition to all other writers, that the characters had all definite syllabic values; there being no consonants, and consequently no necessity or liberty of supplying vowels. In proof that the characters had definite syllabic values, he handed about copies of a lithographed plate, in which examples of various forms of words analogous to those existing in Hebrew were collected together. This use of characters representing syllables he considered to be an indication that, though the language of the Assyrians was Semitic, their mode of writing was not so. A second proof that the mode of writing was not Semitic, he derived from the absence of distinct syllables to represent combinations of the peculiar Semitic consonants, Koph and Ain. From these facts he inferred that the Assyrio-Babylonian mode of writing was adopted from some Indo-European nation who had probably conquered Assyria; and he thought it likely that this nation had intercourse with the Egyptians, and had, in part at least, derived their mode of writing from that most ancient people.

Major Rawlinson observed that Dr. Hincks had stated that he considered the difference between the two systems adopted by Major Rawlinson and himself of interpreting the inscriptions to be, that the one took the signs for letters, and the other for syllables. Now he (Major Rawlinson) by no means admitted that he did take the signs altogether for letters. He believed them all to have once had a syllabic value, as the names of the objects which they represented; but to have been subsequently used—usually its initial articulation—to express a mere portion of a syllable. He could adduce numerous instances where the cuneiform signs were used as *bona fide* letters; but, at the same time, the two systems of interpretation might now be said to be very nearly identical; so far, indeed, as he understood Dr. Hincks's paper, there appeared to be only about half a dozen out of a hundred letters on the phonetic powers of which they were not agreed. Our first acquaintance with these Cuneatic writings was of modern date. Certain inscriptions were found in various parts of Persia, engraved in three different languages and alphabets, all of which were originally unknown. One of these three forms of writing was at length found out, and by the help of it, the others were eliminated. The first mode of writing was the most simple, and being applied to a language which very nearly resembled the Sanscrit, it was the first deciphered. The method of this decipherment might appear to people unacquainted with the subject somewhat marvellous; but, after all, the process was not so very difficult. The mode of the discovery of the letters was simply this:—two inscriptions were found at Ilumadaw, one of Darius and the other of Xerxes, which were exactly the same, except where the names of the kings occurred. Consequently, on comparing the one inscription with the other, the exact groups which represented these proper names could be determinately identified. The next step was to apply certain names to see if the letters answered, and the very first attempt was by a happy chance successful. That gave the decipherer a certain number of characters, which were then applied to vowels and names found in other tablets and inscriptions, and thus by degrees a complete alphabet was formed. It was accomplished with the less difficulty, because the language was of the Sanscrit family, which was very easy to read. By the help of this Persian key an attempt was then made to read the inscriptions in the other two languages; one which had hitherto been called the Median, but which he maintained was Scythic, and the other undoubtedly Assyrian or Semitic. The inscriptions throughout Persia were in these three distinct languages; and he would now say a few words on their ethnological relations. He thought they could trace pretty well the historical period of the introduction of the Persian language. It seemed to be almost established that the Persians and Hindûs departed from a common centre about fifteen hundred years before the Christian era, the Hindûs passing beyond the Indus, and colonizing Aravertta, while the Persians travelled westward into Tcherassan. An exact description of these migrations of the Persians was given in the opening chapters of the Vendidad, one of their earliest books. Their language, as it appeared in the Achaemenian Inscriptions, had been now very well analyzed, and found to be closely allied to the Sanscrit, whilst it was also the parent of the modern Persian. Before the race in question entered Persia, a population had existed there, which he believed to be Scythian, the language of the second class of Cuneatic inscriptions being in fact the language of the aborigines. This tongue was of the same sort as the Mogul and Tartar; and he believed it to have been spoken by the greater part of the aboriginal inhabitants of Persia. At any rate, it was the native language of the Parthians and the

other great tribes who inhabited the north of Persia. There were several proofs of this:—firstly, the people themselves, who engraved the inscriptions in question, evidently recognized a distinction between them and the Persians—an ethnological distinction; for, when speaking of Ormasd, the supreme God of Persia, they called him emphatically "the God of the Arians," so that, even in those early days, the ethnological distinction, the distinction of races, was perfectly well known. Again, he thought that the Parthians spoke the same language. We had very few Parthian words now available for examination, but the name of the Parthian king, Parthamaspat, belonged, at any rate, to the language in question. His own impression was, that hundreds of the languages at one time current through Asia were now utterly lost; and it was not, therefore, to be expected that philologists or ethnologists would ever succeed in making out a genealogical table of language, and in affiliating all the various dialects. Coming to the Assyrian and Babylonian languages, we were first made acquainted with them as translations of the Persian and Parthian documents in the above noticed trilingual inscriptions of Persia; but lately we had had an enormous amount of historical matter brought to light in tablets of stone, written in these languages, alone. The languages in question he certainly considered to be Semitic. He doubted whether they could trace at present in any of the buildings or inscriptions of Assyria and Babylonia the original primitive civilization of man—that civilization which took place in the very earliest ages. He was of opinion that civilization first showed itself in Egypt after the immigration of the early tribes from Asia. He thought that the human intellect first germinated on the Nile, and that then there was, in a later age, a reflux of civilization from the Nile back to Asia. He was quite satisfied that the system of writing in use on the Tigris and Euphrates was taken from the Nile; but he admitted that it was carried to a much higher state of perfection in Assyria than it had ever reached in Egypt. The earliest Assyrian inscriptions were those lately discovered by Mr. Layard in the N.W. palace at Nimroud, being much earlier than anything found at Babylon. Now, the great question was, the date of these inscriptions. Mr. Layard himself, when he published his book on Nineveh, believed them to be 2500 years before the Christian era; but others, and Dr. Hincks among the number, brought them down to a much later date, supposing the historical tablets to refer to the Assyrian kings mentioned in Scripture—(Shalmaneser, Sennacherib, &c.). He (Major Rawlinson) did not agree with either one of these calculations or the other—he was inclined to place the earliest inscriptions from Nimroud between 1350 and 1200 before the Christian era; because, in the first place, they had a limit to antiquity; for, in the earliest inscriptions, there was a notice of the sea-ports of Phœnicia of Tyre and Sidon, of Byblus, Aradus, &c.; and it was well known that these cities were not founded more than 1500 years before the Christian era. We find, again, certain tribes (the Khita, the Sherutenim and others) mentioned in these inscriptions, which are only to be found in the Egyptian inscriptions of a particular date, that is, during the eighteenth and nineteenth and the beginning of the twentieth dynasties. The earliest of the Assyrian inscriptions were, in his opinion, about synchronous with the close of the eighteenth dynasty, and none of the documents which he had yet seen were so late as the twentieth second dynasty. As another proof of the antiquity of the records at Nimroud and Khorsabad, Major Rawlinson referred to the cities in Lower Chaldea, and stated that numerous cities had been lately visited in those parts where traces were found of a series of kings extending from 747 before the Christian era to 600; but in all these cities and in all these inscriptions they had never found any trace of the names by which the cities were designated in the earliest records. This showed that the names of these cities and countries had all been changed during the period which elapsed between the Assyrian and Babylonian periods, and consequently placed those former period long before the era of Nabonassar, only B.C. 747. He could not admit the hypothesis of Dr. Hincks with regard to the Indo-European origin of the Assyrians, for their language was as much



Semitic as the Hebrew or Chaldean; and the mode of writing was much more Egyptian than Indo-European; the Assyrians he believed to have hardly come in contact with Indo-European tribes. They certainly knew nothing of India—their arms never penetrated eastward of the Caspian Sea. Of course, they came in contact with many Scythian tribes, and more especially with the Cymri; but whether this last tribe had anything to do with our Celtic Cymri he could not undertake to say; his own opinion was, however, that they had not. He rather believed that the Celts applied specifically to themselves the name of Cymri, which was a generic name for Nomads, as a Mogul tribe named themselves Eluth, from Eelyant, the generic name of the wandering tribes of Persia. Major Rawlinson added that we had every prospect of a most important accession to our ethnological materials, for every letter he got from the countries now being explored, announced fresh discoveries of the utmost importance. In Lower Chaldaea, Mr. Loftus, the geologist to the Commission appointed to fix the boundaries between Turkey and Persia, had visited many cities which no European had ever reached before, and had everywhere found the most extraordinary remains. At one place, Senkereh, he had come on a pavement, extending from half an acre to an acre, entirely covered with writing which was engraved upon baked tiles, &c.—At Wurka (or Ur of the Chaldees), whence Abraham came out, he had found innumerable inscriptions; they were of no great extent, but they were exceedingly interesting, giving many royal names previously unknown. Wurka (Ur or Orchoe) seemed to be a holy city, for the whole country, for miles upon miles, was nothing but a huge necropolis. In none of the excavations in Assyria had coffins ever been found, but in this city of Chaldaea there were thousands upon thousands. The story of Abraham's birth at Wurka did not originate with the Arabs, as had sometimes been conjectured, but with the Jews; and the Orientals had numberless fables about Abraham and Nimroud. Mr. Layard, in excavating beneath the great pyramid at Nimroud, had penetrated a mass of masonry, within which he had discovered the tomb and statue of Sardanapalus, accompanied by full annals of the monarch's reign engraved on the walls. He had also found tablets of all sorts, all of them being historical; but the crowning discovery he had yet to describe. The palace at Nineveh, or Koynupih, had evidently been destroyed by fire, but one portion of the building seemed to have escaped its influence; and Mr. Layard, in excavating in this part of the palace, had found a large room filled with what appeared to be the archives of the empire, ranged in successive tablets of terra cotta, the writings being as perfect as when the tablets were first stamped. They were piled in huge heaps from the floor to the ceiling, and he wrote to him (Major Rawlinson) stating that he had already filled five large cases for despatch to England, but had only cleared out one corner of the apartment. From the progress already made in reading the inscriptions, he believed we should be able pretty well to understand the contents of these tablets. At all events, we should ascertain their general purport, and thus gain much valuable information. A passage might be remembered in the book of Ezra, where the Jews having been disturbed in building the Temple, prayed that search might be made in the house of records for the edict of Cyrus permitting them to return to Jerusalem. The chamber recently found might be presumed to be the house of records of the Assyrian kings, where copies of the royal edicts were duly deposited. When these tablets had been examined and deciphered, he believed that we should have a better acquaintance with the history, the religion, the philosophy and the jurisprudence of Assyria 1500 years before the Christian era than we had of Greece or Rome during any period of their respective histories.

A short conversation followed, in which Dr. LATHAM, Major RAWLINSON, Dr. HICKS and others took part; and in reply to a question by the secretary regarding the probable origin of the alphabet, Major RAWLINSON stated his view of the formation of the Cuneatic character to be, that it was actual picture writing, the same as the Egyptian.

Observations on a Human Mummy found in the Guano at Ichaboe, by Prof. GOODE.

On the Aboriginal Tribes of India, by Major-

General BRIGGS.—This paper was ordered to be printed entire in the Transactions.

A letter was read from Prof. MULLER, of Mayence, on a portrait and mask believed by him to be contemporary representations of Shakespeare. To this mask we have already alluded in our columns [*ante*, p. 771]. It was argued, from the frequent intercourse which took place between England and Cologne, that the mask was genuine, and that the picture which bore the inscription "Shakespeare according to tradition" was a copy from the mask.—Dr. LATHAM pointed out some suspicious circumstances under which the portrait had been discovered, and inferred also with suspicion the length of time which had existed before it was brought to light.

TUESDAY.

'Notice of the Mandrawe (African) Language,' by Mr. G. NORRIS.

'Notice of a Vocabulary of another African (Sudama) Language,' by the same Author.

'Notice of a Dialect of the Berber Language,' by Mr. J. F. NEWMAN.

Ethnological Observations suggested by the Philological Characteristics of the Remarkable Anglo-Saxon Runic Inscription at Ruthwell, in Galloway, by Prof. P. A. MUNCH.

'On the Distribution of the Germanic, Lithuanic and Slavonian Tribes, at the beginning of the Historic Period,' by Dr. R. G. LATHAM.

To CORRESPONDENTS.—J. C.—D. G.—F. L. B.—A Visitor—Vivian—received.

A SUBSCRIBER IN THE COUNTRY.—The office of the Arundel Society is at Messrs. Colnaghi & Co.'s, in Pall Mall East.

W. W.—To this correspondent we can only reply that, exact experimental evidence, such as that so recently afforded, proving that light, whether from solar, stellar, or terrestrial sources, traverses with equal velocity, is to be received before the "prophecies" of common sense, not to say imagination. "W. W." may feel convinced, that the "confusion" arises from his being unacquainted with the admirable investigations of our own time.

Erratum.—In our report of the proceedings of the British Association, a paper entitled 'Notes on Crustacea' read on the 1st inst. in Section D is wrongly ascribed to "Dr. T. Williams." The author is Mr. Spence Bate.

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£5,000 13 yrs. 10 mths. £683 6 8 £787 10 0 £6,470 16 8

5,000 1 year .. .. 112 10 0 5,112 10 0

1,000 12 years .. .. 100 0 0 1,200 10 0

1,000 7 years .. .. 157 10 0 1,157 10 0

1,000 1 year .. .. 92 10 0 1,092 10 0

500 1 year .. .. 50 0 0 78 15 0

500 4 years .. .. 45 0 0 545 0 0

500 1 year .. .. 11 5 0 511 5 0

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Age.	£. s. d.	Age.	£. s. d.	Age.	£. s. d.	Age.	£. s. d.	Age.	£. s. d.
20	1 13 7	30	1 13 7	40	1 13 7	50	1 13 7	60	1 13 7
25	1 17 0	35	2 15 5	45	2 15 5	55	2 15 5	65	2 15 5
30	2 1 6	40	3 6 0	50	3 6 0	60	3 6 0	70	3 6 0

The Court of Directors are authorized by the Deed of Settlement to advance money on the security of Policies in this Association.  
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Age.	One Year.	Seven Years.	With Profits.	Without Profits.	
20	£0 17 8	£0 19 1	£1 15 10	£1 11 0	
30	1 1 8	1 2 7	2 5 5	2 0 7	
40	1 5 0	1 6 9	3 0 7	2 14 10	
50	1 14 1	1 19 10	4 6 8	4 0 11	
60	3 2 4	3 17 0	6 12 9	6 0 10	

One-half of the Whole Term Premium may remain on credit for seven years, or one-third of the Premium may remain for life as a debt upon the Policy at 5 per cent., or may be paid off at any time without notice.

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LONDON, SATURDAY, AUGUST 31, 1850.

## REVIEWS

*Village Stories of the Black Forest*.—[*Dorfgeschichten, &c.*]. By Berthold Auerbach. New Series. Mannheim, Bassermann; London, Franz Thimm.

THE method now largely practised by romance and tale writers, of first sowing their productions broadcast, as it were, in periodicals, before they bind up the fruits of this labour in "just volumes"—is somewhat perplexing to the critic. It would require him, to keep pace with all that is done in this way, not only to digest his natural food of solid books, but also to pick up those fly-leaves and other literary ephemera in which the works even of celebrated pens are often first caught by the public. If this be no easy task in respect of home authors, it is one which the reviewer of foreign letters must altogether decline undertaking; the field which he has to survey in the region of substantive volumes alone being too wide and remote to allow of excursions beyond its pale, to seek flowers on the commons of literature. To this circumstance was owing the expression of a wish in our notice some time since of a little book of Auerbach's,—which a correspondent kindly informed us might, in fact, have been spared. For although no new issue of 'Village Stories'—as such—had taken place when we wrote, the author had already given to the *Annals* two of the three tales now published in form as a sequel to his preceding volumes. 'The Convicts' bears the date of 1845; and 'The Professor's Lady' and 'Lucifer' succeed duly in the two following years:—corresponding with the course of the 'Urania,' in the number of which for 1847 we know that the second of these tales appeared.

They bear the same stamp of artlessness in the tenor of the story, and of homely, if not painfully familiar, truth in details of peasant life and character, in a special region—which distinguished the earlier series. The painting of village scenes and habits,—the display of the strength and weakness, the virtues and prejudices rooted among the hearty cottagers and farmers of the Black Forest,—are here as fresh and forcible as in the author's former well-known pictures. We cannot, however, term these, on the whole, specimens as perfect as those were of domestic art; and for this reason,—that the true standard of the class, as a poetical species, is alloyed in these later stories with a foreign element, which impairs its natural purity, and gives, as it were, a false ring to the composition. This element, produced by civil and moral collisions in a totally different region of life, mingles unkindly with the plain materials of rustic existence; and the result affords a new proof of what we have seen with regret in other gifted Germans of our day,—the wrong, namely, which the soreness and heat of political discontents, on the eve of a convulsion, has done to the exercise of their poetic faculties. To estimate the respective values of distinct kinds of mental activity, according to the relative demands of circumstance, duty or inclination, might be a difficult task; it is one that we have no design to attempt here. It will suffice to repeat on this occasion what we think may be as easily recognized as any other fact in the natural history of mind:—that the spheres of the free arts and of practical politics have quite different centres, pursue divergent orbits, and cannot be brought into contact without jarring, to the detriment of both.

In each of the three stories before us we find the same foreign ingredient in a new form. In

'The Convicts' societies for reforming criminals and restoring them to society at the end of their sentence are keenly satirized; the impression being conveyed that the benevolence of those who have taken up this subject in the land in question is not guided by much good sense or knowledge of the natures which they have to deal with,—and that the official aid given is bestowed half with contempt for doctrines in which its organs have no faith, half with a secret grudge that must render it ineffectual. The alleged ambition in late times of the priestly caste, favoured by the State, to restore the spiritual tyranny of the Church, and the consequent rebound of stronger minds into utter mutiny against all its teachers,—is the ruling theme of the last tale, 'Lucifer.' In 'The Professor's Lady,'—the best of the series,—the course of the story is less absolutely biased by a single polemic idea; but occasion is taken to force into it many sharp reflections on princes, courtiers, and the fashionable life of capitals,—and, as the reverse of this picture, to illustrate the ferment of democratic spirits in the mass of society. All these topics—quite local as here applied—however welcome or exciting they may have been at the moment to certain readers in the particular kingdom pointed at,—must be rejected as wholly out of place in 'Village Stories.' Indeed, from the merely temporary interest—which the changes of 1848 had effaced before the tales could be collected—they may be termed a canker in the heart of a composition the freshness of which, so far as it springs from the ground of human nature, is of no such ephemeral quality; has nothing to lose by revolutions, but must always delight, whether the life which it portrays should continue to exist or be counted in the list of things that once were. A stronger illustration of the mistake of wresting poetic creation to political ends than will be found in the present instance could hardly be invented. The political matter in these tales of Auerbach's—dead from the beginning to most readers beyond the bounds of Wurtemberg or Baden—must now, within some three years, have lost its whole pith and flavour even within that narrow region. But it will lie for ever as a blot on the more genial touches of his pencil in these pictures of village manners and scenes; which, if left in their natural colour and truth alone, unspoiled by dashes of an uncongenial style, would only have gained in value by the progress of time.

In the first tale, "James" and "Magdalene" have both fallen into the hands of the law: one for an assault committed in a moment of passion, the other on a charge of theft, of which she bears the punishment rather than betray the real offender—a reprobate and selfish father; who, on this and later occasions, haunts the poor girl as her evil genius. A society is founded in the metropolis for the care of criminals on their release from prison; by its agency some of the householders in "our village"—the same already known to us by former sketches,—are induced to take the convicts into their service. The consequences of this experiment furnish the materials of an interesting, if not always very probable, story. The contrast between the remorse and self-abasement of the real culprit, James, and the forlorn yet resolute patience of the victim, Magdalene,—their reception and treatment in the village,—the way in which the outcasts, avoided by the rest, fall to loving each other,—the interruption of this happiness by an act of theft committed by the old villain of the piece with such contrivances as to implicate the young people, whose guilt their former misfortune is taken to prove,—and their escape at last by an accident

that discovers the real criminal:—these incidents supply many pathetic and exciting scenes, drawn with the author's usual skill in tracing the peculiar modes of human passions as they work in uncultivated natures amid the rude circumstances of poverty. Some of the emotions and reflections given to James, especially when relating his prison thoughts or unbosoming at rare moments of confidence his acquired misanthropy and resentment of the hard usage of society, go a little beyond the line of nature,—and at times suggest recollections of *Sie's* sentimental felons in the 'Mystères de Paris.' But the general working out of the story, its dialogues and its situations, have the life-likeness and vivid simplicity for which Auerbach's former sketches have been praised; and but for those places, chiefly at the beginning, where the charm is silenced by the foreign strain above described, this might be pronounced equal to most of his earlier narratives.

The impression produced by 'Lucifer' is altogether painful; and there is something improbable in the conception of the principal character,—a wealthy farmer, the Solon of his little world, whose secret doubts on points of established religion are goaded into open disbelief and defiance by the zeal of a malicious young priest, who tries to set up in the village the "new school" of ultramontane tyranny. The redeeming parts of the story will be found in its sweet description of rustic scenery and employments, and in some fine shading of the various effects of Lucian's avowal of infidelity on the different characters of his own household, and of his fellow-villagers,—all of them bound in unquestioning faith to the religion of their fathers and firmly attached to its customs. The open heresy of the foremost man of the parish alarms this little world like the explosion of a bomb; even in his own family it excites terror and dissension which lead to scenes of a distressing character. These, as well as the part assigned to the mischief-making priest, all described with much power, are features of the story too decisive to be passed over,—and it is impossible to peruse them with satisfaction. In the end, Lucian, in a moment of passion, commits an act of violence—after he has seen himself shunned like a leper by all around him, save only his wife and daughter; is imprisoned *pro forma*, through the interposition of a State functionary who is described as a brother sceptic; and when liberated, embarks for the New World, disabused of the idea of reforming the credulity of his own village and of his own fitness as an apostle of the new light.

'The Professor's Lady' is a highly-finished and touching picture of an ill-sorted marriage between a wild boisterous painter (Reinhard) and a village beauty and heiress (Lorle), daughter of the innkeeper of the Linden, nick-named for the size of his legs "Mine Host of the Calves" (*Wadeleswirth*). Reinhard rambles back to the village where he is known from an earlier visit, accompanied by a young *Gelehrter* or "learned friend" from the capital, whose pedantry and prosy worship of "primitive nature" are displayed with what we take to be undesigned humour; these diverting features of a character peculiarly German being combined with others which the author plainly intends his readers to admire. Reinhard finds Lorle grown a blooming maiden; roams and loiters for awhile about the village,—now playing tricks, or singing to amuse the natives,—now painting altar-pieces for their new church, or sketching peasant groups; falls in love with the rustic belle, who has lost her heart to the bearded gallant almost at first



sight. After some wavering on his part, some shyness on hers, and much resistance by the stout father, whose character is admirably drawn, he marries Lorle; settles in the capital, where he has meanwhile got an appointment as "Professor of Painting" in a newly-founded academy; and begins his first trial of a regular life. The experiment turns out ill in every way. The village girl is quite out of her element in city life, and cannot be made a fine lady at all. Reinhard, his first raptures once over, finds that with her narrow education and ignorance of art companionship of mind is impossible. He is tempted to seek abroad the society which he cannot find at home; while the constraint of a steady life on a roving vehement nature grows daily less tolerable as his estrangement from Lorle increases. Fancied disgusts and insolences are met with at court; where English strangers are described as enjoying a degree of favour odious to the "German artist," and noted it seems—with something like personal bitterness by the author himself. In fine, Reinhard grows harsh to his poor wife, and weary of his office; neglects his easel, frequents "patriotic" meetings in beer-houses—where his friend, the man of letters, is a chief agitator—alternately with brilliant saloons, where he imbibes more intoxicating draughts from a beautiful countess, frank and cultivated, all that a painter could desire for a bride. Lorle, the while, is all but forsaken—the old village nurse, who has followed her to the city, dies; she is childless; her father pays her one short visit—and expires, soon after his return home. She finds some consolation in tending the family of a sick neighbour, but pines for the shelter of her own hamlet. The Collaborator—in secret a rival of Reinhard's from the beginning—is indignant at the neglect with which Lorle is treated; and his influence rather sharpens than smooths the wife's chagrin. A last outrage on her feelings fills the measure of her distress, and fixes her resolution. Reinhard, who has long kept irregular hours, staggers in one evening helplessly intoxicated. Lorle packs up a bundle of clothes; leaves a few lines for her husband, calm and forgiving, but expressing a firm resolution to live with him no longer in a union that makes neither of them happy—and flies back to her village nest, where her days are spent in works of benevolence, and the "Professor's Lady" is honoured as a superior being. Reinhard respects her resolve—and feels himself relieved by it. He disappears; but rumours are afterwards heard of a half-crazed artist who haunts the vicinity of Rome—where his countess is, now married,—and whom the peasants call "*il Tedesco furioso*." This outline is artless enough, but it is filled up with admirable skill. The local details teem with life; and the characters, richer in variety and contrast than is usual with Auerbach, are distinguished each from each with a propriety and fineness of drawing that deserve the warmest praise. Still, the total effect is not agreeable. Of the principal figures, Lorle alone and her sturdy father are at all engaging. The painter, however the author himself may lean towards the hero of his choice, will be regarded by readers of a healthy taste as a blustering, selfish wrong-head; whose nature, under all its outward show of sensibility and culture, is by many degrees narrower and lower than that of the illiterate girl whom he marries and ill-uses. It has been too much the fashion of French and German novelists to exhibit figures like this—intended to represent the "artist's nature"—as picturesque and not repulsive objects. Against such, whatever may be the modish opinion as to this class in France or in Germany, all who look at the practice of Art as a worthy object

must utterly protest; proclaiming, on all suitable occasions, that it does by no means necessarily lie in the essence of a genius apt for this pursuit to be a turbulent or whimsical voluptuary, *jura negans sibi nata*—despising virtues and decencies required from ordinary men—and chartered to sacrifice to his own selfish caprice the happiness of every woman who may be weak enough to admire him. This sort of melodramatic character may suit the pretender to Art—it can be only a misfortune and an inconsistency in any of its true professors.

Of the best part of works like Auerbach's, racy of the soil of a peculiar region, no effectual translation can be made. The local colour and character are so infused through every vein of a popular dialect, that its full literal meaning, even, cannot always be transferred to a foreign idiom; while this alone is less than half of what the original conveys—its tone and expression, all, in short, that stamps an artless language with the very life of the natures of which it is an organ, are still wanting. To enjoy the "Village Stories," they must be read in their Swabian German. We cannot hope to reproduce its vernacular simplicity in a language that has no corresponding forms; but as a *quasi* specimen of the book, one extract may be culled, from a passage containing few peculiarities of dialect,—in which also we have a glimpse of the two chief characters in "The Professor's Lady," and a broader view of the city man of letters (assistant in the library at —, or "collaborator"), whose raptures prepenne, elaborate artlessness, and endless racking of common things for profound discoveries—all characteristic of real features in the second order of German minds—are displayed, as we have said, in a manner so droll, that we are led to doubt whether the author really meant to laugh at them, only by seeing that, later in the tale, he makes this prosy person the hero of political doctrines and aspirations for which his own zeal is apparent.

On the morning after the painter and his companions had taken up their quarters with "mine Host of the Calves,"

The Collaborator at an early hour stood at Reinhard's bedside, and sang, with a strong fluent voice you would not have given him credit for, the song from "*Preciosa*": "*The Sun awakes*—to Weber's dewy-fresh melody. Reinhard gave an angry kick in bed. "A man like you," the Collaborator sang on, in recitative, "who stole from nature that capital picture of 'Sunday at Daybreak,' should not be dozing away a morning like this—hum, hum." Reinhard lay silent, and the Collaborator continued, in prose—"What shall we set about to-day? 'Tis a Sunday morning; last night rain has fallen as if by particular desire; out of doors everything is glittering and twinkling. What shall we be doing? Is there never a *kirmesse* in the neighbourhood? No popular festival?"—"Cook a popular festival for your own palate," replied Reinhard: "draw together such a crowd as you would have; plant an opera-glass astride on your nose; throw coppers among the children for them to fight and scramble for; and there's a popular festival for you, with *ipse fecit*!"—"So merry as you were last night, and to-day so surly?"—"I was not merry, and am not surly: I am merely a fellow who of good rights ought to be alone, and yet, as the devil will have it, cannot have a single day for himself. Mark what I mean. I am glad to have you with me: a friend like you, with the best intentions, is as if one had money in a chest; though you may not want it, it is a support, because it is known to be within reach when need pinches;—so do you stay here for the rest of your holiday, by all means; but do leave me a little to myself the while."—"I understand you perfectly. Here you are to receive the kisses of the muse, and at such moments no observer's prying eyes should be looking on. Depend on it, I will leave you wholly to yourself, and always fall into the background whenever the subject for a picture may

present itself to you: to such the bystander should not point a finger, nor even gaze in that direction with profane eyes. The root, the creative, productive energy of all life, reposes in darkness,—the depths of which no glimpse of sunshine, no eye can penetrate. "By all means," said Reinhard; "and as for yourself, just mark this: Do not exact from every instant something positive—a result, a thought, or so on;—live; and all else is given to you." The elder-bush is in bloom; it blooms not merely for you to brew your elder-flower tea from; if, if you happen to catch a cold. "Forgive me, if I tell you," observed the Collaborator, in a timid, respectful tone,—“there lies, more of the romantic in you, after all, than you are aware of: that notion of yours is, in fact, the 'blue flower' of the romanticists,—to exist absolutely without reflection, in the full enjoyment of unknowing."—"Don't quite agree; but romantic be it, for me, if the child must have a name at all." Reinhard, half-dressed, stood at the window, and inhaled the morning air in full draughts; on a sudden he fell back with a start; the Collaborator hastily sprang to the vacant window, and looked out. The host's daughter was stepping across the courtyard, lightly clad; without her jacket, and barefooted. A flock of ducklings crowded quacking around her. "You little gluttons," (*Kresserle*) and as she chid them, she wreathed her tiny lips into a pout: "can't you rest till your young craws are crammed full? Every half hour you must have it served, aye? Now stay—yes, I am going for it! but patience: you must really learn to be patient, too—out of my way, then! I shall tread on you, else." The ducklings fell back, as if they had understood her: the maiden went to the barn, and came back with barley in her apron. "There," she said, scattering a handful of it, "God send you good with it! Will you let the others have a share, too, you envious imps! and not tumble head-long over each other. Hish!" she cried, to scare them off, and throwing a handful of barley further on one side: "you hens, I say, keep yonder." The cock stood on a ladder leaning against the barn, and crowed his defiance to all the world. "Aye! you can do that still, precisely as well as yesterday," said the girl, nodding to him; but just come down now: 'tis the very same as with other male folks—they always make one wait for them after dinner is on the table." At this, down flew the cock, and fell heartily to his meal; but chattered immensely the while; most likely he had been saying something witty or quizzical, for a yellow hen, that had that instant picked up a grain, wagged her head, and let fall the barley corn. The gallant jumped to the spot, recovered the lost mouthful, and offered it her with a scrape of the foot, accompanied with some courteous observations in a low cluck. "Good morning, my young maid," the Collaborator now called into the courtyard. The girl made no reply, but, quick as a weasel, darted back into the house. The hens and ducklings looked gravely up at the window, no doubt guessing from what quarter came the disturbance which robbed them of the rest of their meal. "There's a maiden! ah, there is a maiden!" cried the Collaborator, turning round, and raised both his clenched hands to heaven. Hereupon he twice paced the chamber without speaking; then came up to Reinhard, and began again: "There you have it! I can say nothing further than—there's a maiden!" No *Epitheton* satisfies me, none whatever. Here we discern a law of popular poetry: it often gives the fullest expression—makes the deepest impression, by using the simple substantive, without an *Epitheton*. In such a rapture as mine at present, we see that all my powers of speech can command nothing more than the merest peasant lad can say."

With this slight introduction of three principal figures in the best of the new series of "Village Stories," we must leave them to the readers—and the number of such will not be small—who may seek their further acquaintance in the original. We shall venture, in conclusion, to express the hope that the gifted author—should his thoughts continue divided between public and private life—may perceive the advantage to both of observing, in future, the line that ought to separate the politics of the one from the poetry of the other.



*The East. Sketches of Travels in Egypt and the Holy Land.* By the Rev. J. A. Spencer, M.A. Murray.

THE modest unassuming title of this book affords no adequate suggestion of its intrinsic worth. It is written with so much earnest truthfulness, and evinces so intimate an acquaintance with the erudite labours of previous writers, that its place may be admitted beside works of higher pretensions and recognized merit. The author informs us, that when he left the United States, he had no intention to extend his travels beyond the European continent; and being, therefore, in many respects unprepared to undertake a work on the East, he does not pretend to original learned disquisitions or critical dissertations. He declares his sole aim to have been, to deal plainly, candidly and earnestly with all that came under his observation. Notwithstanding this disclaimer, Mr. Spencer's intelligence and excellent scholarship overcame every disadvantage; and his mind being unbiassed, his opinions and sentiments on many points of interest possess an originality rarely to be found among travellers over those well trodden tracts.

Agreeable as it might be to accompany such an author throughout his whole journey, we have already so often traversed the ground with others, that we shall content ourselves with commending his descriptions to those less conversant with the scenes, or who wish to have their memories refreshed. To such the narrative of his arrival at Alexandria and Cairo—his impressions of the people—his passage up the Nile—visits to the ancient ruins—speculations on the past—and account of the Coptic Church, will furnish both pleasure and instruction; but as regards this part of his wanderings we must confine ourselves to the following extract.—

"Though we use the term Thebes in speaking of the great city which once exercised such wide sway in Egypt, you will understand that there is no modern town which will answer to this name, but that there are several villages, known as Luxor, Karnak, Médinet Habû, &c., which occupy the site of the ancient capital of the Pharaohs. So long ago as the time of Cambyse, the Persian conqueror, B.C. 525, Thebes received a blow to its prosperity, from which it never recovered; for the son of Cyrus spared no efforts to destroy the proud monuments of Egyptian power and glory; and, with a zeal more akin to insane fury, than aught else to which it can be likened, he sought to lay in ruins the metropolis of the country which he had conquered. Subsequently, too, one of the Ptolemies, B.C. 116, on occasion of a revolt against his authority, marched against Thebes, and wreaked his vengeance upon it, in a manner which it is impossible to characterize in the terms which it deserves; and there can be little doubt, that very much of the mischief which has been done to the temples and monuments in and about Thebes, is to be attributed to the deep and insatiable resentment of Ptolemy Lathyrus, quite as much as to the hatred manifested by the Persians against a system of worship and religion most odious in their eyes. \*\* Leaving Luxor, the traveller mounts his doukey, and, riding in a southerly direction about two miles, he arrives at Karnak, where, doubtless, are the most ancient remains of the glory and greatness of Thebes, and where the successive monarchs of old seemed to have lavished all their care, and striven each to outdo the other in works which should add to the renown of the metropolis, and carry down their names to the most remote generations. Visiting this last of all, as I did, the traveller finds Karnak to surpass all that he could have imagined; and he is for a time bewildered, and lost in the most profound astonishment, as he wanders amid ruins which cover so vast a space, and indicate a previous condition of glory and splendour, far, far beyond all that the world has ever since beheld. He spends some days here in endeavouring to gain a clear idea of what is before him: and leaving it with regret, when his allotted time has expired, he is ashamed to acknow-

ledge to himself how little, after all, he has really learned, and how incompetent he is, to pretend to speak with precision of what it contains! Most thoroughly, too, does the conviction force itself upon his mind, that, to appreciate Thebes, one must take up his residence here, and, being well prepared by previous study of Egyptian history and antiquities, must give months, where he has had to be content with days, and even hours."

However cordially we may concur generally in Mr. Spencer's feelings of regret at the removal of objects of science and art from the temples and ruins of Egypt,—we must remind him, and others who participate in the same sentiments, that but for this seeming desecration every vestige of these ancient records, which we are now only beginning to decipher, would very soon be entirely obliterated,—so that what is brought to Europe is in reality saved from the hands of barbarous iconoclasts. Mr. Spencer's sojourn in Egypt was not long enough to make him acquainted with the Fellaheen of the villages in the vicinity of the ruins; but we, who know them better, can affirm that they attribute to Dr. Lepsius their own depredations. True it is that Lepsius dug out of the sand at the Pyramids of Ghiza some ancient tombs that had been used as depositories for the dead of the Romans, one of which he removed entire to Berlin. Had he not done so, by this time the Arabs would have sold, one piece per chance to an American merchant, another to a French surgeon, another to an English sailor,—all probably unacquainted with hieroglyphics or Egyptian chronology, and influenced by no higher motive than a wish to carry home a memento of their travels; or, what would be still more unfortunate, the fragments would be pounded up to make lime for white-washing the Sheikh's house or his father's tomb in the neighbouring village. A singular incident illustrative of the foregoing observations happened to the Prussian Mission whilst encamped on the Plains of Saccara. A tomb had been dug out of the sand and copied by the artists of the mission; who, when their drawings were completed, removed to a remote part of the cemetery, entirely unsuspecting of immediate injury to the monument which they had left behind. Their regret and indignation may be conceived when, on their return to the spot after a short absence, they found that the Arabs had actually torn down the sculptured walls, which chanced to be made of slabs of convenient size, to build a hareem for the Sheikh of Saccara,—who had grown rich with the money which he had wrung out of his Fellaheen employed as excavators by the Prussian Mission. Lepsius, admonished by this circumstance, buried again all the tombs which he had excavated before he left that part of Egypt. Our readers may be assured that whatever he has removed has been separated with the greatest care from that which he left behind, and may be seen and studied with the greatest convenience in the Museum of Berlin.

A few words relative to the late Pasha and his step-son Ibrahim, and to the present Pasha of Egypt:—and we leave this section of the work, to follow our traveller through Palestine.—

"I shall not here pretend to enlarge upon his career, or that of his step-son Ibrahim Pasha; tyrants they were both, undoubtedly, according to our view of the correlative duties of ruler and subject; and many are the acts of treachery, wrong and outrage, recorded on the page of history against them; but if we judge them by the standard of the country and people over which they ruled, we shall find occasion to mitigate very much the severe censure which rightly attaches to a large part of their public and private acts; and if we consider how much real advantage has resulted to Christians and strangers from the desire Mohammed Ali had of cultivating European customs and introducing Euro-

pean improvements into Egypt, we shall be disposed to rejoice at the good which has sprung out of evil and too often corrupt motives. Much, very much has already been written by both French and English authors, respecting these two remarkable men; and I am well convinced that you can spare any lucubrations of mine on the subject. Abbas Pasha, however, the present ruler of Egypt, may be thought worthy of a sentence or two. He is the son of Toosom Pasha, the eldest and favourite son of Mohammed Ali; and a short time ago he went to Constantinople to be invested by the Sultan with the pashalic of Egypt. There, it appears, they had discovered and understood what he is, and though treated with a great deal of outward attention, he was in reality shabbily used, and obliged to put up with things that would have roused all the ire of his grandfather. His character may be summed up in few words; he is a mixture of the bigot, fool and debauchee; he has none of the talent of his grandfather, and all the concentrated dislike and ignorance of foreigners which belong to the most fanatical of his countrymen. His career, thus far, has been short and inglorious, and his measures—if they may be dignified with the name—have done him no credit, and involved him in disputes with the representatives of nearly every foreign power resident at his court.

From Cairo, Mr. Spencer crossed the Desert by way of El Arish—and the description of the whole route from that place to Jerusalem is accurate and interesting. In his walks about Jerusalem we would willingly accompany him if the ground were less trodden—but a glimpse here and there must suffice. The following is the view from Mount Tabor.—

"Notwithstanding the desolation of Tabor, compared with its glory once, in other days, we beheld there what man has neither given nor can take away—the glorious view of the surrounding country, which is unsurpassed in all Palestine. I would that I possessed the power of graphic description, that I might tell you of what we saw from the summit of this noble mount, and how deeply the beauty and splendour of the scene are written in our choicest recollections. How grandly loomed up in the far distance, to the north, the snow-crowned Jebel es-Sheikh, the Hermon of Scripture! How picturesque appeared the hills and mountains to the north-east and the east, beyond and on this side the silvery Jordan, which springs out of their very bosom! How lovely seemed that lake, of all others most interesting to the Christian's heart, the Lake of Tiberias, a part of which we could plainly see! How noble toward the south, looked the valley of the Jordan, Gilead, Gilboa, the Little Hermon, and the charming vales between! But how surpassingly beautiful, which I cannot find words rightly to express, was the scene in the west, as, at this commanding elevation, some fifteen hundred feet above the plain, we looked down upon Esdraelon, in all its glory and magnificent verdure, its extent, its fertility, its loveliness, its surrounding hills, its streams and rivulets, its river, the Kishon, and its many, many points of attractiveness! Believe me, I stood as it were entranced on the steep brow of Tabor, and beheld this scene with emotions too deep for utterance."

And its pendant from the Hill of Nazareth.—

"After a circuitous but pleasant ride, we reached the summit of the hill, and were more than repaid for any fatigue in the ascent by the beautiful panoramic view which we there enjoyed. Toward the north and east lay the hill country of Syria and Galilee, with the snow-clad Hermon towering up grandly over all, and the lovely valley of the Jordan, Mount Tabor in the distance, and the lesser hills and heights which bound the plain of Esdraelon; to the south the magnificent plain itself stretched away in the distance, incomparably beautiful as it lay encircled amid the distant hills and mountains which bound it on every side; in the west were plainly visible Carmel's lofty range, and the Mediterranean's bright deep blue mirror; while almost at our very feet the picturesque village of Nazareth formed, as it were, our home, on which we loved to gaze with a fondness that home only can inspire. It was near sunset when we first looked upon this splendid panorama, and we could not forbear standing in silence



near the neglected wely of Neby Ismail and watching the glorious orb of day as gradually it sank behind Carmel's Mount and kissed the blue waters of the Great Sea."

We have said little regarding Mr. Spencer's speculations during the course of his wanderings; yet, though in no way pretending to originality of conception, there is a freshness in his observations that invariably interests. This arises out of the peculiar constitution of his mind. Notwithstanding his talent for analysis and manifest desire to investigate candidly, he is yet unwilling to doubt any of the ancient traditions or concurrent evidence,—and, indeed, fairly avows his "unfashionable leaning to the opinions of antiquity." Thus, in his account of Bethlehem, he will not be content with the fact that he is in the city of the birth,—but can see no sufficient reason for doubting that the Grotto of the Nativity really marks the spot where Jesus was born; and he resolutely contests Dr. Robinson's objections,—even the strong one that if the place of birth had been a *cave* or *grotto*, it is natural to suppose that the sacred writer would not have passed so unusual a circumstance over in silence. When, therefore, we consider Mr. Spencer's declared prepossessions, we cannot too highly admire his very careful analysis of the various conflicting opinions that have been promulgated respecting the site of the Holy Sepulchre. His own speculations are ingenious, and on the whole judicious; but still we do not see that he touches on the strong fact of the *existence of the Roman building* upon which Mr. Fergusson bases his theory. If he could disprove this fact, the argument on his side would be nearly conclusive:—but while that building exists, there is unquestionably room for more than doubt.

We have said enough to commend Mr. Spencer's work to the attention of the public:—but must not conclude without noticing in a line his very useful thermometrical observations while on the Nile.

*Memoirs of the Queens of Spain, from the Conquest of the Goths to the Accession of Her present Majesty Isabella II., &c.* By Anita George. Edited, with Introduction and Notes, by Miss J. Pardoe. Vol. I. Bentley.

THE history of Spain is so interesting,—indeed, in its earlier portion so romantic,—that, although well nigh wearied out with "Memoirs" and "Biographical Sketches," and such like, of royal personages, we took up the volume before us expecting to find some pleasant reading. Female influence, however,—although Spain boasted of being the most chivalrous of Christian lands—had little sway there; and the notices, therefore, of the earlier Queens,—euphonious as their names are, and well fitted for the heroines of some romantic story—Clodisinda, Egilona, Gandiosa, Amulina,—are mostly comprised in the short and unsatisfactory sentence, "of this lady little is known." Nor when we arrive at a more recent period, are the biographies much more extensive: that these ladies were wedded, unloved, neglected, and finally buried, forms in most cases the sum of these royal memorials. Occasionally, an episode occurs, reminding us of some of those which form the groundwork of the spirited old Spanish ballads. Such is the following, told of Doña Nuña, wife of Don Sancho, King of Navarre,—who set forth to combat the Moors.—

"Ere he departed on this expedition, Don Sancho earnestly commended to the Queen's care a horse by which he set great store. In those days the Spaniards considered their horses, hawks, and arms as their most valuable property. During the King's absence, Garcia, the eldest son, requested the Queen to lend him his father's favourite steed, and she was on the point of acceding to his desire, when Pedro Sese,

Master of the Horse to the King, interfered, representing to her how much incensed the sovereign would be by her so doing. Her denial so much infuriated the rash youth, that he immediately wrote to his father, accusing Doña Nuña of criminal intercourse with the Master of the Horse. Surprised at the extraordinary tidings, the King hastened home; but, though the previous conduct of the Queen gave the lie to this infamous charge, on the other hand it seemed utterly improbable that a son would coin this fearful tale without some foundation. Ferdinand, indeed, did not corroborate his brother's statement, but neither did he contradict it, and, when questioned, replied in so dubious a manner as to increase the King's perplexity. The unhappy Queen was imprisoned in the castle of Najera, and the assembled nobles decreed that, according to the customs of the age, her guilt or innocence should be decided by a duel, and that, should her champion be defeated, or should she find no knight willing to do battle in her behalf, she should perish at the stake. The chances in Doña Nuña's favour were small indeed, the high rank of her accuser deterring many, who, convinced of her innocence, would otherwise have been willing to peril their lives to vindicate her honour; and the fatal day arrived, bringing no hope of rescue to the doomed victim. In this extremity, when a cruel and lingering death seemed inevitable, an unexpected champion entered the lists and accepted the slanderer's defiance. The bold knight who, compassionating the wretched mother, convinced of the falseness of the accusation, or actuated by some feeling of private animosity against the accuser, espoused the cause of Nuña, was Don Ramiro, a natural son of the King by a Navarrese lady of rank. Whatever might have been the issue of the combat, it could not but prove a sad one to the monarch, but it was happily prevented by the interference of a monk, a man of great eloquence, and held in high repute for his sanctity. Horror-struck at the sight of two brothers arrayed in arms against each other, the holy man descended into the lists, and so wrought on the minds of both Garcia and Ferdinand, that, casting themselves at the King's feet, they proclaimed the Queen's innocence, and confessed their own guilt. After the most severe reproaches, Don Sancho left the punishment of the culprits to the Queen, giving her full authority to act towards them according to her pleasure. Overcome by the entreaties of the nobles, who interceded for their pardon, Nuña forgave her unnatural sons, but exacted from the King that he should name her gallant champion heir to the Condado of Aragon, his noble conduct amply atoning for the stain upon his birth."

A story somewhat similar meets us both in English and Flemish ballad lore; but as this incident is said to have occurred early in the eleventh century, it was probably the foundation of the others.

The following method of choosing "a fortunate name" is curious. Maria de Montpellier, however, as a Greek princess, probably only followed some national custom, for divination by candles is still common in the Levant.—

"In 1208 she gave birth to her only son James, subsequently surnamed the Conqueror. The means taken to select a name for the young heir to the crown are too characteristic of the superstitious manners of the age not to be recorded here. Maria, desirous of selecting for her babe a patron saint from among the Holy Apostles, yet unwilling that her preference of one should give offence to the others, ordered that twelve wax tapers bearing each the name of one of them should be lighted and placed around the cradle. That which bore the name of the warlike patron saint of Spain having far exceeded in brilliancy and duration the other tapers, the Prince was christened Santiago, or as the Aragonese call him, Jaime (James)."

Well worthy did "James the Conqueror" prove himself of the protection of the warrior saint who gave his name; for from his eleventh to almost his seventieth year he was foremost in the field, having fought *thirty* pitched battles with the Moors, besides being engaged in continual conflicts with his own subjects and his Christian neighbours.

The following is a curious instance of excessive Spanish etiquette.—

"The King of Aragon, refusing to give up the fortresses and towns he held in Castile, many of the alcaides revolted to the Queen, whom alone, since her divorce, they considered entitled to their allegiance. Peranzules, though a man of strict integrity, thought himself in duty bound to do the same, but his nice sense of honour causing him to feel some scruples, from his having formerly sworn allegiance to Alfonso, he presented himself before the latter, clothed in scarlet, mounted on a white steed; and, bearing in his hands a halter, placed his person at the sovereign's disposal, to be done by as best suited his pleasure. Alfonso, though offended at his breach of faith, could not but forgive his loyalty, and treated him courteously."

During the subsequent contest between the King (Alfonso of Aragon) and Doña Urraca, his wife, a singular instance of gallantry occurred. At the battle of "la Espina," "the brave Count of Candespina stood his ground to the last, and died on the field of battle, while his standard-bearer, a gentleman of the house of Olea, after having had his horse killed under him, and both hands cut off by sabre strokes, fell beside his master still clasping the standard with his arms, and repeating his war-cry of 'Olea.'"

Appended to the notice of Costanza Manuel is an account of her better known rival, the unfortunate Ines de Castro. The subjoined note, from the pen of Miss Pardoe, is interesting.—

"The two magnificent sarcophagi, containing the bodies of Ines and her royal consort occupied a small chapel, enclosed by a screen of richly-wrought and gilded iron, in the right aisle of the splendid chapel. The gates were forced by the French during the Peninsular war, and the tombs rifled; during which sacrilegious process the illustrious dead were torn from their resting-place and flung upon the pavement. Three of the community (of whom the Prior was one), instead of flying, had concealed themselves within the sacred edifice, and were enabled to witness, from the place of their retreat, the brutal violence of the invaders. On my visit to Alcobaca, in 1827, I made the acquaintance of the Prior, whose community had once more rallied about him, and who solemnly assured me, that although the body of the Prince had entirely perished, leaving nothing but a mere skeleton clad in its regal robes, that of Ines remained perfect, her beautiful face entirely unchanged, and her magnificent hair, of a light, lustrous auburn, which had been the marvel of the whole nation during her life, so enriched in length and volume, that it covered her whole figure, even to her feet, and excited the wonder and admiration of the very spoilers who tore away the rich jewels by which her death-garments were clasped."

We are inclined to believe the statement of the Prior, since from the circumstance of the corpse of Ines being placed in the chair of state, clothed in royal garments, to receive the homage of the court so many years after her death, it had unquestionably been embalmed.

The biography of Blanche of Bourbon involves that of a beauty scarcely less celebrated than Ines, Maria Padilla. There is an oriental tinge in the story told by some of the chroniclers:—how that the young queen, anxious to secure the affection of her husband, had recourse to a Jewish sorcerer, who provided her a girdle which he promised should be as efficacious as the fabled cestus of Venus; but the sorcerer was bribed by the family of her dreaded rival, and thus, when the enchanted girdle was clasped round the queen's waist, it assumed, to the horror-stricken king, the appearance of a huge serpent. In the memoir of Doña Maria of Arragon, we have the episode of the celebrated favourite, Don Alvaro de Luna; a statesman who, in the circumstances of his rise and long-continued power, singularly reminds us of Wolsey and Richelieu,—and whose tragical end forcibly



contrasts with the pomp and more than royal splendour of his prosperity. There was, indeed, "royal feasting" when this powerful constable entertained the king and court at Escalona; and one portion of the monarch's state was curious.—

"The royal family were in the course of the year magnificently entertained by the High Constable in his town of Escalona, and the King also received an embassy from the King of France. Juan gave the envoys a most cordial reception in the great hall of the palace in Madrid, which, it being night, was brilliantly lighted. The King was seated on his chair of state, and at his feet was crouched an enormous lion with an embroidered collar, but with neither chain nor cord to restrain his motions, whereupon the French were somewhat afraid to advance until encouraged to do so by the King himself. The Seneschal then knelt, and would have kissed the monarch's hand, which his majesty graciously prevented, and embraced him most cordially. Having caused the envoys to be seated on rich cushions placed on either side of his own seat, Juan inquired concerning the health of their sovereign, and also that of several nobles with whom he was acquainted. A splendid collation was then served up, and the strangers, duly escorted, took their departure."

On another royal progress, Don Alvaro exhibited a tournament of one hundred knights, who appeared on the road as the royal *corège* came in sight, and jousted right gallantly. But even his magnificence was outdone by the Count de Haro, at whose palace—

"during the first three days the guests were entertained either with balls in the palace, or with bull-fights, mummeries, and the Moorish game of reeds. On the fourth day they were conducted to an immense enclosure behind the palace, where a large temporary hall had been erected, at one extremity of which was a raised platform, reached by an ascent of some twenty steps, the whole being covered with green sods so closely united that the verdant carpet seemed to have been laid by the hand of nature. Here, under a magnificent canopy of crimson tapestry, were chairs of state for the royal guests, and a seat for their hostess, while a table spread with every delicacy was placed before them. Below the platform, were tables at which the other guests were placed in the same order as on the foregoing days. At one extremity of the enclosure twenty gentlemen tilted in full armour; at another was a large artificial pond wherein a number of fish of a large size had been purposely deposited, which were caught by anglers and brought to the Princess. At another extremity of the enclosure was a wood, the trees of which had been purposely brought there for the occasion, and this forest had been stocked with a number of wild boars, bears, and deer, the whole being so enclosed as to preclude any risk of their escaping and harming the spectators. Into this forest there entered fifty huntsmen with their mastiffs and hounds, who hunted, ran down, and killed the animals, which were presented as spoils to the Princess. And truly, to all present it appeared matter of exceeding great wonderment, to behold all the pastimes of mimic war, the chase, and fishing within that space. The tilting, hunting, and angling being finished, the tables were removed from the banquetting hall, and dancing began and lasted till dawn of day, the light of the sun having been amply compensated for by the splendid illumination. When the dancing was over, a sumptuous collation was served in the same order as before, after which the instrumental musicians and the singers were rewarded for their performances with two large bags of coin by the Count."

The presentation of splendid jewels to the Princess Blanche of Navarre and the Queen, and every lady of their suite, concluded the entertainment; while every knight and gentleman received a fine mule, or a piece of costly brocade. These extravagant doings, however,—as in most instances,—were but the prelude to years of misrule and civil war.

The volume closes with the memoir of Doña Juana de Portugal: the most interesting portion of the work, therefore—the life of the noble-minded Isabella—is yet to come,—and we doubt not but the lives of her suc-

cessors will prove much more entertaining, from the greater abundance of materials, than those now before us.—This volume owes much to Miss Pardoe's notes and occasional revisions: we wish, however, that she had revised a little more. Don Alfonso the Wise little deserves the flippant notice bestowed on him. His acquirements were rather more than "extraordinary for the age he lived in"; for the constructor of "the Alfonsine Tables" takes high place among the precursors of our modern astronomers, and the compiler of "the Laws of the Partidas" one equally high among early juriconsults. It is, therefore, simply ridiculous thus to stigmatize the monarch under whose reign Jew, Moor, and Christian taught in the Universities under his rule, and who, in addition to his before-mentioned doings, caused the Bible to be first translated into his native tongue,—and to sum up a whole paragraph of blunders with the remark, that he "might be justly called a learned fool." In the same flippant way the celebrated "Union" of the kingdom of Arragon is curtly termed, and with the emphasis of italics, a "charter of rebellion." So might Magna Charta be called; but writers better acquainted with the history of Spain, and indeed with that of the Middle Ages, than the lady who thus writes, have pointed to this "Privilege of Union," as it should more correctly be called, as a proof of the great advance of the Arragonese in the principles of rational liberty. We feel it our duty to point out these errors,—not because works like the present would be likely to form a text-book to the historical student, but because many superficial readers, unacquainted with Spanish history, are likely to take "for sooth" all the loose and incorrect remarks which are scattered about in similar works; and so important is the truth of history, that however little may be known, it is well that the little should be correct.

*The Microscopic Anatomy of the Human Body, in Health and Disease; illustrated with numerous Drawings in Colour.* By Arthur Hill Hassall, M.B. F.L.S. &c. Highley.

THAT a work which should comprehend an account of all that the microscope has done for medical science within the last few years was a desideratum in our language no one can doubt, we think, who is at all acquainted with the great change that has taken place in physiological and pathological theories through the discoveries of that instrument. That Dr. Hassall was the person best fitted for the task of producing such a work, we think, from the experience of his previous book on 'The British Freshwater Algæ,' most persons would have hesitated to believe. We say this with no wish to depreciate Dr. Hassall's labours. He has undertaken tasks the successful execution of which would have reflected lustre on hoary heads; and if he has failed, his ambition rather than his talent has been at fault. Few young men had acquired a sounder reputation, or had better prospects of success, than Dr. Hassall when he commenced his career of observation; and it is a misfortune to find that he is endangering the acknowledgment of his real merits by undertaking labours of so comprehensive and varied a kind as those in which he has since appeared before the public.

The purpose which Dr. Hassall has had in view in the work before us, is that of giving an account of recent discoveries by the microscope as directed to the various organs of the human body,—and presenting at the same time a delineation of the object observed. The work consists of about four hundred representations of the minuter structures of the human and animal body as seen under the microscope.

Each of these is accompanied by a description which at once renders it intelligible. If Dr. Hassall had done nothing more for the present than given these illustrations and their descriptions, he would have rendered valuable service to the study of medicine, and escaped the censure of the critic. He has, however, given with the plates and descriptions a somewhat elaborate treatise on the structure and functions of the parts described; and in this portion of the work there is great inequality of treatment. At the same time, on many of the subjects involved, the author displays great research; and in his opinions he exhibits an independence of thought which shows that he has done something more than merely copy the views of others.

The plan adopted seems a judicious one in order to embrace the whole field of what is necessarily a one-sided inquiry; for although the microscope throws light on the structure of the whole body, there are many of its functions which are not necessarily discussed in connexion with observations made by that instrument. The author begins by an examination of the blood,—and then passes on to the various fluid secretions of the body. From these he proceeds to the consideration, first, of the general tissues of the body—as the muscles and nerves; and subsequently of the structure of particular organs—as the eye and the ear.

In looking over the pages of this work, the mind cannot fail to be impressed with the vast importance of the microscope as a means of assisting the sense of sight. There seems to be no end to its possible applications in the future; for wherever the sense of sight is of importance, there we may call in the microscope to assist it. What the stethoscope is to the ear of the physician, the microscope is to his eye; and just as by the one he is enabled to detect sounds which at once inform him of the condition of parts inaccessible to the unassisted sense, so the microscope reveals to him in the blood and in the various secretions of the body those changes indicative of disease which can be discovered only by its power. The value of this instrument in the arts has not yet perhaps been fully appreciated; but the following passage shows how it might be applied in the hands of a sanitary police.—

"*Adulterations of Milk.*—There are but few articles of general consumption more adulterated, and on which more frauds are practised, than the milk. The more usual substances employed for the purpose of adulteration are water, flour or starch, chalk, and the brains of sheep; of these, water is the one which is most frequently had recourse to, and which is the most difficult to detect. The effect of water in altering the specific gravity of milk has already been referred to; and it has been shown that the result of its addition to milk, a portion of the cream of which has been abstracted, is to restore the specific gravity which usually belongs to it. Donné has shown that however much the gravity of milk may vary, that the density of the serum of the milk is almost constant. This fact is interesting and important, for by a knowledge of it the deterioration of milk by its admixture with water or with some other substance of the same density with it may be ascertained. The serum is constantly heavier than water: adulteration with it would then cause the serum to exhibit a less specific gravity than that which should properly characterise it; the conclusion to be deduced from this circumstance being that the milk has been deteriorated, most probably, by the addition of water. The adulterations with flour and sheep's brains are readily detected by means of the microscope. The fraud by the former may be recognised by the peculiar form of the flour granules, as well as by the action of iodine upon them; and that by the latter may be distinguished by the detection, in the fluid, of more or less of cerebral structure, and especially of the nervous tubuli. The chalk in the milk is readily revealed by its effervescence with hydrochloric acid, as well as by



its weight, which causes it to subside at the bottom of the vessel containing the milk."

In concluding our notice, we must commend the manner in which many of the drawings are executed. They are what such drawings ought to be,—faithful representations of the objects delineated. With the assistance of this work and a good microscope, a person would become speedily acquainted with the principal facts of microscopic research in the human and animal bodies.

*Historical Memoirs of Cardinal Pacca, Prime Minister to Pius VII.* Written by Himself. Translated from the Italian, by Sir George Head. 2 vols. Longman & Co.

It is now many years since this curious and interesting memoir of the circumstances which attended the captivity of Pope Pius the Seventh, and the Concordat of 1813, found a French translator from the Italian original; and it is somewhat strange that an authentic document relating to so striking a passage of modern history should have been so long in making its way into our native literature. On the appearance of the French edition we gave our readers of that day some account of the particulars which the Memoir discloses; but the time is now so far back that we think our present readers will not be sorry to make acquaintance through our means with the curious narrative which Sir George Head has introduced to the English public.

A continuous account of the relations of Bonaparte to the Papacy would be highly interesting. Perhaps it is from the study of these relations rather than from the consideration of any other portions of the career of Napoleon, that we should derive data for answering the question, whether his activity was, on the whole, progressive or retrogressive. It is to Napoleon's relations with the Papacy, at all events, that those writers point who wish, with M. Comte, to convince the world that the greatest military chief of modern times broke his trust with European civilization.

When Napoleon acceded to the supreme power in France (1799), the country was virtually in a state of ecclesiastical independence. About one-half the population had broken loose from all theological faith and from any form of worship; and of those who remained in nominal connexion with the Catholic Church, the majority inclined to a kind of Jansenism. The Catholic clergy were of two parties—the "Prêtres assermentés," who had taken the oath to the Republican Constitution;—and the "Prêtres insermentés," who had refused to take the oath, and stood in protest against the whole policy of the Revolution. Had no attempt been made to patch up this state of things, it is impossible to say what ecclesiastical aspect France might have at this day presented. But Napoleon, bent on finding some elements of order for his government, and not very scrupulous as to their moral reality provided only they were efficient, resolved on a Concordat with Rome. In vain did Grégoire, Bishop of Blois, and others of the Constitutionalist party, point out the retrograde character of such a step, and demonstrate the splendid results that might be anticipated from the institution, in preference, of a thoroughly Gallic church freed from Roman jurisdiction. Napoleon's mind was made up; and on the 15th of July, 1801, the Concordat was signed, and the breach between revolutionary France and Rome was diplomatically healed.

For several years after this reconciliation, Napoleon and the reigning pontiff, Pius VII., were on the best of terms. The Pope even visited Paris to consecrate Napoleon's accession to the imperial dignity. But he had hardly re-

turned to Rome (May, 1805) when his troubles began. In October, 1805, a body of French troops seized Ancona; and, a few months after, the Pope was required by the French ambassador to expel from his dominions all English, Russian, Swedish, and Sardinian subjects. When he protested against these infractions of his sovereign independence, the only answer he received was, that Charlemagne had invested the Papacy with its temporal powers for certain great and beneficial ends,—and that Napoleon, as the successor and executor of Charlemagne, had a right to withdraw or modify those powers according to the necessities of the time. From one stage to another the controversy proceeded, till at last, in February, 1808, a French force, under General Miollis, entered Rome, and assumed the military command, leaving the civil administration in the hands of the Pope. At the same time, a valuable portion of the Papal dominions, consisting of the provinces of Ancona, Macerata, Fermo, and Urbino, was declared to be annexed to the "Kingdom of Italy." It is at this point that Cardinal Pacca's Memoirs commence. The manner in which he was called on to take part in the events that were going on is thus related.

"On the 16th of June some French officers—two or three in number, if I am not mistaken—suddenly entered, without being announced, the apartment of my predecessor, his Eminence Cardinal Gabrielli, then Pro-Secretary of State, whom having put under arrest and ordered to quit Rome immediately, they then proceeded to perpetrate the unprecedented outrage of putting fastenings upon his writing-desk, containing not only the secret state-papers, but what is of still deeper importance, papers relating to the extraordinarily delicate affairs of the Universal Church. The very same afternoon the Holy Father communicated to me in the most obliging terms his intention to appoint me successor of the Cardinal Gabrielli; my official appointment was forwarded to me two days afterwards, and on Saturday, June 18, I commenced my duty at the Quirinale Palace, and signed the letters and dispatches that left Rome by the post on that evening."

For about a year the Pope, with Cardinal Pacca for his secretary and man of business, remained in the Quirinale Palace under the protection of the Swiss guards, administering the civil government as well as they could by means of letters and messengers, but hardly venturing out for fear of violence; the French troops meanwhile, continuing in the city, where they lived at the expense of the Papal treasury. On one occasion, indeed, an attempt was made, to separate the Cardinal from the Pope, and to expel him from Rome as his predecessor Cardinal Gabrielli had been expelled before. A Major Muzio, waiting on Cardinal Pacca in his apartment in the Quirinale, delivered a message to him from General Miollis to the effect that he must prepare to leave the city instantly.

"My answer to this was, that 'without the express command of the Pope I could not leave my post; and that, since I was debarred from having a personal interview with the Holy Father, I would address a note to his Holiness, and ask instructions from my sovereign.' Major Muzio made no objection to this proposal, and took his departure, leaving behind him the Captain in whose presence I wrote, in my own hand, upon a sheet of paper, a faithful account, addressed to the Pope, of all that had happened, and sent it to his Holiness by a clerk of the Secretary of State's office; which done, I then entered into conversation with the Captain on indifferent subjects. Not more than a few minutes had elapsed since I despatched the report, when the door of the room was thrown open with extraordinary violence, and the presence of the Holy Father was abruptly announced to me. I instantly hurried to meet him, and was then an eye-witness of a phenomenon that I had frequently heard of, but had never seen, namely, the hair of a violently excited man standing erect on his forehead, while the excellent pontiff, blinded as

it were with anger, notwithstanding that I was dressed in the purple *soutane* of a cardinal, did not recognise me, but cried with a loud voice, 'Who are you? who are you?' 'I, am the Cardinal,' replied I, as I kissed his hand. 'Where is the officer?' said the Pope. I then pointed to the officer, who was standing close to me, in a respectful attitude; upon which the Pope, turning towards him, addressed him nearly to the following effect, bidding him 'tell the General that he was weary of suffering such outrages and insults from a person who still professed to call himself a Catholic; and that he plainly perceived the drift of these acts of violence was to remove from him one by one, all his ministers, and so deprive him of the means of exercising his Apostolic functions, and maintaining the rights of his temporal sovereignty; that he commanded me, the Cardinal then present, not to obey the General's pretended orders, but to follow him to his own apartment and be the companion of his captivity.' The Pope then taking me by the hand, saying at the same time, 'Signor Cardinal, let us be gone,' we ascended the grand staircase, and as we proceeded to the Pope's apartments were cheered by a crowd of the Pontifical attendants, who, on hearing the disturbance, had assembled there from every part of the palace."

After this incident, the Pope and the Cardinal were virtual prisoners in the Quirinale,—daily expecting the formal dissolution of their authority. It was not till the 10th of June, 1809, however, that the blow fell. On that day a decree that had been issued by Napoleon about three weeks previously, at Vienna, abolishing the temporal Papacy, and annexing the Papal territories to the French empire, was publicly promulgated in Rome by the discharging of cannon and the hoisting of the French tricolor in lieu of the Pontifical standard over the Castle of St. Angelo. The Pope's answer to this decree was the publication of a Bull of Excommunication, which he had for some time had in readiness against such an emergency, and in which spiritual thunders were denounced against all who should abet the invasion of the Papal rights. The placarding of this Bull on the walls of Rome produced such a ferment, that General Miollis, in obedience doubtless to orders from headquarters, resolved to remove the Pope from Rome altogether. Accordingly, on the 6th of July, 1809, the Quirinale was broken into before daybreak, and the Pope and Cardinal Pacca were hurried away in a carriage. The Cardinal tells the story as follows:

"Instantly I despatched my nephew, Gian Tiborio Pacca, to awaken the Holy Father, as I had promised to do in case of an alarm in the night time; and a few moments afterwards I went myself in my dressing-gown into the Holy Father's chamber. The Pope immediately got up, and, with the utmost serenity of spirit, dressed himself in his episcopal robe and stole, and going into the apartment where he was in the habit of giving audience, found assembled there the Cardinal Despuig, myself, some of the prelates who were inhabitants of the palace, and several officials and clerks of the Secretary of State's office. The assailants had by this time broken with their axes the doors of the Pope's suite of apartments, and had arrived at the door of the very chamber where the Holy Father and ourselves were. At this juncture, in order to avoid the chance of some more calamitous result, we caused this last door to be opened. The Pope now arose from his seat, and going opposite the table, stood nearly in the middle of the room, while we two cardinals placed ourselves, one on his right hand and the other on his left; and the prelates, officials, and the clerks of the Secretary of State's office, were on the right and the left of all. The door being opened, the first person that entered the room was General Radet, the commanding officer of the enterprise, followed by several French officers, for the most part belonging to the gendarmes; and last of all came the two or three Roman rebels who had served as guides to the French, and had directed them during the escalade. General Radet and the above-mentioned persons having formed line opposite the



Holy Father, and ourselves, both parties stood face to face for some minutes in perfect silence, equally, as it were, confounded at each other's presence, while no one either uttered a single word or changed his position. At length General Radet, pale in the face, with a trembling voice, and hesitating as if he could scarcely find words to express himself, addressed the Pope as follows. He said that he had "a painful and disagreeable duty to perform, but, having sworn fidelity and obedience to the Emperor, he was compelled to execute the commission that had been imposed on him, and, consequently, intimate to His Holiness, on the part of the Emperor, that he must renounce the temporal sovereignty of Rome and the Pontifical States; and," he added, "that, in case of the non-compliance of the Holy Father with the proposal, he had farther orders to conduct His Holiness to the General Miollis, who would indicate the place of his destination." The Pope, without being discomposed, but with an air full of dignity, replied in a firm tone of voice nearly in the following words:—"Since General Radet, by virtue of his oath of fidelity and obedience, considers himself obliged to execute orders of the Emperor such as he has undertaken, he may imagine by how much the more we, who are bound by oaths many and various to maintain the rights of the Holy See, are under an obligation to do so. We have not the power to renounce that which does not belong to ourselves, neither are we ourselves otherwise than the administrators of the Roman Church, and of her temporal dominion. This dominion the Emperor, from whom, after all we have done for him, we did not expect this treatment, even though he cut our body in pieces, will never obtain from us."—"Holy Father," replied General Radet, "I am conscious that the Emperor has many obligations to your Holiness."—"More than you are aware of," replied the Pope in a somewhat angry tone; and, added his Holiness, "are we to go alone?"—"Your Holiness," said the General, "may take with you your Minister, Cardinal Pacca."—"Hereupon I, standing close at the side of the Pope, immediately replied, addressing myself to His Holiness, 'what orders does the Holy Father please to give me—am I to, have the honour of accompanying him?' The Pope having answered in the affirmative, I requested permission to go to the room adjoining, and there, in the presence of two officers of the gendarmes who followed me, and now were making belief to be looking at the apartment, I dressed myself in my cardinal's habit, with *rochetto* and *mozetta* supposing that we were, to be conducted to General Miollis, who was quartered in the Doria Palace, in the Corso."—"I followed and joined his Holiness in another chamber, whence both of us, surrounded by gendarmes, police; and the above-mentioned Roman rebels, making our way with difficulty over the fragments of the broken doors, descended the staircase and crossed the principal cortile, where the remainder of the troops and police had collected. We then went out through the Great Gate opening upon the Piazza, where we found in readiness the carriage of General Radet, which was a description of vehicle called *bastarda*, and at the same time we saw in the Piazza, a considerable detachment of Neapolitan troops, who, having arrived a few hours before for the special purpose of taking a part in the great enterprise, were drawn up in line." The Pope was now desired to get first into the carriage, and afterwards I was bid to follow; and when we were both inside, the Venetian blind, which was on the Pope's side, of a description called *Persiana*, having been previously rolled down, both doors were fastened with lock and key by a gendarme. General Radet and a Tuscan Quarter-Master, named Carlini, mounted in front on a dicky, and the order to drive off was given. \* \* General Radet, at starting, instead of proceeding straight towards the Doria Palace as we expected, directed the carriage to be driven along the *Via di Porta Pia*, and thence up the road that diverges on the left hand towards the *Porta Salaria*, by which gate we went out, and thence, making a circuit of the wall by the road that leads parallel outside, we arrived at the *Porta del Popolo*, which was then closed, as were all the other gates of the city. Along the whole distance hither we met squadrons or piquets of cavalry with drawn sabres, to whose officers General Radet, with the triumphant air of a per-

son who had won a great victory, gave orders as we passed. At the *Porta Popolo* we found post-horses in waiting. While the horses were being harnessed to the carriage, the Pope mildly reproached General Radet for his want of veracity in saying that he was about to conduct him to General Miollis; at the same time he complained of the violent treatment he had received in being thus removed from Rome without his suite, and absolutely unprovided with everything, even with clothes other than those he had on his back." The General replied that "His Holiness's attendants, whose names he had entered in the memorandum, would very speedily join him, and bring with them all the articles he required." \* \* The Pope a few minutes afterwards, asked me "whether I had with me any money." To which I replied, "Your Holiness saw that I was arrested in your own apartments, so that I have had no opportunity of providing myself." We then both of us drew forth our purses, and, notwithstanding the state of affliction we were in at being thus torn away from Rome and all that was dear to us, we could hardly compose our countenances on finding the contents of each purse to consist, in that of the Pope of one papetto, and in mine three grossi!!! Thus the Sovereign of Rome and his Prime Minister set forth upon their journey literally, without figure of speech or metaphor, in true Apostolic style, conformable with the precept of our Saviour addressed to the disciples:—"Take nothing for your journey, neither staves, nor scrip, neither bread, neither money, neither have two coats apiece." We were without comestibles, and we had no garments except those we wore, not even a shirt, and the habits, such as they were, were most inconvenient for travelling; for the Pope wore his *mozetta* and *stola*, and I the *rochetto* and *mozetta*, together with the *mantelletta*. With regard to money, we had precisely thirty-five baiocchi between us. The Pope, extending his hand, showed his papetto to General Radet, saying at the same time, "Look here—this is all I possess, all that remains of my principality."

The two prisoners were conveyed to Grenoble, where they were separated. Cardinal Pacca was removed to Fenestrelle, a village situated on the chain of hills that divides Piedmont from Dauphiné; and in the fortress of this place he remained confined during three years and a half—or from the autumn of 1809 to the spring of 1813. On his release he rejoined his old master at Fontainebleau; and it was then that he learnt all that had in the mean time been transacted between Pius and Napoleon.

From Grenoble Pius had been removed to Savona, in the Riviera of Genoa. While he was there, Napoleon, having a little leisure to look after the ecclesiastical state of France, convened at Paris a council of the Gallican bishops, to whom he explained his ecclesiastical views. These seem to have been to this effect:—"The settlement of the Pope as a pensionary of France at Avignon, or somewhere else within the French territory,—and the consequent conversion of the Papacy into a mere appendage and instrument of the Imperial power, capable of being yielded for political effects both in France and over Europe at large. To these designs Napoleon found a very strong opposition, both within the Council itself and also from the Pope at Savona. The Pope, among other things, refused to recognize Napoleon's divorce from Josephine. Thinking that he might be more easily gained over by means of personal remonstrances and solicitations, Napoleon caused him to be removed to Fontainebleau. When he arrived there in June 1812, Napoleon was absent on his Russian campaign; but after his return in December 1812, negotiations were begun. The effect of the Emperor's presence and attentions on Pius was, that on the 25th of January 1813 he signed a new Concordat, conceding all that Napoleon demanded, and virtually renouncing all claim to Papal independence. According to this Concordat, the Pope was in future to live either

in France or in the kingdom of Italy, and the greater portion of the patronage of the higher benefices of the Church was to be exercised by Napoleon. The release of Cardinal Pacca from his durance at Fenestrelle was one of the consequences of this sudden reconciliation between Pius and the Emperor. Hastening to Paris, the Cardinal had the honour of an interview with the great man whom he had offended.

"The next morning, the 22nd of February, I went, at the hour appointed, to the Tuileries, and was conducted into a large apartment, which I should rather call a hall, where were assembled several of the Emperor's ministers, some military officers of high rank, and the Archbishop of Tours; all of whom had come to attend the Sovereign of France at his first appearance in the morning, which ceremony formerly was entitled the '*Lever du Roi*,' and was at present called the '*Lever de l'Empereur*,' an expression that signifies the first saluting forth from the royal bedchamber. A short time after I had entered the chamber, while I was looking with my eyes fixed upon the door that opened into the apartments of Napoleon, I heard, with somewhat of a palpitating heart, the announcement of the Emperor's presence, and at the same time, or a moment afterwards, he appeared, dressed in a very simple uniform, coming out of the room adjoining. He at once advanced into the middle of the hall, where we were all assembled, and having, with a rather savage-looking expression of countenance, thrown a sweeping glance along the circular line of persons in the room, he came near to where I was standing, and stopped five or six yards from me. Then the *Ministre des Cultes*, who was standing close to me, told him 'that I was the Cardinal Pacca.' The Emperor, with a serious look, having first repeated the words 'Cardinal Pacca,' advanced one pace nearer towards me, and then immediately assuming a more benign cast of features; 'Pacca,' said he, addressing himself to me, 'have not you been a little bit in the fortress?'—"Three years and a half, Sire," I replied. Upon which he bent his head a little towards his chest; and at the same time making a motion with his right hand on the open palm of his left to imitate writing, apparently with the intention by such an action of justifying my sentence of imprisonment before the persons present, 'Was it not you,' said he, 'who wrote the Bull of *Eccommunication*?'—In answer to this, neither thinking it opportune nor expedient to urge anything in my own defence, for fear of bringing upon myself, perhaps, some rabid invective, I made no reply; upon which Napoleon, seeing I was silent, added, 'but now we must forget all that has passed,' alluding to the tenth article of the Concordat of Fontainebleau, where the Emperor promises to restore to his favour the cardinals, bishops, priests, and laymen, who had incurred his indignation on account of circumstances which I need not just now recapitulate. Finally, Napoleon asked me 'of what country I was a native?'—To which I answered 'Benevento.' He then passed on, and seeing Cardinal Consalvi, who stood next to me, 'This is Consalvi,' said he, 'I know him.' He asked Consalvi where he had lately been?—To which the Cardinal answered 'Rheims.' 'A good city,' he replied; and then, without saying another word, continued walking the round of the circle, and saying a few words to everybody as he went along. After all I had apprehended to encounter at the interview, I had every reason to be content with its termination; and when it was over, was truly glad, to avail myself of a vulgar phrase, to have come off so cheap."

But the Cardinal was one of those who thought that the Pope had outstripped his legitimate powers in agreeing to the Concordat. Accordingly, in conjunction with the Cardinals Consalvi, Litta, and Di Pietro, he persuaded the Pope to write to Napoleon a letter of retraction. In this letter, which was dated the 24th of March, 1813, the Pope expresses his remorse for having agreed to the provisions of the Concordat,—and pronounces them "intrinsically obnoxious, contrary to justice, and irreconcilable to the religion of the Church,"—but proposes a new treaty on another basis. Taking no notice of the retraction, Napoleon set out on his



campaign in Germany; and the Pope with his attending Cardinals remained at Fontainebleau. The reverses of the campaign disposing Napoleon to deal more moderately with the Pope, an offer was made to restore to him, on certain conditions, the part of the Papal States lying south of the Apennines. This offer was refused; and, in the uncertain state of affairs, it was thought best (January, 1814) to send back the Pope to Italy. Here he resided at his native town Cesena, anxiously waiting the issue,—Cardinal Pacca being meanwhile detained at Uzès in Languedoc. At length, the downfall of Napoleon and the occupation of Paris by the Allies set matters right; and Cardinal Pacca, returning to Italy, rejoined the Pope at Sinigaglia on the 11th of May. On the 24th he accompanied the Pope on his triumphal entry into Rome:—five years having elapsed since they had been so unceremoniously abducted from it.—And here end the Memoirs of Cardinal Pacca.

To judge from his narrative, the Cardinal must have been a simple and guileless, but by no means very profound, old gentleman. There is an air of agreeable *naïveté* in the manner in which the greater part of the story is told, the impression of which is not a little increased by the frequent poetical and other quotations that are introduced as if for the purpose of giving a scholarly look to the pages. Altogether, till we read these memoirs, we knew not that a Cardinal could be such an innocent garrulous sort of soul. He and his master the Pope seem to have been two frail elderly clergymen,—not at all fitted for such rough usage as they received at the hands of the peremptory little Corsican. They went through their trials with small *éclat* or ability, but with a kind of elderly patience and tenacity; and when all this was over, the Cardinal thought it necessary, as we see, to “compose” a book, telling all that had befallen him during what he could not but consider the most important period of his life. To those who are desirous of informing themselves minutely regarding Napoleon’s relations with the Papacy from 1808 to 1814, the book may certainly be recommended,—and even to the casual reader it will afford pleasant enough reading. We have a kind of notion, however, that it is one of the works that the English public could have done very well without.

#### OUR LIBRARY TABLE.

*Memorial Lines on Sir Robert Peel.* By Joseph Arnold, Esq.—One of the many forms by which the public has declared its sympathy and sorrow at the loss of a great and good man, who “did the State” and the nation and all nations “some service.” The utterances of the writer, whom we remember to have met before in the by-ways of Parnassus, are not, on an occasion like this, to be judged of by the common standard. The cause sanctifies the act, and the voice helps to swell “the moral chorus of mankind.” Let us hope that the writer is prophet as well as poet.

Mother of mighty sons, my country—thou  
That sitt’st in sorrow—clear thy clouded brow:  
A good great man nor lives nor dies in vain;  
A beacon star o’er life’s tumultuous main  
Shines from his grave of glory: many tread  
In pathways hallowed by the mighty dead.

We have no doubt that the feeling which is awakening all these tributes over the land is itself a teacher, while it is an evidence of how much has been taught.

*Blackwood v. Carlyle: a Vindication.* By a Carlylian.—Smart and pungent in its expression, this little pamphlet amuses where it has no chance of convincing. The writer avows himself a partizan on his very title-page, so that the reader listens to him with the same interest as to an adroit pleader in a bad cause. As becomes a man who can so far surrender his personality as to adopt another person’s name for his badge, the author adopts the style as well as the other delinquencies of his hero; but having chosen his weapon, we must say he uses it well. Of

all Mr. Carlyle’s disciples this one mimics his gait the least offensively.

*The Danger of Superficial Knowledge.* By Prof. J. D. Forbes.—In a speech made at Edinburgh at the inauguration of a Literary Association in the year 1846, Mr. Babington Macaulay took occasion to controvert the well-known aphorism of Pope, that “a little learning is a dangerous thing.” He stated, that all knowledge is relative; and that the little knowledge of the mechanic of one age has been the profound knowledge of the philosopher of a former one. In Mr. Macaulay’s opinion, it is not the small amount of a man’s knowledge of anything that can be said to be dangerous.—Prof. Forbes thinks this position so erroneous, that he has felt himself called on to deliver a homily on the subject. He starts by opining that by a “little learning” Mr. Macaulay meant, first knowledge which is superficial,—that is, mere words without thought; and, secondly, that which has been suddenly acquired:—and he proceeds throughout the remainder of his discourse “to point out plainly and concisely the leading dangers arising from superficial and sudden knowledge.”—We are inclined to side with Mr. Macaulay;—and do not think the Professor’s attempt at professional pooh-poohing of the knowledge acquired at our literary and mechanics’ institutions worthy of the university or chair from whence it proceeds.

*Voices from the Woodlands.* By Mary Roberts.—The very name of this book is suggestive of pleasant thoughts and associations. Very unenviable would be the state of that mind for which after long confinement within the walls of a city the voices of the woodlands should have no charm. Many there are, however, who, loving these voices, can yet not interpret their utterances:—and for such this very pretty book is intended. It bears the reader away to wood, forest, road-side, and village green; and the plants and trees which give to many such sites their beauty and interest are made to tell their own tale. Miss Roberts’s elms, beeches, pines, and hollies talk, and give an account of their own beauties, interest, and uses, as if each inclosed a hamadryad. In this way a large amount of useful information is imparted in a pleasing manner. The work may be introduced where it would be impossible to make the ponderous tomes of Loudon and Selby useful. Though more especially intended for young persons, all who have not consulted the larger works alluded to will find this volume to contain much matter that it is interesting to know.—The letter-press is accompanied by a series of coloured illustrations, consisting of drawings of most of our British forest trees.—The volume is one of the series on Natural History published by the Messrs. Reeve.

*On the Action upon the Galvanometer by Arrangements of Coloured Liquids in a U Tube, as observed by G. Mackrell, J. W. Gonn, and T. Pollock.*—We have considerable difficulty in dealing with this pamphlet. Many hundred experiments have been made, in which much valuable time must have been expended, and no small amount of cost incurred. The three experimentalists whose names appear on the title-page have beyond doubt been actuated by the most honest and ardent desire to prosecute a search after a new truth; and it is under these circumstances a painful duty to state that all their researches are valueless. The object has been, to ascertain if any effect is produced on the galvanometer which is referable to the *colour* of the bodies used in the development of electrical force. Although all who have employed galvanometers of any delicacy in their investigations must have observed that disturbances and inequalities of action arise from almost inappreciable causes, even where the same metals and the same solution are employed,—yet here we find chemical preparations of the most dissimilar character employed, and because a deflexion of the galvanometric needle takes place, it is most strangely referred to the *colour*, not to the chemical differences of the solutions. Again, heat is applied to one arm of the tube, a deflexion is observed, and this also is referred to *colour*, when it is obviously due to heat. We cannot conceive greater blindness in interpreting the results of experiments, or greater ignorance than is shown in their arrangement as put forth by these authors. We seriously counsel them to read attentively some good rudimentary treatise on voltaic

electricity,—and to cease for some years from attempting any original experiments.

*The Advantages of Literary Societies to the Localities in which they are situated, with the best Means of rendering them efficient, having especial reference to Exeter.* By Edwin Howard.—This brochure contains the report of a lecture delivered before the Exeter Literary Society, being one of eleven essays sent in to that body in answer to an offer of 5*l.* for the best on the subject indicated in the title. It comprises a fair statement of the advantages of such institutions; but makes use of no novelty in the way of argument. The chief point in the shape of a suggested improvement, is the establishing of an organ for the advocacy and history of Literary and Mechanics’ Institutions. This has been long in contemplation, we can tell Mr. Howard; but want of efficient support has hitherto kept the “Institute” in the embryo condition.

*Eastern Monachism: an Account of the Origin, Laws, Discipline, Sacred Writings, Mysterious Rites, Religious Ceremonies, and Present Circumstances of the Order of Mendicants founded by Götama Budha (compiled from Singhalese MSS. and other original Sources of Information); with Comparative Notices of the Usages and Institutions of the Western Ascetics, and a Review of the Monastic System.* By R. Spence Hardy.—One-third of the human race believe the doctrines and practise the morals taught by Götama Budha:—a religious system so widely diffused must of necessity have many points of interest for European readers. Queen Victoria has more subjects who profess this faith than who bend at the shrine of Nazareth:—this fact should give rise to some curiosity on the part of Englishmen. Yet the fact is, we know little or nothing of Götama Budha,—of the religion which he founded a few centuries previous to the opening of the Christian era,—of the spiritual influences which are at work in the vast territories of Hindustan, Tartary, China, Thibet, Ceylon, and other islands. Of Mohammed and Brama we know a great deal,—almost enough to enable us to comprehend the mystery of their career, and to adapt our intercourse with their followers to useful ends; but of Budha and his ideas we remain in almost total ignorance. Any work undertaken with judgment and honesty of purpose in elucidation of this subject, we should be bound to accept with favour even if it were not all that could be wished. Mr. Hardy’s volume is in this predicament. It is a useful and an important addition to our knowledge of the system of Götama Budha; but we cannot help regretting that it should come to us only as the translation of a translation. With all the nicety to which modern languages have attained, we know how much a work—especially on doctrines and morals—is apt to alter its sense in such a process of transference; and we cannot but fear that still greater changes must occur in the less plastic and precise idioms of the East. Budha wrote his sacred books in Pali; but this language being difficult to acquire, Mr. Spence Hardy has contented himself with giving us the substance of what information he could obtain in the Singhalese. Much of this is, however, intensely interesting and instructive; and we trust that Mr. Hardy will receive encouragement enough to enable him to bring out his further work on the life and general cosmogony of Götama Budha. Such volumes may not have so large a class of readers as works in the lighter departments of literature, but they are of great importance to the few who take an interest in them.

*Social Aspects.* By John Smith.—Of the worst school of Carlyle. In the depths of exaggeration, clap-trap, and impertinence, there are men who will find a lower deep. Without a particle of the dry humour, the withering sarcasm, the pictorial power by which his master in some sort redeems his wildest assertions, Mr. Smith has caught and re-produced his more offensive moods. The cleverness which consists in addressing the reader as “ape of the Dead Sea” is readily acquired; but the farce of the thing comes out too broadly when the second-hand grimace is given forth as the “utterances of an earnest soul.” We are palled with this nonsense. Mr. Smith, however, has his revenge of us, along with the rest of our brethren of the press, in his denunciation of the “mean, sub-editing hacks” who laugh at the new



revelations which these "lofty souls" have brought into the market.

*Echoes of the Universe: from the World of Matter and the World of Spirit.* By the Rev. Henry Christman. An old book with a new title-page, and, it is said, some additional matter.

*The Philosophy of Animated Nature.* By G. Calvert Holland, M.D.—We have often met with Dr. Calvert Holland in the field of medical literature; and although we have not always approved of his voluminous productions, we had not hitherto detected in them so wide a departure from sound judgment as is betrayed in the present volume. The 'Philosophy of Animated Nature' is a phrenomesmeric dissertation on the functions of the nervous system. Although we willingly pay our tribute to the learning, research, and diligence displayed in this volume, we fail to discover that its author has advanced one single argument in favour of his phrenological and mesmeric views that has not been previously tried by the sound principles of scientific investigation and found wanting. We discover in this work a lack of anything like earnest and sincere observation, and that impatience of mind which is satisfied with vague generalizations, in preference to the hesitation and doubt which must precede the discovery of truth in every department of science.—We feel convinced that the author has not increased his reputation by this volume.

*A Chart of British Ornithology.* By T. W. Barlow.—This chart gives a description of the orders, families, genera, and names of the species of all British birds. It also contains information with regard to their migratory or other habits. In compiling the table the author seems to have consulted the best authorities, and we have no doubt that it will be found useful to the ornithologist. Suspended on the walls of a museum where birds are exhibited, it would be found of great service to the student of birds.

*A Sketch of the Physical Structure of Australia, so far as it is at present known.* By J. Beete Jukes.—Having, during a series of brief visits to various points of the Australian coast made a number of geological observations, Mr. Jukes used his notes in elucidation of the more copious remarks of other explorers, so as to form in his own mind a general conception of the physical structure of that great continent. This conception he now endeavours to convey to the reader. An abstract, however, of the survey has been twice read before scientific bodies;—the British Association, and the Geological Society.

*The Unwar versus the Producer; or, Free Trade Illustrated.* By John Bell.—Mr. Bell breaks a lance—adroitly, but he does break it—against the disciples of Free Trade. The ground of the whole controversy on the true principles of exchange has, he affirms, been mistaken. The dispute and the antagonism, he says, are not between class and class, mer-

chant and cultivator, but between consumer and producer.—We cannot see that there is any discovery here. Our memory is at fault if the leaders in the late agitations did not put the question before the public on this ground. With respect to Mr. Bell's defence of the superior position of the labourer in the seventeenth century compared with that of his fellow in the nineteenth, we might easily dispute his alleged facts; but we think the comparison he institutes, such as it is, is one on which a judgment will generally be pronounced contrary to that arrived at by its author.

*Adult Schools: A Letter to the Lord Bishop of Norwich on the Establishment of Adult Schools in Agricultural Districts.* By a Country Curate.—No doubt the country curate is right. There are many evils in the career of the agricultural labourer after he quits the village school, some of which might be provided against. But adult peasants seldom like going to school, even when it is disguised under the more imposing name of a literary institution. However, we should have no objection to a trial of the curate's plan, if he can prevail upon the bishop to provide the means.

*The Bible Class Book, for Schools, Pupils, Teachers, and Families; with Explanatory Notes on Places, Customs, Arts, Antiquities, and Natural History; and Poems on the subjects of the Lessons.* By Charles Baker.—The title of this thick volume is enough.

*Adams's Pocket Descriptive Guide to the Environs of the Metropolis, in a circuit of thirty miles round London.* By E. L. Blanchard.—This is an elegant and convenient little guide-book, very superior to the usual run of such works,—informed with a literary spirit and a love of nature and art. It is embellished with a map of the country round, copied from the Ordnance Survey, and with sectional maps of the river from Windsor to the Nore.

NEW EDITIONS.—*Parker's Glossary of Terms used in Grecian, Roman, Italian and Gothic Architecture.*—Every edition of this useful work has been an improvement on the preceding; and this, the fifth, has been revised throughout by Professor Willis, than whom no one more competent could be found. From the first, the authorities referred to, both in the text and in the illustrations, were of the best. Considerable attention has now been paid to mediæval carpentry,—a useful addition,—and there are no less than seventeen hundred illustrations. Another of those rare phenomena, fifth editions, is exhibited in Prof. Sedgwick's *Discourse on the Studies of the University of Cambridge*;—and still more rare, a sixth edition has been arrived at by *The British Flora* of Sir W. Hooker and Mr. Arnott.—Mr. Bentley has completed the fourth edition of Prescott's *Conquest of Mexico*;—and a second edition is issued of *Moral and Metaphysical Philosophy*. Part I. 'Ancient Philosophy,' by the

Rev. F. D. Maurice, which appeared originally in 'The Encyclopedia Metropolitana.'—*The Scenes and Legends of the North of Scotland*, by Hugh Miller, and *Black's Picturesque Tourist through England and Wales* have arrived at second editions.—Anderson's *Guide to the Highlands and Islands of Scotland* at a third edition.—Mr. Bohn has completed, in eight volumes, *Lodge's Portraits of Illustrious Personages of Great Britain*; and added to his 'Illustrated Library' a reprint of *The Races of Man*, by Dr. Pickering, a member of the 'United States' Exploring Expedition,—and *Three Courses and a Dessert*, with fifty illustrations, by George Cruikshank. He has added to his 'Classical Library' Smart's translation of *Horace*.—Messrs. Chapman & Hall have issued cheap editions of Bulwer's *Godolphin* and Dickens's *American Notes*.—A third edition has appeared of Arnot's *Memoirs of the late James Halley*. To the 'Phoenix Library' has been added Hall on *The Effects of Civilization*, and *The Revolt of the Bees*;—to the 'Shilling Series,' Irving's *Tour on the Prairies*, *Sketch-Book*, *Conquest of Granada*, *Spain*, (2 vols.), and *Tales of a Traveller*;—to the 'Railway Library,' *Longbeard*, by C. Mackay, and *Hope Leslie*, by Miss Sedgwick;—to the 'Parlour Library,' *Castelnau*, by G. P. R. James, and *Pictures of the First French Revolution*,—being extracts or 'Episodes' as culled from Lamarine's 'History of the Girondists.' Mr. Churton has published a translation of Ledru-Rollin's *Decline of England*,—and commenced a series in which, as we announced some time since, he proposes to reproduce, "condensed and re-written," the works of "standard authors"—of living writers. The legal right to do this is questionable;—of the moral right there can be no question;—therefore, though copies of the works are before us, we cannot consent to aid him even to the extent of an announcement.

## LIST OF NEW BOOKS.

An Old Country House, by Author of 'Gambler's Wife,' 12. 11s. 6d.  
Anderson's (H. & P.) Guide to Highlands of Scotland, 3rd ed. 10s. 6d.  
Chambers's Papers for the People, Vol. IV. or. 8vo. 1s. 6d. hds.  
Claude, or the Double Sacrifice, by Mary Mulesworth, 2 vols. 12. 1s.  
Cox & Morgan's County Court Extension Act, 1864, 2d. ed. 2s. 6d.  
Davis's (A. S.) The Great Harpuaia, Vol. I. or. 8vo. 8s. 6d.  
Davy's (Sir H.) Elements of Agricultural Chemistry, by Sheir, 5s.  
Deux Perroquets (Les), par Une Dame, 12mo. 4s. 6d.  
Eton Exempla Minora, new ed. revised, 12mo. 2s. 6d.  
Jesse's (J. H.) London and its celebrities, 2 vols. 8vo. 12. 5s. 6d.  
Joyce's (Rev. J.) Catechism of Nature, 19th ed. 12mo. 1s. 6d.  
Juvenile Englishman's Lib. Andersen's Swedish Brothers, 1s. 6d.  
Leslie's (Miss) Lady's New Receipt Book, 3rd ed. or. 8vo. 7s. 6d. cl.  
Lyte's (Rev. H.) Remains, with a Memoir, 8s. 6d. cl.  
Mayo's (Dr. W. S.) The Barber, or Mountaineer of the Alps, 10s. 6d.  
Martin's (Selina) Summary of Irish History, 2 vols. 12mo. 12s. 6d.  
Menck's (Rev. J. L.) Life and Religion of Mohammed, 10s. 6d. cl.  
Monro's (Rev. E.) True Stories of Cottagers, new ed. 12mo. 2s. 6d. cl.  
Mohammed, a Tragedy, by G. H. Miles, or. 8vo. 5s. 6d.  
Pictures of Rural Life in Austria, from Ger. by M. Newman, 31s. 6d.  
Page's (J.) Guide for Drawing the Acanthus, 4s. 12mo. 12s. 6d.  
Parlour Lib. Vol. 47. 'Northanger Abbey' and 'Persuasion,' 1s.  
Phillips's Propositions concerning Protection and Free Trade, 8s. 6d.  
Philo, an Evangelist, by the Author of 'Margaret,' or. 8vo. 6s. 6d.  
Prideaux's (C. A.) Guide to the Duties of Churchwardens, 5th ed. 6s.  
Railway Library, 'Grants (J.) The Romance of War,' 1st series, 1s.  
Royalists and Roundheads, or Days of Charles I. 3 vols. 12. 11s. 6d.  
Ross's (D.) Atomopathy and Homopathy, 12mo. 2s. 6d.  
Smith's (Albert) The Miscellany, or. 8vo. 1s. 6d.  
Wilberforce's (Archdeacon) Five Empires, 8th ed. 6s. 3d. cl.



## THE GREAT INDUSTRIAL EXHIBITION OF 1851 AND ITS PALACE OF GLASS.

As the year of preparation slips fast away, the vast idea of this great Exhibition begins to take palpable shapes and project definite shadows. Whatever share England herself may take in the great contest—in which the troops are all volunteers,—it is now abundantly clear that her trumpet has been answered from all the States, and that the lists which she has opened will be disputed by all the industrial armies, of the world. The challenger must put her powerful sinews to the strain, if she would hold her own against the universal spirit that she has evoked. Courier after courier is coming in to tell of the stir that is abroad; and amid the signals that are passing on every side, the ear already seems to hear the tread of nations on the march.

We presume they who, next to the national honour, are most concerned in the event,—on whose behalf this gage of peaceful battle was expressly flung down—are not deaf to what is doing. It is of the utmost importance to themselves that the manufacturers of England should look abroad and see how the world is arming.—As an example, let us refer them to the spirit in which our nearest neighbour and most powerful rival, France, is taking the field. There, the challenge has been accepted in the high sense in which it was given. M. Dupin has issued an address to the manufacturers and producers of that country, urging them to sustain the honour of their own industrial banner, and pointing out the arms which they can wield with most effect. “No living being,” he says, “is entitled to claim perfection for the arts useful to man. They are progressive in their very nature, and often when they are thought to be carried to the very highest point of excellence an unexpected discovery opens to them a new career. There are no longer mysteries in works enlightened by science; everywhere theory is sufficiently advanced to produce anew the discoveries of processes of which the simple result is made known. Such are the motives which should encourage us to exhibit to the world even our means of production. We

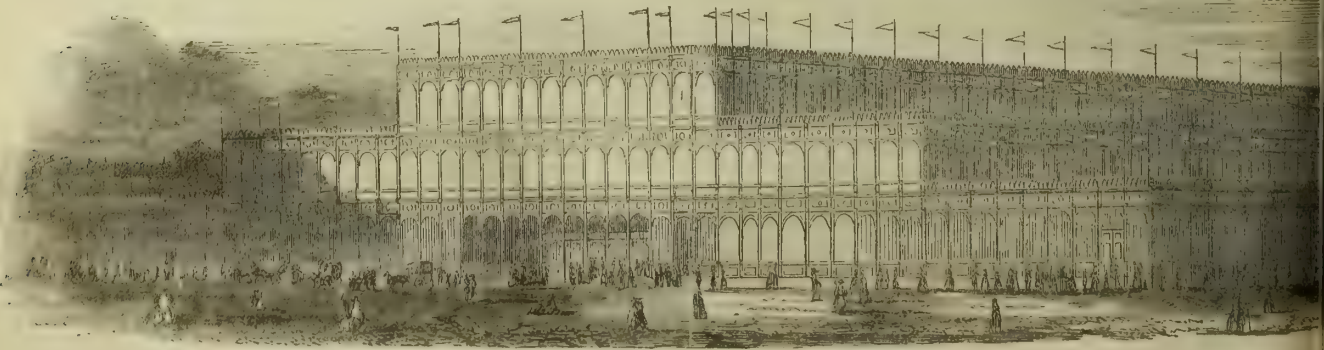
ought more especially to do this in a competition where our rivals will also show us theirs.” He then proceeds, as we have hinted, to point out the kinds of French products which may be most advantageously submitted to the great competition in London.—This document has been translated by the Westminster Local Committee for circulation in their own district and among the various provincial committees, because of the significant general hint and the various particular statements which it conveys.—Everywhere on the Continent of Europe the same spirit of honourable contest is aroused; and from beyond all the seas the heralds of coming industrial forces have been received by those who have the preparing of the lists and the presidency of the combat.

At head-quarters the arrangements are going rapidly forward, and all things announce the nearing of the event. The Commissioners have fixed the 31st of October as the last day when returns of demands for space from contending exhibitors are to be transmitted by local committees to the Executive Committee. During the past week meetings have been held, on successive days, at the Palace of Westminster, of the Metropolitan Local Commissioners representing various sectional interests, so far as they have been nominated by their respective local committees and appointed by Her Majesty's Commissioners. The chief object of these meetings was, to bring the several interests into friendly communication, with the view of facilitating a united action for the whole of the metropolis, and securing an adequate representation of its many and various branches of industry in the Exhibition. After all the class and other interested efforts made to disturb it, the feeling throughout the metropolis and the preparations in progress as its consequence are most satisfactory. We may add that the important question of accommodation for the working classes—who have an interest in this Exhibition second to none—has been kept practically in view. Col. Reid and Mr. A. Redgrave have been appointed a deputation for the purpose of obtaining information and making the necessary arrangements for enabling them to visit the Exhibition,—and for communicating on the subject with the proper

authorities in London, the Railway Companies, and the Local Committees. A register is to be opened at No. 1, Old Palace Yard, Westminster, by the Secretary of the Executive Committee, in which will be entered the names and addresses of persons disposed to provide accommodation for artisans from the country; and it is proposed to allow copies of this register to be obtained by all the Local Committees. Other arrangements are under consideration for guiding the working classes on their arrival by the trains to the lodgings which they may select. We believe the register will contain a column in which the nature of, and charges for, the accommodation that each party proposes to afford will be entered.

Meantime, the building for this great gathering is steadily advancing towards completion; and as all its details are conclusively arranged, and the ultimate figure can now be precisely shown, the time has come for us to present our readers with the representation of Mr. Paxton's Palace of Glass. For this week we shall content ourselves with giving, what will interest our readers most, a Perspective View of the whole,—reserving for our next number, a ground plan and certain elevations for the purpose of exhibiting architectural details. We think our readers will agree with us that the gentlemen who look out of their windows into the Park may consider that their view has acquired another ornamental, and at the same time appropriate, feature; and we will furnish some descriptive particulars of this edifice which we think may quiet the fears of those who anticipated ruin to the Park from the process of construction.—The contract, our readers know, has been taken by Messrs. Fox, Henderson & Co.; and their high character is a guarantee that the work will be faithfully carried out according to the details now about to be given, and to the final satisfaction of all the parties who have so long been disputing about this building.

First of all, let us congratulate our readers that the fifteen millions of bricks with which it was sought to encumber this “people's ground” has been got rid of; and that the huge dome whose idea remains to signalize the soaring ambition of the Building Committee is consigned to the sole col-



PERSPECTIVE VIEW OF THE BUILDING



lection of castles in the air,—or must be looked for in that traditional limbo of lost things and aspirations, the Moon. Nevertheless, this construction will have its "great feature," too. Its great (and most appropriate) features will be, that two out of its three sole materials are articles of modern use and adaptation, marking the change of architectural data and the progress of the art,—and that, taking the gigantic size of the structure into account, the fact that this edifice will be put together and covered in by the 1st of January next will itself present a striking example of English ingenuity and executive skill.—We supply some further details from an authentic source.

The building will be 1,348 feet long (why not three feet more, that it might have symbolized in its figure the great year to which the event will give its name?) by 408 feet broad and 66 feet high:—and another of its peculiar features (and a comfort for the alarmists) is, that it can be entirely prepared away from its destined site, and will want merely putting together on the ground. The long line is crossed by a transept 108 feet high, which will inclose a row of elm trees now standing at a point so near the centre as to divide the length into 948 feet on the one side and 900 feet on the other. In addition to the timber for joists, flooring, &c., the glass and supports of iron comprise the entire structure. The columns are similar in form throughout. The same may be said of each of the sash-bars and of each pane of glass. The number of columns, varying in length from 14 feet 6 inches to 20 feet, is 3,230. There are 2,244 cast-iron girders for supporting galleries and roofs, besides 1,123 intermediate bearers or binders, 358 wrought-iron trusses for supporting roof, 34 miles of gutters for carrying water to the columns, 202 miles of sash-bars, and 900,000 superficial feet of glass. The building will stand on about 18 acres of ground, giving, with the galleries, an exhibiting surface of 21 acres; but provision will be made for a large increase of galleries if necessary. The gallery will be 24 feet wide, and will extend nearly a mile. The length of tables or table space for exhibiting will be about 8 miles. An idea may be formed of the unprecedented quantity of materials that will be em-

ployed in this edifice from the fact, that the glass alone will weigh upwards of 400 tons.

As already explained, the exhibiting surface will occupy a space of about 21 acres. The total cubic contents of the building will be 33,000,000 feet. The total amount of contract for use, waste, and maintenance is 79,800*l.*,—or very little more than nine-sixteenths of a penny per foot cube. The total value of the building, were it to be permanently retained, would be 150,000*l.*,—or rather less than one penny and one-twelfth of a penny per foot cube.

Here let us pause, to save ourselves future trouble, and answer by anticipation a charge which we shall be sure to find flourishing in the budget of the objectors unless they shall think the fact of its having been answered a reasonable ground for withdrawing it. Of the row of trees which the transept takes partially under its protection, two fall without the limits of the inclosure; and we shall in all probability be told that these two have been ruined by the works for the great Industrial Exhibition. We inform the objectors at once that these are two old trees which the Commissioners found wholly decayed and nearly cut down, as they are now seen; that they received them thus dead and maimed from the Commissioners of Woods and Forests—to which department we refer for further particulars.

As the objectors to the Park in general, who since that question was settled have transferred some of their objections to the plan of the building in particular, have sought to throw cold water on the latter in the shape of the rains without and the condensed vapour within which were to make the ground a marsh and the atmosphere a mist, we must not omit to speak of an ingenious method by which Mr. Paxton provides against all risk of the Exhibition being thus swamped. The glass roof consists of a series of "ridges and valleys," exactly eight feet wide. Along the sloping sides without and within the water is conducted into gutters at the head of each column, whence it escapes through the columns themselves. In no instance has the water further than twelve feet to run before it is delivered into the valleys. We may mention that the temporary offices exhibit some of the actual roofing. The provision for

ventilation is, according to Mr. Paxton, a very peculiar part of his plan. The whole building, he says, will be fitted with *louvre*, or luffer, boards,—so placed as to admit air but exclude rain. The roof and south side of the building will be covered with canvas,—and in very hot weather it may be watered and the interior kept cool. In the transept alone there will be above 5,000 superficial feet of ventilators provided,—and it will be found that if Mr. Paxton has erred at all in respect of the means of ventilation, there will be too much rather than too little. By covering the south side and roof of the building with canvas, a gentle light will be thrown over the whole of the building,—and the whole of the glass of the northern side of the building will give a direct light to the interior.—In conclusion, we may state, as marking the rapid progress which is making in carrying out the plans here detailed, that on this our day of publication we believe the first castings will have been shipped by canal from Dudley and Wolverhampton.

So much for this edifice for the great Industrial Exhibition—this Palace of Glass,—which will be an ornament to the Park, harmonizing with its sylvan character, readily put together, readily removed, suitable to many popular purposes while it remains, and far cheaper than the great unborn dome as originally projected. We are yet of opinion that even a sum of 25,000*l.* less would have furnished all the accommodation that was absolutely demanded by the occasion; but, as we have formerly said, after the Babylonian standard set up by the Building Committee,—with the shadow of the dome lying vast upon the imaginations of men,—no projector dare have planned down to the scale of the mere need. We are content with the compromise, which wears a very beautiful form. The eagerness of every one to supply something to the materials of this edifice, while it is a proof of the growing interest that is gathering around the great project which gives it birth, will, we are led to understand, probably take something, too, from the estimated cost.—Finally, we have sanguine hope that in the near prospect and influence of the event all parties will become finally reconciled to the magnificent scheme of the Industrial Exhibition,—and to its Palace of Glass.





## A CLOUD-PICTURE,

*Seen from Hyde Park on the Evening of August the 23rd.*

OFTEN, from quarries of the black rain-clouds  
 Heaven's architect, the Wind, abruptly builds  
 Brief mockeries of the world on which we walk;  
 Suspending them awhile, that we may gaze  
 And wonder,—then to formless voids reducing  
 A beauty that might fill the eternal years,  
 And flush the unborn ages with delight.  
 —Such have I just beheld, peopling the wide  
 And crystal emptiness of the evening air.

Above the level of the open park,  
 Westward, up rose a wood of vapoury trees,  
 With some, at intervals, of taller growth,  
 Breaking the line across the broad, blank sky,—  
 And others that stood out from all the rest,  
 With tier o'er tier of foliage, lightly poised  
 On their supporting branches, while the tuft  
 Of topmost leaves seemed trembling to and fro;  
 So that the trees upon the ground beneath  
 Looked not more actual; and the mind flew out  
 Into that dim aerial land of calm,  
 And found itself in forests cool and deep  
 That have their roots in unsubstantial air,  
 And ride upon the lapsings of the wind.  
 Thence on towards the North the vapour swept  
 Upwards, like rising ground—barren and rough,  
 With gorges where the gloom of coming night  
 Fermented, while the day yet reigned above;  
 And crags that harboured only crag-like firs  
 As in strange sympathy: then, higher still,  
 Mountains, with peaks and long precipitous sides  
 Covered with clutching moss, where all things else  
 Would slide with horrible smoothness to the earth.—  
 Solidly based, as on the solid ground,  
 And looking like the granite cliffs upheaved  
 By Time, the slowly-working Titan-god,  
 Were these cloud-mountains; on the slopes whereof,  
 Which led down to the glens within their shade,  
 What seemed old towers of warrior-castles clung,  
 Lonely, and bare, and sterile, and forlorn,  
 Battered, and leaning over the abyss,  
 Yet lifting a defiant darkness still  
 Into the heavens.

Such were the sights I saw  
 Movelessly hanging on the sky, and fixed  
 For a brief space; but soon a change came on,  
 As twilight slowly deepened into dusk.—  
 The edges of the trees grew indistinct;  
 Each into each the sharp leaves swooned and died;  
 The massive branches vaguely slanted down  
 Into grey ruin; and the mountain-peaks  
 Collapsed and rolled together, filling up  
 The hollows and the valleys, and annulling  
 Towers, crags, and crag-like firs:—so that, at length,  
 A shapeless mass of cloud (the chaos-heap  
 Of that lost world of beauty) lay outstretched  
 Along the vast horizon; while, above,  
 A depth of azure darkness—flushed even yet  
 With kisses of the daylight—bore the large  
 And golden moon of August on its breast.

EDMUND OLLIER.

## THE BRITISH ASSOCIATION.

IN our notice of the proceedings of this body at the close of our Report of the Meeting at Birmingham last year, we expressed a hope that the next Meeting might show more evidence of original research, and exhibit less prominently the mere desire of applying known truths to useful ends than then prevailed. To a certain extent our hope has been satisfied; since, in nearly all the Sections of the British Association at Edinburgh papers have been communicated which record the progress of original inquiries, and many of them in new directions. As we have before remarked, a well grounded fear has long been felt by observing and deep-thinking men, that the character of the scientific mind of Great Britain was suffering from the tendency, which increased to a disease, of valuing all experimental research by its worth in the manufacturing market. If we examine the Reports of the British Association for the last three or four years, we shall find that each year the growth of this desire has become more strongly manifested. It is, therefore, pleasing to find an abatement of this form of fever,—arguing a return to a more healthful condition. The mechanical genius of this country has, for the present, nearly exhausted all the old truths; and it is craving for new ones on the application of which it may exert its Saxon industry.

Although the publication of the Synopsis of 'Reports requested and Researches recommended from 1831 to 1848 inclusive' has not had the effect of producing any report on those subjects on which reports had been desired, we are disposed to think that it has awakened a spirit of original research among the members.

The Edinburgh Meeting has not been distinguished by any discovery of particular importance;—but many highly interesting facts have been communicated. In the Physical and Chemical Sections evidence has been afforded of the exercise of thought and industry on points of abstract science, far more decidedly than has of late been the case; and on some questions the most searching examinations into the more mysterious operations of the most subtle forces of nature have been prosecuted with apparently marked success. In the Sections of Natural History and Geology there have been also far more real scientific induction, and evidences of a more logical system of deduction, than has for some period marked their philosophy. It is no less pleasing to observe that the Mechanical Section has been rescued from the obloquy into which it had fallen, owing to its having been allowed to degenerate into a medium merely for advertising patent stoves and smoke-consuming apparatus.

The British Association has existed for twenty

years; and the results of its labours, as they may be read in the history of modern science, have been satisfactory. It is not only in the printed record of its proceedings that we must look for evidence of the benefits which have grown out of this annual congress. Its influence has been exerted on the Governments of our own and other countries; and inquiries of the highest character, requiring extensive funds and widely separated means of observation, have been carried out in a manner previously unknown in the history of nations. Magnetic, meteorological, and astronomical observations have been extended from the Siberian Steppes to the southern capes of the old and new continents, from Canada to China, and from our own Islands to the Isles of the South Atlantic and Pacific Oceans. Russia, Austria, France, Germany, Italy, America, and the native states of India have all united in a bond of amity to learn by their co-operation something of the laws which regulate the great phenomena of Nature. Again, the annual meetings have been the means of bringing together men of congenial tastes from all parts of the world; and those who have been engaged on similar inquiries have been thus enabled to compare notes, and reap advantages which could scarcely have been afforded but for these gatherings. Under these influences has grown up a band of young philosophers, who promise to wear worthily the mantles of the elder prophets of nature. Twenty years have done their natural work; and many of those who were active in the young days of the Association are not now to be found in its ranks,—or, if found, are weary with their work and seeking for repose. In the meeting of which we now write, there were many melancholy indications of this law of decline. Old familiar faces were missed and old accustomed voices were silent in the several Sections. Many of those present, who have left "footprints on the sands of time," show in the scorings of time evidences that they cannot be expected much longer to continue active members of this congress of science. It is cheering to know that among the ranks of young observers and experimentalists who were to be found at Edinburgh are men of enlarged views and full of energy, to whom they have bequeathed their task, and who will fully carry out the spirit of those intentions to which the British Association owes its birth.

One point demands the attention of the General and Sectional Committees,—if it is desired that the business of the Association should maintain its character on the Continent:—we allude to the growing practice of allowing papers to be read in the Sections which have been previously published. The best communication to the Physical Section at the last meeting had just been published in the *Philosophical Magazine*,—and several others were already before the world. Some of the communi-



cations in the Chemical Section have appeared in the journals of scientific societies, at home or on the Continent; and the same is true of many of those made to the other Sections. Where new facts have been obtained,—or where the author has found fair occasion for altering any theoretical view which he may have previously published,—there can be no objection to a repetition or correction of his statement; or if any of the results obtained can be exhibited by experiment or otherwise—provided these are considered sufficiently interesting—they may again engage the attention of the Sections. It was much regretted by many of the members that even one of the evenings appropriated usually to a lecture on some new and important point of science was devoted to a subject which has been several times brought before the minor institutions of the metropolis. The eloquence and popularity of the lecturer were not sufficient to justify so great a departure from a good rule. Unless the British Association assert for itself a high and unvarying standard,—rejecting communications, no matter by whom offered, which have not the value of originality,—it must gradually lose its character, and become a mere exhibition of dilletanteism,—or, worse, an itinerary advertising medium.

These scientific meetings have a difficulty to contend with,—but a difficulty which a small amount of tact would enable the authors of papers to overcome. The majority of the assemblage in the Sections know but little of the sciences brought under discussion; and the wearying detail of mathematical formulæ and extensive series of chemical analyses should be avoided. These are matters which cannot be remembered by even the professors of the sciences:—they frankly confess that they cannot discuss them off-hand. Why not, then, confine the communications to clear statements of facts, without the obtrusion of so much abstract learning?

With these hints, we must conclude our notice of the Edinburgh Meeting of the British Association in 1850. It has been a good and a pleasant meeting; and from the spirit manifested among many of the most active members, we think we may predict that in the interval between this and the meeting at Ipswich much work of high scientific value will be done. It was intimated in the General Committee that the period of the meeting in 1851 was to be adjusted to meet the convenience of that gathering of foreigners and others which will take place in the metropolis on the occasion of the Great Industrial Exhibition. This was the only notice taken of this gigantic undertaking; and when we remember that the signatures of nearly all the members who assembled at Birmingham in 1849 were given as evidence of their approval of the then embryo scheme, we are somewhat surprised at the omission,—no doubt unintentional,—of any further mention of an event which links into a common bond the science and industry of all nations.

#### SYLLOGISTIC SYSTEMS.

THERE is but one of what I call Sir W. Hamilton's misapprehensions which I shall notice now,—and that only to prevent your readers from making fruitless inquiries. He states that a volume of the 'Cambridge Philosophical Transactions' has recently appeared. This I am pretty certain is not the case. The copy of my Memoir which I had the honour to forward to him was one of the extra copies which the courtesy of the Society allows to its contributors as soon as their several papers are printed. The paging, by which Sir W. Hamilton cites, shows that he used that copy, or one of the same issue:—this paging, of course, will be altered when the paper takes its place in the volume.

The rest of Sir W. Hamilton's letter I shall dispose of, so far as I may deem it necessary, if I live to publish another edition of my work on Logic.

I am, &c. A. DE MORGAN.

University College, August 25.

#### A PLEA FOR THE POETS OF THE MILLION.

Ah! yes, you do but tell me what I know:—  
I stand here at the mighty mountain's base,  
And see the great world singers sitting calm  
Among the mists and sunbeams up aloft,

High up, enthroned beneath the o'er-arching heaven.  
And between me and them an interval  
Of rock and chasm and cloud and precipice,  
And surging torrents and hot lava floods,  
Saith—"Climb not—in that strife were shame and death."

Then wherefore dare to sing? you ask. Go out  
Into the orchard closes, good my friend,  
And ask the bee and ask the grasshopper  
Why they sing, they the creatures of an hour.

Ask why beneath the same soft loving sky  
The artist nightingale woos Time to stay  
With witchery of subtlest cadences,  
And the poor sparrow twitters overhead  
In self-asserted insignificance.

We are God's creatures all; our natures take  
His fashioning, and follow out the course  
His finger traceth:—one, a noble stream,  
Rolling its solemn waters to the sea  
With a grand muffled thunder, as it spoke  
To God alone amidst the solitudes;—  
Another, but a little wayside brook,  
Bubbling and babbling as it frets its way  
Among the reeds and grasses:—both alike  
Still flowing, and still singing as they flow,  
In their adjudged vocation. Love them well,  
Stern Friend, those great crowned spirits sitting  
there,

In the full glory:—they exact thy love,  
Vicegerents as they are of God's behests,  
Prophets of truth and beauty, His elect.—  
But scorn not me because I stand below,  
Armed only with my humbleness, and sing  
Without a thought of crowns or love, or praise,  
But from a natural impulse thereunto,—  
Which, like God's other creatures under heaven,  
I question not and scan not, but obey.

A POET OF THE MILLION.

#### THE GREAT SALT LAKE.

THE American papers publish the particulars of a report received from Capt. Stansbury, an officer of the Topographical Engineer Corps, who is engaged in an examination of the Valley of the Great Salt Lake and a hydrographic survey of that singular sheet of water. The despatch comes down to the 16th of March. Capt. Stansbury says:—"The provision train was despatched down the east shore of the Salt Lake, under Lieut. Howland, with orders to report to Lieut. Gunnison; whilst I, accompanied by Dr. Blake, with a party of four men and sixteen mules, addressed myself to make the tour around the western side of the lake.—We were provided with one soldier's tent, and one wall tent fly, for protection from rains; but they were of little use, as but in one or two instances could poles be procured for stretching them, so utterly destitute of timber was the region through which we passed. We found that the whole western shore of the lake consists of immense level plains of soft mud, inaccessible, within many miles of the water's edge, to the feet of horses or mules, being traversed frequently by meandering rills of salt and sulphur water, which apparently sink, and seem to imbue and saturate the whole soil, rendering it miry and treacherous. The plains are but little elevated above the present level of the lake, and have, without doubt, at one time not far distant, formed a part of it; for it is evident that a rise of but a few inches will at once cover the greater portion of these extensive areas of land with water again. I do not think I hazard much by saying that a rise of one foot in the lake would nearly, if not quite, double its present area. The plains are for the most part entirely denuded of vegetation, except occasionally, patches of artemisia and grease wood; and they glitter in the sunlight, presenting the appearance of water so perfectly that it is almost impossible for one to convince himself that he is not on the immediate shore of the lake itself. This is owing to the crystallization of minute portions of salt on the surface of the mud, and the oozy slime occasioned by the complete saturation of the soil with moisture. From this cause also arises a mirage, which is greater here than I have ever witnessed elsewhere, distorting objects in the most grotesque manner, and giving rise to optical illusions almost beyond belief. I anticipate serious annoyance from this cause in making the triangulation. In an estimated distance of 150 miles on one part of the route, fresh water and grass were found only in

one spot, about midway of this stretch; and we were obliged to subsist our animals, that is, to keep life in them, by serving them out a pint of water each, night and morning, taken from the India-rubber bags packed upon their backs. The first part of this desert was about 75 miles in extent, and occupied us two days and a half to cross it, travelling all day and a greater part of the night, walking a great portion of the way to relieve the mules, who were sinking under the want of sustenance and water. In the latter portion of this first desert, we crossed a field of solid salt; which lay encrusted upon the level mud plain so thick that it bore up the mules loaded with their packs so perfectly, that they walked upon it as if it had been a sheet of solid ice, slightly covered with snow. The whole plain was as level as a floor.

We estimated this plain to be, at the least, ten miles in length, to seven in width, and the thickness of the salt at from one half to three quarters of an inch. A strip of some three miles in width had been previously crossed, but it was not thick or hard enough to prevent the animals from sinking through it at every step. The salt in the solid field was perfectly crystallized, and where it had not become mixed with the soil was as white and fine as the finest specimens of Salina table salt. Some of it was collected and preserved. After crossing the field of salt, we struck upon a fine little stream of running water, with plenty of grass, lying at the foot of a range of mountains, which seemed to form the western boundary to the immediate valley of the Lake. Here we were obliged to halt for three days, to give our animals an opportunity to recruit. The latter part of the desert was about seventy miles in extent, and was passed in two days, by prolonging our marches far into the night. Had we not found grass and water midway of this barren waste both animals and men must have perished. We were, as I have reason to believe, the first party of white men that ever succeeded in making the entire circuit of the lake by land. I have understood that it was once circumnavigated by canoes, in early times, by some trappers in search of beaver, but no attempt by land has ever been successful. From the knowledge gained by this Expedition, I am of opinion that the size of the lake has been much exaggerated; and, from observation, and what I have learned from the Mormons, who have made one or two excursions upon it in a small skiff, I am induced to believe that its depth has been much overrated. That it has no outlet, is now demonstrated beyond doubt; and I am convinced, from what I have seen, that it can never be of the slightest use for the purposes of navigation. The water, for miles out from the shore, wherever I have seen it, is but a few inches in depth, and if there be any deep water, it must be in the middle. The Utah River (or the Jordan, as the Mormons call it,) is altogether too insignificant and too crooked to be of any use commercially. The greatest depth of the Utah Lake that we have found is sixteen feet; so that, for the purpose of a connected line of navigation neither the river nor the lake can be of the slightest utility. Such, at least, is my present impression. Further examination of the Salt Lake may perhaps modify this opinion with regard to the latter. The river connecting these two lakes is forty-eight miles in length."

#### OUR WEEKLY GOSSIP.

THE death of Louis Philippe in old age and in exile is not an event to call for any particular memorial from a Journal dedicated to literature, science and the fine arts:—yet it cannot be passed over without some allusion to his services of that kind which fall properly within the field of our remark. Happily, these are of a character to which we can allude without trenching on any of the debatable questions that arise on the more solemn and responsible acts of this monarch's eventful life. The establishment of a Museum at Versailles, though a work not done altogether in good taste,—the great public buildings which he erected, or completed, in Paris,—and the monuments of the past which he took under his charge, with a lively sense of their beauty and importance,—constitute his claim to a notice in our columns. Paris represents three of her rulers conspicuously in her streets



—Louis XIV., Napoleon, and Louis Philippe. The age of Charles II. is hardly more apparent in the city of London than is the influence of Louis Philippe in the squares and open spaces of Paris. He was fond of Art. The Spanish school attached to the Louvre was of his formation; and the Standish Collection—a gift from a countryman of our own—was made by him as accessible to the people of France as if it had been given to the nation and not to an individual. When we look at the buildings in London erected under the influence of George IV., and compare them with those in Paris erected under the influence of Louis Philippe, we feel the insignificance of the Guelph and the comparative grandeur of the Bourbon.—It is a comfort to us to escape into this phase of his life and character from all the strange and melancholy morals that gather crowding around the old and unceremonious monarch's dying bed.

The telegraphic wires between Dover and Cape Grinez were laid down and got into operation on Wednesday last, and despatches are now passing by their means. The distance is twenty-one miles from point to point. The weather being extremely fine, the whole wires were submerged without accident, and it is supposed that they are placed beyond the reach of disturbance from marine animals or cross currents. A specimen of this wire in its gutta percha armour lies before us. For all purposes of communication Paris is now within five minutes' distance of London:—so that the next revolution in the Place de la Concorde may be known in Manchester, Glasgow and Aberdeen sooner than in the *bancuise*. A mistake seems to have got abroad as to the terms on which the establishment of this telegraph has been secured. We know from the best authority which the subject admits that the Messrs. Brett, of Hanover Square, have the exclusive privilege, from both Governments, for ten years.

Ministers and governments, in their desire to make interest and secure support, may neglect their duties to the deserving men who serve mankind in other ways than their own,—but it is well that whenever they do this, the public—who are the parties directly interested—should undertake to repair the wrong. This manner of reproof is always open in the case of unmerited slight,—and whether it prove effective or not as a rebuke to forgetfulness or self-interest on the part of those in office, it is a dignified expression of the public feeling. We are glad to hear that there is some intention of making a demonstration of this kind in favour of Mr. George Walker. Few men in our day have established a better claim than he to the gratitude of the inhabitants of London. At the hazard of his life and to the serious detriment of his practice as a surgeon, Mr. Walker has succeeded in effecting a most important reform. In the public service, he has descended into the grave-yards of the metropolis with a boldness and self-devotion worthy of a Howard. He made himself familiar with all their horrors; that he might bring back from the charnel-house the secret of those endemic pests which rage so fearfully in the more crowded districts. To the energy with which he conducted these investigations and to the lucidity and power with which he laid the results before the world, we trace the first awakening of public interest in the question of extramural interments,—now decided in favour of that public. To his unwearied industry and tact, aided by a liberal press, we are indebted for the powerful convictions which afterwards forced the Government to put an end to such abominations, and interpose its authority in order to guard against their return. It might reasonably be imagined that the courageous reformer would be employed to see his reforms carried into effect. But the State adopts Mr. Walker's ideas—not Mr. Walker. Others are appointed to execute his plans, so laboriously and painfully prepared. To repair in some sort this wrong, as we have said,—or at least to offer a graceful and becoming protest against it, is the object, we believe, of the proposed testimonial.

Last week the seventh annual meeting of the British Archaeological Association was held in Lancashire:—Manchester and Lancaster being the stations whence the Archaeological mind and body

expatriated over the country. Mr. James Heywood was the president. The Cathedral in the former place and Lancaster Castle in the latter formed of course objects of examination. Visits to Whalley, Ribchester, Furness Abbey, Hornby Castle, Chetham's Hospital and Library, &c. diversified the proceedings. Among papers of more importance read, was one by Mr. Pettigrew, the vice-president, in which, at this late period of the Society's existence, he undertook to inform the members as to the objects for which they are associated.—It does not appear that on this occasion Mr. Pettigrew was accompanied by his mummy.

We have done a wrong to the English penny-a-liner,—and yet not much. He has grown, as we anticipated, his miracles for the present season,—and already we have a variety which, though it gives him no claim to originality, yet exhibits a higher ambition than the prolonged cucumber or the ponderous pike. It confirms, however, our view of the great superiority of his American brother over himself, that he has had to go to America for his variety; but it is something to praise, after the long monotony of his exertions, that he can at length change his models, even though he borrows them. The especial genius of the English penny-a-liner is still strongly marked in the new theme of his adoption. Our readers, and all readers of newspapers, well know that his leading idea is, extension. He has no notion of the sublime exaggerations which make the American penny-a-liner half a poet and almost a wit. An inch or two more to a cucumber or a pound or two more to a pike fulfil to his notion the conditions of greatness. It is this poverty of thought which limits him consciously in the exercise of his aspirations,—and it was this fancy of his that led him for a time to the Nelson monument. Our readers will understand that there must be measure even in hyperbole. A vegetable eight inches long, may, by practice, which makes the conscience callous, be extended to twenty, but no penny-a-liner dare produce a cucumber one hundred feet long:—a fish weighing a pound may be multiplied by twelve, but no paragraph-monger would venture to make the multiplier fifty:—the ordinary age of man may by a daring caterer for the gaping newspaper column be stretched to the liberal limit of one hundred and fifty, but in no moment of penny-a-lining calumny dare a writer claim for any modern individual deceased the years of Methuselah. This shackles a genius which has no other form for the aggrandisement of its works than figures that imply bulk,—and when the cucumber had grown as long as any man dare make it, in a happy moment it suggested the Nelson column because it was tall.

The same mental view has governed the choice of the new monster in looking over the American assortment,—and we must do the English paragraphist the justice to say that he has gained materially also in the picturesque. The pike has been exchanged for the sea-serpent,—an animal long in itself, and suggesting, as everybody knows, the idea of infinity. To be sure, fully to carry out the latter idea, it should have its tail in its mouth,—and this we do not think the English penny-a-liner would ever consent to, as it would diminish his idea of prolongation. He is too matter-of-fact to sacrifice material for mystical length. Any way, however, this is an immense advance. Coiled or extended, a sea-serpent is a far more curious monster than a pike of any assignable number of pounds avoirdupois. Accordingly, the new favourite is going the round of the coast and of the papers; and, with a praiseworthy caution and also appropriately—he has been produced first on the coast of Ireland. Here, if we mistake not, he has been seen in two places at once,—thereby impeaching the Irish proverb which limits that possibility to birds. As the penny-a-liner gets bolder, it is probable that we may have the stranger in the Thames. If any paragraphist, on the strength of the name, dare put him in the Serpentine, we think the paragraph should be produced at the Great Industrial Exhibition as fully entitled to any prize which may be thought due to this species of manufacture.

Among the batch of acts which received the royal assent at the close of the recent session of

Parliament, was the new law for enabling mayors and town councils to establish Public Libraries and Museums of Natural History.—The terms, as finally settled, may be again stated. The act empowers the mayor of any municipal town with a population of ten thousand or upwards to take steps for ascertaining the wishes of the burgesses in the matter; and the council agreeing thereto, to impose a local rate of not more than a halfpenny in the pound for any single year to defray the necessary expenses. The libraries and museums so created are to remain the indefeasible property of the inhabitants,—and are to be open to the public at all convenient hours, free of charge or other improper restriction.

By a misprint in our paper of last week we are made to say of Mr. Westwood what certainly we never intended,—and what it will have been seen at once that we never could have intended, inasmuch as it involves a contradiction in terms. We could scarcely mean to characterize his tone as *dry* and *sportive* in the same breath. As our readers, however, have not the same means of knowing what we did as what we did not intend, it may be as well to say that what we wrote of Mr. Westwood's Muse was, that she had “a *dryad* and *sportive* tone.”

For three days the circus-like Church of St. Paul in Frankfurt has resounded with the echoes of many tongues. To the Peace Congress had come men from the east and the west, the north and the south; and a painter might have studied costumes and characters in the aisles and galleries. Here the broad and bearded face of the native Teuton,—there the thick lips and black skin of the Liberian negro; the lean, hatchet-like visage of the Yankee looked keener by the side of the rich olive complexion and dark curls of the Italian; the Englishman's soft and jowled countenance found a good contrast in the Roman nosé and sedate expression of the Red Indian; the vivacious Frank was well relieved by the bulky and phlegmatic Sclavé; and the supple Jew had a noble foil in the proud Magyar. The audience of many nations filled the vast amplitude of the church. All listened attentively to the speakers,—at least those who had the good fortune to understand the languages spoken. Many seemed to be ardent believers in the doctrines held forth,—a few appeared to be doubtful,—but not one seemed to be uninterested. English was the tongue chiefly spoken from the tribune; French and German were a good deal employed; and in the intervals of debate—if that can be called debate where no differences of opinion are stated—the hubbub was enriched by the addition of Hebrew, Polish, Tuscan, Choctaw, and Hungarian. Herr Jaup, ex-minister in Hesse-Darmstadt, presided; Mr. Cobden, Mr. Elihu Burritt, M.M. de Cormenin and Girardin, Herren Weil and Bodenstedt, and Rabbi Stein were the chief orators. Other persons of note and notoriety were present:—as the Baron von Reden and General Haynau. The Baron von Reden, the most eminent statistic in Germany, furnished the Congress with some startling facts with respect to European armies as now existing. The loss to civilization by our armed peace in mere money is nearly a hundred and twenty million pounds sterling a year! M. Bastiat may well say that the ogre War costs as much for his digestion as for his meals. Mr. Cobden quoted, as an instance of mutual disarming, the compact entered into between England and the United States in 1815 with regard to the defences of the Great Lakes. On Erie, Michigan, and Ontario one vessel only of each nation was left. Quarrels at once ceased on the lakes; the vessels left had nothing to do, and have gradually disappeared. Only one crazy war-vessel now floats on those waters. The most picturesque feature of the sitting was the speech of the American Indian. He said, he was the first of his race who had travelled so far east. He had buried the hatchet, and brought with him the pipe of peace. This implement, a long pipe adorned with gorgeous feathers, created much interest. In the name of his tribe he presented it to the chairman—the ex-minister of Darmstadt—as a token of good-will from the children of the Rocky Mountains to their brethren by the Rhine and the Danube. This is a very curious return to the European sower of the finest fruit of a civilization whose seed



was so lately sown.—The Congress closed its labours by passing the usual resolutions.

We notice in the correspondence from China that a committee has been formed at Hong Kong to co-operate with the Industrial Exhibition Commissioners. They expect to be able to send to London many curious and important products of industrial skill from the far East.

Dr. Granville has written to the *Times* a curious account of the completion of an extraordinary artesian operation at Kissingen, which is seated in a saline valley at an elevation of 650 feet above the level of the Baltic Sea. The great artesian fountain now disclosed, he says, both in its physical characteristics and its economical importance leaves that of Grénelle far behind. The work was begun in the shaft of an old well called the Schönbörn, in 1832; from which time, and during a period of eleven years, 800 feet only were bored through the rocks, the operation being often interrupted, and even suspended from a feeling of discouragement. But in 1843 Inspector Joseph Knorr advised the Government to resume operations,—and they have never since been interrupted, either by day or by night. On the 12th inst. the curious spectacle was exhibited of a column of water, four inches in diameter, springing with a prodigious force out of the earth to the height of 58 feet from a depth of 1,878 ft.,—spreading out like a graceful palm-tree at its highest point, and forming the finest and most striking *jet d'eau* of the kind ever beheld. The water as clear as crystal issues from the soil with a temperature of 66° Fahrenheit, charged with 3½ per cent. of pure salt, at the rate of 100 cubic feet per minute. The propelling power is a subterranean atmosphere of carbonic acid gas, acting with a force of 60 ordinary atmospheres. Dr. Granville enters into a minute description of the strata through which the boring passed. In the course of the operations two distinct salt wells were gone through; and it was under both these wells, at the depth of 1680 feet, that the great carbonic acid gas stratum was first tapped. The annual produce of salt from this source will, the Doctor says, amount to 6,000,000 pounds; which will add to the revenue of the Crown of Bavaria 300,000 florins, after deducting 60,000 florins for yearly expenses of work, fuel, and management. The whole cost from first to last will be 80,000 florins (6,666*l.*), including all the requisite pumps, pipes, and pavilion to be erected.

Our paragraphs on the subject of Mr. Washington Irving's nationality seem to have given some alarm to his admirers; who appear uneasy at the idea of the author of 'The Sketch-Book,' which first made American literature popular in England, being shot at last as an English rebel. We have no desire to make the friends of Mr. Irving too uneasy. As a correspondent suggests, we dare say some act of indemnity will be found under cover of which he will escape the extreme penalty of the law; and if not, America will probably refuse to give him up,—in case we should claim him with murderous intentions. As to the question of nationality, it seems clear,—if Mr. Irving's parentage be as stated. More than one correspondent has furnished us with cases in point. "My parents," writes one, "born in England, have resided out of England for about thirty-five years; and eleven out of twelve of my brothers and sisters were born in a foreign country. Still there is no doubt,—and we have the authority of the British representative in the place of their birth,—that though my father be a citizen of the country of his adoption, not only his sons but his sons' sons have never forfeited any of their rights as English subjects. As a case in point:—A younger brother having just attained his majority, was called on to serve in the army as the son of a citizen,—but his plea of being the son of an Englishman was allowed to be good. All the rights and privileges of Englishmen extend to the grandsons of Englishmen in the male line."—The case of the descendants of Robert de Ginkell is worth quoting in further illustration. Robert de Ginkell, a Dutchman, was Commander-in-Chief in Ireland in 1691, and was raised to the peerage in that country as Earl of Athlone in the year following. He returned to Holland; and his son Godart, who succeeded him, continued to reside in

Holland, and was member of the Nobles for Utrecht and Lieut.-General in the Dutch army. He was succeeded by his son, Godart-Adrian, who died in 1736,—and was succeeded by his brother Godart. This fourth earl sat in several colleges of the generality in behalf of the province of Utrecht. He was succeeded by his cousin, Frederick-William, the fifth earl, who died in 1748,—and was succeeded by his son Frederick-Christian-Rhynard. This sixth earl was a member of the Nobles of Utrecht and chief magistrate of the city in 1790. He accompanied the Stadtholder to England on the French invasion of Holland,—and took his seat in the Irish House of Lords in March 1795. Frederick, the seventh earl, was succeeded by his brother Renaud, the eighth earl; who is the present earl,—or was earl a dozen years ago.

An order has issued from the Crown Office to dismantle the ancient walls and fortifications of Berwick-on-Tweed, and convert the sites,—not into gardens and public promenades, as the authorities of Hamburg and Frankfort did when those cities were dismantled,—but into building lots for sale. The remains of Middle-Age fortified places are now so rare in England, that the archaeologist will regret the removal of these venerable remains; but he will be partly consoled by the expectation that some new sources of archaeological interest may be laid bare in the progress of their destruction.

That doctrine of chances which so profoundly puzzled the ancient pundits is undergoing curious development in our day and generation. It is hardly too much to say that since the time of Prici it has grown into a positive science. By its help, the fortuitous element bids fair to get banished from the world, and our social and moral affairs will then proceed with something like the regularity of the solar system. The Catalonians fancied they had plumbed the depths of occult science when they discovered the art and mystery of calculating the periodicity of storm and wreck; they little dreamed that posterity would improve their principle until it covered almost everything in the shape of a human accident. We have found that in the seeming wildness of Nature's caprices she is fixed and definite. Everything, we have discovered, is periodic. Of a million vessels sailing the ocean, the same number will be wrecked every decade,—of a million houses, a similar number will be burnt,—of a million living persons, so many will die. The extensive application of this law is one of the most useful results of modern civilization. On every side we can take hostages from Fortune. A few pounds protects your household goods from fire,—a few shillings secures the honesty of your servants,—and a few pence enables you to travel on every railway in the country harmless. A trifling outlay covers the death or dishonesty of your debtor,—a moderate investment brings a fortune to your surviving children. In the moral region the series yields returns equally fixed. Of a million of merchants' and lawyers' clerks, a certain number will yield to temptation and embezzle the money of their employers. An institution in London answers for character at a certain per-centage,—another guarantees the payment of all bills!—We have not yet heard of a society to insure books from the malice of criticism or to carry a play safely through the terrors of a first night. But we see no reason why such an institution should not be. Here, as everywhere, we should find a regulating law. Some at least of the elements of a calculation are known. Of books, one in three falls dead from the press,—about one in ten pays the cost of publishing,—not more than one in twenty leaves a profit. Of plays, probably not one in fifty ever arrives at the footlights; of those that do, about one in five gets peremptorily damned, and the remainder "fret their hour upon the stage and then are seen no more."—A large majority of books come before us on which the risks would be very high. We wonder what would be the premium on a modern epic!

The French papers announce that the eminent Danish civilian Rosenwinde Kolderup, Professor at the University of Copenhagen, and author of important works on legal antiquities, has died suddenly in his sixty-fourth year, at Nantes, on his way back to his country from a sojourn of some time at the waters of the Pyrenees.

PANORAMA of the NILE.—Additions have been made to this Exhibition. The Nubian Desert, from the Second Cataract to Dongola.—War Damage by Firelight. March of Caravans by Moonlight.—Morning Prayer.—The Mummy of a Hindu Priest is added to the curiosities. Both Banks of the River are shown in the Painting. EGYPTIAN HALL, PICCADILLY.—Rail, at Three, and Eight o'clock.—Stalls, 2*s.*, Pitt, 2*s.*, Gallery, 1*s.*; Children and Schools, Half-price.

INDIA OVERLAND MAIL.—DIORAMA.—GALLERY of ILLUSTRATION, 14, Regent-street, Waterloo-place.—Additional Picture, MADRAS.—A Giantic MOVING DIORAMA, ILLUSTRATING THE ROUTE of the OVERLAND MAIL to INDIA, depicting every object worthy of notice on this highly interesting journey from Koolahmanga to Vindhyas and Calcutta, accompanied by descriptive details and appropriate music, is now OPEN DAILY. Mornings at Twelve, Afternoons at Three, and in the Evening at Eight o'clock.—Admission, 1*s.*; Stalls, 6*d.*; Reserved Seats, 2*s.*; Doors open half an hour before each representation.

The DIORAMA, Regent's Park.—Admission, One Shilling.—NOW OPEN, with the finest VIEWS ever exhibited in this country, representing the ROYAL CASTLE of STOLZENFELS, on the Rhine, (visited by Her Majesty Queen Victoria in August, 1845), and its Environs, as seen at Sunset and during a Thunder Storm; painted by NICHOLAS MEISLER, of Cologne. And the marvellous Picture of THE SIEGE of THE NATIVITY at Bethlehem; painted by the late M. RENOUX, from a Sketch made on the spot by DAVID ROSS, Esq. R.A., with novel and striking effects.—Open from Ten till Six.

#### ROYAL POLYTECHNIC INSTITUTION.

During this week the ALPINE SINGERS from Styria will perform several of their National Melodies, daily at Four, and in the Evening at Half-past Eight.—LECTURE on the HYDRO-ELECTRIC MACHINE, by Dr. Richardson, daily at Two, and in the Evening at Eight.—LECTURE on the MECHANICAL PROPERTIES of a JET of STEAM, daily at a Quarter past Three, and in the Evening at a Quarter past Nine.—NEW SERIES of DISSOLVING VIEWS, illustrating some of the WONDERS of NATURE, daily at Half-past Three, and in the Evening at a Quarter of Ten o'clock. Exhibiting SCENES in the ARCTIC REGIONS and CEYLON, daily at One o'clock.—DIVER and DIVING BELL, &c. &c.—Admission, 1*s.*; Schools, Half-price.

#### SOCIETIES

BOTANICAL.—J. H. Wilson, Esq., in the chair.—Mr. G. Maw exhibited specimens of *Lithium Pycnanum*, discovered by him between South Molton and Molland, Devonshire, in June last. Dr. A. Hassall read a paper, 'On the Colouration of the Water of the Serpentine.' In this communication it was shown that the periodical and vivid green colouration of the water of the Serpentine is due to the presence of a minute plant belonging to the tribe of Algae,—of which the writer gave a detailed and critical description, and which he named *Coryiophyllum Thompsoni*. The development of this plant takes place early in the spring, out of sight and at the bottom of the water; and it is only on the approach of the warm weather of summer that it diffuses itself through the water, deeply colouring it, and that part of it rises to the surface, forming a scum or pellicle of a bright æruginous or coppery green colour. The whole of the water of the Serpentine is not usually coloured at one time, but different portions of it at different times, according to the strength and direction of the wind, which drives the plant before it. At one time it is found collected in the Hyde Park extremity, at another it is present in the Kensington division, sometimes on the north and at others on the south shore, the remaining parts of the Serpentine being entirely free from the plant. This variable distribution, which unexplained would be apt to occasion surprise, accounts for the fact that the observer may sometimes visit the Serpentine and not see a trace of the plant in question, and hence he might be led to form an erroneous conclusion as to the condition of the water. Considered in a sanitary point of view, Dr. Hassall is of opinion that the plant when actually introduced into the system, as when swallowed in bathing, would not be productive of effects injurious to health, and regards it as a test of impurity, and as an evidence of the very bad condition in which the water of the Serpentine now undoubtedly is.—Dr. Hassall concluded the communication by observing that the colouration of large pieces of water by means of conservæ is by no means unfrequent; and cited as a remarkable instance of it the Red Sea, which owes its name and colour to the presence of a minute plant diffused through the water, of a blood-red colour.

ENTOMOLOGICAL.—G. R. Waterhouse, Esq., President, in the chair.—Mr. F. Smith was elected a Member.—The President read a letter from Mr. Spence, informing him of the death of the Rev. W. Kirby, Honorary President of the Society. Mr. Westwood moved, and Mr. Stephen seconded, and it was unanimously agreed to request Mr. Spence to have the kindness to draw up, for publication in the Transactions, a biographical and



biographical memoir of Mr. Kirby, in which the substance of his letter should be incorporated; and also that he would allow a portrait of Mr. Kirby in his possession to be lithographed and added.—The President submitted to the meeting, that out of respect to the memory of Mr. Kirby, all scientific business should be adjourned;—which was unanimously agreed to.

#### MEETINGS FOR THE ENSUING WEEK.

MON. Entomological, 8.  
TUES. Horticultural, 3.  
THURS. Zoological, 3.—General Business.  
FRI. Botanical, 8.

#### FINE ARTS

##### NEW PUBLICATIONS.

*The Entry into Jerusalem*, Engraved by the Anaglyptograph from the original prize bas-relief. By John Hancock.

THIS engraving, made for the Art-Union of London with a view to distribution among its subscribers, is one of those singular imitations of reality which have been made familiar through the processes of M. Collas and Mr. Bates. The one under notice is not inferior in any respect.

*Shakspeare's Seven Ages*. Etched by E. Goodall after original designs by Daniel Maclise, R.A.

THIS also is a work done for the Art-Union of London.—It is unnecessary here to repeat what we said on the subject of these designs when they appeared before the public as intended for another purpose. They have here met with careful transcription at the engraver's hands.

*Hagar and Ishmael*. Painted by C. L. Eastlake, engraved by Bridoux & Smith.

THIS engraving in line, from one of the best pictures by the artist, is intended for presentation to the subscribers of the Art-Union of Glasgow for the year 1850-1. Engravings of this character are calculated to diffuse a better knowledge and taste for the art than many which have hitherto been issued under the auspices of this society.

*Characters, Costume, and Modes of Life in the Valley of the Nile*. By E. Prisse. Parts II. III. and IV.

THESE numbers fully justify our favourable report in reference to the first. The 'Ghawazi or Dancing Girls' is a print expressing very graceful action. 'Camels resting on the Shirkieyeh' represents the animals in novel action.—'The Zeyat or Oilman' is shown in his bazaar attending on his customers. 'The Nizam or Regular Troops' presents specimens of the small-made men of those regions. 'The Janissary' and 'Merchant' are a characteristic pair of costume figures.—The 'Young Arab Girl returning from the Bath,' makes with its background and accessories a picturesque combination. There is considerable beauty in 'The Cairine Lady waited on by a Galla Slave Girl,'—the contrast of persons being well preserved.—'The Bedouins from the vicinity of Suez,' is of the many representations of such character one of the most careful in rendering,—apparently studied from life, with due attention to physiognomical and accessorial detail.—'The Fellah, dressed in the Haba,' is equally valuable for its truth.—This work promises to be one of the most valuable that have yet appeared descriptive of the humanity of the regions which furnish its themes.

**FINE-ART GOSSIP.**—During the past week the lovers of sculpture have had the opportunity of renewing their acquaintance with the works of a distinguished Italian artist. Some two seasons since we had occasion to speak in high terms of some small statues by Signor Raffaele Monti, of Milan. Since that time he has been actively engaged on other works,—which now come under our notice at the house of Messrs. Colnaghi, in Pall Mall East. The chief in excellence of these is, a seated figure of 'Eve'—the character being more immediately derived from the page of Milton than from Scripture history. Graceful and pleasing characters are the qualities which this

sculptor seeks, rather than ideal treatments. For freshness of feeling, the group of children called 'The Fishers' (portrait statues) is conspicuous:—there is also much beauty of chiselling in the detail. Of two bust studies, 'The First Communion' and 'The Vestal Virgin,'—the preference is due to the former, because it possesses in a high degree the resemblance to Nature which has already been adverted to as the chief attribute of Signor Monti's art. The 'Vestal' is more like one of those conventional busts with which the gallery of the Vatican abounds,—or those *ri-facimenti* which the studios of the modern sculptor in Rome display. Signor Monti has the power to think for himself,—and he will do well to avoid pedantry and commonplace.

We must speak in terms of more than ordinary praise of Mr. George Doo's engraving from the well-known 'Ecce Homo,' by Correggio,—which has just appeared. The picture—one of the distinguished features of our national collection—was one to tax the powers of any artist; the delicacy and refinement which are amongst its distinguishing characteristics were not readily definable by the hard and stern material here applied to their translation. Mr. Doo's name has long been eminent for correct reading of the originals after which he has wrought,—and longer for mastery over the mechanical agency of the *burin*. The group of children after Lawrence, and the 'Gevartius' after Vandyke, are powerful evidences of his skill. The manipulative excellencies of his art are on the present print from Correggio more subordinated,—and we are less interested here in the beauty of the *laying of a line* than in the general and harmonious disposition of the parts to a fitting end.—The print is worthy of Mr. Doo's reputation, and a matter of national credit.—The engraving was undertaken at Mr. Doo's personal risk.

The *Builder* says:—The Dean and Chapter of Ely have put forward a renewed appeal to the public for funds towards the restoration of their Cathedral. The extraordinary funds which have been placed at their disposal are not sufficient to meet the contracts and engagements into which they have already entered, whilst much more will be sooner or later required for other works which are absolutely necessary for the completion of the design: such as a stone screen, of an enriched character, behind the stalls,—a new pavement,—a new arrangement for the altar and reredos,—the restoration of the half-ruined monuments, so far as they can be considered essential parts of the architecture,—inferior stalls and moveable seats for a much larger congregation than the new stall-work now in preparation can accommodate,—and the replacement of groups of sculpture in the niches of the canopies of the stalls, which were destroyed at the Commonwealth. The works for the new choir are in great forwardness. Mr. Rattee, of Cambridge, has already completed the principal parts of the screen, the canopied seats of the Bishop and Dean, the entire new series of sub-stalls,—and is also engaged on a case for the new organ. The brass work for the open pannels and crest of the screen, and for the gates of the choir, has been entrusted to Mr. Hardman. Some progress has been made in cleaning the ancient stalls of Alan de Walsingham, which are to be transferred to the new choir.

The French Minister of Public Works has charged M. Chabrol, the architect of the Palais Royal, with the plan of a temporary building, in the great court of that palace, as a supplemental gallery for the Exhibition of Painting and Sculpture:—which it is finally determined shall open on the 15th of December.—The Minister of the Interior has ordered that a marble bust of M. de Balzac shall be placed in the Gallery of Celebrated Men of the Nineteenth Century, at Versailles; and has further undertaken to contribute the necessary marble to the subscription forming for a public monument to the celebrated writer.

The sale of the King of Holland's collection has been brought to a close by the dispersion of the works of statuary and the cartoons and drawings. The former were bought chiefly by native purchasers, and fetched low prices. The drawings were

the subject of warm competition, and brought high—in some cases, enormous—prices. The Lawrence collection is once more lost to England; but the eagerness exhibited to possess some of the drawings which composed it, and the sums which they realized, suggest that the whole would have been a costly purchase. Though England was still altogether absent as a nation from this sale, private collectors have brought some valuable items of these latter days' sales amongst us.—We complete our notice with a few further particulars of sales.—*Drawings and Cartoons*: Raffaele, Portrait of an Aged Man, known under the title of 'The Executor of Raffaele's Will,' 3,200 florins: Mr. Woodburn.—Leonardo da Vinci, Eight pictures, containing Heads, of the size of nature, of eleven of the Apostles, which served as studies for his celebrated picture, 'The Last Supper,' 8,000 florins: Weimar.—Raffaele, Study for the Head of a Madonna, 1,700 florins: Mr. Woodburn.—Same, L'Evanouissement de la Vierge. A picture in the Borghese Palace at Rome.—A number of studies for different parts of the above picture, 1,230 florins for both: Roos.—Same, La Bataille de Constantin, 1,710 florins: Mr. Bayley.—Same, Christ at the Tomb, 6,900 florins: for the Gallery of the Louvre.—Same, Study of Figures, for 'The School of Athens,' 1,510 florins: for the Museum at Frankfurt.—Same, The Annunciation, 1,075 florins: for the Gallery of the Louvre.—Same, A large round design for a plafond. In the centre is represented the Passage of the Red Sea, and in the outer circle the History of Joseph and his Brethren, 1,050 florins: Mr. Woodburn.—Leonardo da Vinci, Two designs in one frame: One represents an Infant Sleeping,—the other, Christ at the Tomb; and some slight studies, executed *à la plume*, 925 florins: Weimar.—Michael Angelo, The Resurrection of Christ, 750 florins: Mr. Woodburn.—Same, The Death of Phæton, 910 florins: Same.—Same, Le Songe de Michel-Ange. Executed for the picture in the Dresden Gallery, 1,200 florins: Same.—Marco Venusti, Jesus Christ driving the Merchants out of the Temple, 630 florins: Same.—Leonardo da Vinci, Two Studies, one of Children playing with Goats,—and the other of Portraits, 1,025 florins: Weimar.—Correggio, Study for the Head of St. John, a design in red chalk, &c., 1,100 florins: Mr. Woodburn.—Michael Angelo, Study of a Man, 850 florins: Same.—Same (?), A Madonna, with the Infant Jesus and St. John, 800 florins: Same.—Same, The Holy Family, 1,300 florins: Same.—Raffaele, Christ at the Tomb, 2,000 florins: Mr. Hall.—Same, The Holy Family, 775 florins: Mr. Woodburn.—Same, Christ at the Tomb, 950 florins: Enthoven.—Michael Angelo, The Holy Family. A large cartoon, executed with black chalk, 650 florins: Mr. Woodburn.

In the interval between Friday and Monday, a picture dealer of the capital took advantage of the hull occurring in the grand storm of picture excitement to get up a little wind for the purpose of blowing good to himself. The presence of so many amateurs at the Hague induced him to try whether picture-fancying might not be an appetite which grows by what it feeds on; and he offered for public sale three pictures of his own,—a Hobbema, a Terburg, and a Sea-piece by M. Gudin. The speculator was successful:—his three pictures were bought by a single purchaser, M. Van der Hagen. The Hobbema—fruit and flowers, on wood, fetched 10,900*f.*; the Terburg—a Dutch general taking leave of his wife and children on going to the wars, 10,600*f.*; and the French sea piece, 9,000*f.*

To these accounts of picture sales we may add that, the Emperor of Russia has purchased for 560,000*f.* the celebrated Barbarigo Gallery, Venice; which contains, among other *chefs-d'œuvre* of the great masters, seventeen Titians, and the famous portraits of the Doge Barbarigo, of Philip II., &c. On the extinction of the Barbarigo family, the proprietors of the gallery offered it to the Viceroy, the Archduke Regnier,—who caused it to be sent to Vienna. There it remained for several years,—and at last the Austrian Government declined to purchase it.



## MUSIC AND THE DRAMA

**THE ITALIAN OPERAS.**—We have reached the end of a fourth campaign of Opera-house against Opera-house, with every prospect of a vigorous and vivacious renewal of the strife during the coming season. While we suspect that neither theatre can be carried on profitably when so powerfully opposed as both are at present, it is past doubt that the public gains by the rivalry, in the variety and excellence of the artists summoned, and in the amount of energy which must be brought into play and of novelty which must be produced to enable such competition to last a week.

Let us glance back to the musical events of the past season: remarking, first, that as an attraction *ballet* appears to have been tacitly abandoned,—even at *Her Majesty's Theatre*; none of the few novelties in that department having won more than a passing glance from the public. By Mr. Lumley (with one signal and praiseworthy exception) provisional experiment rather than a course of pre-arranged action has been the order of the spring. No one of his singers has been able to do what Mlle. Lind did,—namely, to fill the theatre by the attraction of her or his sole self: yet, apparently with some notion of reproducing such a miracle they have been manoeuvred. Madame Sontag, the one great *artiste* of the *troupe*, has been presented in all kinds of unsuitable music, vindicating her greatness as a vocalist by failing in none. Miss Hayes has been tried in one hackneyed part, Mlle. Parodi in another,—both laid aside when Madame Frezzolini came,—who, in her turn, disappeared, and was replaced by Madame Fiorentini. By a like want of system, the first four tenors have been perpetually thrust in each other's way,—none of them allowed to make an impression as interpreters of music, but capriciously presented as stars. In brief, the amount of power wasted would have "womaned" and "manned" a second theatre; not, indeed, of the first class, but which still, under a sagacious musical administration, first-class amateurs might have frequented. As matters stand, neither fashion nor amateurship has been hit during the season which is over. The average merit of the performances has been lower than in former years, the orchestra more slovenly, and the chorus coarser.

Mr. Lumley's season, however, was brilliantly illustrated by the production of 'La Tempesta.' That a nicer discrimination might have been exercised in choice of subject, the country and the particular *troupe* of Her Majesty's Theatre considered,—that M. Halévy is hardly likely as a composer ever to become a popular favourite in England—may be true; but still, the fact of the commission of a new grand opera having been given, and the resources brought to bear in working it out—to wit, a Sontag, a Lablache, a Carlotta Grisi—demand honourable commemoration, not merely for their own sakes, but as having imparted a special interest to the season. It is said that the experiment is to be repeated next year, with M. Scribe as librettist and M. Halévy as composer. Grateful as we are for every attempt at novelty, and intending no disrespect to the author of 'La Juive' and 'Les Mousquetaires,' we do not think this a wise choice so far as the music is concerned. But our task here is retrospect, rather than prophecy.

During the past session the Royal Italian Opera has gained with the general public in character,—and has, it would seem, also risen in fashion. Three grand operas have been produced for the first time—'Il Franco Arciere,' (Der Freischütz), 'Zora,' ('Moïse'), and 'La Juive'; while almost every other work in the repertory, owing to the arrival of a new tenor and a new *busso*, has had to be studied anew. On looking back, however, while we can record that one opera introduced Signor Maralti and Mlle. Vera to favour,—a second established Signor Tamberlik,—a third won for Madame Viardot a new triumph,—it is evident that none has approached in success 'Les Huguenots' and 'Le Prophète,'—that the choral and the scenic splendour and the dramatic excitement of those two musical tragedies have exercised a fascination within the spell of which every other known

charm has "paled its ineffectual fire." This is somewhat unfortunate,—illustrating in its least attractive form the condition on which alone grand opera can be given (namely, rarity of novelty)—but it is inevitable. Our public, grown familiar with the "Bénédiction des Poignards" and with the Cathedral scene, measures other *finales* against their magnificence and emotion,—being at the same time most obdurate in the matter of all works of second-class interest and merit, which in foreign grand opera-houses have been accepted as alternatives with the masterpieces admitted and admired. It becomes, then, difficult to minister to its tastes; and unless M. Meyerbeer will let his 'Camp de Silésie' (with its four marches and flute trio) out of the box where he keeps it tight locked, or finish his 'L'Africaine,' we scarcely see what is to be done by the managers of grand opera in London to satisfy a public which, if not *blasé*, is—partly out of classicism, partly out of unacquaintance—given to exclusiveness in its judgments and its adoptions. May M. Gounod solve the riddle, by justifying the friends who assure us that besides writing well he can also write quickly.

It would be needless minutely to recapitulate how Madame Grisi has sustained her reputation, how Signor Tamberlik has "made a mark" on his public, how Herr Formes has pleased some connoisseurs as signally as he has failed to please the *Athenæum*, and how Madame Viardot has risen in the estimation of every one. Enough, in conclusion, to record that some of the performances at Covent Garden this season have had a ripeness, a passion, a spirit, a sonority, and a grandeur, superior, as a whole, to any that we recollect in any similar European theatre where Government aids the treasury, and of which the public is not, like the subscribers of a London opera-house, incessantly craving for novelty.

## MISCELLANEA

**Copyright of Designs.**—The bill, as amended by the Committee, to extend the Acts relating to the copyright of designs, has been printed, and contains the following provisions.—Designs may be provisionally registered for one year,—and during that period may be published and exhibited under certain circumstances without loss of copyright. The sale of any article of such design during the period of provisional registration is to render the said registration null and void; but this is not to apply to the right of property in the design itself, which may be sold without impediment. In cases of provisional registration the Board of Trade may grant an extension of six months on the original term of one year. Sculpture, models, &c. are to be registered on application; and persons importing or selling pirated copies are to be subject to a fine to the proprietor, which is to be not less than 5*l.* nor more than 30*l.* Designs for the ornamenting of ivory, bone, papier mâché, and other solid substances not already included in the first, second, or third classes of the Designs Act of 1842, are henceforth to be considered as included in class four of that Act, and are to be registered accordingly. The Board of Trade may extend the term of registration of any class of designs for three years:—power being also given to them to revoke such extension, if it should be deemed necessary. The registrar of designs, in certain cases where it may appear reasonable, may dispense with drawings, and accept a specification in lieu of them. The documents of the office are not to be produced in courts of law without a Judge's order,—and sealed copies ordered by a Judge are to be received in evidence.

**Piracy on the large Scale.**—A new literary enterprise has been started in New York, which illustrates the working of the system by which English literature is made to enrich American publishers. This is, a monthly magazine by the Harpers, the well-known baronial house in Cliffe street, who have amassed an immense fortune principally by their sagacious selection of current English books for the American market. This magazine consists of selections from the whole compass of British periodical literature, including popular extracts from favourite English books, which they receive in advance of their publication in London. Each number will contain

as much matter as a volume of Macaulay's 'History of England,'—and be sold at the ridiculously low price of twenty-five cents. The sale of this work amounted to 20,000 copies within the first fortnight of its publication,—and will probably run up to 50,000 before the close of the year.—*Manchester Examiner and Times.*

**Canal Locks Superseded.**—Some months ago operations were in progress at the Blackhill Locks, on the Forth and Clyde Canal, to do away with the waste of time attendant on so tedious and complicated an operation by the substitution of an incline, on which the boats might be drawn up to the proper level by means of a stationary steam-engine.—The works having now been brought to completion, the new process has been put to the test. The result was most satisfactory:—three boats having been drawn up in less than five minutes, whilst to have made them pass through the locks would have taken fully half an hour.—*Liverpool Chronicle.*

**Belgian Thread-Spinners.**—The spinning of the fine thread used for lace-making in the Netherlands is an operation demanding so high a degree of minute care and vigilant attention, that it is impossible it can ever be taken from human hands by machinery. None but Belgian fingers are skilled in this art. The very finest sort of this thread is made in Brussels, in damp underground cellars; for it is so extremely delicate, that it is liable to break by contact with the dry air above ground; and it is obtained in good condition only when made and kept in a humid subterranean atmosphere. There are numbers of old Belgian thread-makers who, like spiders, have passed the best part of their lives spinning in cellars. This sort of occupation naturally has an injurious effect on the health; and therefore, to induce people to follow it, they are highly paid. To form an accurate idea of this operation, it is necessary to see a Brabant thread-spinner at her work. She carefully examines every thread, watching it closely as she draws it off the distaff; and that she may see it the more distinctly, a piece of dark blue paper is used as a background for the flax. Whenever the spinner notices the least unevenness, she stops the evolution of her wheel, breaks off the faulty piece of flax, and then resumes her spinning. This fine flax being as costly as gold, the pieces thus broken off are carefully laid aside to be used in other ways. All this could never be done by machinery. The prices current of the Brabant spinners usually include a list of various sorts of thread suited to lace-making, varying from 60 francs to 1,800 francs per pound. Instances have occurred in which as much as 10,000 francs have been paid for a pound of this fine yarn. So high a price has never been attained by the best spun silk; though a pound of silk in its raw condition is incomparably more valuable than a pound of flax. In like manner, a pound of iron may by dint of human labour and ingenuity be rendered more valuable than a pound of gold.—*Dickens's 'Household Words.'*

**Kingston Coronation Stone.**—A Correspondent of the *Times* writes as follows:—History informs us that the coronation of at least seven of the Saxon Kings of England took place at Kingston-on-Thames. The rude stone on which they were crowned formerly stood against the old Town-hall, in the Market-place, and was removed to the yard of the assize courts, on the building of a new one in 1837; where it has remained, preserved, it is true, but almost unobserved, to the present time. The Town Council having had their attention called to the matter, appointed a committee to consider it, and eventually selected a suitable and beautiful plan for its preservation, designed by Mr. C. E. Davis, of Bath, and also made a grant of money towards defraying the cost of erection; the remainder of the funds required were to be raised by private contribution. In the design above referred to, and now being carried into effect, the Coronation Stone is to be placed on a septagonal block of stone, six feet in diameter, and fifteen inches thick, standing in the centre of seven stone pillars, connected together by an iron railing, moulded in the correct character of the period. These pillars and the septagonal form of the monument are in allusion to the seven kings crowned in the town; and, thanks to the kindness of Mr. J. D. Cuff, of the Bank of England and of Mr. W. Hawkins,—a penny of each monarch will be placed under their respective names. Speed mentions nine kings, but



as other authorities state only seven the smaller number has been adopted. The shafts of the pillars are of blue Purbeck stone polished, and the capitals of Caen stone carved with Saxon devices. The spot chosen for the monument seems most appropriate, for tradition has always fixed it as the site of the palace of the Saxon monarchs; it is in the open space near Clattern-bridge, in front of the Assize Courts, at the entrance of the Market-place, where almost one thousand years ago some of the coronations took place, the others being probably in the church. An additional interest is thrown around the stone by the probability that the veneration in which it was held by the Saxons did not originate with themselves, but had descended from the ancient Britons, by whom it might have been held sacred for inaugurations and other solemn and important ceremonies from a very remote period, and some weight is given to this conjecture by the fact of the stone being a grey wether, or Druids' stone, similar in geological character to those of Stonehenge. If this deduction be correct, the Kingston crowning stone is in itself extremely curious, and may lay claim to very great antiquity without assigning to it quite so many years as are given to the stone in Westminster Abbey, on which the coronations of our own monarchs to the present day takes place. The stone, on which the Coronation stone will be placed has been already raised, and it is stated that an old inhabitant of the town, jealous for the two discarded kings whom Speed had included in the number crowned at Kingston, has determined to erect a separate monument to them at his own expense.

**Discovery of a Merovingian Cemetery at Envermeu.**—The Abbé Cochet, inspector of the historical monuments of the department, has recently made a new archaeological discovery. The workmen who were employed in cutting a new road from Blangy towards Boibee, across Envermeu, dug into a Merovingian cemetery, very analogous to those discovered at Douvrend and at Londinières:—making the third Frankish cemetery found in the valley of the Eaulne during the last twelve years. At Envermeu the Abbé Cochet has already upwards of fifty skeletons. Those of females are easily recognized by the necklaces, bracelets, and ear-rings, and the various implements of the toilette which accompany them. Those of males are ascertained by the long knives and poniards, by styli, tweezers, and such objects; warriors, by swords, lances, and axes. The most curious object is a Merovingian helmet. It is surmounted by a point like the casques worn by the Norman warriors as represented in the Bayeux Tapestry. Only the frame-work remains:—and this was the case with the Saxon helmet, crested by the figure of a hog, discovered by Mr. Bateman in Derbyshire. At the feet of the Envermeu skeletons were earthen vessels, or urns, of various forms. The field in which this discovery has been made is known by the name of *la Tombe*. The museum of Rouen, in which the *départemental* antiquities are classified and preserved, will receive this new and valuable addition.—*Revue de Rouen*.

**Records of our Churches.**—When the present Bishop of Ripon came into position, he solicited from every incumbent in his diocese a drawing of his church, in order that the whole might be put together and preserved. The request was cheerfully responded to, and the result is very valuable. The example might be usefully followed in other districts.—*BUILDER*.

**TO CORRESPONDENTS.**—T. W.—Chevalier J. L.—T. R.—Verax—Q. P.—W. W.—received.

S. H.—We will make room for this writer's remarks on Mr. Petrie's paper at an early opportunity.

S. C.—If our correspondent would study Whewell's 'Researches on the Tides,' in the *Philosophical Transactions*, he would be satisfied of the unsatisfactory nature of his hypothesis.

**PERSPECTIVE VIEW OF THE BUILDING FOR THE INDUSTRIAL EXHIBITION.**—The binder should be directed, in binding the volume, to separate the leaf which contains this Perspective View, and mount it on a guard that it may open free.

**Errata.**—There is a misprint in our paper of last week which is not substantially of much importance, but which, as dates are specific things, it may be as well to correct. The death of Sir Martin Archer Shee took place on the nineteenth instant, not on the "13th," as there stated.—P. 896, col. 3, l. 77, for "Gruby" read *Greeley*.

**THE GENTLEMAN'S MAGAZINE** and **HISTORICAL REVIEW** for AUGUST, contains among other Articles—  
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### NON-MATRICULATED STUDENTS.

The Lectures of the several Professors will be open to gentlemen unconnected with the College, on payment of the regulated Sessional fees, amounting generally to 2s. 6d. for each course. Gentlemen intended for the NAVAL and MILITARY Professions may also receive special and practical instructions in Navigation, Fortification, and the other subjects required for their preliminary education.

Prospectuses of the Faculties of Arts, of Medicine, of Law, and of the Schools of Engineering and of Agriculture, may be had upon application made to the Registrar.

By order of the President,  
June 30, 1850. FRANCIS ALBANI, Registrar.

## ROYAL SOCIETY for the PREVENTION

of CRUELTY to ANIMALS.  
Patron—THE QUEEN.

PRIZE ESSAYS.—The Committee of the above Society offer a PRIZE OF FIFTY GUINEAS for the best, and one of Five GUINEAS for the second best ESSAY on the EVILS of STEEPLE-CHASING.—Full particulars may be obtained at the Office, 12, Pall Mall.

By order of the Committee,  
September 7. HENRY THOMAS, Sec.

## ST. BARTHOLOMEW'S HOSPITAL AND

MEDICAL COLLEGE.

The WINTER SESSION will commence on TUESDAY, the 1st of OCTOBER, with an Introductory Address by Dr. West, at 7 o'clock, P.M.

### LECTURES.

MEDICINE—Dr. Burrows.  
SURGERY—Mr. Lawrence.  
DESCRIPTIVE ANATOMY—Mr. Skeel.  
PHYSIOLOGY and MORBID ANATOMY—Mr. Paget.  
SUPERINTENDENCE OF DISSECTIONS—Mr. Holden and Mr. Coote.  
DEMONSTRATIONS OF MORBID ANATOMY—Dr. Kirkes.  
CHEMISTRY—Mr. Griffiths.

SUMMER SESSION, 1851,  
Commencing May 1st.

MATERIA MEDICA—Dr. Roupell.

BOTANY—Dr. F. Farr.  
FORENSIC MEDICINE—Dr. Baly.  
MIDWIFERY, &c.—Dr. West.  
COMPARATIVE ANATOMY—Mr. M'Whinnie.  
PRACTICAL CHEMISTRY and NATURAL PHILOSOPHY—Mr. Griffiths.

HOSPITAL PRACTICE.—The Hospital contains 350 Beds, and relief is afforded to 70,000 Patients annually. The In-Patients are visited daily by the Physicians and Surgeons; and, during the Summer Session, four Clinical Lectures are delivered weekly; those on the Medical Cases by Dr. Roupell and Dr. Burrows; those on the Surgical Cases by Mr. Lawrence, Mr. Stanley, and Mr. Lloyd. The Out-Patients are attended daily by the Assistant-Physicians and Assistant-Surgeons.

COLLEGIATE ESTABLISHMENT.—Warden, Mr. Paget.—Students reside within the Hospital walls, subject to the rules of the Collegiate system, established under the direction of the Treasurer and a Committee of Governors of the Hospital. Some of the Teachers and other Gentlemen connected with the Hospital also receive Students to reside with them.

SCHOLARSHIPS, PRIZES, &c.—At the end of the Winter Session, Examinations will be held for two Scholarships; one of the value of 40s. a year, and tenable for two years; the other of 60l. for one year. The Examinations of the Classes for Prizes and Certificates of Merit will take place at the same time.

Further information may be obtained from the Medical or Surgical Officers or Lecturers, or at the Anatomical Museum or Library.

## GUY'S.—The MEDICAL SESSION commences on

TUESDAY, the 1st of OCTOBER. The INTRODUCTORY ADDRESS will be given by BRANSBY B. COOPER, Esq. F.R.S., at Two o'clock. Gentlemen who desire to become Students must give satisfactory testimony as to their education and conduct. They are required to pay 40l. for the first year, 40l. for the second year, and 10l. for every succeeding year of attendance; or the sum of 100l. in one payment will entitle a Student to a perpetual ticket. Dressers, Clinical Clerks, Assistants, and Resident Obstetric Clerks, are selected according to merit from those Students who have attended a second year.

Mr. Stocker, Apothecary to Guy's Hospital, is authorized to enter the names of Students, and to give further information if required.

## ROYAL COLLEGE of CHEMISTRY,

OXFORD-STREET, LONDON.

The PRACTICAL COURSE of INSTRUCTION in this INSTITUTION is under the direction of Dr. A. W. HOFMANN and Assistants.

The WINTER SESSION will COMMENCE on MONDAY, the 7th of October next, and end on Saturday, the 22nd of February, 1851.

The FEE for Students working every day during the Session, is.....£15 0 0  
Four days in the week, is.....12 0 0  
Three days in the week, is.....10 0 0  
Two days in the week, is.....8 0 0  
One day in the week, is.....5 0 0

Hours of Attendance from Nine to Five.

Further particulars may be obtained on application at the College.

## EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTE.—Mr. GRIF-

FITH PREPARES for the UNIVERSITIES, PROFESSIONAL SCHOOLS, as well as for GENERAL LIFE.

Redlands, near Bristol.

## QUEEN'S COLLEGE, LONDON, (so named

by Royal Permission and under the Royal Charter,) for GENERAL FEMALE EDUCATION, and for granting to Governesses Certificates of Qualification.—A Branch of the Governesses' Benevolent Institution.

MICHAELMAS TERM will COMMENCE 1st OCTOBER 1850.

The Ladies Visitors are present at every Class.

The Fees are 1l. 11s. 6d. per Term for those Classes which meet twice in the week, and 1l. 1s. for those which meet once; but a composition of 9l. 9s. may be made for all the Lectures in any division.

Lectures in Botany, Chemistry, and the Useful Arts, will be delivered in the Lent and Easter Terms, if the names of Twenty Pupils be entered before the close of this Term.

Individual Instruction in Vocal Music in its higher branches will be taught by GEORGE BENSON, Esq., under the immediate superintendence of J. HULLAR, Esq.; and Instrumental Music by R. BARNETT, O. MAY, and W. DORRELL, Esqs., under the immediate superintendence of W. S. BENNETT, Esq. The Fee for each, Three Guineas per Term.

Arrangements have been made for teaching Animal Drawing, Wax Modelling, and Ornamentation, under the immediate superintendence of the Professors of Drawing, and for the prosecution of other studies not suitable to class teaching.

Free Lectures on Useful Subjects are given in the Evenings during the Term to Governesses actually engaged in tuition.

Particulars may be ascertained at the College daily: from the Deputy-Chairman, at the College, every Wednesday and Saturday, before 2 o'clock; or from C. W. KITCH, Esq., Secretary to the Parent Society, 32, Sackville-street.

The Committee of Education place yearly Four Free Presentations at the disposal of the Parent Society, and it is hoped that others may be founded by individuals.

PREPARATORY CLASSES are opened for Pupils of not less than Nine Years of Age. The hours are from 4 to 10 till 1.

The payment is 6l. 6s. per Term, or 13l. 13s. per Year: the year consisting of thirty-eight weeks.

## PUTNEY COLLEGE, near London.

His Grace the DUKE of BUCKLEIGH, K.G.

Principal—The Rev. M. COWIE, M.A., late Fellow of St. John's College, Cambridge.

The object of this Institution is to combine General Education, Collegiate Discipline for Resident Students, Special Instruction in Science and its Practical Applications in the Civil and Military Professions, and Preparation for the Universities.

The charges are as follows:—  
For General Education, including Religious Instruction, Classics, Mathematics, the English, French, and German Languages, History, Geography, &c., Board, Lodging and Laundry Expenses, 80 Guineas per Annum.

In addition to this, Students may attend the following Courses:—

Chemistry and Physics.....	Dr. Lyon Playfair, F.G.S. F.R.S.
Mineralogy and Geology.....	Professor Ansted, F.R.S. Dr. Frankland.
Metalurgy.....	
Surveying, Field Engineering and Nautical Astronomy.....	C. Hodgkinson, Esq.
Civil Engineering and Architecture.....	S. Clegg, jun. Esq.
Machinery.....	W. Binns, Esq.
Military Science.....	Captain Griffiths, R.F.P.
Drawing.....	Royal Artillery.
Hindustani.....	H. Fradelle, Esq.
Sword Exercise and Fencing.....	F. Falconer, Esq.
Divinity, Special Course.....	Messrs. Angelo.
Mathematics, ditto.....	The Rev. M. Cowie, M.A. Principal.
Classics, ditto.....	The Rev. W. G. Watson, M.A. Vice-Principal.
	H. M. Jeffery, Esq. B.A. Assistant Tutor.

The fees for the additional courses in these three departments are so arranged that the cost of education, board, &c. need not exceed 100 guineas per annum.

Prospectuses may be had at Mr. Dalton's, 23, Cockspur-street, Charing-cross; Messrs. Smith, Elder & Co's, Cornhill; or any information can be obtained by application to the Principal, at the College.

## PRIVATE EDUCATION.—SIX YOUNG

GENTLEMEN are RECEIVED into the family of a Clergyman, near Town, in an open and healthy situation, who makes the education of youth his study and delight. Terms 60 guineas per annum.—Address to A. K. C., care of Messrs. BAILY, Brothers, Stationers, 3, Royal Exchange-buildings, Cornhill.

## LITTLE BOYS.—A Clergyman's Lady, residing

in a healthy locality near London, who has a few little Children conduced to her care to EDUCATE with her own, is desirous of increasing her numbers. The utmost care is taken to win the affections and consult the happiness of her interesting little charge. Terms 30 guineas per annum.—Address to T. K., care of Messrs. BAILY, Brothers, Stationers, 3, Royal Exchange-buildings, Cornhill.

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## PAINTINGS and OBJECTS of ART, for

Private Sale.—Mr. THOMAS WALESBY will shortly add to his Collection a few more highly-interesting Specimens.—Pictures, Rarities, &c. bought and sold on commission.—Also for Sale, various Impressions of Illustrious Personages, and a singularly curious FINGER RING.  
19, Old Bond-street, London.

## GEOLOGY.—Persons wishing to become

acquainted with this interesting branch of Science will find their studies greatly facilitated by means of Elementary Collections, which can be had at Two, Five, Ten, Twenty, or Fifty Guineas each, arranged and sold by Mr. TENNANT, (Mineralogist to Her Majesty), 149, Strand, London.

A Collection for Five Guineas, which will illustrate the recent works on Geology, contains 200 Specimens, in a Mahogany Cabinet with five trays, viz.:

MINERALS, which are the components of rocks, or occasionally imbedded in them.—Quartz, Apatite, Calcined, Jasper, Garnet, Zeolite, Hornblende, Augite, Asbestos, Felspar, Mica, Talc, Tourmaline, Calcareous Spar, Fluor, Selenite, Iaryta, Strontia, Salt, Sulphur, Plumbago, Bitumen, &c.

METALS.—Iron, Manganese, Lead, Tin, Zinc, Copper, Antimony, Silver, Gold, Platinum, &c.

ROCKS.—Granite, Gneiss, Mica-slate, Clay-slate, Porphyry, Serpentine, Sandstones, Limestones, Basalt, Lavas, &c.

FOSSILS from the Llandovery, Wenlock, Ludlow, Devonian, Carboniferous, and Permian Systems.—Solite, Wealden, Chalk, Plastic clay, London clay, and Cretaceous Formations, &c.

Mr. TENNANT gives PRIVATE INSTRUCTION in MINERALOGY, with a view to facilitate the study of GEOLOGY, and of the application of Mineral Substances in the Arts, illustrated by an extensive Collection of Specimens, Models, &c.

## PROPRIETORS of Mines and Quarries are

respectfully informed that the Executive Committee of the SALFORD BOROUGH ROYAL MUSEUM and LIBRARY are desirous of devoting a portion of the Museum to a Collection of BRITISH ROCKS, MINERALS, and FOSSILS. The Museum and Library are vested in the Mayor and Corporation of Salford for the free use of the Public in perpetuity. The Building is situated in the Public Park in "The Peel Park" in Salford, the great resort of the inhabitants of that densely populated borough and neighbourhood. The Committee will feel grateful for the contributions of persons willing to assist them in the above most desirable object. Specimens and communications to be addressed to Mr. J. PLANT, Peel Park, Salford.

WM. FOYSTER, Hon. Sec.

## EDWARD J. MILLIKEN,

FOREIGN BOOKSELLER,  
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## TO PUBLIC LECTURERS.—The Committee

for conducting the City Public Lectures are ready to receive SUBSCRIBERS and TERMS for LECTURES to be delivered during the ensuing Season. JOSEPH FLOWMAN, Secretary.  
Circulating Library, Oxford.

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## TO NATURALISTS and OTHERS.—A Gen-

tleman, intending to TRAVEL in NORTH and SOUTH AMERICA, is desirous of meeting with a Gentleman engaged in the above pursuits, who would like to accompany him in his travels as a Friend and Companion. As the Advertiser has no other object in view than to find an agreeable companion and well-informed fellow-traveller, he cannot offer any other inducement than the interest to be derived from such a journey, and therefore no one, not in independent circumstances, need apply.—For further particulars apply, either personally to Mr. TRELAWNEY SACKNERS, Geographical Bookseller, 6, Charing-cross; or by letter, pre-paid, to M. A. Mr. PARSON'S Library, Dorchester, Dorset.



**TO NOBLEMEN AND GENTLEMEN.—A**  
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Address as NON-RESIDENT SECRETARY and LIBRARIAN,  
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duties of his office. Applications, with testimonials of fitness,  
and stating Age and required Salary, to be sent to 27, Upper  
Temple-street, Birmingham, addressed to the Hon. Sec.  
By order of the Committee.  
**CHARLES M. EVANS,**  
Hon. Sec.  
Steelhouse-lane, Birmingham,  
30th August 1859.

**GLOUCESTER MUSICAL FESTIVAL.—**  
CHEAP EXCURSION TRAINS.—On Tuesday, the 10th  
of September, and on Friday, the 13th of September, Excursion  
Trains will leave Paddington at 7 o'clock, and arrive at Slough,  
Reading, and Didcot, for Gloucester; also from Bath and Chippen-  
ham to Gloucester, to return the same Evenings.  
**FARES**—Paddington or Windsor and Slough to  
Gloucester and back ... 10s. and 6s.  
Reading or Oxford ... do. do. and 5s.  
Swindon ... do. do. and 6s. and 3s. 6d.  
From Bath or Chippenham to do. do. and 7s. and 4s.  
Passengers having Luggage will only be conveyed at the ordinary  
fares.  
Paddington Station, Sept. 3, 1859.

**THE LIVERPOOL AND LONDON FIRE**  
AND LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY.  
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that on the 23rd inst. the  
CHIEF OFFICE of this Company in London will be REMOVED  
to Nos. 20 and 21, POULTRY.  
**BENJN. HENDERSON,**  
Resident Secretary.  
3, Charlotte-row, Mansion House,  
Sept. 3, 1859.

## NATIONAL MONUMENT TO GEORGE STEPHENSON.

Committee for promoting this object.

HIS GRACE THE DUKE OF DEVONSHIRE.  
HIS GRACE THE DUKE OF NORTHUMBERLAND.  
THE RIGHT HON. THE EARL OF LONSDALE.  
THE RIGHT HON. THE LORD RAVENSWORTH.  
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Honorary Secretary.

W. P. Marshall, Secretary to the Institution of Mechanical  
Engineers, 54, Newhall-street, Birmingham.

The Committee have now the pleasing task of addressing those  
who, in common with themselves, admired and revered the late  
GEORGE STEPHENSON, for the purpose of inviting their co-operation  
in the erection of some permanent Monument to his Memory.

It has been well observed, and in no instance more truly than  
that of Stephenson, that the best and most enduring Monument  
of the truly great, is to be found in the undying remembrance  
of their worthy deeds. The name of George Stephenson will be  
remembered particularly in the great coal district surrounding  
Newcastle, in connexion with the Safety Lamp invented and  
introduced into use by him; and his name will be always con-  
nected with the vast facilities for industrial development and  
natural progress evolved by the institution of Railways, and by  
the elaboration of the Locomotive, which have caused mechanical  
skill in the present age to outstrip in usefulness and in emolument  
every other department of national industry.

The Committee, therefore, regard the proposed Monument rather  
as a means of recording for future times the gratitude of that  
British Public which have witnessed the introduction of the Safety  
Lamp and the rise and progress of the Railway system, than as  
any addition to the honours which surround the memory of the  
great promoter of that system.

To the mechanic, and especially the operative mechanic, the  
Committee with confidence appeal for some general idea of that  
remembrance which, daily and hourly, forces itself upon him in  
connection with our great mechanical inventor. It must not be  
forgotten, that it was the pride of George Stephenson to have  
raised him from the humble rank of a coal-miner's son, to a position  
and to have belonged to the class whom, in after life, he so much and  
so especially benefited, rising above all prejudices, he ever held  
the friendship and the applause of the body of mechanical  
engineers and operative mechanics, who while he lived looked up  
to him as a father and a friend.

The Committee offer to all the opportunity of contributing towards  
the means and the disposition of each, feeling assured that  
the movement they invoke will become truly national, but however  
widely spread may be the co-operation given to it, it must still fall  
far short of the almost universal feeling of respect, esteem, and  
reverence, which, throughout all Britain, sheds a halo round the  
name of George Stephenson.

Contributions to the Fund will be received by the Treasurer and  
the Secretary.

August 29, 1859.

## THE QUARTERLY REVIEW, No. CLXXIV.

ADVERTISEMENTS for the forthcoming Number must be for-  
warded to the Publisher by the 23rd, and Bills for insertion by  
the 25th instant.

John Murray, Albemarle-street.

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LONDON, SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 7, 1850.

## REVIEWS

SIR PHILIP FRANCIS AND HIS CLAIMS TO BE CONSIDERED  
THE WRITER OF THE LETTERS OF JUNIUS.*Some New Facts and a suggested New Theory  
as to the Authorship of the Letters of Junius.*  
By Sir Fortunatus Dwaris, Knt. Privately  
printed.*The History and Discovery of Junius.* By John  
Wade.—Junius. 2 vols. Bohn.

Sir Fortunatus Dwaris and Mr. Wade have both pronounced judgment in favour of Sir Philip Francis; and both, following the example of more distinguished persons, are so positive—assume the question to be so conclusively proved—that we might have been startled into silence had we not after an attentive perusal of their several works come to the conclusion that they know no more of the subject than a Chief Justice or an Ex-Chancellor. Lord Campbell has recorded the opinion of the Queen's Bench; and Mr. Wade tells us, that an "eminent Judge of the Common Pleas, Sir Vicary Gibbs, affirmed after the perusal of Mr. Taylor's book, that if the case had been argued before him as Judge in a trial for libel, he should have directed the jury to find Sir Philip Francis guilty." Exactly the same judgment is said to have been pronounced by Lord Ellenborough,—and, Mr. Barker tells us, by Lord Erskine: and the review of 'Junius Identified' in the *Edinburgh* having been attributed to Mackintosh, to Brougham, and to Macaulay, three more Judges or ex-Judges are said to concur in the opinion pronounced by "Brother Gibbs."—Now, as we have said, Sir Fortunatus Dwaris—ex-Colonial Judge—and Mr. Wade, "author," as we learn from his title-page, of 'The Cabinet Lawyer,' record their agreement in the ruling of the Courts. One of these learned gentlemen has even asserted that "the cumulative proofs [have] reached the extreme limits of circumstantial testimony,"—and that "it is as certain that Sir Philip Francis was Junius as anything human can be." After this, it would be mere surplage to refer to the opinions of some half hundred unlearned laics. The Court of Chancery, the Court of Queen's Bench, the Court of Common Pleas, the Colonial Courts, and, if not "The Council," "The Cabinet" are agreed,—and "there an end." It is true, these opinions have not been pronounced by the Judges with their wigs on,—and there may be something in the wig:—young Philpott says in 'The Citizen,' "I am as good a coachman as any in England when I have my coachman's hat on." Then, no fees of Court have been paid; and there is a prevalent notion, all but a proverb, that what people get for nothing is generally good for nothing, and that the most worthless of all things is "the breath of an unfee'd lawyer." These are the opinions of the unlettered,—not of the *Athenæum*. All we ask is, leave to put the evidence on record, with a few words of explanation and elucidation for the satisfaction of the public and the justification, if that may be, of "the Judges."

The better and more simple plan will be to separate the facts generally admitted, not as literally but as substantially true, from those which are merely speculative or conjectural, whether probable or improbable. Some of our readers, we suspect, will be startled when they see in what a brief bald paragraph the former may be comprised.

From a memoir—the memoir, it is called—published in the *Mirror* in 1810, we learn that Sir Philip Francis was born in Dublin, on the 22nd of October 1740,—that in 1750 he came to England,—in 1753 was placed at St. Paul's

School, where Sampson Woodfall was also educated,—and in 1756 was appointed by Mr. Fox, afterwards Lord Holland, to "a little place" in the Secretary of State's Office,—that Mr. Pitt, who succeeded Mr. Fox, patronized and encouraged him, and through his kindness Francis, in 1758, went out as Secretary to Gen. Bligh, and was present at the attack on Cherbourg,—that in 1760, by the favour of the same person, he was appointed Secretary to the Earl of Kinroul, ambassador to Lisbon,—that on his return he continued to serve in the Secretary of State's Office under Lord Egremont, until in 1763 he was, by Mr. Welbore Ellis, appointed to a place in the War Office, which he retained for nine years, but resigned early in 1772, in consequence of a difference with Viscount Barrington, then Secretary at War,—that he spent part of the year 1772 in travelling through Germany, Italy, and France,—and that subsequently he was recommended by Viscount Barrington to Lord North,—by whom in 1773 he was nominated one of the Members of the Council of Bengal.

On these few facts—indeed on something less—has been raised the speculative superstructure which is held by so many learned and unlearned persons to be conclusive proof that Sir Philip Francis was Junius. Facts, however, are beginning to accumulate. Sir Fortunatus Dwaris tells us that Francis and Woodfall were "in the same form,"—and Lady Francis says that her husband won the gold medal:—things both possible, and even probable,—but not known before, and not now known at St. Paul's School.

*Prima facie* was there ever a more improbable conjecture than that this clerk in the War Office was the writer of the Letters of Junius? The *Athenæum* has, indeed, removed some stumbling-blocks, which it was impossible for common sense to get over, by clearing away the rubbish of the "Miscellaneous Letters;" still there remains the one astounding assumption, that this office-bred boy, this office-fed man, this clerk who had married early, and had already a wife and large family and no other dependence than the salary of his office, should hazard everything, his and their means of support and future hopes, that he might indulge his public spirit or private hatred week after week, month after month, year after year, in a series of outrageous attacks on those above him, on those associated with him, on the Government and on the Sovereign, without a chance in his favour of conciliating thereby any person or party, or winning even empty fame:—for, as to the reward which is assumed to have followed, it could never have been hoped for either from "the honour and generosity" as it is called, or the meanness and cowardliness, as we should call it, of Lord Barrington, or of any other English minister or English gentleman,—it was not indeed within the range of a sane man's possible expectations. Observe, too, that this same clerk was, on the assumption, no more to be influenced by private and personal obligations, by gratitude, than by interest or official decency; for Francis, as shown, was indebted for the very situation which he held when he is said to have written these Letters to the kindness of Mr. Welbore Ellis; whom Junius holds up to the most withering contempt,—as "little Mannikin," "Grildrig," "Guy Faux," "the most contemptible little piece of machinery in the whole kingdom,"—for no good or great purpose, indeed no purpose whatever, but that of wantonly insulting him. As to Junius's "vagabond," he was the intimate friend of the Francis family,—to whom Dr. Francis dedicated his 'Eugenia.'

Junius, too, be it observed, continues his outrages so long as Francis remains in office,—so

long as there was a ruinous penalty which, at their mere will and pleasure, it was in the power of the insulted to inflict on him, his wife and children; but after Francis retired from office or was turned out,—Junius is silent and for ever. Mr. Taylor draws emphatic attention to this fact in proof that Francis was Junius! This, he says, is certain, "that all regular intercourse between Junius and the public ceased from the moment that Sir Philip lost his place; and thus a sympathy is established between them." What this means we are at a loss to conjecture:—but we must observe that Junius had ceased all regular intercourse with the public before Francis lost his place. What if he had not?—things coincident are not consequent. Had the exact reverse been true,—had Junius appeared when Francis was turned or elbowed out of office,—human passions might have suggested a possibility and helped us to a conjecture; for human motives are often doubtful, and the public good may be sought and fought for when personal enmity and revenge are the animating spirit. But the author of 'Junius Identified' had no such argument to help him. He took Junius with all the "misleading lights" of Good; and believed that Junius, in addition to the wanton insults offered to Mr. Welbore Ellis, had stigmatized his early friend and patron Lord Chatham as "a lunatic brandishing a crutch"—"a miserable apostate"—"a man purely and perfectly bad,"—so black a villain that "a gibbet is not too honourable a situation for the carcase of such a traitor":—Chatham, whose kindness Francis in 1787 thus referred to in the House of Commons—

"In the early part of my life, I had the good fortune to hold a place, very inconsiderable in itself, but immediately under the late Earl of Chatham. He descended from his station to take notice of mine, and he honoured me with repeated marks of his favour and protection. How warmly, in return, I was attached to his person, and how I have been grateful to his memory, they, who know me, know."

If Francis were Junius, and Junius could write, as he is said to have done, of a man to whom Francis was under such deep obligation,—obligation for those gentle courtesies and humanities which bind men together more strongly than all the direct benefits which the highest has it in his power to confer on the humblest,—then we must believe, in defiance of all which Junius has said to the contrary, that there was one heart in the kingdom "blackier" than either Barrington's or Grafton's:—that of the man who in the wantonness and baseness of ingratitude, and under the protection of a mask, found stimulants to outrage and insult in the very depths of those personal obligations which he was so proud to acknowledge openly before the public.

Yet the Franciscans—with the exception of Mr. Wade, who has so far profited by his readings of the *Athenæum*,—believe all this with a most undoubting faith; and, thus mystified and misled, Mr. Taylor, by a simple perusal of the half-century old Letters, found out the obscure writer in his den of darkness at the Horse Guards. Again, and emphatically—a miracle, if true,—the writer of these celebrated Letters concealed himself so effectually from his contemporaries that no one, high or low, in private or in public—not one of his associates, social or political—not one of his fellow clerks, although the facts known to the one could not have escaped the cognizance of all others; to whom a word, a thought, an expression might have betrayed him—some of whom had good reason to hate and detest Junius—not one of all the numbers numberless directly or indirectly connected with the War Office ever conceived a suspicion that Francis was the man:—nay Go-



vernment, as we are told, with the active and unscrupulous assistance of the Post Office could not discover him; and yet the man and the office which he held became distinctly manifest, half a century later, to one to whom all familiar, minute and characteristic circumstances were unknown! These even became, it would seem, palpably, grossly manifest;—for Mr. Taylor and almost all “Franciscans” adduce as strong proof that Francis was the writer, that many circumstances adverted to by Junius could have been known only to some one intimately acquainted with the interior of the government offices, and especially the War Office. “Junius,” we are told, “*avows his acquaintance with the Secretary of State's Office, the War Office is the scene of several dramatic representations, and there is such precision in the secret intelligence*” from that office “*as could not be acquired except by one who had access to the fountain head for information.*”

We have denied, and deny again, these assertions about secret intelligence—fountain-head information,—but that is not the point now under consideration. We are here merely stating a question of probabilities; and it should, we think, be admitted as in the highest degree improbable that any clerk in the War Office could have been Junius. The facts and evidence adduced in proof that Francis was Junius must be greater, on account of all the improbabilities, than would be required in favour of any other man:—of value only in so far as they outweigh all the moral and social objections.

Another ingenious argument of Mr. Taylor's—if of any force in his sense in 1816, in force as telling exactly the other way in 1850, though the Franciscans are silent on the subject—was this:—Francis was then the only person living to whom the letters of Junius had been attributed; and it was fair, we were told, to infer that Junius was not then dead, because, “no papers have hitherto been produced from the portfolio of any deceased author or politician, which could throw light on the subject. The original copies of the Letters which appear to have been returned to the author,” [?] &c. “are still probably in his own possession.” \* \* “nor have the two books, bound in vellum, fallen into other hands, as far as we know, than those of the first possessor; though the motive for having been so distinguished by the binding was, doubtless, that by their means, at some distant period, and probably after his death, the honour of having written the work should be reclaimed for the real author.” Well, Sir Philip Francis has now been dead more than thirty years:—where are the papers from the portfolio?—where the original copies of the letters?—where the two books bound in vellum? The argument of Francis's life accounting for the non-appearance of the documentary evidence is stripped at once of its cogency by the fact of his death not producing them.—It, says Mr. Taylor, the author of the Letters had been dead we should have had the evidence,—Sir Philip Francis is dead, and we have it not:—argal.

When the names of the Francises were first associated with Junius, the Editor of the *Monthly Magazine* wrote to Sir Philip on the subject, and received the following reply:—

“Sir,—The great civility of your letter induces me to answer it, which with reference merely to the subject-matter, I should have declined. Whether you will assist in giving currency to a silly, malignant falsehood, is a question for your own discretion. To me it is a matter of perfect indifference.”

“I am, Sir, yours, &c., P. FRANCIS.”

Mr. Taylor observes that the Editor of the *Magazine*, “with a simplicity that does him

honour,” took this for a denial, although he had just stated, that—

“if the hypothesis were not true Sir Philip Francis would be able by a word to disprove it. It certainly is not so disproved. No man who had it in his power to give a simple negative to such a question would have had recourse to an *innuendo*”—

it being doubtful, as Mr. Taylor suggests, whether the Editor would give currency to a falsehood by publishing Taylor's assertion or by denying it. Lord Brougham, on the contrary, holds that Sir Philip's comment is mere over-refining;—“that Sir Philip's letter was not merely an unequivocal denial, but an indignant and passionate denial,—that Francis felt the charge to be an imputation which it became him to repel with warmth.” Lady Francis, however, calls it “an ingenious evasion;” and Sir Philip Francis told her, as she has lately informed the public (Campbell's *Chancellors*, vol. vi. p. 345) that “it was no denial, and only fools could take it for one.” We would not presume to decide on any point fairly in issue between Doctors so learned:—but we will venture to record a fact, not without its weight and significance—of some interest to Lady Francis and Lord Brougham, and to fifty other speculators *pro* and *con*,—viz. that the letter of Sir Philip to the Editor of the *Monthly Magazine* did not refer to ‘Junius Identified’ at all! That letter was written and published in 1813,—and ‘Junius Identified,’ which fixed on Sir Philip Francis as the writer, was not published until 1816! The Editor of the *Monthly Magazine* inquired as to the truth or falsehood of an absurd hypothesis set forth in an anonymous pamphlet called ‘A Discovery of the Author of the Letters of Junius,’—the writer of which endeavoured to prove that Doctor Francis was the author, assisted by his son Philip, therein stated to have been a youth of nineteen. To suppose that a boy of nineteen could assist Junius—beyond copying or delivering letters, or hunting up information—would be absurd; therefore, virtually, Dr. Francis was stated to have been the writer—“the author” of the title-page—and to this “hypothesis” Sir Francis referred.

Whether after the publication of ‘Junius Identified’ Sir Philip did or did not equivocate or deny, we know not; but Lady Francis assures us that with her there was no equivocation. “I have doubted,” she says in the opening of her statement, “whether I had a right to betray what Sir Philip never would have confessed, and which I could only have obtained the conviction of from his confidence in my discretion.” After this expression of fears and about betrayals, the reader will be as curious as we were to hear what Lady Francis did obtain from his confidence in her discretion. An acknowledgment that he was Junius? Oh no;—“he never avowed himself more than saying he knew what my opinion was, and never contradicting it.” Sir Philip Francis married this lady when he was in his seventy-fourth or seventy-fifth year,—there was, we believe, a trifle more than half a century's difference in their ages,—and Lady Francis expresses a belief that “the secret of his attachment and marriage so late in life” was that, “like the wife of Midas, he wanted some one to whisper the secret to:”—how very strange that the express purpose of his marriage remained unfulfilled, and that he never did whisper it to her! Short of acknowledgment, however, he did all in his power—and some curious things, as we shall hereafter show—to confirm her “foregone” conclusions. But with the best disposition to have her believe that he was Junius, the reader must bear in mind that he never did or said anything but what any other man might have done or said,—though few

would have ventured so boldly except very old men with very young wives. “The first gift after our marriage,” she continues, “was an edition of Junius, which he bid me take to my room, and not let it be seen, or speak on the subject; and his posthumous present, which his son found in his bureau, was ‘Junius Identified,’ sealed up and directed to me.” These are certainly startling facts. The posthumous present has something so solemn about it, that it seems shocking to treat of it as a mystification or a hoax. Yet, if Sir Philip Francis intended thereby to assure his wife of the truth of what he knew was her “opinion,” as she naturally infers, he might have inclosed with it the “set bound in vellum, gilt and lettered, Junius 1, 2,”—or some notes or documents which, though not a distinct avowal, might have been somewhat more conclusive than a book which any man could pick up at a book-stall and inclose to whom he pleased. Be this as it may, it must be admitted that Sir Philip Francis had recourse to some extraordinary means to confirm Lady Francis in the opinion that he was the writer of the celebrated Letters; but it is nevertheless fact that he never did “avow” himself,—and was, as also declared, sensitively anxious to avoid being questioned on the subject.

Lady Francis further tells us that “his manners and conversation on this mysterious subject were such as to leave me not a shadow of doubt on the fact of his being the author, telling me circumstances that none but Junius could know.” Here we must observe, that it requires a little more knowledge than is possessed by nineteen out of twenty of those who have written on the subject to decide which are “circumstances that none but Junius could know.”—Waiving that, however, it is to be regretted that while Lady Francis was in a communicative mood she did not tell Lord Campbell and the public one of these circumstances. Such is precisely the evidence we want,—and a fact of that character would be worth more than a whole volume of speculative possibilities. Since Good's edition was published, we have had acres of paper wasted on revelations of one sort or another,—but a single fact of what Junius did, and none but Junius could, know would outweigh them all. If Sir Philip Francis were Junius, it is obvious that he must have known such by the hundred; and, after Lady Francis's statement, it would be ridiculous to talk of his being bound to secrecy, or of scruples, or of delicacy, or of honour—particularly as we have already shown that honour is out of the question if Junius were Sir Philip. There was no necessity for a distinct avowal,—fact and circumstances would have told more emphatically; and it is obvious that, short of direct avowal, Sir Philip Francis was willing to do anything or say anything to uphold and strengthen the opinion that he was Junius.

Sir Philip appears, indeed, to have said more than Lady Francis informed Lord Campbell: for Mr. Wade now distinctly states that Lord Chatham corresponded with Junius, which is also stated by Sir F. Darris, on the authority of Du Bois,—and further, that before Sir Philip Francis went to India, he—

“avowed himself to be the author, and his avowal was made known to the King and the government, whether to the whole of the ministry, or exclusively to His Majesty and Lord North, does not appear.” This statement [says Mr. Wade] I make on the authority of communications from Lady Francis, and other survivors of the family of Sir P. Francis.

Now, with all respect for Lady Francis and the survivors of the family, we must observe that these partial and bit-by-bit revelations are open to very serious objections, even if they did not contradict each other. In this instance,



it is obvious that if, as Lady Francis assured Lord Campbell in 1845, Sir Philip Francis "never avowed himself" to her as the author, she could not know from him that "before he went to India" he had "avowed himself to be the author" to others. Of course the reader, if at all acquainted with the subject, has heard the above story before, though it appears to have been new to Mr. Wade; for it was told as a report by Taylor thirty years since, and discredited, if not disproved, almost as long ago by Mr. Barker. He stated, with express reference to it, that he was informed by His Royal Highness the Duke of Sussex, "that in the last conversation which His Royal Highness held with his mother, the late Queen Charlotte, she assured him that George the Third did not know who wrote the *Letters of Junius*." Here, then, an old, discredited, "report"—and that is the best that could be said of it in its best day—suddenly changes its character, and assumes the appearance of a confidential communication from Sir Philip Francis to his wife or one of his family, contradicted by his widow's direct assertion that such confidential communication was never made.

The pamphlet to which we have already alluded as published in 1813 was written by Mr. John Taylor, since so much better known as the author of '*Junius Identified*,'—and entitled—

"A Discovery of the Author of the Letters of Junius, founded on such evidence and illustrations as explain all the mysterious circumstances and apparent contradictions which have contributed to the concealment of this most important secret of our times."

Whether this pamphlet went, before its time to the trunk-maker or was bought up and destroyed we know not, but certainly it is very difficult to obtain a copy. The writer of the review of '*Junius Identified*' in the *Edinburgh* does not appear to have seen it,—my Lord Brougham apparently knew nothing about it when, in 1845, he published the last but one of his opinions on the subject of Francis and Junius.—Sir F. Dwaris has evidently not heard of it. It was in this pamphlet, as we have mentioned that Mr. Taylor cleared up "all the mysterious circumstances" by proclaiming that Dr. Francis was the author, assisted by his son Philip, a youth of nineteen, as Mr. Taylor said:—which hypothesis, as above stated, Sir Philip denounced as "a silly and malignant falsehood." Now, "silly" it certainly was. But to describe it as a "malignant falsehood" was ungenerous and unjust; for, as Mr. Taylor has since publicly stated, before the pamphlet was published, he—

"requested a friend to call on Sir Philip Francis and inform him, that if he had the slightest objection to have his name connected with the investigation, he might rely on the total suppression of the work;" to which Sir Philip Francis replied:—"You are quite at liberty to print whatever you think proper, provided nothing scandalous be said of my private character." Nothing scandalous was said. The pamphlet was a simple, argumentative piece of nonsense, perfectly respectful to both father and son; and to denounce it publicly after this coarse rude fashion is proof to us that Sir Philip acted throughout on principles not consistent with a high-minded, generous, and abstract love of truth.

Further, according to Mr. Wade, as we understand him, after the publication of this pamphlet, but before the publication of '*Junius Identified*,'—though whether before or after makes no difference,—

"Sir Philip Francis attempted a diversion. He called upon Mr. Taylor and intimated his surprise at the wildgoose chase in which he had learned he was wasting his time: said that so many years had elapsed,

and so many fruitless attempts had been made to discover Junius, that it now seemed perfectly hopeless to expect he would ever be found out. '*He would be a lucky person indeed*,' continued Sir Philip, '*who could find out Junius: why, it would make a man's fortune*.' Finding these discouragements had failed to make the desired impression, Sir Philip observed at parting: '*If you do persist in your purpose, I hope you will present me with a copy of your book*.'"

Call you this discouragement?—and is it consistent with the indignant letter addressed to the "Editor of the *Monthly Magazine*?"—We shall now revert to the history of the discovery.

It was manifest at a glance that "all the mysterious circumstances" were not satisfactorily explained by Mr. Taylor's hypothesis. It was impossible to believe that Dr. Francis, a clergyman,—a man of position and character,—of great and varied accomplishments—a man of learning—a known ministerial writer—one who had been ranked by opposition as amongst the gentlemen pensioners of the press during Lord Bute's ascendancy—the agent employed by Lord Bute's friend and the King's friend to buy off Churchill—the personal favourite of the King, who, it is said, had bestowed on him a living and the chaplaincy of Chelsea Hospital,—should, being dead, turn out to be Junius! The conjecture was altogether so wild and strange, that Sir Philip might very naturally call it "silly." Mr. Taylor appears to have thought so; for within a year or two, and for reasons to be hereafter guessed at, he silently threw the Doctor overboard with all the multitudinous quotations from Demosthenes and Horace,—and lo, Philip the son reigned in his stead! Undeterred by the ill success of his first venture,—regardless of the rebuke of being publicly denounced as the writer of a silly and malignant falsehood,—Mr. Taylor "shot an arrow of the self-same flight," and brought down a new quarry feathered at all points as Junius.—Having said thus much about the "history," we come to the "mystery" of '*Junius Identified*.'

About this time, possibly in consequence of the publication of the first pamphlet, Mr. Taylor became acquainted with Mr. Du Bois. Du Bois, Sir Fortunatus Dwaris tells us, was "a connexion" of Sir Philip Francis,—meaning, we suppose, that they were distantly related. Other accounts say that he was his private secretary. Certainly he had been in close communication with him. So early as 1807 Du Bois published an edition of Francis's '*Horace*,' and the truth probably is told in the preface to that work, where Du Bois says,—

"The humble office imposed upon me was merely to correct a copy of the most approved edition of Dr. Francis's '*Horace*.' The booksellers required that the work should be sent immediately to press; and what is added to it was furnished during its progress. Desirous of some information on the subject, I took the liberty of waiting on Sir Philip Francis, who not only courteously instructed me in every thing that I wished to know, but supplied me, after several intrusions on his time, with three very ingenious notes."

We infer from the wording of this passage that there was no relationship, or even acquaintance, between them before 1807;—and from the fact that Lady Francis's statement was, in 1845, sent through Mr. Du Bois to Lord Campbell, that from that time the intimacy continued so long as Sir Philip lived.

Mr. Du Bois was a man of considerable ability; notoriously fond of a joke, even in his old age, and when presiding, as he did for many years, in the Court of Requests. He became early somewhat celebrated in a small way, by his '*Old Nick*,' published in 1802, 'My Pocket Book,' in 1807,—the joke in which had to be cracked in the courts of law. At the time when, or shortly after, we assume him to have

become acquainted with Francis, he was editor of '*The Monthly Mirror*.' In this latter periodical appeared, in May and June 1810, the Memoir of Sir Philip Francis before referred to,—written, it was understood, by Mr. Du Bois. Indeed, there is a vein of humour running throughout which betrays him in every line:—still we are of opinion (and Mr. Barker came to the same conclusion), that the facts must have been furnished by Francis. It was avowedly on the hints in this Memoir, which Mr. Taylor had not seen when he wrote his pamphlet, that he set to work once again, as we believe, with the aid of Mr. Du Bois,—and then favoured the public with his new hypothesis about Sir Philip. More than one person who was intimate with the parties at the time have spoken of Du Bois as the real author of '*Junius Identified*.' Lord Campbell introduces Lady Francis's statement with the following acknowledgment:—

"I am indebted for it to the kindness of my old and excellent friend, Mr. Edward Dubois, the ingenious author of '*Junius Identified*.'"—*Chancellors*, vol. vi. p. 345.

Lord Campbell's work was published while Mr. Du Bois was living.—Mr. Taylor is still living:—yet no contradiction or explanation has appeared. Mr. Taylor's attention has been drawn to this statement in that useful little work '*Notes and Queries*,'—and yet he has made no sign. Sir Fortunatus Dwaris, the intimate friend of Du Bois, goes further. "*Junius Identified*," he tells us, "is said to have been prepared under the eye of Sir Philip Francis, it may be, through the agency of Mr. Du Bois." Of course Du Bois always declared that Taylor "wrote" the pamphlet:—which may, in the words of Lady Francis, be called "an ingenious evasion." No doubt he wrote it. The question is, who suggested it—who furnished the materials?

No matter to what extent Du Bois originated or assisted in this "discovery," it must be obvious to the reader that this friend, acquaintance, connexion, or secretary of Sir Philip's was somehow or other mixed up with it from the first hour down to Lady Francis's communication in 1845:—nay, down to 1849, for Sir F. Dwaris describes his pamphlet as containing "some gossiping communications" received from Du Bois "shortly before" his death. Whether Du Bois first suggested the idea,—whether he was at the time in earnest or in jest, whether Francis was ignorant of or countenanced the "discovery,"—is matter of speculation which we shall leave to the reader. Du Bois may have been sincere: Taylor, we have little doubt, was sincere. Francis may have been willing, with seeming simplicity, to help one or both to evidence, or what looked like evidence, of what, as we have had abundant proof, he had no objection to have believed, and we shall show hereafter that Sir Philip certainly allowed the writer of '*Junius Identified*' and others to adduce circumstances, in proof that he was the writer, which he knew to be false. Thus much it was necessary to state as to the feelings of Sir Philip in respect to what he is generally believed to have publicly disowned as a "malignant" falsehood, before entering on the consideration of the evidence itself.—This we shall do next week.

*London and its Celebrities. A Second Series of Literary and Historical Memorials of London.* By J. Henneage Jesse. 2 vols. Bentley.

It will be in the remembrance, no doubt, of many of our readers,—and still more strongly, perhaps, in the remembrance of Mr. Jesse's purchasers,—that that gentleman was guilty about three years back of perpetrating two of the dullest, and, as far as errors went, worst volumes that the



London press has given about London or on any other subject in which common accuracy is the essential quality. These two volumes—which we found ourselves called on to condemn [*Athen.* No. 1034]—were an instalment of four; and Mr. Jesse, thunderstruck at the reception which his book encountered, not only from ourselves but from the father of all antiquarian periodical literature—our old friend Sylvanus Urban,—properly withheld for a time the other half of his work. He has had the good sense, at the same time, to put himself to school on the subject of his election,—and to wait for the publication of Mr. Cunningham's 'Handbook for London.' The result of this long period for revision is such as will secure him a welcome. His present publication—and we have read it with a suspicious eye—is a safe and agreeable book. We say safe because, like a prudent mariner, he has steered by authorities more careful than himself,—and we add agreeable because Mr. Jesse has never failed in concocting at least a plausible book on any subject which he has taken in hand. He makes a good sketch—groups his materials with a painter's eye—and mixes his colours well. But the hand of genius is wanting when the whole gets beyond the sketch and the skeleton. Heaps of useless epithets and a rich redundancy of words choke his facts and overload his sentences; and it seems never to occur to him how much type he might save his printer with advantage to himself and to the eyes and understandings of his readers.

In a short Preface, Mr. Jesse tells us why he appears so late in the field, and what he has been about.—

"It appears to the author that some apology is required for the publication of these volumes. When he first contemplated writing a work on 'London,' it occurred to him that to persons whose avocations, whether of business or pleasure, led them to traverse the thoroughfares of the Great Metropolis, a work might not be unacceptable, which should point out such sites and edifices as have been rendered classical either by the romantic or literary associations of past times. It was a subject which has always afforded pleasure to the author, and he was sanguine enough to hope that he might be enabled to impart some pleasure to others. Other literary occupations, however, interfered to engage the leisure hours of the author; and in the mean time, after he had collected many of his materials, Mr. Knight commenced and completed the periodical publication of his interesting work on 'London.' Had the plan of Mr. Knight's work corresponded with that of the author he would unquestionably have relinquished his task. But as such was not the case, and moreover, as he was thus supplied with many valuable additional facts,—which the author gladly takes this opportunity of acknowledging,—it had the contrary effect of encouraging him to resume his original project. But the author subsequently found that he had other difficulties to contend against. This Second Series of his work was already in the hands of his publisher, when there appeared successively 'The Town,' by Mr. Leigh Hunt,—and Mr. Peter Cunningham's 'Handbook,'—the latter the most valuable work on 'London' which has appeared since the time of Stow. It is therefore with considerable and unaffected diffidence that the author submits to the public this Second Series of his work; for certainly had he been aware of the formidable literary rivalry which he was likely to encounter, he would on no account have entered the lists. In a work like the present, where there occur minute facts and dates at almost every page, there must almost necessarily be many errors; and for these the author can only throw himself on the consideration and indulgence of the reader."

Again, in the body of the work, "the author takes the earliest opportunity of acknowledging his frequent obligations to Mr. Cunningham, whose 'Handbook' has appeared in the interval between the publication of his first two and these

concluding volumes,"—and adds,—"Could the author have foreseen that so valuable a work on London was forthcoming, his own gossiping memoirs would never have been published."—But the most conspicuous testimonial to Mr. Cunningham's book is, the copious use which has been made of its contents. It is not for us to conjecture how far these compliments may reconcile Mr. Cunningham to the wholesale diluting of his book,—but we can imagine that Mr. Murray (so properly sensitive in the great American question) will scarcely approve of this encroachment on the pages of one of the most popular of his Handbooks.

It was well said by Sir William Davenant that no man grew great by imitation,—"as no man," he adds, "who sails by others' maps can make a new discovery." Mr. Jesse pretends to no new discovery. He takes the most accessible books,—and mixes his extracts with the conversation of the breakfast-table and the gossip which he has heard over a glass of wine. There is nothing in his volumes drawn from hidden sources. Yet there are passages that are curious:—and some, as our readers shall see, that deserve quotation.

Here is a plausible speculation about the final destination of the remains of Oliver Cromwell.

"Formerly there existed a favourite tradition among the inhabitants of Red Lion Square and its vicinity, that the body of Oliver Cromwell was buried in the centre of their square, beneath an obelisk, which stood there till within the last few years. The likelihood of such a fact strikes us, at first thought, as improbable enough; and yet, on consideration, we are inclined to think that beneath this spot not improbably moulder, not only the bones of the great Protector, but also those of Ireton and Bradshaw, whose remains were disinterred at the same time from Westminster Abbey, and exposed on the same gallows. As regards the last resting-place of these remarkable men, the contemporary accounts simply inform us, that on the anniversary of the death of Charles the First, their bodies were borne on sledges to Tyburn, where, after having hung till sunset, they were cut down and beheaded; that their bodies were then flung into a hole at the foot of the gallows, and their heads fixed upon poles on the roof of Westminster Hall. From the word Tyburn being here so distinctly laid down, it has usually been taken for granted that it was intended to designate the well-known place for executing criminals, nearly at the north end of Park Lane, or, as it was anciently styled, Tyburn Lane. When we read, however, of a criminal, in old times, being executed at Tyburn, we are not necessarily to presume that it was at this particular spot; the gallows having unquestionably been shifted at times from place to place, and the word Tyburn having been given indiscriminately, for the time being, to each distinct spot. For instance, sixty years before the death of Cromwell, the gallows were frequently erected at the extremity of St. Giles's parish, at the end of the present Tottenham Court Road; while for nearly two centuries the Holborn end of Fetter Lane, within a short distance of Red Lion Square, was no less frequently the place of execution. Indeed, in 1613, only a few years before the exhumation and gibbeting of Cromwell, we find Nathaniel Tomkins executed at this spot for his share in Waller's plot to surprise the city. In addition, however, to these surmises, is the curious fact of the bodies of Cromwell and Ireton having been brought in carts, on the night previous to their exposure on the gibbet, to the Red Lion Inn, Holborn,—from which Red Lion Square derives its name,—where they rested during the night. In taking this step it is surely not unreasonable to presume that the Government had in view the selection of a house in the immediate vicinity of the scaffold, in order that the bodies might be in readiness for the disgusting exhibition of the following morning. Supposing this to have been the case, the place of their exposure and interment could scarcely have been the end of Tyburn Lane, inasmuch as the distance thither from Westminster is actually shorter than that from Westminster to Red Lion Square; while, at the same time, there was apparently no good reason for adopting so

circutious a route.—The object of the Government could hardly have been to create a sensation, by parading the bodies along a populous thoroughfare, inasmuch as the ground between St. Giles's Pound and Tyburn, a distance of a mile and a half, was at this period almost entirely open country. The author has dwelt longer, perhaps, on the subject than such vague surmises may seem to deserve. The question, however, is not altogether an uninteresting one, and there may be others, probably, who may have the means of, and who may take a pleasure in, further elucidating it."

Our readers will forgive us; however, if we do not place reliance on Mr. Jesse's belief in this matter. We wish he could prove to us that Tyburn was a moveable place of execution, or supply a single reference to a good authority in which other places of execution in London were called Tyburn.

The last appearance of old Somerset House has afforded Mr. Jesse a good opportunity for some pleasant word-painting:—

"At the extremity of the apartments which had been occupied by Henrietta Maria, and subsequently by Catherine of Braganza, two large folding-doors opened into the ancient portion of the structure, into which, it would seem, for nearly a century, a human foot had scarcely ever intruded. Wandering through gloomy and uninhabitable apartments,—passing from room to room, and from corridor to corridor,—the intruders witnessed a strange and melancholy spectacle of departed splendour—a scene of mouldering walls and broken casements, of crumbling roofs and decayed furniture. The first apartment which they entered had apparently been the bedchamber of royalty. The floor was of oak, and the ceiling stuccoed. It was also panelled with oak, with gilt mouldings: some of the sconces still remained attached to the walls of the apartment, and from the ceiling there still hung a chain, from which a chandelier had once been suspended. In another of the apartments a chandelier was still hanging, and in a third were velvet curtains, which had once been crimson, fringed with gold. Their colour had faded to a tawdry olive, and only a few spangles and shreds of gold afforded evidence of their former costliness. In the audience-chamber the silken hangings still hung in tatters from the walls. There were two apartments which excited especial attention, from their having been converted into store-rooms for those trappings of royalty, which, in consequence of the gradual modernization of the rest of the structure, had from time to time been deposited in them. They contained articles of various kinds, the production and the fashion of different reigns, if not of different ages. Mixed with broken couches, and tattered hangings—with stools, screens, sconces, and fire-dogs—were discovered the vestiges of a throne, together with the spangled velvet with which it had once been canopied. Altogether, these deserted apartments presented a scene in which the imagination of Mrs. Radcliffe would have delighted to revel; and in which the muse of Dr. Johnson might have found fit food for meditating on the vanity of human wishes."

The readers of history to whom it may be new will like to hear where the young Pretender was lodged when last in London.—

"It was in Essex Street, at the house of a staunch Jacobite, Lady Primrose, that Prince Charles Edward was concealed during the secret visit which he paid to London, in 1750. 'In September, 1750,' says Dr. King, 'I received a note from my Lady Primrose, who desired to see me immediately. As soon as I waited on her, she led me into her dressing-room, and presented me to (the Pretender). If I was surprised to find him there, I was still more astonished when he acquainted me with the motives which had induced him to hazard a journey to England at this juncture. The impatience of his friends, who were in exile, had formed a scheme which was impracticable; but although it had been as feasible as they had represented it to him, yet no preparation had been made to carry it into execution. He was soon convinced that he had been deceived, and, therefore, after a stay in London of five days only, he returned to the place whence he came.' It was in Lady Primrose's hospitable mansion, in Essex Street, that the interesting



Flora Macdonald had previously found an asylum, when released from confinement by the Act of Grace, in 1747. At the south end of Essex Street may be seen two large pillars, with Corinthian capitals, apparently a portion of the old water-entrance to Essex House."

Here is a bit from the breakfast-table. The anecdotes are curious.—

"The author of the 'Pleasures of Memory' informs us that, when a boy, having an ardent desire to behold and converse with a man whose name was so illustrious in English Literature, he determined on introducing himself to the great Lexicographer, in the hope that his youth and inexperience might plead his excuse. Accordingly, he proceeded to Bolt Court, and after much hesitation, had actually his hand on the knocker, when his heart failed him, and he went away." The late Mr. D'Israeli used to relate, in conversation, a somewhat similar anecdote. Anxious to obtain the acquaintance and the countenance of so illustrious a name, and smitten with the literary enthusiasm of youth, he enclosed some verses of his own composition to Dr. Johnson, and in a modest appeal, solicited the opinion of the great critic as to their merits. Having waited for some time without receiving any acknowledgment of his communication, he proceeded to Bolt Court, and laid his hand upon the knocker with the same feelings of shyness and hesitation which had influenced his youthful contemporary, Mr. Rogers. His feelings may be readily imagined, when, on making the necessary inquiries of the servant who opened the door, he was informed that, only a few hours before, the great lexicographer had breathed his last."

Mr. Jesse in the following passage has well represented the feelings of many visitors to the Church of St. Olave's, Hart Street.—

"Not the least interesting object in St. Olave's church is a small monument of white marble, surmounted with the bust of a female displaying considerable beauty, and enriched with cherubims, skeletons' heads, palm-branches, and other ornaments. This monument is to the memory of Elizabeth, the fair wife of the gossiping, bustling, good-humoured Secretary of the Admiralty, Samuel Pepys, who erected this memorial in testimony of his affection and his grief. To many persons, indeed, the principal charm of St. Olave's Church consists in its connexion with the personal history of that most entertaining of autobiographers, and the frequent notices of it which occur in his amusing pages. Pepys resided close by in Seething Lane, and St. Olave's was his parish church. So little, indeed, has the old building been altered by time, and so graphic are the notices of it which occur in his 'Diary' that we almost imagine we see the familiar figure of the smartly-attired Secretary in one of the old oak pews; his fair wife reading out of the same prayer-book with him; her long glossy tresses falling over her shoulders; her eye occasionally casting a furtive glance at the voluptuous-looking satin petticoat of which she had borrowed the idea either from the Duchess of Orleans, or Lady Castlemaine; and her pretty face displaying as many of the fashionable black patches of the period, as her good-natured husband would allow her to disfigure herself with. The inscription on her monument, in Latin, informs us that she was descended in the female line from the noble family of the Cliffords; that she received her education at the court of France; that her virtues were only equalled by the beauty of her person and the accomplishments of her mind; that she was married at the age of fourteen, and that she died at the age of twenty-nine."

Few as they pass along Cheapside have failed to observe a balcony in the tower of Bow Church,—but few perhaps before the publication of Mr. Cunningham's book understood the purpose of its being there. This is well illustrated by Mr. Jesse.—

"Over the doorway of Bow Church, as seen from the side of Cheapside, may be observed a small balcony, to which considerable interest attaches itself. When tournaments were held in Cheapside, and when all great processions passed through this important thoroughfare, there stood on the north side of the old church, as early as the reign of Edward the Third, a stone building, called the *Crown-sild* or *shed*, in which the Kings of England

and their consorts sat as spectators; and from this circumstance, there can be little doubt that the balcony to which we have alluded owes its origin. It was in the Crown-sild, in 1509, that Henry the Eighth sat, disguised in the garb of a yeoman of the guard, to witness the procession of the city watch at night, on the eve of St. John. 'The city music,' we are told, 'preceded the Lord Mayor's officers in party-coloured liveries; then followed the sword-bearer, on horseback, in beautiful armour, before the Lord Mayor, mounted also on a stately horse, richly caparisoned, and attended by a giant and two pages on horseback, three pageants, morrice-dancers, and footmen. The sheriffs marched next, preceded also by their officers in proper liveries, and attended by their giants, pages, morrice-dancers and pageants; then followed a large body of demi-lancers in bright armour on stately horses; and after them a body of carabineers in white fustian coats, with the city arms upon their backs and breasts; a division of archers with their bows bent, and shafts of arrows by their side; a party of pikemen in crosslets and helmets; a body of halberdiers also in crosslets and helmets; and a great party of billmen, with helmets and aprons of mail, brought up the rear. The whole consisted of about two thousand, in several divisions, with musicians, drums, standards and ensigns, ranked and answering each other in proper places; who marched from the conduit at the west end of Cheapside, through Cheapside, Poultry, Cornhill and Leadenhall Street to Aldgate; and back again through Fenchurch Street, Gracechurch Street, Cornhill, and so back to the conduit from whence it first set out; illuminated with nine hundred and forty cressets, or large lanterns, fixed at the ends of poles, and carried on men's shoulders; of which two hundred were provided at the expense of the city; five hundred at the expense of the incorporated companies, and two hundred and forty at the expense of the city constables. And besides these, the streets were well lighted with a great number of lamps hung against the houses on each side, decorated with garlands of flowers and greens.' So delighted was King Henry with the spectacle, that on the occasion of the next procession, which took place on the eve of St. Peter and St. Paul, he carried the Queen and her ladies to witness the sight, from the 'crown-sild' in Cheapside. Charles the Second and Queen Anne are severally mentioned as witnessing the pageantry of Lord Mayor's day from 'a balcony' in Cheapside, but whether or no it was from the 'crown-sild' of Bow Church, we have no means of ascertaining."

In a short paragraph about St. Andrew's, Holborn, Mr. Jesse makes two assertions which we feel assured he cannot support.—"In St. Andrew's Church, of which he was for some years the parish clerk, lies buried John Webster, the author of 'The White Devil,' 'The Duchess of Malfy,' and other plays." Now, the fact of the parish clerkship is, after diligent inquiry, justly discredited by Mr. Dyce,—and we can assure Mr. Jesse that the registers of St. Andrew's have been searched in vain for the entry of his burial. Webster is just as likely to have been buried in St. Stephen's or St. Saviour's as in St. Andrew's, Holborn—or at Islington near Canonbury Tower,—which we are sorry to learn from Mr. Jesse is no longer shown to the public. "Those," says Mr. Jesse, "who may be desirous to obtain admission to its interior, are forewarned that, as recently happened to the author, they will only expose themselves to disappointment and incivility."

*Ten Years in India; or, the Life of a Young Officer.* By Capt. Albert Hervey. 3 vols. Shoberl.

HAD we been just now in search of further illustration of an argument, not unfamiliar to the readers of the *Athenæum*, on the low general scale of acquirement in the army, fortune could scarcely have sent us one better suited to our purpose than the three scarlet-coated volumes before us. Two-thirds of the matter is concerned with an account of the silliest of adven-

tures, or the record of the most frivolous details of daily routine. That any man should sit down seriously to write such things, may be taken as a strong expression of the idleness and *ennui* which seek any means of relief in the service,—but that he should go through the deliberate process of publication after reading over what he had thus written, must be taken to imply either the absence of consultation with his professional brethren, or, as we have hinted, a very low standard of literary judgment in the profession. The style is worse than the matter,—rambling, vague, weak, and incoherent. Yet, in spite of these drawbacks—partly because of them—the book possesses an interest which the author may not have intended,—for it is gained at his own expense and at that of his fellow officers. Capt. Hervey has the merit of truthfulness,—and blurts out a confession with the frankness, conscious or unconscious, of a soldier. The public feeling was deeply wounded a few weeks ago, when the fact was made known in London that in Ceylon Capt. Watson was in the habit of signing proclamations of life and death of which he did not understand a syllable. The same habit, it would seem, prevails almost universally in Hindūstan. Our officers in command, it is asserted, constantly impose on themselves and on the natives in this way:—issue orders, receive reports, which they act on, without comprehending a word of the language in which they are conveyed. On this point Capt. Hervey says:—

"A young fellow is often laughed out of the good intention of studying the language, by being told that it is all stuff and nonsense; there is no necessity for it; nobody thinks of such a thing until after having been five or six years in the service; that a man can get on well enough without putting himself to such trouble and expense; that all he has to do is to say '*Achha*' (Anglicè, 'very good') to everything that may be told or reported to him.—'*Achha*' was the word which would carry him through every difficulty.—'*Achha*' was the talismanic dissyllable which was to do all his duty, and transact every business with the native soldiery. Nothing else was required! Now, just to prove the impropriety of this advice, I will relate an anecdote of a little circumstance which occurred to one of our doing duty ensigns at Palaveram. It so happened that he was orderly officer of the day on the occasion of the regimental lines being on fire. It was his particular duty to be present on the spot, and to assist in putting the fire out. The bugles sounded '*the alarm*,'—the drums beat '*the long roll*,'—guards and pickets turned out,—and the men flocked to the place. The officers were also present doing all they could to extinguish the flames. Everybody was on the spot, excepting the one of all others who should have been there, viz., the officer of the day, who was nowhere to be found; not at his post, at all events. He was seated in his bungalow, in dishabille, smoking a cigar—taking it coolly, as people say. He had heard the bugles, but he did not know one '*call*' from another; and as for the drums, he imagined them to be some one practising! Presently in rushed a havildar (sergeant) breathless with running, '*Sahib! sahib, line ko ringār lūggā!*' (Sir, sir, the lines are on fire!) The young officer responded to the intelligence by saying, '*Achha!*' The havildar retired. Shortly after in came a naigur (corporal), repeating the same fact. '*Achha*' was the answer he got, and he retired also. I happened to gallop through the man's compound, on my way to the lines, and called out to him, but he heeded me not. 'Where is the officer of the day?' inquired the major. 'Send and call him! send an orderly immediately!' An orderly came and found my gentleman seated as before! '*Major Sahib bolātā hai—sahib!*' exclaimed the orderly.—('The major calls you, sir'), and quitted the bungalow; but '*Achha*' was the answer he received. Another orderly came, and received the same reply. At last in galloped the adjutant. '*Hallo! Is Mr. — at home?*' Up jumped the unfortunate griffin, puffing his cigar, with a glass of brandy pawney in his hand, and went out. 'Do you want me? What



is the matter?" "Cool fellow!" thought he of the brazen spurs. "Matter, sir?" asked the adjutant. "Don't you know that the lines are on fire, and that you should be there? The major has sent twice for you, and you are not moving! You have got yourself into a precious scrape! Make haste and put on your things, and hurry down to the barracks!" "Poor lad! He had made as much haste as he could, and presented himself long after the fire had been put out."

In another place Capt. Hervey tells us, that "the greater number of officers now on the staff, and holding the highest, most influential, and most important situations in almost every department, have not passed any examination, and know little or nothing of the languages." These words he prints with all the emphasis of italics. Of the confusion, the cruelty, and the malpractices caused by this ignorance these volumes furnish abundant evidence.

The relation of the European to the native and to the half-caste population receives some additional illustration from these volumes. Unlike the great conquering races of antiquity, the Saxon, it appears, will not mix with the subdued race—the one great fact; should it prove unalterable, which threatens peril to our Eastern dominion. We cannot extirpate the natives of Hindūstan, as we do the savages of Australia and the red men of America, in order to recolonize the country; and unless we take some root in the soil—employ other than mere material means of sustaining the empire which we have founded—a time may come when Buddhist, Brahmin, and Mohammedan may combine, and, using the weapons that we are teaching them to wield, expel us from the land. Capt. Hervey says, rather than take to wife a lady of even Indo-British parentage, he would marry an ourang-outang,—though he admits that they possess wealth, beauty, talents, and refined manners. We think an ourang-outang the proper companion for a gentleman who holds and avows so unreasoning a prejudice. Capt. Hervey's account of the intercourse of the Saxon with people of pure blood reminds us of the inveterate and disgraceful prejudice of the Americans against the Negro blood.—Calcutta, it is fair to say, seems to be somewhat more civilized than Madras.

"Vepery-baits!" What in the name of fortune can they be? They are not "white-baits" truly; (for there is little or no white in them,) but they are queer sorts of baits, by nibbling at which young men are very liable to be hooked. And when once hooked, there is no disentangling themselves therefrom. The inhabitants of Vepery and its environs are composed generally of Eurasians, or Indo-Britens (or, to speak more plainly, half-castes); some of them rolling in wealth, andaping all the airs and following all the customs of consequential importance which that wealth can command. They live in excellent houses, furnished in first-rate style, keep up splendid establishments, and do all they possibly can to vie with the European residents in the elegance of their abodes or the brilliancy of their equipages. These people have never been out of the country. They have been born and brought up at Madras, and are consequently little calculated to associate with the well-bred and educated families from England, who compose the elite of the society. They try, however, all they can to induce European gentlefolks to enter within the precincts of their houses, by holding out to them all manner of allurements to gain their company, and have their names down on their drawing-room tables. Those, however, who are known to associate with these sable-browed individuals are kept at arm's length by respectable people, and never allowed to enter the circles of the select community of the place. Time was when officers of the Madras army used to mix promiscuously with them, but such things never occur now-a-days. A person of colour is seldom or ever seen amongst the European residents, and where they are they are looked upon as dark spots (which they certainly are), casting a gloom over the fairer portion of those amongst whom

they move. In Calcutta they are numerous, and I have heard that the names of many of them are down on the list of government-house visitors. They are there admitted into society, and officers very frequently marry their daughters. The "Koi-Hais" call them by the very queer term of "Chee-Chee." What that means I know not, but with us they go by the designation of "Vepery-Brahmins," and a very apt one too it is. But to proceed. Many of the children of the Eurasian families (in fact all) are brought up at schools kept by English people, who receive them as pupils at moderate charges, and males as well as females are tolerably educated in all the fine accomplishments requisite for ladies and gentlemen. They are taught English also. But the way in which they talk it is quite a different thing. Their language is grammatical, but their pronunciation gives a real Englishman a feeling of disgust. There is something so peculiarly "half-caste" in it, and it carries with it such sounds and modes of expression, so different to what the ear is accustomed in England, that the very hearing these people speak is offensive. Their education finished, the females return to their parents, who do all they can to catch eligibles for their daughters; while the sons are generally provided for as clerks in the government or mercantile offices, or set up in business. They are thus enabled to gain an honest and respectable independence, without incumbering their relatives. In their own places and sphere the men are as they should be; but the slightest encouragement added to their wealth and self-importance renders them overbearing, and in every way objectionable. Now officers belonging to regiments stationed in Madras are frequently thrown amongst these dark-eyed bewitching syrens, and are very liable to become smitten with their charms. I must say the young women are very pretty, notwithstanding their colour. The consequences of associating with them are almost inevitable. Young, unthinking ensigns and lieutenants easily fall into the trap set for them;—the bait is a sweet one;—they propose, are accepted as a matter of course, and are obliged, *nolens volens*, to marry. Such an affair seldom occurs when men are in their sober senses. A dinner or supper takes place, plenty of wine is drunk, and then they are ripe for fun and mischief. Coming in contact with some of these creatures, they are carried away by the excitement of the moment, and, scarcely aware of what they are doing, they get themselves into an awkward predicament, from which in their calmer senses they would willingly extricate themselves, but from which there is no release. The proposition made is accepted, the bait has been nibbled and swallowed, and the unfortunate victim hooked for life. I have known several instances in which young care-for-nothing lads have been thus entrapped;—men of excellent connexions at home yoking themselves with families far beneath them, and such as they would be ashamed to introduce to their relatives. There is generally plenty of money with these Vepery-baits. A man who is "hard up" makes a good business of it *pro tempore*; but the cash once expended, which it very soon is, away flies everything else, verifying the old adage that when poverty comes in at the door, love beats a hasty retreat with outspread wings through the window. I have scarcely ever heard of any of these matches turning out well. Quite the contrary. The wife is no companion to the husband. There is a wide difference between the two in every respect. They cannot consequently pull together as man and wife should do, and the end of the connexion is oftentimes lamentable and disgraceful. The man who marries a "Vepery-Brahmin" (except he be himself one of that fraternity) is a fool and is to be pitied. I would rather marry an ourang-outang.

Our readers will see how full of absurdity all this statement is; yet it discloses an unwholesome feeling of caste which no doubt may be supposed to exist more or less;—that it is universal, cannot be accepted on the strength of paragraphs so full of inconsistency and self-conviction as the above.—In this sort of statement, however, lies all the interest that Capt. Hervey's volumes possess. He often speaks of things which more intelligent writers would deem beneath their notice; and the reader of our colonial and dependential history will there-

fore pick out of the platitudes which he has heaped together a few details of not inconsiderable value for the illustration of better books.

*Alton Locke, Tailor and Poet: an Autobiography.* 2 vols. Chapman & Hall.

We might say with truth of "Alton Locke" that it is a powerfully written and exciting novel. It is full of vivid scenes and characters, painted in broad and strong. To us this autobiography comes as a novel;—a work of polite literature, to be read aloud in the family circle while the members are pursuing some graceful or fanciful work after the severer duties and studies of the day are closed. In the disguise of an exciting fiction it presents itself before the eyes of those who "dwell at ease."—But that which is a novel to us contains the life and soul and body of those who live in the dark places of the earth. The scenes and descriptions are no creations of a novelist, but realities snatched up almost at random from their black abyss, and exhibited naked and awful to the eyes of the society that lies in daylight. The woes here described are not the woes that cease at the end of the book,—not woes existing only between the boards which contain their record. They are sorrows that grow daily deeper and fiercer and heavier to be borne; making in their spread and intensity the common novel sorrows, however eloquently expounded, seem to the earnest mind like things spoken with stammering lips and in broken words. Such a book as this in the guise of a novel reminds us of the old Roman games, wherein the scenes brought into the arena were no theatrical show, but presented real men fighting hand to hand for life.

The author of these terrible revelations shows the genius of an artist in softening the painful impression of the story by the spirit of peace and loving-kindness that broods beautifully over all, like a golden sunset after a day of storm and gloom. But the imagination of the writer is shown only in his hope and faith;—the reality that meanwhile remains through all is the Valley of the Shadow of Death.

We may say here, at once, that in other qualities of an artist the author of "Alton Locke" is deficient;—or rather, that he is so in this book. It does not seem so much the want of skill as the intensity of his purpose by which he is led to violate proportion and other epic rules. The materials with which he is constructing he feels to be too rough for the application of the rule and plummet. His book is a thing thrust between the living and the dead; and the moral plague which it interprets and would help to stay, consciously mocks at the restraints of rule and the ministries of grace. In "Alton Locke" there is a negation of self on the part of the writer,—an absence of all desire to stand forth as a talented author. Steadiness of aim and singleness of purpose are not throughout beguiled for a moment. The purpose is to arouse the attention of a wider class than that which refers to blue books and official reports, and to force them to look on the social evils that are lying at their doors. To detail lifeless facts is not enough; and, therefore, by the spirit within him, which gives him understanding, Alton endeavours to show the "spirit of growth" by which these facts have been animated. The social problems perplexing the world, as well as the social miseries that have given rise to them, are boldly grappled with by a writer who does not go into the task of moral anatomy with a box of aromatic vinegar at his nose. His real desire is, that the reader should taste all their qualities of offence.

The story may be briefly told. Alton Locke is the child of a widow, who is a Baptist from conscientious motives,—because she considers



"the Baptists as the only sect who thoroughly embody the Calvinistic doctrines." Born with the temperament of a poet,—living in a little suburban street of the very ugliest kind,—sickly and decrepit in person,—lying awake, "thro' long nights of sleepless pain,"—listening "with a pleasant awe to the ceaseless roll of the market waggons bringing up to the great city the treasures of the gay green country for which he had yearned all his life in vain,—brought up in the strictest form of Calvinism, with no education beyond what could be obtained at the small day school attached to the neighbouring chapel, where he learned "to read, write and sum,"—with no amusement "except now and then a London walk with his mother holding his hand the whole way,"—his only books 'The Pilgrim's Progress' and the Bible, —Alton Locke yet contrives to nourish an intense love of Nature.—

"I knew every leaf and flower in the little front garden; every cabbage and rhubarb plant in Battersea gardens was wonderful and beautiful to me. Clouds and water I learned to delight in, from my occasional lingerings upon Battersea Bridge, and yearning westward looks towards the sun setting above rich meadows and wooded gardens, to me a forbidden El Dorado. I brought home wild flowers, chance beetles and butterflies. To me they were God's angels shining in coats of mail and fairy masquerading dresses."

"The sketch of the old mother is very good:—glorying in her dissent, and in being sprung from Puritan blood which had flowed beneath the knife of Star Chamber butchers and in the battles of Naseby and of Sedgemoor:—

"My mother moved by rule and method; by God's law, as she considered, and that only. She seldom smiled. Her word was absolute. She never commanded twice, without punishing. And yet there were abysses of unspoken tenderness in her, as well as clear, sound, womanly sense and insight. But she thought herself as much bound to keep down all tenderness as if she had been some ascetic of the middle ages—so do extremes meet! It was 'carnal,' she considered. She had as yet no right to have any 'spiritual affection' for us. We were still 'children of wrath' and of the devil,'—not yet 'convinced of sin,' 'converted, born again.' She had no more spiritual bond with us, she thought, than she had with a heathen or a Papist. She dared not even pray for our conversion, earnestly as she prayed on every other subject. For though the majority of her sect would have done so, her clear logical sense would yield to no such tender inconsistency. Had it not been decided from all eternity? We were elect, or we were reprobate. Could her prayers alter that? If He had chosen us, He would call us in His own good time; and, if not, — Only, again and again, as I afterwards discovered from a journal of hers, she used to beseech God with agonised tears to set her mind at rest by revealing to her His will towards us. For that comfort she could at least rationally pray. But she received no answer. Poor, beloved mother! If thou couldst not read the answer, written in every flower and every sunbeam, written in the very fact of our existence here at all, what answer would have sufficed thee? And yet, with all this, she kept the strictest watch over our morality. Fear, of course, was the only motive she employed; for how could our still 'carnal understandings' be affected with love to God? And love to herself was too paltry and temporary to be urged by one who knew that her life was uncertain, and who was always trying to go down to the deepest eternal ground and reason of everything, and take her stand upon that. So our god, or gods rather, till we were twelve years old, were hell, the rod, the ten commandments, and public opinion. Yet under them, not they, but something deeper far, both in her and us, preserved us pure. Call it natural character, conformation of the spirit,—conformation of the brain, if you like, if you are a scientific man and a phrenologist. I never yet could dissect and map out my own being, or my neighbours', as you analysts do."

That stern Puritan education, as Alton says, developed qualities that stood him in great

stead during the vicissitudes and struggles of his after life.—The whole chapter relating to his childhood is extremely interesting and true to the life. An uncle, who is a grocer well to do in the world, and who allows his sister-in-law a small annuity, completes the duty which he thinks he owes to his poor relations by binding his nephew Alton Locke apprentice to a tailor,—whilst his own son is sent to Cambridge to study for the Church:—that being now-a-days the approved method of converting a tradesman's son into a gentleman.—The following is a sketch of Alton's introduction to the tailor's work-room.—

"I stumbled after Mr. Jones up a dark, narrow, iron staircase till we emerged through a trap-door into a garret at the top of the house. I recoiled with disgust at the scene before me; and here I was to work—perhaps through life! A low lean-to room, stifling me with the combined odours of human breath and perspiration, stale beer, the sweet sickly smell of gin, and the sour and hardly less disgusting one of new cloth. On the floor, thick with dust and dirt, scraps of stuff and ends of thread, sat some dozen haggard, untidy, shoeless men, with a mingled look of care and recklessness that made me shudder. The windows were tight closed to keep out the cold winter air; and the condensed breath ran in streams down the panes, chequering the dreary out-look of chimney tops and smoke. The conductor handed me over to one of the men. 'Here, Crossthwaite, take this younger, and make a tailor of him. Keep him next you, and prick him up with your needle if he shirks.'"

The description of the tailors at work is graphic, but unsuitable for extract. The chief aim of the book is to show the realities of the artisan's life. The following passage is worthy of meditation.—

"I owe an apology to my readers for introducing this ribaldry. God knows it is as little to my taste as it can be to theirs; but the thing exists,—and those who live beside such a state of things ought to know what the men are like to whose labour, aye life blood, they owe their luxuries. They are their 'brothers' keepers,' let them deny it as they will."

The examples which Alton sees and the conversation which he hears make a strange contrast to the almost conventual seclusion of his former life; but another influence yet more powerful is at work on him. His mother had exacted a promise that he would not look into the print-shop windows,—which he obeyed: she had forbidden him also to read any book which he had not first shown to her,—and thence arose his first act of disobedience.—An old book shop stood in his way home from work. Here he used to stop and timidly take up some volume the title of which was attractive. The innocent guilty pleasure grew on him day by day:—"innocent because human, guilty because disobedient."—An acquaintance with the old Scotchman who kept the shop arose out of this, and the bookseller lent him books.—The following is an account of the mode in which he pursued his studies:—and shows the labour with which the poor who have a thirst for learning have to draw the waters for its quenching.—

"I slept in a little lean-to garret at the back of the house, some ten feet long by six wide. I could just stand upright against the inner wall, while the roof on the other side ran down to the floor. There was no fireplace in it, or any means of ventilation. No wonder I coughed all night accordingly, and woke about two every morning with choking throat and aching head. My mother often said that the room was 'too small for a Christian to sleep in, but where could she get a better?' Such was my only study. I could not use it as such, however, at night without discovery; for my mother carefully looked in every evening, to see that my candle was out. But when my kind cough woke me, I rose, and creeping like a mouse about the room—for my mother and sister slept in the next chamber, and

every sound was audible through the narrow partition.—I drew my darling books out from under a board of the floor, one end of which I had gradually loosened at odd minutes, and with them a rushlight, earned by running on messages, or by taking bits of work home, and finishing them for my fellows. No wonder that with this scanty rest, and this complicated exertion of hands, eyes and brain, followed by the long dreary day's work of the shop, my health began to fail; my eyes grew weaker and weaker; my cough became more acute; my appetite failed me daily. My mother noticed the change, and questioned me about it affectionately enough. But I durst not, alas! tell the truth. It was not one offence, but the arrears of months of disobedience which I should have had to confess; and so arose infinite false excuses, and petty prevarications, which embittered and clogged still more my already overtasked spirit. \* \* Before starting forth to walk two miles to the shop at six o'clock in the morning, I sat some three or four hours shivering on my bed, putting myself into cramped and painful postures, not daring even to cough, lest my mother should fancy me unwell, and come in to see me, poor dear soul! —my eyes aching over the page, my feet wrapped up in the bedclothes, to keep them from the miserable pain of the cold; longing, watching, dawn after dawn, for the kind summer mornings, when I should need no candlelight. Look at the picture awhile, ye comfortable folks, who take down from your shelves what books you like best at the moment, and then lie back, amid prints and statuettes, to grow wise in an easy chair, with a blazing fire and a camphine lamp. The lower classes uneducated! Perhaps you would be so too, if learning cost you the privation which it costs some of them."

Crossthwaite, the workman to whose care Alton was confided in the work-room, is a well-drawn character.—He is a type of the better class of Chartist workmen:—intelligent, thoughtful, self-educated, sober, well-conducted,—but driven into chartism at last "by poverty, guilelessness, and the craving of an unsatisfied intellect." Chartism, he fancies, offers the only outlook for ameliorating the condition of the working classes.—The whole of the conversation which develops the working of the artisan's mind,—his difficulties, aspirations and grievances, is well worth studying.—it is evidently written by one who knows them. We make room for the following passage from this somewhat dangerous and debateable ground, because it embodies some of the morals of this revolutionary time which statesmen will do well to lay to heart.—Of course it is Alton, the future Chartist, who speaks.—

"Yes, it was true. Society had not given me my rights. And woe unto the man on whom that idea, true or false, rises lurid, filling all his thoughts with stifling glare, as of the pit itself. Be it true, be it false, it is equally a woe to believe it; to have to live on a negation; to have to worship for our only idea, as hundreds of thousands of us have this day, the hatred of the things which are. Ay, though one of us here and there may die in faith, in sight of the promised land, yet is it not hard, when looking from the top of Pisgah into 'the good time coming,' to watch the years slipping away one by one, and death crawling nearer and nearer, and the people wearying themselves in the fire for very vanity, and Jordan not yet passed, the promised land not yet entered? while our little children die around us, like lambs beneath the knife, of cholera and typhus and consumption, and all the diseases which the good time can and will prevent; which, as science has proved, and you the rich confess, might be prevented at once, if you dared to bring in one bold and comprehensive measure, and not sacrifice yearly the lives of thousands to the idol of vested interests and a majority in the House. Is it not hard to men who smart beneath such things to help crying aloud.—Thou cursed Moloch-Mammon, take my life if thou wilt; let me die in the wilderness, for I have deserved it; but these little ones in mines and factories, in typhus cellars and Tooting pandemoniums, what have they done? If not in their fathers' cause, yet still in theirs, were it so great a sin to die



upon a barricade?" Or after all, my working brothers, is it true of our promised land, even as of that Jewish one of old, that the *priests'* feet must first cross the mystic stream into the good land and large which God has prepared for us? Is it so indeed? Then, in the name of the Lord of Hosts, ye priests of His, why will ye not awake, and arise, and go over Jordan, that the people of the Lord may follow you?"

We cannot follow the course of the painful story. Crossthwaite's companionship and the mother's errors have their natural course on Alton. Finally, his mother makes the discovery that her son is an infidel; and by her command he quits the home which and the parent whom he "never saw again." He takes up his abode with Sandie Mackaye, the bookseller; and reads and studies without undergoing so many privations as before. His love of poetry develops itself,—and his power of becoming a poet. Sandie Mackaye gives him much sound counsel,—good for others as well as for Alton Locke. He has written a poem about the Pacific Islands; and Sandie insists that he should give his powers to the real life and misery round him instead of "speering after it in the Cannibal Islands."—"If God had meant ye to write about Pacific he'd a put you there, and because he means you to write about London town he has put you there, and given you an unco' sharp taste of the ways of it."

A people's poet, accordingly, Alton Locke becomes. He goes on tailoring and writing poetry,—enjoying his rare holiday in the picture galleries—the only places where he could quench his burning thirst after scenes from Nature. At length his old master, who had belonged to what is called the "honourable trade,"—that is, had all his work done at home, paid good prices, and did not employ a middleman,—dies. The revelations that have of late come out respecting the condition of the working artisans—the tailors especially—had prepared us for what is written here. When the old master died, his son reigned in his stead, and determined to make haste to be rich. He resolved to reduce his workmen's wages, and commence business in the "show trade," and announced that in future the work would be given out to be made up at the men's own homes. As this arrangement, which sounds pleasantly enough, contains in itself the evil that is lying at the root of artisan life in England,—we give the following extract.—

"We were all bound to expect this. Every working tailor must come to this at last, on the present system; and we are only lucky in having been spared so long. You all know where this will end—in the same misery as fifteen thousand out of twenty thousand of our class are enduring now. We shall become the slaves, often the bodily prisoners, of Jews, middlemen, and sweaters, who draw their livelihood out of our starvation. We shall have to face, as the rest have, ever decreasing prices of labour, ever increasing profits made out of that labour by the contractors who will employ us—arbitrary fines, inflicted at the caprice of hirelings—the competition of women and children, and starving Irish—our hours of work will increase one-third, our actual pay decrease to less than one-half; and in all this we shall have no hope, no chance of improvement in wages, but ever more penury, slavery, misery, as we are pressed on by those who are sucked by fifties—almost by hundreds—yearly, out of the honourable trade in which we were brought up, into the infernal system of contract work, which is devouring our trade and many others, body and soul. Our wives will be forced to sit up night and day to help us—our children must labour from the cradle without chance of going to school, hardly of breathing the fresh air of Heaven,—our boys, as they grow up, must turn beggars or paupers—our daughters, as thousands do, must eke out their miserable earnings by prostitution. And after all, a whole family will not gain what one of us had been doing, as yet, single-handed."

Alton joins Crossthwaite,—and becomes a member of a Chartist club. He is sent up by Mackaye to see his gentleman cousin at Cambridge, and ask his help in getting his poems published by subscription. This incident is made the means of bringing the two classes together; and the opportunity is taken of stating *both* sides of the argument on the social problem that has to be solved,—viz., how the rich and the poor are to be together. The author brings types of the best of each class face to face, and deliberately and impartially produces the points that are becoming daily more at issue between the rich and the poor. The whole merits a careful reading. 'Alton Locke' is not a partizan book. While the sufferings and sorrows of the working men are written down with eloquence and sympathy, their mistakes, their errors, their exaggerations are exposed. There is no vulgar run against the higher classes as such:—which is the common error of books written to redress the poor.—It is enough further to say, that a love episode warms and beautifies some of the after-scenes; and that through many incidents the morals which will be understood by the foundation here laid, are worked out with earnestness of spirit and honesty of purpose. The duties which society neglects are uncompromisingly pointed out,—but so is the falsehood of some of the adopted popular methods of cure. The problem is presented by its many sides.

Alton is tried and imprisoned as a Chartist:—and finally, after some other incidents of like nature, redeemed by the teaching of a noble woman who finds him in a brain fever.

The sanguine hopeful faith which marks the conclusion of 'Alton Locke' is well put into the mouth of a woman;—but the perspective of "good" which it prophesies is too precipitate. The social evils demonstrated in the previous pages are too deep and of too long standing to give hope of speedy cure. The conversion of Alton Locke to the belief in miracles and dogmatic Christianity is not only too sudden to be satisfactory,—but it is unnecessary. It is introducing a "Test and Corporation Act" at the last moment. If the author be himself in earnest in the previous pages, it is not very clear what Alton is made religiously to repent of. It would have been better to omit controversial argument on points of creed. An attempt to prove "evidences" in the concluding pages of a last volume, must of necessity be meagre and unsatisfactory. This conversion is, however, we fancy, introduced as a protest that the author believes them, and is a member of the congregation.

We believe that in "association" will be found the cure for the miseries produced by "competition";—that "association" is the watchword of the new order of things which is beginning. The age of individualism is passing away.

#### OUR LIBRARY TABLE.

*Britain Redeemed and Canada Preserved.* By F. A. Wilson and Alfred B. Richards.—This bulky volume, dedicated with much formality to "The Queen, Prince and People of Great Britain and her Colonies," advocates the formation of a great line of railway to connect the Pacific and Atlantic oceans. Of course this is a mere plagiarism of the great Whitney scheme, with the additional disadvantage of carrying it through a poorer, more difficult and more thinly populated country. Very little, however, of the thick volume is taken up with the discussion of this wild project; five out of its six hundred pages are occupied with frantic abuse of democracy, the peace agitation, the Great Industrial Exhibition, and everything that is enlightened and liberal in these times. One may judge of the knowledge which Messrs. Wilson and Richards possess of the state of feeling in Canada, when they seriously propose to

create in it a colonial and titular aristocracy! This ignorance is only to be compared to the effrontery which could dream of dedicating to "the Queen and Prince" a book containing such absurd abuse of the great project in which they take so deep an interest. The authors have, however, their peculiar mode of reconciling this abuse with the respect due to the Prince; they assume that he was *deceived* into a connexion with the scheme, and does not now like to leave his deceivers to the indignation of an outraged public.

*Projects and Prospects of the Day.*—A pamphlet of which it is not easy to comprehend the purpose. The projects of the day are, the Peace Congress, the Great Industrial Exhibition, and Emigration. To these, if we mistake not, the writer proposes to add a fourth—"a brotherhood of universal language;" but his meaning is like Gratiano's wit—"you shall search all day ere you find it, and when it is found it is not worth the search."

*Brief Reminiscences of Opinion in 1849 on Taxation.*—Enough for the year is the evil thereof!

*A Manual of the British Marine Algae.* By William H. Harvey, M.D.—This is a second edition of Prof. Harvey's well-known description and arrangement of the British Algae. Much in the present edition is, however, new, and the addition of plates illustrative of all the genera gives it claims to be considered as an original work. Much has been done since the former edition, not only in the discovery and description of new forms of these lowest plants, but also in the investigation of their structure and functions. The present volume will be found to include every discovery of importance to the student of systematic botany,—and the plates will be of great assistance to those who are only commencing the study of sea-weeds. The work before us embraces only those algae which are inhabitants of sea-water. This is much to be regretted,—as a revision of all that has been recently done in the freshwater species from the hands of Prof. Harvey would have been an acceptable boon to British naturalists.

*Some Account of the Animal, Vegetable, and Mineral Kingdoms, for Children.*—A very good account,—and one to be recommended for the edification of the youthful class for whom it is written.

*Eight Letters to the Young Men of the Working Classes.* By Thomas Cooper.—A few admirable letters addressed by their author to the young men of his class, collected from the *Plain Speaker*, a defunct publication. They are full of sound and well-conveyed advice,—but they are chiefly interesting as containing some sketches of the writer's own career.

*A Manual for Emigrants.* By C. H. Webb.—This is an American publication, which has been issued in consequence of the misery arising to persons who have shipped themselves for the United States without previously settling with themselves what they would or could do when they got out there. It contains a mass of useful advice and suggestions,—more especially applicable to the case of persons emigrating from the British Islands. The Irish are a sad trouble to the humane in New York.

*The New Colony of Port Natal; with Information for Emigrants.* By James E. Methley.—If Mr. Methley has not adopted the plan of issuing his second edition first, as is sometimes done by authors, the announcement contained on the title-page is to some extent a guarantee for the merits of his book. The information which it contains is now easily accessible, and Mr. Methley has arranged it clearly and conveniently.

#### LIST OF NEW BOOKS.

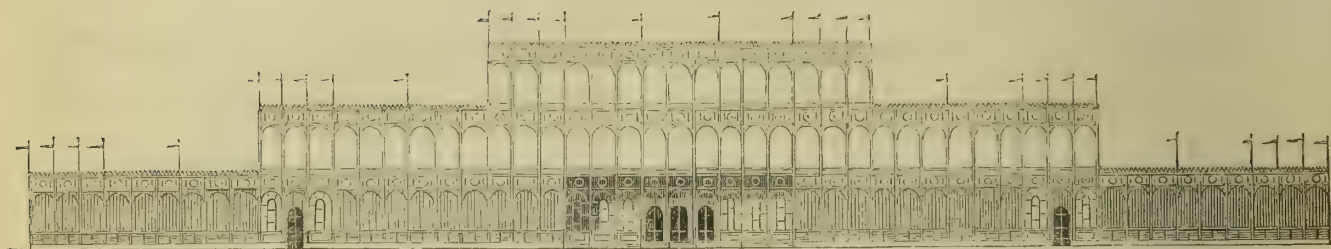
Arnold's Introduction to Greek Prose Composition, Part II. 8s. 6d.  
Bedford's (Rev. J. G.) *Propriusque Meritis*, new ed. 12mo. 1s. 6d.  
Bohn's *Shilling Series*, Vol. XXIII, *Briarcliffe Hall*, 1s. 6d.—  
Vol. XXIV, *Irving's Astoria*, 12mo. 2s. 6d.  
Clack's (E.) *Britannia and Conway Tubular Bridges*, 4s. 14s. 6d.  
Clark's *Scripture Pronouns*, with Essay by Wardlaw, 3rd ed. 2s. 6d.  
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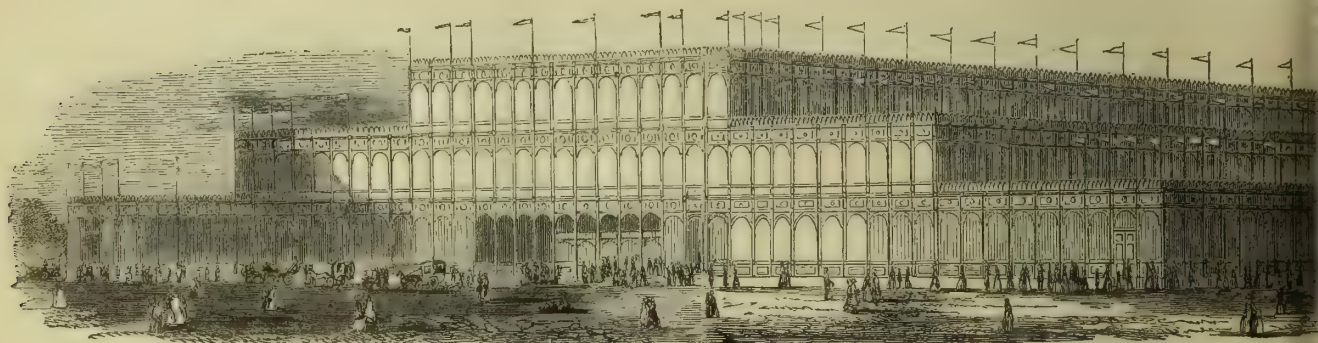




## BUILDING FOR THE GREAT



END ELEVATION.



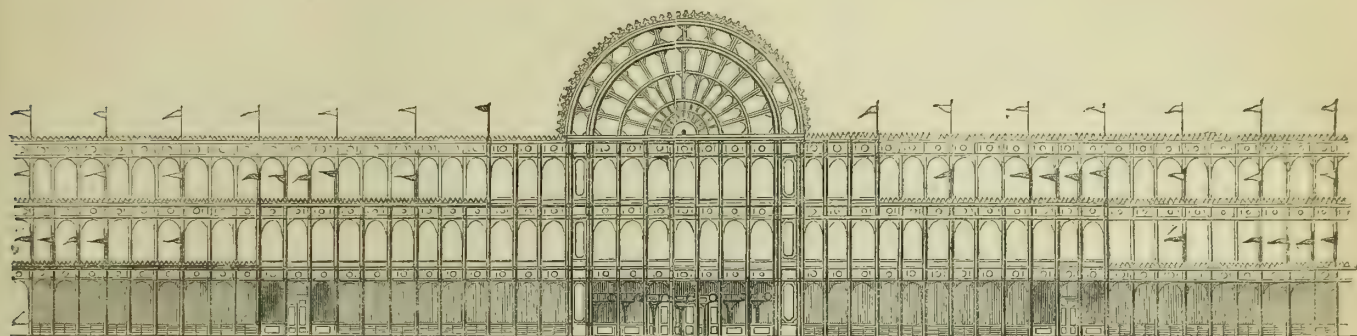
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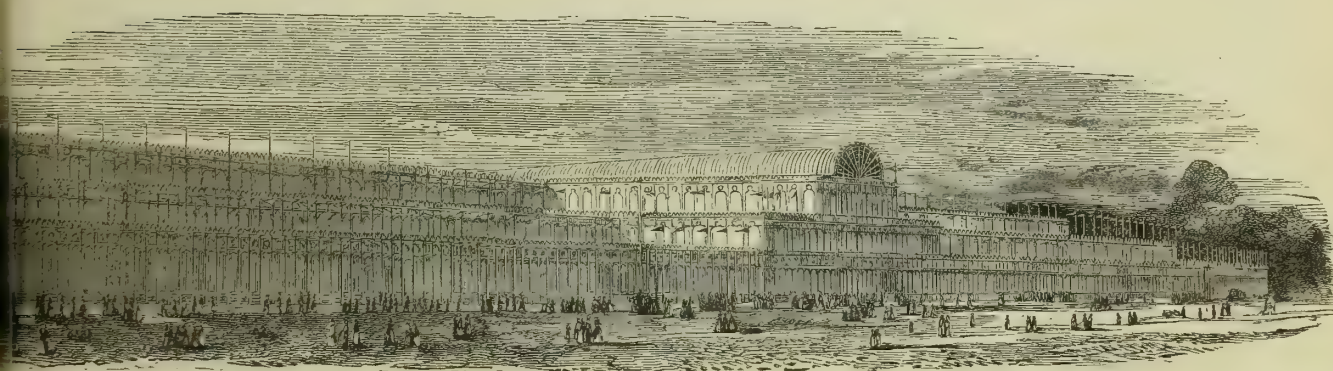
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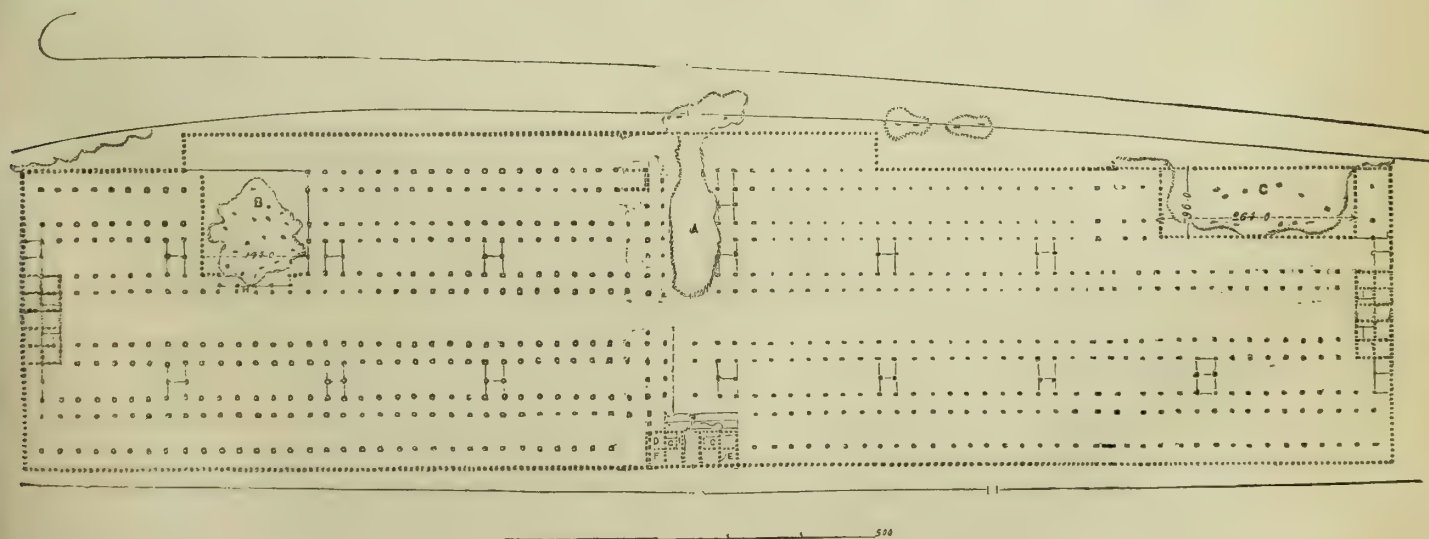
## INDUSTRIAL EXHIBITION OF 1851.



SOUTH ENTRANCE AND TRANSEPT.



VIEW.



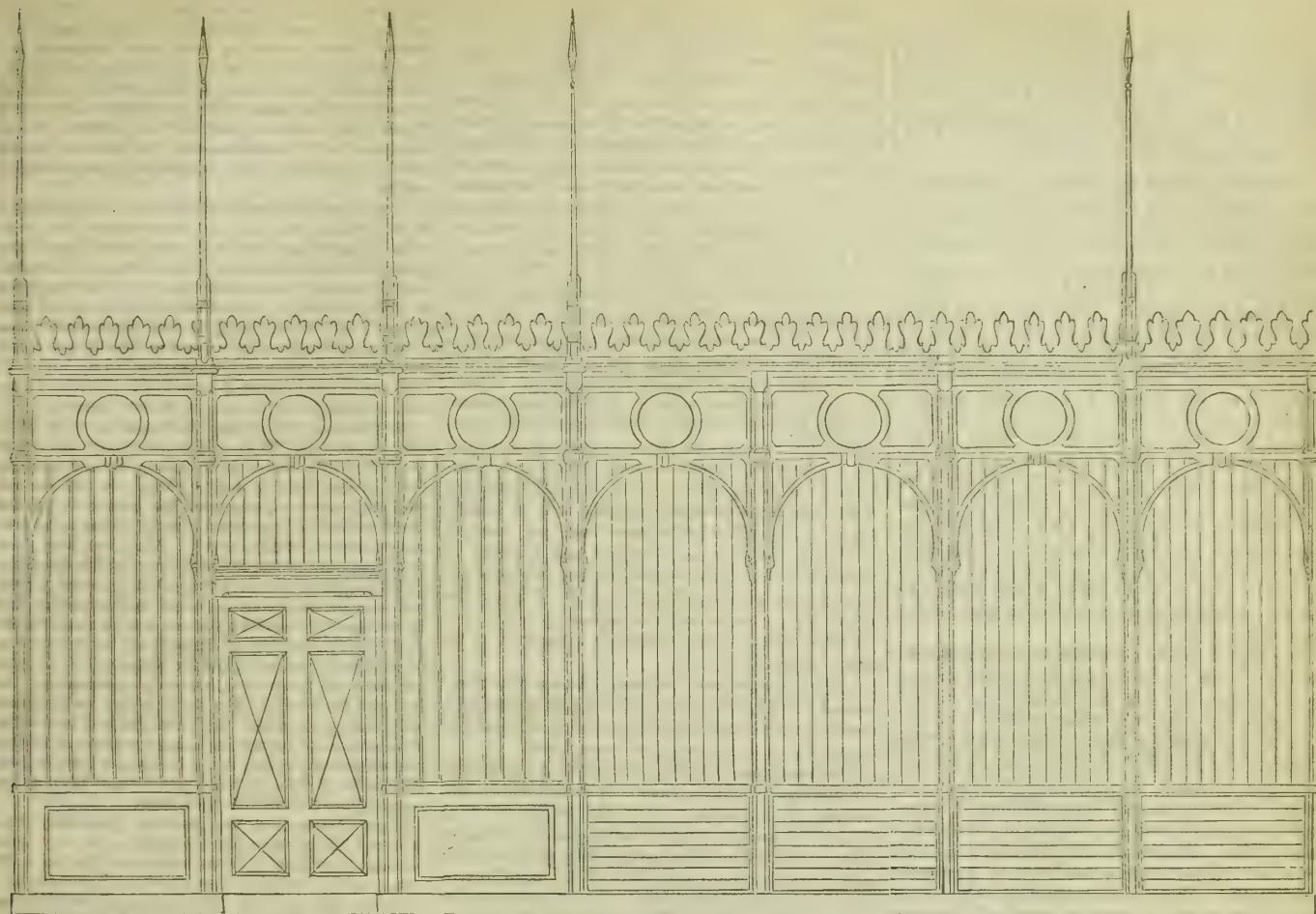
A, B, C, Refreshment Rooms; D, Royal Commission; E, Hall; F, Ante Room; G G, Accountants; H H, Bridges; I I, Pay Places.

GROUND PLAN.









PORTION ON AN ENLARGED SCALE.

#### THE GREAT INDUSTRIAL EXHIBITION AND ITS PALACE OF GLASS.

IN giving the further illustrations which we last week promised of Mr. Paxton's edifice for the Exhibition in Hyde Park, we have thought it well, in order that the means of understanding the whole may be before our readers at a single point, to repeat the Perspective View which we gave last week. For full descriptive particulars of the building, derived from the most authentic sources,—and for a summary of the present state of the prospects of and preparations for the Great Exhibition,—we refer our readers to the letter-press which accompanied our wood-engraving of last week [*ante*, p. 924].—To the measurements which we there gave we may add now one or two more which may help our readers to complete their idea of the building.—We have stated the width of gallery to be 24 feet,—and may now add, that the great central walk will be 72 feet broad,—thus making with the two side galleries the width from the side of one gallery to that of the other 120 feet.—We have said that provision is made by which a greatly increased extent of gallery can be obtained if it shall be needed,—and may add, that in addition to the main building there is another apartment, on the north side, 936 feet long and 48 feet wide,—to contain machinery.

#### SUPPLY OF WATER TO THE METROPOLIS.

THERE are none of the necessities of life so pressing as that of water. No food could be appropriated in the animal system without it,—and it composes seven-eighths of the whole fabric of the human body. Through its agency our food is chiefly prepared before it is eaten,—and afterwards elaborated in the stomach and carried from part to

part of the body in the blood. Even those who object to the element in its pure form, must take it in some shape to satisfy the demands of the body. It enters the system with wine, beer, coffee, tea, soups,—and bound up with the tissues of such vegetables as turnips, carrots and potatoes. Not only is it necessary for inward supply,—man and the animal kingdom generally require for health its outward application. It is as naturally the means of purifying the outside as it is of vitalizing the inside of the body. Necessary as it is in this respect to uncivilized and nomadic man, it becomes increasingly important as he becomes civilized and dwells in towns and cities. It is a means of cleansing the dwelling as well as the body. In every way, then, its ample supply is a first necessity. In all climates, seasons and times there is a demand for it, and its relation to the wants of man has given distinguishing features to nations and families.—It is no wonder, then, that at a time when the figures of the statistician point to an enormous waste of life in our great cities, inquiries should be made as to how far a defective or impure supply of water is a cause of this waste.

That London is worse off in point of water supply than many of our provincial towns is well known,—and the causes of this defect are also tolerably patent. When it is stated that the metropolis is entirely supplied with water by chartered companies, whose monopoly is protected in every way by law, it will be evident that the people of the metropolis are likely to suffer in regard to this essential article such evils as the whole country suffered when it was dependent for its supply of bread on a protected class. That every inhabitant of a city should have enough water for the purposes of cooking, diet, and cleanliness is a proposition that we suppose no one will deny,—and another equally

undeniable is, that it is a first duty of a local or general government to see that such a condition is insured in every place inhabited by the human objects of its care. What is the fact with regard to London? On this subject the Report of the General Board of Health just published shall inform our readers. After quoting the returns of the nine water companies from which London derives its water, the Report goes on to say:—

"According to these returns, the companies supply 270,591 private houses. The total number of houses returned under the income-tax assessments for the metropolis, is 288,037, so that as far as these returns enable us to judge there appear to be 17,456 houses (or about 6 per cent. of the whole) unsupplied with water. Where house-to-house inquiries have been made for sanitary purposes, in densely populated districts upwards of 18 per cent. of the houses have been found to be unsupplied with pipe-water; but, in other large parishes and districts, only 5, 4 and 3 per cent. There are, however, returned by the companies 1,181 cases of supply by stand-pipes, which each serve for several houses and often for a whole court or alley, which houses may be comprised in the companies' returns, and omitted in those obtained by house-to-house inquiries."

The figure of 17,000 houses passes rapidly before the eye; but when it is remembered that not less probably than ten individuals are suffering in each of these houses from a deficient supply of water alone, we arrive at a better appreciation of the evils produced. That these evils are anything but imaginary this Report frightfully establishes from a variety of sources. The testimony of respectable medical men is brought forward to show that the abode of typhus, small pox, measles, and other fevers in their most deadly forms is, the courts, alleys and houses not supplied, or imperfectly supplied, with water. The way in which deficient supply works may be made in part intelligible by extracting from the Report the evidence tendered by Dr. Milroy.—

"Among the most serious evils attending the present system of intermittent supply of water to the dwellings of



the poor, is the filthy and polluted state of the cisterns and butts into which it is received, and of the vessels in which it is generally kept. Whether the cistern or butt be in or out of doors, it is usually uncovered, and, consequently, exposed to all the dust and smut that are continually flying about even in the cleanest parts of a large city. But this is far from being the only or the worst source of impurity to which it is liable. Not unfrequently, there is no tap at all, and often this is so inconveniently placed that it is scarcely possible to make use of it. Hence the common practice among the inmates of the house is to dip their vessels—no matter of what sort, and whether clean or otherwise—right into the cistern or butt every time that they require to draw water. \* \* So disgusted are the inmates themselves of even the poorest dwellings with the water in their butts or cisterns, that very frequently they will use it only for the purpose of washing, and, unless they can catch the water directly from the pipe when it is on, they are obliged either to beg it from some neighbour, or (as is frequently the case) get it from the public-house where they deal. This appears to be of very common occurrence indeed, even in some tolerably decent localities, and must be admitted to be a flagrant injustice, inasmuch as they are charged indirectly in their rent for what they have little or no benefit from. \* \* The serious loss of time to the poor by their being obliged to be on the look out for the exact time when the water comes on once in the twenty-four or forty-eight hours, and the not inconsiderable labour incurred by dragging their pails, &c. up to their rooms, are, in themselves, great objections to the present system. If the mother of the family be out of the way when the water is on, or ailing, so that she cannot go for it, she and her family must then be indebted to the kindness of a neighbour, or they must apply to the public-house for their necessary supply. The vessels, too, in which the water is usually kept in the rooms of the poor, are most unsuitable for the purpose, not to mention pails, old fish-kettles, and casks that leak, and thus keep the floor continually damp. The brown earthenware, narrow-necked and small-mouthed cans, which are most in vogue, are obviously very objectionable, from the difficulty of keeping the inside of them clean and free from the deposit which is continually taking place from the water of all the metropolitan companies."

Some further details of the filth and degradation to which large masses of the population of London are subjected under the present system are too revolting to find expression in our columns.

Deficient as is the quantity of water delivered in particular directions, its amount is yet very large.

"The gross daily quantity of water pumped into the metropolis amounts, according to the preceding returns, to upwards of 44 million gallons. In order to give a conception of the quantity of water thus delivered, it may be stated, that the daily supply would exhaust a lake equal in extent to the area of St. James's Park, 30 inches in depth; that the annual supply exceeds the total rainfall of 27 inches over the populated portion of the metropolis (25 square miles), by upwards of 50 per cent., and that it would cover an extent of area equal to that of the City (or about one square mile), with upwards of 90 feet depth of water. The daily supply would, however, be delivered in twenty-four hours, by a brook 9 feet wide and 3 feet deep, running at the rate of 3 feet per second, or a little more than 2 miles per hour; and three sewers of 3 feet in diameter, and of a proper fall, will suffice for the removal of the same volume of refuse or soil-water. The total weight of this annual supply of water is nearly 72 million tons. The daily cost of raising the whole quantity by engine power 100 feet high, would be about 25s., or about 9,000s. per annum. The average daily quantity pumped into the districts, exclusive of the supplies to large consumers, and of the quantity used for all public purposes, would, supposing it were equally distributed for each house, occupy about fifty pailfuls, and would weigh about 13 cwt."

Even deficiency of water, however, seems to be a less evil than its impurity. Of the nine water companies to whom is intrusted the exclusive power of furnishing water to the metropolis, not one seems to yield an article fitted for all the purposes of a healthful life.—It appears incontestably proved that the best possible water to subserve the purposes of human life is, the purest water. Although we speak habitually of pure water, a water absolutely free from a mixture with other substances does not occur in nature; obtain it from whatever source we may, it contains gases, saline and organic matters. Sometimes one, sometimes the other, sometimes all three classes of substances are present. The purest natural waters contain carbonic acid and oxygen gases,—and we are not aware that these can exist in water to an injurious extent. On the contrary, it appears that the oxygen thus taken invigorates the system,—and the carbonic acid exerting its solvent powers on the contents of the stomach is beneficial. In these facts we have an argument against the use of either distilled or boiled water as a substitute for that which has not been exposed to the action of heat.

Waters vary much in the quantities of salts, saline or inorganic matters which they contain; some springs not holding in solution more than half a grain in the gallon, whilst the water of the Dead

Sea contains a fourth part by weight of saline matters. The water supplied to London is not so pure as the one nor so salt as the other. The Thames contains according to the point from whence it is obtained from sixteen to fifty grains per gallon of saline matters. The water obtained from the other London sources also contains large quantities of the same. The effect of the presence of these substances in water is two-fold:—In the first place, some of these saline matters—as chloride of sodium, for instance—encourage the growth of plants and animals which are a further source of impurity to the water. Secondly, they interfere with the dietetical and cleansing uses of water.

In order to have high authority on a branch of these latter matters, the cooking department,—let us refer again to the Report of the Board of Health, for the evidence of M. Soyer.

"You are known to the Commissioners from your writings on cookery; and you have doubtless had occasion to try the qualities of different waters for cooking and culinary purposes; you have probably used Thames water. Yes, I have; when I first became cook to the Reform Club we occupied Gwydyr House, which was then supplied with Thames water.

"What was your experience of it?—That it was very hard and inconvient; it had sometimes a disagreeable taste; this, however, we found was occasioned by the cistern, which we remedied; it was, however, at all times very hard.

"What was the effect of the hardness in cooking?—That we were in many processes obliged to use potash or soda for the water, to soften it.

"What were the processes?—First, in boiling cabbage, greens, spinach, asparagus, hard water gives them a yellow tinge, especially in French beans: hard water shrivels greens and peas, and will be more particularly noticed in French beans; the process of boiling is also longer.

"That requires more fuel?—Certainly.

"What would be the difference in time?—With dry vegetables certainly one-fourth more.

"How is it with potatoes?—I do not think it acts so much upon potatoes, but still it has an influence upon all sorts of vegetables. I do not see the same effects however upon roots generally as upon leaves generally; the effects are very powerful.

"What do you find to be the effect of hard water upon the animal foods?—Upon salt beef the hard water is not so good; it does not open the pores of the meat so freely as soft water. On fresh meat it likewise has a prejudicial effect, but not equal to that on vegetables. It has the effect of making very white meat whiter than the soft water; upon all delicate things it has however a more marked effect—for example, in making beef-tea, chicken or veal broth, or upon lamb; and the more delicate a substance is the greater is the influence of a hard water upon it. A hard water as it were compresses the pores, whilst a soft water dilates them and the succulent matter which they contain. It makes them more nutritious. The evil of hard water is more visible in small quantities, such as broth or beef-tea.

"Then it will be the more prejudicial or expensive in domestic cookery, which must be in small quantities?—Exactly so; in the larger operations, where there is much boiling, the boiling itself, and for a long time, reduces the hardness. In the small quantities requisite for invalids and delicate persons the disadvantages are the most experienced. When I used Thames water at Gwydyr House, I have had quantities boiled in order to soften it, and have then let it get cool and kept it ready for use for the smaller operations. \* \* \*

"What is your experience in respect to tea?—The hard water is injurious in deteriorating the flavour; it also requires more tea to give an equal strength. There can be no doubt that the softer water is of very great importance; we have found it so with the water used at the Reform Club, which is Artesian well water.

"In respect to coffee, what is your experience?—Hard water produces a similar effect, but not quite so powerful. \* \* \*

"Are you confident as to the difference in the time of boiling between hard and soft water?—My experiment was with pints of water, in the same size stewpan, with a gas lamp, so that the heat was manageable, and the same in both cases; and there was certainly a difference of full two minutes in favour of the boiling of the soft water; and the same result was given in several experiments.

"From these experiments, and your extensive knowledge, will you state the general results as to the relative power of the hardest and the softest water in making tea?—I should say that whilst with the hard water three cups might be made, with the soft water about five might be made.

"What extra expenditure of tea then would the use of the Thames water incur in making tea?—Nearly one-third.

"That is on all the tea consumed in the metropolis?—Yes, I have no doubt of it.

"Do you consider that the action of water in tea is a fair test and representative of its action on meat and vegetables in general, in all the delicate processes of cookery?—Yes, I do; and I have proved it in the following way. I have taken the solution of 16°, and compared it with the water from the well of the Reform Club. First, with vegetables, that is, carrots, turnips, and onions, cut into small pieces of about one inch long and an eighth of an inch square, such as are used in Julienne soup, placed in two saucepans, with the same quantity of water, and on the same gas-stove: those cooked in the Reform water were quickly done, and the flavour of the vegetables in the water; whilst those cooked in the solution never became tender, nor did the flavour go into the water. Secondly, with potatoes: I cut a peeled potato into two, and boiled them at the same time in the above waters; the difference was easily distinguish-

able, that which was boiled in the hard water being harder, but at the same time whiter. Thirdly, in extracting the juice or gravy from meat: the soft water does so quickly and well, but the hard water, instead of opening the meat, seems to draw it closer together, and to solidify the gluten, and I believe that the true flavour of the meat cannot be extracted when boiled in hard water, and at the same time the meat is not so tender as when boiled in soft water. Soft water evaporates one-third faster than hard water."

We hope that as the Board of Health has succeeded in making this a question of the tea-table, we shall have the sympathy on this question of those who preside over that important department of our social life, and who will not neglect it.

These, however, are not the only domestic aspects of the question. Hard water not only cooks wastefully and dissolves badly, so as to interfere with economy and health in the article of our food,—in its external application it is not less to be avoided. In most of our washing operations soap is employed. Soap is a compound of oil and an alkali soluble in water; but if the oil comes in contact with lime, instead of a soluble detergent agent being formed an insoluble useless compound is produced. Hence the waste of soap. This loss is a subject of easy computation. Without pledging ourselves to the accuracy of the following calculations, we think the public is deeply indebted to the Board of Health for pointing out a constant source of loss.

"If the importance of what is politically called an 'interest' be measured by the aggregate amount of the expenditure involved in it, then the washer-woman's interest is larger than the chief manufacturing interest of the country—the cotton and linen manufactures,—(at least as far as the home market is concerned),—inasmuch as far more money is expended in washing clothes than in the manufacture of the fabric or of the clothes themselves. To take the instance of the shirts worn by a labouring man: the following is the account given of the cost of a cotton shirt,—manufacture, material, and making, as given by a manufacturer in Lancashire:—

Working man's shirt, strong calico, of four yards, costs bleached 2s., grey 1s. 10d.	
Material—Cotton at 6d. per lb.; 1 lb. with loss thereupon.....	8 25
Manufacture.....	
Spinning.....	2 25
Weaving.....	3
Profit.....	25
.....	5 50
Shirt and boiling water 10s. 6d. ....	13 75
.....	1 25
Bleaching, about.....	15d.

3s. 2d. Grey 13 75d. + 9d. (making) = 1s. 10 3d.  
Bleached 15d. + 9d. = 2s.

"Now in London the charge for washing the shirt would be 3d. each time, and it would be washed probably forty times before it was worn out; that is to say, it would have cost in round numbers 10s. for washing. Before it is worn out, five times as much money as it originally cost will have been expended upon it in washing. To take another example of a person in middle-class life:—

"A dozen of strong linen shirts cost 14s. each, of which four were worn and washed each week. They were worn out in eight years: they had each cost for washing 2l. 6s. 5 3d."

"The expenditure by families of the middle class in washing amounts often to nearly one twelfth or one thirteenth of their income. We find that the expenditure of a number of middle-class families for washing, in the metropolis, rarely falls short of one-third of the amount of their rental. \* \* \*

Mr. Donaldson, the agricultural surveyor, who has paid attention to this subject, estimates the saving as follows:—

"From several analyses and calculations," he says, "as to the saving in soap by the use of soft water; and from inquiries I have made of numerous consumers, of the quantity of soap used per individual, it appears that for every 100 gallons of water used in washing, two ounces of white curd soap is required for every degree of the hardness of the water used.

Thus a water of 5 degrees hardness takes . . . 10 oz. of soap.

And one of 15 degrees hardness takes . . . 30 . . .

I find that 14 lb. per individual per annum is about the average consumption of yellow soap for washing and domestic use, and the price is about 5s. per pound. Therefore 100 individuals using water at 15 degrees hardness take 1,400 lb. of soap at

5d. per lb. ....	£29 3 4
And with water 5 degrees hard, 460 lb. . .	9 14 3

Difference..... £19 9 1

In round numbers the saving in soap by using water 5 degrees hard instead of 15 degrees is 20s. per 100 individuals, exclusive of the tear and wear of clothes from washing in hard water which will fully equal the saving in soap."

"On the whole, from such information as we have been able to collect, 1s. per head per week on the population of the metropolis appears to be not an extravagant estimate of the general expense of washing, making; however, a certain deduction for the known neglect of washing by the labouring classes."

Thus much for the inorganic constituents of



the water. We now come to its organic compounds. Wherever waters are exposed long to the atmosphere they become the fitting residence of animal and vegetable life. Hence all the waters supplied by the London companies contain more or less organic matter, both living and dead. To this department of the subject Dr. Hassall has directed his attention in a work which he has entitled 'A Microscopic Examination of the Water Supplied to the Inhabitants of London.' He presents fearful pictures of the reptiles that we are doomed to swallow in our water. If anything could alarm a stolid public, surely Dr. Hassall's nightmare-looking drops of water would. Unfortunately, however, for any hope which might reasonably be expected to grow out of the Doctor's brochure, the public has been for many years more or less accustomed at the Polytechnic Institution to exhibitions like his—and no vigorous opposition to the water-fleas has as yet been exhibited. The fact is, all exposed water contains these creatures; and, although the more impure it is the larger will be their numbers, their office really is to purify the water. No more ill consequences would, after all, result from drinking water-fleas than from eating crabs and oysters. We doubt much if the amount of organic life naturally present in a running stream could ever be in so large quantity as to become a source of dangerous impurity to the water.—The more fearful part of this question is, the organic matter introduced into waters from the refuse of vegetable and animal matter cast into them. In reference to this part of the subject, the waters of modern Europe bear no comparison with ancient Rome. There, every precaution was taken to prevent the access of anything that could contaminate. In London, of the nine sources from whence water is obtained for the metropolis not one is free from the charge of wholesale impurity. Whether shall we wonder most at the shameful cupidity of the individuals directing these companies, or at the culpable apathy of the Government, when we find that the shares of one of these bodies have risen in value from 100*l.* to nearly 20,000*l.*—while nothing has been done to preserve the water supplied by this company from contamination. As to the dangerous effects of water thus impregnated the Report of the Board of Health contains a large body of evidence. It shows, amongst other things, that where the largest quantity of organic matters existed in water, other things being equal, there during the late cholera pestilence the disease was most fatal. Instances are recorded of men, women and children who took the disease after a copious draught of these impure waters. Dr. King, one of the Inspectors of the Board of Health, states that he could detect in the gravity of the symptoms the difference between persons who drank water from the Lambeth Waterworks and those who drank from the Vauxhall reservoirs,—though both supply waters more or less charged with animal matter. Such is the subtle nature of the compounds formed from the organic matters diffused through water, that no filtering can cleanse it.

No resource seems left open to the public but to obtain waters from other sources, or under different circumstances, than those which now exist. The subject is so important,—and apathy regarding it is so incredible and fatal,—that we shall return to it on a future opportunity.

#### 11. mode. BABYLONIAN INSCRIPTIONS.

AFTER an absence of some months from Paris, I find in your journal two articles, to which you will oblige me by admitting the following reply. In your number for the 25th May [*ante*, p. 555], I read an article, without any other indication of authorship than the device *SUM CURQUE*, in which the discovery of an ideographic element in Babylonian writing is ascribed to the Rev. Dr. Edw. Hincks. I must protest against this assertion in favour of the learned Director of the Museum of the Louvre, M. Adrien de Longperrier—to whom the merit of this important discovery belongs. He published it nearly three years ago in the 'Revue Archéologique,' [Oct. 1847, p. 504].

I would not have dwelt on the singular coincidence of the alleged discovery by Mr. Hincks in

December 1847 with that of M. de Longperrier two months sooner—a coincidence which no doubt has been quite fortuitous,—if the writer of the article had not mentioned my name coupled with the assertion of my having this year published a work in which I am said to claim the discovery of the existence of an ideographic element in Babylonian writing, and to illustrate my meaning by the very examples which were communicated to me by Dr. Hincks in the paper on the Van inscriptions nearly two years ago.

Having quoted M. de Longperrier as the discoverer of the ideographic element in my 'Note sur une Table généalogique des Rois de Babylone dans Ker-Porter' [*Revue Archéol.* Oct. 1849, p. 417], and referred to this statement in my publication last alluded to, 'Rémarques sur la deuxième écriture cunéiforme de Persépolis' [*Revue Archéol.* Fevr. 1850, note 1, p. 711], I think that I cannot be considered as making any other pretension to the discovery of the ideographic element in cuneiform writing than that of considering the knowledge of this fact as a consequence of Champollion le Jeune's system of the hieroglyphics of ancient Egypt;—a system the existence of which I have discovered in the cuneiform writings of Assyria and Babylonia,\* and introduced into this study,—and to which the ideographic element due to M. de Longperrier's sagacity, forms the most interesting complement.

In your paper of the 6th July I find in the report of the Syro-Egyptian Society [*ante*, p. 714], that a member of that learned body, Mr. D. W. Nash, is said "to endeavour to show that the so-called Median inscriptions were conceived not in a Tartar dialect, as Major Rawlinson supposed,—but in a Semitic tongue, the language of the population of Western Asia prior to the supremacy of the Arian immigrants. This language, though not the modern Pehlvi, is its ancient representative, and the language, not as M. Löwenstern supposes, of merely the Southern Elymæans, but of the great substratum of the population of Persia and Media."—Though much satisfied to see that Mr. Nash has given so clear an account of the results which I have lately obtained and published in the above-mentioned treatise on the second cuneiform writing of Persépolis [*Rev. Arch.* Fevr. 1850], I have yet to object that my name in the above report is mentioned only for a special remark. I therefore request the following change in the drawing up of the article:—"M. Löwenstern has endeavoured to show in his work the results for which Mr. Nash, probably unwillingly on his part, has been quoted; and *vice versa* Mr. Nash proposes an amendment to them, in adopting the language specified by M. Löwenstern as having belonged to the great substratum of the population of Persia and Media, contrary to M. Löwenstern's supposition,—who, in conformity to Scripture, considers Madai and its Arian language as ancient in its dwelling places as Elam and its Semitic tongue in the abodes which he has assigned to them prior to the invasion of the Japhetic Paras."—I am, &c.

CHEVALIER ISIDORE LÖWENSTERN.

Paris, August 23.

#### OUR WEEKLY GOSSIP.

It is only the occasional attendants at sales of books and booksellers themselves who are fully aware of the "mad" prices which are given by some half-dozen purchasers for well-conditioned books in bindings of the old school of Roger Payne, Montague, Johnson, and Kalthoeb. There are collectors of bindings as well as of rare books—as the country collector and country bookseller both find to their surprise as soon as they enter a London auction-room where there is even a tolerable display of gilt leather of fifty or a hundred years old. Of the extravagant prices which collectors of this class are willing to give, a sale about ten days ago at Messrs. Sotheby & Wilkinson's furnishes the most striking example that we can call to mind for many years. Here was what the late Mr. Rodd would have called "a pretty handful of books"—just enough for a day's sale,—and all untarnished

by gas, undimmed by smoke,—better still, unread, and as fresh from the country as the pretty girl in the first plate of 'The Rake's Progress.' There was, of course, eager competition for such rarities:—choice bindings hitherto untouched by the fingers of the bookseller, and new to the hammer of an auctioneer. A 'Stow's London' (the 1754 edition), in old gilt russia, brought 13*l.* 15*s.*—or five guineas more than a so-called good copy would bring on another occasion; a 'Thoroton's Nottinghamshire,' in old russia, full gilt back, sold for 11*l.* 10*s.*; a 'Plot's Staffordshire' in rich old gilt russia, for 6*l.* 12*s.* 6*d.*; a 'Fuller's Worthies,' a noble copy, in old russia, for 8*l.* 7*s.* 6*d.*; a 'Chawney's Hertfordshire' for 15*l.* 15*s.*; a 'Bloomfield's Norfolk,' in 5 vols., for 16*l.* 10*s.*; and a 'Pote's Windsor,' for 2*l.* 3*s.* These certainly are high prices. We have seen a fine copy of 'Fuller' in the inside sell for 2*l.* 5*s.*,—and 2*l.* 2*s.* is a fair price for a good copy of the work. Here then was 6*l.* 5*s.* 6*d.* for the leather of a single volume!—The poets sold yet better than the topographers. A copy of Whalley's edition of 'Ben Jonson,' "calf, marbled edges, by Montague," brought 3*l.*;—and a copy of Seward's 'Beaumont and Fletcher,' in bright gilt old russia, was thought to have gone cheap at 6*l.* Now, a buyer of books who loved books for their contents and not their covers, would be sorry to have Whalley's 'Jonson' on his shelves when he could get Gifford's edition of the poet,—or Seward's edition of 'Beaumont and Fletcher' when he could get Mr. Dyce's. The poets were bought for their clothes:—the purchasers perhaps thinking that it is a rare sight to see a poet well dressed.

In the evidence taken before the Committee of the House of Commons on Public Salaries—issued to the public within the last few days—we find the Master of the Mint (Mr. Shiel) stating the result of the investigation before the Mint Commission to have been, that the Government has informed the managers that they conceive it will be necessary not only to put an end to their contract, but also to cease to execute the coinage under their responsibility,—and that the Government is now considering whether it should execute the coinage by contract open to competition to all the world, or whether itself should execute it.

It will be seen that Mr. Washington Irving has had good reason to congratulate himself on the mistake (mistake if the decision of the Chief Baron shall be held to be good law) which so long led English publishers to believe that copyright could be maintained in this country on the works of foreigners for which they had given a valuable consideration. We gave a fortnight since a statement of the sums paid by Mr. Murray to that gentleman, in pure waste unless we can get a more wholesome and reasonable interpretation of the law.—The policy and morality of the case both point to quite opposite conclusions.—These sums amount to an aggregate little short of 10,000*l.*—a commercial value of the produce of Mr. Irving's brain of every penny of which he could under the alleged state of the matter have been pilfered,—as of a portion of it, or its legitimate profits, Mr. Murray is being pilfered now by the piracies of others.—We have now to add to this amount the sums paid for copyright to the same writer by Mr. Bentley. "In conjunction," says that publisher, "with my late partner, Mr. Colburn, I gave to Mr. Washington Irving for the copyright of the 'Alhambra' 1,050*l.*,—and afterwards I gave for 'Astoria' 500*l.*, and for 'Capt. Bonneville' 900*l.* This makes a further sum of 2,450*l.* paid to Mr. Washington Irving for copyrights which, it is said, anybody may invade. Mr. Bentley adds:—"I have given to three other eminent American authors, Mr. Prescott, Mr. J. Fenimore Cooper, and Mr. Herman Melville between 15,000*l.* and 16,000*l.*"—We can but remark that the dealing of English publishers with one another in this matter is not to their credit. If the law be really so opposed to the equity of the case, the feeling under which a publisher can permit himself to take advantage of it is not such as can do honour to a profession which should be chivalrous by the mere fact of its connexion with letters.

Every day, Science is virtually lengthening life by abbreviating time and space. The age was

\* Note C. Exposé des Eléments constitutifs du système de la troisième écriture cunéiforme de Persépolis, Paris, 1847.



when men had not begun to see that economy of time and power are equivalent to length of days, if life be measured by acts, thoughts, sensations, travels. Looking at an old road map of England we learn at a glance what was the former horizon of a great majority of our countrymen. There is a surrounding sea,—tedious, expensive, and dangerous to cross in any direction. Rude rut-roads connected the large towns, but little travelled,—scarcely one of them going straight and by the shortest cut from point to point. The best of our rivers were navigable for only a few short miles. There were no public coaches, or other fixed and certain means of conveyance. Telegraphs, railways, steam-boats, omnibuses, canal navigation have so changed the face of the country—so multiplied man's power of locomotion—that a month enables us to see more of England now than did a lifetime three centuries ago.—The canal was the first grand link in the chain of progress. People laughed at Brindley as a madman when he proposed to transport goods and passengers by water at the rate of five or six miles an hour through the more level parts of the country. When this wonder was made a commonplace—and a dull one—by the offer to run fifteen miles an hour by railway, common sense—the common sense of little more than twenty years ago—declared that it would as soon “allow itself to be shot out of a gun!” Nevertheless, common sense travels now-a-days at the rate of fifty or sixty miles an hour,—and thinks it quite a matter of course that it will come to travel much faster.—The great drawback on the canal system has always been the descent from higher to lower levels by the tedious process of the water-lock. To pass each lock of twenty feet fall occupies about a quarter of an hour; so that in a line of canal a hundred miles in length, with a fall of a thousand feet, each vessel loses fifty hours by means of this impediment. This loss falls of course on each man and horse employed, all goods conveyed, the interest on all money thus invested. To prevent this waste has long been a problem,—and during the last few months a series of experiments has been, as our readers know, in trial on the Forth and Clyde Canal. The drawing of boats up an incline by means of a stationary engine—whose success as an experiment we have already reported—may bring back a portion of the goods traffic into the old canal paths, by offering a cheaper means of conveyance than railways.—Every mode of facilitating rapid and economical intercourse between distant parts of the country is an agent in the great social reformation.

It may be convenient to many of our readers to have their attention called, under this head, to the fact that a General Index to the *Edinburgh Review* from the fifty-first to the eightieth volume, inclusive, is at length published. This index has been compiled on the same plan as the one that preceded it; a few new features being added:—viz., “The substantiating of the dates of the events indexed,”—and “the christian names of the individuals mentioned, their titles, the year in which they were born, and that in which they died.” This latter is done especially with the view of discriminating between the members of those families who have taken a prominent part in the political affairs of the British empire. These additions will, it is believed, obviate the immediate necessity of consulting other authorities.

The Genius of Reform is lifting up his voice in the fens of Lincolnshire. A local paper brings forward the case of Spalding Free Grammar School as one of our good old institutions that has fallen through neglect into a state of deplorable inefficiency. Before the ruin of the famous monastery of that town, the children of South Holland were liberally educated—as education was understood in such times. On the transfer of the church-lands to private owners, a Free Grammar School was founded in the town—and money and broad acres were bequeathed to it by liberal and benevolent citizens. Through mismanagement, however, the endowment has become useless to the inhabitants; being in this respect like most other grammar schools in that district,—and like the majority throughout the country. The spirit of impudent appropriation has everywhere attacked these institutions,—the

aroused spirit of restitution has need of powerful aid. We urge the local press to continue their investigations. Every exposure helps to concentrate public attention; and, opinion once fairly excited, Government must adopt some decisive measure for rescuing these valuable means of popular education from the corporations and trustees by whom they are so shamefully abused.

A despatch has been received at the Admiralty, from Sir G. Simpson, dated Norway House, 26th June 1850; which brings the unsatisfactory announcement that no information can yet be given respecting the fate of the Expedition under Sir John Franklin:—no advices having been received there from the Arctic regions since the arrival of the express which conveyed Chief Factor Rae's letter up to the 29th of November.

The Archeological Institute announce that, instigated by the success of the Mediæval Exhibition at the Society of Arts, they contemplate forming a Central Museum of Ancient Arts and Manufacture, to be held in London simultaneously with the Great Exhibition of 1851.—If sufficient space can be found, they suggest that a collection of paintings, illustrative of the early advance of the art, especially in Great Britain, might be added.

After the solid repast comes the dessert. The express business of the Peace Congress in St. Paul's at Frankfort concluded,—the members have got up a series of minor agitations and demonstrations. Slavery, German unity, Bible distribution, and other matters came in for a share of their attention. On the whole, the reception given to the Congress by the Rhinelanders in general has been extremely cordial; but the Governments can hardly be held to have acquitted themselves with equal courtesy and cordiality. It is said in political circles that the very day on which the Congress completed its labours and adjourned for the year, a despatch arrived from Vienna ordering St. Paul's Church to be closed against them; and the Government of Nassau refused its permission for the members to dine together at Wiesbaden. The dinner was arranged for the purpose of recording another protest against the “peculiar institution” of the southern States of the American Union. One might have supposed that the Prince in his palace at Bieberich would find no objection to such a discussion:—and the objection was probably not of that kind. “We are a people of cooks,—not of politicians,” said his Minister of Police a short time ago to a French agent at Wiesbaden; but some of the diners were disposed to talk of German unity and other matters which are now held by the Rhine Governments to be full of scandal, if not of danger.—A curious incident terminated the proceedings. The English members of the Congress subscribed their money and purchased a number of copies of the German New Testament,—which they presented to the American delegates. Last year, in Paris, they gave them copies of the French Testament. There seems to be a design in this particular system of present making.—The drolls of Frankfort are, we see, speculating on the circumstance. They profess to see a touch of sly humour in the matter: a grave hint that in America there is a plentiful lack of the principles embodied in the Sermon on the Mount. This especial corollary and application of the principles of the Congress is likely to beget some American repudiations. The “fine gold” of Transatlantic sentiment threatens to “become dim” beneath this peculiar mode of testing.

At a recent meeting of the Royal Asiatic Society at Bombay, a paper was communicated from Capt. Meadows Taylor, of the Nizam's Service, on the Remains of Ancient Tombs near the village of Jewarji. It contains a description of an ancient cemetery near the above-named village, three miles south of the Bheema, on the high road between Kalbargah and Farozabad and Shorapur, the tombs of which appear to be of the same family as the Celtic, Druidical or Scythian remains of England and Brittany.

It appears that with Margaret Fuller has perished a work on Italy on which she had been long engaged, under the advantage of familiar intercourse with some of the leading actors in the stirring drama which of late has been there enacted. One

of the trunks containing some of her papers is said to have been picked up,—but the manuscript ardently coveted by the Italian exiles in America was not of the number.

M. Philartès Chazas, in his eloquent and just obituary notice of M. de Balzac contributed to the *Journal des Débats*, recalls an anecdote worth noting as a trait of character. In M. de Balzac's library, some years ago, there was found by a visitor a statuette of Napoleon in plaster, with a strip of paper wafered to it *en bandeau*, and on the strip of paper was written,—“*That which Napoleon left unfinished with his sword, I will complete with my pen!*” Honoré de Balzac.”—It seems, then, that there have been other modest modern authors in France besides M. de Chateaubriand!

By letters from Florence we learn that Hiram Powers, the American sculptor, has completed a grand allegorical figure of his country. The statue, a female, has a diadem beneath her feet and in her hand the cap of liberty. The figure finds her support on the fasces,—indicative, it is said, of the fact that justice is the true foundation of a free commonwealth.—The destination of the statue is reported to be Washington.

We are said to be living in an age of mere expediency,—of material progress,—of social derangement,—of everything except faith. To this assertion there is at least one curious contradiction in the existence of the Ashley Down Orphan House in Somersetshire:—a brief account of which, as we have received it, will probably be interesting to our readers. In that county there has lately sprung up a new religious sect, known by the inconvenient and undecidable name of Craik-and-Müllerites, whose prime article of belief is—the power of prayer. Whatever they require, these people simply demand it of God,—and, as they allege, it is bestowed on them. The text “Ask, and it shall be given unto you” they adopt in its literal sense,—and with a result which is marvellous if a tithé of what they assert can be accepted in their own literal spirit. The sect of the waiters on Providence is likely to spread if they can establish their premises. Not to mention other matters,—some time ago, Herr Müller and his followers took it upon their consciences to build a magnificent Orphan House. Their design was beneficent, the institution was greatly needed in the district; but instead of adopting the ordinary machinery of charity by appeals to the rich and benevolent,—they simply fell on their knees and appealed to Heaven. The responses came in from every corner of England, from many cities on the Continent and in America, and in every variety of form. From one contributor came a penny,—from another a boot-jack,—from a third an ancient coin. The farmer forwarded a cart of manure,—the merchant a hogshead of sugar,—the landowner the produce of the sale of a tree cut down for the purpose. Women sent in their golden trinkets,—men their clothes. Tables, chairs, sacks of flour, fitches of bacon, sides of beef, beds, toothpicks, coats, hats, shoes, washhand-stands, and so forth, came pouring in. The money contributions were halfpence, shillings, pounds,—the latter in hundreds and in thousands. All these things came, it is said, as the levies of faith. What is certain is—the building is there, on Ashley Down. In arrangement, proportion, completeness of design and detail, it is one of the noblest fabrics in the country. It is already occupied by three hundred children,—and the same means by which it was erected in the first instance, and is now maintained, are about to be employed for its further enlargement. No one is personally applied to for a farthing:—the whole is left to the secret influences of the spirit. Yet, according to Herr Müller's statement, strangers, whom he has never seen, to whom he has not made known his case, have given him for his orphans not less than 33,868*l.* 1*l.* 1*d.* in answer to his secret prayers.—These are strange facts to record among the materials for the history of the times. Mormonites and Müllerites in the midst of railways, penny postage, and halfpenny steam-boats! Pointing to the noble edifice, the founder says,—“It grew by prayer:—story after story, wing after wing, added themselves in answer to prayers offered on bended



knees."—The mystery which envelopes the affair should not, however, blind us to the manifest inconveniences of such a creed and practice in weak hands. The thirty odd thousand pounds is only part—the orphans' part—of the wealth forwarded to Herr Müller in answer to his celestial supplications; and the fact that the new apostle seems to have hitherto used his dangerous power with discretion may be an uncertain guarantee for his future moderation or that of his successors. If the spell of Herr Müller's conjuration be as strong as he calls it, the world is very inconveniently at his mercy. Suppose, for instance, he were to ask for the moon! What would become of the Poetry of the Million!

THE NILE WILL SHORTLY CLOSE.—The Proprietors being about to remove the Panorama from London will exhibit it for a short period at the following greatly REDUCED PRICES:—Gallery, 6d., Pit, 1s., Stalls, 2s.—EGYPTIAN HALL, PICCADILLY.—Daily, at Three and Eight o'clock.

INDIA OVERLAND MAIL.—DIORAMA.—GALLERY of ILLUSTRATION, 14, Regent-street, Waterloo-place.—Additional Picture, MADRAS.—A gigantic MOVING DIORAMA, ILLUSTRATING THE ROUTE OF THE OVERLAND MAIL TO INDIA, depicting every object worthy of notice on this highly-interesting journey from Southampton to Madras and Calcutta, accompanied by descriptive detail and appropriate music, is now OPEN DAILY, at Twelve, Mornings at Twelve, Afternoons at Three, and in the Evening at Eight o'clock.—Admission, 1s.; Stalls, 2s.; 6d.; Reserved Seats, 3s.—Doors open half an hour before each representation.

THE DIORAMA, Regent's Park.—Admission, One Shilling.—NOW OPEN, with the finest VIEWS ever exhibited in this country, representing the ROYAL CASTLE of STOLZENFELS, on the Rhine, (visited by Her Majesty Queen Victoria in August, 1843,) and its Environs, as seen at Sunset and during a Thunder Storm; painted by NICHOLAS MEISTER, of Cologne. And the much-admired Picture of THE SHIRAZ OF THE NATIVITY, at Bethlem; painted by the late M. BONOUX, from a Sketch made on the spot by DAVID ROUSSEAU, Esq. R.A., with novel and striking effects.—Open from Ten till Six.

#### ROYAL POLYTECHNIC INSTITUTION.

During this week the ALPINE SINGERS from Styria will perform several of their National Melodies, Daily at Four, and in the Evenings at Half-past Eight.—LECTURE on the HYDRO-ELECTRIC MACHINE, by Dr. Brachhoffner, daily at Two, and in the Evening at Eight.—LECTURE on the MECHANICAL PROPERTIES of a JET of STEAM, daily at a Quarter past Three, and in the Evenings at a Quarter past Nine.—NEW SERIES of DISSOLVING VIEWS, illustrating some of the WONDERS of NATURE, daily at Half-past Four, and in the Evenings at a Quarter past Ten; also a Series, exhibiting SCENES in the ARCTIC REGIONS and CEYLON, daily at One o'clock.—DIVER and DIVING BELL, &c. &c.—Admission, 1s.; Schools, Half-price.

#### FINE ARTS

##### THE ARCHITECTURAL EXHIBITION.

PRATSEWORTHY as is in itself the attempt to establish an annual architectural Exhibition, it is, nevertheless,—besides being injudiciously managed,—made under such untoward circumstances that the experiment has not a fair chance of success afforded it. A most discouraging damp is thrown over the whole affair by ill-timedness:—this second Exhibition being as much too late as the first was too early. It has opened only when the London season has closed. It is to the higher and more opulent classes of society that architecture must mainly look for patronage and encouragement. The great object of this Exhibition is, to lead them to take a more intelligent interest in it than they have hitherto done:—nevertheless, the period chosen for the Exhibition virtually excludes that very class!—It may be questioned how far it was a wise policy to make the Exhibition a free one:—at any rate, such an assertion of public spiritedness and liberality is scarcely consistent with the solicitation for eleemosynary subscriptions. Even free admission, however, has failed to bring a public within the walls of this Exhibition-room. Had the Exhibition taken place when the town was full, it is not improbable that the Saturdays—when a charge is made by way of distinction—might have been rather profitable to the funds of the Association.

The Exhibition itself is far from satisfactory, taken as an index either of existing architectural talent amongst us, or of the willingness on the part of the profession generally to aid in bringing architectural design prominently and worthily before the public as a branch of Fine Art. With very few exceptions, those who are of note in the profession show themselves determined to discountenance the scheme by standing aloof. They virtually put their veto on it; as if, looking for, if not desiring, its failure, they resolved not to be implicated with it. On the other hand, the Association do not adopt the proper course for securing the co-operation on which their success must, it should seem, mainly depend. They are too indulgent towards medi-

ocrity: admitting productions so poor, so barren of ideas, that, however much the exceptions may gain by comparison in the eyes of those who can really judge of design apart from mere drawing, the general character of the Exhibition is grievously lowered by the preponderance of the commonplace. Even those who shine by comparison must feel more mortified than flattered on finding what sort of company they are mixed up with. If the managers of the Exhibition could not command more of excellence, they might at any rate have rejected mediocrity. Greatly would their Exhibition be improved by the process of weeding-out,—and also by more judicious arrangement. The hurry and carelessness with which the whole affair has been got up appears even in their Catalogue. Besides that it does not give the respective numbers of their works in the list of the exhibitors' names, it is not free from actual errors. For example,—the name of T. Scandrett is inserted in that list, although there is no drawing by him in the Exhibition.

In what professes to be a strictly architectural Exhibition, it is not enough that the subjects are confined to architectural design,—but such as require it, should be illustrated by other modes of representation than either mere elevations or perspective views. We want plans, sections and models; which last, if not the others, are sufficiently intelligible to every one,—and as they are now excluded from the Royal Academy, it is all the more desirable that we should have the opportunity of seeing them here. Nevertheless, we find but one specimen of the kind; and of that the scale is so small and the subject so hackneyed (the west front of the Parthenon) that it would have been more advisable to exclude it.—Another deficiency is, that of variety. The subjects are too much of the same class. Designs for churches, hospitals and schools constitute the staple of the Exhibition. For these, little more than the reproduction of old forms and ideas is aimed at; originality of conception and treatment being, it would seem, considered incompatible with correctness and fidelity to the style adopted,—or rather slavishly imitated, because its real spirit and capability are not sufficiently comprehended. We must be permitted to remark that a former style—no matter whether mediæval or any other—which has become, or is supposed to be, so completely ossified as to have lost all elasticity, must be deficient in every essential of a living style.

One—certainly not the least promising or inviting—department of design has been taken up by none of the exhibitors here. Architects seem as if by common consent almost to ignore such subjects as Interiors; though these afford free scope for the display of artistic decoration, and are so readily applicable that a demand for them might be looked for now that so much attention is professedly given to all matters connected with in-doors embellishment and furniture. There is, indeed, here what calls itself a *Design for a Vestibule* (No. 186); but it does not at all answer to such title,—there being in it neither anything of design, nor anything at all characteristic of a vestibule. It is merely a cleverly treated representation of a small and somewhat old-fashioned sitting-room,—and its furniture is such as would form a very suitable background or scene for some domestic *tableau de genre*. No. 191, *Decoration of the Wall of a Room*, as executed by Mr. James Bell, is equally disappointing. We should like to know what kind of a room it is that is so "decorated,"—and how such decoration comes in with the rest of the apartment; for the drawing amounts to no more than a picture,—painted, it would seem, in chiaroscuro on the wall, and showing a landscape and buildings seen through an open arcade. It gives us a revival of that painted playhouse architecture within rooms which ought to be left to cafés and casinos.

It does not add to the interest of this Exhibition that several of the most striking subjects and drawings have been just before seen at the Royal Academy,—and consequently will be no novelty to that class of visitors for whom the Exhibition is more especially intended. We do not say that previously exhibited designs ought not to be ad-

mitted:—on the contrary, we should be very glad to have the opportunity of renewing our acquaintance with many which we have in former seasons admired at the Academy. But we hardly care to see so immediately again what is quite fresh in our recollection. We admit, however, that some of the drawings transferred hither from the Academy are now to be seen as they deserve for the first time,—and that this is a good reason for re-exhibiting them. Such is the case with Mr. Ashpitel's *Selections from Palladio* (59),—also with Mr. Scott's elaborate drawing, *The Restoration of the Chapter House of Westminster Abbey*. At the Academy, the first of these was placed just down on the floor,—the other hung much too high for inspection. Even here, with less excuse for them, similar faults as to hanging have been committed. For instance, Mr. T. Allom's *Design for a Cathedral* (99) is so placed that nothing can be made out of its detail. This is the more provoking, because some drawings in which there is no detail—which, indeed, scarcely contain any design at all—are placed very conspicuously:—among others, No. 199, which can have no pretensions in this or any other Exhibition. Owing, perhaps, quite as much to good luck as to good management, Mr. Allom's *Design for the Interior of a Cemetery Chapel* (94) has obtained a situation where it can be properly seen; and so to see it, is decidedly to admire what completely vindicates the claims of the classic Italian style to our favour for a class of structures for which in our present mediæval mania it is totally rejected. The leading idea is derived from St. Stephen's, Wallbrook; but the resemblance goes no further,—for this interior is more scenic, more classic, and more refined in taste. Another truly admirable design—but which as it happens to be a large drawing is placed rather disadvantageously high—is the *Design for the Royal Arch at Dundee*, by Mr. G. B. Lamb (130). This is on the whole the most striking production in the Exhibition. It is a truly original and masterly composition, treated with freshness of idea throughout, as well as with artistic gusto,—though the subject is one that seems to confine an architect to the repetition of traditional forms of decoration. A *Design for a Portico* (200) exhibits some quite novel, yet not far-fetched, ideas,—for they lie so little below the surface that it is only surprising they should not have been brought forward before. There are other designs by the same amateur architect (Mr. Leeds), from which some of the professional artists may derive suggestive hints of which they seem to stand in need.—Had not Mr. Kerr himself called particular attention to it by a letter to the *Builder*, we should hardly have noticed his *Design for a Contemplated Public Building* (122). It is not calculated to stand the test of critical contemplation:—certainly, is not what we might expect from the author of the 'Newleafe Discourses.'

We are sorry that we cannot speak more favourably than we have done of this Exhibition:—we might have done so had we been more indifferent to its object. Unless considerable improvement should take place, it is likely to do as much harm as good, by enabling mediocrity to come before the public in a collective shape,—and therefore a more imposing one than it could otherwise command. The general taste will not be benefited by an indiscriminate assemblage of good and bad,—much of the latter actually too bad. There is danger that by the ignorant—whom an Exhibition like this should undertake to instruct—some of the worst things will be preferred to the best. The Association must reform its course of management, if it would do the good which lies on its path.

FINE-ART GOSSIP.—A genuine and characteristic, and therefore highly curious, portrait of Queen Elizabeth was sold the other day at an obscure sale in Harley Street of the furniture and contents of a house inhabited by the late Miss Harley—a lineal descendant of the great collectors, father and son, the dispersion of whose library is still felt as an injury to literature. There was something of everything in the house;—feather-beds and books, "paintings by the old masters" and family portraits. The



books included a presentation copy of Pope's works to the minister Lord Oxford. The old masters were nearly all worthless. The portraits were curious:—more especially a three-quarter by Vanderbank, of Sir Isaac Newton seated reading 'Euclid,' and the head of Queen Elizabeth. To the latter we would wish more particularly to direct the attention of the curious inquirer into English historical portraits—more especially of the inquirer into the history of Art in England. It is a portrait to the waist,—smaller than life, and probably by De Heere. It must have been like,—and is very ugly. At Miss Harley's sale it brought 10*l.* 10*s.*, but that price has since been doubled—and as we have reason to believe, trebled—by another change of owners. What adds to the value of the picture is, that it was bequeathed by Prior the poet to the Hon. Lady Harriet Harley. What Prior thought worthy of leaving to a family so well versed in English antiquities as the Harleys has an interest of its own, irrespective of its excellence as a work of Art.

The aggregate amount realized by the sale of the King of Holland's collection is said to be 1,222,837 florins—about 108,000*l.* Of those pictures which have found their way into this country the purchases for the Marquis of Hertford amounted to 15,500*l.* Mr. Woodburn, our readers will have seen, is the largest buyer of drawings. A contemporary states that he bought 108 lots at a cost of about 36,700 florins.

We mentioned a fortnight ago that the ex-King of the French Louis Philippe had claimed from the French Government, as his private property, the Standish and Spanish Galleries in the Museum of the Louvre; and that the matter having been referred to the Council of State, that body had recognized the claim and decided that the pictures in question should be given up to the deposed monarch. It is now said that the deposed king had been content with the formal admission of his claim,—and that one of the last (and one of the many magnificent) acts of his life which France has to set against his errors when she shall have time to be just, was to present these two collections to the nation that drove him out to die in exile. The *Journal des Débats* furnished a day or two since a list of the many great works which Louis Philippe has contributed to the embellishment of France.

### MUSIC AND THE DRAMA

**OLYMPIC.**—Mr. Farren has at length obtained possession of this theatre, and on Monday commenced his management with 'The Daughter of the Stars.' This was followed by a new burlesque, entitled 'The Princesses in the Tower; or a Match for Lucifer.' The plot of this extravaganza is founded on the fairy tale of the discreet princess who defeats the wiles of the crafty prince. Mrs. Leigh Murray enacts the *Princess Finetta*, who, with her two sisters, *Pratitia* (Miss L. Howard) and *Drona* (Miss E. Turner), is confined in a tower by command of their father, *King Bellato* (Mr. G. Cooke), while he goes abroad on a warlike expedition. To this tower man is not permitted to have access. But *Richinocris* (Mr. H. Farren) contrives various disguises as means of eluding the prohibition. These are amusing,—but not so prosperous as to place the heroines in real peril, while the rash adventurer himself is doomed to every variety of discomfort. Some of the jokes were practical, a brilliant pyrotechnic display, and a melo-dramatic combat being of this kind. The piece was successful.

**HAYMARKET.**—Mr. Hudson, having returned from America, appeared on Monday in 'The Knight of Arva,' and was enthusiastically greeted by a numerous audience.

**STRAND.**—The 'Night Watch' and 'The Prisoner of War' are the two dramas with which Mr. Bolton has opened his campaign. His ballet company is retained.

**SURREY.**—An absurd attempt was made on Monday to wed Rossini's music with Shakespeare's words

in 'Othello.' Thirteen pieces were transferred from the opera to the tragedy, and the latter was mercilessly cut down to suit the music of the former. The result was, as might have been expected, unsatisfactory,—though Miss Romer, in *Desdemona*, acquitted herself with great power.

**MUSICAL AND DRAMATIC GOSSIP.**—Our contemporaries announce that the Grand National Concerts about to be opened this autumn at *Her Majesty's Theatre* will be conducted by Mr. Balfe for the serious music, with Herr Molique as his leader, and by M. Musard for the dances,—that 'lyrical compositions' have been bespoken from Mr. E. Loder and Mr. Macfarren,—that negotiations for like co-operation are on foot with Mr. Barnett,—and that the 'world-famous' chorus of the King's Chapel at Berlin under the conduct of Herr Neidhart, has also been engaged. So many conductors, we fear, may prove not easy to manoeuvre.

The revelations made this week in the Bankruptcy Court touching the outgoings and the incomings of the *Wednesday Concerts* must be cited by us, in full justification of the misgivings which from the first we expressed with regard to these entertainments. The Hall was crammed to overflowing; good artists (one or two of Europe's best among them) sang and played,—but the speculation was ruinous, and the manager has been unable to meet his engagements. From first to last the performances were not good, owing to a want of outlay on those fillings-up and preparations which make no show in the bill, but all the difference betwixt music which can be tolerated and music which should be enjoyed. Cheap music beyond a certain cheapness is impossible; if the public is to have not only the Ernsts and Thalbergs, but a good paid orchestra and a good paid chorus. The latter are now looked out and listened for. The alternatives, then, must be,—either amateur co-operation, as in the case of the Sacred Harmonic and other choral societies,—variety less rich and eminent,—or, higher prices; and those who admit these truths as difficulties to be met, are the real friends and diffusers of Art,—not those who uphold everything that can be bought for a shilling, no matter if the artifice thereof be ruined. We may return to this subject as occasion serves, with a view of keeping it before the eyes of those who manage and the apprehension of those who enjoy.

The *Times* mentions, as if on authority, that M. Meyerbeer has undertaken to confide a new score to the Royal Italian Opera for the season 1851. We presume that this must be an arrangement of the 'Camp de Silesie,'—since we hardly imagine the *maestra* adventuring 'L'Africaine' here till it has been completed for and presented at the *Académie*. Meanwhile, now that he is in high fashion, it would seem only expedient for one of our rival Opera-houses to revive 'Il Crociato.'

Let critics, anti-Meyerbeerish, or anti-Israelitish, or hyper-mystical, rail as they will, the popularity of the *Prophète* has spread, like wild-fire, throughout Germany. 'I found the opera,' writes a friend, 'at Cassel, at Frankfurt, at Cologne,—I heard of it at Leipzig every where drawing audiences—everywhere a subject of eager table-talk, let the speakers be ever so eager about the Schleswig-Holstein question and English perfidy; thereupon, or ever so anxious in discussing hotel-bills and railroads. (The 'Elijah' of Mendelssohn, too, seems increasing in circulation; but I had no means of otherwise learning how far it is advancing in favour among a people whose connoisseurship is as capricious as it is full of pretence.'

It is obvious that efforts are being simultaneously made in every corner of the Continent to provide the opera-houses with novelty. The managing powers in Holland, at the instance of the King, have bought an opera-book of a well-esteemed Parisian librettist, the composition of which is laid open to the competition of Dutch musicians, whose scores are to be delivered in early next year,—a prize to be awarded to the best work.—We observe, too, that the King of Prussia has just granted a

pension of 500 thalers to a young composer named De Witt, to enable him to study his art in Italy,—of all places in the world,—where the means of direct study hardly continue to exist.—More to the purpose seems the adjoined commission to M. De Witt to examine into the manuscript musical treasures still to be found in the country.

A singing festival, similar to the meeting at Zurich, pleasantly described in this journal some years ago by a correspondent, has just been held at Lucerne. The number of voices, from the four and thirty towns of Switzerland, was one thousand.

The *France Musicale* entertains its readers with yet another rumour of Rossini having again begun to write—nay, more, that he has been taking counsel with Donzelli (!), and that he has had the new composition rehearsed in secret with very great pains. We must be permitted, till otherwise re-assured, to fear that the work will be performed only in secret and published in secret,—and that Rossini will neither hear nor see anything of it himself!

Signor Pavesi is dead,—one of the third-rate Italian opera composers, who wrote with extraordinary activity for the musical theatres, and who was effaced by the popularity and force of the Donizettis and others of the newer school. Signor Pavesi was seventy-two years of age. The number of his great compositions is counted as some three-score;—none of them, save perhaps a cavatina or duet, having ever made their way to this country. The Brothers Ricci have just finished an opera for the autumn theatres of Venice, bearing the title of '*La Aventura Galante al tempo de' Dieci*.' To judge from this name, the work should be based on the lively little one-act comedy 'Le Dix,' set for the *Opéra Comique* of Paris some years ago by M. Girard.

A writer in the *Gazette Musicale* speaks handsomely of some new Quintetts for stringed instruments by M. Cappa, a Spanish composer, who uses the unusual compound of three violins, 'alto and violoncello,—the effect of which can hardly be fancied as satisfactory.—A new opera, 'L'Amant Jaloux,' will be forthwith given at the *Opéra Comique*. That theatre has just lost one of its most popular actresses, Mdle. Barcier, by marriage.—It is again said that Mr. Lumley is to manage the Italian Opera for our neighbours during the coming winter,—with Mesdames Sontag and Fiderntini and Mdle. Parodi as his principal artists.—The *Grand Opéra* was to re-open on Monday last, with Mdle. Albani in '*La Favorite*.'

Mr. Barnum has announced a prize of 200 dollars to be given to the composer of the best national American song, which he intends to have sung by Mdle. Lind immediately on her arrival in the country.

Mrs. Egerton, long an especial favourite with the public in a certain line of characters—and a more than useful actress in a various range of parts,—died last week, our contemporaries say, at Brompton, at the age of fifty-seven.

### MISCELLANEA

**The Sea Serpent.**—Mr. Travers, a gentleman sailing in his own yacht, 'we are informed, has come in aid of the penny-a-liner.' He has addressed a letter to the *Cork Constitution*, in which he is much more circumstantial than Capt. McQuhae.—Our readers would probably like to see Mr. Travers's version of the Sea Serpent. It goes a step further than all its predecessors.—Mr. Travers having actually secured some of the scales of the monster.

'The different fishing establishments,' he says, 'on the shore of this extensive bay, extending from the Old Head of Kinsale to the Seven Heads, have been within the last few days abundantly supplied with fish of every description; and the greatest activity prevails to profit by the bounty which has been thus sent to us literally in shoals. It has been noticed too, that some description of fish—hale, for instance—have been captured further within the limits of the inner harbour than was ever known before. In fact, as I heard it observed, the fish was literally leaping ashore.—These novel appearances, however, at one o'clock A.M., when sailing in my yacht, with a slight breeze off shore, about two miles to the south of the beacon erected on the Barel Rocks, one of the party of four gentlemen on board (Mr. B., of Bandon) drew attention towards the structure mentioned, with the interrogatory, 'Do you



see anything queer about the Barrels?" In an instant the attention of all on board was rivetted on an object which at first struck me as like the up-heaved thick end of a large mast; but which, as it was made out plainer, proved to be the head of some huge fish or monster. On bearing down towards the object we could distinctly see, with the naked eye, what I can best describe as an enormous serpent without mane or fur or any like appendage. The portion of the body above water, and which appeared to be rubbing or scratching itself against the beacon, was fully thirty feet long, and in diameter I should say about a fathom. With the aid of a glass it was observed that the eyes were of immense size, about nine inches across the ball, and the upper part of the back appeared covered with a furrowed shell-like substance. We were now within rifle-shot of the animal, and, although some on board exhibited pardonable nervousness at the suggestion, it was resolved to fire a ball at the under portion of the body whenever the creature's unyielding evolutions would expose its vulnerable part. The instant the piece was discharged the monster rose as if impelled by a painful impulse to a height which may appear incredible—say at least thirty fathoms,—and culminating with the most rapid motion dived or dashed itself under water with a splash that almost stopped our breaths with amazement. In a few moments all disturbance of the water subsided, and the strange visitor evidently pursued his course to seaward. On coming up to the beacon we were gratified to find adhering to the supports numerous connected scaly masses, such as one would think would be rubbed from a creature 'coating,' or changing its old skin for a new one. These interesting objects can be seen at the Horse Rock Coast Guard station, and will repay a visit."

—Now, it may be well to inquire, who is Mr. Travers? —and well that these "interesting objects" should be forwarded, duly authenticated, from the "Horse Rock Coast Guard Station" for the examination of our naturalists, in order that the probabilities of the story may be weighed in these "scales." The rise of "at least thirty fathoms" wants the corroboration of Mr. B. of Bandon.

*Records of our Churches.*—I read with pleasure the paragraph in your last number, extracted from the *Builder*, mentioning the excellent plan adopted by the present Bishop of Ripon for the purpose of securing authentic records of the churches of his diocese,—and sincerely join in the wish that so admirable an example may be extensively followed by our Church dignitaries. It may be interesting to you to learn that Archdeacon Hare is adopting a similar course with regard to the churches of the Archdeaconry of Lewes, and is at present engaged in the collection of drawings; and if possible of the past, condition of the sacred edifices committed to his superintendence. The collection when formed is to descend as an heirloom to the future Archdeacons of Lewes,—to whom it cannot fail to prove of great value.

*Phenomena of the Ocean.*—During the voyage of the *barque Harvest*, Capt. Lackey, of New Bedford, recently returning from a whaling voyage, the fact was, it is said, verified that the tides about the Polynesian Islands do not follow the Newtonian law of variation. At the request of Capt. Lackey, affidavits were obtained from two intelligent individuals, who have for twenty years resided among the Society Islands, to the following statement:—"That the time of high water takes place between the hours of eleven and one o'clock, without any variation unless caused by winds. The different phases of the moon have no effect whatever in changing the time of high water. At the full and change the tides are from six to eight inches higher; the full rise being about two feet."—Another interesting result of the voyage was, the obtaining of deep-sea soundings in the vicinity of the Bermuda Islands.

*Sir Robert Peel's Papers.*—The codicil by which Sir Robert Peel bequeaths his papers deserves to be more particularly brought under the notice of our readers than has yet been done by us. It is dated in March of last year, and is in the following terms.

"I give and bequeath to the Hon. Philip Henry Stanhope, commonly called Lord Viscount Mahon, and Edward Cardwell, of Whitehall, Esq., M.P., their executors, administrators and assigns, all the unpublished letters, papers and documents of a private or of a public nature, whether in print or in manuscript, of which I shall at the time of my decease be possessed, upon the trusts hereinafter declared of and concerning the same. Considering that the collection of letters and papers referred to in this codicil includes the whole of my confidential correspondence for a period extending from the year 1812 to the time of my decease, that during a considerable portion of that period I was employed in the service of the Crown, and that when not so employed I took an active part in parliamentary business, it is highly probable that much of that correspondence will be interesting, and calculated to throw light upon the conduct and character of public men and upon the political events of the time. I give to my trustees full discretion with respect to the selection for publication of any portion of that correspondence; I leave it to them to decide on the period and on the mode of publication, in the full assurance that they will so exercise the discretion given to them that no honourable confidence shall be betrayed, no private feelings be unnecessarily wounded, and no public interest injuriously

affected in consequence of premature or indiscreet publication. I am especially anxious that no portion of my correspondence with Her Majesty Queen Victoria, or with His Royal Highness Prince Albert, should be made public use of during the life of either, without previous communication with parties who may be enabled to ascertain that there is no objection whatever on the part of either to the use proposed to be made of such correspondence. I authorize my trustees to sell or dispose of the copyright of any of the said documents, if the case in which publication should be determined on by the trustees should be one in which pecuniary compensation for such copyright could be fairly and equitably made; not meaning, however, in any way to fetter their discretion in respect of the giving of gratuitous access to the documents whenever they think such access advisable. In the case that any moneys should arise from the publication of any of the said letters, papers, and documents, I authorize the said trustees to apply the said moneys in paying the costs and charges of such publication as far as the trustees may be justly liable for such costs and charges, or other the expenses attending the execution of the trusts hereby reposed in them, and to apply the residue to the assistance or relief of deserving persons being in need of such assistance or relief, engaged or who have been engaged in pursuits of art, literature or science, or to apply such residue, or any such part of it, in aid of institutions established for the relief or benefit of artists or literary and scientific persons; and my said trustees shall not be accountable to any persons whomsoever for the application of any such moneys. With these views it is my desire that the trustees shall with all convenient speed after my decease collect together all the said letters, papers, and documents, and subject the same to such examination as they in their uncontrolled discretion shall think fit. I give them the fullest power to destroy such parts thereof as they shall think proper, and to provide for the immediate care and custody and ultimate disposition of all or any part of the said letters, papers, and documents. My trustees will probably find it convenient to cause the said letters, papers, and documents to be brought in the first instance to London; and I authorize them to select and to rent, or otherwise procure, a convenient place for the deposit of the said letters, papers, and documents during such period as they shall think fit, and to cause proper catalogues to be prepared of the same, and to employ such persons as they shall think fit under their direction for the purposes aforesaid, and for transcribing or editing the same or otherwise in relation thereto. I authorize the trustees to give all or any of the said letters, papers, and documents to the State Paper-Office, the Trustees of the British Museum, or any other institution of the like nature, upon such arrangements as to the permanent preservation thereof as shall be satisfactory to such trustee or trustees. And with regard to the more permanent disposal of such of the said letters, papers, and documents as shall not have been otherwise dealt with, I recommend the trustees as far as shall be consistent with the due execution of the trusts hereby declared, to deposit the same at my mansion-house of Drayton Manor; and I request that the member of my family for the time being entitled to the occupation thereof will afford suitable rooms for the deposit and custody of the said letters, papers, and documents, and will concur with my trustees in such arrangements as the latter shall think necessary for insuring the safety of the same, and for preserving to the said trustees free access thereto, with full power for the said trustees from time to time to regulate and prescribe the circumstances under which others shall be allowed access thereto, and to remove the same wholly or partially, and from time to time, as they or he shall think fit. But I hereby expressly declare that these recommendations and requests shall not in any way be construed to create any trust in favour of any occupier of my said mansion-house, or to give any such occupier, or any member of my family, any estate or interest in the said letters, papers, and documents, or any of them, or in any way to abridge or restrict the discretion of the trustees as to the custody or place of deposit of the said letters, papers, and documents, or otherwise, in or as to the execution of the trusts hereby declared."

Sir Robert then assigns a sum of 1,000*l.* to provide for the costs to be incurred in the execution of these trusts:—and directs that immediately on the expiration of the period of twenty-one years next after the time of the decease of the last survivor of his children, grandchildren or more remote issue, who shall be living at the time of his decease,—or in case there shall not be any of his children, grandchildren, or more remote issue living at the time of his decease, then, immediately on the expiration of the period of twenty-one years next after the time of his decease,—all the trusts before declared concerning the said letters, papers, and documents, shall cease; and the trustees shall forthwith deliver up to or hold in trust for the person or persons who shall then be his heir-at-law, all the said letters, papers, and documents, or so many of them as shall not have been theretofore burnt, destroyed, given away, or otherwise disposed of by the trustees.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.—A. B.—J. A. G.—Rev. G. C. S.—A Subscriber and Bookseller's Assistant—A Subscriber—Mr. S.—received.  
J. B. H.—See Scientific Gossip, *Athen.* No. 1183, p. 743.

*Erratum.*—In Prof. Stokes's communication 'On Metallic Reflexion,' made to Section A of the British Association, p. 841, col. 3, l. 30, for "retarded" read *accelerated*.

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# THE ATHENÆUM

Journal of English and Foreign Literature, Science, and the Fine Arts.

No. 1194.

LONDON, SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 14, 1850.

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## UNIVERSITY COLLEGE, LONDON.—

FACULTY OF ARTS AND LAW.—SESSION 1850-51.—The Session will COMMENCE on TUESDAY, OCTOBER 15, when Professor POTTER, A.M. will deliver an INTRODUCTORY LECTURE, at 3 o'clock precisely.

CLASSES.

LATIN—Professor Newman.  
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SCHOOLMASTERS' CLASSES—Professors Newman, Malden, De Morgan, and Potter.

RESIDENCE OF STUDENTS.—Several of the Professors receive students to reside with them, and in the Office of the College there is kept a register of parties who receive Boarders into their families. The register will afford information as to terms and other particulars.

Three Andrew Scholarships, one of 100l. and two of 50l. each, will be awarded to the three best proficient in Latin, Greek, Mathematics, and Natural Philosophy. Candidates must have been during the academical year immediately preceding, students in the College or pupils in the School.

Prospectuses and further particulars may be obtained at the Office of the College.  
HENRY MALDEN, A.M. Dean of the Faculty.  
CHAS. C. ATKINSON, Secretary to the Council.

August, 1850.  
The Session of the Faculty of Medicine commences on the 1st of OCTOBER.

THE JUNIOR SCHOOL OPENS on the 24th of SEPTEMBER.

UNIVERSITY-HALL, Gordon-square, is open as an Academical Residence for Students of University College. Principal and Classical Tutor, A. H. CLOUGH, M.A., late Fellow and Tutor of Oriel College, Oxford. Vice-Principal and Mathematical Tutor, R. H. HUTTON, M.A., Fellow of University College. Information may be had at the Hall, or from the Rev. D. DAVISON, 16, Frederick-street, Gray's Inn-road.

## UNIVERSITY COLLEGE, LONDON.—

JUNIOR SCHOOL, under the government of the Council of the College.

HEAD MASTER—THOMAS HEWITT KEY, A.M.

The SCHOOL will OPEN on TUESDAY, the 24th of SEPTEMBER. The Session is divided into three Terms, viz. from the 24th of September to Christmas, from Christmas to Easter, and from Easter to the 1st of August.

The yearly payment for each pupil is 18l., of which 6l. are paid in advance in each Term. The hours of attendance are from a quarter-past 9 to three-quarters past 3 o'clock.

The afternoons of Wednesday and Saturday are devoted exclusively to Drawing.

The subjects taught are Reading, Writing, the English, Latin, Greek, French, and German languages, Ancient and English History, Geography (both Physical and Political), Arithmetic and Bookkeeping, the Elements of Mathematics and of Natural Philosophy, and Drawing.

Any pupil who omits Greek, or Greek and Latin, and devote his whole attention to the other branches of education.

There is a general examination of pupils at the end of the Session, and the Prizes are then given.

The discipline of the School is maintained without corporal punishment.

A monthly report of the conduct of each pupil is sent to his parent or guardian.

Further particulars may be obtained at the Office of the College.  
CHAS. C. ATKINSON, Secretary to the Council.

The College Lectures in the Classes of the Faculty of Medicine commence on the 1st of October; those of the Faculty of Arts on the 15th of October.

August, 1850.

## KING'S COLLEGE, LONDON.—THEOLOGICAL DEPARTMENT.

—This Department will RE-OPEN on FRIDAY, October 4, 1850. Candidates for admission, not being Associates of King's College, or Graduates of Oxford, Cambridge, and Durham, must present themselves for Examination at half-past 10 o'clock on WEDNESDAY, October 2.

Printed forms of application and the prospectus, containing all information as to the course of study and expense, may be obtained from J. W. CUNNINGHAM, Esq. Secretary.

July 30, 1850. R. W. JELF, D.D. Principal.

## KING'S COLLEGE, LONDON.—DEPARTMENT OF GENERAL LITERATURE AND SCIENCE.

—The COURSES OF LECTURES in this Department, including Divinity, Classics, Mathematics, English Literature, as well as the Hebrew, Oriental, and Modern Languages, will RE-OPEN on WEDNESDAY, October 2, 1850, on which day all Students are required to attend Chapel.

Two Scholarships of 30l. each, for three years, and two of 20l. each for two years, will be filled up at Easter next.

Full information upon every subject may be obtained from J. W. CUNNINGHAM, Esq. Secretary.

July 30, 1850. R. W. JELF, D.D. Principal.

## KING'S COLLEGE, LONDON.—DEPARTMENT OF THE APPLIED SCIENCES.

—The CLASSES in this Department, including Divinity, Mathematics, Natural Philosophy, Surveying, Architecture, Manufacturing Art and Machinery, Geometrical Drawing, Chemistry, Geology, Mineralogy, and the Engineering Workshop, will RE-OPEN on WEDNESDAY, October 2, 1850, on which day all Students are required to attend Chapel.

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Full information upon every subject may be obtained from J. W. CUNNINGHAM, Esq. Secretary.

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## KING'S COLLEGE, LONDON.—MILITARY DEPARTMENT.

—The CLASSES in this Department, including Divinity, Latin, Ancient and Modern History and Geography, Mathematics and Arithmetic, English Composition, French and German, Military Tactics, Fencing, and Military Drawing, will RE-OPEN on WEDNESDAY, October 2, 1850, on which day all Students are required to attend Chapel.

New Students must be above the age of 15.

The Oriental Languages may be learnt by those intended for the service of the Hon. East India Company.

Full information upon every subject may be obtained from J. W. CUNNINGHAM, Esq. Secretary.

July 30, 1850. R. W. JELF, D.D. Principal.

## KING'S COLLEGE, LONDON.—MEDICAL DEPARTMENT.

—The WINTER SESSION, 1850-51, will COMMENCE on TUESDAY, October 1, 1850, on which day all Students are expected to attend the INTRODUCTORY LECTURE, by Professor Edward Forbes, F.R.S. at 2 o'clock.

The following Courses of Lectures will be given during the Session: ANATOMY, Descriptive and Surgical—Professor Richard Pridmore, F.R.S.; Demonstrators, W. Brington, M.D. and H. Lee, F.R.C.S.; Assistant Demonstrators, Henry Hyde Salter and John Wood.

PHYSIOLOGY AND GENERAL MORBID ANATOMY—Professors R. B. Todd, M.D. F.R.S. and W. Bowman, F.R.S.

CHEMISTRY, Theoretical and Practical—Professor W. A. Miller, M.D. F.R.S.; Demonstrator, J. E. Bowman.

PRINCIPLES AND PRACTICE OF MEDICINE—Professor George Budd, M.D. F.R.S.

PRINCIPLES AND PRACTICE OF SURGERY—Professor William Fergusson, F.R.S.

KING'S COLLEGE HOSPITAL.

The Hospital is visited daily.

Clinical Lectures are given every week, both by the Physicians and by the Surgeons.

The Physicians' Assistants and Clinical Clerks, the House Surgeons and Dressers, are selected by examination from the Students of the Hospital.

One Scholarship of 40l., tenable for three years; one of 30l. and three of 20l. each, tenable for two years, will be filled up in April next.

Full particulars upon every subject may be obtained from Professor GUY, M.D. Dean of the Department; or upon application to J. W. CUNNINGHAM, Esq. Secretary.

July 30, 1850. R. W. JELF, D.D. Principal.

## KING'S COLLEGE, LONDON.—THE SCHOOL.

—The next TERM will COMMENCE on TUESDAY, September 17, 1850, when New Pupils will be admitted.

All Pupils are required to attend Chapel on this day.

Two scholarships of 30l. each, for three years; two of 20l. one of 10l., one of 5l., one of 7l., and one of 6l. each, for two years, will be filled up at Easter next.

Full information upon every subject may be obtained from J. W. CUNNINGHAM, Esq. Secretary.

July 30, 1850. R. W. JELF, D.D. Principal.

## QUEEN'S COLLEGE, LONDON.—CITY BRANCH.

—In consequence of many Ladies being unable, on account of distance, to avail themselves of the Instruction, Harley-street, it has been thought advisable to OPEN a BRANCH of the COLLEGE in the CITY, at No. 4, ARTILLERY-PLACE, FINESBURY-SQUARE, where the Lectures commenced in February last. The Course of Instruction, the expense and periods of Study, are the same as at the College.

Full particulars may be obtained on application to Mrs. SMART, the Lady Resident, at No. 4, Artillery-place, Finsbury-square.

## QUEEN'S COLLEGE, LONDON. (so named by Royal Permission and under the Royal Charter) for GENERAL FEMALE EDUCATION, and for granting to Governesses Certificates of Qualification.—A Branch of the Governesses' Benevolent Institution.

MICHAELMAS TERM will COMMENCE 1st OCTOBER 1850. The Ladies Visitors are present at every Class.

The Fees are 11. 11s. 6d. per Term for those Classes which meet twice in the week, and 11. 1s. for those which meet once; but a composition of 5l. 9s. may be made for all the Lectures in any division.

Lectures in Botany, Chemistry, Geology, and the Useful Arts, will be delivered in the Lent and Easter Terms, if the names of Twenty Pupils be ordered before the close of this Term.

Individual Instruction in Vocal Music in its higher branches will be taught by GEORGE BENSON, Esq., under the immediate superintendence of J. J. LILLIAN, Esq.; and Instrumental Music by R. BARNETT, O. M.A., and W. DORRILL, Esq., under the immediate superintendence of W. S. BARNETT, Esq. The Fee for each, Three Guineas per Term.

Arrangements have been made for teaching Animal Drawing, Wax Modelling, and Ornamental Art, under the immediate superintendence of the Professors of Drawing, and for the prosecution of other studies not suitable to class teaching.

Two Lectures on Useful Subjects are given in the Evenings during the Term to Governesses actually engaged in tuition.

Particulars may be ascertained at the College daily: from the Deputy-Chairman, at the College, every Wednesday and Saturday, before 3 o'clock; or from J. W. KILGUS, Esq. Secretary to the Parent Society, 32, Saville-street.

Committee of Education place yearly Four Free Presentations at the disposal of the Parent Society, and it is hoped that they may be founded by individuals.

LABORATORY CLASSES are opened for Pupils of not less than 12 years of Age. The hours are from 4 to 10 till 11.

The payment is 6s. 6d. per Term, or 13l. 13s. per Year: the year of thirty-eight weeks.

## QUEEN'S COLLEGE, BELFAST.

President.—The Rev. P. SHULDIAM HENRY, D.D.  
Vice-President.—THOMAS ANDREWS, M.D. F.R.S. M.R.L.A.  
The SESSION, 1850-51, WILL COMMENCE on TUESDAY, the 15th of October next, and end on SATURDAY, the 14th of June next.

The MATRICULATION or ENTRANCE EXAMINATIONS, in the several Faculties and Departments, will commence on FRIDAY, the 18th of October. There will be Additional Matriculation Examinations in the several Departments on TUESDAY, for such Students as have not passed, or presented themselves at the former Examinations.

On THURSDAY, the 17th of October, the Supplementary General Examination of those Students entering upon the second year of their course, who did not pass the General Examination in June last, will commence. It is necessary that the General Examination shall have been passed to entitle Students to compete for Scholarships of the second year, or to proceed with their second year's course, with a view of obtaining their Degrees.

The Scholarship Examinations in the several Departments will commence on TUESDAY, the 32nd of October.

The Council have the power of conferring, at these Examinations, thirty Scholarships upon Students of the first year, viz.:—Twelve in Literature and Twelve in Science, of the value of 24l. each; two in Medicine, one in Civil Engineering, and one in Law, of the value of 20l. each; and two in Agriculture, of the value of 13l. each.

The Council have also the power of conferring, at these Examinations, upon Students entering on the second year of their course, the same number of Scholarships, of the same values, and similarly distributed.

The Scholarships are tenable for one year only; but the Scholars of each year are eligible, at its expiration, to Scholarships of the succeeding year.

Previously to being admitted to the Matriculation Examination, each candidate will be required to pay to the Bursar the Matriculation Fee, and a moiety of the Class Fees for the Session, both of which will be returned should the candidate fail to pass the examination.

Candidates for entrance, or for Scholarships, are requested to send in their names to the Registrar, at least, before three o'clock on the day preceding that fixed for the examination at which they propose to present themselves.

NON-MATRICULATED STUDENTS will be permitted to attend any separate course or courses of lectures, on payment of Five Shillings to the Bursar, on behalf of the College, and the regulated fees for the classes they attend; but they will not be allowed to compete for Prizes or Scholarships.

For the mode of proceeding to Degrees in the Faculties of Arts, Law, and Medicine, in the Queen's University in Ireland, which has now received Her Majesty's sanction, and for further particulars respecting courses of study, subjects for Matriculation and Scholarship Examinations, hours of attendance, fees, &c., see "THE BELFAST QUEEN'S COLLEGE CALENDAR," published by Mr. GREER, 31, High-street, Belfast.

By order of the President,  
W. C. ALLEN, Registrar.

Queen's College, Belfast, Sept. 11, 1850.

## ARCHAEOLOGICAL INSTITUTE OF GREAT BRITAIN AND IRELAND.

—The Central Committee of the Institute have considered a Resolution passed at a recent meeting of the British Archaeological Association at Manchester, August 24, in reference to the expediency of promoting a union between the Association and the Institute. The Committee desire to give this public notice that they are ready, as they have always been, to admit Members of the Association desirous of joining the Institute. They have determined accordingly that, in order to offer reasonable encouragement to the Members of the Association, they shall henceforth be eligible without the payment of the customary entrance fee, on the intimation of their wish to the Committee to be proposed for election. Life Members of the Association shall be eligible as Life Members of the Institute, and vice versa, on condition. All Members of the Association thus elected shall likewise have the privilege of acquiring the previous Publications of the Institute at the price to original Subscribers.

Apartment of the Institute.  
28, Suffolk-street, Pall Mall, Sept. 9, 1850.

By order of the Central Committee,  
H. BOWLER LANE, Secretary.

## SCOTTISH INSTITUTION, for the EDUCATION OF YOUNG LADIES, 9, MORAY-PLACE, EDINBURGH.

—The SEVENTEENTH SESSION of the INSTITUTION, as advertised in this Paper, June 8, commences on TUESDAY, September 18.

The Third Report of the Institution, containing full information regarding its plans and the modes of instruction pursued in the various Classes, may be obtained (gratis) on application to Mr. DUN, Secretary, 9, Moray-place.

## ST. MARY'S HALL, ENGLISH and FRENCH INSTITUTION FOR LADIES, conducted by Miss NORTH-CROFT, on the principles of Queen's College.—This INSTITUTION will RE-OPEN on the 18th of September. During the Michaelmas Term the Rev. W. DAVIES will take the French and History classes on Wednesday, and Mr. J. HARRINGTON will attend their Drawing Class at the usual hour on Thursdays. There are VACANCIES FOR RESIDENT PUPILS.—For further particulars apply at the Institution, 6, St. Mary's-road, Canonbury.

## TORQUAY.—A LADY of respectable family,

whose MUSICAL attainments are not ordinary, can RE-CEIVE one or two YOUNG LADIES for PRIVATE EDUCATION, who may seek the climate of Torquay. The Advertiser is a pupil of Boissac and Moschelles, and has taught French and Italian with success many years.—Highly respectable references on address to G. S., Post-office, Torquay.

## PARLEZ VOUS FRANÇAIS?—Many people

to whom this question is put will answer, "I can understand, read, and transcribe it pretty well, but I cannot speak it."—FRENCH and GERMAN CONVERSATION CLASSES, in which the pupils are taught theoretically and practically, are held at 355, Oxford-street, near the Pantheon. Schools and families attended.—MR. ROSENTHAL, Director, 355, Oxford-street.

## GERMAN CLASSES.—Prof. WILHELM KLAUER-KLATOWSKI'S GERMAN MORNING CLASSES FOR LADIES, and his EVENING CLASSES FOR GENTLEMEN, will RECOMMENCE October 1. Terms, 2l. for a course of two months twice a week.—Apply to E. K. H. 29, South Molton-street; where may be had the 3rd edition, just published, of his 'German Manual for Self-culture,' and his 'German Manual for the Young,' price 8s. each.



**TO SCULPTORS.**—The Council of the ART-UNION OF LONDON, desirous of producing a Work of Art to be cast in Bronze, offer the sum of 100*l.* for a single figure to be completed by the finished models in a plaster, the height of the figure when erect to be twenty inches. A Premium of 50*l.* will be given to the Model which may be selected as second in merit. The Models which shall be selected are to become, with the copyright, the property of the Art-Union of London. Due attention should be paid in the arrangement of any drapery to the figure to be the object of casting it in bronze. The Council reserve to themselves the option of withholding either or both of the premiums, if works of adequate merit be not submitted.

It is proposed to place the Models in the INTERNATIONAL EXHIBITION OF 1851. Notice of the exact time and manner of doing so will be given on the 10th inst.

GEORGE GOWDIN, F.R.S. } Hon. Secs.  
LEWIS POOCK, F.S.A. }

444, West Strand, Sept. 11, 1850.

## ROYAL MANCHESTER INSTITUTION.

The EXHIBITION of MODERN PAINTINGS and WORKS of ART in the year 1851, will Open after the CLOSE of the Exhibition at the ROYAL ACADEMY, on the 1st of July as heretofore.—Further particulars will be given hereafter.

By order of the Council,  
GEO. WAREING ORMEROD, Hon. Sec.

## DECORATIVE PAINTING.

MR. FREDERICK SANG, FROM THE ROYAL ACADEMY OF MEDICINE, Decorative Artist in Fresco, and all other manners of Painting, whose works may be seen in the principal Public Buildings of the Metropolis, begs to inform his Patrons and Architects in particular, that he has considerably increased his Establishment, and is now enabled to undertake, on the shortest notice, the Embellishment of Private and Public Buildings, in any part of the United Kingdom, on the most reasonable terms, and in any of the CLASSICAL, MEDÆVAL, or MODERN STYLES.—Apply to F. SANG, Decorative Artist, 58, Pall Mall, London.

### GREAT EXHIBITION IN 1851.

**HER MAJESTY'S COMMISSIONERS** have decided that demands for SPACE for EXHIBITION must be returned by the Local Committees by the 31st of OCTOBER. The Westminster Local Committee, therefore, urge upon the Local Committees of the other Cities to send in their Applications by Monday, the 27th of October, otherwise they may not be able to obtain the space they require.

The necessary forms may be obtained of the Secretary, Mr. G. H. DREW, No. 28, Parliament-street.

### EXHIBITION OF 1851.

NOTICE TO EXHIBITORS is hereby given, that HER MAJESTY'S COMMISSIONERS have fixed the 31st of OCTOBER as the LAST DAY FOR RECEIVING APPLICATIONS for SPACE from the different LOCAL COMMITTEES of the United Kingdom, the Isle of Man, and the Channel Islands. Intending Exhibitors failing to give due and sufficient notice to the nearest Local Committee, cannot be assured that their claims for space will receive any consideration.

M. DIGBY WYATT, Secretary.

August 17, 1850.

## THE MIDDLESEX HOSPITAL SCHOOL OF MEDICINE.

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LONDON, SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 14, 1850.

## REVIEWS

*The History of Leicester, from the Time of the Romans to the End of the Seventeenth Century.* By James Thompson. Leicester, Crossley.

Leicester, though neither the seat of an episcopal see nor distinguished as one of the marts of our early commerce, occupies a rather important position in our middle-age history. As the city founded by the apocryphal King Lear, as an important Roman station, as one of the Danish burghs, as the chief place of residence of the powerful Earls of Leicester, and subsequently of the more powerful Dukes of Lancaster, Leicester comes before us with many a picturesque association of those wild and stirring times. Nor is her later history devoid of interest. Wolsey died in her Abbey; the gentle Lady Jane Grey more than once visited there, and received from "the mayoress and her sisters" a treat of wine and confectionery; while during the Parliamentary war Leicester distinguished herself on the side of freedom, and sustained one of the severest of sieges from the royalist army under Prince Rupert. The voluminous History of Nichols, from its bulk as well as scarcity, being almost inaccessible to the general reader, Mr. Thompson in the work before us has endeavoured to supply its place, by combining in a continuous narrative the various incidents relating to the borough with illustrative documents selected from its records, and thus supplying a connected history of Leicester.

At the Norman conquest, Leicester, with large tracts of the adjacent country, became the fief of Hugh de Grentmesnil, grand seneschal of England,—and it passed from him to his descendants, the Earls of Leicester. Under the rule of these earls, Leicester seems to have enjoyed a fair measure of protection and to have increased in importance. The early mention of a guild here shows that Saxon customs were strong among the inhabitants; and the early entries respecting it afford much curious information as to the manner in which the subordinate towns gradually obtained that power so justly dear to our forefathers—the right of self-government. Unlike the custom of cities, Leicester seems to have had but one guild; and entrance into this, which was accompanied by a money payment and the presentation of two securities, insured the member a right to trade within the town, to be under the protection and to claim the assistance of his fellow-members,—in short, to enjoy all those rights which the London livery companies claimed; only in this case it appears that persons were admitted without any reference to their respective trades. Thus, we find "Walter the mercer," "Peter the carpenter," "Adam the miller," and "Reginald the scribe," among the members. Under the celebrated Simon de Montfort Leicester obtained numerous additional privileges. The security which it offered to those who dwelt within its walls attracted numbers every year to the guild-merchant. It had now a common council of twenty-four members, each bound under a penalty of six pennies (7s. 6d. present money) "to attend upon all summonses of the alderman, and to constitute his *posse* in performing the business of the town, if they were in it." Various cases came before the guild for their determination; and from these we find that wool and woollen goods were then, as now, the chief merchandise. Among these cases, we find that one Roger Alditch was charged with making a blanket, "one part of which was a good woof, but elsewhere in many places weak

stuff," and also "that he had made a piece of inferior vermilion cloth to be attached to a good piece;"—so early were "tricks in trade" practised.

The extracts respecting the great fair at Stamford, St. Botolph's,—to which traders from all parts resorted, and which vied in importance with St. Bartholomew's fair at London and St. Giles's fair at Winchester—are valuable for the light which they throw on our early trading regulations.—

"The year 1257 was a remarkable one in the guild annals. The regulations of the body were then multiplied. On the first Friday after the 21st of September (the feast of St. Matthew the Apostle), during the mayoralty of Henry of Roddington, it was agreed by the whole guild in full assembly, that all the Leicester merchants who should go to the next fair at Stamford, with their wool, cloth, and skins, should have them carried to the shops in which the Leicester merchandise was usually deposited, and cause them to be opened there in the presence of the neighbours, leaving them there for at least a day and a night. \* \* Certain fines were to be levied for any contravention of the rule laid down. \* \* It was agreed by the guild in the year 1261, that on all future occasions this custom should be held firm, in the market of St. Botolph, and all other markets where seldage (dues payable on sheds or shops) was paid,—namely, that all cloths brought to the said markets, whether in fardels or not, should be free from seldage. In the same year it was provided, that in the market of St. Botolph none of the commonalty should show their cloth for sale beyond the locality (*rengam*) in which the Leicester merchants were accustomed to sell their merchandise; and if any one should contravene that provision, he should remain in debt to the commonalty a tun of ale."

The reader must bear in mind that wool, being one of the "staples," and subjected to certain dues, could be sold only in the "staple towns," where the "king's beam" was set up. These great fairs were, therefore, advantageous both to buyer and to seller, inasmuch as a large concourse of persons, often from very distant parts, were brought together, to whom was afforded every facility of purchase in the most public manner:—an advantage this, for which modern arrangements have scarcely afforded compensation. Here were the king's officers, who, while they received the customs, gave warranty of the lawfulness of the sale; here was the "king's beam," at which all heavy articles could be weighed by the authorized standard; here were the duly sealed "Winchester measures" for dry goods, kept by the authorities of the place where the fair was held; and here were the wardens of the trades-guilds, strictly superintending their respective members with yard and ellwand, and exercising a power of fine, and even of expulsion. The continued references to fines in the form of beer and ale prove strongly the Saxon descent of these Leicester burgesses. Sometimes "wine" was given. The love of good cheer, especially drinking, seems early to have evinced itself in the "guild-merchant" of Leicester. From some of the accounts of this early period—the thirteenth century—the worthy brethren appear to have anticipated Falstaff's rule of proportion between the "bread and sack:"—for while on one occasion we find almost forty shillings paid for wine, four shillings is the sum charged for the staff of life. As, in a subsequent entry, a cask of wine is valued at sixty-two shillings, we must conclude that at this meeting the company made themselves comfortable over two-thirds of a cask or twenty-four gallons of wine.

We obtain glimpses of the great difficulty and cost of conveyance of heavy goods in those early days from these accounts. While wine averages from 2l. 3s. to 3l. 2s. a cask, the cost of cartage only from Stamford to Leicester—a distance,

allowing for a more circuitous route, of scarcely thirty miles—averages eight shillings a cask.

Respecting the state of society in Leicester in the thirteenth century, Mr. Thompson observes:—

"The monks of the abbey were its surgeons, the chaplains of the churches its lawyers, and men who could neither read nor write were its mayors. The abbey library of manuscripts was the only collection of books to be met with; and, small as it was, few were acquainted with its contents. Learning was then deemed synonymous with magic and the pursuit of the 'black art.'"

All this might be true, yet the inferences are not legitimately deduced from it. Mr. Thompson's own work contains abundant proof that in the thirteenth century the burgesses of Leicester, although not gratified with a daily paper at their breakfast tables, were a shrewd and intelligent people, able to manage their own local and private affairs and keep a watchful eye on public proceedings,—

Men who  
Knew their rights, and knowing dared maintain,  
—as Henry the Third found to his cost. But "the chaplains of the churches" were not their lawyers. These were a separate body,—and men well versed in law have declared that the acuteness of their legal decisions could not be surpassed in the present day. The remark that "learning was then deemed synonymous with magic" is mere twaddle. Of all the periods of "the wonderful middle ages," as Gërres has truly termed them, the thirteenth century stands pre-eminent for its rapid advances in knowledge. This knowledge, indeed, was not promulgated by the press; but the circulation of manuscripts and their multiplication was much greater than has hitherto been believed. Architecture, too, was then in its most palmy state:—nor could the age that produced the tombs of Aveline de Fortibus and Edmund Crouchback, and the graceful sculptures at Lincoln and York, be viewed as deficient in taste for the Fine Arts. Indeed, in turning over the illuminations of this period we have often been struck with the singular gracefulness of even the commonest articles of household use.

In 1271 a twentieth part of the moveables of the kingdom were granted to the king. The talliage roll for this borough affords some amusing information as to the origin of surnames and the respective occupations of the parties.—

"A large portion of them were evidently derived from neighbouring villages, such as Richard of Asfordby, Robert of Scharnford, John of Queniborough, and others. Others designated the occupations of their possessors. Among these may be mentioned the following:—William of Sileby, baker, Alan the gardener, Henry the goldsmith, Inigo the butcher, Simon Kepegest (perhaps a publican), Thomas the blood-letter (Thom. blodletere, probably a barber also), William the parchment dealer, Richard the cutler, Adam the weaver, Reginald the slater, Curtis the cordwainer, John the fisher, Richard the tanner, William the soldier, William the mareschal, Nicholas the chaloner (or cupbearer), Hugh the comber,—and so on. Other names indicate bodily or moral characteristics, such as, John sturdy (senior and junior), John wytside, Hugh the long, Roger the stooping, or crouchback, Margaret the greedy, Alicia the fat, Henry Brown-man, John fulgood, and others. The situation of a man's dwelling-house, or the name of the place of his abode, gave surnames too; for the cognomens of Henry abotetown, William under the wall, John and Henry 'of the hall,' occur on the roll. \* \* Among the miscellaneous names, those of William six-and-twenty, Adam cokenbred, and Simon careless, were on the list of tax-payers."

On the death and forfeiture of the illustrious Simon de Montfort, the earldom of Leicester was bestowed on Henry's younger son, Edmund Crouchback,—who does not seem to have ever resided at Leicester. His son, Earl Thomas



—who subsequently became as eminent a patriot as Simon de Montfort, and, like him, laid down his life in the cause of freedom—resided much at Leicester, and in almost royal state. He was succeeded by his brother Henry, —the earl who was constituted guardian of Edward the Third, and who bestowed knight-hood on him. Edward and his Queen frequently visited the earl in his castle of Leicester; and when he was buried in the chapel of the hospital which he had founded, they again visited Leicester to pay the last tribute of respect to his remains. The succeeding Earl Henry, his son, has a claim on the notice of the reader as the father of the Lady Blanche, so sweetly and with such earnest devotion celebrated by our Chaucer.—

I saw her dance so comely,  
Carol and sing so sweetly,  
And laugh and play so womanly,  
And loken so debonairely,  
So godely speke and so friendly,  
That certe I trow that never more  
N'as sene so blisful a tresore.

An illustrious company must Leicester Castle have collected when, as Duke of Lancaster, Henry welcomed around him the flower of Edward the Third's brilliant court, and the Black Prince and his brothers and their companions in arms set forth hawking or hunting in the neighbouring forest. But under his son-in-law, John of Gaunt, the Castle of Leicester became almost the seat of royalty. There is little doubt, we think, but that this castle was the scene of the 'Book of the Duchess'; and here probably Chaucer married Catharine Swinford's sister, Philippa. The Duchess Constance, John of Gaunt's second wife, also chiefly resided here; and from hence she fled when the popular rising under Jack Straw and Wat Tyler threatened the destruction of the regal pile. John of Gaunt was, however, a great favourite with the Leicester burgesses, and thus—

"while the followers of Jack Straw were burning the Duke's palace of the Savoy, in the year 1381, rumours were extending all over the country of their proceedings in and about London. They reached Leicester. A messenger arrived in the town one evening, and informed the mayor that the rioters were on their way to Leicester—that, indeed, they were at Market Harborough, and by one o'clock next day would be at the town-gates, as they intended to plunder and destroy the castle. The mayor and his brethren called a meeting, without delay, that evening. They summoned the principal inhabitants together to take counsel with them. It was agreed at this meeting that a proclamation should be made in the king's name, at the High Cross and the gates of the town, that very night, calling upon all the townsmen, who were able, to arm themselves for the common defence, and to muster on the Gallowtree Hill, on the road to Market Harborough, early next morning. When the morrow dawned, not less than twelve hundred men were present at the appointed place, ready and willing to obey the mayor's commands. They remained on the spot all day, rather increasing than diminishing in numbers, in expectation of the arrival of the enemy. The day passed over and no party appeared. Next morning the townsmen gathered together again, determined to protect themselves and the duke's property from the attacks of the insurgents. Messengers were sent to gather information, but none returned. In the course of the day, however, the Duke of Lancaster's wardrobe-keeper arrived in the town, anxious to remove the valuables from the castle to the abbey. With this intention he had loaded several carts and vehicles with property, and was proceeding along the Abbey-gate, when he met the abbot and some of his community, who refused to allow the articles to be deposited in their house. They feared, it seems, that 'Jack Straw' might be tempted to plunder the abbey, too, if the Duke's valuables were placed in their custody; and probably they entertained a secret aversion for an heretical nobleman who favoured the cause of Wickliffe. It is certain that the rioters had

vowed vengeance against the Duke of Lancaster, and would undoubtedly have destroyed his property had they come to Leicester. It was therefore taken to St. Mary's Church, that being considered a more secure place, from its religious character, than the castle. The townsmen's fears were unfounded: the malcontents never reached Leicester. Yet the apprehended attack served its purpose in bringing forth and exhibiting the attachment of the people of this locality to the Duke of Lancaster."

The doctrines of Wickliffe appear to have made much progress in Leicester. Though their promulgators were put down, their teaching grew and prevailed. With John of Gaunt the history of the Castle of Leicester ends. "Aspiring Lancaster" had attained the crown, and the seat of its ancient splendours was suffered to fall into ruin. The town, however, does not appear to have sunk in importance: for in 1414 a parliament was held here,—and two others in 1425 and in 1450. During the War of the Roses the inhabitants, strangely enough, scorned the cognizance of their ancient protectors and fought under the banner of the White Rose. At the time of the Reformation we find the burgesses of Leicester heartily joining in it, and dismantling the wealthy abbey and the churches of "all monuments of superstition." The chamberlain's accounts during this century are often amusing. At "the rejoicings for Prince Edward's birth," several companies of players appear to have been present; for we find 5s. paid to the Earl of Derby's players, 5s. to "the Secretary's players, and 5s. to the Prince's players." In 1586 Mary Queen of Scots stayed a day or two in Leicester, in the custody of Sir Amias Paulet, on her way to Fotheringhay Castle; and on this occasion payments are recorded for Gascony wine and sack and sugar given to Sir Amias,—and 2s. to three men for "watching of Sir Amias Pollett's carriages."

Leicester was often put to serious expenses by the visits of noble or royal persons. Thus, when on James's accession to the throne his queen and Prince Henry and Princess Elizabeth passed through Leicester, while the first two had silver-gilt cups and covers presented to them, every attendant received fees; but such was the rapacity of the Scots that they stole a horse, together with pewter vessels and linen! In the following year, when Prince Charles, under the protection of the Lord President of the Session, came there, and was feasted "with wine and other banquetting stuff, served up on five Flanders dishes," some of the articles, together with a bed-bolster, were carried off. We find Cromwell a frequent visitor at Leicester,—and "wine, biscuits, sugar, and tobacco" then provided. There is also a charge for ringing the bells "when the intelligence came that the parliament army had given the great defeat." The members for the town appear to have been paid for their services, though how much is not stated. Mr. Stanley had "10*l.* in gold" occasionally forwarded to him. The worthy member lived frugally at Mistress Cressey's house, near St. Margaret's, Westminster,—and thankfully acknowledged the remittances. He constantly sent down letters to his constituents containing Parliamentary news; which, with the *Weekly Intelligencer* newspaper, was the only source of political information to the townsmen.—The 'History' ends at the year of the Revolution.

*Généviève.* By A. de Lamartine. Jeffs.

EXCEPT for its preamble, which need not be read,—but for a few egotistical passages, which might easily be expunged from any future edition,—and but for its close, which seems over-poetically just and too theatrically elaborate—this story, 'Généviève,' might rank in French sen-

timental literature as high as 'Paul et Virginie.' It is inconceivably M. de Lamartine's best imaginative prose work. The fastidious novel reader has no reason to complain of the year which, before the winter comes, will have given him 'Copperfield' complete,—the powerful and highly-finished 'Scarlet Letters' by Mr. Hawthorne from America,—and from France the tale which we have in hand.

The dedication, adverted to rather condescendingly, sets forth that Mademoiselle Reine Garde, to whom 'Généviève' is inscribed, was a servant, and is a sempstress at Aix, in Provence. No one will receive without cordial interest the news that the operative class in France, besides its Reboul, and Jasmin, and Savinien Lepointe, has also its poetess in the party specified. (But there is too much of the Chateaubriand style in the narration of the visit which the sempstress muse paid to the author of the 'Méditations,' attracted by her irresistible desire to behold him. We hardly think that M. de Lamartine can have faithfully reported the high conversation with which he tells us he regaled his visitor, on the destinies of popular literature,—as though his eagle eye had first discovered that whereas the people are now choosing to read, books will henceforward be written for the people's use. (What is more, we are not sure that there is not an aristocratic class-prejudice beneath the sonorous promises here tendered, that the people aforesaid shall have a literature "made to fit"—poems, tales, plays—better than those formerly contrived for the use of their betters.) Thanks to his friends, the *Proletaire* bids fair to be allowed as little liberty of choice as his arch-antagonist, the King. Credited by his patrons with superhuman purity, and with an uncorrupted and incorruptible desire to have and hold only the "best and honourablest things," a literature is to be got up for him superfinely simple, wondrous in its wholeness, incomparable in the instruction which it contains;—as if the very idea of intellectual development did not also include that freedom of choice, that indulgence of fancy, that desire to digress, that patience with blemish and extravagance which are provided for in the literature for the few,—precisely because that has been created by men more intent on their own great thoughts and subtle fancies than on sitting, rod and horn-book in hand, face to face with a row of unlettered children gaping for culture.

Let us, then, hear somewhat less of this Patent Digestive Literature for the People, about which philanthropists, on the principle of the parallelogram, are too fond of lecturing:—least of all let us be preached upon by fervent and picturesque poets like M. de Lamartine. If they only write such books as this 'Généviève,' they may be as sure of being followed by a host of befitting readers as that every one among the myriad will draw nourishment from the pleasure according to his own humour, and at his own time.—A more beautiful tale of its kind, we repeat, has rarely, if ever, been given to the public.

Like M. de Balzac, M. de Lamartine for his principal character has had recourse to a former work of fiction. *Généviève*, he tells us, is *Marthe*—whom all will remember as having been *Jocelyn's* faithful servant. When, after *Jocelyn's* death, his house had to be cleared for the new priest—to *Jocelyn's* friend and executor the story of *Généviève's* life and sorrows was made known. There is not much plot nor invention in this,—but great pathos. *Généviève* is one of those beings who seem destined from infancy to a life of self-postponement and sacrifice. Born in a humble class, as a child she was the faithful servant and *confidante* of her bed-ridden mother (a figure touched with sad



sweetness). When orphaned, she became a mother to her younger sister,—poor, pretty Josette!—and for Josette's sake she renounced her one chance of marriage with the man whom she loved dearly. Yet this was only a first trial. Poor Josette allowed herself to be enticed into a secret marriage, the appearances of which were so questionable that loss of reputation must have ensued had the facts been half known. She gave birth to a child, which it was needful strictly to conceal,—and in the midst of uncertainty, dismay and distress, died suddenly. The maintenance of her sister's secret *Généviève* regarded as a religious duty. This was to be accomplished only by her taking Josette's shame upon herself. Granting such premises, few scenes more pathetic have ever been penned than those that stand betwixt the adoption of this heroic resolution and the moment when the real truth is made clear. If we say that (allowing for differences of local colouring) there are pages here which may be measured against the best in 'The Heart of Mid-Lothian,' it is only the French author's due.

After the acquittal of *Généviève*, however, in the presence of her old lover and his family, the story might well have been closed. It is a generic defect with tale-tellers that they never seem to know when their readers have had enough,—or else err, from themselves becoming weary ere the play is played out. Notions of poetical justice seem to have troubled M. de Lamartine. *Généviève* was not only to be absolved, she was to be rewarded,—and the lost child of Josette was to re-appear: such re-appearance (with the new characters thereby introduced) being managed little more successfully than the retributive history of the child of the *Lily of St. Leonard's*, which amounts to an excrescence on Scott's admirable story. But so good are the good portions of '*Généviève*,' that the tale is worth re-casting, with a view, as we have said, of its taking a permanent place in the modern Library of Fiction.—In any case, it is worth transferring to our language,—and will probably find a translator.

*Bibliographia Zoologiae et Geologiae; a general Catalogue of all Books, Tracts and Memoirs on Zoology and Geology.* Vols. I. & II. By Prof. Louis Agassiz and H. E. Strickland. Published for the Ray Society.

THE mass of scientific literature which years are accumulating, and the rapid development of almost every branch of science in all parts of the civilized world, render arranged catalogues of the contributions to different departments of human knowledge most desirable. How much of the interminable synonymy which now forms so marking a feature of our scientific works might have been spared if their several authors could in any speedy way have been made acquainted with what others had done before them! How much labour and loss of time in the dry and unprofitable task of examining specimens and descriptions might be avoided by the naturalist of the present day, could he but lay his hand on a competent bibliography of the subjects in which he is interested!—A sense of the importance of such lists of works has prompted many naturalists and others to compile catalogues for their own use. These have occasionally found their way into print: and there are now extant catalogues of scientific books generally,—as of special departments of science. As yet, however, we have no exhaustive bibliography of the scientific literature of Europe or of our own country. With regard to the natural history sciences, botany is better off than zoology; for whilst the former has the '*Bibliotheca*' of Haller for reference, the latter has not even a tolerable list of works to refer to.

To meet this want, Professor Agassiz some years since determined to print off a number of copies of a private list of books kept by himself,—and to send them to the various zoologists of Europe and America, seeking additions to his list. When the proofs were returned to him, he found that he had a list of works far beyond the means of a single individual to publish,—and that, however valuable, the publication could never have a remunerative sale. Under these circumstances, it was thought by the Ray Society that the production of a work of this kind was properly within the range of objects for which it was established; and having made arrangements with Professor Agassiz, and succeeded in obtaining the able assistance of Mr. Hugh E. Strickland as editor, they have now issued the first two volumes of this long-desired Catalogue.

It would be too much to expect that a work compiled from so many sources should not contain a certain number of errors, or that with all the care which could be taken it should be altogether free from omissions. We have even discovered some repetitions:—but on the whole we believe the Catalogue of Messrs. Agassiz and Strickland to have been accurately executed, and that it will fill up an important hiatus in our zoological literature.

The volumes before us contain a list of all zoological and geological periodicals, arranged according to the various countries in which they have been published,—and an alphabetical list of authors, from A to G. It is intended to publish with the remaining volumes a classified Index of Subjects,—and also supplemental volumes as they may be found necessary.

We have heard complaints of the uninteresting nature of the books published by the Ray Society, and this '*Bibliography*' has been pointed to as one of them. It should be recollected that the Ray Society has not been instituted to publish works for popular reading,—but to supply the naturalist with books and information which he could obtain in no other way. It appears to us that a work like this '*Bibliography*' belongs to a class which all our publishing Societies ought especially to contemplate,—a class which, not being in sufficient demand, could not offer profit to a publisher, and yet from intrinsic merit becomes in the hands of a few an important means of scientific research. Subscribers to Societies like the Ray should not expect to get exactly their *quid pro quo* as they would in a bookseller's shop.

*The Berber; or, the Mountaineer of the Atlas. A Tale of the Sallee Rovers.* By William Starbuck Mayo, M.D., Author of '*Kaloolah*.' Bentley.

Dr. Mayo is evidently afraid of the author of '*Kaloolah*.' As a piece of grave exaggeration—a well-sustained satire on the American practice of marvellous tale-telling—we held, and hold, that romance to be unrivalled. We admire the size of the writer's lions, the length of his boa-constrictors, the magnificence of his cities, and the splendour of his African kings—the grandeur and originality of his whole system of penny-a-lining; and we enjoyed more than one hearty laugh at the satire,—for the magniloquent descriptions were more than relieved by slight touches of pathos and humour. But the author's genius for quiet caricature appears to have well nigh exhausted itself in his first effort:—by the side of '*Kaloolah*' the '*Berber*' "pales its ineffectual fire."

The materials of the story are here much the same as in the former case. This time, the distressed and captured damsels are Spaniards and Christians. Their lovers are—one, a bold and famous pirate, with the sound of whose dreaded

name Andalusian mothers frighten their refractory infants,—the other, a yet more famous chieftain of the Berber tribe, a white man and a Christian, who is trying to introduce the religion and civilization of Europe into the mountain ranges of the Atlas. A medley of Jews, Arabs, Moors and Berbers make up the remainder of the *dramatis personæ*.—An historical personage—Muley Ismael, Sultan of Morocco,—plays a leading part in the story; but the interest chiefly clings to the Berber chief, with his grand notions and inchoate reformations.—The tale is too crowded with incident and adventure for us to attempt to give even its outlines; we shall, therefore, content ourselves with presenting an extract or two, and leaving them to tell their own tale. The following passage brings forward the despot,—and a message to him from the hero.—

"It was morning at Mequinez. In a large court communicating with the garden of the harem were assembled all the dignitaries of the court. A body of black troops lined each side of the square. Four stalwart negroes lounged at a little distance from the archway by which the sultan was expected to enter. These were the executioners, the invariable attendants at a '*meshourah*' or royal audience, who at a look from their master, could seize the unfortunate subject of the monarch's wrath, and tossing him into the air, let him fall so as to break any prescribed number of bones, or to kill him outright. In front of the arch were gathered the officers of the court, the chief dignitaries of the city, mingled with kaid and lieutenant-kaid from Morocco and Fez, and bashaws from the provinces of Soos and Tefilet. At a little distance a group of four or five Jews in black skull-cap and bomoose, cowered in deprecating attitude beneath the fierce looks of the negro guard. A striking contrast was that between the insolent air of these black barbarians from the further side of the Sahara, and the subdued voices and anxious looks of the Maroquien courtiers. 'May God prolong the life of the sultan,' whispered a bashaw to the kaid of the gate. 'Hast thou heard in what mood it has pleased his majesty to rise this morning?'—'May the sultan's life be prolonged,' replied the kaid. 'A eunuch just whispered me that it had pleased our Lord the Shereef to rise with his sword in his teeth.' And the word passed through the groups of anxious officials that something had gone wrong with his majesty during the night, and that probably more than one head would roll from its shoulders in token of the sultan's displeasure. \* \* 'Long life and health to Sidi! May God preserve Sidi!' shouted with one accord the courtiers, at the same time prostrating themselves to the ground, and crouching and cringing around the sultan, endeavouring to touch his feet or to kiss his garments or the trappings of his horse. The sultan, however, kept his horse in motion and his cimeter whirling, and it was with no small expenditure of agility that his courtiers contrived to pay their customary salutations, and yet to preserve their bodies from the horse's hoofs or their necks from the steel. As it was, several turbans were already cut through, and a dozen haicks were stained with blood, when suddenly the sultan checked his horse, and sheathing his cimeter with a growl of rage, he passed his hands into the folds of his sash and drew out a paper.—'Traitors,' he shouted, glaring round upon his panting and terrified court. 'Dogs! whose work is this? Who of you has dared to sell himself to the Berber?' and the old monarch shook the paper with convulsive energy. 'Read this,' he exclaimed to an officer who held the office of chief kaid of the gate. The kaid advanced, took the paper, and after kissing the hem of the imperial haick, he read in a loud voice as follows:—'To the powerful Muley Ismael, emperor of Morocco, Soos, and Tefilet, whom God preserve in the paths of justice and mercy. Know that thy demand for more tribute than the free Amazerg of the hills has of his own accord consented to pay is unjust. Know also that thy design to ravage the country of the Ait Amoor is known to me. Be warned in time, and let there be peace between us. I fear you not, and wish you well, in token whereof I pin this paper with my dagger to



your pillow and not to your heart. CASBIN EL SUBAH. — 'What think you,' demanded the sultan, when the kaid had finished; 'whence comes this? Who pinned that paper to my pillow?' — 'May God for ever preserve Sidi, but I know not,' replied the trembling kaid. — 'Think you it was the Berber chieftain himself?' — 'God knows,' replied the kaid, falling upon his knees. — 'God knows, but you do not,' growled the sultan; 'and yet you are kaid of the gates.' — Muley Ismael glared around upon his court with the look of a tiger selecting a victim, and then raising his finger the four negroes darted upon the prostrate and grovelling form of the unfortunate officer. 'God is great! and there is no God but God! may he lengthen the life of Sidi,' exclaimed the kaid; but with the words in his mouth, his body was whirled aloft on the extended arms of the gigantic negroes, and then dashed head first with mortal force upon the marble pavement. The sultan stared for a moment with a grin of maniacal rage distorting his toothless mouth, upon the lifeless body of the kaid, while courtiers began to elevate their voices in expressions of admiration of his justice and goodness, and in wishes for his long life and prosperity. One Moor, however, of a dignified mien, and of a complexion that would have compared for clearness and whiteness with that of the inhabitants of northern Europe, stood a little apart in silence. He either could not, or would not, join in the sycophantic plaudits that were beginning to arise from all quarters of the court. As the eyes of the monarch turned from the body of the kaid, they fell upon the silent figure of the Moor. 'Hah!' exclaimed the sultan, 'Abdallah ibn Asken! what thinkest thou of the justice of the shereef?' To approve or disapprove, in answer to such a question, it was well known to be attended with equal danger, and for a moment Abdallah stood without making any reply. With a deep-drawn yell of concentrated passion, Muley Ismael spurred towards him. 'Dog! son of a Christian!—you, a descendant of the Ommeyah of Andalusia!' he shouted, and, raising his sword, let it fall with full force upon the head of the Moor, who, as the blade descended, received it without moving from his tracks. Luckily the thick turban afforded a partial defence; but still the keen steel cleft the scalp, and, glancing, inflicted a deep wound in the shoulder. The sword itself, by the force of the blow, was wrenched from the sultan's hand, and flew out some distance on the pavement. Quietly Abdallah turned, took a few steps, picked up the sword, and deliberately wiped the bloody blade upon his haik. He then advanced to the emperor, who sat motionless upon his horse, and presenting the hilt bowed his head. 'God is God,' exclaimed Abdallah, 'and I submit to my fate, at his hands, and at the hands of the shereef.' Muley Ismael, although one of the most suspicious, irritable and cruel tyrants that ever filled a throne, had his moments of generosity. From the extreme of passion it was no uncommon thing for him to pass to the extreme of kindness and condescension. Receiving the cimeter, he returned it to its sheath, and then, unbuckling the belt, handed it back to Abdallah. 'Receive this,' said the sultan; 'oh worthy descendant of the royal Ommeyah; may God restore thy dynasty to the throne of Cordova;—receive it as a token of our satisfaction that there is at least one brave and honest man in our court.' Abdallah bowed himself to the stirrup of the sultan, and kissed his foot. Muley Ismael placed his hand upon the Moor's head, and raising it, exclaimed in a loud voice, 'Long life to Abdallah ibn Asken, Chief Kaid of the gates!'

As historical heresy is the fashion of the times, Dr. Mayo asserts his right to dispute the old traditions of conquest. Mr. Disraeli has done his best to prove the intellectual preponderance of the Mosaic Arabs,—Mr. Urquhart claimed a similar supremacy in mind and prowess for the Saracens,—and now, Dr. Mayo comes forward to support the claims of the Berbers. That a civilized and noble people did once inhabit the southern provinces of Spain, is pretty certain; and our author contends that the heroes and statesmen, the poets and architects, of Seville and Cordova,—the warriors who routed Alfonso on the battle-field of Zalaca and those who riotously swept the country up

to the very mountains of Asturias—were not of Arab but of Berber origin. We have no doubt that the American author could maintain his theory with as much plausibility as his European rivals do theirs.

But we have not space to discuss questions of history with the romancer. He is more at home in his own element of marvels and masquerades. Heroes are always heroes—even in their teens; and of course the Mountaineer of the Atlas performed exploits in his youth.—

'The sheik of Arbazza was a shereef and a saint (began the rais, in a low but distinct voice). He was of a pure Arabic stock, and a bitter hater of the Berbers. He was also the wealthiest man in all the kingdom of Fez; and among his riches he possessed one thing that he valued more than all the rest—a mare of the most famous blood of Duquella. Her pedigree could be traced back for ages, and the fame of her beauty and her speed filled the whole land. She was a thorough-bred 'deafener' and 'wind-drinker.' She was as the apple of his eye; and proud was the sheik of Arbazza that he was the owner of a creature that for beauty, fire, speed, and endurance, could not be matched, travel the world over. The sheik of Arbazza was at feud with several of his neighbours, both of plain and hill; and numerous attempts were made by his enemies, and, if the truth must be told, by several of his friends, to dispossess him of his favourite. But the sheik was a wary man, and vain were all the efforts of treacherous friends and open enemies. He was also a boastful and an arrogant man; and he prided himself not a little on his ability to defeat and punish any attempt to carry off the descendant of the famous *Maha el Bahr*, or 'steed of the sea.' Already had several gallant and adventurous spirits perished, and more had failed, and been driven back in disgrace, when the vanity of the sheik slipped the bridle of prudence, and galloped off with him without check or restraint. He published an invitation to all who felt disposed to steal his famous mare. He announced a defiance to the boldest and most adroit horse-stealers in all the empire. He even offered, in his vain sense of security, a reward of a thousand gold metzeals to whoever should succeed in carrying off *El Hassaneh*, or the Beautiful. Of course, after this the watchfulness of the sheik was not relaxed, or his precautions decreased. Each night the mare was picketted by the door of his tent. One end of an iron chain was put around her leg, and locked, and the key deposited in the sheik's girdle; the other end of the chain was brought within the tent, passed under the sheik's bed, and fastened to the tent pole. Within reach of his hand stood his loaded gun, the match always burning—and the sheik was the most famous marksman of the tribes. Without the tent, a pack of the largest and fiercest dogs threatened every intruder with instant death. Among the enemies of the sheik the principal one consisted of a portion of the Beni Mozarg; and of course nothing would have delighted the Berbers more than for one of their number to have achieved the feat of carrying off the sheik's famous mare. On the one hand was every inducement to attempt the adventure—pride, revenge, the love of glory, and an admiration of horse-flesh; but on the other hand, there were too many obstacles in the way—the distance to the plains; the difficulty of approaching the douah; the canine guards; the chain; and more than all, the watchfulness and prowess of the sheik. These obstacles had been found by repeated experiments insurmountable, and the very bravado of the sheik, while it was looked upon as the worst of insults, helped to deter the boldest of the Berbers from undertaking the adventure. At that time Casbin, son of the amekran of the Beni Mozarg, was scarce turned of thirteen, but already had he killed the king of beasts, and acquired the name of *el Subah*, or the Lion. It was noticed that the young prince was for days busy in constructing a strong basket, or rather cage. The holes in it were just wide enough to admit a hound's nose; and the withes were of the stoutest kind, and wound with strips of untanned hide. The basket excited much curiosity, but not a word did the young chieftain vouchsafe as to the purpose to which it was to be applied. But great was the surprise when catching a common cat, he

enclosed her in the basket, and securely fastened the door. It was in a terrible storm of snow that Casbin, with his cage and cat strapped behind his saddle, set out secretly from the kassir. Towards night he reached the low land and the neighbourhood of the tents of the sheik. Under cover of the storm, which had changed as he descended to one of rain mingled with sleet, he approached quite near to the douah. Here he remained until some time after midnight, when mounting he rode boldly up to the sheik's tent. The dogs were wide awake, and in full chorus, but they were busy with some other object of alarm, and did not perceive him until he was within fifty yards. He stopped, uttered the cry of a jackal, and instantly the whole pack came bounding towards him. Casbin lowered the cage to the ground and retreated. The attention of the dogs was wholly engrossed by the cat. They thrust the points of their noses into the meshes of the basket; they rolled it over and over; they shook it and tried to pull it to pieces with their paws and teeth; they fought with each other in their eagerness for a bite. They had no eyes, ears, noses, or mouths for any thing except the cat. Making a detour, Casbin came upon the tent from the other side. At a proper distance he slipped from his horse, secured him in a moment, and advanced to the tent slowly. Noiselessly, with his breast to the ground, the young prince crept up, and put his head in under the curtain. All was dark, save a faint glimmer that came from the women's apartment. The sheik was asleep. Casbin drew his body into the tent. The first thing he did was to feel for the gun, which he noiselessly emptied of the ball, and replaced in its position. He then drew his knife, and stretching himself by the side of the sheik, deliberately began cutting through his woollen sash, first on one side and then on the other. The slumbers of the sheik were far from sound, but so quietly and skilfully was the operation conducted, that he was not awakened, nor any alarm given to the other inmates of the tent. The front turns of the sash were lifted from the sleeper. Upon running his hand through the folds, Casbin lighted at once upon the key. The most difficult part of the adventure was achieved. Casbin stuck his dagger in the ground in front of the sheik's face, and as slowly and as noiselessly as before crept under the door curtain of the tent. There stood the noble animal *El Hassaneh*, the Beautiful. The rain had ceased; the clouds had suddenly broken away, and the bright starlight, mingled with the first faint sheen of dawn, revealed her beautiful proportions to the young prince. But not long did he tarry to admire. He took one look to make sure that it was indeed she, the much-praised and oft-described beauty, and then applying the key to the padlock, liberated her foot from the chain. He threw over her head a hempen bridle. He freed her fetlocks from the cords by which she was picketted. He vaulted on her back. 'Oh, sheik Ali!' shouted the youth, 'Come forth, and bid adieu to your favourite!' No answer was returned, and Casbin, springing lightly to the ground, seized the end of the chain, and giving it a vigorous shake, vaulted again to the back of *el Hassaneh*. 'Come forth, oh, most arrogant sheik of Arbazza!' shouted Casbin. 'Your mare will not leave you without returning you thanks for your favours.' The curtain of the tent was thrown violently aside. One glance showed to the horror-stricken sheik his favourite freed from her chain, and with some one on her back. He hesitated not an instant. With a groan of rage, he raised his gun to his shoulder, and fired. What was his astonishment to find that the audacious rider still preserved his seat. The report of the gun and the burst of boyish laughter that followed it, aroused all the inhabitants of the douah. The Arabs came pouring out of their tents. 'Oh, most renowned sheik!' cried the prince. 'Thou former master of *el Hassaneh*! Disturb not thy soul with passion, and be not above listening to advice from the beardless. Never, oh sheik, attempt to shoot any one without a ball in your gun. Hah! hah! hah! And as to your mare, comfort yourself. I have taken her, but it is merely an exchange. I leave you a very good horse. The thousand metzeals you offered as a reward you can keep to make up the difference between him and the mare. A beautiful day to you, oh sheik! and may the Lord guard you with better care than you have bestowed!



upon el Hassaneh.' The young prince wheeled his well-worn treasure, and giving her the rein, was off like a bolt from a bow. Terrible were the shouts of rage that arose behind him, and then a sudden volley sent the bullets flying after him; but what with the distance and the darkness they flew wide of the mark. And then such a saddling of horses, and such a mounting in haste. The only hope of course, was to catch him by tiring the mare down by relays of horses, picked up at the different douahs that should be passed. But it was in vain. The horsemen of village after village, with fresh steeds, joined in the chase; but El Hassaneh carried light weight, and at a steady pace, that equalled the full speed of the freshest of her pursuers, she winged her way ere mid-day across the plains, and paused for breath only amid the thickets on the slopes of the mountains."

These extracts furnish fair specimens of Dr. Mayo's manner. On the whole, the new romance is neither so clever nor so amusing as 'Kaloolah.' There are, as we have hinted, fewer traces in it of any satirical intention. The absurdities are plentiful enough; but the extravagance, the grave farce, is materially lowered,—and when we close the last page a doubt rests on the mind whether the writer has not been doing his best all the time to be serious. —The tale, however, possesses a strong interest as a tale, apart from any measured design that may lie beneath the surface,—and will probably find many readers at this the close of a rather prosy season.

SIR PHILIP FRANCIS AND HIS CLAIMS TO BE CONSIDERED THE WRITER OF THE LETTERS OF JUNIUS.

*Some New Facts and a suggested New Theory as to the Authorship of the Letters of Junius.*

By Sir Fortunatus Dwaris, Knt.

*The History and Discovery of Junius.* By John Wade.—Junius. 2 vols.

[Second Notice.]

THE proofs which Mr. Taylor has adduced, Mr. Wade tells us, are of three kinds:—

"First, the correspondence of dates and incidents in the Life of Sir Philip with the dates and incidents in the publication of the Letters; secondly, the correspondence between the style, sentiment, and ability of the Letters, &c.; and thirdly, the resemblance between the handwriting."

As to the "secondly" and "thirdly" we set not the slightest value on them. The "style, sentiment, and ability," as our readers know, have been urged in favour of the claims of some thirty or more different persons. On the comparative force of this evidence in the case of Francis parties are not agreed. Mr. Taylor, of course, discovered him from "internal" evidence alone,—the "external" came after, and only to confirm. Mr. Butler, on the contrary, says, "all external evidence is in favour of Sir Philip, all internal evidence against him;" and he endeavours to reconcile the two by suggesting that, though not the writer, Francis may have been the amanuensis of Junius. We notice this, that the reader may see that in grappling with the "external," we do not, in the opinion of an able and disinterested man, shrink from difficulties. As to peculiarities of spelling and punctuation, every one conversant with the period knows that the practice even of the same writer was not uniform,—and Junius we know was not uniform. After all, as Mr. Barker has observed, "the insecurity of such an argument is this, that a single instance of a similar practice observed by any other writer destroys its whole force"; and of many of the examples adduced by Mr. Taylor, Mr. Barker proceeds to produce like examples from contemporaries,—indeed, the extent of possible proof is a mere question of labour. But in respect to papers printed in periodicals all such comparisons are quite idle. There is no time to consult writers or submit proofs; at present, therefore, a uniform system is adopted,

and unless special instructions be given, orthography and punctuation are, within limits, left to the printer. But a hundred years ago neither printer nor readers were very particular on this point. Spelling and punctuation now would be considered proof only as to the usage of the printing office—then, of that of a compositor or a reader.—Comparisons of handwriting are still less entitled to consideration. We know that many persons are very confident in pronouncing judgment on such matters; but, as yet, it is not decided whether the Letters of Junius are in a natural or a feigned, in a man's or a woman's handwriting. Then, Almon confidently asserted that they were in the handwriting of Boyd. Mr. Coventry published fac-similes as conclusive, in his opinion, that Lord George Sackville was the writer. Dr. Girdlestone did the same as proof in favour of his protégé General Lee. Mrs. Serres made Dr. Wilmot testify against himself in like fashion:—and we have had letters and papers privately submitted to us as evidence for or against others. In 1828 a manuscript poem, 'The Vices,' was found amongst the papers of Almon, the bookseller, which on the strength of the handwriting alone was declared to be by Junius,—published—laughed at—and forgotten.—Arguments of equal force drawn from the same premises in favour of different persons counterpoise each other,—and so end by showing that they have no weight at all. All such arguments, besides being inefficient, are unnecessary:—for when once we shall have got hold of a right conjecture as to who was the writer, every date, fact, and incident in his life must offer itself in proof, and we shall have more than enough of these to settle the question beyond all cavil. It would be strange indeed, if in the case of Francis,—assuming that he were the real substance to the "*nomini umbra*,"—directly the reverse of the probable should turn out to be the true; if five-and-thirty years after the hypothesis was started—two-and-thirty years after his death—with all the curious accidents that are said to help us to conclusions—with his own hints, and all but confession—and with the zealous good wishes of his widow and family—we could not get hold of a single date or incident, much less of a clear and indisputable fact, to help us to even a plausible conjecture.

Let us first consider, then, the great principles or parties which are supposed to have been the guiding star of Junius;—and remember that an unknown writer can have no direct personal interest in the success of his writings. If he benefit at all, it must be from the triumph of principles or of party. Now, the men and the party whom Junius is believed to have upheld were the Grenvilles. Of course there are differences of opinion; but this is the declared judgment of the majority. It was advanced by Dr. Good, and advocated by Dr. Parr, Mr. Barker, Mr. Taylor himself, and numberless other writers between Good and Wade; and the *Edinburgh Reviewer* observes, that whoever revives the inquiry, unless he discovers positive and irresistible evidence of identity, must show Junius "to be politically attached to the Grenville party." Is it not strange, under these circumstances, that neither the *Edinburgh Reviewer* nor any other writer has been able to show the slightest connexion between the Francis, either father or son, and any of the many Grenvilles? Sir F. Dwaris, however,—who comes late into the field, accompanied by his friend Mr. Du Bois,—tells us that "Junius certainly communicated with Stowe through Jack Wilkes"; by which he means, that Stowe communicated with Junius through Wilkes. What, then?—That Junius received information on especial subjects

from Lord Temple and other members of opposition, and from men too obscure to take rank amongst his Majesty's opposition, is an opinion long since advanced in the *Athenæum*,—probably still earlier by others. But why through "Jack Wilkes"? Sir Fortunatus has forgotten that though Lord Temple, as he says, had been "deeply committed" with Wilkes,—had been, as we should say, the kind, liberal and generous friend of Wilkes,—he had broken off all communication with him early in 1769, because Wilkes took just exceptions to some passages in George Grenville's speech on the Expulsion (3rd Feb. 1769), and resolved to reply. Lord Temple earnestly entreated him to lay aside his design,—which Wilkes refused to do. "The consequence," as we are told by "Lord Temple's man," "was, a total annihilation of that friendship which had subsisted between them above twenty years; they never spoke to each other afterwards." Further, Sir Fortunatus should have remembered that Wilkes was not in communication with Junius before the 21st of August, 1771,—and not known to be in communication with him before Wilkes's advertisement, published probably on or about the 19th or 20th of September, just as Junius's labours were drawing to a close. But this story was told some twenty years before in the *Gentleman's Magazine*, and the information was then, on the same authority, said to have been sent through Woodfall,—the obvious and direct channel.—Again, is it to be believed that if this "Jack Wilkes" story were true, Wilkes would not have mentioned the circumstance to Mr. Butler when engaged with him in the attempt to discover Junius? True or false, one thing only can be proved by it,—and that is the reverse of what it is adduced for:—viz. that Junius was not known to the Grenvilles, or they need not, and would not, have taken any circuitous route to get at him.

Sir Fortunatus Dwaris, however, has other proofs of this connexion:—and the reader will observe that Du Bois again is the authority.—

"It was the intention of Lord Grenville, Du Bois added, to have made Sir Philip Francis Governor of Buenos Ayres, &c., had not Whitelock spoiled that scheme; and Du Bois was to have gone out with Sir Philip, as Secretary. Sir Philip Francis, too, might, Du Bois said, have had a Peerage from Lord Grenville, but Francis did not wish it, as his eldest son was born out of wedlock; so, Sir Philip was made a Knight of the Bath."

The claims of Francis on the Whig party would not, in his own opinion, have been satisfied by transporting him to Buenos Ayres. He claimed to be Governor-General of India. This, as Lord Brougham tells us, "was always the great ambition of his life;" and "when the Whig party came into office, he believed the prize to be within his grasp."

"But the new ministers could no more have obtained the East India Company's consent than they could have transported the Himalaya Mountains to Leadenhall Street. This he never could be made to perceive; he ever after this bitter disappointment regarded Mr. Fox as having abandoned him; and always gave vent to his vexation in terms of the most indecent and almost insane invective against that amiable and admirable man. Nay, more: as if the same grievance which alienated his reason had also undermined his integrity, that political virtue which had stood so many rude assaults both in Asia and in Europe, had been found proof against so many seductions of lucre, so many blandishments of rank, and had stood unshaken against all the power both of Oriental satraps and of English dictators, is known to have yielded for a moment to the vain hope of obtaining his favourite object through the influence of the man whom, next to Mr. Pitt, he had most indefatigably and most personally opposed. A proposition made to Lord Wellesley by him, through a common friend, with the view of obtaining his influence with Lord Grenville, supposed erroneously to be the cause



of his rejection as Governor-General, was at once and peremptorily rejected by that noble person, at a moment when Sir P. Francis was in the adjoining room, ready to conclude the projected treaty."

So that, on Lord Brougham's showing, this personal friend of Francis's—the friendship originating in the early connexion of Junius and the Grenvilles—was believed by Francis to be the cause of his rejection as Governor-General! This offer of a peerage and the government of Buenos Ayres, if ever made, was obviously intended as a compromise. The Whig party fully recognized the claims of Francis,—but they could not "remove the Himalayas" to please him.

Now, a word about the sensitive delicacy of Sir Philip in refusing a peerage because his eldest son was "born out of wedlock." As the story is told, we must infer that this illegitimate son was by his wife, and had ever been received by the family and friends of the family as legitimate,—otherwise, delicacy was out of the question, and his refusal of a peerage, if he refused it on such grounds, a mere pretence. But it does happen that at the very time (1807) when Sir Philip is said to have refused a peerage and accepted the Bath, he formally registered his pedigree at the College of Arms, and therein set forth the names of his children,—adding, with needless indelicacy if this story be true, "Philip," fourth child and "only son." We must also remind Sir Fortunatus, that according to the received version Francis went to Lisbon in January 1760, when he was nineteen years and three months old, and when the lady whom he subsequently married was about four or five and twenty,—a very significant difference in this case; that he returned from Lisbon, as Mr. Wade tells us, in October 1761; that he married within four months of his return, as the parish register testifies. We, however, do not concern ourselves with this first-born, whether his, or hers, or theirs:—the question is not before us. We have confined ourselves to the statement about the motives of Sir Philip in declining a peerage, if offered, and the inferences deduced therefrom by Sir Fortunatus, or rather by Mr. Du Bois.

Though it is obvious that general analogies will not help us, the especial incidents, dates, facts, and circumstances are said to be conclusive. Let us, then, begin at the beginning.

Mr. Wade, following the received biography, and adding any circumstantial nonsense that readily offered itself, tells us, that between 1760 and 1763 "it is likely that he [Francis] paid the visit to the Court of Louis the Fifteenth mentioned by Lady Francis." It is not worth while, perhaps, to stop even for a laugh at the idea of a clerk in the War Office paying "a visit to the Court of Louis the Fifteenth:" it is a mere magniloquence of phrase,—whereas we are concerned only about facts. In a note to this passage, Mr. Wade remarks, "*Junius* alluded in Letter 21, p. 175, to his presence in Paris at the burning of the Jesuitical books, August 1761:"—for what purpose, unless in proof that Francis was *not* Junius, we must leave the reader to determine; for Mr. Wade himself informs us that Francis did not return from Lisbon till October 1761. On turning, however, as directed, to "Letter 21, p. 175," we discover that it was *not* "Junius," but "Bifrons," who said he was in Paris at the burning of the Jesuitical books; and abundance of proof is given, in a well-argued note, in confirmation of what was long since asserted in the *Athenæum*, that "Bifrons" was *not* "Junius,"—concluding thus emphatically:—"unquestionably Bifrons is spurious!"—But we have not got through half the absurdities of this first illustrative "incident." Though Mr. Wade is pleased to link this visit "to the Court of Louis the

Fifteenth" with the burning of the Jesuits' books in August 1761, Lady Francis does not. She says, Sir Philip was there "when the Jesuits were driven away for offending Madame Pompadour,"—which means, we suppose, when the Parliament of Paris issued the decree condemning the institution of the Jesuits, and alienating their possessions. This was, we believe, in May 1762. Under any circumstances, it is obviously not enough to say that Francis was in Paris between 1760 and 1763. To be made available for the purpose intended, it must be shown that Francis was there in August 1761 or in May 1762; and to both there is one and the same objection,—viz., that we were in the height of a very angry war, and no Englishman could have been in France at all except as a prisoner of war, and in that case he would not have been in Paris. To all but Franciscans this objection would be conclusive.

Mr. Wade then favours us with a page about the personal movements of Sir Philip; and we are told, by way of summary, that "the most sceptical person cannot fail to be struck by the coincidences."—"The personal movements of Sir Philip Francis coincide exactly with the appearances and disappearances of Junius, of which any one may satisfy himself by comparing the dates of the letters with the *Chronological Summary* previously given."—Now, after such specific reference to proofs, the general reader assumes that the fact is unquestioned and unquestionable. Would any one of them believe that there is no such "*Chronological Summary*" in the volumes? A few pages are given of "an analysis," as a "sample" of a work contemplated by the late Sir Harris Nicolas; but it comes down only to the 7th of February 1769, and includes, therefore, only two of the undoubted letters by Junius, and not one of the "private letters." Had that analysis been complete, we have seen quite enough from the "sample" to justify the opinion that it would not—could not—have helped the reader to the "coincidences" desired.

Mr. Wade in his Summary omits altogether one chapter of Mr. Taylor's personal coincidences. Was he ashamed of them? Well he might be:—and we confess that it is with reluctance we proceed to adduce them, lest our readers should think them too ridiculous for serious discussion. But except by the admission as true of what is ridiculous or what is false, how came '*Junius Identified*' to pass as an oracle, and Sir Fortunatus Dwaris and Mr. Wade to be expounding and confirming the nonsense and the falsehood in 1850?—For this excluded chapter Mr. Taylor takes as a text, that "all letters under the name of Junius were written when Sir Philip was passing from his twenty-ninth to his thirty-second year:"—to which we may add, when some twenty, forty, or more thousands of persons were doing the same thing. What is equally true of two persons, cannot be held conclusive for either; and surely the proposition does not lose its force because what is said is equally true of tens of thousands. But then, Mr. Taylor argues, that from their twenty-ninth to their thirtieth year is the "time of life in which it has been often remarked men generally undertake the greatest designs of which they are capable:"—a general proposition of the truth of which we have some doubt,—but which at any rate, being general, can be applied with no more force to Sir Philip Francis than to any of the many thousands of that age then living. The next "coincidence" is of a like character.—"From 1763 to 1772 Sir Philip was in the War Office, and must have resided near London; and it was during that period that all the letters ascribed to Junius were published." This, again, is true of

every other clerk in the War Office,—of every clerk in every office in London,—and possibly of some fifty thousand other persons. A rule laid down by Mr. Barker is obviously just,—that "the claims of a particular individual can be morally maintained only by the circumstance that they are peculiar to that particular individual, inapplicable to all other claimants, and yet having an apparent connexion with Junius."

We have other and still more curious examples of how to build up evidence from mere inferences, and how to give a special application to the vaguest generalities. Some speculators on the subject of Junius have come to the conclusion that he was an Irishman,—others, strange as it may appear, that he was a Scotchman,—though Junius himself said that he was an Englishman, and formally in his "*Dedication to the English Nation*." Such diversities of opinion are difficulties in the way of each other. But a single bound carries one Franciscan clean over England and Scotland, and plants Junius at once on the Green Isle as an Irishman,—and we have hints that Burke was *therefore*, and from the first suspected. Is it not more probable that Burke, being from the first suspected, Junius was *therefore* assumed to be an Irishman,—"*the ex-jesuit Edmund*"? Still, if Junius *were* Irish, we have not got at his identity:—for all the Burkes were Irish,—and Boyd, and Flood, and Lauchlin Maclean, and Grattan, and others, to whom the Letters have been attributed, were Irish,—and Lord George Sackville, Mr. Coventry's Junius, was brought up in Dublin, and educated at Dublin University. Well, with another bound, Mr. Taylor has cleared all these:—and then the connexion of Francis "with the sister country" becomes a "*remarkable peculiarity*,"—and "*the slightest peculiarities*" of expression "*are explained by the life of Sir Philip Francis*,"—who, we may remind the reader, was the son of a highly-cultivated scholar, left Ireland before he was ten years of age, lived in London or its neighbourhood, was educated at St. Paul's School, and was trained and disciplined, at least in plain English, in Government offices up to thirty years of age. Such arguments, it is true, are not worth much; but *the impressions* which they produce are worth something. What we want are specific facts, which apply to Francis and to Junius, and to no other party. Our readers will rejoice to hear that the next "*coincidence*" assumes to have this special character.

From March 23rd "till May 4th 1772, Mr. Woodfall received no communication from Junius. Coincident with this interval is the fact, that Dr. Francis was ill at Bath, and it is likely that Sir Philip went to see him before going abroad."

Had Mr. Wade only cast an eye down the very page from which he quotes, he would have seen that the following letter is dated the 3rd of May, and that the letters ought to have been transposed:—a fact of no consequence, except in proof of habitual carelessness. But where did Dr. Good get the date of the 3rd of May? The reader will say, as Mr. Wade and every other reader and writer has assumed,—he found it prefixed to the letter. No such thing:—the only date to the letter is "*Sunday*," and that is suppressed by Good. But the writer of the letter says therein—

"The enclosed is fact, and I wish it could be printed to-morrow. It is not worth announcing. The proceedings of this wretch are unaccountable." "Next to the D. of G.—n, I verily believe that the blackest heart in the kingdom belongs to Lord B<sup>a</sup>." Is the reader, from this extract, better able to say on what "*Sunday*," in what month, in



what year, that letter was written? Presumptively, and from the circumstance that "Veteran" then opened his fire against Lord Barrington, we should say in 1772; and as all "Veteran's" letters were announced the day before, *except* the one published on *Monday* the 23rd of March, we may not unreasonably conclude that this private note was written on "*Sunday*" the 22nd of March, and that the inclosure was the letter of "Veteran" published the next day. But the authenticity of the letters of "Veteran" was thought to be proved by other evidence; and as a letter was found in the *Public Advertiser* of the 4th of May signed "Scotus," Good added "Scotus" to the Miscellaneous Letters, positively changed the date "Sunday" to "3rd May, 1772," and then tells the reader—

"This note accompanied the letter signed 'Scotus,' &c., and was printed as requested."

Of course Mr. Wade follows in the wake of Good; and is so pleased to communicate this information, that he stamps it with his own hall mark.

"It is almost needless to add that *Scotus* is *Junius*. This letter is referred to in *private note*, ante, p. 59.—*Ed.*"

Enough has been said of the daring of Good, and its consequences; and we will only add a word or two in proof of the carelessness of all parties. Good's statement is, that the inclosure was the letter of "Scotus"; and as he was pleased to date the private letter the 3rd, and as "Scotus" was published on the 4th, the reader was to infer that the request in the private note was complied with, and that "Scotus" was "published to-morrow" without "announcing." Now, a simple reference to the *Public Advertiser* would have proved to Mr. Wade that the letter of "Scotus" was announced on the 3rd,—must therefore have reached the printer on the 2nd, and could not have been inclosed in any letter dated 3rd of May.—What now becomes of the visit of the son to the sick father made manifest in the "coincidence" of the dates of these private letters and the absence from London of both *Junius* and *Francis*?

The reader will probably be more indignant than we are at the proceedings of the editors of the edition of 1812 in tampering with dates:—a fact so incredible that no one seems for a moment to have suspected it, although the slightest examination would have offered proof. Let us, however, be charitable in our construction of motives. We are willing to believe that it was done in simplicity,—and that dates were affixed not without consideration. It is to be regretted, however, that no hint of the fact was given to the public; that, with a consciousness that these dates were merely conjectural, they are throughout the "Preliminary Essay" and the Notes treated as conclusive evidence, and as if they had been affixed by *Junius* himself.

There is, however, another "coincidence" in another Bath visit, of which, strange as it may appear, Mr. Wade takes no notice, although found in a note contributed by his publisher, Mr. Bohn, (p. 87).—

"There are no letters of *Junius* under any of his signatures between December 17 and January 6,"—and when Sir Philip Francis's library was sold in 1838, there was found in a copy of "*Junius Identified*" a letter dated "Bath, Thursday morning, Dec. 20, 1771," addressed to his wife, announcing his arrival at Bath "last night." It refers to the very feeble and helpless condition of his father, who had summoned the writer to his bedside." The dates affixed to the letters of 17th Dec. and 6th Jan. may, we believe, be received as sufficiently accurate; but who shall say that not one of the other fifty-five or sixty published private letters—not one of probably double that number neither published nor perhaps preserved—were written in the interval? There

are some letters, we believe, preserved, though never published, which probably passed early, as curious autographs, from the Woodfall family. We have shown that the Editors of the edition of 1812 were in error by probably six weeks in affixing a date to the private letter No. 61 [3 May]; there is therefore something more than a probability that there are other errors—we know there are, but have proved enough for our present purpose. But the coincidence which most startles us in respect to this presumed second Bath visit—which, observe, proves nothing if true—is, the accident by which the coincidence became known. Here is another question to be answered by those skilled in the doctrine of chances:—what are the probabilities that a man seventy-five years of age would accidentally mark the place in a book published in 1816 with a letter written in 1771, forty-four years before, to his first wife? What are the chances that having done so, he would leave it there all the remainder of his life? And, as an element in the calculation, it must be borne in mind that the book so marked was written expressly to prove what the old gentleman is said to have indignantly denied,—and that this marking letter is, or is thought to be, strong confirmation, if not conclusive evidence, of—the hypocrisy of his indignation and the falsehood of his repeated denials. All we can say is, that it was one of those curious accidents which, in respect to *Junius*, happened to Francis and to no one else; proving, if it prove anything, that he was just as willing to "whisper his secret" to public as to wife,—or rather to confirm "the secret" which had been whispered to the public in "*Junius Identified*." We, however, have not seen this letter, and should much like to examine the date; for "*Bath, Thursday morning, Dec. 20, 1771*," seems to us very unlike the address that would be affixed to a letter written to his wife by a man who had only arrived the night before, summoned to the bedside of a sick father,—certainly very unlike *Junius*, who rarely affixed a date at all, and in his most scrupulous moods seldom said more than "Monday" or "Tuesday," as the case might be.

On the "coincidences" of 1772 Mr. Taylor has a chapter which Mr. Wade has obligingly condensed into a paragraph.—

"All the subsequent communications of *Junius*, both to the public and Woodfall, were concluded early in May, the last on the 12th. \* \* The next communication he [Woodfall] received from *Junius* was in January of the following year. \* \* With this suspension Sir Philip's tour exactly tallies."

Mr. Taylor had before told us (p. 49) that Sir Philip's departure and return, and the dates of the Letters "dovetailed" with the minutest exactness: that the letter [to Woodfall] is dated Jan. 19, 1773, "which corresponds with the time of Sir Philip's re-appearance in this country."

As the reader now knows, this whole argument rests on the infallibility of the Editors who affixed the dates to the Private Letters:—whose fallibility we have made, and could make much more, manifest. Even the date of this last letter, "*January 19, 1773*," which serves as the turning point for so many arguments, is not satisfactorily proved. Indeed, did not this review already threaten far to exceed our usual limits, we would raise such objections as might puzzle half-a-dozen Franciscans to lay them. But waiving these, let us see how the "exactly tallies" of Mr. Wade agrees with the "dovetailing" of Mr. Taylor. From Mr. Taylor's assertion, we should infer that *Junius* [Francis] could not have arrived in London more than a week or ten days at farthest before he wrote to Woodfall, say on or after the 10th Jan. 1773:—but

Mr. Wade, who has occasionally picked up a hint here and there without seeing its importance, tells us that Francis returned at the end of 1772 or beginning of 1773. This to our minds is a very rough sort of dovetailing,—not what we call "exact" agreement. But we believe there is written proof that Francis arrived in London or was in London in Nov. 1772; and it happens, as is usual with the Francis coincidences, that a great many other people arrived in London about the same time, for Parliament opened on the 26th of November. So that, the coincidence seems on their own showing not to be exact, and on ours not to be special. Indeed, if the fact can be made to have any bearing at all on the question whether Francis was *Junius*, it is strong against the probability:—for is it likely that *Junius*, being in town in November or December, should take no notice of Woodfall's signals until the 20th of January?

The last of the personal coincidences is this—

"The circumstances in which Sir Philip was placed, by being dismissed from the War Office, sufficiently explain why *Junius* left off writing. Mr. Francis had two powerful reasons to forbear. His personal interest in the question was entirely at an end—and the source from which he acquired his information was no longer open to him."

Why, Francis was dismissed, if dismissed at all, in March 1772:—*Junius* had brought his labours to a close on the 21st of January preceding,—and the paper pellets or rifle-shots fired by "Veteran," because the writer "had nothing better to do" than thus "to entertain himself and the public," had ceased on the 10th of March. What is meant by the "personal interest" of this clerk in the War Office being at an end, we must leave the sagacity of the reader to discover. As to the sources of information being shut against him—why, his dismissal only closed the doors of the War Office; and we are told that "*Junius* moved in the immediate circle of the Court"—"was intimately and confidentially connected, either directly or indirectly, with all the public offices"—we are expected to wonder at "the facility with which he becomes acquainted with every ministerial manœuvre, whether public or private, from almost the very instant of its conception"—at his "instantaneous and universal intelligence"—his "knowledge of state secrets" even when confined to "the precincts of the palace." *Junius* was, we are told, "the central eye, to which converged the rays of light emitted from everything that moved in the political arena,"—and then we are expected to believe that Lord Barrington "put out the light," or put out "the eye," by turning a clerk out of the War Office! If so, what is the use of Sir Fortunatus Dwarri's "new theory," or Mr. Wade's old theory, or the theory of most people, that *Junius* had external aid? Why introduce as co-assistants Earl Temple, the Earl of Chatham, Lord George Sackville, all the Burkes, Lloyd, Boyd, Barré, Beckford, Calcraft, Sawbridge, and numberless others, if all the private information which is assumed to have been possessed by *Junius*,—though we deny it,—could have been—and was—obtained by a clerk in the War Office? Why complicate the *dram. pers.* by introducing so many principal personages to do nothing? If, on the contrary, all or any of these parties were co-assistants, how could turning a clerk out of the War Office affect the sources of intelligence—which lay, by the proposition, out of the War Office?

Respecting the retirement of Francis from the War Office Sir F. Dwarri favours us with some new light. Francis "was dismissed," he tells us, "for disclosing its secrets to somebody in opposition." This is strange, if true:—the more strange, that it is, we believe, first published eighty years after the event. If he



were turned out for conduct so disgraceful, how is it that the fact was not brought forward in 1787, when party interest and personal hatred sought everywhere for facts and circumstances that would prejudice his character,—and when Fox challenged his adversaries by telling them that Francis was sent out as one of the Supreme Council expressly because *his life was blameless and his reputation without a suspicion*? Contemporary accounts speak of his retirement,—of his having “resigned”; and we have been assured that there is evidence in existence, in Francis’s own handwriting, showing that he was not merely not dismissed, but that he was offered D’Oyley’s place, refused it, and resigned. It would, indeed, be strange if Lord Barrington, who had “dismissed” him for *betraying the secrets of office*, should within eighteen months have recommended him to so much higher and better a situation as that of one of the Council for the government of Bengal:—yet we are required to believe, not one but, *both* stories.

On the fact—now for the first time made known—that Francis was dismissed for betraying the secrets of office, follows a conjecture as a matter of course,—and it is assumed as “most probable” that these secrets were communicated to Calcraft. We are somewhat puzzled to understand why, if Francis were Junius, he should risk the communication of these official secrets to Calcraft, that Calcraft might communicate them to Junius-Francis. But this is of the kind of trifles that never stand in the way of a true Franciscan; and accordingly, no sooner is Calcraft thus strangely introduced than he takes a prominent part in the drama. We had supposed that this millionaire—this army agent with his ninety regiments—whom Junius describes, in so friendly a spirit, as one who “riots in the plunder of the army, and only determined to be a patriot when he could not be a peer”—had been quietly interred with Ann Bellamy and his other immoralities.—But no:—he must be dragged forward once again to serve a Junius purpose; and yet, so entirely is he forgotten, that even the author of ‘The Chronology of British History’ describes him as “a veteran placeman,” “confidential” and “political attorney” to Lord Chatham,—and we are told that he stood in the same relation to Chatham that Burke did to Rockingham, Gerard Hamilton to Lord Townshend, and Mr. Jenkinson to the Earl of Bute!—Then, Mr. Wade proclaims, as something conclusive—“I will establish” that Calcraft and Francis “were intimate friends.” Well, what then? Does that prove, or help to prove, that Francis was Junius? The public knew some eighty years since that there was a great, and under circumstances a somewhat disreputable intimacy between the army-agent and the reverend doctor; and Ann Bellamy told some amusing anecdotes of familiarities in private, and of the steeple-chase style in which the reverend escaped from her company when decent people made their appearance. But, say Mr. Wade and Sir F. Durrant—for they agree, though both are in error—Calcraft added a codicil to his will on the day that Francis left the War Office, by which he bequeathed 1,000*l.* to Francis and 250*l.* a year to Mrs. Francis. And when was a millionaire more likely to remember his poor friends than on an occasion like this? Calcraft was a man of enormous wealth, accumulated by his own exertions,—he had no hereditary claims on him,—no legitimate child to inherit after him; and he bequeathed his vast wealth to a brother, a sister, the woman who was living with him when he died, and some half-dozen children by possibly half as many different mothers. What is there, then, extraordinary if in his will he kindly remembered the son of his old friend, and his

own friend, his wife and young family:—a man “very deserving,” as Calcraft said of him in a letter to Almon written within a week or two of the date of the codicil? It is creditable to Calcraft,—but not tending to prove that Francis was Junius, or had the remotest connexion with Junius.—But neither “the whole truth” nor even “the truth” is told by either writer.

This codicil, in connexion with other circumstances, opens a curious question; but, as we cannot admit that it bears on the only one under consideration, we shall touch on it briefly and tenderly. It is strange that these gentlemen should have picked up this story about the codicil, which was long since published, without having heard, what was also published, that Mrs. Francis was said to be “a connexion” of Calcraft’s. Now, if so, that in itself may have suggested the codicil; and it certainly does appear that the lady was the party especially considered,—for Calcraft did not, as these gentlemen assert, leave her an annuity of 250*l.* a year, but 200*l.* a year *conditionally* should she survive her husband and should her husband leave her less than 300*l.* a year. As the husband was the survivor, neither husband nor wife benefited one sixpence by the annuity—which was obviously given to the wife as a protection against casualties. This fact the new editor might have ascertained for himself for one shilling and a walk to Doctors Commons; and it would not have been any large addition to his other “great labours and anxieties.”

We have now gone deliberately through the personal coincidences, and the reader will perhaps be amused with the summary of the latest editor:—“Just as Francis moves Junius moves, *like substance like shadow*. If Francis is in the country, Junius is away. [Junius’s absence being most unwarrantably inferred from his silence,—and his silence from the dates affixed by Good and Woodfall to the private letters,—and the connexion of the two as “substance and shadow” is to be proved by very slight and very suspicious evidence tending to show that Francis was *once* absent when Junius was supposed to be silent.] If Francis is abroad, Junius is not heard of till his return. [Junius having closed his labours months before Francis is supposed to have gone abroad,—and “Veteran” some time,—and Francis having returned two months before Junius is supposed to be again heard of.] If Francis is aggrieved by abrupt dismissal from office, Junius suffers, and pours out the vials of his wrath against all the offending parties. [Even “Veteran” having emptied the last of his vials on the presumed offending parties before Francis was dismissed, if dismissed at all.] If Francis finally disappears from the scene to another hemisphere, Junius writes no more. [Junius having ceased to write for eighteen or twenty months before.] The Siamese twins were not more closely conjoined.”

We come now to the last of the coincidences—the reports of Chatham’s speeches: coincidences, we admit, of a very startling character,—which cannot be “whistled down the wind” or laughed out of court like the previous absurdities.—But these we must reserve for a concluding notice.

#### NEW NOVELS.

BEFORE the autumn leaves begin to fall,—which is coincident with the setting in of the early winter season of publication,—let us do our courtesies by certain works of fiction which, by necessity, were laid by during the weeks when Science claimed hearing. The most recent and the best of the collection is—

*Affinities of Foreigners*. 2 vols. Newby.—“Affinities” here stands for intercourse; and

“Continental Adventures” would have been a pleasanter and more natural title for these tales,—but for the small objection, that it was some twenty years ago appropriated by clever Miss Waldie. The stories before us, written by one who knows her subject, are intended to set forth the misadventures overtaking English people who expatriate themselves, and who give themselves up to foreign society. As vivid illustrations of half a truth, they may be accepted,—as stories without reference to any warning or wisdom contained therein, they must be welcomed: since painful though they be, they are in their feverish way, interesting. The imaginary narrator, Miss Desmond, is one of those ladies of a certain age who move about the world with enviable independence, and who in the course of their peregrinations get intimately mixed up in nearly as many family histories as the “Two Old Men” of inexhaustible experience. If the spinster be somewhat too prone to see and to describe evil, we fear it lies in her character and circumstances so to do. At all events, “The Fatal Town” is about as precious an *imbroglio* of intrigue, love at cross-purposes, mystery, escape, retribution and universal unhappiness as we have often encountered. The colour of foreign life and manners is clear and decided,—and we fear warranted by truth. The other tales are more forced, and less spirited.

*Talbot and Vernon: a Novel*. 3 vols. Routledge & Co.—Seldom does an American novel appear so utterly devoid of matter for praise as ‘Talbot and Vernon.’ It belongs to the *farrago* order of composition, containing a mixture of wild things with tame—of vulgar farce (*vide* Miss Bryce) with high-flown sentiment—of bankruptcy and the Mexican war—of a beautiful young painter who is accused of forgery and a smooth villain, who is the quintessence of all the *Tyrells* past and present that have kept novels alive by their wickedness. Only the reader who is famishing for want of absurdities to partake of, can accept ‘Talbot and Vernon:’—to him we commend it.

*The Vale of Cedars; or, the Martyr: a Story of Spain in the Fifteenth Century*. By Grace Aguilar. Groombridge.—We notice this romantic and eloquent tale in some perplexity, not knowing whether it be a reprint or not. The doubt is quickened by observing announced as forthcoming other works by Miss Grace Aguilar. It would be satisfactory to know whether these are to be regarded as posthumous, or whether (as is equally probable) they are reissues of tales formerly published before the name of Miss Aguilar was widely known,—before her productions were, as now, looked out for and welcomed. In any event, among religious romances ‘The Vale of Cedars’ deserves to take an honourable place.

*The Revolution in the Mind and Practice of the Human Race; or, the coming Change from Irrationality to Rationality*. By Robert Owen. Effingham Wilson.

*National Evils and Practical Remedies, with the plan for a Model Town*. By James S. Buckingham. Jackson.

ONE of the most curious facts in the history of society is, the pertinacity with which it has rejected, one after another and almost without discussion, all speculative and *à posteriori* schemes for its re-organization, from whatever quarter they may have come. At the dawn of society, so far as it is known to us, the same problems were disputed which lead to agitation now,—and with not unsimilar theoretic results. The first thinkers who applied their minds to the study of the phenomena of social life, as produced by what then appeared to be acci-



dental varieties in its constitution, arrived at the very thought which haunts speculative minds in the nineteenth century,—and has recently found vehement utterance behind the ramparts of Rastadt and the barricades of Paris. Society needs to be organized anew! Pythagoras held this doctrine in his age as firmly as M. Proudhon does in ours; and Plato was in this way as dangerous a preacher of social heresies as Robert Owen. The “republic” of the Athenian writer is the original germ of all our Utopias, Harmonies, Oceanas, Icaries, and social paradises of every name and quality. The principle on which Plato proceeds—the first fact which made his “republic” necessary—lies at the root of all the systems. They all assume that society, as it now exists, is not equal to its “mission,”—not sufficiently powerful to produce happiness and to prevent misery; and they all contemplate its improvement from a change of the external framework in which it is fixed.

The list of names connected with the literature of social re-organization is imposing from its length and character. From Moses and Plato down to Bacon and St. Simon, science and saintship have contributed an equal number of labourers to the cause. Yet the problem seems almost as far from a satisfactory solution as ever. The only progress that appears to have been made since the earliest ages is, in correcting and enlarging the theory of the theory. Most of the old thinkers contented themselves with the *work* of organization; but nearly all speculators since the days of Spartacus Weishaupt have introduced what may be called “seminal ideas” into their schemes of reconstruction. They have sought to infuse a new principle of life into society at the same time as to furnish it with a new framework. In fact, they have proposed to regenerate, in order to re-organize with effect. St. Simon, Owen, Fourier, Lamennais appeal to the heart not less than to the head. To this strategy they were forced by the barrenness of all mere appeals to reason,—by the success which in the case of the HERNHÜTTERS, of the followers of RAPP, and of other communities held together by ties of common faith, had already attended the appeal to spiritual zeal. They could not conceal from themselves the fact, that in all the attempts which had been made to change the character of societies which in the course of nature had hitherto developed themselves from within, to endow them with forms tending to give them a greater productive power, the fanatics had beaten the philosophers completely. The philosophers therefore adopted the formulæ of the saints. But the machinery was not for their handling, and with them it failed:—yet the failure was not altogether without results.

An interesting chapter in the history of social science in England, hereafter to be written, will be, the story of Robert Owen,—his ideas, his experiments, his failures, his untiring devotion to what most men, now that they have ceased to cause alarm, regard as his humane crotchets. His schemes were the most important offspring in this country—for on the Continent they have been more prolific of fruit, good and bad—of the ideas of Bentham and his famous formula. Owen started with “the greatest happiness to the greatest number” theory. His instrument was education for the masses. In this respect he was a true reformer; the good which he was the means of effecting by his plan of infant schools will remain for a monument when his name will have ceased to be remembered as the founder of a sect. Ten or a dozen years ago the doctrines of Owen had numerous disciples. Now, they have hardly a follower, because they have

been tried and found wanting. The front of his “National Society” was at one time imposing:—no town but had its hall of science, its social institute. These, however, were not accepted by the anxious workman who had subscribed his mite to build them as a solution of the great problem of society. Trial was urged—prematurely as it is said,—and with trial came failure. The scheme exploded at once, and the disciples were scattered to the winds. But these failures, if they brought momentary discouragement to their author, caused him to abate no jot of heart or hope. His enthusiasm has out-lived alike toil, successes, reverses and neglect. There is something interesting in convictions which keep the heart green in the eve of life, reposing on the hope that springs from faith in the power of truth to conquer all obstacles in the end, and in its own time to atone for and explain all seeming failures by the way.

Mr. Owen’s present work is but a reprint of matter with which his public has been long familiar. It contains his theory of good and evil,—a narrative of his thirty years’ successful management of the mills at New Lanark,— suggestions for a peaceful change from “irrational” to “rational” society,—an exposition of his model society, with the reasons on which each law and regulation is based,—and two addresses, one to the Queen of England and her responsible advisers, the other to the Red Republicans of France and Germany, in which he urges the adoption of his plans.—It is this demanded adoption which the title-page announces as the “coming change.”

Mr. Buckingham is a younger, but, if we may take his word for it, not less hopeful speculator on the reconstitution of society. After aiding, as he says, in producing all the most useful reforms of the last twenty-five years, and writing more than ninety volumes (besides pamphlets not to be counted) in behalf of social progress, he thinks he may boldly venture to propose a plan for reconstructing the social edifice,—and what is more, expect his plan to be adopted. A scheme put forth so authoritatively must expect a searching criticism. From the first page to the last, we have failed to detect an original idea of importance towards the object proposed in the introduction. The whole work has an air of book-making which is confirmed by the author’s own assertion, that “the first idea of it was conceived while waiting for the steamer at Calais at the close of September 1848” (the preface is dated July 5, 1849—only nine months later), and that it was written “during the few moments of leisure snatched from more active labours,”—these moments of leisure being “seldom more than ten minutes at a time.” Surely these confessions are not such as will accredit the work with any thoughtful class of readers;—but they serve to relieve us from the necessity of a lengthened criticism. The opportunities which Mr. Buckingham claims are manifestly unequal to so vast and elaborate a work as that of social reconstruction.

The general idea of Mr. Buckingham’s book seems to us to be copied from Mr. Minter Morgan’s Church-of-England Self-supporting Village Association:—as are also his plans in their chief features. More than two-fifths of the whole volume refers to matters which have not the least connexion with model towns; but which contain Mr. Buckingham’s opinions on a variety of topics, including emigration, financial reform, the regeneration of Ireland, a new reform bill,—and so forth.

#### OUR LIBRARY TABLE.

*Impressions of a Wanderer in Italy, Switzerland, France and Spain.* By T. Adolphus Trollope, Esq.—A delightful table-book for sea-side or fire-side,—

for any place where there are cultivated tastes. The sincerity of our judgment has in this instance been tested,—for these Letters, as is acknowledged in the preface, appeared originally in the *Athenæum*. Mr. Trollope, our readers know, is not a man who writes merely because he travels,—but only when circumstances are suggestive and interesting. The volume before us is a gallery of pleasant pictures far more than a guide-book.

*The Anglo-Saxon Passion of St. George: from a MS. in the Cambridge University Library.* Edited, &c. by the Rev. C. Hardwick. Printed for the Percy Society.—We are not informed by the editor from what MS. in the Cambridge University Library this little, and not discreditable, work is printed; but of course this is a mere omission,—and it is not one of any great importance. “The Passion,” as it is called, is accompanied by a translation, in the main sufficiently well done, but here and there deficient in characteristic simplicity. We can explain what we mean at once,—and from the very first lines of the poem. Why should the word “gedwyld” be rendered in the second line *misbelief*, and in the seventh line *heresy*? Our language is unquestionably richer than the Anglo-Saxon,—and if the Rev. C. Hardwick were writing an original poem, it might be highly proper for him to vary his expressions; but it is not so when he is translating from the Anglo-Saxon, and endeavouring to give a correct notion of the poverty and simplicity of that language. Moreover, he professes to be extremely literal,—but in this respect he is not as good as his word. In the same way,—why, at page 6, is “gehaten” translated differently within the space of four lines? Again, at page 26, we have the word “eorþan” rendered in three different ways,—viz. as *country*, *land*, and *ground*; never as *earth*,—which, of course, it signifies, and as which it ought to have been given in each instance. We point out this fault only that the error (such as it is) may be avoided in future, if the Percy Society intend to give us other productions of the same description and in the same language. We thank them for this specimen; and congratulate them on the new field on which they have entered:—which, however, will not afford quite so abundant a harvest as many persons imagine. We make this remark, because a mistaken estimate has sometimes been formed as to the amount of history, philosophy and poetry to be derived from this source. The chief value of Anglo-Saxon is philological,—and the production before us has no sort of pretensions as a poem.

*What is to be done with Turkey? or, Turkey, its Present and Future.*—The writer of this pamphlet, a resident of some time in the country described, considers the rule of the Turk on the old policy of the Koran as drawing speedily to a close. The system of reform introduced by the late Sultan Mahmoud has, he thinks, weakened the empire on every side. But as the existence of a powerful, anti-Russian state on the Bosphorus is a great European necessity,—and of more especial importance to England and France,—he suggests that these powers should urge the present ruler of Turkey to avail himself of his hour of popularity to cast the law of his race and creed into the fire, enfranchise all rayahs in his dominions, and open the army, navy and public services to the Christian population:—in short, to reverse all the existing facts, and convert European Turkey into a Christian kingdom.

*God in History; or, Fact illustrative of the Presence and Providence of God in the Affairs of Men.* By the Rev. John Cumming.—Here the theology and the history are both those of the narrow sectarian. We have nothing to say to either.

*Wetton’s Guide-book to Northampton and its Vicinity: with an Historical and Descriptive Account of the Town and Neighbourhood.*—One of the ordinary local guide-books; but apparently compiled with more than the ordinary care and attention to local antiquities.

*The Viviparous Quadrupeds of North America.* By John James Audubon, F.R.S. and the Rev. John Bachman, D.D.—The names of the authors of this work are a sufficient guarantee that it is executed with ability. Hitherto the mammalia of America have been known chiefly through descriptions by zoologists in the Transactions of European Societies,—and no systematic attempt has been made to bring together



into one connected view the very varied forms of animal life presented by that great continent. The authors before us have not only used the materials which were at hand in the works of others,—they have themselves observed with great diligence the habits of many of the creatures which they have described. Their work is creditable to the United States—where a large number of subscribers have induced the authors to undertake it,—and a most valuable addition to our general natural-history literature. We may add, that the geographical range within which the animals described in these pages are found is not that of the government of the United States merely; it comprehends Russian and British America,—in fact, all the country which lies north of the tropics in the New World.

*Papery and Scotch Episcopacy compared; or, an Enquiry into the Anti-Protestant Doctrines and Tendencies of the Episcopal Church in Scotland.* By John Cunningham.—*The Duke of Augustenburg and the Revolution in Holstein: an Authentic Exposure, from the Augustenburg State Papers.*—[*Le Duc d'Augustenburg et de la Révolution, &c.*] By C. F. Wagner.—*Parallels between the Constitutions and Constitutional History of England and Hungary.* By J. Toulmin Smith.—It is enough for us to name the titles of these three controversial pamphlets. Their subjects lie beyond the province within which we undertake to pronounce opinions, favourable or otherwise.

*Historical Analysis of Christian Civilization.* By Prof. de Véricour.—This work, dedicated to M. Guizot, probably owes its existence to the ex-statesman's lectures on the history of civilization. It consists of an epitome of European history, with a philosophical thread, so to say, running through the series of events, and connecting them together as continuous illustrations of a supposed law of progress. But what is this law of progress? What is involved in the idea of progress? Does any such fundamental condition exist? Is the improvement of the world simply a question of time and necessity? Before the history of modern Europe can be written on any peculiar theory, it is needful that that theory be itself expounded and established. We apprehend Prof. de Véricour reverses the natural order of things. He says,—“Progress explains the phases of history.” But we will answer,—Progress stands very much in need of being itself explained. And, indeed, the true and useful method would be, to make history explain progress. The great truth which lies at the root of all hopes and expectations from the future—the primary fact that social history is a process of development like natural history, beginning with rude forms, but proceeding in the course of time through various stages of growth and change into forms more and more perfect,—this still requires proof. It is not a little in its favour that every passing year adds to the number of those who steadfastly believe its fundamental truth so far as relates to mankind in this world; but it demands and admits, if we mistake not, of other and less suspicious methods of demonstration. M. de Véricour seems to have an imperfect belief in his own doctrine; for he takes his starting-point in the age of the Cæsars, and admits of no progress before Christianity. The laws of nature were not altered at the birth of Christ. If a law is in operation now, it must have been in operation from the beginning. To think otherwise, is radically to misconceive the meaning of the term “law.” Now, this fact of progressive development may, we think, be demonstrated,—but as yet it has not been. Our author does not even attempt it. He takes it for granted,—but rather as an intellectual conception to beautify his facts than as a grand and central fact in science. In some respects his work resembles Karl von Rotteck's; but he is wanting in the large grasp of mind, the faculty for picturesque arrangement, and, we may add, the general knowledge of the German historian. Nevertheless, his compilation has its merit. As a text-book for schools it is in many respects admirable. The facts are clearly arranged, the chronology is conveniently marked, and the huge masses of events are brought into connexion within a narrow compass. The merits and defects of the book are peculiarly French:—skillful and lucid arrangement,—specious but false philosophy.

## MEDICAL BOOKS.

*On the Treatment of Headache by Benumbing Cold.* By James Arnott, M.D.—Dr. Arnott has the merit of having shown that a part of the living body may be reduced to a solid condition by cold and yet return to its pristine state of integrity. Most physiologists will recollect Hunter's experiments on frogs,—in which he froze these animals quite hard, and afterwards gently thawed them back into life. So enthusiastic was Hunter about this matter, that in a letter to Jenner he expresses himself confident of being one day able to freeze men hard, and after letting them lie thus for half a century, to thaw them to life again. He expected to make a fortune by this discovery. Dr. Arnott has not quite realized Hunter's notion. He only freezes a portion of the body,—but with so much success that he is likely to help the fortune of medical men by enabling them to cure speedily some of its most painful diseases. His frigorific process cures not only headache,—but also tic-doloureux, toothache, erysipelas, vomiting, gout, and a host of other diseases. Those anxious to know more about this polar treatment we must refer to the Doctor's pamphlet, and to his papers in the medical journals.

*The Medical Touchstone.* By Hamilton Fitzwilliams.—We little expected on opening the pages of this book, and finding it devoted to homœopathy, that we should discover in it a particle of common sense. There is hope, however, even in the worst cases of aberration, that the patient may one day awaken to the sense of his delusions. Hahnemann's doctrine, that the medicinal effects of a substance are increased in proportion to the smallness of its doses, has always appeared to us the most astounding piece of theoretic absurdity recorded in the name of science. Its grossness is too palpable for continued acceptance from any public of ordinary ratiocination:—and hence, no doubt, we have the following contradiction of the doctrine.—“The doctrine of the dynamization, or the increased power and virtues of medicinal substances in the proportion to the degree of the dilution is untenable, as being contrary to the laws or properties of nature.” Further on, we are informed that Dr. Grieselich is of opinion that Hahnemann's “doctrine of the dynamic power and virtues of the thirtieth power is an abstract and dangerous absolutism,”—leading only to the knowledge of “the infinite powers of nature to triumph over disease without any agency of re-action produced by medicinal substances.” These are indications not to be mistaken of returning reason,—at least on the part of the public; and we suppose the “blow up” of the whole system will follow. Mr. Fitzwilliams's book is, indeed, a medical touchstone; and we should hope that, if read, it will serve to open the eyes of those who are labouring under the delusions of homœopathy.

*Report on the Climate and principal Diseases of the African Station.* By Alexander Bryson, M.D.—The recent researches of the Board of Health have shown that of all classes of society the sailor is most exposed to disease,—and that independently of liability to accidents, life on ship-board is more precarious than it is in the most unhealthy courts and alleys of our large towns. This seems to arise principally from the want of ventilation and cleanliness on board vessels. If to these causes we add the known intemperance of sailors, and the risks of exposure to unwholesome climate, we shall scarcely be surprised to find an enormous sacrifice of life in the ships employed in our African squadron. It is well known that the mortality is great amongst Europeans generally on the African coast.—In Dr. Bryson's work we have the whole matter reduced to its first elements. The number of deaths on board our vessels is accurately tabulated, and the various diseases which occur are described and their peculiarities discussed. From the tables exhibited of the deaths in the squadron since the year 1828 to 1845, we find that the mortality has varied from 2 to 25 per cent,—giving as an average of death 1 in 7 of all the men employed. When we consider that in no town in the kingdom during the late epidemic of cholera was the mortality so fearful as this, we may conceive the dangerous nature of the service in question. There can, however, be no doubt that this mortality could be very much reduced by attention to the sanitary condition of the vessels employed;

and we hope that Dr. Bryson's book will draw attention to this subject. To all interested in the medical topography of Africa this report will be found a valuable contribution.

*The Skin in Health and Disease.* By Thomas Innis, M.D.—This is a popular account of the structure, functions, and diseases of the skin. As far as we have examined the book, the author seems to have a tolerable knowledge of his subject; and its pages, if not containing anything new or striking, may be relied on for affording as far as they go sound information.—We cannot say that we think medical literature required such an addition as this; and it is to be regretted that men who by the careful observation and collation of facts could really contribute something of value to the stores of medical information, should prefer the reproduction of other men's thoughts in the form of popular treatises. We believe young medical men make a mistake in this matter. Eventually, a few sound and good original contributions to medical science would do them more service in practice than the credit of having written all the popular works on medicine that exist.

*Enchiridion Medicum.* By C. W. Hufeland; translated by Caspar Bruchhausen.—This is an American publication,—a translation of what Hufeland considered his greatest work on the practice of medicine. Hufeland was a celebrated man in his day,—and Germany is indebted for many social and sanitary reforms to his writings and social influence. The present work is evidently the production of the later years of the author's life, and contains a great deal of valuable information on practical points; but medicine and its collateral sciences have made such enormous strides within the last thirty years, that such a work is of value principally as a document in its history. It is, however, always well for those who have leisure in the pursuit of any science to recur to the past, and see if there be any information left behind that may lead to further discoveries and practical applications.—Some of the directions in this volume will amuse those who, acquainted with the superior means of diagnosis of the present day, can form little notion of the difficulties that beset older practitioners. Thus, Hufeland, speaking of the pulse, says:—“The physician must act with the pulse like the virtuoso with his instrument; he must learn to play it, and become familiar with it just as well as the musician with his instrument. It is only such a physician that will make discoveries in and by the pulse which another one cannot think of. Such an adept by this means discovered a concealed love as the cause of a malady.” If these adepts discovered such secrets by the pulse, what ought not the physicians of to-day to find out by the aid of their stethoscopes? The time is, however, gone by for the public to believe that even the skilled physician has the power of divination.

*Clinical Illustration of the Diseases of India.* By William Geddes, M.D.—We have here in a systematized form the result of observations for a series of years on the health and diseases of a body of European soldiers in India. The particular history of each soldier is given,—and the results are classified in such a manner as to afford important data for further inquiry into the influence of climate on the European frame. In a very laborious introduction, Dr. Geddes has stated at some length the various external influences to which the men intrusted to his care were exposed. The geology of the districts, the conditions of the atmosphere as to moisture, the temperature, and other meteorological conditions are carefully noted. This introduction is followed by a description of the various diseases for which the men were treated at different times,—and a somewhat extended analysis of particular cases. This part of the work contains a good deal of sound and valuable observation;—although on the means of diagnosis Dr. Geddes is evidently somewhat behind the knowledge of his day. The work will be read with interest by those practising in India,—and must be regarded as a valuable addition to our knowledge of the climatal causes of disease.

## LIST OF NEW BOOKS.

Ahn's (F.) Method of Learning the German Language, 12mo. 3s. 6d.  
Arnold's Introduct. to Latin Prose Composition, Part II. 3rd ed. 8s.  
Beale's (Mrs.) Tracts on the New Testament Histories, Vol. I. 3s. 6d.  
Bentley, or the Influence of Words, by S. S. Jones, cr. 8vo. 1s. 4d.  
Bland's (Rev. R.) Elements of Latin Hexameters, 20th ed. 3s. 6d.  
Bosworth's (Rev. J.) Latin Construing, 5th ed. 12mo. 2s. 6d. cl.  
Chit Chat, 7th ed. 16mo. 3s. 6d. cl.  
Chambers (Dr. T. K.) On Copulature, or Excess of Fat, &c. 8d. cl.



Comprehensive General Atlas, 4to. 48s. coloured maps 7s. 6d. hf.-bd.  
De Maistre's (Count) The Pope Considered, cr. 8vo. 5s. 6d.  
De Pomeret's Key to Italian Grammar, 12mo. 2s. 6d. swd.  
Dwig. J. The Conversion of a B. Arabian, by the Rev. W. Smith, 2s.  
Entick's Spelling Dictionary, by T. Browne, new ed. 3s. 6d. bd.  
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#### ANCIENT IBERIAN POPULATION.

IN reading your report of the very interesting communication of Mr. Wilson to the British Association on the former inhabitants of the British Isles, I was somewhat surprised to find that he makes no mention of the existence of an ancient Iberian population over all Europe. Whether the existence of such a people has ever engaged the attention of ethnologists, I am ignorant:—but facts seem to point so evidently to such a conclusion, that I cannot but think it must have been urged before. How else can we explain the geographical distribution of the Iberians? That they distributed themselves by aggressive land emigration or by maritime enterprise seems alike impossible and inconsistent with their character and state of civilization, as it is universally represented by ancient authors. On the other hand, if we consider what would be the effect on a thinly scattered and hunting population—for such we must consider the Iberian to have been—of the spread of a more condensed and energetic people from the region of the Black Sea, every phenomenon of their geographical position seems to be completely explained.—Thus, by the advance of the invading race, the Iberians of North Russia and of the east coast of the Baltic would be driven still further north. We find, accordingly, in Finland a race which still speaks a language allied to the Basque,—the acknowledged descendant of the old Iberian. But the great body of the Iberian race would retreat before the invaders through Germany and Gaul, and finally into Spain:—and here, in fact, we find the principal locality of this people. Those who inhabited the peninsulas of Greece and Italy would be cut off and driven southwards. In Greece the mountains of Arcadia would naturally form their last retreat. From Italy they could easily pass to Sicily:—the whole of which island we are informed they once possessed, though afterwards confined to the western corner. From the coasts of Gaul their pursuers would follow them into Britain,—where they would at first occupy the south and southern portion of the west coast; and spreading thence, the Iberians of the south of England would finally be compelled to take refuge in Wales,—as the Celts did afterwards under similar circumstances. Those inhabiting the northern parts of England and the lowlands of Scotland would cross over to the north of Ireland; by the same route they would be followed:—and we would expect to find them in the southern portion of that island,—as in fact we do.

I know it is commonly said that the Iberians of the British Isles came from Spain. But extensive colonization from such a distance seems to me quite irreconcilable with the character of a people long in civilization, never addicted to maritime affairs, and peculiarly unfit for aggressive warfare:—and, moreover, it seems quite absurd to suppose that having come all that way they would take possession of the most unfertile and mountainous parts of the country,—which are universally the refuge of the older inhabitants. To the ancients, among whom it arose, the idea of the Spanish colonization of this part of Britain appeared much less improbable from their strange mistake as to the relative position of the two countries.

Whether the peculiarities of the Iberians are the same as those of either of the races which Mr.

Wilson thinks he has discovered, I am not sure. In the smallness of the hand and the shape of the head I think they have some resemblance to the older of the two. I remain, &c. A. B.

#### FOREIGN CORRESPONDENCE.

Sienna, August 17, 1850.

THROUGHOUT Italy old things are passing away, and are giving place to new. At all times and in all places, it may be said, this process is going on. But there are certain periods in the life of nations when Time, as it were, makes a rush,—when his operations appear less gentle and less gradual than it is his wont to make them,—and when the ever progressing but insensible decay and renovation of the whole social framework around us assumes a cataclysmal character so marked and palpable as to alarm the timid, excite the sanguine, and arrest the attention of all. It may be thought that Europe generally is now experiencing one of these periods; but in Italy the phenomena attending it are the more strongly marked from the fact that so large a portion of her social system has survived to an extreme old age, and must now die. So little has perished during a long course of time, that a great deal has to perish all at once. It must be admitted even by those who most habitually recognize the necessity and desirability of such decay and renovation, that the epoch does not announce itself in Italy in very cheering guise. So much is perishing—so little apparently rising into existence. There is—to put the fact into the language of the statisticians—such an excess of deaths over births in the social system.

There are enough, indeed, of grave symptoms around the funereal pile of our social Phoenix here, to turn this letter into a treatise if I were to indulge in speculating on them. But I adverted to the rapid vanishing of all that Time has so long spared in Italy, only to bespeak your additional interest in the account I am going to give you of one of the most curious of those old world pageants which have lingered in the Peninsula so long, but which assuredly will not survive much longer.

In the year 1260, at Monte Aperto, some five miles from Sienna, was fought that great battle between the republics of Florence and Sienna which terminated in the utter discomfiture of the Florentines, and the transfer of the balance of power from the hands of the Guelphs to those of the Ghibellines. In memory of this great fight, in which the vanquished are recorded to have left the almost incredible number of ten thousand dead on the field, the victorious Siennese established a festival, which has been observed in nearly all its details from that time to this. The anniversary is celebrated every year on the 14th, 15th, and 16th of August; and having long wished to witness it, and being tempted moreover by the facility now offered by the railroad open from Florence to Sienna, I determined not to lose the chance of seeing this, the 590th, and very possibly last repetition of the solemnity.

We reached Sienna by the last train on the evening of the 13th, and hastened to take possession of the rooms which had been previously secured for us at the Aquila Nera:—a very necessary precaution, as the festival generally attracts so large an affluence from the neighbouring towns as, despite the hospitality of the Siennese, to render beds a very scarce article. The programme of the entertainments combined the usual admixture of sacred and profane which ordinarily characterizes the amusements of those races whose materialism has enabled their clergy to colour their whole social existence with religion, at the cost of divesting that religion of all spiritual character. On the afternoon of the 14th the authorities of the city—civil, military, and ecclesiastical—escorted in procession to the Cathedral the grand offering of wax always presented to the Virgin on this occasion by the liberality of the citizens. The contributions had been fashioned into an enormous gaily painted candle, weighing, I should think, some two or three hundred weight. It was borne fixed upright on an estrade, ornamented with a variety of doll figures, representing personages of Scripture, on the shoulders of eight men. But even thus early in

the affair signs of decadence were detected. A high dignitary of the Church, whose kindness had furnished us with places at the windows of his palace to see the procession, remarked that the offering was very small; that zeal grew cold in Sienna, and that the contributions of wax did not come in as of old. The diminished candle was, however, like the dwindled heir of a noble house, attended with all the honours and rejoicings which had waited on its grander predecessors: the crowd shouted, the trumpets brayed, and the Virgin received her 590th gigantic candle.

The morning of the 15th opened with a grand pontifical mass at the Cathedral. It was the Madonna's benefit, and no expense had been spared to insure the patronage of the public. The best orchestra had been secured; the best hangings were had out; the sacristy contributed its most gorgeous robes; and the performance was rendered as varied as possible by dressing and undressing the bishop before the altar, processioning, incensing, &c. The church was very full; and the congregation appeared exceedingly chatty, and disposed to good-humoured enjoyment. The crowd, however, was so great as to interfere in some degree with the free circulation of the promenading portion of the worshippers. Of the extremely interesting building, rich in masterpieces of various kinds of Art, I will say nothing. Is it not written in the red book of Mr. Murray,—to say nothing of the descriptions of innumerable other guides and tourists?

The afternoon of this day was occupied by a race of riderless horses through the town:—and of this, too, there is no need to say much. Similar races are exhibited in Florence and several other Italian towns; and, besides being in themselves exceedingly stupid and uninteresting, are sufficiently familiar to our countrymen. The frightened animals scamper along the lane formed by the shouting crowd at no great speed, and of course without any effort specially directed to a certain end,—and the winning of the race is a mere matter of accident.

But it was on the evening of the 16th, the third and last day of the festival, that the really interesting part of the entertainment took place. This consists of a race round the Grand Piazza of the city,—and is altogether peculiar to Sienna. The locale may be deemed admirably adapted, or very specially ill adapted to the purpose, according to the view of the critic. While the lover of historical association, of the picturesque, and of the curious, as well as the *gamin* admirer of the fun of seeing men and horses roll at the imminent risk of broken bones, would deem the selection of the site an admirable one,—the saddle-man, knowing in horses and their capabilities, would pronounce it almost the worst conceivable.

The position of the town itself indeed would seem strangely chosen. It was, however, one of the old Etruscan cities, and has therefore in some way or other recommended itself to very many generations of various very different races. In an elevated position among that branch of the Apennines which shut in Tuscany to the south, it occupies an area of ground so broken and irregular that scarcely a yard of level street can be found in the city; and many of its thoroughfares are so steep as to be inaccessible to wheels. In fact, the whole region is volcanic; and gives evidence of the wild work which has once gone on there, not only by the disordered and peculiarly abrupt shapes into which the surface has been thrown, but by occasional reminiscences of its former disorderly character in the shape of little feeble earthquakes which occur from time to time. Now, the Piazza, with which we are at present especially concerned, is situated—most appropriately in such a fire-braving city—in the crater of an extinct volcano! If the fact were not generally recognized and known, it would be hardly possible to mistake it. The ground rises on all sides to the rim of a circular, very regular saucer-shaped hollow. This hollow is the Piazza. The *palazzo* of the *comunità* occupies one side of the concavity in such a manner that its long façade cuts off a segment of the saucer. The remaining lofty buildings which inclose it stand around the edge, so as



to form in conjunction with the *palazzo* a very regularly shaped amphitheatre, with the soil rapidly shelving away from their bases towards the latter building. It will be seen, therefore, that a race-course around such an area must present no slight equestrian difficulties. Not only are there two very sharp angles to be turned at the points where the front of the *palazzo* cuts off a segment of the otherwise circular space, but one of these angles occurs at the top of the steep descent occasioned by the saucer-shaped concavity of the ground. To add still further to the difficulties to be contended against, the surface to be ridden over consists of a pavement of smooth flagstones very insufficiently covered for the occasion with a thin coating of sand. Many a practised steeple-chaser would, I conceive, pronounce it mere absurdity to attempt to race round such a course. And in fact the event never comes off without some three or four men and horses biting the dust. Indeed, some idea of the difficulty of the undertaking may be formed from the fact, that it very ordinarily happens that two or three of the body of dragoons who gallop round preliminarily to clear the course, fall; and that when they succeed in performing their duty without any such catastrophe, the populace invariably reward them with a vociferous round of applause.

Further, in order to picture to himself the decorations of the stage on which the scene I am about to describe took place, the reader must conceive the sombre circle of lofty buildings, of red brick for the most part, diversified with balconies and terraces and windows, all crammed to overflowing with gaily dressed figures and eager faces;—the quaint old *palazzo* with its tall slender tower and ogive windows;—and a range of seats constructed for the occasion around the base of these buildings, rising one above the other to the height of the balconies of the first floors. Moreover, in order to comprehend the nature of the interest created by the race about to come off, it must be understood who and what are the competitors. The city of Sienna is divided into seventeen districts, termed "Contrade." Each of these is represented by a horse and rider; and the old local rivalry, which not only set city against city, but even extended itself to wards and parishes, though now extinct at other times and for other purposes, is kept alive by this festival, blazes out on the occasion of this race with all its ancient energy, and animates each individual with a personal interest in the result which reaches to a perfect frenzy of enthusiasm. It must be observed, however, that as the disposable space is deemed insufficient for seventeen horses by any possibility to run, ten are chosen every year by lot, to the exclusion of seven unlucky ones. Each "Contrada" has its own colours, its own banners, and is represented by its own symbolic device. Thus, the seven excluded wards on this occasion were the "Unicorn," the "Tower," the "Niche," the "Giraffe," the "Tortoise," the "Goose," the "Caterpillar;"—while the ten that started for the race were the "Eagle," the "Dragon," the "Owl," the "Wolf," the "Snail," the "Porcupine," the "Wood," the "Wave," the "Sheep," and the "Panther."

At a little after six in the evening the course was cleared,—the dragoons performed their office without a fall,—the crowd applauded,—and then all eyes were turned to the spot whence the procession heralding the horses was to defile into the Piazza. After a minute's pause the flourish of trumpets gave the signal; and then came, first, the ten drummers of the ten wards which were to run; next, the standard-bearers of the seven excluded wards; then, a band of trumpeters; and after them the standard-bearers of the ten fortunate wards, with various pages and attendants. These were followed by a band of music; and then came the running horses, each led by a groom,—and after them the riders mounted on hacks. The long procession was closed by the ancient "Carroccio" of the city, adorned with the colours of all the seventeen Contrade. The readers of Italian history know well how large a part the Carroccio always played in the festivities as well as in the wars of the old Italian cities; and how the vain-glorious party spirit which every citizen of the little republics mistook for patriotism was wont to attach

itself to this object. This mediæval festival, therefore, would have been altogether imperfect without the Carroccio. But when I call it "ancient," I mean in institution. The heavy timber car which I saw appeared quite new.

The whole of this procession marched more than once round the Piazza; and the *coup-d'œil* which it offered was in truth a most picturesque one. All the various actors in the scene were dressed after the fashion of the time when Sienna was an independent commonwealth, and all in the peculiar colours of their respective wards. It was a true and authentic bodily presentment of a page from Froissart. The standard-bearers, according to immemorial usage, piqued themselves much on executing as they marched all kinds of manœuvres with their banners,—"*giuocare le bandiere*." They whirled them around their heads, tossed them into the air, and caught them gracefully in their descent, passed them under their arms, around their bodies, and under their lifted legs:—in all which feats the skill consists in keeping the flag ever floating at its extent and unentangled.

Well, when the assembled multitude had had ample time to admire the *tableau* presented by all this pageantry, the actors in it all drew off to seats prepared for them, with the exception of the horses and their riders. These were arranged in line behind a rope stretched across the course ready for a start, and the roar produced by the voices of the crowd was hushed into the stillness of eager expectation. The pause was suddenly broken by the horse belonging to the ward of the "Wave," impatient of further delay, making a premature rush at the rope. Man and horse fell headlong; and one or two of the others galloped round the course before the "false start" was established. At the second trial all went well away together. But at the first descent of the hill one steed and rider rolled on the sand. Meantime, the same horse who had made the false start—he of the "Wave"—took the lead, and kept it for two circuits. The race consists of three. Two competitors came abreast of him in the third; and riding neck and neck for awhile, increased their own difficulties and the spectator's amusement by soundly belabouring each other. For everything is *fair* in this contest. The competitors are searched on entering the course to ascertain that they have no knives or other weapons; and short of the use of such, they may do all they can to impede or disable each other. The poor "Wave" had a hard time of it. On descending the hill for the third time three men and horses fell and rolled together in one confused heap. Still, the "Wave" and one other competitor went ahead from the confusion. That other was the "Snail!"—"Chiocciola!"—which eventually won the race!

Then burst forth the roar of tongues! The winning rider was snatched from his steed, and nearly stifled by the embraces of his triumphant constituents. His horse was the object of similar endearments. Then, there were the presenting of the banner which the ward was to preserve as the memorial of the victory,—and the leading of man and beast in triumph. The winning horse used formerly to be led up to the principal altar of the cathedral, there to be blessed,—but this has of late years been omitted. Of course all kinds of rejoicing and festivities conclude the evening, or rather the night. But the nature of the rivalry existing respecting the race in the city, and the nature, in some respects, of the citizens, may be judged from the fact, that it has been found necessary to prohibit the inhabitants of the winning ward from showing themselves that night in the territories of any of the vanquished.

The numbers assembled to witness the race were estimated at from ten to twelve thousand; and the concourse was, I was assured, a far smaller one than usual. The fact was accounted for in some degree, I was told, by the absence of eight hundred citizens arbitrarily sent away by the Government during the festival from fear of disturbance,—and by much larger numbers having been forbid to come from other cities:—a sign of the times, not without its significance for the politician, but which to the historian might seem sufficiently in keeping with the

other circumstances of a festivity belonging to the days when no Italian city was without its "*fuor-usciti*." T.A.T.

#### OUR WEEKLY GOSSIP.

It is with no little satisfaction that we find that the remonstrances of students in general, and our own earnest and continued ones in particular, have borne some amount of fruit; and that Mr. Panizzi has been aroused to the necessity of improving the arrangements of the Reading Room of the British Museum,—especially as regards the means of reference. Advantage has been taken of the short period during which the Museum has been closed to prepare for the reading public a surprise in the shape of increased facilities at once for "finding" and for study. We believe that with a little further perseverance we shall yet get what we want. The changes are as follows:—Mr. Panizzi and his assistants have found accommodation for twenty more readers by removing the old catalogue desk, &c.,—have let in light to those sides of the reading rooms which before were totally dark by cutting through the gallery floors,—and have taken off the absurd wire fronts from the book-cases. These have been emptied, and judiciously re-filled by well selected books on general and English history, state papers, and English topography, joined to the parliamentary and law papers, and the *London Gazette*, in one room,—and in the other, by works on biography and travels, the encyclopædias and dictionaries, as before, English classics, ancient classics, reviews, editions of the Bible, church history, Transactions of learned Societies, heraldry, calendars, almanacs, *et id genus omne*. The old printed and manuscript Catalogue has been removed from the west to the east room; where it is placed in a convenient position on one of the walls, and flanked on each side by a "supplementary" Catalogue in manuscript in 153 volumes, ranged on shelves placed along three sides of the room. Before these Catalogues stand rows of strong oak desks, on which they may be placed for consultation. The volumes are handsomely bound; and they contain the titles of a great number of new works hitherto inaccessible, except with trouble, to the reader. We are told that fewer than a thousand titles are now only in arrears. The Grenville Library is also at length catalogued and made available. It is even possible now to get a pen that will write,—and, there being two additional attendants, a book in less than half-a-day. The rooms are better furnished; and measures have been taken to let in extra light.—The rapidity and silence with which these things have been done refutes in a very striking way the argument of those who have so long seemed to think them impossible.

At the closing sitting of the recent congress of the Archaeological Association at Manchester, a motion was made—and we believe carried—recommending an immediate reconciliation between that body and the Archaeological Institute; and much of that feeling was evinced for which we have been looking year by year, as the only vehicle through which these institutions could be made strong for the useful and highly interesting ends which they both have in view. It was well observed on the occasion in question, by Mr. Planché, that the reconciliation and agreement might have been effected long ago:—but perhaps this continued separation of the Archaeological forces may have had the good effect of practically convincing all parties that science can gain nothing by the squabbles of its professors. A personal split between men combined for a scientific object is so essentially unscientific in itself as necessarily to discredit the object of the combination. Besides that the division of moral forces weakens the power to do the work in hand, it doubles the cost of the machinery employed to do the diminished work. The cost is multiplied, to a reduced result—even if the philosophic character of all parties concerned did not suffer by their disagreement, and so add a yet further diminution of the power employed.—Since the Manchester meeting, Mr. Thomas Wright—who was largely concerned in the original quarrel which finally split up the Association into two factions—has written a letter to the *Literary Gazette*



on the subject of the motion in question,—conceived in the very best spirit, and which should go far towards bringing about that reconciliation which the interests of the cause undertaken by these bodies demands. “I regretted,” he says, “and ever have regretted, the continuation of the quarrel, which I myself can only attribute to the irritation of personal feelings. What right have personal animosities thus to interfere with the progress of science and literature, and to paralyze the efforts of men who join solely for their promotion? Their efforts in the present case have been most disastrous. United, we might have obtained the sanction of government, and have received assistance and encouragement from it; but government will not acknowledge two rival bodies that are quarrelling together. Neither will the Society of Antiquaries acknowledge them; nor the public, in the manner in which they require public acknowledgment.” “I cannot see,” Mr. Wright adds, “why there should be any difficulty in the way of such a reconciliation. After so long a time has passed, surely we can forgive all past offences on either side. Let everything be forgotten; let us meet together merely as two great bodies, united in the same pursuit, desirous of holding out to each other the hand of friendship and to become One. If any individual put forward personal grievances, or offer to stipulate for personal consideration, let him be, to use the vulgar phrase, thrown overboard. Let us not capitulate as enemies, but unite as friends. I would suggest a plan which appears to me simple and easy. Let the president of the Association select, at his own discretion, six men from the council of the Institute; let the president of the Institute do the same thing with regard to the Association; these twelve gentlemen might meet together and ballot for a new council of twenty-four, twelve of them to be taken from one council and twelve from the other. Or, as the presidents would, no doubt, have chosen twelve men fitted to form part of the new council, let the first twelve ballot for twelve more, six out of each council. In this manner I think a fair and good council could not fail to be chosen. Let this council choose the new officers, and then let a general meeting confirm the whole.—The only question which seems to me to offer any difficulty is that of the Journal. I would suggest that a new Journal should be commenced, or at least a new series, which would take away all ground of jealousy. If the good men of the Association were joined with the good men of the Institute, a journal might be produced which would do honour to our country.”—It is, we know, somewhat more difficult to heal sores than to avoid them; but the spirit of peace-making thus earnestly invoked we hope to see duly commissioned, and that under its influence the archaeologists of England will gather up their powers for united effort, and recover in union the dignity from which separation detracted.—It is especially the archaeologist's office to take lessons of wisdom from the past.

The Cambrian Archaeological Association has been holding its fourth anniversary meeting in the ancient and picturesque town of Dolgelly. The Report announced the progress of the Society, and the spread of the archaeological sentiment throughout the Principality by its means. The chair of presidency has been transferred from Lord Dunraven to Mr. Wynne.

The *Dublin Evening Post* says:—“We are at liberty to state that the statutes which constitute the Queen's University in Ireland have received Her Majesty's sanction, and are now in full force. His Excellency the Earl of Clarendon has been appointed the Chancellor; and a Senate is constituted, consisting of seventeen eminent individuals of different denominations, who represent generally the various departments of literature and science, medicine and law. To the Chancellor and Senate belongs the power of prescribing the courses for graduation, and of granting degrees in arts, medicine, and law, to the students of the three Queen's Colleges of Belfast, Cork, and Galway. They appoint examiners of candidates for degrees, and confer such university scholarships as they may think it right to found. The letters patent declare that “graduates of our said University shall be fully

possessed of all such rights, privileges, and immunities as belong to persons holding similar degrees granted them by other Universities, and shall be entitled to whatever rank and precedence is derived from similar degrees granted by other Universities.”

The Oxford papers report the death of the Rev. Dr. Ingram,—President of Trinity College, in that University, since the year 1824. Dr. Ingram published in 1827 an antiquarian work called ‘*Memorials of Oxford*.’ The Doctor had attained his seventh-eighth year.

Mr. Travers,—who belongs, it is believed, to the family of the late Mrs. Harris,—has established very free and easy relations with the Sea Serpent,—who, as our readers know, is on a fishing excursion in Kinsale Bay. Some days since, the weather being of that pleasant kind which suggests morning calls, that gentleman, taking his yacht, put out to sea to visit the monster:—and of course found him. The serpent was lunching on conger eels at the time,—and as he continued his repast in the face of his visitor, Mr. Travers had an opportunity of making his observations at leisure. Amongst other things, the animal submitted his tail to Mr. Travers's inspection,—and it turned out to be an elephant's trunk. Mr. Travers had the opportunity also of ascertaining its dimensions,—and found it to be “*rather over than under thirty fathoms long*.” This is a favourite figure, seemingly with Mr. Travers; the length of the animal being the length of its leap as before recorded—“*at least thirty fathoms*.” Mr. Travers was also able to make himself familiar with its nose.—A little incident occurred after luncheon which would seem to indicate that the serpent is somewhat of a humorist. After copious feeding the monster fell asleep; and Mr. Travers took advantage of its misplaced confidence to try the effect on it of rifle firing. A volley of four was discharged against it,—and the animal awoke. But this time, instead of leaping thirty fathoms high, the serpent merely shook his head at Mr. Travers, as much as to say he ought to be ashamed of himself,—“winked his eye” in a knowing manner,—and disappeared. Naturally enough he has since declined all further interviews with Mr. Travers.—The account does not state whether Mr. B. of Bandon was this time of the party.

Mr. J. R. Hind writes to the *Times* as follows. —“Mr. Charles Robertson, of Mr. Cooper's private observatory, Markree-Castle, Ireland, detected a new comet in the constellation Camelopardus, about midnight, on the 9th inst. The observations gave, at 13h. 4m. 33s. Greenwich mean time—comet's right ascension, 6h. 0. 51' 5s.;—north declination, 53° 29' 22". The hourly motion in R.A. is 40 seconds of time, increasing; and that in declination about three minutes towards the south.”

Once upon a time, as the ancient chroniclers report, Queen Elizabeth took it into her head to inclose St. James's Park; and on consulting her great Chancellor as to the cost at which it might be done, the startled philosopher replied—“To inclose the Park, madam!—a crown.”—The Londoners have ever retained a proverbial—almost passionate—love of their parks. Their fathers for many generations back have sported there as children,—made love there in their prime,—reposed amid their leafy shades in old age. Physically, these green spaces are called the lungs of London:—morally and historically they are not less intimately connected with a metropolitan organization. The Hellenes had their sacred groves—Englishmen have their parks, of which in another sense they hold to be every inch sacred ground. They look confidently on these verdant expanses as a property set apart for ever, an inheritance of health, beauty and innocent enjoyment to their children's children. It is now said that the proposal—made in Parliament last session, and then understood to be abandoned—to cut off and inclose a large portion of St. James's Park, is in progress of being carried into effect! This noble garden was solemnly made over to the public,—it is maintained at the public expense,—no whisper has been uttered against the order, care, abstinence which have marked the behaviour of those who use it. Every fine Sunday it is said that fifty thousand persons, from the close and crowded courts and alleys of the city, spend

the greater part of the day among its pleasant haunts,—keep up here their alliance with Nature,—take moral lessons from the scent and hue of flowers and the song of birds, and treasures of health from the free breeze. Of this reservoir of many of the beneficent agencies that the people have needed so long, and now use so harmlessly, it would seem that they are now about to be to a great extent deprived.—We trust the Minister will not commit the Queen and her people to a quarrel on such a point. The public cannot afford to lose a yard of this Park. That is no wise Government which takes on itself to sequester any part of it in the absence of Parliament. It is well to speak plainly,—because authority is just now coquetting offensively with the park at Richmond. There is something especially ungracious in the circumstance, that these encroachments are made under the sanction of a statesman who is not only lodged in town at the public charge, but occupies gratuitously a house and grounds belonging to the nation situate in one of our beautiful parks.

The merchants of Liverpool have long been intimately and actively connected with the northern and western coasts of Africa. Mission after mission has been sent into the interior of the country, with a view to open up communications with the natives,—to introduce some knowledge of the means and resources of English commerce,—and to prepare for the gradual introduction there of European arts and civilization. Science has been not a little indebted in past times to these missionaries of trade,—and the future is not without its promise of yet better things. Commerce has learned in our day to go much more completely hand in hand with civilization than it was wont to do. Far less than a century since, the merchants of Liverpool thought of Africa only as a negro plantation. They sent out their agents to explore its coasts in search of human beings whom they were to spirit away and sell into horrible bondage:—they now propose to lay down at their own expense a few thousand miles of railway across the interior of the country! This is one of those striking facts which, lying a little out of the ordinary course of events, mark with great distinctness the progress of humane sentiment and just principles in England. Great difficulties, however, await the attempt to form a thousand miles of railway inland from the Morocco coast—in consequence of the huge spurs of the Atlas running across the country. To overcome these engineering obstacles, Major Browne proposes to construct a balloon railway. We cannot say that we understand his scheme, as it is stated. It seems wild enough:—but we believe the rails are intended only for the guidance of the balloons. The balloons according to his scheme would carry fifteen persons each. The machine would, of course, be propelled by the wind, the sails being merely used to guide it through the Desert and over the mountains in a tolerably straight direction. The balloons will often, we imagine, be wind-bound rather inconveniently; and in stress of weather the voyagers may occasionally have to seek for a port among the nests of the boar and the lairs of the lion. The *Builder* suggests the application of an old principle to ballooning—the use of such a quantity of gas as would reduce the weight of the apparatus, but not buoy it up altogether and carry it away. This is the natural principle as observed in birds and insects. Were they not heavier than the atmosphere they would have no power over it, but must yield to all its motions. The suggestion is worth the attention of aeronauts. The principle, moreover, has been tested by the American whose work we reviewed recently in the *Athenæum* [*ante*, p. 832]—and with such an amount of success as justifies further experiment.

A Correspondent, in reference to the remarks which we borrowed from the *Times* on the subject of the eminent agriculturist, Mr. James Smith, of Deanston, when announcing his death [*ante*, p. 645],—writes to us as follows.—“To the late Mr. Smith, as an excellent agriculturist, and moreover as the promoter of the modern system of thorough drainage, or under-draining, instead of surface draining, the country is infinitely indebted. As the inventor, however, I cannot recognize him:—



for I am aware that the system was practised in the counties of Norfolk and Suffolk more than eighty years ago. It is true that pipes were not used; but the land was drained quite as effectually,—the drains being filled at bottom with broken stones or wood. It is true, also, that these drains did not generally last so long as those filled in with pipes; but they cost not one half the money,—and therefore, where the tenant makes the improvement,—as, in fact, in all well-farmed districts, tenants do, (the Holkham, or any other highly-farmed estate not excepted),—the economy of the process is of much importance. Drains made as I have mentioned will last a considerable time; for on the farm on which I was born, at Reymerston, in Norfolk, drains are now working effectually on arable land that were made sixty years ago, and on a soil of wet clay interspersed with many veins of sand. These drains were filled at the bottom with broken stones gathered from the arable lands. Fifty years ago a Mr. Salter of Whinbergh, in the same county, drained his whole farm of nearly 900 acres,—and many of the drains are now working. References to this and many other instances may be found in Young's 'Report of the Agriculture of Norfolk.' About thirty years ago the writer of this published many letters in Ruffly & Evans's *Farmers' Journal*, detailing the system at considerable length. It is quite true that under-drainage is but recently come into practice in many parts of the kingdom which greatly need it; and it is equally true that a great deal of land—not all—may be quite as effectually drained without pipes as with. To the tenant, as I have said, this is a matter of essential importance.—I am, &c. S. L.

Stoke d'Abernon, Sept. 10.

As we have already said, there is nothing so prolific as folly. The lightness of the seed carries it everywhere at the faintest breath,—and any new variety is sown with incredible rapidity far and wide. One folly leads directly to another,—and one fool becomes, morally, the father of a hundred. We shall not venture to say anything more against M. Poitevin and his "ponette"—(we beg on the part of the *Presse* to introduce the new animal, or its new name, to our readers)—for Mr. Green has been up on horseback, making ample demonstration of his desire to emulate the Frenchman's absurdity, though he did it tamely. By the way,—we see by a recent advertisement that M. Poitevin had recently exchanged his pony for a donkey,—we suppose, as more appropriate.—But, now, the Frenchman has shot ahead once more:—does Mr. Green, we ask, mean to be beaten? In the friendly rivalry which is now established between the two nations, will Mr. Green suffer England to be vanquished in the department of balloon mountebanking, of which he has charge? The French are soon *blasés*. Even a flight towards the stars on pony-back, though illustrated by a profusion of blue ribbons and blood gushing from the nostrils of the horse, could not hold them after two or three exhibitions. It was in vain that M. Poitevin left his steed in the air with its legs hanging, and went up a ladder without a hod. That told twice,—but for Ascent 3 some new terror was to be invented. So, on the last occasion, M. Poitevin was to take up with him a "flying Mercury"—"the young M. Merle," as he is blazoned for the admiration of Europe;—who was, when high enough, to launch himself from the balloon into empty space at the end of a cord 100 feet in length! Now, these are gallant things;—and Mr. Green should either give up the contest, or carry off the palm from the Frenchman once and for all. He knows, no doubt, the love for an execution in England,—particularly in certain aristocratic circles. If he would make up his mind to hang himself "up there," or *bond fide* to fall from the balloon altogether,—or get any one else to exhibit in one of those parts instead of himself,—he is sure of a distinguished audience,—and we do not see how M. Poitevin will be able to carry the matter further.

We have from time to time brought forward in our columns the case of the Bedford Charity:—not less because it is a curious and interesting subject in itself, than because it affords a striking instance of the unsound bases on which the management of

a large majority of our ancient educational foundations now rests. In consequence of the events which, as our readers know, have already taken place, it appears from a letter addressed to a weekly contemporary that some of the Trustees have failed to obtain re-appointment from the burgesses (the members of the corporation being *ex-officio* Trustees); and that steps are consequently in progress of being taken to promote a petition to the Attorney General—their counsel—with a view to induce Sir Samuel Romilly to apply to the Lord Chancellor for fixed Trustees, selected from the body of clergy and magistrates, not responsible, through a yearly election, to the public for the administration of their office. The lower classes are of course bestirring themselves to prevent the success of the application. It was owing to the judicious interference of the Legislature that the school of Bedford did not fall into the condition of Rugby and other institutions,—that it did not become simply a school for the rich. Property already has its rights sufficiently recognized at Bedford. The schools founded for the especial benefit of the poor even now open more readily to golden keys than to those of a less precious metal. An artisan who settles at Bedford must be domiciled in the town twelve months before he can send his child to the school for that training which he so much needs, and has so little leisure to acquire:—the middle-class man who can afford to lay out thirty pounds in a freehold requires only a residence of forty days. Still further to increase the powers and privileges of the propertied class is unjust and unnecessary,—as the funds are large enough for the education of more children than the town of Bedford is at present likely to supply: while the attempt to remove the charity from the more immediate control of the people—a control deliberately granted to them by Act of Parliament—is an encroachment on popular rights so unjustifiable in itself, and so unsuggested by circumstances, as to call for the strongest resistance. Properly speaking, the Bedford fund is an endowment—not a charity. Participation in its benefits involves no loss of rights or of powers—as is the case with most other similar institutions. The princely merchant who left his fortune to his native town desired to see the starving fed and the worker taught to read and write:—and the House of Commons has already determined that these provisions can best be carried out by a board at least partly responsible to public opinion.

**THE NILE.—WILL SHORTLY CLOSE.**—The Proprietors being about to remove the Panoramas from London will exhibit for a short period at the following greatly REDUCED PRICES:—Gallery, 6d.; Pit, 1s.; Stalls, 2s.—EGYPTIAN HALL, PICCADILLY.—Daily, at Three and Eight o'clock.

**INDIA OVERLAND MAIL.—DIORAMA.—GALLERY OF ILLUSTRATION, 14, Regent-street, Waterloo-place.**—A Gigantic MOVING DIORAMA, ILLUSTRATING THE ROUTE OF THE OVERLAND MAIL TO INDIA, depicting every object worthy of notice on this highly-interesting Journey from Southampton to Madras and Calcutta, accompanied by descriptive detail and appropriate music, is now OPEN DAILY.—Mornings at Twelve, Afternoons at Three, and in the Evenings at Eight o'clock.—Admission, 1s.; Stalls, 2s. 6d.; Reserved Seats, 3s., which may be previously engaged. Doors open half an hour before each representation. Descriptive Catalogues may be obtained at the Gallery.

**The DIORAMA, Regent's Park.**—Admission, One Shilling.—NOW OPEN, with the finest VIEWS ever exhibited in this country, representing the ROYAL CASTLE OF STOLZENFELS, on the Rhine, (visited by Her Majesty Queen Victoria in August, 1845.) and its Environs, as seen at Sunset and during a Thunder Storm; painted by NICHOLAS MEISTER of Cologne. And the much-admired Picture of THE SHRINE OF THE NATIVITY, at Bethlehem; painted by the late M. RENOUX, from a Sketch made on the spot by JOHN LOWERS, Esq. R.A., with novel and striking effects.—Open from Ten till six.

**ROYAL POLYTECHNIC INSTITUTION.**  
TWO LAST WEEKS in London of the ALPINE SINGERS from Styria, who perform several of their National Melodies, daily at Four, and in the Evenings at Half-past Eight.—LECTURE on the HYDRO-ELECTRIC MACHINE, by Dr. Buchholfer, daily at Two, and in the Evenings at Quarter past Nine.—LECTURE on CHEMISTRY, by J. H. Pepper, Esq., illustrating the ANCIENT FIERY ORDEAL and the HANDLING OF RED-HOT METALS, daily at a Quarter past Three, and in the Evenings at Eight.—MODEL OF WESTON'S PATENT NOVA-MOTIVE RAILWAY at work daily.—NEW SERIES OF DISSOLVING VIEWS, illustrating some of the WONDERS OF NATURE, daily at Half-past Four, and in the Evenings at a Quarter to Ten; also a Series, exhibiting SCENES in the ARCTIC REGIONS and CEYLON, daily at One o'clock.—DIVER and DIVING BELL, &c. &c.—Admission, 1s.; Schools, Half-price.

#### SOCIETIES

**ENTOMOLOGICAL.**—J. F. Stephens, Esq. V.P. in the chair.—Mr. Shepherd exhibited specimens of *Rhodaria sanguinalis*, taken at New Brighton, by Mr. Gregson. He also exhibited some black varieties of *Elachista Linneella*, taken near London.

—Mr. S. Stevens exhibited a pair of *Ornithoptera Prigamus*, from Richmond River, New Holland; also specimens of *Amphimalla verna*, found by Capt. Parry at Tenby.—Mr. Douglas exhibited a variety of rare Lepidoptera, including *Odontia dentalis* from *Echium vulgare* at Folkstone, *Tinea angusticostella*, *Pterophorus baliolactylus*, *Glechia peliella*, *Inulella* and *Bifractella*, the two latter reared from the capsules of *Inula dysenterica*. He also exhibited some species new to the British Fauna.—Mr. Westwood stated that in July *Lymæzylon navale* appeared in thousands from the oak timber in Plymouth Dockyard, and he had learned that it did not last in the perfect state above a fortnight. The experiment of placing the timber in the steam tank for ten hours had been tried and found successful in destroying the larvæ; he was likewise informed that the timber affected was sound when received four years ago. Mr. Westwood also stated that *Apate Cupucina* had done great damage in the same dockyard to oak timber received from Isturia.—Mr. White read a note on a specimen of *Monohammus sutor*, which had bored through a leaden pipe that happened to oppose its exit from the wood in which it had passed its larva and pupa states.—Mr. White, on the part of Mrs. Hamilton, exhibited a small collection of Indian insects; including the Curculio, referred to in her letter read at the July meeting,—and a specimen of *Hesthia deos*, reared by Mrs. Hamilton, who had sent a drawing of its larva and pupa, which was interesting as determining the affinities of the species, and showing that the late Mr. E. Doubleday had been correct in removing the species from the genus *Hesthia* to *Euploea*.

*Report of the Commissioners appointed to inquire into the Application of Iron to Railway Structures.*

IRON roads traverse the land in its length and breadth; binding with their chains the remotest districts of the island, and giving to the inhabitants of Great Britain more completely the character of a united family than they have ever before enjoyed. With the increasing commercial prosperity of our country grew the desire to obtain the means of more rapid communication. Maritime Liverpool pined to draw nearer to manufacturing Manchester; and metropolitan London panted to reach more quickly the metal mart of Birmingham. Of this gradually intensifying desire the locomotive use of steam, with all its incidents, was more than the fulfilment. Hills were broken down, and their debris employed to fill up the valleys,—mountains were bored and rivers spanned,—to make the commercial dream a reality. In carrying out these gigantic tasks, the ordinary materials failing to answer the purpose demanded,—some new one was to be sought: and wood and stone being abandoned, our highways were paved with iron. The iron rail on which the steam-giant toils, with its enormous train,—viaducts and bridges,—suspended roadways and perforated tunnels,—are all constructed from this most important metal.

Though iron has its place in technical history from a very early period,—and although man has shaped it into a thousand forms,—yet under the new conditions to which it is now so extensively submitted it was soon discovered that we were ignorant of its physical conditions,—and particularly of its molecular changes. The importance of obtaining this knowledge was pressed on us by more than one painful accident arising from the breaking of cast-iron girders,—though they had been previously tested, and proved to be of sufficient strength to support considerably more weight than was to be placed on them. As these accidents had arisen in mills where the iron beams were subjected to the influence of long-continued tremor promoted by the machinery, or on bridges which were submitted to the rapid passage of heavily-laden trains,—it was thought that some important molecular change must have taken place in the structure of the iron. This impression received support from the evidence of many experiments. Iron bars were selected which when broken presented a fibrous structure,—and these were subjected to long-continued vibratory action; after which on being broken they often showed a crys-



talline fracture. These experiments have been deemed by many to be fallacious; and we find Mr. Brunel stating that "the same piece of iron may be made to exhibit a fibrous fracture when broken by a slow heavy blow, and a crystalline fracture when broken by a sharp short blow."—We are, however, assured by many of our most experienced machinists that iron does undergo a molecular change when subjected to long-continued agitation,—and that this injurious change can be always repaired by careful annealing. When we have indisputable evidence of long-continued molecular disturbances under the influences of heat and electro-magnetism, we are disposed to believe in the theory that structural derangement may be produced by merely mechanical causes.—It was, therefore, to investigate the subject of the application of iron to railway structures that a Commission was appointed, consisting of Lord Wrottesley, Profs. Willis and Hodgkinson, Capt. James, and Messrs. George Rennie and William Cubitt,—with Lieut. Galton as secretary:—and well do these Commissioners appear to have performed the duty committed to their charge.

At starting, the Commission endeavoured to make themselves acquainted with all the experiments which had been already made on iron by engineers; and on this point they state:—

"From the information supplied to us, it appears that the proportions and forms at present employed for iron structures have been generally derived from numerous and careful experiments, made by subjecting bars of wrought or cast iron of different forms to the action of weights, and thence determining by theory and calculation such principles and rules as would enable these results to be extended and applied to such larger structures and loads as are required in practice. But the experiments were made by dead pressure, and only apply, therefore, to the action of weights at rest. As it soon appeared, in the course of our inquiry, that the effects of heavy bodies moving with great velocity upon structures had never been made the subject of direct scientific investigation, and as it also appeared that in the opinion of practical and scientific engineers such an inquiry was highly desirable, our attention was early directed to the devising of experiments for the purpose of elucidating this matter."

As all railway structures are necessarily exposed to "concussions, vibrations, torsions, and momentary pressures of enormous magnitude produced by the rapid and repeated passage of heavy trains,"—it became a question of the extreme importance to ascertain if any, and what, amount of change was produced in iron under these influences. It must be remembered that although the injurious action may be in each case exceedingly small, and unworthy of particular notice,—it is, from the nature of the material, probable that such derangement has a certain degree of permanence, and that by multiplying the causes a dangerous, and perhaps fatal, result may ensue. We should not be satisfied that the iron bridges spanning our numerous rivers, roads, and valleys—or the tubes which cross the Menai Straits and continue the Holyhead line at Conway—are secure for a few years to come. We should determine the amount of injury, if any, which is produced by the passage of every train,—and so secure these structures that they may be maintained in perfect safety, with ordinary attention, for any period of time. To ascertain the effects of moving weights, a well-devised apparatus was constructed in Portsmouth Dockyard, and a very extensive series of experiments made by Capt. James and Lieut. Galton.—"The results which they obtained were equally new and important, developing for the first time the fact that a given weight passing rapidly along a bar produces a greater deflection in that bar during its passage than it would have done had it been suspended at rest from the centre of the bar." That is to say, a much less load will break an iron bar when moving rapidly along it, than will fracture it in a state of rest. In the Report we are informed:—

"Thus, for example, when the carriage loaded to 1,120 lb. was placed at rest upon a pair of cast-iron bars, 9 feet long, 4 inches broad, and 1½ inch deep, it produced a deflection of six-tenths of an inch; but when the carriage was caused to pass over the bars at the rate of ten miles an hour, the deflection was increased to eight-tenths, and went on increasing as the velocity was increased, so that at thirty miles per hour the deflection became 1½ inch; that is, more than double the statical deflection. Since the velocity so greatly increases the effect of a given load in deflecting the bars, it follows that a much less load will break the bar when it passes over it than when it is placed at rest upon it; and accordingly, in the example above selected, a weight of 4,150 lb. is required to break the bars if applied at rest

upon their centres,—but a weight of 1,770 lb. is sufficient to produce fracture if passed over them at the rate of thirty miles an hour."

The Commissioners properly insist, therefore, on the importance of giving to all railway structures an amount of solidity far superior to that which is found by experiment or calculation sufficient to support as a dead weight the heaviest loads that can ever travel over them.

A most important series of experiments by Mr. Eaton Hodgkinson on the tensile and crushing strengths of iron under a great variety of forms and conditions, which form Appendix A to this Report, must prove of the utmost value to engineers:—so will the mathematical investigation of the subject by Prof. Willis and Mr. Stokes.

It is shown by some carefully conducted experiments made by Capt. James that the strength of iron bars is not increased with their diameters;—owing to the circumstance of their assuming a crystalline structure in the middle during the process of cooling, which goes on, of course, more slowly there than on the outside of the bar. This has been frequently observed in large iron castings; but we are not aware of any published set of experiments which so satisfactorily show the great importance of annealing all iron girders, and of limiting the thickness of each mass of iron employed for supporting heavy, and particularly moving, weights, as Capt. James's. This thick Blue-book and its accompanying volume of plates we must regard as a valuable contribution to scientific engineering. It is, however, to be regretted that the experiments of the Commission did not embrace the effect of wrought-iron tension-bars on cast-iron girders as applicable to such structures as the Dee and numerous other bridges of a similar construction. By some this form has been absolutely condemned as insecure,—while other engineers still contend that it may be employed with safety.

We understand that the labours of this important Commission were prematurely stopped by cutting off the necessary funds for carrying on the experiments. Surely, seeing the important uses to which, on land and sea, iron is now employed, it was not a wise economy to put an end to an inquiry which promised to be of such great national importance.

SCIENTIFIC GOSSIP.—At last we get some clue to the "New Light" of Mr. Payne:—and it fully confirms our expressed views. Water is decomposed by the chemical action of sulphuric acid on zinc, and the hydrogen passed through spirits of turpentine. The following letter from Mr. Mathiot, of the United States Coast Survey, places the question in an intelligible light.—

"Mr. Mathiot says:—I next directed my attention to ascertain the quantity of turpentine used along with a known quantity of hydrogen. I first accurately measured a portion of turpentine, and then passed the gas from 33 oz. of zinc through it, burning the gas at the jet all the time. I then again measured the turpentine, and found it not perceptibly less than before. Now, in this case, the hydrogen could not have been changed into carburetted hydrogen, for coal gas contains from four to five times as much carbon as hydrogen, and pure carburetted hydrogen has six times as much carbon as hydrogen; and as 33 oz. of zinc, by solution, liberate one ounce or twelve cubic feet of hydrogen, therefore from four to six ounces of turpentine should have been used up, supposing it to be all carbon; but turpentine is composed of twenty atoms of carbon to fifteen atoms of hydrogen, and, consequently, only one-seventh of its carbon can be taken up by the hydrogen, or, in other words, forty-two ounces of turpentine will be required to carburet one ounce of hydrogen. Yet, still thinking some portion of the turpentine might be evaporated, I cooled the bottle with the turpentine, and placed the whole apparatus in a cold bath, and tried the experiment over again, but the light was the same. I then heated the turpentine to 120 degrees, and then passed the hydrogen through it, but the light was the same. I then took a half-gallon tincture bottle, and put in nearly three-quarters of a pint of turpentine, and let the pipe from the hydrogen generator run quite to the bottom of the water—the light appearing the same, or a little better. I have used the same lot of turpentine in all these experiments, having had a brilliant light for about three hours; and the turpentine, though frequently poured from one bottle to another, is not a teaspoonful less than before I began the first experiment. I have now announced to you the simple facts of the matter; the rationale I leave to the scientific world. The next step, after ascertaining that hydrogen can be used for illumination, is, whether the light is according to its weight or its bulk, as compared with coal gas,—that is, whether 200 cubic feet of this catalyzed hydrogen will go as far for light as 200 feet of coal gas, or whether it will require 200 feet, one pound of hydrogen, to do the work of 26 feet, one pound of coal gas."

Notwithstanding this statement, we are convinced that the hydrogen does rob the turpentine of car-

bon; but possibly the carbon lost is substituted by some other element,—and the character of the turpentine changed, although the quantity may not have been reduced.—The above statement renders the cost easily calculable.

We are requested to make room for the following remarks on Mr. Petrie's paper, read at the British Association, 'On the Application of Electricity and Heat as moving Powers.'—"The author is in error when he states 'that the best Cornish engines only yield one-fourteenth of the power that the combustion of the carbon actually represents;' for if we consider the heating value of the coals to be represented by the quantity of carbon which they contain, it will be found that one pound of coal of a good quality and such as will raise in the best Cornish engine 1,000,000 lb. one foot high will have heating power equal to above 10,000°,—which, being multiplied by Mr. Joule's equivalent of 700, as used by the author, we shall have for the theoretical power of one pound of coal the sum of 7,000,000, and the practical result in the Cornish engine being the sum of 1,000,000, or one-seventh 'of the power that the combustion actually represents.' The author has not therefore given a correct statement of the practical value obtained from heat. It is, in fact, just double the value which he has given it.—The comparative cost of power obtained from heat and electricity, according to the author's statement of the quantity of zinc required per horse-power per hour, theoretically and practically:—Theoretically, the consumption of zinc in the battery should be 1.56 pound per hour per horse-power. Practically, it is from 50 to 60 pounds per hour. Assuming that the price of zinc is 20s. per ton and the price of coal 10s. per ton, their relative prices will be as 40 to 1. Two pounds of coal per hour will, used in the best Cornish engine, produce the power of one horse;—and to produce the same amount of power by the best electro-magnetic engine fifty pounds of zinc must be consumed. Their comparative cost will therefore be as  $\left(\frac{40 \times 50}{2} = 1,000\right)$  1,000 to 1. Even supposing,

with the author, that engines may be constructed to give one-fourth of the theoretical power, the cost compared to the cost of coal will be as  $\left(\frac{6 \cdot 24 \times 40}{2} = 124 \cdot 8\right)$  125 (nearly) to 1.

"SAMUEL HOCKING."

## FINE ARTS

### FOREIGN CORRESPONDENCE.

Weimar.

THERE is something bewildering in the rapidity with which one can be now-a-days transferred from the edge of the Channel at Ostend to the centre of Germany by railway,—the bewilderment being not a little increased by the amount of brawl and discomfort to be endured, now that such myriads are on the road. The He who cannot carry his wardrobe in his snuff-box, and the She who requires more for her comfort than her *sac* affords, must be either prepared to put forth a large amount of gymnastic activity, or take a Brave Courier—in either case exposed to heavy expense, and to those chances of loss, delay, and inexact transmission which are trying to the temper in a mode of conveyance recommended by its speed and certainty. I have seen nothing like the fight at the passport office at Aix, and among the grasping and sluggish owners of vehicles at Cologne. I have met nothing so gratuitously ill managed as the needless and numberless halts and exchanges made on the way betwixt the city of the Three Kings and the town whence I write:—not to speak of the small provision in one or two very important places for keeping what Mr. Ruskin has pathetically called "the human parcel" dry. At Magdeburg, for instance, the entire contents of three trains are spilt on a narrow shelf of boards close under the walls of the fortifications, a hundred yards distant from the station-house, and without the pretext of shelter:—a pleasant place for arrival and transfer on a mid-winter night! On all these things it would have been ungenerous to say a word, had not some of our contemporaries been lately busily extolling the foreign Railroad, as



generically better managed and more comfortable in its provisions than the home one. This, I am bold to assert, is not the case at present. May we all mend!

Many of the railroads, however, have station-houses of fantastic magnificence, with many good points in their architecture and adornments. The ceiling under which coffee is drunk in the splendid room at Minden is worth citing and remembering as an example of rich and delicate decoration. How long will it be before the extremes of this disregard for the expedition and material convenience which excuses railways and this parade of ornamental taste will be reconciled? For the observer of German manners (now in a state of transition from their primitive homeliness to a refinement and licence difficult to characterize), the problem is a curious one.

Two years have done much for the Cathedral at Cologne. In less than two years more, the traveller will be able from a distance to see that the huge gap betwixt the choir and the towers is essentially diminished. The walls and one of the windows of the transepts are all but up,—the flying buttresses being still untouched. The upper windows of the nave are already defined; the sketched-out tower in the façade has a new pier, and the giddily-lofty arch which is to connect it with its twin sister has been thrown. The further, however, that these interesting works advance, the more do I feel confirmed in the idea which I ventured to express on my last visit [*Athen.* No. 1095], that betwixt the space of the transepts and the bulk of the towers the proportions of the nave shrink into a shortness which both outside and inside of the Cathedral will ultimately produce a disappointing effect. I spent a long Sunday-morning in the building; and to judge from the crowds that filled it, and the cheery jingle of money on the offering Plates, popular sympathy and curiosity with regard to the fulfilment of "this broken promise to God" (as poor Hood called it) have in no degree subsided. Some of us may live to see the entire area thrown open to the vaults of the roof.

The new bronze statue of Herder—heroic in stature—just inaugurated close beneath the walls of Herder's church here, is, as modern statues go, a very fine work,—large and simple, and clear of the oppressive pedantry which might almost seem to have been invited by the severity of the subject. There is more parade of a shapely leg, perhaps, than is strictly clerical: otherwise the beauty and the dignity of the subject are well conciliated. The artist is Herr Schaller of Munich; whose Phidias and Prometheus, destined for the outer hall of the church of St. Boniface, I admired nine years ago, in their sculptor's studio. The founders of this Herder statue are a lodge or lodges of Freemasons. The festival of inauguration appears to have gone off pleasantly, but to have excited little general sympathy, and to have been but sparingly attended by the celebrities of Germany. The traveller is more struck than ever, just now, by the manner in which one little town isolates itself from another in its tastes and humours,—and these provincial capitals from larger cities such as Berlin, Dresden, &c.:—in days, too, whose Utopia has been, a United Germany! But those who begin to illustrate the theory of discords from what is to be seen and heard here, will never end.—It is said that the heir-apparent to the Dukedom of Saxe-Weimar is about to adorn his town with a group of portrait-statues of Goethe and Schiller, to be placed in the space before the theatre. I saw a sketch for this on a small scale, by Herr Rauch of Berlin, which appeared to me new in its ordinance: since I recollect no instance of one composition of two figures serenely standing side by side. Goethe is raising a laurel crown in one hand,—the gesture not exactly indicating on which brow it is intended to be placed. This may have partly been the design of the sculptor; but as calculated to raise a perpetual question, the effect is disturbing rather than ingenious. I fancied, too, that the group presented too large a surface of front without shadow. But the sketch may possibly be reconsidered.

There is much talk of a great Goethe *stiftung* (or foundation) which may possibly be shortly

established at Weimar. But the plan, as it has been detailed to me, is at once too comprehensive and too novel to be introduced at the close of a hasty letter.

**FINE-ART GOSSIP.**—We may again remind our readers that the annual French Exhibition of the works of modern artists will open at the Palais National on the 15th of December. Paintings, &c., will be received at the palace between the hours of ten and four from the 1st to the 15th of November,—at six o'clock of which latter day the doors will be closed against any further reception.

#### MUSIC AND THE DRAMA

**HAYMARKET.**—The comedy of 'Born to Good Luck' was revived on Monday;—the part of *Paudeen O'Rafferty* being Powerfully performed by Mr. Hudson. The farce of 'How to pay the Rent' followed;—in which the same actor flourished as *Morgan Rattler*, to the great delight of his admirers.

**SADLER'S WELLS.**—Mr. Knowles's 'William Tell' and Mr. Milman's 'Fazio' have been added to the revivals at this theatre:—Mr. Phelps enacting the hero in the former, and Miss Glyn *Bianca* in the latter. 'Fazio' afforded another opportunity to Mr. Waller,—in the part of the guilty husband. Wanting discipline to a remarkable extent, this gentleman has, however, much available material in voice and person.

#### MUSIC AT WEIMAR.

The world of letters knows in what manner Europe was stirred to its very centre, towards the close of the last century, by the genius of the distinguished men whom once on a time the sovereign of this tiny capital drew around him. It would be curious enough if a like phenomenon were to be produced in the world of Art,—if a musical revolution were in its turn to be dated from Weimar.—Such a thing seems to be among possibilities just now.

All those who have followed the career of M. Liszt with other eyes than those of either foolish wonder or jaundiced antipathy, must have speculated with no ordinary curiosity as to the direction which his genius would take when its years of wandering apprenticeship (to use the German phrase) should be over,—and when his career as a public favourite would out of either choice or necessity be closed. Such a problem, always involving no ordinary solicitude, becomes doubly interesting when one so original (not to say eccentric) as M. Liszt is concerned. But few would have conceived it possible that the idol of whose broken pianoforte-strings German damsels wove bracelets—who was starred with an Order here, decorated with nobility and a sword there, ere he had reached middle age, and long ere the fire of idolatry had burned itself out—should subside into the comparative obscurity of a musical directorship in a very small German town. Fewer still could have believed that the change could last,—fewest of all would have admitted that any very striking or signal result could proceed therefrom. But the distinguishing peculiarity of M. Liszt, a spirit which nothing can daunt combined with a will which nothing can bend, bids fair to vindicate itself in this as in former transactions of his life,—and will, if we mistake not, work itself out in a form which, be its value greater or less, may at all events prove one alike individual and significant.—It will be no surprise if the opera-house at Weimar under his musical direction shall become as notorious as was the theatre of Weimar when Goethe had it under his hand as a field not merely for enterprise but also for experiment. The orchestra is capitally under control and curiously effective,—its numerical strength considered. Measures are in progress to strengthen it: Herr Cossmann, the excellent violoncellist, has just joined it. (It is mentioned as possible that Herr Joachim, the best of young German violins, will remove from Leipzig to Weimar. The chorus is less satisfactory,—and wants entire revision. We were much struck with the excellence, liberality, and (what is rare in Germany) tastefulness of the stage appoint-

ments. The costume, groupings and scenery of this little theatre would do no discredit to Paris.

The special interest, however, imparted by M. Liszt's presidency is in his obvious resolution to make the town and the theatre a rallying point and focus of German music as it was, as it is, and as it is to be. His conducting is excellent; animated, and inspiring, without pedantry or pettiness. He has already placed on the repertory some of the known masterpieces of German opera in spite of the indifference of the public;—while he is resolute, we hear, to give every facility to the writers of young Germany. Hence, at Weimar those interested in the matter may see the principles of the newest manner of composition illustrated to the uttermost, and every possible advantage and protection given to them by a liberal court, at the instance of one who is as genial in his sympathies as bold in his ambitions,—and who, moreover, has a fund and foundation of precise knowledge not always possessed by either the genial or the ambitious.

Viewed in this light, we have rarely assisted at any celebration more interesting than the first production of Herr Wagner's opera of 'Lohengrin,' on the anniversary of Goethe's birthday. The story of the commission is worth recording. The composer appears to have been born under a star of nonconformity,—to be largely endowed with enterprise, fancy, and obstinacy. He has always been his own *librettist*; having some years ago submitted a *libretto*, 'The Flying Dutchman,' to the management of *L'Académie* in Paris, with the hopes of being commissioned to set the same. There, the story was found so original, and the musician so little practicable, that the latter was fairly bought out, while the *libretto* was purchased and given to M. Dietsch,—by whom it was set without success. Herr Wagner is his own copyist, too,—and more exquisite manuscript than his we never saw. While under the service of the King of Saxony as *Kapellmeister* he took part in the recent German revolutions; and on this ground (to say nothing of the more direct argument of the style of his music,) he has since knocked at theatre-door after theatre-door without chance of hearing until the opera-house of Weimar let him in. Assuredly no establishment solely depending on public opinion and not on the court *ipse dixit* would have received his 'Lohengrin.'

'Lohengrin,' though not a work to be ignored, is still less one to be generally accepted. The *Libretto*, based on the well-known legend of the 'Knight of the Swan,' contains some picturesque points,—but it is vexatiously full of effects missed and improbabilities unreconciled. Principal characters are allowed to stand still on the stage without note to sing or sign to make during entire *finales*. Such neglects of contrast abound as duett succeeding duett. The pieces are immoderate in their length. All these faults would be singularly odd as coming from a musician writing for music, were they not explained by the fact that Herr Wagner has "a system." When such a defence is made for novelties that are merely so many blemishes, who can avoid recollecting Horace Walpole's farewell words to Hogarth—"My dear Sir, you grow too wild, I must take my leave of you"?—Who will not deprecate our ever becoming used to pyramids with their points downward, pilgrimages that lead nowhere, question without reply, ponderous machinery set in motion when the strings prove not so much cables as cobweb-threads perpetually broken?

To particularize a little more closely:—Herr Wagner's attempt has been, to produce a work of pure declamation, without the slightest reference to melody, charm, or established form on the part of the vocalists. 'Lohengrin' reminded us of nothing so much as one of the weakest operas of Lulli's school,—spiced with outrageous orchestral condiments of which Lulli never dreamed. Even considered as a tissue of recitatives accompanied, the effect was bad:—monotonous from the superabundance of suspences and pauses, and from the platitude of many of the phrases devoted to the strongest emotions. Despite the perpetual efforts now made to prove them separate, no one, it may be suspected, will ever write a really fine reci-



tative who cannot also write a really beautiful melody. But we were yet more struck by another particularity. Though Herr Wagner will not minister to the meretricious *a due* which every pair of singers naturally enough like to sing—though to judge from 'Lohengrin' he would not be guilty of a *cabaletta* were the success of his opera (or of his republican ideas) dependent on it,—seeing that rhythm and ordinance must be somewhere or the work could never be kept together, he has lavished rich devices of form and melody on the orchestra. Listening very attentively, we came to the conclusion that it is the violins and others that declaim, while the actors and actresses scream. The parts of hero and heroine, villain and confidant, are terribly wearying in their excess of over-strained monotony,—in their perpetual and tantalizing approach toward some great climax, explosion, or combination which never arrives. But the band has intelligible and vivacious services to perform. Some of the accompaniments are excellent. A certain tune to the third act (almost important enough to make a short overture) is one of the most captivating and joyous inspirations we ever heard; and a march at the opening of the last scene, with four separate groups of trumpeters on the stage, is so grandiose and exciting as a piece of combination and effect and parade that M. Meyerbeer may well take to bed on hearing of it,—unless it should prove that it was he who originated the same by the much-talked-of *finale* in his 'Camp de Silésie.'

In short, the impression left on us by 'Lohengrin' is that of power and perversity perpetually jostling and neutralizing each other. A system more systematically inconsistent has rarely been so emphatically illustrated. If the accomplishments of the beautiful art of singing are to be so entirely abrogated on the plea of their conventionalism, why not also the beauties and effects of instrumental execution? Does the trill which is meretricious in the voice, and incapable (say the transcendentalists) of conveying inner meaning, become pathetic, poetical, philosophical when it is produced by the fingers on the strings of twenty violins at once? Why is a vocal scale passage on "*smavia*" or "*gjoja*," whether ascending or descending, more unbecoming and frivolous than an orchestral one? Why are melodies in even numbers of bars to be counted as elegant in a symphony, if they are vulgar in a song? Why write thirds for the violins if thirds for the voices are to be exploded as so much sugary twaddle? Time is wasted over questions like these.—The truth is, that such nonsense will not bear looking into; being virtually—let Herren Wagner and Schumann and M. Berlioz take it as they will—merely a mask snatched up to conceal want of invention, or that want of knowledge which takes its refuge in a hot and unreasoning partisanship.

There is small fear, we think, of Opera being thus destroyed at present. While the principle of dramatic propriety is respected, the canons of grace and beauty must not be outraged. Nor do we apprehend that "Young Germany" will ever really thrive till some genius shall appear, rich, wise, and calm enough to conciliate both. Meanwhile, such experiments as Herr Lachner's are of the deepest interest. Every one seems to agree that the 'Tannhauser,' the penultimate opera by the same composer, (holding a relation to 'Lohengrin' similar to those of 'Der Freischütz' with 'Euryanthe' and of 'Robert' with 'Les Huguenots'), is a much more popular and pleasing work. The overture, which we heard admirably played on the pianoforte, seemed to be grand, noble, on clearly marked subjects,—and, though overcharged, excellent in structure and exciting in development. We should expect it when heard with orchestra to prove more interesting and fresh than Meyerbeer's overture to 'Struensee':—with which it is but natural to compare it.

Who could help speculating on what the great poet and critic in commemoration of whom 'Lohengrin' was produced would have said to such a chaotic tribute?—The opera was most carefully given; preluded by an elegant prologue, written for the occasion by Herr Dingelstedt. The two principal female parts were agreeably sustained by

Mdlle. Agthe and Mdlle. Fastlinger. Both these young ladies have fresh agreeable *soprano* voices,—as yet guiltless of the vices of German *solo* singing.

If M. Liszt has given up pianoforte exhibition in public for a while, it is from no diminution of means,—but that he may addict himself to composition. His new overture to 'Prometheus' is a work of the highest ambition—full of force and contrast; with perhaps too wilful a disdain of the beautiful in some of its chords and progressions, but closer and more intelligible in structure than we had expected to find it. The same remark might apply to his two new pianoforte Concertos with orchestra,—the effect of which in places must be prodigious. But the execution of these compositions as intended by their writer is totally beyond the reach of any one else; demanding an ease and an apparent carelessness combined with the utmost *brío* and brilliancy, and a variety of modifications of finger, such as no one else commands. When heard again after a lapse of time, his playing reminds the hearer more forcibly than ever that whereas the many are pianists of talent, M. Liszt is the genius of the pianoforte.

We can only speak further of a pianoforte Trio by Herr Raff, parts of which are excellent and effective. It is, however, enormously difficult:—in its style "Young German," but more orderly and more melodious than many among its contemporaries of the same school.—An opera by Herr Raff has been accepted,—and will be performed at Weimar early in the next year.

**MUSICAL AND DRAMATIC GOSSIP.**—The musical festival at Gloucester is said to have gone off with greater spirit than most recent meetings of the three choirs,—the singing of Madame Sontag forming perhaps the principal attraction. 'Elijah' and 'The Messiah' were the two oratorios. They may now, it seems, be ranged side by side in their power of attracting an audience. The one novelty was a song by Dr. Wesley, given on the morning of miscellaneous selections betwixt a portion of 'The Creation' and the 'Lauda Sion.' The excursion-trains run out of London for the purpose of delivering guests in time for the morning performances will form a feature in the history of this music meeting. Beyond these things, there is little to remark.

Could little efforts avail, we English should by this time have had a grand national opera, in spite of the dragons in the way that seem bent on spoiling the enterprise. We believe that the committee of gentlemen whose convocation and early meetings we noticed last year as attended with a certain promise, were compelled by the difficulties on every side to adjourn the consideration of the plan,—which, nevertheless, seems taken up by one sanguine person after another without any regard to the obstacles that must be removed. How slight and strange at once these seem to certain of our professors may be judged from a recent advertisement put forth by Mr. F. Flowers, in which he roundly declares that there is no good English opera because there are no good English singers, and that there are no good English singers because there are no good teachers,—and that to supply this want he will teach *soprani*, tenors and sub-basses (what are these?) gratuitously for some hours every week.—It seems difficult to accept such a frank statement and proposal for earnest—even though it has been issued in print. Another advertiser more mystically puts forth the following paragraph:—

English Opera.—Composers, Vocalists, and Instrumentalists desirous of forming an Operatic Establishment upon the principles of a commonwealth (so successfully carried out in the Royal Italian Opera,) are invited to send their names by letter, post paid, to "Union is Strength," at —. We fear that neither "Union is Strength" nor Mr. Flowers—in his own opinion the best of singing-masters—will succeed in cutting the knot of the difficulty.

Meanwhile, the autumnal travelling opera and concert parties are about to set forth,—somewhat less brilliant in their muster than usual. Miss C. Hayes, Mr. Bordas and Signor Marchesi are going to perform operas in Dublin.—Mdlle. Parodi, Signor Gardoni and M. Vivier are about to take

another round among the provincial towns.—Signora Cortesi is named as the *prima donna* for St. Petersburg this winter.

The *Grand Opéra* at Paris opened for the winter season with 'La Favorite.' In this Mdlle. Alboni has taken the part of the heroine with doubtful success. "Formerly," says the *Gazette Musicale*, "it was sustained by one who was more of an actress than a singer"—the Lady meant being Madame Stoltz; "Paris has now the charming variety of seeing it performed by one who is more of a singer than an actress." M. Berlioz speaks more decidedly to the point—declaring that the one feature of Mdlle. Alboni's performance is her singing of the *cavatina* 'O mon Fernand,'—the dramatic features of the part being wholly neglected. Mdlle. Alboni will next appear as *Odette*, in the 'Charles the Sixth' of M. Halévy.—M. Auber's new opera is in a state of great forwardness, and ought to be produced before November.

It is advertised that Mr. Mitchell is about to retire from the management of the French Plays, and that the *St. James's Theatre* is accordingly to be let from the middle of September. For the blank in amusements thus caused a select and intellectual public has good cause to be sorry. As a school of study to the dramatist, a French theatre has a special place and interest; and there is scarcely a chance of London ever again possessing one so liberally administered as Mr. Mitchell's has been. Perhaps we are to meet him as a manager elsewhere.

Among the dramatic novelties which promise well for the coming winter in Paris are named, a new five-act comedy by M. Emile Augier,—and a new comedy by M. Scribe, to be called 'The Queen of Navarre's Tales.'

Mrs. Clifford, whose peculiar power in personating the mock-respectabilities of the stage made her so valuable a member of the Haymarket company, died, after nearly a year's illness, on Thursday week. She had been connected with Mr. Webster's theatre for the long term of twenty-eight years.

#### MISCELLANEA

*Mutilation of the amended Act for the Copyright of Design.*—Manufacturers of all ornamental fabrics may congratulate themselves that an extension of the term of copyright to an additional three years is now secured to them, if they will only express their wishes on the subject to the Board of Trade. The Board of Trade has been empowered to give it to them. When they approach the Board, let us advise them to request that the additional privilege may not be accompanied in all cases with an additional fee. Where the fee is already a pound and upwards, it is surely quite payment enough for any period of copyright. Manufacturers, in preparing their memorials to the Board of Trade, may usefully remind the Board that an author may obtain his literary copyright for a term which may be sixty or seventy years, merely for the trouble of registering his book, and paying only half-a-crown, we believe, at Stationers' Hall. Sculptors, too, may now obtain the advantages of registration; and the rights of ornamental articles in ivory and bone are also recognised. So far so good, although we must protest against the ungracious act of the Commons in curtailing the period of the extension of Copyright from six years, as the Lords had fixed it, to three. In addition, the new Act enables ornamental designs to be "provisionally registered," and exhibited publicly without forfeiting copyright; and we may presume there will be no fee for using this new privilege. But we shall be greatly surprised if manufacturers and inventors do not loudly protest against the treatment which the Commons have inflicted on them in passing this new Act. Our readers will recollect, that on the 7th of May the President of the Board of Trade stated, in the House of Commons, that it might be expedient to introduce a clause to protect from piracy the "*unpatented articles that might be exhibited.*" This intimation agreed with the decision (No. 8) of the Commissioners for the Exhibition, which proclaimed that "arrangements will be made for the protection of articles which may be exhibited from piracy of the design,"—a decision that has been largely published to all the world.



Accordingly, the public watched with satisfaction for the redemption of this pledge in the Bill which Lord Granville, on behalf of the Government, introduced in the House of Lords. This Bill, giving such protection, passed the Lords, and was sent up to the Commons; when, lo! on the 12th of August, two days before the prorogation, when the House was nearly abandoned, another printed edition of the Bill was published, and the clause wholly emasculated of its virtue. \* \* All that the new law now enacts for "provisional registration" is, that ornamental designs and "utility" designs may have it—a mighty work to engage the labours of Parliament—an Act to save the payment of fees varying from 1s. to 10l. which the Treasury already had power to dispense with whilst unpatented articles, for which it would have been of real usefulness, are excluded—after the Government had attempted to include them!—*Journal of Design.*

*Gold from Jamaica.*—We state with much satisfaction that we have just seen and examined a large lump of auriferous rock or stone just arrived from the neighbourhood of Annatto Bay, Jamaica. Split open, it appears almost one compact mass of gold and silver, the pure silver ore lying in small lumps thickly interspersed with gold particles. This lump will yield about 70 per cent. of the precious metals. This is considerably richer than many of the Californian specimens.—*Standard.*

*Serpent Charmers.*—In the number for the present month of *Bentley's Miscellany*, there is an article, by Mr. W. Cooper, on 'The Snakes and Serpent Charmers at the Zoological Gardens:—in which the disputed question as to whether the fangs are extracted by the serpent charmers from the reptiles which they exhibit is set at rest. Dr. John Davy, in his work on Ceylon, denies that this is the case,—and says that the only charm employed is that of courage and confidence.—

"In order that we might get at the truth, we sought it from the fountain-head, and our questions were thus most freely answered by Jubar-Abou-Hajjab,—Hamet acting as interpreter.—"How are the serpents caught in the first instance?"—"I take this adze (holding up a sort of geological hammer mounted on a long handle) and as soon as I have found a hole containing a cobra, I knock away the earth till he comes out or can be got out; I then take a stick in my right hand, and seizing the snake by the tail with the left, hold it at arm's length. He keeps trying to bite, but I push his head away with the stick. After doing this some time, I throw him straight on the ground, still holding him by the tail; I allow him to raise his head and try to bite, for some time, in order that he may learn how to attack, still keeping him off with the stick. When this has been done long enough, I slide the stick up to his head and fix it firmly on the ground; then taking the adze and forcing open the mouth, I break off the fangs with it, carefully removing every portion, and especially squeezing out all the poison and blood, which I wipe away as long as it continues to flow; when this is done the snake is harmless and ready for use.—"Do the ordinary jugglers or only the hereditary snake charmers catch the cobras?"—"We are the only persons who dare to catch them, and when the jugglers want snakes, they come to us for them; with that adze (pointing to the hammer) I have caught and taken out the fangs of many thousands.—"Do you use any other snakes besides the cobras for your exhibitions?"—"No; because the cobra is the only one that will fight well. The cobra is always ready to give battle, but the other snakes are sluggish, only bite, and can't be taught for our exhibitions.—"What do the Arabs do if they happen to be bitten by a poisonous snake?"—"They immediately tie a cord tight round the arm above the wound, and cut out the bitten part as soon as possible—some burn it; they then squeeze the arm downwards so as to press out the poison, but they don't suck it because it is bad for the mouth; however, in spite of all this, they sometimes die.—"Do you think it possible that cobras could be exhibited without the fangs being removed?"—"Certainly not, for the least scratch of their deadly teeth would cause death, and there is not a day that we exhibit that we are not bitten, and no skill in the world would prevent it."

*St. Stephen's, Wallbrook.*—The repairs are about to be commenced, we hope effectively. The picture by B. West is taken down to be placed in the north transept, and a window is to be opened over the other. It is expected the Grocers' Company will present one of stained glass. The carved work has been placed in the hands of Mr. Rogers. The organ gallery will be enriched similarly to that at St. Mary-at-Hill. Over the altar is to be placed a new cornice, in keeping with the style of the church, and enriched with carvings of fruit and flowers. The architect is Mr. Turner; the builder, Mr. Young.—*Builder.*

To CORRESPONDENTS.—M.—A Subscriber.—R. W.—P. T.—Bristolians.—L. M.—Nemo.—An Archaeologist.—A Constant Reader.—received.

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HEALTHY Lives are Assured at lower rates than at most other offices.

During the last nine years about Five Thousand Proposals for Assurance have been made to this Society,—and at the present time the number is about one thousand yearly.

The Policies issued by this Society give greater facilities to parties going to or residing in Foreign Climates than those of any other Company. Premiums for India and the Colonies very moderate.

Every description of Life Assurance business is transacted by this Society, and a sum of £1,000,000 Capital of Half a Million Sterling affords a complete guarantee for the fulfilment of the Company's engagements.

A Bonus of Two per Cent. per Annum was added to the Policies at the last Division of Profits.

Prospectuses, Forms of Proposals, and every other information, may be obtained at the Chief Office, or on application to any of the Society's Agents in the country.

F. G. P. NEILSON, Actuary.  
C. DOUGLAS SINGER, Secretary.

**FAMILY ENDOWMENT, LIFE ASSURANCE AND ANNUITY SOCIETY,**  
12, Chatham-place, Blackfriars, London, and at Calcutta.  
CAPITAL £500,000.

Directors.  
William Butterworth Bayley, Esq. Chairman.  
John Fuller, Esq. Deputy-Chairman.  
Lewis Burroughs, Esq.  
Robert Bruce Chichester, Esq.  
Major Henderson.  
C. H. Latouche, Esq.  
Edward Lee, Esq.  
Colonel Ouseley.  
Major Turner.  
Joshua Walker, Esq.  
Thirty per cent. Bonus was added to the Society's Policies on the profit scale in 1845. The next valuation will be in January, 1852. Loans are granted on mortgage and on security of Life Interests and Reversions.  
JOHN CAZENOVE, Secretary.

**YORKSHIRE FIRE AND LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY.** Established at York, 1824.

Low rates are charged by this Company, thus giving an immediate bonus, in lieu of a prospective and uncertain one.  
The Premiums for Female Lives have been materially reduced.  
Fire Insurances on favourable terms.  
Prospectuses may be had of the

London Agent:  
Mr. Henry Dinsdale, 12, Wellington-street, Strand,  
Or Mr. W. L. NEWMAN,  
Actuary and Secretary, York.

**UNITED KINGDOM LIFE ASSURANCE COMPANY**; established by Act of Parliament in 1834.—  
2, Waterloo-place, Pall Mall, London; 87, George-street, Edinburgh; 12, St. Vincent-place, Glasgow; 4, College-green, Dublin.

LONDON BOARD.  
Chairman—Charles Graham, Esq.  
Deputy-Chairman—Charles Downes, Esq.  
H. Blair Avarne, Esq. J. G. Henriques, Esq.  
E. L. Boyd, Esq. Resident. F. Chas. Maitland, Esq.  
Charles B. Curtis, Esq. William Raiton, Esq.  
William Fairlie, Esq. F. H. Thomson, Esq.  
D. Q. Henriques, Esq. Thomas Thorby, Esq.

The Bonus added to Policies from March, 1834, to the 31st of December, 1847, is as follows:—

Sum Assured.	Time Assured.	Sum added to Policy in 1841.	Sum added to Policy in 1848.	Sum payable at Death.
£5,000	13 yrs. 10 mths.	£683 6 8	£787 10 0	£6,470 16 8
5,000	1 year	112 10 0	112 10 0	5,112 10 0
1,000	12 years	100 0 0	187 10 0	1,287 10 0
1,000	7 years	100 0 0	157 10 0	1,157 10 0
1,000	1 year	50 0 0	23 10 0	1,023 10 0
500	12 years	50 0 0	75 10 0	825 10 0
500	4 years	45 0 0	45 0 0	845 0 0
500	1 year	11 5 0	11 5 0	511 5 0

The Premiums, nevertheless, are on the most moderate scale, and only one-half is paid for the first five years, when the Insurance is for Life. Every information afforded on application to the Resident Director, 8, Waterloo-place, Pall Mall, London.

**SUN LIFE ASSURANCE SOCIETY, LONDON.**

Managers.  
Charles Bell, Esq. Chairman.  
William Beresford, Esq. M.P. Joseph Hoare, Esq.  
Charles Boulton, Esq. Felix Ladbrooke, Esq.  
Hon. P. Pleydell Bouverie. Henry Francis Shaw Lefevre, Esq.  
Harry Chester, Esq.  
Samuel Peys Cockerell, Esq.  
James Currie, Esq. M.P. George John Norman, Esq.  
John Drummond, Esq. Brice Pearce, Esq.  
Russell Ellice, Esq. Charles Richard Pole, Esq.  
William Franks, Esq. Lambert Pole, Esq.  
William R. Hamilton, Esq. Henry Rich, Esq. M.P.  
Capt. H. G. Hamilton, R.N. Henry Stuart, Esq. M.P.  
Claude George Thornton, Esq.  
CHARLES HENRY LIDDERDALE, Actuary.

The Managers heretofore have informed the public that the Holders of Policies effected with this Society are entitled to participate in the profits according to the Conditions contained in their Pamphlet of Rates, which may be obtained at the Office, Threadneedle-street, London, or of any of the Agents of the Society.

The Premiums required by this Office on Young Lives are lower than those of many of the old established Offices.  
A Bonus was declared in January, 1844, to the Policy Holders entitled to participate in the Profits at Midsummer, 1843, and the Additions then made to the Policies were on an average of the different Ages One per Cent. per Annum on the Sum insured, or 25 per Cent. on the Premiums received, from the period when the Policy Holders became entitled to participate in the Profits of the Society.

LIFE ASSURANCE AND GUARANTEE.

**THE UNITED GUARANTEE AND LIFE ASSURANCE COMPANY.** 36, Old Jewry, London.

Capital 100,000l., with power to increase to 500,000l.  
Three-fifths of the Profits of this Company will be divided among the Assured; and  
The first division will take place at the expiration of the First Quinquennial period in 1854, after which the Bonuses will be added annually to the Life Policies.  
No charge is made for Policy Stamp.

The Right Hon. LORD ERSKINE, Chairman.  
JOSHUA P. BROWN WESTHEAD, Esq. M.P. Vice-Chairman.

This Company transacts the following description of business:—  
1.—Life Assurance with participation in Profits, or a Low Scale of Premium without Participation, at the option of the Assured.  
2.—Guarantee for Fidelity.

3.—The Union of Life Assurance, with Guarantees for Fidelity, so that the Life Assurance Policy is made conditional on the continued honesty of the Assured. The leading advantages of this plan may be thus summed up:—

To EMPLOYERS.—The Union of a Life Assurance Policy with a Bond for Fidelity gives an additional Guarantee for the honesty of those employed in situations of trust, who by any dereliction of duty would forfeit their Life Policy.

The Life Policy also becoming from year to year more valuable, offers an annually increasing stimulus to continued good conduct, and each Premium, considered as an investment by the Clerk or Officer, is an additional assurance to the employer of the honesty of his intentions.

To THE EMPLOYED.—A considerable Reduction of Premiums on the two risks. This saving is effected on the ground that the Company can only be called on to pay on one of the risks insured; cured; for, if the Employed continue honest the Life Assurance Policy only becomes a claim, whilst if he is dishonest the Life Assurance Policy is forfeited.

Prospectuses and further information may be obtained upon application at the Offices of the Company, as above.  
By order, JAMES KNIGHT, Secretary.



## REPORT OF THE DIRECTORS OF THE EAGLE INSURANCE COMPANY.

Read at the Annual General Meeting of Proprietors held at Radcliffe Hotel, New Bridge-street, Blackfriars, on FRIDAY, the 9th of August, 1850.

Present,

The HON. JOHN CHETWYND TALBOT, Q.C.,  
Chairman of the Company, in the Chair.

Walter Anderson Peacock.  
Charles Bischoff.  
Thomas Boddington.  
Nathaniel Gould.  
Robert Alexander Gray.  
Charles Thos. Holcombe.  
James Harman Lloyd.  
William Wybrow.  
John Hewson Abbott.  
George Blake.  
Frederick Blow Birket.  
James M. Barnard.  
Alexander Bain Chisholm.  
Thomas Curry.  
John Smith Cuthbert.  
Henry Ditchburn.

Michael Lambton Este.

William Ince.

James Gascoigne Lynde.

Richard Matthews.

Thomas Tod Mardon.

John Oxley.

William Judd Esq.

George Stanley Repton.

Thos. Godfrey Sambrooke.

Jeffery Smith.

Robert Thompson.

John Colton Taunton.

Thomas Vaughan, and

James Winnett, Esqrs.

&amp;c. &amp;c.

"In compliance with the provisions of the Deed of Settlement, the Directors once more attend you to submit their Annual Statement, and in conformity with the practice observed upon all former occasions, will preface any observations they may themselves have to make, by calling your attention to the Report which they have received from your Auditors."

The Auditors' Report was here read, from which it appeared—That

The gross Income of the Company for the year ending June 30, 1849, was £122,929 6 0  
The premiums on Policies issued in the year 5,557 6 1  
The Claims on decrease of Lives assured 70,643 13 1  
The Expenses 5,326 0 0  
The Total Assets 67,641 9 8

"The item in this Report which appears first to call for remark is the amount received in respect of New Assurances effected during the year. This amount, it will be found, is less than that received in the previous year; a circumstance which would, at first sight, seem to indicate a decrease in the Company's business in the one just ended. The Directors are happy to say, however, that such is by no means the case, the facts being that whereas 266 Policies, averaging 624s. each, were effected in 1-49, 662 Policies, averaging 656s. each, have been completed in the year ending June, 1850. The amount assured is, therefore, greater in the latter year than the former."

"The premiums are less, merely because the lives assured are younger, and because the number of Term Policies is greater in one year than in the other."

The greatest discrepancy to be found in comparing the statement now under consideration with that of the previous year, arises under the head of Claims; the sum paid in respect of which, during the year just past, considerably exceeds that demanded on the same account in the foregoing one. This increase has arisen, in some measure, from the payment of Claims during the period over which the account ranges; eight of the total number of deaths occurring having been reported to the Company as caused by that disease. It is, however, a little remarkable that the average sum assured under the Policies terminating in this manner is as low as 70s. A circumstance indicating, as it would seem, though faintly, the character of the assurances likely to be affected by the ravages of this fatal complaint."

"The average annual amount of Claims paid in the three years since the last division of surplus in 1847, is 37,571s.; so that, on the assumption that 60,000s. is about the true average, it will be seen that the actual one is still within the mark."

"In the last Report, the Directors mentioned that the expenses were 400s. less than they were the year preceding. They have now to report a further diminution in them of no less than 548s., making in the two years a total reduction of 948s. in the annual charge for expenses of management. The advantages resulting from an economical management of Institutions like the Eagle are so obvious, that the Proprietors will, no doubt, be gratified by this complete fulfilment of the expectation so prominently put forward at the time the junction of the Protector and Eagle Companies was completed."

The Directors have only further to mention, as the result of the year's proceedings, that the General Fund has been increased by 23,568s. 10s. 11d., and that it now amounts to 551,120s. 11s. 1d., a sum which, taken with their respective income, they have reason to believe, is not only sufficient to meet every claim which can ever possibly accrue, but which is adequate for the provision of a very considerable share of surplus to every member of the Company properly entitled to participate in it."

This Report was unanimously adopted. The usual routine of business has been disposed of, the cordial thanks of the meeting were voted in succession to the Directors, Auditors and Actuary; and after passing a similar compliment to the Chairman for his courtesy and impartiality on the occasion, the Meeting separated.

## THE EAGLE INSURANCE COMPANY.

Established 1807, by Act of Parliament, 2, Crescent, New Bridge-street, Blackfriars, London.

Directors.

The Hon. J. C. TALBOT, Q.C., Chairman.  
WALTER A. PEACOCK, Esq., Deputy Chairman.  
Charles Bischoff, Esq.  
Thomas Boddington, Esq.  
Charles Deva, Esq.  
Nathaniel Gould, Esq.  
Robert Alexander Gray, Esq.

Auditors.

James Gascoigne Lynde, Esq. Thos. Godfrey Sambrooke, Esq.  
Physician—George Leith Roupell, M.D. F.R.S. 15, Welbeck-street.  
Surgeons—James Saner, Esq. M.D. Finsbury-square; William Cooke, Esq. M.D. 29, Trinity-square, Tower-hill.  
Actuary and Secretary—Charles Jellicoe, Esq.

The Annual Income of this Company exceeds One Hundred and Twenty Thousand Pounds.

The number of Existing Policies is upwards of Four Thousand. The total amount assured exceeds Two Million Eight Hundred Thousand Pounds.

The last Division of Surplus, about One Hundred Thousand Pounds was added to the sum assured under Policies for the whole term of Life.

The Division is Quinquennial; and the whole surplus less 20 per cent. only is distributed amongst the assured.

The assured are permitted to live in any place to reside in any country, or to pass by sea, not being seafaring persons by profession, between any two parts of the same hemisphere distant more than 33 degrees from the Equator, without extra charge.

Deeds assigning Policies are registered at the Office, and assignment can be effected in forms supplied by the Company.

The general business of the Company is conducted on just and liberal principles, and the interests of the assured in all particulars are carefully consulted.

The Annual Reports of the Company's state and progress, Prospectuses, and Forms, may be had, or will be sent post free, on application.

## PROVIDENT LIFE OFFICE,

50, REGENT-STREET;  
CITY BRANCH: 2, ROYAL EXCHANGE BUILDINGS.

Policyholders' Capital, £1,700,722.  
Annual Income, £148,000. Bonuses Declared, £743,000.  
Claims paid since the establishment of the Office, £1,886,000.

President.

The Right Honourable EARL GREY.

Directors.

Frederick Squire, Esq. Chairman.  
William Henry Stone, Esq. Deputy-Chairman.  
Henry B. Alexander, Esq.  
George Dacre, Esq.  
Alexander Henderson, M.D.  
William Judd, Esq.  
Sir Richard D. King, Bart.  
The Hon. Arthur Kinnaird.  
J. A. Beaumont, Esq. Managing Director.  
John Maclean, M.D. F.R.S., 29, Upper Montague-street, Montague-square.

## NINETEEN TWENTIETHS OF THE PROFITS ARE DIVIDED AMONG THE INSURED.

Examples of the Extinction of Premiums by the Surrender of Bonuses.

Date of Policy.	Sum Insured.	Original Premium.	Bonuses added subsequently, to be further increased annually.
1806	£2500	£70 10 10	£1222 9 0
1811	1000	33 9 2	231 17 8
1818	1000	34 16 10	114 18 10

Examples of Bonuses added to other Policies.

Policy No.	Date.	Sum Insured.	Bonuses added.	Total with Additions, to be further increased.
521	1807	£900	£982 12 1	£1882 12 1
1174	1810	1200	1160 5 6	2360 5 6
3392	1820	5000	3553 17 8	8553 17 8

Prospectuses and full particulars may be obtained upon application to the Agents of the Office, in all the principal towns of the United Kingdom, at the City Branch, and at the head Office, No. 50, Regent-street.

## SILVER PLATE, New and Second-hand.

T. COX SAVORY & CO.'S Paraphlet of Prices, with outlines, may be had gratis, or will be sent post free if applied for by a paid letter. The contents are the prices, weights, and patterns of new and second hand Silver Spoons and Forks; new and second hand Tea and Coffee Services, Waiters, Silver-edged Plated Goods, the new plated on white metal Spoons and Forks, Watches, Clocks, Ladies' Gold Neck Chains, and Jewellery.—T. COX SAVORY & CO., 47, Cornhill (seven doors from Gracechurch-street), London.

CHANDLERS.—The most extensive and best assorted STOCK of CHANDLERS, of British manufacture, at the Falcon Glass Works, Holland-street, Blackfriars.—APLEY PELLATT & CO. solicit an inspection of the quality of their work, which will be found very superior; all new glass of the most pellucid character, and no foreign drops being used in their Chandlery. The Manufactory may be viewed the first four days of the week.

## FIRE AND ROBBERY.—Safety for Plate and

Cash.—CHUBB'S PATENT FIRE-PROOF SAFES and BOXES are the most secure depositories for deeds, cash, plate, account-books, &c., both from fire and burglars. All are fitted with the detector lock.—CHUBB & CO., 57, St. Paul's Church-yard, London; 28, Lord-street, Liverpool; 16, Market-street, Manchester; and Horsley Fields, Wolverhampton.

## OLD FEATHER BEDS Re-dressed and Puri-

fied by Steam with patent machinery. This new process of dressing not only removes all impurities, but by expanding the feathers the bulk is greatly increased, and consequently the bed rendered much fuller and softer. Charge for dressing, 3d. per lb. Old and moth-y Mattresses effectually cured and re-made; fetched and returned carriage-free within five miles.—HEAL & SONS' List of Bedding, containing full particulars of Weights, Sizes, and Prices, sent free by post on application to their Factory, 196, opposite the Chapel, TOTTENHAM COURT-ROAD.

A RELIEF FOR THE FARMERS.

HOW TO KEEP A HORSE FOR LESS THAN ONE SHILLING per DAY, and KEEP HIM WELL too. Do you bruise your oats?—No.—Then you lose one bushel out of three.

The articles and numerous references may be seen at MARY WELLAKE & CO.'S, 118, Fenchurch-street.

A Paraphlet on the above may be had, post-free, 1s.

CANTERBURY SETTLEMENT and PORT NATAL.

Emigrants are informed MARY WELLAKE & CO. have from time to time supplied the first Settlers to Swan River and Port Natal, and all the Australian Colonies, with AGRICULTURAL IMPLEMENTS and TOOLS of first-rate class.

N.B. Purchasers may have the benefit of an introduction.

A BOON TO THE AGRICULTURISTS.

FARMERS, be of good cheer, all is not yet lost. Come to us, you will find us ready to meet the times.

As you cannot get the same price for your Produce, we cannot expect from you the same price for our IMPLEMENTS, and without first-class manufactured Implements you cannot stand these times.

By inclosing two stamps, a list, with illustrations, will be forwarded.

MARY WELLAKE & CO. 118, Fenchurch-street.

## METCALFE &amp; CO.'S NEW PATTERN

TOOTH BRUSH and SMYRNA SPONGES.—The Tooth Brush has the important advantage of searching thoroughly into the divisions of the teeth, and cleaning them in the most effectual and extraordinary manner, and is famous for the hairs not coming loose. It is improved Double Brush, and cleans in a third part of the usual time, and incapable of injuring the finest nap. Penetrating Hair Brushes, with the durable unbleached Russian bristles, which do not soften like common hair. Flesh Brushes of improved graduated and powerful friction. Velvet Brushes, which act in the most surprising and successful manner. The genuine Smyrna Sponge, with its preserved valuable properties of absorption, vitality, and durability, by means of direct importations, dispensing with all intermediate parties' profits and destructive bleaching, and securing the luxury of a genuine Smyrna Sponge. Only at METCALFE, BINGLEY & CO.'S Sole Establishment, 30 s, Oxford-street, one door from Horse-street.

Caution.—Beware of the words "From Metcalfe's" adopted by some houses.

METCALFE'S ALKALINE TOOTH POWDER, 2s. per box.

## FLOOR CLOTHS.

Best Quality Warranted . . . 2s. 6d. per square yard.  
Persian and Turkey pattern . . . 1s. 6d. do.  
Common Floor Cloth . . . 1s. 6d. do.

COCOA-FIBRE MATS AND MATTING.  
India Matting, plain and figured.

JOHNETT, Manufacturer, 552, New Oxford-street.

## CARPETS.—BRIGHT &amp; CO.'S PATENT

POWER-LOOM BRUSSELS CARPETS.—These Goods are strongly recommended to the Trade and the Public on the following grounds:—They are woven by steam power, and are therefore more firmly made than can be the case with hand-woven goods. They have the same good quality of worsted throughout, whereas in the common Brussels the dark colours are generally made of an inferior worsted. They are printed by a patent process and by patent machinery, and the colours are more durable, and will stand more severe tests than those of any other description of carpet. The patent printing admits of an almost unlimited variety of shades or colours; the patterns are therefore more elaborate, and there is greater scope for design. They can be offered at a price about 20 per cent. below that of goods of equal quality made in the ordinary mode. In quality, in pattern, in variety of colours, and in price the Patent Power-Loom Brussels Carpets offer great advantages.—Wholesale, 20, Skinner-street, Snowhill, London; 22, New Brown-street, Manchester.

## DECORATIVE PAPER-HANGING MANU-

FACTORY, and General Furnishing Establishment, Carpet and Floor-cloth Warehouse, 451, Oxford-street. E. T. ARCHER solicits an inspection of his superior PAPER-HANGINGS, (made by his patented inventions,) fitted up on the walls of the very extensive range of show-rooms, in panels, &c., in every style of artistic arrangement, and for every kind of room. In addition the rooms are furnished with superior furniture (marked in plain figures the price,) giving at one view a drawing-room fit for reception. Bed-room and other Paper-hangings, 4d. per yard; French and all foreign Paper-hangings, of the first fabric; Brussels and Tapestry, fitted up at 3s. to 3s. 6d. per yard; best warranted Floor-cloth, eight yards wide, out to any dimensions, 2s. 3d., 2s. 6d., and 2s. 9d. per yard.

## COCOA is a Nut, which, besides farinaceous substance,

contains a *Mund Oil*. The oil in this nut has no advantage, which is, that it is less liable than any other oil to rancidity. Possessing these two nutritive substances, Cocoa is become a most valuable article of diet; more particularly if, by mechanical or other means the farinaceous substance can be so effectually incorporated with the oil, that it will prevent the other from separating. Such an union is presented in the Cocoa prepared by JAMES EPPS, Homeopathic Chemist, 112, Great Russell-street, Bloomsbury, London; and thus, while the delightful flavour, in part dependent on the oil, is retained, the whole preparation will agree with the most delicate stomach.

## PERFECT HEALTH RESTORED WITHOUT

MEDICINE, Inconvenience, or Expense, by DU BARRY'S delicious REVALENTA ARABICA FOOD, which saves 50 times its cost in other remedies.

A few out of 50,000 Testimonials.

"Twenty-five years' Nervousness, Constipation, Indigestion, and Debility, from which I have suffered great misery, and which no medicine could remove or relieve, have been effectually cured by DU BARRY'S HEALTH-RESTORING FOOD, in a very short time. I have been suffering from this complaint for 'Eight years' dyspepsia, nervousness, debility, with cramps, spasms, and nausea, for which my servant had consulted the advice of many, have been effectually removed by Du Barry's delicious Health-restoring Food in a very short time. I shall be happy to answer any inquiries.—Rev. JOHN W. FLAVELL, Kidlington Rectory, Norfolk." "Three years' nervousness, with general debility, and general debility, which rendered my life very miserable, has been radically removed by Du Barry's Health-restoring Food.—ALEX. S. STUART, Archdeacon of Ross, Skibbereen." Similar Testimonials from Lord Stuart de Decies; Major-General Thomas Kings; Rev. Samuel Bealov; Rev. John St. John; Rev. John Berks, late Surgeon in the 96th Regiment—a cure of dropsy; James Porter, Esq. Athol-street, Perth—a cure of 13 years' cough, with general debility; J. Smyth, Esq. 37, Lower Abbey-street, Dublin; Cornelius O'Sullivan, M.D. F.R.C. Dublin—a perfect cure 40 years' indigestible sour, which had resisted all other remedies.—A copious Extract of 50,000 cures sent gratis by Du Barry & Co. Sold in canisters, with full instructions, weighing 1lb. 2s. 9d.; 2lb. 4s. 6d.; 5lb. 11s.; 12lb. at 23s. Super-refined quality, 10lb. 3s.; 5lb. 22s.—Du Barry & Co. 127, New Bond-street, London; Hovey & Butler, 125, Bedford-street, London; Mason & Co. Piccadilly; and through all Grocers, Chemists, and Booksellers. Caution.—The health of many persons having been seriously injured by Arabian Revalenta, Eralenta, Lentil Powder, or other spurious compounds under imitation of name, or called similar by their unscrupulous compounders, it will be necessary to note Messrs. Du Barry & Co.'s name on each canister, in order to avoid being imposed upon by heartless knavery.

## ASTHMA.—Surprising Testimonial of the Efficacy of

Dr. LOCOCK'S PULMONIC WAFERS.

From Mr. H. Armstrong, Chemist, 8, Church-street, Preston.—"One most intimate friend, who has for years troubled with an asthma, the oppression at his chest, the wheezing, and difficulty of breathing was so great, that you might have heard him breathe three or four yards off. After he had taken two boxes he could get up and dress without coughing, and his breathing was perfectly free. On getting another box from me, he said, 'They are indeed a wonderful medicine.'—Yours, &c. H. Armstrong."

Price 1s. 9d., and 1s. 6d. per box. Sold by all medicine vendors.

Also, Dr. LOCOCK'S FEMALE WAFERS,

Have no taste of medicine, and are highly recommended to females.

Price 1s. 9d., and 1s. 6d. per box.

All pills under similar names are counterfeits.

## A PERMANENT CURE OF A BAD LEG by

HOLLOWAY'S PILLS and OINTMENT.—The mate of the Mary Shepherd, on the voyage from Calcutta, injured his leg, which broke out in one mass of sores, so that he was quite incapable of attending to his duty. He tried every available remedy that the ship medicine chest afforded, but without success. He was then recommended to Mr. Taylor, the resident doctor, to try Holloway's Ointment and Pills. Having procured some from a passenger, he used them with the most happy result, for long before he reached England his leg was completely cured, and the surface bore no signs of its former dreadful state.—Sold by all druggists; and a Professor Holloway's establishment, 243, Strand, London.



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ON SALE,

At the Prices affixed to each Article,

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**Anglesey (Arthur Annesley, Earl of),** distinguished Statesman, Autograph received from Sir George Carteret of four tallies for 40,077, 0s. 10d., upon Sir Thomas Play, Receiver of the Royal Aid for the city of London, and upon Thomas Frise, Receiver of the Royal Aid for the county of Hereford, 10s. 6d. July 31, 1673

**Berkeley (Admiral, Lord),** Letter, entirely Autograph, three pages 4to., addressed to King William III., 2l. 11s. 6d. Near St. Malo, July 8, 1695

\*A most interesting historical letter, detailing the whole proceedings of the bombardment and burning of St. Malo.

**Bodley (Sir Thomas),** founder of the Bodleian Library at Oxford, Letter, entirely Autograph, two pages folio, addressed to Constantine Huygens, Secretary of State to the United Provinces in the Low Countries, a beautiful specimen, rare, 2l. 12s. 6d. Hague, May 27, no year

**Brooke (Fulke Greville, Lord),** Poet and Dramatist, and Henry Montagu Viscount Mandeville, Autographs to a Letter directing the payment of 500*l.* to John Acton for a mitre of gold, bought by Viscount St. Albans in the sale of the jewels and plate belonging to the late Queen Anne, wife of King James I., a very interesting paper, 1*l.* July 23, 1621

**Bucer (Martin),** eminent Reformer, Letter, entirely Autograph, three pages folio, a beautiful specimen, very rare, 3*l.* 3s. Argent, 16 Calend. Oct. 1546

**Buonaparte (Napoleon),** when General-in-Chief of the Army in Italy, Letter, entirely Autograph, signed Buonaparte, relating to the Expedition of Livorno, with portrait, 2*l.* 2s. 14 Ventose, 1799

**Buonaparte (Napoleon),** Autograph to a Document signed thus:—"Recommandé par le Général-en-Chief Buonaparte." It is also signed by Carnot, a distinguished actor in the French Revolution, rare, 1*l.* 1s. 6d. Paris, 14 Ventose, 1802

**Burke (Edmund),** distinguished Statesman and Author, Letter, entirely Autograph, two pages 4to., addressed to the Earl of Buchan, 2*l.* 2s. July 17, 1786

\*A containing remarks on the lamentable state of Europe. And in another part he writes:—"It is a very soothing consolation to me that I have the happiness to be distinguished by a share in the partiality of a whole family, very splendid at all times, but which is now at the summit of its reputation, when the name of Erskine suggests to everybody the first eminence in genius, eloquence, wit, and spirit. It affords a favourable opinion to the public to see the possessors of these talents united not more in blood and affections than in zeal for the best cause."

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It is with great pleasure that we quote the authority of Dr. Whewell as agreeing with us in opinion on the necessity of a thorough

reformation in the system pursued in the great schools as well as in the ordinary grammar schools. The Doctor confines himself in this part of the subject to its bearing on the University of Cambridge; and speaks with great tenderness on prevailing defects, owing to his regard for many persons who, presiding over those institutions, persist in keeping up the present narrow system of instruction. He is plainly of opinion, however, that that exclusive system must be abandoned; and that our schools must be made introductory to the more enlarged course of study which should be pursued by our Universities. He thinks that a very considerable proficiency in the classics should be the fruits of from six to twelve years' study in those institutions,—that arithmetic in all its branches ought to form a compulsory part of the system of education there pursued,—and that the elementary portions of mathematics cannot with any propriety be omitted:—in fact, that efficient University reform must begin with reform in the system pursued in our great schools and grammar schools. He is even not without his fears that the present system if persisted in, is not unlikely to degrade our Universities into mere places of schoolboy education. On these subjects we wish to offer a few observations of our own.—

If Dr. Whewell be right in saying that liberal education consists in a development of the faculties of reason as well as of those which relate to the faculty of language, it is self-evident that the plan pursued at our great schools is eminently defective; and that the greater portion of the pupils must leave them only half educated—or not half.—Our public schools form to the majority of pupils the final place of their education. Vast numbers of them enter the various professions without enjoying the benefit of a course of University education. The system pursued at these is consequently of paramount importance to the interests of society. But the result of the intellectual training there received is so deficient, that vast numbers of our gentry leave them at once with a very small amount of actual knowledge and with the mind most imperfectly trained. Dr. Whewell justly censures their almost exclusive attention to the classics. It is impossible that the mere study of the classics—especially when studied only as an exercise in construing—can adequately develop the reason, or form in the mind habits either of continuous thought or of close application. Why are mathematics disregarded there? Why are boys allowed to pass through these institutions without being able to work a simple sum in arithmetic? Why is the man who is supposed to have received an expensive education left by them destitute of the most simple elements of physical science? We know for a fact that the late head-master of Repton in his enormous self-sufficiency pronounced mathematics to be “good enough for carpenters.” Youths who leave these institutions at seventeen or eighteen ought not only to have had their minds disciplined, but to have made some positive acquisitions in knowledge. Let us take Eton as an example of how far this is the case. We know a boy of talent who had attained to the fifth form in this institution, who could not point out England on the map,—and of possessing any ideas of the nature of the Universe in which he was a rational being he was entirely guiltless. Yet this boy, in common with all the other advanced boys at this school, was a proficient at writing Latin verses. We ask in sober earnestness, for what serious purpose of after-life is incurred the enormous waste of time in writing Latin and Greek verse? So far from exercising the reason,—everybody who knows

anything about it knows that it is a mere knack. Does it imply high scholarship, even? Dr. Whewell tells us—and we confirm his assertion—that it is possible to write excellent Latin verse, according to the usual standard of good versification, and to write miserable Latin prose. But is there common sense in the practice? What should we say of a German who knew about as much English as boys do Latin setting himself to compose English poetry? The practical result is, that Eton men as they appear at Oxford, after from eight to twelve years' study, are not even good Latin prose writers,—and that great numbers of them find it a tremendous exertion to get up three books of Euclid, to pass their little-go. The whole results with which vast numbers leave what are supposed to be the best places of education in this country are,—the ability to write Latin verse with uncommon facility, the power to recite large portions of Horace or Virgil by heart, the classical language very imperfectly mastered, the memory strongly exercised, and the rational powers in the same state in which they were left by nature.

How long this state of things is to continue, we know not; but now that Mr. Heywood has directed the attention of Parliament to our Universities, we heartily recommend to his consideration the state of our public schools, with a view to making the system pursued therein the subject of public inquiry. In all schools of public foundation a uniform system of education, suited for developing the intellect, should be laid down and enforced.—But besides, the present state of these endowments, as we have often said, is a subject with which public authority is imperatively called on to grapple. We are deeply of opinion that the amount of existing endowment, if judiciously employed, might be made highly instrumental in providing the means of liberal education to vastly extended numbers. From various revolutions in the value of property, or from abuses swallowing up existing endowments, many places without population possess a large endowment,—while many with large population possess none whatever. In many cases the rich have taken possession of what was intended for the needy. Such endowments were in their origin intended to be useful,—not to form a valuable piece of patronage to trustees. The inequality of these various endowments is also very great. In many cases the property has increased beyond any possible calculation of the founder,—as is the case with the Bedford School, to which the attention of our readers has been so often called. This town possesses an enormous endowment,—so large, that the great practical difficulty is to know what to do with it. The town of Devonport, with 50,000 inhabitants, has not one farthing of endowment. The jurisdiction exercised by the Court of Chancery over these institutions, so intimately connected with the well-being of the country, is most inefficient and most expensive.—Once more we recommend the subject to the consideration of those members of the legislature who take an interest in the education of the people.

To return:—To a certain extent our Universities have in their hands the power of remedying the defective education of the great schools and grammar schools, by imposing a regular matriculation examination, and insisting on a certain course of previous education before any student is permitted to enter. We cordially concur with Dr. Whewell in lamenting the failure of the attempt to introduce an examination previously to entering Cambridge,—but we cannot agree with him in his favourable view of the reasons of those who procured the rejection of



that measure. The subject is one not merely of interest to Cambridge, but deeply bearing on the cause of general and enlarged education. If the two Universities would be unanimous in determining to admit no student who has not previously submitted to a specified course of education, or who cannot prove the attainment of a certain amount of proficiency, they would lead necessarily to an extensive reformation of the system. As soon as it should be generally known that the students of any particular school were habitually plucked at the University examinations, the authorities of that school would be compelled to apply themselves diligently to the work of improvement. The question of an examination of this kind, therefore, has not only an intimate bearing on the suitable education of students previously to their entering at the University,—but it has also the most intimate connexion with the liberal education of that more numerous class whom circumstances prohibit from enjoying the benefit of a University education. The question of a matriculation examination should be looked on by our Universities not merely as bearing on their own particular interests, but as one of national importance,—as supplying the means of enforcing a sound system of instruction in all the public schools, as well as in all those private ones which wish to be able to qualify their pupils for studying at the Universities. In relation to the Universities themselves, however, the question is one of the highest importance,—and we cannot discover any real force in the reasons by which it has been opposed. At present nothing is more common than for a man to enter at the University with attainments which would not properly justify his being placed in one of the upper forms of a large school. He is therefore a dead weight to any man of more advanced attainment in his lectures. Consequently, college lectures seldom attain to anything but a low standard of mediocrity. They must frequently be accommodated to the acquirements of men who have never enjoyed due intellectual training. We are aware that many colleges in Oxford have always had a matriculation examination, but it is enforced by no public authority in the University. It varies in severity with the temper of the college. In none does it assume a high standard,—and some of the colleges and halls enforce no examination whatever. At any rate, we are quite sure that even in the first public examination at Oxford, which has been hitherto passed after a residence of six terms, the degree of badness of the Latin writing which will procure a pass is quite astonishing. Matriculation examinations, enforced only by some colleges, and quite neglected by others, although they may exclude a few of very inferior attainments from those colleges, can exercise no beneficial influence on the general education of the country. For the particular interests of the Universities, and for the general good of the country, all the colleges should insist on such an amount of attainments from all students previously to entering as would compel every school which undertakes to prepare for the Universities to adopt the particular system by which alone the attainment of these qualifications could be insured. By adopting this course, our Universities would exclude from themselves a mass of ignorance and idleness, and become real benefactors to the country.

Returning to our author's view, that all education must be defective which does not involve a careful culture of the reason and of the faculties conversant with language, we rejoice to have such high authority for asserting that to confine education to the mere study of Latin and Greek is wholly insufficient as an exercise for the

development of the intellect. This at once brings before us the great imperfection of the mode in which the classics themselves have hitherto been studied in the University of Cambridge. It is well known that the study of the classics at Cambridge involves the mere study of the Latin and Greek languages, without at all necessarily entering on the contents of the books themselves. For instance, a Cambridge man may be deeply versed in the rendering of a passage of Plato, but remain totally ignorant of the whole of the Platonic Philosophy. He may be thoroughly competent to scan a Greek chorus, but of the philosophy of poetry he may remain as ignorant as the pen with which he writes. The following extract, being the testimony of a University medallist, in confirmation of Dr. Whewell's views on this subject, may not be unacceptable to our readers:—

"I am well assured that the chief fault in the Cambridge classical system in my time was the total absence of all demand in the classical examinations for any scientific or well-grounded knowledge on any classical subject whatever, not excluding language. For what was required, and of course what was produced, was not knowledge, but skill. At best it was a sort of empirical knowledge, wholly confined to the languages of Greece and Rome. No scientific knowledge of ancient history, philosophy, antiquities, or philology, was of the least importance. All I did, for seven or eight years, with a view to Cambridge honours, was to read all the classics through, and to write English, Latin, and Greek incessantly. But I never cared whether I ever remembered the letter of what I read, let alone the spirit of it, or had any idea of acquiring a philosophical knowledge of antiquity, satisfied with acquiring a perfect knowledge of the language like a tool or plaything."

We cordially agree with Dr. Whewell as to the entire worthlessness of a course of study of this description as an intellectual discipline, or of honours thus acquired as a proof of a liberal education. To make up for this defect, the University of Cambridge has hitherto insisted on the acquisition of the honour of junior optime in mathematics as a preliminary to being permitted to contend for classical honours. In the recent changes which have taken place, this permission has been extended to the first class of the *polloi*,—who are also considered worthy of being permitted to contend for a place in the other newly-instituted honours of the University. At this change Dr. Whewell expresses considerable regret. We agree with him as to the necessity of taking measures in any course of liberal education for the effectual development of the rational faculties. A certain amount of mathematical study is useful for that end:—but is the study of mathematics the only exercise for developing the reasoning faculties of man? We cannot think that the large amount of mathematical study which Dr. Whewell seems to require of the student, before he would permit him to study any other subject of human science, is necessary or even desirable. Believing in the existence of a vast variety of talent for different sciences, and in different faculties in the human mind suited to different lines of study, we cannot bring ourselves to consider that those who are highly gifted for the pursuit of other sciences should be compelled to study a larger quantity of mathematics than the exigencies of a liberal education require. At the same time, we cannot think that the study of mathematics alone is sufficient in any case for developing all the rational faculties of the human mind as they ought to be developed by a liberal education. We are deeply sensible of the infinite importance of the habits of exact reasoning which are superinduced by the study of mathematics. We believe that neither the study of logic, by which the University of Oxford endeavours to atone for its all but total neglect of the study of mathematics,

nor the introduction of any other mode of cultivating the rational faculties, will make up the void in the rational system which a total ignorance of mathematical reasoning presupposes. But is mathematics the only science necessary for the development of our rational powers, or must they be pursued to the extent to which Dr. Whewell would have them studied before we are permitted to advance to any other subject of study? Again, we answer, with deference, No. Mathematical thought is cognizant only of the laws of the material universe. The laws of the moral universe are regulated by other and essentially different conditions. Will it be pretended that the familiarizing the mind with the principles of these latter is not of the highest importance to fit men for those stations which it is the object of a liberal education to enable them to fill with propriety? The divine, the politician, the lawyer, the magistrate, all require a mental discipline of this description. If the man of liberal education ought to possess that state of mind which is superinduced by strict mathematical thought, so it is no less essential that he should be acquainted with the principles of mental, moral, and political philosophy. However necessary mathematics are both for the habits of thought which they superinduce and to enable us to appreciate strictly demonstrative reasoning, yet as the only mental discipline they cannot fail to be imperfect. They do not enable the mind to form a judgment on subjects of which the evidence is contingent. Cambridge having exclusively cultivated mathematical reasoning, we think it a defect which distinguishes many eminent Cambridge men that their power of judging contingent subjects is imperfect. Paley's *Moral and Political Philosophy* is an instance in point. Doubtless M. Arago is a most eminent mathematician; but on various other objects of human thought we think his judgment utterly in fault. A mathematician would be naturally apt to carry out a particular theory to the utmost limits that it can be reasoned, totally forgetting that on contingent matter an infinite number of conditions must modify the conclusion.

But so many other considerations are suggested by these volumes of Dr. Whewell's, that we must return to the subject on a future occasion.

#### POETRY OF THE MILLION.

It may truly be said of this September, that we never remember any month in any former year so barren of even heavy light literature. The rhymers we suppose are abroad,—reading their compositions in MS. to strangers thinking no harm, whom they pounce upon in Swiss inns,—or soliloquizing with the intention of being overheard by Sympathy, during the watches of the night, as the *Eilwagen* creeps slowly from post-house to posthouse. We do not merely dream such things as are here suggested:—they have happened to ourselves.—Meanwhile, at home Dover Street is dumb as *Dodona*,—Paternoster Row as tuneless as a Friends' Meeting. There are fewer than usual of those unacted tragedies on Spanish, Italian, or classical subjects which, published by "the request of friends," make non-requesting strangers so innocently merry.

Yet even now the separate estates of Cloth of Gold and Cloth of Frieze are represented in contrast sufficiently strong on that corner of our table which we dedicate to the Poetry of the Million. "Outis" has committed his privately printed *Poetry and Criticism* to the most creamy of creamy paper and the most luxurious of luxurious types. His pages display the amplest possible of margins, and are garnished with the most delicate of vignettes,



in the form of classical masks, Grecian figures, &c. His volume bespeaks select taste and more than ordinary means of expenditure. But "the substantial?" the poetry? the criticism?—what of them? Why, the criticism is neither more nor less than the arguments of the thirty-three Greek tragedies;—the poetry is made up of a few packets of lines cut into lengths, containing amiable sentiments creditably expressed, or repressed,—fragments from the Chinese, in which such porcelain quaintness or delicacy as the originals may have possessed is monotonously painted over,—and pleasantries which conform to this flat season in their economy of pleasantry. The following lines are among the best in the volume.—

*To a Lady with a Watch.*

Of as the silent-moving hands  
Around the figured dial wheel,  
Amid the joys and cares of life,  
Oh! may one thought thy brother steal.

And when, beneath thy pillow'd head,  
This toy shall keep its midnight measure,  
Think that one heart as constant beats,  
To shield from harm its chiefest treasure.

As long, dear girl, as Heaven ordains  
Thy days and mine together flow,  
This hand shall never cease to twine  
A wreath of joy to deck thy brow.

And when the Fates their threads shall spin  
To that sad point where we must sever,  
Their doom, perhaps, may make me leave  
My sister—but forget her never!

As we think that even the dearth of this harvest-time can scarcely have subdued the most famished of readers to acquiesce in such small fare as this,—we will take leave of the Muse of "Outis." Her crown is of gold-leaf,—not of laurel.

*The Poetical Works of John Bolton Rogerson, Author of 'Rhyme, Romance, and Revery,'* make, as has been indicated, an entire contrast with the aristocratic looking volume just dismissed. The paper is coarse,—the pages are closely packed,—the writer confesses to singing in the midst of the smoke of chimnies and the sound of steam-engines, and wisely writes only of such themes as he knows. We might have quoted more largely from this collection than we dare, but for a warning in the preface that most of the pieces have appeared elsewhere. The following "Canzonet," however, is new to ourselves, and may be welcome by way of a song in this still September.—

There is a place where the forest boughs  
Bend down to a quiet stream,  
And so lovely it looks in its bright repose,  
That it seems as 'twere wrapt in dream;  
The water-lily uplifts its head

In that sweet and pleasant home,  
Like a living pearl in a silver bed,  
Or a bell of the wave's white foam;  
There comes not a sound on the passing air,  
Save the young bird's cheerful call—  
Beloved one! wilt thou meet me there,  
When the shadows of even fall?

There is a bower in that peaceful spot,  
Which some fond hand hath wrought,  
Where the feet of the walking enter not,  
Sacred to love and thought;  
Full many fair flowers beside it sigh,  
And the myrtle around it creeps,  
The breeze becomes sweet as it floateth by,  
And the bee in its roses sleeps;  
The stars alone will our secrets share,  
Unseen and unheard by all,  
Beloved one! wilt thou meet me there,  
When the shadows of even fall?

*Flowers from Gethsemane. Hymns,* by Lucy Dixon, make up a rather pale garland of devotional verse. The writer confesses to having beguiled hours of sickness by their composition. We will not press criticism into the chamber of the invalid; seeing that there is nothing here to blame for its presumption or to offend by reason of its familiarity.

By way of close, we will turn to a book somewhat more vigorous and individual than any of the three which we have yet mentioned, though its title is merely *Original Poems for my Children*, by Thomas Miller. This is a pretty volume in

right of its wood illustrations,—and contains pretty, though uneven, verses. The following short piece justifies both epithets.—

*Word Pictures.*

Silently the green grass groweth,  
Rapidly the river floweth,  
Over the sea the wild wind bloweth  
Loud and fearfully.

Low and sweet the throats singeth,  
Sad and deep the death-bell ringeth,  
While to the grave the mother bringeth  
Her dead mournfully.

High above the eagle soareth,  
Far below the torrent roareth,  
While a wailing voice deploareth  
The loved one mournfully.

The raven in his sleep complaineth,  
The pale moon in the dark sky waneth,  
Heavily the black cloud raineth  
Black and heavily.

On the dark sea the captain steereth,  
And the sunken rocks he feareth:  
When the morning light appeareth  
Right glad is he.

O'er the wave the sea-mew screameth:  
When the golden dawning beameth,  
Then secure the captain dreameth,  
Homeward wandering.

On the hearth the old cat thrummeth,  
Round the flower the black bee hummeth,  
O'er the sea the swallow cometh  
With returning Spring.

But while we commend Thomas Miller's miscellany, we cannot abet him in presuming to offer us an amplified, amended, and novel version of 'The Babes in the Wood.' The temptation to do such a deed may have been found in the clever vignettes which probably he was invited to work up,—but the poet should not have yielded to the trader. Let the small Millers think of us what they please, with our children the good and goodly old ballad shall not be superseded by any new-fangled tale of the Orphans and the Robin.

*Otia Egyptiaca. Discourses on Egyptian Archaeology and Hieroglyphical Discoveries.*  
By George R. Gliddon. Madden.

EGYPT is an object of interest to the intellectual of all grades and varieties. The curious, the learned, the reflective, and the speculative may each find something here to charm by its novelty or impress by its antiquity. The natural phenomena of the country are at variance with those of any other known to us. According to Mr. Osburn—a traveller who has recently returned thence—it is possible in some parts to walk with one foot on a soil of remarkable fertility and the other on a barren desert. He says that from January to May the Nile is of a deep blue colour, and its water peculiarly sweet and clear,—about the end of May or the beginning of June it turns green, and becomes deleterious, causing a general indisposition among the neighbouring inhabitants during the four or five days of its continuance in that state,—afterwards it suddenly changes to a colour so closely resembling that of blood as to make it hard for an inexperienced observer to persuade himself that it is not such actually. To the periodical inundations of this extraordinary river Egypt owes its very existence,—since there is not rain sufficient to sustain animal or vegetable life. Hence, Herodotus was correct in calling Egypt "the gift of the Nile":—whatever may come of the geological speculations from which he derives the epithet. Egypt can boast of many curiosities in Natural History: such as the crocodile, the hippopotamus, the chameleon, the buffalo, the ibis, the jerboa, the pelican, the papyrus, and the lotus.

Nor is Egypt less singular in her works of Art than in her natural features. Her temples and palaces, majestic even in their ruins, and bearing in the sculpture, painting, and inscriptions with which they are profusely covered the marks of a very remote antiquity—her tombs

and catacombs of vast dimensions and fine proportions, adorned with noble columns of solid rock wrought in the highest style of Art,—her sarcophagi and mummies, immortalizing, as it were, the mortal remains of both men and animals that have been dead for ages—her immense ranges of quarries and artificial caves, extending, as Mr. Osburn tells us, to a distance of two thousand miles on each side of the Nile in tiers five or six feet deep, and presenting to a distant observer the appearance of honey-comb—her obelisks and colossal statues, with their beautifully executed and deeply graven hieroglyphics—her sphinxes and her pyramids, the latter indicating by the accurate correspondence of their position with the four cardinal points a tolerably advanced state of astronomical knowledge, and by the materials, height and mode of their construction in some respects a greater proficiency in mechanical science than our modern engineers possess, while both are to the inquirer into their origin and purpose as puzzling enigmas as were ever propounded by the fabulous creature of old,—all these, and other indications of a civilization so early, so advanced, and yet so foreign to that of any nation within historical times, naturally awaken attention, excite wonder, and suggest reflection.

Ancient Egypt has peculiar charms for the scholar who is familiar with the researches of Herodotus, as given in the second book of his History,—and with the numerous allusions to it found in other classical authors. "I am about," says Herodotus, "to give a lengthened account of Egypt, because it contains more wonders than any other country and supplies greater materials for history than any other. The Egyptians, besides having a climate different from others and a river different from all other rivers, stand almost completely opposed to all other men in manners and customs."—The physiologist may find pleasure in studying the character of a tribe said to constitute a distinct variety of our species, incapable of being classified under any other subdivision, and combining the peculiarities of the Negro and the Caucasian races. To the philosopher Ancient Egypt presents attractions as the cradle of art, science, and literature, the school of the world, and the country whose wisdom was proverbial. As Sir G. Wilkinson observes,—"If a philosopher sought knowledge, Egypt was the school,—if a prince required a physician, it was to Egypt he applied,—if any material point perplexed the decisions of kings or councils, to Egypt it was referred." The ethnologist looks here for some clue to guide him in his investigations into the origin and early distribution of our race,—the geologist observes many interesting features in the valley and mouth of the Nile,—and the theologian is concerned to know all that can be ascertained with regard to that people whose relations with the Hebrews of old occupy so important a place in Scripture.

There is, thus, something very fascinating in the study of Egyptian antiquity. The colossal grandeur of the monuments, the enigmatic character of the mythology, the extraordinary progress in the arts and sciences at a most remote period, the glimpses of an ancient world beyond the Egyptian limits which occasionally appear, and, not least, the perplexing difficulties of the language and the hieroglyphic method of writing, have all proved, at all times, powerfully attractive. Whoever has looked on one of the statues of a powerful Pharaoh of the days of old in the hall of the British Museum must have been impressed with the conviction, that in the strange characters which form the legend of the statue is concealed an historical truth, and have felt a desire to decipher the inscription and arrive at a knowledge of its hidden meaning.



Nor have serious labourers in this field been wanting. The references to authorities in the work before us show, at a glance, what a vast amount of labour and learning have been applied to the study of the remains of Ancient Egypt. The materials for this study are most abundant. The space of time comprehended in the historical period of Egypt has been variously estimated; the chronological differences depending in most cases more on the prejudices of the writers than on a careful consideration of the monumental evidence. But taking a general view of Egyptian history, and assuming the date of the Great Pyramid of Memphis to reach to at least 3,000 years before the Christian era, we have a period of more than thirty centuries for the time during which the nationality of the Egyptian people existed with more or less vigour, and in which the Egyptian mind is represented by the language, the monuments, and the mythology of the country. Monuments of every age within that period still remain, notwithstanding the destructive influences of time and the still more destructive agency of man,—of Persian, Greek, Roman, Mohammedan, and Christian devastators,—conquerors, fanatics, and dealers in antiquities,—to tell the tale of the former greatness of the land and of its various phases of grandeur and decadence. The museums of Europe are crowded with fragments of these memorials of the past;—with mummy cases, objects of Art, domestic implements, personal ornaments, and religious emblems, for the most part covered with inscriptions in the ancient language of Egypt. Papyri also in the three kinds of writing—hieroglyphic, hieratic and demotic—of various periods from the epoch of the Ramesses to that of the Cæsars—are sufficiently abundant. Bilingual inscriptions and papyri, and Greek antigraphs of Egyptian written documents, have furnished a key to the unknown character, and enabled us to obtain a partial insight into the literary remains of the Egyptian people.

Notwithstanding all that has been done by those who have followed in the path opened by Champollion, our knowledge of Egyptian matters is still very limited,—and even this limited knowledge is by no means easily accessible to the student. The works of the great master are voluminous and expensive; and the additions made by his disciples are scattered through an infinity of detached works and contributions to the Transactions of the learned Societies of Europe. The only memorial in the English language which could be put into the hands of a person desirous of entering on the study of hieroglyphics is the little work entitled 'Chapters on Egyptian History,' published by Mr. Gliddon at New York in 1843. The work before us is of a different nature. As chiefly a collection of newspaper reports of oral lectures delivered by Mr. Gliddon in 1847 and 1848, it necessarily exhibits, notwithstanding its subsequent revision by the author, a somewhat desultory and rambling character which sets critical analysis at defiance. This very peculiarity, however, constitutes its chief value. Touching on all points within the circle of Egyptian studies, the author, if he does not give us all the learning on each point, is careful to tell us where it is to be found.

The two principal subjects handled in these 'Discourses' are, *The Pyramids* and *The Art of Mummification*. In treating the former subject Mr. Gliddon asserts that "he is about to bring forward, not what tourists have fancied concerning the Pyramids, but what the master hierologists know;" and, referring to the various works which have been written on these wondrous monuments, he recommends his readers, if they

doubt the validity of his assertions, to study those works,—and, what is of equal importance, *to visit the monuments themselves*. If this latter piece of advice had been followed by the majority of writers on Egypt, a vast amount of wasted learning and perverted ingenuity would have been spared, and a wonderful deal of nonsense on Egyptian antiquity would have remained unwritten. Mr. Gliddon's local acquaintance with Egyptian monuments, derived from some five and twenty years spent in the country and in the vicinity of its greatest remains, gives him an incalculable advantage over mere passing travellers in all that relates to the connexion between the monuments and the history of the soil on which they rest. Learned men in their closets may write histories of Egypt,—but they are histories of names and fragments, not of the valley of the Nile and its inhabitants. Our author's knowledge of Egyptian localities is that of the antiquary and the sportsman combined. Speaking of the burial-place of Pharaoh Hophra at Sais, in Lower Egypt, he says,—

"Sais is now 'Sa-el-Hagar,'—Sais the Stony,—lying in the Delta of Lower Egypt, about two miles from the river—a spot to me endeared by numberless familiar reminiscences—where I have wiled away not hours, but weeks—and many a time and oft, seated on the summit of the vast crude brick inclosure which still surrounds the crumbling vestiges of Sais, I have pondered over the departed visions of her glory, till fancy has conjured up in my mind's eye the Temple of Neith, the Tombs of the Saitic Dynasty; and then have I seen the Pharaonic city rise from the dust in all her pristine majesty. A lake o'ergrown with sedge, and teeming with wild fowl, indicates the site of the one whereon the priests of Neith performed their annual aquatic processions; mounds of crude and red brick, with fragments of pottery, marble columns, granite friezes, and other broken relics—proofs of departed greatness—mark the position of the once stupendous Temple; a granite sarcophagus, protruding from the soil, establishes the location of the once vast Necropolis. Yet, beyond the strange desolation of the scene, there is so little remaining whereon to foster imagination, that Sais is rarely visited by the traveller who follows the beaten track of the tourist. But that is the very reason why it possesses peculiar attractions, for it serves us old Egyptians as a game preserve! Having been there every season for some years, I have netted ducks on Minerva's Lake; shot jackals amid the ruins of the Sanctuary of Neith; chased wolves in the commercial part of the city; speared the wild hog where Apries was strangled; and scared the owl and bittern from the sepulchre of Amasis."

Mr. Gliddon lays down the results of his researches into the history of the Pyramids under three heads:—1, The date of these monuments ranges from the latest, the Pyramid of Moeris, built between 2,151 and 2,194 years B.C., back to about 3,200 years B.C. 2, The builders of the Pyramids were Mizraimites, children of Ham and of the Caucasian race,—Caucasians, white men, and Egyptians. 3, In their objects the Pyramids were exclusively sepulchral. They represent the tombs of Pharaohs who ruled in Memphis prior to the invasion of the shepherd tribes,—and are, therefore, the sepulchres of a long line of Egyptian kings who reigned from the first to the thirteenth dynasty of Manetho.

The manner in which the Pyramids were built or the law of their progressive construction, first enunciated by Lepsius in his treatise on this pyramidal architecture—a discovery which confirms the statement of Herodotus that the Pyramids were built in the form of steps, and finished from the top downwards,—is ingeniously explained and illustrated by drawings by Mr. Bonomi. "The philosophical deduction is, that the size of the Pyramid is in direct proportion to the length of the king's reign in which it was constructed,—having been begun at his accession and finished at his death. Large pyra-

mids indicate long reigns and small pyramids short reigns." Of these sepulchral monuments thirty-nine were described in the work of Col. Vyse and Mr. Perring,—and the Chevalier Lepsius has since discovered the substructures of thirty more, in the great pyramid field of Memphis and within a line of fifty miles on the western bank of the Nile. "The sixty-nine pyramids, therefore, represent some seventy or eighty kingly generations (two kings having been sometimes buried in the same pyramid), the last of which race died before Abraham was born."

Not less interesting than the chapters on the Pyramids are those on the art of Mummification,—into which, however, we will not enter. An important letter by the well-known Egyptian scholar Mr. Birch, on "Various Archæological Criteria for determining the relative Epochs of Mummies," and a note by the same learned writer on the "Development of the System of Writing Hieroglyphics," give additional value to the work. Mr. Gliddon's excursus on the origin of some of the Berber tribes of Nubia and Libya is a learned and ingenious attempt to apply hieroglyphic inscriptions to practical uses in geographical and ethnological researches. The entire book is full of amusement and instruction:—the geology of the Nile, the formation of the Delta, Egyptian architecture, the origin of animal worship, the art of writing, Hebrew criticism, philology and ethnology,—anecdotes and personal reminiscences are all pressed into its service, in illustration of Egyptian history and antiquities. There is no book in the English language which contains so great an amount of information on Egyptian matters as this; and we agree with the somewhat Transatlantic expression of opinion by the editor of an American paper (the *Mobile Tribune*), that "the great charm of Mr. Gliddon's Lectures consists in the successful manner in which he clears away the rubbish which has accumulated around Egyptian antiquities, and renders each fact perspicuous and intelligible to his hearers. There is no humbug—no mystification:—everything is plain and comprehensible."

*The Fawkes's of York in the Sixteenth Century: including Notices of the Early History of Guy Fawkes, the Gunpowder Plot Conspirator.*—London, Nichols.

THE main object of this little work is to connect Guy Fawkes, "the Gunpowder Plot Conspirator," with the family of Fawkes of Farnley; and this it accomplishes very satisfactorily as far as the reader is concerned, though perhaps not quite so satisfactorily as far as relates to the family in question,—which may not be so proud of the established relationship. It is quite certain that the Fawkes family of Farnley have never claimed the honour,—and quite as certain, that for many years after the discovery and punishment of the parties engaged in the contemplated treason of 1605, more was not known, or at all events avowed, than that Guy Fawkes was the son of Edward Fawkes, a gentleman of York. Such, in fact, was the declaration of the traitor himself; and until now no attempt has been made to show that the Fawkes family of York and that of Farnley were consanguineous. Let us here remark, that among the various modes of spelling the name, Fax, Fakes, Faques, and Faukes, the author ought to have included Fox;—sufficiently common everywhere, but especially in the neighbourhood of York. Notwithstanding what Dr. Whitaker may say in favour of Falcasius, there is little doubt that the real origin of most of these names is Vaux.

We trace, as we proceed in the work, a masterly hand in biographical minutæ; and although we cannot always concur in the im-



portance attached to certain small matters, we agree that, inasmuch as they are facts and for the first time brought forward, they deserve attention. It is well, too, that these points should attract the attention of somebody, or we might never arrive at them;—and taken in the aggregate they are not without value. In the instance before us, we find that Guy (or, as the author thinks fit to spell the name, Guye) Fawkes was baptized on the 16th of April 1570; but in accounting for the trifling circumstance (hardly worth considering) how he came to be christened Guy, the writer, in a note on p. 23, attributes it to the influence of Sir Guye Fairfax of Steeton, who died Recorder of York about the year 1500,—omitting to give any weight to the fact (adduced by the author) that the name of the immediate predecessor of Sir Guye Fairfax in the same office was Sir Guye Roccliffe, afterwards a Baron of the Exchequer. Sir Guye Fairfax himself may have been named after Sir Guye Roccliffe; and thus the popularity of the name may have been occasioned, not by Sir Guye Fairfax, but by Sir Guye Roccliffe. The truth is, that, whether it came from one or the other, or from neither, Guy was about that period a not unusual name, although it naturally fell into disrepute after the execution of Guy Fawkes and his fellow-conspirators in the beginning of 1606.

Notwithstanding the assertion of Fuller that Guy Fawkes was said to be “a Fleming, and no native Englishman,” nobody since has seriously doubted that he was of a Yorkshire family, and from York. Our author very patiently and industriously traces back his genealogy; and shows that his grandfather, William Fawkes, was made Registrar of the Exchequer of Yorkshire in 1541, and that he had a son Edward, who was the father of Guye, the conspirator, by Ellen Haryngton, the daughter of William Haryngton, Lord Mayor of York in 1536. Edward Fawkes, an advocate in the Consistory Court of the Archbishop, married Edith (her surname is not known); and Guye, their eldest son, was baptized on the 16th of April 1570, (as we have stated), at the church of St. Michael-le-Belfry. So that, at the time of his execution he had not completed his thirty-sixth year by about three months.

Perhaps the most curious point in the tract before us relates to the religious faith of Guy Fawkes. It is proved that his parents were Protestants; but his father dying early, the widow married a Roman Catholic, Dionysius Baynbridge. Under him the young man was educated in the same faith; and subsequently, as our readers are aware, he travelled in the Netherlands, France, and Spain. His zeal for Catholicism and his enmity to Protestantism were, therefore, not hereditary, but merely acquired,—although they were strong enough to support him with almost unexampled firmness through his tortures and trials, and to communicate to his execution for treason something of the dignity of martyrdom.

A detail of minute particulars such as are contained in this tract is not calculated for extract, and the writer makes no sort of pretension on the score of style. We may, however, give one quotation from near the close, where a rather interesting question is revived:—whether the Thomas Percy who was engaged with Guy Fawkes, the Wrights and the Winters, was or was not a member of the family of the Earl of Northumberland. The author gives a somewhat new complexion to this matter; but from what follows it will be observed that he does not establish that the Percys of Scotton were not themselves a distant branch of the Northumberland family.—

“The Percys of Scotton, it is well known, were

zealous Roman Catholics; and it was long since suggested by a very eminent genealogist that Thomas Percy, the conspirator, was a member of that family. In consequence of his having held an important office in the household of the Earl of Northumberland, through whose influence he was appointed by King James I. to be one of his band of gentlemen-pensioners, it has been generally assumed that Thomas Percy was a near relative of that nobleman; and much trouble has been taken to prove that he was a younger son of Edward Percy of Beverley, a grandson of Henry the fourth Earl. But the evidence of this affiliation is not conclusive, and the fact of Guye Fawkes having once lived at Scotton adds considerable weight to the opinion that the conspirator was one of the Percys of that place; and if it were so, he and Fawkes must have been residents of Scotton at the same period. The wife of Thomas Percy was Martha Wright, of a respectable family long seated at Ploughland Hall, near Welwick, in Holderness, and the two conspirators John Wright and Christopher Wright were her brothers. They were originally Protestants, but had become converts to the Roman Catholic faith, and it may be supposed that their conversion was owing to the influence of Percy, their brother-in-law, who was considerably their senior, and is said to have been ‘an enthusiastic devotee.’ ”

The residence of Guy Fawkes at Scotton might introduce him to the Percys of that neighbourhood,—and hence the manner in which the whole party became involved in the treason of 1605; but it does not at all follow that the Earl of Northumberland did not recommend Thomas Percy to be one of the band of Gentlemen-pensioners of James I. on account of his relationship, however remote, to his own family. It yet remains to be seen whether the Percys of Scotton were not of the great house of Percy.

As the substance of the documents is given in the body of the pamphlet, we could perhaps have spared the documents themselves at the end,—especially coming, as they do, in the not very welcome form of an Appendix. Some portions of the tract would have been more intelligible had it been accompanied by a genealogical table explaining the connexion between the various branches of the Fawkes family.

SIR PHILIP FRANCIS AND HIS CLAIMS TO BE CONSIDERED THE WRITER OF THE LETTERS OF JUNIUS.

*Some New Facts and a suggested New Theory as to the Authorship of the Letters of Junius.*

By Sir Fortunatus Dwaris, Knt.

*The History and Discovery of Junius.* By John Wade.—Junius. 2 vols.

[Concluding Notice.]

WE come now, and in conclusion, to the “co-incidences” derived from certain facts or assumed facts relating to the Reports of Lord Chatham’s Speeches in 1770 and 1771. Mr. Taylor tells us that the collateral testimony of these speeches alone “carries absolute conviction”; and we have heard that a like judgment has been pronounced within this twelvemonth by one of the most celebrated, certainly the most popular, of our historians. That Francis reported Chatham’s speeches is considered so certainly proved, that Mr. Barker, who undertook in a volume of 576 pages to show that the facts in favour of Francis were not conclusive, admits the facts generally, and suggests in respect to the speeches as not improbable that Francis “was hired by Junius” to report them.—Certainly, if we were obliged to admit that Francis was the reporter of all the speeches attributed to him, we should welcome Mr. Barker’s conjecture as less improbable than the assertion that Francis undertook so laborious a duty without being “hired.”

Mr. Taylor, it appears, came at a knowledge of the curious fact that Junius-Francis was the reporter of Chatham’s speeches from “internal evidence” alone; or, as we should say, by that

perception or intuition which became so remarkable after his acquaintance with Mr. Du Bois,—for, but a short time before, when he cleared up “all the mysterious circumstances” in his ‘Discovery,’ he had not even a glimmering of this inner light. Then, we were told, as something quite conclusive, that “there is scarcely one peculiar expression in the whole of his [Doctor Francis’s] Demosthenes and Horace of which an example cannot be found in the last edition of the works of Junius.” The speeches of Chatham had not then suggested themselves,—they are not even mentioned throughout the pamphlet. Suddenly, *ho, presto*, Horace and Demosthenes are clean gone—vanished; and we have page after page, chapter after chapter, of illustrations and coincidences from Chatham’s speeches. This discovery having been once made, of course the field of its usefulness gradually enlarged. Speech after speech has been added; and it has, we believe, long been the undoubting faith of a true Franciscan that Junius-Francis reported all Chatham’s speeches in 1770 and 1771,—to which Sir Fortunatus Dwaris now adds all Camden’s and all Mansfield’s,—and Mr. Wade contributes a modest trifle which, though a trifle, is more startling than the contributions of all others put together. “It is not improbable,” he says, “that Sir Philip Francis composed those speeches for Lord Chatham; he certainly composed many of Lord Chatham’s speeches.” After this, we have only to express a hope that Mr. Macaulay, who is understood to be a Franciscan, will denounce the “old man eloquent,” as a mere impostor, who—having thundered in the Senate from the great Walpolian battles to the American war—was, after all, indebted for his very best speeches to a clerk in the War Office!—If the facts be admitted, we see nothing very illogical in Mr. Wade’s conclusion.

The mere physical powers of man can never be allowed to stand in the way of a Junius theory: still, as curious in itself, we shall take leave to sum up the literary and other labours of this Francis-Junius. That he was a clerk in the War Office is certain; where, as we are told, he held a situation of great trust and responsibility, with heavy duties attached requiring “constant attendance.” He was the writer of Junius’s Letters, a good substantial addition, both of brain work and pen work; a labour which might seem to require a mind free, fresh, and at ease, able to devote itself, in heart, thought, and energy, continuously to the one all-engrossing subject,—not the wearied mind of a clerk in a public office, fevered and fretted by monotonous details, and tedious and wearisome trifling. Then, Dr. Good found out that the writer of Junius’s Letters wrote also twice as many letters under other signatures:—and we have to add, the laborious letters to Wilkes,—to say nothing of stray letters to Chatham, the Grenvilles, Woodfall, and others. Then, Mr. Taylor discovered that he was a regular attendant in the Houses of Parliament—both Lords and Commons; and we are told that he took elaborate and careful notes,—notes on occasions to an extent that would try the skill of the most experienced of our modern reporters:—in brief, that for the session of 1770 and 1771 he reported all Chatham’s, all Camden’s, and all Mansfield’s speeches. This is merely an “aside,”—as the dramatists would say.

The internal evidence to be deduced from the Speeches themselves we shall, as before, leave to the illuminati, and concern ourselves with only the external. Perhaps the best way will be to state the case in the words of a Franciscan. It is assumed that neither Junius nor Francis was in Parliament, yet both, we are told,—

“Frequented the gallery [!] of the House of Com-



mons in 1770 and 1771, and both took notes of the same speeches at the same time and in the same words. It is next to impossible to account for such singular correspondences, except by concluding that the two were one and the same person. The most striking proof of this conformity is contained in the speech of Lord Chatham at the opening of the session in January, 1770; this speech was reported by Sir P. Francis, who communicated it first to Almon, who published it in 1791 in his life of Lord Chatham, and then to Hansard's Parliamentary History. The publisher of the latter work informed Mr. Taylor that he received the speech from Sir Philip, who was present at the debate. Now, a comparison of the reported speech with some of Junius's Letters proves that either Junius must have heard the speech and taken notes of it, or received notes from somebody who was present; and not only so, but that the notes which he took or received were nearly the same with those taken by Sir P. Francis."

That Junius "must have heard the speech and taken notes of it, or received notes from somebody who was present," is, we submit, begging the question. He may—we merely hint at a possibility—he may have read a report in the newspapers. Impossible, says Mr. Taylor.—

"If" I "could have found the speech [still more strongly, if he could have found the speeches] reported in other words, but the same in substance, the resemblance might perhaps have been accounted for; but in the absence of all such aids, to approach so nearly to the language of a report not printed (though preserved in notes) till twenty years after, can only be satisfactorily explained on the supposition that he who took the notes was himself the writer of the Letters."

As the case is here stated, it is certainly very startling:—but did Mr. Taylor expect to find what he never looked for? If he did seek to find these other "aids," still his ill success was no proof that what he sought for did not exist, or had not existed? But we do not believe that either Mr. Taylor, or the law dignitaries, or Sir F. Dwaris, or Mr. Wade, or any of the many who, in American phrase, have "indorsed" Mr. Taylor's volume, have ever sought to test the accuracy or inaccuracy of these assertions. It would be no light labour, we admit: the facts are not so easy of proof or disproof as a reader of 1850 may suppose. We who have sought for them, even by public advertisement, have never yet been able to meet with copies from 1769 to 1772 of the *Morning Chronicle*—early and long celebrated for its reports,—of the *Morning Herald*, the *Morning Post*, the *Public Ledger*, or the *London Packet*. The *Times* was not then in existence. As to the *Public Advertiser*, Sampson Woodfall's paper, the editor, who had two or three prosecutions on his hands, thought it best to follow the advice of Junius—"avoid prosecutions if you can; but above all things, avoid the Houses of Parliament; there is no contending with them,"—and therefore its reports are brief and exceptional, even for that brief and exceptional period. The absence, then, of all "the aids" which Mr. Taylor required, is not, as the reader might suppose, the absence of reports in the newspapers, whether in "other words" or not—but the absence of the newspapers themselves.—But let us proceed to consider the evidence on which it is so confidently asserted that Francis-Junius, or Junius-Francis, was the Reporter.

Almon, in his 'Anecdotes of Chatham,' published in 1791-2, gives a report of Chatham's speeches—for he made more than one—on the opening of the session, 9th January 1770; and he says, "they are accurately taken by a gentleman of strong memory, now a member of the House of Commons, and from his Notes they are here printed." Almon further mentions, that the reports of Chatham's speeches on the 22nd of the same month were printed from the "notes of the same gentleman"! So stood the facts

until 1813,—when a note appeared, in the 'Parliamentary History,' attached to Chatham's speech on 'The Falkland Islands' question, wherein the editor (the late Mr. Wright) said, "This speech of the Earl of Chatham was taken by the gentleman alluded to at pp. 647 and 741,"—that is, by Almon's "gentleman" who reported the speeches of the 9th and 22nd of January—and "has been revised by him for this work"; and Mr. Wright acknowledged, on being put to the question, that "the gentleman [he] alluded to" was Sir Philip Francis. Now, unless there had been some whispering to "reed" Wright, how could he possibly know that Francis was "the gentleman" who three-and-twenty years before had furnished to Almon, long dead, the speeches of the 9th and 22nd of January? How, again, did or could Wright know that this speech on 'The Falkland Islands' "was taken" forty-three years before by Francis? The reader will naturally suppose that he was led to this conclusion by the fact that the speech had not been printed before—not printed "till" 1813. No such thing:—if he will read Wright's statement carefully, what Francis is said to have done is to have "revised" the speech,—and a report made to us, after careful examination, says that there was no "revision." Except that here and there "upon" is changed into "on,"—and not always correctly,—the speech is printed verbatim, though with singular carelessness, from the edition published by Almon in 1791-2. This previous publication in 1791-2, Mr. Taylor admits; and he founds thereon most serviceable arguments. We request the reader's attention to the inferences deduced therefrom. Wright's statement, it appears, is good evidence that Francis furnished the original notes to Almon!—and Almon's silence is proof that Almon "studiously concealed" the name of Francis! Almon "returns thanks to several gentlemen by name" but "says not one word about Sir Philip Francis!" The result is,— "this at least is certain—that on a great political question [the Falkland Islands] which Junius vigorously engaged in, &c., the only debate on record is most extensively and ably reported by Sir Philip Francis!"—We shall have something to say about this "certainty" hereafter.—Further, we are told that it is "morally impossible" that any other man could be the reporter—"impossible" otherwise to account for such "singular correspondences." Now, is it not strange that so obvious a fact should never have struck Almon himself? It is like the non-discovery at the War Office. Almon was a great writer and speculator about Junius,—he published an edition with notes—maintained an angry controversy with William Woodfall on the subject,—and yet this "moral impossibility" never once crossed his mind. It never once suggested to him that Junius was no other than "the gentleman" reporter:—and he went down to the grave doggedly and stupidly maintaining that Boyd was Junius.

Having once got a starting-point, all goes on swimmingly. A speech of Chatham on the 2nd of February Almon acknowledges that he copied from the *London Museum*; but Almon was a dull fellow, and could not see what was so obvious from "internal evidence," that this also was reported by Junius-Francis:—and of this of course there can be no doubt "when it is considered that from Sir Philip Francis were received the two full reports preceding and one still longer immediately following"—and one longer than all put together, "On the Seizure of the Falkland Islands," a report that occupies "thirty-seven octavo pages!" Pretty well for the "prentice hand" of a volunteer in his first session!

Such arguments and such proofs having passed unquestioned for five-and-twenty years, strengthened by the echo in the *Edinburgh* and by Mr. Taylor's assurance that Francis as a reporter "had no competitor,"—although there were many contemporary reporters, and not one of his contemporaries, so far as we know, ever heard of this clerk in the War Office as a reporter at all—the editors of 'The Chatham Correspondence' (the grandsons of Chatham and, therefore, a strong confirmative authority in the public judgment, although in truth no authority at all) pronounce briefly and dogmatically that Junius was Francis; and that Francis was not only the reporter of the above speeches,—but (according to our memory) of all Chatham's speeches throughout at least two sessions:—adding this fractional something or nothing to the above no-testimony (4-196)—"In Sir Philip Francis's copy of Belsham's 'History of Great Britain,' vol. 5. p. 298, sold at Evans's in February, 1838, there appears the following manuscript note—"I wrote this speech for Lord Mansfield as well as all those of Lord Chatham on the Middlesex election. P. F." Here again we may observe, that as Francis knew the inferences which Mr. Taylor had drawn from "internal evidence" and assumptions on this subject, the "accident" of this note is another proof of "reed" whispering.—But let us confine ourselves to the facts.

It would be laughable under other circumstances to see what rubbish, when it suits a purpose, is said to have been the "report of a speech." A reader of the present day can have no conception of it:—but we shall shortly have occasion to submit a specimen. Almon for two or three years reported the Debates for the *London Evening Post*,—and flattered himself they were done with extreme accuracy. Indeed, as he tells us, he took great pains to insure accuracy;—not by attending "the gallery" and taking notes, which would have been a hazardous experiment,—but by calling on the parties to whom he was known, asking questions of others, and collecting information from members and political gossips who frequented his shop. Such perfection, indeed, did he arrive at in this odd way, that the proprietors of the *St. James's Chronicle* became alarmed, and employed a rival collector who went down every day to the Houses, and got information direct from the fountain-head:—that is, from the door-keepers and other attendants! In such a state of reporting Chatham could fare no better than his contemporaries; and Thackeray, his biographer, says honestly that the reports of Chatham's speeches were often so bad, that it was necessary either to omit them altogether or to remodel and retouch them. Now, of those speeches of Chatham's on the Middlesex Election, "all" of which "P. F." says "I wrote"—the "innuendo" which perhaps mystified Mr. Wade,—the first was made on the 2nd of February, and was reprinted by Almon in 1792, from *The London Museum*, published in 1770,—more than twenty years before; and Almon adds, "it is not known that any other account of this debate was taken." So that, if "P. F." did report this speech, it was not for his old schoolfellow's paper,—not for Junius's *Public Advertiser*, but for *The London Museum*. The report, too, such as it was, was not a report of Chatham's speech,—but of the debate; and Lord Sandwich is reported at greater length than Chatham. Chatham's three speeches together occupy about one page of the Parliamentary History. On the 1st of May, under another form, the question was again raised; and the report of Chatham's speech occupies another page,—both Mansfield and Camden being reported at greater length. On the 14th, Chatham moved to address the



King to dissolve Parliament; one strong ground being the assumed fact, that after the decision of the House of Commons in respect to the election for Middlesex, the House was no longer the representative of the people. As Chatham's speech is the only one reported, it may be thought that "P. F.'s" note has especial reference to it:—the report occupies *eight lines*. On December 5th, Chatham made another substantive motion on the subject. The report of the Debate in the Parliamentary History is avowedly taken from *The London Magazine*, and Chatham's speech occupies little more than *half a page*,—Mansfield, Camden, and Grafton being all reported at greater length. We submit, that there is nothing here beyond the possible powers of the Collectors, or the door-keepers and their friend. If the report of a debate which begins early, and is continued half through the night, is to be comprised within a space varying from eight lines to three or four octavo pages, it may be done by any man,—the more certainly, if he is "to collect" his information from others; and it is not necessary to call in the especial assistance of "P. F.", or of Junius.

But there is the speech on "The Seizure of the Falkland Islands." How often have we regretted that from the loss of all the great reporting newspapers, the ingenious argument founded on this celebrated speech must remain without corroboration; that we could have no proof that this speech, which Francis is said, though erroneously, to have revised for the 'Parliamentary History'—the speech which furnishes such singular coincidences and fills thirty and odd octavo pages,—this "morally impossible" speech—was "for the first time," and from "a manuscript report," printed by Almon in 1791-2. The fact would be so conclusive; all the arguments depend, all the superstructure rests on it: Mr. Taylor's words are "*not printed, though preserved in notes, till twenty years after.*" Research for any speech, under the circumstances, seemed hopeless,—but for one that filled thirty and more octavo pages, in chance newspapers that often dismissed a whole debate in a column, the idea appeared absurd. Still, not being Franciscans—not having undertaken to edit an edition of Junius—we thought it our duty to turn over the volumes of odd newspapers which are to be found in the Museum,—and will now give our readers the benefit of a morning's labours. The following advertisement may serve as an introduction:—

HOUSE OF LORDS.

ON Monday morning, at 10 o'clock, will be published in a NORTH BRITON EXTRAORDINARY (containing Three Sheets, price Sixpence.)

Lord Chatham's Speech in the HOUSE OF LORDS on Thursday last, taken verbatim.

We scarcely need add, that on Monday morning, the 3rd of December 1770, the *North Briton Extraordinary* was published, and that it contains the report of Chatham's speech on "the seizure of the Falkland Islands" word for word as afterwards re-published by Almon in 1791-2 in "seven-and-thirty octavo pages," and as not "revised" by Francis for the 'Parliamentary History' published by Wright in 1813. We will only add, in proof of the ill fortune of Mr. Taylor, Mr. Wade, and all Franciscans in not finding what they did not search for, that this speech was re-published in full on December the 4th and 6th in the *London Evening Post*; and as Almon was not only a reporter on that paper, but one of the proprietors, he may have known of its publication in his own paper, from which, in all probability, he copied it. This may explain his "mysterious silence" as to the presumed obligations to Francis quite as satisfactorily as Mr. Taylor's ingenious hypothesis.

What now becomes of all the wonderful "correspondences"? for we trust the Francis-

cans will not set the less value on our illustration because we have produced the report, not "in other words but the same in substance,"—but in the very words themselves, and "seven-and-thirty octavo pages" of them.

Thus encouraged, we determined to continue our researches a little longer. We soon got scent of the speech of the 9th of January. The *Middlesex Journal* announced that "all the speeches in both Houses on Tuesday last were taken down in short-hand, so that we may reasonably expect that some of them will speedily make their way to the press." We take this "short-hand" assertion to be a mere flourish; but though we have not met with a full report of the debate, we have stumbled on such evidence as leads to the conclusion that it was published probably in one or other of the reporting journals which are now lost. Thus, we find the more celebrated passages from Chatham quoted, and the quotations separated by lines of asterisks,—showing that the passages were copied from a more full report. We have the comparison of "the iron barons" and "the silken barons" in almost all of them,—the reference to and quotations from Robertson's 'History of Charles the Fifth,'—the passage about liberty spreading like a vine from this country to the colonies,—that about popular tumults being "ebullitions of liberty, breakings out on the skin of the body politic, which, if rudely restrained and improperly checked, may strike inwardly, and endanger the vitals of the constitution:—a favourite "coincidence," with all Franciscans from Taylor to Wade.

The speech of the 2nd of February Almon avowedly took from the *London Museum*,—and we may now put faith in his avowal: that of the 14th of March we found word for word, so far as our examination went, in the *Middlesex Journal*: those of the 1st of May and of the 4th of May verbatim in the *Independent Chronicle*. Of that delivered on the 5th of December there is a pretty full abstract in *Bingley's Weekly Journal*. What will the Franciscans say to this?

But the speech that comes before us in the most "questionable shape," so far as Junius is concerned, is that which Junius himself quoted in a note to his own edition (1772). On this Mr. Taylor observes:—

"A part of one of Lord Chatham's speeches, introduced in the Preface to the Letters, was certainly reported from notes thus taken by Junius, who observes of it,—'The following quotation from a speech delivered by Lord Chatham on the 11th of December, 1770, is taken with exactness. The reader will find it curious in itself, and very fit to be inserted here.' Long before this he [that is, assuming that Junius wrote the article called 'Chapter of Facts,'] had incorporated the same extract not only in substance, but almost word for word, in one of the miscellaneous Letters, dated the 14th of December, only three days after the debate had taken place. But at that time he [the writer of 'Chapter of Facts'] did not give it as a quotation from Lord Chatham's speech, nor was it distinguished by inverted commas. It assumes only to be a faithful statement by the writer of 'what was the fact, and what was the irregularity of the proceeding [of Lord Mansfield] upon it.' In the end he says, 'I affirm, therefore, with Lord Chatham, that his conduct was irregular, extrajudicial, and unprecedented'; but this reference to Lord Chatham's opinion is not intended to lead any one to conclude that the whole of the passage was borrowed from him. Yet such was the case, according to the declaration of Junius above quoted: and the circumstance is worthy of remark, since it exhibits a proof that Junius, as before stated, availed himself of the sentiments of the leading orators, in order to enrich his own Letters; for which purpose he attended the debates, and for the sake of greater accuracy was accustomed to take notes of particular speeches. The day after Lord Chatham had delivered the preceding opinion on Lord Mansfield's conduct, 'the great Lord Camden addressed him in the following

words.' Here Junius again quotes part of a speech, in which Lord Mansfield is challenged to name a day when his doctrines might be discussed. The passage selected is an amplification [by a writer signing himself Phalaris] of what Junius [No, 'Chapter of Facts'] had reported in substance two days after the event; and in this, as in Lord Chatham's case, no other account had intervened from which it could be taken."

We shall not offer one word of comment on the petty larceny motives here assumed to have influenced Junius,—nor stop to inquire why Junius should steal from "leading orators" when he wrote the speeches of "the foremost man" amongst them all;—but we will just direct attention to the triple character in which one poor personal pronoun is made to do duty on this occasion, as Junius, as Chapter of Facts, and as Phalaris. It is a bold, ingenious, and original way of drawing one inference from three assumptions. Further, we must observe, that all this assertion and assumption by Taylor relates to other assertions and assumptions by Good—to the "miscellaneous" rubbish which Good "pitch-forked" into the edition of 1812; and that there is no reason whatever to lead to the belief that Junius contributed the 'Chapter of Facts,' or wrote the letter signed "Phalaris." This premised, we will confine ourselves to the one question,—whether it is possible to find this speech reported either word for word, or "in other words but the same in substance," before its appearance in the 'Chapter of Facts.'

But we are stopped even at starting; for Mr. Taylor is wrong when he asserts that the 'Chapter of Facts' was published "two days" after the event,—misled, probably, by Junius, who was wrong when he stated that the debate took place on the 11th, for it took place on the 10th:—a curious mistake if Junius were the reporter, though not more so than our correction would be if he were the only reporter. This preliminary error corrected, we may add briefly, that all else that Mr. Taylor says is wrong—false in spirit and in fact; for we found a report containing the very words quoted emphatically by Mr. Taylor and by other Franciscans in the *London Evening Post* of Tuesday the 11th:—that is, the very day after the debate, two days before the "Chapter" was published, and six before the appearance of the letter of "Phalaris." Here it is.—

"SUBSTANCE OF WHAT PASSED YESTERDAY IN A GREAT ASSEMBLY.—In consequence of what passed on Thursday last in the House of Commons, Lord Mansfield on Friday gave notice, &c. &c. He made a poor, paltry, needless declaration that he had left a paper with the Clerk of the House; that the paper, &c. &c.—Lord Chatham rose, and observed, that the verdict of the jury in that case was guilty of printing and publishing only; that (if the newspapers told him true, for he had only newspaper information of that transaction,) two motions had been made in the Court upon the verdict; one was on behalf of the defendant, for an arrest of judgment—the other was on behalf of the prosecutor, to enter up the words of the verdict according to their legal import. How comes it then that the Judges, who had nothing but the record before them, and could not or ought not to consider anything else—I say, how comes it that the Judges, who ought not to give judgment upon anything but what is strictly, regularly, and legally before them—I say again, how comes it that the Judges travelled out of the record to give their judgment upon matters not contained in that record? The proceeding is IRREGULAR, UNPRECEDENTED, and EXTRA-JUDICIAL."

—Then follows an account of the Duke of Manchester's motion about the state of the national defences, and of the row in which it ended about "clear the House."

We will now quote "the report," as it is called, which appeared two days after in the 'Chapter of Facts,'—a report, which Mr. Taylor says signi-



ficantly was not given "as a quotation" nor "distinguished by inverted commas."—

"The Right Honble. the Speaker of the House of Lords was pleased to summon all the Lords to attend on Monday last, on purpose to inform their Lordships collectively in what corner of the House each Lord separately might find waste paper for his necessary occasions.—N.B. It seems to be the fate of this unhappy paper (which always brings nasty ideas with it) to be produced in a most unseemly manner. In the Court of King's Bench, the introduction of it was allowed to be *irregular, unprecedented, and EXTRA-JUDICIAL*. In the House of Lords it was only silly and ridiculous. What a strange antipathy some men have to a record! When they do not *erase*, they fairly take post and travel out of it."

And this is the filthy, foolish stuff which we are told so confidently was a report by Junius of a speech by Chatham!—Camden's speech in like fashion was published in the newspapers the next day or the day after.

After this, we need not trouble the reader with the subsequent "amplification." Of course, if the truth of a speculation or a conjecture be assumed, inferences may be derived from it: add two such together, and the field for imagination,—or, as imaginative Franciscans call it, evidence,—enlarges in more than a proportional degree. There is, indeed, no limit to such fanciful reasoning—or proofs. But if the one original conjecture prove false, men of common sense will not trouble themselves with the hypothetical superstructure. In truth, however, although it suited Junius to make such slight alterations in the letter as would allow it to pass current as a speech, there was no "amplification" at all. "Phalaris" wrote a reply to "Nerva," who had addressed a letter to Chatham abusing him for his conduct in attacking Mansfield—quoting the words of the report of what he said from probably the *London Evening Post*—and for his ignorance of law and of the *proceedings which took place in the courts of law* in respect to the trial. "Phalaris" defends Chatham,—accuses "Nerva" of ignorance of what had really taken place in the courts,—gives a report of the proceedings at "Nisi Prius," as he technically calls it,—defies any lawyer to contradict him,—and concludes thus: "I affirm with Lord Chatham that his [Mansfield's] conduct was irregular, extra-judicial, and unprecedented;"—words which, as it now appears, "Phalaris" as well as "Nerva" might have taken from the *Evening Post*, and probably did take from one or other of the newspapers.

Thus, all the arguments which have been drawn from the similarity of phrases and passages found in the Letters and the Speeches, and which were held conclusive because the speeches were not then published—nor published for twenty years after—and so conclusive in favour of Francis, because *he* it was who had treasured up the notes, and twenty years after furnished the reports—fall together. All the connexion of Junius with the reports is gone,—all that of Francis gone,—and therewith goes, in itself and in its inferences, half an octavo volume of "conclusive proofs." Having now disposed of the Speeches—including the great "Falkland Islands" speech—let us separate Francis from the Franciscans, and see how it was that his name became connected with these reports at all.

In 1813, *forty-three years* after the speech was made, and at the very moment of time when attention was first drawn to the Franciscans in connexion with Junius by the publication of Taylor's pamphlet, the Editor of *The Parliamentary History*, under a pretence which was false, took needless occasion to assert, what he could not speak to of his own knowledge—and Almon had been dead some years,—that this "Falkland Islands" speech "was taken" by the same

"gentleman" who had furnished Almon with the reports of the debates on the 9th and 22nd of January. *The Parliamentary History*, as our readers know, is one of the very largest of our literary bundles of hay,—thirty-six double columned octavo volumes of seven or eight hundred pages each,—a work for reference not for reading; yet by that intuition so remarkable in everything relating to this "discovery," the writer of 'Junius Identified' stumbled at once on this needle—this polar needle,—and put the pertinent or impertinent question to the Editor, "Who is the illustrious obscure?"—The Editor, contrary to the established usage of the press—to the usage of society,—forthwith drags the modest and retiring "gentleman" from his forty-three years' concealment, and, without a scruple, holds up Sir Philip Francis to the public gaze. Still, though we have thus strangely got hold of Francis as the reporter of three of the more important debates—including the Falkland Islands speech—there remained the great debates of the session on "the Middlesex Election." How fortunate, then, the accidental discovery of that chance note signed "P. F." in Belsham's History! Nothing more natural than that an old man, some seventy-five or more years of age, should "dally with the innocence of love" and the memories of the past—shoulder his crutch, or handle his pen—and write in the margin of a history which recalled the vigour and the services of his young days—"I wrote or reported all Chatham's Speeches in 1770-71;" or "I wrote or reported the great Debate on the Falkland Islands—the fullest debate then ever known—and all Chatham's Speeches for 1770-71." But, however natural, this was *not* what Francis did. His note is merely supplementary—*complementary*. "I wrote, &c. all those of Lord Chatham for the *Middlesex Election*:"—which, added to Wright's note, substantially includes all.

Here we conclude; but cannot do so without expressing a hope that we shall never again hear the name of Francis associated with that of Junius until some *one fact* shall have been established showing a connexion between them. To any such fact, be it of more or of less importance, we shall be prepared to give respectful attention. We have no prepossessions of our own, and therefore no prejudices on the subject. We do not agree with Dr. Parr, Mr. Butler, Mr. Baker, and others, that because the acknowledged writings of Francis are not equal to those of Junius the verdict must be against him. Francis was a man of great ability, and made manifest great power in some long subsequent pamphlets,—and every man writes with more than usual power and daring who writes anonymously. Burke, we are told, pronounced him to be "the best pamphlet writer of the age." We also agree that, in respect to his age, no objection can be held of force against a man who was four years older than Pitt when he became Chancellor of the Exchequer. But the capability to do a thing is no proof that a man did it. In 1769 Francis had not, so far as we know, or as his friends have been able to show, published or written one single page. There had been no preparatory training—no previous testing of his powers. If he was Junius, he came forth perfect at his literary birth,—the wonder and the admiration of his own age; and, however unusual with prodigies, he has maintained a high rank and distinguished position in the literature of his country for eighty years. Neither do we deny the moral possibility that the dependent clerk may have been animated by a resolution and a spirit that lifted him far above the accident of his fortune. What we want in the case of Francis is proof. We cannot receive and believe what is so strangely

improbable simply because it is possible. If proof be ever offered, then, all circumstances considered, Francis must take rank amongst those rare phenomena of which the world has few examples, and in this instance no previous example.

#### OUR LIBRARY TABLE.

*The Life of John Howard, &c.* By the Rev. J. Field, M.A.—When [No. 1139], last year, we reviewed Mr. Dixon's biography of John Howard, (which has since, we may observe, reached a second edition, and undergone certain corrections of style by which it is a gainer,) we adverted to his having treated his subject in a manner likely to offend certain classes of readers by the manifestation of his own 'philosophies. This was inevitable,—and the formal protest has come almost as a matter of course. We were not mistaken as to the amount of discussion and dissent which we thought Mr. Dixon's work was likely to excite. It appears that the Rev. Mr. Field—well known as a writer on prisons and prison management—has produced his biography of Howard as an antidote to what he considers unwholesome in Mr. Dixon's. In his preface he explicitly announces his "indignation of the democratic principles" and the "asperation of a godly prince" put forth by his predecessor; and his intention of offering a portrait of the Philanthropist clear of blot on the surface and of insinuations in the background. Well meant his book is, we doubt not,—but it is weakly executed. In many passages, it is homily where it should be history. In its treatment of the great inconsistency and misfortune of Howard's life—the fate of his son—it will be understood as of course that it is even less satisfactory than we have explained Mr. Dixon's in our view to be.

*The Doctor's Little Daughter.* By Eliza Meteyard ("Silverpen"). Illustrated by Harvey.—This is almost—without being altogether—a charming child's book; according to the lowest estimate, however, better than nine-tenths of its race. Its fault is, that it is too good—too rich in picture—too perpetually instinct with sympathy. Young as well as old readers require rest. They can no more bear to be always loving, always admiring, always taking in some high and refined poetical impression, than their seniors. The writers who overlook this are apt to tire—to cloy—to lose their hold. This is in some degree the case with 'The Revolt of Islam,' and even with the 'Adonais,' of Shelley,—conspicuously so with 'The Isle of Palms' and 'Unimore' of Prof. Wilson. It is a peculiarity arising not from strength so much as from weakness,—from a sort of unexpressed consciousness that no figure or image can be trusted to stand alone, but must be buttressed, draped, garlanded. When this is done, however, the eye, seduced by ornament and accessory, is too apt to lose all clear perception of the principal object.—This tendency seems to be on the increase with our lovers of beauty in nature and art; and since Miss Meteyard's tale of the childhood of a little girl is expressly intended to cultivate poetical and ennobling tastes, we are sorry that by her mistrust of or unacquaintance with the virtue of simplicity her lesson loses a part of its clearness and fascination. Her aims are so pure and excellent, that she must not be aggrieved at being strictly tried:—or if aggrieved she be, she may comfort herself with the assurance that her story contains enough of beauty—enough of picture—enough of the true affections, to make it welcome even with those who may agree with us in considering it too liberally honeyed. Only, we cannot like the end. Such a doctor as is described would not have sent away such a little daughter as we are here made acquainted with—on the argument of so cold and abrupt a summons from rich relations as is chronicled.—Perhaps Miss Meteyard will tell us what befell Alice Tyne in the second stage of her education.

*California, the Wonder of the Age. A Book for every one going to, or interested in, that Golden Region.* By Thomas Butler King.—Mr. King is the agent of the United States Government in and for California; and the brochure now before us, printed and published in New York, is a cheap re-issue of his official report. The information which it contains is not new,—but in the present form it will be accessible to many who were denied that benefit before.



*Observations on the Indian Post Office; with a Map of the Routes throughout British India.* By Capt. N. Stapleton.—The writer offers a calm, but on that account all the more stinging, exposure of the abuses of our postal arrangements in Hindustan—the high rates, the imperfect communication, the uselessness of the practice of registration, and so forth. He makes out an undoubted case for a searching inquiry and reform. Whether his own suggestions as to the nature of the changes to be introduced be sound and practical, others must determine. Capt. Stapleton has had experience in the management of an Indian post-office, and may therefore be assumed to understand the difficulties of the task. He advocates a general reduction in the rates now exacted—both on internal letters and on letters to or from England. Indeed, he seems to think that a low uniform rate such as we have adopted at home would yield a revenue in addition to paying all the expenses. As far as we can form an opinion on an *ex parte* statement in a matter involving some technical obscurities, we may say that his calculations seem to bear out this assertion.

*History of the Destruction of Paganism in the Eastern Empire—[Histoire de la Destruction du Paganisme, &c.]* By C. Stephen Chastel.—This essay on the decline of Paganism was written at the instance of the French Academy. Twice now within twenty years the subject has occupied the attention of that body. In 1830 they proposed to historians to trace the causes of the failure of the ancient faith of Europe in the Western Empire: five years after the proposal was made, M. Beugnot's work was selected and published. The explanations in this case, however, did not apply to the Greek empire: the Academy therefore, to complete its own design, proposed a separate essay on that part of the subject. The paper by M. Chastel was "crowned,"—and is now given to the world under the auspices of the Institute. The Academy had fixed on the reign of Constantine as the point of departure for the historical inquiry; but M. Chastel felt the impossibility of adopting this line,—Paganism having at that time been in a state of internal decay for many ages, and being then externally almost displaced by the younger genius of Christianity. He therefore went back in the inquiry some centuries, to show that philosophy had undermined it—long before another system of religion arose to rival and ultimately to take its place. Having established this point, he proceeds to treat the subject in its historical bearing; but we find no great novelty in the arrangement of facts, nor any particular felicity in the conduct of the argument. If the essay be intended as an answer to Gibbon, we must say that it is a failure.

*The English Settler's Guide through Irish Difficulties; or, a Hand-book for Ireland, with reference to present and future Prospects.*—This is not a hand-book in the ordinary sense of the word; and if any one should stow it in his portmanteau as he hurries off to Ireland to attend the sales now going on under the new Act for the disposal of encumbered estates, he will find, instead of a geographical outline,—descriptions of soil, vegetation, air, water,—the prices of grain, and the prospects of farming,—and several long sermons on the various duties of proprietors to the peasants. In fact, this is a moral guide book. It does not tell the reader much about what he may find in the land of his adoption; but a great deal about the qualities of mind, the class of opinions, the social requisites which it is desirable that he should bring with him, if he would secure his own comfort and improve his estate. The information is given in the form of dialogue between an Irish clergyman and an English gentleman, and though we cannot subscribe to all the opinions uttered by the reverend oracle, we recognize a wise and sagacious counsel in many of his suggestions. We have no doubt the book will be useful to some of the new settlers,—for the majority perhaps of Englishmen have as much to unlearn as they have to learn in all that relates to Ireland.

*The Age and its Architects: ten chapters on the English People, in relation to the Times.* By E. P. Hood.—A lay sermon—half historical, half prophetic—on the condition of the masses. It is not easy to catch a precise object in its publication. There are statistics and statements, but they are given in a fashion too loose and informal to stand in support of

an argument which might be challenged:—there are a few passages of close and eloquent writing, but on the whole the discourse is attenuated to bareness, and apparent poverty of thought. Few readers, we apprehend, will follow to the close; but there are in the book enough elements of promise to make us anticipate better things from Mr. Hood in the future.

*Louis Kossuth; and the last Revolution in Hungary and Transylvania, containing a detailed Biography of the Leader of the Magyar movement.*—An anonymous work, full of splenetic abuse of the great Magyar,—information mis-collected from the commonest newspaper reports,—and documents printed as authentic which have been branded as gross forgeries on authority.

*A Manual of Botany.* By Prof. Balfour, M.D.—We have no lack of manuals of botany; yet such is the progress of the science, that as each new one appears we find in it features indicating the rapidity of discovery and the ardour that actuates the cultivators of systematic and physiological botany. Although but little studied in one of our Universities and scarcely known in the other,—not recognized as a part of general education,—and until lately not even patronized by our Government as affording any useful knowledge,—botany has yet flourished in Great Britain, and this country can boast of having produced its greatest living cultivators. For keeping alive an interest in this science we are greatly indebted to the Apothecaries' Society,—who, for many years past have required that all medical students should attend a course of lectures on the subject; and in this respect they have only imitated the University of Edinburgh, which has always had its chair of botany. It is gratifying to find this chair filled by so ardent a botanist as Dr. Balfour; and in this Manual we have an indication of the course of study which the Edinburgh University requires. We know of no manual that treats so comprehensively of the whole science of botany as this. Not only does it embrace the structure of plants,—it gives also a description of their natural orders, with notices of their uses in the arts, in medicine, and in diet. The subjects of fossil botany and the distribution of plants are treated of in a manner commensurate with their importance at the present day. In the compilation of this work Dr. Balfour has exhibited great diligence and judgment; and he has availed himself extensively of the labours of the chemist in the field of physiological botany,—especially in its applications to agriculture and horticulture. If we were compelled to find fault with so useful a volume, we should say that the author is not fully alive to the importance of founding all generalizations with regard to the functions of plants on a knowledge of the structure and functions of the cells. We think that if due consideration had been given to this subject, he would have found less necessity for admitting into his work without condemnation some of the theories of the older botanists which have no better support than the false notion of an analogy between the plant as a whole and the animal as a whole.—The work is profusely illustrated (though we can say little for the printing) with woodcuts, after those in the works of Jussieu, Schleiden, and others.

*Facts relating to North-Eastern Texas. Condensed from Notes made during a Tour through that portion of the United States of America, for the purpose of examining the country as a field for Emigration.* By John Barrow.—This work, written by an Englishman tolerably well acquainted with our own colonies, gives an attractive description of Texas as a field for colonization; embracing an account of the soil, climate, natural productions, native and other inhabitants, farming operations, land titles, laws, price of passages, roads, rivers, and the present prosperity and future prospects of that huge state. To all this there is the one fatal drawback,—Texas is a slave state! While it retains this foul institution we hope and believe that it will receive no accession of strength from this country.

*The Counting-House Companion*—contains tables of prime cost, profit and rebate, showing by one numeration the clear gain or profit on any specified outlay, from a penny to five thousand pounds,—allowing to the purchaser a discount ranging from two-and-a-half to fifty per cent. These tables, it is almost needless to add, are of importance to all per-

sons engaged in business; as the prompt and correct calculation of these quotients, combining cost, profit, and discount, is an operation of some complexity.

*British Diplomacy in Greece.* By a Philhellene.—The motto, quoted from Shakspeare, is sufficiently indicative of the spirit in which this pamphlet is written.—

Never did base and rotten policy  
Colour her workings with such deadly wounds.

*Ireland as I saw it: the Character, Condition and Prospects of the People.* By Wm. S. Balch.—Mr. Balch is an American,—and, of course, looked at "the unhappy *isle* with all its woes" as only Americans can. We have no doubt that some of his traveller's tales may be founded in fact,—but the condiments are too strong for our stomach. We lay aside his book with no little regret that our brothers across the Atlantic should have had this additional exaggeration and misstatement added to their European library.

*Heads of an Analysis of Roman History: for the use of Schools.* By Dawson W. Turner.—This brief but picturesque and effective analysis of the great story of the Roman Republic is on a new, and, as we think, admirable principle. Mr. Turner takes his ground on the most recent discoveries of Niebuhr and the writers of his school,—separating the legendary from the actual history, and conveniently marking off by the use of types of various sizes the more prominent facts, on the plan adopted by the analyzer of Herodotus. In addition to this excellent arrangement of the first elements of his story, Mr. Turner appends to each section,—instead of a dry detail of the fact—a rich and vivid picture, drawn from the historical writers.—Niebuhr, Michelet, Arnold, Heeren, Schmidt, &c.—who have most strikingly depicted the event under notice. By this means the attention of the reader is relieved and gratified, his memory is stored with a number of fine portraits and noble reflections, and his search is directed to the best modern sources of the history. Even in themselves the passages collected by Mr. Turner would be interesting as excerpts: they are doubly so when linked together and harmonized by the common purpose which they are meant to serve.—Altogether, this is a capital *résumé* of Roman history.

*Tracts on Protection.* Nos. I. II. III.—Three small tracts issued by the Protectionists in behalf of native Industry.

*The Unity of the Human Races proved to be the Doctrine of Scripture, Reason and Science.* By the Rev. Thomas Smyth.—This work, by an American author, argues not only for the common origin of the human race, but in favour of their descent from a common parent,—contrary to the theory of an indefinite number of similar creations in various localities, proposed by Prof. Agassiz. Dr. Smyth's method of employing argument appears to us weak in several particulars.—We certainly do not consider "the unity of races the question of the day."

*The Principles which ensure Success in Trade.* By J. J. Mechi.—An unreserved and good-natured statement of the principles on which Mr. Mechi's business has been conducted successfully. We have no doubt, that the order, promptitude, civility, and economy which he describes are among the elements of successful business.—His little pamphlet is amusing as well as suggestive.

LIST OF NEW BOOKS.

- Ainsworth's Works, Vol. X. "Guy Fawkes," 12mo. 1s. 6d. 2s. 2d. cl.  
Black's Iron Highway, Edinburgh to London, No. 11. 1s. 6d. cl.  
Boyan's (Dr. J.) Questions on Scripture History, 4th ed. 3mo. 2s.  
Bolt, Shilling, & Co. double vols. "Lamartine's Générative," 1s. 6d.  
"Mayo's The Barber, a Tale of Morocco," 12mo. 1s. 6d. bds.  
Bisby's (R.) Bolden Delaval, a Love Story, 24mo. 1s. svd.  
California, its Past History, its Present Position, &c. 8vo. 5s. cl.  
Cassell's (Walter R.) Eldon, or the Course of a Soul, 12mo. 6s. 6d.  
Cherpilloud's Book of Versions, English, new ed. 12mo. 3s. 6d. roan.  
Chambers's Educational Course, "Livy," 12mo. 4s. cl.  
Companion to Minutes of Wesleyan Conference, 1850, 12mo. 1s.  
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Hemingsway's Illustrated Handbook of North Wales, 5th ed. 6s. cl.  
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Hughes's (W.) The Stamp Act, 13 & 14 Vict. c. 97, 12mo. 4s. 6d.  
Illustrated London Instructor, 8vo. 2s. cl.  
Irvine's (A. F.) Treatise on Game Laws of Scotland, 8vo. 6s. bds.  
Jacobs's (J.) Practice of County Courts, 8th ed. cr. 8vo. 1s. bds.  
Johnson's (Rev. F. J.) Chapel and School Architecture, 8vo. 8s. cl.  
Longfellow's (H. W.) Prose Works, "Hyperion," "Kavanagh," 4s. 6d.  
Loudon's (J. C.) The Villa Gardener, 2nd ed. 8vo. 12s. cl.  
Macgregor's (J.) Three Days in the East, 18mo. 1s. bds.



Macgregor's (J.) Commercial Statistics, Vol. V. royal 8vo. 12. 4s. cl.  
 Musket's Sportsman's Registers, oblong 1s. 2s. 6d., 5s.  
 Nichols's (W.) Tables for Calculation of Wages, 18mo. 3s. cl.  
 Ollendorff's New Method of Learning German Language, 12s.  
 Pharmacopœia of King's and Queen's College, Ireland, 1850, 10s.  
 Penrose's (Rev. J.) Exercises in Latin Elegiac Verse, 12mo. 1s. 6d.  
 Pollok's (R.) Tales of the Covenanters, 5th ed. 18mo. 3s. 6d. cl.  
 Rance's (W.) The Glory of a Country, 12mo. 1s. 6d. cl.  
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 Ryan's (V. W.) Lectures on Book of Prophet Amos, 12mo. 3s. 6d.  
 Stonehouse's (S.) Tables for Exchequer Bills, sq. 4s. 6d. cl.  
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 Spencer's Rudimentary Treatise on Music, 2 vols. in 1, 2s. (Weale.)  
 Taylor on New Treatment for Puerile Diseases, cr. 8vo. 5s. cl.  
 Yearley's (J.) Deafness Practically Illustrated, 3rd ed. cr. 8vo. 5s.

#### SUPPLY OF WATER TO THE METROPOLIS.

THE subject of a pure water supply is one of so much importance to the health and morals of the metropolis, that we have promised [*ante*, p. 953] to return to it for some further remarks on an early occasion.

In opposition to the demonstrable fact of the water of the Thames containing so large a quantity of impurities as to render it questionable whether under any circumstances it could be made a healthy source of supply for dietetical purposes, we have almost a universal testimony to its goodness from a very peculiar quarter. The whole sea-faring population of this country unite to give the Thames the first place as a water for the supply of ships. Nor is this excellence altogether imaginary;—for it appears that the very condition which constitutes the objectionableness of Thames water marks a state in which the evil has, as it were, come to a head, and speedily corrects itself. When the Thames water is first drawn with its quantum of organic impurities diffused through it, it is unfit to drink. If kept for a few hours it deposits some of its impurities—but does not improve; as a process of decomposition sets in amongst the organic matters, which liberates impure and depressing gases. Even after filtration this process will go on:—as every one can testify who has ever allowed Thames water to remain in the decanter for three days without changing. The filtering, though it removes much organic impurity, does not remove all. The change does not consist only in a conversion of the organic matters into gaseous compounds,—but also in the action of these substances on certain of the inorganic constituents of the water. One of the most prominent of the latter is sulphate of lime, which on coming in contact with decomposing animal and vegetable matter is itself decomposed,—and the sulphur of the sulphuric acid which it contains combining with hydrogen and sulphuretted hydrogen, the most fetid of gases is produced. Analogous changes take place with the other salts found in waters. Now, it will be evident that this process of change must come to an end. The time will arrive when all this organic matter is exhausted,—and the new compounds thus formed will remain permanent in the water. Insoluble substances diffused through the water will be precipitated, and elements arranged at first in soluble compounds will be thrown down in insoluble forms. The consequence is, a great purification of the water. It is, then, by the fact of this change going on completely in vessels which are used on board ships for holding Thames water, that we explain its reputation amongst sailors for excellent qualities. The very cause of its danger to the inhabitants of London is the source of its purification on board ship. The organic matter there is not only itself got rid of, but becomes the means of getting rid of certain inorganic impurities.

It would be a mistake, however, to conclude that any amount of organic impurities will after this change leave water harmless. The remains of animal and vegetable substances themselves contain alkaline and earthy salts. They contain, too, the elements, as hydrogen and nitrogen, which form the volatile alkali, ammonia,—and also acids, as carbonic and sulphuric, which, combining with these earths and alkalies, form compounds that act very injuriously on the human system when habitually taken. Such compounds are found more frequently in water drawn from wells into which the contents of drains and cesspools pass than in the worst specimens of Thames water. Bad as the water is which is supplied from parts of that river, it is infinitely superior to that which is obtained from some of the wells in London. The great mortality by cholera in certain districts

of London last year could be explained only by reference to the composition of the well water supplied to the inhabitants,—which was proved to contain larger quantities of organic matter than the worst specimens taken from the Thames.

That the water of the Thames, however, contains varying proportions of both organic and inorganic constituents according to the district from whence it is obtained, will be seen by the following extract from Dr. Angus Smith's Report, published by the Board of Health.—

“Richmond water began to show very strongly the change caused by towns; it contains in a gallon—

Chlorine..... 184 grains.  
 Equal to, as common salt..... 307

A quantity of brown flocculent matter fell to the bottom of the vessel, containing animalcules in great abundance, with some of a kind entirely different from any yet perceived higher up, such as the eel-like animals *vibrio fluvialis*. This creature is about 1/88th of an inch long, I believe, but I could not well measure any of them, they were in such constant motion. The change in the nature of the deposit is sufficiently indicated by its appearance, the animalcules preceding seldom going beyond 1/400th of an inch, many of them much smaller. There was also a patch of dirty brown on the side of the vessel, which, when examined by the microscope, was resolved into thousands of animalcules, the *navicula fulva*, I believe. This appearance I shall speak of more fully afterwards, as a test not easily mistaken. It contains phosphates and silica. At Hammersmith I can only say the same of the water, the quantity of chlorine in a gallon was the same = 307 of common salt. The animalcules the same kind, and the flocculent precipitate with the brown deposit of the same character, containing phosphates, silica, and organic matter. The river water opposite the water-works at Chelsea contained—

Of inorganic matter .. 2310 grains in a gallon.  
 Of organic and volatile 42

At another time—  
 Inorganic matter .... 1916  
 Organic ..... 258  
 2174

Of chloride of silver got 1.15 = 238 grains of chlorine, or as common salt, 472. The number of animalcules was greater here than at Hammersmith, of the smaller kind, chiefly from 1/700th to 1/400th of an inch; with the exception of the navicula forming the brown deposit before mentioned. There was also a mass of flocculent brown matter, but it was not very thickly inhabited, it probably had passed the stage of most active animalcular life when I examined it, as the amount of matter left material enough for the formation of many little creatures. This is borne out by the water at Lambeth. The water opposite Lambeth Palace did not get clear after long standing, containing a fine clay not dissolved by acids. When burnt there is a strong acid smell, and there is also nitric acid perceptible in the remaining salt. It has therefore the qualities of well water in a badly drained district, or water too near any source of organic impurity. Such waters do not leave carbon when boiled down and heated, the saltpetre burns the charcoal. Water got at Hungerford Market had—

Inorganic matter ..... 4755 grains in a gallon.  
 Volatile and organic.... 137

Of matter in suspension 6125  
 The organic matter burnt had the smell of rotten wood. A specimen got between Blackfriars Bridge and Southwark Bridge, near the London side:—  
 Inorganic matter in suspension..... 4312 grains.  
 Volatile and organic ..... 1312

5624  
 This specimen gave a smell like burning wood also when boiled down and heated. Both the specimens last-mentioned contained animalcules larger, fatter, and uglier than any preceding. One creature was observed about 1/30th of an inch in size. When the deposit of mud was removed and the water seemed clear, these specimens, along with the specimens from Richmond and Hammersmith, were allowed to stand some time. In a short time the flocculent matter spoken of was formed, brown like iron-rust, and the covering of one side of the vessel by the brown navicula took place also on the side next to the light. Phosphate of magnesia and ammonia was got by dissolving and adding ammonia.”

It will be seen here that the inorganic constituents increase with the organic:—and it would be an interesting inquiry to ascertain the exact source of the former.

A cause of impurity in London waters, pointed out in the Report of the Board of Health, has, we imagine, been previously little suspected. It is well known that water has the power of absorbing or dissolving certain gases to which it may be exposed. 1,000 gallons of water at the ordinary temperature of our atmosphere will dissolve 25 gallons of nitrogen, 6 gallons of oxygen, 1,000 gallons of carbonic acid, 500,000 gallons of ammonia, and smaller proportions of other gases. Water may become highly injurious to health by the mere absorption of gases that are given off during animal and vegetable decomposition. The

following is Dr. Lyon Playfair's evidence on this point.—

“Then that which has not yet by analysis been found by chemists will yet govern the quality of the air or of water?—So strong is my impression on this point, that in the midst of the cholera I urged it on the Board to warn the public against keeping water in the house, which, though at first entirely pure, would, if kept in cisterns, absorb the vitiated air, and this would find its way, in a concentrated form, into the system of those who drank the water. In consequence of that recommendation the public were recommended to use boiled water, but that should be used at once, as it is more absorptive than water unboiled. The Chinese are well aware of the value of boiling water containing organic impurities. They are accustomed to use boiled water for the purposes of drinking. A temperature of 212 degrees, that being the boiling point, is sufficient to destroy decay, so that boiled water loses the injurious influences due to the decaying matter which may be present.

“Then the absorption of the air by water kept in cisterns or close rooms would be very considerable, and the taste of the water would be very likely to be altered?—Yes.

“Have you any doubt that water exposed to an impure and noxious atmosphere is capable of absorbing noxious and impure matters, and thus proving injurious to the health?—I have no doubt of it; in fact, there is too ample experience in proof of it.

“What sort of precautions did you recommend at the time of the cholera with respect to water?—I thought the most effective means of avoiding injurious results would be to boil the water, if it were immediately used on cooling. It should be allowed to cool in a close vessel, because boiled water is more absorptive of all gaseous malaria than unboiled water. It is also advisable, though it does not remove danger to the full extent, to filter the water through charcoal, which removes a large proportion of the organic impurities.”

To retain these gases, however, water must be constantly exposed to an atmosphere containing them,—as they speedily pass off from the water when it is not exposed to their influence. This subject suggests the importance of protecting water; and we shall see that this is necessary not only in our habitations, but before it arrives there. The water most free from organic matter is that which comes gushing out from the dark and cool fissures of the earth. Stagnation, light, and heat are alike prejudicial to its purity.—

“Stagnant water,” says Dr. Angus Smith, “is the most favourable to the order of vegetable productions. \* \* This insalubrious order of production is indicated by the smell in stagnant or nearly stagnant ornamental waters, such as the stagnant portions of the Serpentine River, which have often excited so much declamation. Certain degrees of motion in water are unfavourable to the production of algae and other infusorial plants, the tissues of which are destroyed by brisk motion; but a large proportion of them are found in slow running waters or open canals with little traffic, such as the Regent's Canal. In summer time the extent of pollution here is perceptible to the smell over the bridges, and at some considerable distance. The same round of life and death also takes place in open and shallow reservoirs, and in open cisterns where the water is frequently changed. Light, however, appears to be necessary to the production of infusoria and fungoid vegetation, and their formation is prevented by such covering as excludes the light and heat of the sun. Whilst exposure and stagnancy, or slow motion, thus increase the animal and vegetable impurities in water, they likewise increase its mineral impurities, by the increased evaporation, which leaves a larger proportion of mineral matter as a residuum. Thus we have had examples of shallow spring water, or agricultural tile-drainage water, of only four degrees of hardness, taken from the tile-drains, as in Richmond Park, increased to eight degrees of hardness in water from the same soil, after it has stood for a time in ponds. Water of only two or three degrees at its source, is found to increase to ten or twelve degrees of hardness in canals,—a difference not to be accounted for from the qualities of any puddings of clay, or strata containing lime, over which the water might have passed. Mr. Cooper gives an instance in the Surrey Canal, a canal of little traffic, which is fed from the River Thames at Rotherhithe. He examined it, by taking specimens of the water at several points between its entrance at Rotherhithe and its termination at Camberwell. The examination showed an increase of specific gravity, an increase of organic matters, and a corresponding increase of saline matters and of hardness, from its entrance to its termination. This progressive increase of impurity up to the termination he could not but ascribe to the process of evaporation, combined with the smaller amount of traffic which there was towards the end of the line.”

The efforts of teetotalism to induce people to drink water in London will be vain as long as the metropolis is supplied on the present system and by the present companies. The following remarks of Dr. Clarke, of Aberdeen, could be confirmed by all who have experience of the lower classes of London.—

“Can you state what effect on health is likely to ensue from the constant use of water containing animal or vegetable impurities?—I am not prepared to make any statement upon that subject; nor am I aware that, in regard to a question of so much interest, there has been much accurate information obtained. However, there is one very obvious consideration as regards the health of the inhabitants, that if you have water not fit for drinking, in which there is matter offensive in any degree, by so much as the water is offensive you lessen the habit of drinking water. Now, you



cannot restrict the supply of water to such quality as is naturally repulsive; you cannot thus render the inhabitants abstinent from water without interfering with the healthful functions of their bodies. It was with no small concern that I learned how few of the inhabitants of London, and especially of the lower orders, drink water. In making my experiments upon these waters, when I inquired of the servants about me how they liked particular waters, it was with perfect surprise I discovered that they—generally more lads—knew nothing about the taste of the water. They are the same sort of persons as would be accustomed to drink water in other places, but they have other beverages here. I should, perhaps, not speak as to the general habit of the inhabitants, but only of what little I have observed in such circumstances."

Dr. Gavin says, speaking of the populations which are supplied with unwholesome water:—

"They have recourse to beer, which has become a common beverage of the people of London, as much, if not more, from the impurity of the drinking water supplied to them than from any other cause. I have, in making inquiries among the poor, constantly had this reply:—'We cannot drink the water, Sir, it is so nasty; it makes me ill.' This common observation among the poor is borne out by the evidence of strangers, who generally complain of slight diarrhoea after drinking the London water for a few days. I have every reason to believe, that were a pure and wholesome water supplied to the poor of London, it would be found that in a short time intemperance and beer-drinking would become much less common. This evidence is the result of my inquiries among the poor themselves, continued for several years."

In order to effect most beneficially all the purposes for which it is supplied to man, water should possess the following properties:—

"1. Freedom from all animal and vegetable matter, especially matter in a state of decomposition. 2. Pure aeration. 3. Softness. 4. Freedom from earthy or mineral or other foreign matters. 5. Coolness in delivery, at a medium temperature, neither warm in summer nor excessively cold in winter. 6. Limpidity or clearness."

How far the water at present supplied to London possesses these properties our readers are now, in some measure, in a position to judge. But a deficiency in the above necessary qualities is not the only objection to our metropolitan water supply. The whole organization and arrangement by which it is served is at once pernicious and wasteful. Instead of the water being so laid on that it might be obtained in any quantity at all times,—it is supplied only at intervals; and for the purposes of constant use cisterns, tanks, and other depositories have to be employed. We have already alluded to some of the evils arising from keeping water in tanks and cisterns,—and from its occasional absence owing to defective machinery under the system of intermittent supply. In the Report of the Board of Health we find another evil from this cause demonstrated, which would not have been so readily anticipated:—that is, an enormous waste of water. By a number of carefully conducted experiments, the Commissioners of Health have shown that under the present system of supply a much larger quantity of water is delivered to every house in London than is used,—and that the waste acts injuriously on the property and health of the inhabitants. Here is the result of their inquiries on this subject.—

"It has been stated that the quantity of water now delivered into the metropolis is nearly forty-five millions of gallons per diem. From the gaugings of the run of water in the sewers, from the examination of the works of the water companies, and from the evidence respecting them collected by Mr. Cresy, our inspecting engineer, we believe these returns to be, on the whole, correct. Believing this to be so, it follows, from the various examinations of the quantity of water actually consumed, that nearly thirty millions of gallons are daily pumped into the metropolis in waste. As applied to the excessive water supply, the term 'waste' has been used; but if this large volume of water could only be considered as so much wasted, it would represent a certain amount of loss in money alone,—borne by the public, it is true, and consequently a grievance, requiring at the hands of the Legislature a corrective remedy. But the actual results are far worse; this water is not only waste, but a positive injury to the landlord as well as to the tenant:—to the landlord, by creating undue damp, and thereby injuring his property; to the tenant, by saturating the whole subsoil with fluid refuse, tending to generate foul and highly dangerous gases; as also, by rendering the basement floors, the walls, and yards unduly damp, producing all those ill effects known to exist in connexion with swampy undrained districts. The excess of wet and damp has intervals of abatement in summer time, and during dry weather; but this waste keeps up the wet and damp during the intervals, and aggravates them during the periods of rainfall."

Among the many incidental evils of our present mode of water supply, the Report dwells on the great insecurity in cases of fire which is a consequence. If a system were adopted in which a large supply of water could be had recourse to on the immediate alarm of fire, it is calculated that at least two-thirds of the property now destroyed

by fire might be saved. The system of insurance of property against fire, and the difficulty of gaining a supply of water to extinguish it, seem to act as a direct incitement to incendiarism. From inquests held by Mr. Payne in cases of fire, it is inferred that 23 per cent. of the whole are intentional. The incendiary is seldom prosecuted, and not unfrequently gains the object of his crime, owing to the unwillingness of Insurance Companies to resist payment. That incendiarism is frequent to a degree highly disgraceful to our civilization and morality, was already evident from the fact that fires are almost three times as frequent on insured as on uninsured property. The effect on fires of a constant supply of water as compared with an intermittent one, may be collected from the following evidence of Mr. Lindley, the engineer, with regard to the new portion of the city of Hamburgh, —built chiefly under his direction.—

"Have there been fires in buildings in Hamburgh in the portion of the town rebuilt?—Yes, repeatedly. They have all, however, been put out at once. If they had had to wait the usual time for engines and water, say twenty minutes or half-an-hour, these might all have led to extensive conflagrations."

"What has been the effect on insurance?—The effect of the rapid extinction of fires has brought to light to the citizens of Hamburgh the fact that the greater proportion of their fires are the work of incendiaries, for the sake of the insurance money. A person is absent—smoke is seen to exude—the alarm of fire is given, and the door is forced open, the jet applied, and the fire extinguished immediately. Case after case has occurred where, upon the fire being extinguished, the arrangements for the spread of the fire are found and made manifest. Several of this class of incendiaries for the insurance money are now in prison. The saving of money alone by the prevention of fires would be worth the whole expense of the like arrangement in London, where it is well known that similar practices prevail extensively."

The evils above sketched—so numerous and so demonstrable—have, happily, at last excited public attention,—and many are the plans proposed for remedying them. We have had projects for obtaining water from spots higher up the Thames than those from which the present supply is drawn, with the view of securing greater freedom from organic impurity. The same object is sought to be attained by bringing water from wells sunk into the chalk at Bushy Mead, near Watford,—and also by sinking wells into the same formation beneath London. The advocates of these several plans are eloquent on the advantages of each; but whilst they propose to guarantee the water from organic impurities, they are all open to the other objections that may be brought against the existing companies. Whether water be obtained higher up the Thames than at present, or from the chalk formation in the neighbourhood of London, it will still contain large quantities of inorganic matters; and for the purposes of diet, cooking, and washing, in as far as it contains these constituents, it is as bad as the present supply. The arrangements of the projected companies, also, in many instances resemble too closely those of the old companies to admit of our supposing that any one, or all, of them would relieve the metropolis from the evils pointed out.—Further,—the necessity of connecting the drainage of the metropolis in some direct manner with its water-supply would seem to be urgent, from the evidence which the Commissioners of Health have afforded in their Report. The plan which these Commissioners have suggested seems, therefore, to be altogether the most feasible that has been brought before the public. Rejecting the Thames as a source of water supply—as also the New River, the River Lea, the Colne, the Wandle, and the artesian wells—on account of their hardness, the Commissioners suggest a scheme for bringing the surface-drainage of a large district to the south-west of London,—the water from which, as they have abundantly ascertained, possesses not only the qualities desirable for use, but can be supplied to an almost unlimited extent. The district in question embraces portions of the counties of Surrey and Hampshire,—consisting of a series of barren, uncultivated heath lands.—

"The portion of this district to which our attention has been more immediately directed, comprises an area of less than 100 square miles, lying east and west of a line from Bagshot to Farnham. The remaining district which we have had under consideration, although of the same bleak and barren character, is of different geological construction, consisting of the upper and lower green sands and gault of the green sand formation, and constitutes the uncultivated

sand districts draining into the east and west tributaries of the river Wey, situated south of the chalk ridge in the midst of which the town of Guildford stands. Dr. Lyon Playfair thus describes the chemical properties of the sands:—'Much of the sand is altogether silicious, and contains no ingredients likely to have any unfavourable influence on the water. Some specimens of sand, however, contain a considerable quantity of protoxide of iron, which is liable to be dissolved by the carbonic acid of the rain water. I have, however, been informed by Dr. Smith, who has had more opportunity than myself carefully to examine the district, that this sand is of very limited extent, and that he has found few waters containing an appreciable amount of iron.' Dr. Playfair accompanied our engineering inspectors in their survey, and took specimens on the spot. About thirty specimens were examined by him at different times. Dr. Angus Smith inspected the district for about a fortnight, and examined about eighty specimens of water taken from different parts at different times. Several analyses were also made by Prof. Way. It is to be observed, in respect to the results of these examinations received collectively, that they are in accordance with the principle previously enunciated, that the nearer the collection to the actual rainfall the greater the purity of the water. The specimens collected at the surface immediately after the rainfall are of the highest degree of purity, being in large quantities not exceeding one degree of hardness. That portion of the rain water also which filters through an upper stratum of sand in parts of the district, and appears again at lower levels after passing through a few feet of the upper stratum, is of an equal degree of purity. Those specimens taken from the streams and ponds when the water has run some distance are of more than two degrees of hardness; those taken lower down in the streams rise to about four and five degrees of hardness, before mixing with streams derived from the chalk or clay formations, which increase to as much as eight degrees of hardness. The chief practical result deducible from these observations is, that by arrangements for collecting the water before it has traversed any great extent of surface, a quantity sufficient as it appears for the domestic supply of the whole metropolis will be obtainable at a very high degree of purity, probably equal to the present supply at Farnham."

It is proposed to collect the water from these districts, bring it to London, and deliver it to every house, pure and filtered, on the high-pressure principle,—so that an unlimited supply may be obtained at any time. All waste will be removed by connecting the supply with the works of the Commission of Sewers;—and it is calculated that all this can be done at an expense not exceeding on an average 3d. or 4d. per week for each house.

In order to carry this plan into effect, it is proposed that the plants of existing water companies shall be purchased; and that the execution of the required works shall be confided to a few competent and responsible officers,—of whom a certain number, giving their whole time and attention to the subject, shall be paid.—We have no opinion to offer on the merits of the means recommended to carry this plan into effect:—but it has so many advantages, obvious to the most casual glance, that we should deeply regret to find the scheme containing anything which might be likely to prevent its realization.

#### BABYLONIAN INSCRIPTIONS.

WE have received the two following letters in answer to that of the Chevalier de Löwenstern which appeared in our columns a fortnight ago,—ante, p. 953. Here, so far as we are concerned, the Chevalier must be content to let the matter rest.

In your paper of the 7th inst. there is a letter from Chevalier Isidore Löwenstern which contains a charge, or at least an insinuation, against me of having published as my own a discovery of M. Longperrier. You will, I hope, do me the justice to publish this vindication of myself.

I have never seen M. Longperrier's paper in the 'Revue Archéologique' of October 1847,—nor have I seen M. Löwenstern's paper in the same journal of October 1849; but I have his paper in the 'Revue' of December 1849, in which he evidently claims as *his own* a discovery which, however unimportant it may be, was in fact *mine*. After mentioning the first word in the second Persepolitan inscription on the Portal at Persepolis, which signifies "God," and which M. Westergaard read *anap*, he proceeds—"I have recognized that this word ought to be separated into two parts. . . The first of these signs is ideographic . . . and forms the determinative which precedes every name of Divinity, at the same time that it serves in Assyrian to express the noun 'God,' both isolated and in the plural. The other two signs *nep* are then to be read *nebo* or *nepo*." He says again—"I read the name of Ormazd, (West. *Aurizda*.) separating the first sign, which is ideographic and the determi-



native of God, *Ou. r. z. d.* Compare with *a. u. r. m. z. d. a* of the first and (equally taking away the ideographic sign) *ha. u. r. m. az. d. a* of the third writing (3). The reference is to "Exposé," p. 26, indicating a former work of the author, published in 1847. One might expect to find there the reading of the name of Ormazd which he here gives; but on turning to that work I find it transcribed by *a. h. u. r. m. a. z. d. a*; the character which he now calls an ideographic sign being then read *a*,—and the following character which he now reads *ha* being then read *h*. Of course I do not blame M. Löwenstern for correcting his former error; but I do blame him for referring to his former work for what it did not contain, instead of giving to the real author of this discovery the credit to which he is entitled. In my paper 'On the three kinds of Persepolitan Writing and on the Babylonian Lapidary Characters,' which was read before the Royal Irish Academy in December 1846, I say of the initial character in the second Persepolitan name of Ormazd—"Besides having a phonetic value, it is used as a non-phonetic initial before the name of Ormazd, as the corresponding Babylonian character is. This name is . . .—which I now read *O. ra. wash. ta.*"—Transactions of the Royal Irish Academy, vol. xxi. part ii. p. 241. In that paper I did not recognize the ideographic use of this character in the Median word for "God,"—which I then read *n. na. p. pi*; but in my paper on the Van inscriptions, read a year after, before the Royal Asiatic Society, this is clearly stated,—the word being there read *nab* or *nabbi*.

In the letter in the *Athenæum* of the 25th of May, the expression used by the kind friend who wrote it, "discovery of the ideographic element," is not what I should have used myself,—and I may take this opportunity of correcting it. To talk of the discovery of an ideographic element being announced by M. Longperrier in 1847, as M. Löwenstern does, is erroneous not merely on account of my previous announcement in 1846, but for other reasons. In my paper of December 1846, already quoted, I speak of the use of the determinative prefix to names of countries in the Babylonian inscription at Nakshi Rüstam having been communicated to me by Mr. Norris. It must have been observed by the person who first copied that inscription,—namely, M. Westergaard; and the existence of ideographic characters in the shorter inscriptions at Persepolis was recognized long before this by Director Grotefend. M. Löwenstern, indeed, in his *Exposé* of 1847, denies the existence of any ideographic element in the cuneatic writing; but I am not aware of any other person having made a similar assertion. The existence of both an ideographic and a phonetic element in the Babylonian writing seems to have been admitted from the very first; but the extent to which the ideographic element was used and its different modifications have not been recognized till lately. What I have claimed in my last paper as my discovery, was, "the existence of ideographic characters with various uses," as there explained, "and the consequent possibility of a character being read in two or more ways according as it was used as a phonograph or an ideograph." To illustrate this by the character already referred to, which begins the name of Ormazd. 1. Its phonetic value is *an*. It is used with this value when it occurs in ordinary Babylonian words,—as *anna*, "me," an affix to verbs,—*annut*, "that," &c.; and in foreign proper names, as *Zaranga*. This value I was the first to assign to it; Westergaard and Löwenstern took it for a vowel. 2. Its value as an independent ideograph is "God,"—and with the plural sign, "Gods." This was, I believe, discovered by Grotefend. 3. At the commencement of some proper names of Gods and some kindred words, it is a non-phonetic determinative, the name being phonetically complete without it. In my paper of December 1846 I explained it as such,—and I was the first to do so; but the existence of other determinative prefixes was previously known. 4. At the commencement of other proper names of gods and kindred words, it is a part of a compound ideograph. Thus, when followed by a character of which the phonetic value is *ac*, it is not to be read *anac* or *ac*, but *Nabu*. I now be-

lieve that in this name the elements are both used as ideographs,—the latter denoting some epithet which, with the generic character for God, was one way of indicating the god Nebo. Formerly I thought that the first character was to be read thus, and that the second was an arbitrary addition which might or might not be sounded. Major Rawlinson explains the compound in a different manner. However this may be, it is quite certain that it is to be read *Nabu*, constituting the first two syllables of the name of the celebrated king of Babylon; and it is certain also that if it be not a compound ideograph, there are many such to be met with in the inscriptions,—as, for instance, that which begins the majority of the Assyrian inscriptions, composed of the ideographs for "house" and "great," and signifying "a palace." I claim to have discovered the existence of this class of compounds, and also to have first read the group *an. ac.* as *Nabu*, in the royal names on the Babylonian bricks. 5. The character for God occurs as an ideographic element in Semitic proper names, which were significant in the language; and when it so occurs it is not to be read by its phonetic value *an*, but by the Assyrian word corresponding to its ideographic value, which was *il*, or occasionally *assur*. Thus, in the most ancient form of the name of Babylon, this character, which occupies the second place, was pronounced *il*—the name being a significant one, and denoting "the gate of God." The character which precedes it was read by me *bab* in my Van paper of 1847,—but I then supposed it to signify "a province." Major Rawlinson corrected this to "gate,"—which is at the same time the known meaning of the Persian word that corresponds to it at Persepolis, and the meaning of the word itself in the Arabic language. The possibility of the same character being read in different manners according as it was used as a phonograph or an ideograph, is what my friend particularly alluded to in the *Athenæum* of the 25th of May as a discovery in which my priority is unquestioned. To the statement there made, so far as this use of the ideographic element is concerned, M. Löwenstern has given no denial. What he says on the other uses of ideographs is, as I have shown, altogether incorrect.—I am, &c.

Killyleagh, Co. Down, Sept. 14.

E. HINCKS.

I shall feel obliged by your allowing me, through the medium of your journal, to endeavour to remove a misapprehension under which the Chevalier Isidore Löwenstern appears to labour with regard to the contents of a paper read by me before the Syro-Egyptian Society in July last.

M. Löwenstern seems to think that I have endeavoured to take to myself the credit of the results at which he has arrived as to the Semitic character of the so-called Median inscriptions of the Achaemenian kings. The paper to which M. Löwenstern alludes in his letter in the *Athenæum* of the 7th inst., was, in fact, a report or *résumé* of the labours of Major Rawlinson, Dr. Hincks, MM. Lassen, Westergaard, and others, on the cuneiform inscriptions generally, drawn up by me as Foreign Secretary to the Society. The labours of M. Löwenstern were by no means overlooked; but while commenting on the arguments adduced by him to show the relation of the second kind of inscriptions to the Pehlevi dialect, I "endeavoured to show" to the Society evidence of a widely-spread Semitic population in the countries subsequently occupied by the Arian race, and objected to the narrow view taken by M. Löwenstern in restricting this Semitic dialect and people to the Elymæan tribes of the countries bordering the northern shores of the Persian Gulf. It is not to be expected that a journal so fully occupied with a variety of scientific topics as the *Athenæum* could afford space for more than a very brief notice on a subject of passing interest; and as the nature and relationship of the language of the second Achaemenian inscriptions is still an open question, my observations on that point were prominently selected.—When the paper in question shall appear in the Third Part of the Transactions of the Syro-Egyptian Society, M. Löwenstern will, I trust, be satisfied that I have not under-estimated the value of his investigations,

though I have endeavoured to enlarge [the sphere of their application.—I am, &c. D. W. NASH. Clifton.

#### FOREIGN CORRESPONDENCE.

Naples, September.

If the scientific gentlemen who visited Naples in 1846 were to favour that city in the same way at the present moment, they would find very melancholy proof of a movement precisely contrary to that which the Congress was intended to promote. The same Ferdinand who called together the wisdom of the modern Latin family, and allowed philosophers, authors and artists, poets and fiddlers,—anybody and everybody,—to pace the marble floors of the royal palace in the royal presence, all for the love of science and literature,—the same Ferdinand is now leading the charge which despotism is making on the freedom and light that a year's open government had given to Italians. A royal decree has just appeared, signed by the late royal patron of learning in Naples, which places every mind in the kingdom in that old limbo of literature, the police court. No books, pamphlets, or newspapers can henceforward appear unless the MSS. shall have passed the revision of the police authorities:—no engraving, lithograph, sculpture, or plastic object whatever can be published to the world unless it shall have received the approbation of the police judge. From that gentleman's hand the Neapolitan mind must be fed with sky-blue milk, or starve. What it will get, may be easily imagined: the sweepings of a Jesuit's studio,—filtered politics, and some accounts of miracles performed by images,—which lately have taken a lively turn throughout Italy, and do all sorts of wonderful tricks to operatic music, like their lesser brethren of the barrel-organ. The new law of the press attributes all the calamities of Europe in general, and of Naples in particular, to the press:—yet the late revolution grew out of the old system when there was no free press. The Government gravely concludes, so far as Neapolitans are concerned, that—

Thought would destroy their Paradise,

    \*       \*       \*       \*  
Tis folly to be wise.

One clause of the new press law must be very consolatory to the Church,—inasmuch as all ecclesiastical manifestoes are exempted from the examination of the police court. Any religious document may come straight, therefore, from the priestly manufactory, and be committed to the digestions of the people. Otherwise, Italians, now as of old, must hide the children of their brain from the extinguishers of literature,—or, like Foscolo and Rossetti, place themselves under the wing of Mr. Rolandi, in London. The literature of Naples at the present moment is almost entirely and essentially a literature of the Jesuits,—who equally pre-empt places of education. Their most ambitious publication is entitled *Civiltà Cattolica*. This is a periodical conducted by Don Carlo-Curci, a well-known Jesuitical writer, whose attack on Gioberti suggested the latter's work, 'The Modern Jesuit.' The *Civiltà Cattolica* has reached a circulation of 8,000 copies,—though the larger part of the impression is bought by subscribers out of the kingdom of Naples. A late number contains an attack on "Constitutional Government,"—and, after a considerable amount of hop, skip, and jump argument, arrives at the conclusion, that because the constitution no longer exists in Naples, the people were of necessity not fit for responsible government. The Jesuit policy stands out in every page of the book. The Jesuits are aware that new ground has been thrown up,—and they desire wisely to be the first to throw in the seed. There is a possibility of the Jesuits holding a position in Southern Italy similar to that assumed by the body when employed to arrest the tide of the Reformation. Kings are once more allowing them to dictate from the throne; and if they use more judgment than they did in the days of Clement, they may for a time maintain considerable influence. They will, nevertheless, have much to contend with,—for the extensive sale of the periodical literature during the freedom of the press clearly proved that the prevailing appetite was for substantial truth and



profitable information. The smaller Jesuitical prints of Naples—such, for instance, as the *Verità e Libertà*—are blundering productions. The politics of this latter paper are directed principally against Protestantism, Mazzini, and the “monsters” who wanted reform in Italy. In their zeal to combat what they consider the errors and crimes of the Italian political and religious reformers (of whom there are thousands), the editors of this and other similar journals expose a variety of facts which would have remained dead in the grave of the late revolution, but are now brought on the stage like ghosts to frighten the few readers of the periodical prints.

As the matter stands with the new law, we can expect nothing from this part of the world either in literature or in art. Not from want of genius:—the Neapolitans have shown what they can do. Such authors as Vico, Filangieri, Della Porta, Sanazaro, and others would do honour to any country; and in the only branch of Art which is free—namely, the musical—they have such names as Pergolesi, Jomelli, Durante, Paisiello, Bellini (Sicilian), Pacini, and the living Mercadante.—The troubles of the booksellers augment daily. The priests appointed to revise the works which come from France will allow scarcely any to pass. In the first place, the bookseller is obliged to pay the duty before the books are inspected,—and as they are generally confiscated, he loses both his money and his goods. This has the effect desired by Government.

I will conclude my melancholy account of the war on mind and the “paper tongues of thought” by informing you that the Neapolitan Government has, however, granted a sum of 20,000 ducats for continuing the excavations of Pompeii. The work is to begin at the end of September. To be consistent, the priests ought to revise the objects there discovered! But these objects are Pagan:—and antiquity covers a multitude of sins.—I must not omit to mention that in the island of Capri has recently been discovered a beautiful grotto, which may rival the Blue Grotto:—but as I have not yet seen it, I can give no details.

#### OUR WEEKLY GOSSIP.

In a little more than six months from this date the third great numbering of the people of these islands is to take place. Arrangements are already in progress:—and the Act fixes the 31st of March 1851 as the day of counting. From what appears to be doing in the matter, we are not without serious misgivings that instead of a better and more useful census next year, we may have one worse than before. With a view to greater economy, it has been determined to employ in this great work merely the staff of clerks in the Registrar General's office. Not knowing the strength of this staff, we can pronounce no opinion on the policy of this determination; but we will observe, that the first object of the Home Secretary—into whose department of the public service this duty falls—should be, to obtain a census expressing not only the material facts as they stand recorded in the numbers, ages, classification, and distribution of the people,—but also those more important moral and social facts which result from the state of education and the habits and employments of the masses. To the statesman and the public writer all facts are of importance: but—as we have pointed out before when dealing with this subject—the first class of interest attaches to those which define the relations of one order with another, and express the moral action of those conditions of social existence that are now found about us. For instance,—the fact is not without interest that there are so many cabmen, so many coalheavers, so many tailors, in the metropolis; but it is of far more consequence to the magistrate—and in some measure to all those who help to express the magisterial judgment called public opinion—to know how these and other several occupations affect men as regards ignorance, drunkenness, disease, disorderly conduct, rates of wages, rates of mortality, crime,—and so forth. It is well known to persons who have paid attention to the condition of the working classes, that certain employments tend to promote various vices:—cabmen are inclined to

personal violence,—costermongers to thieving,—draymen to drunkenness. What is needed is, a regular and authoritative statement of these moral causes, for the uses of the law-giver and the political economist. On a true conception of the nature of these relations depends the efficiency or otherwise of our remedial and precautionary measures.

We have not given our readers a list of the names included in the Royal Commission for inquiring into the state, discipline, studies, and revenues of the two Universities and their several colleges; and, seeing that the composition of these Commissions is an index to the good which may be expected from them—and that it is fitting our readers should know beforehand on whom the responsibility of their measures will have to be cast—we think it well here to supply that omission. The Commissioners for Cambridge are,—the Bishop of Chester, Dr. Peacock the Dean of Ely, Sir John Herschel, Sir John Romilly the Attorney General, and the Rev. A. Sedgwick, Woodwardian Professor of Geology in that University:—the Oxford Commissioners are,—the Bishop of Norwich, Dr. Tait the Dean of Carlisle, Dr. Jeune the Master of Pembroke College, the Rev. H. G. Liddell, Head Master of St. Peter's College, Westminster, J. L. Dampier, Esq., Vice-Warden of the Stannaries of Cornwall, the Rev. Baden Powell, Savilian Professor of Geometry, and the Rev. G. H. Sachaerell Johnson, of Queen's College, in that University.—Our readers will see, with some degree of hope, that there is a sprinkling of good reforming names in these lists.

Mr. Hind writes to the *Times* that he discovered on the evening of the 13th inst. a new planet in the constellation Pegasus. It appears, he says, like a star of the ninth magnitude, and has a pale bluish light. The following are the observed positions:—

	Greenwich Mean Time.	Right Ascension.	North Declination.
	h. m. s.	h. m. s.	deg. m. s.
Sept. 13 at	11 29 36 ..	23 44 45.08 ..	14 6 42.9
Sept. 14 at	8 28 24 ..	23 44 25.6 ..	13 59 29.3

“This new member of the solar system,” adds Mr. Hind, “forms the twelfth of the group of ultra-zodiacal planets, the third which I have been fortunate enough to discover in the course of a rigorous examination of the heavens.”—Mr. Hind proposes, if it shall turn out that there is no prior discovery, to distinguish his newly-found planet by the name of “Victoria,”—and to assign a star surmounted by a laurel branch as its symbol.

It is at once impossible within such space as we can command and unnecessary to report all the signs and tokens that mark on every hand the coming of the magnificent event of 1851;—but we have from time to time pointed to such expressive yet less showy facts as indicate the permanent benefits growing, and likely to grow, out of the spirit of observation and productiveness which the voices of the great competition have awakened. Among these are, the challenges that patriotic individuals have issued on behalf of the local staples which they desire to see maintained in the coming lists. These challengers are quietly doing sound and substantive work,—training particular bodies of industrial men-at-arms to hold their own in the name and for the benefit of the severally endowed communities which they respectively represent.—Of this species of patriotic appeal, an Irish paper, the *Dublin Advocate*, furnishes us with a new example. In its columns a Mr. Allen, of Sackville Street, advertises as follows:—“Being thoroughly convinced, from experience, of the capabilities to manufacture in this country, I wish to do my part in promoting this deeply-important object, and accordingly offer the following premiums, viz.:—Ten guineas for the two best pieces of tweed for trousers, made in Connought or Munster.—Ten guineas for the two best, handsomest, and newest styles of tweed, made in Leinster.—Ten guineas for the two best pieces of Irish frieze: newness of colouring, make, and price will be considered by the adjudicators.—Ten guineas for the three best wove designs in flax, applicable for vestings.—Five guineas for the three best samples of new style tabinet vestings.—Five guineas for the three best designs for embroidered vests.—It must be distinctly understood

that these goods must be supplied at a marketable price, so as to compete with the English or Scotch goods; that the style, quality, and price will be taken into consideration; and that the premiums will be withheld if there is not sufficient merit in any case; also, that before offering them for sale elsewhere, the parties are to supply me with such further quantities of each as I may require. The samples should, if possible, be delivered before the end of the present year. The adjudication will be vested in competent persons, who will be satisfactory to all parties.”

While on the subject of the Exhibition, we may mention that the London Society of Arts—seeing, as our readers already know, that the great show of next year is but an enlargement of their own accustomed Exhibition, which would render it mere surplage on that occasion,—has issued the list of the prizes for philosophical treatises on various departments of the great Industrial Exhibition, (setting forth the peculiar advantages to be derived from each to the arts, manufactures, and commerce of the country) which they had some time since determined should take the place of their ordinary prizes. With this list our readers have been already made acquainted through our columns; but it may be well here to repeat it, for the benefit of any by whom it may have been overlooked. The Council offer, in the name of the Society, the large medal and 25*l.* for the best, and the Society's small medal and 10*l.* for the second best, treatise on the objects exhibited in the section of raw materials and produce;—a large medal and 25*l.* for the best, and a small medal and 10*l.* for the second best, treatise on the objects exhibited in the section of machinery;—a large medal and 25*l.* for the best, and a small medal and 10*l.* for the second best, treatise on the objects exhibited in the section of manufactures;—a large medal and 25*l.* for the best, and a small medal and 10*l.* for the second best, treatise on the objects exhibited in the section of Fine Arts.—Each treatise, it is directed, must occupy, and not exceed, 80 pages of the size of the Bridgewater Treatises.—The Society will also award its large medal and 25 guineas for the best general treatise on the Exhibition, treated commercially, politically, and statistically; and small medals for the best treatises on any special objects or class of objects exhibited. The treatises for which rewards are given are to be the property of the Society; and if deemed suitable for publication, should the Council see fit, they will cause the same to be printed and published, and will award to the author the net amount of any profits which may arise from the publication after the payment of the expenses. The treatises are to be delivered at the Society's house on or before the 30th of June, 1851. It is added, that there is no intention on the part of the Council to confine the rewards of the Society to the subjects named in this list,—though they do not anticipate that communications of interest on other subjects will be submitted.—We may add, also, that the members of the Royal Institution of Liverpool, anxious to show “their cordial approval of the Exhibition of Industry as proposed by His Royal Highness Prince Albert,” have raised among themselves a fund separate and distinct from the funds raising in Liverpool, and have directed their Secretary to subscribe in the name of their Society the sum of 50*l.* to the General Fund, and to pay the balance to the Liverpool subscriptions. We believe, too, that the Local Committee of Liverpool have already remitted 500*l.* to the general treasurers at the Bank of England.—In Canada, the Governor-General has appointed a Commission for conducting the provincial Exhibition to be held at Montreal, with a view to the selection therefrom of the articles—the productions of Canada—to be transmitted to the Great Competition; and the local legislature has voted the munificent sum of 2,000*l.* in aid of that object.—Among other rumours of arrangements making at home in contemplation of the coming Exhibition, it is stated that Mr. Batty, of Astley's Royal Amphitheatre, has taken premises and land in the neighbourhood of Hyde Park, which he intends converting into a Hippodrome, on precisely the same scale as the one in Paris, during the Exhibition of 1851,—in which he will introduce the



tournays of the olden time, on a scale of magnitude and splendour hitherto unequalled.

It is highly interesting to observe how the spirit of association for bringing together and classifying the products of the various arts of life is spreading throughout England. The increased stimulus given to the metropolitan Society of Arts, and the appeal everywhere made by the forthcoming universal Industrial Exhibition, have awakened a general sense of the importance of such means of encouragement and comparison.—Amongst demonstrations of the kind, we may point to an interesting "Exposition of Arts" which is now open at the Mechanics' Institute in the town of Devonport. Prizes were offered for numerous objects, and it would appear that in nearly every case there has been several competitors. The Exhibition appears to be of a very interesting character.—The Exhibition of the long tried and thoroughly successful Royal Cornwall Polytechnic Society commenced on the 18th, under the presidency of Sir Charles Lemon.

The Committee of Council on Education explain their views on the Queen's Scholarships in their annual letter to the Inspectors,—which it may be useful to some of our readers to have briefly stated. The competitors for these honours and rewards must be apprentices who have passed their fifth year successfully. The examination will comprise the Scriptures, English History, Geography, Arithmetic (including vulgar fractions and decimals), English Grammar and Composition. The candidate who answers in these subjects really well may obtain an Exhibition of 20*l.* a-year,—25*l.* if he add another subject to his list. Vulgar fractions and decimals are omitted for females; on which account we may suppose the rewards are reduced to the lower fractions of 13*l.* 6*s.* 8*d.* and 16*l.* 13*s.* 4*d.*—"Every candidate will further be required to read intelligently, to write a fair hand, and to spell correctly!"

It is stated in German papers that the heirs of Schiller and Goethe have obtained possession, from the Government of Weimar, of the original MS. correspondence carried on between those two illustrious men during the years from 1794 to 1805, consisting of four hundred and forty-two letters written entirely by Schiller,—one hundred and five wholly written, and four hundred and eight dictated and signed by Goethe. The heirs propose to sell the original letters, as well as the autographs of those dictated, under condition that if published the publication must be *fac-similes*.

Among the minor matters to which the attention of reformers needs directing are, dress and costume. Science and Art have invaded the palace, the cottage, the workshop, the prison,—concerned themselves with the flesh we eat, the air we breathe, the waters we drink, the houses we dwell in, the streets along which we walk;—it is high time they should deign to look at the clothes we wear. Possibly, more than one article of our costume—ugly and expensive as it is, from hat to boot—will meet its condemnation in the great gathering of the coming year. Look, for example, at the European hat. Grim, stiff, unsightly, uncomfortable,—it has not a redeeming feature. Yet, from year to year we go on wearing it,—and even capricious Fashion refuses to meddle with this mode. We owe the hat to France; whose proverbial good taste in dress is certainly here—as, indeed, in male dress generally—at fault. The native English hat, whether worn soberly as in the Commonwealth time, or with the dancing plume of the Restoration, was characteristic and useful. We never turn over the prints of those times without envying our fathers the ease of their soft and shady coverings. Ours are neither. While they brand the temples with red and painful lines, they expose the face to both wind and rain. Our neighbours across the Channel, we see, propose to send over to the Great Exhibition a variety of new ideas in the way of male head-dress:—perhaps this may lead to a revolution in English hats. The turban is at least picturesque,—the Greek cap is gorgeous,—the old German slouch hat is comfortable,—the helmet affords protection,—every covering which we remember has some good quality in its form except the sections of funnels now worn in

Europe under the influence of Paris. The English hatters had better be wise in time, and set their wits at work to invent something that will meet the existing dissatisfaction with the products of their art.—We see that anti-hat societies are springing up in England. The monarchy of the stiff hat is visibly drawing towards its close.

The tax on advertisements puts advertisers on strange shifts to attract attention to their wares. The bare wall, the bridge, the temporary hoarding have each been used up long ago; the perambulating van, printed and placarded over, has ceased to command the eye; the file of fifty board-men don't take as they were wont,—and even the moving box, basket or barrel, as the case may be, with the head above and the boots below, is now passed by unheeded. Marvels become stale as surely as commonplaces if you only give them time. Curiosities cease to be curious when they have long walked the streets.—The broadsheet only is sure to command a certain number of eyes each day; and in it men naturally look for the information of which they may be in search. But unable from the high rate of duty levied on their convenience by Government to avail themselves of this fittest channel of communication with the public, venders are compelled to have recourse to other and less promising means. Some one, of bolder genius than the rest, has hit on the idea of employing the lower animals to distribute his announcements. A dog covered with placards perambulates the Strand and Fleet Street, with a gravity and decorum which till this new resource shall be vulgarized secures the notice of the public. But [the hint might be improved into a fortune by the Zoological Society. Their gardens are now above all other places the scene of fashionable and popular resort, and they have abundance of animated material ready for the exercise of this new advertisement idea. The elephant offers a large surface for placards,—and a good round sum would be paid for "biling" the bos aurochs, with his many readers. The hippopotamus, being the newest wonder, would be worth its weight in gold to a quack medicine vender or a cheap clothier.

Our contemporaries have recorded the death, at the early age of 41, of Mr. Charles Hennell,—a writer who has acquired some notoriety, though amongst a limited class, by his "Inquiry concerning the Origin of Christianity" and his treatise entitled "Christian Theism." The *Leader* says of Mr. Hennell,—“He was a manly writer, elaborating his views with care, and expressing them without equivocation. He has been called the English Strauss,—but he merited—

Ni cet excès d'honneur ni cette indignité; and his writings, if less erudite and brilliant, are less open to cavil, and more irresistible in their onslaught on the hoary edifice of traditional dogmas.”—The nature of Mr. Hennell's themes was such as to exclude them from discussion in our columns, according to our avowed scheme,—and therefore the reader has made no acquaintance with his title to the above character by our means.

Some minor reforms and a few experiments in the present mode of managing criminals are about to be undertaken by authority,—in a sense by this time familiar to the readers of the *Athenæum*. The mistake of having the same body of men as managers and inspectors of the Government prisons is to be done away with; the Secretary of State appointing in their stead a number of directors who are to have the supreme control. The work system is at length to be fairly tried:—at least so much is promised to the clamour of reform. The prison at Dartmoor is being prepared for the reception of a body of convicts who are to be employed in cultivating the adjoining lands. Under what system of management, is not yet made public,—perhaps is not yet settled by the Home Office; but the recent mutinies and burnings at Parkhurst will, we should hope, suggest to Sir George Grey that a sterner discipline and harder work are absolutely necessary to the success of his new experiment. At Parkhurst, a Government prison, the inmates work, even according to the rules, only twenty-eight hours and a half a-week the whole year round. Practically, we know it to be less than this. How can our rulers hope to form and foster habits of industry in

the criminal by such a *régime*? If the Dartmoor experiment is to be conducted on a system in any degree akin to this, it requires no great share of the prophetic faculty to foretell its utter failure.

The *Journal des Débats* states that a M. Prax, who had been secretly commissioned by the French Government to make an examination of the Southern Oases of Algeria, has returned to Paris, and been permitted to make public the results of his observations. He visited Souf and Tuggurt; and there satisfied himself that the interior of Africa is supplied, to the exclusion of Algeria, from Morocco, Tunis, Tripoli and Egypt. The Tuat trades to Morocco,—Ghadames frequents the markets of Tripoli and Tunis,—the merchants of Fezzan go to Tripoli and Cairo. M. Prax thinks, however, that it would be easy to establish commercial relations between Algeria and the Oases. The French colony would communicate with the Country of the Blacks by means of the Chaamba and the Arabs of El Ouad, inhabiting its southern frontiers. The products of French industry carried into the interior of Africa would be distributed from the Tuat to Ghadames and Fezzan, from Timbuctoo to Ouâra the capital of Ouaddai,—and would supply the Arabs, the Touareg and the Fellatah. M. Prax has traced a detailed map of that part of Africa over which he thinks the commerce of France might be extended,—marking the routes which link Algeria to the Regencies of Tunis and Tripoli, to the Oases, and to the countries of the Touareg, the Blacks, and the Fellatah. All these roads, he says, are perfectly secure, with the exception of that which goes from Tunis to Souf.

The Brussels papers are occupied with the programme of the Fêtes to be given next week in celebration of the twentieth anniversary of Belgian independence. Amongst the ceremonials of the occasion will be, the laying of the first stone of the monument intended to commemorate the Congress, and in honour of the Constitution. The model of this monument, made of wood and relief, with the sculpture in pasteboard, painted and bronzed to resemble the actual monument, is to be erected during the fêtes on the Place des Panoramas.—A festival will be given by the Philharmonic Society on the 25th in the spacious conservatories and orangery of the Botanic Garden.

It is satisfactory to find that the Penny Bank—an institution whose introduction into London the *Athenæum* was the first journal to advocate—is taking such solid hold of the public for whose special advantage it is designed. More than a dozen, we believe, of these most useful establishments are now in full operation in the metropolis alone,—and the number of depositors is counted already by tens of thousands. The first experiment was tried in Commercial Street, Whitechapel,—and with the following gratifying results.—The institution was opened on the 30th of January in the present year; in the 227 days which had elapsed on the 15th inst., 49,516 deposits had been made by 7,853 different persons,—and the whole of their savings in these eight and a half months amounted to 2,017*l.* In every respect the issue of this experiment is interesting and encouraging. It will be seen that the average of each deposit is somewhat under ten-pence,—one of the small sums which are so easily spent by the working classes. A pot or two of beer,—and it is gone. Who shall estimate the virtues to which this habit of self-denial may give rise? It is pleasing also to find so large a number of depositors in one neighbourhood. One would have thought that 8,000 savers amongst the most improvident classes of society must be sought over a large space. Strongly as we urged a trial of the Penny Bank in the neglected districts of London, we must confess we were not prepared to find its success so rapid and complete as the statement of the Whitechapel directors makes it appear. Those who were waiting for some tangible results on which to base their operations in the same line may take courage from this example, and begin.

THE NILE.—WILL SHORTLY CLOSE.—The Proprietors being about to remove the Panorama from London will exhibit for a short period at the following greatly REDUCED PRICES:—Gallery, 67, Pitt, 1*st*, Stalls, 2*nd*.—EGYPTIAN HALL, PICCADILLY.—Daily, at Three and Eight o'clock.



INDIA OVERLAND MAIL.—DIORAMA.—GALLERY of ILLUSTRATION, 14, Regent-street, Waterloo-place.—A gigantic MOVING DIORAMA, ILLUSTRATING the ROUTE of the OVERLAND MAIL to INDIA, depicting every object worthy of notice on this highly-interesting Journey from Southampton to Madras and Calcutta, accompanied by descriptive detail and appropriate music, is now OPEN DAILY.—Mornings at Twelve, Afternoons at Three, and in the Evenings at Eight o'clock.—Admission, 1s.; Stalls, 2s. 6d.; Reserved Seats, 3s., which may be previously engaged. Doors open half an hour before each representation. Descriptive Catalogue may be obtained at the Gallery.

The DIORAMA, Regent's Park.—Admission, One Shilling.—NOW OPEN, with the finest VIEWS ever exhibited in this country, representing the ROYAL CASTLE of STOLZENFELS, on the Rhine, (visited by Her Majesty Queen Victoria in August, 1845), and its Environs, as seen at Sunset and during a Thunder Storm; painted by NICHOLAS MEISTER, of Cologne. And the much-admired Picture of THE SHRINE of THE NATIVITY, at Bethlehem; painted by the late M. RENOUX, from a Sketch made on the spot by DAVID ROBERTS, Esq. R.A., with novel and striking effects.—Open from Ten till Six.

#### ROYAL POLYTECHNIC INSTITUTION.

LAST WEEK in London of the ALPINE SINGERS from Styria, who perform several of their National Melodies, Daily at Four, and in the Evenings at Half-past Eight.—LECTURE on the HYDRO-ELECTRIC MACHINE, by Dr. Bachhoffner, daily at Two, and in the Evenings at Quarter past Nine.—LECTURE on CHEMISTRY, by J. H. Pepper, Esq., illustrating the ANCIENT FIERY ORDEAL and the HANDLING of RED-ROT METALS, daily at a Quarter-past Three, and in the Evenings at Eight.—MODEL of WESTON'S PATENT NOVA-MOTIVE RAILWAY at work daily.—NEW SERIES of DISSOLVING VIEWS, illustrating some of the WONDERS of NATURE, daily at Half-past Four, and in the Evenings at a Quarter to Ten; also a Series, exhibiting SCENES in the ARCTIC REGIONS and CEYLON, daily at One o'clock.—DIVER and DIVING BELL, &c. &c.—Admission, 1s.; Schools, Half-price.

#### FINE ARTS

**FINE-ART GOSSIP.**—The subscriptions for the Peel Testimonials are multiplying so fast and progressing so well, that their aggregate represents now an imposing sum,—and an attempt is, we see, making to appropriate them for the Church. As in the leading cases the sums voted or subscribed have been expressly assigned to monumental illustration, and as in the others it is clear that a local feeling—a desire to have an individual note in the chorus of heart-felt commemoration—is apparent—it is not likely that this movement will be attended with success. The Bury subscription, for instance, is said to have reached the sum of 3,000l.; and this large amount for a town of its class probably represents the many cherished memories that connect the family of the late Sir Robert Peel with that locality. In addition to what Manchester has done, Salford—which bears the same relation to the former place that Southwark does to London—offers 1,200l. for competition, and advertises for designs. We hope that the same spirit in which Salford seeks to make the most of the occasion will be followed elsewhere,—and that there will be no arbitrary appropriations of the large funds which in all these cases represent a deep feeling. This universal appeal to sculpture is precisely an opportunity for sculpture to show the best that in this country she can do. Sir Robert Peel was throughout life a patron of his country's Art,—and we would have something great come out of this *post-mortem* conjuring with his name. We have sculptors in England second to none in Europe; and as a European interest is felt and expressed in Sir Robert Peel's memory, these Peel testimonials should be made the means of recording to Europe what our sculpture can effect to express the national sentiment and to illustrate herself. A contemporary is informed, as he states, that the monuments for Westminster Abbey and Manchester have been assigned, without competition, to two favoured artists. We know that he is wrong in the one case,—and have no doubt that he is so in the other. The Manchester statue is not assigned,—and will, we have good reason to believe, be made the subject of an artistic competition. With regard to the Abbey monument we have already remarked on the strong suspicions of a job suggested by the ministerial language,—but the mere pointing of public attention to a projected job is often the means of disturbing the project. We will not believe that in defiance of public feeling the minister will thus venture to deal *ex mero motu* with the public money. The monument to be raised in London to the memory of the great statesman should represent not Lord John Russell's private predilections, but the best condition of the art amongst us as freely pronounced on by those who have to pay for it. The Parliamentary vote for this object is in no sense ministerial pocket-money. The Peel memorial can by no construction that the nation will

tolerate be brought within the admissible range of a prime minister's patronage. The hero of the Reform Bill should maintain no close boroughs in Art,—least of all, making the application of such a system where Sir Robert Peel is in question.

The new house which Mr. William Cubitt is building in the hollow of Piccadilly, on the site of the old Pulteney Hotel, is for the Marquis of Hertford:—and at the back a gallery of good size and fair proportions is advancing at such a rapid pace that there is every chance of our seeing the whole house finished and the pictures in their places by the opening of the Great Exhibition of next year. The Marquis, though but a recent purchaser, has already one of the finest collections of pictures in this country. He has bought with taste, judgment and liberality,—and was, as we have said, the true representative of Great Britain at the sale of the King of Holland's pictures. Troubled Prussia and yet more troubled France both added to their treasures at the great sale,—while England, almost the only untroubled kingdom in Europe, was absent as a Government from that remarkable competition. We are not fond of assigning class or party qualifications,—but it seems too clear that the Whigs neither love nor understand Art. The Marquis of Lansdowne and Mr. Labouchere are the exceptions. The purse-strings of the nation's treasury are held by Lord John Russell and Sir Charles Wood,—who are said to be both insensible to a Titian or a Teniers. The people to whom the purse belongs are no longer so dull to the advantages of Art; and through their representatives will have to teach their leaders that niggardliness in regard to it is not political economy of even the Adam Smith or the McCulloch school.

We have paid a visit of inspection to a fresh portrait of Shakespeare laying claim through its owner to the great merit of being an original. It wears a most imposing look of age; and with novices will pass perhaps as the veritable thing asserted,—as a portrait, in short, for which Shakespeare expressly sat. It is an imposition of somebody's, nevertheless:—carrying too many manufactured truths and untruths legible on its face to deceive the cautious or the instructed. For instance, the poet's name is spelt Shakspeare:—a way in which it was not spelt by a single contemporary. The picture bears the year in which it professes to have been painted and the period of the poet's life in which he is assumed to have sat for it; and the letters are raised from the canvas—a practice of which we believe it would be difficult to find a single example of Shakespeare's age. The portrait is of course not unlike the received likenesses of the poet—possessing a forehead almost approaching to baldness.—On the very day on which we were invited to see this “warranted genuine,” we found at a friend's house a newly-purchased portrait of Dryden, from the same Birmingham-mint:—and therefore we caution the public in due time against such counterfeit resemblances. The Dryden has the same raised letters, with year and age.—If Shakespeare sat for all the portraits existing that are called by his name, he must have passed a large portion of his too short life in sitting for his likeness. Neither Sir Walter Scott nor the Duke of Wellington would appear to have been worried by portrait-painters to such an extent as was “the gentle Shakespeare.”

A very considerable sum of money is about to be expended extravagantly, because uselessly, on a railing in front of the British Museum. Of what service, we ask, can it possibly be to separate the space in front of that building from the street? Why can it not be left an open area like that in Trafalgar Square, the one before the Royal Exchange, and that which we are seeking to get around St. Paul's? A spot where two sentinels are constantly on duty might be thought sufficiently guarded from mischievous or disorderly intrusion. As to the building itself, it is perfectly safe from open violence,—and needs no barricade. The Bank and the Mint may perhaps be stormed in a desperate insurrection, when it comes,—but we have really no fears for the British Museum. If violence were intended, we have doubts if two sentinels and a palisade would prove a sufficient

defence. In fact, palisades are just the things to furnish a “physical force” mob with ready-made pikes and weapons of attack.—Looking at the matter architecturally, it may be questioned, as we have already said, whether the building will not rather suffer in appearance than be at all improved by ornamental palisading in its front. The latter must be exceedingly simple and unpretending; or if of ambitious design and workmanship, it will cause the façade behind it—at least some portions of it—to appear more insignificant, and even mean, than they do at present. A very safe course to adopt would be, to erect nothing of the kind until it shall have been found that it is necessary or desirable to do so. As soon as the old wall shall have been taken down, let the hoarding be cleared away, and the entire space in front of the Museum be thrown open to the street. It can afterwards be inclosed at any time, should it be wished. This experiment will in any case be the cheapest:—and perhaps the money may be eventually saved. It might help us to print our “Finding Catalogue.”

Some of our English dealers have reaped a rich harvest for their purchases at the recent sale of the pictures and drawings of the King of Holland. We are afraid to name the cent-per-cent gains said to have been obtained, and with ease,—such is the demand both on the Continent and in England for the works of the best masters.—Some of the Raphael drawings bought by Mr. Woodburn have since been purchased by Prince Henry of the Netherlands.

The huge statue of Bavaria has been removed to the elevated site in the neighbourhood of Munich which it is finally to occupy,—and its inauguration awaits only the return of the King to the capital. The artists and students of Munich have entertained M. Miller, the director of the royal foundry where the statue was cast in bronze, at a grand banquet; and toasts were drunk in honour of the King who projected, the deceased sculptor Schwanthaler who modelled, and M. Miller who has been eight years employed in the casting of it.—Some further details are given to help in conveying a notion of the scale on which this work is executed. The bronze cost 92,600 florins,—and if the metal were spread over a plain surface it would cover 10,400 square feet. Formed into a cylinder, it would occupy a space of 69,500 cubic feet. Every bronze foot of the statue having a medium thickness of half an inch weighs fifteen pounds:—so that the total weight of the monument is 1,560 quintals (hundred-weights).

#### MUSIC AND THE DRAMA

##### NEW PUBLICATIONS.—SACRED MUSIC.

WE may now address ourselves to the new publications accumulated during the latter weeks of the season. Generally, it may be stated that the standard of musical works issued in England is gradually rising. There are fewer flimsy arrangements of opera tunes—fewer ballads “three-times skimmed sky blue”—than was formerly the case. In the section of vocal music,—considered to be especially the strength of England—the new publications are many and important. If we look back and around to the amount of excitement and information concerning sacred and service music diffused during late seasons,—beginning with Mr. Novello's valuable hand-editions of Handel's Oratorios, Haydn's Masses, and those Psalms by Mendelssohn of which Mr. Novello holds the property,—there must result the gratifying conviction that our people sing more than formerly—sing better music than they did—and increasingly understand the place and the proportion, the history and the structure, of what they sing.

Some of the sacred editors, however, show an amount of profane wrath on the subject which savours of the shop rather than of the sanctuary. One series of publications claims especial notice for the universal abusiveness of its letter-press. We have rarely met with any writer on music so bitterly bad tempered as the editor of the *Church Musician*. He is in a passion with everybody save with Dr. Gauntlett. Having a system of church music of his own to recommend, one or two favourite composers, and one favourite commentator,—he de-



nounces all who differ from him, or who work for the same objects in a different manner, in terms more coarse than choice. He falls foul of a gentleman whom he assumes to write in the *Athenæum* for "a sheer burst of lunacy," because of his opinion on the "Church tones,"—describes the Gregorian chants of Mr. Vincent Novello as "a style of music which would account for every line of the hallucinations we have extracted,"—and characterizes Mr. Spencer's harmonical efforts as "chilling examples of a peculiar folly."—Mr. Hullah's Psalter gives him "the stomach ache,"—Mr. Monk's Anglican Chant-book contains "trash,"—Mr. Helmore's 'Psalter and Canticles' can only be considered in the light of "a gross fraud,"—whereas Dr. Gauntlett's Canticles, &c. &c. &c. We are sorry to see a clever man and original thinker like Dr. Gauntlett puffed by a controversialist, who knows neither the parts of speech nor a particle of good manners. We might understand M. Jullien waxing fierce in defence of his 'Row Polka,' or M. Musard appealing to the barricades in behalf of his *Chambord Valse à deux temps*. But these dance-conductors are artists and good Christians to boot compared with the Church counsellor before us. A choir in a rage "praising the Lord" or "breathing penitence and prayer" is a sight as little canonical as the

Casocked huntsman and the fiddling priest

of the satirist; but it is the sole clear idea which we have derived from turning over the first numbers of this *Church Musician*.

By the manner and place of its announcement, we are disposed to imagine that the *Church Anthem Book* is under the same superintendence as the above peppery periodical. On a feature put forward with obvious emphasis in the prospectus, we have a word to say:—

"THE CHURCH ANTHEM BOOK will reproduce THE CHOIR OF MEN. At present, the power and majesty of the men's choir can only be heard at Exeter Hall or on the opera stages. Mendelssohn, Meyerbeer, Weber, and Auber have restored to England, and the Catholic church, an exhibition of Psalms and prayers sung by men, a feature of the sublimest character, and one which Greene, Croft, and Boyce had thrown into the shade and thoroughly annihilated.... Everything that our amateur English cathedral composers have ever written falls into absolute and extreme nothingness before such condensation of strength, passion, and simplicity. What cathedral is there in England in which even six men may be heard to sing a passage in unison? Where can be heard a chorus of men? Where can be heard even a trio or quartet without some disagreeable *falsito* destroying the power and unity of the movement? The work will be issued in numbers containing the full score and organ arrangement. There will be no edition in separate parts, for with church choirs it is desirable that every member of the choir should see the whole for his musical edification, and something more. A church choir is neither for Exeter Hall nor a stage for singing your part."

In the last opinion we heartily agree. Precisely for this reason are we unable to conceive on what grounds of musical sense or of congregational sympathy one half of its musical resources is to be cut off from the choir,—and one sex of the worshippers is to exhibit, while the other is to be silent. We remember no instance—save to meet the exigencies of the stage, in a soldier's chorus, or a hunting chorus, or a chorus of Greek priests—where Mendelssohn, Meyerbeer, Weber, and Auber have thus spoiled themselves of half of their means and materials. Which is the psalm or hymn by Auber sung by men? Even in that exclusively male scene "The Bénédiction des Poignards" of 'Les Huguenots,' Meyerbeer has introduced female voices, in the persons of women disguised as monks. The above are mere words.—But to come close to the point. The editors of the *Church Anthem Book* are possibly unaware how in the Catholic Church the necessity of having *soprano* voices was met. They may be ignorant that now females regularly take their place and part in the most august Catholic service-music which is at present to be heard in Europe—the High Mass in the Cathedral at Cologne. Were, moreover, the proprietors of this *Anthem Book* more intent on the practicability, sense, and facts of the question than upon fopperies of novelty and paradox which are thrust on us with a jargon recalling the "Sanconiathon, Manetho, and Berosus" arguments of Mr. Ephraim Jenkinson in 'The Vicar,'—they would recollect that a choir of male voices is less effective in England than elsewhere, owing to the

limited range upward of average English tenors as compared with the tenors of France and Germany. Thus much concerning voices elect. On turning to *The Church Anthem Book*, the compositions there published seem to us little more in accordance with the spirit of our language than the awkward adaptations which were some years ago put forth by the *Motett Society*. We cannot accept the Psalms distorted into bad English. This we find in No. 2, where we are invited, in place of the fifth verse of the Forty-sixth Psalm, to sing the following:—

"There is a river whose gentle waters flowing ever maketh glad," &c. &c.

In p. 16 of No. 3 is a no less eminent specimen of "Church anthem" language.—

"O, Saviour of the world, who by thy cross and precious blood hast redeemed us," &c. &c.

Persons who blow the trumpet of defiance "to all and sundry" so loudly as the editors of these publications have done, should take good care that their own penny-whistles are not cracked or out of tune. But, for the most part, intemperance is accompanied by slovenliness.

*The Chanter's Hand Guide for the Use of Churches, Chapels, &c. &c.; with three hundred and seventy-three Cathedral Chants, very many of which (written by the most eminent composers and organists in this country expressly for this work) are now first published.* Edited by Joseph Warren.—The title above transcribed will save us the necessity of an elaborate analysis of this handsome and carefully-produced volume. On the whole the selection is good, and may be characterized as containing sufficient variety without vagary. To the last, in a place of worship, we are as reverently opposed as the most orthodox of the mono-tonists, (to coin a name for those who conceive that there is no safe or sacred singing beyond the pale of the "Church tones.") Thus, on principle, we regret all manufactures, adaptations, &c. &c.:—pointing out as an example of their futility Mendelssohn's 'O rest in the Lord,' which makes but a poor fractured tune when transformed as in p. 81 of Mr. Warren's 'Chanter's Hand Guide.' There is no need for such appropriations,—the English Church being rich in chants of grave melody and sweetness.

*The People's Service of Song: a Tune Book for the Pew.* The Harmonies revised by George Hogarth, Esq. The whole edited by John Curwen.—We are sorry to say that this tune-book is at best but a vagary of many pages (to refer to our last paragraph). Lest any one should think our sentence needlessly harsh, let us specify No. 118, 'Pascal,'—No. 63, 'Burnett,'—No. 108, 'Solicitude,'—No. 134, 'Alma,'—No. 135, 'Rousseau,' (once more 'Rousseau's Dream,')—and point to some thirty more *lits* which we at least are not imaginative enough to invest with any devotional feeling or solemnity.

To close this notice, we may mention two works by an amateur, *Messe à trois voix, avec Accompagnement d'Orgue ou Piano-forte.* Op. 59. *Thou art my King, O God, Anthem for four voices and chorus, with an Accompaniment for the Organ or Piano-forte.* By John Lodge Ellerton, Esq.—In the Mass the slight and graceful forms of the school of Haydn are adopted. The three voices are two tenors and a bass. The 'Benedictus' has a very elegant—almost too elegant—theme:—and shows a fair amount of constructive skill in the vocal combinations and of fancy in the accompaniments.—If sung by three tuneful Italian voices, the effect could hardly fail to be more than ordinarily pleasing. Thus, though his be not High Church writing, Mr. Lodge Ellerton merits the praise of having succeeded in the task proposed to himself and the style selected.—In his Anthem he aspires at the solemnities of the Protestant cathedral,—and here a certain want of vigour, inseparable perhaps from amateur practice in Art, makes itself more perceptible than in the more florid music of the Catholic rite which has just been discussed.

OLYMPIC.—This theatre had the start of the Haymarket on Thursday week in the production of a version from the French 'Giralda,' by MM. Adam and Scribe. Divested of the music, the

piece is reduced to a drama solely dependent on the plot. Of characterization there is nothing. A village maiden is rescued at night by a *Don Manuel de Calvados* (Mr. Leigh Murray),—who contrives to remain unrecognized throughout the play,—and by an understanding with her intended bridegroom, *Piquillo*, a miller (Mr. Compton), to become also the husband of the girl. The part of *Giralda*, the heroine, is sustained by the arch skill of Mrs. Stirling; and her perplexity on account of her "invisible husband" is indicated with charming naïveté.—On Monday a new farce was produced, entitled 'The Oldest Inhabitant,' being an adaptation from 'Le Père Turlututu,' in which M. Bouffé so admirably presented the combination of senility, cunning, and personal imbecility. Mr. Farren could scarcely have been better suited with a part.

HAYMARKET.—Mr. Bourcault is the adapter of 'Giralda' for this stage; and has accomplished his task in a very able manner,—giving piquancy to the dialogue and the situations by points of his own invention. Miss Kathleen Fitzwilliam's *Giralda* is an extraordinary performance; and, with the addition of a song composed by Mr. Alfred Mellon, entitled 'The Heart's Appeal,' which she sings with remarkable pathos, it is likely to prove a very attractive one. Mr. Webster has been careful to corroborate the exertions of his actors by due attention to the scenery and costumes,—which are very appropriate and striking.

SADLER'S WELLS.—'Coriolanus' was revived on Monday, with appointments similar to those employed here two seasons ago. Mr. Phelps's presentation of the hero has undergone little change; but Miss Glyn's Roman mother was marked by increased decision of outline and more perfect filling up of character and colour. Her last interview with *Coriolanus* was distinguished by pathetic delivery and statuesque dignity. The house was well attended.

STRAND.—Sir John Vanburgh's comedy of 'The Relapse' was revived on Monday. Its success under the present management furnishes an illustration of what may be done with good training by a company almost wholly unknown to fame, and unilluminated by a single star or a single pretender to be one. The drama was throughout read by the performers with care; and in so small a house the dialogue being perfectly understood, the wit and the situations alike took care of themselves, and told with scarcely any effort on the bulk of an audience disposed to be pleased. Signs like this bespeak the approach of a period when "the play" shall be "the thing," rather than the actor.—The comedy was succeeded by a farce, and a new ballet,—the latter composed and in great part performed by Mr. Flexmore. It is entitled 'Perrequillo; or, Terror in a Tub,'—and serves to exhibit the marvellous agility of the principal actor. Mr. Flexmore's pantomimic power of communicating his mental workings to the spectator is first-rate. The dancing in general was graceful and pleasing; while the burlesque and extravagant character of the dance improvised, as it were, by Mr. Flexmore, commanded *encores* until the actor was too wearied to obey the call.

MUSICAL AND DRAMATIC GOSSIP.—The Gloucester Festival proves to have been one of the most satisfactory meetings of its series: in spite of the comparative absence of novelty,—the most unfamiliar work performed having been the 'Lauda Sion' of Mendelssohn. Certain ideas and questions have been stirred anew by the programmes of this Festival; and often as they have been already propounded in the *Athenæum*, they must be once again discussed. On the one hand, we find Miss Lucombe and Mr. Sims Reeves choosing airs by Bellini and Lillo for the Concerts,—in default, it may be supposed, of any novelty home or foreign, which they could present effectively;—on the other, we perceive that Madame Sontag has been singing 'Bid me discourse' with great success. What are we to deduce from this?—that we have no English concert songs more recent than Sir H. Bishop's? It really seems so, although—mark the



fact—never were compositions more hackneyed by executants than his in the days of their first freshness,—nor does one single opera bearing his name keep the stage. The *prestige* and popularity of Fashion, in short, have entirely passed from these. Since the day when they were written we have had English composers, more German, more Italian, more transcendental, more modish than Sir H. Bishop;—yet we hear his ‘Blow, gentle gales,’ ‘By the simplicity,’ ‘The Indian Drum,’ ‘The Tramp Chorus,’ ten times for any of their more recent concerted pieces or *cavatinas* once. The truth is, that Sir H. Bishop is more English in style than his successors; and hence his music, thrown off during the very darkest period of operatic taste in England, to meet the requisitions of unmusical theatre-managers, bids fair to survive the compositions of those who have Beethoven at their fingers’ ends,—or of those who have been indulged with a commission from almost every great theatre and for almost every great singer in Europe. A contemporary writer on the Gloucester Festival pleaded for some musical innovations at similar meetings with good judgment. To commence a provincial festival, there is, for the most part, a morning service performed in church or cathedral, with full choir, *solo* singers—in short, considerable musical parade. But, as the critic in the *Times* judiciously remarks, no variety seems thought necessary to render these services attractive. Yet, here is a frequent and legitimate opportunity for English composers to distinguish themselves in a style of music exclusively English. It seems almost hopeless to reiterate these truths, so deaf are the ears of the majority of those concerned to intimations which are neither mysterious in their origin nor remote in their aim.

The *Royal Eisteddod* and *North Wales Musical Festival* is to commence at Rhuddlan Castle on Tuesday next, and to terminate on Friday with the first performance of ‘The Messiah’ (so we are informed) which has been given in the Principality.

Our contemporaries are mentioning in high terms of praise a very young pianist, M. Heinrich Werner, who, according to their account, reproduces the marvels exhibited by M. Liszt in his boyhood. Accepting their statements, we cannot but earnestly express a wish that if there be such a genius, it will not be exposed to the ruin of precocious development, and that its possessor may not be wasted by indiscriminate public exhibition. Absurd and over-strained as the caution may seem to those whom variety, self-interest, or love of excitement may urge upon an opposite course, it is given out of regard, and not out of discouragement,—and with hope of in some small degree leavening public opinion with regard to the education of the gifted.

A pretty romance has been going the round of the home and foreign papers quoted from a periodical, purporting to be “the true account of the marriage of the great and good pianist, Liszt, in 1846.”—M. Liszt is not married.

Not merely as an appendical corroboration of the judgment pronounced by us when the composer was a new one, but from its collateral affinity to the remarks offered a week ago on Herr Wagner’s “System” of composition, do we recommend every one interested in opera to glance at a letter dated from Italy, concerning the music of Verdi, which has just been published in the *Gazette Musicale* by M. Fétis. That acute writer has grouped the contradictory phenomena of the composer’s position skilfully in a small compass. We are reminded that Signor Verdi receives for a score ten times as much as was paid to Donizetti, twenty times as much as to Bellini, thirty times as much as to Rossini. Yet, despite of this apparent vogue, the Opera-houses of Italy are one and all ruined. There are no more singers. Even at the fair of Bergamo, with the attraction of the most renowned tenor in Italy, Signor Fraschini, (what a decline and fall is conveyed by such an epithet applied to such a violent person!) neither ‘I Masnadieri’ nor ‘Ernani’ would bring an audience! M. Fétis too entirely throws out of his calculation the social and political state of Italy in speculating on the absence of opera-goers from their old haunt.—He goes on, however, to inform us that Signor Verdi himself appears aware that he has pushed the ear-splitting

manner to its uttermost extravagances,—that in his ‘Luisa Miller’ he has shown symptoms of attempting to retrace his steps, by adopting a quieter mode of instrumentation,—and that in a letter regarding his ‘Stiffelio’ (the coming opera commissioned for Trieste) the *maestro* has announced his determination of being rid of *cavatinas*, *cabaletti*, &c. &c., in favour, it is to be presumed, of music more expressive, dramatic, declamatory, &c. &c. &c. This is an excellent purpose on the part of a man of genius,—but it may be a shallow subterfuge when assumed by a pretender; and M. Fétis wisely indicates the hopelessness of any fruit arising therefrom when the notion is cultivated by one destitute not merely of science but also of ideas. We, too, are disposed to conceive that Signor Verdi is nothing if not noisy;—and glad as we are to hear that his noise no longer draws down thunders of applause in Italy, we cannot conceive that he can work out a career either by inventing new forms or by turning music to the purposes of expression. Meanwhile, he has given a *coup de grace* to the art of singing in Italy for some years to come:—we are almost inclined to fancy, past the chance of revival in our time.

Madame Ugalde-Bauce has re-appeared at the *Opéra Comique*, after an absence in the south of France for the benefit of her voice. So far as we can translate accounts, she seems to have partially rather than entirely recovered command over her organ. Her execution is described as being still the most brilliant of the brilliant.—‘L’Enfant Prodigue’ may be expected at the *Grand Opéra* about the first of October.—M. Henselt (the only very great pianist who has been heard of, rather than heard) is now in Paris.

Madame Saint Aubin, who for twenty-seven years was the delight of the public of the *Opéra Comique*, and who left the stage upwards of forty years ago, has just died, aged eighty-six years.—She played when only nine years of age as the Fairy *Ninette* in the Opera ‘Acajou’ of Favart, in the presence of Louis Quinze. When a woman grown she seems to have been one of the most perfect among those ladies who, not precisely great actresses still less accomplished vocalists, by the mixed charm of acting and singing have lent such a grace to the comic opera of France,—and who still as a class so largely contribute to maintain the form of that fascinating entertainment.

Mercadante is said to be setting to music the *Libretto* of ‘Le Val d’Andorre.’—A Signora Viola has been singing with a certain success at the Italian Opera at Berlin.—It may be news to the renters of Drury Lane Theatre to learn that an Italian Opera Company is about to perform there, directed by Signor Montelli, and with Mdle. Annette Lebrun for *prima donna*. This is stated positively in the *Gazette Musicale*.—Mr. Wallace, who is now in New York, has been giving a concert there with the utmost success.—Mdle. Lind has arrived in America and been received with regal honours.

What was thrown out last week merely on conjecture may prove to be more of a reality than of a guess. From what has since transpired it seems possible that the active management of *Her Majesty’s Theatre* may fall into the hands of Mr. Mitchell. For every one’s sake we hope that this may be brought to pass.—There is now another theatre—the St. James’s—available for English opera should any one be disposed to attempt the experiment.

#### MISCELLANEA

*The Submarine Telegraph.*—The following account of the present condition and prospects of the Submarine Telegraph experiment we take from the *Times*.—

Since the sinking of the first wire, circumstances have occurred calculated for a short time to retard the carrying out the project to completion, seeing that, in order to the complete establishment of an integral line of telegraphic service between London, Paris, and the Continent, the promoters have to obtain a grant from the French Government of the 18 miles of line extending from the coast to Calais, from which point to Paris the wires are erected. To secure that concession of this section, in the way of which some difficulties present themselves, Messrs. Brett, Wollaston and Edwards, directors of the undertaking, are now at

Paris, awaiting the return of the President of the Republic, who granted the original decree, and to negotiate with the Government authorities on the subject.—In the mean time, experience of the experiments already made goes to prove that a stronger species of telegraphic tackle will be required. By the terms of contract with the French Government it was enacted, “that the Government does not reserve to itself the right of making any similar concession,” but, “that in case the experiment shall not result in a favourable execution by the 1st September, 1850, the right conceded will revert to the French Government.” Consequent on the conditions laid down in the contract the promoters successfully submerged the wire; but, as is well known, it was subsequently cut asunder by some rocks on the French coast.—Since this happened divers have been down, and on examination it has been found that where the rupture of the coil occurred it had rested on a very sharp ridge of rocks, about a mile out from Cape Grinez, so that the leaden weights, hanging pannier-like on either side, in conjunction with the swaying of the water, caused it to part at that point, while at another place in shore the shingle from the beach had the effect of detaching the coil from the leaden conductor, that carried it up the Cape. The wire in its gutta percha coating was consequently cut in two places, representing a remnant of wire, of about 400 yards, which was allowed to drift away till it came into the possession of a fisherman at Boulogne, who made a demand of 6*fr.* for the injury he alleges it did to his nets. Complaints are made by the fishermen, both on the English and French coasts, that the existence of this wire will interfere with their deep sea fishing, and that its track over the Varne and elsewhere is in the way of places most frequented by fish. It is intended, however, at the suggestion of Mr. J. W. Brett, to pay these people an annual rental, and to establish for their families a philanthropic fund, to induce them to unite in the protection of a great national enterprise. The assistance of the Admiralty has also been secured for the issue of prohibitory orders against fishing on the route of the electric sea line, and against ships dropping or dragging anchors over its site. The authorities of Calais and Boulogne have intimated that they will send drummers round the town to advise fishermen not to fish on these spots, and the company will apply for powers to punish as a misdemeanour any attempts at injuring the wire. The line of wire where it was dislocated is now securely fastened on to the end of a large buoy. Her Majesty’s ship *Widgeon*, with Captain Bullock, has traversed the rest of the track, fishing up at intervals the whole of the sunk wire out of 100 feet and 150 feet of water, and laying it down again; thus proving that it has not drifted, and that there were no currents to remove it.—The promoters of the project appear to be fully apprehensive of the inadequacy of the present arrangements, and all their ingenuity is at work to be prepared to meet the emergency. Of currents it may be stated that there is no fear, since it has been ascertained that at certain fixed fathoms, even in the rapids of the Mississippi or at the Menai, there are none below three or four fathoms, and that at five fathoms there is calm water. In order to meet all existing or conjectured difficulty, the character of the undertaking, so far as its magnitude and solidity are concerned, will now be altered. The electric wire, thin as a lady’s staylace in itself, will now be encased either in a five or a ten inch cable of the diameter of those that placed the Britannia tubes in position, and these will be submerged by the aid of enormous weights. The wire will be imbedded in this gigantic coil or cable composed of what is called whipped plait with wire rope, all of it chemically prepared, so as to protect it from rot, and kyanized; the whole to be chained down, as it were, as the rails are on a railway, by the gravitation of the huge weights in the bottom of the sea.

*Locomotive Steam-engine.*—“I love,” says Elihu Burritt, “to see one of these huge creatures, with sinews of brass and muscles of iron, strut forth from his smoky stable, and, saluting the long train of cars with a dozen sonorous puffs from his iron nostrils, fall back very gently into his harness. There he stands champing and foaming upon the iron track, his great heart a furnace of glowing coals; his lymphatic blood is boiling in his veins; the strength of a thousand horses is nerving his sinews; he pants to be gone. He would drag St. Peter’s across the deserts of Sahara if he could be fairly hitched to it; but there is a little sober-eyed, tobacco-chewing man in the saddle, who holds him in with one finger, and can take away his breath in a moment should he grow restive or vicious. I am always deeply interested in this man,—for, begimed as he may be with machinery, he is the physical mind of that huge steam-horse.”

*King’s College, London.—Military Department.*—The Council of this University have given notice that the military department will open on Wednesday, October 2. The students admitted into this department are matriculated students, or those admitted to the regular and full prescribed course of study. Each candidate for matriculation must produce a testimonial of good character from his last instructor, and, when admitted by the Principal, must subscribe his name to a declaration that he will conform to all the rules and regulations which may from time to time be prescribed for the government of the college under the sanction and authority of the council. The academical year consists of three terms:—Michaelmas term, from the beginning of October to



the week before Christmas; Lent term, from the beginning of January to the week before Easter; Easter term, from Easter to the end of June. No one can be admitted a matriculated student under fifteen years of age; and at the beginning of each session each student must take his card of admission to the professor of military science to be countersigned and registered. There are examinations at the end of Michaelmas and Easter terms, when the students are classed according to proficiency. The examination in June is followed by a public distribution of prizes; and a detailed report is sent, at the end of each term, to the parents or guardians of each student, both as to his progress and as to his general attention and good conduct during the term. A limited number of students are admitted to reside within the college. The different classes in the department are also open to any gentleman whose occupation may not allow him to attend the whole of the course, and who may wish to avail himself of the opportunity of studying any particular subject. It is hoped that some of the more professional studies will be acceptable to officers of Her Majesty's or the Hon. East India Company's service, who being in London on duty, or on leave, may wish to employ their leisure hours.—*Times*.

**Discovery of Frescoes in Stedham Church, Sussex.**—The workmen engaged in pulling down this venerable church prior to the erection of a new one, have discovered some beautiful frescoes,—which are now laid open. The subjects are admirably executed, and occupy the entire north wall of the nave of the church. One of them represents the Virgin Mary, with Christ by her side, his hands and feet pierced, and supplicants imploring the Virgin to intercede for them. Another, St. Christopher carrying Christ over the River Jordan. The figure of St. Christopher is very large, reaching almost from the base to the top of the wall, and the colouring of his dress and shield are in good preservation. Another is supposed to be the Day of Judgment.—*Surrey Standard*.

**Electric Telegraph across the Mersey.**—We are informed that experiments are about to be tried on the Mersey with the view of carrying an electric telegraph line across the river from Liverpool to Birkenhead. We hope the dock authorities will now no longer delay to fulfil their long-entertained idea of establishing wires northward along the shore to Formby, &c., and westward to Bidston. No question can exist of the importance of such a measure, so largely calculated as it is to render the existing marine telegraph effective in foggy weather. On the occurrence of a mist, or an east wind, Liverpool, under the existing system, is entirely prevented from obtaining intelligence of ships off the harbour, waiting steam, &c. We believe the wire to be used will resemble that in use for the telegraph across the British Channel.—*Liverpool Albion*.

**Colonizing Schools.**—In all our colonies, ordinary, merely animal, labour is eagerly coveted, and skilled labour is at a high premium. There, a competition for, instead of against, all sorts of labour is keenly active. Yet great as is the demand, it is curious that no comprehensive system for the supply of skilled labour has yet been adopted. Except the excellent farm school of the Philanthropic Society at Red Hill, no attempt is made to teach colonization. The majority of even voluntary colonists are persons utterly ignorant of colonial wants. They have never learned to dig or to delve. Many clever artists have emigrated to Australia, where pictures are not wanted; not a few emigrant ladies, of undoubted talents in Berlin work and crochet, have always trembled at the approach of a cow, and never made so much as a pat of butter in their lives. Still, they succeed in the end; but only after much misery and mortification, which would have been saved them if they had been better prepared for colonial exigencies. The same thing happens with the humbler classes. Boys, and even men, have been sent out to Canada and the Southern Colonies (especially from the Irish Unions), utterly unfitted for their new sphere of life and labour.—*Dickens's 'Household Words'*.

## BRITISH PALÆOZOIC FOSSILS.

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TO ALL WHO HAVE FARMS OR GARDENS.

## THE GARDENERS' CHRONICLE AND AGRICULTURAL GAZETTE,

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Allardia tomentosa  
Apple of the Dead Sea  
Artichoke, Jerusalem, constituents of

Bodogran Hall, noticed  
Bog cultivation  
British Association, Report of  
British Flora, Hooker and Arnot's

Brunsvigia Josephine  
Calendar, Horticultural  
Calendar, Agricultural  
Carnations, to winter

Clover failure  
Corn, transmutation of, by Major Madden  
Cucumbers, large, without seeds

Dahlia, lists of  
Dairy stock  
Dead Sea, apple of  
Diseases in plants (with Engravings)

Drainage reports  
Excursions, scientific, by Mr. Mackenzie  
Exhibition of 1851, grain to be shown at

Fairy rings, by Mr. Rothwell  
Farming, high, by Mr. B. J. B. J.  
Farming, Lancashire, by Mr. Rothwell

Food, new animal and vegetable  
Garden, how to mismanage a  
Gardening in Holland, by Mr. Masters

Gardening, amateur  
Gardening, disasters in  
Gardening, villa and suburban  
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Limonia laureola, by Mr. Williams  
London Farmers' Club—High Farming, by Mr. Baker

Mangold Wurzel  
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Melons, culture of, in France

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Plants, diseases in (with Engravings)  
Plants, herbaceous

Plants, nutrition of, by Prof. Magnus  
Plaster of Paris, mode of hardening objects in  
Potatoes from cuttings, by Mr. Sanger

Potato harvest, by Mr. Major  
Potentilla rigida  
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Root pruning  
Royal South London Floricultural Society's show, report of  
Schools, adult

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Sheep, rape-cake for, by Mr. Charnock  
Soil and the air

Strawberry tiles, Roberts', by Mr. Doubleday and Mr. Johns  
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Sum Assured.	Time Assured.	Sum added to Policy in 1841.	Sum added to Policy in 1848.	Sum payable at Death.
£5,000	13 yrs. 10 mths.	£893 6 8	£787 10 0	£6,470 16 8
5,000	1 year	..	112 10 0	5,112 10 0
1,000	12 years	100 0 0	157 10 0	1,257 10 0
1,000	7 years	..	157 10 0	1,157 10 0
1,000	2 years	..	22 10 0	1,022 10 0
500	13 years	50 0 0	75 15 0	625 15 0
500	4 years	..	45 0 0	545 0 0
500	1 year	..	11 5 0	511 5 0

The Premiums, nevertheless, are on the most moderate scale, and only one-half need be paid for the first five years, when the Insurance is for Life. Every information afforded on application to the Resident Director, 8, Waterloo-place, Pall Mall, London.

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Joseph Fletcher, Esq. John Wilks, Esq.

Richard Hollier, Esq. Edward Wilson, Esq.

Secretary.—Thomas Price, Esq. L.D.

Actuary.—David Oughton, Esq.

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25	30	35	40	45
£1 16 3	£2 1 5	£2 7 8	£2 15 7	£3 6 0

The following are amongst the distinctive features of the Company:—

I. Entire freedom of the Assured from responsibility, and exemption from the mutual liabilities of partnership.

II. Payment of Claims guaranteed by a capital of One Million.

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Deputy-Chairman—WILLIAM LEAF, Esq.

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William Banbury, Esq. Rupert Ingleby, Esq.

Edward Bates, Esq. Thomas Kelly, Esq. Ald.

Thomas Campbell, Esq. Thomas Fisher, Esq.

James Clift, Esq. Lewis Pocock, Esq.

Auditors—Professor Hall, M.A.—J. B. Shuttleworth, Esq.

Physician—Dr. Jeaffreson, 2, Finsbury-square.

Surgeon—W. Coulson, Esq. 2, Frederick's-place, Old Jewry.

Consulting Actuary—Professor Hall, M.A. of King's College.

Standing Counsel—Sir John Romilly, M.P. Solicitor-General.

Solicitor—William Fisher, Esq. 19, Doughty-street.

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In addition to a large subscribed capital, Policy-holders have the security of an Assurance fund of more than a quarter of a million, and an income of 70,000l. a year, arising from the issue of 6,500 Policies.

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Persons assuring on the Bonus system will be annually entitled to 50 per cent. of the profits on the branch (after payment of five years' premiums); and the profit assigned to each Policy may either be added to the sum assured, or applied in reduction of the annual premium.

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Premiums to Assure £100.

Whole Term.

With Profits. Without Profits.

Age. One Year. Seven Years.

20 £0 17 8 £0 19 1 £1 15 10 £1 11 10

30 1 1 8 1 2 7 2 5 5 2 0 7

40 1 5 0 1 6 9 3 0 7 2 14 10

50 1 14 1 19 10 4 6 8 4 0 11

60 3 2 4 3 17 0 6 12 9 6 0 10

One-half of the Whole Term Premium may remain on credit for seven years, or one-third of the Premium may remain for life as a debt upon the Policy at 5 per cent., or may be paid off at any time without notice.

Claims paid in one month after proofs have been approved.

Loans upon approved security.

The Medical Officers attend every day at Throgmorton-street, at a quarter before 9 o'clock.

E. BATES, Resident Director.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.—A Subscriber—L. M. T.—E. W. C.—B. H.—J. Mac C.—received.



# REPORT OF THE DIRECTORS OF THE EAGLE INSURANCE COMPANY.

Read at the Annual General Meeting of Proprietors held at Radley's Hotel, New Bridge-street, Blackfriars, on FRIDAY, the 5th of August, 1859.

Present,

The HON. JOHN CHETWYND TALBOT, Q.C.,  
Chairman of the Company, in the Chair.

Walter Anderson Peacock.  
Charles Bischoff.  
Thomas Bodington.  
Nathaniel Gould.  
Robert Alexander Gray.  
Charles Thos. Holcombe.  
Richard Harman Lloyd.  
William Wybrow.  
John Hewson Abbott.  
George Blake.  
Frederick Bulb Birket.  
James M. Barnard.  
Alexander Harman Chisholm.  
Thomas Currey.  
John Smith Cuthbert.  
Henry Ditchburn.

Michael Lambton Este.  
William Ince.  
James Gascoigne Lynde.  
Richard Matthews.  
Thomas Tod Mardon.  
John Oxley.  
Henry John Popkin.  
George Stanley Reptom.  
Thos. Godfrey Sambrooke.  
Jeffery Smith.  
Robert Thompson.  
John Colley Taunton.  
Thomas Vaughan, and  
James Winnett, Esqrs.  
&c. &c.

"In compliance with the provisions of the Deed of Settlement, the Directors once more attend you to submit their Annual Statement, and in conformity with the practice observed upon all former occasions, will preface any observations they may themselves have to make, by calling your attention to the Report which they have received from your Auditors."

The Auditors' Report was here read, from which it appeared—

The gross Income of the Company for the year ending June 30, 1849, was ..	£122,929 6 0
The premiums on Policies issued in the year ..	5,557 6 1
The Claims on decrease of Lives assured ..	70,614 13 1
The Expenses .. .. .	5,336 0 0
The Total Assets .. .. .	677,641 9 8

"The item in this Report which appears first to call for remark is the amount received in respect of New Assurances effected during the year. This amount, it will be found, is less than that received in the previous year; a circumstance which, upon all former occasions, has been the subject of a decrease in the Company's business in the one just ended. The Directors are happy to say, however, that such is by no means the case, the facts being that whereas 266 Policies, averaging 624*l.* each, were effected in 1849, 662 Policies, averaging 656*l.* each, have been completed in the year ending June, 1850. The amount assured is, therefore, greater in the latter year than the former."

"The premiums are less, merely because the lives assured are younger, and because the number of Term Policies is greater in one year than in the other."

"The greatest discrepancy to be found in comparing (the statement now under consideration with that of the previous year, arises under the head of Claims; the sum paid in respect of which, during the year just past, considerably exceeds that demanded on the same account in the foregoing one. This increase has arisen, in some measure, from the prevalence of Cholera during the period over which the accounts range; eight of the total number of deaths occurring having been reported to the Company as caused by that disease. It is, however, a little remarkable that the average sum assured under the Policies terminating in this manner is as low as 37*l.*, a circumstance indicating, as it would seem, though false, the character of the assurances likely to be affected by the ravages of this fatal complaint."

"The average annual amount of Claims paid in the three years since the last division of surplus in 1847, is 57,57*l.*; so that, on the assumption that 60,000*l.* is about the true average, it will be seen that the actual one is still within the mark."

"In the last Report, the Directors mentioned that the expenses were 400*l.* less than they were the year preceding. They have now to report a further diminution in them of no less than 546*l.*, making in the two years a total reduction of 946*l.* in the annual charge for expenses of management. The advantages resulting from an economical management of Institutions like the EAGLE are so obvious, that the Proprietors will, no doubt, be gratified by this complete fulfilment of the expectation so prominently put forward at the time the junction of the PROTECTOR and EAGLE Companies was contemplated."

"The Directors have only further to mention, as the result of the year's proceedings, that the General Fund has been increased by 23,568*l.* 10*s.* 11*d.*, and that it now amounts to 551,120*l.* 11*s.* 1*d.*, a sum which, taken with their respective income, they have reason to believe, is amply sufficient to meet every claim which can ever possibly accrue, but which is adequate for the provision of a very considerable share of surplus to every member of the Company properly entitled to participate in it."

This Report was unanimously adopted.  
The usual routine business having then been disposed of, the cordial thanks of the meeting were voted in succession to the Directors, Auditors and Actuary; and after passing a similar compliment to the Chairman for his courtesy and impartiality on the occasion, the Meeting separated.

## THE EAGLE INSURANCE COMPANY.—

Established 1807, by Act of Parliament, 2, Crescent, New Bridge-street, Blackfriars, London.

Directors.

The Hon. J. C. TALBOT, Q.C., Chairman.  
WALTER A. PEACOCK, Esq., Deputy Chairman.  
Charles Bischoff, Esq.  
Thomas Bodington, Esq.  
Nathaniel Gould, Esq.  
Robert Alexander Gray, Esq.

Auditors.

James Gascoigne Lynde, Esq. [Thos. Godfrey Sambrooke, Esq.  
Pharmacist—George Leith Roupell, M.D. F.R.S. 15, Welbeck-street.  
Surgons—James Sauer, Esq. M.D. Finsbury-square; William Cooke, Esq. M.D. 38, Trinity-square, Lower-hill.  
Actuary and Secretary Charles Jellicoe, Esq.

The Annual Income of this Company exceeds One Hundred and Twenty Thousand Pounds.

The number of Existing Policies is upwards of Four Thousand. The total amount assured exceeds Two Million Eight Hundred Thousand Pounds.

The last Division of Surplus, about One Hundred Thousand Pounds was added to the sum assured under Policies for the whole term of Life.

The Division is Quinquennial; and the whole surplus (less 20 per cent. only) is distributed among the assured.

The lives assured are permitted in time of peace to reside in any country, or to pass by sea, being seafaring persons by profession, between any two parts of the same hemisphere distant more than 23 degrees from the Equator, without extra charge.

Deeds assigning Policies are registered at the Office, and assignments can be effected on forms supplied by the Company.

The general business is conducted on just and liberal principles, and the interests of the assured in all particulars are carefully consulted.

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ADVANTAGES OFFERED BY THIS OFFICE.

Long standing—Established 1819.  
Undoubted security from a large paid-up capital and accumulated premiums.

Lives assured at equitable rates.  
The participating or non-participating scales of premium—if participating, 80 per cent. is appropriated to policy-holders every fifth year—if non-participating, the rates are as low as can with safety be charged.

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Loans granted on Policies or on freehold, leasehold, or copyhold securities, accompanied by Policies of life assurance.

Loans granted on undoubted personal security.

Policies granted to meet every contingency.

Medical men remunerated for their reports.

A liberal commission to Solicitors and others bringing business to the Society.

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WM. BARTON FORD, Secretary.

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# THE ATHENÆUM

Journal of English and Foreign Literature, Science, and the Fine Arts.

No. 1196.

LONDON, SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 28, 1850.

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## UNIVERSITY COLLEGE, LONDON.— FACULTY OF MEDICINE.

THE SESSION will COMMENCE on TUESDAY, the 1st of OCTOBER, when Professor ERICHSEN will deliver an INTRODUCTORY LECTURE at 3 o'clock precisely. Prospectuses may be obtained at the Office of the College. Residence of Students.—Several of the Professors receive Students to reside with them; and in the Office of the College there is kept a register of parties unconnected with the College who receive Boarders into their families; among these are several Medical gentlemen. The register will afford information as to terms and other particulars.

THOMAS GRAHAM, Dean of the Faculty.  
CHAS. C. ATKINSON, Secretary to the Council.  
Sept. 1850.  
The Lectures in the Classes of the Faculty of Arts commence on the 15th of OCTOBER.

## KING'S COLLEGE, LONDON.—GEOLOGICAL MINERALOGY.

Professor TENNANT, F.R.S. will commence on WEDNESDAY, October 9, at 9 o'clock A.M., a COURSE of LECTURES on MINERALOGY, with a view to facilitate the study of GEOLOGY, and of the application of Mineral substances in the Arts. The Lectures will be illustrated by an extensive Collection of Specimens.

Further particulars may be obtained at the Secretary's Office.  
R. W. JELF, D.D. Principal.

## KING'S COLLEGE, LONDON.—THEOLOGICAL DEPARTMENT.

This Department will RE-OPEN on FRIDAY, October 4, 1850. Candidates for admission, not being Associates of King's College, or Graduates of Oxford, Cambridge, and Durham, must present themselves for Examination at half-past 10 o'clock on WEDNESDAY, October 2.

Printed forms of application (which should be sent in a week previously to the Examination) and the prospectus, containing all information as to the course of study and expense, may be obtained from J. W. CUNNINGHAM, Esq. Secretary.

July 30, 1850. R. W. JELF, D.D. Principal.

## KING'S COLLEGE, LONDON.—DEPARTMENT OF GENERAL LITERATURE AND SCIENCE.

THE COURSES of LECTURES in this Department, including Divinity, Classics, Mathematics, English Literature, as well as the Hebrew, Oriental, and Modern Languages, will RE-OPEN on WEDNESDAY, October 2, 1850, on which day all Students are required to attend Chapel.

Two Scholarships of 30l. each, for three years, and two of 20l. each for two years, will be filled up at Easter next.

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## KING'S COLLEGE, LONDON.—DEPARTMENT OF THE APPLIED SCIENCES.

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One Scholarship of 30l. and one of 20l. each, tenable for two years, will be filled up at Easter next.

Full information upon every subject may be obtained from J. W. CUNNINGHAM, Esq. Secretary.

July 30, 1850. R. W. JELF, D.D. Principal.

## KING'S COLLEGE, LONDON.—MILITARY DEPARTMENT.

THE CLASSES in this Department, including Divinity, Latin, Ancient and Modern History and Geography, Mathematics and Arithmetic, English Composition, French and German, Military Tactics, Fencing, and Military Drawing, will RE-OPEN on WEDNESDAY, October 2, 1850, on which day all Students are required to attend Chapel.

New Students must be above the age of 15.

The Oriental Languages may be learnt by those intended for the service of the Hon. East India Company.

Full information upon every subject may be obtained from J. W. CUNNINGHAM, Esq. Secretary.

July 30, 1850. R. W. JELF, D.D. Principal.

## KING'S COLLEGE, LONDON.—MEDICAL DEPARTMENT.

THE WINTER SESSION, 1850-51, will COMMENCE on TUESDAY, October 1, 1850, on which day all Students are expected to attend the INTRODUCTORY LECTURE, by Professor Edward Forbes, F.R.S. at 3 o'clock.

The following Courses of Lectures will be given during the Session: ANATOMY, Descriptive and Surgical.—Professor Richard Partington, F.R.S.; Demonstrators, W. Brinton, M.D. and H. Lee, F.R.C.S.; Assistant Demonstrators, Henry Hyde Salter and John Wood.

PHYSIOLOGY and GENERAL MORBID ANATOMY.—Professors R. B. Todd, M.D. F.R.S. and W. Bowman, F.R.S.

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Full particulars upon every subject may be obtained from Professor GUY, M.D. Dean of the Department; or upon application to J. W. CUNNINGHAM, Esq. Secretary.

July 30, 1850. R. W. JELF, D.D. Principal.

## ARCHÆOLOGICAL INSTITUTE of GREAT BRITAIN and IRELAND.

At an ORDINARY MEETING of the Central Committee of the ARCHÆOLOGICAL INSTITUTE.

The PRESIDENT in the chair.

It was unanimously resolved.

"That the Committee having taken into consideration the Resolution of the British Archaeological Association passed at their Congress at Manchester, and also that of their Council of the 4th of September, and communicated by the President of the Association to the President of the Institute, are of opinion that the position and prospects of the Institute are such as to render inexpedient any essential modification of its existing Rules and Management."

"The Committee disclaim all unfriendly feeling towards the Association. They are of opinion that the field of Archaeology is sufficiently wide for the operations of several Societies without discord; but if the members of the Archaeological Association should be disposed to unite with the Institute, the Central Committee will cordially receive them on the terms announced in their Advertisement of September 9th, which was intended to be conciliatory, feeling assured that such a course cannot fail to meet with the entire approbation of the members of the Institute."

By order of the Central Committee.

H. BOWYER LANE, Secretary.

## MARYLEBONE LITERARY and SCIENTIFIC INSTITUTION, Edwards-street, Portman-square.

The following LECTURES, CONCERTS, &c. will take place during the first part of the Session, 1850-1, commencing on the 1st of October, next.

Ellis Roberts, Esq., On the Music of Wales.

The Rev. Henry Solly, On Byron and Carlyle.

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Members of the Institution have free admission to the Lectures, &c., with the privilege of introducing a Lady, in addition to the use of the extensive Library for circulation, the Reading Rooms abundantly supplied with all the Newspapers and Periodicals, and of joining any of the Classes. Terms of Subscription:—Two Guineas per annum, payable yearly or half yearly, in advance.

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A Syllabus of the Lectures and Prospectus, detailing the advantages of the Institution, may be had on application.

ROBERT WEIR, Secretary.

## THE MIDDLESEX HOSPITAL SCHOOL OF MEDICINE.

THE WINTER SESSION will COMMENCE on TUESDAY, OCTOBER 1, 1850, with an INTRODUCTORY LECTURE, by Dr. GOODFELLOW, at 10 o'clock.

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Classical Lecturer—Geo. LONG, Esq., M.A., late Fellow of Trinity College, Cambridge.

Pupils will be admitted hereafter to the Mathematical Department, with liberty to attend the Latin, French, and German Classes, or any of them, the charges being the same as for other Pupils, viz. 25l. in the Upper Department, and 20l. in the Lower. Lectures will also be provided in all branches of Mathematical study for occasional Students not members of the College.

For further information apply to the Principal or Secretary. Lectures open to occasional Students will be delivered during the ensuing Quarter every morning from 9 to 10, alternately on Mechanics by the Vice-Principal, and on Plane and Spherical Geometry by the Rev. Joseph Newton, M.A., Mathematical Assistant Master.

Lectures on Roman History, open to occasional Students, will be delivered during the ensuing Quarter once a week, at 8 P.M., by Geo. Long, Esq., M.A. Classical Lecturer.

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MICHAELMAS TERM will COMMENCE 1st OCTOBER 1850.

The Fees are 1l. 11s. 6d. per Term for those Classes which meet twice in the week, and 1l. 1s. for those which meet once; but a composition of 9l. 9s. may be made for all the Lectures in any division.

Lectures in Botany, Chemistry, Geology, and the Useful Arts will be delivered in the Lent and Easter Terms, if the names of Twenty Pupils be entered before the close of this Term.

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Full particulars may be obtained on application to Mrs. SMART, the Lady Resident, at No. 4, Artillery-place, Finsbury-square.

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This Academy will RE-OPEN on MONDAY, OCTOBER 7th. Hours of study from 7 to 9 P.M. Gentlemen desirous of becoming Members are requested to apply to the Honorary Secretary, 40, Tavistock-street, Covent-garden.

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	Divinity, Special Course.....	The Rev. M. Cowie, M.A.
	Mathematics, ditto.....	Principal.
	Classics, ditto.....	The Rev. W. G. Watson, M.A., Vice-Principal.
		H. M. Jeffery, Esq., B.A.

The fees for the additional courses in these three departments are so arranged that the cost of education, board, &c. need not exceed 100 guineas per annum.

Prospectuses may be had at Mr. Dalton's, 23, Cockspur-street, Charing-cross; Messrs. Smith, Elder & Co.'s, Cornhill; or any information can be obtained by application to the Principal, at the College.

**MISS WILSON, daughter of the Scottish** Vocalist, begs to announce that she visits **BRIGHTON** professionally every week during the season there, and that she gives Lessons in town as usual in **SINGING** and on the **PIANOFORTE**.—47, Gower-street, London, or Mr. F. WRIGHT, Colonnade, Brighton.—September, 1850.

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GREAT EXHIBITION IN 1851.

**HER MAJESTY'S COMMISSIONERS** have decided that demands for **SPACE** for **EXHIBITION** must be received by the Local Committees by the 31st of **OCTOBER.** The Westminster Local Committee, therefore, urge upon the Inhabitants of their District to send in their Applications by Monday, the 27th of October, otherwise they may not be able to obtain space they require.

The necessary forms may be obtained of the Secretary, Mr. G. H. DREW, N. 28, Parliament-street.

**TENDERS FOR CATALOGUES.—TO PRINTERS AND PUBLISHERS.**—The Executive Committee of the Commission for the EXHIBITION of 1851, HEREBY GIVE NOTICE, that it is the intention of Her Majesty's Commissioners to have TWO CATALOGUES prepared, one full and comprehensive, which will probably extend to two or more volumes, to be sold at a price fixed by the party contracting; the other to be sold for One Shilling. Copies of the terms proposed will be ready, October 1, at the Offices of the Executive Committee, 1, Old Palace-yard. The Tenders will be required to be delivered on Tuesday, the 22nd of October, 1850.

M. DIGBY WYATT, Sec.

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LONDON, SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 28, 1850.

## REVIEWS

*The History of Peter the Cruel, King of Castile and Leon.* By Prosper Mérimée. With additional Notes. Bentley.

It is pleasant to greet an arrival from France bearing no sign of the controversies of the time,—and such as to deserve at any time a welcome. M. Mérimée, formerly known among the poets by the pieces bearing the name of Clara Gazul, now appears in the graver field of history;—the subject chosen, however, being one that hardly yields in romantic variety, strange turns of fortune, characters of strong expression, and tragedies of the deepest pathos to anything created by the imagination. Within the period and in the land which was marked by the fortunes of Pedro of Castile, the scene is crowded with figures over which both history and song have thrown a lasting interest. The names of Blanche of France, Iñez de Castro of Portugal, Du Guesclin,—the Black Prince, the White Company,—belong alike to romance and to reality. The very “Don Juan” of Mozart and Byron plays his part for an hour as no fabulous gallant at the court of Seville; Moors and Christians join in the council or in the field here; as well as in the strains of the *Romanero*; and the desperate game played for a crown by the rival brothers whose more than Theban strife was surrounded by such various objects of pity, admiration or terror, wants no incident, from its commencement to its climax, to fill the just measure of a tragic theme. One more striking could scarcely have been desired by a poet; yet M. Mérimée, who claims that character, has handled it with the judgment and diligence of an historian.

He has been fortunate, too, in meeting with a diligent and well-informed translator: conversant with the authorities on which the original rests, and able not only to supply from these good illustrations of the text, but also to add from his own reading new comments and completions that enlarge our view of the subject, or improve it with lively particulars,—and here and there to correct slips of his author's pen. The notice of these, if not very material, is still satisfactory; as proving no less the care and competence of the translator than the general soundness of the original text, in which no serious errors have been marked by one who would not have failed to detect them had such existed. Altogether, the book, as prepared by this double manipulation, may fairly be described as a piece of honest work, done with a measure of skill and diligence too seldom applied in these days of showy and shallow performance to the picturesque chapters of history.

On a first glance at the subject, knowing the proneness of even eminent French writers of late to take a bias on historical ground from national jealousies, we might have looked for a prejudice on the part of M. Mérimée, of which we were glad to find not the slightest indication in his essay. Of the contending brothers, Henry, it is well known, was supported by France,—while it was English arms that gave his rival the victory whose fruits he was too headstrong to keep. This circumstance, however, has not affected the view which the French author takes of the strife, or of the combatants on either side. Far from having any leaning against Don Pedro, he rather tries—and we think on substantial grounds,—to place his character and conduct in a somewhat fairer light than is usually allowed to it either in history or in tradition; not, indeed, by denying his undoubted acts, or concealing the vindictive, treacherous or savage traits of

his nature, but by showing with what limitations, under what aspects, these are to be viewed—in the personal training of the king, and in the times and the men he had to deal with; and how the aim of his violence (chiefly falling on a mutinous nobility, who sought each a petty sovereignty of their own), while it made him an object of detestation to that class, did on the whole tend towards the political strength of the realm,—his severities being regarded with approbation rather than disgust by the mass of the people, afflicted by those turbulent local tyrants, the *Ricos Hombres*. The picture here given of the latter will not please romantic imaginations, fond of investing the Spanish cavaliers of the middle ages with all the dazzling virtues of chivalry. The severe pencil of history draws their figures, during this time at least, in no such inviting colours. With some rare exceptions, personal bravery in the field will be found the only virtue that can be truly ascribed to the feudal nobility of Spain in the fourteenth century. Of loyalty to their sovereign—of respect for their word—of true brotherhood in arms—of generous treatment of the captives or the fallen—nay, of reluctance, even, to execute any cruelty prompted by interest, without regard to age or sex—the Peninsular annals of that time scarcely exhibit a single instance. The Castilian or Aragonese noble, solely intent on his own aggrandizement and independence, was ready at any moment to throw off the allegiance he had sworn, even where it had been additionally secured by the favour or high trust of the sovereign. In the endless commotions that shook the land—divided as it was between Aragon, Castile and Portugal, and the Moors of Granada—the *Rico Hombre* was ever on the alert to betray the falling cause, to transfer his allegiance to a new suzerain, and either take the field or engage in baser means of hostility against his former lord—often against a benefactor or a kinsman—if there seemed a glimpse of advantage to be gained from the treason. The slightest offence to his irritable pride, jealousy of a rival, the refusal of an expected dignity, sufficed to break the feeble tie which bound the noble to the Crown. So long as he thought it his interest to obey, there was no open cruelty or secret practice of the monarch of which he would not be a willing instrument. In the period embraced by this history, intestine rivalries in the houses of Aragon and Portugal, as well as the fraternal strife around the throne of Castile, gave perpetual occasion and incitement to this game of baseness played by the greedy, impetuous and unprincipled nobility of the Peninsula. The mind tires of dwelling on the defections, perjuries and bloody indifference of men who claimed to represent the chivalry and honour of Spain during the vicissitudes of the strife between Pedro and the bastard sons of his father Alphonso. A clear perception of their general character and habits is, however, indispensable to any right judgment of the royal actors in this tragedy. The chivalry of France and England at the same period certainly far excelled that of Spain in the knightly qualities of good faith, honour and generosity. This marked contrast in their favour is attested not by the partial sketches of Froissart alone—it appears in the bare narratives of fact found in Ayala and other contemporary Spanish chroniclers. But we restrict this unfavourable character of the *Ricos Hombres* to the particular age now in question. It lies beyond our province to insist on the better traits that would be found in the portraiture of the Spanish *Hijos d'algo* in earlier as well as in some later ages. The fourteenth century, indeed, is perhaps the darkest in the Peninsular annals of the middle

age as regards the knightly fame of its nobles. Its ruling character, M. Mérimée thinks, was one of all others the most opposed to our notions of ancient chivalry.

“Were it necessary,” he says, “to characterize the 14th century in Spain by the vice then most prevalent, I believe that it would be neither coarseness of manners, nor rapacity, nor inveterate habits of violence in the powerful. The most salient characteristic of this sad period is, in my opinion, duplicity. Never, indeed, has history recorded so many acts of treason, so much duplicity. This age, in other respects so rude, exhibited ingenuity only in the art of deception. It delighted in subtleties. In all engagements, and even in the code of chivalrous honour, there lurk equivocations which self-interest might easily turn to account. Oaths were lavished on all occasions, in the most ordinary transactions, and accompanied by the most solemn ceremonies; and yet they were viewed as mere formalities sanctioned by custom. He who pledged his faith, his hand laid upon the Holy Gospels, would not be trusted unless he delivered up his wife and children, above all his fortresses, as hostages; and indeed this last pledge was always considered the only true test. Distrust was universal, and every man regarded his neighbour as his enemy. \* \* \* The men of the 14th century lived apart, like beasts of prey; and that energy, that strength of will which we now admire in them, they probably owed to a consciousness of their own bad faith, which constantly reminded them that they neither had nor could expect to have any human succour but that of their own strong arm.”

If such were the *Ricos Hombres*, the monarchs of that time were no whit better than their great vassals in the point of good faith. The accounts which the chroniclers deliberately give of their audacious and complicated breaches of faith leave room for one feeling only; of wonder, namely, that men who knew both from experience and by their own consciousness the treacherous nature of all engagements, the frailty of the most awful oaths, and the hollowness of treaties which the contracting parties at the moment of signing them had already laid plans for breaking as soon as it might be profitable to do so,—should, nevertheless, have continued with such pains and minuteness of negotiation to repeat what one and all must have known to be a ridiculous ceremony. Yet no sooner is the existing compact broken, in a way proving a treacherous design from the beginning, than another is set on foot with as much earnestness and formality as if there were no cause to doubt its future observance. Nor does any kind of reflection on former perfidies of the most flagrant kind appear to disturb the new proceedings of the contracting parties. They recommence the web of intrigue as if the ground were virgin of any previous stain of deceit. This may be termed a singular feature in the history of intrigue in all periods of the so-called Machiavellian diplomacy. But at no period and in no country does it appear more strangely prominent than in the treaties of this 14th century between the occupants or claimants of the various thrones of Spain, Portugal and Navarre. Promises that in fact went for nothing were nevertheless exchanged with as much pomp as if they had a standard value. Of such, none perhaps were oftener lavished or more shamelessly broken than the engagements for princely intermarriages which were brought into most of the Spanish treaties of the day with the professed object of converting hostile relations into firm alliances. At one period of this history, for instance, where we find the King of Aragon (Pedro V.) promising his Infante to a child of the King of Navarre, the prince had already “been engaged to several princesses by as many different treaties,”—some quite recent, and none as yet disclaimed. In the very nego-



tiation including that promise, the Aragonese king, at the same moment when the treaty with Navarre was in progress—its declared object being against invasion from the side of France—"despatched ambassadors to Paris with secret instructions to conclude an alliance offensive and defensive with France, the end of which was to be the ruin of the Navarrese monarch and the partition of his dominions." The Navarrese, being weaker, was, if possible, more busily false than his neighbour. About the period of the Black Prince's descent upon Spain, we find him taking money and investitures from each of the rival brothers, plotting the while how to sell them both.—

"He had received 56,000 florins from Don Pedro: 60,000 doubloons from Don Enrique. \* \* He had scarcely signed the treaty of Libourne with Don Pedro (by which he was bound to aid the king's forcible re-entry into Spain), than he opened another negotiation with Don Enrique. Oaths cost but little; he was therefore prodigal of them. In a conference which took place secretly between the two princes at Santa Cruz de Campezo, the Navarrese monarch swore on the Holy Gospels the contrary to that which he had called heaven to witness at Libourne: he was bound by this last oath to close the pass at Roncesvalles, to join all his forces to those of Don Enrique, and even to uphold that prince's cause with his own body in the battle-field.

It is needless to add, that neither the one nor the other engagement was in any respect observed.

This condition of mutinous nobles and faithless kings with whom—besides the enemy in his own house—the Castilian had to deal, must first be duly taken into account in any estimate of his conduct. Pedro was a mere boy when he succeeded to the crown. Long before he was old enough to assert his own will or show his proper disposition, he had reason to know that the allegiance of the great crown vassals was to be counted on so long only as they had cause to fear the effects of revolt or to covet the rewards of loyalty;—that his bastard brothers and his cousins of Aragon were incessantly plotting against him, with a view, if not at first absolutely to dethrone him, at least to extort dignities and provinces from his weakness;—and that the neighbouring kings of Portugal and Aragon were ever ready to protect the rebels and assist the enemies of his crown, who thus were always sure of an asylum near enough to be dangerous to Castile yet beyond the reach of its laws against traitors. What they were ready to attempt, the proceedings during his illness, still more their imprisonment of the king at Toro, sufficiently showed. Under such circumstances, the practice of dissimulation and cruelty cannot be exclusively ascribed to a natural bias to these vices. They must in a large degree have appeared, to one of Pedro's training, as necessary acts of self-defence: open good faith and clemency could only be viewed by him as the qualities of a dupe. In Pedro's case, moreover, there were particular circumstances that might have rendered a gentler temper than his perfidious and revengeful. By his father he was treated with dislike and contempt: all Alfonso's love was lavished on the children of his concubine, the fair Leonor de Guzman. While titles and honours were heaped on the heads of the bastard princes,—while they attended the king in the camp "and shared the perils and glories of war,"—the Infante, the rightful heir to the crown, was kept like a prisoner at Seville,—forbidden alike the honours of the court and of the field,—"a daily witness of the humiliations heaped on his mother, and totally neglected by the courtiers." As M. Mérimée justly observes on this head:—

"The impressions of youth are deep and lasting. The first feelings which Don Pedro experienced were

those of jealousy and hatred: brought up by an insulted and weak-minded woman, he received from her lessons in dissimulation, and learned to form projects of revenge."

For some years after his accession he was altogether ruled by his minister, Don Juan de Alburquerque; and it must be remarked, that the acts of cruelty done while that great noble was absolute Mayor of the Palace, if not so many, were as cruel as were the most of Pedro's own later atrocities; while the former had not the excuse of passions roused by provocation, but were the studied determinations of mere policy or ambition. The murder of the unfortunate Leonor, mother of the bastards of Castile,—the treacherous slaughter of Alonzo Coronel,—were crimes eclipsed in ugliness by a very few only of Pedro's worst cruelties, committed when suspicion and misfortunes had at last rendered him utterly savage. In his treatment of poor Blanche of France, though this is the most notorious blot on his name, there is nothing certainly proved against him but neglect and imprisonment of a woman whom he never pretended to love. What shall we say of the minister who brought this ill-starred marriage to pass, while Pedro, then a mere boy, was passive in his hands? At the same moment while Alburquerque was hastening the arrival of the princess, he threw in Pedro's way—with the express object of enslaving him to a mistress whom the minister hoped to govern—one of his own wife's damsels, the celebrated Maria de Padilla: and it was from her arms that Alburquerque, who had just lured him into them, dragged the reluctant prince to the nuptial ceremony with Blanche. Her misery and early death—imputed, but not certainly traced, to the hands of a husband who never concealed his dislike to her, and whose dislike might easily become hate when the luckless woman was set up as a sign of revolt by the insurgent nobles,—have cast more odium on Pedro's name than all his other actions;—many far worse than his conduct to Blanche. But the minister who forced him to take the wife while still in the glow of a passion which he had himself provoked for a fascinating mistress,—must be charged with the chief share of the subsequent misery of guilt that grew from this odious transaction. And yet, of all the great public figures of the time, there is, on the whole, not one that appears with more splendid qualities and with fewer shameful blemishes than this same Juan de Alburquerque.

Amidst a crowd of false and selfish actors, each jostling the other in the hope of gain or in the heat of jealous pride, the sweet figure of Maria de Padilla is the only one the eye can pursue with any kindly interest. Every authentic account, whether from friendly or from hostile pens, proves her to have owed the power which she gained over Pedro, and retained even after death, to qualities well deserving of his love. Her lively and rich beauty was animated by a clear spirit and warmed by a gentle heart. We always find her pitiful, generous, feminine. No one—the romancers excepted—pretends to charge her with any of her lover's cruelties. Many that he intended, it is known, were stayed by her intercession; those which she could not prevent she was always ready to deplore. The ballads accuse her of sorcery. the charm of a sweet and radiant nature is sufficient to explain her power over Pedro's heart. He often gave her rivals of a day,—but always returned to her with new affection. The kinsmen whom her favour brought forward are, on the whole, the most creditable group of courtiers which this history exhibits. Juan de Hínestrosa, indeed, never betrayed his master: and Diego de Padilla remained true until the gloom of Pedro's broken

fortunes had made him terrible to all who still remained within danger of his fury.

Had Enrique de Trastámara or his brother bastards sworn hatred to Don Pedro in revenge for the murder of their mother, Leonor de Guzman, one could have better sympathized with their intrigues and rebellion. But there is not the slightest reason to believe that any such motive occurred to them. They began to conspire against the King of Castile at a time while he still appeared anxious to rely on them as brothers, and while they were greedily snatching at whatever favours could be procured at his hands. The fate of their mother had no place in the memory of such sons: their hidden treacheries at first and open revolt afterwards were prompted by motives altogether selfish. Enrique was dexterous, supple, and wary, as well as brave: popular in his manner, he had narrower political views but was less fierce in temper than Pedro. In selfishness, perfidy, and ingratitude, it would, however, be hard to point out his superior; even among the proficients of that faithless time. We little regret Pedro's fall; but could have had no pleasure in Henry's triumph even were it not defiled by a fratricide. The other bastards, Tello, Sancho, Fadrique, were meaner natures,—but not less insidious and heartless than their elder, Henry of Trastámara.

Among such combatants, one may see that M. Mérimée finds it a relief to come upon a character of more frankness and truth,—like our own Black Prince. Even Du Guesclin, in spite of his treachery to Pedro in the closing scene at Montiel, appears straightforward and generous by the side of the Infantes and their followers and fellows. We turn from their intrigues with disgust,—and only begin to breathe more freely after recrossing the Pyrenees.

On the whole, surveying the field from that distance, it may be seen that Pedro fell, not so much because he was a cruel tyrant, but because he attempted before the time was ripe to raise the crown above dependence on the great nobles. By the people he was not hated. "To them he was the defender of the oppressed, the redresser of wrongs, and the fierce enemy of all the iniquities of the feudal régime." The justice of Don Pedro, which has become proverbial, was like that of the Moorish sovereigns,—prompt, severe, almost always passionate, and frequently capricious in form,—but in substance consistent with right. By the Nobles he was termed the Cruel,—the People entitled him the Justiciar.

In tracing his career, M. Mérimée chiefly follows the chronicle of Ayala; whose authority he maintains—we think on fair grounds—to be in the main unimpeachable. On the accessory parts of his history, however, he gains many new lights from the archives of Aragon, still preserved at Barcelona with a completeness and in a good order which he attests with due praise. His narration is clear, lively, and free from tinsel or exaggeration; and we have only noticed a few instances in which the desire to do justice to Pedro's memory has tempted him somewhat unduly to extenuate—we do not say to deny—the charges against him. The strongest case of this kind will be found in his comments on the list of crimes imputed to him in the proclamation by Don Enrique. Here it is incorrect to say that "the greater number of these are far from being authenticated;" indeed, all but two or three of them, at most, are directly laid to his account by M. Mérimée himself in the preceding chapters of his narrative. On the whole, however, we give this writer the praise of having fulfilled his task with a degree of pains and fairness not always found in modern historical sketches, and with a fluency and



precision that cannot fail to recommend the work to many readers.

We have already praised the editorial care of the translator; whose occasional failures in Englishing the idioms of the original are more than compensated by the value of his additional notes,—some of which contain curious matter well worth preserving. Of these we shall mention one that gives to a rude local pastime of our own, but lately abolished, an origin more romantic than may be generally known. The "bull running" at Tutbury, we are told, was a translation to England of the Sevillian *Corrida de Toros*, by Don Pedro's daughter, Costanza, afterwards wife of John of Gaunt,—who, "inheriting the taste of her countrymen, established this sport at her domain of Tutbury in Staffordshire."

Having barely touched on some of the general heads of this interesting work, we must refer our readers to the volumes themselves for an acquaintance with its various and often exciting or pathetic details: assuring them that whether in search of instruction or of entertainment they will in neither case be disappointed.

*Natal, Cape of Good Hope. A Grazing, Agricultural, and Cotton-growing Country. Comprising Descriptions of this well-endowed Colony, from the year 1575 to the present time, by Government Officials and Travellers. With a Map of the Colony and Engravings. By J. S. Christopher. Effingham Wilson.*

THE assiduous reader of books on the English colonies might easily fancy the powers that misrule them to be either hopelessly ignorant, utterly indifferent, or culpable in a high degree. Again and again the Colonial question has been so treated by practical men as to convince the most sceptical that a good system of emigration, conducted by Government with all its powerful means of action, would not only relieve the home market from the pressure of labour and the competition of the starving, but would convert these sources of our present weakness and peril into solid buttresses of our strength and prosperity. We have some of the noblest lands in the world at our disposal, suitable for all purposes and situate in all latitudes,—lands that are now covered with rich morasses or crowned with magnificent wood. We have hundreds of thousands of able-bodied labourers anxious to possess and cultivate a rood of ground of their own. We have fleets rotting in the dock-yards at Gosport and Plymouth for want of employment,—and squadrons lying in the Tagus and in the Bay of Naples because they have nothing else to do. Yet Government cannot bring these three elements together!—State this matter how you will, it fails to harmonize with any reasonable interpretation of official duty. England has more paupers, and more uncultivated estates to feed them on, than any other nation in the world. With nearly three millions of persons in this country more or less dependent on charity, she possesses unappropriated lands in the various colonies, from Canada to New Zealand, sufficient to endow every man, woman, and child of British parentage with "a thousand acres each." While the cries are daily ringing in her ears of the multitudes who are trampled down and perishing in the crowded thoroughfares at home, she has vast solitudes of her own abroad, lying in the hush and sterility of the desert or yielding fruits that give nourishment to none, where their limbs might have free action and their bruises be healed. While her people are starving, she has great public granaries of which she will not open the door. The cure of the Ancient Mariner—"Water, water everywhere,—but not a drop to drink"—rests on her

children through her neglect. Not content with merely refusing aid to the fittest class of emigrants—the poor whose thews and sinews are valueless here and almost priceless there—she has formed an artificial and vicious system which operates as a formal bar to exclude the great mass of industrious persons from any advantage in the soil which is the common patrimony of Englishmen. In all the colonies the price of land is so high as to shut out both the absolutely poor and those of limited means. Mr. Christopher—who appears to understand his subject thoroughly, though he writes about it in anything but an attractive manner,—proposes in reference to Natal a plan which, in principle at least, has been suggested for other colonies besides that in South Africa. He proposes that Government shall make a loan to Natal of one million sterling,—which sum, he thinks, might be negotiated at  $3\frac{1}{2}$  or 4% per cent., on security of the colonial revenue. With this money he would export 100,000 persons to the colony—labourers, artisans, capitalists,—giving to all a free passage. These men settled on the fertile frontier would, he says, effectively defend it against the Kafirs, and thus at once put an end to the necessity for our maintaining five hundred soldiers there. His facts and figures pretend to that sort of accuracy which results from actual experience. He shows that the security of the colonial revenue is good, and that the loan could soon be repaid. Each of the 100,000 immigrants would, he says, consume ten pounds' worth of imported goods, paying a duty averaging  $7\frac{1}{2}$  per cent.; this would yield 75,000*l.*,—or, deducting 40,000*l.*, the annual interest on the loan, it would leave a profit of 35,000*l.* As to the principal, he calculates that in three or four years five million acres of land would be sold in consequence of the arrival of this large increase of occupiers,—which at the present rate of 4*s.* an acre would be just one million sterling.—We neither accept nor deny the truth of these statements; but we put them before the reader, that such as have the power to verify and act on them may have the opportunity.—The rest of Mr. Christopher's volume does not call for special notice at our hands. It is a judicious compilation,—but the materials were already accessible in other quarters.

#### POETRY OF THE MILLION.

WHEN, last week, the small number of unacted dramas waiting for trial and verdict was pointed out as among the peculiarities of this Lenten and altogether penitential September, we had not overlooked a little pile of such books on a corner of our study table. This pile consists of a Spanish comedy, an ancient English historical tragedy, and a Norman play.

Of the plots of none of these will we profess to give our readers a full, true and particular account. Greatly would it be to the advantage of the play-wright seeking success in dramatic construction, if he were bound, after the fashion of the old poets, to preface his work by a plain and minute argument thereof, scene by scene,—if with stage directions, so much the better. What astounding characters would, in the course of the process, offer themselves to his baffled understanding,—what metamorphoses passing the acceptance of mortal faith,—what motives to let,—what people superfluously in the way, and only arbitrarily to be got rid of,—what secrets shouted out aloud at the most inopportune moments,—what great events miraculously hidden from persons carefully bandaging their own eyes, or deliberately turning their heads away that they may not see!—Rash would be any uninitiated person who should attempt the task: we will leave it to the authors for their second editions.

*The Spanish Rake*,—an original comedy, by Robert St. Clair Jones—is, we presume, intended to be a drama of "the cloak and sword" school,—of intrigue rather than of character. At all events, from the first moment of talk in "a street at Madrid," to the last scene in "the grand white marble saloon in Don Favilla's mansion, open at the back,"—we are in a continuous maze of the puzzle of which the reader must unthread for himself. Yet, the fable is not complicated for lack of the most condescending explication on the part of the interlocutors. In speech the fifth of *scene the first* King Philip makes "a clean breast" to his friends and the public,—and in the following page the Duke of Medina Cœli (a traitor) gives vent in a soliloquy to villany stated with a precision as arithmetical as that of the pence table. Shortly after the above confidences, the wit of the piece is tapped by "Alphonso, Doria, Mariani, and other Gents" (*sic* in original).—But we had better turn to the comedy, offering samples of smart and serious dialogue for the gratification of those among our readers, if any such there be, who delight in the pursuit of drama under difficulties. First, then, the following, according to Mr. Jones, is Spanish repartee.—

*Enter Julian de Lopez, Ramiro, Alphonso, Doria, Mariani, and other Gents.*

*Omnes.* Ha! Ha! [*Laughing.*]

*Julian.* That is the rarest piece of attic salt we've chewed for months! Egad, it's risible! The man who has but four, and out of four, Spends five, will never want a leathern purse.—But prating of the moon; they say she rules All waters, salt and fresh, strong liquor, too; For drink we e'er so little at the full, Our spirits, tide like, rise above the neap— And send our heads a swimming.

*Ram.* See, the moon, She's in the East.—

*Julian.* The deuce! how swollen she seems— A little bloated, after sleep, perchance. She rises decorously, at all events; She wears a fleecy cloud upon her lower limb. The Duke Medina here!

*Ram.* That turncoat, who Forsakes his patron, Philip, and enrols Himself with Philip's foe?—

*Julian.* We'll tickle him.—

Behold this moon! you see that scar above Her northern eye—who gave her that?—

*Alp.* We cannot guess.

*Julian.* The great Medina, minister of state! In battle 'gainst the Moors—he aim'd a blow, To doff the crescent from a Moorish tire, When—sad mistake—he struck his mighty blade Against our unoffending moon.

*Omnes.* Ha! Ha! [*Laughing.*]

The following, on the same authority, is Hibernian humour.—

*O'Ryan, without, sings the following.*

Oh! the world is a great big round ring, I can swear,  
With an emerald bright set upon it,  
Oh! and that precious stone is the land of the fair  
Sweet Hibernia, and all that dwell on it.

*Julian.* The cavalier we met some time ago,  
And pour'd the liquor down his willing throat;  
I'd fain know more of this same witty dog.

*Enter O'Ryan.*

Dost follow my friend, that thou art here?

*O'Ryan.* What! follow in the ways of wicked men!

*Ram.* Did you not drink a bottle with us now?

*O'Ryan.* I fear not.

*Ram.* How?

*O'Ryan.* A bottle's made of glass.

What mortal ever took a draught of glass?

*Ram.* Then quaff'd you not the spirit in the bottle?

*O'Ryan.* Impossible! a bottle large enough

To hold a full-sized man, I never saw;

Then I quaff'd not the spirit in the bottle:

I've some faint recollection that I drank

The stuff that issued from the bottle's mouth,

But cannot bring to mind the flavour now,

Unless another sample meets my eye.

[*They wink at each other.*]

What follows exhibits Mr. Jones's notion of a display of passion.—

*Gabriella.* My bosom, like contending elements

Of air and sea, is fraught with stormy strife—

That knave spoke falsely—Philip is not captured!—

And yet th' appointed hour is nigh—he comes not—

[*Kneels.*]

Thou power that rulest true love's destiny,

[*Duke appears at door, L.H.*]

Protect him from the hands of traitorous foes;

Bedeck his path, so long o'erspread by thorns,

With peaceful flow'rets; illumine his soul,

So long o'erclouded, with a ray of hope;

Disperse his foes; restore his kingdom; heal



The rankling wounds of base ingratitude;  
For his bereavement hath been long—severe;  
[Duke approaches her unobserved.]

Duke. To cherish love for Anjou, now, were vain  
As habitant of Earth to wish a home  
On yonder shining world, that wends its way  
Through infinite space.

Gab. His blood is flowing, then! [Starting up.]  
Avoth but that, and thou mayst hope, thou fiend!  
From happy realms, beyond our universe,  
To gain an angel bride before this hand.

Duke. I am but mortal;—seek but mortal love;  
If such be vain ambition, then, indeed,  
Medina's fate is hard.

Gab. When stratagem  
Is used to win, we merit then to lose.  
Why would'st thou crush a noble edifice,  
To build a worthless fabric on the site?  
For, were it possible to make me thine,  
Affection's plant, which like the ivy, twines  
Around the thing it loves, if thus removed,  
Must wither and decay. 'Tis roofed here,  
For Philip: eradicate the cherish'd flower,  
And all the strings of life are broken—dead!

Duke. How oft it is the fate of mortal beings  
To entertain a mad, yet hopeless love;  
The which to gratify, what man would pause,  
(His arm invincible) at any deed?  
The lives of thousands, yea, the fall of empires,  
Were atoms in the scale, the while the wounds  
Of desperate passion rankle at his bleeding heart!  
Such love is here!—such hope!—such desperation!  
Creation sent thee forth to bless or curse me;  
Possessing thee, a Heavenly bliss were mine;  
Resigning thee,—the torments of the damned!  
Believe, and answer me accordingly,  
The power is mine to have thee forcibly,  
My wish, to win thee by entreaty. List!  
I utter but a word,—thou also diest:  
One syllable from thee preserveth thy life;  
Then urge me not to a sin compulsory;  
Stretch forth a willing hand and shield thy heart!

Philip [within]. Ho! Gabriella!  
Gab. God! his voice!  
Duke. His voice!

We fancy our readers will not care to amuse  
themselves further with 'The Spanish Rake.'

*St. Ethelbert: an Historical Tragedy in three acts;* by Alfred Haviland, is the work of one who in his dedicatory preface, addressed to Sir T. N. Talfourd, confesses himself to be a "noviciate" in the paths of literature,—and by that confession establishes his youth in the lore of Lindley Murray and Dr. Dilworth. For one so innocent, he has tremendous notions of stage effect; as may be shown by a terrible transcript, which, terrible as it is, is yet the gentlest portion of the third and crowning act of Mr. Haviland's tragedy. To the understanding of the following awful scene no introduction is required—beyond the statement that the body of Wimberht, a wicked person and assassin, just deceased, has been dragged from the stage, leaving, as the reader will see, pretty liberal traces behind it.—

Enter Offa, wearing the Crown of Anglia.  
Offa [looking around the Chamber].  
This was the hour chosen by my Queen,  
To meet my Earldormen in council here;  
Where are they all? So soon their business done  
Makes me believe its import was not great;  
And yet it was, for I remember well,  
They were convened to give their best advice,  
How to avenge the death of Ethelbert.  
What can this early dissolution mean?  
'Tis like the whole affair, a mystery.  
Which as I contemplate I shudder at;  
Why should this feeling overcome me now,  
Which once suspicion started in my mind,  
When Cynethryth, my Queen, did urge me on,  
With all ambitious argument, to seize  
And wear the crown of Anglia's murdered King,  
Ere half his subjects knew their dreadful loss.

Looking on the floor,  
Heavens! What is that I see before their  
Throne? 'Tis blood—still streaming as it rolls.  
How like a pond I've seen somewhere before—  
Where? where? Oh! memory tell me where—  
Yes—Yes—I know—I know—I know—  
But is it real, or only now a dream,  
That haunts my vision as I think of him,  
Whose crown is pressing on my whirling head?  
[As he elevates the Crown falls into the blood.]  
O! fearful omen of this dreadful deed,  
See, how its crimson glance does stare the truth!  
And stain the crown that revels in its flood.

Enter Egmondus unobserved.  
Oh! Heavens, can this be true? Are all these thoughts  
The dark forebodings of my harrowed mind,  
Now grappling truth in such a doubtful form,  
Or are they all without foundation forced,  
From my imagination overwrought,  
By thoughts of murder, and by solitude?

[Takes up the Crown.]  
No! No, it is no dream, the blood is there,

See how it trickles from this weltered crown,  
Which, as I hold it, weeps its gory tears.

[Turns and sees Egmondus—is agitated, and lets fall the Crown—stares vacantly at Egmondus as he speaks.]

Egmondus. There let it lie, and never wear it more,  
Since it can only stain thy royal brow;  
Aye, and with purer blood than what is there—  
Hear me, King, that gore which yet is warm  
Once cours'd along the veins of him,  
Who, tempted by a fiend still blacker than  
Himself, did slay King Ethelbert.

Offa. Who was the villain?  
Egmondus. One who has made atonement for his crime  
By hurling her to hell who tempted him.

Offa. By hurling Her! who is she then?  
Egmondus. Let thy suspicions answer thee—  
Offa. I dare not, Egmond, tell me, tell me, who?  
And rack my soul no longer on suspense.

Egmondus. Thy Queen.  
Offa. My Queen! Oh Heavens! thou art just.

Though a "noviciate" in the use of every-day English, Mr. Haviland has read the modern Anglo-Saxon dictionary with zeal. Besides the "Earldormen" we have "ceorls," "thegns," and other devices of similar force introduced,—like the golden-eyed needle in *Mrs. Jarley's* show—to mark the period.—Enough of these august persons and amazing things!

High seasoned meats have this disadvantage, over and above their own pungency,—that they spoil the simple and healthy palate for plainer fare. Thus, if we do not invite the reader to taste with us some fragments from *The Templar, a Play in five acts*, by Angiolo R. Slous, it is because we fear that its thoroughly sensible and level writing would fall flat after the jocosity of the Gents of Mr. Jones and the horrors of Mr. Haviland's heroics. The fable is romantic,—made up of such well-known ingredients as old revenge and passion intercepted in its course by the Templar's vow.—In arranging his materials for the stage, Mr. Slous seems to have had reference to the powers of Mr. and Mrs. Charles Kean—to the former of whom the drama is inscribed. There is nothing here to shock by its monstrosity—nothing to divert by its bathos;—and though, on the other hand, there is little which by novelty of situation, force of passion, or felicity of diction would justify quotation, we yet closed 'The Templar' inclined to believe that with pains and patience Mr. Slous may produce an acting play of fair merit.—Since the above was written, a rumour has reached us that 'The Templar' may possibly be produced at the Princess's Theatre.

*The Antiquities of Richborough, Reculver, and Lyne, in Kent.* By Charles Roach Smith, F.S.A. Illustrated by F. W. Fairholt, F.S.A. Smith.

THE object and general contents of this attractive volume will be best explained by a brief extract from the Preface. The author is speaking of an assemblage of antiquities made by a gentleman of Sandwich.

"It was my first idea merely to make Mr. Rolfe's collection the basis of a volume, in connexion with Richborough, and perhaps, at the same time, to say a few words on the remains of antiquity at other places occupying the sites of Roman stations in the county of Kent. Among these I had hoped to include the unique and interesting Pharos at Dover; but although the exterior of that structure is exposed to the pitiless propensities of curiosity-hunters, its interior, within the last few years, has been blocked up by an order from the Ordnance Department, so that its peculiar architectural features can no longer be inspected. The site of the castrum at Lyne at that time presented but little apparent interest; and my object in including it in the title of our book was to direct attention to its remains, with a remote hope that some wealthy landowner of the neighbourhood, or some owner of the land upon which the Roman ruins stand, might be moved to raise the soil, and see what lay beneath. I should probably have waited long enough, had not Mr. James Elliott, of Dymchurch, co-operated with me, and had we not been supported by a list of subscribers to aid in defraying the expenses of the excavations,—most of

whom, it may be remarked, are altogether strangers, and in no way connected with the county. In consequence of the incipient researches thus made at Lyne, the publication of the volume has been delayed beyond the intended period; but, at the same time, they have enabled us to give some information on points which previously were unknown."

If, as is intimated above, the blocking up of the interior of the Pharos at Dover by the Ordnance Department has prevented the exploration of it, it is a misfortune, but not without a remedy. It may be opened and examined on some future occasion; and we cannot help thinking that a proper representation from persons of known attainments in matters of archaeology would secure admission. Possibly, no application was in this case made; and if, as the author states, the exterior is still "exposed to the pitiless propensities of curiosity-hunters," it is probable that it was doing some service to close the building, so that the interior might not be exposed to the same "pitiless propensities." If this edifice still remains to be investigated, we hardly know how to regret it on the present occasion; for Richborough, Reculver, and Lyne have afforded sufficient for one volume,—and the Pharos at Dover may be reserved for another expedition, and another publication to be prepared by Mr. Smith and illustrated by Mr. Fairholt. They deserve all encouragement; and we are glad, therefore, that the list of subscribers to their present undertaking will certainly much more than save them harmless from the expenses which they may have incurred.

It is fit to remark in the outset, that although this book is devoted especially to the Roman and other remains found at Richborough, Reculver, and Lyne, the author has explained them, and diversified his labours by many references to objects and discoveries elsewhere, whether in this kingdom or abroad. His attainments in this department enabled him to do in this respect what few others could accomplish; and the result of his labours has been in some sort the illustration of antiquities generally. Though professedly confining himself to certain localities, he has wandered far and wide to make his discoveries not only useful and intelligible, but entertaining. We hold this to be one great merit of the work before us; and if a few men like Mr. Smith were honestly and industriously employed (not making, as is often the case, a job out of the thing; for the sake of securing an annuity,) in going over the country to hunt out, describe, and preserve ancient national monuments, we should soon be able to form a collection most instructive as a matter of history and very amusing even to superficial observers. We are confident also that private persons, now the owners of some few relics, whether of little or of great interest, would be glad to contribute to a design so useful and valuable. When once a general museum of the kind is established, all minor assemblages of curiosities will sink into such comparative insignificance, that individuals, with a view only to their own importance, and in order to distinguish their own names, would not hesitate to procure themselves to be recorded as liberal and disinterested donors. We have before urged this matter; and we are sorry to perceive that no steps have yet been taken to establish and carry out a system something like that of Denmark, which under Mr. Worsaae has worked so well; and has occasioned the discovery and preservation of so many remains in Sweden and Norway intimately connected with our own antiquities, of the stone, the bronze, and the iron ages.

After a short "Introduction," in which the author at once summarily settles the disputed point about Lucius (on which Mr. Hallam has an able article in the last volume of the 'Archæ-



ologia) by declaring that "the standard of Christianity was first raised in Britain by St. Augustine," we arrive at a dissertation on the origin and foundation of Richborough Castle, under the name of Rutupium, with quotations from Juvenal, Ammianus Marcellinus, Ausonius, Lucan, &c., more or less apposite, and with the advantage (hardly necessary, had the work not been intended to be popular) of translations. Why it should be supposed that Lucan "had probably been an eye-witness of the turbulent billows lashing the Rutupine shore" because he was "a native of Spain," we do not quite understand; and if it were not meant as a *regulus*, still we are a little at a loss for the evidence on which the probability is founded. However, this has not much to do with the portion of the work which relates to the antiquities found at Richborough; and which is introduced by two excellent etchings of the Castrum as it now exists, followed by two other views of the same remains from a different point. The latter are woodcuts, and we perceive the name of W. Rimbault at their corners; so that we have the benefit of another hand besides that of Mr. Fairholt in the illustrations, and we are no doubt indebted to the same hand for the two characteristic representations of *Reculver* in a subsequent part of the volume.

It is not easy to select passages,—for two or three reasons, the principal being, that the woodcuts, &c. are so numerous that they are inserted on almost every page, and that the letter-press is hardly intelligible without reference to these. The following, relating to the foundation and formation of the walls of Richborough Castle, is an exception, and we avail ourselves of it.

"The foundation of the walls of the castrum is formed of two rows of boulders, laid upon, or a very little below, the surface of the natural soil, which is a compact pit-sand. The great body of the wall is composed of layers of boulders, and layers of a mixture of boulders, sandstone, ochre-stone, blocks of chalk with pholades embedded, and balani on their surface; the whole cemented with mortar formed of lime, grit, sea-shells, and pounded tiles. There are also pieces of oolite and travertine, which some of our geologists have imagined were brought over from the Continent. These ingredients vary in proportions in different places, apparently as particular materials were abundant or otherwise during the progress of the building. The facings of the walls have already been described. It was the opinion of Mr. King that the walls were constructed by having the whole mass flung carelessly into a great *caisson*, or frame of wood, the interior breadth of which was that of the wall, and its depth, that of the space between the alternate rows of files, while its length was sometimes more and sometimes less, just as suited convenience; and that the parts thus reared, one at the end of another, on and over each row of tiles, were united together afterwards merely by means of very small loose stones and mortar thrown into the narrow space left at the ends between them. The objections to this theory are, that the separations asserted to be filled up with small loose stones are nowhere discernible; the distances between the bands of tiles are not equal, as they probably would have been had *caissons* been used; and the materials constituting the body of the walls do not appear to have been thrown in carelessly, but, on the contrary, are arranged with much precision, as seen in the south wall, from which almost the entire facing has been removed; and, towards the east side, an immense mass of the interior masonry has been extracted, so as to form a kind of chamber, in which the regular arrangement of the strata of boulders is clearly shown. In other places, where the walls have been broken into, the same system may not be so obvious, on account of the difficult nature of the materials."

After some further information on the general nature of the structure, Mr. Smith proceeds to describe the remains collected by Mr. Rolfe of Sandwich,—under the various but usual heads

of fictile vessels, glass, personal ornaments, wall-paintings, implements, utensils, and coins, with a few miscellaneous articles; and at the conclusion he sums up the whole in these terms.

"The class of monuments described in the preceding pages cannot but be regarded with a high degree of interest. They extend over a period of upwards of four hundred years,—from the first arrival of the Romans in Britain to their final departure. The coins of most of the earlier emperors are comparatively scarce; but toward the latter end of the third century, when Carausius wrested the province from Diocletian and Maximian, they suddenly increase in number; and those of the ten years during which the island maintained its independence far exceed those of any other reign, although the coins of many of the subsequent emperors are very numerous. This may probably be ascribed to a local cause. Carausius, it is well known, commanded the Roman fleet which was stationed in the Channel to guard the coasts of Britain and Gaul from the incursions of the Franks and Saxons, who had already begun to be troublesome. Carausius subdued the pirates, but was himself subsequently accused of allowing them to carry off booty, which he intercepted before they reached their own harbours, and appropriated to his own use, instead of sending it to the treasury at Rome. Maximian having given orders for the degradation of his accused admiral, the latter, anticipating the worst, sailed with the fleet to Britain, of which, by the aid of the legions there stationed, and one or more quartered in Gaul, he obtained complete possession. There can be little doubt that the Rutupine coast was the scene of many important events, which, unrecorded by the pen of history, must be presumed to have occurred during the dismemberment of the province from the Roman empire. The fleet which aided Carausius in his successful adventure, probably had its chief quarters at Rutupia,—a station, above all others, important for communicating with Gaul and Germany. The unusual number of coins of this emperor, and of his successor, Allectus, which appear in our Richborough list, show certainly that the place was well occupied during their reigns. The denarii of Carausius, marked R.S.R., as has been before observed, were probably struck at Rutupia; there seems to be no other feasible interpretation of these letters; and this mode of explaining them is perfectly consistent with numismatic formulæ, as well as with local circumstances. The gold and silver coins of Carausius bear usually, in the exergue, the letters M.L. or R.S.R., denoting, as is suggested, Londinium and Rutupia as the places of minting, and where, probably, Carausius himself mostly resided. The number of coins of Carausius and Allectus found at Richborough is the more striking, when it is considered that they are by no means generally common, and that the silver are of the highest rarity. On the contrary, coins of the Constantine family are found everywhere in profusion; but numerous as they occur at Richborough, they bear a very inferior proportion to those of the two Romano-British emperors, when the length of reigns is compared."

Perhaps the most novel of the discoveries made by the author and illustrator of this work is, the Amphitheatre at Richborough;—but for a full account of it we must be content to refer to the volume. We then arrive at the account of *Reculver* (*Regulbium*, as the station was called by the Romans); which in process of time became a monastic establishment of considerable importance. The church contains portions of Roman architecture, the arches being turned, and the walls banded with Roman tiles; and various antiquities of the same period have been preserved, and are here engraved either on steel or on wood. The last thirty or forty pages are devoted to an account of the Roman Castrum of Lynne, or *Portus Lemanis*,—in more modern times called *Stufall Castle*. It was visited by Dr. Stukeley (whom some are disposed to undervalue to decry as an antiquary) considerably more than a century ago. Recent excavations have enabled Mr. Smith to discern something of its form and structure; and the illustrations of this part of the subject have the recommendation

of novelty as well as that of accuracy. The drawings for some of these, if we are not mistaken, were laid before the Society of Antiquaries during last season. It is quite clear, notwithstanding recent explorations, that much remains to be discovered in this situation. The excavations have, in fact, only been commenced; and we must look to some future publication (we hope by the same competent author) for a complete account not only of the existing state of the ruins, but of various objects of historical and antiquarian interest no doubt yet to be brought to light.

*A Liberal Education in general, and with particular reference to the leading Studies of the University of Cambridge: Principles and Recent History, Part I.; Discussions and Recent Changes, Part II.* By W. Whewell, D.D., Master of Trinity College, Cambridge.  
(Second Notice.)

As the two new Honour Triposes at Cambridge include subjects which essentially involve a cultivation of various developments of the reason, we think that the University has done well in throwing them open for competition to a lower degree of mathematical attainment. We cannot say so much with respect to what is done as regards the Classics, so long as the study of them is confined to the bare study of the languages. But if the examinations are made to involve proficiency not merely in the languages themselves, but in the subject-matter of the books—their philosophy, their history, and their poetry—we think that this, too, is a movement in the right direction. We cordially agree with Dr. Whewell, however, in thinking, that strong measures must be taken to counteract the ill effects produced on the mind by the exclusive study of the classics at the great schools. We concur in opinion that the question of sound education is the question at issue, and not the mere question of the comparative justice or injustice of excluding men, who from imperfection of mental culture will study nothing but the languages. A mind so cultivated is unworthy of any honour. The Universities are bound to make themselves places of wholesome education, and not to degrade themselves to the mere ministerial agency of carrying out the imperfect education of our great schools.

We also agree in opinion with Dr. Whewell that the study of logic as pursued at Oxford is no adequate substitute for mathematics in a liberal education. The art of pointing out the principles and laws of correct reasoning, and the art of correct reasoning itself, are two things different *in genere*. It is not more rational to suppose that logic, as it is practised at Oxford, can be a substitute for mathematical studies, than to suppose that a blacksmith would find his arm as much strengthened by observing the laws according to which another blacksmith smote on the anvil as by the strong exercise of smiting on the anvil itself. A man may thoroughly comprehend what are the correct processes which the mind goes through in reasoning, and yet be completely unable to reason correctly. — word 1—word 1—word 1—257—257

Though Dr. Whewell has nowhere expressed his opinion, yet from the general complexion of the work before us we cannot doubt that he must be of opinion, that the system pursued at Oxford is extremely defective for the purposes of liberal education. Nine out of ten of the tutors of the University are utterly ignorant of the elementary principles of mathematical reasoning,—and arithmetical operations of the most simple character would be to them utterly posing. As a body they are no less ignorant of physical science and modern history. The only discipline of the reason that they have enjoyed



is, the reading through of two or three treatises of Aristotle or of Plato. Many of them have even very low honours in their own University. And yet men who are themselves so destitute of the essential elements of a right discipline of the rational faculties are the parties who have to communicate a liberal education to the rising generation. It will also be evident that Dr. Whewell must be of opinion that the usual acquirements demanded for a pass degree at Oxford are a most inadequate proof that he who has obtained it has enjoyed the benefit of a liberal education. We must add, the same is true with respect to Cambridge. In fact, Dr. Whewell actually considers that a place among the *polloi* is only proof that the party has passed through his University career without disgrace. Alas, in what does the result of three years of universityship and from six to twelve years of schooling end!

Dr. Whewell admits the importance of professional lectures;—yet he seems an advocate for the entire maintenance of the present system of tutorial teaching. We regret that he has so completely overlooked in his treatises the very important subject of collegiate reform. Cambridge does not contain such anomalies as force themselves on the attention of the most careless at Oxford. Still, it must not be forgotten that the Cambridge, no less than the Oxford, fellowships are held as sinecures, although, according to Dr. Whewell's own account, the Fellows of Trinity have the duty imposed on them by the statutes of acting in the capacity of tutors to the students. We, ourselves, strongly as we desire the introduction of an efficient professorial system of teaching in our Universities—a system which can be said to exist in neither—are fully of opinion that the college Fellows might be most usefully employed in the work of tuition in subordination to the Professors. Half the Fellows have hitherto been non-resident,—and these, from the nature of the case, must be totally useless to the well-being of the University. The funds, as they become vacant, might be used to supply a requisite number of professorships, in which the University is lamentably deficient. The present staff of professors is quite inefficient to perform the functions of the public teachers of the University.

Dr. Whewell is very properly in favour of a portion of all examinations being oral. All intellectual training has for its ultimate object to enable the mind to perform the various duties of life in the best possible manner. It will not be denied that various faculties of mind having the most direct bearing on the great business of life are pre-eminently called forth by a *vivâ voce* examination. Of these we may enumerate presence of mind, ability to adapt ourselves readily to the subject in hand, complete mastery over the subject. Among the advantages of some part of the examination being conducted *vivâ voce*, Dr. Whewell places the opportunity which it affords to detect "cramming." We fully agree with him that it is impossible too deeply to lament the ill effects with which the present system of cramming, as preparatory to the examinations in both our Universities, is attended. We are firmly persuaded that it never can be extirpated until the public examiners shall be entirely disconnected from the class of private tutors,—and instead of being annually appointed, shall be formed into a permanent board. At present, the examiners and private tutors being practically the same body, the temptation of the one to play into the hands of the other is inevitable. We greatly fear that this is the real cause which has led to the rejection of what we must consider an improvement in the mode of appointing

public examiners at Oxford. The proposed change would have done something to dis sever the connexion and interests of examiners and private tutors, in whom the whole art and science of cramming is vested. Nothing tends to exalt mediocrity into an undue elevation in the class lists of both Universities so much as the present system of cramming.

Dr. Whewell is wisely of opinion that our Universities are not to be viewed simply as institutions where honours are to be conferred for literary proficiency, but as places of education. The two functions, however, may be profitably combined. This might be effected by affixing some mark of distinction between those who have had the benefit of a regular course of training at the University and those who have merely proved to the University the possession of certain attainments. Viewing the question nationally, it is of the highest importance that there should exist a body legally entitled, and at the same time duly qualified, to affix the seal of their approbation to the attainments of any given individual. Among other numerous advantages flowing from the existence of such a body, it will help to exclude a number of cheats who are practising in the work of education, and deceiving and mentally poisoning the public with their miserable educational quackery.

We regret that Dr. Whewell has not directed his attention to another point of the highest importance connected with the efficiency of the Universities,—the reduction of the present enormous expense with which a University course is attended. We should have wished to enjoy the benefit of the information which his experience could have afforded on that subject,—and must strongly recommend the question to his speedy consideration. The colleges may assert that their charges are moderate,—but to parents it is practically the same thing whether the charges are unduly high, or whether the colleges permit those committed to their charge to run into enormous debt. Although the parent may be ignorant of the cause, he is fully able to comprehend the terms of the practical syllogism which is applied to his pocket,—and that the conclusion therefrom necessarily follows, the payment of far larger sums than he is prepared to meet. He knows that he can keep his son out of debt under his own roof; and seeing that our two Universities possess 1,000 fellowships which are pure sinecures, he not unnaturally asks whether the holders of these may not be better employed in discharging the moral supervision of those who are professedly committed to their care? Whether the cause of expense be in the charges of the colleges or in the habits of the students,—both are in the power of the authorities, and it is their duty to effect an immediate reduction. If the vast endowments of these institutions have not the effect of making them of moderate expense as places of education, those endowments are practically useless to the public.

Nothing so much tends to degrade our Universities from their proper position as instructors of the English people, as this question of expense. With an enlarged system of education, suited to the national wants, nothing hinders them from educating four times their present numbers. The population of Germany exceeds that of the United Kingdom by only one-half,—yet it contains nearly three times the number of university students. Yet the number of those who could afford a university education on any reasonable or necessary scale of expense must be out of all proportion greater here than in Germany. The disproportion is owing to the enormous cost of the English Universities,—which confines them almost exclusively to the wealthy classes, and is the cause

of the imperfect education of the bulk of our middle orders.—The thorough investigation of this subject may, it is true, involve the examination of a question somewhat distasteful to Heads of colleges and Fellows. It will necessitate investigation into the origin, amount, use, and abuse of existing funds. It will require that they should be redistributed to meet our national wants. It will require that the 1,000 fellowships should cease to be sinecures. It will demand that such institutions as King's College and the great majority of the Oxford colleges should be thoroughly remodelled, and that close fellowships (as being simple nuisances in public institutions) should be thrown open.—We are satisfied that to bring these things about is only a work of time. Eventually, and at no distant day, they must be.

We heartily thank Dr. Whewell for what he has effected in the cause of reform. We trust that his past success will be a full encouragement to him to pursue the same course. We respectfully solicit his attention to the suggestions which we have offered. We trust that he will ere long discuss these subjects in another work; and we hope that he will not think it travelling beyond his province to favour the world with his views on the present state of the University of Oxford,—above all, on the condition of its various colleges, and as to how far that condition is compatible with a sound system of University education in England.

*The Populations of Austria and Turkey: a Contemporary History of the Illyrians, Magyars, Roumains, and Poles*—[*Les Peuples de l'Autriche, &c.*] 2 vols. By Hippolyte Desprez. Paris, Comon.

THE contents of these two volumes—reprinted, if we mistake not, from the bi-monthly columns of a Parisian contemporary,—consist of a series of popular and graphic essays (or "studies," as it pleases their author to call them) on the more abstruse causes which led to the recent movement in Eastern Europe,—sketches more or less vivid and complete of the chief actors in the drama,—and remarks on the general openings which these striking events are supposed to have made into the clouds that veil the future destinies of Europe from ordinary mortal vision. This is a vast subject; and M. Desprez treats it in the manner of his countrymen—that is, with artistic skill and great political adroitness, but entirely from the French point of view. He tells the tale so well, and re-arranges the affairs of the East with so much ease, that the reader is almost disposed to quarrel with his own memory for so often obtruding facts on his attention which persist in not harmonizing with the nicely concocted theory. Like many other French conservatives, M. Desprez is a devoted partizan of Austria. He declares, with the Ban of Croatia, that if that power were not already in existence, it would be necessary to invent it for the sake of order and civilization in Europe. But it is not the grand old empire of history, the empire of Charles V. and Maria Theresa, illustrated by German genius and Magyar valour, that is the object of M. Desprez's devotion,—nor any other Austria that is now or has been in times past. He desires an empire in which the Teuton and the Hungarian are to be equally strangers;—in short, an Austria of Slavons! Even Russia does not satisfy his instincts in favour of order. Russia, he says, is active, aggressive, revolutionary. He wants to see—professing to take the interests of French diplomacy as his point of view—the Croats and Wallacks ruling the east of Europe from Vienna. Some mysterious bond he imagines connects the Slavic and Celtic races together, which renders it necessary for



the peace and power of France that the great branches of that long prostrate race should again hold up their heads, and find a common centre of gravity on the banks of the Danube. To English readers, only too much accustomed to hear of the organic and irredeemable vices of the Celt, M. Desprez's assertion—that of all European races the Slaves and the Celts approach the nearest to the ideal of man, and that these two are the races on which civilization chiefly depends—will sound not a little strange. But having conceived so high an estimate of the Illyrian and the Wallack as to place them in the same category with the Frenchman, M. Desprez is at least consistent in his sketches. He not only sets them far above the other populations of Eastern Europe,—but vanquishes the Magyars for them in a style which Jellachich and Louis Gaj cannot fail to envy and applaud.

Were it worth our while to go over the events of the recent struggle—already become history—we could deny facts and dispute inferences with our author to the end of the chapter.—He speaks of the victorious Croats appearing before the insurgent city of Vienna, when everybody knows that the red mantles were flying from the sanguinary field of Stuhlweissenburg, the conquering Magyars close on their rear, when the camp of Auersperg and the reluctance of the Hungarian commander to cross the Leitha afforded them an opportunity of rallying their scattered and broken corps.—He pretends that the menacing attitude of the Slaves of Transylvania and the Carpathians kept the Magyars from crossing the frontier; though it is well known, from the published accounts of what took place in their camp, that the only reason was, the fear of some of the generals to commit themselves to an Imperial war. M. Desprez attributes the whole of the disasters of Austria to the non-appointment of Jellachich to the chief command after the battle of Schewat—because he is a Slave; though his military incapacity has been subsequently proved by a succession of obscure blunders and defeats. When left to his own resources, it does not appear that he ever gained an advantage over the enemy,—while the young Magyar generals defeated him in turn as the various fortunes of the war sent them into the southern provinces. It is probable that the author may seek excuse for such mistakes in the fact of the periodical publication of his “studies”; but time, which has corrected the errors of the day, should have corrected also the record thereof.

Louis Kossuth is of course no hero with M. Desprez:—but in his elaborate portrait of this extraordinary man there are some fine and truthful lines. The chief fault of Kossuth with the French writer is, that “he is really nothing but an orator and a poet.” In these respects M. Desprez allows him no small share of merit; but as a politician, as an organizer of power, as a practical statesman, he ranks him only with the mob of demagogues. “Would you know,” he says, “the secret of his influence? It is, that the Magyar nation breathes and lives entirely in him,—thinks, speaks by his mouth.” This explanation is not very clear or conclusive,—inasmuch as the reader may require to be told how Hungary came to think and speak through the organs of Louis Kossuth. M. Desprez gives the fact itself as the reason for the fact. Perhaps he had some glimpse of the truth when he wrote—“Whenever M. Kossuth speaks, it is the language of honour, of poetry, of courage, and of national dignity. Though one may well accuse him of having ruined his country, one cannot say of him, as of other demagogues, that he debased the moral sentiment, the conscience of the people.”

We cannot discuss with M. Desprez the pro-

bable future of Europe:—partly because we are historians, not prophets,—but chiefly because such a discussion would lead us into the troubled and to us forbidden region of politics. Not many readers, we apprehend, will be found in England who entertain M. Desprez's views as to the best modes of re-organizing the East; but if there be any anti-Germano-Magyar enthusiasts here, they will find their prepossessions ably set forth and supported in these volumes.

*The Zoology of the Voyage of H.M.S. Samarang, under the Command of Capt. Sir Edward Belcher, C.B. Edited by Arthur Adams, F.L.S. Reeve & Co.*

WE noticed at the time of its appearance Sir Edward Belcher's account of the very interesting Eastern voyage of the Samarang;—and this supplementary volume describes the discoveries in the animal world made during that expedition. Great praise is due to Sir Edward and to Mr. Arthur Adams, the assistant-surgeon, for the collection and preservation of so large a number of specimens as have been placed in the hands of the gentlemen who have described the new species contained in this volume. An idea may be gained of the value of the contributions to science which this work announces, if we briefly refer to the course of the Samarang. She sailed from St. Jago, Cape de Verdes, to windward of Ascension, along the African coast,—and after touching at the Cape, anchored off Java. From thence she passed to Singapore, Sarawak, Hong Kong, Macao, and the coast of China. The Boshee Islands and Formosa were next visited. After surveying Pa-tchung-san and other islands, the vessel returned to Hong Kong,—and subsequently she visited Manilla, surveyed the Parragatan shoals, and proceeded along the east coast of Borneo to the province of Unsang. She next reached Cape Rivers, in the island of Celebes,—landing on the islands of Mayo, Lemate, and Gillolo. After returning again to Singapore, Hong Kong, and Pa-tchung-san, the Expedition sailed for Corea, Quelpart, and Kiusu; and after navigating among the almost unexplored islands of the Yellow Sea, returned again to Hong Kong,—from whence they came, after surveying the St. Brandon shoals, to England.

During this very long voyage a large number of animals were collected; and those which were new or rare have been described and figured in the present volume. That the work has been done well will be understood as of course, when we mention that the Mammalia have been examined, and a list of all that have been hitherto found in the Eastern Islands has been given, by Mr. J. G. Gray, of the British Museum,—that the Fishes have been described by Sir John Richardson, the Mollusca by Mr. Lovell Reeve, and the Crustacea by Mr. Adams assisted by Mr. Adam White.

During this voyage Sir Edward Belcher was fortunate enough to capture, though lacerated, a specimen of the animal, allied to the *Nautilus*, called *Spirula*. Although the shell of this animal is well known, the creature itself has been only imperfectly examined. The discovery of this specimen has afforded to Prof. Owen an opportunity of describing the animal, and giving his views on the classification of the family of Mollusca to which it belongs. In the department of Mollusca and Crustacea the largest number of new species were obtained,—and most important and interesting additions to our knowledge of these creatures have been made.—The plates illustrative of the descriptive letter-press are admirably executed. They are the work of Messrs. Sowerby, Wing, and Hawkins.—This work is not of the class likely to have an extensive sale; but as it has been published at

the expense of Government, we hope arrangements have been made to secure a copy of it not only to the great public libraries, but to all the institutions in our large towns which can give a guarantee of their stability and have a public library attached.

*The Nature and Office of the State.* By Andrew Coventry Dick. Edinburgh, Black.

MR. Dick tells us in his preface that this work was written some years ago, but has been kept in the escrotoire on account of the absence of a popular interest in its subject-matter. The recent revolutions, however, have recalled attention to the construction and organization of the governing power. The great states of the European continent—France, Austria, Germany—have been all engaged in forming for themselves constitutions. Many other states—Belgium, Holland, and to some extent England also—though not beginning like these at the foundations, and building up entirely new political systems, are more or less seeking to modify and enlarge the bases of their internal politics. Now, if ever, is the time for the discussion of principles. Nothing is too absurd, ideal, or empirical for debate. Every man has his theory to propound—nearly every man has got his pet constitution in his pocket-book. The present, therefore, Mr. Dick considers, is the moment for his book. Not that we mean the reader to infer that it is either absurd, ideal, or empirical. Quite the contrary. These are not its faults. It is practical enough and sober enough; for it is in reality, though the fact is not stated in terms, a philosophical defence of the English Constitution—its origin, growth and development.

The great fault of the book—the fault which will prevent it from obtaining any extended popularity—is its irredeemable dryness. That this is not owing to the absence of popular elements in the subject, we have a hundred proofs. In the treatment of questions of political science almost everything depends on manner. Niebuhr renders the most minute and critical investigation interesting, because he keeps attention alive by the variety and appositeness of his illustrations. It is the same with Guizot. His principles are always grouped round with the facts out of which he has evolved them; he enables you to comprehend his process before asking you to accept his results. Hume produces the same effect by different means: With him it is not the variety of illustrations brought from every region of historical and political inquiry—he commands attention by the charm of an almost unrivalled power of narration. Certainly political philosophy need not be dryly treated; and in itself it is one of the branches of human knowledge which come most nearly home to every man's heart, and to the mastering of which his intelligence should be most willingly devoted. If a book on political science prove unpopular, it will generally be the writer's and not the reader's fault. The mass of readers are glad to get at this kind of knowledge in any decent shape; and few works are more eagerly sought for than such as afford it. See, for instance, the popularity of Guizot's ‘History of Civilization’ in England—of Louis Blanc's ‘History of Ten Years’ in France and Germany—of Schlegel's essay on the ‘Philosophy of History’—and of Karl von Rotteck's philosophical view of political history. By throwing the framework of his argument into too abstract, technical (shall we also add, too scientific?) a mould, Mr. Dick has denied himself beforehand the chance of such honours. His book falls into a class which is sedulously avoided by the general reader, and is more



frequently placed upon the shelves of the student than wrought into the fabric of his mind and memory. In fact, it is a work more likely to be looked at, and occasionally referred to, than read—and is therefore imperfect in being without a general index.

Considering that Politics was one of the earliest sciences which attracted attention, and that some of the greatest men of all ages and nations have devoted their time and genius to its elucidation—to questions of the elementary principles of government, its sources, nature, mode of operation, and the development of its laws—it is curious that it should still be so imperfect. We have not yet determined the functions of government,—nay, not even its object. In this matter, indeed, we appear to be getting more and more confused and uncertain. The Hellenes had but one theory of the purpose and sphere of government; we, at least, have two—one of them admitting a variety of modifications. One, the ancient theory supposes the object of government to be the general well-being of society. According to it, the ruling power is absolute in every sphere. The State is the lord paramount. The individual is nothing; the body politic everything. This notion of the supremacy of the governing power was universally accepted and realized in the ancient world. All authorities were gathered into a focus—and wielded by one will. One body then represented the state, the church, the family, the proprietor, the social opinion. There was an entire union of functions in the government: it regulated everything for the inhabitants who lived under its sway. The Hebrews as well as the Greeks invested their rulers with these absolute powers;—or rather we should say these powers were exercised by their rulers because the ideas underlying them were in harmony with the genius of the people. Religion and all the other great governing powers were as completely centered in the government of Sparta, of Crete, and of the Ionian republics as in the theocracies of Palestine. Public worship—and the regulation of conscience—were as much provided for by the State in Greece and Italy as in Syria. As Josephus remarks, the only difference in the polity of the Jews and of the Gentiles was this,—that with the former religion was regarded as the most important of all the elements of which politics is compounded. Solon and Lycurgus held that piety was one of the chief of the civic virtues; Moses, that all the other virtues were only component parts of piety. But whether in monarchy, theocracy, or republic, the unity of power was maintained. The State, considered in its aggregate capacity, was absolute master: it owned everything; it controlled everything; and it professed to arrange everything. The theory of such a system of government implies no more than that the will of the majority is literally supreme: that there is no limit to its authority. This doctrine of the absolute rights of a majority in all cases is not only older than the other—the doctrine of limitations—but it is also more popular. It is advocated by Aristotle, by the Jesuits, by Paley and Bentham, by St. Simon, Fourier, and Louis Blanc, by the Communists of Germany, and by Utopians all over the world. Paley and St. Simon, Bentham and Fourier, in the same category! The analyzer of creeds finds out strange affinities. It is only in their means—their choice of method—that these men differ much. Paley's object of government is the "public good,"—Bentham's "the greatest happiness to the greatest number,"—and every school of Communism and Socialism adopts the same formula.

The second of our civil theories of the func-

tions of the State is not graced by such a length of lineage. It recognizes something in society higher than the State—namely, the individual man. Hence, it denies the absolute power even of a majority, and limits the functions of government to a comparatively narrow range of duties. In fact, it considers government the servant, and not the master, of society. It declares the State—that object of all love, devotion, and submission to an Hellenic or Roman patriot—to be nothing more than a fiction; while it invests the separate individuals with all the powers and rights of sovereignty. This notion, which seems to be involved in the first element of the Christian philosophy, has acquired form and substance only in modern times. Locke is perhaps its best expositor. It is realized in the republican constitutions of the United States—and partly in the monarchical constitution of Great Britain. Not, however, that we would assert this second theory of government to have been entirely unknown to what is called the ancient world; for we are well aware that at least in the later periods of Roman history deep and certain traces of it may be found, especially in the Pandects of Justinian. But it is only in recent times that men have come seriously to consider that there are departments over which the ruling power—whether it be the will of a single man or the will of a majority—has no right, no control. The limits within which this power may move are of course not yet satisfactorily defined,—nor will it be easy to come to any conclusion on this point so long as a large portion of civilized mankind retain the idea that the power of a majority is absolute. In America (where there is a power higher than that of the State—the Constitution—to transcend which the Congress has no right, as has been proved on several occasions), in England, and in Germany, the currents of opinion set strongly in this direction. Free traders and political economists generally are in favour of what we may call the theory of limitation. In France—at least partially—in Italy, and in Spain, in countries generally where the genius of the people tends towards centralization, opinion moves the other way. The economists say the world is sick with too much governing. It wants repose—to be let alone. It can take care of itself—cease to interfere with it. On the other side, the Communists say, all the misery in the world springs from defective government. It must be ruled more and better. Everything is in a state of chaos; make haste, let it be organized.

Mr. Dick adopts the creed of Locke—the theory of limitations—in preference to that of Aristotle. But we confess to being dissatisfied with his way of presenting the argument, which is hard, technical, and wanting in illustrations. It is not so presented as to excite attention much less to carry conviction. All modern political theories worthy of scientific analysis imply the existence of an original contract; not, as is sometimes inferred from the terms employed by jurists when speaking of this contract, in the shape of a formal and legal agreement—but a tacit and mutual understanding under the terms of which men were willing to enter into social and political relations, the conditions being comprehended and accepted without any necessity arising for their being stated in words. But what are the terms of this compact? What the bases on which society is organized? For it will be remembered, Society is something more than the State; it existed before it; it transcends and includes it. The State is, in fact, but one aspect of society—like the Church, the Family, the Proprietor. Hobbes and the disciples of his

school say—man surrendered to society all his powers, rights, and liberties whatsoever; divesting himself of every attribute which he owned when in what is called a state of nature. This doctrine involves all that is peculiar in the pagan principle of government omnipotence. Despotism could ask no better warrant for its misdeeds. Hobbes, of course, considers that this divestment of rights is made for the general good. So the Russian princes said when they reduced their free peasants to the rank of serfhood;—so say the South Americans when they refuse to emancipate the Negro. The doctrine is indeed far too dangerous ever to find acceptance with a free and instructed people. It destroys all guarantees and checks to power. No other authority could exist in presence of the State. Whatever it does is right. Government becomes in theory irresponsible; for if men have surrendered their individual rights and judgments, they are clearly not competent to pronounce on the acts of their common superior. This is a necessary corollary of Hobbes's doctrine. Indeed, it is the great weapon which Edmund Burke used against the revolutionists of the last century. He declared that no man has a right to judge of a matter in which his own interests are concerned; that right having been resigned, as he says, when the social compact was formed. Fourier himself is hardly more logical than this. But what cannot a man prove if you only grant him premises enough? Locke, while admitting this implied contract, contended that the contracting parties only surrender a portion of their individual liberties and rights, retaining others which they are competent to hold good even against the State itself. In this doctrine he was followed by Warburton in England and by many distinguished Continental jurists; amongst others by the celebrated Marquis di Beccaria, from whom Jeremy Bentham borrowed the famous formula, "the greatest happiness of the greatest number." Long practically recognized in the English constitution, notwithstanding the contrary assertion by Burke,—this doctrine is now rapidly spreading among civilized communities. "No man," says the Italian jurist just named, "ever gave up his liberty for the mere good of mankind." Nor is any one competent to unmake and negative his own manhood. Fortune, pleasure, even life, a man may, on reasonable need, sacrifice for the world; but not his liberty of self-judgment; or, in another word, his conscience. Such an attribute is imprescriptible, inalienable. In no state of political organization possible in modern times can the man be sunk in the citizen; still less can he be sunk in the mere member of the body politic. The aggregation of all powers and functions to the ruling body in those classic ages from the records of which we receive our first impressions of the course of human polity and law has had the effect of inducing men to clothe political authority with attributes which it has no right to now, and which it is incompetent to exercise. The mischief with us in England—and we may add with men in some other countries—is this, that we do not allow for all the consequences of this limitation of powers. We complain of the inefficiency of a power which we adopt every means at our disposal to render inoperative. We desire to reap the fruits of despotism while we enjoy the solaces of freedom. Perhaps Beccaria is right when he says,—"Every man desires to be exempt from the obligations which bind the rest of the world."

Even a cursory review of the past will show us that the political state was not the earliest form of society. The family, the religious society, the commune—each with its acknowledged laws



and ordinances—existed before the kingdom or the commonwealth. After a time, the State drew all other powers and functions unto itself,—but only for a time. The older elements of the social condition again separated themselves from the alliance. At first religion. Christianity clove the unity of Roman power. The infant church—denying the spiritual authority of the Pontifex Maximus, and making a code of independent laws, over which neither emperor nor senate had any control, for itself—grew up in the heart of the imperial dominions a state within the state. This was the real cause of the persecutions instituted against the rising sect under the empire. The Christians acknowledged an alien law,—a law not proceeding from Rome, but from Jerusalem; and statesmen could not avoid seeing that this was an axe to cut away the root of their country's power. Under this view of the case, we can understand how even wise and politic pagans should have been led into cruel measures of repression; their object being to save the State, not merely out of wantonness or zeal to oppress a new religious sect. The distrust and dislike of the Christians manifested by men like Tacitus, Trajan, and Antoninus, admits only of some such reasonable explanation; the fact that several of the wisest and most statesmanlike of the Roman emperors, under their severest repressors should not escape attention.

As Christianity rose from the dust, these powers gradually departed from the State. The Church grew up by its side, as much a rival as an ally. The iron unity was broken, and the sentiment of individual freedom, long buried in a trance, rose again from the rest of ages. The revival of this sentiment is often ascribed to the migration of the Northmen into the Roman world; no doubt they presented a more genial soil for its growth than the effete inhabitants of Italy, Gaul, and Iberia. All the powers were not, however, at once set free. Under the long reign of the Feudal Law, the old doctrine that the State is paramount proprietor of the soil was maintained; under the pontifical hierarchy the influences of family and of general opinion were wielded by the Church. It is only in comparatively recent times that all these spheres are beginning to move independently. Perfect harmony among them is neither to be hoped nor desired. Antagonism is the great condition of a progressive life. Without antagonism there is no agitation, without agitation no activity, without activity no movement. We advance by conflict,—conflict of intellect, of moral forces, of truth and error, of right and wrong. Each sphere in which the governing power resides is a check upon the rest, and security against usurpations. For centuries the Church was the ally of Freedom against political tyranny. Wealth—the offspring of property—has often joined with the Free Spirit to resist the aggressions of the priest. Opinion has taken its part against the tyranny of wealth. The Family has ever been a refuge against the blighting curse of an unjust Opinion. We have, come in fact, or are fast coming, to a balance of these powers. No one of them separately can now play the despot. "This circumstance should be well considered. State affairs do not now make up the business of life. A man's happiness depends more on the order of his family than on the constitution of government. Politics are not all-important to modern Europeans. With the Athenian it was different. In his day the State was omnipotent. He was compelled to be a politician, because all his interests were involved in politics. He could not safely leave the affairs of the commonwealth to other hands. Now, the State is comparatively unimportant,

and though it is fit that every man take an intelligent interest in his country's weal, large masses are not compelled to devote a great portion of their time to it. It is wise to consider soberly the value of merely political rights. Social position is far more useful—social influence much more potential for good. It is doubtful whether the people of this country would not rather sacrifice the Reform Bill than the Penny Postage Act, if the alternative were forced on them; and we believe there are many who would give up Magna Charta in preference to Free Trade. They would do this not because devoted to gain and indifferent to liberty, but simply from a conviction that political rights are of little real importance in this stage of the world's growth. Government—at least such as that of England, or still more particularly that of the United States—has been denuded of so many powers that it has hardly any left. Opinion is now its absolute master. And it is fortunate that it is so; because opinion is a moral agent, which constrains with dignity or coerces without violence. But the same controlling and conservative power is exerted over refractory individuals—or, as Mr. Dick, in one of his very few felicitous passages, observes:—

"The right of using the Moral instruments of coercion has not been confined to any particular man or any body of men in society, but has been conferred on all men individually and indiscriminately. Whence it happens that every manifestation of wrong, every outbreak of vice, is the cause of many triumphs of virtue; for multitudes flock, as it were, to the rescue; and the moral discipline which their minds go through, while healing the wound that society has received, and coercing its vicious author, sharpens their sense of right, exalts their ideas of duty, and leaves them every way better than it found them. Hence, to a fanciful view, vice in the world seems like a man walking through a field of flowers, where every step forces out of the fair things it treads on a fresh stream of fragrance."

In speaking of the constitution of England, Mr. Dick says it is a work of nature and not of art. "This is a mere paradox. It is a common trick of our time to boast that our constitution has not been made—but has grown. If this mean anything, it means that its different parts have been conquered and created at long intervals of time; as special acts of oppression have forced the people to take up arms against their tyrants, and wrest from them the power of wrong-doing; in other words, that it is the result of barbarous revolutions in semi-barbaric times, when political knowledge was buried in the ruins of southern Europe. Perhaps it may be said to be a work of Nature inasmuch as it bears no marks of the order, system, sequence, and completeness which Art implies. But this is a point which we refrain from discussing with Mr. Dick. It is fair, however, that we allow him to present the *résumé* of his argument, which is as follows:—

"We have seen reason to conclude, *First*, that political power consists of physical power employed in determining peacefully the resolutions of the State; *Secondly*, that political power is distributed among the members of a community in proportion to the amount which each of them commands of the physical power of which it consists; *Thirdly*, that political power owes neither its existence nor its particular distribution among a people to the mere laws and constitution; but is the effect of all those circumstances and influences operating generally from remote periods in a nation's history, by which the character and relations of the men composing it have been moulded and determined. *Fourthly*, that the allocation or distribution of political power, of which experience gives us notice, may be reduced to three simple states. The first is where political power is individualized; being the result of a condition of society in which all the members of the community, of whose physical power the whole political power is

composed, are single and independent political agents, and so command each only an individual portion of the power in political action. The second is where political power is feudalized or *classified*; being the result of a state of society in which the physical power employed in directing the public councils is divided into masses, of which each obeys the will of a leading head or chief. The third is where political power is monopolized; being the result of a state of society wherein the whole physical power by which the State operates is attached to the will of a single person. The state first mentioned is the democratic condition of political power; the second state is the aristocratic; and the third is the monarchic or autocratic. And the tendency of each of these social conditions to a corresponding form of constitution is so strong, that to establish a democracy, where the society is in the aristocratic condition, or *vice versa*, is to introduce an incongruity or antagonism between the disposition and wants of the people and their institutions. *Lastly*, we have seen that a nation may present in its social condition an amalgam of the three simple modes of the distribution of political power, or of any two of them, and that now in one proportion and now in another. In which case the natural constitutional form of the nation will show a corresponding commingling of democracy with aristocracy and monarchy, or of two of them, and in such proportion as the condition of the society demands."

In conclusion, we must say that we think some of our readers will find this book interesting. Men accustomed to abstract reasoning will not care for its dryness of manner,—and those who can read it will be compensated for their trouble. It has many suggestive reflections.

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## MR. TAYLOR AND THE AUTHORSHIP OF JUNIUS.

THE following is Mr. Taylor's reply to certain questions asked in "Notes and Queries" as to the authorship of "Junius Identified." Though dated Sept. 7, this reply was published only on Saturday last.

"It is fortunate for my reputation that I am still living to vindicate my title to the authorship of my own book, which seems otherwise in danger of being taken from me.

"I can assure your correspondent R. J. (Vol. II. p. 103) that I was not only 'literally the writer,' as he kindly suggests, with a view of saving my credit for having put my name to the book, but in its fullest sense the author of 'Junius Identified'; and that I never received the slightest assistance from Mr. Dubois, or any other person, either in collecting or arranging the evidence, or in the composition and correction of the work. After I had completed my undertaking, I wrote to Mr. Dubois to ask if he would allow me to see the handwriting of Sir Philip Francis, that I might compare it with the published fac-similes of the handwriting of Junius; but he refused my request. His letter alone disproves the notion entertained by R. J. and



others, that Mr. Dubois was in any degree connected with me, or with the authorship of the work in question.

"With regard to the testimony of Lord Campbell, I wrote to his Lordship in February, 1849, requesting his acceptance of a copy of 'Junius Identified,' which I thought he might not have seen; and having called his attention to my name at the end of the preface, I begged he would, when opportunity offered, correct his error in having attributed the work to Mr. Dubois. I was satisfied with his Lordship's reply, which was to the effect that he was ashamed of his mistake, and would take care to correct it. No new edition of that series of the 'Lives of the Chancellors' which contains the 'Life of Lord Loughborough' has since been published. The present edition is dated 1847.

"R. J. says further, that 'the late Mr. George Woodfall always spoke of the pamphlet as the work of Dubois;' and that Sir Fortunatus Dwaris states 'the pamphlet is said, I know not with what truth, to have been prepared under the eye of Sir Philip Francis, it may be through the agency of Dubois.' If 'Junius Identified' be alluded to in these observations as a pamphlet, it would make me doubt whether R. J., or either of his authorities, ever saw the book. It is an 8vo. vol. The first edition, containing 380 pages, was published in 1816, at 12s. The second edition, which included the supplement, exceeded 400 pages, and was published in 1818, at 14s. The supplement, which contains the plates of handwriting, was sold separately at 3s. 6d., to complete the first edition, but this could not have been the pamphlet alluded to in the preceding extracts. I suspect that when the work is spoken of as a pamphlet, and this is often done, the parties thus describing it have known it only through the medium of the critique in the *Edinburgh Review*.

"Mr. Dubois was the author of the biography of Sir Philip Francis, first printed in the *Monthly Mirror* for May and June 1810, and reprinted in 'Junius Identified,' with acknowledgment of the source from which it was taken. To this biography the remarks of Sir Fortunatus Dwaris are strictly applicable, except that it never appeared in the form of a pamphlet.

JOHN TAYLOR.  
"30, Upper Gower Street, Sept. 7, 1850."

Now, this, so far as Mr. Taylor is concerned, is precisely the answer that we should have expected. We have given it as our opinion, not only that Mr. Taylor wrote 'Junius Identified,' but that he was sincere in the belief that he had made the "discovery" [*ante*, p. 941]. No one, indeed, acquainted with the subject can doubt that Mr. Taylor worked out the idea and illustrated it by the "morally impossible" and endless proofs from Chatham's Speeches, &c. &c.—because the working out and illustration are in the exact form adopted by him when he explained "all the mysterious circumstances" in favour of Dr. Francis by like proofs from Horace and Demosthenes. None other than a sincere man would have hazarded so many assertions and assumptions,—or published so many new speculative possibilities as if they were sober truths deduced by legitimate arguments from unquestioned facts.

This letter makes it certain, however, that Mr. Taylor was acquainted with Du Bois—the "connexion," friend, or secretary of Sir Philip,—when he stumbled on the "discovery;"—and, that he was not led or misled by hints, suggestions, and ambiguous givings-out is more, we submit, than Mr. Taylor himself can know—however confident and natural may be his belief to the contrary. We further learn even from the little ray of light communicated by this letter, that Francis and Du Bois acted throughout in reference to this discovery on exactly the same principles. Francis [*ante*, p. 941] called on Mr. Taylor to discourage him from pursuing his "wild-goose chase"—but offered his discouragement, our readers will remember, in a way the most certain to encourage him; and no sooner was the book published than he privately said and did everything in his power—as afterwards by testamentary bequest to his widow—to prove that the "discovery" had been made, and that he was the writer. So with Du Bois: who would not permit his friend Mr. Taylor even "to see" the handwriting of Sir Philip—as if discovery lay in every flourish of the pen, and Du Bois was conscious of it,—yet no sooner was Taylor's book published than he did privately everything in his power, by word and by deed, and at last by testamentary gossip through Sir Fortunatus Dwaris, to encourage the belief that Francis was the man.—The "discouragement," be it further observed, was of a character not merely to whet the appetite, but at the same time to throw no obstruction in the way of the inquirer; for in 1816 Mr. Taylor could have obtained sight or possession of a dozen specimens of Francis's handwriting for probably as many shillings.

#### JENNY LIND IN AMERICA.

THE Americans do everything on a grand scale, —even their enthusiasm. By taking often, however, the very narrowest basis for the gigantic superstructure, they contrive to give to their enthusiasm a tipsy look.—The whole people of New York is now reeling to and fro under the Lind intoxication. The event of the Swedish singer's touching their shores marks an era in the history of that great and go-ahead people. The arrival of Columbus in the West was a less significant event.—"Alla Akbar, the Caliph's in Meru." "Jenny's in New York," "Jenny's in America," shout the papers:—they can scarcely credit their own great fortune. They go about asking one another if it can be true.—The Liverpool penny-a-lining on the subject of the Nightingale—and yet more the Liverpool excitement if it were therein truly represented—were something which made men turn away sick and ashamed; but even in Liverpool, though they did their best, they have no notion of a folly on the American dimensions. The genius of hyperbole seems here to have exhausted itself on a negation. The gentle little Lady has come amongst them to sing a few of her pastoral airs "for a consideration,"—and they greet her with a perfect Niagara of welcome. We never remember child's play performed before by such a company. The whole thing looks like a vast "make-believe." America seems to have no serious business in life; and the whole people—bishops, magistrates and all—are engaged in a huge game of "High Jinks."

Jenny landed on a Sunday,—and the churches were at once deserted for the new religion:—for "was she not," as their journals say, "raised up by the Great Spirit to make the rest of the world humble while they adore his power?" The heart of America had been looking anxiously out for the Nightingale over the Atlantic,—and the moment she came in sight America stood on her head. She recovered her feet only by a summer-set,—and has been tumbling before the Swede ever since. All the stars of the Union have dimmed before the star of Jenny Lind. She walked like a conqueror from the ship to the dock gates under an arcade of evergreens,—and at its entrance the American eagle (stuffed) offered her flowers. All New York hung around her chariot on its way to the Irving House,—where she was lodged like a princess; and at midnight thirty thousand persons hovered round her hotel. At one in the morning one hundred and fifty musicians came up to serenade her, led by seven hundred firemen—to pump upon the enthusiasm, we suppose, in case it should get red hot.

There is no end to the incredible antics that are played in presence of the simple event of a singer's arrival in the Transatlantic capital. The papers, as if it were the one important event of the age, have taken to report her minutest movements; and that they may put order into the record—which covers columns upon columns of their space—they have divided it into sections, headed "First day," "Second day," &c. They had got as far as the tenth day at the last arrivals.—"Jenny Lind," says the *Weekly Herald*, "is the most popular woman in the world at this moment,—perhaps the most popular that ever was in it." The same paper, in terms which prove that all self-possession is gone in presence of the subject, speaks of the "Nightingale's" warblings as things "which she spins out from her throat like the attenuated fibre from the silk-worm, dying away so sweetly and so gradually, till it seems melting into the song of the seraphim and is lost in eternity." This confusion between silk worms and seraphim is highly American.—The first ticket for Jenny Lind's first concert sold for 45l.—It has become a distinction even to be likely to hear her,—and the papers actually publish the names of those who have bought tickets.—They have also thought it worth while to print a *fac-simile* of the card which is to admit the public to hear her.—Barnum is recommended to keep "shady" during the Lind's visit,—and after her departure to set himself up as a show for having brought her. He is assured that he will make money by it. ["Je ne suis pas la rose,—mais j'ai vécu près d'elle."]—Mr. Barnum

has selected a private secretary to help him during Jenny's stay in America; and the papers enter on a statement of the qualifications which fit him so well for the situation, as if he were a Secretary of State. Curiously enough, a leading qualification is, that he has held military situations in Canada.—The journals are not ashamed to feed their columns with stories like the following.—

"Two or three ladies were on the balcony, but it was too dark to distinguish whether Jenny was one of the select party. The crowd, however, imagined she was there, and that was sufficient for them. One of the ladies, after eating a peach, threw the stone over the balcony,—when a tremendous rush took place to secure what was presumed to be a precious memento of the fair songstress, and a regular street fight nearly ensued.—Another story freely circulated is, that a glove of Jenny's has been picked up, and the fortunate finder is charging (so it is reported) 1s. for an outside kiss and 2s. for an inside kiss of the article."

—Seven hundred and fifty competitors contended for the prize offered by Barnum for a song which Jenny is to sing:—and here is one of the strangest bits of all. The song selected is one filled with fulsome adulation of herself; and America having done in the matter what she can by all her organs, Jenny Lind is finally set to sing her own praises before New York assembled. This is a superb piece of Americanism.—It is curious to see how the common purpose running through these songs has suggested a common application of their various themes. The thing is done after the manner of Moses & Son,—beginning with any subject the poet likes and bringing Jenny in in the last verse. The papers publish some of the rejected—offered by their authors by way of shaming the judges; and a quotation of one in which the Lind is made, very artificially indeed, the American banner bearer, will exhibit the manner of the trick to those who do not read habitually the great advertisers.

#### Our Country's Flag.

Fling out to the winds our banner bright,  
In the wide blue air let it wave;  
For, wherever is seen its starry light,  
It gleams with a power to save!  
To the North and South, to the East and West,  
It marshals in victory's path;  
A beacon of hope to the wronged and oppressed,  
To oppressors a frown of wrath.  
God's benison cleave to the flag unfurled  
By the hand of Washington!  
May it float in the breeze till the whole broad world  
Lies basking in freedom's sun.  
Let it fly o'er the ocean to every strand,  
Where his restless surges roll;  
From the isles of eternal summer bland,  
To the ices of either pole.  
Aye, pointing afar o'er the Atlantic's foam,  
To the Eden-land of the West,  
Where the wronged of all nations may find a home,  
With freedom and plenty blessed.  
Then out with our flag to the dallying breeze;  
Its folds let the sunbeams kiss;  
For the Sun in his whole long journey sees  
No gladder sight than this.  
Let it fly where men in bondage pine,  
And their ruthless tyrants shall flee,  
And the rising day-star shall only shine  
On a race of the happy free!  
We are proud of our flag, e'en prouder still  
Shall our heaving bosoms swell,  
As we list to the Northern song-bird's trill  
To the banner we love so well!

Now, if Mdle. Jenny Lind have a particle of the good sense and simplicity of character which are ascribed to her, the whole of these proceedings must affect her as both painful and revolting. To be the goddess of a mad worship like this can yield her no pleasure if she has ever looked truth in the face. Gratitude for the warmth of her welcome must be marred by shame for the actors in it and suffering for herself.—Yet it must be avowed that Mdle. Lind seems to do her simplicities with a somewhat suspicious consciousness, and to lend herself designedly to the American sentiment,—accepting the altar which they have dressed for her even while she appears modestly to decline it.—As the steamer which bore her and her fortunes approached the city, the American flag waved from the shipping and from the public buildings; and Jenny Lind, kissing her hand to it, exclaimed "There is the beautiful standard of freedom, which is worshipped by the oppressed of all nations!" This was phrasing after the American fashion.—They played her 'Yankee Doodle,'—and she asked them to play it again.—During her second rehearsal somebody had somehow found time to fire the



battery guns in celebration of the admission of California into the Sisterhood of States,—and Jenny was interrupted; but she said she did not mind, "as it was for the good of the country." That remains to be proved; but not the less was this remark another phrase nicely suited to the time and place.—But let us quote Mdle. Lind's dialogue with Major Woodhall.—

"Next came Major Woodhall, to tender the enchantress the welcome of the city of New York, and then proceeded to shower compliments on Mademoiselle. He said:—'We have heard Malibran and other singers, but we all know you are the Queen of Song.'

"Jenny Lind (interrupting him).—You frighten me. Everybody frightens me with too much praise. I fear I shall never come up to the expectations formed of me. I have been spoiled with flattery twice before, and I fear I shall be spoiled again.

"Mayor.—We know that you are accustomed to this, and that it cannot injure you. We think you worthy of it.

"No; it is always new to me. I cannot accustom myself to it. There is too much friendship shown me. I am full of imperfections, and if you continue to flatter me in this way, I shall tremble when I come to sing."

This admission of *imperfections* in the full splendour of her attributed divinity reminds us pleasantly (we speak it without meaning offence to Mdle. Lind) of a certain well-known character who declared himself to be but a man, though a beadle.

It is to be remembered, however, that the preposterous part which Mdle. Jenny Lind is made to play in this Transatlantic demonstration is not of her own seeking; and that even the record of what she is supposed to say and do must be received with great caution as reported by those who, bent on erecting her into a goddess, of course desire to exhibit her as oracular. Meantime, we know not what the next American arrivals can well bring us in the way of climax to all these things—if it be not the announcement that Jenny Lind has sung "Yankee Doodle," and that the Americans have elected her as a separate and independent State into the Union.

#### FOREIGN CORRESPONDENCE.

##### *The Island of Capri.*

Naples.

It was on a bright sunny morning in the spring of this year that a large party of whom I was one found themselves on board the good steam ship *The Brighton*, making a round of the Bay of Naples.—There were amongst us diplomatists without number:—the British and Spanish and Austrian ambassadors, and Swiss *chargés d'affaires* here and at the Papal Court, besides the Greek Consul-General, and how many Princes and Dukes I cannot tell. A lovelier morning could not have dawned on us even in Naples,—and as we steered out of port, the grand panorama of the Bay could not have appeared to greater advantage. To those who know the Bay of Naples it would be superfluous to expatiate on the scenery which presented itself as we coasted along to the Cape of Misenum,—the Villa with its shady avenues, terminated by the Grotto of Posilippo, above which reposes Virgil in his traditional sepulchre. Then, the shore of Posilippo, so charming that, as its name indicates, Greek fancy styled it *The Chaser-away of Grief*. Nor need I speak of Pozzuoli, with its classical and evangelical interest,—nor of Baia with its ruined temples, palaces and villas,—nor of aught else until we arrive at the Island of Capri:—which I have long desired to recommend as a residence to the valetudinarian and to the man of straitened means.

Capri is an island more beautiful and picturesque perhaps than any of the Greek islands,—which, with one or two exceptions, are after all beautiful only by courtesy. On the little beach which receives the traveller once lay bleaching (according to the tradition of the island) the bones of those who were allured by the Syrens: the fishermen's nets now cover it,—and here in a number of whitewashed cottages that bound the narrow strip of shore reside the fishing population of the island. A steep acclivity and five hundred narrow steps cut in the solid perpendicular rock lead to Anacapri,—celebrated for its olives and commanding views; but we will take a narrow path which conducts to the lower part of the island and pass through the village of Capri.

It would be out of place to enter into a minute description of the natural features of the island. Winding paths through olive grounds and vineyards bring the step at every moment to some fresh point of view. Rude crags on whose summits rest some Roman or Middle-Age ruin shoot up into the very heavens. Yonder on that rocky mountain is a palace of Tiberius,—and near it the ruins of a Fanale which fell down, says Suetonius, the night before that emperor died. Opposite is a ruined tower of Barbarossa,—not the emperor, but the buccaneer. Amid all this rocky grandeur is intermingled the most varied and luxuriant vegetation. *Arbutus*, *laurustinus*, and myrtle here vie with one another in wild profusion. Twice in the year—in the spring and in the autumn—the ground is carpeted with the most lovely flowers,—amongst which I remember to have seen every species of the *cistus*; while the rocks are covered with lichens, ferns, and other mountain herbs. Not only has Nature been bountiful to Capri,—Man, too, has done his part; so that what from a distance appears to be a mere barren rock the stranger on landing is surprised to find a highly cultivated and productive country. Here the vine and the olive are more grateful perhaps than in any other part of the kingdom,—for the wine and oil of this island are more esteemed at Naples than those of any other part of the country. Fruits, too, of every description abound; and so great is the kindness of the soil that I believe the traveller's walking-stick would sprout were he to leave it in the ground. Such, in fact, are the grandeur and beauty of the scenery and such is the fertility of the soil, that it has often been matter of wonder to me that more of my wandering countrymen have not found a resting-place here. The stream of foreigners, however, sets in principally to Castellamare and Sorrento; where, baked by a burning sun or wearied by a languid air, and paying English prices, they settle down from June to October,—instead of trying the refreshing breezes and enjoying the sublime scenery of Capri.

To come to something more practical,—and speak of the economical advantages which Capri presents as a residence. I know of no place better suited to the invalid or to the man of small income. The air is here so salubrious and bracing that a twenty-four hours' residence seems to fill the veins with fresh life,—especially after the soft and enervating air of Sorrento. It is this elasticity of limb and spirit, perhaps, which makes the natives say that man lives here too quickly. To speak of the effects of the climate of Capri on certain maladies—bronchitis, for instance:—Many cases of its restorative effects might be cited,—one in particular of a physician, who has just completed a residence here of sixteen months. For hectic complaints I doubt whether the island could be recommended; but for chronic bronchitis I know of no place, after considerable experience, so desirable as a residence. Why it should be so, I cannot tell,—except that there is nothing volcanic in the formation of the island, that the water is good and the air dry and salubrious.

As a place for economizing pecuniarily, I think the island may vie with any part of Germany. House rent, which in these parts generally is so heavy an article of expenditure, is here a mere trifle. A number of houses, no longer occupied, lie scattered about the island, which twenty-four hours' labour would set in order, and which might be had for a merely nominal rent. I speak from some well-known cases when I say that 3*l.* 10*s.* a-year would secure a small house, unfurnished, containing three or four rooms, a kitchen, and a small garden; while larger houses, with considerable portions of land, may be had for from 80 to 90 ducats (about 15*l.* a-year),—the land producing annually four or five pipes of wine, together with fruits and vegetables and other produce enough for the supply of the table after covering the rent. Should any one desire to purchase land, so exhausted and poverty stricken are the inhabitants generally of the rural districts that it might be bought to great advantage,—and with good cultivation might be made to yield from six to seven per cent. profit. Nor is Capri without its resources in the way of amusement. The sea

tempts to fish; and the land twice in the year abounds with quails and woodcocks, snipes and grèbes,—while 12*s.* will buy a certificate. If the resident is dull and wants a change, there is daily communication with the main land (which at the nearest point is from three to four miles distant),—sometimes three or four times a day; and 8*d.* or 10*d.* will take him, twenty-seven miles, to Naples. As to food, it is cheap and abundant:—eggs being a farthing each, the best fish 4*d.* or 5*d.* a pound, and poultry 10*d.* or 1*s.* for a fine capon,—whilst wine of the finest quality may be bought at 1*d.* or 2*d.* the bottle, and fruits for a song. I need only add, that the character of the people is so mild that you may walk at any hour and anywhere in safety,—and returning to your house, may sleep with your doors open. The island possesses two very decent hotels,—which in the summer time are filled with artists.

#### OUR WEEKLY GOSSIP.

THE Commissioners of Woods and Forests have at length, in answer to the outcry of the press, stated officially what they are about to do with St. James's Park. According to this statement, Mr. Nesfield's plan is really abandoned,—and they have no design upon any portion of the lake. Their purpose is, simply to widen and square the road in front of the Palace, according to a plan which we find published in the *Gardeners' Chronicle* of Saturday last. Now, that this plan shows a great improvement so far as the Palace is concerned, is not to be denied; and if the powers which mismanage these things had come before the public at first with a proper statement of their wishes, probably not a single voice would have been raised against it. Whatever suspicion and unpopularity have arisen in the matter, the Commissioners have brought on themselves by the mystery with which they chose to invest their earlier proceedings.—They say not a word, however, even now, about the marble arch, and as to why the Green Park has been so needlessly disfigured to provide for it a temporary resting-place. There is such a manifest absurdity in turning a portion of the greensward into warehouse room for this arch-puzzle, that the public for the sake of a generous interpretation as to the sanity of Lord Seymour is driven necessarily into the suspicion of some ulterior design of the nature of Mr. Nesfield's plans. But at any rate and after all, one fact remains:—there has in this case been a certain amount of tampering—and that arbitrarily—with the Parks. The free spaces within which the people can recreate themselves at all have year by year been contracted by the spreading tyranny of brick and mortar,—and are now positively restricted, so far as the metropolis and its purlieus are concerned, to these Parks. If they were looked on as a sacred possession when London streets were belted with broad meadows sown with gold, and a wealth of primroses gave its name to what is yet the people's hill,—they are now the very lungs of labour, and the common right which the multitude has in them is the right of pasture to the life's blood. Every encroachment on them should be made in a fearful and conscientious spirit,—and must be watched with a jealous eye. The people are a loyal people, and will grant freely to an honest demand what it is not almost a sin to concede. But they who touch the Parks should put themselves above suspicion,—and the least attempt at secrecy where they are concerned should be interpreted into aggression by those who are guardians of the people's cause.

Our attention has been drawn to a Society to be called "The British National Flora and Naturalists' Corresponding Society," the objects of which are to be, to perfect our knowledge of the existence and distribution of British plants, and to facilitate the exchange of specimens between botanists in different parts of the country. These objects are proposed to be carried out by distributing a list of plants to all the members,—who are required to indicate those which have come under their own local observation by a mark. They will also indicate at the same time what plants they possess not belonging to the locality, and what they may require.—In this way we make no doubt that the objects of the Society may be attained.



At the same time, we think it would be worth the while of the promoters to ascertain if any of the older Societies—the Botanical, for instance—could not accomplish all these designs. We are entirely opposed to the needless multiplication of Societies, although quite alive to the fact that there are occasionally specialities which may be pursued better independently than in company with other projects. The Secretary of the new Society is Mr. Douglas H. Campbell, of Chloe Grange, near Stroud.

The daily papers give the particulars of a desperate outrage committed on the person of Mr. Cureton, the well-known curator of coins, medals and other antiquities in the British Museum; the materials of his art being the temptation to the crime, as its details were made the pretext by means of which it was perpetrated. On Saturday last three fashionably attired men called at his lodging, and inquired if he had by him a crown-piece of William and Mary. Mr. Cureton replied in the affirmative, and while preparing to find the coin, an instrument was passed and tightened round his neck, and a blow over the right eye deprived him of sensation. It is hoped now that Mr. Cureton will recover;—but his life, if saved, was saved only by the fact of his landlady happening to go immediately into the room, and finding him almost suffocated and speechless on the floor. The robbers carried off coins, medals, &c. to the value of 300*l*. The property taken away was deposited in sundry cabinets, and consisted, amongst other things, of crown and half-crown pieces of Oliver Cromwell, King Alfred, and numerous Saxon coins. We give the narrative of this outrage that we may assist in rendering the sale of these coins impossible, or help in making the attempt to circulate them lead to the detection of the robbers. Speaking of this robbery, we may mention, that the M. Diamila who was arrested last year, as the reader will recollect, on a charge of having stolen a number of valuable coins and medals from the Vatican Library, has been condemned and sentenced to twenty years' service in the galleys. Some of the stolen articles have been traced to other collections, but the major part of the property, it is believed, cannot be recovered.

The bardic glories of the Eisteddfod are this year revived with greater pretence at splendour than heretofore. The festival is held in the ruins of Rhuddlan Castle, once a border fortress of great strength, and the scene of the famous statute of Rhuddlan enacted in the spirit of a royal lie. The benefits accruing to the country from that sister-fuge are not, however, to be measured by the morality of the monarch who planned it; and the present idle appeal to the spirit of the past is a thing as false as was the pretence of Edward, involving an evil where he founded a good. If this festival had no other object than to promote the study of Welsh history, literature and customs, for the amusement of the unoccupied and the information of the scholar, we should have nothing to say about it. Undertaken with good purpose such exhibitions might present points of use and interest;—if not they would simply fall into the category of harmless follies. But in our view of the matter, the Eisteddfod is a serious wrong to Wales. It is intended by the feudal chiefs who are at the trouble and expense of getting it up to foster local habits, the exclusive use of the Welsh tongue, and the whole tribe of prejudices which already flourish in the Principality to a greater extent than in any other part of England:—in fact, as they announce, to promote the feeling of a distinct nationality. Against an absurdity so full of mischief to the Welsh peasant or artisan whose only chance of rising to the level of his Scotch or English compeer lies in speedily casting away his "national" ideas, implements, and habits, and adopting those of his fellow-countrymen—we have again and again protested. Why, the very scene of the festival had its morals for those who could read them. An old ruin is the proper place for the Eisteddfod. It—and the idea which inspires it—do not belong to a land of railways and electric wires. The Dean of Bangor seems to have given great offence by an attempt to turn the meeting to better account than that of a mere *Laudator tem-*

*poris utriusque*—but Mr. Hicks Owen, the vicar of Treimrichion, restored the gloom,—shutting out the intrusive light which the Dean had let in with the old rotten Principality shutters.

On Thursday in last week the Inauguration of the Coronation Stone of the Anglo-Saxon kings took place at Kingston, in the presence of the mayor and corporation, attended by the burgesses and a numerous assembly of visitors. This stone, until lately, stood on the north side of the old church. According to Speed, as our readers have already been informed, nine of our Saxon monarchs were crowned in Kingston, the stone being used as the royal seat during the ceremony. It has been removed during the present mayoralty to the centre of an open space near the Savings Bank, directly opposite High Street, at the turning into the Portsmouth Road. There it is placed on an heptagonal pedestal of granite, which stands on a circular base of the same material. It being uncertain whether two of the kings mentioned by Speed were crowned at Kingston, the corporation have selected the following seven, whose names, with the dates of their respective coronations, are inscribed on the faces of the pedestal, viz.:—Athelstane, A.D. 924; Edward, A.D. 940; Edred, A.D. 946; Edgar, A.D. 959; Edward II. A.D. 975; Ethelred II. A.D. 979; and Edmund II. A.D. 1016. The monument is encompassed with iron railings, having a pillar finished with pinnacles at each of the seven angles.

Recent advices from Madras report that a project is on foot in that presidency for sending over to England two natives of the country, to be present and give evidence at the approaching discussion of the East India Company's charter. The facts which have been brought to public knowledge within the last few years—and with which the reader of the *Athenæum* is familiar—regarding the administration of justice, the management of the post-office, the general character of the Anglo-Indian army, and other matters affecting in no favourable way the cause of civilization in the East, have made out a strong case for deep and searching inquiry before Parliament renews for another term of twenty years the imperial power of the Leadenhall Street merchants. In the interests of justice and national honour, the mind of Hindustan ought to be represented in this country when the charter is under consideration by the legislature.—We hope this project will be carried into effect.

An account is given in the Continental papers of a great Congress of medical men which it is proposed to hold in France, for the purpose of testing by experiment the virtue of a newly-discovered cure for madness and for the bites of venomous serpents by means of "cedrone" seed. It seems that two subjects, M. Auguste Guillemain and M. Hippolyte Fournier, Professor of Mathematics of the department of Aveyron, have offered themselves to be operated on—which means, we suppose, that they offer to let themselves be bitten—for the purposes of the inquiry. "It has been thought advisable," says the *Brussels Herald*, "to postpone until next month the experiment to be tried on M. Auguste Guillemain, in order to afford sufficient time for all the celebrated medical men of France and other parts of Europe to meet together at this sort of medical Congress, in which one of the most difficult problems of occult medicine is to be resolved." It is announced that all the different States of Europe will be represented at this meeting: Russia, by a physician attached to the person of the Emperor; the German States, by seventeen doctors; and Sweden, Norway and Denmark will send delegates, although in those cold regions there are but few serpents and cases of madness are rare.—Some of the *cedrone* seed will be sown in the *Jardin des Plantes*—where it is hoped it will succeed. Several of the faculty, who have already made experiments on different animals, hope, by means of the *cedrone* seed, to arrive at the cure of mental disorders and epilepsy. We know nothing more of this subject than is involved in these paragraphs.

A Congress of Philologists is to meet at Berlin on the 3rd of October, under the presidency of the well-known Hellenist, M. de Boeckh. The Minister

of Public Instruction has contributed 1,000 thalers towards the object.—At Leipsic a Congress of Ornithologists is to assemble on the 10th of the same month.

The Academy of Sciences in Paris is at present engaged in considering the practicability of a railway across the Channel which divides England from France. The project—which seems to combine the real suggestions of science with the sort of poetic calumet that applies them dreamily—originated with M. F. Lemaître—and may be briefly described as follows.—On a solid foundation on either side of the Channel, the projector proposes to build high and strong abutments, into which huge chains stretching across from shore to shore in the air would be secured. To support in the air this massive weight of iron for the twenty miles of space between the Dover abutment and that at Calais, the projector makes use of a formidable apparatus of balloons, of elliptical shape, firmly fastened to the chains. These, it is thought, would do away with any need of support from below; but lest the balloons should fly away with the iron work altogether, M. Lemaître proposes to sink four heavily laden barges at every hundred yards' distance, under the great chains, and connected with them by means of other chains. Having adjusted the length of these attaching irons to the depth of the sea at each point, an equilibrium would be attained between the sunk barge and the floating balloons. Assuming that the gases never escaped, the sunk vessels never got disturbed,—no one of the thousand accidents occurred to which such a bridge would be liable—it would remain thus suspended between the two countries,—and the balloon would at length have found an office of dignity. Held by the chains so suspended, M. Lemaître proposes to establish an atmospheric railway.—Visionary as the scheme sounds, we are assured by the French papers that it is seriously occupying the attention of the Academy. Fancy travelling over a bridge held by balloons in a high gale! The thing is at any rate very picturesque. How lame are all the wonders of Eastern fable before the projects—and the performances—of the present scientific age!

The telegraphic system of lines is rapidly approaching to a state of completion in Germany. On the 1st of October the whole will be ready for service. From Aix-la-Chapelle to Trieste, from Buda to Stettin, messages may be sent in a few seconds. The net-work is in a state of great forwardness in France and Belgium. The morning papers already give the latest telegraphic news from Germany and Italy, as well as from France; and before many weeks are passed we shall have yesterday's intelligence from Berlin and Vienna just as rapidly and regularly as we have now that of the fire in the City and the accident on the Eastern Counties Railway. Meantime, one more of the familiar forms of our life at home is finally disappearing,—the old Semaphores are all coming down. They were wonders in their way, once, and men seemed to have gained a new power as they watched their hieroglyphic writing in the air. But they are condemned now because they are neither fast enough nor keen enough for the times. Thought has sharpened up Mechanics to keep pace with her own work. The old Semaphore could neither report with the speed of light nor work in the dark.

Among the many agents, resulting from the scientific triumphs of the time, which are helping to re-mould the social materials around us, we can neither overlook nor undervalue the Cheap Excursion system. We have before remarked on the limited horizon which the fathers of the present generation enjoyed. Little more than half a century ago there was hardly any perceptible movement of the population. The country gentleman who had passed a fortnight of his life in London, the artisan and the farmer who were acquainted with the adjacent districts and had perhaps witnessed the splendours of a county town, were regarded with envy or admiration as men who had seen the world. The clown lived and died on the spot where he was born,—was morally the serf of the particular soil. Each hamlet was its own world. The swell and surge of life in towns a score or two



of miles away carried faint and indistinct echoes to the general ear,—and local idioms and dialects stood like barriers between the men born in one county and those born in the next. The Yorkshire shepherd whom accident carried to the western slopes of Blackstone Edge, or the Gloucester peasant who found himself on the Somersetshire side of the Cotswold Hills, could barely make himself understood or procure the assistance that he might need as a stranger. Like a country broken into minute subdivisions by hedges that at once separate and occupy the ground where better things should grow—abstracting from the general nourishment for its own unwholesome vegetation,—the social surface was physically partitioned by accidents that grew a plentiful crop of prejudices and ignorances, vicious in themselves, and diverting the moral sap that should have helped to beautify the land. The masses of the people were separated from each other as by seas and alps:—the great majority passed out of existence almost strangers to their countrymen and to the fair face of their native island.—All this has been gradually changed by every step that science has taken in advance. The migrations caused by the rise of the cotton manufacture did much to break down the old barriers:—railways and monster trains have done, or are doing, the rest. The morally poetic is displacing the picturesque,—the spiritual beauty replacing the material. If the fairies have fled before the steam whistle from many a sylvan scene,—so have the old local tyrannies that made men moral slaves. Provincialism of speech and of thought are fast disappearing. Every man now travels more or less; each has made some acquaintance with the aspects of nature,—understood and enjoyed some part of that heritage of beauty and those conquests of mind which make our wealth as a nation,—seen something of men who live under social and material conditions different from his own. The agencies by which this education has been given on so grand a scale are amongst the most valuable fruits of modern civilization. Men gather both health and strength, and wisdom and goodness by extending their horizons. How remarkable is the rapidity with which the desire to move about has grown,—proving the desire a natural one, and the stifling of it a privation. Little more than half a score of years since, the first excursion trains were timidly tried as an experiment:—they are now organized throughout the length and breadth of the country. The statistics of excursions would be interesting in more than one point of view. From the metropolis alone, it is stated that a million and a half of persons have availed themselves of cheap trains during the present summer, to see with their own eyes what, like all else, under the old conditions they could only have heard of—and that only as the narrator chose to present it. Every morning hundreds and thousands are whirled out of the smoke of London into the fresh air of heaven. One day last week no less than ten huge excursion trains left by the several lines of railway. Some of the pleasure seekers went to enjoy a day among the hop-gardens of Kent,—some sought the open downs of Epsom,—not a few explored the regal glories of old Windsor. The sylvan beauties of the Isle of Wight attracted many,—a party visited the wonders of Stonehenge,—another made the old exclusive colleges and cloisters of Oxford start at this irruption of the people,—and hundreds drank the sea breezes from cliff or pier at Brighton, Dover, Folkstone, Ramsgate, and Southampton. The military works at Gosport came in for civic criticisms,—and the once fashionable promenades of Bath received a host of visitors with no fear of Beau Nashes in their hearts. One train went down to Cambridge,—and the afternoon landed the last party at the hotels of the Rue Richelieu in Paris!—Nevertheless, the excursion system is only in its infancy.

The DIORAMA, Regent's Park.—Admission, One Shilling.—NOW OPEN, with the finest VIEWS ever exhibited in this country, representing the ROYAL CASTLE of STOLZENFELS, on the Rhine, visited by Her Majesty Queen Victoria in August, 1846; and the EASTERN ASIA, as seen at sunset and during a Thunder Storm, painted by NICHOLAS MEISNER, of Cologne. And the much-anticipated picture of THE SHRINE of THE NATIVITY, at Bethlehem, painted by the late M. BENOUX, from a sketch made on the spot by DAVID ROBERTS, Esq. R.A., with novel and striking effects.—Open from Ten till Five.

THE NILE.—WILL SHORTLY CLOSE.—The Proprietors being about to remove the Panorama from London will exhibit it for a short period at the following greatly REDUCED PRICES:—Gallery, 62, Pic. la, Stalls, 2s.—EGYPTIAN MALL, PICCADILLY.—Daily, at Three and Eight o'clock.

INDIA OVERLAND MAIL.—DIORAMA.—GALLERY of ILLUSTRATION, 14, Regent-street, Waterloo-place.—A Gigantic MOVING DIORAMA of the ROUTE of the OVERLAND MAIL to INDIA, exhibiting the following places, viz.—Southampton Dock, Isle of Wight, Osborne, the Needles, the Bay of Biscay, the Berlinges, Malta, the Tagus, Cape Trafalgar, Taifra, Gibraltar, Algiers, Malta, Alexandria, Cairo, the Desert of Suez, the Central Station, Suez, the Red Sea, Aden, Ceylon, Madras, and Calcutta.—is now OPEN DAILY.—Mornings at Twelve, Afternoons at Three, and Evenings at Eight.—Admission, 1s. Stalls, 2s. 6d.; Reserved Seats, 4s. Doors open half an hour before each representation.

#### ROYAL POLYTECHNIC INSTITUTION.

LECTURE on the BALLAD MUSIC of ENGLAND, by Mr. George Barker, illustrated by his own compositions, every Evening (except Saturday) at Eight o'clock.—LECTURE on the HYDRO-ELECTRIC MACHINE, by Dr. Bechhoffner, daily at Two, and on Tuesday and Thursday Evenings at a Quarter past Nine.—LECTURE on CHEMISTRY, by J. H. Pepper, Esq., illustrating the ANCIENT FIERY ORDEAL and the HANDLING of RED-HOT METALS, daily at a Quarter past Three, and on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday Evenings at a Quarter past Nine.—MODEL of WESTON'S PATENT NOVA-MOTIVE RAILWAY at work daily.—NEW SERIES of DISSOLVING VIEWS, illustrating some of the WONDERS of NATURE, daily at Half-past Four, and in the Evenings at a Quarter to Ten; also a Series, exhibiting SCENES in the ARCTIC REGIONS and CEYLON, daily at One o'clock.—DIVER TUB DIVING BELL, &c. &c. Admission, 1s. Schools, Half-price.—Open daily from Eleven till Five o'clock, and every Evening (EXCEPT SATURDAY) from Seven till Half-past Ten.

#### SCIENTIFIC

##### *Rudimentary Works for Beginners.* Weale.

A poet has sung—"a little learning is a dangerous thing,"—and on this text a philosophical historian not long since discoursing has endeavoured to show, as our readers know, that since all men cannot "drink deep" there is no good reason why they should not "taste" of the spring of knowledge. More recently, a natural philosopher of high standing has been endeavouring to prove that, as far as science is concerned, Pope was correct in his view of the danger of superficial knowledge,—and the advice of the professor goes to the extent of discouraging all attempts to popularize science.

That this expression of an opinion adverse to that of the majority of our best thinkers and most practical men should have proceeded from one who has devoted the powers of his mind to abstract science, is perhaps not surprising. Granting to him, however, the merits of a superior mind,—it must be admitted that he has stood too much aloof from the multitude of his brethren to know their wants or to feel any sympathy with them if he did. He has wandered in the High Alps watching the slowly moving glacier until his nature has taken colour and character from that "works in,"—and he returns to the valley to censure the quicker movement of the living multitude, and throw chill on the warm spirit which impels them onward.—It must not be disguised that the close cultivation of science resolves itself into a scheme of solitary and unrelenting labour,—the reward of which is possibly far remote, unless the votary be content with the pleasure which he may derive from finding that the door of nature's mysteries is opened to his knocking. A heart and soul devotion to the cause of natural truth is necessary to the discoverer of her secrets.

But while there is no reason why all men should be cultivators of science,—there are good ones why all men should be lovers of wisdom. On the argument that a little knowledge is a dangerous thing the truths of science would be told only to its actual students; whereas even those who have preached this exclusive doctrine have been desirous of that applause which they can receive only when the mass of mankind can judge of the additional knowledge that they have won from nature. It is impossible under any condition of society that all men should be philosophers, in the common acceptance of the term.—Society indeed would not be improved if they were so,—but all may be taught to profit by the teachings of philosophy.

It has been said that a smattering of scientific knowledge tends to induce conceit in the individual and the perpetration of error in the multitude,—that the system of lecturing as pursued in mechanics' institutes leads to a superficial acquaintance with the pursuits of science, and cultivates a lamentable and vicious dilettanteism amongst their members. We are not prepared to say that there may not be some foundation for the charge; and we are ready to admit that the very discursive

system introduced in some of these institutions for the purpose of catching members has been fraught with evil consequences. But as a set-off, we would draw attention to the spirit of inquiry which has been awakened since the principle of popular lectures has prevailed amongst us,—and to the fact that the demand for works on science within the last ten years has increased twenty-fold. By giving to the people the great truths of science in a form which they can understand, we have often placed the grain of mustard seed in good soil, where it has germinated and grown into a tree which has given shelter and yielded fruit. The true result of a little knowledge is told in the rapidly-increasing demand for more; and these Rudimentary Treatises—published by Mr. Weale as a consequence of that demand—are essentially a contradiction to the pernicious doctrine of its danger.

Chemistry, natural philosophy, the sciences of electricity, magnetism and mineralogy have been treated of in these rudimentary volumes by men who have made themselves masters of the subjects on which they write. Mechanics and engineering have been discussed in all their departments by practical engineers. The mathematician has been induced to render his studies more thoroughly rudimentary than before; and the architect, the builder and the clock-maker have each endeavoured to make plain the mysteries of their professions.

We have fancied that some of the best of these Treatises might have been still more rudimentary with advantage,—and that technical expressions have been often introduced when a little study would have enabled the author to express himself in common language. This is, we admit, a difficulty. If we employ men familiar with a subject, they see everything clearly from the point on which they stand,—and are apt to forget that the thousands in the valley have yet to ascend the hill before they can embrace with their imperfect senses so wide a range of scientific knowledge. That which is clear to the student of science is often invisible to the yet untaught,—and to render it visible is a task requiring great care and tact.

We have, however, met with no set of rudimentary treatises on science more lucid than these. This, with their cheapness, is a high recommendation;—and we believe that these little works are a boon to a public eager for a knowledge of the laws which regulate this great globe with its beautiful organizations and its inorganic wonders.

SCIENTIFIC GOSSIP.—The French are now as eager after improvements in the Photographic processes on paper as they have hitherto been for developing more perfectly the image on the Daguerreotype silver plates. The inequalities of paper have ever been felt as a great objection to its use. M. Blanquart-Evrard informs us that by washing paper with a mixture of the serum of milk and a small quantity of albumen—about three-quarters of a pint of whey and the white of one egg—it is rendered free from all that has hitherto been deemed objectionable. Papers thus treated may be kept ready for use; since it has been found that after six months they are as good as when just prepared. M. Niepce de Saint-Victor states that by mixing a small quantity of Narbonne honey with albumen the sensibility of the photographic glass plates or papers is increased in a surprising manner.

M. Bontigny has devised an exceedingly simple method for showing his interesting experiments on the spheroidal state of fluids. He takes a platinum wire and rolls it into a spiral like the spring of a watch, taking care to depress the central portion. He forms thus a sort of capsule, or circular and concave gridiron, in which the water is contained when the wire has been previously made red-hot. By the repulsion of caloric the water is retained, and forming itself into a spheroid, rolls about without flowing through. Alcohol or ether may be substituted for water; when the vapours escaping take fire above and below the wire,—but the spheroidal drop moves rapidly about within the flames without undergoing combustion.

M. Chatin finds that iodine may be detected in the three kingdoms of nature—water, plants and animals all affording by analysis very decided indi-



of its presence. He has detected it also in several lead ores, and in graphite. It appears, says M. Chatin, that in the ancient world as in the new the presence of iodine is evident, and the proportions in which it is found in the vegetable debris hidden in the soil afford the geologist means for ascertaining the distribution of water in ancient times. Thus, a coal which is rich in iodine ought to prove that the vegetation had been developed in a marshy land,—and those coals which do not contain iodine, that it was formed from plants of a more decidedly terrestrial character.

The American Association for the Advancement of Science has been holding its Third Annual Meeting at New Haven,—under the presidency of Prof. A. D. Bache. As far as we have received information of the proceedings of this Association, the communications appear to have been principally connected with the physical sciences. Profs. Olmsted, Loomis, and Silliman, and Mr. Gould read interesting papers on electricity:—that by Mr. Gould being an account of a very extensive series of experiments made by the United States Survey on some 1,500 miles of electrical telegraph to determine the velocity of the disturbance passing along the signal wires. Prof. Wheatstone had determined the velocity of current electricity as not less than 288,000 miles in a second,—Fizeau has more recently inferred from his experiments that the electricity passed through iron wire at the rate of 63,200 miles per second, and through copper wire with a velocity equal to 110,000 miles in the same time. Mr. Gould thinks these values far too high; and he gives as the results of his observations, which appear to have been made with much care, a velocity for the current electricity of not less than 12,000 nor more than 20,000 miles per second as it traverses the telegraphic wire and the earth in completing the circuit connexion.—A communication was made by Prof. Loomis of novel, and to us curious, phenomena of electrical houses. His statement was as follows:—"Within a few years past, several houses in the city of New York have exhibited electrical phenomena in a very remarkable degree. For months in succession they have emitted sparks of considerable intensity, accompanied by a loud snap. A stranger, on entering one of these electrical houses, in attempting to shake hands with the inmates, receives a shock, which is quite noticeable, and somewhat unpleasant. Ladies, in attempting to kiss each other, are saluted by a spark. A spark is perceived whenever the hand is brought near to the knob of a door, the gilded frame of a mirror, the gas pipes, or any metallic body, especially when this body communicates freely with the earth. In one house which I have had the opportunity to examine, a child in taking hold of the knob of a door received so severe a shock that it ran off in great fright. The lady of the house, in approaching the speaking tube to give orders to the servants, received a very unpleasant shock in the mouth, and was much annoyed by the electricity, until she learned first to touch the tube with her finger. In passing from one parlour to the other, if she chance to step upon the brass plate which serves as a slide for the folding-doors, she receives an unpleasant shock in the foot. When she touched her finger to the chandelier (the room was lighted with gas by a chandelier suspended from the ceiling) there appeared a brilliant spark and a snap. In many houses the phenomena have been so remarkable as to occasion general surprise, and almost alarm. After a careful examination of several cases of this kind, I have come to the conclusion, that the electricity is created by the friction of the shoes of the inmates on the carpets of the house. In order to produce this effect, there must be a combination of several favourable circumstances. The carpet, or at least its upper surface, must be entirely of wool, and of a close texture, in order to furnish an abundance of electricity. So far as I have had an opportunity to judge, I infer that heavy velvet carpets answer this purpose best. Two thicknesses of in-grain carpeting answer very well. The effect of the increased thickness is obviously to improve the insulation of the carpet. The carpet must be quite dry, and also the floor of the room, so that the fluid may not be conveyed away as soon as it is excited. This will not

generally be the case except in winter, and in rooms which are habitually kept quite warm. The most remarkable cases which I have heard of in New York have been of close, well built houses, kept very warm by furnaces; and the electricity was most abundant in very cold weather. In warm weather only feeble signs of electricity are obtained. The rubber on the shoe must also be dry, like the carpet, and it must be rubbed upon the carpet somewhat vigorously."—The papers have been tolerably numerous; and those by Profs. Agassiz, Silliman, W. R. Johnson, and W. B. Rogers were of much interest in their respective departments.—The following statement, made by Profs. Rogers and Johnson, has its value from its practical importance. They took occasion to call attention to the fact that the anticipations excited by the discovery of gold on the surface are seldom fully realized. At the surface meteoric influences have in most cases been at work, and have effected such a decomposition and segregation that there the gold is easily obtained; but as we proceed lower down, beyond the influence of the air, we find the gold so closely connected with other minerals that its separation is a very difficult process, only effected after much expense and labour. In explanation of these views, it was stated, that at Gold Hill the toll at the mill for grinding is, for surface ore, 20 cents,—for that obtained lower down, 30 cents the bushel. It is found, however, that if after the ore has once been operated on and all the gold possible extracted, it is exposed for a few months to atmospheric influences, you can then obtain as much gold from a bushel of ore as at first.

#### FINE ARTS

##### ENGLISH PENNY-A-LINING.

WE have freely recognized that dearth of material succeeding the gathering in of the great political harvest in which the penny-a-liner finds an exercise for his vocation,—and admitted that his calling has its uses, though not in this country very brilliantly maintained. In sooth, this professional caterer is a great bungler,—and rarely steps out of his beaten track without committing himself egregiously. After all, we would rather swallow his eels and bolt his turnips, of whatever size, than feed on the garbage which he is tempted to furnish when he abandons his little corners of the field of natural history and surrenders himself unrestrainedly to the exercise of his own questionable taste and poor imagination. Our readers know that we duly welcomed his inauguration of the sea-serpent amongst his home materials,—though we think he has already played more tricks with that animal than a wise practice of his calling would have warranted. A prudent penny-a-liner would neither have made his new monster leap so high nor let everybody catch a sight of him who chose to go out in a boat for the purpose. The American penny-a-liner, who, though daring, is an artist, showed the serpent only at long intervals,—and never brought him to too close a scrutiny nor let him come out of the water. The English practitioner vulgarized the monster at once. The very first thing he did with him was, to make him scratch himself deliberately against the rocks, and leave a scale behind to measure him by—which has not, however, since been forthcoming. The bungler showed the trick of his hand at once,—and discredited his own conjuring. The English penny-a-liner cannot handle a sea-serpent.

Still, we ask him to keep among the deep sea marvels, rather than meddle with matters more delicate. From his chace after the great serpent he seems to have contracted the habit of being "at sea" even when he deals with things a-shore. Since he wants the taste which should prevent him from invading the privacy of a lady's home,—that lady in the first place, but entitled to have a home as well as the veriest penny-a-liner,—we would fain convince him how egregiously he is lacking in the judgment which can make it profitable for him to practise in the eaves-dropping line. It is impossible to conceive a story more absurdly inscribed with its own self-convictions than that which certain papers have been copying from a "correspondent of the *Bristol Times*," wherein the Queen is made to figure

offensively as the heroine.—All the properties employed are so absurdly bestowed as to mark at once the stupidity and the imposture; and the designation by name—or by unmistakable sign—of the minor actors, to give the air of verisimilitude, belongs to the same order of bungling which left the scales of the sea-serpent for examination on a rock. In both cases the means of detection are gratuitously given.—

"Having a desire" [says this clever letter writer, speaking of Her Majesty Queen Victoria.] "to try her hand in engraving or etching on copper some of her own drawings, she spoke to a painter of great eminence to send an engraver to the Castle, to instruct her in making these same etchings. Accordingly, a leading engraver, who stands now perhaps the first in England, received an intimation that he was on a certain day to attend at Windsor with the necessary tools and prepared plates of copper or zinc to instruct the Queen in the work. He complied, of course, with the command, and proceeded to Windsor, when he was ushered into the royal apartment, where Her Majesty was attended only by Miss Cox, the lady-in-waiting for the day. The engraver is naturally so deaf that he is obliged to carry an ear-tube or trumpet. It was Miss Cox's business to apply her lips to this instrument and communicate through it Her Majesty's commands. The engraving went on very satisfactorily. Her Majesty, who is an apt scholar, soon making an etching or two with considerable ability. The engraver was then informed that he might retire to lunch, and he was conducted into a room where there was a slight refreshment, consisting of a few slices of roast mutton, and a glass or two of wine ready for him. After a very moderate meal he rejoined Her Majesty, and resumed the work. Two more etchings having been made, Her Majesty expressed herself satisfied with what she had done, and the following conversation occurred:—"Mr. , Her Majesty wishes to know if she can have impressions of these plates taken?"—Engraver: "Certainly, madam, nothing easier; I could take them with me to London, have proofs pulled at a copper-plate printer's, and the plates and proofs remitted carefully to the Castle."—"Her Majesty wishes to know if this would be expensive."—Engraver: "Oh, no, Madam."—"How much, Her Majesty desires me to ask?"—Engraver: "A mere trifle."—"Her Majesty wishes to know the cost, or near it."—Engraver, thinking for a moment: "I should say about half-a-crown, not more, madam."—"Then Her Majesty will have them done."

A penny-a-liner of whom there was the very smallest hope in his profession would at least have stopped here,—and already feared that he was less happy in his inspirations than he could wish. But this writer belongs to that utterly irreclaimable class who think it desirable to "clinch it."—"The engraver now took his leave of his pupil, and was proceeding down the staircase"—when he is followed by "one of the court footmen, in scarlet livery" [this is a piece of penny-a-lining art, to make the coming meanness seem more conspicuous,—and to show that the writer may be trusted even to his details, for he knows that the Queen's footmen wear scarlet liveries, and therefore knows very well all that the Queen said to Miss Cox and through Miss Cox and the trumpet], who "spoke to him." Here we grow very minute,—and accordingly make a blunder. Not hearing what the footman said, he of the trumpet [Mr. Thomas Landseer is of course intended], "paused, thinking he was going wrong. He was spoken to again,—but still not hearing, he was once more proceeding on his way when another crimson-clad footman [this time, observe, the footman is crimson-clad; and this want of power to distinguish between crimson and scarlet exactly exhibits the moral of the penny-a-liner's incapacity to deal with anything having more colour in it than a turnip] turned him quite round;—when he saw Miss Cox at the top of the staircase beckoning to him. He, therefore, went back, not knowing what he was recalled for. 'Mr. , said Miss Cox, holding out a coin in her fingers, 'Her Majesty has commanded me to give you the half-a-crown which you said it would cost to have the impressions of the etchings taken.' The engraver took the half-a-crown, returned to London, had the etchings struck off, and the honour of the duty was all he ever received for the day's work."—Now, we would be glad to take the opinion of "Mr. B. of Bandon," or of that other gentleman who saw the sea serpent "wink its eye," as to the particulars of this court story.—The great mistake made by the caterer on this occasion, among all the mistakes in which his work abounds, consists in this, that unless it be the two persons above referred to, no man, woman, or child of all who may read his story throughout Her Majesty's dominions will believe a single word of what he has written.



**FINE-ART GOSSIP.**—Preparations are making at Chelmsford for the inauguration, with due honours as we understand, of Mr. Baily's fine statue of a distinguished son of that town, the late Chief Justice Tindal. Nothing is wanting to the accomplishment of this memorial but the inscription, —which is in course of being supplied; and when that is completed a day will be named, within a few weeks we believe, for the inauguration.

A correspondent signing himself "A Subscriber," writes to us as follows.—"It is much to be regretted that one of the most beautiful pedestals (that to the statue of Charles the First at Charing Cross) is in so dilapidated a state as to render it scarcely possible to make out the mouldings and ornaments. If Government will not preserve such monuments, it would (ere it be too late) be praiseworthy in some private individual to effect its restoration. Throughout the metropolis there is not a pedestal to be compared with it,—and it is much to be regretted that sculptors have not followed it as a model."

The *Scotsman* says:—A movement is in progress for the erection of an Institute of the Fine Arts in Glasgow:—where the want of a suitable building for the exhibition of Paintings and Sculpture, and the encouragement of the Fine Arts generally, has long been felt.

In Paris, the Minister of the Interior has ordered a bust of the well-known printer, Firmin Didot,—to be placed in the great hall of the *Imprimerie Nationale*.

The *Brussels Herald* announces that M. Charles Van Bevere, the Dutch painter, died recently at the age of forty-one.

A correspondent writes to us on a subject which has often been a theme of comment and argument in the *Athenæum*.—"When," he says, "will an end be put to the desecration of the glorious old Abbey at Westminster by cramming it with statues and tablets in commemoration of deceased celebrity? Shall we finish by openly and avowedly thrusting Religion from its dedicated shrine after the example of our neighbours who have changed a church into a temple for their "grands hommes"?—A Gothic cathedral makes a sorry sculpture gallery, setting aside all more serious objections. What, if we were to remove the iron railing which incloses the north side of the Abbey, together with St. Margaret's Church, and substitute for that fence an arcade or cloister, after the fashion of the Campo Santo at Pisa! Into this every monument which is not in accordance with the architecture of the Abbey could be removed;—a few score feet of it being of higher elevation than the rest, to afford space for those marble extravagancies which have not respected even the windows of the Abbey. If thought advisable, a small brass could be let into the cleared pavement of the Abbey,—marking the site of each monument thus removed. This cloistral arcade would of course be always open to the public. Its construction would admit of a due surveillance being readily exercised by a keeper at each angle of the interior; and the merits and glories of those whose memory it is wished to honour might be set forth in sculpture—and in fresco,—without a disturbing feeling of unfitness and with more conspicuous effect."

#### MUSIC AND THE DRAMA

**SADLEE'S WELLS.**—On Friday week, Mr. C. Whitehead's play of 'The Cavalier' was introduced to this stage,—and experienced an extraordinary reception. The piece, it may be recollected, was among the last produced by Mr. Morris at the Haymarket Theatre. It was then supported by Mr. Vandenhoff and Miss Ellen Tree, yet suffered a marked failure,—being vociferously condemned. The catastrophe excited the indignation of the audience:—and it was accordingly altered. After a few nights in London, the new drama was referred to the provinces,—where it has continued to be occasionally performed. We mention these facts to illustrate a principle. The anger of the audience on the original production of the play was due to disappointed expectation. The author had attempted a surprise in the last scene,—having provided in the one immediately preceding for a

different catastrophe. This is an instance in proof of the superior policy of preparing the mind of the spectator for the dramatic result,—instead of trusting to a trick like that which in this instance the author was subsequently compelled to abandon.

The play of 'The Cavalier' is a composition of what the German critics call "the power school." It depends on forcible situations and forcible language. The interest lies closely packed together, and there is no repose permitted. The feelings are highly wrought up, and a certain climax is attained in every scene.—The character of the Cavalier, *Henry Hargrave*, was on the present occasion supported by Mr. George Bennett; who threw into it his best powers,—and presented a specimen of genuine strong acting which we shall not easily forget. Its effect on the house was extraordinary,—and in the closing situation of the second act the actor was recalled before the curtain, and loudly cheered. It is with more than common pleasure that we record this tribute to so old a servant of the stage—one who, it is generally felt, has deserved far greater fame than he has achieved. The stage of our day can show nothing greater than some of his performances. The part of the heroine was undertaken by Miss Eliza Travers,—a clever actress, who went through it with much feeling and good sense.

**STRAND.**—The son of Sir Thomas Talfourd has contributed another drama to the stage, under the title of 'Alvarez; or, the Heart Wreck.' The materials of the piece are decidedly melodramatic; but the serious portions of the dialogue are sometimes poetic, and the lighter parts have much humour set off with some sparkling puns. *Alvarez* is the avenger of his wife's dishonour and his sister's abduction. The situations through which he is led to the result are striking:—and the author's conception was well realized by Mr. Johnstone. The piece was successful.

**MUSICAL AND DRAMATIC GOSSIP.**—The projects of the Concerts at *Her Majesty's Theatre* appear, at all events, resolute to set them a-going with spirit. Our contemporaries announce that the theatre will be in some degree re-decorated:—its gold-coloured curtains replaced by a suit of geranium-coloured satin trimmed with gold lace. The four circles of private boxes are to be arranged as stalls. From the same authorities we learn that "the celebrated Félicien David, the composer of 'Le Désert,' is employed on a new dramatic Symphony, which he will conduct in person,—and Herr Marschner, the composer of 'Der Vampyr,' and the renowned Spohr, are busily engaged on new works."—Besides the new *Cantatas* by Mr. Macfarren and Mr. E. Loder, it is rumoured that an Overture written expressly by Mr. Balfe, also a hunting part-song, will be performed on the first night.—We learn that M. Hallé is engaged to perform at six of the concerts.

Among the MSS. of complete works left behind him by Mendelssohn, and in gradual course of publication, we hear of an unknown *operetta*. This (to avoid the possibility of misconception) is not 'The Wedding of Camacho,' for that work was produced at Berlin, and some of its musical pieces were published.

We now learn from the *Sacred Harmonic Society* that the alterations in Exeter Hall (already adverted to in this paper) will be completed by the 9th of November.—We hope that something may have been done to improve the means of entrance, still more of exit, for the vast audiences there congregated.

The Parisian papers in Signor Ronconi's secret assure us that he is straining every nerve to make the Italian Opera brilliant this winter,—and that his programme will be as surprising as it is satisfactory.—M. Benedict's opera 'The Crusaders' has been recently given at Frankfurt.—The Italian Opera in the Spanish capital appears to be mounted on the most liberal and costly footing, the Court taking charge of the surplus of expenditure over receipts.—The Austrian government, says another rumour, is about to subsidize the *Teatro Fenice* at Venice. But the best subsidy will only go a short way, failing singers and (still more) a composer.

Our contemporaries are already announcing the Musical Festivals of 1851 to be those of Worcester, Norwich, and Liverpool.—The last we suppose is contingent on the completion of St. George's Hall.

A new, expeditious, elegant, and cheap method of printing music is said to have been discovered at Madrid.

Some weeks ago 'L'Amant Jaloux' was announced as a novelty at the *Opéra Comique* of Paris. We were then not aware that this was Grétry's opera, the text of which was written by d'Hèle, the English librettist, so characteristically described in the musician's memoirs. The instrumental part of the opera has been retouched by M. Batton,—it is said, with modesty, and therefore with success.—A new opera, by the wondrously-fertile M. Scribe, set by M. Halévy, is in preparation for the same theatre.—A two-act opera, by Herr Rosenhain, is in rehearsal at the *Grand Opéra*, to succeed (we suppose) 'L'Enfant Prodigue.' This new work of M. Auber seems strangely tardy in making its appearance.

Mr. Bourcicault, in a letter to the *Sunday Times*, denies having had any share in the authorship of the version of 'Giralda,' acted at the Haymarket. The report to the contrary originated in the fact of Mr. Bourcicault having been deputed by Mr. Webster to superintend the rehearsals during his own absence from town.

The theatrical papers make it a point of importance to record the meeting, on Saturday last, of the company at the Princess's Theatre, under the management of Messrs. Kean and Keeley. The following are the more celebrated of the company engaged:—Messrs. Wigan, Ryder, C. Fisher, Bolton, Meadows, Harley, Flexmore, and Ellis,—Mdlle. Auriol, Mrs. Wigan, and the Misses Summers, Cushnie, and Phillips. These, with Mr. and Mrs. Kean and Mr. and Mrs. Keeley, seem sufficient to support at least the demands of elegant and poetic comedy. The theatre opens this evening, with Shakspeare's 'Twelfth Night,' and a new farce, entitled 'Platonic Attachments.' We are glad to find this handsome theatre at length under an intelligent management.

#### MISCELLANEA

*The Reptile Room by Night.*—The following striking account of the Reptile Room in the Zoological Gardens, Regent's Park, we take, with some abridgment, from *Bentley's Miscellany*.—"About ten o'clock one evening during the last spring, in company with two naturalists of eminence, we entered that apartment. A small lantern was our only light, and the faint illumination of this imparted a ghastly character to the scene before us. The clear plate-glass which faces the cages was invisible, and it was difficult to believe that the monsters were in confinement and the spectators secure. Those who have only seen the boas and pythons, the rattlesnakes and cobras lazily hanging in festoons from the forks of the trees in the dens, or sluggishly coiled up, can form no conception of the appearance and actions of the same creatures at night. The huge boas and pythons were chasing each other in every direction, whisking about the dens with the rapidity of lightning, sometimes clinging in huge coils round the branches, anon entwining each other in massive folds, then separating they would rush over and under the branches, hissing and lashing their tails in hideous sport. Ever and anon thirsty with their exertions, they would approach the pans of water and drink eagerly, lapping it with their forked tongues. As our eyes became accustomed to the darkness, we perceived objects better; and on the uppermost branch of the tree, in the den of the biggest serpent, we perceived a pigeon quietly roosting, apparently indifferent alike to the turmoil which was going on around and to the vicinity of the monster whose meal it was soon to form. In the den of one of the smaller serpents was a little mouse, whose panting sides and fast-beating heart showed that it, at least, disliked its company. \* \* During the time we were looking at these creatures, all sorts of odd noises were heard. A strange scratching against the glass would be audible—it was the carnivorous lizard endeavouring to inform us that it was a fast day with him, entirely contrary to his inclina-



tion. A sharp hiss would startle us from another quarter,—and we stepped back involuntarily as the lantern revealed the inflated hood and threatening action of an angry cobra. Then a rattlesnake would take umbrage, and sounding an alarm, would make a stroke against the glass, intended for our person. The fixed gaze from the brilliant eyes of the huge pythons was more fascinating than pleasant,—and the scene, taking it altogether, more exciting than agreeable. Each of the spectators involuntarily stooped to make sure that his trousers were well strapped down; and, as if our nerves were jesting, a strange sensation would every now and then be felt, resembling the twining of a small snake about the legs. Just before leaving the house, a great dor beetle, which had flown in, attracted by the light, struck with some force against our right ear. Startled we were,—for at the moment our impression was that it was some member of the happy family around us who had favoured us with a mark of his attention."

**Proposed Transatlantic Packet Station.**—The Lords of the Admiralty have given instructions for a complete survey of the western coast of Cork, to ascertain its capabilities for being converted into a transatlantic packet station and harbour of refuge. Three Government Commissioners are to visit the spot.—*Times*.

**The Remains of James the Second.**—The following curious account, says a writer in the *Notes and Queries*, was given to me by Mr. Fitz-Simons, an Irish gentleman, upwards of eighty years of age, with whom I became acquainted when resident with my family at Toulouse, in September 1840; he having resided in that city for many years as a teacher of the French and English languages, and had attended the late Sir William Follett in the former capacity there in 1817. He said:—"I was a prisoner in Paris, in the Convent of the English Benedictines, in the Rue St. Jacques, during part of the Revolution. In the year 1793 or 1794 the body of King James II. of England was in one of the chapels there, where it had been deposited some time, under the expectation that it would one day be sent to England for interment in Westminster Abbey. It had never been buried. The body was in a wooden coffin, enclosed in a leaden one, and that again enclosed in a second wooden one, covered with black velvet. While I was a prisoner, the sans-culottes broke open the coffins to get at the lead to cast into bullets. The body lay exposed nearly a whole day. It was swaddled like a mummy, bound tight with garters. The sans-culottes took out the body, which had been embalmed. There was a strong smell of vinegar and camphor. The corpse was beautiful and perfect; the hands and nails were very fine. I moved and bent every finger. I never saw so fine a set of teeth in my life. A young lady, a fellow prisoner, wished much to have a tooth. I tried to get one out for her, but could not; they were so firmly fixed. The feet also were very beautiful. The face and cheeks were just as if he were alive. I rolled his eyes; the eyeballs were perfectly firm under my finger. The French and English prisoners gave money to the sans-culottes for showing the body. They said he was a good sans-culotte, and they were going to put him into a hole in the public churchyard like other sans-culottes; and he was carried away,—but where the body was thrown I never heard. King George IV. tried all in his power to get tidings of the body, but could not. Around the chapel were several wax moulds of the face hung up, made probably at the time of the king's death,—and the corpse was very like them. The body had been originally kept at the palace of St. Germain, whence it was brought to the Convent of the Benedictines. Mr. Porter, the prior, was a prisoner at the time in his own convent."

To CORRESPONDENTS.—A Sub.—II. D. W.—T. T.—Praise—W. W.—received.  
II. W.—The book has been received.  
W. L.—There is, of course, no address for an expired Commission. If our correspondent has any information of interest on the subject alluded to which he would wish to submit to us, with the guarantee of his name, we will willingly examine it.  
  
**Erratum.**—In Mr. Colburn's advertisement in last week's *Athenæum*, p. 1008, col. 2, Miss Molesworth's new novel, "Claude," was erroneously stated to be "just ready," instead of now ready.

EXHIBITION OF 1851.  
**NOTICE TO EXHIBITORS** is hereby given, that HER MAJESTY'S COMMISSIONERS have fixed the 31st of OCTOBER as the LAST DAY FOR RECEIVING APPLICATIONS for SEATING, and the different LOCAL COMMITTEES of the United Kingdom, the Isle of Man, and the Channel Islands. Intending Exhibitors failing to give due and sufficient notice to the nearest Local Committee, cannot be assured that their claims for space will receive any consideration.  
M. DIGBY WYATT, Secretary.  
August 17, 1850.

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1836	125 0 0	538 2 6	663 2 6
1837	62 10 0	531 11 3	593 1 3
1838	..	525 0 0	525 0 0
1839	..	425 0 0	425 0 0
1840	..	375 0 0	375 0 0
1841	..	300 0 0	300 0 0
1842	..	225 0 0	225 0 0
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Age at entrance.	Duration of Policies.	Sum Assured.	Annual Premium.	Addition to Sum Assured.
24	7 yrs. 1 mo.	£2000	£47 1 8	£237 18 4
30	7 yrs. 1	5000	133 10 10	572 8 10
25	6 yrs. 11	1000	23 2 6	113 0 4
41	6 yrs. 10	5000	232 15 0	566 10 10
53	6 yrs. 10	3000	110 10 0	307 15 4
33	6 yrs. 10	500	14 5 5	52 11 6
23	6 yrs. 9	5000	115 12 6	556 4 9

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£5,000	15 yrs. 10 mths.	£683 6 8	£787 10 0	£6,470 16 8
5,000	3 year	..	112 10 0	5,112 10 0
1,000	12 years	100 0 0	167 10 0	1,337 10 0
1,000	7 years	..	107 10 0	1,107 10 0
1,000	1 year	..	28 10 0	1,022 10 0
500	12 years	50 0 0	72 15 0	624 15 0
500	4 years	..	45 0 0	515 0 0
500	1 year	..	11 5 0	511 5 0

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With an ample subscribed Capital.  
The Scale of Premiums, having been specially calculated from the experience of 62,000 selected lives, is adapted to the expectation of life of the clergy, and of other persons of regular habits, and presents to them peculiar advantages.  
Premiums for Assuring *1000*, at 25, 15s. 8d.; 30, 27. 0s. 9d.; 35, 27. 7s. 4d.; 40, 27. 15s. 8d.; Annuity for 1,000*l.* deposited—age 40, 62*l.* 14s. 2d.; 50, 73*l.* 16s. 8d.; 60, 99*l.* 8s. 4d.; 70, 141*l.* 15s.  
**UNIVERSITY EDUCATION ASSURANCE.**  
A Parent, by paying an Annual Premium of Ten Pounds, until one or more of his sons attain the age of 18, may secure to the latter the following sums, according to the age at entry, to meet the expenses of a University Education, or for Professional Premiums, age 6 months or under *200*l.**; 1 year, *347*l.**; 2 years, *512*l.**; 3 years, *713*l.**; 4 years, *910*l.**. Two-thirds returnable in case of death.  
**WILLIAM BRIDGES, Secretary and Actuary.**  
23, Pall Mall, Sept. 1850.

**PROVIDENT LIFE OFFICE,**  
50, REGENT-STREET;  
CITY BRANCH: 2, ROYAL EXCHANGE BUILDINGS.  
Established 1806.  
Policy Holders' Capital, *£1,180,732*.  
Annual Income, *£148,000*. Bonuses Declared, *£743,000*.  
Claims paid since the establishment of the Office, *£1,686,000*.  
**President.**  
The Right Honourable EARL GREY.  
**Directors.**  
Frederick Squire, Esq., *Chairman.*  
William Henry Stone, Esq., *Deputy-Chairman.*  
Henry B. Alexander, Esq., Thomas Maughan, Esq.,  
George Daere, Esq., William Ostler, Esq.,  
Alexander Henderson, M.D., Aspley Pellatt, Esq.,  
William Judd, Esq., George Round, Esq.,  
Sir Richard D. King, Bart., The Rev. James Chapman,  
The Hon. Arthur Kinnaird, Capt. William John Williams.  
**J. A. Beaumont, Esq., Managing Director.**  
**Physician**—John Maclean, M.D. F.R.S., 29, Upper Montague-street, Montague-square.

**NINETEEN TWENTIETHS OF THE PROFITS ARE DIVIDED AMONG THE INSURED.**  
Examples of the Extinction of Premiums by the Surrender of Bonuses.

Date of Policy.	Sum Insured.	Original Premium.	Bonuses added subsequent to the further increased annually.
1806	£2500	£79 10 10	£1322 2 0
1811	1000	33 9 2	231 17 8
1818	1000	34 16 10	114 19 10

Examples of Bonuses added to other Policies.

Policy No.	Date.	Sum Insured.	Bonuses added.	Total with Additions, to be further increased.
521	1807	£900	£92 12 1	£1892 12 1
1174	1810	1200	1160 5 6	2360 5 6
3332	1820	5000	3558 17 8	8558 17 8

Prospectuses and full particulars may be obtained upon application to the Agents of the Office, in all the principal towns of the United Kingdom, at the City Branch, and at the head Office, No. 50, Regent-street.

**GUARDIAN FIRE AND LIFE ASSURANCE COMPANY, No. 11, Lombard-street, at the entrance of the Old Post Office, London.**  
**Directors.**  
John Martin, Esq., *M.P. Chairman.*  
Thomson Hankey, Jun. Esq., *Deputy-Chairman.*  
Henry Hulce Berens, Esq., George Lyall, Esq.,  
John Dixon, Esq., Stewart Majorbanks, Esq.,  
Francis Hart Dyke, Esq., Rowland Mitchell, Esq.,  
Sir Walter B. Farquhar, Bart., John G. P. Esq.,  
John Harvey, Esq., Henry Norman, Esq.,  
John G. Hubbard, Esq., Henry R. Reynolds, Jun. Esq.,  
George Johnston, Esq., John Thornton, Esq.,  
John Lambouch, Esq., James Tulloch, Esq.,  
John Loch, Esq., Henry Vigne, Esq.,  
**Auditors.**  
A. W. Roberts, Esq., Henry Sykes Thornton, Esq.,  
Lewis Lloyd, Jun. Esq., John Henry Smith, Esq.,  
**Actuary**—Griffith Davies, Esq. F.R.S.

**IN THE LIFE DEPARTMENT,** Assurances may be effected at low rates with participation in the profits; or, at moderate rates with participation in one moiety of the profits every seven years. At each of the four septennial divisions which this Company has made, the bonuses amounted to about 1 per cent. per annum on the sum assured, or about 27 per cent. on the amount of premium received; the amount of reversionary bonus allotted by the Company exceeded 77 per cent.

**LOANS** granted on life policies to the extent of their values, provided such policies shall have been effected a sufficient time to have attained in each case a value not under 50*l.*

**IN THE FIRE DEPARTMENT,** a return of profit was declared, on the 6th of June, upon the premiums received on all policies which had been in force seven years at Christmas 1840, and the same is now in course of payment daily (Friday and Saturday excepted) between the hours of 10 and 8 o'clock, at the Head Office; and also by the Agents in the country districts.

**NOTICE** is hereby given, that the assurance which expire at Michaelmas must be renewed within fifteen days at this office, or with Mr. SAMS, No. 1, St. James's-street, corner of Pall Mall; or with the Company's Agents throughout the Kingdom, otherwise they become void.  
GEO. KEYS, Secretary.

**PLATE.—A. B. SAVORY & SONS, Manu-**  
facturing Silversmiths, 14, Cornhill, London, opposite the Bank of England. The best wrought SILVER SPOONS and FORKS. Fiddle pattern, 7s. 2d. per ounce; Queen's pattern, 7s. 4d. per ounce. The following are the weights recommended, but the articles may be had lighter or heavier at the same price per ounce:  
Fiddle Pattern, *oz. 8. 5. 4. d.* Queen's Pattern, *oz. 8. 4. 5. 4. d.*  
12 Table Spoons 20 7 2 10 15 0 12 Table Spoons 40 7 4 13 4 4  
12 Dessert Forks 20 7 2 7 8 12 Dessert Forks 26 7 4 10 10 8  
12 Table Forks 20 7 2 10 15 0 12 Table Forks 40 7 4 13 4 4  
12 Dessert Forks 20 7 2 7 8 12 Dessert Forks 26 7 4 10 10 8  
2 Gravy Spoons 10 7 2 3 11 8 2 Gravy Spoons 12 7 4 8 0  
1 Soup Ladle 10 7 2 3 11 8 1 Soup Ladle 12 7 4 8 0  
4 Sauce Dishes 10 7 2 3 11 8 4 Sauce Dishes 12 7 10 4 14 0  
4 Salt Spoons (gilt strong) 1 0 0 4 Salt Spoons (strong gilt) 2 2 0  
1 Fish Knife 10 7 2 0 0 1 Fish Knife 12 7 2 0 0  
12 Tea Spoons 10 7 2 0 0 12 Tea Spoons 14 7 10 8 0  
1 Pair Sugar Tongs 10 5 0 1 Pair Sugar Tongs 12 5 0  
N.B. A plate current, stamped as a newspaper, illustrated by drawings and containing information relative to the purchase of silver plate and plated ware, may be had on application, or will be sent into the country free of postage, in answer to a paid letter.

**TO PEDESTRIANS, SPORTSMEN, &c.—**  
PATENT PEDOMETERS for the waistcoat pocket, at PAYNES, 163, New Bond-street, opposite Long's Hotel. New Patent TRAVELLING CLOCKS, chiming on springs in place of bells.

**CHANDELIERS.**—The most extensive and best assorted STOCK of CHANDELIERS, of British manufacture, is at the Falcon Glass Works, Holland-street, Blackfriars. ASPLEY PELLATT & CO. solicit an inspection of the quality of their work, which will be found very superior: all new glass of the most pellucid character, and no foreign drops being used in their Chandeliers. The Manufactory may be viewed the first four days of the week.

**FIRE AND ROBBERY.**—Safety for Plate and Cash.—CHUBB'S PATENT FIRE-PROOF SAFES and BOXES are the most secure depositories for deeds, cash, plate, account-books, &c., both from fire and burglars. All are fitted with the latest lock—C. CHUBB & SON, 57, St. Paul's Church-yard, London; 26, Lord-street, Liverpool; 16, Market-street, Manchester; and Horsley Field, Wolverhampton.

**ELKINGTON and CO.,**  
PATENTEES OF THE ELECTRO PLATE, MANUFACTURING SILVERSMITHS, BRONZISTS, &c.  
Beg respectfully to call attention to their Establishments, 23, REGENT-STREET, 45, MOORGATE-STREET, LONDON;  
And Manufactory, NEWHALL-STREET, BIRMINGHAM:  
At either of which places they have always an extensive stock of their own productions.  
The Patentees feel the necessity of informing the public, that articles sold as "Electro-plated by Elkington & Co.'s process," offer no guarantee for their manufacture, unless such articles bear their Patent Mark, viz. "E. & Co. under a crown."  
Estimates, Drawings, and all Prices sent free by post. Replating and Gilding as usual.

**TABLE and DESSERT KNIVES, in CASES.**  
—MECHI, CUTLER, 4, LEADENHALL-STREET, has an excellent Variety of perfectly new Patterns in Ivory, Pearl, and Agate DESSERT KNIVES, in CASES, and every description of Table Knives, excellent in quality and reasonable in price. Also a variety of Knife Sharpeners, several new patterns. Wharfedale Penknives, Scissors, Razors, Strops, Paste, and Shaving Brushes &c. His Razor-strops and Paste are well worth the attention of those who find shaving difficult.

**DECORATIVE PAPER-HANGING MANU-**  
FACTORY, and General Furnishing Establishment, Carpet and Floor-cloth Warehouse, 451, Oxford-street.—E. T. ARCHER solicits an inspection of his superior PAPER-HANGINGS, (made by his patented inventions,) fitted up on the walls of the very extensive range of show-rooms, in panels, &c., in every style of artistic arrangement, and for every kind of room. In addition the rooms are furnished with superior furniture, (marked in plain figures the price,) giving at one view a drawing-room fit for reception. Bed-room and other Paper-hangings, 4d. per yard; French and all foreign Paper-hangings, of the first fabric; Brussels and Tapestry Carpets at 3s. to 3s. 6d. per yard; best warranted Floor-cloth, eight yards wide, cut to any dimensions, 2s. 3d., 2s. 6d., and 2s. 9d. per yard.

**FLOOR CLOTHS.**  
Best Quality Warranted ..... 2s. 6d. per square yard.  
Persian and Turkey pattern ..... 2s. 9d. do.  
Common Floor Cloth ..... 2s. 6d. do.  
**COCOA-FIBRE MATS and MATTING.**  
India Matting, plain and figured.  
JOWETT, Manufacturer, 532, New Oxford-street.

**OLD FEATHER BEDS** Re-dressed and Purified by Steam with patent machinery. This new process of dressing not only removes all impurities, but by expanding the feathers the bulk is greatly increased, and consequently the bed rendered much fuller and softer. Charge for dressing, 3d. per lb. Old and moth-eaten Mattresses effectually cured and re-made; fetched and returned carriage-free within five miles.—HEAL & SONS' List of Bedding, containing full particulars of Weights, Sizes, and Prices, sent free by post on application to their Factory, 196 opposite the Chapel, TOTTENHAM COURT-ROAD.

**METCALFE'S ALKALINE TOOTH-POWDER** will be found to be the best that has yet been produced; it contains no acids, nor anything that can injure the finest enamel; it thoroughly removes the tartar and all impurities, produces that beautiful white appearance so much to be desired; and its fragrant perfume tends to sweeten and purify the breath. M. & Co., from the many years that have been celebrated as Tooth-brush Makers, have had opportunities that occur to few of testing the relative merits of those powders that have been brought before the public. They have now succeeded in procuring the receipt from which the above powder is prepared, and confidently M. & Co., from the many years that have been celebrated as Tooth-brush Makers, have had opportunities that occur to few of testing the relative merits of those powders that have been brought before the public. 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# THE ATHENÆUM

Journal of English and Foreign Literature, Science, and the Fine Arts.

No. 1197.

LONDON, SATURDAY, OCTOBER 5, 1850.

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October, 1850.

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FACULTY OF MEDICINE.—SESSION OF 1850-51.—LECTURES WILL COMMENCE ON TUESDAY, the 3th of NOVEMBER.

**ANATOMY AND PHYSIOLOGY.**—Hugh Carille, A.M. M.D. M.R.I.A.—Two o'clock, P.M.

**CHEMISTRY.**—Thomas Andrews, M.D. F.R.S. M.R.I.A.—Four P.M.

**SURGERY.**—Alexander Gordon, M.D.—Five P.M.

**PRACTICE OF MEDICINE.**—J. C. Ferguson, A.M. M.B. Hon. Fell. King and Queen's Coll. of Physicians.—Four P.M.

**MATERIA MEDICA.**—Horatio Stewart, M.D.—Five P.M.

**MIDWIFERY.**—William Barlen, M.D.—Three P.M.

**ANATOMICAL DEMONSTRATIONS.**—Henry Murney, M.D.—45 minutes past Twelve P.M.

**PRACTICAL CHEMISTRY.**—Nine A.M.

The PRACTICAL ANATOMY is superintended by the Professor of Anatomy and Physiology, and by Dr. Murney and Dr. Carille.

The EXAMINATIONS for the MEDICAL SCHOLARSHIPS, of which two will be awarded to Students of the first year, and two to Students of the second year, will COMMENCE on TUESDAY, the 2nd of OCTOBER.

For the subjects of these Examinations, see the College Calendar, pages 28, 29.

Further information will be found in the Belfast College Calendar, or may be obtained from the Registrar, or from any of the Professors.

(By order of the President)

Queen's College, Oct. 1, 1850. W. J. C. ALLEN, Registrar.

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The Board have the gratification to announce that the Hospital will be open for the reception of patients on the 16th of October.

Subscriptions and donations are earnestly solicited, and will be received by the Treasurer, William Leat, Esq., 39, Old Change; or any Member of the Board; or may be paid into the account of the Hahnemann Hospital, with Messrs. Glyn & Co., Bankers, Lombard-street, or Messrs. Drummond, Bankers, Charing-cross.

The Board of Management respectfully request that those Subscribers whose contributions are yet unpaid will at once forward their donations and subscriptions to the Treasurer, it being desirable that all the resources of the Institution should now be at the command of the Board of Management, to insure the effectual and immediate carrying out of the objects of the Hospital.

September 27, 1850.

WILLIAM WARNE, Hon. Sec.

**NEW COLLEGE, LONDON.**—The

REGULATIONS of the DAY STUDENT DEPARTMENT, and the SESSIONAL PROSPECTUS for 1850-51, are NOW READY, and may be had on application at Messrs. JACKSON & WALFORD'S, St. Paul's-churchyard; or at the Office of the College, No. 13, Aldine-chambers, Paternoster-row.

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NOTICE TO MEMBERS AND CONTRIBUTORS OF BRITISH PLANTS.—TUESDAY, the 31st of DECEMBER next, will be the

LAST DAY for receiving PARCELS OF BRITISH PLANTS to entitle Members to participate in the next distribution of the Society's Duplicates in February 1851.

G. E. DENNES, Secretary.  
20, Bedford-street, Strand, Oct. 3, 1850.

**BRITISH ARCHÆOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION.**—At a MEETING of the Council, held WEDNESDAY, October 2, T. J. PETTIGREW, F.R.S. F.S.A. in the chair, it was unanimously resolved:—

"That the Council having, in accordance with a Resolution passed at the late Congress at Manchester, August 24, made overtures to the Archaeological Institute, in reference to a union between the two bodies, as being advantageous for the promotion of Archaeological researches, regret to find that the Central Committee of the Institute, by their Resolution of September 23, deem it imprudent to take any steps calculated to promote so desirable an object."

"That, as it appears by a letter from the President of the Institute, erroneous opinions are entertained with regard to the position and intentions of the Association, a letter, explanatory of the circumstances, be addressed to the Marquis of Northampton, and that the same be printed together with the Proceedings in the forthcoming number of the Journal, for the information of the Members of the Association and of the Institute."

J. R. PLANCHÉ, Hon. Secs.  
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Oct. 3, 1850.

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The necessary forms may be obtained of the Secretary, Mr. G. H. DREW, No. 38, Parliament-street.

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LONDON, SATURDAY, OCTOBER 5, 1850.

## REVIEWS

*Studies*.—[*Studien*]. By Adalbert Stifter. Vols. V. and VI. Pesth, Heckenast; London, Williams & Norgate.

THE first of this "Penciller's" delicate and winning *Studies* [see *Ath.* No. 1087] we hailed as an appearance of more than usual promise. The troubles that vexed his native land soon after those sketches were published made us anxious respecting the continuance and progress of the young author; whose quiet pathos and amiable commerce with simple and natural objects the heats of the new times seemed little fitted to encourage. We therefore received with peculiar pleasure, as a scarcely expected gift, two further volumes of '*Studies*,' lately published,—which in any case would have been welcome from the hand that produced the first series. It is an additional satisfaction to declare, on closing the new volumes, that the expectations with which they were opened have not been disappointed.

The dates of these sketches are not much in advance of the latest in the former volumes:—the most recent being marked with the year 1845. This we take into account when observing that, in certain requisites of Art noticed as wanting to the former no great advance will be found in the '*Studies*' now published. They have, in fact, the same beauties and shortcomings which were observed in the best of the earlier pieces: so that our description of the first series will sufficiently characterize the general features of the second. But in both, the charm of what is given is so engaging that we forget what is deficient until the reflection of the critic takes place of the reader's sympathy. If we advert to such defects, it is because the merits of the sketches make us think too well and kindly of the author to consent that he should remain content with anything short of the excellence of a finished artist.

Referring then, for Stifter's chief characteristics to our former account of his *Studies*, it will suffice here to say that those which he has now given us, containing perhaps no single piece so complete as '*My Grandfather's Portfolio*,' have on the whole a maturer tone than the first series, and show in higher relief two qualities which it will be proper to notice presently. Here, as before, the sketches are unequal in length as well as in merit. They are four in number. The two longest, '*The Old Bachelor*' and '*The Two Sisters*,' present various beauties in detail and description, and unaffectedly develop an abundance of genial wholesome feeling and pure tenderness, hung, like dew-drops on a spider's thread, on narratives altogether slender, not to say devoid of invention. The two shorter studies are '*The Forest-steep*' and '*The Inscribed Pine Tree*.' In the first the story of '*Master Tiburius*' must be termed unlikely as well as meagre; with some disadvantage, too, in the execution, from the air of caricature in the hero,—the only instance of the kind, hitherto, in Stifter's portraits—giving a false tone at the beginning of the tale, which its pretty sketches and fresh wood notes afterwards never quite resolve into proper harmony. Here, too, we may observe, Stifter borrows, without acknowledgment—and alters for the worse besides—a drollery from Jean Paul's golden book '*Of Education*.' The trait of '*Master Tiburius*' as an odd child liking dolls, and choosing one of the queerest kind, is taken from '*Levana*':—where, in discussing the whims of infants in the selection of toys, Richter tells how one of his own little girls, neglecting her well-dressed dolls, bestowed her chief affections on an old boot-jack of papa's,—which she

dressed up and dandled with indefatigable tenderness.

The second sketch we might suppose originally intended for a more full and touching development—so hastily is the thread of the narrative broken and wound up at a moment of suspense—had not the same disproportion between a highly wrought opening and a disappointing close met us in some of the former '*Studies*' on a larger scale. The blank, however, is so great in this instance, that it impairs the effect of the most charming details. Pictures of certain forms of woodland life, scenery, and occupation, in themselves graphic and delightful, seem to invite us to a touching story,—the persons, too, are already collected, and their relations begin to excite interest and suspense,—when the scene is suddenly closed with a brief epilogue; and the reader turns away, murmuring as one defrauded of the promised emotion.

'*The Two Sisters*' and '*The Old Bachelor*' lead us to parts of the Austrian empire untouched in Stifter's former excursions. We are now among the Rhetia Alps, or in the marches between Carinthia and the Tyrol:—the principal scenes of the first tale lie in some lonely highlands above the Lago di Garda. This change opens a new panorama of nature; the features of which are larger and more varied with incidents of mountain and mere, voluptuous fertility and stern barrenness, than in the forest lap of the Boehmerwald or on the plains of Hungary. A few glimpses of these pictures—in proof of the author's talent of bringing natural objects vividly before the mind's eye—will invite readers to a nearer acquaintance with his volumes. The human interests with which they are interwoven—admirably as they are developed—are too delicately traced, by a continual series of quiet touches of incident and feeling, to bear removal in fragments from the text, where alone they can be appreciated in their gradual, unaffected sequence. Describing them in general, we may say that they belong to a vein of poetical imagination flowing with the current of genial and affectionate impulses, untroubled with the darker passions, and tempered, even in its fondest moods, by modest self-control and purity transparent as a mountain spring. Without verging on the extreme or improbable,—by the simple avoidance of whatever is ugly or feverish, and by a spontaneous attraction towards all that is generous and becoming in household affections, early love, manful endurance, and unpretending self-denial, the story, in spite of its artless construction, acquires a kind of graceful coherence, and excites a degree of interest and suspense often wanting to narratives crowded with incident. It may be described as an idyl of modern life;—which delights by touching those feelings only that make us happier and better. At a time when the art of Prose-fiction has been so deeply depraved by the prostitution of descriptive skill to every kind of vicious excitement, no apology can be needed to readers of good taste for welcoming with peculiar cordiality a writer whose genius, with a better instinct, steals from glaring night-scenes of wickedness and misery to the sunshine and shadows of nature, and the still corners of domestic life,—to indulge in dreams of innocence and virtue, in tears that leave no stain, and in pleasures unfollowed by remorse.

Among so many pictures it is difficult to choose:—let us open Volume V. at this twilight scene on a Tyrolean lake. The voyager is an orphan youth, nephew of the "*Old Bachelor*," towards whose island hermitage in the lake he has been travelling on foot from the low country.

The old man went back into the hovel, but soon came out again, accompanied by a girl, young, stout, and ruddy-cheeked, who at once bared her arms, and began to push the boat further out into the water; while the old man put on his coat and brought out a pair of oars. For Victor they had fastened in the boat a wooden settee, on which he placed himself, the knapsack at his side, and holding the head of Spitz,\* who nestled in his master's lap. The old man had taken his seat, with his back to the prow, and the girl stood in the after part, with the oar in her hands. Both together they made the first stroke in the water: the boat started, slid out into the smooth wave, and at each pull of the oar, by successive pushes, cut its way farther out into the gurgling expanse, now darkening over fast. Victor had never been afloat on so wide a sheet of water. The village retired farther and farther, and the great walls of the lake began very slowly to pace onward. After a while a bushy promontory pushed out its tongue, and evermore grew bigger on the water. At length it broke off from the land altogether, and showed itself an island. Towards this island the two rowers pointed their course. The nearer you came, the more distinctly it rose up in front, and the wider grew the space that separated it from the shore. A mountain had masked it at the outset. At length you could distinguish on it very large trees, at first looking as if they grew straight up from the water, then as rising stately from a rocky shore of some height, the sharp crags of which descended plumb into the depths of the wave. Behind the green of these trees there kept moving onward a softly rounded mountain, which evening had covered with a lovely blush. "That is the Grisel, on the opposite shore," the old man replied, to Victor's inquiry; "a considerable mountain, but not so very difficult to climb. There is a pathway right over it to Blumau, and into the cleft where the forges are." Victor gazed at the beautiful mountain, while it kept gliding away, until it sank amidst the green of the trees, as they drew nearer. They had at length got within the green shadows which the isle's forest burden cast into the waters of the lake; and now rowed along the space covered by them. At this moment, far away from the Hul, (the village they had left,) the sound of that little bell which we saw hanging between its four posts came over the distance, calling to vespers. The two boat people at once laid in their oars, and silently repeated their evening prayer; while the boat, still moving on as if self-impelled, glided past the grey cliffs, which now stood out into the mere beyond the island. Here and there, on the mountains inclosing it, glittered a stray light. The lake, too, was now covered with streaks, some of which gleamed and even threw out sparkles, although the sun had long been set. Over all this came the incessant, busy peal of the little bell, sounding on, as if tolled by invisible hands,—for the Hul was out of sight, and all around the lake there was not the smallest spot visible which had even a distant likeness to any human dwelling.

A sketch of a graver aspect of still life we take from '*The Two Sisters*,'—in the words of a traveller, in search of an old friend buried somewhere in the lonely uplands beyond Riva, on the Lago di Garda. The wayfarer has left his boat on the lake, amidst all the rich vegetation of Italy;—a short league of ascent, through one of the gorges in its northern verge, leads to the threshold of quite another region.—

I proceeded up the rest of the pass. It grew not only more narrow and hard to climb, but also thinner in soil and barrenness. From its upper end I looked down its whole length, as it lay like a little stripe of green velvet winding to the lake below. At last I reached the "steps" of which the old man had spoken. It would indeed have been impossible to get out over the dyke of stone, which ran like a bar across the cleft, but for the steps, which were skilfully carved in it slantwise, making the task easy. Over them I climbed to the top, and soon stood on the highest part of the hummock. Here it was quite other-

\* We have no proper English for this description of house dog:—of Pomeranian descent, it is said, with some affinity to the wolf, shown by his sharp muzzle, erect, pointed ears, straight hair, and mane of a fawn colour. He is fierce to strangers, but very good and true to his master.



wise than below. The fertility had utterly and altogether ceased. The ground was covered with a greenish-grey lichen, such as I had often seen on stone, but far thinner and weaker here than in any other place where I had found it. But the view, of which the greybeard had spoken in general terms only, was more than commonly fine. It opened chiefly towards that region whither I was now bound. The variety of unusual objects occurring on the lake I had left below had been impressive; here I was quite carried away by emotion, and I may even say ravished, to my very heart's core. These things, properly speaking, have never yet been depicted by painters:—here, in fact, there was no tree, not a twig of brushwood, no house, no hovel, neither meadow nor tilled land,—nothing but the meagre grass and the crags. Few artists, indeed, would count this a subject for the hand of a master, had they not the good fortune to learn by personal experience how unspeakably the sombre beauty of such deserts can act on the human soul. In every various shade and degree of pale green, grey, and blue, the weird vision lay stretching away into the distance. Melancholy, vaporous, shifting and blending sheets of colour went wavering over it, and the cliffs threw in pale reflected gleams like pulses of twinkling light; and where the earth lay quite naked, or bore nothing but mere sand or boulders, there started out flashes of a tarnished glow, or tints of a more softly blended tone. Beyond and above all rose, calm and paly red, as if breathed from the mist, a mountain, the source, perhaps, of those "red rocks" which the grey old man had mentioned. From it there now streamed away two long-drawn fiery banks of cloud, which the sun, now verging towards his setting, had kindled, floating in the faint opaque green of the southern heavens around them, which shone with a softened radiance, rising by degrees to a dazzling blue in the zenith. All this alone would have been enough for the grandeur of the picture, but beyond all, far away to my left, betwixt the opening of the cliffs, there lay drawn along the verge of the sky a soft streak of grey,—which was the Campagna of Lombardy. Accustomed to the pleasant hills of my native land, where orchards succeed to orchards and holt gives place to holt, green meadows swelling up between them, and the shining gold of corn-fields,—where you will not find a vacant nook where some tiny herb or tree is not growing,—where springs and rivulets trickle in abundance, many bright streams and rivers take their course, and the soft blue of mountains lies in the far distance,—I had no other conception of beauty in a landscape than that thus it must always be. Indeed, living in a beautiful country, I had not been very attentive to such charms as these. But here I stood in a wilderness, where everything was wanting,—where there were absolutely no materials whatever for any specific representation,—but where, nevertheless, there appeared such a tranquil beauty as though Nature herself had opened before me a simple sublime epic. I was, as it were, bowed to the earth; and then the voicelessness that encompassed me seemed to float everything away into expanse and distance, until I quite lost myself. \* \* \* At last I set forward from this spot, over the grassy flats and stony ground which extended before me, towards the region where the sun was hastening to his rest. But I had first thrown one other glance behind me, to see if my lake was still visible. A fragment of it, like a blue sickle, lay betwixt some ruddy cliffs; but as the view in that quarter was more confined, it vanished at the first step I took onwards.

There are, as we have said, two very characteristic peculiarities in Stifter's treatment of the living figures in these richly painted scenes. The first is, the curious minuteness with which he pursues everything that they do,—the second, the exemplary reserve shown, especially at critical moments, in appointing what they shall say. In neither respect has any author that we know ventured quite so far as Stifter has done. His care to leave untold no motion or act of his chief characters, is so precise as to touch, if not to over pass, at times, the limits of discretion; and were we to quote some instances of his way of reporting every step that his hero takes, each remove of a chair or shutting of a door,

the effect of such passages would be found *per se* to verge on the ridiculous. Nor can it be said that even in their context, as touches in a highly-finished miniature, they always avoid the blame of triviality. Yet this censure must be stated with hesitation: as the habit belongs to a manner of painting which attests the closeness of the image to the eye of the sketcher,—and the pertinacity with which every line and gesture is followed does certainly bring the figure before the reader's imagination with a reality nearly equal to the very presence of life. The line between too much and too little in this method cannot be drawn on very decisive grounds; and it may be said of Stifter's use of it, that if the effect is to decide, few will be apt to condemn even apparent extremes of a process which on the whole produces a life likeness almost deceptive. Of this circumstantial manner a short specimen will give some idea; but in choosing the instance it would not be just to take an extreme case, because the peculiarity of such would be more than fairly conspicuous in a fragment. We will look at the orphan Victor on the eve of quitting home.

Again the clock struck; but the youth still sat in the chair, and the dog before him, watching him with a fixed gaze. At last, hearing the steps of his mother (*parent by adoption*) coming up the stair, he started up on a sudden, and plunged into his work. He flung asunder the doors of the bookcase, and began hastily to lay out the books in heaps on the floor. The old lady, the while, merely put her head half way within the opened door, and as she saw him so busy, withdrew it again, and went off on tiptoe. But he, now that he was once fairly in motion, kept at work, and toiled on with feverish energy. All the books were turned out of the two presses, until they were quite empty, and the vacant shelves gaped into the room. Then he tied up the volumes in parcels, and put them into a chest standing ready for this purpose: and when the books were all packed in, screwed down the lid, and fastened a direction on it. Then he went to his papers. All the drawers of his writing-table and of the two others were drawn out, and all the manuscripts they contained examined, piece by piece. Some were merely looked at, and put aside at once to be instantly packed up; others read; many torn and thrown on the floor, and several stuffed into the pockets of his coat or writing-case. Finally, when all the drawers, too, were cleared out, and nothing to be seen at the bottom but the doleful dust which had trickled into them in the course of years and the cracks which had been formed the while,—he tied all the separated writings into bundles, and laid them also in a chest. Next, he went to his clothes, and to the packing of his trunk. Many a memento of earlier days—an *étui* with a gold chain, a telescope, a brace of small pistols, and, last of all, his beloved flute, were stowed away among the soft protecting linen. When all was finished, the lid was shut, the straps buckled, the lock turned, and a direction glued to the outside. The chest and trunk were to go by a carrier; his knapsack, which still lay on the chair, was to hold such things as he must take with him on the pedestrian journey. He hastily packed it full, and then strapped and buckled it fast. Now that everything was done, he looked once more all round the room, and at the walls, to see if there were nothing still lying or hanging up which must be put away; but there was nothing left,—and the chamber stared on him with a deserted look. Amidst all the confusion of the strange things and of the furniture, which itself had now got a strange air, there was nothing as it used to be but his bed; and even that was disfigured by dust and covered with shreds of torn papers. So, he remained standing for a while. Spitz, who had hitherto watched all the proceedings with looks of rising suspicion, slipping out of the youth's way, now on this side, now on that, without letting a single manœuvre escape his notice, now planted himself quietly in front of his master, and looked up at him, as if inquiring "What next?"

Of Stifter's other characteristic—temperance of speech, namely, in circumstances of emotion

—it is not easy to give a sufficient example. Its impression, by the very nature of the quality, depends on the previous development of character and on the skill with which we are prepared to feel the weight of a critical moment. We must describe it in general terms as deserving of high praise: touching, by the very boldness of its simplicity; and by suggestions of unspoken feeling, more eloquent than words,—with a power akin to that of the old painter who veiled the features of the "King of Men" in Aulis. In this return to the chaste and classic reserve of elder poetry—whether led by instinct or taught by reflection,—our author evinces the confidence of true genius, by avoiding a mode of aiming at pathetic effect the facility of which is especially seductive to young writers. He is well justified by the impressiveness of this control of speech in circumstances of passion: far surpassing, in its command of sympathy and tears, the effect of those voluble "bursts of feeling"—altogether false to nature—which have been admired in some of our own painters of home subjects.

This merit in its best instances can be enjoyed only in the work itself. One specimen of a lighter kind may, however, suggest some notion of its quality to readers of an apprehensive taste. The hero on the occasion which we choose is the "very great fool," Master Tiburius, rich, hypochondriac, and humorous, spoiled by bad education, and restored to good sense and good health by his adventures on the "Forest-steep," which gives to this Study its title. We are now in the second year of his visit to the Baths at —; in the woody mountains above which he has fallen in with a mountain maid,—plucking strawberries and sketching trees in her company, without a thought of any better use of his eyes—like a "very great fool," indeed, until—one afternoon, when the strawberries had now long been ripe again, as he was sitting on the whinstone ridge drawing, and she, with her full basket of fruit at her side, sat behind him on the rocks and looked on, while near her a tall tiger lily towered in full glory on its slender stem;—he said, "How is it, Maria, that you are not at all afraid of being in the woods,—and that from the very first moment when we happened to meet, you were not in the least frightened at me, either?"—"I was never afraid of the wood," she replied, "because I know nothing whatever that I need to fear:—I have been there from the time when I was a child, and am at home in all its ways and places, and do not see what there is to be afraid of. Nor was I frightened at you, because you are civil, and because you are different from the others."—"Aye, and how are the others, then?" asked Master Tiburius.—"They are different," replied Maria. "I used formerly, now and then, to go down to the spa; as nearly all do hereabouts, to sell things of various kinds;—but after a time, I would never go there again, except in the season when the strangers had all left;—for they used always—and some of them men, too, who had no right to take such liberties—to pat me on the cheek and say: 'Pretty girl!'"—At these words, Master Tiburius, laid down his pencil in his sketch-book, closed it, turned round on his whinstone,—and looked at her. And greatly was he astonished:—for in truth she was remarkably pretty, as he perceived for the first time at that instant. Under the little kerchief which she always wore on her head, the dark brown hair, softly braided, flowed down in rich waves, and between their parting the smooth fair brow appeared still fairer and smoother: the face, altogether, in spite of its fresh and healthy colour, was indescribably delicate and pure, an effect rather heightened than lessened by the coarse dress which she usually wore. The eyes were very large, very dark, and bright; when opened and raised they encountered the man with the utmost frankness, and when cast down, long gentle eyelashes modestly veiled them. The lips were red, and the teeth white. Her figure, even as she was now seated, showed a stature proportioned to her features, and was slim and softly moulded.—Master Tiburius, after having



this surveyed her, turned round again, again opened his book, and went on with his drawing. He did not, however, continue it much longer, but, half turning towards Maria once more, said—"For to-day I had rather give over just now."

And so must we:—with hearty good wishes for another meeting on some early day—not with Master Tiburius, but with his master-sketcher. As Austrian troubles have not robbed us of these pieces, finished before the civil broil began, let us hope that it may not have the effect of closing his book against new "Studies":—healthy and genial as these, but adorning more ingeniously framed stories.

*The Loyal Garland: a Collection of Songs of the Seventeenth Century, &c.* Edited by J. O. Halliwell, Esq. Printed for the Percy Society.

WE apprehend the editor is mistaken as to the extreme rarity of the original from which this small volume is reprinted. The copy which he used is "the fifth edition, with additions, printed in 1686,"—so that there were at least four older impressions; and Mr. Beloe, whom he refers to, was by no means a good authority on a bibliographical point. An edition without date, but purporting to be the third, is in the hands of a well-known bibliographer. However, the work is one, doubtless, of considerable scarceness; and many of the songs and other poems of which it consists are in their way of great merit, and deserved to be put in a shape to render ultimate destruction improbable. The copy which Mr. Halliwell followed appears to be his own,—and we give him credit for the liberality of feeling which would not allow him to keep it merely for his own use and selfish gratification. We are bound to praise him, also, for the omission of some pieces *causâ pudoris*, although it renders his reprint incomplete,—and although we are of opinion that in one or two instances he has carried his squeamishness to the extreme. But if this be an error, it is one on the right side. Besides leaving out whole songs (the absence of which is nowhere specified), however, the editor has now and then omitted lines and words which are so easily guessed from the asterisks that the effect is rather to draw attention to them and fix them in the mind of the reader. So far, he has committed a mistake:—and the fault applies to at least twenty or thirty places in the course of considerably less than a hundred pages.

The songs are of all kinds, and nearly of all ages. Although Mr. Halliwell tells us on his title-page that they belong to "the seventeenth century," there is no doubt that some of them (not many, we admit) are much older, and were printed in the sixteenth century. For instance, anybody who reads the dialogue between the Husbandman and the Servingman (p. 66) can perceive at once, without any knowledge of the existing broadside, that the language and terms of expression are those of perhaps a hundred years before the date of this 'Loyal Garland.' The same remark will apply to other productions: those which have been printed previously in various shapes are numerous,—a point to which the editor adverts in his very brief Introduction. We are, however, furnished by him with no notes, and with no scrap of information to show when and where any single song has formerly made its appearance,—and not one error of the press is pointed out, nor one various reading afforded. The fault which we find is, therefore, one attaching too often to the editorial doings of Mr. Halliwell,—that too little labour has been bestowed on a volume which really merits a good deal of the pains-taking illustration that he is no doubt qualified to supply.

Of course we cannot pretend here to make

good the deficiency; but we may state in a few words, and with reference to only one celebrated poem, what might have been done.—At p. 16 we meet with a song of six stanzas 'Upon the defacing of Whitehall,'—which is no other than a portion of Martin Parker's famous ballad 'The King enjoys his own again.' No syllable to that effect, however, escapes the editor. Again, in the original copies it consists of no fewer than twelve stanzas,—and the six that are contained in 'The Loyal Garland' are about the six worst of the whole, and are disfigured by sundry errors. Such information as here hinted at is the thing wanted by the reader,—and there are comparatively few pieces in the collection on which something interesting might not have been said if Mr. Halliwell had been a little more communicative.—Still, we are obliged to him for what he has furnished as specimens of the love, loyalty, and jollity of a former age:—we only show in what way he might have increased the obligation. This little work is in entire accordance with the purposes for which the Percy Society was established; but, with the aids which the Council may command, we regret that what in this instance they have given to their subscribers is a mere reprint, without any effort to communicate to it that value in the shape of historical and critical illustration which is much required, and should be expected from them.

*Letter to Sir Robert H. Inglis, Bart., in reply to his Speech on University Reform.* By the Rev. C. A. Row. Ridgway.

*A practical Question about Oxford considered, in a Letter to the Right Hon. W. E. Gladstone.* By the Rev. D. Melville. Parker.

Now that the University Commissioners are named by the Crown, we may expect pamphlets and articles to multiply on the subject of abuses and reforms. Having laid our own views fully before the reader, we shall have little inclination to renew the discussion until a Report shall be made on authority, except in the case of publications of more than ordinary interest and importance coming before us. Such are the two works placed at the head of this article. Both issue from the pens of men well acquainted with the subject,—and who, although differing in their manner of stating the great questions at stake, arrive at precisely similar conclusions.

Mr. Row's pamphlet is a lucid and well-reasoned reply to the defence of the Universities—especially of Oxford—set up by Sir Robert Inglis in the House of Commons:—Mr. Melville confines himself to the one great feature of the expense of a college education.—To those who raise the primary objection, that whatever be the merits or defects of our University system, no power external to the corporations themselves has any right to interfere with them, the answer has been given in our columns—and it is here repeated by Mr. Row. The State has interfered with them already in the most formal and positive manner:—even ventured to transfer them from the original holders in the Papal period, and in defiance alike of statutes and founders' wills changed the whole system of doctrines taught in them. That the inquiry now about to be entered into was needed, has been shown again and again, and with great variety of illustration, by ourselves and others. The exclusiveness, the tests, the expense of education, the system of awarding degrees as certificates of age instead of marking by them scientific knowledge or literary acquirements,—all these points cry out loudly, as we have established and Mr. Row proves, for exposure and reform. The Universities belong to the people of England, and every man born on the soil has a claim to share in the advantages which they offer. As a

matter of strict historical title, the men who now close the academic gates on one half of their fellow-citizens have no right even to a place within them; but setting this aside as an argument of no practical value in the nineteenth century, it nevertheless seems monstrous that the English Catholic should be denied the solaces of learning in institutions founded and endowed expressly for him by the piety and liberality of his ancestors. The time demands a wiser policy if not greater charity in these social arrangements,—and the day must come when dogmatic tests will cease to exclude conscientious Englishmen from their native Universities. On this point some strong facts will come under the notice of the Royal Commissioners.

The expense of education is one of the chief subjects to which the attention of the inquirers should be directed. The Master of Pembroke—one of the best and cheapest colleges in Oxford—is a guarantee that all plans and suggestions bearing on this question of expense will receive careful consideration. Mr. Melville, "of Brazenose," proposes a scheme by which the expenses of the student could be fixed as low as 60*l.* a-year. According to his plan, each undergraduate would have one furnished apartment, constructed with a bed in a recess, for his private use. Besides the Common Hall as at present, there would be a commodious reading-room. All meals would be taken in common; supper or wine parties to be strictly forbidden. Mr. Melville calculates the expenses as follows:—rent of rooms, including service, coals and appointments, 18*l.* 18*s.* a-year; board, for twenty-seven weeks (the academic year) at 18*s.* a-week, 24*l.* 6*s.*; tuition fees, 16*l.* 16*s.*:—making altogether just 60*l.* Mr. Melville assures us that these payments, in halls of sixty men each, would not only meet all current demands, but would leave a margin large enough to discharge the interest of, and in a few years pay off, a loan sufficient to build (if need be) and start the establishment, without aid from alien sources.—Mr. Row names about 70*l.* as a fair yearly outlay under a reformed system; and as Mr. Melville excludes washing and the cost of taking a degree from his calculation, there is little or no difference between the two estimates. How many thousands in the middle ranks would be glad to send their sons to Oxford on such terms! Sir Robert Inglis declared in Parliament that some of the colleges of his University were much frequented by the middle classes:—he should remember that in both our national Universities there are barely 3,000 students,—a number quite insignificant compared with the population, and not equal to the number of persons who bear titles and occupy seats in the legislature. The special case referred to was Pembroke;—but the University member omitted to inform the house that this college will not accommodate quite 100 students altogether. A decisive proof that the public are anxious to avail themselves of the facilities offered by even partially-reformed colleges is, the fact stated by Mr. Row,—that the better and cheaper of them are already filled to overflowing, and that a youth must have his name on the register for years before entering. Sir Robert Inglis reasons like most other defenders of ancient abuse. Those among us who argue that our political constitution is perfect because under it Nelson beat the French and Arkwright invented the spinning jenny, are equally logical with the champion of the University who refuses to touch the old rules and statutes because a few great men have been produced under their rule. The illustration is unfortunately chosen, too; for if the abuses complained of are to take credit for the score of great writers and statesmen sent out from Oxford, they must of course be



held responsible for the ten thousand blockheads whom also it has produced. But we will not be so hard on a very unreasonable orator as to quote against him the consequences of his own theory; Oxford has little more to do with the genius or dulness of its scholars than Magna Charta and the Bill of Rights have to do with Masson mill and the Battle of Trafalgar.

We cordially recommend both these pamphlets to the attention of our readers.

*A Pilgrimage to the Land of my Fathers.* By the Rev. Moses Margoliouth. 2 vols. Bentley.

THIS book consists of a number of letters written by a converted Polish Jew, a clergyman of the Church of England, to various of his friends and patrons—including the Archbishops of Canterbury, York, and Dublin, Lord Palmerston, Lord Lindsay, Sir Thomas Baring, Dr. Neander, &c. &c.—during a tour to the Holy Land in 1847-8. The purpose for which the journey was undertaken is not distinctly stated; and we are left to suppose that what prompted the author was partly the natural desire which every Jew feels to visit once in his life the country of his fathers, and partly a kind of missionary zeal to make himself acquainted with the ecclesiastical condition of the Jewish communities all along the line of route between London and Jerusalem. The author's point of view is that of a Jewish Protestant officially connected with the Church of England,—interested as a Jew in all that pertains to the Jews—but more especially interested, by virtue of his character as a Jewish Christian of the English Church, in the prospects of the Jews with reference to Protestant Christianity. It is chiefly, therefore, such readers as are members of Jewish mission Societies who will find the book quite to their taste. There is, however, a considerable amount of information and gossip in it, calculated to recommend it even to readers whose activity does not take that direction.

Mr. Margoliouth gives us more of the pilgrimage to the land of his fathers than of the land itself,—for he does not get there till towards the latter half of the second volume. The letters which compose the first volume and the greater part of the second consist of loose jottings of what the author saw and heard at the principal places along his line of route:—i.e., at Paris, at Metz, at Orleans, at Lyons, at Marseilles, at Leghorn, at Malta, at Tunis, at Constantinople, at Smyrna, and at Cyprus. Paris, Marseilles, Malta, Tunis, and Constantinople are the places most largely treated of. Paris Mr. Margoliouth regards as the spot where a scholar may find the greatest facilities for the pursuit of all the branches of Oriental learning. Speaking of the *Ecole des Langues Orientales vivantes*, he says:—

"Ten professors are attached to this establishment, and lectures given publicly and *gratuitously* on the following languages: pure and vulgar Arabic, Persian, Turkish, Armenian, modern Greek and Greek palæography. Hindostanee, Thibetani, vulgar Chinese, Malay, and Javanese. Till similar institutions are established in the city of London, I would certainly recommend to all those who contemplate a pilgrimage to the East, to go first for a couple of months to Paris, and attend the lectures in the above institutions. They will be found of invaluable service."

The number of Jews in Paris Mr. Margoliouth estimates at 13,000,—almost universally the descendants, he says, either of Spanish or of Polish Jews; some of them very rich, others very poor, but the majority in highly comfortable circumstances. Religion "is at a low ebb" among the Parisian Jews,—most of them being, specu-

latively at least, "infidels." There are, he reckons, in and near the city about 350 families of Christian Jews; most of these are extremely wealthy, and most of them try to conceal the fact of their Hebrew descent. In England, too, some of these Christian Jews of Paris told him, there are about 100 very wealthy and accomplished families of Hebrew Christians (he was furnished with a list of them, and entered it in his note book) who in a similar way keep their pedigree a secret.

One of the most interesting passages in the book is an account given, in a letter written by the author from Marseilles, of two antique blocks of stone bearing Phœnician inscriptions, which he found attracting attention in that city. The two blocks, which are of considerable size,—the largest measuring forty-five feet in length, thirty-five feet in width, and ten feet in thickness—had been excavated from the site of an old house; and, having been recognized as relics of the ancient Phœnician era of the history of the town, had been taken charge of by the civic authorities. Several dissertations on them had been published; and casts having been taken of the inscriptions, attempts had been made to decipher them by more than one scholar. Carefully examining the inscriptions for himself, the author ascertained that they were, as had been already concluded, a record of the laws of sacrifice established by the Phœnicians of Marseilles for the regulation of one of the temples. He made a translation,—which is given in these volumes.

Apropos of Malta, we have a discussion by Mr. Margoliouth of the vexed question whether this or the small island of Meleda in the Adriatic was the scene of St. Paul's shipwreck. He concludes in favour of Malta. We have, in his other letters from Malta, sketches of its history, topographical descriptions of some of its rites, curious specimens of its popular songs with appended translations, and considerations from the author's peculiar point of view relative to its social and ecclesiastical condition.

From Malta the author went to Tunis,—where, and in its neighbourhood, he remained several months. A large part of the work, therefore, embracing half of the first and a considerable portion of the second volume, is devoted to Tunis and Northern Africa. In connexion with this part of Mr. Margoliouth's book we have to note a circumstance likely to occasion misconception. Prefixed to the first volume, by way of vignette, is an odd-looking engraving, representing a gentleman in a cloak and fez, and wearing spectacles, leaning against a colossal piece of sculpture representing a female head. The vignette is entitled "Portrait of the Author, with the marble head of the Empress Theodora, discovered among the ruins of Carthage." Now, the impression regarding the book apt to be produced beforehand by such a vignette so labelled is, that here we have a production resembling in some measure Mr. Layard's book on Nineveh,—a work exhibiting, *inter alia*, the results of original researches on the site of ancient Carthage. The story of the vignette is simply this:—While Mr. Margoliouth was at Tunis, or shortly before, there was dug up on the site of Carthage a colossal female head of white marble; and Mr. Margoliouth going to see this relic, the British Vice-Consul, who accompanied him, and who observed that Mr. Margoliouth and the head were nearly of the same height, took a sketch of him leaning against it. The only claim that Mr. Margoliouth has to be associated with the relic at all, is, that he ventured on a random guess that the head must be that of the Empress Theodora, the wife of Justinian (A.D. 534). There is nothing throughout the book entitling Mr.

Margoliouth to any credit as respects investigation into the antiquities of Carthage. In one of his letters he gives a lively enough summary of Carthaginian history; but his account of his visit to the site of Carthage is, especially after the anticipations raised by the vignette, extremely meagre and disappointing. Here is a specimen.—

"I hinted that I was writing on the site and on the ruins of the ancient temple of Æsculapius. You may be wondering how I know that I am sitting on the identical spot. I have in my portfolio a couple of drawings of this place, a copy of which shall accompany this letter. It has been excavated by Sir Thomas Reade, the British Consul-General for this regency. Among the many Corinthian capitals which were laid bare, there are two of a very different and superior style from the rest; they lie in the foreground of this, and one of which serves me now as a table. These capitals are adorned by entwined snakes. I dare say you are aware that serpents were sacred, in days of yore, to that god of medicine, and you will therefore probably consider that there is slight ground to conclude that the capitals are fragments of a temple dedicated to that deified quack. We also learn from ancient writers that a temple in honour of that deity was erected in Carthage, not far from the shore, and that steps conducted from it to the sea. At present the sea is but within a stone's throw from the entrance into the temple. Many beautiful columns, not very thick, about two feet in diameter, and of red-grained marble, are to be seen on every side, and I am thus convinced that I sit amidst desolated greatness."

Mr. Margoliouth's accounts of Constantinople confirm the impressions of previous tourists, that in that capital of the East Mohammedanism is giving way.—

"It appears to me, from the conversation I had, with different parties of different nations and of different creeds, that Islamism in Turkey is decidedly on the wane. Infidelity takes the place of Mohammedanism. The Sultan seems very partial to the advice of Christian statesmen, and it is rumoured that he contemplates ere long to throw open the sublime porte to their admission as statesmen. The present Sultan does no more swell out his titles to that prodigious amount to which his forefathers have aspired. \* \* He does not attempt either to tame or scourge the infidel and unbelieving race of Christians; and is, moreover, in daily apprehension of a sound flogging from that bear of a Christian, Nicolas; and if it were not for infidel France and the unbelieving race of English Christians, the poor Sultan would be a great deal tamer even than he is at present. All sorts of churches are multiplied. Islamism may be renounced with impunity, and Christians even admitted into mosques."

The author's slight account of what he saw and did after he had actually arrived in "the Land of his Fathers," is perhaps the least interesting part of his book,—and very little information of any kind is to be got out of it. The following advice to intending travellers in Palestine is the only passage that seems worth quoting.—

"Do not attempt to provide yourself with tents, canteens, or even eatables. Do as my friends and myself have done in this our expedition, and you will find the experiment a capital one. We contracted with a couple of Christian Arabs, of good report, to supply us with tents, horses, mules, eatables—breakfast, dinner, supper, &c., for twenty francs per day, individually. So that we had no occasion to trouble ourselves about the little things, which are great annoyances, incident to a pilgrimage of this kind. We drew up a written agreement, and specified most minutely the respective conditions on both sides, even the different dishes we were to have at our different meals. It was furthermore agreed that when we came to a respectable place, such as Baalbeck, Damascus, Nazareth, &c., where an inn exists, that we take up our abode in the hotel for the same fare per day, and for our contractors to settle with the innkeepers. You may travel comfortably for 1*l.* per day in this manner in Palestine."

Altogether, there is much to object to in this book. In the first place, the odds and ends of



real interest that are scattered throughout it might have been presented in a much more compendious form. Then, in a book pretending to learning we do not like to see Latin and Greek quotations almost uniformly misprinted, as they are in these volumes. The English, too, is somewhat helpless; but in one to whom the language is not native, this is to be excused. More displeasing, however, than such defects of literary execution in the book is, a prevailing meanness of view that runs through it. There is no high or generous appreciation even of ecclesiastical matters in it; the author's whole intellectual procedure consisting, as it seems, in an application, wherever he goes, of these three tests:—1. A Jew or not a Jew? 2. If a Jew, a converted Jew or not a converted Jew? 3. If a converted Jew, a Catholic converted Jew or a Protestant converted Jew? Farther, there is a tone of rather offensive vanity in the book,—if not of something worse. How the author puzzled this or that Rabbi with arguments, and came off from a debate with great *éclat*,—what compliments he received from the young ladies, and how they made him blush;—these things, often repeated, may be the effect of innocent *naïveté*,—but they look like something else. Once or twice, too, we found ourselves getting distrustful as we read.—A merit of the book that does much to counteract these faults is, its liveliness of manner. This, conjoined with the circumstance that it does contain scraps of matter of some value, makes it readable. The author seems to like a joke,—and relates a bit of mischief with glee. Perhaps the best thing of this kind in the book is, the story of an English servant who being sent by his mistress—a young lady bent on learning Hebrew—to purchase “all the Hebrew roots” for her, went to the market and bought up the entire stock of Jerusalem artichokes.

*Proceedings of the Zoological Society of London for 1849.* Longman & Co.

HOWEVER anxious we may be to see a union of some of the Societies of the metropolis, we cannot conceal from ourselves that the management of the old or parent associations must undergo a complete change to fit them for such an amalgamation. The Zoological Society—started under the most favourable auspices—had fallen a few years ago into the condition of its older brethren. The gardens drooped,—the museum was closed,—the meetings were dull, prosy and thinly attended. When things were at the worst, a new officer was appointed,—and “hey, presto!” all was changed. The gardens grew into the most fashionable, as well as the most popular, of resorts,—the museum again courted the light of day,—the meetings of the Society were well attended:—and here we have a volume of Proceedings more interesting and better illustrated than the Transactions of half the Societies of Europe. All this has been achieved, not by profound science and zoological lore; but simply by what was wanting where these abounded—common sense. If some of our great philosophers would condescend to the more frequent use of this very vulgar element of success, we are sure that the bodies with which they are connected would have less reason to complain. Why should not the Linnean Society publish Proceedings as interesting as these of the Zoological? Instead of which,—they have not published Transactions at all for three years. We advise Mr. Bennett to take a lesson from Mr. Mitchell,—and see what can be done with the Council of the Linnean. That Society will certainly expire of inanition if the younger associations are thus allowed to go a-head of it.

The volume before us of the Proceedings of the Zoological Society contains the papers—or abstracts of them—read at the evening meetings during the year 1849. The number of plates—some of which are got up in first-rate style—is twenty-seven. Many of the papers are of great value,—and some are of much popular interest. Here we have, in the account of the meeting of the 11th of December, the letter from the Hon. C. A. Murray in which he announces his acquisition for the Society of a live hippopotamus,—with a description of the creature,—followed by a prediction, since fully realized, that the animal “will be the most attractive object ever seen in the garden.” There is a drawing of the youthful prodigy as he presented himself in Cairo,—when he was described as being as “tame and playful as a Newfoundland puppy.” He has somewhat changed in appearance since this portrait was taken. We understand there is a probability of his having a companion soon;—and this not long since almost fabulous creature of the Nile may not impossibly become as domesticated amongst us as the ox and the horse. Mr. Cumming describes his foot as excellent, boiled, for breakfast,—and such a delicacy may yet repay the trouble of introducing and rearing him in this country. Should he hereafter haunt the borders of the Thames, it will not be for the first time. Prof. Owen assures us that the remains of the hippopotamus are very abundant in the London clay.

Some new monkeys, a new goat, a hybrid bull and a rodent occupy the remaining illustrated papers on mammalia in this volume.—Amongst birds, we benefit by the leisure of the ex-vice-president of the Roman Republic. It is not our province to criticize the political career of the Prince of Canino; but if he be as good a legislator as he is a zoologist, Rome has lost even more in his person than zoological science has gained.—Mr. Gould has lately turned his attention to that most beautiful group of animals the humming-birds,—and has described some new ones in this volume. We are sure that we express the wish of thousands when we say, we should like to see a live humming-bird. Now, we put it to Mr. Mitchell whether, having secured a live hippopotamus, he could not engage a live humming-bird? A cage of these elegant creatures would excite as much interest as the young sea-cow itself. Mr. Gosse tells us that he nearly succeeded in bringing some home to England:—a prize of 500*l.*, we will answer for it, would bring a score.—Besides humming-birds, Mr. Gould has described and given a plate of a winged creature from Australia which he says “must be placed in the first rank of the many beautiful birds” inhabiting that country. He has dedicated it to the Queen by the name of *Ptiloris Victoria*.

From birds, we descend to reptiles.—Lieut. Tyler has furnished a very interesting paper on the serpents of St. Lucia. We confess that, whilst reading Lieut. Tyler's account we inwardly rejoiced that we were not obliged to live in St. Lucia. The population is, we believe, not large; yet he says that twenty persons die annually from the bites of serpents,—and that not more die of those who are bitten than one in twenty. A serpent called the rat-tail is the source of most of this mischief. He is a horrid fellow,—five or six feet in length; differing from the rattlesnake as a new policeman does from an old watchman—principally in not having a rattle. It is a comfort to be informed that this creature has an enemy in one of its own race, the cilibro. This serpent is itself venomous; but boldly attacks the rat-tail,—whose poison has no influence on its system. A fight often ensues,—but the cilibro, though smaller than

its enemy, generally manages to make a meal of him by swallowing him head first.

From reptiles, we pass on to fish:—and here Mr. J. E. Gray—the greatest authority living on animal curiosities—gives a full account of the sea serpent discovered in the Cosmorama Rooms, Regent Street, last summer. This creature was of course not a serpent, but a fish:—a long fish, a rare fish, and unfortunately a dead fish, but nevertheless very interesting to ichthyologists. In describing it at the time, we called it a *Gymnetrus*—but Mr. Gray says it is a *Regalecus*. Several specimens, it appears, have from time to time been seen on our coasts.

The papers in this volume are not confined to the higher animals:—there are a number, with illustrations, on various forms of invertebrata. Among these the mollusca are most numerous. The collection of Mr. Cumming supplies an inexhaustible source of these creatures,—a large number of which have been described in the present work by Messrs. Gray, Reeve and Adams. It is somewhat consoling to find that if the Government of this country will not devote money for the purchase of this collection, we have naturalists who devote their time to describing the treasures contained in Mr. Cumming's cabinets. The naturalists of England will have the honour of describing these previously unknown forms of animal life even if our Government should allow the originals to be sold to a foreign country.—The announcement of insects by Mr. Westwood and corals by Mr. M'Andrew must close our notice of this volume:—but a word or two more on the Society.

One of the objects of this Society is, to exhibit living specimens of rare animals. Why should they not have invertebrate as well as vertebrate animals,—those that live in the water as well as those that live in the air? Glass is cheap:—why should they not have a collection of fishes and marine animals? If the people at the Polytechnic can keep a *Gymnotus* for the admiration of their company, surely the Zoological Society may do the same. They have reptiles:—why should they not have star-fishes, sea eggs, and sea cucumbers? They have a hippopotamus:—why should they not have a whale,—or at least a porpoise, or a dolphin? It is idle to talk of difficulties:—the sea cow is an answer to all such arguments. Cost what it might, it has repaid them! Sea water may be got every day from the sea, at a trifling expense,—even if the company for bringing sea-water into London should not succeed.

One other point,—and we have done. Why do not the Society have lectures in their Gardens? They have tried a military band,—and it has answered. Let them try a band of lecturers,—we are convinced that the public would appreciate this. The Zoological Society has the power not only to advance science, but to confer a great social benefit,—and we hope they will not forego the opportunities of increased usefulness which are now open before them. Already they have done wonders,—and there is no place of recreation in London that combines so much of amusement and instruction as their Gardens. They have had a brilliant season,—and the path to a brilliant future lies clear before them.

NEW NOVELS.

*The Luttrells; or, the Two Marriages.* By Folkestone Williams, Esq., Author of ‘Shakespeare and his Friends,’ ‘Maids of Honour,’ &c. &c. 3 vols. Colburn.

*The Double Oath; or, the Rendezvous.* By the Baroness de Calabrella, Author of ‘The Tempter and the Tempted.’ 3 vols. Bentley.

WE may here say that a recent novel or two have been quietly allowed by us to pass into



the world of waste paper,—because they were so very remarkable for mediocrity, if that be not a contradiction in terms, that the reader has only to imagine the poorest, most insipid composition within his recollection, and satisfy his mind that the tales dismissed were some degrees more meagre and tasteless than that. It would not have served any good purpose to point out how bad beginnings led into bad middles and came to bad ends. Let the tales in question rest in peace!

But over histories and mysteries by well-known and approved hands silence is not permitted, even to the most charitable. The first of the works before us is at once a surprise and a disappointment. Some years ago we had pleasure in commending the Shakespeare novels of Mr. Folkestone Williams. His 'Maids of Honour' we thought more tedious and less happy,—still not without merit; but from that novel to 'The Luttrells' the descent is long and abrupt. The latter work exhibits one of the most extravagant arrangements of extravagant incidents that we recollect to have encountered. The tragedy of rivalry betwixt father and son was pathetically, musically, poetically told in 'Mirandola'; the horrors of antipathy betwixt men so near of kin were displayed outrageously enough in 'Miserrimus',—to the outrageousness of which we the more freely allude by way of illustration, seeing that its author is no longer within reach of pain from mortal censure. Thus, the only originality in this story, is the courage displayed in once again venturing to handle one of the most unlovely inventions that nightmare ever suggested to the melodramatist straining after horror. Mr. Williams's vein is the gentle and the quaint; and accordingly he seems to have been at a loss how effectively to stir the

Eye of newt and toe of frog,

so as to

Make the gruel thick and slab,

and withal a brewage that persons objecting to rank poison may drink without peril. Between his subject and his conscience, his tale has suffered some injury. Intending to be terrible, he has reached only the negative point of disagreeableness; desirous of reconciling everything, and conciliating everybody, he has brought about his catastrophe by explanations so forced that no power of belief can accept them. How Mr. Luttrell No. 1 and Mr. Luttrell No. 2 married the same farmer's daughter,—how No. 1 knocked No. 2 down, and was subsequently murdered,—how No. 2, accused of the crime, and disappearing on the occasion, was credited with having committed suicide,—how Mr. Luttrell No. 3, thought by No. 2 to be the son of No. 1, and met by No. 2 in single combat, turned out to be the son of said No. 2,—and how after all this Nos. 2 and 3 went out from India (in which land No. 2 had hidden himself) lovingly together, "and lived happy ever after,"—we will not discuss.—Will any one esteem us unreasonable for earnestly wishing that Mr. Folkestone Williams may in any future novels return to his own ground of gentle antiquarianism, if the alternative is to be such a monstrosity as this?

We have less to say concerning 'The Double Oath' of the Baroness de Calabrella. In one main incident—that of a young lady sacrificing herself to preserve a friend's secret—her invention has been forestalled by Miss Edgeworth, in that lady's excellent and highly-finished novel of 'Helen.' But there are other truths illustrated, and characters drawn, and humours touched in 'The Double Oath.' Once again, the poor very rich lady who tries for fashionable distinction is exhibited with satirical intentions,—the authoress forgetting that the con-

tempt should lie on the world, whose vulgar acceptance of any one capable of buying a position encourages such gross and silly pretension. Then, there is the passionate Italian singing-master, who sings and is passionate in more romances than private families. Something we know of the class,—but never caught amongst them even "a waving of the gown" of any sublime and vengeful creature such as the Signor Torsini here pictured. In brief, the Baroness de Calabrella has used the novelist's stock in trade rather than materials by herself collected. She writes of men, women and society in a spirit meaning to be kind and sensible,—but the meaning is not borne out by the execution of her 'Double Oath.'

*Instinct and Reason: deduced from Electro-Biology.* By Alfred Smee, F.R.S. Reeve & Co.

THE name of Mr. Smee is well known to the cultivators of the science of electricity. He is the inventor of a convenient and elegant voltaic battery; and his experiments on the physical process of nervous excitation are curious and ingenious,—and may lead to important discoveries in physiology. Perhaps those discoveries may ultimately result in accessions to our knowledge of purely mental processes. Very striking analogies are often observed in the laws which regulate different departments of nature. The facts of one science suggest the facts of another; and it is not impossible that the operations of body and mind may be so far connected by general resemblances that phenomena of the former, in a more advanced state of knowledge, may sometimes put us on the track of corresponding phenomena of the latter,—and that mental science may be thus indirectly improved and extended.

But results of this character, we are disposed to think, will scarcely be realized by experiments, assumptions, and speculations like those detailed in the book before us. We give the author credit for his powers of patient observation and ingeniously devised experiment; he is evidently a man with a taste for scientific pursuits. But these qualities are not sufficient for the investigation and establishment of a theory of mind. Mr. Smee may, we think, with honour to himself and with benefit to society, continue to employ his talents in the cultivation of *practical* science. The report of his observations will be received with respect and attention,—his attempts at theorizing will probably meet with less success. In our opinion, the speculative part of the book before us is a failure.

It is difficult to explain the inconsistency of the moves of an indifferent player at chess; and to state plainly and concisely what Mr. Smee's theory here presented really is, and then to point out its deficiencies, is a task similar in kind. It is not always easy,—indeed, it is at times nearly impossible,—to detect Mr. Smee's exact meaning. In an essay on so slippery a subject as the connexion between mind and matter,—wherein every single word *tells*,—lucid method and logical expression are indispensable. Mr. Smee fails in logic, and is unable to accomplish method. His work is a singular aggregation of materials apposite and inapposite,—drawn from the most varied sources, and often commingled with a quaint and grotesque incongruity quite amusing. Among these sources, Mr. Smee's former work on *Electro-biology* [see *Athen.* No. 1122] is laid under heavy contribution. Indeed, the most important portions of the present treatise seem so much like a repetition of what scientific readers already possessed in Mr. Smee's former work, that their republication was scarcely expedient. We see no reason for altering the judgment which we

formerly expressed respecting the merits of the writer's theory. The difficulties which we then pointed out are not removed by either the objections or the anecdotes introduced into the present volume. The chasm which separates mind from matter is not arched over by the discoveries of Mr. Smee. The same train of thought, the same theory of mind, and, we must add, the same confusion of ideas and misunderstanding of the real problem to be solved, the same inadequacy of expression, are apparent in both treatises:—so that the latter treatise is, in effect, a new book made with old contents.

As some of our readers may feel interested in learning more precisely what the electro-biological theory of Mr. Smee really is, we will endeavour to present them with a sketch of the views of that gentleman, patiently and painfully collected and condensed from his works.

Life and mind, Mr. Smee urges, have no existence apart from organization: sensation, memory, volition, judgment, and other operations of the kind usually characterized as mental, are nothing but functions of the nervous system. The more complicated the process of any mental operation, the higher or more complex the organization of the portion of the nervous system by which such function or operation is performed. The mechanism of the nervous system is entirely voltaic: the vascular tissue of any organ under excitement, the motor and the sensor nerves connecting that organ with the brain, and, lastly, the brain itself, together form a double series of voltaic batteries: and these batteries are in a state of action during the continuance of any mental operation appertaining to the organ. All mental phenomena, no matter of what kind, whether simple or complex, from the opening of the shell of an oyster to the discovery of the planet Neptune or the conception of Mr. Smee's theory, may therefore be resolved into the passage of a current of electricity through one or more portions of the nervous system; and, to quote our author's own words, "lightning and thought are the results of the same force acting under different circumstances." The nature or the character, however, of what are usually called mental manifestations depends on the number and the complexity of the nervous fibrils excited in any particular instance. Thus, the excitation of a few fibrils simply arranged produces sensation, or the first degree of mental manifestation; the excitation of a greater number of fibrils, differently situated in the nervous system and arranged with greater complexity, produces, say, imagination; a still higher degree of organization produces judgment:—and so on successively through the mental operations until we arrive at ratiocination, which is the product or attribute of the greatest number of fibrils arranged with the highest degree of complexity. Passing over the metaphysical or logical distinctions between the mental faculties,—all these phenomena of animal life are thus resolved into *functions* of a less or greater development of nervous organization, and accordingly, we must seek to distinguish satisfactorily the limitations of these several faculties by the attentive study of comparative neurology,—we must ascend from the body to the mind, from the substance to the attribute. The nervous mechanism requisite for simple sensation and consequent muscular movement on the part of the animal, would appear to demand only the excitation of *one* pair of voltaic batteries; and in animals which simply feel and move, the nervous system *ought to be* nothing but a series of such simple batteries. In animals capable of imagination the nervous system will be found to be different. In the exercise of such a faculty, not only does a



first pair of batteries act, but such action probably induces activity in a second pair of batteries situated somewhere in the brain; and from the combined action of the four pairs of batteries, or from the sole activity of the second pair thus excited, may result the animal function called imagination. By multiplying the number of our pairs of batteries, and by exalting the stages of their activity, we thus get a remarkably lucid and intelligible explanation of the various orders of mental phenomena. Certain batteries, of course, will be discovered in the human brain which do not exist, or exist only in the rudimentary state, in the brain of the lower animals. Again—as a voltaic current is always found to produce some permanent modification in the composition of the fluid in the cells of a battery, so does the occurrence of any mental operation (which, if we do not misunderstand Mr. Smee, is identical with the passage of such a current,) produce an analogous change in the brain; and thus the chemical properties of the brain become permanently altered by every such occurrence, and an “impression” corresponding to every mental operation is indelibly “registered” in the brain. This theory of “impressions” is Mr. Smee’s explanation of the phenomena of memory.

The above will give our readers a sufficient notion of the nature of Mr. Smee’s hypothesis.

*Handbook for Travellers in Devon and Cornwall; with Maps.* Murray.

It is a good service done by Mr. Murray to the travelling public of England—who now rush from home by thousands where tens used to go forth demurely—to have produced for its guidance and comfort a Red Book embracing the counties of Devon and Cornwall. Few districts within our island are richer than these in objects of peculiar interest. The latter county in particular has a physiognomy and a local colour entirely distinct from those of any other shire in the domains of Her Majesty. There is wildness without savagery in it:—a mixture of stern rock and rich genial vegetation such as is to be found in no more northern latitude. Even its moors and hill-lands at this time of year glow so resplendently with the purple of heath and the deep gold of furze as to lose their dreariness; while the pilgrim can hardly diverge a mile from any of the great roads led across the rock-ridges which articulate the skeleton of the county without diving into some warm sheltered valley, with its quaint farm-houses and its picturesque church, and its old trees rich in foliage, and its bright stream hurrying down to the sea. Then, there is the striking scenery on the shores of the ocean:—the mine of Botallack, where the miner works with the ocean roaring over his head,—the picturesque Mount of St. Michael with its castle,—the headland with the ruin of Tintagel, where King Arthur held his court,—and many a labyrinth of less famous coves and caves and *keives*, well worth a summer day’s loitering,—not to forget the two churches,—“the lost church” at Perranzabuloe, and the one near Padstow, half buried in the sand,—the latter about as striking a central object for a gentle scene of desolation as we have ever seen. There are old houses, each in itself a curiosity even were it not stuffed full of legends, many of which even now are one-half believed by its present occupants, who tell them to the less credulous stranger,—as Mr. Carne and Mrs. Bray will warrant us in asserting. Then, the people have characteristics of their own; whether we deal with the mining population, with their curious under-ground knowledge and under-ground trickery,—or with the fishers and farmers on the coast, who may be seen liveried in one colour when the season has been lucky in wrecks,—

as, for instance, after the loss of the Samaritan, which clad all the children for many a mile round St. Minver in the brightest of bright yellow cotton for a good eighteen months.—The very saints of Cornwall are special. They have the oddest of odd names,—such as

seek through the world are not met with elsewhere;—to wit, St. Eneodoc, St. Wenn, St. Kew, St. Ives, St. Izzy, St. Tudy, St. Breock, St. Mawgan, St. Minver, St. Mabyn,—and half a score besides equally euphonious.

It would be impossible in a few hasty paragraphs to run through a tithe of the claims which the extreme western counties possess on those who in travelling seek what is peculiar and characteristic. Suffice it to add, that while this Handbook is agreeably compiled, it has hardly been completed with the care which distinguishes Mr. Murray’s Continental guides. The editor is often needlessly vague, sometimes capriciously silent. To instance:—when Place House above Fowey, and the singularly directed energy of its late owner, Mr. Treffry, were mentioned, a more precise account should have been given of the curious porphyry hall built by Mr. Treffry without any apparent possibility of its being on a future day connected with the mansion.—If the vale of Mawgan, again, was to be specified, how is it that we have not a word of Llanherne, erst an old manor-house of the Arundels, and now a nunnery of the most hermetical seclusion?—It is sufficient, however, to call attention to this slackness of hand:—since in future editions it will be easy to give the outlines which this Red Book contains a richer filling-up than they at present possess, if we are to judge from the passages of which personal knowledge enables us to speak.

OUR LIBRARY TABLE.

*Dilston Hall; or, Memoirs of the Right Hon. James Radcliffe, Earl of Derwentwater, a Martyr in the Rebellion of 1715. To which is added, a Visit to Bamburgh Castle: with an account of Lord Crewe’s Charities, a Memoir of the noble Founder, &c. &c.* By William Sidney Gibson.—The designation above cited of the last Earl of Derwentwater will prepare the reader for a thoroughly Jacobite memoir of one of the most gracious figures belonging to modern historical romance. Courteous, brave, amiable, devoted by his faithful and fanatic loyalty to one of the weakest and most ungrateful princes for whom the blood of true men was ever poured out,—a tender and chivalrous interest will always attach to the name and to the fate of the Earl of Derwentwater, whatever be the politics of the historian or of his reader. The enthusiasm, however, of the author before us is almost feverish for everything bearing the name of Stuart. He is no less fervently afflicted by the evil doings of “the dark ages of Puritanism, Poes and Plaster;” never reining in his zeal to inquire how much of the Ironside ferocity was the inevitable consequence of the falsity of the race which he so reverently deifies. But Mr. Gibson’s views would not have prevented this volume from being considered as a welcome addition to those stores of our English local family history, which are so useful as materials, so interesting as separate studies,—were his style less high sentimental than it is. There are not many new facts. The well-known incidents of the campaign, the trial, the sentence, and the execution of the rebel Lord, have the pathos of one of the ancient ballad stories, to which we are never tired of listening;—but here we have the old ballad pranked out almost as tawdrily as if it had been done in the school of Della Crusca.

*Heligoland; or, Reminiscences of Childhood: a genuine Narrative of Facts.* By an Officer’s Daughter; edited by Mrs. C. W.—This title is calculated to mislead the reader; since we find only a prefatory chapter devoted to the strange bleak spot at the mouth of the Elbe which gives its name to the book,—while the body of the narrative is devoted to the adventures of two very young orphan

children, suddenly deprived of both parents, and tells how they made their way home to London, through England, and across the Channel to their relations in Dublin. This is not well told. There is doubtless much in such reminiscences to stir the sympathies and to quicken devotional feeling. But the author has not learned the virtue of economy,—and with the best intentions, is so profuse in the employment of her peculiar phraseology as to produce an effect the reverse of her intention.

*Transactions of the Kilkenny Archaeological Society for the Year 1849.*—This meritorious association was formed only, as we learn from the report, at the close of 1848;—and the work before us contains its proceedings during its first year. We are glad to be able to speak very favourably of them; and we wish that in all parts of the empire similar Societies were established for the discovery and preservation of antiquities belonging to the respective neighbourhoods. Supposing such local associations to be formed, we know not why they should not correspond with the Society of Antiquaries of London; which, as our readers are aware, already exists under the sanction of a royal charter, and has for more than a century devoted its attention to the subjects in which all such bodies are interested. Thus, in time, an accumulation of objects and information of great interest would take place,—and it would be known at the centre what monuments of a former period have been anywhere brought to light, and how far they accord with similar discoveries in other districts of the country. There are many such local associations in England; and we are apprehensive that useful knowledge may sometimes be lost, or only imperfectly employed, because they have no direct connexion with the parent society in the metropolis. This Society annually devotes large sums to the promulgation of intelligence relating to the institutions, structures and habits of our forefathers. We strongly recommend the Society of Antiquaries of London to open a correspondence for this purpose with all the local bodies in England, Scotland and Ireland. The production in our hands shows that very able assistance may be rendered in the sister kingdom,—and the list of subscribers appended indicates that in Kilkenny there is no lack of zeal in the matter. The topics discussed are important and curious. It has been long known that no portion of the British empire contains more to animate and reward the antiquary than Ireland. The stone engravings illustrative of the subjects in this volume are very good. This style of Art affords cheap facilities quite unknown some twenty or thirty years ago.

*The Screw Fleet of the Navy.* By E. P. Halsted, Capt. R.N.—This treatise, which is dedicated to the First Lord of the Admiralty, has for its object the improvement of our steam navy. Capt. Halsted has plainly shown that our ill-looking armed steamers, black and ugly with their ball-proof paddle boxes, might be superseded by a handsome race of frigates which should be perfect sailing ships—to whose “white wings” the auxiliary screw-propeller might be applied with the utmost advantage. We think, from having examined and admired many individuals of the beautiful screw fleet on the Mersey, that the advantages are, as Capt. Halsted has pointed out, too obvious to be long neglected even by the supine rulers of our naval architecture. These advantages are, as stated, “the absence of all impediment to the traditional full-armed broadside; the ship herself a fully-furnished and independent sailing ship; the economy of using sail-power or steam-power, at option; the employment of machinery entirely protected from shot.”

*The Manufacture of Iron, in all its various branches.* By Frederick Overman.—Mr. Overman is a mining engineer in Philadelphia; but he has availed himself of the practical experience of the great iron works of the old continent in this publication for the manufacturers of America. It is impossible to give anything like a digest of a work like this,—which, its author says, “has been written with a special regard to practical utility.” All the varieties of iron ore,—particularly such as occur in America—are accurately described; the various modes of reduction in all parts of the world are detailed, and the characters of the furnaces employed given,—the latter being illustrated by woodcuts; and the whole



process of producing marketable iron, and its conversion into steel, finds place in this volume. The book contains, accordingly, a very large amount of the most valuable information, given, as far as the subject would admit, in a style at once clear and free from the dulness which too frequently characterizes works devoted to the science of manufactures.

*Figures and Descriptions illustrative of British Organic Remains.* Decade 3.—This publication forms a portion of the Memoirs of the Geological Survey of Great Britain. The intention is, to publish with all the rapidity possible a series of decades in which the more remarkable British fossils will be figured and described. The materials for this work are naturally furnished during the progress of the great work of the survey,—and from the extreme care taken in the drawings of the figures and the delicate and exact character of the engravings, these plates will eventually form a very beautiful and valuable collection. Examples of these organic remains will be found in the collections of the Museum of Practical Geology:—which will in a short time be open to the public.

*Sacred Streams: the Ancient and Modern History of the Rivers of the Bible.* By P. H. Gosse.—A compilation, with little or no pretension to scholarship, got up for the use of Sunday school teachers and others, and enriched by a number of pretty but fanciful, rather than authentic, illustrations of famous sites and scenes in Hebrew history.

*The Pope: considered in his Relations with the Church, Temporal Sovereigns, Separated Churches, and the cause of Civilization.* By Joseph Count de Maistre. Translated by the Rev. Aeneas Mac D. Dawson.—The Count de Maistre, of voluminous rather than luminous memory, published the original of this work—as most of our readers know—while ambassador at the Court of St. Petersburg; where his knowledge of Slavic idioms enabled him to enrich it with extracts from the little-known ritual-books of the Greek and Russian churches. To many controversialists this circumstance gave the book a value to which its own merits do not entitle it. Though well known to the few interested in religious polemics, it has never before been deemed worthy of the honours of an English dress. The Count's chief aim was to establish the doctrine of the Pope's individual infallibility—contrary to the ideas, maintained with rare learning and critical acumen, of the greater French divines, such as Bossuet and Fleury. But his reasoning is as weak as his assumptions are startling. It is of no use that Bossuet shows that this monstrous pretension was first broached at the Council of Florence,—and that Fleury traces the authorship of it to the Dominican Cajetan, in the time of Julius II. The Count de Maistre persists in believing it to have been admitted long before it was heard of:—observing at the same time, with great simplicity, that the good Catholic "believes without discussion."—The historical proof being confessedly in this condition, one may safely pass over in silence all the arguments drawn from "charity" and metaphysics.

*An Analysis and Summary of Old Testament History and the Law of Moses.* By the Author of 'An Outline and Summary of Herodotus.'—This analysis is carried out on the same principle as that of the History of Herodotus described in a former number of the *Athenæum*, and the result is, an abbreviation of Jewish history as found in the old Scriptures, which cannot fail to be useful to a large class of students. We should be glad to see such writers as Polybius, Livy and Dion translated into this compendious form. The arrangement throws the digressions and episodes of story into separate divisions, and enables the reader to pursue the main thread of events or turn aside into the bye-ways of the historian at his option. We must add, that numerous tables of coins, summaries of events, analyses of law systems, and other important matters are appended,—as well as occasional foot-notes, containing the more ordinary comments in elucidation of the Hebrew texts.

*The Modern Linguist; or, Conversations in English and French.—The Modern Linguist; or, Conversations in English and German.—The Modern Linguist; or, Conversations in English, French, and German.* By A. Bartells.—The titles of these books sufficiently explain their nature. We have only to

add, that the English is the same in each, and the last contains the French and German which are found separately in the two former. The sentences are well chosen, and include modern terms relating to steam-boats, railways, &c.;—but we cannot say that they are always well translated.

*The Drainage Engineer and General Land Improver.* By John Linehan, C.E.—Since all our useful plants require a dry and warm soil to insure a timely germination of the seed, and to promote their growth and maturity, careful drainage is to the agriculturist a subject of the first importance. This is pretty generally recognized now; and there are few farmers who leave their lands undrained, excepting those whose poverty impedes the progress of improvement.—To all who are interested in the matter of agricultural drainage this publication will prove of interest. It is evidently the work of a practical man who has been long directing works of the nature of those of which he treats. The author has brought his experience to aid the experiments and observations of others, and has constructed a series of rules and arranged a system of working so as to obtain the best results at the smallest cost.—The work is illustrated by some explanatory engravings, which will materially assist in conveying a correct knowledge of the author's views.

*A Memoir on the Roman Garrison at Mancunium: and its probable Influence on the Population and Language of South Lancashire.* By James Black, M.D.—Having been struck, while in South Lancashire, with the singular physical organization of the Lancashire witch and the man of Heaton, as well as with certain peculiarities of dialect, Dr. Black began a series of investigations into their historic causes. These have ended in convincing him that they may be traced to the presence of the Roman cohorts in early times:—it being well known that many of the legionaries brought over with them their wives and children, and settled in the land they were sent to hold in subjection. They were not, however, Romans, but Frisians.—The theory has at least a semblance of probability.

*On the Strength of Materials; containing various original and useful Formule specially applied to Tubular Bridges, wrought-iron and cast-iron Beams, &c.* By Thomas Tate.—This book is so purely technical that we can do no more than direct attention to it. Mr. Tate is already well known by several very useful works on mechanics and surveying,—and in the mathematical investigation of the cohesive powers of iron beams and rectangular cells he displays his usual ability. To the practical engineer this book will be valuable as furnishing general formulæ:—at the same time we must confess we should feel disposed to rely more confidently on the deductions of experiment than on the theoretical proof afforded by the most rigid mathematical investigation. Mr. Tate, however, pays a well merited compliment to the experiments of Messrs. Stephenson, Fairbairn and Hodgkinson that led to the perfection of the Tubular Bridges of the Conway and Menai Straits.

*A Word in Season; or, What next for Ireland? Containing Mr. O'Connell's Repeal Agitation:—Nationality:—A New Political System for Ireland:—Political Associations:—Summary:—General Hints for Irish Legislation.*—There is some truth mixed up with a great deal of bitterness in the observations contained in this brochure. The writer is evidently an Irishman: he looks on a repeal of the Union—the meeting of a domestic parliament in Dublin—as a thing desirable in itself, but unattainable. Experience has taught him the vanity of hoping to extort by force the consent of England to the separate "nationality": and, like many disappointed patriots, he has come to regard the "mob" with feelings of almost vindictive contempt. The same mob, he says, who hounded the "young Irishmen" into treason and then abandoned them "would have assembled in thousands to see them hanged." Possibly so. "The ungrateful scoundrels are not worth your care," said a negro owner to a celebrated abolitionist, "they are the greatest liars and drunkards,—the idlest and most vicious creatures under heaven."—"Those are the very reasons why I must care for them," replied the other:—a reply conceived in a far-seeing spirit. Because Ireland may not be able to set up as a separate kingdom or republic, it does not follow that nothing

can be done to mitigate those evils which are real and independent of all agitation. Among these, the writer before us wisely counsels an immediate attention to the state of the representation.

#### LIST OF NEW BOOKS.

Ainsworth's Works, Vol. XI. 'Jack Sheppard,' 1s. 6d. bds., 2s. cl.  
Clements's Customs Guide for 1850-51, 12mo. 6s. cl.  
Cooper's (W. D.) History of Winchester, 8vo. 7s. 6d. cl.  
Coppway's (G.) Recollections of Forest Life, 1c. 2s. 6d. cl.  
Coppway's (G.) History of the Ojibway Nation, 1c. 2s. cl.  
Davies's (J.) Life, by Sir T. Phillips, 12mo. 3s. 6d. cl.  
Ewbank's Comment on St. Paul's Epistle to Romans, Vol. I. 8s. 6d.  
Fresenius's (Dr. C. R.) Chemical Analysis, Qualitative, 3rd ed. 9s. cl.  
Hall's (Rev. T. G.) Elements of Algebra, 3rd ed. 12mo. 5s. cl.  
Haslam's (W.) The Cross and the Serpent, 8vo. 5s. cl.  
Howard's (H.) Anatomy and Pathology of the Eye, 8vo. 15s. cl.  
Life of a Vagrant, new ed. 12mo. 1s. cl.  
Light in Darkness, by Mrs. Catherine Crowe, 3 vols. 12. 11s. 6d. cl.  
Lytton's (Sir E. B.) The Pilgrims of the Rhine, new ed. 2s. 6d. cl.  
Mingress's (J.) Treasury Harmony of the Evangelists, 7s. 6d. cl.  
Raphael's Prophetic Messenger for 1851, 12mo. 2s. 6d. swd.  
Rowbotham's (T.) Art of Sketching from Nature, 12mo. 1s. swd.  
Scenes of Civil War in Hungary, 1848-49, 4th ed. cr. 8vo. 7s. 6d. cl.  
Smith's (Seba) New Elements of Geometry, 8vo. 7s. 6d. cl.  
Standard News, Vol. CXX. 'Chamier's Life of a Sailor,' 1c. 3s. 6d.  
Sullivan's Dictionary of Derivations, 5th ed. 1c. 2s. cl.  
Taylor's (Jeremy) Works, by Rev. C. P. Eden, Vol. VIII. 10s. 6d. cl.  
Thackeray's Course's Annual Remembrancer, 1849-50, 8vo. 11. 1s. cl.  
Thelwall's (Rev. A. S.) The Heidelberg Catechism, 12mo. 1s. cl. swd.  
Thelwall's Exercises in Elocution, in Verse and Prose, 8s. 6d. cl.  
Ungewitter's Manual of Geography and History of Europe, 10s. 6d.  
Wilson's (Rev. Dr.) The Bible Student's Guide, 4to. 2l. 2s. cl.  
Woodman's (Rev. W.) Baptism, its True Nature, Object, &c. 2s. cl.

#### THE ARCTIC EXPEDITIONS.

THE North Star—which sailed, as our readers know, in the spring of last year, with stores and provisions for the relief of Sir John Franklin—has come in from its wandering over that dreary water—but brought no olive branch. The chase was fairly up in the Arctic hunting fields,—but there had been no scent of the game when this ship left. Capts. Austen, Penny, Ommanney, Sir John Ross, Phillips, Forsyth, and the American officers were all on the ground, and co-operating to sweep the field within which lies the secret of Sir John Franklin's fate. The Resolute and Pioneer, beginning at Pond's Bay, were to examine the whole south coast of Lancaster Sound, Barrow's Strait, and, if possible, Cape Walker,—the Assistance and Intrepid, beginning at Cape Warrender, were to examine the north coast of Lancaster Sound and Barrow's Strait, as far as Wellington Channel, which they were directed to enter, and, if possible, communicate with Capt. Penny, whose order directed his attention to Jones's Sound,—the Felix and Mary, beginning at Cape Hotham, were to examine that and the different headlands to Melville Island, and, if possible, to Banks's Land,—and Capt. Forsyth, in the Prince Albert, was to proceed to Brentford Bay, and endeavour to cross the Isthmus and survey the west side of Boothia Felix.

At Cape York, the explorers came upon a startling announcement,—which, for a moment, seemed to give a melancholy solution to the object of all these expeditions. Here they communicated with a party of Esquimaux,—and were by them informed,—according to the version of one interpreter, contradicted by another—that in the winter of 1846, when the snow was falling, two ships were broken up by the ice, in the direction of Cape Dudley Digges, near Wolstenholme Sound, and afterwards burnt by a fierce and numerous tribe of natives; that the ships were not whalers—and that epaulettes were worn by some of the white men; that a part of the crews were drowned; that the remainder were some time in huts, or tents, apart from the natives; that they had guns, but no balls,—were in a weak and exhausted condition,—and were subsequently killed by the natives with darts or arrows.—From after inquiries, and from arguments of many kinds, there seemed no reason to attach any credit to this painful story. The scene of the supposed calamity has been carefully searched without yielding a vestige to confirm it,—the Esquimaux are known to meet such inquiries as those by which they are now on every side beset in any sense that the inquiries may seem to suggest,—and the one of the interpreters who is thought to understand their language best denies that the Esquimaux have made any such statement at all.—On the whole, there was even then good reason to hope that this solution of the mystery might be dismissed as having no good ground to rest on.

But the argument from negatives as to Sir John Franklin's safety has since been confirmed by inferences of a positive kind. Capt.



Forsyth has arrived at Aberdeen with the Prince Albert—which our readers will remember was sent out after the despatch of the Government vessels as a private Expedition,—and brings with him the exciting intelligence that actual traces of the Erebus and Terror have been come upon. Though badly adapted for encountering the perils of the Arctic Seas, being doubled only to a foot above the water line, the Prince Albert succeeded in getting through the dreaded Melville Bay, and as far west as the mouth of the Wellington Channel. Having in the first instance proceeded down Prince Regent's Inlet, Capt. Forsyth was arrested in his progress by a barrier of ice which stretched from Port Bowen across the inlet to within ten or fifteen miles of Fury Point. Finding great quantities of drift ice setting up the inlet, he stood out to the northward, with the intention of proceeding down the western side of North Somerset. On reaching Leopold's Island, he again encountered a heavy pack of ice extending across Barrow's Strait towards the entrance of Wellington Channel. With great difficulty he navigated his small ship as far as Cape Riley:—and here he found traces of five or six tents or encampments, with a small length of ship's rope, and a number of beef and bird bones. He found also the following memorandum, which had been left here by Capt. Ommanney on the 23rd of August, two days previously to the visit of Capt. Forsyth.—

*"Her Majesty's Arctic Searching Expedition.*

"This is to certify that Captain Ommanney, with the officers of Her Majesty's ships Assistance and Intrepid, landed at Cape Riley on the 23rd of August, 1850, where he found traces of an encampment and collected the remains of materials which evidently prove that some party belonging to Her Majesty's ships have been detained on this spot. Beechy Island was also examined, where traces were found of the same party.

"This is also to give notice that a supply of provisions and fuel is at Port Leopold. Her Majesty's ships Assistance and Intrepid were detached from the squadron under Capt. Austin, off Wolstenholme, on the 15th inst., since when they have examined the north shores of Lancaster Sound and Barrow's Straits, without meeting any other traces. Captain Ommanney proceeds to Cape Hotham and Cape Walker in search for further traces of Sir John Franklin's Expedition.

"Dated on board Her Majesty's ship Assistance, off Cape Riley, Aug. 23, 1850. ERASMUS OMMANNEY."

The rope found by Capt. Forsyth has been sent home and authenticated at Chatham as belonging to the stores of the Terror; and no reasonable doubt remains that the vestiges seen by Captains Ommanney and Forsyth are those of the Franklin Expedition. The point of extreme interest, therefore, is, that the missing ships had in any case, according to all the probabilities, got thus far; and the fear entertained by many that they had perished in Baffin's Bay at the outset of the Expedition is thus removed from the field of speculation.

It is probable, too, that Capt. Ommanney had even stronger reasons for supposing that he had come upon the traces of the Expedition than we are yet put in possession of,—for he at once pushed on to the westward as if following a certain track,—and his ships were seen by Capt. Forsyth under a heavy press of sail threading their way towards Cape Hotham through a lane of water. It appears further by a private letter which has been received from Capt. Forsyth, that Capt. Penny has accompanied Capt. Ommanney,—conceiving that there was much more probability of coming upon traces of the missing Expedition by taking this course than by exploring Wellington Channel.

Being fully satisfied that the search to the westward would be effectually made by the ships under the command of the above officers, Capt. Forsyth judged it prudent, as there was no port which he could enter in the vicinity of his future operations, to return to England. On the 27th of August, he ran into Eardley Bay, near Cape York, and landed a notice with some provisions. On the 29th, he examined the western side of the entrance to Admiralty Inlet, and coasted to Possession Bay,—where he fell in with the North Star. On the 2nd and 3rd of September he explored the shores of Pond's Bay,—but could not discover any trace of Capt. Austen's having been there. He then steered towards England,—the last officer who left our shores, yet the first who arrived in Barrow's Strait. Considering the small means at Capt. Forsyth's disposal, it is impossible not to be struck

with what he has effected; and he will have a high and honourable place in the story of the restoration of the lost Expedition if it is indeed destined to be restored to our shores.

MR. HENSLAW AND THE HITCHAM LABOURERS.

THE Hitcham labourers' and mechanics' first prize Exhibition of Vegetables on Tuesday last enables us to draw attention to the admirable working of the system of land allotment which is in course of development in that part of Suffolk, under the auspices of the Rev. J. S. Henslow, the Cambridge Professor of Botany. We have already spoken of the excellent influence of Mr. George Ransome's elementary teaching in natural history on the minds and habits of the working classes of Ipswich and the neighbouring villages,—and we have now to record the successful issue of a nearly similar experiment in the same county.

About two years since the rector of Hitcham obtained a quantity of land, which he well drained and let, in allotments of a quarter of an acre each, at a rental of 14s. 6d. per annum, to those of the cottagers of his parish whose spade and fork industry might incline them to turn it to good account. The choice of allotments was given first to labourers and then to mechanics. An industrial competition was thus immediately opened among the poorest of the working classes for the tillage of the soil. In connexion with this a Horticultural Society was formed, with a subscription of 6d. only; and prizes of from 2s. 6d. to 5s. were offered by the neighbouring gentry for the best specimens of flowers, fruit, and vegetables. The payment of a small subscription gives the labourer a power of independence which makes him feel the society to be his own, not the gift of charity,—reserved for sterner necessities. The exhibition of flowers took place in June last,—but as the *utile* has more charms for the working men than the *dulce*, the result of their agricultural skill has been more substantially shown in the present Exhibition of Vegetables. In this comparatively limited district, whose population comprises not more than about 200 able-bodied labouring men, there were forty-six competitors for prizes in potatoes,—whilst their specimens of this and other vegetables would have done honour to any of the suburban gardeners of London. A quarter of an acre of land cannot be supposed to yield more than sufficient produce for the grower's own consumption—the farmer's interest is not, therefore, affected by the system, which bears rather on the publican. The farmer pays his labourer by the hour,—not as taught him in the parable. Piece-hire is not always in requisition; and the advantage of this allotment system is, that during these trying intervals of leisure the labourer is tempted into his own little vineyard instead of idling in the market-place or tipping in the public-house.

Prof. Henslow's beneficial influence over the hearts and minds of his rustic friends is formed, however, by the administration of pleasures as well as by incitements to habits of industry. Rural and river excursions made up of the poorest in the land are performed with the happiest results; the Pastor engaging the attention with occasional lectures of the simplest kind,—now on plants and now on ships.

THE GRAVE OF LOCKE.

*A Day at High Laver and Oates.*

IT had long been our earnest desire to visit the grave of Locke, and to see the spot hallowed by the traditions of so pure a life and so serene and holy a death. Having just offered our devotion at the shrine of Shakspeare, we were the more sensible how inexpressibly powerful and moving is the actual presence of the very objects that were present to such a man. Having felt how the great spirit which haunts every nook and corner of its earthly dwelling-place speaks to the reverential and loving soul a language not to be uttered or written, we were the more determined to end our long wandering with a pious pilgrimage to the humble village where Locke lies buried. Accordingly, quitting our direct line home, we stopped at the Harlow station, six miles from High Laver; and having heard that some sort of lodging might

be found within a mile or so of the village, we determined to run all risks, and drove straight to the church.

Philosophy, though the benign friend of "the million," is not their familiar;—and we were nowise surprised to find that neither the people of whom we inquired at Harlow, our driver,—or even a villager of High Laver, knew that there was anything there to excite curiosity or interest. It is true that an old countryman with whom we afterwards talked said, several gentlefolks had been to see that grave. But I suspected at the time that he said this to encourage and console us for having come out of our way to see what gentlefolks did not usually think worth looking at.—Alighting at the church, we hastened up to it,—and in a moment we had before us what we came to seek. Against the south wall of the church is a square raised tomb covered with a slab on which is inscribed—

JOHN LOCKE,  
OB. A.D. 1704.

Above this tomb is a marble tablet, bearing the Latin inscription written by Locke himself:—which, though doubtless known to many of your readers, must not be omitted here.—

SISTE, VIATOR,

Juxta situs est ;

Si qualis fuerit rogas, mediocritate sua contentum se vixisse respondet. Literis innutritus, eousque tantum profect ut veritati unice studeret. Hoc ex scriptis illius disce; que, quod de eo reliquum est, majori fide tibi exhibebunt quam epitaphii suspecta elogia. Virtutes si quas habuit, minores sane quam quas fide laudi, tibi in exemplum proponeret. Vitia una sepeliuntur. Morum exemplum si queras, in Evangelio habes, (vitiis utinam nusquam,) mortalitatis certe quod proxit hic et ubique.

Natum A.D. 1631.

Mortuum Oct. 27, A.D. 1704.

Memorat hac tabula brevi et ipsa interitura.

At first sight it may appear inconsistent with the perfect simplicity and modesty of the man to have written his own epitaph. But, on reflection, we see that these very qualities might determine him to be his own chronicler. He could not but be conscious of his great celebrity, of the warm attachment of his friends, and of the veneration with which he was regarded by lovers of truth and of liberty of thought throughout Europe. It was an age of panegyric; and he might reasonably fear that his eminent qualities might be set out on his tomb in language repugnant to his simple and severe taste. It was probably to avoid this that he undertook to say what manner of man he was. He claims for himself simplicity of tastes and habits, and love of truth,—for the rest, he refers mankind to his writings.

The clerk—who is also the sexton—being at work in the fields, there was no one within call who could open the church for us; but as we intended to pay a longer visit to it on the following day (Sunday), we contented ourselves with looking at the tombs of the Masham family, lying in the churchyard at the east end of the church. We found the following:—

1. The first Lord Masham, Baron of Oates.
  2. Abigail, his wife, the celebrated favourite of Queen Anne.
  3. General Hill, her brother; whose rapid and unmerited promotion was the subject of so much animadversion.
  4. Mistress Alice Hill, his sister.
  5. The second Lord Masham; and
  - 6 and 7. His two wives, Henrietta and Charlotte.
- There is no inscription on any of these tombs, except the names and dates. Here, then, were the descendants (not lineal, for they had no children,) of the noble and excellent friends of Locke,—but where were *they*? We saw no trace of them. Contented to have found the main object of our visit, and hoping for further information on the morrow,—we went home to our humble night's quarters.

On Sunday morning, hearing that there was a path across the fields—one of the rural privileges of England—we took a country lad as guide, and set forth. All was fresh, bright, and peaceful. The path wound, gently ascending, through pastures in which lay ruminating cattle,—and in a short time the small stunted spire of High Laver was visible through the trees. The way now lay past the Rectory,—one of the loveliest of that beautiful class of dwellings, a *country parsonage*. A neat and venerable house,—a pretty sloping lawn, adorned



with shrubs, flowers, and a few magnificent trees, —a small piece of bright clear water fed by a brook,—composed one of those pictures peculiar to England, and the full beauty and significance of which we must have lived out of England to appreciate.

It was our unexpected good fortune to meet with the master of this exquisite manse, and to receive from him not only the greatest kindness and courtesy, but much interesting information,—rendered doubly interesting by the affectionate reverence with which he evidently regarded the sacred deposit of which he is the guardian. He has not only watched over it with pious care, but has done such small repairs as were necessary. Some time ago, it appeared that the wet was insinuating itself between the wall and the tomb, so as to endanger the safety of the latter. On this occasion an appeal was made to Christ Church College, Oxford. That step-mother of her greatest son so far repented her of her past injustice as to pay for the placing a slab of stone to secure his grave from destruction.

We were told that an idea was once entertained of transporting this tomb to Westminster Abbey. Fortunately Locke's reputation was not of a kind to offer much inducement to the commission of so tasteless a desecration. A collection of tombs may, like a gallery of pictures, have great historical interest. The tombs of a royal line—of a succession of men exercising the same functions, or occupying the same place—are rightly placed together. But wherever the individuality of the man, and not his office or position, is what interests us, his grave ought to be, like his fame, apart from all others. What would the tomb of Shakespeare be if removed into Westminster Abbey,—or into any Pantheon or Walhalla of all that is greatest in the world? At Stratford everything is identified with him. The very stones we tread on may have been trodden by him. We go from the small room (awful and radiant with his presence) where he first saw the light, to the church where he worshipped, and where he now rests,—and his great spirit accompanies us and fills us with a loving awe. We see houses that he must have looked on,—follow the path along which he walked to visit Anne Hathaway,—live over his life; and though we cannot fathom the mystery of his genius, that which was to us but a name and a spirit becomes present to our senses and our affections.—“The masses” will always like mass. Number and quantity are to the vulgar essential to greatness; and there are many motives of convenience for collecting together objects of a class. But let us rejoice when we are so happy as to seize some one impression,—to be able to give ourselves up undistracted to one idea,—to see or hear one consummate work of Art,—to receive the influences of one great mind.

After looking at the register of Locke's baptism, copied from the church books of Wrington, in Somersetshire, and the register of his interment in those of High Laver, we proceeded to view the interior of the church.

Close beside the rector's pew rests Sir Francis Masham. He lies beneath so obscure a stone that we should hardly have discovered it if it had not been pointed out to us. It bears no inscription but the name and date of his death—1722. Strange to say, there is no trace of Lady Masham,—the daughter of Cudworth and the friend of Locke. Where do her honoured remains rest? She survived her husband; and as they had no children and the estate went to collaterals, she probably quitted Oates and lies buried wherever she ended her days. The missing her produces a painful and melancholy impression. So difficult is it for us creatures of earth and sense to be spiritual even for a moment, that I felt as if her husband and her illustrious friend must suffer in their graves from the void created by her absence.

In default of her, however, we have her mother. Lady Masham was, it appears, doubly happy in her birth. If she derived her intellectual superiority from her father, she was indebted to her mother for her Christian and womanly graces and virtues. On a tablet against the north wall, just above the grave of Sir Francis, is the following inscription. It has

always been attributed to Locke, and its beautiful simplicity seems to attest the truth of the tradition.—

Damaris Cudworth,

Relict of Ralph Cudworth, Doctor of Divinity and Master of King's College, Cambridge.

Exemplary for her piety and virtue, for her study of the Scriptures, charity to the poor, and good will to all.

An excellent wife, mother, mistress, and friende, lies buried in the middle between this and the opposite wall.

She was born the 23rd Oct. 1623; and after a life made easy to herself and others by the unalterable evenness of her temper, she died as one that goes to sleepe, without disease or paine, the 15th Nov. 1693, in full hope and expectation of a happy resurrection.

—Her husband, if I recollect rightly, is buried in the ante-chapel of King's College, Cambridge.

On the opposite side of the church, near the altar, is another tablet, bearing an epitaph hardly less affecting.—

Near this place lies the body of the Reverend Samuel Lowe, who, after he had faithfully discharged his ministerial office forty-five years in this parish, departed this life Dec. 7, 1709, aged 79.

He was to himself frugal, to his friends bountiful; exactly just; strictly pious, and extremely charitable. Poor widows and children he was a father to living, and having no issue, made them his heirs on his death: leaving to the Society of Clergymen's Sons in money 800*l.*; and in land 80*l.* per annum, besides other great legacies to charitable uses, and is gone to receive his reward.

Also Anne, his beloved wife, daughter of Wm. Andrew, of the Golden Grange in Bedfordshire, gentleman, who died May 23, 1693.

If anything were wanted to complete so rare a combination of wisdom and goodness, piety and peace, as met together at High Laver, we find it in this record of the venerable pastor of the lowly flock with whom the Philosopher and his friends were wont to worship.

Yet one feature more,—characteristic of those times when reverence was given in exchange for kindness, and obedience for protection and guidance. There is, besides the principal entrance, a small door on the south side of the church, close to which is a grass grave lying immediately under and parallel with the wall. Here, according to the traditions of the village, lies a faithful servant of the Masham family, now remembered only as “Luke.” At this door he used to take his stand as soon as service was ended, holding it open for his master and lady to pass through. When he died, they buried him at his post. A few steps separate the tomb of the world-renowned Philosopher and the turf that covers the faithful Luke. It is almost profane to disturb the serenity of such a scene by any allusion to the loud dissonances of our times; but I could not help comparing the angry vociferations for an unattainable social equality with that far more important moral equality which is the natural and spontaneous fruit of the fulfilment of duty. How harmonious is the combination of these various forms and shades of virtue, these various applications of the great rules of justice and charity, obedience and forbearance! How formless and chaotic all that has been proposed as a substitute for these beautiful adaptations to the wants and conditions of our being! The reverence for a life passed in the faithful discharge of duty, the sanctity of the place, and the majesty of death, though they did not level, did far better,—they harmonized distinctions; and the eye which had rested with profound veneration on the tomb of a mighty champion and torch-bearer of truth, turned with affectionate respect to the lowly grave of the loyal serving-man. With thoughts and feelings thus attuned to the place and the time, we took our seats in the ancient and simple church where all these persons had so often met to worship. Around us were the records of the virtuous dead. Nearly opposite was the pew of the Masham family,—unaltered, as we were assured. Here, then, by the side of his noble friends might be seen that pale and refined face, equally marked by thought and by suffering, yet always serene and elevated, which Roubiliac has handed down to us. Happily for us, and still more for the village, the church is materially, as well as morally, unchanged. The building has little architectural beauty, but it has a simple and primitive air which is becoming rare even in country churches. It is divided by a sort of wooden screen or arch, on which is painted C. P. on either side the Prince of Wales's feathers. This has something to do with the appellation *Laver*

*Regis*, which (as well as *Alta* or *Magna*) distinguishes this parish from two others of the name. The singing, accompanied by a violoncello, was of the old sort—but good of its sort:—no attempt at part-singing, but nothing dissonant or grotesque. We were struck, considering the short distance from London, with the very rustic though decent air of the congregation.

Taking our leave of the courteous living and the honoured dead, we proceeded to the site (for alas! no more remains) of the baronial mansion of Oates. The evening before, we had met an aged labourer who told us he remembered Oates; that it was pulled down forty-six years ago. I asked him what sort of house it was. “Oh! a very noble one!” he replied. This was confirmed to us by the Rector of Laver, who frequently visited at the house. It had at that time passed out of the Masham family,—of which indeed no trace remains in the parish. It is said to have become extinct in one female descendant,—but where and when nobody knew.

We were told that there was a painting of Oates in the possession of the present proprietor, to whom this part of the estate has descended from his uncle the late purchaser,—but we had not the smallest hope of seeing it. Here again, however, fortune favoured us. We alighted to look at the small remnant of the old building, now a brewhouse,—and at the two noble lime trees which stood near the house. We were standing under their ample shade, when the proprietor politely came up,—and after giving us all the information he could about the former aspect of the place, invited us to call at his house, hard by, to see the picture. We gladly availed ourselves of his kindness. The picture is the work of an amateur, and the point from which it is taken is not so well chosen as might be wished. The house must according to that authority have undergone some alterations since Locke's time. The windows appear to have been modernized. It is a square white building with a sort of turret at one corner:—not an unusual feature in what are called Tudor houses, when the defences of the Middle Ages, though no longer needed, lingered in architecture as a sort of feudal tradition. It was entirely surrounded by a moat,—now dry, except in one place, where it has left a sort of pond.—The surrounding country is not picturesque or striking,—but it has that air of cheerfulness and culture which pleases in the east of England, in the absence of all grand features. The road to it lay through lanes which we pleased ourselves with imagining to be those through which Locke loved to drive—as he says, in a letter to Anthony Collins—in a little “one-horse chaise,” when he was too feeble and too much oppressed with asthma to walk.

We stood, then, on the spot where the serene, though not painless, evening of that spotless life was brought to a close. Here, having steadily refused the importunities of Lord Somers to accept a seat at the Board of Trade, and even resisted the desire of the King (who esteemed him as he deserved) that he would receive the salary though unable to do the work, Locke determined to pass the small remnant of his days consoled by friendship and religion. “It would,” says he, “be madness to put myself out of the reach of my friends during the small time I am to linger in this world, only to die a little more rich or a little more advanced.”

It is much to be regretted that the origin and course of the constant and noble friendship of these eminent persons is not better known to us. Locke's biographers do not tell us how he became acquainted with Sir Francis and Lady Masham. We may, however, conjecture, that he knew the latter as the daughter of Cudworth. He says of himself,—“My temper, always shy of a crowd of strangers, has made my acquaintances few, and my conversation too narrow and particular to get the skill of dealing with men in their various humours. Whether this was a fault or no in a man that designed no bustle in the world, I know not.”\* The friendships which he had, therefore, must have rested on similarity of tastes and feelings, and on perfect confidence. The character of Locke annexed by Le Clerc to his own eulogium, is, he

\* Lord King's ‘Life of Locke,’ 2nd edition, vol. ii. p. 14.



says, "from the pen of one who knew him well." He adds, "She says,—and I can confirm her testimony by what I have myself seen," &c. The author of this beautiful and discriminating account of his qualities and virtues was, then, a woman,—and must surely have been Lady Masham. Who else knew him as she did?—and how few are the women living at any particular time who can write with the clearness and precision, the total absence of affectation, sentimentality and exaggeration, which characterize this admirable portrait?

As early as the 1st of June, 1704, Locke wrote that most affecting letter to his "Cousin King" in which he entreats him to spend all the next week with him,—adding, "as far as I can impartially guess, it will be the last week I am ever like to have with you. . . . Refuse not, therefore, to help me to pass some of the last hours of my life as easily as may be in the conversation of one who is not only the nearest but the dearest to me of any man in this world." Yet "the dissolution of this cottage," which he thought so near at hand, was delayed for nearly four months,—four months of incessant suffering, unaltered cheerfulness and pious resignation. It was during these painful months that Locke wrote his Commentary on St. Paul's Epistles. The reader is probably familiar with that last scene, which united the serenity of the antique sage with the pious resignation of the Christian saint. After passing without sleep the night which he had not expected to survive, he was taken out of bed and carried into his study, where he slept for some hours in his chair.† On waking he *desired to be dressed*; and then heard Lady Masham read the Psalms apparently with great attention, until, perceiving his end to draw near, *he stopped her*, and expired a very few minutes afterwards.‡

The noble woman who administered to him this last consolation was, like himself, calm and self-possessed. When he desired her not to sit up with him that last night, "for that he might perhaps sleep, and he would have her called if needful," she did not, as we find, oppose his wishes, or obtrude her grief upon him. She felt that "he called her from weak longings and womanly lamentations to the contemplation of his virtues."§ She commanded her voice to read or to be silent,—to comfort, not to trouble the passing spirit. S. A.

#### OUR WEEKLY GOSSIP.

THERE is more than an ordinary number of names claiming admission into our obituary paragraph for the present week.—It is not many months since we had to deal with the literary remains of Ebenezer Elliott, given to the world under the authority of Mr. Watkins, his son-in-law,—and now we learn that the recently bereaved daughter is also the bereaved wife. Mr. Watkins lies already in the same grave with the deceased poet,—a victim to disease of the heart.—Lord Leigh, who some weeks since left England for the benefit of his health, has died at Bonn. Our readers will remember Lord Leigh as the author of a volume of poems, published some years ago.—The daily papers announce the death, on the 28th of September, of Mr. Thomas Amyot,—a well-known English antiquary,—long a constant and valuable contributor to the *Archæologia*,—the private secretary of Mr. Windham,—the editor of Windham's speeches,—and for many years treasurer to the Society of Antiquaries of London. Mr. Amyot was also Director of the Camden Society. A ready kindness of manner, a promptness and willingness to assist whenever his assistance was asked in a literary matter, made him a favourite with all classes of literary men. He was a native of Norwich; and obtained the friendship and patronage of Windham while he was actively engaged in canvassing in favour of an opponent to that gentleman for the representation of Norwich in the House of Commons. A *Life of Windham* was one of Mr.

Amyot's long-promised and long-looked-for contributions to the biographies of English statesmen; but no such work has yet been published,—and there is too great reason to believe that very little, if indeed any portion of it, was ever completed for publication. The journals of Mr. Windham were in the possession of Mr. Amyot; and if we may judge of the whole by the account of Johnson's conversation and last illness printed by Mr. Croker in his edition of Boswell, we may safely assert that whenever they may be published they will be a work of real value in illustration of political events and private character,—a model in respect of fullness and yet succinctness which future journalists may copy with advantage. Whatever Windham preserved of Johnson's conversation well merited preservation.—Mr. Amyot's most valuable literary work is, his refutation of Mr. Tytler's supposition that Richard the Second was alive and in Scotland in the reign of Henry the Fourth.

Among foreign names having claim to posthumous honour, we find those of Nikolaus Lenau, the German poet,—whose light long dimmed by disease, has gone finally out in a madhouse; Dr. C. F. Becker,—eminent for his philosophical works on grammar and the structure of language; François de Villeneuve-Bargemont, Marquis de Trans,—a member of the French Academy of Inscriptions and Belles Lettres,—and author, amongst other works, of the *Histories of King René of Anjou*, of *St. Louis*, and of the *Knights of St. John of Jerusalem*; and Charles Rottman, the distinguished Bavarian artist, painter to the King,—whose name belongs properly to another department of our Gossip columns, but is added here for the sake of this brotherhood of death. Herr Rottman had been sent by King Ludwig to Italy and to Greece for the sake of depicting the scenery and monuments of those countries. His pictures of the Temple of Juno Lucina, Girgenti, the theatre of Taormina, &c., says a contemporary, have never been excelled,—and the king had characterized them by illustrative poems. The Grecian monuments which Rottman sketched in the years 1835 and 1836 are destined for the new Pinakotheka; and the Battle-Field of Marathon is spoken of, says the same authority, as a wonderful composition. The frescoes of Herr Rottman adorn the ceiling of the upper story of the king's palace at Munich.—In this mournful list, we may further include the names of Dr. Medicus, Professor of Botany at Munich, and a member of the Academy of Sciences in that capital,—and M. Ferdinand Laloue, a dramatic author of some reputation in Paris.

We continue to receive from one correspondent and another remonstrances on the fact of our not being more demonstrative in the expression of our gratitude for the late changes in the Reading Room of the British Museum—some of which we had ourselves so long and loudly demanded,—and more specific in the attribution of merit on their account to Mr. Panizzi. The fact is, that as regards the new arrangements in the Reading Room, with the exception of the new Catalogue, we fancy that our thanks, if any were due, should be paid to Sir Henry Ellis,—and as regards the Catalogue, we are not aware that we have anything to be grateful for. If even that Catalogue were all that it pretends to be, the fact of its sudden production now would still only mark the deep wrong which the country has so long endured from its absence. Year after year the money of the nation has been expended on treasures which became valueless by the mere fact of their passing into the hiding-places of the Museum. Whatever may be effected now cannot redeem the years of past waste. We are not bringing our complaint against this man or against that,—but our complaint against the *fact* receives new strength from what has at length and reluctantly been done. We are not aware that there is any merit in the discharge of duty,—but there are shame and wrong in its neglect. Be the fault where it may, there have been unfaithful trustees for the public. What we have now got is merely a deduction from the account that we have against those who kept us out of it so long,—by no means a figure to their credit side.—After all, however, the present catalogues can be accepted only as materials—and

imperfect ones—for the thing we want,—not as the thing itself. For a test of their efficiency we refer our readers to a later column of our paper,—where will be found an amusing account of a search after a book amid their intricacies.

The fourth volume of the new Catalogue of the Bodleian Library, enumerating the acquisitions of printed books made within the last twenty years, is, we understand, nearly ready for publication.—We are informed, also, that the Bodleian is about to issue a separate Catalogue of its Hebrew printed and manuscript works,—of the latter of which it now possesses, our readers know, the largest and most important collection in the world. Dr. Steinschneider, highly reputed among the Orientalists of Germany, has during the spring and summer months been actively employed in going through the printed Hebrew works, and is now charged with editing the result of his labours. He is engaged to examine the Hebrew manuscripts next year,—and "to call by their names" 1,800 of these not mentioned in Uri's Catalogue.—We may add, that eighty Hebrew manuscripts purchased in Italy and described in a catalogue prepared by the celebrated Dr. Zunz, of Berlin, have recently been added to the manuscript department of the Bodleian.—We learn further that an interesting Catalogue of the manuscripts deposited in the several colleges of Oxford, compiled by Mr. Cox, of the Bodleian Library, is almost completed. It is printed in a thick quarto volume, and contains an elaborate and very intelligently arranged list of 3,200 codices bearing on English history and literature and on mediæval theology, philosophy, medicine, &c.

The famous collection of Hebrew works known by the title of "The Michael Collection," recently purchased by the British Museum, amounts to about 5,000 volumes. They are now in progress of being classified on a system which deserves to be adopted even by the private collectors of libraries. The several departments of Theology, Philosophy, Poetry, History, &c. are each represented by a peculiar colour of binding. Each department being again classed into certain subdivisions, the respective subdivision is made recognizable by the special colour of the lettering label. The variety of colours is not merely a great help in finding the desired volume, but is also a great relief to the eye,—the monotony of uniform bindings being thus obviated.

Mr. Hind announces that the Astronomers Royal of England, Prussia and Denmark, and other high scientific authorities at home and abroad, have intimated their intention to adopt the name "Victoria," and the symbol as proposed by him.—The period of revolution of the new planet will probably, he adds, be nearly the same as that of Iris—perhaps a little longer.

The *Manchester Examiner* calls public attention to the report made some time ago by the trustees of the Owens College,—a document certainly most extraordinary when read in connexion with the founder's will. Like Mr. Girard, of Philadelphia, Mr. Owens left his property, as our readers well know, to found a seminary of learning open freely to all sects and persons. In as express terms as the English language affords he declared that "the students, professors, teachers, and other officers and persons connected with the said institution shall not be required to make any declaration as to, or submit to any test whatsoever of, their religious opinions, and nothing shall be introduced in the matter or mode of instruction in reference to any religious or theological subject which shall be reasonably offensive to the conscience of any student, or of his relations, guardians, or friends." Yet the parties executing this trust have reported their intention to have theology taught from the professional chairs. The logic by which they attempt to reconcile this determination with a sense of public duty is of a kind to suggest the want of a college in their locality when they were boys. They pretend to know better than the founder what his ideas were,—and they have a doubt whether it would be contrary to his written testament to make the attendance of students on the religious lectures compulsory! They reason thus—in a series of syllogisms which we regard as unique. First, say they:—

† The chair in which Locke breathed his last is in being, and is treasured as it deserves. When Oates was pulled down it was carefully preserved by a clergyman of the neighbourhood; and it is now in the possession of that gentleman's brother at Reading, in Berkshire,—whither our informant went to see it.

‡ *Life of Locke*, by Lord King.

§ Tacitus, *Jul. Agr. Vita*.



the testator was a charitable man,—religion is allied to charity,—being charitable, he must therefore have been religious also,—and a religious man must of course wish to have theology taught in his college. Secondly:—He wished to found an English college,—an English college is an institution where science, literature, and theology are taught together,—therefore he must have designed the teaching of theology. Thirdly:—The subject of religious tests is mentioned in the will,—the religious question occupied his mind in connexion with the foundation,—surely, then, he must have intended that religious lectures should be given. These notable syllogisms are held by the trustees and their supporters to be conclusive—even against the written and positive letter of the will. But then comes a further difficulty,—and the trustees find themselves fast in their own net. What system of theology is to be taught? The professor cannot legally be subject to any test, nor is he responsible for his belief and opinions. Will the Church like to hear an Independent lecture on theology,—or the Wesleyan listen to the religious teaching of a Catholic professor? The trustees say, they do not intend to teach doctrinal religion:—in this they are less consecutive than in their logic. Christianity is all doctrine. Whatever is not doctrinal in the national faith and practice belongs to the domain of nature and morals. To exclude doctrine, therefore, is to exclude that which it is very evident they wish to intrude into the curriculum. We have no hope, however, that the body of trustees, composed as it is of men belonging to different denominations, will ever agree among themselves as to the religion to be taught. A whole season of the college has been already lost to the students from this cause,—and we see no probable end of the dispute, unless the trustees shall think better of the course they are taking and resolve to discharge their functions according to the letter of the instrument under which they act.

We think it scarcely necessary to inform our readers that the Irish sea-serpent has been formally thrown upon the penny-a-liner's hands,—because from the first we announced the proprietorship of that speculation, on the internal evidence. "Mr. Travers" turns out to be one of the "Harris" family,—as we had conjectured; and "Mr. B. of Bandon," resting for his existence on that ideal authority, cannot, of course, be expected to be more substantial. Capt. Pilkington, commanding the Coast Guard district literally infested by the monster, has thought it necessary to examine into the matter,—and the whole details of the story have resolved themselves into the "thin air" of which we knew them to be made.—It is almost a joke to see the matter seriously denied.

We must not omit to put on record a munificent act of charity which we see attributed to a lady by the organs of the daily press. Miss Howard, of York Place, has assigned over to trustees (the Earl of Fingall and Mr. Mackinnon) the amount of 45,000*l.*, in money and land, for the purpose of erecting on her property at Pinner a crescent of twenty-one houses. The centre house is for the use of the trustees; and the other twenty houses are for twenty widows, who are to occupy them free of rent and taxes,—and to receive also 50*l.* a year, or more if the fund will allow. The widows of naval men are to have the preference, then those of military men, and lastly the widows of clergymen.

The American papers announce that the Mayor of Boston has made a donation to that city for the purpose of founding a free library,—and the Hon. Edward Everett has offered to appropriate towards the same object his collection of public documents and State papers. The latter gift is, it is said, of great value,—amounting to about 1,000 volumes, and containing everything of material importance relative to the political history of the country from the foundation of the Government to the year 1840.

That wonder of the past age, the balloon, as if the very follies practised in its name and by its means had had the effect, by way of compensation, of calling attention to its uses,—seems likely at length to be scientifically applied,—as it was scientifically born. In Paris, MM. Bixio and Barral are superintending

the construction of an aerial machine of the kind, in which they intend to pursue a course of studies of the atmosphere. It will be fifty-four feet in height and forty-five in breadth; and if filled with pure hydrogen, will be capable of carrying up about twenty persons,—with carbonated hydrogen, ten or twelve.—Experiments are also making with balloons by M. Mene, under the direction of M. Arago—for measuring the laws in virtue of which the temperature decreases in proportion to the height.

Among the honours recently conferred on scientific men in France, we see that MM. Antoine and Armand d'Abbadie have, on the recommendation of the Minister of Agriculture and Commerce, been nominated by the President of the Republic members of the Legion of Honour, for "the services which they have rendered to geographical science and to commerce by their journeys in Abyssinia."

We learn from the local papers that the Roscoe Club in Liverpool is in the last throes of dissolution. Like the Manchester Athenæum, this institute, while professing to be popular and educational, chiefly relied on that kind of charity for support which delights to figure in the shape of soirée and demonstration with a lord at the head of the table or of the quadrille. That it is in debt we do not wonder,—that it is on the eve of dissolution we cannot regret. Had it taken for its model the Whittington Club [which, by the way, has announced an excellent series of lectures for the coming season],—pursued an unostentatious course of real usefulness,—cared less about appearing almost weekly in the local prints in connexion with Earl This and Viscount That,—it might have become an honour to the town.—We learn at the same time, that the Town Council of Liverpool, acting on the power recently conferred by Act of Parliament on municipal bodies, have voted by a large majority in favour of the principle of public libraries and museums to be formed out of the proceeds of a local rate. The first practical step by way of remedying the mischiefs likely to arise from the decay of Mechanics' Institutes and Roscoe Clubs has been taken by the Royal Institution offering the whole of its valuable gallery, gymnasium and museum—said to be worth twenty-five thousand pounds—for the free use of the inhabitants for ever.—The Public Library Fund in Manchester, we hear, progresses steadily.—The friends of education, in the present unsettled state of the question, will perhaps not be sorry that the two great northern cities should have adopted different views as to the mode of procedure. The Manchester Fund, commenced before the recent Act was passed, is the result of voluntary subscription,—Liverpool will operate with the aid of a local rate. Time will thus resolve in some degree the question of the merits of the voluntary principle.

While speaking of the progress of aids to education in Lancashire, we may notice the favourable impression made by the labours of the Lancashire Public Schools Association on the country, as exhibited in the provincial papers. The conference to be held in Manchester this month promises to be one of great public interest. The *Manchester Examiner* has collected a number of facts and opinions from various parts of the country which imply that in many of the larger towns committees are in progress of being formed and delegates chosen to attend the conference,—and in Manchester itself preparations are making for their reception.

An archæologic bit or two, at home and abroad, may be thrown into a common paragraph for the increasing number of readers whom such matters interest. The *Poole Herald* states that a Roman tessellated pavement has been discovered at a locality called "The Churchyard," Holcombe Farm, two miles from Lyme, and a little distance from Musbury Castle,—a very fine earthwork east of the valley of the Axe. The villa at this spot must have been a Roman station. The tesserae are said to be of blue-white lias, and red tesserae of a substance and colour resembling brick. The area, so far as explored, equals that of a moderately large-sized room,—but only a small part was cleared. The tiles or slates of the roof were composed of white lias. The pavement has since been covered up,—

but not before drawings of it had been made.—The *Piedmontese Gazette* speaks of a curious Celtic monument having been discovered in the Valcavalina (province of Bergamo), consisting of two colossal stones placed on a mound, evidently by human hands. The larger of the two, measuring about 162 cubic feet, is placed on the other; which it is said bears marks of having been much larger than it now is; but appears to have been splintered by lightning or other causes in the ages which must have elapsed since its deposit.—In the neighbourhood of Fontenay, between Soissons and Compiègne, a great number of Roman antiquities having been turned up in digging,—the workmen were instructed to continue; and soon came to the foundations of Roman buildings covering a surface of more than 34,000 metres, and divided into more than 200 rooms or cells.

The DIORAMA, Regent's Park.—Admission, One Shilling.—NOW OPEN, with the finest VIEWS ever exhibited in this country, representing the ROYAL CASTLE of STOLZENFELS, on the Rhine, (visited by Her Majesty Queen Victoria in August, 1845), and its Environs, as seen at Sunset and during a Thunder Storm; painted by NICHOLAS MEISTER, of Cologne. And the much-admired Picture of THE SHRINE OF THE NATIVITY, at Bethlehem; painted by the late M. RENOUX, from a sketch made on the spot by DAVID ROBERTS, Esq. R.A., with novel and striking effects.—Open from Ten till Five.

EGYPT, NUBIA, and ETHIOPIA.—THE GREAT MOVING PANORAMA of the NILE displays the scenery of these interesting countries, and the manners and customs of their inhabitants, presenting to the spectator the River and the Desert, the Pyramids and the Sphinx, the grandest Ruins of Antiquity, and the most exciting objects that allure the traveller.—EGYPTIAN HALL, PICCADILLY.—Daily, at Three and Eight.—Admission reduced to 6*d.*; Pic. 1*s.*, Stalls, 2*s.*

INDIA OVERLAND MAIL.—DIORAMA.—GALLERY of ILLUSTRATION, 14, Regent-street, Waterloo-place.—A gigantic MOVING DIORAMA of the ROUTE of the OVERLAND MAIL to INDIA, exhibiting the following places, viz.—Southampton Docks, Isle of Wight, Osborne, the Needles, the Bay of Biscay, the Berling, Gibraltor, the Tagus, Cape Trafalgar, Tarifa, Gibraltar, Algiers, Malta, Alexandria, Cairo, the Desert of Suez, the Central Station, Suez, the Red Sea, Aden, Ceylon, Madras, and Calcutta.—is now OPEN DAILY.—Mornings at Twelve, Afternoons at Three, and Evenings at Eight.—Admission, 1*s.*; Stalls, 2*s.* 6*d.*; Reserved Seats, 3*s.* Doors open half an hour before each representation.

ROYAL POLYTECHNIC INSTITUTION.  
LECTURE on the BALLAD MUSIC of ENGLAND, by Mr. George Barker, illustrated by his own compositions, every Evening (except Saturday), at Eight o'clock.—LECTURE on the HYDRO-ELECTRIC MACHINE, by Dr. Bachofner.—LECTURE on CHEMISTRY, by J. H. Poyser, Esq. illustrating the ANGLE OF EVERY ORDEAL and the HANDLING of RED-HOT METALS.—MODEL of WESTON'S PATENT NOVA-MOTIVE RAILWAY at work daily.—DISSOLVING VIEWS, illustrating some of the WONDERS of NATURE, daily at Half-past Four, and on the Evenings at a Quarter to Ten; also a Series, exhibiting SCENES in the ARCTIC REGIONS and CEYLON, daily at One o'clock.—DIVER and DIVING BELL, &c. &c.—Admission, 1*s.*; Schools, Half-price.—Open daily from Eleven till Five o'clock, and every Evening (EXCEPT SATURDAY) from Seven till Half-past Ten.

#### MEETING FOR THE ENSUING WEEK.

Mon. Entomological, 8.

#### FINE ARTS

CRAYON DAGUERROTYPES.

I beg through your valuable columns to make known to daguerrian artists and amateurs the following process,—entitled, as above, Crayon Daguerrotypes. I do this the more willingly from the fact that an attempt is making to patent a process for producing a similar effect,—and as I am a decided enemy to patenting anything in connexion with so interesting a discovery, I hope this communication will set the matter at rest.

1st. Take a daguerreotype image on a prepared plate as usual,—taking care to mark the end of the plate on which the head is produced. When taken, and before mercurializing, remove the plate from the holder, and place on it a plate of glass prepared as follows. 2nd. Cut a piece of thin plate glass of the same size as the daguerreotype plate,—gum upon one side of it a thin oval piece of blackened zinc, the centre of the oval to coincide with the centre of the image upon the plate. Having carefully placed the glass thus prepared with the centre of the zinc disc upon the centre of the image, expose the whole to daylight for 20 seconds. The action of the light will obliterate every trace of image from every part of the plate, except that which is covered with the blackened zinc,—and also from the thickness of the glass the action will be refracted under the edges of the zinc disc, and will soften into the dark parts. Mercurialize the plate as usual; the image will be found with a halo of light around it gradually softening into the background, that will at once add a new charm to these interesting productions.



By grinding the glass on which the disc is fixed, and by altering the shape and size of the disc, a variety of effects may be produced which every ingenious operator can suggest for himself.

I am, &c., J. E. MAYALL.  
West Strand, Oct. 2.

**FINE-ART GOSSIP.**—The arrangements with reference to the execution of the Peel Monument at Manchester have turned out to be such as a week or two since, in contradiction of a contemporary, we ventured to predict. What we had then good reason for believing on the subject, we now know to be the case. The work has not been given arbitrarily away, and the Manchester people are determined to have the best statue they can get in expression of their feeling and in return for their money. The Manchester monument at any rate will not be jobbed. A competition has been invited from a certain number of eminent sculptors, and provision is made out of the funds for paying to each of the unsuccessful competitors a sum of money as some compensation for the trouble of preparing models.—This is an example which we think it well to hold in *terrorem* over the heads of parties in higher places. The principle of assumed irresponsibility in dealing with the public sentiment and money lavished on matters of this kind is authoritatively rebuked by an eminent instance like this. We hear nothing of the Abbey monument,—and will not believe that in such a case, where the public will be quite sure to audit his doings, Lord John Russell will venture summarily to appropriate the work to any favourite of his own. At the same time, the very silence on the subject is suspicious,—coupled with the sort of feeler too visibly implied in the ministerial language. The money was voted by Parliament long enough since to entitle us to expect that there should now be some sign of an intention to employ it in a manner likely to be satisfactory to the body which voted it.—Lord John will do well not to draw down upon his somewhat unfortunate ministry any further charges, whether just or unjust, of jobbing in matters wherein the public are parties directly concerned.

The *Daily News* says:—The Brigantine, *Apprentice*, has arrived in St. Katherine's Docks from Bussorah, on the river Euphrates, having on board a great quantity of Assyrian and other antiquities and marbles, consigned to the trustees of the British Museum. Among them are the Great Bull from Nineveh, with a man's head and a dragon's wings, weighing twelve tons,—and a lion sculptured in the same manner, weighing nine tons. There are also several coffins containing many curious relics of the manners and usages of Eastern countries regarding the ceremonies observed in burying their dead. This vessel was chartered by the British Museum some time since for the conveyance of these antiquities to England. They were shipped in April last at Bussorah, under the superintendence of Messrs. Stephen, Lynch & Co.; and great care has been taken by Capt. Hardy (who was employed on a similar service two years ago) to bring them home perfect and entire.

From Berlin it is stated that the collection of portraits of celebrated contemporary men of that capital formed by the King in his palace there has been transferred to the Marble Palace at Potsdam. This collection, to be increased from time to time, contains just now the portraits of Baron Alexander de Humboldt, MM. de Schelling, Godfrey Schadow and Rauch, Baron Cornelius, Meyerbeer, Louis Tieck, Ritter the geographer, Leopold de Buch the geologist, and Ideler and Bessel the astronomers.

Our readers will not, we hope, expect us to vouch for the following piece of intelligence, which we give as we find it in the *Journal de Lot et Garonne*.—"Visiting the Church of the Mas-d'Age-nais, Count Eugène de Lonley has discovered in the sacristy, concealed beneath dust and spiders' webs, the 'Dying Christ' painted by Rubens in 1631. This magnificent picture, on panel, is in perfect preservation. The head of Christ is remarkable for the large style in which it is painted, for drawing, colour, and vigorous expression."

The following discovery, announced in the same journal, may probably be looked on as more authentic. In the new sacristy of the Cathedral of Puy has been found, beneath a covering of plaster, which has been carefully removed, a magnificent painting of the sixteenth century. The drawing and inscriptions are intact. Grammar, Logic, Rhetoric, and Music figure in this composition,—the names of the figures and an inscription in verse accompanying each. The first group on the left exhibits Grammar; with Priscian, in the act of writing, on one side,—and two children, reading, on the other. The inscription underneath is, "Quidquid agant artes, ego semper pradicco partes."—Next comes Logic,—holding in her right hand a lizard, as emblem of the scholastic subtleties, and a scorpion. Near to her is Aristotle,—and the inscription is, "Me sine doctores frustra coluere sorores."—Rhetoric, having Cicero on her left, holds a file in her hand,—and the following legend is at her feet, "Est mihi ratio cum flore loquendi."—Music holds an organ on her knees,—and near her is Tubal, with a hammer in each hand. An anvil is before him. Below is written, "Invenere locum per me modulamina vocum."—The four sisters are seated in chairs artistically embellished,—and their garments, like those of the other personages, are of great richness and finely executed. The figures are correct in drawing and vigorous in colouring; and though the work belongs to the commencement of the sixteenth century, it is visible in the type of the figures, the costumes, and the ensemble of the composition, that it is from the hand of a French artist who had not yet felt the influence of the Italian Renaissance.—Such is the description given of a fresco which M. Mérimée, the Inspector General of Historical Monuments, has pronounced to be one of the most important existing in France. It is a very valuable addition to the artistic and archaeological wealth which abounds in the Cathedral of Puy.

We read in the *Madrid Gazette* of the 23rd ult. that the frescoes of Annibal Caracci in the Church of St. James at Rome are at length to be removed to Spain. Negotiations for this purpose have been going on for several years; but with little prospect of a successful issue until the recent political events in Italy and the armed assistance afforded to the Pope by Queen Isabella gave the Court of Madrid an influence not to be resisted in the Vatican. The frescoes are expected to arrive shortly in the Spanish capital,—accompanied by a well-executed cast of the recently discovered figure of the gladiator.

It really passes patience to see the experiments which are constantly made on the temper of the public in reference to every great work undertaken in the public's name and at the public's cost. The spirit of jobbery seems so strong in certain quarters that it fairly overbears the wholesome dread of that account which the jobbers must surely render to the wronged and irritated country. Scarcely a sum of money is voted by the people for any popular object that is not found ministering, in their prejudice, to some party view or class interest. Here have we and others been labouring for some time past to save the country at once a large sum of money and an architectural offence by keeping the grand area in front of the British Museum henceforth unclosed even by an open railing,—and now, it turns out that not only have we been wasting argument on those with whom argument is not currency,—but that the inclosure is to be effected along a certain portion of its extent on each side by a wall twelve feet in height. Thus, no sooner have we recovered this fine space by the demolition of the gloomy old curtain which shut it in like a fortress, than the public are once more shut out by a new barricade of brick and mortar:—no sooner is the Museum completed in the people's name and at the people's cost, than it is proposed to withdraw it, to some extent, from the people's view. Thousands upon thousands of the national money is spent on the architectural features of a public building,—that these may hide themselves modestly from the vulgar gaze behind a clay screen.—If the reason given for this extraordinary act of reclosure were, a desire to conceal the two unmeaning stone blocks which flank the façade of the

Museum right and left and form unsightly excrescences on the plan, then the argument would be one of taste,—and the offence would resolve itself merely into that fatality which attaches itself to all our great public edifices in modern times,—where to build up that we may pull down and to decorate that we may hide, is the rule. But, that on an edifice and an institution so vast in its scope and stature, so large in its objects and so costly in itself, the petty convenience of a few officials could possibly have a disfiguring influence, is a thing which we really believe could happen in no other civilized country under the sun. Think of walling up the work of a quarter of a century and the representative of a sum which might buy a small kingdom, in order that some officer of the establishment may not be looked in on at his dinner! As a mere fiction, the bathos of the thing would be irresistible,—but we cannot afford to joke at such a cost.—We presume that if the abuse be perpetrated, we may look to Parliament for ordering down the wall again the moment it may assemble.

## MUSIC AND THE DRAMA

NEW PUBLICATIONS.—PIANOFORTE MUSIC.

*Fantasie Stücke, &c.*—*Fantasy-Pieces for the Pianoforte.* Op. 12. Books 1 and 2. By Robert Schumann.—Being convinced that whatever the destiny of Art is, there is no compelling it to retrace its steps—as little possibility of holding it stationary to the high standard of such an epoch of absolute and unquestioned perfection as that which produces a Raphael, a Palestrina, or a Beethoven,—it is a pleasure as much as a duty from time to time to visit the new schools, for the purpose of examining what is done by those who take the place of the inventors or perfectors of former periods. With those to whom such is a settled purpose, occasional intercourse with Herr Schumann becomes a necessity: since his name is perpetually invoked in Germany as a discoverer, and by the form and versatility of his efforts it is obvious that he thoroughly comprehends the vocation of a composer in the largest sense of the word—which is to write music of all descriptions and for all purposes.

On Herr Schumann's Pianoforte Quartett brought to hearing by Mr. Ella two seasons ago, our judgment was passed on the occasion of its performance [*vide Athen.* No. 1066]. Not long since an opportunity was afforded to us of hearing some of his stringed Quartetts admirably led by Herr Ernst. In these, as in his pianoforte Quartett, we could not admit the leading ideas to be in any respect worthy of the uncouth and ambitious garniture which they received. Comparing them with Beethoven's posthumous Quartetts, they shrink into the eccentricities of babyhood, or the tedious prosings of senility. The great composer of Vienna (even when writing the most chaotically—even when indulging in digressions, vagaries, strange harmonies, &c. which would hardly have passed had his ear been any longer able to test the fancies which floated over his page)—never wrote without having something to say,—without some vigorous thought, some figure of delicious beauty to present. At fault in the elaboration of these he may have been—and we think was, because of his infirmity; but till he died, the first ideas of Music's greatest poet were always vivid, new, and melodious. In the school which has professed to take its rise from, not the perfect, but the imperfect works of Beethoven, we have all the chaos and none of the imagination. Dressed up as these 'Fantasy Pieces' before us are with titles intended to suggest much to the hearer (such as 'Evening,' 'Flight upwards,' 'Why?' 'Dream-puzzles,' &c.),—the titles are for the most part all that they have to boast. The melodic phrases are poor or none,—the figures of accompaniment are but thread-bare,—the harmonic progressions merely mark a progress towards that anarchical triumph of Discord at which the ugliest chords will bear the highest value. It is true, that by working hard at this music the player may become in a certain degree habituated to its manner,—nay, may reach that pleasure which must always in some measure



be commanded by consistency. It should further be stated that these *Fantasia-stücke* bear the date of 1846,—since which period it might have been hoped that their fancier might have done something to clear his mind if not to get himself a fancy. But a perusal of one of his most recent works—the overture to his opera of ‘Genoveva’—precludes our cherishing any such comfortable hope. There, all that is not commonplace appears to be vague—and all that is not vague is singularly unattractive. Of the orchestral treatment of this composition, however, we are in no case to speak.

*Grandes Etudes*, par Edouard Roeckel, Op. 19.—In former years we have had frequent occasion to commend the nephew and favourite pupil of Hummel, for the remarkable beauty of his hand on the pianoforte and the precision and brilliancy of his execution. These Grand Studies give us acceptable proof that time has not been unimproved by M. Roeckel as regards composition. They are to be commended on many grounds:—first, because they are not written on the Thalberg pattern, the sight and sound of which we have learned to dread, so remorselessly has it been hackneyed,—secondly, for their contrast,—thirdly, for the excellent practice which they offer.—No. 4, in particular, may be specified as a capital octave exercise.—No. 5 deserves yet higher praise,—as a single movement, pleasing in its melody, excellent in its structure, and more than ordinarily attractive to the player.—We must protest against one or two crudities of chord and passing harshnesses of modulation,—which are unwelcome because they are unnecessary; but these excused, the studies have so much merit as to command the good will of all who like good writing.

*La Felicità, Toccata Brillante for the Pianoforte*, &c. By Charles Salaman.—This composition is decidedly the best work signed by Mr. Salaman that we have met:—his pleasing Italian Canzonets not forgotten. Without either ‘frivolous or vexatious’ distress of the fingers, the life and motion of this *toccata* are cleverly maintained throughout its ten pages. The leading phrases are pleasing to hear no less than improving to practise. The contrast betwixt the spirited figure with which the *toccata* commences, and the calmer melodic passages immediately succeeding when the left hand has to ‘take up the tale,’ is well fancied. The movement as a whole is well developed,—its interest not flagging for a single triplet till the very last note. But we must think the piece in F sharp minor misnamed ‘Felicità.’ We have here eagerness, anxiety, and, at last, relief:—but no happiness, if Music have any language. The name must have been given at random. Before we have done with Mr. Salaman, let us praise a pretty *Birthday Valse* by him.—Ere we quit waltzing ground, we must further recommend to those in search for something new to play, *Sappho, Valse Brillante*, Op. 22, No. 2, by F. B. Jewson.

Of the *Deux Morceaux*, Op. 8, by M. Emanuel Aguilar, No. 1, the study in A minor is the best, as furnishing good practice in the art of smoothly playing a long *arpeggio* in accompaniment divided betwixt the two hands. This feat—of which the Dusseks, or even Hummels, never dreamed—is now of such every-day occurrence, that its execution must be provided for. In No. 2, *A Romance in A flat*, the idea is hardly worth the elaborate embroidery bestowed on it.

Possibly *Bamboula, Danse de Nègres*, by L. M. Gottschalk, Op. 2, may also have been meant as a study. Played for pleasure it can never be,—if played at all. Pianists of more than ordinary force will get a sort of furious and distracted hammering out of it:—and, indeed, Herr Gottschalk gives free leave for the timid or infirm to omit a good couple of pages should they be found too difficult. ‘Bamboula,’ in short, seems to us a bad specimen of not a good school,—the best example of which, perhaps, was Herr de Meyer’s ‘Marche Marocaine.’—We may lastly say that 6 *Lieder ohne Worte*, Book 1, by William Visschers, of Bandon, entirely distance our comprehension. They are called ‘Melodies’ undeservedly,—being neither rhythmical nor melodious, but vague and difficult; and by a sort of *da capo* they bring

us round again to the objections urged against Herr Schumann’s Fantasy Pieces, with which the review now closing commenced.

PRINCESS’S.—According to announcement, this theatre opened on Saturday, under the management of the Keans and Keeleys, with Shakspeare’s comedy of ‘Twelfth Night.’ The house, as might have been anticipated from the cast, was crowded to excess.—Mrs. Kean’s *Viola* is one of those charming impersonations which silence criticism. Skilful distribution of light and shade, mixed gaiety and sadness, *naïveté* and poetry, are the attributes which in this part present her to us as an inimitable actress. These qualities, combined with the touching tones of her voice and the strong passion of her delivery, make her irresistible in characters of the kind. Her power in all these respects was never more perfectly exhibited than on the present occasion.—It is not often that we get the part of *Sebastian* well done, considered as a counterpart to the *Viola*. There should be not only a resemblance of person and costume, but of manner. Mr. J. F. Cathcart both looked and acted the part with much propriety. The nervousness of his general action, his tremulous utterance and feeling gestures, marked him at once for the brother of the heroine. We have reason to think this young actor will become a valuable accession.—We were not quite satisfied with Mr. Addison’s *Sir Toby Belch*. It lacks somewhat of breadth and unction in its humour.—On the other hand, Mr. Keeley’s *Sir Andrew Aguecheek* abounded in all the qualities that constitute comic geniality. The tone and colouring of the part were marvellous for skill and invention.—The highest expectation of the evening was excited by Mr. Meadows’s assumption of the part of *Malvolio*. This character as a speciality was supposed to be suited to his natural aptitude:—and to a great extent the anticipation was justified by the fact. Most of the *Malvolios* that we have seen have, whatever their merits, been artificial stage-products. There is in Mr. Meadows nothing mechanical or automatic;—the expression seemed spontaneous, and the situation was well embodied. Nevertheless, there were shortcomings. The inordinate conceit was not distinctly enough marked,—and the poetry of the conception was not sufficiently sustained. Mr. Meadows’s version was, as it were, a prose version of the character. Indeed, he did not seem thoroughly at ease in the part. Practice will give development where now we trace defect. From a performer like Mr. Meadows everything is to be hoped.—With respect to the remaining characters,—Mrs. Keeley in *Maria* and Mr. Harley in the *Clown* deserve the first and the highest mention. These were impersonations peculiarly rich and effective. Mr. Belton as *Orsino* was intelligent, but far too demonstrative. The part is one not of energy, but of languor. Mr. Ryder as the sea-captain *Antonio* was rough and racy; and Mr. J. Vining as *Fabian* sustained his reputation as a useful and clever performer. The appointments and costumes were elegant and appropriate,—and the groupings on the stage were in the best taste. The artists engaged on the scenery at this theatre are Messrs. Gordon and Lloyd,—and they deserve high credit in this piece for some very capital sea-views.

After the play, a new farce by Mr. Bernard, entitled ‘Platonic Attachments,’ was produced. It was supported by Mr. and Mrs. Keeley, Mr. Wigan, and Miss Murray. The piece depending much on mere incident and little on plot, it is impossible to detail minutely the business of the scene. Mr. Thistle-down (Mr. Keeley) and his friend Tom Rawlings (Mr. Wigan) meet in a suburban garden twelve months after the marriage of the former. Having promised his wife to break with his previous boating and sporting acquaintance, Thistle-down is anxious to get rid of Rawlings,—but in vain. Tom is recognized by Mrs. Thistle-down (Mrs. Keeley) as a young rake who in her daily walk has persecuted her with his attentions. He still retains his hold, however, on the husband, by his knowledge of the latter’s having in London, under similar circumstances, lent an umbrella to a young lady, Miss Ellen Millman (Miss Murray).

The lady and umbrella both appear at the unfortunate nick of time; but Tom comes to the rescue of Thistle-down,—screws the handle of his friend’s umbrella on to his own, which fortunately has his name on the point,—and thus succeeds in mystifying the jealous wife.—On so slight a basis a very effective farce has been constructed.

The evening concluded with a *Ballet Divertissement*, composed by Mr. H. Hughes, produced under the direction of Mr. Flexmore. The subject is a classical one,—and was very picturesquely treated; Mr. Flexmore performing the part of a Satyr among the Wood-nymphs with graphic power and first-rate pantomimic expression.

On Monday, a great feature was made of the production of ‘Hamlet,’ with magnificent scenery, painted under the direction of Mr. T. Grieve. The choice of the tragedy was judicious so far as Mr. Kean is concerned. This gentleman’s *Hamlet* was always an elegant and well-studied performance. Since his first appearance in the character, however, he has greatly improved as an actor, and has parted judiciously with many of his early mannerisms in favour of a more natural style. The effect is highly favourable to his success. Many points of which he was once proud are now subdued, and many parts are shown in relief which he was accustomed to neglect. In fact, ‘the years that bring the philosophic mind’ have not been without their effect on the experience of an intelligent actor in constant employ. Hence the remarkable finish and minute attention to every available point which the daily journalists have attributed to Mr. Kean’s performance of *Hamlet* on the present occasion. Amidst such a general consent of opinion, it is, however, left for us to indicate some specific beauties. The soliloquy after the interview with the players was delivered with a force and passion which reminded us of Mr. Charles Kemble’s execution of that very passage,—conceived by him as a torrent of irresistible emotion. Yet finer, though in another way, was the manner in which the perplexing interview with *Ophelia* was managed. Mr. Charles Kean’s interpretation was similar to that of his father,—but in the development was marked by an originality which testifies to the genius of the actor.—*Ophelia* was performed by Mrs. Kean. There has lately been an absurd practice at theatres of intrusting this important character to the *soubrette* of the stage. Mrs. Kean has restored the part to its proper importance, and invested it with delicacy and intelligence. The other characters were efficiently cast. The *Polonius* of Mr. Addison is a respectable piece of acting; and Mr. Harley and Mr. Meadows in the two grave-diggers brought back to our remembrance those palmy days of the Drama when well-practised actors were found illustrating the meanest parts. Mr. Wigan in *Osric* was an exquisite fop.

It is not so much on account of the general excellence of the company, under this management, that we wish well to the experiment here making, as for the sake of the experiment itself. Since the abstraction of Covent Garden and Drury Lane from the purposes of the legitimate drama, the cause has been left to one small house. The advantages of competition are obvious; and a competition invested with such resources of intelligence and capital as that now established at this theatre merits special attention.—The Queen has testified her regard for the object by engaging a box.

SADLER’S WELLS.—Shakspeare’s tragedy of ‘Macbeth’ was reproduced here on Monday, in the same style of magnificence as last season. A great improvement, however, has been effected in the arrangement of the banquet scene by the division of the tables in front,—making thereby room for the passage of the king and queen; and giving the most effective position to the appearance of Banquo’s ghost.—We are not sure whether, on his first appearance, the ‘horrible shadow’ is not made too conspicuous. It is more important to see the agitation of Macbeth’s countenance than the face of the ghost,—and the actor does injustice to himself by presenting his back to the audience.—Miss Glyn’s *Lady Macbeth* of this season is a great advance on that of last. We were not prepared for the vigour and originality which it displayed. The



new points which she made in the opening soliloquy, in the temptation scenes with her husband—particularly the last scene of the first act,—and in the banquet scene, were remarkable as conceptions and of appalling power in execution. Additions were introduced into the sleep-walking soliloquies on which we are not so ready to decide at once. They not only suggest but require reflection. At any rate, they indicate a creative intelligence on the part of the actress.

**SURREY.**—The tragedy of 'Macbeth' has been produced at this theatre also. But here the management is content to retain Lock's music, and in other respects to place the piece on the stage in the ordinary manner. The performance was respectable. Mr. Creswick as *Macbeth*, though impressive and occasionally striking, was too didactic throughout,—perhaps, he was too cautious; and Miss Cooper in the ambitious wife was evidently burdened with the weight of the character,—of which, nevertheless, she gave a nice and intelligent reading.—Mr. Mead was the *Banquo*, and Mr. Montague the *Macduff*. The latter acquitted himself with much power.

**MUSICAL AND DRAMATIC GOSSIP.**—The London winter musical season may be said to have commenced with the Evening Concert given on Monday at St. Martin's Hall for the Brook Street Industrial School,—conducted by Mr. Monk, and to which the chorus was furnished by Mr. Hullah's first upper school.

We learn that the secretaryship of the Philharmonic Society, vacated by the death of Mr. H. Budd, will henceforth be filled by Mr. George Hogarth, the well-known historian of music.

The Commonwealth for the revival of English musical drama intends, we perceive, to commence its operations at Miss Kelly's Theatre, Dean Street, Soho. The smallness of this theatre must in every way limit the experiment. Were it possible there to assemble a chorus and orchestra sufficient to perform average works, the want of pretension in the locality would be regarded by us as a recommendation and an augury of good progress. The public have had enough of "blazes of triumph,"—ending in managerial ruin; of "additional chorus singers"—clamouring for their pay in the Police Courts; of "stars" that have—drained the treasuries; of "orchestras enlarged" by taking in several rows—of empty stalls. The strength of a cause is not always indicated by the scale on which its advocacy is commenced. A few determined men—so few in number that at their early meetings it was thought expedient to draw a red curtain across their room of assembly to conceal its emptiness—set the Anti-Corn-Law League a-going. What the League has done, Europe is but beginning to understand. But as concerns English Opera, we have as yet examined no scheme in which the difficulties of the case seem to have been in the least frankly admitted. Were this once done, to meet them might not be so difficult as it appears.

It is said that some English service music has been recently written by the Rev. Sir Frederick Ouseley (known in the musical circles some years ago, as a prodigy of extraordinary promise), so excellent in quality, that it may possibly be performed during a series of Concerts about to be given at St Martin's Hall under the direction of Mr. Hullah.

The third essay of Mdle. Alboni as *Odette*, in the 'Charles VI.' of M. Halévy, seems to have been in every respect less happy than her two previous attempts at the *Grand Opéra*. Our neighbours have apparently discovered that, beautiful singer as she is, Mdle. Alboni does not possess that dramatic energy and intelligence which enable an *artiste* to sustain an opera. This, we suspect, is the secret of her wanderings, since the success to which she aspires is to be maintained only by her perpetually changing the scene of its experiment. For the finances of *la valorosa contralto* her plan of career is possibly the most advantageous one, but it leaves her almost without a name and place in the world of art. Had Mdle. Alboni remained steady to one occupation and to one public, composers might in time have come to her. She must now

go in quest of the composers, and force her talent into occupations for which it by no means appears to be suitable.

Nothing much odder as to its amplitude than the list of artists announced in the last number of the *Gazette Musicale*, by the direction of the Italian Opera of Paris, as engaged, has often been given. It consists of MM. Mario, Duprez, Tambrlik, Moriani, Reeves, Lucchesi, Brignoli, Ronconi, Salvatori, Ferrante, Majesky, Soldi, Valenti; Mesdames Castellan, Rovelli, Luxore, Ronconi, Caroline Duprez, Ida Bertrand, Seguin, E. Grisi, Amigo, Majesky, Faccioli, &c. &c. "Other engagements of famous artists," says the *manifesto*, "will be announced before the opening of the theatre." Four operas, new to Paris, are promised for the coming season,—which, it is added, will probably be the 'Eleonora' of Mercadante, the same composer's 'Il Giuramento' and 'Il Bravo,' and the 'Macbeth' of Verdi. Besides these, a work by Signor Alary, composed for the theatre, is promised.

Mdlle. Carlotta Grisi is going this winter to dance in Russia,—Mdle. Nathalie Fitz-James in New York.

The name of Signor Foroni, who is about to give a new opera at Trieste, is new to us:—may it prove the name of a composer!

### MISCELLANEA

*A Book-hunt at the British Museum.*—The following amusing account given by our able contemporary the *Gentleman's Magazine*, of a book-hunt in the Library of the British Museum furnishes a pleasant comment on the convenience afforded by the Catalogues with all the new additions.—"The other day we wanted to find the common book called the Beauties of England and Wales in the Catalogue. It was quite a glorious hunt. We began with the 79 vol. Catalogue, under the title 'England and Wales,'—it was not there; then we went to the 153 vol. Catalogue, same title—not there. We tried 'Beauties' in both catalogues; we found 'Beauties of the Opera and Ballet,' but none of England and Wales, and under 'Beauty' there was 'Universal Beauty,'—but not the coy, shy object of our search. Here we paused to survey the ground, and meditate upon our future course. Knowing a little of the history of the book, we made a dash at 'Britton, John,' the chief editor and principal author, whose name is on the title-page of we know not how many volumes. It was weary work running through page after page of Cathedrals, and Junius, and Autobiography, and fifty other things besides; but we held on and came at last to an end, but without sight or scent of our Beauties. We tried the other catalogue with the same result. Wearied, but too much used to the sport to be discouraged, off we started again after Britton's chief coadjutor, 'Brayley, E. W.' We ran him down in the 79 vols.—no 'Beauties,' chased off to the 153 vols.—no 'Beauties.' The thing seemed becoming desperate, but we determined to hark back, and try some of the minor contributors. We looked for the Welshmen, 'Evans,' and 'Rees'—no success! We tried 'Bigland'—not there. At last we thought of 'Brewer.' There were a good many Brewers; we marked our man, 'J. N.' Here it is! No! It is only the 'Introduction, 8vo. Lond. 1818.' Well, that put us in spirits. It seemed correct that we should find the Introduction first. It was a something; a beginning; 'Introduction to the Beauties of England and Wales.' We did not stay to consider why the other authors were not entitled to have their shares in the work entered under their separate names. We had got a scent which was too hot to allow of any pause. On we dashed, determined not to be outdone. We scampered through 'Nightingale,' 'Shoberl,' and at last 'Hodgson'—no success! We began to think we should be beaten after all. We thought we would try the separate counties. 'Bedfordshire' and 'Berkshire' were fruitless, and we gave that up. It came into our mind that perhaps there was a conjoint title of 'Britton and Brayley.' The volume which contains BRI was engaged. We stood at the desk waiting to take it in our turn. We were almost inclined to give up the chase, and go home and turn the circumstance into a prize enigma, or send an ad-

vertisement for the missing Beauties to the third column of the *Times*. How often help comes at the last pinch! There was an open volume on the desk at which we were standing. It was one of A. We turned over its pages listlessly, by way of occupation whilst waiting,—when, as chance, or luck, or something or other would have it, we stumbled upon a long heading of 'Anglia.' It did not at first occur to us that the lost jewel might be there. But, seeing as we looked on and on, turning page after page, that the article 'Anglia' was a kind of pound in which all sorts of waifs and strays were inclosed, a general receptacle for articles unowned, it flashed upon our mind that it was worth while to try. We thank our stars we did so, for there it was and there it is: 'ANGLIA. The Beauties of England and Wales; topographical, historical, and descriptive. 18 vols. [in 23] 8vo. Lond. 1801-15!'

*Remains of James the Second.*—In the account of the town of St. Germain-en-Laye, in Planta's 'Picture of Paris,' (16th edition, 1830,) it is mentioned that the body of James the Second "was re-entombed with great ceremony in 1824." I recollect, when at St. Germain in the summer of 1833, having seen, either in a chapel attached to the old palace or in one of the town churches (I forget which), the tomb of the aforesaid monarch. Its site was marked by a Latin inscription painted on board. I regret having omitted to make a copy of it. Close beside the tomb was a quantity of marble scattered on the floor. My guide told me that from this material a handsome memorial had been in course of preparation, by order of Charles the Tenth, at the time when the Revolution of 1830 broke out;—since which time the work has been left in an abandoned state. Perhaps some better informed correspondent could give some clearer account of this matter, to which public attention has been directed by the statement copied into your columns from 'Notes and Queries.'—Yours, &c. L. B.

P.S.—In 'The Penny Cyclopædia' (Art. St. Germain) it is stated that the remains of James the Second were discovered in 1826, in digging the foundations for a new church.

*First Ascent of the Bernina, in the Grisons.*—On the 13th of last month, the first ascent of the celebrated Bernina, the highest mountain peak of the Bernese Alps, was effected by M. J. Coaz, of Scaufs, in Oberengadin, in company with MM. J. and L. R. Tscharver, of Scheid. The height of the peak is 4,052 metres above the sea level. It lies in the mighty mountain chain called the Bernina, and bears its name,—and rises out of the glaciers of Roseg, Tchierva, and Morteratsch. Several attempts to ascend it have been made, but hitherto without success. The task is attended with considerable danger. The three adventurers set out at six o'clock on the morning of the 13th, the sky being very clear, and reached the glaciers about seven. The thermometer stood at 2° Réaumur. \* \* About half-past ten the first glacier region was left behind. The second rose steep out of a field of snow. The glacier line was not then visible. Great fissures, 100 feet wide, had to be avoided by a circuitous route; smaller openings were to be leaped; valleys were to be wandered through, and ridges climbed. The travellers had frequently to cut steps in the ice, and throughout the first region were compelled to make constant use of their cords. The chief obstacle they encountered was an ice ridge formed of steep glacier walls; this, however, was overcome, and about six in the evening, after twelve hours of incessant toil, the summit was climbed. \* \* The cold north wind reminded the travellers that they had little time for admiration. \* \* From the foot of the glacier (1,890 mètres) to the height of 2,162 mètres, the travellers had seen no living creature excepting a mountain chough which flew among the rocks below. They had observed traces of the chamois nearly at the summit of the mountain. They buried a small flask with some Swiss coins and papers inscribed with dates and names, and built over them a 5-foot stone wall. On this they planted the Swiss federal flag, and took their leave of the place. About half-past ten they had gained the lower glacier region by moonshine, and were thus out of all danger.

*The Bridge on the Rhine at Cologne.*—It appears, from an official document published by Mr. Van der Heide, the Minister of Trade and Public Works, that the committee appointed to examine the merits of the various plans for a bridge over the Rhine, between the cities of Cologne and Deutz, have awarded the first prize of 250 frederics d'or to Mr. John W. Schwedler, architect, of Berlin, and the second prize of 125 frederics d'or to Capt. W. Moorsom, of London.



*A Document with two Readings.*—The following political *jeu d'esprit*—exhibited in the form of a placard near the Church of Santa Maria del Popolo, in Rome, on the occasion of the Pope's visiting it to assist at the grand Mass celebrated on the occasion of the fête of the Birth of the Virgin—is worth giving as a very ingenious example of *double entendre*.—

Morte a  
La Repubblica è  
Il più infame Governo  
Abbasso  
Il Dominio del Popoli

Pio IX.  
viva lungamente  
il più dolce Governo  
è quello dei Preti  
il Potere dei Preti  
regni in eterno.

If the two inscriptions are read into one another, line by line, the sense of the first inscription becomes applicable to the second.

*The Doom of English Wills.*—Up a narrow stair, under the guidance of a grumpy clerk, our persevering Middle Templar wends. In a long room, over the arches of the gateway, he sees parallel rows of shelves laden with wills: not tied up in bundles, not docketed, not protected in any way from dust or spiders by the flimsiest covering. Only the modern wills are bound up; but—not to encroach upon the Registrar's hard earnings—the backings of the bindings are composed of such original wills as were written on parchment. These are regularly cut up—that is, wilfully destroyed—for bookbinding purposes! \*\* Wherever he turns his eyes, he sees black, barbarous Ruin. In one corner, he observes decayed boxes filled with rotten wills; in another stands a basket, containing several lumps of mediæval mortar and a few brick-bats of the early pointed style—the edges, possibly, of some hole in the wall too large for even poor seven thousand a-year to shirk the stopping of. Despite the hints of the clerk that his time is valuable, Mr. Wallace is contemplating these relics with the eager gaze of an F.S.A., when he descries, hanging over the edge of the basket, something like an ancient seal. He scrutinizes it intensely—there is a document attached to it. He rescues it from the rubbish. "What can this be?" asks Mr. Wallace, with glistening eye. "Oh!" answers the clerk, with listless indifference, "nothing of any consequence, I'm sure." By this time, Mr. Wallace has found out that this "nothing of any consequence" is a Charter of King William the Conqueror—the identical instrument by which the see of Dorchester was transferred to Lincoln—that's all! The broken seal is not of "much consequence" either. Oh, no! Now it happens that there is only one impression of the great seal of the Great Norman extant, and that is in the British Museum, broken in half, this, being a counterpart, supplies the entire seal! Such is the priceless historical relic found in the year 1850, by chance, in a lime-basket, in the very place where it ought to have been as zealously preserved as if it had been the jewel of a diadem! \*\* As Mr. Wallace follows his surly guide up the stairs of the Gatehouse, the rain patters sharply against the casements, and a fusty, damp odour emerges from the upper story. Under a broken roof, and a ceiling being unplastered in huge patches by time and rain, in the top room lie—or, more correctly, rot—the wills of the Archdeaconry of Blowe, a "Peculiar" of the diocese. The papers below stairs are merely worm-eaten, spider-woven, dusty, ill-arranged; but, compared with those which Mr. Wallace now sees—and smells—are in fastidious glass-case order. After dodging the rain-drops which filter through the ceiling, down among the solemn injunctions of the dead, Mr. Wallace is able to examine one or two bundles. Mildew and rot are so omnipotent in this damp repository, that the shelves have in some places broken and crumbled away. A moment's comparison between the relative powers of wood and paper in resisting water, will give a vivid idea of the condition of the wills in this Archidiaconal shower-bath. The corners of most of the piles are as thoroughly rounded off as if a populous colony of water-rats (the ordinary species could not have existed there) had been dining off them since the days of King Stephen. Others are testamentary agglomerations, soddened into pulp—totally illegible and inseparable, having been converted by age, much rain, and inordinate neglect, into *post mortem* papier mâché.—*Household Words*.

To CORRESPONDENTS.—S. B.—A. A.—B. W.—D. Mac L.—D. B. ap R.—An Inquirer—received.

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## REVIEWS

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*An Account of the Construction of the Britannia and Conway Tubular Bridges, with a complete History of their Progress.* By William Fairbairn, C.E. Weale.

THE wonder of the ancient world was the Colossus of Rhodes; which appears to have employed Chares—who hanged himself in despair—for an Olympiad,—and then to have required all the talent and energy of Laches for twelve years more, before it was securely placed at the entrance of the harbour for the Rhodian ships to sail between its legs. As a work of engineering skill this colossal statue of the Sun was no mean thing,—yet it shrinks into a pigmy when viewed in comparison with the iron tubes that span the tidal streams of the Conway and Menai Straits. The height of the Colossus certainly did not exceed 100 feet,—it was probably much less; and the statement made by Pliny, that a man could not embrace its thumb with his two arms is evidently one of those exaggerations into which that writer was readily betrayed.

The great engineering achievement of modern time is, beyond question, the construction of a hollow beam through which heavily laden trains with their ponderous locomotive engine shall pass—470 feet in length, weighing 2,000 tons; and the lifting of this enormous mass to the height of 100 feet, at which elevation the tubes now securely rest uniting the island of Anglesea with North Wales. There already existed within a short distance of the Britannia tubular bridge a remarkable structure—the Suspension Bridge erected by Telford. This elegant specimen of engineering skill has a span of 580 feet,—is suspended 102 feet above the level of the sea,—and has for twenty-five years resisted the strain of storms, and continued to form the coach-road between the island and the main land:—proving in every respect a national monument worthy of the master mind by which it was conceived.

When, after much discussion, it was decided that Holyhead was the most eligible point from which the packets communicating with Dublin should take their departure, the Chester and Holyhead Railway Company proposed to effect the communication between Bangor and Beaumaris by appropriating one of the road-ways of the suspension bridge. The uncertainty of the effects of running ponderous locomotive engines across this structure led to a proposal that the trains should be divided, the carriages dragged across by horses, and then yoked to a fresh iron Behemoth on the opposite side. Some stipulations made, however, by the Commissioners of Woods and Forests occasioned the abandonment of this design; and the engineer to the railway was directed to overcome the difficulties of the Conway River and the Menai Straits, and to complete a permanent way from Holyhead to Chester. From the latter city the “iron-road” is continued to Crewe, —where it is connected with the great line which unites Liverpool and Manchester with the metropolis.

Anglesea is separated from Wales by a rocky and precipitous channel of about 12 miles in length, and varying in width from 1,000 feet to three-quarters of a mile. Through the rocks in the bed of this channel the tidal current sets with fearful rapidity. Mr. Clarke describes it as resembling the rapids of a great river,—the roaring thereof being heard at a great distance.

This rapidity of the tide is aided by the wind,—which during a gale blows through the Straits with almost irresistible violence. At the point selected by Mr. Robert Stephenson, the shore is steep on the Carnarvon side, and rises rapidly on the Anglesea coast; and in the centre of the Straits a rough mass of chlorite schist rises about 11 feet above low water, which is 350 feet long and 120 feet broad. This is the Britannia rock,—upon which now stands the central tower that supports the bridge bearing its name. The total water-width from shore to shore at high-water is 1,100 feet; and to add to the difficulties of spanning this gulf, the Act of Parliament required that the road-way should be 103 feet above the water through the whole length. Scaffolding was impracticable,—and the navigation was not under any circumstances to be interfered with.

The difficulties at the Conway river were but slightly less formidable:—the least span that could be obtained being 400 feet. To aid the mind in forming some correct idea of this space, we may state that the largest arches of the iron bridges of Southwark and Sunderland have a span of but 240 feet,—and that of the celebrated arch of the stone bridge crossing the river Dee is but 200 feet.

The engineers of Rhodes consumed sixteen years in the construction of their colossal statue of brass:—which, according to the most exaggerated accounts, loaded but 900 camels. This, by the most liberal computation, would not amount to more than 350 tons. The first of “these stupendous fragments of the Holyhead road,” weighing 2,000 tons, was commenced in March 1847,—completed and tested in January 1848,—floated to its place in March, and in use for railway traffic in April, 1848. We do not believe there was ever any great engineering work executed with anything like the same celerity. Every portion, however, of this vast undertaking progressed with equal speed. Referring to the masonry, Mr. Stephenson said, when placing the last stone on the top of the Britannia Tower,—

“No one at first believed it possible that so vast a body of masonry could have been constructed within so short a period. The contractors had spared no expense, wisely judging that early liberality was final economy. Not less than two millions and a half of cubic feet of masonry had been constructed, though three years had not elapsed since the laying of the first stone. The height of the work averaged 100 feet, and the tower upon which they stood peered above the waters 245 feet. The work had gone quietly on with such perseverance, that three cubic feet had been accomplished per minute since the commencement, allowing twelve working hours to the day, and six working days in the week. . . . If there was one circumstance more gratifying than another, it was that from the beginning to the conclusion of this gigantic undertaking no life had been sacrificed, as was too often the case, from insufficiency of machinery or tackling.”

The character of these extraordinary tubes, or rigid hollow iron beams, will be tolerably well conveyed by stating that the top and bottom are each formed of square cells or flues of sufficient size to allow the workmen to enter them, to hold up against the rivets while they are being inserted, and to cleanse and paint the interior. These are continuous throughout the whole length of the bridge: the top consisting of eight such cells, one foot nine inches in height and breadth,—and the bottom of six, the width of these being greater. The sides of the tube are plain sheets of iron plates, stiffened by vertical ribs within and without and by gussets or corner pieces. The Britannia tubes, in their complete state, contain 9,360 tons of wrought iron,—1,015 tons of cast iron,—and 165 tons of

permanent way, consisting of balks of timber and the iron rails with their fittings. These tubes are comprised of 186,000 separate pieces of iron, pierced by seven millions of holes, and united by upwards of two millions of rivets. They contain 435,700 feet, or eighty-three miles, of angle iron;—and their total weight is 10,540 tons.

In Mr. Clarke's work we have detailed with very considerable minuteness the various experiments which were made on the strength of iron under several conditions previously to its being employed for this structure; and we have also a very exact account of the progress by which the first idea of a rigid road-way became gradually resolved into the iron tube through which the Chester and Holyhead trains now pass. These questions are very fully dealt with by Mr. Fairbairn also:—under whose directions, aided by the practical experience and mathematical skill of Prof. Hodgkinson, all the experiments were made.

There is a subject connected with these two publications which we feel some delicacy in approaching:—yet it appears to us that it should not be avoided, since it involves the high characters of two of our most skilful engineers.—Since the construction of these stupendous iron tubes has ceased to be a problem, Mr. Fairbairn complains that the share of merit due to him in solving this great engineering question has been entirely passed over, or the real nature of the services which he rendered concealed. Having examined with much care the correspondence published by Mr. Fairbairn and the statement made by Mr. Stephenson in Mr. Clarke's work, we cannot but think that much of the misunderstanding which has arisen has been the work of over-partial and injudicious friends. Mr. Fairbairn admits the *original conception* to have been Mr. Stephenson's:—“To this early conception I make no claim;” and he speaks of “the honour which I feel, in having been selected by Mr. Stephenson as the fittest person to elucidate the subject and conduct the inquiry. I have pleasure in acknowledging the liberality which furnished the means of promoting the researches on a scale of such magnitude as to insure conclusive results.” Mr. Stephenson distinctly states that Mr. Fairbairn suggested the conversion of his “*Beam-platform into a large flat tube or tubes, with sufficient flexibility to assume a curved form, but with sufficient rigidity to resist much distortion of curvature.*” The original idea—the germ from which the mighty growth has sprung—is clearly, then, Mr. Stephenson's:—this embryo was cultivated and improved mainly by the experiments and careful attention of Mr. Fairbairn. The only point on which we should be disposed to blame Mr. Stephenson is, that he gives an equal acknowledgment of services to three individuals—Mr. Fairbairn, Prof. Hodgkinson, and Mr. Edwin Clarke, the author of these volumes, who was the resident engineer. Their relative merits are of a different character,—each most valuable; but it should not have been forgotten, if there is any value in the tubular form, that this is, as we have shown in Mr. Stephenson's own words, a suggestion of Mr. Fairbairn's,—and that this gentleman, with Prof. Hodgkinson, originated and carried out the “experiments which terminated in establishing the laws that regulate the strength of tubular structures.”—Mr. Clarke stood in a very different relation:—his skill was directed, as Mr. Stephenson's assistant, to faithfully carrying out the details which the experiments of the others suggested. A little too much may have been claimed by one, and a little too much expected by the other, when they saw the huge



specimen of engineering skill which had arisen under their united exertions. The world has ever given its highest praise to the man who originates a new thought,—the improvements upon the thought are not, however, forgotten. We see a little symptom of human weakness in the fear that some of the world's praise may be lost by each of these eminent engineers.

The structure stands a noble monument of engineering skill:—and other ages will quietly settle the question about which it is a folly to have written an angry word.

*The Works of Christopher Marlowe. With Notes and some Account of his Life and Writings.* By the Rev. Alexander Dyce. 3 vols. Pickering.

WHAT Swift said of letters, even from favoured correspondents,—that there are letters that will “keep”—may be applied to a certain class of books. There are books—and letters also—that will not keep:—but Mr. Dyce's edition of Marlowe is not of Mr. Panizzi's catalogue class of “Ephemerides.” Marlowe—“Kit Marlowe, bathed in the Thespian springs”—was a poet for other ages than his own:—and we may safely predict that no future editor need hope to supplant Mr. Dyce's edition of his writings. All that diligence could add to a comprehensive and minute knowledge of the literature of the reign of Queen Elizabeth the editor has brought to bear in illustration of this his labour of love. New discoveries may hereafter be made,—but nothing, we suspect, that will occasion any particular change in the text of this edition. What future antiquaries may bring to light will in all probability relate chiefly to the life of the poet. A well-authenticated anecdote or a characteristic letter would enliven the mere tombstone-like materials which we possess concerning Marlowe. There are young and ardent minds at work ransacking every possible corner for materials elucidatory of the lives of our early poets; and when we reflect how much has been added of late years to our stock of knowledge concerning them, there is yet a hope for something new about Marlowe.

This is not the first edition, so called, of Marlowe's works. There was an edition in three volumes published as recently as 1826—a very faulty one—with which Mr. Dyce was said to have had something to do. This, however, we were always unwilling to believe; and we now find that Mr. Dyce disclaims in print any participation in its publication.—

“I had no concern (he says) in the edition of 1826, which nevertheless has been frequently cited as mine; and when I characterize it as abounding in the grossest errors I cannot offend its editor, who has been long deceased.”

The tragedies of Marlowe are the true progenomena to the works of Shakspeare. There can be no complete comprehension of Shakspeare as a poet without a thorough intimacy with the tragedies of his immediate predecessor. He owes nothing to Peele, to Greene, to Nash, to Lyly, or to Lodge. Shakspeare's only obligations were to Marlowe. He seems to have kindled his great flame at the torch of this poet. If we would enter fully into the genius of Burns, we must have read Allan Ramsay,—if we would thoroughly dive into the soul of Raphael, we must study Pietro Perugino. Had Marlowe lived longer, Shakspeare would have had a rival in reputation much nearer than any that has now come down to us.

The origin of these two poets was not unlike. Marlowe was the son of a shoemaker in Canterbury,—Shakspeare the son of a glover (as all seem now to admit) at Stratford-upon-Avon.—They were born in the same year—a memorable year for English literature,—1564. But the

resemblance ceases here. Marlowe received a good education at the King's School at Canterbury; and finding a patron (in, it is thought, Sir Roger Manwood), was removed to Bene't College, Cambridge,—where he took the degrees of A.B. and A.M. Shakspeare's education was little more than “small Latin and less Greek,” if we may trust Ben Jonson; and as for a college education, even his wildest biographers have never hinted at that.—As Marlowe was Shakspeare's senior in age by a few months, so was he his senior in reputation—by, there is reason to think, a few years. Of Shakspeare, nothing is known between the entry in the Stratford register of the baptism in February 1585 of his twin-children Hamnet and Judith, and the appearance of his name in November 1589 in a list of Her Majesty's “poor players.” Now, of Marlowe this at least is certain, that his three parts of ‘Tamburlaine the Great’ were in print in 1590—and, as both Mr. Collier and Mr. Dyce see reason to believe, on the stage at least two years before. What is known of Shakspeare as an author in 1587—or in 1590? His ‘Venus and Adonis,’ really his earliest publication, was first printed in 1593, when Marlowe had been dead at least a year. All Marlowe's works were produced prior, we may safely assert, to the appearance of Shakspeare as a writer for the stage or as an author in print. There is nothing in Mr. Collier's ‘Life’ or in Mr. Halliwell's more recent biography to interfere with this position.

The two great actors of the Shakspearian era were Alleyn and Richard Burbadge; and Mr. Collier will, we believe, readily agree with us when we state that Alleyn was earlier distinguished as an actor—aye, and in Marlowe's plays—than Burbadge was distinguished as an actor in the plays of Shakspeare or of any other dramatist. Nor will he, we suspect, dissent from us when we state that Burbadge never obtained so great a reputation for Richard the Third or Othello, his most famous parts, as Alleyn acquired from Tamburlaine and the Jew in two of Marlowe's plays. Marlowe and Alleyn were the supporters of one company, or house:—Shakspeare and Burbadge the supporters of another company, or house. To rival and to outstrip Marlowe and Alleyn were the great objects of Shakspeare and Burbadge; and with what success this was done when Marlowe was dead—and would doubtless have been done had he lived—is happily the school-boy knowledge of every Englishman.

That Shakspeare, with so little occasion to borrow, was not without recollections of Marlowe's plays, has been pointed out by Mr. Dyce in his account of Marlowe. Here are something more than mere accidental resemblances:—

She bears a duke's revenues on her back.

*Shakspeare—Henry VI.*

He wears a lord's revenue on his back.

*Marlowe—Edward II.*

These arms of mine shall be thy winding sheet;  
My heart, sweet boy, shall be thy sepulchre.

*Shakspeare—Henry VI.*

What sight is this? my Lodovico slain!

These arms of mine shall be thy sepulchre.

*Marlowe—The Jew of Malta.*

It is now universally admitted among competent critics that Shakspeare commenced his career as a dramatic author by remodelling certain pieces written either separately or conjointly by Greene, Marlowe, Lodge, and Peele:—that he adopted what was popular, and made it his own by the inimitable genius which he threw into it with the ready hand of a great master. So Wilkie (to compare smaller things with great) when asked about the secret of his popular success as a painter, replied “that he had always endeavoured to graft his conception of a picture on some arrangement of figures already popular.” It is only a master, however,

who can dignify plagiarism in this way:—if, indeed, the Second and Third Parts of Henry VI. are to be thought either equitable or legal seizures of “The First Part of the Contention of the two famous houses of York and Lancaster” and “The True Tragedy of Richard, Duke of York,”—in which there is excellent evidence for believing that Marlowe, as Mr. Dyce says, was “largely concerned.” Of the evidence requisite for the support of this belief take only one portion,—the resemblances in the two plays to an acknowledged work of Marlowe:—

I tell thee, Poull, when thou didst run at tilt  
And stol'st away our ladies' hearts in France.

*First Part of Contention.*

Tell Isabel the queen, I look'd not thus,  
When for her sake I ran at tilt in France.

*Marlowe's Edward II.*

Madam, I bring you news from Ireland;  
The wild O'Neil, my lords, is up in arms,  
With troops of Irish kerns, that uncontrolled  
Doth plant themselves within the English pale.

*First Part of Contention.*

The wild O'Neil, with swarms of Irish kerns,  
Lives uncontrol'd within the English pale.

*Marlowe's Edward II.*

Stern Fawconbridge commands the narrow seas.

*The True Tragedie.*

The haughty Dane commands the narrow seas.

*Marlowe's Edward II.*

Thus yields the cedar to the axe's edge,  
Whose arms gave shelter to the princely eagle.

*The True Tragedie.*

A lofty cedar tree, fair flourishing,  
On whose top-branches kingly eagles perch.

*Marlowe's Edward II.*

What, will the aspiring blood of Lancaster  
Sink into the ground? I had thought it would have mounted.

*The True Tragedie.*

Frown'st thou thereat, aspiring Lancaster?

.....highly scorning that the lowly earth  
Should drink his blood, mounts up to the air.

*Marlowe's Edward II.*

These close resemblances are not by themselves sufficient to justify our assigning ‘The Contention’ and ‘The True Tragedie’ to Marlowe's pen; but they are not the only grounds,—a fact which Mr. Dyce has elaborated with his usual research and discrimination.

We have dwelt thus long upon Marlowe's influence on the mind and works of Shakspeare, inasmuch as it must always be looked on as the most interesting point in the former's short and chequered life. Marlowe and Shakspeare were born, as we have said, in the same year,—but Marlowe was slain at the age of thirty. Had Shakspeare died at the same age, we should have wanted those glorious works which have placed him alone on the pinnacle of Parnassus. Marlowe died in 1592; and Shakspeare's earliest publication—may we not add, his earliest work?—was, as we have said, his ‘Venus and Adonis,’ in 1593. Some of the turgid—aye, and the mighty—lines of Shakspeare have their foundation in Marlowe. The Barabas and Abigail of the latter poet begot the Shylock and Jessica of Shakspeare:—nor is it too much to assert that ‘Venus and Adonis’ was written in emulation of Marlowe's magnificent fragment of ‘Hero and Leander.’ That Shakspeare was an admirer of Marlowe's poem we may safely assume, from the quotation which he has made from it in ‘As You Like It;’ and Mr. Dyce is of opinion that the words which are there applied to the author—“dead shepherd”—sound not unlike an expression of pity for his sad and untimely end.

Though it was known before Mr. Dyce's publication that Marlowe died about the age of thirty, and that he was the son of a shoemaker at Canterbury, the exact period of his birth, or the church in which he was baptized, or even the school at which he was educated, had not been ascertained. He was baptized, it now appears through Mr. Dyce's diligence, in the church of St. George the Martyr, in Canterbury, on the 26th of February 1563-4; and educated at the King's School in that city,—founded by Henry the Eighth for a master, an usher, and



fifty scholars between the ages of nine and fifteen, the scholars having each a stipend of 4*l.* per annum and retaining their scholarships for five years. What his particular progress at this school may have been Mr. Dyce was unable to ascertain with satisfactory fulness:—and in his preface he tells us *why* he was unable.—

“Having reason to believe that Marlowe had been educated at the King’s School, Canterbury, I requested the Hon. D. Finch, auditor, to examine certain old treasurer’s accounts, which, I was told, were preserved in the Cathedral, and were likely to determine the point. With this request Mr. Finch complied; and informed me that Marlowe was mentioned in those accounts as one of the king’s scholars, who had received the usual stipend during such and such years. But there his civilities ended. It was in vain that I continued asking him, as a particular favour, either to permit me to make the necessary extracts from those accounts or to allow a clerk to make them for me;—in Mr. Finch’s opinion my solicitations were unreasonable. Several months after, a gentleman, whose influence is powerful at Canterbury, was induced (through the medium of a mutual friend) to exert himself in my behalf; and in consequence of his kind interposition the extracts from the accounts were at last forwarded to me, accompanied with a special notice that ‘ten and sixpence’ must be sent in return to Mr. Finch.”

We do not envy Mr. Finch the notoriety which his want of sympathy with genius or with the labours of literary men is likely to obtain for him. Had Mr. Dyce been permitted to examine the treasurer’s entries and papers with his own eyes, he would doubtless have found something concerning Marlowe that has escaped the leaden diligence of Mr. Finch’s clerk. As it is, the extracts we fear are at the best unsatisfactory.

*The Theory of Human Progression, and Natural Probability of a Reign of Justice.* Johnstone & Hunter.

SOME progress in the cultivation of any department of knowledge is a necessary preliminary to a satisfactory system of terminology. A correct definition of a term is seldom or never effected until after the term has been used for some time in a vague and general sense. When knowledge begins to be transformed into science,—that is, begins to be methodized and made instrumental towards further knowledge,—the want of precise definitions commences. Knowledge is at first an aggregation of isolated facts. As these facts gradually accumulate, they are grouped together by the mind according to their more obvious and general resemblances. The attributes or predicates of the several classes of facts thus formed are next observed and registered: and this system of registration when carried to its utmost extent—to the highest possible degree of generality—gives as its ultimate results what are called the *laws* of nature. In the degree that these laws in any one department of thought are arrived at, our knowledge of that department assumes the form of a science. Now, in the investigation and discovery of a science a knowledge of the more obvious and general resemblances of facts is insufficient for correct classification, and a process of logical analysis is requisite for ascertaining with precision the qualities in which phenomena really agree or differ. In this process consists scientific definition:—and the difficulty of a scientific definition of terms is the chief impediment in the progress of every science. When once this difficulty is surmounted, the application of the general canons of logical method, which are the same for all sciences, is a matter of comparative ease. The further the cultivation of a science has progressed, the higher the generality of the terms which require definition; as will appear by contrasting the well-defined nomenclature of the more ad-

vanced physical sciences—such as mechanics or inorganic chemistry—with the ambiguous and uncertain phraseology which still retards the progress of physiology, and the absolute confusion of terms from which the moral and political sciences are only just emerging. How many fruitless speculations in physiology have been based on incorrect conceptions of the terms “life” and “organization”! Whately enumerates seven distinct senses of the word “wealth,” and no less than nine of “rent.” It is impossible to rely on the conclusions of political economists until the ambiguity of the leading terms of their science shall be removed.

If these observations respecting the chronological sequence of definitions on the cultivation and extension of knowledge be correct, we shall not be surprised at the unsatisfactory meaning conveyed until very recently by the term “human progression.” The real signification of this term can be understood only after some advance has been made in Political Philosophy. Since the time of Rousseau the words “human progress” have been in current use among all classes of political writers,—but with a signification rather morally felt than intellectually defined even in the minds of the more advanced thinkers. The “progress” of one writer has involved a very different class of ideas and a very different theory from the “progress” of another. To M. Guizot belongs the honour of having first ascertained with some degree of scientific accuracy the real meaning of the term “civilization”:—the present work is a philosophical attempt to render the same service to the term “human progression.”

It must be confessed by any one of ordinary reflection and candour, that such phrases as the “theory of human progression,” although the embodiment of the hopes of all liberal minds, have so often served to introduce mere vague and profitless declamation, that they have in a great measure lost their original value. A very slight examination of the work now under our notice will, however, be sufficient to convince any unprejudiced reader that he has met with an author who understands his subject,—who is in possession of clear and well-defined views, and of the power of stating them with a vigorous earnestness worthy of the theme. It is true that, for his principles and method he is largely indebted to the writings of Kant, of Cousin, and of Guizot; but his work exhibits, nevertheless, unmistakable evidences of a high order of ability and of considerable originality of thought.

The author, after some preliminary observations on science in general, begins by defining Politics as the science of *Equity*; and thence infers that the practical ultimatum of the science of politics must be, to obliterate all unequitable or unjust action of one man towards another or of one body of men towards another body of men. As thus defined, politics in its position is posterior to political economy and anterior to religion. Endless ambiguities and discussions arise from confounding these two sciences of political economy and politics proper. So far as the applications of the two are co-extensive, their results are always exactly co-incident,—but it by no means follows that the latter science may not extend into a region unapproachable by the former.—

“Political economy in no respect can be allowed to discourse of *duty*, nor can politics be allowed to discourse of *sin*. Economy superadds the concept *value* to physiology, and the physiologist has exactly the same case to deny the *value* of the economist that the economist has to deny the *equity* of the politician, or the politician to deny the religious quality of actions posited by the divine. The four

regions are perfectly distinct; distinct in their noun-substantive major, distinct in the end of their inquiries, distinct in their method, and distinct in their practical signification and importance, although all meeting in the organized, intellectual, moral, and religious being, MAN.”

We are not unacquainted with the objections which may be urged against the principles involved in the above distinctions. The followers of Bentham will allege that beneficial tendency is the exclusive test of the rectitude of all human action. We must confess that the author of the present work does not meet this objection completely to our satisfaction, and in a manner in which it might be met by so accurate a thinker. Although Bentham justly holds a high place—perhaps the highest—as a writer on legislation, still the basis of his moral system is opposed to generous sympathy, and, as we conceive, to truth. Sir James Mackintosh has well observed, that Bentham’s error arose from confounding the sentiment of moral approbation with the moral qualities which are its objects: we should have liked to see this observation—which in our opinion goes to the root of the matter—extended and elucidated by the author of this work. A refutation of the exclusively utilitarian or selfish system of ethics, written with scientific precision and disencumbered of irrelevant matter, is still a desideratum in the literature of moral philosophy. The work of Kant on the Theory of Morals, to which the author of this volume is evidently under some obligation, requires for its profitable study an acquaintance with the highly technical, and frequently repulsive, terminology of a very complicated system of metaphysical philosophy. The involved and difficult style in which Bishop Butler wrote will, we believe, for ever hide his profound speculations from the majority of readers. Francis Lieber’s work on Political Ethics, though replete with just thoughts, is deficient in formal accuracy, at least as respects the question now under consideration:—and the same observation may, we think, be extended to a recent production from the able pen of Dr. Whewell.

But, to proceed with our analysis of this work. Having defined Politics as the science of equity, our author next determines the *method* which is applicable to the study of that science. We cannot devote the space necessary to render intelligible the details of the profound but luminous manner in which he accomplishes this object. Adopting not the rational empiricism developed by Mr. J. S. Mill in his ‘Treatise on Logic,’ but the formal reason of Kant, he investigates with masterly skill an encyclopædic scheme exhibiting the mutual relations and dependence of the sciences and the manner in which one science may be expected to spring from another. The scheme thus arrived at by an *à priori* method he confirms and illustrates *à posteriori* by references to the actual history of the sciences. Those who are acquainted with the ‘*Système Figuré des Connaissances Humaines*’ of D’Alembert, and the encyclopædic table of Bentham, will perceive the superior simplicity of the method here exhibited. Now, if the law of man’s intellectual development—that is, the extension of man’s knowledge—can be made out for the branches of knowledge which have already been reduced to ordination, it can also be carried into the future,—and the future condition of knowledge may be seen to evolve logically out of the past. Hence, we may infer the probability of the evolution of all the moral sciences,—or sciences which take direct cognizance of the intentions and actions of men; and among those sciences, of political economy and politics,—at present in a very incomplete state. Now, credence based upon sufficient evidence is absolutely essential to the



human race before that race can know and work out its own well-being: this correct credence is the necessary result of scientific knowledge; in the degree, then, that knowledge is rendered scientific, the improvement of the condition of mankind is rendered possible. Men must, therefore, *know* correctly before they can *act* correctly: correct action is knowledge carried into practical operation. Further,—although a single individual may or may not determine his actions according to his knowledge, the constitution of humanity in the *mass* necessarily determines that wherever knowledge is obtained, systematically ordinated, and generally diffused, an amended order of action will invariably result. An increase of knowledge as inevitably produces change in the condition of society as an increase of temperature produces change in the condition of matter.—

“Let us now ask, what is the essence of that ultimate condition of man, expressed for brevity sake by the word millennium?—*A period when truth is discovered, acknowledged, and carried into practical operation.* In so far as the millennium is a religious millennium, it is a period when religious truth shall be discovered, acknowledged, and carried into practical operation. And in so far as it is a political millennium, it is a period when political truth shall be discovered, acknowledged, and carried into practical operation. And so forth for every other branch of knowledge that is capable of being reduced to practice.”

The above is a slight outline, necessarily incomplete, of what the reader may expect to meet with in this work.

*An Autumn in Sicily; being an Account of the Principal Remains of Antiquity existing in that Island, with Short Sketches of its Ancient and Modern History.* By the Marquis of Ormonde. Dublin, Hodges & Co.

WE were not a little disappointed on opening this volume to find that the ‘Autumn in Sicily’ to which the author refers, instead of belonging to the year 1848 or 1849, carries us back as far as 1832. Nevertheless, a pilgrimage at any period to the classic land of which it treats—so lately the scene of important events—should be of interest to our readers:—so, we do not suffer a mere date to deter us from dealing with the work before us.

The political condition of the island had attracted but a slight share of the noble author’s attention at the time of his sojourn there; but on publishing his reminiscences of 1832 in the volume now offered to the public, our traveller has thought it right to add a compendium of the events of 1848. This compendium, however, gives a very imperfect sketch of the late revolution. The history of the Middle Ages as relating to the island, and the events immediately following on the Sicilian vespers, are completely overlooked in the book; although they form the era that gave birth to the Sicilian Magna Charta,—the constitution granted by Frederic the Aragonese. This constitution, which survived, in spite of sundry changes, until the reform which it underwent in 1812, guaranteed the political existence of the island and its right to a parliament. The author is, therefore, grievously mistaken when he represents the revolution of 1848 as claiming merely the constitution of 1812, instead of the time-hallowed rights of former centuries:—and while dwelling at length on comparatively insignificant facts, he scarcely makes passing mention of the reforms effected in the constitution of 1812 during the parliamentary session of 1848,—nor of the English and French mediation. Some insight may, however, be gathered into the iron despotism that weighed on this unhappy island long before the revolution of 1848,

from the following glance which the Marquis of Ormonde gives at the state of the prisons at the time of his journey.—

“The prison discipline in Sicily is of the very worst description: nothing like classification is attempted; all ages and the most dissimilar crimes are treated alike; murderers and the pilferers of a loaf of bread being crowded together in one indiscriminate mass of riot and abomination. Amongst those whom we saw on the present occasion was an innocent looking boy, who could not have been more than fourteen years old, and who had been put in confinement for some paltry theft; and in what company! It was melancholy to think upon it. No employment whatever is provided for the prisoners, and such a thing as a gaol delivery is but rarely attempted; those alone are brought to justice who have been guilty of some very atrocious crime, or who are accused of sedition, in which latter case the government take care to pursue them with a degree of unrelenting malignity proportioned to their own feebleness and incompetency. \* \* Some of the unfortunate Carbonari, who attempted to establish a constitution at Naples, are confined here, and have been so, *untried*, for eleven years, and it is more than probable that their incarceration will end only with their lives. Upwards of 4,000 of these victims of cowardice and oppression are thus immured alive in the various prisons and islands of the kingdom of Naples, cut off from their friends, whom they are never permitted to see, and with an allowance from the government barely sufficient to support existence. Despotism must be a most desirable treasure, if worth retaining at such a price. It is to be hoped that the time will yet arrive when some party may be found sufficiently united—for union is the only thing requisite—to force upon the court of Naples the wholesome truth contained in the American declaration of independence, that ‘government is an institution for the benefit of the governed, and that, when it becomes subversive of that end, it ought to be destroyed.’”

Although the Marquis of Ormonde’s tour was undertaken principally with a view to antiquarian researches,—even on this subject his remarks are meagre and superficial. The famous metopes at Selinonte, for instance, he cavalierly despatches with the few following words.—

“It was near these ruins [those of Selinonte] that the marbles known as the ‘Selinontine,’ of which there are casts at the British Museum, were discovered. They were probably the productions of artists from the school of Ægina, which flourished about 500 years B.C. \* \* We spent the 5th of December visiting in the course of the day the University which had been forgotten before, and which merits attention for the antiques from Ægesta and Selinus, which it contains.”

Yet these Selinontine marbles—a portion of which were discovered by two English architects, Messrs. Harris and Angell, in 1823, while the remainder were subsequently brought to light by the Archaeological Committee of Palermo, and deposited in the museum of that city,—form one of the most valuable collections known to antiquarians.—Selinonte, one of the most flourishing of the Greek colonies that had settled in Sicily, was destroyed by the Carthaginians about 400 years B.C., after existing for about a couple of centuries. The temples which had formerly been adorned by the metopes found amongst their ruins were raised at different periods:—hence these sculptured marbles serve to mark the progress of the sculptor’s art amongst the Greco-Sicilian colonies at various epochs.—It is not a little curious to find on examining ten metopes discovered in the three temples of the same city, the gradual improvements in the art of design, from the shapeless Egyptian forms to the ideal perfection of the school of Phidias. A learned Sicilian archæologist, the Duke of Serradifalco, has illustrated these metopes in a large and important work, which contains descriptions and drawings of all the Greek antiquities to be met with in Sicily. But it would seem that the Marquis of Ormonde disdains to

avail himself of so able a guide; as he never refers to the noble author’s work in describing either the metopes or any other antiquities,—of which he gives, himself, but a bare and imperfect description, accompanied by very mediocre designs.—His strictures on the Fine Arts of later times are equally superficial. On the monuments of the middle ages he does not dwell for a moment; although amongst these latter several Arabian palaces in the vicinity of Palermo may be said to vie in beauty with the Alhambra,—and sundry cathedrals combining the triple attractions of the Byzantine, Moorish and Norman styles, and forming a harmonious and completely novel order of architecture, were well worthy of his notice. In like manner he overlooks the fine paintings executed by the pupils of Polidoro of Caravaggio, which are to be seen at Messina. He incorrectly gives the name of Fra Morreale to the greatest of Sicilian painters,—his name being Pietro Novelli, commonly called *Il Monreale*; and he falls into another error when mentioning this artist’s painting placed in the Convent of Benedictines at Monreale,—the subject of which he has misunderstood.

In mere descriptive power, however, the Marquis of Ormonde is not deficient,—and we could quote passages in which he has been singularly happy. The following sketch of the magnificent scenery around Mount Etna we will give entire, by way of set-off to our necessary strictures.—

“We had pushed on with the object of getting to the top of the cone before sunset. \* \* The thermometer stood at 43°—[at the *Casa Inglese*.† The thermometer at Catania had stood at 81° in the shade the previous day at noon]. \* \* We went off at once over ground very disagreeable to get over, half lava and half ashes, and reached the top in forty-eight minutes. Any description must fall short of the sight that burst upon us. There was not a cloud in the sky. The whole of Sicily, the south of Italy, all the Lipari Islands, and a vast extent of sea, lay beneath us as on a map, while across its smooth surface the sun cast the broad pyramidal shadow of the volcano, which lengthened and lengthened until lost in the distance. It gradually disappeared, and was succeeded by a perfect image of the mountain, thrown on the vapours above the horizon; the sky on each side retaining its pink hue, but the shadow assuming a greyish-blue colour. All the higher mountains were easily recognised, but the details of such a panorama are lost in its own immensity. Not only Mount Eryx, at the western extremity of Sicily, but the island of Maritimo, 160 miles off, and even the sea beyond it, were visible: Palermo was concealed by hills, but Monte Pellegrino, Calatabellota, and Monte S. Bonifacio, over Alcamo, were as clearly defined as if we had been within a few hours’ ride of them. The straits of Messina on one side, and Syracuse on the other, each about fifty miles distant, seemed almost under our feet. \* \* Every spot on which the eye now rested had been hallowed by poetic or historical association; either as the resort of those fabled beings, who were once supposed to exercise so powerful an influence over the destinies of mankind; as the field where liberty triumphed over lawless oppression; as the poet’s cradle or the patriot’s grave; as recalling all that can dignify and adorn human nature; or as proclaiming the irresistible decree, that not only genius, virtue, glory, empires, but even the earth itself, shall pass away. \* \* The sun at length appeared, in unclouded majesty, rising as it were out of the sea: we watched it till its whole disk was above the horizon, and then, turning round, saw the image of the mountain, that we had before observed in the east, now as distinctly figured in the opposite direction. It continued visible for fifteen minutes, and was then succeeded by the pyramidal shadow, stretching in the present instance across the land, as it had at sunset across the sea. The atmosphere had now assumed that brilliant transparency unknown to northern climates,

† A station built at an elevation of 9,592 feet, at the expense of some English officers in 1811.



and of which no description can convey any adequate idea to those who have never witnessed it. With this advantage we followed without difficulty the various windings of the coast of Italy to a considerable distance beyond Policastro, and, looking over Calabria, saw the gulf of Taranto sparkling in the sun, and the rugged outline of the mountains of the Terra di Lecce, 245 miles off, darkly traced against the sky."

The Marquis of Ormonde was still in Sicily at the time of the eruption of Mount Etna in 1832,—and we must refer the reader to his work for several other graphic descriptions relative to that wonderful phenomenon.

Part of the work is devoted to an account of the internal economy of the principal towns, with a glance at the moral condition of the island. Without entering into any criticism on this portion of the author's labours, we shall simply state that most of his impressions coincide with those of Capt. Smith, who visited Sicily some years before, and to whose work our traveller frequently refers.

Taken as a whole, this 'Autumn in Sicily' is far from satisfactory. It is little better than a collection of hasty notes such as most travellers jot down in their diary,—and which require remodelling before they are offered to the public. It needs the pruning knife in some respects,—while in others meagre outlines require filling in to give them effect and consistency. It is at once redundant and full of omissions. The Marquis of Ormonde's travelling companion, a Mr. Odell, had undertaken the compilation of the work in the first instance,—but subsequently this literary partnership was dissolved. Nevertheless, it strikes us that, considering the changes which have taken place in the state of Sicily during the seventeen years that have elapsed since 1832, the author might, whether with the help of a friend or by his own unaided efforts, have arranged and amplified his notes,—renovating his work by commenting on these changes. It is true, as we have said, that he has attempted something of the kind in adverting to the political events of 1848; but in all other respects it would seem that he has published his first rough impressions without revision or addition.

*An Elementary Course of Geology, Mineralogy, and Physical Geography.* By David T. Ansted. Van Voorst.

Few of the natural sciences, as we have more than once had occasion to observe, have recently made more rapid progress than Geology,—and none have been more productive of practical results, or have had greater influence on theoretical speculations. With scarcely a group of phenomena to arrange and classify that might not have been properly embraced by some other department of science, it has yet prosecuted most important inquiries,—and by its use of the principles of other sciences has extended and widened the sphere of all. Before the time when geology asserted its right to conduct its researches independently of authority derived from other departments of human inquiry, our knowledge of the earth's history, bounded by the dogmatic assertions of a false interpretation of history, exercised but little influence either on speculative philosophy, on the sciences, or on practical life. How different now is its position! Emancipated from leading strings, the history of the earth now presents us with some of the grandest problems on which the human mind can rest. From the general laws of geological science we are enabled to trace the history of the forms of matter itself,—and combining its observations with those of the astronomer, to give probability to a theory of the development of the physical universe. On

the facts of geology have been built up those specious generalizations which have offered a new view of creation, and affected to give to the laws of organic life a precision hitherto obtained only in inorganic matter. To the geologist we are principally indebted for bringing to light the vast variety of forms of animal and vegetable existence which lie entombed in the earth's strata. These, dug out in the inextinguishable love of discovering mere varieties of form, have afforded to the zoologist the means of confirming some of his most brilliant general laws,—which have in turn paid back to the geologist a tenfold power of interpreting the meaning of these buried remains. Geology has become also the great teacher and guide of the practical man. It warns him against the folly of looking for mineral treasures where its laws have proved that they cannot exist. It guides him whilst seeking for the materials of his dwelling-place,—theatres, churches, and palaces,—for the iron, lead, silver, gold for which he has so many uses. It has opened up to him inexhaustible stores of coal. It indicates the spots whence he may draw water,—and gives him the most valuable directions in mining and draining. For raising his food on the surface of the globe, it points out to him the means of making barren wilds fertile fields,—and deep down in the bowels of the earth it reveals an inexhaustible storehouse of the elements of his food. Such are some of the features that make geology, as now understood, at once a popular and a practical science; and it is no longer to be wondered at that there is an increasing demand for works giving an account of the principles and facts of such a science.

Amongst the numbers who have written successfully on geology in this country, the works of none take a higher position than those of Prof. Ansted. Geology as a science is not perhaps so much indebted to him as might be expected for original researches or for additions to its special literature;—but no writer has more clearly and ably set out its great facts and principles.—The present work is intended, not to take the place of Prof. Ansted's previous works, 'The Principles of Geology' and 'The Ancient World,'—but rather to supply an introduction to those works, at the same time exhibiting the relation of geology to the sciences of physical geography and mineralogy. It is so arranged that the parts on physical geography and mineralogy serve as an introduction to that on descriptive geology. Although we have hitherto no books which treat these subjects together, there is yet an evident propriety in doing so; as an explanation of the phenomena producing the varieties of the earth's surface can be given only by reference to the principles of geology,—and the materials of which the globe is composed are best studied by the aid of mineralogy.

In the first part the author treats of the elements of matter and the forces by which they are made to assume their forms and properties. The distribution of water and land, oceans and seas, mountains, plains, plateaus, prairies, and savannahs,—the atmosphere, storms, winds, hurricanes, and rains,—the agency of seas, rivers, streams, frosts, snow, glaciers, earthquakes, and volcanoes, are successively brought forward. We do not meet here with anything new; but the matter is well arranged,—the best authorities are consulted,—and the outline is as complete as could be wished. We extract the following passage from the author's account of glaciers as an example of this part of the work.—

"Glaciers become more and more numerous in mountain districts as we advance from the temperate zones towards the poles, and at the same time they

reach gradually nearer the sea level, till at length they project into a sea. At first these portions enter a sea warmer than the freezing point of water, and are either entirely melted, or broken off and floated away in small masses. At length, however, as the quantity of ice near the coast and the rapidity of its motion onwards gradually increases, and the sea also becomes colder, the extent and thickness of the glaciers increase in a corresponding degree, until they almost cover the land near the coast. In still higher latitudes we arrive at regions where the ice projects so far into the ocean, and to such enormous depths, that, in spite of the load of rocks and earth also conveyed, the quantity of ice beneath the surface is sufficiently large (ice being specifically lighter than even fresh water, and therefore, much lighter than that of the sea), to overcome the cohesion of the mass, and it then breaks and floats off as an island. There are thus in cold seas two kinds of ice—ice-fields or floes, which are large, flat, and shallow sheets of ice, the result of the freezing of the surface of the water during intense cold, and the deeper, larger, and greatly loaded masses or islands called icebergs. The surface and substance of glaciers and icebergs always abound with fragments of rock, which are of various sizes, from that of a house to the finest mud and sand, and when they appear in long lines in the direction of motion, are called *moraines*. The rocks over which the glacier passes, whether on the mountain side or elsewhere, are usually rounded, smoothed, scratched, and indented; as if by the edges of blocks of hard angular stone or finer sand, forcibly dragged along under enormous pressure. Glaciers generally terminate by a nearly vertical wall, marking the thickness of the tongue of ice at its extremity. In Switzerland this is rarely more than from 60 to 100 feet in height, but in arctic climates many instances have been seen where the thickness amounts to 350 feet, and some are recorded where a perpendicular cliff of ice rises above the water-line of a floating mass to the height of 150 feet, and therefore whose total height must have been more than 1,000 feet. The magnitude of the section at the water-line is also sometimes very considerable in the case of these floating masses of ice. They are very frequently from six to twelve hundred feet in length, and of about half that breadth, but some have been seen measuring between five and six miles in one direction."

The part of the volume devoted to Mineralogy is perhaps too brief on elementary matters to serve as an introduction to that science for those who were previously ignorant of the subject,—but it contains a large amount of useful information compressed into a small space. In the description of the minerals a little more detail would have added to the value of the work,—as well as a larger use of symbols to express their chemical composition.

The part devoted to Descriptive Geology is the most important in this work,—and that which will render it most valuable to the bulk of readers. It opens with introductory chapters on the nature of rocks, describing their varieties and the various positions—from above downwards; commencing with the modern deposits, as raised beaches, peat bogs, submerged forests,—and passing on to the Silurian rocks, the lowest of the series. The most interesting chapter here is that devoted to the newer rocks of the palæozoic period,—in which we have a full account of the various coal deposits of the world. From the enormous increase of the use of steam as a motive power it had become a matter of some interest to ascertain whether our stores of coal would hold out against the constantly augmenting demands made on them. It is satisfactory to find that at the present rate of consumption the coal deposits of Great Britain will hold out yet for some centuries; and to those whose anxieties for the future are not to be bounded by even centuries, it will be gratifying to know that the continent of America presents an almost exhaustless supply of this precious element of human civilization.



The fourth and last part of this volume is devoted to Practical Geology:—in which the application of the principles of this science to agriculture, engineering, architecture and mining is considered. This will not be considered to form the least important portion of Mr. Ansted's volume. It embraces all the great features in which geology is of value to the practical man.—As the supply of water to the metropolis is a question of great importance just now, the capabilities of the chalk formation for yielding this element will be read with interest.—

"The whole quantity of water in the chalk of England must be enormously great, but is hardly calculable. At the very lowest conceivable estimate, considering the total area as 6,000 square miles, the mean thickness only 300 feet, and only one-third of this fully saturated to the extent of one-fourth its volume, it would amount to twenty-five millions of millions of gallons; while the annual supply from rain to the extent of six inches of water absorbed per annum over an area of 2,000 square miles, would amount to nearly 175,000,000,000, or more than  $\frac{1}{150}$ th part of the whole quantity of water contained. If the population of the chalk districts, including the whole area covered by London clay and gravel, be taken at 4,000,000 of individuals, and fifty gallons per day be allowed for each, a very large and sufficient quantity for all possible sanitary purposes, there will thus be needed only about 72,000,000,000 gallons per annum for this purpose, or not much more than a third of the estimated annual supply from rain, and only  $\frac{33}{100}$ th part of the quantity contained in the rock. It is unnecessary to state that only a part of this is directly available; but there must be a very large proportion that could be pumped out,—although it may be a very different question as to how far this mode of obtaining water on a large scale is economical, or in other respects advisable."

From what we have said, it will be seen that this new volume by Prof. Ansted fully maintains his character as a writer on geology. We can strongly recommend it as a useful manual of the sciences to which it is devoted.

*Gleanings from the West of Ireland.* By the Hon. and Rev. Sidney G. Osborne. Boone. *Lights and Shades of Ireland.* By Asenath Nicholson. Houlston.

NOR since the day on which Defoe gave to the world his terrible pictures of the plague in London has English literature received a contribution to compare with the book by Mr. Osborne whose title is given above. Like other readers of newspapers, we thought we had made acquaintance with every feature of the Irish famine while the reality was near; but we now find that our impression was but that of a landscape seen through a camera obscura,—the harsher features of the scene softened by mellow lights, and the sharp angles lost in the haze of distance. Mr. Osborne brings his reader face to face with the Hunger Plague. With a minuteness and fidelity which every moment brings to mind the master writer already named, he paints the effects of starvation on the human being—from the first visible fear of its approach along the melancholy line, down to the two rude planks and wisp of straw which served so many hundreds for a coffin. We see and realize the ghastly spectacle stage by stage:—we note the tiger-like and clamorous mood which announces the first unsatisfied craving of the appetite for food,—the fierce and reckless air of the poor sufferer as he watches gay equipages dash past him in the street, or glares with fiery eyes at the well-stored shops in which the bread that would be very life to him is temptingly displayed. Then, after a time, we observe the lean, listless and passive look which shows us that the wilder urgings of the spirit have been curbed by bodily pain and weakness; we see the poor wretch move about

for hours, standing quietly at shop-windows and looking in at loaves of bread and sides of beef as things in which he had had an interest long ago,—never asking charity, but refusing to move away unless compelled. Then comes the last change of all—the stage of utter indifference to all that passes:—ending soon in idiocy and death!

Mr. Osborne describes what may be called the anatomical features of starvation. He writes—

"From my own experience last year and on the present occasion, I can vouch that starvation in Ireland has its own distinct external physical phenomena. In grown-up persons, besides an amount of attenuation which seems to have absorbed all appearance of flesh and muscle, and to have left the bones of the frame barely covered with some covering which has but little semblance to anything we should esteem to be flesh; the skin of all the limbs assumes a peculiar character: it is rough to the touch, very dry, and did it not hang in places in loose folds, would be more of the nature of parchment than anything else with which I can compare it. The eyes are much sunk into the head, and have a peculiar dull painful look; the shoulder-bones are thrown up so high, that the column of the neck seems to have sunk, as it were, into the chest; the face and head, from the wasting of the flesh, and the prominence of the bones, have a skull-like appearance; the hair is very thin upon the head; there is over the countenance a sort of pallor, quite distinct from that which utter decline of physical power generally gives in those many diseases in which life still continues after the almost entire consumption of the muscular parts of the body. In the case of the starved young—and we saw many hundreds—there are two or three most peculiar characteristic marks, which distinguish them from the victims of other mortal ills. The hair on a starved child's head becomes very thin, often leaves the head in patches, what there is of it stands up from the head; over the whole brow in very many instances, over the temples in almost all, a thick sort of downy hair grows, sometimes so thickly as to be quite palpable to the touch. The skin over the chest bones and upper part of the stomach is stretched so tight, that every angle and curve of the sternum and ribs stand out in relief. No words can describe the appearance of the arms. From below the elbow the two bones (the radius and ulna) seem to be stripped of every atom of flesh. If you take hold of the loose skin within the elbow joint, and lift the arm by it, it comes away in a large thin fold, as though you had lifted one side of a long narrow bag, in which some loose bones had been placed; if you place the forefingers of your hand under the chin, in the angle of the jaw bone, you find the whole base of the mouth, so to speak, so thin, that you could easily conceive it possible, with a very slight pressure, thus to force the tongue into the roof of the mouth; between the fingers there are sores; very often there is anasarca swelling of the ankles; in the majority of famine cases there is either dysentery or chronic diarrhoea. There is one comfort to be found in these sad cases—there does not appear to be great present pain. I have now walked in the course of my two tours, I should suppose, some miles of infirmary wards in the union houses in Ireland; wards often very thickly crowded, almost always sufficiently full. It has never been my lot to hear one single child, suffering from famine or dysentery, utter a moan of pain. I have seen many in the very act of death; still, not a tear, not a cry. I have scarcely ever seen one endeavour to change his or her position. I have never heard one ask for food, for water, for anything. Two, three, or four in a bed, there they lie and die; if suffering, still ever silent, unmoved."

How living, but ghastly, are pictures such as these!

The Irish Famine is one which presents many features of interest besides this pointed out by Mr. Osborne. Seldom has a desolation so sudden, so wide spread, so long continued, fallen on any people: never has such a visitation been borne with so much patience,—with so little of agrarian outrage or plundering of shops and

houses. Scarcely a baker's in Dublin was broken into,—though poor creatures were several times found dead under the windows. The prisons it is true were filled to overflow; but a great number of the commitments were of men or women who, having first called a policeman's attention, broke a lamp or a window to *earn* a gaol for the sake of a felon's allowance. No riot of any serious kind occurred,—though men died in scores by the road side. The cause of this extraordinary resignation is not easy to ascertain:—but the question is one to interest equally the statesman and the physiologist. Was it a phenomenon peculiar to the suffering produced by starvation? Or was it that old habit had made physical pain a second nature to the poor Celt?

Mrs. Nicholson, whose mission in Ireland we described in a former number [*Ath.* No. 1036,] has since that time obtained a better knowledge of Ireland and its people; and although we are still at times offended by her theatrical humility, her ostentatious and uncharitable piety, her frequent allusions to the aid which "God and the American lady" have brought to the poor in their distress—we should be sorry to allow these blemishes of manner to discredit that true charity of heart which makes no distinction of race or creed, but struggles wisely and womanfully against all obstacles to administer relief to the living and the rites of humanity to the dead. Mrs. Nicholson has done much good in her own way:—and the terrible scenes which she has witnessed have touched her spirit. She has consequently now written a better and a more useful book than the last. She was in Ireland during the whole of the famine period, pursuing her own course of honourable though crotchety benevolence; and she has stories to tell of physical sufferings equal in point of mere fact to anything in Mr. Osborne's work.—But we turn with sickness of the heart from these awful scenes, in search of some few rays of hope for the future.

The following extract suggests a lesson to the women of more favoured classes.—Mrs. Nicholson is severe on the false system of education for Irishwomen of the upper ranks; and the facts of her case afford a commentary on her sarcasms which makes it difficult to resist their force. See what a waste of that wealth which should have brought sustenance to many was caused by sheer ignorance on the part of those who might be, and ought to be, the lights of the people.—

"When the famine had actually come, and all the country was aghast, when supplies from all parts were poured in, what was done with these supplies? Why the best that these inefficient housekeepers could do. The rice and Indian meal, both of which are excellent articles of food, were cooked in such a manner that, in most cases, they were actually unhealthy, and in all cases unpalatable. So unused were they to the use of that common article rice, that they steeped it the night before, then poured the water off, without rubbing, and for three and four hours they boiled, stirred, and simmered this, till it became a watery jelly, disgusting to the eye and unsavoury to the taste, for they never salted it, besides unwholesome for the stomachs of those who had always used a dry potato for food. The poor complained that it made them sick; they were accused of being ungrateful, and sometimes told they should not have any more; and the difficulty, if possible, was increased by giving it out uncooked. For the starving ones in the towns had no fuel and they could not keep up a fire to stew it for hours, and many of them ate it raw, which was certainly better when they had good teeth than cooked in this unsavoury way. But the Indian meal! Who shall attempt a description of this frightful formidable? When it first landed, the rich, who had no occasion for using it, hailed it with joy, and some actually condescended to say, 'They believed they could eat



it themselves.' But the poor, who had not yet slid down the precipice so far as to feel that they were actually dying, could be heard on the streets and in the market-place to interrogate one another, 'And have ye seen the yaller Indian, God save us awl? By dad and "Peel's brimstone" has come over again, to scrape the maw of every divil on us.' \* \* \* And the yaller Indian was called by all manner of epithets, and went through all manner of ordeals but the right one. The Indian meal by some was stirred in cold water with a stick, then put quite dry upon a griddle, it consequently crumbled apart, there was no turning it; and one desponding woman came to me, saying, 'That the last bit of turf had died on her, and not a ha'porth of the yaller Indian would stop with its comrade.' Others made what they called 'stirabout'; this was done, too, by first steeping in cold water, then pouring it into a pot, and immediately after swelling it became so thick that it could not be stirred, neither would it cook in the least. The 'stirabout' then became a 'standabout,' and the effect of eating this was all but favourable to those who had seldom taken farinaceous food. They actually were afraid to take it in many cases, the government meal in particular, fearing that the 'English intended to kill them' with the 'tarin and scrapin'; but when hunger had progressed a little, these fears subsided, and they cared neither what they ate or who sent it to them. Had the women of the higher classes known how to prepare these articles in a proper manner, much money might have been saved and many lives rescued which are now lost. When the first clamour had a little subsided, there followed the recipes for cooking Indian meal. One of these, highly celebrated for a while, was from Italy, and called 'Polentia,' whether spelt correctly the learned must decide, but this same Polentia would do for gentlemen and ladies too. The recipe cannot precisely be given; but enough to know that it was turned and overturned—covered and uncovered—boiled and steamed in a pot—and then came out genteelly, in a becoming shape, according to the form of the pot used. Now, this was often on the tables of the gentry, for the recipe and meal were from Italy; the poor would only hear of this at a distance—the cooking they could never attain. Next came American recipes: these, with all due credence, were accepted as the one thing needful, for they possessed these redeeming qualities:—first, they were from America, the land which they loved, for many of their 'kin' were there; next, that though they thought that nobody but negroes ate it—yet negroes lived on that food; and 'sure the Americans wouldn't hurt 'em.' These recipes were prepared in due form, and made up with suets, fats, sweets, and spices, so that the Laird John Russell himself could 'ate 'em.' A great and grand meeting of lords and nobility was held, called by the poor the 'yaller Indin maitin'; and a *bona fide* sanction put on to the Indian meal cake. Here again was a difficulty—the meal was for the hungry; where could they procure spices, sweets, and fats for such delicacies?—and as they thought that these were necessary to make it safe to eat, then their fears were awakened anew. But a few weeks adjusted all these difficulties, for when the number of the slain had increased in every parish, all murmuring of the quality of food ceased—they suffered in uncomplaining silence."

But if the women of Ireland have a work to do—the more incumbent on them to undertake now since it has been so long and fatally neglected—their husbands and fathers, the owners of the soil, have theirs before them also. The nature of this will be best illustrated by the example of what one honest and well-advised landlord, Lord George Hill, has already tried and accomplished,—as detailed by our American recorder of his good deeds. The consequence is, that not a single person died of famine at Gweedore!—It is to be hoped that, out of the many who are buying lands in Ireland under the new Incumbered Estates Act, there will be not a few with the courage, capital and courtesy needed to pursue with success the example set them by Lord George.

*Illustrations of the Remains of Roman Art in Cirencester, &c.* By Prof. Buckman and C. H. Newmarch, Esq. Bell.

THIS handsome work has cost a good deal of labour and displays a good deal of learning; and the numerous subscribers will have the satisfaction of seeing that the labour and the learning have not been bestowed on objects unworthy of illustration, though they may think (and we own that such is decidedly our opinion) that those objects do not in all cases deserve the eulogies which they have received. It is very pardonable in authors to say what they can in favour of their own particular pursuits or discoveries, and unquestionably much interest and some beauty belong to the remains of Roman Art found in and near Cirencester and elsewhere;—but we must say that in our own, as well as in former, times there prevails such a disposition to exaggerate and over-state excellencies as produces in the minds of many an unwillingness to admit even real and positive merits. When, for instance, we are told that fragments of tessellated pavement excavated here and there evince wonderful grace of form, extreme beauty of colouring, and supreme taste and skill in execution, we are unavoidably led to expect much more than is realized when we come to examine the relics themselves. In the case before us this remark is peculiarly applicable; and as the laudatory text is accompanied by tinted fac-similes, the contrast between the praise and the performance is made the more striking. Had we been told merely, in the words of Mr. R. Westmacott, "these interesting specimens satisfy me as an artist, beyond the shadow of doubt, that such works were produced after examples of the very highest reach of Art" (p. 47),—we might have been ready to take it for granted on the credit of such a high authority. But when we turn to the plates themselves, we cannot conceal our disappointment at finding that the originals go only a small way towards the verification of the statement.

We are aware that these notions will be considered heretical by ancient art worshippers; and we broach them only because we think the evil has grown to a height, and because we could find no fairer opportunity than when a book is in our hands which contains enthusiastic criticism accompanied by engravings which enable the reader at once to make the comparison and to test the value of the promulgated opinions.

It may be a wonder, in reference to tessellated pavements in particular, that so much was accomplished at so early a period and with such materials; but the abstract beauty of the objects represented, either in drawing, colour, composition, or any other quality, is what we venture humbly to dispute. They were admirably adapted to the purpose for which they were intended, but they were never meant to be tested in the way the moderns have tested them; and those who made them were well contented to complete a flooring which should recommend itself by its solidity and firmness, and at the same time present to the eye forms that were not disagreeable in a pleasing variety of colours. We only ask our readers—we mean such of them as have access to the work under our notice—to turn to the head of Ceres (p. 42), which has most excited the admiration of the authors, and to decide impartially for themselves whether in any one respect it really and truly deserves the applauses bestowed on it. We put the same question regarding the group of Actæon (p. 38), on which Messrs. Buckman and Newmarch are peculiarly eloquent,—informing us that the figure is "beautifully drawn, and as a picture this medallion is per-

haps superior to any that are to be found in Romano-British mosaics." We must say that we are not prepared to go such lengths in allusion to the "attitude of Actæon" or to "the life of his dogs," any more than we can concur in the refinement of their criticism where the authors gravely tell us that, as the dogs are represented attacking their master when his change into a stag is complete only as far as the horns, it is to be presumed that "he smelt strongly of venison" even before his metamorphosis, or his dogs would not so soon have made a meal of him. "And this" (they add, with the greatest simplicity) "would show us, had we no other evidence, that dogs of chase, as trained by the ancients, followed by scent, like our modern hound, and not by sight, as is the case with the greyhound; and this may be interesting for us to consider, inasmuch as the dogs of the Romans, judging from this medallion, as also from those of the central medallion of the same villa, would appear from their representations to be a very different variety from the stag-hound of our day." It is quite clear that all the artist intended was, to exhibit two such four-footed beasts as might be taken for dogs, without at all considering whether they should be classed by the spectator as "mongrel, puppy, whelp, or hound," or exhibit any peculiar characteristics of birth and breeding. To carry speculations of this sort beyond a certain point, we must be excused for saying, only exposes them to the chance of ridicule.

Some persons may be inclined to complain that large portions of this book consist of extracts from 'Archæologia' and from other works of a similar kind. We do not think it fairly liable to this objection; because the avowed purpose of the writers was to bring together all that had been acquired upon the subject, whether by Stukeley, Lysons, or any authority,—and to show how far the opinions which they had pronounced were confirmed or contradicted by subsequent discoveries. We therefore think that the authors would have been to blame if they had not worked into their volume the knowledge previously acquired,—and they have never availed themselves of the labours of others, whether dead or living, without acknowledgment. Indeed, if any fault can be found on this score, it is, that Messrs. Buckman and Newmarch have carried their admissions of obligation almost too far as regards those who in the slightest degree forwarded their design; for even the master of the workhouse—to say nothing of functionaries of higher dignity—was not allowed to escape without his tribute. It was possibly better deserved by him than by various other individuals some of whom are thanked for permitting the authors to enter their parks in order to examine the excavated capital of a column. Not a few persons, we are happy to believe, would deem it a sufficient honour to contribute silently to the success of any antiquarian undertaking of this kind, without claiming a separate notice whether in the preface or in the text.

While we admit that the authors were well warranted in resorting to and quoting earlier authorities connected with their inquiry, we are apprehensive that some of their subscribers may find fault with them for exhibiting in the course of their volume a little skill in the art of book-making by the insertion of matter either wholly extraneous or not sufficiently apposite. Such, for instance, is the new translation of the story of Actæon, which, we are informed, is "so prettily told by Ovid,"—and which has been so infinitely better rendered (we say it with all respect for the "pen of the Rev. Mr. Merry, of Cirencester") by at least fifty other versifiers. This contribution, if only in compliment to the schoolboy recollection of the reader, might well



have been suppressed altogether; and the long dissertation by Prof. A. Voelcker, on the ruby glass found as a component part of the pavement exposed in 1849, would have borne very considerable abridgment. True it is, that the ruby glass is a novelty in works of this description at Cirencester,—and we give due credit to the authors for bringing it to light, and think them quite justified in dwelling with some emphasis on the discovery. On this point we may make a characteristic extract, which will sufficiently explain the nature of the material, and give a specimen also of the injudicious manner in which the writers are apt to attribute far too much excellence to very inferior productions.—

“A glance at the head of Flora will show that the bold flower in the right hand, and most of the flowers in the chaplet, have what no doubt represents their petals coloured of a beautiful ruby red, and the contrast of this tint with the olive green of the leaves, and a few floral stars, ‘all silver white,’ is as fine in conception and execution as can well be imagined. No other substance would be capable of giving that brilliancy of tint to the ‘ruby gemmed’ spring flowers so well as the material employed. It was this perfect confidence in the due harmonizing of the colours employed in Roman pavements that led us to detect the real facts of the case before us, as when first exhumed the head of Flora presented what appeared a confused mass of leaves, whilst the flower in the hand also consisted of stem and leaves, the only colours in either case being an olive green, in the chaplet, intermixed with tessellæ of a bright verdigris green tint, and which indeed our preliminary experiments proved to be verdigris, and the same colour occupied the whole of the centre of the larger flower. Now it will be seen that this mixture of two greens, to say nothing of the confusion of the forms, would but ill represent a chaplet of flowers, and especially for the ornamentation of Flora. This led us to suspect that chemical decomposition of the surface of some of the tessellæ had taken place, and as the verdigris green ones had not been previously met with, we commenced scraping the surface of these, which elicited the following facts: the outer green coat was readily removed, and beneath this was seen another coating of a white substance, on the removal of which the peculiar colour and substance of the ruby glass attracted our attention. This was found to be translucent, the tessellæ could readily be split, and the fractured edges presented the brilliant hue of the ruby coloured polyanthus or peony of the gardens. Having made these observations, we immediately took new tracings of the head of Flora, this time colouring all the verdigris tessellæ with a ruby tint, when the change from confusion to harmony was quite magical, the bright hue of the blossoms contrasting with the leaves, forming a floral wreath of great beauty.”

The head of Flora, containing these specimens of ruby glass, affords another proof of the mode in which the fancy of antiquaries (for even antiquaries have fancy) will carry them to absurd conclusions. Flora is represented with a bird on her shoulder, emblematical of the season. It is a mere conventional representation of a creature with head, beak, wings, legs and tail:—yet Messrs. Buckman and Newmarch could not be content without endeavouring to make out that it was a bird of a particular kind. They wished it to be considered a swallow,—and referred to Mr. Strickland for “its specific identification.” It is quite as like a chicken as a swallow. Indeed, it is much too large for the latter:—and we are not aware that it has been the property of swallows, either in ancient or in modern times, to perch upon people’s shoulders.

In short, the work before us aims at too much. We thank the authors for their information,—and we have much respect for their learning; we thank them also for their apparently accurate fac-similes of objects recently discovered:—but we should have greatly preferred

to have had those objects accompanied by descriptions remarkable for their clearness and simplicity, without such an obvious effort to magnify trifles into importance, and to make the very most of everything on which their pens were employed. This book would have been much better if they had not striven to make it so good.

*On the Organic Structure of Popular Representation, in the Representative State of the Present Era*—[*Die Volksvertretung, &c.*] By Dr. Carl Levita. Leipzig, Bethmann; London, Williams & Norgate.

THE author of this essay, a young jurist, is impressed, he says, with the duty of all good Germans to assist, each in his proper calling, in bringing their common country through its present crisis, to a settled and improved condition. From the harmonious prosecution of this object no species of intellect and activity can be wisely excluded. The retired thinker in the closet must contribute his part as well as the busy statesman or the zealous deputy. As one of the first-named class, Dr. Levita devotes to this purpose the fruit of his studies on the principles, history, actual methods, and preferable appliances of Popular Representation:—an element, in its modern sense at least, altogether new in the system of German institutions.

The treatise, although specially called forth by the late revolution in public affairs, betrays none of the signs of haste or heat which too often deprive such occasional pieces of all literary value. It presents to us, on the contrary, a considerate view of the general theory on this important subject, and a store of carefully gathered details concerning the practice and rules of the elective system, in nearly every instance where the experiment has been established or has even been attempted in modern times. In this latter respect, to those who are curious in tracing the varieties of representative codes, whether in activity or extant on paper only—those which have ripened into life, or those which either proved abortive at once or died out in their first infancy—the work may be commended, as offering an account of great compass and minuteness, spreading over both hemispheres, and descending to the most recent of those constitutions which Europe has been busily forging within the last three years. It may be added, in praise of the work, that its moderate tone and vein of serious but liberal thought argue a maturity of mind seldom displayed in the first essays of a young writer. In his dissertations we miss nothing of the sobriety of age; while we owe, perhaps to the candour of youth the absence of certain prejudices from which the veteran writer on the philosophy of political systems is rarely exempt.

Thus much it is only just to say in favour of a book that claims its origin in a worthy motive,—while it proves the writer to have bestowed much previous thought on the grounds, and great pains in collecting the materials, of his essay. To enter into a discussion of the one, or to follow the details of the other, we shall not attempt,—for various reasons, of which the following may be briefly stated.

In the first place, the topic naturally cannot appeal to English readers at large with that immediate interest which it may now excite in nations hitherto excluded from all practical knowledge of a system established in this country for centuries. For us its theory, in a general sense, is not—indeed most happily, it may be said, has never been—a subject of instant popular emotion. Our representative structure has risen like the forest oak, the silent and progressive growth of ages: on its main principles we have no matter of debate; its

practical applications only, from time to time, can become the subjects of anxiety or hope in these islands,—and the questions to which they give rise lie altogether out of our province. The philosophy of political institutions remains, and must for ever be, a study of the deepest interest and a noble exercise for all liberal minds,—as illuminating the facts of history with the light of moral and political science. But the very grandeur of its compass and variety of material elements which make it the proper arena for the largest intellects, would alone suffice to deter the essayist from entering on it in an occasional notice like the present,—even were he otherwise confident enough to engage in so vast and pregnant an inquiry.

Then, as regards those countries in which it may seem just now that constitutions are to be framed and put to work at once, *pro re natâ*, whether by royal mandate or by acclamation of the sovereign people:—however the code may be elaborated, whether proceeding from the famous “pigeon holes” of the Abbé Siéyès or from the recesses of a Benthamese study,—to say nothing of later methods and newer authorities,—in such critical transactions we must honestly profess, with all our natural regard for books, serious doubts of the efficiency of their operation whether as guides in the actual experiment or as guarantees for the durability and success of its results.

Of a living constitution it may be said, in a different sense, yet with equal truth, as of a living poet—*nascitur, non fit*,—cannot, at all events, be made at a single casting, by any amount of the most dexterous combination or well-meant endeavour in the individual sage or chosen assembly to whom the cardinal act of a nation’s destinies is entrusted. As to the scope of literary assistance on such occasions, we cannot here say a tenth of what might be worth noting. This only we may remark. The best office of the best books on such large subjects can never be in immediate contact with the mass. Where they embody any truth, their influence is indeed paramount in the end; but this takes place by a kind of gradual percolation through several gradations of mind, until the discoveries of the individual in one age become the popular truths of a later time. This is the right and only operation of the true *book*; meaning thereby the deliberate production of a superior intellect speaking of and to the permanent interests of mankind,—as distinguished from the *pamphlet*, or occasional impassioned appeal, whether to the concerns of a class or to the prevalent desire at a given moment. In the case in question, however, the problem is, to attain the highest end of public care, for the common good of all, as a combined result of the various passions, wants, abilities, and defects of an entire generation. Here, while partial appeals to any—however considerable—fraction of the whole can only lead to confusion, the larger influence which in time is exerted over the whole mass by works of a solid kind, as above described, can scarcely hope to reach its aim until long after the occasion is past and the fate of the experiment has been decided by other causes more prompt and peremptory in action. If new constitutions can by any possible method, good fortune in the people, or maturity in their condition, be got to “march,” it is clearly not by the apparition of books at the critical moment, however excellent they may be, that this consummation can be effected. Their operation must be commended, like Bacon’s reputation in that memorable sentence of his will, “to future times.”

This last is, of course, no reason whatever why books should not be written, if they be well written, during periods in which the subjects



that they handle will have to be determined by influences more direct and forcible than any book on such topics can exert at the moment of its appearance. But it will sufficiently excuse us from dwelling further, in virtue of any supposed immediate importance to the Continental history of the present time, on a work the subject of which cannot, as we have said, strongly attract general readers in this country; and which will interest the more studious few chiefly as an instance of diligence, temper, and thoughtfulness creditable to the writer,—and hopeful for Germany, if she number many such among her young students of civil prudence.

OUR LIBRARY TABLE.

*Popular Elevation the Work of the People; being an Examination of the existing Elements for the intellectual, spiritual, moral and political Improvement of Modern Society.* By the Rev. Brewin Grant. —The Rev. Mr. Grant confesses himself a democratic Christian. He belongs to what he considers the only true church—the church of the people. We cannot, however, but think he takes an impracticable view of the present state of affairs. Admitting as far as he does the great want of education among the lower classes, we are by no means certain that the so-called People-church would be able to discharge the large functions of the Teacher more efficiently than the State-church has done. Indeed, both have been on trial in this respect for many years past—each with the machinery of its own choosing,—the Establishment with its old endowments, the dissenting body with its voluntary system. The results lie around us. If we understand Mr. Grant, he would make free with the revenues of the state-church: but surely this would not only be against his own principle of voluntary effort in all spiritual matters, but could never be accomplished except by the agency of a revolution. We desire a readier means of arriving at our result. If national education is to be deferred until Parliament will agree to confiscate church property for the purpose, we must put it off until a period which will resolve the vexed question for us in a way more effective than agreeable. Mr. Grant is, in our opinion, equally wrong-headed and impracticable in his notions of what changes are desirable in the literature of education. He repudiates the lore of the ancients on account of its tendency to circulate despotic and illiberal sentiments! Where can Mr. Grant, B.A. have got his ideas of the nature of the old classics? Why, the whole body of Greek and Roman literature is essentially a literature of freedom. The writers were nearly all republicans. The heroes on whom they have conferred that immortality which is only in the gift of literary genius are nearly all republicans. It was the recovery of this long-lost literature that brought back liberty to Europe. The advocates of despotism have known this well; and hence writers like Hobbes have denounced the system of our Universities—as imbuing the mind of youth with sentiments too grand and liberal to suit such a monarchy as they have wished to see established. Tyrants have seldom cordially loved literature,—least of all have they loved to see their subjects cultivate the republican literature of Rome and Athens. That a “democratic Christian” should object to it on such a ground as Mr. Grant assigns seems to us to betray a total misconception of the part which it has played in the great drama of history.

*Historical Review of the Languages and Literature of the Slavic Nations; with a Sketch of their Popular Poetry.* By Talvi. With a Preface by Edward Robinson, D.D.—This is an American publication, by, we believe, a German lady settled in that country. It has no pretensions to profound learning; but as it treats in a light and popular manner a subject on which English readers have very scanty means of obtaining information, it will not fail of a welcome. Indeed, we know of no book in our own language which gives anything like so complete and attractive an epitome of the literature and various idioms of the great Slavonic nations north and south.

*Lectures on certain Difficulties felt by Anglicans in submitting to the Catholic Church.* By John Henry Newman.—The name of the author is sufficient guarantee that the subject is treated with ability:—

and that is all that, by our profession, we are, by the nature of that subject, called on to say.

*A System of Theology.* By Godfrey William von Leibnitz.—Translated, with an Introduction and Notes, by C. W. Russell, D.D.—The immediate reason for undertaking this publication appears to have been, the Editor's discovery that the Paris edition of the work is “excessively incorrect,”—he having some time ago compared it with the autograph manuscript in the library of the church of San Luigi dei Francesi, at Rome.—Since that comparison was made, a correct edition has been published by the Abbé Lacroix, in whose charge the manuscript in question had been deposited. The translation here given has been made from the improved text; and is accompanied with Notes and an Appendix,—which appear to have been carefully compiled.

*An Account of several New Patent Processes for purifying the Waters of Cities, Towns, and Private Dwellings, as well as on Shipboard at Sea, whereby they are deprived of all Adversitious Mineral, Animal and Vegetable Matters, and rendered as soft as the purest Rain-water.* By John Horsley.—We set forth the main limb of Mr. Horsley's title in full, that such of our readers as are interested in the purification of water—and who is not?—may see how much is promised them by the patentee and pamphleteer, should they feel inclined to take counsel of his invention in these particulars.

*How much longer are we to continue teaching nothing more than was taught two centuries ago? or, ought not our highest education to embrace the whole range of our present knowledge? and, ought not the education of all classes to have a direct reference to our free, busy and enlightened age?* By M. E.—Great and portentous questions, to which, however, no answer is vouchsafed. And why so breath-consuming a title? Fancy a lady stepping into Mr. Hatchard's shop and discharging at the attendant the preposterous trilogy—“Pray, Sir, let me have a copy of ‘How much longer,’ &c. &c. &c.!” There is a consolation in the fact that probably few will ever attempt the feat; but the author is not likely to have presumed on such a contingency, and therefore no less blame attaches to his intention.

*Tables on the Strength and Deflection of Timber.* By William Lea.—These tables have been constructed for the purpose of determining by inspection, or by simple multiplication and division, the dimensions of any description of timber requisite to carry a given weight. To builders they must, if the data on which the calculations are founded can be depended on for every variety of timber, be very valuable. Assuming the correctness of the standards, which are derived from an extensive series of experiments made by Prof. Barlow, we see no error in any of the equations by which the tables are calculated.

*South Africa Delineated; or, Sketches Historical and Descriptive of its Tribes and Missions, and of the British Colonies of the Cape and Port Natal.* By the Rev. Thornley Smith, seven years a Wesleyan missionary in that country.—Since the substance of this work—it is owned in its preface—has already appeared in the *Wesleyan-Methodist Magazine*—and since the matter here re-written, abridged and condensed, appears, as is but natural, addressed to a special rather than to a general public—we may content ourselves with a simple line of announcement: adding, however, that the illustrations bring before us the peculiarities of South-African scenery forcibly, —and as such, give an universal acceptability to the volumes.

*The Bible History for the Use of Schools and Young Persons.* By J. M. Capes.—The Douay version of the Scriptures has been used in this compilation:—which is intended for the instruction of Catholic families.—It is illustrated by several very good wood engravings.

*Religious Scepticism and Infidelity; their History, Cause, Cure, and Mission.* By John Alfred Langford.—A small volume written with great freedom of opinion. The author acknowledges his obligations to Mr. George Dawson,—in the spirit of whose orations much of his book is conceived. One of its topics, “the antagonism which the professors of religion have ever offered to philosophy and science,” the author treats with great earnestness. There is, of course, in all such works a Shibboleth, on which we have no mission to pronounce. While com-

mending the ability displayed in the writer's researches, we leave his conclusions to such proofs as he has presented in their support.

*The Working Classes: their Social, Moral and Intellectual Condition; with Practical Suggestions for their Improvement.* By G. Simmons.—Mr. Simmons endeavours to place before the reader a calm and unexaggerated view of the condition of the working classes,—a statement of the reasons which render their education and social improvement necessary to the very stability of society,—an account of the machinery already employed to promote these ends,—and some suggestions of his own for carrying on the work of reform. His book, however, is not so written as to interest the unconcerned in such matters. It wants force, cogency, vigour of thought, a more picturesque arrangement of the facts, and a larger power of generalization. Facts and illustrations abound on every side: police returns, prison reports, Poor-law commissions—not to mention the important contributions of our morning contemporaries to the inquiry—supply abundant data. Any man with sufficient knowledge and power of writing who would plunge into this sea of materials, and bring up the pearls that it contains,—or, dropping the metaphor, who would condense and re-arrange the whole for general perusal, with appropriate comments, and such a reading of its morals as should convey a proper sense of its importance,—would perform a really useful service.

*The Error of mistaking Nett Rental for Permanent Income.* By James Smith.—The title is sufficiently explanatory. If, as Mr. Smith asserts, the error here exposed has led to the ruin of many a princely fortune, those who enjoy the fortunes of princes had better look to it in time.

*On the Government of the British Colonies.* By John Walpole Willis.—Mr. Walpole Willis is a strong colonialist, and waxes wroth against those free-traders and others who depreciate the importance of our colonial possessions on the ground of their expense. He admits that there are many evils connected with their present government,—but believes that a supply of new bishops is the great thing needed to bring about a prosperous and happy change. He, however, recommends a few other reforms,—such as a more complete system of self-government and representation in the Imperial Parliament. In this he contrives to combine the ideas of the two colonial parties—the repealists and the federalists. This thought, such as it is, is temperately urged; and is not unworthy the attention of those who are seeking even in unlikely places a way out of our present colonial difficulties.

*National Education not necessarily Governmental, Sectarian, or Irreligious, shown in a series of Papers read at the Meetings of the Lancashire Public School Association.*—A book of essays on the general question of Free Education for the people, written by persons connected with the present movement in Lancashire and the neighbourhood. Taken altogether they contain a fair statement of the points in controversy,—as well as being, in the words of the preface, “a complete exposition and defence of the principles on which the Association is based.” Each writer takes up one topic. The essays of Mr. Rylands and Mrs. Davidson and Ferguson are particularly valuable; and Mr. Espinasse has given a brief and interesting sketch of the progress of public schools in England in past times, of their influence in forming the minds of our Shakespeares and Brindleys. We marvel that among a number of essays of a really able and practical nature, we should find the ultra-Carlyleian nonsense put forth by Mr. Smith. Grotesque as this jargon is in any place, it shows doubly absurd when offered in juxtaposition with arguments whose chief merit is simplicity of statement. Even to a greater extent than most other questions, popular education needs to be written of intelligibly.

LIST OF NEW BOOKS.

Allison's First Lessons in Geography, 20th ed. 18mo. 9d. swd.  
Allison's Guide to English History, by Dr. Brewer, 9th ed. 3s. cl.  
Archbold's (J. F.) County Courts Practice, with Extension Act, 12a. Aquilar's (Grace) Home Influence, new ed. 8s. 6d. cl.  
Anschar, a Story of the North, 7s. cl.  
Banks's (G. L.) Staves for the Human Ladder, 8vo. 6s. cl.  
Bohn's Shilling Series, 'Willis's Life Here and There,' 1s. 6d. bds.  
Burton's (Dr. E.) History of Christian Church, 8th ed. 12mo. 5s. cl.  
Cumming's (B. J.) Christ receiving Sinners, 2nd thousand, 5s. 6d.  
Daubeny's (C.) Introduction to Atomic Theory, 2nd ed. 12mo. 6s. cl.  
De Lamartine's Voyage en Orient, 2nd ed. 12mo. 7s. cl.  
Dick's (T.) The Sideral Heavens, new ed. post 8vo. 5s. 6d. cl.



Directions for Keeping Cage Parrots, by a Parrot-keeper, 12mo. 1s. Everett's (E.) Orations and Speeches, 2nd ed. 2 vols. 12. 16s. cl. Ford's Handbook to the Lakes, 12mo. 1s. 6d. bds. Girdlestone (Rev. C.), New Test. with Commentary, Vol. I. 12s. cl. Gleannings from Pious Authors, new ed. 8vo. 4s. 6d. cl. Griffiths's (T.) Recitations in Chemistry, new ed. 12mo. 5s. cl. Hamilton's New Key to Unlock every Kingdom, 12mo. 3s. 6d. cl. Henry's (M.) Exposition of the Shorter Catechism, 1s. 1d. cl. History of France, with Questions, edited by H. White, B.A. 3s. 6d. Holland's Cases Illustrative of Cure of Consumption, 12mo. 3s. cl. Hodgson's Instructions for Candidates for Holy Orders, 7th ed. 12s. Hook's (Dr. W. F.) Private Prayers, 5th ed. 12mo. 2s. cl. Johnson's (G. W.) The Cottage Gardener, Vol. IV. royal 8vo. 7s. cl. Johnson (Walter) On the Morbid Emotions of Women, post 8vo. 5s. Jullien's Album for 1891, folio, 18s. bds. 12. 1s. cl. gilt. Little Mary's Treasury of Elementary Knowledge, small 4to. 5s. cl. Little Mary's 1st and 2nd Books of Original Poetry and Babes in the Wood, 6d. each. Mazzini's (J.) Royalty and Republicanism, 4s. 5s. cl. Mantell's Pictorial Atlas of Fossil Remains, 4to. 2s. 5s. cl. Mac Henry's The Hellenist, Part I. The Wrath of Darius, 2s. 6d. Neale's (Rev. J. M.) Readings for the Aged, 12mo. 4s. 6d. cl. Pacing (The) of the Sentinel, or the Soul on Duty, 1s. 6d. Phoenix Library, "More's Essay on Character of St. Paul," 2 vols. 5s. Revelations of Jesus Christ Explained, by a Clergyman, 8vo. 4s. 6d. Rose's Chemical Tables for Calculating Quantities, Analyses, &c. 8vo. 4s. 6d. (H.) The Hand of God in History, 12mo. 1s. 6d. swd. 3s. cl. Santarem's Researches respecting Americus Vesputius, 5s. 6d. cl. Schneider's (F. W. C.) German Dictionary, 2nd ed. post 8vo. 7s. 6d. Series of Texts, ed. by the Rev. W. Sinclair, 18mo. 3s. cl. Smith's (H. S.) The Parliaments of England, Vol. III. 12mo. 10s. 6d. Smith's List of Officers of 11th Hussars, from 1800 to 1850, 8vo. 2s. cl. Smith's Emigrant's Handbook to the United States, map, 5s. cl. Smith's Map of the United States, sq. 4s. 6d. cl. Smith's (Rev. H.) The Garment of Praise, 4s. 15mo. 2s. cl. Strickland's (Agnes) Historic Scenes and Poetic Fancies, 10s. 6d. cl. Ziska's Handbook of Four Elements of Vocalization, 3s. 6d. swd. 4s. cl.

### THE ARCTIC EXPEDITIONS.

WE were not exactly correct in stating that the rope found among the traces of a British encampment at Cape Riley, and brought home by Capt. Forsyth, had been authenticated as an article absolutely furnished to the stores of the Terror. The facts we believe to be these. The rope in question was forwarded for identification to Woolwich,—at which place the Erebus and Terror were fitted out for that Arctic wandering from whose long and deep mystery the veil seems only now in the act of finally lifting. There, nothing was known on the subject;—the ropes which furnished the two ill-fated vessels having been supplied from the stores at Chatham. To Chatham, then, the fragment was forwarded by order of the Lords of the Admiralty; and the report from that Dockyard is, that ropes of a similar description had been received into store there at the period when a supply of stores was sent from that place to Woolwich expressly for the Erebus and Terror.

The evidence, then, separately derivable from this recovered piece of cable reduces itself to a reasonable presumption. The rope came from Chatham—at the time when Chatham was supplying the lost ships with their ropes. But this circumstance taken in conjunction with the other unquestionable evidences of a British encampment on Cape Riley would seem to leave no doubt that the scent of the long lost quarry has at length been struck. The traces found at Cape Riley can apply only to the crews of Sir John Franklin's ships,—for the movements of all other expeditions that have been in those seas since their disappearance there are otherwise accounted for. The question, therefore, of the fate of these gallant men has assumed a new, yet scarcely less anxious character; and that painful apprehension which the absence of all trace for so many years had suggested—namely, that the ships had long since foundered in Baffin's Bay—the discovery so late of traces has dispelled, only to replace it by one more painful still.

There is something intensely interesting in the picture of those dreary seas amid whose strange and unspeakable solitudes our lost countrymen are, or have been, somewhere imprisoned for so many years, swarming with the human life that is risked to set them free. No hunt was ever so exciting—so full of a wild grandeur and a profound pathos—as that which has just aroused the Arctic echoes;—that wherein their brothers and companions have been beating for the track by which they may rescue the lost mariners from the icy grasp of the Genius of the North. Fancy these men in their adamant prison, wherever it may be,—chained up by the Polar Spirit whom they had dared,—lingering through years of cold and darkness on the stunted ration that scarcely feeds the blood and the feeble hope that scarcely sustains the heart,—and then, imagine the rush of emotions to greet the first cry from that wild hunting ground which should reach their ears! Through many summers has that cry been listened for, no doubt. Something like an expectation of the rescue which it should

announce has revived with each returning season of comparative light, to die of its own baffled intensity as the long dark months once more settled down upon their dreary prisonhouse. —There is scarcely a doubt that the track being now struck, these long pining hearts will be traced to their lair. But what to the anxious questioning which has year by year gone forth in search of their fate will be the answer now revealed? The trail is found,—but what of the weary feet that made it? We are not willing needlessly to alarm the public sympathies which have been so generously stirred on behalf of the missing men,—but we are bound to warn our readers against too sanguine an entertainment of the hope which the first tidings of the recent discovery is calculated to suggest. It is scarcely possible that the provisions which were sufficient for two years, and adaptable for three, can by any economy which implies less than starvation have been spread over five,—and scarcely probable that they can have been made to do so by the help of any accidents which the place of confinement supplied. We cannot hear of this sudden discovery of traces of the vanished crews as living men, without a wish which comes like a pang that it had been made two years ago—or even last year. It makes the heart sore to think how close relief may have been to their hiding-place in former years—when it turned away. There is scarcely reason to doubt that had the present circumstances of the search occurred two years ago—last year perhaps—the wanderers would have been restored. Another year makes frightful difference in the odds:—and we do not think the public will ever feel satisfied with what has been done in this matter if the oracle so long questioned, and silent so long, shall speak at last—and the answer shall be, "It is too late."

### IRISH ARCHEOLOGY.

THE interest taken by you in archaeology,—and your recent reference [*ante*, p. 1043] to the archæologic treasures that exist in Ireland, and call for the labours, illustrative and conservative, of bodies devoted to such subjects,—encourage me to solicit your aid in making public certain grievances which all true pilgrims to these antiquarian shrines will see, as I did, with wonder and impatience.

There are few readers who have not heard of Glendalough, or "The Seven Churches,"—and in these locomotive days many have visited that interesting locality. For my own part, though familiar with it from childhood I rarely re-visit Ireland without spending a day among the ruins which consecrate that wild and romantic valley. Independently of their high antiquity, they are hallowed by the name of the popularly sainted Kevin; who, all allowance being made for the myth that hangs about the traditions of his deeds, undoubtedly did good Christian work in his day. A feeling beyond that of the archaeologist's "*Cui bono*?" rules me as I gaze on that lake, with its "gloomy shore," and that

tower that wears the misty veil of time,—

and I feel profoundly the saddening presence of the life of other times which has left such legible characters on this "haunted holy ground."—It is with pain, then, that I have seen how little reverence is paid by Irishmen to what Sir Walter Scott entitled "the inestimably singular scene of Irish antiquities." It is recorded of that lover of archæologic records, that when he visited the ruined churches he expressed his admiration and wonder of their ancient character in terms which to the friends who accompanied him—and who were less enthusiastic antiquaries—seemed to border too much on the romantic:—but the reason was, that he knew the language which such relics speak better than those about him, and felt that a lore well worth investigation lay folded up in these great and solemn hieroglyphs.

During the past summer I once more visited Glendalough; and I was shocked to see how much their ruinous condition had been increased since I saw them three years before. The spoiler has here been active and unrestrained. Man, more than the gnawing tooth of time, has dealt heavy blows on these sacred fanes; and, if the reports of the villagers are to be depended on, many a curi-

ously carved stone has been carried off during midnight hours. The curiosity-monger—who knows nothing of the true archæologic spirit—has, in his unconscious barbarianism, carried away some more dead letter of a legend which in its solemn entirety he had not the heart to understand. It is not many years since, that in the romantically situated church of Rheimart—whose name signifies the sepulchre of kings, and which once held the tombstones of seven monarchs—there might be read on a long slab, written in Irish characters, the inscription—"Behold the resting-place of the body of King M'Thuill, who died in Christ, A.D. 1010."—It is for the churches themselves, however, that I would cry mercy. Kings and queens are yet amongst us as ordinary things—but the architecture of the early part of the seventh century is not so familiar. The Archbishop of Dublin is Bishop of Glendalough. I would remind his Grace that his predecessor is termed in the Bull of Pope Lucius III. "*Episcopatus insularum*," and that the see reached to the walls of the capital. Have we not a right to hope that so enlightened a prelate as Dr. Whately will do something to prevent the speedy decay of his ancient churches? Are the citizens of Dublin themselves so little interested in Glendalough that a few pounds cannot be collected and a Society established to preserve the vestiges that yet remain of these old temples? Just now, they are the playground of the wild youths who abound in that wild glen, and the stones are hurled from the ivy-clad walls in the utter recklessness of destructive boyhood.—Amid all their asserted nationalities, have the Irish no share in the feelings of those to whom

Even the faintest relic of a shrine

Of any worship wakes some thoughts divine?—

—If the mysterious round tower yet lifts its lofty head on high, it owes its intact condition only to its inaccessibility. The graceful and sole remaining archway—there were two—leading to the churches is on the very point of falling:—but this calamity might be arrested by a trifling expenditure.—Independently of the conservative functions of such a Society as that at which I have hinted, it would add not a little to the comfort of a visitor to these ruins to be relieved from the pertinacious officiousness of the guides here, whose name is Legion,—and who pounce on the unsuspecting tourist with the rapacity of vultures. In their place, half-a-dozen well-instructed guides might be appointed who should act at once in that capacity and in the character of care-takers.

If, however, the Irish are indifferent respecting their ancient churches and round towers, such fault cannot be found with them in regard to the preservation of the jewels and ornaments which have descended from past generations: and here their archæologic genius takes a very curious form,—which constitutes my second grievance. Archæologists are probably aware that the Royal Irish Academy possesses a unique and highly-interesting collection of antique Irish ornaments, which have been presented or purchased. Like other scientific bodies, the Academy has its session. This commences in winter and terminates in summer,—giving a long vacation at the precise period of the year when citizens of other countries are roaming about. Now, it is not a little vexatious that during this time the Academy sends its collection to the Bank of Ireland for safe custody in the vaults of that establishment. Seeing that this institution is endowed by the nation—being in receipt of an annual grant of money,—I cannot help thinking that this shutting up of its museum at the very time of year when the Irish capital is most visited by strangers betrays, to say the least, bad management. Let me by no means be understood as grudging the officials their holiday:—but surely the Academy is not so poor as to be unable to afford conservators for its collection. I was very desirous to examine some antique gold ornaments which it possesses when I was in Dublin last September; and hoping that its annual entombment might have been over, I applied at the Academy's house. The answer by the janitrix who opened the door was, that "the Museum was at the Bank." Now, no doubt the precious metals seem very naturally in place at the Bank; but I cannot help thinking that in the particular form of these gold



and silver ornaments they would be more at home in the Museum.—At any rate, this excessive caution is terribly uncomplimentary to Irish honesty. It betrays a dreary deterioration from the days when, if the poet may be believed, a lady walked the length and breadth of the land covered with gems "rich and rare," as if for the very purpose of tempting the spirit of misappropriation which was nowhere to be found.

C. R. WELD.

Somerset House, Oct. 8.

#### JUNIOUS AND 'JUNIOUS IDENTIFIED.'

IN your remarks on my letter of September the 7th, you say, "This letter makes it certain that Mr. Taylor was acquainted with Mr. Du Bois;"—and again, "Mr. Du Bois would not permit his friend Mr. Taylor to see even the handwriting of Sir Philip Francis." But if the fact of my having written a letter to Mr. Du Bois makes it certain that he was an acquaintance and friend of mine, it must follow that the Right Hon. Warren Hastings was also an acquaintance and friend of mine, since I wrote a letter to him at the same time, for the same purpose, and from him I received moreover a courteous answer. Truth, however, compels me to decline the honour you would confer upon me. I was at no time the friend, or even the acquaintance, of Mr. Du Bois. I never met with him in company either at my own house or elsewhere,—never shook hands with him,—nor ever held a minute's conversation with him to the best of my recollection. I knew him by sight as a literary man of acknowledged ability, as the editor of that well-conducted publication *The Monthly Mirror*, and as the reputed author of 'The Biography of Sir Philip Francis,' which appeared in that magazine in 1810,—for which reason I wrote to him. All I can remember of his reply is, that he thought I made my request *multa cum libertate* when I asked him for a sight of the handwriting of Sir Philip Francis.

I leave others to decide whether, under these circumstances, you are justified in saying, "That he was not led, nor misled, by hints, suggestions, and ambiguous givings-out, is more, we submit, than Mr. Taylor himself can know, however confident and natural may be his belief to the contrary." I must know that I could neither be led nor misled by the hints of one from whom I never received any communication directly or indirectly. The grounds of my discovery were indeed open to all the world; and it was my greatest pleasure to think that in prosecuting my researches and publishing the result I received no hints or suggestions from any one, revealed no secrets entrusted to me, betrayed no private conversations, violated no confidence,—but that I supported my cause throughout by public evidence alone, to which all other persons had equal access with myself. Requesting the favour of an insertion of this letter in the *Athenæum*,—I remain, &c. JOHN TAYLOR.

30, Upper Gower Street, October 8.

[The point raised is merely incidental,—and the decision, either way, cannot affect the general question. Mr. Taylor's change of opinion was so strange and startling that, as we have shown, it was believed by those best informed or most interested that he had been led by "hints, suggestions, and ambiguous givings-out" which came directly or indirectly, in jest or in earnest, from Sir Philip, or from others intimately associated with him. We think so still. But we never had a doubt—and we said so [*ante*, p. 941]—that Mr. Taylor believed himself to be the "discoverer," and wrote in plain sincerity and perfect good faith.]

#### CHINA; A VISIT TO SILVER ISLAND, NEAR NINGPO.

KINTANG, or Silver Island, is one of the islands of the Chusan Archipelago,—and is between twenty and thirty miles to the eastward of the town of Ningpo. I engaged a Ningpo boat to take me across to Lookong (Leh-kong), the principal town on the island; abreast of which I found two opium vessels,—and was kindly received by Capt. Priestman, who gave me quarters on board his ship, and assisted me with the objects which I had in view in every way in his power.

Silver Island, although near Chusan, was rarely visited by the English during the time they held that place. All sorts of stories used to be told about it. It was said to be a place of banishment for mandarins who had offended the Government,—and this circumstance, taken in connexion with its name, led us to believe that it was a place of wealth and luxury. Moreover, the Chinese Government requested that none of our officers or soldiers might be allowed to go there during the time we held Chusan,—as it was full of Chinese troops, who might be exasperated if they came in contact with those who had vanquished them during the late war. Having all these matters in my mind, I naturally expected to find this a very important place. But my ideas with regard to its soldiers and riches were not realized. Small villages are scattered over the valleys,—but there is no town of importance, and judging from appearances the inhabitants generally are very poor. No fierce soldiers were met with in any part of the island:—these, however, might have been withdrawn since 1844.

The inhabitants, like those of Chusan and Ningpo, are quiet and inoffensive. They were always civil to me, and often showed a great deal of kindness. Poor as they are, they had little to offer but their goodwill; and this they showed by asking me to sit down in their houses,—or what was often preferable, under the awning in front of the door. Here they never failed to offer a draught of the national beverage—tea. I do not know anything half so refreshing on a hot summer day as a cup of tea:—I mean pure and genuine as the Chinese drink it, without sugar and milk. It is far better and much more refreshing than either wine or beer. It quenches thirst, is a gentle stimulant, and wards off many of the fevers incident to such a climate.

If Silver Island is not inhabited by rich men and brave soldiers, nature at least has been most bountiful, for it is one of the most beautiful of the group to which it belongs. On paying it a visit at this time I was particularly struck with the scenery. Passing through the small town or village of Leh-kong, I soon came to the foot of the first range of hills, and ascended the pass which led over them into the interior of the island. On the sides of the road and scattered over the hills I observed large quantities of the tallow tree growing. Its seeds are carefully gathered by the natives, and are valuable for the oil and tallow which they contain. A few patches of tea were seen dotted on the lower parts of the hills. When I reached the top of the first ridge of hills, and looked down on the other side, a most charming view was presented to the eye. A quiet and beautiful valley lay below, here and there studded with small farm houses, and apparently bounded on all sides by hills richly clothed with shrubs and trees. It was a fine autumnal day, and many of the leaves had taken on their red and yellow tints before falling to the ground. The tallow-tree and a species of maple had become of a clear blood-red colour,—others were nearly white; and the contrast between these colours and the deep green foliage of the pines was most striking. Clumps of fine bamboos, and the *sung*—a species of palm—gave a tropical appearance to the scenery.

The green tea shrub is cultivated very extensively in the interior of the island,—and my chief object in coming here was to procure a quantity of its seeds. For this purpose I took my two Chinese servants with me, and examined all the tea farms on our way. Chinamen generally have great aversion to long walks,—and my two men were no exception to the rule. From the way in which they lagged behind I suspected they had some intention of turning back when I was far enough advanced to be out of sight. This they contrived to do,—and when they got home reported that they had lost me amongst the hills. I felt rather annoyed, as I expected to have secured a considerable quantity of tea seeds,—but contented myself with a determination to look better after them next day. On the following morning I procured a Chinese pony, and with my two defaulters set off for the tea farms situated in the middle of the island. Captain Priestman accompanied me; and as he had

seen the conduct of my two Chinamen on the day previous, he assisted me to look after them with hearty good will. When we had crossed the first range of hills and were descending into the valley on the opposite side, the two Chinese disappeared just as they had done the day before. Riding back some distance, we found them lingering behind, and evidently intending to lose us again and return home. This time, however, it would not do,—so calling them to come on, and placing them between us on the narrow road, we moved onwards. I fear, I must confess that we did not take the nearest road to our destination,—which we reached at last, having been between three and four hours on the way. We gathered a good supply of tea seeds from various farms on the hill sides; and when we had finished the day's operations rode quietly homewards, leaving the Chinamen to bring the collections which had been made. The same plan was adopted daily until nearly all the farms were visited, and a large supply of tea seeds was obtained.

Silver Island consists of a succession of hills and valleys not unlike those of Chusan, but even more rich in appearance. Passing over the first hill and descending into the next valley, the traveller at first imagines that he is surrounded on every side by hills; but proceeding onwards, the road gradually winds round the base of the hills, and another valley as pretty as the last opens up to view. Thus, like a splendid panorama, picture after picture is presented to the eye, painted by the hand of nature beautiful and perfect.

There is more tea grown on Silver Island than on any of the other islands in the Chusan Archipelago. The greater part of what is not consumed by the natives is sent over to Ningpo and Chapoo for home consumption or for exporting in junks to the Straits. Although good tea, it is not made in a manner to suit the English or American markets. The tallow tree (*Stillingia sebifera*) and the "Tung-eau" (*Dryandra cordata*, Thunberg) both produce articles of export. The former is well known to produce the tallow and oil so much in use in China:—the latter furnishes a valuable oil which is used in mixing with the celebrated varnish of the country, and hence this tree is often called the varnish tree by those who are unacquainted with such matters.

R. F.

#### OUR WEEKLY GOSSIP.

THREE years ago an attempt was made to establish in the vicinity of London a house for the reception and treatment of idiots. A new system of treatment for lunatics, which recognized them as patients demanding all our care in the better cases and all our pity in the worst, had been fully established, and was among the triumphs of modern humanity; but the idiot, helpless and harmless, was left to be sequestered in the adyta of the family dwelling, or made the sport and mockery of the mischievous in the public streets. Against any proposal to deal with the case of these unfortunates by an addition to our charitable institutions, it was urged that there were few idiots—and that their case was hopeless. A few humane persons, however, better informed as to the statistics of the matter and less sure about the metaphysics, subscribed a limited sum for the purpose of making an experiment. The experiment we are now assured has been entirely successful. The two fallacies which opposed it are dispelled. It is said to have been ascertained by statistical inquiry that the number of idiots exceeds that of lunatics:—and this we think any one familiar with a parish asylum might have expected. Since the friends of these helpless beings opened their establishment the number of applications for its benefits has been very great,—and at this moment there are 170 eligible cases awaiting the next election, only 15 of whom can be admitted. It has been equally demonstrated that much may be done, not merely to promote the physical comfort, but to bring the small germs of rationality which exist even in the most imbecile minds into a state of intelligent and useful activity. Encouraged by this success, the committee come before the public with an appeal for means to enter on an extended sphere of usefulness. They propose to



erect a suitable building capable of accommodating 300 stricken beings—to be a model at once of science and of humanity. With its thousand charities of various kinds—the best and most touching expression of its greatness—London should not be without its home for the idiot. The very qualities which recommend him to all our sympathy—his simplicity and harmlessness—have operated towards the postponement of his claim to any share in what science has long been doing for his fellows in moral and physical debasement. In the dwelling he remains a prisoner—in the street an outlaw.—We cannot but earnestly wish success to the effort making in favour of these unhappy and too long neglected members of the wide family of misfortune.

Our obituary paragraph of last week, more than commonly burthened as it was, did not carry all the weight it should have done. To its long and mournful list we should have added the names of the Rev. Richard Garnett, assistant-keeper of printed books at the British Museum,—and William Barraud, the artist. We may add here—removing it out of its place as Fine-Art gossip for the sake of a single obituary notice—that on Wednesday last Miss Sarah Biffin, the celebrated miniature painter, who was born without hands or arms, died at her lodgings in Duke Street, Liverpool,—where for the last few years she has been residing—at the age of sixty-six.

To our gossip on archæologic doings in the same number we might also have added another paragraph or two. The *Bulwer* reminds us that “a very curious discovery has been made in the Mosque of St. Sophia, at Constantinople. In the course of cleansing and repairing the interior, the original decorations in mosaic have been brought to light, including, as it is said, a portrait of Constantine. Drawings have been made, and are on their way to England. The Sultan, to prevent the necessity of removing them, as the religion of the country would require, has considerably ordered them to be covered up again.”—An American lady, writing to the *New York Literary World*, says:—“A new discovery has just been made at Heliopolis, in Egypt. Some of the fellahs, in digging for earth to use in the gardens which cover the remains of that once glorious city, came upon two stone pillars, so placed as to give the impression that they formed a side door or entrance perhaps of a temple. The hieroglyphics are finely cut, and in excellent preservation; and the cartouche bears the name of Thothmes III., in whose reign, according to Wilkinson, the Exodus took place (B.C. 1491). There was found also a part of a wall, each brick of which bore the same cartouche.”

A few lines will keep our readers informed as to the state and prospects of the Marine Telegraph system. The idea of laying across the Dover Straits a new wire like the one first tried is abandoned. The storm which has just swept away a considerable part of the new harbour-work would have had but little mercy on so frail an instrument,—and any line running across the great fissures in the bed of the Channel must be prepared to resist the strain of a cable from a hundred gun ship. The new wires are, therefore, to be inclosed in ropes of four or five inches in diameter; the first layer being made of gutta percha, and the outer one of iron-wire,—all chemically prepared to resist the action of water and the attacks of marine animalculæ. In each cable there will be four lines of communication; and two cables will be laid down at a distance from each other of three miles,—so that an accident which might injure one of them will probably not reach the other. The whole, it is said, will be ready in May next; when it is proposed to have a grand inauguration,—Prince Albert being at one end of the wire and the President of the Republic at the other. Of course, this idea of an inter-national fête comes to us from Paris.—The point of departure for the Irish line is not yet fixed: but surveys of the coast have been made,—and it only waits, it is said, for the report of the Commission appointed to inquire into the most eligible port for a great transatlantic packet station, to be commenced. At present there are two rival routes in the field,—each with its own body of supporters. One begins at Holyhead, and

crossing the Channel to Kingston, proceeds through Dublin by the Great Southern and Western Railway to Cork and Galway. If Galway be elected as the packet station, of course this will be the route adopted. The other proposed line would cross from St. David's Head to the nearest point on the opposite coast, and then run along the road to Wexford, Waterford, and by the extreme western points of Ireland, to Crookhaven,—the last point now touched by vessels outward bound for the Atlantic. Whichever line be adopted, the advantages to commerce and to Government in Ireland will be great. Between Crookhaven and Halifax the distance is 2,155 miles, and the steamers pass in six days from point to point. A network of telegraphs already connects Halifax with the settlements on the lake frontier, and with all the chief cities of the American Union; so that political and all other information would be transmitted from one continent to the other in six days instead of, as at present, in twelve. Sanguine speculators profess to believe in the possibility of a wire under the Atlantic,—a feat to which science may reasonably look; but it is not probable that a company will be found to effect the expensive junction until the shorter marine lines shall have been for some time in practical and successful working order.

A correspondent, referring to the particulars which appeared in our last week's paper of a visit to the grave of Locke, says:—“In reference to the query in your correspondent's letter as to the burial of Lady Masham (the daughter of Cudworth, and the second wife of Sir F. Masham, of Oates) it is stated in Rose's ‘General Biographical Dictionary’ that she died in 1708, and was buried in Bath Cathedral.”

“To build a playhouse when you pull down plays,” says Dryden in a prologue on the opening of a new Drury Lane, seems a great absurdity: not a greater absurdity to our thinking than to build a British Museum insufficient to hold what you already possess—to say nothing of after accumulations—and then to give apartments in this very Museum to keepers who might live elsewhere with greater comfort to themselves and greater advantage to the public. Nay more, we are doing this at a time when we are turning Her Majesty's Paymaster-General out of his house at Whitehall, the Surveyor of the Navy out of his rooms at Somerset House,—and when Ministers themselves are told by a Committee of the House of Commons that houses in Downing Street are unnecessary for a Secretary of State, a Chancellor of the Exchequer, and a Prime Minister. It would not be easy, we fear, to turn the two unhandsome stone wings of the British Museum to any museum-like account without running to a greater expense than the shell of the building rather than the space would justify. The insufficiency of room at the Museum must hasten the great question of the removal of the Library to a distinct building wholly unconnected with the British Museum. This is the true cure for the leading want;—but will Ministers meet it?—and when are we as a nation represented by the ministers of the Crown to erect a building worthy of what we possess and fit to hold what we are likely to accumulate? Our British Museum is more than a Noah's Ark—it contains something of everything. A great national library is an institution of itself,—not an incidental part of a museum:—while in the case of the building in Great Russell Street the Library excludes by the space which it occupies many of the features which should properly form portions of a British Museum.

The changes in the Norfolk Estuary about to be commenced under the superintendence of Sir John Rennie and Mr. Robert Stephenson will form one of the largest engineering works ever undertaken in the eastern counties of England. The main object is, to reclaim from the sea a tract of land of great agricultural value, measuring 32,000 acres; but in addition to this, the fens and the lowlands known as the Bedford Level will be thoroughly drained,—and the navigation of the Ouse from the sea to Lynn and beyond will be greatly improved. The estimated expense of reclamation is 20l. an acre—for the entire work 640,000l. Towards this large sum the corporation of Lynn has voted

60,000l.,—and the fen proprietors 60,000l. more; the remainder is to be raised by a joint-stock company. The land, it is said, will be worth on the average 45l. an acre;—so that in a few years, it is believed, the outlay will be entirely repaid.

The recent doings of the Catholic clergy in Ireland have given an impetus to the spirit of intolerance in this country. We see some of the effects in the resolution of the Liverpool corporation not to throw open their noble schools to the children of all religious persuasions in that town on equal terms,—the refusal being expressly grounded on the fact, that the ecclesiastics of the sister island have recently refused a similar boon. Thus the old animosities which it was fondly hoped were laid at rest for ever are revived—once more realized in the actual business of life. The debate on the proposition was one which it is both painful and humiliating to read. The urgent need of these schools in the midst of one of the poorest and most disorderly populations in Europe—the offspring, in a great measure, of Irish paupers and ignorant dock labourers—was not denied by the opponents of the motion; neither was the principle of free admission objected to,—on the contrary, it was highly approved and eulogised. That thousands of children are prowling about the streets and dockyards in a state of complete moral and mental destitution,—that these children might be admitted into the corporation schools, where they would form friendships with English children and probably acquire some superior habits—no one denied. But the example of bigotry across the Channel was allowed to outweigh all those powerful reasons. This is in the spirit of the old persecuting times,—when intolerance reproduced itself in an atmosphere everywhere favourable to its generation. But we live now under more wholesome moral conditions,—and the sober and practical men of Liverpool will surely not persist in following an unworthy example.

The Commission appointed by the Government to inquire into the state, discipline and studies of the University of Oxford will commence its sittings in London on Monday next, the 14th inst.

A few days since, the Bury Athenæum, on the model of the one in Manchester, was inaugurated by Lord Stanley in a graceful speech. The Bishop of the diocese was florid and prophetic,—the Earl of Wilton brief and patronizing: but in the midst of this momentary enthusiasm, we see only the old course again beginning, in all probability to end in the often-repeated neglect and failure. If we are rightly informed, the Mechanics' Institute never took root in the town of Bury,—probably for the one grand reason, that the Institute was never adapted to the wants of mechanics. When it had fallen into a state of utter prostration, a few friends, desirous of keeping it alive in one shape or another, proposed to change it into an Athenæum for the middle classes. The Earl of Derby gave a piece of ground, a subscription of two thousand pounds was raised towards a handsome building—a luxury in which Bury is particularly deficient,—and Mr. Smirke was appointed to erect it at a cost of four thousand pounds. The new building starts, then, on the decayed foundation of the Institute,—and with a debt of two thousand pounds!—Equal want of forethought appears to mark the arrangement of the programme. While it was a Mechanics' Institute, it overlooked the wants of its particular subscribers; now that it appeals to the class of shop-keepers and professional men, it proposes to exclude what such persons seek in a public establishment—newspapers, for instance, and books which come under the suspicion of bearing on religion or on politics. There seems to be an infatuation about these things:—the working classes are denied their schools—the middle classes their news-rooms. How can such institutions be expected to flourish!

Some time since the Council of the Belfast Natural History and Philosophical Society printed and circulated a portion of the inscriptions on the outer case of a mummy brought from Thebes by Sir James Emerson Tennent. This mummy, a correspondent informs us, is to be unrolled on Thursday next at the Belfast Museum. It is considered remarkable, he adds, from being connected with the twelfth dynasty by a royal name occurring



on the case. The examination is looked forward to as one likely to be of chronological importance.

This is the age of economy. It has recently been discovered that the animal and vegetable refuse of towns contains a mine of wealth,—now, the very dust beneath our feet is found to be of considerable value. Few who rode along the newly macadamized Boulevards in Paris saw in the change from hard stone to soft mud which has there taken place anything beyond a sage precaution against barricades; but M. Taboureaux found that the muddy road, like the famed Pactolus, was rich in grains of gold—in the more particular form of siliceous particles, which when gathered and prepared make, it is reported, admirable bricks for cleaning knives, sword-blades and cutlery. While so many of his compeers are looking to the distant banks of the Sacramento for a heritage of wealth, M. Taboureaux has a California under his horse's feet in the open streets of the capital. The value of the new digging is already estimated. A hectolitre of the mud produces ten bricks, each of which sells for 20 c.:—so that the mud of Paris is worth 2 f. a hectolitre when washed and worked up. A number of workmen are already employed in this new branch of industry. In these days of rapid discovery, how the old forms of speech grow obsolete! "Cheap as dirt" has lost its meaning; and instead of a man shaking off the dust of his feet at the door of his enemy, it may come to pass that he shall carefully preserve it for his own advantage.—The mud privilege is already so highly esteemed in Paris that authority has invited formal tenders for it for terms of three, six and nine years!

The time is near at hand when the character and extent of the forthcoming Great Industrial Exhibition will be in some degree known,—the period within which demands for space from proposing exhibitors will be received expiring with the present month.—"Up to the present time," says the *Pharmaceutical Journal*, "but little indication of activity has been manifested in the chemical and pharmaceutical department in this country. \* \* It remains for the British chemists and pharmacutists to decide, whether they will come forward and take their right position in an honourable trial of skill with foreigners who are already in the field and preparing for the competition."—It being considered highly desirable to obtain such a collection of British minerals as shall give some idea of the mineral wealth of our country, the Executive Committee has issued a list of such products of the kind as are best known, in the hope that the proprietors of mines, quarries, &c., will assist the Commissioners in carrying out their views with reference to so important a part of the Exhibition.—We may mention here, as an addition to the records which we have from time to time made of the manner in which individuals in their several localities are working in the spirit of the Exhibition,—that Mr. Bridson, of Bolton, has intimated his intention to give a prize of books to the value of 5*l.* for the best essay on 'The Advantages to be derived by Working Men from Visiting the Great Exhibition of 1851,' written by working men resident within the Bolton Union. The books to be selected by the successful competitor.

That the efforts of the Peace Society are gaining respect in quarters where respect implies even something like the triumph of its extreme principle, is practically evidenced in the reception given to a few of its members, who could not even pretend to speak in its collective name, by the two contending parties in the north of Europe. That they have not been able to put an end to actual hostilities is no proof that nothing has been or can be done to allay national heat, and prepare for a better solution than war can ever effect of the differences existing between Denmark and the Duchies. Both of the contending powers, Germans and Danes, have virtually admitted, in answer to the representations of these peace missionaries, the folly of an appeal to the sword in a case like theirs,—by offering to submit it to arbitration. The cause of the war is one which not a man in five thousand of those actually in arms understands,—and not one in a thousand could understand it though it were ever so elaborately explained. Obscure points of family history, nice questions of

feudal and canonical law, disputed claims arising from various acts of concession and succession in the course of four hundred years, the interpretation of doubtful imperial rescripts, and other difficulties, are involved, far beyond the comprehension of the poor peasants whose blood is flowing to settle what the destruction of a hundred thousand men will leave exactly where it before stood. Two professors have been named to arrange the terms of a conference of arbitrators. The members of the congress very wisely abstained from taking any part in these arrangements. Their mission was to mediate—not to arbitrate; to promote charity by showing the logic and policy of a settlement effected by intelligence instead of by brute force,—not to establish themselves as a college of princes. The attitude which they have now taken is imposing; and while they act with prudence and reserve—strictly confining themselves to their proper function of teachers—they will obtain, as we have never doubted, support from the common sentiment of Europe.

While speaking of this subject, we may notice that, according to a report of the Committee of Artillery in France, a contribution to the cause of peace has just been made in that country by M. Lagrange, a chemist of L'Orient,—in the form of a new shell of such destructive capacity that it is said a ship of 120 guns can be sunk by it in a few minutes. A trial of its powers was made a few days ago in the presence of several admirals and generals; and, according to the report, the effect was so terrific that one of the committee exclaimed—"after that shell comes into operation no one will dare to think of making war." When the march of science appears to take this destroying shape, it is comforting to reflect that as the power to destroy life rapidly has become more and more known, wars have been less and less frequent; and that although destruction has now and then done its work on a colossal scale, the sacrifice of life century by century, in proportion to the whole mass of population, has steadily declined. When the sword and buckler were the only weapons of offence and defence, war was expected as a matter of yearly excitement. The Hellene and the Roman looked for the hostile raid as the inhabitant of London or Paris looks for the Opera season. Whatever wickedness and folly may characterize them still, wars are not now hastily undertaken. The responsibility is growing too fearful for any individual to bear. "Strike first—explain after," the "fine old rule," has scarcely an advocate left. As the stroke becomes more terrible, men ask if it be not better to try the explanation first.—In a cause so sacred as that of peace we are not unwilling to receive any assistance that we can get, even though it come from hostile quarters. M. Lagrange's argument against war may be of the lowest kind,—but we have no objection to enlist the powerful instincts of self-preservation as allies to effect our purpose. The lower arguments will reach a class of minds which by nature or by a false system of education have been closed against the higher.

The DIORAMA, Regent's Park.—Admission, One Shilling.—NOW OPEN, with the finest VIEWS ever exhibited in this country, representing the ROYAL CASTLE of STOLZENFELS, on the Rhine, (visited by Her Majesty Queen Victoria in August, 1845,) and its Environs, as seen at Sunset and during a Thunder Storm; painted by NICHOLAS MEISTER, of Cologne. And the much-admired Picture of THE SHRINE of the NATIVITY, at Bethlehem; painted by the late M. RENOUX, from a Sketch made on the spot by DAVID ROBERTS, Esq. R.A., with novel and striking effects.—Open from Ten till Five.

EGYPT, NUBIA, and ETHIOPIA.—THE GREAT MOVING PANORAMA of the NILE displays the scenery of these interesting countries, and the manners and customs of their inhabitants, presenting to the spectator the River and the Desert, the Pyramids and the Sphinx, the grandest Ruins of Antiquity, and the most exciting objects that allure the traveller.—EGYPTIAN HALL, PICCADILLY.—Daily, at Three and Eight.—Admission reduced to 6*d.*; Pit, 1*d.*, Stalls, 2*d.*

#### ROYAL POLYTECHNIC INSTITUTION.

LECTURE on the BALLAD MUSIC of ENGLAND, by Mr. George Barker, illustrated by his own compositions, every Evening (except Saturday), at Eight o'clock.—LECTURE on the HYDRO-ELECTRIC MACHINE, by Dr. Bachofner.—LECTURE on CHEMISTRY, by J. H. Pepper, Esq. Illustrating the ANCIENT PITCH ORDEAL and the HANDLING of RED-HOT METALS.—MODEL of WESTON'S PATENT NOVA-MOTIVE RAILWAY at work daily.—DISSOLVING VIEWS, illustrating some of the WONDERS of NATURE, daily at Half-past Four, and in the Evenings at a Quarter to Ten; also Series, exhibiting SCENES in the ARCTIC REGIONS and CEYLON, daily at One o'clock.—DIVER and DIVING BELL, &c. &c.—Admission, 1*d.*; Schools, Half-price.—Open daily from Eleven till Five o'clock, and every Evening (EXCEPT SATURDAY) from Seven till Half-past Ten.

INDIA OVERLAND MAIL.—DIORAMA.—GALLERY of ILLUSTRATION, 14, Regent-street, Waterloo-place.—A Gigantic MOVING DIORAMA of the ROUTE of the OVERLAND MAIL to INDIA, exhibiting the following places, viz.—Southampton Docks, Isle of Wight, Osborne, the Needles, the Bay of Biscay, the Berlinges, Cintra, the Tagus, Cape Trafalgar, Tarifa, Gibraltar, Algiers, Malta, Alexandria, Cairo, the Desert of Suez, the Central Station, Suez, the Red Sea, Aden, Ceylon, Madras, and Calcutta—is now OPEN DAILY.—Mornings at Twelve, Afternoons at Three, and Evenings at Eight.—Admission, 1*d.*; Stalls, 2*d.*; Reserved Seats, 3*d.*—Doors open half an hour before each representation.

#### SOCIETIES

ENTOMOLOGICAL.—G. R. Waterhouse, Esq., President, in the chair.—Messrs. Guyon and Potter were elected subscribers.—Mr. S. Stevens exhibited some Lepidoptera which he had received from Mr. Bates, collected at Ega, on the Upper Amazons,—including a new species of Papilio, a new Callithea, and a new Castina; also some Homoptera and Diptera of curious forms, and some Staphylinidae.—Mr. Shepherd exhibited three specimens of *Aphomia anella*,—a species new to Britain, taken near Dover.—Mr. Bond exhibited an hermaphrodite specimen of *Arctia Caja*, reared from a larva which did not present any remarkable appearance. It was observed as worthy of note, that the female half was on the right side,—it being usually found on the left. Mr. Bond also exhibited a variety of *Sphinx Ligustri*, and a bleached variety of *Charissa pullata*.—Mr. Westwood, on the part of Mr. Gould, exhibited two insects which he had found in Scotland impaled on the spines of furze. In former instances of insects impaled on thorns, it had been suggested that they had been so placed by shrikes; but this was scarcely probable in this instance, as shrikes were not known in Scotland. How, then, is the occurrence of impaled insects to be accounted for?—Mr. Westwood, on the part of Capt. Parry, exhibited a pupa case of *Goliathus Druræi*, with the perfect insect inside. Mr. Westwood observed, that the cases of some lamellicorn beetles were said to be formed by the parent insect, but this he was inclined to believe was made by the larva itself, as in the instances of some Noctue and *Cetonia aurata*. Adverting to the butterfly received from Mrs. Hamilton, and exhibited at the last meeting, Mr. Westwood said that, judging from the characters furnished by the larva, it had been referred to the genus *Danaï*; but it appeared on a more careful examination of the butterfly, that, notwithstanding these characters of the larva, it was truly a *Hestia*—probably a new species,—thus showing that no one set of characters could be exclusively relied on for separating sub-genera.—Mr. Douglas exhibited a specimen of *Hypera Rumicis*, the pupa of which he had found in its round, reticulated, diaphanous cocoon attached to a blade of grass at Folkstone, in July. He had put it into a pill-box, and watched it daily until its change to the perfect state, when not a vestige of the cocoon was left, though the grass was untouched; so that on emerging from its shroud the beetle must have eaten it up.—A letter from Mr. J. C. Bowring, of Hong Kong, was read, giving a minute detail of the history, through its different states, of the coccus-like insect of which he had exhibited a specimen to the Society in 1848. The insect was parasitic upon *Fulgora caudalaria*; and Mr. Bowring had had considerable difficulty in keeping the *Fulgora* alive in confinement,—and consequently the rearing of these parasites was no easy matter. He had at length succeeded in rearing two specimens,—one of which he sent to the Society. Mr. Bowring was of opinion that it was lepidopterous. Unfortunately, the specimen was so injured on its journey to this country, that not enough remained to determine the order to which it belonged.—A note by Mr. Newman 'On the various ways different species of Bees have of opening Snapdragons' was read.

#### FINE ARTS

##### THE ROYAL ACADEMY.

THE time is fast approaching when several questions affecting the future destinies of the Royal Academy will in all probability have to be determined. We believe that institution to be just now in a moment of crisis; which may be made either the starting point for a career more brilliant than it has yet run, or the period from whence a con-



siderable decline of its influence and authority will be hereafter reckoned. We purpose, therefore, discussing a variety of topics which should have some influence on the decisions of that body and on the decisions of others in reference to it.

But for the inquiries on which we are about to enter, it is desirable that we should lay a previous foundation. Something like an opinion appears to be gaining ground that academies in general have no beneficial place in the history of a country's Art,—and as to the individual Academy of which we shall have particularly to speak, there is no very clear understanding abroad either of its functions or of the manner in which they have been performed. It is right that some materials for an opinion on these points should be supplied before we enter on the suggestions which in our opinion the present state and prospects of the Royal Academy demand:—and we will begin our article by some view, historical and other, of the claims of such institutions generally—and incidentally of our own Academy—to the merit of exercising a beneficial influence on the progress of national Art. For this purpose we will avail ourselves in the first place of some remarks which have been placed at our disposal by one who has very fully considered this subject,—reserving to ourselves the right of qualifying or applying them as we shall afterwards think fit.

"On the subject of academies generally," says the authority in question, "Dr. Waagen, Director of the Royal Academy, Berlin [who gave evidence some years ago before a Select Committee of the House of Commons appointed to inquire—amongst other things—into the constitution, management and effects of institutions connected with the Arts] is of opinion that public Academies of Art as they have been hitherto organized have been injurious. Dr. Waagen contrasts the mode in which the Arts were taught previously to the existence of such institutions, when an intimate and personal relation existed between the master and the scholar, with the system of academies,—and to the disadvantage of the latter. He does not perceive that the two systems may exist—as they have existed—together; and that it is not in consequence of the establishment of academies, but owing to the want of encouragement of works on a great scale, that we have not in England private schools of eminent artists. The schools of Raffaele and of Rubens originated in the employment afforded to those masters by the munificence of churchmen and of princes. It became necessary in order to the execution of the great works in which they were engaged, that they should have assistants,—and that those assistants should in power of execution equal themselves. Young men of genius were sought for and found. Could encouragement again be given to the Arts on the same splendid scale, similar schools of Art would again be formed whether we have an academy or not,—but the annihilation of academies would not give rise to such schools in the absence of such encouragement.

"Dr. Waagen seems to think that a frigid mediocrity is necessarily the result of academic teaching. He is not very lucky in the names which he brings forward of the three most distinguished artists of Germany in the eighteenth century who, as he says, 'owed their education not to academies, but were educated after the old manner.'—Mengs, Denner, and Dietrich! To such names might be fearlessly opposed those of the principal artists of our own country since the establishment of our Royal Academy,—all of whom owe much of their education to it, and most of whom have been its regular students. But I do not say these men were formed by the Academy. Who can say how a man of genius is formed? All nature is his school,—and he is often most occupied in collecting from her ample stores the materials of his art when he appears to be least so. These materials he will find in the fields, by his fire-side, in public assemblies, and in the streets; but he will not the less avail himself of those peculiar advantages offered by academies, to aid his studies elsewhere. Neither Claude nor Poussin disdained to become the students of such establishments.—The peculiar sentiment that constitutes the great charm and value of the art of Raphael did not survive him although there was no

academy to destroy it; and nothing of a kindred feeling has since appeared, excepting in the art of Stothard,—first a student and then a member of our Academy. Many foreign artists of the present day have that which imposes on superficial judges as resembling the sentiment of Raphael,—but Stothard possessed the reality.

"Dr. Waagen's objection to the mode of teaching in academies, and the opinions of those of his countrymen who coincide with him, appear to be derived from Rumohr,—an author entitled to great respect for his good sense and candour, as well as for the earnestness and ability with which he labours to clear the truth from the mist of prejudices in which modern theories have enveloped it. I quote the following passage from the 'Drey Reisen nach Italien' of this author (published in Leipsic in 1832); in which he describes an attempt to counteract the influence of Dutch art in Italy by the establishment of an academy—an attempt which was naturally and deservedly followed by the curse of mediocrity.—

"The consideration which the Dutch painters enjoyed in Rome, the imitation which they had awakened even among the Italians, excited a serious alarm in the minds of two painters [Carlo Sacchi and Francesco Albani] who were sufficiently worthy representatives of historical painting. They sought means to counteract the evil, and imagined that the superior dignity of the subjects which they were accustomed to treat would be sufficient. Their self-love prevented them from seeing that their principle, the dignity of the subject, was opposed and annihilated by the very success that gave them uneasiness. For that Dutch style was esteemed in Rome at the time for no other reason than because, while the interest of the subject was trifling, the artists contrived to infuse more life and mind into their works than the historical and poetical painters of the time could succeed in attaining."

"In another part of the same work, Rumohr says—

"In our days he who determines to be an artist is accustomed to take one of two opposite roads. He either seeks in seclusion, by his own repeated attempts, to arrive at the object of his wishes, or he frequents those public schools of Art, called academies, which belong to the peculiarities of the most modern time. Academies, in our sense of the word, were as unknown to classical antiquity as they were before the end of the seventeenth century to the moderns. Thorough schools, superintended by individual masters, no longer exist; for the school of Cornelius at Munich now, like that of David at Paris before, is rather the resort of young men who wish to finish their education and give themselves the last hand, than a master's school in the old workmanlike sense. All attempts to renew the latter have failed, owing to that want of limitation or moderation of aim which seems to belong to the peculiarities of our age. Those of the modern artists who are self teachers for the most part remain attached to wretched habits, like flies in glue. All that men have arrived at in the course of centuries they must discover alone,—and of course nothing can come. Occasionally, very singular things, the result of undisturbed peculiarity, are the result. But there is always a hitch both in technical and in scientific qualities, while the imagination not uncommonly takes too capricious a turn. Advice and guidance are consequently to be had only in academies. But how is it possible in open schools of Art for all those who are thirsting to be satisfied each in his own way and according to his own wants by buckets pedantically passed from hand to hand? How, again, can all that is technical in the art, that is to say, the greatest part of it, be properly taught in theories? The nature of these institutions is not a little curious. From 1700 to 1800, it may be assumed that from Naples to Stockholm, from Petersburg to Lisbon, academies have altogether cost, in support, salaries, interest of building, capital and other outlays, in fire, light, and models, at least 300,000 dollars a year,—that is, 30,000,000 dollars in a century. If the sum appears too great, at least 20,000,000 dollars. What has been the result? What artists of this time do we permit to place themselves near others (older ones) in galleries? Hardly Denner, Dietrich and Mengs, all three of whom, as scholars of their fathers, had nothing to thank academies for. Whoever wishes to see the result should search the stairs and cellars and other magazines of the older institutions of this kind for the prize works and selected specimens which have been collected there by degrees from 1700 to 1800. It is a melancholy sight, which can only lead to the conclusion that so great an expense has had no other effect than to perpetuate false manners, which probably without encouragement would have been much sooner extinct. The old Florentine Academy, of whose foundation and progress Vasari gives us an account, was only a kind of learned and tasteful society. The plan of teaching the art in public institutions did not exist earlier than the period when the success of the agreeable and cheerful style of the Dutch painters excited even among the Italians an inclination to attempt the same road,—in consequence of which the historical and church painters manifested that alarm to which I have already alluded. The causes of the anxiety of the Sacchi and Albani had operated afterwards on Carlo Maratti, who, as is well known, established the Academy of St. Luke with his own means,—an academy which was the prototype of most of those in Europe. The painters of the time were desirous of opposing the Dutch influence,—and in this they were not successful. Whether, on the other hand, they established a better influence,—whether they imparted knowledge and dexterity, with power to profit by

them,—on these points the silent agreement of contemporaries has long decided. \* \* \* As matters now stand in the world, academies for the present are altogether indispensable."

"The conclusions to which these notions have led Dr. Waagen, are, it will be seen, different from the more comprehensive reasoning of Rumohr. The latter admits that from 1700 to 1800 genuine Art had all but deserted its former abodes in Europe. But he is silent as to England,—where, notwithstanding the apathy of patronage, it had found refuge,—and where for the last thirty-two years of that period it was in a great measure sustained by the exertions of an Academy of Artists, under the sanction and with the assistance of the Sovereign. This silence in so fair a writer could only be the result of that ignorance of the state of the Arts in our country which is common to foreigners.

"The great error that seems to pervade all theories adverse to such institutions is that very common one of mistaking cause for effect. Academies on the Continent have generally arisen when the Arts were declining,—and because they necessarily partook more or less of the debility of the times, they are supposed to have caused it. How far they may have contributed to retard the decline or to promote the revival of the Arts has never been fairly inquired,—but it remains to be proved that they have not in proportion to their means done so; and were the inquiry fairly pursued, I believe it would be found that quite as much of *Academic Art* has emerged from the system which Dr. Waagen prefers as from that of Academies.—After all, it is perhaps more a dispute about words than about things. Sir Martin Shee, in reply to a question on the subject, has said:—'The result of my investigations is, that Academies on the whole do good to the Arts; though it is necessary to know the particular Academy to which the Committee allude, its construction and its principles, before we can say whether that good result will be produced. An Academy, in the abstract, means only a school,—and I think schools are good things.'

"From what we know of the present German schools of which Dr. Waagen asserts that the most distinguished artists have there arisen 'in decided opposition to Academies,' I am not inclined to think their mode of proceeding calculated to restore the Art. I should say their practice is *ultra Academic*:—a sort of *mimicry* of the peculiarities of the old masters, rather than genuine imitation of their principles.

"Among other objections which have been urged against our own Royal Academy, it has been said that the taste of the people is 'very much injured by the Exhibition,—by the glare of colouring, and a competition to outshine each other without reference to Art.' Of course, this is an objection applicable to all Exhibitions as well as to that of the Royal Academy. Such a competition among the inferior artists, of whose works an Exhibition which is open to the whole profession must admit a large proportion, is likely enough; but there is, and always has been, in these exhibitions, enough of the best Art to afford instruction in all that is refined to those who are by nature capable of receiving it. The best pictures of Reynolds, Gainsborough and Wilson were Exhibition pictures; and we do not find in them any of those ill effects ascribed to public competition. Fuseli was never tempted by the glare of other artists to desert the negative tones so admirably suited to the subjects in which he excelled all other painters; nor did Owen, or Jackson, who were both formed in the Academy and constant exhibitors, ever vary from truth of colour for the sake of exhibition effect.—To eyes that mistake the yellowness of varnish or the dinginess of age for tone, the best pictures, fresh from the easel, will always appear defective; but such eyes we may well believe would not have relished the works of Claude or Poussin as they came from their hands.

"It is not among the least of the benefits conferred by the Academy Exhibition on the country, that it has led to the production of many beautiful works of Art, and some of large dimensions as well as of great excellence, that would not otherwise have appeared.—Nearly all the fancy and historical pictures of Reynolds—upwards of a hundred in



number—were painted for the Exhibition; and the greater part of these remained on his hands to the day of his death.

"The Academy of England (unlike any other,) was founded in the very commencement of the genuine National School. The Art which preceded it, with the single exception of Hogarth's, was the very dregs of that common-place style which is called *academic*. Portrait painting, without an academy to ruin it, but carried on upon the ancient system preferred by Dr. Waagen, had degenerated from Vandyke and Lely, through the hands of Kneller, Wissing, Dahl, and Hudson, almost to utter worthlessness.—In history, there existed no better painter than Thornhill,—and certainly the Academy has since produced no art more *academic* than his. In sculpture, the most prominent names were those of two foreigners, Cibber and Roubiliac; and though the latter was admirable in portraiture, yet neither of them can be compared for taste or imagination to Flaxman, a student of the Academy—or to others who have followed him. Architects alone had shown what our countrymen were capable of achieving in Art:—and gloriously had Jones, Wren and Vanbrugh proved it. The men who formed that bright constellation of genius that appeared soon after Hogarth, and with Reynolds, were in their full vigour when the Academy was formed; and instead of being blighted and chilled by academic precepts, they all—even Reynolds himself, who was twenty years President, and a constant exhibitor—improved. Of his successor, West, it may be truly said that the style which he formed under Mengs was much more *academic* than the better one which characterized his works near the close of his long life."

Here for the present we must conclude. It will be seen that the remarks of which we have availed ourselves above are rather a defence of Academies—and of the Academy against specific charges,—than a statement of the uses of the first or of the particular merits of the last.—We shall return to the subject on an early occasion.

FINE-ART GOSSIP.—A winter Exhibition of studies and sketches in oil and water colours is now, we understand, in course of formation under the auspices of some well-known amateurs. Among the details of their plans are the following:—No works which are not *bond fide* the property of the artist shall be offered for sale; the artist shall be limited to the exhibition of three such contributions; where contributions are the property of other persons than artists, that fact shall be published, and shall incapacitate them for sale; all sales are to be made for the sole benefit of the artist, without any deduction whatever,—and when the sale of a work has been effected, the artist is to be put in immediate connexion with the purchaser; the expenses of mounting and framing the various works are to be incurred by the association, and repaid out of the receipts proposed to be taken at the doors.—It is proposed that this winter Exhibition shall be conducted in the rooms of the Water Colour Exhibition in Pall Mall. The frames are to be of one uniform pattern, to secure symmetry; and no works are to be placed beyond a height which will enable them to be well seen.—Several of our leading artists have already given in their adhesion to this promising scheme.

In the matter of Architecture this country may be fairly said to enjoy the triumph of infelicity:—though larger sums are expended here on public and private buildings than the records of any other modern nation can show. Think how old Vitruvius would arch his brow when looking at, and hearing the cost of, some of our national edifices! That art which had such masters in the middle ages as Michael Angelo, Brunelleschi, Michelozzo, and Sansovino has grievously degenerated in our days of lath and plaster, compo and stucco combinations.—We had ventured to hope, however, that amid the tawdriness by which we are surrounded we were about to get from Sir Robert Smirke in the instance of the new buildings at the British Museum simplicity of design—even to

severity,—as best adapted to the majesty of the purpose for which they are designed. But here, again, the usual disappointment awaits us. The dwarf wall outside is redeemed from its extreme of absurdity by the yet greater abuse which is going on within. A garish and unmeaning species of painted decoration is there in progress of perpetration. The noble ceilings of the lofty Egyptian and the adjoining galleries are in course of being picked out with a system as gaudy in colours as in design insignificant and puerile. When this species of decoration shall have been carried throughout, and the simple effect of the grand proportions of the Egyptian gallery shall have been finally destroyed, the country will have to boast of an apartment more tasteless and vulgar than any of the commonest places of resort which some of the German cities can show:—on the merits of which, by the way, their own people maintain a wholesome silence. It is not too late to escape from this impending disgrace:—and, therefore, we hope our contemporaries who should feel that they have charge of these matters will help us to denounce it.

#### MUSIC AND THE DRAMA

SADLER'S WELLS.—On Friday week Shakspeare's comedy of 'Much Ado about Nothing' was revived here. Mr. Marston, who has been absent from the theatre, and has only lately returned to it, performed *Benedick*,—and manifestly sought to deserve the welcome which he received by acting with remarkable care and spirit. In its general outline the performance was a close copy of Mr. Charles Kemble's, but it wanted many of the graces of the original,—in particular, that minute filling-up by which the latter was distinguished. An experiment was made on the same evening in which the audience appeared to take great interest. Miss Glyn, forsaking for a while the field of severe tragedy, made her first comic essay in the liveliest of Shakspeare's heroines. Contrary to what might have been expected, her impersonation of *Beatrice* had nothing tragic in its manner,—but was characterized by a level conversational ease, such as even the early *Cleopatra* scenes of the same actress did not promise. The wit and badinage of the character were managed with equal spirit and elegance; and the entire representation was eminently successful.—This union of tragic and comic powers in one and the same actress is something extraordinary. The play has been announced for frequent repetition.

STRAND.—The number of qualifications that are needed to make the great actor was well exemplified on Wednesday evening at this theatre. Mr. Butler Wentworth, long well known as an amateur and lately as an actor, made trial of the character of *Othello*, in order no doubt to justify his aspiration to the highest histrionic honours. In person and bearing he possesses many advantages which may help him to look a character nobly and well and to act it with grace and effect. His declamation, too, is well studied,—and in many points full of excellent promise. Nevertheless, the result of the attempt was, an unequivocal failure.—Nothing could be better than some of his earlier scenes. In all level and natural passages he showed a peculiar talent for conversational dialogue; but we had reason to fear when more than the ordinary tone was required, for there were throughout indications of violence. The passionate speeches in the third act decided all doubt: the performer proved himself wholly incapable of sustaining them. When he should have trusted to nature he called in the aid of art,—and became unaccountably perverse in its misapplication. It is but fair to presume that repeated experiments had proved to him that his voice—fine as it is in its lower tones—was incapable of the due and rapid delivery of vehement passages. Such a defect disqualifies Mr. Butler Wentworth for the highest range of the drama,—though undoubtedly there is a wide field open for the exercise of his degree of capacity and talent.

OLYMPIC.—A new ballet, entitled 'The Sultan's Dream,' was presented at this house on Thursday. Madame Louise, Mdle. Adele, and Miss Lees were the principal dancers.

MUSICAL AND DRAMATIC GOSSIP.—Every new announcement of the *Grand National Concerts* which are next week to commence at *Her Majesty's Theatre* has added some new promise to the long list already put forth.—The official *programme*, which has appeared since we last adverted to these entertainments, confirms the engagement of M. Félicien David "to attend and conduct the production of portions of his opera, 'Christophe Colomb,'"—announces that "several evenings will be devoted to the exclusive performance of sacred music,"—advertises M. Pilodo, in place of M. Musard to conduct the dance music,—Signor Negri as being entrusted with "the arrangement of the operatic selections, &c."—among the singers, Mdle. Angri, Mr. Sims Reeves, Signora Biscaccianti (the last a lady who has been *prima donna* of an Italian opera in America for some seasons)—among the instrumentalists (possibly) Signor Sivori, who is expected from the Havannah. The success of a speculation involving the distribution of materials of such vast variety and the arrangement of details so complicated must depend entirely on the power of organization which can be brought to bear upon the undertaking. We look to the sequel with as much interest as curiosity:—no similar experiment having been attempted in our time.

A new and large organ, just completed by Messrs. Hill & Davison, for Boston, was on Tuesday made to speak, by Mr. Adams,—and on Wednesday lent to the Bach Society, for whom Mr. Cooper performed a selection from the compositions of the greatest organ composer.—While speaking of Bach and of the Bach Society, we may mention that four of his Motets, recently introduced by that Association, are about to be forthwith published in London, with English text adapted by Mr. W. Bartholomew.

After the announcements just put forth by Signor Ronconi and M. Ber, the world of Paris was last week not a little surprised to learn that Mr. Lumley had been nominated to the management of the Italian Opera, in association with M. Lecomte. M. Ber, the partner of Signor Ronconi (who is for the moment in Spain), has announced his intention of resisting this dismissal by every means which the law can afford him:—and much eager correspondence has thereupon appeared in the Paris papers. Among other letters, has been published one from Signor Mario confirming that which many had doubted—namely, the fact of his having promised to sing for Signor Ronconi at the close of his Russian engagement and before the opening of next year's London campaign. In this letter, too, by way of setting at rest all misunderstanding of his intentions, Signor Mario formally declares that he will not take any engagement in any theatre in which Mr. Lumley has direct or indirect interest:—such avowal, by the way, putting an end to the reports of compromises, fusion of companies, and the like, which are periodically circulated at the close of our Italian opera season. As Mr. Lumley is understood to be powerfully protected in Paris, we do not imagine that M. Ber will take much by his motion.—These are early days to call for any *programme*; but we believe that Mr. Lumley's *prima donna* will be Madame Sontag,—and we know that M. Berlioz has been treated with for the conduct of the orchestra. Should this treaty come to agreement, we shall not be surprised at next year seeing M. Berlioz occupy the place of Mr. Balfé in London. MM. Scribe and Halévy are said to intend recomposing the third act of 'La Tempesta,'—and we should suppose also to re-arrange the entire part of *Ariel*, if the work is to be given at the *Théâtre Ventadour* at Paris; ballet not being sanctioned, we believe, at the Italian theatre there, on the score of protection to the *Grand Opéra*.—In the best of configurations the cards of the English manager of an Italian opera in France are not easy to play,—and they are less easy at the present than at any former period.

At the *Grand Opéra* of Paris, meanwhile, Mdle. Alboni has fallen back upon 'Le Prophète':—her success in this one French opera being another contradiction of the popular fallacy, that in proportion as a part is good and peculiar it is monopolized by the one person who has been supposed to fill it perfectly. So far from this, it is only



characters without an inherent vitality of their own which can be thus exhausted. Of "the beings of the mind" there are many interpretations, many personifications.—The composer of 'Le Prophète' is just now in Paris; and the *quidnuncs* have, of course, taken advantage of the occasion to set in motion all manner of whisperings concerning 'L'Africaine,' for which he is fancied to be in treaty. Unwilling to spoil sport and to destroy marvels, we must nevertheless say that we believe that there is small chance of an early representation of this opera; its composer having not in the least remitted his solicitude of immediate interest in 'Le Prophète,'—being notoriously unwilling rather than anxious to bring out his works in rapid succession, and no less notoriously desirous to traffic for favour with his 'Camp de Silésie.'—It is a fact of more immediate interest that, after many rehearsals, the cast of M. Auber's opera 'L'Enfant Prodigue' will be entirely changed:—Mdlles. Dameron and Mainvielle having failed to satisfy the management, and M. Baroilhet being about to quit the theatre for a while to fulfil an engagement in Spain.—We learn, meanwhile, that the 'Sappho' of M. Gounod is all but ready to be put into rehearsal, and that those who have seen the score speak of it in terms of no common praise.—Certain journals announce that Madame Stoltz intends to return to the operatic stage, with the purpose of taking the field against "all and sundry" *contralti*—having, so the same authorities assure us, entirely transformed her method of singing under the auspices of no less a master than Signor Rossini. But, since the name of this provokingly silent oracle is periodically invoked in support of all manner of brilliant and flattering projects, we will wait till after the *début* of Madame Stoltz shall have taken place before we believe that such a metamorphosis—without parallel in the annals of music—has been accomplished.—A young lady, Mdlle. Lefebvre, is singing the part of Madame Ugaldé in the 'Fée aux Roses,' at the *Opéra Comique*, with success. Her voice is sufficient in compass, fresh in quality, and free from that *criarde* tone which French voices given to volubility are apt to possess. Her style is good, her execution fair, and her appearance singularly pleasing. The perpetual succession of ladies so well trained as Mdlle. Lefebvre which the *Opéra Comique* displays speaks in high terms for the value of the *Conservatoire* as a vocal school,—especially to us English, who have nothing analogous to show.

The *Gazette Musicale* announces that Signor di Giosa, an Italian opera maker (we dare no longer say *composer*) has three commissions on his hands for different theatres. This would argue an increased popularity, and that he is a new writer worth inquiring after.

The Haymarket is to re-open on Monday next:—but Mr. Macready's "farewell performances" will not take place until the 28th inst. It is announced that Mrs. Warner, Mr. James W. Wallack, jun. (of the United States), Mr. Davenport, and Mr. Henry Bedford are engaged.

Webster's 'Duchess of Malfi,' adapted to the stage by Mr. R. H. Horne, has been read at Sadler's Wells Theatre, in order to its immediate production.—Mr. Slous's play of 'The Templar' is in rehearsal—as we have already stated would probably be the case—at the Princess's.

#### MISCELLANEA

*The Houses of Parliament.*—The works suspended during the sittings of Parliament are now resumed, and are actively progressing. In the House of Lords the artists are engaged on the historical paintings remaining incomplete. In the new chamber of the Commons the alterations and acoustic improvements found necessary at the trial sittings are being effected. St. Stephen's Porch, the approach to the New House of Commons, is quite finished;—it will be reached by a noble flight of steps, the entire breadth of which extends fifty feet into the body of Westminster Hall. The restoration of the splendid roof and interior of Westminster Hall is commenced. A new entrance has been opened from the centre of the hall to the cloisters. The bases and statues in the interior of the Royal Entrance, Victoria Tower, are completed,—and it is expected that on the next

occasion of Her Majesty opening Parliament in person this entrance will be made use of.—*Times*.

*Library of the British Museum.*—At the sale of Mr. Bright's printed books some three or four years ago, a very scarce volume, entitled 'The Complaint of Verity, 1559,' a work of John Bradford the Martyr, was bought by Rodd the bookseller for (we believe) 7l. We have the most unquestionable authority for saying that it was bought for the British Museum. It was right that it should have been so. At the price it was a great catch. A gentleman who is engaged in editing the works of Bradford, and has striven in vain to see this book, would have given double the money for it. No doubt it is in the British Museum, but nobody can find it. It may be in the Catalogue, but under what head or title no cruiser on that intricate ocean has yet been fortunate enough to discover. It certainly is not where it ought to be, under 'Bradford, John,' nor under 'Complaint,' nor under 'Verity.' We do not at all think there is any dishonesty in the matter,—only a great deal of over-refined bibliographical subtlety. Seven pounds' worth of the nation's money lies locked up in the British Museum, put away somewhere or other, as a lottery ticket used to be,—and years hence, long after the edition now publishing has been completed, will turn up, a great prize to somebody.—*Gentleman's Mag.*

*Monument to Christopher Columbus.*—A tardy justice, it seems, is to be rendered to the memory of this great man, even in his native country. Two of the first men of Spain have taken the lead in this enterprise:—we mean Messrs. Martinez de la Rosa and Salvador Bermudez, both known as men of letters and liberal politicians. A subscription has been started for the purpose, which is fast receiving the names of persons of every rank. The situation for the colossal monument has been most appropriately chosen on an elevated spot of *Palos de Maquer*, opposite the convent of St. Ann, whence Columbus started on his first adventurous expedition for the New World. The plans and designs for the monument will be subjected to a competition of all Europe, and Mr. Bermudez will undertake an especial trip to England for those purposes. The preliminary arrangements hint at a colossal statue of 20 feet high, and groups surrounding it, forming a base of 40 feet in circumference. The statue to be of the finest Florentine bronze, and the pedestal of reddish granite. The lowest estimate of the Columbus monument is 20,000l. As the brother of Columbus long dwelt in London as an agent of Christopher's for the purpose of proposing the plan to Henry VII., there is some ground for sympathy here in the monument to the memory of the great discoverer.—*Architect*.

*Improvement in Steam Engines.*—A trial has been made at Charleroi of a newly-invented engine, the motive power of which operates in a completely different manner from that now in use. The inventor, M. Hector de Callias, a Sardinian engineer, proposes by his plan to increase the speed of locomotives, to give them an adherence four times greater than they now have, and to decrease the expense of fuel. This new machine, which is called after King Charles Albert, promises to realize all the calculations of the inventor. By the pressure of only one atmosphere the wheels made 300 revolutions a minute, which would give a speed of 24 leagues an hour. The Belgian Minister of Public Works has appointed a committee of engineers to report to him on the experiments which are to take place on the Government lines, and has ordered every assistance to be given to the inventor to facilitate his object.—*Galignani*.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.—A. E. H.—W. J. H.—A Subscriber of many Years' standing—P. T.—C. B. H.—Nemo—S. B.—Amicus—received.

W. L.—We think our correspondent will do well in calling attention to the statement to which he alludes. It is easily tested,—and is at least worth looking into. It is not likely, however, that a public right like that in question rests solely on the evidence said to be here suppressed.

N. S.—This correspondent—who calls our attention to the Salford subscription for a testimonial to the late Sir Robert Peel, and to the manner of disposing of the funds—is referred to the *Athenæum* of the 21st of September, p. 1003.

P. S.—This correspondent is quite right;—but we think he might have managed to see that he and we intend the same thing. When we mentioned South Americans in the place referred to, we meant by America to speak only of the Union, and by South Americans to designate the people of its southern States.—We admit, however, that we used the wrong expression.

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30		1,000	24 4 4	14 0 9
40		1,000	31 10 0	18 2 3
50		1,000	42 15 0	24 11 7
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# THE ATHENÆUM

Journal of English and Foreign Literature, Science, and the Fine Arts.

No. 1199.

LONDON, SATURDAY, OCTOBER 19, 1850.

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## LONDON INSTITUTION, FINSBURY-CIRCUS,

October, 1850.—SWINEY LECTURES ON GEOLOGY, in connexion with the British Museum.—A COURSE OF TWELVE LECTURES, on the NATURAL HISTORY OF THE SECONDARY and TERTIARY PERIODS, will be given at this Institution by WILLIAM E. CARPENTER, Esq., M.D. F.R.S. F.G.S., Examiner in Physiology and Comparative Anatomy in the University of London, to be commenced on MONDAY EVENING, NOVEMBER 18th, at Seven o'clock precisely, and to be continued on succeeding Mondays at the same hour. This Course will be open to all Graduates of the University of Edinburgh, and all Members of the Royal College of Physicians, London. Gentlemen of either of these Societies who may be desirous of attending it, are requested to leave their cards at the Institution, in order that they may be countersigned. Parties not of those classes, and not otherwise entitled to attend, may attend the several Courses of Lectures at the Institution, will be admitted to this Course only by Tickets to be obtained of the Lecturer, at the Institution, on the payment of One Guinea. WILLIAM TITE, Honorary Secretary.

GERMAN.—DR. HEINRICH FICK, Professor of German Literature at Putney College, has REMOVED to more spacious apartments, in Brook-street, Hyde Park-gardens, where he will open a NEW COURSE OF GERMAN on 23rd of October; for particulars see the Prospectus there. Attendance in the Country resumed, regularly twice a week, south and west of the Metropolis. A ten years' residence in France enables Dr. Fick to teach through the medium of French if preferred.

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## MISS WILMSHURST begs to inform her

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## SCHOLASTIC UNION AND REFORM.—

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## SIGNOR PERUGINI begs to inform his

Friends and Pupils that he has just returned to London for the Season, and is to be found at his former residence, 7, EBURY-STREET, EATON-SQUARE.

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Vice-Principal—Rev. HENRY CUTTERILL, M.A., late Fellow of John's College, Cambridge.

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## PREMIUM TO SCULPTORS.—The Council

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GEORGE GODWIN, } Honorary  
LEWIS POCOCK, } Secretaries.

444, West Strand, October 17, 1850.

## THE CAXTON MEMORIAL.

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N.B.—This advertisement will not be repeated.

## GREAT EXHIBITION in 1851.

HER MAJESTY'S COMMISSIONERS have decided that demands for SPACE for EXHIBITION must be returned by the Local Committees by the 31st of OCTOBER. The Westminster Local Committee, therefore, urge upon the Inhabitants of their District to send in their Applications by Monday, the 27th of October, otherwise they may not be able to obtain the space they require.

The necessary forms may be obtained of the Secretary, Mr. G. H. DREW, No. 28, Parliament-street.

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Haydn's Seven Last Words.	Lauda Zion.
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## REVIEWS

*History of the Rise and Progress of the Bengal Army.* By Capt. Arthur Broome, Bengal Artillery. Vol. I. Calcutta, Thacker & Co.; London, Smith, Elder & Co.

THIS is a clever and readable book, with a most inappropriate title. It is no more a history of the Bengal army than a life of the Duke of Wellington is a history of the British infantry, —or than a history of London is a history of house building. Capt. Broome has written an elegant and flowing narrative of the establishment of the English power in Bengal,—and by some unaccountable fancy he has persuaded himself that a history of the entire public transactions of Lord Clive's administration might be called a history of the local military service of the Bengal Presidency. This conceit, or mistake, or misapprehension, or whatever it may be, is one of the oddest we remember to have met with; and it is very desirable both for authors and readers that there should be as few illustrations of it as possible,—at least on the formidable scale adopted by Capt. Broome:—for the volume before us extends to 700 pages, and carries down the narrative only to the year 1767. A certain latitude of treatment is permissible in all subjects,—and there are cases where we can pardon a pretty wide divergence between the actual title and the specific contents of a treatise. Burton professed to write about the Anatomy of Melancholy, and produced one of the most curious compilations of *ana* and learning to be found in any language. Berkeley treated of Tar Water, and did very little to advance either chemistry or medicine by his labours. White wrote a delightful book on natural history in professing merely to record a few ornithological observations collected at Selborne. All these are cases which admit of the fullest justification. But between them and Capt. Broome there is a broad and radical distinction. Burton, Berkeley, and White did a great deal more than they undertook to do,—Capt. Broome does a great deal less. There is no reasonable cause of complaint if you find an author able and willing to expand a small topic easily and logically into a large inquiry:—but the case is very different where a specific promise is followed by the superficial performance of an unspecific task. Many people with the leisure and aptitude of Capt. Broome might manage to epitomize the ponderous and now almost forgotten folios of Orme, Bruce, Stuart, Hamilton, Holwell, Auber, and the "First Report" as fluently as he has done; but not so many are competent to write a history of the Bengal Army as such a history should be written if it is to possess any real value. We are disposed to insist the more on this point, because the offence now committed by Capt. Broome is becoming prevalent. Let it receive a little encouragement, and we may expect to see before long a school history of the kings before the Conquest gravely announced as a treatise on the Saxon laws and antiquities of Northern Europe,—or the journal of one of the cheap excursionists to the Rhine advertised as an inquiry into the ancient topography of that river.

Capt. Broome does not seem to have commanded any peculiar facilities for the execution of his task. He refers to no original sources of information; and beyond preserving a few inscriptions at Calcutta, his volume does not seem to add a single fact or even a single reflection to what has been already several times repeated. We admit that the task of compilation is well performed. The style is easy and pure—free

from great faults and equally free from great beauties. We have not met with a single eloquent half page or a single vivid description in the whole of this corpulent volume.

When we first began the task of perusal we were puzzled and astonished to find frequent allusion to something which was spelt "Sipahis." We are not ashamed to confess that it required a diligent examination of the context to convince us that according to the orthography of Capt. Broome "Sipahis" is the equivalent of "Sepoys." We have seen a good deal of the capricious conceit which leads almost every new writer on an Oriental subject to introduce a new trick into the spelling of Oriental names; but we must say, that the transfusion of the well-established English word "Sepoy" into "Sipahi" is an innovation which has more than the audacity of a discovery. What conceivable purpose can it serve to carry on so preposterous a warfare against the commonest rules of consistency and language? The object of all speaking and writing is to fix in the mind the identity of certain objects and ideas under all circumstances; and one of the surest means of attaining this end, so long as the faculty of apprehension is to be mainly reached through the sense of sight, is to represent at all times the same name by the same characters. The only excuse that we ever heard from the Orientalist innovators is, that with the aid only of the English alphabet it is very difficult to represent correctly the Indian pronunciation of Indian words. We dare say it is. But what then? It is of infinitely less consequence that a foreign student should form an approximate idea of the varying dialects of Bengal and Delhi, than that he should confound a person with an institution, a house with an animal, and lose the certainty of his knowledge in the confusion of his pronunciation. The class of writers to which Capt. Broome belongs aim at representing by combinations of letters and accents more or less unusual not only the general language of India, but also the dialects of its main divisions, and to no small extent the peculiar ideas of sound of each particular European who undertakes to employ Roman letters in the spelling of Indian proper names. The result is a perfect confusion. We find in these volumes the name "Omichund," which is tolerably familiar to English ears as that of Clive's dupe in the forged treaty, turned into "Omeen Chund." In the same manner, "Nuncomar," another old acquaintance, becomes "Nund Komar,"—"Nabob" is swelled out into "Nawaub"; and the same licentious principle is illustrated in a number of other cases which it is unnecessary to adduce. We must insist that the only sound and sensible rule to be followed is, to adhere to that mode of spelling Indian names to which our countrymen have become the most accustomed. If the English sound of these English letters does not appear to convey the native pronunciation, the correct version may be given in a note or a glossary,—but we protest against tampering with the recognized orthography. Carry out the principle and give it encouragement, and we shall have Babel back again. We shall have as many versions of Smith, and Brown, and Tomkins as there are counties in Great Britain:—for we are quite sure that the dialects of a Pathan and of a Bengalee do not differ more than the accents of a Hampshire squire and of a Northumberland peasant.

In confining himself to a mere narrative, Capt. Broome has lost an opportunity of performing a useful service to the students of Indian history. The history of the Army of a country, treated in a philosophical instead of a merely chronological sense, is in no

small degree the history of the advancement of that country in arts and liberty. It is also in no small degree an illustration of the most striking kind of the political influence of the climate and configuration of the region to which the inquiry extends, and of the moral and physical qualities of its native or exotic inhabitants. It may be laid down as an historical axiom, that the numerical strength of armies is in the inverse ratio, in the first place, to the civilization of the States which support them,—in the second, to the discipline and spirit by which they are governed,—in the third, to the advantages of climate and country in the midst of which they have to act,—and in the fourth, to the skill of the generals who from time to time are entrusted with the supreme command. Where government and the arts are both in a rude condition, all men are soldiers, all armies are mobs, all battles are bloody, and all campaigns are indecisive. Everything is accomplished by brute force,—and that brute force is of the lowest description. There is an immense interval between the aborigines whom the Romans found in the valley of the Thames and the inhabitants of the West-End squares of modern London; but we doubt whether even that contrast is so startling as a close comparison between the arms, discipline, and internal economy of the army of Caractacus and those of our Horse Artillery.

Among European States the predominant power has never remained for more than a very brief period even with those countries which have made the most rapid progress in what may be called the physical art of war—that is, in the discipline, accoutrement, and economy of their troops. West of the Russian frontier the influence of ideas has been more powerful for the last four hundred years than the influence of the art of war. In Asia the facts have been the reverse of these. Dealing with a population indisposed by habits, temperament, and religion to concern themselves with anything beyond the external circumstances of their condition, the despotisms of Asia have been perhaps always at the mercy of any potentate or power who has happened to command the best organized army. When the real truth is told, that is the whole secret of the English ascendancy in Hindústan. We have carried into the field so far an armed force which, with little comparative trouble, has been able to disperse and disarm the multitudinous forces of the enemy.

It was the business of Capt. Broome to have told us how this superiority has been accomplished in the case of the Bengal Presidency,—in what circumstances it chiefly consists,—and whether the system already so far in advance of native models admits of, or is likely to receive, further simplification. The Bengal army compared with the levies of Nadir Shah, of Hyder Ali, or of Holkar is beyond doubt a very perfect instrument; but it is true, nevertheless, that for the defence of Upper India the East India Company maintain a force very numerous and excessively expensive—so expensive, indeed, that it is already becoming a serious question whether the revenues of the country will be long able to sustain the present scale of expenditure. Capt. Broome makes no attempt to explain the rationale of this state of things,—and the omission of all such topics is the great defect of his work. The numbers and expense of the Bengal army are traceable, in the first instance, to the climate and country in which it has to act much more than to the enemies who are likely to oppose it in the field. The real cause of the excessive mortality of an army is not the loss of life in battle, but the manifold fatal diseases which are engendered by the exposures, the



privations, and the excesses of a campaigning life. Fever, and dysentery, and bronchitis carry off very nearly ninety per cent. of all the fatal cases which swell the hospital returns of an army on active service,—and the number of casualties of this order is always increased where an exotic force are exposed to the action of a tropical climate. In point of fact, the European part of the Bengal army has to be maintained almost in duplicate, because it is at all times impossible to reckon on the efficiency of more than a certain part of the foreign contingent. This is one of the most obvious causes of the great expense. The impossibility of performing rapid marches is another; and the enormous accumulation of baggage and camp followers is certainly the next. The prodigious quantity of baggage and the dense cloud of camp followers have at all times been disadvantages under which every general has laboured who has attempted to employ a European force in an Indian campaign.

It is also to be remembered that during five months of the year it is almost impossible for a European force to undertake any active operations in India. The monsoon prevails more or less through May, June, July, August, and September,—and by its hurricane and its rain very effectually prohibits the movements of any large combined force. It is this circumstance of climate which is nearly always forgotten in the military history of India,—especially in the early military history of India. In point of fact, the date of the battle of Plassey is calculated to excite almost as much astonishment as the details of the action itself. The marvel is not so much that Clive won a victory with his eleven hundred soldiers and sailors and two thousand sepoys against the seventy thousand men and the train of elephants on the side of the Nabob, as that he won it in the very middle of the monsoon solstice, and at a time when fever in its most malignant form was diminishing the strength of his European troops almost hourly. We know, for example, that out of 230 men of the 39th Regiment of Foot who arrived in Bengal in February 1757, only five remained alive in the early part of the following year.

Nearly the whole merit of forming the natives of India into regiments on the European model belongs to Clive. Without this resource the British power in Hindústan could never have been established, and could not be maintained a day; and the success which has attended the experiment must be regarded as one of the most remarkable illustrations of the influence of intelligence and discipline over semi-barbarous men. Captain Broome gives the following account of the formation of the first native corps in January 1757.—

“Another point to which Clive turned his attention, with that wonderful discrimination and foresight which peculiarly marked his character, was the organization of an efficient native regular force, and at this early period he had commenced the formation of a battalion of Sipahis, and had already raised some three or four hundred men, selected with a due regard to their physical and other military qualifications. Hitherto, the native troops employed at Calcutta, when required, designated ‘Buxarries,’ were nothing more than Burkundaz, armed and equipped in the usual native manner, without any attempt at discipline or regularity; and even at Madras and Bombay, the Sipahis which were regularly maintained there,—and who were generally termed Telingas, from the circumstance that those originally employed came from the province of Telingana,—although supplied with European arms and accoutrements, still adhered to the native style of dress and equipment, were subject to very little discipline or drill, and were under the immediate command of their own countrymen: such was the condition of the Sipahis that had come round from Madras with the expedition, and though not wanting

in courage and activity, they were never looked upon as capable of opposing, or as even fit to be taken into account when brought against an European enemy. Clive wisely determined to make the experiment of assimilating them as far as practicable to the European battalion, and accordingly not only furnished the new corps with arms and accoutrements, but with clothing of the European fashion, drilled and disciplined them as regular troops, and appointed an European officer to command, and non-commissioned officers to instruct and drill them. Such was the origin of the *First Regiment of Bengal Native Infantry*, called from its equipment the ‘Lall Pultun,’ or ‘Red Regiment,’ a name which it long maintained. This system, which was soon found to answer admirably, was speedily imitated at the other Presidencies of Bombay and Madras. At the period now more immediately under consideration, the experiment was in its infancy, only a few hundred men having been yet raised, and their training, as may be supposed, not very far advanced. It must be borne in mind, that the class of men then available for service, and of whom the earliest corps were composed, were a very different race from what could now be obtained in or about Calcutta. The Moosulman conquest of the province, the condition of actual independence of the court of Delhi, maintained by the late nawaubs, the frequent changes in the government, and continued hostilities occurring, induced many adventurers from the northward to come down in search of service, and to large drafts being made on the population of Behar, Oude, the Doab, Rohilcund, and even beyond the Indus, to meet demands for troops on particular emergencies, who were liable to be again thrown on their own resources as soon as the occasion for their service had passed away. It was from such men and their immediate descendants, that the selection was made, and in the corps then and subsequently raised in and about Calcutta, were to be found Pathans, Rohillas, a few Taffhs, some Rajpoots, and even Bramins. The natives of the province were never entertained as soldiers by any party. The majority, however, of the men in the ranks in early years were Moosulmans owing to the circumstances stated.”

We cannot pretend to follow Captain Broome through any portion of his narrative; nor is it needful that we should do so, since he tells us very little that is not already familiar to most persons in connexion with the life of Lord Clive. Here and there, however, a passage occurs which has an interest of its own:—and of this class is the following. It relates to Alexander Saussure,—one of those bold, restless, ambitious, and unscrupulous men who carried into India in the early part of last century the daring, the skill, and the romance of the Buccaneers. It will be seen that Saussure refers to a plan suggested by himself to the nabob, for occupying the grove at Plassey previous to the battle; and it may be a curious subject of speculation how far the subsequent fate of India might have been modified if this Swiss mercenary had been furnished with the means of executing his sagacious military manœuvre. The man was taken prisoner in July 1757 by the detachment sent out by Clive under the command of Mootan Beg and Major Coote.—

“The Major [Coote] now wrote to Colonel Clive, reporting the difficulties and obstructions he had encountered, and requesting orders relative to his future proceedings; he also reported that the advanced party of Sipahis had captured a Swiss in the French service, named Alexander Saussure, whom they discovered disguised as a native, respecting whose disposal he also requested instructions. On the 13th (July, 1757,) he received a letter from Colonel Clive, written some days previous, directing him to follow Mons. Law as far as Patna, if he could not come up with him before reaching that place. On the same day the sergeant of the guard, by name Duvergne, reported that the prisoner Saussure had been tampering with him, and persuading him to desert, and that he had divulged a plan which he had formed for escaping, through the connivance of one of the Sipahis, who was on guard over him; he

had further communicated to him the contents of a letter he had written to Mons. Law, giving that officer an account of the proceedings and intentions of the English detachment (under Major Coote), and narrating his own plans of escape. On receiving this report Major Coote sent Lieut. Flacton, the officer on duty, to search the prisoner, on whose person was found not only the letter alluded to, addressed to Mons. Law, but other documents of importance. From these and other evidence obtained, it appeared that Saussure was a deserter from the British service, having originally come out to India in a Swiss company, raised for, and attached to, the Bombay European Regiment; he had deserted from thence and entered the Dutch service, in which he obtained a commission; but having, whilst stationed at Batavia, killed one officer in a duel and wounded two others, he had been compelled to make his escape, and had contrived to reach Pondicherry, where being speedily engaged in a similar affair, he had been obliged to leave that place also, and which he did in a Danish ship bound to Bengal, where he arrived a short time before the battle of Plassey, when he immediately joined the party stationed at Kossim bazar under Mons. St. Frais. In his letter to Mons. Law he gave a full detail of that action, and represented that he had been promised the command of 4,000 men by Sooraj-oo-dowlah, which he had proposed to employ as an advanced guard in preventing the English from obtaining possession of Plassey grove; to the non-performance of this promise by the Nawaub, and the want of support given to the French party stationed at the tank, he ascribed the loss of the action. He went on to say that, after the defeat, he had proposed to Mons. St. Frais to endeavour to form a junction with Mons. Law; but that officer considering such a measure impracticable, he had himself determined to make the attempt; that he had secreted himself until the departure of Major Coote, and then set out on his undertaking, disguised as a Moosulman, but had unfortunately been detected by Mootan Beg, commanding the advanced party of Sipahis, whilst lingering in their camp. He further mentioned his plan and intention of escaping, and requested that a trustworthy Hirkarrah might be sent to facilitate his designs and aid him in the attempt. But at the same time he urged Mons. Law to aggressive measures: he wrote:—‘You, Sir, have it in your power with the troops under your command, to get the better of the English detachment now in pursuit of you. In the twinkling of an eye you may entirely change the face of affairs here. Your name is in high repute amongst the Moors, and the military reputation of Mons. Bussy is so great and dreaded, that this party must instantly fly at his very name.’ He then concluded by recommending Mons. Law to make a sudden counter-march, and to attack the Major’s party at a particular spot which he described, assuring him that such an unexpected attempt could not fail of success, and that he might easily kill or make prisoners all the officers, especially those of the Sipahis, who were, he stated, ‘more addicted to drunkenness than even the European soldiers themselves.’ The prisoner being brought before a court-martial, consisting of Major Coote and the other officers, was unable to deny that he had written the letters found on his person, and having nothing to urge in his defence, was found guilty of desertion and acting as a spy, and as such was condemned to be hung; which sentence Major Coote considered it advisable to act upon without delay, and it was accordingly put in execution that evening, in presence of the whole detachment.”

The following extract from the famous minute left by Clive with the Council at Calcutta on his final departure from India, in January, 1767, is not laid by Capt. Broome before the public for the first time; but it bears so visibly the impress of the clear and resolute mind of its writer, that merely as an indication of character it will always be full of interest. There is no mistaking the terse and pointed sentences—the contempt of all circumlocution—the force of the logic—and the impressiveness of the admonition. A hundred and twenty years before, there was another Englishman who well knew how to give similar advice under



similar circumstances—that man was Cromwell; and it is very strange that the extreme likeness of the two men has not been oftener adverted to and dwelt on.—

“It has been too much the custom in this government to make orders and regulations, and thence to suppose the business done. To what end and purpose are they made, if they be not promulgated and enforced? No regulation can be carried into execution, no order obeyed, if you do not make rigorous examples of the disobedient. Upon this point I rest the welfare of the Company in Bengal. The servants are now brought to a proper sense of their duty. If you slacken the reins of government, affairs will soon revert to their former channel; anarchy and corruption will again prevail, and, elated with a new victory, be too headstrong for any future efforts of Government. Recall to your memories the many attempts that have been made in the civil and military departments to overcome our authority, and to set up a kind of independency against the Court of Directors. Reflect also on the resolute measures we have pursued, and their wholesome effects. Disobedience to legal power is the first step of sedition; and palliative measures effect no cure. Every tender compliance, every condescension on your parts, will only encourage more flagrant attacks, and will daily increase in strength, and be at last in vain resisted. Much of our time has been employed in correcting abuses. The important work has been prosecuted with zeal, diligence, and disinterestedness; and we have had the happiness to see our labours crowned with success. I leave the country in peace. I leave the civil and military departments under discipline and subordination: it is incumbent upon you to keep them so. You have power, you have abilities, you have integrity: let it not be said that you are deficient in resolution. I repeat, that you must not fail to exact the most implicit obedience to your orders. Dismiss or suspend from service any man who shall dare to dispute your authority. If you deviate from the principles upon which you have hitherto acted, and upon which you are conscious you ought to proceed; or if you do not make a proper use of that power with which you are invested, I shall hold myself acquitted, as I do now protest against the consequences.” And again he remarks:—“The people of this country have little or no idea of a divided power; they imagine all authority is vested in one man. The Governor of Bengal should always be looked upon by them in this light, as far as is consistent with the honour of the Committee and Council. In every vacant season, therefore, I think it expedient that he take a tour up the country in the quality of a supervisor-general. Frauds and oppressions of every sort being by this means laid open to his view, will in a great measure be prevented, and the natives preserve a just opinion of the importance and dignity of our president, upon whose character and conduct much of the prosperity of the Company's affairs in Bengal must ever depend.”

The volume has been very handsomely printed at Calcutta:—and, in justice to the compositors of that capital, we must say that we have found very few of the errata of which Capt. Broome complains in his preface.

#### *The Philosopher's Mite to the Great Exhibition of 1851.* Houlston.

THE author of this pamphlet suggests a view of the possible results of the gathering of next year which has not yet commanded the attention of the press,—though, as we happen to know, it has been a subject of anxious thought to many who are interested in the success of the great experiment. The writer is probably a medical man:—at least, it is the medical question which he raises. He looks at the condition of London in ordinary times. He finds it only tolerably healthy at best, and subject to fatal derangements,—the ordinary population, especially in the quarters which may be regarded as the metropolis proper, being already in excess of the building accommodation. London, he finds—allowing him to state his proposition in

his own way—will not bear an additional influx safely. He then inquires the number of persons likely to arrive in it next year, and expresses his belief that it will not fall far short of a million:—a calculation which we have reason to think is not higher than that formed by persons who have the best data before them. Taking, then, the sanitary view, the “Philosopher” asks what will be the effect of suddenly bringing to a focus this enormous mass of animality in a space notoriously too confined for the present occupiers?—The question, as we have said, is of the utmost importance. It has engaged much attention,—and will demand yet more. The “Philosopher” does not hesitate to declare that, unless wise and vigorous measures be adopted the result will in all probability be the development of a pestilence. He lays it down as an ascertained law, that “great and sudden human gatherings, domiciliated in a confined space, are liable to be followed by pestilence in the compound ratio of the diversity of sources from whence they come,—the diversity of breed, habits and diet,—and the length of their sojourn in such given space.” This law he illustrates from history with painful and startling minuteness. He traces the Black Death, the Sweating Sickness, the Plague, and other fearful visitations which have afflicted our country at various times, to the sudden influx and gathering of strangers in spaces too small to hold them. Greece, ancient Italy, and modern Europe are cited in corroboration of the same argument. An overcrowded town becomes too much *animalized*: the poisons mingle, the atmosphere becomes tainted, and the plague is produced. Though the writer perhaps overstates and exaggerates his case, there is a substance of truth, morally and historically established, in what he says.—But to be fore-warned is to be fore-armed.

There is no wisdom in closing the eyes against danger. The Board of Health has the means of obtaining correct information, and the power of using it so as to meet nearly, if not all, the causes which suggest alarm. But this Board and the Royal Commission must be made aware of their duties. If we are rightly informed, the latter body—eager to assume no fresh responsibility—is inclined to leave the great work of providing accommodation for the in-coming guests to any one who chooses to make a trade of it. We trust this report is not true,—and that some official person or persons will be charged with the due organization of the metropolis for their reception. The public health demands this precaution. If there be danger in overcrowding—as no one will question—authority should be armed with power to interpose and in a measure regulate the influx. So far as our own countrymen are concerned this would not be difficult,—as an understanding with railway companies would enable these to check the inflow at any given hour. But the great thing required is a system which shall prevent the undue crowding of particular localities. If left to themselves, workmen will seek the workmen's quarter; foreigners, if not assisted by authority, will flock in thousands to the neighbourhood of Leicester Square,—in one small house near which, it is said, sixty persons often sleep, three in a bed, at night. This is the danger to be avoided: and it may be done by a system which shall secure the distribution of the visitors over the largest possible area.—Another suggestion may be made. Not only should the Commission arrange for the free opening of all parks, gardens, and public buildings,—but, if practicable, for a system of cheap trips, daily if not hourly, along all the railway lines leading out of London, so as to create a variety of issues for the teeming civilization, and widen quietly and pleasantly the breathing area. The “Phi-

losopher” recommends that our guests be lodged every night at a considerable distance from town,—but such a scheme is evidently impracticable.—On the two conditions which we have ventured to suggest—the adoption by the Royal Commission of some plan to secure the daily distribution of the arrivals over a large area in London, and a series of cheap trains which would carry off a portion of the pressure daily, spreading the gathered millions over thirty or forty miles of moveable encampment—most of the apprehended danger may, we think, be met and neutralized.

#### *Anschar: a Tale of the North.* By R. J. King-Parker.

TALES of a long way off and a long time ago are generally more apt to deter than to attract. It is very fatiguing to get up our sympathies for people with hard names, in which the vowels and consonants lie in unaccustomed conjunction. In all matters of amusement, great allowance must be made for the laziness of human nature.

It may sound paradoxical,—but the chief interest which men in general feel for antiquity, is for that in which it touches them *familiarly*. It is the resemblance, not the difference, with which we sympathize. Possibly it is this love of relationship that is the strong fibre which holds human nature in some sort of cohesion through all its varieties of kindreds and nations and languages, in spite of the inordinate instinct which leads everybody to love himself emphatically, and to have and to hold all the good things which he can grasp for his own especial benefit. The old sea kings and pirates and the people of the North are our far-away relations,—and we are never out of patience with hearing about them, providing the tale be told with anything like skill. Their histories are family traditions. The heroes themselves seem to have scarcely disappeared, and with very little straining of our sight we still seem to discern their wild eyes and mysteriously-charmed swords gleaming through the semi-darkness of time. We do not quite disbelieve in the Asa gods, nor in Midgard and Feuris; whilst the ideas of many good Christians about the millennium and the end of the world are not very different from the details of the “twilight of the gods,” and the “reign of peace upon the earth begun” which was to follow it. We have quite a different feeling for Freya, and Odin, and Baldur from that which we entertain for the many-handed gods of India and their pagodas. Our interests and sympathies set north.

Here is ‘Anschar, a Tale of the North’:—we took it up gladly. The time chosen is that point between light and darkness, the period of the mission of the first Christian priests into Sweden. The struggle of an abstract idea with the material difficulties and deep-rooted errors which hold the ground against its advance is always a study of interest; but when that principle is personified, and its action dramatized, in the life and labours of men so possessed with the idea of its overwhelming importance that they do not fear to stake on it all they hold most dear, including their lives,—the tale becomes invested with a touching human interest.

Yet with such materials the author of ‘Anschar’ has certainly not succeeded. Laborious and conscientious, the reading of his book is like walking through a ploughed field. There is little or nothing about the “Blessed Anschar” from its one end to the other: we have, instead, the narrative of an old monk, his companion, written to a friend in Italy. There is a full and detailed chronicle of the scenery, the curiosities, and the dress of the inhabitants of the country in which the scene is laid; but though



the descriptions are minute, they are not graphic. They lack the spirit which gives meaning to the form. The characters are all capitally propertied, with "entirely new dresses and decorations," as a manager would say; but they all talk—kings, people, monks and pirates—in the same measured resounding speech, something between Ossian and Sir Charles Grandison. We are told of the "shouts of the people,"—but the hum of the old monk in his cell is all that reaches us. So much of the book is taken up in catalogues of still life, that we fancy the work must have been cut out of a longer one and the proportions not kept.

We have nothing to say against the "bracelets" and "the red kirtles" and the "bands of minute goldsmith's work,"—we are glad to hear that the old Swedes possessed such an abundance of good things,—but King Biorn's letter rather staggered us. He seems to have wielded the pen of a very "ready writer,"—whereas it is a mooted question whether the Scandinavians had even an alphabet until after the introduction of Christianity. There is a good description of the hunting court of Louis the Pious,—and the portrait of that luckless monarch is one of the best things in the book. We prefer, however, to extract the following description of the pirate vessel.—

"Her sides were painted in long waving lines of blue and crimson. Her mast was tall and richly gilt; and on its summit was what appeared to be a white bird with outspread wings, dancing and fluttering before the wind. Her sail was one broad sheet of crimson, and the prow of the vessel, which rose high and towering above the water, was singularly carved into the form of a dragon's head, and covered with thin plates of gold. On the half deck, before the mast, stood a tall man bearing a standard,—a gilded pole surmounted by a misshapen human figure. The rest of the crew were hidden behind the rows of glittering shields, which were ranged on each side above the edge of the ship; but the length of the vessel, the long rows of shields, and the great number of her oars, made it evident she was well and powerfully manned. \* \* A loud shout of defiance rose at once from the pirate vessel, and as the shields were rapidly drawn up from her sides, she appeared thronged with men from end to end completely armed and ready for an immediate attack. She advanced so rapidly that she was almost instantly alongside of us, and at once threw out long irons with hooks attached to their ends, which caught fast hold of the side of our ship. It was in vain that our men tried to loosen their grapple or break them with their axes,—the vessels remained closely fastened together, and at length one of the pirate crew leaped from his own vessel on to the half deck of ours."

The following is a description of the dwelling of "Nial the rich."—

"After passing this, another fence, we found ourselves in front of the principal habitation. It was built entirely of timber as far as any portion of the walls could be distinguished for the steep high crested roofs which reached nearly to the ground on every side. These were covered entirely with fresh green turf laid closely together on the rafters as is usual in the North. \* \* As we approached I perceived the doors themselves were singularly carved with figures of serpents inextricably twisted and knotted together, and that portions of red colouring were laid here and there along their numberless folds. \* \* The chamber into which we entered was one of considerable width and length. It was built entirely of wood, the walls being formed with trunks of large trees split through the centre and ranked closely together, whilst the roof rose steeply upwards, crossed and interlaced with rafters, like the boughs of a great forest. The smoke from the central hearth had completely stained and blackened them. \* \* Long rows of seats were ranged on each side of the hall, and in the centre of either row rose one considerably elevated above the rest, before which two large wooden pillars were placed rudely carved at the upper end, so as to bear some kind of resemblance to the

human figure; one of these seats is called in the North the 'house father's chair,' and is never filled except by the head of the family; that which stands opposite to it is reserved for the principal guest, or for the midman who is of most importance in the household. Above the seats the walls were covered with skins and furs of different animals—wolves, wild deer and oxen—upon which hung many large shields and spears, and axes of various and singular forms. \* \* Presently a tall commanding figure appeared on the threshold of an apartment which opened from the higher end of the hall. It was that of a woman considerably advanced in years, yet altogether unbroken by the weight of them. She stood leaning on a staff of dark wood, which rose far above her head, and was covered with minute carvings. Her dress was a long black robe embroidered in scarlet figures. Round her waist was a belt of silver, to which was attached a large purse of reindeer skin. A loose jerkin of martin's fur, finely dressed, reached somewhat below the belt; and her hair, still long and abundant, though silvered here and there with grey, was bound with a broad fillet of black and scarlet."

We must say, in conclusion, that although the author has not made the most of the vantage ground afforded by his subject, yet his work is well written, and exhibits the result of much care and labour. There is in it no seeking after clap-trap effects,—and it is far superior to nine-tenths of what are given for 'Historical Novels' of more imposing pretensions.—We should not omit to mention that a version of the old Catholic legend of St. Christopher is very pleasingly rendered.

*Researches on Magnetism, Electricity, Heat, Light, Crystallization, and Chemical Attraction, in their Relations to the Vital Force.* By Karl, Baron von Reichenbach. Translated by William Gregory, M.D. Taylor & Co.

*Physico-Physiological Researches on the Dynamics of Magnetism, &c., in their Relations to Vital Force.* By Baron C. von Reichenbach. Translated by John Ashburner, M.D. Bailière.

PERHAPS there is no field of inquiry presenting points of deeper interest, and promising more brilliant results to the investigator at the present day, than the nature and influence of those forces called imponderable substances. In the history of science, the properties of heat, light, and electricity, and the laws of motion and chemical attraction, have been investigated independently, without a thought of the probable identity of all. But such is the mission of science. First, man looks at external nature as a whole. He gazes till particular parts of the great fabric strike more forcibly his senses:—these he separates and investigates for themselves. Thus spring up various branches of science, dependent on particular facts; but as inquiry proceeds, the necessity for combining particular facts to form general ones becomes more urgent,—and in many departments of human inquiry we seem to be on the verge of generalizations that will connect sciences apparently the most remote. The imponderable agents electricity, magnetism, and galvanism are now known to be convertible forces and a three-fold development of the same power. Mr. Groves, in his highly interesting and ingenious lecture on the 'Correlation of Physical Forces,' has shown that relations exist between heat and light similar to those discovered between the electrical forces,—and that it is not improbable that motion and chemical affinity may be resolved into each or any one of the imponderable substances. The motion of the locomotive on the railway is but the expression of the heat employed in the stove. Motion may be, again, resolved into heat or into electricity according to the modes employed. The inquiry so well

made by Mr. Groves has led to more extended applications; and it appears that the forces exhibited by vegetables and animals and which are called vital, are correlative with those which have more especially been called physical. Plants and animals live but as their intimate structures are exposed to the agencies of heat, light, chemical change, &c.—Every contribution to these inquiries will be received just now with interest proportionate to the character of the observer and the importance of his facts.

The name of Baron Reichenbach, the discoverer of kreasote and careful chemical investigator, claims for anything which he may promulgate to the world careful consideration. His scientific eminence demands an investigation which would scarcely be conceded to any man of less repute who should come forward to announce the discovery of a new force in nature and the existence of a new sense in mankind. However little the title of this volume may announce the nature of its contents, they are such as we have indicated.—And, although the history of the discovery of this new agent will at once awaken suspicion, we feel bound to say, that the author appears to have proceeded in most of his subsequent inquiries with the caution and perseverance necessary to the inductive philosopher. Here is the account in question.—

"By the kindness of a physician in Vienna, I was, in March 1844, introduced to one of his patients, the daughter of M. Nowotny, Revenue Officer, Landstrasse, No. 471. She was a young woman of twenty-five, who had suffered for eight years from increasing headaches, and had then become affected with cataleptic fits, accompanied by spasms, both tonic and clonic. In her had supervened intense acuteness of the senses, so that she could not bear either sunlight or candlelight. She saw during the darkness of night her room as if in twilight, and clearly distinguished the colours of all objects in it, such as clothes. On this patient the magnet acted with extraordinary force in various ways, and in every point of view she belonged to the highest class of sensitives, so that she was in no way inferior, in acuteness of the senses, to the true somnambulists, although she herself was not a somnambulist. Seeing all this, and reflecting that the aurora borealis appears to be nothing else than an electric phenomenon, caused by the magnetism of the earth, the intimate nature of which, moreover, we cannot yet explain, since no direct emanations of light from the magnet are known in physics, it occurred to me to try whether such an acute vision as that of Mlle. Nowotny might not possibly, in absolute darkness, be able to perceive some luminous appearance in connexion with the magnet. The possibility of this appeared to me not to be very remote; and if it should be found to be so, it seemed to me likely to supply the key to the explanation of the northern lights. The first preliminary experiment I caused to be made by her father in my absence. In order to profit by the utmost degree of darkness, and by an organ for some time accustomed to the absence of light, so as to obtain the greatest possible enlargement of the pupil, I begged him, in the middle of the night, to hold before the patient the largest magnet I had, namely, a nine-bar horse-shoe, carrying upwards of 80 lb., and after removing the armature. This was done, and next morning I was informed that the young woman *had actually perceived a distinct and permanent luminous appearance* as long as the magnet was open; but that it had always disappeared as often as the armature was attached. In order to obtain on this point more sure and minute information, I made arrangements to repeat the experiment myself, with some alterations. I did this the following night, and tried it at the time when she had just awakened from a cataleptic fit, and was, consequently, in the most sensitive state. To make all sure, the windows were covered with thick hangings and the candles removed, long before the termination of the fit. The magnet was placed on a table, about ten feet from the patient, with its poles directed towards the ceiling.



ing, and the armature was then removed. None among the assistants was able to perceive anything whatever; but the patient saw two luminous appearances, one on the extremity of each pole. When the armature was attached, the lights disappeared, and she saw nothing more; but on removing it again, they again appeared as before. At the moment when the armature was detached, they seemed to her to shine somewhat more brightly, and then to assume a permanent condition of inferior brightness. The fiery appearances were of nearly the same size on each pole, and they did not show any tendency to approach each other. Close to the steel from which the light emanated, it appeared in the form of a luminous vapour, which was surrounded by a sort of shining rays. The rays, however, were not tranquil, but shortened and lengthened themselves continually, producing a shooting and sparkling of uncommon beauty, as the patient assured me. The whole image was more delicate and beautiful than ordinary flame; its colour was purer, nearly white, occasionally mixed with rainbow colours, and more resembled the light of the sun than that of a fire. The light was not uniformly diffused. In the middle of the edges of the magnetic poles it was denser and more brilliant than towards the corners; but at the corners the rays were collected into bundles, which reached beyond the rest of the rays. I showed her a small electric spark, which she had never seen, and of which she had no conception. It appeared to her much more blue than the magnetic light, and it left on the eye a durable peculiar impression, which very slowly disappeared."

The lady subsequently got well, and could then see none of these appearances. The Baron, however, succeeded in finding other persons equally sensitive to this light with his first subject. By the aid of their senses he was enabled to investigate the nature of this phenomenon; and from the different manner in which it acted, he was led to the conclusion that it was a new force,—which he has called by the name *odyle*. While prosecuting his inquiries, he found that this agent was not only manifested through the magnet, but that it was present in all crystalline bodies; and in subsequent experiments he found that it was given off from the human body, from the sun and from the moon, during chemical change, and under other circumstances, of which he has given a most minute and detailed account in the volume now brought before the English reader by the double labours of two translators.

The objections that appear to us naturally to arise against the reception of Baron Reichenbach's conclusions, are two.—First, with relation to the Baron himself. During the whole course of his laborious inquiries he has never once himself seen the phenomena which he has described. He is entirely dependent on the testimony of others. At first sight this makes him rather an historian than an experimenter; but it will be seen in the details of the work that the whole arrangements of the experiments were made by himself,—and he was in the position, in relation to the people experimented on, of an astronomer to his telescope or a physician to his stethoscope. The second objection is, the character of his witnesses:—we do not mean their moral, but their scientific character. Ere we can receive the testimony of an individual as to the occurrence of a fact, we must be satisfied that he is capable of observing. Nothing seems a greater insult to the common sense of mankind than to tell them that they cannot see; yet, the majority of mankind not only never see wholly the objects by which they are surrounded, but are entirely unfitted by their want of education and of proper exercise of this sense to form a judgment on what they do see. Baron Reichenbach's witnesses, though many in number, are a motley group of men and women, who cannot be said on the whole to command our confidence.—As regards this argument,

however, Baron Reichenbach certainly comes before us with one exception that places him in a better position before the public than they are who have to rely for credit solely on the testimony of incompetent witnesses. Among the list of persons experimented on we find the name of the late Prof. Endlicher, Director of the Imperial Botanic Garden at Vienna, and one of the most distinguished naturalists of his day. Had Prof. Endlicher himself detailed his experience, it would unquestionably have claimed consideration,—and perhaps it should not the less do so that it is transmitted to us through Baron Reichenbach.

There is, however, another deduction from the interest and value of this book on the score of our faith in its testimonials,—viz., that the author and his English translators are evidently apologists for mesmerism. If anything could be calculated at once to condemn this publication and to deter from its perusal every thoughtful and truth-seeking Englishman, it would be the balderdash of the preface to Dr. Ashburner's translation. Why this gentleman should have felt himself called on to translate this work when it was in the hands of so competent a person as Prof. Gregory, we are at a loss to conceive—unless it were for the purpose of pressing the name of the German chemist into the service of the mesmeric farce as it is practised in England. We have all along maintained, with regard to mesmerism, that it embraces psychological and physiological phenomena which deserve investigation. We accept Baron Reichenbach's book as an attempt to explain the latter;—and very glad we should be if some one could as satisfactorily, under the former head, explain the condition of mind into which Dr. Ashburner and his brother mesmerists have got in this country. As a slight indication of the Doctor's state, we give the following extract from his preface.—

"Numerous questions suggest themselves in an examination of the philosophy of this subject:—Why the condition of brain favourable to the development of clairvoyance should belong to certain individuals, and not to others? Why it should belong to some nervous susceptible temperaments, and not to others? Why some insane persons should be in the category, and not others? Why in some brains these peculiar developments of mental lucidity should take place, quickly and easily by peculiar stimulants, while others should require a long period for the attainment of the object? Why, in some, the phenomena are not produced without a long course of mesmeric sleep, while in others, the presence of certain individuals, or of certain crystals, or of clear bottles of clean mesmerised water, in the same room, suffice to excite the brain to the requisite condition? In one and the same person, one mesmeriser shall never be able to produce clairvoyance; another mesmeriser will establish it at the first séance. I have no doubt of these facts: I have often witnessed them. I have produced the condition of clairvoyance; but the kind and the degree of the phenomena differed, very remarkably, from those produced by Major Buckley, in the same patients. Repeatedly I have tried, in vain, to make clairvoyant somnambules read printed words which were enclosed in a pill-box. Major Buckley, ignorant of the same words, has had them quickly read in the innermost of a nest of five, four of them tightly-fitting silver boxes. The stimulus afforded by the odic lights issuing from my brain, must then be very different from that of those emitted by his."

We wish Baron Reichenbach had been satisfied to record his experience, and leave the mesmerists to themselves. It strikes us, too, that his conclusions are wrong when he supposes that an odylic influence exerted on one body by another produces magnetic sleep, seeing that Mr. Braid produces sleep in his patients without any passes at all,—in fact, by means of pieces of cork suspended in the air.

One of the most curious parts of Baron Reichenbach's book is, his explanation of the phenomena of ghosts on the odylic theory. After explaining that all chemical changes are attended with odylic light, he says—

"At the close of this section, I now bring forward a useful application of the facts already ascertained, which is to me so much the more welcome, as it tears up one of the chief roots of superstition, that mortal enemy to the progress of human enlightenment and liberty. A case which occurred in the garden of the blind poet Pfeffel, has been widely circulated by the press, and is well known. I shall here mention so much of it as is essential. Pfeffel had engaged a young Protestant clergyman, of the name of Billing, as amanuensis. The blind poet, when he took a walk, held Billing's arm, and was led by him. One day, as they were walking in the garden, which was at some distance from the town, Pfeffel observed, that as often as they passed over a certain spot, Billing's arm trembled, and the young man became uneasy. He made inquiry as to the cause of this, and Billing at last unwillingly confessed, that as often as he passed over that spot, he was attacked by certain sensations, over which he had no control, and which he always experienced where human bodies lay buried. He added, that when he came to such places at night, he saw strange (*Scotiche*, uncanny) things. Pfeffel, with the view of curing the young man of his folly, as he supposed it to be, went that night with him to the garden. When they approached the place in the dark, Billing perceived a feeble light, and when nearer, he saw the delicate appearance of a fiery ghost-like form hovering in the air over the spot. He described it as a female form, with one arm laid across the body, the other hanging down, hovering in an upright posture, but without movement, the feet only a few hand-breadths above the soil. Pfeffel, as the young man would not follow him, went up alone to the spot, and struck at random all round with his stick. He also ran through the spectre, but it neither moved nor changed to Billing's eyes. It was as when we strike with a stick through a flame—the form always appeared again in the same shape. Many experiments were tried during several months; company was brought to the place, but no change occurred; and the ghost-seer adhered to his earnest assertions; and, in consequence of them, to the suspicion that some one lay buried there. At last Pfeffel had the place dug up. At a considerable depth they came to a firm layer of white lime, about as long and as broad as a grave, tolerably thick; and on breaking through this, the bones of a human being were discovered. It was thus ascertained that some one had been buried there, and covered with a thick layer of lime, as is usually done in time of pestilence, earthquakes, and similar calamities. The bones were taken out, the grave filled up, the lime mixed up with earth and scattered abroad, and the surface levelled. When Billing was now again brought to the place, the appearance was no longer visible, and the nocturnal ghost had vanished for ever.—It is hardly necessary to point out to the reader what I think of this story, which caused much discussion in Germany, because it came to us on the authority of the most trustworthy man alive, and received from theologians and psychologists a thousand frightful interpretations. To my eyes, it belonged entirely to the domain of chemistry, and admitted of a simple and clear scientific explanation. A human corpse is a rich field for chemical changes, for fermentation, putrefaction, gasefication, and the play of all manner of affinities. A layer of dry quick lime, compressed into a deep pit, adds its own powerful affinities to organic matters, and lays the foundation of a long and slow action of these affinities. Rain water from above is added; the lime first falls to a mealy powder, and afterwards is converted, by the water which trickles down to it, into a tallow-like external mass, through which the external air penetrates but slowly. Such masses of lime have been found buried in old ruined castles, where they had lain for centuries; and yet the lime has been so fresh, that it has been used for the mortar of new buildings. The carbonic acid of the air, indeed, penetrates to the lime, but so slowly, that in such a place a chemical process occurs which may last for many years. The occurrence in Pfeffel's



garden was therefore quite according to natural law; and since we know that a continual emanation of the flames of the crystalline force accompanies such processes, the fiery appearance is thus explained. It must have continued until the affinities of the lime for carbonic acid, and for the remains of organic matter in the bones, were satisfied, and finally brought into equilibrium. Whenever, now, a person approached who was, to a certain degree, sensitive, but who might yet be or appear in perfect health; and when such a person came within the sphere of these physical influences, he must necessarily have felt them by day, like Mlle. Maix, and seen them by night, like Mlle. Reichel. Ignorance, fear, and superstition, would now give to the luminous appearance the form of a human spectre, and supply it with head, arms and feet: just as we can fancy, when we will, any cloud in the sky to represent a man or a demon."

The Baron has taken his "sensitives" to newly-made graves; and, as was to be expected, whether we regard the experience as genuine or not, they have felt and seen odic influences. He concludes—

"Thousands of ghost stories will now receive a natural explanation, and will thus cease to be marvellous. We shall even see that it was not so erroneous or absurd as has been supposed, when our old women asserted, as every one knows they did, that not every one was privileged to see the spirits of the departed wandering over their graves. In fact, it was at all times only the sensitive who could see the imponderable emanations from the chemical change going on in corpses, luminous in the dark. And thus I have, I trust, succeeded in tearing down one of the densest veils of darkened ignorance and human error."

We hope that in tearing from us all belief, or even interest, in our dear old ghost stories, the Baron has not been contributing to the support of a delusion quite as dangerous as, and infinitely less exciting than, that of ghost-seeing.

We should be sorry to see a belief in ghosts supplanted by a belief in the power of certain persons to see through a nest of five pill-boxes. We would rather put up with the occasional visitation of a ghost than live next door to one of these prying "sensitives." Whatever might be the moral condition of the true old apparition, it could take no material advantage of us,—but the immoral "sensitives" might find it greatly to their advantage to be under the influence of Dr. Ashburner's friend Major Buckley.

But we must conclude our notice. We have called attention to Baron Reichenbach's book,—and we think that his character, that of at least one of his witnesses, and that of one of his translators are sufficient guarantees that the facts related are deserving of further investigation. That a new agent has been discovered cannot reasonably be asserted without further inquiry;—and it is especially desirable in all future inquiries that the demonstration of its existence shall be sought for on a better basis than the increased involuntary nervous susceptibility of a few exceptional persons in the community.

*Henrici Quinti, Angliæ Regis, Gesta, &c., ab Anno 1414 ad 1422.* Translated, with Notes, by Benjamin Williams. Printed for the English Historical Society.

We are glad to hear of the English Historical Society again:—but we learn that this volume is produced at its expense only by the very minute inscription contained in the bottom of the medallion on the title-page. Other Societies, when they issue a work, give at least the names of the Council, in order that it may be known who besides the editor are responsible for it. Here, no such information is afforded,—although it may be said to have been rendered more necessary by the long silence of the body, and the infrequency with which its productions come

before the public or are put into the hands of the subscribers. We should like to have known, too, who at this period constitute the general body of members,—that from thence we might have arrived at some judgment as to the amount of funds at the disposal of the Society, and as to the reason why its proceedings have not been more accelerated.

The truth, we are afraid, is, that less encouragement has been given to pursuits of this valuable, but not very inviting, kind than could be wished; and that if such men as Carte, Gale, Rymer, or Rushworth had lived in our time, they would not have been able to print and publish their ponderous, but most important, historical productions. It was a conviction of the importance of such works, no doubt, that gave rise to the Society whose volume is before us; and from the protracted interval between each delivery, there is too much reason to fear that the subscriptions are not numerous. To be sure, the sum required is (or used to be) about five times as much as that paid by individuals belonging to other bodies of a similar character; yet we should have hoped that among the wealthy of this empire there are many willing to come forward with what to them is so trifling an expenditure.

Mr. Williams, the editor of the work before us, has performed his task with judgment and learning. It consists—1, of a Latin Chronicle written by a chaplain in the English army under Henry the Fifth,—2, of the *Chronique de Normandie*, composed by George Chastelain, from a MS. in the public library of Rouen,—3, of a translation of the same *Chronique*,—and, 4, of an Appendix of three documents, all important and illustrative of the body of the volume. To these are added necessary glossaries,—and the whole is preceded by a very intelligent preface. It would be difficult to point out a more interesting period of our history than that to which this assemblage of materials relates:—but if Mr. Williams thought it necessary to follow the French chronicle of Normandy by a translation, we are somewhat surprised that he did not give an English version of the Latin narrative also,—especially as his notes on it and his marginal explanations are all, very properly, in our own language. The object in such cases ought to be, to render the book as readable and as intelligible as possible; and although some pedantic persons might be found to protest against what they are pleased to call the "vulgarization" of such documents, it is undeniable that they would thereby be made more generally useful. For this reason,—referring to the first portion of the Appendix—we should have liked to see the very interesting and curious muster-roll of the army of Henry the Fifth, on his second expedition into France, not only deprived of its uncouth contractions, but rendered into plain English, in order that everybody might have the benefit of the knowledge to be obtained from it. To the really learned it would have been no less useful,—and to the unlearned it would have been vastly more welcome. The same remark will apply, though with less force, to the list of killed and wounded in the Battle of Beaugé, in Anjou, in 1421, derived from the collections of Ralph Brooke.

It will be evident from what we have said of it, that this is not a work which we can well illustrate by extracts:—and indeed, the narrative portions, though not hitherto printed, do not comprise anything very new. We admit their value as contributions to our stock of information,—and any future historian writing of the events of the reign of Henry the Fifth cannot omit to consult them. We are glad, therefore, that they have been put into this permanent shape:

—and various minute particulars not generally known are certainly disclosed.—We must content ourselves, however, with an extract or two from the intelligent Preface of the editor, with which he has taken peculiar pains,—and the authorities for the statements in which he has subjoined as notes. For these we refer our readers to the work,—but we quote a part of what Mr. Williams advances respecting the difference generally supposed to have taken place between Henry the Fifth when Prince of Wales and his father, in his decrepitude, about the year 1410 or 1411. This will testify to the pains which the editor has taken with his subject.—

"About this time a coolness appears to have taken place between Henry and his royal father, although they do not appear to have been at issue on account of either of these expeditions, unless, indeed, the prince's adventurous spirit was mortified by his not having been allowed to lead the former expedition in person; and this was probably the case,—for the monk of St. Denys states, upon the authority of a French envoy, that the prince endeavoured for several days to hinder the departure of his brother, but yielded at last to the representations of his father. This coolness is alluded to by Livius, who suggests that the prince had his detractors, who during his absence from court abused the royal ear. Henry's subsequent severity to the queen dowager and her son Arthur of Brittany suggests a presumption that she had not been a sincere friend to him. The fact, however, appears to be well established, that about the time of the departure of the first expedition, the prince no longer retained his position at the council board. In December, 1411, at the special request of the Commons, the prince received the king's thanks, with the other lords, for the time they were of his council. In both the MSS. of Hardyng it is stated, that the 'prince was discharged of council, and the Duke of Clarence set in his stead;' and one adds,—

For which the prince, of wrath and wilful head,  
Against him made debate and froward head.

According to the Chronicle of London (Harl. MS. 565), the prince had some months previously gone to London with a considerable body of noblemen and retainers; and it is stated in the collection of chronicles from which the latter part of Henry's reign is now published (MS. Sloane, 1776), and also in MS. Reg. 13, c. 1, that in consequence of the king's malady, which prevented his opening the parliament in person, and disabled him from further application, with any honour, to the affairs of the realm, the prince required his father to resign his crown, which, however, the king declared he would never do whilst he breathed."

A little farther on, Mr. Williams adds, on the same topic:—

"According to the Sloane and Royal MSS. before quoted, the prince, upon being refused the crown, retired and allied himself with the chief nobles through the greater part of England, who owed him homage and service. The prince's 'rety' of lords is mentioned by Hardyng. Henry IV. had certainly become very unpopular in the latter years of his reign, from the mismanagement of those about him, and the lords, in parliament, not only openly expressed their dissatisfaction, but exacted from him concessions which, from their importance, may be termed a Bill of Rights. Perhaps the numerous supporters which the prince found amongst the nobility inclined the king the more readily to that accommodation which is said to have quickly followed. On the last day of Henry IV.'s last parliament, that of 1411, the king had, upon the request of his parliament, expressed his forgiveness of all parties; but the demand of the crown would appear, from Galba E. vii., to have been subsequent to the last parliament."

We are tempted to make, also, a brief quotation illustrative of the attention paid by Henry the Fifth to his navy,—which was not neglected even while he was at the head of his triumphant army.—

"Henry the Fifth may be said to have been the first English sovereign who created a navy of ships of war, which he did in great measure with carracks captured from the Genoese. A list of the navy in



the early part of his reign is given in the 'Acts of Privy Council,' vol. ii., but it was subsequently enlarged. He was certainly the first sovereign who enacted that piracy should be considered as high treason, and that masters of ships should be compelled to swear, that if they took any prizes, they would bring them to port to be adjudicated by officers appointed for the purpose. He appointed a channel fleet, consisting of two ships of one hundred and twenty tons each, five barges of one hundred tons, and five balingers, which were distributed from Plymouth to Berwick. The two former classes carried each forty-eight mariners, twenty-six men-at-arms, and twenty-six archers; the balingers forty mariners, ten men-at-arms, and ten archers. Transports were paid at the rate of 3s. 4d. per ton per quarter of a year, exclusive of the wages of the mariners."

This work is less important both in bulk and in pretensions than some others printed by the English Historical Society;—but it is more interesting, and is likely to be more popular, notwithstanding the want of translations to which we have alluded, and the retention of needless and, we may almost call them, unintelligible contractions. Independently of the impediments which these throw in the way of the reader, we object to them as affecting an appearance of learning and abstruseness unworthy of the really accomplished historical inquirer.

*Memorials of Theophilus Trinal, Student.* By Thomas T. Lynch. Longman & Co.

THOUGH quaint in its terms and wanting in some of the obvious principles of literary art, this little volume well deserves a place on the same shelf with the essays already well known as the production of "Friends in Council." The framework is simple even to baldness—and the reader is rather left to infer the story than formally told it. He must suppose that Theophilus Trinal, a mournful and deep-thinking man, residing at Barrenhill, has left behind him certain fragments, large and small, on various topics relating to the conduct of life,—which Mr. Lynch has been good enough to edit and offer to the world. This machinery is commonplace and unnecessary. But the reader who should lay down the book at such a sign of weakness—though a safe course in most instances—would do himself a great wrong in this particular case. A vein of true and virgin ore is traceable throughout the volume from first to last. The thought is often noble and original—the metaphors and illustrations are now and then singularly fresh and beautiful—and the pervading sentiment is one of great kindness and hope. Yet there are drawbacks. The style of the modern prophets is rarely good,—and as the youngest of the company, Mr. Lynch enters the guild with the usual credentials. His writing is not even—nor is the tone of thinking always sustained at the same level. The matter is sometimes as obscure as the best professors of the art could make it,—and occasionally the manner is not clear of the charge of frivolousness.

A book of detached thoughts must of course speak best for itself, page by page:—yet a sample or two will give no unworthy idea of the whole. Here we take a cluster from the vine.—

"In practicalness, we require honesty to do something; wisdom to do the thing possible, and next us; courage to do poorly, and as at our worst, when we must do this or nothing. We can only, then, satisfactorily affirm to ourselves the dominance of a spiritual affection, when conscious of an answering practical tendency. There must be a confidential friendliness between our moral meditation and our common conduct, else we despise self, and others will despise us; we become moralizing liars to ourselves, and our resolution neither to self nor others vouches for a deed. Often we will not plant our acorn, because it

springs not up at once before our eyes an oak. We feel that in a manner we have the grown oak within us; can see it, but cannot show it. Our vision deceives us not, if as a vision we regard it; it is a true dream of prophecy. A stout oak for timber and for shelter there may rise; but, as yet, it is not except in vision. We must plant our germ in the soil. Fact, and be patient, for the first shoots will be feeble, and the growth slow. The thinking man has wings; the acting man has only feet and hands. It is what the hand findeth to do that must be done with might; and what the hand findeth, must be at hand—reachable. The eye pierces into infinite space; so is it with man's thought and hope. The hand reaches forward but a yard; so is it with man's work: it is where he is that man must labour. In our deed, we must not so much be afraid of bungling and inadequacy, as beware of insincerity. He who persists in genuineness will increase in adequacy. Pride frustrates its own desire; it will not mount the steps of the throne, because it has not yet the crown on. But till first throned we may not be crowned. Pride would be acknowledged victor before it has won the battle. It will not act, unless it be allowed that it can succeed; and it will do nothing, rather than not do brilliantly. It is well sometimes to fall below self—sometimes to fail. Not only thus are we goaded and stirred, and our resolve braced; but the effort being one that conscience demanded, saying, Do what you can, we get assurance that we love excellence, and not alone have complacency in our own manifestations of ability. A divine blessing is on industry according to forethought—on a step-by-step advance according to tentative, approximative method. It is thus we gain success, inward and in the world; it is thus that we come to the heights and hidden places where truth has inscribed words, erected memorials of things done, or prepared stations for outlook upon extensive prospects; it is thus that we obtain place and influence amongst men, clear some little space in the wilderness of the world, and leave behind us timber-trees and fruit-trees in its forests and orchards."

The poetry is scarcely equal to the prose:—yet it is of the kind that promises riper and better fruits hereafter. No single piece that we can find is quite to our mind:—yet our readers will see that the spirit of a poet and some of his powers hide under the modern disfigurement of a too artificial quaintness.—

#### *The World's Marriage.*

The rough World weary with his work,  
One evening sat alone;  
And said—oh! that I had a wife,  
Purer then would be my life,  
What follies have I done!  
Stubborn and fierce, I'm full of sin,  
Yet tenderness I feel within.

Sweet Poetry, love-worthiest maid,  
Even then was wandering near,  
And with her clear and silent eye  
Fix'd on the clear and silent sky,  
Watch'd for the earliest star;  
And stood before the rough World's face  
In majesty of bloom and grace.

Straight from his heart the morning broke,  
Spread on each cheek a flush;  
And as she turning saw him stand  
In bearded beauty close at hand,  
Love rob'd her in a blush;  
She was the pale red moon at full,  
Fronting the bright sun powerful.

They wedded, and a son was born,  
His name they call'd—the New;  
His earliest infancy was blest  
With milk, and smiles, and bosom rest;  
And as the nursing grew,  
Father and mother in the boy  
Saw themselves, with wondering joy.

His young heart was a morning heaven,  
Broad, pure, and still:  
Soon thoughts unbreathe by desire,  
Swelling, blending, mounting higher,  
Like clouds his spirit fill;  
Dark bright the towering masses range,  
Boding showery wind and change.

The father frowns, the mother sweet  
Smiles upon her son;  
'Mid freaks and waywardness of youth,  
She marks his energy and truth;  
And for new follies done,  
Wise and gentle, well she knows  
Some plea of love to interpose.

The rough World, ever comforted  
And softened by his wife,  
For her dear sake will much endure,  
Himself he knows has not been pure  
And equal in his life;  
His strength, her spirit he would see,  
Her thought, his practicalness, she.

Thus waiting long, they watch and hope,  
The boy in power grows;  
His streaming energy the while,  
Still spreading like the waves of Nile,  
As widely overflows;  
And not for spoil the waters rise,  
Retiring, they shall fertilize.

"His blossoms first, now leaves he hath  
Needful, though not so fair,"  
Said Poetry, "So is our son  
Like the almond and mezezon,  
And ripe fruits he will bear:  
This middle leafy strength hath he,  
That flower in fruit may perfect be."

Some of our readers will prefer the following.—

#### *A Return from Music.*

How dreamily we walk, at night,  
Home from a music sweet!  
A ghostly sound the foot arouses,  
As you pass the shadowy houses,  
There is no one in the street;  
But, perhaps, a woman all alone,  
The music of whose life is done.

From some window shines a light;  
Is there one who sleeps  
While a sister or a mother,  
Or a father or a brother,  
Tender watching keeps;  
And sweet hope, as the hours pass by,  
Makes low and distant melody?

In that room where shadows move,  
A mother new may be;  
While he who is a father made,  
With feeling very strange and glad,  
His little one may see;  
And now are baby, man, and wife,  
The three-part harmony of life.

Farther on, from high above,  
A student's lamp will beam;  
Night silence is as if a wind,  
Filling the organ of his mind;  
And, like music in a dream,  
With many a change of stop and key,  
Thought advances wand'ringly.

Wakeful, within their silent rooms,  
Some still may musing lie;  
And in this middle hush of night,  
Perhaps a thought of old delight  
Jars the harp of memory;  
And startles every slumbering string,  
Sad sounds confused awakening.

But round you, in the darkened rooms,  
Are families at rest;  
Gradual and gentle came repose,  
Silently deepening, like the snows;  
And now in many a breast  
Rules dream-power, with musician's skill,  
Guiding the spirit as he will.

The young man of the maiden dreams,  
The maiden dreams of man;  
Her treble airiness and grace,  
His powerful supporting bass,  
Complete each other can:  
Each heart bath its peculiar tone,  
But none were meant to sound alone.

Your house now in the lamp-shine gleams,  
And, entering, you soon  
With head upon your pillow are  
Where, scarcely listening, you hear  
Thought faintly hum its tune;  
Like mother who sings child asleep,  
Singing on to make the slumber deep.

Mr. Lynch's best vein is the oracular. He defines a thought or suggests a train of ideas with much felicity. Speaking of the office of suffering, he says "sorrow is surgery,"—a definition which might be amplified to any extent; and when dealing with the subject of misanthropy—which he traces to blighted love—he reminds the reader that "the thorn was once a bud."—We must make room for one extract more.—

"I had been thinking: Wit and work are the two wheels of the world's chariot; they need to be equal, and each fixed fast. But now the fires shining through the unclosed windows, and the pleasant glimpses of domestic scenes within, filled me with new feeling and led to new thought. One room especially arrested my eye and heart. There sat in it a girl laughing heartily—the fire-light shone on her merry, and as they seemed handsome, features. 'You seem, dear girl,' thought I, 'gay and innocent; there you sit, happy at least for the hour, while out-



side your window may pass women young as yourself, their dress squalid, their natural grace already wasted with vice or pain—their lot perhaps never such as yours, nor ever to be such—and yet you, how know I what is within you and around you and before you? This half-hour's mirth may be but as a wind that cometh not soon again. But I would rather suppose you happy, and your life hopeful and good—then you are an “elect lady;” you may make a “sunshine” in many “shady” places. Pursue your work, and may you prosper: your happy face will often be excellent medicine; your word and laugh a restorative cordial for worn spirits.’ A well-clad woman in a well-furnished room is a sight right pleasant to see; yet a shrunken form in a bare dwelling may be the environment of a soul that suits the correspondence, the dress and furnishings, the graceful and free life of the lady. *May-be*, I say: not all the first are last; but many are, and many of the last first. A beautiful external life symbolizes a beautiful internal life, even if such life be absent. It stands for a reality that exists somewhere. The marble bust of a woman is beautiful, though the marble be cold and dead; and though it may not represent actual living grace, yet the living heart of woman must have given expression to living features, to make this bust possible. To create the beautiful forms and fashions of social life, how much human loveliness and intelligence have had being and activity! And though circumstance and cash may put around some of us a show of life to which we have no interior relation, and which therefore tells nothing of us; yet this show has a most real significance concerning human qualities and delights, and even to us it gives some semblance of possessing these. Beautiful things are suggestive of a purer and higher life, and fill us with a mingled love and fear. They have a graciousness that wins us, and an excellence to which we involuntarily do reverence. If you are poor, yet pure and modestly aspiring, keep a vase of flowers on your table, and they will help to maintain your dignity, and secure for you consideration and delicacy of behaviour.”

It will not be doubted that the man who has written thus, may hereafter be again heard of honourably in the guild of letters if he shall care to cultivate his faculty of expression. At present his attempt can be only a half success. The wealth that is in his book is not coined into the forms that obtain an easy currency. By and by art will probably come to the aid of nature. The artist will learn how to concentrate the lights which he now wastes by needless scattering,—and with amended manner will come the chances of a more assured and more deeply felt success.

#### NEW TALES.

*Light and Darkness; or, Mysteries of Life.* By Mrs. Catharine Crowe. 3 vols. Colburn.—To those who are unfamiliar with the ‘Causes Célèbres,’ the collections of Feuerbach, the ‘New Pitaval,’ and other such works, Mrs. Crowe’s ‘Mysteries of Life’ may be strongly recommended. As a grim November book, holding fast the awe-stricken reader, it can have very few, if any, competitors. Its authoress has “a way with her” very nearly as impressive as that of the *Ancient Mariner*. In all her longer stories, even where the incidents are the most ingeniously improbable, Mrs. Crowe has narrated them with such sincerity as entirely to fascinate us into acquiescence with their wonders. In this respect she approaches Miss Edgeworth,—who never dropped a glove in a first chapter, but that the picking of it up, or the throwing of it down again, in subsequent pages, was sure to exercise a serious influence on the happiness of the *Rosamond* or *Clarence* for whom she had to provide. Mrs. Crowe does not possess Miss Edgeworth’s command over varieties of character and corresponding plasticities of dialogue. This may be in part a reason why, in quest of incident, she naturally turns to the police

record and the superstitious legend. We know of no one to whom a robbery—an innocent person under a cloud—or a criminal, with every witness of his crime silenced—may be so safely intrusted. We know of no one so ready and solemn over a ghost-story as she is. In short, after its kind and colour, Mrs. Crowe’s Book of Darkness—a collection of short stories exhibiting the night-side of Humanity—may be honestly commended. Such Light as therein lies may be looked for in the ingenious tale of ‘The Money Seekers,’—and the comical adventures of the turban contested for by Miss Smith and her namesake. To be more precise on the occasion would be to break a good custom.—We might have been attracted rather than deterred by our uncertainty as to the sources whence Mrs. Crowe has derived her stories,—and might not have inquired how often she has altered their catastrophes (as, for instance, in the case of ‘The Bride’s Journey,’ the material of which is derived from the trial of the Antonini family—reported by Feuerbach);—but our authoress owns in her preface, with a meritorious candour, that many of the stories have already been published in the periodicals,—and hence we hesitate to deal with them in detail.

*Villa Verocchio; or, the Youth of Leonardo da Vinci.* A Tale. By the late Diana Louisa Macdonald. Longman & Co.—There is with every poet a time at which a tragedy must needs be written. Very nearly as universal among prose-writers of Fiction is that phase of imagination which attempts the Art-novel. Nothing is so tempting as the subjects,—nothing is so easy as a certain grace of idea and poetry of diction in its execution;—and yet the cases of success are curiously few. Perhaps ‘Les Maîtres Mosaïstes’ of Madame Dudevant is the only recent tale in which with a strict conformity to the peculiarities of the style is combined sufficient of human interest and comprehensible adventure to satisfy either the technical or the general reader. ‘Villa Verocchio,’ at least, cannot claim any very exquisite praise. It is elegant, but vaporous;—its hero seeming to be as little like the Leonardo da Vinci whom we know as having become the painter of the Medusa, the engineer, the architect, the philosopher, as can well be fancied. The adventures, ideas and traits with which he is credited might just as appropriately have been ascribed to the most “moonish” follower of Carlo Dolce or of Baroccio. In truth, it may be laid down as a canon, without fear of being dogmatic,—that at the age when persons are the most moved to write Art-novels, they can know little about Art—that they cannot have struck the balance betwixt imagination and scientific knowledge, contemplation and rhapsody, which operation must be performed ere the points of the subject can be seized, so as to give the man’s (not the artist’s) heart play within the circle embraced. This ‘Villa Verocchio’ contains smooth paragraphs and sweet pages,—and includes a love adventure, in which Da Vinci’s loved one dies; but the story is without individuality,—which its hero can never have been at any period of his career.

*Ireland and Wales—[L’Irlande et le Pays de Galles].* By Amédée Pichot. Paris, Guillaumin & Co.

Dr. Pichot knows England and the English better than most of his countrymen who publish “Impressions of Travel” on their return from trips across the Channel. Before his first visit to these shores—now many years ago—he had already learned to appreciate our literature; the pages of Scott—as he tells us, having relieved his graver studies while he was yet a mere youth

“making his rhetoric” under the “good Oratorians of Juilly.” Since then he has steadily kept this early bias; and his occupation for many years as Editor of the *Revue Britannique*, following a course of historical pursuits on British ground, has given him an acquaintance with the works and ways, the books and authors, of this country not common in any foreigner, and least of all, perhaps, among our nearest Continental neighbours. This familiarity has been improved by frequent visits; which have brought the critic into personal contact with not a few of the living writers introduced by his means to the French public, or have led him to spots illustrated by the names of our deceased worthies in whose memorials his reading has given him a friendly interest. A traveller of this class sets forth with that disposition to observe fairly which is one of the many good fruits of previous study of a foreign literature. He enjoys, moreover, the advantage of seeing many things which escape the uninformed eye; and of receiving from associations that say nothing to the mere stranger a pleasure the reflection of which gives warmth to the descriptions of what he has seen. To the Parisian reader, accordingly, Dr. Pichot, when he relates his experiences and remarks, will certainly afford more both of entertainment and of instruction than is commonly found in the journals of French adventure in these islands.

If his volumes should prove somewhat less interesting here, the chief cause of this difference is no fault of the author. When he speaks of places and names familiar to us, relates anecdotes or sketches biographies well known to educated Englishmen,—still more when he enters on graver topics, and loads his chapters with extracts from “blue books” or statistical collections,—we must remember that he writes for Paris, where these are little known, and not for London, which may have already had “something too much of this.” A large part of his materials, whether of the lighter or of the heavier kind, will accordingly be skipped by the English reader, not as valueless in themselves, but as having been long since valued and disposed of.

In justice, however, to the pains taken in these collections, the least—and the most—we can do will be to name the heads of some of the principal dissertations: such as, “the Clergy”—Maynooth, of course, included; the Temperance movement; Latin scholars in Kerry; Education in England and Ireland generally; the National and Kildare Street School systems. There are surveys of the Shannon navigation; and many pages on the Land Question in chief, or on its subordinate branches,—among which are the Potato and the Pig, Tenant right, Whiteboyism, Flax cultivation, and the plantation of Ulster. These serious discussions, bristling at times with figures which suggest alarming reminiscences of blue books and Review articles, are now and then relieved by lighter essays—notes on Dean Swift, on the Dramatists and Preachers of Ireland, on Duels, &c. Two long concluding chapters, however, plunge us again, without respite, in the very depths of the “Irish question,”—a sea too wide to embark upon at the close of a book of travels, begun in a holiday vein. For those readers who are bold enough to encounter such matters in a work of this class, we report that the materials have been collected with industry, and are commented on in a temper which those even who differ from Dr. Pichot’s conclusions will allow to be candid and considerate.

The lighter results of his tour will be found entertaining. The personal adventures are told in a style so brisk, flowery, and confidential, that we could have wished for more of such recollec-



tions, and fewer of the Doctor's gatherings from the collections of others. It always excites curiosity to see our own features reflected in a mirror to the focus of which our eyes are unaccustomed:—especially where it gives the highest degree of dissimilarity possible on this side of absolute distortion. From the entire difference between the cardinal points in the characters of the two nations respectively, this effect can seldom appear more strongly than in a view of British subjects by a well-informed and candid Frenchman.

Dr. Pichot, we find, would have given us more of his own observations had not the Revolution of 1848 fallen upon his work while going through the press. The original plan—conceived in times more auspicious for book-sellers and “editions of luxury”—was, for three volumes;—two of personal notices, illustrated by engravings,—and a third for the statistical and political materials. The troubles of February not only delayed the appearance but altered the arrangement of the book. They have suppressed the embellishments, and reduced the three volumes to two:—an operation that has impaired the harmony of the work. To find a place for the essays on topics of social importance, Dr. Pichot has sacrificed a part of his own diary,—which ceases to give us a connected narrative soon after his landing in the south of Ireland; and the sketches of a personal character afterwards thrown in here and there among dissertations and extracts relating to the public economy and politics, lose much of their effect from our companionship with the writer having been broken. Everything, indeed, after the chapters already printed when the change of scheme became necessary speaks of interruption and curtailment. We are carried to and fro between distant places without any clue by which to trace the author's journey; and chapters describing the state of things at one period, are followed by accounts of what was seen on a subsequent visit some years later,—the explanations wanted to connect these observations having probably been cut off in the process of “restricting the scale.” We shall therefore ascribe rather to evil times than to want of editorial skill a good part of any disorder and incoherence that may be found in the compressed volumes.

These volumes were designed as a sequel to those ‘Historical and Literary Travels in England and Scotland’ which Dr. Pichot indited some twenty years since; to the great displeasure, as older readers may remember, of certain Quarterly critics,—who not only charged the young traveller with sundry mistakes on matters of fact, but sharply rebuked him for venturing to describe the persons and sayings of some eminent men to whom he had obtained access. On the latter head of offence, the Doctor's indiscretions—if such they were—have long been eclipsed by many who have taken more than his licence with less of his good nature, and with not half of his excuse in the novelty of a literary pilgrimage to England by a French traveller. No undue freedoms of this kind will be found, at all events, in the present volumes. In respect of accuracy, his studies and reviews of English books throughout so many years have greatly improved his later surveys; although here and there—in the vivacity of the moment—he may still be found setting down notes rather curious than exact:—as, for instance, where he finds Shakspeare's Avon at Salisbury,—says that Waterford owned in 1844 “more than 150 ships of 800 to 1,000 tons burden,”—calls Tenyson “the poet whom young England has proclaimed its chief,”—or asserts that English navigators whom the contractors found it profitable to employ on the Paris and Rouen Rail-

way were “*imposés à la compagnie par les Anglais*.” On the whole, however, comparing the tenor of his reports with the astonishing discoveries which his countrymen are apt to make in England, Dr. Pichot must be considered as a pattern of correctness. That he often miswrites the names of persons and places, is hardly a matter of surprise. It has long been established almost as a law of nature that the French have some physical peculiarity which makes it impossible for them to spell foreign denominations correctly.

Although the title of the book speaks of Wales as well as of Ireland, it says but little of the Principality. Landing at Southampton, Dr. Pichot travels, *via* Salisbury and Bath, to Bristol; from thence, crossing the Channel, he touches on that part of South Wales only which lies between Swansea and Milford,—where he embarks for Ireland. The sister island he appears to have seen pretty completely. Although, as we have said, his journal takes us but a little way in the south, the dispersed notes of his further travels meet us in all parts of Ireland:—at Gweedore, on the Giant's Causeway,—in Dublin, where he visits O'Connell in his durance at the Dublin Penitentiary,—in sketches of Limerick and of Lough Neagh. Here we have glimpses of all the four provinces in 1844; while some chapters of a later date belong to a second visit, made after the famine of 1847-8 had withered the face of the land,—when O'Connell, the Liberator, and Steele, the Pacificator, had given place to more alarming objects of public interest. Of this more recent tour we have scarcely any personal notices, except in the account of a second visit to Gweedore; which, taken in connexion with the first, is by far the most valuable matter in the Doctor's book. The pages expressly describing the effects of the famine are not many, nor these in any way notable:—it would have been well, too, had the author distinctly stated what is set down on this subject from his own observation and what from the report of others. Here, and on other occasions, there is an acknowledgment, by direct quotation, of a good deal of borrowed material; but there remains not a little besides, for which Dr. Pichot has probably been more indebted to his scissors than to his note-book.

Of the journey to Ireland we are told that one main object was to see, face to face, “*Le grand O'Connell*,”—whom our author, as a good Frenchman and an orthodox Roman Catholic, had been taught to regard at a distance with unbounded admiration. The result of this pilgrimage will be apt to disappoint the reader who hears of it early in the book in terms which excite expectation. A personal interview—not without difficulty, it seems—was obtained; but the Doctor could only partake of an audience at Richmond as one of the crowd who daily besieged the prison for that honour. Accordingly, he there saw and heard nothing of “the hero” which passes the level of commonplace. The great Agitator looked stout, prosperous, and younger than his portraits,—and favoured Dr. Pichot with a short conversation in French on continental affairs. This, and some account of the other prisoners, is the whole result of the interview. The account, altogether, is not the liveliest of Dr. Pichot's sketches; and this is the more sensibly felt, as it is ushered in by a premonition of no small pomp on heroes in general, claiming for “the Liberator” a place at the side of Odin, Cromwell, and Napoleon. After such a commencement, which will be apt to strike most English readers breathless, it would indeed have been difficult for the good Doctor to return from his visit with anything sufficient to impress them as *dignum tanto hiatu*.

Among the more readable chapters must be mentioned the account of a visit to the vaults of St. Michan's, in Dublin,—which has the virtue of preserving its dead nearly as well as the famous Capuchin cellars at Palermo, or the caverns of the Kreuzberg overlooking Bonn. There, the relics of the two unfortunate brothers Sheares—though now, it is said, forbidden to be shown—were inspected by aid of some dexterity and donations; and the entire adventure is described with a certain tone of romance for which we shall not too strictly refuse a traveller's privilege,—in the hope that other particulars, which follow, of the Republican training of John Sheares in France, by no less a heroine than the notorious Théroigne de Méricourt, may be taken as historically authentic. They are “curious if true.” The “*Aspasia of the Reign of Terror*” appears in this episode in a character at variance as well with her early career as with her ignominious decline. She is represented as uniting the severest chastity with revolutionary fervour, and offering up all her passions for a time on the altar of her country. Lamartine, who has sketched this strange priestess in rather glowing tints, cannot have known how nearly she was connected with one of the “martyrs of revolution” in Ireland, or he would not have failed to add this heightening dramatic touch to his picture.

Of other anecdotes and biographical details, the most, as we have said, will, like this, be new in France, if not here. Many an English reader, too, will meet with places in both volumes which may either refresh his memory or add to his information,—attesting the success with which the author has cultivated our literature and the interest which he takes in our soil. On this ground alone, independently of the amusing tone of his narrative, the Doctor may fairly claim a welcome in this country:—and we must remember, that but for the misfortunes of his own land we should probably have had to thank him for a present more complete and entertaining.

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have been favoured from another source with the same information,—and also with a copy of the inscription on the monument to her memory in the Abbey Church at Bath. I send it you to complete the characteristic and affecting records of this eminent group.—

Near this place lies Dame Damaris Masham, daughter of Ralph Cudworth, D.D., and second wife to Sir Francis Masham, of Oates, in the county of Essex, Bart., who, to the softness and elegance of her own sex, added several of the noblest accomplishments and qualities of the other.

She possessed these advantages in a degree unusual to either, and tempered them with an exactness peculiar to herself.

Her learning, judgment, sagacity, and penetration, together with her candour and love of truth, were very observable to all that conversed with her, or were acquainted with those small treatises she published in her lifetime, though she industriously concealed her name.

Being mother of an only son, she applied all her natural and acquired endowments to the care of his education.

She was a strict observer of all the virtues belonging to every station of her life, and only wanted opportunities to make those talents shine in the world which were the admiration of her friends.

She was born on the 18th of January, 1658, and died on the 20th of April, 1708.

This is beautiful, though it has not the exquisite simplicity of the epitaph to her mother. It is redundant; and we hear too much of "endowments," "talents," and such slight wares,—which are very well in the world, but not worthy to be set forth on the tomb of a great woman like Lady Masham.

You perceive that I was wrong in asserting that Sir Francis and Lady Masham had no children. The "only son" mentioned above was Francis Cudworth Masham, Esq., a Master in Chancery and Accountant-General of that Court,—also Foreign Apposer (what is that?) in the Court of Exchequer. He died in 1731.\*

Still greater was my surprise to find that Sir Francis had a former wife, daughter of Sir Wm. Scot, of Rouen, and Marquis de la Mezange,—and that by her he had no less than eight sons. Of these, seven died before him,—and the eighth was Samuel, first Lord Masham, and husband of Abigail Hill. He was created a Baron in 1711:—so that Lady Masham did not live to hear the name which she had so ennobled by her virtues and merits degraded by a base intrigante. The ill-gotten and dishonourable nobility was as short-lived as it deserved to be. Their only surviving son married twice, but left no issue:—and with him the barony expired, in 1776.

Seldom has there been a more abrupt transition, or a greater fall, in one generation, than from the high-minded daughter of Cudworth to the vulgar and treacherous waiting-woman who succeeded her.

It is surely very strange that neither does the tombstone of Sir Francis Masham bear the least allusion to his wives or children, nor that of his son Samuel (first Lord) to their relation to each other. This confirmed me in the error into which I had somehow fallen.

I forgot to mention a fact of far greater interest, which we heard at High Laver,—namely, that Newton had visited Locke's tomb. Was this a sort of expiatory pilgrimage? One might almost think so, in reading those two ever-memorable letters which are among the most awful and moving manifestations of the greatness and the littleness, the weakness and the strength, of the human mind. If the cloud that visibly overshadowed the mighty and transcendent intellect of Newton shows on what a frail tenure we hold our greatest gifts,—on the other hand, how very little lower than the angels is the serene and tender magnanimity of Locke! With what exquisite delicacy does he handle the sick and penitent spirit!—how careful is he not to be too completely in the right! There is nothing that he ever wrote which raises him so far above the ordinary level of humanity as his simple letter in question.

If we imagine that Newton came as a penitent to this quiet grave, it is consolatory to feel assured that the voice within and around it spoke peace to the mighty but troubled spirit. S. A.

P.S. Another error which I have to correct is, the place of Cudworth's interment.—It is in Christ College, not King's.

\* Collins's 'Peerage.'

#### THE ARCTIC EXPEDITIONS.

THE following Report on the relics brought home from Cape Riley by the Prince Albert, made officially to the Admiralty by Capt. Parry, will be read with great interest.—

"Sir,—On receiving your letter of the 7th inst., and the box containing bones, canvas, rope, and wood recently found at Cape Riley, upon which their Lordships desire a Report from Sir John Richardson and myself, I considered the best way of complying with their Lordships' wishes would be to refer the bones and wood for examination to Sir John Richardson whose skill and experience in such matters are greatly superior to mine, and to give my own attention more particularly to the pieces of rope and canvas.

"I have now the honour to inclose Sir John Richardson's Report, and to offer the following suggestions of my own:—

"The only questions of any material interest are two—

"1. Were the articles left at Cape Riley by any of Sir John Franklin's people?

"2. If so, about what period?

"Independently of Sir John Franklin's Expedition, there are, *primæ facie*, only three possible ways of accounting for the rope and canvas being found at Cape Riley:—

"1. They might have been left by the parties under the command of Lieutenants Beechey and Hoppner, whom I sent to examine the coast on our first discovery of it, on the 22nd of August, 1819.

"2. If the rope and canvas belonged to the *Fury* when we lost her in Prince Regent's Inlet in 1825 (having landed all her stores on the beach for heaving the ship down), it is possible that these articles may have been discovered by the Esquimaux, appropriated to their own use, and carried to Cape Riley in the course of their peregrinations.

"3. The articles might have been conveyed by one of Sir James Ross's travelling parties detached from his ships in Port Leopold in the spring of the year 1849.

In dealing with these possibilities, we may, I think, arrive at the following conclusions:—

"1. It is quite certain that no encampment was formed at Cape Riley by Lieuts. Beechey and Hoppner; the parties were on shore only a few minutes, having been recalled in consequence of a fair wind springing up. Nor could the piece of rope have been left by them, since the yellow worsted thread is pronounced by the officers of Chatham Yard to fix, beyond all doubt, the date of its manufacture 'subsequent to the year 1824, as the order assigning different coloured worsteds to each yard bears date April 23 of that year.'

"2. The order just referred to was issued exactly three weeks before I left England with the *Hecla* and *Fury*, on that voyage in which the latter vessel was lost in Prince Regent's Inlet—that is, I left the *Nore* on the 19th of May of the same year (1824), having quitted Deptford on the 8th. These dates coincide so nearly with that of the order above quoted, that I deemed it advisable to write to Capt. Richards, Superintendent of Chatham Dockyard, to inquire whether he thought it possible that the new regulation of inserting the yellow worsted may, as a special case, have been anticipated in furnishing rope to the *Hecla* and *Fury*.

"Capt. Richards's very clear and satisfactory reply (of which I enclose a copy) proves, beyond all doubt, that the rope was not supplied to the *Fury*; while the circumstance of its having been made of Hungarian hemp shows that it was not manufactured prior to 1841.

"3. The third and last question is merely one of fact; and it has, I understand, been ascertained from Sir James Ross that the party he sent out to the northward from Port Leopold did not land quite so far westward as Cape Hurd, so that they never approached Cape Riley within thirty miles.

"The above facts appear to me to lead to the inevitable conclusion that the rope was left at Cape Riley by Sir John Franklin's Expedition, and in all probability the canvas likewise, as that also bears the Queen's mark.

"With respect to the period at which this occurred, which can only be conjectured by the state and appearance of the several articles picked up, their Lordships will observe from Sir John Richardson's very interesting report that, so far as the question admits of solution, there is at least a strong probability of their having been left at Cape Riley about the year 1845.

"I would, therefore, submit to their Lordships what appears to me the most probable conclusion,—namely, that Sir John Franklin's ships having reached this neighbourhood on their way out in 1845, and being stopped there for a time by the state of the ice (as I was, and as we know the present searching expeditions have been), a couple of boats may have been detached from each ship to land at Cape Riley to make the usual observations, collect specimens, and examine the coast—a common occurrence in all such expeditions. If detained for a night, each boat's crew may have pitched its own tent, and one for the officers, making five in all. The only circumstance which I cannot explain (supposing the encampment to have been formed by Sir John Franklin's people) is, the large size of the tents, which Mr. Snow has just described to us as 12 feet in diameter and upwards, and which is certainly very large for tents generally used on such occasions. This may in part, perhaps, be explained by the stones being thrown from the centre, and the circle thus considerably enlarged when striking the tents.

"At the commencement of their enterprise (which, looking to former discoveries, the entrance to Wellington Inlet may fairly be considered), a party from the *Erebus* and *Terror* might not think it of any importance to leave a notice of their visit, though it is much to be wished that they had; and I should hope that at some more advanced position Capt. Ommanney and the other officers will have succeeded in discovering some such notice, affording positive information of the missing ships, and of the route they are likely to have pursued.

"On the other hand, I feel confident, that if the expedition, or any portion of the people, had landed at Cape Riley at a more advanced period, when success began to be doubtful, and especially if in distress, or with a view to effect their escape from the ice, some distinct notice of the facts would have been left at a point so prominent and so likely to be visited as Cape Riley. I may add that under such circumstances it is very highly improbable that provisions so heavy and bulky as salt beef and pork would have formed a part of their supply; and mutton would, of course, have been wholly out of the question.

"I have the honour to be, Sir,  
"Your most obedient servant,  
"WILLIAM EDWARD PARRY, Capt. R.N.  
"To the Secretary to the Admiralty, &c."

The Reports of Sir John Richardson and his assistant Dr. Clark on the bones and wood brought home are of a technical character,—and point in all respects to the same conclusions. We may add, however, certain observations made in the way of comment by Col. Sabine—which complete the case as it stands at present. He says—

"Perhaps it may throw some light on the fact of there being five tents, that the magnetical instruments supplied to Sir John Franklin's expedition would require more tents than any previous or any subsequent expedition.

"There were three magnetical instruments, each of which would require a separate tent, and these three tents would only be entered at stated periods for observation.

"Besides these three, there would be required a fourth tent for miscellaneous observations, and a fifth for the protection of the observers.

"I was, therefore, always prepared to expect that whenever the traces of a winter station of the *Erebus* and *Terror* should be found there would be some appearance discovered of five tents in the locality where the instruments of the *Erebus* should be placed, and five for the *Terror*.

"I think it probable that the two ships would establish their observatories at some little distance apart from each other, because it would contribute to convey a character of independence to each. I think it far more probable that the traces which have been discovered are those of a winter station, than of a station occupied for a few days during the season of navigation, from the quantity of the remains of provisions which I understand to have been found, and which are much more than are likely to have been consumed by an observing party during the very short time that the instruments would have been put up at a temporary station. It is quite possible, however, to suppose that the ships may have been stopped during the season of navigation, and without any immediate prospect of getting on, about the time of the monthly term days,\* and the tents may have been established and the instruments landed for observation on the term day—that is to say, they may have all been in order for commencing about twelve hours before, and the observations continued for twenty-four hours. But at the close of the term day they would without doubt have been embarked with all convenient despatch."

On this evidence, as we have already said, it seems nearly clear that the first part of Sir John Franklin's adventures in the Arctic Seas is at length told.

#### OUR WEEKLY GOSSIP.

THE French journal *La Presse* announces "a wonderful discovery."—nothing less than Magnets which are so sympathetically affected by the presence of precious metals that they infallibly indicate the place of their presence however hidden. The experimenters have nothing more to do than hold the magnets in their hands and follow the indications. In proportion as the spot of concealment is approached, the attraction becomes more and more powerful,—and finally the discovery is made, says the *Presse*, in the most precise and "despotic" manner. Some remarkable and "conclusive" cases are already mentioned:—and, finally, it is reported that a trial was about to be made at M. de Rothschild's.—How the old quackeries and impostures come round and round again, after being laid by for awhile to rub off the rust of exposure!—Strangely enough, too, we live in days that expressly invite them. The age is at once positive and speculative. To the scientific marvels of the time themselves we may partly owe it that no superstition can offer itself too gross for acceptance. The sudden removal from the field of the familiar to that of the hitherto unknown—the conquest of new scientific ground—makes the vulgar (and "the vulgar," be it understood, includes classes who have no suspicion that they belong to the category).—credulous as to every silly rumour of the strange treasures which the latter may contain. The impostor sets himself up by the side of the philosopher. The march of science has the marauder

\* A term day is one day in the month on which it was arranged that simultaneous magnetic observations should be made in all parts of the world; these days were known to Sir John Franklin, and they were the only days on which during the season of navigation those magnetic instruments requiring the tents above alluded to would be employed."



on its track.—It would have been strange, indeed, if these magnets had *not* come back to an age of star interpreters and alphabetical ghosts, mystic crystals and mesmeric illuminations. Why should the Zadkiels have it all their own way in the world of fools?—In respect to the case before us, other particulars are given by the *Presse* which satisfy us that we are well acquainted with the juggle, if not with the jugglers. Some years since, the parties alluded to, or parties professing to do the same thing with like instruments, arrived in London, from Spain,—and were introduced by the Spanish Ambassador at Holland House. There they “performed” to the admiration and amazement of a very distinguished company. The magnets were unimpeachable,—at least unimpeached. More than one party present were so convinced of the reality and importance of the discovery, that we were applied to with a request that we would bring the “facts” before the public. This we refused to do. We have taken service with the philosophers,—and must not desert to the quacks.—We were then requested to satisfy ourselves of the truth by having a trial at our own house. To this we objected, on the ground that if others had been deceived, we too might fail to detect the fraud,—but should not have a jot more faith in the professed powers of the instrument if we did. In fact, if we had seen the magnets perform with “distinguished success,” we should have admired their training—and disbelieved their inspiration. This, as is usual with credulous and confident people, was held to be a wilful shutting of our eyes against the discoveries of science: so, after a good deal of persuasion and consideration, we consented—partly out of personal regard for one of the mystified—to witness a performance. Of course we took all precautions—stored away the treasure to be detected where not a single person but ourselves knew, and before the parties arrived:—and the result was—what it was sure to be under such circumstances—a ridiculous failure!—Experiments were tried over and over again; always on our part with the same precautions and always on that of the exhibitors with the same result.—Then, the exhibitors took to fencing with this disagreeable fact. Ingenious conjectures were hazarded in explanation of the failure;—one, that the parties had been residing in the neighbourhood of the Bank, and the vast amount of treasure deposited in that building had injuriously for a time affected the instruments!—Accordingly, though perplexed and staggered, our friends were not quite convinced; and we were told—various reasons being given—that the only perfect test of the instrument would be in the open air. Treasures in a house next to our own, for instance, might, it was said, have affected the deflection of the instruments. The performers undertook to find a bag of silver anywhere in any field if placed within 150 yards of the spot of concealment. To this trial we again consented. A day and hour were named,—and a locality was agreed on, about 18 miles from London. Resolved, as we had been thus drawn in as a party, that we would fully expose the juggle if possible, we took the precaution of visiting the scene of operations a day or two before,—caused a couple of acres of ground to be ploughed up,—in the night-time, and *alone*, buried the bag containing the silver,—and then had the field harrowed over. In due time the performers arrived; and after half an hour’s manipulation and maneuvering—and as we thought *observation*—the infallible magnet pronounced judgment:—and was all wrong! We asked whether, as on the former occasion, the baffled parties wished to repeat the experiment. This they did.—“Well then,” we said, “the buried treasure may as well remain where it is,—you already know one place where it is *not*,—in the former experiment you were placed not within 150 (as agreed on) but within 50 yards of it,—and we will now place you within 25!”—It was all to no purpose. The very accidents of the case were more than ordinarily against them,—as if for rebuke. Their infallible magnet, as if in league with us, led them in an absolutely opposite direction to the right one. This time our friends were convinced:—so we dare say are our readers.—We must add, to the honour of the discoverer, as he was called,

that he then and there declared that no exhibition should again take place in England until he should have satisfied us of the powers of the instruments. Of course we never heard of him again—and we believe that he soon after returned to Spain.—Strange as it may seem, we believe this man was an honest dupe:—that there were a “Subtle” and a “Dole” engaged in the affair, but that the “discoverer,” as he thought himself, was a mere “Abel.”—After this statement we should think the juggler may keep his magnets in France,—and let M. Poitevin take them up on his donkey to discover some of the lost treasures which are said to be hidden in the moon. They should scarcely draw an audience in England.

The new Palace of Industry begins to rise from the ground. Not only in the beauty of its form and brilliancy of its materials, but in the rapidity with which it seems to grow does it realize the magic of an eastern fable. What a day or two ago seemed a confused plantation of iron columns, is now the graceful outline of a principal part of the structure. The pillars appear suddenly to have fallen into their proper places, in regular lines, nearly 800 feet in length, and marking off four of the grand avenues. The transept shows itself above the hoarding:—the whole framework of the lowest tier being already fixed, and also part of the next in elevation. Within the inclosure, the scene is an organized confusion. The number of workmen employed is so great that the inexperienced eye fancies they must be in each other’s way:—but the disorder is only apparent. Each man has his allotted task,—the whole are working in harmony; and hence the fairy-like rapidity with which the crystal edifice is rising up. A steam-engine is on the ground,—and the fires of a multitude of forges form a strange and characteristic feature of the scene.—It is now arranged that the internal decoration of the building shall form part of the Exhibition itself. Already numerous applications have been made for this purpose. It is announced that surfaces of limited area will be appropriated to artists offering specimens of ceiling and of wall decoration. The galleries will be protected by ornamental iron railings. The body of the Palace, the passages and refectories, will afford ample opportunities for the display of stone or marble fountains, statuary, carving in wood, and work in papier-mâché or other materials. Other products of industry which require some kind of setting for their due exhibition—as glass-staining, grand altarpieces, and the like—may also not inappropriately form parts of the building.—We may as well add, for the information of parties who may contribute in this way, that the space so occupied will not be subtracted from that which they may have already claimed of the local committees in the main body of the Palace.

It seems probable that out of the idea of the Great Exhibition several local museums of great value and importance will grow. For example, the General Committee at Liverpool intend to make a permanent collection of specimens of all articles brought into England at that emporium—including the several varieties of grain, fruit, woods, earthen, metals, wools, wines, manufactured goods—and so forth. Such a collection, properly described as to the dates when imported, the prices at that time, the countries whence brought, and otherwise, according to the peculiarities of each specimen, would prove of great interest both to the native merchant and to the stranger. The collection may be added to from time to time as new articles of consumption are discovered or old materials undergo important modification. The idea is a good one,—and deserves to be taken up in other towns. In arts and manufactures the advantages of such collections must be apparent to every one. How interesting, for example, to Manchester would be an historical collection of all the machines that have been used, and will hereafter be used, in the manufacture of cotton! At present the machines which have gone out of use only a few years ago are no longer to be found:—by the end of the century it will be difficult, if not impossible, to recover any correct knowledge of many of them. A collection of machines, commencing even now, and receiving additions as new inventions

come out, would form a permanent history of the future progress of invention.—Another important object would be gained. At present, if an American, a French, or a German inventor goes to Manchester with a new machine, he has to carry it to some private machine-maker’s workshop for deposit,—and then go about and ask persons likely to be interested to call and see it. Often he leaves the district without half showing it. Were there a public collection in which it could be placed at once, the press would advertise its arrival, and in a few days a fair and general estimate would be formed of its merits. In other towns the benefits would be also great—and the expense trifling. Nearly every town has—or is forming—a museum of local geology and natural history, and this is usually the first thing for which a stranger will inquire. Why not have as part of such an institute a museum of local arts, produce and manufactures? This would be still more interesting to strangers. If complete, it might be made to represent the wealth, the progress, the industry, and the peculiar genius of the town in miniature.—Each district should have its own peculiar schools and its own peculiar museums, both shaped according to the local accidents which it yields.

Our readers will be glad to learn that the design of a dead wall at each end of the frontage to the British Museum is abandoned,—and that the original plan of a continued iron palisade will be reverted to.—The *Builder* says that the proposal to erect such walls did not originate in a fastidious demand for privacy on the part of the officers who inhabit the wings,—and who have been the subject of a good deal of undeserved censure on that supposition. The proposition, says that authority, emanated solely from the architect, Mr. Sidney Smirke,—and was prompted by, amongst others, what we have already said would at least have been an intelligible reason,—the desire to mask what is a deformity on the façade of the building. We thoroughly admit to Mr. Smirke the propriety of hiding that offence, if it can be done by any means which do not constitute another. But to conceal the bad exception by disfiguring the fine whole, is a bungling way of going to work:—seeking the cure for an error in its multiplication. It is an established mode of architectural proceeding in England, nevertheless:—but still, we submit to Mr. Smirke whether a more direct and satisfactory method would not have been, the erection of wings which should have had no need of a screen?

The Westminster Bridge Committee have issued their Report; and, as the public expected, they recommend the erection of a temporary bridge to afford accommodation to the public during the re-erection. The confusion of some of the witnesses examined reminds us of a story told of a certain board of magistrates in the west of Ireland who met to consider the propriety of erecting a new gaol,—when, after a protracted and bewildering discussion, they formally passed three resolutions:—namely, that a new gaol should be built,—that the materials of the old gaol should be used in constructing the new one,—and that the prisoners should be kept as securely as possible in the old gaol until the new one was ready for their reception! The present Committee re-affirm the recommendation of the former Committee: they suggest the neighbourhood of the present site for the new bridge,—but do not suggest the exact line. They seem unable to arrive at any clear decision:—but the subject will probably be resolved next parliamentary session.

The trustees of Owen’s College, at Manchester, have at length, it is said by one paper and contradicted by another, selected as Principal of the new institution, and Professor of Logic there, Mr. A. J. Scott, Professor of English Language and Literature in University College, London. They have taken a house not far from the New Public Library, to be used as the College,—and their friends hint that the first session may commence early next year. The trustees will need to improve the pace at which they have hitherto advanced if that consummation is to be reached so soon. As they have taken seven or eight months to name one professor, in case he be named, the rate of progress hitherto observed would give, by very simple arithmetic,



three or four years to the selection of the several Professors of Classics, Mathematics, and Modern Languages. If we are rightly informed, the delay occurs entirely from the trustees ignoring the provisions of the founder's will, and applying religious tests where Mr. Owen expressly declared that no test should be applied. As we have said, we are unable to understand either the logic or the consistency of these trustees. If they disapprove of the instrument under which they act, they can resign. Nothing obliges them to obey Mr. Owen's directions if their conscience forbid:—but they have no right to retain an office the functions of which they will not discharge truly and faithfully according to their commission. Of the reasoning on which they attempt to justify their breach of duty, we gave our readers a specimen a fortnight ago:—how curious to think that the framers of such syllogisms have been sitting in judgment on the rival claims of a hundred professors of logic!

A new College—with notable features of its own—is about to be established in Glasgow. It is to consist of two distinct parts,—the school proper and the college. In the first, as is useful in a great commercial city like the western capital of Scotland, youths will be grounded in the elements of a sound commercial education; in the second the senior students will go through the usual course of preparation for the Universities. The college is to be self-supporting, unsectarian, and non-political. The fees, it is said, are settled on a scale so low as to make the trial interesting as an experiment,—and the hours of lectures will be variously arranged to meet the requirements of all classes of the community. The lectures are to be open to ladies:—and a library and reading-room are to form parts of the establishment.

The Carlisle Grammar School is one of the most ancient foundations of its kind in England. By a register still preserved in the library of the Dean and Chapter it appears that it was founded by St. Cuthbert in the seventh century. Like everything else in the city, it was ravaged and destroyed by the Danes. William the Second refounded it in the twelfth century,—and though it was again broken up at the dissolution of abbeys and monasteries in the days of Henry the Eighth, it was again re-established in 1542 as part of the cathedral appendages. As such—an almost useless out-house of the church—it has continued down to our own times: when the spirit of inquiry being aroused, people are beginning to ask if it be not possible to turn it to better account. Several men of eminence in the Church have been connected with it in early life,—and there seems to be little doubt that under a revised system of management it might be converted into an institution of great service to the town and neighbourhood. The endowment consists of 20*l.* a year paid to it by the Dean and Chapter, and the rent of the Farmby estate,—which estate comprises 150 acres of land, situate in the parish of Addingham. The income is stated to be only 120*l.* per annum from both these sources—and it is said that the great obstacle to a reform of old abuses is, want of funds.—We will tell the friends of reform in Carlisle that the want of funds under the circumstances is the strongest proof of abuse. A meeting has been held with closed doors—the press and the public equally excluded,—yet enough has transpired of the debate which took place to make us aware that the dignitaries who are connected with the existing wrongs were anxious to spread a belief that not only did the old charter discontinue changes, but that there was no money to carry them out even if they were held to be desirable. A popular committee, chosen in a public meeting, would, we think, soon explode these fallacies. As the Dean and Chapter are so fond of quoting the old charter, such a committee would probably inquire if the present annual payment of 20*l.* represents in value the amount originally fixed on the charter revenues, when money was worth so much more than it is now. Such a committee would find it due to some monstrous abuse that 150 acres of land in Addingham parish yields only 100*l.* a year. The worst land in England is worth more than a yearly rental of a pound an acre:—and the Farmby estate is far from being of the worst. We have some knowledge of

the way in which educational and charitable estates are jobbed away: and we have little doubt but that under a new system of management the Carlisle Grammar School endowment may be made to yield five or six hundred pounds a year.—Besides this improvement—and in consequence of it—the public would gain confidence in the object aimed at, and not withhold their support. Bequests are few because givers have no faith in the race of administrators. Charity is not exhausted,—the means are more abundant than ever,—the honourable desire to be remembered in connexion with the education and happiness of society will never become extinct. Let the system of instruction be enlarged and improved,—let sinecures and jobbery be abolished,—let the people themselves have an ever-returning right of supervision,—and support will not be asked for in vain. The point now is, to obtain a public meeting—and the nomination of a committee of inquiry. The rest will almost follow as a matter of course.

"The land may belong to the lord,—but the landscape belongs to mankind in general," says a wise old proverb:—but the ducal owner of a famous Pass in the Highlands of Scotland practically repudiates this fragment of the wisdom of our ancestors. He says, the land and the landscape—the road and the forest—belong exclusively to him,—and no man shall enjoy a share of the beauties and conveniences thereof except by conquest. Such a declaration startles, as a witch would, in these times. The feudal days have returned, it would seem, and taken up their abode in the Vale of Glen Tilt. If a man can fight his way through the Pass, as in the good old times, it is open to him,—not else. Gentle words and legal decisions are wasted on the Murray chieftain. True to the more barbarous traditions of his order, he scorns to submit to any other argument than that of brute force. The figure of a modern duke, dressed in what may be least offensively described as an anachronism, recreating the ladies of his establishment with the sight of the slaughter of wild animals driven for the purpose down the Pass, and setting his gillies to look out for unsuspecting travellers, like an ancient ogre, is one not easily "realized" by men who are living under a police dispensation. The pretension of any man in our time to seize a "monstrous cantle" of the earth, without the help of title-deeds, for his sole enjoyment, would come too near a piece of huge pocket-picking, but for the touch of chivalry which induces the noble pretender to the privilege of sending every traveller in the Highlands thirty miles out of his direct way, to put his claim to the gage of battle. The duke will fight for the handkerchief which he filches.—We fear, however, that the forms of the thirteenth century will hardly serve his purpose. Men have lost their faith in the battle ordeal. The decision of the fist generally will never be held as final,—each man will hold that he has a right to try it individually. Considering the regard so often expressed in England for high titles, we believe there will be many persons between Thames and Tweed who will care little for a bruise or two when measured against the honour of having thrashed a duke. Indeed, we see nothing but wars and rumours of wars for the hero of Glen Tilt while he continues to hold that convenient Pass against the public,—and its backer, the Law.—A few policemen might do good service in those northern latitudes.

THE DIORAMA, Regent's Park.—Admission, One Shilling.—NOW OPEN, with the finest VIEWS ever exhibited in this country, representing the ROYAL CASTLE of STOLZENFELS, on the Rhine, (visited by Her Majesty Queen Victoria in August, 1845), and its Environs, as seen at Sunset and during a Thunder Storm; painted by NICHOLAS MEISER, of Cologne. And the much-admired Picture of THE SHRINE of the NATIVITY, at Bethlehem; painted by the late M. RENOUX, from a Sketch made on the spot by DAVID ROBERTS, Esq. R.A., with novel and striking effects.—Open from Ten till Five.

ROYAL POLYTECHNIC INSTITUTION. LECTURE on the BALLAD MUSIC of ENGLAND, by Mr. George Barker, illustrated by his own compositions, every Evening (except Saturday) at Eight o'clock.—LECTURE on the HYDRO-ELECTRIC MACHINE, by Dr. Bachofner.—LECTURE on CHEMISTRY, by J. H. Pepper, Esq., illustrating the ANCIENT FIRE ORDEAL, and the BURNING of RED-HOT METALS.—MODEL of WESTON'S PATENT NOVA-MOTIVE RAILWAY at work daily.—DISSOLVING VIEWS, illustrating some of the WONDERS of NATURE, daily at Half past Four, and in the Evenings at a Quarter to Ten; also a Series, exhibiting NILES in the ALPINE REGIONS, by EYTON, daily at One o'clock.—DIVER and DIVING BELL, &c. &c.—Admission, 1*s.*; Schools, Half-price.—Open daily from Eleven till Five o'clock, and every Evening (EXCEPT SATURDAY) from Seven till Half-past Ten.

EGYPT, NUBIA, and ETHIOPIA.—THE GREAT MOVING PANORAMA of the NILE display, the scenery of these interesting countries, and the manners and customs of their inhabitants, presenting to the spectator the River and the Desert, the Pyramids and the Sphinx, the grandest Ruins of Antiquity, and the most exciting objects that allure the traveller.—EGYPTIAN HALL, PICCADILLY.—Daily, at Three and Eight.—Admission reduced to 6*d.*; Fit, 1*s.*; Stalls, 2*s.*

INDIA OVERLAND MAIL.—DIORAMA.—GALLERY of ILLUSTRATION, 14, Regent-street, Waterloo-place.—A gigantic MOVING DIORAMA of the ROUTE of the OVERLAND MAIL to INDIA, exhibiting the following places, viz.—Southampton Docks, Isle of Wight, Osborne, the Needles, the Bay of Biscay, the Berlings, Cintra, the Tagus, Cape Trafalgar, Tarifa, Gibraltar, Algiers, Malta, Alexandria, Cairo, the Desert of Suez, the Central Station, Suez, the Red Sea, Aden, Geylon, Madras, and Calcutta—is now OPEN DAILY.—Mornings at Twelve, Afternoons at Three, and Evenings at Eight.—Admission, 1*s.*; Stalls, 2*s.* 6*d.*; Reserved Seats, 3*s.* Doors open half an hour before each representation.

## FINE ARTS

### FOREIGN CORRESPONDENCE.

#### The Colossal 'Bavaria'.

Munich, Oct. 9.

EVERY one in Germany, if not in England, has heard of the great annual People's Festival held here in October. This year it was of especial interest, and attracted an unusual number of strangers, from the fact that the uncovering of Schwanthaler's colossal statue of Bavaria was to take place during this great week of gaiety.

This stupendous work of Art—awful in its Titanic proportions and its calm majestic beauty—the result of ten years' incessant anxiety—stands on a broad meadow to the west of Munich,—a portion of the great plain that stretches away to the feet of the Alps. It rests on the edge of what appears at first to be an artificial terrace,—but is in fact a huge step where the plain suddenly descends into that lower plain on which stands the city of Munich. The figure of this colossal Virgin of the whole German world—with her majestic lion by her side—is 54 ft. high,—and is placed on a granite pedestal 30 ft. in height:—so that the beautiful temple of the *Ruhmeshalle*, or Hall of Fame, erecting behind, seems dwarfed into strange human insignificance.

This figure, typifying the spirit of recognition and reward of all excellence and achievement whatever, stands with upraised wreath, as if ready to crown any Bavarian who may be worthy to enter her temple of fame. It was a grand idea of King Ludwig's, this of placing the Genius of Reward on the spot consecrated to the people and their annual meeting. It is in this meadow—the Theresa meadow, as it is called—that the October *Volks-fest* is held; and here the King distributes prizes to the peasants—prizes for horses, and cattle, and agricultural produce, as well as for success in all the athletic games here celebrated. Henceforward, all successful accomplishment will be crowned in the presence of the impersonated Bavaria,—as well the more popular achievements alluded to as those of the poet, painter, musician, and philosopher. Each is to receive in the presence of his assembled country, from the hands of the monarch, the acknowledgment of merit.—Such at least is the intention of King Ludwig.

The *Ruhmeshalle* is unfinished,—and will require for its completion at least two or three years more. It is a beautiful Doric building, of white marble from the Untersberg,—adorned with emblematical friezes by Schwanthaler. It was designed by Leo von Klenze; and the busts of all the great men of Bavaria, without regard to difference of religious belief or to origin, are to be arranged along the walls.

It was the intention of the King that the uncovering of the 'Bavaria' should have taken place on the 3rd of this month, in order that all the peasants assembled for their festival, which commences always on the first Sunday in October (this year falling on the 6th) should be witnesses; but the weather has been reading a striking lesson this past week to the kings and queens and princes assembled for the great ceremony. Autumnal rains and gloomy leaden skies have shown themselves powerful over potentates,—as well as indifferent to the wishes of vast numbers of travellers assembled from all quarters of Europe and America, and hundreds and hundreds of simple country folk who have come long miles to the city to do honour to the great Colossus. Had this been "the great image which King Nebuchadnezzar set up,"



heaven could not have seemed more adverse to its day of inauguration. Rain! rain! rain!—unceasing rain!—a very deluge, as if to sweep a second idol-worshipping generation from the face of the earth! The greatest uncertainty accordingly prevailed as to the day on which the 'Bavaria' festival would be held. It was to be on the Thursday,—it was to be on the Friday,—on the Saturday,—then, on the first fine day in the following week:—and the People's Festival *must* commence on Sunday, with the huge screen still concealing the idol from its assembled worshippers.

Soon after twelve o'clock on Sunday all Munich began to stream forth in motley groups towards the Theresien Wiese. Citizens in crowds, peasants in crowds,—all carrying umbrellas under their arms,—carriages and peasants'-waggons—vehicles, in short, of all descriptions—rolled onward in one living tide.

Between the long, green, natural terrace on which stands the 'Bavaria' and the last scattered outskirts of the city in this direction lies the Theresa Meadow,—which was swarming with people and covered with erections for the Festival. A second terrace had been formed into an immense flight of steps, or a succession of lesser terraces—in the centre of which the grand orchestra was to be stationed; while on either hand were decorated seats for the officers' ladies,—the terraces themselves forming standing-places for the prodigious crowd. Below is the race-course,—and beyond rose the royal tent, on wooden steps, and resembling in form a monster umbrella. It was painted blue and white,—these being the Bavarian colours; and here and there over the meadow were erected raised wooden seats for the visitors,—all adorned with festoons and wreaths of spruce fir, frequently bound together by twisted draperies of blue and white. I can give no idea of the extreme elegance of these simple decorations,—hundreds of spruce firs must have been cut down for the occasion. Whole groves of these favourite German trees, too, were planted everywhere, from the beer-house to the royal tent.

At length a cannon sounded;—and with a tramp of cavalry and gay outriders, King Max, accompanied by his brother King Otho—conspicuous in his crimson fez and rich Albanian costume—dashed up to the royal tent. Ludwig was there to receive them. Then came the King of Saxony and hosts of grandees:—and the military bands burst forth with our National Anthem, which the Germans call their *Volkslied*. The business of the day then began. The prize cattle were presented to the King,—the races followed—and so ended the first day of the *Volks-fest*.

Instead of describing the feats or festivities of the second or third days—which seemed to consist principally of shooting at marks and athletic games, I will proceed to the great event not only of the Festival, but of my letter. The 'Bavaria' now stands revealed in all her dignity, beauty and glory to kings and people.—But let me yet speak a word or two about the statue itself.

Through the interior of this bronze tower-like figure ascends a winding staircase leading to a chamber in the head large enough to contain twenty-eight persons,—whence through openings among the curls the spectator can look across the plain and city and towards the glorious Alps. This may give an idea of its colossal size. But beyond the poetry of mere size,—beyond that which arises from its connecting our thoughts at once with the sublime works of antiquity, and with history and romance of modern date from the fact of its being cast out of Turkish cannon sunk in the battle of Navarino and brought up by Greek divers—there is a yet deeper poetry in the work. This arises from reflecting on the ten years of toil—stupendous toil—mental and bodily, of its creators,—the difficulties overcome by patient industry,—the dangers endured with unflinching courage,—and the melancholy truth that the final accomplishment of the mighty work is unwitnessed by the two men whose very lives seemed bound up in its success,—Schwanthaler the sculptor and his friend Lazarini, his "right hand," as he called him, who modelled the colossal figure under his direction.

Though Schwanthaler was already attacked by his fatal malady at the time when he designed the

'Bavaria' at the King's suggestion,—he not only modelled a variety of designs for the Colossus, but also completed a smaller figure of the 'Bavaria' as we now see her, thirteen feet high. When the huge wooden tower was built in the Royal Bronze Foundry, and after what may be called a gigantic wooden skeleton had been erected by a crowd of carpenters,—after tons and tons of clay had been piled together over this, so as to form a mass of material on which to work,—there, day after day might be seen the unwearied, energetic, though physically suffering sculptor, guiding with watchfulness and love the accomplishment of his idea, which ever grew beneath the hand of his friend Lazarini and his troop of workmen.

Stiglismayer, the originator and director of the Bronze Foundry, died in 1844, just before the casting of the 'Bavaria' began. His nephew, Ferdinand Miller, full of youth, energy, patience, and experience, was ready to succeed him. The castings took place at five different times,—commencing with the head. This was cast in 1844. In casting the bust of the figure—the largest portion—the greatest difficulty had to be encountered. It was necessary to melt for the purpose twenty tons of bronze,—five tons more than had ever before been melted in the furnace. As this immense mass of metal slowly began to fuse, it began also to cake,—thus threatening to destroy not only the casting, but the whole furnace, with untold danger to life and limb. Six men had, in spite of the oppressive heat and the ever-increasing glow of the furnace, to take it by turns night and day incessantly to stir with long iron bars the molten mass lest it should adhere to the furnace walls and so bring annihilation on all. On the evening of the fifth day of anxiety, when Ferdinand Miller for the first time sought a short repose in his chair, he was suddenly aroused by his faithful and anxious fellow watcher, his wife, with the cry of "Ferdinand awake! the foundry is on fire!" It was so. The ever-increasing heat of these five days and four nights had caused fire to burst forth among the rafters. To have attempted to extinguish the fire by water, with this molten mass below, would have caused the immediate destruction of the place. All that could be done was, by means of wetted cloths to keep down the fire. This was tried,—and the melting went on as before. Amid such danger did the casting of the bust take place about midnight on the 11th of October 1845. "Success!" was shouted forth; a load of anxiety of many kinds fell from every breast;—and all then hastened to the complete extinguishing of the fire.

Various have been the ceremonies connected with the casting of the 'Bavaria.' When the head was first raised out of the pit in which it had been cast, King Ludwig and a number of distinguished persons being present, a festival was held, in which garlands, music and illuminations played a conspicuous part. On August 7th, 1848, when the figure was complete,—all the separate portions, except the head, having already been removed to the Theresa Meadow on a carriage constructed expressly for the purpose,—the head was conveyed thither with every mark of festival rejoicing. On the following day the bell of the little church of Neuhausen tolled,—and Ferdinand Miller, the noble and courageous "master," accompanied by the workmen of the foundry, went to return thanks for the accomplishment of their arduous work. They had commenced their labour with prayer four years before in that little church,—and now they offered up thanksgiving, that their task was not only achieved, but achieved without loss of life or limb to a single member of their band.—But Schwanthaler and Lazarini,—where were they!

Now, for the festival.—In the cheerful sunshine and beneath a cloudless heaven all Munich proceeded towards the Maximilian Platz, where the Bavarian procession was to assemble,—accompanied on the way by a vast sound of singing, as if all the *Singvereins* were joining in chorus. At nine o'clock the wide Platz was alive with an expectant and well-dressed crowd—citizens, peasants, officers, students, artists,—a motley, joyous multitude. A strange apparition approaches:—it looks taller than the tallest houses,—*gens-d'armes* riding before clear the

way. This is the 'Bavaria's' spinning wheel! placed on a low car, and drawn by six horses,—horses and car all wreathed with flowers. Then came the festal car of the Innkeepers, with their offering to the great goddess of the day. Next followed what might be called a splendidly illuminated car,—an offering from "the grateful *Vorstadt Au* to the illustrious founder of their church—their beloved Ludwig." To this succeeded a colossal sword and steel gauntlet, drawn likewise on a festal car,—the car of the Sword-makers and Cutlers:—and so the procession grew. The Locksmiths and Carpenters, the Masons, the Decorators and Gilders, all sent their representatives glittering with gold and ermine, and looking like the figures of some show in an enchanted city. The very butchers had idealized their trade:—so had the bakers, the confectioners, the weavers, the gardeners,—every trade in Munich, in short. Nor were the sculptors, painters or foundry-men behind-hand with their tributes. Wonderful were all the devices,—strange, grotesque, and beautiful.

And so all Munich proceeded with banners, music, and a vast rejoicing towards the Theresa Meadow. The streets and suburban lanes were swarming with the multitudes awaiting the wonderful procession. As we emerged on the plain, we saw that already the earthen steps and terraces were black with an assembled multitude, while streams of pedestrians and streams of carriages poured across the meadow. All previous points of attraction were now centred in the spot fronting the 'Bavaria'; where a second royal tent had been erected,—different entirely from the white and blue umbrella of my former description, and more like a canopy supported on four slight pillars. Long ropes, stretching down from the wooden screen which concealed the 'Bavaria,' were firmly fastened into the green turf.

About 12 o'clock,—after King Ludwig, accompanied by his Queen and King Otho had arrived, and when the whole plain from the neighbourhood of the 'Bavaria' to the very city itself was gay with carriages and an untold moving multitude on foot,—the fantastic procession, consisting of all the trades' offerings, gradually approached to the sound of music and amid the shoutings of the people:—passing before the King and presenting their gifts.—Having witnessed the arrival of the first portion of the procession in front of the royal canopy, we took our station on the sloping bank a little to the right of the 'Bavaria,' and nearly opposite the royal party,—to gaze upon the wondrous crowd of human faces turned towards the pavilion, and towards the quaint forms slowly advancing through the multitude like grotesque ships steering their course amid a human ocean—fluttering banners on long staves telling as sails and masts. Beyond this rolling sea lay a broad stretch of green plain,—then the city, with its towers and pinnacles rising into the clear blue sky—and, far off, the solemn mountain chain.

When the whole procession had passed, the horses were unharnessed and the strange cars were grouped upon the meadow. A troop of singers ascended the mound, and passed behind the wooden screen, or rather screens, which concealed as yet the motive spirit of this living scene. The important event of the day was at hand! A hush fell on the expectant multitude,—the hush of intense expectation. Suddenly swelled forth the notes of the overture composed expressly for the occasion. Then came another pause. An arm was raised in signal:—and through the great silence was heard the distant sound of the saw and hammer at work severing the timbers of the condemned screen. The thrill of expectation grew more intense. A rope was loosened by a small human figure, far up aloft,—the screen fell with a huge sound which the roar of the cannon repeated and the shout of the multitude prolonged,—and the mighty 'Bavaria' stood revealed:—awful and beautiful—of a pale, tawny gold colour—the sunlight catching on her sublime brow, on her rounded shoulder, on her strong large arm which pressed to her side a laurel-wreathed sword. It caught on the sword-hilt, and burned and glittered like a star:—a beacon, no doubt, far away.—Then fell the lower screens; and bands of singers, with banners displayed,



swarmed on either side the pedestal,—and broke forth into one mighty song of triumph. In presence of that marvellous colossal Virgin their voices sounded strangely small and human.

After the song came an oration by the painter, Teichlein. He looked a mere black dot standing at the foot of the statue,—and his voice sounded like the voice of some booming insect. Three cheers for King Ludwig succeeded:—and in a few minutes the long gay train of royal carriages was seen, amid the shouts of the crowd, rapidly returning towards Munich.

#### M. DELAROCHE'S NEW PICTURE.

ONE of the latest efforts of one of the chiefs of the French school of painting—'Napoleon crossing the Alps,' by Paul Delaroche,—has arrived, and is now on view, in this country. The principal peculiarity which distinguishes it is, that of the remarkable extent to which the exhibition of particular truth may be pushed—the extreme to which the fascination of executive skill may usurp the more imaginative readings of a subject. The picture in question is a fresh demonstration of the bias of this artist's mind,—already well known more as dealing with the matter-of-fact truths of accessorial particular than for deep thinking or active imagination. 'Strafford going to his Execution,' 'Charles the First insulted,' 'Cromwell contemplating the dead Body of his Sovereign,' 'The Princes on the Night before their Murder in the Tower,' and the previous renderings of the Little Corporal, by the same painter, are each and all marked by their mastery in mechanical appliance rather than by any mental government. No better example can be found of this deficiency of philosophic dealing than in the artist's great painting of the Hemicycle at the Beaux Arts. The theme—which undertook to illustrate the history of his own art and of its great masters—was one to have inspired even a dull painter with noble conceptions. Yet by an artist so eminent as Delaroche its great capabilities are frittered away in the presentment of subordinate and picturesque particular. To this the delineation of character is sacrificed. For the mighty and sullen genius of the Sistine, figures an old Parisian artificer,—the graceful and gentle author of the Stanze and the Loggia has a representative in a *bal masqué* habit,—and the variedly gifted painter of 'The Lord's Supper' is nearly hidden under his properties as a member of a *tableau vivant*. In the mere details of all these figures, as in those of 'Napoleon crossing the Alps,' the painter is at home:—the drawing of the *genus homo* in its ordinary and casual aspect is usually well managed. The characters of the personages are, as we have said, generally absent. Dexterity of manual appliance directed by scholastic training takes the place of creative and suggestive Art.

As offering a striking contrast to this manner of Delaroche's, we might mention the 'Ugolino' of our own Reynolds. There, the mental resources of a great thinker take place of all extraneous matter. The spectator, little disposed to be critical on the fidelity of the appointments of the Italian noble or of his family, is absorbed in sympathy with his misfortunes. His lofty brow reveals the inward struggle of his high nature,—and the man and the father alone engage our attention. The specific facts of costume are lost sight of in the exhibition of human woe in some of its most pathetic forms of appeal.—A contrast more near to the painter's hand may be found by comparing the present with a former treatment of the same subject by a compatriot of his own—David, the artist of the Republic and of the Directory. Inspired with a fervour of the classic ages—the models in his day in all departments—the republican painter undertook to render to posterity the lineaments of the French Hannibal. The wide and ambitious genius of his hero was to be expressed,—and he sought a motive that was noble and clear.—The episodes and accessories chosen were all such as helped to make significant the victory over obstacles interposed.—The view of the same subject taken by M. Delaroche depends on the recognition of humbler excellencies. With him, the end and the means are physical,—and his work is to be judged of by that lower standard. It would be unjust to tax the author of this picture

with negligence, for the omission of qualities which were never within his range, scope or intent—elevation of purpose and the expression of sentiment.

An officer in a French costume, mounted on a mule, is conducted by a rough peasant through a dangerous pass, whose traces are scarcely discernible through the deep-lying snow,—and his aide-de-camp is just visible in a ravine of the towering Alps. These facts are rendered with a fidelity that has not omitted the plait of a drapery, the shaggy texture of the four-footed animal, nor a detail of the harness on his back. The drifting and the imbedded snow, the pendent icicle which a solitary sun-ray in a transient moment has made—all are given with a truth which will be dear to those who exalt the Dutch School for like qualities into the foremost rank of excellence. But the lofty and daring genius that led the humble Lieutenant of Ajaccio to be the ruler and arbiter of the destinies of the largest part of Europe will be sought in vain in the countenance painted by M. Delaroche.

**FINE-ART GOSSIP.**—There is a rumour abroad—to which we will attach no belief till it shall have confirmation,—that the national monument to Sir Robert Peel has been quietly given away to one who, though a member of our own Academy, may almost be called a foreign sculptor,—Mr. Gibson. We have already pointed out the wrong which would be done to the occasion by the Minister's taking on himself to consider the parliamentary grant for this popular purpose as in any sense within the scope of his private patronage,—but the wrong would be made yet more conspicuous by this particular appropriation of the people's money. That the fruit which the country has a right to expect from competition should be sacrificed to a job of any kind, would be bad enough; but that it should be sacrificed for the purpose of commissioning a sculptor who lives and works abroad—taking no share in the duties of his position, including the Art-teaching of the people—and coming here only once a year for the purpose of carrying away what he may pick up—would make Lord John Russell's assumption of a right to deal at his private pleasure with this fund show as a yet greater offence.—To send arbitrarily out of the country the work for which the sculptors of England should contend, would be a proceeding seeming as if designed to mark in the most emphatic way possible Lord John's determination to "do as he likes with his own."—As we have said, we shall require some better evidence than mere report to make us believe in any such private settlement of this public matter.

Mr. Scharf, the well-known artist whose acquaintance with ancient marbles "all men durst swear for," has made a curious and important discovery, at Marbury Hall, in Cheshire, of a fragment of the frieze of the Parthenon. The authenticity of the fragment—to say nothing of its merit,—would satisfy an officer of the detective police,—for it fits its parent stone in the British Museum with a nicety that answers doubt. There is a promise, it is said, on the part of its present possessor of presenting it to the British Museum:—an example which the French might follow, if they were generous and cosmopolitan, with the fragments of the Elgin marbles in the National Collection,—of little use where they are, but of great importance when placed with the series to which they belong.—The collection at Marbury Hall was formed at Rome in the middle of the last century by Mr. J. H. Smith Barry,—and has long been famous.

Messrs. Fox & Henderson, the contractors for the Palace of Glass, have issued a tinted lithograph, by Mr. Hawkins, of the long perspective view of that fairy edifice,—we believe, however, only for private circulation. The drawing is the same from which we were obligingly permitted to take the view which first brought the aspect of this beautiful structure before the public. But the scale on which it is here engraved throws all former representations of the building into the shade,—and certain accessories of still and of animated life are introduced to compose the whole into somewhat more of a picture.

The inscription for the pedestal of the Tindal statue, by Baily, has been contributed by Mr. Justice Talfourd,—and is as follows:—"The Right Honourable Sir Nicolas Conyngham Tindal, Knt., D.C.L., Lord Chief Justice of the Court of Common Pleas, born at Chelmsford, A.D. 1776, died A.D. 1846. Erected A.D. 1850, to preserve for all time the image of a Judge, whose administration of English law, directed by serene wisdom, animated by purest love of justice, endeared by unwearied kindness, and graced by the most lucid style, will be held by his country in undying remembrance." This inscription will be in raised bronze letters:—and when completed the statue will, we understand, be immediately placed on its site. The *Chelmsford Chronicle* says, there will be no festival of inauguration.—The *Manchester Examiner and Times* says, that the people of Sheffield are subscribing for a monument to the memory of the poet Ebenezer Elliott,—and a deputation of its promoters have been canvassing the city of Manchester, with a prospect of success. There are many lovers of the poet in our metropolis who, we think, will gladly be contributors to such a fund. The journal in question says—"It is not intended that the monument should be vast or expensive,—but that a neat cenotaph or column, at a cost of twelve or fifteen hundred pounds, should be erected and placed in a position suitable to do honour to the genius whose memory it is to perpetuate. It was Elliott's wish that he should be buried near to a favourite wood in which he had spent many happy hours; but the friends to whom he communicated this desire urged on the poet the necessity for considering the feelings of his family, for whom he had much fondness. It is not improbable that the monument will be erected near to this favourite haunt of the Rhymer."—A meeting of subscribers to the proposed statue of the Queen for Holyrood Palace is said to have been held in Edinburgh, for the purpose of considering the propriety of having the statue erected in front of the palace instead of within the quadrangle. The suggestion is stated to have been agreed to. "The sculptor is Mr. Handyside Ritchie,—a pupil of Thorwaldsen, who executed the figures in the pediment of the Commercial Bank, and the figures on the columns of the British Linen Bank, both at Edinburgh. The stone is from Redhall Quarry. The statue is to be about nine feet high, and the pedestal about eleven feet high."—In Leipsic, a monument has been erected by the German agriculturists to Herr Thaer,—the man who has done so much, amongst them, for that science. It consists of a marble column, nine feet high; on which stands the statue of Thaer, life size. The model is by Prof. Rietschel of Dresden,—and it was cast at the foundry of Lauchhammer. It is surrounded by granite steps and an iron balustrade. The column bears the inscription: "To their respected teacher, Albert Thaer—the German Agriculturists, 1850."

Letters from Rome afford a paragraph or two of Art gossip. On the 3rd instant an announcement from the offices of Government stated that the Academy of St. Luke is to be re-opened in a few days; but the students are to undergo examination, before admission, as to the state of their morals and the opinions which they profess in politics! So long as the ultra-montane *régime* lasts, Art is to be ruled by the police as well as letters. When they issued this order the cardinal authorities gave point to it by commanding Mr. Hely, an English sculptor (employed a few years ago in decorating the New Palace in Westminster), to quit the Roman territories at a few days' notice. No offence was alleged; but Mr. Hely's sister having married the now celebrated Dr. Achilli, it is thought the monkish Secretary of State takes this means of avenging his creed on the convert's connexions.—The Americans seem to be the only people in Rome who are suffered to exhibit their political, artistic and religious heresies with impunity. We spoke a few weeks since of Power's emblematic statue of the great Republic of America trampling under its feet the kingly diadem:—we have now an account of Mr. Crauford's design for the monument to the greatest Hero of that republic. Our Art readers will remember that this work was a commia-



sion from the Government of the United States. The country desired to have a monument worthy of Washington, and they agreed to pay 100,000 dollars for it.—The design is original and striking. From the centre of a huge block of granite, cut into the form of a star with six rays, rises a pedestal, on which stands an equestrian statue of the Legislator, sixteen feet in height. The six points of the star are surmounted by six colossal statues:—one of them an allegorical figure of Virginia, the hero's birth-place,—three of them statues of distinguished generals who were his companions in arms,—the other two representing statesmen who were connected with him in the great struggle and succeeded him in the office of President. The casting, it is said, will be done in either Paris or Munich. All the figures, except that of Virginia, are to be in bronze.—In further illustration of our remark that these Americans do their spiritings in Rome more freely than any other people, we may notice the fact that they have just obtained permission to build a Protestant church—the first ever permitted in the Eternal City. Their architects are now at work,—and in a short time the edifice will rear its head in the neighbourhood of the ancient tomb of Augustus and in the very *Via de' Pontifici*!

Report speaks highly of a new work which the Roman sculptor Vicenzo Gajassi has just completed and erected in the Irish Franciscan Church of Sant Isidoro,—a sepulchral monument to the memory of Miss Octavia Bryan, daughter of Colonel and the Hon. Mrs. Bryan (sister of Lady Shrewsbury and aunt of the Princess Doria), a young lady who died in the flower of her age in the year 1848, at the Palazzo Albani, in Rome. The monument, says the correspondent of the *Daily News*, consists of a basement, of oblong shape, adorned with the arms of the Bryans and Talbots,—upon which, on a funeral couch, the sculptor has placed a full-length figure representing the deceased in the bridal mortuary garb in which she lay in state, according to the Roman custom, on the day following her death.

## MUSIC AND THE DRAMA

### CHARACTERISTICS OF MEYERBEER.

*Forty Melodies, for one and more Voices, with Accompaniment for the Piano*—[*Quarante Mélodies, à une et à plusieurs Voix, avec Accompagnement de Piano*]. By Meyerbeer.—It is certain that no living composer occupies so large a share of attention throughout musical Europe at this present time as does M. Meyerbeer.—Yet this is on the strength of three operas, at most,—since no work of a date earlier than 'Robert' keeps the stage. What makes the fact more noticeable is, that these three works are of a quality which repels rather than invites execution. They are complicated, difficult, costly to mount,—they demand large theatres,—they are not agreeable to sing,—they are not satisfactory to severe musicians, from the absence of continuous writing which they display and from the triteness of many of their primal ideas,—they are not easy to be comprehended by the average amateur public, which has a strange tendency to admire what it can perform, and to judge an opera by the number of pieces which the theatre furnishes to the household piano and singers.—Yet 'Les Huguenots' lives and the reign of 'Le Prophète' spreads precisely because M. Meyerbeer understands stage effect better than most musicians who have written for the stage. He can so dress and group and contrast his thoughts—so rouge and pad and powder them—so bend them to the illustration of any situation be it ever so difficult, of any passion be it ever so vehement,—that when viewed from the proper angle the spectator sees what is shown him rather than what really exists, and is mystified into forgetting how much of what is delighting him is mere simulation. It is very easy to cavil,—it may be all very well to question,—nor would it be difficult, we suspect, for the historian to narrate how a Nourrit made one effect, how a Viardot strengthened another, by counsels given during the painfully elaborate rehearsals of these marvellous pieces of combination;—but the result which was attempted is produced in the fullest

measure. To do this demands something more than cleverness. There must be genius—genius in fragments—in motley—genius serving the purposes of expediency (if the Cynics please to press us hard for a definition) yet still undeniable, original genius for the stage.—Taken thence, M. Meyerbeer's losses are instant and heavy. Even of the production of a good theatrical overture he seems to be incapable. The prelude to his 'Margarita d'Anjou' is in the weak Italian style—the introduction to his 'Camp de Silésie' seems (so far as its arrangement enables us to judge) a *pot-pourri* made up of poor themes, in no respect comparable to Auber's confections of the kind. There is more pretension in the Symphony to 'Struensee,'—but the impression left on us by that ambitious production is that of strain without success: while the overture to 'Le Prophète,' avowedly prepared for the purpose of vindicating its composer's powers, was withdrawn after rehearsal (himself assenting) as patchy and tedious.

In these Forty Melodies we find M. Meyerbeer on other ground:—trying to furnish the orchestral or chamber singer with songs which are not to be acted. As a collection of melodies, this volume is "nought,"—as an illustration of manner it will be found full of curious interest to all who really care to know what exists, and what is wanting, in M. Meyerbeer.

The characteristic merit here is vivacity of rhythm—the characteristic defect, want of sustained *cantilena* and triteness in such melodic phrases as do appear. With regard to the rhythm, M. Fétis (a staunch admirer) has hidden us credit M. Meyerbeer with as much variety as vivacity,—but this variety we haven't been fully able to discover. Take away the liberal use of the unvoiced *staccato*—take away the interruption of a natural phrase by pauses and rests (of which every conceivable type) was accumulated in the 'Robert'—take away a certain management of the *tempo di minuetto*, in which stateliness and spirit are happily combined—take away a sort of superfluous and double close to a simple eight-bar phrase—and what remains? Hardly one half of such devices and expedients as—long before Meyerbeer's novelties were thought of—the Austrian composers Lanner, Strauss, &c. &c., were able to introduce by way of varying the smooth, but most constraining triple rhythm of the national waltz and Ländler.—In such vivacity as is compatible with serious emotion M. Meyerbeer is unrivalled. By no one else has the effect of such movements as those specified in 'Robert,' or as the *coda* of the *duel-septuor* in 'Les Huguenots,' been approached:—but the receipt when examined by the analyst proves to be a very simple one, and the ingredients are very few.

To speak now of the defect:—we find that the difficulty of recalling one abstractedly and intrinsically good melody by Meyerbeer amounts to an impossibility. Touching, tuneful, and elegant phrases there are, to satisfy rather than to haunt the ear,—but few if any good whole tunes. We find ourselves most frequently recurring to the 'Sicilienne' and the 'Séduction d'Amour' *air de ballet*, in 'Robert,' to the 'Chorus of Bathers' in 'Les Huguenots,' to the 'Cathedral Hymn' in 'Le Prophète'—(no very liberal list of themes for three grand operas to yield)—yet none of these is sustained to its close. In none can we avoid feeling that the second part has been a matter of solicitude instead of spontaneous inspiration to its author. How liberally the shortcoming is felt in other more fragmentary examples which will occur to every one weighing the above testimony, it would be loss of time to dwell on.—Meanwhile, to such lengths have we been tempted in these preliminary remarks, that their illustration from the 'Book of Melodies' before us must be deferred till another day.

GRAND NATIONAL CONCERTS.—After the mountainous prospectus of the managers of these *Grand National Concerts*, their opening performances

\* To illustrate precisely what we mean, may be cited the *cabaletta* of *La Princesse*, 'Idole de ma Vie,'—the terror-paintings of *Alice* in her duet with *Bertram* at the foot of the cross,—the 'grace' of *Isabelle* in her great scene with *Robert*.

must be described as nothing much greater than pieces of mouse-work.—The prospectus assured us that the constant aim of the "executive committee, directors, and managers" would be to present an intellectual entertainment of the highest order, "embracing the greatest works of the greatest masters." Who could have expected that after such a *fanfaronade* the first concert should turn out an awkward cross betwixt the Wednesday Concerts and M. Jullien's performances,—in some respects, inferior to both? Our high opinion of Herr Halle is well known as the best contemporary player of classical music; but his Beethoven *Concerto* was cut short at the close of the first movement,—the "executive committee, directors and managers" we presume not finding it intellectual enough. In *fantasias à la Liszt* and Thalberg, Herr Halle cannot of course compete with the latter pianist; so that by ignorant employment of excellent materials the managers of these Grand National Concerts are at a disadvantage as compared with Exeter Hall. In like manner as *solo* violinists M. Sainton and Herr Ernst cannot be rated as peers; and M. Sainton is the last of living violinists to pretend to such rivalry, being as modest as he is gifted. Then, M. Jullien beats his rivals hollow in polkas, waltzes, descriptive quadrilles, &c.,—and is very little beaten in orchestral brilliancy by the assemblage of players at *Her Majesty's Theatre*; who, on Tuesday night, being handed over from Mr. Balfe to M. Bosio, and *vice versa*, were naturally enough nervous often to the slovenly point.—On Wednesday, the first movement of the noble 'Eroica' was played by a really noble band in that "hard bargain" style which indicates that neither committee nor conductor has much sympathy with such music.—Some improvement, however, has been manifested as the week has proceeded. On Thursday, Herr Halle was allowed to give Mendelssohn's Pianoforte Concerto in G minor unmutated. This was received with the greatest applause:—as was also Mendelssohn's Violin Concerto, given on the same evening by Mr. Cooper.

Deferring some notice of Master Werner—another of those too-young pianists whom we would fain keep back for their own good,—we must speak of Madame Biscaccianti as the other novelty. This Lady has had a good *soprano* voice; but it seems to have been screamed away ere it had undergone any vocal training,—and it is now delivered in that dragging and languid fashion meant by the non-executant race of modern Italians to pass for expression. Whenever a passage calling for *brío*, brilliancy or accent came, Madame Biscaccianti at once cut the knot, and presented her own reading by slackening the *tempo*.—Mlle. Angri on Tuesday was not in her best voice.—Miss Messent is the Lady who represents England,—M. Lafont standing for France, and Mr. Gustavus Geary for Ireland. Of the last gentleman, again, we may speak another week.

The arrangements for the entrance and accommodation of the promenaders—by suppressing the central entrance to the pit, opening the lower staircases, and retaining the awkward barrier on the edge of the cavity thus formed—are uncomfortable—destructive to the enjoyment of the company in the pit boxes—and might become perilous in case of overflow. There cannot be the slightest reason for managing or modifying the plainest truth with regard to this undertaking. We used no reserves with regard to Mr. Stammers. We have again and again protested against M. Jullien's clap-trap; yet both the English and French speculators had for their offences the excuse of providing something which was meant to pay, "and therefore must please." Whereas, here is a society of gentlemen, professing the promotion of good music as its aim, and damaging to professional managements by the terms in which it enters the market—namely, the disclaiming of all "wish or idea of profit,"—which falls into the old vulgarities at its first outset, after having given forth a prospectus so specious, and before "an intellectual entertainment of the highest order" had been proved unable to attract a public.



**HAYMARKET.**—Mr. Webster, it is said at the express desire of the Queen, has entirely reconstructed the royal box and ante-room. The box is now on a level with the dress circle. The decorations of the ante-room consist of light Pompeian pilasters, forming pannels all round, and supporting wreaths of flowers which trail over five large mirrors let into the walls. Each pannel contains a separate view:—such as Windsor Castle—Osborne House—the Waterfalls, Balmoral—the Duchess of Kent's residence—and Prince Albert's at Saxe Gotha. The whole is surmounted by a ceiling of pale blue, clouded, and varied with birds of brilliant plumage. The pattern is repeated in the box, with an oval wreath of flowers in the centre. This fancy work has been executed by Mr. Sang,—but its design is ascribed to Mr. Webster. In other respects also the theatre has undergone renovation.—It was reopened on Monday, with its proper company, and with its old pieces 'The Serious Family' and 'The Rough Diamond.' In the former, Mr. Hudson sustained the part of *Captain Maquire*, instead of Mr. Wallack. A warm greeting was given to the company—particularly to Mr. Webster—by a numerous audience.—Mr. Parselle, from the Lyceum, made his first appearance here as *Frank Vincent*. He seems to be a gentlemanly actor. Mrs. Stanley filled the late Mrs. Clifford's place as *Lady Sowerby Creamley*. The performances altogether went off well.

**PRINCESS'S.**—'The Wife's Secret' was performed for the first time at this theatre on Wednesday.

**SADLER'S WELLS.**—Miss Lyons, whose *début* in *Juliet* at the Olympic we recorded a few weeks ago, made her appearance at this theatre on Monday in the part of *Desdemona*. She is understood to be a pupil of Mrs. West,—and her style is too evidently after that of her preceptor. The cadences of her elocution are sweetly monotonous; they will, unless broken up and varied in the course of practice, most certainly cloy the ear. Miss Lyons should look to this: for she is really an interesting person, from her extreme youth and the readiness and tact with which she adopts the stage business. It remains to be ascertained what amount of general intelligence she possesses, and what elements of future greatness as an artist are in her.

**OLYMPIC.**—Mr. Stirling Coyne has been remarkably happy in the adaptation of the French comedy 'La Femme de Quarante Ans,'—which was produced here on Monday, under the title of 'My Wife's Daughter.' The lady of forty with a young husband was delightfully acted by Mrs. Stirling, who brought out the peculiarities of her position with the utmost skill. The lady is a widow with a daughter "rising seventeen," whom she carefully excludes from her husband's knowledge at boarding-school; but during the holidays, *Clara*, the poor girl (Miss L. Howard), runs away,—and arriving at her newly-married mother's residence, strongly interests *Ormonde*, the husband (Mr. H. Farren). His aid had, indeed, been already invoked in her favour by some acquaintance who desired her marriage with a mutual friend, to which the consent of *Mrs. Ormonde* is required. The difficulty in obtaining this arises from the lady's years, which would be obviously proclaimed to the world by the admission of her having a marriageable daughter. Some stratagem is accordingly required. *Clara* is locked up in the library for the nonce; but entrance there being obtained by *Ormonde's* valet, *Gilliflower*, the latter persecutes the young lady with his absurd addresses. This part is admirably sustained by Mr. Compton.—Mr. Farren, as the old husband of a young wife (Mrs. Leigh Murray) forms with her a group that artistically contrasts with that made by the principal figures. The old sexagenarian is as vain as the wife of forty is jealous;—but when matters are brought into extremity in the library, and it is proved that the young wife of the one and the young husband of the other have had a secret meeting there,—the old man, at the instigation of the married widow, becomes as jealous as herself. In the development of this situation there was some lack of skill. The transition from vanity to

jealousy was not marked by the degrees required for its probability. Altogether, however, the character was well suited to Mr. Farren, and it was presented by him with great truth to nature.—The piece was entirely successful.

**SURREY.**—The management at this house have reverted to nautical drama and burlesque:—the first in a piece entitled 'Love's Anchor'—the last in 'Lyttle Redde Rydinge Hood.' Both these have merit in their way:—the latter is full of amusing parodies.

**MUSICAL AND DRAMATIC GOSSIP.**—By a *programme* just laid before us we learn that the series of monthly concerts about to be commenced at St. Martin's Hall, under the direction of Mr. John Hullah, in the course of the eight months included by November 1850 and June 1851, will be eight in number. The following entire works will be performed in the course of the season:—Beethoven's Mass in c, Choral Fantasia,—Haydn's Seven Last Words,—Handel's Messiah, Utrecht Jubilate, Acis and Galatea,—Mendelssohn's Elijah, Lauda Sion, 95th Psalm, 114th Psalm, First Walpurgis Night.—It is further announced that selections, consisting mostly of movements, or succession of movements complete in themselves, will be made from Sebastian Bach's Mass in B minor, Motets,—Carissimi's Jephtha,—Handel's Alexander Balus, Coronation Anthems, Chandos Anthems, Chamber Duets, L'Allegro, Semele,—Mozart's Motets, Idomeneo, Zauberflöte,—Mendelssohn's Posthumous Psalms for an Eight Part Chorus, Midsummer Night's Dream, Convent Motets,—Purcell's King Arthur, Dido and Eneas,—Weber's Oberon.—The above list is liberal enough it will be owned; in addition, Mr. Hullah promises, as entire novelties, to give a Cantata by Mr. William Sterndale Bennett, a Motet by the Rev. Sir Frederick Gore Ouseley, Bart., a Composition by Mr. George A. Macfarren, four Compositions by M. Charles Gounod, (of Paris). These four Compositions are, we believe, a 'Liberia me,' a 'Sanctus,' an unaccompanied chorus for double choir, and a dramatic *scena di solo* and chorus. We can only wish all success to a scheme so comprehensive, supposing performance to keep pace with production.

Certain French musical journals have published a rumour that M. Manuel Garcia is about to re-open his class at the *Conservatoire*,—and to re-establish himself in Paris. We are requested to correct this. M. Garcia, on the contrary, has just formally resigned his professorship in the French institution in consequence of his intention to remain in London; to which city he has just returned after a short absence.

The English operatic commonwealth is about to commence its productions at Miss Kelly's theatre with a work by Mr. Mitchell, the blind composer.—Another opera by M. Desanges, which the same authorities report as having been accepted, is on the story of 'King René's Daughter.' We cannot fancy this subject happily chosen for stage music.

A note from Weimar mentions in terms of high praise the organ playing of a young Herr Breunung, who studied under Mendelssohn, and is commended for playing the highest music for his instrument (that of Sebastian Bach) in the highest possible style.—From the same source we hear of four and twenty charming short pieces for the violin by Herr David, which are just about to be published at Leipsic,—also that Mdlle. Graumann has been singing at Weimar with success.—A busy (and what is as much to the purpose a various) musical campaign is expected there this winter.

To celebrate H.M. the King of Prussia's birthday, the management of the Opera House in Berlin has nothing of greater value to present than a new work by M. Flotow.

'The Queen of Spades' is the title of the coming comic opera by MM. Scribe and Halévy.—The Philharmonic Society directed by M. Berlioz is about to re-commence its meetings for the season. The *programme* of the first concert contains much new and interesting music; a grand sacred chorus by Lesueur,—a specimen of the unaccompanied sacred music of the Imperial Chapel at St. Petersburg,

by Bortniansky,—and 'Sara la Baigneuse,' a ballad in three choruses by M. Berlioz.

Dr. Spohr's new symphony 'The Four Seasons' has been secured for the Grand National Concerts of Her Majesty's Theatre.

## MISCELLANEA

*The Journals of King Louis Philippe.*—Our readers know that one of the points of the singular but admirable education that Madame de Genlis gave Louis Philippe and his brothers was to teach them to examine and regulate their mind and conduct by the keeping a journal; and this Louis Philippe has done, not, we suppose, continuously, nor even perhaps for the greater part of his busy life, but for particular periods—during seasons either of peculiar interest or of unusual leisure. A fragment of his early journal, extending from the autumn of 1790 to the summer of 1791, was lost or stolen in the tumults and pillage of the first Revolution, as the memoirs of 1815 have been in the late one, and, like these, published by an illegitimate possessor. That most curious little tract had become very rare—so rare, indeed, that Louis Philippe himself had not a copy, till a friend of ours lately presented him the copy from which we ourselves had made a translation, which we published *in extenso* in our article on 'The Personal History of Louis Philippe.' The King had also written and printed the 'Journal of the Hundred Days,' just mentioned; and we were permitted to see and make extracts in our last March number from his Journal of February and March, 1848. It is known, too, that during his residence at Claremont, as at former intervals of repose, he amused himself in recording his recollections; but no information has yet transpired of the extent (either as to bulk or time) of what he may have left—beyond the conjecture (which is, however, only founded on an accidental expression of his which was repeated to us some months ago) that the portion which he was so anxious to complete related to his return to France in 1814. \* \* But whatever Louis Philippe may have left, it will be curious and valuable, as the production of so powerful a mind, always engaged in, and for a long period actually directing, the most extraordinary series of events in the history of the modern world. Its publication, however, must be of course a matter of great delicacy, and of mature deliberation, and we have not as yet heard even a rumour on the subject.—*Quarterly Review.*

*Change for a Sovereign.*—At Schaffhausen there were, as usual, many Englishmen who, also as usual, had a growl about the moneys and the hotels. "I have been making myself practically acquainted with the currency in a way of my own," said Smith junior. "How so?" inquired one of the group of travellers who were gossiping on the subject. "I changed a sovereign," explained our hero, "at Ostend; and then changed what I got for it in Prussia; then changed that in the Duchy of Nassau; and that again in the free city of Frankfurt; and so on repeated the process in Baden and Bavaria—in fact, in each separate jurisdiction through which we passed. There it is," said Smith, as he suited the action to the word by emptying the contents of his experimental pocket upon the table. The exhibition looked very unpromising certainly. The glittering, twenty-shilling piece left at Ostend was now represented by as ugly a collection of dirty, worn, counterfeit-looking a jumble of silver and copper as ever an Israelite counted out in the Jew's Lane, at Frankfurt. "Count it up," said Smith the younger. "Very good," said the German, and he began. "Five francs—ten—" said Smith. "Stop," said the German. "Swiss francs and French francs are different things—different values. I will tell you the worth of this heap." He went to work to tell them over, and stated the result in batzen and rappen. "And how much is that worth in English sterling coin?" asked a bystander. "Just fourteen shillings and a penny farthing," replied the German. "What!" shrieked Smith. "Fourteen shillings and a penny farthing English," repeated the German.—*Household Words.*

TO CORRESPONDENTS.—W. J. H.—J. J. C.—J. D.—P. C. R.—An Old Correspondent.—J. L.—J. W.—\* \* \*—received.  
M. S. J. must be aware, on second thoughts, that a private communication such as is requested is out of the province of a journalist.



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**Physician—John Webster, M.D. F.R.S.**

The benefits of Life Assurance are afforded by this Company to their utmost extent, combined with perfect security, in a fully subscribed capital of One Million sterling, besides an accumulating premium fund exceeding £24,000,000, which is annually increasing. Four-fifths of the profits are divided every seven years among the insured on the participating scale of premiums. On insurances for the whole life half the premium may remain on credit for the first ten years.

Tables of Increasing Rates have been computed on a plan peculiar to this Company, whereby assurances may be effected for the whole term of life at the least possible immediate expense.

The following table exhibits the bonus additions to a policy for 5,000*l.* at the termination of the septennial periods 1837 and 1844:—

Policy Opened in the Year	Bonus added in 1837.	Bonus added in 1844.	Total Bonus in 1844.
1831	£47 10 0	£570 18 9	£618 8 9
1832	375 0 0	664 7 6	939 7 6
1833	312 10 0	557 16 3	870 6 3
1834	250 0 0	551 5 0	801 5 0
1835	187 10 0	544 13 9	732 3 9
1836	125 0 0	538 2 6	663 2 6
1837	62 10 0	534 1 1	596 1 1
1838	..	525 0 0	525 0 0
1839	..	450 0 0	450 0 0
1840	..	375 0 0	375 0 0
1841	..	300 0 0	300 0 0
1842	..	225 0 0	225 0 0
1843	..	150 0 0	150 0 0
1844	..	75 0 0	75 0 0

The next Bonus will be made up to the 31st December, 1851, and will be declared early in 1852. Policies effected before the 31st of December next will be entitled to one year's additional share of profits over later insurances.

Prospectuses, with Tables of Rates, and every information, may be obtained at the Office.

HENRY T. THOMSON, Secretary.

## TO PEDESTRIANS, SPORTSMEN, &c.—

**PATENT PEDOMETERS** for the waistcoat pocket, at PAYNE'S, 13, New Bond-street, opposite Long's Hotel.—**NEW PATENT TRAVELLING CLOCKS**, chiming on springs in place of bells.

## ORNAMENTAL CLOCKS.—

Recently received from Paris, a large variety of Fourteen-day CLOCKS, to strike the hours and half-hours, in Ormolu, Marble and China. The designs are pastoral and historical, and include a few of great merit in the style of Louis XIV. The price is four, five, and seven guineas each, and upwards.

A. B. SAVORY & SONS, 9, Cornhill, London, opposite the Statue of the Duke of Wellington.

## DECORATIVE PAPER-HANGING MANU-FACTORY, and General Furnishing Establishment.

Carpet and Floor-cloth Warehouse, 431, Oxford-street.—E. T. ARCHER solicits an inspection of his superior PAPER-HANGINGS, (made by his patented inventions), fitted up on the walls of the very extensive range of show-rooms, in panels, &c., in every style of artistic arrangement, and in the most judicious manner. In addition the rooms are furnished with superior furniture, marked in plain figures the price, giving at one view a drawing-room fit for reception. Bed-room and other Paper-hangings, 3*d.* per yard; French and all foreign Paper-hangings, of the first fabric; Brussels and Tapestry Carpets at 3*s.* to 3*s.* 6*d.* per yard; best warranted Floor-cloth, 12 yards wide, cut to any dimensions, 2*s.* 3*d.*, 3*s.* 6*d.*, and 2*s.* 9*d.* per yard.

## APPETITE AND DIGESTION IMPROVED.

## LEA & PERRINS' WORCESTERSHIRE

**SAUCE** imparts the most exquisite relish to Steaks, Chops, and all Roast Meat Gravies, Fish, Game, Soup, Curries, and Salad, and by its tonic and invigorating properties enables the stomach to perfectly digest the food.

The daily use of this aromatic and delicious Sauce is the best safeguard to health.

Sold by the Proprietors, LEA & PERRINS, 6, Vere-street, Oxford-street, London, and 68, Broad-street, Worcester; and also by Messrs. Barclay & Sons, Messrs. Crooke & Blackwell, and other Grocers and Merchants, London; and generally by the principal Dealers in Sauce.

N.B. To guard against imitations, take the names of "Lea & Perrins" are upon the label and patent cap of the bottle.

## CARPETS.—BRIGHT & CO.'S PATENT

**POWER-LOOM BRUSSELS CARPETS.**—These Goods are strongly recommended to the Trade and the Public on the following grounds:—They are woven by steam power, and are therefore more firmly made than can be the case with hand-woven goods. They have the same good quality of worsted throughout, whereas in the common Brussels the dark colours are generally made of an inferior worsted. They are printed by a patent process and by patent machinery, and the colours are more durable, and will stand more severe tests than those of any other description of carpet. The patent printing admits of an almost unlimited variety of shades or colours; the patterns are therefore more elaborate, and there is greater scope for design. They can be offered at a price about 20 per cent. below that of goods of equal quality made in the ordinary mode. In quality, in pattern, in variety of colours, and in price the Patent Power-Loom Brussels Carpets offer great advantages to the public. Wholesale, 30, Skinner-street, Snowhill, London; 22, New Brown-street, Manchester.

## BRIGHT'S Splendid PATENT TAPESTRY

FOR CURTAINS, PORTIÈRES, &c.—LUCK, KENT & CUMMING, No. 4, Regent-street, opposite Howell & James's, have a large variety of the above material. It hangs gracefully, and is most durable for the above purposes. The price is extremely moderate. Also, a large Stock of the PATENT POWER-LOOM CARPETS, colours warranted perfectly fast, and can be offered at twenty per cent. less than Brussels of the same quality. These goods have been highly approved of by all who have purchased them.

Brussels and other Carpeting, Damasks, Chintzes, Turkey Carpets, Floor-cloth, &c.

## ROYAL BANK-BUILDINGS, LIVERPOOL, September 1850.

In September, 1840—We opened a department for the supplying of Families with Tea and Coffee—upon a principle calculated to afford the greatest advantage in Price—with every security as to Quality.

WHEN QUALITY is thus made the primary consideration—and the price fixed upon the most economical principles—we were confident that our interest—as involved in the question of Profit—would be fully secured by an increasing demand, which has been, and must be, the result of such a system—so obviously based.

THE CONSISTENT and exact judgment exercised in our method of selection and classification of qualities—have been appreciated and proved by the continually increasing extent of the FAMILY TRADE—in connexion with our Establishment. WE CANNOT refrain from directing the attention of Family Purchasers to the present anomalous state of the Tea Market.

THE FIRST COST of good and choice kinds is, at present, unusually reasonable, at the same time there is an increasing demand for the commonest BLACK TEA. This indicates that CHEAPNESS—being more regarded by many dealers than QUALITY—Disappointment is the necessary consequence to FAMILIES whose supplies are derived from parties not possessing the requisite advantages in SELECTION and PURCHASE.

## ROBT. ROBERTS & COMPANY.

Entrance up the Steps—Leading to the BANK.

NOTE.—LIVERPOOL, with its Docks, stands eminently advantageous for the Importing of Tea, the superior Shipping Trade, having Docks containing upwards of 250 *Stature Acres*—and 20 miles of Quay space, an amount of accommodation to be found in no other Port in the World.

The Low Rates of Shipping Charges and the great facility for Despatch, have already secured to the Port of Liverpool nearly the whole of the Export Trade to China.

## METCALFE'S ALKALINE TOOTH-POWDER

will be found to be the best that has yet been produced; it contains no acids, nor anything that can injure the finest enamel; it thoroughly removes the tartar and all impurities, produces that beautiful white appearance so much to be desired; and its fragrant perfume tends to sweeten and purify the breath. M. & Co. from the many years they have been celebrated as Tooth-brush Makers, had an opportunity (that few enjoy) of testing the relative merits of those powders that have been brought before the public. They have now succeeded in procuring the receipt from which the above powder is prepared, and confidently recommend its universal adoption.—Wholesale and retail at Metcalfe, Bingley & Co.'s, Broad-street, London. R. H. Prince Albert, 2*s.* per box. Caution. The genuine powder will have the Royal Arms, combined with those of R. H. Prince Albert, on the lid of the box, and the signature and address of the firm, thus, "Metcalfe, Bingley & Co., 130 *B.*, Oxford-street."

## PERFECT HEALTH RESTORED WITHOUT MEDICINE.

Inconvenience, or Expense, by DU BARRY'S delicious REVALENTA ARABICA FOOD, which saves 50 times its cost in other remedies.

A few out of 50,000 Testimonials.

"Twenty-five years' Nervousness, Constipation, Indigestion, and Debility, from which I have suffered great misery, and which no medicine could remove or relieve, have been effectually cured by DU BARRY'S HEALTH-RESTORING FOOD, in a very short time. W. R. REXFORD, Pool, Dorset. I have suffered 15 years' dyspepsia, nervousness, debility, with cramps, spasms, and nausea, for which my servant had consulted the advice of many, have been effectually removed by Du Barry's delicious Health-restoring Food in a very short time. I shall be happy to answer any inquiries.—REV. JOHN W. ELVILL, Ridlington Rectory, Norfolk. Three years' excessive nervousness, with pains in my neck and left arm, and general debility, which rendered my life very miserable, has been radically removed by Du Barry's Health-restoring Food.—ALEX. S. STUART, Archdeacon of Ross, Skibbereen. Similar Testimonials from Lord Stuart de Decazes, Major-General Thomas King, Edmund, M. Samuel Barlow, Dr. Barlow, on a cure of 30 years' dyspepsia, constipation, flatulency, and irritability; William Hunt, Esq. Barrister-at-Law, King's College, Cambridge, who after suffering 60 years from a partial paralysis, has regained the use of his limbs in a very short time upon this excellent food; the Rev. Charles Kerr, of Winslow, Essex.—Dr. Barlow, on a cure of 30 years' dyspepsia, constipation, flatulency, and irritability; William Hunt, Esq. Barrister-at-Law, King's College, Cambridge, who after suffering 60 years from a partial paralysis, has regained the use of his limbs in a very short time upon this excellent food; the Rev. Charles Kerr, of Winslow, Essex.—Dr. Barlow, on a cure of 30 years' dyspepsia, constipation, flatulency, and irritability; William Hunt, Esq. Barrister-at-Law, King's College, Cambridge, who after suffering 60 years from a partial paralysis, has regained the use of his limbs in a very short time upon this excellent food; the Rev. 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## PREPARATIONS IN GERMANY FOR THE

EXPOSITION OF 1851.—In the ART-JOURNAL for November will be found a Tour of the Editor in Germany, and a Report concerning the state of the Industrial Arts, and the preparations there making for the Exhibition of 1851.

## THE ART-JOURNAL FOR NOVEMBER

contains an Engraving on Steel of the Marble Bust by Mr. Durham of Miss Janet Linch, with two engravings from paintings by Wilson and Wilkie in the VERNON GALLERY.

THE following LETTER has been circulated by the Editor of the ART-JOURNAL among the Manufacturers of Great Britain, the continent of Europe, and America:—

SIR,—I beg to apprise you that I am now actively arranging to report very fully the Exhibition of the Industry of All Nations to be held in London in 1851—by means of writing and illustrating, by fine Engraving on Wood, all the more prominent and meritorious objects contributed by Manufacturers: I design to issue Supplementary Parts (or double numbers) of THE ART-JOURNAL, each Part to consist of at least 32 quarto pages, and containing between 250 and 300 Engravings. These Engravings will be produced without cost to the Manufacturer.

It will be only necessary for the Manufacturer to supply me with drawings of the principal objects he designs to exhibit, together with such information concerning his establishment as it may benefit him to communicate; but it is essential that these drawings be received at the earliest possible period, in order that they may be in all respects worthily executed and carefully printed.

When these illustrated Reports have been issued with THE ART-JOURNAL, they will be collected into a Volume, which Volume will be—as a Catalogue of its most beautiful and valuable specimens—a permanent record of the Exhibition, and a key to the most meritorious Manufacturers of all parts of the world.

I have already visited the several States of Germany, and am about to visit Belgium, Holland, and France, and other countries, in order that these Reports may be as perfect as possible.

If you will be so good—with us this delay as your convenience will permit—to communicate with me on this subject, you will essentially forward my plan, and enable me to do justice to your products by obtaining Engravings of them in time to secure accuracy of copy and delicacy of finish. It may be well to add that none of the Engravings will appear until the 1st May, 1851.

I have the honour to be, Sir, your faithful servant,

THE EDITOR OF THE ART-JOURNAL.

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You would take his Valet de Chambre for his Brother, his Butler is grey-headed, his Groom is one of the gravest Men that I have ever seen, and his Coachman has the Looks of a Privy Counsellor.

THE COVERLEY GUEST.

As I was Yesterday Morning walking with Sir Roger before his House, a Country-Fellow brought him a huge Fish.

THE COVERLEY LINEAGE.

We were now arrived at the Upper-end of the Gallery, when the Knight faced towards one of the Pictures, and as we stood before it, he entered into the matter, after his blunt way.

THE COVERLEY SABBATH.

As Sir Roger is Landlord to the whole Congregation, he keeps them in very good Order, and will suffer nobody to sleep in it besides himself.

SIR ROGER IN LOVE.

Her Confidant sat by her, and upon my being in the last Confusion and Silence, this malicious Aid of hers turning to her.

THE COVERLEY HUNT.

The Huntsman getting forward threw down his Pole before the Dogs. At the same time Sir Roger rode forward, and alighting took up the Hare in his Arms.

THE COVERLEY WITCH.

I could not forbear smiling to hear Sir Roger, who is a little puzzled about the old Woman, advising her as a Justice of Peace to avoid all Communication with the Devil.

A COVERLEY LOVE MATCH.

We saw a young Woman sitting as it were in a personated Sullenness just over a transparent Fountain. Opposite to her stood Mr. William, Sir Roger's Master of the Game.

SIR ROGER AND THE GIPSIES.

One of them, who was older and more Sun-burnt than the rest, told him, That he had a Widow in his Line of Life.

COVERLEY HALL AT CHRISTMAS TIME.

I love to rejoice their poor Hearts at this season, and to see the whole Village merry in my great Hall.

SIR ROGER IN WESTMINSTER ABBEY.

My old Friend sat himself down in the Coronation Chair: and asked our Interpreter, what authority they had to say, that Jacob had ever been in Scotland? The Fellow, instead of returning him an Answer, told him, that he hoped his Honour would pay his Forfeit.

SIR ROGER PASSETH AWAY.

It was a most moving sight to see him take leave of his poor Servants, commending us all for our Fidelity, whilst we were not able to speak a word for weeping.

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LONDON, SATURDAY, OCTOBER 26, 1850.

## REVIEWS

*Royalty and Republicanism in Italy; or, Notes and Documents relating to the Lombard Insurrection, and to the Royal War of 1848.* By Joseph Mazzini. Gilpin.

THE writer describes these papers, speeches, and other memoranda as being notes—not history. Properly speaking, they are what he calls them; for he seems to have jotted down his thoughts, reflections on events, corrections of mis-statements, without regard to the rules of literary art or to the exigencies of any species of established writing. But rough and undeliberate as they appear at first sight, the reader will find that they throw a clearer and more convincing light on the great events of the Italian Revolution than any set of papers or volumes which have yet appeared in England. The volume contains—and this is its chief fault—too little of Mazzini himself. If we are not misled by report, the Triumvir's personal adventures have been most romantic, not only while he ruled in the capital of the Christian world as its unquestioned master,—but when he was a common soldier in the corps of Giacomo Medici, under Garibaldi,—and after his departure from Rome, in his retreats among the alps and lakes of Switzerland. Into these matters, however, we have no right given us to pry:—but what belongs to European history is public property. The writer of course must be allowed to adopt his own plans. Better than we can, he must know what it is safe to reveal and what it is prudent to keep back, so long as the great drama in which he plays one of the chief parts is still in progress. Yet, after reading his lucid and logical exposure of the causes of the Lombard insurrection—of the intrigues of Charles Albert and his agents to defeat the national cause—and of the reasonings of the republicans, with the attitude which they took and held during the contest—we cannot but regret that, on public grounds and in behalf of historic truth, Signor Mazzini has not thought proper to embrace in his notes the entire series of events between the expulsion of the Croats from Milan and the entry of the French into Rome. Much of darkness and doubt yet broods along this chain of revolutions. Not a little error and misconception as to the conduct of persons and of parties in Northern Italy is here removed.—For the affairs of Venice and Naples new illustrations are not so much required:—Pepe and other writers of the democratic party having already published in their personal memoirs the principal facts and the documents which substantiate them. But from Milan to Rome the insurrectional movement is a comparative mystery; and of that brilliant defence of the Italian capital which revived the old glories of republican Italy a thousand things require to be told about which at present we have only a confused notion. We want an exact and graphic picture of that marvellous siege drawn from the patriotic point of view. Some glimpses of this we get in the letters addressed by the Triumvir to members of the National Assembly in Paris,—translations of which appear in this volume; but we long to see the machinery employed as well as the results achieved,—to be present, as it were, at the internal organization and march of events as well as at the mere military spectacle. We desire to know how a beleaguered city, in the absence of all ordinary laws and rules, was kept in a state of peace and internal activity—factions repressed and conspiracies checked—without martial punishments, proscription, or apparently any other species of terror. Nor would it be

less interesting to know how those regiments were raised, equipped and disciplined in a few weeks which served to defeat and disperse the regular armies of Naples, and to stand before the veteran soldiers of France long enough not only to earn applause from the admiring civilians of Europe, but to confound the calculations of experienced generals and extort praise from the exasperated troops who had served their apprenticeship in war against the redoubted Abdel Kader. All this Signor Mazzini might have told us:—and even a heap of loose notes on the subject would have been a most valuable and seasonable addition to the history of the Italian Revolution.

But, to return to what is now more immediately under notice.—In a general preface Signor Mazzini sketches what he conceives to be the true reading of his country's history,—the tendency which that history indicates,—and the character which it foreshadows for all institutions that are to take root and flourish among its people. The leading conclusion at which he arrives from this survey is—that the Italian mind is essentially republican in its organization. The result is stated and illustrated with vivacity and force. The following passage recapitulates the argument.—

“The Italian tradition is eminently republican. In England, the aristocratic element has a powerful influence, because it has a history: well or ill, it has organized society: it has created a power, snatched from royalty, by conquering guarantees for the rights of the subject; it has founded in part the wealth and the influence of England abroad. The monarchical element has still great influence over the tendencies of France, because it also claims an important page in the national history; it has produced a Charlemagne, a Louis XI., a Napoleon; it has contributed to found the unity of France; it has shared with the communes the risks and the honours of the struggle against feudalism; it has surrounded the national banner with a halo of military glory. What is the history of the monarchy and of the aristocracy of Italy? What prominent part have they played in the national development? What vital element have they supplied to Italian strength, or to the unification of the future existence of Italy? The history of our royalty in fact commences with the dominion of Charles V., with the downfall of our last liberties; it is identified with servitude and dismemberment; it is written on a foreign page, in the cabinets of France, of Austria, and of Spain. Nearly all of them the issue of foreign families, viceroys of one or other of the great powers, our kings do not offer the example of a single individual redeeming by brilliant personal qualities the vice of subalternity, to which his position condemned him; not a single one who has ever evinced any grand national aspiration. Around them in the obscurity of their courts, gather idle or retrograde courtiers, men who call themselves *noble*, but who have never been able to constitute an aristocracy. An aristocracy is a compact independent body, representing in itself an idea, and from one extremity of the country to another, governed, more or less, by one and the same inspiration: our nobles have lived upon the crumbs of royal favour, and if on some rare occasions they have ventured to place themselves in opposition to the monarch, it has not been in the cause of the nation, but of the foreigner, or of clerical absolutism. The nobility can never be regarded as an historical element: it has furnished some fortunate *Condottieri*, powerful even to tyranny, in some isolated town; it has knelt at the feet of the foreign emperors who have passed the Alps or crossed the sea. The original stock being nearly everywhere extinct, the races have become degenerated amidst corruption and ignorance. The descendants of our noble families at Genoa, at Naples, at Venice and at Rome, are, for the most part specimens of absolute intellectual nullity. Almost everything that has worked its difficult way in art, in literature, or in political activity, is plebeian. In Italy the initiative of progress has always belonged to the people, to the

democratic element. It is through her communes that she has acquired all she has ever had of liberty: through her workmen in wool or silk, through her merchants of Genoa, Florence, Venice, and Pisa, that she has acquired her wealth; through her artists, plebeian and republican, from Giotto to Michael Angelo, that she has acquired her renown; through her navigators,—plebeian,—that she has given a world to humanity; through her Popes—sons of the people even they—that until the twelfth century she aided in the emancipation of the weak, and sent forth a word of unity to humanity: all her memories of insurrection against the foreigner are memories of the people: all that has made the greatness of our towns, dates almost always from a republican epoch: the educational book, the only book read by the inhabitant of the Alps or the Trans-tyberin who can read, is an abridgment of the history of the Ancient Roman Republic. This is the reason why the same men who have so long been accused of coldness, and who had in fact witnessed with indifference the aristocratic and royal revolutions of 1820 and 1821, arose with enthusiasm and with a true power of self-sacrifice at the cry of *St. Mark and the Republic, God and the People!*”

After this passage, it is almost unnecessary to say that Signor Mazzini has no faith in the present race of Italian princes and aristocrats. In England, and even in Italy, it has been constantly asserted that he ruined the cause of his country by withholding his support from Charles Albert during the war, on the plea that the King of Sardinia was fighting, not for the independence of Lombardy, but to add a new crown to that already worn by the House of Savoy. This charge is here met, and contradicted by facts which seriously implicate the honour of the deceased sovereign. The writer undertakes to show from State papers, and chiefly from the correspondence of English ministers, that Charles Albert took the field for the purpose of combating the republic and saving crowned heads from the retributive justice which threatened them in all parts of Europe. Signor Mazzini has had good opportunities of knowing the unfortunate prince in question,—and thus judges his character.—

“I speak not of the *King*; whatever his adulators, and the political hypocrites who are now making the posthumous enthusiasm for Charles Albert, an arm of opposition against his successor—may attempt to say, however sincere the people of the kingdom of Piedmont may be in their illusion, that the idea of the war of independence is symbolized in that name; the judgment of posterity will weigh heavily upon the man of 1821, of 1833—of the capitulation of Milan. The nature, the temperament of the individual was such, as to exclude all hope of any enterprise on his part, for the Unity of Italy. Genius, love, and faith, were wanting in Charles Albert. Of the first, which reveals itself by a life entirely, logically, and resolutely devoted to a great idea, the career of Charles Albert does not offer the least trace; the second was stifled in him by the continual mistrust of men and things; which was awakened by the remembrance of an unhappy past; the last was denied him by his uncertain character, wavering always between good and evil, between *to do* and *not to do*, between daring and not daring. In his youth, a thought, not of virtue but of Italian ambition—the ambition however which may be profitable to nations—had passed through his soul like lightning; but he recoiled in affright, and the remembrance of this one brilliant moment of his youth presented itself hourly to him, and tortured him like the incessant throbbing of an old wound, instead of acting upon him as an excitement to a new life. Between the risk of losing, if he failed, the crown of his little kingdom, and the fear of the liberty which the people, after having fought for him, would claim for themselves, he went hesitating on, with this spectre before his eyes, stumbling at every step, without energy to confront these dangers, without the will or power to comprehend that to become King of Italy, he must first of all forget that he was King of Piedmont. Despotic from rooted instinct, liberal from self-love, and from a presentiment



of the future, he submitted alternately to the government of Jesuits, and to that of men of progress. A fatal disunion between thought and action, between conception and the faculty of execution, showed itself in every act. Most of those who endeavoured to place him at the head of the enterprise, were forced to agree to this view of his character. Some of those intimate with him went so far as to whisper that he was threatened with lunacy. He was the Hamlet of Monarchy."

No man, however, lost more by the revolution than Charles Albert. Whatever his weaknesses and his faults, he atoned for them bitterly by a forced abdication—exile—a broken heart—and a premature death. He sought an extension of his own little kingdom,—and for that was willing to fight to the best of his poor ability. He failed ignominiously. With the grave, personal resentments should cease; and there is nothing to be more approved of in these memoranda of strife and factious persecution than the calm and passionless tone in which the dead are personally dealt with by the writer. But against the ideas which inspired the policy of the dead Mazzini holds himself at liberty to inveigh. If the past is to be the guide of the future, its lessons must be clearly indicated; and, Hungary perhaps excepted, there is no nation that needs to ponder over its own annals with more candour and frequency than Italy. The main fact which in Signor Mazzini's opinion the late revolutions have developed is,—that the republicans only can free the land from the dominion of the Croat, and make Italy a nation.

Mazzini endeavours to show that at Milan the republicans were always out of favour and their opinions slighted. His own counsels were rejected. The sword of Garibaldi was refused by the King's partisans lest its owner's valour and success might tend to inflame the democratic sentiment of the army. In the hour of his greatest distress Charles Albert would not trust the people of Lombardy with arms. For example.—

"The news of the fall of Udine had struck all minds with terror. At midnight I was summoned to the government, where I found several influential Republicans assembled. It was necessary, said the members of the government, to raise the country, to prepare it for a tremendous effort, to call upon it to save itself by its own force,—and they asked us to indicate the means. I wrote on a scrap of paper several things, which I believed would contribute to the end to be attained; but declared that they would be inefficacious if the government charged itself with their execution. 'God alone,' continued I, 'can bring forth life from death. Your government is deservedly discredited. Until now, you have done everything to weaken enthusiasm, and to create, by falsehood, a fatal security; and you cannot suddenly start up and preach the people's war and crusade, without causing the cry of *treason* to be uttered by the masses. New measures, new men.' I ask for no dismissals, which just now would look like flight; but choose three men, monarchists or republicans, it matters not, but men who *know and will*, and who, if not beloved, at any rate are not despised by the people; and under the pretext of the enormity of your labours, or under any pretext you will, let them be charged with all care and authority in the affairs of the war. From them let all the measures I have now proposed to you emanate; to-morrow, we will rally round them, and be their guarantees towards the people.' One of the means proposed was levies *en masse* of the five classes; whilst the government thought it was doing too much by calling out the three first only, and putting off the convocation of the whole until the month of August, because then the peasants would have had time to gather their harvest. They added this blasphemy, that the peasants were Austrian at heart; whilst the poor peasants of the two first classes were revolting against the surgeons who rejected some of them as not fit for service! I insisted that at least another appeal should be made to the volunteers, and offered myself as guarantee, feeling sure that the

example would be followed in all the towns, by engaging to form a legion of a thousand volunteers at Milan, provided I was allowed to placard the appeal, and to inscribe my name as the first. 'I retired, applauded, and with a promise of assent. Two days after the consent for the enrolment of the volunteers was recalled, and as for the Council of War, it was transformed into a *Committee of Defence for Venetia*, and then into a *Committee of Aid for Venetia*; composed of members of the government, and then it disappeared. Castagneto, Charles Albert's secretary and *factotum*, had said, 'that the King did not choose to have an army of enemies in his rear.' Did space permit, I could cite many other similar examples." It was so throughout. The King was fighting for himself, not for Italy; and he would receive no aid that did not come in the shape of personal service. When he gave up Milan to the Austrians, Mazzini quitted that city,—and for some time it was not known to friend or enemy what had befallen him. For an account of his re-appearance we are indebted to a letter of Giacomo Medici, subsequently one of the heroes of Rome. Part of it runs as follows.—

"On the morning of the 3rd of August 1848, Garibaldi, with his division, was just about to quit Bergamo, in order, by forced marches, to reach Monza, when we saw appear amongst us, carbine on shoulder, Mazzini, asking to join our ranks as a simple soldier of the legion. I commanded, which was to form the vanguard of the division of Garibaldi. A general acclamation saluted the great Italian, and the legion unanimously confided its banner, which bore the device, 'God and the People,' to his charge. As soon as Mazzini's arrival was known at Bergamo, the population ran to see him. They pressed around him, they begged him to speak. All those who heard him must remember his discourse. He recommended raising barricades to defend the town in case of attack, whilst we should march upon Milan; and he conjured them, whatever might arrive, to love Italy always, and never to despair of her redemption. His words were received with enthusiasm, and the column left amid marks of the deepest sympathy. The march was very fatiguing—rain fell in torrents, and we were drenched to the skin. Although accustomed to a life of study, and little adapted to the violent exercise of forced marches, his constancy and serenity never forsook him for an instant, and notwithstanding our counsels, for we feared for his physical strength, he would never stop, nor leave the column. It happened even that seeing one of our youngest volunteers clothed merely in linen, and who consequently had no protection against the rain and the sudden cold, he forced him to accept and wear his own cloak. Arrived at Monza, we learned the fatal news of the capitulation of Milan, and heard that a numerous body of Austrian cavalry had been sent against us, and was already at the other side, at the gates of Monza. Garibaldi, very inferior in forces, not wishing to expose his small body to a complete and useless destruction, gave orders to fall back upon Como, and placed me with my column as rear-guard, in order to cover the retreat. "In this march, full of danger and difficulty, the strength of soul, intrepidity and decision which Mazzini possesses in such a high degree, never failed, and were the admiration of the bravest among us. His presence, his words, the example of his courage animated our young soldiers, who were besides proud of partaking such dangers with him; and all decided, Mazzini amongst the first, in case of an engagement, to perish to the last man for the defence of a faith of which he had been the apostle, and for which he was ready to become the martyr. This resolute determination contributed much to maintain the order and the firm attitude which saved the rest of the division."

Six months later, Mazzini, as virtual dictator of the Roman world, planted that flag on the summit of the Capitol.

Of the series of striking events in Rome we have here but few accounts,—and none at all of the heroic defence of Bologna and Ancona. Among the charges that obtained the largest credence in Europe at the time, was the assertion, that those who expelled the Pope and founded the Republic were aliens and refugees,

conspirators by habit and anarchists from self-interest;—in short, that the Roman Revolution was the work of foreigners. To this charge Mazzini indignantly replies in his well-known letter to the French ministers. Warm, eloquent, and rhetorical like nearly all Signor Mazzini's compositions,—this letter throughout breathes a spirit of scornful and righteous contempt, unusual with him,—but the use of which, under such provocation, history will in all probability sanction. Among the sadder fruits of the European revolutions was, the decline in public estimation of some names which the European world had held in honour; and not the least sad, was the spectacle of a man like M. de Tocqueville lending the weight of his great reputation to countenance a falsehood for the sake of serving the interests of a party.

To the historian Signor Mazzini's notes and memoranda will be of great value,—the general reader will find them full of present interest. The translations are made with faithfulness and spirit.

*The Interlude of the Trial of Treasure. From the Black-letter Edition of 1567. Edited by J. O. Halliwell, Esq. Printed for the Percy Society.*

We must own that we do not quite like the way in which the Percy Society has lately brought out its books:—too little pains have been taken with the editing of them. They have been mere reprints,—and those not accurate; so that however worthy the originals may have been, the Society's copies have been very defective. Take the instance before us.—'The Trial of Treasure' is an interlude of very early date—considerably earlier than the time when it first came from the press of Thomas Purfoote in 1567,—and well meriting to be rescued from the chance of destruction by a modern multiplication of the two or three ancient copies. What, however, does Mr. Halliwell do? He takes an exemplar avowedly imperfect, and, after an introduction of a page and a half, he reprints that exemplar,—telling us at the same time that there is a more perfect copy in the British Museum, and adding a few notes at the end to show how many blunders and omissions are contained in the very text which he has furnished. He says, that his reprint was made "before it was noticed that a copy in the British Museum contained several variations and superior readings. These were the more important, settling in some places the distribution of the speeches with greater accuracy than they were arranged in the exemplar we used." Mr. Halliwell must know that this is not the way in which a reprint ought to be edited,—especially coming from a Society which some years ago had obtained a character not only for the value but for the accuracy of its publications. Mr. Collier called attention to this interlude twenty years ago, and showed how much older it was than the date which it bore,—an editor in our day has therefore the less excuse for not availing himself of the most perfect copy that he could procure.

Mr. Halliwell informs us, moreover, that the copy which he used was formerly in the possession of A. Steevens; and we presume, from his adding that it was "cropped," that it was a printed copy—otherwise we should have supposed it a manuscript, and a very bad manuscript too. As a printed copy it must, however, be curious, since it establishes that Purfoote put forth two impressions in the same year:—that used by Mr. Halliwell, very defective,—and that in the Museum, much more accurate. Possibly the censure bestowed on Purfoote's defective copy induced him to pub-



lish his more accurate one: had it not been so, we should probably have had nothing better in our public libraries than Mr. Halliwell's reprint, or the very erroneous edition from which it was made. Not a few of the so-called variations between the text of the two copies read to us like mere blunders in some careless transcript. Thus, at p. 4, we have—"But luste with the luster," instead of "luster," which is the correct word. In the next page we have "Cock Lorrell" instead of "Cock Lorrell,"—about whom the Percy Society some time since reprinted a tract; and at p. 15 we actually have a whole line omitted, while a period is placed after "declaration," making nonsense of the passage,—when it ought to be followed by this line, which is only found in Mr. Halliwell's note—

"But howe he is bowed by me, Inclination."

Again, at p. 19 we have merely the words "But lust is" at the beginning of a line, filled up by a succession of dots, instead of the words "lusty and full of porridge." This last is perhaps one of the places where the exemplar used by Mr. Halliwell is "cropped;" and we may rejoice that the one in the Museum is not in the same unfortunate predicament.

We really wish that this better copy had been preferred; because, of its kind the production before us is a singular and characteristic one, including sixteen allegorical characters, so arranged that only five actors were required to fill them,—a fact duly noticed on the title-page. We will just add a slight sketch of the plot, that our readers may see at once the nature of these representations,—which, as most people know, were called "Moralities," on account of the moral they enforced.—Lust is overcome by Just in a wrestling match,—and the former fetches Sturdiness to assist him; but meeting by the way with Inclination (the Vice or Clown of the piece), he introduces Lust to Elation and Greedyness. Then follows a scene in which Just, aided by Sapience, in vain endeavours to correct Inclination, and finally compels him to take the bit of the bridle of restraint into his mouth. In this helpless condition he is found by Lust, who restores Inclination to liberty,—and in return Inclination introduces Lust to Lady Treasure and Pleasure her brother. God's Visitation (personified like the rest) deprives Pleasure of Treasure, and Time entering converts Treasure into rust and dust. The simplicity of the construction in this performance is not the least remarkable part of it.—

Enter Time, with a similitude of dust and rust.

Time. Beholde here howe Luste is converted to duste, This is his image, his wealth and prosperitie;  
And Treasure, in like case, is turned to ruste,  
Whereof this example sheweth the veritie.  
The Triall of Treasure this is, no doubt:  
Let all men take hede that trust in the same,  
Considering what thinges I Tyme, bringe aboute,  
And quench out the angodly, their memory, and fame."

Of course, we here quote Mr. Halliwell's edition, avoiding his objectionable punctuation,—which is neither (we apprehend) copied from the original, nor, as far as we see, regulated on any principle. After a brief moralization between Just and Contentation, we come at once to the Epilogue (if such it may be called) enforcing the lesson which the performance was intended to convey.

We are not sure how far the reprinting of plays comes correctly within the province of the Percy Society—certainly they have not hitherto done themselves as much credit as could be wished by such as they have put forth. This, however, is a question of little importance: we are anxious only that, when they do reprint dramatic works they should take the pains to give us the best text,—not content themselves with giving a bad one, and adding that

they did not know there was a better until after the bad text had gone through their printer's hands. The Trial of Treasure was worth not only the trouble which the editor bestowed, as we have said, on it, but a great deal more than perhaps his leisure (we say nothing of his knowledge) permitted him to afford.

*Organon of Medicine.* By Samuel Hahnemann. Translated by R. E. Dudgeon, M.D. Headland.

*Homœopathy in Acute Diseases.* By S. Yeldham.—Baillière.

*Homœopathy Unmasked.* By A. Wood, M.D. Edinburgh, Menzies.

It is an instructive and not uninteresting occupation to watch the reactionary tendencies of an age, whether exhibited in nations with regard to political institutions or in smaller communities or classes of mankind. It seems a law, that neither what is good nor what is true can command the adhesion of the whole, or even of the great majority, of any section of human society in which it may be presented. There is always an opposition more or less complete. This arises from the fact, that a perception of right and truth is the possession of comparatively few minds,—and while the new views propounded by these minds are making their way amongst the mass, the more clever of those who have no sense of justice or truth gain importance and influence by appealing against them to those whose interests are affected thereby. A wholesome revolution occurs, initiated by noble minds,—its principles spread,—its great objects are about to be attained; when, suddenly resistance springs up,—a re-action takes place,—and the truths announced seem in danger of being lost for ever. It is the same in the progress of science. New discoveries upset the material interests founded on old principles,—re-action takes place at the bidding of those interests,—and the new discovery is ignored or denied. In the professions we have illustrations of the same law. In the Church such exhibitions have been common, and the re-action of Puseyism in the English Church at the present moment can be clearly traced to the progress of the great principles of the Reformation amongst us. Medicine, too, has had its reactionary movements,—and one of the most remarkable in its history is going on at this time. Although at first sight it would be thought that medicine would be one of the earliest of human occupations to yield to the influence of the progress of the natural sciences, yet we find that till the beginning of the present century, with some brilliant exceptions, the bulk of those who practised medicine were either ignorant of the resources of their art or, trammelled by the jargon of the schools. The discoveries of Harvey and Jenner, and the increase of knowledge in anatomy, did little to emancipate the medical mind from the influence of hypotheses and dogmatic assumptions which had nothing to recommend them but the distinguished names of their promulgators. The recent discoveries, however, of the chemist and physiologist have served to upset the accumulated fabric of ages; and the time is fast passing away when the practitioner of medicine will consent to stake the lives of his patients on a treatment resulting from the dictum of any man, however great his name, unless it will bear the test of modern science.

But the period of specious hypotheses and unmeaning assertions in lieu of true principles and facts could not be expected to disappear without the customary re-action, and accordingly we find the clever adventurers and weak heads of the profession gathering around the propositions of Hahnemann with as much reverence as their forefathers showed for similar

empiricisms from the days of Hippocrates and Paracelsus down to those of Cullen and Brown. The homœopathic principle, as it is called, of "*similia similibus curantur*" is precisely of the same character with the generalizations of the old Greeks in those departments of science in which they knew nothing,—and might be paralleled by a hundred assertions of a like sententious kind. In fact, this very discovery of Hahnemann's is an ancient hypothesis. It may be found announced in a work attributed to Hippocrates himself, and has often since been acted on. To demonstrate its absurdity, we need but inquire into its meaning. "Like cures like" is the English translation of the oracular sentence. What is meant here by the word "like"? Is it identity,—or resemblance? Neither Hahnemann nor his disciples pretend to tell us,—but they use illustrations which show that they employ the words in any sense that may suit them. Suppose, however, we could determine the meaning of this mysterious word:—it expresses a property, and needs an object. Is it like diseases that cure like diseases? Then, what is disease? Any complete definition of disease must embrace its causes and the history of the changes produced by them in the human body. Hahnemann's dogma is evidently a mere juggle of words if a knowledge of disease does not precede its application. Yet where is the man at the present day not an arrant blockhead who would say that he is acquainted with the causes and nature of the changes of one single disease to which the human frame is subject? Till he can do so, the principle of Hahnemann is a dead letter:—dead it is to all the intents and purposes of the practice of medicine. We believe that many who vaunt the efficacy of their nostrums are really the dupes of their own folly; but we have the greatest difficulty in believing, if Hahnemann was the man of science that he is represented to have been by his followers, that he could have believed in the applicability of his adopted law. If he did, we must place him amongst the weakest—if he did not, amongst the wickedest—of mankind.

The attempt made by Hahnemann to substantiate his law by experiment is perhaps one of the grossest ever made by an empiric, whether in or out of the profession. He asserted that certain substances when administered by the mouth were capable of producing the diseases which they are destined to cure. In his '*Materia Medica*,' the work in which he professes to give the facts on which his principle rests, he gives an account of the effect of certain substances on the healthy system,—and according to the effects thus assumed to be produced are the remedies to be administered in disease. It is this body of facts on which the homœopathic practitioners rely. If asked how they know that charcoal, salt, sulphur, sponge, and other potent remedies which they administer are adapted to the diseases in which they give them, they tell you that Hahnemann made out their properties by experiment. Hence the importance of this book and the necessity that it should be free from all suspicion. But what is the fact? It is in this very book that the author makes the absurd announcement, that the effects of remedies are enhanced by the diminution of their dose. If the utter want of foundation for the principle had not arrested belief in the dogma, surely this statement ought at once to have led to the rejection of the facts on which it is said to be founded. This second assertion is founded on no facts. No proof whatever is given of its truth; but the hypothesis of the possible change of the particles of matter by friction is employed to give a colour to the assumption. Then follow the details of giving



doses so small that the imagination is lost in endeavouring to grasp their minuteness. This part of the work is most astounding,—and reminds us forcibly of the saying, that for a falsehood to be believed it needs only to be impudent enough. Men and women are here placed in circumstances which alone would produce severe derangements of the system: they are given the 10,000,000th part of a grain of salt, charcoal, sulphur, or some other inert substance, every three or four hours,—and every symptom of which they complain, or disease which they may contract, or mental process which they may undergo, is chronicled as the result of the remedy. The effects of infinitesimal doses of common salt are something dreadful. "Wasting of the body,—violent pain of the head,—typhoid fever,—melancholy,—hatred of those from whom injuries have been long ago received,—squinting,—paralysis,—and warts on the hands"—are a mere selection from the awful array. Effects equally powerful and decisive are attributed to the same doses of other inert substances.—A glance at this book is sufficient to convince any intelligent mind that every part of the system fails of proof and is made up of assumed principles and inconsequential facts.

If any one be not satisfied with the evidence afforded by Hahnemann in his work on the action of medicine that he has to do with a deluded man or an impostor, let him turn to the 'Organon.' Here he will find an introduction in which the author attacks what he calls the allopathic practitioners,—those who adopt the principle of "*contraria contrariis curantur*." As in the statement of his own doctrine, he proceeds entirely on assumption,—and misrepresents those whom he designs to injure. He complains that the medical men of his time have no guiding principle in the administration of medicines,—and then attacks them for following a wrong one. He then proceeds to show that when allopaths, as he is pleased to call them, cure, it is by homœopathic remedies. This part of his work might or might not have been deemed learned in an age when there was no experimental inquiry at all into the action of medicines,—but we should think there is scarcely a tyro in medical study who would not be able to detect the writer's ignorance of every fact that constitutes medicine a science at the present day.

The physiology on which the homœopathic principle is grafted is just as hypothetical as the principle itself. Hahnemann ('Organon,' p. 115.) assumes the existence of a vital force,—and says that the body "derives all sensation and performs all the functions of life solely by means of the immaterial being (the vital force) which animates the material organism in health and disease. When a person falls ill, it is only this spiritual, self-acting (automatic) vital force, everywhere present in his organism, that is primarily deranged." As a consequence of this assumption, he proceeds to work out a system of physiology and pathology; selecting, as he goes along, whatever statements, true or untrue, have been made by others and are adapted to his purpose. To show the universality of his law, he gives the following very conclusive facts.—

"How is it that in the early dawn the brilliant Jupiter vanishes from the gaze of the beholder? By a stronger very similar power acting on his optic nerve, the brightness of approaching day!—In situations replete with fetid odours, wherewith it is usual to soothe effectually the offended olfactory nerves? With snuff, that affects the sense of smell in a similar but stronger manner! No music, no sugared cake, which act on the nerves of other senses, can cure this nausea caused by the disgusting odour.—How does the warrior cunningly banish the piteous cries of him who runs the gauntlet from the ears of

the compassionate bystanders? By the shrill notes of the life, commingled with the roll of the noisy drum! And the distant roar of the enemy's cannon, that inspires his army with fear? By the mimic thunder of the big drum! For neither the one nor the other would the distribution of a brilliant piece of uniform nor a reprimand to the regiment suffice.—In like manner, mourning and sorrow will be effaced from the mind by the account of another and still greater cause for sorrow happening to another, even though it be a mere fiction. The injurious consequences of too great joy will be removed by drinking coffee, which produces an excessively joyous state of mind.—Nations like the Germans, who have for centuries been gradually sinking deeper and deeper in soulless apathy and degrading serfdom, must first be trodden still deeper in the dust by the Western Conqueror, until their situation became intolerable; their mean opinion of themselves was thereby overstrained and removed; they again became alive to their dignity as men, and then, for the first time, they raised their heads as Germans."

Our readers would scarcely expect that in our day a teacher, dealing with a trick so suspicious on its very face as homœopathy, could conjure successfully with arguments like these. They have a sound of the travelling platform and the fair.

As the infinitesimal dose part of the system is sometimes denied by persons employing the medicines of the homœopath, and as some of the pretended practitioners of this system of medicine have recourse to larger doses, we give the statement of the doctrine from the mouth of the great oracle himself.—

"The homœopathic system of medicine develops for its use, to an unheard-of degree, the spiritual medicinal powers of the crude substances by means of a process peculiar to it, and which has hitherto never been tried, whereby only they all become penetratingly efficacious and serviceable, even those that in the crude state gave no evidence of the slightest medicinal power on the human body. Thus two drops of the fresh vegetable juice mingled with equal parts of alcohol are diluted with ninety-eight drops of alcohol and potentized by means of two successions, whereby the first development of power is formed, and this process is repeated through twenty-nine more phials, each of which is filled three quarters full with ninety-nine drops of alcohol, and each succeeding phial is to be provided with one drop from the preceding phial (which has already been shaken twice) and is in its turn shaken, and in the same manner at last the thirtieth development of power (potentized decillionth dilution  $\bar{X}$ ) which is the one most generally used."

For what manner of audiences can jargon like this possibly be fitted? If this were the satire, instead of the doctrine, it would scarcely have ventured on such extravagance of exposure. Can any intelligent being maintain that a belief in this development of spiritual medicinal powers by "succussion" is a whit more rational than a belief in witchcraft or in metallic tractors? Hahnemann gravely adds, in a note to this passage, that he purposely recommended two successions,—and that he had known practitioners who taking medicines about in their pockets had thus produced so large a number of successions as frightfully to increase their potency and action on the system.

Have those who practise, or are practised on by, this system ever seriously reflected on the nature of the dose administered by Hahnemann's thirtieth dilution? The mind cannot conceive of it,—and we quote the following passage from Dr. Wood's 'Homœopathy Unmasked' to assist in the process.—

"A billion of moments have not yet elapsed since the creation of the world,—and, to produce a decillion, that number must be multiplied by a million seven separate times. The distance between the earth and the sun is ninety-five millions of miles; twenty of the homœopathic globules, laid side by side, extend to about an inch, so that 158,400,000,000 such glo-

bules would reach from the earth to the sun. But when the thirtieth dilution is practised, each grain is divided into 100,000; 000,000; 000,000; 000,000; 000,000; 000,000; 000,000; 000,000; 000,000; 000,000 parts, so that a single grain of any substance, in the thirtieth dilution, would extend between the earth and the sun 1,262; 626,262; 626,262; 626,262; 626,262; 626,262; 626,262; 626,262; 626,262; 626,262 separate times!"

But we are told,—experience confirms the theory by the beneficial results of its application to practice. In Mr. Yeldham's book we have a detail of cases of acute disease, all cured by homœopathic treatment. Of Mr. Yeldham's cases we can only say, that they might or might not be the diseases which he describes,—and address ourselves to the general issue, of cure being the test of the value of a remedy. If, as homœopathic practitioners assert, persons get well in spite of their medicines, surely we may assume that persons may get well independently of their medicines. The principle to which we must bring this and all other like questions is this—Is the asserted cause capable of producing the effect? The ridicule proverbially attaching to the opinion of the Tenterden farmer, that the building of Tenterden steeple produced the neighbouring Goodwin Sands, arises from the insufficiency of the asserted cause. It is a very easy, but entirely inconclusive, mode of reasoning for the virtues of any agent, to set down arbitrarily all the good which may happen to its account. Yet those who will smile at this and other absurdities of the Tenterden school of philosophy, become its disciples when pleading for the experience of cures by infinitesimal doses as a ground for believing in the truth of homœopathy. Many of these diseases have a natural termination; and if we add, the beneficial influence of strict diet, change of air, and external circumstances, we have more reasonable causes to assign for a change from bad to good health than the infinitesimal dose. In science, that theory is always to be adopted which explains the greatest number of facts in the most rational way.

Nor is ours a new argument. This is the way in which successively the belief in the curative powers of charms and amulets, of the king's touch, of metallic tractors, and of a hundred other supposed causes of cure, have been consigned to the same ignominy as witches and hobgoblins of all kinds. The belief in homœopathic cures is not a whit more rational than the stupidest of these. The deluded in each case may aver that it is presumptuous to assert their impossibility, or to affirm that there may not be some law of nature acting of which we are ignorant. There may be such;—but it is not the less extreme folly to explain any phenomena by remotely possible laws, which can be explained by extremely probable ones. It is within the bounds of possibility that the moon may be made of green cheese,—but it is extremely probable that it is composed of matter of the same kind as our own earth. Why should we be called on to accept the green cheese theory on the mere ground of its possibility? It is not the part of either wisdom, prudence, or common sense to travel out of the path of experience for the causes of natural phenomena.

John Howard, and the Prison-World of Europe.

By Hepworth Dixon. Third Edition, Jackson & Walford.

On the first appearance of Mr. Dixon's work, we bore willing testimony [*Ath.* No. 1139] to its value as very ably supplying one of the many deficiencies in the library of the 'Lives of British Worthies.' Not that we were without so-called lives of Howard before Mr. Dixon's,—but that his is the first which follows the philanthropist



in anything like a complete and philosophic manner throughout his great and touching labour. The appearance of three editions of this work in little more than twelve months is a testimonial more emphatic and satisfactory to its merits than any recommendation of ours could be; and we might properly accept this confirmation of our own verdict in silence,—but for certain considerations which induce us, contrary to our wont, to return to Mr. Dixon's volume.

In our former review of Mr. Dixon's book, we took occasion to qualify the praise which we could very honestly bestow by certain exceptions, as to manner and of other kinds, which we were careful to note. What now surprises us is, that we have not thereby, as it turns out, made an enemy of Mr. Dixon. There is somehow an opinion abroad—in which authors and publishers seem to join—that the self-imposed office of the critic is an easy and pleasant one,—and that a portion of the pleasure consists in the privilege which it confers of finding fault. There is supposed to be some sort of luxury of an evil kind in lying in wait for full-grown reputations with a view to mangle them,—or arresting, as it has been pathetically lamented, the springs of genius and of poetry at their fountain head. Very singular tastes are ascribed to the professed critic,—who is imagined to play the part of literary ogre, very much at his ease. To say nothing of the toil which for a publication of short period knows no rest,—of the labour which is “never ending, still beginning”—which can allow itself none of the relaxations permitted to nearly every other calling,—if our readers knew the suppressions of private feeling and the sacrifices of private friendship by which the office of the critic is exercised if exercised honestly,—if they felt how sore a thing it must be to wound deliberately the self-appreciation that grows by the side of what we love, or admire, or esteem,—they would view the matter in a very different light, and think it comparatively no hardship to break stones on any other than the literary highways. But of all the hardships incident to the office, perhaps the greatest is that of having the spirit of the office misunderstood.—The manner in which criticism is received by Mr. Dixon recognizes its dignity and his own—and reconciles it to itself. In his mode of viewing it, criticism becomes a living thing—has a purpose and a meaning—receives a pleasure, and gives it—does good, and has it reciprocated. Mr. Dixon is an earnest man, who, having no doubt a considerable respect for himself, has a yet greater for truth. He knows very well that no book was ever written in which a fresh eye could not see errors or defects that it would be the better without,—in the same way that there is no criticism which is not contestable on other grounds. The assumption of infallibility spoils alike the book-maker and the critic.—Accordingly, Mr. Dixon, instead of dipping his pen in gall to accuse us of unwholesome intentions,—looking the criticism honestly in the face, and seeing that we mean nothing but “justice and honour” by him, manfully adopts it so far as he recognizes its truth. “When I wrote this memoir, two years ago,” he says, with that modesty which comes of a perfect self-estimation,—each keeping the other right—“I was two years younger as an artist—almost an age to a young writer.” In those two years Mr. Dixon's powers have ripened sensibly.—“A few passages,” he says in the preface to his second edition, “I have re-written, so as to get rid of that ‘surplus vehemence’ of which some of my critics, not without reason, complained.” Mr. Dixon's style is a great gainer by this toning down.

But it will be remembered that the principal objection which we made to Mr. Dixon's volume, among its many merits, was, on the score of its adoption of that ordinary form of hero-worship which will see no spots on the brightness of its hero's character or fame—and would exalt the very faults attaching, in right of their humanity, to all things human into virtues. It seemed to us that in referring to Howard's dealing with his son, he had fallen into this fault of super-arrogation,—and thereby missed some very touching and very useful morals. Mr. Dixon seems on reconsideration to have agreed that our view of this incident in the character and career of Howard is the true one,—and therefore to be openly avowed. The whole passage referring to this affecting matter is re-written by him in the revised sense,—and so well that we must produce it for the gratification of our readers.—

“His removal thence enabled Howard to revisit Cardington once more. With a mournful tenderness the old man now retold the scenes of so much happiness and so much sorrow. The last terrible affliction had opened all his former wounds afresh: and on the closing scenes of his laborious life, he saw the clouds gathering in darkly from every quarter of the horizon. In such scenes lies one of the mournful morals of every great man's story. Even at best, human beings are still a little lower than the angels. Duties conflict—and devotion itself cannot do all things. It is profitless to ignore the truth at any time; and the morals of a life like Howard's are too precious to be lost from the mere fear of gathering them in. The failing of the best affords a salutary warning to our pride, and our vanity needs be checked quite so often as our zeal requires to be inflamed. The life of an apostle is of necessity a life of sacrifice; and it were a bootless attempt to offer to conceal such a fact from observation. When Howard looked around him on the ruin of his domestic hopes, he felt that before God and man he stood acquitted of any guilty share in the deplorable result—so far as any act or thought of his was in question, his conscience was at rest—but there was something still beyond. There are sins of neglect, as well as of actual deed. Nature would whisper him that had he not been what he was he might have been a happier father; that, had all the care been centred on his son which he had lavished on the multitudinous outcasts of the world—had all the energies of his active mind been solely devoted to his parental duties—perhaps the paths of vice, in which he found his ruin, more rigidly guarded, might have been closed against him, and his life and reason saved. The very possibility was full of anguish. Howard was a man of such simple mind, that it had very likely never before occurred to him that life's duties may, and often do, conflict—the higher with the lower—the public with the private. He had not indulged the habit of regarding himself as a hero or an apostle—one called upon to make great sacrifices. All he did was done purely as a matter of course. It was his duty, and he never dreamt it was a thing of any great merit. Not until the end did he know at what a price such an apostleship as his may be achieved! But we know it. Himself he sacrificed, and willingly; but would he, with knowledge beforehand, have fulfilled his mission at the sacrifice of his child?”

Against those of his critics who misrepresent his text and pervert his facts—or whose “privilege” Mr. Dixon considers “it is to be ignorant”—he can defend himself with spirit enough—and with good success,—as the reader may see in his preface to the present edition. This edition is enriched by four additional illustrations:—and one of these is introduced by way of answering an objection which had been made to a passage in the former editions. Mr. Dixon having commented severely on the treatment to which Howard found prisoners exposed in the gaol of Ely, which belonged to the Bishop as lord of the franchise of the isle, he has been enabled here to justify his remarks by means of an old engraving communicated to him,—

and which exhibits a prisoner undergoing the species of torture to which he had alluded, under the mild rule of Bishop Mawson.

In conclusion we may say, that Mr. Dixon thus improving the successive editions of his book from every source and by every sound suggestion that comes in his way—and the public giving him repeated opportunities of doing so,—he is scarcely likely to be replaced on the ground which he has chosen—and the philanthropist will not need to look elsewhere for a life of Howard.

*Death's Jest-Book; or, the Fool's Tragedy.* Pickering.

*Eidolon; or, the Course of a Soul, and other Poems.* By Walter R. Cassels. Pickering.

THE saying of old Andrew Fairservice, that “There are many things ower bad for blessing and ower good for banning,” would save the critic of books no ordinary amount of trouble if, when it was once said, he was at liberty to turn to such literary productions as could be lauded without drawback or condemned without mitigation. But the adage is neither to be propounded nor to be accepted as discharge in full. We are the most loudly called on for praise or censure in those very cases where beauty and blemish alternate, combine and blend, like the imperceptible outlines and boundaries of the cameleon colours.

Such a case is furnished by ‘Death's Jest-Book.’ This drama has no common claims. Besides its own peculiar merits, it possesses the adventitious interest belonging to the posthumous work of one who, though he all his life produced little, was credited with great powers and lively fancies by some of our most powerful and picturesque imaginative creators. They naturally had more intimate sympathies for the author of ‘The Bride's Tragedy’ than the crowd without the Temple—than the average lovers of poetry and thinkers about poetry could be ever brought to entertain. They could soar into his extravagances and hide with him in his dimnesses; and with him find no contrast too harsh to be reconciled—no combination too fearful to be dwelt on—under the influence of that quick and living Spirit the voice of which they could hear, the presence of which they could see, even though both were hidden from the uninitiated as by seven veils. The poets of any particular school are not the best judges one of another. Works of the imitators of Johnson, for the inflated bombast of which we should hardly conceive any sarcasm too sharp a chastisement, were admired by the followers of Johnson. There are verses now abroad by the imitators of two of the most gifted but also the most mannered poets of our time—the Brownings—which to the select world (and not the world of fools) seem only so much mystical conceit and raving—while among the congregation they pass for hymns full of teaching and aspiration!

Thus—viewed without any harmonizing sympathies to bias the judgment—‘Death's Jest-Book’ contains the fullest answer to those who, among other lamentations over the decline of drama, cite the silence of Mr. Beddoes for lack of encouragement as an instance not to be put aside. Under no dispensation could one so richly yet perversely gifted have hoped for stage success, if even he could have obtained stage hearing. Those who will dwell in sepulchres must be content to become unfit for the light of day and the society of their fellow-men. His ambition seems to have been to reproduce the manner of Ford, Webster, and Marlowe. Their pathos, their poetry, with its delicious haunting tenderness (sweet as the strain of some ancient dirge), were emulated by him, and not



unsuccessfully; but a taste, also, for what is monstrous, and harrowing, and unearthly (for the very exceptional qualities, in short, which limit those old Poets to a period, instead of giving them command over the spirits of men "for all time") seems also to have passed into his mind. If he did not affect the horrible, he toyed with it. It need only be said, in proof of this assertion, that during the principal and most important part of this drama—the latter acts, where the action precipitates and the passion quickens—a leading personage is one raised from the dead by a process of antique sorcery. Is it fair, then, to take up the parable against the manager class, as a race of dull and gross obstructors in the Poet's path, when he himself thus deliberately plans and places an impassable barrier betwixt himself and the world he would live in?

This said,—and absolved, as we conceive we are, from closely analyzing the plot,—we will turn to the bright side of this perverse love for the letter of the Past, and extract some scattered passages which show that in felicity of diction and in the "meeting together of strength and beauty" (as Shelley sang) our author may rank among the old Elizabethans. The extracts which we give call for little prelude or explanation.—

#### A View from a Rock.

*Duke.* But saw'st thou from the heights  
No Christian galley steering for this coast?  
*Ziba.* I looked abroad upon the wide old world,  
And in the sky and sea, through the same clouds,  
The same stars saw I glistening, and nought else.  
And as my soul sighed unto the world's soul,  
Far in the north a wind blackened the waters.  
And, after that creating breath was still,  
A dark speck sat on the sky's edge—as watching  
Upon the heaven-girt border of my mind  
The first faint thought of a great deed arise.  
With force and fascination I drew on  
The wished sight, and my hope seemed to stamp  
Its shape upon it. Not yet is it clear  
What, or from whom, the vessel  
*Duke.* Liberty!  
Thou breakest through our dungeon's wall of waves,  
As morning bursts the toasty spell of night.  
Horse of the desert, thou, coy arrow creature,  
Startest like sunrise up, and, from thy mane  
Shaking abroad the dews of slumber, boundest  
With sparkling hoof along the scattered sands.  
The livelong day in liberty and light,  
But see, the lady stirs. Once more look out,  
And thy next news be safety.

#### Rapture.

*Duke.* I will not thank thee, not for this,  
I will not welcome thee, embrace and bless thee,  
Nor will I weep in silence. Gratitude,  
Friendship, and Joy are beggar'd, and turned forth  
Out of my heart for shallow hypocrites;  
They understand me not; and my soul, dazzled  
Stares on the unknown feelings that now crowd it.  
Knows none of them, remembers none; counts none,  
More than a new-born child in its first hour.

#### Temptation.

*Duke.* Ha! What's this thought,  
Shapeless and shadowy, that keeps wheeling round,  
Like a dumb creature that sees coming danger,  
And breaks its heart trying in vain to speak?  
I know the moment: 'tis a dreadful one,  
Which in the life of every one comes once;  
When, for the frightened hesitating soul,  
High heaven and luring sin with promises  
Bid and contend: oft the faltering spirit,  
Overcome by the fair fascinating fiend,  
Gives her eternal heritage of life,  
For one caress, for one triumphant crime.

The blank verse of the above specimens moves, it will be felt, uneasily rather than un-musically. The following (as, indeed, is be-fitting) flows in smoother measures.—

#### A Tent on the sea-shore: sun-set.

*Wolfram.* This is the oft-wished hour, when we together  
May walk upon the sea-shore: let us seek  
Some greensward overshadowed by the rocks.  
Will thou come forth? Even now the sun is setting  
In the triumphant splendour of the waves.  
Hear you not how they leap?  
*Sibyl.* Nay; we will watch  
The sun go down upon a better day  
Look not on him this evening.  
*Wolfram.* Then let's wander  
Under the mountain's shade in the deep valley,  
And mock the woody echoes with our songs.  
*Sibyl.* That wood is dark, and all the mountain caves  
Dreadful, and black, and full of howling winds:  
Thither we will not wander.

*Wolfram.* Shall we seek  
The green and golden meadows, and there pluck  
Flowers for thy couch, and shake the dew out of them?  
*Sibyl.* The snake that loves the twilight is come out,  
Beautiful, still, and deadly; and the blossoms  
Have shed their fairest petals in the storm.  
Last night: the meadow's full of fear and danger.  
*Wolfram.* Ah! you will to the rocky fount, and there  
We'll see the fire-flies dancing in the breeze,  
And the stars trembling in the trembling water,  
And listen to the daring nightgale  
Defying the old night with harmony.  
*Sibyl.* Nor that: but we will rather here remain,  
And earnestly converse.

Perhaps, however, the real spell and charm of 'Death's Jest-Book' lie in the lyrics that are scattered among the grisly shapes with which its pages are peopled. There is little in any old poet sweeter than the following pair of songs.—

#### A Voice from the Waters.

The swallow leaves her nest,  
The soul my weary breast;  
But therefore let the rain  
On my grave  
Fall pure; for why complain?  
Since both will come again  
O'er the wave.  
The wind dead leaves and snow  
Doth hurry to and fro;  
And, once, a day shall break  
O'er the wave,  
When a storm of ghosts shall shake  
The dead, until they wake  
In the grave.

#### Dirge.

If thou wilt ease thine heart  
Of love and all its smart,  
Then sleep, dear, sleep;  
And not a sorrow  
Hang any tear on your eyelashes;  
Lie still and deep;  
Sad soul, until the sea-wave washes  
The rim of the sun to-morrow,  
In eastern sky.  
But wilt thou cure thine heart  
Of love and all its smart,  
Then die, dear, die;  
Thy deeper, sweeter,  
Than on a rose bank to lie dreaming  
With folded eye;  
And then alone, amid the beaming  
Of love's stars, thou'lt meet her  
In eastern sky.

In grotesque ditties the author of 'Death's Jest-Book' is less happy. With him, as with the late George Darley, that which is meant to be mirthful is merely uncouth:—not so much a dance of Jack-o'-Lantern and Robin Goodfellow as the ghostly rattling of old bones and musty armour in some seer's laboratory;—its vivacity rather more dismal than lamentation or than silence. Here is a specimen of Death's jests:—  
*Wolfram,* the speaker, being a corpse re-animated.—

*Wolfram.* Good melody! If this be a good melody,  
I have at home, fattening in my sty,  
A sow that grunts above the nightgale.  
Why this will serve for those who feed their veins  
With crust, and cheese of dandelion's milk,  
And the pure Rhine! When I am sick o' mornings,  
With a horn-spoon tinkling my porridge-pot,  
Tis a brave ballad: but in Bacchanal night,  
O'er wine, red, black, or purple-bubbling wine,  
That takes a man by the brain and whirls him round,  
By Bacchus' lip! I like a full-voiced fellow,  
A craggy-throated, fat-beeked trumpeter,  
A barker, a moon-howler, who could sing  
Thus, as I heard the snaky mermaids sing  
In Phlegethon, that hydrophobic river;  
One May-morning in Hell.

To part from this volume on the best terms admitted of, let us take two more fragments of rare beauty.—

#### Song.

My goblet's golden lips are dry,  
And, as the rose doth pine  
For dew, so doth for wine  
My goblet's cup;  
Rain, O rain, or it will die;  
Rain, fill it up!  
Arise, and get thee wings to-night,  
Ethna! and let run o'er  
Thy wings, a hill no more,  
But darkly frown  
A cloud, where eagles dare not soar,  
Dropping rain down.

And here is another dirge.—

#### Dirge.

We do lie beneath the grass  
In the moonlight, in the shade

Of the yew-tree. They that pass  
Hear us not. We are afraid  
They would envy our delight,  
In our graves by glow-worm night.  
Come follow us, and smile as we;  
We sail to the rock in the ancient waves,  
Where the snow falls by thousands into the sea,  
And the drowned and the shipwrecked have happy  
graves.

There is no closing such a book as this—such a strange composition of all that is most repulsive with all that is most fascinating—without a feeling of more than common melancholy. Thwarted, perverted, perverse Genius—in itself unhappy, by others but imperfectly recognized—conscious of powers, yet little less conscious that those powers will never find adequate utterance—is one of the saddest sights which the world of realities and dreams can show. And we have rarely, if ever, met with so full an illustration and expression of it as in this posthumous work of one not unjustly credited with every good gift which marks a poet and makes a poet's fame.

The volume which we have associated with 'Death's Jest-Book' in our notice is, like it, not an easy book to characterize—though for diametrically opposite reasons. That is all ruggedness, terror, irony, beauty, heterogeneously heaped together. 'Eidolon' is sweet, smooth, level,—yet still not insipid, nor without notes of true music and pulsations of true life. By those who in poetry prefer that which they cannot clearly understand or explain—or by those who think that commonplace in lengths constitute verse, so that "sweet" be duly followed by "retreat," and "sing" maintain its *vis-à-vis* to "wing." Mr. Cassels may be respectively rated as not good enough, and as too good. There is no startling originality in manner to cleave to, or to complain of. There are no flashes of genius, such as in 'Mariana' revealed a Tennyson to the public—or such as in the 'Roman of Matigret' awakened the most Catholic and fastidious of readers to inquire after Miss Barrett. But creators do not spring up full fledged every day—and not to originators exclusively is genius confined. It may be shown faintly and delicately in adoption, no less than brilliantly in creation. Mr. Cassels is more than clever, something much more than a mere artificer of the resonant school, who scores (as the musicians say) second-hand fancies with such a liberal administration of trumpet and drum that the old times sound nearly as good as new. He has great command of what may be called scenery.—

*Man.* Tell me of other worlds  
*Spirit.* There is a world  
Bright as yon star that flecks the wing of night,  
And sheds its glory o'er the Universe;  
Made up of such pure loveliness within,  
That like a gem it glitters through the crust,  
And makes heaven luminous. A chaste and sound  
Of never failing melody still floats  
About it, like an ocean, undulating  
To the sweet breath of summer scented airs.  
From hill to dale and leafy-tufted woods,  
That catch the humours of the golden sun,  
And deck them in his livery. There falls a music  
From the soft twilight gloom of apparitions  
And crystal pillar'd caverns, many a stream  
That breaks in light and music on the soul,  
And like a diamond-sandall d spirit glides  
In beauty through the land, margined by flowers.  
That mirror in its tide, and seem like stars  
In heaven. There are flowers everywhere, in vale,  
Hill-side and woodland, in the sun and shade,  
That whether dreams be on them, or they wake,  
Send evermore sweet incense to the heavens.  
Sun-crested mountains, softened into grace  
By the blue tints of distance, lend new charms  
To verdant swarded valleys, in whose lap  
As in a mother's bosom waters lie  
And ripple to the wooing of the winds.  
The very clouds that scan the blue of heaven,  
Fused sometimes by the sunbeams as with soul,  
Or flaked by the light fanes of the gale,  
Form to the vision labyrinths of grace  
And beauty, that melt into space, and spread  
A hemisphere of magic o'er the orb—  
And thro' this world at morning, noon, and night,  
A dreamy sweetness wanders, varying  
From blessing unto blessing, that the sense  
Of pleasure dull not with satiety.



Here is something more vigorous.—

*Spirit.* Love is no faint exotic made to bloom  
In the close summer of a glassy frame,  
That at the first breath of the unquelled air  
Shrives up like a parchment in the flame.  
No! let it stand upon the mountain's brow,  
And bid the untamed winds make sport of it;  
Yet though they drive it 'fore them in their might,  
'Twill be like the strong eagle that exults  
In the wild rapture of his headlong swoop;  
The strongest and the tenderest is Love!

Here again is a passage at once ingenious  
and not wanting in strength.—

*Spirit.* The highway of this world is set with thorns,  
O'er which poor pilgrims still must journey on;  
There are who walk it shod with iron sense,  
That crushes opposition like a vice,  
And puts aside the ready points like twigs.  
—Pressed backward in the woodlands by a child.  
There are who seem buoyed upward by some power  
Above the level of affliction's range,  
—Until their term be run, and then they fall  
Into the bosom of the angel Death.  
And there are some whose tender feet are pierced  
Evermore deeper by the rugged path,  
Whose swiftness and whose beauty nigh invite  
The cruel spoiler to his unarmed prey,  
As the swift hawk high poised in the sky,  
Swoops when the dove floats past on silvery wings.

Other of the more ambitious pages—the  
bursts, and invocations on which possibly the  
author values himself: not lightly—have too  
much of the florid resonance and tenuity of  
thought of Mr. Robert Montgomery's blank  
verse to satisfy us. If Mr. Cassels be a neo-  
phyte, which for the sake of the readers of  
poetry is to be hoped, he will do well to mistrust  
the facilities of fine language. From the conceits  
of an over-curious diction he is in less  
danger.

The extracts which we have given from  
'Eidolon, or the Course of a Soul,' displaying as  
they do a questioning human being and an  
angel as the interlocutors, will sufficiently ex-  
plain the argument of the poem. 'Alcésé' is  
yet another setting (as the musicians have it) of  
the story dramatized by Mr. Hunt in his 'Le-  
gend of Florence.' Mr. Cassels uses the *ottava*  
*rima* with ease and elegance. Indeed, that he  
has generally a fine feeling for versification the  
following opening stanzas from 'Pygmalion'  
will prove to all who listen to them.

In the blue Ægean is Cyprus,  
Set in the midst of the waters  
Like a starry isle in the ocean of heaven.  
The waters ripple round it  
With soft and luminous motion,  
Strewing the silvery sands  
With shells amaranthine, and flowers  
Born from amid the white coral stems,  
Like offerings of peace from the ocean.

Amid it riseth Olympus,  
Stately and grand as the throne of the gods,  
And the island sleeps 'neath its shadow  
Like a fair babe 'neath the care of its father.  
Streams clear as the diamond  
Evermore wander around it,  
Like the veined tide through our members,  
Quick with the blessings of beauty,  
And health and verdurous pleasure,  
Filling with yellow sheaves  
And plenty the bosom of Ceres,  
—Calling forth flowers from the slumbering Earth,  
Like thoughts from the dream of a Poet,  
Till the island throughout is a garden,  
The child and the plaything of summer.

In luscious clusters the fruit hangs  
In the sunshine, melting away  
From sweetness to sweetness.  
The grapes elust ring 'mid leaves,  
That give their bright hue to the eye  
Like the setting of rubies.  
The nectarines and the pomegranates  
Glowing with crimson ripeness,  
And the orange trees with their blossoms  
Yielding sweet odour to every breeze,  
As the intense flows from the censer.  
The air is languid with pleasure and love,  
Lulling the sense to dreams Elysian,  
Making life seem a glorious trance,  
Full of bright visions of heaven,  
Safe from the touch of reality,  
Toil none—woe none—pain,  
Wild and elusive as sleep revelations.  
Time to be poured like wine from a chalice  
Sparkling and joyous for aye,  
Drained amid mirth and music,  
The brows circled with ivy,  
And the goblet at last like a gift  
Thrust in the bosom of slumber.

'Retrospection' is that confession after the

manner of 'Locksley Hall' of which it would  
seem as if every young poet must "make a  
clean breast."—The minor poems generally in  
Mr. Cassels's volume are not comparatively  
equal in merit to the more sustained produc-  
tions of which specimens have been given.

#### OUR LIBRARY TABLE.

*The Devil in Turkey; or, Scenes in Constantinople.*  
By Stefanos Xenos. Translated from the Author's  
Unpublished Greek Manuscript by Henry Corpe.—  
This novel—which seems to be the work of a real  
native of Greece, as stated on the title-page—appears  
to have a political end in view. Many English  
travellers, presuming on a month's knowledge of the  
country to pronounce judicial opinions, declare that  
Greece has suffered on the whole in consequence  
of her revolution and separation from Turkey. To  
combat this falsehood Mr. Xenos has conceived the  
idea of writing a trilogy of novels—of which 'The  
Devil in Turkey' is the first instalment. He con-  
tends that not only has his own country vastly  
and rapidly improved under the reign of freedom, but  
that all the reforms which have taken place in the  
empire from which it was sundered were suggested  
by and are owing to that event. To show the char-  
acters of the two people and to mark the beneficial  
changes which have come in the wake of the revolu-  
tion, he undertakes to sketch the Turk before the  
revolt in Greece, the Turk as moulded by the Euro-  
pean ideas introduced into his schools, naval and mili-  
tary services, and all public departments, by Sultan  
Mahmoud, and the native Greek of unmixed blood  
and race. Whether Mr. Xenos will achieve his patriotic  
purpose is somewhat doubtful—it is of little use to  
write books if nobody will read them. The writer  
possesses knowledge of the East, a warm and affluent  
imagination, some power of picturesque colouring,  
—but a fatal lack of art. His story is ill-told, his char-  
acters want individuality, and the whole work is a  
rich jumble of materials, good and bad, so heaped  
together that the reader loses patience and lays down  
the book in despair. Life is too short for such  
labours.

*The Western Highlands and Islands of Scotland,*  
*socially considered with reference to Proprietors and*  
*Peoples.* By Thomas Mulock.—It is not easy, how-  
ever desirable, in dealing with topics like those han-  
dled by Mr. Mulock to avoid some exaggeration and  
bitterness. The wrongs of the poor in ordinary times  
are enough to disturb their investigator's equanimity,  
—to beget a corresponding harshness even in the  
humanest—in years of famine and other sore priva-  
tions it is hardly to be hoped that the indifference  
and heartlessness of the rich should not chafe the  
temper of the upright and the charitable. Yet it  
would be well if this zeal could be held in check.  
Startling as are the revelations made by our author,  
we fear their usefulness will be marred in no small  
degree by their violence of denunciation. Wisdom  
is calm. When, as Mr. Mulock reports, a Lord  
Macdonald clears his property of the tenants whose  
fathers have occupied it for generations, and trans-  
ports them to Canada, because the potato blight had  
thrown them a little backward with their rent—when,  
as we are told on the same authority, a Duke of  
Sutherland applies to the Destitution Board, insti-  
tuted to feed the starving, for 3,500*l.* to aid in the  
relief of the poor of Sutherland, and when he has  
got the money, uses it in making a new road through  
his princely estate, such facts need only be stated  
clearly, and in the calmest manner, to produce their  
full effect. Mr. Mulock finds from experience what  
we have argued from theory when noticing the reports  
of the Highland Society—that the principle on which  
the Destitution Board acts is productive of serious  
evils. The labour test—the maximum of work for  
the minimum of wages—violates the peasant's sense  
of justice; and instead of promoting habits of in-  
dustry, it provokes idleness, from the instinct of resist-  
ing wrong.

*A Practical Treatise on the Law of Bankers'*  
*Cheques, Letters of Credit and Drafts.* By George  
John Shaw.—In the compass of a small and con-  
venient volume, Mr. Shaw has contrived to embody a  
great deal of very useful information on a mercantile  
topic almost new to the lawyers. With bills of ex-  
change the law has been long familiar, and it is to

be feared that the nice and subtle distinctions which  
the glosses of the courts have gradually intro-  
duced into the technicalities of that useful class  
of negotiable instruments has in many cases led to  
the infliction of great hardship. Cheques are one of  
the newest devices of our system of paper credit; and  
it is perhaps a subject of congratulation that hitherto  
they have been found so efficient and so simple that  
the number of leading law cases which are supposed  
to contain the data of the courts on the subject  
are few enough to have enabled Mr. Shaw to com-  
press his treatise into the limits of a pocket volume.  
—On the whole Mr. Shaw has performed his task  
well. We could have wished that some of his sections  
had been longer, and that for the benefit of non-  
professional readers some of the technical phrases had  
been reduced to a simpler form of speech. He might  
also have pointed out in a treatise so professedly  
popular, that the present stamp laws with reference  
to cheques, while they produce not one farthing to  
the revenue, are a perfect nuisance to bankers and  
the public. It is in every way desirable that the use  
of cheques should be encouraged;—and as the best  
book we have yet seen on the legal questions arising  
in connexion with that class of documents, we think  
the volume before us will meet with success.

*Solvency Guaranteed.* By C. S. Candell.—This is  
a new project, put forth in the shape of "an address  
to the bankers, merchants, landlords, &c. of Great  
Britain, being the outline of a plan for the application  
of assurance to debts, bills of exchange, promissory  
notes, rent and monetary risks of all descriptions."

*The Three Patriarchs: a Series of Scripture*  
*Stories.* By Margueretta.—A number of very simple  
and childish tales, having for their object the incul-  
cation of Christian truth.

*A Manual of Qualitative Analysis.* By Robert  
Galloway, F.C.S.—This is really a valuable little  
book. We have not for a long time met with an in-  
troduction manual which so completely fulfils its  
intention. The fault of nearly all books of this class  
is, that their authors, presuming some knowledge  
of the subject to have been already obtained, have  
avoided any explanation of first principles. The con-  
sequence is, that the young student is constantly  
stumbling upon difficulties which should have been  
removed. The author before us has clearly ascer-  
tained all the obstacles lying in the way of the pro-  
gress of the chemical student, and has used much  
judgment in his endeavours to obviate them. He  
has adopted a simple course of study, by which any  
moderately intelligent youth may guide himself to a  
knowledge of the first principles of chemistry, and  
by attention make much progress in qualitative anal-  
ysis. To the more advanced student this manual  
is not without its value; since several new processes  
for qualitative determination are given,—particularly  
for the detection of magnesia, the determination of  
tin and antimony, and the separation of phosphoric  
and oxalic acids from the alkaline earths.

#### LIST OF NEW BOOKS.

Almanach de Gotha, for 1851, 64mo. 5s. cl.  
Amari's War of Sicilian Vespers, by Earl of Ellesmere, 2 vols. 21s.  
Armstrong (R.) On Boilers, 12mo. 1s. cl. (Weale.)  
Arnold's (Rev. C.) The Boy's Arithmetic, Part I. 2nd ed. 3s. 6d. cl.  
Bell's (R.) The Ladder of Gold, an English Story, 3 vols. 11s. 6d.  
Berna's (S.) Sand and Canvas, Adventures in Egypt, 6s. 6d. cl.  
Bible Stories for Young Children, by Author of 'Chickadee,' 1s. 6d.  
Blessings of the Lord's Second Advent, Six Lent Lectures, 2s. 6d.  
Burns's (Dr. Jabez) Light for the House of Mourning, 6s. 2s. 6d. cl.  
Butler's (Dr. S.) Atlas of Modern Geography, new ed. 8vo. 12s. cl.  
Clarke's Commentary on Old and New Testaments, Vol. I. 10s. 6d.  
Collection of Poetry for Practice of Elocution for Ladies, 6s. 2s. 6d.  
Comic Almanack 1851, ed. by Mayhew, illustr. by Cruikshank, 2s. 6d.  
Consideration, by M. S. C. 18mo. 1s. 6d. cl.  
Davis's (Jamel) The White Chief's Life, Poems, &c. 12mo. 6s. cl.  
Devil in Turkey, by Stefanos Xenos, transl. by Corpe, 1st ser. 3s. 6d.  
Dobson (E.) On Foundations and Concrete Works, 1s. cl. (Weale.)  
Giles's (Rev. Dr.) First Lessons in English History, new ed. 9d.  
Hann's (J.) Treatise on Analytical Geometry, 12mo. 1s. cl. (Weale.)  
Hemphreys's (Rev. T.) Manual of Plain Song, 12mo. 3s. 6d.  
Hook's (P.) Life and Remains, by Rev. J. Barham, 4th ed. 11s. 1s.  
Howlett's Victoria Golden Almanack, for 1851, 6d. swd., 1s. tuck.  
Hunting Field (The), by Harry Hooover, 6s. half bound.  
Kerr (T.) On Cultivation and Manufacture of Sugar, 8s. 5s. cl.  
King's (Rev. Dr.) Principles of Geology Explained, 2nd ed. 4s. 6d. cl.  
Latham's (J.) The English Language, 3rd ed. 8vo. 18s. cl.  
Lee (H.) On the Origin of Inflammation of the Veins, 5s. 6s. cl.  
Lettice Arnold, a Tale, by Author of 'Emilia Wyndham,' 2 vols. 21s.  
Levi's (Leoni) Commercial Law, &c. Vol. I. 4to. 11s. 10s. cl.  
Lyndon's (C.) Concordance to Quotations from Shakespeare, No. 1. 1s.  
Marriage Offering, a Compilation of Prose and Poetry, 7s. 4s.  
Merryweather's (T. S.) Lights and Shadows of Olden Time, 7s. 6d.  
Murphy's School and College Atlas of An. and Mod. Geography, 5s.  
Nicholson's (A.) Ireland's Welcome to the Stranger, 12mo. 5s. cl.  
Nicholson's (A.) Lights and Shades of Ireland, 12mo. 5s. 6d.  
Nugent's Dictionary, 2nd ed. 8vo. 12s. cl.  
Parlour Library Vol. XLIX, a double vol. 'James's Smuggler,' 1s. 6d.  
Pupil-Teacher's English Grammar, abridged, 3rd ed. square, 8d.  
Punch's Pocket-Book, for 1851, 18mo. 6d. swd.  
Rees's Improved Diary and Almanack for 1851, 18mo. 6d. swd.  
Shakespeare's Housekeeper's Account Book for 1851, 4to. 2s. 6d.  
Sir Roger de Corberly, by 'The Spectator,' illustr. 15s. 15s. 6d. mor.  
Simons's (J.) Lectures on Pathology, 8vo. 7s. 6d. cl.



Statutes at Large, in 8vo. 13 & 14 Vict. 1850, 12. 5s. bds. (Pickering.)  
 Stuart's (M.) Commentary on the Apocalypse, 8vo. 7s. 6d. cl.  
 Swan's (T.) Lectures on the Divine Attributes, 8vo. 3s. 6d. cl.  
 Three Favourite Masses, by Mozart, Haydn, and Beethoven, 8s. 6d.  
 Von Beck's Adventures during late War in Hungary, 2 vols. 12. 1s.  
 Vasey (C.) On the Teeth and their Preservation, 12mo. 1s. cl.  
 Walker's (T.) The Original, new ed. cr. 8vo. 5s. cl.  
 Wayland's (Dr. F.) Elements of Moral Science, 12mo. 3s. 6d. cl.

#### AFTER CRIME AND BEFORE CRIME.

Of the many curious and painful contrasts to be encountered in this great city of contrasts, few are more striking to the senses—more repugnant to correct feeling—and more pregnant with important consequences—than the treatment which the criminal population receives from Government and from society respectively before and after crime. It was recently my fortune to see this contrast in one of its boldest forms,—and with an interval of time between the witnessing of one extreme and the other so brief that none of its features could be lost in the pause. How much society thinks it wise and needful to do for those who have sinned against it, I saw in the model prison at Pentonville,—how little it seems to care for those who, born to the heritage of crime, are yet anxious to escape from the fate which lies in wait for them, I saw in the dormitory attached to the Field Lane Ragged School.—It would be well if society would now and then look anxiously and intelligently in “on this picture, and on this.”

After crime, the modern outcast is an outcast no longer. Magistrates and other high functionaries become interested about him. The public are called together to witness his trial. He becomes a topic for the press. Grave judges and busy juries inquire into the vicissitudes of his career. For a day at least he is the hero of a court of justice. His name and history are placed on the records of the nation. A palace is prepared for his reception. Pentonville prison—built for the accommodation of 500 prisoners, and occupied by a usual average of 450,—cost more than 100,000*l.*; and its general economy is regulated on a scale of almost regal magnificence. Including interest on the first outlay and ground rent, the yearly expense of its maintenance is not less than 22,000*l.* This sum, divided among the average of 450 inmates, would give nearly 50*l.* as the cost of each criminal per annum in the gaol. At this expense to the public, the man is lodged in a commodious room, about the size of a small parlour in the houses of the middle classes, ventilated on the most approved principles of science, and supplied with streams of warm air and cool air by machinery so nicely adjusted that for months the temperature does not vary more than a degree or two. The room is furnished with other fittings—such as a bell to call the servants, stools and tables, very excellent beds, water-basin—which, by a judicious contrivance, is supplied at the discretion of the inmate with hot or cold water,—and so forth. The diet is worthy of the lodging, plentiful in quantity, well cooked and served, and excellent in point of quality. Without exertion of his own, the Pentonville prisoner is sure of a good dinner every day to eat—and a snug bed to sleep on every night.—He has mental advantages equal to these material ones. A library is provided for his use, and a pile of books belongs of right to the furniture of his cell. A school and four schoolmasters are provided and paid to cultivate his mind,—a chapel is erected and two clergymen engaged to look after his morals. Archbishops and Ministers of the Crown think it needful to visit him at times—and press and parliament manifest the liveliest interest in his condition.—Now, look on the other picture!

I describe only what I know and what I saw. Visiting the Field Lane Ragged Schools, and talking with some of the homeless savages who wander about our streets, I was told that an attempt was in progress of being made to carry out an idea long and frequently urged in the pages of the *Athenæum*—namely, to provide a refuge for such abandoned youths or children as come to the school in the day but have nowhere to go at night. I at once went to see the place in which this dormitory is set up. It is in Fox's Court, in the heart of that mass of narrow passages and crowded courts—none of which can be called a thoroughfare—bounded by Victoria Street and Skinner Street

on two sides. I am familiar with many of the worst parts of Paris, Liverpool and Edinburgh—but I have seldom seen a place into which a stranger would go with more justifiable fear. In the centre of a labyrinth of dark and crooked courts—courts into which the sunshine never comes—are a stack of most wretched cottages. One of these is the refuge. The court itself is full of miserable objects—for naked poverty rather than rampant crime hives there—ragged and dirty urchins, pale and haggard women, and brutal and stunted men in whose forms and faces scarcely a trace of human character is to be seen.—The poor man who is placed in the refuge to take care of the few coverlets and mattresses showed me over the dilapidated house. There are three rooms above the ground floor, wretchedly small—not more, indeed, than ten feet by six or eight. In the attic the inmates sleep—in the next floor below, they eat—in the next, they work. The ground floor is occupied by the man who is in charge and his wife. The stairs are narrow, worn and broken—and not to be mounted without risk of a fall. All the rooms are bare—except the attic, in which four small mattresses lie on the floor—and some time in their past history have been lime-washed. I had seen all these rooms without seeing the boys:—on inquiring for them, I was told they were below at work. On my expressing a wish to see them, a candle was procured; and a low door was opened, leading to a dark and yet more dilapidated stair, down which we went into a hole where we could do little more than crawl on hands and feet—a hole for having made which it would not be easy to divine the builder's purpose, but certainly it was never intended to be occupied by living creatures. The walls are bare brick and have never yet been plastered or limed. There is no floor:—the ground is a loose grave-like soil, which exhales a damp, fetid smell. Two small holes let in a few faint rays of light into this kennel,—so that when my eyes had become a little used to the place I could see the dusky forms of four young fellows, squatted down and employed in chopping wood. In this wretched kennel they earn at this labour the food which is given and the shelter which is afforded to them. I spoke to them all:—they were very grateful for food and shelter even on such terms. Though frequently oppressed with pains in the head (who shall wonder!) they had entirely escaped cholera—even when people were falling victims to it on every side of them—a fact which they thought explained by their having something to eat regularly. To see them thus grateful for so little was the most painful thing of all. How sad a tale it told of the sufferings from which they have fled to the charities of the Dormitory!

I wish to make this statement simply and without comment:—the contrast speaks most powerfully for itself. I will ask two questions,—and conclude.—When it is known to the castaway that any act of robbery would cause him to be removed from the hardships of Fox's Court to the comfortable quarters of Pentonville—is he undeserving of sympathy who has enough of untaught and native virtue to resist such a temptation? Is it wise or consistent in the State to lavish her vast resources on the offender after he has committed a crime—and yet to neglect him in that stage of his career when a little help, a little guidance, might save him from a life of depredation?—Many a thing which passes by the name of heroism in the world is mean beside the courage that resists under such circumstances. Crime should not be formally recognized as the door which leads from the wretchedness of the cellar to the luxury of the saloon.—It is for such men as make your readers to ponder these things well.

#### IRISH ARCHAEOLOGY.

Mr. Weld's letter on the subject of Irish Archaeology, in your number for the 12th inst. [see *ante*, p. 1070,] is very important; and I hope it will have the effect of drawing public attention to the fearful destruction of our ancient monuments which is now going on in every part of Ireland. When I was last at Clonmacnois, I found a stone carved with a beautiful decorated cross and an inscription of the tenth

century forming part of the inclosure of a pig's sty,—and many of the inscribed stones which are known to us by the drawings of Dr. Petrie and others are now no longer to be found. I visited, in the beginning of the present year, in the county of Derry, one of the monuments called by modern antiquaries *cromlechs*, which had originally consisted of three, or perhaps more, chambers, opening the one into the other; but many of its stones had been blasted and broken,—and I was informed that they had been carried away to build a farmhouse in the neighbourhood. These things are going on in every part of Ireland.

But what is the remedy?—In other countries the preservation of ancient monuments is recognized by Government as an object of national interest and importance, and officers are maintained at the expense of the public to visit them periodically, and protect them from ignorant or wanton injury. But in England (and still more in Ireland) we are content to leave these precious historical records to take their chance. Hitherto they have had some little protection from the superstition of the people,—but this is everywhere rapidly passing away under the influence of education. The fairies are dreaded no longer. Our very improvements in farming are destructive to our antiquities; the ancient cairns and cist-vanes with which this country abounds are broken up to make stones for drainage,—and the plough has obliterated the trenches of many an ancient fort and encampment. On the hill of Tara itself the traces of the ancient buildings described by Dr. Petrie in his learned paper on the subject have within the last few years been obliterated and destroyed.

Is it not therefore incumbent on us to make some effort to prevent the total destruction which a very few years must otherwise bring on all our ancient monuments? Some time ago it was proposed to found in Dublin a Society to effect this object:—but the apathy of the public was an insuperable difficulty. Even if such a society were formed, what could it do unless it were sanctioned and authorized by law? What right would a self-constituted society possess to remonstrate with my Lord A. or with farmer B.,—to interfere with either's breaking up a cromlech or carting away a tumulus which was his own property?

The remedy lies with the Legislature alone:—and until the country shall be sufficiently enlightened to compel our rulers to pay some attention to the subject, there can be, I fear, no cure for the serious evil of which Mr. Weld complains. In the mean time the greater part of our ancient monuments will pass away and be destroyed; and when we shall come to understand the great injury thus done to learning, nothing will remain to us but unavailing regret.

The last paragraph of Mr. Weld's communication is occupied by his complaints of what he calls “a second grievance,” which he thus describes:—“Archæologists are probably aware that the Royal Irish Academy possesses a unique and highly interesting collection of antique Irish ornaments, which have been presented or purchased. Like other scientific bodies, the Academy has its session. This commences in winter, and terminates in summer,—giving a *long vacation* at the precise period of the year when citizens of other countries are roaming about.” He adds:—“Seeing that this institution is endowed by the nation,—being in the receipt of an annual grant of money,—I cannot help thinking that this shutting up of its Museum at the very time of year when the Irish capital is most visited by strangers, betrays, to say the least, bad management.”

I think it my duty, as an officer of the Royal Irish Academy, to explain that the *long vacation* of which Mr. Weld complains, during which, as he says, the Museum of the Academy is closed to the public, is but *one month*. For eleven months of the year the Museum of the Academy is thrown open in the most liberal manner possible to artists and visitors. It was very unlucky that Mr. Weld's visit to Dublin should have been so timed as to coincide with the single month which is allowed for recreation to the Curator of our Museum. But notwithstanding this unfortunate coincidence, if he had applied to some member of Council, instead of



contenting himself with the information given to him by "the janitrix who opened the door," (who does not appear to have been particularly well informed), some means might possibly have been devised for his accommodation.

Mr. Weld remarks farther, in the words above quoted, that the Academy "is endowed by the nation,"—and therefore (he leaves his readers to infer) ought to be able to afford such a staff of officials as to render it unnecessary to close the Museum even for a single month. The national endowment, however, which the Academy has received consists of an annual parliamentary grant of 300*l.* only. As a museum of antiquities formed no part of the original foundation of the Academy, we are not permitted by Government to expend any portion of the grant for the support or increase of the Museum; which is therefore dependent on that portion of the Academy's income derived from the subscriptions of our members.—The Museum has been deeply indebted also to the private liberality and zeal of individuals—some of them not even members of the Academy—who at various times have come forward with their subscriptions to enable the Academy to purchase such articles of interest and value as were too costly to be obtained from the funds at the disposal of the Academy. In fact, there is no special fund whatsoever set apart by the Academy for this purpose: and whenever an article of peculiar importance or value is offered for sale, the Committee of Antiquities are forced to make an appeal to the liberality and patriotism of the public. The annual grants made from the funds of the Academy for several years past for the support of the Museum have not exceeded an average of 50*l.*—I conceive, therefore, that no claim can be made by the public for the abolition of the single month of recreation enjoyed by the Curator, on the ground that the Academy is an institution "endowed by the nation, being in the receipt of an annual grant of money."

But Mr. Weld adds—"Let me not be understood as grudging the officials their holiday; but surely the Academy is not so poor as to be unable to afford conservators for its collection."—The truth is, that the Academy has but one resident "official," who is forced to discharge the duties of Assistant-Secretary, Librarian, and Curator of the museum,—the "national endowment" being no more than barely sufficient to pay the annual ordinary expenses of house-rent, taxes, salaries, and servants' wages.—This may be "bad management"; but I know not how it is to be remedied, unless we could arouse the Legislature to the importance of supporting scientific institutions, and induce them to endow the Academy with an annual grant more nearly adequate to its wants than that which is now conceded. Mr. Weld does not maintain that our Assistant-Secretary and Curator should have no holiday,—and I think he will not say that one month out of twelve is too much for such an officer. But he thinks it "bad management" that this "long vacation," as he calls it, should be placed in the middle of summer, because the Irish capital is then visited by strangers.—It cannot be expected that the holiday given to our Curator should be in winter,—because the Academy, like other scientific bodies, has its session in winter. We are therefore reduced to the necessity of giving the vacation in summer, or not at all. In fact, I believe that no management can meet this difficulty, unless we had such a staff of curators as would enable us to dispense with all vacation. But the Academy has not, as I have said, funds for this; and I do not find that such a course has been adopted even by those bodies that have funds,—such as the Royal Society and the British Museum. It happened, by a singular coincidence, that the Curator of the Academy's Museum, during his month's vacation this year, called at the apartments of the Royal Society in London; for the purpose of making some official inquiries; but he was informed that the Assistant-Secretary was taking his holiday, and there was no person in town with whom business could be transacted. It is evident, therefore, that the same "bad management" of which Mr. Weld accuses the Academy exists in other similar institutions.

But he will probably say, why not leave the

Museum accessible to the public during the absence of the responsible officer who is in charge of it? Is there any such danger of the gold and silver ornaments, coins, and other valuables being stolen, that they might not be left for a month in the charge of a servant? He adds—"At any rate this excessive caution is terribly uncomplimentary to Irish honesty. It betrays a dreary deterioration from the days when, if the poet may be believed, a lady walked the length and breadth of the land covered with gems 'rich and rare,' as if for the very purpose of tempting the spirit of misappropriation which was nowhere to be found."—But in the days of which the poet sings there was no London swell-mob, carried about by railroads and steamers—and specially visiting such places as the Museum of the Academy—for the express purpose of plunder. The presence of a responsible officer is therefore absolutely necessary, especially during that period of the year when the Irish capital is visited, not only by strangers like Mr. Weld, who, to use the poet's words, "love honour and virtue more" than "golden store," but also by the gentlemen above alluded to, who travel about, when London is empty, to exercise their craft in the provinces, and who would not hesitate to despoil the person of the poet's heroine herself, if they could meet her, even in open day, adorned with the gems of the Academy's collection.—The caution, therefore, of which Mr. Weld complains is not "excessive,"—nor is it so particularly "uncomplimentary to Irish honesty" as he insinuates. It is no more than is absolutely necessary. The jewels and gold antiquities preserved in the collection of the British Museum are far less accessible to the public, and are guarded with a far more jealous care, than the valuables of the Academy's Museum; and yet, notwithstanding the utmost vigilance and caution of an ample staff of officials, the collection of the British Museum—particularly in the coin department—has frequently suffered from the skilful depredators who surround it.

I hope these remarks may have the effect of convincing you that the Council of the Royal Irish Academy are not open to the charge of bad management, or of excessive caution, in the regulations which they have made for the preservation and exhibition of their collection. The gold and silver ornaments are on view daily for four hours during eleven months of the year,—and the Museum is open to the public in the fullest sense of the words. It is a matter of regret that Mr. Weld should have been in Dublin during the only month of the year when the gold and silver ornaments are not exhibited,—but I hope this disappointment will not prevent his coming again. Even if he should be unable to visit the Academy except during the month of our "long vacation," it will give me or any other officer of the Academy great pleasure to show him our gold and jewels, "rich and rare,"—notwithstanding the formidable "janitrix" whose reception of him at his late visit to the Academy so ill accorded with the boasted hospitality of Ireland.

JAMES H. TODD, D.D.,  
Secretary to the Royal Irish Academy.

Trinity Coll. Oct. 16.

#### OUR WEEKLY GOSSIP.

OUR readers will very well remember that years ago Miss Martineau made some noise by the publication of her personal mesmeric experiences—and by the blindness that could not, or the self-will that would not, see, even after they were pointed out, the large holes in the argument by which her positions were sustained. Once more the same lady appears publicly in the character of a mesmerist,—once more leaning on the logic which proceeds by the conversion of the coincidence into the *sequitur*,—but this time having a patient that announces a great enlargement of the field of mesmerism. Miss Martineau has been mesmerizing a cow.—The case of the cow bears a strong resemblance to Miss Martineau's own. The cow was taken violently ill, and the cow-doctor was sent for:—which in our opinion was a very rational proceeding under the circumstances. The doctor said, that if the cow did not get better, she would die; and that she *might* get

better, he proceeded to bleed her and apply other active remedies. After the remedies had had sufficient time to act, the cow did get better; but as she had not got well at once, Miss Martineau had in the mean time had "passes made along the spine,"—and, as in her own case, the passes have the credit of the cure which was in progress under the administrations of the doctor at the time when they were made.—We have a group of three leading facts—based on the illness of the cow. The cow was bled and took "strong medicines,"—the cow was mesmerized,—the cow got well. The first of these facts, for the sake of simplification, is discharged altogether,—and the two remaining propositions are strung together, and married by Miss Martineau into the relationship of cause and effect.—Suppose, now, the cow had not been bled and physicked:—has Miss Martineau no misgiving as to what might have been the result?—Not that we mean to affirm that a cow is not as good a subject to conjure with as an artful servant girl,—and a great deal more to be depended on as far as the evidence goes. In all physiological facts relating to the mere animal organism of the human body we may expect to find the same phenomena exhibited by the lower animals. Thus, if the decillionth of a grain of charcoal makes a man drunk, as alleged by Hahnemann,—it ought to produce the same effects on a dog or a cat. If human beings may be sent to sleep by staring at them, or flourishing in their faces,—so may animals. Even the circumstance that the cow fell asleep while the man was mesmerizing her, fails to convince us. It is a well-known fact in natural history that cows sleep without mesmerism:—that sleep precedes a favourable termination of disease is also well known. Whatever may be the real condition of the nervous system during the cataleptic sleep occasionally observed in susceptible persons, we know too little of its curative effects to say that in any case it produces a beneficial effect on the animal system. In fine, we ask Miss Martineau to reconsider the evidence,—and be just to the cow-doctor.

The erection of the Palace of Industry in Hyde Park recalls to mind a suggestion—lost sight of for some years past by the general public, but never forgotten by those who walk the streets and thoroughfares of the metropolis with their eyes open—for lighting the public parks at night. That such an improvement is loudly called for even in ordinary seasons, is only too well-known to those who have now and then occasion to cross one of these wide spaces after dusk. Unlike the Champ Elysées, the Thier-Garten, and places of amusement and recreation in other capitals of Europe,—the West End parks are unapproachable by any respectable person in the evening. They would appear to be given up alternately, as if for the sake of contrast, to the two extreme parties in the social scale. High life flourishes there in the day-time, with its livery and fashion—the lowest life, in its most vicious forms and squalid appointments, reigns there through the hours of night. Lights and a stricter system of police would scare away the ministers of vice from these sylvan haunts:—and the parks should be made safe and passable for the strangers who are about to throw themselves from all parts of the world on our proffered hospitality.—Might not the electric light be turned to account for such a purpose? Half a dozen jets would illumine, not only the public parks, but a great part of London. One in front of Buckingham Palace, one at the head of the Serpentine, one at the entrance of the Regent's Park, and one on Primrose Hill, would leave the remaining two for Victoria Park and Battersea.—We content ourselves for the present with throwing out the hint.

In connexion with the Industrial Exhibition, it will be interesting to our foreign readers to learn that a project is on foot for establishing in London a "Club of all nations," for the convenience of merchants and others who may come to England during the industrial fête. The scheme has for object, to create facilities of intercourse between merchants, inventors, and exhibitors of different lands,—and by means of qualified interpreters to promote the comfort and utility of the visit. A committee has been appointed at a public meeting to carry out this design.

Of the great branches of English literature, we



are probably most deficient in that of church history. It is little to say that we have no such works as those of Fleury, Baronius, and Schröckh in our language, either as originals or as translations;—we have really nothing that can by any stretch of courtesy be called a history. What we have, is either little more than a dry detail of names, and dates,—or hasty compilations conceived in a narrow and sectarian spirit. It sounds like a satire on our indifference and lack of industry that Mosheim's heavy volumes—awkward in arrangement and full of errors as they are—should still keep their place on our shelves as the best work on ecclesiastical history. What the Ecclesiastical Society ought to have—and has not—done, Dr. Maitland now proposes to achieve by means of a new Society. So far as the prospectus goes, and interpreting his terms liberally, we think his plan full of promise. In the first place, he tells his readers that it is a good service to letters—not a question of trade—which he brings before them. He asks for support without pledging himself that more volumes shall be given for the money contributed than a bookseller could afford to offer. His plan consists of three sections. He proposes to form a library of the accepted writers on church history—for the use of the members of the Society generally,—but more especially of those who may be employed to edit old or compile new works. A library would require a house,—and the house would be the home of the Society, and a point of union for the subscribers. He next proposes to bring out new and critical editions of such writers as Fuller, Burnet, Fox, Strype, and others whose works, inaccurate in themselves, have nevertheless by frequent quotations become acknowledged authorities and are not now to be superseded; while other books, such as Le Neve's 'Fasti' and Newcourt's 'Repertorium,' he proposes to bring down to the present time. With regard to original works, Dr. Maitland proposes to have the want to which we have alluded supplied,—competent persons being employed, or encouraged, to write or compile a great work on church history, to take the place of Fleury and Baronius. The clergy will probably see the importance of such an undertaking;—every candidate for orders in the English church having now to obtain his knowledge of the early history of Christianity from Lutherans or Romanists.—At the same time, we should scarcely be pleased to find a new Society lending its resources to the production of another partisan work on ecclesiastical history. We would caution those who are moving in the matter that a Church-of-England history of religion is not the thing wanted. Possibly our misgiving is groundless;—and Dr. Maitland's name should be some guarantee for a certain catholicity of tone; but we have so often seen useful institutions warped from their native character through the help of an injudicious vagueness in the wording of their scheme, that we feel it necessary to offer a warning in this case,—where the terms are vague and liable to more than one construction. A really critical and catholic history of Christianity—ample in its details and written with vigour—would be an acceptable contribution to our libraries;—but a Baronius on the Protestant side of the question is not required. If the proposed society is to pursue its inquiries untrammelled by local and sectarian prejudices, it may look forward with confidence to a career of usefulness; but its success must, of course, depend on the care and impartiality displayed in its publications.

The Micawbers are a very huge family; projecting on every side with a brilliant imagination—and supporting their dreams with precise calculations—to an extent very imperfectly recognized by the general public. Now they make balloon-railways,—anon, devise submarine conveyances—in France they have a tendency to people *Iouias*. No mean or uninventive member of the race has presented himself to the capitalist, the poet, and the seriously-minded man of England, in the person of a gentleman signing himself "Psychologist," who is desirous of opening a grand artistic Exhibition for 1851—"illustrating and describing [says his Prospectus,] the scenes of Creation, and Sacred History, in a series of 250 pictorial repre-

sentations, 1,000 square feet each; accompanied, and assisted by the recitation of a poem." This poem is to be a sort of rhymed 'Old Testament';—which statement will absolve us from the necessity of following its argument. The Poet has been his own illustrator,—and this is what he seriously proposes that the world shall do for him.—

"A most eligible portion of ground has [he says] already been secured (by an agreement with Mr. Cubitt) adjoining the entrance to Hyde Park, at Prince Albert's Gate, Knightsbridge, for the erection of a suitable building for the recital of the poem and the exhibition of the pictures; and the lengthened application that has been necessary for the arrangement of so important a subject having almost exhausted his pecuniary resources, he proposes to dispose of one-half the proceeds of such Exhibition for the sum of 5,000*l.*, being the amount of one hundred shares at 50*l.* each. The entirety of the Exhibition will [he says] be divided into two hundred shares, of which the author of the poem and the designer of the pictures will receive one-half, the other hundred will be the property of the shareholders. The hundred shares of 50*l.* each will entitle the purchasers to one-half the receipts of the Exhibition in London for 1851, including all sales of the poem, from the commencement of the Exhibition, and also to one-half the profits for three years, from the termination of the London Exhibition in any other parts of England, or elsewhere, should the Exhibition be extended either at home or abroad,—but not to the copyright of the poem, nor to the pictures, after that time. In order to effect an immediate receipt of sufficient capital to enable the author to proceed with the undertaking, the first two volumes of the poem, comprising 700 pages octavo, are to be immediately printed and delivered to subscribers handsomely bound in silk, with gilt edges, at 15*s.* each volume, or 30*s.* the two,—to be ready for delivery in the course of six weeks from the 20th of July," &c. &c. "The Poem," continues the Prospectus in a later paragraph, "will be read or recited by an elocutionist of the greatest ability,"—and the particular patronage of royalty is confidently reckoned on.—Comment on flights such as the above becomes impossible to humble-minded persons who can add two and two together. This half crazy prospectus is accompanied by a book containing an 'Introductory Essay,' by way of recommendation, which may be safely commended to the perusal of all who have any fancy to become shareholders in the "Unprecedented Combination of Poetry and Painting."—We beg to say, that the announcement is a serious one, whatever our readers may think.

The friends of ragged and industrial schools in York have been making efforts to enlarge their usefulness in that city. A number of ladies got up a bazaar for the purpose,—and they have realized about 1,400*l.* With this sum, judiciously expended, much may be done for the cast-aways. The northern committee will no doubt avail itself of the experience of the Union in London as to the best method of proceeding. Simple as it may seem, the organization of such schools is almost a science. Many mistakes were made at first—and continue to be made—for want of guiding lights. Some tares—it is useless to conceal it—have grown up with the wheat,—and this circumstance has led hasty observers into the belief that the institution does more harm than good. With the experience that has now been had, errors may in a great measure be avoided in future. A few hints may save much money. Benevolence, like everything else, is all the better for being well directed.

The French papers state, that a number of workmen are employed in fixing a wire from the Bastille to the Madeleine, as an experiment for a new company that has proposed to establish an electric telegraph throughout Paris for the transmission of messages.

A Belgian engineer, M. de Laveleye, proposes to connect the Seine and the Rhine by means of a canal. This was one of Charlemagne's ideas,—equally with that connexion of the Rhine and the Danube which has been effected in our own day by means of the Ludwig Canal. The points which M. de Laveleye proposes to connect—Sedan and Trier—are but ninety-five miles asunder,—intersected by the rich and populous Grand Duchy of Luxembourg; and presuming the canal to be made, navigation would be open from London to the Black Sea and Constantinople, through the heart of the Continent, and by means of the great watercourses on or near whose banks lie the materials of nearly all the internal and external trade of Europe. Vessels would ascend the Seine from Havre to the junction of the Oise,—they would turn up that river

and continue to the Aisne,—there they would again quit the main stream and proceed to the Ardennes Canal. At Donchery that canal falls into the Meuse, which is navigable already to Sedan. These rivers and canals are at present connected by tributaries and branches with the whole of north-eastern France, from Rouen to the wine-fields of Champagne,—and also with the coal and metallic beds of Belgium. Less than a hundred miles of cutting—but through a district of which we suspect all the engineering difficulties are not fairly stated—will connect this immense net-work of navigation with another still larger and more important—of which the Rhine and the Danube are the main highways,—Prussia, Germany, Austria, Hungary, and the Eastern provinces are the chief features,—and the Black Sea and the Mediterranean are the great outlets. The Moselle already reaches the foot of the Ardennes. From it to the Meuse the distance is what we have stated. From Trier the navigation is open to Coblenz,—the Rhine would carry the vessels up to the Maine,—this river takes them past the trading emporium of Frankfurt to the Ludwig Canal, and so into the Danube. On the face of such a project the advantages to France seem to be greater than to any other country—but the subject engages more attention in Vienna than in Paris. The estimated cost is 1,600,000*l.*,—a large sum; but the results are apparently of such magnitude as to insure the execution of the work at some period or other. The whole system of European internal navigation is incomplete so long as the eastern and western branches remain unconnected.

**ARCTIC REGIONS.—BURTON'S PANORAMA ROYAL.** Leicester-Square.—NOW OPEN.—A VIEW OF THE ARCTIC REGIONS, as seen in SUMMER and WINTER, from Drawings taken by Lieut. BROWN, R.N., of Her Majesty's ships Enterprise and Resolute, which were presented to Mr. Burton by the Admiralty.—THE VIEWS OF THE LAKES OF KILLARNEY, and of POMPEII, are also now open, but Pompeii will shortly be closed.—Admission, 1*s.* each view, or 2*s.* 6*d.* for the three. Schools, Half-price.—Open from Ten till dusk.

**EGYPT, NUBIA, and ETHIOPIA.—THE GREAT MOVING PANORAMA OF THE ROUTE OF THE OVERLAND MAIL.** A magnificent display of the scenery of these interesting countries, and the manners and customs of their inhabitants, presenting to the spectator the River and the Desert, the Pyramids and the Sphinx, the grandest Ruins of Antiquity, and the most exciting objects that allure the traveller.—EGYPTIAN and ETHIOPIAN PICCADILLY.—Daily, at Three and Eight.—Admission reduced to 6*d.*; Pic. 1*s.*; Stalls, 2*s.*

**INDIA OVERLAND MAIL.—DIORAMA.—GALLERY OF ILLUSTRATIONS.** 14, Regent-street, West.—A magnificent display of the scenery of these interesting countries, and the manners and customs of their inhabitants, presenting to the spectator the River and the Desert, the Pyramids and the Sphinx, the grandest Ruins of Antiquity, and the most exciting objects that allure the traveller.—EGYPTIAN and ETHIOPIAN PICCADILLY.—Daily, at Three and Eight.—Admission reduced to 6*d.*; Pic. 1*s.*; Stalls, 2*s.*

The DIORAMA, Regent's Park.—Admission, One Shilling.—NOW OPEN, with the finest VIEWS ever exhibited in this country, representing the ROYAL CASTLE of STOLZENFELS, on the Rhine, (visited by Her Majesty Queen Victoria in August, 1845), and the Environs, as seen at sunset and during a Thunder Storm, painted by NICHOLAS MEISTER, of Cologne. And the much-admired Picture of THE SHRINE OF THE NATIVITY, at Bethlehem; painted by the late M. RENOUX, from a sketch made on the spot by David Roberts, Esq. R.A., with novel and striking effects.—Open from Ten till Five.—Pic. 1*s.*; Stalls, 6*d.*

**ROYAL POLYTECHNIC INSTITUTION.**  
LECTURE ON THE BALLAD MUSIC OF ENGLAND, by Mr. George Barker, with Illustrations from the most popular composers, every Evening (except Saturday,) at Eight o'clock.—LECTURE ON THE HYDRO-ELECTRIC MACHINE, by Dr. Bach-hoffer.—LECTURE ON CHEMISTRY, by J. H. Papper, Esq., illustrating the ANCIENT FERRY ORDAIN and the HANDLING OF RED-HOT METALS.—MODEL OF WESTON'S PATENT NOVA-MOTIVE RAILWAY at work daily.—DISPLAYING VIEWS, illustrating some of the WONDERS OF NATURE, daily at Half-past Four, and in the Evenings at a Quarter to Ten; also a Series, exhibiting SCENES in the ARCTIC REGIONS and GUYTON, daily at One o'clock.—DIVER and DIVING BELL, &c. &c.—Admission, 1*s.* Schools, Half-price.—Open daily from Eleven till Five o'clock, and every Evening (EXCEPT SATURDAY) from Seven till Half-past Ten.

**MEETINGS FOR THE ENSUING WEEK.**  
Fri. Botanical, 8.  
Archæological Institute, 4.

**FINE ARTS**  
NEW PUBLICATIONS.

*Illustrated Duties of the Olden Time.*  
HERE is a little volume of rare merit—put forth without show or pretension. We are let no further into the secret of its authorship than that it is by a lady; but the excellence and speciality of character in the designs suggest a particular name—which might well have been prefixed to the volume. The little book is dedicated by a mother to her child, Geraldine,—and has no higher aim than the illustration of the little nursery



songs with which the infant ear is first addressed: 'Humpty dumpty,' 'Little Bo-peep,' 'Pussy in the well,' 'Sing a song of sixpence,' 'Ride a cock-horse,' 'Hush-a-by, baby,' 'Lady-bird,' 'Little Tommy Tucker,' and 'Goosey, goosey, gander' are, it would seem, no very exciting themes for the display of pictorial excellence:—but the forms of expression which they have here found are among the many evidences continually occurring of the improvement of the general taste. If it be true that a child's education begins in the hour of its birth, it may be of more importance to the modelling of future character than at first view would suggest itself, that the very earliest perceptions of babyhood should be nourished on fine forms rather than on coarse and illogical ones. They managed these things far otherwise "when George the Third was king,"—and indeed until lately. Most of our readers will have wild, showy recollections of the first pictorial forms which met their young eye,—works of art in which grotesque wretchedness of design was sought to be compensated for by the more grotesque attractions of gaudy colour. —In the child's volume before us there is an amount of fancy in the designs, novelty in the situations, beauty in the details,—whether of form or of character—and refinement in the taste, calculated to attune the young minds to which it is addressed, and make very grateful music to older "spirits" that have already been "finely touched." There is no little book of the day at all comparable to this 'Illustrated Ditties of the Olden Time' for purity of feeling and beautiful fancy.

*Five Views in the Oasis of Siwah, accompanied by a Map of the Libyan Desert.* Designed by Bayle St. John; drawn on stone by Messrs. Aumont & Houselin.

THIS work has the merit of bringing graphically before us the horrors of the Oasis. A more uninviting spot, save for the purpose of scientific inquiry, has seldom been presented through the medium of Art.—The 'Village and Valley of Garah,'—the 'General View of the Oasis of Siwah,'—'Siwah El Kebir'—'Om-Beyda'—and 'The Fountain of the Sun,' if not drawn with the pencil of the professed artist, are eloquent of truth. The view of Om-Beyda is interesting to the antiquary and the architect, as including the remains of a temple of Jupiter Ammon.—The map which accompanies these views contains, we are informed, the name of every spot mentioned in the 'Adventures in the Libyan Desert,' from the pen of the author of the present publication,—and will be found useful for reference.

*The Decorative Arts of the Middle Ages.* By Henry Shaw.

THE difficulty is apparent of discovering in this department of archaeology any new material for the purposes of publication. Almost everything known has been already given in a variety of works, either at home or abroad. Mr. Shaw, in search of novelty to pique the public, presents us in this number with two views of a pair of bellows the design of which is attributed to Cellini, although he admits that the instrument was not carved until seventeen years after that artist's death. He argues from the style of an inscription painted in yellow,—which being in the characters of the period he considers as affording sufficient reason to ascribe the authorship to the mad Florentine. Reference to the autobiography of the artist will show that had his life been of thrice its real duration it would have been insufficient for the execution of the multifarious works attributed to his hand. As to this design, they who are well acquainted with the habitual modes of designing among the contemporaries of Cellini, and have discerned a fashion, so to say, amongst them, will be slow to ascribe to Benvenuto what was a popular and familiar expression of the artistic ingenuity of the day. There is nothing in this design of the bellows to mark specially the intelligence of the author of the great casket in the Museo Borbonico, or of the several fine things yet preserved in the Vatican of which mention will be found in Mr. Roscoe's translation.—A portrait of Bernard Palissy, said to be unique, is the subject of another of Mr. Shaw's engravings. An interesting memoir of

the man presents, as the author says, a striking instance of the pursuit of knowledge under difficulties.—A piece of majolica having suggested to him the desire of discovering the secret of the enamel used on it, he tried every means for the purpose. After a series of trials and a period of nearly sixteen years passed in great wretchedness, he discovered a jasper-like kind of enamel, which he adapted to earthenware objects in relief. Patronized by Henry the Second of France and his and other courts, there are yet preserved in the Musée des Monumens Français specimens abundant enough to testify to his superior excellence in his own art. A prisoner in the Bastille for holding the opinions of the Reformed Church, he lingered in custody until nearly ninety years of age,—having escaped the memorable day of St. Bartholomew to be reserved for a long incarceration. The portrait of him which Mr. Shaw has given is from a specimen in the material for which the artist was justly celebrated.

#### *The Seven Ages of Shakespeare.*

A set of seven engravings on wood from the designs of Sir David Wilkie, Sir A. W. Calcott, Mulready, Hilton, Collins, Chalon, Cooper and Sir Edwin Landseer, are intended by the publisher, Mr. Holloway, to serve as an accompaniment to a publication on the same subject issued by the Art-Union of London,—exclusively, we are informed by his prospectus, for the members or subscribers to that body. It will be sufficiently significant of the quality of the engravings to say, that they are from the hands of Messrs. Thompson, Jackson and Williams. Of the designs, the two most conspicuous are those from the pencils of Messrs. Mulready and Hilton.

*Characters, Costumes, and Modes of Life of the Valley of the Nile.* Parts V., VI. and VII. By E. Prisse.

THE plates in No. V. of this work do not sustain the promise given by their predecessors. The Female Fellah, with her child, is unfortunate in the drawing of all its details. A Female of the Middle Classes drawing water from the Nile, is singularly defective in form. There is something better in the group of 'Fellahs.' The 'Women of Middle Egypt' is a good drawing,—the seated figure obviously done from the life. 'Ababdeh' presents a group of Nomads of the Eastern Thebaid Desert,—masculine in character; 'Peasant Dwellings' of Upper Egypt is a grotesquely grouped assemblage of buildings from the top of one of which an infant with her cat is seen peering out as if perilously seated on the top of a lime-kiln.—We must be sceptical as to the proportions of the 'Dromedaries' on which the Ababdeh are riding through the Desert.—More to our taste is the group of 'Dromedaries' in the Eastern Desert. But the best point in the three numbers is, unquestionably that of 'The Kafilah with Camel bearing the Hodejh.' The grouping is picturesque, and the details are drawn with fidelity and care. In the progress of this work,—the opening numbers of which we had occasion to characterize so highly,—the proprietors must be careful that they do not subject themselves to the charge of having put forth their best strength in their earliest numbers. There were vigour and correctness in these that are wanting in the numbers before us.

*The History of Mrs. Johnson and her Daughters.* We have here an anonymous publication, obviously from the hand of an amateur, in which the history of a scheming mother's attempt to marry her two daughters—who become the victims of her machinations—is happily exemplified through the medium of Art-language. That the illusions and the personages are specific seems probable from the individuality stamped on each character. Though the author is clearly not skilled in the arts of the professional artist, the points of his story are well revealed,—of which the concluding plate, the scene in the opera-box showing "How the Johnsons saw Sir Francis once more," is a good example.

*The Holy Vessels and Furniture of the Tabernacle of Israel on a Uniform Scale.* By S. Bagster & Sons.

WE have already made some remarks on the first part of a work which now makes its appearance in

a completed shape. The objections that we then took are on fuller examination confirmed. At best the volume is but a collection of ingenious hypotheses founded on certain passages in the ancient Scriptures ordering or describing the furniture and vessels to be used by the Israelites in divine worship. This, be it remembered, had reference to a nomadic form of life,—and to a Tabernacle which was made easy of locomotion. Not the slightest trace has ever come down to us in a graphic form of what were the characters or shapes that its vessels or furniture took. As we have before observed, the only representations extant on which the slightest reliance can be placed, are the bas-reliefs within the Arch of Titus designing to record the golden candlestick, altars, &c.,—and these are of the second Temple. They bear, too, but little coincidence in design with the forms prescribed for their manufacture in the Pentateuch.—Some learned fathers of the Roman Church have given us lucubrations of the cloister and their conjectures as to the probable configuration of the sacred vessels, &c.,—and Messrs. Bagsters' publication follows the pattern of their ingenious diversion.—In no graver sense can these illustrations be accepted.

#### THE NINEVEH MARBLES.

OF the recent additions made to the well-known collection of these venerable relics in the British Museum, two specimens are temporarily lodged in the Great Hall in that establishment. They are bas-reliefs representing—one, a Winged Human-Headed Lion, the other, a Winged Human-Headed Bull. The latter should not be mistaken, as has been the case, for the Colossal Bull—which is now on its way homeward, and daily expected.

The two *rilievi* have been so perfectly described by Mr. Layard that we cannot do better than extract from his description for the purpose of conveying to our provincial readers a notion of these new arrivals.

#### First of the Winged Lion.—

"This colossal figure formed one side of a portal leading from an outer chamber into the Great Hall of the North-West Palace at Nimroud. The one selected stood on the north side of the western entrance. It was in admirable preservation, and about twelve feet square. Each entrance to the same chamber, and the entrance to most of the halls of the Assyrian palaces, were formed by pairs of similar monsters, either lions or bulls with a human head and the wings of a bird. There can be little doubt that they were invested with a mythic or symbolic character—that they typified the Deity, or some of his attributes, his omnipotence, his ubiquity, and his might. Like the Egyptian Sphinxes, they were probably introduced into the architecture of the people on account of their sacred character. Thirteen pairs of them—some, however, very much injured—were discovered among the ruins of Nimroud. At Kouijnik five pairs of winged bulls were dug out,—but neither in these ruins nor at Khorsabad was the winged lion found. They differed considerably in size—the largest being about sixteen and a half feet square, and the smallest scarcely five; and in every instance were sculptured out of one solid slab. The head and fore part were finished all round,—the body and hind legs being in high relief. The spaces behind the back and between the legs were covered with a cuneiform inscription."

The Winged Human-Headed Bull is thus described.—

"The figure here engraved is similar in character to the Winged Lion, and formed the eastern side of the southern entrance to the Great Hall in the North-West Palace at Nimroud. It was sculptured out of a yellow limestone.—The human head of the bull forming the opposite side of the entrance is now in the British Museum."

There is little to be remarked that is new respecting the design or execution of these works. The same motives are seen to have influenced the artists: as in those already described—and the details are wrought with the like perseverance and care. We confess to being satiated with these repeated recurrences to the same formulae of expression,—and little disposed to recommend that an inch more of the valuable space in our Great National Building shall be given up to them. It is sufficient for the national honour that this country was among the first to possess any of these primitive specimens of sculpture, with the valuable lessons which they teach. We have enough of them in the Museum to represent satisfactorily their style and meanings.—Might not the provincial museums—some of which are growing into an importance that deserves public encouragement—come in for their share of any further importations?



## RUBENS AT ANTWERP.

THE great interest which you are known to take in all that pertains to the Fine Arts induces me to lay before you some remarks which I made in a tour through the Pays-Bas within the last two months. The picture representing the 'Elevation of the Cross' was, as some of your readers may know, painted by Rubens, in the year 1610, for the Church of St. Walburge. It afterwards formed a feature of the Musée Napoléon,—until it was restored to Belgium by the Allied Powers in the year 1815. It was then confided to the care of the Marguilliers of the Cathedral of Antwerp,—and was by them placed as a companion to the 'Descent from the Cross.'—These great works had suffered much by their several removals, and were in a most deplorable state,—partly owing to successive variations of atmospheric influence.—The varnish has become opacous while hanging in the Cathedral. This I have observed during the last twenty-five years, in my repeated visits to Belgium.

The Marguilliers, observing this deterioration, induced, as you know, the Belgian Government, and others interested, to name a commission, composed of the most eminent artists, for appointing persons most skilled to clean and restore these valuable treasures of Art.

This most important task was, by ministerial decree, on the recommendation of the commission, confided to MM. Étienne le Roy, of Brussels, and J. Van Regemorter, of Antwerp. The work to be executed on the grand picture the 'Elevation of the Cross' was to refix the colours which were detached from the panel. This difficult process—as also that of cleaning—was undertaken by M. le Roy,—who has been occupied nearly a year on the picture. It is now nearly finished:—and most nobly has M. le Roy performed his task. The picture was painted in the most vigorous time of Rubens, when he had seen the works of the mighty Florentine, Michael Angelo Buonarroti:—as is evident to judges of Art from the power of drawing exhibited and the knowledge of anatomy displayed—in the hands and feet especially. It is also evident, that the works of the great Venetians were then strong in the painter's imagination: I should say those of Tintoretto in particular,—although he had sipped sweets from all the flowers of Venice, to hive them in his native city. In this one great work, whether we consider colour, expression, drawing,—of men or women, animals, trees or plants—or more than all, the powerful devotional character expressed,—he stands confessed the prince of painters—Rubens—great over all.

It is said that next to him who produces a great work he who preserves one does honour to Art and to his country. In this I fully concur. This picture is a study for the whole civilized world; and therefore do I feel that for its restoration through the fostering care of Government, the Government deserve the public thanks of the lovers of Art in every land.

I have seen the two pictures close;—they having been taken down for repair.—I learn, too, that a commission, composed of an equal number of members on the part of the cathedral, of the town, and of the Beaux Arts, severally, is instructed to report to Government on the propriety of placing these *chefs-d'œuvre* in the Musée d'Anvers, instead of in the Cathedral,—where the damp threatens to make fresh ravages on them.

The restoration of the second picture—'The Descent from the Cross'—was not commenced when I left Antwerp.—I am, &c. HENRY FARRER.  
15, Albert Road, Gloucester Gate,  
Regent's Park, Oct. 23.

**FINE-ART GOSPEL.**—We have made some particular inquiry as to the alleged fact which last week, on the strength of the probabilities, we refused to accept at the voice of report,—and we find that the probabilities and the fact are at variance. Lord John Russell has made a private gift of the national Peel Monument to Mr. Gibson:—who carries it abroad. In the race of monumental commemoration into which nearly all the great towns of England, and some of the small ones, have entered, Parliament determined that the metropolis should not be behind. The

House which represents the people had a safe game to play in voting, in the people's name, a sum of money as the expression of a sentiment more widely popular than any that has gathered round the memory of deceased greatness in our time. It was peculiarly due to the people that this sentiment should be in no respect jobbed. The occasion was one to summon out the artist powers of England,—for, among his other great qualities, Sir Robert Peel had been a friend to Art. The public had a right to all guarantees which could secure them a work to their own taste. Sculpture might have been called on to put forth her best,—and that best have been secured to the nation. So strongly has this been felt in other communities, where responsibility is felt and as yet not disavowed, that competitions are very generally invited for these monuments; and cities like Manchester will have selected works of Art—selected, not jobbed—as the result of the best talents which the country affords called in to justify their comparative rights to the execution of the same. The Manchester monument is sure to be a fine one—because that city will choose no monument that is not fine. Meantime, Lord John Russell, in an off-hand, jaunty way, puts the national commission—towards which all these communities are contributors, and which includes, therefore, the sum of the importance conferred by them all, added to that of the metropolitan site of the monument—in his pocket; and at a convenient time, reaching his hand behind the backs of the sculptors at home, gives it patronizingly to Mr. Gibson at Rome, to do the best he can with it. Manchester will buy only what she sees is worthy of the city and of the occasion,—Westminster is left to the Chapter of Accidents. The sculptor gets privately of the public money 5,250*l.*; and the public, whom a Whig minister would never think of consulting, gets for its money—what the sculptor may happen to give it.—And so, after all the jobs of which the public are already so weary—at once in themselves and in their discreditable results—another job has been perpetrated in the people's very teeth. The spirit of jobbery seems ineradicable in the modern Whig.—But Lord John Russell is not so irresponsible as he chooses to assume; and if another public work which we are ashamed to show to the foreigners who assemble in our streets shall be the result of his free-and-easy dealing in this matter, he will hear more of it in Parliament and elsewhere than will contribute to either his comfort or his self-gratulation. He has taken the chances on himself,—and he must bear them.

Mr. Green, the Professor of Anatomy in the Royal Academy, will commence his course of lectures there on Monday, the 11th of November next,—and continue them on the five succeeding Mondays.

The original portrait of Sir Francis Drake wearing the jewel round his neck which Queen Elizabeth gave him, is now in London for the purpose of being copied for the United Service Club. Sir T. Trayton Fuller Elliot Drake, to whom it belongs, brought to London at the same time, for the inspection of the curious in such matters, the original jewel itself:—which, beyond the interest of its associations with Elizabeth and Drake, is particularly valuable as a work of art. On the outer case is a carving by Valerio Belli, called Valerio Vicentino, of a black man kneeling to a white. This is not mentioned by Walpole in his account of Vicentino. Within, is a capital and well-preserved miniature of Queen Elizabeth, by Isaac Oliver Oliver, set round with diamonds and pearls.

Mr. Grundy's announcement of a second Winter Exhibition of Water-Colour Drawings of modern artists, comes, we think, too late into the field. The very liberal disposition manifested by the Association of Amateurs whose objects we announced a few weeks since, and who are on the eve of opening their exhibition at the rooms of the senior Society of Water Colours in Pall Mall East, tells unfavourably for his plan. The commission of 10 per cent. which he requires on the sales effected, and the want of a generous communication between the artist and his patron, must, with this rival in the way, be fatal to his scheme. There can be no reason why works of art should not form

the elements of a separate business, and the collector find it to his advantage to visit the dealer; but, the fact of a *middle-man* to act between the painter and the buyer like a broker or commission agent, cannot stand in face of an arrangement such as that offered by the Association of Amateurs.

While we are contending by every means in our power for a free and unrestricted enjoyment, as far as is compatible with safe-keeping, by the public of the treasures which the British Museum contains, it is of the utmost importance that our argument should not be weakened by any abuse of the privilege. We regret much to learn that some valuable publications have recently been injured in the reading room of the library past all remedy. A fine copy of the *Musée Français*, in four vols. folio, exhibits spots of ink on many of the prints. A very costly copy of Turner's England and Wales,—artist's proofs and etchings—has suffered greatly, not only from ink stains to a considerable extent, but from rough handling and other ill treatment.—The due protection of such property, combined with its free use by the public, demands more space and a larger amount of attendants than the present walls and the parsimonious system of the Government permit.

The political labours of the President of the French leave him some intervals for the indulgence of his disposition for Fine Art. In addition to the proof furnished by the recent acquisitions to the Louvre from the King of Holland's sale,—we learn that he has been lately sitting to our distinguished countryman, Sir William Ross, for his miniature portrait.

The *Augsburgh Gazette* announces the death of the celebrated Bavarian painter Ch. Schorn, professor at the Academy of Fine Arts, at Munich:—who died on the 7th inst. aged 47.

At Munich they have been inaugurating the triumphal arch erected by order of King Louis the First. It is to be surmounted by a figure of Victory, seated in a chariot, drawn by four lions,—all in bronze, gilt:—but this addition to the monument will not be finished in less than two years from the present time.—At the Royal Foundry in the same capital preparations are making for casting in bronze three colossal statues:—that of Gustavus Adolphus, for Göttingburg,—that of the Swedish poet Tegner, for Stockholm,—and that of Walter de Plettenberg, a celebrated Livonian General, surnamed "The Conqueror of the Russians," for what place we do not see stated. The last statue was modelled by Schwanthaler:—the others are the works of two young Swedish sculptors, MM. Fogelberg and Quarnstroem, both residing in Rome.

An extract which we have seen of a letter from Rome, states, with a great deal of sentimental indignation, that that place of ancient memories, the Coliseum, is in process of restoration! We know nothing of the facts,—but certainly the thing has an unwelcome sound. What a world of poetry goes out with a restoration of the Coliseum? We know not whether this restoration may have in view the utilising of the monument or is done in the spirit of the churchwarden,—but in neither case can our sensibilities reconcile themselves to the fact. We should grudge to even the cause of utilitarianism a lodgment in the scene where Byron and Sidney Yendys have dreamed such spiritual dreams—the genius of cockneyism we would assault there in the name of all the poetry that the world has left. Even in our economical day, we would still, there at least, have the moon "look through the rents of ruin," and the breeze sigh among the green tresses that are the growth of centuries. We are great advocates of that Present in which we live, and in the cause of that Future which is to grow out of it,—but we would spare the Coliseum to the Past. Far other voices than the mere hooting of the owl may be heard speaking there from the "battlements of Time." The path of the world is onward,—but here and there we would preserve points through which it may take a long look back. Somehow, we should not like to see the Pyramids made into shot-towers:—we do not care to lodge political economy on the tomb of Cheops. By some fine sympathy, which once in a way we would indulge, the sky is now the only roof that we can understand for the Coliseum.



There are points that we cannot argue with Bentham or with Hume—yet, in reference to which we will wilfully take refuge in our no-argument as something better—we know not why—than their argument. The spirits that plead for the Coliseum have a language which is not that of the economists,—but which utters truth in its way too. We would not maintain many temples to Ruin—but she is a spirit-teacher, like the rest. There are shrines of hers which it is nothing less than desecration to touch.—“A large portion of the garland-forest that so beautified and adorned the walls,” says the writer of the letter which we quote, “has disappeared before lime and colouring stuff.” If this can be true, it may be too late to plead for the great and solemn frescoes which nature had been so many centuries in painting on its walls. But we will venture to say that he, be it Pope or Pedlar, who shall recover this great Desolation from the sea of time which has overflowed its utilities will have the most famous of all names (in a certain damatory sense) amongst Restorers. He who shatters the genius of the Coliseum will be the Prince of Iconoclasts.

## MUSIC AND THE DRAMA

### HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE. THE GRAND NATIONAL CONCERTS.

MONDAY, OCTOBER 28th.

Symphony in D. Mozart.—Aria Buffa, M. Jules Stockhausen, ‘Il Pastellone,’ Balle.—Concerto in E. First Movement, Miss Goddard (her third appearance in public). Hummel.—Cavatina, Middle Angri, ‘Or lo sùll’ ondo,’ Giarumante, Mercadante.—New Valse, ‘Tony,’ first time of performance, Labitzky.—Aria, Mr. Sims Reeves, ‘Un Impero,’ Le Prophète (his second appearance), Meyerbeer.—Fantaisie, Violoncello, on airs from Linda di Chamouni, Piatti.—Overture, Marijans, Wallace.

#### PART II.

Soprano, for Violin, Violoncello, Double Bass, Clarinet, Horn and Bassoon, performed by M. M. Sainton, Dando, Piatti, Anzolei, Franc, Sleschek, and Baumann, Beethoven.—Cavatina, Middle Angri, ‘Oiel Fiesco,’ Schupria, Rossini.—Fantaisie, on airs from Don Pasquale, Grand Pianoforte, Miss Goddard, Thalberg.—Ballad, Mr. Sims Reeves, ‘In this old Chair,’ Balfe.—New Polka, ‘Charlotten,’ first time of performance, Labitzky.—Solo, Concertina, Mr. Blagrove (his first appearance), Blagrove.—Galop, ‘Des Papillons,’ composed expressly for these Concerts, Carter.

PHONOGRAPH 10.30.

Doors open at half-past 7, and commence at 8 o'clock.

### THEATRE ROYAL, DRURY LANE.

#### M. JULIEN'S GRAND BAL MASQUÉ

Will take place on

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 7th, 1850.

M. JULIEN has the honour to announce that his GRAND ANNUAL BAL MASQUÉ will this year be given previous to the commencement, instead of the termination, of his ANNUAL SERIES of CONCERTS, and will take place on THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 7th, 1850, (THE CONCERTS COMMENCING ON THE FOLLOWING EVENING).

M. JULIEN feels it almost unnecessary to refer to the fact of the great increase in the popularity of BALS MASQUÉS since he had the honour of introducing them in this country. The patronage bestowed on them by the Nobility and Gentry is a sure evidence of the immense attraction of such Entertainments—of the splendour and completeness with which they have been presented—and, above all, of the manner in which they have been conducted.

It has been generally allowed that, in the Decoration of these BALS, they have surpassed all former occasions of a like kind; but the one here announced being given at the commencement, instead of at the termination, of M. JULIEN'S ANNUAL SERIES of CONCERTS, THE WHOLE OF THE DECORATION WILL BE ENTIRELY NEW, and be seen for the first time on THURSDAY, November 7th. In addition to this will be displayed the Magnificent and Novel CRYSTAL CURTAIN, which was exhibited on One Evening only last year, viz. that of the Bal Masqué, and which created an universal surprise and admiration.

M. JULIEN abstains from giving any detailed description of the decoration, but begs to assure his Patrons that they may rely on witnessing one of the most splendid combinations of Decorative Effects ever produced.

THE ORCHESTRA will, as heretofore, be complete, and consist of ONE HUNDRED and TEN MUSICIANS.

Principal Cornet-Pistons, HERR KENIG.

CONDUCTOR, M. JULIEN.

The New and Fashionable Music of the present Season will be played, and include several New Polkas, Waltzes, Mazurkas, and Quadrilles, composed expressly for the Nobility's BALS, Almack's, &c., by M. JULIEN.

Tickets for the Ball, 10s. 6d. The Prices of Admission for SPECTATORS (for whom the Audience Portion of the Theatre will, as before, be set apart) will be as on former occasions, viz.—Dress Circle, 5s.; Boxes, 3s.; Lower Gallery, 2s.; Upper Gallery, 1s.; Private Boxes, from 2s. 3d. upwards. Persons taking Private Boxes will have the privilege of passing to and from the Ball Room without extra charge.

Tickets for the Ball, Places and Private Boxes, may be secured on application to Mr. O'Kelly, at the Box-Office of the Theatre, which is open from 10 to 6. Private Boxes also at Mr. Mitchell's, Old Bond Street; Mr. Sams', St. James's Street; Mr. Olivier, Mr. Allcroft, Messrs. Leader & Cooke, and Mr. Chappell, New Bond Street; Messrs. Cranmer, Bell & Co., and at Julien & Co.'s, Musical Establishment, 214, Regent Street.

The Doors will be opened at half-past nine, and the Dancing commence at ten.

Sherbet, Carrara Water, Coffee, Tea, and Ices (under the superintendence of Mr. G. Payne) will be supplied during the evening, and at one o'clock the Supper will be served.

Mr. I. Nathan, Junr., of 18, Castle Street, Leicester Square, is appointed Costumier to the Ball. Persons in the costume of Clowns, Harlequins, or Pantaloons will not be admitted.

### M. JULIEN'S ANNUAL SERIES OF CONCERTS FOR ONE MONTH ONLY.

M. JULIEN has the honour to announce that his ANNUAL SERIES of CONCERTS will COMMENCE at the Theatre Royal, Drury Lane, on FRIDAY, November 8th.

Full particulars will be duly announced.

HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE.—The *Grand National Concerts* seem to meet with a fair amount of favour: good compositions being invariably well received,—and (so far as we can judge) the instrumental solos being more popular than the vocal music. That a change is coming over English taste in this respect there cannot be the slightest doubt. We wish that Herr Molique would do his talent as a composer justice, by laying aside his national *fantasia*, which, indeed, is not so much based on English airs as on fragments of them. He has abundance of better solos in his quiver; and any of the quaint *rondos* to his own *Concerti*—the right humour of which no other violinist seems to hit—might be tried without dread of wearying the promenade public,—though it is sometimes recusant when the *encore* of a long Italian *scena*, not very excellently sung, is the question. The other instrumental novelties have been, the performance of Miss Goddard, a young and clever pianist, pupil of M. Thalberg,—and the arrival of Herr Labitzky, to do good to the dance music, which, indeed, was becoming rather dismal.—Turning now to the vocal part of these Concerts, let us take this opportunity to speak of Mr. Gustavus Geary, the young Irish tenor. He has at present more of the feeling than of the training of a singer,—but his voice is sweet, and possesses a certain willingness of quality which ought to tempt its owner to practice. With this, Mr. Geary may take a fair place among English tenors. But what are we to do for English baritones and basses? Mr. Drayton has a noble voice,—but many a mile of *solfeggi* to sing through ere he can command it as he must to succeed. We should find it hard to name any English baritone having analogous qualifications who is as carefully finished or as presentable as either M. Jules Lefort or M. Stockhausen,—each of whom has, deservedly, made an agreeable impression on the public.—Our contemporaries, we observe, deprecate the meagreness of the English chorus which has appeared at these Concerts,—as auguring ill for the adequate performance of the English *serenatas* which have been liberally commissioned.

HAYMARKET.—The comedy of ‘Sweethearts and Wives’ was revived on Monday. The main attraction of the performance was the first appearance of Mr. Henry Bedford, nephew of Mr. Paul Bedford, in the character of *Billy Lackaday*. This gentleman has, it seems, come with a considerable reputation from the Manchester and Dublin theatres,—and we must say, that it was in great part justified by his present performance. Mr. Bedford has undoubtedly humour which, when it shall receive more development, promises to be very effective. At present it suffers restraint, apparently from dread of the audience; but great comic intelligence showed through the clouds of this ‘brainish apprehension.’ Mr. Bedford's personal recommendations for the stage are first rate.—The part of *Eugenia* found a graceful representative in Miss Reynolds; and Miss Horton, who was *Laura*, sang with her usual charm the ballad ‘Why are you wandering?’ The other parts were well filled,—and the audience encouraged the *débutant* with the usual recall before the curtain.

‘The Husband of my Heart’ is the name of a new adaptation of an old French piece already (some two or three seasons ago) produced at the Lyceum under the title of ‘The Pride of the Market.’ The plot turns on the awkward interference of a *Viscount de Belletulippe* (Mr. Selby) in the amours of the *Duke de Fronsac* (Mr. Howe). The Duke is married,—but has never seen his wife,—having, at the King's command, disdainfully given his hand to her at the altar without looking at his bride; and he is at the period of the play in peril of the Bastille for disobedience to the royal will in refusing to fulfil his matrimonial engagement. His Duchess, in possession of the royal signet, to be returned to his Majesty by a certain time by the husband himself in sign of his submission, resorts to disguise in order to induce the duke's compliance by the motive of love for herself. Assuming the character of a market girl, she becomes the object of an intrigue; and, yielding to the occasion, thus wins her lord's affections, and produces the desired result.—The foppish Viscount

gets, in the course of the action, embarrassed with the market females *Eugenie* (Mrs. Fitzwilliam) and *Madame Coquillarde* (Mrs. Stanley),—who pursue him to his palace and extort from him a handsome compensation in hard cash for the presumed insults which they have suffered. Mr. Buckstone, with his usual humour, performs the part of *Biroche*,—a pastrycook and cowardly lover of Eugenie. All the characters were well sustained. Miss Reynolds in the heroine far surpassed our expectations. The improvement lately made by this actress is very great.

On Thursday, a new farce called ‘My Friend in the Straps’ was produced. It is a version from the French vaudeville *Morovee*—the groom being turned into an Irishman, impersonated by Mr. Hudson.

PRINCESS'S.—‘The Stranger’ was performed on Thursday:—Mr. and Mrs. Kean supporting the parts of *Mr.* and *Mrs. Haller*, with their usual success. A new farce followed, translated from the French: wherein two lovers suppose themselves to be confined in the Tower of London. Hence the title, ‘Sent to the Tower.’ The lovers are rivals; and are shut up in a country-house by a third lover, who runs away with the lady, and after the marriage, sets them at liberty. The fun consists in the irritability and tendency to quarrel of the two imprisoned antagonists, condemned to occupy the same chamber. Of this the utmost was made by Mr. Keeley and Mr. Harley. The piece was moderately successful.

STRAND.—‘Born with a Caul,’ an adaptation by Mr. Almar from Mr. Charles Dickens's ‘David Copperfield,’ was produced on Monday. In constructing his materials for the stage, Mr. Almar has exercised the utmost freedom. There is a large amount of apocryphal matter. The scenes are projected on the principle of effect,—and the most daring additions are hazarded to produce the required amount of stage-excitement. The plot is most mysteriously conducted; and the spectator has to make out the connexion of the incidents in the best way he can. This, indeed, is the approved modern fashion (“fashion you may call it”) of reducing the popular romance of the day to the popular drama of the night. The practice of our old poets,—that of melting down the materials of a Cinthio-novel, and recasting them as a play amenable to dramatic laws, and telling its own tale without reference to the original story—has been altogether discarded; and this easier plan of shuffling the scenes into juxtaposition anyhow, is preferred.—In justice, however, we must say, that in the *mélange* at the Strand there are many striking situations well managed, and some good acting. In particular, Mr. Atwood must be singled out for commendation. He sustained two parts—those of *Uriah Heap* and *Miss Moucher*—both with admirable tact. Mr. Turner was good as *Micauber*; and Miss Isabel Simpson acted with pathos the part of *Martha Endel*. The piece was successful.

SADLER'S WELLS and SURREY.—On Wednesday ‘Julius Cæsar’ was performed at both these houses.

MUSICAL AND DRAMATIC GOSSIP.—The performance of Mr. C. Horsley's Oratorio ‘David,’ by the Liverpool Philharmonic Society, is fixed, we perceive, for Tuesday, the 12th of November.

The first note of advertisement made by the English Operatic Commonwealth about to assemble at Miss Kelly's Theatre contains an announcement which will strike the upholders of native talent as odd, to say the least of it. The conductor of the orchestra is neither Mr. Loder, Mr. Wallace, Mr. Balfe, Mr. Tully, nor any Englishman, tried or untried in that capacity, but—Herr Anschuetz: who is, at best, a third-rate German conductor.

Among our musical preparations for the coming season, we are informed that Mr. Ella intends to increase the number of meetings of the *Musical Union* to twelve performances.

Mr. Lumley announces for the opening of his Italian Opera campaign at Paris ‘La Sonnambula,’ with Madame Sontag as *Amina* and Signor Calzolari as *Elvino*. The ‘Luigia Miller,’ of Verdi, is also promised for him;—also ‘La Tempesta.’ In



a sort of *programme* letter addressed by him to the French journals, and cited in the *Gazette Musicale*, he is more wisely vague and general except in the article of self-praise. "I agree with you," says he, "that the Italian opera stands in need of revival; and if, as you say, good will and skill avail nothing in presence of certain impossibilities, I will seek, at least, to reach to the last limits of the possible." "From the combination in my hands," Mr. Lumley concludes, "of the Italian Operas in London and in Paris, there should arise, if I do not deceive myself, something useful for art, and happy for the exalted tastes of that intelligent public whom I have to thank, with my heart, for their noble and generous hospitality."

The managers of the *Grand Opéra* of Paris have done wisely in engaging Signor Maralti,—whose improvised performance of *Eleazar*, in 'La Juive,' at Covent Garden, was one of those events which should not be overlooked by managers. As a first tenor, to divide duties with M. Roger, and proved as above to be ready in the repertory of the theatre, Signor Maralti is a great acquisition.

The first distinct idea which many have entertained regarding the *Grand Opéra* of Paris, may have been, as it was with ourselves, derived from a note in the 'Fudge Family' in which "the shrill screams of Madame Branchu" were mentioned. She retired from the theatre in 1826, after twenty-five years of *prima donnaship*—having succeeded to the sceptre and crown of Mdlle. Maillard and Madame St. Huberty. Madame Branchu died a few days since at Passy, having almost entirely passed out of the memory of the present operating generation. She must have been a forcible and impassioned singer (the French conventions always allowed for) rather than an elegant or irreproachable vocalist—and will be best remembered, perhaps, as the original *Julia* in 'La Vestale' of Spontini. She appears to have had those serious though semi-bombastic notions of her art and her profession which distinguish, as a class, the French artists of the highest quality from the more indifferent but more genially-endowed singers of Italy. When about to die, Madame Branchu summoned to her M. Alexis Dupont, and entreated him to superintend the performance of a favourite piece of music belonging to her French school at her funeral. This was the 'O Salutaris' of Gossec which, in compliance with her wishes, was arranged with text fitting it to take its place in a burial service,—and was executed, as she had bespoken, by MM. Dupont, Ponchar, and Levasseur.

Herr Joachim, we are told,—who is now permanently settled at Weimar, with an appointment expressly created for him,—intends visiting London next year. But we apprehend that something of the same kind might be said from A. to Z. of the dictionary of living musical executants.

Letters from Madrid announce that M. Arrieta, the Spanish composer, of whom mention has been made as having received a royal commission to write an opera on the subject of the "Conquest of Granada," has finished his work. They add, that his opera was rehearsed in presence of the Queen and Court, and is considered decidedly successful. The principal vocalists engaged in it are, we fancy, Spaniards;—being Madame Lema de Vega, Madame Sophia Vela, and M. Puig (known, we think, on the Italian stage under the name of Signor Flavio). The scenery was prepared by M. Philastre, the well-known artist belonging to the *Grand Opéra* of Paris.—At Barcelona, a composition of lighter order, 'El Duende,' with music by D. Rafael Hernandez, has been recently given with success. This, also, was executed by Spanish artists.

Mdlle. Parodi is expected in New York as the *prima donna* of M. Maretzek's opera company there.—Tripler Hall, the room described as in preparation for Mdlle. Lind's concerts, has, by some chance, fallen into other occupation,—Madame Bishop and M. Bodha having become its tenants, with the purpose of there giving monster concerts (including oratorios on Sunday evenings), and founding what they call a *Conservatoire*.

We understand that a new play by Mr. Marston, founded on the story of Philip Augustus of France and Marie de Méranie, has been received at the Olympic,—and will be put into immediate rehearsal.

The two leading parts will be sustained by Miss Faucit and Mr. Brodke.

A dramatic sensation, it is said, has been produced in Paris by the first appearance of Mdlle. Madelaine Brohan, sister to Mdlle. Brohan of the *Théâtre Français*, in the new comedy by M. Scribe, 'The Queen of Navarre's Tales.' Private letters some time ago described her as a young lady of more than ordinary promise; and her performance appears to have fulfilled expectation. Here, then, seems something which may be worked by way of counter-check to the exactions of Mdlle. Rachel: these having been based on the satisfactory conviction that without Mdlle. Rachel the establishment in the Rue Richelieu could not long prosper. During her absence from Paris this time, the tragic muse seems to have been more earnest in her profession (of gathering gain) than ever. Her appearances at Vienna have excited an enthusiasm in its Austrian way comparable to the *Jenny Lind* adulation which is now raging among the Americans. In every point of view, therefore, the appearance of another first-class actress at the classical theatre of Paris must be most acceptable to our neighbours.

A new classical play, 'Pœtus Cœcina,' by Mr. Pray, of Boston, U.S., has been produced at New York for Mr. Buchanan, the new actor. It is said to have been successful. For the American stage, however, we would rather have heard of something more national.

#### MISCELLANEA

*The Britannia Bridge.*—The permanent public opening of the new line of tubes for the down line from London to Dublin has taken place,—the great structure being now in all important respects made complete. On the day of opening, Capt. Simmons, the Government inspector, went over it early in the morning, and instituted, in conjunction with the engineers, a long series of experiments. The first experiment consisted in passing two locomotive engines through the tube, and resting them at intervals in the centre of the sections. At nine o'clock, a train of twenty-eight waggons and two locomotives, with 280 tons of coal, was drawn into all four of the tubes, the deflections being carefully noted. These deflections were ascertained to be exactly three-fourths of an inch under this load. After repetitions of these experimental ordeals, which occupied several hours, the train of 280 tons, with its two locomotives, was taken out about a mile distant from the tube, and then suddenly shot through it with the greatest attainable rapidity,—and the result was, that the deflection at this immense velocity of load was sensibly less in the way of undulation than when the load was allowed to remain at rest on the tube. The contrivance by which the effects are indicated with great precision consists in a large pipe containing water, laid along the lower cells of the tube, one end rising up within the tube at the centre, and the other end fixed against the stonework of the abutments of the bridge. Both extremities of this pipe are furnished with glass tubes and graduated scales, by which the relative levels of the water were easily ascertained. As the slightest leakage or evaporation over the ordinary thermometric expansion of the water would derange the level, while only half the actual deflection of the tube was registered at each end of the pipe, these disadvantages are obviated by the addition of a large reservoir of water in the interior of the tube, which is covered with oil and placed beside the graduated scale. This larger area exhibited the whole of the deflections at the abutment extremity, and the apparatus presents a perfect representation of all the deflections and phases of the great structure. Messrs. E. & L. Clark, the resident engineers, who have watched minutely from day to day all the developed peculiarities of the novel undertaking, state that the heaviest gales through the Straits do not produce so much motion over the extent of either tube as the pressure against the side of the tubes of ten men; and that the pressure of ten men keeping time with the vibrations produces an oscillation of 1½ inch, the tube itself making sixty-seven double vibrations per minute. The strongest gusts of wind that have swept up the Channel during the late stormy weather do not cause a vibration of more than a quarter of an inch. The broadside of a storm causes an oscillation

of less than an inch; but when the two tubes are braced together by frames, which is now being done, these motions, it is expected, will cease. The motion of the sun at midday does not move them more than a quarter or three-eighths of an inch. The daily expansion and contraction of the tubes varies from half an inch to three inches, attaining either the maximum or minimum at about three o'clock A.M. and P.M. If a compass be held over any part of the bottom of the cells, the south pole is affected, and if held over the top of the cells, the north pole is affected; and this effect is observable in all parts of the tube, whether at the centre of the end, although their position is only about 10° west of the magnetic meridian. Preparations are making for covering the tubes with a light arched roof of peculiar construction.—*Times*.

*Return of Carrier Pigeons taken out by Sir John Ross.*—The *North British Mail* says:—"We have learned, from a private source, that on Friday last two of the carrier pigeons taken out by Sir John Ross when he left the port of Ayr, and some of which were to be despatched home in the event of his either finding Sir John Franklin or being frozen in, arrived at Ayr,—finding their way at once to the dove-cot which they occupied previous to being taken away. The birds arrived within a short time of each other, but neither of them conveyed anything in the shape of letter or note of any kind. One of them seems to have had some document attached, but which has apparently been shot away. The time they were liberated by Sir John Ross is of course uncertain; but taking into consideration the well-known powers of flight possessed by the carrier pigeon, it cannot be very long since they left our gallant countrymen. The distance which the creatures must have traversed cannot be far short of 2,000 miles."

*New Act to shorten Acts of Parliament.*—Among the statutes of the last session of Parliament was one "for shortening the language used in Acts of Parliament." It contains eight concisely worded sections, and, according to the provisions, very considerable improvements are expected to be made in future acts. Subsequent acts, it is expected, will not contain a provision to alter or amend. They will be divided into sections, without any introductory words. It will be sufficient to cite the year of the reign of a former act; the word "expedient" will become obsolete. There will be no need of interpretation clauses, nor of others respecting repealed provisions; and all future acts are to be deemed public acts, unless expressly declared to the contrary. The act is to commence and take effect from and immediately after the commencement of the new session of Parliament.—*Times*.

*Tower of London.*—The *Architect* says:—"It seems to be the intention of the Duke of Wellington gradually to rebuild this structure, in conformity with the mediæval castellated styles. If he carries out a like spirit in his rangship, it is to be hoped the Parks may receive improvements. The Tower is already one of the most remarkable castles in the world,—and foreigners next year will look with surprise on that building and on Windsor Castle as examples of our love for ancient associations."

TO CORRESPONDENTS.—J. C.—Dr. B.—Anti-Negligentia—S. T.—An Amateur—received.

SENEX, who writes to us on the subject of the Bedford Charity, is thanked; but all the facts which he communicates have been already laid before our readers.

F. F. L. M.—Does our correspondent—whom we would be quite willing to oblige—neglect that in order to answer his question we must turn over the columns of the *Times* and search back through our own,—that he can easily make the reference for himself,—and that if we were to reply to all the applications of the kind made to us we must, as we have again and again said, altogether abandon the legitimate business of our journal?

S. M.—An answer to the same effect must satisfy this correspondent.

REICHENBACH ON THE DYNAMICS OF MAGNETISM.—In reference to a remark in our review, last week, of the two several translations of this work,—to the effect that Dr. Ashburner need not have felt himself called on to translate a work which was, for translation, in hands so competent as those of Prof. Gregory,—Mr. Baillière has addressed to us a remonstrance. He says that he was the first to import a copy of the original book, and put it into the hands of a translator,—and that Dr. Gregory was aware of his edition having gone to press a month before he bought a copy of the original from an Edinburgh bookseller.—We give these facts as Mr. Baillière states them. Of course, they do not in any way affect our estimate of either of the works.

Erratum.—DR. CURIE'S 'HOMEOPATHY,' advertised last week at 1s. should have been 7s.



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20	On or before 8th May, 1845.	£1,000	£19 6 8	£11 2 4
30		1,000	24 0 0	18 0 9
40		1,000	31 10 0	18 2 3
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.. .. 1837	432	14,600 0 0	31,592 10 5
.. .. 1838	459	19,934 19 4	46,855 10 10
.. .. 1839	490	25,457 4 2	64,959 10 10
.. .. 1840	494	31,091 10 10	90,545 13 0
.. .. 1841	537	36,367 1 4	114,953 2 4
.. .. 1842	563	38,269 9 7	138,806 1 7
.. .. 1843	703	44,219 17 0	167,079 11 2
.. .. 1844	722	55,037 9 2	202,162 1 0
.. .. 1845	911	70,819 14 5	241,469 13 0
.. .. 1846	1005	83,910 8 2	299,075 12 4
.. .. 1847	1234	111,123 13 6	367,172 16 0
.. .. 1848	1423	126,332 7 6	440,028 15 0
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1,000	7 years	0 0	157 10 0	1,157 10 0
1,000	1 year	0 0	23 10 0	1,023 10 0
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# THE ATHENÆUM

Journal of English and Foreign Literature, Science, and the Fine Arts.

No. 1201.

LONDON, SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 2, 1850.

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## REVIEWS

*Sketch of Mairwara: giving a brief Account of the Origin and Habits of the Mairs, their Subjugation by a British Force, their Civilisation and Conversion into an industrious Peasantry; with Descriptions of various Works of Irrigation in Mairwara and Ajmeer, constructed to facilitate the Operations of Agriculture and guard the Districts against Drought and Famine. Illustrated with Maps, Plans and Views.* By Lieut.-Col. C. J. Dixon. Smith, Elder & Co.

THE friends of Hindústan and of the numerous races which occupy the British empire of the East, are indebted to Major Baker and the Directors of the East India Company for the publication of this interesting and suggestive volume. It is the record of an experiment, tried, under peculiarly unfavourable circumstances, to convert the native tribes of the interior into husbandmen and peaceful cultivators of the soil,—and the history of its methods and its success. The volume, as we are informed, is not to be generally published,—a circumstance, if it be so, to be regretted on public grounds. We know of no single work relating to the internal economy and social development of Hindústan likely to prove of so much practical use. Such a history as this should be in the hands not only of every servant of the company, but also of every public writer and Member of Parliament. The day is not far distant when the men of Leadenhall Street will again apply to the Legislature of England for a new lease of power in the East; and before the great discussion then to arise comes on, our eight hundred born or selected lawgivers ought to know something of the inner and civil history of the country which they will have to hand over on conditions more or less ample to the merchant-princes of the City. The 'Sketch of Mairwara' may be taken as a textbook in such a study. So little has hitherto been done by the conquering race to civilize and humanize the natives of the country,—that the idea has been fast growing into a settled conviction with the men of red-tape and routine that nothing was to be attempted. The sentiment of a barbaric conquest, achieved by valour and to be held by force, has extended from the actual service to an influential portion of the public at home. In the earlier stage of conquest, it is obvious that the military question must take precedence of all others:—an army encamped in the midst of a hostile population must first of all take charge of its own safety. But at the end of three-quarters of a century of occupation, it is a disgrace to English rule that it can point to so little real practical benefit conferred on the subject people. Col. Dixon's account of the experiments in Mugra is at once a rebuke to our past neglects and an encouragement to renewed and larger efforts in the future. The great Company have here committed to paper and type a lasting witness against themselves. It would be of no avail now to quote their recent successes in reprobation of their old failures, but the press and parliament ought to keep them in the future to the standard which they have themselves thus honestly supplied. What has been done in Mairwara may be imitated more or less thoroughly in every part of Hindústan. It is more especially desirable that similar attempts be made among the restless and formidable tribes of the Hill country.

The tract of land known by the name of Mairwara forms a portion of the Arabala chain of hills, stretching from Goozerat to within a few miles of Delhi. Before it fell into the

power of England, it was a dense jungle, infested by wild beasts, and scarcely ever traversed by man, excepting along the rude and difficult paths which formed the lines of communication from one village to another,—and the greater part of it was entirely uninhabited. The face of the district is now dotted over with villages,—no small portion of the surface has been brought into a state of profitable cultivation,—and a town with 10,000 inhabitants, well-built houses, barracks, prisons, hospitals, and bazaars, stands on a spot that thirty years ago was a waste. There could scarcely be a more signal instance of the power of civilization in changing old habits and ideas, and converting even vicious activity into a means of improvement.

We have said this experiment of Cols. Hall and Dixon in reclamation of Mairwara was tried under highly discouraging circumstances,—arising from the character of the population and the incidents of their subjection. Of the origin of the people we have the following account.—

"Of the inhabitants of the Mugra, previous to the time from which the present Mairs date their origin, little seems to be now known. The country at that time must have been a vast impenetrable jungle, offering few advantages to the cultivator, though promising many to the outlaw and fugitive from justice: hence the fastnesses of the Mugra became eventually a refuge for all who had rendered themselves amenable to the laws of their country, or who had been ejected from caste by their brethren for some religious misdemeanour. All so circumstanced, on throwing themselves on the protection of the banditti of the hills, were welcomed and received as brethren; and being hopeless of pardon in their own state, and confident in the strength of their asylum and the union and determination of their new associates, soon joined their fortunes with them, and became permanently established in the Mugra. \* \* In this manner the ranks of the Mairs of the Mugra were yearly swelled by the advent of men of all classes, who appear very seldom to have subsequently quitted their asylum, but, marrying, bred up their children to the mongrel faith and wild usages of their new associates. In the mean time the Mairs had become most formidable, by their depredations, to the neighbouring States. From the peculiar position of the hilly strip of land which they inhabited, surrounded as it was by the large principalities of Marwar, Meywar, and Ajmeer, they were enabled by rapid incursions to carry their plundering expeditions into the very heart of any of these States, and yet always to remain within hail of their strongholds in the hills, to which they speedily betook themselves on encountering any serious opposition, as plunder, and not war, was their object."

Against these marauders the most powerful princes of the country had sent army after army,—each of which was defeated, dispersed, and destroyed in the jungle or fastnesses of the hills; and the neighbouring powers were only too glad to compound with the mountaineers,—giving black-mail in exchange for peace and security. The British army was the first to reduce these untameable freebooters to obedience:—a result not achieved without terrible slaughter and devastation. When it was effected at length, and peace established on a solid footing, the conquerors began to bring them gradually to a knowledge of civilized habits. Long custom thwarted these endeavours,—especially in regard to slavery, infanticide, and the sale of women. Col. Hall's report shows that the two latter crimes had a common origin.—

"It is most satisfactory to be able to report the complete and voluntary abolition of the two revolting customs,—female infanticide and the sale of women. Both crimes were closely connected, having had their origin in the heavy expense attending marriage contracts. The sums were payable by the

male side, were unalterable, equal for the rich and poor, without any abatement whatever in favour of the latter. What first established the payment is unknown; but it was so sacred, inviolable, and even a partial deviation so disgraceful, that the most necessitous of the tribe would not incur the imputation. Hence arose as decided a right over the persons of women as over cattle or other property. They were inherited and disposed of accordingly, to the extent even of sons selling their own mothers. Hence, also, arose infanticide. The sums payable were beyond the means of so many, that daughters necessarily remained on hand after maturity, entailed immoral disgrace, and thus imposed a necessity for all female progeny becoming victims to their family honour. On the establishment of British rule, both evils gradually diminished. Females were not allowed to be transferred except for conjugal purposes; their consent was to be obtained, and their choice consulted; kind, humane treatment was enforced, and the whole system of considering them as mere cattle was discouraged, without any indication, however, of interference with the right of property so long existing."

While these and similar reforms were in progress, a new turn was given to the course of improvement by an incident of a most unpromising kind. A well-appointed party of plunderers entered the Mairwara to carry off booty; but their objects being suspected, the villagers attacked and routed them—capturing a number of prisoners, who were delivered over to the British authorities. What became of them further Col. Dixon shall tell us.—

"The prisoners were sentenced to four years' imprisonment, with labour, in the Mairwara gaol; but before that period had expired, a plan offered itself for turning their services to useful account. Poverty and ignorance had actuated them to enrol themselves under the banner of Ujub Singh. It was manifest that were they induced into habits of thrift, they might become useful subjects. The plan in contemplation possessed novelty, it is true; but it merited a trial; for should it prove successful, we might adopt it as a guide for future observance. After due consideration, it was arranged to form the robbers into a village community, to be located on an uncultivated spot within three miles of Nya Nuggur. The parties concerned acquiescing in the proposition, several hundred beggars of land were apportioned off for their use. Good security having been obtained, the prisoners were permitted to quit the gaol every morning, one of the leg chains being fixed and the other held in hand for the purpose of digging wells at their new village; they returned unattended every evening to sleep in the gaol. On the expiration of their imprisonment, they were joined by their families and relations, and commenced in earnest on the cultivation of the soil. In the course of a year after their release, the new village exhibited signs of prosperity. It now contains twenty-seven families, and pays us a yearly revenue of 770 rupees. From the day of their location up to the present time, no case of misconduct has been brought against them. The character of the people has been marked by order, propriety, and untiring diligence in their rural pursuits. The great facility with which a band of robbers belonging to a foreign state has been converted into a rural, revenue-paying peasantry, as exemplified in the pillagers of Gungpore, may not prove uninteresting or undeserving of notice and observance by public authorities, who may possess the ability to repeat what has been so successfully carried out at the village of Sheonathpooora."

The success of this experiment led to the idea of encouraging all the inhabitants of the hills to settle on the land and become cultivators. Lands were given to such as expressed any willingness to be taught the arts of husbandry and to settle down to honest labour. The great obstacle to this design was, the peculiar character of Hindú society—the system of castes—and the separation of trades and callings. It was some time before Col. Dixon prevailed with any one to move out of the tra-



ditional grooves; but the details by which the result was brought about are full of curious and instructive interest.—

"The communities of the Mair villages consist essentially of themselves, who are the cultivators, and the servants of the village,—viz. the smith, carpenter, potter, minstrel, barber, and bulahee. The tillage of the soil does not devolve on these classes as their immediate calling; for they are paid by the cultivators a certain quantity of grain each harvest and for each plough, besides receiving stated perquisites on the occasion of a marriage or the birth of a son. The business of the Dholee, or minstrel, was exclusively restricted to his professional avocation, in attending at weddings, or in accompanying the chief of the village on all occasions of festival. The Bulahee, answering to the Chumar of the provinces, made and repaired shoes for the community free of expense, from the hides of deceased cattle, prepared by himself: he repaired well-buckets, and was the out-door servant-of-all-work to the village. It was evident these classes enjoyed an unnecessary degree of leisure, and that, if we could succeed in applying their energies to husbandry, we should at once command a large increase to our agricultural means. The Bulahee being the lowest caste man in the village, and the one least of all connected with the tillage of the land, was first taken in hand. He was promised waste land, bullocks to till it, and advances for sinking a well, constructing a naree, or building a stone dike, according to the land in his village. He was told that he was now the slave of the village community; that, by himself becoming a cultivator, possessing cattle and a well, his respectability, not only in his own village, but amongst the whole of his brethren in caste, would be increased; that, by becoming a zumeendar, he would, from his advanced position in society and means, have his brethren suing him to take their daughters in marriage with his sons. In a word, his pride was flattered. It is unnecessary to add that the force of persuasion was effectual. He took kindly to the occupation of cultivator, and, through the force of example, every Bulahee has now become a zumeendar. The Lohar, carpenter and Koomhar, were craftsmen in their own line, their business demanding constant application. People of this class were readily open to reason, and, as they found the Sirkat was liberal in making advances for agricultural works, and that, if they did not take their share of the waste land to be divided amongst the village, no such favourable opportunity might again offer, they cheerfully signified their acquiescence in the cultivating mania which was now beginning to pervade the tract. The minstrel was a more difficult subject to handle. His calling is essentially that of a gentleman. Laborious thrift with him and his class was unknown. His hands had never been blistered from friction with a plough-handle, or by contact with any rural implement. His energies were restricted to playing the fiddle, beating the drum, singing the praises of his chief or clan, and telling stories. His treatment required adroit management. It is sufficient to say his pride too was flattered, and that he was enrolled as a convert to rural industry. Again, the force of example was great; and now scarcely a minstrel is to be found who is not employed as a cultivator."

Gradually the whole population became attached to industrial pursuits. Col. Dixon built a new town: and encouraged strangers of various castes—particularly that of Buneahs (shopkeepers or petty merchants) to settle in it,—capital and a readier means of buying and selling being two of the great wants of the young community. A dozen years ago the district was wholly dependent on supplies brought in (chiefly by plunder) from a distance. The population has much increased,—yet it now exports to surrounding towns and villages considerable supplies of produce. A strong and well planned town has been built, with two miles of wall as a defence. Trade is established and many of the traders are getting rich. The manufactures of the town are already various and considerable; and the sounds of honourable industry are heard not only in the vicinity of

Nya Nuggur, but in three or four hundred villages erected in the midst of the jungle. Civilization has dawned on the face of those long-troubled hills in some of its most benignant forms; and, to adopt the language of our authority for these statements, the habits of the Mairs have been so completely changed, that a woman can now walk unattended two or three miles across the country without fear of being insulted or stolen!

These are the trophies of peace and earnestness. What has been done by Col. Hall and by his cautious and energetic successor in the field, may surely be done again and again elsewhere. It is time to cease thinking that we are only encamped in Hindústan. The country is in our hands for good or for evil. The soldier and the policeman express a very small portion of the duties and responsibilities which have devolved on us.—The judgment and ingenuity displayed by Col. Dixon in carrying out the Mairwara experiment are worthy of all honour. His deeds of peace will merit higher praises from the sensible portion of mankind than the most brilliant feats of arms. Nya Nuggur gives a higher patent of nobleness than any that can be won at Waterloos or Chillianwallahs.

*Punch's Pocket-Book for 1851.* Punch Office. For the coming year our old acquaintance *Punch* puts on his freshest of masquerades. For a season or two past he has been rather grave and lugubrious for a formal professor of merriment:—but here he shows the joyous visage of his earlier time. His cap is of the old quaint cut, and his bells shake out the laughing notes to which the light spirits of the Christmas season danced of yore. As the long nights set in, and we socially draw round the winter's fire—making the graciousness within a set-off against the dreariness without—we gladly welcome any friend who brings with him a string of pleasant fancies, gentle admonitions, and the humours which provoke a harmless mirth. Among the ministers of the season, we have learned to look trustingly to *Punch*. We expect his rubicund and Christmas smile—and listen for the tones of his familiar voice. Here we have him grave and gay—gravity and gaiety with *Punch* being commonly convertible terms—his gravity including a sort of gaiety, and his gaiety covering grave morals.—But enough of preface. At random we select a page or two of illustrations.—

"*Specimens of a Romantic Guide to London.*"

"*Antiquarian Society.*—Holds its meetings in Somerset House; and is wholly supported by the voluntary contributions of the slow and sure. The President is the Oldest Inhabitant. The first recorded joke is here to be seen (by especial ticket) in the original Sanscrit; it is still in excellent preservation. Formerly, the relic could be borrowed upon giving sufficient security for its return; but so many Members of Parliament having abused the privilege (Colonel S—b—p once kept the joke for three years, and nothing came of it), that the Committee have wisely resolved in future to keep the joke entirely to themselves. Any gentleman who writes a very funny farce, may, if he please, assert his right to become a member of this body. The honorary initials are F.A.S. Younger members, however, prefer an addition, as—F.A.S.T.

"*Bridewell.*—A prison in which Sir Peter Laurie 'put down' suicide. His picture (painted by order of the Court of Aldermen) hangs in the Court Room. Sir Peter is painted in the act of 'putting down' the abuse alluded to; and it is thought by connoisseurs to be quite as natural as life. Indeed, the portrait is such a speaking likeness that few have the courage to encounter it.

"*British Museum.*—The private residence of a librarian, from childhood employed upon a catalogue, and who has almost conquered the A.B.C. of the document. It was well and wittily observed in the

House of Commons by a Member, whose name did not transpire, that to have a complete catalogue, you must have a Y.Z.—(N.B. Persons desirous of attending the Reading Rooms, should in winter be provided with woollen comforters for the neck; cayenne lozenges for inward warmth; and more than an ordinary supply of resignation and patience.)

"*Downing Street.*—This street is distinguished for the 'slowest' coach-stand in London.

"*Heralds' College, Doctors' Commons.*—At this establishment is kept a most curious Zoological Collection on parchment. Lions, unicorns, griffins, dragons, and monsters of every variety; to be had correct and at a moderate price, and warranted to fit any name with sufficient money to pay for the emblazonment. It was at the Heralds' College that, after only twenty minutes' search, the arms of the celebrated Miss Biffin (who, until that time, had put out watch-papers with her mouth) were duly discovered. The Heralds' College is ready, at any notice, to supply arms to any persons soever. Indeed, at the time of the demonstration of the Chartists, great fears were entertained by the Government that the College would supply arms even to them.

"*Inner Temple.*—To the south of Fleet Street. Once distinguished for its revels; that have now wholly fallen into disuse. We are told that 'Sir Christopher Hatton, when Lord Chancellor, danced in the Inner Temple Hall with the seals and mace of his office before him.' The dance, however, ceased in the Chancellorship of Lord Eldon. His Lordship, who, it is known to his honour, was a pious respecter of ancient customs, in the first year of his Chancellorship, stood up, mace and all, to perform the usual saltation; but stood so long motionless, doubting which foot he should put forth first—the right foot or the left—that the spectators became impatient, hissed, used catcalls, and broke into a row that was only finally quelled by an onslaught of watchmen.

"*Pump.*—*St. Michael's, Aldgate.*—A firm upon which the Spanish government has made all Spanish Bonds payable. Apply, at any time, to the turncock of the district, the Pump having been pulled down."

'The Preparatory School for Young Ladies' is suggestive of a useful social reform,—and tells better than the political squibs which have adorned the last volume or two of the *Pocket-Book*. The illustration, by Leech, is capital. 'Macbetto' is a whimsical satire on the Italian libretti,—and 'The Seedy Railway' is excellent in its way. The following couple of poetical effusions may amuse some of our readers. The initiated will have no difficulty in assigning them to their respective authors.—

*The Wallentine.*

I wish I hadn't never seed  
That pritty face o' yourn,  
For since the pane as I've endoord'  
Ain't hardly to be bourn.

'Tvos on a werry dirty day  
As you I fust did see,  
Crossin' the Crossin' wot I sveeps,  
And 'tvos all hup with me.

I dropt my broome and stoit to gays,  
And almost got noot downe  
All by a Cab and Honnibuss,  
And never begg'd a brown.

It 'tain't no dirty browns I vant  
For to reaseve of you,  
It is your true and constant luv  
Alone for me will doo.

I follor'd you a long way off  
Vile you did work afore,  
Until at length I sor you stop  
At Lord Fitzzeagle's dore!

And now I've found about you all,  
And how it 'tain't no good;  
I cannot have you far my life,  
However much I wood.

I tries with gin to drown my voes  
And to forgit my tortur;  
But 'tain't no use, I veep so fast  
As drownds the gin with vorter.

And if I goes to have a whiff  
Each hi's a water-spout,  
For tears like rain run down my knoose,  
And puts the Backy out.

My broome's vore out the Crossin' foul,  
My bliznis gone to pot,  
All owin' to your pritty face,  
As vill not be forgot.



Then be my Wallentine, hor else  
You'll bring into the Wurkus  
The Crossin' sveeper (left hand side)  
A top of Regen' Surous.

*Classic Song for the Many.*

Designed on the Collegiate System, for the Improvement of the Human Mind.

Oh! the bards and the sages of classical ages,  
Oh, the tyrants and heroes and heroes!  
Oh, the Homers and Platos, the Virgils and Catos!  
The Andromedes, Hectors and Neros!  
There are Hesiod and Horace—there's Xenophon for us,  
Who had no less a man for his master  
Than Socrates—wise un—who drank up his p'ison  
As a Dutchman would smoke his canaster.  
There was grandfather Priam—much older than I am—  
There was Go-it-like-winkin' Achilles;  
There were Diomedes twain—one who fought on Troy's  
plain—  
One who bred anthrophaghus fillics.  
Him to feed his own stud—that may well be call'd  
"blood"—  
Gave great Hercules, whom I'd forgotten,  
But who still will be famed until Ireland's reclaim'd,  
Or the oak of old England is rotten.  
There were Sappho and Dido—who both suicide, oh!  
Fie, for shame! for their lovers committed—  
For Æneas and Phaon; and there was Lycæon,  
Who his guests—the old cannibal!—spitted.  
There was Romulus, Remus, and big Polyphemus—  
There you go, as we say, with your eye out!  
Semiramis, Rhesus, Pygmalion, and Ceresus,  
Names in our time not likely to die out.  
There were Pelops and Bion, Lycurgus, Ixion,  
Julius Cæsar, and ditto Augustus;  
Alexander and Porus, Constantius Chlorus,  
And, besides, Aristides, called Justus.  
There was also great Pompey; with Crassus for stumpy  
As renown'd as the "Man made of Money;"  
There was Sophocles, he who was surnamed the Bee,  
From his verse being pleasant as honey.  
Old Æschylus Fame, too, assigns a great name to;  
Euripides—his name not small is;  
Prometheus Desmotes a poem of note is,  
So is Iphigenia in Aulis.  
There were also Miltiades, wild Alcibiades,  
Themistocles, Epaminondas,  
Apollonius Rhodius, and likewise Harmodius;  
And Mark Antony—precious old fond ass!  
Here 'tis fit to name Solon; but moments fast roll on:  
It were tedious to make a long story,  
Which by no means will suit us; so let Cassius and Brutus  
With Bellerophon rest in their glory!

Here is a sample of the graver mood to which we have referred,—with brief touches of nature and intimations of that subtle range of thought which characterize the essays of the chronicler of Clovernook. The anecdote is headed—

*"The Flight of Time.*

"It rained cats and dogs; many specimens of which went their way to the water-butts. And still cats and dogs came down in that diluted state best known by its volume to be animals canine and feline dissolved into a torrent. The dogs that are rained are, it is plain, Skye-terriers: the cats are not yet arranged, but patiently wait the leisure of Professor Owen.—Rain—rain—and continual rain. The flagstones of London are without speck or taint: the highway is so cleansed by the deluge, that the crossing-sweeper might, if he had the meal, eat his dinner upon the granite—the granite duly dried for the banquet. Rain—and more rain!—It is impossible to go out in such a deluge—equally impossible, with distraction in the very thought of it, to lose the railway-train. The train starts at a quarter past one. It is now half-past twelve. There remain three-quarters of an hour only; and—to run all the way—it would be a good half-hour's run to win the station. If the torrent do not cease in a quarter-of-an-hour, we must start; although we become soaked to the skin. Only a quarter-of-an-hour!—At the very notion, and as though in revenge of its impertinence, the torrent tumbled down thicker and thicker. Leave off in a quarter-of-an-hour! The rain, to the astonishment of the oldest inhabitant, had plainly enough set in for a week.—What a whizz and a patter, as the water rebounds from the stones! We cannot hear the ticking of the coffee-room clock—it is drowned in the noise of the torrent; but we can see the silent hands moving—moving in steadiest serenest mockery towards the Roman numeral I. Hallo! here's a hackney-cab.—Heigh! Here! Hallo!—The cabman casts one eye towards the window—beholds us frantically thumping at the pane—wildly petitioning. He sees us, and with a regulated ferocity begins to whistle. He gives his horse a gentle hint of whipcord, and drives on. The monster has a fare!—And here, reader, let us put it to you if there is anything in this struggle-for-a-shoulder-of-mutton life, more

abject and more insolent than one and the same hackney-cabman without a fare and with one? The fellow is without a fare. How coaxingly he holds his whip up in your face! What a deft, amiable jerk he gives it, as though with most potent politeness, he would—by its means—whip you inside; land you on the seat like a hooked trout, played and then landed on the greensward. The varlet cabman smiles from his box, the embodiment of servile solicitation. And wherefore? That hackney-cabman is without a fare.—The cabman is blind and deaf. How he drives, never deigning a look or a gesture towards you. It is impossible that the man can see you waving your umbrella—can hear you shouting. Yes he can, if he will, both see and hear. But why should he see—why hear? Has not the hackney-cabman a fare?—These conditions of mercenary man went through our mind, and still the rain came down. We turned our eye to the time-piece—we looked out again upon the street. The rain had stopped. Suddenly, instantaneously, as though turned off from the main—stopped.—We rushed out—there was time, with a run for it, to catch the train. We passed St. Somebody's Church. There were two boys crawled from under the porticos: two boys in veriest shreds and tatters, the rain yet pouring down their whitened backs and legs, white and staring through their rags. The rain dripped from every remnant: water-rats were never wetter.—The boys stood out upon the pavement. The most ragged, and, if there could be a choice, the most wet, threw up a jocund look towards the church-clock. 'A quarter to one,' said he, in a blithe and surprised voice—'a quarter to one! Well, I declare—how this morning has slipped away!'—What a lesson—thought we, hurrying towards the rail—what a lesson to folks who, in silks and satins, and by sea-coal fires, have time so heavily upon their hands,—when drenched raggedness, with no home but the streets, marvels at the flight of time, and soddened by the pitiless shower, wonders how 'the morning slips away!'"

As we have kept our readers well informed as to the character and prospects of the forthcoming Great Congress of 1851, we may add here that *Punch* has prepared a specimen of a charade for that Exhibition.—We will give our readers thus early an opportunity of guessing it.—

*Punch's Charade for the Exhibition of 1851.*

I am found in the sea, I am found in the air,  
I am found in a bed, I am found in a chair,  
I am found in the palace, I am found in the lane,  
I am found in the fields, I am found on the plain,  
I am found down a well, I am found up the steeple,  
I am found by myself, I am found with the people,  
I'm found in the cellar, I'm found on the wall,  
I'm found very great, and I'm found very small,  
What I am none can tell, yet I've not the least doubt  
That those who have sought me have all found me out.

It is scarcely necessary to add that "Punch's Pocket-Book" contains the usual amount of almanac information, and a number of ruled leaves left blank for memoranda.

*Commercial Law: its Principles and Administration; or, the Mercantile Law of Great Britain compared with the Laws and Codes of Commerce of other Countries.* By Leoni Levi. Benning & Co.

It is no small praise of Mr. Levi's book to say, that the contents fairly and honestly justify the title. He has written a *bonâ fide* treatise which, with great learning and no common degree of judgment, does lay before the student a comparative digest of the commercial law of Great Britain, and of that of most of the civilized, or even partially civilized, countries of the world. On so large a scale and in so systematic a form, this is a feat which has not been accomplished before; and we are bound to remember, that if the present volume is here and there imperfect, its author has had to work without models, to explore without guides, and to contend with a mass of heterogeneous details which would have quite disheartened any less enthusiastic inquirer. The present volume is described as the first of a series,—and contains, therefore, a portion only of the results which have rewarded Mr. Levi's

perseverance. The most important subject discussed in the present treatise is, the law of Partnership; and we apprehend that the careful compilations which are here made with method and precision from the commercial codes of Europe and America on this important and intricate branch of mercantile jurisprudence, will be exceedingly acceptable at this juncture to a wide class of intelligent persons.

Mr. Levi's enterprise in the preparation of this volume has been from the commencement *bonâ fide*. Pains really have been taken, and efforts really have been made on rather an extensive scale, to gain authentic information from sources of acknowledged authority. Lord Harrowby obtained for the author complete command over the libraries of the Board of Trade and of the British Museum; and through the intervention of Mr. Hume—always ready with his effectual and unostentatious assistance in the promotion of objects which promise to increase the happiness or convenience not merely of his fellow-countrymen, but of his fellow-creatures—Mr. Levi obtained access to the library of the Foreign Office. Here he found the works of the French codifiers,—and in particular the great treatise of M. Anthoine de St. Joseph entitled 'Concordance entre les Codes de Commerce Étrangers et le Code de Commerce Français.' As Mr. Levi is not a professional juriconsult, it is no reproach to him that he appears to have met with this work of his great French predecessor for the first time in his researches in Lord Palmerston's department. He has also to acknowledge very extensive and valuable assistance from private sources,—especially from Liverpool, at which port he describes himself as having been mainly instrumental in the establishment of the Chamber of Commerce.—We are thus careful in indicating the origin of this volume, because it relates to a subject, and professes to adopt a style of treatment, in the pursuit of which the authenticity of the materials is perhaps the most important consideration.

Mr. Levi is desirous of reforming, as well as of expounding, the commercial codes of the world. He introduces the more specific contents of his treatise with a very well-written programme of what he calls "A National and International Code of Commerce among all Civilized Countries"; and in an Address to Prince Albert, he proposes that a conference shall be held in London in June 1851, in connexion with the Great Exhibition, for the promotion of this imposing object. He suggests that the conference in question shall be composed of merchants and other competent persons from the several countries of the world, and shall be regarded as the first step towards the establishment of a permanent body in London, to be called "The British Association for Promoting the National and International Code of Commerce among all Civilized Nations."—We confess that we are somewhat staggered by the magnificence of these titles, and entertain considerable doubts as to the practical utility, in the present stage of the discussion at least, of the imposing association which Mr. Levi suggests. Mr. Levi conceives that by his Conference and his permanent Committee he would be able to promote a very effectual reform, and the introduction of a high degree of uniformity—or as he expresses it, "universality"—into the principles of commercial law. We are afraid that the comprehensiveness of his point of view has been obtained at the expense of its accuracy. It is evident—and it is the fact as shown by Mr. Levi's own researches—that the principles of mercantile jurisprudence are already exceedingly uniform in most countries. The uniformity of a law relating altogether to pro-



erty is a necessity of its existence, unless the authority of the judge is to be made a mere weapon in the hands of the dishonest. The object and the office of all mercantile law is to apply to particular circumstances the fundamental doctrine of a private right to fairly acquired wealth; and this is a principle so simple that, as Mr. Levi has shown, the points of radical divergence between the laws of one country, and those of any other are singularly unimportant. The real differences between the mercantile laws of the civilized states of the world are differences not of principle, but of formality, process and administration. We are fully sensible of the importance of simplicity and clearness in all systems of law which are to regulate the daily business of life;—but we doubt both the possibility and the desirableness of forming and enforcing anything approaching to a “universal code.” The only quality in law which is universal is, its Equity. The means and the expedients by which the equity is applied to practice have always been, and perhaps always will be, as various as the climate, habits, and degrees of civilization of each particular country;—and also as various as the more or less commercial character of the people among whom each law has to be administered. As a general rule it will be found that nearly all countries where the ramifications of commerce are extensive and minute have been unable to reduce their commercial law into any single code which has maintained its authority for more than a short time. The truth is, that the growing complexity of transactions has set at defiance the comprehensiveness or the subtlety of any unalterable form of words. We find, for example, that Hamburg has no code,—Lubeck has no code. Neither have the United States,—nor has England;—nor has Scotland. The *Code Napoléon* in France has hitherto served the purposes of that country because the intricacies of commercial litigation in France bear about the same relation to those of Great Britain or of New York as the Pleaf Ditch bears to the Thames. It is in the highest degree desirable that as frequently as possible each branch not only of commercial law but of all other kinds of law should be consolidated, abridged, and simplified; but the attempt so to perform a task that it shall never need to be repeated has hitherto failed in all cases of this nature when tried on a really grand scale. Finality in codification is no more possible than finality in physics.

The great evil of the merchant is, not the law, but the process and the court. At this moment even the English law of partnership is not unjust, but it is unavailable. The letter of the statute decrees justice, but enforced through the medium of the Court of Chancery it inflicts ruin and death.

Mr. Levi will do well to consider that all great improvements of commercial law—we do not say of political law—have been in the department of process, not of principle. The County Courts are a recent illustration of this remark. Those courts have not interfered in any way whatever with the essence of our jurisprudence; but they have shortened its formalities, quickened its decisions—and promoted the ends of justice by facilitating access to the judge. We cannot help thinking that Mr. Levi will do more real good if he will condescend to pursue a more ordinary procedure. Aided by the resources of his volume, there seems to be every inducement to the Chambers of Commerce of our large seaport and manufacturing towns to appoint select committees of their members, to whom might be committed the task of watching over the progress and urging on the amendment of the mercantile law of the foreign country with which they are severally most intimately connected. At

Liverpool, for example, there can be no lack of thoughtful and intelligent persons who are practically conversant with the usages of the cities of North and South America. If the sentiments and suggestions of these persons could be laid in an official form before the authorities of the foreign States with which Liverpool is connected, we can imagine no mode of representation more likely to obtain attention and to insure redress. We are quite willing to admit that in this simple and quiet way of conducting the business there is a total sacrifice of the *éclat* of Mr. Levi's prospectus;—but Mr. Levi is too sensible a man; we should think, to risk a sacrifice of the substance for the sake of the shadow.

We have already alluded to the circumstance of no commercial codes in a complete state being found in existence in States distinguished for the extent of their commerce. The most important exception to this general truth is, Holland; but in that country the existing law came into force so recently as the 1st of Oct. 1838,—and the process of compilation was formidable in the extreme. With reference to Hamburg Mr. Levi says:—

“Though the commercial laws of Hamburg are now of old date, and have frequently, and particularly in later years, been sought to be submitted to revision, yet going back as they do to the statutes of 1603, and supplied where defective by enactments of greatly more recent date, they demand our notice.”

—In the case of Lubeck we find still more strikingly the presence of that Saxon spirit of piecemeal legislation which is one of the great and salutary distinctions between the political legislation of this country and that of France. Mr. Levi says:—

“Lubeck, though a very commercial city, does not, properly speaking, possess any body of commercial law. She borrows provisions relative to this matter either from the common law of Germany, from foreign legislation, or from ancient statutes. The *Stadtrecht*, which is the foundation of the law of Lubeck, is not sufficient for the wants of commerce; yet with all the imperfections of the law, attempts to improve it have proved abortive.” These extracts will to some extent illustrate the general principles for which we have contended.

Mr. Levi's volume is very handsomely printed. The laws of the different countries are placed in parallel columns,—and an uncommon degree of pains has been taken to render the whole treatise popular and useful.

*The Life and Correspondence of the late Robert Southey.* Edited by his Son, the Rev. Charles Cuthbert Southey. Vol. VI. Longman & Co.

THAT we approach the close of this work without regret is, we must repeat, owing to no want of interest in its subject, from no question as to the value of the fullest possible portraiture of the author of *Thalaba*, *The Colloquies*, *The Life of Nelson*, and *The Doctor*,—but because an increased sense that the hands which have held the pencil are imperfectly skilled in draughtsmanship. Here is no satisfactory picture either of the man or of the author. It is of little purpose that the biographer in his epilogue authenticates and commends himself as under:—

“While, however, I have necessarily been obliged to leave out many interesting letters, I feel satisfied that I have published a selection abundantly sufficient to indicate all the points in my father's character—to give all the chief incidents in his life, and to show his opinions in all their stages.”

The Rev. Mr. Southey forgets that he has memory to help him. Those not possessing such aid will hardly accept the indications as clear,—nor admit that the chief incidents of Southey's life are sufficiently laid before the public. Let us at once add, that we do not

conceive these to have lain in the poet's domestic career. Regarding that, we are convinced from what is before us that affectionate and reverent discretion has been used by the biographer. Whatever comes of minute history on a future day, we would not have “the dark closet” which exists in every household laid bare to a prying public, while the master-spirit of the silent mansion is hardly cold in his grave. The bad and vulgar spirit of curiosity cannot be too peremptorily barred out and discouraged in all such cases.—Our censure refers to the literary life of the Laureate—for his works were with him “chief incidents.” We recollect how, when Southey was called on to arrange a biography, he gathered here a trait, there a characteristic word,—from a third source a familiar note or memorandum precious because it was individual—till in his sketching the man was complete before us. When we advert, for instance, to his *Life of Cowper*,—“wrought,” to use his own words, “in mosaic,”—when we recall the adroit and fascinating manner in which the rise, continuance and close of Cowper's chief incidents—his works—were dwelt on,—we cannot reconcile ourselves to the indifference with which Southey's late literary labours are here thrown down on the page, rather than framed in the gallery of pictures. The very history of this aforesaid *Life of Cowper* was worth inquiring into and narrating. Then, in place of anything like a satisfactory or coherent birth, parentage, and education, of that queer book, *The Doctor*, we have merely a few scattered traits and glimpses, which convince us how rich the subject must have been if treated less slightly—not to say unsympathetically. Lastly, as regards the correspondence, we seem to recollect letters in former biographical and literary works—let us instance the *Lives of William Taylor of Norwich*, and of Sir Egerton Brydges, and the topographical collections of Mr. Bray, as suggesting themselves at the moment—the variety of which warrant us in fancying that, but a poor and meagre selection from the correspondence is here before us.

This sixth volume begins with a portraiture of Southey when about fifty-five years old. The passages concerning his manner have been furnished by a friend of the biographer.

“His forehead was very broad; his height was five feet eleven inches; his complexion rather dark, the eyebrows large and arched; the eye well shaped and dark brown; the mouth somewhat prominent, muscular, and very variously expressive; the chin small in proportion to the upper features of his face. He always while in Keswick wore a cap in his walks, and partly from habit, partly from the make of his head and shoulders, we never thought he looked well or like himself in a hat. He was of a very spare frame, but of great activity, and not showing any appearance of a weak constitution. Though he did not continue to let his hair hang down on his shoulders according to the whim of his youthful days, yet he always wore a greater quantity than is usual; and once on his arrival in town, Chantrey's first greetings to him were accompanied with an injunction to go and get his hair cut. When I first remember it, it was turning from a rich brown to the steel shade, whence it rapidly became almost snowy white, losing none of its remarkable thickness, and clustering in abundant curls over his massive brow. \* \* The characteristics of his manner, as of his appearance, were lightness and strength, an easy and happy composure as the accustomed mood, with much mobility at the same time, so that he could be readily excited into any degree of animation in discourse, speaking, if the subject moved him much, with extraordinary fire and force, though always in light, laconic sentences. When so moved, the fingers of his right hand often rested against his mouth and quivered through nervous susceptibility. But excitable as he was in conversation, he was never angry or irritable; nor can there be any greater mistake concerning him, than that into which some persons have



fallen when they have inferred, from the fiery vehemence with which he could give utterance to moral anger in verse or prose, that he was personally ill-tempered or irascible. He was in truth a man whom it was hardly possible to quarrel with or offend personally and face to face; and in his writings, even on public subjects in which his feelings were strongly engaged, he will be observed to have always dealt tenderly with those whom he had once seen and spoken to, unless indeed personally and grossly assailed by them. He said of himself that he was tolerant of persons, though intolerant of opinions. But in oral intercourse the toleration of persons was so much the stronger, that the intolerance of opinions was not to be perceived; and indeed it was only in regard to opinions of a pernicious moral tendency that it was ever felt. \* In conversation with intimate friends he would sometimes express, half humorously, a cordial commendation of some production of his own, knowing that with them he could afford it, and that to those who knew him well it was well known that there was no vanity in him. But such commendations, though light and humorous, were perfectly sincere; for he both possessed and cherished the power of finding enjoyment and satisfaction wherever it was to be found,—in his own books, in the books of his friends, and in all books whatsoever that were not morally tainted, or absolutely barren.

He concealed, indeed, as the reader has seen, beneath a reserved manner, a most acutely sensitive mind, and a warmth and kindness of feeling which was only understood by few, indeed, perhaps, not thoroughly by any. He said, speaking of the death of his uncle Mr. Hill, that one of the sources of consolation to him was the thought, that perhaps the departed might then be conscious how truly he had loved and honoured him; and I believe the depth of his affection and the warmth of his friendship was known to none but himself. On one particular point I remember, his often regretting his constitutional bashfulness and reserve; and that was, because, added to his retired life and the nature of his pursuits, it prevented him from knowing anything of the persons among whom he lived. Long as he had resided at Kewick, I do not think there were twenty persons in the lower class whom he knew by sight; and though this was in some measure owing to a slight degree of short-sightedness which, contrary to what is usual, came on in later life, yet I have heard him often lament it as not being what he thought right; and after slightly returning the salutation of some passer-by, he would again mechanically lift his cap as he heard some well-known name in reply to his inquiries, and look back with regret that the greeting had not been more cordial.

The following trait will interest students and literary collectors.—

"With respect to his mode of acquiring and arranging the contents of a book, it was somewhat peculiar. He was as rapid a reader as could be conceived, having the power of perceiving by a glance down the page whether it contained anything which he was likely to make use of.—a slip of paper lay on his desk, and was used as a marker, and with a slight pencilled S he would note the passage, put a reference on the paper, with some brief note of the subject, which he could transfer to his note-book, and in the course of a few hours he had classified and arranged everything in the work which it was likely he would ever want. It was thus, with a remarkable memory (not so much for the facts or passages themselves, but for their existence, and the authors that contained them), and with this kind of index, both to it and them, that he had at hand a command of materials for whatever subject he was employed upon, which has been truly said to be unequalled."

Towards the earlier part of the volume, we find Southey sorely vexed in mind at the turn which politics and public affairs were taking in 1829-30,—assailed by and assailing in turn the Rev. Mr. Shamón, a Catholic priest, who had assumed as existing on his part a steady enmity to Ireland,—anxiously corresponding with Mr. Rickman on the subject of co-operation in labour,—and, though a scholar in learning and a Conservative in his dismal view

of public affairs, regarding hopefully signs of the times which have driven less erudite men into the solitude of their own libraries, and provoked philosophers processing a widensphere of vision into howls of disdain at the superficial present, as compared with the profound past. Writing about Poetry to Mr. Ticknor, in America, he says:—

"With us no poetry now obtains circulation except what is in the Annuals; these are the only books which are purchased for presents, and the chief sale which poetry used to have was of this kind. Here, however, we are overrun with imitative talent in all the fine arts, especially in fine literature; and if it is not already the case with you, it will very soon be so. I can see some good in this, in one or two generations imitative talent will become so common, that it will not be mistaken, when it first manifests itself, for genius; and it will then be cultivated rather as an embellishment for private life, than with aspiring views of ambition. Much of that levelling is going on with us which no one can more heartily desire to promote than I do,—that which is produced by raising the lower classes. Booksellers and printers find it worth while now to publish for a grade of customers which they deemed ten years ago beneath their consideration. Good must result from this in many ways; and could we but hope or dream of anything like long peace, we might dream of seeing England in a state of intellectual culture and internal prosperity such as no country has ever before attained."

It is noticeable, however, that this prophetic largeness of view and candour of construction were at the mercy of the first strong personal impulse. Literary judgments are more than once given in these pages which we can hardly imagine that posterity will accept, far less ratify. For instance, "by far the most original poem that this generation has produced," according to Southey, was not 'The Ancient Mariner,' and not 'Peter Bell,'—nor tale by Crabbe, nor Border romance by Scott,—nor transcendental dream by Shelley,—nor Byron's 'Childe Harold,'—(all, we submit, types, the prototypes of which it would not be easy to designate)—but 'Zophiel, or the Bride of Seven,' by Maria, del Occidente.—Mrs. Brooks of New England.

We will now extract a passage or two which, in themselves bright and amusing, have small connexion one with the other. The following rapture over the arrival of a box of old books will go to the heart of many a bibliophile besides the author of 'Philip van Artevelde,' to whom it was addressed.—

"Oct. 8, 1829.

"My dear H. T.—I have been jumping for joy. Verbeyst has kept his word; the bill of lading is in Longman's hands, and by the time this reaches you I hope the vessel, with the books on board, may be in the river, and by this day month they will probably be here. Then shall I be happier than if his Majesty King George the Fourth were to give orders that I should be clothed in purple, and sleep upon gold, and have a chain about my neck, and sit next him because of my wisdom, and be called his cousin. Long live Verbeyst! the best, though not the most expeditious of booksellers; and may I, who am the most patient of customers, live long to deal with him! And may you and I live to go to the Low Countries again, that I may make Brussels in the way, and buy more of his books, and drink again of his Rhenish wine and of his strong beer, better than which Jacob van Artevelde never had at his own table, of his own brewing; not even when he entertained King Edward and Queen Philippa at the christening. Would he have had such a son as Philip if he had been a water-drinker, or ever put swipes to his lips? God bless you! R. S."

A sketch of Barry, communicated to Allan Cunningham, who was just then engaged on his 'Lives of the Painters,' is graphic.—

"I knew Barry, and have been admitted into his den in his worst (that is to say in his maddest) days,

when he was employed upon his Pandora. He wore at that time an old coat of green baize, but from which time had taken all the green, so that incrustations of paint and dirt had not covered. His wig was one which you might suppose he had borrowed from a scarecrow; all round it there projected a fringe of his own grey hair. He lived alone, in a house which was never cleaned; and he slept on a bedstead with no other furniture than a blanket nailed on the one side. I wanted him to visit me. 'No,' he said, 'he would not go out by day, because he could not spare time from his great picture; and if he went out in the evening the Academicians would waylay him and murder him.' In this solitary, sullen life he continued till he fell ill, very probably for want of food sufficiently nourishing; and after lying two or three days under his blanket, he had just strength enough left to crawl to his own door, open it, and lay himself down with a paper in his hand, on which he had written his wish to be carried to the house of Mr. Carlisle (Sir Anthony) in Soho Square. There he was taken care of; and the danger from which he had thus escaped seems to have cured his mental hallucinations. He cast his slough afterwards; appeared decently dressed and in his own grey hair, and mixed in such society as he liked. I should have told you that, a little before his illness, he had with much persuasion been induced to pass a night at some person's house in the country. When he came down to breakfast the next morning, and was asked how he had rested, he said remarkably well; he had not slept in sheets for many years, and really he thought it was a very comfortable thing. He interlarded his conversation with oaths as expletives; but it was pleasant to converse with him; there was a frankness and animation about him which won good will as much as his vigorous intellect commanded respect. There is a story of his having refused to paint portraits, and saying, in answer to applications, that there was a man in Leicester Square who did. But this he said was false; for that he would at any time have painted portraits, and have been glad to paint them."

We must pass over Amelia Opie coquetting (on the strength of a random commendation) for a niche hard by that allotted to Elizabeth Fry, rather than taking any continuous pains to win it,—to come to Southey's judgment of Bishop Heber.—

"I dare say it will generally be felt that Mr. Heber's book does not support the pretensions which its title, and still more its appearance, seems to hold forth. The materials would have appeared to more advantage in a different arrangement. There is certainly an air of book-making about the publication; which is not lessened by the funeral verses that it contains. Mine might have accompanied the portrait, in which case they would have seemed to be appropriately introduced; in fact, they were composed with that design. But this book ought not to detract from his reputation; the estimate of which must be taken from those things which he prepared for the press, and from his exertions in India. He was a man of great reading, and in his Bampton Lectures has treated a most important part of the Christian faith with great learning and ability. His other published sermons are such, that I am not surprised my brother Henry should think him the most impressive preacher he ever heard. As a poet he could not have supported the reputation which his 'Palestine' obtained; for it was greatly above its deserts, and the character of the poem, moreover, was not hopeful; it was too nicely fitted to the taste of the age. He had a hurried, nervous manner in private society, which covered much more ardour and feeling than you would have supposed him to possess. This I believe entirely disappeared when he was performing his functions; at which time, I have been assured, he seemed totally regardless of everything but the duty wherein he was engaged. Few persons took so much interest in my writings, which may partly have arisen from the almost entire coincidence in our opinions and ways of thinking upon all momentous subjects; the Catholic question alone excepted. Mrs. Heber told me that I had had no little influence in directing his thoughts and desires towards India; and I have no doubt that some lines in Joan of Arc set him



upon the scheme of his poem on the death of King Arthur."

The last extracts which we shall this week take are from letters to Mr. Moxon. This speaks for itself.—

"I have been too closely engaged in clearing off the second volume of Cowper to reply to your inquiries concerning poor Lamb sooner. His acquaintance with Coleridge began at Christ's Hospital: Lamb was some two years, I think, his junior. Whether he was ever one of the *Grecians* there might be ascertained, I suppose, by inquiring. My own impression is, that he was not. Coleridge introduced me to him in the winter of 1794-5, and to George Dyer also, from whom, if his memory has not failed, you might probably learn more of Lamb's early history than from any other person. Lloyd, Wordsworth, and Hazlitt became known to him through their connexion with Coleridge. When I saw the family (one evening only, and at that time,) they were lodging somewhere near Lincoln's Inn, on the western side (I forget the street), and were evidently in uncomfortable circumstances. The father and mother were both living; and I have some dim recollection of the latter's invalid appearance. The father's senses had failed him before that time. He published some poems in quarto. Lamb showed me once an imperfect copy: the Sparrow's Wedding was the title of the longest piece, and this was the author's favourite: he liked, in his dotage, to hear Charles read it. \* \* Cottle has a good likeness of Lamb, in chalk, taken by an artist named Robert Hancock, about the year 1798. It looks older than Lamb was at that time; but he was old-looking. Coleridge introduced him to Godwin, shortly after the first number of the Anti-Jacobin Magazine and Review was published, with a caricature of Gilray's, in which Coleridge and I were introduced with asses' heads, and Lloyd and Lamb as toad and frog. Lamb got warmed with whatever was on the table, became disputatious, and said things to Godwin which made him quietly say, 'Pray, Mr. Lamb, are you toad or frog?' Mrs. Coleridge will remember the scene, which was to her sufficiently uncomfortable. But the next morning S.T.C. called on Lamb, and found Godwin breakfasting with him, from which time their intimacy began. His angry letter to me in the Magazine arose out of a notion that an expression of mine in the Quarterly Review would hurt the sale of *Elia*: some one, no doubt, had said that it would. I meant to serve the book, and very well remember how the offence happened. I had written that it wanted nothing to render it altogether delightful but a *saner* religious feeling. *This* would have been the proper word if any other person had written the book. Feeling its extreme unfitness as soon as it was written, I altered it immediately for the first word which came into my head, intending to re-model the sentence when it should come to me in the proof; and that proof never came. There can be no objection to your printing all that passed upon the occasion, beginning with the passage in the Quarterly Review and giving his letter. I have heard Coleridge say that, in a fit of derangement, Lamb fancied himself to be young Norval. He told me this in relation to one of his poems."

A word more, from a later letter, in continuation of the subject.—

"I wish that I had looked out for Mr. Talfourd the letter which Gifford wrote in reply to one in which I remonstrated with him upon his designating Lamb as a poor maniac. The words were used in complete ignorance of their peculiar bearings, and I believe nothing in the course of Gifford's life ever occasioned him so much self-reproach. He was a man with whom I had no literary sympathies; perhaps there was nothing upon which we agreed, except great political questions; but I liked him the better ever after for his conduct on this occasion. He had a heart full of kindness for all living creatures except authors; *them* he regarded as a fish-monger regards eels, or as Isaac Walton did slugs, frogs and worms."

Enough remains in this sixth volume to justify another gleaning from it, should opportunity serve.

*The Hand Phrenologically considered: being a Glimpse at the Relation of the Mind with the Organisation of the Body.* Chapman & Hall.

It is not more than half a century since Cuvier astonished the world by the announcement that the law of relation which existed between the various parts of animals applied not only to entire systems, but even to parts of a system: so that, given an extremity, the whole skeleton might be known,—and the skeleton once known, the soft parts, and even the habits, of the animal could be indicated. From this time the science of palæontology assumed a new importance. It was not necessary to have the whole of an extinct animal in order to judge of its form:—fragments of bone, single teeth, and even individual scales, became pregnant with lessons of new and strange structure. Wherever a discreet use has been made of this power, the anatomist has been found to be correct. Prof. Owen pronounced that the head of a gigantic thigh-bone brought from New Zealand belonged to a prodigious bird,—numerous remains of which have since been imported to confirm the correctness of his suppositions. Mr. Quekett gave it as his opinion that a microscopic section of a bone which he examined belonged to a large tortoise:—it was a small portion of the shell of the megalochelys discovered by Dr. Falconer in India. Even foot-prints have been sufficient to give the whole anatomical structure and habits of an animal. Such being the law with regard to organization—that every part is so clearly connected with every other part in particular groups of animals,—it becomes an interesting question, whether modifications of parts will indicate modifications of character.

It has in all ages been a favourite notion of man that his destinies are bound up with the most distant phenomena of the universe. He received light and heat and the possibility of existence from the sun,—why should he not be influenced by the fixed stars and the moon? Once suppose the probability of the thing,—and human weakness soon learns to demonstrate the fact. A man is born at a particular conjunction of the planets, and dies a violent death. The two facts are arbitrarily assigned as cause and effect,—and the science of astrology grows out of them, for centuries holding the human mind in bondage.—If the stars influence his destinies, how much more likely that his mind should influence his structure,—or *vice versa*! Might not his fate, or at least his character, be written in the lines of his face or in the palms of his hands? Again admit the possibility,—and facts innumerable will start up to confirm it.—If six murderers possess some particular mark, it matters not if six thousand other murderers are without it,—the mark is nevertheless the sign of the murderer. Hence the science of physiognomy. How should such a branch of knowledge fail to become popular, with a philanthropic Lavater at its head!—The form of the skull strikes another observer. Two boys with prominent eyes learn their lessons well,—and three men with broad heads commit theft. The conclusion is irresistible:—all persons with prominent eyes learn easily,—and all with broad heads have a tendency to larceny.—Of course, if we admit that a part of the body indicates character, there is no reason why a part of that part should not do so too. If the face has a relation to the mind, the nose has a relation to the face,—and a man should be as well known by the form and size of his nose as by long and familiar acquaintance with him. What is extraordinary—yet might be expected—is, that in many of these revelations made by particular organs faculties

are disclosed of his possession of which the party interested had no previous knowledge. According to the science of nasology, the proprietor of a very ordinary looking nose will find himself akin to poets, philosophers, or statesmen with whose names even he had been previously unacquainted. We some time ago [*Athen.* No. 1086, p. 823] introduced the principles of this science to our readers; but as some of them may not possess so full a development of the organ in question as is necessary to make them sharers in these benefits, we have thought it right to give them the chances of the science of Chirolology.

Chirolology proceeds on somewhat different principles from those of its sister science of Palmology,—the latter taking notice of only the palm of the hand. The former regards fingers and all. Here is a description of the thumb.—

"The thumb deserves particular notice in treating of the hand. It is the presence of a thumb that imparts to the hand of the higher animals its character of superiority. It is the higher development and greater mobility of the human hand that render it so much more perfect than that of the ape: '*L'animal supérieur est dans la main, l'homme dans la pousse*,' says D'Arpentigny. The thumb being, then, the characteristic element of the human hand—the part last developed and most strongly typical of its superiority over that of the lower animals, the perfect formation of this part of the hand must be regarded as a sign of the character of the species being well marked,—of a strong active individuality; while the reverse obtains when it is small and rudimentary. The ball of the thumb is made up of strong muscles, and in it the motor function of the hand is, as it were, concentrated. \* \* \* Persons with a small thumb are ruled by the heart, those with a large by the head. The motive hand is always furnished with a large thumb, and hence, probably, the origin of the term, from *domare* to rule (Italian), *daumen* (German); power and objective force being imparted by it to the hand. The Romans applied the term *pollex truncatus* to a person who, for the purpose of avoiding military service, cut off or mutilated his thumb—hence our word *poltroon*. It was by the position of the thumb that spectators determined the fate of conquered gladiators; if it were raised life was spared, if it were depressed, it was a sentence of death. In the Anglo-Saxon laws, it is ordained that mutilation of the thumb shall be punished by a fine of twenty shillings, and that of the middle finger by a fine of four only. In La Vendée, a large thumb is still thought to be indicative of a dabbler in the forbidden mysteries of the black art. Biting the thumb was formerly held to be expressive of insult and defiance; thus Shakspeare in '*Romeo and Juliet*,'—

*Samson. I will bite my thumb at them; which is a disgrace to them if they bear it.*"

The anatomical expressions of the fingers are regarded with great care,—and those of celebrated statues and characters are here recorded. The palm, thumb and fingers are the great elements of character in the hand; and according to their size, length and general relations, hands and characters may be classified. We give an account of one of these generic hands.—

"*The spatulate hand*, when fully developed, is furnished with smooth fingers, with a rounded, cushiony termination, and a large thumb. It denotes a love of corporeal movement, and of active occupation—of horses, dogs, and field-sports; it prefers the useful to the agreeable, and is not content, like the elementary hand, with the merely necessary, but demands abundance. It is distinguished by an appearance of simplicity and frankness of character, and likewise by its chastity; so that Diana or Cyrus the Younger may be said to be its representatives. It is a native of the North, is more common in Scotland than in England, in England than in France, and in France than in Italy or Spain. Wherever it is the prevailing type, as in England and America, the political institutions are free. It is essentially Protestant. '*Amoureuses de l'art, de la poésie, du roman, des mystères, les mains pointues veulent un dieu selon leur imagination; amoureuses des sciences*'



et de la réalité, les mains en spatule veulent un dieu selon leur raison." So that it may be truly said that the people of the north are physically Protestant, and those of the south Catholic. It must also be remarked, that before the revocation of the Edict of Nantes the Protestants of France were likewise its chief manufacturers; for the same spirit that led them to embrace Protestantism impelled them to the cultivation of mechanical and scientific pursuits. It prefers size and regularity to beauty, opulence to luxury, and that which excites astonishment to that which pleases. In private life its motto is 'Chacun pour soi.'

Just as the palæontologist needs not a portion of the animal itself provided he can have the impressions which it makes with its hands or its feet,—so our modern seers are not dependent on heads, faces, noses, or hands. The science of physically discerning character equals that of palæontology,—and the impressions of the hand on paper in writing are sufficient to indicate the mental and bodily peculiarities of the individual man. For the small charge of twelve postage stamps, the professors of graphiology undertake by return of post to reply to any applicant who may wish to know something more than he has hitherto done of his own virtues and vices.—To those who think that by such means they will be enabled to see further into a brick wall than their neighbours we commend the lucubrations of our very amusing friends, the phrenologists, physiognomists, nasologists, chirolgists, and graphiologists—not forgetting the crystallogists, metallogists, *et id genus omne*.

*The Spring; a Collection of Poems*.—[*La Primavera, &c.*] By Don José Selgas y Carrasco. Madrid, Espinosa.

The causes which have both materially and mentally impoverished Spain—a country rich in every gift of nature—are known to all who have duly studied her history. Her decline from the period when she stood among the foremost of modern powers in arms and in letters, was the gradual but certain consequence of the despotism in government and the tyranny over mind both established at the moment when she appeared most strong and brilliant to surrounding nations. The double poison then imbibed worked slowly, but with fatal effect. We see her literature fading just as the vital forces acquired before her arms and thoughts were enchained grew fainter from one generation to another. The decay of original creation, and the imitation of foreign modes all but universal from the middle of the eighteenth century to the present day, kept equal pace with the descent of the nation from an independent position to the sphere of political intrigue directed by alien influences. The lesson is at once painful and instructive. There is no soil in Europe more abundantly endowed with every quality apt for a vigorous growth of native poetry,—none that has produced it in more abundance or more genial and peculiar in character than was shown in the golden day of elegant letters in Spain,—in her lyrics, her chronicles and romances, and her national drama:—auspicious of equal triumphs in those graver works of intellect which always follow the first fruits of national genius, its imaginative productions. But her progress upwards was arrested by an enemy that spread darkness over all the higher regions of spiritual ambition; and it soon appeared that where these are forbidden, the human mind, deprived of its just freedom, loses by degrees the faculties, even, which it is still permitted to employ. The jealousy of despotic rule and the bigotry of the Inquisition did not, indeed, prohibit poetry:—but they no less effectually destroyed it by shutting up the sources from which it draws life and inspiration.

When such a fatal evil has once been inflicted, it will not instantly cease on the removal of the influences that brought it to pass. It is the work of more than a single age to revive energies that have been kept down or perverted through a series of generations. We trust, indeed, that Spain—possessing in the unaltered body of her common people a mine of latent force and qualities of sterling virtue—may even now be beginning to feel her release from the old bondage,—that mind is "agitating the dormant mass," beneath the selfish feuds of party and the ugly contrast of lawless licence with military rigour,—and that she may by degrees attain to that happy use of her proper gifts in which material strength and mental brightness will flow from the development of order, industry and social virtue. But such happy changes are the children of Time; they may be desired, but can hardly be expected, by men of this generation. They must not only have taken place, but have grown also into the moral habits of the people, before their harvest can appear in intellectual fruits,—above all, in that highest expression of the spiritual life of a nation, her poetry.

These considerations have been brought to mind by a novelty just received in the shape of a volume of poems lately published in Madrid, with a degree of success, we are told, which is attested by the fortunes of the young writer as well as by general report. The work itself and the favour which it has found suggest some reflections on the state of poetry in the Peninsula;—while the manner in which it is given to the public by an established journalist of the capital displays some notable features of the critical world of Madrid.

To the commendatory preface by Don Manuel Cañete we shall have to return; but in fairness to the work commended we shall speak of the author and of his performances before we notice the less pleasing figure of his literary usher.

José Selgas y Carrasco was born in Murcia, in 1824; the son of a mail-contractor in that province, whose affairs falling into disorder, and whose political opinions having exposed him to persecutions on the change of government in 1833, he died, it is said, of a broken heart,—leaving his family indigent. José, who had begun to study with success in the classical seminary of San Fulgencio, was compelled to renounce all hopes of a learned profession; and betook himself to humble—apparently commercial—employments. In these he is stated to have shown exemplary good conduct:—"amusing his leisure by the cultivation of literature and poetry." At an early age he produced a tale in verse, imitated from the *Moro Esposito* of the Duke de Rivas; and afterwards he wrote three comedies,—one of which, we hear, was played with success on the stage of Murcia. The lyrical pieces now published are more recent compositions:—none of them bearing an earlier date than 1849. They became known in Madrid through the intervention of a young Murcian resident there, himself a poet, and member of a private literary society,—at one of the meetings of which he recited with applause some pieces by Selgas. Don Manuel Cañete, a writer in the *Heraldo*, happened to be present on this occasion: and admiring the poems, got them inserted in that journal, with such approbation by the editor, Don José Maria de Mora, that he set on foot a proposal to publish by subscription the whole series of which these were specimens. At the same time, it appears, the merit of the author was pointed out to the Conde de San Luis, a member of the actual administration; who, pleased with his talent and touched by his circumstances, not

only subscribed liberally for the poems, but wrote the author a kind letter inviting him to Madrid,—and soon after his arrival appointed him to a place in a government office, with a salary of 12,000 reals (about 140*l.* of our money). Such is the account given in the preface by {Don Manuel; who takes the credit of making the author known, and thereby procuring this agreeable change in his fortunes.

The poems in virtue of which he was so distinguished form a collection of some thirty-five pieces, none of them very long, and nearly all consisting of more or less decorated apologues—the most shadowy kind of lyrical poetry; if, indeed, poetry, in whatever form, can justly be called lyrical which, instead of expressing any state of feeling or emotion directly flowing from the heart, owes its origin and character to some mode of fanciful reflection. The objects of its exercise in Selgas are the flowers, which he endows with sentiments of affection, grief, or jealousy, or makes representatives of virtues or faults; and their imputed qualities or feelings are displayed, sometimes with reference to an express moral, sometimes merely as keys to strike some tender or pathetic feeling with a gentle vibration. His is a mixture of the Oriental epigram with the dreamy sentiment of a new school of Northern poetry. Beyond the region of abstractions the author never advances; except in a few lines to the lady whom he addresses, with more pensiveness than warmth, under the name of Laura. This description, it will be seen, is of no high class of poetry. The species is mainly unreal. While, on the one hand, its perfection can hardly rise above the merit of ingenious moralizing couched in graceful terms, it is on the other liable to fall into the region of mere conceits and pretty affectations. In its pathetic vein, it is more suited to the vaporose fancies of the gentle sex than to a masculine muse:—and if Selgas for his language of flowers may deserve the praise of genius, it is certainly of the smallest order which belongs to that quality. We fear that a lyrist of twenty-five who, *calidâ juventâ*—under the glow of a Murcian sun, too—can satisfy his poetic thirst with such small ditties as these, without being tempted on any occasion into a strain of immediate emotion, or catching a direct view of any of the countless realities of nature or of life—will hardly grow stronger or warmer with advancing years. Indeed, those who know the older poetry of Spain, on reading these pieces, with the report of the praises and rewards which they have found, can hardly avoid a suspicion of the total exhaustion of the soil in which Poetry once flourished so vigorously. What shall be said of the general standard of its productions in Spain, if verses like these can be sincerely hailed as justifying "brilliant expectations," and the author praised as capable of earning "glory to himself and lustre to the Spanish muse of our times"—as the Conde de San Luis kindly anticipates?

Not that we would deny the verses a good share of such merit as consists with the abstract or visionary kind of poetry on a small scale of objects. They are pretty, tender, and delicate: the verse is melodious—verse in Castilian can hardly be otherwise,—and the language, if not always precise, is florid and graceful. A version of some of the lines which have pleased us most will give a fair idea of the author's cast of thought and mode of imagery and sentiment,—the character of his pieces being pretty uniform throughout. We do not profess to have reproduced their musical tone; the Northern lyric forms, in after hands than ours, being ill suited to repeat the peculiar cadence of languages of Romance descent. The







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## ASTROLOGY FOR 1851.

OUR friend Zadkiel is in bad spirits this year. He begins his Predictions of the state of the atmosphere for 1851 with "damp, raw weather and fogs,"—and closes them with a "dull, foggy air" and "remarkable earthquakes." In entering on his prophecy of human fortunes—"Voices of the Stars"—he plunges at once into despondency. "We enter upon 1851," he says, "amidst a dull and chilly feeling of despair for the destiny of mankind." He sees "little prospect of the good time coming." "I fear," he says, "that the Great Exhibition will be a failure. A most unfortunate day (May 1) has been fixed on for its opening—the day of new moon! I hope it may be deferred to the 3rd, a very happy day, or to noon on the 7th. There would be nothing objectionable on the 24th, the Queen's birthday, if not thought too late." The despondency of Zadkiel infects his familiar acquaintance, it seems. In July, we are told, "the moon is rather afflicted." In August matters will be pushed a stage beyond the terrors of incendiarism—the Croakers shall in vain ask, Where is the incendiary? There shall be spontaneous fires. In October, the Voice of the Stars through Zadkiel is heard to say, "Such critics as attack my writings in the *Athenæum* show their ignorance while they exercise their malice; but Time and Truth combined will put them down." In the next month planetary discontent attains a greater height. "We have Mars again rampant in Leo and squaring Jupiter." Whether Jupiter gets flogged in the encounter Zadkiel has not divulged. Our prophet's bad humour lights also this month on "the Turkish Sultan." "Either this month, or the next he will get a blow on the head." The Voices of the Stars end, like the predictions of the weather, gloomily as they began. They close with "war and bloodshed" and "fearful phenomena of a physical kind,"—"among which will be earthquakes."

The predictions founded on eclipses are of course lugubrious. The eclipse of the sun next July "endures altogether four hours and thirty-seven minutes; and will affect the earth; therefore, above four years and a half. Its chief effects will be a scarcity of bread-corn, but this will not arise before 1852." The evil influence of this eclipse will cause the death of thousands born about July, or the opposite month, January, and of those who were born on or near the 25th April and 28th October. This—as the seer says elsewhere in his Almanac that he "does not affect to be particular within a few weeks"—frees nobody from the malign influence—but, says our friend, it certainly will kill the King of Otaheite.

The last twenty pages of the Almanac are devoted to a new feature,—commerce with the spiritual world. Under the head of Magic we have various reports of meetings at which disembodied, or never embodied spirits, were, as the Blue Books have it, called in and examined. The witness-box being an Indian crystal, four inches long,—a boy, who has the gift, looks into it, and sees the spirits. He also sees their answers to all questions written beside them, or proceeding in a scroll out of their mouths. Thus, the first Vision commences:—"A tall man appears with a helmet on, and in armour; a large club in his hand; a bear on his hind legs

near him. He is fierce-looking, but has a pleasant smile: he calls himself Orion." This Orion is a leading witness,—is, in fact, Zadkiel's guardian angel. Rather confused about the head he seems to be,—probably the wisdom of our friend may have bewildered him. He answers to the question, "Do you bear rule in the constellation called Orion?"—"Yes; it was through this very same crystal that the astrologers got it from." The astrologer is obliged to ask him what he means. Calvin appears and states that he has been living since death generally "in the atmosphere," but that he had been in Jupiter "a week since last Sunday." Orion tells us that the proper name of Satan is Antipoo; that he is a big serpent, and lives inside the earth,—as one might have a maggot living in a nut. Orion shows a bewildering vision in the crystal of a blue bag and an immense number of angels. "Orion (I asked), what means this beautiful vision?"—"I am elevated: it is a revelation."—"Thank you; good bye."—"Good bye, Sir."

Zoroaster is summoned, for the purpose of seeing whether he had been, in his day, a good Zadkiel. "I did calculate nativities," he answered, "only badly." Solomon being called, was asked, "Did you understand Astrology?" He replied, "Yes; but not so well as you do." Socrates was summoned; he appeared as "a tall, middle-aged man, rather bald, dressed with striped, coarse trousers, very loose at the top and tight near the feet; a kind of frock, open in the front and without sleeves." Asked the best means to acquire wisdom? Answer, "Astrology, Phrenology and Prayer." In the planet Mercury there were seen "grand carriages coming out of a town, footmen behind." Capt. J. C. was told that he had "lived 300 years in the planet Saturn, where he was a sailor and an admiral." Eve, "a spirit of the Moon," said that "Astrology will be taught in some of the Colleges of England before twenty years." Sir Isaac Newton called, said:—"Gravitation is a real power caused by the sun; electricity is partly the cause of the moon's motion." Tacitus came, and said, "that his account of the Britons was not so good as Cæsar's,—that the Druids did sometimes practise Astrology, and that they were stupid fellows in general." Adam said, "that in about thirty years we shall steer through the air; and gave a representation of the machinery, &c.; consisting of a piston, connected by pipes with two inflated bags, one on each side the car." "Pharaoh called: a tall very stout man, with a purple robe, and a long kind of cap and tails flowing from it, a sceptre like in his hand."

What clumsy conjuring is this! Yet the most clumsy part of it I have not touched on,—the kneading up of this inanity with Scripture texts, the grafting of deplorable credulity upon religious feelings.

Quoth Hudibras, the case is clear  
 The Saints may employ a conjuror.

Reversing the rule, a conjuror in almanacs is generally found employing saintly words to recommend his folly.

Zadkiel forbids us to imagine that the sale of his pernicious Almanac is small. He publishes a genuine twenty-six thousand. It is a coarsely spiced appeal to the credulity and ignorance of our half-educated poor. The poor man who can read at all will rarely fail to have an almanac among his books. He buys the one that interests him most. Is it impossible to have a cottage almanac so planned that it shall yield to the rude intellect wholesome amusement? Is there no way of making truth "stronger than fiction,"—strong enough to beat Astrology on its own enchanted ground, and drive it from the almanacs encouraged by our lovers of the marvellous? This is but a repetition of a question which I put three years ago. Most people are disposed to think it idle condescension to cry out at a thing utterly foolish. Surely they err. We stoop to pick up weeds.

I am, &c. H. M.

[Our Correspondent is probably not aware that, inexpressibly gross and stupid as these conjurations are, they are not confined to the Almanac nor to the class of disciples for whom he supposes it to be written. We believe that it is not to the mechanic

class that in the present day the impostor will address himself with the best chance of success. To a considerable extent the spread of education among the lower orders is redeeming them from the intellectual dominion of quacks so patent and unskilful as Zadkiel; and that they are not yet more largely redeemed is owing to the uncharitable efforts of those who thwart our Education Bills in the name of dogmatic religion—thereby surrendering their fellow-creatures to the unholy influences that haunt the night of ignorance and are traded with by conjurors of the Zadkiel class. But, as we have said, our Correspondent may not know, that in a social atmosphere which might be supposed, from its greater elevation, to be clear of these foul spirits there are audiences which are not ashamed to assemble at the summons of such a conjuror,—which sit admiring spectators of a fraud so broad and stupid as that of which our Correspondent gives the records out of the Almanac. They who might be supposed to command good intellectual fare are willing feeders on garbage like this.—The Impostor of our day does not seek the hovel for his Fool.]

## OUR WEEKLY GOSSIP.

THE day being now past on which demands for space in the Palace of Industry could be received by the Executive Committee according to their formal announcements, we see more clearly the general nature of the collection of products. Although an amount of requisitions have come in which it would require three such palaces to meet,—it is matter of regret to observe that the catalogue of English articles is very far from being complete. We find foreigners, more accustomed to Exhibitions of the kind than ourselves, much more alive to the importance of the present. Every mail from the Continent and from America brings intelligence of an ever increasing activity in the workshops abroad. There is now no doubt that our friendly rivals are putting forth their best efforts. In the end, the prize of victory must rest with the strong. But it is clear, as we have again and again said, that unless our best manufacturers enter the lists—tax their energies to the utmost—and come into the arena fully armed, they cannot successfully maintain the battle of industry against all comers. To name only two particulars in illustration of these remarks.—1. Of the natural wealth of England, perhaps the least developed item is its marble. Among the hills of Derbyshire this beautiful and valuable material abounds in great quantity and rarity. It has not become an article of commerce because it is not in fashion,—and it is not in fashion because it is little known. Yet we are surprised to find that through the apathy of the persons most interested these quarries are unrepresented in the Exhibition. Greece, Italy, and America will each contribute their choicest specimens; and if all the world goes away from Hyde Park with the idea that England has nothing to show in this department a serious wrong will be done to Derbyshire, and its population will lose the chance of seeing a new branch of industry established. 2. We see it stated that ornamental iron-work is very poorly represented. Now, this great branch of English art is one peculiarly liable to suffer by such neglect. There seems a tendency already to go to France for this important article,—and no little controversy has arisen as to the question of relative merit between French and English produce in consequence of the recent erection of the iron-rails in front of Mr. Hope's mansion in Piccadilly. The iron-workers here contend that in quality and price together they can beat all the world—now is the time to prove their assertions. But if they abandon the field to their foreign competitors, who will be to blame if the builders of future houses shall carry their orders to the successful exhibitors? If English artists persevere in these neglects, it will be considered, rightly or wrongly, that they feared to put their claims to an open arbitration. As surely as that great reputations will be reared by the Exhibition, old ones thus neglecting themselves will be displaced to make room for them. A new era in industry and commerce opens with 1851. The Catalogue of the Exhibition will be to manufacturers what the roll of Battle



Abbey is to the Norman chivalry:—for a producer to be out of that catalogue will be something like being struck out of the history of his department of industry.

This Festival of Industry, of which the signs and sounds are gathering on every side, increasing in intensity as the year draws nigh, will no doubt be made to subserve numerous ancillary projects. Morally as well as materially it will be a great experiment; and the moralists are beginning to speculate on the educational and other advantages to grow out of this gathering of men from every quarter of the earth. We hear that one enthusiast proposes to give a prize of one hundred guineas for the best essay on this part of the subject,—the theme being more especially proposed thus:—"In what manner may the union of all nations at the Grand Exhibition in 1851 be made most conducive to the glory of God in promoting the moral welfare of mankind." The approbation of the Prince Consort, it is said, has been gained for this project; but its author has not yet settled his own scheme of details, and the opinions of the press are formally invoked before any final arrangements shall be made. Our readers are aware that we object on principle to the offer of prizes for literary work; and the Exhibition can show no right of exemption from a general rule. The practice is decidedly immoral, as we have demonstrated again and again. It involves a large waste of time and intellectual effort for a lower motive than the desire after truth,—it is a species of literary gambling,—and for all except the lucky winner (for experience proves that the award is rarely to merit) it ends necessarily in loss and disappointment. We would say to any person about to offer a prize on any subject not purely practical, do no such thing. In the domain of morals nothing can come properly of the mere spirit of competition. The author of the proposal before us may do much better with his hundred guineas. If he desires to give them in aid of this Exhibition, he cannot do better than send a cheque for the amount to the general fund.

A complete alphabetical catalogue of the large and valuable library of the Royal College of Surgeons has just, we understand, been completed under the directions of the Council and placed in the library for the use of the members and readers. Towards the end of 1848 the library committee determined that a thorough verification of the library and a revision of the catalogue should be made.—The books were in the first place verified from the shelves by the press catalogue, and the additions made since 1840 were inserted in this. An alphabetical catalogue had been printed and published in 1831, and another volume in 1840; the manuscript titles of the works received into the library since 1840 were now printed in a supplement,—and these three parts have been amalgamated in one large alphabetical catalogue, which contains every work received into the library up to March last.—By printing annually from the manuscript catalogue the titles of all works received during the preceding year, the printed titles will be introduced into the spaces left for them in the large catalogue,—the completeness and utility of which will be thus constantly maintained.—The number of volumes in the library is about 28,000,—the number of works about 18,500.—The catalogue above mentioned has been prepared by Mr. Wheatley;—who is now engaged on an alphabetical reference index of subjects to add to its value. This will shortly be printed.

The reported arrival in Scotland of a couple of carrier pigeons taken out by Sir John Ross has, we observe, been contradicted; and in the absence of any official information transmitted to the Admiralty, it is reasonable to conclude that the pigeons whose return originated the report were not those taken out by Sir John. It is indeed a question of considerable interest whether carrier pigeons liberated in the Arctic regions at the enormous distance of 2,000 miles from these islands could sustain so long a flight. We are informed by Capt. Forsyth, who saw Sir John Ross's carrier pigeons on board the *Felix*, that the birds are very young, and not likely to stand the cold of northern latitudes.—We may also mention that it was Sir John Ross's intention to attach his messages written on

parchment under the wings of the pigeons:—so that it would be almost impossible to shoot away such a document, as is supposed to have been done, without killing the birds.

At length the inhabitants of the south side of London are to have their public park. The shooting grounds and premises so well known as the Red House, nearly opposite to Chelsea Hospital, have been purchased by Government for, it is said, 11,000*l.*,—subject to the possession by the occupier of the grounds until the end of next year. Of the new bridge to be erected across the Thames in connexion with this park, the works are to be commenced immediately. The arches are to be of iron, like Vauxhall Bridge. By this way the distance from Kensington Gardens to Battersea Park will be little more than a mile and a half, and the densely populated district of Chelsea will lie between two of the amplest green spaces in London. The location of the new park on the river is a novelty and an advantage. The bank will no doubt be planted; and we shall thus secure at least one sylvan view from the decks of ascending and descending vessels in the midst of our thousand wharves and piers and warehouses of goods, as an inheritance of beauty to the people for ever.

The *Builder* has a good suggestion—good, that is, under the circumstances—in the view of "making the best of a bad bargain,"—for gaining exhibition space within the area already occupied by the British Museum.—"An expedient," says that paper, "drawn from the Great Exhibition of 1851 might afford ample space for the relics from Nineveh—the sphynxes, lions, obelisks—and even for the sculpture now scattered along dark galleries, or barred off from observation in 'souterrains' at a temperature below zero. The great internal court-yard, if covered in with a glass dome, would give room for the whole contents of the national collection. An ample causeway might be reserved all round, and at the angles four areas as large as most structures possess in cities. With four entrances from the centre of the square, it would be accessible on all sides; and, being covered in with pellucid glass, this colossal hall, whatever its height, could obstruct no light from the windows of the present structure. Ornamentation to any extent might be introduced in stained glass,—but simplicity, as in the details of the Exposition, is the truer nobility. From a miniature example (the rotunda in the Colosseum) the advantages of a circular and well lighted hall may be inferred; and while such a structure may be easily heated to a genial temperature, there is no danger from fire, as the material is at the same time incombustible and almost imperishable. Ventilation in summer can be as easily secured as warmth in winter."

We see with interest that the Excursion system—which we have already followed into many of its issues—grows apace—moves in expanding circles,—and expatiates over a daily widening field. France and the Rhine are dwarfed into insignificance by the last move with this great agency. A number of spirited Americans propose to establish a series of cheap trips across the Atlantic! This is a great and useful project,—yet no more than the natural enlargement of the machinery of intercommunication to which we have already adverted. Little or nothing has yet been done to cheapen the cost of transit since steam was first employed as an ocean power. The traveller cannot go to America, even for a few days, without laying out a hundred pounds on the voyage. Speed, as yet, has been attained only at high cost: but looking to the recent experience of our own railways, it is highly probable that speed will ultimately prove to be a necessary element of economy. With regard to ocean navigation, the problem is in its earlier stages. The data already collected have probably never yet been sifted; but reasoning from railway and other analogies, it is difficult to believe that a vessel driven by wind and wave is a cheaper locomotive machine than one going by steam. Coal of course is expensive; but the steamer makes three voyages while the sailer makes one,—so that with equal rates it will earn three times the amount in the same time. Seamen's wages and interest on capital invested are standing items; but of course the morerapid the voyage the less the outlay and loss from these quarters.

—The American projectors calculate that a hundred passengers, with first-class fare and accommodation, will pay at 60 dollars for the trip and return,—100 dollars (instead of 100 pounds) for the entire journey and six weeks' residence in England. The moral and political results of such a means of communication, opening up the natural and social phenomena of each country to the great body of the middle classes in the other, might be incalculable. We put our readers in possession of this information,—and shall be glad to find our own countrymen taking up the idea. That it will be so, we have scarcely a doubt. The first experiment of the new project will probably be employed for the purpose of bringing our transatlantic brethren into our streets during the Great Exhibition of the world's produce; but we believe that its success will lay the basis of a permanent line of highway through the sea between the two countries, which shall bring the means of intercommunication within reach of large classes to whom respectively America and England have been hitherto the "other world." With 20*l.* and six weeks to spare, crowds of summer tourists will then pass from the one country to the other.

Accessions are still pouring in upon the Zoological Society's Gardens in the Regent's Park. A very fine lioness has just arrived by H.M.S. *Mariner*, Capt. Matthison, from the Cape of Good Hope,—presented by the Governor, Sir Harry Smith. We hope this example will be followed; for there can be little doubt that the colonial governors of Great Britain have the power of procuring a larger number of animals than could be obtained by any other means. Many creatures exist in our colonies which might easily be procured by them and sent over by the Queen's ships—but could not be obtained even at a great expense by any exertion on the part of the Society. Lord Hardinge, late Governor-General of India, the Governor of Trinidad, Lord Harris, and the Governor of Singapore, have all lately made important contributions to the Gardens,—showing what may be done and what may be hoped for from such quarters. Not only has our own Sovereign presented several very beautiful specimens lately,—the Society is indebted for contributions to the Queen of Portugal, the Emperor of Russia, and the late and present Pashas of Egypt. The Hudson's Bay Company have been liberal contributors. Mr. W. C. Domville, who has just made a tour in Norway, has presented to the Society a small herd of reindeer,—a fine male specimen of which has been in the Gardens for the last fortnight. A very fine porcupine has been received from Lisbon as a present from Mr. J. Gauland. A second specimen of the Brush Turkey (*Talegalla Lathamii*) was added last week.—Improvements in the structure of the houses are, we observe, constantly going on; and the Society find that money laid out on spacious and well-ventilated rooms for their animals to dwell in is much more economically spent than in purchasing specimens to replace those killed by their previous bad arrangements.—An improvement is now making in the house adapted to small quadrupeds. The martens have got cages made for them ten feet high,—with trees, in which they live almost in a state of nature. The average mortality of the Gardens diminishes regularly in proportion to the extent of space allowed for the animals to live in. This is a lesson for our sanitary reformers.

A well-informed correspondent, addressing us on the subject of our remarks on the duties of Government in regard to emigration [*Athen.* No. 1196], points out certain obstacles in the way of that sort of aid being rendered to the starving people which we desire:—such as, the want of co-operation in the various offices of Government,—the perverse nature of some existing laws,—and the ignorance and obstinacy of petty local functionaries. All these difficulties we admit,—and have again and again referred to in these columns:—but we hold that it lies entirely within the province of a paternal government to remove them. Starting from another point of the compass, our correspondent arrives at our own conclusions: and, in support of our plan of employing ships of war to carry out emigrants on a national scale, we will borrow the



following illustration.—“As to the employment of ships of war for the purpose of emigration, an actual saving might thereby be made to result to Government. So long ago as March 1828, a statement laid before His Royal Highness the then Lord High Admiral exhibited that if, instead of private ships, vessels of war then lying in ordinary were employed as transports, the annual saving would have amounted to more than 200,000l.—That ships of war even, with their guns and complement of men on board, are competent as transports, recent examples have proved. The inflexible war steamer, for instance, of 1,122 tons, took, at two embarkations, 1,500 soldiers a voyage of 1,400 nautical miles, together with their tent equipage and baggage, without any particular fittings to render her peculiarly a troop ship. But, supposing Government vessels to be lent on emigration service, neither would their guns be on board nor would there be a war crew: one equal to what is customary in private vessels would be ample,—that is, to take the fullest allowance, four men to every hundred tons, with officers both as to number and rank proportioned to the number of men. A project for the conveyance of poor needlewomen to Australia in Government vessels was in January last laid before the gentlemen carrying out Mr. Sidney Herbert's plan. By the calculations entered into, it appeared that, after paying to Government a fair allowance for wear and tear of a vessel, paying and victualling her crew as in the Royal Navy, and furnishing the emigrants with a dietary equally liberal, the passage of female emigrants to Australia would amount to no more than 8*l.* 0*s.* 5*d.* per head,—being a third less than the usual cost. To the nearer port of Natal, of course the voyage would cost but about half that sum.”—We would have our homeless and starving population carried out at the nation's cost if need be, not only as a matter of moral duty but as a question of economy. Let it never be forgotten that in removing a burden from home we acquire a new element of strength abroad. Every emigrant located at Natal, or in New South Wales, becomes an annual customer to the mother country for ten pounds' worth of her manufactured goods. In England the poor-rates are taxed with his support; once in the colony, he does well for himself and for those belonging to him left behind in his native land. Our Navy cannot be employed in a nobler service than in effecting such a change. Here, is misery—there, plenty. Here, work is scarce,—labour superabundant,—strength and perseverance almost valueless:—there, are virgin lands, lying waste because without owners, of the richest in the world,—but through the neglect of the State as unavailable to our teeming millions as estates in the sun would be. Yet a sum equal to that expended on the African Blockade would suffice to locate nearly two hundred thousand of them every year on these ample territories.

**INDIA OVERLAND MAIL.—DIORAMA.—GALLERY OF ILLUSTRATION.** 14, Regent-street, Waterloo-place.—A Giantic MOVING DIORAMA OF THE ROUTE OF THE OVERLAND MAIL TO INDIA, exhibiting the following places, viz.—Southampton Docks, Isle of Wight, Osborne, the Needles, the Bay of Biscay, the Berlinges, Chuto, the Tagus, Cape Trafalgar, Tarifa, Gibraltar, Algiers, Malta, Alexandria, Cairo, the Desert of Suez, the Central Station, Suez, the Red Sea, Aden, Ceylon, Madras, and Calcutta.—is now OPEN DAILY.—Mornings at Twelve, Afternoons at Three, and Evenings at Eight.—Admission, 1*s.*; 2*s.* Stalls, 2*s.* 6*d.*; Reserved Seats, 3*s.* Doors open half an hour before each representation.

—THE DIORAMA, Regent's Park.—Admission, One Shilling.—NOW OPEN, with the finest VIEWS ever exhibited in this country, representing the ROYAL CASTLE OF STOLZENFELS, on the Rhine, (visited by Her Majesty Queen Victoria in August 1842, and by the Emperor, on August and during a Thunder Storm; painted by NICHOLAS MEISTER, of Cologne. And the much-admired Picture of THE SHIPWRECK OF THE NATIVITY, at Bertholom, painted by the late M. REYNOUX, from a sketch made on the spot by DAVID ROBERTS, Esq. R.A., with novel and striking effects.—Open from Ten till Five.

**ROYAL POLYTECHNIC INSTITUTION.**  
**LECTURE ON THE BALLAD MUSIC OF ENGLAND,** by Mr. George Barker, with Illustrations from the most popular Composers, every Evening (except Sundays) at Eight o'clock.—**LECTURE ON THE HYDRO-ELECTRIC MACHINE,** by Dr. Schott.—**LECTURE ON CHEMISTRY,** by J. H. Poggendorff, Esq., illustrating the ANTIEST FIERY ORDEAL and the HANDLING OF RED-HOT METALS.—**MODEL OF WESTON'S PATENT NOVA-MOTIVE RAILWAY** at work daily.—**DIS-SOLVING VIEWS,** illustrating some of the WONDERS OF NATURE, daily at Half-past Four, and in the Evening at a Quarter of Ten, also a series of PICTURES SCENES IN THE ARCTIC REGIONS AND CEYLON, daily at One o'clock.—**DIVER AND DIVING BELL, &c. &c.**—Admission, 1*s.*; Schools, Half-price.—Open daily from Eleven till Five o'clock, and every Evening (EXCEPT SATURDAY) from Seven till Half-past Ten.

**EGYPT, NUBIA, and ETHIOPIA.**—The GREAT MOVING PANORAMA of the NILE displays the scenery of these interesting countries, and the manners and customs of their inhabitants, presenting to the spectator the River and the Desert, the Pyramids and the Sphinx, the grandest Ruins of Antiquity, and the most exciting objects that allure the traveller.—**EGYPTIAN HALL, PICCADILLY.**—Daily, at Three and Eight.—Admission reduced to 6*d.*; 1*s.*, 1*s.*; Stalls, 2*s.*

## SCIENTIFIC

### FOREIGN CORRESPONDENCE.

#### Swiss Association for the Advancement of Science.

THE following account of the late meeting of this Association has been forwarded to us by a distinguished member of the European scientific body.

The mother society of all the migrating Associations which in the course of this century have been established in different parts of Europe, with a view to advancing natural science, met—for the thirty-fifth time—at Aarau, on the 5th, 6th, and 7th of August last. The general meetings of the Association were presided over by M. Frei-Herosé, of Aarau, a gentleman well versed in different branches of natural science and one of the members of the central government of Switzerland. The writer of these lines has repeatedly attended German, English, and Italian meetings of perambulating scientific bodies; and though he readily allows them to be superior in many respects to those of the Swiss Association, in one point at least ours stood on a footing of equality with the foreign ones.

Being necessarily a comparatively small society, and most of its members knowing each other personally, our Association is a sort of what we call in Switzerland family day,—“holding its annual meetings in a very simple and noiseless manner, and causing little or no *embarras*” to the towns in which they happen. This simplicity and modesty insure to our society longevity; and we hope that on account of these the mother will still enjoy health and vigour when some of her splendid daughters may be defunct and forgotten. As to her eldest child, she is sickly already,—perhaps, she may recover. Of the southern daughter who made such a brilliant appearance on the stage of the scientific world at her very birth, it is difficult to say whether she is asleep only or dead. The British Association will, I trust, never sleep nor die.

Of the really “distinguished” foreigners who honoured our last meeting with their presence, I mention Herr von Buch and Dr. Whewell, of Cambridge. The eminent geologist read a paper before the general meeting:—a thing rarely done on such occasions by Herr von Buch, who, as is well known, is not over-communicative. He treated of the remarkable remains of the gigantic fossil birds on which the penetrating sagacity of the British Cuvier has of late been working with such wonderful success. The paper was highly interesting, both as to the facts spoken of and for the original views developed on the subject. I cannot, however, enter into the details of the memoir:—but one thing I must not omit to mention. Herr von Buch made use of the occasion to express publicly the high estimation in which he holds the incomparable comparative anatomist of England. Nothing is more pleasing to me than hearing one great man appreciate and acknowledge the merits of a brother genius:—and Von Buch's judgment pronounced at Aarau upon your Owen afforded me that gratification in a high degree.

Speaking of the senior and head of the European geologists, his friends on the other side of the water will no doubt learn with lively satisfaction that, though verging on eighty, he is still vigorous in body and in mind, and has been able to ramble about in our rather hilly country all the summer. The only complaint now and then made by our venerable perambulating philosopher was, that he could walk no more than twenty-four miles a-day. Many of our youngsters would think it hard work to imitate the example of the octogenarian. Herr von Buch, having been nearly half a century intimately connected with Swiss geology and geologists, and elected honorary member of our Association at its very first meeting,—his attendance at our last assembly was hailed with peculiar joy and cordiality.

A concise and simple account of his scientific exploits, given by the excellent geologist, Peter Merian, of Bâle, in the shape of a toast, was enthusiastically received, at a public dinner, by the whole assembly. It was an inadequate but deeply-felt homage rendered to a genius which cannot be much longer amongst us.

Dr. Whewell had the satisfaction to hear an account given of a series of optical experiments made by M. Mousson, Professor of Natural Philosophy at Zurich, on a very interesting phenomenon of interferences which was first observed on dusted specula by the Master of Trinity College in 1829. M. Mousson—who is distinguished both as a philosopher and as a mathematician—has succeeded not only in ascertaining many novel details of the curious and little-known phenomenon alluded to, but also in explaining it mathematically according to the undulatory theory,—which receives an additional confirmation from M. Mousson's investigations.

Prof. Schönbein, of Bâle, communicated to the Association the results of experiments recently made by him on the influence exerted by solar light on the chemical action of oxygen. By some peculiar notions which he entertains about the cause of the electrical condition of clouds, he was led to suppose that the chemical powers or affinities of oxygen are exalted by light, independently of heat. To test the correctness of that conjecture by experiment, he put a number of inorganic oxidable matters in contact either with pure oxygen or with atmospheric air,—both being subject to the action of direct solar light. He worked principally on strongly-coloured metallic sulphurets; for instance, those of lead, arsenic, and antimony,—which, with the view of giving them a large surface, were introduced into filtering paper.

Prof. Schönbein found out that either pure or atmospheric oxygen, being insulated, readily unites with sulphuret of lead, &c.—transforming that compound into the white sulphate of lead, &c.—whilst dark oxygen does not sensibly act on that sulphuret, all the other circumstances, temperature, &c. remaining the same. He ascertained, further, that moisture, though accelerating the action, is not required to be present in oxygen, &c. in order to obtain the results mentioned. Hence it comes that bands of paper coloured brown or yellow by the sulphurets named are completely bleached when exposed to the combined action of solar light and atmospheric air.

According to the experiments of Prof. Schönbein, sulphuret of lead paper is by far the most sensitive to sunlight,—then comes sulphuret of arsenic paper,—and, last, sulphuret of antimony paper.

As to the sulphuret of lead paper, it is so sensitive, that if it be but slightly coloured, it will within fifteen minutes be turned white in a strong noon sun of June or July. On account of that sensitiveness the sulphuret of lead paper is a sort of photographic paper, and may be used to produce writings, drawings, &c.

Prof. Schönbein exhibited before the general meeting at Aarau a number of such photographic productions; amongst other things, photographic copies of prints, which copies he obtained by simply putting those prints upon sheets of sulphuret of lead paper, and exposing the whole for hours to the joint action of direct solar light and atmospheric air.

Though Prof. Schönbein has ascertained that even diffused light acts sensibly on the sulphuret of lead paper, still he found its action to be too feeble to produce in the camera obscura an appreciable effect. If by some means or other the sensitiveness of the paper could be much increased, positive images would be obtained.

Prof. Schönbein does not, however, lay any stress on his discovery in a photographic point of view,—its principle appearing to him infinitely more important than its applicability to photographic purposes. But he is inclined to think that by means of sulphuret of lead paper a good chemical photometer might be made.

Besides the sulphurets mentioned, Prof. Schönbein has under solar influence oxidized some other matters capable of taking up oxygen:—for in-







dignified order of beauty,—and the head is surrounded by a diadem, with thirteen stars. The left arm and hand are elevated, as if exhorting the people to trust in Heaven; while the right rests on the fasces, which are crowned with bay leaves,—enforcing the precept that Union is Strength and will be crowned with Victory. It is in this part of the design that Powers has made one of the most essential changes and improvements,—the first model having had the Cap of Liberty on the left hand, which gave the figure a rather heavy appearance. As it shows now, it is at once more elegant and more imaginative. The left foot is a little in advance of the other,—and it is this part of the figure which the sculptor conceives has been somewhat misunderstood. What he desired to represent was, 'America' trampling under foot, not monarchical power, but tyranny:—an idea which he imagines an English sculptor might consistently adopt and represent. In the first design he attempted to do this by placing a diadem under the left foot; but fearing that his meaning might be misapprehended, he has replaced the diadem by a sceptre with chains beneath it. The statue, which is half covered with drapery, will be 14 feet high; and for power, beauty, and dignity combined it is one of the finest that I have ever seen in Italy.—Powers is about to commence working it out in marble,—and calculates that in fifteen months it will be ready for sending off. I have dwelt at length on this subject, not only because of the great merits of this work of art,—but because, as I have said, the sculptor considers his design to have been misconceived, and seemed anxious to have his meaning clearly expressed.

By the side of the beautiful model of 'America' stood a yet half-developed statue of 'California.'—I was glad to hear that his statue of 'Eve' has been rescued from the sea wholly uninjured. It was feared that the iron employed in packing might have discoloured the marble,—but it has not received a stain.—The statue of Colquhoun, it is hoped, will also be saved,—though lying as it does beneath the breakers, greater difficulty will be experienced.

Perhaps the best native sculptor in Florence, now that Bartolini is dead, is Santarelli; and in the hope of seeing some work of his chisel, I visited his studio,—but his last great work he had sent off two or three days before to Carrara. It is a female figure, representing 'La Forza'; and is intended to form one of the group about the great statue of Columbus at Genoa,—which it is supposed will be finished in about two years. The readers of the *Athenæum* will remember a description of the laying the foundation stone of this monument four years since. It will be composed of the central figure of Columbus, four female figures illustrative of 'La Forza,' 'La Scienza,' 'La Prudenza,' 'La Fede,' and four bassi-relievi. Each of these several portions was given to a distinct Italian artist:—the statue just completed was the part assigned to Santarelli. It is that of a female figure seated, with her left hand resting on a club.

At Rome little is doing. M'Donald has lately sent off one or two pieces which he had completed for the Queen of England; and, strangely enough, Gibson has brought here the commission for the monument to the late Sir Robert Peel to be erected in Westminster Abbey,—and that for the statue of the Queen intended for Westminster Palace.

**FINE-ART GOSSIP.**—An inspection of the purchases made by the Marquis of Hertford at the recent sale of the King of Holland's pictures testifies honourably to the patriotism which came forward to vindicate our national taste at a contest in which England was the only country not formally represented. Taunts against the English visitors were abundant; and—whether we look to the supercilious indifference of the Whigs to all that relates to Fine Art, or to the combined ignorance and assumption which convert occasions for Art-advancement into so many jobs—we must, we fear, continue to make up our minds to the taunts of more enlightened nations. The pictures which the Marquis has

secured to this country, however, are—first, the portrait of M. Pellicorne and his Son—and a pendant picture of Madame Pellicorne and her Daughter. The husband and wife are each represented sitting, with their children by their side. We have in these the highest examples of the care with which Rembrandt could operate—sacrificing no whit of breadth of mass to particularization in detail. To a beginner in the art of portraiture such specimens must be of incalculable advantage—showing the means by which in later life a more free and generalized style is to be attained. Of this later time of Rembrandt, there is a study of his son, boldly touched in, with most magic effect.—The two whole-lengths of M. and Madame le Roy are superb specimens of the individuality and nobleness of air and of style for which Vandyke stands unrivalled:—most simple in their arrangements and facile in their execution. The five above-mentioned pictures are confessedly among the best examples now in this country for the study of our youthful painters of portrait.—'Christ's Charge to Peter' is a noble gallery picture by Rubens:—freer than usual from the over-charged forms which the Flemish model too often supplied. The drawing is more chastened—the heads have a more exalted and refined character,—and the execution, while bold and massive, is neither coarse in its tendency nor opaque in colour.—Of the Italian school it is most gratifying to see so fine an example as that by Andrea del Sarto. It has long been well known as 'La Vierge de Pade.' This picture—which was the subject of so lively a competition between the agents of several Continental powers—is indeed a fine representation of the artist. It has his correctness without timidity,—and a sweetness of expression and of general treatment that has not degenerated into the insipid or mawkish so observable in the mass of the pictures (often erroneously ascribed to his hand). The work is a great acquisition to the country.—Equal in excellence of a different kind is the 'Water Mill' by Hobbema,—a scene evidently painted from nature in the open air. Every vestige in it bears ample evidence of the closeness of the painter's observations,—every touch breathes of the fidelity and readiness of his hand. It is a perfect lesson to our numerous artists who deal with the strictly pastoral that how much effect may be obtained with simple and unpretending appliance.—Among the other objects proceeding from this sale must not be overlooked a very fine study of the head of an aged man, by Rembrandt, in his free style—now the property of Mr. Rücker; and a drawing by Raffaele, one of the sketches for the composition of the celebrated 'Deposition from the Cross,' of the Borghese,—full of graceful feeling and passion, with beautiful drawing. This last was purchased at the sale by Mr. Chambers Hall.

It may be useful for some of our readers to be informed, that the opening of the French annual Exhibition of the works of modern artists—which was, as they know, to have taken place on the 15th of December,—is further postponed till the 26th. The time for the reception of pictures, &c. has been, in conformity, extended from the days ranging between the 2nd and the 15th of November to the period between the 11th and 25th of the same month. The reception will cease at six o'clock on the evening of the latter day.

## MUSIC AND THE DRAMA

HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE, & THE GRAND NATIONAL CONCERTS.

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 4th.

THE CELEBRATED BERLIN CHOIR, EVERY EVENING. Angri, Biscaccianti, Newton, Stockhausen and Goddard, Molique, Piatti, Sinton, Richardson, Prosperi, H. Cooper, Barret, Anglois, Baumann and Sims Reeves.

Director of the Music and Composer . . . MR. BALFE.  
Director of La Musique de Danse . . . HERZ LADIZKY.

PROVENANCE, 14, 61.  
(Admitting to all parts of the House except the Private Boxes and Box Stalls).

The Grand National Quadrille by Labitzky, next week.—Macfarren's Serenata on Monday, November 11th.

M. JULLIEN'S ANNUAL CONCERTS FOR ONE MONTH ONLY.

M. JULLIEN has the honour to announce that his ANNUAL SERIES of CONCERTS will COMMENCE at the Theatre Royal, Drury Lane, on FRIDAY next, November 6. Full particulars will be duly announced.

## THEATRE ROYAL, DRURY LANE.

M. JULLIEN'S GRAND ANNUAL BAL MASQUÉ

Will take place

NEXT THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 7th, 1850.

M. JULLIEN has the honour to announce that his GRAND ANNUAL BAL MASQUÉ will this year be given previous to the commencement, instead of at the termination, of his ANNUAL SERIES of CONCERTS, and will take place NEXT THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 7th, 1850, (THE CONCERTS COMMENCING ON THE FOLLOWING EVENING.)

M. JULLIEN abstains from giving any detailed description of the decoration, which will be ENTIRELY NEW, but begs to assure his Patrons that they may rely on witnessing a most splendid combination of Decorative Effects, including the Magnificent and Novel CRYSTAL CURTAIN.

The ORCHESTRA will be complete, and consist of ONE HUNDRED and TEN MUSICIANS.

Principal Cornet & Pistons, HERR KÖNIG.

CONDUCTOR . . . M. JULLIEN.

Tickets for the Ball, 10s. 6d. The Audience Portion of the Theatre will, as before, be set apart for SPOTATORS.—Prices of Admission:—Dress Circle, 5s.; Boxes, 3s.; Lower Gallery, 2s.; Upper Gallery, 1s.; Private Boxes, from 2l. 2s. upwards. Persons taking Private Boxes will have the privilege of passing to and from the Ball Room without extra charge.

Tickets for the Ball Places and Private Boxes, may be secured at the Box-Office of the Theatre. Private Boxes also at Mr. Mitchell's, Mr. Sams', Messrs. Leader & Cocks', Mr. Chappell's, Messrs. Craner, Beale & Co.'s, Messrs. Campbell's, Ransford & Co.'s, Mr. Allcroft's, and at Jullien & Co.'s Establishments.

The Doors will be opened at Half-past Nine, and the Dancing commence at Ten.  
Mr. I. Nathan, Jun., of 18, Castle Street, Leicester Square, is appointed Costumier to the Ball. Persons in the costume of Clowns, Harlequins, or Pantalons will not be admitted.

## CHARACTERISTICS OF MEYERBEER.

(Second Notice.)

LET US now glance, rapidly, at these Forty Melodies. In the very first—the 'Chanson de Mai,'—made known to our public by the charming singing of Signor Mario, there are no less than three totally distinct ideas, and as many rhythms. The first is,

Connais-tu la chanson? &c. &c.

—where the phrase is trite, and the accompaniments are lean and puerile;—the second is,

Et le petit oiseau, &c. &c.

—where the strain passes off into elegant and pastoral forms; and the third is,

Cimarose et Mozart, &c. &c.

—a faded bit of Italian *cantilena*.—Strange to say, however, the ear becomes used to this patch-work, and accepts it as a whole.—In No. 3, 'Rachel à Nephtali' (Romance Biblique), the figure in the bass accompaniment, and the *molto crescendo* on the *sforzato* and *staccato* notes to the words:—

Je suis ta sœur, pitié,

are true specimens of Meyerbeerism.—In Nos. 4, 6 and 7, the melody is meant to be more flowing:—being, however, in the last ('Nella') relieved by talking passages, with a word to a note, and settling down into the most commonplace Italian phrases, by way of close.—No. 8, 'Le Moine,' is one of the finest songs in the collection. The composer here rises to the force of dramatic inspiration, and is impassioned without becoming fragmentary.—The same may be said of No. 21, 'Le Poète Mourant,' which takes, still more, the forms of a *scena*: both giving scope to the grandest declamation. Both are so well known in this country, however, that we need but point to them.—In the 'Cantique du Trappiste' (No. 17), and 'Le Veau pendant l'orage' (No. 29), the same mood is attempted with less success. Nothing can well be weaker than the phrase—

Ah! sainte Vierge, pitié!

in the latter. There is, however, at once more play and continuity in the accompaniment than happens frequently with Meyerbeer.

No. 11, 'Mère Grande,' a *nocturne* for *soprano* and *contralto*, is one of the most ingenious and charming compositions in this volume. Rarely has the contrast of character been better kept up within such narrow limits,—rarely have more flattering passages a *due*, or more piquant occupation for a pair of most accomplished vocalists, been contrived. Two accomplished vocalists, however, they must be who can approach 'Mère Grande,'—which (it may be added anecdotically) was selected by M. Meyerbeer for one of the memorable concerts given at Brühl by the King of Prussia to Her Majesty when she entered Germany. The *nocturne* was then sung by Mademoiselle Jenny Lind and Madame Viardot, we have been told, with *cadence* (for which express provision is made) almost longer than the stanzas themselves.

No. 12, 'Mina,'—No. 13, 'Serenata,'—No. 22, 'La Fille de l'Air,' (the last noticeable for an accompaniment of great lightness and elegance)—



No. 27, 'Sicilienne,'—and No. 37, 'Le Ranz des Vaches d'Appenzell,'—may be all cited as examples of rhythm more or less coquettishly disposed.—In 'Délire' (No. 19) M. Meyerbeer has turned his peculiar gift to the purposes of passion; and the song is unquestionably among the most original items in the collection. But music more harassing and ungracious to sing never issued from the despotic brain of Beethoven or of Weber,—which is saying much. No stretch of imagination or of experience can represent to us in what manner the *coda molto dolce* to the words

Je mours d'amour

can be enunciated and sung without the most imminent risk of a sickly, yawning effect, destructive alike of pity and of musical pleasure.—One of the most tuneable numbers in the collection is No. 38, 'Sur le balcon,' but even this must be managed, rather than yielded to, by the vocalist. It does not appear in the case of M. Meyerbeer, as with the above-cited composers of 'Fidelio' and 'Eury-anthe,' that the singer has been disdained by the poet for the sake of the musical idea, so much as that, with all the *maestro's* experiences and experiments, he had never arrived at any knowledge of that which the human voice can perform with comfort, and therefore with expression. Some years ago, when the Beethoven Album was reviewed [*Athen.* No. 1000], we adverted to the enormous difficulty of 'The Wanderer and the Spirits' (No. 40), the composition which closes the volume:—a difficulty rendering its performance more than once in a life-time hardly possible. Yet in this, though there be some novelty of combination, there is no grandeur of idea to excuse such racking of the voices as we find (p. 247-8) in

O maître, quels transports puissants;

where the intervals and modulations, if not rendered with the most consummate neatness, must produce an effect positively offensive.

The above paragraphs will not be agreeable to the wholesale admirers of M. Meyerbeer. But the number of these is small: since his merits may be said to arise as much from a balance of defects as from an assemblage of great qualities,—and there is no side on which his successes may not be attacked. Let them, however, be contested ever so fiercely, they remain,—and we think will remain. While we point out from the above collection peculiarities and singularities which would spoil or sink any other master, we must emphatically repeat that these are most consummately wrought together, cemented, disguised, and ornamented by a "*je ne sais quoi*," most to be felt when it is least to be analyzed. We cannot close this song-book, any more than we can return home after hearing 'Les Huguenots' or 'Le Prophète,' without being anew convinced that if Meyerbeer be not a great composer, he is a monarch among masters of effect.

HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE.—If life remain for a while longer in the *Grand National Concerts*, it is ascribable to the public, and neither to the Committee of Direction nor to Mr. Balfé as conductor. It is many years since we have heard the Symphonies of Beethoven so coarsely and carelessly treated by so fine a band. Every player who permits himself the slovenly reading and soulless execution which pass unchallenged by Mr. Balfé, does so at the risk of serious damage to himself, and at the certainty of reproof from the next conductor understanding or caring for classical music under whom he may be called to figure. In spite, however, of a manner of presentment more calculated to repel than to attract, these Symphonies please the promenaders better than sundry *Polkas* of amateur origin which could be named,—nay, better than the elegant Waltzes of Herr Labitzky, which may one day claim a separate consideration.—Our remarks on the instrumental *solos* in a former article have been fully justified by the success which attended Herr Molique's performance of a violin Concerto by himself, this day week. M. Halle's piano-forte playing, too, has been so popular as to lead to his re-engagement.\* He will appear again in the course of the next fortnight.—Good things are rumoured of Mr. Macfarren's *Serenata*,

in which we hear that Mdle. Angri and Mr. Sims Reeves will take *solo* parts (the Lady, of course, to sing in English).—A contemporary announces that Mr. Sims Reeves has postponed the fulfilment of an engagement with Mr. Lumley at Paris, in order that he may take his part in the coming three English *Serenatas*. This is good and national,—but meanwhile, wherefore will not Mr. Reeves lay by such trash as the 'Death of Nelson'—having no longer the excuse of *Wednesday Concert* coercion for singing it? He is in his best voice, and seems increasingly to take pains; let us hope that a little more respect for good music and for the best part of every audience will in due time come also.—M. Jules Stockhausen is singing very well, and in the best music.—To pass to another topic,—it is not one of the least of the many strange features of the moment, that while musical taste is spreading so widely, first-class English songstresses should be so increasingly rare. When Miss Hayes shall have departed for her Carnival engagement at Rome, the only available English *soprani* left will be Miss Birch and Miss Lucombe,—a very insufficient provision for this Oratorio-giving island. The last-named excellent artist is about to appear at these *Grand National Concerts*.—Good things are said of the voice of Miss Kearns, a daughter of the accomplished player on the *viola* who died a few years since,—but as she has not yet, we believe, sung in public, she can hardly be expected for the present to prove available in first-class occupation.—Returning from general remarks to matters more particular,—it should be mentioned that the Berlin Church Singers were to appear for the first time at Her Majesty's Theatre yesterday evening.

HAYMARKET.—Mr. Macready's serious indisposition, which compelled him last season abruptly to suspend the conclusion of his farewell engagement—coupled with that farewell itself, which is fast approaching—gave an interest to his return to this theatre on Monday, which the audience expressed by an enthusiastic greeting. The part chosen was *Macbeth*; a character in which,—with, in our opinion, faults of conception,—Mr. Macready exhibits surprising powers of execution.—The part of *Macduff* was supported by Mr. Davenport; who made in it his first appearance here,—and he was warmly received by the audience. He performed it with great pathos and vigour. In the last terrific combat, both he and Mr. Macready showed tremendous energy.

On Tuesday, a new farce was produced, entitled 'The Irish Diamond':—which did not succeed so well, perhaps, as it deserved. The interest and situations are broadly humorous. Mr. Hudson performs the part of an Irish uncle, returned in rags from California, but with a handsome brilliant in his shirt front, which being mistaken for a large diamond induces his nephews and friends to prepare a banquet for him. When proved to be a beggar, the disappointment of all parties is extreme.—The ill reception of this production is due to the story being prolonged beyond this point of discovery.

On Wednesday, Mr. Macready appeared in *Hamlet*;—the part of *Laertes* being performed by Mr. Davenport.—On Thursday, Mr. Macready acted *Shylock*,—and Mr. Davenport *Bassanio*.

'The Husband of my Heart,' which we noticed last week, is stated by Mr. Selby not to be taken from '*La Bouquetière du Marché des Innocents*'—the original of the Lyceum piece entitled 'The Pride of the Market,'—but from a vaudeville, entitled '*Duchesse et Poissarde*.' Both obviously, however, have the same original basis in story. The best apology for Mr. Selby is, the opportunity which his version gives for the display of new and remarkable powers in Miss Reynolds as *The Duchess*.

SADLER'S WELLS.—The Fridays and Saturdays of the last two weeks have been devoted to the experiment of producing Mr. Marston in a principal character, assisted by Miss Glyn. Though labouring under a defect of voice, this actor is a favourite with the audience. On the evenings in question, 'Measure for Measure' and 'The Honey-moon' were revived.—Mr. Marston playing the

parts of the two Dukes,—and Miss Glyn those of *Isabella* and *Juliana*. The first she had before performed at this house; and it demands, therefore, now no further remark than that this season Miss Glyn supports it with increased power and effect; her declamation being sustained with extraordinary vigour, and the tide of her emotion flowing in an irresistible stream. This actress excels in the earnestness and sincerity of grief. The same powers are, however, not demanded in *Juliana*:—a comic character, of which Miss Glyn gave a rough version at the commencement of her career. Her success in *Beatrice* having induced the management to place her in the heroine of Tobin's comedy, the result has fully justified their expectation. Her acting was refined and intelligent throughout. For the first time, the usual absurd stage-business of the first cottage scene was abandoned. Instead of brutally assuming a seat and leaving his Lady standing, like another *Petruchio*,—Mr. Marston in *Aranza* politely proffered a chair to his bride, which the Lady, after much clever bye-play, with reluctant condescension accepted. The success of this alteration will, we hope, cause it to be henceforth adopted into all stage editions of the Drama, instead of the present ridiculous directions. They were made originally by the players; who also gagged the comedy in many parts,—the author being dead when it was first produced. Many of these gags were omitted on Friday week, and we hope to see them all discarded. There is not one of them that is not a vulgarity,—while in the genuine printed text of the comedy there is not a line which is unpolluted. In the peasant scene, Miss Glyn's peculiar Doric manner came into fine play. The comedy was placed on the stage with care, and performed with elegance. Mr. Marston as the *Duke Aranza* satisfied us in the main points of the character,—and his daughter in the part of *Zamora* showed excellent promise. Mr. Hoskins as *Rolando* was in full feather,—and Mr. A. Younge as the *Mock Duke* abounded in humour. But as it is in this gentleman's part particularly that the gags as yet undischarged occur, we recommend him to procure their removal with all speed from the prompter's book.

On Monday, the play of 'Cymbeline' was revived,—and Miss Lyons made further trial of her powers in *Imogen*. Though unequal to the part as a whole, she performed much of it with an innocent prettiness and a girlish simplicity that could not fail to please,—and which it would be unfair to criticize.

On Friday, 'Venice Preserved' was revived—Miss Glyn playing *Belvidera*.

OLYMPIC.—'Allow me to Apologize'—a farce by Mr. J. P. Wooler—introduces Mr. Compton as *Goliath Goth*; whose awkwardness renders him distasteful to two sister-ladies, both of whom he tortures with his courtship in hope to win the richest. At the end, they will not allow him "to apologize." To escape from the dilemma, he feigns madness,—and Mr. Compton's manner of doing this is the most laughable thing imaginable.—The piece was entirely successful.

MUSICAL AND DRAMATIC GOSSIP.—We record with interest the announcement that a grand performance of English Protestant Service-music, to be executed by the combined members of most of the cathedral choirs of England, will shortly take place in St. George's Chapel, Windsor, at the express instance of Her Majesty.

Miss Dolby's agreeable Chamber Concerts—three, in number—will commence, we perceive, on Tuesday week.

A note from a member of "The Operatic Commonwealth" in reference to a paragraph which appeared this day week in the *Athenæum*, informs us that a foreign conductor was nominated merely because no English one offered himself.—We do not precisely see how this explanation disposes of the want of English musical spirit in furtherance of English music, against which our observations were directed.

Every three or four years comes up one or other of the stock musical wonders for discussion—rather than solution. What, indeed, would the speculators do, were Weber's 'Three Pintos'



to be completed?—or were all Beethoven's so-called crudities to be settled after the fashion of the two bars in the *scherzo* to the c minor Symphony,—resolved by Mendelssohn into a press-error which had been noticed as such by Beethoven's self, yet, strange to say, not erased from the score by more recent conductors?—Now, we have M. Fétis, who professes to have got at the real history and mystery of Mozart's 'Requiem,' while on a musical tour in South Germany.—The mysterious stranger who commissioned that piece of funeral music was, according to M. Fétis, the chamberlain of a Count de Waldseck, of Stubbach, near Wiener-Neustadt. The Count was an amateur who (like a sportsman who passes off bought for bagged game) was fond of having music of his own performed which other composers had written,—and who thus mysteriously possessed himself of Mozart's 'Swan-song,' movement by movement, as it was completed, so far as the "Sanctus," where the hand-writing of Mozart stops.—The existence of a *Requiem* by Mozart in such hands was announced in 1827, by M. Zaurzel, an orchestral player at Amsterdam:—it is further said, that Herr Gottfried Weber, editor of the *Cecilia*, was in possession of family testimony to the same import which he kept back out of delicacy till the shabby and piratical Count's nearest relatives should be out of the reach of being pained by such disclosure.—The letter containing this testimony, M. Fétis says, has also lately transpired; and the autograph MS. in question is now in the Imperial Library at Vienna.—How this is distinctly identified with the Waldseck MS. we are not told:—yet on the completeness and firmness of that link does the interest of the story mainly depend.

A solemn *Requiem*, the composition of M. Fétis, has been performed in the Cathedral at Brussels, for the Queen of the Belgians.—Some music was this week to be given in the Church of *La Madeleine* at Paris on the anniversary of the death of M. Chopin.

Seeing that when the rocket has been shot up the stick must come down, it is no surprise to us to receive by every post and packet from American tidings which prove that the course of even *Jenny-lindolatry* cannot run smooth. The manner in which tickets for her concerts have been jobbed by Mr. Barnum, and the crowding and dissatisfaction thereby occasioned, very nearly caused a riot at Boston on the occasion of the Swedish Lady's last concert there:—the arch-showman being obliged to hide himself for fear of being mobbed.—It is rumoured in the transatlantic papers, that next year Mdle. Rachel and Madame Cerito intend visiting the States;—also, that Mdle. Parodi, taking courage on the strength of the musical excitement, has disturbed negotiations for her appearance at the New York Opera by demanding higher terms than those for which she had originally promised to cross the Atlantic.—From whichever side such extravagancies are viewed,—whether as reacting on the reputation of the artist, or as disturbing all healthy and natural transactions which must be based on the expectation of real, not of fabulous gains—they are bad in their consequences, and to be discountenanced by all sane lookers-on.—Meanwhile, we are bound to state that the arrival of Mdle. Lind does not seem to have dulled the public of the States to the claims of other artists. The same journals that bring us the tales of the splendours of Revere House, &c. in Boston, and of the hundred-and-twenty-five-pound advertisement in the shape of a "first ticket" purchased by Mr. Ossian Dodge, mention that Miss Cushman is playing at New York to very large audiences.

In the *Court Journal*, a correspondent from Paris announces that the lesseeship of our St. James's Theatre has fallen into the hands of no less eminent a person than *Robert Macaire*, *Le Docteur Noir*, *Don César de Bazan*,—M. Frédéric Lemaître. If his management is to bear any proportion to his repertory, it will be rather a spasmodic and ghastly piece of business.

Our neighbours have lost a favourite low comedian in M. Alcide Tousez; who turned a strange face and a slang manner to most whimsical account, and after his kind shone like a diamond in company with MM. Ravel, Grassot, and other of the respectabilities of the *Théâtre Palais-Royal*.—M.

Guyon, of the *Théâtre Français*, is also dead:—a heavy, but useful actor, who made a good figure in classical tragedy.

#### MISCELLANEA

*Irish Archaeology*.—I am well pleased that my letter on the subject of Irish antiquities should have commanded the attention of so distinguished a person as Dr. Todd, whose rejoinder appears in the *Athenæum* of last Saturday.—It is indeed of great importance that the educated people of Ireland should be roused to a proper appreciation of the singularly beautiful and rare vestiges of architectural art which are scattered over their island; and when so able and enthusiastic a man as Dr. Todd espouses the cause of their preservation, we may cherish a hope that they will not be suffered to perish entirely.—With respect to the second part of Dr. Todd's letter,—let me say that he is wrong in believing that the Royal Society have not a sufficient staff to admit of their apartments being kept open the whole of the year. One or more persons are invariably in attendance at the rooms in Somerset House every day from ten till four; and foreigners and others who have called during the long vacation have always been freely admitted to view the Society's rarities,—which though not of silver or gold, yet, being for the most part relics of the immortal Newton, are of great value.—If disposed to be captious, I might suggest that the 'official inquiries' referred to by Dr. Todd were not of great moment,—seeing that although our vacation terminated some weeks ago, they have not come before me in the form of a letter.—Probably the secretary may have called before or after the regular hours of business; which would account for his hearing of my absence,—and for his supposition that there was no one in attendance in the interval. C. R. WELD, Somerset House, Oct. 29.

*The London Hospitals*.—The introductory lectures are the great signal for assembling; and of these there were delivered on the 1st of October just past no less than a dozen. The discourses vary in character, of course; partly under the influence of the locality where delivered,—partly in obedience to the calibre of the lecturer,—and partly by the circumstances of the institution in which they are given. Each large London hospital has its medical school; but the hospitals are very differently circumstanced in other respects. Two of them, Guy's and Bartholomew's, are enormously rich,—having revenues told in tens of thousands a year, arising from landed and other property; and they are therefore entirely independent of public subscriptions. Not many years ago, Guy's hospital, very wealthy before, received, in one legacy left by a Mr. Hunt, two hundred thousand pounds! Bartholomew's enjoys the rents of houses in important city streets yearly rising in value. St. Thomas's Hospital has likewise extensive property; Middlesex Hospital enjoys endowments, particularly one of considerable extent for support of a ward for the reception and maintenance of unfortunate people afflicted with cancer. University College has recently been blessed by many handsome legacies; and St. George's, and Westminster, and the London, have incomes arising from independent property. The rents of the last three, however, are not to be compared with those of the huge institutions of the Borough and Smithfield; and they are compelled, therefore, to rely partly upon the means of support which their still less fortunate competitors at Charing Cross, the Gray's Inn Road, and King's College have almost wholly to rely upon—the voluntary subscriptions of the charitable section of the public.—'Household Words.'

*The Extent of the United States*.—It has been computed that the United States have a frontier line of 10,750 miles, a sea-coast of 5,130 miles, and a lake-coast of 1,160 miles. One of its rivers is twice as long as the Danube, the largest river in Europe. The Ohio is 600 miles longer than the Rhine, and the noble Hudson has a navigation in the "Empire State" 120 miles longer than the Thames. Within Louisiana are bayous and creeks, almost unknown, that would shame by comparison the Tiber or Seine. The State of Virginia alone is one third larger than England. The State of Ohio contains 3,000 square miles more than Scotland. The harbour of New York receives the vessels that navigate rivers, canals, and lakes to the extent of 3,000 miles,—equal to the distance from America to Europe. From the capital of Maine to the "Crescent City" is 200 miles further than from London to Constantinople,—a route that would cross England, Belgium, a part of Prussia, Austria, and Turkey.—*National Intelligence*.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.—Translator—J. H. W.—R. E. D.—Louise—J. C.—Moderator—M. A.—R. M.—An Exhibitor—F. W.—An Observer—received.

E. C.—who writes to us on the subject of the ragged school children—does not give her name; so that we cannot venture to deal with the object of her letter.

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LONDON, SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 9, 1850.

## REVIEWS

*The Defenceless State of Great Britain.* By Sir Francis Head, Bart. Murray.

It is almost superfluous to remind our readers that Sir Francis Head is by no means the first person who during the last ten or fifteen years has attempted to direct the serious attention of the public to the defenceless state of our coasts and great cities. During the ministry of Lord Melbourne there was a profound and very general agitation throughout the country on the subject of the Naval services. During Sir Robert Peel's administration in 1842, the attention of Parliament was directed to the state of the defences of the coast; and, in pursuance of a ministerial proposal, the expenditure of considerable sums was authorized for the purpose of strengthening and extending those particular fortifications reported to be insufficient. Again, in 1847, the publication of a letter from the Duke of Wellington to Sir John Burgoyne revived the whole of the previous discussions; and served perhaps more than any preceding or subsequent circumstance to create in observant persons a strong impression that, in spite of much exaggeration and a great deal of fanciful alarm, there are both truth and reason on the side of those who maintain that Great Britain is in a defenceless condition. Since 1847 the discussion has been in abeyance;—but it has been neither concluded nor forgotten.

Sir Francis Head now comes forward to reassert all the former opinions of the extreme party of alarm,—and to defend, by that odd and frequently entertaining mixture of drollery and statistics for which his writings are remarkable, most of these ultra propositions which affirm with the greatest confidence that the capture of London by a French army of 150,000 men is perhaps the most certain of future events unless the military economy of this country shall be forthwith subjected to a radical re-organization. We have no hesitation in saying at once that Sir Francis Head has introduced no arguments and no evidence into his volume calculated to sustain this formidable proposition. It is the weakness and perhaps also the merit of this book that it is entirely a one-sided treatise. Sir Francis Head has been more anxious, we dare say, to create alarm than to arrive at the literal truth. He seems to believe that at present agitation will do more good than common sense; and that if he can only obtain the attention, he will afterwards instruct the reason of his countrymen.

We entirely refuse our assent to a considerable part of Sir Francis Head's doctrine,—we think his premises unsound and his facts erroneous and inconclusive;—but we cannot permit ourselves to say that his fears are totally without foundation,—that his warnings are altogether unreasonable,—or that at the bottom of the exaggeration and excitement which he seeks to countenance and produce there is not real cause for apprehension. We do not think that a declaration of this nature will bring on us the censure of the true and judicious promoters of peace. Our sentiments on behalf of every measure which promises even in the most remote manner to prevent the catastrophe of war are not of recent date, and have been declared on too many occasions not to be well known. But we must seek peace as we seek every other great moral reform, by adapting our measures to the world as it is and to mankind as they are. In the present posture of European politics, no great and wealthy State can afford to adopt implicitly and at once the principles of Quakerism. There is an immense difference between a nation and a sect. Shielded by the

strong arm of the law and protected from all extraneous aggression, a sect may cheaply and easily teach and to some extent adopt an anti-belligerent practice very different from the common creeds of mankind. But to argue from the internal eccentricities to the external relations of a people—to draw no line of distinction between that which may be theoretically ingenious and that which is actually possible—is merely to perpetuate the error into which folly and fanaticism have fallen in all ages. It is a most hopeful sign of our era that in nearly all civilized countries there is a growing disinclination to countenance any measures which would lead to war. That is a great fact,—and a gratifying one as far as it goes. But there are other facts which it is quite as important to bear in mind and estimate at their proper value. The aversion to war is not so strong as the aversion to severe punishments as a means of repressing crime. But even the most enthusiastic reformers of our penal code confine themselves to proposing plans of prevention in the place of schemes of punishment. We substitute the policeman for the jailer, and a quick and summary jurisdiction for the bridewell and the stocks. In effect, therefore, the improvement of our knowledge has led us to seek the diminution of crime not by sweeping away all the machinery for its forcible repression; but by directing our efforts to prevention rather than penalty,—by employing the force at our disposal on the outside instead of the inside of the prison. A time perhaps may come when even these precautions may be unnecessary. That is a subject of pure speculation. In the mean time, it is as clear as the sun at noon-day that dealing with the actual facts around us, we should introduce not reform but anarchy if we were to abandon the old methods before new ones of equal efficiency are discovered and established. Precisely the same line of reasoning applies to the question of peace. Mankind are happily disposed to assume a defensive instead of an aggressive attitude; and in the case of each particular State the whole difficulty consists in determining how far under its peculiar circumstances defensive measures are required. The question is entirely one of degree. There must be some amount of defence:—that is conceded on all hands. Until all men are implicitly virtuous, the wanton exposure of valuable property, uncovered by adequate protection, is simply an inciter to outrage and theft. No man and no nation have any right, in the present state of the world, wilfully and pertinaciously to appeal to the bad passions of human nature by a tantalizing exhibition of valuable and defenceless objects. We are in the daily habit of censuring meretricious tradesmen who lead the hungry and the naked into crime by thrusting into the street articles of food and of clothing to serve the ends of an audacious puffery. Precisely the same offence would be fairly chargeable against a community who, availing themselves of the peaceful tendencies,—or what may be called the moral police—of the age, should endeavour to avoid their reasonable share of the defensive armament by which that peaceful disposition is held in continuance;—and, presuming on a forbearance which they would scarcely deserve, should leave their shores, their families, and their wealth devoid of common protection.—An anecdote of the late Rowland Hill will aptly illustrate the meaning which we wish to convey. Mr. Hill's chapel had been infested for some time by a gang of pickpockets, and the complaints of robbery were numerous. Proper measures were taken for remedying the evil; and on the following Sunday, previous to the commencement of the sermon, Mr. Hill informed his congregation

that “of late, he was very sorry to say, his hearers had suffered much from petty larceny. It was his duty as a preacher to point out that the stealer of his neighbour's purse was a violator of the eighth commandment; but lest that intimation might be deemed by some persons insufficient, he begged to say that a strong detachment of Bow Street runners were in attendance.”

We have been thus careful to clear the ground of this controversy from the preliminary objections of the ultra peace party;—because, on the one hand, we feel that such a precaution was not unrequired,—and on the other, we have no desire to see our partial agreement with Sir Francis Head construed into an unreasoning adherence to the principles of a war policy.

It is quite clear that, in a military sense, the most unprotected parts of the island of Great Britain are the counties at its south-eastern extremity. These counties contain the metropolis of the country, and also its largest port and its wealthiest community. They lie within a few hours' sail of the most restless and military State in Europe; and since the invention of steam, neither the Channel which separates them from France nor the rugged coast which protects them from the ocean can be said to impose very formidable obstacles to the success of a skilful and resolute invader. The north of England and the whole of Scotland are almost entirely free from the peril of hostile descent. There is no northern power but Russia that has even the means of conveying an invading force to our shores, and between the Baltic and the Frith of Forth, or the Humber, so many casualties might overtake a fleet bound on such an errand, that we may safely disregard all threats of invasion from any European power north of the Delta of the Rhine. In the south, the facts are precisely the reverse. Within sixty-six miles of Portsmouth Dockyard there has risen up since the Peace a naval arsenal and fortress belonging to France, perhaps the most perfect and impregnable which, *ceteris paribus*, is to be found in any part of the world. We will not attempt to describe Cherbourg in our own words, nor in the words of Sir Francis Head:—we prefer to quote the description given by “an Officer of experience,” in the *Times* newspaper, on the occasion of the naval review conducted at that port by the President of the Republic, on the 10th of September last.—

“There are not many Englishmen who know that within less than sixty-six miles of Portsmouth there is a French port in which the most extensive works have been for years carried on, till nature has given way to the resources of skill and infinite art, and the sea and land, alike overcome, have yielded to our ancient foe one great naval entrepôt,—placed in a direct line with our greatest dockyards, fortified at an enormous cost, till it is impregnable to everything but desperate daring and lucky hardihood, increasing day after day in force and power, accessible from every point of the compass and at all states of the tide to a friendly fleet, capable of crushing beneath an almost irresistible fire the most formidable of hostile armaments—in one word, ‘the eye to watch and the arm to strike the ancient enemy.’ There is no geographical necessity for such a port opposite to our coast. The commerce of France does not need it. Our neighbours may well remark that they are justified in protecting a place which has already felt the force of our arms, and that they are bound to protect Cherbourg from such a contingency as that which occurred in the last century, when Admiral Bligh laid it in ruins; but Admiral Bligh would not have attacked Cherbourg had it not been a menacing warlike station,—and, talk as they may, there can be no doubt that the whole of these immense works are prepared for a war with England, and with England alone. When I say this, of course I do not mean to say that France



will take any unjust advantage of her position; but we ought not to shut our eyes to the fact that such a place is within seven or eight hours' sail of England, and that a French fleet leaving it in the evening with a leading wind could be off Portsmouth next morning, and could bombard any of our towns on the southern coast. \* \* In the centre is a large battery with lighthouses, which is nearly ready for the reception of all its guns, some being already mounted and in the embrasures. This breakwater, called the Digue, is about two miles from the interior harbour. Inside and out there is deep water, and the passages leading by either extremity are capable of being used by the largest men-of-war at all times of the tide. Commanding one of these entrances is the Fort Hornet, placed on a projection of the shore, and mounting no less than ninety heavy guns, casemated. On an island placed across the other entrance is the Fort la Pelée, which also mounts ninety heavy guns, the fire of some of which crosses the fire of the guns of Hornet at right angles in the roads. At another point commanding the entrance is another fort—Quirqueville—which can sweep the roads with the fire of forty thirty-two pound shell guns. As if all this were not enough, the arsenal walls are casemated and mounted with cannon, and every height over the town is commanded by a fort, while the seawalls present all the features of a regular fortification, and are plentifully provided with cannon and casemated redoubts. \* \* And now one word as to the fleet. I believe I only echo the opinion of all the naval officers present, when I say that France never sent a finer armament on the waters. Every improvement of which ships are capable has been tried with them, and even to such points as new and very excellent 'slops' on the cables has the minutest attention been paid. The officers are all excellent theorists, quick and intelligent men, and full of mathematics; the crews for the most part young, with a want of weight and 'beef' about them, but smart, active and sinewy."

It is perfectly clear that, in the event of hostilities between France and England the resources of Cherbourg would be instantly employed against us; and instead of permitting an English army to follow the example of former wars and aim a blow at the territory of France by making a descent on Flanders or on Spain, it would be the first object of the French Government to compel England to assume a purely defensive attitude for the protection of its own shores. There are obviously immense facilities at Cherbourg for the rendezvous and protection of an invading fleet and army; and the practical position on which Sir Francis Head insists is a short and summary one. He says—"Given the high state of preparation on the part of France and the low state of preparation on the part of England, I maintain that within a week of the declaration of war it is highly probable we should find a French army of 150,000 men on the high road to London."

If all the premises of the question should fall out precisely as Sir Francis Head has placed them, perhaps we might. But his suppositions are preposterous. He assumes that our fleet would be unable to make its appearance in the Channel,—that our land forces would be unable to fire a shot against the debarking crews of the enemy,—that we should be unable to contest an inch of the counties of Kent, or Sussex, or Hants,—that London would be surrendered to the first summons,—and that the conveyance of the invading army between Cherbourg and the point which they were good enough to select as their landing-place would proceed with all the regularity of a pleasure excursion. There can be no serious argument with a writer who indulges in licence of this character.

Hitherto the main defence of this country against French invasion has been, our Channel fleet. We have swept the Channel of all hostile vessels,—we have sealed up every French port of consequence by a rigorous blockade,—

we have annihilated the mercantile marine of the enemy; and in consequence of these measures our shores have remained inviolate,—and so extraordinary has been the success which has attended our naval service, that Sir Francis Head may well refer to the exact figures with no common degree of pride.—

"Although the French, notwithstanding their nautical inexperience, have ever displayed on the Ocean the same bravery that has so brilliantly distinguished them on shore, the figures necessary to illustrate the superiority of the British over their navy during the last war are so few, that at its conclusion they might, by order of the Admiralty, as a cheap substitute for a medal, have easily been tattooed with gunpowder on the brawny right arm of every sailor in our service, as follows:—

"Captured and destroyed by Jack between the years 1793 and 1815:—

100 French Line of Battle Ships.

166 Frigates,

224 Corvettes, Brigs, &c. } Up to 1802 only.

950 Privateers,

6,200 Merchant Ships,

Out of 13 general actions, Jack gained all but one.

Out of 34 single frigate actions, ending in the capture or destruction of either combatant, he gained all but two.

Result of battles of the Nile and Trafalgar:—French loss, 36 sail of the line and 30,000 men! Jack not losing a single ship."

"To the above facts Captain the Honourable E. Plunkett, R.N. adds, that it is among the proud traditions of our navy, that, in our innumerable conflicts with the French, there exists no precedent in history of a British Admiral striking his flag to a French fleet; indeed, that among our seamen there reigns a belief that an English Admiral is not permitted to do so."

Immediately preceding the figures just quoted, a passage occurs so characteristic of Sir Francis Head's peculiar turn of mind, and having so much of general truth beneath its exaggeration, that we cannot pass it over. Speaking of sailors, he says—

"However wonderful may appear the construction of a vessel capable in the boundless ocean of triumphantly contending against the combined forces of winds and waves,—of the wild hurricane and angry sea,—yet naval architecture, when attentively considered, does not display greater ingenuity than many other pieces of human mechanism. But a ship, though no miracle of itself, may be said to have created one. Of all the animals that came out of Noah's ark, man is the only one that has since shown any disposition to return to the restraints and restrictions which such an existence unavoidably imposed, and certainly it is nothing less than miraculous, that not only in every quarter of the globe there should be found immense numbers of human beings voluntarily adopting as their profession a life of dangerous imprisonment on a restless element, in which they are weaned, sometimes for years together, from their mothers, their sisters, their wives, their sweethearts,—from the flowers, fruits, and verdure of the vegetable world; but that such apparently unnatural privations should be the means of strengthening the human frame to the utmost, and of developing the most generous and noblest feelings of the human heart [?] The crew of a line-of-battle ship, frigate, or any description of man-of-war, exhibits a picture in which man, often lightly clad and always loosely dressed, appears to very great advantage: indeed, in the character of a sunburnt, weather-beaten sailor, there is usually to be found united contempt for danger, patience, steady friendship, manly endurance, with the honesty and guileless simplicity of a child. Besides these professional characteristics, naval officers of all nations, though often of rough exterior, are almost invariably distinguished by that indescribable refinement of mind that constitutes what is termed 'a gentleman.' Wherever they go they are welcome members of the community, and from having been taught from their infancy to encounter emergencies of various descriptions, they almost invariably, on shore, turn out to be better settlers in a colony than the members of any other state of society."

Now, it is certain that substantially we must continue to be indebted for our deliverance from a foreign enemy to the naval

defences which have hitherto served us so well. It is very true that the distance between Cherbourg or Boulogne and the coast of Sussex is very trifling; still it is a distance which cannot be performed, and a navigation which cannot be encountered, by an enemy not perfectly master of the sea. It matters little to the result, whether the invading force were closely packed in boats or in steamers, so long as a hostile fleet of superior strength can be brought against it. The force of this consideration was fully admitted in the gigantic and scientific scheme of invasion formed by Bonaparte in 1803. The first condition of that scheme was, that for a few days, or even for a few hours, the French should be complete masters of the Channel; and Bonaparte intended to accomplish this object partly by force and partly by stratagem. It was intended that the French fleet should secretly rendezvous at Martinique to the number of fifty or sixty sail of the line; and that in the mean time having endeavoured to decoy the British fleet to distant stations, the French admiral should appear in full strength in the Channel and convey the army of Boulogne to the coasts of Kent. Admiral Collingwood had the sagacity to divine this scheme; and in pursuance of his advice Sir Robert Calder was stationed off Cape Finisterre,—and, as is so well known, succeeded in dispersing and capturing the ships of Villeneuve.

Not omitting other plans of defence, the most efficient means, therefore, of defending the southern coasts of England is, the maintenance of our superiority at sea, and especially in the Channel; and we cannot perceive that even Sir Francis Head ventures to affirm that our Navy is inferior to the Navy of France.

The strongest points of his case are, the absolutely defenceless state of our territory and our large towns, especially London:—and here it may be thought that he has something of truth and prudence on his side. Granting him his favourite supposition of 150,000 Frenchmen marching in a great hurry along the Brighton road to London, it is not easy to see where the means of any effectual opposition could be obtained. "Oh!" it may be said, "repeat in London the practice of Paris, and maintain by barricades what you cannot defend on the field." That is to say, if you cannot afford to fight a pitched battle on behalf of London somewhere about Reigate,—then, break up the pavements on the south side of the river and let the enemy be worn out piecemeal. The answer to this suggestion is briefly, that an enemy, master of the field, will presently find means of cutting off the supplies of a large town; and if that measure does not produce the desired effect the place can be bombarded, and the houses will burn if the inhabitants will not surrender. At Paris, at Rome, and at other places where we have seen barricades raised and defended, it is to be borne in mind that the assailing party have been restrained by motives of forbearance from exerting the utmost of their strength. The party of order in France had no desire to burn down the Faubourg St. Antoine, or to throw a single bomb or fire a single cannon shot more than could be absolutely helped. But Sir Francis Head's 150,000 clients would enjoy above all things the pastime of bombarding London. The first object of their mission would be, to destroy as much as possible; and the general, whoever he might be, who should be charged with the defence of London, would know this so well, that if he could not fight he would certainly capitulate. Speaking in general terms, the only circumstance that would justify an opposite course, would be the rapid approach of effectual assistance, and the probability that even a few days' bombardment might suffice for



the destruction of only a small portion of the immense house property of the metropolis; and if this view of the emergency were adopted, it might become expedient to sacrifice Lambeth and Brixton to the national necessities.

Sir Francis Head says—we believe correctly—that the total number of soldiers of the line in Great Britain is 38,000, and in Ireland 24,000. To these are to be added 30,000 enrolled pensioners, 8,000 dockyard men, and 13,440 yeomanry cavalry. The militia has not been embodied for somewhere about twenty years. This is the total strength, including all arms. But in a modern military force the first inquiry of a shrewd observer has reference to the artillery. Where are the guns, and what is their equipment? We are afraid that to these questions there is but a poor answer. We quote Sir Francis:—for in matters of fact of this nature he is an unexceptionable witness.—

"The Russian army have at present 1,020 guns; the Prussian army 492 guns; the French army 3,759 field-pieces, of which 500 guns are horsed; and even the Belgian army 84 guns. But the British army, for the defence of England, could at present bring into the field, fully equipped and with ammunition waggons fully horsed, only 40 guns, (less than half of a line-of-battle ship's broadsides), of which more than one-third are in Ireland. Our artillery, as at present organized, from being under-horsed, can no doubt show more guns than they could bring into the field. . . .Horses could, of course, be readily purchased on an emergency; but as soon as the guns were unlimbered for action, they would probably—like the Duke's semi-disciplined Spanish troops—run away frightened only by the noise of their own fire."

There is no doubt that these are facts which, if the extremely improbable event of an invasion may be let into the argument at all, is calculated to inspire uneasiness. Our great resource in the case of such an invasion ought to be our corps of artillery. But with forty guns—and fifteen of them in Ireland—what could we do? Sir Francis Head's hypothesis of 150,000 invaders is an extreme one; but suppose that only the odd 50,000 contrived to effect a landing, with a due proportion of horse and foot artillery, the chances are at least fifty to one that London must be given up before an adequate British force could be brought against them. We should then find that a French picquet in Lombard Street, a sergeant's squad of National Guards at the Royal Exchange, and a detachment of French engineers over the way at the Bank taking an inventory of the bullion and effects at that establishment, would be a species of cure considerably more costly than any reasonable means of prevention.

We may return to this subject in our next number.

*The True Chronicles made and kept of old by Jehan le Bel, Canon of St. Lambert, in Liège* —[*Les Vraies Chroniques, &c.*] Rediscovered and published by M. L. Polain. Liège, Hoyoi.

AMONG foreign writers whose works have been most read and esteemed in England none have ranked higher than Froissart the historian. Recently his *Chronicles* have been republished, with illustrations obtained and copied from rare manuscripts existing in England and France, without regard to expense; and the success of the publication has proved that the popularity of the French chronicler in this country remains undiminished. His admirers will therefore be surprised and interested to learn that M. Polain, the keeper of the archives at Liège, has proved that Froissart copied a large portion of his *Chronicles* from the writings of Jehan le Bel, an author of his own time,—whose manuscript has been recently discovered by M. Polain in the Belgian libraries.

In the introduction to his *Chronicles*, Froissart acknowledged his obligation to Le Bel in the following passage:—"Je me veul fonder et ordonner sur le vraye Chronique jadis faite et rassemblée par vénérable homme et discret Seigneur, Monseigneur Le Bel, chanoine de St. Lambert à Liège, qui grant cure et toute bonne diligence mit en ceste matière, et moult lui conta à la guerre et à l'avoir."—This reference to the chronicle of the Belgian author has induced many English, French, and Belgian literati to search diligently for so valuable a work,—but their investigations have hitherto proved fruitless. The discovery of the *Chronicle* has often been announced; and recently one of the most learned men in France, M. Paulin Pares, supposed that he had discovered, in an unpublished manuscript of the Flemish chronicles, the original writings of Jehan le Bel,—and publicly announced the important fact. Nearly at the same moment, however, M. Polain found at Liège and in the Royal Library at Brussels the manuscripts containing the real chronicles which had so long been hidden from the lovers of mediæval literature.

Froissart in the first fifty chapters of his work has literally copied the words of the learned canon; to which he thus refers: "Je n'y veul mettre ni oter, oublier ni corrompre, ni abréger l'histoire en rien; mais la veul multiplier et accroître ce que je pourrai." In fact, there appears no real difference in the two chronicles until after the eightieth chapter of the first book of Froissart.

M. Polain has performed with much judgment the delicate task of editing a hitherto unpublished work which deprives a popular and long acknowledged historian of much of his high reputation for originality and graphic description.

The chronicle of Le Bel extends from the year 1325 to 1340:—a period of great historical interest. It records the most eventful passages in the histories of Edward the Third of England and Philip of France; in most of which Le Bel participated, either as an actor or by his association with others who were immediately engaged in them. His observations are recorded, as it were, at the moment and on the spot; whereas Froissart was at the time a child, and relates events only at second hand. It is much to be regretted that a work of so much interest will not be published for general reading. Only one hundred and twenty-five copies have been printed, for distribution to a select number of historical savans.

In closing this brief notice, it may be well to remark that there was another historian in Liège bearing the name of Jean le Bel,—and whose works relate to periods of interest in English history. At the end of Buchan's first edition of Froissart, published in 1825, the editor has given a chronicle of Richard the Second, by a Jean le Beau, Canon of St. Lambert, at Liège, the events narrated in which extend from the year 1377 to 1399,—and are consequently posterior to the period in which the friend and guide of Froissart lived, precluding the supposition that he was the author of the work in question.—We think it would be rendering an essential service to English historical literature if an abstract of the *Chronicle* of Le Bel were published by some of the historical Societies,—still more, if a translation of the entire work were given for general reading by some gentleman familiar with French and Flemish literature.—The Preface and notes appended to M. Polain's book are very interesting,—and attest the care and study which he has devoted to this publication.

*Recollections and Anecdotes of Edward Williams, the Bard of Glamorgan; or, Iolo Morganwg, B.B.D.* By Elijah Waring. Gilpin.

Mr. Elijah Waring is rather too fond of "I" in connexion with "Iolo Morganwg,"—and seems to have not even a distant notion that a biographical task should include a beginning, a middle, and an end. Hence, betwixt his egotism and his slack management, though in possession of some curious matter to arrange, he has made but a confused and clumsy piece of work. The provincial tone which belongs to all these Cambrian subjects when exclusively treated, requires such nice management as a Scott or a Southey gave, to prevent the record from becoming at best one of those laborious pieces of antiquarian trifling in which the general public will take no part. There is a life to be written of Edward Williams (if not of Iolo Morganwg) which every lover of letters, be he French, Romaic, or Hindoo, might enjoy. But it is not here:—and out of so fragmentary and desultory a production all that we can do is to draw a few desultory extracts.

From the day of his birth—which occurred late in the last century at Penon, in Glamorganshire—Edward Williams seems to have been one of those eccentric devourers of learning whose only delight is books for their own sakes:—since the fruit derived by him therefrom took the form of crotchets rather than of results having any general utility. When having been left, a boy, in charge of the house, he gave free access to "pigs, geese, ducks, a calf," and other extras, while he was plunged in study, and was reproved for his absence,—he put on his satchel, and wandered away from home in great dudgeon.—

"Two or three months passed away without tidings of the absentee, who, like Madoc of yore, had disappeared, going no one knew whither. At length a letter arrived, announcing that he was in London, dressing stones for a new bridge over the Thames."

At one period of his life Edward Williams was a rank "vegetarian;" going the length of proposing to eat the herbs of the field uncooked, for the purpose of sustaining life.—

"He found an eccentric comrade, who agreed to join him in putting this theory to the test of experience. They were perambulating a thinly populated district of North Wales, and devoted a whole day of their rambles to *grazing*, instead of seeking customary refreshment. \* \* When the Bard had recounted this adventure, a facetious gentleman present subjoined, that the most amusing part of it had been suppressed. 'The Bard has not told you, how he and his friend were caught grazing a clover-field by the owner, and how he drove them into the parish pound for the trespass, like any other stray cattle.'"

"The Bard" is further commemorated by Mr. Waring as having been a mighty walker.—

"He left Oxford early one morning, and walked to London long before the fashionable morning of the metropolis had passed. The distance is fifty-four miles, and on arriving in town, he entered a bookseller's shop, where he soon recognised an acquaintance or two among the loungers. On his replying to some inquiries, that he had just walked up from Oxford, which he had quitted that morning, several persons expressed their incredulity, when an elderly gentleman, who sat reading in a corner, on hearing the conversation arose, and requested the Bard to walk a few steps at his usual pace. When this gentleman had observed his gait, the form of his legs, and the relative position of his knees and ankles whilst standing erect, he pronounced that Williams was a likely man to have walked the distance in question that day, without any appearance of fatigue: and this opinion was received by the doubters as decisive, the gentleman being no other than the ingenious and celebrated Mr. James Stuart, commonly called *Walking Stuart*, who was one of the first pedestrians in the kingdom, and therefore good authority on the subject."

We but follow Mr. Waring in thus rambling from one trait and subject to another. We



will, however, give but one more extract from this slovenly, yet not unamusing volume.—

"In his pursuit of a grammatical acquaintance with our own language, he stumbled on a singular interview with the most redoubtable literary giant of that period. He was in the habit of calling on a bookseller who had been kindly attentive to him in giving him a sight of many new books, and supplying him with any information he desired. He was occupying a leisure hour, and quiet corner, in this mental banqueting-room, when a large ungraceful man entered the shop, and seating himself abruptly by the counter, began to inspect some books and pamphlets lying there. This austere-looking personage held the books almost close to his face, as he turned over the leaves rapidly, and the Bard thought petulantly; then replaced them on the counter, and finally gave the whole a stern kind of shove out of his way, muttering as he rose 'The trash of the day, I see!' then, without another word or sign of recognition to the bookseller, rolled himself out of the shop. When he was gone, the Bard inquired of his friend who that bluff gentleman might be. The reply was, 'That bluff gentleman is the celebrated Dr. Johnson.'—'What!' exclaimed the little Welshman, 'Samuel Johnson! the author of *The Rambler*, of *Rasselas*, of the *Great Dictionary*, of those fine poems, *London*, and *The Vanity of Human Wishes*? How I wish I had known it whilst he was sitting on that chair. I would have looked at him more attentively, and perhaps have mustered enough impudence to speak to him.' The bookseller said he might assure himself of meeting the learned doctor there again, on the first day of the following month, when he would make his periodical visit to the new publications. The propitious hour was not forgotten, and the great Lexicographer and the humble Stone-chipper were again on the same floor, though destined to find no fellowship in each other. The Bard, who had an eager wish to hear Johnson converse, had provided himself with an apology for addressing so awful a potentate, by asking the bookseller for a good English Grammar; and several by different authors were placed before him. Selecting three of these grammars, he walked boldly up to Johnson, introducing himself, as he said, 'with his best bow,' but also with habitual frankness, as a poor Welsh mechanic smitten with the love of learning, and particularly anxious to become a proficient in the English language. He then presented his three grammars, soliciting the favour of Dr. Johnson's advice which of them to choose,—observing that the judgment of such a masterly writer must be the most valuable he could possibly obtain. Johnson, either disregarding this really graceful compliment to him as a model author, or he was in an ungracious temper,—no uncommon condition with him,—for taking the volumes into his hands, he cast an equivocal look, between a glance and a scowl, at the humble stranger before him, hastily turned over the several title-pages, then surveyed him from head to foot, with an expression rather contemptuous than inquisitive; and thrusting back the grammars in his huge fist, rather at the inquirer than towards him, delivered this oracular reply, '*Bither of them will do for you, young man.*' The emphatic *you* was a spark upon tinder.—'I felt,' said the Bard, 'my Welsh blood mount to my forehead, thinking he meant to insult my humble station and my poverty; so I retorted with some asperity, as I took back the grammars, *Then, Sir, to make sure of having the best, I will buy them all; and turning to my good friend the bookseller, I demanded the price, paid the money, though at the time I could ill spare it, and quitted the shop, far less pleased with Dr. Johnson than with his writings.*' The three grammars remained in the Bard's possession till he died, and when consulting either of them, he would often say, '*Aye! this is one of the Dr. Johnson grammars.*'"

It may be noted, that Dr. Johnson, who put as much theoretical antipathy into the form of practical rudeness as most sages on record, could not even be won by his love for Mrs. Thrale's vivacity to think with anything like civility of the Principality. Of Lady Wynne,—apropos of her own behaviour at her own table in Carnarvon,—he said, "That woman is like sour small beer, the beverage of her table and

the produce of the wretched country she lives in—like that, she could never have been a good thing, and even that bad thing is spoiled."

Gossipry is contagious; but Mr. Waring's gossipry must tempt us no further. Those who care to ramble on through this book will there learn how Edward Williams came to be known and noticed by men of letters and collectors as one skilled in the archaeology and local history of his country,—and that he may be further commended as not the least pleasing among the local poets of Great Britain. His life—though to us it appears most comfortable—a sort of unsettled existence,—was possibly considered by him as something more bardic and unfettered than a steady career wrought out in one place, with steady labour, would have been. He belongs, in short, to those wise men and worthies who form a characteristic group standing, as it were, in the half-way space between wild genius and tame learning. For the world they have a speciality and a function; but we rarely take up a record of their lives without fancying that to produce results at best unimportant they must have made heavy sacrifices (not to say waste) of time, labour, and intellectual endowments.

*On the Use and Abuse of Alcoholic Liquors in Health and Disease. Prize Essay. By W. B. Carpenter, M.D. Gilpin.*

THIS is one of the last results of the prize essay system. It has become a fashion when a cause is weak or its principles are little known to seek for strength and popularity in the advocacy which a prize for an essay is almost sure to command. Although much may perhaps be said in favour of this system, we are not certain that the interests of truth are subserved by it. It happens too often that persons embrace a movement or a party without sufficient investigation. Where the prize has been the motive, this is very likely to be the case,—and the array of clever arguments on one side rather tends to draw them away from a search after the truth than to lead them to a correct appreciation of the facts involved in the question. It is true that it is not necessary that the prize essay should be one-sided; but in most cases that have come before us, the prize has been given for the best defence of some particular principle—the absence of the general recognition of which should itself suggest the necessity of impartial examination. The prize is generally understood to be a fee for advocacy in an arbitrary sense. This essay by Dr. Carpenter is no exception to the rule,—and, although asserted to be 'On the Use and Abuse of Alcoholic Liquors,' it is truly a treatise in support of the dogmas of teetotalism,—the injuriousness of alcoholic liquors, and the advantages of entire abstinence from them.

When we heard that Dr. Carpenter was the successful competitor for this prize, we felt assured that all which great physiological knowledge and skill in conducting an argument could do for a cause, would be done on the occasion,—and we have not been deceived. But we must confess to a certain amount of disappointment at finding so little original investigation in his volume. We quite agree with the teetotalers on the great advantages to be obtained through abstinence from alcoholic liquors by those who are habitual drunkards, or those who spend that on the gratification of their palates which should pay for bread for their wives and children. We agree also with them, that there exists in society much erroneous opinion with regard to the nature and uses of fermented liquors. Everything in this book and in the publications of teetotalers generally which would lead the victim of the habit of drinking to see the folly

and wickedness of his course, or would supply rational views of the action of alcoholic beverages, we cordially approve. We can also give credit to those who, believing that the world generally would be better without ardent spirits, resolve at any expense of personal suffering to set the example of totally abstaining for the benefit of the whole. But the question is not a merely moral one,—nor can it be made so. The points to which the donor of the prize for this essay wished particular attention to be paid are purely physiological.—

"1st.—What are the effects, corporeal and mental, of alcoholic liquors on the healthy human system? 2nd.—Does physiology or experience teach us, that alcoholic liquors should form part of the ordinary sustenance of man, particularly under circumstances of exposure to severe labour or extremes of temperature? Or, on the other hand, is there reason for believing that such use of them is not sanctioned by the principles of science, or the results of practical observation? 3rd.—Are there any special modifications of the bodily or mental condition of man, short of actual disease, in which the occasional or habitual use of alcoholic liquors may be necessary or beneficial? 4th.—Is the employment of alcoholic liquors necessary in the practice of medicine? If so, in what diseases, or in what form and stages of disease, is the use of them necessary or beneficial?"

Although these questions are evidently constructed to elicit answers favourable to teetotalism, they embrace a field of most interesting physiological research. The practice of drinking fermented beverages of various kinds is one that can be traced to the earliest records of our race. It has been adopted by the most civilized and religious nations of mankind; and from the influence which these beverages exert on the nervous system, they must have had a material influence on the habits and practices of every nation that has indulged in it. Everywhere they have been classed amongst the great earthly blessings. Wine and strong drink were the reward promised to the Israelites for obedience to the divine command. "Wine that maketh glad the heart" inspired the thankfulness of the Psalmist. The culture and growth of the vine, and the making of wine from the juice of the grape, have supplied so much of the rich imagery of the earlier writers of Scripture, and are so interwoven with many of the more touching and solemn events of its later record, that they have acquired a kind of sanctity in the Christian world, and are employed as material symbols of spiritual truths. Wine was the greatest luxury of the Greeks, and its production and uses have given rise to a thousand forms of beauty in their graceful mythology. The austere Romans denied not themselves the use of wine. Races living far distant from each other, and having no other features in common than their tendency to advance in civilization, have been characterized by using some one form or other of alcohol as a beverage. When we see a natural production so universally diffused and a natural instinct to partake in it so universally present in man, we feel that this can scarcely be a fortuitous coincidence; and before we proceed to argue against the use of alcohol from its abuse, we should first endeavour to form a just estimate of its value. We think Dr. Carpenter has failed to do this in his answer to the first question. While reading his account of the corporeal and mental effects of alcoholic liquors, we feel that he is rather seeking for explanations of their supposed injurious actions than for a correct estimate of their real results. In his preface he almost admits that this has been the principle on which he has proceeded in this and some other parts of his essay. Speaking of the objects of his work, he states that, amongst others, he has kept the "following issues in view."

"In the first place,—that from a scientific exam-



ination of the *modus operandi* of alcohol upon the human body, when taken in a *poisonous* dose, or to such an extent as to produce intoxication, we may fairly draw inferences with regard to the specific effects which it is likely to produce, when repeatedly taken in excess, but not to an immediately-fatal amount. Secondly,—that the consequences of the excessive use of alcoholic liquors, as proved by the experience of the medical profession, and universally admitted by medical writers, being precisely such as the study of its effects in poisonous and immediately-fatal doses would lead us to anticipate, we are further justified in expecting that the habitual use of smaller quantities of these liquors, if sufficiently prolonged, will ultimately be attended, in a large proportion of cases, with consequences prejudicial to the human system—the morbid actions thus engendered being likely rather to be chronic, than acute, in their character. Thirdly,—that as such morbid actions are actually found to be among the most common disorders of persons advanced in life who have been in the habit of taking a ‘moderate’ allowance of alcoholic liquors, there is very strong ground for regarding them as in great degree dependent upon the asserted cause, although the long postponement of their effects may render it impossible to demonstrate the existence of such a connection. Fourthly,—that the preceding conclusion is fully borne out by the proved results of the ‘moderate’ use of alcoholic liquors, in producing a marked liability to the acute forms of similar diseases, in hot climates, where their action is accelerated by other conditions; and also by the analogous facts now universally admitted, in regard to the remotely-injurious effects of slight excess in diet, imperfect aeration of the blood, insufficient repose, and other like violations of the laws of health, when habitually practised through a long period of time.

Now we think that, not only is the impossibility of the demonstration of the third of these propositions rendered evident, but the “strong ground” is removed by the weakness of the conclusion at the end of the second proposition. It seems to us quite reasonable that the effects of excessive doses of medicinal agents should be analogous to those of poisonous doses of the same agents; but we cannot think we are justified in expecting that the habitual use of smaller quantities will be attended with prejudicial effects, especially when the agent spoken of is a substance which has been used from time immemorial as an article of diet. There are many cases in point. Thus, common salt when taken in quantities of from eight to sixteen ounces has been known to produce death. We might hence infer that less excessive doses would produce the same effects in a diminished degree; but surely we should not be justified in expecting that the habitual use of small quantities of salt would be attended with consequences at all prejudicial to the human system. Were we to look determinedly for them, no doubt we might find them,—for nothing is easier than to connect certain special effects with an assumed cause so universally present as salt in diet. Turning, then, to Dr. Carpenter’s evidence, we find nothing sufficiently definite to support his conclusions. We think it would be very desirable to get a sufficiently large number of cases of persons in the same circumstances of life, half of whom should be water drinkers and half moderate drinkers of alcoholic beverages—and then to compare them in their various stages from youth to old age, the diseases to which they have been liable, the work which they have done, and the age at which they died. The cases that are brought forward are not sufficiently numerous to allow of a conclusion. Nor will it do to give the mortality and sickness of Rechabite clubs as against those of the whole of society, or of ordinary clubs,—since amongst the latter are always found drunkards, whose proclivity to disease and death all acknowledge.—Nor, again, is it at all conclusive to take a party of teetotal navigators or brick-makers or tailors or soldiers

against the remainder; as amongst these again there will be found drunkards and individuals who take fermented liquors in excess. We grant that for the moral argument this is sufficient,—but not for the physiological one. What society really wants to know is, whether any and what advantages, mental and corporeal, would result from an entire cessation of the moderate dietetical use of alcoholic beverages. We maintain that this question is not settled by Dr. Carpenter’s book,—and that it offers a fair field for the exercise of his talents. Although the prize has been awarded to this essay on account of its physiological merits—and we freely accord our meed of praise for the able manner in which the author has pointed out the injurious effects of an excessive use of alcohol,—Dr. Carpenter does not come into court with clean hands. In his preface he confesses himself to be a teetotaler on the moral ground. Now, science recognizes no motives,—and it is not because a man wishes to do good, that his statements and conclusions are to be adopted on other grounds. We would place our own doubts on the same footing with Dr. Carpenter’s conclusions;—each may be influenced by the point of view from which he looks at the question. But science regards facts alone, and balances probabilities in an unerring scale. To such a scale we feel assured that the great question of the physical action of alcoholic liquors on the human system has not yet been brought.

*Wills and Inventories from the Registers of the Commissary of Bury St. Edmunds, &c.* Edited by Samuel Tyms. Printed for the Camden Society, 1850.

A great deal has of late been said, and justly said, in reprobation of the system under which wills are at present kept in the official and ecclesiastical depositories allotted to them. With some little exaggeration in the statement of the evils and objections, there is no doubt that great abuses have prevailed, and do prevail, in the manner in which wills are preserved, and in the difficulty of obtaining access to them. If a remedy can be applied in no other way, an Act of Parliament should be passed to control those in authority; and in the first instance a rigid and searching inquiry ought to be instituted, not by parties interested in the existence and continuance of things as they are (which, we are sorry to say, has been the usual modern method of investigation), but by persons entirely independent, who are indifferent to rank and inaccessible to influence, and who, while they are observant of all proper courtesies, are resolved to sift matters to the bottom, and to ascertain and expose the misdoings, or the no-doings, of those who derive enormous salaries from a state of affairs attended with great public and private disadvantages.

Money is unquestionably at the bottom of the mischief;—those who hold high lucrative appointments are anxious to do as little in the way of earning their pay as possible, and to obstruct and circumvent every attempt to pry into the profitable mysteries of the offices which they enjoy. Sometimes secrecy is a main source of emolument; for if individuals were once permitted to have access to documents, even under the strictest surveillance, there is no knowing to what extent fees might ultimately be diminished.

We will advert briefly to two cases of comparatively recent occurrence,—one of them in reference to the very association which has issued the volume now under review. A year or two ago, the Camden Society undertook to print a series of biographical and political papers, some of them copies of last wills and testaments of historical personages. These copies had been

hastily made, and it was deemed necessary, for greater accuracy, to collate them with the originals. Earnest and repeated application was made in various quarters, from the highest to the lowest, in order to obtain permission merely to compare them, for the purpose of correcting accidental errors and supplying occasional deficiencies. Nobody concerned was to gain a single farthing by the undertaking; but as it was feared in the office that by remote possibility somebody there might be a loser, and that the case might be drawn into inconvenient precedent, the request, as we hear, was peremptorily refused.

The other instance is even of later date, and refers only to a solitary testament—the will of Shakspeare. In its present depository it is liable to accidents of all kinds, but especially to destruction by fire; and the Society instituted in London about ten years ago for the illustration especially of the Life and Writings of our immortal poet was very desirous to place Shakspeare’s will beyond the chance of loss or injury, by causing a fac-simile to be made of it, including all the signatures, by a most skilful hand. Strenuous and repeated solicitations failed to accomplish the end; and to-morrow, for aught we know, we may hear that this precious paper has been sacrificed. No reason was assigned for refusal; but it is to be borne in mind that at present it costs about 2s. to obtain a sight of it,—and if a fac-simile be allowed of one will, who shall say to what extent the practice may not be carried?—Be it remembered, too, that in neither case—whether of collation, such as the Camden Society required, or of fac-simile, such as the Shakspeare Society asked—could the slightest damage have been done to the originals.

The publication in our hands recalls to our recollection that some years ago the Camden Society put forth a promise that they would print one or more volumes of wills derived from the registers at Lambeth Palace. Properly selected, this would be a great boon to history, biography, and letters; and we have heard from several quarters that the late Archbishop of Canterbury was not only a consenting, but a willing party to the arrangement. Why, then, we may inquire, has not this design been yet put in execution? We feel the utmost confidence that the present Archbishop would not for an instant place an obstacle in the way of so beneficial a purpose;—and seeing what has now been done in reference to the wills at Bury St. Edmunds (where they were formerly proved before the sacrist of the monastery), we cannot avoid expressing our hope that the original intention may be carried out, and that such information of the kind as the registers at Lambeth afford may ere long be in our hands.

The volume before us is one of considerable value and interest, although its contents are necessarily of a local character,—consisting, as they do, of the testamentary papers of persons dying in or near so important a town as Bury St. Edmunds. They extend from the year 1370 to 1650,—a period of nearly 300 years;—and if among them we do not meet with the wills of any persons who figured prominently in public affairs, or who obtained much distinction of any other description, it is because the documents are necessarily confined to a narrow circle. They furnish us, however, with some curious illustrations of private life and manners; and are to be taken rather as a foretaste of what such muniments might supply, if a general search were made in other known depositories, than as the complete and satisfactory fulfilment of a beneficial project. This we would willingly believe is only the commencement of a plan for the publication of many wills of interest and impor-



tance:—the execution of which undertaking could hardly be confided to more competent and careful hands than those of the Council of the Camden Society.

Mr. Tymms, who is treasurer and secretary of the Bury and West Suffolk Archæological Institute, has performed his task very satisfactorily,—excepting upon one point, regarding which he was not unlikely to fall into a mistake. Some of the wills which he has selected—and those among the longest in his volume—hardly appear to us to be of sufficient consequence and curiosity to warrant the occupation of so many pages. The editor ought to have more constantly borne in mind, that, although the wills with which he had to deal come only out of one—and that a comparatively small—collection, belonging to a narrow district,—yet, as his work was intended to go into the hands of more than a thousand subscribers, not only in the three kingdoms, but also on the continent of Europe and in America, it was his business to exclude all such as were merely of a local or a peculiar character. Had he been employed especially on behalf of Bury and West Suffolk antiquaries, the case would have been different.—Even with this drawback, as far as regards general readers, his work is very acceptable; and we are glad to be able to speak well of its execution, both as regards the text and the notes. In the latter the editor very properly admits his obligations to others;—but we do not see why he placed the initials of the contributor at the end of one note (p. 255), and omitted the same marks of ownership in all other cases. We can trace the same hand elsewhere, but nowhere the same testimonial of obligation; and we must say that in this instance we doubt how far the minuteness of the information afforded was necessary to the intelligibility of the passage in the will illustrated. However, the ordinary fault of the notes is not that they are too long, too numerous, or too trifling; on the contrary, in not a few places we should have been glad of explanations, where the difficulty is passed over as if the resources of the editor and his learned friends were not quite adequate to the purpose. That we do not always accord in the remarks made or in the explanations afforded, is another matter; and we are, of course, far from thinking that Mr. Tymms must necessarily be wrong because we happen to be of a different opinion.

We had made a list of a few cases where words and passages seemed improperly left to themselves,—and of others where in our judgment the editor is mistaken; but we do not see how we can conveniently introduce them here,—and, after all, they are not of much moment. We may be permitted to observe, nevertheless, that the word “sangrede,” which occurs in p. 80, and which so puzzled the commentator on p. 252, is perhaps a compound word from *song* or *sang* and *rede*,—and that the terms employed in another will, at p. 86, may afford a solution of the difficulty. We may add also, that the “play books” bequeathed by Robert Cooke, the Vicar of Hawgley, in 1537, were in all likelihood not “copies of some of the Moralities” then represented to satirize the early reformers,—but “Mysteries,” constantly exhibited by the priesthood, and by public bodies with their assistance, for the purpose of inculcating particular doctrines, and extending the knowledge of the events of sacred history among the lower orders. Mr. Tymms made a serious blunder at p. 233, respecting Robert of Sicily,—but he in part corrected it in p. 267. After all, he does not seem aware that the drama of Robert of Sicily, to which he refers, was founded on a novel of much greater antiquity, and which may very possibly be intended.

These, however, are mere trifles, compared with

the service which he has rendered, especially to archæology, by his work and by its accompanying notes. He obviously and avowedly derived much assistance from the first portion of the ‘*Promptorium Parvulorum*,’ issued by the Camden Society seven years ago,—and for the second part of which the members have been long looking in vain. It is a work of great labour and learning, and ample time ought to be allowed to the editor (Mr. Way) to complete it; but how he could have proceeded so far as the middle of the alphabet without having collected most of the materials for the conclusion of it (which it would not have cost him much time to arrange and digest), we cannot well understand. It is out of the question to think of putting the letters M to Z into other hands,—none so capable could perhaps be found among all the philologists of the empire; but we do think that the Council of the Camden Society is called on very seriously and earnestly to urge the editor to the speedy finishing of a work so admirably, and so long since, commenced.

We are anxious to select a specimen of the contents of the body of the production before us; and we apprehend that we cannot do better than copy the following Will of a person of the name of John Wastell, of Bury,—not merely because it is one of the shortest, but because it supplies an interesting mention of Richard Pynson, our early printer, and of a person called Nicholas Colyn, who Mr. Tymms conjectures was the relative and agent in Cambridge of Colineus, the printer of Paris. The document also includes some other points of curiosity.—

“In the name of God, Amen. I, John Wastell of Bury Seynt Edmonds, beyng of good and hool mynde, the 3<sup>d</sup>e day of May in the yer of our Lord God 1515, make my testament and last will in maner and forme folowyng:—First I bequeth my soule to Almyghty God, to our Lady, Seynt Mary, and to all his Seyntes; and my body to be beried in holy sepulchur. Item, I bequeth to the high auter of our Lady, for my tithes forgotten, or to telyt payed, and for the helthe of my soule 10s. Item, I will that Richard Pynson, of London prenter and Frensheman, have, in recompense for rekenynges betwyn hym and me 33s. 4d. Item, to Nicholas Colyn, Frensheman in Cambrygge, in lyk maner 10s. Item, to Kateryn Kayns 4s. in lyk maner. Item, to Fryre Potter 4d. if he be levyng. Item, to the helpyng of some ornament in the Kynges Colage 10s. Item, to Jane, my wyfe, 5 markes, and all myn apperell to my body. Item, to my moder 10s. Item, I will ther be disposid a trentell of masses for my soule amonges the priestis in Seynt Mary chirche of Bury forseid 10s. Item, to Fryre Eswell 4d. Item, to the Austyn Fryres in Cambrège 12d. Item, to our Lady of Grace in the Blak Fryres in Cambridge 12d. Item, I will that in recompense of my vowes mad to certeyn pylgrymages 5s. to be given to pore folkes, and 5s. to the peyntyng of an ymage of Seynt Dorothe, whiche my Fader lately hath given to Seynt Mary chirche. Item, I will all my bokes at Cambridge to be sold to the performyng of this my last will. Item, to Mr. Stellyard to prey for me 3s. 4d. Item, I will there be delt to pore peupill, by the discrecion of myn executrices, 10s. Item, to every of my sistres 6s. 8d. The residue of all my goods, movabill and unmovabill, I geve and bequeth to the disposicion of myn executrices, whom I ordeyn Jane, my wyfe, and Margarette, my moder, they to selle, take and resseyve to performe this my will, and dispose in other dedis of charite as shall seme to them most plesur to God and profyte of my sowle.”

In the above quotation we have rejected all the (we must call them) absurd contractions used in this will,—and which, from end to end of the text, disfigure and confuse the contents of this volume. For what really good purpose they have been introduced we cannot imagine. It may save an able editor the trouble of deciphering them, or it may spare an ignorant one the risk of exposing his incompetence by misinterpreting them; but they make the book

look forbidding and uncouth,—and the Council of the Camden Society should recollect that many of its members are unused to such kind of reading, and that to some of them the irregular and inconsistent signs will be absolutely unintelligible. Besides, printing of this description is more costly,—and in nearly every case where it is resorted to, it is for the benefit of the typographer at the cost of the funds of the subscribers. Thus, in truth, nothing is gained, and much is lost both in money and in utility.

*The Life and Correspondence of the late Robert Southey. Vol. VI.*

[Second Notice.]

IN conclusion of our notices of this biography we will begin by gathering one or two more traits and anecdotes of distinguished persons. The following is one of the pleasantest letters in the collection.—

“To Allan Cunningham, Esq.

“Kewick, June 3, 1833.

“My dear Allan,—Thank you in my own name, and in my daughter Bertha’s, for the completing volumes of your Painters. The work is very far the best that has been written for the Family Library, and will continue to be reprinted long after all the others with which it is now associated. I do not except the Life of Nelson from this; the world cares more about artists than admirals after the lapse of centuries; and as long as the works of those artists endure, or so long as their conceptions are perpetuated by engravings, so long will a lively interest be excited by their lives, when written as you have written them. Give your history of the rustic poetry of Scotland the form of biography, and no bookseller will shake his head at it, unless he is a booby. People who care nothing about such a history would yet be willing to read the lives of such poets, and you may very well introduce all that you wish to bring forward under cover of the more attractive title. The biography of men who deserve to be remembered always retains its interest. Are you right as to Lawrence’s birthplace? The White Hart, which his father kept at Bristol, is in the parish of Christ Church, not St. Philip’s, which is a distant part of the city. Sir George Beaumont’s marriage was in 1774, the year of my birth; he spent that summer here, and Faringdon was with him part of the time, taking up their quarters in the little inn by Lowdore. Hearne, also, was with him here, either that year or soon afterwards, and made for him a sketch of the whole circle of this vale, from a field called Crow Park. Sir George intended to build a circular banqueting-room, and have this painted round the walls. If the execution had not always been procrastinated, here would have been the first panorama. I have seen the sketch, now preserved on a roll more than twenty feet in length. Sir George’s death was not from any decay. His mother lived some years beyond ninety, and his health had greatly improved during the latter years of his life. He was never better than when last in this country, a very few months before his death. The seizure was sudden: after breakfast, as he was at work upon a picture, he fainted: erysipelas presently showed itself upon the head, and soon proved fatal. I know that he painted with much more ardour in his old age than at other times of his life, and I believe that his last pictures were his best. In one point I thought him too much of an artist: none of his pictures represented the scene from which he took them; he took the features and disposed them in the way which pleased him best. Whenever you enter these doors of mine, you shall see a little piece of his (the only one I have), which perfectly illustrates this: the subject is this very house, and scarcely any one object in the picture resembles the reality. His wish was, to give the character,—the spirit of the scene. But whoever may look upon this picture hereafter, with any thought of me, will wish it had been a faithful portrait of the place. He was one of the happiest men I ever knew, for he enjoyed all the advantages of his station, and entered into none of the follies to which men are so easily tempted by wealth and the want of occupation. His disposition kept him equally from all unworthy



and all vexatious pursuits: he had as little liking for country sports as for public business of any kind, but had a thorough love for art and nature. And if one real affliction or one anxiety ever crossed his path in any part of his life, I never heard of it. I verily believe that no man ever enjoyed the world more; and few were more humbly, more wisely, more religiously prepared for entering upon another state of existence. He became acquainted with Coleridge here, before I came into this country; this led to his friendship with Wordsworth, and to his acquaintance with me (for more than acquaintance it can hardly be called). He has lodged more than once in this house, when it was in an unfinished state. This very room he occupied before the walls were plastered. Next to painting and natural scenery, he delighted in theatricals more than in anything else. Few men read so well, and I have heard those who knew him intimately say, that he would have made an excellent actor."

It is only of late that we have learned that among the many literary godchildren to whom Southey gave liberal and judicious counsel in the outset of their lives, the Corn-Law Rhymer was one. This gives peculiar interest to the following notice of Elliott and his works, written after the fierce political agitator had "chipped the shell".—

"I have taken those poems," [the 'Corn-Law Rhymes,'] says Southey, "as the subject of a paper for the Christmas Review, not without some little hope of making the author reflect upon the tendency of his writing. He is a person who introduced himself to me by letter many years ago, and sent me various specimens of his productions, epic and dramatic. Such of his faults in composition as were corrigible, he corrected in pursuance of my advice, and learnt, in consequence, to write as he now does, admirably well, when the subject will let him do so. I never saw him but once, and that in an inn in Sheffield, when I was passing through that town. The portrait prefixed to his book seems intentionally to have radicalised, or rather ruffianised, a countenance which had no cut-throat expression at that time. It was a remarkable face, with pale grey eyes, full of fire and meaning, and well-suited to a frankness of manner, and an apparent simplicity of character such as is rarely found in middle age, and more especially rare in persons engaged in what may be called the warfare of the world. After that meeting I procured a sizarship for one of his sons; and the letter which he wrote to me upon my offering to do so, is a most curious and characteristic production, containing an account of his family. I never suspected him of giving his mind to any other object than poetry, till Wordsworth put the Corn-Law Rhymes into my hands; and then, coupling the date of the pamphlet with the power which it manifested, and recognizing also scenery there which he had dwelt upon in other poems, I at once discovered the hand of my pupil. He will discover mine in the advice which I shall give him. It was amusing enough that he should have been recommended to my notice as an uneducated poet in the New Monthly Magazine. In such times as these, whatever latent evil there is in a nation is brought out. This man appeared always a peaceable and well-disposed subject, till Lord Grey's ministry, for their own purposes, called upon the mob for support; and then, at the age of fifty, he let loose opinions which had never before been allowed to manifest themselves, and the fierce puritanism in which he had been bred up burst into a flame."

In our next fragment a few additional touches are laid on the portrait of Byron's antagonist and Coleridge's preceptor in poetry—the retired, eccentric, but amiable sonneteer of Brehmhill.—

"Look at the history of Brehmhill, and you will see Bowles's parsonage; it is near the fine old church, and as there are not many better livings, there are few more pleasantly situated. The garden is ornamented in his way, with a jet fountain, something like a hermitage, an obelisk, a cross, and some inscriptions. Two swans, who answer to the name of Snowdrop and Lily, have a pond to themselves, and if they are not duly fed there at the usual time, up they march to the breakfast-room window. Mrs. Bowles has also a pet hawk called Peter, a name which has been borne by two of his predecessors.

The view from the back of the house extends over a rich country, to the distant downs, and the white horse may be seen distinctly by better eyes than mine, without the aid of a glass. Much as I had heard of Bowles's peculiarities, I should very imperfectly have understood his character if I had not passed some little time under his roof. He has indulged his natural timidity to a degree little short of insanity, yet he sees how ridiculous it makes him, and laughs himself at follies which nevertheless he is continually repeating. He is literally afraid of everything. His oddity, his untidiness, his simplicity, his benevolence, his fears, and his good-nature, make him one of the most entertaining and extraordinary characters I ever met with. He is in his seventy-third year, and for that age is certainly a fine old man, in full possession of all his faculties, though so afraid of being deaf, when a slight cold affects his hearing, that he puts a watch to his ear twenty times in the course of the day."

In a later letter it will be found that this nervous man was not afraid to carry his controversies even as far as our last mortal refuge. Two dissenting epitaphs in Brehmhill churchyard are said, by Southey, to have moved Bowles to write an orthodox inscription on "poor John Dark," who was buried hard by. We decline citing these; but Southey's comment on his friend's rhymes (for they deserve no better name) is noticeable.—

"This was a hit at those who went to meeting instead of church, and never used the Lord's prayer; moreover it alluded to the Dissenter wishing to live longer if he could."

We confess to be unable to find in "a hit" on a gravestone a subject for admiration.

Let us turn to a topic on which we can speak with greater cordiality; and with warm admiration refer to the correspondence betwixt Southey and Sir Robert Peel, on the occasion of the minister offering the poet a baronetcy. The simple and honest dignity with which this was declined by Southey is hardly less admirable than the man in office approached the man of letters. Together with what may be called the official communication on the subject, the following "Private" letter reached Greta Hall.—

"Sir Robert Peel to R. Southey, Esq.

"Whitehall, Feb. 1, 1835.

"My dear Sir,—I am sure, when there can be no doubt as to the purity of the motive and intention, there can be no reason for seeking indirect channels of communication in preference to direct ones. Will you tell me, without reserve, whether the possession of power puts within my reach the means of doing anything which can be serviceable or acceptable to you; and whether you will allow me to find some compensation for the many heavy sacrifices which office imposes upon me in the opportunity of marking my gratitude as a public man, for the eminent services you have rendered, not only to literature, but to the higher interests of virtue and religion? I write hastily, and perhaps abruptly, but I write to one to whom I feel it would be almost unbecoming to address elaborate and ceremonious expressions, and who will prefer to receive the declaration of friendly intentions in the simplest language.—Believe me, my dear Sir, with true respect, most faithfully yours, "ROBERT PEEL."

Let such manifestations as these be dwelt on, and rated at their true value. We have too often in society heard the great statesman, while he was living, accused of coldness, hardness, unapproachableness, and that long list of unamiable qualities which it is so easy to conjure up, so impossible to disprove, not to feel it a duty to show how warm and cordial were his sympathies for what Milton has called "the best and honourablest things," and how gracefully he could urge them when there was no chorus near to applaud the courtesy.

We shall, further, merely give a passage or two of literary interest. In the following curious passage we find Southey replying to that busy

person, Lord Brougham, who applied to him, in 1831, for his opinions with regard to Government patronage of literature.—

"There are literary works of national importance which can only be performed by co-operative labour, and will never be undertaken by that spirit of trade which at present preponderates in literature. The formation of an English Etymological Dictionary is one of those works; others might be mentioned; and in this way literature might gain much by receiving national encouragement; but Government would gain a great deal more by bestowing it. Revolutionary governments understand this; I should be glad if I could believe that our legitimate one would learn it before it is too late. I am addressing one who is a statesman as well as a man of letters, and who is well aware that the time is come in which governments can no more stand without pens to support them than without bayonets. They must soon know, if they do not already know it, that the volunteers as well as the mercenaries of both professions, who are not already enlisted in this service, will enlist themselves against it; and I am afraid they have a better hold upon the soldier than upon the penman; because the former has, in the spirit of his profession and in the sense of military honour, something which not unfrequently supplies the want of any higher principle; and I know not that any substitute is to be found among the gentlemen of the press. But neediness, my Lord, makes men dangerous members of society, quite as often as affluence makes them worthless ones. I am of opinion that many persons who become bad subjects because they are necessitous, because 'the world is not their friend, nor the world's law,' might be kept virtuous (or, at least, withheld from mischief) by being made happy, by early encouragement, by holding out to them a reasonable hope of obtaining, in good time, an honourable station and a competent income, as the reward of literary pursuits, when followed with ability and diligence, and recommended by good conduct. \* \* Your Lordship's second question,—in what way the encouragement of Government could most safely and beneficially be given,—is, in the main, answered by what has been said upon the first. I do not enter into any details of the proposed institution, for that would be to think of fitting up a castle in the air. Nor is it worth while to examine how far such an institution might be perverted. Abuses there would be, as in the disposal of all preferments, civil, military, or ecclesiastical; but there would be a more obvious check upon them; and where they occurred they would be less injurious in their consequences than they are in the state, the army, and navy, or the church. With regard to prizes, methinks they are better left to schools and colleges. Honours are worth something to scientific men, because they are conferred upon such men in other countries; at home there are precedents for them in Newton and Davy, and the physicians and surgeons have them. In my judgment, men of letters are better without them, unless they are rich enough to bequeath to their family a good estate with the bloody hand, and sufficiently men of the world to think such distinctions appropriate. For myself, if we had a Guelphic order, I should choose to remain a Ghibelline."

As regards the Laureate's answer to Lord Brougham's first question, it was more epigrammatically stated by Sterne, in his far-famed Epistle to the Critical Reviewers, when, speaking of—

The garretters,  
That border on the sky;

he goes on to say—

And that which makes you all so keen,  
And curst;  
Is that which makes you all so lean,  
Hunger and thirst.

It was last week stated that too little was said concerning the origin of 'The Doctor.' Indeed, the biographer seems to have been fumbling for the history of its whimsical machinery with an unreadiness which becomes strange, and as amounting almost to the point of incompetence, when the Rev. Mr. Warter's preface to the one-volume edition is recollected. "What the original story of the



Doctor and his Horse was I am unable to say accurately," says the Rev. C. Southey.—Mr. Warton explicitly reminds us, on the authority of a letter from Southey's self to the lady whom he afterwards married, what was its origin. "There is a story of Dr. D. D., of D., and of his horse Nobs, which has, I believe, been made into a hawker's book." Coleridge used to tell it, and the humour lay in making it as long-winded as possible: it suited, however, my long-windedness better than his, and I was frequently called upon for it by those who enjoyed it, and sometimes I volunteered it, when Coleridge protested against its being told. As you may suppose, it was never twice told alike, except as to names and the leading features."—Does it not justify the remarks last week offered, that the *Athenæum* should have to make a present to the biographer of Southey of such a passage as the above,—which moreover has been already put in print by Southey's son-in-law? We had a right to be told all that could be told concerning 'The Doctor,' seeing that the book was an object of solemn joy and whimsical interest to its author during many years of his life. That Southey piqued himself on his pleasantry, may be seen from one of his epistolary confessions.—

"Most men play the fool in some way or other, and no man takes more delight in playing it than I do, in my own way. I do it well with children, and not at all with women, towards whom, like John Bunyan, 'I cannot carry myself pleasantly,' unless I have a great liking for them."

It was only a peculiar section of the public that found the fooling of 'The Doctor' pleasant. Quaint, laboured, full of odd twists of language and painful plays upon words, it has always seemed to many, even among those who can master Montaigne and relish Rabelais, while others hold that its pleasantness have at best only that *coterie* significance which, however charming to the initiated, leaves the general world blanked, puzzled, and tired rather than edified. This is not the case with the crotchets of Lamb, or of Hood, or with the racy wit of Sydney Smith. Perhaps the key to much of the peculiar tone of 'The Doctor's' mirth will be found in the following elaborately-mystifying letter, written to a correspondent, regarding this petted child of the Laureate's gayest hours.—

"Kewick, July 20, 1835.

"My dear Sir,—A copy of the 'unique Opus' came to me upon its first appearance, with my name printed in red letters on the back of the title-page, and 'from the author' on the fly-leaf, in a disguised hand; in which hand, through the disguise, I thought I could recognise that of my very intimate friend, the author of Philip Van Artevelde. He, however, if my theory of the book be well founded, is too young a man to be the author. I take the preparatory postscript to have been written in sincerity and sadness; and if so, Henry Taylor was a boy at the time when (according to the statement there) the book was begun. It may, I think, be inferred from everything about the book, and in it, that the author began it in his blithest years, with the intention of saying, under certain restrictions, *quidlibet de quolibet*, and making it a receptacle for his shreds and patches; that beginning in jest, he grew more and more in earnest as he proceeded; that he dreamt over it, and brooded over it,—laid it aside for months and years, resumed it after long intervals, and more often latterly in thoughtfulness than in mirth; fancied, perhaps, at last that he could put into it more of his mind than could conveniently be produced in any other form; and having supposed (as he tells us) when he began, that the whole of his yarn might be woven up in two volumes, got to the end of a third, without appearing to have diminished the balls that were already spun and wound when the work was commenced in the loom, to say nothing of his bags of wool. To the reasons which he has assigned for not choosing to make himself publicly known, this no doubt may be added, that the mask would not conceal him from those who knew him in-

timately, nor from the few by whom he might wish to be known; but it would protect his face from dirt, or any thing worse that might be thrown at it. I see in the work a little of Rabelais, but not much; more of Tristram Shandy, somewhat of Burton; and perhaps more of Montaigne; but methinks the *quintum quid* predominates. I should be as much at a loss to know who is meant by REVERNE as you have been, if I had not accidentally heard that the only person to whom the authorship is ascribed, upon any thing like authority, is the Rev. Erskine Neale. Mrs. Hodgson (formerly Margaret Holford) being in the neighbourhood of Doncaster, and desirous to hunt out, if she could, the history of the Opus, inquired about it there, and was assured by a bookseller that it was written by this gentleman, who had once resided in that place, but was then living at Hull. A clergyman whom she met there confirmed this, and there seemed to be no doubt about it in Doncaster. It is plain, therefore, that REVERNE designates this Great-everywhere-else-unknown; but I would not swear the book to him upon such evidence. I can resolve another of your doubts. The concluding signature is not in the Garamma tongue, but in cryptography, or, what might more properly be called, in Dovean language, comicography. If you look at it, and observe that k, e, w spell Q, you will find that when the nut is cracked it contains no kernel. So much concerning a book which is a great favourite with my family, and has helped them sometimes to beguile what otherwise must have been hours of sorrow."

Here we must stop. Having spoken freely of this book as an incomplete and unsatisfactory work, we must nevertheless say that it is the main quarry from which future biographers who, like Southey when writing about Cowper, "work in mosaic" will draw their foundations and pillars for any biographical monument which may be on some future day raised to the diligent and gifted author of 'Thalaba,' 'The Life of Nelson,' and 'The History of the Brazils.'

#### OUR LIBRARY TABLE.

*Mount St. Lawrence.* By the Author of 'Mary, the Star of the Sea.'—This is, without mystery or disguise, a Roman Catholic novel of the most decided colour. The heroines, Rose and Violet, on being released by and from one and the same lover, who is a shabby sort of *Waverley*, both join a religious community, and are therein represented as attaining to the topmost heights of perfection, happiness and utility that poor mortals can reach. Add to this, that in every page where Protestants and Protestantism are mentioned, occur those sweeping assertions and magnificent takings-for-granted which by their very amplitude and assumption impress minds desirous of being impressed. The writer may not intend to be uncharitable, but he (?) is more quietly arrogant than most preachers to whom we have recently listened;—forgetting how easy it is in all tales of the "Tremaine" family to lay down the law, and to state the argument, when the counter-plea and the reasons are also to be propounded by the identical person who is finally both to sum up and to deliver the verdict. Such are the purpose and the temper of this novel. Its author, however, seizes not only the salient points, but also the delicate shades, of character shrewdly, and describes them pleasantly. We have met with little painting after its kind better than that of the disorderly, disunited family at Mount St. Lawrence. Horace, the hero, is a poor creature; but this, must be the case with every gentleman, old or young, who gives his heart about with such facility.

*The Life of James Davies, a Village Schoolmaster.* Written by Sir Thomas Phillips.—This is the life of an earnest, kindly, rather than liberally-gifted man,—claiming in a journal like this little more than such an inscription by way of record.

*Letters to Young People.* By the late Walter Augustus Shirley, D.D., Lord Bishop of Sodor and Man.—Reserving all the questions of theology glanced at in these letters, we like the general tone of them much. They are cheerful, unaffected, kindly, without overweening conceit or laborious condescension. They refer, too, to real incidents and events; and hence they will not be read without a certain biographical interest being excited in the reader, which by

no means attaches itself to the generality of didactic, and absolute little sermons that call themselves 'Letters to Young People.'

*Narrative of Travels in Europe, Asia, and Africa, in the Seventeenth Century.* By Evliya Efendi.—Translated from the Turkish, by Joseph von Hammer.—Vol. II. Printed for the Oriental Translation Fund.—If we were asked why this and the preceding volume were published, we should be somewhat puzzled to give an answer. Great curiosity and interest generally attach to early voyages and travels,—but these are not old enough to engage such sentiments. They belong to a middle period, when comparatively little remained to be known—or, at all events, to be long ascertained—by such persons as Evliya Efendi, who had had no judgment to inquire into new facts, and who was so superstitious as to believe all that he heard,—his and perhaps considerably more. For instance, he tells us that "according to the most authentic historians Adam was created in Paradise in the truest Tatar (Tartar) form, and having, after his exile, metulli, Eva on Mount A'rafat, they begat 40,000 children, all in the form of Tatars;"—and other nonsense about the many languages which he and his numerous progeny employed. Again, on the authority of sailors, he informs us, that the circumference of the Caspian Sea is 24,000 miles,—that is, as large as the whole globe is round; and that it has no islands, like the Black Sea, in which are situated Cyprus, Crete, and Rhodes.—We know not what purpose the promulgation of such matter at this time of day is to accomplish; since at best it only proves the ignorance of a young Turk at a period when other nations were so much better informed. It is true, that incidents and places are described in considerable detail; but we cannot rely on the representations which the author makes in other parts of the work, any more than we can trust him when he asserts that there are in Brussa not fewer than "seventy-five coffee-houses, each capable of holding a thousand persons."—When we took up the book, we hoped to find in it some information of the state of Assyria and its monuments about 200 years before the discoveries of Mr. Layard; but we have been utterly disappointed,—although a good deal of space is occupied by descriptions connected with the Euphrates and the Tigris.

*The Morality of all Nations.* By Felice Albites.—A little book of maxims and moralities culled from the Bible and from various other writings, ancient and modern,—printed in French, Italian and English, and evidently intended as an exercise in the reading and translation of the French and Italian languages.

*Easy and Practical Introduction to the French Language.* By J. Haas.—This is founded on 'Dr. Ahn's Practical Method of Learning French,' which was written for the use of Germans. It consists of vocabularies, followed by exercises for translation both from French to English and vice versa; so arranged that each lesson recapitulates what has been stated before and at the same time communicates something fresh. It should have been preceded by so much of the grammar of the language as is sufficient for the purpose of thoroughly understanding the forms that occur. Mere empirical knowledge is not worth much.

*Romanism in England. The Redemptorist Fathers of St. Mary's Convent, Park Road, Clapham.*—A paragraph in the *Tablet*, a Catholic newspaper, having set forth to the effect that "the congregation of the Most Holy Redeemer, under Father de Held, has at St. Clapham made a deep impression on that most heretical neighbourhood," the writer of the present volume became alarmed, and undertook the task of making his countrymen acquainted with the numerous practices and the superstitions taught by that order. (He might have better achieved his purpose had he not given signs that he is himself actuated by as fierce and overbearing a spirit as that which he denounces.)

*Report of the Directors of the National Disinfected and Dry Manure Company.*—contains a useful report on the application of faecal manure to the general purposes of agriculture, with various other matters connected with the same subject.

*New College, London, for the Education of Students for the Christian Ministry in the Congregational Churches.*—A statement of the nature and objects of the new Dissenters' College in St. John's



Wood,—embellished with a well-executed engraving of the edifice.

*An Essay on the Present and Future Prospects of Farming in Great Britain.* By William Thorold.—Mr. Thorold adopts as the basis of his argument the fact that henceforth the food of the people is not to be taxed for the protection of a class. He states the difficulties attendant on a transition from the old to the new state of things, and offers a number of practical suggestions for overcoming them.

*Thoughts on the Nature of Man, the Propagation of Creeds, and the Formation of Human Character.*—The author starts with Mr. Owen's fundamental proposition—the character of a man is made not by himself but by the circumstances that surround him. He pursues his theme in the order of its incidental and historic proofs; avoiding altogether the arguments to be drawn in favour of his hypothesis from morals and metaphysics, or in other words from the nature of man. There is no great novelty in his illustrations. That a child brought up in the East will generally become a Hindoo in belief and practice—in Arabia, a Mohammedan—in Italy, a Catholic—in England, a Churchman—are inferences which no one now disputes:—that the admission should carry with it a stronger feeling of charity and a larger spirit of toleration than it has yet done, is a consequence which probably nine out of every ten readers will join with the author in thinking desirable.

#### LIST OF NEW BOOKS.

Adcock's Engineer's Pocket-Book for 1851. 12mo. 6s. roan buck.  
 Annie Grey, a Story for Children, by S. O. Moore. 3s. 1s. bds.  
 Arnold's Longer Latin Exercises, Part I. 2nd ed. 4s. Part II. 4s.  
 Barnes's (A.) Notes on Isaiah, Vol. I. post 8vo. 4s. cl. (Blackie).  
 Bayard's (D. D.) Elements of Natural Theology, 6s. 5s. cl.  
 Black's (J. T.) Lessons in Greek Ellipsis, 12mo. 3s. 6d. bds.  
 Bloomfield's (Rev. S. T.) Additional Annotations on New Test. 15s.  
 Brown's (R. W.) Classical Examinat. Papers of King's College, 6s.  
 Brown's (Dr. J.) Hints on the Lord's Supper, 12mo. 2s. cl.  
 Browne's (Elizabeth Barrett) Poems, new ed. 3 vols. 16s. cl.  
 Burnet's Philosophy of Spirits in Relation to Matter, 8vo. 2s. cl.  
 Carver's (J.) Memoirs, by W. S. Dampier, cr. 8vo. 5s. cl.  
 Cartley's (Rev. W.) Geological Confirmat. of Truth of Scripture, 9d.  
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#### CATALOGUES OF THE BRITISH MUSEUM.

Our readers know that on this important subject our columns are open to varieties of suggestion, from whatever side they come, which are made in a temper becoming the gravity of the theme and have anything practical to recommend them. But we are ourselves responsible for none excepting those which from time to time we shall formally adopt.

In the present condition of the Reading Room and Catalogues in the British Museum, no duty of a reader is more urgent than that of calling attention to the necessity for superseding, successively, but with the least possible delay, and before new works be entered, all the awkward, clumsy headings, such

as "Anglia," of the old interleaved printed Catalogue. It may be assumed that there is hardly any duty of the Trustees so needful to be performed as their giving attention to the complaint of the readers, accompanied by a practicable means of remedying the evils which exist.

At the head of all these unbibliographical headings stands the article "Academies" in the printed volume of the new interleaved Catalogue. This heading requires immediate attention, and admits of speedy remedy. It is of the highest importance; as it comprehends by far the most indispensable materials for the accurate study of literature, science, and the arts, emanating in periodical publications from Societies in every part of the world.

Like the arrangement of several other headings of minor importance, this article is enigmatical even to the employees of the Museum;—and as it appears from MS. entries by the side of the printed portion that this confusion is likely to be perpetuated, the readers are justified in entering their protest against this further growth and extension of acknowledged annoyances,—and asking that no accessions to the Library be entered anywhere until the heading "Academies," &c. of the old, new, and the supplementary Catalogues, shall be superseded by right and proper entries in this last index.

#### The Evil.

If the Trustees, by a rare exercise of official industry and vigilance, should ever happen to inspect their Catalogue, and discover in the new carbonic ink index the synopsis that is now prefixed to the heading of "Periodical Publications," as a guide (?) for the perplexed student,—the most learned of the Board may be defied to assign any plausible object, or disinterested motive, in such an arrangement, for this article and for that of "Academies."

To classify these publications by the five parts of the world, subdivided into large and small sovereign States and their divisions,—the colonies of which constitute again a further subdivision by the five parts of the world (e. g. Calcutta will not be entered under "Asia," but the entry will run "Periodical Publications, Europe, Great Britain, Colonies, Asia, East Indies, Bengal, Calcutta,"—every one of these divisions requiring a separate search)—such a proceeding is an impertinent intrusion of a classed into an alphabetical Catalogue.

But even in a classified Catalogue, this arrangement by dominions would be much less applicable to this article than to any other large heading of anonymous publications: "Could the Archbishop of Canterbury or Messrs. Hallam and Hamilton produce a single instance of a catalogue, English or foreign, in which these publications have been classified by an epitome of Political Geography? That even the classification by languages, though apparently more rational and plausible, has never been found either useful or practicable for publications of any description, is a position which may be taken by the partizan, if there be one man so bold, of the present arrangement,—if accepted, that statement renders the whole of this position untenable.

But the periodical publications of Societies or of single editors are always, from their own changeable nature, presenting more anomalies and intricacies in form than any other species of publication: to select these for classification, further to classify them by the geographical subtleties of the Treaty of Vienna (of which many estimable artists and scientific men never heard—or if they have, they do not know where to find it), and lastly to enter such a strangely classified heading into an alphabetical catalogue,—make a rare combination and refinement of perplexing ingenuity.

#### The Remedy.

The simple alphabetical arrangement of all periodical publications admits only the alternative of placing either their titles, or the places whence they emanate, in strict alphabetical order. The method to be preferred might be disputed as an abstract principle; but in the present case—when already the names of places are found written as a subdivision (see the example above), and when already

numerous cross-references to such headings are scattered throughout the 153 volumes of catalogue—it would be as bad taste as it is now useless to discuss the abstract principle, instead of resorting to practical remedies.

It is obvious that an arrangement by titles would require entirely new headings to be substituted for the present ones,—both in the chief entry and in the cross-references. This in the present condition of the Catalogue would be an exceedingly tedious process:—whereas, to expunge only with a stroke of the pen the two, three, four, or more subdivisions written before the name of the place of publication (see the example above) and to arrange the headings as they would then stand, in alphabetical order of the name of place, would be hardly a day's work in the present meagre state of the MS. entries. In the next place, to turn over the 153 volumes in order to expunge these subdivisions from the cross-references, that they may be corrected also, will take one person about 30 hours, or four days. The next labour,—that of expunging the political geographical subdivisions from the unentered titles and cross-references—in the present state of the Catalogue is of course inappreciable, but should not be more than an hour's work.

The only laborious part of this indispensable proceeding will be caused by the printed portion; and therefore it should be undertaken before accessions are made to these two volumes of such valuable matter. As they now stand, many MS. entries would undoubtedly be destroyed, and must be re-copied;—but the labour of a few days overcomes this difficulty also.

Every person (except perhaps the Trustees) within and without the Museum, who consults the Catalogue, will admit that the present condition of this article causes, more than any other, annoyance and loss of time to the readers, to the attendants, and doubtless to the compilers of the Catalogue: and as the gradual changes of political geography must, before long increase those annoyances and difficulties to an incredible extent, the readers must denounce as a wilful abuse of power, of money, the neglect of the Trustees, if after all the experience gained by their people they should refuse, under any plea whatever, to stop growing evils at as early a stage as possible.

If every reader who sees your periodical would address a note to the Trustees asking their investigation and consideration of the subject, great good would be obtained:—and it is a course earnestly to be recommended.

#### OUR WEEKLY GOSSIP.

At length the Commissioners of Woods and Forests have resolved to make an attempt at draining the large surface of the Regent's Park. Mr. Hamilton Fulton, it is stated, is now employed in making inquiries and examinations previous to presenting a report on the practical difficulties and expense of the works. It is impossible that these can be great. No open space in London has so many natural aids to drainage. An almost level plateau in itself, it stands between the fall from the high grounds to the north, of which Primrose Hill is the nearest spur,—and the fall down on all sides to the river bank. The deep cutting of the canal protects it from any overflow of water from the high grounds, and furnishes a ready-made channel into which the drainage of the northern part of the Park would easily flow. No part of the surface lies so low as Oxford Street,—so that artificial works would not be required for carrying away the rain excess. Indeed, we have been told that the entire cost of this important work will not need to reach half the sum voted last session for setting back the iron railings in front of Buckingham Palace. The advantage to the inhabitants and to the Park estate will be very great. The environs of Regent's Park are the most beautiful, and the situation is altogether the most attractive, in the metropolis. But people are afraid of the cold clay soil, from which in its undrained state the damp fogs exhale in prodigious volume in peculiar conditions of the weather. Let the Park be well drained, and the vegetation would increase, the



fogs disappear in a great measure, and the Park property be fully occupied.—While the workmen are employed, an improvement should be made which has been suggested elsewhere,—by connecting the Broad Walk with Portland Place. The removal of a few small trees, and a cutting through the green square, would open a vista to the view almost unrivalled in beauty, affluence and variety. From Langham Place the eye would then run through crescent, square and Park, a picturesque and interesting scene, along the broad gravel way, over the pretty buildings of the Zoological Gardens, and by Primrose Hill to the heights of Hampstead and Highgate,—a rural panorama, crowned with wood and only broken here and there by village spire or painted villa. We know of no point in the vicinity of London where so much is to be gained with so slight a change of existing conditions.—If we mistake not, this excellent suggestion has been offered in the *Builder*.

The shutting in of the British Museum seems likely to be accompanied by the opening up of St. Paul's Cathedral. The *Globe* says:—"Some few days since it was stated that an application had been made to the City Commissioners of Sewers, on behalf of the Dean and Chapter of St. Paul's Cathedral, requesting the Commissioners to erect a step on the public way, the Cathedral authorities having consented to place two others upon their own ground, for the purpose of facilitating the ingress and egress of visitors into and from the inclosed area facing the western front of the magnificent structure when the inclosure should be opened. This application having been referred to a committee on views, on Friday last a tour of inspection took place by the gentlemen forming such committee; when it was unanimously agreed to report that the application on the part of the Dean and Chapter was reasonable, and that it ought to be immediately acceded to. In consequence of this conciliatory decision, steps have been taken under the superintendence of the deputy of the ward, Mr. Thomas Jefferson Holt, for the completion of the work:—so that there is no doubt the public will be admitted within the inclosure for the purpose of contemplating undisturbed the gigantic and classic proportions of the sacred edifice, while visitors will have the opportunity of passing through the newly erected gates from the north to the south side of the churchyard, and *vice versa*, in the course of a very brief period, without 'let or hindrance,' and with safety and convenience."

Preparations of all kinds are making for the guidance and information of the millions who will assemble to witness the Great Industrial Tournament of 1851.—Mr. Wyld, of Charing Cross, has published a detailed and accurate ground plan of the interior and outer arrangements of the Palace of Glass which will be of great use in directing a visitor through its intricacies. The sites of offices and refreshment rooms, the places of exit and entrance, &c., with the approaches, are all laid down:—and the whole is surmounted by the perspective view of the elevation first made familiar to the public through our columns.—The contract for printing and preparing the catalogues has been taken by Messrs. Spicer, the paper-makers, and Messrs. Clowes, the printers,—as the parties whose joint tender offered the largest contribution to the funds of the Exhibition.—A correspondent suggests that besides the general catalogue to be sold for a shilling, there should be departmental catalogues at a much lower rate:—say at a penny. No doubt, every form and price of catalogue will be offered to the public by unauthorized agents outside the doors,—as at every other collection of works of art and industry; and it is for the Executive Committee and the contractors to consider the policy of forestalling the sale of these speculators by producing themselves cheap and accurate catalogues of sections and divisions.

We have great pleasure in stating that Her Majesty has been pleased to grant a pension of 100*l.* a year to Mr. John Payne Collier, the editor of Shakespeare and author of the 'History of the English Stage.' The warrant is dated the 30th of last month—and expressly mentions that the

pension is given "in consideration of his literary merits." Few men have done more than Mr. Collier for the illustration of our Elizabethan literature, and of the lives of the many worthies of the great period of English poetry.

We are glad, too, to see stated that some trifling addition has been made to the paltry pittance granted by Government to the widow of Lieut. Waghorn in recognition of the distinguished services of her late husband. The Committee for the management of the Bombay Steam Fund have, it is said, presented her with a Government annuity of 25*l.* out of the unappropriated balance of the funds in their hands. This fund was constituted by the proceeds of a public subscription, at Bombay, in 1833, for the purpose of promoting the great object of steam communication with England,—and the amount raised has been appropriated, from time to time, in accordance with that design. The station-houses for the overland route across the Desert were constructed by these means.—This is a most fitting appropriation of the remaining surplus.

The *Architect* gives some account of the projected design of Mr. Stephen Geary,—under whose charge the Cemetery of Highgate was laid out—for converting the now abandoned graveyards of the metropolis into ornamental gardens. His general idea includes the proper completion of the work begun by Mr. Walker. Having got rid for the future of any fears on account of these city and town resting-places for the dead, it now becomes a duty to the living to convert them into reservoirs of health:—as may very easily be done by throwing down useless walls, planting elms, mulberries, fig-trees and other plants which flourish in crowded thoroughfares, and laying out the surface with walks and flower-beds. Not to interfere with the sanctities of the graves, or permanently to remove any historic marks from their present localities, Mr. Geary's particular plan,—on which we offer no opinion,—proposes to collect the grave-stones and form with them the base of a pyramidal or other kind of monument to be erected in each churchyard. If his schemes be carried into effect, we would suggest that plans of each burial ground be drawn and deposited in some public place—say the British Museum,—on which the inscription of each stone removed from its present place should be carefully copied. There are many minor historical facts of interest preserved on the tombstones of London, and nowhere else:—these should not be rendered doubtful or inaccessible. There is no doubt that some such design if well executed will add considerably to the beauty and salubrity of the capital. The walker of our streets will remember numerous unsightly walls and obstructions which only a few months ago were ghosts' and vampires' homes, the mere throwing down of which would let air and light into unaccustomed places. If the grounds which they now hide were planted with shrubs and flowers, they would conduce to the salubrity of neighbourhoods which they have hitherto only contributed to infect with disease,—and in a few years would acquire the character of our west-end squares on a smaller scale.

The Society of Arts are about to open at their rooms in the Adelphi an exhibition of models, drawings and specimens of articles patented and registered during the last eighteen months:—the object being, to show what the course of invention has been during that period. The exhibition will open on the 20th of November.

The recent report of the arrival in Scotland of carrier pigeons taken out by Sir John Ross—though contradicted as far as Sir John's property in them is concerned—is yet sufficiently interesting, as involving certain facts in the habits of those birds, to have induced us to be at some pains to collect information on the subject. It appears that a long and careful training is necessary before the birds are considered educated. Their first flights are limited to a few miles,—increasing to sixty or eighty, which is about the extent of their performances during their first season. In the next their flights are longer:—and there is one instance on record of their having travelled 600 miles. This was in 1844; when 200 of these birds were liberated at

St. Sebastian, in Spain,—and seventy of them flew to Vervier. The late Bishop of Norwich in his 'History of Birds' relates that "fifty-six pigeons were brought over from a part of Holland, where they are much attended to, and turned out from London at half-past four in the morning. They all reached their dove-cotes at home by noon, but one favourite pigeon, called Napoleon, arrived about a quarter after ten o'clock,—having performed the distance of 300 miles at the rate of above fifty miles an hour, supposing he lost not a moment, and proceeded in a straight line." It appears from various trials that the possible flight of a carrier pigeon is about sixty miles an hour:—and thus, presuming that Sir John Ross had liberated his birds from the place where he was last seen—which is 2,000 miles from Scotland,—the birds must have flown for thirty-three hours and twenty minutes at that rate to reach their dove-cot. But we are informed that carrier pigeons never travel during night. A trainer of great experience states that he never knew an instance of a carrier pigeon returning after dusk. Foggy weather is also very unfavourable; and the Belgians, who are great pigeon trainers, declare that the birds always perform better when flying from south to north.—It is the opinion of a gentleman who has had great experience in the training of carrier pigeons that no birds of this description could fly from Lancaster Sound or Davis's Straits to England: and he states that even to make them fly across the Channel—as, for instance, from London to Antwerp—it is necessary to accustom them by short flights to the sea.

The Australian papers report that the first railway on that continent has been commenced. It is to begin at Sydney,—but to go whither, no man is rash enough to predict. The direction, however, is not along the coast, but into the interior of the country. A century hence—such is the wondrous growth of the colony—it may possibly cross that vast desert which no traveller has yet been able to explore.—The first line is also about to be commenced in Hindistan. It is an imposing evidence of the activity of the Saxon, that, before the Turk, the Roman, or the Iberian has got a single mile of railway in his territory, the former has not only covered his own country with a net-work of iron roads, but has begun to form them on the other side of the world in lands conquered and acquired within comparatively few years!

The Lancashire Public School Association by that name is no more. The institution has shed its local character, and become by consent of delegates from all parts of the country—national. The meetings, dinners, and conferences held and eaten in Manchester during the past week bid fair to found an epoch in the history of education. Opinions were compared, facts broadly and clearly stated, adhesions obtained, definitions arrived at—all of which must greatly facilitate the movement in time to come. The leading principle of the Association—that education should be provided at the expense of the nation, not of the State—that is, by local rates, voluntarily imposed,—was accepted by the delegates present as the best compromise between the voluntary and the State principles. For our own part, we shall be willing to receive this solution of the great problem if it prove itself capable. But we are not without doubts. The voluntary principle of education may be preferable in the abstract to any other,—like voluntary kindness or courtesy; but men are not abstractions. They have interests, prejudices, and passions which are not always governed by high thoughts or considerations of duty. We cannot forget the obstinate perverseness of more than one metropolitan parish in refusing a farthing in the pound to provide baths and washhouses for the use of the poor:—and we are not without fears that parish authorities might begrudge the annual stipend to the schoolmaster and the cost of repairs to the school. We shall be glad to find that this fear is not well founded. The movement may now be regarded as fairly before the country; that it will meet with opposition the men who support it must expect, for at best it can be regarded only as a compromise between the desirable and the possible. When the Association shall have attained



such success as will give its supporters a legal right to carry its views into practice, there is no guarantee that its action will be efficient. The State scheme has certain large and well-defined advantages over the present:—the instruction would be uniform in quality—the expense would be borne equally by all districts—the machinery of management and inspection would be simple—the Government would be responsible to the press and to public opinion for misconduct in any and every school, whether in the metropolis or in the obscurest corner of Sutherland or of Cornwall—and the whole cost to the people would be reduced. It is only in sheer hopelessness of any proximate solution of the difficulty, that we turn to a plan offering none of these results. We want the education,—and are willing to waive the question of form and even to forego many advantages for the sake of obtaining it;—but we do this in the full consciousness that we are making large sacrifices. We must add a word or two about the name of the new Association. On laying aside the local character and object of the institution, the Committee changed the name to that of "The National Secular Schools Association." But as Lord John Russell had once said in the House of Commons that secular education was contrary to the genius and desire of the English people, Mr. Cobden proposed to remove the word "secular," and sent for Johnson's Dictionary to get it a bad name. With submission, we think the word a good one for the purpose. Mr. Cobden is alarmed because Johnson—quoting Hooker—defines it as "unspiritual, worldly;" but surely these are not times when earnest men are to be frightened by the racy and bigotted old lexicographer of Fleet Street. In Hooker's sense, secular is the antithesis to clerical,—the clergy being the spiritual powers; and the Committee was right in believing that secular was the proper word to express an education entirely free from the control of priests. Their name exactly defines the thing they aim at,—and they should retain it.

"Poor Heine," says the *Leader*, "is dying. Paralysis has killed every part of him but the head and heart; and yet this diseased body—like that of the noble Augustin Thierry—still owns a lordly intellect. In the brief intervals of suffering Heine prepares the second volume of his 'Buch der Lieder'; and dictates the memoirs of his life,—which he will make a picture gallery, where the portraits of all the remarkable persons he has seen and known will be hung up for our inspection. Those who know Heine's wicked wit and playful sarcasm will feel, perhaps, somewhat uncomfortable at the idea of sitting for their portraits; but the public will be eager "for the fun." There is little of stirring interest in the events of his life; but he has known so many remarkable people, and his powers of vivid painting are of an excellence so rare in German authors, that the announcement of his memoirs will create a great sensation."

Our readers will not have forgotten that when, some weeks since, we announced the appointment of Mr. A. J. Scott to be Principal of the Owens College, on the authority of a Manchester paper,—we added that the nomination was denied by another journal of the same city. The paper denying was, *The Manchester Examiner and Times*; and we now learn direct from that authority that the appointment—which had in point of fact not at that time been made—did take place on the 22nd of October.—"If anything," says our contemporary, "could reconcile us to the extraordinary delay of the trustees in their appointment of a Principal of the New College, it would be the fact that their choice has at last fallen on Mr. Scott. \* \* \* To those who know anything of his attainments as a scholar, his power as a thinker, his aptitude for teaching, and the respect in which he is held by many of the first minds of the day, it cannot but seem strange that nearly five months and a half of deliberation should have been needed to enable the trustees to decide on his election."—On the subject of the New College, our contemporary has some remarks which so completely harmonize with our own often expressed views on such matters, that we gladly quote them in confirmation.—"In one respect especially," he says, "we augur well from this appointment. It

is to us an indication, that there will be no blind or bigotted adherence to the example of antique universities, whose *plans* and *spirit* are alien to the temper and wants of this region, as they are obsolete and behind the knowledge of the time. An Oxford or a Cambridge on a small scale would be here an anomaly, which only its certainty of failure could deprive of its tendency to evil. Great care will be needed to retain what good the old possesses, and yet to give prominent place to the requirements of the new. To satisfy all now will be impossible; the arrangements of the present must be viewed in the light of the future; and easier though it be to copy than to originate, we trust that full provision will be made for growth and progress."—"As regards the projected teaching of theology," adds our contemporary, "we take this and every opportunity of renewing our protest against its introduction in any form; and we would once more, while there is yet time, urge the Trustees to re-consider their suggestion on this subject, which still appears to us totally incompatible with the harmonious and successful working of the Institution,"—and with the positive prescriptions of the Founder's will, might have been added.

A correspondent sends us the following illustration of the boasted ease with which the treasures of the British Museum are to be found in Mr. Panizzi's two hundred volumes of catalogue. It is a proper pendant to the account of a book-hunt which we lately quoted from the *Gentleman's Magazine*.—"I had occasion to consult the 'Memoirs of the Historical Society of Pennsylvania.' My own set being incomplete, I went to the 'National Library' to see two volumes not on my shelves. Having had a long acquaintance with catalogues made out *à la Panizzi*, I felt that I was about to adventure on a tedious and time-consuming search; but after having tried in vain to borrow or buy the work in England, troubled the Secretary of Legation to the United States, and exhausted my publisher's efforts to procure it for me in America—for the volumes are out of print—I had no other resource,—so to work I fell. Several hours spent in a fruitless attempt almost inclined me to doubt if the volumes were to be found at all. It then occurred to me that I had better first make myself certain that the Memoirs were in the Library. I wrote to America, and in five weeks received for answer an assurance that they had been sent. Thus fortified, I went down again;—and by this time the Reading-room had undergone a change, and more than a hundred and fifty volumes were added to the former catalogues. I began my search systematically. I wrote out the words—"Memoirs of the Historical Society of Pennsylvania," and tried to look at them with the eyes of Mr. Panizzi. There were clearly four headings under which the missing volumes might possibly be found:—"Memoirs," "History," "Society" and "Pennsylvania." I felt a suspicion, however, that any one of these was too simple for the sphynx-like genius of our librarian. So I began with "Periodical Publications" in the old catalogue. I there found several works of the same class,—as, for example, 'Hazard's Historical Register of Pennsylvania'—but not the 'Memoirs.' I tried in succession the *King's* and the *Grenville* Libraries and the additional catalogues:—in vain. Annoyed, but not discouraged, I began again—trying Pennsylvania through the string of catalogues:—to no purpose. This is said in a line,—but it took a long time to do. Commencing afresh, I tried "Historical,"—then, "Society,"—then, "Transactions,"—then, "William Penn,"—then, "Philadelphia,"—then, "Penn Society." It was useless. I had a list of the contents of the two volumes: they contained letters to Algernon Sidney, the Duke of Marlborough, and others. I tried, therefore, some of these names:—no. I looked wistfully at the ten or twelve volumes of the Panizzi Catalogue—proper. But a list of works confined to the first letters of the alphabet promised to afford no clue to a set of volumes the only possible initials of which were M. H. S. and P. Had it been possible to purchase the work any where, at any price, I should have searched no further,—but it was not,—and I began to form the desperate resolution of reading the whole two hundred folio volumes of catalogues.

By way of gauging the nature of such an undertaking, I took down the first volume of Mr. Panizzi's appeal to posterity; and began to turn over its leaves in some disgust,—when my eye lighted on the word "Academia." I thought for a moment. Academy!—No, certainly not. Yet one should not conclude too hastily, I thought: professed bibliopoles are eccentric. Let us see. United States—Pennsylvania:—not there. Still I turned over the leaves.—Ah! Philadelphia! This city, it is true, has no more to do with the 'Memoirs' than London has with Macaulay's 'History':—it is now and then mentioned in them. Still, not to throw away a chance, I pored down columns of works on the schools, cemeteries, prisons, coals, debts, railways, and other interesting matters connected with Philadelphia, until I came on a few words which gladdened and surprised me equally:—these were the 'Memoirs,' under the double heading of "Academy, Philadelphia."—This is in the "perfect catalogue" preparing for our great-grandchildren!—From this brief narrative, your readers will see that with all the aids of Mr. Panizzi's genius the only sure way to find a book in the British Museum is to begin at A in the catalogue and read on till it is found."

EGYPT, NUBIA, and ETHIOPIA.—THE GREAT MOVING PANORAMA of the NILE displays the scenery of these interesting countries, and the manners and customs of their inhabitants, presenting to the spectator the River and the Desert, the Pyramids and the Sphinx, the grandest Ruins of Antiquity, and the most exciting objects that allure the traveller.—EGYPTIAN HALL, PICCADILLY.—Daily, at Three and Eight.—Admission reduced to 6d.; Pit, 1s.; Stalls, 2s.

INDIA OVERLAND MAIL.—DIORAMA.—GALLERY of ILLUSTRATION, 14, Regent-street, Waterloo-place.—A gigantic DIORAMA of the ROUTE of the OVERLAND MAIL to INDIA, exhibiting the following places, viz.—Southampton Docks, Isle of Wight, Osborne, the Needles, the Bay of Biscay, the Berlings, Cintra, the Tagus, Cape Trafalgar, Tarifa, Gibraltar, Algiers, Malta, Alexandria, Cairo, the Desert of Suez, the Central Station, Suez, the Red Sea, Aden, Ceylon, Madras, and Calcutta—is now OPEN DAILY.—Mornings at Twelve, Afternoon at Three, and Evenings at Eight.—Admission, 1s.; Stalls, 2s. 6d.; Reserved Seats, 3s. Doors open half an hour before each representation.

#### ROYAL POLYTECHNIC INSTITUTION.

LECTURE on the BALLAD MUSIC of ENGLAND, by Mr. George Baker, with Illustrations from the most popular Composers, every Evening (except Saturday), at Eight o'clock.—LECTURE on the HYDRO-ELECTRIC MACHINE, by Dr. Bachhoffner.—LECTURE on CHEMISTRY, by J. H. Pepper, Esq., illustrating the ANCIENT FIERY ORDEAL and the HANDLING of RED-HOT METALS. MODEL of WESTON'S PATENT NOVA-MOTIVE RAILWAY at work daily.—DIS-SOLVING VIEWS, illustrating some of the WONDERS of NATURE, daily at Half-past Four, and in the Evenings at a Quarter to Ten; also a Series, exhibiting SCENES in the ARCTIC REGIONS and CEYLON, daily at One o'clock.—DANCE and DRINKING, &c.—Admission, 1s.; School, Half-price.—Open daily from Eleven till Five o'clock, and every Evening (EXCEPT SATURDAY) from Seven till Half-past Ten.

#### SCIENTIFIC

INSTITUTE OF BRITISH ARCHITECTS.—C. Fowler, Esq. V.P. in the chair.—In opening the proceedings, the Chairman made allusion to the Great Exhibition of 1851 as an event calculated to give the Institute an opportunity of making the personal acquaintance of many of their Honorary and Corresponding Members—the *élite* of foreign science—who would doubtless on that occasion, visit our country. The Council therefore deemed it incumbent on them to make the necessary arrangements for insuring to those distinguished individuals a reception worthy of their professional reputation, and consistent with the high standing of the Institute, and by which they might at the same time reciprocate the many courtesies invariably extended to Members of the Institute when travelling in foreign countries.—Mr. W. S. Inman was elected a Fellow.—The decease of Giuseppe Borsato, Honorary and Corresponding Member, of Venice, was announced.—Mr. J. Bell read a paper 'On the remains of the Architecture of the Roman Provinces':—illustrated by a number of Calotype views of remains in France, and some interesting sketches in Syria by Mr. Typing. In the discussion which followed, a feeling seemed to prevail, that although in a majority of instances the provincial Roman remains betrayed a debased and inferior style of Art as compared with those of Rome itself, yet there were some exceptions to that rule,—as in the exquisite proportions and elaborate details of the ruined Temples of Baalbec.

LINNEAN.—R. Brown, Esq., President, in the chair.—R. Ellis and W. A. Hallett, Esqs., were



elected Fellows.—A collection of dried fruits from the western parts of Hindústan were presented by T. C. Ralls, Esq. —a collection of plants from the herbarium of the late Mr. Griffiths, by the Hon. East India Company.—plants from the Clarence River, collected by Mr. Epps and by Mr. H. Sowerby.—A bust of Baron B. Delessert was presented by his brother, M. F. Delessert.—A paper was read from Capt. Champion 'On some new Species of the family of Temnostomacæ found in Hong Kong.' After alluding to the culture of the Camellia by the peculiar taste of the Chinese, the author described several new species of plants belonging to the genus Camellia and other allied genera. Many of these plants possess graceful drooping flowers, giving out a rich odour, and seem worthy of culture in our own country. The *Thea Bohea*, from which black tea is said to be made, grows abundantly at Hong Kong, and is used as an edging for gardens.—Mr. Westwood described two new species of insects belonging to the family of Paussidæ, which had been found in New South Wales.

BOTANICAL.—A. Henfrey, Esq., V.P., in the chair.—Mr. D. Oliver exhibited specimens of *Najas flexilis*—Roski, a plant new to the British Flora, discovered by him near Roundstone, Connemara, Ireland, in August last. He also exhibited specimens of *Carex punctata*, collected near Whitehaven, Cumberland.—Mr. D. Stock communicated a paper, 'On the Botany of Bungay, Suffolk.'

ENTOMOLOGICAL.—G. R. Waterhouse, Esq., President, in the chair.—The Rev. J. Greene, Miss Stopford and Mr. T. Thompson were elected subscribers. Mr. Shepherd exhibited an hermaprodite *Nonagria Cuvini*, of which, however, both the antennæ were male.—Mr. S. Stevens exhibited some cocoons of a *Bombyx* from Columbia, in each of three of which he had found two pupæ. He also exhibited the four new species of Australian Coleoptera described by Mr. Newman in the *Zoologist*;—and likewise some interesting specimens of Insect Economy, brought from South Australia by Mr. Mossman.—Mr. J. F. Stephens exhibited specimens of the New Beetle, *Dictyopterus Aurora*, and of *Tinea ochraceella*, of Tengström, also new to this country, both taken in Scotland by Mr. Weaver; the latter in ants' nests.—Mr. Bond exhibited several rare Lepidoptera which he had taken in August at Ventnor—including *Agrotis tumigera*, and several of the new *Depressaria* described by Mr. Stainton in the fifth volume of the Transactions of the Entomological Society. The President, on the part of Mr. G. Ransome, exhibited a *Deilephila Celeris* recently taken at Ipswich.—Mr. Evans exhibited four specimens of a *Culex* which had been accidentally inclosed in a letter received from Commander Pullen, dated Great Slave Lake, June 28, 1850, in latitude 61°.—Mr. Saunders read a paper on some new and remarkable Australian Longicorns, which was illustrated by two coloured plates.—A paper by Mr. Hewitson was read, containing descriptions of some new Papilionidæ, illustrated by two coloured plates.

#### MEETINGS FOR THE ENSUING WEEK.

- Mon. Royal Academy, 8.—Mr. Green 'On Anatomy.'
- Geographical, half-past 8.—Capt. Fitzroy, 'Considerations on the Isthmus of Central America.'—Recent Arctic Operations.
- Tues. Zoological, 9.—Scientific Business.—Prof. Owen, 'On the Cranium and Beak of one of the gigantic Birds of New Zealand (*Palapteryx ingens*).—Gideon A. Mantell, Esq. 'On the Discovery, by Mr. Walter Mantell, in the middle island of New Zealand, of the *Notornis*, a bird hitherto unknown to naturalists, except in a fossil state.'—H. E. Grickland, Esq. 'On the Birds of Kordofan,'—and other papers.
- Syn.-Egyptian, half-past 7.
- Wed. Society of Arts, 8.—Mr. Paxton, 'On the Great Exhibition Building of 1851.'
- Ethnological, 8.—Dr. Camps, 'On the Chinese.'
- Literary Fund, 3.
- Thurs. Royal Society of Literature, 4.
- Sat. Asiatic, 2.

#### FINE ARTS

*Examples of Architectural Art in Italy and Spain.*  
By J. B. Waring and T. R. Macquoid. M'Lean.  
We should give a far more ready welcome to works of the class to which this publication belongs had we before us the experience of any beneficial results such as might naturally be expected to arise out

of them; so far, however, are we from thriving on the abundant nutriment provided for us, that we seem more and more to decline in artistic vigour as our food increases. The only perceptible advance made by us, is in reasoning—or rather in talking—about architectural Art; between which and doing anything lies a gulf that we seem not likely soon to pass over. By "doing," we understand original artistic achievement; and by "original," successful and laudable achievement—enlarging the boundaries and bringing forward new phases of Art. Now, notwithstanding the encouragement given to architecture amongst us, and the apparently favourable opportunities afforded of late years, it is impossible to affirm that anything of the kind either has been or is in the way of being done. What we call advance is very like retrogression—wherever there is improvement, its merit belongs not to ourselves but to our models. Whatever artistic strength we possess, we owe to those on whose shoulders we have mounted. Never were there such facilities for artistic study in architecture as those which we have now at our command; yet our wealth in that respect seems rather to impoverish than to enrich us. Contradictory as it may sound, the abundance of "studies" provided for us operates as a hindrance to study,—being received not as the incitement to, but as the substitute for, thinking.

In architecture and in the subordinate branches of Art connected with it, design seems to be paralyzed, inventive talent repudiated. The only proficiency that we have attained consists in an unhappy facility of repeating by rote—sometimes ignorantly, at others pedantically, and not unfrequently both ignorantly and pedantically,—the precise forms and ideas actually belonging to some former style, in which they had motive and meaning if not always positive æsthetic merit to recommend them. Such more or less superficial imitation has passed for the revival of a defunct style,—although no fresh vivifying principle is infused, no further organic power communicated. So-called revivalism has been our *ignis fatuus* in architecture. We have taken up by turns different styles,—all more or less admirable in themselves, and admirably in conformity with the circumstances under which they were respectively shaped out—but on that very account in many respects inapplicable at the present day without considerable modification. Instead of making a liberal artistic use of our examples as studies, we have for the most part made a literal mechanical use of them as patterns; following them servilely as far as it was possible to do so, and where that was no longer practicable breaking away altogether from the style professedly adopted,—thereby showing our inability to reconcile either what is new with what is old, or what is old with what is new in idea. It is not to be supposed that any one of those styles which have fallen into desuetude, and which we seek to restore, would have remained stationary had it continued to be practised: yet we take it up after a very long interval—during which not a few changes have taken place—and apply it just as we find it, without endeavouring to carry it a step further. What have we made—or are we likely to make—of Mediæval architecture? No doubt it is greatly better understood, both technically and archaeologically, than at the commencement of the century,—and we can produce very fair and correct imitations of it; but the very best of such productions are no more than imitations,—showing perhaps cleverness and pains-taking, but certainly something exotic, pedantic, and second-handed.—Disagreeable as are these remarks, they proceed not from our indifference, but from our attachment, to Architecture,—and from our earnest desire to see it emancipated from the fetters with which it is now trammelled and placed on its proper footing as one of the Arts of Design.

To speak—as it is time to do—of the work before us:—we must confess that, in our opinion, it is less satisfactory than it might have been had it been more considerably planned. It has no definite character, unless it be that of a mere scrap-book. There is so little of scheme or method of any kind in it, that the idea of publishing seems to have

been an after-thought. Had it been entertained from the first, it is reasonable to suppose that the authors would have selected subjects, if not absolutely unedited, at any rate less generally known than several of the examples here represented. Most, for instance, of the Florentine and Venetian ones have been not only shown before, but shown in the most satisfactory manner,—having been accurately delineated in Famin's 'Architecture Toscane,' Cicognara's 'Fabbriche di Venezia,' and Gailhabaud. They are consequently old acquaintances with that very class of persons who are most likely to become purchasers of these 'Examples of Architectural Art,'—since the form and price of the work must confine the demand to those who need, or can afford to indulge in, works of the kind. The book is, besides, either too much or too little of a "picture-book"—too much so to be as serviceable as it might have been made to the professional student,—not sufficiently so to recommend it to the general amateur. There is a striking want of uniformity of character both in the subjects themselves and in the mode of representing them; for, while in some of the plates we have entire façades, or else details strictly architectural,—others give mere ornamental accessories, such as metal work and fragments of coloured inlay decoration. Geometrical and perspective drawings, outline and shaded plates alternate; and of the last mentioned the execution is by no means equal to the specimens of lithography with which publications of a similar class have rendered us familiar. We cannot help thinking, likewise, that too much has been attempted,—that the title raises expectation too highly. Spain should either have been left for some other occasion,—or Italy should have been omitted, and the examples confined to the former country; whose architecture may be said to be comparatively untouched by the pencil, though affording such abundant materials for it. All that has hitherto been done to illustrate it by Villa Amil, Roberts, and a few others is calculated only to inflame curiosity and render us impatient for further information:—an impatience all the greater in our particular case owing to an interesting work on the history of Spanish architecture, published by Don José Caveda, with which we have recently met.

That Spain should so rarely be visited by English architects and artists may, for various reasons, not be particularly surprising;—but that they who do visit it should not avail themselves to the fullest extent—at least, to a far greater extent than they do—of the opportunities afforded them, does, we confess, astonish us. Of the numerous monuments in various styles of Art which enrich the city of Seville, Messrs. Waring and Macquoid have contented themselves with a general view of the Casa de Ayuntamiento, or town hall;—ignoring the Cathedral and the buildings connected with it, the Alcazar, and the Lonja. We are favoured with views of the Town Hall of Zaragoza, and of one or two interesting buildings,—together with some of their details; but what we are so shown goes scarcely any way at all towards illustrating and exemplifying Spanish architecture. The more interesting we find it in these examples, the more do we desire some tolerably complete delineations of its more peculiar and characteristic monuments,—which, however faulty or unfit they may be as models, would be instructive as artistic studies.

It is by no means our wish to depreciate the labours of Messrs. Waring and Macquoid; but we repeat that these labours might have been somewhat better directed,—and that those gentlemen might within the same compass have accomplished more than they have actually done.

#### SALE OF PICTURES.

Seventy-four lots of poor average quality, but having some dozen good exceptions, were sold on Tuesday last, by Messrs. Foster, at No. 9, Great Stanhope Street. The great portion were of the kind which people in search of bargains ferret out at brokers' shops,—where they have undergone the processes of manifold spongings and varnishings.

Of the exceptions, may be named W. Vanderfelde's 'Dutch Fleet':—a very good specimen of



the master, preserving much of his delicate detail because untouched by the caustic influences of the *impaired*. It fetched 53*l.* 10*s.* The upright 'Landscape' by Berghem is a low-toned and boldly touched example. It realized 73*l.* The 'Arrival of King William in Torbay' is one of those history subjects into which W. Vandervelde knew so well how to infuse movement and life. It was purchased by Mr. Rutley, for 42*l.* The 'Barge lying at Anchor under an old Roman Bridge' is in our opinion wrongly ascribed to Berghem. It is at any rate a disagreeable treatment. It sold for 99*l.* 15*s.* to Mr. Norton.

A large 'Landscape,' said to be by A. Cuyp, has undergone a good scouring,—and presents a better example of the cleaner's violence than of the painter's art. It brought 110*l.* 5*s.* There are considerable motion and vigour in Backhuysen's 'Marine View,'—but the general tone is somewhat slaty. The water is excellent in its drawing. The 'Landscape,' attributed to Philip Wouvermans might with more probability have been assigned to the hand of Backer,—an artist not much known amongst us here. There are passages in it closely resembling Wynants,—while the figures in the foreground have a look of the pencil of Peter Wouvermans. It sold for 54*l.* 12*s.*

The large 'Landscape' ascribed to Both has the characteristics of that artist's composition,—and was stated to be in good preservation. But it was impossible from the situation in which it was placed to form any correct estimate of its worth. It realized 57*l.* 15*s.*—The Dobbels' 'Marine View' has much in common with the style and feeling of Van der Capella,—but more solidity, though less delicacy of treatment. Its execution is fluent. It was knocked down at 59*l.* 17*s.*—The 'Storm on the Italian Coast,' said to be by J. Vernet, is certainly much better than the usual insipidities from that painter's hand. It is truer in colour. It brought 47*l.* 5*s.*

One of the best of all the lots, to our taste, was the Ruysdael,—a 'Landscape,' in which ruined buildings, mingled with the stems of trees, interrupt the current of a rapid stream. Small in dimensions, the canvas is well filled, and the picture in good preservation. It was purchased for 278*l.* 5*s.*—There is some talent in the picture said to be by Rochus Marchonius—'The Woman taken in Adultery.' It is well composed,—in form, and in colour.

We may mention further a good 'View on the Keizer's Graat at Amsterdam,' by A. Storck,—a 'Virgin with the Infant Saviour,' of the Tintoretto school,—'The Marriage in Cana,' called a Schiavone, in which there is good colour,—two or three pictures by Hodges, in imitation of Richard Wilson,—and others by Wright of Derby, Zuccarelli, &c.

#### WINTER ART-EXHIBITIONS.

Mr. Grundy has thought it wise to favour us with a letter of remonstrance on the subject of the paragraph which appeared in our columns a week or two ago [*ante*, p. 1122] in reference to the Winter Exhibition of the Associated Amateurs and to his own. A large portion of this letter it would not, under any circumstances, have served Mr. Grundy's purpose that we should introduce into our columns; because, judging of the average intelligence of our readers by our own, we are satisfied that they could not,—even if they took great pains, as we did,—arrive at its meaning. Other parts are clear enough; but Mr. Grundy is to understand that we give no admission to paragraphs which insinuate against us improper motives in the discharge of our function.—Mr. Grundy nevertheless shall not be deprived of the explanation which he requires,—though not sought in the terms which could claim to command it.

Mr. Grundy says, that we spoke favourably of his Exhibition in 1849,—and that we now "walk over to the new Association." We are favourable to all means which bring the producing artist and the art-buying public into communication:—but amongst these means we have our preferences, notwithstanding. As the interest of the artist is what we have principally in view, we naturally turn to that medium which promotes his interest on the

easiest and most advantageous terms. It is in this sense that we said Mr. Grundy's announcement of a Winter Exhibition was "too late" in view of the new Association:—not with reference, as he assumes, to the question, one way or the other, of priority of advertisement. Mr. Grundy's announcement, which was well-timed in 1849, is hopelessly so now. We repeat our conviction, that "the fact of a middle-man to act between the painter and the buyer like a broker or commission agent, cannot stand in face of an arrangement such as that offered by the Association of Amateurs."

First assuring Mr. Grundy that at the time when we spoke favourably of his Exhibition, we did not know that he deducted so large a commission as 10 per cent. on all sales effected for artists,—or, we might have been inclined to withhold our good word even without the motive of a more liberal agency springing up,—we will proceed to point out certain reasons why our approbation "walks over" to the new Exhibition from his.—First, there is the fact of this 10 per cent. commission:—against which, the Association of Amateurs charges none whatever. On the plainest principles of the market, we think that with such a difference in terms Mr. Grundy is there "too late." Next, when a sale is effected by the new Association, the artist and the purchaser will be put into direct communication, so that the money transaction will pass immediately between themselves:—an arrangement, Mr. Grundy will see, which may possibly obviate in the artist's favour some of those delays that are incident to the office of middle-man.—The above two conditions are so important to the artist, that we will not go in search of further reasons. Mr. Grundy says, "There is no virtue in the plan of the new Association which it does not borrow from the Winter Exhibition of '49":—we think "these be virtues,"—and we do not find them in Mr. Grundy's bond. We greatly doubt his getting any more "cakes and ale" in the face of an Association thus "virtuous." We cannot think that artists will flock to him for the mere pleasure of paying 10 per cent. and taking an added chance of waiting for their money. By which, Mr. Grundy is to understand, we are making no imputation whatever against him,—but simply stating the odds in strict arithmetical fashion.—In conclusion, we may observe, that, as we have not thought it necessary to defend our own character against Mr. Grundy's charge of improper motives,—we certainly do not feel called on to enter upon the question of the imputations insinuated by him against the parties to the scheme of the rival Winter Exhibition.

FINE-ART GOSSIP.—We have refrained, as is our rule, from all speculation as to the person whom the Royal Academicians might be likely to elect as successor to the late Sir Martin Archer Shee in the office of their President:—not because we were not tolerably well informed on the subject, but because such speculation is apt to wear the indelicate character of dictation,—and because we think it well to treat our readers not to speculations in such matters, but to facts. It has been amusing to see a contemporary publication, which acts on a different principle, putting forward at different times pretty nearly the whole circle of surviving Academicians as probable parties for the Presidency; thereby, so far as the information of its readers are concerned, leaving the question finally pretty much where it was when the journal took it up,—and making sure of being right with one name if it should be wrong with thirty-five.—However, the election has now become a fact:—and we may announce that on Monday evening last Mr. Eastlake became President of the Royal Academy. Mr. Eastlake's accomplishments as a scholar in his art the readers of the *Athenæum* know well. That he will help to sustain the dignity and best interests of the Academy, and assist in those reforms which are greatly needed there, we do most earnestly hope.

Mr. Jones—to whom during his declining years the late President had delegated his functions—on the same evening tendered his resignation of the office of Keeper of the Royal Academy:—a position which he has held for more than ten

years with honour to himself and advantage to his pupils. Of the appreciation of his services by the latter our readers will remember that a substantial testimonial was presented to Mr. Jones some years ago. His urbanity and attention will long, we are assured, be gratefully remembered by his brother artists.

The Associateship vacant by the demise of the late Mr. W. Westall, the landscape-painter, was filled up on the same evening by the election of Mr. James Clarke Hook,—whose talents have been recently made known by his illustrations of Italian History. Having obtained a few years since the gold medal as a pupil in the Academy of which he has just been elected a member, he was appointed one of its travelling students; and his stay in the Venetian capital was turned to good account, as has been shown in his pictures founded on incidents in the lives of Bayard, Francesco di Carrara, and Bianca Capello.—But once more, in the case of this election, we are met by the painful considerations that have accompanied all similar events for many years past. Under the present constitution of the Royal Academy,—framed for a very different condition of the Arts, and wholly inadequate to their present state,—the success of one candidate is bought by the disappointment of more, and the Academy gains a son at the cost of many friends. This, as we have said, is necessarily incident to the present limited scale of the Royal Academy,—but the matter has been unnecessarily made worse by the manner in which the franchise of election has been used. Men who, by common consent, should have their place in the ranks of the Academy are put aside year after year, to make way for new comers whose titles, even if as good, might afford to wait. The disappointment which could not be avoided one year seems actually to be made the ground for inflicting the same disappointment the next. The blow which must fall somewhere is made to fall repeatedly on the same head,—as if from the consideration that such head had learned to bear it. Men whose election was for a time of necessity postponed, gradually see themselves deliberately shelved,—and find others who were scarcely heard of when their title was complete slipping over their heads into the seats which they missed yesterday by the accident of the case, and seem therefore to have forfeited for to-morrow by right.—We hope, however, to see a remedy for all this ere long.

Mr. Cromeck—whose drawings of some of the architectural antiquities of Rome elicited our commendation when they were last year shown at the Exhibition in Trafalgar Square—has been elected a member of the Junior Society of Painters in Water Colours.

The cultivated eye, with a craving for the beautiful has long felt that some improvement was wanted to replace the abominations of design on our playing cards; and more than one attempt has been made to supply it. Hitherto, these attempts have had no success. Indeed, the task, from various causes, is not an easy one. It is always difficult to attack successfully a prejudice of long standing; and in this instance the old familiar are not without their special merits,—though they be not those of Fine Art. They are composed of massive and distinct parts,—well defined in outline,—and with a strongly contrasted arrangement of colour:—characteristics essential to their purpose as rendering them distinctly recognizable at a glance. All efforts to supplant them have failed in one or other of these essentials; even when the proposed substitutes have possessed other merits; and none have sufficiently respected the fact that the new designs to avoid all difficulty of successful introduction must have a general resemblance at the first glance to the old ones.—We have seen some designs in course of production under the hand of Mr. John Franklin which bid fair to supply all that is required. While they possess great beauty of drawing and of character, they are so treated in the quaint simplicity of their style and arrangement as to do no violence to our ancient prejudice for their venerable prototypes. They appear, rather, to have grown out of those old forms, and to be their lineal descendants developed into grace and beauty.



Amongst those already nearly complete, we may mention for especial admiration the Queen of Spades; also the Knave of that suit, together with the Kings of Hearts, Diamonds, and Clubs, and the Queen of Diamonds.—It is curious, after all, that Fine Art—which has already invaded the racing and the hunting fields—should have been so slow in making its way to the gaming table; but we can have little doubt that these cards by Mr. Franklin will replace the old black letter version of kings and queens and knaves.

The following letter, referring to a paragraph which appeared in our columns some time since [ante, p. 1049] announcing the particulars of a discovery made in the new Sacristy of the Cathedral of Puy, has reached us from a correspondent.

Having seen in the *Athenæum* of the 5th of October an account of a painting of the sixteenth century, discovered in the Sacristy of the Cathedral at Puy, supposed to be by a French artist, I beg leave to offer an opinion, that if the painting be by a Frenchman, the subject is taken from a Flemish artist. I have in my possession a set of engravings of the six sciences, painted by Francis Florus, engraved by Cock, dated 1565, published at Antwerp, and so nearly resembling in their details the picture you mention, that I cannot forbear sending you the description of them.

1st. Grammatica:—represented by a female richly dressed, seated in an elaborately ornamented chair, having the appearance of basket work, with a cane in her hand,—the alphabet forming a border to her robe,—a hen and chickens and birch behind her chair. The room has many young people in it, all with books on their knees, attentively reading. Four are standing round the female, with ink bottles hanging to their dresses, and tablets in their hands. One is reading to her. A little fellow has just entered, and is hanging up his basket, probably containing his dinner.—The composition of this picture is true to nature.

2nd. Arithmetica:—also a female seated,—in a most superb chair, at a table on which is lying money and other things. She has a book or tablet, on which she is figuring. An old man with a long beard, also holding a tablet, is standing by her, apparently telling her what to put down. Another person is leaning over her chair,—and a third is reading.—The pose of all these figures is easy and graceful, and they are powerfully executed.

3rd. Rhetorica:—a seated female, holding a caduceus. She is leaning over the arm of her beautiful chair, apparently addressing a young man seated near her, who holds a tablet. An old man, with a flowing beard, and apparently blind, is leaning on his shoulders. Books lie about, lettered Cicero, Æschines, Socrates, Demosthenes, &c.; and through the window is a view of a street with Flemish buildings.

4th. Dialectica:—a female seated, wrapped in thought. The forefinger of her right hand is pressed against the thumb of the left. A bird is on the top of her head, and another on the back of her chair,—a scorpion is twined round her arm, and a lizard is at her feet. An aged man in a flowing mantle stands beside her. Books of ancient authors are on the floor; and under is this inscription:—"Vii Hominem Ratione Docet Dialectica Qvare Merito Artivm Apicem Magnvs Hanc Plato vocat." On the engraving is printed in a square—"Franc Florus Pinxit in Svbvrbano Nicolai Jongelinc Propevrbo Anverpia Hieronymus Cogvs Escvdebat."

5th. Musica:—a female seated at a harpsichord, fantastically and gorgeously dressed. Two other persons are playing on odd looking instruments, and three are singing. A variety of old-fashioned instruments are spread about:—one a triangle, with a number of loose rings hanging on it. There is a goose standing on the floor, with her neck outstretched in the act of hissing;—and a small bird stands on the harpsichord.

6th. Geometria:—a female figure, gracefully leaning over a globe, a pair of compasses in her hand, in the act of measuring a distance. Two male figures very richly dressed are stooping over her and intently watching her movement. A serpent surrounds the globe; and a reptile like a toad is on the floor, with mathematical books and instruments. The scene is in the open air, under a tree, with Flemish buildings in the background. There is a Latin inscription to each engraving,—but to copy them would make this communication too long.—The engraving, which appears to me to be on wood, is wonderfully fine and life-like. As Florus did not die till 1570, these were published and executed under his own inspection most probably.

The Paris papers report the death, at the age of fifty-five, of M. Orsel, an historical painter of distinction in that capital.

## MUSIC AND THE DRAMA

MISS DOLBY begs to announce that the FIRST of her ANNUAL SERIES of THREE SOLE REPERTOIRES MUSICALES will take place at her residence, 2, Hyde Street, Manchester Square, on TUESDAY, the 12th instant, to commence at Eight o'clock precisely. Miss Dolby will be assisted by eminent vocal and instrumental talent. Subscription for the Series, One Guinea. Single tickets for the friends of Subscribers, Half-a-guinea each, to be obtained of Miss Dolby only. The remaining Soirées will take place on the 26th instant and December the 10th.

OLYMPIC.—On Monday last was assembled at this house an overflowing audience, to witness the first production of Mr. Westland Marston's historical tragedy entitled 'Philip of France and Marie de Méranie';—and the result was, a more than ordinary triumph.

The incidents of the drama are few and simple:

—though circled with state grandeur the interest is mainly domestic. The poet's skill has translated politics into passion—and the world's destinies are made to depend on the beatings of the heart. The character of Philip Augustus of France—the most distinct and masterly creation of Mr. Marston's pen—was well selected to illustrate the morals which he had in view. The antagonism between the heart and the world is presented on the ground of an individual mind:—the king's soul is made the field of combat—and both in its weakness and in its strength it teaches the same truth. The hero's wavering character exhibits—now, the strength of the world against the weakness of personal will—next, the futility of worldly circumstance before the due exertion of heroic energy.

At the commencement of the play *Philip Augustus* is introduced as having just exerted this controlling power. He has curbed the nobles, and asserted the rights of the poor. But opposition has been awakened. Three nobles, *De Fontaine* (Mr. Henry Farren), *De Tournet* (Mr. Norton), and *De la Roche* (Mr. Kinlock), stand as types of an aristocratic conspiracy for avenging the sufferings of their order. The first of the trio represents its intellect:—subtly awaiting opportunity, rather than provoking conflict. The means of revenge are found in the state of the monarch's affections. Already affianced to *Marie de Méranie*, whom he passionately loves,—Philip has been compelled by policy to wed with *Ingerburge*, the sister of *Canute, King of Denmark*. The first act near its opening presents Marie receiving the tidings of this unexpected event,—just after having yielded to the friendly artifices of her attendant an implied confession of her love for the king. The shock to her heart fails to subdue the dignity of her mind. The struggle between that and her softer feelings is touched with the utmost delicacy by the dramatist; and was interpreted by a kindred spirit in the actress—Miss Faucit. The part of Philip was confided to Mr. G. V. Brooke: who has returned to the Olympic stage.—His appearance in the play occurs at the end of the first act, first in altercation with Ingerburge, and subsequently in council with his chancellor *Guerin* (Mr. Diddiear) and Fontaine. This is a scene in which the psychological elements of the monarch's character are laid bare.—From this point, the structure of the action is very skilfully built up. The differences between Philip and Ingerburge prelude a divorce; and the king visits Marie to induce her re-acceptance of his vows and her consent to their marriage. The sweetness and fine sympathies of her womanly nature are here touched with extreme beauty; but after prudence had almost won, love gains a sudden victory before a last assault of the passionate king—and Marie consents to become a wife and a queen.

Out of the king's wilfulness, however, new and more terrible perils arise. Denmark, irritated at the repudiation of Ingerburge, withdraws the military subsidy which had been the price of the matrimonial alliance,—and appeals against the new marriage to Rome. The Pope threatens the kingdom with interdict:—and for awhile the king stands firm against the menace of the Pope. In an impressive scene which concludes the third act—and has the elements of dramatic effect brought together with a power and a skill that have scarcely a rival instance on the modern stage—Philip defies his prelates who have gone over to the side of Rome, and summons the barons—whom formerly he had defied—to the rescue by a passionate appeal to their chivalries—while the great bell of the cathedral is tolling out the terrors of the church, and the sob of interdict from some more distant tower laments through all the din. Quite accidentally, too—for the play has been written some years—the obvious fitness of these references to the recent occurrences in which the Church of Rome figures, told on the audience, and brought the interest of the scene—already highly wrought up—as it were within the domain of the present. The house fairly shook to the applause on which the drop curtain fell. Before this, however, the sound of the anathematizing bell has brought Marie rushing to the council chamber.

Combating the king's passionate resistance, she lays the crown for which these terrors are incurred at her husband's feet,—and finally wins him to a compromise. He undertakes himself to appeal to Rome—and abide the issue. The Pope, pleased with the apparent submission of the monarch, is inclined to look favourably on his cause—but delays occurring through prelatial pride—and, as Philip fears, through a desire on the part of the Supreme Pontiff to erect his handling of this matter into a precedent against the king in general,—falls into the snare laid for him by Fontaine. He determines of his own will to remove the occasion of the interdict,—and so baffle the intrigues of the Holy See. Ingerburge is re-instated in her royal dignity,—while he proposes to reserve his duty as a husband for Marie. The scene in which he has to convey to the latter the story of his temporizing and of the part in its action which he has assigned to her, was another grand occasion for the display of Miss Faucit's art. Scorning to be a paramour, she passes, in her undiminished love and undimmed parity, from him like his good angel for ever.

Out of this great sorrow comes the rebound in the monarch's nature. Love, grief, remorse, and anger awake the war spirit in his breast; and he marches, with the warriors whose allegiance he had regained with the withdrawal of the terrors of the church, to crush the powers whose hostility had helped to bring him to this. In the fifth act, he is a conqueror in every way. Rome has effected the retirement of Ingerburge to a convent,—and at the head of his barons the King has beaten down his foes. The crown of his consort is free;—and full of love and flushed with success, Philip bears it to Marie—and finds her contracted to the worm. She is dying of her love, and of the wounds which he had dealt it. Her short and ghastly greeting to her lord with the laurel on his brow brings out the final moral with startling effect. The stormy heart has triumphed,—and lost. She leaves him victor,—but she leaves him. Rome is baffled,—Paris quelled,—his foreign foes repulsed,—and Marie dies. All is gained but the love for which all had been—but not by noble means, nor with the courage and perseverance which they conferred. The curtain falls on the death of Marie,—and cuts off for dramatic use this characteristic episode in the life of Philip Augustus:—an episode in which the moral of Philip's impulsive, generous, yet crafty and ambitious character is brought to bear, by the dramatist, on conditions that have historical truth of outline, but are shaped to purposes and applications of his own.—Mr. Marston has made a great stride in advance of his previous position by this play.

Of Miss Faucit's acting we have spoken incidentally,—and need say no more. She received a welcome from the audience, after a prolonged absence, which showed her how much they expect from her,—and she repaid it by giving more.—Mr. Brooke, though suffering from the injuries done to his voice, caught the character of the monarch and of the occasions with great force, and proved that with care he may yet justify the expectations once formed of him.—The play was admirably mounted:—the scenes and costumes all new and costly. It is but a matter of course to say, that the two leading actors and the author had to interchange courtesies with the audience after the fall of the curtain.

HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE.—The choir of the King of Prussia's Chapel has appeared at the *Grand National Concerts*, with the utmost success. This is well merited: since a more perfectly trained company of singers, possibly, is not to be heard on this side of the Baltic. The body of tone produced is the most agreeable German vocal sound of many sounds within our recollection. The soprano parts are taken by boys who sing very well in tune, and sink surprisingly little in pitch. When these two good qualities can be attained the peculiar quality of boys' voices gives a charm and a unity to an unaccompanied vocal quartet attainable by no mixture of sexes. The spire is thus finished with the same material as, only finer drawn and more delicate than, that of the



masses which form its basis. Only, however, in a Court establishment, in which the Court takes great interest, can such sifting and selecting and constant practice under a first-rate conductor have gone on as under Herr Neidhardt have brought this choir to its existing perfection. To hear it execute the Anthems of Mendelssohn, written for its use, is a treat of the highest order: and these works, thus given, prove to possess a beauty so individual, so expressive, so melodious, and so devout, that we do not hesitate to give them a place in Protestant service music analogous to those of the Masses and Motets by Palestrina in the Papal Chapel. It is delightful to perceive that with the simplest musical means in reach effects at once so dignified and so new, so severe and so beautiful, are producible. In short, let our general opinion of the *Grand National Concerts* have hitherto been what it may, we cannot but feel debtors to any direction that brings before us a musical novelty of such first-rate excellence as this choir of Berlin church singers.

**HAYMARKET.**—Mr. Macready appeared in *Lear* on Saturday last, and in *Richelieu* on Monday. Mr. Davenport performed the parts of *Edgar* and the *Chevalier de Mauprat* with his usual talent. Mr. Macready's appearances we do no more than announce. His impersonations have passed the ordeal of criticism again and again, and are among the familiar facts of the play-going public.

#### FOREIGN CORRESPONDENCE.

##### Music in Italy.

Naples.

THIS is the season when our theatres publish their prospectuses for the winter campaign:—and I will now give you what information I can as to our prospects. The disasters of the revolution are evidently felt throughout the Peninsula even by the theatre:—the announcements being as meagre as they well can be, and the *Impresario* in most instances contenting themselves with the reproduction of old favourite works. Until a few days since, no one in Naples could be found to reign over the dominions of Apollo and the Ballet. San Carlo was closed,—and the busy spider had begun to weave its meshes beneath the very doors of the Temple. The Government, however, came to the rescue:—the old *Impresario* retired,—and the new *Impresario* has put forth his bill of fare. During the season three new operas are promised, written expressly for Naples—one by Mercadante, and the other two by Staffa and De Giosa. Two musical pieces, also new, are promised—'La Schiava Saracena,' by Mercadante, and Ricci's 'Corrado d'Altamura.' The *prime donne* named are, Mesdames Tadolini and Evers,—the *tenori*, Signori Cuzzani, Baldanza, and Fedor,—the *bassi*, De Bassini, Gionfrida, and Arati.

The musical gossip which has reached us from other parts of Italy is soon disposed of.—At Bologna, Verdi's 'Luigia Miller' is to be the stock winter piece—Malvezzi, the tenor, to be the star. Fraschini, it is said, has been gaining much applause at Bergamo. At Parma, the *prima donna* Rosetti is to form the attraction of the winter season; and the curtain is to rise with 'Don Procopio' and 'La Prova di un' Opera.'—The good people of Turin are exhausting their enthusiasm with 'La Lega Lombarda.'—Genoa gives 'Lucrezia Borgia'; but nothing new is promised either in the way of composition or of artists. In the *Athenæum* [No. 1176, p. 514] you throw out as a speculation the question whether we may look for a new symphonist or quartett writer among the Italians. I think the hope is justified by a recent claimant for honour in that difficult branch of musical composition. The *Maestro* Pappalardo has lately produced some quartett music which is pronounced worthy of a German head and an Italian heart. The journals of Sicily and of Naples are alike loud in his praise; and I have heard a few professors from the classical North bestow an amount of eulogium on Signor Pappalardo which warrants me in directing your attention to his works. They are published at Milan and at Naples. Like myself, I perceive you do not place much dependence on the extravagant language of musical criticism in Italy:—but you will allow an

old worshipper of Haydn and Beethoven to direct those who take an interest in quartett writing to turn their attention to this master; my own impression being that Signor Pappalardo has studied the Germans with a sympathizing mind and a power to reproduce,—and that, with all this, the Italian *cantilena* floats about his inspirations and gives to his quartett an attraction for even an uneducated ear. Let me add, that Signor Pappalardo's work has been performed at the Academy of Music in Palermo, and in select circles in Naples.

**MUSICAL AND DRAMATIC GOSSIP.**—No good purpose would be served by our doing more than announcing the commencement of the English Opera Company's proceedings at Miss Kelly's Theatre, as having taken place on Tuesday evening last,—with a presentation of 'The First Crusade,' the opera by Mr. Mitchell, which has been already performed at Brunswick with success. In London, the leading parts are taken by Mrs. Alexander Newton, Miss Lowe, Messrs. Bridge Frodsham, Durand, and Gregg.—We may take this opportunity to remind the courteous correspondent who has recently addressed us on the subject in general, that our opinions can be no mystery or secret to any one who has read the *Athenæum*, and that we must therefore be spared once again discussing causes and effects the relation to each other of which seems at once immediate and lasting.

Writing, as we must do, ere M. Jullien shall have broken out in all his glory (after a sublimely mysterious silence of many weeks) we can only note that the features of his Promenade Concerts this year are to be Mdle. Jetty Treffz, with a new Song by Meyerbeer,—an enlarged orchestra,—a Quadrille of all Nations, introducing a battalion of drums belonging to one of the regiments of the National Guard of Paris,—and the octobasso, the Behemoth fiddle, invented by M. Villame, the clever *Luthier* of Paris, and which gained a prize at a recent Exposition there. These are preparations alike grand and fearful,—not, however, without their precedent in former days. If we recollect rightly (and we think the story is to be found among Mr. Cradock's anecdotes), the Earl of Sandwich had parchment stretched on a screen covering the side of a room at Hinchinbrook, in order to make a double-double-double drum. This grotesque monster, however, was used only once;—for on its being struck (it is to be supposed with force proportionate) the sound was found so terrific that it was never touched again.

From the *Dramatic and Musical Review* we derive a report that Mr. Stammers has taken the Marylebone Theatre, with operatic intentions.

It is a good sign of the health of taste, that provincial concerts for chamber-music seem to be on the increase in England; and, what is yet more satisfactory, that these should be supported by resident artists independently of star-assistance from London. Among them may be mentioned the Quartett parties of Mr. E. Thomas at Liverpool, of Mr. and Mrs. Reinagle at Oxford, and of Herr Halle at Manchester.—The last-named pianist, however, it should be mentioned, is about forthwith to establish himself in London.

Letters from Dublin assure us that the success of Miss Catherine Hayes has been greater on her second than on her first visit.—An entertainment of somewhat novel quality is, we perceive, about to be commenced by Madame Thillon and Mr. Hudson in company.

Dr. Mainzer, we perceive, is to open vocal classes in Manchester. We wait with some curiosity to see whether this is preparatory to emigrating from the latter town, as has happened on former occasions,—in spite of votes of confidence in the Professor, and votes of censure on the *Athenæum*, passed by those who have believed more implicitly in the persistence of Dr. Mainzer and the permanence of his method than we have been able to do.

It may be recollected that two winters ago [*Athen.* No. 1101] some mention was made of proposed methods of teaching sight-singing by aid of a new notation. In the course of this, the English manuals of Miss Glover and Mr.

Curwen and the French 'Méthode' of M. Chevê were adverted to. The boastfulness and unsophisticated impatience of all systems but M. Chevê's own as shown by the last-named French professor, are matters as familiar as the commonest musical discord to every part-singer who has examined into the artistic establishments of our generally courteous neighbours. M. Chevê has also been fond of pouring out in the Parisian journals those attacks, imputations, and challenges, the very tone of which, as arguing the presence of no common arrogance and bad temper, is sufficient to have impeded him as a popular teacher—seeing that from any one aspiring to that position we call for good morals and civil manners, no less than for clever methods. The despotic rudeness of a Monsey or an Abernethy, however successful in medicine, to terrify and afflict foolish persons of quality in search of a sensation, would make havoc of the "young idea," were it to become the medium of school and college instruction. Some time ago, this angry M. Chevê solemnly tendered his services to the French Government as a popular instructor,—being anxious to supersede those teaching the masses on the method of Wilhem. A Commission was appointed to examine into the merits of his method. The Commission has finished its labours, and sent in its Report. Some passages of this are worth paraphrasing for the benefit of such as think that since the familiar musical notation is hard to learn, the matter may be simplified by giving the student an additional method and vocabulary to commit to memory—

The system of figures adopted by M. Chevê is only applicable, by his own admission, to vocal music, and in that branch even we have already said that it is insufficient. As regards the thousand complications of instrumental music, M. Chevê gives up the attempt, owning that the ordinary system of notation must always be resorted to,—in pieces destined for the flute, violin, piano,—above all for the full score. Supposing, then, that a pupil, dismissed from his school is a skilful and imperturbable master of *sol-fa*-ing, he will, nevertheless, be obliged if he wish to pass to the study of an instrument to learn the ordinary notation. \* \* \*

M. Chevê reduces all tonalities to a single one:—thus, we admit, lessening the labour of his disciples. But does the pupil who knows only one tone, in place of knowing twelve, possess all the knowledge necessary? It seems to us almost impossible that this method of M. Chevê can give to his pupils any sufficient understanding of the mechanism of modulation. Finally, the Commission—which included MM. Auber, Adam, Carafa, Clapisson, Halévy, and Zimmermann—ended by deciding that this method so loudly vaunted by M. Chevê is on no pretext or argument worthy of entertainment to supersede the Wilhem method. The Central Committee has wisely authenticated and adopted their Report; to which, as fully and scientifically vindicating opinions long since thrown out in the *Athenæum*,—and for the consideration of the well-meaning persons in England who have desired to adopt and introduce similar processes—it is well to draw attention.

Signor Colini, a baritone of Italian reputation, has been engaged by Mr. Lumley for the Italian Opera at Paris. Herr Eckert has been appointed accompanist and *chef du chant* there.—Madame Castellan has gone to Berlin,—Mdle. Albani to Madrid. Among the other novelties talked about for the *Grand Opéra* at Paris, a three-act opera, written by M. Auber for this lady, is mentioned in the *Gazette Musicale* as among the possibilities. The part in his new opera of 'L'Enfant Prodigue' which was to have been sung by Mdle. Mainvielle is, according to the *Gazette Musicale*, now to be given to Madame Laborde. It is high time that the work should make its appearance; too long protracted expectation being perilous, unless the opera when it comes prove a 'Prophète.'—A third Society for giving orchestral concerts in Paris, to be called the *Société Sainte Cécile*, is in progress of organization. The concerts are to be six in number, on alternate weeks with the concerts of the *Conservatoire*; and the orchestra and chorus, numbering in all one hundred and thirty performers, are to be directed by M. Seghers.

#### MISCELLANEA

*Peruvian Mummies.*—Sir,—In an account, recently given, of a very interesting discovery, by Dr. Reid, of mummies at Chinchin, the Doctor's opinion is stated to be, that these persons had buried themselves to escape from the ravages of the Spaniards. This opinion is curiously corroborated by a passage in Surgeon Lionel Wafer's (surgeon to the Buccaneers who crossed the Isthmus in 1680) 'Voyages and Description, &c.' p. 208, London, 1699, as follow.—"We



also put ashore at Vermejo, in 10° S. lat. I was one of those who landed to see for water. We marched about four miles up a sandy bay, which we found covered with the bodies of men, women and children. These bodies, to appearance, seemed as if they had not been above a week dead; but if touched, they proved dry and light as a sponge or piece of a cork. We were told by an old Spanish Indian whom we met, that in his father's time, the soil there which now yielded nothing, was well cultivated and fruitful,—that the city of Wormi had been so numerous inhabited with Indians, that they could have handed a fish from hand to hand till it reached the Inca,—but that when the Spaniards came and laid siege to their city, the Indians, rather than yield to their mercy, dug holes in the sand, and buried themselves alive. The men as they now lie, have by them their broken bows, and the women their spinning wheels and distaffs with cotton yarn upon them. Of these dead bodies I brought on board a boy of about ten years of age, with an intent to bring him to England; but was frustrated of my purpose by the sailors, who had a foolish conceit that the compass would not traverse right whilst there was a dead body on board, so they threw him overboard, to my great vexation.

EDWARD CULLEN, M.D.

**Discovery of Enormous Fossil Eggs.**—The *Calcutta Englishman* writes:—"The Mauritians mentions, on the authority of a Bourbon journal, that a singular discovery has been made in Madagascar. Fossil eggs of an enormous size have been found in the bed of a torrent. The shells are an eighth of an inch thick, and the circumference of the egg itself is 2 feet 3 inches lengthways, and 2 feet 2 inches round the middle. One which has been opened contains 8½ litres, or about 2 gallons! What was to have come out of these eggs? Bird or crocodile? The natives seem to be well acquainted with them, and say that ancient tradition is uniform as to the former existence of a bird large enough to carry off an ox. This is only a little smaller than the roc of oriental fable, which waited patiently till he saw the elephant and rhinoceros fighting and then carried off both at one stoop. Some fossil bones were found in the same place as the eggs; but the Bourbon editor says that he will leave it to the pupils of the great Cuvier, to decide to what animal they belong. If they should prove to be the bones of a bird of size corresponding to the eggs, the discovery will indeed be an extraordinary one.

To CORRESPONDENTS.—R. C. W.—M. A.—A Subscriber—Ignoramus.—C. W.—J. S. H.—P. Q.—Dr. J. R. W.—S. Y.—received.

AN OLD SUBSCRIBER, Liverpool, is informed that as the Marquis of Hertford's intended Gallery in Piccadilly is in progress of erection, his various purchases are for the present stowed away until it shall be completed. It is expected to be so in the spring of next year. The purchases made by the Marquis at the King of Holland's sale were seen, immediately on their arrival, at the house of his agent, Mr. Mawson, in Berners Street, Oxford Street. Our correspondent is referred to that gentleman for further information.

G. B.—We would recommend this correspondent to address his inquiry to the Editor of that able and useful publication, *Notes and Queries*.

A. E. T.—This correspondent should have given his name and address. His course will be, to put himself in communication with our publisher.

**HOMŒOPATHY.**—We have received a variety of letters on the subject of the article on Homœopathy which appeared in our columns a fortnight since. Some are abusive; and these we of course pass by, as admitting the force of our argument and the helplessness of their own by the abuse. We have a letter of a very different kind—calm, courteous, and earnest—from Dr. Dudgeon. The Doctor will scarcely think it strange that, entertaining such strong opinions as we do on the subject on which he writes, we refuse to lend our journal to an argument for the doctrine which we denounce. The question is not raised by us,—but by the authors whom we reviewed. The affirmation of homœopathy is maintained in these books as its own ground,—and it came regularly before us as a portion of our critical duty to give our opinion as to the soundness of the positions taken. We cannot allow the re-assertion of these positions in our columns, even when stated with fairness, as they are by Dr. Dudgeon. The Doctor endeavours to support the character of Hahnemann by the fact of the estimation in which he was held by some distinguished men;—but he should remember that some of the most remarkable impostors have found adherents among the most enlightened men of their day.—Another of the letters in question is from Mr. Warne, the Honorary Secretary to the Hahnemann Hospital. It invites us to an inspection of the Hospital and of the cures performed in it on the homœopathic principle. We have never doubted the fact of cure,—and must leave the comparison of the relative number of cures effected in Hahnemannian and in other hospitals to the medical profession. But whatever may be the result of that comparison, we shall continue to maintain as a logical consequence of the premises involved that the patients cured under homœopathic treatment have not been cured as a consequence of the application of homœopathic principles or doses.—Another correspondent, who signs himself "Ignoramus," suggests that the fact of animals finding their way to particular spots at great distances may arise from their susceptibility to the magnetic currents which are constantly traversing the earth. It may be so;—but the writer gives no facts to support his position.

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LONDON, SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 16, 1850.

## REVIEWS

*The Revolt of Milan in 1848*—[*La Rivolta di Milano, &c.*]. A Narrative. By Enrico Lavelli. Chapman.

WE lately gave an account [*Ath.* No. 1200] of Signor Mazzini's Notes on the Revolution in Italy. These were described as being rather a commentary on some principal features of that movement than a complete history of the whole, or of any one of the successive events in its progress throughout the Peninsula. The volume before us is an attempt, by a less competent hand, to describe at full length that limited part of the subject which is included in the Lombard rising of 1848. In the above-mentioned notice of Signor Mazzini's book we indicated the basis on which alone he deems it possible ever to constitute Italy as an independent nation. On the present occasion, therefore, we may abstain from discussing this or other theories of the principle that should preside over her future constitution. It will suffice, on the evidence which this book contains, to advert to the practical and present difficulties which must be removed before any such establishment, on whatever basis, can be founded,—to note those conditions which are clearly indispensable to the effectual use, with whatever further prospect, of the national energies against the actual weight of foreign dominion.

Signor Lavelli's pen is a rough and hasty instrument: one of the many that may be expected to write on this new page of Italian history a tale of warm aspirations and frustrated efforts, of oppression from without and of discord and treachery within [marring the hopes of those who desire the independence and union of their common country:—a tale the same, in its essential significance,—however the accidents may vary in the lapse of time,—with all the former matter of that crowded volume. From the days of the Hohenstauffen to our own, two main threads may be seen crossing each other in every new complication of the destinies of Italy,—the intrusion, namely, of foreign power, and the mischiefs of intestine disunion. That these are bound together in the relation of cause and effect, is a lesson as plain as any that history teaches. It is idle to look at the one without still more earnestly pointing to the other and principal evil. For passionate regret and loud invective it is easy to find a theme in the "tread of the barbarian on the classic soil of Italy." But it behoves all who desire her liberation rather to insist on the causes that have exposed to insult a land abounding in people, defended by nature with nearly impregnable barriers, wanting in no art, faculty, or resource that can make a nation rich at home and respected abroad:—the same land, in a word, which was once the mistress of the Universe. The "patriots" of Italy have been too prone to dwell on second causes,—to invoke the curses of mankind on wrongs the root of which history traces in the heart of their own soil. The provincial ambitions and local hates, the passions and fallacies, the fickleness and turbulence of the Italians themselves have been the main instruments with which foreign policy has subdued them. In any view of the future a due regard to this source of their past misfortunes will show what change must be first in the order of any prosperous revolution in their affairs. An Italy disciplined by the social virtues and animated by one mind, no other power in Europe could oppress. But no energy or sacrifice on the part of a single class of politicians, of separate bodies in the State, of separate States even, in an Italy gene-

rally untrained to order and self-control, prone to substitute illusion for matter of fact, and severed by local and party animosities and suspicions, will ever accomplish her independence. It is grievous to think how many noble energies have been wasted, how many ardent lives are cast away in fruitless conspiracy or revolt, from the want of a practical conviction of this truth. Of late, as heretofore, we have again seen the hopes of men—many of whom deserved a better fate—wrecked on the very rocks long laid down in the chart of history. And thus it will be until the close of time with every enterprise that begins at the wrong end, *præponens ultima primis*. All that will be accomplished towards Italian emancipation until the Italians themselves as a whole shall be both apt for it and thoroughly united in resolution to obtain it, will be a succession of painful convulsions like that which Signor Lavelli's book professes to describe. Some of the martyrs of a premature resistance will perish. Of those who escape the sword or the dungeon, the young and daring will be scattered over the world as exiles, vainly protesting against the inevitable. Those who cannot fly must devour their regrets under a yoke rendered more galling by the attempt to shake it off.

Servi sì, ma servi ognor frementi.

This may sound harshly to the most sanguine aspirants for the sudden liberation of Italy:—but the best friends of this and of the same cause in all nations are those who can persuade them that no happy result will ever proceed from the unripe efforts of impatience, however generous. No great battle can be won without a thorough knowledge of the real difficulties of the ground; and the true leader is not he who urges a tumultuary force to hasty attacks, but he who points out the key to the main position, which, once gained by patient valour and discipline, insures victory.

That the actors in this Milanese insurrection miscalculated their own forces, position, and the value of the support which was indispensable to their success from other parts of Italy, is sufficiently proved by what is now alleged of the treason of the Sardinian army and by what is said of its consequences. Where this was the case with those who risked their existence on the strength of their persuasions, we cannot expect more perspicuity or a juster estimate of the conduct of this strife in the account of an eager partisan, of extreme opinions, whom its issue has driven into exile. This recital by Signor Lavelli is a work of little value or authority; but it is noticeable as distinctly showing the discordant elements which forbid us to entertain any present hopes of Italian union, as embracing the whole Peninsula, whether for external resistance or for internal organization. The story from the beginning to the end is little more than a series of angry and rude accusations of nine-tenths of all who were intrusted with power in Milan during the interval between its revolt in March and its surrender to Radetzky in August 1848. The Sardinian King, his councillors and his army, are not the sole objects of the writer's indignation. Charles Albert is, indeed, represented in terms far more gross than Mazzini has chosen to use; as a monster composed of cunning, ambition, treachery, and imbecility, sold to the Austrians from an early stage of the war, if not before it began. As a deliberate betrayer of the Italian liberties which he pretended to espouse, in hopes of aggrandizing his own kingdom, he is accused of all the disasters of the Lombard Revolution. But Signor Lavelli does not explain how any misconduct on the part of an ally could alone in three short months have laid prostrate at the

feet of the Austrians—retired to the extremity of the province, deserted by their Italian troops, and long deprived by the Vienna troubles of succours from home—a territory peopled by at least a million and a half of souls,—had its able population been all of one mind, and all willing to make the needful sacrifices, in person and in purse, which the emergency called for. Other active causes of failure, indeed, his own description of the Milanese notables and of the factions in the revolutionized State would amply show, could any reliance be placed on sketches betraying all the exaggeration of party hatred. They prove, at all events, that, prompt as the Lombards were to revolt, they were far from being agreed either as to the scope of their revolution or as to its means. The schism of the various active classes and interests at home was evidently nearly as deep as the dislike of the foreigner could be: republican disagreeing with aristocrat, noble with commoner, the rich with the poor,—if not country with city, and town with town,—to say nothing of the jealousy of the Lombard against the Piedmontese:—all features, as we have said, familiar to the students of Italian history. On the details of these differences, on the particular justice of the charges brought by such accusers as Signor Lavelli, it might be presumptuous—it would certainly be premature—to offer an opinion. But it may be safely affirmed even now, that, with every allowance made for misstatement and partiality, the account is evidence of a condition in nowise able to resist the enterprise of any external power ably conducted by a single head; and also of dispositions not yet ripe for any permanent or tolerable kind of self-government, had the foreign enemy by some accident of fortune been expelled from the soil. With such discordant elements in its own bosom, the only possible result of the outward pressure being removed would have been the commencement of an intestine strife,—more fatal, perhaps, to any condition which good men can desire for Italy than the weight of an alien government itself.

In this aspect of things, setting aside the undoubted mismanagement of the Sardinian army and the military skill of the Austrian Marshal, it is clear that a disastrous end of the contest was inevitable in any possible combination of events. Had Charles Albert been more able or more trustworthy,—had Radetzky been less of a commander,—had the advantages of discipline been reversed,—the struggle might, indeed, have been greatly prolonged. But that it could even then have ended in favour of a combination of forces united in name only, but destitute of all those principles of intimate cohesion which alone can support a war for life or for death against a power wielded by one hand and animated by a single will,—it would be a defiance of all the laws of reason and of history to suppose.

As to the actual circumstances of the war, it is apparent from what has already been published on this subject, and it may be seen from the casual admissions in various parts of Signor Lavelli's narrative,—that the Lombards, as a body, from the moment of their first rising to the period of Charles Albert's retreat on Milan, were wanting in one of the first requisites to success—a true perception, namely, of the whole business which they had undertaken. They accordingly overrated what they had done, and were slack in performing what it behoved them to do—too confident in their own strength, too apt to despise their adversary. The Milanese believed that it was their prowess alone which caused Radetzky to loose his hold of Milan,—and we find this exaggeration in its full size in



Signor Lavelli's recital; whereas it is asserted by military judges that he could have kept his ground there against all that Lombardy could bring against him, but for the crossing of the Tesino by the Sardinians. In the same spirit of overweening confidence, when the Austrian Marshal retired they imagined that nothing was left for him but a desperate flight across the Alps;—and Signor Lavelli states that one of the first acts of the provisional government of Milan, after the "feasting, joy, and congratulation" had a little subsided, was to send a body of volunteers under Col. Manara, with the express object of "running," says Lavelli, "after the broken remnant of the Austrian army," and "taking possession of the passes in the Italian Tyrol," in order that the enemy, reduced to "the narrow circuit of the fortresses" on the Mincio and Adige, might be encompassed and forced to surrender at discretion. Now, the "*decrepito maresciallo*" halted on the Adda, after all Italian deserters are deducted, an army of at least 15,000 veteran and well-disciplined Germans;† whereas, if Signor Lavelli is to be believed, the force commanded by Col. Manara consisted of "*four hundred youths*"—volunteers, new to arms,—whose discipline he describes as such that "the courageous youths refused to listen to any other opinion but that which their own valour inspired them with."

Instances of the same kind might be multiplied, were it worth while to dissect the statements of a writer whose narrow views and heated feelings make him but a doubtful authority on the facts of the Revolution. We can trust some part of his description of the state of Milan when surprised by the news of Charles Albert's return; because it has already been discovered on better testimony that the city had no idea until the last moment that it might be needful to assume on the instant an attitude of desperate defence,—and that no sufficient measures had been taken between March and August to provide the military resources required for this purpose. Here is another expressive proof of the fatal inability of those who directed the struggle,—either to comprehend its most plain and important facts, with the duties which these enjoined as paramount for a time to all others,—or to carry out with common consent the measures which a right understanding may have enjoined. The final practical result, as we have already observed, is the same, which ever of these suppositions be the true one. In either case, we see the issue of the revolt alike certain and its eruption equally premature and unfortunate:—"a beginning at the wrong end."

In Signor Lavelli's account will also be found some glimpses of the complaints which have been made on the Sardinian side, of reluctance to furnish adequate supplies of money or other necessities to Charles Albert's army after it had crossed the Tesino. "Disputes and heart-burnings on this subject we find mentioned as early as the end of March; and it is plain, although the topic is but casually handled by Lavelli, that the compact that Lombardy should support this army,—the only organized force then extant to maintain the hazardous step which she had taken,—was made a ground of angry complaints against the Provisional Government,—that the contributions were grudgingly paid, and

often evaded;—in short, that the patriotism of no small proportion of the Lombards did not rise to the point of willing pecuniary sacrifices to the cause of independence. Those who had the means to give largely are accused of being but lukewarm partisans of the Revolution, or actually hostile to it; and the rural inhabitants are said—although this is denied by Mazzini—to have been disaffected to the new state of things. They certainly were loth to surrender money or provisions in aid of the war. The coolness of the former class has been ascribed by some to the extreme republican views which were professed by not a few of the "men of action" in this struggle;—of the slackness of the latter, if proved, some illustration may be sought in the fact, attested by most travellers, that in Lombardy, whatever the political restraints may have been, and however police, censorship, &c. may have galled the educated classes, the circumstances of the common people were better, life and property—apart from political dangers—was more safe, law between man and man was more promptly and fairly administered, and the purely material condition of the mass was on the whole more comfortable and prosperous, than in any other part of Italy.

Such allegations cannot be overlooked in any impartial view of the facts of this case; but for their discussion a separate essay would be required. Having due regard to the mixed nature of the subject, we think it must be reserved for calmer times,—when passions shall have grown cool, and the truth can be gradually cleared from the turbid declamation and from the hasty or wilful perversions of fact which are apt to involve such affairs while the convulsions that they have caused are still vibrating on all hands. During this volcanic period, while even principal circumstances are in dispute, no precise determination of the agency of minor causes can be safely attempted. Impartial eyes will be content to keep in view the facts and relations that distinctly emerge above the temporary chaos;—taking for granted those truths only which are at once consistent with experience and proved by the converging evidence of all who appear as witnesses in the case. Such, we apprehend, are the postulates, grounded in all past history and confirmed by every modern event, which we have above noted as the indispensable first steps to any tolerable solution, in whatever sense, of the Italian problem. —The sole merit of Signor Lavelli's book is in the picture which he presents of the consequences of attempting it before these premises had been secured. This was not his purpose in writing; but in warmly contested causes the testimony which is unconsciously tendered will often be found the most certain of any.

*Nathalie: a Tale.* By Julia Kavanagh, Author of 'Woman in France,' 'Madeleine.' 3 vols. Colburn.

THOSE who have followed Miss Kavanagh to this point in her authorship will—in remembrance of her past progress—not be surprised to learn that the tale before us is, by much, her best, as it is her longest, imaginative effort. Its manner is gracious and attractive; its matter is good, though we may not precisely commend it as original. Whatever be the world's verdict on '*June Eyre*' (or '*Mrs. Rochester*'), about whom people have quarrelled almost as if she were a living woman,—whether she be rated as among the brazen disturbers of our social system whose deeds every one belonging to the families of *Grundy* and *Graveairs* is bound to discourage for the interests of decorum, or be canonized by the "strong-minded" as a *Judith* who has given a stab to the *Holofernes* of conventionalism,—certain it is, that

she has been the foundress of a family; and we cannot but think that '*Nathalie*' would hardly have been born had not Currer Bell's daughter been her ancestress. The first fancy of Miss Kavanagh's story, however, thus ascribed to its origin,—the rest seems to us all her own. A sentiment, a tenderness, an old-world French grace are commanded by her which are as individual as they are elegant. She is almost among the novelists of England what Madame Charles Reybaud is among the novelists of France; and this, according to our rating, is praise of no mean order.

'*Nathalie*' is the long love-story of a wayward heart,—the narrative of a contest perseveringly maintained between girlish wilfulness and fascination and middle-aged reserve and suspicion,—there being no lack of by-standers to foment every misconception, for their own tortuous purposes. Yet the tale never languishes into sickness—never becomes dragging and wearisome;—on the contrary, so well is the irritation of curiosity maintained, that not a few impatient readers will leave the skirmish when it is at its thickest and peep at the last pages of the third volume to see who really did win and "how it all turned out."

The only very great improbability of the legend occurs at so early a period as to pass almost unnoticed. *Nathalie*, a Provençal girl—having the never-to-be-forgotten *tête méridionale* which was ascribed to Madame Louise Colet on the Récamier trial—is teacher at a school in Normandy. There, she happens to attract the attention of a young man of high family, whose *château* is close to her *pension*; and though she repels his advances with indignant pride, she is in consequence of them expelled from Mdle. Dantin's school with cold sarcasm and prudish ignominy. In the extremity of her uncertainty what is to become of her, appears Madame Marceau, the haughty and intriguing mother of *Nathalie*'s suitor. The lady at once offers her a home, and carries her off in triumph from under the eyes of the irate and astounded schoolmistress. This is virtually dragging the heroine across the threshold of the scene of her destiny as completely as ever witch of old superstition was dragged into the arena of her mischief. The family circle at Sainville is, after its kind, as peculiar as the one at Thornfield,—though not, like *Mr. Rochester's* household, comprising a mad or a mysterious personage. Once within the magic ring the reader need not mistrust the power of the charm. But we will not interfere with the same, even so far as by enumerating its ingredients,—still less by mentioning any of their combinations. In preference, we confine ourselves to the illustration of Miss Kavanagh's descriptive powers.

"The town of Sainville was irregularly built on a declivity; its steep, narrow, and ill-paved streets overhung with high, projecting houses, most of them built of wood, rendered it one of the most picturesque and gloomy little places in all Normandy. It had been an abbey town before the first French revolution, and a sort of perpetual twilight and monastic silence shrouded it still. A few dull shops scarcely relieved the monotony of the well-like streets, with their gaunt old houses rising in dark outlines against the bright blue sky. When *Nathalie* had first come from her gay sunny Provence to this gloomy town of the north, she had candidly wondered at the human beings who, without any seeming necessity, could resign themselves to inhabit this misanthropic-looking spot. Even now, accustomed to it as she had grown, she found, after leaving the light and airy old *château*, that the very houses along which she passed had an air of greater dreariness and *ennui* than ever. Madame Lavigne, the aunt of *Rose*, resided at the other extremity of the town, in a retired little court, or rather alley, lying within the deep shadow and sanctified gloom of the old abbey. Grey, vast, and imposing, it rose facing a row of narrow houses, on

† There were from 65,000 to 70,000 imperial troops in Lombardy when the Revolution broke out. Of these nearly one-third are said to have been Italians, most of whom deserted. Nine battalions were quartered in cities and posts remote from Milan,—the army there, consisting of three brigades (Giam, Wohlgemuth, and Rath), was joined on the 22nd of March by two others (Strassoldo and Maurer), recalled from the Tesino. An allowance of 1,000 men to each brigade would certainly be below the mark; and we know that the Austrians at the affair of St. Lucia, on the 6th of May, at which time little progress had been made in collecting the detachments in the rear,—had 30,000 men in position.



the other side of the pathway, which had been used as a passage to a side-door of the edifice, in former times, when the abbey was in its pride, and devout pilgrims thronged Sainville at the yearly and gorgeous festivals of its patron saint. But a neighbouring railroad had reduced the little town to complete insignificance; the faithful had fallen off in zeal and numbers; the side entrance had long been closed up, dust gathered through years, and carved stone ornaments fallen from a neighbouring and half-ruined tower, lay heaped up against the wooden door; the long grass grew freely on the worn out, but now untrodden threshold, and between the damp flags of the lonely court. Rooks had made their nests in the ruined tower, where they cawed all day long, whilst grey swallows skimmed about at twilight, and twittered beneath the eaves of the low-walled and abandoned cloisters. A wild pear-tree, growing in the neglected grounds within, overhung the low roof and narrow court in which it shed its pale blossoms every spring, and russet leaves every autumn; beneath it, in a sheltering angle of the building, stood a small stone cross and well; the gift to the town of some pious burgher, of that age of faith when an idea of sanctity seems to have been linked with clear and flowing waters. The well-worn steps attested it had once been greatly frequented, but none, save the inhabitants of the court, came to it now; another fountain, twice as large, profusely gilt and bronzed, with a gay nymph instead of the lowly and faithful cross, stood in the neighbouring thoroughfare. Little heeding the changes of human caprice or creed, clear and sparkling as ever, the pure water flowed on, and fell into its little stone basin with a low cheerful murmur, like a bountiful soul that gives freely still, in spite of all the neglect and ingratitude of man. It was opposite this fountain that the house of Madame Lavigne stood. Nathalie gave a low knock at the door: it opened ere long, and an elderly, morose-looking female appeared on the threshold. Without uttering a word, or opening the door an inch wider than strict necessity required, she admitted Nathalie, closed and bolted the door, pointed up a dark spiral staircase, and entering a low kitchen, in which there seemed to reign a sort of dull twilight, she resumed her culinary avocations. Nathalie ascended the staircase, paused on the first-floor landing, and, opening a door before her, entered without knocking. The apartment in which she found herself was wide and extremely low; it was one of those unhealthy *entresols* now met with only in old-fashioned houses; it was scrupulously clean, but everything, from the antiquated furniture of dark walnut-tree wood, the dingy looking-glass over the mantel-shelf, and the low ceiling, down to the cold bees-waxed floor, had an air of gloom and discomfort. A doubtful and yellow light seemed to penetrate slowly through the narrow and discoloured panes of a solitary window, but it won no reflection back from the dark surface of surrounding objects; heavy curtains of sombre hue, which fell from the ceiling to the floor in long folds, added to the austere and meditative gloom of the place. Partly shrouded by the dark folds of one of those curtains, and seated within the narrow circle of light which came from the window, appeared a quiet female figure: pale, thin, and motionless, she bent over her work in subdued harmony with all around her. She did not raise her head, or turn round on hearing Nathalie, but laid down her work, carefully put it by, and rose so slowly that she had not yet left her place, when the young girl stood by her side. This was Rose Montolieu, the sister of Nathalie."

The above picture is one to which neither Chateaubriand or De Lamartine (both of whom have treated similar subjects), nor Mesdames Dudevant or Charles Reybaud—also mistresses of their art—need have disdained to affix their signatures.—By the side of the petulant, sprightly Nathalie, the episodic character of her pale and saintly sister Rose, thus charmingly introduced, acquires a double beauty. Most especially, too, after her kind, do we like Aunt Radegonde, the old Canoness.—But we should not soon come to an end were we to specify all the delicate touches and attractive pictures which place 'Nathalie' high among books of its class, and which will be recognized by

most select readers of novels as distinguished from romances.

*An Attempt to develop the Law of Storms by means of Facts.* By Lieut.-Colonel W. Reid. 3rd edition. Weale.

Few scientific questions have been more satisfactorily settled by the careful examination of facts than the Law of Storms. We have on several occasions explained the physical principles which regulate the movements of hurricanes and storms. We need not, therefore, enter here into any detailed explanation of those phenomena; but Col. Reid's book having reached a third edition, we may take the opportunity of bringing shortly before our present readers the principles which it involves. Those of our subscribers whose sets go so far back as 1838 will find the Colonel's theory more completely described in our columns of that year [*Athen.* No. 565, p. 594].

It is proved that the hurricanes of the West Indies, the typhoons of the China Seas, the tornadoes of the west coast of Africa, waterspouts and the smaller whirlwinds, moving columns of sand, and even the less severe storms which sometimes sweep over our islands, are all the result of the revolution of a column of air moving rapidly onward,—although Col. Reid explains some striking differences in the phenomena. It is also now established, that the storms of the northern and of the southern hemispheres move in opposite directions.—Col. Reid has collected with infinite labour, and examined with much care, all the facts relating to great storms on both sides of the equator. In the present edition of his valuable work will be found numerous striking examples of the general law; and guided by these, attending to the directions given, the mariner is now able to place himself in the most favourable position when he is, in his ocean wanderings, overtaken by those terrific whirling masses of air. Col. Reid says, in his concluding chapter, "The vast quantity of electricity rendered active during hurricanes, and the appearances accompanying waterspouts, lead insensibly to the consideration whether this can be the agent which causes great storms." In addition to this, an experiment is described in which an artificial iron globe is made to revolve in different directions according to the mode in which it is connected with a galvanic battery. This is adduced only as a "remarkable coincidence"; and we think, that on careful examination of all the phenomena, the conclusion must rather be, that the electricity is developed by the disturbance of the mass of air,—and that the explanation referring these great storms to the operation of heat alone approaches more nearly to the truth. That the order of rotation may be determined by magnetic forces is not improbable,—since it appears that mobile bodies in active progress are readily affected by terrestrial magnetic forces.

Several other curious natural phenomena are noticed in this work,—as the *Rollers* of St. Helena and Ascension. The same phenomenon occurs at Tahiti,—and is thus described by Mr. Williams.—

"Mostly once, and frequently twice a year, a very heavy sea rolls over the reef, and bursts with great violence on the shore; but the most remarkable feature in the periodical high sea, is, that it invariably comes from the west, or south-west, which is the opposite direction to that from which the trade-wind blows. The eastern sides of these islands are, I believe, uninjured by these inundations."

Effects similar to these have been frequently observed on our own shores. For some years they have been very accurately noted by Mr. Edmonds, of Penzance,—and they have several times presented many striking features. A

sudden return of the tide, and then as sudden a recession, repeated two or three times within a short period, has even been noticed in the Thames.

The *Ripplings*, in the Straits of Malacca, are no less curious.—

"In the entrance of Malacca Straits, near the Nicobar and Acher islands, and betwixt them and Junkseylon, there are often very strong ripplings, particularly in the south-west monsoon; these are alarming to persons unacquainted with them, for the broken water makes a great noise when a ship is passing through the ripplings in the night. In most places, ripplings are thought to be produced by strong currents, but here they are frequently seen when there is no perceptible current. Although there is no perceptible current experienced, so as to produce an error in the course and distance sailed, yet the surface of the water is impelled forward by some undiscovered cause. The ripplings are seen in calm weather, approaching from a distance, and in the night their noise is heard a considerable time before they come near; they beat against the sides of a ship with great violence, and pass on, the spray sometimes coming on deck; and a small boat could not always resist the turbulence of these remarkable ripplings."

No attempt is made to explain these remarkable phenomena; but attention is strongly solicited towards them, in the hope that by accumulating facts the true causes may be eventually elicited.

*Philip of France and Marie de Méranie: a Tragedy, in Five Acts.* By J. Westland Marston. Mitchell.

We have already, in our notice of this performance as an acting play [*ante*, p. 1170], given our readers sufficient insight into the motive of its action and the interest which attaches to its characters. The latter centres almost entirely in the persons of Philip Augustus and of the lady whom historians have called sometimes Agnes and sometimes Marie de Méranie:—for the character of Ingerburge—whom in another view of the materials at his command Mr. Marston might have made his heroine, had he so willed (that is, he might have written a *different* play on the same subject),—is here introduced as little more than a point on which the real action turns. Our readers need not be told that history, even where it is intended to be closely followed, yields various readings to the various students by whom it is perused; and Mr. Marston, who has had no intention in this case to bind himself by the strict letter, was at liberty to choose amongst such readings or to make interpolations of his own. The play before us is not an historical play,—but a play founded on history. Meeting in history with a set of incidents which enabled him to work out conspicuously a moral of his own, the author adopted them with such alterations as fitted them to his especial purpose. In some respects he has followed the historical discrepancies of Mr. James, the novelist,—in others, he has added variations of his own. He has strained the events to yield him the express moral which he wanted,—and which he found in them; he might have extracted other morals from the same events had he been in search of these instead. Another dramatist might have taken for his theme the wrongs of Queen Ingerburge:—Mr. Marston has chosen the loves of Philip Augustus and Marie de Méranie.

The purpose that the author has had in view is principally wrought out in the character of Philip Augustus. In a dramatic sense, as we have already said, this is the most masterly picture that has come from Mr. Marston's hand. We do not mean to say—and this, we think, is another proof of dramatic power—that the in-



terest is not fairly divided between Philip and Marie:—nay, our sympathies, which ever follow the latter, carry the preponderance of interest in that direction, and effect a compensation for the fact that the main-spring of action is the moveable character of the King. The beautiful truth of Marie's mind is a test for all the dross that is in that of Philip. The bold yet fickle, generous yet selfish, politic yet rash, temper of the King embroiders the morals of the tale over the pure and unmixed gold of the heroine's character. The fortunes of the piece veer about with the fluctuating qualities of the monarch,—and the steady faith of her whom he loves is there to measure all the aberrations of these from the true point, and to register all their failures. The catastrophe is due to Philip alone:—but its real characters are read in the strong light of Marie's love and truth.

The following scene gives us our first introduction to the secret of Marie's heart.—

Anne (advancing to her). Sweet Mistress! I am glad to see you forth.

Within your chamber's gloomy bound immured, Had breeze and sunlight perished, you, perchance, Had been content.

Marie. Content takes many shapes, As beauty doth; and both were with me, Anne, In that poor chamber.

Anne. Beauty there! The lattice Fronts a dark wing of stone! You must have seen With more than mortal eyes.

Marie. I did.

Anne. Indeed!—

This mystery awes me.

Marie. Hast thou ne'er in dreams Seen fairer sights than ever day revealed?

Anne. Even so.

Marie. And when the sun's rekindled beams Awoke thee from that blissful trance of night, Seemed not his glorious face a very cloud, Contrasted with the splendours of thy sleep?

Anne. Why ask?

Marie. To show thee we may sometimes see More things, and lovelier too, than our eyes rest on.

Anne. And have you seen such?

Marie. Ay; so deeply, too, That I can see nought else, (A pause, after which, with impulse.) I'm happy, Anne!

For I may tell thee that as scenes of day Are poor to those of sleep, sleep's are excelled By the revealings of one heavenly mood, That plays 'twixt dreams and wakefulness—a mood Where hope so blesses, that we scarce desire Its consummation, and our thought becalmed Before the future lies, in doubt if all The realm beyond can match the shore that bounds it; When truth surpassing fancy, nought so fair Imagination pictures as the world We are unto ourselves; when Nature owes us More than she gives of beauty; when the sun, The stream, the mountain, from our fulness take New glory, grace and grandeur, while we pass On our free way—debtors to none but God!

Anne. Whence springs such happiness?

Marie. Thou canst not tell.

Anne. You'd chide me, did I say it sprang from love.

Marie. Whom lovest thou?—Sir Lucien

Tarries too long in Paris!

Anne. What doth he

In the great stir of cities?—Dream apart, Or to some mournful ditty touch his lute,

Ever reclining on the bank of Life, Ne'er wrestling with its flood.

Marie. His gentleness

But sheaths the strength purpose will one day draw.

Anne. Ay; one day.

Marie. Thou art ill to please. Come! Sketch me The paragon might match thee.

Anne. By my wit

I'll find out if she love.—(Aside.) Then, first, of course, I'd have him young; in nature grand but tender;

In mien like Mars, when, past the strife of Gods, Venus' soft hands remove his unled helm;

As Saturn sage; as Bacchus, brimmed with life; And bland as Mercury!

Marie. Well! aught besides?

Anne. Madams; at present, nought.

Marie. Methinks, you lay Great emphasis on youth.

Anne. He must be young.

Marie. The great are ever young!

Anne. Her knight's no stripling, then. Here's clue thee first! (Aside.)

I'd have him famed in tourney and in war; of life As lavish as of love.

Marie. Lavish of life!

The panther is so when he gnaws the javelin, The wild boar when he rushes on the spear,—

No; he who loves his being, in whose eyes The world is beautiful, who clings to life,

And then for justice, freedom—for the wronged And helpless—if need be—adventures it, Yea, loses it, contented—he's the hero!

The man's not brave who never feared to die!

Anne. You paint your idol in a martyr's robes.

Marie. And they become him better than his crown.

—In the above extract we have marked two several lines in Italics as examples of the fine aphoristic thought that is scattered throughout Mr. Marston's writings.

Mr. Marston is careful to mark by frequent utterances the finer elements that go to the ill-composed character of the prince,—and so to justify the love that in happier combination they might have nursed to blessed issues.—

Philip. Ay, wise craft!

With Kings 'tis war with Nature from their birth. Rank's golden trammels bind the infant-limbs, In a predictive bondage. Childhood's trust And impulse curb'd, a boy-prince rarely knows Boy-fellowship, nor princely youth—a friend. And when, surviving still, the sense he drew From Heaven, of beauty—doth expand to love Of some bright form of goodness; when he yearns In honour of the worshipp'd one to rear That stateliest column, a great life! when most He feels his Nature's grandeur, strength, and joy, A courtly custom intercepts his path To the bright goal—Love was not made for Kings!

Guerin. Great ones must crush their hearts to pave their power.

Philip. 'Tis false: the crushed heart's powerless. Stiffening that,

We stifle ardour, hope, and enterprise; And what God meant for man dwells to a form, A feeble puppet with a golden rim, That dozes life away and dies unmissed!

Again.—

Philip. I was not born for this. I lived to make My people great, my reign august,—to pile My monument on triumph till it towered To beacon Time with glory!—Now to shrink Into the thrall of monks, and to infect With my abasement the proud blood of Kings; Who—when they crouch beneath the priestly yoke— Through their long genealogy of shame, Shall hunt its source to me!

For a better understanding of the character of Marie de Méranie, we will quote some extracts from the scene in which she first receives the news of her rival's deposition with a true-hearted woman's sympathy,—and finally yields to the passionate pleading of the King with a true-hearted woman's love.—

Sir Lucien. News, Lady Anne! The King—

Marie. The King!—Well, Sir?

Sir Lucien. Madam, 'tis said between his Majesty And his new Queen such difference hath grown As rends the solemn ties that lately bound them. 'Tis rumoured that their marriage is annulled By order of the Council; on what pretext I know not yet.

Marie. On any, friend; for power Is its own argument.—Unhappy lady! My heart bleeds for thee. (Aside.) Lucien, thou hast found

Our hall too like a prison. Forth and join

The City's pagent.

Sir Lucien. Ah, the day is lost

That sees me from your service!

Marie. Thanks!—But go.

So wilt thou serve me. 'Tis my wish. (Sir Lucien goes out.)

He's gone!

I have a partner in calamity

In this wronged Queen. I could not weep till now!

(Falling on Anne's neck.)

Anne. 'Tis strange I should be glad to see thee weep;

And yet I am.

Sir Lucien. Madam, the King craves audience.

Philip. Whose the lip

But his to ask that boon?

Marie. Your Majesty!

Wherefore?—Nay, Sir, 'tis granted. Friends, retire.

(Sir Lucien and Anne go out.)

Philip. How poor are thanks for payment. Thou wilt hear,

Perchance—Oh! dare I hope it—pity?

Marie. Both.

If you endure a grief unmerited,

I pity much; and if deserved, still more.

Philip. Severer than rebuke is this forbearance.

Goes thy heart with it?

Marie. Comprehend me, Sir.

I do not feign that you have used me well.

Or that I have not suffered. But the wrong Heaven strengthened me to bear—it bids me pardon.—

As these are parting words, believe their truth.

Philip. Speak'st thou of parting?

Marie. To my Father's land

The morrow lights me.

Philip. Sooner be it quenched!

I come to atone the madness which awhile

Shut out thine image. To the throne of France

I bear thee. There no haughty rival towers:

Her chains are rent for thee!—Why beams thine eye

With such stern comment?

Marie. King!—One woman's heart

Glows not with triumph at another's fall;

But shivers 'neath the warmest robe of love

Rent from a sister freezing in her woe,

And naked to the insult of the world!

Philip. She loves me not: our differing wills recoil.

A grant in land to compensate her dower

Will medicine all her grief. Besides, in this,

Count me the Church's echo. Can thy voice

Cancel our Prelates' judgment, or recal

Whom they have exiled? No: on me alone

Thy vengeance falls. Alas, I have deserved

Thou should'st forget or scorn me!

Marie. I forget!

I scorn, whose memory hath no other wealth

Than those blest hours which, diving in the past,

She bears me back—dear relics of Hope's wreck! (Aside.)

I scorn! No, Philip! It will make my pulse

Beat quicker in its silence, when I hear

That you are happy; and should perils come,

The faltering prayer your ear will never know,

May yet reach Heaven's,—And so we do not part

In anger. From my inmost heart I bless you!

Philip. What words are these that bless me in their sound,

And curse me in their sense? Oh, Marie, hear me!

Thy love is not alone my fortune's crown;

'Tis Nature's need! not to my branch of life

An added blossom; but the vital essence

Replenishing the root!—You changed my being!

I measured glory once by daring deeds,

Extended empire and prostrate foes.

You taught me, first, to think Deliverer

A holier name than Victor—That the rod

Of terror rules but shrinking clay, while love

Sits throned in living hearts! I thought of thee,

And from the captive dropped his chain—of thee,

And pardoned, rose the traitor at my feet—

Of thee—and bade the tyrant-stricken serf

Look up, and greet a Father in his King!

Oh, Saint of Mercy, I have built these shrines

By happy hearths through France! It is thy life

That thrills in every pulse, thy soul that floods

Each artery of my own! Each thought of good

Is but thyself reflected! Spurn not, crush not,

That which thou did'st create! (Sinking on his knee.)

Marie. My feet are fixed.

I would depart, but cannot. (Aside.)

Philip (rising). Listen, heed!

Thou seest me contrite,—pardon!—weak,—sustain;

Erring,—direct me! Snatch me from the toils

Of selfish brains, the chill of frigid hearts,

The infected air that stifles and corrupts

The soul that pants to live.—Unpitiful still,

Still silent! Then farewell; but when the years

Of woe unshared, of struggles with the base

Who taint even what resists them, aims unguided,

Have frozen impulse into apathy,

Mercy to rigour; when the man whom once

You might have raised, bless'd, saved—becomes—Well,

well,

What'er I may become, think what I was,

And what I might have been, had Marie loved me!

Of the striking scene of which we spoke last

week, wherein the passions of the church, of

the nobles, and of the King are all in stormy

conflict, while the bell of interdict keeps dreadful

accompaniment with its burthen of unutterable

woe, we cannot by extract give an adequate

idea. A passage or two may indicate the pas-

ionate elements of which it is composed.—

Philip. I know that peril threatens.

Bishop of Paris. It may strike.

Sire, while we plot to slay it. Let the knell

Of Rome's dread wrath but sound, and France is lost!

Her guardian saints desert her; in her streets

A curse alights on labour; in her plains

Withers her harvest; warps her policy;

In war makes her sword edgeless, and her shield

'Gainst the first lance to break; chokes in her fanes

The very breath of prayer; unto her dying

Denies the rites and solace of the Church,

And burial to her dead! Sweet Providence—

When daily sent by Heaven to bless the world—

Shall make her pilgrimage circuitous

Rather than cross this kingdom! Wrath divine,

Like doom, hangs o'er the realm, upon whose brow

Earth shall writa infamy, and God—despair!

Archbishop of Rheims. My Liege, the Pope—

Philip. The Pope, my Lords! Four letters!—things, not

names!

The Pope! Did earth receive him from the stars;

Or sprang he from the ocean? Did the sun

Wake earlier on his birth-day?—Will eclipse

Turn the skies sable at his death? He came

Into this world by nature's common road,

Needs food to succour life, is child'd by cold,

Relaxed by heat, would drown in a rough sea

Soon as a serf would!—Let him ban the fields,—

The grass will grow in spite of him!

Enter Marie, followed by her Ladies.

Marie. Philip, My Lord! What mean those frightful

sounds?

Like echoes of pale death's advancing tread,

They drove me to thine arms, and I am safe.

(She rushes to the steps of the throne; at a sign from

Philip, she takes her place at his side.)

But thou!—Speak! Has my love provoked the curse?

The lone tree that would yield thee grateful shade

Attracts the lightnings now!—Is it so?

Bishop. Ay;

For thee he stands accursed.

(A pause; the bells are again heard.)

Philip. Peal on! We hear,—

Mark me, ye mitred oath breakers! But raise



One finger; move one step; or breathe one word  
In furtherance of this curse—and ye shall beg  
For leave to beg. Of rank, revenue, power,  
We dispossess ye, cast ye forth from France,  
Wherein if found against command, ye die!  
Nobles, ring round the throne!

*Bishop.* Back from that chair!

*Marie.* Philip!

*Philip.* On your allegiance!

*Bishop.* To the Church!

*Philip.* Mayenne!

I flung thee knighthood's spurs ere well thy neck  
Had lost the page's pliant curve. Dumont!  
I knew thee when thy arms and steed composed  
Thy sum of fortune. George Menjour! we fought  
Abreast at Palestine.

*Enter Guerin.*

*Guerin.* My Liege, all Paris

Shrieks wildly at your gates!

*Bishop (to the Nobles).* Hear, gallant sons!

On your souls' love, break up that fatal ring.

*(They fall back from the Throne.)*

*Guerin.* Be warned, my Liege.

*Bishop.* Learn wisdom from his lips.

Know haughtier crests than thine have crouched to Rome.

*Guerin.* Sire, patience for the time!—But for the time.

*Philip.* Shrink into silence 'neath my giant scorn!

Deem ye my sires, whose tombs were glory's shrines,

Have left their sceptre to a bastard hand,

That I should crouch?—Speak! plains of Asia, speak!

That saw me singly cleave through paynim hordes,

As I had wrung death's truncheon from his gripe!

Speak for me, rescued bondsmen! speak for me,

Fierce vassals who have knelt to take my yoke,

You, you, and you!—No, perjured priests! had Fate

Lent her polluted lightnings to your hands,

Even as ye boast, I'd bid ye rain your fires

On an unshrinking front, that earth might cry—

He was consumed; but not subdued. He perished

Upon his father's throne; their stainless crown

Circling his brows in death! He died—a king! *(Rising.)*

Way there! Sweep back this tide of yeasty froth,

That where we pass no spray profane our robes—

Way there, I say—THE QUEEN OF FRANCE would pass!

Our readers know what follows. The interdict falls. The King restores Ingerburge:—and from the agony of crushed love, turns like a tiger on his foes. The fifth act, as we have said, shows him victor every way:—and there is great art in the manner in which Mr. Marston has swelled the song of his self-exultation at the very moment when the skeleton is about to sit down at the banquet of his triumph. All the fiery elements of his nature are up and rioting while the handwriting that is to record their vanity is coming out along the wall. The monarch's soul is smitten in full flight.—It is, as it were, amid the very trumpets that the toll of the passing bell falls.—

*Enter Philip, preceded by soldiers, with banners, nobles, &c. Martial music from the troops without.*

*Philip (at the entrance of the tent).*

Again! *(Triumphant music and acclamations.)*

And yet again! *(The same sounds renewed.)* This swelling strain

Salutes ye, Flanders, Austria, England.—Dumb!

methinks the notes were loud enough, or else

Your sleep is sound,—too deep for wholesome rest.

Oh, this is victory, Guerin! *(Advancing to the front.)*

*Guerin.* He who rules

The fate of kings hath blessed you.

*Philip.* The brave heart

Makes its own fate! What would'st thou grudge this arm

The glory of this day!—As seas depart

Before the lusty swimmer, as the air

Yields to the strong bird's pinion when he soars

Into the cope and braves the skies with song,—

They fled before me! With each stroke I mowed

A separate host for death! My steps were graves!

Kings are my captives, home revellers quelled;

Fontaine, the traitor, measures the red plain

Whereon I stretched him,—Well, prate on, prate on!

*Guerin.* I cast a shield over a vanquished foe

When I recall the lady Marie's name,

For she was ever pitying.

*Philip.* In vain.

I've won her by the sword and so will guard her.

Report again these glorious news from Rome;

The wars' dread thunder clamoured in mine ear

And shut out half thy tidings.

*Guerin.* Ingerburge,

Your Queen, thereto persuaded by the Pope,

Hath to the shelter of religious walls

From worldly strife retired, to these resigned

Her royal throne and bed, and seeks divorce:

Rome thus would win back thine offended power

Whose aid she needs to curb rebellious John.

*Philip.* And Rome hath learned to need!—Be space thine echo,

That Marie's ear may drink these sounds and learn

That Rome is Philip's minion!

Our readers know the rest:—and the King in this moment of self-conviction himself points Mr. Marston's leading moral.—

*Philip.* Had the Heavens no bolt

In all their armoury but this?

*Guerin.* Bethink you—

*Philip.* Perdition on all counsel! What are Wisdom,

Endurance, valour, against destiny?

For her I bore, schemed, fought—breasted alone

The foaming tide of war and dashed to land!—

I earned her,—won her,—when that trickster, fate

Whom I had thrown in conflict—skulks behind,

And from a coward ambush aims the shaft

Whose venom poisons hope!

*Guerin.* Are you a king?

*Philip.* A king!—Ay, that's the name

For which I bartered love, stabbed the fond faith

Which had its world in mine, which would have raised me

To its diviner nature, and unlocked

The frozen fountain of my inward joy!—

Yes, by this glory shining on the tomb,

This banquet of renown that palls the taste,

This wealth upon the desert where I famish—

I am that empty sound; I am a king!

*Guerin.* Find medicine for the sorrows of this day

In thinking of its triumph.

*Philip.* Hence!—Ye heavens!

Abase me if ye will; pluck from me pomp,

Scorch my green laurels with your jealous fires,

Drain on my abject and disrowned head

Your vials of derision, want, oblivion!—

But spare her, spare her,—she is like yourselves!

We think after these passages we need not repeat what we affirmed last week,—that in all the highest qualities of constructive drama this fine play carries Mr. Marston far in advance of his former position.

*The Studies of the Medical Man: being the Introductory Address delivered at the Theatre of Anatomy and Medicine adjoining St. George's Hospital, at the Opening of the Session, 1850-51.* By E. Lankester, M.D.

THIS lecture, we are told by Dr. Lankester, in his preface, was written "*currente calamo*" for the occasion on which it was delivered," and is now reprinted for private circulation only. The latter circumstance is to be regretted on professional grounds; as, brief though it be, it contains a body of most excellent practical counsel to the young student of medicine. The method of study—the sciences to be consulted and compared—the subjects to be observed—the sources of errors to be avoided—the precautions to be taken in reasoning from testimony and experience—are all clearly and intelligibly adverted to by the lecturer, and in terms so little technical as to be quite free from ambiguity. In the short space which Dr. Lankester had at his disposal, none of the particulars of study and of moral condition which go to the composition of the accomplished physician are left untouched,—and all the prevailing forms of mere empiricism are brought to the light of the sound and philosophical principles which condemn them.

We may allude more particularly—as a subject on which we have often had to treat—to Dr. Lankester's remarks on that general form of error which translates ordinary coincidence into cause and effect,—or, to speak in the language of philosophy, confounds common connexion with necessary sequence. These are well conceived and to the point. The lecturer's vivid characterization of Hahnemann's method of reasoning will, no doubt, draw down on him the reprehensions of that theorist's disciples; and his refusal to admit the tests of mere experiment as conclusive, will, of course, be appealed to as evidence of a weak argument by those who do not, or cannot, comprehend the proper logic of science. Occasional cures in such cases, as Dr. Lankester says, go for nothing. Disease, as is well known, often cures itself. In dealing with this topic, theorists of all kinds are apt to throw entirely out of their calculations the *vis medicatrix Nature*,—the power residing in Nature to right herself; though, as Dr. Lankester observes, it is this fact that constitutes the security of mankind amidst the false systems by which we are surrounded, and the quackeries and impostures to which the weak and the ill-informed so readily submit. Homœopathy and mesmerism are the nearest approaches to the *laissez-faire* in

medicine that can be conceived; and if the prophets of these mysticisms would only go a step further in that direction, they would find that Nature could perform her own cures without the globules and without the mesmeric passes. The trick in each case is a mere redundancy. It does no harm—except so far as the morals of medical practice are concerned, and except so far as reliance on it may stand in the way of active remedies when active remedies are imperatively demanded,—and no good. Whatever of real and useful appears to exist by the side of these modern quackeries is traceable—as was elaborately shown by Mr. Noble in his "*Mesmerism: True or False?*"—to the action of natural forces, unconnected with the mysteries of mesmerism, odylism, homœopathy, and so forth. Whatever is challenged for these agencies that cannot be so accounted for, will not bear the simplest tests of chemical logic. Some of our readers may know practically, and most will understand theoretically, that four bottles of port wine will produce certain derangements of the physical system,—derangements which nature will remove in her own way by time and sleep. Would any of them think of prescribing a "taste" more, in the expectation that the last globule administered would neutralize all the foregoing potations?—Or, would the well-informed disciple of Hahnemann who should have accidentally swallowed a dose of hydrocyanic acid, rush to his case of globules and throw into his stomach another infinitesimal portion of the same poison? We dare say we shall be told that these are unfair expositions of the homœopathic doctrine;—but we hold that they are legitimate inferences from the theory as expressed in its phylactery—*similia similibus curantur*.—In a word, Dr. Lankester may save his medical hearers much future trouble by thus early and earnestly guarding them against the seductive novelties of modern empiricism.

*The Defenceless State of Great Britain.* By Sir Francis Head, Bart.

[Second Notice.]

WE are quite sensible that in our former notice of this volume we did no more than present a very general sketch of the imposing and gloomy picture which Sir Francis Head has undertaken to re-embazon and describe. It was every way undesirable that we should do more. Sir Francis has so effectually fanned himself into the excitement of an agitator on this topic, that to repeat his reasons and adopt his results would be simply to aid the propagation of a foolish and flagrant error. Still, we must carefully separate the real interest from the absurd exaggerations of his volume. Sir Francis Head will see and hear of nothing but "150,000 Frenchmen" quartered in London, and endeavouring to extract by a rigid application of martial law some sort of retribution for the long list of British victories over France,—beginning, we imagine, with Agincourt, and ending with the diplomatic mortifications of M. Thiers on the Eastern Question of 1840. Most people in a less excited state than this writer will be apt to regard the 150,000 men as a pure invention, extemporized to serve the occasion; and however willing they may be to consider the real merits of the question carefully, they will scarcely trouble themselves to dispose of a hypothesis so indifferently constructed that it falls to pieces of its own accord.

Thus far we have treated only of the danger; and we repeat, that, reducing the question as completely as possible within a reasonable and sober compass, it is needless to deny that danger may exist,—or at least to refuse absolutely to argue the question with those who think so as if it did, and to pay some attention to the remedy.



Sir Francis Head is far less dogmatical as a preserver than as a destroyer. In the latter character he meets with no difficulties; and his dashing style and lively fancy carry him with plausibility, if not with success, over obstacles of all dimensions.—His theory of defence is almost entirely a repetition of the suggestions put forward by the Duke of Wellington in a semi-official form in 1847. At that time the Duke declared it to be his settled opinion, that not less than 150,000 well-trained militia will suffice for the effectual protection of this country. "These," he added, "with an augmentation of the force of the regular army which would not cost 400,000*l.*, would put the country on its legs in respect to personal force, and I would engage for its defence, old as I am." Further reflection, however, somewhat modified the confidence of this opinion, and he hastened to add:—"I shall be deemed foolhardy perhaps in engaging for the defence of the empire with an army composed of such a force of militia. I may be so!—I confess it! I should infinitely prefer, and should feel more confidence in, an army of regular troops; but I know that I shall not have these,—I may have the others. This is my view of our danger and our resource."

An army of 150,000 well-trained British militia, fighting on their own soil for the defence of their own homes and institutions, would perhaps be the most efficient military force for certain kinds of service that has been raised in modern times; and the very circumstances which would render such an army formidable to an invading enemy, are precisely those which go a long way to remove the fears which Sir Francis Head employs the choicest arts of his vivacity and his statistics to excite. It is quite impossible to foresee or to appreciate the destructive effects that would be produced on the "150,000 Frenchmen" of the hypothesis by the intense hatred and the constant opposition which they would encounter from every rank, sex, and age of the population among which they moved. Every straggler would be cut off, every hedge-row would offer a shelter for marksmen. Provisions would be withheld, horses and cattle would be rendered useless, and the French general would be unable to move even a messenger without an escort. A guerilla warfare of this intensity and character would produce prodigious effects under any circumstances; and Sir Francis Head ought to have taken some pains to place an estimate of these effects before his readers. If we could suppose, however, the male population of the country to have passed through those difficult stages of military training which convert the recruit into a soldier, by teaching him the habit of obedience and the art of acting in perfect concert with his left and his right hand men, there can be no doubt that an army would have been formed for all purposes of national defence of the most efficient character. The militia is an ancient and constitutional force; and the Duke was probably right in supposing that less objection would be made to its embodiment than to the creation of any other kind of extra military organization.

So long as the necessity for maintaining armies of any description continues, a militia for all defensive purposes is probably less objectionable than most. The requirements of that service enlist the sentiments and the aid of the great body of the people actively on the side of their country; and the habits of discipline and the facility in the use of arms obtained by the male population in the ranks of the militia relieve the nation from the danger and also from the disgrace of being entirely dependent for defence on the hired services of professional troops.

But there are other measures, quite within

our reach, by which the same principle of a militia armament might be extended considerably beyond the legal conscription for that force. We have already Voluntary corps of yeomanry cavalry; and in London we have an Artillery Company, maintained also by voluntary enlistment. Why might not the principle of these corps be extended to other similar bodies? In answer to a suitable appeal from the proper quarter there is scarcely a town of 20,000 inhabitants in the whole country which would not furnish a volunteer corps both of cavalry and of infantry. An organization, however, so general would exceed the occasion. We are not called on, as in 1803, to prepare against an enemy actually within sight of Dover Castle; and a scheme of defence which should do more than simply meet the exigencies of the occasion would only hasten the quarrel that we seek to avert.

It would answer our purpose if we could establish armed volunteer associations in the more populous and exposed districts of the country. For example: it is clearly more important that the male population of Hampshire should be trained to arms than the male population of Cumberland,—that London should be in no mean sense defended by its own trained bands than Newcastle or Durham; and generally, it is plain that any organization of the kind which we suggest should be confined almost exclusively to counties, towns, and circles which fall within one of two categories,—first, such as are directly open to foreign attack,—secondly, such as under any circumstances require the presence within them of a large military force for the mere preservation of order. Under the first category should be placed the whole of the counties of Middlesex, Kent, Sussex, Hampshire, Surrey, and Berks,—with perhaps one or two others to the west and north of this group. Under the second category should be included all the great seats of our manufacturing industry,—Lancashire, Cheshire, the West Riding, Staffordshire, and Warwickshire. There seems to be every good reason why the male population of these districts should receive a military organization more careful and complete than the male population of other parts of the kingdom. In the south of the island, such a military force would be at once available for duties more or less arduous in the event of an attack. In the more remote districts, the volunteer and militia corps would enable a general to concentrate the whole of the regular troops on any given point,—leaving with confidence the occupation of the country and the positions relinquished by these in the hands of the local military force. A militia organization might form the basis of such levies as are here contemplated; but we apprehend that any measure devoted to objects of effective national defence would be exceedingly imperfect which should restrict itself merely to a pure militia force, as at present provided by the law. It is certain that a militia now raised would be composed to a great extent of the humbler classes, by the extensive importation into it of "substitute men" provided by persons actively engaged in the professions or in trade. Against this practice there could be no practical safeguard, even if a rigid personal conscription were desirable,—which it is not. But there does not seem to be any great difficulty in so combining the militia and the volunteer principles as to obtain in effect the actual military services of the picked men of all classes. Frequent offers have been made to Government on the part of the middle classes of London to raise volunteer corps of infantry and cavalry; but hitherto the applications have been declined. There can be little doubt that in response to a proper appeal the metropolitan counties would

furnish a very respectable force of horse and foot, composed of men who for the sake of the service would undertake to furnish some considerable part of their own equipment:—and the same readiness would be found at Manchester, Liverpool, and other large industrial towns. It would, of course, be an essential condition in the formation of all such volunteer corps, that the appointment of the officers and the nature of the discipline should be such as to place them effectually and absolutely, in their military capacity, at the service of the Crown.—It may be said that ten or fifteen days' training in the year would do little to impart to such levies a high state of efficiency. Compared with the troops of the line, perhaps not:—we add, nor is it desirable that it should. We would not have the country transformed into a camp; but it would be better on every public ground, and more in accordance with the spirit of our institutions, that the defence of the country from external enemies should be in the hands of citizen soldiers than that it should be provided for by the maintenance of a large standing army.

In addition to these large and general measures, much may be done in the same direction by judicious reforms in our existing military and naval systems of administration:—by still further placing under the control of really responsible persons the civil management of the army and the fleet,—by taking greater care that the men whom we intrust with commissions have acquired at all events some general idea of the nature and duties of the profession which they undertake,—by introducing certain changes into the military districts and the position of the military depôts of the country,—by keeping up, and from time to time improving, the defences of the coast,—and by rendering the service of the ranks better worth the acceptance of the respectable and intelligent part of the poorer classes. It is incumbent on us to remember that in defiance of the warnings of professional men of the highest competence, we continue to separate the administration of the Ordnance from that of the Army,—and that in none of our public departments, perhaps, is there so much room for internal reform as in that which is intrusted with the care of the artillery service. A greater and more costly error of the same kind is perpetuated by the retention at the head of the Admiralty of a set of public servants partly civil and partly naval, who are removed with every change of Ministry. The patronage of the Admiralty under one form or another will always follow the vicissitudes of politics; but that is no reason why the internal economy of the fleet—a thing very different from the patronage which it affords—should be exposed to the same prejudicial uncertainty.—The recent order of the Duke of Wellington with reference to the examination on general topics of cadets who present themselves as applicants for commissions in the line, and for examination on professional points of all subaltern officers on their promotion to a higher rank, will do something towards removing one of the great evils from which our military service has hitherto suffered. A British officer has rarely failed to acquit himself as a gentleman, especially in those emergencies which it is the business of his profession to encounter and overcome—but success has frequently been obtained by an expenditure of means far exceeding that which skill combined with equal courage would have rendered sufficient for the same results.—A great deal has also been done

† It has been stated on respectable authority that one of the immediate reasons which hurried the publication of the late order was, the arrival of a letter at the Horse Guards, from a fashionable captain, addressed to "Field-Marshal the Duke of Wellington." The Duke was so disgusted, that



since 1840 in rendering the position of the private soldier more dignified and comfortable. We have shortened the term of enlistment,—partially improved the pay,—and taken some small means to amend the health and decency of barrack-room life. We have also made a beginning in the applications of common sense to the arms, accoutrements and clothing of the men. The first thing to be done with a soldier is, to teach him the use of all his limbs and faculties,—and to take care that he has full scope for attending to his preceptor. Many of our regiments—especially cavalry regiments—are placed on parade as if the chief object of military discipline were to render men as helpless and hideous as possible. We put caps on their heads which produce epilepsy by their weight and blindness from their total destitution of all protection for the eyes against the sun. We impose knapsacks on the shoulders which produce greater exhaustion by their conformation and bandages than by the weight of the articles that they inclose. In many instances we compel the employment of arms of greater clumsiness than is at all necessary. All these defects require reform. If we have an army at all, we ought to have it in the most perfect state; and we must always remember that, where rigid uniformity in all things is enforced, the failure or the success of a military force is very often determined by details thus multiplied which in themselves and under other circumstances would be merely contemptible.

We have now pursued this subject as far as our limits and the general character of our pages will permit. We have preferred rather to lay before our readers what seems to be a sober and practical view of the question, than to confuse them by extracting from Sir Francis Head's volume details and descriptions which, though generally given with the liveliness and vigour for which he is remarkable, have been so often rendered the vehicles of exaggeration that they had better be left undisturbed in the midst of their curious context. We will confine ourselves to two extracts, which relate to points of importance on which Sir Francis can really assist us.

We will quote, in the first instance, a passage copied by Sir Francis Head from a recent number of the *Allgemeine Zeitung*, as indicating the full knowledge possessed by other countries of the alleged present defenceless state of these islands.—

"It is known to all the world, and particularly to those foreign Governments which perhaps hope to profit by the circumstance, that England is protected neither by a standing army nor by a popular militia force. Innumerable sacrifices, especially as regards the military force of the nation, have been made to the spirit of saving, since the peace of 1815 has tied the hands of every English administration. Throughout the whole of Scotland and England it would hardly be possible to collect 10,000 men; the garrison troops of Ireland are, it is true, more numerous, but entirely absorbed by the necessities of that distracted country. The people of England are of all European nations the most unused to bearing arms and the most averse to military service; and it is therefore necessary with the English to subject them to the longest course of training in order to make soldiers of them. One consequence of this state of things is, an essential decline of British influence abroad,—as the military power of the country forms a ridiculous contrast to the tone which Lord Palmer-

ston loves to assume in diplomatic negotiations; and, secondly, a real danger of invasion from the side of France, to which the country can no longer look with indifference. A few hundred fishing-boats, towed across the Channel by steamers in the course of a calm and cloudy night, might easily transport a considerable French force to the shores of Albion."

Sir Francis Head dedicates his work "To that half of our community whom it is our happiness to regard, our duty to defend, and who under the blessing of an Almighty Power has as yet only read of war:"—and one of his most striking chapters is occupied by a general outline of the distressing consequences to the female population of a country produced by the intrusion of a hostile army. We cannot pretend to follow him through this portion of his treatise: but we by no means undervalue his warnings,—and on the whole his descriptions are not over-charged. There is little doubt that one of the causes of that difference which exists between the tone of private society in this country and on the Continent is, the total exemption of the former for so many generations from the moral havoc inseparable from the presence of hostile troops, the successes and reverses of a campaign, from the pillage of towns, and the licence of an incensed and omnipotent soldiery. There is nothing in the following passage which cannot be fully substantiated.

"Again, when armies are contending against each other in the field, it is the rude maxim of war to show neither consideration nor respect for the females of their enemies, who, accordingly,—especially in a retreat, when men are smarting under defeat—usually suffer treatment which, if described, would to those born and fostered under the blessings of peace appear utterly incredible. In the hostile invasion of a country where no resistance is offered, it is often difficult on the march to prevail upon soldiers to perceive this important distinction; and at all events, wherever resistance, however trifling, is offered, it usually becomes impossible. In the peaceful occupation of an enemy's country, the authority of the Commander-in-Chief, and the sense of justice of the army, are usually sufficient to induce the troops to consider the population of the invaded country as occupying the neutral ground we have described, and consequently as entitled to consideration. Nevertheless, whenever the avowed object of the invading army is revenge as well as victory,—when the earnest desire in the heart of every man composing it is to insult as well as to subject,—the slightest combination for resistance,—nay, even a trifling street quarrel—is considered, *pro tanto*, as a declaration of war, and dealt with accordingly. In short, wherever the lives—and, what is of more importance, the honour—of the inhabitants of a country or of a great city have, in point of fact, no protection but that which a revengeful enemy shall deign to afford,—no tribunal to appeal to but a court-martial of its officers, whose maxim is that the law and practice of war declare 'malheur aux vaincus'—the consequences are usually productive of a series of wrongs, to the weaker sex, great and small, of such complicated and variegated detail, that it would be beyond the power of all the civil courts of Europe even to listen to them. We feel confident that every officer—however high may be his rank,—and old soldier in the United Kingdom, will not only confirm the general accuracy of the foregoing statement, but will declare it to be a mere pen-and-ink sketch, divested of the colours of a reality, to which he could contribute a picture infinitely more appalling. Indeed, we ourselves have heard from French officers descriptions of the way in which they treated the wealthy citizens of \*\*\* which we have not only never repeated to any human being, but which we believe—instead of the smile with which they were detailed—would be listened to with feelings of unmitigated horror by every class of English society. Nevertheless, rude as may be the notions of propriety of the French army, especially that portion of it that has served in Algeria, it will appear from the following brief extract from the official paper of the Austrian Government in Pesth, dated Sept. 1, 1850, that in time of war the Russian troops are no great re-

specters of persons.—The 9th, at dawn, the regular pillage began. The signal was given with trumpets; the plunder was granted to every regiment by turns. After a regiment had plundered, it was recalled and relieved by another. The Russians not only plundered, but flogged the citizens indiscriminately. The later plundering regiments tore the boots from the feet of the inhabitants, stripped them of their clothes, leaving them scarcely a shirt. The last band, furious at finding no more valuables, committed the most atrocious cruelties; they demanded money, and as the inhabitants had no more to give, they were tortured. The officers plundered with the privates. The last regiments came armed with bars and perches, and destroyed everything which could not be carried away. Not a chair, not a table, not a door remained unbroken; they cut the feather-beds and flung away the feathers; they carried away in waggons the contents of the premises; they bounced open the cellars, drank as much as they could, and when they could drink no more they broke the barrels that the wine might run out. In their intoxication they committed such beastly excesses that even the Russian officers, unable to restrain them, lamented the misfortune of the citizens. There is no pen to describe the dreadful fate of the women; no age was spared by the intoxicated ruffians. The plundering lasted the whole day; the town was during this time always surrounded by the Russian army, no issue granted to any one."

A few pages further on, Sir Francis Head continues thus:—

"If the people of Great Britain were, as from their wealth and industry they ought to be properly protected, there is scarcely any insult that the nation might not before the world with calm dignity prefer to submit to, rather than inflict upon humanity the horrors of war. They would then, indeed, be powerful; and their forbearance would be a practical lecture on peace, respected and admired by every nation on the globe."

We have now done with Sir Francis Head and his volume. Like everything proceeding from the same hand, the book is clever and entertaining. We do not doubt the good intentions of its author; nor permit ourselves to think that in assuming the tone and the antics of an agitator he has had any object at heart except the interests of his country and the preservation of its honour. Sir Francis Head is far too rash and reckless a writer to be open to any charge of sinister intentions. He will be laughed at by some among us as the dupe of a monomania,—he will be considered a bore by others:—while to a large class of persons he will appear to have done more good than harm even by the publication of a book so full of exaggerations that it is difficult to say whether it should be classed with our serious or with our imaginative literature.

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#### TAXES ON INVENTION.

THE Attorney-General has just taken a step after which earnest Patent reformers have been in vain striving for the last twenty years. It was an abuse that when an inventor prayed the Queen to grant him letters patent for his invention, the law permitted him to make his prayer in the vaguest terms; and that he was not required to specify in detail what his invention really was for six months after the issue of the letters patent, unless opposition were raised to his petition. It was for the interest of petitioners to make the titles of their inventions as vague as possible, in order that they might be able to include the utmost possible in their subsequent specifications. Patent agents have been known to petition with vague titles solely in the view of pirating the ideas of others, and threatening to include such piracies in their specifications,—thus alarming helpless inventors into a compromise. As the law stood before the Attorney-General's new rule, a knavish patent agent would have been able to initiate letters patent for "improving the steam-engine,"—and if his application had been unopposed, to wait in ambush until the Great Exhibition of 1851 should open. Then, he might have wandered through the Mechanical Section, pencil and memorandum book in hand,—have filched all the ideas from the original inventors, and have included them in his specification. In fact, the poor inventor who was unable to take out letters patent and pay all the fees to Hanaper, Privy Seal, and Deputy Chaff-Wax, might actually have been robbed by law of the produce of his genius and his labour. Such inventors have suffered this monstrous injustice for years, and could get no redress.—Thanks to the influence of the coming Exhibition and the measure of Sir John Romilly, they cannot now be thus legally pillaged. The new order was made on the 2nd of November;—just in time to guard against what might otherwise have happened on the opening of the Exhibition.

But although dishonest patent agents are thus disabled from picking and stealing, it yet remains for the law effectually to protect the poor inventor's rights—for rights, at present, he has none without payment of fees. What these fees are has been well described in the *Household Words*.—

Thomas Joy delivered (from a book he had) that the first step to be took, in patenting the Invention, was to prepare a petition unto Queen Victoria. William Butcher had delivered similar, and drawn it up. Note, William is a ready writer. A declaration before a Master in Chancery was to be added to it. That, we likewise drew up. After a deal of trouble I found out a Master in Southampton Buildings, Chancery Lane, high Temple Bar, where I made the declaration, and paid eighteen-pence. I was told to take the declaration and petition to the Home Office, in Whitehall, where I left it to be signed by the Home Secretary, (after I had found the office out), and where I paid two pound, two, and sixpence. In six days he signed it, and I was told to take it to the Attorney-General's chambers, and leave it there for a report. I did so, and paid four pound, four. Note. Nobody, all through, ever thankful for their money, but all unweil.

My lodging at Thomas Joy's was now hired for another week, whereof five days were gone. The Attorney-General made what they called a Report-of-course (my invention being, as William Butcher had delivered before starting, unopposed) and I was sent back with it to the Home Office. They made a Copy of it, which was called a Warrant. For this warrant, I paid seven pound, thirteen, and six. It was sent to the Queen, to sign. The Queen sent it back, signed. The Home Secretary signed it again. The gentleman threw it at me when I called, and said, "Now take it to the Patent Office in Lincoln's Inn." I was then in my third week at Thomas Joy's, living very sparing, on account of fees. I found myself losing heart.

At the Patent Office in Lincoln's Inn, they made "a draft of the Queen's Bill," of my invention, and a "docket of the

bill." I paid five pound, ten, and six, for this. They "engrossed two copies of the bill; one for the Signet office, and one for the Privy Seal Office." I paid one pound, seven, and six, for this. Stamp-duty over and above, three pound. The Engrossing Clerk of the same office engrossed the Queen's Bill for signature. I paid him one pound, one. Stamp-duty, again, one pound, ten. I was next to take the Queen's Bill to the Attorney-General again, and get it signed again. I took it, and paid five pound more. I fetched it away, and took it to the Home Secretary again. He sent it to the Queen again. She signed it again. I paid seven pound, thirteen, and six, more, for this. I had been over a month at Thomas Joy's. I was quite worn out, patience and pocket. \* \*

But I hadn't nigh done yet. The Queen's Bill was to be took to the Signet office in Somerset House, Strand—where the stamp shop is. The clerk of the Signet made "a Signet Bill for the Lord Keeper of the Privy Seal." I paid him four pound, seven. The Clerk of the Lord Keeper of the Privy Seal made "a Privy Seal Bill for the Lord Chancellor." I paid him four pound, two. The Privy Seal Bill was handed over to the clerk of the Patents, who engrossed the aforesaid. I paid him five pound, seventeen, and eight; at the same time, I paid Stamp-duty for the Patent, in one lump, thirty pound. I next paid for "boxes for the patent," nine and sixpence. Note. Thomas Joy would have made the same, at a profit, for eighteenpence. I next paid "fees to the Deputy, the Lord Chancellor's Purse-Bearer," two pound, two. I next paid "fees to the Clerk of the Hanaper," seven pound, thirteen. I next paid "fees to the Deputy Clerk of the Hanaper," ten shillings. I next paid, to the Lord Chancellor again, one pound, eleven, and six. Last of all, I paid "fees to the Deputy Sealer and Deputy Chaff-Wax," ten shillings and sixpence. I had lodged at Thomas Joy's over six weeks, and the unopposed Patent for my invention, for England only, had cost me ninety-six pound, seven, and eightpence. If I had taken it out for the United Kingdom, it would have cost me more than three hundred pound. \* \*

Look at the Home Secretary, the Attorney-General, the Patent Office, the Engrossing Clerk, the Lord Chancellor, the Privy Seal, the Clerk of the Patents, the Lord Chancellor's Purse-Bearer, the Clerk of the Hanaper, the Deputy Clerk of the Hanaper, the Deputy Sealer, and the Deputy Chaff-Wax. No man in England could get a Patent for an India-rubber band, or an iron hoop, without feeing all of them. Some of them over and over again. I went through thirty-five stages. I began with the Queen upon the throne. I ended with the Deputy Chaff-Wax.—Note. I should like to see the Deputy Chaff-Wax. Is it a man, or what is it?

While these fees exist, as we have observed, the poor inventor cannot be said to have any patent rights. The Commissioners for the Exhibition of 1851 have invited him to exhibit his ingenuity; but the act by which he does so, is a "publication,"—and "publication" precludes the getting of a patent. The Commissioners promised him protection against piracy,—but they have proved impotent in keeping their promise: for the Act of last session which conferred a protection on merely ornamental articles, and articles of utility in respect of "form or configuration," that might be exhibited, was clipped of the protection which it afforded to inventors generally in its passage through the House of Commons. On referring to Hansard, of last session, we find that the President of the Board of Trade stated, in the Commons, that it might be expedient to introduce a clause to protect from piracy the "unpatented articles that might be exhibited." Mr. Labouchere is one of the Commissioners; and decision No. 8 of the Commissioners for the Exhibition, in the edition of July, proclaims that "arrangements will be made for the protection of articles which may be exhibited from piracy of the design and invention." This pledge was redeemed by the Bill which Lord Granville, the Vice-President of the Board of Trade, introduced into the Lords. It passed the Lords, and was sent to the Commons. But on the 12th of August, two days before the prorogation, when the House was nearly empty, another printed edition of the Bill was published, and the clause was wholly emasculated of its virtue by the cancellation of the passages which we have here indicated by small capitals.—

"I, That the Registrar of Designs, upon application by or on behalf of the proprietor of any design not previously published within the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland or elsewhere, and which may be registered under the Designs Act, 1841, or under the Designs Act, 1843, or of any NEW MANUFACTURE OR INVENTION FOR WHICH LETTERS PATENT MAY BY LAW BE GRANTED FOR THE SOLE MAKING, EXERCISING, VENDING, OR USE THEREOF, for the provisional registration of such design, under this Act, and upon being furnished with such copy, drawing, print, NAME, or description in writing or in print as in the judgment of the said Registrar shall be sufficient to identify the particular DESIGN, MANUFACTURE, OR INVENTION, in respect of which such registration AN NEXT HEREINAFTER MENTIONED is desired, and the name of the person claiming to be proprietor, together with his place of abode or business or other place of address, or the style or title of the firm under which he may be trading, shall register such Design, MANUFACTURE, OR INVENTION, FOR THE TERM OF ONE YEAR, in such manner and form as shall from time to time be prescribed or approved by the Board of Trade; and any Design, MA-

NUFACTURE, OR INVENTION, so registered shall be CALLED, deemed provisionally registered, AND THE WORDS 'PROVISIONALLY REGISTERED' SHALL BE MARKED UPON OR ATTACHED THERETO; and the registration thereof shall continue in force for the term of one year from the time of the same being registered as aforesaid; and the said Registrar shall certify, under his hand and seal of office, in such form as the said Board shall direct or approve, that the Design, MANUFACTURE, OR INVENTION, has been provisionally registered, the date of such registration, and the name of the registered proprietor, together with his place of abode or business, or other place of address."

The first business to be done when Parliament shall meet will be, to seek for justice to the inventors of the world,—to confirm the pledge of the Royal Commissioners,—and to enable the promise of the President of the Board of Trade to become a reality, and the Government to carry out its intention. Already it is clear that all parties will have the support of the country. The local press is filled with reports declaring that Manchester, Birmingham, Westminster, Edinburgh, and many other places are up and ready with their aid.

But this promised protection to exhibitors will still not cure the grievances and persecutions of the patent laws. These are doomed in the end, no doubt:—but it would be well if Government would take the whole subject boldly in hand, and make an efficient reform once for all, and that immediately. For this object the public are awakening into exertion.—The Society of Arts has formed an influential Committee to promote legislative recognition of the rights of inventors, with the Marquis of Northampton, Lord Radnor, Mr. Milner Gibson, Mr. Peto, Mr. H. T. Hope, and other influential persons as members.—Lambeth has formed a Committee of eminent engineers, with Mr. Field as chairman and Mr. Maudslay as treasurer.—There is also an Inventors' Patent Law Reform League.

Finally, we hope that the new order of Sir John Romilly, directed against the frauds of patent agents, may be taken as presage that *his* name is to be identified with a measure which shall release inventive captives out of the fetters restraining them from the due rewards that the law of patent secures to their more fortunate brethren.

#### CATALOGUES OF THE BRITISH MUSEUM.

As we said last week,—this heading is open to all suggestions and communications that have an earnest purpose and courtesy of manner to recommend them.

Whether the notice taken by a journal devoted to the interests of the literary world shall lead to any amendments in the proceedings at the British Museum, or otherwise,—its readers will be thankful for the opportunity afforded to the Trustees of becoming acquainted with defects which have for some time been regarded as the worst features of difficulty in the Reading-room.

It is true that every person may not be agreed with his neighbours as to the means of remedying the evils so justly complained of; and since the opportunity is afforded, it behoves those who think that there is one remedy better than another, to point it out rather than to allow the present system to be superseded by an evil of less flagrant character, or by another mode of distribution of titles more troublesome than that in present use. The article "Academies" at present offers many of the advantages of a classed catalogue,—and the same may be said of "Periodical Publications."

But if, in any alteration—as appears not improbable—the articles be dissected, and each work merged into the one hundred and fifty-three volumes, either under the first substantive, as "Memoirs," "Essays," "Transactions," "Instructions," &c., or under the name of the Society publishing it,—immense confusion must arise. The papers of some Societies will be divided, and their works will no longer be presented to the student uninformed of the changes of name which many Academies have undergone, and of the variations of titles of their papers. This is so obvious, especially to those who consult French scientific memoirs, that examples need not be given. Of itself, this is a strong reason for retaining the general heading "Academies";—but another, and a stronger, exists in the trouble and uncertainty consequent to readers if



every one of these titles be merged into the one hundred and fifty-three volume Catalogue,—each being inserted in its place in the alphabet by the first substantive or by the name of the Society.

It will be admitted on all hands that in consulting a catalogue, especially when so notorious as the one in question, the reader ought to have a general acquaintance with the principles on which it is compiled; and it is desirable to quote the exact words of the rules applicable to the above-mentioned articles.—

“§ 80. All acts, memoirs, transactions, minutes, &c. of academies, institutes, associations, universities, or societies, learned, scientific or literary, by whatever name known or designated, as well as works by various hands, forming a part of a series of volumes edited by any such society, to be catalogued under the general name ‘Academies’ and alphabetically entered, according to the English name of the country and town at which the sittings of the society are held in the following order. The primary division to be of the four parts of the world in alphabetical succession, Australia and Polynesia being considered as appendices to Asia; the first subdivision to be of the various empires, kingdoms or other independent governments into which any part of the world is divided, in alphabetical order; and a second subdivision of each state to follow, according to the various cities or towns, alphabetically disposed, belonging to each state, in which any society of this description meets.

“§ 81. The same rule and arrangement to be followed for ‘Periodical Publications’; which are to be catalogued under this general head,—embracing reviews, magazines, newspapers, journals, gazettes, annuals, and all works of a similar nature in whatever language and whatever denomination they may be published. The several entries under the last subdivision to be made in alphabetical order according to the first substantive occurring in the title.”

It must be clear that any one seeking ‘Memoirs of the Historical Society of Pennsylvania’ would, having once learned these rules (which are prefixed to every volume of the New Catalogue), look for ‘Academies,’ ‘America,’ ‘United States,’ ‘Pennsylvania’ :—and on that page, amongst ten others, stands the work in question. Your correspondent in this case has only himself to blame for any difficulty in finding the title,—which was in its right place according to the rules. These, if followed strictly, would render reference to ‘Academies’ tolerably easy.

But ‘Egypt’ is not independent in the sense of law 80 :—yet the Egyptian Society of Alexandria is put under that head. Are the ‘United States’ each independent? If so, the article does not fulfil the law; for the cities run in alphabetical order,—and the names of the States are placed among them :—no great harm, but confusing.

Are ‘Lombardy and Venice’ independent,—or is Ireland not governed by a viceroy? Ireland is joined with Great Britain in the Index, yet Lombardy and Venice are put together. In the midst of Sweden and Norway there appears a heading, ‘Europe—Finland’; yet Finland has been Russian since 1809. ‘Luxembourg’ is also honoured with a place to itself.—Now, all these entries seem positively opposed to the spirit of the Catalogue rules; and the cataloguers may fairly be called to account for them.

The alteration suggested in the last number of the *Athenæum*, on its face bearing a character of easy accomplishment (if the Trustees willed it), would no doubt render many advantages in the article ‘Academies.’ But in that of ‘Periodical Publications,’ whether the alphabetical order of name of language be not preferable, is with great humility urged on the present occasion for the consideration of those whom experience may have taught to decide.

The name of place has very little to do with the contents of these works,—which are usually in the language of the country whence they emanate: and if the student wishes to know what is the opinion of the French savans upon a given subject, he will first, assuredly, seek in the French language :—so of Germany, so of Italy :—and where these works are not in the current dialect of the country, they would be sought by the student under their peculiar ‘language.’

It certainly is too much to exact of the readers studying natural philosophy, engineering, or theology a knowledge of all the political arrangements of the minor states in Germany made since they left school :—and as to Luxembourg, one is disposed to challenge the correctness of the cataloguers, and to ask what manual of geography teaches that it is either an independent state or

more important than Wales or Scotland. If the attendants in the Reading-rooms, with their experience, are at fault in using the catalogue under these titles ‘Academies’ and ‘Periodical Publications,’ what is to be expected from an occasional reader? is a question which may be considered as proving the present condition of the Catalogue;—and Whether mere bibliographers are to be the readers most consulted? will define the merits of the Catalogue which shall arrange these works by name of place.

Were a division by languages adopted, ‘La Colmeda’ and ‘The Boston Literary Gazette’ would be discoverable easily,—at all events, easily in comparison with the present arrangement, where the former actually figures under ‘GREAT BRITAIN.’ But the readers of the *Athenæum* know very well that where a scientific work is quoted, or where the name of a Society’s Transactions is mentioned, the ‘name of place’ is very frequently omitted; and the reason why the bibliographer, to whom alone this arrangement by name of place is useful, should be assisted and consulted before all other classes of readers, does not appear.

There is a very strong reason for mixing the American publications with others in the English language; namely, that English works are constantly being reviewed in America, and explained, altered and improved in books bearing titles analogous to our own periodical publications of all sorts. And unless ‘Periodical Publications’ be held to mean only journals—or rather be defined in a short expression—it might seem to include, with great convenience, all these Transactions of Academies, which are chiefly annual. But this would, perhaps, be too great a concession to public convenience.

Every reader should acknowledge the polite attention with which Mr. Panizzi receives any communication,—and be thankful for what that gentleman has done for the Reading-room; but what is the use of going with complaints and suggestions to him? He is not the responsible head; Sir Henry Ellis must then be applied to,—and the secretary will answer, ‘‘It is the Trustees.’’ When the Trustees say, ‘‘Whatever is, is best,’’ to whom is complaint to be made? In Parliament, the Trustees quote Mr. Panizzi,—and silence their tormentors; but out of Parliament, it is the Board of Trustees,—and Mr. Panizzi can do nothing *proprio motu*.

In conclusion, it remains that these articles must be divided either by languages or by the name of place;—and whichever is the least expensive will have a chance of being preferred to the dearer even if it be the superior plan, unless the readers who, after all, are the parties most interested, pronounce in favour of that which they imagine will be most convenient to themselves.

#### OUR WEEKLY GOSSIP.

As the winter deepens, bringing with its chilling winds a more palpable assurance of the spring by which they will be immediately followed,—the interest felt by the public in the huge works going on in Hyde Park manifestly strengthens. Not the least marvel of the year of industrial jubilee will be the Palace of Industry itself. Day by day it is rising up with a celerity, a regularity, and a beauty that would hardly seem to belong by nature to the materials of which it is composed. The central portion of the iron frame-work is now almost completed :—a few days longer and the skeleton of the transept will be finished. The glaziers have covered in a part of the first gallery; and the pine-boards having been fitted into the iron uprights, an excellent workroom secured from the weather has been obtained for the carpenters. The wings yet remain untouched :—even the concrete foundations for them are unformed. To our eye it would appear impossible that the entire building can be finished by the 1st of January, as promised,—that is, in six weeks; but we are assured that the contractors speak with confidence on this point. If they achieve their task in the time prescribed, it will be one of the most marvellous feats in building ever performed. As to the arrangements now being made in various parts for the exhibition of

articles, the Royal Commission continues to receive most gratifying proofs of activity—especially from abroad. At home we are not yet thoroughly aroused. Our manufacturers, we have again and again said, should bear in mind that they are about to enter into a contest with the best skill of the world,—directed, with the single exception of the United States, by the power and capital of the government of each country. It is only by local combination and the most strenuous efforts of individuals that the superiority as well as independence of British industry can be fittingly maintained. Some of the industrial organizations are becoming fully alive to this fact. Perhaps there is no department of art in this country which stands so much in fear of foreign competition as jewellery; and it is natural to expect that at the giant bazaar Paris will put forth all her strength. The English artizan labours under the discouraging prestige of his French rival; and we are glad, therefore, to see that the Goldsmiths Company propose to give a hundred guineas in prizes for the best articles produced at home in gold and silver. Other companies, we hear, are about to follow the excellent example of the Goldsmiths in the interest of their respective industries. They cannot do this too early :—the time vanishes while they are thinking what should be done. Their well-prepared adversaries will be in the field fully equipped while some of our countrymen, we fear, are still dreaming of the pattern of their armour.

The failure of Government to maintain its promise to the public, that at the approaching Exhibition of the Works of Industry the unprotected inventions of the poor man should be protected against piracy, has led to the formation of a society having for its object to achieve a legal recognition of the rights of inventors to the full and fair enjoyment of the fruits of their skill and industry. It starts with the assertion of three principles :—1. That inventors, designers, &c. ought not to be liable to any other expenses than such as are absolutely necessary to secure to them the protection of their inventions.—2. That the difficulties and anomalies experienced in connexion with patents ought to be removed.—3. That the present term of copyright in design for articles of manufacture, and the protection afforded to the authors and proprietors of inventions, and of designs in arts and manufactures, are inadequate.—The committee invite the co-operation of all parties interested in a prompt and just settlement of these questions; and in the preliminary stage of their existence, are anxious to obtain information on these two points :—1st, the effect which the existing system of patents has had in suppressing, and thus depriving the public of, the knowledge and use of the inventions of those who may have been unable to bear the heavy expenses required under it; and, 2ndly, instances in which the expenses have been fruitlessly incurred.—A large body of useful and startling facts may be gathered on these points in a very short time by men who are thoroughly in earnest; and the Society may go to Parliament next session with a case that may greatly enlighten public opinion,—even if it do not provoke an immediate change, and so render improvement certain after a time.

We see it stated in the daily papers that a proposal is under consideration to tax the electric telegraph with a mileage. That this report is incorrect we will believe until we have better evidence than mere rumour for such a design. Is it possible that Government can venture thus to rob us of our scientific means,—that wherever in the progress of knowledge we make two strides forward the tax-gatherer must come rashly in to appropriate one? Dare the Chancellor of the Exchequer thus put his profane finger on the wheel of human movement? A country like England, so thickly studded with large and busy towns, is the one of all others to profit by this rapid mode of conveying intelligence :—yet the fact is unquestionable, that the general public are still to an almost incredible extent practically unfamiliar with the new and wondrous agency. The Press, the Exchange, Government, and a few great merchants are the only powers whose service it performs from day to day. This is not the case in the United States.



There, the telegraph never ceases its labours, because it has a public. The secret lies in the cost. In America the silent messenger is cheap,—in England it is preposterously dear. Let us quote two or three examples of the data on which we speak. The distance from Philadelphia to Harrisburg is 107 miles, the price of a message is 10*d*. From London to Cheltenham the distance is 100 miles, the charge 7*s*. 6*d*. Seven miles less and eight times the rate! From New York to Boston, distance 240 miles, the charge is 1*s*. 3*d*.; from London to Liverpool, distance 210 miles, 8*s*. 6*d*. From Washington to New Orleans, 1716 miles, the price is 8*s*.; from London to Newcastle, 300 miles, it is 10*s*. All new telegraphs commence with high tariffs. The French tariff is very high,—the German was still higher. But within a few weeks past, the electric conveyance treaty between Austria and Prussia having been concluded, a great reduction has taken place.—Is it in the face of this general move in one direction that Government dare force us in the other? Instead of adding to the expense of working the iron messengers, every effort should be made to reduce it so as to bring its benefits and consolations within the reach of smaller means. In this, as in some other respects, America sets the old Continent a good example.

We have often remarked on the strange devices to which the tax on advertisements drives the advertiser. Last week affords another ingenious novelty in this line. At our door we find bits of pink or golden tissue paper, which would seem to have fallen from the sky as manna did of old. On opening these, we find that they have been shot from a balloon, and contain a courteous invitation to visit the banks of the Nile—at the Egyptian Hall. The special privilege of being admitted to that interesting panorama at half-price is awarded to the fortunate individuals on whom the skies have rained these favours. Several balloons, we are given to understand, have already been sent up on this errand.—While speaking of this exhibition, we may add that having recently visited it again, we must again speak in cordial terms of its usefulness and beauty—particularly to the young. We cannot but regard these pictorial representations of distant and interesting scenes as destined to play a valuable part in the education of the next generation. They correct and enliven in no ordinary degree the impression which children receive from books:—while they have interest and instruction for all classes of readers.

The idea entertained by the Board of Health of procuring a supply of water for the metropolis from the surface drainage of a large uncultivated district near London has excited much opposition. By those who had never heard of large supplies of water being obtained from any other sources than rivers, springs and wells the proposition has been smiled at as simply an absurdity. Those who have admitted that the plan is feasible have attempted to demonstrate that the district around Bagshot and Farnham is quite incapable of supplying the necessary quantity of water. Of course it behoves the Government, as well as the public, before any attempt is made to realize the gigantic undertaking proposed by the Board of Health, to be fully satisfied above all things that the district in question is capable of yielding the supply needed. The Board accordingly instructed the Hon. W. Napier to make further inquiries on the subject:—and an account of his researches has just been given in a Report furnished to them. The result of Mr. Napier's investigations is highly favourable to the Government plan. He shows in the first place that in many parts of the district in question the quantity of water to be obtained greatly exceeds the rain-fall, on account of the water that breaks out here draining districts at a greater distance than those to be employed for supplying the metropolis. Testing the quantity of water at its sources in preference to its outfalls, Mr. Napier has found that, within the limits pointed out by the Board there exists a capability for supplying 39,407,324 gallons per day:—which would give about eighty gallons a day to each of 500,000 houses. Eighty gallons daily is a much greater consumption than is found in the average of houses

in London at the present day; and would allow for an increase in the present use of water, as well as for a vast increase in the future size of the metropolis.—One of the great recommendations of the Government plan is, that it supplies a comparatively pure water. None of the water admitted into Mr. Napier's calculations exceeded two degrees of hardness, according to Dr. Clarke's soap test.

Her Majesty on the same day on which she assigned a literary pension of 100*l*. a-year to Mr. J. Payne Collier, assigned another of the same amount to "Mr. James Bailey of 7, Carlton Street, New Peckham"; the warrant expressly stating that it is given "in consideration of Mr. Bailey's literary merits." We are reluctant to quarrel with this grant,—but certainly we think the recipient a very lucky fellow. The name of Mr. George Bailey as a literary man is unknown to us:—nor have we been able to find any one (and we have asked many) more enlightened than ourselves. Her Majesty's ministers may have very good grounds for assigning to Mr. Bailey a twelfth portion of the sum annually placed at their disposal.

Still to one bishop Phillips seems a wit,—

so to a prime minister Mr. Bailey may be a very great ornament to letters. But the public has a right to know what the reasonable claims of the gentleman in question are to one of the very few prizes in the lottery of literature. We shall, therefore, be glad to be informed of Mr. Bailey's services;—and will readily concede his right to a pension when we shall hear that his claims are such as we are bound to recognize and reward.

The announcement of the purchase of Battersea Fields for a public park has roused the inhabitants of Saffron Hill, St. Luke's, and Clerkenwell, to new exertions in behalf of the long-wished-for park for those densely crowded districts. The great obstacle against obtaining any open space—not to mention the acres required to form a park—in the midst of narrow streets and huge blocks of building is, the immense money value of the property that would need to be displaced. If the committee, which has now resumed its sittings, will cast a glance at the map of London, they will notice two eligible pieces of ground for their purpose:—Smithfield, and the ground of the House of Correction. That an admirable expanse of verdant green might be made of Smithfield, we have again and again shown in these columns:—and a recent publication gives the necessary information about the prison. It has often been under consideration of the magistrates to take down and remove the house of correction,—its faults of plan being a great impediment to the proper administration of the penal laws. The walls include four or five acres of land; and towards the north additional space might be obtained at moderate charge. The site and soil are remarkably favourable to floral health; the gardens at present produce the finest class of fruits and vegetables, salads, celery, melons, and so forth,—and we have rarely seen finer roses and tulips than are reared in them. The conversion of these two sites into small parks would be a double gain:—in the removal of two public nuisances—for the worst classes of the population have a tendency to concentrate themselves in the vicinity of prisons and pest grounds,—and, in the chances afforded of an occasional glimpse of nature for thousands, with the increased benefit of a free circulation of air for all.

The merchants and manufacturers of Manchester have resolved,—as we strongly urged some months ago they would,—to send an agent out to Hindustan to inquire into the reasons which at present operate to prevent the growth of cotton in that country. Mr. Alexander Mackay, author of 'The Western World,' is appointed to the mission.

We find it stated in the French journals that in consequence of the confusion existing between the maritime calculations of different powers, and the unfortunate occurrences to which it sometimes leads, the naval powers of the north—Russia, Sweden, Denmark, and Holland—have entered into an agreement to open conferences on the old question of a common meridian for all nations. France, Spain, and Portugal, it is said, have given in their adhesion to the scheme; and a hope is held out that England

will come into the arrangement. There never has been, and there never can be, a doubt as to the utility to science of common points of reference and uniformity of regulation; and no local jealousy should be allowed to stand in the way of them. The most advanced opinion on the Continent seems to be in favour of the selection of an entirely neutral point of intersection,—say Cape Horn,—which would have the immense advantage of being agreeable to the Americans. If the Admiralty are disposed to go with this movement, there seems a probability of establishing once and for ever this great maritime desideratum.

A week or two ago we drew attention to the Ragged Schools of York; and since our remarks appeared, we have received from that city a lengthened account of the rise, progress and principles of that institution. It is a history full of encouragement to those who look with trust on the modern trial to reach the long-neglected pariahs of our civilization. The principle adopted is that advocated by the *Athenæum* from the beginning of the movement,—the mixture of school teaching with industrial training. Some visits made to the Ragged Schools of London during the last few days have confirmed our old conviction,—that without some kind of labour, it is impossible to obtain from the ordinary routine of the school-room those results at which benevolence aims. First to be recognized—and foremost to be remembered—is the fact, that the children who attend our ragged classes have no honest means of livelihood,—spelling and writing will not keep out hunger, thirst, and those other daily necessities which urge the non-producing classes to prey on the more upright and industrious. Society must look this fact in the face. At one of the ragged schools in the neighbourhood of Field Lane, we were told of a curious incident—the sadder that it makes us smile. We think we have seen it before in print. A clergyman went to the school one Sunday evening to address the larger class of boys. There was a good attendance; and he addressed the children on the sanctities of the Sabbath and the penalties of a life of crime. He thought he had made a powerful impression on his hearers; and was about to conclude with a suitable peroration, when as the minute finger of the clock touched the five minutes to eight mark on the dial, the whole audience rose, and without a word left the room. The teachers followed in surprise; and overtaking one of the urchins in the street, asked where he was going. "To work," was the brief reply. "To work! Why, don't you know this is Sunday?" asked the religious instructor. "Of course," said the lad, "and aint the folks just a goin' to come out of chapel?" The clergyman was enlightened: after his persuasive discourse, as he thought, the audience had risen to pick pockets! To our minds, a circumstance like this wears another besides the merely discouraging aspect. It shows that our method of dealing with these outcasts is still imperfect. In the task to be accomplished, sermons will go but a little way:—a rougher and more practical work must first be done. If a child asks for bread, it is useless to offer him a stone—even though the stone be a precious one. It cannot be eaten. So far from trying to ignore this elementary fact, the York committee make it the foundation of their system. They teach their pupils how to work at honest labour;—and they prevent the necessity for that other kind of "work" for which the Field Lane congregation rose betimes in the evening, by allowing to each pupil certain meals a day on fixed and proper conditions. Attention is first devoted to the rags of the scholars; he or she is taught to sew and cobbler. The rags in time become a dress. For a few months the school enjoyed the great advantage of having an adjoining field to cultivate,—with, as we are assured, the best results. Unfortunately, the field has been required for building purposes, and the school is now without the important elements of agricultural industry.—Mr. Myers will do well to urge on the attention of his colleagues the necessity of having a piece of ground attached to the new school.



EXHIBITION OF MODERN BRITISH ART.—This Exhibition will open at the Gallery of the Old Water Colour Society, No. 5, Pall Mall East, on Monday Morning next, the 1st inst. SAMUEL STEPNEY, Sec.

EGYPT, NUBIA, and ETHIOPIA.—THE GREAT MOVING PANORAMA of the NILE displays the scenery of these interesting countries, and the manners and customs of their inhabitants, presenting to the spectator the River and its Desert, the Pyramids and the Sphinx, the grandest Ruins of Antiquity, and the most exciting objects that allure the traveller.—EGYPTIAN HALL, PICCADILLY.—Daily, at Three and Eight.—Admission reduced to 6d.; Pitt, 1s.; Stalls, 2s.

INDIA OVERLAND MAIL.—DIORAMA.—GALLERY OF ILLUSTRATION, 14, Regent-street, Waterloo-place.—A Gigantic MOVING DIORAMA of the ROUTE of the OVERLAND MAIL to INDIA, exhibiting the following places, viz.—Southampton Docks, Isle of Wight, Osborne, the Needles, the Bay of Biscay, the Berlings, Cintra, the Tagus, Cape Trafalgar, Tarifa, Gibraltar, Algiers, Malta, Alexandria, Cairo, the Desert of Suez, the Central Station, Suez, the Red Sea, Aden, Ceylon, Madras, and Calcutta.—is now OPEN DAILY.—Mornings at Twelve, Afternoons at Three, and Evenings at Eight.—Admission, 1s.; Stalls, 2s. 6d.; Reserved Seats, 3s. Doors open half an hour before each representation.

NEW ORIENTAL DIORAMA.—LIFE and SCENES IN INDIA.—A Sequel to the "Overland Route from Southampton to Calcutta."

The extraordinary success which has attended the Exhibition of the Diorama of the Overland Route having proved that a lively interest is now taken by the British public in everything which relates to India, a body of artists of unquestionable ability have been engaged to paint a variety of scenes illustrating the SOCIAL LIFE of ENGLISHMEN in INDIA, and the principal places which such Englishmen are accustomed to visit during their sojourn in the East. These Paintings, upon a large scale, elegantly set, and constituting, with an appropriate Lecture and suitable Music, a highly interesting and instructive entertainment, will be presented to the public on the 23rd of NOVEMBER, 1850, at WILLIS'S ROOMS, King Street, St. James's. Arrangements have been made with Mr. Steadman, late Morning Lecturer at the Gallery of Illustration, Regent Street, to deliver the descriptive details; and it is confidently believed that the Entertainment—imitating in care and brilliancy of execution the famous work of Messrs. Grieve & Co.—will not form an unworthy sequel to the superb Diorama of which they are the authors. Amongst the scenes depicted are the following:—The Port and part of the Town of Calcutta; the Traveller crossing the Hooghly; the Indigo Planter's Bungalow; an English Lady's Drawing-room; Tiger Hunting (two Pictures); the Banian Tree; the Hall; the Interior of an Officer's Quarters; the Taj at Agra; Delhi—Procession of the Great Mogul, an English Court of Justice in the Interior; Lahore, the Capital of the Punjab; the Indus—Troops on the March; Bombay and the Island of Colaba; the Town Hall and Castle of Bombay; the Cave Temple of Elephanta; Hog Hunting in the Deccan (two Views); Madras—the Custom House, the Surge, &c.; Garden Beach; Bishop's College, near Calcutta; the Festival of the Churruck Poojah; a Nautch (or Dance of Native Women); the Cathedral of Calcutta, &c. &c. &c.; the whole constituting a perfect picture of every part of India.

The Artists who have been engaged on the work are well known to, and highly appreciated by, the public, and they have the advantage of consulting the productions of undeniable authorities.—The entertainments will be continued every Monday, Wednesday, and Saturday until further notice. Doors open at Half-past One and Half-past Seven P.M., to commence at Two P.M. and Eight P.M.—Admission, Front Seats, 2s. 6d.; Back Seats, 1s.

ROYAL POLYTECHNIC INSTITUTION.—LECTURE on the BALLAD MUSIC of ENGLAND, by Mr. George Barker, with Illustrations from the most popular Composers, every Evening (except Saturday), at Eight o'clock.—LECTURE on the HYDRO-ELECTRIC MACHINE, by Dr. Bachmann.—LECTURE on CHEMISTRY, by J. H. Pepper, Esq., illustrating the ANTIQUITY OF FIRE, ORIGIN of the ARTS, &c.—DING of RED-HOT METALS.—MODEL of WESTON'S PATENT NOVA-MOTIVE RAILWAY at work daily.—DIS-SOLVING VIEWS, illustrating some of the WONDERS of NATURE, daily at Half-past Four, and in the Evenings at a Quarter to Ten; also a Series, exhibiting SCENES in the ARCTIC REGIONS and CEYLON, daily at One o'clock.—DIVER and DIVING BELL, &c. &c.—Admission, 1s.; Schools, Half-price.—Open daily from Eleven till Five o'clock, and every Evening (EXCEPT SATURDAY) from Seven till Half-past Ten.

## SCIENTIFIC

GEOLOGICAL SOCIETY.—Sir C. Lyell, President, in the chair.—The following communications were read:—

'On the Microscopical Structure of the Calcareous Grit of Yorkshire,' by H. C. Sorby, Esq., F.G.S.  
'On the Porphyry of Belgium,' by Prof. A. Delesse.

'On the Rose-coloured Syenite of Egypt,' by Prof. A. Delesse.

'The Schistose Rocks of the Forez, in France, shown to be of Carboniferous age,' by Sir Roderick I. Murchison, V.P.G.S.—The chain of the Forez, forming the eastern boundary of the Limagne d'Auvergne, is for the most part composed of schists of a crystalline aspect, hitherto considered primary and unfossiliferous; but in its northern portion, the hills on the banks of the Sichon, north of Cusset, the author discovered organic remains. These fossils are of the carboniferous age, since they include a spinose *Productus* and a trilobite of the genus *Phillipia*, with other forms which are unknown in the Devonian and Silurian systems. The schists, in which thin courses of limestone occur, have been subjected to much flexure, fracture, and alteration by the intrusion of porphyry and greenstone; the intensity of such changes increasing from N. to S., in proportion as the igneous masses become more dominant. (Ferrière to Thiers). The Tarrare, a parallel and similarly constituted chain lying further eastward, has been previously shown by M. Regny to be of the same epoch; and Sir Roderick entertains the idea, that

some of the so-called primary schists on the western side of the Limagne d'Auvergne will, under careful scrutiny, prove to be lower palæozoic deposits which have been metamorphosed. The author concludes by asserting, that with the evidences now gathered together from various regions, neither the high inclination and fractures of such strata as those under consideration, nor their unconformability to other and overlying deposits, can any longer be admitted as indications of their age. Ancient as they appear, the schists of the Forez are simply of the same date as the mountain limestone of Britain. Now, in this country the limestone is conformably connected with great overlying coal-fields; whilst in Franconia, Bohemia, and parts of France there has been a fracture, accompanied by the outburst of much igneous matter between these lower and upper members. Hence, some foreign writers, who classify by physical outlines, had supposed that the inclined and the horizontal strata could not belong to one and the same epoch. Yet such Sir Roderick contends is the case; and he adduces the above example from the Forez as an addition to many proofs he has previously given, to demonstrate that all dislocations of the crust of the earth were local phenomena, which did not change, still less obliterate, the then existing types of life. Lines of upheaval and dislocation and all such purely physical data are therefore rejected by him as a basis of classification of the sedimentary deposits, which must be founded on the distribution of life. On the other hand, he directed attention to a point which he had formerly developed, that one of the most marked and general changes in the races which inhabited the ancient surface is that which occurs between the youngest palæozoic, or permian, system and the lowest secondary rocks, or trias; although these systems, thus entirely dissociated by their respective animals, lie in conformable apposition to each other, and have not been physically separated by any violent dislocation.

SOCIETY OF ARTS.—Lord Overstone in the chair.—Mr. Paxton read a paper 'On the Origin and Details of Construction of the Building for the Exhibition of 1851':—but the subject is so familiar to our readers that it is not necessary for us to follow him here into particulars.

## MEETINGS FOR THE ENSUING WEEK.

MON. Royal Academy, 8.—Mr. Green 'On Anatomy.'  
—Statistical, 8.—'Statistics of Iceland,' by Dr. Schleisner.  
—'The Intensity of Cholera,' by Dr. C. Finch.  
—Chemical, 8.  
—British Architects, 8.  
TUES. Civil Engineers, 8.—'The Ventilation of Collieries theoretically and practically Considered,' by Mr. W. P. Struve.  
—Linnean, 8.  
WED. Society of Arts, 8.  
—Geological, half-past 8.—'On the Occurrence of an Earthquake at Brussa,'—'On the Drift of Norfolk,' by J. Trimmer, Esq.—'On the Drift of a Part of Kent,' by J. Trimmer, Esq.—'On the Boulder Clay in the Limestone Quarry at Linkefeld, Elgin,' by Capt. L. Drickenden.  
THURS. Royal, half-past 8.  
—Antiquaries, 8.  
FRI. Philological, 8.  
SAT. Medical, 8.

## METEORS, CELESTIAL AND TERRESTRIAL, IN AMERICA.

Jenny Lind would seem to be not only a meteor herself, but the cause of meteors. The American earth and the American heaven have alike put on their pageantries to meet her. It is true, the latter has not yielded all the demonstrations which have been demanded of it on the occasion. We have been gravely assured by the American papers that at some one of the observatories of that country the Lindolaters set deliberately about the attempt at discovering a new planet in celebration of the advent of their goddess,—under the impression, no doubt, that such a star on earth must have an answering star in heaven. The next planet, come when it will, will find that it has come too late for baptismal fame;—if it had appeared to that invocation, it would have had a ballad-singer for its godmother, and been called Jenny. The error, probably, was in not letting Jenny look for the star herself. Set a—star to catch a star! This may be inferred from what has happened to the Lady at Cambridge. In her more American character of a meteor, she no sooner looked into the great equatorial telescope at that Observatory, than she found herself reflected by a meteor.

Seriously,—Mr. J. R. Hind communicates to us an account, received by him from Prof. Bond, of Cambridge Observatory, in the United States, of a very remarkable meteor observed there on the 30th of September;—to which, as he says, his "attention was called by Miss Jenny Lind. She happening at the time of its first appearance to be looking at the planet Saturn through the great equatorial telescope, nearly in the direction of the meteor's path, was startled by a sudden flash of light:—no doubt much concentrated by the power of the glass. Probably not more than a second of time intervened before the meteor exploded, leaving a bright train of light some 8° long, extending from near the head of Medusa towards a point 3° below the star  $\alpha$  Arietis (this being the direction of motion), and projecting a portion of its mass forward about 2°. This took place at 8 h. 54 m. mean solar time at the Observatory,—and in or very near the constellation *Musca Borealis*, in right ascension 2 h. 30 m., and north declination 27°. There were numerous radiations, but nothing sparkling in its appearance. At 8 h. 57 m. this had subsided into a serpentine figure about half a degree broad in its widest part and 10° long. At nine o'clock the preceding portion had extended upward,—or, as expressed by a person who noticed the same appearance at Framingham, it appeared 'to draw up its head like a serpent.' \* \* During these changes the meteor had continued a bright, conspicuous object, some 10° in length, lying nearly horizontal. It was examined with three different telescopes: the comet-seeker,—a four-foot refractor, and the great equatorial. The appearance was that of a congregation of minute bright clouds of the formation usually denominated cirrocumuli. At 9 h. 7 m. we had a regular cometary figure. This, the most durable form, forcibly reminded one of the drawings made by Sir John Herschel of Halley's Comet as seen by him at the Cape of Good Hope, on the 28th of January, 1836. The meteor now commenced a slow regular motion, passing about a degree below the star  $\alpha$  Arietis, towards a point somewhat above the planet Saturn; at the same time rotating apparently on a point answering to the nucleus of the explosion, and expanding in every direction. At 9 h. 28 m. the external outline touched the planet Saturn. The meteor was now extended in breadth to 12°, its longest diameter reaching upwards nearly to the zenith. Its rotary motion had therefore been equal to an angle of about 90° in 20 m. of time. Although it had now become a faint nebulous light, yet it continued to exhibit a well-defined boundary until past ten o'clock, having been under observation more than an hour. I have never met with any account of a single meteor having been visible so long a time.—This meteor, adds Mr. Hind, was observed at many distant stations in the United States. From the description furnished by the Hon. Wm. Mitchell, of Nantucket; and his own, Prof. Bond infers that the vertical height of the meteor above the surface of the earth was 50 miles, and its distance from the Cambridge Observatory 100 miles in a N.E. direction.

"European chronicles," says Mr. Hind, "occasionally mention phenomena under the name of 'Comets,' which appear to have had great resemblance to the object recently seen by Prof. Bond. As an instance, I may mention that described by Lubienietzki in his 'Theatrum Cometicum' as having been observed in Germany in the year 1527."

## FINE ARTS

FINE-ART GOSSEP.—We have seen two specimens by Mr. Mayall of 'what he calls his "Crayon Daguerreotypes," the process of effecting which he described in our columns [ante, p. 1048]. The specimens do not differ in the rendering of the features or the figure from the many excellent examples of this art which Mr. Mayall has previously produced. The peculiarity of the new process consists in the production of an oval margin by means, as our readers will remember, of an oval piece of blackened zinc gummed on a piece of plate glass, the centre of the oval to coincide with the centre of the image pro-



duced on the plate. Thus prepared, the action of the light will, Mr. Mayall informs us, obliterate every trace of image from every part of the plate except that which is covered with the blackened zinc;—and from the thickness of the glass the action will be refracted under the edges of the zinc disc, and will soften into the dark parts. The plate is then mercurialized as usual. The effect of this many will think to be more curious than natural. It has in itself an interesting and somewhat mystical appearance; but rather increases the difficulty always experienced in placing the daguerreotype in such an angle in reference to the light in which it is to be viewed as will enable the spectator to contemplate it without its being reflected into from every source,—the walls, the ceiling, the furniture of the place in which it is to be seen. This is the principal drawback on the daguerreotype process itself; for, however beautifully the image may be caught on the plate by such superior processes as Messrs. Mayall, Kilburn, and others have perfected—there is always this great disadvantage, that the aggregate of the separate details of the image—or in other words, the general effect—can never be seen at a glance.—There is little more, we suspect, of advance to be made with this art, other than such ingenious contrivances or varieties as that which is before us,—and which, as we have said, may probably attract by its novelty and its sort of rainbow look.

Mr. Charles Lock Eastlake has had the honour of knighthood conferred on him, on the occasion of his election as President of the Royal Academy.

A few choice examples of Mediæval Art—rare things to pass under the hammer of the auctioneer—were sold on Tuesday last by Messrs. Puttick & Simpson. They were the property of Mr. George Isaacs; and some of the choice specimens had been included in the recent Mediæval Exhibition at the Society of Arts.—Lot 152, a silver-gilt Reliquary of twelfth century work, made to contain the Chef, or head of St. Eustache. The saint's head (encircled on the forehead by a band of filigree) inclosing engraved gems, stones and pastes, and supported by a square pedestal, upon which, under an arcade, occur the twelve apostles in repoussée work. This was from the Cathedral at Basle,—and was bought by the Trustees of the British Museum for 39l.—Lot 154, a large Oval Dish of Majolica of the sixteenth century work, painted on both sides. The front embossed with masks and bands and a variety of arabesques. The back decorated with a sea-god surrounded by dolphins and fleur-de-lys, the devices of the Dauphins of France; sold for 30l.—Lot 155, a Coffer of Limoges of thirteenth century work, and of unusually large size and brilliant colours, brought 24l.—Lot 153, a Benetier of the sixteenth century, from the De Bruge collection,—composed of bronze-gilt, and numerous groups, figures, and architectural details elaborately carved in coral, sold for 23l.—Lot 146, the upper side of a Book-cover, composed of Limoges encrusted enamel of the twelfth century in a garniture of the fifteenth, brought 15l.—Lot 151, a very fine Venetian Lace-work glass Flagon, on the body of which are the double-headed Eagle of Rome and the Lion, the emblem of Leo X. blown hollow from within. It was originally in the De Bruge collection; and sold on the present occasion for 14l.—Lot 143, a Limoges encrusted Enamel Pax of twelfth century work, formed of two semicircular-headed panels placed together, with, beneath the arches, erect figures of St. James and St. Jude in colours of unusual brilliancy. This was sold to the Trustees of the British Museum for 10l.—Lot 142, a Bishop from a set of Chessmen of the thirteenth century, carved in walrus tooth, brought 6l. 15s.—Lot 141, A Bronze-gilt Flagon ornamented with grotesques of twelfth century work, sold for 4l. This very remarkable ecclesiastical appurtenance may be considered unique, and an object of the highest importance to the collector of mediæval relics.—At the same sale a MS. 'Treatise on Magic and Astrology' in the Autographs of Dr. John Dee, Dr. Caius, the founder of Caius College, Cambridge, Dr. Simon Forman, the celebrated conjuror, and other papers believed to be by Sir Edward Kelly, with notes by Elias Ashmole,—one of the four MSS. lent by

Ashmole to Bishop Lloyd, and the only one not returned to the library—was sold to Mr. Halliwell for 11l. The present volume is in the original binding, with Ashmole's arms on the clasps. It should certainly find its way to its old companions in the Ashmolean, at Oxford.

A recent number of the *Revue des deux Mondes* contains an elaborate article by the Count Montalivet on the late king, Louis Philippe and his civil list. The writer's object is to show that with a limited income the king expended very large sums during his reign of eighteen years on the various public buildings and parks. The following table analyzes these sums with respect to the Crown buildings.—

Outstanding expenses during the last five months of 1830		
Palace of the Tuileries	.....	5,291,410 38
The Louvre	.....	1,507,967 87
Palais Royal	.....	1,408,667 14
Palace of Versailles	.....	11,118,278 39
Palace of Compeigne	.....	409,510 28
Palace of St. Cloud	.....	4,137,624 54
Palace of Meudon	.....	557,374 11
Palace of Fontainebleau	.....	3,431,914 68
Château de Pau	.....	562,899 42
Chapel of St. Louis, near Tunis	.....	218,389 56
Palace of the Elysee-Bourbon	.....	30,840 81
Royal Manufactures	.....	546,870 70
Various other public buildings	.....	3,026,471 98

Total, F. 33,615,095 c. 16

It will be observed, that the Palace of Versailles has received the largest proportion of the monarch's patronage. The result there of his munificence is well known to all who have visited Versailles. M. Montalivet states that, besides the twelve million and odd francs mentioned in the table, nearly the same amount was expended in pictures and various decorations for the galleries, &c.,—and that the king paid no less than three hundred and ninety-eight official visits to Versailles while the work of restoration was in progress. Not satisfied with this, he ordered accurate drawings to be made of all the pictures and statuary, which were engraved at his expense; and nine hundred and sixty copies were distributed to various scientific and literary institutions. This magnificent work will be completed in fifteen folio volumes; and some idea of its cost may be formed from the fact that the historical portion alone cost 1,818,000f. But the devotion of Louis Philippe, according to M. Montalivet, was not limited to his outlay on the property of the crown. Upwards of fifteen million of francs were devoted to the embellishment of public buildings and parks:—making a total of above forty-eight and a-half million francs laid out by the king during his reign on national works, and the whole of which sum was drawn from his civil list.—We need not expatiate on the immense impulse that such an expenditure as the above must have given to the fine arts; and we cannot but be struck with the ingratitude which the French people manifested when they upbraided their dethroned monarch with his conduct in this respect. "They seem," said the king, "to be desirous to make me regret having spent so much money on ornamenting buildings and parks which have reverted to themselves; but whatever they may do, they will never cause me to repent the good that I have done them."—Whatever were the faults of the deceased monarch, let his good deeds and good qualities have their due place in the account from which posterity is to strike the balance of his character.

## MUSIC AND THE DRAMA

LIVERPOOL PHILHARMONIC SOCIETY.—'David.'—It has been hitherto too much the well-deserved complaint against the provincial towns of England that, for the art of music at least, they would do little or nothing save in imitation of the metropolis:—the Birmingham and Norwich Festivals making the exception which proved the rule, and both of these being what may be called exceptional establishments. Such being the case,—apart from the merit of the compositions selected,—we conceived that the Philharmonic Society of Liverpool did itself credit by bringing forward the works of a new foreign composer, M. Silas. It has still more emphatically merited the good word of all who look beyond mere name and idle fashion

in their cultivation of art by producing an entirely new Oratorio of English growth,—this being the 'David' of Mr. C. Horsley, which was performed for the first time on Tuesday evening last.

The form of this work at once subjects its composer to the very severest tests and comparisons and disposes the critic to respect. Though the audience for an Oratorio is not "fit though few" in England, the materials required for performing it adequately are so magnificent that, unless the work prove another 'Messiah,' 'Creation,' or 'Elijah,' the writer must prepare himself to be satisfied with hearings few and far between. Whereas the popularity of an opera song is not so much a run as a gallop, the best sacred air being necessarily severer in style demands more scientific and serious execution. Hence, the popularity and profit of the oratorio-writer are limited. Then, to find a good subject is no longer easy. The best Scripture histories have already been set; and all require in their treatment to have progressive interest fully developed, while all such dramatic force as suggests—nay, demands—action must be carefully eschewed. Mr. C. Horsley, in his Preface to 'David,' points out that his Oratorio is not "history" so much as an illustration of certain points of the Psalmist-King's career. We are not prepared to admit the wisdom of the distinction,—since it has led him to expatiate monotonously on the several divisions of his work. The election of the shepherd youth to be a ruler and a deliverer, his overthrow of the Philistine giant, and the bringing home of the Ark, are each made the subject of many movements, by which dilution the introduction of passages no less striking is rendered impossible and the Oratorio is made needlessly tedious. The book of 'Elijah,' up to the point of the Celestial Vision in the second part might have suggested to Mr. Horsley the advantages of compression in incident, vivacity in narration, and variety in episode. It is not too late for him to reduce his work within more acceptable compass,—but to introduce new features is not to be now expected.

With regard to the musical characteristics and value of 'David,' it is difficult in a few words to hit the precise point of fair appreciation. Every one who is familiar with Mr. Horsley's instrumental music must know on whom he has modelled himself. Here, even more than in his Pianoforte Trios and Duets, we find the love for Mendelssohn speaking almost as it were in an echo. But the forms of the model are sometimes applied without any very nice consideration as to their fitness or unfitness. For instance, many of Mr. Horsley's recitatives are choral, after the fashion of parts of the 'Athalia' and 'Antigone' music. There, the conveniences of the stage demanded that much text should be declaimed within a short space of time and under circumstances precluding any high poetry or refinement of individual declamation.—Here, the effect is at once superfluous, heavy, and destructive of variety. Why some passages of narration should be given to all the men—why others, of precisely homogeneous quality, should be spoken by one *soprano*—are points on which we conceive Mr. Horsley can never have come to argument with himself. Other of Mendelssohn's peculiarities—his avoidance of symphonies to his airs, his peculiar manner of stealing back to his first idea, to say nothing of rhythms, humours, fancies of accompaniment—are also to be found in number which would render silence a *supersuppressio veri*. Mr. Horsley has more faintly followed his model in his instrumentation; which, on the whole, is scored with a certain nonchalance rather than on any definite system. In these days, only a Bellini, who rests his claims upon furnishing the voices with good occupation, can afford to dispense with enrichment, selection, and contrast in so important a part of his work. This, in 'David,' would seem to have been carried through rather than considered. Though such ease of hand as it betokens is doubtless an admirable gift, it is really so only when it implies felicitous and dexterous variety as a matter of course.—One more characteristic remains to be noticed:—a certain disregard, not to say untowardness, in the setting of the text to the music. A word to a note makes a good



effect in lively dialogue or in eager incisive declamation,—but in cases where the voice has to sing, it is agreeable only when the *tempo* is very slow and the number of subdivisions are few. In particular, the bass part of 'David' will always present difficulties of delivery which might just as easily have been avoided. Seeing that there is no vocal music without voices, we cannot fancy vocal composition without the powers of the organs of utterance and the specialities of the language uttered having been also studied.

To range against the above qualities, it should be stated that 'David' gives many welcome examples of flowing *cantilena* and graceful combination—not a few indications of force and grandeur—and, throughout, evidences of such power of writing as bespeak careful study. Should Mr. C. Horsley become more difficult in selecting and testing his imaginations, he may produce an oratorio far more individual, complete and interesting than this. His best friends are those who at this turning-point of his career aid him with counsel to be more severe on himself than his works hitherto have shown him to be. There is a fatal facility to be avoided by the scholastic, no less than by the spontaneous writer.—Passing lightly through the book, we must specify for praise the chorus 'Behold, I am against Thee,'—the *aria* 'The Lord is my Shepherd,'—the unaccompanied double quartett 'Thou spakest sometimes' (a piece of pure and excellent writing, such as it is pleasant to see the son of our best English vocal writer producing)—and the duett betwixt *Saul* and *Goliath*, which is strong, dramatic and dignified. The tenor part, however, is written so low as in places to lose effect; and the second time that the *solo* 'Thou comest to me' recurs, ninety-nine *David*s out of a hundred will provide for themselves by transposing the passage an octave higher. The above occur in the first act.—In the second we particularly admired parts of the choruses 'The King shall joy in thy strength,'—and the unaccompanied quartett 'Behold, thou art wroth,' where the symphonic passages for the *solo* wind instruments, betwixt phrase and phrase, may be pointed out as one of Meyerbeer's discoveries not infelicitously applied in a somewhat new fashion. Generally, however, the second act is less interesting than the first.—The tenor, throughout, has been furnished with the best occupation.—Among the *solo* portions, the *contralto* airs are the weakest.

This brings us, naturally, to speak of the execution of the work, and to the pleasure which we feel in stating that the performance of 'David' was more satisfactory than we had in anywise expected. 'St. Paul' had to struggle for its London fame under much worse conditions—in the execution of the *Sacred Harmonic Society*, as it then was. The Liverpool chorus is, on the whole, very good:—the *soprani* are the most ripe and tuneable in our acquaintance. The orchestra is by many degrees more in shape than the average London orchestra used to be;—and, let it be remembered, that average orchestras are now expected to play with difficulties to which formerly only the picked ones in England were trained up. The *solo* singers were Miss Birch, Miss Williams, Mr. Lockey, and Mr. Machin,—assisted, occasionally, by a very fair quartett of local artists. The ladies were in good voice, most meritoriously steady, and thoroughly prepared. Here, again, is a great advance on the old slipshod practices. Mr. Lockey, who always sings best in a new work, has never sung to greater advantage than in this. He was in his best voice, best energy, and best *tempo*.—On the other hand, Mr. Machin has been rarely so ineffective. He was very much out of voice, and very little in the music. Nothing could be more decided than the success of the Oratorio. Four or five numbers were *encored*: and the composer was warmly received at its commencement and enthusiastically cheered at its close.

PRINCESS'S.—The new play, by A. R. Slous, called 'The Templar,' was produced on Saturday last, with a success that may be justly recorded as extraordinary. This drama, since its publication, has been much altered,—at the suggestion, we understand, of Mr. Kean; and certain theatri-

cal effects have been introduced which conduce to its triumph. The structure of the piece is on a principle both simple and sure. In the production of the action the story is naturally followed;—incident after incident is unfolded by such degrees as to excite and gratify expectation, and the requisite disclosures are so placed as to assist rather than interrupt the progress of the scene. All moves, as it were, in a groove;—and the entire drama (with the exception of the last scenes) may be accepted as a patent example of mechanical skill. Nor is the play wanting in higher merits. The poetry always equal to the occasion, rises in more than one instance into originality and force; being, if not always in its conception, in its application frequently new and startling.

The violation of his vow by a young Templar forms the argument of the drama. *Bertrand* (Mr. Belton), a foundling, brought up at a convent in Poitou, has entered the religious society; but subsequently becomes enamoured of *Isoline* (Mrs. Kean), the daughter of *Hubert la Marche* (Mr. Kean), a nobleman of Languedoc, who had suffered persecution as one of the Albigenses. One day, returning from the chase, Hubert had found his castle destroyed by fire, his wife and son "savagely slaughtered," and himself an outcast. The agent in this attack was *Aymer de la Roche*, now Grand Master of the Order, (Mr. Ryder). Of Aymer the foundling Bertrand is the son, unknown to him,—born to him before his taking the vows, and stolen away in infancy. The place of La Marche's present refuge is in the neighbourhood of Roche Bernard, and of the preceptory of the Knights Templars; and thus it happened that young Bertrand and Isoline became acquainted. The enamoured youth had concealed from the maiden his religious vow:—had wooed her as a knight, not a priest. At the opening of the play, the fatal disclosure is made, and the drop-scene falls on the resulting situation. The second act introduces the father of Isoline, to whom *Rolf*, a woodman (Mr. Addison), roughly communicates his suspicions of this concealed attachment,—afterwards confirmed by an interview with the girl herself; and in the course of the scene, La Marche becomes possessed also of evidence that Bertrand is the long-lost son of his foe De la Roche. Such an opportunity for revenge on an ancient enemy—whose son, too, he suspects of the seduction of his daughter—is not to be foregone; and La Marche accordingly proceeds to the preceptory and impeaches the young Templar of a violation of his vows. Arrangements are made to surprise the delinquent; and, at nightfall, the Knights visit the lovers' trysting-place on the sea-beach, and arrest the offender in the act of abjuring his vow for love's sake. Isoline is borne off by the honest woodman,—and thus escapes their vengeance. The fourth act is occupied with the trial of the Templar:—a scene on which the management has expended the utmost resources of scenery and costume. Nor has the poet been wanting in eloquent utterances. Bertrand defends himself manfully;—and is condemned to death,—but offered pardon on condition of his surrendering Isoline into the power of the Temple. He spurns the offer, and hurls his scorn against the power that tempts him with it. This truth and nobleness convert the father, La Marche, into the lover's friend,—and awaken remorse for the denunciation. He resolves to save the generous lover; and arms him with the secret of his birth, that its communication to Aymer may plead irresistibly for his life. Access, however, is forbidden to the Master,—who secludes himself; and the execution appears inevitable. Isoline becomes aware of Bertrand's peril, and determines to reach the Grand Master with the truth through whatever perils and obstacles. A crazy bridge thrown over the rocks at an alarming elevation leads to a part of the fortress opening on the sea-shore, by which she can enter; and this she traverses in the sight of the audience,—in her progress dislodging tottering fragments, and trusting to the branches of a tree to aid her in a perilous descent. By such means she reaches the Temple,—and reveals the secret to the Master. But now, unexpected incidents arise. The institution itself is assailed in its fortress by the troops of Philip le Bel; who interrupt the execu-

tion at the very moment of its taking place, and set the victim free. Aymer has to fight for his office; and, though bravely defended by his new-found son, is slain in the contest. His dead body is brought in; and over it La Marche unites the hands of the lovers:—Bertrand being of course absolved from his vow by the extinction of the order. This is a solution not satisfactory,—because in no way prepared for, and at the last moment needlessly complicating the incidents. If the whole of the last act were re-written, a great gain might be effected in every point of view but the pictorial one. Up to that point every new move in the piece augments the interest,—and prepares for a disappointment so far as Art is concerned in all that follows. The play was eminently successful; and could not fail of being so from the skill of construction up to the end of the fourth act, the costly manner in which it is placed on the stage, and the talent with which it is acted.

To Mr. Kean belongs the credit of having sacrificed his personal interests for those of the author. Under ordinary circumstances the part of Bertrand would have been cast to Mr. Kean; but the manager had wisely surrendered it to Mr. Belton, in order that he might himself strengthen that of *La Marche*,—which, though secondary in dramatic importance, needed energetic acting. Mr. Kean has been well rewarded for his liberality. His performance in the character was first-rate. We have never seen this actor to such advantage. Every point was made with the utmost precision of effect. The performance is one of the masterpieces of the modern stage. Mr. Belton was not unequal to the demands made on his talent by Bertrand. Mrs. Kean as Isoline was girlish simplicity itself; and in the more arduous situations displayed admirable vigour and great artistic skill. The groupings were throughout admirably studied,—and the attitudes of the actress were on all occasions strikingly picturesque. The other characters were effectively filled; especially that of the Grand Master by Mr. Ryder. This gentleman looked the part magnificently, and acted with much judgment.—This new piece having brought into combination the principal members of the company,—we are enabled to judge of the latter as a whole; and we can justly pronounce it to be one that works well together, and presents most of the attributes that are pleasing to the eye and ear.—The principal performers and the author of the play received the customary honour at the conclusion.

On Wednesday a farce under the title of 'Betsy Baker' was successfully produced. The heroine, played by Mrs. Keeley, is a laundress, who is bribed to make love to *Mr. Mosser* (Mr. Keeley)—an attorney, whose wife (Miss Murray) thinks him "too attentive by half,"—in order that by having her jealousy excited the latter may be made better to value the fondness of her husband, which she unreflectingly despises. The plot is very ingeniously evolved; and the situations are so combined with natural feelings as to relieve the broad humour of the former with those unmistakable touches and traits of conduct by which the heart reveals itself under all conditions. Nevertheless, abridgment seems expedient in some parts of the dialogue. Nothing, however, can be more true to the design of the piece than the acting of Mr. and Mrs. Keeley.

HAYMARKET.—On Monday, Mr. Macready performed *Othello*:—Mr. Davenport supporting him as *Iago*.

SADLER'S WELLS.—'The Bridal' was revived on Thursday week,—and has been since repeated several times. The novelties in its cast are, Miss Glyn as *Evadne* and Miss Lyons as *Aspatia*. The latter continues to give evidence of careful teaching,—but has not yet acquired the facility of spontaneous utterance. The former as the Royal mistress has added another to her dramatic portraits remarkable for both force and finish.—Mr. Phelps in *Melantius* maintains the vigour which surprised us in his original performance of the character.

SURREY.—Mr. Dickens's novel of 'David Copperfield' has been dramatized for this theatre,—and was produced on Wednesday. It forms a series



of *tableaux* with intercalary explanations, rather than a drama: and the portions of the work most dwelt on are, the touching episode of little Emily and the villainies of Uriah Heep. Mr. W. Montague performed *David Copperfield*.—Mr. T. Mead, *Peggotty*.—Mr. Norton, *Uriah Heep*. The parts of *Micawber* and *Miss Mowcher* were sustained by Mr. Widdicombe. A farce was also produced, called 'Copper and Brass':—the latter being realized in a valet, *Bob Brass* (Mr. Widdicombe), whose embarrassments in endeavouring to serve two masters at once were very amusing.

**MUSICAL AND DRAMATIC GOSSIP.**—We have great pleasure in announcing an act of Mr. Macready's which worthily illustrates his approaching retirement from the stage. He has undertaken to devote the receipts of four readings from Shakspeare to the completion of the Fund for the purchase of the Shakspeare House for the country. The places selected for accomplishing this purpose are, Rugby, Eton, Oxford, and Cambridge. The Rugby reading "came off" on Tuesday last, and brought 50*l.* It would doubtless have realized a larger sum had not Mr. Macready limited his acceptance of the Rugby boys' invitation to read to them to the condition of their subscribing a sum of 50*l.* towards the House Fund. At Eton, it is thought that Mr. Macready will bring together a larger sum; and Oxford and Cambridge will probably make up the deficiency in the purchase-money. Mr. Macready—who was a liberal subscriber in the first instance, and a member of the Committee for accomplishing the purchase—will in this way have effectually attached his name to the history of the Poet's house. Four hundred pounds are yet wanting to remove the debt which hangs like a national disgrace over this transaction:—surely, after all that has been said, we shall be able to present this house as an unincumbered national property to the view of the foreigners who are to assemble here in the ensuing spring. Oxford and Cambridge have hitherto done nothing for the subscription: let the undergraduates—and the heads of houses, too—exert themselves in its behalf.

For an entertainment established, as we were told, to serve the purposes of Art, the *Grand National Concerts* seem to shape their proceedings in imitation of the "shop over the way," more than seems to us either artistic or dignified. For instance, no sooner was it known that M. Julien the Magnificent had fetched over a behemoth *octobasso* from Paris, than the Directors bethought themselves of the leviathan quadruple double-bass manufactured at the instance of Mr. Monck Mason during his short lesseeship of the Opera House.—Then we have two Quadrilles of All Nations:—which rivalry is said to have implied a scramble for the available military bands more eager than artistic. Great difference, we repeat, is to be made betwixt amateurs who profess themselves regardless of profit, and persons whose undertakings are calculated on more sublimary principles of speculation.

By a press omission, we were made last week to misstate the fact regarding Dr. Mainzer [p. 1171, col. 2]. What should have been said was, "Dr. Mainzer is about to open classes, we perceive, in *Liverpool as well as in Manchester*." The words above given in italics were left out.—The performance of sacred music at St. George's Chapel, Windsor, already mentioned in the *Athenæum*, took place yesterday week: the choir of St. George's being strengthened by upwards of fifty cathedral singers and chorists from Westminster Abbey, St. Paul's, Canterbury, Worcester, Lichfield, the Chapel Royal, &c., and about as many members of the *Sacred Harmonic Society*. The only compositions bearing more recent date than that of Dr. Boyce—1760—were, two Anthems by Dr. Elvey, the present organist of St. George's Chapel.

The Italian Opera season in Paris has commenced not very auspiciously:—Madame Sontag having been less popular in 'La Sonnambula' than she was as a concert-singer this spring,—and the Lumley and Ronconi feud not having so far burned

itself out but that strong distaste is entertained by the recusant party.—*Apròpos* of Ronconi, the *Gazette Musicale* mentions a report that that magnificent actor has been in treaty with the *Grand Opéra* of Paris. Should this engagement come to pass, and the artist be only moderately pliant and obliging,—as Goethe's mother said on looking forward to some expected acquisition, "that would be a *gaudium*."

There is a fate with names and with reputations capricious enough almost to warrant superficial and superstitious persons in talking about "luck." It were time wasted to pretend to enumerate the good works which the French and the Italians refuse to recognize as such.—In Germany the exceptions made by pedantry are as numerous as they are unaccountable. In England, they are on the whole more curious than numerous, though still twice too many. By no effort does it seem possible to introduce a little known (though not a precisely new) chamber composer into favour—we mean Herr Gebel, of Moscow. Yet his music for stringed instruments would be to us a relishing variety in alternation with those of the six authors adopted—namely, Haydn, Mozart, Beethoven, Mendelssohn, Spohr, and Onslow. The same may be said of the chamber compositions of Ries. The English public would never, and now we fancy never will, take kindly to Spontini's 'Vestale,'—is tepid with regard to Meyerbeer's 'Robert,'—and is careless of Rossini's 'Guillaume Tell' (prime favourite though Rossini be). Within a fortnight we have seen rise into a certain notice, simultaneously in London and in Paris, a writer, whose very speciality would seem to confine him to his own local habitation. This is Bortniansky, whose name, save for record in the dictionaries, has passed the barriers of Russia only twenty-four years after his decease. He was born, says M. Fétis, in 1752; and after distinguishing himself as a singer in the chapel of a Russian nobleman, went to Italy, and studied at Venice under Galuppi. In 1782 we find him in Russia again, director of the Imperial Chapel. "It appears," continues M. Fétis, "that up to this time the Russian composer had only been an imitator of the Italian style; but so soon as he found himself at the head of a chapel the choir of which was composed of the beautiful voices brought by him from the Ukraine,—his country, the idea of a new style of music presented itself to his imagination, and he employed all the force of his talent to carry it out."—M. Fétis proceeds to describe the music of the Greek church as something ornate and peculiar; and to point out how Bortniansky at once adopted and methodized its style,—regretting that the music of the Imperial Chapel is for the most part in manuscript. Simultaneously, M. Berlioz at the Philharmonic Concerts in Paris and the Berlin Chorus at the Grand National Concerts have been producing pieces by this Russian master.—It should be added, that it is more than possible that the least characteristic of Bortniansky's compositions have in both cases been selected. The music of the Imperial Chapel at St. Petersburg has always been described to us as most singular in the effects produced by the *contrabasso* notes of certain picked singers having a very limited register of tones deeper than any other bass singers. Convinced as we are that all possible vocal effects and combinations are not developed, we have always regarded this same Imperial Chapel music with the utmost curiosity,—its wonderful beauty having been warranted to us by competent witnesses; and thus, we are delighted at having opened a crevice, as it were, through which even the least individual sounds of it may creep.

The Windsor theatricals are spreading a taste for dramatic performances. The latest novelty of the kind of which we hear is that of the formation of a histrionic club for members of the two Universities: by whom it is proposed to give a series of six performances every season at the St. James's or some other theatre at the West End. The rules of the new club are in circulation;—and we understand that the first essays of the members are to be tried in the coming winter.

## MISCELLANEA

*A New Way of pushing the Sale of a Work.*—Seeing an advertisement in the *Times* for a Head Master to the Swansea Grammar School, stating that "full particulars of the foundation and the Scheme of Education sanctioned by the Court of Chancery may be obtained of Messrs. So & So, printers," I wrote to those gentlemen requesting the favour of a copy of such particulars,—this being necessary in the absence of a more detailed specification of accomplishments required in the teacher than the advertisement afforded;—and I inclosed a postage-stamp. To my surprise, I received in return, a pamphlet, of sixty-seven pages,—being in fact a work written for sale: twenty-four pages filled with affidavits about a genealogy, all original unabbreviated law documents which to look at gave the sensation of having taken a gulp of vinegar thinking it was wine,—and forty-three pages of lives of different masters, and of the most diabolical-looking law papers beginning with "In the matter of," which the author candidly suggests "may have proved almost as tedious to the reader as they were difficult to obtain and methodize,"—the whole illustrated by a map of an estate:—but not a word as to the matter of inquiry. The work was accompanied by a remarkably handsome printed note requesting the remittance of 2*s.* 6*d.*, plus postage. We constantly see in school advertisements that prospectuses will be forwarded on application,—and persons advertising for clerks, &c. say, further "information may be obtained," &c. &c.—but it probably never struck these gentlemen to make a charge for their replies to applications. Indeed, the principle is capable of wide extension; and unsuccessful authors especially may do a good deal with it.—While deliberating, I have received a second letter this morning, again requesting the money, and expressing "surprise" that they have not heard from me. This, too, is printed:—as though the writer had anticipated having to say it many times.—Surely there can be no legal claim in such a case. I am, &c. G.

Nov. 14.

## Uriel.

The Seraph Uriel, as the records tell  
That angels write, from his allegiance fell;  
And He who rules the worlds beyond the sun—  
He in whom love and wisdom are made one—  
Did hurl him from his royalty of light,  
To dwell amid the souls that wail in night.  
Then Uriel felt his beauty fade away,  
And a great grief lay on him day by day;  
But, as his splendour withered for his sin,  
Stronger and brighter grew the love within;  
And so in silence, in his fiery jail,  
He stood, rejoiced that love could yet prevail.

One day the ancient Gods that howl below  
Accosted Uriel:—"Uriel, this great woe  
Will never pass; the stars will seek the sun,  
The universe shall end as it began;  
But, thro' the endless circle of the years  
That angels know, shall neither hopes nor fears  
Visit the dwellers in this world of fire.  
Therefore, when hate and anguish shall inspire,  
Ease your full heart with curses deep as ours;  
Your love will never win you Eden's bowers."

Then Uriel answered:—"He who made the night  
Crowned it with stars and with the pure delight  
Of the clear moon: He who made all things frail  
Decrees that sovran beauty shall prevail.  
There is no sorrow, friends, but it has still  
Some soul of sweetness in it; there's no ill  
But comes from Him who made it, and is good  
As fruit in season, leaf in budding wood.  
But if in this drear world all hope were vain,  
If penance were eternal; if such pain  
He could inflict and endure,—my will  
Would be to love, thro' all this cruel ill."

He ended; and the ancient Gods below  
Ceased howling, when they saw the sweet, calm glow  
That wandered over that good angel's face,  
Making a moonlight round them, till the grace  
That was in his brave bearing and mild speech  
Melted the hatred from the hearts of each;  
And they stood up, and thro' the streets of hell  
The sound of countless voices rose and fell,  
Praising the silent soul that dwells above,  
Singing, "We love Thee, Lord, for Thou art Love."

Then the dark dungeon burst its gates and bars,  
And light came glowing in from suns and stars,  
Lapsing down dreadful rifts; the shapes below  
Saw fragments of blue sky above them glow,  
Like windows thro' the rents; they felt the air  
Cooling their branded foreheads; everywhere  
They saw the faces of young angels shine;  
And golden fingers point to thrones divine;  
While a low whisper murmured like the breeze  
That comes and goes on tops of mulberry-trees;  
And thus it said:—"O, loving angels, rise,  
Borne by strong love thro' the unfolding skies.  
There is no sin, no sorrow, and no hell,  
But they must cease, where hearts love long and well,  
Where lips praise God in anguish and confess  
There's love in pain,—that even wrong can bless."  
The whisper ceased; and every soul, forgiven  
By Love for Love's sweet sake, went up to heaven.  
Each stood before his throne—fair, glad, and calm;  
And God sat in the midst and heard the psalm  
Which joyful angels raised in chorus bland;  
And Uriel sat like God, at God's right hand.

—Leader.

M.

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## REVIEWS

*The Era of the Cæsars*.—[*L'Ere des Césars*].  
By M. A. Romieu. Paris.

THIS little book has made so much noise on the other side of the Channel (a second edition having appeared within a few weeks of the first publication), that we should scarcely feel justified in overlooking it altogether,—although the greater, and perhaps the most important, part of the matter which it contains scarcely lies within our jurisdiction. With the unscrupulous partisanship of the author, and the parody of Roman History which he wishes to see adapted to the French political stage, our self-imposed rules forbid us to meddle; but this is no reason why he should escape the penalty which his outrageous attack on all that gives dignity to man or peace to society has incurred at our hands. We will not give up, merely because it is limited to a certain extent, the right of judging theories which—could they be put in practice—would reduce civilized Europe to a condition worse than that of the Roman Empire in the most degraded days of its decline—a condition compared with which the open violence of barbarism would appear noble and the bloody confusion of the Middle Ages would seem dignified,—a condition, in a word, thanks to which the men of the nineteenth century would be divided into two classes—beasts of prey and beasts of burden.

There is a consideration, too, which, in our mind, settles the question of our competency as judges, and renders M. Romieu decidedly amenable to our tribunal. His book—political pamphlet though it may be in France, owing to peculiar circumstances—is a mere literary curiosity on this side of the Channel. Our columns are, it is true, closed against controverted points of political and theological discussion; but the points which M. Romieu argues have long ceased to be, if they ever were, controverted points. His argument in favour of the expediency of substituting the will of one man for the more complicated machinery of representative government, his abuse of all parliamentary forms and delays, and his unqualified admiration of the brutal power of the sword, might all, we think, be safely transcribed into our pages without danger of exciting the political feelings of one of our readers, or of agitating the calm atmosphere in which we desire to work. There may have been, for aught we know, a few unpatriotic Britains among the followers of Queen Boadicea who secretly envied the condition of a Roman soldier, and whose hearts would have swelled with pride beneath their blue paint at the idea of being the slaves of a Cæsar, even though that Cæsar were Nero;—but we believe the feeling to be quite extinct among the subjects of Queen Victoria. An unfortunate school-boy goaded into madness by daily and excessive inflictions of Roman History could alone become converted in the present day to what M. Romieu terms "Cæsarism."

Cæsarism, our readers have yet to learn, is M. Romieu's hobby:—a hobby which he rides so desperately, that we would back him any day against Mr. Carlyle mounted on Hero-worship. Indeed, there is more than one point of resemblance between the two writers. We find in both the same contempt for all that the rest of the world terms Progress,—and the same strange delusion which causes them to keep their eyes fixed on the Past in order to read the Future: with this difference, however,—that M. Romieu is far less rambling and inelegant than Mr. Carlyle,—and that where the latter would have given us a scolding, the former rises to declama-

tion. There is another difference between them, which is not quite so much in favour of the French writer. While Mr. Carlyle asserts that if the best and most virtuous among us could be selected, they ought to govern the rest of mankind,—M. Romieu attaches no such condition to empire. He takes his Cæsars without a character, and from the mere fact of their success concludes that they are worthy of power.—We fear, after all, that Mr. Carlyle's theory comes to very nearly the same thing.

But as, in order to give a clear definition of any theory it is first necessary that there should be no misunderstanding as to terms, we must give some idea of M. Romieu's dictionary. A Cæsar, with him, does not mean an emperor—as one might naturally suppose,—nor even an hereditary chief of any kind;—but merely a chance product of political convulsions, representing Force for the time being. Cæsarism is the rule of successive Cæsars; and to Cæsarism M. Romieu affirms that all the countries of Europe, and even of America, are predestined:—all those at least which have been "infected with the plague of constitutional government." But we will let him explain his own meaning.—

Cæsarism, which I foresee has the general form of a fast approaching Future, and which I see even now introduced among us, will, on its first appearance, be mistaken by many for monarchy,—from which it differs however in one material point: this latter can be founded and maintained only inasmuch as it inspires belief,—the former lives and subsists by itself. It tends constantly to monarchy, to which it never attains. Each Roman Cæsar thought to make his family endure by sharing the purple with his son, and yet two successive generations always witnessed the failure of the attempt even under the venerated hands of Vespasian, Severus, Constantine, or Theodosius. It is not by authority that monarchies are founded, but by faith. This latter feeling takes its rise in the infancy of nations; it grows and is developed by time till it becomes exalted into a dogma,—but it cannot take birth, or even exist amidst the discussion of principles by which we are surrounded. I must be understood, therefore, to say that the present epoch calls loudly for strong rather than for hereditary power, that no hereditary power is possible until the day when education will have fashioned a *believing* instead of a *judging* generation, and that it is puerile to seek social security in any of the combinations of the Past. . . . I can imagine no other sequel (I will not say *end*) to our troubles than a succession of masters, called into existence by passing events,—impotent to found, although prompt to establish themselves. I term these Cæsars.

The definition is clear enough. Cæsarism means Force,—and Force, in M. Romieu's opinion, resides in the sword. It may, indeed, occur that moral and material strength shall be united in one individual,—the most fortunate soldier may be also the greatest man of his day; but this, according to the author's theory would be only a fortunate coincidence, adding nothing to his Cæsarism. Commodus and Heliogabalus were Cæsars quite as much as Trajan and Marcus Aurelius. Attila and Alaric, barbarians though they were, were Cæsars according to M. Romieu's definition of the word. Nor is an avowedly pre-eminent station an absolute requisite; for the author expressly tells us that Stilicho, the Vandal defender of the dishonoured Roman name, was a Cæsar,—whereas Honorius, his feeble master, was only an emperor. By the same rule—only we are not quite sure that M. Romieu admits female Cæsarism—we should pronounce Joan of Arc to have been a Cæsar-ess, and Charles VII. a mere king. Indeed, it is easy after reading the foregoing definition to glance with the mind's eye down the long roll of the World's History, and trace the course of Cæsarism from the great Julius, its founder, down to Carlyle's Cæsar, Dr. Francia, and

Soulouque, the last representative of the principle.

The word once understood,—the wonder increases. How is Cæsarism to agree with Parliaments, newspapers, electric telegraphs, peace congresses, and exhibitions of industry? Is the European world to retrograde 1900 years at one step,—and all the progress of human intellect and reason to be annulled before the reign of cannon?—Progress! Reason!—M. Romieu scouts at the words. There has been no progress!—there is no reason!—there is nothing but force. Force is justice,—force is truth,—force is at the bottom of everything! It is the only solution of every social problem, the *ultima ratio* of all human discussion. As to progress and reason, our readers shall see what M. Romieu thinks of them.—

The word Progress has been often repeated since the last quarter of this century. The term has no meaning when applied to the moral world. Comfort no doubt is increased, physical sciences are better known, a corner of the curtain which veils the great theatre of natural truth has been upraised; but nothing has been done, nothing can be done, to alter the passions of mankind,—those unchanging actors in all present and future scenes. The word Progress, as it is generally understood, is an unexampled absurdity which the folly of rhetoricians alone could have brought into fashion—a fashion that will unfortunately last for a long while to come.—The noble creed of self-denial and of the dominion of the soul over the senses—the grave doctrine which arose on the ruins of paganism—has been the only social progress since the historic times. Infirm reason, which totters and gives way before the simplest problem of the mind, and which has substituted discussion for dogmas, has thereby delivered up the world to the perplexity of deciding between pleaders of opposite causes, and replunged our unfortunate species into the darkness of doubt and hesitation. That which is progress for one is retrogression for another, and there is no absolute judge to settle the dispute. A sad and dismal epoch this!—replete with chaos and darkness, fraught with danger for the soul and despair for the mind! Salvation in times like these is clearly indicated; and nations rush towards it, sacrificing their pride to their repose.

The road to salvation as M. Romieu conceives it, is very clearly indicated in his book, at least as regards his own country; and the allusions are sufficiently transparent to be obvious to the most obtuse reader. We confess, however, that the analogy which he points out between the present epoch and the Roman world before the accession of Augustus has failed to strike us. One similarity we are willing to allow,—and even that concerns France alone. It is certain that two great captains have appeared at a distance of about nineteen centuries; that one governed Rome after conquering Gaul,—and that the other reigned in France after conquering Italy. It is equally certain that each of these two Cæsars had a nephew much inferior to himself in talent and military renown, whom the glory of his name first brought into notice. There we stop. We see our way no further. We find no Philippi, no Actium, to convert a modern Octavius into an Augustus. But we will not attempt to refute M. Romieu's parallel, lest we should be drawn into the sphere of political allusion:—we will say only that the questions which distracted Rome in the days of Marius and Sylla, and which the despotism of the Cæsars set at rest, appear to us totally different from those that are perplexing modern Europe. The conflicting claims of capital and labour, the evils of pauperism, the limits of the suffrage, and the laws which should regulate association, are problems, we suspect, which it would have puzzled the great Julius himself to solve or even to define.

The author is scarcely more accurate in his



picture of the happiness enjoyed under Cæsarian rule. He borrows a phrase from M. de Chateaubriand—who, by the bye, would never have written it could he have anticipated that it would be quoted in support of the cause which this book advocates,—and exclaims:—"Eighty years of happiness, interrupted only by the reign of Domitian, commenced at the elevation of Vespasian. This has been thought to be the period in which mankind has been most happy." We have no intention of arguing the point. The world may have been very happy under the five good emperors, as they are emphatically and distinctively termed; but we doubt whether it would be as easily satisfied now that it has been spoilt by the "plague" of representative government. That reign of Domitian, too—some fifteen years of monstrous cruelty—which we are requested to strike out, is a shade to the picture; and it may be a question also whether even a century of felicity, preceded by the reigns of Tiberius, Caligula and Nero, and followed by those of Commodus, Caracalla and Heliogabalus, was not thus too dearly purchased. M. Romieu himself does not feel quite sure that people were satisfied even during that period of unexampled happiness.—

I wonder whether the world, when governed uniformly by the profound and upright judgment of a Trajan, Adrian, Antoninus, or Marcus Aurelius, can have regretted the free discords of preceding ages. On reflection, I have no doubt it did. When men are removed from danger, they cease to value security. Greece, amid her calm repose, may have looked back with envy to the wars of Peloponnesus, nay, even to the days of the thirty tyrants; and there was, I dare say, in that period of universal felicity some lawyer to be found in Athens who would recall with regret the bright days when Socrates in drinking poison received it at least at the hands of his country.

It is impossible to deal rationally with this book. Historical parallels are rarely accurate in all their parts,—but never, we think, was there so complete a jumble of facts and dates as in the present case. In one page the advent of the Cæsars is predicted, and hopes are held out of a coming Augustan age,—in the next we find out that it is with the Emperors of the Decline that we are threatened, and we stumble on a long eulogy of Prætorian rule, which M. Romieu evidently thinks much preferable to any of the influences that operate at present. The horoscope of one cotemporary is drawn under the name of Augustus,—another is still more strangely depicted in the character of the derided general of Justinian, the victor of the Goths, the eunuch Narses:—the author effecting in this instance a leap of nearly six centuries. Historical comparisons are easy where such latitude is taken. Then, we are told that the Barbarians are at our gates (we say *our*,—for M. Romieu includes all Europe in his prophecies) and that Cæsarianism is the only remedy:—as though history did not show that the crimes and degradation of the Roman Empire were the most potent auxiliaries of the barbaric invasion which the Commonwealth had twice repelled.

But with all these deficiencies and distortions of history, the 'Era of the Cæsars' is an instructive volume,—though not exactly in the sense which the author intended. It will awaken many a sincere but supine friend of Liberty and Progress to vigilance;—for it reveals the existence of enemies which he may have thought vanquished for ever. Though apparently treating of the Ancient World, it breathes the spirit of the Middle Ages,—which subsists in more men of the present day than is generally suspected. Too many well-wishers to Reform are inclined to repose on the excellence of their cause, and

to trust to the unaided and infallible march of the world towards improvement. It is well that they should see that all mankind is not walking in the same direction. The predestinarians of Progress are innumerable; it is well that a smart attack should now and then recall them to a more active creed. Instances of relapse into former errors and former servitudes are frequent in the world's history; and more than once the hardly-earned victory of one generation has been wrested from the careless or too confident hands of succeeding ones. Such relapses are most to be feared after periods of great excitement; and books like the one before us are useful to set us on our guard as to the danger of reaction against good principles merely because they may have given rise to excesses or to abuse.

In another respect this book is curious. In this country, it is fortunately easy to delude oneself into the belief that the cause of physical force can recruit partizans only amongst men of one class and of certain political opinions. We say fortunately,—for such theories appear mild and rational in an illiterate and half-starved artizan, when compared with the same doctrines advocated by men of refinement and education. Emancipation from want and ignorance may enlighten the one; but there is no hope of enlightenment for the man whose inward light is turned to darkness. On the Continent the case is different; and the supremacy of Force over Reason has of late found zealous and even eloquent supporters in the Assemblies of France, Spain, and Germany. Books on the subject are, however, somewhat more rare than speeches, and it is easy to conceive why. The friends of Force are generally men of action; and, what with fighting, shooting, hanging, and flogging, they have little or no time left for literary composition. They write their opinions in blood, with a sword's point,—and rarely condescend to handle a pen. But when, by a monstrous perversion of gifts, a man of letters embraces the cause of oppression and violence, his works are worth studying, as they afford valuable insight into the ultimate views and desires of his militant colleagues. For this reason, we have thought M. Romieu's book worth noticing, as one of several of the same description which have appeared within the last twelve months. It is curious to see the reproach which Pascal, in his bitter irony, addresses to Society, so openly justified:—"Ne pouvant faire que ce qui est juste fût fort, on a fait que ce qui est fort fût juste." It is strange to read in the middle of the nineteenth century passages like the following.—

It is not enough to have shown to what the theory of Reason applied to human affairs may lead us,—it is necessary to show that the theory is no sooner applied than it no longer suffices, but is obliged to lean for support on the sole active and enduring principle—Force. In what consists, for instance, the much-vaunted progress of self-taxation by the nation and of Legislative power confided to representative Assemblies? It is merely a hindrance to the march of business which, in absolute monarchies, is directed by one will and regulated by Force. An Assembly entertains a project: much time is lost in getting it printed and distributed to members, in nominating committees and making reports. A public debate takes place, in which every one has a pre-conceived opinion, which no phrases or arguments can alter. \* \* Then comes the vote. Two hundred senators happen to be of one way of thinking, and two hundred and one are of a contrary opinion. This means that the country has sided with these latter. The figure 1, which is the cause of it, suddenly assumes the historical proportions of Peter the Great or Louis XIV.; it wills and commands, for such is its good pleasure; and if you do not obey, it sends you, just as though it were Peter the Great or Louis XIV., its collectors, its bailiffs, and its soldiers; it will have

you dragged to prison, and, if needful, will cut off your head.

What would a law be without a penal sanction, and what is a penal sanction but Force? Whenever you cease to have recourse to it, and I see the law executed notwithstanding, I will fall down and worship your *Progress*,—till then, I must beg to consider it an inconvenient humbug.

We might multiply extracts,—we might transcribe attacks as virulent on the Jury, on the Press, on every free institution;—but we have exceeded our limits, and must be content with one more sample. The author indulges in abuse against those covetous masses, who are always trying to improve and better themselves, (what he terms "poisoning themselves at our educational tables"),—whereas the world would go on smoothly if they would only rest satisfied with their destitution and ignorance. But he sees no hope of this, and exclaims:—

I have not proclaimed the power of Force from choice,—I have merely presented it as a *fact*. I find it at the bottom of all human institutions, even of those which are considered to owe their birth to Liberty. It was apparent in all the plainness of a dogma among the ancients, and has only become obscured in modern times since the irruption of the Ideologists, a species of civil barbarians, who have undertaken the conquest of the world with speeches and writings. Their tyranny is as hard to bear to our cotemporaries as that of the German tribes can have been to our Gallic ancestors. They have disturbed the unconscious peace of the most secluded village homes; they have ravaged the mind and destroyed the soul; and now remain alone, struggling among themselves in the desolated land.

There is a mistake here. The Ideologists, as M. Romieu calls them—the champions of Reason against Force, the friends of discussion, argument and free examination, whose arms are speeches and writings—have not only undertaken the conquest of the world,—they have achieved it. They have for ever wrested the dominion of mankind from Cæsars and Prætorians, inquisitors and gendarmes. A northern Cæsar exclaimed, in speaking of his kingdom,—"God gave it to me, and the devil shall not take it from me:"—so may the "Ideologists" say of their intellectual empire,—"Reason has given, and Force shall not take away!"

We will not dismiss M. Romieu without one word of comfort. His book has afforded us amusement—more than he contemplated; and we will, in return, tell him an anecdote which we remember to have read of the poet Malherbe—an "Ideologist."—One day, while paying a visit to the Keeper of the Seals, Malherbe noticed a counsellor of Provence who appeared wrapped in profound sadness. Having inquired the cause of his great depression of spirits, the counsellor reminded him that the Princess of Conti had recently been delivered of twins, still-born,—and that the loss at one blow of two princes of the blood royal was a misfortune which could not fail to afflict all the honest men of the kingdom. "Sir, my good sir," exclaimed Malherbe hastily, "be comforted, a man like you will never want for masters."—So, we can safely assure M. Romieu, that, even should his hopes of coming Cæsarianism be disappointed, he will under any régime find some king, consul, president, or protector to whom he may devote his pen; and that a country in which theories like his should become general, would not long lack a Cæsar—or a Corporal—to put them in practice.

*The Clans of the Highlands of Scotland: being an Account of their Annals, separately and collectively, with Delineations of their Tartans and Family Arms.* Edited by Thomas Smibert, Esq. Edinburgh, Hogg.

This costly and somewhat showy volume (a work at which Sir Robert Walpole would have



started, and which he would have immediately suppressed) contains fifty-five coloured lithograph plates of tartans, and seven plates coloured and emblazoned of the arms of the several clans. The patterns are in size such as a linen-draper would forward to a customer,—as the *Journal of Design* would insert (in original) as illustrations of manufacture,—and as our grandmothers would have fashioned with skill and taste into a patchwork counterpane or table cloth. Great care has been taken, we are told, to ascertain and present the *true* setts of the several tartans of the clan Gael—in order to secure for future use the original designs “before modern and fanciful innovations shall have rendered any attempt of the kind hopeless and impracticable.” In the majority of the examples given, the editor has thought fit to follow the setts held as genuine at the Bannockburn manufactory of the Messrs. Wilson,—a firm of very old standing, and long distinguished for its desire to restore the tartans of the clans to their primary patterns. The head of a clan in the present day may perhaps choose for a freak to adopt a somewhat different sett from Mr. Smibert’s example; but his private loom it is thought will seldom differ for the better from the example worn by his forefathers when their feet were on their native heather and Walpole was a name unknown in the Highlands. Mr. Smibert, we need hardly add, differs materially in his patterns from those given in the costly work of the Messrs. Sobieski Stuart. He may be moreover wrong in some of his examples; but he will be found to have attended to his subject with care,—and not to have introduced a single sett without some particular reason for the selection. The MS. of setts which John Leslie, Bishop of Ross, is said to have left, is as much a fable as an early MS. of Ossian; while the intelligent Gael will probably smile, with Mr. Smibert, at the notion of the existence, at the Highland Society, of a sealed box of tartans admitted as “standard” by the whole body of the members.

The letter-press in the volume wears a heavy look, from the quantity of matter contained in each page; but it is legibly—and even learnedly—put together. The following passage on the origin of the tartan will be found interesting:—

“The period at which regular *Clan-Tartans* were first used over the Highlands has been the subject of frequent controversy. It seems probable, that, while the wearing of garments of diversified colours is to be viewed as a custom of great antiquity among the Gael, the adoption of formal family or tribe Tartans is at least not of equally distant origin. Lindsay, of Piscottie, in 1573, alluding to the dress of all the Highlanders generally, speaks only of ‘a mantle and a shirt, saffroned after the Irish manner.’ In like manner, a French traveller, in 1583, tells us of ‘a large and full shirt, coloured with saffron, and over this a garment hanging to the knees.’ By these and other old writers, the use of the *kilt* in their times is established beyond all doubt; and, indeed, the custom was even much more ancient, the nakedness of the Gael below the knees being noticed in the Norse Sagas eight centuries ago. ‘To the kilt, the common people seem to have added the *plaid*, which, worn over the shoulders, probably constituted nearly the whole of their primitive attire.’ The mantles of the rich, in truth, were but large plaids. With regard to the colours, it may be remarked, that Taylor, the water-poet, describes the Highlanders of 1618 as all wearing, without distinction, ‘stockings (which they call short hose) made of a warm stuff of divers colours, called Tartan,’ with ‘a plaid about their shoulders, which is a mantle of divers colours.’ The plaid and hose seem certainly to have been the first articles tinged as Tartans. In 1716, Martin relates that the plaid of the Islanders ‘consisted of divers colours,’ and that there was ‘a great deal of ingenuity required in sorting the colours, so as to be agreeable to the nicest fancy.’ It must be owned that he does not leave to us here a perfectly distinct account of

the use of established *Clan-Tartans* by the generality, though from another remark, to the effect that a connoisseur could tell the district where a plaid came from by its appearance, it may be presumed that some formal arrangements were usual at this time as regarded plaids. Some few years later, distinct notices appear of what must be understood as regular *Clan-Tartans*. When Lady Grange was carried away to St. Kilda, the agents in her abduction, according to her own account, were several ‘Highlanders in Lord Lovat’s livery.’ This can, only be interpreted as meaning the Fraser Tartan. In 1745, again, the clans were to a large extent attired in tartans peculiar to or adopted by their septs respectively. It seems very likely, indeed, that the Scottish Civil Wars, from those of Montrose down to the rising under Prince Charles, would be largely instrumental in causing a closer adherence to fixed forms of the Tartans by the Clans. Each, in all probability, would select, or be made to select that sett which its chiefs had used, perhaps long before, as a means of distinction from other chiefs. In that light, *Clan-Tartans* may be viewed as things of high antiquity. At all events, the form—the plaid and the kilt—and the general variegation of hues, are peculiarities of the Gaelic garb which in all likelihood originated even with their most remote Pictish sires.”

Sir Walter Scott’s love of the tartan (though a Lowlander) is incidentally alluded to by Mr. Smibert in the following passage.—

“Sir Walter Scott, strongly as he felt the kilt-fever at the time of George IV.’s visit in 1822, had far too much good sense and sound knowledge to assume to himself either philabeg or trews of many colours, or to dictate any such attire to his border kin and friends. He knew well that the good *grey plaid*, or ‘maud,’ black and white in its hues, formed the only tartan ever known or used by the Scottish Lowlanders. All that he did was to vary slightly the sett from the simple and small alternate squares of equal size, adopting the arrangement given in the plate, and which, in honour of him may be called the Scott Tartan. The draughtboard pattern, however, is that of the true Lowland tartan, if such a term may be used. Any tartan articles, beyond such trifles as scarfs or screens for ladies’ necks were, to all appearance, of rare occurrence in southern Scotland, until our Paisley or Glasgow factories began to approach their present eminence, and to scatter their produce far and wide over the lands. Allan Ramsay mentions a tartan plaid of many hues in his ‘Gentle Shepherd;’ but he wrote in the eighteenth century, and his description goes far to prove the article one of uncommon value. In works of the seventeenth century, the word ‘tartan’ is found to occur but very rarely; and, where it does occur, it seems as often to apply to the grey ‘plaiden’ as to anything else. In the sixteenth century, again, Lowland writers use the word ‘tartan’ still more unfrequently. No doubt, they knew the term, and applied it at times to parti-coloured worsted stuffs, wrought with something like Highland regularity; but half-a-dozen scattered allusions cannot establish it as a fact, that the tartan was ever in general use as a casual article of Lowland attire—much less that it was systematically used as a full dress, and by distinct tribes in distinct forms. In the Lowlands at least, and partly (as already stated) for local reasons, the stuffs sent from the venerable hand-loom of our sires were more distinguished by utility than by variegated beauty of dyes; and it was not until our manufacturing towns obtained the splendid aids in machinery, that the *decorative* became a grand feature in our manufacturing labours, often even throwing into the shade the *useful*, though, for the most part, the two have been successfully combined. Now-a-days, every admixture and arrangement of colours which the human fancy has been able to invent, or which ingenious instruments, such as the kaleidoscope, could suggest, have been applied to the adornment of all manner of stuffs, and by all manner of processes, until the varieties of tartans have become as multitudinous as the possible combinations of the hues of the rainbow. This changed state of things has affected the whole country; and it was to ascertain and establish the genuine and oldest setts of the proper tartans of the Highland Clans, before the influx of such variations rendered it impossible, that the present work was undertaken. The Highland chiefs themselves have of late thrown the most serious obstacles

in the way, seeing that they have been too ready to adopt changes at the mere dictation of fancy, with the view of improving, no doubt, the look of their family setts. They have introduced, besides, clan setts, and setts for their chiefs, and hunting setts, and drawing-room setts, until the real fundamental and primitive article is in danger of being lost to sight wholly. The present attempt has, therefore, only been made in time, if, indeed, not somewhat late in the day.”

The draughtboard pattern reminds us of an old Scotch lady who extorted, when in London for the first time, innocently enough, a stare and something beyond a titter from more than one cockney shopman by remarking—the mania for tartans in 1822 being at its height—“that [turning the several patterns aside on the counter] she didna want that sett or the ither sett,—ane was too gay and the ither too narrow; but [raising her voice]—canna ye fin’ me a *damboard* pattern?” The sound in a northern ear was innocent and explicit enough:—to southern hearing somewhat too explicit in a way that the reserved old Presbyterian matron never imagined for a moment,—and which she was greatly shocked at hearing explained to her by her southern companion.

We had hoped to have extracted some account of the tartan worn by that Rob Roy of the forest, the present Duke of Atholl—the head of the clan Murray. But the pattern would puzzle a speaking kaleidoscope to describe. The arms, however, of the Duke’s clan, with which Mr. Smibert’s account concludes, may—curiously enough at the present moment—conclude our account of Mr. Smibert’s book. They are—*Crest*, “a demi-savage wreathed, bearing a sword and key. *Supporters*, a lion collared and a savage fettered. *Motto*, Truth, Fortune and fill the Fetters.” These are at least appropriate. The “sword” in the present day is exchanged for the fist; but the Duke acts and dresses in a sort of “demi-savage” fashion,—and he keeps the “key” of Glen Tilt.

*The Personal History of David Copperfield.* By Charles Dickens. With illustrations by H. K. Browne. Bradbury & Evans.

THAT this is in many respects the most beautiful and highly finished work which the world has had from the pen of Mr. Dickens, we are strongly of opinion. It has all the merits to which the author already owes a world-wide popularity; with some graces which are peculiar to itself—or have been but feebly indicated in his former creations. In no previous fiction has he shown so much gentleness of touch and delicacy of tone,—such abstinence from trick in what may be called the level part of the narrative,—so large an amount of refined and poetical yet simple knowledge of humanity. The Chronicler himself is one of the best heroes ever sketched or wrought out by Mr. Dickens. Gentle, affectionate and trusting,—his fine observation and his love of reverie raise David Copperfield far above the level of sentimental lovers or hectoring youths whose fortunes and characters are too often in works of this sort made the axles on which the action and passion of the story turn. The loving, imaginative child—with his childish fancies perpetually reaching away towards heights too high for childhood to climb—his rapid and sympathetic instincts for enjoyment—his quick sense of injustice,—his tremulous foresight of coming griefs,—the boy seduced by the fascinating qualities of a dangerous friend,—the youth’s boy-love for his child-wife,—that love itself never faltering even to the end, yet by a fine instinctive information leading his mind to dim glimpses of a higher domestic happiness at which he might



have aimed,—all these are outlined, filled in and coloured without one stroke awry or one exaggerated tint to mar the portraiture. Few authors would have so finely comprehended the step-child's mixture of awe and curiosity under the tyranny of that she-turkey Miss Murdstone,—few could have touched the strange, inexplicable shrinking of the orphan when he makes one of the pleasure party of the merry and beneficent undertakers, Omer and Joram,—few could have so nicely indicated the relish which, in spite of their sorrows, their shabbiness, their difficulties, their fustian and their prosing, David could not help finding in the society of Mr. and Mrs. Micawber. In coarser hands this must have become a taste for bad company.—Then, over all there hangs that mournful sentiment which, being the natural accompaniment of all personal reviews of the past, never in its saddest expressions takes the tone of sentimentalism; but follows the narrative like a low, sweet—and true—music:—beginning with the narrator's first look out on his father's cold grave in the churchyard against which every night his mother's door is barred, and only ending with the last line that chronicles the gains, the trials and the losses of a life.

To the lovers of higher excitement—who have no relish for these natural truths—the tale before us will be less pleasing than many another written by Mr. Dickens, exactly for the reason which makes us like it better. As an autobiography—the story of a life—'David Copperfield' is—properly—more than usually destitute of defined and artistic plot. The looseness of texture as a story, however, is, on the one hand, imperfectly, sought to be disguised by afterthoughts,—on the other, rendered more apparent by one or two strained incidents and forced scenes. For instance:—the villany of Uriah Heep is made to crumble away like a bad *genie* in a fairy tale, whom the Hour and the Man has converted, in the waving of a wand, from a gigantic torturer into a wreath of smoke.—In the interests of Art, too, we must ask what was the purpose of giving to Betsey Trotwood that phantom husband of hers, if he had no more significant part to play than is here allotted to him?—The moods of Miss Mowcher we fancy have no natural ante-types. If we be wrong in this, we can only say—and so, our objection remains—*si è vero, non è ben trovato*.—With regard to the fortunes of Dr. Strong and his youthful wife, we suspect the author of some relenting in the progress of his work. But be this notion—which we get out of the Symphony to which the reconciliation scene is the Song—true or false, we have an objection to that scene so far at least as the wife's elaborate orations are concerned.—Then, there is Rosa Dartle again,—a creature the conception of whom is novel, bold, yet not unnatural. We can recognize her consuming passion, her ferocity, her vigilance and jealousy blended; but we are repelled—as by something painfully discordant, even in a nature like hers—by the tirades which she discharges against the ruined Emily, when she hunts out the lost girl for the purpose of terrifying her by a scene of sublime melodrama.

There is one other scene on which we have a remark in the way of objection to make. We make this with far more doubt than our other objectionable suggestions,—and it is sure, because of the great qualities of the scene itself, to find a less amount of acquiescence. The scene to which we allude is one of the most awful, elaborate and powerfully descriptive in the book:—that of the great storm in which the injured lover and the seducer perish within a hand's breadth of each other, close to the devastated home. That mortal calamity never takes the forms of such fantastic combina-

tion, who shall dare to say? That Doom and Horror are never symphonized as in all the careful preparations made for the catastrophe by Mr. Dickens, few will be prepared to assert. But the novelist is bound when wielding the thunderbolt to spare us the crucible and the laboratory:—for his own sake, as an artist, to conceal, not display, his recourse to forced expedients for the purpose of administering poetical justice—whether it shape itself into the vengeance of annihilation or into the vengeance of forgiveness. In spite of the amazing descriptive power here exhibited—a power that deafens as it were with the sounds and the assaults of wave and wind—in spite of the wonderful force given by accumulation of detail—we cannot divest ourselves of an impression of stage-effect; of that of a punishment elaborately adjusted by Man—rather than bursting on us with the terrible unexpectedness of the thunders of retribution. Even when Fate has been visibly approaching in the tragedies of Scott, his simplicity of manner has enabled him to invest the expected terror with the character of a surprise. What reader is not thus shaken by the arrival of *Ravenswood* in the midst of the contract-signers,—by the ghastly interruption of the bridal ball,—by the strange, wild incident of the hero's final disappearance,—though woe and death and ruin have been distinctly foreshown as about to follow the ill-starred meeting of the lovers from the very first pages of the story? Mr. Dickens must announce his devices with less pomp, and arrange them in less artificially imposing forms, if he would enjoy among artists the full fame which his descriptive powers entitle him otherwise to claim.—In reference to a book which is so full of wholesome and beautiful things, we should scarcely have cared to urge this point of objection, were there not in it so many signs of the mellowing and ripening processes through which successful and experienced genius passes having already taken place with Mr. Dickens. We do not demand from him a sacrifice of that exaggeration in which his forte lies, so much as a distribution of it. We would not yield up any characteristics of so keen an observer, so capital a narrator as Mr. Dickens:—only bring them into greater harmony one with the other, and himself into a better agreement with himself.

To point out half the strong points, shrewd hits and exquisite passages in this tale, would be a superfluous task, were it a possible one. Every reader has already by heart the disasters of little Dora's housekeeping,—including Mary Anne and the Life Guardsman, the tearful page, the pet dog in his pagoda and bells, that wasteful whole salmon, and those oysters locked fast in their shells of which the trusty Traddles made the best; but has every one sufficiently admired the unobtrusive skill with which we are made to allow for the child-wife's folly without granting her a fool's pardon,—to feel that she is a mistake in the hero's fortunes, yet love her and weep for her early withering away?—Every body has revelled in Miss Betsey Trotwood's racy eccentricity,—her donkey-phobia, her antipathy to Peggotty as one having a Pagan name:—but some of her most whimsical outbursts and most womanly sophistries may have escaped the reader in the heat of first perusal. Hear her, for instance, like another Queen Bess, working herself up into high disdain on the subject of first and second marriages.—

“Whatever possessed that poor unfortunate Baby, that she must go and be married again,” said my aunt, when I had finished, “I can't conceive.” “Perhaps she fell in love with her second husband,” Mr. Dick suggested. “Fell in love,” repeated my aunt, “What do you mean? What business had she to do it?” “Perhaps,” Mr. Dick simpered, after thinking a little, “she did it for pleasure.” “Pleasure,

indeed!” replied my aunt. “A mighty pleasure for the poor baby to fix her simple faith upon any dog of a fellow, certain to ill-use her in some way or other. What did she propose to herself, I should like to know! She had had one husband. She had seen David Copperfield out of the world, who was always running after wax dolls from his cradle. She had got a baby—oh, there were a pair of babies when she gave birth to this child sitting here, that Friday night!—and what more did she want?” “\* \* \* And then, as if this was not enough, and she had not stood sufficiently in the light of this child's sister, Betsey Trotwood,” said my aunt, “she marries a second time—goes and marries a Murderer—or a man with a name like it—and stands in *this* child's light! And the natural consequence is, as anybody but a baby might have foreseen, that he prowls and wanders. He's as like Cain before he was grown up, as he can be.” Mr. Dick looked hard at me, as if to identify me in this character.—“And then there's that woman with the Pagan name,” said my aunt, “that Peggotty, she goes and gets married next. Because she has not seen enough of the evil attending such things, she goes and gets married next, as the child relates. I only hope,” said my aunt, shaking her head, “that her husband is one of those Poker husbands who abound in the newspapers, and will beat her well with one.”

Aunt Betsey's delicious sophistries about Mr. Dick, too, are positively Shandean in their humour.—

“I say again,” said my aunt, “nobody knows what that man's mind is except himself; and he's the most amenable and friendly creature in existence. If he likes to fly a kite sometimes, what of that! Franklin used to fly a kite. He was a Quaker, or something of that sort, if I am not mistaken. And a Quaker flying a kite is a much more ridiculous object than anybody else.”

Then, commend us to the Micawbers:—he, with his genteel manner and his delight in his own epistolary powers, his conviviality at a moment's warning, his sanguine readiness to take any conceivable shape or embrace any possible project, his mathematical I O U's and magnificent obliviousness of all money difficulties;—she, with her affable air of business, her wondrous lucidity and orderliness in counsel, her family affections always “on the gush,” and that one song by Storace which she contributes by way of melody to the ever-recurring jug of punch. Few things have been richer than the sudden metamorphosis of the whole family into settlers. “We must give the outfit of the party: followed by a passage of admirable word painting.—

“Mr. Micawber, I must observe, in his adaptation of himself to a new state of society, had acquired a bold buccaneering air, not absolutely lawless, but defensive and prompt. One might have supposed him a child of the wilderness, long accustomed to live out of the confines of civilisation, and about to return to his native wilds.—He had provided himself, among other things, with a complete suit of oil-skin, and a straw-hat with a very low crown, pitched or caulked on the outside. In this rough clothing, with a common mariner's telescope under his arm, and a shrewd trick of casting up his eye at the sky as looking out for dirty weather, he was far more nautical, after his manner, than Mr. Peggotty. His whole family, if I may so express it, were cleared for action. I found Mrs. Micawber in the closest and most uncompromising of bonnets, made fast under the chin; and in a shawl which tied her up (as I had been tied up, when my aunt first received me) like a bundle, and was secured behind at the waist, in a strong knot. Miss Micawber I found made snug for stormy weather, in the same manner; with nothing superfluous about her. Master Micawber was hardly visible in a Guernsey shirt, and the shaggiest suit of slops I ever saw; and the children were done up, like preserved meats, in impervious cases. Both Mr. Micawber and his eldest son wore their sleeves loosely turned back at the wrists, as being ready to lend a hand in any direction, and to ‘tumble up,’ or sing out ‘Yeo—Heave—Yeo!’ on the shortest notice.—Thus Traddles and I found



them at nightfall, assembled on the wooden steps, at that time known as Hungerford Stairs, watching the departure of a boat with some of their property on board. \* \* \* 'If you have any opportunity of sending letters home, on your passage, Mrs. Micawber,' said my aunt, 'you must let us hear from you, you know.'—'My dear Miss Trotwood,' she replied, 'I shall only be too happy to think that any one expects to hear from us. I shall not fail to correspond. Mr. Copperfield, I trust, as an old familiar friend, will not object to receive occasional intelligence, himself, from one who knew him when the twins were yet unconscious?'—'I said that I should hope to hear, whenever she had an opportunity of writing.'—'Please Heaven, there will be many such opportunities,' said Mr. Micawber. 'The ocean, in these times, is a perfect fleet of ships; and we can hardly fail to encounter many, in running over. It is merely crossing,' said Mr. Micawber, trifling with his eye-glass, 'merely crossing. The distance is quite imaginary.'—'I think, now, how odd it was, but how wonderfully like Mr. Micawber, that, when he went from London to Canterbury, he should have talked as if he were going to the farthest limits of the earth; and, when he went from England to Australia, as if he were going for a little trip across the channel.'—'On the voyage, I shall endeavour,' said Mr. Micawber, 'occasionally to spin them a yarn; and the melody of my son Wilkins will, I trust, be acceptable at the galley-fire. When Mrs. Micawber has her sea-legs on,—an expression in which I hope there is no conventional impropriety—she will give them, I dare say, Little Taffin. Porpoises and dolphins, I believe, will be frequently observed athwart our Bows; and, either on the Starboard or the Larboard Quarter, objects of interest will be continually descried. In short,' said Mr. Micawber, with the old genteel air, 'the probability is, all will be found so exciting, alow and aloft, that when the look-out, stationed in the main-top, cries Land-ho; we shall be very considerably astonished!'"

A last glance at the emigrant ship—within.—"It was such a strange scene to me, and so confined and dark, that, at first, I could make out hardly anything; but, by degrees, it cleared, as my eyes became more accustomed to the gloom, and I seemed to stand in a picture by Ostade. Among the great beams, bulks, and ringbolts of the ship, and the emigrant-berths, and chests, and bundles, and barrels, and heaps of miscellaneous baggage—lighted up here and there by dangling lanterns, and elsewhere by the yellow day-light straying down a windsail or a hatchway—were crowded groups of people, making new friendships, taking leave of one another, talking, laughing, crying, eating and drinking; some, already settled down into the possession of their few feet of space, with their little households arranged, and tiny children established on stools, or in dwarf elbow-chairs; others, despairing of a resting-place, and wandering disconsolately. From babies who had but a week or two of life behind them, to crooked old men and women who seemed to have but a week or two of life before them; and from ploughmen bodily carrying out soil of England on their boots, to smiths taking away samples of its soot and smoke upon their skins; every age and occupation appeared to be crammed into the narrow compass of the 'tween decks."

The ship seen from without.—

"The time was come. I embraced him, took my weeping nurse upon my arm, and hurried away. On deck, I took leave of poor Mrs. Micawber. She was looking distractedly about for her family, even then; and her last words to me were, that she never would desert Mr. Micawber. We went over the side into our boat, and lay at a little distance to see the ship wafted on her course. It was then calm, radiant sunset. She lay between us and the red light; and every taper line and spar was visible against the glow. A sight at once so beautiful, so mournful, and so hopeful, as the glorious ship, lying, still, on the flushed water, with all the life on board her crowded at the bulwarks, and there clustering, for a moment, bare-headed and silent, I never saw. Silent, only for a moment. As the sails rose to the wind, and the ship began to move, there broke from all the boats three resounding cheers, which those on board took up, and echoed back, and which were echoed and re-echoed."

As we turn again, for the purposes of this notice, over the pages that during their course of publication yielded us so much enjoyment, our regret is, that the most charming passages of the book are those which we cannot detach for extract in explanation of that delight. But our readers either have made, or will make, acquaintance with them elsewhere. Meantime, we must borrow one passage which to them—so far, at least, as its moral is concerned—will need no introduction,—because it brings excellent satire in aid of truths which have long been gravely argued in the *Athenæum*. Copperfield is taken to see the Model Prison.—

"However, I heard so repeatedly, in the course of our goings to and fro, of a certain Number Twenty-Seven, who was the Favourite, and who really appeared to be a Model Prisoner, that I resolved to suspend my judgment until I should see Twenty-Seven. Twenty-Eight, I understood, was also a bright particular star; but it was his misfortune to have his glory a little dimmed by the extraordinary lustre of Twenty-Seven. I heard so much of Twenty-Seven, of his pious admonitions to everybody around him, and of the beautiful letters he constantly wrote to his mother (whom he seemed to consider in a very bad way) that I became quite impatient to see him. I had to restrain my impatience for some time, on account of Twenty-Seven being reserved for a concluding effect. But, at last, we came to the door of his cell; and Mr. Creakle, looking through a little hole in it, reported to us, in a state of the greatest admiration that he was reading a Hymn Book. There was such a rush of heads immediately, to see Twenty-Seven reading his Hymn Book, that the little hole was blocked up, six or seven heads deep. To remedy this inconvenience, and give us an opportunity of conversing with Twenty-Seven in all his purity, Mr. Creakle directed the door of the cell to be unlocked, and Twenty-Seven to be invited out into the passage. This was done; and who should Traddles and I then behold to our amazement, in this converted Number Twenty-Seven, but Uriah Heep. He knew us directly; and said, as he came out—with the old writhe,—"How do you do, Mr. Copperfield? How do you do, Mr. Traddles?"—This recognition caused a general admiration in the party. I rather thought that everyone was struck by his not being proud, and taking notice of us.—'Well, Twenty-Seven,' said Mr. Creakle, mournfully admiring him. 'How do you find yourself to-day?'—'I am very umble, sir!' replied Uriah Heep.—'You are always so, Twenty-Seven,' said Mr. Creakle.—Here, another gentleman asked, with extreme anxiety: 'Are you quite comfortable?'—'Yes, I thank you, sir,' said Uriah Heep, looking in that direction. 'Far more comfortable here, than ever I was outside. I see my follies now, sir. That's what makes me comfortable.'—Several gentlemen were much affected; and a third questioner, forcing himself to the front, inquired with extreme feeling: 'How do you find the beef?'—'Thank you, sir,' replied Uriah, glancing in the new direction of this voice, 'it was tougher yesterday than I could wish; but it's my duty to bear. I have committed follies, gentlemen,' said Uriah, looking round with a meek smile, 'and I ought to bear the consequences without repining.' A murmur, partly of gratification at Twenty-Seven's celestial state of mind, and partly of indignation against the Contractor who had given him any cause of complaint (a note of which was immediately made by Mr. Creakle), having subsided, Twenty-Seven stood in the midst of us, as if he felt himself the principal object of merit in a highly meritorious museum. That we, the neophytes, might have an excess of light shining upon us all at once, orders were given to let out Twenty-Eight. I had been so much astonished already, that I only felt a kind of resigned wonder when Mr. Littimer walked forth, reading a good book! 'What is your state of mind, Twenty-Eight?' said the questioner in spectacles.—'I thank you, sir,' returned Mr. Littimer; 'I see my follies now, sir. I am a good deal troubled when I think of the sins of my former companions, sir; but I trust they may find forgiveness.'—'You are quite happy yourself?' said the questioner, nodding encouragement.—'I am much obliged to you, sir,' returned Mr. Littimer. 'Perfectly so.'—'Is there anything at all on

your mind, now?' said the questioner. 'If so, mention it, Twenty-Eight.—'Sir,' said Mr. Littimer, without looking up, 'If my eyes have not deceived me, there is a gentleman present who was acquainted with me in my former life. It may be profitable to that gentleman to know, sir, that I attribute my past follies, entirely to having lived a thoughtless life in the service of young men; and to having allowed myself to be led by them into weaknesses, which I had not strength to resist. I hope that gentleman will take warning, sir, and will not be offended at my freedom. It is for his good. I am conscious of my own past follies. I hope he may repent of all the wickedness and sin to which he has been a party.'—I observed that several gentlemen were shading their eyes, each, with one hand, as if they had just come into church.—'This does you credit, Twenty-Eight,' returned the questioner.—'I should have expected it of you. Is there anything else?'"

Half-a-hundred more traits strike us each in its peculiar way marking the artist—as we are about to close these remarks. We could point to Mr. Spenlow's lecture on will-making, followed by Mr. Spenlow's death intestate, as a fine illustration of human self-cheatery,—to the French butterflies in the Old Soldier's cap, as a wonderful bit of costume,—to the kind, hopeful, cheery Traddles, among that unlimited number of girls, his sisters-in-law, as a cordial illustration of domestic felicity. Mrs. Gummidge is the best of the inhabitants of the old boat; though Peggotty's search for his niece—a bit of extravagance—nevertheless becomes poetical in its pathos.—Enough, however, has been noted and quoted to illustrate our honest judgment and our high admiration of this best work of a genial and powerful writer.

*Anthology for the Year 1782*—[*Anthologie, &c.*].

By Friedrich Schiller. Newly edited, with introductory Essay and Appendix, by Edward Bülow. Heidelberg, Bangel & Schmitt; London, Williams & Norgate.

A few words will suffice to inform those who delight in German classics of the republication, after a pause of nearly seventy years, of Schiller's 'Anthology for 1782.' In this volume they will recognize a document of some importance in the poet's history. He published it with a fictitious imprint while still fretting at Stuttgart under the control of the Duke of Würtemberg.—soon after 'The Robbers' came out:—and it is said to have been the immediate occasion of that escape to Mannheim, in 1782, which was a decisive turning point in his destiny. The Duke, it will be remembered, assumed the right of criticizing his subject's literary productions,—and commanded him, on the appearance of 'The Robbers,' to submit all future compositions to his judgment:—an order which was not obeyed. The disobedience was aggravated in the sovereign's eyes by the style of some pieces in the Anthology; which was, in truth, sufficiently harsh and daring to alarm critics of the legitimate school. The Duke angrily forbade Schiller to publish anything in future except on the subjects belonging to his (medical) profession. Hereupon the poet fled:—it was, indeed, time.

The original of this *corpus delicti* has long been extremely scarce. The critics of Schiller's works have not hitherto paid much attention to the poems in this volume which were excluded from the later collections; nor have they sufficiently noticed the alterations made by the author in those which are reprinted, among the compositions of his "first period." Foreign biographers appear for the most part to have known this volume by description only: and by some of them its existence even is not expressly mentioned. Thus, as some thirty out of the whole number of fifty-two poems which Schiller contributed to it have never since been



reprinted, its revival may serve a more considerable object than that of merely gratifying the natural curiosity of the poet's admirers.

As these may be presumed to be familiar with such accounts of the production of this little work as may be found in all the German biographies, from Döring down to Hoffmeister (that by Caroline von Wollzogen excepted)—we shall merely say of the reprint that, if not an actual fac-simile of the original 'Siberian Anthology,' it is a literal repetition of its contents,—including the extravagant dedication to Death, and the wild preface signed with Schiller's Y, and dated "Tobolsko." The first printer (Petersen of Stuttgart, we believe,) certainly did not set off the anonymous work,—and probably, in that slovenly age of the German press, could not have produced it with so pretty a dress of paper and type as it is now clothed in. The modern copy, identical for all critical uses with its parent, will be none the less welcome for this improvement in costume to its proper place on the shelves where standard editions of the poet are already deposited.

For thus putting it within reach, the editor is entitled to our thanks. But these being duly paid, we must declare an entire dissent from the grounds on which he chiefly rests the merit of its disinterment. Nor can we describe the Essay in which they are set forth as adding any value to the publication. Its proper claims to notice have been already pointed out:—as marking a period in the personal history no less than in the mental productions of the poet; whose crude energies and turbid enthusiasm at that epoch are objects of interest, not as admirable in themselves, but as showing the rough elements of powers which afterwards became, under the discipline of a noble ambition, ministers to pure beauty and to dignified emotions. This is by no means Herr\* Bülow's view of the 'Anthology.' He claims for that tumultuous rage of boyish genius which storms throughout all of Schiller's early performances—especially in 'The Robbers'—a superior relative merit, which the author himself wholly disavowed, both by word and by act, and which until now, we apprehend, none of his warmest admirers have ever thought of assigning to it. It is easy to account for the extravagance and clamorous vehemence of the young poet, when the peculiar circumstances of his position, acting on the ardent character of his mind, are considered. Herr Bülow goes much further; sees in it a higher kind of inspiration than any which animates his riper works, and finds the flower of his poetic excellence in those first ravings of passionate inexperience which oppression had rendered for the moment desperate. He worships as an incarnation of supreme power what critics have termed the *dæmonic* spirit of 'The Robbers,' of 'The Child Murderess,' &c.,—a spirit which ordinary men regard as the ferment only of a rich nature pent up too closely in the first stage of its development,—which, after the constraint was removed, and time had brought knowledge and reflection, gradually became clearer and brighter, until it flowed in such music as 'The Song of the Bell,' or in the sonorous majesty and pathos of 'Wallenstein' and 'Tell.' All such judgments Herr Bülow considers narrow and impotent. The poet, in clearing his notions of mere boyish fumes, and purging away the coarse violence and *burschikose* tones of his first manner, made, we are now told, a descent from his *dæmonic* height to an inferior range of art. 'The Robbers,' accordingly, is to be viewed as Schiller's best play;

the poems of the "*Laura epoch*" as surpassing those which have until now been ranked among the choicest fruits of the German Parnassus. In the period in question we have been taught to gaze with interest on the stormy dawn which was followed by an illustrious day:—to watch the future Achilles in his clamorous infancy, before he lost the name of Ligyrrus (*the loud-screaming*) under the sage tuition of Chiron. The picture must now be reversed:—this was in fact the culminating epoch of the poet,—whose pyramid of fame, according to Herr Bülow, must henceforth be placed not on its base, but on its apex,—to the admiration, no doubt, of all bystanders.

The grounds of such questionable conclusions we need not minutely examine. It will be enough to state that the *dæmonic* element, which it is the purpose of the essay to illustrate and extol, is expressly described by the editor as beginning its proper action beyond those limits which Nature and Reason have fixed, and within which only their steps are attended by Truth and Beauty. This candid definition of what he admires releases us from the necessity of discussing his theory of poetic art:—it being no part of our office to enter on topics of elegant letters that avowedly transgress the boundaries above mentioned. Herr Bülow celebrates the chaotic sphere which ranges beyond them expressly on the ground that it is "revolutionary." The vast, we will not say monstrous, productions to which it gives birth he thinks needed at times to quicken the stagnant genius of nations: that the stormy breathings from that heated limbo clear the air, as hurricanes refresh the climate of the tropics. Hence the peculiar fitness of now republishing a collection in which some of the most *dæmonic* dashes of Schiller's pen have undoubtedly been preserved.

So much for this view of the publication. We shall not notice other critical details of the Essay, the general literary *sans-culotteism* of which is in keeping with the tenor of its professed chief purpose. This, we must observe, need not impair the proper use of the volume, nor chill the welcome which it may deserve on very different grounds. The Essay, we shall add, being quite separable from the body of the reprint, may be detached at will by those who are more glad to possess an early document of the poet's career than likely to agree with Herr Bülow's strange estimate of its absolute or relative value.

*Episodes of Insect Life.* By Acheta Domestica, M.E.S. Third Series. Reeve & Co.

We have looked forward to meeting our old friend at Christmas with anticipations of enjoyment—remembering the pleasant hours that we passed with her in the two preceding years. Nor have our expectations been disappointed:—our gossip is as merry, as instructive, as wise as ever. Perhaps we may say that the two past years of busy political and commercial change have driven her to withdraw further from the world of men, and to concentrate her attention more closely on the objects of her care and study. Nor let any one smile in ignorance at the pursuit of the entomologist, or suppose that refuge in the study of insect life is fit only for a weak and ill-instructed mind. Within compass of the structure and habits of the tribes of lower animals that we call insects, lie shrouded thousands of questions which once answered by human sagacity would shed light on some of the most difficult problems involved in the functions of the human body, and in the results of human industry and labour. Let him who doubts our statement sit down and read with attention the volumes of which this is the third, devoted almost entirely to a consideration of

the habits of insects. In their high organization in relation to the groups of lower animals (the Invertebrata), in their rapid movements, in the multiplicity of their external wants, and in the almost conscious intelligence which characterizes their instincts, we find a wonderful analogy with man himself; so that the details of their life have an interest which, though less perhaps than in some of the creatures more nearly approaching to man in structure, is certainly more varied than in any. The small size of these creatures, too, permits in their persons caricature of the habits in which they may be supposed to be actuated by human motives, without producing the feeling of offence which might result from similar attribution to the higher animals. Of this point our author has taken admirable advantage; and she has succeeded in producing what we may call a series of insect romances that have no equal, in their claim of style and fidelity to nature, in any similar attempts with which we are acquainted.

We can, however, do no more than give our readers a specimen here and there of the pleasant sketches and tales with which the present volume abounds. It will be recollected that in the first and second series the subjects were treated according as the months of the year suggested them. At the end of the last series, we were drawing towards the autumn,—and in these closing pages we are carried on to the end of the year. The first chapter opens with a discussion on the tribe of insects to which the grasshopper and locust belong. Here we are treated to a commentary on Anacreon's Ode to the Grasshopper. Although there can be no doubt that the Grecian species was different from that of Britain, yet the correspondence of their habits justifies the application of the language of the poet to the one as well as to the other. The author has used on this occasion the translation of Cowley,—in which very considerable liberties are taken with the original:—still, the description applies well to our own merry insect. One of our common grasshoppers is thus described.—

"One of the largest and most conspicuous, both for size and song, of our native grasshoppers, is the 'Large Green,' with rather a sharp head, large prominent eyes, ample wings, and slender antennæ as long as the body. This noble of his tribe is not an unfrequent resorter to hedges and marshy places; and though his green armour may easily escape observation, his loud chirping can hardly fail to attract notice, especially amidst the general silence of the feathered choir, in the songless months of August and September. Favoured, however, by this pervading stillness, together with the long antennal ears wherewith nature has furnished him, he catches, presently, the sound of an approaching footfall, and ceases the music which might betray the secret of his lurking-place. The above grandee of grasshoppers, as well as his more insignificant brethren, is in the frequent habit of filling up idle pauses between his music and his meals by a sort of seeming rumination, which many have considered an actual chewing of the cud; whereas it is opined by others, that, instead of ruminating, like Mistress Colly, the *Sieur Gryllus* thinks of nothing but of licking, like Miss Grimalkin, his superb whiskers (otherwise antennæ) and his paws,—an operation performed, by the way, with a tongue not at all dissimilar in shape to the unruly member boasted by ourselves. Whether or not chewers of the cud, grasshoppers are, decidedly, croppers of the grass; but we are assured, on good authority, that they now and then are nothing scrupulous in the variation of such Brahminian fare, by taking, as a relish, some innocent little insect of a kind differing from themselves; still worse, that when made fellow-prisoners (hard pressed by hunger or confinement) they have been known to commit the cannibal enormity of devouring one another—an example being given wherein one of the gentler sex (which, by the way, among insects is usually the fiercer) was the doer of the

\* Is this the same person as the editor of Kleist's remains (*Athen.* No. 1140)? The name there is, indeed, *Von Bülow*, but affections change with the times; and there may now be, in writers of certain opinions, as much industry shown in getting rid of the particle *as* was formerly applied to procure it.



deed. But, worst of all!—horror of horrors!—we have it on excellent evidence, how that a certain great green grasshopper (one of the sort just described) on being bottled up together with his own leg (accidentally detached), did make a hearty meal off that late portion of himself. The reverend naturalist by whom this unnatural act is recorded, performed, himself, what in some prejudiced opinions might appear a crowning feat of horror. He followed the example of the *Aceridophagi*, and pronounced, on experience, the large green grasshopper of England to be 'an excellent condiment.'"

The laws which limit the injurious multiplication of particular species of organic beings are of singular interest throughout all nature,—but they possess remarkable characters in the insect kingdom. Certain forms of insect life have a great tendency to increase; and we find that occasionally natural causes occur to prevent the means provided for their destruction from acting till they become a plague on the surface of the earth. The larvæ are generally more destructive than perfect insects; and in order to prevent their increase tribes are created to prey on them. None of these destroyers of their race have elicited more interest than the family of the ichneumons. Here is an account of their proceedings with the caterpillar of the large white butterfly, which is occasionally so destructive to cabbages in our gardens.—

"While stuffing its variegated doublet of green, black, and yellow, with vegetable pulp, a small ichneumon, a little four-winged imp, with black body and yellow legs, pounces on its back, flourishes her tremendous egg-inserting weapon, and seeking therewith the caterpillar's most vulnerable part, plunges it, now here, now there, between its rings, leaving, with every puncture, a 'thorn in the flesh,' soon to be the living prey of a brood of devourers. The victim of this infliction bears all with a most astonishing degree of quietude; and, without any outward signs of the visitation which has befallen it, continues to discuss its cabbage with apparently the same relish as before, and utterly unconscious that, while seeming to feed only itself, it is in reality supporting the surreptitious progeny which Mother Ichneumon has so cunningly committed to its involuntary keeping. Thus strangely supported, the infant or grub cuckoo-flies attain their growth, and so, to all appearance, does their unfortunate fosterer, the caterpillar. According to instinctive custom, the latter, then deserting its cabbage, betakes itself, perhaps in July or August, to the sheltering coping of a garden wall, or cross-bar of a paling; places where, in the common course of nature, it is accustomed to discard the caterpillar and put on the chrysalis form. But Nature has, in this case, been overruled (we may be certain, as always by the wise permission of her Great Master), the tiny ichneumon having been employed as the agent of her defeat. We have happened, perhaps, to see a caterpillar, visited as just described, ascend its wall or paling. In a day or two, perhaps in a few hours, we see it again, still a caterpillar, and alive, but reduced almost to an empty skin, while heaped around it is a mass of little oval cocoons of yellow silk. By some people these might be taken for the caterpillar's eggs; by others, for a specimen of its own spinning; and they might suppose, moreover, that it had worked so hard as well-nigh to work itself to death; but no such thing—the yellow silken cases have been spun by the little brood of parasites, which, having simultaneously deserted the poor shrunken body of their fosterer, have thus shrouded themselves for safe attainment of the winged perfection which she (poor blighted promise of a butterfly!) is never to attain."

The luminousness of insects has yielded to our author a subject for a few pages of very pleasant writing. We may excuse her, perhaps, that she is not acquainted with the latest scientific researches on this point. Enough for the purpose here intended is the fact, that at present the causes of this singular phenomenon are little understood. We extract the following bit of criticism on an expression of our

great Poet in reference to the glowworm's light.—

"Enough, at all events, has been ascertained about the illuminating matter of the glowworm's lamp to prove it perfectly incapable of setting light to any tapers save those of fairy manufacture. Who could quarrel with that pretty conceit of our immortal Bard which converts 'the glowworm's fiery eyes' into lucifers for the use of Titania's household? Yet, in our character of entomologist, we may, perhaps, be permitted to observe, that Shakespeare has here taken more of poet's licence than he is wont to do in his allusions to natural objects, which are in general so infinitely more correct than those of his modern brethren of the lyre. It is admissible enough to term 'fiery' what looks luminous, but it is a long stretch, truly, even to the length of the creature's antipodes, to endow it with 'fiery eyes,' in lieu of a fiery-seeming tail. Though the eyes of most night-prowlers are luminous, those of the female glowworm are not, we believe, at all so, any more than those of her flying mate; but the latter are prodigiously large, so large as to constitute the largest portion of his head. The purpose of these disproportioned organs cannot, perhaps, be positively told; but, according to the old theory of the 'light of love,' we should suppose that if the lady glowworm (an insect Hero) were, on first acquaintance, to exclaim to her Leander, 'Oh, my dear! what great eyes you have!' he would reply, like the wolfish granddam, though in quite another spirit, 'Ah, love! they are all the better to see you with!' Before having quite done with 'fiery eyes,' we may notice that if the 'Swan of Avon' had applied this epithet to the moth instead of glowworm, his fancy would have better corresponded with fact; for a fact it is, though probably quite unknown in the days of Shakespeare, that many species of night-flying moths are endowed with luminosity in the organs of sight, the light being most visible while the insect is in motion."

The author advocates the notion that the mole cricket, when flying, occasionally emits a phosphorescent light, giving rise to one of the sources of the *ignis fatuus*. There is an interesting tale introduced, in which the luminousness of the mole cricket is made to furnish the principal incident. This tale shows how a knowledge of natural causes may serve to explain away some of the goblins that are so great a terror to the ignorant. Of course the history of the "death-watch" and of allied causes of alarm could not escape Acheta; and under the head of 'Insect Dirge-Players' we have an account of these entomological horrors. The nature of the ticking of the death-watch is now, however, too well understood to need that we should reproduce the description. There is another insect alarmist less known, the illustration of whose terrors we must give.—

"At the open window of her solitary kitchen, half lighted by this October moon, half by a flaring candle, sits All-work Deborah at her tea. Why, suddenly arrested in its prophetic orbit, does the tea-cup, in the very turn of fortune, drop, shivered, from her shaking hand? Why does her tallowy dip, dip at once into darkness? What is the wailing cry that salutes her startled ear? Is it the voice of a screech-owl from the barn, or the squeal of a mouse from the cupboard? No! It is the shriek of some gloomy night-flier, which, entering at the casement, has put out the candle, and deposits its dusky form upon the snow-white dresser. Deborah can only dimly discern it by help of the moon. 'Oh, for a light! My sweetheart for a light!' she inwardly ejaculates; but the evening is warm, the grate is cold, and the damsel dares not stir. At length, however, in some way or another—whether by aid of embers or of lucifer, not Deborah herself could ever tell—the candle is relit; she could only testify that its flame burnt blue. With trembling hand she places it on the dresser, to 'show up' the characters of her alarming visitant, who ever and anon continues to salute her with its mournful wail. Deborah is a country girl, and has therefore learnt, of course, to distinguish betwixt a butterfly and a black beetle; and she thought, till this awful moment, that she knew, quite as well, the difference between a brown moth and a spirit, black,

white, or grey. That the thing upon her dresser is a moth, of size prodigious, the candle seems to tell her; but there, as it lies, vibrating its dingy pinions in unison with its dismal cry, somewhat else seems to tell her that it is no moth at all, or a moth of most strange unnatural behaviour, not at all to her liking. Whether to rid herself by fair means, or by foul, of her unwelcome guest, 'that is the question.' By alarming, to drive away, she might bring the creature in her very face, or on her very back; better at once to 'end it.' So Deborah screws up her courage,—seizes on a knife,—approaches with a murderer's step her now quiescent victim, and with a dexterity, under existing circumstances, perfectly miraculous, severs its head from its body. Then, as though a coffin had popped from out the grate, bounds the plump person of Deborah from the dresser with a piercing scream. Most marvellous!—most horrible!—She hears again, louder and more doleful than before, that melancholy cry, and it is the moth's bodiless head, or headless body, from whence it issues. Snap!—like her jack-chain in the morning, had gone the spring of Deborah's wound-up courage; but now desperation solders it together, and, after a stop, her bodily machine is once more in motion towards the dresser. She lifts the candle—holds it nearer to the object, the now twofold object of her terror—she looks—she listens—perhaps her ears, or eyes, or hand, had played her false;—but, no! they and her murderous weapon had all been true:—here lies the head, there the body,—and, sure enough, too, the head still wails as if in suffering, and the body heaves, and the dark wings quiver, as if in indignation. But it is not alone these quivering pinions which impart a motion like their own to Deborah's whitened lip. It is not even the wail of that dismembered head which causes her heart to beat like a muffled drum, in accompaniment of its plaintive pipe; but she sees—she sees, plain as the effigy on Master Thomson's new tombstone—right on the creature's back, between its shoulders, another head—an eyeless skull—magnified, by terror and consciousness of cruelty, into size above the human. Poor Deborah beholds no more—she has seen and heard too much, and falls, plump as her person, on the kitchen floor. There her mistress, after having by reiterated peals broken the parlour bell, was the first to find her. In due time, this veracious tale of wonder was gathered from the domestic's lips; and in the mutilated object of her alarm, was discovered the decapitated corpse—of a Death's-head Moth."

We have seen how insects mimic man in his habits. They form communities, and govern by laws even more severe and definite than his own. They have also wants which can be supplied only by the use of materials from the external world manufactured by insect ingenuity and industry into various forms. Why should we not, then, have an Exhibition of the Industry of all Insects? This thought is suggested by one of the very clever tail-pieces that illustrate the volume before us. We might take up the programme of the Commissioners for the human Exhibition of 1851, and obtain specimens from the insect world for almost every section. There are few chapters more interesting in this volume—perhaps we might say more suggestive—than the one entitled 'A New Gallery of Practical Science.' In this gallery the author speaks *ex cathedra*.—

"Ladies and gentlemen of a mechanic turn, we can introduce you to a new theatre of exhibition, where ingenious mechanisms, arts, and manufactures are in daily operation. There, without payment of a shilling, you may look upon diving-bells and balloons—see bodies propelled through water by the strokes of an internal piston—examine the models of a lifeboat and a raft—observe the effect of cleverly-constructed buoys—behold in practice, or in their finished productions, the crafts of masonry, carpentry, spinning, weaving, and paper-making—see the operations of, and the implements for, boring and tunneling, the exercises of rowing and diving, with various other clever and curious performances, of which the Polytechnic can do no more, and in many instances does less, than display the parallels. Should you even be of the number who frequent the above-named



gallery for its music rather than its mechanisms, for its pictures rather than its philosophy, our theatre lacks not something to suit your humour. We are not without our stringed instruments and our drums; and pictures we can show you of which the vivid colours and the graceful forms come out as if by magic, slowly, and to all seeming, self-arranging, like the tints and outlines of each new landscape in a series of dissolving views. Should you even be of those who delight more in the freaks of nature than in the experiments of art, should you despise the diving-bell and patronize the dwarf, we can treat you with specimens of the singular and grotesque; and as for marvels of minuteness, the ring you may have seen glitter on the finger of General Tom Thumb would serve, if laid upon a table, as a capacious walled arena for the performances of pygmies to whom we could introduce you—minims among mites, not men."

There is a chapter, for those who are natural and not over nice, on subjects not commonly named to ears polite. But in the lessons of our instructor here our repugnance to thinking of the creatures that make their home with man is lost in the interest that we take in their history and habits. We give a final quotation from this chapter.—

"Of the common root of *bug* and *bugbear* a curious proof is noticed in the 'Insect Miscellanies,' namely, that in Matthew's Bible, the fifth verse of the 91st Psalm is rendered:—'Thou shalt not nede be afraid of any *bugs* by night;' and in this same sense the word must have been put by Shakespeare into the mouth of the Prince of Denmark.—

'With ho! such bugs and goblins in my life.'

*Chinche*, or wall-louse, was the name under which bugs were known before the time of Ray. But what's in a name? Roses, we know, by any other 'would smell as sweet,' and, reversing the objects and their quality, let's wash our hands of them. But stop! Before we leave their favourite locality, the bed of down which they convert into a bed of nettles, let's see what is this moving object on the floor, by the bedside. 'Tis nothing but a bit of rubbish, a token of the housemaid's negligence, a mingled piece conglomerate of flue, and dust, and feathers, set in motion by the draught from underneath the door. Yet, no; never did wind create such careful motion;—and see! There is a leg—a living leg—and now another, protruded from the cloak of shreds and patches. Never did lame beggar hitch in his gait more piteously. Perhaps 'tis a great wounded spider caught in the remnants of his own snare. But whatever be the cripple, let's unloak him. Oh, the rogue!—impostor!—hypocrite! No sooner is he stripped of his disguise of dirt, than he takes to his heels as if the devil was behind him; but he shall not escape us; and now that he is fairly caught, let us carry him before the light for examination. And, truly, a more ill-looking miscreant, and ferocious withal, was never 'pulled up' at Bow Street: his eye, especially, has murder in it, and murder, doubtless, was his design. What other could he have when lurking in disguise, like a cowardly assassin, beside a bed? He is self-condemned, let not the monster live. Yet the monster is but an insect after all; as such, shall we not spare him as beneath our anger?

No! for on such a dangerous plea,  
Immunity we give each flea.

True; but ill-favoured as he is, our prisoner, in relation to ourselves, is innocent; nay, he is more,—he is, to us, a friend and benefactor in disguise; while of our enemy, the bug, although of the same kindred, he is also, in disguise, the deadly foe, destroyer, and devourer. It was in cunning pursuit of this, his darling prey, that we found him, under cover of his rubbish canopy, cautiously advancing, that he might spring, unheeded, on his victim; and for this reason, *Reduvius personatus*, thou masked bug-catcher, we release, and bid thee go and prosper. It is in its first form of *larva*, that this wily *Reduvius*, or bug-catching bug, may occasionally be observed engaged as above described in its useful avocation."

Here we must take leave of our Cricket; not for this year only,—but, as far as the "Episodes" are concerned, for ever. This is the last of the series. We cannot suppose, however, that the authoress will remain silent. Devoted as this

work is to the illustration of insect life, it proves at the same time that the writer has powers fitting her for literary productions of a more sustained character and having even a higher aim than these charming productions of her pen.—We have only to add, that the vignettes are quite equal to those of the former volumes,—and that the fanciful tail-pieces are to our taste both in character and in execution superior to those of the previous series.

#### How to make Home Unhealthy. Chapman & Hall.

There is a story in Lucian of a painter called Passus, who received from a connoisseur an order for a picture of a horse painted with the legs upwards. He drew it in the usual way, for his own convenience; but one day his customer called unexpectedly, came in without announcement, saw the work, and flew into a fierce passion. Passus turned the picture upside down:—and the connoisseur was content. These papers, says their writer, are like the horse of Passus.

It is against our practice to notice at length reprints of what has appeared in another form; and these papers would for that reason have passed through our hands with a brief notice, had they not brought with them warrant that justifies a departure from our ordinary rule. Not to speak of their purely literary merits—lucid statement, sly sarcasm, apt illustration, and fund of anecdote—there is in them an under-current of sound and practical suggestion in regard to those social habits and conditions which affect the maintenance of health and the comfort of life, that engages our attention as dealing with topics in regard to which we are ourselves zealous labourers. It is seldom that we find the admitted follies of our social system satirized so pleasantly:—and with this brief characterization of the author's manner, we shall introduce him to our readers, and allow him to speak for himself—and us—by an example or two.

We begin with his account of "The Light Nuisance."

"Tieck tells us, in his 'History of the Schildbürger,' that the town council of that spirited community was very wise. It had been noticed that many worthy aldermen and common-councillors were in the habit of looking out of window when they ought to be attending to their duties. A vote was therefore, on one occasion, passed by a large majority, to this effect, namely:—Whereas the windows of the town-hall are a great impediment to the dispatch of public business, it is ordered that, before the next day of meeting they be all bricked up. When the next day of meeting came, the worthy representatives of Schildbürg were surprised to find themselves assembling in the dark. Presently, accepting the unlooked-for fact, they settled down into an edifying discussion of the question, whether darkness was not more convenient for their purposes than daylight.—Had you and I been there, my friend, our votes in the division would have been, like the vote in our own House of Commons a few days ago, for keeping out the Light Nuisance as much as possible. Darkness is better than daylight, certainly. Now this admits of proof. For, let me ask, where do you find the best part of a lettuce?—not in the outside leaves. Which are the choice parts of celery?—of course, the white shoots in the middle. Why, sir? Because light has never come to them. They become white and luxurious by tying up, by earthing up, by any contrivance which has kept the sun at bay. It is the same with man; while we obstruct the light by putting brick and board where glass suggests itself, and mock the light by picturing impracticable windows on our outside walls,—so that our houses stare about like blind men with glass eyes,—while this is done, we sit at home and blanch, we become in our dim apartments pale and delicate, we grow to look refined, as gentlemen and ladies ought to look. Let the sanitary doctor at whose

head we throw lettuces, go to the botanist and ask him, How is this? Let him come back and tell us, Oh, gentlemen, in these vegetables the natural juices are not formed when you exclude the light. The natural juices in lettuce or in celery are flavoured much more strongly than our tastes would relish, and therefore we induce in these plants an imperfect development, in order to make them eatable. Very well. The natural juices in a man are stronger than good taste can tolerate. Man requires horticulture to be fit to come to table. To rear the finer sorts of human kind, one great operation necessary is to banish light as much as possible. Ladies know that. To keep their faces pale, they pull the blinds down in their drawing-rooms, they put a veil between their countenances and the sun when they go out, and carry, like good soldiers, a great shield on high, by name a parasol, to ward his darts off. They know better than to let the old god kiss them into colour, as he does the peaches. They choose to remain green fruit: and we all know that to be a delicacy."

The "Fire and the Dressing Room" furnish an equally apt subject for the satirist and teacher:—as our readers shall see.—

"Nature considers all men savages,—and savages they would be if they followed her. What is barbarism? Man in a state of nature. Nature, I say, treats us almost as if we were unable to light fires, or stitch for ourselves breeches. Nature places near the hand of man in each climate a certain food, and tyrannises over his stomach with a certain craving. Whales and seals delight the Esquimaux; he eats his blubber and defies the frost. So fed, the Esquimaux woman can stand out of doors suckling her infant at an open breast, with the thermometer 40° below zero. As we go south, we pass the lands of bread and beef, to reach the sultry region wherein Nature provides dates and so forth. Even in our own range of the seasons Nature seeks to bind us to her own routine; in winter gives an appetite for flesh and fat, in summer takes a part of it away. We are not puppets, and we will not be dictated to; so we stimulate the stomach, and allow no brute instinct to tamper with our social dietary. We do here, on a small scale, what is done, on a large scale, by our friends in India, who pepper themselves into appetite, that they may eat, and drink, and die. We drink exciting beverage in summer, because we are hot; we drink it in winter, because we are cold. The fact is, we are driven to such practices; for if we did not interfere to take the guidance of our diet out of Nature's hands, she would make food do a large portion of the service which civilization asks of fire and clothing. We should walk about warm in the winter, cool in the summer, having the warmth and coolness in ourselves. Now, it is obvious that this would never do. We must be civilized, or we must not. Is Mr. Sangster to sell tomahawks instead of canes? Clearly, he is not. We must so manage our Homes as to create Unhealthy bodies. If we do not, society is ruined; if we do,—and in proportion as we do so,—we become more and more unfit to meet vicissitudes of weather. Then we acquire a social craving after fires and coats, and cloaks, and wrappers, and umbrellas, and cork soles, and muffed feet, and patent hareskins, and all the blessings of this life, upon which our preservation must depend. These prove that we have stepped beyond the brute. You never saw a Lion with cork soles and muffed feet. The Tiger never comes out, of nights, in a great coat. The Eagle never soars up from his nest with an umbrella. Man alone comprehends these luxuries; and it is when he is least healthy that he loves them best."

"Hints to Hang up in the Nursery," "A Bed-room Paper," "Passing the Bottle," and "Filling the Grave"—each yield their crop of truths and morals conveyed in the manner of the extracts here given. But as the days of social festivity and winter party-giving is now at hand, we prefer to quote, by way of conclusion, our author's notion of "Spending a Very Pleasant Evening."

"By the consent of antiquity, it is determined that Pain shall be doorkeeper to the house of Pleasure. In Europe, Purgatory led to Paradise; and, had St. Symeon lived among us now, he would have earned heaven, if the police permitted, by praying for it,



during thirty years, upon the summit of a lamp-post. In India the Fakir was beatified by standing on his head, under a hot sun, beset with roasting bonfires. In Greenland the soul expected to reach bliss by sliding for five days down a rugged rock, wounding itself, and shivering with cold. The American Indians sought happiness through castigation, and considered vomits the most expeditious mode of enforcing self-denial on the stomach. Some tribes of Africans believe, that on the way to heaven every man's head is knocked against a wall. By consent of mankind, therefore, it is granted that we must pass Pain on the way to Pleasure. What Pleasure is, when reached, none but the dogmatical can venture to determine. To Greenlanders, a spacious fish-kettle, for ever simmering, in which boiled seals for ever swim, is the delight of heaven. And remember that, in the opinion of M. Bailly, Adam and Eve gardened in Nova Zembla. You will not be surprised, therefore, if I call upon you to prepare for your domestic pleasures with a little suffering; nor, when I tell you what such pleasures are, must you exclaim against them as absurd. Having the sanction of our forefathers, they are what is fashionable now, and consequently they are what is fit. I propose, then, that you should give, for the entertainment of your friends, an Evening Party; and as this is a scene in which young ladies prominently figure, I will, if you please, on this occasion, pay particular attention to your daughter. O mystery of preparation!—Pardon, sir. You err if you suppose me to insinuate that ladies are more careful over personal adornment than the gentlemen. When men made a display of manhood, wearing beards, it is recorded that they packed them, when they went to bed, in pasteboard cases lest they might be tumbled in the night. Man at his grimmest is as vain as woman, even when he stalks about bearded and battle-axed. This is the mystery of preparation in your daughter's case: How does she breathe? You have prepared her from childhood for the part she is to play to-night, by training her form into the only shape which can be looked at with complacency in any ball-room. A machine, called stays, introduced long since into England, by the Normans, has had her in its grip from early childhood. She has become pale, and—only the least bit—liable to be blue about the nose and fingers. Stays are an excellent contrivance; they give a material support to the old cause, Unhealthiness at Home. This is the secret of their excellence. A woman's ribs are narrow at the top, and as they approach the waist they widen, to allow room for the lungs to play within them. If you can prevent the ribs from widening, you can prevent the lungs from playing, which they have no right to do, and make them work. This you accomplish by the agency of stays. It fortunately happens that these lungs have work to do—the putting of the breath of life into the blood—which they are unable to do properly when cramped for space; it becomes about as difficult to them as it would be to you to play the trombone in a china closet. By this compression of the chest, ladies are made nervous, and become unfit for much exertion; they do not, however, allow us to suppose that they have lost flesh. There is a fiction of attire which would induce, in a speculative critic, the belief that some internal flame had caused their waists to gutter, and that the ribs had all run down into a lump which protrudes behind under the waistband. This appearance is, I think, a fiction; and for my opinion I have newspaper authority. In the papers it was written, one day last year, that the hump alluded to was tested with a pin upon the person of a lady, coming from the Isle of Man, and it was found not to be sensitive. Brandy exuded from the wound; for in that case the projection was a bladder, in which the prudent housewife was smuggling comfort in a quiet way. The touch of a pin changed all into discomfort, when she found that she was converted into a peripatetic watering-can—brandying-can I should have said. Your daughter comes down stairs dressed, with a bouquet, at a time when the dull seeker of Health and Strength would have her to go up stairs with a bed-candlestick. Your guests arrive. Young ladies thinly clad and packed in carriages, emerge, half-stified; put a cold foot, protected by a filmy shoe, upon the pavement, and run, shivering into your house. Well, sir, we'll warm them presently. \* \* Allow me to dance a polka with your daughter. Frail, elegant creature,

that she is! A glass of wine,—a macaroon: good. Sontag, yes; and that dear novel. That was a delightful dance; now let us promenade. The room is close; a glass of wine, an ice, and let us get to the delicious draught in the conservatory, or by that door. Is it not beautiful? The next quadrille—I look slyly at my watch, and Auber's grim chorus rumbles within me, 'Voici minuit! voici minuit!' Another dance. How fond she seems to be of macaroons! Supper. My dear, sir, I will take good care of your daughter. One sandwich. Champagne. Blanc-mange. Bonbon. Champagne. Sherry. Champagne. Tipsey-cake. Brandy cherries. Glass of wine. A macaroon. Trifle. Jelly. Champagne. Custard. Macaroon. The ladies are being taken care of.—Yes, now in their absence we will drink their health, and wink at each other: their and our Bad Healths. This is the happiest moment of our lives; at two in the morning, with a dose of indigestion in the stomach, and three hours more to come before we get to bed. You, my dear sir, hope that on many occasions like the present you may see your friends around you, looking as glassy-eyed as you have made them to look now. We will rejoice the ladies. Nothing but champagne could have enabled us to keep up the evening so well. We were getting weary before supper,—but we have had some wine, have dug the spur into our sides, and on we go again. At length, even the bottle stimulates our worn-out company no more; and then we separate. Good night, dear sir: we have spent a Very Pleasant Evening under your roof. To-morrow, when you depart from a late breakfast, having seen your daughter's face, and her boiled-mackerel eye, knowing that your wife is bilious, and that your son has just gone out for soda-water, you will feel yourself to be a Briton who has done his duty, a man who has paid something on account of his great debt to civilized society."

These samples of this racy and suggestive little book will send many of our readers in search of the original. To change the terms of a favourite quotation, we venture to assert that not a few of those who do so will rise from its perusal both wiser and merrier men. The Americans, we perceive, who have been quoting from it liberally, ascribe the authorship to Miss Martineau. This is a mistake.

#### OUR LIBRARY TABLE.

*The Fortune Hunter; or, the Adventures of a Man about Town. A Novel of New York Society.* By Mrs. Anna Cora Mowatt. Author of 'Fashion,' &c.—*Evelyn; or, a Heart Unmasked: a Tale of Domestic Life.* By Anna Cora Mowatt. 2 vols.—These tales give us a higher idea of Mrs. Mowatt's talents as an authoress than her plays did. Taken in conjunction with those dramas, and with the pleasing powers as an actress displayed by the lady,—they not only establish a case of more than common versatility, but indicate that with labour and concentration so gifted a person might have taken a high place whether on the library shelf or on the stage. In another point of view they are less agreeable. Alas, for those primitive souls who with a perverse constancy may still wish to fancy America a vast New England of simple manners and superior morals! The society which Mrs. Mowatt describes—whether in 'Evelyn,' which begins with a wedding out of Fleecer's boarding-house, or in 'The Fortune Hunter,' which opens with table-talk at Delmonico's—is as sophisticated as any society under which this wicked old world groans, and which our Sir E. Lytton and Mrs. Gore have satirized—or Balzac (to shame the French) has "shown up." *Major Pendennis* himself could hardly have produced anything more blasé in tone than some of the pictures of 'New York Society' drawn by this American lady,—drawn, moreover, when the lady was young.—Evelyn is married to a rich man, without her heart having anything to say in the matter,—by a mother who is a superfine Mrs. Falcon:—and wretched mischief comes of it. Brainard, the fortune hunter, is a heartless and cynical illustration that a Broadway hunter can be as unblushingly mercenary and as genteelly dishonourable as the veriest old Bond Street hack, bred up in

the traditions of the Regency, who ever began life on nothing and a showy person—continued it on nothing and the reputation of fashion—and ended no one cares how or where. There are character, smartness and passion in both these tales—though a certain looseness of structure and incompleteness of style prevent us from being extreme in praising them, or from recommending them by quotation,—and though, as has been said, the tone and taste of the life which they describe must jar on the feelings of those who are unwilling to see the decrepitude of elderly civilization coming down upon a new country, ere its maturity has been reached—or even ere its youth has been sufficiently and steadily trained.

*Peter the Whaler: his Early Life, and Adventures in the Arctic Regions.* By William H. S. Kingston, Esq., Author of 'How to Emigrate.'—This is a capital boys' book:—not, however, to the exclusion of such girls as the author's Mary Dean, who delight in adventure. Peter the Whaler began life, according to his confessions here recorded, as another edition of Peter the Wild Boy. Though the son of an Irish clergyman, he fell into bad habits and low company—went out as a poacher, even; was detected, and doomed to the well-accustomed punishment of black sheep,—to wit, being sent to sea. As might have been foreseen, Peter's marine career is studded thick with sea-wonders. He is one of the last on a burning ship, abandoned by her brutal and selfish captain. He is made a pirate in spite of himself and narrowly escapes being hung as such; lastly, by chance, he is converted into a North-sea fisher,—as such experiencing a more than ordinary number of marvellous chances. He is flung upon an iceberg with some of his mates, the party by a few moments only escaping a fearful death;—and is subsequently compelled to spend a winter in the midst of the ice, with a friendly tribe of Esquimaux for his neighbours.—Our catalogue, of itself, will assure any one catering for boy-readers that they will find abundance of excitement in company of Peter the Whaler; but a word may be added to assure "parents and guardians," and also their fireside clients, that Mr. Kingston tells his story more than ordinarily well,—minutely and seriously, but without tediousness. In short, his is a book which the old may—but which the young must—read when they have once begun it.

[ADVERTISEMENT.]—ELECTRIC TELEGRAPH COMPANY.—We are requested to insert the following copy of a letter addressed to the chairman and directors of the Electric Telegraph Company:—

"London, Nov. 16, 1850.

"Gentlemen,—We understand that the indictment preferred against us, at your instance, for an expression deemed to be libellous, in our letter published in the *Evening Herald* of the 11th of October 1849, will be tried in the Court of Queen's Bench immediately after the present term.

"We therefore think it right to announce most distinctly that it was not our intention to assert, in any manner, that you, or any person connected with your establishment, used our property on the 27th of July 1848, or any other communication received or transmitted by us through the electric telegraph, for stock-jobbing purposes.

"The object of this letter is to put it to you, whether, after this declaration, you will think it necessary, for your own vindication (which is all you can possibly want), to proceed as the result of the indictment, or whether you will not be disposed to consider that the heavy expense we have sustained in your application to the Court of Queen's Bench for a criminal information is an adequate infliction for an expression used under circumstances of irritation.

"If you should take this view of the question, and abandon the prosecution, you have our full authority for publishing this letter, without comment.

"We are, &c.,  
"WILLMER & SMITH."

#### LIST OF NEW BOOKS.

Adams's Pocket Guide to London, by E. Blanchard, 13mo. 3s. cl.  
Archer's Prize (The), by Author of 'Adelaide's Gift,' 18mo. 1s. 6d.  
Autobiography, Letters, &c. of Author of 'The Listener,' 2nd ed. 7s.  
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Chambers's Instructive Lib., 'British Museum,' 4s. 5rd., 4s. 6d. cl.  
Cleveland's (G. D.) Compendium of English Literature, 7s. 6d. cl.  
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De Fiva's Modern Guide to French Conversation, 4th ed. 2s. 6d.  
Descartes' Discourse on Rightly Conducting the Reason, 2s. 6d.  
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### CRAZED.

BY SYDNEY YENDYS.

"THE Spring again hath started on the course  
Wherein she seeketh Summer thro' the Earth.  
I will arise and go upon my way.

It may be that the leaves of Autumn hid  
His footsteps from me; it may be the snows.

"He is not dead. There was no funeral;  
I wore no weeds. He must be in the Earth.  
Oh where is he, that I may come to him  
And he may charm the fever of my brain.

"Oh Spring I hope that thou wilt be my friend.  
Thro' the long weary summer I toiled sore;  
Having much sorrow of the envious woods  
And groves that burgeoned round me where I came  
And when I would have seen him, shut him in.

"Also the Honeysuckle and wild bine  
Being in love did hide him from my sight;  
The Ash-tree bent above him; vicious weeds  
Withheld me; Willows in the River-wind  
Hissed at me, by the twilight, waving wands.

"Also, for I have told thee, oh dear Spring,  
Thou knowest after I had sunk outworn  
In the late summer gloom till Autumn came,  
I looked up in the light of burning Woods  
And entered on my wayfare when I saw  
Gold on the ground and glory in the trees.

"And all my further journey thou dost know;  
My toils and outcries as the lusty world  
Grew thin to winter; and my ceaseless feet  
In Vales and on stark Hills, till the first snow  
Fell, and the large rain of the latter leaves.

"I hope that thou wilt be my friend, oh Spring,  
And give me service of thy winds and streams.  
It needs must be that he will hear thy voice  
For thou art much as I was when he woo'd  
And won me long ago beside the Dee.

"If he should bend above you, oh ye streams  
And anywhere you look up into eyes  
And think the star of love hath found her mate  
And know, because of day, they are not stars;  
Oh streams they are the eyes of my beloved!  
Oh murmur as I murmured once of old  
And he will stay beside you oh ye streams  
And I shall clasp him when my day is come.

"Likewise I charge thee, west wind, zephyr wind,  
If thou shalt hear a voice more sweet than thine  
About a sunset rosetree deep in June,  
Sweeter than thine oh wind, when thou dost leap  
Into the tree with passion, putting by  
The maiden leaves that ruffle round their dame,  
And singest and art silent,—having dropt  
In pleasure on the bosom of the rose,—  
Oh wind it is the voice of my beloved  
Wake, wake, and bear me to the voice, oh wind!

"Moreover I do think that the spring birds  
Will be my willing servants. Wheresoe'er  
There mourns a hen-bird that hath lost her mate  
Her will I tell my sorrow—weeping hers.

"And if it be a Lark whereto I speak  
She shall be ware of how my Love went up  
Sole singing to the cloud; and evermore  
I hear his song but him I cannot see.

"And if it be a female nightingale  
That pineth in the depth of silent woods,  
I also will complain to her that night  
Is still. And of the creeping of the winds  
And of the sullen trees, and of the lone  
Dumb Dark. And of the listening of the stars.  
What have we done, what have we done, oh Night!

"Therefore oh Love the summer trees shall be  
My watch-towers. Wheresoe'er thou liest bound  
I will be there. For ere the spring be past  
I will have preached my dolour through the Land,  
And not a bird but shall have all my woe.  
—And whatsoever hath my woe hath me.

"I charge you, oh ye flowers fresh from the dead,  
Declare if ye have seen him. You pale flowers  
Why do you quake and hang the head like me?

"You pallid flowers, why do ye watch the dust  
And tremble? Ah you met him in your caves  
And shrank out shuddering on the wintry air.

"Snowdrops you need not gaze upon the ground,  
Fear not. He will not follow ye; for then  
I should be happy who am doomed to woe.

"Only I bid ye say that he is there,  
That I may know my grief is to be borne  
And all my Fate is but the common lot."

She sat down on a bank of Primroses  
Swayed to and fro, as in a wind of Thought  
That moaned about her, murmuring alow,  
"The common lot, oh for the common lot."

Thus spake she and beheld a gust of grief  
Smote her. As when at night the dreaming wind  
Starts up enraged, and shakes the Trees and sleeps.

"Oh early Rain, oh passion of strong crying,  
Say dost thou weep oh Rain, for him or me?  
Alas, thou also goest to the Earth  
And enterest as one brought home by fear."

"Rude with much woe, with expectation wild,  
So dashest thou the doors and art not seen.  
Whose burial did they speak of in the skies?

"I would that there were any grass-green grave  
Where I might stand and say, 'Here lies my Love.'  
And sigh, and look down to him, thro' the Earth,  
And look up, thro' the clearing skies, and smile."

Then the Day passed from bearing up the Heavens.  
The sky descended on the Mountain tops  
Unclosed; and the stars embower'd the Night.

Darkness did flood the Valley; flooding her.  
And when the face of her great grief was hid  
Her callow heart, that like a nestling bird  
Clamoured, sank down with plaintive pipe and slow.  
Her cry was like a strange fowl in the dark;  
"Alas Night," said she; then, like a faint ghost,  
As tho' the owl did hoot upon the hills,  
"Alas Night." On the murky silence came  
Her voice like a white sea-mew on the waste  
Of the dark deep; a sudden seen and lost  
Upon the barren expanse of mid-seas  
Black with the Thunder. "Alas Night," said she,  
"Alas Night." Then the stagnant season lay  
From hill to hill. But when the waning Moon  
Rose, she began with hasty step to run  
The wintry mead; a wounded bird that seeks  
To hide its head when all the trees are bare.  
Silent,—for all her strength did bear her dread—  
Silent, save when with bursting heart she cried,  
Like one who wrestles in the dark with fiends,  
"Alas Night." With a dim wild voice of fear  
As tho' she saw her sorrow by the moon.

The morning dawns; and earlier than the Lark  
She murmureth, sadder than the Nightingale.

"I would I could believe me in that sleep  
When on our bridal morn I thought him dead,  
And dreamed and shrieked and woke upon his breast.

"Oh God, I cannot think that I am blind.  
I think I see the beauty of the world.  
Perchance but I am blind, and he is near.

"Even as I felt his arm before I woke,  
And clinging to his bosom called on him,  
And wept, and knew and knew not it was he.

"I do thank God I think that I am blind.  
There is a darkness thick about my heart  
And all I seem to see is as a dream.  
My lids have closed, and have shut in the world.

"Oh Love, I pray thee take me by the hand;  
I stretch my hand, oh Love, and quake with dread;  
I trust it, and I know not where. Ah me  
What shall not seize the dark hand of the blind?

"How know I, being blind, I am on Earth?  
I am in Hell, in Hell oh Love! I feel

There is a burning gulph before my feet!  
I dare not stir—and at my back the fiends!  
I wind my arms, my arms that demons scorch,  
Round this poor breast and all that thou shouldst save  
From rapine. Husband, I cry out from Hell;  
There is a gulph. They seize my flesh. (She shrieked.)

"I will sink down here where I stand. All round  
How know I but the burning pit doth yawn?  
Here will I shrink and shrink to no more space  
Than my feet cover. (She wept.) So much up  
My mortal touch makes honest. Oh my Life,  
My Lord, my Husband! Fool that cryest in vain!  
Ah Angel! What hast thou to do with Hell?

"And yet I do not ask thee, oh my Love,  
To lead me to thee where thou art in Heaven.  
Only I would that thou shouldst be my star,  
And whatsoever Fate thy beams dispense  
I am content. It shall be good to me.

"But tho' I may not see thee, oh my Love,  
Yea tho' mine eyes return and miss thee still,  
And thou shouldst take another shape than thine,  
Have pity on my lot, and lead me hence  
Where I may think of thee. To the old fields  
And wonted valleys where we once were blest.  
Oh Love all day I hear them, out of sight,  
The far Home where the Past abideth yet  
Beside the stream that prates of other days.

"My Punishment is more than I can bear.  
My sorrow groweth big unto my time.  
Oh Love I would that I were mad. Oh Love,  
I do not ask that thou shouldst change my Fate,  
I will endure; but oh my Life, my Lord,  
Being as thou art a throned saint in Heaven,  
If thou wouldst touch me and enchant my sense,  
And daze the anguish of my heart with dreams,  
And change the stop of grief; and turn my soul  
A little devious from the daily march  
Of Reason, and the path of conscious woe  
And all the truth of Life! Better, oh Love,  
In fond delusion to be twice betrayed,  
Than know so well and bitterly as I.  
Let me be mad. (She wept upon her knees.)

"I will arise and seek thee. This is Heaven.  
I sat upon a cloud. It bore me in.  
It is not so, you Heavens! I am not dead.  
Alas! there have been pangs as strong as Death.  
It would be sweet to know that I am dead.

"Even now I feel I am not of this world  
Which sayeth day and night, 'For all but thee,'  
And poureth its abundance night and day  
And will not feed the hunger in my heart.

"I tread upon a dream, myself a dream,  
I cannot write my Being on the world,  
The moss grows unresponsive where I tread.

"I cannot lift mine eyes to the sunshine,  
Night is not for my slumber. Not for me  
Sink down the dark inexorable hours.

"I would not keep or change the weary day;  
I have no pleasure in the needless night  
And toss and wait that other lids may sleep.

"I am a very Leper in the Earth.  
Her functions cast me out; her golden wheels  
That harmless roll about unconscious Babes  
Do crush me. My place knoweth me no more.

"I think that I have died, oh you sweet Heavens.  
I did not see the closing of the eyes.  
Perchance there is one death for all of us  
Whereof we cannot see the eyelids close.

"Dear Love I do beseech thee answer me.  
Dear Love I think men's eyes behold me not.  
The air is heavy on these lips that strain  
To cry; I do not warm the thing I touch;  
The Lake gives back no image unto me.

"I see the Heavens as one who wakes at noon  
From a deep sleep. Now shall we meet again!  
The Country of the blest is hid from me  
Like Morn behind the Hills. The Angel smiles.  
I breathe thy name. He hurleth me from Heaven.

"Now of a truth I know thou art on Earth.  
Break, break the chains that hold me back from thee.  
I see the race of mortal men pass by;  
The great wind of their going waves my hair;  
I stretch my hands, I lay my cheek to them,  
In love; they stir the down upon my cheek;  
I cannot touch them, and they know not me.

"Oh God! I ask to live the saddest life!  
I care not for it if I may but live!  
I would not be among the dead, oh God!  
I am not dead! oh God, I will not die!"

So throbbed the trouble of this crazed heart.  
So on the broken mirror of her mind



In bright disorder shone the shatter'd World.  
So, out of tune, in sympathetic chords,  
Her soul is musical to brooks and birds  
Winds, seasons, sunshine, Flowers, and maundering  
trees.

Hear gently all the tale of her distress.  
The heart that loved her loves not now yet lives.  
What the eye sees and the ear hears—the hand  
That wooing led her thro' the rosy paths  
Of girlhood, and the litten lanes of Love,  
The brow whereon she trembled her first kiss  
The lips that had sole privilege of hers  
The eyes wherein she saw the Universe,  
The bosom where she slept the sleep of joy,  
The voice that made it sacred to her sleep  
With lustral vows; that which doth walk the World  
Man among Men, is near her now. But He  
Who wandered with her thro' the ways of Youth,  
Who won the tender freedom of the lip,  
Who took her to the bosom dedicate  
And chaste with vows, who in the perfect whole  
Of gracious Manhood, was the god that stood  
In her young Heaven, round whom the subject stars  
Circled; in whose dear train, where'er he passed  
Thronged charmed powers; at whose advancing feet  
Upspringing happy seasons and sweet times  
Made fond court carolling; who but moved to stir  
All things submissive, which did magnify  
And wane as ever with his changing will  
She changed the centre of her infinite; He  
In whom she worshipped Truth and did obey  
Goodness; in whose sufficient love she felt  
Fond Dreamer! the eternal smile of all  
Angels and men; round whom, upon his neck,  
Her thoughts did hang; whom lacking they fell down  
Distract to the earth; He whom she loved and who  
Loved her of old,—in the long days before  
Chaos, the empyrean days!—(Poor heart  
She phrased it so) is no more: and oh God!  
Thorough all Time and that transfigured Time  
We call Eternity, will be no more.

#### CATALOGUES OF THE BRITISH MUSEUM.

THE public is indebted to the *Athenæum* for the attention which the Trustees of the British Museum have at last turned to the worst portion of their Catalogue of the Library.—Since their last meeting there has appeared an index of seventeen pages, prefixed to one of the two volumes which contain the article "Academies,"—in print, manuscript, and patches of manifold writing.

The *Athenæum* may further acquaint not only the public, but even the gentlemen employed in the Library and Reading Room, that besides these two volumes of the new printed Catalogue, there exists another similar heading in the manifold-ink Catalogue; that besides the two volumes of "Periodical Publications" in the old printed Catalogue, there exists another similar heading in the Supplementary Catalogue; and that each of these separately is another key or guide to the politico-geographical intricacies of the Catalogue.

The readers who have to re-learn their geographical lessons, before exploring these 17 folio pages must consult a "Gazetteer;" but this will be useless in some cases in which doubt may arise. No gazetteers settle whether "Egypt, or each of the United States of America, Lombardy, Venice, Ireland, Finland, or Luxembourg," are independent in the sense of Sect. 80 of the laws for the Catalogue:—most of these questions being still open to controversy. The guides to these two articles are therefore useless in all cases where the most diplomatic officers of the Museum are puzzled, unless keys to these guides be provided in the shape of an alphabetical enumeration of the towns that may be found in the guides:—and if hereafter amongst accessories to the Library there should be found publications from towns not on the list, the names of these places of publication must be inserted. Wherefore ample room should be left in the new keys:—which has been omitted in the lately-added guides.

These difficulties and intricacies appear perhaps so exaggerated that some charitable persons may attribute them to malicious pleasantry of invention on the part of your correspondents. But such is not the case.—the difficulties and intricacies are made by the Trustees themselves; and the *Athenæum* gives the opportunity of discovering, examining, and explaining them to the reading public.

Encouraged by the reception of a former letter of mine [see *ante*, p. 1165], I beg leave to notice a suggestion of another correspondent who addressed you on this subject on Saturday last [p. 1190]. He says, that in the article "Periodical Publications" of the British Museum Library Catalogue, the alphabetical order of names of languages is preferable to an arrangement, not only geographical, but even by name of place of publication.

On this question issue might be joined, if the rules for a new Catalogue were under discussion; and it might be pleaded that such order is only disorder,—that it has no precedent in any large library, or with experienced librarians,\*—and that it leads *ad absurdum*; but the discussion of this, certainly ingenious, suggestion may be avoided, by considering that all which the readers in the Library have at present to perform is, to give a true account of the labours already fulfilled in the way of cataloguing, and to exact from the Trustees a result more easily available to the public at large:—in brief, to suggest modifications that have a chance of being made at the present time.

The various suggestions as to the subjects "Academies" and "Periodical Publications" have their advantages and disadvantages; but an arrangement by politics is the only one which absolutely does not, and never did, present any visible advantages at all. Indeed, it presents nothing but disadvantages of daily increasing magnitude and importance.

It would require the subtlety and a five hours speech of Lord Palmerston to construct any defence at all of this odd mode of classification; even were he furnished by arguments ransacked from the brains of the Museum people—from the Archbishop to the attendants who deliver the books—from the President and members of the Commission to Messrs. De Morgan, Panizzi, Watts, Jones, and other witnesses.

The results of the ample means for the new Catalogue of printed books in the Library of the British Museum granted by the liberality of Parliament for fourteen years, are, three imperfect or mutilated catalogues, not even making a *decent* unity, but—  
Monstrum horrendum, informe, ingens, cui lumen ademptum.

1. We have the letter A printed, with MS. interpolations,—now more agreeably diversified to the eye by later additions in carbonic ink.

2. Then, there is the *old* printed Catalogue, interleaved for additions, according to the *new* rules.

3. Lastly, the Supplementary Catalogue, written by the "manifold" method, and supposed to be entirely according to the new rules.

Of course the interpolations to the printed part, in both Catalogues No. 1 and No. 2, interrupt the strict alphabetical order to a degree which renders it impossible to decide, often within twenty or thirty pages, the place where a work is to be looked for; and with the territorial divisions of the Viennese treaty, no reader will attempt anything but random discoveries under a similar heading in *two* catalogues. Whether this state of things should be satisfactory to the nation—and if not, on whom the blame should rest—it is not the object of this note to examine.

In the hope that "sine irâ et injuriâ" apparent deficiencies have been pointed out, it may be recapitulated that we ask—

That the Trustees should not allow any more interpolations in the Catalogues Nos. 1 and 2, but stop the practice; especially in the larger and more intricate headings:—enlarging only the Catalogue No. 3, by adding as many volumes as may be necessary.

That these largest and more important headings be collected into one catalogue, before any further additions be made.

That this process should be immediately applied to the article "Academies,"—which should be entered into No. 3.

That the article "Periodical Publications" should be treated in like manner:—in both cases all the subdivisions, except *name of place*, being expunged,

\* This, if proved, would be no argument against the merit of the plan.—*Ed. Athenæum.*

and the towns placed in English and alphabetical order,—at the risk even of letting some MS. cross-references exist, until more pressing matters shall have been attended to.

That all the headings of Catalogue No. 2—such as "Anglia," "Christianitas," &c.—which do not conform to the existing laws, should be superseded by proper entries in No. 3.

And finally, that all the MS. entries in Nos. 1 and 2 be superseded by entries in No. 3;—so, obtaining an uninterrupted alphabetical order in all the sets of catalogues.—All this labour, however great it may appear, is nothing, according to my computation, in comparison with a continuance of the present system.

To such interference with the Trustees the public is entitled, through a leading literary organ like yours, after fourteen years of experience and patience; and it is to be hoped that the public-minded frequenters of the Reading Room who have carefully refrained from any such displays of personal feeling as have arisen on account of this unhappy Catalogue, will join in one—at least one—effort to set matters more in a train for their own convenience.

#### BAILIE NICOL JARVIE.

Mr. Lockhart, in his 'Life of Sir Walter Scott,' has said that Charles Mackay, the admirable theatrical representative of the "Baillie Nicol Jarvie" of the great novelist, was a native of Glasgow. Mr. Mackay—a Scot to the back-bone—is particularly anxious to have it known to the admirers of the famous Glasgow magistrate that this is a mistake. He is, it appears, a native of the modern Athens,—a real Edinburgh gutter bluid." He is unwilling to have applied to him the happy parody from Dryden made, in the House of Commons, by the Earl of Carlisle on Sir Robert Peel, after the Baronet's great Glasgow speech on his appointment to the office of Lord Rector:—

Glasgow to him a dearer name shall be  
Than his own mother University;  
Thebes did his green unknown youth engage,—  
He chooses Glasgow in his riper age.

—The Baillie is true to his own 'High School.'

We believe there are many who will part with this error with regret. The inimitable manner in which Mr. Mackay personified the Baillie—so that the creator of the character was, as he himself admits in a letter to Terry, "actually electrified by the truth and spirit which the actor threw into the part," seemed to justify the long-prevalent belief that the modern Baillie was a Glasgow man. Glasgow will scarcely give him up. Mr. Mackay seems to have had some suspicion of the kind:—and fearful of losing, as the penalty of his fame, one of the conditions of his identity, has appealed to the law to help him to his birthright. He has actually thought it necessary to make an affidavit before a Justice of the Peace, to the effect that he is a native of Edinburgh;—and this affidavit, for the benefit, or information, of all whom it may concern, we are requested to publish in our columns. Glasgow can lay claim only to the honour of conferring a degree of M.A. on the admirable actor.—The document is a curious one.

At Edinburgh, the Fourteenth day of November, One thousand eight hundred and fifty years.

In presence of John Stoddart, Esq., one of Her Majesty's Justices of the Peace for the City of Edinburgh, Appeared Charles Mackay, lately Theatre Royal, residing at number eleven Drummond Street, Edinburgh; who being solemnly sworn and examined depones, That he is a native of Edinburgh, having been born in one of the houses on the north side of the High Street of said City, in the month of October one thousand seven hundred and eighty-seven. That the deponent left Edinburgh for Glasgow when only about nine years of age, where he sojourned for five years; thence he became a wanderer in many lands, and finally settled once more in Edinburgh a few months before February eighteen hundred and nineteen years, when the drama of "Rob Roy" was first produced in the Theatre Royal here. That the deponent by his own industry having realized a small competency, he is now residing in Edinburgh; and although upwards of threescore years old he finds himself " hale and hearty," and is one of the same class whom King Jamie denominates "a real Edinburgh Gutter Bluid." All which is truth, as the deponent shall answer to God.

CHAS. MACKAY, B.N. Jarvie.  
JOHN STODDART, J.P.

JOHN MIDDLETON, M.D.E., Witness.  
WALTER HENDERSON, Witness.

We would that we could settle by any evidence



only half as strong as the Bailie's affidavit the long contention between Hereford and London for the honour of being the birth-place of Nell Gwynne.

#### EXPEDITION TO CENTRAL AFRICA.

I am happy to be able to inform you that the great Expedition in the north of Africa has been more successful than that in the south to explore Lake Ngami. Letters from Dr. Barth and Dr. Overweg inform us of their having accomplished the journey across the Great Desert, or Sahara,—and of their arrival near the frontiers of the kingdom of Air or Asben (Air is the modern Tuarick, and Asben the ancient Sudan name),—the most powerful in that part of Africa after Bornu, and never explored by Europeans. On the 24th of August—the date of their last letters—they were at Taradshit; a small place, which, from itineraries sent by Dr. Overweg in a former letter, and from the positions of Mürsük and Kano, I place in about 20° 30' N. lat., and 9° 20' long. E. of Greenwich.

From my former communication [see *ante*, p. 835] it will have been seen, that the two travellers left Mürsük on the 12th of June, leaving Mr. Richardson at that place to await the Tuarick escort from Ghat. Much delay was caused by this circumstance:—especially as Hatita, the well-known Tuarick chief, is now an old and decrepit man, able to travel only at a slow pace; so that the journey from Mürsük to Ghat—which is generally accomplished in twelve days—occupied them thirty-six. They were, however, compensated by the discovery of some extremely curious rock-sculptures in the Wady Telissaré,—about twenty English miles west of Wady Elauwen, (which is about 110 English miles west of Mürsük, roughly estimated). One of these sculptures consists of two human bird- and bull-headed figures, armed with spears, shields and arrows, and combating for a child. The other is a fine group of oxen going to a watering-place,—most artistically grouped and skilfully executed. In the opinion of both travellers, the two works bear a striking and unmistakable resemblance to the sculptures of Egypt. They are evidently of very high antiquity; and superior to numerous other sculptures of more recent date found by the travellers, in which camels generally formed the principal object. They most probably relate to a period of ancient Libyan history when camels were unknown in that part of Africa, and oxen were used in their stead.

The travellers also collected much information relative to the general physical character, geology and natural history of the region between Mürsük and Ghat. From the former place westward the country was found to ascend as far as beyond Wady Telissaré; whence it descended into the deep Wady Talja,—which runs from north to south, in a direction parallel with Wady Ghat, from which it is separated by a range of steep hills. This range, as well as the culminating portion of the table-land to the East, consists, like that found between Tripoli and Mürsük, of black sandstone, with substrata of limestone and marl. The summits of these sandstone ridges form a pointed, sharp-edged, knife-like crest, which it is out of the question to think of ascending or going along. Of fossil remains, Orthoceras, Brachyopoda, &c. were found.

With respect to the botanical character of this part of Africa, a greater abundance of gramineous plants was found in the rich Wadis than had been previously met with. Of trees, the Talha and Letheb had taken the place of the date-palm, which was not seen beyond Tessaua,—about two days journey west of Mürsük. Water was plentiful in the wells:—even pools, remaining from the last rains, were met with in some of the Wadis which are generally dry. Flocks of “Poulets de Carthage,” attracted by the water—so precious in these regions,—as well as numbers of small birds, gazelles, hares, foxes and dormice enlivened the surrounding country. In the larger Wadis near Ghat numerous traces of wild asses were noticed.

The Expedition arrived at Ghat on the 17th July, and at Taradshit on the 22nd of August. Of their stay at the former place, their transactions with the Tuaricks, and their journey to the kingdom of Air, further particulars may be expected shortly.

I may add, that His Majesty the King of Prussia has been pleased, at the instance of the Chevalier Bunsen and Baron Alexander von Humboldt, to augment the funds of the two travellers by a grant of 1,000 Thalers.

November 16.

AUGUSTUS PETERMANN.

#### OUR WEEKLY GOSSIP.

THE office of Laureate, after having been allowed to remain vacant so long, has been finally filled up according to that spirit of caprice which presides ordinarily over Lord John Russell's bestowal of the national gifts. The laurel has been given to Mr. Tennyson. We have already said, by anticipation, that, against this appropriation as regards Mr. Tennyson's fitness to wear it we have not a word to say. Poetically speaking, it has often been worse bestowed:—and, in fact, Mr. Tennyson is expressly one of those legitimately designated for the honour. But so long as there are others on whose brows it would have been as fitly placed—and so long as the nation has few literary crowns to give away,—we hold that the multiplication of its benefices to a single subject is in so far an abuse of the patronage which the Minister exercises in the name of the country. Mr. Tennyson has already had his, unquestionably high, title recognized in the form of a pension; and there are others the laurel on whose forehead might as fitly have received the Court stamp,—which happens to have a money value as all its worth.—In particular, the opportunity has been lost of doing an act which, while it would have been equally one of justice with any other appropriation of the office that could be named, would, as we have before pointed out, have had a peculiar grace and significance in the reign of a youthful Queen,—over a people, so striking a portion of whose literary force is for the moment constituted by women. This, however, we presume, was too chivalrous a view of the subject for the Minister,—who has a trick of looking for his favourites down the back stairs.

The past week yields a few more items of interest connected with the history of the Great Exhibition—which we must lay before our readers, in order to keep them well informed on the subject. As we suggested that they should do months ago—the railway companies have at length taken measures towards the adoption and publication of a general tariff for excursionists from the country. Thirty-one railway companies, including the directors of our great trunk lines, have accepted a scale of which the bases may be explained in a few words. The journey both ways is to be done at one fare;—this is the key of the arrangement entered into. But the term “one fare” is defined to mean the ordinary lowest charge made by the parliamentary—or, as they are most commonly called, cheap—trains. For distances of one hundred miles, or under, these rates will be fixed and immovable: so that in the whole of the great towns and cities lying within the radius of one hundred miles the workmen can now easily reckon their travelling expenses. For distances of more than one hundred miles an abatement of these rates will be made in the following ratios: the second hundred miles will be allowed 20 per cent.—the third, 30 per cent.—the fourth, 40,—and so forth. To illustrate the arrangement by example:—a town 150 miles from London will be considered as only 140,—one of 200 as 180,—one of 300 as 250,—one of 400 as 310. So, that for third-class carriages, the fare may be very readily calculated on these data for each locality. This announcement will put an end to the uncertainty that has hitherto prevailed in the north and west on the part of our artisans:—the intention of railway boards having been much misinterpreted.—We do not, however, think that the arrangements show the liberality that might be expected under the exceptional nature of the circumstances. One fare both ways is the usual

charge for excursion trains; and during the whole of the past summer, as we have before reported, these trains have been running out of London to every point of the compass at considerably less than one fare. To Bristol and back—distance each way 118½ miles—the excursion fare was six shillings; and according to the directors' own showing this rate produced a large profit. Why, then, should these charges be almost doubled for the coming year? The tariff now announced will make the fare from Bristol ten shillings within a penny. On every ride we believe the rates will be a third or more higher than those to which the public have been accustomed during the past year. In Southampton, we understand the artisans, supported by the mayor, have been beforehand with the railway directors, and have long since secured certain trains, to carry so many, and to travel at a fixed speed, by means of which they will be brought up to London and carried down again to Southampton for about eighteen-pence a head. As the distance is eighty miles, the new tariff fare would have been seven and sixpence!—There is another point of this settlement which we think will need to be re-considered. It is proposed not to start these cheap trains before the 1st of July: a proposal which betrays either a strange want of acquaintance with the industrial habits and holidays in the north, or a still stranger disregard of the interests and desires of the workmen in those great hives of industry which cover the country from Stafford to Darlington and Carlisle. There is, as we have before said, but one set of consecutive holidays for those counties in the year—Whit-week, falling next year between the ninth and fifteenth of June,—and if the millions are to see London at all, it must be on these days. To deny them excursion trains in that week is to prohibit them a sight of the Exhibition.

The counter room at the Exhibition having been all demanded, and many more requests coming in, the Royal Commission has resolved to erect an additional gallery by which an increased area of 45,000 feet will be obtained. The entire space now appropriated to the exhibition of British products, natural and artistic, is about 220,000 square feet.

By the way, in chronicling the offer of the Goldsmiths' Company for the best works in gold and silver last week, an error made the figures 100 guineas instead of 1,000*l*. The first prize, to be given for a group of figures as a table ornament or candelabrum, is 200*l*.: there are three others of 100*l*. each,—and a number of 50*l*. and of smaller sums.

The committee appointed by the council of the Society of Arts to take steps for procuring legislative recognition of the rights of inventors had their first meeting on Tuesday last. Mr. Thomas Milner Gibson, Mr. Henry Hope, M.P., Mr. Prosser, of Birmingham, Dr. Forbes Royle, and several other members of the committee attended;—and were unanimous in their opinion that no more expense ought to be incurred by inventors than is absolutely necessary to secure protection,—and that the protection given should be cleared from all the contradictions and anomalies of the present system, or no-system.—A bill is in preparation by the committee.

The candidature between Lord Palmerston and Sheriff Alison for the distinguished office of Lord Rector of the University of Glasgow has resulted in a majority for the latter, on the gross poll, of 69. As, however, of the four nations into which the students were distributed each of the candidates had two,—the election must be decided by the vote of the present Rector, Mr. Macaulay.

The original MS. of ‘Waverley,’ wholly in the handwriting of Sir Walter Scott—the same MS. which was sold at Evans's in 1831 with the other MSS. of the noble series of novels and romances—has just been presented to the Advocates' Library at Edinburgh by Mr. James Hall, brother of the late Capt. Basil Hall. At the sale alluded to, the MS. was bought by Mr. Wilks, M.P., for something under 20*l*.,—and it was sold by that gentleman the next week to Mr. Hall at Mr. Hall's price of forty guineas. It is a well-known fact to all readers of Scott, that the novel of ‘Waverley’ was



commenced about the year 1805, and laid aside in an old cabinet till 1813,—when it was again taken up, completed, and published:—we need hardly add with what success. The MS., both in the dated water-marks of the paper and by features in the handwriting, confirms and illustrates the story of the delay. It is not perhaps generally known that the trustees of the Advocates' Library were in treaty for the purchase of the whole of the MSS., and actually offered more for them than they realized at the sale. While we regret that the offer of the Advocates was not accepted, and the MSS. kept together for public use and general gratification,—we are pleased to think that, all circumstances considered, the most interesting of the MSS. (thanks to Mr. Hall) has been added to the treasures of the noblest library in Scotland.

The Earl of Carlisle, it appears, is about to deliver a couple of lectures in the Mechanics' Institute, at Leeds:—one 'On the Poetry of Pope,'—the other, on the subject of his travels in America. The latter, as conveying his Lordship's observations on the institutions, manners, and other aspects of the transatlantic world, is likely to be interesting.

We watch with interest the progress of the People's College in Sheffield,—and are glad to report that so far it appears to be doing well, notwithstanding that the factitious element of novelty, which brought it up at first, has now in a great measure lost its power. The principle is, entire self-reliance. The circle of studies includes the usual terms of a desirable education for young men intended for tradesmen, shopkeepers, and manufacturers,—and is plain and solid, without being local or sectarian. There are lectures delivered occasionally by amateur and gratuitous teachers; but the chief feature is the class-room. Unlike too many of our Athenæums and literary institutions, the People's College is really a place of education; and the committee give force to principles which we have urged again and again when they conclude their report by saying:—"In the self-support and self-government of the institution they have the same confidence as at first, strengthened by two years' experience." Properly conducted, we have no doubt that real places of education may be made to support themselves.

We understand that the Census scheme and machinery are not yet thoroughly completed in the Secretary of State's office. From the intimation put forth by the organs of Government, we are led to expect for next year a wider and more comprehensive scheme than has hitherto been adopted. We have on former occasions submitted some suggestions of our own to the attention of the parties engaged in this great public work; and we cannot hesitate to lend the aid of our journal to impress on their regard a suggestion that has been made elsewhere—to the effect that a column should be provided to set down the weekly wages or income of each family, as well as its members. There are few subjects on which social theorists need information so much as the labour question—none on which it is more difficult to obtain it. With regard to large towns, and especially with regard to London, we should be glad to know the number in fixed and constant employment:—as, the majority of tailors and carpenters, for instance, and of those irregularly employed as dock-labourers, jobbers, and occasional porters. A point on which we have at present no trustworthy report is, the number of persons who live in the streets:—fruit-sellers, itinerant hawkers, match boys, fantoccini, tumblers, serenaders, image-makers, and so on. An official report has guessed these professionals at 2,000, in the streets of London; but there is good reason for believing that they very greatly exceed that figure. A terrible fact concerning all these people is, that three consecutive wet days carries a large majority of them into the agonies of starvation. We owe the knowledge of this fact to one of our missionaries to the heathens that are about our doors. The State should at least be able to give some authentic account of these people,—that justice may be instructed, and charity guided by wisdom to the attainment of its ends.

On the authority of the *Times*, we present our readers with the scheme of an intended route, by way of Nicaragua, to California. The distance, it

is said, will be less by 900 miles than the passage across the isthmus at Panama. The road is to commence at Grey Town,—ascend the river San Juan, to the lake and to the capital of the country situate on its banks,—whence a land journey of fifteen miles carries the traveller to the shores of the Pacific. An arrangement is said to have been concluded between the New York Company and parties in London for the prosecution of the works. The merits of this scheme are fiercely contested by rival route-projectors; and in stating the facts, so far as they are "accomplished," we express no opinion as to those merits in comparison to the value of others which are also before the public. It seems to us more than possible, that England and the United States will each require its separate line of communication with the Pacific. That narrow strip of land lies still more directly in the way of our vessels to Hong Kong, Canton, Sydney, Penang, Singapore, and Calcutta, than it does in the way of emigrants from New York to San Francisco; and should a war ever again arise, in which the Government at Washington should be at variance with that of St. James's, the former might attempt to close the way against us. The question is one of politics as well as of commerce. Any right of way well secured to us, is better than even a good one with a bad title. At present it is easy enough to obtain rights of passage from the feeble republics of Spain; but every year the Anglo-American draws his power nearer to the isthmus,—and a quarter of a century hence, if no European power interferes, the stars and stripes will float from the towers of Leon, Grenada, and Panama as certainly as they do now from those of San Francisco and Santa Fé. Wisdom should look to these things in time.

The French papers announce the death, in his seventy-eighth year, of M. Joseph Droz,—a member of the Academy of Sciences, and also of the Academy of Moral and Political Sciences. The youth of M. Droz was devoted to stormier occupation than that in which he gathered the laurels now laid upon his grave. For three years he was a soldier:—for upwards of fifty he has been devoted to letters and to philosophy. His last escort was composed of the men who had been his comrades in that latter field,—and over his grave MM. Guizot and Barthélemy Saint-Hilaire proclaimed the literary style and titles of the dead.—M. Lenormant, at the head of the artist ranks, did the same good office some days ago for M. Victor Orsel, the historical painter,—whose death we announced a fortnight since.

Germany has lost one of her most popular poets, Gustavus Schwab, at the age of only 58. Schwab was the friend of Uhland. His death was awfully sudden. On the morning of the day on which he was summoned, he had entertained a party of his friends at breakfast,—and read to them passages of a translation into German verse which he was making of the poetical works of M. de Lamartine.

The catalogue of the approaching book-fair at Leipzig has appeared. It is a volume of 384 pages,—and contains the titles of 5,023 new works published in Germany since the Easter fair. This is an excess of from twelve to fifteen hundred over the numbers catalogued at any of the fairs which have taken place since the revolutionary doings of 1848.

M. Félix Pignory, a member of the Commission despatched by the French Government in search of the tomb of Godfrey of Bouillon, has got as far as Vienna on his way back from Asia; and reports that some curious discoveries have been made by his party relative to the object of their mission.

An institution of a novel character, so far as we know, is about to be founded in the Austrian dominions. An Imperial Academy of Marine, is said to be in course of establishment, under the direction of Vice-Admiral Dahlerup, at Trieste.

At Copenhagen, Dr. Oersted, the well-known discoverer of electro-magnetism, has been celebrating the fiftieth anniversary of his appointment as Professor at the Royal University of that city. We English are not accustomed to have our literary men spoilt as they spoil them in Denmark and some other civilized countries. All ranks con-

tended to do the philosopher honour on this occasion. The King sent him the grand cross of the order of Dannebrog;—the University sent new insignia of his Doctor's degree, including a gold ring whereon a cameo bears the head of Minerva;—and the citizens presented him with a beautiful villa, situated at Fredericksburg, in the outskirts of Copenhagen.—King and people agree in a strange estimate of the value and status of the scientific man according to our insular notions. We do not see how they could have improved on this sort of testimonial if he had gained a battle.—Dr. Oersted is upwards of eighty years of age.

EXHIBITION OF MODERN BRITISH ART.—This Exhibition is NOW OPEN at the Gallery of the Old Water Colour Society, No. 5, Pall Mall East.—Open from 10 till dusk.—Admission, 1s. Catalogue, 6d.

SAMUEL STEFNEY, Sec.

EGYPT, NUBIA, and ETHIOPIA.—THE GREAT MOVING PANORAMA of the NILE displays the scenery of these interesting countries, and the manners and customs of their inhabitants, presenting to the spectator the River and the Desert, the Pyramids and the Sphinx, the grandest Ruins of Antiquity, and the most exciting objects that allure the traveller.—EGYPTIAN HALLO, PICCADILLY.—Daily, at Three and Eight.—Admission reduced to 6d.; Pit, 1s.; Stalls, 2s.

INDIA OVERLAND MAIL.—DIORAMA.—GALLERY OF ILLUSTRATION, 14, Regent-street, Waterloo-place.—A Giantic MOVING DIORAMA of the ROUTE of the OVERLAND MAIL to INDIA, exhibiting the following places, viz.—Southampton Dock, Isle of Wight, Osborne, the Needles, the Bay of Biscay, the Berlings, Gmtra, the Tagus, Cape Trafalgar, Tarifa, Gibraltar, Algiers, Malta, Alexandria, Cairo, the Desert of Suez, the Central Station, Suez, the Red Sea, Aden, Ceylon, Madras, and Calcutta.—is now OPEN DAILY.—Mornings at Twelve, Afternoons at Three, and Evenings at Eight.—Admission, 1s.; Stalls, 2s. 6d.; Reserved Seats, 3s. Doors open half an hour before each representation.

#### ROYAL POLYTECHNIC INSTITUTION.

LECTURE on the BALLAD MUSIC of ENGLAND, by Mr. George Barker, illustrated by the LAYS of the FORESTERS or SONGS of ROBIN HOOD, every Evening (except Saturdays) at Eight o'clock.—LECTURE on the HYDRO-ELECTRIC MACHINE, by Dr. Bachhoffner.—LECTURE on CHEMISTRY, by J. H. Pepper, Esq., illustrating the ALCANTARA FERRY ORDBAL and the HANDLING of RED-HOT METALS.—MODEL of WESTON'S PATENT NOVA-MOTIVE RAILWAY at work daily.—DISSOLVING VIEWS, illustrating some of the WONDERS of NATURE, daily at Half-past Four, and in the Evenings at a Quarter to Ten, also a Series, exhibiting SCENES in the ARCTIC REGIONS and CEYLON, daily at One o'clock.—DIVER and DIVING BELL, &c. &c.—Admission, 1s.; Schools, Half-price.—Open daily from Eleven till Five o'clock, and every Evening (EXCEPT SATURDAY) from Seven till Half-past Ten.

#### SOCIETIES

ROYAL.—Dr. Roget, V. P., in the chair.—Dr. Graves was admitted a Fellow. MM. J. Lionville, of Paris, J. E. Pungkie, of Breslau, H. W. Dove, of Berlin, and W. Weber, of Leipsic, were elected Foreign Members.—It was announced that amongst presents received since the last meeting, are two portraits of John Hunter and Jesse Ramsden, who were Fellows of the Society.

GEOGRAPHICAL.—Capt. W. H. Smyth, President, in the chair.—Among the numerous donations received during the recess, the President particularly directed attention to the valuable instruments bequeathed to them by the late R. Shedden, Esq., R.N., the owner of the Nancy Dawson yacht:—with whose untimely fate our readers are acquainted.—The first part of the twentieth volume of the Journal was laid on the table; and a letter of thanks from Colonel Fremont for the Patron's or Victoria Gold Medal, was read.—Extracts of a letter were read from Mr. F. Galton, dated August, 1850, Cape of Good Hope. Mr. Galton not being able to proceed to the Lake Ngami, on account of the Boers, had freighted a ship for Walvisch Bay, on the west coast. He was furnished with waggons, horses, mules, provisions, &c., for a year and a half. Besides his friend, Mr. Anderson, the Swede, he was accompanied by seven servants, speaking different languages,—and intended proceeding up the river from Walvisch Bay 300 miles to the missionary stations,—thence to penetrate to the Lake Demboa, which he believes to surpass the Ngami in extent. From the lake, he hopes to be able to descend the river, said to be Nourse River, to the sea, and ultimately to find his way to Benguela. From Sir H. Smith, the Governor of the Cape, Mr. Galton had received every attention and assistance.—The papers read were,—'A Summary of Recent Arctic Operations,' by W. A. Cartwright.—'Memorandum of the Voyage of the Prince Albert to the Arctic Seas and back, from June to October, 1850,' by Com. C. C. Forsyth, R.N.—'Considerations on



the Isthmus of Central America,' by Captain R. FitzRoy, R.N. Part I.

**INSTITUTE OF BRITISH ARCHITECTS.**—C. Fowler, Esq., V.P., in the chair.—A paper by J. W. Papworth, Esq. was read, 'On the peculiar characteristics of the Palladian School of Architecture,' illustrated by a collection of drawings and prints. A large drawing by A. Ashpitel, Esq., displaying all the works of Palladio in one pictorial group, excited much attention. The paper illustrated the principles which regulated Palladio's practice by reference to the various palaces, churches, villas, bridges, and other works ascribed to him. Allusion was made to his Italian and English followers, including Scamozzi, Inigo Jones, Lord Burlington, Kent, and others, down to the days of Nash and Soane. The leading characteristics of the Palladian style—plain columns, often attached, in single and double orders, rustic work, broken entablatures, &c.,—were minutely described and criticized. The paper was an abridgment of the essay to which the silver medal of the Institute was awarded in the Session 1848-9.—A brief discussion ensued; in which some further peculiarities observable in the style of this master were noticed.

**STATISTICAL.**—Lieut.-Col. W. H. Sykes, V.P. in the chair.—A paper by Dr. Schleisner 'On the Vital Statistics of Iceland' was read by Dr. Guy.—A paper was read by Dr. C. Finch on the intensity of cholera in the Indian army; its objects being to point out the actual prevalence and fatality of cholera in that army, and thereby show the fallacy and groundlessness of the exaggerated opinions held in this part of the globe with reference to the extent and intensity of this destructive disease. The materials were taken from the official returns of the Bombay and Madras armies for the year ending 31st December, 1849, which are the latest returns received at the India House. That for the Bengal army for the corresponding year not having yet arrived,—the author's remarks on the prevalence and fatality of cholera were limited to the Bombay and Madras presidencies. From these it appeared, the strength of the Madras army for the year 1847 was 11,429; of whom there were sick of cholera but 31, of which number 22 died:—giving a per-centage of sick of cholera to strength of '271, and of deaths from cholera to strength of only '192. The native troops of the Madras presidency amounted to 67,950. In the same year, of these there were sick of cholera 227, of whom 78 died,—giving a per-centage of sick to strength of '334, and of deaths to strength of '114. The total strength of the European force serving in 1847 in Bombay was 8,736; of whom 45 were attacked by cholera, and 24 died,—giving respectively ratios of '515 per cent. of sick to strength, and '274 per cent. of deaths to strength. The Bombay native army for the same period numbered 43,930 sepoys, of whom 253 were seized with cholera:—giving a ratio of sick of cholera to strength of '575,—of whom 100 died, giving a per-centage of deaths to strength of '227. It will be seen from the above that there were sick of cholera of the European troops belonging to Madras during the year 1847 little more than one-fourth per cent., or 1 man in 400; and that less than one-fifth, or 1 man in 500, died. Of the European soldiers serving in the Bombay army the per-centage was '515, or half a man per cent.,—or 1 man in 200. The total loss occasioned by cholera was little more than 1 man in 400; and the Bombay Europeans were greater sufferers from this scourge in that year than the Madras European troops. With reference to the native portions of these armies, it was shown that in the year ending 31st December, 1847, of the native army of the Madras presidency the ratio per cent. of sick was as 1 man in 300,—that the deaths from cholera during the same period were but 1 man in 900. The intensity of cholera in the Bombay native army had been also greater than in the native army of Madras: the ratio per cent. of sick to strength was '575, or 1½ men in 300,—and the deaths from cholera did not exceed a quarter per cent., or 1 man in 400. So that though epidemic or spasmodic cholera is still a frequent and fatal disease in the Indian armies, it is neither so

frequent nor so fatal as it is generally reported to be.

**HORTICULTURAL.**—E. Brande, Esq., in the chair.—J. Knowles, Esq., sent a Burlingtonia from Demerara. It was in a rustic basket, whose sides were covered by its numerous pendent, dense spikes of beautiful white blossoms. A Banksian medal was awarded it.—Messrs. Veitch produced a small example of a new Cœlogyne, called *Maculata*,—one of those charming terrestrial Orchids which inhabit the mountains of India; also a handsome specimen of the true *Calanthe vestita*, for which a worthless variety, without the red eye, is sometimes sold, and a small bit of a *Leschenaultia*, from Swan River. A certificate of merit was awarded for the Calanthe.—Mr. Hamp sent *Hippeastrum auricium*, and an exhibition of *Epiphyllum truncatum*, and its varieties, for which a Banksian medal was awarded.—The great-headed Pimelea (*P. macrocephala*), a robust, stiff-growing kind, was exhibited in a small state, by Messrs. Henderson; and a seedling Pentstemon, white streaked with pink, called *Salteri*, by Mr. Salter.

Some good fruit was exhibited. Mr. Bray received a Banksian medal for a handsome Providence pine-apple, weighing 11 lb. A similar award was made to Mr. Ingram, for two finely-swelled fruit of the smooth-leaved Cayenne Pine, weighing respectively 7 lb. 8 oz. and 7 lb. 3 oz.—Queens, for which a certificate of merit was awarded, were furnished by Mr. Watson; their weights were respectively 4 lb. 14 oz., 4 lb. 4 oz., and 3 lb. 12 oz.—Mr. Slove had a Providence weighing 9 lb., and a bunch of Red Hamburg (or possibly Black Hamburg badly coloured) weighing 4 lb. 4 oz. This enormous bunch was perfectly formed in all respects and quite ripe. A certificate of merit was awarded it.—Three bunches of West's St. Peter's grape, weighing 1 lb. 14 oz., 1 lb. 8 oz., and 1 lb. 5 oz., were furnished by Mr. Martin; the same grower also sent three unripe bunches of Muscat of Alexandria, weighing respectively 1 lb. 15 oz., 1 lb. 7 oz., and 1 lb. 5 oz. A Banksian medal was awarded for the West's St. Peter's.—Mr. Forsyth exhibited three bunches of Muscat of Alexandria, the peculiarity about which was that they had been ripened in the temperature of a greenhouse. The heaviest bunch weighed 1 lb. 3 oz. A large basketful of the same variety of grape, possessing a colour like that of Coe's golden drop plum, came from Mr. Davis, to whom a certificate of merit was awarded; and Mr. Turner sent examples of black Hamburg grapes, ripe and sweet from the open wall. It was stated that they were part of 156 bunches ripened by the same vine this year. Specimens of Marie Louise and of Van Mons Leon le Clerc pears were furnished by Mr. Davis. The latter is a large handsome pear, said to be equal in flavour to the Marie Louise. Nothing is known as yet of its capabilities as a standard; but it was stated that it will not grow on the quince stock. A certificate of merit was awarded for the last-named fruit.—French crab apples, the produce of 1849, were exhibited, in good condition, by Mr. Milne. A dish of matchless marrow peas, sent as a proof of the power of sulphur in destroying mildew, was shown by Mr. Fry. Mr. Fry stated, that at one period of their growth they were seriously attacked with mildew; sulphur was then applied, which arrested its progress, and the peas have since grown most luxuriantly, producing a fair crop, considering the badness of the season, and the low temperature to which they have been subjected, 3° of frost having been endured by them.—Among miscellaneous subjects was a number of drawings of various kinds of flowers and fruit, executed on rice paper, from Mrs. Dickens. From the garden of the Society came the handsome *Dendrobium Gibsoni*, *Stanhopea graveolens*, *Epidendrum fragrans*, the Musk-scented Angelonia (*A. moschata*), *Ipomœa ficifolia*, a gay plant at this season of the year, the greenish white trumpet-flowered *Solanandra laevis*, the old-fashioned *Salvia pulchella*, which has lately been sold under the false name of *S. elegans*, three Cape Heaths, the pale violet blossomed *Lyperia pinnatifida*, a plant which is nearly always in flower, the hybrid *Veronica Andersonii*,

some Chrysanthemums, and other plants, together with fruit of the Marie Louise pear from a wall, and the following vegetables: *Oxalis Deppei*, one of those Mexican wood-sorrels, whose large fleshy fangs or roots form an inferior, but, under some circumstances, a useful accessory to the table. It was mentioned that the French use the leaves as sorrel, which they say have "a mild flavour, and are easily cooked." Green winter Roman lettuce (*Laitue Romaine Verte d'Hiver*), a new variety of Cos lettuce received from M. Vilmorin, of Paris.

**LINNEAN.**—R. Brown, Esq., in the chair.—The Secretary read a memoir by Mr. B. Clarke 'On the Position of the Carpels in Plants when two and when single; including an outline of a new method of Arrangement of the Orders of Exogens, and observations on the structure of Ovaries consisting of a single Carpel.'—This paper was illustrated by a diagram and table, giving the individual researches of the author on the position of the carpels,—on which he proposes to found a new arrangement of the vegetable kingdom.—Specimens in fruit of the species of *Myrospermum*, which yield the balsam of Peru and the white balsam, from the balsam coast, San Salvador, with specimens of the balsams and *Myroxocarpine*, a principle obtained from the white balsam, were exhibited by Dr. Pereira.—Specimens of *Alsophila pinnata*, *Hymenophyllum Chilense*, and *H. Wilsoni*, with a new species of *Cheilanthes*, collected by Mr. Lobb in Chile, were presented by Mr. R. J. Gray.—Specimens of *Ulex Gallii* and *Myosotis multiflora*, from Glamorganshire, were presented by Mr. J. Woods.

**ZOOLOGICAL.**—W. Yarrell, Esq. V.P. in the chair.—Prof. Owen read a paper 'On Dinornis: Part V., on the Cranium of the large species called Giganteus and Ingens.' He commenced by referring to a former memoir, in which four generic types of structure had been determined in fossil crania of birds from New Zealand,—viz. Nestor, Notornis, Palapteryx, and Dinornis proper; and proceeded to describe an additional series of fossil skulls obtained by Governor Sir George Grey from a cave in the district which lies between the River Waikato and Mount Tongariro, in the North Island. The most remarkable of these specimens was an almost entire skull, measuring eight inches in length and five inches across the broadest part of the cranium; which in the extent of the ossified part of the mandible and its downward curvature resembled the smaller skull described in a former memoir, and there referred to Dinornis. In the structure of the occiput and base of the cranium this large skull more resembled the characters of that ascribed to Palapteryx. The indications of the muscular attachments, and the form and size of the massive beak bespoke the great power and force with which it had been habitually applied in the living bird. Its anatomical characters were minutely detailed. Comparisons of the area of the occipital foramen for the transmission of the spinal marrow with that of the spinal canal in different vertebræ were made, with a view of determining the species to which the cranium in question might belong; and the peculiar contraction of the spinal canal in the vertebræ of Dinornis, as compared with that in the ostrich, was pointed out. The inference deduced was, that the cranium, notwithstanding its great size, belonged probably to the species called *Palapteryx ingens*, which was the second in point of size. A mutilated cranium of a much younger bird, showing all the sutures, but of nearly equal size with the skull first described, might belong to the *Dinornis giganteus*. Two crania referable to two distinct species of smaller birds of Palapteryx were described, and sections of the cranium were shown to demonstrate the form and character of the brain. In the collection transmitted by Governor Grey, Prof. Owen had, for the first time, recognized a portion of a diminutive wing-bone, similar, in the absence of the usual processes for the muscles of flight, to that in the Apteryx, and confirmatory both by this character and its extreme rarity, contrasted with the abundance of vertebræ and leg-bones that had been transmitted, of the inference as to the rudimental condition of the wings in the Dinornis and Pala-



pteryx. The memoir concluded with a description of a cranium of the Notornis, more perfect than that fragmentary one on which the affinities of that bird to the Rallidæ or Coot tribe had originally been founded, and its generic distinction from Porphyrio established. The specimen exhibited confirmed the accuracy of the conjectural restorations in the figure of the original specimen in a former volume of the 'Transactions of the Zoological Society.'

Dr. Mantell read a 'Notice of the Discovery by Mr. Walter Mantell, in the Middle Island of New Zealand, of a living specimen of the Notornis, a bird of the Rail family, allied to Brachypteryx, and hitherto unknown to naturalists except in a fossil state.'—It was in the course of last year, on the occasion of my son's second visit to the south of the Middle Island, that he had the good fortune to secure the recent Notornis, which I now submit, having previously placed it in the hands of the eminent ornithologist Mr. Gould to figure and describe. This bird was taken by some sealers who were pursuing their avocations in Dusky Bay. Perceiving the trail of a large and unknown bird on the snow, with which the ground was then covered, they followed the footprints till they obtained a sight of the Notornis, which their dogs instantly pursued, and after a long chase, caught alive in the gully of a sound behind Resolution Island. It ran with great speed, and on being captured uttered loud screams, and fought and struggled violently. It was kept alive three or four days on board the schooner, and then killed, and the body roasted and ate by the crew, each partaking of the dainty, which was declared to be delicious. The beak and legs were of a bright red colour. My son secured the skin, together with very fine specimens of the Kakapo or ground parrot (Strigops), a pair of Huia (Neomorpha), and two species of Kiwi-kiwi, namely *Apteryx Australis* and *Ap. Oweni*. The latter very rare bird is now added to the collection of the British Museum. Mr. Walter Mantell states, that according to the native traditions, a large Rail was contemporary with the Moa, and formed a principal article of food among their ancestors. It was known to the North Islanders by the name of "Moho," and to the South Islanders by that of "Takahé"; but the bird was considered by both natives and Europeans to have been long since exterminated by the wild cats and dogs; not an individual having been seen or heard of since the arrival of the English colonists. On comparing the head of the bird with the fossil cranium and mandibles, and the figures and descriptions in the Zoological Transactions (Pl. 56), my son was at once convinced of their identity. It may not be irrelevant to add, that in the course of Mr. Walter Mantell's journey from Banks' Peninsula along the coast to Otago, he learned from the natives that they believed there still existed in that country the only indigenous terrestrial quadruped, except a species of rat, which there are any reasonable grounds for concluding New Zealand ever possessed. While encamping at Arowenua, in the district of Timaru, the Maoris assured them that about ten miles inland there was a quadruped which they called Kaurēke, and that it was formerly abundant, and often kept by their ancestors in a domestic state as a pet animal. It was described as about two feet in length, with coarse grisly hair; and must have more nearly resembled the otter or badger than the beaver or the ornithorhynchus, which the first accounts seemed to suggest as the probable type. The offer of a liberal reward induced some of the Maoris to start for the interior of the country where the Kaurēke was supposed to be located; but they returned without having obtained the slightest trace of the existence of such an animal: my son, however, expresses his belief in the native accounts, and that if the creature no longer exists, its extermination is of very recent date. In concluding this brief narrative of the discovery of a genus of birds once contemporary with the colossal moa, and hitherto only known by its fossil remains, I beg to remark, that this highly interesting fact tends to confirm the conclusions expressed in my communications to the Geological Society, namely, that the Dinornis, Palapteryx, and related forms,

were coeval with some of the existing species of birds peculiar to New Zealand, and that their final extinction took place at no very distant period, and long after the advent of the aboriginal Maoris.

Mr. Gould then addressed the meeting, and pointed out the zoological characters of the bird discovered by Mr. Mantell; which he had no hesitation in identifying as the species formerly characterized, from its osseous remains, by Prof. Owen under the name of *Notornis Mantelli*. Mr. Gould in adverting to the extreme interest with which the present existence of a species which was certainly contemporary with the Moa must be regarded, pointed out from the preserved skin which was on the table how accurate a prevision of its character had been made by Prof. Owen, when investigating the fragments from which our first knowledge of it had been derived.—Prof. Owen made some remarks upon the probable causes of the extinction of the larger species of wingless birds, and in doing so paid a tribute to the indefatigable zeal of Mr. Walter Mantell in advancing scientific inquiry in New Zealand.

ETHNOLOGICAL.—Vice-Admiral Sir C. Malcolm, President, in the chair.—A paper by Dr. Camps 'On the Chinese' was read:—The author treated of the history, dynasties, religion, philosophy, and languages of the Celestial Empire. The table was covered with books, prints, maps, and objects illustrative of the paper. Information on the Manchu language and its relation to the Chinese and European languages was given by the author.—A conversation was then carried on by Sir C. Malcolm, General Briggs, Dr. Hodgkin, Dr. Jones, Dr. Moore, and others, with two Chinese gentlemen present—for whom Mr. Parkes interpreted. Mr. Cull drew attention to a volume of Manchu—i.e. Tartar—edicts with their translation, which had just arrived from Canton,—being a present to the Society from Mr. Meadows.

INSTITUTION OF CIVIL ENGINEERS.—W. Cubitt, Esq. President, in the chair.—'A Comparative View of the recorded Explosions in Coal Mines,' by Mr. W. West. The Reports of Faraday, Lyell, De la Beche, Playfair, and others were carefully analyzed and tabulated; from which it appeared, that tendencies towards a dangerous condition existed in mines reputed to be comparatively safe, and that these tendencies were so numerous, and varied so suddenly in their nature and extent, as to necessitate attention to every kind of precaution. The different depths of mines, varying from 75 yards at Darley to 300 yards at Haswell, did not appear to have any influence on the accidents. The tendency to the emission of carburetted hydrogen gas from certain seams would have appeared a more rational reason; though the records did not appear to bear out that theory,—as mines receiving a tolerable character had been the scene of repeated explosions. For instance, the Jarroo Mine, where, although reported "to be not very fiery," there had been six explosions in the course of twenty-eight years, and 140 persons had been killed.—The compatibility of general good ventilation with the occasional occurrence of the most fatal explosions, was particularly dwelt on. The witnesses on the inquests after the Haswell and the Jarroo accidents agreed that the "ventilation was perfect," "the pit full of air," and "the air quite good, and plenty of it." The fault, then, did not lie in the quantity of air, but rather in the difficulty of directing it so generally throughout all parts of the mine as to sweep away the gas as it was produced. The "splits" for the air were noticed; and the condition of the goaf, the pockets of gas formed in the roof, and the sudden irruptions from the occasional falls in the goaf and old stalls, were dwelt on,—and, combined with the injudicious use of unprotected lights, and the liability of accident to the lamps, were shown to have been the probable causes of all the explosions.—The precautions for saving life on the occurrence of accidents—such as abolishing bratticed shafts, and sinking a pair at each mine, at such distances apart as should insure one remaining intact in case of an explosion injuring the other; the "scaling off" of a portion of the fresh air for the exhausting fur-

nace, and conducting the return air into the up-cast shaft at some height above the fire; together with several minor details for insuring the constant working of the exhausting apparatus, to draw off the fatal "after-damp, or choke-damp"—were insisted on.—The rashness and carelessness of the miners were instanced with regret; but it was shown that by education and good example their better qualities must be brought out, and that then, the best safeguard against accident would be the instinctive love of life, and a knowledge of impending danger from the infringement of any of the precautionary regulations established in the mines. The improvement of the workmen was, therefore, strongly insisted on,—as more real benefit would probably result from such measures than from the appointment of a host of Government Inspectors.—The paper was illustrated by diagrams of the author's views of the forms of "Goaf Hollows" and "Goaf Basins," as well as by several plans of mines, &c.

A paper was read 'On the Ventilation of Collieries, theoretically and practically considered,' by Mr. W. P. Struve.

SOCIETY OF ARTS.—Mr. F. Cooke, V.P. in the chair.—A paper detailing the institution, rise, progress, and success of the Society, with statistics of the rewards given, the subjects for which premiums were offered, the discoveries and useful results elicited, &c., was read by Mr. J. H. Murchison. The improvement effected in the Society during the last five years was strikingly shown:—crowned as it is by the large accession of members in the past season—more than 250—and manifesting itself in the highly improved state of the finances.

The Exhibition of Inventions, &c. was opened to the visitors and members in the Model Room. Apart from the interest attaching to the whole Exhibition as an attempt to show the direction taken by ingenuity during a given period, there are some mechanical contrivances here which should be mentioned. Amongst these are, the striking electric clock of Mr. Shepherd,—so contrived that any inequality in the working of the battery does not affect the clock; the pressure-gauges of M. Bourdon;—Shaw's new air-gun; &c.—The number of contrivances to meet sanitary and domestic wants is very large.

SYRO-EGYPTIAN.—J. Lee, L.L.D., in the chair.—The chairman opened the meetings of the session by observations on the progress of the Society and the advance made in Oriental Literature during the recess.—Mr. W. B. Barker exhibited impressions of rare and curious seals and gems from the East:—amongst which were a chalcedony which had belonged to one of the Shapurs of the Sassanian dynasty,—the intaglio representing what the inscription calls *Shapur i lut*—"the flower of Shapur;" an Arabic seal bearing the inscription *Min subar Kador*—"whosoever perseveres will succeed in his undertakings;" another, bearing a verse from 'Omar il Farad,'—"faithfulness and forgetfulness are not in my disposition;" the seal of Kobad, the father of Nushirwan; an intaglio on a dark red jasper representing the heads of Socrates and Xanthippe, supposed to be unique, (bought at Hamadan); an impression of a head of Minerva, which, on inspection, discloses that the helmet forms the head of Socrates in front and of Silenus behind—below there is a tragic mask at the close of the neck of Minerva; a Persian seal bearing the following poetic inscription, "I ask assistance from the mercy of God against the sorrows of fate;" two intaglios on each side of a white quartz, with an inscription in Persian words in Greek characters; several Babylonian and Pehlevi seals with characteristic subjects; heads of Sappho, Antony and Cleopatra, Diogenes; Chimera's, &c.—Mr. W. H. Black exhibited several Oriental manuscripts.—Mr. S. Sharpe read a paper 'On the Chronology of the Book of Judges.'—Mr. Sharpe pointed out on the map the several nations who attacked the Israelites after the death of Joshua, and the extent of country that each conquered. His aim was to prove that the several invasions mentioned in the book were not all in succession, but that probably they



took place in part at the same time. If all the intervals of time mentioned in the history are considered as successive and added up together, they form about 390 years between Joshua and Samuel. But in Mr. Sharpe's view the whole took place in 150 years; and this, he argued, agrees with the genealogies in which Moses is fourth from Jacob, and Jesse, the contemporary of Samuel, tenth in descent from that patriarch. Mr. Sharpe thus placed Joshua's death at about B.C. 1250,—and the going out from Egypt under Moses at about B.C. 1300. Mr. Black admitting that there must be some synchronical events among those recorded in the Book of Judges, inasmuch as the sum total of the times stated therein exceeded the period that could be allowed for the events in the general scale of chronology—still, he urged that the excess was not so great as Mr. Sharpe considered it to be, and insisted that the period of 480 years stated in 1 Kings vi. 1, as having elapsed between the Exodus and the foundation of Solomon's Temple, ought not to be explained away in the mere supposition that the descent of David from Judah presented too few generations. Mr. Black considered that it was more likely that some unworthy name or names had been omitted in the genealogy (according to Jewish custom) than that so important a date as that of the foundation of the Temple should be erroneous. He rejected Paul's alleged period of 450 years in Acts xiii. 20, as too loose a statement, and too uncertain a reading to be relied on for the support of the longer chronology, or even to be allowed to embarrass the subject; but he pointed out a much stronger confirmation of 480 years in the speech of Jephthah (Judges xi. 26), who declared that in his time the Israelites had been possessed of the country eastward of the Jordan 300 years; whereas Mr. Sharpe's theory allows of no more than half of that time for the events of the whole book.—Dr. H. Yates, Dr. Camps, Mr. T. Wright, and other members took part in this discussion.

**SCIENTIFIC GOSSIP.**—We are desirous of calling attention to a set of resolutions passed at the recent meeting, at Newhaven, of the American Association for the Advancement of Science. On that occasion it was "Resolved—That in the foundation and maintenance of numerous magnetical and meteorological observations, the British Government have evinced an appreciation of the claims of science, and a readiness to contribute liberally to its support, which challenge the admiration of the scientific world. Resolved—That the experiments which are now in progress at the Toronto Observatory to test the practicability of self-registering photographic methods, the system of concerted auroral observations recently organized by Capt. Lefroy, and the peculiar interest attached to magnetic observations made near the focus of maximum intensity, render it highly desirable that the Toronto Observatory should be continued in activity for a somewhat longer period. And inasmuch as a very extensive series of meteorological observations, embracing the entire area of the United States, is now in progress of organization by the Smithsonian Institution, and it would add exceedingly to the value of the proposed observations if simultaneous ones could be obtained from the region north of the United States, extending even to the shores of Hudson's Bay and the coast of Labrador; therefore, Resolved—That the British Government and the Directors of the Hudson's Bay Company be invited to co-operate with the observers in the United States in united and systematic meteorological inquiries."

#### MEETINGS FOR THE ENSUING WEEK.

- MON.** Royal Academy, 8.—Mr. Green 'On Anatomy.'  
— Geographical, half-past 8.—Capt. Fitzroy, 'Considerations on the Isthmus of America.'—Mr. A. Petermann, 'Progress of African Exploration under Messrs. Overweg and Barth.'  
**TUES.** Institute of Actuaries, 7.  
Zoological, 9.—Scientific Business.—Mr. Gray, 'On the Species of Deer.'—Mr. Gaskoin, 'On the Habits of *Helix Tudoræ*.'—Mr. Fraser, 'On undescribed Species of Birds in Menageries.'—Knowlsey, 'Rev. R. T. Lowe, 'On the Fishes of Madeira.'  
**WED.** Society of Arts, 8.—Mr. J. J. Mechi, 'On English Agriculture, with a View to its Amendment.'  
**THURS.** Royal, half-past 8.—Bakerian Lecture, by Mr. Faraday, 'On the Magnetic Character and Action of Oxygen in the Atmosphere.'  
— Antiquaries, 8.  
— Numismatic, 7.  
— Royal Society of Literature, 4.

**FRIDAY.** Botanical, 8.—Anniversary.  
**SAT.** Medical, 8.  
— Royal, 4.—Anniversary.

## FINE ARTS

### EXHIBITION OF MODERN BRITISH ART.

OF the objects of those to whom this Exhibition—opened at the Gallery of the Old Society of Painters in Water Colours—is due, we have already given something like a preliminary sketch. A winter collection of the works of artists which at no cost to themselves might bring them, while the great galleries are closed, into the presence of their patrons, and afford collectors the opportunity of selection,—is the purpose of those who now appear for the first time by this result.

There are circumstances of novelty superadded to the claims of excellence which help to recommend the present Exhibition to public consideration,—and demand a few words of comment. A Gallery whose Exhibitions have hitherto been confined to the works of only a picked class of artists—the associated members of the Society to whom these apartments belong—assembles for the first time the labours of many of the leading artists of the day differing as much in Art-politics as in Art-practice. It has become for the time a sort of neutral ground, informed by the spirit of an Art-republic. A veteran Academician hangs by the side of a youthful member of one of the youngest of the Art-Societies,—and a generous co-operation is limited here by no rules of caste or class. This is itself a wholesome agency.—The processes of oil-painting are here brought into immediate and instructive comparison with those *loaded* and *impasted* body-coloured treatments against which we have contended on more than one former occasion. We think our objections are here most perfectly exemplified by the contrast. While it has none of the qualities which oil-painting possesses owing to the process of transparent glazing over the prepared opaque surface, the former method has also none of that delicacy which in the early painters in water colours—Cousins, Paul Sandby, Hearne, Girtin, or Turner—made this peculiar department of Art one of great refinement. The vice of this modern fashion,—this *distempered* painting—is so exhibited here as to point a moral to the conscientious beginner.

The arrangement of the pictures in this Exhibition is so well managed as to give to the whole assemblage a homogeneous look. Each picture is inclosed in a mount, or framing, of one particular tinted paper:—affecting, in some few instances, the oil-picture in a slight degree, by lowering its general tone in consequence of the contrast between it and its mount. This has, however, not occurred to an extent that has created any material disturbance of the general harmony of the whole.

The themes which, as usual, have abundantly exercised the water-colour painter here, are, the literal landscape or the rustic figure. Subjects from history or poetry are few; while in the latter there is evidently a tendency rather to imitate the conventions established by Etty than to take inspiration from the subject itself. Of the *genre* school, there are many brilliant examples:—for the most part the studies for well-known and highly-esteemed productions—wrought up afterwards to a greater degree of completion than is customarily seen in the model designs for pictures. There is obviously such a look of definitive arrangement in these as could be expected only in works executed from those of larger dimensions, rather than for them. Some very able studies of female character—heads, though small, yet carried to a great degree of completion—merit attention. Turner is chief in the department of landscape:—whether in the rendering of such a natural phenomenon as *Vesuvius in Eruption*,—in classical subject,—or in pastoral, like that which represents *The Junction of the Greta and the Tees*. The last is the well-known drawing executed for a well-known topographical work,—admirably engraved, if we recollect correctly, by the hand of John Pye. In foreign scenery the Exhibition is rich,—Mediterranean shore, inland lake, forest, or mountain pass.—Architectural forms in cities of the Middle Age

republics—or of monarchical states—are numerous and varied. Romance has her representatives; and the sports of the field or the pastimes and occupations of peasant life have furnished their themes. The more lowly subjects of fruit and still-life put in their claims to notice, asserted by some of the most distinguished professors of this class:—and in a word, no department can be said to be without its representative artist in this Exhibition.

Of the poetic class,—*Frolic* (251), *The Daughters of Hesperus* (256), and *Perseus and Andromeda* (259), by Mr. Frost,—*The Sirens, a Sketch from Spenser's Faerie Queene*, and *Astarte* (229), by Mr. F. R. Pickersgill—present that class of combination known under the head of the Academic,—and following out in their design those received treatments of which Titian and Poussin are the chief exponents.—There are by Mr. Cope, sketches for his picture of *Pastorella*,—and another for a picture of *Family Reading* (152)—together with the *chiaroscuro* study for his recent picture of *Lear and Cordelia* (206),—showing the principle on which the work itself was conducted. Mr. Gilbert's sketch for his picture of the *Assembled Characters from Shakespeare*, and *Falstaff reviewing his Recruits* (183)—a humorous design—are evidences here of this artist's fancy. Neither Mr. Tenniel's *Alexander's Feast* (144), nor Mr. Patten's *Christian Graves* (141), nor his *Golden Age* (147), nor Mr. Redgrave's *Ophelia* (125), nor the same artist's subjects in the frame marked 161, will be accepted as refined manifestations of the poetic vein of their respective authors.—A small unpretending study of *An Italian Guitar Player* (119), drawn from nature, is eloquent of congenial feeling with the best works of Luino and the Lombard school. It is seldom that we have to point to the exercises in Art of the titled in the land; but Lord Compton presents an honourable exception of intelligence and taste in a very elegant little study here. Mr. Uwins's sketch of *Cupid and Psyche* (150) and—turning from the profane to the sacred—Mr. E. H. Corbould's *Jesus of Nazareth* (196), will not satisfy the devout believer nor the instructed amateur.

Two sketches by Mr. Charles Landseer, from the pages of Walter Scott, in frame No. 9, are the subjects of pictures which have given him a speciality in the illustrative department of his art. Kenny Meadows, better known by his wood-cut designs, contributes two illustrations from Shakespeare,—from *Twelfth Night* (26), and from *As You Like It* (32). Both are in water colours;—a style in which, though new to him, he evidences much talent, and gives pledge of future improvement. Mr. Brooke's *Pastor's Visit* (49)—a scene from 'The Deserted Village'—is less hard and more refined in taste than his pictures. We have here again Mr. Uwins's *Saint Manufactory* (54),—as well as the oil picture from whence it is derived,—now appositely re-produced.—There are the usual taste and originality of style in Mr. Chalon's presentation of *Sophia Western* (72). *The Sketch for the picture of Dr. Johnson perusing the manuscript of the Vicar of Wakefield*, as the last resource for rescuing Goldsmith from the hands of the Bailiffs (78), and *The original Sketch for the picture of Daniel Defoe, and the Manuscript of Robinson Crusoe* (217), are the model designs for the two excellent finished pictures which have contributed so much to Mr. E. M. Ward's reputation. There is here also the design by Mr. Hook, the newly elected Associate, of his able picture of *The Refuge taken by Francesco Novello and his Wife* (114).

Some of the studies of Mr. Frith's best and principal works—an artist who stands chief among his class—are here. There are the sketches of *The Coming of Age* (118), of *The Old English Merry-making* (134),—of *The Village Pastor* (153),—and of Lord Poppington describing his way of passing the four-and-twenty hours (245):—all desirable examples of the artist's style.—Mr. Egg's *Three Scenes from 'The Devil upon Two Sticks'*,—*'The Husband Abroad and at Home'* (128),—and *'Katherine and Petruchio'* (282), are excellent reminiscences of pictures good in sentiment and in colour.—There are also here Mr. M'Innes' study for his pleasing picture of *Detaining a Customer* (136); an excellent little group by Mr. Frederick



Goodall, called *The Pedlar* (140); Mr. Frank Stone's original sketches for his two popular pictures, *The Impending Mate*, and *Mated* (170),—two little *morceaux* of which we covet the possession,—almost preferring them, for more correctness of design and completeness, to the larger works; and *The Lesson* (230), by the same artist,—one of the most pleasing of his delineations of female beauty.—Mr. Eddis's sketch of *The Little Fortune Teller* (171) is no very piquant reminder of the conventions of the Romneys, Hoppners, and Beechys of former days.

We must not overlook Mr. John Absolon's Sketch numbered 193,—a group full of beauty; nor Mr. Wingfield's costume figure *The Poet's Reverie* (226),—which has some quaintness to make it be remarked. Also not to be overlooked are Mr. Frederick Pickersgill's studies for his large picture of *The Search for the Body of Harold* (238) and for a *Scene in the Riots in the Reign of Henry the Second* (244)—as evidences of the artist powers in the picturesque combination of human forms.—Mr. Cattermole's drawings are, as usual, marked by sincerity of purpose,—and present in full force the originality of his style. *The Intercepted Letter* (248), *The Dagger Scene from Macbeth* (255), and the *Presentiment of Ill* (263) are three good examples of his power:—though we have seen from the same hand, we think, other versions of the deluded Thane more in accordance with the spirit of the great Bard's creation.—Mr. Webster's little sketches for "*The First Day of Oysters*" (280) and "*The Rubber*" (285) are sure to attract, from the force of their character as much as from their mastery of arrangement.—*The Secret* (290), by Mr. Solomon, is an episode from one of his former pictures:—and Mr. Ansdell's *Sportsman and Dogs* (297) is one of the most perfect works that we have ever seen from his hands.—There are other examples from the same hand of progress in subjects of diminished scale.

Of the studies of female character Mr. Elmore has contributed the best,—in *Reflection* (34), and *Beatrice* (40). These are two charming heads:—the title of the first being an *équivoque*. Two sketches by Lord Compton of *A Child at Rome* (5) and another at *Ischia* (74) have much graceful feeling. The same quality is discernible in Mr. Popham's *Lassie Knitting* (17),—in another *Study from Nature* (22) and in the *Highland Mother*, by the same artist (121). There is excellence in Mr. Alfred Tripp's *Study of an Irish Child* (47),—in Mr. Carl Haag's *Fisher Girl of Procida* (61),—in Mr. Jenkins's *Shrimper, Coast of France* (80),—in Mr. Oakley's *Young Gipsy* (108),—in Mr. Charles Lucy's *Study of a Head from Nature* (181), a study, it is presumed, for the Head of Cromwell's daughter in his large picture painted some time since,—in Mr. Hollins' *Gleaner* (20),—and in Mr. H. Le Jeune's *Study of a Female Head* (246).

In the class of book illustrations, Mr. George Cruikshank enables us to renew our acquaintance with a frame of *Original Sketches* (189) and with *Four of the Original Sketches illustrating 'The Miser's Daughter'* (221):—full of humorous fancy. So are also the *Original Sketches* by him being a *Portion of the Series illustrating the Works of Sir Walter Scott* (174). At the head of interior presentments stands Mr. David Roberts:—whether in his *Study, made on the spot, of the Cheminée de la Salle d'Audience des Magistrats du Franc de Bruges* (50)—or in *The Crypt of Rosslyn Chapel, showing the 'Prentice Pillar'* (57). Mr. Hart has let us see here some of his drawings of Italian interiors. *The Pulpit in the Cathedral of Siena, executed by Nicolao Pisano* (254), described in the page of Vasari, —*The Court-Yard of the Borgello at Florence*—and an *Interior in the Church of St. Francisco at Assisi*, prove by their architectural forms of the middle ages, that he does not restrict his investigations to one class of objects. In this class Mr. Collingwood also has shown his ability in a powerful interior of *The Chancel of Cobham Church* (139):—as has Mr. R. M'Innes in the *Interior of the Duomo, San Geminiano* (167).

Of the exteriors of foreign cities, those by Mr. Lake Price are most conspicuous. There is great merit in *Santa Lucia, Naples* (20); in *The Ponte degli Orfeci, Florence* (37); and in *Genoa, looking towards Porto Pino* (29):—which, notwithstanding

a certain want of atmospheric truth, are most agreeably conscientious in the correct delineation of their forms. Mr. Edward Cooke has contributed some of his equally careful studies of the *Villa d'Este, Tivoli* (288),—of *The Fountain* (165),—which show his honesty of purpose and his care. Mr. Linton's versions of Venice in 148, and in *St. Giorgio at Venice* (142), are conspicuous among examples of beautiful landscape; while *The Avenue at Greenhill, Hampstead* (105) bespeaks his experienced touch.—In Mr. Pyne's view of the *Teatro Malibran at Venice* (157) there is much merit.

Among the mass of domestic interiors, there is none superior to that *In the Campagna at Rome* (51), by Mr. A. Glennie. It is remarkable for its truth and modesty. Of the general studies of Mr. C. Vacher, *Italy* (173) must be distinguished as very rich in colour. We have also *The Atlas Mountains from the road to Constantine and the Plain of Metidjah, Africa*, (188)—and his brilliant view of *Venice from the Riva dei Schiavone* (75).—The last for depth of colour is perhaps one of Mr. Vacher's most fortunate performances.

From Mr. Oakley's pencil the most prominent contribution is *Reduced from better days* (12): and by Mr. Frederick Tayler we have a happy combination of human and animal forms in *Highland Boy with dead Stag and Deerhounds* (121).—Mr. W. A. Knell exhibits the *Original Sketch for the picture in the Royal collection at Osborne, painted by command of H.R.H. Prince Albert, representing the arrival of His Royal Highness at Dover, in February, 1840*:—very Stanfield-ish in its general bias.—Mr. W. Hunt is most important in his single figure of *The Admonition* (86).

In the landscape class, Mr. Copley Fielding's chaste *View, looking to the Head of Loch Fyne* (295) stands its ground well near the resplendent hues of the neighbouring Turners,—while it inculcates a lesson to the off-hand, *maniéré* treatments whose scale of colour is so apparent, and whose indefiniteness of intention is so confusing. It shows how important to the artistic mind it is, with a view to the successful realization of truth, that it should be docile and free from conceit. The strut of self-assumed superiority is certain to carry its own retributive justice with it:—the consequence is, extravagance, or common-place.

Of the chiefs who have contributed from their portfolios we shall merely say, that the best contributions are by Messrs. Witherington, John Martin, Niemann, D'Egville, Hering, Palmer, Harding, Branwhite, A. Clint, John Wilson, jun., C. Bentley, Wehnert, James Uwins, Palmer, C. R. Stanley, Frank Dillon, George Fripp, Penley, J. W. Allen, Duncan, Davidson, Evans, Nesfield, Gastineau, Percy, Boddington, Jutsum, Richardson, Dodgson, and Callow.—The painstaking architecture of Mr. Mackenzie, and the vigour of his bolder brother Prout, must not be overlooked.

#### BRITISH INSTITUTION.

##### Copies from the Old Masters.

THE dulness of such a November day as Wednesday last, when it was our duty to inspect the copies which have been made during the past Autumn at this Institution, was not redeemed by any pleasure which we derived from that inspection. More than an average of mediocrity characterizes the copies generally. We cannot look on them without feeling how much time has been thrown away in mere mechanical employment,—how many minds have been deluded by the hope that because they were occupied, they were advancing. Added to this painful consideration, is a knowledge of what is likely to be one result of the pecuniary necessities of these copyists. As before, their works will probably be purchased by low and dishonest dealers; in whose hands, after having undergone the processes of smoking, lining, and varnishing, they will re-appear in the shop windows of Holborn or of Fleet Street,—or find their way into the country gaudily framed, there to impose on the unwary and the credulous.

There are few indeed of these copies which bear the impress of intelligence or furnish evidence of critical appreciation.—Of the *Holy Family*, by Schiavone, Miss Clara Cawse, has made the best

of three copies, all done the size of the original. Miss Guthrie's is next in merit. Neither, however, has the delicate yet decided touch of the original.—Three smaller copies of the same are very unimportant. Salvator Rosa's *Landscape* has been indifferently studied by two copyists on the same scale. Three smaller copies are poorly and coarsely executed.—The three studies from Llorente Heinau's *Joseph caressing the Infant Saviour*, are all alike indifferent.—The so-called Annibal Carracci's Academy figure entitled *The Toilet* has a few copyists on a smaller scale. All these productions are hard, dry, and mechanical transcripts, without a ray of feeling.—Spagnoletto's *Sihyl* is best copied, small, in water colour, by Miss Charlotte Cowel, Miss Emily Farmer, and Miss Santagnello. The best large copy, in oil, by Miss Hemming, is wanting in freedom of touch.

The *Three Flemish Musicians*, by Jordaens, is best copied by Mr. Baines. His copy is wanting in transparency and richness of colour; but there are decision in the touch and resemblance in the characters of the heads. Of two others, the same size as the original, the best is by Mr. Charles Dowley.—The *Landscape with Waterfall* by Both is very poorly appreciated by four students:—the purity of the water being entirely missed. C. Pearson's is the best,—and that is good only by the comparison.—The *Nun*, said to be by Titian, has one copy, the size of the original, by Mr. E. Osborne. Of the two smaller ones, by Mesdames Hill and Andrade, the first named is the best.

*The Ship Sovereign Royal, built at Woolwich in the reign of Charles the First, with portrait of her builder, Sir Phineas Pette*, by old Vandevelde, is respectably copied by Mr. Charles Aug. Morneswick, for the brother of its proprietor, Lord Yarborough.—Sebastian Bourdon's picture of *Our Saviour at the Well* has only one copier, on the same scale, in oil,—Mr. James Hall. His copy is slight,—but gives evidences of feeling.—Mr. Wichelo in making a water-colour drawing from the same, has confined himself mostly to the figures,—and altered in consequence the shape. His work is not, however, a very attractive resemblance of Bourdon's.

Vander Neer's *River View* is best in the hands of Mr. F. W. Watts. It was touched by him with feeling, is good in tone and colour,—and the distance is well appreciated.—There is merit in each of two other copies, of the same size as the original, by Mr. F. S. Hayes and Mr. G. G. Dalotz.—Mr. Joshua Taylor's is the best of three smaller-sized copies.—Of the *Portrait of Queen Mary* there is a respectable study, the same size, by Mr. A. F. Plass. Of four smaller copies, the best is by Miss Solomon.

Guercino's road-side picture of the youthful *St. John* has been the most attractive of all the subjects here offered. There are no fewer than ten copies as large as the original:—the best being by ladies. Of these, the one of greatest merit is by Miss Greener. It is a water-colour drawing, as large as the original picture; and so well executed that at a distance, for power, force and brilliancy of tone, it can scarcely be distinguished from an oil picture. It is only on near inspection that the material in which it is wrought is detected,—and then, principally from the degree of hatching employed to arrive at the full force of the original.—Miss Andrade, Miss Clara Cawse, and Mr. W. Hay mention in the order of their respective degrees of approximation to the characters of the original.—Of three miniature copies, Miss Charlotte B. Morris has contributed the best.

Mr. W. J. Rivers has made a copy of Velasquez' *Spanish Peasant Girl*, the same size as the picture. The picture itself has good character,—but is hot and monotonous in its tones. Miss Andrade's is the best of three smaller copies.—Annibal Carracci's study of *St. John in the Wilderness* has only one copy made of it,—in water colours, by Miss Santagnello. Of the *Christ at Emmaus*, one of the repetitions of the well-known Titian, Mr. Brown has made the best of three small studies. It has some sense of colour and tone.—Mr. Holt has made a study of half of the principal figure, of the same size.—The rest are worthless.

There are three copies the same size, and four on a smaller scale, of Velasquez' *Spanish Shepherd*. Of



these, the best are by Mr. George Walker and Mr. W. J. Rivers.—Mr. W. Hay and Mr. J. Blackall have copied the *Hercules and Dejanira* with ability.—Of the *Portraits of Berghem and his Dog* there are five, the same size. The best in oil, is by Miss Hemming,—the best in water colours by Miss Brimmer.—Mr. A. F. Plass has made the best study of Sir Joshua Reynolds's portrait of *Sir Richard Worsley*—not a very remarkable example of the master. Mr. Edmund Havell and Mr. W. Farmer are next in merit.

Of Tintoretto's *Descent from the Cross* Mr. Havell has made an exercise in composition by selecting two of the figures and combining them after his own design, so as to make a kind of conversation piece. The scheme of tone is adhered to; the artist vindicating himself from the imputation of mere mechanical employment and mental torpor by sustaining in his adaptation of the parts the principle of colour which the Venetian painter had in view.—Of one of the best repetitions by Titian of his *Magdalen* Mr. Fox has made the best of five copies which are of the same dimensions. Though he has not attained to the richness of tone, he has drawn and painted the figure with care and feeling.—Of seven small copies of the same, the best are those by Miss Ellen Drummond and by Miss Mary Anne Sharp.

The *Duchess of Lorraine*, by Rembrandt, has attracted a number of imitators. Of these, Mr. Baines, Mr. V. Rimer, and Miss Hill are the chief. There are no less than six copies in oil the size of the original,—four small,—and two in water colours. Scarcely one of these can be said to have caught the feeling of delicacy which prompted the painter in the making out of the features and other details.—Mr. Baines's is perhaps the best for transparency and touch.

A novel idea is exhibited by a sculptor—Mr. C. A. Rivers. He has two small groups in the round suggested by the two pictures *Hercules and Dejanira* and *The Toilet*. They show enterprise at the least, if they do not coincide with the conditions under which a group should be produced.

#### THE NATIONAL GALLERY.

THE Select Committee appointed by the House of Commons to consider the present accommodation afforded by the National Gallery, and the best mode of preserving and exhibiting to the public the works of Art given to the nation or purchased by Parliamentary grants,—to whom were referred the Report of the Select Committee on Arts and Manufactures of 1836, the Minutes of Evidence taken before the Select Committee on Works of Art in 1847—8, together with the Report of the Commission appointed to inquire into the state of the pictures in the National Gallery,—have made the following Report.—

"In entering upon this inquiry your Committee, directed their attention to the reports of former committees, and to the information heretofore collected, in reference to the National Gallery.

"A committee which was appointed to inquire into 'The best means of extending a knowledge of the Arts and of the Principles of Design,' and which sat during the Sessions 1835 and 1836, collected evidence respecting the National Gallery, and the best mode of increasing its accommodation.

"A committee which was appointed in 1841 to inquire into 'The present State of the National Monuments and Works of Art, and to consider the best means for their protection, and for affording facilities for their inspection,' reported upon the National Gallery; and cited the great number of men, women, and children who had visited that institution without injury to the works of Art submitted to their view. Another committee was appointed in 1847-48 to consider 'The best mode of providing additional room for Works of Art given to the public or purchased by Parliamentary grants.' That committee observed that the present National Gallery was deficient in space for the accommodation of the pictures, and recommended that 'an enlarged and improved National Gallery should be constructed on the site of the present gallery.' They gave the following reasons in support of their recommendation:—'The commanding position of the present site; its accessibility and nearness to the chief thoroughfares and centres of business; the uncovered ground in the rear of the building which might be available for its enlargement; and the economy of a structure which from its position requires only one ornamental front.' The evidence upon which this opinion was founded has not been reported to the House, but having been referred to your Committee they have annexed it to this Report.

"In addition to these reports, however, another important document was brought under the notice of your Committee, namely, the Report of a Commission appointed during the present year to 'Inquire into the State of the Pictures in

the National Gallery.' This Report will be found at length in the Appendix; but your Committee are desirous of directing attention to some observations of the Commissioners, which cannot be neglected without risk to this valuable collection of pictures.

"The Commissioners, in considering the site and construction of the present National Gallery, reported as follows:—

"'It appears to us that the building itself contains no element of danger to the pictures; the walls seem to be perfectly dry, and the boarding upon them is well calculated to prevent any transmission of damp to the pictures. Without pronouncing an opinion as to whether the system of warming is perfect or complete, we do not think that there is any such imperfection in the mode of regulating the temperature of the rooms as to endanger the pictures.

"'In considering the position of the National Gallery our attention was drawn to the vicinity of several large chimneys, particularly that of the baths and washhouses, and that connected with the steam-engine by which the fountains in Trafalgar-square are worked, from which great volumes of smoke are emitted. In the neighbourhood, also, the numerous chimneys of the various clubhouses are constantly throwing out a greater body of smoke than those of ordinary private residences; the proximity likewise of Hungerford Stairs, and of that part of the Thames to which there is a constant resort of steam-boats, may tend to aggravate this evil; but, on the other hand, it is to be observed that the very large open space in front and at the back of the building must be likely to establish a greater purity of atmosphere than is often attainable in the centre of crowded cities; the gravelly nature of the soil, also, on which the building is placed is a further circumstance in favour of the locality.'

"The Commissioners then proceed to notice that which constitutes, in their opinion, the chief source of danger to the pictures—namely, the injury arising from the dust and impure atmosphere to which they are continually exposed.

"Upon this subject they observe that the central position of the gallery is attended with some disadvantages unnoticed in all former inquiries. 'It appears,' they state, 'that the gallery is frequently crowded by large masses of people, consisting not merely of those who come for the purpose of seeing the pictures, but also of persons having obviously for their object the use of the rooms for wholly different purposes; either for shelter in case of bad weather, or as a place in which children of all ages may recreate and play, and not unfrequently as one where food and refreshments may conveniently be taken. The evils consequent on these circumstances can be moderated by the care of those who have charge of the Gallery in cases of extreme abuse. On the days on which the guard, after being changed, returns to St. George's Barracks, the numerous crowds of persons, without apparent calling or occupation who on such occasions follow the military band, are stated to come in large bodies immediately after it has ceased playing, and fill the rooms of the National Gallery.'

"Your Committee examined Mr. Uwins and Lieutenant-Colonel Thwaites, whose evidence confirms the Report of the Commissioners. Mr. Uwins said that many persons use the Gallery as a place of refreshment and for appointments, without any apparent reference to the pictures. The average of daily visitors is said to exceed 3,000. The dust and impure vapours occasioned by this number of persons tend not only to cover the pictures with a film of dirt, but to produce, according to the opinion of Mr. Faraday, further injury to the colour of the paintings which will permanently diminish their value.

"Your Committee examined Dr. Gustave F. Waagen, the Director of the Royal Gallery at Berlin, who stated that he had visited the National Gallery in 1835, and he considers that the pictures are altering in consequence of the atmosphere to which they are exposed. The average daily number visiting the Gallery in Berlin is said by Dr. Waagen to be about 200; and the Gallery at Berlin affords more space for visitors than is given by our National Gallery.

"Similar evidence in regard to the state of the pictures in the National Gallery was obtained from other witnesses, with the exception of Mr. Coningham, who seemed to regard the process of cleaning as the chief, if not the only danger to which pictures are exposed.

"With a view to the preservation of the pictures, the Commissioners suggested that the pictures of moderate size might be covered with glass—a mode of protecting them which has been found successful in some instances where it has been tried in galleries in this country, and which it appears has also been occasionally adopted in foreign galleries. The Commissioners further recommended that care should be taken to preserve the backs of the pictures from the dust and impurities continually deposited upon them, and which in regard to paintings on canvas are believed to constitute another source of injury.

"Your Committee having carefully considered the Report of the Commission, together with the further evidence here collected, feel it to be their duty to offer the following observations to the House:—

"The present National Gallery does not afford space for the accommodation and due exhibition of the pictures belonging to the nation; a considerable addition of space might, however, be obtained by the removal of the Royal Academy from their portion of the building. In the Appendix to the Report of the Committee of 1836, above referred to, there will be found a statement signed by the Secretary of the Royal Academy, which statement asserts that apartments at Somerset House were originally bestowed on the Royal Academy by King George III., without any expressed conditions; and that when the present gallery was built apartments were allotted to the Academy, and the plans of the rooms were submitted to their approval without any stipulations or definite agreement. On the other hand, the Report of the Committee of 1836 states that the Academy may be compelled to quit the National Gallery whenever public convenience requires their removal. If the present site were in all respects suited to the accommodation of the national pictures, your Committee would at once

recommend that the portion of the building now occupied by the Royal Academy should be added to the National Gallery. It appears, however, that the present site, although well adapted for a public edifice, is considered by most of the witnesses whom your Committee have examined as unfavourable for the preservation of the pictures.

"Many plans have been suggested by architects of eminence, with the view of building on the present site a National Gallery not unworthy of the nation. Upon reviewing the evidence here collected, your Committee cannot, however, recommend that any expenditure should be at present incurred for the purpose of increasing the accommodation of a National Gallery upon the existing site.

"Your Committee are not prepared to state that the preservation of the pictures and convenient access for the purpose of study and the improvement of taste would not be better secured in a gallery further removed from the smoke and dust of London; but being in ignorance of the site that might be selected, the soil on which it might stand, and the expense which might be incurred, they cannot positively recommend its removal elsewhere.

"As a means of temporary preservation, your Committee approve of the suggestions of the Commission, namely, that the pictures of moderate size should be covered with glass, and that the backs of all the pictures should be carefully protected: provided always, that such measures of protection should be adopted, with the utmost precaution and under the immediate direction and control of practical men.

"Your Committee recommend that increased attention should be paid to the regulations as well as to the ventilation of the gallery; but while they feel that one of the great objects of all public institutions is, if possible, to form the public taste, and gratify the public eye, they will think that the rule adopted in the British Museum with regard to the exclusion of very young children might with advantage be introduced among the regulations of the National Gallery. Your Committee cannot concur in the opinion that any evil results in the practice of copying pictures for sale; and with respect to the disputed questions of cleaning and varnishing they forbear to express an opinion, and refer to the evidence printed with their Report.

"With a view to the permanent preservation and exhibition of the national pictures, your Committee are of opinion that a building large enough for the present national collection, and constructed in a style admitting of successive additions in future years, would induce patriotic and generous men to follow the examples from which the country has already derived so much benefit. It is of great importance, independently of the preservation of the pictures which the National Gallery already contains, that there should be a well-founded confidence that pictures presented or bequeathed to the Nation will be preserved with every possible care; and it is obvious that if any general impression should prevail that pictures deposited in the National Gallery are liable to more injury than those in other collections, such an impression would check the liberality which it is for the interest of the Nation to encourage.

**FINE-ART GOSSIP.**—The newspapers of the week have announced the destruction by fire of the ancient and beautiful church of Cockermouth,—leaving scarcely a vestige save the walls and tower to tell of one of the most interesting of our old English parochial monuments. The Church—which contained many fine specimens of Art—was, it is said, a magnificent building, and stood on an eminence that lifted it well to view. It was built on the site of an original chapel endowed in 1399 by Henry Percy, Earl of Northumberland.—The inhabitants of Cockermouth were proud of their church,—and the loss to the town is irreparable.

The Paris papers have a few names in their obituary of the week, which they record with regret. M. Dubois, an architect of long-standing, has died at an advanced age.—M. Louis Marvy, the landscape painter and eminent engraver,—and M. Alexandre Fragonard, known both as a painter and a sculptor,—have each received honourable testimonials on the same melancholy occasion at the hands of these public mouth-pieces.

It is stated that the Neapolitan Government has granted a sum of 20,000 ducats for continuing the excavations of Pompeii.

The *Brussels Herald* says, that the Emperor of Russia purposes to make a tunnel under the Neva, similar to our Thames Tunnel, M. Alaric Falconnet, an eminent French engineer, has, it is added, received instructions to furnish plans for that object.—The Exhibition of paintings of the Fine Art Institute, in that city, is now open at the Hôtel de Ville.

The foreign papers furnish an archaeological incident or two,—which may be combined into a single paragraph.—At Spalato, in Dalmatia, Dr. Francisco Carrara—who has been for some time engaged, by order of the Austrian Government, in making excavations in the neighbourhood of that town—has laid open a vast edifice which retains the evidences at once of its original destination as an establishment of baths, and of its subsequent appropriation to Christian worship. The oratory,



hall of the catechumens, baptistery, and sacristy are all defined; and all are paved in mosaic compartments, representing subjects of mythology and of Roman history, figures of men and women, fantastic animals, plants, flowers, &c.—Dr. Carrara has discovered also traces of the fortifications of the ancient town of Spalatum,—the arcades of a cemetery,—Sarcophagi,—and twenty-three small figures in bronze and in marble of various colours. A detailed report of these discoveries is about to be addressed to the Imperial Academy of Sciences at Vienna; and the excavations, under the encouragement which they offer, are to be carried on with increased vigour.—At Châtillon-sur-Loing, near the old Circus of Chenevères, so well known to antiquarians, a somewhat similar treasure has turned up. Baths clothed within their basins with paintings whose colours are brilliant yet, and decorated exteriorly with small attached columns, have been found:—as well as mosaics, medals, pottery, ancient utensils, and fragments of statues. These discoveries have been made in a meadow belonging to a private individual; and it is intended to follow them up by further clearings.

### MUSIC AND THE DRAMA

MISS DOBLY begs to announce that the SECOND of her ANNUAL SERIES of THREE SOIRÉES MUSICALES will take place at her residence, 2, Hyde Street, Manchester Square, on TUESDAY, the 26th Instant, to commence at Eight o'clock precisely. Miss Dobly will be assisted by eminent vocal and instrumental talent. Single tickets 11s.6d. each, to be had of Miss Dobly only. The Third and last Soirée will take place on December the 16th.

GRAND NATIONAL CONCERTS.—Mr. Macfarren's 'Serenata.'—The conditions of a *Serenata* have not been studied by that clever and successful dramatist, Mr. Oxenford, in arranging text for Mr. Macfarren to set as concert-music. As an *Opera*, the author's management of the delightful Oriental legend of 'The Sleeper awakened' is natural and effective. But for a piece intended to be executed without action, scenery, or costume, the draughts made on the imagination of the audience are too numerous and heavy. There are four imaginary changes of scene. Night comes on, and subsequently day: a table with refreshments is brought out,—"cups are handed round"—*Hassan* is much carried about—a knock at the door is to be taken for granted, &c. All these and a hundred other such incidents not only complicate and mystify the subject for concert use, as distinguished from stage performance,—but also have compelled the composer to adopt the opera style, which, virtually, implies sacrifice of concert effect. Mr. Oxenford is too accomplished a student of our Augustan poets not to recollect in how much simpler, yet not less effective, a manner the poet of the model *serenata* wrote for Handel. There, after the characters had been announced, as *Acis*, *Galatea*, *Polyphe*, *Damon*, the words and the music did the rest. *Galatea*'s few words of recitative tell her story. The words of the lover's very first song—

Where shall I seek my charming fair?

Direct my way, kind genius of the mountains;

O tell me when you saw my dear,

Seeks she the groves, or bathes in crystal fountains?—

at once introduce us into his confidence, and mark the scene. The coming of the Cyclops is shown us by the narration of the chorus, while the catastrophe is so dwelt on in music, that when the *serenata*—in contravention of Handel's announcement "There shall be no action"—was put on the stage,—great alterations and omissions (*Athen.* No. 746), were found necessary; and even then the work, eked out and retrenched as it was, became a pageant with, rather than a play in, music.

That the above distinction is not uncalled for, may be seen, in the fact, that in his *Serenata* Mr. Macfarren has been obliged to employ one of the most important materials for concert effect stage-wise—to wit, the chorus. The use of this, though pretty and ingenious, is comparatively slight,—as must be, in some measure, the case when the executants have to act and sing by heart at the same time. As regards the proceedings of the *dramatis personæ*—two-thirds of the large audience assembled at Her Majesty's Theatre could have had no comprehension of what was transacted in this Barmecide fashion, in spite of an attentive

silence, such, we earnestly believe, as could have been found in no other public of Europe on a similar occasion. It is a mistake to have tried its faith so severely; even though the result be what it was yesterday week,—applause and satisfaction at the close of the entertainment without the slightest dissent.

These things premised, let us proceed to state that a first hearing assured us that Mr. Macfarren has done himself his usual justice in his new work—but not done more. He is, as usual, skilful in laying out his composition; but he has not come nearer to that settlement of style which distinguishes the inventor from the copyist, or from one who tries experiments. Till this be reached, his success will always be doubtful, or cannot be durable. In the overture there is motion without brilliancy. Whether it be that Mr. Macfarren's harmonies have a certain heaviness, or that in his scoring the sonority which Beethoven, Mendelssohn, Auber and Meyerbeer have so expressly studied has not been thought of,—we are so constantly, when hearing Mr. Macfarren's music, struck by the absence of brightness, that we cannot again find the same peculiarity in his 'Serenata' without noting it as a characteristic. So also is it a characteristic of Spohr,—who can be pompous and busy, but never sparkling. This want of vivacity is disadvantageously felt in a comic subject,—more especially when the principal female voice is to be a *contralto*. In such a case no volubility of execution can give *bravura* to music which is not essentially buoyant. Mr. Macfarren will not often find at his disposal a songstress so agile, so gay, and so intelligent as Mdle. Angri proved herself on this occasion,—yet even she, when accompanied by all the most piquant instruments, could not utterly get rid of the dull, not to say sombre, tone which we have mentioned. The stage music is generally very cleverly constructed. There are a Turkish march and chorus, in which the colour so happily used by Weber in his 'Oberon' is fairly matched in its pure and clear nationality. There is a pleasant canon or round for three voices. In one or two of the duets and *cabalettas* the frivolous, hackneyed Italian formulas are presented again, with a courage which becomes ungraceful in a writer whose volitions are notoriously in the direction of what is steadier and more solid. There are some instances of discord which the most defying disciple of the late Dr. Day's systems could hardly defend or recommend,—with such intolerable and gratuitous harshness do they strike the ear. On the whole—waiting, as we do, for further acquaintance with the music to correct the above character, if it be needlessly critical,—we do not find in this, 'Serenata' the advance for which we had hoped.

Of its performance a word remains to be said. We have spoken of Mdle. Angri; but must add a word of surprise at her intelligible and intelligent English. Why is it that being so nearly a very striking artist, she will not be one?—why will she not throw aside the trick and the twang which so often vulgarize the illusion that her voice and her dramatic liveliness conjure up?—Mr. Sims Reeves did his best, but much of the music is not in the style which best suits him; and standing-up comedy is very up-hill work. Let us, however, congratulate him on the shake which we have been long wanting to hear.—Mr. Bodda was *basso* and *Caliph*.—The Chorus was too weak to make head against the orchestra; but its occupation, as we have said, is not very important.—In any case the Directors of the *National Concerts* deserve credit for having commanded such a work as this; and it is not their fault if, having asked for a *Serenata*, they have got what may one day be found a taking and creditable *Operetta*. Of its present chances of holding public favour we cannot form an idea.

ST. MARTIN'S HALL.—*Monthly Concerts*.—These commenced on Wednesday last, under circumstances of very good promise and of as good performance. Beethoven's Mass in c, the first part of 'L'Allegro,' and Handel's first *Concerto* formed the programme; to which it is needless to add epithet of praise. No doubt Mass music always loses, and must lose, by concert performance,—no doubt a certain amount of old-world tediousness may be

charged on some of the airs to which Milton's noble verse was mated by Handel,—but this impression will yield to acquaintance with the work, and the truth and beauty and variety of the setting will grow on those who wait. There is a new-world tediousness of trombone and triangle, of mannered *cantabiles*, of *crescendo* where the subject does not require climax, and of extravagantly expressive closes,—far more objectionable to us, because containing no idea. Some of Handel's loveliest music is in the second part of the *Cantata* as, for instance, the air 'Hide me from day's garish eye,'—and the chorus 'Populous cities,' while the third or supplementary portion, 'Il Moderato,' contains one of his most exquisite duets, 'As steals the Morn.' By judicious rearrangement these might, possibly, be all presented at once, without exposing the hearer to the entire three acts. Mr. Loocky and Mr. Bodda distinguished themselves in this music. We must notice Miss Kearns separately—as a new comer of the highest promise. Her *soprano* voice is sweet, extensive, perfectly in tune; her manner composed, but not cold,—her reading, both of poetry and music, betokening at once intelligence and knowledge. In spite of the alarm of a *début* in music by no means calculated to mystify an audience,—the success of Miss Kearns was complete—indicating, moreover, far higher achievements as possible to her, time and opportunity permitting. The other ladies were Miss Birch and Mrs. Noble. Chance has thrown to the last our mention of what should have come first,—to wit, the execution of the chorus and orchestra. The former was excellent; fully maintaining the high credit for which Mr. Hullah's admirable training is to be thanked. The latter, led by Mr. Blagrove, was satisfactory. A few more violins, however, are wanted to its perfect balance with its own wind instruments, and with the voices. Let us add that Mr. Hopkins was somewhat too rash and lavish with the organ in Beethoven's Mass. In music where the instrument was not contemplated by the composer, the organ should be used with great reserve; since it becomes objectionably intrusive whenever its addition is felt.

SADLER'S WELLS.—'The Duchess of Malfi,' altered by Mr. R. H. Horne from old John Webster's celebrated tragedy, was produced on Wednesday. This play, though written evidently in a religious spirit, lacks that fine humanity which looks so beautiful in Shakespeare. Webster is a gloomy believer in man's depravity, and seeks the tragic in his crimes. We have here, indeed, the tragedy of the churchyard; the fetid atmosphere of the charnel is that breathed by the stern old poet.—The shade of the yew darkens his pictures, and the shriek of the mandrake maddens his scenes. Such are the usual images with which the dialogue of Webster is burdened,—and the persons of his dramas are fitted to these, both in their acts and in their motives. The only exception in the present tragedy is, the character of the Duchess of Malfi herself;—who, nevertheless, is affected by the evil of her position, and made to seem criminal when indulging a virtuous passion. The Duchess of Malfi is the victim of a secret marriage, and the mother of three children (in Mr. Horne's version reduced to two),—whose fault of choosing beneath her station is resented by a haughty brother, even to the extent of the death of all parties concerned,—excepting one, a son of the unfortunate pair, who, in the original play, survives the general ruin. Duke Ferdinand, the revengeful brother, becomes a lycanthropist, as a fitting consummation of his guilt. This part of the play is decidedly the weakest:—though much benefited by Mr. Horne's judicious alterations in the fifth act.

The Duke's agent, *Bosola*, is the strongest and most effective character. It was very properly confided to Mr. G. Bennett; who performed it with great force, and that old feeling for the histrionic art which few modern professors seem to understand. Mr. Phelps struggled hard to overcome the inherent difficulties of the part of *Perdinand*,—and to some extent succeeded. But no genius could have achieved a triumph in such a part:—the utmost that talent, controlled by more



than ordinary judgment and taste, could effect, was to render it endurable. Some startling stage effects were, however, made. The mad scenes were finely rendered. The noble-minded woman who vainly endeavoured to plant the domestic affections in a courtly soil, found a suitable representative in Miss Glyn. Her usual originality of conception marked her performance throughout. The character in her hands had two phases,—comic, and tragic. In the early scenes she was the lively lady, loving and beloved; in the latter ones, she became majestic,—a being to move terror and pity. Her last scene, in which she suffers strangulation, approaches to the horrible in its details; but the art of the actress was equal to the peril of the situation, and commanded sympathy.

Mr. Horne has accomplished his stage-adaptation of this old drama with much tact and talent:—no pains, however, can wholly get rid of its original clumsy structure. Nothing is more conducive to a right estimate of Shakespeare's art than the contrast in regard to construction which dramas of this class present with the most careless of his. Compared with 'Othello' and 'The Tempest,' they offer masses of monstrous extravagance.—We cannot say that experiments like the present are to be commended. While Webster is wholly unfitted for the modern stage,—we have here not even Webster. But for the purpose of restoring one of our old dramatists, there is no argument for this reproduction,—and the alterations made to render the reproduction possible, prove that he cannot be restored.

The costumes and scenery were costly and picturesque, and the *mise en scène* displayed admirable tact and invention. This must be carried to the account of Mr. Phelps, as stage manager,—to whose intelligence it is understood that such arrangements at this theatre are always due. The house was crowded. Though evidently somewhat puzzled by the horror of the situations, the beauties of the dialogue seemed to be appreciated by the pit;—and at the conclusion the applause was loud. Miss Glyn, Mr. Phelps, Mr. Bennett, and Mr. Horne were called to receive the accustomed congratulations. A prologue, written by Mr. Horne and spoken by Mr. Hoskins, preceded the performance.

**HAYMARKET.**—On Saturday Mr. Macready appeared in *Iago*;—Mr. Davenport playing *Othello*.—Mr. Macready's *Iago* is well known:—and it is enough on this occasion to say, that Mr. Davenport performed his new part with such excellence as fairly to entitle him to a share of the honours of the evening.

**MUSICAL AND DRAMATIC GOSSIP.**—Rumours are abroad among "the profession" of six orchestral concerts, on a scale little less grand than the Philharmonic Concerts, which are to be given at the Hanover Square Rooms, on alternate Mondays during the season, at a more moderate subscription. Such engagements as have been talked of are in the highest degree satisfactory. Should such an entertainment be established, the Philharmonic Directors will have to thank their supineness and bigotry during their seasons of success for a rival concert which may easily be made more interesting and artistically valuable than theirs. After having strenuously and systematically turned their backs on what is first-rate in favour of mediocrity, they must prepare themselves for competition, if not for defeat; since—with the exception of such *prestige* as attaches itself to Signor Costa's management of the band—the feeling of the public is not with them, while the feeling of "the profession" is "dead against them."

The Berlin Choir has been summoned home to Prussia. Its departure will be a serious loss to the *Grand National Concerts*—in spite of the bad administration which has vulgarized its attraction. The really good music executed by this Chorus on its first appearances was found so excellent and striking by our public, that to have sunk it to singing harmonized national melodies, which our own choristers have long forsaken as trivial and flimsy, is a mistake not merely without artistic defence, but without pretext on the score of necessity.—We see that Herr Labitzky, too, is about to return to his own country. By

whose direction is it that the sentimental paragraphs which announce his departure as preferring "home joys" to ovations in the "land of the stranger" have appeared in the newspapers?

The rival *Quadrilles of All Nations* make too much noise not to claim a word in gossip. Herr Labitzky's is ingenious;—but what could make head against M. Jullien's, which is brilliant to the boisterous point? It is enough to strike terror into the hearts of those whom Sir Francis Head's book has alarmed, to hear how the business-like looking National Guards of Paris drum. Many a quiet stranger passing down the Rue de la Paix, when a detachment has been on its rounds, has believed that a Revolution has begun,—so desperately martial are the rattle and the roll which they keep up with untiring dexterity. Then,—besides these "*petits tambours*," who, to earn the hearty welcome which they meet, officiate night by night more and more fervently, marshalled by a Major with monster cane, one of the most solemn potentates to whom we have ever paid homage—is the octo-basso; a huge creature which, like other giants, speaks lazily, and with a smaller voice than might have been expected,—matched by a double ophicleide. On the other hand we have the least of percussion instruments—a set of castanets,—very snappishly handled; to say nothing of other tiny curiosities which set off the lighter parts of the quadrilles, and give an air "to the bill."—M. Jullien's aspirations after high art seem to be over; and yet no one less saturnine than the old-fashioned Professor of counterpoint, who thinks everything save a canon by augmentation or diminution frivolous, could refuse to be entertained by the exhibition—having been attuned to a mood of good-nature and gaiety by the fresh and fairy-like decoration of Old Drury.—While gossiping about M. Jullien's gorgeous doings under his crystal curtain, it should be told that they have this year revealed to us some new players of great merit. We must particularly mention Mr. Winterbottom on the bassoon—an excellent performer who may already challenge Herr Baumann.—A word must suffice to say that Mlle. de Treffz has come back; with her 'Trab, trab' higher in public favour than ever,—but herself not improved either in voice or in vocal skill.—Lastly, M. Jullien must be reckoned with, for a looseness of announcement in some of his advertisements, which may have been a press-blunder, but which looks too like something else to pass without notice. Not a few aggrieved parties, seduced by the terms of the bill, went to his first and his second concerts in the hope of hearing M. Servais, the violoncellist, whose name figured equivocally and prominently in the programme, and in place of him found only M. Demunck. Since to disappoint his public is not M. Jullien's usage, he may plead for a first offence the character of a promise-keeper with the London public, to which he has a full right. But a slight amount of care would avert all possibility of such misunderstanding.

The readers of the *Athenæum* may recollect that a well-esteemed correspondent from Florence some months ago wrote in terms of high praise of an Opera recently completed by Mr. Frank Mori. We are now, in some degree, able to accredit this, after a perusal of the score of 'Ginevra dell' Almiri' which has been afforded to us. The opera without doubt belongs to the Italian school of composition—the parts for the three principal voices being well studied, and the *cantilena* being good and natural. But greater care has been bestowed on the choral and orchestral parts than is usual among the modern Italians;—and so far as the eye can suggest effects to the ear (which is at best only a half-way distance) it may be predicated that the effect would bear satisfactory proportion to the labour bestowed. In short, the opera is well worth consideration and trial by managers;—and its writer—who, we are informed, has returned to London with a view of remaining here—appears in right of it justified to take a good place among the composers of promise whom we would fain see at once more numerous and more successful.

Without either wonder or regret, it must be mentioned that the Operatic commonwealth has

already "dispersed into empty air."—By way of commencing his musical speculation at the Marylebone theatre, Mr. Stammers, we perceive, announces the engagement for one month of—Mrs. Nisbett!

"Last night," writes a friend from Naples, dating October the 30th, "I went to San Carlo to hear Mercadante's new opera '*La Schiava Saracena*.' I was charmed with Signor de Bassini, who sang beautifully, and has a lovely baritone voice. The Neapolitans roared with delight. The tenor is poor. There are pretty bits in the music,—but as a whole, the opera would not do for us. The libretto, as usual, is wretchedly bad." It should be added, that this account comes from

counsel learned in the law.

A new Opera, by M. Gregoir, is just about to be given at Antwerp, with the title of '*Marguerite d'Autriche*.'

Madame Viardot has made her re-appearance at the *Grand Opéra* of Paris, with her usual success.—Mlle. Rachel, too, has returned to her theatre, after her six months of pilgrimage. We have as yet met no rumour of new parts or new pieces which this difficult lady has consented to accept.

#### MISCELLANEA

*Don't let the Bull see Scarlet!*—The Bull is a noble animal: broad, powerful, substantial, not very sagacious, not very vivacious, not very excitable. He has many solid virtues, and is perfectly respectable; but his intense hatred of scarlet often deprives him of all reasoning power, rousing him to paroxysms of uncontrollable fury which astonish beholders. Observe the Bull in a pasture land, surrounded by obedient cows, some recumbent in their indolent repose, others knee deep in a pond under the branching shadow of a clump of trees. He stands there whisking away obtrusive flies with his restless tail, turning a calm eye,—without any speculation in it,—upon the universe at large, and quietly chewing the cud with a sublime indifference to the rest of creation, so that his personal comfort be secured. He suffers strangers to enter the field. He resents no intrusion from insidious M<sup>c</sup>Crowdys calculating how his food may be reduced with profit to the landlord. He allows the butcher to examine and purchase his eldest born or his youngest born for the market. He allows "tramps" to cross the field unmolested. He allows his drover to treat him with merciless despotism. He permits—with occasional outbreaks—all kinds of machinations against his liberty, peace of mind, and ample nutriment:—but there is one thing he will not permit—and that is, the passage through his field of an old woman in a red cloak. Let that misguided female make her appearance, and although her intentions may be strictly honourable, though her thoughts may wander far away from the Bull, though she be toothless, antiquated, hobbling, foolish, disrespecable and disrespected, no sooner does her red cloak flash upon his sight than with impetuous bellowing he closes his eyes, lowers his head, and thunders in her rear.—*Leader.*

*Gailhabaud's 'Architecture.'*—Perhaps you may be able to furnish me, through your paper, with some information respecting a very valuable work which has now been for a long time in course of publication, and must be well known to you:—I mean Gailhabaud's '*Architecture*.' I have from the first been a subscriber through a bookseller of the name of Nash; but having got far into the third series, I wished to have it bound, and applied to Messrs. Firmin Didot & Co. for the letter-press descriptions of all the plates already received, and for a title-page, &c. to enable me to do this:—the plates and the descriptions of them not being, it should be observed, issued together,—so that it was impossible to desist from receiving the work. After two or three letters I found that I could gain no satisfactory answer,—but I still continued to be furnished with the numbers as they appeared. For some time past, however, they have ceased altogether, without any notice whatever; and I am left with what otherwise would be a valuable work, imperfect and piecemeal on my hands.—Can you furnish any information on this subject? Is the mismatching of plates and descriptions meant as a means of forcing the subscribers to continue the work? If so, it is a system to which Messrs. Didot & Co. should not allow themselves to be a party.

AN OLD SUBSCRIBER TO THE ATHENÆUM.

*Fine Spinning.*—A commercial house in Manchester is spinning a pound of cotton for the Great Exhibition of 1851, in length 238 miles and 1,120 yards,—being the finest ever yet produced. It is thus calculated:—There are 80 layers of one yard and a half each in a warp, 7 warps in a hank, and 500 hanks in a pound of cotton. Those most conversant with the details of cotton-spinning can best appreciate



the value of the machinery and the talent displayed in so wonderful a production.—*Liverpool Chronicle*.

*Restorations in the Tower*.—In your number for October 26 there is a commendatory notice, quoted from the *Architect*, of the restorations in the Tower. I acknowledge the general good taste of the works,—but should like to ask whether one point which has always been an eyesore to me is architecturally and aesthetically correct. The main building, the new barrack, is a long castellated building, having centre castellated turrets, and two terminal low square towers of similar character. But the ends of the building, behind the towers, consist of gables to which an ecclesiastical character is given by three pointed windows,—all the other windows in the building being square, plain, and small. This is the only part of the parapet of the building, or turrets, or towers, which is without the notches. This juxtaposition of an ecclesiastical gable and a low battlemented tower merely pierced with loopholes offends my taste.—May I be allowed to ask if my taste is founded upon knowledge, or whether it needs correction?

VICINUS.

*Electro-Magnetic Passenger Index*.—Mr. C. Pownall, a private gentleman, has invented a passenger register or index; which he has exhibited to a select party in its application to an omnibus. The invention is simple in the extreme. The passenger, planting his foot on the step to enter the omnibus, or clamber to the top of it, is sensible of a rather agreeable elasticity in the step,—and that is all he knows about the matter. To the proprietor, however, there is more in it than the passenger dreams of, and the omnibus will bring home a record of the number of persons that have got into and out of it. Underneath the omnibus, in a little box about nine inches square, secured with a Bramah lock, there is a small battery; the pressure of the passenger's foot upon the step moves a spring, and bringing two pieces of metal into contact, completes a metallic circuit in connexion with the battery, and the mysterious current is made to flow through an electro-magnet, which attracts to it a piece of steel, and drawing it up a ratchet-wheel is caused to move one tooth forward, and the index-hand or finger of a dial to be pushed onward one degree. As each degree upon this dial is numbered, the hand advancing from number to number indicates how many persons have passed over the step at the omnibus-doors since the dial was set. Considerable pains appear to have been bestowed on the details. The machinery is so arranged as to indicate the number of persons who have got up outside the omnibus as well as those who have got in, a wire being carried to the step by which the outside is mounted. A passenger lingering on the step, or stamping two or three times upon it, will still only mark as one; no second mark being possible, until after he has cleared the step and taken his whole weight off it. The dial plate may be privately set at any number on starting; and if the system of half fares for portions of the journey be continued, it could be ascertained how many of the passengers were "long," and how many "short," by placing a person at the boundary line, whether Regent Circus or Charing Cross, or elsewhere, there to unlock the box, look at the dial, and note down the number to which the index might point. The conductor will have a step to himself for ascending to his post. The passengers' step he must treat as carefully as a toll-collector on Waterloo Bridge his wicket, because a passenger once fully on the step, "makes his mark," and must be counted. A guard is to be attached to the lower part of the door, to cover the step when the door is closed.—*Times*.

**CORRESPONDENTS**.—W. T.—M. S. B.—An Old Subscriber—W. P.—E. C. G.—Officer—received.

S. E. M.—The value of such a work as that mentioned by our Correspondent must depend on the character of its details and the guarantee of their authenticity. If it be an original—and curious—any of the Historical Societies might like to look at it.

Z.—We know nothing of the facts to which our Correspondent refers,—and he does not give the guarantee of his name.

**AN OLD SUBSCRIBER**.—We have received from this Correspondent a communication on the subject of Mr. James Bailey, whose name as appearing on the Pension List we alluded to last week. The writer does not give us his name as a guarantee for his facts,—and the tone of his communication does not recommend it. If our Correspondent will authenticate his letter, we will willingly do justice to Mr. Bailey.—The name "George," speaks for itself as a misprint:—the name James having been previously copied into the paragraph as from the warrant.

**LIFE AND CORRESPONDENCE OF THE LATE ROBERT SOUTHEY**.—We have received a letter from a Correspondent, who gives his name and address, informing us that we erred in calling the Rev. Mr. Shannon—to whose correspondence with Southey we alluded in our notice of the above work—"a Catholic priest." Mr. Shannon, says our Correspondent, "was a clergyman of the Church of England,—and for many years incumbent of St. George's Episcopal Chapel in Edinburgh."

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LONDON, SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 30, 1850.

## REVIEWS

*The History of Winchelsea, one of the Ancient Towns added to the Cinque Ports.* By Wm. Durant Cooper, F.S.A. Smith.

AMONG the most interesting of our ancient towns, whether their mercantile or their political importance be considered, are the Cinque Ports. Every contribution towards their history, or towards that of their adjacent towns, deserves a welcome from the reader who is anxious to obtain additional information as to our early municipal arrangements or to the progress of our commerce during the Middle Ages. Although not originally one of the "Cinque Ports"—for the five maritime towns on which Edward the Confessor conferred those especial privileges were, Sandwich, Dover, Hythe, Romney, and Hastings,—Winchelsea at as early a period was distinguished as a seaport; and about the middle of the following century, that, together with Rye, was admitted to the same high station, and dignified with the same title:—the Cinque Ports, from thenceforth being actually seven.

"Whether a town existed here at the time of the Roman conquest is matter of doubt." It seems even questionable whether the whole face of that coast has not been changed. The original town of Winchelsea was submerged at the latter part of the thirteenth century; but it is asserted that "the ground began partially to re-appear towards the end of the fifteenth or beginning of the sixteenth, and was gradually recovered and fenced in up to the close of the seventeenth century, and is now a fine rich alluvial soil." The other ports have also suffered greatly from similar causes. Sandwich is no longer a harbour; West Hythe, the original Cinque Port of that name, is now two or three miles inland; Romney, formerly chief, is upwards of a mile from the sea; and Rye and Hastings, in whose ports large fleets once rode in safety, can now admit only small craft.

Although not mentioned in the Saxon Chronicle, nor by name in Doomsday,—a document which, as Mr. Cooper truly observes, "is not a record, as is often erroneously supposed, of all places and towns, but an enumeration of manors only,"—Winchelsea was certainly a town in Saxon times; King Edgar having had a mint there, and it having been granted by the Confessor, together with the adjacent town of Rye, to the abbot and monks of Fécamp. In Doomsday, this town is mentioned as "a new burgh," having sixty-four burgesses. Extensive salt-works are also specified; and "a wood, yielding pannage for two hogs." This must have been a very small portion of forest; but the entry is curious, as supplying proof of one having existed in those parts, and extending even to the brink of the sea. This is supposed to have been the forest called Dymsdale, which extended beyond Hastings; and "near Pett, at low water, during spring tides, the remains of a wood may be seen imbedded in the sand, consisting of oak, beech and fir, the former sound and nearly black; and on the whole line of this coast, wherever ditches and dykes have been cut in the marshes, the roots and limbs of forest trees have been met with in vast numbers."—The town of Winchelsea at the time of the Conquest, and for centuries after, was a most convenient port for communication with France. The first Plantagenet, on Stephen's death, landed here; and his sons always bestowed on it their especial favour. Probably it was from this circumstance of Plantagenet landing there when he came, not to contest, but to assume the crown, that Winchelsea was indebted for her admission among the

Cinque Ports and consequent participation in their rights and privileges. In the reign of John, old Winchelsea was in the height of its prosperity. An old writer, Norden, states that it then contained seven hundred householders;—a rather large number in those early days, when none save those compelled by trade resided in towns, and when households were far larger than now. During the wars of John with his barons, the Cinque Ports sided with the king; a singular fact, as we remarked in our review of 'The History of Rye' [*Athen.* No. 1032],—considering that from the various rules of their respective customs they were of undoubted Saxon race. It however seems, from the very curious list of names of the inhabitants, that Winchelsea, at least, had a large admixture of Normans, and probably of natives of Gascony, among its population; and this, we think, would go far to account both for its adherence to John, and for the bitter feuds which subsisted in the following reign between "the barons of the Cinque Ports" and "the barons of London." In the struggle under Simon de Montfort, the Cinque Ports, however, took part with the barons in the cause of freedom. Meanwhile, a succession of storms attended by heavy tides did much injury to the old town; and even as early as 1236 we find that the sea was encroaching on the adjacent marshes. In October, 1250, however,—

"The moon being in prime, the sea passed her accustomed boundaries, flowing twice without ebb, and made so horrible a noise that it was heard a great way within land, not without the astonishment of the oldest man who heard it. Besides this, at dark at night the sea seemed to be a light-fire, and to burn, inasmuch that it was past the mariners' skill to save the ships; and to omit others, at a place called Huckleburn (probably East or Hitherbourne), three noble and famous ships were swallowed up by the violent rising of the waves and were drowned; and at Winchelsea a certain haven, eastward, besides cottages for salt, fishermen's huts, bridges, and mills, above 300 houses, by the violent rising of the waves, were drowned." It is probable that at this inundation Bromhill church was lost. Matthew Paris tells us, that on the octave of the Epiphany also, in the year 1252, during the day and night a terrible south-west wind prevailed,—that it drove the ships from their anchorage, raised the roofs of houses, many of which were thrown down, uprooted completely the largest trees, deprived churches of their spires, made the lead to move, and did other great damage by land, and still greater by sea; and especially at the port of Winchelsea, "which is of such use to England, and above all, to the inhabitants of London," the waves of the sea broke its banks, swelling the neighbouring rivers, knocked down the mills and the houses, and carried away a number of drowned men. And at the close of the following year the sea again broke its bounds, and left so much salt upon the land, that in the autumn of 1254 the wheat and other crops could not be gathered as usual; and even the forest trees and hedges could not put out their full foliage."

It does not seem, however, that the inhabitants suffered so greatly as might have been supposed. They sent forth their vessels during the subsequent year, and swept "the narrow seas," to the sore dismay both of countrymen and foreigners, to whom the very name of "mariner of the Cinque Ports" was "a word of fear." They were, indeed, ferocious pirates; and subsequently to the battle of Evesham, Prince Edward attacked Winchelsea and put the chief inhabitants to the sword. This perhaps, added to the still encroaching inundations, completed the ruin of the old town.

Soon after Edward's accession, measures were taken for the transfer of the town to a more favourable site; nor were they premature, for in 1287 the sea rose so high that the greater part of Winchelsea was submerged. The site

chosen for the new town was "a hill at a place in the adjoining parish of Icklesham, then called Ham. It was principally an uneven sandstone rock, fit only for, and used as, a rabbit-warren." It is now, however, table-land, "and seems to have been made level by using the surface stone for the buildings required in the new town. The whole land ultimately assigned was 150 acres."—The description of this new town is very interesting. It was surrounded by a stone wall on all sides except that which commanded the sea; and along this side an earthen rampart was carried, with spaces between, and which doubtless were intended for the cross-bowmen in case of invasion. A castle guarded the north-west corner. There were within the walls two "greens,"—one of twelve acres, called "the King's Green," and another called "Cook's Green." Water was supplied from six open wells,—to one of which, St. Leonard's Well, was appended the popular belief, which yet remains, that whoever drinks its waters, never leaves the town, or else, leaving, ever longs to come back. There were two markets, several windmills, and a goodly number of churches and convents. The ground on which new Winchelsea was built was divided into thirty-nine parts; and the exact sites of the streets and places, together with the names of the first owners, are fully set out in a return made in the 20th Edward I. (1292).

Mr. Cooper has given large extracts from this important roll,—and the complete list of names of the first householders in the "new," but now ancient town. These last are curious to the inquirers into "the history of surnames," and we think the roll bears evidence of many of the inhabitants being of foreign extraction. The two chief families, Alard and Paulin, were probably, as Mr. Cooper remarks, Saxon; but such names as Bertelot, Chauri, Kemese, Beauchef, Guillot, Buchard, point to Normandy,—while Prinkel, Vischer, Coggre, Schenchere seem to be of Flemish origin. The English names are mostly derived from places or from trades. Nicknames, so common at the period, are not to be found in this roll,—except in one instance, where two persons, probably mother and son, bear the name of "Piggestayle." One lady of the name of Lucy, is specified as being also called "Douce Martin,"—perhaps from her kind disposition. It is a curious feature in this roll, that in a list of above seven hundred householders between fifty and sixty should be women. If they were all in independent circumstances, the general prosperity of that period must have been far greater than that of modern times; but if, as seems more likely, some must have been engaged in trade, it would be a not uninteresting task to attempt to ascertain what trades they followed. That they were women of good character is evident from their being allowed to keep house within the city; and as they appear to have been very equally distributed throughout the various quarters, it seems to us to prove that in those early days the widows or daughters of tradesmen, where there were no sons, carried on the business of the husband or father. In the ancient rules of some of the London companies, there are very admirable provisions to this effect, which prove that the chivalrous feeling—we speak of it in its higher manifestation—pervaded all society, and that women were not shut up in the convent, as their only asylum, as has generally been supposed. The names of these female burgesses afford strong proof that Winchelsea was at this period inhabited by a foreign as well as a native population. Very few of the names are Saxon,—while there are Beatrix, Muriel, several Julianas, and eleven of the very unusual name of Petronilla. It would



be amusing to ascertain the reason of this uncommon partiality of the inhabitants of Winchelsea for the name of St. Peter's apocryphal daughter.

"The new town soon realized the hopes of its founders,"—and new Winchelsea, even as the old, retained its superiority among the Cinque Ports.—

"When Edmund, the king's brother, was about to sail for Gascony, the king, on the 3rd of September, 1294, directed the ships of the five ports to attend him. A general writ was directed to the warden of the Cinque Ports: and there was a separate writ to the barons and bailiffs of the two most important of the ports, Winchelsea and Sandwich. An account of the Cinque Ports' ships furnished for this expedition is preserved among the MSS. in Carlton House Ride, in a petition for payment of the wages to the seamen for going and returning, between the 7th of March and the 3rd of May, viz. sixpence a day for each master, sixpence for each constable, and threepence for every seaman. No less than fifty ships were furnished; of which Winchelsea supplied thirteen, Sandwich twelve, Rye seven, Dover seven, Romney five, Hythe three, and Hastings three."

The names of these Winchelsea vessels, with those of their masters and constables, are given,—as also some others. In most cases the names of saints appear to have been assigned to vessels,—probably by way of placing them under their especial protection; when this is not the case, such names as the *Falcon*, *La Blithe*, and *La Lightfote* were given.

Winchelsea during the reign of Edward the Third stood prominent in naval conflicts, both with the French and with Spanish fleets. It was off Winchelsea that the celebrated engagement with the Spaniards in August, 1350, when Edward, assisted by the Black Prince, gained so complete a victory took place. Froissart's account of this gallant encounter is so graphic, that we must give a short extract. There were forty Spanish vessels, equipped for war, "of such a size and so beautiful, it was a fine sight to see them under sail." They had also full ten thousand men,—

"The king posted himself on the fore part of his own ship: he was dressed in a black velvet jacket, and wore on his head a small hat, of beaver, which became him much. He was that day, as I was told by those who were present, as joyous as he ever was in his life, and ordered his minstrels to play before him a German dance, 'Sir John Chandos,' which delighted him greatly. From time to time he looked up to the castle on his mast, where he had placed a watch to inform him when the Spaniards were in sight. Whilst the king was thus amusing himself with his knights, who were happy in seeing him so gay, the watch, who had observed a fleet, cried out, 'Ho! I spy a ship, and it appears to me to be a Spaniard.' The minstrels were silenced, and he was asked if there were more than one; soon after he replied, 'Yes: I see two, three, four, and so many that, God help me, I cannot count them.' The king and his knights then knew they must be the Spaniards. The trumpets were ordered to sound, and the ships to form a line of battle for the combat, as they were aware that since the enemy came in such force, it could not be avoided. It was, however, rather late, about the hour of vesper. The king ordered wine to be brought, which he and his knights drank; when each fixed their helmets on their heads. The Spaniards now drew near; they might easily have refused the battle, if they had chosen it, for they were well freighted, in large ships, and had the wind in their favour. When the King of England saw from his ship their order of battle, he ordered the person who managed his vessel, saying, 'Lay me alongside the Spaniard who is bearing down on us; for I will have a tilt with him.' The master dared not disobey the king's order, but laid his ship ready for the Spaniard, who was coming full sail. The king's ship was large and stiff, otherwise she would have been sunk, for that of the enemy was a great one, and the shock of their meeting was

more like the crash of a torrent or tempest; the rebound caused the castle in the king's ship, to encounter that of the Spaniard, so that the mast of the latter was broken, and all in the castle fell with it into the sea, when they were drowned. The English vessel, however, suffered, and let in water, which the knights cleared, and stopped the leak, without telling the king anything of the matter. Upon examining the vessel he had engaged lying before him, he said, 'Grapple my ship with that, for I will have possession of her.' His knights replied, 'Let her go her way: you shall have better than her.' That vessel sailed on, and another large ship bore down, and grappled with chains and hooks to that of the king. The fight now began in earnest, and the archers and cross-bowmen on each side were eager to shoot and defend themselves. The battle was not in one place, but in ten or twelve at a time. The Spaniards, who are used to the sea, and were in large ships, acquitted themselves to the utmost of their power. The young prince of Wales and his division were engaged apart; his ship was grappled by a great Spaniard, when he and his knights suffered much; for she had so many holes, that the water came in very abundantly, and they could not by any means stop the leaks, which gave the crew fears of her sinking; they, therefore, did all they could to conquer the enemy's ship, but in vain, for she was very large, and excellently well defended. During this danger of the prince, the Duke of Lancaster came near, and as he approached, saw he had the worst of the engagement, and that his crew had too much on their hands, for they were baling out water: he, therefore, fell on the other side of the Spanish vessel, with which he grappled, shouting 'Derby to this rescue!'

The engagement was now very warm, but did not last long, for the ship was taken, and all the crew thrown overboard, not one being saved. The prince, with his men, instantly embarked on board the Spaniard, and scarcely had they done so, when his own vessel sunk, which convinced them of the imminent danger they had been in. \* \* I cannot speak of every particular circumstance of this engagement. It lasted a considerable time; and the Spaniards gave the King of England and his fleet enough to do. However, at last, victory declared for the English. The Spaniards lost fourteen ships; the others saved themselves by flight. When it was completely over, and the king saw he had none to fight with, he ordered his trumpets to sound a retreat, and made for England. They anchored at Rye and Winchelsea, a little after nightfall, when the King, the Prince of Wales, the Duke of Lancaster, the Earl of Richmond, and other barons, disembarked, took horses in the town, and rode to the mansion where the Queen was, scarcely two English leagues distant. The queen was mightily rejoiced on seeing her lord, and children; she had suffered that day great affliction from her doubts of success; for her attendants had seen from the hills of the coast the whole of the battle, as the weather was fine and clear, and had told the queen, who was very anxious to learn the number of the enemy, that the Spaniards had forty large ships: she was, therefore, much comforted by their safe return. The king, with those knights who had attended him, passed the night in revelry with the ladies, conversing of arms and amours. On the morrow, the greater part of the barons who had been in this engagement came to him; he greatly thanked them all for the services they had done him before he dismissed them, when they took their leave, and returned every man to his home."

Winchelsea subsequently suffered severely from the attacks of the French,—and towards the close of this century its importance seems to have declined. It now became a favourite port for pilgrims bound to the shrine of St. James of Compostella. The numbers that went may be imagined from the single entry of a licence in 1456 to Simon Farncombe to carry fourscore pilgrims to St. James's in the good ship *La Hélené*, of Winchelsea. In the same year ships bound to the same destination went also from Portsmouth, Weymouth, Plymouth, and Bristol. The day of new Winchelsea's prosperity was, however, now rapidly passing away,—even as that of the old; but, singularly enough, from a directly opposite cause. The ancient

town was submerged; but from the new town the sea gradually receded, until at length it was left "high and dry,"—the sand in time becoming marsh land, until in 1575 Lambard declared that "there were not above sixty households standing, and these for the most part poorly peopled, all which happened by reason of the sea having forsaken the town." Since this time the sea has receded nearly another mile, and it is now a mile and a quarter from Winchelsea.—At the last census the number of inhabitants was 687, with only 127 inhabited houses. There is something melancholy in this story of an ancient and important town sinking twice into ruin in the midst of the growing prosperity of the country to which it belongs.

Mr. Cooper has given us a volume very interesting both to the local antiquary and to the general reader. His extracts from hitherto inedited manuscripts greatly increase its value,—and form an important contribution towards the history of our maritime towns.

The approach of Christmas, amongst other pleasant and unpleasant things—gossip, game, gifts, school vacations and half-year's bills,—brings with it the usual harvest of winter literature, in the shape of almanacs, of all sorts and sizes,—comic, serious, poetic, prosy,—with some science in others,—business and information in all.

First in character and importance, now as always, is the *British Almanac and Companion*. This almanac—as every public writer, statesman and man of business is aware by this time—is a complete digest of tabular and statistical information on all points of ordinary reference.—Astronomy—the calendar—the public services of the United Kingdom—political, clerical, municipal registries and lists—legal, scientific and general information—are its subjects, all well condensed and admirably arranged and indexed. This year, the 'Companion' contains, besides the parliamentary matter, and the chronicle of events and of public improvements in London and in the great provincial towns,—several well-written papers on questions of abiding interest. We would instance as of this character, an article 'On some Points in the History of Arithmetic,' by Mr. De Morgan—a succinct account of the 'Railways of the United Kingdom'—and a thoughtful and suggestive paper on 'Industrial Associations,' in which facts are looked seriously in the face, and logic is made to lead to the same conclusion as the unreasoning but certain instincts of thousands of those on whose skill and industry the whole fabric of society rests. We transfer the last paragraph of this article to our columns.—

"In our own time, and more especially within the last twenty years, the tendency of capital has been to operate in large masses, especially in the distribution of commodities. Small shops are swallowed up in mighty warehouses, in which, as in the oriental bazaar, a great variety of articles of necessity and luxury may be purchased under one roof. There can be no doubt that the consumers are supplied more cheaply and more conveniently under such a system. But, on the other hand, what Mr. Mill points to as the 'inequalities of society' are thus brought more prominently into view. It is impossible to believe that this tendency of capital to centralize can always go forward without some counterbalance. The mere money advantages may be as great to the servants in such establishments who fill offices of trust as in the old system, under which an active and clever tradesman or artisan was doomed to the life-long apathy of a little shop or a bench in a garret. But the craving for independence is a feeling which cannot be destroyed, and ought not to be destroyed. We have no doubt that under



a law of partnership with limited liability—under a law in which the principal of a concern would not incur risk in assigning small shares to his assistants—a more harmonious arrangement of interests and duties might be effected than we now can hope to effect, and the talents and industrial virtues of the employed more extensively called forth. The principle is not a new one. It exists amongst the Cornish miners; it does, or did, exist in the Hull whale ships, and amongst fishermen on the south coast; it prevails extensively in manufacturing establishments in New England; the business of a house-painter in Paris named Ledaire, who before the Revolution of 1848 gave his workmen small shares, has flourished through all the convulsions of the last three years. There are, we believe, capitalists in this country who would gladly make an abatement of individual profit, as Ledaire did, to have comfort and security in the content of those by whose aid their affairs are conducted. There are intelligent and skilful servants who feel that their zeal and their experience ought not always to be measured by mere wages. The law should not for ever keep these two classes antagonistic.

The remaining original articles in the 'Companion' are 'The Queen's Colleges, Ireland'—'Ocean Steamers and our Foreign Mail'—'The Supplies of Cotton, considered in relation to the future of our manufacturing activity'—and a table of the 'Fluctuations in the Funds.' The last page contains the usual necrological table, made up chiefly, as it seems, from our own columns. The average age at death of the most eminent men in literature, science and art for the past year is about sixty:—rather below than above the general average.

*Fulcher's Ladies' Memorandum Book and Miscellany* comes before us in its customary array of pretty illustrations and poetical puzzles. Far above the ordinary calibre of contributions to these pocket-books, is the powerful Russian story of Iwan's Vision of the World of Weavers, by Frances Brown. We will borrow a line of music from the same delicate hand.

"There was a Time,"

FRANCES BROWN.

There was a time I marvel how I grew

The tracks of other times have grown

Like furrows in my memory now

While it seems still with violet down

A time when one of stranger name

Walked with me in my life's glen

It might have been a fond heart's dream

But I believed in true love then.

The dawn was reaped, the woods were grand

And mist upo' our mountain lay

As comes the winter to my land

I know its hills are far away

But still as fades the year's last flowers

My dreams at times go back again

To them and those brief autumn hours

For I believed in true love then.

It might be that the faith was vain

Forbade the stars forbade its truth

And never will my ears regain

The far-off freshness of its youth

The warning tale—this doubting thought

The wisdom and the world of men,

I know not how they were forgot,

That I believed in true love then.

The world's love, I have seen it since,

It hath brave show and trumpets loud;

But cold and shallow are the springs

That send its streams through court and crowd—

'Tis beauty's gloss, 'tis fortune's chance,

'Tis the poor praise of word or pen,

My faith had holier altars once

For I believed in true love then.

What if the sunrise ne'er returned

It was my memory's golden age,

Gone like the world's yet seen and mourned

From every point of pilgrimage—

The brass, the iron, and the clay

Have all succeeded it—but when

Will life give back that better day?

For I believed in true love then!

we do not remember to have seen before:—but its idea is good. Instead of the usual literature of the pocket-book, it devotes its earlier pages to an account of experiments in Education, a concise record of the various training schools and colleges in the country, and a copy of the regulations of the Committee of Council on Education respecting pupil-teachers and Queen's scholars.

*Oliver & Boyd's Three-penny Almanac and Daily Remembrancer* is devoted more especially to the interests of Scotch farmers—and of course, gives an elaborate account of horse and cattle fairs in Scotland, with other useful knowledge for that section of the kingdom.—*Ramsay's Pocket Almanac and Diary* is prettily got up and well printed,—having no novel feature, and *Whittaker's Penny Almanac* may be characterized in similar terms.—In *Pausey's Ladies' Fashionable Repository* we hardly find the average quality of songs. The vein seems to be worked out in the direction in which it has been followed, and the editor might, we think, advantageously search for a lodge higher up the mountain, if he will mine on Parnassus.—*The Comic Zodiack* ("first-rate edition") is smart and often happy in its smuttings. We cannot, however, admit that it is so funny as its serious prototypes, though we admit that its fun is far less mischievous. Some of the woodcuts are very droll: but satire itself cannot go the lengths of the real magician. His absurdity cannot be caricatured. We give a specimen of two of the fulfilled prophecies for the past year.

"Predictions." "Fulfillments."

A great man sits uneasily on his throne, Mr. Paul Bedford, while performing in a farce at the Adelphi Theatre; has a chair offered him by Mr. Wright, which breaks beneath his weight.

A proposition of a wonderful nature will be made to the English people, and there, and his proposal is received with reason for anticipating with unanimous cheers, unanimity among our working classes.

Venus enters Taurus, the ruling sign of Ireland, and account of an extraordinary move forward, receiving a shower of frogs in the vicinity of the quillery from Mars. That of Cordell is not boded, ill for the unhappy land.

Extraordinary appearance. The Nepalese ambassador of Leo: Astrology is at a loss, and comes to London, and to explain the exact meaning made the hon. of the season, of the phenomenon, but something strange will certainly be seen in London.

Mars goes on his progress. The Adelphi Company, through Capricorn, is the journey to the Haymarket Theatre, and the pursuer of change, London will be torn by agitation in consequence of some exciting and unexpected event.

The luminaries are affected by the malefic orb of Saturn, and the celestial harbingers point out some unsatisfactory decisions, in a court of justice.

The winged Mercury bet comes retrograde in Cancer, and twice meets the quillery ray of a pernicious sign. Virgo exerts much influence, with regard to Mars, forebodes affliction to the young.

Apollo enters Gemini. A change may be expected in some place of public amusement.

The number of planets in the twelfth hour signify unexpected events.

Mr. George Pollard's *Almanac* is handsomely printed on glazed cardboard, with a rich border of embossed gold on a red ground,—and the months divided by a pattern of gold lines. It is merely a calendar—made ornamental for the walls of library or of boudoir.

Other Almanacs must be reserved for notice to a future day.

*Cholera and its Cures: an Historical Sketch.*

By J. Stevenson Bushnan, M.D. Orr & Co.

Among the various books on disease, we have seldom met with one so readable and interesting as this. Whether we are to have the cholera again in Europe or not, the history of its progress and advent will always be of intense interest to the historian. The morals that it has bequeathed are of perennial importance.—In looking back on the pestilences of past ages, we find their spread and fatality to be a sure index of national ignorance and degradation. We turn now to the pages which record the progress of the Great Plague, and see in them an accurate expression of the almost entire ignorance of the government of a great country, and of the inhabitants of a great city, as to the means of maintaining health and arresting disease. No less truly will the history of cholera in London in 1848 and 1849 tell how little real advance had been made in our sanitary knowledge in the lapse of two centuries.—There is perhaps no part of historical record that reflects so much discredit on modern Europe as that of the filth and degradation of its towns,—so often inviting the attacks of pestilences like that from which we have but recently been delivered.—But whatever may still be the case with the great masses, it is no longer to ignorance on the part of governments that the unwholesome condition of our great cities must be traced. They must be content to exchange the charge of ignorance for the heavier one of palpable and wilful neglect:—since they have long known that they possess to a greater or less extent the power of removing many of the causes of disease. In our own country this power is not so absolutely in the hands of Government as in some of the countries of the Continent; but even here administrations have shamefully neglected their duties, or grossly perverted the occasions for their discharge. Instead of setting resolutely to work to remove the abounding and ever potent causes of disease, they have perpetrated under the pretence of sanitary reform some of the grossest jobs. It passes patience to think, with the dreadful experience of 1849 yet painfully dwelling on all minds, how insignificantly small is all that has been done during the present year to prevent the recurrence of so awful a calamity.

To the many whose nervousness or anxiety would not suffer them to take a steady survey of the visitation while advancing or present, Dr. Bushnan's summary will prove a useful and interesting volume, at least so far as London is concerned. The object of the book has not been so much to give a history of cholera—cleverly though this be done—as to present a view of the various modes of treatment and of their results. To give any account of this part of the volume would be out of our province,—but we must extract the following lively account of the remedies proposed during the prevalence of the disease.—

"Excluding secret remedies, the mere naming of which would occupy a good long summer day, the foregoing are the majority that were proposed during the years 1848 and 1849, for the treatment of Cholera.—We cannot promise the reader that they are all; yet they are enough to make manifest the absurd notions abroad. Let us pass in review these remedies, so as to obtain, as it were, a bird's-eye view of them. They defy classification. Omitting for the moment the complex methods by which Cholera was to be vanquished, what were the simple specifics that were to cure—infallibly cure—the fearful enemy? Water, of every temperature. 'Wrap the Cholera patient in a cold sheet,' says one.—'Dash cold water repeatedly over the sheet in which he is enveloped,' says a second.—'Ply him well with cold water internally,' says a third.—'Freeze him; cool his blood to 30° below zero,' adds a fourth.—'Fools that ye are!'



exclaims a fifth, 'thus to treat the half-dead with Cholera; I say, wrap him in sheets soaked in boiling water; and having thus half-cooked the shivering wretch, conclude the process by placing him over the boiler of a steam-engine.'—Sage advice, learned Thebans! The blood is dark, and the surface cold. —'My theory,' shouts one man, 'is, that oxygen reddens the blood, and by its action on that blood generates heat; therefore make the patient inhale oxygen.'—'Nay,' rejoins another; 'the blood in the lungs is too bright; oxygen has nothing to do with the generation of heat; stifle him with carbonic acid.'—'There are cramps present, which cause much suffering, and therefore, are they the symptoms especially to be treated. Chloroform annihilates pain—let him breathe chloroform.'—'It is evident,' avows one sapient doctor, 'that there is no bile in the stools—therefore calomel should be administered.'—'It is plain,' says another, 'that diarrhoea is the great evil—therefore let him have opium;' i. e. the drug which effectually prevents a free flow of bile. He is cold and depressed; what so natural as to stimulate? The wisdom of the proposal is proved by the numbers who recommended its adoption—the folly of the many is manifested by the proportion who died under the use of stimulants. —'Give him alkalies,' vociferates one man.—'Nay,' says another, 'lemon-juice and acids are the true remedies.'—'It is simply a stage of intermittent fever,' maintains some—therefore, they add, 'the drug for its prevention and its cure is quinine.'—'Not half potent enough,' whispers a supporter of the same theory; 'give him arsenic.'—Certain fanatics refuse the use of medicine, but in the course of their religious mummeries administered to the credulous a cup of olive oil. A patient recovered, and 'Eureka!' shout the populace. 'Vox et præterea nihil,' say those who wait awhile before they decide. 'Opium, in one man's mind, is a specific in small doses—the twentieth of a grain frequently repeated.'—'Nonsense!' says another, 'opium is a specific; but let it be given in doses of from six to twelve grains.' The latter has one advantage—if the power of absorption yet remains to the stomach, the patient will assuredly be saved all further pain, and, if he be a good man, mercifully provided for in a better world. However, as the duty of the doctor is to keep men here, and not to hurry them off there, we suppose twelve-grain doses of opium will not be very extensively recommended by the profession. —Calomel is the specific that will stay every symptom of the Cholera—bring back the absent pulse—restore the genial warmth of the icy skin—bid bloom again the leaden cheek; give it, then, freely, in large doses—give twenty or thirty grains, and see its magical effects!—'Do so,' says an equally devoted admirer of calomel, 'and you will give the last blow to the dying wretch. Calomel is the remedy; but it must be insinuated into the system' in small doses, frequently repeated. —'Bah!' replies the first, 'if you follow this man's whim the patient will slip through your fingers.' Then come other infallible specifics—pitch, sulphur, phosphorus, and carbon; gold, silver, zinc, and lead; strichnine, salicine, morphine, and cannabine; haekish and zhorabia; abstraction of blood, and injection of blood; perfect repose and incessant motion; to the skin, imitation the most severe, applications the most soothing; stimulants the most violent, sedatives the most powerful; inhalation, flagellation.—But if these are the simple, what are the complex methods of treatment that have been proposed? A combination of all the absurdities contained in the foregoing. Let us just draw the reader's attention to one compound method of treatment. Here are the remedies proposed by one gentleman—port wine, calomel, opium, sulphate of potash, powdered ipecacuanha, spirits of nitric ether, cardamom-seeds, raisins, caraway-seeds, cinnamon, cochineal, camphor, amised; benzoic acid, benzoin, storax, balsam of tolu, aloes, rhubarb, sal-volatile, ipecacuanha wine, bicarbonate of soda, oxide of bismuth, spirits of wine, nitrate of silver, tartar emetic, potassa, bismuth, calumba, cannella, sulphuric ether, cayenne, brandy.—What a divine afflatus must have distended the mind of the proposer of the above remedies, ere he could have conceived the idea of bringing such an assemblage of drugs into one prescription! Think of the wisdom that must have guided the choice of each, and apportioned

the fitting dose! And then fancy that all are to be administered to the same unfortunate stomach during the short space of forty-eight hours!—Byron's dish, which even the good-natured Grimaldi could not stomach—apple-pie with anchovy sauce—was nothing to it!—One learned Parisian doctor, discarding the hitherto sacred numbers—the Pythagorean charm—proposes four cups of sweetened lime flower, mint, balm, and camomile tea, each to contain four drops of volatile alkali. Four drops in each of the four cups—neither more nor less—sixteen drops of sal-volatile, and a little mint tea. Surely nothing could, in one sense, be more simple than this! Oh, yes! there is one more simple still—milk and homœopathy! If not more simple, far more disgusting, and not more sapient, was the proposal for the patients to quaff goblets of fresh-drawn blood!

After this, the author offers some evidence in favour of what is called the saline treatment in this disease—which consists in the administration of the salts of the various alkalies. In one place—the Coldbath Fields Prison—in 1832, this system seems to have been attended with good results—so good that it would be justifiable to try the plan on a large scale.—We hope, however, that there will be no opportunity in this country. Tardy as our Government is in carrying out its plans, we believe that a spirit of intelligence, as well as of humanity, has been awakened which will work changes in our sanitary arrangements that should the cholera re-appear in Europe, will effectually keep it from our English hearths. The hope has nothing Utopian in it. It embraces a practicable result,—towards which the efforts of every patriot and philanthropist should be earnestly directed. It is as demonstrable that we can prevent cholera, as that we can avoid other zymotic diseases. An intelligent and active conviction on the part of the whole community that these are preventable, is alone wanted for getting rid of the whole class.

*Ponsonby, a Tale of Troublous Times.* 2 vols. Ollivier.

THE coronet on the back of this book is intended, we presume, to announce that it owes its being to a noble author. Rather feeble is the "scion,"—by no means distinguished in its form, starved in its leafage, and poor in its bloom. A prefatory dedication to Lord John Manners eulogizes that nobleman's Jacobite ballads, and insinuates the author's intense love for the memory of "Bonny Prince Charlie."—to whom it seems to be his opinion that justice has hardly been done. Otherwise, we submit—seeing that one Scott wrote two historical novels called 'Waverley' and 'Redgauntlet,'—the young Pretender might have been let alone. Our tale-teller assumes that 'Ponsonby' differs materially from other fictions relating to that adventure; whose scenes, it is said, have generally been laid nearly altogether in Scotland. This reaches the sublime of forgetfulness!—since a romancer who can have overlooked *Fergus Mac Ivor* and the *Boadach Glas*, and *Evan Dhu Maccomich* before the court-martial at Carlisle, or who can have forgotten *Darsie Latimer's* adventures on this side of the Solway, must be cried up, or set down, as sublimely forgetful. After a Preface in this tone,—who would not have expected something in 'Ponsonby' "engaging and new," as the song says? Nor is there wanting matter totally untouched by those who have treated the Stuart invasions of '15 and '45. Let us present one idea to the writers of 'Ponsonby's to come. What do they think—in place of such a pink and white hero as is here manoeuvred through many pages of delicate sensibility—of showing up that rugged, strange, original Englishman, the Lexicographer, the Orcadian tourist, "the Dominic" (according to Sir Alexander Boswell, "who keepit a schule

and ca'ed it an academy,") Samuel Johnson? It has been again and again conjectured—and not without facts sufficient to warrant speculation and curiosity—that Johnson was out in '45. What room there is in this hypothesis for the ingenuity of any one capable to grapple with "Blinking Sam" in his prime!—Such capacity, however, it may be averred, does not reside with the author of 'Ponsonby.' He plumes himself on the tourney spirit,—but does not get beyond the Windsor chairs from which Lord Eglintoun's filters mounted their horses in Lord's cricket-ground. He wishes to represent Charles Edward as a *Prince Charles Grandison*—yet lays out for his use a poor, little, second-hand assortment of fascinations such as would have hardly made pretty *Mistress Betty*, the still-room maid, turn her head.—In short, this book is weak at the beginning, weaker in the middle, and very weak indeed at the end.

*Poems.* By Elizabeth Barrett Browning. New Edition. 2 vols. Chapman & Hall.

WHEN Lord Bacon spoke of imagination as the faculty which "conforms the shows of things to the desires of the soul," he furnished a definition so just and comprehensive that it embraces every true poet whatever may be his comparative rank. The genuine painter of external Nature conforms (not violates or alters, be it observed) visible objects to a mental influence, and detects through the whole world of appearances types of human action and passion. Thus, to use familiar illustrations; the rocks "frown," the sun "awakes," the brook goes "singing" on its way, and the sea "laughs" or "rages" according to the mood of the writer. In dealing with the life of man the same principle is apparent. Feeling and circumstance are separated by the poet from all that is merely petty and accidental in their development, and conformed into pure symbols of the soul. In the highest poetry of all, a yet more transcendent point is attained. The ideal and divine harmony which, though distinct from our human nature, incessantly speaks to it through the conscience, is so manifested in the struggles and aspirings of our hearts that the story of humanity itself becomes an emblem of that supreme law. The motives and impulses which agitate us are connected, not only with their mutual relations and results, but also with their source; and through the entire series of human emotions and natural objects, the loftiest needs or "desires of the soul" are shadowed forth.

It is to the credit of contemporary poetry that, though for the most part presenting no massiveness of structure, and being especially defective in those heroic forms which stand out in the masterpieces of epic song, it does aim—so far as purpose is concerned—at exercising the noblest functions of imagination. Material beauty is applied by it to spiritual uses, and the workings of an unfailing beneficence are traced even through the records of strife and suffering. Of such teaching our times afford no purer examples than those furnished by the verse of Elizabeth Barrett Browning:—and as we think that full justice has never yet been done in print to her genius, we take the opportunity presented by this new collection of her poems to offer a few remarks on the subject.

The volumes before us include, with slight exceptions, all the pieces written by this Lady under her maiden name, as Miss Barrett,—several which have subsequently appeared in periodicals,—and some few which are now for the first time made public. The additions are welcome, but none of them are of sufficient magnitude to alter the order of precedence in which we were previously disposed to rate Mrs. Browning's compositions. The 'Drama of



Exile' and the 'Seraphim' are still the most ambitious of her efforts; while, as regards her larger pieces,—the 'Vision of Poets,' the 'Lay of the Brown Rosary,' 'Isobel's Child,' the 'Poet's Vow,' 'Bertha in the Lane,' and 'Lady Geraldine's Courtship,' yet continue the most successful of her realizations.

In the 'Drama of Exile' the form is not sufficiently massive for the theme. Eve, its central character, beautiful in her devoted wifehood, is yet rather the embodiment of a woman than of *woman*. Neither in her nor in Adam do we find those grand lineaments which belong to the founders of the human dynasty in creation; while from the want of an action proportioned to the agents, Lucifer becomes little more than a vehicle for eloquent invective. And yet, what true lover of poetry would wish this drama unwritten? If it falls short of its own ideal, it contains enough of fine thought and imagination to furnish a hundred inferior but still beautiful conceptions. What passages in modern poetry excel in description or suggestiveness the following colloquy, occasioned by the demand of Lucifer, if he do not still retain his angelic beauty?—

Eve. Thou hast a glorious darkness.  
Luc. Nothing more?  
Eve. I think no more.  
Luc. False Heart!—thou thinkest more!  
Thou canst not choose but think, as I praise God,  
Unwillingly but fully, that I stand  
Most absolute in beauty. As yourselves  
Were fashioned very good at best, so we  
Sprang very beautiful from the creant Word  
Which thrilled around us—God Himself being moved,  
When that august work of a perfect shape,  
His dignities of sorran angel-hood,  
Swept out into the universe,—divine  
With thunderous movements, earnest looks of gods,  
And silver solemn clash of cymbal wings.  
Whereof was I, in motion and in form,  
A part not poorest. And yet,—yet, perhaps,  
This beauty which I speak of, is not here,  
As God's voice is not here: nor even my crown—  
I do not know. What is this thought or thing  
Which I call beauty? is it thought, or thing?  
Is it a thought accepted for a thing?  
Or both? or neither?—a pretence—a word?  
Its meaning flutters in me like a flame.  
Under my own breath: my perceptions reel,  
For evermore around it, and fall off.  
As if too were holy. Which it is.  
Adam. The essence of all beauty, I call love.  
The attribute, the evidence, and end,  
The consummation to the inward sense,  
Of beauty apprehended from without,  
I still call love. As form, when colourless,  
Is nothing to the eye; that pine-tree there,  
Without its black and green, being all a blank;  
So, without love, is beauty undiscerned  
In man or angel. Angel! rather ask  
What love is in thee, what love moves to thee,  
And what collateral love moves on with thee;  
Then shalt thou know if thou art beautiful.  
Luc. Love! what is love? I lose it. Beauty and love!  
I darken to the image. Beauty—Love!

Adam. Thou art pale, Eve.  
Eve. The precipice of ill  
Down that colossal nature, dizzies me—  
And, hark! the starry harmony remote  
Seems measuring the heights from whence he fell.

Need we point out the exquisite significance of Lucifer's disappearance while pondering on the mystery of love, or claim admiration for the noble imagery which concludes our extract?

How full of rare pathos, how imbued with a sense of natural beauty, is Eve's reminiscence of Eden.—

For was I not,  
At that last sunset seen in Paradise,  
When all the westering clouds flashed out in throngs  
Of sudden angel-faces, face by face,  
All hushed and solemn, as a thought of God  
Held them suspended,—was I not, that hour,  
The lady of the world, princess of life,  
Mistress of feast and favour? Could I touch  
A rose with my white hand, but it became  
Redder at once? Could I walk leisurely  
Along our swarded garden, but the grass  
Tracked me with greenness? Could I stand aside  
A moment underneath a cornel-tree,  
But all the leaves did tremble as alive,  
With songs of fifty birds who were made glad  
Because I stood there? Could I turn to look  
With these twin eyes of mine, now weeping fast,  
Now zood for only weeping,—upon man,  
Angel, or beast, or bird, but each rejoiced  
Because I looked on him?

But it is in such poems as 'Isobel's Child' and others which we have already mentioned that Mrs. Browning's genius shines conspicuously. Hers is not the dramatic imagination which from the fullness of creative life delights to translate itself equally into the most opposite objects. With her, imagination has emphatically its source in the heart. It is her intensity of personal feeling which produces the vivid symbols by which it is expressed: and dealing with her poetry by this standard, we say unhesitatingly, that we know no record of woman's nature which in depth, purity, and force can be compared to that which these pages contain. The ardour of woman's individual devotion, her self-sacrificing love, her sympathy with the victims of wrong, and her faith in a presiding good that consecrates and chastens affection, find their fullest exposition in Mrs. Browning's writings. Love in its highest sense—love for whatever is ennobling and beautiful—is the inspiration of her song:—a love not only fervent enough to fathom the abysses of sorrow, but clear-sighted to perceive, and firm to grasp, the pearls of faith which lie beneath those troubled depths. While we have no more thrilling utterance than hers of the heart's anguish under change, bereavement, or treachery, we possess no finer morals than those which she derives from such experience. The transient and fickle only raise her spirit to the immutable and the constant. Her trust leaps higher for the barriers that obstruct it. For her the bow of promise gleams on the very brow of the catastrophe. As a special instance of our meaning we may refer to 'Isobel's Child,' where the holy rest and happiness of the unseen future form the touching argument which wins the mother to relax the grasp of her detaining prayer: from the spirit of her boy, and for his sake to resign him to heaven:—

The nurse awakes in the morning sun,  
And starts to see beside her bed  
The lady, with a grandeur spread  
Like pathos o'er her face; as one  
God-satisfied and earth-undone.  
The babe upon her arm was dead!  
And the nurse could utter forth no cry,  
She was awed by the calm in the mother's eye.  
"Wake, nurse!"—the lady said:  
"We are waking—he and I—  
I, on earth, and he, in sky!  
And thou must help me to o'erlay  
With garment white, this little clay  
Which needs no more our lullaby."  
"I changed the cruel prayer I made,  
And bowed my weakened face, and prayed  
That God would do His will! and thus  
He did it, nurse: He parted us,  
And his sun shows victorious  
The dead calm face;—and I am calm:  
And Heaven is hearkening a new psalm."

In the poem just quoted we are shown human affection transformed by self-sacrifice into religion. The doctrine that man cannot sustain man is earnestly enforced. In the 'Poet's Vow' a different but not conflicting lesson is presented:—namely, that man cannot dispense with man. The poet—that he may live in communion with the forms of nature and free his soul from the contact of mortal weakness—alienates himself from his kind and from his betrothed. In this proud loneliness the naked grandeur of things blinds the eye that would gaze on them untempered by the medium of human sympathy. The poet's inspiration shrinks before these awful presences.—

A lonely man, a feeble man,—  
A part beneath the whole—  
He bore by day, he bore by night  
That pressure of God's infinite  
Upon his finite soul.

His betrothed, dying, mourns more for the sin of his pride than for her own abandonment, and directs that in last appeal her lifeless form shall be borne into his hall.—

O'er the windy hill, through the forest still  
Let them gently carry me;

And through the piney forest still,  
And down the open moorland—  
Round where the sea beats mistily  
And blindly on the forehead—  
And let them chant that hymn I know,  
—Bearing me soft, bearing me slow,  
To the old hall of Courland.

She is laid before him, and a scroll in her hand utters what the lips can no longer speak.—

"I left thee last, a child at heart,  
A woman scarce in years:  
I come to thee, a solemn corpse,  
Which neither feels nor fears.  
I have no breath to use in sighs;  
They laid the death-weights on mine eyes,  
To seal them safe from tears."

"Look on me with thine own calm look—  
I meet it calm as thou!  
No look of thine can change *this* smile,  
Or break thy sinful vow.  
I tell thee that my poor scorned heart  
Is of thine earth... thine earth,—a part—  
It cannot love thee now."

"But out, alas! these words are writ  
By a living, loving one,  
Adown whose cheeks, the proofs of life,  
The warm, quick tears do run.  
Ah, let the unloving corpse controul  
Thy scorn back from the loving soul,  
Whose place of rest is won."

"I have prayed for thee with deep sobs,  
When passion's course was free:  
I have prayed for thee with mute lips,  
In the anguish none could see!  
They whispered oft, 'She sleepeth soft!—  
But I only prayed for thee."

"Go to! I pray for thee no more—  
The corpse's tongue is still:  
Its folded fingers point to heaven,  
But point there stiff and chill:  
No farther wrong; no farther woe  
Hath licence from the sin below  
Its tranquil heart to thrill."

"I charge thee, by the living's prayer,  
And the dead's silence,  
To wring from out thy soul a cry,  
Which God shall hear and bless!  
Lest Heaven's own palm droop in my hand,  
And pale among the saints I stand,  
A saint companionless."

The intensity of love was never expressed in a sublimer picture than these last lines present.

We well know in Mrs. Browning's case, as in that of every true artist, how impossible it is to do justice to a complete work by detached examples. The axiom "*ex pede Herculem*," if it be a tolerably safe guide as to the proportion of various members, affords but a poor clue to the harmony which combines them in one symmetrical frame. As the most perfect illustration of Mrs. Browning's pathos, however, which our limits will afford, we give in a condensed form the poem entitled—

*Catarina to Camoens;*  
Dying in his absence abroad, and referring to the Poem in which he recorded the sweetness of her eyes.

On the door you will not enter,  
I have gazed too long—adieu!  
Hope withdraws her peradventure—  
Death is near me,—and not you!  
Come, O lover,  
Close and cover

These poor eyes, you called, I ween,  
"Sweetest eyes, were ever seen."

When I heard you sing that burden  
In my vernal days and bowers,  
Other praises disregarding,

I but hearkened that of yours,—  
Only saying

In heart-playing,  
"Blessed eyes mine eyes have been,  
If the sweetest, his have seen!"

But all changeth. At this vesper,  
Cold the sun shines down the door.  
If you stood there, would you whisper

"Love, I love you," as before,—  
Death pervading

Now, and shading  
Eyes you sang of, that yestreen,  
As the sweetest, ever seen?

Yes! I think, were you beside them,  
Near the bed I die upon,—  
Though their beauty you denied them,  
As you stood there, looking down,  
You would truly

Call them duly,  
For the love's sake found therein,—  
"Sweetest eyes, were ever seen."

O my poet, O my prophet,  
When you praised their sweetness so,  
Did you think, in singing of it,  
That it might be near to go?



Had you fancies  
From their glances,  
That the grave would quickly screen  
"Sweetest eyes, were ever seen?"

Will you come? When I'm departed  
Where all sweetnesses are hid—  
When thy voice, my tender-hearted,  
Will not lift up either lid.  
Cry, O lover,  
Love's over!  
Cry beneath the cypress green—  
"Sweetest eyes, were ever seen!"

"Sweetest eyes!" How sweet in flowings,  
The repeated cadence is—  
Though you sang a hundred poems,  
Still the best one would be this:  
I can hear it—  
Twink my spirit—  
And the earth noise, intervene—  
"Sweetest eyes, were ever seen!"

But the priest waits for the praying,  
And the choir are on their knees—  
And the soul must pass away in  
Strains more solemn high than these!

For the weary—  
Oh, no longer for Catrine,  
"Sweetest eyes, were ever seen!"  
Keep my hand, take and keep it—  
I have loosed it from my hand—  
Feeling, while you overweigh it,  
Not alone in your despair—  
Since with faintly—

Watch, unsafely—  
Out of Heaven shall you leap—  
"Sweetest eyes, were ever seen!"  
But—now—yet unremoved—  
Up to Heaven, they listen fast—  
You may cast away, beloved—  
In your future, all my past—  
Such old phrases—  
May be praised—  
For some fairer bosom—

"Sweetest eyes, were ever seen!"  
Eyes of mine, what are ye doing?  
Faithless, faithless—praised angels  
If a tear be of your showing,  
Dropt for any hope of mine!  
Death hath boldness—  
Besides coldness—  
If unworthy tears demean—  
"Sweetest eyes, were ever seen!"  
I will look out to his future—  
I will bless it till it shine,  
Should he ever be a sinner  
Unto sweeter eyes than mine—  
Sunshine add them—  
Angels shield them—  
Whatsoever eyes ferrene  
Be the sweetest his have seen!

We add no comment. We have mistaken the effect of these lines if they need any.

To show, how, with a true woman's heart, this writer can pass from the region of ideal sorrow to that of actual every-day wrong, we extract the following verses, terrible in their truth, from 'The Cry of the Factory Children.'

"For oh," say the children, "we are weary,  
And we cannot run or leap—  
If we cared for any meadows, it were more  
To drop down in them and sleep.  
Our knees tremble sorely in the stooping—  
We fall upon our faces, trying to go on heavily  
And, underneath our heavy eyelids drooping,  
The reddest flower would look as pale as snow.  
For, all day, we drag our burden tiring—  
Through the coal-dark, underground—  
Or, all day, we drive the wheels of iron  
In the factories, round and round."

"For, all day, the wheels are doing, turning—  
Their wind comes in our faces—  
Till our hearts turn,—our heads with pulses burning,  
And the walls turn in their places—  
Turns the sky in the high window blank and railing—  
Turns the long light that droppeth down the wall—  
Turn the black flies that crawl along the ceiling—  
All are turning, all the day, and we with all—  
And all day, the iron wheels are dropping—  
And sometimes we could pray,  
'O ye wheels,' (breaking out in a mind meaning),  
'Stop! be silent for to-day!'

Ay! be silent! Let them hear each other breathing  
For a moment, mouth to mouth—  
Let them touch each other's hands, in a fresh wreathing  
Of their tender human youth!  
Let them feel that this cold metallic motion  
Is not all the life God fashions or reveals—  
Let them prove their inward souls against the notion  
That they live in you, or under you, O wheels!  
Still, all day, the iron wheels go onward—  
Grinding life down from its mark—  
And the children's souls, which God is calling onward,  
Spin on blindly in the dark.

† She left him the riband from her hair.

In what way poetry can lift the heart-sickening facts of suffering into ideal pity and terror may be learned from such painting as this. The authoress of "Mary Barton" has nothing more real.—Mrs. Browning herself has scarcely anything more imaginative.

We have already said that Mrs. Browning's imagination is not characteristically of that dramatic kind which delights in activity for its own sake, but so general are her sympathies with what is true and beautiful, that her range in them is as large as their own domain. How instinct with chivalrous fire (albeit too diffuse)—a frequent fault of Mrs. Browning's—is the "Rhye of the Duchess of Marlborough." How keen a perception of patrician grace, how deep a sense of human right, are combined in "Lady Geraldine's Courtship." Was there ever a fairy architecture that surpassed the "House of Clouds," in its delicious fusion of sportiveness, fancy, and emotion? Could not Landseer draw "Elush, my Dog," to the life from reading the lines so entitled? Our readers will remember some of these poems as they first appeared in our own columns. Did ever supernatural spell more congeal the blood than that of the "Brown Rosary," and the legend of her at whose wicked bow the spirits trailed, along the pines, low laughter like a breeze.

While high between their swinging tops, the stars appeared  
Did ever the sublimity of pathos more, though  
and raise the heart than that of "Begonia in the Lane"—which, but for a defect of mechanism, would be of its class the gem of these poems. The flaw we refer to is the disclosure which the heroic sister makes of her own sacrifice. Lastly, to say nothing of its fine lesson, have we any other examples of condensed and picturesque sentiment to equal those in the "Vision of Romeo," the vision in which appeared—

Euripides, with close and mild  
Scholastic lips,—that could be wild;  
And laugh or sob out like a child—  
Right in the classes. Sophocles, in plain language  
With that king's look which, down the trees  
Followed the dark enigmas  
Of the lost Theban. Heedful old,  
Who, somewhat blind and deaf and cold,  
Cared most for Gods and bulls,—and bold  
Electric Pindar, quick as fear and dear  
With race dust on his cheeks, and dear  
Sant startled eyes that seem to hear—  
Theorists, with glittering looks  
Dropt sideways, as between the poet  
He watched the visionary flocks.

And soft Racine, and grave Corneille—  
The orator of rhymes, whose power  
Scarcely strook his pen, and Petrarch pale,  
Who from his brainlit heart hath thrown  
A thousand thoughts beneath the sun,  
Each perfumed with the hallel of One.

The italics are our own.  
From the new poems in this collection we give one specimen of Mrs. Browning's lighter vein.

#### A Man's Requirement.

Love me, sweet, with all thou art,  
Feeling, thinking, seeing—  
Love me in the lightest part,  
Love me in full being—  
Love me with thine open youth  
In its frank surrender—  
With the vowing of thy mouth,  
With its silence tender—  
Love me with thine azure eyes,  
Made for earnest granting!  
Taking colour from the skies,  
Can Heaven's truth be wanting?  
Love me with their lids, that fall  
Snow-like at first meeting;  
Love me with thine heart, that all  
The neighbours then see beating—  
Love me with thine hand stretched out,  
Freely—open-minded—  
Love me with thy loitering foot,—  
Hearing one behind it.

Love me with thy voice, that turns  
Sudden faint above me  
Love me with thy breath that burns  
When I murmur "Love me!"  
Dove me with thy thinking soul—  
Break it to love-sighing—  
Love me with thy thoughts that roll  
On through living—  
Love me in thy gorgeous life,  
When the world has crowned thee!  
Love me, kneeling at thy prayers,  
With the angels round thee—  
Love me pure, as modest love  
Through the woodlands shadily  
Love me gaily, fast, and true,  
As a winsome lady—  
Further off, if thou wilt, I care,  
Love me for the house and grave—  
And for something higher—  
Thus, if thou wilt prove me, dear,  
Woman's love is fabled in  
Love me, dear, as thou wilt,  
As a man is able.

Of the serious poems now added, that entitled  
"Calls on the Heart," is the finest, but we must  
content ourselves with extracting as a shorter  
instance—  
O rose! who dares to name thee?  
No longer roses now, nor so thy sweets  
But pale and bald, and dry as stubble wheat,  
Kest seven years in a drawer—thy titles shame thee.  
The breeze that used to blow thee  
Between the hedge-row thorns, and take away  
An odor up the lane to that old chapel  
Is breathing now, as if it would force thee  
The sun that used to smile thee  
And mix his glory in thy gorgeous urn  
The beam appeared to bloom, and flower to burn  
Aflaming now, which once had been a light  
The dew that used to moisten thee  
And white first, grow incriminated, because  
It lay upon thee where the crimson was, and bled  
And if dropping now, it would darken where it met thee

The fly that braved thee,  
To stretch the landmarks of its tiny feet,  
Along thy leaf's pure edges, after heat,  
If lighting now,—would coldly overrun thee.  
The bee that once did suck the honey of thy blood,  
And built thy perfumed haunts of his tiny nest,  
And saw in thee the forage that came alive,  
If passing now,—would indy thy blood  
The heart, doth recognise thee,  
Alone, alone! The heart doth smelt thee sweet,  
Both view thee fair! doth judge thee most complete,  
Though seeing now, she changes that disguise thee,  
dew Yes, and the heart doth follow thee,  
More loved dead, than to such roses bold,  
Which Julia wears at dances, smiling cold,  
His still upon his heart,—which breaks below thee

Several translations—including an entirely  
new, and a striking one of the "Prometheus  
Bound"—are included in the present edition.  
For those who care to find them, there are  
undoubtedly faults and short-comings in Mrs.  
Browning's poetry. She is occasionally guilty  
of mannerisms which we are prevented only by  
her earnestness from regarding as affectations.  
At times, too, the symbols of her feelings seem  
too weak to convey it. They dissolve in the heat  
by which they are made plastic. Often in the  
struggle to overtake her ideal, the Muse stutters  
to the goal. But she gains it. The wreath is  
justly awarded, though it crowns a fainting  
victor. Such defects as we notice are, however,  
all of style, not of essence or purpose. We  
close these volumes by a Poet and the Wife of  
a Poet with deep admiration and reverence.

Desirous as we have been to afford glimpses of  
Mrs. Browning's genius in its various phases,  
we are conscious that we have here given due  
prominence only to its sympathetic truth and its  
high spiritual tone. Much remains to be said  
on its electric passion, its noble thought, its  
bold yet delicate imagination. But in adverting  
for a moment to the blending of these various  
qualities in the same mind, we will briefly say  
that literature has few precedents of such an  
union. Mrs. Browning is probably, of her sex,  
the first imaginative writer England has pro-  
duced in any age—she is, beyond comparison,  
the first poetess of her own.



*Personal Adventures during the late War of Independence in Hungary. Comprising an Account of her Missions under the Orders of Kossuth to the different Posts of the Hungarian Army during the Contest.* By the Baroness von Beck. 2 vols. Bentley.

*Pictures of Rural Life in Austria and Hungary. From the German.* By Mary Norman. 3 vols. Bentley.

THE thinker and the statesman have justly regarded the records of the first revolution in France—the event which marked the second awakening of the human mind in modern times, rousing nations into vigorous life, which had passed through the crisis known in history as the Reformation, in comparative unconsciousness, and giving new impulse and development to the more advanced and energetic races of northern blood—as among the most instructive in the annals of the world. The library growing out of the revolutions of 1848 promises to be little inferior to this great collection in historic interest. But of all the volumes devoted to these events which load our shelves, the most interesting and exciting are those which relate the grand and melancholy drama of the Hungarian struggle. Europe had rarely seen a more strange or noble spectacle before the whole civilized world was ringing with the fame of Kossuth and of Aulich, the Magyar was an unknown race—not one man in a hundred on this side the Rhine knew more about Hungary than they do now of Finland or of Poltawa. In a land which most people in France and in England fancied was inhabited by semi-barbarous tribes—that being the current notion in Vienna—there rose up, as it were in a day, statesmen and generals superior in tact and genius to the best men that eastern Europe could array against them, and who speedily took their places among the master spirits of the age. Whatever it may have been in past time—not to raise the intricate historical question here—Hungary is now a nation. The Magyars have announced themselves, and astonished Europe, setting aside all poor feeling of jealousy towards a new people, has admitted their claim to rank with the highest types of manhood on the civilized Continent. Now that the great drama has arrived at a pause—for that the curtain has to rise on further acts can scarcely be doubted—those who were startled into admiration eagerly inquire into the details of the act just ended, and the antecedents of the men who played it. As out of the obscure past came the present—out of the notorious present will come the future. Works, therefore, like the volumes of General Klapka, Madame Pulzky, and M. Schlesinger—not omitting to mention the pamphlets, letters, and diplomatic notes of Counts Teleki and Pulzky—contain the lights which serve, however indistinctly, to clear up to our perceptions the mists that veil the future of this gallant people. Much yet remains unknown; and some points of the deepest interest—such as the conduct of General Görgey—may not be finally made clear for years to come. There must be much which history can owe only to Kossuth. But the ex-governor of Hungary is not likely—at least for many years to come—to commit his knowledge to the custody of ink and types. In the mean time we are glad to receive revelations from less conspicuous actors in the war.

The services of the Baroness von Beck were now and then heard of in England during the course of the revolution. Her rank and personal daring, the mystery and rapidity of her movements, the unbounded confidence reposed in her by Kossuth, the grace and gentleness of her manners, and the elf-like mischief in which she delighted, all contributed to invest her character with a charm in the eyes of the peasants

and common soldiers not altogether unminged with a touch of undefinable superstition; and curious stories were told of her in Prague and Vienna, some echoes of which travelled as far west as Paris and London. Through these fantastic reports the Baroness had grown into a kind of myth to our imagination;—and we now gladly correct our notions, and make acquaintance with the woman of flesh and blood as presented in these pages. If more important works on Hungary have appeared already, we can safely say that there is none to compare with this for absorbing interest.

To pronounce that the lady's volumes are as exciting as a novel is to characterize them feebly. Let us say at once that she writes well and forcibly, in good idiomatic English, that her page is alive with movement, incident and character,—and that her weakness lies in an occasional display of those pretty little vanities which are nevertheless a charm rather than an offence in a woman whose virtues incline to the masculine order.

We should have been glad to know something more of the young Magyar's story before she became the agent and friend of Kossuth. We gather from allusions in the work, and from information picked up elsewhere, that her husband was a noble Magyar, of liberal politics, who served in the guard of the Emperors of Austria until the October revolution,—when he espoused the cause of the people, and died like a hero on the barricades of Vienna. When the widowed wife found, to use her own words, everything that was dear to her buried in her husband's grave, she resolved to live only for her country;—all that now remained of what she had loved so well. She "had nothing but life to lose," and burned with the desire to serve the fatherland even at the sacrifice of that. Her enthusiasm was unbounded; and her first actions were those of one from whom the charm of life is gone,—leaving in its place a passionate but joyless sense of duty to be done, perils to be braved in a righteous cause, and obstacles to be removed or overcome. We would make no unseemly inquisition into this mournful story; but the reader will find its traces left unconsciously on almost every page of the Magyar's adventures, in the warmth and reality of her style and in the touching pathos of her allusions. When she speaks in a few words of her visit to the widow of Robert Blum,—or when she dares not call on her friend, the young wife of General Poltenberg, after the brutal hangings at Arad, by Haynau,—she moves the reader almost to tears by her simplest phrases.

Having taken her resolution, the Baroness lost no time in weeping over her husband's grave;—but, like the heroine of Saragossa, advanced to take his place. The Austrian Diet was removed to Kremsier, which rendered the maintenance of a correspondence between the liberals of Austria and the Hungarians next to impossible. Her husband's friends continued to meet at her house in Vienna; but their efforts were unavailing to find any trustworthy person who could carry messages for them into the Magyar camp. She heard of this want,—and, as our readers know, offered herself as their messenger. The mission was dangerous,—but less so perhaps to a woman than to a man: and after incredible hardships and delays the Baroness succeeded in reaching her native soil in the dress of a fisherman's boy.

The intelligence which she brought was of the utmost importance. Familiar from childhood with armies and camps, she knew all that had been done in Vienna,—the number of troops,—their positions,—the generals who were in command; and in passing through the lines had picked up considerable information,—all of which she had communicated to Csányi,

Görgey, Lazar, and the other chiefs. The purely political information she reserved for Kossuth, to whom a courier was despatched with it. Struck with the devotion and adroitness of this "daughter of Arpad"—as he proudly styled her—Kossuth wrote, to ask if she were willing to go back again to Vienna on a further mission. She accepted the offer with alacrity; and from this moment she was engaged in a series of perilous adventures—often where men had failed and suffered instant death—of a romantic and exciting nature. Sometimes as a peasant—then as an actress—next as a camp-follower,—then as a Jewess—her disguises were numerous as her escapes were imminent. We shall not be able to follow her through the regular course of her narrative; but shall gather together such notes, pictures and descriptions as may interest our readers as detached fragments. On starting for Vienna, the Baroness took charge of a letter from the agent of Windischgrätz—the bombardier of cities—informing him that one of his magnificent estates in Hungary had been destroyed by the war. The letter served as a passport through the Austrian lines, and she hoped to get an answer which would serve her to return. Here we get a glimpse of the Austrian generals.

"On the next day I again visited Schönbrunn, and was admitted to an interview with Windischgrätz and Jellachich,—the two pillars of the House of Hapsburg. They received me with distinguished courtesy. Could they have divined the thoughts that filled my heart, how different would have been my reception! I handed my letter to Windischgrätz: he read it, and seemed struck with terror at its contents. I confess it was not without a secret feeling of satisfaction I saw this man taste some of the bitterness of that misery into which, with a remorseless hand, he had plunged myriads of his own, and of my countrymen. He went into his cabinet to write an answer to Motoschitzky, and Jellachich remained standing in the presence of his deadly enemy. I now looked, for the first time, upon the calumniator of Hungarian honour—the plunderer and destroyer of Vienna. I could scarcely refrain from giving utterance to the feelings of disgust and scorn that swelled within me; but I could serve my country more effectually, and was silent. He questioned me as to the number and condition of the Hungarian troops. I represented them as double their actual force. Upon which he said, with apparent carelessness, that those divisions which I had not seen were probably still stronger. His drift was evidently to draw from me some information respecting the position of the various corps; but I defeated it by taking refuge in the general ignorance of my sex upon such matters. Windischgrätz now returned with his written answer to Motoschitzky. He thanked me again for the trouble I had taken on his account; and what pleased me much more, he directed Count Thun to make out an order giving me liberty to pass, wherever I chose, unmolested by the Austrian troops, to which he appended his own signature. I took my leave: my object was accomplished, and the two great Generals—the conquerors of Prague and Vienna—were outwitted by a woman."

The Baroness seems to entertain a huge contempt for Jellachich,—both as a woman and as a Magyar. His attempts to woo the young Countess Karolyi affords her great amusement.—Crossing from camp to camp or traversing the lines of opposing armies, the messenger saw many of the actual battles, sieges, and bombardments which took place.—Here we have a graphic picture, taken from the tower of Ikman Church, of the battle of Murr—the first defeat which the Hungarians suffered on their own soil. It was by more than twice their numbers.—

"I ascended the tower myself, and obtained a position on one of the pinnacles, from which I could plainly discern the movements of the two armies. To those who have never seen large multitudes of men engaged in deadly conflict, it would be impossible to describe the sensations with which I



looked upon the awful scene. The two armies were drawn up in nearly parallel lines, and from each there issued a continued stream of fire, which was all the more dreadful from being partially obscured by the smoke, that rolled upwards heavily, and formed a dark canopy above the infuriated combatants. The wind, occasionally, swept away the sulphurous clouds, and revealed the straight lines of soldiers, like stone-walls—immovable and brilliant with fire; but the thick, black vapour soon again hid them from our view. From time to time, we observed bodies of horsemen issue from out of the clouds of smoke, and rush up to the opposing columns; sometimes they penetrated through them, and at others, they were received with a frightful discharge of cannon, before which they were swept back like dust. This continued for about an hour, without any perceptible change having taken place in the relative positions of the two armies. We then noticed that, at each end of the Austrian line, the stream of fire was advancing, and the whole line assuming a concave form, whilst the Hungarian fire was withdrawing at the corresponding points, and the line becoming convex. After a little time, the two seemed to mingle together in undistinguishable confusion; the rolling of the musquetry, and the thundering of the cannon, became indescribably furious, and then began gradually to relax, until, at length, the booming of the artillery alone was heard, at distant intervals, and then it ceased altogether. The battle was lost and won. The Hungarians, out of eight thousand men which they had brought into the field, lost one half in killed, wounded and prisoners. The other half had been completely surrounded, and had cut their way through the enemy. It was this heroic and successful attempt, which had kindled up afresh the vividness of the firing towards the close of the battle, and which gave the Hungarians the claim of superior valour, though victory had declared on the side of the Austrians.

The fiery Perczel was deposed from his command owing to the loss of this battle; and with that utter contempt of danger which made the young general—he, too, was hanged at Arad by Haynau—so great a favourite with the soldiers, he went to visit his wife, though his estate was in the country held by the Austrians. Of course—

“they immediately determined to capture him, and, for this purpose, drew a cordon round his residence, which was contracted gradually on all sides till the house was thoroughly invested. They were quite certain that he had not escaped, for they had kept their eyes upon the whole space inclosed within the cordon, and nobody had either entered, or departed from the house since their scrutiny had commenced. A few shepherds and labourers in the fields looked on with vacant terror whilst these measures were taken for the destruction of their master. The Austrians entered the dwelling, searched all the apartments, closets, and cupboards, boxes, drawers, and presses, from the roof to the foundation. They ripped open the beds, and left no place uninvestigated throughout the premises where a man could, by any possibility, be concealed. Still they could not find their prey; it was manifest he had escaped, in despite of all their vigilance. The enraged Austrians were compelled to depart, and wreaked their disappointment upon poor Madame Perczel, whom they shamefully insulted and abused. Had they been less eager in the pursuit of their intended victim, and allowed their eyes to stray for a moment from the spot where they thought he was concealed, they might have seen one of the shepherds, as soon as he found himself outside the cordon, creep along a hedge cautiously, until he approached a grove, in the thickets of which he disappeared; could they have still kept him in view, they might have seen him traverse the grove rapidly, and when he reached the other side, run with all his speed in the direction of the mountains, where he was seen no more. It was Perczel. He had received secret intelligence of the Austrians' design, and dressing himself as a shepherd, he had just time to escape into the fields before his enemies caught a view of his dwelling. He assumed the appearance and bearing of a peasant with such admirable coolness, that the soldiers passed him by without notice, whilst closing

in upon the house. He ran a thousand risks of detection by the Austrian patrols and outposts subsequently, but succeeded at length in reaching the Hungarian army, after enduring incredible fatigue and hardships.”

One of the most arduous of the Magyarine's missions was into Galicia, to distribute a huge bundle of proclamations and raise a Polish legion for the service of Hungary. The journey lay through the Carpathian passes, defended by General Schlick.—

“Not knowing the position of Schlick's corps, we were obliged to proceed with the utmost caution, and to make frequent *détours*. We were compelled to be all the more circumspect, because Wovonetzy had brought with him a large quantity of arms for the new legion. During the whole of the journey I rode a good distance in advance of the rest, in order to reconnoitre, and to give the alarm in case of danger. We reached Szigeth on the 11th, where the peculiar difficulties of my portion of the enterprise were to commence. Here I left everything superfluous, and separated myself from my travelling companions the same evening. I had some difficulty in crossing the frontier, for I expected to find the way clear, and had prepared myself for the inspection of my passport only; but, to my great disappointment, I found it occupied by the Hartman regiment, and had to undergo a very severe examination, in which I told them, that at present in Hungary the times were extremely unfavourable to the stage, as a proof of which, nearly all the theatres were shut up, and that I wished to seek an engagement in Lemberg, which I had heard was as yet undisturbed by the war. After sending me from the military pass-office to the civil pass-office, and back again repeatedly, they at length allowed me to proceed, and I went on to Sambor, from whence I proceeded the next day to Przemyśl. I had the addresses of persons in both towns, to whom I gave parcels of my proclamations, and who circulated them widely. They were read with the greatest avidity, and created an enthusiastic feeling in favour of the Hungarians. I now proceeded to Lemberg, where I felt it necessary, for the consistency of my character, to seek an engagement at the theatre. I went, therefore, to the manager, and asked him to assign me a part, in which I might make my *début*, in his theatre; but, at the same time, asked an immoderately high salary and good security for its payment. He was astounded at the extravagance of my terms, but was extremely polite, and said he regretted very much he could not then engage me, as the drama was in a very depressed condition. I thanked him for his courtesy, and took my leave. My object was accomplished. I had now the legitimate character of an actress, and was at perfect liberty to serve my country under the shelter of my histrionic name. Forty young men had already pledged themselves to the cause of freedom, and were only waiting for the intelligence which I brought, for they were acquainted previously with Wovonetzy's plan. My proclamation was the signal for their departure, and they all succeeded in reaching the place of rendezvous. This was a matter of no small difficulty, for the whole country was laid for them, and a reward of fifteen florins offered to every one who should deliver up a Pole taken in the act of travelling towards Hungary. From Lemberg I proceeded to Cracow, where I was honourably received, and treated with the most affectionate attention by the patriotic friends to whom I brought letters of introduction. The ladies with whom I lodged introduced me to one of the principal managers, with whom, as the reader will suppose, I contrived to be again successfully unsuccessful in my application for an engagement. I met with many noble and esteemed acquaintances in Cracow; amongst the rest, the Countess Dembinski, née Princess Csartoriska. I was loaded with compliments and praises by them all, and especially by those who had friends and relatives in the Hungarian army, from whom I had brought letters. I was regarded almost as an angel by many a sorrowing wife and mother. My proclamation produced a powerful effect here also, and a great number pledged themselves to the service of Hungary. In short, my mission had thoroughly succeeded; and as my proclamations were now all distributed, and the alarm could

not fail soon to be given to the Austrian Government, I thought it unsafe to remain any longer. I returned, therefore, to Lemberg; but as I had, on my approach to this town, distributed a vast number of papers, I dared not return by the same route. I was obliged, therefore, to make a circuit of a hundred and eighty English miles, in the severest depths of winter, in order to avoid the enemy's posts.”

In these Carpathian hills, the messenger was witness of one of Guyon's battles with the Austrians, during the memorable retreat of Görgey, which was a fair set-off to the mortification that she experienced at Ikman. Our countryman is evidently a favourite with the Baroness; who is too genuine a Magyar to have much patience with foreigners unless they are recommended by great merits. The opinion is gaining ground that the Xenophonic retreat of the Carpathians was more the work of Guyon than of Görgey; and the Baroness von Beck is sure that had he not been displaced in the command of Komorn by Klapka, much better terms would have been obtained for Hungary as the price of that impregnable fortress. In our review of M. Schlesinger's work we gave that writer's version of a story that has been told in various ways, and is still a subject of frequent gossip,—we allude to Guyon's entry into Komorn, through the besieging armies, to take the command. The story is here told from his own lips.—

“Guyon amused us very much with a humorous description of his adventures after he had been named Commandant of Komorn, whilst endeavouring to enter the beleaguered fortress. He had assumed a variety of disguises, in each of which he narrowly escaped discovery. At one time his accent betrayed him; at another, his ignorance of the value of the articles he pretended to sell as a pedlar. He represented his ludicrous embarrassment when questioned about the places from which he professed to have come, and the families that resided there, and how he was often obliged to break off such conversations by recollecting that so-and-so was all the while waiting for him; that he would just speak to him for a moment, and then come back, leaving his basket, or box, or whatever it might be behind him, to prevent suspicion, and forgetting to return for it, until at length it became known in the Austrian army that the new Commandant of Komorn was seeking to enter the place in disguise, when their vigilance became so excessive and jealous, that it would have been folly to have continued his attempts. He terminated his narrative here amidst great laughter at his awkwardness in playing the parts he had assumed. He might, however, had his modesty permitted him, have made a different close to his recital, and one which would have called forth the vivid admiration of all present. He was defeated in the uncongenial attempt to enter in an assumed character; he therefore resumed his own natural character of a cool, skilful, and, at the same time, daring soldier, and having obtained a company of a hundred hussars, he advanced cautiously till he was as near to the fortress as he could approach without being discovered by the Austrians; he then gave the word to charge, and actually cut his way through the whole investing army, and arrived safely in Komorn, amidst the enthusiastic shouts of the garrison, which had witnessed the heroic attempt from the walls.”

The Baroness was present in Pesth during the night of its vengeful and wanton bombardment by Henzi:—and she gives a vivid picture of the incident.—

“I was much fatigued, and retired early; it was the memorable night of May 8-9th. I cannot say how long I slept, when I was aroused by a noise such as I had never heard before. It seemed to come from every side, and even from beneath my feet. Its loudness was tremendous and stunning. It pressed upon the brain with a fulness and power which I can only compare to a fierce thunder storm, mingling with the rumblings of an earthquake. I sprang from my bed in terror; everything I laid my hands on was trembling. It was some time before I could collect my thoughts; but I had



not listened long before I recognised the well-known sound of a fearful cannonade and bombardment, though I had never been so near one before. I waked my maid, and sent her to arouse the other inmates of the house. The landlord and cellarman were already awake, and running about the house like mad folks; but Daniels, strange as it may appear, slept through it all, and it was only after knocking, till we had almost broken in the door, and screaming with all our might, that we succeeded in rousing him. Never did I hear of such a miraculous sleeper before. We were all soon assembled in one of the lower rooms, but we knew not what to do. We feared to remain where we were, for several balls and bombs had already fallen close to the hotel, and we knew not the moment at which one might burst through its roof, and bury us in the ruins. On the other hand, to attempt to fly in the darkness of the night would be to rush into still greater danger, for the shot and shells were falling as thick as hail all over the vast city. We resolved to remain where we were, and commit ourselves to the protection of God, whose will concerning us would be fulfilled in spite of any efforts we could make to evade it. Having taken our resolution, we felt much more calm; we even felt some curiosity to witness the terrible sight. I opened the window and looked out. The night was dark as ebony, except where the raging fortress was hurling destruction upon the city. There the sight was fearfully grand. The long line of the walls was fitfully illuminated by the flashes from the artillery, the red light of which was reflected from the thick volumes of smoke which hung over the place, and cast a lurid glare upon the troubled waters of the Danube, whilst the thundering tumult of the explosions filled the whole atmosphere with a din which was indescribably terrible, and which seemed to increase every moment, augmented by the falling of houses, which produced a harsh crashing accompaniment to the awful uproar. We could plainly see the bombs traversing the intervening space like comets with their long fiery trains; some burst in the air, scattering a shower of fire all round; others buried themselves in the buildings, where their sharp and near explosion was plainly discernible. In a short time the city was on fire in several places. The flames from the splendid hall of the Hungarian Diet, the principal theatre, the Post-office, the Queen of England Hotel, and a multitude of private dwellings, rose high above the edifices, adding to the grandeur and terror of the scene; before morning they were reduced to ashes.

"I could not wish," she says afterwards, "for those who seek a life of military renown, a more emphatic and salutary lesson on the horrors and wickedness of war than that which they might have learned from the appearance of Pesth after this cruel and useless bombardment." It may perhaps become one of the compensating results of that march of Revolution which in turn laid Paris, Rome, Vienna, Pesth, Prague, Dresden, Messina, Milan, and other of the fairest cities in Europe partially in the dust, bringing home to millions the horrors of war, that the popular sentiment, thus instructed, shall grow up to protest against destroying armaments with that force which cannot fail ultimately to impress the misrulers of the world.

There is much in these volumes to throw light on the relations of Kossuth and Görgey,—but we must reserve the topic, on the chance of finding hereafter an opportunity of returning to it. Of the President the Baroness speaks in the most glowing language. "No king in the midst of power and victory ever received such homage as the Hungarians appear to lay at the feet of their illustrious exile. To our colder temperaments such warmth of praise would sound suspiciously, did we not hear it on every side,—from magnate and from peasant, from student and from soldier, from man and from woman. There must be something marvellous in a character which ruin, distance and poverty—those great disenchanters—cannot despoil of its empire over the mind.

The 'Pictures of Rural Life in Austria and Hungary' consist of a series of unconnected tales and sketches of the Magazine kind and calibre. They require no detailed characterization at our hands.

*The Romance of the Peerage; or, Curiosities of Family History.* By G. L. Craik. Vol. IV. Chapman & Hall.

WITH this volume Mr. Craik concludes—at least for the present—his labours on the Romance of the Peerage. We are sorry that this is the case:—for the volume before us is in every respect superior to its precursors. Not that the selection of subjects is better (in that respect there was little room for improvement); but the research seems more to the point, while the grouping and what painters would call the "handling" betray less labour and exhibit a happier arrangement. Some men work best in a limited space,—and this would appear to be one of Mr. Craik's merits. His quantity of materials for his last volume has pushed him into a corner, and forced him to select only the more striking points,—so that his narrative is not interfered with by a minute succession of facts or incidents, which too frequently disturb the sequence of a story. That great secret in writing well, the art of keeping a story within due limits, is becoming every day a rarer art. Seeing the immense mass of reading which threescore and ten years have to encounter, it is greatly to be desired that our literary men would study compression,—and, instead of writing books in many volumes, strive to put whatever they have to say within the narrowest possible compass.

The subjects of Mr. Craik's present volume are, the Founder of the Boyles,—the Founder of the Fermors,—the first of the Bouvieries,—the first of the Osbornes,—the first of the House of Petty,—the first of the House of Fox,—the first of the House of Phips,—with the stories of Ann Clifford ("Anne Pembroke, Dorset and Montgomery"), and Anne Scott, Duchess of Monmouth, the wife and widow of the handsome and unfortunate son of Charles the Second. To these are added an article on 'The Heiress of the Percies; with some account of the insane trunkmaker, of Dublin, who for many years, in the reigns of Charles the Second, James the Second, and William the Third, laid claim to the newly extinct Earldom of Northumberland. These subjects are, it will be seen, inviting and diversified. The account of the first and great Earl of Cork, the founder of the Boyles, might, it is true, have been altered and enriched had—Mr. Craik been aware of Mr. Crofton Croker's curious papers on 'The True Remembrances' of the great Earl—compiled in part from the parish registers of St. Paul at Canterbury,—and throwing, as they do, a serious doubt or two on the honesty of the Earl's memory. In the notices, however, of Sir William Petty, Sir Stephen Fox, Sir Thomas Osborne, and Sir William Phipps we see nothing which should be added or removed.—Mr. Hailstone's long-promised publication about Anne Clifford would, we think from what we have seen of it, have been of great use to Mr. Craik: and there are letters of the Duchess of Monmouth in her old age—her A B C letters (carrying no other signature than the first three letters of her then name, Anne Buccleugh and Cornwallis)—which whenever they shall be printed or made more accessible than at present, will curiously illustrate the character of the Duchess who

In pride of youth and beauty's bloom  
Had wept o'er Monmouth's bloody tomb,—

and before whom 'The Lay of the Last Minstrel' was sung in imagination by its author. But pending the non-publication of these trea-

tures of real biographical history and individual portraiture, let us turn to Mr. Craik:—whose knowledge and good sense will at once instruct and entertain us. The following extract from the opening of the article on the first of the Osbornes is a passage in point.—

"To surmount the barrier which separates the peerage from the rest of the community is, generally speaking, easier than to pass from one rank of the peerage to another. The structure narrows faster than it rises. Of its three tiers or stages (for the Viscounts may be regarded as only a higher division of the Barons, and the Marquises as a subordinate kind of Dukes), the lowest is nearly twice as spacious as the one next above it, and the latter three times as spacious as the highest. At present the number of English Barons and Viscounts is about two hundred and twenty, that of the Earls about one hundred and twenty, that of the Dukes and Marquises about forty. Above two hundred and fifty English peerages were conferred in the reign of George the Third, but only three of them were Dukedoms. From the accession of George the Second, indeed, to the present day, a period of more than a hundred and twenty years, (if we except the variation of the Newcastle patent in 1756) only six hereditary Dukedoms have been created, and of these, one (that of Montagu) is already extinct. Of nearly two hundred and seventy Irish peers made in the reign of George the Third, only one was a Duke. There are several examples of persons rising from the condition of commoners, without the direct aid of claims derived from birth, to the summit of the peerage; but in almost all such cases, at least in modern times, there has been either a basis of noble extraction to begin with, or some other kind of connexion equally or still more potential. The Protector Somerset, who, from a private gentleman, was made first a Viscount, then an Earl, and finally a Duke, was the brother-in-law of one King, and the uncle of another. Villiers, who in the next century, being originally a commoner, was in like manner created successively a Viscount, an Earl, a Marquis, and a Duke, was the all-potent favourite of a third King. If the General of the Restoration, George Monk, was at that extraordinary crisis all at once made a Baron, an Earl, and a Duke, it was by one whom he may almost be said to have made a king. The great Marlborough was probably, in part at least, indebted for his first step in the peerage to the circumstance of his sister being the king's mistress. Sir Hugh Smithson, the founder of the dukedom of Northumberland, owed his elevation first to an Earl, and afterwards to his higher title to his having married the heiress of the Percies. Even our own Wellington, all whose honours have been so well won, though he remained a commoner till he was past forty, to find himself a Duke before he was five years older, was born the son of an Irish Earl, and had an elder brother, who, preceding him in the acquisition of unimherited distinction, had already risen to be an English Marquis.

The difficulty about the first of the family Phips is thus carefully stated.—

"It is extraordinary that it should not be known with certainty who was the father of a man who was living in the reign of George the Second, not much more than a century ago,—who was the Lord Chancellor of Ireland, whose grandson was an Irish peer, —and whose great-grand-son, or descendant in only the fourth degree, is a British Marquis. That Sir Constantine Phipps was not the son of Sir William Phips, as he used to be described in the Peerages, is quite clear. At the same time there are difficulties, which may possibly admit of explanation, but have not received it, in all the other accounts that have been given or hypotheses that have been proposed,—that he was the nephew of Lady Phips, that he was the son of a sister of Sir William, that he was Sir William's own nephew by a brother. The last supposition is a mere conjecture, resting upon no authority; either of the others would imply (unless we assume another Phips married to a sister of Sir William, or his wife) that he must have changed his name, which, nevertheless, nobody notices having been done. Perhaps the name of Phips may have been regarded as being the same with Philips, and both Constantine and Spencer Phips



may have been sons or brothers of the Colonel John Phips, whom we have found, Sir William's biographer designating his *fidus Achates*, and very dear friend, *kinsman*, and neighbour."

The following opening of what we may call 'The Romance of the Trunkmaker,' too, is not without its matter for reflection.—

"Antiquity alone seems to be insufficient to give to some family names a dignity of sound corresponding to their position. The names of Fox, and Phips, and Petty have all now been ennobled for several generations; it is true that they have not any of them, perhaps, the advantage of being naturally very musical or imposing; but Petty, for instance, as a mere dissyllabic articulation, surely becomes the mouth and fills the ear nearly as well as Percy; yet what a difference between them in the power of filling the mind! A name is made noble to the imagination only by being associated with noble deeds, and shining in the story or tradition of heroic ages. After having been occupied with some cases in which names destitute of all old renown have suddenly been made conspicuous in modern times by the honours of the peerage, we are now to meet with the claimant of such honours and the bearer of one of the most famous of our old family names, in a comparatively very humble condition of life. The rapid rise of the descendants of Petty the Clothier and Dyer of Romsey, and Phips the Gunner of Bristol, to be Marquises of Lansdowne and Normandy, seems less strange than that the Percy of Northumberland should present himself to us in the disguise of a respectable trunkmaker of Dublin."

Many will agree—as we ourselves do—with Mr. Craik's observations on the claim of the Trunkmaker:—

"The claim of the trunkmaker was never renewed by any other member of his family. It could not have been brought forward again, indeed, in the shape in which it had already been pronounced upon and rejected; and there seems to be every reason for believing that he was as much mistaken in assuming Sir Ingelram Percy for his great-grandfather as he had previously been in fixing upon the more recent Sir Richard; but still he may have been a descendant from the house of Northumberland by some other line. His case can hardly be said to be satisfactorily disposed of so long as his true descent remains unascertained. The evidence which he brought forward seems to have satisfied Hale that he was a connexion of the Northumberland family; indeed it appears to have been clearly made out that his father and himself were recognized as relations by the two last Earls. Confusedly and inefficiently as he has told his story, and little as we can rely upon the precise accuracy of any of his statements, it is yet plain, from many things which he mentions, that his pretensions were by no means regarded, at the time, as without plausibility, and also that he was met and opposed at every step by every legal expedient, fair and unfair, of which advantage could be taken for that purpose. The array of powers and interests banded against his claim was also unusually formidable, comprehending as it did, not only all the recognized chief branches of the Northumberland family, the heiress of the Percies and her ducal husband, and the two dowager Countesses, her mother and her grandmother, both extensively connected among the greatest families of the realm, but such personages of the very highest sphere as the Duke of Monmouth and the new Duke of Northumberland, the King's sons, with their royal father himself, who had given his lands to the one and his titles to the other."

Should Mr. Craik find leisure and inclination to revive a subject of so much interest as the Romance of the Peerage, we trust he will find an article on that curious paper of difficulties which Sir William Dugdale, when busy with his *Baronage*, laid before Charles the Second on the subject of his natural children,—and to which the king, as Dugdale relates, made so Rowley-like an answer.—The many peerages created out of the libertine life and easy nature of the "Merry Monarch" would make a paper—especially in Mr. Craik's hands—at least as interesting (and this is high praise) as any that he has given us in his four volumes.

#### OUR LIBRARY TABLE.

*Glimmerings in the Dark; or, Lights and Shadows of the Olden Time.* By F. Sommer Merryweather, Author of 'Bibliomania in the Middle Ages.'—Betwixt the Camden, or the Chetham, or other such Society—the official bringers-to-light of household books, royal inventories, &c.—and the general reader, there is some need of mediation. Though curiosity be long, life is short:—and many of the present generation who would like to be informed how their ancestors "fleeted the world" in "the olden time," recoil in dismay from the piles of volumes through which they must wade to find what cinnamon cost by the pound, or in which Queen's reign the thorn that skewered together the primitive drapery of our progenitors gave place to the pin—or when the latter was garnished with a head and a being of its own, and from a luxury, passed into common use. To these eager and impatient customers such distillers, extractors, and compilers as Miss Lawrence and the author of the volume before us offer valuable assistance. They present the grains of true metal from the mine, not merely collected and smelted, but wrought up into pleasing shapes of ornament and utensils available for use. By grouping many facts disentangled from among the trivial or tedious matter in which they are imbedded,—they enable the general reader to form for himself some clear, if not wholly correct, picture of the men and women of the ancient world—as they fought, as they feasted, as they prayed. So frequently have we in treating of one or other antiquarian book endeavoured to illustrate most of the subjects treated by Mr. Merryweather—whether they belong to the domain of domestic economy, or to the province of scientific discovery,—or to the career of philosophic thought and imaginative creation,—that we may not dip into his volume to substantiate our praise by quotation. The case is one, however, in which we beg to say that brevity does not imply disrespect.

*The Royal Water Lily of South America and the Water Lilies of our own land.* By George Lawson. Few plants have excited greater interest by their discovery than the Victoria Regina, the Water Lily of the rivers of South America. Our native species are exceedingly beautiful, and might well have been thought able to challenge the families of plants to produce a species combining so many interesting qualities. Yet both our yellow and our white water lilies must hide their diminished heads in presence of the beauty from the waters of the New World. For many years did this wonderful plant resist all attempts at culture in Europe. Seeds and roots were transported in vain from its native regions. At length, however, we are no longer dependent on the reports of travellers. The Coy plant, unable to resist the appeals of pure water and a high temperature, has unveiled its charms to our untravelled eyes. It has germinated, leaved, and blown, at Syon, at Chatsworth, and in many other parts of our country at once, and may be seen in all its glory by any holiday-maker who will visit Kew. We need not attempt to describe the plant. Growing in our carefully tended conservatories, and not needing much light, it seems to exceed here in its glory the descriptions given of it by travellers. It is indeed worthy to be called the floral queen of the waters. Thinking that a plant that has excited so much interest would form a good subject for a detailed account, with a notice of some of its congeners, Mr. Lawson has produced the little volume before us. All who have gardens in which they are ambitious enough to wish to grow the Royal Water Lily, will find Mr. Lawson's book useful; while those who can enjoy such luxuries only in the possession of others, will find much to instruct and amuse them in this account not only of the Lily of America, but also of the water lilies of our own land.

*Autumnal Rambles among the Scottish Mountains; or, the Pedestrian Tourist's Friend.* By the Rev. Thomas Grierson. This pleasant little volume is the result of vacation rambles for several years, and contains sketches and impressions of mountain and lake scenery but seldom visited by tourists

from the south. It is not often, in these days of carpet-knighthood, that we meet with so hearty a pedestrian and hill-climber as our Scottish parson. By his own showing he has been on all the mountain-tops of the two kingdoms and the Principality: so that we fancy the provisions of the old gentlewoman were well grounded who declared of him, as a youth, that he "would rise in the world." Walking-tours may be regarded as a peculiarly English pastime. For though more decently clad persons are found on the roads of Germany than on those of our own country, these are the *händlerkirs*, travelling professionally, not students and men of means taking exercise out of mere love of adventure and of physical exertion. Mr. Grierson speaks with enthusiasm of the hundreds of young English whom he has met with on the hills and by the lochs of his romantic country. A chase after mountain breezes and extended natural prospects seems to him the most delicious and exciting of sports;—and in this we agree with him. We only wonder at the appetites which care to add the morbid excitement of pain and death to bird or beast to these natural and innocent delights.—To our pedestrian readers generally, and to those who propose to make the land of Glen Tilt the scene of their exercises in particular, we would recommend an acquaintance with the pleasant gossiping and ancient experiences of this Scottish ramble.

*The Mining Almanack for 1850.* Compiled and arranged by Henry English.—Unlike the ordinary run of Almanacs, this does not make its appearance until the middle of the year,—and through some accident it has escaped our notice until now. This matters, however, but little. The information which it contains is for the most part of that purely scientific and practical kind which loses none of its value by the lapse of a month or two. No one interested in mines and minerals—whether as dealer in metals, as practical miner, or as scientific mineralogist, should be without this compact and useful volume at his hand.

*The Gospel in Central America; containing a Sketch of the Country—Physical and Geographical—Historical and Political—Moral and Religious; a History of the Baptist Mission in British Honduras and the Introduction of the Bible into the Republic of Guatemala.* By Frederick Crowe. Mr. Crowe gives a brief but useful and accurate account of the several States of the central group of American Republics, from the discovery of the country down to the present time, and the record makes one of the most melancholy chapters in the history of human perversity and misfortune. From the day when Columbus landed on the coasts of Honduras, that magnificent and important isthmus has been made the scene of man's most suspicious superstitions and most revolting cruelties. Nor would it appear from Mr. Crowe's account that there is much hope of improvement. Peopled by races of southern blood, the vices of the South have there found ample development; just as in the northern States of the continent, peopled by northern races, we have seen now and more perfect forms of Scandinavian and Teutonic life grow up.

Mr. Crowe's narrative is kind and interesting, and the infidelities and superstitions of senior and senorita, done up in the bright colours of tropical costume, lend themselves to more picturesque recital than the ignorance and failings of our own children of improvidence and crime. Nevertheless, it is hardly to be doubted that our first duties are to our own kindred: with them, as daily experience proves, there is some hope of profitable result. One ragged school in London has probably done more good than all the time and money spent on the mission in Honduras.

#### MEDICAL BOOKS.

*On Excision of the Enlarged Tonsil.* By William Harvey. This work does not recommend the operation to a consideration of which it is devoted. It appears, that there is a fashion in performing operations as well as in the administration of medicines. The operation of removal of enlarged tonsil has been lately strongly recommended in cases where there exist at the same time deafness and defective articulation. Mr. Harvey has per-



formed it several times,—and now comes forward with his reasons for abandoning an operation which at one time seemed to promise so much success. This will frequently be the case both with new medicines and with new operations. Even those which promise a rational mode of relief may be attended with a success that is purely accidental, and a wider experience may demonstrate their inutility. This truth does not prove the uselessness of new remedies or new means of cure,—but only shows the necessity of collecting and comparing a sufficient number of facts, to give to our conclusions a claim to be regarded as final; and every medical man should be ready to abandon a treatment, however great a favourite it may have become, when it has been found to fail in a majority of instances.—Mr. Harvey's book is of value, as evidently written by a man practically acquainted with his subject.

*The Physiognomy of Diseases.* By George Corfe, M.D.—It is an unfortunate thing for a man to have an abiding sense of the necessity of doing or saying something that nobody else does or says. Such men are often shrewd observers and sensible reasoners,—but in all their observations and reasonings the tendency to which we have alluded breaks out. Dr. Corfe is one of these unfortunate persons. In a book on disease, he thinks it necessary to give, in an introduction, his theological views, which appear to us to be of the Calvinistic kind that prevailed in the sixteenth century,—all very proper for those who take an interest in them, but having little to do with medicine, and being likely, we should say, to injure the usefulness of his book. Nevertheless, it contains a mass of valuable observations on the symptoms of disease, and a record of numerous interesting cases. It is not perhaps a book for the young student to read; but those advanced in professional life will find in it much instructive matter, amidst a good deal of a more doubtful and less improving character.

*Gout, its History, its Causes, and its Cure.* By William Gairdner, M.D.—Gout is a disease, which has attracted much attention from medical men. It is a malady of the wealthy and luxurious; and there are, therefore, few of our fashionable physicians who are not well acquainted with its forms and symptoms. Independently of the really interesting character of the disease, a reputation for understanding it, and treating it well, is likely to be of unusual advantage to the medical man;—hence the number of books that have been written on it. Many of these are not unnecessary,—as such is the rapid progress of discovery in physiology and in physiological chemistry, that every day is bringing new facts to light which bear importantly on researches into the nature of disease.—Dr. Gairdner is a man of large experience and cultivated mind, and could not fail to produce an interesting work on this subject. His opinions deserve attention from his professional brethren; and though his researches may not have cleared up all the difficulties connected with the pathology of this complaint, they will form a starting point for further inquiries on this important subject.

*The Principles of Surgery.* By John Orr.—This is a manual of surgery for the medical pupil, and seems to be well adapted to attain the objects for which it is written. The principles, on which a sound surgical treatment and practice are founded, are the same as those involved in medical practice, and are based on a knowledge of the functions of the human body in health and in disease. The principles, therefore, of surgery and of medicine change with an increase of knowledge in physiology and pathology;—hence the necessity of new introductions and manuals for the student in the one department and in the other. In general principles, we think Mr. Orr's little book will prove a safe guide to the junior members of the medical profession.

*On Diseases of the Kidney.* By G. Owen Rees, M.D.—There are few departments of pathological inquiry that have made greater advances than that to which this work is devoted:—and the medical profession is indebted to its author himself for much of the progress that has been attained. Dr. Rees is careful in his observations and cautious in his inductions;—hence, great value is to be attached

to what he has to say on a subject to which he has devoted so much attention.

*The Homologies of the Human Skeleton.* By Holmes Coote, (F.R.C.S.E.)—Although the generalizations of the transcendentalist are becoming everywhere recognized in pure science, they have as yet failed to produce much influence on our practical applications of the various departments of science into which they have been admitted. No portion of such inquiry has had so much light thrown on it by the application of the law of ideal types as that of osteology, yet in our books on anatomy very little notice is taken of this fact. A projection on a bone is called a "process,"—and there is an end of it. No allusion whatever is made to the fact of this "process" being the representative, or homologue, of important organs in the lower animals. Most of our medical students at the present day are taught their anatomy—and examined in it,—as parrots are taught to say, "what's o'clock?" This is the more inexcusable as in the works of our countryman Prof. Owen we have the fullest and most definite exposition of the laws which regulate the structure of the human skeleton that have hitherto been published.—This work of Mr. Coote is intended to serve as an introduction to the philosophical study of osteology; and we recommend every medical student who would desire to see something more than "dry bones" in a human skeleton to study its contents. We are assured, that the man who attempts to grasp these beautiful generalizations will be both a wiser man and a sounder practitioner for having made the attempt.

*Dysphonia Clericorum; or, Clergyman's Sore-Throat.* By James Mackness, M.D.—The amount of inconvenience suffered from any disease arising out of occupations peculiar to a class of persons is best known to that class. Although the disease treated of by Dr. Mackness takes its name from a particular profession that is liable to it, all persons employed in public speaking are more or less exposed to loss of voice from the exercise of their vocal organs. This symptom is frequently regarded as a disease, and treatment is had recourse to accordingly; but it will be found that it may depend on very various states of the system,—and they would treat it empirically as though dependent on one, may produce serious mischief.—Dr. Mackness has examined the affections of the throat producing dysphonia with great attention, and his remarks are deserving of a careful perusal.

*Insanity, tested by Science.* By C. M. Burnett, M.D.—Dr. Burnett is of opinion that as insanity is seldom found to be connected with permanent organic lesions, it is a more curable disease than has hitherto been thought. He brings a great deal of knowledge and judicious discrimination to bear on this subject, and his work will be very useful to those interested or employed in the treatment of the insane. *Recalls of Hydropathy; or, Constipation, not a Disease of the Bowels, Indigestion, not a Disease of the Stomach, with an Exposition of the True Nature and Cause of these Affluents, explaining the Reason why they are so certainly cured by the Hydropathic Treatment. To this are added cases cured.* By Edward Johnson, M.D.—We give the author the benefit of his title, because, we think, it will best furnish an idea of the nature of his book. It belongs to a family the characters of which are bold and unblushing assertions of the truth of doubtful statements, and an array of perverted facts to support them. Disease is not what the most profound investigators of nature believe it to be,—but something that Dr. Edward Johnson's lively wit has discovered. It is not to be cured by a rational plan of treatment founded on a cautious induction from a vast experience,—but by cold water as employed by the peasant of Silesia. All this is very pitiable when coming from the uninstructed man at Gräfenberg and his half-witted disciples,—but it is something worse when repeated with all the pretension that can be given to it by the authority of a well-educated medical man. Dr. Johnson must know that his book can be of no service to his professional brethren, and its object can be only that of attracting an ignorant public to his own cold-water establish-

ment. We do not deny the therapeutic powers of cold water; but must utterly condemn the pretensions of those who hold it up as a remedy for every disease,—regardless alike of their own characters as responsible for their opinions, and of the lives of those on whom they would practise their system.

## LIST OF NEW BOOKS.

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## ELEMENTS.

- The clouds from out the sky are driven;  
The moon is large, and round, and white;  
The glow-worms, like the stars of heaven,  
Sleep in the spheres of their own light.  
The fire-flies in mid-air are dancing;  
Like naked hearts that pant and thrill;  
And all, except their restless glancing,  
Between the river and the hill,  
The night-bird in the trees is singing,  
She fills the wide night with her soul;  
The river, in its swift course winging,  
Bids more gently to its distant goal;  
Doth roll,  
The heavens are liquid, soft, and starry,  
The earth is rocked and lulled in sleep,  
The dreams of darkness born, still tarry,  
Yet I, my ceaseless vigil keep,  
And weep!

EDMUND OLLIER.

## THE ARCHEOLOGICAL INSTITUTE AND THE ARCHEOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION.

We have hitherto purposely abstained from offering any final opinion on the recent proceedings of the Archaeological Institute of Great Britain and Ireland and the British Archeological Association in connexion with the offer made by the latter of a reunion with the former. Our readers will remember that the two Societies were formerly one. They met at Canterbury as one; but before the next year, when they assembled at Winchester, they were two—and what is worse, two very angry institutes, with a complicated quarrel, and an active desire first to outstrip, and then if possible to ruin one another. On the occasion of the quarrel, it will not be forgotten that we considered ourselves



justified in adopting the side of the Institute,—and most of what has since occurred has strengthened our conviction that that decision was the right one. From that day we have never ceased, so far as depended on us, to visit on the party whom we thought to blame the displeasure of those earnest men who believe the cause of science to be degraded by the squabbles of its professors,—and those economical ones who do not love to see a multiplication of Societies springing up to do the work of one. Had the Society of Antiquaries been true to its mission, there should have been no demand for Archaeological Societies at all, save as sections of that parent body; and when the new institution undertook to repair the neglect of the old one, it should have known that the best way of effecting this was not by dividing its strength and doubling its machinery. We differ entirely from the expressed opinion of the Secretary to the Archaeological Institute, that the field of archaeology is sufficiently wide for the operations of several distinct Societies,—and think it may be reaped in all its extent at the cost and by the joint labours of one general organization. The differences of these two bodies have diminished the public confidence in both. The true sons of science have no vanities of their own; and men cannot obtain the credit of being scientifically in earnest, who make a display of their angry personalities before the world. The quelling of the discordant spirits that had arisen in the Archaeological body politic, and the ultimate re-incorporation of these two severed bodies we have kept steadily in prospect, as the condition of the successful working of either. That the offer of renewed fellowship should come from what in our opinion—right or wrong—was the offending side, was what of course we should have demanded as the necessary first step to a reconciliation. When, therefore, that advance has been cordially made—when the offer to remove all causes of disunion, and re-constitute the Archaeological body as one, has come from the side from which in our opinion it was due, and been rejected by the other,—we should be untrue to the principle on which we espoused the cause of the Institute, and to all the principles which we have urged again and again in reference to the organization and working of the scientific bodies generally—if we did not say that we think the wrong is transferred,—and that the Institute stands responsible to the public for the divided strength, multiplied expenses, and diminished influence of the Archaeological body.

It is not for us to point out the means by which the junction which we desire could best be carried into effect. But in the hope that the spirit of reconciliation may yet triumph, we will give our readers an account of the proceedings which originated in a strong feeling, outside the bodies, that the cause which they both had in hand was hindered by their disunion,—and in an expression of that feeling, to which the Council of the Association at once replied. We will confine ourselves to a mere statement of the facts in their order.

On the 24th of August last—being the concluding day of the Congress of the British Archaeological Association at Manchester,—it was moved by James Crossley, Esq., President of the Chetham Society, seconded by the Rev. Thomas Corser, a Member of the Archaeological Institute, and unanimously resolved:—

“That with a view to the advancement of Archaeological Science and the formation of a Central Museum of British Antiquities, it is desirable to promote a union between the British Archaeological Association and the Archaeological Institute of Great Britain and Ireland, and that this Meeting strongly recommends the Council of the British Archaeological Association to take such steps as to them may seem expedient to accomplish these important objects.”

At the next meeting of the Council of the Association it was—also unanimously—resolved:—

“That the President of the British Archaeological Association be requested to communicate to the President of the British Archaeological Institute, the copy of a Resolution unanimously adopted at a Meeting of the Congress held, &c.,—and to assure the President of the Institute that the Council of the British Archaeological Association will be happy to aid in any way that shall be agreed upon in order to carry into effect the recommendation contained in that Resolution.”

The President of the Association communicated this Resolution to the President of the Institute:

offering his assistance in so good a cause,—and suggesting that it might be desirable to appoint a Committee of three or four of the Institute to meet a similar number of the Association on the subject. Before, however, the President of the Institute had communicated the Resolution to the Central Committee of the body, the Committee replied to a proposition not formally before them, by the following advertisement:—

“The Central Committee of the Institute have considered a Resolution passed at a recent meeting of the British Archaeological Association at Manchester, August 24, in reference to the expediency of promoting a union between the Association and the Institute. The Committee desire to give this public notice that they are ready, as they have always been, to admit Members of the Association desirous of joining the Institute. They have determined accordingly that, in order to offer reasonable encouragement to the Members of the Association, they shall henceforth be eligible without the payment of the customary entrance fee, on the intimation of their wish to the Committee to be proposed for election. Life Members of the Association shall be eligible as Life Members on payment of half the usual composition. All Members of the Association thus elected shall likewise have the privilege of acquiring the previous Publications of the Institute at the price to original Subscribers.”

A part from the irregularity involved,—this advertisement seems to have been considered by the Council of the Association as what Judge Jefferies used to call a “lick with the rough side of the tongue”.—and the Central Committee of the Institute were accused by individual Members of the Association of having met an offer of reconciliation by an attempt to seduce away the Members of the latter. For ourselves, we will say that the advertisement read unpleasantly to us. There seems in it too much of the old personal malice—as if Mr. Way and Mr. Hawkins were replying to Mr. Pettigrew,—not the Committee of one public body to the Council of another. It should be borne in mind, that both bodies are composed of a very large number of Members—many of whom are strangers to the quarrel—and others (and those of name) never understood, and do not care to hear of, the personal dislikes and differences. That the first Resolution of the Committee of the Institute was somewhat of a blunder, we may gather from the second:—which is as follows:—

“That the Committee having taken into consideration the Resolution of the British Archaeological Association passed at their Congress at Manchester, and also that of their Council at the 4th of September, and communicated by the President of the Association to the President of the Institute, are of opinion that the position and prospects of the Institute are such as to render inexpedient any essential qualification of its existing Rules and Management.”

The Committee disclaim all unfriendly feeling towards the Association. They are of opinion that the field of Archaeology is sufficiently wide for the operations of several Societies without discord; but if the members of the Archaeological Association should be disposed to unite with the Institute, the Central Committee will cordially receive them on the terms announced in their Advertisement of September 9th, which was intended to be conciliatory,—feeling assured that such a course cannot fail to meet with the entire approbation of the members of the Institute.

This drew the following rejoinder from the Association:—

“That the Council having, in accordance with a Resolution passed at the late Congress at Manchester, August 24, made overtures to the Archaeological Institute in reference to a union between the two bodies, as being advantageous for the promotion of Archaeological researches, regret to find that the Central Committee of the Institute, by their Resolution of September 23, deem it inexpedient to take any steps calculated to promote so desirable an object.”

That, as it appears by a letter from the President of the Institute, erroneous opinions are entertained with regard to the position and intentions of the Association, a letter, explanatory of the circumstances, be addressed to the Marquis of Northampton, and that the same be printed together with the Proceedings in the forthcoming number of the Journal, for the information of the Members of the Association and of the Institute.

The matter was wound up by the “explanatory” letter to the President of the Institute, which runs as follows:—

“My Lord,—Your Lordship having desired Mr. Heywood to lay your Lordship’s letter before the Council of the British Archaeological Association, I have the honour by the direction of the Council to convey to your Lordship their thanks for the courtesy with which you have communicated the Resolution of the Central Committee of the Archaeological Institute, in reply to that of the Association, forwarded by Mr. Heywood to your Lordship.”

At the same time they feel it their duty to call your Lordship’s attention to certain points of your Lordship’s letter, from which it appears to them you are labouring

under an erroneous impression respecting the position and intentions of the Association.

“With the letter published by Mr. Wright, the Council beg to observe they have nothing to do. They decline being considered in any way responsible for the taste or spirit of the composition of any individual member of the Society, and as your Lordship, equally with the Central Committee, has declared that the Advertisement of the 9th of September last was intended to be conciliatory, the Council have much pleasure in receiving that acknowledgment.”

“But your Lordship does not seem to be aware that the Resolution passed at Manchester, which gave rise to that Advertisement, did not originate with the Association, but with Gentlemen entirely unconnected with it, encouraged by the frequently expressed desire of many eminent members of the Institute itself, (one of whom was actually the seconder of the Resolution,) and in belief that a junction was earnestly desired by a large majority of that body.”

“With such an understanding, therefore, the members of the Association present at the Congress agreed that the motion of Mr. Crossley and the Rev. Mr. Corser should be carried unanimously, in order that no difficulty whatever should be thrown in the way of healing the unhappy differences which had so long existed between the Societies, or it might more justly be said, between certain members of them.”

“It must surely have been obvious to every one, that such a desirable consummation was only to be arrived at by the dissolution of both Societies; and their re-establishment as one and the same body under the original or an entirely new title. In fact, as if no separation had ever taken place; not by the mere admission of Members of the Association into the Institute, or the entire sacrifice of one body to aggrandize the other.”

“The Council request your Lordship distinctly to understand, that they foresaw from the first the inferences which would be drawn from this proposition for a union, and therefore would have respectfully declined taking the initiative, had they not felt the Association was strong enough to do so. When, therefore, your Lordship hints at the probable dissolution of the Association, it appears to the Council that the consciousness of power and progress which justified them in offering an alliance, has been misinterpreted as they anticipated, and considered an acknowledgment of weakness, which compelled surrender. It is in no boastful spirit, therefore, but simply with the desire to set your Lordship perfectly right on that point, that the Council beg me to inform your Lordship, that the Association was never in less danger of dissolution than at the present moment; that the increase of members during the past year has exceeded that of any former year, and includes several valuable members of the Institute; that it numbers eighty-two Fellows of the Society of Antiquaries, and what is perhaps the strongest guarantee of its success and stability, that it has no debt it cannot discharge; a fact as honourable to its management as it is encouraging to its supporters.”

“Under such circumstances it would be, as far as pecuniary interests are concerned, as inexpedient for the Association to change its existing regulations as for the Institute, and nothing but the laudable desire to be the first to forget and forgive, could have induced the Council to have listened for a moment to the recommendation urged upon them.”

“Reciprocating the hope your Lordship expresses, in conclusion, that at all events a friendly feeling will be established between the two Societies, &c.”

“I have, &c.”

“J. R. PLANCHÉ, Hon. Sec.”

Thus stands the matter:—and what is to be done? The Marquis of Northampton, as President of the Institute, objects by letter to any proposal of a junction of committees,—and prefers what he calls the simple plan of fusion to that of union—but what, in fact, is neither more nor less than a dissolution of the one body and its incorporation into the other.—Mr. Heywood, the President of the Association, is willing to concede much to what may be called the punctilio of the Institute! He is willing that the united Societies should bear the name of the Institute,—and that the next Congress should be held at Bristol, the proposed place of meeting of the Institute. We must repeat, that it is the Association which has the right attitude in this matter. The feelings of individuals on both sides must be made to give way to what is for the good of Archaeology. Who sits at the Council is a secondary point,—to which the interests of science are not to be postponed. It would be idle to conceal the fact that while the great point of union is still unsettled—both the Societies are suffering.—Archæology itself is suffering. The Institute has lost, and is losing, some of its best members:—so with the Association. Both Societies may rest assured that by the time when the Bristol Meeting is to take place, both parties must be prepared for a great change. The committee of the Institute, as at present constituted, will of itself do nothing of moment to further the proffered union. The Association, with all its willingness, and impaired as it has been by recent withdrawals (that of Mr. Roach



Smith especially)—is somewhat crippled in its influence. What, we again ask, is to be done? Much, by the members themselves:—something perhaps by Lord Mahon and the Society of Antiquaries. Lord Mahon belongs to neither “house,”—and by his influence, tact and conciliatory temper might bring again together the too long divided original Association. A reconciliation of this kind would be worthy of the President of the Society of Antiquaries:—nay more, it would be a prudent step on the part of the parent Society,—for, truth to tell, the old lady at Somerset House is a little too ponderous and dear to rival livelier and cheaper Societies which have separated rather than emanated from her. The matron of the Strand will not walk fast enough for the peripatetic children who have set up on their own account,—and may chance to be forgotten, in spite of her hot coffee and silver-gilt mace, if she do not take this excellent opportunity of connecting herself with them by assisting in the re-ordering of “both their houses,” and thus assuming to stand “*in loco parentis*” to the new union.

## LITERARY PIRACY.

As your columns have always given ready admission to statements of injury inflicted on literary property, will you allow me to bring the following instance before your readers:—not on my account only, but for the sake of other writers who may ere long, perhaps, suffer as I have suffered.

Several years ago, I published a work entitled ‘London in the Olden Time,’ in two octavo volumes. This work subsequently became out of print. I have been frequently urged by my friends to republish it:—and was, on the point of making arrangements for that purpose, when I was surprised, at the beginning of this month, to see advertised ‘London in the Olden Time,’ forming the sixtieth volume of the Tract Society’s Monthly Series. On obtaining the book, I found it was a small publication, of the price of sixpence,—and giving, as it states, “sketches of the great metropolis from its origin to the end of the sixteenth century.” Certainly there is nothing in the book belonging to me, except the title; but the appropriation of this, your readers must perceive constitutes a wrong.

I wrote to the secretary of the Society;—and have received a reply from the author of this new ‘London in the Olden Time,’ in which he very coolly states that he is wholly unacquainted with my work,—that he understands mine consists of tales, whilst his is history,—and that for neither the title nor the contents is he indebted to me:—adding, that he hopes this explanation will satisfy me.—Truly the gentleman’s estimate of satisfaction for an injury is somewhat peculiar.

As appeal to courtesy was vain, I inquired as to the chances of legal redress:—but from the wording of the Copyright Act, it appears doubtful whether the taking of a title *only* would be viewed as legal piracy. Had any one of the tales been taken—or even a few pages—the remedy would have been clear; but for seizing the title—a far more important part, small as it is—there seems little chance of any other redress than what honourable feeling might afford me.

I have been anxious to bring this subject before your readers; since, if it shall be found to be the case that titles of books are unprotected, it is important that writers should be aware of that fact,—and endeavour to obtain such alteration in the act as may prevent their being subjected to such annoyance and injury as have been inflicted on

THE ORIGINAL AUTHOR OF ‘LONDON  
IN THE OLDEN TIME.’

## REMAINS OF JAMES THE SECOND.

A correspondent (L. B.) in a recent number of the *Athenæum* (ante, p. 1051,) referring to some interesting articles in *Notes and Queries* on the subject of James the Second’s remains, asks for further information,—and regrets that when at St. Germain he did not copy the inscription on the king’s tomb. During a short residence in France some time since, I purposely visited St. Germain to make inquiries on this subject, and I copied the inscription on the monument,—which I subjoin.

Amidst many conflicting accounts which we have of this matter, I am inclined to believe that the facts which I here record are substantially correct. The body of James the Second, which had been kept unburied until the first French Revolution in the Church of the English Benedictine Monastery in Paris, was exhibited about the year 1794, and money was received for admission to see it. It was not until 1824 that the body, or the greater portion of it, was conveyed to St. Germain, and buried with great pomp and solemnity in the parish church,—most of the English then in Paris or the neighbourhood joining in the funeral procession.

The intestines of the king were given soon after his death to the Irish College in Paris; where also his body lay after the destruction of the Church of the Benedictines, and before its final interment at St. Germain. The brain of the king was given to the Scotch College in Paris, and the heart to the Convent at Chaillot. In the Chapel of the Scotch College in Paris, which I visited in the further pursuit of my inquiries, are many curious monuments; and among them one, with a long Latin inscription, erected in 1703 by James Duke of Perth, to the memory of James the Second. An urn once stood over the monument, containing the king’s brain,—but this was destroyed at the period of the Revolution. Near this is a slab covering the heart of his queen, and another the intestines of his daughter Louisa.

The monument at St. Germain is of white and grey marble, and bears the following inscription.—It was erected by order of George the Fourth.—

“Regio cineri Pietas Regia.

Ferale quisquis hoc monumentum suspicis

Rerum humanarum vices meditare

Magnus in prosperis in adversis major

Jacobus 2. Anglorum Rex

Insignes urumnas dolendaque nimium fata

Pio placidoque obitu exsolvit

in hac urbe

Die 16, Septemb. Anni 1701.

Et nobilitores quædam corporis ejus partes

Hic reconditæ asservantur.

Qui prius augustâ gestabat fronte coronam

Exiguâ nunc pulvere repositus in urnâ

Quid solum—quid et alta juvant! terit omnia letum

Verum laus fidei ac morum laud peritura manebit

Tu quoque summe Deus regem quem regius hospes

Infaustum excepit tecum regnare jubebis.”

I am, &c., J. REYNELL WRE福德, D.D.

Bristol.

## FOREIGN CORRESPONDENCE.

## All Souls Day.

Munich, Nov. 1.

THIS is All Souls Day. The principal Cemetery is illuminated and decorated with flowers, garlands, and various devices,—and all Munich goes out to see it. We had heard about this grand day for weeks, and therefore were rather curious about it. We set off at two o’clock, and on our way through the *Türken Strasse*, met King Ludwig walking alone. Spite of all the old king’s failings, my heart yearns to him as the generous and noble patron of Art; and as such I made him a low reverence as he passed, and received in return a gracious smile and bow. A little farther on, driving across the *Maximilian Platz*, we met the other king and his brother King Otho. They were in a gay carriage with outriders in blue, and their two queens were with them. They had been to the Cemetery.

The Cemetery lies outside the *Sendlinger Thor*,—the old and new *Gottes-Acker* lying close together. Tribes of people were streaming in the direction of the cemeteries, and all wore a holiday look. The whole day had been a holiday; mass had been performed in the churches, and the shops were closed. On the open space before the ruinous old *Sendlinger Gate* were a number of stalls, on which were displayed wreaths of moss and ivy, and crosses covered with moss and ivy, and initial letters also formed of the same material. As we approached the burial ground these stalls increased in number,—on which also crucifixes were offered for sale,—and the crowd of people became quite dense; almost every peasant and burgher of the lower class having crucifixes in their hands. There was a regular crush to get into the burial ground. A row of frightful and diseased beggars—the halt, the blind,

and the lame—men, women, and children—stood before the little church craving alms.

A little further on, we had space to observe that every grave in this densely-filled churchyard was decked out in festal array. What a singular impression it made to see these gay-looking graves and the gay crowd of living people, and then to picture the equally dense crowd of the calm dead lying beneath these flowers and these busy feet! To me there was a frightful contrast between this life and this death.

There was no expression of sorrow or of reverence in the faces of the living—mere curiosity. Numbers of blue glass lamps were suspended from the crosses and monuments. There were wreaths, garlands, and festoons of moss, ivy, and everlasting; some of tawdry pink and blue artificial flowers, which were frightful. But on the whole the decorations were very tasteful,—some of them lovely. For instance, a grey marble basin for holy water placed at the foot of a grave would be wreathed round with myrtle and rose-buds—*real*, not artificial; while the grave would be covered with greenhouse plants in full bloom,—or the soil perhaps raked smoothly till it resembled fine black sand, so that on this black ground a mosaic of scarlet mountain-ash berries, the white waxen berries of the snow-berry, and leaves and flowers in the form of crosses, initials, and various devices would be worked, and the tall, elegantly-formed stone or iron cross at its head would be festooned with moss and ivy wreaths. On some of the graves a kind of moveable garden was placed:—a large wooden tray covered with mould, into which were stuck leaves and flowers in patterns. Cress, or some little seedling of that kind, had also frequently been sown and sprung up in patterns, in letters, or in words, variegated also with coloured sands—blue, red, and white. It can scarcely be imagined how very ingenious these little gardens were; curious though, rather than pretty,—somewhat like very neat children’s gardens. Every grave had its lamps or candles, and each its attendant,—an old man or woman, who sat beside the cross muttering prayers with rosary in hand. These attendants all seemed to be old. I noticed one or two very old people,—one man with a white beard who trembled all over with age and cold.

The Old Cemetery is of considerable extent, and is quite filled with graves. A sort of cloister runs round it, beneath which were also monuments,—and of course, therefore, more flowers, and garlands, and lamps, and attendants. We now passed with the crowd into the New Cemetery. It also is inclosed by a cloister,—not, however, like the other, whitewashed, but built of rich, warm brick, a yellow brown, with red bricks introduced so as to produce a fine effect. This beautiful cloister, with its numberless round arches, is very striking;—quite grand, indeed, in its simplicity. As yet there are but few graves in the inclosure. On one side, as the cloister is entered, is the monument of Gärtner, the architect of the *Sieges-Thor*,—and a little further on is that of Professor von Walter. On the other side of the entrance, close by the door-way, is a grey marble monument, with a bust in white marble placed on it,—an ugly, ungraceful monument. A tall American cedar is planted on either side:—a number of garlands of myrtle and bay lay at its feet. It was Schwanthaler’s monument!—Had we only known that he slept there, I would have taken the loveliest garland I could have found in Munich, as a little tribute of respect and admiration to his genius. I was pleased to see the interest and respect evinced by the crowd collected round this monument. “Yes, Schwanthaler! the great Schwanthaler!” I heard people say. I cannot conceive why King Ludwig, who erected this monument, could permit anything so commonplace,—nay, unsightly,—to be connected with Schwanthaler’s name and memory.

On our way home we noticed a crowd of people in the *Maximilian Platz*,—a crowd of eager people, who, with breathless interest, were watching a man mounted on a heavy ladder, or rather flight of wooden steps. He was lighting a lamp: for to-night Munich was to be illuminated,—the lamp-illumination having been deferred from the opening of the *Sieges-Thor* till to-night. At the foot



of the lamp-post stood a grave, pompous man, in a buff-coloured quilted coat, trimmed with black bear's skin, holding in one hand a long pole, at the end of which burned a feeble flame, inclosed in perforated tin, and in his other, a little box containing a red mixture, which he stirred up from time to time with a piece of stick, his demeanour being that of a person engaged on solemn and important duties. When, suddenly, three little flames darted up from the gas-burner, there was a perfect scream of delight from the gazing crowd; below, Gas was to burn that night in the streets of Munich. There was indeed a jubilation! I smile as I contrast in my mind that huge flight of steps, and those two pompous, solemn officers with a brisk London lamplighter. In Munich the phrase ought to be *as slow*, not *as brisk* as a lamplighter. When the lamp was lighted, the heavy ladder and the heavy men moved off, the buff coat and bear-skin growling "*Platz! platz!*" to the wondering crowd. At the corner of the Amalien Strasse we met other lamplighters, two of whom carried the ladder and a third the light. It was, indeed, an important and formidable business; this gas-lamp illumination.—Looking out of my window as I write, I beheld a feeble brilliancy in the streets, and all the world out enjoying it. H.

#### OUR WEEKLY GOSSIP

Our readers know how often we have pointed out the pressing urgency which exists for the establishment of some form of provision for the literary man, established on more intelligible principles and clearer responsibilities than the Literary Fund, and available to the unfortunate of that class who are strangely excluded from the benefits of the Fund in question by the present interpretation of its statutes. Some such institution on a broad scale, which might be partly self-supporting and partly endowed, would probably develop itself out of any good beginning earnestly made; and we have, therefore, heard with great satisfaction of a magnificent offer made by Sir Edward Lytton Bulwer at the close of some dramatic entertainments which he has been giving at Knebworth, the performers consisting of the company of amateurs who usually play under the managerial direction of Mr. Dickens. Sir Edward proposes to write a play, to be acted by that company at various places in the United Kingdom; the proceeds to form the germ of a fund for a certain number of houses to be further endowed for literary men and artists, and the play itself, if we understand rightly, to be afterwards disposed of for the added benefit of the fund. Sir Edward will likewise give in fee ground on his estate in Herts. for the erection of such Asylum, Rest, Retreat, or whatever else it may be determined to call the residences in question. The actors—to whom a conspicuous share in this good work will be due—hope, we understand, to take the field in the spring of next year.—Here is the first step, which we have so long desired to see taken; and as one quality of liberality is its infectiousness, and one move suggests another, we will hope that out of this beginning will grow a shelter for the failing literary mind proportioned to the wants of the class and to its more than common claims on society.

The daily papers announce the death, at Lilles, on the 26th inst., of George Nugent Grenville, Lord Nugent,—long familiarly known in the separate worlds of politics and literature. As member for Aylesbury and as Lord High Commissioner we have nothing to do with Lord Nugent. We are to view him as an author,—as one whose pride it was to be connected with literature,—and who was especially fond of the company of literary men. His "*Legends of the Library at Lilles*" will do but little to perpetuate his name, even as a "noble author"; but we are much mistaken if his "*Life of John Hampden*" will not stand higher with posterity than it has stood with the author's contemporaries. There was much to keep it down. It was looked on by many as a violent party pamphlet, in two octavo volumes,—a red-hot radical publication; and not even the imprimatur of Albemarle Street could protect it from the claws of the *Quarterly Review*. The notice in the *Quarterly*, as

many of our readers will remember, was written by Mr. Southey and occasioned a rejoinder from Lord Nugent in a letter to the late Mr. Murray, to which Southey, after a time, replied in another letter touching Lord Nugent. Both these letters are of importance to the true understanding of Hampden and his times; and whenever Lord Nugent's book shall be reprinted—as assuredly it will be, for it is now very scarce—the two letters will, we trust, be appended to it.—Lord Nugent was born on the 31st of December 1739, and was therefore, in his sixty-first year. He married a daughter of the Earl Poulett, but has left no issue. In private life he was accessible and affectionate; and his conversation was full of anecdote derived from both books and men.

We have received on the subject of Mr. James Bailey, to whose recently granted pension we alluded a fortnight since—from a correspondent who dates Trinity College, Cambridge, a letter almost as angry as that of our correspondent of last week,—but a great deal more creditable in its terms. Our present correspondent's "*fact*," however, is entirely different from the unvouched "*fact*," of "*An old Subscriber*," and we believe we can show that his anger at least is bestowed on wrong grounds. Our correspondent "*J. T.*" remonstrates in the name of a large body of Cambridge friends against our affectation of ignorance that the party pensioned is the author of "*Festus*," and against that denial of his claims which—referring to our view of that poem—our correspondent considers lays us open to the charge of discrediting what he is pleased to name "our own oracle." We believe we can assure "*J. T.*" that we have not been called on to offer any opinion as to the claim of the author of "*Festus*—whose name is "*Philip James*,"—to a place on the pension list. Meantime, some of our contemporaries seem to share our ignorance as to the real party in whose favour the national bounty has on this occasion been exercised. The *Leader* of last week beats about in search of the party, and repeats our inquiry, as if it also shared our opinion that the literary organs of the public have a perfect right to make it. The letter of "*J. T.*" too, proves that he and his Cambridge friends for lack of the true scent are led to hunt in a wrong direction.—As we have already said, when we shall know *who* the Mr. Bailey in question is, and that his literary service is sufficient, we will be quite ready—and indeed, desirous—to recognize his claims. But we decline to accept the statements as to matters of fact of a gentleman (we allude to our former correspondent—who has written again, and more offensively than before) who refuses to give us the means of testing his authority to make them, and whose evidences of temper do not raise an inference favourable to his correctness. If we knew that his communications might be relied on as the explanation of this matter, we might, in the interest of literature and of truth, be induced to overlook the unbecoming manner in which they are conveyed. Probably he may feel some shame now when he perceives that "*J. T.*" in support of his conviction has the same right to be offensive as himself—and that had such been his taste, as they cannot both be right, one of them must have been offensive in maintenance of the wrong. He may probably be able to gather, too, from this fact of a "*fact*" against his "*fact*," an insight into the propriety of an editor requiring guarantees for "*facts*," communicated—even where his correspondents happen to be gentlemen of temper, and seem, like himself, to have no other object in view than the service of the truth.

It is stated, as our readers have already been partly told, that the Chapter of St. Paul's are willing to enter into terms with the City authorities for a general reform of abuses in relation to our great national cathedral. They propose, it is said, to abolish the unbecoming charge for entrance at the door, and to remove the iron palisades, and throw open the entire space up to the doors, as in the case of Notre Dame in Paris,—on condition that the Corporation undertakes to widen and improve the approaches.—We confess we should greatly like to see such a compromise carried out. On the north side especially, the edifice requires a larger space of underlying ground; and at the

north-east end of the churchyard a great improvement might be effected at a very slight cost by throwing down a few houses and continuing the line of St. Martin's Lane to the nave of the Cathedral. This slight change in the existing state of things would enable the thousands who daily pass along Cheapside to gain a complete view of the noble pile, instead of seeing only a small section of it through a chink,—to slight advantage, considering the power possessed by the great monuments of art as educating and traffic-simplifying agents,—and would open up a new and powerful stream of ventilation. It would be also a gain to get a point of view from which two of our great public establishments—the Cathedral and the Post Office—could be seen at the same time. This improvement might be effected in a few weeks;—certainly before the Exhibition opens, and our invited guests from Europe and America are at our doors.

The questions submitted to the chiefs of the University by the new Commission argue well for the usefulness of the inquiry now going on. A great—if not indeed the chief evil at Oxford is, that it is not so much a university in the sense in which that term is understood abroad, as an aggregation of colleges or small independent corporations. What powers, resources and jurisdictions the University, as such, possesses, is a point involved in great obscurity; but the Commission appears disposed to bring out this information very prominently, as a key to the after measures of reform which must be taken. The vice-chancellor, the librarians, and the proctors are invited to furnish full answers to queries on the subject. The heads of halls and colleges are requested to give evidence on the possibility of diminishing the ordinary expenses of a university education,—on the sufficiency or otherwise of their power to enforce discipline,—on the effects of the present system of private tuition,—on the practicability of combining the professional and tutorial duties,—and, most important of all, on "the means of extending the benefits of the university to a larger number of students, by the establishment of new halls, by permitting undergraduates to lodge in private houses more generally than at present, by allowing students to become members of the university and to be educated at Oxford under the superintendence but without subjecting them to the expenses incident to connexion with a hall or college." These are the more material points on which information more or less full may now be expected by the public. There are many others still to reserve, on which the people of this country are anxious to have some light thrown.—Such as, the course of study,—the competency of the judges of merit in those more useful branches of literature and science against which the Oxford spirit has always been set, openly or secretly,—the great subject of modern tests and oaths, not only as they relate to the case of dissenters, but as they stand in relation to the existing charters of the colleges. An inquiry which ignores these topics, however useful and valuable so far as it goes, will not meet with that favourable reception from the public which may be desired. We do not suppose that these things will not be inquired into and reported: but it does not yet appear that any steps have been taken to procure the information necessary for their thorough elucidation.

A week or two since, the foundation stone of King Edward's Ragged and Industrial Schools was laid. Into the intended building a new and important feature is to be introduced in the shape of a dormitory for about forty of the most destitute of the children. As the scholars are to be taught some kinds of work, as well as reading and writing, the King Edward's School in Spitalfields becomes almost a copy, so far as the forty sleepers are concerned, of the House of Occupation in St. George's Fields:—an institution chiefly filled with the children of crime sent from the City Bridewell. The experiment is, therefore, notable as an attempt to draw somewhat nearer the treatment of children before and after the legal offence is committed. Hitherto, nothing less than a positive crime and a term of imprisonment in the City Bridewell could open to the friendless urchin the doors of the comfortable



asylum in St. George's Fields,—or introduce him to similar treatment elsewhere. Fox's Court was an exception, perhaps, such as it was,—but it was confined to some half-dozen inmates. The Spitalfields school will be able to meet some part of the large demands of suffering and destitution in that over-crowded district. Our readers of the West End who may be anxious to invest the overflowings of their fortune in these charities, which bring present comforts and promise future blessings to the giver and to society, may be reminded that the cost of the projected school is about 3,500*l.*, and that as yet the proceeds of benevolence reach to little more than 1,500*l.*

The ancient dormitory attached to the great monastery of Durham,—with the exception of Westminster Hall said to be the largest in England,—is about to be put into a state of thorough repair, and used as a library and museum. About 1,500*l.* have been already spent on its restoration; and the Bishop has now contributed 500*l.*, and the general chapter 1,000*l.* towards its completion. In nearly every old town in the north of England there is some fine old building in a state of decay, which a comparatively small outlay would suffice to restore, so as at once to provide ample and noble homes for the libraries and museums springing up, or ready to spring up with a little agitation and encouragement. We would point to the old hall at Gainsborough as a signal instance of this kind of restoration. A few years ago a heap of ruins, fast declining into mere rubbish,—it is now one of the most picturesque and commodious Mechanics' Institutes in the country,—an ornament to the town, and an imposing witness of its historic renown. The vicar of Gainsborough and his colleagues have gone about their work in the right spirit; grafting modern ideas on old foundations, and turning the vestiges of ancient glory into means of present usefulness and beauty. This is the true way to restore the past—morally and architecturally.

The *Glasgow Mail* states, as it says on authority, that Mr. Macaulay declines the injurious office of choosing between Lord Palmerston and Mr. Alison for his successor as Lord Rector to the university of that city. The nomination falls in this case, on Colonel Mure; but as he is absent in Italy, the final vote cannot be tendered for some time. The *Mail* conjectures, that there cannot be a doubt, the absent Scotchman will nominate his own countryman to the vacant office.

The evidence at length received of Sir John Franklin, having actually penetrated into the region of "thick-ribbed ice," seems to have acted as an incentive to renewed vigour. The North Star, which recently returned from Wolstenholme Sound in a state of excellent repair, is, we hear, to be re-commissioned forthwith and sent out to Behring's Straits to relieve the Plover. Former applicants for employment on Arctic service will now have an opportunity of re-asserting their claims. Much will depend on the selection of a well-qualified commanding officer;—and the Admiralty, profiting by recent experience, will no doubt act with judgment and impartiality in this very delicate matter. In the American papers we observe a long communication from Mr. Kane, one of the officers engaged in the transatlantic Arctic Expedition. Mr. Kane writes from the southern side of Lancaster Sound, between Cape Crawford and Cape York; his letter is dated August 21. He states that the crews of both the American vessels were in good health and spirits. The rest of his letter, though interesting in itself, is only an expansion of facts already known to our readers.

The magnificent schemes of irrigation now in progress in the north-west provinces of Hindustan and in the Madras presidency are attracting the attention of statesmen and of public writers at Bombay. These are awakening to the fact that the deltas of the Indus and the Taptæ are little, if at all, inferior to those of the Nile and the Ganges. At present, those rich lands are lying barren—ministering to no want, warding off no foe—for mere need of that water which is ever flowing past them in such majestic volumes to the ocean. The mighty streams are here—the great wastes are there; if the two elements could be brought together, it

seems probable that ere ten years this rich but parched alluvial soil would yield as much produce as would pay the entire outlay required in the first instance. The following statements on this point are made on the authority of an able writer in the *Bombay Times*.—

The unfertilized portion of the delta of the Indus is as nearly as possible identical in all its characteristics with that of the Nile beyond the limit of the inundation; both to the casual observer present the appearance of a hard barren bed of clay—when more minutely examined both turn out to be the rich alluvia of the primary rocks of the distant mountains mingled with the detritus of the soft tertiary limestones which wall in the basins of both rivers; both are identical with those more favoured portions of the delta, rendered fertile by the overflow of the stream; and both are capable of being made, by the application of water, equal in productiveness to the most fertile of the lands which they adjoin. So it is with the Taptæ. From Demand by the sea far beyond Surat; and so southward, towards Bombay, we have a vast tract of alluvial land—if less barren than the desert of lower Sindh, mainly indebted to the rains for what fertility it possesses—for the greater part of the year yielding nothing. The Court of Directors might with perfect safety guarantee 10 or 20 per cent. on money expended on enterprises undertaken for the cultivation of such lands as these; without the smallest fear of being called on for a stilling after the work was once well begun; and with the perfect certainty that whatever they might at the outset advance would be paid back in full as soon as returns began to come in, and returned ultimately an hundred fold in the shape of the improved productiveness of the country. In both these cases Providence has provided with means of conveyance for the produce it only requires the industry of man to bring into existence. Along the margins or through the centre of their promising lands reproaching us as the authors of their barrenness sweep the waters of the ocean on those of navigable rivers, and the boat or buggalow could at once receive its freight from the fields whereon it grew.

It is to be hoped that the system of irrigation so lately introduced into that country may be extended in every direction. As drainage in our own moist climate, so water, water is everywhere the want in our eastern empire. The Affghans have great borings beneath the soil, into which they collect the rain from the high lands to preserve the water against the sun's heat. But it seems probable that the Dutch canal would answer the purpose better—with the rivers as the sources of supply, instead of the hills.

The Academy of Inscriptions and Belles Lettres has filled up the vacancy occasioned, nearly a year since, in its body by the death of M. Quatremère de Quincy,—electing, after a long contest with two rival candidates, M. Wailon, the author of a work on Slavery in Ancient Times.

We are informed, on good authority, that the statement which we took last week from the Continental papers relative to the honours conferred on Professor Oersted is incorrect in several particulars. It is not fifty years since Oersted entered the University as Professor:—it is that time since he entered it as an assistant in chemistry. Oersted was born in August 1777, and is consequently now 73 years of age, not 80. The grand cross of the Order of Danneberg, which the Professor wears, he received several years ago, not on this recent occasion. The ring presented by the University bears the Professor's image surrounded by diamonds,—and was in substitution of the customary Minerva ring, which he received many years ago when he was created Doctor of Philosophy. And finally, it was not from his fellow citizens, but from the King of Denmark, that he received the use during life of the Villa of Fasansgarden, in the royal domain of Fredericksberg,—the same having been recently occupied, under a similar deed of regal gift, by Prof. Oersted's great friend and kinsman, the late Prof. Oehlenschläger.

We have been watching with interest for the issue of the Fugitive Slave Bill, recently enacted in the United States:—and have been amused and instructed by the reports brought over by the last mail of the first attempt at its application in Boston. That the Puritans of New England would assist in outraging humanity by giving back to slavery the man or woman who had fled to them for protection, we had no suspicion; but we feared—as did most persons living at a distance—that Government would be compelled to execute the law, and that collisions, ending in confusion, bloodshed, and unappeasable exasperation between the north and the south, would ensue. The slave-hunters have, however, been foiled with their own weapons:—and

the history of the "doublings" which they have had to encounter gives a dignity to the incidents of farce.—Knight and Hughes—men of a race peculiar to America, who buy runaway slaves as certain speculators in England buy bad debts, at low prices, undertaking the risk and costs of recovery—appeared in Boston in chains of a man named Crafts and his wife, alleged to be fugitive slaves. As the new law compels the State to give them up,—a Vigilance Society, established for the protection of persons so circumstanced, had a plan of action to defeat the body-discounters. First, they advised Crafts and his wife to fight it out,—procuring the assistance of two or three hundred free blacks in case of necessity. A number of lawyers in the city, however, helped them to improve on this plan—and take a more pacific course. They undertook to bring the new law into successful conflict with older laws. Crafts was desired to remove his bed into his workshop, so as to disintegrate that his "castle," and notice was served on the local commissioner appointed to adjudicate under the bill, that his attempt to do so in this case would be followed by process against himself on the ground of an "unconstitutional appointment." The marshal received notice that if he broke open the door of Crafts' "castle," for the purpose of arresting him, he would be prosecuted against on the ground that the process was of a civil, not a criminal, nature. These combustibles duly laid,—the train was next conducted by a variety of lines against the southern hunters themselves. Early on the morning of their arrival, they were served with notice of an action for slander at the suit of Crafts, and obliged to find bail to appear in defence. Later on the same day, that first difficulty having been got over, they were served with a similar notice at the suit of his wife; and again had to run about in search of bail,—rendered more difficult by the now increasing feeling of the public. Thus passed the first day:—the interest of the game deepening with every move. Next morning the sport was early up. A crowd of persons gathered in the street,—and when the gig of the slave-chasers came out, they had reason to be dissatisfied with the warmth of their reception. To escape annoyance, they drove rapidly across one of the bridges leading into the suburb of Cambridge,—forgetting in their hurry to pay the toll. At night they shrank back to their hotel; and were beginning to cool themselves in its shelter, when an officer entered with a summons to them to answer a charge of evading the toll. He was followed by another, with a summons to meet a complaint of furious driving. By this time the town had entered thoroughly into the fun,—and the negroes began to feel confidence that the lawyers would win the game. Our hunters grew cautious; as they thought; and as their gig had brought them many disasters, next day they waived its dignity,—and, lighting their cigars, sauntered arm-in-arm to the police court, to answer the charges against them and pay their fines. On their way they were met by a policeman, who took them into custody for smoking in the streets, contrary to the City Regulations,—and carried them before the mayor. That dignitary detained them some hours,—and then inflicted the largest fine which the law allowed. Leaving the court to return to dinner, the unhappy men abused the mayor, the city regulations, and the good folks of Boston with plentiful oaths,—greatly to the amusement of a long train of followers, black and white, ragged and respectable, who waited on their progress. The evils of the day were not over. While drinking hot punch and speculating on the wisdom of retreat, an officer of police served them with a summons to answer, next morning, a charge of profane swearing in the public streets. This "broke the camel's back." The profits on their venture were already gone in fines and costs. So, they packed up their luggage; and the night train carried them across the borders of New England. Crafts and his wife being left in the undisputed sovereignty of their "castle." Out of an incident that threatened to end tragically the demure Bostonians have extracted, as we have said, a bit of excellent farce. The disappearance of the "first and second villains" brought the drama to a premature conclusion:—had they survived



these last two summonses, the lawyers would have raised several questions got up to give the law a previous possession of the slave himself,—prosecutions for debt, for having arms in his house, and so forth,—to raise, in fact, the point of precedence on behalf of the State criminal law against the law of delivery and extradition, and to exhaust the patience and purse of the slave-hunters. Whether or not such an experiment, if commonly followed, could be made to take out the sting from the Fugitive Slave Bill,—it is clear that it would destroy the abominable system of middlemen—ruin the speculators in run-away slaves. The incidents narrated are a new proof that no law can be executed against which the moral sense of the community is thoroughly aroused:—and altogether the affair affords another curious illustration of American life and manners.

**EXHIBITION OF MODERN BRITISH ART.**—This Exhibition is NOW OPEN at the gallery of the Old Water Colour Society, No. 5, Pall Mall East.—Open from Ten till dusk.—Admission, 1s. Catalogue, 6d.

—SAMUEL STEPNEX, Sec.

**EGYPT, NUBIA, and ETHIOPIA.**—The GREAT MOVING PANORAMA of the NILE displays the scenery of these interesting countries, and the manners and customs of their inhabitants, presenting to the spectator the River and the Desert, the Pyramids and the Sphinx, the grandest Ruins of Antiquity, and the most exciting objects that allure the traveller.—**EGYPTIAN HALL, PICCADILLY.**—Daily, at Three and Eight.—Admission reduced to 6d.; Pit, 1s.; Stalls, 2s.

**INDIA OVERLAND MAIL.—DIORAMA.—GALLERY OF ILLUSTRATION, 14, Regent-street, Waterloo-place.**—A Gigantic MOVING DIORAMA of the ROUTE of the OVERLAND MAIL to INDIA, exhibiting the following places, viz. Southampton Docks, Isle of Wight, Osborne, the Needles, the Bay of Biscay, the Berlugs, Guitra, the Tagus, Cape Trafalgar, Tarifa, Gibraltar, Algiers, Malta, Alexandria, Cairo, the Desert of Suez, the Central Station, Suez, the Red Sea, Aden, Ceylon, Madras, and Calcutta—is now OPEN DAILY.—Mornings at Twelve, Afternoons at Three, and Evenings at Eight.—Admission, 1s.; Stalls, 2s. 6d.; Reserved Seats, 3s. Doors open half an hour before each representation.

The **PORTLAND GALLERY, 30, Regent Street, Lancham Place**, opposite the Polytechnic Institution, will OPEN on MONDAY, the 9th of DECEMBER, 1850, with a GRAND MOVING DIORAMA, in which the spectator is taken through Upper India, from the point at which the Diorama of the Overland Route terminates, commencing with a complete Panorama of the City of Calcutta as seen from the summit of the Ochertoddy Monument, thence to the great seat of idolatry and superstition, Juggernaut, with the Procession of the Cars, the Ghanges, the Sacred City of Benares, Chunar, and Allahabad, the Magnificent Palace of Agra, and the Taj Mahal. The entire Diorama invented and painted by Mr. T. G. Dwyer, from Sketches by J. P. Pearson, Esq., made on the spot during his residence in India.—Doors to Open at Half-past Two and Half-past Seven P.M.—The Overtures to commence at Three and Eight P.M.—Admission, 1s. Reserved seats, 2s. 6d.

The **ROMAN PAVEMENT** representing BELLEPHRON and the CHIMERA.—This splendid specimen of ancient art, which has excited the admiration of every person who has visited the Exhibition, and is about being disposed of by sale, will remain on view only a few days longer, at No. 11, Pall Mall, East.—Open from Ten till Five, Admission 1s.

#### ROYAL POLYTECHNIC INSTITUTION.

**LECTURE ON THE BALLAD MUSIC OF ENGLAND**, by Mr. George Barker, illustrated by the LAWS of the FORESTERS or SONGS of ROBIN HOOD, every Evening (except Saturday), at Eight o'clock.—**LECTURE ON THE HYDRO-ELECTRIC MACHINE**, by Dr. Bechhofer.—**LECTURE ON CHEMISTRY**, by J. H. Pepper, Esq., illustrating the ANCIENT FIERY ORDEAL and the HANDLING OF RED-HOT METALS.—**MODEL OF WESTON'S PATENT NOVA-MOTIVE RAILWAY**, at work daily.—**DISSOLVING VIEWS**, illustrating some of the WONDERS of NATURE, daily at Half-past Four, and in the Evenings at a Quarter to Ten, also being exhibited SCENES in the ARCTIC REGIONS and CEYLON, daily at One o'clock.—**DIVER and DIVING BELLS**, &c. &c.—Admission, 1s.; Schools, Half-price.—Open daily from Eleven till Five o'clock, and every Evening (EXCEPT SATURDAY) from Seven till Half-past Ten.

#### SCIENTIFIC

##### SOCIETIES.

**GEOLOGICAL.**—Sir C. Lyell, President, in the chair.—The following communications were read:—

'Notice of the Occurrence of an Earthquake at Brussa.'—On the night of the 19th of April, 1850, at half-past eleven, P.M., a shock of considerable violence occurred at Brussa, Anatolia, lasting from eight to ten seconds. The oscillation seemed to proceed from south or south-west. This was followed by two other shocks during the night, and by four others at intervals up to the 21st, all comparatively slight. The same earthquakes were felt throughout the country as far as Kiutahiyah, particularly at Muhaltisch, at Lubat, on the Lake Apollonia, and at Kirmasli, on the south side of the lake; at which latter place there was a temporary gush of water and sand from an opening in the earth. It was noticed that the strongest shocks followed shortly after heavy storms of hail; and also that at Tehekerghéa momentary stoppage of the mineral streams accompanied the earthquake.

'On the Drift of a Part of Kent,' by J. Trimmer, Esq.

'On the Drift of Norfolk,' by J. Trimmer, Esq.  
'On the Linkfield Quarry, Elgin,' by Capt. L. Brickenden.

**SOCIETY OF ANTIQUARIES.**—Viscount Mahon, President, in the chair.—At the first meeting of the season the Rev. T. Corser was elected a member; and the certificates of Mr. Ford, Mr. R. Cole, and several other candidates were ordered to be suspended.—Some fifty volumes were added to the library by gifts from various donors; but now that the funds of the Society are flourishing, and that the books (by a decision of the Council last year) have been rendered circulateable (if we may use the word) we recommend that one or two hundred pounds should be expended in filling up obvious and notorious deficiencies. Some of the best works at this time are to be bought at the cheapest prices.—The museum of the Society is enlarging by presents of curiosities of different kinds; and Mr. Blades has just sent a tryptich of Byzantine Art, which contains several remarkable features and represents the Virgin with the Saviour in her arms, supported by the Archangels Michael and Gabriel. Another member sent a gift of a remarkable brass seal which had been used by an ecclesiastical body in the fifteenth century. It was well executed—and the impression as sharp as if it had been cut yesterday. Among the more important exhibitions was a portrait in ivory (a good specimen, but not quite as old as the time) of Sir John Hawkins, the navigator;—whose history was illustrated by several papers by Capt. Smyth, R.N., and others, last season. Mr. Ouvry was the medium of conveying fourteen Roman silver coins, of various dates to the time of Domitian, which had been dug up, with many others, by the workmen on the railway not far from East Retford. These would afford a useful though comparatively small addition to the recent gift of the Rev. Mr. Kerrich, of about 1,500 Roman and Greek coins, some of them of high value and rarity.—Mr. Akerman read a paper on the subterranean apartments lately discovered near Aylesbury, which resembled others, in the Isle of Thanet and in Hertfordshire. They usually consist of a deep shaft of narrow dimensions, leading down, by steps cut into the side, into a round—or sometimes a square—apartment of large dimensions. The question is, to what purpose were these apartments applied? They are both of Roman and Teutonic formation; and Mr. Akerman argued, from the contents of some of them, and from the corresponding representations in more than one Italian work, that they had been used for sepulchres. He mentioned the exhumation of urns and fragments of urns, and other pottery, in support of his theory.—Mr. Wright expressed his dissent from any such notion; establishing himself chiefly on the fact that pits or wells of the kind had frequently been discovered in London, Winchester, and other places, filled with nothing but ancient rubbish. The fact may be that both gentlemen are right; for Mr. Akerman did not, we apprehend, allude to the small wells or pits possessing no peculiarity of structure,—but to large and long shafts constructed with peculiar care and leading into wide receptacles, with walls obviously built for the reception of cinerary remains after cremation.—At the conclusion of the discussion, the President invited communications from gentlemen well qualified to illustrate the subject.

**ROYAL SOCIETY OF LITERATURE.**—Mr. Jordan in the chair.—Mr. Birch read a paper entitled 'Notes upon an Egyptian Inscription in the Bibliothèque Nationale of Paris.' The inscription referred to—an impression from which was suspended in the meeting room—is chiselled on a tablet or stele of the usual shape with a round; which was removed in the year 1846, by M. Prisse, from a temple at Karnak dedicated to the god *Chous*—a personification of the Moon—to Paris, and by him presented to the National Library. The tablet is divided into two portions,—a picture and explanatory text. In the upper part is the well-known symbol representing the morning sun, the solar orb ornamented with an ureus serpent and having a pair of wings. Below are represented two scenes:

in the first the monarch is seen addressing the ark of the god *Chous* under the form of a naos, or shrine, borne on the shoulders of twelve priests,—their number being that of the months through which *Chous*, as the Moon, revolved. The other scene, reversed to this, represents another ark borne by four priests, and met by the priest of *Chous*. The reading of the phenomenon of the king appears to point him out as one of the later monarchs of the Twentieth Dynasty;—perhaps Rameses the Fourteenth. The object of these scenes is explained in the inscription below; and it was the writer's chief purpose in this paper to give a translation of the inscription, with a commentary on such parts as are difficult or novel. The tablet commences, as usual, with the pompous titles of the monarch. He is first described as being "in Nehar" collecting the yearly revenue from the "chiefs of many lands." Again, when in the Thebaid, an envoy of Bakhten comes to him, bringing numerous presents for the queen, who was a princess of that country,—and, entreating the king's good offices on behalf of the queen's sister, *Ben-teresh*, described as under the influence of spirits, or possessed by a devil. The king solicits the god *Chous* to permit himself to be sent to Bakhten "to rescue the daughter of the chief of the Bakhten." The god *Chous* is of a dual nature: after a colloquy between the two, their assent is obtained, "that *Chous* who contends for the Thebaid," should go. The chief of the Bakhten meets him as he approaches his land, and worships him. The god then proceeds to the place in which *Ben-teresh* is, makes a circuit round her, and touches her on the arm. The spirit salutes him, and departs. The chief of the Bakhten, grateful for the cure, entreates the god to sojourn for a season in his country: he remains three years and four months and five days, after which the chief dismisses him in peace with very rich offerings to return to *Kumi* (Egypt): "and that god *Chous*, the contender for the Thebaid," depeopled all "the numerous offerings which the chief of the Bakhten had given him in the temple of *Chous* in the Thebaid, Neferhetp." It is obvious that much light is thrown by this tablet on the history of the religious notions of the Egyptians. Besides confirming some other points not unknown before, it supplies the following quite new facts:—the sending of the gods in their arks (*sekat* or *mat*) to distant lands,—the dualistic nature of the lunar god *Chous*,—the fact, several times referred to, of the god being in the form of a hawk of gold. The recovery of the princess is also remarkable, and explains that many other similar scenes, in which the shrines of the gods are seen brought forth, allude to particular events, and not to mere acts of religious homage.

**ZOOLOGICAL.**—Mr. R. H. Solly, in the chair.—A paper by Mr. Strickland 'On the Birds of Kordofan,' was read.—It enumerated 112 species which had been collected by Mr. Petherick; and of which three were altogether new, and several not previously enumerated as natives of North-east Africa. Mr. Strickland also distinguished those species which are common to West Africa, determined principally by reference to Dr. Hartlaub's valuable list of West African birds in the "Verzeichniss der öffentlichen und privaten Vorlesungen am Hamburgischen Gymnasium."—Mr. Gray read a synopsis of the species of deer, including the description of a new species of *Capreolus* from California, presented to the Society by Lieut. Jones, R.N., and now living in their menagerie. The most interesting portion of the paper had reference to the Brockets of South America; of which two species are now living in the menagerie, and three or four at Knowsley. These species were illustrated by drawings from life, which had been executed for the Earl of Derby by Mr. Wolf.—Mr. Gaskoin communicated an account of suspended animation, during four years at least, in a specimen of *Helix lactea* now living in his possession. A remarkable feature in this case is, the fact that utero-gestation was suspended, and resumed its process with the resumption of vitality.—Mr. L. Fraser communicated descriptions of five species of undescribed birds in the collection of the Earl of Derby. The most con-



spicuous of them is a beautiful species of Curassow, now living at Knowsley, which was acquired during the present year. Mr. Fraser gives to this bird the name of *Cnax Alberti*: having on a previous occasion dedicated a fine species of Crowned Pigeon to Her Majesty under the name of *Goura Victoria*.—The next paper read was, 'An Account of Fishes discovered or observed in Madeira since the year 1842,' by the Rev. R. T. Lowe. The number of species enumerated is eighteen;—of which it will be sufficient to mention a new type of Murænidae, obtained by H.I.H. the Duc de Leuchtenberg during his late residence in Madeira. It is described under the name of *Septorhynchus Leuchtenbergi*.—Dr. Hartlaub communicated a figure and some account of *Turdus vulgaris*, described by him in the 'Revue et Magazin de Zoologie' in 1849. The only known example of this bird exists in the Museum at Hamburg.

SOCIETY OF ARTS.—H. T. Hope, Esq. in the chair.—A paper was read by Mr. Mechi, who propounded his views on the backward state of our agriculture as compared with other branches of our industry, and on the progress of which it is susceptible by the employment of capital in higher cultivation and more careful farming of stock, as illustrated by his own operations at Tiptree Hall. This farm has very lately been valued by three eminent surveyors, who have fixed his rent at 48s. per acre,—the land in its original state having been worth only 12s. Mr. Mechi, however, admitted that he had yet to prove whether at that rental and with present prices he could return a profit on his tenant capital. But his balance-sheet, whether for good or for evil, would be punctually published on the 30th of next October,—when it would be either an example to follow or a beacon to avoid. One of the main obstructions to improvement in agriculture was, in his opinion, the monstrous and intolerable nuisance of the existing mode of transfer. The same principle should be applied to land as to the funds. A public registry office, with district maps, would at once obviate the difficulty. Land would then change hands twenty times for once now,—and have a proportionally increased chance of improvement. In alluding to the progress which must take place, Mr. Mechi said,—“A painful question is often asked—What is to become of the poor farmer? I reply, what has become of the poor hand-loom weaver,—of the four-horse coach proprietor,—of the road-side innkeeper,—of the Gravesend sailing boats,—of the hackney coaches? Even the poor old watchmen, who called the hours all night and cleaned boots and shoes half the day, have given way to the able, active, and efficient new police. These are days of movement and progression,—and agriculture cannot withstand the common fate. The poor farmer and poor landlord who are in a wrong position will necessarily make way for more useful members of society. It is a painful but a national necessity.” Mr. Mechi illustrated his account of his own methods of feeding stock by a model of his calf and pig house; which is roofed and closed in, with provisions for warming and ventilating,—the animals standing, not on straw, but on boarded floors, pierced to let the manure through. A curious fact was mentioned,—that flies, however numerous they may be, will not bite in the darkness. Hence, Mr. Mechi, by darkening his feeding-house, removes a great obstruction to the fattening of his cattle.—At the close of the paper, the Chairman announced that Messrs. Fox & Henderson have invited the members of the Society to hold a meeting in the Great Exhibition Building, at noon on the 31st of December,—the day before it is given up to the Royal Commissioners; and that the Council have accepted their offer and made arrangements for a paper on the scientific construction of the building to be read on the occasion.

- MEETINGS FOR THE ENSUING WEEK.
- Mon. Royal Academy, 8.—Mr. Green 'On Anatomy.'
  - Entomological, 8.
  - Chemical, 8.
  - British Architects, 8.
  - Tues. Civil Engineers, 8.—'Description of the Royal Bunder Bridge over the river Tweed, at Berwick, on the line of York, Newcastle, and Berwick Railway,' by G. R. Bruce.
  - Librarians, 8.
  - Horticultural, 2.
  - Pathological, 8.

- Wed. Society of Arts, 8.—Annual Meeting.
- Geological, half-past 8.—'On the Geology of the Upper Punjab and Peshawar,' by Major Vicary, E.I.C.S.—'On the Silurian Rocks and Graptolites of Dumfries-shire,' by R. Harkness, Esq.—'Report on the Coal Mines near Enzoreum.'
- Thurs. Royal, half-past 8.
- Antiquaries, 8.
- Zoological, 8.—General Business.
- Medical, 8.—Meeting of Council.
- Fri. Archaeological Institute, 4.
- Asiatic, 8.
- Sat. Medical, 8.

# ALBUMINIZING OF PHOTOGENIC GLASSES.

We have received from Dr. Maunoir a translation, made at the request of M. Scarpellini—the President of a Society having its meetings on the Capitol, called *Romana Correspondenza Scientifica*,—of a paper published in the Society's Journal by M. Luigi Ceselli, on a new process for "albuminizing photogenic glasses." It appears to point out a method by which extreme uniformity in the thickness of the film may be obtained;—and we print it from Dr. Maunoir's manuscript, with a few verbal alterations where there appears to be a want of clearness, arising from the difficulty which a foreigner writing in English must necessarily experience when not thoroughly familiarized with the idiom of the language.

It cannot be denied that photography has gained much by the substitution of glass for photogenic paper; as thus has been obtained a high degree of transparency of the plates for the process, a modification of that applied by Daguerre to the grand discovery of the celebrated Neapolitan, Gio. Batt. Porta, which discovery remained forgotten for nearly two centuries. Many difficulties, however, still existed; for, with the use of glass, a layer of albumen was necessary to the production of those wonderful results obtained by the rays of light. Again, to cover the glass with a layer of albumen of equal thickness, so that the light may produce everywhere the same effect, to prevent any inequalities forming on the surface during the drying process, to produce the layer at one stroke,—such were the difficulties which, notwithstanding repeated experiments, yet remained to be overcome and had retarded the progress of this wonderful new method,—but which, it seemed to M. L. Ceselli, did not deserve to be abandoned, as it had, to be replaced by the improvements obtained with photogenic paper.

After having studied the various processes in use, M. L. Ceselli invented a small simple machine, which he has found to obviate every difficulty. It consists of a small rectangular box, supported by three regulating screws. To its base is joined a moveable plate of metal, which, being heated by means of a lamp of alcohol, communicates to all the parts of the box an equal degree of heat. The plate is removed when the water-bath is to be used instead of the lamp. The apparatus is protected by a glass covering, to guard against heterogeneous bodies falling on the albumen. This cover is also moveable; and the box being traversed by an internal channel, in this, when convenient, a thermometer may be introduced. A sliding frame receives the glass which is to receive the preparation; this, again, being placed between two other plates of glass. The glasses are secured and their edges brought to correspond by means of a tightening screw,—so that the albumen, when either spreading or shrinking, may always cover the whole surface of the intermedial plate of glass. The frame is furnished on two parallel sides with a small groove to receive the albumen,—which a small round edged knife, elevated to the proper point by means of two spiral pivots cased in the sides of the box, and kept down in a parallel direction to the glass by means of a screw, serves to remove, producing by this means the exact thickness of layer which is required. The frame is furnished along one of its sides with an indented ridge, to which a wheel provided with an external handle corresponds, so that the frame can be made to move with such velocity as the operation may require.

SCIENTIFIC GOSSIP.—We had thought that the statement made by Lord Ashley in the House of Commons as to the value of the products from peat had been sufficiently confuted. In the City article

of the *Times* we find a statement, however, from which we extract the following.—

It now appears that Mr. Owen, whose course from the first was in no way inconsistent with Lord Ashley's testimony respecting him, has been for the past year and a half quietly engaged in testing the merits of the process to an extent that would properly authorize a definitive estimate of its results. These labours have been carried on partly under the superintendence of Dr. Hodges, the Professor of Agriculture in Queen's College, Belfast, and partly in the neighbourhood of London, at the premises of Messrs. Coffey & Sons, the engineers, and the conclusions now represented to have been arrived at are of an exceedingly satisfactory nature. They do not promise the 500 per cent. originally talked of; but, according to a certified estimate rendered by Messrs. Coffey, they show a profit of upwards of 100 per cent. This estimate, which is framed for an establishment consuming 36,500 tons of peat per annum, is as follows:—

Expenditure.	
36,500 tons of peat at 2s. per ton	£3,650
455 tons of sulphuric acid at 7s.	3,185
Wear and tear of apparatus, &c.	700
Wages, labour, &c.	2,000
Cost of sending to market and other incidental charges	2,182
Profit	11,998
£23,625	
Produce.	
365 tons of sulphate of ammonia at 12s. per ton	£4,380
255 tons of acetate of lime at 14s.	3,570
19,000 gallons of naphtha at 5s.	4,750
109,500 pounds of paraffine at 1s.	5,475
73,000 gallons of volatile oil at 18s.	3,050
36,000 gallons of fixed oil at 1s.	1,800
£23,625	

This is but a repetition of the original statement; and we at once detect in the estimate many fallacious particulars,—unless the experience of Sir Robert Kane, as given in his 'Industrial Resources of Ireland,' be valueless. We have, besides, the experiments made by the Dartmoor Company, on a large scale, at the loss of many thousand pounds, giving their admonitory lesson, in reply to this very loose estimate made by Messrs. Coffey. We wish these results may be realized,—but we have no hope of anything so satisfactory.

The Electric Light again claims our attention. We are informed that "an experiment was recently made in the chemical lecture-room of the Polytechnic Institution, in the presence of a select party of scientific persons, to test the power of the voltaic light for which Mr. Allman has obtained patents, and to prove that the light could be kept up continuously. The result, as far as the experiment went, was satisfactory,—the light continuing without intermission to diffuse the most brilliant rays for several hours. This is considered a great advance in electric lighting, as in former experiments the spark has been intermittent and flickering. It was stated that the expense of lights of this class would be less than the expense of gas, even at the reduced rate; and that in the event of the invention being brought into general use its expense would be greatly diminished: The brilliancy was of extreme intensity." We have reason to believe that Mr. Allman's light was more steady than that of Messrs. Stait & Petrie; but the cost is a question which has never yet been fairly met. The best way of meeting the assertion that the light can be produced at a less cost than gas, is to fix the patentees to lighting the Parks during next year for a sum under that at which it would be most readily done by any of the gas companies.

It is stated, apparently on good authority, that a French chemist, M. Chaudron-Junot, of Bussy, has succeeded in reducing to the metallic state, by exceedingly easy means, a great many bodies which have not hitherto been seen in that condition. He classifies his substances in two series:—the first comprehending silicon, tantalum, titanium, chromium, tungsten, molybdenum and uranium,—the second embraces magnesium, aluminium and barium. The metals in the first series are completely inoxidizable, and perfectly resist the action of strong acids; and some of them are not affected by even the nitromuriatic acid, which it is well known dissolves even gold and silver. It is expected that these will replace platinum in many of its applications,—their cost, it is stated, being 80 per cent. less than the cost of that metal. The second series are not affected by a dry or moist atmosphere, though they are acted on by acids; and it is proposed to apply them to many purposes of ornamentation for which silver is now employed. These metals are all



white,—the degree of whiteness and brilliancy varying from that of platinum to that of the purest silver. The reduction of silicium is said to be beautifully perfect, and we are told that the Minister of Commerce has taken the most lively interest in the progress of M. Chaudron-Junior's discoveries. We give the above statement, since it is published apparently in good faith; but we shall not be surprised to find that the discoverer and the Minister have allowed themselves to be deceived.

*Sounder's News Letter* reports that two interesting additions have been made to the Irish Fauna by Dr. Farran, during his recent researches on the south coast of the Sister Island. One of them, it is said, is the red band fish, or red snake fish (*Cehola rubescens*). Its colour is of a fine red rose, bands of a darker hue encircling it, and giving it the appearance of a snake. It is of frequent occurrence on the Cornish coast; but hitherto it has not been seen in Ireland, where it is now discovered that it inhabits the submarine forests of sea weed, particularly the luminaria, which grow in great abundance and luxuriance about a mile from shore and in four or five fathoms of water. Here it resides in perfect safety from its enemies, constantly gliding through this entangled mass, but never leaving it for the open sea—hence, in all probability, its rare occurrence. It is found on the beach only after a severe gale, and has never been known to take the bait. Its length is about sixteen inches. The other novelty is the *Pholade pagreacea*, a shell unrivalled in beauty and singularity of structure. This shell, though never hitherto found in Ireland, is tolerably abundant in Devonshire, and typifies a peculiar deposit, the red marl, in that county. Dr. Farran discovered it in a position and formation greatly at variance with its English habitat, that is, in a submerged bog, directly under his house at Clonea, near Dungarvan, and in company with three other *Pholade*.

## FINE ARTS

**FINE-ART GOSSIP.** The success which has attended the Panorama of the Nile has, we believe, induced its proprietors greatly to extend the scale of their exhibition. Artists, we are given to understand, have been employed to assemble into one great moving picture all the features, illustrative both of Scripture and of modern events, which can help to bring Syria and Palestine home to those who visit distant lands by means of the omnibus that runs to Piccadilly. A very valuable feature of education, as we have before said, are these dioramic shows.

The ancient little church of Penally, near Tenby, being in the restorer's hands,—a discovery was made in it a few days ago that the interior walls have once been painted in a curious star-shaped fashion, and on removing several coats of plaster, ancient paintings in oil of figures clad in ring mail armour were found depicted on the walls. They were in complete preservation, and appeared to be of the twelfth or thirteenth century. It was further found that two pieces of sculptured stone, discovered in the inside of the building, formed part of a handsome, though mutilated, shaft of a cross now standing in the churchyard. The inscription on the stone was perfectly legible, and copies of it and of the mural painting have been made for the examination of antiquaries.

The *Literary World* of New York tells us that Powers's statue of Calhoun, after lying three months under water, has been recovered and is found to have sustained no material damage. \* \* The statue had been driven by the action of the sea some fifty feet from the place where it was originally found,—and, with the sand which had filled the box, weighed some five tons when it was brought to the surface. The only injury which can be discovered is, a fracture on the right arm of the figure. A portion of that arm is gone; but it is not a prominent part of the statue,—being partially veiled by drapery,—and can be readily repaired without at all detracting from the beauty of the work. The delicate portions of the sculpture are quite uninjured, and the gilt letters on the scroll are still perfect. There is no discoloration, such as was apprehended might take place from

the action of the salt water on the iron fastenings of the case."

## MUSIC AND THE DRAMA

### NEW PUBLICATIONS.

*Andante, with Variations, composed for two performers on the Pianoforte.* By Felix Mendelssohn-Bartholdy. Op. 83, Posth. Works, No. 11. We have already spoken of this *Andante* [ante, p. 745] in its original form, as composed for one performer. It was, however, composed by Mendelssohn himself as a duet also, with many additions, amplifications, and changes,—and as here given to the world of pianoforte players, is unquestionably the most valuable and interesting composition for four hands published during many years past. Without being extravagantly difficult, it is interesting, without the slightest meretricious prettiness, it is legitimately brilliant.—*vide* what may be called the *solo* variations No. 3 and No. 4, which are made to succeed each other on the old-fashioned plan of similarity, rather than on the modern notion of effect, which is contrast. If we examine the "changes" devised by Handel on some of his simple themes (works much easier to despise than to emulate, it may be added), it will be found that the ear is to be enticed onward by one variation resembling the preceding one, with *sottis* touches of figurative, difference or some slight added difficulty. Continuity may drive it to its extreme expression, and let us at once say, monotony) has its picturesque as well as variety and surprise. Thus eyes which can really enjoy Nature can appreciate the flats of a Schevelingen sand as well as the spires of an Orfeler Spitz or the dome-like grandeur of a Monte Rosa. Without pushing this principle into pedantic lengths, it is only by admitting it genially and liberally that we can love as they deserve both ancients and moderns. In his compositions for keyed instruments Mendelssohn's taste warned him from the romantic school,—but this owned his writings will be found dry by those only who are themselves dry of sympathy for all save a few inventors and melodists elect. In any event this *Andante* is available alike for concert and for chamber performance.

*Solo (Adagio et Allegro Agitato), pour le Violoncelle, avec accompagnement d'Orchestre ou de Piano.* Par E. Sihs. Those who have studied the growth of invention, which in Music at least grows, and does not spring out at once into vigorous life and power after the fashion of Minerva,—will understand us when we say that though M. Sihs cannot, for the moment, be called strictly original, we think that he exhibits signs of becoming so,—giving evidences of that wish to adventure in new forms which, when aided by such sound scientific training as his obviously has been, can hardly fail on some future day to work itself out into shapes no less interesting than individual. There is a tincture of the last of the great German composers in this *Solo*,—but this always must, and perhaps should, be the case with young and untired writers, while, on the other hand, we find in it a largeness of outline, a freedom of hand, and a consistency of plan which augur well for the future. Though this piece has not, of course, the divided interest which belongs to a *Concertante Sonata* for the two instruments,—as an agreeable, yet not flimsy, addition to the violoncellist's stock it is valuable and welcome.

**GRAND NATIONAL CONCERTS.**—*Spohr's Seasons.* The slack way in which Dr. Spohr's new composition was disposed of by Mr. Balfe prevents our doing much more than stating that it consists of four movements. The first, 'Winter,' is an *allegro* in B or C minor, based upon a phrase more than usually brief and conventional. The *minuetto*, 'Spring,' is a pleasing *andante* in G major, with a good deal of pastoral grace in its subject,—the *trio* appearing to want contrast. The *andante*, 'Summer,' also begins agreeably on a *cantabile* theme with the violins united. But no conducting (we think it may be said) could make the after-part of this movement interesting,—the writer having been apparently in his very driest humour when he was

completing it. The 'Autumn' *Andante* is meant, we apprehend, to picture chase and vintage;—since the well-known *Rhein-wien* of Schütz, used in a triple time, is taken as second subject. The Symphony did not produce the slightest effect,—perhaps because it was rendered with such utter indifference. But we fear that the best endeavours could not make us think it one of Dr. Spohr's happier works.

MISS DOLBY'S *Soubres*.—These are among the most interesting meetings for chamber music given in London or elsewhere. Miss Dolby showing an enterprise in presenting new music which corporate bodies of greater resources and pretensions might do well to emulate. At her second *Soubre* was performed a *Pianoforte Trio* by M. Silas, of which report speaks so highly that we are pretty sure to have an early opportunity of speaking of it elsewhere. Another novelty introduced was a very fine setting of some words from Tennyson's 'Enphie' in the form of a *Cantata*, by Miss Laura Barker. This would be a remarkably impassioned composition, whoever had written it. It commences with a recitative and a grand *cantabile*, closing with an *agitato* brilliantly accompanied. The leading phrase of this *trio* might perhaps be reconsidered for the purpose of adding force and feature to the passage, but the working up of the movement is forcible, brilliant, exciting and unborrowed. The *Cantata* was given by Miss Dolby in her best manner,—and was received as it deserved.

**HAYMARKET.** On Monday Mr. Macready acted 'Werner.' His popular aptitude for this character is, as our readers know too well to need any repetition on our part, remarkable. His performance is perhaps the most masterly thing that the modern stage can show. Whoever has not already seen Mr. Macready's 'Werner,' should take care that the last chance does not escape him, unemployed. After all, there is a melancholy interest about these farewell performances, in which we do not love to dwell. Mr. Davenport's *Utric* was an able interpretation of a difficult part. For next Monday 'Richard the Second' is announced,—which, as a comparative novelty will require especial notice.

**MARYLEBONE.** This theatre re-opened on Thursday week, under the management of Mr. Stammers. Mrs. Nisbett and several members of her family are engaged. They appeared on the first night in 'The Hunchback.' Mrs. Nisbett performed *Helen* to Miss J. Mordaunt's *Julia*. On Monday, 'London Assurance' was re-produced, with a similar cast. Mrs. Nisbett's *Lady Gay*, *Spanker* was sustained with her usual spirit. The house was respectably attended.

**SURREY.**—The tragedy of 'Pizarro' was performed on Monday, with a considerable amount of spectacle.

### MR. MARSTON'S 'PHILIP AUGUSTUS AND MARIE DE MÉRANIE.'

We have been requested, by Mr. Marston, to give publicity to the facts which the following letter contains in answer to a charge brought against his originality and his literary honesty, we may add, by a correspondent of a contemporary publication.

"May I beg you, on my behalf to insert a few words of reply to an article which appeared in the *Literary Gazette* of last Saturday, charging me with having largely appropriated the incidents and dialogue of M. Ponsard's tragedy of 'Agnes de Méranie' in my own drama of 'Philip of France and Marie de Méranie,' now performing at the Olympic Theatre.

"I conclude that the accusation is sufficiently answered, when I say that my tragedy (including the passage on which the charge of plagiarism is founded) was completed and read to several friends—amongst others, to the distinguished artist who personates my heroine—two or three years before the production of M. Ponsard's work in 1846; and that I have never seen his play, and—except



for one short notice of it in an English journal am entirely ignorant of its character.

"Having thus disproved the charge in question, I am still at a loss to know how the writer can think it sustained by such coincidences as he furnishes. It is gravely alleged against me that in a play founded upon the same subject as *M. Ponsard's*, and involving the same political and ecclesiastical struggles, I have introduced the same historical persons and events! But to waste an argument on such an imputation would be to lose sight of its utility and to be insensible to its humour.

"I have the honour, &c.,

"J. WESTLAND MARSTON."

"London, Nov. 26."

As we have twice dealt in our critical character with Mr. Marston's play, we are ourselves somewhat concerned, not with Mr. Marston's facts, but with the argument on which he touches to follow them. The facts stated by Mr. Marston are of course conclusive for his justification, in case there had been that sort of coincidence between the two productions in question which made it desirable to establish the point of non-privacy or raise that of priority. But Mr. Marston might perfectly well, had he been so disposed, have accepted the criminal article itself as his defence. This article—which is one of the most remarkable pieces of logical criticism that we happen to recollect—is good for the refutation of the very charge which it professes to maintain. Our readers may remember the dilemma in which Erskine is said to have placed himself once by mistaking the side on which he was engaged,—and delivering a powerful argument for the plaintiff when the defendant was his client. The critic in the present case has borrowed a hint from the anecdote—he has been good enough to disprove his own case,—and Mr. Marston's letter is a work of supererogation.

The general coincidences of which the critic speaks are of that kind which have given great celebrity to the logic of Fluellen. The M necessary to the spelling of Macedon would be charged by this gentleman against Mr. Marston as a plagiarism if he should happen to spell Monmouth with it. The critic thinks it quite remarkable that of two plays on the subject of Philip Augustus and Marie de Méranie, the leading characters in both should be—Philip Augustus, Marie de Méranie, and a churchman. Many people will wonder who else they could have been. Generally speaking, too, the correspondent in question seems much and painfully struck with the circumstance that both dramatists—Marston and Ponsard—have taken the real incidents of the story,—instead of something not in the story. This seems to him to be more than accident,—we fear he is right,—we strongly suspect design.—But the most crushing thing which this writer has against Mr. Marston or M. Ponsard,—as the case may be—is, that both have described in detail the penalties of the interdict:—the interdict and its terrors being, it should be observed, the agency on which the action turns. We suppose if fifty writers should separately choose the same theme, they must each, after his ability, deal with the argument of the interdict. We think this critic must be the ingenious gentleman of whom we have often heard—and whom we have always desired to fall in with personally—who would have the tragedy of *Hamlet* played with the part of *Hamlet* left out.—The allegation of particular coincidences is yet more curious. Passages from the two plays are produced in parallel columns, with the purpose of showing their close resemblance—and the effect of showing that they have scarcely any at all—the general resemblance (which makes this escape from particular resemblance more striking) being excepted and allowed for.

On the face, then, of the letter to which Mr. Marston replies, we find, as we have said, a conclusion quite different from that which the writer draws.—Mr. Marston having shown that his play was written first,—we are of opinion that even if M. Ponsard by any accident got a glimpse of it before he wrote his own, there is no ground for charging him with any act of plagiarism from Mr. Marston.

MUSICAL AND DRAMATIC GOSSIP.—A partly musical, partly duo-dramatic entertainment, by *Madame Anna Thillon and Mr. Hudson* was given on Tuesday at Willis's Rooms. The object of this was evidently to exhibit the Lady (a worthy mate being provided for her) in the largest number of dainty costumes and pleasing ballads possible.—This said, the "gentle reader" will excuse an analysis of Mrs. Colonel Fitzmythe's proceedings in Act the first, or of Mr. Ruckstraw's fairy visitants in Act the second.—Unless such entertainments be contrived with the utmost lightness of hand, they are apt to become rather dull.—In this, we had too many new facts and old jokes combined,—as though the authors had alternately dipped into the twentieth edition of *Pinnochio*, and into the stereotyped *Joe Miller*; and the essential want of drollery seemed to "sit heavy on the soul" of Mr. Hudson in spite of his best endeavours.—The comedy of the very pretty Lady with whom he is associated lies in her smile, and her ringlets, and her *toilette*. She is unapt at repartee, and too conscious of an intuition to surprise her audience by some *impromptu fait à loisir*, but "looking as good as new." She was dressed, however, in her best, and sang with her utmost care a good deal of various music. Some of the English songs, we believe, may be ascribed to Mr. E. Loder (who officiated as accompanist) by their elegance and neatness of hand proving themselves worthy of their patronage; but the general feeling in the room was, that the special powers of the two artists—and in consequence the general public—had not been thoroughly hit in the new entertainment. It was courteously rather than enthusiastically received.

During a recent visit to Liverpool, signs of active musical life, in addition to those not long since chronicled, presented themselves, furnishing matter for the notice and sympathy of all who do not think that the health and prosperity of Art are promoted by centralization. Well-merited praise has been given by us to the Philharmonic Society, with its excellent chorus and creditable orchestra, and its willingness to award a hearing to new composers.—During the coming winter, some music by M. Baetens, another of those young gentlemen from Holland who seem resolved to break the apathetic silence of their country,—will be performed. It is pleasant, too, to hear of a second Society—the *Società Armonica*—having an orchestra principally composed of amateurs,—as formed, and being in a flourishing condition. Some sixteen years ago there was no getting support in Liverpool for a subscription concert on a limited scale,—and the old Music Hall was therefore turned to other uses.

On St. Cecilia's Day, a new Mass, by M. Adolphe Adam, was performed in the church of St. Eustache, at Paris. These anniversaries, solemnities, and commissions are irritating. They remind us of treasures locked up, of opportunities denied, in which, with our ample means, we English ought to take the lead. Is there no prevailing on the City Companies to do a little for the musician, when they do so much for the architect,—so much for the carver and gilder,—so much for the modeller in gold and silver,—so much for the cook! Can none of them be persuaded into seeing with what an air of taste and spirit their festivals would be invested if out of their vast expenditure they would save a few barons of beef—a few butts of wine—a few forks and spoons and napkins,—and spend such economies on a concert for the ladies, with their own composition and their own conductor? This is no new whimsy, or dream, or suggestion of ours, but one which we may propound again and again,—and we time the present repetition of the hint in accordance with the advancement of artistic ambition and fancy which was certainly intended (howsoever it was carried out) in the marshalling of the Lord Mayor's pageant.

The Grand Duchess, M. Flotow's new opera, is said to have had a great success at Berlin. Madame Castellan appears to have pleased moderately there as *Lucia*.—Madame Fiorentini has not succeeded in Paris as *Norma*.—a matter which need not have been marked save for the resolute attempt made here to establish her success as bril-

liant,—and hence, all qualification as malicious and unjust. With time and energy, one so nobly endowed by nature ought to become a noble singer.—'L'Enfant Prodigue' will probably be produced early in December:—'La Dame de Pique' about a week later.

The researches of M. Fétis in the perpetually stirred matter of Mozart's 'Requiem,' have not yielded much new certain information. It has long been no secret among the artists of Europe, that Madame Mozart seems to have cared little for the fame of her husband, in comparison with the money which could be made out of his manuscripts. We had already heard of her disposal of doubtful MSS.,—and of her having "made play" with the 'Requiem' story by vending the score of that Mass in different states to different purchasers. This proved and admitted—with Herr Süssmayer's contradictory confessions taken into account,—the question appears to us to take its place among those elastic puzzles with which the ingenious lovers of antiquarianism can occupy themselves to any extent:—and which are therefore certain from time to time to be called up for argument and rejoinder.

The history of *Jenny Lindolatri* will one day have to be written as a chapter in the history of Transatlantic manners—no less than of Art. It is here noticed merely with reference to the latter subject. How much musical appreciation has had to do in her case is clearly shown on the confession of the American journals. These, now, willingly testify to the exaggeration of the excitement, and to the part taken by the journalists in kindling the Barnum bonfires. But the Prince of Iranistan waxed haughty, they say, on the strength of "the sounds himself had made," accusing the Press of venality. He was, accordingly, to be shown "what is what and who is who." This was not difficult for, behold! at the very time when the press and Mr. Barnum became two, there arrived from the old world, at the instance of M. Maretzek the manager of the Italian Opera, Mdlle. Parodi. An excitement was forthwith determined on. It was to be "steady hat decided in its character." Mdlle. Parodi was there, and then fitted out with antecedents of the most attractive quality. Her biography was published,—in which it is told how "the venerable Pasta treasured the bright and priceless jewel committed to her keeping, how the people at Palermo seemed to have gone mad for the beautiful *Cantatrice*." She is further recommended as a patriot of "the first water." "La Parodi," says the journal before us, "gave all her sympathies to the cause of the struggling patriots; and so brilliantly did she distinguish herself during those terrific scenes, even her life would not have been safe an hour, but for the enthusiastic devotion of the men of Palermo, who would have piled the ground with hecatombs of brave bodies rather than see a hair fall from the head of so generous, gifted, and beautiful a being." We are further assured that, in London, Mdlle. Parodi "carried the fashionable world by storm,"—cast over all her parts "the magical charm of an enchantment which even Grisi had failed to command"—that (mark this as a temptation for the New Yorkers!) "she became the pride of the aristocracy of England, and by general consent Europe accorded to her the vacant throne of Pasta."—Well, we might have passed over the biography as a specimen of "pretty Fanny's way,"—we might have passed over the doves, and the bouquets, and the sonnets which were got up for her first appearance in *Norma*, as so many managerial devices.—But the following is the estimate of a critic on Mdlle. Parodi's powers as an artist. He scruples not to express that her performance was followed by

The most perfect conviction on the part of every judge of high art, that Parodi is the greatest tragic vocalist of the day—and that her equal has never been known in this country. When she rose to the top of her compass, she executed her thrills without any ambitious attempts at ornament, and appealed to the most refined taste only in the vocal art. She resorted to no tricks. The consequence was, that she evoked the sublime, and impressed upon every one the unity of the composer's design, as well as the superiority of her own skill.

The italics are ours. Now, what is to be said of a case of enthusiasm and judgment such as this?—It cannot be needful to remind any reader, home



or foreign, that the *Athenæum* has never shared the frenzies of those who have exalted the Swedish Lady above all other vocalists past and contemporary. But, as a great singer, in a world where great singers have been, and as an actress skilled in a few characters, her claims ought to have protected her from such a possible rivalry as the American press seems desirous of establishing. It can be only the temptation of money that can make any artist present herself before a public where a Lind and a Parodi can be spoken of in the same paragraph.—The humiliating misral of the Swedish Lady's apothecosis has been very quick in arriving.

### MISCELLANEA

**Important Geological Discovery.**—It will undoubtedly be interesting to geologists to learn that a most important discovery has just been made in that department of science, at Applecross, on the west coast of Scotland. A large mountain, called "Tore More," on being accidentally excavated the other day, presented a substratum of pure lime, within five feet of the surface; and on prosecuting the discovery by a further excavation, it was ascertained beyond a shadow of doubt that the whole mountain, except an average surface of twenty feet, consists of lime fit for the field or the mason, the result of organic heat. The hill appears to have been at one time a stupendous limestone rock, submitted to the influence of immense heat. On the summit are found traces of volcanic origin, such as charred and vitrified stone, lava, &c. *Times.*

**Monument at Düsseldorf.**—The Court garden of that city has always been considered one of the finest specimens of ornamental gardening in Germany; consequently, some friends of the late founder and curator, M. Weyhe, have thought of erecting a monument to his memory. He is represented in a sitting position, reflecting on one of his plans. The Heilbronn grit of which the statue is made produces by the mild yellow hue of its colours a pleasant, marble-like appearance. The place where it stands, being a fine hill covered with dark pines, adds to the effect of the simple monument. *Architect.*

**The Gutta Percha Trade.**—The history of gutta percha, or gatta ta au, as the learned tell us the best quality of the gum ought to be called, is brief but not uneventful. Previous to 1844, the very name of gutta percha was unknown to European commerce. In that year two cwt. of it was shipped experimentally from Singapore. The exportation of gutta percha from that port rose in 1845 to 169 piculs (the picul is 133½ lb); in 1846, to 5,364; in 1847, to 9,296; and in the first seven months of 1848, to 6,768 piculs. In the first four and a half years of the trade, 21,596 piculs of gutta percha, valued at \$274,190, were shipped at Singapore, the whole of which were sent to England, with the exception of 15 piculs to Mauritius, 470 to the continent of Europe, and 922 to the United States. But this rapid growth of the new trade conveys only a faint idea of the commotion it created among the native inhabitants of the Indian Archipelago. The jungles of the Johore were the scenes of the earliest gatherings, and they were soon ransacked in every direction by parties of Malays and Chinese, while the indigenous population gave themselves up to the search with a unanimity and zeal only to be equalled by that which made railway jobbers of every man, woman and child in England about the same time. The knowledge of the article stirring the avidity of gatherers, gradually spread from Singapore northward as far as Penang, southward along the east coast of Sumatra to Java, eastward to Borneo, where it was found at Brune, Sarawak and Pontianak on the west coast, at Ketl and Passer on the east. *Daily News.*

To CORRESPONDENTS.—A Constant Subscriber.—A Constant Reader.—E. B.—S. S.—E. H. M.—J. P. W.—J. P.—Vindex.—S. R. T.—Dr. J. B.—received.

J. M. J.—We cannot give our correspondent the information which he asks.

M. H. C.—Any friend wishing to ascertain the judgment of this journal on a musical artist no longer before the public has only to refer to the columns of the *Athenæum*. Without undertaking to answer the present inquiry, we may say without chance of disapproval that no contradiction will be found there.

Erratum.—P. 1209, col. 3, l. 40, for 'Truth' read *Furth*.

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NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that the Board will, on the 21st of December next, proceed to the Election of the DONELLAN LECTURER for 1851.

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Nov. 14, 1850. RICHARD MACDONNELL, D.D., Registrar.

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By order of the Council,

JAMES HUDSON, Secretary.

London, 6th November, 1850.

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**TO ADVERTISERS.**—Of the ART-JOURNAL for January Twenty Thousand will be printed. Advertisers, to secure insertion in that Number, must send their Advertisements to Mr. Clark, Manager of the Advertising Department, 49, Pall Mall, on or before the 15th of December.

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*Correspondence between Goethe and Reinhard, from 1807 to 1831* [Briefwechsel zwischen Goethe, &c.] Stuttgart & Tübingen, Cotta; London, F. Thimm.

OF many characteristics that distinguish the German men of letters, one of the most peculiar is their epistolary diligence. Their pens run on friendly missions with a zeal that would be something considerable in writers who did nothing else; but this industry in authors of voluminous books, and readers of inexhaustible appetite, appears little less than astonishing. —When we find, on closer acquaintance with their lives, that besides all this, such copious correspondents have often been largely occupied with other affairs,—have travelled and paid annual tribute to the fashion of spa-hunting,—frequented theatres, picture galleries, clubs, and “æsthetic teas,”—to say nothing of making love, dining well and long, figuring at levées, sitting for pictures and busts, and receiving all manner of visitations from passing strangers and “wayfaring students,”—we may be tempted to ask, with a smile, “Are the days in Germany longer than on this side of the Rhine?—or did these busy heads and fingers exist without the refreshment of sleep?”—The serious answer would perhaps be a reflection more likely to vex than to reform the spendthrifts of “spare minutes.” It is, however, by the use of these only that men who had learned their value could accomplish the feats which surprise us; and it is instructive to note that the fruits of leisure moments are most abundant in those who have done the most in their stated allotments of labour. Of such we have notable examples in Johann von Müller and in Goethe: each, in quite different spheres of activity, remarkable for busy occupations independent of their proper literary tasks,—for the breadth of their studies, for the mass of their publications,—as well as for their assiduity in private letter writing.

The various series of Goethe's correspondence already brought to light are remarkable not merely as evidence of industry. They attest the expansion of a mind which could throw itself out with no less ease than power in so many directions; the readiness with which it replied to all that bore the stamp of genuine endeavour in literature, science or art,—of genius, force and sincerity in personal character. A different vein of communication may be traced through each of the principal sets of letters hitherto published—with Schiller, with Zelter, with Frau von Stein, or Bettine, and here again in the correspondence with Reinhard. In each some new vista is opened; but the identity of the writer in every change of relations and subject is discovered by certain qualities which distinguish his manner of treating all. In all we recognize a peculiar air of urbanity and self-control; a regard for the actual, and a dislike of mere abstractions; the reverent worship of nature, and the aversion to whatever clouds or distorts her; love of the beautiful, the complete and the permanent, and abhorrence of all crudity and violence; with a constant bearing in every direction on the cheerful exercise of human faculty in fruitful work according to its capacity, and against all waste of human energies in attempting the unattainable or in repining at the inevitable. In these we have some principal features of that science of life to which his great influence on minds of a superior order is due; and their unaffected display in such various relations, in reference to every kind of subject, may be regarded as a

valuable supplement to the works in which the same ruling motives are embodied in many forms of consummate art.

In the present Correspondence the same character is reflected on a special range of topics,—supplied in part by the branch of science in which Goethe and Reinhard found a common interest, in part by the position and qualities of the latter. Of Count Reinhard, who long played a conspicuous and difficult part in Germany, some notice is due to the singularity of his personal career. It was indeed favoured by the time, in which revolutions opened a door to plebeian genius, and a new spur was given to all Europe by the modern Mohammed, whose true symbol, it has been said, was “*La carrière ouverte aux talents*.” But even then it must have required a genius rarely adapted to the time, and more than ordinary talents, to raise a humble German clergyman's son from his first condition of private tutor to the successive offices of Secretary of Legation and Minister of Foreign Affairs, in France;—which he afterwards represented, under all changes of government, at various courts of Germany; closing a long public career as her minister at the Frankfort Diet under the Restoration; with the title of “*Comte et Pair*,” and the reputation of a temperate, humane and upright man.

Karl Friedrich Reinhard was born in 1761, at Balingen in Württemberg; where his father, a Protestant minister, held the post of “Superintendent.” From Tübingen, where he went through the University studies, with an especial direction towards philosophy, he proceeded to the Pays de Vaud, in his twenty-first year, for the purpose of acquiring the French language; and in 1787 went as a domestic tutor to Bordeaux;—having, it is said, already gained some credit by translations of Tibullus and Tyrtæus, and by some prose compositions, published in Switzerland in 1783 and 1785 respectively. At a critical moment, with what inducement we have not yet learned, he left Bordeaux for Paris in 1791,—and, in the following year, we find him already advanced to the post of Secretary of the French Legation in London, under Dumouriez's ministry. Of this important step he speaks in these general terms in one of the letters now before us, dated many years later.—“Personal liking and patronage I rather found than sought, even in those fearful times!—I did not raise myself, others raised me.”

One of his contemporaries gives the following account of the circumstance that made way to his employment in France.—

He had been a diligent student; was familiar with the new growth of (German) philosophy; and tried to make his fortune in Paris. Here he became acquainted with Sieyès, who at that time was a kind of French metaphysician. The latter commissioned him to draw up an epitome of Kant's ‘*Critic*,’ which was afterwards printed in German in Reichardt's Journal. Sieyès, who gained from the epitome about as much understanding of Kant as Cousin in our day has of Schelling and Hegel, declared, indeed, that in Kant he found nothing at all new. “All this,” he said, with the utmost naïveté, “we have known long since.”—and it may well be doubted whether even now Kant is any better comprehended in France. However, little as Sieyès was edified by Reinhard's sketch, the fortune of the latter was made by his acquaintance with the powerful Abbé. \* \* But Talleyrand was afterwards his most decided patron. Of all whom he employed in foreign affairs he valued no one more highly than Reinhard.

When war broke out with England, Reinhard was transferred to Naples. The speedy rupture with that power recalled him to Paris; where, after the fall of the Girondists, he still found employment. Under the Terror he was engaged in the Foreign Office. After Robespierre's overthrow, we see him appointed to the Diplomatic Com-

mittee under the Convention; and when peace was made with Prussia, he was sent as Minister to Hamburg:—“there for the first time,” he says, “in a position of mark enough to provoke envy and intrigue.” In Hamburg he married the daughter of Dr. Reimarus, son of the celebrated author of the ‘*Wolfenbüttel Fragments*.’ From hence he was despatched on a mission to Tuscany (1798), “the culminating point of his free and self-approving activity”—of which one result was the preservation from plunder at that time of the famous Gallery. Although the changes of 1799, he says, “paralyzed his courage,” and though “he was not deluded by the 18th Brumaire, knowing the men and the man” (Napoleon),—he still continued in favour with some of the ruling powers:—among whom, besides those already mentioned, we have his own authority to mention Josephine. Napoleon himself appears to have been alternately repelled from him by something like personal antipathy, and determined, by his ability and fitness for certain posts, to use his services. After a short mission in Switzerland, Reinhard returned to his office in Hamburg, and there remained until replaced by Bourrienne in 1805:—whereupon, returning to Paris to claim a former promise of better employment, “Napoleon clenched his fist convulsively,” and ordered him off in disgrace to Jassy, in Moldavia. Here he had scarcely begun to solace himself, “by a hearth of his own building, with his books sent from Vienna,” when “the Russians came upon him,” and he was roughly dragged as prisoner to Kamensk-shuk,—but set free at once when his quality and case were made known to the Emperor Alexander. The hardships of this forced journey brought on an illness, the cure of which he sought at Carlsbad;—and there first became acquainted with Goethe. “It was not the waters,” he afterwards declared, “but his society that effected the cure.” From this period (1807), the correspondence began, and it continued to the end of Goethe's life, with growing confidence and regard on both sides; although often interrupted by the vicissitudes of Reinhard's subsequent career. He seems at the time to have pleased Napoleon by a memoir on the state of Moldavia; was offered the post of Vice-Consul at Milan, but declined it, and passed a year in retirement on an estate he had bought at Falkenlust (near Remagen) on the Rhine. But finding, he says, “that his income would not allow him to live without employment,” he solicited it from Champagny; and after some delay was suddenly, by Napoleon himself, appointed resident at the new court of King Jerome, where he remained until 1813, in a position of extreme difficulty and delicacy, “taking,” he says, “a straightforward course between the two hostile brothers,—leaving the women on the right hand and the intriguers on the left.” But according to Steffens, he was intrusted with a very peremptory kind of power over the younger brother; and exercised it in a manner creditable to his feelings, when the first heavings of the German revolt in the Universities provoked Jerome to that harsh usage of poor Johann von Müller—his Minister of Public Instruction,—which is said to have been an immediate cause of the historian's death. When, after Napoleon's fall, the Restoration seemed only to increase the power of Talleyrand, that minister called Reinhard to Paris, and placed him in the *Direction des Chancelleries*. During the “hundred days,” after some rough usage of Reinhard by the allies at Frankfort, both met in Flanders as refugees; but on the second return of Louis, they re-entered France to experience different fortunes. Talleyrand fell into disgrace; but was able, it is



said, to recommend Reinhard to the King, at whose instance he was taken into favour by the new minister, Richelieu:—and from that period until his retirement in 1829 he continued to enjoy the confidence of successive administrations, as ambassador to the Frankfort Diet.

Even in this bare outline, a French career so uniform in its success amidst such various changes will appear a remarkable one for an obscure foreigner whom accident had thrown to the surface in a period of convulsion. It would at first sight seem to prove, with every allowance for good fortune, more than common address and pliant worldly wisdom in the adventurer who could make a fair wind of every breeze that stirred the treacherous element he sailed in. Yet we find his contemporaries (those excepted who, like Varnhagen, cannot forgive a German for serving France) praising him for qualities which bespeak a nature rather firm than supple. Such was the impression he made on Steffens; who had constant and close opportunities of observing him at two different periods of his history,—at Hamburgh, namely, in 1807, and afterwards at Frankfort many years later. "He had a very composed manner: spoke deliberately, and his turn of mind had something decisive and trenchant. \* \* A man, as I could easily see, well able to make himself respected." He is described by others as having preserved through all the stages of a shifting life the reputation of honesty and good will to his native country:—and the self-portraiture which we find in the volume now published does not contradict, but rather confirms, this favourable view. His letters, characterized by intelligence and strong but temperately worded opinions, betray a warmth of feeling and a sympathy with objects of art, science and literature, hardly to be expected *a priori* from the veteran diplomatist who had found it possible to act as the representative of France under every kind of government from the Directory to the Restoration. To this openness of mind for objects foreign to his calling he doubtless owed the rise and progress of his intercourse with Goethe; until in course of time general feelings of sympathy and friendly habits grew up round the topic that served at first to bind the connexion—on the Poet's side at least. In the latter will be found new proof of a circumstance that will already have struck the observers of Goethe's history; the almost passionate eagerness, namely, with which he sought for external notice and assent to his views of natural science,—while for the success of his poetical works he never once condescended to take the slightest step in advance; sending them forth without even the usual opening of a preface. For the credit of his physical researches and theories, on the contrary, he showed on all occasions the liveliest anxiety. The only want of sympathy which is ever found capable of ruffling his composure as a writer or of warping his rectitude of judgment, is the opposition or neglect by the scientific world of these favourite productions,—which, like other parents, he embraced all the more tenderly on finding the public cold to their merits. An exception may be made, it is true, of the 'Metamorphosis of Plants,'—which soon found the place as a valuable aid to science that it has ever since held. The strongest instance of his partiality—as also of decided rejection by the learned world—was that of 'The Doctrine of Colour':—which, from 1792, at least, to the last hour of his life, he appears to have thought more upon, and cared for more, than any other of his pursuits—not even excepting the Fine Arts; receiving assent with a warmth and resenting opposition with a bitterness which were never visibly excited by the good or ill fortune of anything else that he produced.

Goethe was in the heat of researches on Colour when he first met with Reinhard at Carlsbad; and was at once won by the readiness with which the diplomatist entered (or seemed to enter) into his demonstrations. Whether this was or was not on Reinhard's side a skilful touch of his profession—which taught him, on approaching an eminent person, to affect admiration for what he was quick enough to discover was his foible—cannot, of course, be determined from the Correspondence. Nor would it be safe to say that, had not Reinhard felt or simulated an interest in this topic, the intimacy would never have taken place; for Reinhard was in other respects one of those figures which Goethe always used to view with attention,—and, apart from his value as a scientific ally, would certainly have appeared considerable in the poet's eyes, as a "much-enduring" and "many-counselled" Ulysses, who had raised himself to the surface and kept afloat on a dangerous sea under circumstances requiring special ability, good fortune, and perseverance:—qualities that Goethe set above most others in his scale of practical *expetenda*. But be this as it may, it is certain that the friendship was greatly quickened on their first meeting at Carlsbad by Reinhard's conversion to the new Doctrine of Colour; and also that the prospect of getting it by his means favourably heard by the *savans*—and, above all, at the Institute of France—was a constant motive for several years to make much of the letters of the German French Minister. This connecting thread may be distinctly pursued through all the earlier correspondence: in which, however, as we have said, there naturally arose by degrees other points of common interest, and an amity which seems to have been on either side both respectful and sincere.

Detached specimens of a collection like this give little information or pleasure. Letters are themselves but separate branches only of an existence; and to pluck a leaf or two from these for the purpose of showing what kind of tree bore them, would be a process that has been rebuked by anticipation in one of the homely apologues of the wise men of Gotham. What admirable letters Goethe wrote, is already known to all well-educated persons. It will be enough to say, that those to Reinhard are in no respect—whether of beauty and flexible brevity of style in the form, or of genial sense and compass of thought in the subject-matter—inferior to the other published series. Yet they are in some respects unlike any of those being addressed to a peculiar person, under relations wholly different from those of any of his correspondents hitherto made known to us. They show Goethe indeed in every line; but it is Goethe in a new character; more in costume, we may say, as receiving and entertaining a guest distinguished as well by his personal qualities as by the power that belonged to the envoy of France. It has already been said that Reinhard's letters will give the reader favourable impressions of the man. Not only is he more open, fluent, and expansive than could be anticipated from his training and position, but his remarks on topics alien to his profession show a quickness of observation and qualities of sensibility and judgment proving the writer to have been no ordinary man. The facts of his history, indeed, make this proof in one direction superfluous;—but it is not always that the written utterances of remarkable persons sustain the repute acquired by their known actions; so that our idea of the completeness of such characters is always raised when we find in both a certain harmony.

We need not advise Goethe's especial readers to take note of this volume:—for them the mere

announcement of its publication will suffice. They will find it a welcome interlude, while waiting until the curtain rises with the new Schiller and Goethe Correspondence,—which, it is said, may be looked for at no distant period.

*The Duchess of Malfi, a Tragedy, in Five Acts.*  
By John Webster. 1612. Reconstructed for Stage Representation by R. H. Horne, Esq. Tallis & Co.

HAVING already noticed the representation of this tragedy, and expressed our opinion on its claims so far as time-honoured John Webster is concerned,—we return to it for the purpose of briefly adverting to Mr. Horne's share in the present version. Waiving any present question as to the fairness towards a deceased writer of forcing important alterations on him, even where they are beneficial,—we can speak in high terms of the manner in which Mr. Horne has accomplished the labour which he has undertaken. To remodel and interpolate a play by one of the most distinguished of the Elizabethan dramatists, so as "to leave no rubs, no botches in the work"—to sustain a parallel flight of imagination, and to fathom the same depth of passion and intention—were propositions making high demands on a dramatist. Yet we cannot but admit that they are fulfilled in the adaptation before us.

In points both of language and of construction Mr. Horne's labour is so interfused with the original drama, that we can refer to few instances of either which are exclusively his own; and this prevents us doing justice, by means of example to the unquestionable skill with which he has performed his questionable task. To the following passage, however—from the third scene of the fifth act—we believe the modern dramatist can, with the exception of the last line, lay undivided claim. It occurs when the remorse of the guilty Duke, for the murder of his sister is fulfilling the doom of madness which she bequeathed to him. The Prince Malatesta, though ignorant of the deadly crime which has been perpetrated against the Duchess, is yet apprised of the fearful persecution which she has undergone,—and comes to institute an examination respecting it. The manner in which the Duke turns to his wily accomplice, the Cardinal, to prompt him in the interview last the fatal secret should escape,—and the struggle between a sort of insane caution and the overwhelming agony of conscience throughout—are so portrayed as to evidence high dramatic capability.

*Ferd.* Why do I sit here? I am not Duke of Malfi!  
*Card. (Aside.)* But you know—  
*Ferd.* I recollect.  
*Card. (Looking off.)* The prince?  
*Enter Servants, preceding the Prince.*  
*Ferd.* I say I recollect him well, and he is welcome. And he is welcome.  
*Enter Malatesta and Silvio, ushered in by Grisolan, &c.*  
*Prince, you are welcome. (Aside to the Cardinal.)* This is right, is it not?  
*Mal.* Greeting and restoration to your Grace.  
*Ferd.* Restoration!  
*Card. (Aside.)* Of your health.  
*Ferd. (To Malatesta.)* I pray be seated.  
Yes, I have been unwell. Welcome, Lord Silvio; what news from friends in Rome?  
*Sil. (Standing.)* Not much, your grace.  
*Mal. (Seated.)* We rather come by reason of strange news reaching us there from Malfi.  
*Ferd.* Speak it all, as with a trumpet's voice!—my brain already hath heard it louder.  
*Card. (Standing agitated.)* In allusion, prince, to his grace's recent fever.  
*Ferd.* Yes, I said so.  
*Mal.* Duke Ferdinand, beware best, without disguise or further prelude, I announce the cause of this my visit.  
*Ferd.* I am here to listen.  
*Mal.* 'Tis rumoured, duke, that some weeks since Marina, Your royal sister, duchess here in Malfi, was suddenly afflicted with the loss of reason; that your grace, then visiting Her court, assumed command and sovereignty, causing her strict confinement, nor allowing



Th' ingress even of her ladies; turning thus  
Her chamber to her dungeon; whence at night  
Come strange and dreadful cries.

Ferd. But not from her.  
Card. No—not from her—they were inmates.  
Mal. How came they in the palace?  
Card. Nay, by stealth.  
Mal. Lord Cardinal, have a care lest you involve  
Yourself too deeply; for his holiness,  
The sovereign Pontiff, hearing of these things  
Did charge Lord Silvio, a faithful friend,  
Me also to proceed forthwith to Malin.  
Ferd. Well—you are here.  
Mal. (Rising, and looking anxiously at the Duke.)  
Conduct me to the Duchess.

(Ferdinand stares with confused dismay.)  
Card. (Aside.) I would, if I could, and wrap you in her  
silence.

Ferd. Go back to Rome!  
Card. To Malatesta. I pray, illustrious prince, as you  
You—good Lord Silvio—do not under-rate  
His grace's courtesy and true regards  
By these his hasty words.

Ferd. My words are weighed  
And so am I. As for this aged prince,  
Who I, indeed, by reason of his rank  
And line magnificent in ancestry,  
Did wish to wed our sister, it is time  
That he be told his visit here is lost—  
Lost like a moonbeam clad in larkins snows—  
Malina doth decline his proffer'd hand.  
She said—"He is too much in years—his sight  
Failing—The Prince Fieschi—his limbs failing—  
And his mind—  
An amiss fancy, wandering thro' the dark  
And lengthening dulness of his pedigree."  
She said this—and I say it—for I see  
How dark we all are, both in sense and deed.  
I will go hunt the badger by owl-light.

The detached passages which follow are also  
from Mr. Horne's pen.

GRAND HAPPINESS AS AN OCCASION FOR FEAR.  
Duch. Tell me, then,  
The present cause of these your anxious looks.  
Ant. Happiness.  
Too great—too perfect—and the measure full,  
Forewarns some change. "Oh, can it be, the fates  
That weave all destinies, should'er allow  
Unequal distribution such as this—  
Large stores of misery, thick-sown thro' the world,  
And one man's field exempt?"

PRIDE OF ANCESTRY.  
Ferd. Brother, look you where  
Our royal stream, made hideous by this stain,  
Runs shuddering backwards thrice three hundred years,  
Unto the feet of venerable kings,  
Throned 'midst the loftiest shadows of the tomb—  
Who ~~spurn~~ <sup>open</sup> our name into the common dust!

THE SAME.  
Ferd. I know  
The depth and compass of your shame—of ours—  
My shame—our house's infamy; that house,  
Which, like a mountain pinnacle of snow,  
Had ever reared its head into the heavens,  
Receiving honour and conferring it;  
Now, what pollution!

The fusion which the later writer has accom-  
plished of his own style with Webster's is  
strikingly exhibited in the following extract.  
The speech of Bosola and the answer of the  
Duchess until the stage direction, "*looking  
round as on her prison*,"—are Mr. Horne's;  
the remainder belongs to the Elizabethan poet.

Bos. Thou art an over-ripe fruit, that not being duly  
gathered, art fallen to rot on the soil. There's nois, hand  
shall take thee up.

Duch. (Looking upwards.) A hand will take me up!—A  
fallen fruit? no; I am a seed, whose mortal shell must lie  
and rot i' the earth before the flower can rise again to the  
light. (Looking round as on her prison.) Didst thou ever  
see a lark in a cage?—such is the soul in the body. The  
world is like its little turf of grass; and the heaven o'er our  
heads, like its looking-glass, only gives us a miserable know-  
ledge of the small compass of our prison.

Such extracts as we have given, if they prove  
the writer's ability to reconstruct the dramas of  
his predecessors, yet more entitle him (if he had  
yet to prove his title) to a hearing on his own  
account. Mr. Horne's genius is not of that  
merely theatrical kind which by the skilful me-  
chanism of a story can often excite an interest  
of a certain order. His power is of the dra-  
matic calibre which is strong to exhibit human  
character and motive. A play produced by the  
former means, if decently rendered, may dis-  
pense with great acting; one which implies the  
latter must be seriously impaired unless its in-  
terpreters can rise to the conceptions of the poet.  
Such a drama braves great risk in these times,  
—but its success if attained, will be enduring.  
It is worth a thousand of those safe triumphs

which serve, but do not outlast, the purpose of  
the hour.

### *A Handbook for the Parish of St. James's, Westminster.* By the Rev. M. E. C. Walcott. Steffington & Co.

WE learn from Mr. Walcott's title-page that  
he is one of the curates of the parish of St.  
James's, and author of 'The History of St. Mar-  
garet's Church, Westminster,' and of the 'Me-  
morial of Westminster'—a still more impor-  
tant subject,—of his treatment of which we  
had occasion to speak favourably at the period  
of the publication of the book. His former  
works were bulkier and better than this:—which,  
we must confess, has somewhat disappointed us.  
The Handbook of St. James's, exhibits only a  
very slender sprinkling of that new MS. infor-  
mation to which the curate of a parish may  
obtain ready access; while the obligations which  
the author is under to some recent writers—more  
especially to Mr. Cunningham—are hardly ac-  
knowledgeed with that fulness which information  
of the character extracted would seem to call for.  
We allude to this want of apparent candour  
more particularly at this moment, because the  
system of book-making is becoming so general  
among us—the law of copyright so uncertain  
—and booksellers so unjust to one another—that  
the best established books require a certain kind  
of protection from the guardians of the press.  
With this casual allusion to Mr. Walcott's  
obligations, we shall pass to the further con-  
sideration of his little volume.

Mr. Walcott has divided his handbook into  
four heads:—the Introduction, 'The Parish  
Church,' 'The Rectors,' and 'Streets and  
Buildings.' In the Introduction, he gives us  
a few brief allusions to London past and pre-  
sent,—the act for the formation of the parish  
of St. James's,—and statistics of population, &c.  
In 'The Parish Church,' we have a description  
of the interior,—some account of the architect,  
Sir Christopher Wren,—a notice of Henry Jer-  
my, Earl of St. Albans, "the Father of the  
Parish," as he may not inaptly be called,—a  
description of the principal monuments,—and  
extracts from the registers. 'The Rectors'  
contains biographical notices of the several  
incumbents; including the well-known names  
of Tenison, Wake and Secker, afterwards  
Archbishops of Canterbury,—and of Samuel  
Clarke, a great one in English divinity. The  
last division, 'Streets and Buildings,' is arranged  
alphabetically.

Certain errors of importance have occurred  
to us, that merit correction hereafter.—Surely  
Mr. Walcott is mistaken in saying that the bed  
in which King George the Third was born, in  
Norfolk House, in St. James's Square, is still  
preserved at Workop. We believe that not  
any bed thus honoured has been pointed out  
for very many years—if at all,—even to old  
women and nurses. Workop, we may add,  
has long been dismantled; but at Arundel  
Castle, another seat of the Duke of Norfolk,  
they show the quaint old cradle in which the  
boy-prince was rocked.—Another error into  
which Mr. Walcott has fallen is, that of placing  
Nell Gwynne's death in 1690. She died, he  
tells us, too, in Pall Mall:—yet, in another  
place he terminates her residence there in 1687.  
She died in 1687.

### *The History of Pendennis: his Fortunes and Misfortunes, &c.* By W. M. Thackeray. 2 vols. Bradbury & Evans.

THOUGH 'Pendennis' is full of true, brilliant,  
deep things,—though it contains many passages  
of clear and wholesome English such as must  
rejoice all who are weary of the spasmodic and

superb styles of narration,—it cannot be de-  
scribed as an advance on 'Vanity Fair.' It  
is rather like a pair of volumes added to that  
story,—containing the results of a second ramble  
among the booths, the wild-beast shows, and  
the merry-go-rounds of that chaos of folly, vice,  
and charlatany. Why must Mr. Thackeray  
be always "going to the fair"?—is a question  
which will occur to many besides ourselves.  
His authorship seems in some danger of be-  
coming a performance on one string: an exe-  
cution of a long *fantasia*, with several varia-  
tions, but all in the same key and all on the  
same theme of "Humbug everywhere." In  
his Preface he claims the character of a plain  
speaker. "Such a one must also be a candid  
hearer." Thus, as critics who would fain be of  
use, we must to the utmost urge our objections  
to such a monotonous crusade against an enemy  
whose existence every one admits,—to such a  
ruthless insistence on the blemishes, incom-  
pleteness, and disappointments which canker  
every human good and happiness.—This is  
not overstated. If we are looking at a *Venus*,  
straight does our anatomist lay his pen point on  
the ill-modelled corner of the forehead over  
which the Goddess has drawn her curls. If we  
are listening to a *Vates*, "Got-up enthusiasm  
and eloquence!" whispers the satirist close at  
our ear. If we are weeping over the sorrows  
of a heroine, our *Momus* shows us the half-  
discussed leg of mutton which, like the *Lady  
Cherubina de Willoughby*, she pushed under the  
sofa just before we entered and just before she  
placed herself in that Niobe-like attitude. Now,  
such being the humour, if not the drift, of this  
tale, how are we to believe Mr. Thackeray im-  
plicitly when he does his best to disclaim effect  
in his Preface?—how are we to acquit him of  
being "a man and a brother," like every one  
of those whom he dissects; a creature of mixed  
motives, into whose authorship a certain pro-  
fessional causticity may have come to be kneaded,  
from its having been found on former occasions  
appetizing rather than unpleasant?—There  
seems to us great need that an alarm should  
be rung pretty loudly in the ears of one of our  
most shrewd, vigorous, accomplished, and kindly  
writers,—bidding him beware of his own ten-  
dencies lest they become organic defects. The  
denouncer of nuisances, the omnipresent and om-  
niloquent accuser, who cries "*Death in the pot!*"  
over every morsel that we put into our mouths,  
becomes himself of nuisances the worst: a per-  
petual skeleton at the banquet; in its influences  
nearly as deadly as the vitriols and the sulphates  
and the rancid particles upon which he is for ever  
pouncing. The observer who is always watch-  
ing the follies and pretensions of the second  
table,—who can hardly get to the end of his  
monthly part without gossip gathered from the  
valets' club, or a fling against powdered-head and  
shoulder-knot, canes and plush breeches,—lies  
open to the charge, not of despising such "con-  
ventionalisms," but of being tormented by an  
irritating sense of their authority. Among all  
the characters who figure in 'Pendennis,' we  
can name only four depicted as amiable. One  
is Helen, the hero's mother; and she is often  
sadly silly. The second is Laura, his Mentor  
and his reward,—whose womanly pettiness  
towards poor little Fanny Bolton is exposed  
with a gratuitous ungraciousness of manner  
not to be excused by these subsequent revela-  
tions, which show little Fanny to be coarse in  
putting up with young Huxter as a husband,  
and coquettish in trying to fascinate all her  
husband's fellow medical students. Foker is  
number three,—who is nothing when not talk-  
ing slang. George Warrington is the fourth;  
and capital as is the sketch, the saturnine and  
cynical points of his manner and personal habits



are as much insisted on as the brave and tender heart over which they are the husk. We are led into the world of literary enterprise to be shown a domain which is only a better sort of literary Back Kitchen. We are introduced into the realm of Art in order that we may have it dinned into our ears that the *Cordelia*, *Lady Macbeth*, *Rosalind* in whom we delight is merely a stupid, soulless puppet, who can move us without being herself moved to a tear, a smile, or a thought by her commerce with the greatest "beings of the mind" ever evoked by magician. It is true that in this particular province our author has relented over his labours of morbid anatomy. With many of Mr. Thackeray's readers Bows—who some will think might have been added to our list of the amiables—will be a favourite character, precisely because he supplies the element of poetry to that artist life which the ruthless author of 'Pendennis' has tried so hard to unpoetize. That such an element, by the way, is a constant quality in the theatrical world, all whose imagination is outraged by the picture of such a stupid, pie-making, puppet player—Queen as Miss Fotheringay may take comfort in reflecting. In 'Violet, the Danseuse,' there was one of the Bows tribe:—and he it is (taking the name of *Michonnet*) who gives its artless and real pathos to the 'Adrienne Lecouvreur' of M. Scribe.

While we protest against the soundness, the sense, nay, we must add, the sincerity, of this universal-demolition principle of making dismal effects everywhere in a work professing to give pictures from the world around us,—we willingly do honour to the power and acuteness of the painter. There is one character in 'Pendennis' whom Mr. Thackeray has surpassed only in his own *Becky*:—we mean, of course, the Major. On him the author has lavished all his resources. A perfect gentleman of the world he is—expert in detaching the boy from the Costigan nets—heroic in braving the threatening insolence of his valet—pathetic when begging his nephew not to pull down the card-castle built with false cards for the said nephew's benefit. But even in this character Mr. Thackeray, under the desire of sparing no foible, has outraged average nature. The Major Pendennis described to us would not have stooped to an intrigue so sully as the one by which he tries to secure the Clavering seat and the Begum's fortune for his nephew. To suppress all knowledge of the existence of a felon father with the purpose of grasping a fortune and extorting a settlement—is a villainous meanness, too near kennel-practice for the average club-man, be he ever so selfish, to stoop to.

The story in 'Pendennis' goes for little:—our author trying to account for its level character by telling us, in his Preface, that he had at first intended to be as strong and murderous as the *Suës* of novel writing, but gave up the matter in despair from never having lived in the necessary bad company. We are aware, too,—and were at the time, with cordial sympathy—of the serious and all but fatal interruption which this story sustained in its writer's severe illness:—but why need Mr. Thackeray have wound it up with such a helter-skelter indifference? The way in which Pendennis was delivered of Miss Blanche (who, by the way, is capital, as a sort of picaresque sentimentalist) we had foreseen,—and we can swallow Sir Henry Foker's emancipation from the same *Cleopatra's* toils; but the relief provided for the Begum, which at once relieves all concerned and loads them with a deeper ignominy, is Minerva Press every grain of it.

These objections made,—we may recur to our praise of Mr. Thackeray as an admir-

able writer of clear, succinct, vigorous English. The following scene after its kind may almost pair off with the never-to-be-forgotten return home of *Rawdon Crawley*, which was the crisis of *Becky's* fate.—

"Old Pendennis had no special labours or bills to encounter on the morrow, as he had no affection at home to soothe him. He had always money in his desk sufficient for his wants; and being by nature and habit tolerably indifferent to the wants of other people, these latter were not likely to disturb him. But a gentleman may lie out of temper though he does not owe a shilling; and though he may be ever so selfish, he must occasionally feel despirited and lonely. He had had two or three twinges of gout in the country-house, where he had been staying; the birds were wild and shy, and the walking over the ploughed fields had fatigued him; deucedly: the young men had laughed at him; and he had been peevish at table once or twice; he had not been able to get his whist of an evening; and, in fine, was glad to come away. In all his dealings with Morgan, his valet, he had been exceedingly sulky and discontented. He had sworn at him and abused him for many days past. He had scalded his mouth with bad soup at Swindon. He had left his umbrella in the rail-road carriage: at which piece of forgetfulness, he was in such a rage, that he cursed Morgan more freely than ever. Both the chimneys smoked furiously in his lodgings; and when he caused the windows to be flung open, he swore so acrimoniously, that Morgan was inclined to fling him out of the window, too, through that opened casement. The valet swore after his master, as Pendennis went down the street on his way to the club. 'Bays's was not at all pleasant.' The house had been new painted, and smelt of varnish and turpentine, and a large streak of white paint inflicted itself on the back of the old boy's fur-collared surcoat. The dinner was not good; and the three most odious men in all London—old Hawkshaw, whose cough and accompaniments are fit to make any man uncomfortable; old Colonel Gripey, who seizes on all the newspapers; and that irreclaimable old bore Jawkins, who would come and dine at the next table to Pendennis, and describe to him every inn-bill which he had paid in his foreign tour—each and all of these disagreeable personages and incidents had contributed to make Major Pendennis miserable; and the Club waiter trod on his toe as he brought him his coffee. Never alone appear the Immortals. The Furies always hunt in company; they pursued Pendennis from home, to the Club, and from the Club home. \* \* \* Old Pendennis returned from the Club, and went up stairs to his rooms. Mr. Morgan swore very savagely at him and his bell, when he heard the latter, and finished his tumbler of brandy before he went up to answer the summons. He received the abuse consequent on this delay in silence, nor did the Major condescend to read in the flushed face and glaring eyes of the man, the anger under which he was labouring. The old gentleman's foot-bath was at the fire; his gown and slippers awaiting him there. Morgan knelt down to take his boots off with due subordination; and as the Major abused him from above, kept up a growl of maledictions below at his feet. Thus, when Pendennis was crying 'Confound you, sir; mind that strap—curse you, don't wrench my foot off,' Morgan *sotto voce* below was expressing a wish to strangle him, drown him, and punch his head off. The boots removed, it became necessary to divest Mr. Pendennis of his coat: and for this purpose the valet had necessarily to approach very near to his employer; so near that Pendennis could not but perceive what Mr. Morgan's late occupation had been; to which he adverted in that simple and forcible phraseology which men are sometimes in the habit of using to their domestics; informing Morgan that he was a drunken beast, and that he smelt of brandy. At this the man broke out, losing patience, and flinging up all subordination: 'I'm drunk, am I? I'm a beast, am I? I'm d—d, am I? you infernal old miscreant. Shall I wring your old head off, and drown yer in that pail of water? Do you think I'm a-go'in' to bear your confounded old harragance, you old Wiggly! Chatter your old hivories at me, do you, you grinning old baboon! Come on if you are a man and can stand to a man. Ha! you coward; knives, knives!—

'If you advance a step, I'll send it into you,' said the Major, seizing up a knife that was on the table near him. 'Go down stairs, you drunken brute, and leave the house; send for your book and your wages, in the morning, and never let me see your insolent face again.' This *ad-d* impertinence has been growing for some months past. You have been growing too rich. You are not fit for service. Get out of it, and out of the house!—And where would you wish me to go, pray, out of the house?' asked the man; and won't it be equal convenient to-morrow mornin'?—*toot-fay mame shoe, sirr-aplay, munser?*'—'Silence, you beast, and go!' cried out the Major.—Morgan began to laugh with rather a sinister laugh. 'Look yeere, Pendennis,' he said, seating himself; 'since I've been in this room you've called me beast, brute, dog, and d—d me, haven't you? How do you suppose one man likes that sort of talk from another? How many years have I waited on you, and how many dagnes and curses have you given me, along with my wages? Do you think a man's a dog, that you can talk to him in this way? If I choose to drink a little, why shouldn't I? If I've seen many a gentleman drunk formerly, and perhaps have the abit from them. I learnt again to leave this house, old feller, and shall I tell you why? The house is my house, every stick of furniture in it is mine, except your old traps, and your shower-bath, and your wig-box. I've bought the place, I tell you, with my own industry and perseverance. I can show a hundred pound, where you can show a fifty, or your damned supersellous nephew either. I've served you honourable, done everything for you these dozen years, and I'm a dog, am I? I'm a beast, am I? That's the language for gentlemen, not for our rank. But I'll bear it no more! I'll throw up your service; I'm tired on it; I've combed your old wig and buckled your old girths and waistbands long enough, I tell you. Don't look savage at me, I'm sitting in my own chair, in my own room, at telling the truth to you! I'll be your beast, and your brute, and your dog, no more. Major Pendennis Alf Pay.'—The fury of the old gentleman, met by the servant's abrupt revolt, had been shocked and cooled by the concussion, as much as if a sudden shower-bath or a pail of cold water had been flung upon him. That effect produced, and his anger calmed, Morgan's speech had interested him; and he rather respected his adversary, and his courage in facing him, as of old days, in the fencing-room, he would have admired the opponent who hit him. 'You'r no longer my servant,' the Major said, 'and the house may be yours; but the lodgings are mine, and you will have the goodness to leave them. To-morrow morning, when we have settled our accounts, I shall remove into other quarters. In the meantime, I desire to go to bed, and have not the slightest wish for your further company.'—'We'll have a settlement, don't you be afraid,' Morgan said, getting up from his chair. 'I ain't done with you yet; nor with your family, nor with the Clavering family, Major Pendennis; and that you shall know.'—He sat and mused by his fireside, over the past events, and the confounded impudence and ingratitude of servants; and thought how he should get a new man; how devilish unpleasant it was for a man of his age, and with his habits, to part with a fellow to whom he had been accustomed; how Morgan had a receipt for boot-varnish, which was incomparably better, and more comfortable to the feet than any he had ever tried; how very well he made matton, brob; and tended him when he was unwell. 'God it's a hard thing, to lose a fellow of that sort; but he must go,' thought the Major. 'He has grown rich, and impudent, since he has grown rich. He was horribly tipsy and abusive to-night. We must part and I must go out of the lodgings. Damn it, I like the lodgings; I'm used to 'em. It's very unpleasant, at my time of life, to change my quarters.'—And so on, mused the old gentleman. The shower-bath had done him good: the testiness was gone: the loss of the umbrella, the smell of paint at the club, were forgotten under the superior excitement. 'Confound the insolent villain!', thought the old gentleman. 'He understood my wants to a nicety: he was the best servant in England.' He thought about his servant as a man thinks of a horse that has carried him long and well, and that has come down with him, and is safe no longer. How the deuce to



replace him? Where can he get such another animal."

In the same number from which we derive the above stinging declaration of warfare, we also find a fair bit of Mr. Thackeray's half-sentimental, half-sardonic philosophy, which may be given as a specimen of his lighter manner. It is the meeting of two friends, after a temporary separation.—

Arthur ran up to his friend's room straightway, and found it, as of old, perfumed with the pipe, and George, once more at work at his newspapers and reviews. The pair greeted each other with the rough cordiality which young Englishmen use one to another; and which carries a great deal of warmth and kindness under its rude exterior. Warrington smiled, and took his pipe out of his mouth, and said, "Well, young one! Pen advanced and held out his hand, and said, 'How are you, old boy?' And so this greeting passed between two friends who had not seen each other for months. Alphonse and Frédéric would have rushed into each other's arms and shrieked, 'Ce bon cœur! ce cher Alphonse!' over each other's shoulders. Max and Wilhelm would have bestowed half a dozen kisses, scented with Havannah, upon each other's mustachios. 'Well, young one!—How are you, old boy?' is what two Britons say, after saving each other's lives, possibly, the day before. To-morrow they will leave off shaking hands, and only wag their heads at one another as they come to breakfast. Each has for the other the very warmest confidence and regard: each would share his purse with the other; and hearing him attacked would break out in the loudest and most enthusiastic praise of his friend; but they part with a mere Good-bye; they meet with a mere How'd'you-do; and they don't write to each other in the interval. Curious modesty, strange stoical decorum of English friendship! 'Yes, we are not demonstrative like those confounded foreigners,' says Hardman; who not only show no friendship, but never felt any all his life long. 'Been in Switzerland?' says Pen. 'Yes,' says Warrington. 'Couldn't find a bit of tobacco fit to smoke till we arrived at Strasburg, where I got some caporal.' The man's mind is full, very likely, of the great sights which he has seen; of the great emotions with which the vast works of nature have inspired him. But his enthusiasm is too coy to show itself, even to his closest friend, and he veils it with a cloud of tobacco. He will speak more fully of confidential evenings; however, and write ardently and frankly about that which he is shy of saying. The thoughts and experience of his travel will come forth in his writings; as the learning, which he never displays in talk, enriches his style with pregnant allusion and brilliant illustration, colours his generous eloquence, and points his wit. The elder gives a rapid account of the places which he has visited in his tour. He has seen Switzerland, North Italy, and the Tyrol—he has come home by Vienna, and Dresden, and the Rhine. He speaks about those places in a shy sulky voice, as if he had rather not mention them at all, and as if the sight of them had rendered him very unhappy. The outline of the elder man's tour thus gloomily sketched out, the young one begins to speak. He has been in the country—very much bored—enervating—uncommonly slow—he is here for a day or two, and going on to—to the neighbourhood of Tunbridge Wells, to some friends—that will be uncommonly slow, too. How hard it is to make an Englishman acknowledge that he is happy!"

Here, we must take our leave of 'Pendennis.' Our objections have been stated at so much length only in deference to its power.—Mr. Thackeray is an artist with the pencil as well as with the pen. When a portrait-painter who might be a Van der Helst will be a Brouwer, have we not a right to complain? Let him answer. As we have alluded to the author in his double character, let us here say,—what has not been sufficiently said,—that the fancy and whim of the accessory designs to 'Pendennis' (in particular of the initial letters) are such as to place them high among modern specimens of the fantastic in book-illustration.

*Life, Scenery, and Customs in Sierra Leone and the Gambia.* By Thomas E. Poole, D.D. 2 vols. Bentley.

AFTER some years spent in service under the tropical sun of the Bahama Islands, Dr. Poole found himself suddenly ordered to a station on that beautiful but deadly coast of West Africa in which so many gallant spirits have found a premature grave. His apprehensions on the occasion were very natural,—and would be shared, we venture to think, by most of his non-acclimatized countrymen. The courage which can look death calmly in the face on a field of battle has been often known to quail before the thought of inhaling a slow destruction; and there are hundreds of officers in the service who would walk up to a battery in full fire rather than encounter the languid decline of Sierra Leone. Still, the settlement at Free-town may not be abandoned. Not only is it a most important emporium for commerce,—it is also a point from which the abominable trade in the Negro race may best be watched and held in check. To abandon it would be, to surrender a large town, a vast native population already in some measure redeemed from the state of mere animal barbarism, and a great military station, to rivals and enemies. This is not to be thought of. A fatal necessity—political as well as commercial—binds us to that coast; and our wisdom should be employed in discovering the best antidotes to the enervating influences of the climate, so as to lessen the waste of life which we cannot altogether prevent.

Dr. Poole has some sensible remarks on this point. He seems to regard the mortality among English residents as in no slight degree traceable to wilful indiscretions,—to excessive indulgences, and a foolish adherence to practices which may be harmless in England but are not so in Africa. That there is much room for improvement we have no doubt; and improvements may gradually be introduced, both in the habits of European residents and in the face of the country, which will render the latter at least less deadly than it has hitherto been. The bush gradually recedes from the settlement, and with it go many noxious airs and destroying damps. As the surface dries, it becomes healthier; and there is ample reason to believe that in time this land of external beauty may cease to be chiefly known in Europe as the land of death.

This hope, suggested by the experiences of our author, put on record,—we shall leave him to tell the rest of his tale in his own way. A volume of sketches—life, scenery and customs—is naturally a volume of fragments; and we need make no great attempt to connect the pictures transferred to our pages.

This is the way in which a practical man advises his friends to resist the malign influence of the tropical sun.—

"The pulse of social life, in Sierra Leone, for the most part beats slow and languidly. The pleasures of friendly communion and charms of rational conversation are little studied or cared about. What the wretched dissensions and petty jealousies of selfishness and party spirit fail of accomplishing towards producing dullness and monotony, languor and debility, both physical and mental, are too successful in supplying. Apathy and ennui triumph powerfully over the powers of thought and action; and these enemies to exertion and energy affect all alike, prostrating at times, the most robust and active, and affecting him with that most disagreeable of all sensations, called by some the 'fidgets,' by others the 'blue devils.' Restless and uneasy, dissatisfied with yourself and every one, with everything, you pace your piazza, throw yourself on the sofa, rummage your boxes, turn out your clothes, examine your books, call your fowls to an extra feed, or try to catch the distant sail of some expected vessel on the horizon;

but all to no purpose; 'you do not know what to do with yourself.' Then is the time for change, for amusement, for excitement. Mount your horse, if you have one, and you never ought to be without, for you will find him your best friend in this miserable place; mount him, and be off to the country, no matter where, so that you can get quit of your hip-pishness.—

'Not rural sights alone, but rural sounds  
Exhilarate the spirit, and restore  
The tone of languid nature.'

To the Signal Hill, my friend, to the Manager's house at Wilberforce, where hospitality, and a comfortable country sofa, and a sweet pretty garden (and a breeze, if any, will be felt there), and a view of Free-town, its harbour and whereabouts—an animated picture without the annoyances of its realities—will revive and invigorate you! Or else to Regent, a delightful, romantic ride—deep dells, shelving ravines, and wild hills and steeps, with their slopes and valleys of Cassada and Cocoa on one side enlivening the large and numerous blocks of dark rock which lie scattered about in every direction. And when you gain that interesting little village, with its comfortable parsonage, its neat and simple church, its old angular bridge, dilapidated and arching a clear, bold, mountain stream of rippling waters, playfully splashing over the stones, and eddying between the rocks which oppose its way, just in old English style, your ill humours and complainings will no longer plague you."

Another tropical evil, according to Dr. Poole, is to be met with more patient resignation:—the sun may be defied,—the ant must be submitted to.—

"The Black Ant, however, is the insect most to be dreaded, not merely on account of its severe bite, but because it is so destructive to live stock as well as dead, and so difficult to get rid of, when once they have found their way into your house, or any other part of your premises. They are much larger than our full-sized emmet, have strong large front forceps, which inflict a severe pinch, and are very powerful in their bodily actions, as well as swift in their movements. They are serviceable in one way, and that is, in clearing your premises of every species of filth and vermin, of which they will not leave a vestige. Only, when you receive a visit from them, you must look well to your poultry, goats, or anything you may have of a consumable description, and remove them to some place of security. Nor ought you to attempt to interrupt them in their march, or in any way interfere with them, but allow them free ingress and egress, suffering them to depart when they please. For they come in such armies that to annihilate them is out of the question, and prudence advises not to provoke them to reprisals."

Of course, the slave-trade is a prominent topic with the writer. Like most who have been among the bights and baracoons, he is of opinion that the blockade is a great evil as it is now conducted. Our well-meant measures have brought, he says, nothing but misfortune to the Negro. The exports have hardly diminished in consequence, but the destruction of life has increased fearfully. Even in Free-town the traffic is carried on to a considerable extent; and so long as the slave-dealer risks nothing but his property in the venture, the temptation of profit is too great for the avaricious and inhumane to resist. Here is a characteristic incident.—

"A fine vessel, commanded and owned by a man who had been either dismissed, or obliged to volunteer his own dismissal from the navy on account of a crime with which he had been charged, lay in a bight off the coast, intended, there was no doubt, for the conveyance of slaves. It was very well known that the captain was engaged in the forbidden traffic; but he was too wary either to allow himself to be caught in the fact, or to give the slightest chance to the men-of-war who were on the look out for him and his tempting craft. She was boarded and rigorously examined; but it was not intended that so pretty a prize should at that time fall into the hands of our gallant tars. The captain of the vessel was always sufficiently out of the way to avoid painful contingencies; but he did not forget, slave dealer as he was, that generous liberality and open-hearted



good nature which are ever ready, and pleased to give of the best of whatever Jack may have. Accordingly he notified, in the most polite manner possible, to Her Majesty's servants, that, notwithstanding it was not in his power personally to attend upon them and do the honours of the table, yet there would be provided for them of the best of everything he had. The officers found him as good as his word; the table was always laid out in the first style, and supplied with the choicest of wines and most recherché of delicacies—champagne and claret were at their disposal; and the furniture of the table was in all particulars, equal in quality to the provision. Well, this in itself was an agreeable adventure; but the capture was the thing—it was, too, tantalizing to see that self-condemned craft riding at anchor, yet not tangle; and their host, her captain, doing the gentleman in his cool, easy manner. However, what was to be done? This sequel will explain. Whilst thus cleverly and unsuspectingly engaging the attention and keeping up the expectation of his friends, the men-of-war, the scheming slave dealer was unmolested, and successfully in another snug retreat of the land, not very far distant, loading another vessel with his human merchandise.

To this we will add an anecdote with its moral for the statesmen and women of Exeter Hall.

"Some few days since, an officer in the navy on service on the coast had sufficient grounds, as he believed, to suspect that the Slave-Trade was carried on to a considerable extent on some particular part of it. He directed his attention there accordingly, destroyed the Baracoons, and took such additional measures as he considered necessary and legitimate to suppress the Trade, in which he succeeded. But an action was brought against him, and from some difficulties in the onset of the business in procuring witnesses to prove that he was justified in what he did, he was obliged to return to England to vindicate his measures. A black woman, of the name of Trinormau, came forward at last to give evidence in his behalf, and her testimony settled the case in his favour. For the service thus rendered to the Emancipation Cause by this dark damsel, she became an object of interest in London, the attraction at all Anti-slavery meetings, the favourite of a blind admiration, praises and presents seemed to be at rivalry which should be most forward and munificent in conferring their gifts upon her, and she returned to her native land carrying away with her the most substantial proofs of John Bull's simple good-nature. But, what then? One day, and not many months since, a poor African child was taken to the Police Court in Free-town in a most pitiable state. Her back and arms were dreadfully lacerated by severe flogging which she had suffered. Fear withheld her from telling where she originally came from, and who her parents were. She was handed over, therefore, to the kind protection of an honest countryman who volunteered to take care of her. Not long after, a native woman, handsomely dressed and ornamented with a profusion of trinkets, made application in a very independent manner, for the restoration to her of a child who had left her, and whom she had subsequently discovered. It was the poor little destitute African girl! The applicant was closely interrogated; the child also was now induced to tell her tale, and to the horror of every one present, Trinormau stood before the seat of justice—a self-convicted Slave-dealer! A war in the Sherbro country had led to the capture of a native inhabitant of that place, together with his wife and child. Trinormau, in opposition to the supplications of the distressed parents, bought and carried the young living booty off with another slave. When reproved for her shameful behaviour towards the child, she boasted of and vindicated herself in her deed of cruelty, said she had a right to beat the girl, which belonged to her, and would do it again."

These extracts will give an idea of Dr. Poole's sketchy and pleasant volumes. The reader interested in Sierra Leone and the shores of the river Gambia will find in them the latest, if not the best, information respecting the state of the country, men, manners and things—affairs of Government—religious missions—barracks, hospitals and prisons:—the mere reader for

amusement will find just enough of excitement in the moving panorama to keep up attention, and sufficient information to make the morning's reading profitable as well as pleasant.

*Poems and Songs relating to George Villiers, Duke of Buckingham, and his Assassination, by John Felton. Edited by F. W. Fairholt, F.S.A. Printed for the Percy Society.*

We are glad to be able to except this little volume in some degree from the charge which we lately made against the Percy Society, that their works were carelessly and inadequately edited. Mr. Fairholt has taken considerable trouble; and although his qualifications for such kind of labour (his profession being that of an artist, not of an author) may not be as great as could be wished, they are in most respects sufficient for the particular subject on which they have here been employed. The truth is, we do not think it was worth while to have made a separate collection of these pieces; some of them excessively indecent, notwithstanding Mr. Fairholt's asterisks, and omissions, and others, so dull and poor, for the time at which they were written, that they little merit revival. In republishing the productions of our forefathers, we are aware that it will not do to be affectedly nice and morbidly squeamish; but language and points that may pass in a large accumulation of papers are made unnecessarily obvious and objectionable when they are put forward in small separate productions. It is our sincere conviction, looking at what the Editor has inserted and at what he has excluded, that in his simplicity, he is really not aware of the meaning of several most unpardonable expressions which he has permitted to remain. We are the more persuaded that Mr. Fairholt did not always understand what he was printing from the fact that in one page we perceive that he has noted an omission by asterisks, while in the very next he has allowed a word to escape the meaning of which even etymologists feel themselves compelled to express by its Latin translation. Nor is this, by any means a solitary case; and what renders the matter worse is, that the most offensive poems are placed earliest in the collection, so that some persons may throw it down in disgust before they come to the portion which at all events is not indecent, although it may be somewhat remarkable for its stupidity and insipidity. In a word, Mr. Fairholt has here gone out of his way and beyond his department, and seems not to have had an opportunity of consulting persons who are better informed than himself on matters of philology. The productions to which we refer are generally deficient in wit and spirit, and have little or nothing but their impropriety to distinguish them.

With a few exceptions, the other portions of the body of this brochure are considerably below the average of the "state poems" (as they were called) of the period to which these belong. The Duke of Buckingham was fortunate in having for his literary enemies men of inferior talents—with one notorious exception, so that the satires, songs, epigrams and lampoons on him were usually deficient in point and pungency. For this reason we hold that Mr. Fairholt made altogether an unfortunate choice of his subject. He could hardly have fastened on any person or any event of the time that would not have afforded him better materials; and it has further been his misfortune to omit some of the best things that were written for or against his hero. Had he sought for his materials twenty or thirty years ago, we might not have so much blamed him for leaving out the following, because the miscellaneous poems of James Shirley were then rare, and might easily have escaped his notice; but of late years they have

all been republished, and in Vol. VI. of Mr. Murray's edition, p. 449, we meet with this:

*Epitaph on the Duke of Buckingham.*  
Here lies the best and worst of fate,  
Two kings' delight, the people's hate;  
The courtier's star, the kingdom's eye,  
A man to draw an angel by;  
Fear's despiser, Villiers, glory,  
The great man's volume, all time's story.  
We must be allowed to say, that this is not only superior to anything in Mr. Fairholt's volume, but worth more than all of the same kind that was written after the assassination of the Duke. Here we find point, truth and candour, and the just character of the man drawn in six admirable lines. Contrast it with the following "eight lines" of clumsiness and silly abuse, which we take from Mr. Fairholt's pages.

*Great Buckingham's buried under a stone,  
Twixt heaven and earth not such a one;  
Pope and Paul's friend, the Spaniard's factor,  
The Palatine's base, the Dutch's motor;  
The Dan's disaster, the French King's intruder,  
Netherland's oppressor, the English's plunder;  
The friend of pride, the peer of insolence,  
The avowed actor of a base design.  
The name of Dryden, always appended  
To it in volumes of the time might have recommended  
To Mr. Fairholt a poem, On the Duke of Bucks, which although chiefly directed against the son, the author of *The Rehearsal*, commences with a very severe attack on the father, the favourite of James and Charles. We are able to extract only a couple of triplets, because we will not run the risk of falling into the gross mistake which Mr. Fairholt has committed.*

This knight soon after a Duke became,  
And got at the Islands of Rhé and Calvé;  
As since all Englishmen curse his name,  
This is the ballad to that greatness did seem.  
That honours and riches before him shined,  
Till Felton, the brave, sent his soul to hell.

If the editor of the tract in our hands did not think proper to insert the preceding in the body of his work, he might have mentioned it in his preface; but we have looked in vain for any notice of it. The same remark may be made with respect to other pieces, less notorious, but much better worth reprinting than most of those which Mr. Fairholt has selected.

The best part of Mr. Fairholt's little volume is his preface; which he has endeavoured, and not without considerable success, to make as complete as possible, especially in its historical information. Although he presents us with no new facts, they could scarcely be looked for; he furnishes a very clear narrative, and puts it in as short a compass as the nature of his subject would allow. We will make a brief quotation, that our readers may see how the subject is treated; but we are bound to remark that the writer is not generally to be praised so much for the elegance, as for the clearness of his style.

"Soon after his marriage with Henrietta Maria, Charles conceived, and not without reason, a violent dislike to the Frenchmen and priests in her retinue; he communicated this dislike to Buckingham, and so continually consulted him in all his domestic affairs, that the queen felt her own influence less than that of the Duke, who encouraged these unpopularity for his own advantage. The nation saw this, and so did the parliament; but the chief opponents of the favourite were struck out by the king's own hand; he afterwards protected him openly against them, and thus fomented the opposition that increased and ramified throughout his reign, ending so fatally to king and kingdom. In May, 1626, Buckingham was impeached by parliament; but the king avenged himself on the principal speakers in the Commons, Sir Dudley Digges and Sir John Elliot, by suddenly seizing them and sending them to the Tower; but was obliged, in a few days, to release them, owing to the strong sense of the House against this measure; thus disgracing himself; and widening the breach between them. He then dissolved parliament, and raised money by forced loans at the in-



stigation of his favourite, who soon after took mortal offence at the court of France, which threw obstacles in the way of his journey to Paris, where he anxiously desired to go, again to throw himself at the feet of Anne of Austria. In his rage, he conceived the idea of visiting France as an enemy, and urged the king to war in favour of the Rochellers whom he had before endeavoured to crush. But when the armament reached Rochelle, they were coldly received, and ultimately returned home beaten. A new parliament was called, but the pent-up fire again broke forth, and Buckingham's interference in all things was alluded to by Sir John Eliot, and the great lawyer Sir Edward Coke. At this time he was generally denounced by all, and ultimately the speakers presented their remonstrance against him to the king; but Charles finding the parliament unpliant, abruptly dissolved that body.

The most valuable, as well as the most novel portion of this preface relates to the enormous wealth and extravagant expenditure of the Duke of Buckingham. The information is extracted from the Sloane MSS. in the British Museum; and as we do not recollect to have met with it elsewhere, we must express our thanks for it. The editor has in this particular rendered good service to history and biography; and he merits praise, besides, for the unpretending way in which he has brought these details forward, and the narrow space into which he has compressed them. The intelligence is at once curious and minute. When Mr. Fairholt observes, that "our published collections of Political Poetry of an early kind close previous to the period of the death of Buckingham," we may be allowed to ask him where we can find any "published collection of Political Poetry" anterior to the date of the Civil Wars. To say that his production "will supply a lacuna" in this respect, is a mistake, as well as a misprint.

*Lord and Lady Harcourt, or, Country Hospitality.* By Catherine Sinclair. Bontley. Miss Sinclair has always been pert in her authorship, the smartest-tongued serious lady that we have ever encountered, and more and more does this quality seem to grow in every successive sermon-story. To argue from her past progress, in her next homily, or interpretation of the prophecies, we shall be treated to Mr. Buckstone's rich things, or called on to admire the current Mr. Wright's flowers of impromptu farce. Here, she has speeded her Christmas lecture with good store of conundrums from the wallet of Billy Black, the never-to-be-forgotten originator of "Do you give it up?"

*Lord and Lady Harcourt*, by its title, proclaims itself to be a tale of aristocratic life: let us add, that it is a tale of a Christmas in a noble country house. Lord Harcourt is an agreeable middle-aged man of the world, who marries a Highland beauty, having already at home a mother, a sister, and a daughter by a first marriage. On the arrival of Lady Harcourt, the second at Saxophorough, Lady Axminster and Lady Rachel, in hope of retaining their influence over the loving bridegroom, insult the newly-arrived and all-powerful bride with direct and active venom. This, we suppose—on Miss Sinclair's authority—must be aristocratic tactics; middle-class dowagers and spinsters do not venture such sharp and open assaults. The above ladies, also, encourage Lady Harcourt's step-daughter to join the party. Happily, however, for Caroline's dutiful behaviour, she has long abhorred her grandmother's worldly manners and morals, and admired a Rector, and read deep books, which she had heard him recommend. That the reader may further possess himself of the relative humours of these interesting aristocrats, we will give a

pair of speeches. The first, concerning this Rector's school treat, is spoken by wicked Lady Rachel.—

"Charming! charming!" exclaimed Lady Rachel, energetically, as long as Mr. Vernon remained in sight; and then, grasping Lady Caroline's arm, she added, with a confidential laugh, "How on earth are we to stand so fearful a caterwalling? It will be worse than a hundred bagpipes. Good, excellent man! if he had only warned me, I should have cottoned my ears preparatory to such an infliction. Fancy, Caroline, with my exquisite nerves, having to hear several hundred little wretches like these screeching what they call music, at the full pitch of their vulgar voices." Last time I heard "God save the Queen" sung in parts, it was at the Birmingham Festival, when two hundred opera-singers performed, and even then I detected a few agonizing, false notes.

The next speech is an inquiry put by the virtuous Caroline to this same handsome Rector, the first time that she confesses to him.—

"Pray, Mr. Vernon, would it be presuming to ask—that is, I should really like beyond measure, now that papa is gone, to hear what he has partly told me—the sad story of that accident which made you afterwards become so very good and pious. We might all wish for misfortunes if they brought such a blessing."

Certainly, no *Lisette* in a play by Marivaux ever spoke more quietly to the point than this sweet girl. The reader must have patience with another confession, after she has caged the Rector.—

"I imagine, Mr. Vernon, what I should have been without Miss Porson's early instructions and all that I have since gathered by stealth from you. No other mortal ever gave me a hint as to my infinite moral capacity; but I was shut up all my young days in a gloomy school-room to receive an unrelenting cram of superficial acquirements. For years, I was imprisoned at home with a foreign governess, a pianoforte, a selection of dictionaries, a library of German trash, an elaborate piece of worsted-work, and some staring chalk heads to be copied. When all these materials had simmered for a few years together, Aunt Rachel expected me, I suppose, to come forth perfectly fitted, by some miraculous means, for acting my part in life, sound-headed and sound-hearted, with principle to resist every temptation or trial of existence, and with temper as well as judgment to make everybody happy around me; but I should have been a complete failure, no, more fit to act a part in Christian society than my canary-bird in her cage, had not somebody that we shall not name taught me better. We shall now, then, seek the best happiness of this life together, and the sure prospect of a better afterwards. What a contrast to the whirl in which grandmamma wished to plunge me! I hated the mere idea of that."

The framework in which these true aristocrats are set will seem strange to any plain Mr. and Mrs. disposed to believe in the book as a picture from life. There is a Christmas party, as we have said, and there is a pleasant Lord Kilbarney, who is a walking "Fly in Amber," a talking "Sphinx," an eating "Riddle-book," and a sporting "Every man his own Coburn-drums." There is a Lord Kidderminster, duller than ever dull commoner in novel, was made before; there is snap-dragon dialogue about books, with quips and rejoinders about men and manners, women and want of manners, which hardly get beyond the tone of parley under the mistletoe.—To conclude,—there is a providential fire, which nearly burns lovely Lady Harcourt to death, and ends this mixture of piety and pantomime with what Miss Sinclair's Lady Rachel might have called a "jolly" blaze of admonition and triumph! So much slang—we repeat—in a sermon,—so much vulgarity in a tale of fine life,—are not on our record.

*A Voyage to China.* By Dr. Berncastle. 2 vols. Shoberl.

Dr. Berncastle quitted England on a voyage to the East on the 6th of October, 1848,—and returned on the 18th of April, 1850. The present work is a narrative of his observations and adventures during this journeying. The first volume contains sketches of Cape Town, and of Bombay and its neighbourhood;—the greater portion of the second refers to China, and consists chiefly of details of what the author saw at Hong Kong, Whampoa, and Canton.

The volumes are pleasantly written, show good sense and good humour, and may be recommended as suitable reading for those who like to while away an hour or two over travellers' note-books. Indian life is a hackneyed subject; but Dr. Berncastle, having had his eyes about him during his visit to Bombay, contrives to give us a somewhat fresh picture of that city and its mariners. The following is his testimony in favour of the Parsees;—to which class of the Indian population the well-known Sir Jamsetjee Jeejeebhoy belongs.—

"Bombay may be considered the head-quarters of the Parsees; but they are to be found in numbers along the coast and all over Western India, where, by their industry and enterprise, they have risen to be amongst the most wealthy merchants of the Presidency, owning most of the large country ships, and many of them becoming extensive land owners. In their country-seats and houses they imitate the English fashion, as they are fond of speaking the language, which most of them do fluently. They are *bon vivants*, and when they assemble together at their convivial meetings, keep late hours, having little regard for temperance principles. In all government and public offices, or banks, Parsees are met with in posts of trust, or as clerks, their honesty and ability rendering them well fitted for such duties. They are very particular in adhering to their mode of dress and religion. I only met with one man who had embraced Christianity, but he had not changed his costume. The Parsee children are very beautiful, and are treated with great kindness by their parents. The men have nearly all the same features and expression, which with the dress being all alike, make it difficult sometimes to recognize them."

The most interesting parts of the 'Voyage' are those which relate the author's impressions of the Chinese as derived from his brief opportunities of observing them at Hong Kong, Whampoa, and Canton. Speaking of the "Chinese-English" jargon in which most of the intercourse between Europeans and the Chinese is carried on, he gives the following specimens.—

"The Chinese, not being able to pronounce the word 'business,' call it 'pigeon,' which has degenerated into 'pigeon,' so that this word is in constant use amongst them. A Chinaman will tell you, 'it is not my pigeon.' I no savez that pigeon.' I made no good pigeon.' What pigeon you want done?' &c. The word 'savez' is invariably used for 'know,' 'masqui' for 'never mind,' 'catch' for obtain, get, or procure; as, 'I no can catch any fruit, or coals.' 'Can catch' means 'I can get you some.' 'Can' and 'no can,' without the pronoun, are in constant use. 'Chin-chin,' a Chinese word for How do you do, is often used, even by Europeans, who, in sending a message, say, 'give my chin-chin to Mr. So-and-So,' &c. Every boatman is called 'Sam,' never by his own name. 'Chow-chow,' the Chinese for food or meals, is in common use. As in this phrase:—'Sam, when you have catchee chow-chow, I want you chop-chop' (quickly). This double form of word, in the Chinese language, occurs often, as 'man-man, stop!' &c. 'Wylo,' 'begone,' and 'quisi' man, meaning robber, pirate, or bad man, are terms they do not like applied to them. Some few have acquired a tolerable facility of speaking English, but preserve the above-named style of idioms. The term 'fan-qui,' which means literally, 'foreign devil,' I have been assured by intelligent Chinese, is not always applied to Europeans with a bad intention, that word signifying stranger, or foreigner, also. But I can scarcely give credit to this information, since every Chinese



mother, as I have elsewhere been informed, in order to inspire terror into a naughty child, has only to threaten to give him, or her, as the case may be, to the 'Fangui' when the little 'Celestial,' in dread of so awful a fate as that of being delivered over to 'the White Devil,' instantly becomes quiet and submissive, and clings to her in fear and trembling. In the streets of Canton, I have been more than once saluted with the *so-fangui*, or 'kill the foreign devil'; then, there is no mistaking the sense it is used in."

Canton the author describes as about seven or eight miles in circumference round the walls. The streets, he says, are numerous.—

"A catalogue enumerates the names of more than 600, among which we find the 'dragon street,' the 'flying dragon street,' the 'martial dragon street,' the 'flower street,' the 'golden street,' the 'golden flower street,' and among many more of a similar kind, are a few which would not bear translation. There are several long streets, but most of them are short, and crooked; they vary in width from two to sixteen feet, but generally they are about six or eight feet wide; and are everywhere flagged with large stones, chiefly granite. The motley crowd that often throngs these streets is very great indeed."

As the celestials of Canton still keep up their aversion to the *Fanguis*, and pelt and ill-use any straggler whom they can catch, it was only by stealth that Dr. Berncastle could obtain a peep beyond the outside. The following bit of information, however, which he picked up from a resident missionary is not unimportant as connected with the criminal statistics of the Chinese Empire.—

"The population of the province of Kwangtung containing twenty-nine millions of inhabitants, and all the criminals sentenced to death must be executed at Canton, the capital. The number averages from three to five hundred a year. The largest number, eight hundred, took place last year, probably owing to the increase of piracy, and to the greater severity of the present Viceroy, *Seu*. This year, up to the present time, 1st October, 1849, the number was two hundred and eighty. The greatest number, executed in one day, was forty-nine—the smallest, one. The most usual number is from ten to twenty-five. The longest interval between the days of execution, a month; two or three times a week is not unusual. Nearly all the men are beheaded with a large sword: their hands being tied, they kneel down, with their faces towards Peking, the Emperor's residence, and the head is struck off at one blow. Women are strangled; of these not more than one or two a year suffer. One woman, for parricide, was cut up into forty-eight pieces: the number of pieces varies from twelve to twenty-four, thirty-six, &c. One man was flogged to death with bamboos: many are beaten before execution. Most of these criminals are condemned by the local authorities, but a portion by order of the Emperor, doubtful cases being referred to him for decision."

These specimens will convey an idea of the kind of matter contained in the volumes. They are light, superficial, and sketchy:—not such highly elaborated and careful performances as we expect from a writer who undertakes to give a full account of society in foreign countries, yet, the jottings of an intelligent medical traveller agreeably put together. The first volume is embellished with a view of Canton, and the second with a plan of the same city from a drawing by a native artist.

*Macariæ Excidium, or the Destruction of Cyprus; being a Secret History of the War of the Revolution in Ireland.* By Col. Charles O'Kelly. Edited, with Notes, Illustrations, &c., by J. C. O'Callaghan. Dublin, Printed for the Irish Archaeological Society.

THE main text of this work was printed as long ago as 1841 by the Camden Society, when it formed the second part of a volume entitled 'Narratives illustrative of the Contests in Ireland in 1641 and 1690.' It there occupied

something more than 100 pages; while in its present shape, with memoir, notes, appendix, &c., it fills 546 pages. Those who refer back to our columns of that period [see *Athen.* No. 726, p. 739] will find what we thought of it in its briefer form, and we are now far from complaining that it has been so greatly enlarged. To all readers of Irish, and indeed of English, history, it will be welcome. The observations, commentaries, information, and documents supplied by the present Editor are in general highly valuable, and in many instances absolutely essential. It was not unnatural that the Irish Archaeological Society should attach more importance than others to the details afforded by Col. O'Kelly, and should therefore willingly apply to the illustration of that narrative its literary and pecuniary resources without reserve. The Editor has performed his task with ability; and the volume is as handsome and in most respects as complete as any ever issued by our learned Societies.

It is fair to state that the publication of the '*Macariæ Excidium*' of Col. O'Kelly was one of the original projects of the Irish Archaeological Society at its formation in 1841; but that the Camden Society (having no previous knowledge of this intention) by the issue of its volume in a manner anticipated the design, which was therefore postponed. Afterwards, several MSS. of Col. O'Kelly's narrative came into the hands of antiquaries of the sister kingdom, and particularly what purported to be a Latin translation of it. This translation—on what ground we know not—was for some years looked on as the original work, as if Col. O'Kelly had composed it in Latin. The fact now seems to be, that the version in question was made by a Roman Catholic clergyman, the Rev. John O'Reilly, under the assumed name of Gratianus Ragallus; and supposing him to have used only the MS. of Col. O'Kelly as it has come down to us, he seems to have enlarged and swelled it here and there by certain ambages of expression and by a round and figurative style of writing (to say nothing of occasional additions), which in our opinion do not add to the excellence of the composition. For instance, Col. O'Kelly commences thus simply and shortly:—

"In my youthfull travails in Asia, I mett an old Manuscript in the Syrian Language, containing a brief History of the late War and Conquest of Cyprus, which I brought along with me, and laid it up among my Books, without taking further Notice of it at that Time."

The following is Father O'Reilly's rather grandiloquent Latin translation of the passage:—

"Cum Asiam olim adulescens peragrarem, more humani ingenii novitatis avidus et juvenili cupiditate incensus vetusta rerum monumenta locosque summa celebratos cognoscendi, in antiquum forte manuscriptum incidi vulgari Syrorum lingua exaratum, in quo brevis sed accurata narratio continebatur supremi illius ac funesti belli, quo universa Cyprus eversa atque in hostium potestatem redacta est; eumque mecum nec mole gravem nec licet injucundum in Patriam denuo revertens attuli, atque in Museo, reliquos inter libros, absque ulteriori sub id tempus cura, indiligenter reposui."

This was the sort of writing which was for some time supposed to be the original work of Col. O'Kelly, and which is added at the bottom of the page as an accompaniment to his unpretending English narrative. It is the portion of the present volume that we could certainly best have spared; and although we are not sorry to see it in small type, as a sort of running footnote, we are rejoiced that the Irish Archaeological Society early found out its mistake, and did not print it as the substantive portion of their undertaking. It appears from the Preface that their English text has been made up from four dis-

tinct copies; and we have not any material fault to find with it.

The '*Macariæ Excidium*' may be said properly to begin at p. 32, because all before that has been supplied by the Latin version of Father O'Reilly. It commences in his usual affected and high-flown style:—"Nondum urbs, rerum Domina, diversa mundi, latera triumphando continuerat, Romana nondum Aquila, &c.," and it perseveres in the same strain, until we have the satisfaction of rejoicing Col. O'Kelly, where he takes up the story nearly as it stands in the Camden Society's publication. It was about the latter end of autumn when Prince Theodore invaded Cilicia, and it was mid winter when poor Amasia was forced to make his escape into Syria, &c. The very simplicity and understatement of the English narrative give us, not only interest in its details, but confidence in its fidelity. We do not, of course, mean to say that Col. O'Kelly, as a strong partisan of James the Second, always tells us what is the indisputable fact,—but he tells us what at the time when he was writing he sincerely believed to be the truth. No man can write history with unimpeachable veracity who has acted in, or lived near, the period to which his labours relate; but the real question is, whether he writes what is consistent with his own means of knowledge. On this ground, and so far, we give credit to the energetic and patriotic author of '*Macariæ Excidium*.'"

Such of our readers as bear in mind what we said of the work when it was first issued on this side of the water, will be aware that it is a real account of persons, events, and places, under fictitious names. Thus, in the very title, *Macaria*, the old designation of Cyprus, means Ireland—Cilicia, England—Pamphilia, Scotland—Syria, France—Egypt, Spain, &c., while Pythagoras is the name given to King Charles—Amasis, to King James—Theodore to King William—Antiochus, to Louis the Fourteenth—Coridon, to Tyrconnell—Atlas, to Cromwell—Lysander, to Sarsfield, &c. In the same way, Dublin is called Salamis—Limerick, Paphos—the Shannon, Lyceus—and the Boyne, Lapithus. These names, and many more, are carefully applied as the author proceeds; and that no mistake may be made by the reader, the fanciful appellation is never inserted in the text without its actual equivalent in the margin. Were it otherwise, much confusion and difficulty might arise:—and we are not by any means sure whether at this time of day it would not have been better to have omitted the false names entirely, and to have employed those only which are known to everybody, or, at any rate, to have introduced the true names into the text, reserving the fanciful ones for the margin. There is no doubt that the whole would thus have been rendered more perfectly intelligible. Still more, we would have recommended the modernization of the spelling; since at a date so little removed from our own, absolutely nothing is gained by the observance of exploded peculiarities.

The author states the general object of his work in the short Preface (from which we have already quoted the unaffected and simple introductory paragraph). He wishes, he says, "to make it appear to the world, even by this brief epitome, that the loss of Cyprus (Ireland) cannot be justly imputed to the cowardice or infidelity of the natives; but rather to the wrong politics of a weak prince, influencing some of the noblemen and chief officers, whilst the generality of the Cyprians wanted neither resolution nor courage to defend their dear country, and what they held much more dear, the religion of their ancestors." The industrious and able editor of the volume before us has,



among other obligations which we owe to him, contributed a memoir of Col. C. O'Kelly, (who was born in 1621 and died in 1695),—in which he speaks as follows of the work in question.—

"His first work appears to have been the *Macaria Eccidium*, since, we are informed, it was written as a sketch of the war of the Revolution in Ireland, and soon after its termination, lest, at his advanced period of life (he being in his seventieth year, when that contest ended) death might prevent him leaving the fuller narrative on the subject, which he intended. The *Macaria Eccidium* is not, according to a supposition respecting it, the work of a Privy Counsellor of King James II., in no list of whose Irish Privy Council is the Colonel's name to be found. Hence, it necessarily contains several statements and opinions with reference to that monarch, and his viceroy, the Duke of Tyrconnell, as well as other members of the King's Government, which requires to be checked and corrected by such official documents and personal memorials, as we have of that government, and of those who formed a portion of it. It might also be wished, with respect to the *Macaria Eccidium*, that, as a work on a military period, its contents had been more of a military and less of a political nature. But, considered on the whole, or as intended to be a brief, yet general outline of the war of the Revolution from one belonging to the race, religion and cause with which its author was connected, the *Macaria Eccidium* may be safely pronounced, a contribution to the history of that period, for which we have reason to be grateful to Colonel O'Kelly."

The notes may be considered by some to bear an undue proportion to the text,—filling, as they do, more than three hundred closely printed pages; but we may remark of them that, although some might be abbreviated, they are all more or less pertinent,—and that, they evince much labour and learning on the part of the editor. The whole work is a very important one in connexion with the history of Ireland during the three years immediately following the abdication of James the Second; and the manner in which it has been prepared and produced is highly to the credit of the antiquaries of the sister kingdom. The indexes are full and satisfactory. In books of this kind, these are essential, and it is an important advantage in literary Societies that they are willing to go to the expense of entire completeness in this respect. When publications are undertaken for private and individual profit, it is sometimes not easy to prevail on the speculator to incur a charge which he is perhaps unable to add to the price of his volume.

*Catalogue of the Specimens of Mammalia in the Collection of the British Museum. Part I. Cetacea.* By John Edward Gray. Printed by order of the Trustees.

It is now seven years since the first list of objects in the natural history department of the British Museum was published. This comprised only the specimens of Mammalia. Since then have followed, in gradual succession, lists of the Birds,—of some of the Insects,—of the Crustacea,—and of the Mollusca. As far as these have gone they have been found very useful to the student of natural history. But mere lists are not sufficient to make this great institution so useful to the public as it ought to be. If the Trustees will not employ their curators—as we think they ought—in the delivery of lectures, so as to make the specimens of the Museum available for the teaching of science, the least they can do is to furnish catalogues from which some further information than mere names might be obtained. This good work we are glad to understand they are about at length to have undertaken for the whole of the Museum:—and in the Catalogue before us we have a specimen of the manner in which it is intended to be done.

Though this Catalogue contains 150 pages, it comprises only the small family of Cetacea, a list of the whole of which might be easily got into two pages,—so that our readers will be able to judge, from this specimen, of the great additional amount of matter to be supplied in the new series of catalogues. Not only have we here a list of the specimens in the Museum, but a complete account of the family of Cetacea, a description of every species, critical remarks on their characters, a history of their uses and commercial value, and a reference to specimens not found in our own collection. With such a guide as this in his hands, a student of natural history might make himself complete master of the subject, and be prepared for further researches. But we have not yet exhausted the merits of this specimen of a catalogue. In addition to the letter-press, it contains eight plates, representing in some instances the entire animals, and in others the skulls and dentition of the various species of Cetacea,—so that it will be found of service not only amongst the specimens which it more particularly describes, but generally as a work of reference on this particular department of zoology.

We understand the present Catalogue is to be speedily followed by one, on the same plan, of Ruminants:—we hope that this and all the others will be produced with equal care. We know how vast are the numbers of species in certain classes of animals, and how little general interest is taken in them. The opportunity is afforded the Trustees of showing the world that they are not actuated by the feelings of the virtuoso only in exhibiting their curiosities; but are conscious that they are the stewards of a vast amount of material which can be used for the establishing of doubtful principles in science and the development of new laws. If these Catalogues, when properly formed, will be so useful in Zoology, they would not be less so in Palæontology, Mineralogy, and Botany. The treasures of the natural history cabinets should be as accessible as the books in the library; and all who are interested in the progress of science should be able to refer to the Catalogues of the specimens in the British Museum as standards. No pains or expenses should be spared to make them truly worthy of the collection and of the nation. We have often before said that Great Britain has unrivalled advantages for the study of natural history,—yet that till within the last few years our national Museum was a disgrace to a country having such means. Much has now been done,—but much more remains to be done. If ever there was a period pointing more emphatically than others to the propriety of exertion towards improving the British Museum, the months lying between the present time and the May of 1851 are that period. The Trustees might put on a few extra hands, and see that all the hidden treasures are properly brought to light,—that any improvements contemplated be immediately carried out,—and that the Catalogues now in hand be finished by that time, so that foreigners may receive the most favourable impression possible of our Museum. After all, we feel sure that it will fall far short of their expectations,—and exhibit our national intelligence and science in anything but a favourable light.

#### OUR LIBRARY TABLE.

*Leisure Hours in a Country Parsonage: or, Strictures on Men, Manners and Books.* By the Rev. John Keefe Robinson. Well meant, and in parts at least well written, these outpourings of leisure are full of those crotchets and bigotries that seem almost natural to the soil of Ireland, whether growing in the shade of this church or of that. To much that is here said on and against men and their manners, we could honestly say—good; but in the

matter of books, old and new, we find on almost every page some assertion or criticism from which we should be compelled to dissent. The tirade against Sterne and the novelists who followed him, is particularly ill-conceived; we doubt whether Mr. Robinson is as well acquainted with this inimitable humourist as a man should be who proposes to sit in the seat of judgment. The faults and vagaries of the work are too numerous to be catalogued here; but there is a sort of heartiness in the volumes which implies real earnestness of purpose, and so much of an informing literary spirit as will make it useful perhaps to a certain class of minds—in Ireland.

*Beatrice; or, the Influence of Words.* By J. S. Jones, Author of 'Integrity.'—Perhaps one of the poorest sermons in the form of a novel that has been lately published:—and this is saying much. A less profitable use could hardly be found for words, and pens and ink, and types, and monies paid, than such as has gone to make up this weakest of all "Beatrices," past, present, and (we trust) to come.

*The Public Health a Public Question.*—This pamphlet consists of a voluminous report of the Metropolitan Sanitary Association on the principal causes of disease in London, and its environs, with suggestions for their removal. The Association urges the necessity which exists for a new Act of Parliament for the removal of nuisances and the prevention of disease; properly observing, that the present Act is framed with a view to the invasion of foreign epidemics rather than to meet and counteract those which exist in a permanent state of activity in our own cities.—Besides this point, to which it is needful that parliamentary attention should be directed, they have devoted a large portion of their care to the cottage question and that of the general improvement of the dwellings of the poor. The report should be consulted by every one interested—as every man in London ought to be—in the sanitary question.

*Lectures on Natural Philosophy.* By the Rev. James W. McGeuley. Next to a good teacher, a good text-book is the most important requirement to the student of any department of science. Text-books should not be diffuse, nor exhaust the subjects to which they refer. They should lay down the principles of a science, and illustrate them with a few of the most important and familiar facts.—A fault in many of our manuals of science is, that they are written by men who have devoted more attention to one branch of their subject than to another,—and this branch is sure to gain undue preponderance. To write such works as they ought to be written, requires that the author should be equally well acquainted with every subject, and capable of deciding on the relative importance of each independently of his own predilections.—The present book, though called lectures, is truly intended as a text-book for the use of the student attending lectures. It embraces the subjects ordinarily included under the term Natural Philosophy,—as also those under Chemistry. The author is Professor of Natural Philosophy to the National Board of Education in Ireland. He seems to have had some experience in teaching the branches of science on which he writes; and in his appreciation of the relative importance of the various parts of science, he has succeeded in attaining to one of the objects of a good text-book. His illustrations and familiar facts are in most instances very judiciously selected. The book is copiously illustrated,—where mathematical demonstration is needed, it is added in the form of notes,—and on the whole we should say, that this will be found a useful work in the hands of students who are attending lectures in our colleges and normal schools.

*The Study of Philology: A Lecture delivered at the College of Preceptors.* By Trevelyan Spicer, M.A.—Mr. Spicer gives a clear and concise view of philological science:—marking out the great natural divisions of language,—and affording to the scholar a bird's-eye view of the vast domain on which he is about to enter. He points out the chief obstacles to the young student; and tests his courage—it may be daunts it,—by revealing the amount of labour to be endured before distinction can be gained. We agree with Mr. Spicer



that the seductive empiricism which leads so many persons to waste a few months on attempts which are almost invariably abandoned afterwards, is a great evil. The earnest scholar will not be disheartened on finding that there is no railway to knowledge, while the crowd of eager but not really earnest aspirants will profit by having their attention turned to something really within their reach.

*Die Flora der Bodenseegegend.* By Dr. M. A. Höfe. This is a local Flora, and, therefore, not likely to be of much interest beyond the district whose vegetation it is intended to characterize. It, however, contains a good deal of matter beyond a mere catalogue of plants, which may be taken as useful hints by those engaged on the same kind of labours. In addition to the list of plants, there are, a geological account of the district, and a comparison between the Flora more particularly indicated and that of the countries by which it is surrounded. This latter part of the work will make it useful to those engaged in the study of the Flora of Europe.

*The Phoenix Library: Extracts from Schools and Families in aid of Moral and Religious Training.* Selected by J. M. Morgan. Mr. Minter Morgan's course of reading, as evidenced by these extracts, has been neither very extensive nor very eclectic. The recent writers on education, the Christian socialists, and a few contributors to Magazines are the persons who principally figure in these four hundred and fifty pages. But there is one compensation for the absence of the great writers: there is a free sprinkling of verses in favour of the editor. Shakspeare is confined to a single sonnet—but the reader is treated to no less than thirty-one stanzas in praise of Mr. Minter Morgan!

*An Inquiry into the Legislation, Control and Improvement of the Salmon and Sea Fisheries of Ireland.* By Herbert Francis Hore. This volume contains a vast mass of information on the nature, history and present state of the Irish Fisheries. The notes are somewhat loose and undigested; but may, nevertheless, be serviceable to some of those new settlers in Ireland who carry with them capital, energy and a determination to improve the natural resources of the island.

## LIST OF NEW BOOKS.

Abbott's (Jacob) Works, new ed. in 1 vol. 8vo. 7s. 6d.  
Agular's (Grace) The Mother's Recompense, 6s. 7s. 6d.  
The Journal (The) Vol. for 1840, imp. 8vo. 12s. 6d.  
Babes in the Wood, by Lady Waterford, 3rd ed. 8vo. 12s. 6d.  
Bellenger's (W. A.) Modern French Conversation, 20th ed. 2s. 6d.  
Bell's (R.) Wayside Pictures, 2nd ed. 8vo. 10s. 6d. cl.  
Bible Scenes, 4th series, 'Miracles of Christ,' 2nd ed. plain, 3s. col.  
Boswell's (James) Sketch of the Character of John Bunyan, 15th ed. 6s.  
British Imperial Gazetteer, 12mo. 12s. 6d. cl.  
Church (The) Family, Twelve Sermons, by F. D. Maurice, 6s. 6d.  
Clarke's (Girheard of Shakespeare's) Heroines, Part I. 'Portia,' 1s. 6d.  
Conversations of Goethe with Eckermann and Soret, translated by Collette (C. H.) On Poetic Infidelity, 12mo. 1s. 6d. cl.  
Collette's (C. H.) Romanism in England Exposed, 2nd ed. 2s. 6d.  
Cookham's (Dean) Geology, 2nd ed. 8vo. 2s. 6d. cl.  
Crescent and the Cross, by Elliot Warburton, 8th ed. 10s. 6d. cl.  
Cresswell (Dr. R.) History of the Church, 12mo. 12s. 6d. cl.  
Cunningham and French's (J.) Amersham Protestant Discussion, 6s.  
Curran and his Contemporaries, by C. Phillips, A. B. 8vo. 12s. 6d. cl.  
Enders (Dr. J.) Bullen's Cyclopaedia, 3rd ed. 8vo. 10s. 6d. cl.  
Gausson's (Dr. J.) Theopneustic, the Plenary Inspiration, 3s. 6d.  
Gibson (G.) The Basis of the Bible, 8vo. 10s. 6d. cl.  
Girdlestone's (Rev. C.) New Testament Commentary, Vol. II, 12s.  
Gordon's (J.) Spiritual Reflections for every Day, Vols. I. and II, 6s.  
Grady's Sunday School Library, Vol. VII. 'The Crisis, by Hall, 1s.  
Guards and the Line, by Lieut. Col. Fort. 1840, by Rowquill, 10s. 6d.  
Guthrie's (Dr. T.) Pleth on Health of Unweakened, 8vo. 1s. 6d. cl.  
Guthrie's (J.) Literary and Scientific Register and Almanac, 1841, 3s. 6d.  
Gunpowder Tension, the Trials of the Conspirators, 6s. 12mo. 2s. 6d.  
Hamil's (The) Edited by Professor Geddie, 8vo. 10s. 6d. cl.  
Illustrated Year-Book, second series, ed. by Timbs, 6s. 5s. cl.  
Industry and Idleness, 12mo. 1s. 6d. cl.  
Laurie's Elements of Homoeopathic Practice of Physio, new ed. 16s.  
Lord and Lady Harcourt, or Country Hospitalities, 10s. 6d. cl.  
Mac Intosh's (Miss) Charms and Counter Charms, 6s. 2s. cl.  
Mac Intosh's (Miss) Graces and Islets, or To Scen and To Be, 6s. cl.  
Marshall's (J.) Sketches from Italian Life, 8vo. 10s. 6d. cl.  
Mill's (J.) System of Logic, 2nd ed. 8vo. 10s. 6d. cl.  
Miall's (J.) View of the Voluntary Principle, 2nd ed. 3s. 6d. cl.  
North's (J. W.) Week in the Islands of Selby, 8vo. 6s. 6d. cl.  
Napier's (Sir C.) The Navy in its Past and Present State, 8vo. 5s. cl.  
Nappier's (Sir C.) The Navy in its Past and Present State, 8vo. 5s. cl.  
Our Saviour, with Prophecies and Apocrypha, 18 plates, 11s. 6d. cl.  
Pharisee's (J. B.) Elementary Mechanics, 8vo. 10s. 6d. bds.  
Pique, a Novel, 3 vols. 8vo. 11s. 6d. cl.  
Practical Sacred Lit. Vol. I. Baxter's Dying Thoughts, 2s. 6d.  
Prenniss, by W. M. Thackeray, 8s. 11s. 6d. cl.  
Pusey (The) by Q. in the Corner, 6s. 1s. 6d. cl.  
Ritchie's Dynamical Theory of Formation of the Earth, 11s. 12s.  
Russell (Dr. D.) On Infant Salvation, 12mo. 2s. 6d. cl.  
Sainte Impudencia, or Pilgrimage to Westminster, 18s. 18s. 6d.  
Shadows and Sunshine, a Tale, by the Author of 'Viola,' 6s. cl.  
Steeple Chase Calendar, Vol. II, by John Osburne, 1s. 6d. 10s. 6d.  
Stone's (W.) Practical Treatise on Benefit Building Societies, 8s. cl.  
Strickland's (J.) Census of England, 12 vols. post. 8vo. cl. 10s. 6d.  
Sunder's (Archdeacon) Exposition, Theologian to Hebrews, 8vo. 8s. 2 vols. 12mo. 6s. cl.  
Taylor's (Rev. C. B.) Margaret, or the Pearl, 3rd ed. 8vo. 6s. cl.  
Thorpe's (Aunt) The Story which Aunt Kate promised to tell, 1s.  
Wilkes's Ancient History, abridged from Rollin, 2nd ed. 6s. 6d. cl.  
Wardworth's (Rev. C.) Theodora, a Poem, 8th ed. 6s. 6d. cl.  
Young Ladies' Book, a Souvenir of Friendship, 3s. 6d. cl. gilt.

## LITERARY PIRACY.

To the case of Literary Piracy in your last number, on a small scale, allow me to add an example of Literary Piracy on a large scale. The first fruits of Dr. Hooker's Botanical Mission to India, The Rhododendrons of Sikkim-Himalaya, noticed in your journal No. 1122—are illustrated with two costly folio plates, and sold at a guinea. The work was subscribed at 16s.; and in the list of subscribers is the name of M. Louis van Houtte, an eminent florist of Belgium. "Horticulteur Fournisseur du Roi des Belges, et de diverses autres cours de l'Europe." In a work published by this gentleman, entitled, Flore des Serres et des Jardins de l'Europe, the whole of the figures of these plants are re-produced on a smaller scale,—with the following recommendation from M. van Houtte's Prix Courant.—"Jalous de marcher constamment dans la voie du progrès, l'éditeur de la Flore n'a reculé devant aucun sacrifice pour rendre cet ouvrage digne d'un succès toujours croissant. C'est ainsi, par exemple, que la Flore a donné en deux livraisons les Rhododendrons de l'Himalaya, reproduction des cinq plus belles planches d'un ouvrage Anglais comprenant dix dessins et se vendant au prix de cinq livres sterling."

M. van Houtte might have been content to copy the drawings, without adding to the injury by asserting a falsehood. BREVETEN.

## REMAINS OF JAMES THE SECOND.

ON referring again to your correspondent's inquiries respecting the monument of James the Second, in the church of St. Germain, I think it probable that the inscription which he saw was not that which now exists there—and of which I sent you a copy for your last number [see ante, p. 1251]—but another which, once appeared on probably a temporary stone, on board, and for which the far preferable one now there was substituted. The following is a copy of the first inscription.

D. O. M.

Jussu Georgii IV. Magnæ Britanniæ, &c. Regis. et curante Equite ex. Carolo Stuart Regis Britannici Legato ceteris antea regi peractis et quo decet honore in Stupem regiam hic nuper effossa recondita sunt Reliquia Jacobi II. qui in secundo civitatis gradu clarus triumphis in primo infelicio post varios fortune casus in spem melioris vite et beate resurrectionis hic quiescit in Domino Anno mccc. v. idus Septembris 1824.

On the pedestal were the words—  
Dépouilles Mortelles de Jacques 2. Roi d'Angleterre.

I may add that, although, as I stated in my former communication, the final interment of the remains of James the Second, at St. Germain, took place in the year 1824, after they had been exhumed from their resting-place there in consequence of the re-building of the church,—it was at an earlier period, and soon after the termination of the war with Napoleon, that they were first transferred thither from Paris.

A copy of the inscription on the monumental slab in the Scotch College at Paris, erected to the memory of James the Second, by the Duke of Perth, in 1793, may be seen in the *Collectanea Topographica et Genealogica*, vol. 7.

Bristol. J. REYNELL WREFOED, D.D.

## FOREIGN CORRESPONDENCE.

## Buddhist Worship in China.

A few months ago I sent you a description of the celebrated Buddhist temple of Koo-Shang, near the city of Foo-chow-foo. In the provinces of Fokien and Cheking the Buddhists seem to have their stronghold. One sees temples on every hill side,—and large monasteries are also not unfrequent. Having occasion to take up my quarters for some time lately at one of these monasteries, I was so much struck with the ceremonies of Buddhist worship, that I carefully noted down the various forms of the principal daily service—and now send my notes to you for the information, if not for the amusement and instruction, of your readers.

Anxious to see the whole of the service, I deter-

mined to be in good time—so, took my station in one of the passages leading to the large temple a few minutes before the priests assembled. I had not been stationed long before an old priest walked past me to a huge block of wood, carved in the form of a fish, which was slung from the roof of one of the passages. This he struck several times with a wooden lever,—and a loud hollow sound was given out which was heard over all the monastery. The large bronze bell in the bellry was now tolled three times—and the priests were observed coming from all quarters, each having a yellow robe thrown over his left shoulder. At the same time an old man was going round the monastery beating on a piece of square board to awake the priests who might be asleep, and to call the lazy ones to prayer.

The temple to which the priests were hurrying was a large building, fully 100 feet square. Its roof was about 60 ft. in height,—and was supported by numerous massive wooden pillars. Three large idols—the Past, the Present, and the Future—each at least 30 ft. in height, stood in the middle of the temple. An altar was in front of them; and more than a hundred hassocks were on the floor in front of the altar for the priests to kneel on during the service. Ranged on each side of these spacious hall were numerous idols of a smaller size,—said to be the representatives of deified kings and other great men who had been remarkable for piety during their lifetime.

Entering the temple with the priests, I observed a man lighting the candles placed upon the altar and burning incense. The smoke of the incense as it rose in the air filled the place with a heavy yet pleasing perfume. A solemn stillness seemed to pervade the place. The priests came in one by one, in the most devout manner, scarcely lifting their eyes from the ground, and arranged themselves on the right and left sides of the altar, kneeling on the hassocks, and bending down lowly several times to the idols. Again the large bell tolled,—slowly and solemnly at first, then gradually quicker,—and then everything was perfectly still.

The priests were now all assembled—about eighty in number—and the services of the temple began. I took a seat near the door, and in order that no part of the service might be omitted in this notice, took out my note-book to put down what I saw. The priest nearest to the altar now rang a small bell, another struck a drum, and the whole eighty bent down several times upon their knees. One of them then struck a round piece of wood, rather larger than a man's skull, and hollow inside, alternately with a large bronze bell. At this stage of the ceremonies a young priest stepped out from amongst the others, and took his station directly in front of the altar, bowing lowly and repeatedly as he did so. Then the hymn of praise began. One of the priests, apparently the leader, kept time by beating upon the wooden skull just noticed, and the whole of the others sang or chanted the service in a most mournful key. At the commencement of the service, the priests who were ranged in front of the altar, half on the right side and half on the left, stood with their faces to the large images. Now, however, they suddenly wheeled round and faced each other. The chanting, which began slowly, increased in quickness as it went on,—and when at the quickest part suddenly stopped. All was then silent for a second or two. At last, a single voice was heard to chant a few notes by itself,—and then the whole assembly joined, and went on as before.

The young priest who had come out from amongst the others now took his station directly in front of the altar, but near the door of the temple,—and bowed lowly several times upon a cushion placed there for that purpose. He then walked up to the altar with slow and solemn steps, took up a vessel which stood on it, and filled it with water. After making some crosses and gyrations with his hand, he sprinkled a little of the water upon the table. When this was done, he poured a little from the vessel into a cup,—and retired slowly from the altar towards the door of the temple. Passing outside, he dipped his fingers in the water and sprinkled it on the top



of a stone pillar which stood near the door. I could not help being particularly struck with this part of the ceremony. It brought vividly to mind the following passage in the Book of Exodus:—"And ye shall take a bunch of hyssop, and dip it in the blood that is in the bason, and strike the lintel and the two side-posts with the blood that is in the bason." And ye shall observe this thing for an ordinance to thee and to thy sons for ever."

While this was going on, the other priests were still chanting the service. The time of the music frequently changed; now it was fast and lively, now slow and solemn, but always in a plaintive key. This part of the service being ended, all bent lowly before the altar:—and when they rose from their knees, a procession began. The priests on the right of the altar filed off to the right, and those on the left to the left; each walking behind the other up the two sides of the spacious hall, and chanting as they went a low and solemn air,—time being kept by the tinkling of a small bell. When the two processions met at the farther end of the building, each wheeled round and returned in the same order as it came. The procession lasted for about five minutes:—and then the priests took up their stations in front of the altar, and the chanting went on as before. A minute or two after this the whole body fell upon their knees, and sang for a while in this posture. When they rose, those on the left sang a part of the service by themselves, then knelt down. The right side now took up the chant,—and having performed their part, also knelt down. The left side rose again:—and so they went on for ten minutes, prostrating themselves alternately before the altar. The remainder of the service was nearly the same as that at the commencement, which I have already described.

This striking ceremony had now lasted for about an hour. During the whole time, a thick screen had been hanging down in front of the large door of the temple, to keep out the sun's rays. Just before the conclusion of the service the curtain was drawn aside:—and a most striking and curious effect was produced. Streams of ruddy light shot across the temple,—the candles on the altar appeared to burn dimly,—and the huge idols seemed more massive and strange than they had done before. One by one the priests slowly retired as solemnly as they came:—and apparently deeply impressed with the temple and the services in which they had been engaged.

Prayers being ended, nearly all the priests adjourned to the refectory:—where dinner was served immediately. This is a large room furnished with a number of cross tables and forms, and capable of dining at least 200 persons. The Buddhists eat no animal food; but they manage to consume a very large quantity of rice and vegetables. I have been perfectly astonished at the quantity of rice eaten by one of these priests at one meal. And yet, generally, they look poor and emaciated beings:—which is probably owing as much to the sedentary lives which they lead as to the nature of their food.

R. F.

#### OUR WEEKLY GOSSIP.

DOUBTFUL. It would seem, of the success of a policy of direct opposition to the Commissions for Inquiry into the State of the English Universities, the partisans of the present state of things at Oxford have had recourse to a new and very unexpected device. A manifesto has appeared in their interest, entitled 'Suggestions for the Extension of the University submitted to the Rev. the Vice-Chancellor, by William Sewell, B.D.' Though Mr. Sewell's name appears thus prominently in connexion with the document, the 'Suggestions' are really by another hand, and Mr. Sewell only thus gives them his sanction and adhesion. The substance of the 'Suggestions' is, that the two universities should make the attempt to branch out over the country, by establishing district colleges under their control in the principal towns of England:—these colleges to be provided with lecturers and professors, to be exempt from the operation of theological tests, and to have the privilege of securing university degrees to such of their students as shall be found qualified by university examiners appointed for the purpose.

"Though it may not be possible," the manifesto says, "to bring the masses requiring education to the university, may it not be possible to carry the university to them?"—This is an important document! It virtually surrenders at the hands of those from whom such a surrender was least to be expected, the fullest measure of university reform claimed by the most liberal educationists—non-residence, the extension of the professorial system, and the abolition of tests. But its object is apparent:—the concession is made as a cheap means of saving the parent universities from the rigours of inquiry. The real meaning of the document would seem to be this:—Though we of Oxford will not consent to have our university reformed, we will yield so far as to beget a number of subordinate colleges for you over the country, after the model you desire, and we will let them have the shelter of our name! The faults of the proposition are obvious. The parent universities would; were it carried into effect, remain unreformed and aristocratic centres of education—their members holding a high head over men educated anywhere else; and their subordinate colleges, while subject to all the abuses incident to a tenure on the two unreformed universities, would strengthen the hold of the latter on the country, and at the same time commit a social damage, by pretending to fulfil a function for which they are essentially unfit. This will not do. We must not leave the chances of providing academic education adequate to the wants of the country to any process of spontaneous extension undertaken by the two leading universities:—which would be to give to these universities a monopoly of the education of the country, without taking security that they would achieve it. We must set two distinct processes simultaneously going if we would do all that the case requires. We must reform Oxford and Cambridge so as to make them as efficient as possible, and throw them open to the whole country, and we must do our best to rear independent collegiate institutions over the country that shall enter into a healthy competition with them, and, at any rate, overtake that part of the educational necessities of the country which they, even in their reformed state, may be unable to manage.

We have had great difficulty in making our correspondent "An Old Subscriber" understand that what we wanted from him was, an assurance that the Mr. James Bailey recently placed on the pension list is the Mr. Bailey to whom he alludes, as a thing that he knew, not conjectured—and, the name of the assurer, of course, as necessary to make the assurance of a fact of any worth. More than one known and well-informed correspondent of ours has pointed in the same direction as "An Old Subscriber,"—but avowedly as a guess:—and having in the first instance stated our own ignorance in the matter, and asked for information, we could not deal finally with the subject as we have all along desired to do until that information should be inspeculative, and guaranteed. Our readers already know that in answer to our inquiry more parties have been suggested than one. "An Old Subscriber" seems scarcely yet to understand our meaning; but he has furnished us with what we wanted, and that will do as well. He has also obliged us by accompanying his communication with certain particulars which give it great interest, but are not meant for public use. We have now proof that the Mr. Bailey who has found favour with the Minister is one of those accomplished and laborious scholars whose labours Ministers are too apt to overlook as not being of the most showy and popular kind. He is the translator and editor of the great Latin Lexicon of Facioliati, and the same gentleman who some years since edited the fragments of the Greek poet Hermesianax. The public is indebted to him also for an edition of Scapula's Lexicon. Many of our readers may have had occasion to know that scholarship is but a poor resource where it is the only one. Notwithstanding the encouragement given to classical learning at our universities and public schools, the classical scholar who is also a layman is practically excluded from almost all tutorships and masterships in our colleges and other scholastic institutions. When, therefore, it

is stated that to the above claim of work done Mr. Bailey adds the claim of need,—we can say gladly that it is precisely in a direction like this that we desire to see the national bounty, provided in the name of literature, flowing.—The pension in question is one which will so thoroughly bear looking into—and stands beside so much which will not,—that we do not think the friends of Mr. James Bailey have any reason to regret that we raised the inquiry.

Perhaps, as it is our habit to remark on the small share that falls to the lot of the literary and scientific man at the distribution of ministerial "loaves and fishes,"—we should not overlook the appointment of Sir John Herschel to the office of Master of the Mint,—with, it is said, active and responsible duties attached, and a salary of 1,500*l.* a-year.—Our readers need not be told that this is not the first time that the office in question has been illustrated by the great name attached to it.

We have been favoured by a correspondent with the following extract of a letter from A. C. Harris, Esq. of Alexandria, dated Rosetta, November 12, containing some curious information about the discovery of more of a Papyrus of Homer.—"I have had the great good fortune to find a portion of the missing part of this papyrus, consisting of 174 lines,—leaving 139 lines in verses to be sought for, and which I have a faint hope of recovering. I have obtained also another Papyrus in a book of primitive form which if it were complete (and I regret it is not so), would, by the indication on it, contain other four books of the *Iliad* (α, β, γ, δ), together with the grammar of Tryphon of Alexandria. Should I succeed in finding a further portion of these MSS. you shall have a particular account of them: otherwise, I will give a note of the parts now in my possession. I believe that these documents have been taken from the body of Tryphon; and an arm which I preserve in my study as a relic, I consider to be the arm of the grammarian torn from the mummy in order to release the papyrus roll, and delivered to me with the fragment first purchased, and advised by you in the *Athenæum*, 8th September, 1849.—The grammarian Tryphon lived about the age of Augustus:—so that this papyrus MS. of the *Iliad* would be of that age, or of the first century A.D. It is another proof of the sad fate of many valuable works which must have been attached to mummies, and which have been recklessly destroyed by those jackals of mummies, the Fellahs of Egypt."

A plan for the re-organization of the London Mechanics' Institution has been sent to us,—with a request that we would give our opinion on the proposed change. The readers of the *Athenæum* are familiar with our expressions of regret that this class of popular institution has failed, and with the reasons which in our view of the case have led to the failure. The directors of the London Mechanics' Institution have at length arrived at what we think is a proper conception of the defects of the whole system; and the alterations of their scheme amount in reality to the foundation of a new institute. They propose, with the consent of their present members, to change their present name to that of "The Birkbeck College," and their very miscellaneous programme for a well-devised and well-defined system of instruction. They purpose to make their "College" a place of education, instead of a mere refuge for idleness and daily gossip.—This is so far good. Men who want amusement will always prefer the theatre to the lecture or class room; they who want instruction are not willing to be put off with anything inferior to the Evening Classes now at work in so many parts of London. The directors of the proposed "Birkbeck College" should take those classes as their standard of efficiency. If they can see their way to providing better—or even as good—instruction for their pupils, they may not unreasonably hope for success,—as their larger scheme will give them advantages not possessed by their rivals. But we would caution them to rely on their classes:—the lecture-room and the library are admirable as adjuncts, but they are only adjuncts. Most of our large institutions have made the mistake of devoting their funds to these departments, to the neglect of classes,—and we see the results on every



hand, in debt, embarrassment, failure of members, and dissolution. The lecture system, which once promised to become a valuable auxiliary of education, has fallen into total discredit. Lectures are dead burdens upon every institution. They are scantily attended, and they rarely pay expenses. The reason is obvious:—they are not attractive. Economy has so led the directors to reduce terms, or to accept offers on low terms in preference to high ones, that men of name and mark no longer look to this source as a part of their means. The rostra are trod by inferior—often by inefficient—persons; and the public has ceased to feel any interest in what ought to be the most important weekly gathering of the members. It is doubtful whether the lecture system can be so organized, under present circumstances, as to bring with it any element of strength. A project has been talked of for instituting a number of national professorships—the public duties of which would be the delivery of gratuitous lectures—on which we shall offer some remarks by and by:—at present colleges, like the one now under consideration should chiefly rely on their classes for support. Under any circumstances, the lecture should be only auxiliary. It is less education than an incitement to it. We confess to a strong interest—and some hope—in the proposed change. The appeal is well conceived, and the programme unexceptionable. But the prestige of failure and the 400*l.* of debt are serious disadvantages. Comparing the old plan with the new one, we recognize a great stride forward. If the present scheme be wisely and energetically carried out, the college will deserve to succeed, and we trust may reckon on the necessary measure of public support.

We see it announced in the daily papers that several of the city graveyards are about to be re-opened. The notice states that the cholera having now entirely disappeared—and every fear on the subject of the public health having subsided—interments will take place as before. This resumption of the great case of poisoning, which in the face of public opinion seems to us perfectly incredible, will compel the legislature to interfere decisively. But in the mean time we call the attention of our Board of Health to so flagrant a violation of sanitary provision. The mischief must not be suffered to recommence on any pretext. The vested rights in burial fees must not be upheld against the great exigencies of public health. The press should strengthen the hands of the Board to resist this invasion. If the parties injured choose to make appeal to the law or to the legislature let them:—but Gwydir House is responsible for the prohibition of this grave nuisance.

The 'Pictures of Rural Life in Austria and Hungary,' which were summarily dismissed by our reviewer last week as not throwing any lights on the immediate subject which he had in hand,—did nevertheless deserve a good word for their own sake. We know not why it is not stated in the title-page that they are translations of that first series of the 'Studies' of Stifter which were, we believe, first introduced to the English reader in the columns of the *Athenæum* [No. 1087]. What we have there said of the originals renders it unnecessary that we should now do more than merely state that fact.

The *Liverpool Albion* says:—"Letters received from Boston by the Africa announce the discovery, on the night of the 15th ult., of a third ring round the planet Saturn—a phenomenon which had been for some time suspected. It was announced that this important fact was ascertained by the astronomers at the Observatory at Cambridge. It is interior to the two others, and therefore its distance from the body of Saturn must be small. It was well observed through the great equatorial, with powers varying from 150 to 900; the evening for astronomical observations being remarkably fine, perhaps the finest since the establishment of the Observatory, although, singularly enough, the sky was so hazy that to the naked eye only the brighter stars were visible.—It will be remembered that the eighth satellite of this planet was also discovered at Cambridge, by Mr. Bond, about two years since."

It has been determined to appropriate the

money raised as the Cambridge Testimonial Fund to the foundation of a charitable institution,—and not to erect a statue as was at first intended. Without entering into the dispute which has been raised as to the value of the name in which contributions are demanded,—we, at any rate, agree,—both on public and on private grounds—in this new direction proposed to be given to the public bounty. The specific form of the charity is yet a subject of dispute, but we trust that ready means will be found, as we are sure they may if honestly sought—to reconcile differences of plan and opinion among the subscribers, without reverting to the old and neutral idea of a piece of bronze casting,—which in this case has no relevancy. Either of the schemes discussed at the late meeting would be better, in this instance than a statue.—Mr. Charlier's or Mr. Mackenzie's.—Mr. Charlier's has the merit of being distinctive and tangible. He proposes to build a set of almshouses for the widows of non-commissioned officers, to accommodate twenty persons, having each two rooms. The buildings, once erected, the scheme looks to the army for support. There are 136 regiments, says Mr. Charlier, and a subscription of 1*l.* from each would amount to sufficient to form a permanent endowment.—Mr. Mackenzie's plan is humbler in appearance, but far more extensive and more useful in its application. He proposes to found a Samaritan society—on principles, if we understand him rightly, similar to the projected institution which for some winters past the *Athenæum* has brought before its readers,—open to all classes of the poor of London. No man conversant with the destitution of the capital, whose daily walks make him familiar with the miseries that lie on the highways and great thoroughfares of observation, can doubt of the demand for the Samaritan in our streets. It is not that we lack charity. The means of giving and the disposition to give exist abundantly. But the crumbs that fall by chance from the tables of the rich are not sufficient to feed the poor, who crowd about the gates. Charity requires to be organized. Nor is this all: the poor want guidance as well as bread. In many things they are inevitably the dupes of knavery and the victims of cruelty:—some of the worst but most successful knaves in London find their food in the orphan's wants and in the widow's woe. A scheme which proposes to use the offerings of charity as a means wherewith to establish soup-kitchens for the starving, to provide shelter for the houseless, free registry for servants and labourers, and free wash-houses for such as are unable to pay for them,—commands our warm sympathy. Such an institution would have claims of no ordinary character on the public for support.

The *Manchester Examiner* and *Times* has stated that the professorship of the languages and literature of Greece and Rome, and of ancient and modern history in the Owens College, is to be given to Mr. J. G. Greenwood, of University College, London. Mr. Alexander Sandeman, of Queen's College, Cambridge, will at the same time, adds our contemporary, be formally appointed professor of mathematics and natural philosophy, in the same institution. The appointments to the natural history, chemistry, and modern languages departments are still under consideration, but will in all probability, adds the same authority, be made within the next two or three weeks.

We have received the following from a correspondent in reference to our remarks, last week, on the restoration of the old Hall at Gainsborough, and our attribution of the "right spirit" in which the works have been gone about to "the vicar and his colleagues."—"Honour," says our correspondent, "to whom honour is due. The vicar took no part in the restoration of the old Hall. It is the property of H. B. Hickman, Esq.—the lord of the manor. A number of gentlemen in Gainsborough—I believe, nine—leased the Hall of the lord of the manor for fourteen years. He advanced all the money for the restoration; for which they are to pay him 6*l.* per cent. for the term above mentioned. To these nine lessees, then, is due all the honour—and eke the responsibility, for they are subject to an annual loss of considerable

amount—of having restored the Hall of John of Gaunt to its present condition of usefulness,—and to be an ornament to that part of the town in which it is located."

The French Academy has elected M. Nisard to fill the vacancy in its body occasioned by the death of M. de Feletz.

The *Araldo*, a weekly journal published in Naples, announces the list of books absolutely prohibited by the Neapolitan Government—in the original or translations, printed at home or imported from abroad. This list includes the works of the following writers:—Sophocles, Lucretius, Lucian, Shakspeare, Molière, Schiller, Sismondi, Humboldt, Lamartine and Thiers. This would look like the farce after the terrible tragedies of Naples and Messina, were there not the melancholy reflection at hand that this ridiculous warfare with the intelligence of the world is waged by men who in their own country have the power to make the war in earnest,—that the absurd antics which are sport to us at a distance are intellectual death to others. Of the works of Humboldt, the 'Cosmos' is especially branded. We have heard of a learned traveller having his whole box of scientific books detained at the Austrian custom-house, and sent back across the frontier, because one of them was a treatise on the revolutions of the stars:—but the Neapolitans, if they go on in this style, will soon carry away the crown of ignorance from their friendly rivals on the Danube.

A few weeks ago we gave an account of the expulsion of Mr. Hely, an English artist, from Rome. The sequel of the story is now reported as follows. Mr. Hely applied to the Foreign Office in London; and to Lord Palmerston's remonstrance, the Papal Government replies that the sculptor was not obliged to leave Rome, and might have remained in the country had he wished it. This is said in defiance of his passport,—which was valid for three days only, and laid down the route by which he was compelled to travel. By a bold falsehood, the Roman Government evades explanation, and endeavours to provide against any demand for reparation of losses in time and money.

As incidents peculiar to the age in which we live, we cannot but regard with interest the attempts made from below to find a more satisfactory solution of the labour question. It is a new and impressive thing to find the artisan mind of the country deeply involved in the abstract logic as well as in the practical logic of such a question. Certain we are that this great question is as yet unsolved; and we are hopeful enough to believe that some contribution towards its better understanding may be drawn from the cogitations and the experience of the workers themselves. From the report of a meeting of operatives in Manchester a few days ago, we learn some curious facts in illustration of the progress of a doctrine often stated in our columns,—to the effect, that the next great social experiment will be one of association. It appears that a number of weavers who turned out of one mill near Manchester on an attempt to reduce wages, have taken a mill for themselves, and purpose manufacturing on their own account. In Bacup it was said there is a mill in successful operation, conducted by three hundred operatives; and in Heywood a similar experiment is in process of being tried on a smaller scale. Now, whether these first trials shall succeed or fail as commercial ventures, they must be highly instructive to those who love to trace the physiology of human society. Three hundred men on strike have taken a mill! We believe these few words will startle some ears like a report of barricades. Such a circumstance may or may not help to revolutionize industry; but it speaks of sobriety, union, character and forecasting habits in the men. A factory is a costly affair. A vast change must have come over the factory population ere a man possessing mill-property could dream of letting it out to strikers. Much as we have seen and heard of the progress of Manchester during the last dozen years, we remember no fact so powerfully significant of advance as this attempt—however more or less wise or hopeful—at cooperative labour.



**EXHIBITION OF MODERN BRITISH ART.**—This Exhibition is OPEN DAILY at the Gallery of the Old Water Colour Society, No. 5, Pall Mall East.—Open from Ten till dusk.—Admission, 1s. Catalogue, 6d.

SAMUEL STEPNEY, Sec.

**EGYPT, NUBIA, and ETHIOPIA.**—The GREAT MOVING PANORAMA of the NILE displays the scenery of these interesting countries, and the manners and customs of their inhabitants, presenting to the spectator the River and the Desert, the Pyramids, and the Sphinx, the grandest Ruins of Antiquity, and the most exciting objects that allure the traveller.—EGYPTIAN HALL, PICCADILLY.—Daily, at Three and Eight.—Admission reduced to 6d.; Pitt, 1s.; Stalls, 2s.

**INDIA OVERLAND MAIL.—DIORAMA.—GALLERY of ILLUSTRATION.**—Regent-street, Waterloo-place.—A GRAND MOVING DIORAMA of the ROUTE of the OVERLAND MAIL to INDIA, exhibiting the following places, viz.—Southampton Docks, Isle of Wight, Osborne, the Needles, the Bay of Biscay, the Berlings, Civitua, the Tagus, Cape Trafalgar, Tarifa, Gibraltar, Algiers, Malta, Alexandria, Cairo, the Desert of Suez, the Central Station, Suez, the Red Sea, Aden, Ceylon, Madras, and Calcutta. It is now OPEN DAILY.—Mornings at Twelve, Afternoons at Three, and Evenings at Eight.—Admission, 1s.; Stalls, 2s. 6d.; Reserved Seats, 3s. Doors open half an hour before each representation.

The PORTLAND GALLERY, 31s, Regent Street, Langham Place, opposite the Polytechnic Institution, will OPEN on MONDAY, the 26th of DECEMBER, 1859, with a GRAND MOVING DIORAMA, in which the spectator is taken through Upper India, from the point at which the Diorama of the Overland Route terminates; commencing with a complete Panorama of the City of Calcutta as seen from the summit of the Ochelony Monument, thence to the great seat of idolatry and superstition, Juggernaut, with the Procession of the Cars, the Ganges, the Sacred City of Benares, Chunar and Allahabad, the Magnificent Palace of Agra, and the Taj Mahal. The entire Diorama invented and painted by Mr. T. C. Dibdin, from sketches by J. Ferguson, Esq., made on the spot during his residence in India.—Doors to Open at Half-past Two and Half-past Seven P.M. The Overtures to commence at Three and Eight P.M.—Admission, 1s.; Reserved seats, 2s. 6d.

#### ROYAL POLYTECHNIC INSTITUTION.

**LECTURE** by Dr. Bachhufer on VOLTAIC ELECTRICITY, in which will be exhibited ALLMAN'S PATENT ELECTRIC LIGHT, Daily at Two, and on Tuesday and Thursday Evenings at Nine.—LECTURE by J. H. Pepper, Esq., on the FIRST or SIMPLE PRINCIPLES of AGRICULTURAL CHEMISTRY, daily (except Saturday) at a Quarter-past Three, and on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday Evenings at Nine.—LECTURE on the BALLAD MUSIC of ENGLAND, by Mr. George Barker, every Evening (except Saturday) at Eight o'clock, illustrated by F. MORRIS, MECHANICAL MODELS of WESTON'S PATENT NOVA-MOTIVE RAILWAY, at work daily.—DISSOLVING VIEWS, daily at One o'clock, at Half-past Four, and in the Evenings at a Quarter to Ten.—DIVER and DIVING BELL, &c. &c.—Admission, 1s.; Schools, Half-price.—Open daily from Eleven o'clock till Five o'clock, and every Evening (EXCEPT SATURDAY) from Seven till Half-past Ten.

#### SCIENTIFIC

##### SOCIETIES.

**ROYAL.**—The Earl of Rosse, President, in the chair.—W. Fairbairn, Esq., J. F. Miller, Esq., and Capt. Ibbetson were admitted Fellows.—The Bakerian Lecture was delivered by M. Faraday, Esq., illustrated by experiments. After alluding to the experiments of Padre Bancalari, the lecturer showed the opposite magnetic condition of oxygen and nitrogen; the former when inclosed in a bubble of glass is always attracted by the magnet, the latter repelled. In common with iron and some other metals, oxygen loses its magnetism on the application of heat, and regains it on again becoming cold. In this fact Mr. Faraday finds the cause of the diurnal movements of the magnetic needles all over the world, as exhibited at the respective observatories; and he explains the apparent anomalies which occur at St. Helena, and Singapore on the hypothesis induced from the whole of the phenomena. The lecturer, in closing, stated that the explanation was to be received as conjectural, although, at present, as sufficiently satisfying the theory.

**Anniversary Meeting.**—The Earl of Rosse, President, in the chair.—His Lordship delivered his annual address, passing under review the progress of science during the past year. On the motion of the Marquis of Northampton, seconded by Sir Robert Inglis, the thanks of the Society were voted to the President.—The Copley medal was awarded to Prof. Hansen, of Seeberg, for his researches in physical astronomy;—the two Royal medals were assigned to B. C. Brodie, Esq., and Prof. Graham;—and the Rumford medal, with the dividends arising from the Rumford fund, to M. Arago. The Society then proceeded to the election of Council and officers for the ensuing year; and the Scrutators announced the following noblemen and gentlemen as elected:—President, the Earl of Rosse; Treasurer, Lieut.-Col. E. Sabine; Secretaries, S. H. Christie, and T. Bell, Esqs.; Foreign Secretary, Capt. W. H. Smyth, R.N.; other Members of the Council, J. J. Bennett, Esq., W. Bowman, Esq., Sir B. C. Brodie, The Rev. Prof. Challis, Lieut.-Gen. Sir H. Douglas, Sir P. de Malpas Grey Egerton, J. Forbes, M.D., M. Hall, M.D., G. A. Mantell, Esq., Prof. W. H. Miller,

Sir R. I. Murchison, R. Phillips, Esq., Sir F. Pollock, G. Rennie, Esq., E. Solly, Esq., and Lord Wrottesley.—The names of new Members of the Council are printed in italics.

**GEOGRAPHICAL.**—Capt. W. H. Smyth, R.N., President, in the chair.—Lord Radstock, the Lord Advocate of Scotland, G. C. Cunningham, J. Imray, J. Bell, R. N. Fowler, E. B. Lawrence, Esqs., Capt. C. T. Wilson, C. C. Forsyth, R.N., F. E. Forbes, R.N., and J. W. Espinasse were elected Fellows.

The reading of a paper by Capt. Fitz Roy 'On the Isthmus of Central America' was resumed and concluded. In the first part of this summary of the principal facts affecting a passage across the Isthmus, much stress was laid on three considerations, alike influential over all routes supposed to be eligible—namely, the climate, the situation (with respect to inter-oceanic communication on a great scale,) and the indispensable necessity for a port at each end of either railway or canal.—After reflections on the instability of the local government,—on the liability of the land itself to change, on account of volcanic convulsions,—on the opposition of certain natives,—and on the scarcity of labour,—each plan for crossing the Isthmus was briefly reviewed.—The four principal lines are—the Mexican, the Nicaragua, the Panama, and the Atrato; besides several other routes either branches of the Nicaragua line or independent tracks across other parts of the great Isthmus.—The Mexican line was shown to be unsuited for the general intercourse of the world, however locally valuable. Its high level, length, and situation, besides the want of ports, are against its general utility.—In any route taken through the great lake of Nicaragua, three states are immediately concerned—that first mentioned, Costa Rica, and Mosquitia.

The country is very volcanic; many locks, viaducts, and bridges would be necessary for either canal or railway; and the length of such works must be great. There is a deficiency of harbours on this line. San Juan de Nicaragua (or Grey Town) anchorage, the only one on the Atlantic side, is small; and the only good ports on the Pacific are remote. San Juan del Sur is "an exposed cove five cable lengths across." The lake is shallow near its shores, and exposed to violent winds. There are six or seven propositions for connecting the unmanageable river San Juan with the Pacific, by way of Leon to Fonseca or Conchagua, to Realejo, or to the Tamarinda, by Nicaragua to San Juan del Sur, along the Sapoa to Salinas, and by the San Carlos to Nicoya Gulf.—The Panama line is short, and a railroad seems feasible, but it wants good ports. A railway is in progress by an American company, who have made very exclusive terms with New Granada.—The Atrato river, and the isthmus between the Gulf of Darien and Cupica Bay (on the Pacific, in 6° N. lat.), are described as offering encouragement to a ship canal on the largest scale; but not to a railway. Other routes are suggested: from Caledonia Bay to San Miguel Gulf; from San Blas to Chepo; and from Chiriqui to Dulce Gulf. Preference was given to Panama for a railroad, but to Darien for a canal.—The great Mexican "Desagüe," (described so fully by Humboldt, in his 'New Spain,') as one of the most wonderful hydraulic works of man, was alluded to as an instance of what had been effected by human labour even in Central America. That enormous excavation is some miles in length; for three of which it is two hundred feet deep, and at the top three hundred feet in width.—The Scotch colony, in Darien, at the end of the seventeenth century, the still independent aborigines of the Isthmus, and the various places from which labourers might be procured, were also touched on cursorily.

**SOCIETY OF ANTIQUARIES.**—Sir R. H. Inglis, V.P., in the chair.—Mr. Ford was elected a member. The table was covered with specimens of Roman glass of all shapes and sizes. So numerous and so unique an assemblage was perhaps never before exhibited; and several members, acquainted with the subject, bore testimony to its value and interest. It has lately been imported from Nismes,

where so many other objects of the same kind have from time to time been exhumed; and the Society was indebted for it to Mr. W. Chaffers, jun.—who, we presume, has bought it as a matter of speculation. The British Museum has nothing comparable to it; and we should rejoice to hear that it had gone there. Mr. Chaffers accompanied the exhibition by a letter explanatory of the circumstances connected with it. Thanks were voted to him, as it were, by acclamation.—Mr. Vesey sent a highly valuable gold waist-belt of singular manufacture, together with a plain armet of the same metal, and some specimens, strung on it, of the gold money in use among our Anglo-Saxon forefathers shortly anterior to the Roman invasion. Nothing more curious has been discovered for many years, and the intrinsic value is also great. These objects were found by a small farmer on the estate of Mr. Vesey, in the Isle of Ely, in digging turf; and it was conjectured by the Secretary, in a paper which he read on the subject, that they had been the ornaments of an ancient Briton killed in his flight from the Romans. A bronze spear-head, also laid upon the table, and a large portion of a human skeleton, were found at the same time. The fastening of the waist-torque was of the simplest description, consisting merely of two hooks of the plain metal, very firm and solid; and the armet was kept together only by the strength and thickness of the ring. The gold money was of various weights, but all proportionate; and we understand that nothing of the kind so complete has ever before been obtained. It consisted of treble, double and single rings, not quite large enough for the finger, but very substantial.—Dr. A. Guest sent a paper on the Seal of the Patriarch of Antioch,—which accompanied the dissertation; but the precise age of the relic was not, we believe, stated.—It is fit that the Society of Antiquaries should be the medium of communicating knowledge of the discovery of objects of archaeological interest in different parts of the world; and with this view, amongst others, it was originally chartered by the Sovereign.

**INSTITUTE OF BRITISH ARCHITECTS.**—C. Fowler, Esq., V.P., in the chair.—E. Christian and C. Eales, Esqs., were elected Fellows.

'On Polychromatic Decoration in Italy from the Twelfth to the Sixteenth Century,' by M. D. Wyatt, Esq.—Mr. Wyatt commenced by defining the specific influence Roman Art exercised on the painting of the middle ages, tracing through the various MS. treatises which had remained to the present day the gradual introduction of Byzantine processes. Having described the paintings in the Catacombs, the expiring indications of the once celebrated painting of the ancients, as being generally marked with a peculiar brown tint in contradistinction to that prevailing tint of green which was the characteristic of the Greek school of colour, he showed from the illuminated MSS. of the Vatican and other time-honoured libraries, the retention through succeeding centuries of the peculiarities of Roman Art. The Greek artists, expelled from their country by the persecutions of the iconoclastic emperors, found refuge in Italy, under the protection of Hadrian I., who built monasteries for their reception; and by their labours, for some time the churches of Italy were decorated with mosaics, the chief peculiarity of which was a uniform gold ground, relieved by ornaments in the primitive colours. He noticed particularly the remarkable absence in the remains of this period of all the secondary and tertiary colours, excepting only the green tint of the Greek school. The peculiar hiatus which occurred in Art throughout Europe during the century preceding the year 1,000 (which arose from the common belief that at that time the world would be at an end, a belief which prevented men from commencing works of durability) was sensibly felt in Italy; and it was not until the eleventh century that the skill of the Greek artist was again applied. In the construction of certain portions of the church of Santa Maria Novella, at Florence, it became necessary to call in the aid of painting, and the Florentine magnates accordingly despatched ambassadors to Greece, demanding the assistance of the artists of that country. It was in watching



their labours, and by studying their processes, that the Fra Giacomo da Turita, a Franciscan monk of Sienna, shortly after the year 1200, acquired the power of applying what is known by the name of mosaic work to the purposes of Art; and proceeding from Florence to Rome, he executed many works in the latter city, the most important being the mosaics which clothe the vaults of the basilicas in Santa Maria Maggiore and San Giovanni in Laterano. Inspired, by his success, the Florentines determined to enrich the ceiling of their baptistry, then in the course of construction, with similar work; and finding no artist in Florence, in the absence of Fra Giacomo, capable of executing it, they despatched Andrea Tafi to the Venetians, requesting them to allow certain of the Greek workmen then employed in decorating the interior of St. Mark's to execute the ceilings so much desired by the Florentine Republic. Magister Appellonius was despatched; and from him Andrea Tafi acquired the art, the possession of which was finally secured for Italy by the Gaddi family and other masters. During this period the Greeks had not been stationary in the arts of working *tempera* and *fresco*, and evidence was adduced by Mr. Wyatt of their knowledge of those processes from contemporary MSS. Cimabue and his works at San Francisco d'Assisi were dwelt on in some detail; and the peculiar retention of the gold ground and ornaments, derived from the constant practice of mosaic construction, was adverted to. The life and works of Giotto, the pupil and adopted child of Cimabue, were described; and his soft, poetical, and imaginative creations at the chapel of the Arena, at Padua, and at San Francisco d'Assisi, and by the pupils of Giotto, in the Campo Santo, at Pisa, were particularly noticed by Mr. Wyatt, who pointed out the taste with which the ornaments and architectural enrichments were introduced, so as to give life and action to the curves and geometrical lines of the composition of the figure. Running hastily over the works of such masters as Taddeo Bartoli, Gentile da Fabriano, and Fra Beato Angelico, Mr. Wyatt took occasion to notice the influence exercised on Art by the monks of the leading orders of Italy—the Benedictines, the Franciscans, the Dominicans, and the Carthusians. Leaving the painters of the mystic school—the main characteristics of whose works appeared to be religious quietude mingled with cheerfulness, both in their drawing and colouring—he proceeded to notice the revival of the study of the antique, and the recurrence of its models, which took place towards the latter part of the fifteenth century. In the works of Perrugino at Ferrugia and at Rome, that charming addition of antique art to modern decoration, familiarly known as the grotesque or arabesque style, appeared to reach a point so near perfection as to require the genius of a Raffaele to carry it to a still higher degree of excellence. After noticing the difference of style between Raffaele and Pinturicchio, the two favourite pupils of Perrugino, he traced in the works of the latter the influence of the school of colour attributable to Gentile da Fabriano and Fra Beato; and, by a brief allusion to the labours of Giovanni da Udine and Giulio Romano, the pupils of Raffaele, brought to a close his remarks on the polychromatic decoration of Italy. Mr. Wyatt then called attention to the anomalous condition of England, who, notwithstanding she was so advanced in all the artificial appliances of civilization, was so utterly devoid of anything like a tasteful union of the sister arts. Pictures, he remarked, were painted as paletots were made, to be bought by any one who might conceive that they would fit; and those who required the characteristics of unity were divided amongst half-a-dozen various professors of the arts of decoration, while a master mind was wanting to regulate and harmonize the whole. He concluded by describing such of the original sketches, and of the coloured illustrations lent him by the School of Design, as had not been referred to in the course of his address; and in doing so, mentioned a particular method of exterior colouring called *saravito*, well known in Italy, as probably applicable to this climate.

A discussion followed, in which the chairman, Mr. Scott, Mr. Scoles, Mr. Ashby, Mr. Mocatta,

Mr. Godwin, and other gentlemen took part. The general opinion appeared to be that the introduction of colour was gradually progressing in this country, and that every application of this kind of decoration was followed by a greater appetite for it on the part of the public. Mr. Godwin remarked that a great work had been reserved for the nineteenth century, that of properly decorating St. Paul's. No one could now go into that whited sepulchre without wondering that it had been so long left unfinished. The Dean and Chapter, he believed, had long ago made up their minds that something should be done, but it was more difficult to determine on the description of paintings and painted glass to be applied.

A Collection of Original Sketches, Drawings and Prints, were exhibited, and formed illustrations of Mr. Wyatt's remarks.

LINNEAN. R. BROWN, Esq. in the chair. The Secretary read the conclusion of Mr. B. Clark's Memoir on the position of the carapels in plants when two and when single; including a new method of arrangement. The author proposed to arrange all the orders of Exogens under two heads, the Protero-carpeæ and the Hetero-carpeæ, according to the position of their carapels.—Dr. A. Schlagenweit gave an account of some of the more important results which had been arrived at by himself and his brother, in relation to the vegetation of the Alps, while pursuing their researches on the physical geography of those mountains. These gentlemen have just published a work on this subject, which they presented to the Society.—J. Hutchinson and S. Stevens, Esqs. were elected Fellows.—Mr. R. Heward presented a collection of dried plants from Ceylon, made by Mr. J. Frazer.

ENTOMOLOGICAL.—G. R. Waterhouse, Esq. President, in the chair. Mr. J. Gray and Mr. J. N. Tweedy were elected members. The President announced that the requisite number of subscribers for the *Insecta Britannica* being nearly obtained, the committee had decided to proceed with the publication of the series, and that the first volume would be published early in 1851.—Mr. Evans exhibited a *Lampyrus* from Rio de Janeiro, which had been caught in the act of emitting light.—Mr. S. Stevens exhibited some fine specimens of the variety of *Ornithoptera Priamus* from Richmond River, New Holland, and also that singular Lepidopterous insect, *Myrmecopsis Eumenes*, which so resembles a Hymenopterous insect.—Mr. Stainon exhibited five new species of British Tineidæ, viz. *Coleophora partitella* (Z.), *C. vulneraria* (Z.), *C. lithargyrælla* (Z.), *C. puniceolella* (Sta.), and *Elachista Treitschkeella* (F. v. R.), and read an extremely interesting notice, by Mr. Jordan, of a small Lepidopterous larva (probably of the genus *Goniadoma*), which fed on the flowers of *Origanum vulgare*, in a case precisely resembling an unexpanded flower bud of that plant.—Mr. Douglas read a letter from Mr. E. Wilson, in which it was stated, that in the United States it was impossible to preserve a collection of insects of any extent; as in some years during the very hot weather, owing to a peculiar state of the atmosphere, everything that was closely shut up became covered with a white hoar, and that from this cause a pair of boots in a cupboard would become as white as snow; and that in order to guard against these sudden attacks the cases of birds at the Academy of Philadelphia, instead of being closed as they are in this country, have chimneys to cause an artificial draught, and every box of insects is required to be opened during the continuance of these attacks so as to expose them as much as possible to the air.

Mr. Westwood stated that M. Guérin-Ménéville, in his researches on insects destructive to tobacco had found that many different species fed thereon. One of these, a new species named *Catantopha Tabaci*—he at first thought was allied to the genus *Ptinus*, but afterwards found it more nearly related to *Dorcatoma*. In this latter genus he had been able to clear up the doubts as to the number of joints in the antennæ (which had been variously stated by different authors to be 8, 9, 10 and 11); having determined from the examination of two specimens that the real number was ten in the male and nine

in the female. Another species detected by M. Guérin-Ménéville was *Xyletinus serricornis*. Now, Mr. Westwood had recently had a pupa sent to him in a cigar which he believed was this species. The cigar purported to come from Havannah; now, *X. serricornis* being a North American species, it appeared to him to throw some doubt on the genuineness of the Havannah cigar. In this view Messrs. Wilkinson and Douglas did not participate; thinking it quite possible that the insect might have transferred itself from tobacco of one country to tobacco of another whilst in the bonded warehouses. The President observed that many insects were found all over the world, instancing the species of *Dermestes* and *Trogosia Mauritanica*, and that it remained to be proved that the beetles referred to were peculiar to one country. Mr. Saunders stated that he had lately received a letter from Mr. Harrington, dated at sea, the 7th of October last, in lat. 17° S., long. 35° W., in which the following passage occurred:—"I have taken two very beautiful moths, decidedly exotic, one in lat. 27° 36' N., lon. 10° 34' W., the other in lat. 13° 12' N., long. 24° 32' W., and three beetles a few miles south of the line." The distances from land in these positions would be respectively 80, 90, and 240 miles.—Mr. Bond stated that the larvae of *Acherontia Atropos* had been unusually common in Cambridgeshire this autumn, and that two had squeaked audibly while yet in the pupa state.

INSTITUTION OF CIVIL ENGINEERS.—W. Cubitt, Esq. President, in the chair.—A discussion on Mr. Struve's paper on "The Ventilation of Cellaries, theoretically and practically considered" was continued throughout two evenings to the exclusion of any other subject. Messrs. J. Barrett, T. W. Booker, T. Bouch, D. Brandon, J. P. Budd, E. Clark, A. B. Cochrane, jun., L. Elliott, W. Exall, C. Geach, E. Grove, H. Gwyn, J. Hanvey, H. W. Harman, C. J. Mars, J. H. Porter, R. Turner, C. H. Waring, F. R. Window, and M. D. Wyatt were elected Associates.

SOCIETY OF ARTS.—Annual General Meeting and election of officers.—W. Tooke, Esq. in the chair. The House List issued by the Council was announced to have been unanimously affirmed. The new Vice-Presidents are, Lord Overstone, S. M. Peto, Esq., Mr. C. Dickens and Mr. T. Webster, R.A.—H.R.H. Prince Albert was elected a Trustee, on the part of the Society of Arts, of the Soane Museum.

#### MEETINGS FOR THE ENSUING WEEK.

- MON. Geographical, half-past 8.—Discussion on Capt. FitzRoy's "Considerations on the Isthmus of America."—African Exploration under Messrs. Overweg and Barth, by Mr. A. Petermann.
- TUES. Civil Engineers, 4.—Description of the Royal Border Bridge, built over the River Tweed, on the line of the York, Newcastle and Berwick Railway, by Mr. G. R. Bruce, M. Inst. C.E.
- Zoological, 8.—Scientific Business.
- Syrio-Egyptian, half-past 7.—On the History of the Mosaic Period, by Miss Emily Corbux.—Exhibition of Mr. Edward Falkener's Drawings of Egyptian Tombs, &c.
- WED. Society of Arts, 8.—On the Bleaching of Flax, Cotton, and other Fibrous and Fabrics, by Prof. Grace Calvert, of Manchester.
- Ethnological, 8.—On Babylonian Manners and Customs, by Commander Forbes, R.N.—On the Danara Country, by Mr. F. N. Kolbe.—On Oriental Towns introduced into the English Language, by J. Crawford, Esq.
- Literary Fund, 8.
- Microscopical, 8.
- TUES. Royal Academy, 8.—Mr. Green "On Anatomy."
- Royal Society of Literature, 4.
- Royal, half-past 8.
- Antiquaries, 8.
- Philological, 8.
- Astronomical, 8.
- Sat. Medical, 8.

#### FINE ARTS

##### MR. GRUNDY'S WINTER EXHIBITION.

THE second Winter Exhibition by Mr. Grundy of the water-colour drawings and sketches in oils by deceased and living modern artists is just opened to the public. In it will be found some recently executed works of interest, and older favourites with whose faces we are glad to renew acquaintance.

In the figure department, the most conspicuous contributions are from the pencil of Mr. George Cattermole, whether for excellence of treatment or for variety of subject-matter. He is at home, as usual, in the combination of mailed figures, as



exhibited in *Sintram and his Companions* (No. 39). In the two scenes from 'Macbeth'—*The Murder of Duncan* (2) and *Lady Macbeth* (9)—we are not so well disposed to accept the painter's present illustrations of that tragedy. They suffer by comparison with former treatments of the same incidents. In the *Cambrian's Quærel* (24) he is seen in his true romantic vein—as also in *The Warning* (17). His versatility is shown in *The Dance* (12)—a Rubens-like combination—full of spirit, redolent of life and movement. It is, however, in a drawing like *The Monk's Library* (85), that the best characteristics of Mr. Cattermole's style are found. There breathes through it an acquaintance with particulars and a general air that bespeak his earnestness. There is also a landscape by the same artist—*A Millstream* (105).

By Mr. Stanfield there are, an excellent little drawing of *Dieppe* (14) and a *View of the Moselle* (15). From the hand of Mr. Prout, *Pyres-Flamens* (6) will be most liked—for it has all the qualities of his peculiar style, with more than his usual care. Mr. Louis Haghe has here two of the Belgian subjects made familiar through the volumes already published on the subject,—*The Chapel of St. Dymphna, Ghent* (21) and *The Choir of the Cathedral, Antwerp*. Mr. Turner exhibits here the contrast between his earliest and his latest styles. *The Temple of Vesta, Tivoli* (25) is one of those washed drawings which he used to do in the evenings in his earliest time, when a frequenter at Dr. Moore's. *Arundel Castle* (61) is a combination of the singular geological forms of nature, with the castellated architecture of the residence of the premier peer of England—dazzling in colour and splendid in effect. Than in these two drawings from the same hand it would be scarcely possible to find matthæra more opposite. By Mr. De Wint, *The Harvest Home* is, from its spottiness and want of breadth, little satisfactory. It is in *The Mill* (149) that we find the manifestations of that mastery and breadth of effect which have given their unique character to his drawings.

By Mr. Bonington must be noticed a *View in Venice on the Grand Canal* (33)—full of tone and of the inspiration of the place. *The Heart's Misgivings* (39) is obviously the study for Mr. Frank Stone's larger picture.—now so well known as to render further commendation needless. An old acquaintance, if we mistake not, is also, Mr. Joseph Nash's *Fireplace in Drawing-room, Speke, Lancashire* (46). The drawing of its forms bespeaks perfect acquaintance with their structure. Some of the pencil drawings by Mr. Machrie for his illustrated edition of Moore are charming expositions of the artist's mastery and facility. There are drawings by Mr. Frost which are farther proofs of his power in the arrangement and combination of the human form. *Chastity* (94). *A Festival before the Flood* (93), and *Panope* (95) are of a class the familiarity with which may ultimately subject the painter to the charge of mannerism, if he does not look more out of himself—more abroad into the great field of Nature.

Among a number of other drawings well worthy of attention, it will be sufficient now to enumerate *A Street Scene, Castle Garth, Newcastle-upon-Tyne* (144), by Mr. E. Richardson; *Summer* (144), by Mr. J. B. Pyne; *The View between Flint and Rhyl* (66), by Mr. D. Cox; *The Ginekeepers' Daughter* (86), by Mr. Frederick Tayler; *Chow and Sheep* (29), by Mr. Sydney Cooper; Mr. P. F. Poole's *Cottar's Pet* (37); the Pen and Ink Sketch, by Sir David Wilkie, of *The Entrance of George the Fourth into Edinburgh* (93); *The Bird's Nest and Flowers* (92), and *The Jug of Roses* (90), by Mr. Hunt,—the last a marvellous piece of imitation; Mr. Lake Price's *Court Yard of the Casa Salvata, Venice* (167); Mr. Derby's water-colour copies of Gilbert Stuart Newton's *Oriskany Girl* (59), of his head of *Cordelia* (68), and of his *Polly Pouchum* (102). There are also drawings of ability by Messrs. Copley Fielding, Hart, F. R. Pickersgill, V. Bartholomew, Callcott, Oakley, Oliver, Nie-mann, Robins, Brandard, Bennett, Chambers, &c.

In an upper room will be found, among a number of pictures in oil, some finished examples by Mr. Etty of Academy studies,—of landscapes by Messrs. Stark, Boddington, W. Oliver, Niemann,

Lee, Inskip,—Nasmyth and Danby. Also studies of the figure by Mr. Kennedy; and model sketches for well-known pictures by Messrs. Frith, Egg and Elmore.—Some old pictures, specimens of the Dutch school of the times of Ostade and Ruysdael and others of their day, help also to form the attractions of this room.

# FOREIGN CORRESPONDENCE.

## Consecration of the Basilica.

Munich, Nov. 24.  
The first stone of the Basilica of St. Bonifazius was laid by King Ludwig in 1835, in celebration of his Silberner Hochzeit,—or the twenty-fifth anniversary of his marriage. It has taken fifteen years to complete and enrich it with sculptures, arabesques, frescoes, and carving in wood. Last week the rich gold and silver vessels, the gold and silver crucifixes, the altar-cloths and splendid robes for the priests, the embroidered banners and canopies, the velvet cushions, the gorgeous carpets, thrones, and seats required by the pomp of Catholic worship, were exhibited for three days in the church to the public, who streamed thither in crowds. To-day was the consecration.

This church may be considered unique, being a revival of the Basilicas of the fifth and sixth centuries—a Roman hall of justice converted into a Christian temple. It is built entirely of beautiful dark red brick. Adjoining it, is the monastery of the Benedictine Monks, built also of brick, and with the same round-arched windows as the church,—of which, indeed, it seems a portion. A portico supported by eight noble limestone columns, runs along the front of the Basilica; and three lofty doors, rich with emblematical carvings in wood and stone, lead into the church. The interior is divided into five naves by sixty-four columns of grey marble, with exquisitely-sculptured white marble capitals and bases. Entering by the middle door, the lofty centre nave stretches away before the spectator,—an avenue of noble columns supporting upon rounded arches an expanse of wall glowing with arabesques and frescoes, and perforated by a long row of small round-topped windows, high up, and near the roof, which after the manner of the old basilicas, exposes its beams and rafters to view, but gilt and ornamented, and glittering with stars on a deep azure ground. This centre nave terminates in a lofty semi-circular niche, wherein, approached by a flight of twelve steps, rises the high altar.

On the wall above the high altar, on a gold ground, and divided from each other by the typical palm-tree, stand the first teachers of Christianity in Bavaria.—St. Bonifazius, St. Benedict, St. Willibald, St. Corbinian, St. Rupert, St. Glimmeran, St. Cilian, and St. Magnus. Above them floats Christ, as the head and symbol of the Church triumphant,—surrounded by a glory of Cherubim and Seraphim, and with the Virgin and St. John the Baptist, praying at his feet. Beneath the high altar and its flight of steps extends the crypt. Two side altars terminate the outer naves, as the high altar the principal nave. Above the side altar to the right is the Virgin and Child receiving the homage of the patron saint of the Bavarian royal family; above the one on the left is the martyrdom of St. Stephen—the most beautiful of all the frescoes in the Basilica,—the most beautiful, I am almost inclined to say, of all the frescoes in Munich. St. Stephen, with his meek, pale face, and with clasped hands, falls to the earth beneath the cruel strokes of his assailants like a broken white lily.

These altar-pieces are, together with the other frescoes in the Basilica, painted by Hess and his assistants. The history of St. Boniface, to whom the church is dedicated, is told in a series of frescoes which extend along either side of the centre nave, above the noble columns of which I have spoken. There are twelve principal incidents from his life; commencing with his reception as a child among the Benedictine monks, and his departure from England to Germany upon his perilous mission,—and ending with his martyrdom in Friesland, and his burial in the Abbey of Fulda. The lesser events are told in smaller designs alternating with the large frescoes,—and are painted in grey on a

blue ground, so managed as to suggest a sky. Many of these smaller designs are peculiarly beautiful. They are in octagonal compartments,—and are surrounded by graceful arabesques of crimson, green, gold, and lilac, on a deep chocolate-ground. Below the frescoes illustrative of the life of St. Boniface, is a series of medallion heads of the Popes; and above the frescoes, alternating with the round-arched windows, and painted on a gold ground, are groups of saints and martyrs who lived and suffered for the propagation of Christianity in Germany. The effect of this centre nave is that of a gorgeous solemn missal.

The walls of the church are a mosaic of grey marbles,—dark greens—dull, ruddy browns and reds,—and delicate greys and lilacs. Opposite the side altars, and to the right and left as you enter the church by the side doors, are two little chapels—the chapel for baptism and the chapel for burial. There are peculiar simplicity, solemnity, and dignity about the whole edifice.

The ceremony of consecration was to commence, we understood, at half-past seven o'clock in the morning. Long streaks of golden and pale pink light from the newly-risen sun stretched athwart a sombre grey sky, as we set out towards the church, and wonderfully enhanced the beauty of the Pina-cothek and Glyptothek, which we passed on our way to the Basilica—the Basilica and the Convent attached to it being only separated by a wall from the beautiful white marble temple which faces the Glyptothek, and which is erected for the annual exhibition of paintings here. The streets were as yet almost vacant, although the bells of the Basilica now for the first time summoned the good citizens. As we turned, however, into the street in which the church stands, we were greeted by sounds of life. The burgher-guard, preceded by their band, marched along, and all the houses were festooned with moss garlands, gay flags, carpets, and pictures hung out from the windows and balconies. Tall cedar-trees in tubs were placed within the portico of the Basilica, one on either side of the lofty carved doors. Few people, however, had as yet congregated.

The citizen-guard stationed itself before the church with much parade, and soon the crowd grew. A school of little girls, in white dresses, and each bearing her little nosegay in her hand, and a school of little boys, drew up on the steps of the portico. And now the Archbishop, in his purple robes, descended from his carriage, was received by the priests, was presented with the heavy golden key of the church,—and, beneath a crimson canopy which was borne above him blessed, and intoned, and sprinkled with holy water the portal of the church, previous to entering it. People then crowded into the court-yard in which stand the church and the monastery, as well as the monks' garden with its long pleached alleys and flower-beds. And now, with crucifixes borne aloft, and fluttering crimson banners,—with white and black robed priests and choristers chanting in loud voices from large missals which they bore before them, with a train of emaciated young *Stuhmeister*, with the twelve Benedictine Brothers, in their long black gowns, with a procession of magistrates and citizens,—with the little boys' and girls' schools, and all the scholars of the Latin school, arrayed in purple dress-coats with velvet collars, like a set of stunted little men,—came the Archbishop in his gorgeous white and golden robes, with his mitre on his head. He walked beneath a canopy of gold and crimson, his vestments borne by attendant priests; and with upraised hand, on which glittered his large amethyst ring, and with muttering lips, blessed the church. Three times the procession encircled the church; now the Archbishop sprinkles the walls with holy water from a silver vessel with a bunch of holy herbs;—now he sprinkles the multitude; the choristers sing,—the five bells of the Basilica, each bearing the name of a saint, and exquisitely cast, peal from the belfry;—and the outer walls are consecrated.

But, for the unlucky public collected outside the church, there now commenced a most tedious time. For two mortal hours did they wait until the church doors should be flung open; the only incident to beguile the cold and weariness being the



arrival of a carriage full of cardinals in their violet robes, violet caps, white fur and fine linen,—and the constant, sudden and annoying charges of the stupid burgher-guard upon the patient crowd.

At length the huge doors were swung back, and in poured the multitude, met by a fragrant breath of incense. The high altar glowed and glittered with its bevy of priests. At the foot of the twelve steps leading to it were placed crimson seats on either hand, on which was a small assemblage of gaily attired gentlemen,—a group of bright uniforms to the right, and the more soberly arrayed magistracy to the left. The railing which inclosed the high altar, the flight of steps, and the seats were decorated with moss and lovely greenhouse plants in full bloom. Tall laurels, myrtles, and orange-trees in huge tubs were arranged in rows on either side of the steps, and interspersed with lovely aloe and graceful palm-like plants, which drooped their tender fresh sprays with exquisite carelessness over the balustrades.

Then commenced a bewildering succession of ceremonies. The Archbishop sprinkled the holy water,—anointed the walls, the candlesticks, the crucifixes, the gold and silver vessels,—chanted and prostrated himself before the altar; rows of priests, young and old, with burning tapers, ascended and descended the steps; the Archbishop was robed and dis-robed; sate upon a raised seat to the right of the altar, his head resplendent in his mitre, his amethyst ring sparkling on his gloved hand, his feet resting on a splendidly embroidered violet carpet,—the four cardinals, with long white and gold embroidered mantles covering their violet robes, kneeling around him, or seated upon low amber-coloured seats at his feet; priests knelt before him with their large open missals, out of which he chanted; the choristers responded; now he blesses the great golden crucifix,—now the golden candlesticks of the high altar, and the altar itself; the candlesticks are borne back to their place; young priests put tall tapers into them one by one, they are lighted, and the whole altar is consecrated and arrayed. Gorgeous crimson carpets are unrolled and cover the steps; the little girls in white scatter their rose-gays; the bells peal out; the organ resounds through the vast church with its thrilling tones; the *Te Deum* is sung; priests and people adore; and the glorious sunshine pours in through the many windows, glitters on the golden walls, and lights up the marble columns, but sparkles with the greatest splendour on the bright fresh leaves of the laurel, orange, and myrtle trees. Their leaves burn with such a magical brilliancy and freshness, that in comparison the gorgeous hues of the walls fade into an earthly dimness.

While the sunlight thus floods the centre aisle, leaving the rest of the church, with its forest of columns, in a mysterious mistiness and gloom,—high mass is performed. As it terminates the distant sound of booming cannon is heard, mingling with the pealing organ and the ringing of the bells. The Archbishop is unrobed by his attendant priests, whilst the altar is covered with its fine white linen napkins. He descends the steps, and passes out of the consecrated Basilica, blessing the people:—and the ceremonies are at an end.

H.

**FINE-ART GOSSIP.**—The soi-disant, Pre-Raphaelite ignores the principles of Art, and affects to despise all the approaches hitherto made towards the establishment of fixed ideas on the subject of beauty and taste. Ignoring, also, the advantages which these studies may be supposed to have wrought out in giving a true direction to the imagination, he sits down before some model in the selection of which he has taken no further account than as it may answer his desire to imitate the ugliness of some early master, and searching out its—perhaps disgusting—details with microscopic eye, thinks that he has achieved all by a successful imitation, and hopes by this process to work out a patent way to the true and the beautiful. The photographer, with no such overweening pretension, and without the loss of so much ill-applied labour, does the thing much better, and has, already—with something yet

remaining that is disagreeable in exaggerated hardness of effect and “faintness” of execution—produced more than these worshippers of the merely old.—These remarks have been called forth by our having been startled at the sight of a photographic production by Mr. Mayall, in which by delicacy of manipulation—by judiciously tempering the lights without stealing from the force of the shadows—together with a very pictorial choice and arrangement of his materials—he bids fair to outstrip the Pre-Raphaelite even in that limited race to which they are both confined. The work, in question does Mr. Mayall great credit. It is a devotional subject, where the head of an old man is produced with a charm in the blending softness of the tones to which we had hitherto thought the art unequal; whilst the execution is so broad as to be quite inoffensive. We have, as yet, seen nothing equal to it in photographic art.

While statues are multiplying on all hands to testify a nation's regret for its great statesman so suddenly removed,—other Art-forms of commemoration are claiming to share in expressing the interest which that removal has excited. Sir Robert Peel's intimacy with Lawrence is known to have been close; and it was about the year 1829, when the statesman was in the prime of manhood; that he sat to the painter for his well-known portrait. Such was the esteem in which the deceased baronet held Sir Thomas, that no solicitation ever induced him to sit to another artist since it was painted. Pressed only a short time before his death to give sittings to any artist whom he would name, to enable another engraving to be made—he pointed to the Lawrence portrait as sufficient,—and to Mr. Samuel Cousins as the engraver whose talent he thought most congenial with the painter's powers.—In conformity with that suggestion, Mr. Cousins has now produced one of his most successful specimens of command over the mezzotint scraper. The interest in his task which he would be likely to take after such a compliment will be readily imagined. Certain it is, there has been no plate from the hands of this eminent engraver which combines more of the elements of his style.—Fidelity of resemblance, beauty of drawing,—breadth of effect, with delicacy yet firmness of execution—were never more happily united. It is a triumph of this branch of the engraver's art.

The desire of cutting a favourable figure in the eyes of visitors at the approaching Exhibition has occasioned a good deal of re-facing and sprucing-up of houses in several of the West-End streets. We wish the same feeling would induce its owner to afford, both to ourselves and to our visitors, a glimpse of what is one of the most palatial mansions in the metropolis. Were open-work iron gates to be substituted for those of wood; a view—all the more piquant, perhaps, for being a confined and partial one—would at once be opened of Burlington House, with the cortile and its colonnades. Trifling as it would be in itself, such alteration would give us what would be equivalent to quite a new architectural object. Gates of the kind here recommended might besides be ornamental in themselves:—which is more than can be said of the present ones.

A correspondent sends us a few particulars relative to the late Mr. C. Hullmandel, whose death the daily papers have recently announced.—“To Mr. Hullmandel,” he says, “this country was first indebted for the introduction of any available processes in lithography. He for many years conducted the first and only establishment for the practice of that art in London. Probably no man was better fitted for the introduction of a new art so capricious in its manipulations and practice as that to which he had devoted himself; and now that it is so generally diffused and its beauties and advantages are so well known, few can form an idea of the great difficulties with which in its infancy Mr. Hullmandel had to contend. Not only was it opposed to many and strong prejudices, but its principles were involved in obscurity. Dependent for its results on chemical combinations and affinities, it was more-over liable to constant and discouraging failures, which none but a man endowed with the most ardent perseverance and zealous enthusiasm would

have had resolution and patience to encounter and overcome. He soon found that without a sound knowledge of chemistry that of the artist would avail him little; and he therefore devoted himself to the acquirement of the science under Prof. Faraday, with that resolute determination to conquer difficulties which accompanied him through life. The result was, the simplification of the elements of the art, and the production of every improvement which has rendered lithography in this country so pre-eminent,—and thus afforded the great stimulus to the production of the various splendid works by many of our cleverest artists which have from time to time been presented to the public. He found the art crude, capricious, and unsatisfactory,—he left it refined and certain. To him we are indebted for what is termed the “tinted style,”—he was the first to introduce “printing in colours,”—he invented the “stump,” so conducive to the saving of labour,—and he solved the problem of “lithotint,” or drawing on the stone with a brush and liquid ink, which had been declared by the Institute of France to be impossible. For this invention he received from the King of the French the great gold medal. Nor was his active and energetic mind confined to lithography. His numerous patents and models testify that almost to the hour of his death he was engaged in efforts to improve the processes of divers arts and manufactures.”

The prize of 50*l.* offered by the Art-Union Society of Glasgow for the best picture exhibited this year in the Exhibition of that city has, we learn, been awarded to Mr. E. M. Ward, A.R.A., for his ‘James the Second receiving the news of the landing of the Prince of Orange at Torbay’!—noticed in terms of commendation in our columns when it appeared at the last Exhibition in the Royal Academy.

The *Leader* says:—“The Emperor of Austria, surprised to find, in one of his visits to Venice, that no monument had been erected to the memory of Titian, ordered, at his own expense, the construction of one worthy of the immortal painter. He left the Academy of Venice the choice of the form of the monument, and of the site on which it should be erected. The Academy confided the monument to one of its members, M. Zandomeni, professor of sculpture. This gentleman's design is on rather a colossal scale. It comprises a large statue of Titian between two allegorical figures, one representing the sixteenth century, the other the present one. Near the Titian rises another figure intended to represent Universal Nature, and indicating, we are told, that Titian was capable of representing Nature in every form; and, in addition to this group, there is a figure of the Genius of Painting weeping, and another of a woman who represents the city of Venice, pleading, in tears, a crown on the artist's tomb. Finally, the basso-relievos which are to decorate the pedestal represent the first composition of Titian for which he gained a prize when a pupil, and his last unfinished painting on which he worked on the eve of his death (both of these are in the Academy of Venice). The monument is to be placed in the Church of St. Mary of Frari, near that of Canova. It will be inaugurated in about a year's time, with great pomp.”

An accidental disaster, similar in its results (though less provoking in its cause) to that which happened a few years ago to the Portland Vase—has just occurred to one of the most beautiful and interesting in the grand collection of vases in the Vatican. We learn the particulars from the Roman correspondence in the *Daily News*.—The vase, which was of extraordinary size, was formed of *cotognino* alabaster, and was the identical one containing the ashes of the sons of Germanicus—or, according to some antiquaries, of Augustus himself—which was found in the vicinity of the mausoleum of Augustus. It stood on a pedestal near a large window, not far from the Cleopatra; and it is supposed that the violence of the wind burst open the windows, and blew the heavy curtains about with such force as to dash the vase—which unfortunately was not properly secured by a pivot underneath—to the floor,—shivering it into such an infinite number of pieces that, it is said, there



is scarcely any possibility of its being ever restored to its pristine shape. After the marvellous restoration of the Portland Vase there is, however, we should fancy, room for hope. The Cavaliere Fabri, who is Director of the Vatican Museum, should consult the artist who effected that restoration before he abandons the fragments in despair.

### MUSIC AND THE DRAMA

MISS DOLBY begs to announce that the THIRD and LAST of her ANNUAL SERIES of THREE SOIRÉES MUSICALES will take place at her residence, 2, Hyde Street, Manchester Square, on TUESDAY, the 10th instant, to commence at Eight o'clock precisely. Miss Dolby will be assisted by eminent vocal and instrumental talent. Single tickets half-a-guinea each, to be had of Miss Dolby only.

SACRED HARMONIC SOCIETY.—EXETER HALL.—CONDUCTOR, MR. COSTA.—THE THIRD PERFORMANCE of the MESSIAH will take place on FRIDAY EVENING NEXT, December 13. Vocalists—Miss Birch, Miss Dolby, Mr. Lockey, and Mr. H. Phillips, with orchestra (including 16 double basses) of 700 performers. Tickets, 3s.; Reserved seats in Area or Gallery, 6s. Central Area, numbered seats, 10s. 6d., at the Society's sole Office, No. 6, Exeter Hall, or of Mr. Bowley, 53, Charing Cross. Residents in the country desirous of attending this Performance are requested to forward Post-office Order, payable to Mr. Robert Bowley, at Charing Cross Office.

### NEW PUBLICATIONS.

THE clearing away of the pile of new music which has accumulated on our table ere 1851 shall bring with it its weight of responsibility, is a feat which can be accomplished only by selection borne out by conciseness of notice. The mass before us consists chiefly of vocal compositions.

Ere dealing with these, however, a paragraph of welcome is claimed by Herr Dürner's *Three Melodies for the Violin and Piano*, Op. 17—compositions of a single movement, which may be played after the delicious 'Pensées' of Herren Ernst and Heller, or after the highly-finished and clever *Melodies* of Herr Molique. In the songs by Herr Dürner with which we have formerly dealt, we recognized an elegance not common to the present race of German composers,—as distinguished from the faded sweetness of the Viennese popular writers, who are sickly and sugared till we can hardly endure them. Among these *Melodies*, the second, an *Allegretto quasi Allegro*, is our favourite of the series. They all call for a violin player far above the ordinary amateur average.

The one other instrumental piece before us is *A Tarantellé, Morceau de Concert*, by Mr. W. T. Best. This is too scientific, and not marked enough in its melody for a Tarantella. Except for its name, we should not have known it. (Coming after Auber, Liszt, Chopin, Thalberg, Moscheles, Heller, Döhler, and Mr. Sloper, it is not easy for any new comer to produce a new form or figure for a dance the features of which lie within such narrow and strictly marked limits.

*The First Day of Spring; a Cycle of Three Vocal Quartetts*. The words by W. Bartholomew. *Three Songs for a deep voice*. By F. Mendelssohn-Bartholdy. These most recent issues of their writer's posthumous works, now in progress of publication, bear out the character so often given by us, that few who have written so freely have finished so carefully as Mendelssohn. The vocal Quartetts are three fresh and charming compositions for the canonical four voices;—only too short. Among the songs for deep voices, the first and second (the latter a 'Hunter's Song') are our favourites:—the third is a little dreary and diffuse.

*Three Sacred Songs from the Psalms for Soprano, with Pianoforte*. Composed by B. Molique. Op. 39, Second Set. Herr Molique almost always writes agreeably and tuneably for the voice—a characteristic, especially to be commended in one whose instrumental compositions, however skilful, are not guiltless of dryness;—but this second set of his Sacred Songs hardly merits a place among their composer's happiest productions. In the first we have too strong a reminiscence of 'Then shall the righteous, in 'Elijah.' The second offers a fair study of penitential expression to the vocalist. The third is the most important, being in two movements:—the first of which, an *andante*, is large in style and flowing in phrase. Herr Molique leapt to tax the accompanist too severely:—either never having studied the particular genius of the pianoforte, or else disdaining to consult it, and allotting to it divided, broken, *dialogued* phrases, which none but a consummate artist can master.

—Another sacred song of some pretension and as much merit is, a setting of 'O sabbataris' by M. Silas, for a bass or *contralto* voice. In this, the defect is precisely the opposite of that remarked in Herr Molique's music. The accompaniment seems to have suggested the vocal part,—and the former, with very few touches and additions, would make a solid, grave and effective *Adagio non troppo lento* for Organ solo were the singer suppressed. But idea and constructive power are to be recognized in everything that we have seen bearing the name of M. Silas, to a degree which justifies our looking to him as to one of the most promising and most thoroughly prepared among the rising composers.

SACRED HARMONIC SOCIETY.—The alterations in Exeter Hall being completed,—though the decorations of the room must wait till next year when its season of occupation shall be passed,—the Sacred Harmonic Society yesterday week inaugurated its greatly-improved tenement with a performance of 'The Messiah.' So often have the changes made been described in anticipation, that a few words will register their accomplishment and their success. The flat ceiling with its quadrangular dens and cavities has disappeared. In its place a plain arched-roof of bold curvature has been substituted. The orchestra gallery has been enlarged, the organ has been thrown back, and considerable central depth has been gained, so that all members of the chorus are brought into sight of, and sympathy with, one, another. The clumsy pillars which blocked up the front of the western gallery are gone: every seat there being now of almost-equal value. Great ingenuity seems to have been shown in the management of these alterations. Our architects and engineers exhibit such unrivalled dexterity and boldness in mending what is defective, that we cannot but wonder to see how seldom now-a-days they can make that which shall not need destruction for its re-construction! But these are questions for *The Builder* rather than for our columns:—in which we are only called on to admire the space and the remarkable increase of sonority gained. Whether Exeter Hall be not now a little too somnorous, is a question which a first visit does not enable us to decide. As regards the performance of 'The Messiah,' we have but to say that the oratorio was given without rehearsal, and that in parts the chorus might be commented on as crude and over eager by those unaware of that circumstance. The orchestra is much strengthened, and improved:—being now nearer to one of those magnificent bands which Signor Costa seems to have the secret of gathering and ruling than ever it was before. This is the third case in which London has gained by the exertions of the same competent and resolute lover of his art. But while pointing to this gain as one which will add such lustre to the performances of the Sacred Harmonic Society,—and while describing the great improvements of Exeter Hall, carried through by its proprietors at their urgent instance—we ought to invite all who can compare and think about music, to recollect by whom this same Society was originated,—and among whom it has worked itself clear of error, and now raised itself to a place of first excellence among European musical establishments. Let ill-used and indolent people who are perpetually sighing for Court patronage,—without seeing in the background Court decrepitude and Court interference,—study and consider what has been done on "the voluntary system" by the tradesmen of London. The Sacred Harmonic Society has still to widen its range of selection—to be less timid in leading its public;—but as it stands, its progress to its present point makes a feature alike honourable and instructive in the story of musical performances.

HAYMARKET.—On Monday, we were attracted to this theatre, to witness Mr. Macready's performance of Shakspeare's 'Richard the Second.' The occasion was one of interest:—the play not having been performed in London since the days of Edmund Kean, so far as we remember. In the provinces Mr. Macready has frequently played

the part:—and we are well pleased to be made acquainted with his impersonation.

Deficient as the tragedy is in character and action, the general want is more than supplied by the extraordinary amount of both concentrated in the person of the extravagant, erring, subverted, suffering, deposed, and murdered monarch. It is as if the entire play were reduced to one part,—and all the other scenic individuals were but ancillary to the development of that. Even *Bolingbroke* and the *Duke of York*, though admirably drawn and discriminated, are carefully preserved from interfering save as foils with the effect of the scenes in which *Richard* appears. The poet's purpose is throughout manifest and decided. The grandeur of the conception and that of the execution are equally patent.—The profound study and elaborate detail evinced in his interpretation entitle this presentation of Mr. Macready's to more than ordinary attention. The arrogance and inconsiderate selfishness of the early scenes were dashed off with masterly power. The true monarchical fashion in which the king treated the dying *Guaint*, and took possession of his estate and effects, was made to be eminently suggestive. But the great acting was reserved for the scene on the coast of Wales, where *Richard*, returned to his dominions, salutes his native soil:—and rejoicing that he once more breathes English air, exults in his royal prerogative,—up to the very moment when proof is rendered of his cause being desperate, and that of *Bolingbroke* triumphant. His sudden prostration is made to extort deep compassion,—causing the spectator to forget all the monarch's previous faults in the vastness of his present calamity. The pathos of the situation is brought intensely out by the wondrously beautiful poetry with which it is associated. That the latter was fully felt by Mr. Macready was shown by his very fine delivery of the great speech—

"Let's talk of graves, of worms, and epitaphs."

No man now treading the stage so artistically depicts utter misery and despair as Mr. Macready; and his power in this sort of portraiture was never more effectively exhibited than in the subsequent scenes of *Richard's* fortunes,—when self-banished from all possibility of comfort and hope by the wilfulness of sorrow. His final submission to *Bolingbroke* made the heart ache to witness:—indeed, the whole situation at *Flint Castle* was acutely distressing. Equally real, in their way, were the scenes of his deposition and murder. There is, perhaps no other play of Shakspeare's in which *distress* is so powerfully evoked as in this:—and in the power of actualizing hopeless wretchedness, Mr. Macready seems in this effort to have exceeded himself. Whether the just limits of Art were not also exceeded in a delineation so literally exact, may be a question,—which we almost hesitate to raise. The anguish and the agony were extreme:—but the actor was, at any rate, in harmony with his author.

Great pains were expended in the getting-up altogether of the play:—even new performers were engaged to insure the proper delivery of important speeches in the minor parts. Among these, we may distinguish a Mr. Harrington, who gave to the short part of the *Duke of Norfolk* an emphasis which won for him much applause. Mr. Cooper's *Duke of York* was very good,—and Mr. Davenport in *Bolingbroke* was eminently successful. Among the female characters, Miss Reynolds's *Queen* and Mrs. Warner's *Duchess of York* deserve to be distinguished:—particularly the latter, for its earnestness and fervour.

A new farce by Mr. Bourcicault, entitled 'A Radical Cure,' followed. It is a sort of political *Revue*,—imitated from the French,—and directed against socialistic doctrines.

PRINCESS'S.—Mr. Tom Taylor's farce of 'Parents and Guardians' was revived on Monday:—Mr. and Mrs. Keeley and Mr. Wigan performing their original characters.

OLYMPIC.—A new farce by Mr. Craven, entitled 'Mind your Stops,' was produced on Monday. Mr. Compton, a village barber who believes himself to have obtained a prize in the lottery,



gives a sufficiently amusing portrait of arrogance proceeding from the idea of sudden wealth.

On Tuesday, 'The Lady of Lyons' was revived:—when Miss Faucit appeared in her original part of *Pauline*. She was supported by Mr. Brooke as *Claude Melnotte*. We were much gratified at finding that Mr. Brooke had to a considerable degree recovered his voice. His performance accordingly was marked by unusual ease. Indeed, his representation of the character was, whether as regards conception or execution, excellent:—and such as to justify the expectations that we have entertained of him.

**MARYLEBONE.**—On Monday, Mrs. Nisbett again appeared at this theatre, and enacted the part of *Catherine* in Mr. Knowles's play of 'Love, with characteristic vivacity. That of the *Countess* was attempted by Miss Jane Mordaunt, with considerable success.

**MUSICAL AND DRAMATIC GOSSIP.**—There is more stir than usual in the *Grand Opéra* of Paris just now. By this time, Auber's five-act work has been represented; M. Gounod's 'Sapho' will go into rehearsal shortly; while we read that against Mlle. Alboni's return from Madrid, a new opera, 'La Corbeille d'Oranges,' is to be ready for her. Signor Maratti is to make his first appearance in 'Guillaume Tell.'—A one-act opera, 'La Chanteuse Voilée,' with music by M. Victor Massi, has been just given at the *Opéra Comique*.—Madame Sontag has appeared in 'La Figlia del Reggimento,' at the Italian theatre, with great success. —Mr. Lumley has, without question, got the charm of inducing the French to do for him what they will not do for one another. In his favour, we are told, M. Victor Hugo has rescinded the prohibition which has till now, rendered the representation of 'Lucrezia Borgia' and 'Ernani' impossible at the Italian Opera of Paris. He has also engaged M. Duprez and Mlle. Caroline Duprez. —M. Ivanoff, (who has been singing on the other side of the Alps for these many years past)—and the *Morning Post* tells us that he intends to produce a new opera in four acts by M. Héguet, a French composer. There is matter of interest, more or less, in all the last-mentioned rumours. —The overture to Herr Wagner's 'Tannhäuser' was the other day performed at one of the concerts of the *Société Sainte-Cécile*, but it appears to have been found overcharged, baroque and extravagant by the Parisian connoisseurs. Such, it may be recollected, was the impression made on us by the music of the same composer's 'Lohengrin.'

Madame Schmalz, who in her day was a celebrated German *cantatrice*, with a voice of three octaves in compass, is just dead, at a very advanced age.

The last opera by Signor Verdi—'Stifello,'—just produced at Trieste, is said to have pleased less than its predecessor, 'Luigia Miller,' which pleased very little. In fact, it is obvious that such acceptance as Signor Verdi finds can only be based on the absence of any better composer.

In his *feuilleton*, M. Berlioz speaks most handsomely of a new grand pianoforte Quartett by Mr. Lee. "This work," says he, "is one of those which establish a reputation for a composer."

The musical library and collection of instruments belonging to his late Royal Highness the Duke of Cambridge were disposed of the other day, by Messrs. Puttick & Simpson. Among the latter were, a violin by Stradivarius, which sold for 115*l.* 10*s.*,—and a favourite bow for 7 guineas; another violin by Stradivarius, which sold for 140*l.*—a tenor by Amati, which went for 22 guineas; and a violoncello, said to be by Antonius Stradivarius (but not in perfect condition), which was knocked down for 71*l.* 8*s.*

#### MISCELLANEA

*Ship Canal between the Mediterranean and the Red Sea.*—Mr. Robert Stephenson is on his way to Suez, to examine the route for a ship canal between the

Mediterranean and the Red Sea. This survey is said to form part of a conjoint survey directed by England, France, and Austria, the former being represented by Mr. Stephenson, France by M. Paulin Talabot, and Austria by M. Negrelli. These latter have completed their labours; and on the completion of Mr. Stephenson's survey, the route will be determined on the conjoint evidence of the three reports. It is hoped the three powers will contribute the funds:—if not, the works will be conceded by the Paris to a joint-stock company. Before the Academy of Sciences the survey of M. Bourdaloue, made in 1847, has been laid; it was under the direction of Mehmet Ali Pasha, and embraces the country between the Nile and the Red Sea, the levels being most carefully taken. The results differ very much from those of the French Commission of 1799.

The kindly and enlightened interest which you take in all matters relating to ancient art, leads me to hope that you will favour me with a corner in your journal for the purpose of suggesting a mode by which an ample supply of funds may be obtained for the purpose of aiding Mr. Layard in the prosecution of his noble enterprise in the excavation of the remains of ancient Nineveh, the results of which, that have reached us, have excited such deep interest throughout the kingdom.—As it is known that Mr. Layard's researches are greatly impeded by the want of adequate means, and our own government, it would appear, are not disposed to supply what is wanted in that respect,—as all who feel a deep interest in such remains cannot visit the cellars and dark passages of the British Museum for the purpose of endeavouring to see these extraordinary relics of remote antiquity,—and as every village, town and city in the kingdom would greatly prize some fragment of the Art of ancient Nineveh,—what I beg to suggest is, that the inhabitants of each such city, town, or village should contribute their mite, and have the amount forwarded to Mr. Layard,—leaving it to him to send such specimens of his discovery as may appear to him an adequate return for the assistance so contributed.—In this way each of us might have the double satisfaction of having aided in the progress of his most interesting discovery,—and at the same time help to diffuse the enjoyment of its results to millions who, while they cannot perhaps hope ever to visit the British Museum, feel the most earnest desire to look on such deeply interesting remains.—I cannot imagine a more acceptable source of means to Mr. Layard than what I suggest; as it appears to tend to attain the great aim and object of his exertions,—namely, that of sharing with his countrymen the enjoyment of contemplating the remains of the Art of an ancient people who have so clear a relationship to the subjects of sacred history.—I can well conceive how highly such fragments as Mr. Layard would send home would be prized,—and how such might in many cases go to form the nucleus of many a future public museum.—I am, &c.

JAMES NASMYTH.

I have my mite, in the form of 5*l.*, ready for my humble contribution to the excavation fund.

*The Opah.*—A fine specimen of the opah or kingfish (*Lampris guttatus*, Retz. Cuvier; *Zeus Luna*, Gmel. Linneus) lay "in state" in a shop in this town during the early part of last week. This ichthyological curiosity, only eight specimens of which have been captured on the British coast, is as beautiful as it is rare,—so beautiful, indeed, as to have drawn from one of its observers the exclamation that it was like "one of Neptune's lords dressed for a holiday." It is a native of the Eastern seas, and is regarded by the Japanese as devoted to the Deity, and as being the peculiar emblem of happiness. The length of the body, including the tail, is to the depth of the body without the fins as 2 to 1. The form of the body is oval, the profile of the head, both above and below, falling in with the outline of the body. The scales are exceedingly small. The mouth is small, and without teeth; the tongue thick; with rough papillæ pointing backwards; the base of the dorsal fin is rather longer than the depth of the body; the first eight or nine rays elongated. The pectoral and ventral fins are very long; and the anal fin equal in length to half the length of the base of the dorsal. Tail in shape lunated; ventral, pectoral, and anterior part of the dorsal fins, falciform. The lateral line forms an elevated arch over the pectoral fin, its highest part being immediately under the longest ray of the dorsal fin. The colour of this specimen is very beautiful. A bright crimson or vermilion is the prevailing hue, shot or shaded in parts by purple and gold, and studded by silver spots. The fins are an intense vermilion. Mr. Wrightson, who caught it, intends to stuff and preserve the specimen.—*Darlington and Stockton Times.*

*The Cotton Crisis.*—War with America—a hurricane in Georgia—a blight in Alabama—continued

rain in New Orleans—are one and all death cries to the mill spinner and power-loom weaver; for when the cotton-fields of the Southern States yield less than their average quantity of cotton, the Manchester operative eats less than his average quantity of food. He flourishes or decays with the cotton-pod. Cheap bread is to him a less important question than cheap cotton. When his blood boils at the indignities and cruelties heaped upon the coloured race, and he reads of the free, he does not always remember that to the Slave States of America he owes his all; that it is to his advantage that these States should remain untroubled—that the negro should wear his chains in peace. It is for his gain that slavers dare the perils of sea and land, that his home is surrounded with the produce of the negro's forced exertions. While one, and one only source exists for the supply of his loom, he is dependent upon slavery. The thongs of the slaveholder's whip increase, and quicken the means not only of his own existence, but of four millions of spinning, weaving, and printing co-mates; that being the number of the British population—in fact, one-sixth of it—which shares his dependence upon the peace and prosperity of the Southern States of America. This enormous section of the people are precisely in the condition of a nation, who depend upon one sort of food, or of a man who risks his whole fortune upon the issue of one venture. When the potato crop failed in Ireland, thousands died of starvation; millions would meet a similar fate were supplies of cotton to be suddenly cut off from the shores of the Western Atlantic. Manufactured cotton is the staple clothing of nearly three-fourths of the inhabitants of the globe; and five-sixths of the cotton reared in the various parts of the world are imported into this country; yet up to the present time we have been content to depend upon the one source for the raw article.—*Household Words.*

TO CORRESPONDENTS.—W. B.—J. D.—Dr. F. W.—H. D. O.—J. L.—The Son of an Old Subscriber.—B. P. Warrington.—E. M. J. B.—J. A.—received.

Dr. W.—The book has been received.

H. E. S.—The suggestion of our correspondent shall have our consideration. There is a reason for the present arrangement; but it would give place of course to a better.

S. S.—The subject which this correspondent recommends to our attention is one which has been again and again urged in our columns—and we are glad to find in him so earnest an ally.

**BRITISH ARCHEOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION.**—We have received a letter from Mr. Planché, the Honorary Secretary to the Association, assuring us, by direction of the Council, and on the authority of Mr. C. K. Smith himself, that that gentleman has neither retired nor contemplated withdrawing from the Association. "The error," says Mr. Planché, "probably arose from Mr. Smith having changed places with Mr. Charles Bailey, who kindly volunteered to relieve him from the very onerous duty of Secretary, which Mr. Smith has most assiduously and gratuitously performed for nearly seven years. The Council could not in common fairness refuse this respite to labours which were vitally affecting the health and professional interests of Mr. Smith, and therefore availed themselves of Mr. Bailey's offer. Mr. Smith accepting the vacant seat in the Council—I am further desired to say," he adds, "that neither the Council nor any of the officers have received intimation of the retirement of any member of the Association since the Congress at Manchester,—and that the number of retirements previously to that event has been much less than in any former year."

**THE ATHOLL MOTTO.**—A correspondent who points to an error in the printing of this motto in our paper of the 23rd ult. [p. 1269] might have seen that it was corrected by ourselves in the Number which followed.—"Forth fortune, and fill the fethers," he says, "is a fine old freebooting motto, meaning, 'Let us go forth and try our luck, to find plunder to fill our repositories.' I may mention," he adds, "that two border families have also freebooting mottoes. That of the Scots of Raeburn (from whom Sir Walter descended) is *Reparabit cornua Phœbe*, with the device of a crescent moon:—meaning, 'There will be moonlight again, to aid plundering expeditions.' The Scots of Synton (the most ancient of all the Scots) have a crescent moon, and the motto *Crescendo prosum*:—meaning, 'I may benefit by its increase,—that is to say, 'When the moon is full I may make successful forays.'—There is not the slightest doubt, that all these three mottoes were the frank avowal of predatory habits.'—Another correspondent says:—"All the modern authorities give 'Forth fortune and fill the fethers'—but I have seen some strange versions of this obscure motto.—In the Lansdowne MS. (in the British Museum) No. 877, it appears to be 'Forth fortune and fill thy fether';—and in the Harleian MS. No. 5392 it looks like 'firthe fortry and fill thy fethers.'—These are, probably, corruptions of spelling:—still, I think it very likely that it ought to be *thy fethers*, not *the*."



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	£. s. d.	£. s. d. £. s. d. £. s. d.
1815	1809 8 7	1850 7 6 2002 14 11 2002 14 11
1816	1850 17 7	1851 17 7 1747 6 1747 6
1820	1747 6	1747 6 1687 9 1 1687 9 1
1830	1338 11 9	1472 8 11 1409 7 8 1525 19 10
1835	1231 4 0	1438 6 5 1378 18 11 1473 11 4
1840	1120 0 0	1232 0 0 1254 9 0 1206 0 0

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## REVIEWS

*The Navy: its Past and Present State; in a Series of Letters.* By Rear-Admiral Sir Charles Napier. Edited by Major-General Sir Wm. Napier. Darling.

Sir Charles Napier is pretty well known among that large and miscellaneous class of persons who are indebted for no small part of their excitement and instruction to the *Times* newspaper, as one of the most slashing critics of the day:—as a kind of Red Rover let loose upon the realms of literature, and so little under the control of ordinary restraints, that in his diligent search after booty he has quite as much enjoyment in flaying alive a friend as an enemy. Sir Charles never writes without producing an effect. Even when he is most unreasonable, it is impossible not to admit that he is probably sincere. He has generally something to say either in praise of himself or in ridicule of others. He is a sailor, and therefore frank,—an admiral, and therefore imperious,—an ornament of his profession, and therefore even in his eccentricities likely to be listened to. Add, that he is as disputatious as old Samuel Johnson,—as great a master of vernacular English as Jonathan Swift,—and frequently as vivacious as “Peter Plymley;” and there will be no difficulty in understanding why the volume before us, in spite of offences against propriety and probability sufficient to extinguish any other writer, will be read and re-read at this dull season of the year. It is a volume containing much that is fabulous,—but in every page some show of truth, some sly touch of satire, some fierce invective, or some burst of patriotism which deserves either attention or applause.

Sir Charles Napier does not write altogether for mere writing's sake. He writes to reform the Navy. Peace does not permit him to carry his men and his ships on a roving expedition against the enemies of his country, and to find in daring feats of maritime warfare employment for his restless spirit—so he seeks at home for objects of attack not to be found abroad. He says that his profession wants reforming. That is his text,—and it is a sound one. Our present fleet, compared with the squadrons of gallant old Benbow—compared with the navy of Rodney's time—that of Howe's—or even the comparatively effective service left by that firm administrator and excellent Englishman, Lord St. Vincent—is no doubt immensely improved. We have better ships, and a more perfect discipline. All this may be readily conceded:—but this is not the whole question. The navy is still the most expensive part of our establishments for defence. It is exposed to great rivalry on the part of France and America. The invention of steam has entirely revolutionized the functions to be performed by a fleet; and it has become more incumbent on us than ever, on grounds alike of economy and of defence, that our ships should be more perfect and our system of central administration more efficient than those of any other country. This is the field occupied by Sir Charles Napier. He has employed all the resources of his experience and ingenuity in raising every possible description of question, large and small, probable and impossible, reasonable and ridiculous, with reference to these extensive branches of inquiry; and his letters contain the pungent conclusions at which he has arrived from time to time,—straightway discharged with the full strength of his artillery into the sides of some unlucky correspondent or antagonist. Sir Charles Napier says—and says truly—that our dockyards are excessively

expensive,—and that as a commercial speculation the outlay involved in our system of ship-building for the Royal Navy must have led to utter bankruptcy over and over again. He insists,—and with almost equal truth,—that the annual estimates for the Navy are swelled into their present prodigious amount mainly by the expense of correcting errors which a little more care and skill would have prevented us from ever committing; and finally, he leaves no effort untried to convince his readers by arguments, facts, comparisons, lampoons, personalities, witticisms, and fable, that at the root of everything that is vicious and absurd in the present condition of the Navy is the plan of placing a civilian—“who knows nothing and can know nothing, and who always requires a professional person at his elbow to tell him the difference between a frigate and a sloop”—at the head of a branch of the public service essentially technical and intricate.

We should not like to adopt as real a tenth part of the grievances on which Sir Charles Napier expends some of the choicest passages of this long correspondence; nor are we to be convinced, that even were Sir Charles Napier himself made First Lord to-morrow he could render the public dockyards as efficient and economical as private establishments. It is, we fear, inevitable that all public departments must be costly and imperfect; and it is also inevitable that they can be reformed and modernized only by the application of extreme pressure from some quarter. Sir Charles Napier has applied this pressure to a great extent,—and hence the value of his book. It is no anonymous attack,—but all fair fighting; and, if now and then the fanaticism of the innovator overrides the discretion of the admiral and the courtesy of the gentleman, we must bear in mind that in this instance the offender can plead with considerable justice that he has from the first been too fond of the right to pursue the expedient.

It is quite beside our province to enter into any elaborate examination of Sir Charles Napier's case. We content ourselves with the expression of a belief that he is in the main right; and that before many years are over the whole, or nearly the whole, of his reforms will be adopted. He offers to give us a really efficient navy for the money we at present expend on a most defective fleet. Though we cannot approve of the Admiral's temper, nor think his manner the one likely to be most serviceable to a good cause,—we yet must not lay aside his book without attempting to give our readers some idea of the vivacious descriptions, hard hits, and amusing pugnacity with which it is filled.

Here is the first paragraph of a letter, dated Merchistoun, 29th of July, 1849, addressed to Lord John Russell; and if we could suppose the Premier to read all that is written to him by his unauthorized correspondents, and to lay his hand suddenly upon the following letter, it would not be difficult to imagine the effect of so much abruptness on such a personage after the oily effusions which are generally laid before a great dispenser of patronage.—

“I dare say you think it great presumption in so humble an individual as myself addressing Her Majesty's Prime Minister, but I can assure your Lordship I am actuated by no other feeling than the public good. I have tried all other means of correcting the evils that are now evident to everybody in vain, and I now fall back on your Lordship as the last resort.”

This opens the case:—and the writer then proceeds to extinguish his antagonists in detail.—

“The whole mischief proceeds from the constitution of the Board of Admiralty. What Sir George

Cockburn, Sir George Clerk, and I believe Sir Byam Martin, foretold, has come to pass. There is no responsibility whatever; for the responsibility of six gentlemen, composing the Board of Admiralty, is not worth a straw. May I ask your Lordship, who is responsible for the millions of money thrown away in building an inefficient steam navy?—who is responsible for the iron steam fleet, that the Admiralty do not know what to do with? It was only the other day that, raising a tank, and the dunnage under it, in one of those precious vessels, they found a hole in her bottom, through which the water passed, and a fish with it, on which, if I am not mistaken, one of their Lordships breakfasted. Who is responsible for, I believe, four pair of large engines, that they do not know what to do with, and pay annually for taking care of? Who is responsible for all the bad ships that have been built and broken up in the last fifty years? How comes it, that the best two-decked ships we have, are copies from the French? Who is responsible for all the cutting and carving of ships' bows and sterns, for turning four line-of-battle ships, and as many frigates, into screws, before trying one, three of which, after three or four years' bungling, and an enormous expense, are now ready; the rest were suspended by the present Board, though ‘Beta,’ who writes in one of the morning papers, and whom I shall reply to by-and-by, regrets they were not all brought forward. If I am not mistaken, he will turn out to be one who had a considerable hand in these ships, and in the construction of the iron fleet. Who is responsible for allowing so many ships to be built after the plan of the late Surveyor, which is now abandoned? Either his plan is good or bad. If bad, why were so many ships built after it? If good, why is it discontinued? Why were the ships laid down by the late Surveyor, and not too far advanced, pulled to pieces, to be built after another plan? Who is responsible for carrying on the construction of some of these ships (ordered to be stopped) till too late to alter them? Absolutely nobody; the greater part of the individuals composing the different Boards are dispersed, some dead, some out of political life, few left of so great a multitude. Had the First Lord of the Admiralty been a naval officer, the country would have fixed the responsibility on him,—he could not escape; but it would be unjust to throw the blame on a civilian, who does not know whether a butcher's tray, or a washing-tub, is the best form for a man-of-war.”

This is pretty well, and tolerably plain; but it is only by way of general introduction. Sir Charles Napier takes breath in a few quiet sentences,—and then appears again in costume as follows.—

“Let us examine how things are carried on now in the Surveyor's department. He has six masters, each of whom he is obliged to consult individually. If it is about repairing or fitting out a ship, he goes to the first sea-lord; if about building, Lord John Hay; if about the guns, to Captain Berkeley; if about the packets to Mr. Cowper; if about the dock-yards generally, to the First Lord and the Secretary; if about stores, to Captain Milne. More than half his time is occupied in running about from the Admiralty at Somerset House to the Admiralty at Whitehall. If he wants to see the First Lord, he may be at a Cabinet Council, if any of the other Lords, or the Secretary (during the sitting of Parliament), they may be in committee; and all this day is lost. Should the Admiralty require a plan or an estimate—which, by the by, they do now for every trifle—they write to Somerset House, who again write to a dock-yard; the dock-yard sends the plan to Somerset House, who put something on the cover of the letter and send it to the Admiralty; they put a scratch upon it and send it back; it gets another scratch, and returns to the Admiralty. Somerset House is then ordered to write a letter; it comes back to the Admiralty to be signed, and is then finally despatched. Should there be any mistake it is returned, and performs the same number of voyages over again. I believe this system runs through all the departments, and if I am not mistaken, the various scratchings on the letter are much oftener made by the clerks than by their Lordships. Now, my Lord, consider all these delays—consider the number of clerks who must be employed to carry on



this correspondence; and, after all, who is responsible? Absolutely nobody!"

The volume before us very properly contains several of the letters which have been written in reply to Sir Charles Napier as well as the letters in which he has embodied his own views. But the man is a perfect Bedouin; for no sooner does some valiant amateur or placeman emerge from the crowd to say a word or two in deprecation of the Admiral's displeasure, than the next post brings from Merchistoun a terrible rejoinder. In June 1849, as many of our readers will remember, a letter appeared in the *Times*, dated Welbeck, and signed "Scott Portland." This letter was directed against some recent escapade by Sir Charles. Within the shortest possible period a reply was duly forthcoming; but it seems that Sir Charles Napier's knowledge is so exclusively professional, that he has a very imperfect acquaintance with the names of men of rank. Scott Portland was read at Merchistoun to imply some obscure civilian who was to be treated as plain "Mister,"—and the answer began accordingly.—

"I do not know who Mr. Scott Portland is; but he knows so little about his subject that his letter is hardly worth answering."

This was tolerably well for a beginning. The conclusion, however, was scarcely less pungent.—

"I am much pleased at the high respect Mr. Scott Portland has for my cousin, Sir Charles Napier, the General, and much distressed at his want of respect for the Admiral; but I take leave to observe, that has nothing to do either with the construction of steam-vessels or the defence of the country; and I think, had he left out the latter part of his letter it would have been more creditable to himself, and given him more weight with the public."

A lecture from Sir Charles Napier on a topic like this is amusing to the extent of being comic.—In due time the Duke replied, but with eminent temper and courtesy; and Sir Charles Napier found out that "Mr. Scott Portland" was a fabulous creation of his own. The discovery, however, did not make much difference to the disputant.—

"So it appears that Mr. Scott Portland turns out to be no less a personage than his Grace of Portland! I never could have thought that a Duke would have condescended to make a gratuitous attack on a half-pay admiral whom he never saw; he did,—and he got his answer. Now, for his second letter."

And then the second letter underwent the kind of manipulation already bestowed on the first.

We can afford room for another extract only. It is the final paragraph of one of the most important letters which we find in the collection; and amidst all the coarseness and rudenesses of which Sir Charles Napier is guilty, it must be gratifying to his friends to be able to point out passages like the following in which but few departures from decorum occur to lessen the effect of dignified remonstrance. Addressing Lord John Russell, the Admiral says:—

"I now take leave of your Lordship, with a recommendation that you should alter the constitution of the Board of Admiralty. How, my Lord, is it possible that the affairs of the Navy can be well conducted by four naval officers, with a civilian at their head who knows nothing, and a civilian at their tail who knows less than nothing, all working in different rooms, and not knowing what each other are about? Depend upon it, if you do not, the country will take it out of your hands. The Navy is a favourite profession, and no one wishes to see its efficiency impaired; but no one will countenance the extravagant manner in which it is conducted. I have been blamed for writing and publishing my letters. My answer has invariably been that I have tried all other ways in vain; little or no attention is paid to the suggestions of officers; and as a proof of it, I shall observe that I have attended the fitting of the *Sidon*, in which ship it is natural that I should take an in-

terest; and on seeing things done to her which I disapproved of, and which I represented to the Admiralty, they did not even condescend to give a reply, till I came to town and mentioned it, and then it was too late. I have no view, my Lord, in writing to you, but to correct the evils that weigh down upon the Navy and the country. Your Lordship must be quite aware that my observations cannot be agreeable to men in office, and will most probably bring down on me their wrath; but I have too high an opinion of your Lordship's good sense and love for your country, to suppose for a moment that an officer telling your Lordship the wholesome truth will displease you."

The book before us has been edited by the historian of the Peninsular War:—but we cannot compliment him on the manner in which he has performed his very superficial duties. We confess, we do not see the necessity for an editor at all in such a case. The Admiral was quite competent to collect what the Admiral had written; and if any opponent of the Napiers had encumbered the title-page of his pamphlet with two names where one was sufficient, he would not have escaped reproof. General William Napier's appearance in the present instance is quite uncalled for; or if he could not deny himself the pleasure of doing something towards such a book on such a subject, he should have taken care to preserve a strict conformity between his services and his claims. We find no traces of editorship in the present volume. Many of the most important letters are printed without dates. There is neither index nor table of contents. We can discover no editorial notes and no editorial arrangement; and, with the exception of an incoherent paragraph or two at the commencement which have no reference whatever to the contents of the volume to which they are called the "preface," we must say that we are perfectly unable to perceive in what shape or degree the present compilation has been edited by Sir William Napier. Sir Charles Napier should know better than to send into the world in so inefficient a form, and in a manner not quite free from false pretences, a book crammed as full as a bombshell of combustible materials, and intended to inflict on so many persons—Prime Ministers and First Lords of the Admiralty in particular—some grievous harm.—We must say again, however, that not even the dogmatism of an incessant fault-finder nor the slovenliness of an amateur editor will prevent this book from obtaining a wide and useful popularity. Truth will bear a great deal of ill treatment; and Sir Charles Napier's 'Letters on the Navy' certainly exemplify that maxim in the truths which they establish in spite of their abuse of truth.

*Olive: a Novel.* By the Author of 'The Ogilvies.' 3 vols. Chapman & Hall.

THERE can be small question, we think, that 'Olive' as a story is in many respects an advance on 'The Ogilvies.' The author—who is understood to be a young Lady—has power, pathos, and poetical taste; which exercise appears to have strengthened. She may therefore be justifiably looked to as a novelist from whom future works of a yet higher class may be expected. That 'Olive' fails—and only just fails—of being a very fine novel, may possibly be ascribed to the over-eagerness of its writer to fill her tale with moving scenes and emotions. Thus, we think that she has lavished too many sorrows on her heroine, in addition to the great original trial of Olive's personal deformity:—which latter calamity deprives her for years (can such a thing have been?) of a mother's love, and exposes her to the brutal taunting of a drunken father. Not long after the widowed Mrs. Rothesay comes to learn the value of her daughter,

she herself is smitten with blindness. The companion to whom Olive would fain have clung almost turns and rends her in the irascibility of misery caused by a disclosure which Olive had affectionately striven to avert. The lover to whom she at last allows herself to become attached is kept aloof from her by misunderstandings more tantalizing than natural. While holding the measuring reed and the scales, we must further point out to our authoress that the position in the Church and the after-conversion of Harold Gwynne, the infidel clergyman, seem to us unnatural. If the philosophy and wisdom of the author of 'Tremaine,' elaborated throughout an entire third volume, failed to make clear to us how the Man of Refinement—a mere dilettante sceptic—was convinced, a few earnest ejaculations and eagerly penned pages can hardly be expected to accomplish the feat:—in a case, too, where the parties are so much more unequally matched and when the recusant man is hedged round with such a double briar-forest of disqualifications as is here represented.

The above mistakes and inconsistencies, however, are precisely those which experience and reflection, commerce with life, and the study of Art may be expected to amend. Our authoress is already strong in gifts which no meditation can find nor mechanical practice impart. In proof of this we need extract only one scene,—which will explain itself. Mrs. Rothesay is ill, and a physician is summoned.—

"When, at last, she heard the ringing of hoofs, and saw the physician's horse at the gate, she could not stay to speak with him, but fled out of the room in a passion of tears. She composed herself in time to meet him when he came down stairs. She was glad that he was a stranger, so that she had to be restrained, and to ask him, in a calm, every-day voice, 'What he thought of her mother?'—'You are Miss Rothesay, I believe,' he answered, indirectly. 'I am.'—'Is there no one to aid you in nursing your mother—are you here quite alone?'—'Quite alone.' These dull echoing answers, were freezing slowly at her heart.—Dr. Witherington took her hand; kindly too. 'My dear, Miss Rothesay, I would not deceive—I never do. If you have any relatives or friends to send for, any business to arrange—'—'Ah—I see, I know.'—'Do not say any more!' She closed her eyes faintly, and leaned against the wall. Had she loved her mother with a love less intense, less self-devoted, less utterly absorbing in its passion; at that moment she would have gone mad, or died.—There was one little low sigh; and then upon her great height of woe she rose—rose to a superhuman calm.—'You mean to tell me, then, that there is no hope?' He looked on the ground and said nothing.—'And how long—how long?'—'It may be six hours, it may be twelve; I fear it cannot be more than twelve.'—And then he began to give consolation in the only way that lay in his poor power, explaining that in a frame so shattered the spirit could not have lingered long, and might have lingered in much suffering. 'It was best as it was,' he said.—And Olive, knowing all, bowed her head, and answered, 'Yes.'—She thought not of herself—she thought only of the enfeebled body about to be released from earthly pain, of the soul before whom heaven was even now opened. She caught the physician's arm.—'Does she know? Did you tell her?'—'I did. She asked me, and I thought it right.'—Thus, both knew, mother and child, that a few brief hours were all that lay between their love and eternity. And knowing this they again met.—With a step so soft that it could have reached no ear but that of the dying woman, Olive re-entered the room.—'Is that my child?'—'My mother, my own mother!' Close, and wild, and strong—wild as love and strong as death—was the clasp that followed. No words passed between them, not one, until Mrs. Rothesay said, faintly, 'My child, are you content—quite content?'—Olive answered, 'I am content!' And in her uplifted eyes was a silent voice that seemed to say, 'Take, O God, this treasure, which I give out of my arms, unto thine. Take and keep it for



me, safe until the eternal meeting?'—Slowly the day sank, and the night came down. Very still and solemn was that chamber; but there was no sorrow there—no weeping, no struggle of life with death. After a few hours all suffering passed, and Mrs. Rothesay lay quiet; sometimes in her daughter's arms, sometimes with Olive sitting by her side. Now and then they talked together, holding peaceful communion, like friends about to part for a long journey, in which neither wished any words unsaid that spoke of love or counsel; but all was spoken calmly, hopefully, and without grief or fear. As midnight approached, Olive's eyes grew heavy, and a strange drowsiness oppressed her. Many a watcher has doubtless felt this—the dull stupor which comes over heart and brain, sometimes even compelling sleep, though some beloved one lies dying. The old servant who sat up with Olive tried to persuade her to go down and take some coffee which she had prepared. Mrs. Rothesay, overhearing, entreated the same. Most touching it was to see the mother just trembling on the verge of life, turn back to think of those little cares of love which had been shared between them for so many years. Olive went down in the little parlour, and forced herself to take food and drink, for she knew how much her strength would be needed. As she sat there by herself, in the still night, with the wind howling round the cottage, she tried to realise the truth that her mother was then dying—that ere another day, in this world she would be alone, quite alone, for evermore. Yet there she sat, wrapped in that awful calm. When Olive came back, Mrs. Rothesay roused herself and asked for some wine. Her daughter gave it. 'It is very good—all things are very good—very sweet from Olive's hand. My only daughter—my life's comfort—I bless God for thee!'—After a while she said—passing her hand over her daughter's cheek—'Olive, little Olive, I wish I could see your face—just once, once more. It feels almost as small and soft as when you were a little babe at Stirling.' "

That there is here more of the deep and true pathos of the old novelists than we meet with in forty out of fifty contemporary fictions, few will deny.

Among the best characters in 'Olive,' we must name Michael Vanbrugh, the painter, and his sister. For the original of the former a study may have presented itself in the life and sorrows of David Scott; but that austere and painfully-interesting record afforded no glimpse of such a self-sacrificing friend and ministering angel as Vanbrugh's little good sister, Meliora,—who is our prime favourite in the tale. It may fairly be allowed to the admirers of this writer to regret that in the correction of what may be called her peculiar faults and shortcomings no greater progress has been made since she wrote 'The Ogilvies.' Those faults were of the kind, as we have hinted, to whose redress time and experience seemed expressly applicable,—and the writer has not taken these for counsellors to the extent which might have been wished. She must look to something more than her mere sentiments and impulses for the conduct of a work which professes to produce a reflection of life. The merely poetical novel will not satisfy the demands of the present day.—With such fine essential gifts as she possesses, however, we shall look with more than ordinary interest for this lady's next adventure in the field of imagination.

*Australian Geography, with the Shores of the Pacific and those of the Indian Ocean; designed for the use of Schools in New South Wales, at the request of the Denominational Board of Education.* By Lieut.-Col. Sir T. L. Mitchell, Surveyor-General. Sydney, Moore.

WE transcribe the whole title-page of this excellent little volume, as conveying the best account that can be given of its origin and purpose. A manual of geography was wanted for the schools of New South Wales,—and the

Surveyor-General of that colony was applied to to supply the want. Most of our readers are aware that Sir Thomas Mitchell has acquired a distinguished reputation by enterprises and researches very different from the composition of school-books. Yet, we must say, that in preparing the present excellent manual he has performed a service of which it would be difficult to overstate the usefulness. In a new and maritime colony geography is one of the most essential branches of education; and it is of great importance that students should not merely be taught the common elements of the science, but that they should acquire a clear insight into those principles of inquiry which determine the nature and the order of the questions to be more particularly investigated with reference to new and distant countries. We have seen very few school-books which so well, so simply, and at the same time so scientifically fulfil these conditions as this little treatise, coming to us with the Sydney imprimatur. Sir Thomas Mitchell has taken care to call, and to make, his book an *Australian Geography*:—all other places on the face of the earth are described with reference to Australia. The student is told from first to last that, living on a certain spot, his chief business in learning geography is to understand the relation which other places bear towards that certain spot. This is a sound and correct principle, especially in a popular treatise.—In the next place, the arrangement of the questions and answers is very systematic. The language is vigorous, and the descriptions and references are precise. The information afforded is always useful. No branch of geographical science is passed over,—but particular prominence is given to physical and commercial geography.—It would be easy to illustrate our last remark by quoting from the full and interesting account which is given of the navigation-tracks, the winds, currents, and tempests peculiar to each of the great oceans and seas. On all these important subjects the information conveyed generally amounts to a clear outline of the whole of the facts. Sufficient is said to stimulate curiosity and direct it:—and that is all that an elementary teacher can attempt.

We lay particular stress on the clear, pure and nervous English in which the whole of the chapters are written; and while we express our high opinion of the important service which Sir Thomas Mitchell has conferred on his adopted colony by the production of so perfect a school-book, we trust some means will be found of introducing into use at home a manual so eminently adapted to its purpose. The book is well printed,—and is illustrated by a large map and a projection of the sphere, which do great credit to the state of the Arts at the antipodes.—Why cannot some of our distinguished men at home follow the example of Sir Thomas Mitchell, —and at once increase their own fame and effectually promote their favourite science by embodying the principles and outlines of the latter in a school-book as systematic, simple, elegant and well written as the one before us?

*Game Birds and Wild Fowl: their Friends and their Foes.* By A. E. Knox. Van Voorst.

WE are glad to find that the success of Mr. Knox's 'Ornithological Rambles' has induced him again to become a contributor to our natural history literature. We are always ready to hail a work of this kind as perhaps even a greater boon to science than one with more scientific pretensions. The latter class of books have their value principally amongst the cultivators of special branches,—but this is a volume for all readers. The one is intended for ready-made men of science,—the other is to tempt the un-

initiated into the road for pursuing knowledge. We have heard of learned naturalists who first acquired a taste for science when gun in hand they followed their game as sport:—and are glad to find so good a result coming out of so barbarous a practice. Mr. Knox or Mr. Gordon Cumming can reconcile us to the want of humanity which their habits imply only by showing us that the cause of beneficial knowledge is advanced by means of the demonstrations which these help to supply. To neither of these books would we assist in giving publicity, if we believed that they would have the effect of sending out the sportsman as a mere amateur slayer of the animals which each has so graphically described in their native haunts. Of all the pursuits by which men seek to while away their time or recreate their strength, we think the amateur practice of shooting birds is the most discreditable. That wilds should be created and men and women driven from their birth-place in order that a privileged few may follow, in a degenerate form, the occupation of procuring food by their own hand, to which their barbarian forefathers were driven by necessity,—is a remaining disgrace to the national civilization. We sympathize with the Hudson's Bay hunter pursuing his game amid the perils of the North,—and can follow the earnest and inquiring naturalist, with his dredge, his net, or his gun:—but in entering on the notice of a book like that before us, we feel bound to anticipate the possibility of misapprehension as to our own principles, by a repetition of the protest against any merely wanton destruction of animal existence.

The mention of game birds reminds us of the game laws,—and these again call up the poacher. How can there be any wholesome execution of such laws in a country where general sympathy is with the poacher? Noble lords and learned senators poach,—scarcely regarding it as a crime where their own properties and prerogatives are not in question:—yet our prisons teem with this class of criminals. Mr. Knox, with all his love of game and show of respect for the game laws, has evidently a dash of the poacher in him; and we should be sorry to have him with his "long duck gun" or his "heavy double" near a preserve of ours in which there were any subjects that he wished especially to study. We hardly know whether Mr. Knox gives the following account of a new mode of poaching as a hint or as a warning.—

"To say nothing of the various systems of wiring, snaring, trapping, and shooting, usually employed by man, there is one mode of netting,—although many are practised,—that is not much known, and seems to deserve especial notice from its destructive character, and the success with which it is frequently attended. Two or three poachers, disguised in respectable attire, travel about the country in a gig or dog-cart, accompanied by a single pointer or setter. One of the party alights at the outskirts of a village or country town, and proceeding to the public room of the nearest tavern, soon falls into conversation with some of the unsuspecting inhabitants; and passing himself off as 'an intelligent traveller,' or keen sportsman, about to pay a visit to the neighbouring Squire, soon obtains sufficient local information for his purpose. The other 'gentlemen' have in the mean time put up their horse and gig at an inn in a different quarter, and while discussing their brandy-and-water at the bar, have 'pumped' the landlord of all the news likely to prove useful to the fraternity. At a certain hour in the evening the trio meet by appointment at some pre-arranged spot outside the village, and commence operations. After comparing notes, the most promising ground is selected. A dark night and rough weather are all in their favour. The steady old pointer, with a lantern round his neck, is turned into a stubble field, and a net of fine texture, but tough materials, is produced from a bag in which it has hitherto been closely packed. The



light passes quickly across the field—now here, now there, like a ‘Will-o’-the-Wisp’—as the sagacious dog quarters the ground rapidly, yet with as much care and precision as if he were working for a legitimate sportsman in open day. Suddenly it ceases to move, then advances slowly, stops, moves once more, and at last becomes stationary. Two of the men then take the net, and making a circuit until they arrive in front of the dog, shake out the meshes, and place it in a proper position on the ground. Then standing opposite to each other, and holding either end of the string, they draw it slowly and noiselessly over their quadruped ally—whose exact position is indicated by the lantern—frequently capturing at the same time an unsuspecting covey huddled together within a few inches of his nose. When this operation is carried on by experienced hands, an entire manor may be effectually stripped of partridges in an incredibly short space of time.”

In spite of the most vigorous protection, Mr. Knox has to lament the decrease of some of our game birds. Amongst the birds whose decrease in these lands is regretted, is the woodcock. It is a bird of passage; and, unlike the pheasant and the partridge, rears its young far away from the British Isles, where it is found in winter. Woodcocks are abundant on the shores of Greece and Thessaly; and it appears from our author that the members of our yacht clubs are sometimes tempted to the Mediterranean less for the purpose of investigating the classic treasures of its shores than with the object of shooting woodcocks. On these excursions, we are told, “immense numbers are occasionally killed, when the majority of the party are good shots.” Mr. Knox says, however, that he has had good woodcock-shooting in Wales and in Devonshire, in the weald of Sussex, and in the neighbourhood of Rome and Terracina,—but has never seen so many killed anywhere as in Ireland. His description of a woodcock battue in Ireland is graphic enough in its barbarian particulars:—

“A heterogeneous army of men and boys—whose appearance might recall the description of Falstaff’s ragged recruits at Coventry,—each furnished with a long pole, are drawn up at one side of the cover. The guns are either placed at intervals where the backward growth of the brushwood may afford them the chance of getting a shot as they work through its mazes—for rides or alleys are but little known in these wild natural woods—or else station themselves in different parts of the coppice, or on some eminence that commands a wider range of view—and these are the most knowing ones of the party—until at last the word is given to advance, when each beater shouting ‘Heigh cock!’ at the very top of his voice, and laying his stick about him with all the energy of a thrasher, such an uninterrupted and discordant row ensues as might well start every cock within hearing from his place of concealment, and, in fact, causes numbers of those birds to spring prematurely from distant parts of the wood. Here, however, those wary gunners who have previously taken up their position on favourable heights possess a great advantage, and bring down many woodcocks as they fly in various directions, sometimes towards the beaters, sometimes in the face of the shooter, each struggling to escape the danger, but not knowing from which quarter it proceeds. By this time all discipline is at an end. Some of ‘the boys,’ having caught a glimpse of a falling woodcock in the distance, now fling away their poles and rush towards the spot, all anxious to be the first to pick up the bird and to congratulate the successful shooter on his dexterity; who, by the way, receives their compliments with marked ingratitude as they come rushing through the cover, insist on keeping close to his person, and so, effectually spoil his sport for the rest of the day. The same scene is probably enacting in ten different places at once. All order is at an end. Far away in the distance the cry of ‘Heigh cock! heigh cock!’ may now and then be heard during the intervals of the confusion from a solitary beater who as yet has listened to nothing but the sound of his own voice, and, instead of proceeding in a straight line, has made a wide circuit, and

now finds himself unexpectedly at the very point from which he started; while another who has independently advanced all alone, and at least half an hour too soon, to the opposite end of the wood, is flushing the cocks by dozens, without for a moment considering where the guns are, or which way the affrighted birds take, but delighted all the time at his own performance, while the distant sportsman inwardly curses him from his heart. Many a cunning old beater, too, who has been too long used to the thing to feel any excitement in it, drops quietly into the rear, and squatting under a holly bush, lights his ‘dudeen’ with the utmost *sang froid*, regardless of all that is passing around him. At last the storm gradually subsides. A few dropping shots alone proceed at intervals from the outskirts of the wood. The shooters and beaters emerge, one by one, at different sides, all eloquent on the subject of their own performances; not excepting him of the dudeen, who exultingly points to sundry recent scratches on his face and shins, and swears that he ‘never had such hard work in the whole course of his life.’”

Mr. Knox has a true feeling for the picturesque; and numerous are the passages in which he displays a taste for the beauties by which, as a sportsman, he is surrounded. He has the use of his pencil, too; and the beautiful lithographs which accompany this volume are evidently from sketches of his own. There is one which, to those unaccustomed to the pursuits of the sportsman, will appear almost an exaggeration. It is the representation of a shot amongst a flight of wild fowl from a punt. The incident occurred in Pagham Harbour, in the severe winter of 1838—39. Our author determined, when the frost was at its height, to have a day’s sport in Pagham Harbour; so, having set off with his “long duck and heavy double” guns and favourite spaniel, he arrived at his destination,—when, to his chagrin, he found that he was forestalled. An object moving in the water, looking at first like a log of wood, was evidently the boat of a gunner on the look out. The wild fowl were most abundant; and Mr. Knox determined to play second, rather than spoil the day’s sport. So, moving his first position, we leave him to relate himself what must be looked on as the great incident of his book.—

“The hoopers were still there, surrounded by several flocks of wild-ducks, some five hundred yards from the position which I occupied, and about half that distance beyond them was the gun-boat, as harmless a looking object as could well be imagined, lying low in the water, and never for a moment attracting the attention of any of the devoted birds, who appeared to be perfectly at their ease and in the full enjoyment of repose and plenty after their long and stormy voyage. The Brent geese and the wigsons were preening their feathers, while the scaup and tufted ducks were continually diving, or flapping their wings on their return to the surface before they again plunged to the bottom. The swans were also feeding, but in a different manner: with their long necks they explored the surface of the mud beneath, where, to judge from their perseverance and the number of tails that appeared at the same moment directed upwards, they must have discovered something well suited to their palates. I could also distinguish some of the less common species of *anatide*, among which the males of the smew and the golden-eye were conspicuous in their pied plumage. The sooty scoter too was there, but foraging by himself apart from the main body. All this time their concealed enemy was gradually lessening the distance between them and himself. Slowly and stealthily did he advance, nearer and nearer, until at last I expected every instant to hear the roar of the stanchion-gun, and fancied that he must be excessively dilatory or over-cautious, as minute after minute elapsed without the report reaching my ears. At last a bird rose from the crowd and flew directly towards me. I saw that it would pass tolerably near, and when in a few seconds afterwards I perceived that it was a male golden-eye within thirty yards of me, I almost forgot the important—though as yet passive—part I was enacting in the scene, and as I instinctively grasped my double-gun and raised the

hammer, I felt tempted to pull the trigger. Prudence, however, prevailed, and I followed the example of my sagacious dog, who lay crouched at my side without moving a muscle of his limbs. He had seen the bird as well as myself, and his quick eye had detected my hasty movement, but his attention was again directed to the main body of water-fowl, several of which had at length taken alarm and were rising, one by one, from the water. It was an anxious moment. The swans were still there, but they had ceased to feed; their heads were turned towards me, and I soon perceived that the entire flotilla had gradually approached nearer to me. Now or never, thought I. I glanced rapidly at the advancing gun-boat—almost at the same instant a small puff of smoke issued from its further extremity, succeeded by a pigmy report, and up rose the entire host of water-fowl—swans and all—the snow-white plumage of the hoopers standing out in bold relief against the murky sky. Then a huge volume of smoke and a bright flame burst from the prow, followed by the thunder of the great gun itself—off at last!—and as it cleared a passage through the winged mass between us, several of the motley crowd fell to rise no more! almost at the same instant the head and shoulders of a man were protruded from a covering of sea-weed, under which he had hitherto been concealed, and the next moment he was vigorously plying his paddles in all the excitement of a regular cripple chase. My turn had at length arrived: restraining the ardour of my dog, who only waited for a word to take an active share in the pursuit, I turned my attention to a detachment of swans, about five in number, which had apparently escaped unhurt, and after wheeling once or twice over the bodies of their dead companions, uttering all the time their trumpet like notes, were now gradually ascending and nearing my place of concealment. On they came, but suddenly their leader seemed to have discovered my position and veered round in an opposite direction, followed by all except one, who, as he was passing overhead, fell a victim to my long gun. A Brent goose almost at the same instant passed on the other side, and afforded an easy mark for the first barrel of my heavy double, while the second was discharged at a venture, but ineffectually, at a party of pochards—the last detachment of the fugitives, as they hurried back once more to the tempestuous but less treacherous waters of the channel.”

This is murder by wholesale. The picture of the scene will help to make a true gentleman turn from the incident with horror.

Between the amount of criminality of preserving game for the purposes of wholesale slaughter, and the wanton destruction of all sorts of wild creatures there seems little difference:—but the one is often multiplied by the other. Among the ignorant class who are employed to preserve game, there is a prejudice against almost every living creature except the favoured species. The gun of the gamekeeper is the most destructive and relentless of instruments. It is employed on the destruction of everything, from a poacher down to a mouse,—that he may preserve a pheasant for more eclectic killing. Mr. Knox gives a list of the “vermin,” as they are called, which were killed by the redoubtable gillies of Glengarry in the short space of three years. Till we saw this list we should have doubted if so many specimens of these creatures had ever been seen in the country. “Fifteen golden eagles,” “eighteen fishing eagles,” “ninety-eight peregrine falcons,” “sixty-seven badgers,” “forty-eight otters,” “thirty-five horned owls,” “fourteen hundred and thirty-one carrion crows,” are but a specimen. Surely, we shall have no wild animals left if they are destroyed at this rate.

We give as a last extract Mr. Knox’s appeal on behalf of one of our prettiest indigenous mammalia.—

“But although there may still be room for discussion as to the utility or hurtfulness of the mole in its bearing upon the affairs of the agriculturist, the game preserver can hardly contrive to pick a quarrel with it on his own account; and the poor squirrel



might be supposed to deserve at least equal immunity. But, alas! such is not the case. More than one instance of some half-starved incarcerated individual having partaken of raw meat has been cruelly adduced as a proof of its blood-thirsty propensities; nay, it was once my misfortune to meet with a keeper who coolly assured me that he had lately shot a squirrel in the act of devouring a half-grown pheasant, which it had carried, in spite of its struggles, to the summit of a tall tree with as much ease as if it had been a filbert. This man was in the employment of an uncompromising preserver of game, at whose hands all other 'fowls of the air and creeping things' found but little mercy, and squirrels and stoats were included in the same black list. A subsequent cross-examination, however, convinced me that his story was a pure invention of the brain, got up at the moment as a conclusive argument to repel my attempted vindication of his little victims, several of which were lying about the gravel-walks in various stages of decomposition—the ferret-hutch had been already glutted, and there was no room on the gable end of the barn for another culprit. My expostulations, I grieve to say, were equally fruitless with master and man. In that extensive and thickly-wooded district, the species may survive for many years in spite of all this persecution. The real offence is, the nibbling off the upper shoots of the Scotch fir during seasons of scarcity: a plausible *casus belli* is thus established against it, and every other crime, possible and impossible, is laid to its charge: 'the wish is father to the thought,' the keeper is a ready witness against the accused; and under such circumstances—the master being at once prosecutor and judge, and the servant both witness and executioner—the poor squirrel obtains but slender justice. That some of the *Rodentia* will occasionally indulge in animal food there can be no doubt: the rat is a familiar example—he indeed is an insatiable devourer of eggs, and a pitiless enemy to young partridges during a sickly season—but I firmly believe that the squirrel rarely or never exhibits carnivorous propensities. As to the conduct of animals when kept in confinement, their nature becomes so completely altered by durance vile, and the ignorance or neglect of their captors, that it can never be considered a fair index to their habits in a state of nature. If half a dozen field-mice were put into a cage and left without food for a couple of days, the weakest would be devoured by the others; and if the cruel experiment were prolonged, the same result would follow, until none survived but the strongest individual of the party. Under nearly similar circumstances, even civilized man himself has become a cannibal! That the squirrel may—during long dry summers, when the verdure of the woods and on the surface of the earth has been parched by the burning sun; when the dead leaves of the previous year have been all explored over and over again for acorns and beechmast, and not another nut remains—have been detected occasionally in the act of devouring the eggs, or even the unfledged young of a small bird, is just possible; although after much patient observation and diligent inquiry, I am bound to say that I have seen nothing of the sort, nor met with a single well-authenticated instance of the kind. The list of our indigenous quadrupeds is already too restricted to admit of his extermination; and I, for one, earnestly hope that the day may be far distant when the eye of the British naturalist is no longer to be gladdened by the contemplation of his beautiful form and his sprightly bounds. Then, indeed, will our woods and groves be deprived of one of their greatest ornaments."

From our extracts it will be seen that Mr. Knox had by no means exhausted his information in the 'Ornithological Rambles.'

*The British Museum, Historical and Descriptive.*  
With numerous Wood Engravings. Chambers.

THE object of the compiler of this hand-book to our great national collection has been two-fold. He has attempted in the first place to give a more popular description of its several departments than already exists in the dry and not very well-arranged Catalogues sold to visitors in the institution itself; and in the second, to

produce a volume which, combining historical anecdotes with the mere technical descriptions, may be read for its own sake away from the collection. In both these designs we think he has succeeded. The volume is full of interest; and familiar as most of the contents of the Museum are to us, from the Nimroud Marbles to the Harleian MSS., we have turned over its leaves with both pleasure and profit. We have had so frequently to complain of the imperfection of the Catalogues made out "by authority" for our public institutions, that we are well pleased to see an enterprising firm like that of the Messrs. Chambers come forward in this way and teaching official personages their duty. But how like a satire it reads that a Scotch publisher should have to send into the London market the first tolerable and at the same time popular list of the Museum treasures! We only regret that the necessities of the case prevent some other publisher from marching into the Library of books and manuscripts and making out forthwith a new Catalogue on principles equally comprehensive and popular.

Messrs. Chambers have here employed a competent hand to do the work that was to be done. The book is divided into five sections:—a general Introduction, embracing an account of the origin, history, constitution and management of the institution,—the Ethnical department,—Natural History,—Sculpture,—and the Library. Under the several divisions, the compiler has contrived to bring together a mass of useful and general information, so as materially to increase the pleasure of the sight-seer and to smooth the path of the tyro in science. Thus, the mummies are introduced with appropriate remarks on the origin and nature of the practice of embalming the body after death, on the remains of ancient Art in each department, bronze, marble, pottery, and so forth,—with brief but pointed observations on the history and customs of the race of which the relics court attention. The same may be said of natural history.—The book is so well cast, and was so much wanted, that we have little doubt of its going through several editions; we therefore venture to suggest that its compiler should in future ones append to each chapter, in the form of a note, a list of the best books on each separate department of science or of history there described and illustrated. There are thousands of young students to whom such information would be useful.

*Stop Thief! or, Hints to Housekeepers to prevent Housebreaking.* By George Cruikshank. Bradbury & Evans.

WE are not quite sure that Mr. Cruikshank's elaborate discussion of the burglar's method of breaking into houses will not lead to more burglaries than it will prevent. We should certainly not like to see his pamphlet introduced as a text-book into our ragged-schools; for it serves to place the most approved arts and instruments used for the purposes of crime in the hands of its readers. It reads very like "Housebreaking made easy." The work, however, is well meant. In explanation of his enthusiasm on such a subject, Mr. Cruikshank pleads his introduction to the craft in the early days of his housekeeping, and the often "necessary bad company" frequented by him since, in the ways of his art. The picture drawn by him of the many and perplexing resources of the science,—both pictorially and in words—is enough to shake the nerves of timid people, and keep them wakeful during these long and foggy nights. Sir Francis Head is nothing to him. The terrible 150,000 Frenchmen bombarding London and seizing on the Bank cellars are confessedly no

more than a mere postulate, adopted for the sake of argument; but Mr. Cruikshank's burglars—low-browed, glint-eyed, ugly fellows—are "a great fact." It is some consolation, that when the alarmist has proved our state of utter defencelessness against the drilling and prising, the pick-lock and skeleton-key, the cunning and the force of his clients,—he is good enough to tell us they are all arrant cowards, and will run on the first cry of "Police." We shall take our chance on that assurance; and waive all the additional sense of security which may arise from his compliance to "the honest portion of the community," telling them that "their cunning is equal, if not superior, to that of the thief and the vagabond." With so powerful a talisman as this cry of "Police," we hardly see the need of that formidable array of cast-iron doors, plated shutters, thumb-screws, patent wedges, and other implements of defence with which Mr. Cruikshank proposes to endow every house in the country.

"I well know [says our author] what an outcry will be made at the expense of these fastenings and linings which I have recommended for doors and shutters; but as I never forget that there are persons of small means who have little to spare, I here suggest to them an economical mode of securing their houses. Let them purchase some old iron hoops, and have them nailed at the back of the panels; should they have any beer-barrels by them, by all means use the hoops for this purpose; and burn the staves to boil their kettles. I would also take the liberty of suggesting to young ladies, when they feel fatigued with their 'crochet-work,' that they might draw some pretty pattern on the panels of the parlour-shutter, and do a little 'nail work.' With a sweet little dear of a basket of nails, and a little love of a hammer, they might (taking care not to knock their dear little fingers) do their papas and mamas good service—for the housebreaker's sharp-cutting instruments dislike to meet a nail as much as anything. Young gentlemen might also amuse themselves this way upon a rainy day. I give this advice playfully—but I mean it seriously. I spoke of parties hesitating at the expense of wrought-iron linings, &c., &c.; but upon second thoughts, I am satisfied that this will not be of the least consideration to any one. A people who expend about fifty or sixty millions of money annually in alcoholic drinks, will surely never hesitate to lay out a few shillings or pounds to protect their lives and property. It is an old saying, and a good one, that

A yelping dog and a flickering light  
Will keep your house from thieves at night.

But the faithful little animal may be stolen or tampered with, and the light may go out. A bell, dependent behind the door or shutter, is a very good thing in some cases; but too much dependence should not be placed upon it;—it may be muffled—the thieves do this sometimes—or may not be loud enough to awaken the sleeper. Any sort of alarm may be used, of course, provided persons do not alarm themselves by them unnecessarily. I must not omit to state and to assure timid persons, particularly those residing in towns or cities, should their houses be attacked, that, if they open a front window, and call "Police!" the thieves will fly instantly: there is no greater coward than the thief when he thinks he is likely to be taken."

To prevent needless alarm, let us say, in a few words, that the serious crime of burglary is not on the increase. It is in the very nature of crime to be sporadic. It breaks out in unexpected places, and rages fiercely for a moment where it has been little known, like scarlatina or any other disease; but, in spite of such perturbations, it obeys certain laws and conditions of society, which are beginning to be at least partially understood. On this point, prison returns are clear. Crime does not decrease so fast as may be wished; but, compared with the increase of wealth and population, it does decrease. It is obvious that a crime in any state of society will create a sensation in proportion to its rarity. The crimes that have shaken



weak nerves during the two or three months past, twenty years ago would scarcely have excited attention. An execution in London is now an extraordinary thing,—and two murders in a week would frighten the Isle from its propriety; yet there are many alive who remember a time when the vagabond part of the population looked for the Monday execution as a passing excitement, and the fact of there being three hangings in a morning hardly excited the attention of the press. Of course it is prudent to remove every temptation out of the burglar's way, by taking greater care for the security of dwellings; but there is no wisdom in allowing visionary fears to excite apprehensions which have no new foundation in the state of things around us.

*The Lyrical Dramas of Æschylus, from the Greek.* Translated into English Verse, by John Stuart Blackie. Parker.

TRANSLATORS are not held in such high esteem as they have a right to expect. The great majority of readers are wholly indebted to them for what they know of foreign literature, ancient or modern,—whether it be history, poetry, or philosophy. Even those who are not without some knowledge of languages are glad to make use of their assistance in studying a difficult author, or ascertaining the sense of an obscure passage. Still, translators do not rank high in the world of letters. They are the *dii minores* of the literary Pantheon. Many who eagerly invoke their aid, deny them the respect paid to authors far inferior in cultivation and power of mind. To produce a really good translation, especially of a classical work, is no easy matter. Scholarship, judgment and taste are indispensable. In addition to a complete mastery of the language of the original,—knowledge of the author is required, and an acquaintance with the social, intellectual and moral characteristics of the age and country in which he lived. Nor will all this suffice to qualify the translator for the successful performance of his task, unless his taste and habits of mind be congenial with those of his author. He cannot otherwise enter into the spirit or comprehend the ideas of the latter. None but a poet can translate poetry with success,—nor can the views of a philosopher be properly expressed by one who is not himself a philosopher. Even history can hardly be well translated by any but those who possess the leading qualifications of a historian. Hence it is not to be wondered at, that we have so few translations good for anything as representations either of the substance or of the style of the originals. This applies especially to translations of the ancient classic writers. Latterly, Mr. Bohn has done much to supply the deficiency, by the publication of his Classical Library; which contains some excellent versions, by competent hands, of Plato, Aristotle, Thucydides, Herodotus, Livy, and other standard authors. The inferiority of most literary productions of this class seems to have brought disrepute on all; so that those who were capable of wiping away the reproach shrank from the risk of lowering their character by engaging in an unprofitable and discreditable occupation. Thus, by a mutual reaction, the low opinion generally entertained of translators is at once the effect and the cause of the general inferiority of translations.

It speaks much for the courage and public spirit of so eminent a scholar as Mr. Blackie, that, in spite of every discouragement, he should have been willing to enter on so laborious a task as that of translating the whole of Æschylus into English verse:—that he should have accomplished it with such success, reflects high credit on his insight

into the meaning of his author and on his command of poetical language. There are several circumstances connected with the few remaining productions of Æschylus which render such an undertaking peculiarly arduous. He is well known to be remarkable for a wild energy and rugged sublimity of conception, daring flights of imagination, an abundance of metaphor—which is sometimes violent and harsh in the extreme,—a fondness for antiquated expressions:—in a word, for an irregular grandeur and obscurity of style. Quintilian and others go so far as to charge him with turgid bombast. His works have come down to us in a very fragmentary, mutilated state. Four of his plays are merely portions of larger dramas of which we can form but a very vague idea from what we possess. The three which constitute the Oresteian trilogy—the ‘Agamemnon,’ the ‘Choephoreæ’ and the ‘Eumenides’—were originally followed by a satyric drama called the ‘Proteus,’ of which we know nothing but the name. The text of all, especially of ‘The Choephoreæ,’ is lamentably corrupt in the most difficult parts; owing, probably, to the reckless tampering of ignorant transcribers and editors who were unable to construe it as it stood originally. Hence it is in many cases not easy to get at the true meaning of the author, or even to make out any clear and consistent sense at all.

If such be the difficulty of preparing a literal prose translation,—how much harder must it be to clothe the poet's thoughts in English verse so nearly resembling the original as to convey to the unlearned reader a tolerably just idea of their character? A bold prosaic rendering would be within the power of any Greek scholar. For this reason, as well as for its want of interest to any but a learner, it was not worthy of Mr. Blackie's attention. Even the best prose versions of poetry are very unsatisfactory. How few verses of any poet, ancient or modern, could successfully go through the ordeal of being turned into prose of the same language. As Horace says—

Non, ut si solvas, “Postquam d'scordia metra  
Belli ferratos postes portasque refregit,”  
Invenias etiam disjecti membra poetæ.

Still less can the poetry of one language be translated into the prose of another without suffering grievously from the process. To have nothing but the bare sense, stripped of the graces of its poetical costume, is to have only a part of what is necessary to produce the desired effect on the mind of the reader. It might be sufficient in the case of historical or philosophical works simply to ascertain the right meaning;—but poetry depends for its success on that regular succession of sounds which constitutes rhythm. As in painting and statuary,—the outward form is inseparable from the idea which it embodies. There is but one set of words, and one particular arrangement of those words, that can fully express the poet's conception. Change either, and it is necessarily marred to some extent. We are glad to find Mr. Blackie honestly confessing the impossibility of reproducing in our language a perfect fac-simile of ancient Greek or Latin poetry. The spirit of the original must partially evaporate in the process of transference. Our language does not admit of the metres in which the remains of ancient Greek tragedy are written:—to say nothing of the different ways in which the choruses are scanned by different scholars. Mr. Blackie has felt it necessary to represent the Iambic trimeter of Æschylus by our heroic verse of ten syllables,—and his anapaestic lines, in which he so much delights and excels, by trochaics of eight syllables, or occasionally seven, and five. He has also freely introduced explanatory matter into his text whenever he thought elucidation was wanted. Add to all this, the omissions and

alterations required by the necessities of verse-writing,—and it will be evident that his work is far enough from being a fac-simile of the original. It does not even resemble it so closely as an engraving does the picture from which it is taken.

But no one must suppose that we intend this assertion as reproach or disparagement. Far from desiring to exaggerate the inevitable imperfection of Mr. Blackie's version, we only wonder at the general success with which he has moulded Grecian poetical idea into English form. If he has found it impossible to preserve strict correctness of outline, he has been careful not to lose the true colouring of the original. By a deep study of Æschylus, he has caught something of his tone. He sympathizes with his author in his alternate moods of grandeur and of tenderness. Without apparent effort, he writes in the same forcible and majestic strain as his model. Either purposely or unconsciously he displays the same preference for old-fashioned words. Hence it will be seen, that if his translation is not an exact copy of the original, it resembles it so closely in its characteristic features as to enable the English reader to form a pretty correct notion of its merits. If Southey be right in saying that “a translation is good precisely as it faithfully represents the matter, manner, and spirit of the original,” Mr. Blackie's may fairly be pronounced an excellent translation. He sets out from the following principle, announced in his preface;—“The proper problem of an English translator is, not how to say a thing as the author would have said it had he been an Englishman, but how through the medium of the English language to make the English reader feel both what he said and how he said it, being a Greek.”

The impossibility of awakening the same feelings in the mind of a modern reader of Æschylus as were experienced by those who witnessed the performance of his magnificent dramas is clearly pointed out and satisfactorily explained in an excellent chapter ‘On the genius and character of the Greek Tragedy.’ To enter fully into the spirit of these noble productions, we must for the time lay aside all modern notions, and adopt the legends of ancient mythology as realities of deep religious significance. Discarding the maxims of historical criticism, and forgetting the rules of scientific investigation, the reader must, by an act of imagination, place himself in the position of a devout heathen, anxious to pay homage to the gods and deeply interested in all their doings. He must look upon ancient tragedy as not an amusement so much as a religious exercise. Mr. Blackie, not without reason, abstains from adopting the usual title of the works of Æschylus. He calls them not tragedies,—but lyrical dramas. They are widely different both in form and substance from modern compositions called tragedies. The predominant idea, expressed by the word “tragedy” is that of an ode or song; and it is well known that ancient tragedy originated in choral dithyrambic songs sung in honour of some god,—generally Dionysus or Bacchus. Mr. Blackie takes some pains to show that, even after Æschylus introduced a second actor to converse with the leader of the chorus, lyric ode formed a main element of every drama. The greater part of ‘The Suppliants’ and half of the ‘Agamemnon’ are composed of lyric measures, which when sung would occupy a much larger portion of the whole performance than the spoken dialogue. This proves, he thinks, that, as Diogenes Laertius states, “the choral part of the Æschylian drama is both its body and its soul; while the dialogic part, to use the technical language of Aristotle's days, was, in fact, only an *ἐπισόδιον* (from which our English word



*Episode*),—a thing thrown in between the main choral acts of the representation for the sake of variety to the spectators and of rest to the singers. The difference between the structure of ancient and modern tragedy is, therefore, very great; since in the latter there is either no chorus at all, or it is merely a subordinate accompaniment kept in the background. The former is lyrical,—the latter dramatical. The one is imaginative and highly poetical,—the other passionate and full of incident. Diversion is the object of the latter,—while the former aims at the inculcation of lofty moral truths, and seeks to animate the soul of the spectator with the noblest sentiments. In order, then, to read ancient tragedy aright, it is necessary to banish from our minds all expectation of meeting with such intricacy of plot and intensity of excitement as are found in modern compositions bearing the same name.

But even when all this is done, the absence of the music and dancing of the chorus must disqualify us from forming a just appreciation of these works of ancient Art. Still, it does not therefore follow that the study of them in the present day is useless. They deserve our close and patient attention as models of composition,—not to mention the many excellent maxims and virtuous principles which they contain. Nowhere else can we find a more finished beauty of style, a loftier tone of eloquence, or purer strains of poetry. We therefore gladly welcome Mr. Blackie's attempt to naturalize Æschylus amongst us. Besides the translation, there are valuable notes appended to each play,—and introductory remarks prefixed, full of illustrative information. The author has wisely adapted them to the general reader by not omitting to state such particulars as are familiar to every classical student. But their main value consists in the light which they throw on the general drift of each play, the doctrines that it teaches, and the moral that it enforces. The skill with which Mr. Blackie has educed profound truths from what appear at first sight merely absurd legends is deserving of the highest praise.

It may not be unacceptable to the reader to furnish one or two specimens of his translation. In 'The Suppliants,' the chorus thus addresses Jupiter,—

*Strophe.*

For whom more justly shall my hymn be chaunted  
Than thee, above all gods that be, high-vaunted  
Root of my race, great Jove;  
Prime moulder, from whose plastic-touching hand  
Life leaps: thine ancient-minded counsels stand,  
Thou all-devising Jove?

*Antistrophe.*

High-throned above the highest as the lowest,  
Beyond thee none, and mightier none thou knowest,  
The unfearing, all-feared one.  
When his deep thought takes counsel to fulfil,  
No dull delays clog Jove's decided will,  
He speaks, and it is done.

From the 'Agamemnon' we take the following, in reference to the flight of Helen from her husband Menelaus.—

She went, and to the Argive city left  
Squadrons shield-bearing;  
Battle preparing,  
Swords many-flashing,  
Oars many-plashing;  
She went, destruction for her dowry bearing,  
To the Sigeon shore;  
Light with swift foot she brushed the doorstead, daring  
A deed undared before.  
The prophets of the house loud wailing,  
Cried with sorrow unavailing,  
'Woe to the Atreids! woe!  
The lofty palaces fallen low!  
The marriage and the marriage bed,  
The steps once faithful, fond to follow  
There where the faithful husband led!  
He silent stood in sadness, not in wrath,  
His own eye scarce believing,  
As he followed her flight beyond the path  
Of the sea-wave broadly heaving.  
And phantoms away each haunt well known,  
Which the lost loved one went to own,  
And the statued forms that look from their seats  
With a cold smile serenely,  
He loathes to look on; in his eye  
Pines Aphroditë leanly.

*Strophe.*

Thus to Troy came a bride of the Spartan race,  
With a beauty as bland as a windless calm,  
Prosperity's gentlest grace;  
And mild was love's blossom that rayed from her eye,  
The soft-winged dart that with pleasing pain  
Thrills heart and brain.

But anon she changed: herself fulfilled  
Her wedlock's bitter end;  
A fatal sister, a fatal bride,  
Her fateful head she rears;  
Herself the Erinny from Jove to avenge  
The right of the injured host, and change  
The bridal joy to tears.

*Antistrophe.*

'Twas said of old, and 'tis said to-day,  
That wealth to prosperous stature grown  
Begets a birth of its own;  
That a surfeit of evil by good is prepared,  
And sons must bear what allotment of woe  
Their sires were spared.  
But this I rebel to believe: I know  
That impious deeds conspire  
To beget an offspring of impious deeds  
Too like their ugly sire.  
But whoso is just, though his wealth like a river  
Flow down, shall be scathless: his house shall rejoice  
In an offspring of beauty for ever.

Here and there, perhaps, we might wish a word changed; but, generally speaking, the spirit of the original is above expressed with fidelity, ease, and power. The moral sentiment enunciated in the last antistrophe is predominant in Æschylus. In many cases it wears too much the aspect of a blind overruling destiny, which pursues a whole family for several generations on account of the crime of its founder.

We conclude with the following version of the close of 'Prometheus.'—

Now his threats walk forth in action,  
And the firm Earth quakes indeed.  
Deep and loud the ambient Thunder  
Bellows, and the flaring Lightning  
Wreathes his fiery curls around me,  
And the Whirlwind rolls his dust;  
And the Winds from rival regions  
Rush in elemental strife,  
And the Ocean's storm-veined billows  
Mingle with the startled stars!  
Doubtless now the tyrant gathers  
All his hoarded wrath to whelm me,  
Mighty mother, worshipped Themis,  
Circling Ether, that diffused  
Light, a common joy to all,  
Thou beholdest these my wrongs!

Mr. Blackie's book deserves the approbation of every man of taste. He has shown himself a worthy disciple of that philosophical school of classical illustrators which boasts of Müller, Disson, Böckh, and others.

*Pique: a Novel.* 3 vols. Smith, Elder & Co.

THE author of 'Pique' has narrated his (?) story incorrectly. It is totally impossible to believe that Mildred Effingham and Lord Alresford can have been married in the manner described at the opening of the tale. We will appeal to any jury of English matrons, with Mrs. Ellis for forewoman. Mildred has been long engaged to Lord Alresford in obedience to a sort of family arrangement. He has been travelling abroad, and during his absence has written to her letters against which her pride has revolted, as being dictatorial and un-tender. She is sure that he is too sure of her, and that he thinks too highly of himself. What is worse, Mildred is convinced that she loves a very fascinating Colonel Sutherland better than her lecturing betrothed,—and all but certain that her love is reciprocated. But since it would be very inconvenient for her family were the Alresford contract to be broken off, my Lord is allowed to come and claim his bride. Mildred receives him with studied coldness; in defiance of all counsel, on the very evening of his arrival, and she coquets in a most overt and impassioned manner with the Colonel; and a few days afterwards, defying my Lord's suspicious displeasure, goes in shocking weather to a pic-nic, for the express purpose of finding out what the Colonel means to do,—whether to propose to her or to let her go. Sorry as the Colonel is to live without Mildred, he says that he, nevertheless, must do

so,—having been for some time engaged to be married to another lady. Home comes Mildred, seeks out Lord Alresford, whom she finds in a gloomy mood; and honestly letting him know that she will not—because she cannot—have Col. Sutherland—assures him that all conflict is ended,—and that, like "saucy Sibyl" in the play, she is

ready, hand and heart—but longs  
To have the turmoil over.

Whereupon the day is fixed, and this marvellous Mildred becomes Lady Alresford—the wife of a proud, generous, reserved, sensitive man who has high notions of womanly delicacy and domestic confidence!—Now, let the court of love, honour and propriety determine whether we are not right in pleading that the author of 'Pique' has made some cardinal mistake in thus beginning a story of human creatures. We the more think so because once having got over this stumbling-block on the threshold, we were well entertained. The taste for dashing and hazardous combination is evidenced in other parts of the tale,—but not to such an utter falsification of the inventor's own premises as in the above passage; while the manner of narration is so easy, earnest, and pleasant, as to have enticed us on from chapter to chapter, with a charm which is by no means of every week's experience. We have not a sign or token to tell us whether 'Pique' be a first offence, a second attempt, or a third entertainment:—but in spite of the desperate improbability of the outset, our curiosity was "piqued" to read the story eagerly through. This induces us to wish to meet the author again, bringing in his hand a heroine less wayward than Mildred, and a Lord Townly less inscrutably accommodating for one so rigidly upright as proud Lord Alresford.

*On the Life and Works of Ugo Foscolo*—[Della Vita, &c.]. Three Books. By Carlo Gemelli. Firenze, Tipogr. Italiana, 1849.

INSTRUCTION is never more moving than in the biography of eminent persons. If the life of the rudest hind, as some have said, would be worth reading; it is because there is none, however simple, which does not throw up some new link of a chain that equally touches all men. But this interest becomes transcendent when the story is of those whom great actions or talents have placed in the first rank. We are not merely drawn towards them by emotions with which all but base natures pay homage to excellence in whatever kind,—there is something in us that anticipates a fuller development of humanity itself in such eminent figures. We not only feel that their qualities surpassed those of ordinary men, but also that their relations to life should be lively and various in proportion as their faculties are quick or abundant. We expect from their commerce with Time, in some eminent part of experience, endeavour, good or evil fortune, action or passion, a manifestation—in larger forms and deeper colours—of those powers which rule the destinies of all men; and in which, therefore, the least of them feel a personal interest.

Of such lives—some few are wholly exemplary; others mere tragedies full of warning; the many are those in which the motives of admiration and pity, blame and approval, the strength and weakness of human nature mixed in varying proportions, are so brought out by accidents of time and place as to leave the judgment in some suspense as to the proportions of good and ill in the character itself,—and as to the share which adverse or happy circumstances may have had in its bias to either side: prompting us to ask, what such a life might have been under different and possible conditions?—a question, after all, idle and somewhat dangerous; as lead-



ing, whichever way it is followed, into the cavern of a Sphinx, apt enough to devour those who cannot solve her enigmas.

That Ugo Foscolo was one of the class of mixed natures, few will deny who know his writings and the records already extant of his personal history. Both alike discover a character more vehement than strong,—urged by generous impulses, and yielding to violent passions,—in which there is much to admire, and more to regret. It is one that, rightly drawn, must command the affecting interest due to an exhibition of great qualities thrown out of balance, and made a calamity rather than a happiness to the possessor by as great defects. But it is one of the last characters that a wise biographer would think of holding up as an object of imitation;—one of the last that a judicious observer of the times he lived in, and of the dispositions with which he encountered them, would cite in support of commonplaces that deplore the inevitable misery of virtuous genius in a bad age.

Signor Gemelli thinks otherwise. The object of his work is to assert Foscolo's claim to a high place among Italian worthies,—to extol his writings, not merely as excellent in their kind, but as suited to light his countrymen on the right way in Poetry and Philosophy, which they had lost for centuries,—to exhibit the sum of his character as a model in which the Italian youth of this day may study generosity of thought and manfulness of deed,—in a word, to display him as—

a great honoured name,  
The glory of his country,—and her shame.

It is no grateful task to rebuke even the excesses of a piety which seeks to ennoble the ashes of genius:—and in dissenting from this view of Foscolo, whether as author or as man, we desire as little as may be to reflect on the memory of one who was both gifted and unfortunate. But the subject has been made by Signor Gemelli's estimate, to bear directly on things of greater moment than the posthumous fame of any individual, however distinguished,—on questions the right judgment of which generally concerns the whole spiritual condition of Italy. Where such large interests are involved, minor considerations may allowably be postponed.

The only adequate motive for advertng at much length to Signor Gemelli's book being this application, we must plainly say, that far from commending Foscolo's writings or life as patterns for his countrymen, their best guides would probably be such as could show them ways to literary excellence the very opposite to some which he pursued; and who could convince them that by controlling certain dispositions inapt for the good conduct of life, in which Foscolo rather exceeded than differed from the standard of his time, they will best attain whatever social good they may desire, on the only sound basis,—laid in self-control, veracity, and temperate diligence.

That we may not be charged with prejudice, we shall refer to nothing but what appears in Signor Gemelli's own account of the works and acts of his hero:—laying aside whatever we may have heard or seen elsewhere. On Foscolo's literary example a few notes will be sufficient; his chief productions being well known to readers of Italian in this country. The results of his moral complexion are perhaps of more consequence just now. At a time of civil changes and boundless aspirations, just standards of action and a true theory of life are of more importance than any principles of criticism.

On literary matters Signor Gemelli is not an authority to be safely obeyed. His own composition is far enough from true elegance or

propriety: he writes throughout in an inflated tone, using many superlatives,—and apparently unconscious of the inconsistencies which his criticism, whether on writing or on character, perpetually displays. On the few occasions when he ventures beyond Italian topics, he is apt to commit strange blunders. He clubs together "Hobbes, Helvetius and Grotius" as the teachers whom Foscolo followed, in "a philosophic school that discourages and withers up the heart, confounding the fundamental principles of moral law, discarding the notions of merit and demerit, sacrificing all rights on the altar of power," &c. &c.:—and he speaks in one place of "the pile of Servetus burned by the orders of Luther." We lay no stress on the opinion of one who reconciles himself to a philosophy described in the terms just quoted. We merely call him as witness to the fact, that it is found in all Foscolo's best productions,—in the 'Letters of Ortis,' in the 'Sepolcri,' in his Pavian 'Oration on the Office of Literature,' and in his later Essays. And we deny thereupon that "his example may restore to the true paths of glory those who, in cultivating Letters, have deviated from them."

We need not here enumerate all Foscolo's writings. His reputation we suppose to rest on a limited number, from which his tragedies may be safely excluded. The *Lettere di Jacopo Ortis*, the Discourses from the chair of Eloquence at Pavia, the Essays on Dante, Boccaccio, and Tasso,—of his prose compositions;—of his poems, 'The Odes to Luigia Pallavicini,' the 'Sepolcri,' will be nearly all the works on which his fame as a productive author is sustained. His translations of the 'Hymn of Callimachus,' of some cantos of Homer, and of Sterne, attest his learning, which was not inconsiderable:—his Essays written for English Reviews may still be read with pleasure. But these alone would not sustain a first-rate reputation.

For our present purpose it is not requisite to enter into the particular merits of these choicer works,—to discuss questions of originality, or to weigh special qualities. It is sufficient, with Signor Gemelli, to observe in them two principal faults, both to be condemned as any basis for an improved literature:—viz., a perverse, dark, and degrading view of human life and morals pervading all his works of philosophy and imagination;—an affectation of heathen imagery which falsifies his best poems. For the one, take the following passage.—

Saddened by the state of his country, exasperated by deceived hopes, and by the tyranny of mere force, he was led to exclaim that there is no justice if not strengthened and sustained by power; that equity and reciprocal benevolence are illusions and chimeras; that the elements of the human species are blindness, deceit, force, and all the inevitable succession of grief and crime; in fine, that virtue,—a rare possession of some very few among men,—exists in private intercourse alone.

It is added, that the disappointment of "splendid theories" had made him "doubt everything, trust in none, and threw him into a wretched and cheerless desolation." This spirit of denial and despair, it is allowed, darkens not a single work only: it overclouds his latest as well as his earliest views of human nature and destiny. From such principles what can flow but a "literature of Despair"? No force or beauty of language, boldness of imagery, or fervid eloquence—and Foscolo had all these—can redeem him from the charge of errors more apt to deprave than to restore the body of a diseased literature.

Nor is the manner of Foscolo's poetry to be adopted with good effect by the rising genius of his country. Something he did to im-

prove Italian poetry by teaching it to utter, in polished and vigorous language, a tone of sterner thought than it had been wont to convey. Its old vice of speaking in tropes and allusions borrowed from an extinct mythology he rather exaggerated than corrected. The furniture of his poems is a mere cento of Greek and Roman Paganism: in which he had no faith, while invoking its memories,—which no reader feels to be more than a fashion devoid even of the charm of novelty. Poetry composed on this system is stricken with falsity at the heart, and will vainly assert a claim to the sincere emotions of mankind. It must learn to speak to them in terms they feel to be true, before it can become anything better than an academic exercise, and regain its right to be welcomed as a divine voice. The conceptions of Foscolo, saturated with classic affectations, however polished, rich, or forcible their forms may be, can give no life to the future muse of Italy. Between their traditional principle and that heartfelt truth which alone can recreate national song no alliance is possible. How soon the Italians may be taught to produce and enjoy something better than idle trifling with shadows that have long ceased to exist anywhere but in the conceits of pedants, we do not pretend to divine. But it may be safely affirmed that their first step to any genuine revival of poetry must be not towards but away from the heathen fictions of Foscolo's school.

Nor does it appear that the Italian of to-day, whether as patriot, man of letters, or citizen, will gain by following the personal example of Foscolo,—as it is here set forth by his biographer. It may rather be said, as we have hinted, that a prime condition of any change for the better,—proceeding, as it must, from the moral force of the Italians themselves—would be the resolute control of many defects, the substitution of sounder virtues for many that only claimed to be such, in Foscolo's character. To men by nature eager and passionate, prone by long habit to certain excitements and suspicions, and thrown by modern events into the temptation of dazzling hopes surrounded by great dangers, there is perhaps no figure less fit to be held up as their ideal than one in which, as in poor Foscolo's, nearly every tendency that leads to disorder and failure, to outward strife and inward wretchedness, was unhappily exaggerated. The future of Italy calls for the virtues and resolution of men:—Foscolo, brave, gifted, and rugged as he was, stormed and wept through his whole chequered life with the vehement self-indulgence of a passionate boy.

That his practice of life could not be improved by theories such as have been described in Signor Gemelli's words, few will doubt. Of the general character which they formed, the following summary is given by the biographer.—

We neither dare nor can pretend to deny that Foscolo had defects inexcusable in regard to his genius and to his reputation. "*Rich in vices as in virtues*," as he describes himself;—a saturnine humour, rudeness of manners, intolerable haughtiness, an ostentatious taciturnity, a pride and harshness too often misplaced and revolting, *an immoderate love of gaming*, a certain improvidence for the future, and other *eccentricities*,—made him a man unsuited for friendship, for confidence, or for familiarity.

And of these defects, it is said, that some were designedly exaggerated "by an affectation of resembling *Alfieri*."

These, surely, are not the elements which make the patriot or the citizen. It is a grievous error to suppose that angry defiance of power, or rhapsodies on national independence and glory, will suffice for a public example, where unbridled passions and a contempt for private virtues bespeak rather an impatience of all restraint than the true heroism which justifies its

† But far from accurate. In one of his Essays, for instance, he writes at random of the Waldenses and Albigenses, as *Manichæans*.



enmity to wrong by strict obedience to the law of right.

As this mistake, however, pervades Signor Gemelli's view of Foscolo's independence, we cannot explain our very opposite impression without touching upon points of character, and noticing incidents which, but for this, we could gladly have left in the silence of his grave. The dispositions above noted might of themselves serve to account for the misfortunes which Signor Gemelli imputes to evil times and bad men. But to these must be added, as a trait required to complete the picture, a proneness to extremes of amorous passion which Signor Gemelli thinks no failing,—and a jealous spirit of self-assertion which he extols as noble courage and love of liberty; but which to us seems as unlike the sterling tone of those qualities as the strut of the harlequin is to the majestic tread of the hero. That Foscolo was enraged at the subjection of Italy we believe on the faith of his writings no less than of his acts:—but we cannot see in this emotion, as he displayed it, much beyond a fierce disdain of any kind of control,—nearly allied to a domineering temper, apt enough to tyrannize over others while demanding freedom for itself. Little appears, at all events, of that best kind of patriotism which is the parent of the austere virtues, and the source of patient and unselfish exertions in a good cause. The histrionic part of resistance prevails throughout Foscolo's career. It is a less pretending and more self-denying heroism—productive of silent virtues in place of stormy self-assertions and furious invectives, filled with kindly hopes instead of savage contempt of mankind,—that we would seek as a pattern for imitation.

It appears that Foscolo's self-exile on the return of the Austrians to Milan, which Signor Gemelli describes as "*atto d'indomabile corraggio*," was caused by particular motives rather than by a sense of the general duty of refusing to obey foreign rule. He had, indeed, served in the Gallo-Italian army, for several years, with no particular show of impatience, on that score at least. Nothing appears to prove that he would have rejected Austrian supremacy, but for the necessity that it imposed of continued military service, of which he was naturally tired. On this ground, at all events, he himself justifies his resolution to his mother.—

My honour and my conscience forbid me to take an oath which the present Government requires of me, *as an obligation to serve in the militia*—a service from which my pursuits, my age, and my interests have quite estranged me. Besides, I should betray the nobility, hitherto unsullied, of my character, by swearing what I could not fulfil; by selling myself to any government whatever. I, for my part, am minded to serve Italy;—nor, as a writer, have I chosen to appear as the partisan of German, French, or any other nation. *My brother is a soldier,—and having to follow that profession, has done right in taking the oath*; but I profess literature, which is an art wholly liberal and independent; and when sold, loses all its value.

—The feeling here we can understand and sympathize with, so far as its influence was genuine and consistent. But it is plain that the freedom in question is personal, not civic freedom: it is a case of inclination more than of duty. How else could he allow the oath to his brother—unless we suppose the concession justified by something far more immoral than any want of patriotism?

There are various modes of personal dependence. Some are mere explosions of cankered mutinous feelings, or exaggerated self-esteem. Some bespeak a generous, if somewhat morbid sense, that shrinks from unworthiness or humiliation, in whatever shape. Foscolo's had by no means all the delicacy of this latter mode:

—love of play, fancies for women, and a certain luxurious vanity, could any of them overcome it, so far at least as to make him incur some of the most unpleasing forms of obligation; which a very nice sense of independence would have forbidden. In him it seems to have gone no further than the acceptance of favours in an ungracious manner. To keep up a fierce show of independence, while compromising it in reality by a want of self-control, is so far from admirable, that we can hardly conceive a less inviting spectacle. Of such distinctions Signor Gemelli takes no notice: but they are something when example is in question. For instance, in 1808 Foscolo, then at Milan, was chosen to succeed Ceretti in the chair of Eloquence at Pavia,—but he was in debt already, had no money for the journey, and wrote as follows to a friend, Brunetti.—

How can I set out, wanting necessary means? you lately placed your purse at my disposal: *but I neither will nor can make use of it, in short, I will not accept anything more from you at whatever cost.* My dear Brunetti I owe you already [there follows a humiliating list of advances]. This debt, now a large one, fills me with much gratitude and more remorse, as I cannot soon repay it, and owe it to one who is not rich. Say nothing, then, of any further offers, because I will never accept them whatever may be my need. And you know that I persist, whether firmly or obstinately I will not say, in my resolution.

The biographer adds,—“that in spite of these protestations, the affection and generosity of his friend did relieve him from the embarrassment.” To our mind, there is not much of the substance of true independence in an affair thus conducted and concluded.

It is known how Foscolo was welcomed in England; and that with the opportunities given him of employing his talents and learning, it needed but the will to use them in order to earn a sufficient competence. But we are told that he regarded this as a drudgery beneath his powers, and disdained some of the readiest means by which his lavish expenditure could have been honestly supplied. The lectures on Italian literature, which Lady Dacre persuaded him to give in 1823, produced, he says, “nearly 1,000*l.*”—which went, says Signor Gemelli, “in expenses squandered on houses and gardens, and in a thousand dissipations, which were the source of new and irreparable misfortunes.” Referring to them, Foscolo writes:—

I could have got all right by lecturing again, \* \* but my mind was degraded by them, and I think I would die of grief and want rather than drink again the bitter cup of exposing my face in teaching a public that do not understand me, but attend, some to stare at a celebrated animal, others wishing to do him a charity.

We cannot agree with Signor Gemelli that “delicate minds” will much pity this distress, when they regard the whole proportions of the story, as he tells it. The folly that wasted excessive sums on the cottage at South Bank, “embellished and made cheerful by the presence of three charming young English girls,” is something less than venial in one who felt it beneath him to earn the money which he squandered. But the impression becomes stronger when it is found that in his self-sought difficulties there was risked the fortune—left by maternal relations—of his natural daughter. She was, Signor Gemelli says, the child of an English lady, seduced by him at Verdun (in 1804 or 1805). He soon lost sight of the mother, who afterwards married elsewhere. The infant was supported by her grandmother in England, who died there in 1822, leaving the child a small maintenance; whereupon Foscolo at last sent for the girl; and took charge of her property, the income of which he soon pledged to raise money for building and “luxuriously furnishing” “Digamma

Cottage.”—It is in a letter describing the story of this child, and the loss, by his imprudence, of her fortune, that Foscolo declares his disgusts, in the words above quoted. Comment in such a case is hardly needed. We can follow such feelings, even when they seem too quick, where dislike of obligation and drudgery makes men avoid the excesses that create the want of money hardly earned or of the “charity” of others. But what can a “delicate mind” applaud in an exhibition where, on the one side we have “contracting debts to furnish the cottage at South Bank” (its “three graces” inclusive) “with elegant furniture,” and “countless dissipations,” with the ruined child for whose being Foscolo was responsible,—and on the other, “offended delicacy, pride, and dignity,” of a genius profoundly humiliated and as if debased”—by an honourable exertion of his talents? Such dignity must be termed very defective, such delicacy quite spurious:—and the character which angrily displays them is more to be pitied than admired. It is surely one which no talent, energy, or even genius can make a becoming example for men of our time, whether in Italy or elsewhere;—if it be the part of good men to seek becoming ends by worthy means, thinking more of fulfilling duties than of pampering selfish passions and nursing a churlish pride.

The Appendix contains some unpublished letters, mostly to the Count Giambattista Giovinetti between 1808 and 1813,—none of much interest or merit:—and a fragment of a Modern History of Naples, introduced with a singular insinuation of pilfering against Colletta, the great continuer of Giannone, who, it is said, obtained the MS., but kept the greater part to himself. Charges like this, and anecdotes like that of Foscolo's quarrel with Monti, wherein the latter warns people to “take care of their purse” in his former friend's company, make us feel how the ideas of what is seemly or possible in certain relations differ in different climates. Between superlatives and “fine sentiments” on this side, and petty larceny imputations on that—*immane quantum discrepat!* Our northern fashion of “delicacy” and “dignity” may be less demonstrative;—but it saves us, at least, from such extreme contrasts as these.

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#### UNIVERSAL MERIDIAN.

I have been much interested lately by what has appeared in the French journals, and been referred to in your columns, relative to a proposal for the establishment of a Universal Meridian.

The desirableness of such an object will no doubt be admitted by all. The difficulty of carrying it out seems to arise from the mutual jealousy of various Governments. While considering the subject, the following thoughts have crossed my mind in connexion with it.

Would it not be desirable to fix the new first meridian in that part of the world where travellers have to change their reckoning? This change takes place, as we learn from Simpson's 'Voyage round the World,' in passing from the British to the Russian settlements in North-western America, in or about longitude 130° W. Thus, when the Russians are celebrating their Sabbath, the British close at hand are yet labouring on their Saturday. For, the former, having travelled eastward against the sun's course, have gained in time,—and the British, going westward, have lost. The earliest commencement, therefore, of any given day is with the Russians in North-western America,—and the latest with the British in the same quarter of the world.

Thus, suppose it was agreed that at the first moment of next Christmas-day—i.e. as soon as the clock had struck twelve on the night of December 24th—a gun should be fired at every Government station,—this gun would be fired first by the Russians to the west of longitude 130° W., when it would be about noon of December 24th, N.S. at Moscow, about 8 a.m. of the same day in Britain, about 3 a.m. at Washington, and the beginning of December 24th in Vancouver's Island,—where, accordingly, the gun would not be fired till twenty-four hours had elapsed from the time of its being fired by the Russians close at hand.

Again, would there not be less risk of confusion if the present method of reckoning longitude, both east and west, were given up,—and in future all longitudes were marked as *west only* from the universal meridian fixed as above, where the day is first reckoned? According to this plan, if Queen Charlotte's or Pittcairn's Island were fixed on for the first meridian, Yarmouth Roads would be marked as in longitude 225°,—i.e. west, of course,—and fifteen hours later in time.

If, however, it should be thought better not to give up the distinctions of east and west longitude, and to retain the universal meridian in the Old World, there is one spot which suggests itself as very appropriate,—both from its associations, and as being also just opposite to that meridian where the change of reckoning is experienced. It is, Jerusalem. The meridian of Jerusalem would surely excite as little jealousy as possible. At any rate, all Christians and Jews would agree, doubtless, to use it. I am not aware with whom the settlement of such a question lies; but the subject would surely be most appropriately discussed at the time of the Great Exhibition next year, when so many learned men will be collected from all parts of the world. If any decision should be arrived at, there might follow from it a scheme for establishing on some point of that meridian an "Observatory of all Nations," on a large scale, and supported by various Governments:—a spot sacred to science,

declared to be inviolate by mutual agreement, and thus secured from the fears of war.—I am, &c.

E. M. J. B.

#### BRITISH MUSEUM AND MUSEUM IN HYDE PARK.

VERY considerable interest at present existing with regard to the British Museum, its miles on miles of shelves and wilderness of Catalogues, as well as to the Museum in Hyde Park,—perhaps the inclosed notes on the Museum at the *Jardin des Plantes* in Paris may prove of interest to some of the readers of the *Athenæum*. There are very few people, I think, accustomed to the Museums of Frankfort, Paris, Brussels, Berlin, and our own magnificent collection in London, who do not feel the great defects in the present classification in the latter, as compared with that of any of the former. In the British Museum there are some sixty or seventy cases, we have been told, that cost 30,000*l*. Still, in the mineral department especially, one feels quite at sea. The old plan of Berzelius, by which they seem to have been arranged, to most people is very puzzling,—full of solecisms, and not at all practical. The locality, for instance, where a specimen occurs naturally is not told:—and so hampered has been the arrangement by adhering to the electro-negative and electro-positive theory, that some specimens might be almost placed at random anywhere. A specimen, we will say, with ordinary quartz, fluor, iron pyrites and carbonate of lime feels itself quite an outcast, a pariah, among the electro-negative and electro-positive arrangements of the great and excellent philosopher of Stockholm. In France, perhaps, they manage things better.

The Museum of Mineralogy and Chemistry in Paris is perhaps the finest thing in its way in Europe. Smaller than the British Museum, it nevertheless pleases more. The beautiful minikin collection of Haüy, the specimens put up by Cuvier, immediately assure a visitor that he is on classic ground. I am not one to accept the advice of Rosalind, and "disable all the benefits of our own country;" but where hints are to be collected, as in Paris and elsewhere, we should be wrong in neglecting them.

Beginning with the *Rock* department:—the student finds, first, primitive felspars and trachytes,—and as he goes on, pyroxenes, basalts, talcs, quartz, &c. Next, vitrified rocks, obsidian, tripoli;—then he gets among argillaceous rocks, calcareous rocks, primitive and secondary marbles;—next, conglomerate rocks, gypsums, through all the more recent rocks up to the last tertiary. The value of the classification, as it struck me, was, that every specimen represented a geological fact or truth, irrespective of effect or holiday show,—too apparent in London. In another department, a most interesting collection of *Soils* is arranged in much the same way; a thing, I think, in which we are quite deficient in London. The soils arranged in their general order of super-position are most instructive to the agriculturist, as showing those likely to be soonest exhausted and those which will bear mixing, &c. Many hints might be taken in this department for the arrangements next year in Hyde Park.

The larger department of the Museum, which cost Cuvier and Haüy such trouble, is, of course, the *Mineral Arrangement and Crystals*. Models of the crystals on each shelf are shown as you enter this department,—beginning with the isometric system (modifications of the cube). The second division is the monodimetric, or tetragonal (the reader will at once see the applicability of the term); the third, the monotrimetric, or hexagonal; the fourth, the rhombic; the fifth, the klinorhombic; and the sixth, the klinorhomboid. All the crystals and minerals are classified according to these divisions,—and by certain letters and signs are referred to them. These are the key-notes, in fact, to the little that we at present know of the relation of form to particular composition of groups of crystals, and the doctrine of substitution or replacement of one element for another. The simplicity of the arrangement is evident at a glance. We have nothing of this kind that I am aware of in our magnificent collection in London. Any one who can estimate the

æsthetic perfection of the Berlin Choir lately at the Haymarket will understand the scientific perfection thus produced by Haüy and Cuvier working together.

The next subject of interest, I think, is, the five grand and *natural* divisions into which the minerals are divided—marked in large letters. We have nothing like it in London. The eye takes it in at a glance. I am indebted to the backs of sundry letters, marked during a recent visit to Paris, for the details,—but I think they are quite correct. I am not aware if the French Government print catalogues;—I should say not, as I looked in vain for one. The divisions are five.—The first contains abnormal or ill-defined minerals, with fossil traces in their composition; the second, minerals forming *gases*; the third, minerals forming *metals*; the fourth, minerals forming *alkalis* and *earth*; and the fifth, minerals of organic origin. At a glance, we know, then, where to deposit or where to look for a particular specimen,—irrespective of its electro-negative or electro-positive properties as in the British Museum. The classification, too, is much more practically useful, and retained more easily in memory.

The first set of minerals includes, of course, all ill-defined and abnormal specimens, several remarkable petrifications, fossils, oolites, illustrated by Gaudin's theory, pisoliths and flints, amianthus, double reflecting spar, dendrites, &c. The second division, minerals forming *gases*, is curiously instructive. Iodine and bromine come first, and their few minerals; then sulphur in crystals and its other modifications; arsenic and antimony minerals, so wonderfully alike in many of their characters, and in none more so than that of their forming with hydrogen peculiar gases: there are, of course, very beautiful specimens of realgar and orpiments, &c.; and, lastly, another curious series of gas-forming minerals, not less natural, anthracites. The third grand division of the arrangement includes all minerals forming the bases of *metals* (autopsid minerals), and contains magnificent specimens of iron and manganese ores, almost without end,—titanium minerals perfectly wonderful,—zinc minerals, copper ores, very fine,—a perfect green blaze of malachites, galenas and crocoides from Siberia,—bismuth minerals, silver, lead, and other ordinary ores yielding metals not in the next division.—This, your readers will see, is also a very natural division.

On the opposite wall of the Museum the glass cases stretch along, and display the fourth great division,—"*Heteropsid minerals*," or those with the bases of metals forming *alkalis* and *earths*: a division also very natural, and practically useful,—beginning with quartzes, a little too showy perhaps, and too numerous. We next come on agates, silices, jaspers, fluorides (though perhaps these ought to be among the gas-producing minerals), magnesia minerals, wavellites, Epsomites, nitres, and gypsums, quite magical, strontianite, celestine, barytes, alums very fine, dolomites, calcareous spars without end, arragonites, borax minerals, tourmalines, axinites, and topazes, gadilinites and talcs, serpentine, mica, pyroxenes, amphiboles, epidotes, felspars, beryls, and emeralds.—The fifth division differs little from the first,—containing minerals of organic origin, ambers, bitumen, lignites, turf. Here, of course, the classification, as in the British Museum, terminates.

I am not so sanguine as to expect that the present arrangement of the British Museum will be perhaps disturbed,—indeed, I have not allowed my mind to dwell on the subject; but aware how often in country parts of England it has been copied with all its imperfections on its head, I think the *Athenæum* will be doing a public service by saying that people in London do not believe in its infallibility in the way of classification:—to copy again from a cognate art, that we prefer to hear the Hymns of Mendelssohn rather than drums and noise.

The *Fossils* of which Cuvier made a world-wide reputation are next in order,—and quite equal to anything else in this magnificent collection. They are not as fine nor as valuable as the fossils in the British Museum,—but somehow one learns more from them, they are so well classified. The first



specimen is perhaps the most remarkable fossil in the world,—nearly the entire of the human skeleton in a rock from Guadalupe, so well described by Cuvier, and so familiar to all readers of his grand work. A similar fossil has been lately put up in the British Museum. The rock is hard and gritty, and though bearing signs of recent formation, is full of interest. Another human specimen from another rock is also to be seen in Paris :—an account of which may be seen in the 'Comptes Rendus' for 1837. We next come of course on various fossils of the Quadrumana, well arranged ;—then the tribe of the "Felis" division, as described in the immortal 'Ossements Fossils' of Cuvier ;—next "Chats" of De Blainville in beautiful perfection ;—"Chiens," some 'as if dug up yesterday ;—hyenas ;—some magnificent remains of the elephant ; also—teeth, tusks of unusual size, astragalus, &c. Of course, all these are in London too,—perhaps, indeed, finer. Then, remains of Mastodon and Dinotherium ;—Rhinoceros found in France ;—some excellent casts of various large animals ;—next, the Palæotherium of Cuvier,—Lophiodon, Hippopotamus,—various fossils of the Ruminantia and Birds,—a gigantic fossil Trypanix found at Oise,—Turtles and Fishes by Agassiz,—a magnificent Mosasaurus from Maestricht, &c. The shells classified by Lamarck,—the fossil plants of the Eocene, Miocene, and Pleiocene, by Brongniart,—and the beautiful botanic collection at the end of the Gallery, done by Jussieu, are all worthy of attention. Indeed, one would learn more here in a week than in years on years in London. The shells in particular, ascending from the first dawn of conchological life to the most perfect and beautiful bivalves, must strike every one,—not so much by their display as by their truthfulness and scientific value. The very boys of Paris are acquainted with every one of them ; and I do not know but that it is to this severe and truthful discipline of the mind among young artists in this Museum that we owe our French drawings,—from the ghastly scenes of Poitevin, to the exquisitely truthful things of Paul Delaroché and Ary Scheffer.

Lectures are regularly delivered to the public in the Museum. The last I heard were Milne-Edwards's on Natural History, Becquerel's on Physics (Climate and Terrestrial Magnetism more particularly), Mirbel's on Vegetable Physiology, Adrien de Jussieu's on Botany. Serres was busy on his subject, Transcendental Anatomy for artists,—Brongniart was deep on the classification of Plants. While on Comparative Anatomy, the English ear had quite enough to do to follow De Blainville and Flourens.—Gay-Lussac (who has died since) was telling the oft-told tale of Chemistry. These lectures were open to the public, and well attended. A *gamin* or two might be seen copying a shell, or a rock, or a dicotyledon :—but the mass of the auditory were attentive, and many were taking notes. In the zoological and botanical gardens round the Museum, an infinite deal is learned also. They are quite free to the public. Everything, however, (as many of your readers are doubtless aware,) is sacrificed to classification and truthfulness in arrangement and detail.

I am, &c. CHARLES KIDD, M.D.  
Kingsland Crescent.

#### OUR WEEKLY GOSSIP.

THE Palace of Industry continues to rise,—with a celerity which leaves little room to doubt of its completion by the time originally appointed. The iron framework is pretty nearly fixed,—the great transepts are raised to the proper elevation,—a considerable part of the lower tier is covered in with the plain boards,—and the glazing proceeds at a rate perfectly marvellous. There is no longer a doubt entertained of the Crystal Palace proving capable of housing in safety the vast collection of treasures now rapidly arriving in London. The fears that were beginning to find an audience on this score a few weeks back are now dissipated. The Royal Commission having determined to err, if at all, on the side of expense and security, rather than leave room for even visionary alarms,—additional strength has been given to various parts of the structure. Even the sceptical are satisfied.—Now begins another phase of the great work. The

Committees of Selection and Rejection have commenced their labours. As the time for sending in the various articles approaches, we begin to perceive the minor features of the Exhibition. It is still a matter of regret that many lacunæ exist in the range of British products :—though strenuous efforts are being made by the few in each district who have a just appreciation of the importance of the coming trial of strength.—Among particulars that we have from time to time indicated in our own columns, we may mention an assurance privately sent to us that the owners of the marble quarries in Derbyshire and the manufacturers of spar and stalactite in that county have taken the hint, and will not be unrepresented. We would suggest, however, that these owners of mines and quarries should not content themselves with showing their products in spar and marble only,—but send up the entire series of their minerals and metals.—From Hong Kong we learn that no specimen will be sent for exhibition. The complete collection of Chinese articles being made at Canton, the inhabitants of Hong Kong have shown their interest in the matter by raising two subscriptions,—one for the general fund, now received in London,—the other in aid of the Canton fund to be disbursed there in the collection of objects of interest.—The contribution of France is expected to be rare and complete.—The unsettled state of affairs in Germany will prevent that thorough display of Teutonic ingenuity which might have been looked for under happier auspices. One article of luxury that we hear of as in preparation in that music-loving land, will be a curiosity in its way. This is, a musical *ibed*, which the moment it is pressed begins to play soft and soothing airs that "lap" the sleeper "in Elysium."

We see it proposed on behalf of the sight-seers, that the Crystal Palace should be thrown open, at a low charge—say a shilling—to the Christmas holiday-makers. No doubt, considering the beauty and novelty of the structure and the favourable prestige that gathers about it, there are thousands who would be glad on some such terms to obtain a preliminary glimpse of its interior and arrangements. The feasibility of this scheme of course can be judged of best by the Royal Commission ; but should the members see their way to allow an intrusion of the public for a few days—six or seven—we have no doubt that a handsome sum would be realized at the doors in paying for the privilege of inspection.

The question of copyright in invention, as influenced by the existing Patent Laws, is occupying attention in many quarters. The great point, at the present moment, is, to meet the events of the coming year with the equity that shall give satisfaction to the highly deserving classes of men who devote their genius to producing new or improved powers of production. The Exhibition movement has shown that this class is much more numerous than has been supposed :—that it embraces many with much brain but little money, who may do lasting services to mankind, and ought not to do them at the price of their own ruin. It is on the ground of justice, however, not on that of the number claiming, that the argument in their favour rests. Our inventing artisans are not like the portrait-painters of Paris, who, when asking some favour at the hands of the Provisional Government, reminded the minister that they were strong enough to raise barricades :—yet their patience should not be too severely tried because of their peaceableness. Government held out a hope that the Patent Laws should be suspended during the Exhibition : and on this hope hundreds, if not thousands, of our most gifted workmen have, it is said, devoted their time, labour and money to the construction of models. These ought to be protected from the spoiler. Why not have a court of registration for one year ? Government can easily get an Act of Parliament—supposing an Act to be necessary—granting the required powers, long before the Crystal Palace is open to the public. This would meet the pressing case. Afterwards—as is suggested by the Society of Arts—on the model of the French Patent Laws, a payment of a nominal sum (the Society says 10*l.*, but we see no reason for such

a charge :—why should not five shillings be sufficient ?) might secure the completion of the registration, and purchase a prolonged protection for five years. These terms of course are to some extent arbitrary :—what is chiefly wanted in this stage of the movement is inquiry. At the expiration of the first term, a new patent should be procurable with equal ease and economy,—if it still be applied for by the inventor or his assigns. The principle of issuing patents for short—and renewable—periods is, we think, sound. Inventions which should be unrealized, or should have turned out useless, ceased to be applied to the specified purpose, or become superseded—would fall away, or undergo serviceable modification. But the rates proposed by the Society of Arts can hardly be accepted as a fair settlement of the money part of the existing wrong. Why should a man pay 36*l.* for twenty-one years' protection of his right ? The increasing scale proposed takes the form of a penalty on success,—and can be justified only on the ground that the inventor does no more than ask society for a privilege. The inventor asks leave to do good to himself—and to the world. If genius be too sorely taxed, society is the chief loser. What is needful to discharge the necessary expenses of registration is the utmost that should be asked of the man who has conferred a new or improved agent on mankind. If patent rights be sound in principle, they should be given for (with the above exception) the sole consideration that establishes the soundness. A man should not pay a fine for that which is conceded to him on the express ground of special desert.

The following is from an intimate and well-informed correspondent.—"An extraordinary ; and in every point of view valuable, collection of letters illustrative of the life, writings and character of the poet Pope has just turned unexpectedly up,—and has been secured by Mr. John Wilson Croker for his new edition of the poet's works. The collection consists of a series of letters addressed by Pope to his coadjutor Broome—of copies of Broome's replies—and of many original letters from Fenton (Pope's other coadjutor in the *Odyssey*), also addressed to Broome. It is known that Pope and Broome quarrelled :—but when, or what about, has never been sufficiently understood. Broome, however, has told the story by binding together the whole of their correspondence with other letters illustrative of the quarrel. These I have seen :—and a more curious revelation of Pope's character has not been made since the discovery of his unpubished correspondence with Lord Oxford which you announced some time back,—and which is still, I understand, in Mr. Croker's possession. When the Oxford and the Broome papers shall be published the reader will see how untrue Mr. Roscoe's life of the poet is to the actual occurrences and character of the poet and the man :—and, after all, how much nearer Johnson is to the truth of his life than all his other biographers put together.—The Broome correspondence, I may add, explains one of the obscurest passages in the memorable treatise on the Art of Sinking in Poetry. Lord Carlisle might read a curious lecture on Pope from these very papers alone.—I myself could write you a curious and instructive article on them, even from the hasty perusal with which I have been favoured."

Mr. Poole, author of 'Paul Pry' and of other works still living and likely to live, has refused to accept the post of one of the Poor Brethren of the Charter House. The reasons for his refusal are, it is said, the want of many common comforts necessary for his health, which it was thought by his friends so rich an institution as Richard Sutton's would have supplied to all "poor brethren" within the walls of the Charterhouse. Few Commissions more than Charity Commissions require to be renewed at short intervals :—and no endowments need more to be looked after than the noble foundation of the Charter House. A commission of inquiry into the management of Eton and the Charter House will we trust follow pretty closely on the heels of the present Oxford and Cambridge University Commissions. A master of the Charter House with a smaller income, and the same number of Poor Brethren with greater comforts—would be more in accordance with Sutton's spirit,



the objects of his institution, and the requirements of the age.

A friend has sent us a notice of the death of Mr. Robert Roscoe—the third son of the historian,—which took place a few days ago, in his sixty-first year. For some time this gentleman followed the profession of the law, in partnership with the late Mr. Edgar Taylor; but he retired from active life, in consequence of infirm health, many years ago. Like all the members of the Roscoe family, he had more than literary taste:—literary powers, which an unusual amount of self-distrust prevented his exercising largely. But he claims notice in a journal like ours, not merely as the son of an eminent father, but in right of one or two tasks performed by himself. The completion of Mr. Fitchett's huge epic of 'Alfred' was done by him in fulfilment of a promise. A boyish effort of 'Chevy Chase' is spoken of with praise:—and that his devotional poems were of high quality in the school to which they belong, the friend to whom we are indebted for this notice enables us to prove by a specimen.—

*Sonnet.*

O not in fear, great Author of my days!  
I lift my voice to Thee—Oh, not in fear!—  
But as a babe, within the refuge dear  
Of its fond mother's breast its weak head lays,  
Asks not in prayer, nor tells its thanks in praise,  
Yet finds support and comfort ever near,  
Its gratitude, a smile—its pray'r a tear,  
And still receiving gladness, still repays.—  
Thus, in the bosom of thy tender care,  
I rest, O God! this perishable dust;  
Silent and blessed—nor with praise and pray'r  
Profane my pure, unalterable trust;  
Where'er I am, enough that Thou art there,  
Enough for me, Thou art—and Thou art just.

The Scotch papers announce the death of Mr. Robert Gilfillan, the author of some well-known songs in the Scottish dialect and other poems of considerable merit.

In granting an injunction, on Monday last in the case of Ollendorff v. Black, Vice Chancellor Bruce took occasion to offer some welcome remarks on the supposed existing state of the copyright law in England affecting strangers. Dr. Ollendorff is the author of 'A new method of learning to read, write, and speak a language in six months,'—first published in London in 1843, since reprinted in this country with the author's concurrence, and recently pirated—as alleged—by Mr. Black, by the importation of an edition purporting to be published at Frankfort-on-the-Maine. "Can any conclusion," His Honour observed, "be imagined more injurious to literature in general than the decision in Boosey v. Purday? Surely literature is of no country:—and the object of the act of parliament must have been to promote learning generally. That decision is an unfortunate one for literature in this country; for is it not a benefit that the learned men of other countries should publish their works here?"—Speaking, again, of the same case, Boosey v. Purday,—he observed:—"That rule would overturn all that the Court has acted on in patent cases for more than a century. Suppose an Englishman acquires a foreign domicile, and comes back to this country and then publishes a book,—can he not be protected? A foreign minister does not change his domicile, however long he may stay in another country to which he is accredited? Amongst the foreign ministers now residing in this country, we have at least one eminent among men of letters; and if he published a work would he not have a copyright in it?"—Here we have the Courts of Common Pleas, of the Exchequer, and of Chancery at variance.—Let us hope that the still pending case of Murray v. Bohn will settle the common law—the common sense is settled—of a question of so much importance to the best interests of the literature of all countries.

Which is to be the line of communication between the Atlantic and Pacific? Panama, Atrato, Tehuantepec, St. Juan—each route has its admirers and advocates, even in the Geographical Society. But if a body of scientific and practical men cannot agree among themselves, even so far as to reject the worst, and so reduce the number of conflicting routes,—how can it be supposed that a miscellaneous body of merchants and stockbrokers will be able to arrive at a final decision? The recent debate on the sub-

ject in the society was extremely unsatisfactory. The fact most apparent was, the want of accurate information. One speaker communicated the fact, that M. Humboldt had given him a verbal opinion that the locality of San Miguel was by far the most favourable:—this statement was met by that of another,—who also professing to repeat what the great explorer had said to him—declared his view to be strongly in favour of Panama. Why not put all this beyond the reach of doubt? It was proposed at the meeting that the medal of the society should be offered in reward for the best exploration. We would go farther. If the Council of the society can find competent volunteers in such a work, we can have no solid objection: but daily experience shows that real work must be paid for in one shape or another. While we think it just possible that—with proper inducements, in the form of a free passage in Government vessels, such aid as might be given by our agents in Central America, and the prospect of an honourable reputation to be won—some few persons might be found willing to incur the risk and the expense of exploring these rivers and mountain roads,—we yet cannot forget that the class of engineers whose daily reports would command confidence in a matter of such importance are men who could by no chance be thought of as candidates for such offices on the terms proposed. If an exploring party is sent out,—and that such should be sent out the Geographical Society has completely, though unintentionally, established,—it would be further waste of time and money to have it imperfectly organized. The case is not one for amateur engineering. The society could not expect the Government—or any large body of capitalists—to act on the reports of its unpaid and irresponsible corps of explorers. The public interests are largely involved:—and what the public require is, a statement of the comparative advantages of each route set forth by the most competent engineers after actual inspection of the ground.

The *Times* of yesterday has the following on the subject of the African Exploring Expedition.—"We have received intelligence from the Saharan African Expedition up to the 29th of August last. The Expedition had literally fought its way up to Selonfeet in Aheer, near to the territory of the Kailouee Prince, En-Nour, to whom it is recommended.—Mr. Richardson had been obliged to ransom his life and those of his fellow-travellers twice. The whole population of the northern districts of Aheer had been raised against the expedition, joined by all the bandits and robbers who infest that region of the Sahara. The travellers are now in comparative security. \* \* The great Soudan route, from Ghat to Aheer, is now explored."

Since we are not in France, we may say that there are some people whose star seems to allot to them the much-desired privilege of exciting, if not a sensation—a bustle,—not only during life, but likewise after death. Among these, M. de Chateaubriand seems to have been pre-eminent:—sometimes so near to true heroism—yet never absolutely getting beyond the mock-heroic. His obsequies conducted by himself—the advertised secrecy of the readings of his *Memoirs* in the *salon* of Madame Récamier—have hardly availed to make his tomb a shrine, or to render his book a good speculation for those who purchased it eagerly, lured by the rumours of the almost Oriental value of its contents. Yet, let no one disbelieve in the star aforesaid. Though M. de Chateaubriand's own eleven volumes failed to excite a sensation,—there has been published in the twelfth a sort of supplement which, by giving occasion to a war in the newspapers, has called the world of readers to advert to the fact that the Chateaubriand *Memoirs* have come to a close. A postscript, or appendical portion, added by M. Daniello, containing (without much logical or historical sequence, as it appears to us) an account of *L'Infirmière de Marie Thérèse* founded by Madame de Chateaubriand, is formally protested against as having been issued without due sanction by the literary executors of M. de Chateaubriand:—and much newspaper controversy has ensued. This appears to have answered the speculator's purpose; since M. Daniello—who brings testimonials to prove that

he was M. de Chateaubriand's best friend—in one of his letters declares that he does not regard the prohibition or discredit cast on him, and that he intends to publish 'Last Conversations,' 'Readings,'—in other words, as much concerning M. de Chateaubriand as he can rake together and make saleable.

The Academy of Sciences in Paris has awarded the Lalande Medal to M. de Gasparis, for his discovery of the planet Hygeia, in April 1849:—and shared its astronomical prize for 1850 between the same gentleman for his discovery, in November, of two planets—Parthenope and another yet unnamed,—and Mr. Hind, for his discovery, on the 13th of September, of the planet Victoria.

The French papers afford a new and curious illustration of the state of mind, manners and education in what M. Guizot, with much complacency, used to call the most civilized capital in the world. Every one knows that in the neighbourhood of the Temple—the prison of Louis the Sixteenth, and in other respects so striking a feature of the great revolution—are some of the grandest and gloomiest houses in Paris. Amid the rags and filth, the squalid misery and rampant criminality, of the Marais, these fine hotels still stand in bold and startling contrast. In the Rue Neuve St. François, the loiterer finds the combined glories of St. Giles and St. James. He sees that here in other times, ere Louis the Fourteenth began to ruin France by his improvements, stood the palaces of the land. Romance, mystery and tradition linger about the spot. Historians and novelists find equal materials for their art in its sombre nooks and corners. Here stands a mansion famous in the page of Thiers and in that of Lamartine,—the very next to it is yet more famous in the books of Eugène Sue. In the first, lived and died, at an advanced old age, one of those revolutionary heroes who have left a damning record of their lives in the world's history—the friend of Danton, the associate of Marat,—who survived the guillotine (to which he sent many a better man and woman), the Empire and the Restoration, leaving a name behind him which even his heirs have been compelled in very shame to abandon and disown. In the second house the popular novelist had fixed the residence, and placed the vast treasures of his Rempennet family, in 'The Wandering Jew.' The populace of the Marais read the fictions of Sue just as they read the facts of Lamartine or Thiers,—with an unflinching belief in their truthfulness. When the novel appeared, a crowd was constantly about the gates of the house in question, anxious to procure additional illustration. Last week this house was announced for sale; and thousands of persons have been to see the wells in which the recorded wealth was deposited—many, it is said, fully convinced that some of it must still be there. One day the notice of a stranger was attracted by the crowd, and he stopped and inquired into its meaning. A polite and believing citizen explained:—at which the stranger laughed heartily. He had better have done anything else. The facts of history as authenticated by the Souliés and Sue's were not to be thus sneered down. Dumas's chronicles themselves would not be safe against such a species of scoffing. One of the crowd accused the sceptical stranger of being a Jesuit in disguise:—and he had to save himself by flight from the displeasure of the people.—Can any one wonder that the Marais is the quarter of Paris in which madly visionary doctrines and aimless revolutions find their first and most fitting instruments?

EXHIBITION OF MODERN BRITISH ART.—This Exhibition is OPEN DAILY at the Gallery of the Old Water Colour Society, No. 5, Pall Mall East.—Open from Ten till dusk.—Admission, 1s. Catalogue, 6d.

SAMUEL STEPNEY, Sec.

The DIORAMA, Regent's Park.—NOW EXHIBITING, Two highly interesting Pictures, representing MOUNT ATNA, in Sicily, during an Eruption; and the ROYAL CASTLE OF STOLZENFELS on the Rhine, with various effects. Admission to both pictures, One Shilling.—Children under twelve years, half-price. Open from Ten till dusk.

EGYPT, NUBIA, and ETHIOPIA.—THE GREAT MOVING PANORAMA of the NILE displays the scenery of these interesting countries, and the manners and customs of their inhabitants, presenting to the spectator the River and the Desert, the Pyramids and the Sphinx, the grandest Ruins of Antiquity, and the most exciting objects that allure the traveller.—EGYPTIAN HALL, PICCADILLY.—Daily, at Three and Eight.—Admission reduced to 6d.; Pit, 1s.; Stalls, 2s.



INDIA OVERLAND MAIL.—GALLERY OF ILLUSTRATION, 14, Regent-street.—MOVING DIORAMA OF THE OVERLAND MAIL TO INDIA, exhibiting the following places, viz.—Southampton, Gibraltar, Algiers, Malta, Alexandria, Cairo, Suez, the Red Sea, Aden, Ceylon, Madras, and Calcutta.—is now OPEN DAILY.—Mornings at Twelve. Afternoons at Three, and Evenings at Eight.—Admission, 1s.; Stalls, 2s. 6d.; Reserved Seats, 3s. Doors open half an hour before each representation.—The new Diorama of OUR NATIVE LAND will shortly be produced in addition to the above. The Diorama of the LIFE of the DUKE OF WELLINGTON has also been for some time in progress.

#### ROYAL POLYTECHNIC INSTITUTION.

LECTURE by Dr. Bachofner on VOLTAIC ELECTRICITY, in which will be exhibited ALLMAN'S PATENT ELECTRIC LIGHT, Daily at Two, and on Tuesday and Thursday Evenings at Nine.—LECTURE by J. H. Pepper, Esq., on the FIRST or SIMPLE PRINCIPLES of AGRICULTURAL CHEMISTRY, daily (except Saturday) at a Quarter-past Three, and on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday Evenings at Nine.—LECTURE on the BALLAD MUSIC of ENGLAND, by Mr. George Barker, every Evening (except Saturday) at Eight o'clock, illustrated by the LAYS of the FORESTERS or SONGS of ROBIN HOOD.—MODEL of WESTON'S PATENT OVERLAND RAILWAY, at work daily.—DISSOLVING VIEWS, daily at One o'clock, at Half-past Four, and in the Evenings at a Quarter to Ten.—DIVER and DIVING BELL, &c. &c.—Admission, 1s.; Schools, Half-price.—Open daily from Eleven till Five o'clock, and every Evening (EXCEPT SATURDAY) from Seven till Half-past Ten.

#### SCIENTIFIC

##### SOCIETIES.

ROYAL.—Col. Sabine in the chair.—A paper was read entitled 'Researches into the Structure of the Spinal Chord,' by J. L. Clarke, Esq.—It consists entirely of minute anatomical details respecting the microscopical structure of the spinal chord.

GEOGRAPHICAL.—Admiral Sir C. Malcolm, V.P. in the chair.—The American and Russian Ministers, the Hon. Abbott Lawrence and the Chevalier Bunsen, were elected Fellows.—Count de Rosen presented for inspection several physico-geographical maps of Sweden, executed by the Crown Prince of Sweden and Norway, Carl Ludwig Eugène:—who was elected an honorary member. A discussion—to which we have alluded elsewhere—took place on Capt. Fitz Roy's paper on the Isthmus of Central America.

GEOLOGICAL.—Sir C. Lyell, President, in the chair. The following communications were read.—'On the Geology of the Upper Punjaub and Peshaur,' by Major Vicary.

'Report on the Coal Mines near Erzzerom.'

'On the Silurian Rocks and Graptolites of Dumfries-shire,' by R. Harkness, Esq.—The author observed that the county of Dumfries affords four geological formations, exclusive of the superficial deposits of sand, gravel, and clay representing the boulder series. The new red sandstone occurs in five isolated patches, in some cases lying widely remote from each other. Two coal-fields are met with, one at the eastern extremity of the county, and the other at the north-western; the latter being a portion of the Ayrshire coal formation. The mountain limestone is represented by a band of limestone, grit, and shale running along the southern margin of the Silurian district, and also by two small patches in the parishes of Closeburn and Keir. The remaining part of the county is exclusively occupied by the Silurian formation, which covers an area more than twice the size of that which the three other formations possess conjointly. Mr. Harkness then proceeded to describe three parallel bands of anthracite, accompanied with shales, traversing the Silurian rocks from N.E. to S.W., in the north-western portion of Dumfries-shire. These appear to have been originally one continuous bed, which, together with the greywacke of the district, has been broken up by the intrusion of igneous rocks. The Silurian strata are greatly disturbed,—the dip generally being towards the N.N.W., at a high angle. On the borders of Selkirkshire, near Craigmaclea Scars, the anthracite beds are considerably developed. These three bands are no doubt attributable to a succession of faults running through the district in a direction parallel to the strike and range of the greywacke chain, and bringing up at intervals the anthracite beds and the graptolite shales,—the consequence being a repetition of the same beds in a series of bands. Graptolites occur sparingly in the anthracite, but are very abundant and well preserved in the overlying shales. Mr. Harkness had detected about twelve forms of these interesting

zoophytes, of which not above two or three had been previously observed in the British Isles. The author concluded with some observations on the Silurian rocks and fossils of Kirkcudbrightshire.

SOCIETY OF ANTIQUARIES.—Viscount Mahon, President, in the chair.—R. W. Martin, Esq. was elected a member.—Regret was expressed that the fine collection of Roman glass exhibited on the last evening by Mr. W. Chaffers was not still on the table:—several Fellows having come on purpose to see it. Mr. Chaffers said, that it had been removed on account of its value and frailty; but that at the next meeting it should be restored,—and that he would accompany it by some bronzes found at the same time and in the same vicinity (Nismes), and by an explanatory paper.—Mr. Norris sent a curious Roman coin of a type not known, and singularly blundered in the inscription. It had perhaps for this reason been withdrawn from circulation,—which may account for its rarity.—Mr. Everett, late Minister from the United States, presented to the library a copy of his speeches and essays, in 2 vols. 8vo.; and thanks were voted to him as an honorary member.—The readings of the evening were a paper 'On Heraldry' by Mr. Bailey, consisting principally of notes on Mr. Newton's recent work; and a letter from Mr. Wright, introducing a curious document,—the rules and orders of the Free-school of Saffron Walden, established in the time of Henry VIII. Mr. Bailey's communication was read at considerable length, though it might have been judiciously shortened; and Mr. Wright's rules and orders of the school—which, we apprehend, would have been interesting—were entirely omitted. One of them, as we understood, related to the questions which the master was always to put to the pupils on admission:—such as, whether the plague prevailed in the quarter from which they came? &c.

HORTICULTURAL.—E. Brande, Esq. in the chair.—H. R. Sandbach, J. Smith, F. Barchard, and —Davis, Esqs., were elected Fellows.—Messrs. Veitch sent a novelty in the shape of *Vanda cerulea*, which proves to be one of the most handsome of Orchids, vieing in beauty even with the *Phalaenopsis* itself. Like the latter, it appears to be very profuse in the production of blossoms; for although the plant exhibited was small, and had but one flower-spike in perfection, many more were making their appearance. Although the spike in question was more than a foot in length, bending gracefully downwards, and had upwards of a dozen large sky-blue flowers arranged thinly upon it, it was remarked that it was not near so large as some of the dried spikes of this *Vanda* which have been received from India. Beautiful, therefore, as the plant in its present state is, it may be expected to be yet more so when it shall have had time to acquire greater size and strength. A Large Silver Medal was awarded it.—Messrs. Henderson had a white *Ionopsis* from Jamaica, resembling *Ionopsis pallida*.—Mr. Blake produced a nice collection of Orchids, containing *Dendrobium sanguinolentum*, *Zygopetalum crinitum*, *Angraecum bilobum*, *Sophranitis grandiflora*, and two charmingly flowered plants of *Epidendrum Skinneri*. A Knightian Medal was awarded.—From Mr. Glendinning came a large and well cultivated specimen of *Hoya imperialis*, which was stated to have been in flower all the summer.—Beautiful examples of Muscat of Alexandria (quite ripe), and black Hamburg Grapes were shown by F. G. Nash, Esq., to whom a Banksian Medal was awarded.—The Hon. J. Norton, also furnished Muscat of Alexandria Grapes; but they did not appear to be quite ripe.—Mr. Mitchell had a small box of Black Hamburg, fair-sized bunches, and well coloured, the produce of a second crop from the same vines this year. The vines, which were started early in November, ripened off the first crop between the 14th of March and 17th of April, after which they were rested till the 22nd of May, when they were pruned and put in action for the second crop, which is ripe now; and Mr. Mitchell stated that he would take a crop from the vines again next June. Two crops

were obtained in one season from the same vines three years ago; but Mr. Mitchell is of opinion that double crops should be ripened by the same vines only once in every four years. Examples of a seedling Grape, which did not appear to be different from West's St. Peter's, was exhibited by Mr. Seymour.—Two brace of Cucumbers were shown by J. Jarrett, Esq.—From the garden of the Society came the cinnamon-brown and yellow *Cymbidium giganteum*, *Mazillaria bracteosa*, *Lycaste plana*, and *Brassavola venosa*, together with the Holly-leaved *Hovea*, the useful winter-blooming *Selago distans*, the Brazilian *Barbarea purpurea*, four varieties of *Epacris*, and three of Cape Heath, *Manettia bicolor*, *Justicia speciosa*, the scarlet *Sericographis Ghiesbreghtiana*, and the following Pears:—Folle, or Trout Pear, Napoleon, and Vicar of Winkfield—all varieties remarkable for their excellence, to which the first adds great beauty of colour.

ZOOLOGICAL.—Prof. Owen in the chair.—Mr. Westwood read a paper 'On the Dipterous Insects of Africa known under the names of the Tsetse and Zimb.'—After noticing the different modes of attack of insects on horses and oxen, together with the effects thereby produced, a new species from the neighbourhood of the New Lake was described, under the name of *Glossina morsitans*, which had been observed by Capt. F. Vardow to attack horses, occasionally causing their death. Mr. Westwood referred to the description of the Zimb given by Bruce; and considered that that writer had united in one account the attacks of the Tsetse and those of the species of *Cestrus*, which infest the camel, rhinoceros, &c. Descriptions were added of two additional species of *Glossina*, from Western Africa, and of a new and remarkable allied genus from Sierra Leone.—Mr. Gould exhibited and described a new form in birds obtained from the interior of Africa, by Masfield Parkyns, Esq., *Balaniceps rex* is a stock with a perfectly anomalous beak of immense power, somewhat resembling that of *Cancroma*, while in stature it nearly equals the Maraboa and Adjutant.—The secretary read a note by Capt. Hardy on a curious native superstition relating to *Buceros gingivianus*.—Prof. E. Forbes read a paper 'On the Marine Mollusca,' collected by Capt. Kellett, R.N. and Lieut. Wood, R.N., during the surveying voyage of H.M.S.S. Herald and Pandora. The collection consists of 317 species of Marine Gasteropoda, 1 Cephalopod, and 58 Marine Bivalves. They were procured chiefly on the coast of Southern California, from San Diego to Magdalena, from the shores of Mazatlan, and from the Sandwich Islands. Some very remarkable shells were found. The genera of which species are most numerous in the collection are, *Murex*, *Purpura*, *Trochus*, *Terebra*, *Strombus*, *Conus*, *Columbella*, *Littorina*, *Oliva*, *Cypræa*, *Natica*, *Patella*, and *Chiton*; *Venus* and *Arca*. Among the more local genera are *Mono-ceros*, *Pseudoliva*, *Cyrtulus*, *Saxidomus*, and *Cras-satella*. The new Gasteropods described were, three species of *Purpura*, one representing remarkably the *P. Capillus* of the Atlantic, one *Fusus* (*F. Kellettii*, a very singular shell), four *Nassa*, one *Natica*, and three *Trochi*. A new *Pseudoliva* is a very fine species, and throws fresh light on that obscure genus.—Mr. Bartlett exhibited a series of specimens of the genus *Apteryx*, including the original specimen figured by Shaw, which was lent by the Earl of Derby. The result of Mr. Bartlett's investigations goes to prove that the specimen in the possession of Lord Derby was unique until the arrival of Mr. Mantell's specimen from Dusky Bay. The bird which has hitherto been considered to be *Apteryx Australis* is in reality distinct, and consequently without a name. Mr. Bartlett therefore proposed to give it the name of *Apteryx Mantelli*.—Several new Entomostrea were described by Dr. Baird:—and Mr. A. Adams communicated Monographs on *Scutella* and *Trichotropis*.

INSTITUTION OF CIVIL ENGINEERS.—W. Cubitt, Esq., President in the chair.—The discussion on Mr. Struve's paper, on 'The Ventilation of Collieries, theoretically and practically considered,' was continued throughout the evening.



## MEETINGS FOR THE ENSUING WEEK.

Mon.	Chemical, 8.
—	Statistical, 8.—'On Precious Metals,' by J. T. Dawson, Esq.
—	Royal Academy, 8.—Mr. Green 'On Anatomy.'
—	British Architects, 8.
Tues.	Januau, 8.
—	Pathological, 7.
—	Civil Engineers, 9.—Annual General Meeting.
Wed.	Society of Arts, 8.—Fifth Ordinary Meeting.—'Railway Extension and Influence,' by W. B. Adams, C.E.
—	Geological, half-past 8.—'On the Eruptive Rocks of the Venetian Alps,' by Prof. A. T. Catullo.—'On the Mineral Springs of Vichy,' by Sir R. L. Murchison.—'Report on a New Combustible Substance discovered in Russia.'
Thurs.	Royal, half-past 8.
—	Numerical, 7.
—	Antiquaries, 8.
SAT.	Medical, 8.

## PRODUCTS FROM PEAT.

WE have received the following from Mr. Owen, a Director of the Peat Company, in answer to the remarks which we made [*ante*, p. 1255] on the results of his experiment as announced in the *Times*.

Highgate Grove.

My attention has been directed to an article in your paper on the subject of peat; and as I believe you have written with the just object of guarding the public from being misled by wrong statements, I have no doubt you will be open to receive those facts which may convince you that the Peat Company does not deserve the remarks you have made against it. You say the estimate is fallacious in many particulars. I will say most truly, if you can confirm this, I shall consider myself under the greatest obligation to you for so doing. The experiment at Dartmoor has, I assure you, very little in common with ours. In the first place, they required nearly two tons of peat to distil one. Then, exterior heat was so great that the retorts lasted only a few weeks. Again, owing to the intense heat the rivets of the retorts became loose, and much of the valuable products was lost. What is more important, they never even tried to obtain some of our most valuable products. I will now, as briefly as possible, give you the simple account of our workings. For about two years I have had a small plant at work in Ireland. The retort will burn about two tons in twenty-four hours. After much careful labour, in April last Mr. Reece found he could obtain all the products he desired, and also in quantity. At my request he continued working, and found every day confirmed his report. I then, after much trouble, obtained the services of Dr. Hodges, of Belfast, to go and examine what Mr. Reece had done. He did so, and was fully satisfied. He then worked it himself for about twelve days, without allowing any one to interfere. Nothing could be more satisfactory than the results, which agreed within 1 per cent. of those made by Mr. Reece. I then requested to have the tarry products of twenty tons brought to London, and had them worked on the premises of Mr. Coffey, where numbers saw the process; and it was from this that we founded our conclusions. Nothing has been taken for granted. Numbers have investigated the whole, and, I may say, all have been more than satisfied. If I had not felt the importance of the subject I assuredly should not have persevered as I have. I must not profess more interest in my fellow-countrymen in Ireland than is my duty; but with the full belief that sooner or later the bogs of that country will prove one of its greatest blessings, I am sure you will not condemn this effort to act out my honest convictions.

I am, &c.

N. D. OWEN.

We have printed all of Mr. Owen's letter which contains any part of his statements or argument. In reply, we can only state the results of the scientific investigations given in the "Bog Reports," and by Capt. Portlock and Sir Robert Kane. From these authorities we learn that turf, as dug from the bog, contains three-quarters of a pound of dry peat and a quarter of a pound of water. This at once reduces the 36,500 tons of Messrs. Coffey's statement to 27,394 tons. The inorganic matter found with peat varies with the depth from the surface from 3 per cent. to 20 per cent.; we will strike the average at 10 per cent., which will leave only about 24,000 tons of available material. Of this one-half is carbon; but an exceedingly small portion of which is converted in Mr. Owen's process, if we understand it correctly;—leaving only about 28,000,000 pounds available, instead of 81,760,000. Messrs. Coffey fix the cost

of raising the turf at 2s. a ton. Sir Robert Kane says, "The cost at which turf may be consumed in the immediate neighbourhood of the bogs I consider to be, from pretty numerous inquiries, not above 3s. 6d. per ton;"—a material difference to start with. We are told that the above quantity of peat produces 410,800 pounds of ammonia and 285,600 pounds of acetic acid (we have separated the sulphuric acid and the lime, which are added). Now, the same Government officer informs us,—"The liquor obtained in distilling turf contains no free ammonia. On the contrary, it is acid from acetic acid, but even of this it yields so little that it cannot become, as occurs in the case of wood, an object of manufacture."

With these great discrepancies in the statements, and having been informed that when Lord Clarendon referred an application for land to a scientific department under the Crown, the application was hastily withdrawn, as it appeared to prevent the appearance of an official report,—it does appear necessary to examine most cautiously such loose statements as those of Messrs. Coffey & Sons; in which not one word appears about the costs of buildings, retorts, condensers, &c. or any of the appliances necessary to carry out a most involved process of chemical manufacture.

We have received another letter from a correspondent connected with the original patent, granted in 1845, for separating the products of peat. Certain experimental results obtained by Mr. Robert Oxhand for the Dartmoor Company are given—the cost of working and materials, and the value of the products stated. The failure of the Dartmoor Company is referred to want of capital and errors on first starting a great experiment. We believe a large capital was sunk; and we know, that from the first experiment by Mr. Thomas Drew to the last day's trial on the Moor the affair was a succession of errors. These are repeated by our correspondent,—who is wrong in the prices which he has attached, in nearly every article on his list.

We do not deny the possibility of obtaining all the products stated; but we contend that the public have no evidence that these can be procured at less than ten times the cost stated in both instances,—which we believe would be a very near approximation to the truth.

It should not be forgotten that coal and wood will yield all the hydro-carbon and ammoniacal products said to be obtained from peat,—and that, too, in infinitely larger quantities.

SCIENTIFIC GOSSIP.—Mr. Bakewell's copying electric telegraph has been exciting much attention; but we have avoided any particular notice of the instrument,—feeling satisfied that it was in principle a copy of similar electric telegraphs already existing. Mr. Alexander Bain now comes forward and states, in confirmation of this view,—that "the copying telegraph is, in fact, only a variety of my electro-chemical telegraph, which is at present transmitting intelligence over upwards of 3,000 miles in the United States."—We have read Mr. Bain's specification of a patent obtained in 1843, and we perceive no essential difference between the copying electric telegraph and the instrument so patented by that gentleman.

M. Baup has communicated through M. Regnault to the *Académie des Sciences* of Paris the result of his experiments which prove the identity of the three acids, *Aconitic*, *Equisetric*, and *Citronic*. *Malic* acid, though isomeric with the other three, is not identical with them. In studying the combinations of the aconitates, M. Baup has discovered the singular combination of three atoms of an organic acid with one atom of base: the tri-aconitates of potash—and of ammonia.

## FINE ARTS

*Sir Roger de Coverley*. By "The Spectator." The Notes and Illustrations by W. Henry Wills. The Engravings by Thompson, from designs by Fred. Tayler. Longman & Co.

Of all countries England may be said to bear away the palm in getting up books illustrative of her

familiar literature,—whether rendered, by the engraver, on the more stubborn metals or in docile wood. In the present instance, one of the most popular of our tales, separated from its accustomed settings in the pages of 'The Spectator,' has been made the occasion for displaying the powers of an art which has among us an application—as we shall presently see—of an especial character.

The advertisement which precedes the very elegant volume before us sets out with Dr. Johnson's definition of the aim of 'The Spectator':—that it was intended "to teach the minuter decencies and inferior duties,—to regulate the practice of daily conversation,—to correct those depravities which are rather ridiculous than criminal, and remove those grievances which, if they produce no lasting calamities, impress hourly vexation." The share in the portrait of Sir Roger de Coverley taken by the respective contributors to the publication in question is sufficiently understood to determine nearly the exact parts which were due to Steele or Addison from those which we owe to Budgell or Tickell.—"The sum," says Mr. Wills, "in hard figures stands thus:—Sir Roger de Coverley's adventures, opinions and conversations occur in thirty of the Spectator's papers. Of these, Addison wrote twenty, Budgell two, and Steele eight; if it be certain that he was the author of the obnoxious portion of No. 410,—which has also been attributed to Tickell.—But over this divided labour, all evidence proves that Addison exercised a rigid and harmonizing editorial vigilance. In the words of an accurate critic, 'Addison took the rude outlines into his own hands, retouched them, coloured them; and is, in truth, the creator of Sir Roger de Coverley and the Will Honeycomb with whom we are all familiar.'"

The idea which has presided over this separation of a well-known figure from its familiar setting is well expressed by Mr. Wills:—who has at the same time described the character of Sir Roger de Coverley with a hearty and intelligent relish.—

"None of the characters were elaborated with so much care—to none was imparted such thorough completeness, as that of Sir Roger de Coverley; between which (to quote a saying of Horace Walpole) and Sir John Falstaff—though a wide interval—nothing like it exists in literature for truthfulness and finish. Sir Roger's eccentricities do not, as some have written, disturb the consistency of the character: on the contrary, they strengthen its individuality. If they be discords, instead of jarring, they enrich the harmony. They are precisely the humours of an honest elderly, sensitive bachelor, whose early history had been dashed with the romance of his having been jilted. Sir Roger does nothing and says nothing which might not have been said and done, in his day, by any warm-hearted rustic gentleman who had been irredeemably crossed in love. Indeed, turning thus from Nature to the consummate Art which copied her, it can scarcely be denied that the character owes its immortality to the quaint traits of extravagance which have been stigmatized as blemishes: without impairing the efficacy of Sir Roger as a special admonitory example to the country esquire of the reign of Queen Anne, his oddities were destined to rivet the interest and excite the affectionate smile of all readers in all time. The essays which separate the Coverley papers from one another, however exquisite in themselves, break the spell which binds the reader while lingering over the benevolence or humour of the Worcestershire baronet. Even when arranged more conveniently in a sequence, as in this book, it is not pleasing to remember that so captivating an identity was originated and wrought out by 'several hands.' Every fresh lineament of the good Sir Roger so strengthens the sense of Unity, that we rather love to be deluded with the notion that the whole was the work of one mind.—With all art so perfect that it conceals art, we prefer the ignorance which is our bliss, to the knowledge that reveals the companionships, contrivances, or agonies of authorcraft. Though curiosity is gratified, sentiment is hurt, when we are told that the outlines of Sir Roger de Coverley were imagined and partly traced by Sir Richard Steele; that the colouring and more prominent lineaments were elaborated by Joseph Addison; that some of the back-ground was put in by Eustace Budgell; and, that the portrait was defaced by either Steele or Thomas Tickell with a deformity which Addison repudiated and which is not here reproduced."

The volume has been illustrated in such a manner as to add a life and grace of its own to the well-esteemed figure of Sir Roger. Of the many publications of the xylographic art that have come under our notice, there have been few which can lay claim to so large a share of commendation as the present—and no one which more perfectly exemplifies the present condition of that art and its practice in England. In thus qualifying its more immediate practice,—the change which the art has undergone must not be lost sight of. It is unnecessary here to go into the *revelata questio* as



to whether it be of Italian or German origin,—whether the St. Christopher of the Certosa of Buxheim, or the playing-cards of Venice, or the book of characters of the Cuno be the most ancient:—certain it is that in Germany the art was most extensively practised,—and it is to that country that we must look for the most numerous examples of a process in which, though the Venetians at a somewhat later period exercised it on more elevated themes, they can scarcely be said to have surpassed the Germans. The aggregate, however, of the labours in this kind established a style which united largeness of manner with extraordinary freedom of manipulation.—Ugo da Carpi is as distinguished an example of practice among the Italians as Woblgemuth, or Hans Burgmayer, or any of the numerous school among the Germans who have perpetuated to us in this way the thoughts of Albert Dürer. By way of exhibiting their powers on works of larger scale, they sought for a material better suited to the purpose. The wood of the pear-tree furnished larger surfaces than are obtained by our own artists; whose employment of box—a section of which is so small as to necessitate the junction of several pieces by mechanical aid in order to obtain even a moderately-sized surface—may afford some reason for the modern difference of practice. The instruments with which this operation was effected had anciently more the character of knives than the ordinary engraving-tool used at the present day. The condition of the art thus changed, what it may be said to have lost of the general vigour with which it was originally exercised our modern English engraver endeavours to compensate for by exquisiteness of finish and delicacy of detail. The vignettes of Bewick led the way to this excellence. The ‘Death of Dentatus,’ engraved by Harvey after the well-known picture by the unfortunate Haydon, was an attempt on a large scale:—wherein, however, increased scale was not, as in the examples of the sixteenth century, made the incentive to greatness in the style. Many successive efforts have been made by a class of most able artists in refining, on miniature proportions, the capabilities of this art:—but it has been reserved for Mr. Thompson to distance all his predecessors.

Mr. Thompson’s supremacy has been exhibited on many former occasions,—as in the volumes of Northcote’s Fables,—in Mulready’s ‘Vicar of Wakefield,’—in Maclise’s illustrations of the Melodies of Moore; entitling him to a speciality which is the result of his knowledge in the rendering of form, his feeling for effect, his general soundness of taste; and his beauty of execution. But no better example of his powers exists than is afforded by the manner in which he has here executed the designs of Mr. Taylor.—The latter gentleman—so well known for his talent as a painter in water-colours—has, in his twelve designs for the story of Sir Roger de Coverley, displayed considerable fancy; and, what is important, while preserving unity in the several characters of the principal personages he has not been betrayed into mannerism.—It would be difficult to particularize merits where all the subjects have them in such fair average.

#### NEW PUBLICATIONS.

*Six Compositions from the Life of Christ.* Drawn by F. R. Pickersgill. Engraved by Dalziel.

THIS publication is one of a series appearing under the auspices of the National Society, with the view of familiarizing Scripture history by means of Art-illustration at a small pecuniary cost. For this purpose wood-engraving has been selected as least expensive in execution, while the number of impressions that can be taken is very great.—Mr. Pickersgill’s designs are marked by that chaste and simple feeling which first made him known,—and of which his picture of ‘Early Christian Worship’ was a good exponent. Since that period mythologic fable has indeed tempted him, at some sacrifice of former chastened severity, to indulge in chromatic display. We are glad here to renew our acquaintance with his former style. Mr. Dalziel has been successful with the engraving tool.

*Portrait of the late Sir Robert Peel, Bart.* Painted by Sir Thomas Lawrence. Engraved by Samuel Cousins.

THE mezzotint print of which we spoke last week [p. 1286] is now before us in a published form,—thanks to Mr. Dominic Colnaghi; and more than confirms all that we then said of its merits on less deliberate inspection. Mr. Cousins has well justified the confidence expressed in him, by anticipation, by the lamented statesman who is here the subject of his labour and skill. As a specimen of mezzotint engraving, this print may challenge comparison with any example of any time or country.

*Group of celebrated English Chemists.* From Daguerreotypes by Mayall. Lithographed by Shapper.

To the scientific world, to whom this print is more immediately addressed, it cannot but be acceptable:—presenting in a group the celebrated chemists of Great Britain. The different heads have been combined so as to give to Mr. Faraday the central post.—Mr. Graham reads from a book some matter of interest to which Mr. Brande listens with head turned aside; while Mr. Grove looks thoughtfully out of the picture,—and Mr. Miller, seated opposite to Mr. Graham, inclines his ear towards him.—It would be unjust in a grouping of distinct daguerreotype portraits to expect the charms of generalization or of picture-making. There is no danger of the print misleading by any error of taste. The design of Mr. Mayall being at once apparent—that of bringing together on one surface, and offering for comparison the physiognomies of the most renowned chemists of our island,—any want of perspective diminution in the more distant heads and any deficiency of light and shade will be understood. The print may be received as an ingenious adaptation of the powers of an art in which Mr. Mayall has achieved many successes.

#### FOREIGN CORRESPONDENCE.

Rome.

THIS is with us the dead season of Art—at least as to the fulfilment of orders. All is expectancy. The full staff of sculptors and painters have returned to their posts,—and studios are opening on all sides to the visiting and lionizing public. This public is numerous compared to that of bygone seasons; but there is a general—and, I fear, well-founded—complaint that it is neither a *distingué* nor a money-spending public. Happy they who, like the unaccountably fortunate Gibson, return from the approving smiles of distant royalty and its executive laden with foreign commissions!

Macdonald has received an order from Lord Willoughby d’Eresby for a Venus:—which has already advanced far in the clay, and promises well. It is too early to criticize his as yet imperfect expression of the beauties of the goddess.—The lover of sculpture misses sadly the plastic hand of poor Wyatt. His studio is still here, tenanted by his exquisite nymphs—his grave and noble Penelope—his touching and simple shepherd boys. Every object seems to sorrow for the genius snatched away in its most palmy days. Wyatt has not been done justice to. In the line to which he had devoted himself, he was supreme:—none could excel him in portraying with charming grace and exquisite delicacy the form and features of female beauty. He had a most refined taste. His nymphs, entirely nude or but slightly draped, illustrate this admirably. Not idealized to abstraction, they present the attitudes and features of woman raised to the beauty, dignity and modesty of more than Nature. The grave, pensive and dignified beauty of the ‘Penelope,’ majestically draped, attests the feeling with which the sculptor has studied high Greek Art. All his works are carefully studied and admirably composed; presenting always evidences of that soundness of judgment and refinement of taste which were thoroughly appreciated only in Rome, and were frequently appealed to by his brethren in Art.—No artist of any age could surpass Wyatt in that exquisite finish which the master hand can give to marble. During the process, the work with him never lost in force. In this respect he far excelled Canova; more than

equalling his finish, while he escaped the feebleness to which that great restorer of Art was prone. Wyatt had occasion to introduce animals in three or four of his groups, whether alive or still. These are carefully studied and adequately rendered:—showing that he possessed greater versatility of talent than has been usually conceded to him. Amongst his sketches found after his death, are several which, if completed as he would have completed them, would have added largely to his fame. At the moment of his death, he had just finished his Venus in sketch,—which was to have been his work for the summer. It is greatly to be regretted that he was not permitted to put this on record as a finished work. It is a beautiful composition; and is supposed to represent that triumphant moment in ‘The Judgment of Paris’ when Cupid aids the Goddess of Love in removing the last remnant of drapery, and displays to the enraptured judge the *tout ensemble* that determines his fatal verdict.—Wyatt’s studio is, as I have said, still open; where several repetitions of former works were in progress at the moment of his death.—Arrangements are being made for “replichs” of others. It is to be hoped that these will be carefully noted; so that in future times there may be no danger of a commercial spirit damaging Genius in its claims to Fame. H. W.

FINE-ART GOSSIP.—The spirit of emulation has at all times been a useful agent in the cause of the Fine Arts. In the present time of commercial enterprise especially a rivalry has sprung up, which takes much the same forms between the artist and the artisan. The success of the panorama of “The Overland Route” has stimulated to other projects of the same kind:—the last of these being, a sort of sequel to that series of views exhibiting the route that leads to India. Here, we are in the great Peninsula itself:—the new panorama commencing with the city of Calcutta as observed from the summit of the Ochterlony Monument. This view comprehends in its range the principal edifices,—with the River Hooghly and other important features of the capital. The Jungle is then crossed to the Head-quarters of Indian idolatry:—Orissa, renowned as the locality of the Black Pagoda,—a marvellous monument of human patience rather than of human taste. With this edifice we had already made acquaintance through the instrumentality of Mr. Fergusson. It is exhibited under such varied effects as form the resources of the scene-painter’s art. Onwards the spectator is led to the far-famed Temple of Jugger-naut:—the procession of whose cars does not certainly in its pictorial representation offer any explanation of the mad devotion of the worshippers whose frenzy of immolation is so familiar to the English reader. This picture is deficient in that powerful and skilful rendering of the human form, the absence of which impairs the interest and reality of such scenes. In all such renderings scale is essential to be observed. The incidents of native Indian life, whether in the jungle or in the city, are here given on dimensions too minute and in a style too little to make their significance ready of recognition. In the second part, the Ganges with its trade and all its thriving incidents engages the attention.—From Benares, the spectator proceeds on to the Fortress of the Thugs: remarkable only as the point of centralization for those fanatics whose most sacred rite is murder. Then, Allahabad is passed:—and the spectator finds himself resting with pilgrims under a specimen of the Banyan tree.—But it is for the concluding scenes—exhibiting the architectural beauties of Agra, the splendid palace and magnificent mausoleum of the Shah’s wife (the Taj Mahal, as it is called)—that the painter, Mr. Dibdin, would seem to have reserved himself. Here he has profusely put forth the strength of stage appliance, and has succeeded in giving the depths of space by such means as art-perspective—whether by line or by tint—can lend. The richnesses of chromatic agency were suggested by the fantastic combinations of the many-coloured marbles with which the architectural forms are incrustated.

The distribution of the premiums offered by the Royal Academy to its students, took place



on Tuesday evening last.—This being the intermediate year, when the chief prizes are not given,—it is not the custom to make more than certain general remarks to the students. This has been the practice from the earliest days of the existence of the institution :—for it was only biennially that those lectures were given by Reynolds which have become the canons of pictorial criticism. But though the custom has been as above stated,—yet, this being the first public occasion on which the new President, Sir Charles Eastlake, has met the students, he, after a few remarks preliminary to the delivery of the medals, proceeded to make some general observations to them on the nature and objects of their studies.—In a manner which is described to us as having been graceful and earnest, he spoke of the days when he was himself of the student class,—and sat on the same benches (in Somerset House) from which they were now listening to his exhortations and words of encouragement as President of the institution.—The moral found warm and enthusiastic acceptance amongst his hearers.

Mr. E. W. Cooke, the well-known landscape painter, not inapily called our English Vandervelde—has just returned with a rich harvest of careful studies, the result of a three months' visit to Venice. There are few places in Italy better known even to home-keeping youths than Venice :—so that a return from the Rialto and its vicinity with even a gondola load of sketches would in general raise little expectation among the lovers of Art. But Mr. Cooke has carried a Vandervelde and a Ruysdael eye to a country new to both ; and we shall look curiously to the proof, in May next, of what he has been able to accomplish while viewing the country of Canaletti with an English feeling accustomed to the sun-lit landscapes of Cyp, the woods of Hobbema, and the waters of Vandervelde.

The *Brussels Herald* says :—"The principal statues by Emile Bouré, the young artist of so so much promise who died a short time ago, have been placed in the Musée. M. Bouré, senior, has presented to the gallery of sculpture some of the best works of his son. We observe among the number the *Prométhée*, the *Faune*, and the *Amour* :—which lose none of their attractions by being placed near the splendid sculptures by Kessels, in the next apartment."

The same paper announces that the well-known Dutch painter Moritz, died lately at the Hague, aged 77 years.

The *Daily News* has a bit or two of Roman gossip which we will borrow from its columns.—"The Minister of Public Works, Signor Jacobini, is dangerously ill :—it would be a loss if he were to die at the present moment, as he is the most satisfactory member of the Papal Cabinet. Some Roman speculators have addressed a petition to him for permission to commence excavations in the ancient *Thermæ Taurianæ*, near *Civita Vecchia*, which would no doubt furnish a rich harvest of antiquarian treasures. At about five miles from these *Thermæ*, near the sea-shore, an interesting mosaic pavement was lately discovered by some French officers, which is supposed to have formed a part of that celebrated Palace of Trajan whose situation is mentioned by Pliny the younger, in his letters, wherein he describes its splendours, and says, 'Imminet littori.'—It is to be lamented that the authority of Signor Jacobini, as Minister of the Fine Arts, as well as of Commerce and Public Works, does not extend to the interior of the churches,—since there is a piece of vandalism just now going on in the venerable church of St. John Lateran, which loudly calls out for some artistic interference. The canons of the basilica have taken it into their heads that the antique gothic tabernacle supported by four granite columns, which forms the high altar, and contains, amongst other remarkable relics, the heads of St. Peter and St. Paul, was in great want of cleansing and renewing ; and have in consequence set a quantity of sculptor's journeymen to work with their profane chisels, in whitening, modernizing, and improving the quaint old lions of the capitals, the rosettes, crosses, and other ornaments of the ninth and tenth centuries, and reducing the whole rather more to the *gusto moderno*. Their opera-

tions remind me strongly of a cobbler who has been lucky enough to win a prize in the lottery here, and whom I recently saw surrounded with a quantity of hideous saints on canvas, the result of his first pecuniary investments, occupied in restoring them himself, evidently to his own vast satisfaction, although his flaring colours might be distinguished at a great distance from the sombre tints of the originals.—Prince Doria has presented two fine bells to the Church of St. Agnes, in the Piazza Navona, to replace those removed by the republican authorities. They are beautifully ornamented with bassi-rilievi, and bear inscriptions analogous to the times. They were blessed by Cardinal Ferretti on the 24th, and hoisted on the 25th current."

#### MUSIC AND THE DRAMA

SACRED HARMONIC SOCIETY.—EXETER HALL.—CONDUCTOR, MR. COSTA.—ON MONDAY, 23rd December, MENDELSSOHN'S *ELIJAH* ; Vocalists—Misses Birch, E. Birch, Dolby, M. Williams, Mr. Locke, and Mr. H. Phillips, with Orchestra (including 16 double basses) of 700 performers. Tickets, 2s. ; Reserved seats in Area or Gallery, 5s. ; Central Area, numbered seats, 10s. 6d. ; at the Society's sole Office, No. 6, Exeter Hall, or of Mr. Bowley, 53, Charing Cross.—The Subscription is one, two, or three guineas per annum. Subscribers now entering will be entitled to two Tickets for the above Performance.

GRAND NATIONAL CONCERTS.—On Monday evening, a selection from Mr. Howard Glover's opera 'Hero and Leander' was performed :—certain of our daily contemporaries have assured us with the most entire success. On Tuesday evening,—owing to the indisposition of Mr. Sims Reeves—the programme of the concert, which had promised a second performance of Mr. Glover's music, was changed. On Wednesday—Mr. Sims Reeves having recovered—there was given, not 'Hero and Leander,' but Rossini's 'Stabat.'—a work which, taking into account the grand national English chorus of some sixteen voices singing like six, could hardly be expected to satisfy those who have almost heard it too often in its fullest perfection, as is the case with the Londoners. It is announced that the days of this entertainment "approprinquen an end" (as *Hudibras* hath it) :—the "first series" being advertised to close next week. For this we are glad on principle ; having rarely seen a speculation steer its course so adroitly betwixt artistic taste and popularity, and so very nicely avoiding to conciliate either. When we think of the money sacrificed over mistakes so pompously announced and so poorly carried through as these and other concert entertainments have been,—and consider how, had only a part of it been wisely distributed and administered, we might long ere this have been in the possession of an English opera) flourishing, and likely to thrive, patience and hope are apt to fail. The three good things that these *Grand National Concerts* have done, have been, the giving opportunities of performance to Herren Molique and Halle, by which the former excellent instrumentalist, in particular, has certainly advanced in the esteem of his townsmen,—the engagement of the Berlin Choir,—and the attempt at a *Serenata*, foiled by the short-sighted policy of those who, being asked for a piece which required no stage adjuncts, furnished one which fell flat for want thereof.

HAYMARKET.—Advantage was taken by the audience on Monday night of the performance of *King John* by Mr. Macready, to make a demonstration against papal aggression :—Mr. Rogers as *Cardinal Pandulph*, being the victim of the evening. Mr. Macready's performance of his part is well known. Mr. Davenport played *Paulconbridge* with ability, and Mrs. Warner's *Constance* evinced both power and passion.

On Tuesday, Mrs. Warner sustained the part of *Lady Elinor* in the comedy of 'Every One has his Fault.' The curious character of *Harmony* was very naturally acted by Mr. Lambert ; and Mr. Cooper as *Irwin* presented a not unfavourable specimen of the old school of stage gentleman. To Mr. Davenport's *Sir Robert Bramble* high commendation is due.

On Wednesday, the fourth act of the second part of 'Henry the Fourth' was produced, for the purpose of Mr. Macready's performance of the one

scene in which the character is fully brought out ; and which we believe he has repeated only once or twice in London,—though always acknowledged to be one of his greatest exhibitions. The entertainments of the evening were miscellaneous :—Mr. Macready appearing also as *Mr. Oakley* in 'The Jealous Wife.'

SADLER'S WELLS.—Mr. Phelps and Miss Glyn appeared in *Leontes and Hermione* in 'The Winter's Tale' on Monday.—On the previous Thursday, Miss Glyn performed *Mrs. Haller* for the first time. It was a very quiet performance,—but, nevertheless irresistibly pathetic. The scenes in which she describes her daily employments to *Steinfors*, and confesses her guilt to the *Countess*, were remarkable for originality and power. The interview with her husband was painfully affecting. The fault of such dramas as 'The Stranger' lies in the unmitigated pathos of the interest,—in the sentiment of grief and misfortune unrelieved by poetry. In the power of actualizing a situation Miss Glyn always excels ;—and in the present instance she was responded to by the sobs of her audience. Her *Mrs. Haller* is likely to become as popular as her *Julia* in 'The Hunchback.'

OLYMPIC.—On Tuesday, Mr. Brooke and Miss Faucit appeared as *Master Walter* and *Julia* in 'The Hunchback.' Both acted admirably. Mrs. Stirling as Helen threw comic life into the piece.

SURREY.—Mr. Creswick and Miss Cooper attempted on Monday the parts of *Coriolanus* and *Volumnia*. Mr. Mead was *Aufidius*,—and in the last scene proved very effective. The tragedy was well mounted,—and throughout respectably represented. At the conclusion of the third act, Mr. Creswick was called before the curtain :—an honour well merited by the intelligence with which he had supported a difficult assumption.

MARYLEBONE.—Mrs. Nisbett enacted *Portia* in 'The Merchant of Venice' on Wednesday. Mr. J. Johnstone was *Shylock*.

MUSICAL AND DRAMATIC GOSSIP.—It might have been thought that the question of musical copyright was intricate enough—sufficiently clogged with difficulties, exceptions, and everything that complicates a simple business transaction ; but here is a new point raised by the proprietors of Novello's *Part-Song Book*, which we will allow them to describe in the words of their own advertisement on the first page of the November number of that publication.—

It has come to the knowledge of the Proprietors of *Novello's Part-Song Book*, that their copyrights have been multiplied by musical societies and others who have made manuscript and, sometimes, printed copies for the use of their singers, instead of using the copyright editions. Legal steps have been taken to defend their rights against such transgressors as have yet been discovered, and the proceedings will be published when they have reached a more advanced stage ; but, in the mean time, the present caution is given to deter others from committing similar piracies.

The Proprietors, therefore, give this public notice to such as may be ignorant of the law, that by such multiplication of copies, transgressors render themselves liable to the penalties provided by the Act of the 5th and 6th Vic., chap. 45 (generally known as the Copyright Act).

In the second section of the Act, "Copyright" is defined to mean "the sole and exclusive liberty of printing or otherwise multiplying copies of any subject to which the word is applied in that Act," and on a trial for Literary Piracy, Lord Ellenborough said—"The test by which we must decide whether or not a party has infringed on the copyright of another is, not by inquiring what was the intention of the trespassing party, but whether the work of the party complaining has been so copied that the copy may by any possibility supersede the original work."

The clause specifying not only "musical Societies," but "others who have made manuscript copies," assumes a stringency of prevention which will place every *Miss Warble's* written music-book at the mercy of an informer. Can this be the law ?—We cannot but think that the body of musical publishers—or failing them, some barrister in lack of a special subject—would do well to see if some settlement of the question at once less loose and less rigorous than the present one could not be arranged. Nothing can be worse than matters as they now stand.

In another paragraph let us cordially do justice



to the improvements apparent in some of the late numbers of the work in question,—*Novello's Part-Song Book*.—No. 8 is entirely occupied by a very graceful, delicate and ingenious "Fairies' song" by Sir Henry R. Bishop. This is written for a quartet of female voices, and conducted with as much skill as elegance. Since we have accidentally wandered into the Reviewer's domain, let us speak of a kindred publication to the *Part-Song Book*, the *Musical Times*, for the purpose of recommending the series of articles by Mr. E. Holmes now in course of publication there to all who love musical essays from the pen of a true lover of his art, a scholar and a gentleman. We are not always agreed with Mr. Holmes on points of taste or of opinion; but we like his style and his sincerity too much not to wish to put pleasure and profit in the way of others.

We may notice here *Miss Dolby's Third Soirée* as having taken place. This merited the praise given to her former Chamber Concerts, as having been happily various in the music selected. In particular, a song by Mr. Frank Mori must be mentioned,—to some words by Southey.—We are told that Mr. *Lindsay Sloper* intends recommencing his *Pianoforte Soirées* this winter.—Among the first of the foreign artists whom the approach of the season has driven back to England—their holidays on the Continent being over—is Mdlle. Graumann.

Mr. Wallbridge Lunn has forwarded to us his 'Sequentialism,' a fourth edition of his 'Plan for a New System of Musical Notation,'—in which again he writes of his plan as one having "no fear for the final result." Does he seriously conceive that the world's entire collection of music, in score and in parts, will ever be re-issued in "Musicotypy"?—and, failing this, can he recommend loading the memory with two alphabets and two methods of printing for one language? Till these matters can be in some degree settled as possible or impossible—advisable or the reverse—it is useless to begin analyzing and animadverting on the discovery. We respect conviction and enthusiasm too honestly not to regret to see that wasted on crotchets which if turned to better purpose might produce results lasting and valuable.

It is possible that we may be able at no very distant period personally to offer some account of M. Auber's new opera, 'L'Enfant Prodigue,' which was produced yesterday week at the *Grand Opéra* of Paris. Meanwhile, on the authority of the *Gazette Musicale*, it must suffice us to record its complete success. M. Scribe, like the very wise man that he is, has seen good to treat the legend very simply,—with little intricacy or complication,—of course here touching it, and there rouging it a little, to fit it for stage purposes. The Prodigal, whose substance is wasted among the riotous livers at Memphis, is degraded in the drama, not to the husks of the swine, but to the mean estate of a camel-driver. He is endowed with a gentle playmate of his youth, the thoughts of whom embitter his remorse, and whose forgiveness gives a grace to the home festival on his return. M. Auber's music is greatly commended by the same authority,—as being larger in style than most of M. Auber's music, when the passion requires it,—in other parts as buoyant, glittering, and piquant, as his wont is. The several parts were sustained by Madame Laborde, Mdlle. Dameron, MM. Roger, Obin, and Massol:—the last-named artist being most cordially received on his return to the *Grand Opéra*, and being especially commended as having made "a hit" in his part.—The *mise en scène* is lauded as being super-superb.

Madame Stoltz and Madame Clara Novello are the winter stars at the Italian Opera House at Lisbon. It really seems as if a tolerable Italian *prima donna* for an Italian musical theatre might become an object of quest for a *Diogenes*.—Madame Barbieri-Nini, we perceive, is to cross the Alps next year; but we have heard from no prejudiced witnesses that her superb voice has already begun to yield to the Verdi torture, and in like cases the chances of second spring are very few. The duration of the thoroughly taught vocalists of the elder school must recur as a strange and melancholy fact to the exhausted and screamed-out victims of what people choose to call declamation.

## MISCELLANEA

*New Method of Engraving Plates for Printing Ferns, Sea Weeds, &c.*—At a recent meeting of the Sheffield Literary and Philosophical Society, Dr. Branson read a paper describing this process.—His mode of operation is to place a frond of fern, algae, or similar flat vegetable form, on a thick piece of glass, or polished marble; then taking and softening a piece of gutta percha, of proper size, and placing on the leaf and pressing it carefully down, it will receive a sharp and accurate impression from the plant. The gutta percha retained level, and allowed to harden by cooling, is then handed to a brass caster, who reproduces it in metal from his moulding vase. This, it will be obvious, is the most delicate and difficult part of the process, and one which, a few years ago, would not, we suspect, have been executed in Sheffield. As it is, Dr. Branson has had many brass plates thus produced from sand-casting, which only required a little surface-dressing to yield, at once, under the copper-plate printing press, most beautiful as well as faithful impressions of the original leaves: indeed, many of the exhibited specimens of ferns, printed in green colour, and slightly embossed, as they must needs be by the printing, were such perfect fac-similes of the natural pattern, that they might easily be taken for it. Besides these matters, the doctor exhibited a large variety of patterns of embossed leather, which had been produced by a somewhat analogous operation. As, however, this latter invention is not so much for copying designs as for creating them, and, at the same time, saving all the expense of die-cutting, the following is the course pursued:—The operator takes a piece of common hard white soap of the required size and surface, and upon that executes any design, whether of the depth and boldness of ordinary embossing or in the delicate lines of an etching; in either case the work is executed with the greatest ease. From this soap-model or engraving an impression is taken in gutta percha; from that a secondary one, which on being cast in brass, as before, may be used for printing or embossing in the ordinary way. The reader stated that his main difficulty was in getting the last gutta percha coat to separate from the mould of the same substance into which it was pressed. He had found, however, that by powdering both the surfaces with common bronze dust, before taking the impression, they did not adhere.—*Sheffield Times*.

*The Jones's and Smiths.*—The labours of the Register Office afford some highly curious facts as to the relative number of persons of different names living in England and Wales. From time immemorial it has been thought that Smith was the commonest of names. The Smiths are soldiers, and sailors, and parsons, and tailors, and bakers, and authors, and, indeed, everything. But the exact figures of the Registrar upset the long cherished fallacy that they form the most numerous of our clans. The Jones's outnumber them and stand at the head of the list; Smith coming second. This question of the frequency of particular names must interest so many persons that we give the following list of the fifty most common appellations, in the order in which they are found to rank in the books of the Registrar, together with the number of each name, who were born, married, or died, in the year June 30th, 1837, to July 1st, 1838. Jones, 13,429; Smith, 12,637; Williams, 8,743; Taylor, 6,440; Davies, 5,589; Brown, 5,585; Thomas, 5,278; Evans, 4,930; Roberts, 4,199; Johnson, 3,743; Robinson, 3,555; Wilson, 3,399; Wright, 3,299; Hall, 3,227; Hughes, 3,180; Wood, 3,177; Walker, 3,148; Lewis, 3,134; Green, 3,112; Edwards, 3,097; White, 3,087; Jackson, 3,040; Turner, 2,908; Thompson, 2,874; Hill, 2,856; Harris, 2,771; Cooper, 2,693; Clark, 2,683; Davis, 2,661; Harrison, 2,502; Baker, 2,385; Ward, 2,318; Morris, 2,299; Morgan, 2,296; Martin, 2,272; James, 2,209; King, 2,156; Clarke, 2,145; Cook, 2,135; Allen, 2,116; Price, 2,090; Phillips, 1,997; Parker, 1,989; Moore, 1,985; Watson, 1,908; Carter, 1,882; Richardson, 1,817; Lee, 1,815; Griffiths, 1,801; Shaw, 1,754.—*"Household Words."*

TO CORRESPONDENTS.—D. R. J.—B. B.—G. D.—A Subscriber.—A Retiring Member of the Archaeological Association.—D. R. S.—received.

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£5,000	13 yrs. 10 mths.	£683 6 8	£787 10 0	£6,470 16 8
3,000	1 year	.. ..	112 10 0	5,112 10 0
1,000	13 years	100 0 0	157 10 0	1,257 10 0
1,000	7 years	.. ..	157 10 0	1,157 10 0
1,000	1 year	.. ..	23 10 0	1,022 10 0
500	13 years	50 0 0	75 15 0	628 15 0
500	4 years	.. ..	45 0 0	545 0 0
500	1 year	.. ..	11 5 0	511 5 0

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Age at entrance.	Duration of Policies.	Sums Assured.	Annual Premium.	Addition to Sum Assured.
21	7 yrs. 1 mo.	£2000	£47 1 8	£237 18 4
30	7 1 1	5000	133 10 10	572 8 10
29	6 10 0	1000	23 2 6	112 0 0
51	10 0 0	1000	23 15 0	565 13 10
43	6 10 0	3000	110 10 0	307 15 4
33	6 10 0	500	14 5 5	52 11 6
23	6 9 0	5000	115 12 6	556 4 9

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Age when Policy was issued.	Date of Policy.	Sum Assured.	Original Premiums.	Reduced Premium for the current Year.
20	30	£1,000	£19 6 8	£11 2 4
30	On or before 8th May, 1845.	1,000	24 8 4	14 0 9
40	1,000	31 10 0	14 2 3	
50	1,000	42 15 0	24 11 7	
60	1,000	66 11 8	38 5 8	

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No. 1208.

LONDON, SATURDAY, DECEMBER 21, 1850.

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**BOTANICAL SOCIETY OF LONDON.**—NOTICE TO MEMBERS.—TUESDAY, 31st instant, will be the LAST DAY for RECEIVING BRITISH PLANTS, to entitle Members to participate in the Distribution of the Duplicates in 1851.  
G. E. DENNES, Secretary.  
20, Bedford-street, Strand.  
16th December, 1850.

**ROYAL INSTITUTION OF GREAT BRITAIN.** Alhambra-street, December, 1850.  
**JUVENILE LECTURES.**

PROFESSOR BRANDE, F.R.S., London and Edinburgh, will DELIVER, during the Christmas Vacation, a COURSE OF SIX LECTURES, on the Chemistry of Coal (intended for a Juvenile audience), on the following days, at 3 o'clock.—Thursday, 26th; Saturday, 28th; Tuesday, 31st of December; Thursday, 2nd; Saturday, 4th; Tuesday, 7th of January, 1851. Non-subscribers to the Royal Institution are admitted to this Course on payment of one guinea each. Children under 16 years, 10s. 6d.—A Syllabus may be obtained at the Royal Institution. Subscribers to all the Lectures are admitted on payment of two guineas for the season.  
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**BRITISH INSTITUTION, PAUL MALL.**  
**NOTICE TO EXHIBITORS.**

**ALL PICTURES,** intended for Exhibition and Sale in the ensuing Season, must be sent to the Gallery for the inspection of the Committee, on Monday the 13th, or Tuesday the 14th, of January next, and the SCULPTURE on Wednesday the 15th, between the hours of Ten in the morning and Five in the afternoon. Portraits, Drawings in Water-colours, and Architectural Drawings are inadmissible; and no Picture or other Work of Art will be received which has already been publicly exhibited.  
By order of the Committee,  
GEORGE NICOL, Secretary.

**A PREMIUM OF FIVE GUINEAS** is offered by the Committee of the ROYAL SOCIETY FOR THE PRESERVATION OF LIFE FROM FIRE, for a Design and Motto that shall in their opinion be the most suitable for the Society's Honorary Medal for presentation to individuals personally rescuing life from fire. Size required, that of a Crown Piece. Motto may be either in English or Latin—conveying a recognition of God's mercy in this result attending man's exertions, would be preferred.  
The Designs must be forwarded to the Secretary before the 14th of January.  
By authority of the Committee,  
SAMPSON LOW, Jun., Secretary.

169, Fleet-street, Dec. 18.

**CHEMICAL AND AGRICULTURAL SCHOOL,** 33, KENNINGTON-LANE, LONDON.—The SCIENTIFIC DEPARTMENT under the Direction of J. C. NESBIT, F.C.S., F.G.S., one of the Principals. Instructions are given in all those branches of Chemistry which relate to the Cultivation of the Soil and the making of AGRICULTURAL MANURES. Mineral analysis taught in all its branches. Analyses performed as usual, on moderate terms.

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Nov. 28, 1850.

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**EDUCATION at FRANKFORT-ON-THE-MAINE (Germany), for YOUNG GENTLEMEN.**—J. A. HEIZ, Esq., 8, Moorgate-street, London, will furnish Prospectuses of this Establishment, and name families of the highest respectability, the education of whose sons has been completed or is now progressing at the Institution.

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**DESIGNS' OFFICE, 4, Somerset-place, Dec. 16, 1850.**  
**REGISTRATION OF DESIGNS.**—NOTICE.

The Lords of the Committee of Privy Council for Trade having, in pursuance of the authority given them by the Designs Act of 1842, published in the Gazette of the 22nd of November, Rules and Regulations to be observed by parties wishing to register Designs under the three separate Acts of 1842, 1843, and 1850.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that Printed Copies of the same, as well as detailed Directions for Registration, and the Table of Fees, as approved by Her Majesty's Treasury, are to be had at this Office, where they will be delivered to parties making application between the hours of 10 and 4 o'clock.

The Registrar will be prepared to receive Designs for Provisional Registration, and Sculpture for Registration under the Designs Act of 1850, at this Office, on and after Wednesday, the 1st day of January 1851.

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OLLENDORFF and OTHERS v. BLACK and ANOTHER.

CAUTION TO PUBLISHERS and BOOKSELLERS.

WHEREAS his Honour the VICE-CHANCELLOR, Sir James Lewis Knight Bruce, did, on the 8th day of December instant, grant an Injunction in the above Cause, restraining the above-named Defendant, ALEXANDER BLACK, late of No. 8, Wellington-street, Strand, in the county of Middlesex, Bookseller, a Bankrupt, and his ASSIGNEE, from vending or exposing for sale, or otherwise disposing of any copy or copies of a printed Edition of an Original Work of the above-named Plaintiff, Dr. OLLENDORFF, purporting to be published at Frankfurt, entitled "A New Method of Learning to Read, Write, and Speak a Language in Six Months, adapted to the French, for the Use of Schools and Private Teachers," which Original Work was published in London by Messrs. WHITTAKER and COMPANY.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that legal proceedings will immediately be commenced against any person or persons exposing for sale or vending any copy or copies of the said pirated Edition, or found having any such pirated Edition in his or their possession.

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—ADVERTISEMENTS intended for insertion are requested to be forwarded to the Publishers before Saturday, the 28th, and Bills not later than Tuesday, the 31st instant.  
London: Longman, Brown & Co. 39, Paternoster-row.

**THE QUARTERLY REVIEW**, No. CLXXV.  
—ADVERTISEMENTS for the forthcoming Number must be forwarded to the Publisher by the 23rd instant.  
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**THE WESTMINSTER AND FOREIGN QUARTERLY REVIEW**, No. 107 and No. 92, for January, 1891.—ADVERTISEMENTS intended for the forthcoming Number should be forwarded on or before THURSDAY NEXT, the 26th instant.  
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LONDON, SATURDAY, DECEMBER 21, 1850.

## REVIEWS

*Christianity in Ceylon; its Introduction and Progress under the Portuguese, the Dutch, the British, and American Missions. With an Historical Sketch of the Brahmanical and Buddhist Superstitions.* By Sir James Emerson Tennent. Murray.

THIS may be considered, says the author, as the first instalment of a work on the history, topography, capabilities, natural productions, forms of government, present condition and future prospects of Ceylon, as a dependency of the Crown and a field for English colonization. In preparing the materials of this larger work—of which the subject here treated at length was originally designed to form a few subsidiary chapters—Sir James found the materials increase in his hands until it became a question whether he should reject a considerable number of facts, more or less novel and interesting, or write a substantive work.—The title of ‘Christianity in Ceylon’ is taking rather than descriptive; as the volume is in reality a philosophical survey of the various systems of morals and beliefs existing in the island, now and heretofore.—As such, it is a valuable aid to the interpretation of Singhalese history and tradition.

To the majority of English readers Ceylon is an unknown land. Before the recent insurrection and the high-handed repression of the revolt by Lord Torrington drew attention to the subject, very few cared to inquire whether the island held a separate race from that of the main land of India, or exhibited any marks of individual character and special interest. This indifference is at least shaken by late events; and it may reasonably be expected that henceforward councils of missionary societies and Government officials will not constitute the entire British public so far as the affairs of Ceylon are concerned. The present work will tend in no slight degree to foster the interest which is now springing up.

As Colonial Secretary to the island, Sir James has had access to the old Dutch records:—those of the Portuguese were unfortunately carried away, first to Goa, then to Lisbon, afterwards to Rio de Janeiro, so as not to have been within his reach. From the unworked sources at his disposal he has brought forth some new facts of interest, and corrected a few historical errors. The arrangement of his work is, in our opinion, open to amendment. He first describes the efforts of the Portuguese, Dutch and English to convert the natives to Christianity; and then proceeds to describe the native religions, superstitions, and social habits as they stand in more or less close relation to forms of belief and worship. The reader must, therefore, be acquainted with the second half of the book before he is in a position to understand the difficulties and failures recorded in the first. His better plan would be, to commence at the fourth chapter, read to the end, and so return to the first and conclude at the third:—the order of the subject then being—native religions, social habits of the people, Portuguese efforts at their conversion, Dutch system, English and American missions. This arrangement has also the advantage of a better chronology.

The account here given of the Brahmanical and Buddhist systems as they exist in Ceylon, is clear and forcible. The followers of Brahma are the most inveterate opponents of the Christian faith, and of the civilization which accompanies it to the East; nor have the most patient and subtle missionaries yet discovered the point where it can be assailed with success. Sir James observes:—

“The difficulty of effectually assailing the Brah-

manical system arises from the mysterious immensity, from the vastness and indistinctness of its huge proportions. It is in this that consists at once its real and its artificial strength—real in the prodigious area over which its baleful influence extends, and in the myriads who bend blindly and submissively before its despotic authority; artificial but still overpowering in the infinitude into which it has multiplied all its component parts. Its mythical cosmogony stretches away beyond the bounds of space; its historical annals extend backwards to the birth of time. Its chronology is recorded, not by centuries, but by millions of millions of ages; and the individuals engaged in one single exploit, minutely commemorated in its archives, exceed in number the whole congregation of human beings that have pressed the earth since the creation of man. Its events have been chronicled in Sanskrit, a language the most expressive and harmonious that has ever been attuned to human utterance; a language whose characters are declared to be a direct revelation from the Deity himself, and its sounds the accents of the celestials. It is professed that in the revolution of ages the use of this melodious tongue has been withdrawn from the lips of ordinary mortals, and its knowledge has been entrusted to the divine race of the Brahmans alone, to whom it has been permitted to cultivate this dialect of the gods. The Vedas and the Shastras, the sacred volumes which contain all imaginable knowledge, and embody all that has been communicated by the inspiration of Omniscience, are written in this venerable language, and are believed to be as ancient as eternity, and to have issued direct from the lips of the Creator. From the Vedas proceed the Upangas and Puranas, those versified commentaries and interminable treatises which compose the wisdom of the East, teaching all arts, expounding all sciences, developing all mysteries, explaining all laws and ethics, embracing all that it becomes man to know, and enjoining all that it behoves him to perform. All these form a body of learning so profound as to be infallible, so vast as to be inscrutable, so voluminous that the mere fragments of these giant epics, which are still accessible to mankind, are computed by millions of stanzas, and the whole existence of an ordinary mortal, though prolonged to the uttermost hour, would barely suffice to initiate him into the first rudiments of the ineffable literature of Brahma. It is this imposing immensity in which consists the ascendancy and duration of the system; its vastness baffles all scrutiny and defies all human comprehension. The mind of the Hindoo is overawed by the sense of inconceivable extension; he feels it impious to explore where he despairs to comprehend; he bows in distance and in humbleness before the sublimity of mystery, and in the very prostration of his intellect—he believes.”

The great material bulwark of Brahmanism is the system of caste, so universal in the East. Each man's place is by it fixed in society. He cannot rise to a higher nor decline to a lower grade. He cannot change his condition. There is but one niche in the world for him:—as he lives so he must die. Losing that, he does not merely descend in the social scale, like proselytes to new ideas in Western countries,—but drops entirely out of the pale of mankind. Caste is a distinction of essence,—not merely of degree. It is in no sense analogous to rank. The latter is a social institution, more or less open to merit in all nations; but the former is held to be a divine and immutable distinction. The humblest follower of Brahma scorns the idea of taking for his teacher the Son of a carpenter! The social system of Gotama Buddha is far less rigid. It is a system of philosophy rather than a religion in the European sense. Its precepts are noble and its practices tolerant. Its professed mission is that of the teacher. It repudiates caste, and proclaims the equality of mankind. Yet the idea of caste is firmly rooted in the minds of its worshippers. This form of belief has acceptance with one-third of the human race,—and it is of signal interest to find that it is more open to the advances of Euro-

pean doctrines than its rival creed. Speaking of the ancient feuds between the Hindú disciples of Brahma and Buddha, our author observes:—

“From the earliest period of Indian tradition, the struggle between the religion of Buddha and that of Brahma was carried on with a fanaticism and perseverance which resulted in the ascendancy of the Brahmans, perhaps about the commencement of the Christian era, and the eventual expulsion some centuries later of the worship of their rivals from Hindostan; but at what precise time the latter catastrophe was consummated has not been accurately mentioned in the annals of either sect. That Buddhism thus dispersed over eastern and central Asia became an active agent in the promotion of whatever civilization afterwards enlightened those races by whom its doctrines were embraced, seems to rest upon evidence which admits of no reasonable doubt. The introduction of Buddhism into China is ascertained to have been contemporary with the early development of civilization and the arts amongst this remarkable people, at a period coeval, if not anterior, to the era of Christianity. Buddhism exerted a salutary influence over the tribes of Thibet; through them it became instrumental in humanizing the Moguls; and it would seem more or less to have led to the cessation of the devastating incursions by which the hordes of the East were precipitated over the Western empire in the early eras of Christianity.”

To Buddhism the Singhalese owe their alphabet and whatever they enjoy of a native literature. When the Portuguese acquired possession of the island, they began to convert the inhabitants to Christianity. They succeeded, first with the fishermen of the coasts and afterwards with others. Whatever the means employed, they achieved a degree of success—wide spread and permanent—such as no other people from the West have done since. Sir James finds several reasons for this marked success; but the chief one, according to his authority, is the resemblance in outward rites between the two systems.—

“In furtherance of this policy, every facility has been afforded by the genius and coincidences of Buddhism itself; not only in the familiarity of its votaries with the accustomed range of devices common to all communities, whether Christian or heathen, which address themselves to the imagination through the avenue of the senses, but likewise in the similarity of the tenets, which are characteristic of the respective observances of each. Buddhism, like the ceremonial of the Church of Rome, has to some extent its pageantry and decorations, its festivals and its fireworks, its processions, its perfumes, its images, its exhibition of relics, its sacred vestments, and its treasures of ‘barbaric pearl and gold.’ It has its holy places and its pilgrimages in prosperity and health, and its votive offerings in calamity and disease. The priests of both are devoted to celibacy and poverty, to mortification and privation. Each worship has its prostrations and genuflexions, its repetitions and invocations, in an ancient, and to the multitude an unintelligible tongue [Latin and Pali]; and the purgatory of the one has its counterpart in the transmigrations of the other. Both have their legends and their miracles; their confidence in charms, and in the assistance of guardian saints and protectors; and in the general aspect of their outward observances, not less than in the concurrence of many of their leading beliefs, it is with the least conceivable violence to established customs, and the slightest apparent disturbance of preconceived ideas, that the Buddhist finds himself at liberty to venture on the transition from his own faith to that of his new advisers.”

Another reason for their rapid conversion may be found in the instructions sent by the King of Portugal to the viceroy of Goa, in which he says, “pagans may be brought over to our religion, not only by the hopes of eternal salvation, but also by temporal interest and preferment;” after which he gives special instructions to his functionaries that on receiving the rite of baptism the natives are to be provided



with places in the Customs, exempted from service in the navy, or fed out of the public stores. The author need not go far in search of a reason why the poor fishermen—one of the lowest of castes—so eagerly embraced Christianity. His own volumes contain ample evidence that the "rank" and "rice" motives were sufficient to explain all the phenomena exhibited. The men of low caste in their own country gained social consideration by going over to the faith of their conquerors; and down to the present day they exhibit the same willingness to comply with any form that will better their worldly condition. If asked by an Englishman of what religion he is, the Singhalese will almost invariably reply—"that of the East India Company;" and the native name for the act of baptism—Kula-wadenawa—literally means "admission to rank."

When the Dutch took possession of the country, they tried a different plan. They founded schools,—but no scholars came. They performed their own worship,—but their chapels were empty. The rigid discipline and simple ceremonial of the Church of Holland had no attractions for the lax and latitudinarian Singhalese. The Jesuits had already shown the way to success; but the Dutch spurned such an example as unworthy of the cause which they had in hand. They would not, like their rivals, become "all things to all men." Sir James gives, in a few words, the story of the singular attempt to convert the Hindis.

"They assumed the character of Brahmins of a superior caste from the Western World; they took the Hindoo names, and conformed to the heathen customs of this haughty and exclusive race, producing, in support of their pretensions, a deed forged in ancient characters, to show that the Brahmins of Rome were of much older date than the Brahmins of India; and descended in an equally direct line from Brahma himself. They composed a pretended Veda, in which they sought to insinuate the doctrines of Christianity in the language and phraseology of the sacred books of the Hindoos. They wore the *cary*, or orange robe peculiar to the Saniasses, the fourth, and one of the most venerated, sections of the Brahmanical caste. They hung a tiger's skin from their shoulders, in imitation of Shiva; they abstained from animal food, from wine, and certain prohibited vegetables; they performed the ablutions required by the Shasters; they carried on their foreheads the sacred spot of sandal-wood powder, which is the distinctive emblem of the Hindoos; and in order to sustain their assumed character to the utmost, they affected to spurn the Pariahs and lower castes who lay no claim to the same divine origin with the Brahmins. In carrying out this system, the Jesuits not only contended that they were justified in the employment of such means by the sanctity of the object they were to accomplish, but they derived encouragement and facility from the many points of resemblance presented by the religion of their own church, as compared with the practices of the idolatry which they came to overthrow." "If," says the Abbé Dubois, himself a Roman Catholic missionary in India, "any one of the several modes of Christian worship be calculated more than another to make an impression and gain ground in India, it is no doubt the Catholic form, which Protestants consider idolatry." Its external pomp and show are well suited to the genius and disposition of the natives. It has a *pooja*, or sacrifice, processions, images, and statues; *viriam*, or holy water; feasts, fasts, and prayers for the dead; invocation of saints and other practices which bear more or less resemblance to that of the Hindoos. Of these facilities and coincidences the Jesuits availed themselves to the utmost; they conducted the images of the Virgin and the Saviour on triumphal cars, imitated from the orgies of Jaggernath; they introduced the dancers of the Brahmanical rites into the ceremonial of the Church; and, in fine, by a system of mingled deception and conformity, and a life of indescribable privation, they succeeded in superseding the authority and the influence of the Franciscans throughout Southern

India, and in enlisting multitudes of nominal converts to the Church."

Indignant at such proceedings, the Dutch banished the Romanist priests from Ceylon, and prohibited the public celebration of mass. But this attempt at persecution failed; and even before the English took possession of the island the Presbyterian Church was nearly extinct.

So far as the practice of religious rites is concerned, the Singhalese remain much the same at this day—we speak on the authority of our author—as when we entered the island. The various missions established in the island have done good in various ways,—though not much effect has been produced in the shape of conversions. Some of the arts of European life have been introduced. Much knowledge of an interesting country has been brought home. Most important of all, it has been proved that the native must be educated in secular knowledge before he can be made to see the advantages of the creed taught by his conquerors. Books and printing-presses—according to our author's experience, fortified by that of the most distinguished English and American missionaries—are the great agents to be relied on. A newspaper in the native language would soon scatter some of the demons of ignorance and superstition. But few Europeans learn Singhalese. We have it on the best authority that the highest offices of the government are filled by men who do not understand a word of the native idiom. This is not the least of the obstacles which prevent the civilization of the island.

*Narratives of Shipwrecks of the Royal Navy between 1793 and 1849.* By William O. S. Gilly. Parker.

By permission of the Admiralty Mr. W. O. S. Gilly has collected the materials of this volume from the official papers in that public department; and his father, a canon of Durham, has written a very sensible preface to the production of his son. Both gentlemen have performed their tasks well. The narratives which compose the bulk of the volume are clear, animated, and free from distempered sentiment. The preface is precisely such a plea for sailors, and such a eulogy of the qualities of patience, obedience, and generosity which have generally distinguished the officers and men of the Royal Fleet, as might be expected from a warm-hearted dignitary of the English Church.

It is always painful to read about shipwrecks,—for the same reason that it is painful to hear of the presence and the operations of a field hospital in close proximity to the scene of battle. We know beforehand, that in spite of all the resources of skill and all the exhibitions of courage which the exigencies of the moment may call forth, the end can only be full of calamity and sorrow,—and the human mind shrinks instinctively from the steady contemplation of such pictures. If popular applause were the only species of reward capable of exciting men to the performance of disagreeable and dangerous services, nothing but misfortune could ensue from a distribution of fame so unjust that it has passed over perhaps the greatest heroes. But popular applause is not all. There are, the sense of duty, the *esprit de corps* of a profession, the desire of observing new facts, and most properly the high and substantial rewards of honourable public service. These motives, acting singly or in combination, do carry men through trials and sufferings and perils of a nature so painful, that no skill or delicacy of narrative can ever elevate the actors into popular heroes,—for the simple reason that men will not make themselves acquainted with the magnitude of the claims on their respect. Take a case precisely in point. It is only within the last year

that we have admitted the medical officers of the army to the honours of the Order of the Bath. We have gone on for years decorating majors or colonels who by half an hour of lucky hardihood, sustained by great excitement, have headed a charge or spiked a battery,—but to the unheard-of surgeon, on whom has fallen no small part of the really hard work of the campaign, and whose daily loathsome task could be rendered tolerable only by something very like heroic fortitude, we have scarcely extended our recognition. So gross and habitual an injustice betokens an unsound state of the moral judgment of a people; and it is precisely because Mr. Gilly's book does at all events something to reform that which is so radically imperfect, that we are disposed to extend towards it perhaps a more prominent notice than its strict literary pretensions may deserve.

The popular histories of our Navy hand down to us only the names of those who have distinguished themselves in action with the enemy. Southey has exerted all the resources of his mind to render the day of Trafalgar immortal; but he has been at little pains to describe the heroism which, in the midst of the tempest of the following day, did as much honour to British valour and discipline as the heat of the action itself. The fact is, that Mr. Gilly's book describes more instances of genuine self-devotion and calm courage than are to be found in any other single volume devoted to a naval subject. If examples are required, they are easily accessible; and in the simple and manly sketches which Mr. Gilly has given of the shipwrecks of the *Crescent*, the *Drake*, the *Magpie*, the *Thetis*, and some others, we may find at once the illustrations we seek.

There ought to be some means of rewarding in the most public manner a naval officer who conducts himself with signal magnanimity and courage at the unavoidable shipwreck of his vessel. Such a man has done something which has increased the solid dignity of human nature, and provided for us another beacon through the most dreadful of human perils.

There is already a disposition in high quarters to adopt measures of this tendency; and it is gratifying to know that while reward is more certain on the one hand, the risk of casualty is decidedly less on the other. Improved ship-building, corrected charts, more delicate instruments, an increased number of beacons, and a more perfect nautical education, have certainly diminished of late years the losses by shipwreck in the Royal Navy; and now that the ten-gun brigs known as "coffins," and some other classes of vessels equally disgraceful to our Navy List, are worn out, we may, perhaps, cherish the hope that a future compiler, following in the steps of Mr. Gilly, will not find himself embarrassed by such a profusion of materials,—from which selection was no easy matter.

We have spoken of the heroism of British seamen in the presence of other dangers than those of the *mêlée* and the quarter-deck, and we believe that in selecting the illustrious example of Capt. Charles Baker and the officers and crew of the *Drake* schooner—wrecked off the coast of Newfoundland, on Sunday, the 23rd of June, 1822, as an example of the bravery that we praise—we shall refer to one of the most remarkable cases on record. We take up Mr. Gilly's narrative at the moment when the ship having struck on a rock in the midst of one of the dense fogs peculiar to Newfoundland latitudes, Capt. Baker had determined to desert her.

"In the meantime, the waves were making heavy breaches over the ship; the crew clung by the ropes on the fore-castle; each succeeding wave threatened them all with destruction, when a tremendous sea



lifted her quarter over the rock on which she had at first struck, and carried her close to that on which the boatswain stood. The fore-castle, which up to this time had been the only sheltered part of the ship, was now abandoned for the poop; and as Capt. Baker saw no chance of saving the vessel, he determined to remove the people from her, if possible. Calling around him his officers and men, he communicated to them his intentions, and pointed out the best means of securing their safety. He then ordered every man to make the best of his way from the wreck to the rock. Now, for the first time, his orders were not promptly obeyed; all the crew to a man refused to leave the wreck unless Captain Baker would precede them. There was a simultaneous burst of feeling that did honour alike to the commander and the men. To the former, in that he had so gained the affection and respect of his people; and to the latter, inasmuch as they knew how to appreciate such an officer. Never was good discipline displayed in a more conspicuous manner. No argument or entreaty could prevail on Captain Baker to change his resolution. He again directed the men to quit the vessel, calmly observing that his life was the least and last consideration. The men, upon hearing this reiterated command, stepped severally from the poop to the rock with as much order as if they had been leaving a ship under ordinary circumstances. Unhappily, a few of them perished in the attempt; amongst these was Lieutenant Stanly, who being benumbed with cold, was unable to get a firm footing, and was swept away by the current,—his companions, with every inclination, had not the power to save him; he struggled for a few moments, was dashed with irresistible force against the rocks, and the receding wave engulfed its victim. When he had seen every man clear of the wreck, and not till then, did Captain Baker join his crew. As soon as they had time to look about them, the ship's company perceived that they were on an insulated rock, separated from the main land by a few fathoms. The rock rose some feet above the level of the sea, but to their horror they perceived that it would be covered at high water. It seemed as if they were rescued from one fearful catastrophe, only to perish by a more cruel and protracted fate. By degrees the fog had partially dispersed, and as the dawn began to break, a dreary prospect was displayed. The haggard countenances and lacerated limbs of the men told the sufferings they had endured, whilst the breakers, which they had only heard before, became distinctly visible. Still the devoted crew, following the example of their commander, uttered no complaint. They were ready to meet death, yet they felt it hard to die without a struggle. The tide was rising rapidly, and if anything was to be done, it must be done instantly. The boatswain, who had never lost hold of the rope, determined at all hazards to make another effort to save his comrades or perish in the attempt. Having caused one end of the rope to be made fast round his body, and committing himself to the protection of the Almighty, he plunged into the sea, and struck out in the direction of the opposite shore. It was an awful moment to those who were left behind; and in breathless suspense they waited the result of the daring attempt. All depended upon the strength of his arm. At one moment he was seen rising on the crest of the wave, at the next he disappeared in the trough of the sea; but in spite of the raging surf, and of every other obstacle, he reached the shore, and an inspiring cheer announced his safety to his comrades. As soon as he had recovered his breath and strength, he went to the nearest point opposite the rock, and watching his opportunity, he cast one end of the line across to his companions. Fortunately it reached the rock, and was gladly seized, but it proved to be only long enough to allow of one man holding it on the shore, and another on the rock, at arm's length. It may be imagined with what joy this slender means of deliverance was welcomed by all. The tide had made rapid advances; the waves, as if impatient for their prey, threw the white surf aloft, and dashed over the rock. Would that we could do justice to the noble courage and conduct displayed by the crew of the Drake. Instead of rushing to the rope, as many would have done under similar circumstances, not a man moved until he was commanded to do so by Captain Baker. Had the slight-

est hesitation appeared on the part of the commander, or any want of presence of mind in the men, a tumultuous rush would have ensued, the rope held as it was with difficulty by the outstretched hand would inevitably have been lost in the struggle, and then all would have perished. But good order, good discipline, and good feeling triumphed over every selfish fear and natural instinct of self-preservation; and to the honour of British sailors be it recorded, that each individual man of the crew, before he availed himself of the means of rescue, urged his Captain to provide for his own safety first, by leading the way. But Captain Baker turned a deaf ear to every persuasion, and gave but one answer to all—"I will never leave the rock until every soul is safe." In vain the men redoubled their entreaties that he would go; they were of no avail; the intrepid officer was steadfast in his purpose. There was no time for further discussion or delay. One by one the men slipped from the rock upon the rope, and by this assistance forty-four out of fifty succeeded in gaining the opposite shore. Unfortunately amongst the six who remained one was a woman. This poor creature, completely prostrate from the sufferings she had endured, lay stretched upon the cold rock almost lifeless. To desert her was impossible; to convey her to the shore seemed equally impossible. Each moment of delay was fraught with destruction. A brave fellow, in the generosity of despair, when his turn came to quit the rock, took the woman in his arms, grasped the rope, and began the perilous transit. Alas! he was not permitted to gain the desired shore. When he had made about half the distance, the rope parted—not being strong enough to sustain the additional weight and strain, it broke; the seaman and his burthen were seen but for an instant, and then swallowed up in the foaming eddies. With them perished the last means of preservation that remained for Captain Baker and those who were with him on the rock. Their communication with the main land was cut off; the water rose and the surf increased every moment; all hope was gone, and for them a few minutes more must end 'life's long voyage.' The men on shore tried every means in their power to save them. They tied every handkerchief and available material together to replace the lost rope, but their efforts were fruitless; they could not get length enough to reach the rock. A party was despatched in search of help. They found a farm-house; and while they were in search of a rope, those who stayed to watch the fate of their loved and respected commander and his three companions, saw wave after wave rise higher and higher. At one moment the sufferers disappeared in the foam and spray; the bravest shuddered, and closed his eyes on the scene. Again, as spell-bound, he looked; the wave had receded—they still lived, and rose above the waters. Again and again it was thus; but hope grew fainter and fainter. We can scarcely bring our narrative to an end; tears moisten our page; but the painful sequel must be told. The fatal billow came at last, which bore them from time into eternity. All was over. When the party returned from their inland search not a vestige of the rock, or of those devoted men, was to be seen.

And is he dead, whose glorious mind

Lifts thine on high?

To live in hearts we leave behind,

Is not to die.—*Campbell.*

"We feel how inadequate have been our efforts to depict the self-devotion of Captain Baker, and the courage and constancy of his crew. The following letter, addressed to Lieut. Booth, formerly an officer of the Drake, will go farther than any panegyric we can offer, to display the right feeling of the ship's company, and their just appreciation of their brave and faithful commander.—

"Sir,—Your being an old officer of ours in a former ship, and being first lieutenant in H.M. ship Drake, leads us to beg that you will have the goodness to represent to our Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty the very high sense of gratitude we, the surviving petty officers and crew of his Majesty's late ship Drake, feel due to the memory of our late much-lamented and most worthy commander, who, at the moment he saw death staring him in the face on one side, and the certainty of his escape was pointed out to him on the other, most staunchly and frequently refused to attempt procuring his own

safety, until every man and boy had been rescued from the impending danger. Indeed, the manliness and fortitude displayed by the late Captain Baker on the melancholy occasion of our wreck, was such as was never before heard of. It was not as that of a moment, but his courage was tried for many hours, and his last determination of not crossing from the rock, on which he was every moment in danger of being washed away, was made with more firmness, if possible, than the first. In fact, during the whole business he proved himself to be a man whose name and last conduct ought ever to be held in the highest estimation by a crew who feel it their duty to ask from the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty that, which they otherwise have not the means of obtaining; that is, a public and lasting record of the lion-hearted, generous, and very unexampled way in which our late noble commander sacrificed his life in the evening of the 23rd of June!"

"The above letter was signed by the surviving crew of the Drake. We need not add that their request was complied with, and a monument erected to the memory of Captain Baker, in the chapel of the Royal Dockyard at Portsmouth."

The naval profession and the public are much beholden to Mr. Gilly and his father for the labour which has produced and the good taste which distinguishes this volume. We find in it nothing that can fairly be called a fault, if we make due allowance for the ardour of a partial, and the inexperience of a young, author.

*The Moorland Cottage.* By the Author of 'Mary Barton.' Chapman & Hall.

THERE is little risk in predicting that this Christmas book will divide public favour with the Rhenish adventures of 'The Kickleburys.' Nor is there much hazard in saying that *Mary Barton* was not more unlike *Becky Sharp* than Combehurst is dissimilar to Cologne, Coblenz, Caub, and all the other C's of the Rhineland to which Mr. Thackeray has done the honours.

'The Moorland Cottage,' like 'Mary Barton,' is a tale of passion and feeling, developed among what may be called every-day people:—but, unlike 'Mary Barton,' it is not a tale of class-sufferings and class-interests. It is merely a story intended to soften the heart and sweeten the charities at Christmas time by the agency of pity and sympathy. The idea is simple, but the execution is of no common order. The characters are nicely marked. Mr. Buxton, the great man of the village-town,—his saint-like invalid wife—Mrs. Browne, with her jealous hardness towards her daughter and her credulous indulgence of her son—are as well made out as they are artfully, because artlessly, contrasted. Perhaps the following scene will bring the manner of our authoress and more-over the heroine, as pleasantly before the public as any in the book. The delicate and pious Mr. Buxton has become aware that Maggie Browne is insufficiently prized at the Moorland Cottage, and has tempted the child over to Combehurst to see her. This the grudging mother has reluctantly permitted.—

"It needed a good deal of Nancy's diplomacy to procure Maggie this pleasure; although I don't know why Mrs. Browne should have denied it, for the circle they went was always within sight of the knoll in front of the house, if any one cared enough about the matter to mount it and look after them. Frank and Maggie got great friends in these rides. Her fearlessness delighted and surprised him, she had seemed so cowed and timid at first. But she was only so with people, as he found out before his holidays ended. He saw her shrink from particular looks and inflections of voice of her mother's; and learnt to read them, and dislike Mrs. Browne accordingly, notwithstanding all her sugary manner towards himself. The result of his observations he communicated to his mother, and in consequence he was the bearer of a most civil and ceremonious message from Mrs. Buxton to Mrs. Browne, to the effect that the former would be much obliged to the latter



if she would allow Maggie to ride down occasionally with the groom, who would bring the newspapers on the Wednesdays (now Frank was going to school), and to spend the afternoon with Erminia. Mrs. Browne consented, proud of the honour, and yet a little annoyed that no mention was made of herself. When Frank had bid good-bye, and fairly disappeared, she turned to Maggie. 'You must not set yourself up if you go amongst these fine folks. It is their way of showing attention to your father and myself. And you must mind and work doubly hard on Thursdays to make up for playing on Wednesdays.'—Maggie was in a flush of sudden colour, and a happy palpitation of her fluttering little heart. She could hardly feel any sorrow that the kind Frank was going away, so brimful was she of the thoughts of seeing his mother; who had grown strangely associated in her dreams, both sleeping and waking, with the still calm marble effigies that lay for ever clasping their hands in prayer on the altar-tombs in Combehurst Church. All the week was one happy season of anticipation. She was afraid her mother was secretly irritated at her natural rejoicing; and so she did not speak to her about it, but she kept awake till Nancy came to bed, and poured into her sympathising ears every detail, real or imaginary, of her past and future intercourse with Mrs. Buxton. And the old servant listened with interest, and fell into the custom of picturing the future with the ease and simplicity of a child.—'Suppose, Nancy! only suppose, you know, that she did die. I don't mean really die, but go into a trance like death; she looked as if she was in one when I first saw her; I would not leave her, but I would sit by her, and watch her.'—'Her lips would be always fresh and red,' interrupted Nancy.—'Yes, I know; you've told me before how they keep red.—I should look at them quite steadily; I would try never to go to sleep.'—'The great thing would be to have air-holes left in the coffin.'—But Nancy felt the little girl creep close to her at the grim suggestion, and, with the tact of love, she changed the subject.—'Or supposing we could hear of a doctor who could charm away illness. There were such in my young days; but I don't think people are so knowledgeable now. Peggy Jackson, that lived near us when I was a girl, was cured of a waste by a charm.'—'What is a waste, Nancy?'—'It is just a pining away. Food does not nourish nor drink strengthen them, but they just fade off, and grow thinner and thinner, till their shadow looks grey instead of black at noon day; but he cured her in no time by a charm.'—'Oh, if we could find him.'—'Lass, he's dead, and she's dead, too, long ago!'—While Maggie was in imagination going over moor and fell, into the hollows of the distant mysterious hills, where she imagined all strange beasts and weird people to haunt, she fell asleep. Such were the fanciful thoughts which were engendered in the little girl's mind by her secluded and solitary life. It was more solitary than ever now that Edward was gone to school. The house missed his loud cheerful voice and bursting presence. There seemed much less to be done, now that his numerous wants no longer called for ministrations and attendance. Maggie did her task of work on her own grey rock; but as it was sooner finished, now that he was not there to interrupt and call her off, she used to stray up the Fell Lane at the back of the house; a little steep stony lane, more like stairs cut in the rock than what we, in the level land, call a lane: it reached on to the wide and open moor, and near its termination there was a knotted thorn-tree; the only tree for apparent miles. Here the sheep crouched under the storms, or stood and shaded themselves in the noontide heat. The ground was brown with their cleft round foot-marks; and tufts of wool were hung on the lower part of the stem like votive offerings on some shrine. Here Maggie used to come and sit and dream in any scarce half-hour of leisure. Here she came to cry, when her little heart was over-full at her mother's sharp fault-finding, or when bidden to keep out of the way and not be troublesome. She used to look over the swelling expanse of moor, and the tears were dried up by the soft low-blowing wind which came sighing along it. She forgot her little home griefs to wonder why a brown-purple shadow always streaked one particular part in the fullest sunlight; why the cloud-shadows always seemed to be wafted with a

sidelong motion; or she would imagine what lay beyond those old grey holy hills, which seemed to bear up the white clouds of Heaven on which the angels flew abroad. Or she would look straight up through the quivering air, as long as she could bear its white dazzling, to try and see God's throne in that unfathomable and infinite depth of blue. She thought she should see it blaze forth sudden and glorious, if she were but full of faith. She always came down from the thorn comforted and meekly gentle."

If joy came of Maggie's pony rides with such an escort, on the other hand the poor girl was called on to bear cruel trial because of Edward. He from being his mother's pride, became the disgrace of the family,—chose the law for his profession, because of its advantages, and grew up a flashy and fraudulent attorney,—repaying Mr. Buxton's friendly interest in him by disgraceful offence. Nor was this made easier to bear by Maggie and Frank having become betrothed lovers,—to the displeasure of the ambitious old man. The poor girl, as too often happens, had to stand between these conflicting impersonations of selfishness, under deadly peril of the happiness and joy of her life being trampled out in the struggle. Rarely has woman drawn a fairer study of self-sacrifice in woman than our authoress in Maggie Browne; and if we refrain from quoting some of the scenes in which this is developed, it is simply because we will not take the edge off the reader's curiosity with regard to a story of such deep interest and wholesome moral:—for wholesome beyond the usual fashion of novelists is the form of Maggie's self-sacrifice, and her standing up for those rights which in Life count for so much while in Fiction they are disregarded as it were by receipt. That there is a touch of the *Deus ex machinâ* in the catastrophe no one can question:—but the final scenes are so clear of all the exaggeration with which they might have been overlaid and overcoloured, that it would be hypercriticism to reckon severely with the authoress for introducing what belongs to the class of *coups de théâtre* at the close of a story so unforced yet so forcible, so natural yet so new, as 'The Moorland Cottage.'

*Conversations of Goethe with Eckermann and Soret.* Translated from the German by John Oxenford. 2 vols. Smith, Elder & Co.

*Herman and Dorothea.* From the German of Goethe. By James Cochrane. Oxford, M'Pherson; London, Pickering.

SOME five-and-twenty years since, when a few select readers here and there first began to call public attention to the works of Goethe, they were met by some critical leaders of the day with a disdain still remembered. It was an intrusion on the domain of good taste, of which they were conservators,—an attempt to be summarily, and once for all, put down. Of those who undertook this charge, few, if any, really knew the foreign author; the greater number founded their general strictures on fragments they saw in translation, which were not always even presented at first hand:—and after these came the crowd, who often cry the loudest when they understand the least. The result of all this, however, common bystanders naturally took for granted. The heresy had been silenced by authority; we were to hear no more of the illumination of Weimar. But "it seemed otherwise" to the Fates. In the course of a very few years there was no concealing the fact that the light so quenched had gradually been rising in its proper orbit, and might be seen by the naked eye shining over all Europe. To an object at this height rushlight extinguishers could plainly do nothing; and it began to appear that the better course would be, to apply such instru-

ments as were at hand in order to view the luminous object more closely, and, if possible, to learn something of its true figure, composition, and altitude. The result of this more judicious process is now pretty generally known. Every year brings growing proofs of a clearer idea of the dimensions, a wider appreciation of the merits of this great writer. The works now before us are the latest, and not the least commendable evidences of the improved understanding in England.

Such instances, we may pause to observe, are not exceptional. They are examples, under some special conditions, of a general truth; the remembrance of which may serve at all times to calm the impatience with which generous minds are apt to resent the mistakes of the many on persons and things above the line of their immediate vision,—and the perverse way in which mediocrity, by such natural expressions of itself, really pays an unconscious tribute to merit. They may safely spare all heat on such occasions, and await the certain verdict of time. It is, indeed, no agreeable spectacle to see any illustrious figure making its way for a while through the rabble of some Vanity Fair; with Dulness butting in front, Pretension snapping at its heels, and Frivolity, under the showman's booth, making faces at the unusual appearance. But for any good or great man these are not the afflictions his struggle with which has been deemed "a sight worthy of the gods." The idle noise is soon over; even before it has ceased, the stranger is already out of its reach and far on the way to his appointed place.

Having not long since, on the appearance of Eckermann's third volume [*Athen.* No. 1142], fully described the merits of the 'Conversations' and of their amiable reporter, it will be sufficient, in noticing Mr. Oxenford's translation, to speak of his part in Englishing the work. He has judiciously thrown into a continuous body, arranged in the order of their dates, the entire contents of the two series, of which the first appeared in 1836—the second in 1848:—so that, the whole of Eckermann's reminiscences now appear in their natural sequence. He has appended a few notes to the text where explanation seemed indispensable; and has supplied an index—not the least useful supplement to a book the materials of which are by their very nature fragmentary. But in the matter of annotation it would have been well to have gone much farther than he has done; the object being to render the work available to English readers, or to those whom it may induce to seek a nearer acquaintance with German literature. The allusions to persons and things not expressly described in the text are many; and its value would have been so greatly enhanced by suitable explanations of these, that we cannot term the task of introducing such a book to a foreign public completely performed—if by introduction be meant the way to a due understanding—where so much is left without elucidations necessary to any notion at all of the just bearing of remarks on the topics in question. To have done this effectually would, indeed, have greatly increased the translator's labour:—but where the work both deserves and demands it, this labour may fairly be deemed his positive duty.

Mr. Oxenford's version is rather a literal than a substantial copy of the text. It may be called accurate enough, so far as a close rendering of word for word will give correctness; but we miss the colour of the style, and not unfrequently the virtual force of the expressions, for want of proper equivalents; while the language, as English, is rendered somewhat awkward and foreign looking, by too close a repetition of the cast of the original sentences.



We could show not a few instances which might have been made more elegant English by giving a fuller actual representation of the German; and may add, that as Eckermann often repeats the very words of one who wrote and spoke with a grace rarely equalled, and in his own person has caught something of the urbanity of his great master,—the want of an idiomatic and fluent manner in copying a work like this is more than commonly disadvantageous to English readers. Yet, we can safely commend the book as it stands to their perusal:—thinking, indeed, that it might have been presented with more light and in truer colours; but certain that with those which it now has it will not only make its way to many friends, but that of these the most numerous will be found in the best class. The reception, indeed, of a work in which so much of the wise and beautiful is mingled with personal traits—always attractive when naturally drawn, but doubly interesting when the objects are illustrious or amiable—would be no bad test of the scale of the receiver's cultivation. One might almost repeat in such a case, Quintilian's words in reference to the speeches of another great man:—*Ille se profecisse sciet, cui valde placebit.*

The translation of 'Herman and Dorothea' by Mr. Cochrane—in English hexameters—is a very respectable performance: the best copy we have seen of the poem in its native metre. Of the method itself as applicable to our language, we lately spoke so fully, on the appearance of a previous version in the same measure [*ante*, p. 39], that we shall not repeat here our reasons for believing now that it can never be heartily enjoyed or firmly established as one of our poetical tones. The reasons which Mr. Cochrane gives in a short preface for thinking otherwise have been more than once answered already; and they are not so forcibly urged as to call for any revival of former judgments. His acquirements as a reader of poetry, with a certain academic bias, seem to be more advanced than his critical notions:—and it is but fair to say, that his views of the aptitude of hexameters for English use will be better recommended by the specimen which he gives of them in this version of Goethe's poem than by anything urged in his introductory remarks. He has a good ear; and usually falls on the kind of cadence which comes nearest in our language to the classic metres with a tact that nothing but this natural endowment can give. His feeling, too, of the tone of the poem itself is by no means indifferent; and his understanding of the text generally is sufficient; although we miss in his version some of the choicest features of the original, which might have been to a certain extent approached by a thorough poetic sense of the German *costume*—as we may call it,—as well as by more attention to the particulars, which in that language, as in the Greek, are the very life of its expression. We have, it is true, no precisely equivalent forms for these; but much may still be done by a sensitive translator in producing a similar effect in terms of our own idioms.

The following extract, we think, will justify to those who know the original what has been said of Mr. Cochrane's performance.—

*Euterpe.—Mother and Son.*

Thus did the neighbours, conversing, amuse themselves.  
Meanwhile the mother,  
Anxious, had gone to the front, for the purpose of looking  
for Herman;  
Fully expecting to find him ensconced on his favourite  
stone-bench:  
But disappointed in this, she her steps to the stable  
directed  
Quickly, to see if the spirited horses, his own since but  
filles,  
And which he trusted to no one, perchance he had gone to  
attend to;

Where she was told by the ostler, he just had gone in to  
the garden.  
Hastily then through the long double courtyard bent she  
her footsteps,  
Leaving behind her the stables and barns, laid out so com-  
pactly:  
And went straight to the garden, that far as the town-walls  
extended,  
Traversing all of it; greatly enjoying the freshness of  
nature;  
Placing upright the supports which propped up the various  
fruit-trees,  
Apricots, apples, and pears, whose branches were heavily  
laden;  
Picking the insects away from the firm, green, round-headed  
cabbage:  
For when a housewife is clever, she always is busy at some-  
thing.  
Thus to the furthest-off end of the garden she leisurely  
wandered,  
Far as the high honeysuckle-decked bower, but her son was  
not there found,  
Nor in the garden itself, where already she vainly had  
sought him.  
Open the small gate stood, wide open, that led from the  
arbour  
Out to the country beyond (this gate was a boon to his  
grandsire,  
Once, in the good old times, high mayor, and led to the  
ramparts):  
Through it she went, and the town-moat crossed over per-  
fectly dry-shod,  
Just at the place on the road where the well-fenced beau-  
tiful vineyard  
Lay with its steep paths, sloping and fully exposed to the  
sunshine,  
Up through the vineyard she wended, rejoicing herself in  
ascending;  
Viewing the clustering grapes, which scarcely the leaves  
could encircle.  
Shady and covered the high middle arbour-walk stretched  
up the vineyard,  
Which was ascended by steps made of broad planks, loose  
and unpolished;  
And there, hanging in bunches, the Noble and Muscatel  
grapes grew;  
And Red-purples beside them, in bloom as in bigness un-  
rivalled;  
Planted with great care, goodly desserts for the table to  
furnish.  
Vines of a commoner kind all over the vineyard were  
planted,  
Grapes of a small size bearing, but wine that is costliest  
yielding,  
Up then she climbed, in the vintage approaching already  
rejoicing;  
And those festival days when the country with jubilee rings  
round;  
When there is gath'ring and treading of grapes, must-vats  
filling brimful,  
Fireworks o' nights letting off, bright burning in every  
quarter,  
Flashing, fizz-fizzing and cracking, for thus do they honour  
the vintage.  
But she uneasy did feel when she once or twice called out  
"Herman,"  
And no answer receiving except from the manifold echoes  
Back by the steeples returned, as it seemed in a talkative  
humour.  
Strange was the feeling to her to be seeking for him who  
but seldom  
Wandered from home far, just, as he said, to prevent her,  
His mother,  
Fears from indulging, imagining something untoward had  
happened.  
Nevertheless she continued expecting her son to discover,  
Both of the doors, she observed, being open, the upper and  
under.  
Onwards proceeding, she entered at once on the unenclosed  
country,  
Which in a broad plain lay on the top of the vine-covered  
terrace;  
Wandering always along on her own ground, pleased in  
surveying  
Rich corn-fields all ripe, and her own too, waiting the  
sickle;  
Which like molten and unalloyed gold waved backward  
and forward.  
Now she the corn-fields traversed, but kept on the path in  
the furrows,  
Fixing her eye on the tall pear-tree overlooking the  
country;  
Which as a landmark served them to show where their  
property ended.  
When, or by whom it was planted none well knew, round  
all the country  
Far and wide it was seen, and the fruit which it yielded  
Was famous.  
Screened by its boughs were the reapers at meal-time wont  
to assemble,  
And oft herdsman their white flocks watched 'neath its  
pendulous branches;  
Resting on turf-seats stretched, or the huge stones lying  
unhewn there.  
Nor was the mother mistaken, for yonder, in posture re-  
cumbent,  
Herman, supporting himself on his arms, sat gazing around  
him  
On the beloved green mountains, his face from his mother  
averted.  
Softly she slid down near him, and gave him a touch on the  
shoulder:  
Quickly he turned him around, and the tears in his eyes she  
discovered.  
We would fain add something here on the

poem itself,—especially with respect to the richness and breadth of delineation—one of its characteristic beauties,—belonging to the epic as a special class of poetry. But the subject is too wide for complete display within our present limits; and it would be unjust to the work in hand to dismiss it partially. It must suffice to say to those who would appreciate this masterpiece, that it must be read without either languor or impatience—that its composition will be found more harmonious and its tranquil power more engaging on every new return:—and that it is a trivial error to suppose that fruits of mature genius, presented with deliberate and consummate skill, can be rightly tasted unless the reader bring to it a mind in some degree prepared, and a sense unspoiled by prejudice, dissipation, or caprice.

*Queen's College, Cork. Address delivered at the Public Distribution of Prizes, on October 25, 1850. By Sir Robert Kane. Dublin, Hodges & Co.*

It is known to our readers, and to all who take an interest in the new Irish Colleges, and in the success of that scheme of mixed education of which they are a conspicuous example, that among the most valuable testimonies to their efficiency and to the expediency of the principles on which they are founded has been that furnished by Sir Robert Kane, the President of Queen's College, Cork. What renders his testimony the more important, in the midst of the opposition to the Colleges so general among the Catholic clergy of Ireland, is, that he is, as our readers also know, a Catholic himself. In the pamphlet now before us, we have a fuller explanation than before of Sir Robert's views on the subject of the Colleges. The Address is, in fact, a well-timed plea in behalf of the co-operation of various religious bodies in the business of instruction; and influential as it must doubtless have been on the opinions of the inhabitants of Cork for whom it was specially intended, there are facts and arguments in it deserving of wider propagation.

Sir Robert repeats his previous assertion, on which so much remark was raised—that the Irish Colleges, far from having exercised an irreligious or immoral tendency, have, in the satisfactory process of real experiment, been found to produce quite a contrary effect. We quote him on this subject,—because the leading argument against these important institutions takes the form of the objection here answered.—

"The students of this college [he says], exposed to the most searching criticism during the past year, the observed of all hostile observers, have passed through their first session without a single case of punishment, and have received full and coincident testimony of the Reverend Deans of Residence, that in regard to morality and religion, their conduct has given full satisfaction. I need not, however, speak upon the testimony of personages, even though they be clergymen, whose evidence might be tainted by their collegiate offices; I appeal to the experience of the parents and guardians of students, who are here present in such numbers, as I have the honour to address. I demand, if there be a parent who has found his son to have been injured in morality or religion, by having, last year, studied in this college? I ask if, in the conduct of the students or authorities of this college, known to so many here, the principles of morality have been violated, or religion outraged? The voluntary attendance of the great majority of students at the religious teachings of the Reverend Deans, has it afforded proof of demoralization? Was it the influence of infidel instruction that induced the Roman Catholic students of this college to fulfil their strictest religious duties in a proportion, such as had been almost unknown among young men of similar ages? Are these the result of 'Godless



colleges? No; and by these fruits are we become known."

The greater portion of the pamphlet before us, however, is occupied with an interesting analogical argument, which goes to prove that "in these calumniated Irish Colleges there exist greater securities for moral and religious discipline than in any other colleges, not purely ecclesiastical, even in Catholic countries." The two instances which are adduced for the purpose of comparison are the educational law just passed in France, and the practice of the Belgian Government.

After stating that in France, as in Ireland, there had been an opposition to the law on the part of a certain proportion of the Catholic clergy, but that that opposition had been overruled and the law cordially approved by "the highest Roman Catholic authority," Sir Robert proceeds to describe the provisions of the law. In the first place, he says, it "is perfectly one of united education." In small *communes* children of all religious denominations are to be educated together; and even where there may be several primary schools in a *commune*, there is to be no necessary separation—a parent may send his child to whichever school he chooses. Again, in the French law, the Church is represented not as a ruling or authoritative body, but as one of the numerous interests existing in a great country, all of which require to have proper share and control in public instruction. Thus, in the Superior Council, which in some degree corresponds to the University Senate for all Ireland, there are four Catholic Bishops (the Catholics of France are 30,000,000),—two Protestant Ministers (the French Protestants amount to 300,000),—one Jewish Rabbi (the French Jews are 400,000 in number),—three state councillors,—three members of the Institute,—three lawyers of the Court of Appeal,—three private schoolmasters,—and eight other members chosen by Government,—the President being, the Minister of Public Instruction. "Is that exclusive education?" asks Sir Robert. "Yet that Council is approved of by the Church, and the four Bishops have taken their places on it." So also in the provision made by the law for the constitution of the academical councils of the "lyceums and colleges," and of the various departments. Each academical council consists of thirteen members,—the Catholic bishop of the locality with another Catholic clergyman, appointed by him, a Protestant minister, a Jewish priest, with laymen representing different interests. "The Church is represented as one of the interests of society, and that is all." The youths of all religions study together; and in the government of these academies, the Catholic, the Lutheran, the Calvinist, and the Jew meet upon equal terms, and they may meet in peace. The conclusion which Sir Robert draws from this comparison is, that, if in France, where the concessions to the ecclesiastical requirements by the educational law are less extensive than those afforded in the Government colleges for Ireland, the practical co-operation of the Catholic Church is yet cordially given to mixed education,—*à fortiori*, it should not be refused to the Irish institutions.

A similar conclusion is drawn from the practice in Belgium, and from the results of a debate on the subject of mixed education in April last in the Belgian House of Representatives.

"The Belgian Government [says Sir Robert] does not go so far as does the British Government. It has no kind or form of religious teachings in its University Colleges, but for the inferior colleges and schools for preparing boys the law declares \* \* \* there must be religious teaching. What next does the article say? 'The ministers of religion shall be invited to give or to superintend this in-

struction in the establishments which come under the present law.' 'They shall also be invited to communicate their observations concerning religious instruction to the committee.' That is what a Catholic Government in an exclusively Catholic country adopts as the principle of its law. \* \* \* The Belgian Government, Catholic as it is, has not gone as far as to conciliate ecclesiastical opinion, and to secure the safety of faith and morals, as has the British Government. The Belgian law for regulating schools is, that the State asks the assistance of the clergy, and, if they refuse, goes on without them; and in the University colleges of the State there is no trace whatever of moral security or religious teaching. But in these colleges of the Queen's Irish University, a student must, either be under his parent's care, or he must live in one of the residences, where in conduct and in religious discipline he is under the charge of the Reverend Dean of his persuasion; and in every case, by the provisions of our statutes, neglect of religious worship, or practice of immorality, subjects the student to the peril of absolute expulsion."

Sir Robert's 'Address' cannot fail to do good. There are specific points of opinion manifested in it—as also points in the constitution of the colleges which he defends—to which, in an elaborate investigation, we might except;—but as a timely advice to the Catholics of Ireland on the subject of the new Colleges, and as a spirited defence of a free and all-embracing system of education, the 'Address' deserves the highest praise. Sir Robert, Catholic as he is, pronounces the new University system for Ireland to be positively and absolutely, notwithstanding that it may have imperfections, the very best, and soundest, and most morality-promoting system that anywhere exists. Let the following earnest appeal be laid to heart.

"The principle I support is, not that education should be at the mercy of changing cabinets, which may reflect only the forms of shifting policy. The principle I support is, that the fathers of families who form the State, should have control over the education given to their sons; that in the ideas with which the youthful mind shall be imprinted, the wishes and the feelings of the parents should be consulted; that funds spent upon education should be expended under responsibility; and finally, that the young men of our country, of different creeds, shall not be forced to live asunder, in prejudice and ignorance of each other, perpetuating misunderstandings which have been the bane of Ireland. Yes, I support mixed education; not as a State official, but as an Irishman. I have known too much of the wretched results of feuds and estrangements arising from religious differences being made the basis of social intercourse and public policy. Century after century have passed over, and, split into powerless factions, the Irish people have remained helpless and unrespected; its different creeds and classes have co-existed in the country, like grains of sand, loose, unconnected, incapable of cohesion; all well-meaning, all rich with the dormant elements of mutual love, which had but required amicable and equal intercourse in early youth, to have cemented into a well aggregated people. And this result I do hope will yet take place. I do hope that those of the coming generation will not be torn from the friendly relations they so wish to form."

We are glad to see Sir Robert Kane's 'Address' printed,—and willingly lend our circulation towards making its objects known.

*The Kickleburys on the Rhine.* By Mr. M. A. Titmarsh. Smith, Elder & Co.

EVERYBODY who has gone up the Rhine must have encountered Kickleburys by the score;—my lady the mother, steeped to the chin in worldly vulgarity,—Mrs. Milliken her warlike daughter,—not to speak of the courier, Hirsch, and the tall footman Bowman,—the last a figure as constant in Mr. Titmarsh's tale as a white horse is in a picture by Wouvermans. Not every one, however, who sees Kickleburys is

able to describe them in all the length and breadth of their grandeur and of their smallness. Mr. Titmarsh has no common pen. Which among the many millions that have steamed across the Channel since steaming began, has ever before printed the universal and ever-recurring inquiries that trouble freshwater sailors, so neatly as follows:—

"Why do they always put mud into coffee on board steamers? Why does the tea generally taste of boiled boots? Why is the milk scarce and thin? And why do they have those bleeding legs of boiled mutton for dinner? I ask why? In the steamers of other nations you are well fed. Is it impossible that Britannia, who confessedly rules the waves, should attend to the victuals a little, and that meat should be well-cooked under a Union Jack?"

The Kickleburys "stand confessed" from the very first moment, when my Lady sees Mr. Titmarsh cordially greeting, and cordially greeted by a charming and "sainted" Countess, who is also on board the steamer.

"When Miss Fanny saw me, she stopped and smiled, and recognised the gentleman who had amused her so at Mrs. Perkins'. What a dear sweet creature Eliza Perkins was! They had been to school together. She was going to write to Eliza everything that happened in the voyage. Every thing? I said, in my particularly sarcastic manner."

"Well, everything that was worth telling! There was a great number of things that were very stupid, and of people that were very stupid. Everything that you say, Mr. Titmarsh, I am sure I may put down." You have seen Mr. Titmarsh's funny books, mamma?—Mamma said, she had heard, she had no doubt they were very amusing. Was not that—ahem—Lady Knightsbridge, to whom I saw you speaking, sir?—Yes, she is going to nurse Lord Knightsbridge, who has the gout at Rougetonbourg. Indeed! Show very fortunate! what an extraordinary coincidence! We are going too, said Lady Kicklebury. I remarked, that everybody was going to Rougetonbourg this year, and I heard of two gentlemen—Count Carambole and Colonel Cannon—who had been obliged to sleep there on a billiard table, for want of a bed. My son Kicklebury are you acquainted with Sir Thomas Kicklebury? her ladyship said, with great stateliness. Is at Rougetonbourg, and will take lodgings for us. The springs are particularly recommended for my daughter, Mrs. Milliken; and, at great personal sacrifice, I am going thither myself; but what will not a mother do, Mr. Titmarsh? Did I understand you to say that you have the *entree* at Knightsbridge House? The parties are not what they used to be I am told. Not that I have any knowledge. I am but a poor country baronet's widow, Mr. Titmarsh; though the Kickleburys' date from Henry III. and my family is not of the most modern in the country. You have heard of General Guff, my father, perhaps? Aide-de-camp to the Duke of York, and wounded by His Royal Highness's side, at the bombardment of Valenciennes. We move in our own sphere.

In this way we cross the Channel, steam up the Scheldt, and make our way into Belgium. Our modern Michael Angelo has little to do with places, but much with people!—aparting none of the cavalcade—including himself and his travelling companion, Mr. Sergeant Lankin,—except the charming and sainted Countess of Knightsbridge aforesaid.

Rougetonbourg is the destination of the whole party; and at full length does Mr. Titmarsh touch off the groups—legal, military, Russian, American, &c. &c.—who congregate around the waters of that Well, and within the gates of that Hell:—"whitewashing" in his own pleasant *sans souci* way the master Spirit of the place who keeps its gaiety, by keeping its gaming alive.—The following, besides being true as a daguerreotype, is, to our thinking, pleasant, in its half sad half sarcastic humour:

"One but seldom sees the English and the holiday visitors in the ancient parts of Rougetonbourg: they keep to the streets of new buildings and garden villas which



have sprung up under the magic influence of M. Lenoir, under the white towers and gables of the old Germán town. The Prince of Trente et Quarante has quite overcome the old serene sovereign of Noirbourg, whom one cannot help fancying a prince like a prince in a Christmas pantomime—a burlesque prince with twopence-halfpenny for a revenue, jolly and irascible, a prime minister-kicking prince, fed upon fabulous plum-puddings and enormous pasteboard joints, by cooks and valets, with large heads which never alter their grin. Not that this portrait is from the life. Perhaps he has no life. Perhaps there is no prince in the great white tower that we see for miles before we enter the little town. \* \* \* There is a grotesque old carved gate to the palace of the Durchlaucht, from which you could expect none but a pantomime procession to pass. The place looks asleep; the courts are grass-grown and deserted. Is the Sleeping Beauty lying yonder, in the great white tower? What is the little army about? It seems a sham army—a sort of grotesque military. What can such a fabulous place want with anything but a sham army? My favourite walk was in the ancient quarter of the town—the dear old fabulous quarter, away from the noisy actualities of life, and Prince Lenoir's new palace—out of eye and earshot of the dandies and the ladies in their grand best clothes at the promenades—and the rattling whirl of the roulette wheel—and I liked to wander in the glum old gardens, under the palace wall, and imagine the Sleeping Beauty within there. Some one persuaded us, one day, to break the charm, and see the interior of the palace. I am sorry we did. There was no Sleeping Beauty in any chamber that we saw; nor any fairies, good or malevolent. There was a shabby set of clean old rooms, which looked as if they had belonged to a prince hard put to it for money, and whose tin-crown jewels would not fetch more than King Stephen's pantaloons. A fugitive prince, a brave prince struggling with the storms of fate, a prince in exile may be poor; but a prince, looking out of his own palace window with a dressing-gown out at elbows, and dunned by his subject-washer-woman—I say this is a painful object. An English princess was once brought to reign here; and almost the whole of the little court was kept upon her dowry. The people still regard her name fondly; and they show, at the Schloss, the rooms which she inhabited. Her old books are still there—her old furniture brought from home; the presents and keepsakes, sent by her family, are as they were in the princess's lifetime: the very clock has the name of a Windsor maker on its face; and portraits of all her numerous race, decorate the homely walls of the now empty chambers. There is the benighted old king, his beard hanging down to the star on his breast; and the first gentleman of Europe—so lavish of his portrait everywhere, and so chary of showing his royal person—all the stalwart brothers of the now all but extinct generation are there; their quarrels and their pleasures, their glories and disgraces, enemies, flatterers, detractors, admirers—all now buried. Is it not curious to think, that the King of Trumps now virtually reigns in this place, and has deposed the other dynasty?

Ere we hand over this Christmas book to its legion of purchasers, we must display—for the warning of all such English matrons as may be disposed

To do in Turkey what the Turks do—the awful issue of Lady Kicklebury's visit to Rougetnoirbourg.—

"The newspaper room at Noirbourg is next to the roulette room, into which the doors are always open; and Lady K. would come, with newspaper in hand, into this play-room, sometimes, and look on at the gamblers. I have mentioned a little Russian boy, a little imp, with the most mischievous intelligence and good humour in his face, who was suffered by his parents to play as much as he chose; and who pulled bonbons out of one pocket and Napoleons out of the other; and seemed to have quite a diabolical luck at the table. Lady Kicklebury's terror and interest, at seeing this boy, were extreme. She watched him and watched him, and he seemed always to win; and at last her ladyship put down just a florin—only just one florin—on one of the numbers at

roulette, which the little Russian imp was backing. Number twenty-seven came up, and the croupiers flung over three gold pieces and five florins to Lady Kicklebury, which she raked up with a trembling hand. She did not play any more that night, but sate in the play-room, pretending to read the *Times* newspaper; but you could see her eye peering over the sheet, and always fixed on the little imp of a Russian. He had very good luck that night, and his winning made her very savage. As he retired rolling his gold pieces into his pocket, and sucking his barley-sugar, she glared after him with angry eyes; and went home, and scolded everybody, and had no sleep. I could hear her scolding. Our apartments, in the Tissisch house, overlooked Lady Kicklebury's suite of rooms: the great windows were open in the Autumn. Yes; I could hear scolding, and see some other people sitting in the embrasure, or looking out on the harvest moon. Lady Kicklebury shirked away from the concert; and I saw her in the play-room again, going round and round the table; and lying in ambush behind the *Journal des Débats*, I marked how, after looking stealthily round, my lady whipped a piece of money under the croupier's elbow, and, (there having been no coin there previously) I saw a florin on the Zero. She lost that, and walked away. Then she came back and put down two florins, on a number, and lost again, and became very red and angry; then she retreated, and came back a third time, and a seat being vacated by a player, Lady Kicklebury sate down at the verdant board. Ah me! She had a pretty good evening, and carried off a little money again that night. The next day was Sunday: she gave two florins at the Collection at Church, to Fanny's surprise at Mamma's liberality. On this night of course there was no play. Her ladyship wrote letters, and read a sermon. But the next night she was back at the table; and won very plentifully, until the little Russian sprite made his appearance, when it seemed that her luck changed. She began to bet upon him, and the young Calmuck lost too. Her ladyship's temper went along with her money; first she backed the Calmuck, and then she played against him. When she played against him, his luck turned; and he began straightway to win. She put on more and more money as she lost: her winnings went: gold came out of secret pockets. She had but a florin left at last, and tried it on a number, and failed. She got up to go away. I watched her, and I watched Mr. Justice Æchus, too, who put down a Napoleon when he thought nobody was looking. The next day my Lady Kicklebury walked over to the money changers, where she changed a couple of circular notes. She was at the table that night again; and the next night, and the next night, and the next. By about the fifth day she was like a wild woman. She scolded so, that Hirsch, the courier, said he should retire from monsieur's service, as he was not hired by Lady Kicklebury: that Bowman gave warning, and told another footman in the building, that he wouldn't stand the old cat no longer, blow him if he would; that the maid (who was a Kicklebury girl) and Fanny cried: and that Mrs. Milliken's maid, Finch, complained to her mistress, who ordered her husband to remonstrate with her mother. Milliken remonstrated with his usual mildness, and, of course, was routed by her ladyship. Mrs. Milliken said 'give me the daggers,' and came to her husband's rescue. A battle royal ensued. The scared Milliken hanging about his blessed Lavinia, and entreating and imploring her to be calm. Mrs. Milliken was calm. She asserted her dignity as mistress of her own family: as controller of her own household, as wife of her adored husband; and she told her mamma, that with her or hers she must not interfere; that she knew her duty as a child: but that she also knew it as a wife, as a— The rest of the sentence was drowned as Milliken, rushing to her, called her his soul's angel, his adored blessing. Lady Kicklebury remarked, that Shakespeare was very right in stating, how much sharper than a thankless tooth it is to have a serpent child. Mrs. Milliken said, the conversation could not be carried on in this manner: that it was best her mamma should now know, once for all, that the way in which she assumed the command at Pigeoncot was intolerable; that all the servants had given warning, and it was with the greatest difficulty they could be soothed; and that, as their living together only led

to quarrels and painful recriminations (the calling her, after her forbearance, a serpent child, was an expression which she would hope to forgive and forget), they had better part. Lady Kicklebury wears a front, and, I make no doubt, a complete jascy; or she certainly would have let down her back hair at this minute, so overpowering were her feelings, and so bitter her indignation at her daughter's black ingratitude. She intimated some of her sentiments, by ejaculatory conjurations of evil. She hoped her daughter might not feel what ingratitude was; that she might never have children to turn on her and bring her to her grave with grief. 'Bring me to the grave with fiddle-stick!' Mrs. Milliken said with some asperity. 'And, as we are going to part, Mamma, and as Horace has paid everything on the journey as yet, and we have only brought a very few circular notes with us, perhaps you will have the kindness to give him your share of the travelling expenses; for you, for Fanny, and your two servants, whom you would bring with you, and the man has only been a perfect hindrance and great useless log, and our courier has had to do everything. Your share is now eighty-two pounds.'—Lady Kicklebury at this gave three screams, so loud that even the resolute Lavinia stopped in her speech. Her ladyship looked wildly: 'Lavinia! Horace! Fanny, my child,' she said, 'come here, and listen to your mother's shame.' 'What?' cried Horace, aghast. 'I am ruined! I am a beggar! Yes; a beggar. I have lost all—all at yonder dreadful table.'

What has been said and shown will sufficiently indicate the company which Mr. Thackeray invites us to keep in this Christmas book, the pattern of his adventures, and the colour of his speculations.—It is a lively *ephemeron*: meant by its shrewd author for nothing better. He has accordingly put forth in it not a grain of power beyond what will suffice to wing it during its short and merry life, among a wide circle of acquaintance.

#### *The Encumbered Estates of Ireland.* Bradbury & Evans.

THIS very interesting little volume is a reprint in a revised form of a series of letters which appeared in the *Daily News*, in the months of August and September, 1850. The conductors of that spirited newspaper thought that the time had come when it was desirable to have the operation of the Encumbered Estates Act investigated on the spot by a competent "Commissioner." The author of the present volume was accordingly instructed to proceed to Ireland; and making the best use of whatever sources of intelligence or means of observation might be opened to him, faithfully to report the result to his constituents. "The same thing has been done before on a larger scale, and in pursuit of a more imposing object." Ireland has been riddled through and through by "commissioners," authoritative, amateur, and partisan. We have Reports of all sizes and all complexions on Irish evils; and it is no mean commendation of the present sensible little tract to say, that while of necessity it tells us nothing that has not been told fifty times before, it compresses within a small compass perhaps more instruction and amusement than is to be found in any other recent publication on subjects so dreary and threadbare as the destitution of Irish cottiers and mortgagees.

The author's name is not given!—but that is not an omission of any moment. The descriptions must stand or fall by their own truth and merit: the facts are, most of them, matters of notoriety; and the theories of Irish poverty and regeneration which almost irresistibly fasten themselves on every man who investigates with care the condition of that country, must be left to make the best head they can against antagonistic persuasions. The instructions of the "Commissioner" confined him to a particular topic,—and the extent of his personal



survey was limited to a few districts. What he actually saw he has clearly, and often vividly, described. But his faculties of observation surpass his faculties of reflection; and such is the unfortunate nature of Irish questions, that we are almost compelled to allege as a fault against the present volume that, if anything, it is too entertaining,—that, dealing with a grave and intricate question, we are too frequently entertained with anecdotes and choice morsels of family tradition, when those who are really interested in the Encumbered Estates Act, as buyers, or sellers, or philosophical spectators, would rather hear something about bogs, highways, grand juries, peaceable or lawless peasantry, the proximity of railways, and the effects of the present wholesale emigration.—Let us, however, not be misunderstood. We are thankful to the *Daily News* "Commissioner" that, if matters of solid business could not be profitably discussed, he has erred rather on the literary than on the fanatical side. We would ten thousand times rather enliven our memories with stories about spendthrift Dawsons, proud Damers, and declining Kingstons, than be condemned to travel through furious polemics written in defence or in contravention of the English, Celtic or religious hypotheses. We remember too well the unprofitable result of Mr. Foster's inquiry for the *Times*, to desire to have any more special commissioners despatched to Ireland for the mere purpose of riding from Coleraine to Cork upon a hobby.

It would certainly seem that at last something is being done towards the social improvement of Ireland. Within nine months of the opening of the Encumbered Estates Commission, a full *tenth* part of the landed property of the country has been brought by its aid to a peremptory auction. The genuine old Irish squire—the man with a prodigious nominal rental, and ten to one a bailiff at his chair-back disguised in livery—is pretty nearly extinct, even in the most lawless parts of Munster. We are told that middlemen are to cease or to be abated, and that habits of peaceful industry will date their almost universal introduction from the famine. This may perhaps be all true; but the eye wanders with uncertainty and suspicion over the social chaos and contradictions which abound in Ireland. It is impossible for an Englishman not to entertain misgivings of a country which has never effectually helped itself,—of a country where there is agitation without discussion and rebellion without revolt. Irish laws and administrations have been unjust and tyrannical, no doubt; but so have been the political systems of other countries which, somehow or other, have contrived to make bad laws work till good ones could be secured.

We have turned over the pages of this book with a curious interest, and endeavoured to pay special attention to all those passages which seem to indicate the presence of any really new and hopeful feature in Irish social life,—the introduction of Scotch or English labourers,—the settlement of Scotch or English farmers,—or the migration into the vacant fields of the south of Ireland of any of that indomitable enterprise which under other meridians has reclaimed wildernesses more forbidding than those of Galway. We confess, we have not found anything which justifies us in regarding the great and hopeful experiment at present in the hands of the Encumbered Estates Court as much more than as another of those striking opportunities which have before occurred in Ireland, and been soon forgotten. The enterprising men who now connect themselves and their fortunes with Ireland are colonists in the most elevated sense; and they well deserve, if they do not receive, an abundant reward.

We will now refer to the volume itself; and first of all, let us understand precisely what the Encumbered Estates Court has done.—

"The number were very few even here who originally saw in the Encumbered Estates Act anything more than a temporary measure to meet a temporary emergency. At its introduction it was regarded only as a law necessitated by the failure of the potato crop, and the additional embarrassment in which the Irish landlord was thereby involved. Reflecting people did, indeed, see in it a measure of far wider scope and object; but as the empiric observed of the throng that passed his window, the thinking part of the world bore a very small proportion to the unreflecting. If the cause of this admits of explanation, the solution will probably be found in the peculiarly unostentatious manner in which the business of the commission has been all along conducted. In the first instance, the very commissioners themselves appear to have supposed that their duties would be circumscribed. They took a small house in Henrietta Street, close to the King's Inns in Dublin, anticipating, it is evident, a limited amount of business—a dozen calls, it might be, in the course of the day, and a sale of an estate certainly not oftener than once a month. The result, however, has shown that the policy of this Act is infinitely more popular in its character than even its authors anticipated. The Commissioners commenced their sittings on the 25th of October, 1849. On almost the very first day of their sitting seventeen petitions were filed, praying for the sale of deeply mortgaged properties. During the succeeding month of November the Commissioners received 137 similar petitions. I append the number received in each month since:—

October, 1849	17	April, 1850	99
November "	137	May "	135
December "	119	June "	115
January, 1850	129	July "	82
February "	126		
March "	126	Total	1,085

It was not until February last that the Commissioners were able to submit any one of the estates to auction. But from the 14th of that month to the 10th of August, sales were proceeded with with tolerable regularity. In the whole, nearly one hundred properties, great and small, have been submitted to public competition. They have been sold in upwards of three hundred lots, and the sales have realized for the creditors of the estates a sum amounting to nearly 750,000*l*."

Take, now, the following passage; and let us not fail to commend the easy and natural flow of the style and the narrative.—

"Two centuries ago the English army had not, as it now has, the advantage of a commissariat. A large portion of its disposable force was at that time concentrated in Ireland, and this force was supplied with food and clothing, stores and money, not by recognized officers, but by followers of the camp, who brought with them, on speculation, all sorts of articles of necessity for officers and men, and a store of ready money, both to purchase such things as it was necessary they should pay for, and to lend to the soldiery who could offer them security. In the memorable days which succeeded the partition of the Irish estates by Cromwell, the English army in Ireland was followed by an individual of this sort whose name was *Joseph Damer*. Damer had been in the service of Cromwell, and knew full well the character of a soldiery. He foresaw that the licence which would succeed the period of restraint would afford opportunities which could be turned to great advantage. Soon after the restoration he accordingly came to Ireland with all the bullion he could collect. He attached himself to the army, and very shortly became the most accommodating of bill-brokers. He required no other security for the debts contracted with him than a cession of the grants of land which Oliver had given to his soldiery. As many of these as he could obtain he would take in liquidation of his demand upon the allottee. And as the soldiery attached but little value to their barren and uncultivated tracts, Damer, even as things then were, got good value for his money. Were we possessed of the materials, it would be curious to contrast the price that Damer then gave with the value now received for the enormous estate he thus acquired. A comparison between his price and the price real-

ised in the Encumbered Estates Court would go far to show the unreasonableness of the complaint that the property of Ireland is undergoing confiscation. The property which Damer acquired was principally in the most beautiful and fertile part of the county of Tipperary. The army left Ireland; but Damer remained in it and took care of his estate. He seems to have been a man of foresight and ability. Many stories are told of him. One legend declares that he purchased, in the shape of a barrel of lard, the gold and silver plate and other valuables of the monks of Clonmel, who had thus packed away their property in order to conceal it. It soon became a proverbial expression in Ireland, 'as rich as Damer.' In his later years he is described to have been a miser, and the superstitious are said to have believed that his riches were guarded by a spirit, who, in the shape of a wolf, a cow, or a hen, chased away all who came to disturb them. Joseph Damer died in 1720, at the great age of ninety-one. He divided all his property between two nephews, leaving to the eldest his property in Ireland, and to the youngest some possessions which he had in Dorsetshire. The eldest died, and is buried in a churchyard near to Tipperary. The youngest married Lady Caroline Sackville, daughter of Lionel, Duke of Dorset. He was created in 1753 an Irish peer, by the title of Baron Milton, of Throne Hill, county Tipperary; and, in 1762, an English peer by the same title. In 1792 he was made Earl of Dorchester. He had a son and two daughters. The son died unmarried in 1808, and the title became extinct. One daughter married a Dawson, younger son of Lord Portarlington; the other, Lady Caroline Damer, last of the race and name, possessed the estates for her life, and then they went to her only relatives, the issue of her sister, who assumed the double name of Dawson-Damer."

Leaving the line of Dawson-Damer—so characteristic in its origin, its transformations, and its fall, of Irish foibles and mutability,—let us look into that desperate region of Connemara from which, during the last three years, there have proceeded so many cries of anguish and bereavement. Connemara looks down on the Atlantic Ocean; and on the opposite shores of that great sea there are cities and communities which never come before the world in the suppliant attitude assumed now for so long a time by the inhabitants of this immense district of the United Kingdom. There, is the fact. If we could explain it, we should have less occasion to send peripatetic commissioners to Ireland.—

"Before I commence the journey I propose today, let me draw a very necessary distinction. 'Connemara' is not 'Galway,' although it is situated in the county which bears that name. The two districts are widely dissimilar. Galway Proper, by which I mean the country eastward of the county town, is a flat, bleak, uninteresting tract, unrelieved by undulation, and rendered the more cheerless in its aspect by the boulders of grey limestone, which protrude above the surface in close but detached masses of hard rock. Sometimes there are whole fields in which this rock is so abundant, that it seems at a short distance as if no blade of grass could possibly find room to grow there. But I am told that the spots of land which lie between these protruding rocks afford excellent browsing for sheep and cattle, and will produce occasionally admirable crops. If any one fancies a territory in this district, Lord Gort's estate, on the borders of the counties of Clare and Galway, is likely to come into the market. It comprises, I am told, the best tract in the district; but as I only saw the property in passing, I cannot undertake its description. Nothing that I have described as appertaining to the county of Galway applies in any way to the romantic region from which I now address you. Connemara is a country of high mountains, deep and narrow valleys, myriads of little gleaming lakes, and deep sea bays, penetrating so far into the interior that no portion of the district is situate more than five miles from existing navigation. It is from this latter distinctive characteristic that Connemara takes its name. Rhythmically and poetically it expresses to us that this is the land of



the 'bays of the sea.' Having spoken of the difficulties of travel in Connemara twenty years ago, I must not omit in the outset to recognize thankfully the facilities which are now afforded. Admirable roads have been carried through the entire district, roads so good that they exhibit in their construction the master-mind of a first-rate engineer. Excellent Bianconian cars perform their daily journeys through these wilds from Galway and Clifden on the south, and on the northern side of the mountains from Clifden to the Killeries and Westport, in the county of Mayo. And this is by far the pleasantest way of seeing Connemara. These public vehicles are all well horsed and well appointed. I will not answer that he who takes a private car will find himself by any means at all so well supplied. All the way from Galway to the place from whence I write, the country is interesting. For the first few miles, the road skirts the shores of Lough Corrib, and affords glimpses of that great navigable inland sea, and its many scattered islets. But the town of Oughterard, sixteen miles from Galway, must be passed ere the glories of Connemara can be said to commence. After ascending a steep hill on the west side of that town, the traveller at once emerges upon a wild district, presenting every possible combination of lake, moor, streamlet, valley, bog, and mountain. The road winds along the side of steep and rugged hills, which seem almost to overhang the boughs or streams which slumber placidly or fiercely brawl beneath. Twelve miles of such country brings the traveller to a road-side public-house, which is dignified by the name of inn. As the only place of shelter for many long and weary miles, 'Flynn's,' or 'Half-way House,' as it is called, has obtained great notoriety with travellers in Connemara. It affords to tired pedestrians two humble beds, and the use of mountain ponies, should they desire to prosecute their journey upon other legs than their own. 'Flynn's' has the advantage of being situated in the immediate proximity, not only of admirable trout fishing, but of some of the finest mountain scenery. From its neighbourhood, too, a road diverges to the north, conducting the traveller by a short cut to the village of Cong—a route, however, untravellered by a public vehicle, and which it will be left for the Lough Corrib steam-boats more completely to open to the traveller. After passing 'Flynn's' the lakes grow wider, and the features of the country assume, perhaps, a somewhat gentler, though in no degree less interesting aspect. The traveller passes a very charming spot, called Glendalough, on which a mountain residence was formed by the late Dean Mahony, which is now, I understand, occupied by his son. At length, to follow the description in the fairy tale, the traveller arrives at a lake more beautiful than any he has passed, whereon he sees an islet crowned by the ruins of an ancient castle, and further away among a grove of trees, the glittering roof of a mansion, which bears many of the marks of modern taste and decoration. This is Ballynahinch, whilome the residence of the lords of all this territory. Through forty miles of country, all the way from Galway, the traveller has passed through a district which owned one lord, or, more recently, one lady. Through forty miles of country, the Martins of Ballynahinch could drive from the county town to their own threshold, without passing through another man's domain. As regards mere territory, this family possessed more acres than any other in the empire. Alas, alas, that the whole should pass away from them; that not one rood should remain which another generation of Martins should be entitled to call theirs. Of the families in Ireland which boast no Milesian descent, it is perhaps difficult to find one which claims higher origin than this family of Martin. They derive from a Norman warrior, who accompanied Richard Cœur de Lion to the Holy Land, and who shared that king's captivity on his return. Sir Olive Martin was knighted by Richard, who conferred on him the remarkable armorial bearings which the family bear to the present hour. They consist, to describe them heraldically, of 'Azure, a cross Calvary, Or, on three degrees; in the dexter chief, the sun in splendour, and in the sinister chief, the moon in crescent.' Motto: 'Sic itur ad astra.' How came such a family in Connemara? Their ancestor accompanied the first English army that invaded Ireland. He settled in Galway, and became the founder of one of

the thirteen tribes. Ballynahinch, however, was not acquired by him. That territory was obtained upon its confiscation from the O'Flahertys by a descendant, who is said to have been a Galway lawyer. But the conduct of the Martins, almost from the moment they obtained possession, effaces every unfavourable reminiscence as to the mode in which the property may have been originally acquired. The Martins to the utmost of their power have been kind and liberal landlords to an attached and confiding people. Even in their embarrassments, they never oppressed or evicted. They have even wanted themselves, that they might render assistance to those who were dependent on them. Of how few Irish landlords can the same be said! If there had been more such instances of virtue, how loud would now have been the wail—how deeply felt the sorrow and regret—in districts where the dispossession of the ancient owners is at present almost a subject of rejoicing?

This is too intelligent a book, on the whole, to be either the first or the last production of its writer. But his next subject should be something not quite so serious as matters of debt, poverty and labour in Ireland.—The *Daily News* has published, too, other series of papers which certainly ought to be preserved in a collective form. Why, for example, do not the political reformers give a permanent niche in their and our libraries to the excellent, learned, and amusing letters on the Representative System?—and we should like to persuade a "Midland Counties Farmer" to permit us to digest at our leisure in an octavo form those acute and sensible criticisms on feeding and farming which at present we have either to skip or to skim. Some of the best and most useful productions of our literature are now contributed to the daily press; and as a matter of business, we conceive that it would be no bad speculation to take advantage of particular junctures and seasons to bring before the public with due discrimination and in a compass suited to the railway carriage or the pocket, compositions which in their original shape can be read only in a hurry, and if retained at all must be laid up with bales of useless print.—Why do not the "Railway Libraries" look to this?

#### OUR LIBRARY TABLE.

*The Girlhood of Shakespeare's Heroines.—Tale I. Portia, the Heiress of Belmont.* By Mary Cowden Clarke.—That Mrs. Cowden Clarke's love of Shakspeare is neither a passing folly nor an affected enthusiasm, her 'Concordance' gives proof honourable to herself and honoured among female literary enterprises. But her new undertaking can hardly be allowed to shelter itself under the protection of this absorbing passion, so as to be sacred from the "slings and arrows" of good-natured raillery. Were a fashion to be hereby set, what a library might be looked for!—We have long felt uneasy about 'Queen Lear,' also concerning 'Lady Macbeth's Governess.' Then, the *Donna* that the *Merchant of Venice* married after *Shylock's* vexatious suit was dismissed is not a person of whom a history can be dispensed with. Some, too, would like to know what became of *Audrey's* daughters.—M. Scribe the other day showed us sufficient of the witch *Sycorax* in her rock-prison to warrant some curiosity as to the further misdeeds which so dangerous an islander doubtless committed, besides those set by M. Halévy and sung by Mlle. Bertrand.—Are we to have all these?—not to mention the chronicle of *Beatrice's* insulted lovers, also of the suitors who beset *Imogen* when she kept house during her lord's absence?—If this deluge of further particulars be impending, are we not justified in hoping that these may be delivered to us by appendical Shakespeares or Shakspeareesses? The attempt, in short, can be justified only by the success; and it seems a pity that the acceptance given to the 'Tales' of gentle Charles and quaint Mary Lamb, and to the ingenious and elegant speculations of Mrs. Jameson,—should have beguiled other writers to repeat like experi-

ments in an extended and diluted form.—Mrs. Cowden Clarke's fancy of *Portia* in her girlhood is pretty; but *Portia* the maiden and *Portia* the wife were, to our thinking, something far more than this. It is hard work—let them doubt it who will—to lead up to the point at which Shakspeare begins; and while we heartily recognize Mrs. Clarke's love as the origin of this book, she must allow ours a hearing—and permit us to suggest the possibility of a little more reverence in silence on the part of the loving. There are a moral and authority in the well-known Stratford epitaph which we think might be judiciously applied to these additions and ekings-out.

*The Study of Modern Languages.* By F. A. Moschzisker.—A German treatise on the importance of the study of modern languages, as being the best exercise of the mind, a means of getting access to the treasures of foreign literature, and capable of extensive use in business. The appendix contains some information with regard to the language of the Hungarians and their Slavonic neighbours.

*Selections from French Poets, rendered into English Verse.* By R. F. Hodgson.—The poets here translated are, Béranger, Victor Hugo, Lamartine, and others of the last and present centuries. Mr. Hodgson—who is described as belonging to the Bengal Service—calls the volume "the solace of some lonely hours." As such it will no doubt be read with interest by his friends, and may claim the indulgence of the public. Whether it will raise modern French poetry in the estimation of the English, we do not venture to foretell:—but we cannot help thinking a better selection might have been made. The translations are not remarkable for fidelity, elegance, or force.

*An Analysis and Summary of Thucydides.* By the Author of 'An Analysis and Summary of Herodotus.'—Students of Thucydides will find this a very serviceable book. It contains an excellent summary of the whole history, divided into sections and paragraphs, with a brief description of the contents of each printed in striking type. The speeches are given in a condensed but distinct paraphrase. There are, also, an outline of the geography of Greece, and a chronological table of leading events. The whole is got up in such a way as to be scarcely less valuable to an ordinary English reader than to a student preparing for examination.

#### NEW SERIALS.

Mr. Charles Knight seizes time by the forelock in regard to the coming year of foreign and provincial invasion. Several new serial works of his, especially dedicated to the services of the year 1851, appear by instalment on our library table. The first that claims attention is a new work on Art and Manufactures, with the appropriate and taking title of *Cyclopædia of the Industry of all Nations*. This is a vast subject,—varied, important and ever changing. It is a subject, moreover, on which but little of the information that is most useful and will be now most sought after has been "posted," as the merchants say, in popular dictionaries and cyclopædias. Mr. Knight's task is, therefore, one of very considerable research and difficulty. Each manufacture should be dealt with by a person practically acquainted with its best methods, machinery, and processes; while the purely distributive sections—those treating of the commerce of the subject—require a different sort of knowledge and a much wider range of experience. Without pretending to supply such new and complete information as we could desire, the 'Cyclopædia of the Industry of all Nations' is calculated to meet a pressing popular want. For many months to come Arts and Manufactures will be among the chief subjects of discussion in the press of conversation in all circles. Prince and peasant will have this common object of interest; and high and low will alike find the necessity of some enlargement of their knowledge of fabrics, natural productions, and machinery. Mr. Knight seems to have considered this in his scheme, which has therefore assumed rather a popular than a scientific or an artistic form. The different articles on which information is afforded are ranged in column, after the fashion of dictionaries. Each weekly number



is embellished with an illustration. It is proper to observe that the scheme is before us only in part;—the first half of the work—devoted to an account of countries and districts, with reference to their natural productions—the great seats of Industry—home, colonial and foreign, commerce, and the means of communication—and lives of the most celebrated inventors, scientific discoverers, and artists—is to be different in its form from the second half, which will be devoted to the Exhibition and its contents. The latter will not be in the dictionary form; but will embrace a record of the great Gathering of Industry, and an exposition of its practical results. The information which Mr. Knight now proposes to afford, should be familiar to those who hope to turn the Exhibition to good educational and practical account.

The *Cyclopædia of London* is another useful undertaking of the same popular cast. It is for the greater part a carefully condensed copy of the larger work on London issued by the same publisher some years ago, and now, we believe, out of print. The illustrations are pretty, and it is altogether a marvel of cheapness. It will form an excellent and interesting guide-book to the stranger in London. We have also before us the first four parts of a new edition of the "National"—of the Pictorial Shakespeare. Though not intended by its editor to displace the former and more expensive edition—this will be in some respects—besides its cheapness—more adapted for general use. The long essays prefixed and appended to the former have been enlarged, corrected, and separated from the text of Shakespeare, and printed in a volume under the title of 'Shakespeare Studies.' That work ranges in size with the new edition of the 'Biography,'—also much amended and reduced,—and with the present illustrated text—so that readers may buy the whole body of critical disquisition or not at their choice. The text is not arranged in double columns as before, but runs across the entire page. The type is clear and handsome—the paper good—the illustrations (well known for their beauty and truthfulness) still retain their sharp outlines. It is on the whole another marvel of cheapness. The last part contains one hundred and four pages of letter-press and illustrations, such as we have described, and sells for twelve pence!—*Half-Hours with the Best Authors* is a reprint, on a larger sheet, of the four admirable volumes of selections by Mr. Knight. Of all 'Beauties of Literature,' 'Elegant Extracts,' and the like, these 'Half-Hours' are the most pleasant and profitable. Mr. Knight cherishes an earnest love for our old literature; but unlike some readers of the Tudor and Stuart writers, he indulges in no fanciful crotchets against the moderns. This is pretty clear from the place which he has given to the late Lord Jeffrey's article on the decline of Swift, Addison and Pope's influence in the world of letters in his collection of choice passages. 'The Pictorial Half-Hours' is a work of a useful, but quite a different kind. It is a collection of outlines and engravings—some of them of great beauty and novelty—to which the letter-press is subservient. It is a very proper companion to the literary 'Half-Hours.'

The *Land We Live In* has reached Part XXXVII., which is occupied with an account of the Port of London. The work is approaching completion, and will then form a very attractive companion for the excursion train.

Among other serials that deserve a good word at our hands, we may rank the *Penny Maps* high in the scale. Cheap and accurate maps are certainly much wanted in these days of general reading. To every one whose acquaintance with books goes beyond the lowest class of circulating libraries maps are an assistance, if not a necessity; and Messrs. Chapman & Hall will deserve the thanks of thousands if they complete this hazardous but most useful undertaking in the spirit with which it has hitherto been conducted.

From the press of the Messrs. Tallis we have the first part of a new and illustrated edition of *Shakespeare* and two parts of a new work on *London*. The illustrations are very good, and the

paper and printing fine. The edition is to be enriched (?) by all the doubtful plays being included. Why not also include those that are spurious? 'Vortigern' has as good a title to appear in the list of Shakespeare's works as some of those which we hear it is intended to include in this edition.—The *Illustrated London* is very weak in the literary department,—being a poor compilation from a poor compilation. The engravings are much superior to the text,—but they want the air of truth. They put London—drear and smoky, dark and lowering London—into the brightest of lights and gayest of pinks and rose colours. Its grimy stone and dirty plaster are made to look like polished marble in a morning sun. To those who are fond of pretty pictures and are not very particular about their fidelity, Mr. Tallis's book may afford satisfaction.

## LIST OF NEW BOOKS.

- Across the Atlantic, by the Author of 'Sketches of Cantabs,' 5s. cl.  
Ainsworth's Works, Vols. 13, 14, 'Lancashire Witches,' 3s. bds., 4s. cl.  
Animals from Sketch-Book of Harrison Weir, 4to. 7s. 6d. cl.  
Annual Monitor (The) for 1861, 18mo., 1s. 6d. cl.  
Basile's Pentameron, translated by Taylor, rest 8s. 6s. cl.  
Beres's (Archd.) 23 Short Sermons on Church Catechism, 4s. 6d.  
Bilby and Kidway's Book of Quadrupeds, sq. 3s. 6d. cl.  
Biography of Her Majesty and Prince Albert, 16mo., 2s. 6d. bds.  
Chance and Choice, or the Education of Circumstances, 7s. 6d. cl.  
Creswell's (Rev. Dr.) The Works of the Rev. Dr. Cresswell, 18mo., 2s. 6d. cl.  
Chronological New Testament (The), 4to., 10s. cl.  
Cobbin's (Ingram) Child's Commentator, 1 vol., sq., 10s. 6d. cl.  
Collins's (Rev.) The Young, 'Fountain of Living Waters,' 1s. cl.  
Coe's History of Popish Transubstantiation, new ed., 6s. cl.  
Cottage Monthly Visitor, Vol. 50, for 1860, 4s. 6d. bds., 4s. 6d. hf. bd.  
Cunningham's (Rev. Dr.) God in History, 2nd ed., 4s. 2s. 6d. cl.  
Daily Steps towards Heaven, 3rd ed., 3mo., 2s. 6d. cl., 4s. 6d. mor.  
Danton's (M.) Word in Season for the Year, 18mo., 2s. cl.  
Deville's Key to Exercises in French Grammar, new ed., 12mo., 3s. 6d.  
De la Roche's (M.) Six Semaines en France, 12mo., 3s. 6d. cl.  
Disraeli's Charles the First, new ed., 10s. 6d. cl., 3 vols., 23s.  
Dixon's (P.) Geology and Fossils of Sussex, 4to., 3s. 3s. cl.  
Dream Chintz (The), by Author of 'Trap to catch a Sunbeam,' 5s.  
Drummond's (H.) Prayers, Selected and Arranged, 6s. 2d. cl.  
Eastbury, a Tale, by Anna H. Drury, 4s. 6d. cl.  
East India Register and Army List, 1861, by P. Clarke, 10s.  
Elementary Course of Mathematics for Royal Military Academy, Vol. 1, royal 8vo., 18s. cl.  
Emilia Trevor, or the Vale of Elwy, by a Lady, 12mo., 2s. cl.  
Family Friend (The), Vol. III, post 8vo., 2s. 6d. cl., 3s. 6d. cl. gilt.  
Fletcher's Lectures on Roman Catholic Religion, 6th ed., 4s. 6d. cl.  
Florist (The) and Garden Miscellany, 1860, 8vo., 15s. 6d. cl.  
Friends in Council, new edition, 2 vols., 6s. 12s. cl.  
Fourier's Passions of the Human Soul, trans. by Morell, 2 vols., 21s.  
Foxe's Martyrs, by the Rev. Herbert Seymour, royal 8vo., 11s. 4s. cl.  
Giff's (Rev.) Letters, new ed., 6s. cl.  
Giff's Small Tenements Rating, 12s. 6d. cl.  
Greek Philosophy, Socrates to Coming of Christ, 2nd ed., 2s. 6d. cl.  
Green's Nursery Keepsake, new ed., 8s. 4s. 6d. cl.  
Greenwell's (Dora) Stories that might be True, 4s. cl.  
Goodman and De la Roche, from the German, by Cochrane, 3s.  
Guthrie's Christian's Great Inheritance, 12mo., 3s. 6d. cl.  
Harrison's (Archdeacon) Six Sermons on the Church, 8vo., 5s. 6d. cl.  
Hints for Happy Hours, or Amusements for all Ages, 3s. 6d. cl.  
History for Holidays, Exercises on Eng. Hist. 3 series, 1s. 6d. each.  
Hodge's (V. H.) Royal 8vo., 4s. cl.  
Howden's (R.) Tract for the People, 2s. cl.  
Howitt's Biographical Sketches of Queens of Great Britain, 31s. 6d.  
Howitt's (R.) The Natural History of Love, 12mo., 1s. swd.  
Image of his Father, by the Brothers Mayhew, new ed., 3s. 6d. cl.  
Imagined States of Farm Book-keeping, by Author of 'British Husbandry,' 8vo., 3s. cl.  
Jameson's Memoirs of Beauties of Court of Charles II, imp. 8vo., 25s.  
Jervise's Acts, 11 & 12 Vict. c. 42, 43, 44, by J. F. Archbold, Esq., 8s.  
Ken's (Bishop) Life, by a Layman, 8vo., 14s. cl.  
Ken's (Bishop) The Ocean Queen and Spirit of the Storm, 4s. pl., 5s. cl.  
Longfellow's (W. W.) Poetical Works, illustrated, 4s. 6d. cl.  
Macdonald's (Emilie) Magic Words, Christmas Tale, 6s. 2d. cl.  
Macgregor's (J.) Eastern Music, with Illustrations, 4to., 2s. 6d. swd.  
Magazine for the Young, Volume for 1860, 18mo., 2s. 6d. half bd.  
May's Letters on Popular Superstitions, 2nd ed., post 8vo., 6s. cl.  
Merland, a Story of Scotland, 12mo., 1s. 6d. cl.  
Merry Tales for Little Folk, ed. by Madame de Chateleine, 5s. 6d.  
McIntosh's (Maria) Evenings at Donaldson Manor, 6s. 6d. cl.  
Newton's (Sir I.) Correspondence with Prof. Cotes, by Edleston, 10s.  
Nichols's (J. P.) The Planetary System, its Order, &c., post 8vo., 4s. 6d.  
O'Brien's (J. P.) The Planetary System, its Order, &c., post 8vo., 4s. 6d.  
Pages (J.) The Fractional Calculator, 4s. 6d. cl.  
Peacock at Home, by Mrs. Dorset, illustrated and illuminated, 5s.  
Public Good (The), Vol. 1, 2s. 6d. cl.  
Rever's Prize Essay on Contentment, with Intro. by March, 1s. 6d.  
Richard's (Rev.) Book, 8th series, or Third Winter Book, 1s. swd.  
Roe's Analytical Journal for Simplifying Accounts of Manchester Unity, folio, 12s. 6d. half bd.  
Royal Blue Book, for 1861, 24mo., 5s. bd.  
Rowbotham's Art of Landscape Painting in Water Colours, 1s.  
Sacred Images Doctrinally Considered, by Psychologist, 12 10s.  
Sale's True Catholic and Apostolic Faith of Church of England, 4s.  
Seven Days of the Old and New Creation, 6s. 10s. cl.  
Shaw's Union Officer's Manual for 1861, ed. by W. C. Glen, 4s. cl.  
Smith's (Horace) Poetical Works, in 1 vol. 12mo., 5s. 6d. cl.  
Sculpture, 8s. 6s. cl.  
Steinmetz's (A.) History of the Jesuits, 3 vols., 8vo., 11s. 4s. cl.  
Tales from Catland, by an Old Tabby, small 4to., 2s. 6d. cl.  
Tattersall's (A.) Pictorial Gallery of English Race Horses, 12 10s.  
Taylor's (Rev. C. B.) The Angels' Song, a Christmas Token, 6s. 2d.  
Tellers illustrated in Faint Designs, by Jessie M. Leod, 12 11s. 6d.  
Titmarsh's (M. A.) The Kickerbury on the Rhine, 4to., 7s. 6d. cl.  
Tracts for Christian Seasons, Second Series, Vol. 3, 4s. 6d. cl.  
Tytler's History of Scotland, Index to 1st, 2nd, 3rd, 4th, 5th, 6th, 7th, 8th, 9th, 10th, 11th, 12th, 13th, 14th, 15th, 16th, 17th, 18th, 19th, 20th, 21st, 22nd, 23rd, 24th, 25th, 26th, 27th, 28th, 29th, 30th, 31st, 32nd, 33rd, 34th, 35th, 36th, 37th, 38th, 39th, 40th, 41st, 42nd, 43rd, 44th, 45th, 46th, 47th, 48th, 49th, 50th, 51st, 52nd, 53rd, 54th, 55th, 56th, 57th, 58th, 59th, 60th, 61st, 62nd, 63rd, 64th, 65th, 66th, 67th, 68th, 69th, 70th, 71st, 72nd, 73rd, 74th, 75th, 76th, 77th, 78th, 79th, 80th, 81st, 82nd, 83rd, 84th, 85th, 86th, 87th, 88th, 89th, 90th, 91st, 92nd, 93rd, 94th, 95th, 96th, 97th, 98th, 99th, 100th, 101st, 102nd, 103rd, 104th, 105th, 106th, 107th, 108th, 109th, 110th, 111th, 112th, 113th, 114th, 115th, 116th, 117th, 118th, 119th, 120th, 121st, 122nd, 123rd, 124th, 125th, 126th, 127th, 128th, 129th, 130th, 131st, 132nd, 133rd, 134th, 135th, 136th, 137th, 138th, 139th, 140th, 141st, 142nd, 143rd, 144th, 145th, 146th, 147th, 148th, 149th, 150th, 151st, 152nd, 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dangers of the last few days are still too vividly before us,—and even now we have not yet reached a place of safety. During the last ten days, our march has been one of constant warfare,—as we have had to pass the dangerous frontiers between the Asger and Hagar-Tuareicks and the Keloës (another tribe of Tuareicks). Day and night we were followed and surrounded by numbers of Hagars, on their Meharis, with the intent to murder and plunder us. On the 25th of August, we were attacked by about forty armed men, mounted on camels,—and last night our caravan had to withstand 100 of the enemy. In both instances the result was the same. They first demanded nothing less than the lives of all the Christians in the caravan; they then required that the Christians should either become Mussulmans on the spot, or else should return to Ghat; and eventually we had to pay a high ransom, consisting of all our best merchandise. That we did not lose all our effects, instruments, and even our lives, we owe to the conduct and exertions of the Keloës and the bravery of the Tenelkum-Tuareicks, who had our effects under their charge. These latter had among them in all fourteen guns (muskets), which rendered them an imposing force against the enemy. Here, at Seloufiet—a place consisting of butts built of grass—there is a sort of government, under some religious Mussulmans (Marabouts), with a Sherif of Mekka at their head; and at this place we are safer than in the Wadis, where every Hagar considers himself a sheikh. In three days, we hope to be at Tin-Tellus, the residence of En-Nour, Sultan of the Keloës;—where we trust we shall be in greater safety.

The Sudan route from Ghat to Air is described by Dr. Overweg as a mountain path, leading over ridges, table-lands and deep-cut rocky valleys. Wherever the Wadis become broader, and, through the agencies of rain are covered with disintegrated rocks and sand, they show a scanty vegetation of grass and trees. The geological character of the country is here of much greater interest. From Mursik to Ghat, and five days to the south beyond Ghat, the prevailing formation consists of sandstone of various colours,—with, throughout, the same petrographical aspect of the rocks, the same slopes of the mountains and intersections of the valleys; and the same horizontal strata. At Aggeri, the entire scene suddenly changes. The mountains are now rounded,—and strata forming projecting terraces are no longer seen. The travellers found themselves all at once in the regions of granite; the whole country between Aggeri and Air consisting of crystalline, (so called) primitive rocks,—with mica-slate and enormous masses of granite in great diversity of mountain forms. From Ghat, the general surface of the country continues to rise, and at Seloufiet the travellers saw around them the highest mountain masses met with on their journey. After the middle of August, they experienced the influence of the Sudan rains;—the atmosphere then beginning to be humid, and the evenings or mornings being accompanied by fogs. Frequent thunder-storms and heavy rains also occurred. Under the influence of these rains the aspect of the Wadis became completely changed:—luxuriant plantations of palms being everywhere met with to the south of Taradshit. According to the natives, the rainy season lasts till the end of September.

The information received respecting the present political condition of Sudan and Bornu prognosticated well for the success of the Expedition. Peace reigns everywhere. A powerful government is maintained in Sudan by the Fellatahs and their Sultan at Sakatta,—and in Bornu by Arab tribes and their Sheikh, Amur el Kanemi, at Kouka, whereby the caravan roads in those countries are rendered quite safe.

One of the wealthiest of the Arab merchants, who has travelled a great deal, informed Dr. Overweg that the Sheikh of Bornu is on friendly terms with Wadai, and that caravans continually go from Bornu to Egypt by the way of Wadai and Darfur.

A postscript of the 29th of August says:—"The inhabitants have shown themselves hostile, and taken all our camels; but the Marabouts, having found in their Book [the Koran] something in

our favour, have afforded us their protection, and promised to see us safe to Tin-Tellus to-morrow."

From information received from the English Consul at Mursik, it appears that the Expedition has reached Tin-Tellus in safety.

#### OUR WEEKLY GOSSIP.

THE little appreciation at present entertained of the old dramatic literature of our country both by book-buyers and by the public generally, was curiously exhibited during the present week, as far as prices are concerned, by the sale at Messrs. Sotheby & Wilkinson's of the extensive dramatic library of the late Mr. John Fullarton,—well known, no doubt, to many of our readers by his works on many intricate questions connected with the currency. Rare plays and tracts which used to realize in the days of Stevens and Malone, of Heber and the Duke of Roxburgh—as lately, indeed, as the time of Mr. Jolley and Mr. Miller—prices which forbade persons with purses of ordinary depth to enter into competition with the least chance of success—sold on the present occasion for less than a half, and some as low as two-thirds, of their former amounts. Whether it is that the drama is less thought of at present—or that the class of collectors has worn out, and two or three eager collectors no longer buoy a book up to more than its public worth,—we shall not stay to inquire. We, however, shrewdly suspect that the latter comes nearest the truth; and when it shall become generally known that old plays are selling for sums nearer to their real value, we shall have another race of collectors, who by competing for some great rarity, will, as far as prices are concerned, give the old drama a lift to its former height. Mr. Fullarton seems to have entertained a very strong liking for the drama generally—finding it, no doubt, a pleasurable relaxation from his financial inquiries. He was not a collector merely of the Elizabethan drama—but extended his collection with zeal and success to the writers of the Restoration and to the times of Colman and O'Keefe. In this way he had brought together many curious things;—the result of the late Mr. Rodd's anxious gatherings in aid of his collection;—and also of his own inquiries at shops and stalls in all quarters of Great Britain. Nor would he appear to have bought plays, as some have done, as mere curiosities;—his collection of the works of Settle, Ravenscroft, D'Urfey and other uncollected dramatists was a peculiarity in his collection which book-buyers would do well to imitate. But it is time to come to prices;—about which we shall have doubtless raised the curiosity of many of our readers,—more especially of those in America, now the stronghold of high prices and the home of genuine collectors. The "John Daye" edition, without date, of 'Ferrex and Porrex' brought 8*l.* 15*s.*—the very same copy having brought at Bindley's sale, as much as 16*l.* 10*s.* The rare play of 'Warning for fair Women' (4*to.* 1599) sold for 8*l.* 5*s.*—Mr. Fullarton having paid for it at Mr. Jolley's sale (a few years ago) as much as 19*l.* 5*s.*, and, it is said, thinking it cheap at that price. The 'Tragedie of Antonie,' by the Countess of Pembroke (4*to.* 1595), was knocked down at 5*l.*! The 'Wisdom of Dr. Dodypoll,' as sundrie times acted by the children of Powles' (4*to.* 1600) brought 3*l.* 10*s.*—while 'The first Part of the true and honorable History of the Life of Sir John Oldcastle, the good Lord Cobham,' was knocked down for 2*l.* 16*s.* The D'Urfey Plays brought 2*l.* 15*s.*—and the Settle's 1*l.* 18*s.*—the latter including the first edition of 'The Empress Morocco,' adorned "with sculptures,"—a play so rare that Kemble had failed in finding a copy, and was enabled to add one to his collection only by Sir Walter Scott stripping his Dryden books to give it to him.

A correspondent has called our attention to the slovenly way in which many auctioneers continue to catalogue books intrusted to them by executors and others,—and has more especially brought before us the catalogue of a sale at Barn Elms, in Surrey (the sale, it is understood, of the late Vice Chancellor Shadwell). Here we find 20 lots of "Operas bound in Russia leather,"—the last lot

"Ditto," actually consisting (as was afterwards discovered) of a fine Russia copy of the works (Opera) of Cicero. Lot 405 of the same sale, called "French Chronicle of London, bound in cloth, 1, and 48 others various," turned out to be a set of the publications of the Camden Society!—If catalogues are to be used out of the sale room, they should be made out better than in the example which our correspondent has brought before us. But books, again, may be over-catalogued,—that is, over-described; or they may be catalogued in Mr. Panizzi's manner—according to a code of ninety rules, understood only by the cataloguer and his followers, if, indeed, understood by them.

The Council of University College, London, have appointed Mr. J. A. Russell, of the Northern Circuit, Professor of English Law, as successor to the late Mr. Marshman;—and Arthur Hugh Clough, M.A., late Fellow and Tutor of Oriel College, Oxford, and now Principal of University Hall, London, to the Professorship of English Language and Literature, vacated by Mr. A. J. Scott, on his becoming Principal of Owens College, Manchester.

The *Cape Town Mail* of the 12th of October has the following:—"Another exploring party sailed for Walwich Bay last week in the *Iris*, with the intention of penetrating from thence into the interior. It consists of Mr. Henry Gassiot, with the two Messrs. Dolman and their attendants. They have taken with them three wagons, six horses, and a supply of necessaries for a tour of some length."—The three gentlemen alluded to in this paragraph left this country on the 20th of July last, with the intention of proceeding by steamer from the Cape of Good Hope to Algoa Bay, and from thence to the interior, with the view of tracing the source of the Linpopo. The Messrs. Dolman have on more than one occasion visited the Cape; and the younger, Mr. Alfred Dolman, a short time since, unaccompanied by any European, proceeded to the interior considerably northward of any of the missionary stations. With the advantage of this previous experience, the party anticipated escaping many of those annoyances which are the usual lot of the South African traveller. But on their arrival at Cape Town, they were informed that the emigrant Boers had been very troublesome in the interior, having stopped several parties who were going up the country. This circumstance induced them to alter their intended route entirely—and to charter immediately a small schooner for Walwich Bay: from whence they purpose proceeding to the interior in a northerly direction—a route entirely unknown except for a few miles.

We have received from the Secretary of the Committee of the Society of Arts, named to promote the legislative recognition of the rights of inventors, a note correcting the figures which we used in description of their proposal last week. Their proposal, he says, exacts the payment of 185*l.*, not 361*l.*, as the patent right for twenty-one years. We make the correction,—but must say at the same time that the reduction to this extent does not do away with our objection to the tax:—neither is it in harmony with the literal meaning of the fundamental principles on which that Committee is acting.

A plan is before Congress for crossing the Atlantic in a balloon. Mr. Wise, the projector of this last novelty in the practice of aërostation, is, at least, a bolder man than the "artists" who have recently agitated Vauxhall and the Hippodrome by going up on the backs of donkeys and ostriches, with all sorts of additional absurdities offered as additional attractions. The object of the American aeronaut is, at least, a grand one, if it could be accomplished. There is, we fancy, little chance that Congress will listen to the proposal now made:—Mr. Wise having received more than one negative on his plans from the United States Executive. We remember especially his proposal to capture the fortress of San Juan d'Ulloa—then thought to be impregnable—by the agency of balloons. But it is said to be his intention, should he again meet with a refusal from the Government, to undertake the experiment at his personal risk and cost. From his own observation at various points of the compass, he has become convinced that there exists



in the atmosphere—at the proper elevation—a steady and constant current—moving from west to east at a rate varying from twenty to sixty miles an hour according to the elevation. On this current he is prepared to adventure his life and enterprise. Taking advantage of local currents, says he, the traveller would be able to vary his course thirty or forty degrees, and to complete the circumnavigation of the globe in about thirty days. This would of course enable him to leave Washington *en route*, drop despatches in Europe and China, take a peep at the settlements in the Oregon, and so return by the month's end to the Potomac. There is at least largeness about this scheme to recommend it. The genius of M. Poitevin is finely rebuked by his American brother. But we should not like to go with Mr. Wise on his experimental voyage. The existence of a perpetual air current has yet to be established; and we have no satisfactory knowledge of the way in which a man high up in a balloon can "take advantage" of local currents. We are very much inclined to think that these local currents would have the "advantage" on their side—and before we ventured on the experiment should like to have some guarantee that they would not use it to our detriment. But Mr. Wise has confidence in his system; and if he should establish the feasibility of an air route, the world will be very grateful. We will not, however, incur the responsibility of recommending him to try his dangerous experiment.

Next Session the corporation of London intends to apply to Parliament for a Bill to enable it to complete the fine opening of Victoria Street, to abolish Field Lane, and to let air and light into the miserable dwellings about Saffron Hill. No improvement in the metropolis is more needed than this:—not even excepting the new street through Westminster. But the useful ideas which sway the originators of these two designs must be open to the suggestions of policy and experience. The task of breaking up low neighbourhoods is not without its minor evils—though the good is greatly preponderant. The chief of these evils is, the forcible displacement of the poor from their accustomed homes, without provision being made for their housing in any other locality. This leads to still greater crowding of dwellings already overcrowded and to the inhabitation of property yet more dilapidated and unfit for such a purpose. Improvers think but too little of these things. It is well to open new thoroughfares,—to give freer circulation to such air as a populous city will afford,—but more thought should be taken for those who are cast out of the homes which, though wretched in the extreme, are nevertheless the best they can obtain on their own terms of payment. We think the time has arrived for something to be done, and on a large scale, to lessen the evils which every year's alteration of London is now deepening. Thousands of low-priced houses have been removed from the neighbourhoods of Bloomsbury, Westminster, and Farringdon Without; and now that the success of the model lodging-houses in George Street, Bagnigge Wells and the Broadway has placed beyond a doubt the fact that a very superior class of cottage accommodation can be given on lower terms than are paid in the worst parts of Lambeth and St. Giles, is the time to execute the plan of restoring the number of such dwellings to at least their former proportion to the number of poor. The opportunity to do this will presently come before the municipal body. The unbuilt continuation of Farringdon Street—as is suggested by a correspondent of the *Times*—affords one of the best sites in the metropolis for the erection of a great range of homes for the lower classes. Like the new pile of buildings in Streat-ham Street, Bloomsbury, they might be built in huge masses; but with separate staircases, as in Glasgow and Edinburgh, for each division of the whole. The labourers' houses at Birkenhead would furnish ready-prepared models. Gas could be introduced; baths and washhouses might be added, open also to the rest of the dense locality. The ground-floors might be used as shops. There is every reason to believe that such a pile of property would yield 10 per cent. on the original outlay.

When the prospect of a large profit is combined with humane considerations, there must surely be men in the corporation of London who are willing to make themselves the advocates of a suggested reform. An honourable reputation is to be won in this field of philanthropic labour.

We have often referred to the strange shifts to which advertisers are reduced by the present prohibitive stamp and duty laws, in their attempts to court public attention to their wares. From Poor Dog Tray to the fire balloon, ingenuity has tried the whole gamut of invention. A correspondent of the *Times* now calls attention to the fact that one of the Holywell Street publishers is actually making the coinage of the realm a medium for his advertisements, by stamping the name of his paper on one side and on the other an invitation, in the approved style of such courtesies, to purchase "No. 1." of a certain penny publication. We will remind such persons that the offence of defacing the coinage is a very serious one. Formerly, it was punishable with death:—and it is still, we believe, liable to the penalty of transportation.

The attention of the Royal Irish Academy has lately been called by Dr. Petrie to a remarkable ancient brooch of the mixed metal known by the name of white bronze. The newspapers on the other side of St. George's Channel have given unusual publicity to the matter; with something rather too much of the "puff direct" in favour of the owner of the relic—who seems to be a tradesman in Dublin, and to have the commodity for sale. According to the printed statement, he has already refused several very liberal offers for it. Dr. Petrie states it as his opinion—and few opinions can be of higher value—that the brooch belongs to the eleventh or twelfth century; and he goes at length into a description of the workmanship,—which is of so peculiar and so refined a character that we cannot but entertain some doubt whether it is of Irish, and not of Italian or Continental manufacture. In the case of the Lismore Crozier, the property of the Duke of Devonshire, shown last season to the Society of Antiquaries in London, and subsequently exhibited by the Society of Arts—there was positive proof on the relic that it was made by a particular artist and for a particular bishop. But in this instance of the white bronze brooch (which is elaborately decorated with *niello* and fanciful engraving) such evidence seems to be wanting.—At the same time, knowing the object only from the account which Dr. Petrie gives of it, we are not in a condition to pronounce a judgment of our own on the question. We have no doubt that the brooch is of high antiquity:—all we venture to hint is, that, possibly it may not be of Irish origin.

It is stated that an archaeologist has lately discovered among the archives at Chartres ninety-two original letters of the kings of France,—from Francis the First to Louis the Eighteenth.

Among the signs which suggest to us strange misgivings of the future peace of Germany are the continual attacks of its governments on literature and the press. Even Saxony, once so liberal, has now entered the race of reaction,—and the publishing capital of Central Europe is threatened with the total destruction of its trade. Leipzig, as our readers know, lives on books. It is not alone the great emporium for German literature; but it is also the great central market for the import and delivery of the literature of all nations to Prussia, Russia, Austria, Hungary, Finland, Norway, Sweden, Denmark, and the German principalities. What London is for ordinary traffic Leipzig is for literature. But the Saxon Government seems resolved to drive this intellectual business from the country. The recent press law lays so many restrictions—pronounces so many penalties—exact so many conditions and guarantees on the part of authors, publishers, editors, printers and venders of books—as seriously to cripple the transactions of the most ordinary business. Every one concerned in getting up a book, from the writer of it down to the boy who sells it across the counter, is commanded to ascertain that it contains not a sentence contrary to the new press laws. Another clause empowers the Minister of the Interior to absolutely prohibit any work not actually published in Saxony. Any person in the

least acquainted with the Leipzig trade will know that on such terms it cannot be conducted. The booksellers there are merely distributors. They receive parcels from every corner of Europe. They seldom or never open them. The parcels come from Stuttgart,—and are sent by next train to Hamburg, there to be shipped it may be for London or for New York. Leipzig is merely the literary exchange; and the sellers very often know far less about the contents of their packages than the merchants of Liverpool who receive and transfer merchandise of every kind. The attempt to make them responsible for the contents of their bales must end in the removal of the mart to Brunswick or to Frankfurt.

The French papers announce the death, after a long illness, of a well-known member of the medical profession,—M. Hippolyte Royer-Collard:—Professor at the Faculty of Medicine in Paris.

A legal revolution has just been effected in the state of New York which contrasts very favourably with some of the more recent revolutions made on this side of the Atlantic: the reformers of that thriving State have re-arranged the whole machinery of their law courts. The old forms of procedure being in a great measure inherited from England, they admitted of the same sort of vexatious delays, qualifications, and objections which have made our courts of judicature a national reproach. The go-ahead spirit of our cousin Jonathan had fretted itself for a time against these unnecessary laws; but the public at length lost patience,—and as soon as a reform was demanded it was undertaken and achieved with a celerity which puts the dilatory proceedings of our own Law Commissioners to the blush. The energy, despatch, and success with which a reform that in England is postponed year by year as impossible to carry out has been wrought in New York may be of considerable use to us by way of example. The great work effected at New York with so much readiness and ease cannot be impracticable in London. The "Society for the Amendment of the Law" has taken the matter up here,—and initiated a series of inquiries in the American State—conducted through the agency of the American Minister in this country—tending to show the actual effects of the recent change. It is believed by the most eminent jurists of the Union that the new method will prevent useless litigation,—lead to a speedier settlement of disputes,—and materially reduce costs. But the greatest and most novel part of the procedure is, the clauses which sweep away the whole round of pure technicalities, and by simplifying the machinery, procure decisions on the actual merits of the case. Here lies the great evil of English law. The question of merits does not arise, we are led to believe, in one case out of every three. Hence our tribunals of law are not tribunals of justice. An action in a common law court in England is but another and a recognized form of hazard,—and an appeal to Chancery is almost as desperate a move as an appeal to the gaming table itself.—At the last meeting of the Law Amendment Society, Mr. Davenport Hill gave an illustration of the working of our legal machinery which it would be difficult to believe did we not every day see evidence of a similar kind.

A tradesman in humble life brought an action on contract against a rich merchant in this city, and his commercial existence depended on the result. At the trial it was found that the contract was not framed in such a manner as exactly conformed with the evidence. Application was made for leave to make an amendment, and the Judge granted an amendment, notwithstanding an objection that the amendment proposed was open to a special demurrer. The Judge reserved the point for the consideration of the Court *in banco*, which gave effect, as it was bound to do, to the demurrer. The plaintiff was nonsuited, and consequently, ruined. He was driven to an act of self-destruction, and terminated his existence by laying himself down before a railway train. That was the result of a special demurrer; which, it might be well to add, was unlike a general demurrer, in not having anything whatever to do with the merits of the case. It was neither more nor less than a piece of legal pedantry.

This is a case of "death by the law" as clear, though not as deliberate, as if the man had been seized in Newgate Street and swung on the gallows. Yet we endure the whole system, cumbersome and oppressive as it is, while boasting of our lights and civilization. "To delay justice," says



Penn in his admirable Maxims, "is injustice." Then, what is the Court of Chancery?

#### EVENING EXHIBITION.

**INTELLECTUAL CHRISTMAS ENTERTAINMENT.**  
THE WINTER EXHIBITION OF WATER-COLOUR DRAWINGS AND SKETCHES IN OILS, comprising works by the most eminent living Artists, will be OPEN on and after Monday, from Ten till Three, and from Six till Eight.—Admission, including Catalogue, 1s.—Season Ticket, 3s.  
130, Regent-street. J. L. GRUNDY, Manager.

**EXHIBITION OF MODERN BRITISH ART.**—This Exhibition is NOW OPEN, at the gallery of the Old Water Colour Society, 5, Pall Mall East.—Daily, from Ten till Dusk.—Admission, 1s.—Season Tickets, Half-a-Guinea.  
SAMUEL STEPNEY, Sec.

THE DIORAMA, Regent's Park.—NOW EXHIBITING, Two highly interesting Pictures, representing MOUNT ETNA, in Sicily, during an Eruption; and the ROYAL CASTLE of STOLZENFELS on the Rhine, with various effects. Admission to both pictures, One Shilling.—Children under twelve years, half-price. Open from Ten till dusk.

EGYPT, NUBIA, and ETHIOPIA.—THE GREAT MOVING PANORAMA of the NILE displays the scenery of these interesting countries, on the most magnificent and curious of their inhabitants, presenting to the spectator the River and the Desert, the Pyramids and the Sphinx, the grandest Ruins of Antiquity, and the most exciting objects that allure the traveller.—EGYPTIAN HALL, PICCADILLY.—Daily, at Three and Eight.—Admission reduced to 6d.; Pit, 1s.; Stalls, 2s.

INDIA OVERLAND MAIL.—GALLERY of ILLUSTRATION, 14, Regent-street, Waterloo-place.—MOVING DIORAMA of the OVERLAND MAIL to INDIA, exhibiting the following places, viz.—Cintra, Algiers, Malta, Alexandria, Cairo, Aden, Ceylon, Madras, and Calcutta—is now OPEN DAILY.—Mornings at Twelve, Afternoons at Three, and Evenings at Eight.—Admission, 1s.; Stalls, 2s. 6d.; Reserved Seats, 3s. Doors open half an hour before each representation.—The new Diorama of OUR NATIVE LAND; or ENGLAND AND THE SEASONS, will shortly be produced in addition to the above.

DIORAMA OF THE GANGES.—PORTLAND GALLERY, 318, Regent Street, Langham Place, opposite the Polytechnic Institution, is now OPEN DAILY, with a GRAND MOVING DIORAMA, in which the spectator is taken through Upper India, from the point at which the Diorama of the Overland Route terminates: commencing with a complete Panorama of the City of Calcutta as seen from the summit of the Ochelony Monument, thence to the great seat of idolatry and superstition, Juggernaut, with the Procession of the Cars, the Ganges, the Sacred City of Benares, Chunar, and Allahabad, the Magnificent Palace of Agra, and the Taj Mahal. The entire Diorama invented and painted by Mr. T. C. Dixey, from Sketches by J. Ferrierson, Esq., made on the spot during his residence in India.—Doors to Open at Half-past Two and Half-past Seven p.m.—The Overtures to commence daily at Twelve, Three and Eight p.m. precisely.—Admission, 1s., Reserved seats, 2s. 6d.

CONSTANTINOPLE BY WAY OF THE DARDANELLES AND BOSPHORUS.—This gigantic Panorama will RE-OPEN on MONDAY the 23rd inst., with new Views of the City of the Sultan and additional Scenes of the Harem.—303, Regent Street, next door to the Polytechnic.—Hours, 12, 3, and 8 o'clock.

#### CHRISTMAS HOLIDAYS.

ROYAL POLYTECHNIC INSTITUTION.—LECTURE by Dr. Bachoffner on VOLTAIC ELECTRICITY, in which will be exhibited ALLMAN'S PATENT ELECTRIC LIGHT on Tuesday and Thursday Evenings at Nine.—LECTURE by J. H. B. Esq., on the ELECTRIC AND MAGNETIC TESTS, illustrated with brilliant Experiments.—NEW LECTURE by Mr. George Barker, entitled an ENGLISH CHRISTMAS, illustrated by appropriate Ballads, composed expressly by him, and written by a Lady of Distinction, every Evening (except Saturday) at Eight o'clock.—MODEL of WESTON'S PATENT NOVA-MOTIVE RAILWAY, at work daily.—EXHIBITION of the OXYHYDROGEN MICROSCOPE.—ENTIRELY NEW SERIES of DISSOLVING VIEWS, illustrating some of the ROYAL RESIDENCES OF EUROPE.—DIVER and DIVING BELL, &c. &c.—Admission, 1s.; Schools, Half-price.—Open daily from Eleven till Five o'clock, and every Evening (EXCEPT SATURDAY) from Seven till Half-past Ten.

#### SCIENTIFIC

##### SOCIETIES.

ROYAL.—Dec. 12.—Lord Chief Baron Pollock, V.P., in the chair.—A letter from M. Arago to Lieut.-Col. Sabine, in acknowledgment of the award to him of the Rumford Medal, was read.—A paper was read by Dr. Stenhouse 'On the Action of Nitric Acid on various Vegetables; with a more particular Examination of *Spartium scoparium*, or common Broom.'

SOCIETY OF ANTIQUARIES.—Dec. 12.—Mr. Payne Collier, V.P., in the chair.—The table was again covered with Roman glass, in most valuable and interesting specimens, from the collection of Mr. Chaffers; who added to it a large assemblage of bronzes discovered with the glass. They were all in excellent preservation; and, it appeared from the communication of the owner, that they had all, or nearly all, been dug up by excavation on the Montpellier line of railway. It seemed wonderful how objects so frail had been saved from destruction by pick-axes and spades; but the fact turned out to be, that the bronzes, as well as the glass urns, vases, cups, lachrymatories, &c., were invariably inclosed in strong stone boxes, or coffins, so that what the workmen first struck upon was capable of resisting the heaviest blow. Only one small and very fine chain or network of gold was found; but the bronzes consisted

of statuettes, implements of various kinds and sizes, from cauldrons down to minute fibule, spoons, knives, &c. There were several bronze lamps. But the lamp which attracted most attention was of terra cotta; not from anything peculiar about its shape or material, but because in it was found the very wick of asbestos by which it had been lighted considerably more than a thousand years ago. It has been doubted by some antiquaries whether asbestos was ever used by the Greeks and Romans for the purpose; but this discovery settles the point. That asbestos was held by them to be a very valuable commodity, is well known. A statuette of Hercules with his club, (and holding, like the Farnese Hercules, the apples of the Hesperides in his hand,—and the fragments of another figure of the same demigod—attracted especial notice. The first was about a foot high, and was evidently of a late period of Roman art. The bronzes were in an equally perfect state as the glass,—of which we have spoken in a former report,—and in many instances did not afford the slightest appearance of corrosion. In most cases they seem to have been quite new when buried with the calcined bones invariably accompanying them. Two beautiful glass cups, with delicate handles, were on this occasion sent by Mr. Berge to be exhibited with the rest. They also had come from the vicinity of Nismes, and were found about the same time,—although they fell into the possession of a different member of the Society.—Mrs. Mayle presented some drawings, made by herself, of sepulchral remains found in Bedfordshire; and an explanatory letter regarding them was furnished by Mr. E. B. Price.—Mr. Botfield transmitted an interesting relic, though not of any great antiquity: it was the official seal of one of the Peculiars established during the reigns of Edward the Fifth, Richard the Third, and Henry the Seventh, and which remained in existence only until Mary came to the throne. It represented the Tudor arms, and belonged to Stratford-upon-Avon, where wills were formerly proved.

INSTITUTE OF BRITISH ARCHITECTS.—Dec. 16.—A. Salvin, Esq., in the chair.—Messrs. J. G. Hall, G. Morgan, and T. H. Rushforth were elected Associates.

Mr. Owen Jones read the following paper in explanation of his plan of decorating the interior of the Great Exhibition Building.—I propose to offer you some observations on the mode of painting the interior of the Great Exhibition Building in Hyde Park; and as the specimen I have already executed there has excited some attention from my professional brethren, and in some quarters met with very severe censure, I will lay before you the motives which guided me in the selection of the mode of colouring I have proposed, and explain the principles on which I act in carrying out that system in detail. I am in the position of a surgeon about to perform a difficult operation, to which it has been objected that he will kill his patient by want of skill, and who, therefore, invites objectors to come forward while the patient yet lives, not with vague prophecies of failure, but advice as to how failure may be best avoided. The mass of mankind can hardly be supposed insensible to the beauty of colour which nature distributes over the earth so lavishly; yet it is certain, that, as there are many persons who have no ear for music, so there are others who have no eye for colour; others, again, who sing out of tune and see colours falsely. Some may sing or play without knowledge of music, so may they colour well by natural instinct, but study and cultivation will improve both the eye and the ear. Of late years the employment and appreciation of colour has made most rapid strides throughout Europe, but England has lagged far behind, which is the more remarkable as her painters have long been renowned as colourists. The fault lies, I fear, with ourselves; we have too long neglected this essential portion of an architect's studies and practice. The interiors of our houses have been given over to the upholsterer and decorator, many of them men of great taste and talent, I admit; but still we must regret that architects have not directed more of their skill and learning

to this subject, and been prepared to lead rather than follow. We are only now beginning to shake off the trammels which the last age of universal whitewashing has left us. Everything but pure white was considered universally, and still is by many, as wanting in good taste. The evidences of colour on the monuments of Greece were first stoutly denied, and then supposed to be the works of after barbarous ages; and when this position was no longer tenable, it was said that the ancients, though perfect masters of form, were ignorant of colour, or at all events misapplied it. Men were reluctant to give up their long-cherished idea of the white marble of the Pantheon and the simplicity of its forms, and refused to regard it as a building coloured in every part and covered with a most elaborate system of ornamentation. The architecture of our fine gothic cathedrals has lost half its beauty from the absence of colour. He who without prejudice sees a gothic building for the first time picked out in colour will be forced to admit that until then he had not understood or appreciated gothic architecture. Many of the geometrical forms and combinations depending entirely on colour for their full development, we are too apt to consider that which we find established around us as the right; but however deeply rooted the puritan prejudices on colour, we are fast shaking them off, and when we do completely so there is no reason to fear that England will be behind other nations in the race, as she may, we trust, make up by the increased energy, industry, and superior perseverance of her sons, when once earnestly set to work, the time lost in the commencement of the struggle. Those who go first will necessarily fail; but as in the storming of a fortress the ramparts are at last reached over the dead bodies of the forlorn hope, so will the mistakes of those who lead the way in coloured architecture contribute to the success of those who follow. It is not necessary for me to describe the building, the painting of which we are now about to discuss. It is well-known to most of you by its marvellous dimensions, the simplicity of its construction, and the advantage which has been taken of the power which the repetition of simple forms will give in producing grandeur of effect: and I wish now to show that this grandeur may be still further enhanced by a system of colouring which, by marking distinctly every line in the building, shall increase the height, the length, and the bulk. The very nature of the material of which this building is mainly constructed—viz. iron, requires that it should be painted. On what principle shall we do this? Should we be justified in adopting a simple tint of white or stone colour, the usual method of painting iron? Now, it must be borne in mind that this building will be covered on the south side and over the whole of the roof with canvas, so that there can be but little light and shade. The myriads of similar lines, therefore, of which the building is composed, falling one before the other, would lose all distinctness, and would in fact form one dull cloud overhanging the Exhibition; a line of columns, as even now may be seen at the building, would present the effect of a white wall, and it would be impossible in the distance to distinguish one column from another. This mode of painting would have the further disadvantage of rendering the building totally unconnected with the various objects it is destined to hold. May the building be painted of a dark colour like the roofs of some of our railway stations? This, equally with the white method, would present one mass of indistinctness; the relief of the cast iron would disappear—each column and girder would present to the eye but a flat silhouette. Let us now consider the building painted with some pale neutral tint—dull green or buff. In doing this we should be perfectly safe, provided the colours were not too pale to be indistinct, or too dark so as sensibly to affect the eye—one could hardly make a mistake; yet how tame and monotonous would be the result. It would be necessary that this tint, whatever we might choose, should be of such a subdued neutral character as to avoid a difficulty well-known to mounters of drawings and painters of picture-galleries, that, in proportion as you incline to any shade of colour, in that exact



proportion you injure or destroy the objects it is intended to relieve which may have similar colours. To this, then, should we be reduced—a dull monotonous colour without character. How unworthy would this be of the great occasion—how little would it impress the public—how little would it teach the artist? It would be to cut instead of patiently unravelling the knot. We are now brought to the consideration of the only other well-defined system which presents itself—viz. parti-colouring. This, I conceive, if successfully carried out, would bring the building and its contents into one perfect harmony; it would fitly carry out one of the objects for which this Exhibition was formed—viz. to promote the union of fine arts with manufactures. It would be an experiment on an immense scale, which, if successful, would tend to dispel the prejudices of those whose eyes are yet unformed to colour, to develop the imperfect appreciations of others, and save this country from the reproach which foreign visitors, more educated in this particular than ourselves, would not fail to make were the building otherwise painted. It would everywhere bring out the construction of the building, which, as I said before, would appear higher, longer, and more solid. To produce this result it is essential not to make a mistake. Parti-colouring may become the most vulgar, as it may be the most beautiful, of objects. It is necessary, therefore, to proceed with great caution—to calculate the effect of every step, not to be misled by the appearance of any one portion of the building, but bear in mind always the effect the building will have when complete and furnished. I have not shrunk from treading a path beset with so many difficulties; and I willingly appear before you this evening to meet your criticisms and to weigh any opinions which the experience of my brother architects may suggest. If we examine the remains of the architecture of the ancients, we shall find everywhere that in the early periods the prevailing colours used in decoration were the primaries—blue, red, and yellow; the secondaries appearing very sparingly. We find this equally in the remains of Nineveh, Central America, of Egypt, and Greece; and throughout the Eastern civilizations generally, we find also everywhere that, as time wore on, the secondary colours invading the dominion of the primaries, blue and red were supplanted by green and purple. In Egypt, in the temples built by the Pharaohs, blue, red, and yellow mainly prevail; while in those built by the Ptolemies the greens and purples take their place. In those of the Roman period colours are still further degraded to a dull and incongruous muddiness. In the great temples, as far as we can gather from the few remains of colour we have, the same law prevails; while in Pompeii we find the secondaries and tertiaries as the ruling harmonies. In the Alhambra the blue and red of the Moors were painted over with green and purple by Charles the Fifth and his successors, and with the worst effect. In modern Cairo, and the East generally, we have green constantly appearing side by side with red, where blue would have been used in earlier times. It is equally true of the works of the middle ages. In the early manuscripts, in the stained glass, though other colours were not excluded, the primaries were chiefly used; while in later times we have every variety of shade and tint, and rarely with equal success. It would seem either that the human mind, ever seeking for change, became weary of the simple harmonies which the primaries afforded, and sought more complicated effects from the secondaries and tertiaries, or that it arose from the decline of Art and the incapacity of the artist to deal with the primary colours in their pure state, who took refuge in the secondaries and tertiaries, where error in the balance of colour was less fatal, although to produce a perfect harmony with the secondaries and tertiaries is much more difficult. Among modern examples of the use of colour we may cite the Royal Chapel of Munich, where blue, red, and gold form the principal harmonies, as far superior to the other churches of the same city where the secondary and tertiary colours prevail. At Paris, in the Church of St. Vincent de Paul, decidedly the most

perfect specimen of modern decorations in any country, the colours are blue, red, and gold, separated by white. This church contrasts admirably with the decorations of St. Denis, St. Germain des Prés, and other churches of Paris, where the secondaries and tertiaries prevail. When the secondary colours were used, in the best periods, in conjunction with the primaries, they were generally confined to the lower parts of the building; following in this Nature, who uses for her flowers the primaries, and reserves the secondaries for her leaves and stalks. In the decoration of the Exhibition building I therefore propose to use the colours blue, red, and yellow, in such relative proportions as to neutralize or destroy each other. Thus, no one colour will be dominant or fatigue the eye, and all the exhibited objects will assist and be assisted by the colours of the building itself. In house decoration we occasionally find a run upon one colour—we have a green room, a pink room, and a red room, &c. It would obviously be unwise to adopt any one colour for this building when the contents will be of all imaginable hues from white to black. Discarding, on the other hand, the perfect neutral, white, as unfit for the occasion, we naturally adopt the red and yellow in or near the neutral proportions of 8, 5, 3; but, to avoid any harsh antagonism of the primary colours when in contact, or any undesired complimentary secondaries arising from the immediate proximity of the primaries, I propose in all cases to interpose a line of white between them, which will soften them and give them their true value. It is well known that if blue and red come together without the interposition of white, they would each become tinged with the complimentary colour of the other: thus, the red would become slightly orange and the blue slightly green. As all coloured bodies reflect some white rays, the white in juxtaposition by its superior force extinguishes these white rays, and we see the colours purer, at the same time that the white becomes tinged with the complimentary colour of that against which it is placed, thus further heightening the effect. As one of the objects of decorating a building is to increase the effect of light and shade, the best means of using blue, red, and yellow is to place blue, which retires, on the concave surfaces; yellow, which advances, on the convex; and red, the colour of the middle distance, on the horizontal planes; the neutral white on the vertical planes. Following out this principle on the building before us, we have red for the undersides of the girders, yellow on the round portions of the columns, blue in the hollows of the capitals. Now, it is necessary not only to put the several colours in the right places, but they must also be used in their due proportions to each other. Mr. Field, in his admirable works on colour, has shown by direct experiment that white light consists of blue, red, and yellow neutralizing each other in the proportions of 8, 5, and 3. It will readily be seen that the nearer we can arrive at this state of neutrality the more harmonious and light-giving will a building become; and an examination of the most perfect specimens of harmonious colouring of the ancients will show that this proportion has generally obtained—that is to say, that there has been as much blue as the yellow and red put together; thus the light and the shade balancing each other. Of course we cannot, in decorating buildings, always command the exact proportions of coloured surface we require, but the balance of colours can always be obtained by a change in the colours themselves; thus, if the surface to be covered should give too much yellow, we should make the red more crimson and the blue more purple; that is, we should take the yellow out of them. So, if we have too much blue, we should make the yellow more orange and the red more scarlet. A practised eye will as readily do this as a man may tune a musical instrument. It is here that science abandons the artist, who must trust to his own perceptions, cultivated by repeated trials and failures. In the present instance I must do this in the presence of the world at large. In ordinary cases the architect may shut up his building till it is complete; here the public will watch every step from the first to the last. On this account I invite you to suspend your judg-

ment, and beg of those who have already seen the specimen of the building, or who may see the work in its progress, to banish constantly from their minds the objects by which it is now surrounded. It is evident to all that a yellow and blue column will appear very differently when seen with a carpet, or other hangings for a back ground, to what it does now with a back ground of deal boards and foreground of carpenters' benches. This I had the honour of pointing out to the Royal Commissioners by suspending a series of carpets at a distance of 24 feet from the columns: the yellow and blue, No. 1, stood out clear and solid, while in the red column, No. 2, the red fell back to the level of the carpets' red and brown, and the column lost its brightness and solidity. I may as well here mention that this red colour, which has been the subject of some misapprehension, never formed any part of my plan. I painted it in obedience to the wishes of some critics, who thought it would be preferred to the yellow and blue colour, but as it was in direct violation of the principle I had laid down to start with, I knew that it would not do, and so the event proved. The column No. 3 in front of the carpets lost all form, and might as well have been a round one, and all advantage would have been lost of this very beautifully formed column, for which we are indebted to Mr. Barry. I would ask you to banish from your mind the glare of light by which this decoration is now seen, to forget the rough foreground where men are engaged in every variety of occupation for the completion of this great building. I will ask you to supply it in imagination with the gorgeous products of every clime, to picture to yourselves in the foreground the brilliant primaries blue, red, and yellow, the rich secondaries purple, amber, and green, moulded in forms of every conceivable diversity, and, telling against them, darker tertiaries fading into neutral perspective. Such an effect, difficult even to the artist, accustomed to abstract his attention from present interruptions and to calculate future harmonies, is impossible to the un-instructed spectator, who, from the experimental decoration of a single column draws a premature, and necessarily a fallacious, inference as to the collective effect of the whole. From my brother architects I hope for a more patient and a more comprehensive, and a fairer appreciation for myself. I have a confident hope, grounded on the experience of years devoted to this particular branch of art, that the principles and plans I have had the honour to lay before the Royal Commissioners for the decoration of this magnificent structure will be found, when complete, not to disappoint public expectation, nor prove wholly unworthy of the great occasion.

STATISTICAL.—Dec. 16.—Lieut.-Col. W. H. Sykes, V.P., in the chair.—A paper was read 'On the Quantity of Gold and Silver supposed to have passed from America to Europe, since the Discovery of the former Country (1492) to the present time (1848),' by J. Towne Danson, Esq.

BOTANICAL.—Nov. 29.—J. E. Gray, Esq., President, in the chair.—The Secretary read the Report of the Council—from which it appeared that thirteen members had been elected during the year, and that the Society consisted of 250 members. Many thousand specimens of British and foreign plants had been distributed to the members, and increased exertions had been made to extend this important part of the Society's operations.—The Council had requested Mr. H. C. Watson, and the Secretary to prepare a third edition of the 'London Catalogue of British Plants,' which was on the table. A ballot took place for the Council, when the Chairman was re-elected, and nominated J. Miers, and A. Henfrey, Esqs., Vice-Presidents.—Mr. J. Reynolds, Mr. G. E. Dennes, and Mr. T. Moore were re-elected Treasurer, Secretary and Librarian.—Mr. A. Henfrey read a report on the progress made in British and foreign botany during the present year.

INSTITUTION OF CIVIL ENGINEERS.—Dec. 17.—W. Cubitt, Esq., President, in the chair.—Annual General Meeting for the Election of the President, Vice-Presidents, and other Members of Council,



and for receiving the Annual Report.—The Report urged the necessity of organization amongst the great body of the Civil Engineers generally; as well for the purposes of professional advancement, as for protection of their interests,—their rights and privileges,—which had of late been invaded by persons not regularly brought up to the profession. It was stated, that as this Institution was the most natural, so it was the only ready means by which this desirable end could be properly and effectively carried out. The same necessities which had, many years ago, called this Institution into existence, had lately induced the establishment of similar societies in several chief towns of Great Britain; and the spirit had extended to foreign countries, where the evils of the centralization system, and of the interference of Government Boards, had been severely felt. All these Societies had taken this, the parent Society, as a model in nearly every particular.

The following medals and premiums were awarded:—Telford Medals, to Messrs. Armstrong, W. H. Barlow, W. Taylor, Thorneycroft, the Rev. J. C. Clutterbuck, Chubb, Turner, and Paton, Lieut.-Col. Lloyd, and Prof. Cowper; and Council Premiums of Books to Messrs. Neate, Hood, Mallet, Doyno, Paterson, Poingdestre, and Lawrence.—The finance statement exhibited, in some respects, an improvement over last year; the current subscriptions were more closely paid up, and an accession of funds, to the extent of nearly 3,000*l.* stock, from the division of the residuary estate of the late Mr. Telford (the first President and Founder), had been recovered, in the month of August last, from the Court of Chancery.—Though the deceases and resignations were more numerous than usual, there had been an increase in the number of members, which now amounted to six hundred and eighty-one of all classes.

Memoirs were read of Sir R. Peel, Sir M. I. Brunel, J. A. Galloway, J. Gibb, W. Handiside, Col. Irvine, G. T. Page, J. Smith (Deanston), R. Stevenson, J. Adams, P. N. Brockedon, E. F. Browne, J. Hoof, G. B. Maule, and J. Ransome.

The following gentlemen were elected to fill the several offices in the Council for the ensuing year:—W. Cubitt, *President*; I. K. Brunel, J. M. Rendel, J. Simpson, and R. Stephenson, *Vice-Presidents*; G. P. Bidder, J. Cubitt, J. E. Errington, J. Fowler, C. H. Gregory, J. Hawkshaw, J. Locke, J. R. McLean, C. May, and J. Miller, *Members*; and J. A. Lloyd and F. C. Penrose, *Associates*.

**SYRO-EGYPTIAN.**—Dec. 10.—Dr. Camps in the chair.—Mr. S. Sharpe communicated two extracts from hieroglyphical inscriptions, which throw some light on the date of the ivory fragment in the British Museum, brought from Nineveh by Mr. Layard:—The first is from a mummy-case in Dr. Lee's Museum at Hartwell,—at the head of which was the sun, there named Oben-Ra. The mummy-case was from Memphis; and from its style may be supposed to be of the later age, after the best time of Egyptian Art, and perhaps during the Persian rule. The second is from the sarcophagus of Amyrtæus in the British Museum, where a god with horns on his forehead is also called Oben-Ra. This was made about B.C. 466. On the ivory from Nineveh is the name of Aubeno-Ra in rude hieroglyphics; which, as it is inclosed in an oval, has been thought to be a king's name,—but by three other monuments is proved to be the name of the god. Mr. Sharpe considered that this was only the Persian or Assyrian mode of writing Amun-Ra, and mentioned other cases of the change of M into B. He thought that the Persian mode of writing the name had been adopted in Egypt when the conquerors undertook to regulate the religion, and that the inscription on the Assyrian ivory was of about the same date as the other inscriptions, or not much earlier than B.C. 500.

Miss Fanny Corboux made some observations referring to the chronology of the Book of Judges. By her researches into the history of the Rephaim, she had obtained synchronisms from the Scripture notices of this people compared with the authentic dates of Egyptian monuments relating to them,

which told entirely for the short period between the Exode and the building of the Temple, as deduced by Mr. Sharpe; and which, in addition, confirmed the connexion of Sacred and Egyptian history given by Manetho, that refers the Exode to the close of the nineteenth dynasty. Miss Corboux had long been led to reject the datum of 1 Kings, vi. 1, as spurious, on the same grounds as many eminent chronologists,—viz., that it was ignored by Josephus, and St. Paul as no authentic ancient date could have been. Since there was no criterion of time left but the internal evidence of Scripture history, tested by its genealogies, Miss Corboux had deduced the short interval of 280 years from five collateral lines of succession, which agreed in confirming the integrity of the most important line among them,—that which witnesses the descent of Christ from Abraham through David. The same evidence told against the datum of 300 years attributed to Jephthah,—even if that were not open to special grounds of condemnation.

Miss Corboux then began the history of the Rephaim, a primitive and very powerful nation of Palestine, whose name in the English version of Scripture is generally mistranslated by *giants*. The original settlements of the Mizraim were traced through Palestine into Egypt. Those of the Canaanites to the west of the river Jordan; which the geographical notices of Moses positively assign, directly and indirectly, as the original boundary of the lawful Canaanite territory. From this, Miss Corboux argued that the Rephaim, who are found established in the vast and fertile tract east of the Jordan 500 years before Moses, could not have been Canaanites, as some had taken for granted. In his geographical distribution, Moses does not notice the later encroachments of the Amorites in the lands of the Rephaim; although he refers to them in his historical notices. Moreover, the reversion of the lands of the Rephaim, as a distinct people, was promised to Abraham, in addition to those of Canaan. From the Philistine champions of Gath being called "sons of a Rapha," a clue to the origin of this race seemed held out, which their religion and institutions would be found to confirm:—that, as the Philistines are said to have come out of the Casluchim-Mizraim, the rest of this family might be historically represented by the three great nations constituting the Rephaim of Palestine, whose history Miss Corboux proposed treating separately,—viz., 1. The elder Rephaim of Bashan and Zuzim. 2. The children of Anak, from which the Philistines are derived. 3. The Emim, or children of Sheth, which includes the Kanite branch. Their generic name, Rapha, Miss Corboux referred to an old Egyptian word, *rpa*, a chief or superior, of which the Hebrew *alph* is only a variation.

#### MEETINGS FOR THE ENSUING WEEK.

THUR. Zoological, 9.—Scientific Business.  
SAT. Zoological, 8.

#### MR. WILLIAM STURGEON.

We have the melancholy task of recording the death of Mr. William Sturgeon, which took place on Sunday week at Manchester:—where he had for some years filled the office of lecturer on science to the Royal Victoria Gallery of Practical Science. Mr. Sturgeon was one of those striking examples which should always be carefully held up before the public, of a man working his own way from a very humble station in life to one of considerable scientific eminence. He was born at Whittington, in the county of Lancaster, in the year 1783,—and was apprenticed by his parents to a shoemaker. In 1802 he entered the Westmoreland militia; and two years later he enlisted as a private soldier in the Royal Artillery. While in this corps he devoted his leisure to scientific studies; and appears to have made himself familiar with all the great facts of electricity and magnetism which were then opening to the world. Ersted had recently made his great discovery which resulted in the establishment of the new science of electro-magnetism,—at this period engaging the attention of Faraday, Herschel, Arago, Ampère, and others. Mr. Sturgeon entered on the inquiry; and made himself known to the scientific world of the metropolis by his modification of Ampère's rotatory

cylinders, employed for showing how two electrical masses have a tendency to circulate about each other. We are indebted to the *Manchester Courier* for much of the following statement of the progress of Mr. Sturgeon's contributions to science.

In 1821, Mr. Sturgeon began to give the fruits of his investigations to the public. In that year, no fewer than four papers of great merit appeared from his pen, on the subjects of electro and thermo electricity, in the pages of the *London Philosophical Magazine*.

In 1825, he published in the *Transactions of the Society of Arts*, the description of a complete set of novel electro-magnetic apparatus. The great merit of this apparatus consisted in the improved adaptation of the magnets, batteries, &c., to one another; by means of which Mr. Sturgeon was enabled to perform, with a voltaic battery of the size of a pint pot, experiments which had previously required the use of a cumbersome and costly battery. The Society of Arts testified their sense of the importance of this contribution by awarding to its author their large silver medal, with a purse of thirty guineas.

About this time Mr. Sturgeon made his great discovery of the soft iron electro-magnet; and having observed the high degree of polarity acquired by a straight bar of iron on making a current of electricity to circulate around it, as well as the suddenness with which the direction of polarity could be reversed by changing the direction of the current, he proceeded to construct electro-magnets on the same principle, but bent into the form of a horse-shoe, so that the poles by being brought near one another could concentrate their action on any given object. This soft iron electro-magnet has entered into the structure of every form of electric telegraph,—and it may be regarded as the most important addition made by any experimentalist to the science of magnetism. We find Mr. Sturgeon in 1830 publishing a pamphlet, entitled 'Experimental Researches in Electro-Magnetism, Galvanism,' &c., comprising an extensive series of original experiments. In this work he first pointed out the superior effects to be derived from the use of amalgamated plates of rolled zinc in the voltaic battery, instead of the unprepared cast zinc then in general use. He prepared his plates by dipping them first into a dilute solution of acid, to cleanse their surfaces, and afterwards plunging them into mercury. He showed that plates prepared in this way do not effervesce in dilute sulphuric acid, as the unprepared plates do,—and, in consequence, require to be much less frequently renewed than the latter; whilst, at the same time, the electric current produced is much more intense and constant. It is a remarkable fact, that no further improvement has been effected in the preparation of the positive plates of the galvanic apparatus,—and that Mr. Sturgeon's amalgamated zinc plates are at the present day employed in every form of improved battery, whether patented or not. In 1836, Mr. Sturgeon communicated a paper to the Royal Society, which contains the description of a perfectly original magnetic electrical machine, in which a most ingenious contrivance was adopted for uniting the reciprocating electric currents developed, so as to give them one uniform direction. By this contrivance Mr. Sturgeon succeeded in producing all the effects due to ordinary voltaic currents, by means of the action of magnets on rotating coils of wire. In the same year, the great industry of Mr. Sturgeon was rewarded by two other important inventions. The first of these was that of the electro-magnetic coil machine, an instrument devised for the purpose of giving a succession of electric shocks in medical treatment, and which has been generally preferred by medical men to all others intended for similar purposes. The other was an electro-magnetic engine, for giving motion to machinery.

Mr. Sturgeon filled the chair of experimental philosophy in the Honourable East India Company's Military Academy at Addiscombe, for some years with great credit to himself. On a recent occasion, difficulties having fallen upon this able experimentalist in the decline of life, Government, on the representation of some scientific friends, advanced him the sum of 200*l.*—and in 1849 awarded



to him the small pension of 50*l.* per annum, which he enjoyed for only one year.

The last work of this remarkable man was that of collecting and publishing his works in one quarto volume:—on which we hope to bestow some further notice.

To say that Mr. Sturgeon was without faults, would be to say that he was not human. We might object to the severity with which he attacked other cultivators of science:—and on the question of the lightning conductors, he allowed himself to be betrayed into the condition of a partizan, by which the strength of his position was damaged. These things will cease to be remembered:—but William Sturgeon and the electro-magnet are associated through all time.

We trust that the committee formed at Manchester for the purpose of assisting the widow and daughter so lamentably bereaved, may be fully successful in their efforts.

## FINE ARTS

### NEW METHOD OF PRODUCING PLATES FOR PRINTING FERNS, SEA-WEEDS, &c.

In the *Athenæum* for Dec. 14th you have inserted an extract from a Sheffield paper, giving an account of my "Method of producing Plates for Printing Ferns, Sea-weeds," &c. As that account is very imperfect, will you allow me a small space in your columns to explain my plan more clearly?

A piece of gutta-percha free from blemish, and the size of the plate required, is placed in boiling water;—when thoroughly softened, it is to be taken out and laid flat upon a smooth metal plate, and immediately dusted over with the finest bronze powder used for printing gold letters. The object of this is threefold:—to dry the surface,—to render the surface more smooth,—and to prevent adhesion. The plant is then to be neatly laid out upon the bronze surface, and covered with a polished metal plate, either of copper or of German silver. The whole is then to be subjected to an amount of pressure sufficient to imbed the upper plate in the gutta-percha. When the gutta-percha is cold, the metal plate may be removed, and the fern gently withdrawn from its bed. From the beautiful impression of the fern left in the gutta-percha a cast in brass may be readily taken. As soon as the surface of the brass cast has been burnished,—of course, carefully avoiding the impression,—it is ready for the copper-plate printer. If the printer skillfully mixes the ink to the tint of the fern, a print is obtained scarcely to be distinguished from the plant itself. The novelty of the process consists in causing the plant, so to speak, to engrave itself,—and also in the substitution of a cheap casting in brass for an expensive copper-plate engraving. Electrotypes may be deposited on the bronzed gutta-percha, and a similar result obtained; but I have found the brass casting to answer equally well, and it has the advantage of being more durable, cheaper, and more expeditious.—I send for your inspection several prints of ferns produced by this process; and have, &c.

FERGUSON BRANSON, M.D.

Sheffield, December 18.

**FINE-ART GOSSIP.**—The long-deferred 'Lyrics of the Heart,' which, with their profusion of picture accompaniment, the public have been led to look for so many years, are at length before us; and among the number of illustrated books which habitually make their appeal at this period of the year, the beautiful volume which contains them is not likely to find a rival.—We mention it now for the sake of those who may be in search of what the Arts contribute to the active tastes of the particular season; but the publication is interesting in too many senses to be hastily dismissed, —and we shall have to enter more fully into the subject of it next week.

Mr. Burford, with whose family first originated the idea of making accessible to those who had little time or means to travel the aspects and individualities of foreign climes, is ever on the look-out for something new in the way of his design. In the same building which shows a picture of the Arctic

Regions and another of the Lakes of Killarney, he has now opened a panorama of the Lake of Lucerne. Few subjects offer more favourable material for panoramic display; and he has here produced one of the most picturesque arrangements that we have yet had from his hands.—Nevertheless, we have a fault to find. The subject of this panorama is too rich in resources and too extensive in its nature to be properly treated on its present small scale. It is one that might with advantage have had its dimensions extended to one of the painter's largest rooms in the building. As it is, the spectator may feel himself in the immediate proximity of the details represented. In the distant incidents—Mount Pilate—the Hills of Titlis—and their neighbours, the Righi and the Rossberg—there is want of breathing space. To the buildings of the town—The Cathedral, the hotels, the Church of the Jesuits, and the Kapel Brücke, our objection most immediately lies. The subject is so beautiful and the art which Mr. Burford has displayed in it so good, that we regret he has not in this respect done himself fuller justice. His fellow-labourer, Mr. Selous, who has introduced the human incidents, has represented them with great excellence,—but they also would have gained much in enlarged dimensions.

The death, at the age of 77, of Mr. Abraham, the architect, has been announced. Among other works by which he is well known, we may point to the County Fire Office which forms so prominent a feature in Regent Street, and the Westminster New Bridewell.

Letters from Rome announce the death in that city of Mr. Ritchie, the sculptor, of Edinburgh. The circumstances are peculiarly melancholy,—and convey a warning to his artistic brethren not to trifle with the deadly influence of the climate. It had been the dream of Mr. Ritchie's life to go to Rome; this year he was able to travel, and he arrived in that city in September last, with some friends as little acquainted with the nature of the malaria as himself. With these friends it appears that he made a visit to Ostia; the season was dangerous; the party took no precautions,—and they all caught the malaria fever. He died after a few days' illness,—and was followed to the grave by most of the English and American artists in Rome. The companions of his excursion are still indisposed,—though one or two of them have returned to England.

The Edinburgh Committee for procuring the erection of a monument to the memory of the late Lord Jeffrey have decided that it shall take the form of a work of sculpture. It will probably be a statue, for the Parliament House.—The subscriptions at present amount to 2,200*l.*

It is said in the foreign journals that the sculptor Tenerani has been commissioned to execute the tomb of his unfortunate friend and countryman, Count Rossi,—to be erected in the Church of St. Laurent at Rome.

The *Architect* says, that the restoration of the Porte St. Denis in Paris, which has been in progress for some time, is now completed. It has been thoroughly cleaned and repaired, and the sculpture of François Augnier may now be seen in all its original freshness.—This monument was erected in 1762 by the city of Paris, from designs by François Blondel, in memory of the passage of the Rhine by Louis XIV.

We find the following particulars about the Augustine Vase in the Vatican collection of antiquities, in the Roman correspondence of the *Daily News*. An account of the accident was given by us a few weeks back:—when we pointed to the possibility of the hope now confirmed.—"I was inquiring at the Vatican yesterday as to the fate of the alabaster vase, whose disastrous fall lately scattered to the wind the revered ashes of Augustus, and I was informed that hopes are entertained of restoring it very successfully to its original form, in spite of the immense number of fragments into which it was dashed, through the skill and patience of the sculptor Pistrucchi, to whose judicious treatment it has been consigned by order of His Holiness. The unpardonable carelessness of the guardians and director of this inestimable collection may be easily imagined,

when I state that this is the second time that the vase has been thrown from its pedestal. The first accident happened in 1845, whilst the Emperor of Russia was surveying the gallery of statues by torchlight. He had just passed the recumbent Ariadne, and entered the small cabinet in which the vase was placed, very imprudently, between two large windows, when a violent gust of wind burst open one of the casements, and, by the flapping of the curtains, threw the vase from its basement of *verd-antique*. The *custodi* and torch-bearers, however, who were near enough to break its fall, prevented it from getting seriously injured, and only a small fragment was broken from the cover. Notwithstanding this salutary warning, it was replaced in the same dangerous position, as if to prove an emblem of the obstinacy of the ecclesiastical government, whose power rests upon an equally frail pedestal, and is equally exposed to the furious gusts of political storms."

## MUSIC AND THE DRAMA

**SACRED HARMONIC SOCIETY—EXETER HALL.**—CONDUCTOR, Mr. COSTA. — On MONDAY, next 23rd December, MENDELSSOHN'S ELIJAH; Vocalists—Misses Birch, E. Birch, Doby, M. Williams, Mr. Lockey, Mr. H. Phillips, &c., with Orchestra (including 16 double basses) of 200 performers. Tickets, 3*s.*; Reserved seats in Area or Gallery, 5*s.*; Central Area, numbered seats, 10*s.* 6*d.* each; at the Society's Office, No. 6, Exeter Hall, or of Mr. Bowley, 53, Charing Cross.—The Subscription is one, two, or three guineas per annum. Subscribers now entering will be entitled to two Tickets for the above performance.

**PRINCESS'S.**—The first part of 'Henry the Fourth' was produced last Saturday, for the purpose of affording Mr. Bartley the opportunity of effecting his return to the stage in the character of *Falstaff*. The veteran actor was welcomed with fervour by a crowded audience; and presented the fat knight with a vigour and unction not exceeded in his best days. With a voice as strong and an elocution as sound as ever, Mr. Bartley delivered the text; bringing out the wondrous wit involved in the well-sounding periods with emphasis and discretion. Personally qualified for the character, Art in his acting improved, not substituted, nature. —Mr. Kean was the *Hotspur*. While his fire and passion suit the urgent demands of the character, the actor's reading of the part in other respects evinced diligent study. In its comic as in its tragic phases not a point seemed to be missed. The scene with the *Lady Percy* (Mrs. Kean) was admirably performed. Brief as it is, it took a prominent place, from the skill with which its salient points were produced. In the combat between *Hotspur* and the Prince, Mr. Kean's fencing was of first-rate excellence.—Not only were the principal parts well played:—the subordinate characters were potently occupied. Mr. Harley and Mr. Kealey, for instance, personated the *two Carriers*,—and Mrs. Kealey as *Dame Quickly* filled the minutest trait to perfection. Mr. Addison as *Bardolph* was meritorious,—and Mr. King as *Henry IV.* satisfactory. The scenery, costumes, and accessories were all on a costly scale:—and, altogether, this is a revival deserving of public support.

The comedy of 'The Wonder' succeeded the tragedy. —Mr. and Mrs. Kean played the parts of *Don Felix* and *Violante* with unabated spirit.

**SADLER'S WELLS.**—Mr. Howard Payne's tragedy of 'Brutus' has been performed at this theatre since Friday week, on the nights not devoted to benefits:—Mr. Phelps personating the hero.

**MUSICAL AND DRAMATIC GOSSIP.**—The 'Stabat' of Rossini, which, on the faith of the Wednesday morning's programme, we announced last week as having been the performance of the previous Wednesday evening at the Grand National Concerts, was not, it appears, performed.—it having been ones more announced at the last moment that Mr. Sims Reeves was still too unwell to appear, though the morning's bills had asserted his recovery. Not being able to be present ourselves,—we knew nothing of the change:—but really our former experience of these bills, and of the uncertainty of the arrangements which they proclaim, should have deterred us from reporting as a fact anything which



rested only on their authority. This week, not one original advertisement has been ratified by the performances of the evening.—A correspondent who signs himself "A Constant Subscriber of Many Years' Standing" is angry with us for, as he says, criticising a performance which never took place. We beg to inform our correspondent that we did nothing of the kind. Not having the intention to attend,—we merely applied our former remarks on the condition of the chorus—justified, as our correspondent must very well know, by frequent experience—to the probabilities of the success of the performance in question. Our remark applied expressly to what might "be expected" of such a performance under certain ascertained conditions.

America will for some years to come be dreamt of as a California to all vocalists having some execution,—an Arcadia full of serenaders and addressing mayors to such as, in addition to voice, have—what would seem there to be considered, according to the terms of recent enthusiasm, a peculiar possession—virtue. The Transatlantic journals now announce that Miss Catharine Hayes intends to pay "the States" a visit.

We gather from the *feuilleton* of M. Berlioz a few more particulars concerning M. Auber's newest opera. The opinion of any Parisian critic we have long since ceased to look for in his writings. Betwixt coterie chivalry, and the love of antithesis, truth is apt to be somewhat mystified. But M. Berlioz tells us of an opichleide which produces an effect in the *March of Apis*,—of a dance of poignards, executed by Mlle. Plunkett, which seems to have been the success of the opera,—of some touching couplets for M. Massol, in a scene where father and son are grouped together somewhat after the fashion of *Fides and Jean* in the 'Prophète,'—lastly, of stage appointments of a colossal strangeness and splendour, such as almost make an era in stage-decoration. We, therefore, may be excused for fancying that there is more show than substance in the composition.—The *Académie* seems to be returning into a vein of good fortune:—the *Gazette Musicale* informing us that a young tenor with an admirable voice has been discovered by M. Dietsch, the chorus-master, and that he has been placed under instruction at the expense of the management.

Mr. Lumley is now defendant in a trial whereby the heirs of Donizetti and M. Bayard, the author of the *libretto* of 'La Fille du Régiment,' claim their *droits d'auteur* on the Italian translation, in which Madame Sontag has been so successfully singing.—Signor Ferranti is said to have succeeded as *Figaro*, in 'Il Barbiere.'

During a visit to York in the autumn of last year, we received an impression that music was less cultivated in that fine old cathedral city than should be the case. We are, in proportion, glad to learn from the *Musical Times* that the *Festival Choral Society* has been revived there, with prospects of success and of local support. The chances of permanence and prosperity are always increased inasmuch as these establishments can be made independent of London assistance,—inasmuch as their audiences can be interested in the work performed, and not in the stars brought to perform it. But our provincial orchestras are, generally, totally unable to grapple with the writings of the new composers,—and it is much to be wished that this difficulty could be fairly admitted and met.

We are told that M. Henselt, the pianist, wishes to come to England in the course of next season.

#### MISCELLANEA

*Notre Dame*.—The great portal of the Cathedral Church of Paris, *Notre Dame*, is being adorned again with the statues of the twelve apostles, such as filled its niches before the first Revolution. The figures are of stone, of large size, and have been executed in the *atelier* which has been formed in connection with the Cathedral by the two architects to whom the restoration of the building is intrusted.—*Builder*.

*Quantification of the Predicate*.—I trust you will oblige me by giving insertion to the following remarks on the

discovery of the doctrine of a thorough-going quantification of the predicate by Sir W. Hamilton.—Having lately perused Mr. Baynes's essay on the new analytic of logical forms, it occurred to me that I had long since seen the same doctrine advanced and carried quite as far in a work on logic which I rather think fell still-born from the press. The work in question was published in the year 1827, under the title of 'An Outline of a new System of Logic, with a critical Examination of Dr. Whately's Elements of Logic, by George Bentham, Esq.' It is strange that the title of this book never attracted the attention of the Edinburgh Professor of Logic,—and is not mentioned in the 'Historical Notice touching the Quantification of the Predicate,' appended to Mr. Baynes's essay.—I invite logicians carefully to examine chapters viii. and ix. of Mr. Bentham's 'Outline,' and to compare the views therein contained with the pages of the above-named essay, and then to state in what respect they fall short of Sir W. Hamilton's doctrine. The outline was evidently written in haste and for a temporary purpose,—moreover, it contains many errors; but in it the principle "of a thorough-going quantification" is as clearly laid down, and carried into practice, as it is in the essay which so ably expounds the doctrine of Sir W. Hamilton.—Unfortunately, the author has never since furnished us "with a summary of his more matured views."—I should not have spoken of the quantification of the predicate as a discovery, but for the following passage in Mr. Baynes's Essay:—"We cannot, however, close without expressing the true joy we feel that in our country, and in our time, this discovery has been made." I am, &c., W. WARLOW.

Haverfordwest.

*The Serpentine and the Exhibition*.—Considering the thousands of persons who annually bathe in the Serpentine, and the multitudes who perambulate its banks, especially during the "season," there can be no doubt that the state of the water is, even under ordinary circumstances, a matter of considerable importance. How still more important a matter will be its condition during the Exhibition of 1851, a period at which it is expected the *very spot* will be thronged by distinguished persons from well nigh every nook and corner of the civilized world. How strange, therefore, that, so far as can be seen, no measures are being taken to remove the filth from the bed of this huge floating abomination, or to convert the latter into a running stream. Government have been told over and over again, by the most eminent physicians of the day, of the danger to the public health during the hot summer months, which arises from the disgusting stagnancy of the Serpentine.—*Builder*.

*Origin of Ragged Dormitories*.—The small beginning which occasioned the general idea of Ragged Dormitories took rise in an event for which I can vouch. The missionary who had formed this school was standing one day, in 1846, at its door, when two adult thieves appealed to him in behalf of a wretched boy who had, they said, been cruelly maltreated and kicked out of doors by his mother, because his day's prowl for the purpose of thieving had been unsuccessful. "Why do you not take pity on him yourselves?" asked the missionary.—"Why!" one of them answered, "why, if you knew what a thief's life is as well as we do, you would not train a dog to thieving." It must have been, thought the missionary, a desperate case which could have so forcibly excited the sympathies of two hardened depredators; and he determined to see into it. He soon found the boy; and his condition was too debased for any description which would not excite loathing. Having made the lad decent, he took him to the model lodging-house in Great Peter Street, benevolently commenced and mainly supported by Lord Kinnaird. The boy was kept there for four months; supported three out of the four solely out of the missionary's slender private funds. This circumstance forced on his attention the necessity of providing shelter for such juvenile outcasts, and he drew up an appeal to certain benevolent persons to that effect. The secretary of the Ragged School Union immediately promised that if the missionary would find house room, he would find funds. A house was taken in Old Pye Street, which was soon afterwards opened as the Westminster Juvenile Refuge and School of Industry. This establishment was afterwards removed to Duck Lane, where it now flourishes, under a roof which formerly covered a thieves' public-house.—*Dickens's 'Household Words.'*

TO CORRESPONDENTS.—W. T.—G. W. E.—J. B. W.—J. G.—An Observer.—A. P.—An Amateur.—R. F. T.—received.

B. B.—"Received"—as has been frequently explained in the *Athenæum*—means no more than it expresses:—that the communication referred to has come to hand.

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PART X. price 6d. Issued also in Weekly Numbers, price 1½d. each.

Also, VOLUME III., with Portraits on Steel of SCOTT, BYRON, COWPER, and WORDSWORTH, handsomely bound in cloth, price Half-a-Crown.  
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The Original Edition of THE PICTORIAL SHAKSPEARE has been long out of print, and is now only to be bought at a high premium. The constant demand for this work, during ten years, has determined the Editor and Proprietor to bring out

**AN ENTIRELY NEW EDITION.**

This EDITION, in FORTY PARTS, will consist of the THIRTY-SEVEN PLAYS, the POEMS, and an INDEX. Each Play will form a distinct Part.

A PART will be published FORTNIGHTLY.

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London: CHARLES KNIGHT, 90, Fleet-street.

**COMPLETION OF THE  
NATIONAL CYCLOPÆDIA OF USEFUL  
KNOWLEDGE.**

On the 1st of February, 1847, the publication of 'THE NATIONAL CYCLOPÆDIA' was commenced. On the 1st of February 1851, THE WORK WILL BE COMPLETED, in 48 Parts, and 12 Volumes.

The Proprietor has a real gratification in repeating the original announcement:—

"THE NATIONAL CYCLOPÆDIA will consist of Twelve Volumes, demy octavo, of more than five hundred pages each. Each Volume will consist of Four Parts, published Monthly, at One Shilling each, the entire Number of Parts being Forty-eight. A Volume will be published every Four Months, strongly bound, for Five Shillings. The time occupied in the publication will be four years."

THE PUBLISHER WILL HAVE FULFILLED HIS UNDERTAKING IN EVERY PARTICULAR.

The Completion of the Work will involve a very extensive demand for sets. The Twelve Volumes are stereotyped; but it is not an easy operation to re-produce a book of more than six thousand pages, and impossible to do so, without delay, if previous notice is withheld. The Publisher, therefore, most earnestly requests that persons desirous of becoming purchasers of the complete Cyclopædia, price 3l. in 12 Volumes, strongly bound in cloth, or 3l. 12s. handsomely half-bound in calf, will intimate their intention to their respective Booksellers before the close of 1850.

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A COLLECTION of SONGS, CAROLS, and DESCRIPTIVE VERSES relating to the  
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With Introductory Observations explanatory of Obsolete Rites and Customs.

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In preparing this Work, the object has been the production of a highly decorated and illustrated book, original in character and worthy of the advanced state of the Arts. It is illustrated with upwards of Fifty highly-finished Wood Engravings, from Designs by BIRKET FOSTER, and printed in several tints, and with Gold Borders, Initial Letters, and other Ornaments.

DAVID BOGUE, Fleet-street.

**NEW SERIES.****THE FLORIST, FRUITIST, AND GARDEN  
MISCELLANY.**

The First Number for the year 1851 will appear on the 1st of January, price One Shilling, and will be illustrated with a beautifully coloured Plate and a Woodcut. It will contain 24 pages of letter-press, bearing upon Floriculture, Fruit, and general Gardening subjects, communicated by some of the best authorities, and will be found indispensable to all classes engaged in Gardening pursuits. It will be conducted, as hitherto, under the superintendence of EDWARD BECK, of Isleworth, to whom it is requested that all suggestions, &c. may be addressed.—All Communications for the Editor, Books for Review, &c., should be directed to the care of CHAPMAN & HALL, Publishers, 193, Piccadilly.—Advertisers are requested to communicate direct with the Publishers. The large circulation of the work makes it a very desirable medium for this class, as its readers are principally amateurs and purchasers. To render the work complete within a moderate time, the present Series will terminate at the conclusion of the year 1853. The Volume of the **FLORIST AND GARDEN MISCELLANY** for 1850 is now ready, price 13s. 6d. in boards, and may be had of all respectable Booksellers.

N.B.—Enquirers are recommended to obtain the Number for January, 1851, as it will be found a fair average specimen of the work, as it will regularly appear on the first of each month. The Editor of the *Gardener's Chronicle*, in alluding to the work, in his leading article, December 7th, terms it "our excellent contemporary."

London: CHAPMAN &amp; HALL, 193, Piccadilly.

**JOURNAL OF SACRED LITERATURE,**

No. 13, for JANUARY, 1851, will be published on the 31st of this month. ADVERTISEMENTS to be forwarded to the Publishers by the 25th, and BILLS, &c., by the 27th inst.

Simpkin, Marshall &amp; Co. Stationers' Hall-court.

**NEW WORK BY PROF. NICOL.**

Price 6s. 6d. cloth boards.

**THE PLANETARY SYSTEM;** its Order and Physical Structure. By J. P. NICOL, F.R.S., Professor of Astronomy in the University of Glasgow, Author of 'The Architecture of the Heavens,' &c. With Five Plates and numerous Woodcuts.

H. Baillière, 219, Regent-street. Edinburgh: James Nichol. Glasgow: Griffin &amp; Co.

**THREE ROUNDS for EQUAL VOICES**

either Male or Female. Composed and inscribed to John Hullah, Esq. By JOSH. M'MURDIE, Mus. Bac. Oxon. Price 2s. postage free.

Brewer &amp; Co. Music-sellers, 28, Bishopsgate-street Within.

**LABITZKY'S GREAT EXHIBITION**

WALTZES, 2s.—Great Exhibition Galop, 2s.—Emma Marinka, 2s.—Ragtime to the British Nation, Herbstblüthen, Berliner, Die Troubadour, Overland Waltzes, 3s. each—Charlotten Polka, 2s.—California Galop, 2s.—all by Labitzky. Also, Labitzky's Great Quadrille of All Nations, 4s.; ditto, Duets, 6s.; Orchestra, 2s.; ditto, Violin and Piano, 4s., postage free.

London: R. Cook &amp; Co., New Burlington-street, Publishers to the Queen.

On the 1st of January will be published, No. I. price 2d., to be continued monthly, of

**FAMILIAR THINGS; A CYCLOPEDIA OF  
ENTERTAINING KNOWLEDGE.** Illustrated with Five Wood Engravings.

A BOOK, its Origin and History, Printing, Type, Paper, Book-binding, &c.; with a concise Account of all the Processes through which it passes before it assumes the shape in which we have it.

A NEEDLE, its History and Manufacture, with Anecdotes of Tapestry and Berlin Wool Work.

OUR CUP OF TEA, Part I. Tea, its Origin, History, Chymistry, Commercial Value and Social Influence on the Inhabitants of this Country.

London: Arthur Hall, Virtue &amp; Co. 25, Paternoster-row, and all Booksellers and Newsmen.

Just Imported.

**K O S M O S V O N H U M B O L D T S  
Entwürfer der Physischen Weltbeschreibung.**

Dulau &amp; Co. Foreign Booksellers, 37, Soho-square.

**WEBSTER'S ROYAL RED BOOK,** for

January, 1851, is now ready, price 3s. 6d. corrected to the present time, and considerably enlarged, by the addition of many new Streets.

Published by Webster &amp; Co. 60, Piccadilly; and to be had of all Booksellers.

**ELEGANT PRESENT FOR YOUNG PERSONS.**

Now ready, with four beautiful Illustrations, cloth gilt 4s., or with the Plates coloured, and gilt edges, 5s.

**THE OCEAN QUEEN, and the SPIRIT OF  
THE STORM.** A New-Batry Tale of the South Sea.

By W. H. G. KINGSTON, Esq.

London: T. Bosworth, 21s, Regent-street.

**PUNCH'S ALMANACK for 1851.**

Will be published on Monday, the 31st inst.

That both Hemispheres may not be in the position of Distressed Poles, which would be the case if the great holiday of Christmas were to pass without its most delightful feature,

**MR. PUNCH**

Has, in moments of relaxation from his severer duties, "thrown off" his

**ALMANACK FOR 1851.**

This Great Triumph of Art over everything, will, as usual, cheer the Spirits of the World at large; and in order to dissipate the gloom of his lugubrious friends, the "Country Party," Mr. PUNCH has, by the kind co-operation of his friend and artist, Mr. JOHN LEECH, provided (in addition to his usual graphic illustrations of the month) an especial entertainment for that class in the

**ADVENTURES OF MR. HAYCOCK DURING THE****GREAT EXHIBITION OF 1851.**

To attempt to fix a price to his Almanack, Mr. PUNCH feels would be absurd, and it has therefore been determined to place a nominal charge of 3d. upon each copy added for, in order to effect, as nearly as possible, an equal distribution of this great boon in all parts of the world, and amongst all classes of society.

Punch Office, 85, Fleet-street; and sold by all Booksellers and Newsmen.

On the First of January, 1851, will be published, Part I. price 7d. and No. I. price 1½d. of

**A COLLECTED EDITION OF THE  
WRITINGS OF  
DOUGLAS JERROLD.**

Many of these remain in the piecemeal form in which they were originally published, or lie scattered over the periodical literature of the last fifteen years; and as all of them, in a greater or less degree have achieved a popular reputation, it is hoped that their republication, in a cheap and uniform edition, will be acceptable to the public. They will comprise—

I. NOVELS. II. ESSAYS.

III. TALES. IV. COMEDIES &amp; DRAMAS.

and will probably extend to Six Volumes.  
The size adopted will be that of Mr. Dickens's cheap editions, but the lines will extend across the page, instead of being in columns.

The mode of publication will be in Weekly Numbers of sixteen pages each; in Monthly Parts; and, finally, in Volumes.  
The price of each Number will be 1d.; and the average of each Volume will be about Twenty-four Numbers.

The Series will commence with the History of

ST. GILES AND ST. JAMES,

And hereafter a Number will be published every Wednesday, and a Part on the First of every Month, until completion.

London: Published at the Punch Office, 85, Fleet-street; and sold by all Booksellers in Town and Country.



THOMAS PRICE, Secretary.



## THE NORTHERN LIFE ASSURANCE COMPANY.

Founded in 1836, and Incorporated by Act of Parliament. Office in London, 1, Moorgate-street.

**Directors.**  
The Right Hon. Lord Ernest Bruce, M.P., Chairman.  
John Abercrombie, Esq.  
George G. Anderson, Esq.  
Thomas N. Barclay, Esq.  
Charles R. Briggs, Esq.

THE SECOND PERIOD fixed for the ASCERTAINMENT and DIVISION OF PROFITS AMONGST THE ASSURED is the 30th of APRIL NEXT, and POLICIES EFFECTED BEFORE THAT DATE WILL BE ENTITLED TO SHARE IN THE PROFITS OF THE PREVIOUS FIVE YEARS.

A. P. FLETCHER, Secretary.

## SCOTTISH EQUITABLE LIFE ASSURANCE SOCIETY.

Incorporated by Act of Parliament. HEAD OFFICE—36, ST. ANDREW-SQUARE, EDINBURGH. LONDON OFFICE—61 A, MOORGATE-STREET.

**Physician.** JOSEPH LAURIE, Esq. M.D. 13, Lower Berkeley-street, Portman-square.  
**Solicitor.** CHARLES LEVER, Esq. 1, Frederick's-place, Old Jewry.

The SCOTTISH EQUITABLE being a MUTUAL ASSURANCE SOCIETY, in which the WHOLE PROFITS are allocated amongst the Policy-holders every THREE YEARS, provides every advantage to the Assured which it is possible for any Assurance Institution to afford. Accordingly, Policies effected in the year 1833 have obtained a BONUS of about FORTY-THREE per Cent. on the SUM ASSURED; those effected in 1834, FORTY per Cent.; those in 1835, THIRTY-EIGHT per Cent.; and Policies of subsequent years in proportion.

THE PROFITS or BONUSES may, in the option of the Assured, be applied thus:—  
1st. They are ADDED TO THE SUM ASSURED.  
2nd. They may be COMMUTED INTO A PRESENT PAYMENT; or  
3rd. They may be APPLIED IN REDUCTION OF THE FUTURE ANNUAL PREMIUMS.

The following is a View of the Progress of the Society down to 1st March, 1850.

	Amount Assured.	Annual Revenue.	Accumulated Fund.
At 1st March, 1832	£67,200	£2,032	£1,898
Do. 1838	824,273	30,208	71,191
Do. 1844	1,919,292	68,920	263,719
Do. 1850	3,306,354	120,978	572,817

Tables of Rates and Form of Proposal may be had (FREE) on application at the Society's Office, 61 A, Moorgate-street, City. Medical referees paid by the Society.

WILLIAM COOK, Agent.

## UNITED KINGDOM LIFE ASSURANCE COMPANY.

established by Act of Parliament in 1834.—8, Waterloo-place, Pall Mall, London; 97, George-street, Edinburgh; 12, St. Vincent-place, Glasgow; 4, College-green, Dublin.

LONDON BOARD.

Chairman—Charles Graham, Esq.

Deputy-Chairman—Charles Downes, Esq.

H. Blair A. G. Esq.

L. L. Boyd, Esq., Resident.

Charles B. Curtis, Esq.

William Fairlie, Esq.

D. Q. Henriques, Esq.

J. G. Henriques, Esq.

F. Chas. Maitland, Esq.

William Maitland, Esq.

F. H. Thomson, Esq.

Thomas Thorby, Esq.

The Bonus added to Policies from March, 1834, to the 31st of December, 1847, is as follows:—

Sum Assured.	Time Assured.	Sum added to Policy in 1841.	Sum added to Policy in 1848.	Sum payable at Death.
£5,000	13 yrs. 10 mths.	£683 6 8	£787 10 0	£6,470 16 8
5,000	1 year	.. ..	112 10 0	5,112 10 0
1,000	12 years	100 0 0	157 10 0	1,257 10 0
1,000	7 years	.. ..	157 10 0	1,157 10 0
1,000	1 year	.. ..	102 10 0	1,102 10 0
500	12 years	50 0 0	75 10 0	525 15 0
500	4 years	.. ..	45 0 0	545 0 0
500	1 year	.. ..	11 5 0	511 5 0

The Premiums, nevertheless, are on the most moderate scale, and only one-half need be paid for the first five years, when the Insurance is for Life. Every information afforded on application to the Resident Director, 8, Waterloo-place, Pall Mall, London.

## PROVIDENT LIFE OFFICE,

50, REGENT-STREET; CITY BRANCH: 2, ROYAL EXCHANGE BUILDINGS.

Established 1806. Policy Holders' Capital, £1,180,722.

Annual Income, £148,000. Bonuses Declared, £743,000. Claims paid since the establishment of the Office, £1,886,000.

**President.** The Right Hon. Lord EARL GREY.

**Directors.** Frederick Squire, Esq., Chairman.

Henry B. Alexander, Esq., William Henry Stone, Esq., Deputy-Chairman.

George Dacre, Esq., Thomas Maughan, Esq.

Alexander Henderson, M.D., Apsley Pellatt, Esq.

William Judd, Esq., George Round, Esq.

Sir Richard D. King, Bart., The Rev. James Sherman

The Hon. Arthur Kinnaird, Esq., Captain William John Williams.

Physician—John Maclean, M.D. F.R.S., 39, Upper Montague-street, Montague-square.

NINETEEN TWENTIETHS OF THE PROFITS ARE DIVIDED AMONG THE INSURED.

Examples of the Extinction of Premiums by the Surrender of Bonuses.

Date of Policy.	Sum Insured.	Original Premium.	Bonuses added subsequently, to be further increased annually.
1806	£2300	£79 10 10	Extinguished
1811	1000	33 19 10	ditto
1818	1000	34 16 10	ditto

Examples of Bonuses added to other Policies.

Policy No.	Date.	Sum Insured.	Bonuses added.	Total with Additions, to be further increased.
521	1807	£2000	£98 12 1	£1888 12 1
1774	1810	1200	1109 5 6	2309 5 6
2302	1820	6000	8559 17 8	14559 17 8

Prospectuses and full particulars may be obtained upon application to the Agents of the Office, in all the principal towns of the United Kingdom, at the City Branch, and at the Head Office, No. 50, Regent-street.

## INVESTMENT combined with FAMILY PROVISION.

At present, when difficulty is felt by private individuals in obtaining a safe investment which shall yield an adequate rate of interest, the Directors of the SCOTISH PROVIDENT INSTITUTION invite attention to the advantageous character (viewed as an investment) of LIFE ASSURANCE by way of single payment. The following is an illustration:—

For a sum of £600, paid by a person of 25, a policy of £1271 may be obtained, payable to his family or executors at his death, however soon that may happen, with—in this Society—additions from the profits on the very favourable principle of its constitution.

So long as he lives he has nearly as much command of the money paid as if he had deposited it in a bank. He can either surrender his policy, or he can at any time borrow, on the security of the policy alone, without any expense, and at a moderate rate of interest, a sum at first nearly equal to his payment, and increasing with the value of the policy. After 20 years, for example, he could so borrow about 700l., continuing, be it observed, to rank in the division of profits according to the full amount of the policy.

At age 40, a policy for 1,000l., of course in course in the profits, may be thus secured for a payment of 424 7s. 6d.

Assurance of from 50l. to 3,000l. may be effected according to this system.

Tables of single payments at each age and every information, will be forwarded free, on application to the Head Office in Edinburgh; or at the Office in London, 12, Moorgate-street.

GEORGE GRANT, Secretary.

## UNION ASSURANCE OFFICE,

(FIRE, LIFE, ANNUITIES). Cornhill and Baker-street, London; College-green, Dublin; and Esplanade, Hamburg.

Instituted A.D. 1714.

WILLIAM NOTTIDGE, Esq., Chairman.

NICHOLAS CHARRINGTON, Esq., Deputy-Chairman.

The rates on LIFE INSURANCES are considerably reduced. Insurances may also be effected, without profits, at reduced premiums, as well as by payments of only two-thirds thereof.

The scale for middle and advanced ages is especially favourable to the public.

By the Septennial Bonus of 1818, additions have been made to profit policies effected in Great Britain averaging 65l. per cent. between the ages of 20 and 25; 57l. per cent. between the ages of 25 and 30; 52l. per cent. between the ages of 30 and 35; and 47l. per cent. between the ages of 35 and 40, on the respective amounts of premium paid in that period.

Policies effected at the present time will participate in the next Bonus.

THOMAS LEWIS, Secretary.

FIRE INSURANCES at the usual rates, and profits returned on policies taken out for seven years by prompt payment.

## MEDICAL, INVALID, and GENERAL LIFE ASSURANCE SOCIETY.

Offices, London, 25, Pall Mall; Dublin, 23, Nassau-street; Frankfurt, Goethe-nheimer Gasse; Hamburg, Neuer-wall; Stockholm, Lilla Nygatan.

Directors.

Edward Doubleday, Esq. F.R.S., R. Bentley Todd, M.D. F.R.S., 249, Great Surrey-street.

George Gun Hay, Esq. 127, 3, New-street, Spring-gardens.

Benjamin Phillips, Esq. F.R.S., Geo. Henry Vandepf, Esq. 17, Sloane-street.

Charles Richardson, Esq. 19, Upper Bedford-place, Russell-square.

Thomas Stevenson, Esq. F.R.S., Alfred Waddilove, D.C.L., Doctors' Commons.

James Wishaw, Esq. F.R.S., 64, Gower-street.

At the ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING of this Society held on Thursday, the 28th day of November, 1850.

BENJAMIN PHILLIPS, Esq. F.R.S. in the Chair.

The accounts for the ninth year of the Society's business ending the 30th of September, 1850, and the Report of the Auditors thereon, having been read and duly received, the following Report of the Directors was also read:—

### REPORT.

"The Directors are happy to have it in their power to inform the Shareholders, that the financial year ending the 30th of September 1850, has furnished the most satisfactory results which they have yet had to lay before the Shareholders, whether as regards the amount of new business done, or the extent of losses incurred.

"During the year ending the 30th of September, 1850, there have been issued no fewer than 569 policies for assurances, amounting to 213,469 16s. 11d. and yielding an annual revenue, on the new policies thus effected, of 9,163 13s. 7d.

"This exceeds the amount of business transacted by this office in any former year, not only in the number of policies, and the sums assured by those policies, but also in the yearly premiums payable upon them.

"The following table shows the results of the business transacted in each year since the establishment of the Society:—

Year.	Number of New Policies issued in each Year.	Sums Assured by New Policies in each Year.	Annual Premiums payable on New Policies in each Year.
1842	130	£55,245 1 0	£1,982 13 7
1843	208	£70,306 16 11	4,492 18 6
1844	197	80,415 8 6	4,120 4 3
1845	258	103,014 11 0	5,563 17 0
1846	199	83,700 14 5	4,985 8 5
1847	313	113,542 4 8	4,237 3 4
1848	412	124,458 17 6	4,490 3 8
1849	475	201,712 15 6	7,496 0 6
1850	569	213,469 16 11	9,163 13 7
Total	2761	£933,390 6 8	£47,423 1 6

"It is plain from this statement, that in the course of a very few years, the Society has acquired a very large amount of business, equalled by few of the Assurance Companies in the metropolis.

"The Directors wish to impress on the Shareholders the important fact that this rapid acquisition of business is not owing to any accidental cause, but has taken place uniformly throughout the whole field of the Society's operations, showing clearly the confidence reposed in the Society by the public.

"It is also most gratifying to be able to report that the losses by deaths during the past year have been less than in any preceding year since 1844; from which it appears that, with the exception of the first three years of the Society, when the number of policies in force was not one-fourth of the present number, the mortality has been less than in any other.

"The Directors have only further to state, that the Members of the Board going out of office by rotation are Edward Doubleday, Esq., and Robert Bentley Todd, M.D.; and the Auditors also going out of office by rotation are James Parker Deane, D.C.L., and Marial Lawrence Welch, Esq., all of whom being eligible, offer themselves for re-election.

"The Directors and Auditors retiring from office having been duly re-elected without opposition, the usual votes of thanks were given."

Prospectuses, containing very full tables of rates, forms of proposal, and every other information, will be forwarded, postage free, on application to any of the Society's Agents, or to the Secretary, at the chief office, 25, Pall Mall.

F. D. P. NEISON, Actuary.

C. DOUGLAS SINGER, Sec.

## THE LIVERPOOL and LONDON FIRE and LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY.

Established in 1836. Empowered by Acts of Parliament.

Offices—8 and 10, Water-street, Liverpool; 20 and 21, Poultry, London.

**Trustees.** Sir Thomas Bernard Birch, Bart. M.P.; Adam Hodgson, Esq.; Samuel Henry Thompson, Esq.

**Directors in Liverpool.** Chairman—WILLIAM NICOL, Esq.

**Deputy-Chairmen.** JOSEPH C. EWART, Esq.; JOSEPH HORNBY, Esq.

Thomas Brocklebank, Esq., George H. Lawrence, Esq.

William Earle, Esq., Harold Littledale, Esq.

T. Stuart Gladstone, Esq., John Marriott, Esq.

George Grant, Esq., Edward Moon, Esq.

Francis Haywood, Esq., Lewis Moly, Esq.

Robert Higgins, Esq., Joseph Shipley, Esq.

John Holt, Esq., H. Stollerfoht, Esq.

John Hore, Esq., John Swainson, Esq.

**Secretary.** Swinton Boulton, Esq.

**Directors in London.** Chairman—WILLIAM EWART, Esq. M.P.

Deputy-Chairman—GEORGE FRED. YOUNG, Esq.

Sir W. De Bathe, Bart., Hon. F. Ponsonby.

William Brown, Esq. M.P., John Ranker, Esq.

Matthew Forster, Esq. M.P., J. M. Rosacker, Esq.

Frederick Harrison, Esq., Seymour Teulon, Esq.

James Hartley, Esq., Swinton Boulton, Esq. Secretary to the Company.

Ross D. Manley, Esq. M.P., Resident Secretary—Benjamin Henderson, Esq.

**CONSTITUTION.** Liability of the entire body of shareholders unlimited.

**FIRE DEPARTMENT.** Agricultural, manufacturing, mercantile risks freely insured.

Foreign and Colonial Insurances effected. Premiums as in other established Offices.

Settlement of Losses liberal and prompt.

**LIFE DEPARTMENT.** Premiums as low as is consistent with safety.

Bonuses not dependent on Profits being declared, and guaranteed when the Policy is effected.

Surrenders of Policies favourably dealt with. Thirty days allowed for the renewal of Policies.

Claims paid in three months at the most, and of course, Policies not disputed, except on the ground of fraud.

Full Prospectuses may be had on application at the Offices of the Company as above, or to any of its Agents in the Country.

**BRITANNIA LIFE ASSURANCE COMPANY,** 1, Princes-street, Bank, London.

Empowered by Special Act of Parliament, 4 Vict. cap. ix.

**ADVANTAGES OF THIS INSTITUTION.**

**HALF CREDIT RATES OF PREMIUM.**

Persons assured according to these rates are allowed credit (without security) for half the amount of the first seven Annual Premiums, paying interest thereon at the rate of Five per Cent. per Annum, with the option of raising of the Principal at any time, or having the amount deducted from the sum assured when the Policy becomes a claim.

A Table adapted especially for the securing of Loans and Debts, by which the full interest is obtained on very low, but gradually increasing Premiums.

Policies revived, without the exaction of a fine, at any time within twelve months.

A Board of Directors in attendance daily at 2 o'clock.

Age of the Assured in every case admitted in the Policy.

Medical Attendants remunerated in all cases for their reports.

Extract from the Half Credit Rates of Premium.

Annual Premium required for an Assurance of 100l. for the Whole Term of Life.

Age.	Half Premium for seven years.	Whole Premium after seven years.
30	£1 1 9	£3 8 6
40	1 9 2	2 18 4
50	2 2 6	4 5 0
60	3 6 8	6 13 4

E. R. FOSTER, Resident Director.

ANDREW FRANCIS, Secretary.

Detailed Prospectuses, and every requisite information as to the mode of effecting Assurances, may be obtained upon application to the various Local Agents, or at the Office, 1, Princes-street, Bank.

## NORTH BRITISH INSURANCE COMPANY,

4, New Bank-buildings, Lothbury. Established in 1809, and incorporated by Royal Charter.

**President.** His Grace the Duke of Sutherland, K.G.

**Chairman.** Sir Peter Laurie, Alderman.

**Deputy-Chairman.** Francis Warden, Esq.

**Physician.** John Webster, M.D. F.R.S.

The benefits of Life Assurance are afforded by this Company to their utmost extent, combined with perfect security, in a fully subscribed capital of One Million sterling, besides an accumulating premium fund, exceeding £34,000, and a revenue from life premiums alone of more than 105,000l., which is annually increasing.

Four-fifths of the profits are divided every seven years among the insurers on the participating scale of premiums. On insurances for the whole life half the premium may remain on credit for the first five years.

Tables of Increasing Rates have been computed on a plan peculiar to this Company, whereby assurances may be effected for the whole term of life at the least possible immediate expense.

The following table exhibits the bonus additions to a policy for 5,000l. at the termination of the septennial periods 1837 and 1844:—

Policy Opened in the Year.	Bonus added in 1837.	Bonus added in 1844.	Total Bonus in 1844.
1831	£437 10 0	£570 18 9	£1008 8 9
1832	375 0 0	564 7 6	939 7 6
1833	312 10 0	557 10 8	870 8 8
1834	250 0 0	551 5 0	801 5 0
1835	187 10 0	544 13 9	732 3 9
1836	125 0 0	538 2 6	663 2 6
1837	62 10 0	531 11 8	594 1 8
1838	.. ..	524 10 0	524 10 0
1839	.. ..	450 0 0	450 0 0
1840	.. ..	375 0 0	375 0 0
1841	.. ..	300 0 0	300 0 0
1842	.. ..	225 0 0	225 0 0
1843	.. ..	150 0 0	150 0 0
1844	.. ..	75 0 0	75 0 0

The next Bonus will be made up to the 31st December, 1851, and will be declared early in 1852. Policies effected before the 31st of December next will be entitled to one year's additional share of profits over later insurances.

Prospectuses, with Tables of Rates, and every information, may be obtained at the Office.



## LA VENNE'S MAGIC SAND, TO WRITE

**11. WITHOUT INK. SPOTS OF INK AVOIDED.** By dipping any pen into the Magic Sand a beautiful and incorruptible jet-black is instantly obtained, indispensable to Travellers, Doctors, &c.—Sold in boxes at 1s. each, whole-sale and retail, 29, Great Portland-street.—**LAVENNES MAGIC INK-TAND**, which, with a drop of any fluid, supplies ink during two years.—Initial, Crest, and Paperie, at 1s. each.—Visiting Cards, Plate included, 3s. 6d. per 100.

**METCALFE & CO.'S NEW PATTERN**

**NO. 1. TOOTH BRUSH AND SMYRNA SPONGES.**—The Tooth Brush has the important advantage of searching thoroughly into the divisions of the teeth, and cleaning them in the most effectual and extraordinary manner, and is famous for the hair not coming loose. An improved Clothes Brush, that cleans in a third part the usual time, and incapable of injuring the finest eye. Fine trating hair brushes, which are made of the finest hair and bristles, which do not soften like common hair. Fleah Brushes of improved graduated and powerful friction. Velvet Brushes, which act in the most surprising and successful manner. The genuine Smyrna Sponge, with its preserved valuable properties of absorption, vitality, and durability, by means of direct importations dispensing with all intermediate parties' profits and destructive blending. For sale by **W. METCALFE, BINGLEY & Co.'s** Sole Establishment, 30, Ab. Oxford-street, one door from Holles-street.

Caution.—Beware of the words "From Metcalfe's" adopted by some houses.

**METCALFE'S ALKALINE TOOTH POW-**  
**DER.** 2s. per box.

APPETITE AND DIGESTION IMPROVED.  
**LEA & PERRINS' WORCESTERSHIRE**  
 SAUCE imparts the most exquisite relish to Steaks, Chops.

and all Roast Meat Gravies, Fish, Game, Soup, Curries, and Salad, and by its tonic and invigorating properties enables the stomach to perfectly digest the food.

The daily use of this aromatic and delicious Sauce is the best safeguard to health.

Sold by the Proprietors, LEA & PERRINS, 6, Vere-street, Oxford-street, London, and 68, Broad-street, Worcester; and also by Messrs. Barclay & Sons, Messrs. Grosse & Blackwell, and other Oilmen and Merchants, London; and generally by the principal Dealers in Sauce.

N.B. To guard against imitations, see that the names of "Lea & Perrins" are upon the label and patent cap of the bottle.

**FOR STOPPING BOTTLES OF ALL KINDS**

**FOR STOPPING DECAYED TEETH.**—  
Patronized by Her Majesty and H.R.H. Prince Albert.—  
Mr. HOWARD'S SUCCESSORS, 10, Abchurch Lane, London, E.C.

MR. HOWARD'S SUCCEDANEUM for Stopping Decayed Teeth, however large the cavity. It is placed in the tooth in a soft state, without any pressure or pain, and soon becomes as hard as the enamel, and will remain in the tooth many years, rendering extraction unnecessary, and arresting the further progress of decay. All persons use this Succedaneum themselves with ease, as follows:—Directions are enclosed. Price 2s 6d. Prepared only by Mr. Howard.

Surgeon-Dentist, 17, George-street, Hanover-square, who will send it into the country free by post.—Sold by SARGENT 220, Regent-street.

Sanger, 150, Oxford-street; Hannay, 63, Oxford-street; Butler, 4, Cheapside; Johnston, 88, Cornhill; and all medicine vendors.

Price 2s. 6d. Mr. Howard continues to supply the loss of Teeth on his new system of self-adhesion, without spring or wires. This method does not require the extraction of any Teeth or Roots, or any painful operation whatever.—17, George-street, Hanover-square, Feb. 10, 1833.

CLASSAERAS CHOCOLATE DE DE LA

**SASSAFRAS CHOCOLATE—DR. DE LA**  
MOTTE'S nutritive, health-restoring, Aromatic Chocolate, prepared from the nuts of the Sassafras tree. This Chocolate contains the peculiar virtues of the Sassafras root, which has been long held in great estimation for its purifying and alterative properties. The aromatic quality (which is very grateful to the stomach) most invalids require for breakfast and evening repast to promote digestion, and to a deficiency of this property in the cus-

tomary breakfast and supper may, in a great measure, be attributed the frequency of cases of indigestion, generally termed bilious. It

has been found highly beneficial in correcting the state of the digestive organs, &c. from whence arises many diseases, such as eruptions of the skin, gout, rheumatism, and scrofula. In cases of debility of the stomach, and a sluggish state of the liver and intestines, occasioning flatulence, costiveness, &c. and in spasmodic asthma, it is much recommended. Sold in pound packets, price 3s. by the Patentee, 12, Southampton-street, Strand, London; also by appointed Agents, Chemists, and others.—N.B. For a List of

Agents, see Bradshaw's 6d. Guide.

REV. DR. WILLIS MOSELEY ON NERVOUSNESS.

**A PAMPHLET GRATIS.—NOVEL OBSER-**

**VARIATIONS** on the Causes, and Perfect and often Speedy Cure of NERVOUS, MIND, and HEAD, COMPLAINTS and INSANITY, with numerous Cures, Testimonials, &c., will be cheerfully franked to every address, if one stamp is sent to the Author, 18, Bloomsbury-street, Bedford-square, London.

**A LUNNITS' FRUIT LOZENGES** for Coughs

**A** Colds, Sore Throats, Hoarseness, &c., prepared solely from the **BLACK CURRANT**. Be careful to ask for **BLACK CURRANT "FRUIT LOZENGES"** prepared only by the Proprietors, Alhambra & Son, Queen-street, Portsea. Public Speakers and Singers will find them peculiarly beneficial. In Boxes, at 1s. 1½d. each, and in larger boxes (one containing three) at 2s. 6d. each.—Where also may be had, prepared by the above, **AROMATIC FUMIGATING or PASTILLE PAPER**. Its principal advantages are, the *quickness* and *certainly* of its smouldering, and its very great fragrance. Sold in Packets, 6d. each. A Packet sent by post on receipt of 7d.

stamps.

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"NORTON'S"

**CAMOMILE PILLS** are confidently recommended as a simple but certain Remedy for Indigestion, Sick Head-Ache, Bilious and Liver Complaints, Heartburn, Acidity of

Stomach, Depressed Spirits, Disturbed Sleep, Palpitations, Spasms, Debility, Costiveness, &c. They act as a powerful tonic and gentle

apertures; are mild in operation, safe under any circumstances, and thousands can bear testimony to the benefits derived from their use.—Sold in bottles at 1s. 1d., 2s. 9d., and 11s. each, in every town in the kingdom.

**CAUTION**—Be sure to ask for "NORTON'S PILLS," and do

not be persuaded to purchase an imitation.

## AN ADMIRABLE REMEDY FOR BILIOUSNESS

WAYS PILLS FOR BILIOUS COMPLAINTS AND INDIGESTION. The cause of Biliousness is a sluggishness of bile, indigestion, flatulency, sick headache, nervousness, and debilitated constitution, is so thoroughly established in almost every part of the world that they now stand pre-eminent as the most common ailment of the human race, and may be taken by persons of all ages and in every climate. They invigorate the body, strengthen the faculties of the mind, increase the appetite, and induce refreshing sleep. No person can afford to be without them, and persons of sedentary occupation may rely on these Pills giving immediate relief and a certain restoration to good health.—Sold by all druggists, and at Professor Holloway's establishment, 34, Strand.



DEDICATED BY COMMAND TO HIS ROYAL HIGHNESS PRINCE ALBERT.

# THE ART-JOURNAL;

## MONTHLY JOURNAL OF THE ARTS.

PRICE HALF-A-CROWN, MONTHLY.

THE PROPRIETORS of the ART-JOURNAL presume to direct public attention to the following Prospectus for the year 1851: inasmuch as a NEW VOLUME will commence in January, and the occasion is favourable for NEW SUBSCRIBERS,

Moreover, the ART-JOURNAL, during the year 1851, will contain upwards of a THOUSAND Engravings on Wood, of the rarest, most beautiful, and most suggestive, of the Works of Industry of all Nations, to be exhibited in London in 1851; comprising a very extensive ILLUSTRATED CATALOGUE of the Great Collection of the Art of the World.

With the First of January, 1851, will be commenced a New Volume of the ART-JOURNAL, with such improvements as have been suggested by experience, the advanced intelligence of the age, and that augmented power which results from increased prosperity. The circulation of this Journal during the past year has approached 18,000 monthly: its conductors are consequently enabled to obtain the co-operation of accomplished writers and eminent engravers, and to avail themselves of all the advantages which industry and capital may place at their command.

The Engravings from Pictures by BRITISH ARTISTS, composing the VERNON GALLERY, will be continued; of these, as heretofore, two will be issued with each number, engraved on steel by the most eminent British engravers. Among the Pictures to appear during the year 1851 are the following:—

THE DEATH OF THE STAG .....	SIR E. LANDSEER, R.A.	THE GOLDEN BOUGH .....	J. M. W. TURNER, R.A.
THE CROWN OF HOPS .....	W. F. WITHERINGTON, R.A.	SPANIARDS AND PERUVIANS .....	H. P. BRIGGS, R.A.
REBEKAH AT THE WELL .....	W. HILTON, R.A.	CUPID BOUND .....	T. SPOTHEAD, R.A.
THE COVER-SIDE .....	F. R. LEE, R.A.	THE FLOWER GIRL .....	H. HOWARD, R.A.
THE MEADOW .....	SIR A. W. CALLEOTT, R.A.	THE BATTLE OF TRAFALGAR .....	C. STASFIELD, R.A.
THE SOUTH SEA BUBBLE .....	E. M. WARD, A.R.A.	CUPID AND THE NYMPHS .....	W. ETTY, R.A.

The Works of Sculpture for the coming year have been selected for the most part from the ateliers of the sculptors of Germany; of these will be engraved the leading works of Professors RAUCH, WICHMANN, and KISS, of Berlin; Professor REITCHEL, of Dresden; SCHWANTHALER, DANNKEER, and THORWALDSEN.

His Grace the Duke of Devonshire has been pleased to place at the disposal of the Editor, for engraving in the ART-JOURNAL, the whole of his Gallery of Sculpture at Chatsworth.

The Editor has also arranged in Germany for a series of Twenty-four Drawings—"Episodes in Life"—drawn expressly for the ART-JOURNAL by MORITZ RETZSCH: these will be engraved on wood, of large size, and in the highest style of Art.

A series of illustrated articles on "Early Costumes," from the pen and pencil of Professor CARL HEIDELOFF, produced expressly for the ART-JOURNAL, the engravings to be on wood.

A series of Twelve Drawings of figures representing the "Cardinal Virtues," drawn expressly for the ART-JOURNAL by Professor MÜCHE, of Düsseldorf.

A series of selections (of which four will be issued monthly) from the Illustrated Bible of Baron Cotta; the Drawings engraved on wood by OVERBECK, BENDEMANN, &c. &c.

In addition to these, other interesting works are in preparation: among them may be mentioned a series of Lives of the Great Painters, with illustrations of large size, procured from the Proprietors of the 'Vies des Peintres,' of Paris; a series of Illustrated Articles, exhibiting "the Domestic Habits of the Early English," by T. WRIGHT, M.A. F.S.A. and F. W. FAIRHOLT, F.S.A.—a series of original designs for furniture, after the models of the Middle Ages, by CARL HEIDELOFF—the continuation of a 'Dictionary of Terms in Art,' illustrated—"Pilgrimages to English Shrines," by Mrs. S. C. HALL—the continued series of Dr. BRAUN'S Papers on the Art-Manufacture of the Ancients—and also those of Mr. ROBERT HUNT on the 'Application of Science to the Fine and Useful Arts,'—and various matters, interesting and instructive to the artist, the amateur, the manufacturer, and the public.

Among the authors whose valuable assistance is given to the ART-JOURNAL, and whose names the Editor is free to mention, are—Dr. WAAGEN, Mrs. JAMESON, Dr. BRAUN, Dr. FÖRSTER, Professor HEIDELOFF, R. WORNUM, Mrs. MERRIFIELD, T. WRIGHT, F.S.A., ROBERT HUNT, Mrs. S. C. HALL, and F. W. FAIRHOLT, F.S.A.

To the atelier of the ARTIST—to the library of the AMATEUR—to the desk of the STUDENT—to the workshop of the MANUFACTURER—and to the drawing-room table of the ADMIRER of BEAUTIFUL ENGRAVINGS, the ART-JOURNAL is recommended as a "companion and counsellor, at once agreeable and instructive;" as "ably and impartially conducted"—as "stimulating the manufacturer to the production of excellence, and the public to appreciate his improved works;" and as having worked out with "industry, integrity, and ability," its high purpose of supplying to Artists and Amateurs accurate and useful information upon all subjects in which they are interested, and to the public the means of justly ascertaining and estimating the progress of Art both at home and abroad.

The year 1851 will be memorable in the History of the Industrial Arts in Great Britain. "The Exhibition," to be commenced in May, will be of the highest interest to every civilized Nation of the world. It is, above all things, essential that the Exhibition should be properly reported; and this can be done only by a very large number of engravings. The Editor of the ART-JOURNAL has therefore announced his intention to issue, in May, June, and July, Supplementary Parts (or double numbers), each Part to consist of at least Fifty-two pages of letter-press, and to contain between 250 and 300 engravings, exhibiting the best and most suggestive objects contributed to the Exhibition. This project cannot fail to be received with favour by all subscribers to the work. The Reports thus supplied will become—as a Catalogue of its most beautiful and valuable contents—a permanent record of the Exhibition and a key to the most meritorious manufactures of all parts of the world.

### TO NEW SUBSCRIBERS.

The ART-JOURNAL for the Years 1849 and 1850, properly commence a New Series of that work.

With these Volumes it was enlarged in size and improved in character; and with the year 1849 began the "Vernon Gallery," a series of fine and original Engravings on steel.

The title of the work was then changed from the "Art-Union Journal" to the "Art-Journal."

New Subscribers, therefore, are informed that a complete series of the ART-JOURNAL may be obtained by procuring these two volumes. Each contains Twenty-four Line Engravings of the "Vernon Gallery," and Twelve Engravings of Statues, on steel, with about Eight Hundred Engravings on wood,—elegantly bound in cloth—for One Guinea and a Half.

Manufacturers generally have been informed of the plans upon which the Editor of the ART-JOURNAL is proceeding for worthily representing the Exhibition of 1851, by several Hundred Wood Engravings of the choicest of the objects it will contain. These Engravings will be printed "by hand" (not by machinery), and on fine paper. No Engraving will be suffered to appear prior to the first of May, when Part the First will be issued.

No cost whatever will be incurred by the Manufacturer; but it is absolutely essential for any Manufacturer, to be secured admission for any of his productions into this work, to make immediate application on the subject to the Editor of the ART-JOURNAL.

The Engravings will be first published in extra Parts of the ART-JOURNAL, and be afterwards collected into a Volume, which, beautifully bound, with views and plans of the building, title-page, contents, &c., will, it is presumed, form a permanent record of the Exhibition, and a key to the most meritorious Manufactures of all parts of the World.

OF THIS ILLUSTRATED CATALOGUE, THE FIRST EDITION PRINTED WILL BE 30,000; BUT THE EDITOR DOES NOT PURPOSE TO ENGRAVE ANY WORK WHICH IS INTENDED TO APPEAR IN ANY OTHER PUBLICATION.

The Proprietors of the ART-JOURNAL will be willing to lend to any Manufacturer any Engraving they may publish of such Manufacturer's production, or to supply him with a stereotype of the same at the mere cost of such stereotype,—in order to promote the Manufacturer's object of publicity.

Some misconception on the subject having arisen, Manufacturers are again informed that NO CHARGE WHATEVER will be made for ANY ENGRAVING TO BE EXECUTED FOR THE "ART-JOURNAL ILLUSTRATED CATALOGUE" OF THE EXHIBITION OF 1851.

PUBLISHER: GEORGE VIRTUE, 25, PATERNOSTER ROW, LONDON;  
AND 26, JOHN STREET, NEW YORK.



# THE ATHENÆUM

Journal of English and Foreign Literature, Science, and the Fine Arts.

No. 1209.

LONDON, SATURDAY, DECEMBER 29, 1850.

PRICE  
FOURPENCE  
Stamped Edition, 5d.

For the convenience of Subscribers residing in remote places, the weekly numbers are reissued in Monthly Parts, stitched in a wrapper, and forwarded with the Magazines.—Subscriptions for the Stamped Edition for the Continent, for not less than Three Months, and in advance, are received by M. BAUDRY, 3, Quai Malaquais, Paris, or at the Publishing Office, 14, Wellington-street North, Strand, London. For France and other Countries not requiring the postage to be paid in London, 28fr. or 12s. the year. To other Countries, the postage in addition.

## UNIVERSITY OF LONDON.

**NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN,** That the following CLASSICAL SUBJECTS have been selected for Examination in this University in the year 1851: viz.  
For the MATRICULATION EXAMINATION:—  
HOMER—*Iliad*, Book XI.  
SALLUST—*War with Jugurtha*.  
For the Examination for the Degree of BACHELOR OF ARTS:—  
HERODOTUS—Book I.  
VIRGIL—*Eneid*, last Six Books of the *Eneid*.  
By order of the Senate.  
R. W. ROTHMAN, Registrar.  
Somerset House, December, 1850.

**KING'S COLLEGE, LONDON.—PROFESSORSHIP OF LANDSCAPE DRAWING.**—The Council are ready to receive applications for this appointment. All Candidates must be MEMBERS of the UNITED CHURCH of ENGLAND and IRELAND.  
Applications, accompanied by Testimonials and Specimens of Drawings in different kinds, must be delivered before 4 o'clock on MONDAY, January 6th, 1851, to the Secretary of King's College, London, from whom all further particulars may be obtained.  
J. W. CUNNINGHAM, Secretary.  
December 27, 1850.

**KING'S COLLEGE SCHOOL.**—The Council give notice, that after the present vacation, King's College School will be divided into Two Parts.  
1. The division of CLASSICAL MATHEMATICS, and GENERAL LITERATURE, the studies in which will be directed as heretofore to prepare pupils for the Universities, for the Theological, General Literature, and Medical Departments of King's College, and for the learned Professions.  
2. The division of MODERN INSTRUCTION, which will include pupils intended for General and Mercantile Pursuits,—for the Classes of Architecture, Engineering, and Military Science in the College,—for the Military Academies of Woolwich, Sandhurst and Addiscombe,—for the Royal Navy,—and for the Commercial Marine. It will provide the means of acquiring a thorough knowledge of the French and German languages.  
A Prospectus, containing full information, may be obtained at the Office of the College.  
By order of the Council.  
J. W. CUNNINGHAM, Secretary.  
December 24, 1850.

**UNIVERSITY COLLEGE, LONDON.—FACULTY OF ARTS AND LAWS.**—THE LECTURES to the Classes in this Faculty will be RESUMED on THURSDAY, January 9, 1851. Such a division of the subject is made in most Classes as enables a Student to enter advantageously this part of the Course.  
HENRY MALDEN, A.M., Dean of the Faculty.  
CHAS. C. ATKINSON, Secretary to the Council.  
December 26, 1850.

**UNIVERSITY COLLEGE, LONDON.—JUNIOR SCHOOL,** under the Government of the Council of the College.  
HEAD MASTER—THOMAS HEWITT KEY, A.M.  
The School will RE-OPEN for the next Term on TUESDAY, January 14, 1851.—The hours of attendance are from a quarter past nine to three quarters past three.—The afternoons of Wednesday and Saturday are devoted to Drawing.—The Subjects taught are Reading, Writing, the English, Latin, Greek, French, and German Languages, Ancient and English History, Geography, both Physical and Political, Arithmetic and Book-keeping, the Elements of Mathematics and Natural Philosophy, and Drawing.—Fee for the Term, 6s.—Prospectuses and further particulars may be obtained at the Office of the College.  
CHAS. C. ATKINSON, Secretary to the Council.  
December 26, 1850.

**BOTANICAL SOCIETY OF LONDON.**—NOTICE TO MEMBERS.—TUESDAY, 31st instant, will be the LAST DAY for RECEIVING BRITISH PLANTS, to entitle Members to participate in the Distribution of the Duplicates in 1851.  
20, Bedford-street, Strand.  
G. E. DENNES, Secretary.  
16th December, 1850.

**HAKLUYT**  
Established for the purpose of Printing Rare and Unpublished Voyages and Travels.

**HAKLUYT'S DIVERS VOYAGES** touching the DISCOVERY of AMERICA, and the islands adjacent to the same, from the rare Edition of 1582. Edited by J. WINTER JONES, Esq., of the British Museum. (The publication of which has been unavoidably delayed through the indisposition of the Editor,) will be ready for delivery in the following week, as the third book for 1850. Agent—Mr. T. RICHARDS, 37, Great Queen-street, Lincoln's Inn, to whom all directions on the subject are to be addressed.  
THE EAST INDIA VOYAGE OF SIR HENRY MIDDLETON in 1694–5. From the rare Edition of 1696. To be Edited by HUTTON CORNEY, Esq., is now at Press as the second volume for 1850.

The next Works in preparation are:—  
RELATION OF SUCH THINGS as WERE OBSERVED TO HAPPEN in the JOURNEY OF CHARLES, EARL OF NOTTINGHAM, Ambassador to the King of Spain, 1695. With Additions. To be Edited by W. B. RYE.  
BEKUM MUSCOVITICARUM COMMENTARIUS, the EARLIEST ACCOUNT OF RUSSIA, by SIGISMUND VON HERBERSTEIN, 1549. To be translated by R. H. MAJOR, Esq.  
Annual Subscription, One Guinea.

Names and Subscriptions are received by the Society's Bankers, Messrs. BOUVIER & Co., 11, Haymarket; by the Secretary, R. H. MAJOR, 4, Albion-place, Canonbury-square; and by the Society's Agents, T. RICHARDS.  
N.B.—The Subscription is paid in advance, on the 1st of January.

**CHEMICAL AND AGRICULTURAL SCHOOL,** 33, KENNINGTON-LANE, LONDON.—The SCIENTIFIC DEPARTMENT under the Direction of J. O. NEWITT, F.R.S., F.G.S., one of the Principals.  
Instructions are given in all those branches of Chemistry which relate to the Cultivation of the Soil, and the making of ARTIFICIAL MANURES. Mineral analysis taught in all its branches. Analyses performed as usual, on moderate terms.

**LADIES' COLLEGE, 47, BEDFORD-SQUARE.**—INTRODUCTORY LECTURES, open to the Friends of Female Education, will be delivered on MODERN HISTORY, by J. LANGTON SANFORD, of the Temple, at 3 o'clock, on SATURDAY, January 11, 1851.—ON BIBLICAL LITERATURE, by the Rev. H. G. JOHNS, at 3 o'clock, on TUESDAY, Jan. 14, 1851.—The General Classes OPEN on TUESDAY, Jan. 14.

**EDUCATION at FRANKFORT-ON-THAINE (Germany), for YOUNG GENTLEMEN.**—J. A. HERZ, Esq., 8, Moorgate-street, London, will furnish Prospectuses of this Establishment, and name families of the highest respectability, the education of whose sons has been completed or is now progressing at the Institution.

**PRIVATE TUTOR.**—A B.A. of Cambridge, who recently took a high position in the Mathematical Tripos, will have a VACANCY FOR A RESIDENT PUPIL, after Christmas, to read for the University, Army Examinations, or Public Schools. The highest references and testimonials. Address B. A., Finchley, Middlesex.

**PROTESTANT EDUCATION.**—Near Town.—By a MARRIED CLERGYMAN, of decidedly Protestant and Anti-Tractarian sentiments, who receives a LIMITED NUMBER OF YOUNG GENTLEMEN. The locality is airy and healthy. Terms, 40 Guineas per annum; Children under Ten, 30 Guineas. Address to E. B. H., Messrs. Baily Brothers, 3, Royal Exchange-buildings, Cornhill.

**EDUCATION.**—ENCOMBE VILLA, READING, BERKSHIRE.

**MR. JOHN WHITE** receives PUPILS for general Education: the number being limited, they have the advantages of parlour boarders at a moderate charge. Terms, for Board and Instruction in the Classics, Mathematics, French, and Drawing, with the usual English branches, thirty guineas per annum.  
Prospectuses will be sent free in reply to an application.  
Encombe Villa is situated in the healthiest and most pleasant part of Reading, which may be conveniently reached from all places on the Great Western, South-Eastern, or Berks and Hants Railways.

**PREPARATION FOR THE PUBLIC SCHOOLS.**—MOUNT PLEASANT SCHOOL, SUNBURY, MIDDLESEX, conducted by Mr. UNDERWOOD.—The course of instruction pursued at this Establishment aims at insuring for the Pupil sound and extensive classical knowledge, combined with that acquaintance with the French and German Languages, Mathematics, History, Geography, &c., which has now become essential to a liberal education. Inclusive terms, from 50 to 60 Guineas, according to the age of the Pupil. Reference can be given to parents of Pupils who have distinguished themselves at Public Schools. Mount Pleasant House is surrounded by its own grounds, nearly 14 acres in extent.

**DENMARK-HILL GRAMMAR SCHOOL,** near London, conducted by Mr. FLETCHER and Mr. C. P. MASON, B.A. Fellow of University College, London, and late Professor of General Literature in the Lancashire Independent College.—THE PUPILS will RE-ASSEMBLE on TUESDAY, January 23. The aim of the system pursued is to combine a competent acquaintance with modern languages, natural science, and the essential features of a good English education with the discipline of a sound course of Substantial and Mathematical Study, and to combine the acquisition of substantial knowledge with the cultivation of the habits and character that should mark the gentleman and the Christian. Prospectuses of methods and terms may be obtained on application at the School; or from Mr. Churchill, Princes-street, Soho; Messrs. Lindsay & Mason, 26, Gresham-street; and Messrs. Relfe & Fletcher, 150, Aldersgate-street.

**QUEEN'S ROAD, PECKHAM, SURREY.**—THE MISSES DRANSFIELD beg to inform their Friends that their YOUNG LADIES will RE-ASSEMBLE on THURSDAY, January 18th, 1851. References are kindly permitted to the Rev. H. Melville, B.D., Principal of the East India College, Herts; the Rev. D. Moore, M.A., Incumbent of Camden Church, Camberwell; H. Gregory, Esq., The Terrace, Camberwell; H. W. Jewsbury, Esq., 20, Regent's Park-terrace.

**GERMAN IN ONE YEAR.**—Parents who desire their Sons or Daughters to acquire a good knowledge of the German in a short time, will find, at Home, an opportunity in a respectable German Family, where nothing but German is spoken. Terms, 70s. per annum; no extras. References exchanged. Address J. A. S., at Mr. Street's, 11, Serle-street, Lincoln's Inn-fields.

**TO SCHOOL ASSISTANTS.—RELFE & FLETCHER'S REGISTERS** are NOW OPEN; and they request all well-qualified and respectable Assistants, Ladies as well as Gentlemen, to call immediately and enter their Names. No charge of any kind whatever is made. Office hours from 5 till 4 o'clock.  
150, Aldersgate-street.

**NATIONAL PUBLIC SCHOOL ASSOCIATION.**  
Basis adopted at a Meeting of the General Council, held in the Mechanics' Institution, Manchester, on Wednesday, Dec. 4, 1850.  
The National Public School Association is formed to promote the establishment, by law, in England and Wales, of a system of Free Schools;—which, supported by local rates, and managed by local committees, specially elected for that purpose by the rate-payers, shall impart Secular instruction only; leaving to parents, guardians, and religious teachers, the inculcation of doctrinal religion, to afford opportunities for which, the schools shall be closed at stated times in each week.  
Now ready, in fcap. 8vo. cloth lettered, price 3s.

**NATIONAL EDUCATION** not necessarily GOVERNMENTAL, SECTARIAN, or IRRELIGIOUS, shown in a Series of Papers read at the Meetings of the Lancashire Public School Association, at Manchester, on Wednesday, Dec. 4, 1850.  
London: C. Gilpin, Manchester, at the Office of the National Public School Association, 3, Cross-street.  
By order,  
ROBERT WILSON SMILES, Secretary.  
3, Cross-street, Manchester, Dec. 11, 1850.

**CLASSICAL MASTER.—A VACANCY** has occurred in the JUNIOR SCHOOL attached to University College, London, by the appointment of Mr. Greenwood to the Professorship of the Greek and Latin Languages at Owens College, Manchester. The salary is 200l. per annum, and the Master has the option of taking Boarders. Applications, &c. to be addressed to the Head Master on or before Wednesday, June 8th, 1851.

**TO INVENTORS, PATENTEES, AND OTHERS.**  
**ROYAL POLYTECHNIC INSTITUTION.**  
—A NEW CATALOGUE will be published forthwith. Parties desirous of becoming depositors of working MODELS of MACHINERY and Illustrations of Improvements in Science may apply, for insertion in the New Edition, to the Secretary, Mr. R. I. Lonsborough, STEAM POWER can be supplied gratis to those parties wishing to exhibit any process of manufacture.

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There is no living author to whom British Art is so much indebted as to Mr. Alaric Watts. Although many years have passed since his intercourse with artists was close and frequent, the present generation of painters who have become famous owe him much; for in their earlier struggles towards the celebrity they have since obtained, they were aided, not a little, by his judgment and experience, which gave many of their first works, through the medium of engraving, to the world.... The engravings which embellished 'The Literary Souvenir,' of which he was for so long a time the Editor, have never been equalled in England, since the abandonment of that ably-conducted publication. He laboured, and most successfully, so to raise the character of this class of works as to convert that which had been previously little more than a toy into a production which represented the Art-talent of the country; and the exquisite gems that appeared, from time to time, in his volumes, judged not by their size but their merit, were placed and will remain among the worthiest tributes of the genius of the age received from the power by which its influence is strengthened and extended.... This book of 'Lyrics of the Heart' was commenced twenty years ago, and many of the engravings were executed about that period. Various circumstances have combined to keep it back; but published now when so much of mediocre engraving finds its way abroad, it is doubly welcome. It recalls the palmy days of book prints. As a series of fine engravings of admirable pictures, it has certainly not been equalled since the Annuals died; and we believe as well as hope that we shall find evidence in its prosperity, that mediocrity has not done its work of impairing public taste.

The volume is a collection of Poems from the pen of Mr. Watts, with a few graceful and touching compositions by his lady. Many of them have been long established in public favour; such, for examples, as 'My Own Fireside,' 'Ten Years Ago,' 'Kirkstall Abbey Revisited,' and others which are familiar in all collections of fugitive pieces published in England and America. They have secured for their author a very high position among the poets of the age; and gathered together, in any form, they would have been acceptable to all who cherish the domestic virtues, and consider fittest for song those themes which tell of home and homebred graces. It is, however, with the volume as a work of Art that we have chiefly to do, and as we have intimated we may accord it unqualified praise.... We have in the work no fewer than forty-one engravings. The painters whose pictures have been principally resorted to, are Lawrence, Uwins, Stothard, Howard, Newton, Westall, D. Roberts, Etty, Leslie, Stanfield, Danby, Barrett, and Haydon. The subjects are, of course, varied: groups, fancy portraits, landscapes, processions, ancient ruins, allegories, &c. The book comes well at Christmas time, and will be a welcome guest at many an English fireside; whether regard be had to its fine poetry, containing Lyrics which cannot fail to touch the heart, and teach pure lessons in eloquent and impressive verse; or to those beautiful productions of Art which refine the taste and are sources of instruction as well as of delight.

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LONDON, SATURDAY, DECEMBER 28, 1850.

## REVIEWS

*Rig-Veda-Sanhita: a Collection of Ancient Hindu Hymns, constituting the First Ashtaka, or Book, of the Rig-Veda.* Translated from the original Sanscrit. By H. H. Wilson. Allen & Co.

THE name of Professor Wilson is so well known, and his reputation for learning as an Oriental scholar so fully established, that we wonder he should have thought it necessary to add in his title-page a "flourish of trumpets" telling us in detail and in italic type all the learned Societies, at home and abroad, of which he is a member. In this he does his own well-earned reputation injustice; since it puts him on a par with inferior writers who promulgate thus the honours they have obtained,—these being in not a few cases purchasable commodities.

The new work which he has here produced will add materially to the obligations of those who are lovers of Sanscrit literature; but as the character and contents of the volume must prevent it from being extensively read in this country, we are glad to see that it is "published under the patronage of the Directors of the East India Company." It must have been a somewhat expensive undertaking. A man like the translator of the 'Rig-Veda' would require and deserve to be liberally rewarded;—so that we rejoice to see the funds of such a wealthy public body come importantly in aid of private enterprise. To Prof. Wilson this must have been a task of many years' duration: he began it, we observe, before he quitted India; and it could not be expected that he should thus apply his time, his learning, and his talents without adequate remuneration. In our day there exists a good deal too much of what may be termed amateur-authorship; and from the want of common encouragement, individuals who have made a particular, and not a very popular, branch of knowledge the study, perhaps, of their lives, have sometimes been compelled at last, either to forego their pursuits altogether, or to be content that the result of their labours should be promulgated not only without reward, but even at a positive pecuniary sacrifice.

The *Rig-Veda* or *Rich-Veda*, can never be attractive reading, excepting to students of Oriental languages, manners, and institutions; and the information, especially upon the two latter points, is so scattered and scanty, that much sifting is required in order to extract the comparatively small quantity that is valuable. The knowledge of the habits, customs, and forms of government among the Hebrews is much more abundantly conveyed in the "Psalms" than in the 'Rig-Veda' that respecting the peculiarities and regulations of the Hindús. This book consists of prayers or hymns to various divinities,—supposed to be the productions of Rishis, or inspired authors; and there seems to be no attempt at system or arrangement in them,—although we are told of certain heaven-gifted persons who, we know not how many centuries ago, were employed to give to the whole collection form and consistency. There is certainly little proof of the success of their labours in the volume in our hands; and the learned translator, in his very distinct and elaborate "Introduction," has not ventured to claim for them much merit on this score. He falls into the not unusual error of supposing that his readers are better informed on the subject than, in truth, they can be; and this circumstance now and then renders explanation necessary where it is not found. On the whole, however, his preliminary discourse is clear and full; and it is written in a style which never leaves his

expressions doubtful or ambiguous. He thus speaks of the celestial personages to whom the various hymns of the 'Rig-Veda' are addressed.

"The divinities are various, but the far larger number of the hymns in this first book of the *Rich*, and, as far as has been yet ascertained, in the other books also, are dedicated to Agni and Indra, the deities, or personifications, of *Fire* and the *Firmament*. Of the one hundred and twenty-one hymns contained in the first *Ashtaka*, for instance, thirty-seven are addressed to Agni alone, or associated with others, and forty-five to Indra; of the rest, twelve are addressed to the Maruts, or Winds, the friends and followers of Indra, and eleven to the Aswins, the sons of the Sun; four to the personified dawn, four to the Viswadevas, or collective deities, and the rest to inferior divinities,—an appropriation which unequivocally shows the elemental character of the religion. In subsequent portions of the *Veda*, a few hymns occur which seem to be of a poetical, or fanciful, rather than of a religious tendency, as one, in which there is a description of the revival of the frogs on the setting in of the rainy season; and another, in which a gamester complains of his ill success."

The most unsatisfactory portion of the Introduction relates to the very important point of the date and age of the hymns; but perhaps it would be unreasonable to expect any information at all decisive on such a question. Mr. Wilson first speaks of the fifth and sixth centuries B.C., then of the seventh and eighth, next of the twelfth or thirteenth, and finally of the fourteenth; and afterwards remarks that "all this is to be received with very great reservation, for in dealing with Hindú chronology we have no trustworthy landmarks, no fixed eras, no comparative history to guide us." The utmost he can say is, that the hymns certainly belong to a very remote antiquity, and that we can scarcely be wrong "in considering them to be amongst the oldest extant records of the ancient world." We do not, of course, blame him for not arriving at a more definite opinion; and if he cannot penetrate the darkness, we may feel pretty confident that it is a matter which must for ever remain in hopeless obscurity. Nevertheless, his book would have been looked at with greater satisfaction if he could have given us something like such a clue to a date as has recently been afforded in the case of other, though not such distant Eastern researches. Even the ruins of Nineveh and Babylon would excite much less interest, could we not assign to them a probable period of splendour and demolition.

Supposing, however, as seems not improbable, that the hymns of the 'Rig-Veda' belong to an age quite as distant,—it is on some accounts still more extraordinary that such curious and characteristic literary remains should have been preserved to our own day. In this country, so long enlightened by civilization, we reckon it a remarkable circumstance if we rescue from oblivion the fragment of a song or of a sermon eight hundred or a thousand years old; but here, if we rely upon those who are best acquainted with the subject, we have a long series of poems (for the 'Rig-Veda' is only a small portion of the whole of the Vedas) which were known and recited perhaps three thousand years ago,—and containing curious, though not very minute, information respecting the manners, opinions, rites, and political and social institutions of a mighty people spreading over an enormous district of the globe. Respecting what is to be learned of this kind from the 'Rig-Veda,' Prof. Wilson speaks as follows:—

"Leaving the question of the primary religion of the Hindus for further investigation, we may now consider what degree of light this portion of the *Veda* reflects upon their social and political condition. It has been a favourite notion with some

eminent scholars, that the Hindus, at the period of the composition of the hymns, were a nomadic and pastoral people. This opinion seems to rest solely upon the frequent solicitations for food, and for horses and cattle, which are found in the hymns, and is unsupported by any more positive statements. That the Hindus were not Nomads, is evident from the repeated allusions to fixed dwellings, and villages and towns; and we can scarcely suppose them to have been in this respect behind their barbarian enemies, the overthrow of whose numerous cities is so often spoken of. A pastoral people they might have been, to some extent; but they were also, and, perhaps, in a still greater degree, an agricultural people; as is evidenced by their supplications for abundant rain and for the fertility of the earth, and by the mention of agricultural products, particularly barley. They were a manufacturing people; for the art of weaving, the labours of the carpenter, and the fabrication of golden and of iron mail, are alluded to:—and, what is more remarkable, they were a maritime and mercantile people."

There is a good deal more on this point that might be usefully extracted; but we must hasten to give a specimen or two from the hymns themselves:—observing, before we do so, that the only material defect which we can point out in Mr. Wilson's translation is, a little want of that forcible simplicity which especially belongs to productions of so remote an age. He is sometimes rather too fond of using fine, sonorous, long words, when shorter ones would have been more appropriate, characteristic and vigorous. He should have endeavoured to give us, as far as possible, a correct notion in English of the productions themselves merely as they stand in the Sanscrit. Of course, we do not pretend to criticize the accuracy of his versions; but what he has furnished does not always convey to our mind what, judging from other portions, must exist in the originals. In general we greatly approve of his compound epithets. We refer to them as proofs of the power of our language in this respect,—and we take it for granted that they are accurate reflections of a peculiarity in the original. The following short hymn is addressed to the Maruts, or Winds, who are personified and deified in the Hindú mythology of that period:—

"1. Come, Maruts, with your brilliant light-moving, well-weaponed, steed-harnessed chariots; doers of good deeds, descend like birds, (and bring us) abundant food.

"2. To what glorifier (of the gods) do they repair with their ruddy, tawny, car-bearing horses for his advantage? bright as burnished (gold), and armed with the thunderbolt, they furrow the earth with their chariot-wheels.

"3. Maruts, the threatening (weapons) are upon your persons, (able to win) dominion: (to you) they raise lofty sacrifices, like (tall) trees: well-born Maruts, for you do wealthy worshippers enrich the stone (that grinds the *Soma* plant).

"4. Fortunate days have befallen you, (sons of Gotama), when thirsty, and have given lustre to the rite for which water was essential; the sons of Gotama, (offering) oblations with sacred hymns, have raised aloft the well (provided) for their dwelling.

"5. This hymn is known to be the same as that which Gotama recited, Maruts, in your (praise), when he beheld you seated in your chariots with golden wheels, armed with iron weapons, hurrying hither and thither, and destroying your mightiest foes.

"6. This is that praise, Maruts, which, suited (to your merits), glorifies every one of you. The speech of the priest has now glorified you, without difficulty, with sacred verses, since (you have placed) food in our hands."

A deficiency of which we are sensible,—not so much in reading the above, and other hymns like it,—is, that no explanation is attempted of the sort of metre or stanzas in which the original has come down to us. We are told that such and such pieces are in the metres called *Prac-*



*tara-pankti, Jagati, Trishtubh, Gayatri, &c.*; but we have no information as to the peculiarities or characteristics of those forms. It is true that Prof. Wilson refers to Mr. Colebrooke's Essay on Sanscrit and Prakrit Prosody in the 'Asiatic Researches'; but we think it would have been as well if he had supplied us with a few brief hints on the subject, if only to enable the ignorant in these matters better to understand and relish the productions which he translates. For instance, every stanza (so to call it) of the subsequent address to Agni and the Maruts concludes with the same words, which in English we should term the *burden* of the song; and we should like to have known, without reference to Mr. Colebrooke, what was the species of metre called *Gayatri*, which, it seems, allows of such repetitions.

"1. Earnestly art thou invoked to this perfect rite, to drink the *Soma* juice: come, Agni, with the Maruts.

"2. Nor god nor man has power over a rite (dedicated) to thee, who art mighty: come, Agni, with the Maruts.

"3. Who all are divine and devoid of malignity, and who know (how to cause the descent) of great waters: come, Agni, with the Maruts.

"4. Who are fierce, and send down rain, and are unsurpassed in strength: come, Agni, with the Maruts.

"5. Who are brilliant, of terrific forms, who are possessors of great wealth, and are devourers of the malevolent: come, Agni, with the Maruts.

"6. Who are divinities abiding in the radiant heaven above the sun: come, Agni, with the Maruts.

"7. Who scatter the clouds, and agitate the sea (with waves): come, Agni, with the Maruts.

"8. Who spread (through the firmament) along with the rays (of the sun), and with their strength agitate the ocean: come, Agni, with the Maruts.

"9. I pour out the sweet *Soma* juice for thy drinking, (as) of old: come, Agni, with the Maruts."

The sacred *Soma* juice, and the *Soma* plant from which it is extracted, are mentioned in both the hymns that we have quoted; and it forms so important a portion of the sacrifices of the Hindûs, that we wish it had been in the power, or fallen within the views, of the translator to give us some more particular and minute account of it.

There is hardly as much variety and poetry in this volume as many readers would anticipate; but here and there we meet with expressions of great beauty, and with figures and images of much originality. We are never to forget, in perusing them, too, that they belong to a period to which no records among civilized nations extend.

*Wuthering Heights and Agnes Grey.* By Ellis and Acton Bell. A New Edition Revised, with a Biographical Notice of the Authors, a Selection from their Literary Remains, and a Preface. By Currer Bell, Smith, Elder & Co.

FEMALE genius and female authorship may be said to present some peculiarities of aspect and circumstance in England, which we find associated with them in no other country. Among the most daring and original manifestations of invention by Englishwomen,—some of the most daring and original have owed their parentage, not to defying *Britomarts* at war with society, who choose to make their literature match with their lives,—not to brilliant women figuring in the world, in whom every gift and faculty has been enriched, and whetted sharp, and encouraged into creative utterance, by perpetual communication with the most distinguished men of the time,—but to writers living retired lives in retired places, stimulated to activity by no outward influence, driven to confession by no history that demands apologetic parable or subtle plea. This, as a characteristic

of English female genius, we have long noticed:—but it has rarely been more simply, more strongly, some will add more strangely, illustrated than in the volume before us.

The lifting of that veil which for a while concealed the authorship of 'Jane Eyre' and its sister-novels, excites in us no surprise. It seemed evident from the first prose pages bearing the signatures of Currer, Ellis, and Acton Bell, that these were *Rosalinds*—or a *Rosalind*—in masquerade:—some doubt as to the plurality of persons being engendered by a certain uniformity of local colour and resemblance in choice of subject, which might have arisen either from identity, or from joint peculiarities of situation and of circumstance.—It seemed no less evident [see *Ath.* Nos. 1043, 1052,] that the writers described from personal experience the wild and rugged scenery of the northern parts of this kingdom; and no assertion or disproof, no hypothesis or rumour, which obtained circulation after the success of 'Jane Eyre,' could shake convictions that had been gathered out of the books themselves. In similar cases, guessers are too apt to raise plausible arguments on some point of detail,—forgetting that this may have been thrown in *ex proposito* to mislead the bystander; and hence the most ingenious discoverers become so pertinaciously deluded as to lose eye and ear for those less obvious indications of general tone of style, colour of incident, and form of fable on which more phlegmatic persons base measurement and comparison. Whatever of truth there may or may not be generally in the above remarks,—certain it is, that in the novels now in question instinct or divination directed us aright. In the prefaces and notices before us, we find that the Bells were three sisters:—two of whom are no longer amongst the living. The survivor describes their home as—

"a village parsonage, amongst the hills bordering Yorkshire and Lancashire. The scenery of these hills is not grand—it is not romantic; it is scarcely striking. Long low moors, dark with heath, shut in little valleys, where a stream waters, here and there, a fringe of stunted copse. Mills and scattered cottages chase romance from these valleys; it is only higher up, deep in amongst the ridges of the moors, that Imagination can find rest for the sole of her foot: and even if she finds it there, she must be a solitude-loving raven,—no gentle dove. If she demand beauty to inspire her, she must bring it inborn: these moors are too stern to yield any product so delicate. The eye of the gazer must itself brim with a 'purple light,' intense enough to perpetuate the brief flower-flush of August on the heather, or the rare sunset-smile of June; out of his heart must well the freshness that in later spring and early summer brightens the bracken, nurtures the moss, and cherishes the starry flowers that spangle for a few weeks the pasture of the moor-sheep. Unless that light and freshness are innate and self-sustained, the drear prospect of a Yorkshire moor will be found as barren of poetic as of agricultural interest; where the love of wild nature is strong, the locality will perhaps be clung to with the more passionate constancy, because from the hill-lover's self comes half its charm."

Thus much of the scene:—now as to the story of the authorship of these singular books.

"About five years ago, my two sisters and myself, after a somewhat prolonged period of separation, found ourselves reunited and at home. Resident in a remote district where education had made little progress, and where, consequently, there was no inducement to seek social intercourse beyond our own domestic circle, we were wholly dependent on ourselves and each other, on books and study, for the enjoyments and occupations of life. One day, in the autumn of 1845, I accidentally lighted on a MS. volume of verse in my sister Emily's handwriting. Of course, I was not surprised, knowing that she could and did write verse: I looked it over, and something more than surprise seized me,—a

deep conviction that these were not common effusions, nor at all like the poetry women generally write. Meantime, my younger sister quietly produced some of her own compositions, intimating that since Emily's had given me pleasure, I might like to look at hers. I could not but be a partial judge, yet I thought that these verses too had a sweet sincere pathos of their own. We had very early cherished the dream of one day becoming authors. This dream, never relinquished even when distance divided and absorbing tasks occupied us, now suddenly acquired strength and consistency: it took the character of a resolve. We agreed to arrange a small selection of our poems, and, if possible, get them printed. Averse to personal publicity, we veiled our own names under those of Currer, Ellis, and Acton Bell; the ambiguous choice being dictated by a sort of conscientious scruple at assuming Christian names positively masculine, while we did not like to declare ourselves women, because—without at that time suspecting that our mode of writing and thinking was not what is called 'feminine'—we had a vague impression that authorships are liable to be looked on with prejudice; we had noticed how critics sometimes use for their chastisement the weapon of personality, and for their reward, a flattery, which is not true praise. The bringing out of our little book was hard work. Ill-success failed to crush us: the mere effort to succeed had given a wonderful zest to existence; it must be pursued. We each set to work on a prose tale: Ellis Bell produced 'Wuthering Heights,' Acton Bell 'Agnes Grey,' and Currer Bell also wrote a narrative in one volume. These MSS. were perseveringly obtruded upon various publishers for the space of a year and a half; usually, their fate was an ignominious and abrupt dismissal. At last 'Wuthering Heights' and 'Agnes Grey' were accepted on terms somewhat impoverishing to the two authors."

The MS. of a one-volume tale by Currer Bell had been thought by Messrs. Smith & Elder so full of promise, that its writer was asked for a longer story in a more saleable form.

"I was then just completing 'Jane Eyre,' at which I had been working while the one-volume tale was plodding its weary round in London: in three weeks I sent it off; friendly and skilful hands took it in. This was in the commencement of September 1847; it came out before the close of October following, while 'Wuthering Heights' and 'Agnes Grey,' my sisters' works, which had already been in the press for months still lingered under a different management. They appeared at last. Critics failed to do them justice."

The narrative may be best concluded in the writer's own words.

"Neither Ellis nor Acton allowed herself for one moment to sink under want of encouragement; energy nerved the one, and endurance upheld the other. They were both prepared to try again; I would fain think that hope and the sense of power was yet strong within them. But a great change approached: affliction came in that shape which to anticipate is dread; to look back on, grief. In the very heat and burden of the day, the labourers failed over their work. My sister Emily first declined. The details of her illness are deep-branded in my memory, but to dwell on them, either in thought or narrative, is not in my power. Never in all her life had she lingered over any task that lay before her, and she did not linger now. She sank rapidly. She made haste to leave us. Yet, while physically she perished, mentally she grew stronger than we had yet known her. Day by day, when I saw with what a front she met suffering; I looked on her with an anguish of wonder and love. I have seen nothing like it; but, indeed, I have never seen her parallel in anything. Stronger than a man, simpler than a child, her nature stood alone. The awful point was, that, while full of ruth for others, on herself she had no pity; the spirit was inexorable to the flesh; from the trembling hand, the unnerved limbs, the faded eyes, the same service was exacted as they had rendered in health. To stand by and witness this, and not dare to remonstrate, was a pain no words can render. Two cruel months of hope and fear passed painfully by, and the day came at last when the errors and pains of death were to be undergone by



this treasure, which had grown dearer and dearer to our hearts as it wasted, before our eyes. Towards the decline of that day, we had nothing of Emily but her mortal remains as consumption left them. She died December 13, 1848. We thought this enough; but we were utterly and presumptuously wrong. She was not buried ere Anne fell ill. She had not been committed to the grave a fortnight, before we received distinct intimation that it was necessary to prepare our minds to see the younger sister go after the elder. Accordingly, she followed in the same path with slower step, and with a patience that equalled the other's fortitude. I have said that she was religious; and it was by leaning on those Christian doctrines in which she firmly believed that she found support through her most painful journey. I witnessed their efficacy in her latest hour and greatest trial, and must bear my testimony to the calm triumph with which they brought her through. She died May 28, 1849. What more shall I say about them? I cannot and need not say much more. In externals, they were two unobtrusive women; a perfectly secluded life gave them retiring manners and habits."

Though the above particulars be little more than the filling-up of an outline already clearly traced and constantly present whenever those characteristic tales recurred to us,—by those who have held other ideas with regard to the authorship of 'Jane Eyre' they will be found at once curious and interesting from the plain and earnest sincerity of the writer. She subsequently enters on an analysis and discussion of 'Wuthering Heights' as a work of Art:—in the closing paragraph of her preface to that novel, insinuating an argument, if not a defence, the urgency of which is not sufficiently admitted by the bulk of the world of readers. Speaking of the fiend-like hero of her sister's work, she says:—

"Whether it is right or advisable to create beings like Heathcliff, I do not know: I scarcely think it is. But this I know; the writer who possesses the creative gift owns something of which he is not always master—something that at times strangely wills and works for itself. He may lay down rules and devise principles, and to rules and principles it will perhaps for years lie in subjection; and then, haply without any warning of revolt, there comes a time when it will no longer consent 'to harrow the valleys, or be bound with a band in the furrow'—when it 'laughs at the multitude of the city, and regards not the crying of the driver'—when, refusing absolutely to make ropes out of sea-sand any longer, it sets to work on statue-hewing, and you have a Pluto or a Jove, a Tisiphone or a Psyche, a Mermaid or a Madonna, as Fate or Inspiration direct. Be the work grim or glorious, dread or divine, you have little choice left but quiescent adoption. As for you—the nominal artist—your share in it has been to work passively under dictates you neither delivered nor could question—that would not be uttered at your prayer, nor suppressed nor changed at your caprice."

It might have been added, that to those whose experience of men and manners is neither extensive nor various, the construction of a self-consistent monster is easier than the delineation of an imperfect or inconsistent reality—with all its fallings-short, its fitful aspirations, its mixed enterprises, and its interrupted dreams. But we must refrain from further speculation and illustration:—enough having been given to justify our characterizing this volume, with its preface, as a more than usually interesting contribution to the history of female authorship in England.

*Hand-Book for the Use of Visitors to Harrow-on-the-Hill.* Edited by Thomas Smith. Wright.

WHEN the Great Exhibition shall bring its influx of visitors to "the huge Augusta" of our ports,—the more striking portions of the environs of London,—Windsor, Hampton Court, Greenwich, Richmond, &c.—will offer many inducements to attract the lovers of the pic-

turesque and of old associations to their woods and slopes, and hills, their quadrangles and court-yards, their pictures and towers, their pleasant places, their good inns and their associations derived from books and from men. Nor will Harrow be without its visitors from foreign shores. The fame of its fine view—the reputation of its school—its Byron and Peel and Parr and Brinsley Sheridan recollections—will carry many thither; and it is in this belief, no doubt, that Mr. Smith has been induced to put together a very useful and modest little Handbook to a favourite locality which, as he tells us, he was much surprised to find had hitherto been without any separate publication "devoted to its history."

Harrow has hardly had justice done to it. The view, it is true, wants water (the Leith Hill view suffers from the same defect)—yet how noble is the range of the panorama to be seen from its height! The tower of the Church commands Windsor Castle, Dorking, the Grand Stand at Epsom; and, if we mistake not, the noble woods of that beautiful spot—both in reality and in reading—Moor Park, in Hertfordshire. In the view from Richmond Hill it is a striking feature; and the poet of the 'Seasons' has thence properly directed attention

To lofty Harrow now, and now to where  
Majestic Windsor lifts his princely brow.

For so many miles round is it to be seen that there is partial truth as well as wit in the saying of Charles the Second that "Harrow was the only visible church he ever knew." How picturesque an object is its spire as seen from the line of the North-Western Railway—and how beautiful compared to many other far-seen-off churches is its architecture, so carefully restored by the skill of Mr. Scott! That we have not over-stated the view from Harrow Church we call Mr. Smith to witness.—

"The visitor to Harrow for the first time, is struck with agreeable surprise at the unexpected view which opens upon him from the Churchyard. Looking towards the west and south-west, the eye wanders over an extensive tract of country, including a portion of Berkshire and Buckinghamshire, of the greatest variety and beauty. Windsor Castle appears in the horizon, the intervening landscape consists of a series of magnificent woodlands and highly cultivated dales; the hedge-rows, adorned with great diversity of foliage, among which stately elms grow luxuriantly, add to the charming character of the prospect. For the full enjoyment of the richness of the scene, it is almost needless to say, that Summer or Autumn should be chosen. The view to the East takes in the great metropolis, also Highgate, Hampstead, and Primrose Hills; to the southwards Knockholt beeches are seen, and the undulating outline of the Surrey Hills bound the prospect. Looking towards the north, the landscape is less extensive, being intercepted by the high woodlands about Stanmore and Harrow Weald. On this side, the village of Stanmore, Bentley Priory and Harrow Weald Church are the most conspicuous objects. The extreme points of view to be observed from the Church Tower, are:—Harrow Weald and Stanmore, confining the view to the north. To the north-east it becomes more extensive and goes far away into Essex; to the east the Langdon Hills appear. The high grounds of Kent, towards Rochester, are sometimes to be seen in the south-east, but the smoke from overgrown London so frequently intercepts the view, that it is difficult to define the points bounding the horizon in that direction. More southwards, the Surrey Hills are seen, with the Tower on Leith Hill, and the continuation of the ridge to Guildford, where it assumes the name of the Hog's Back, in its continuation to Farnham. Windsor Castle and the Great Park appears in the south-west, then the Nettlebed Hills, and those at Stokenchurch. The obelisk in Ashridge Park, in Hertfordshire, overlooking Bedfordshire and Bucks, brings the eye back to the more contracted view to the north."

The volume contains some appropriate and

useful woodcuts; with a Directory to Harrow and a list of eminent Harrovians,—including the living names of the present Governor-General of India, the ex-Chancellor Cottenham, and the poet Procter, better known as Barry Cornwall.

*Across the Atlantic.* By the Author of 'Sketches of Cantabs.' Earle.

WHEN 'The Sketch Book' was written by Mr. Washington Irving, the author complained that his country was known to the English public only through the reports of "the broken-down tradesman, the scheming adventurer, the wandering mechanic, the Manchester and Birmingham agent;" and with very good reason he deprecated a public judgment, as concerned transatlantic men and manners, on data supplied from such sources of information. Since that time a new race of travellers have brought home their reports: the man of practical science, the novelist, the political partizan, the painter of panoramic life, the sketcher of manners, "our own correspondent," and lastly the minister of state,—persons of all tempers and degrees, from Sir Charles Lyell to Mrs. Trollope, from Mr. Godley to the Earl of Carlisle. The reports, of course, are as different as the tastes, opinions, and opportunities of the observers; but there is a concurrence of testimony in support of certain charges on the score of manners as against our Saxon cousins among all the judges of these "minor morals," from the lady of Cincinnati down (in point of time) to the satirist of the Cantabs. Very probably our tourists ask too much across the water. It is as useless to seek the repose of European manners in the eastern cities of America as to look for high culture as a rule in the backwoods of Australia or of the Cape. But, after all, we see no great harm in the traveller's laugh, if it be only good natured. Even Mrs. Trollope may be held to have done some good in her off-hand and not very discriminating caricatures. Some few Americans have ceased to feed with the knife; many have begun to doubt the propriety of chewing tobacco, with its accompaniments, in the drawing-room; strangers are less frequently offended at the theatres by seeing legs dangling over the box tiers, or backs turned on the audience; and "rowdism" has declined from the gentleman to the gent. Every successive traveller reports an improvement in these matters. But the Americans entertain no love for the satirists whose censures they have justified by practical admissions. With a favourable side for America and the Americans,—our author, nevertheless, admits the substantial justice of his predecessors. Instead of going, as others have done, in search of obscure motives for their attacks, he says they have so represented things "because they found them so. Author after author has agreed in telling Europe the same story about the United States simply because the story is true. We are informed that such and such things do exist on the other side of the water—because, in fact, they do exist there." The wonder is, that even sensible Americans, while admitting their small foibles—as they may very well do without sacrificing an atom of real dignity—refuse to submit to the literary censures of the stranger. Almost every French, German and Italian tourist in England finds some fault with our manners, country, or institutions:—our weather is held to be execrable, our lower classes boorish, our aristocracy exclusive, our manners cold, and our streets dull. We admit the sarcasm when it is just,—smile at it when it is not. We do not rage and bluster against the right of private opinion, even when the denunciation is in our view uncivil in its form and threatening in its consequences. We



have not heard that M. Ledru Rollin has as yet been threatened with tar and feathers!

The Americans have already done so much that is great, and their country stands before the world in an attitude so imposing,—that this tenderness of ridicule is a weakness greatly to be regretted. Shaftesbury would have pronounced their fear of ridicule to be—fear of truth. But if conscious of minor defects, why do they not set them off against the merits which every stranger will allow them to possess? See how our author sets these contrasts forth.—

“At the same time, I am willing to admit that, in the present position of America, no European has ever given, or can ever hope to give, an accurate account of what is taking place there. It is like a vast cauldron, containing an infinite variety of new institutions and new ideas, in a state of fusion; until the froth has subsided, we can scarcely tell what sort of compound their admixture will produce. ‘It is like a steam-engine passing us at the rate of sixty miles an hour, of which it is impossible to sketch anything more than the first outline. If I, for instance, were to attempt to put down on paper anything like an account of the sensations with which I regarded America, I should have to write in one and the same chapter that I consider it, at the same time, the most sublime and the most ridiculous, the most appalling and the most amusing, of all countries. That I looked upon its form of government as one of the most perfect in the world; and that I thought the House of Representatives to contain the most dirty ragamuffins that I had ever seen. That I contemplate, with pleasure, the probability of its fulfilling a destiny as glorious as any nation that has preceded it; and that I would rather go and live in China than remain there. That to be an American citizen might well excite a feeling of pride; but that I should, myself, shrink from enjoying the privileges of American citizenship with the same instinctive aversion as would prevent my changing places with a chimney-sweep of poetical aspirations. All these seeming paradoxes are reconciled by referring to the admirable remark which I have prefixed to the present chapter: ‘There is no country in the world,’ says Mr. Whipple, ‘which has nobler ideas imbedded in more worthless (read ridiculous) shapes.’ I believe this.”

We have a reasonable suspicion that the truth taught by their own countryman will appear offensive to some touchy spirits when it comes back to them in this guise—with the indorsement of an Englishman.

But let us abandon argument. The author of these sketches was already favourably known to our readers: his present book will increase his reputation. The style is gossipy and agreeable,—points of manner are seized with a gusto which often reminds us of the older race of novelists,—and the pleasantry is always genial and good humoured. But the writer is earnest in the midst of his badinage. His thought is manly and his sentiment correct. We shall extract a few pages for the amusement of our readers, without paying much attention to connexion of time or subject. The following account of a duel is thoroughly American, and, as they say—racy of the soil. It is sufficient, in the way of explanation, to say that the narrator is an ex-editor.—

“Whenever any traveller visited the United States, and on his return published a work disapproving of their institutions, I favoured the public with a true account of his life, generally beginning by stating that his father was hung for forgery. In this way I grew in the esteem of my fellow-citizens, as well as in wealth, and was soon in a position to despise the calumnies and lies of Levi, the rival editor. He said what he pleased of me, but I took no notice of his impotent malice. At length, one morning, my eyes fell upon a passage in his paper, which banished the colour from my cheeks. It was as follows.—‘Extraordinary Disclosure! By a most singular coincidence, we have been put in possession of a fact in the early life of the cantiff editor W—g—s. It appears that the miscreant is a

bigamist!! The whole particulars connected with himself and his first wife are known to us alone, but will appear in our next. When the circumstances become noised abroad, the villain may expect a visit from the officers of justice. *Raro Antecedentium Sceletos deservit pœnœpœ Claudio!*’ The rascal had, by some means or other, got possession of the fact of my previous marriage! Jane was, perhaps, at that moment in America. The thought was distraction. The laws of the country are severe against bigamy; I should be condemned to a lengthened term of imprisonment, or spend half my fortune in bribing the governor and judge to let me out again. There was but one course to pursue, and one or other of us must fall. Wrath and despair nerved me to the task. I ran down the street as hard as I could, and pulled the other editor’s nose. He kicked me. The affair was arranged to take place that same afternoon, in a wood near the town. After partaking of an early dinner (though, it must be confessed, that I did not eat much), I strolled down the street, with my rifle over my shoulder, and my second Col. Tickler beside me. We met several people by the way, and amongst others, the mayor, all of whom stopped politely, and asked us where we were about to ‘settle our difficulty’—for the news of the approaching fight was, by this time, known to every man, woman, and child in the town. The Colonel replied that he had selected the Bowie Wood, at a distance of half a mile. ‘That’s right, Judge!’ said they to me. (I must tell you that I had been elected a judge, only a short time before, by an overwhelming majority over Levi.) ‘That’s right, Judge, shoot him down, shoot him down!’ Alas! I thought that he might have had advice of the same kind given to him, and would be equally ready to follow it. Our seconds selected two trees, which faced each other, at a distance of about forty paces, without any intervening obstacle. Behind one, they placed Levi, and behind the other they placed me, such being the mode of duelling prevalent in that part of the country. They then left us to ourselves in the middle of the wood, there being no particular law of honour in this kind of single combat, which, from its very constitution, requires nothing more than that you should shoot one another as you can. This is not so easily done, however; for both being safely ensconced behind trees, with rifles in their hands, neither is willing to be the first to move, and so expose himself as a clear mark to his opponent. There is a hesitation, too, about being the first to shoot, which is only natural; seeing, that if you miss your friendly antagonist, you are yourself left without a defence. In this way Levi and I continued, for a whole hour, to peep round the sides of the trees at one another, each withdrawing his head as soon as he perceived the other doing the same. At the end of that time, a tremendous shower of rain came down, deluging me to the skin, and, in despite of all I could do, wetting the powder in my gun. ‘Levi!’ I bawled out at the top of my voice, ‘is your powder wet?’ ‘No,’ he replied. ‘Mine’s not,’ I returned. ‘It’s beautifully dry!’ But this subterfuge would not do. I saw Levi advance calmly from his hiding-place, with his rifle ready to level to his shoulder, and wearing a diabolical air of triumph. There was yet one hope. ‘Stop,’ I exclaimed, ‘lay down that infernal instrument, and let us have a parley for a moment.’ ‘Agreed!’ he replied. ‘Levi,’ said I, advancing towards him, ‘you are a devilish good fellow, after all. Suppose, instead of your shooting me, we go into partnership together!’ ‘With all my heart,’ he returned. Here, give me your word of honour that, if I don’t shoot you, you will take me into partnership?’ ‘I give you my oath.’ ‘All right, then. Let us move homewards again.’ ‘The fact was,’ said I, ‘that as you may plainly perceive, my gun was wet and wouldn’t go off.’ ‘No more would mine!’ he returned. I confess I felt rather like a fool at this. However, it was something to have won him over to my interest, as the affair of my first marriage might now be hushed up. ‘Tell me, my friend,’ said I, when we were seated amicably together in my office, partaking of a rum-smasher, ‘tell me, how did you come to know that I had another wife living, ey?’ ‘Oh, you *have*, have you?’ he exclaimed in the greatest surprise. It was perfectly new to him. He had unintentionally told the truth. Fool that I was! I had forgotten that

he was an editor, and had judged of him only as a common man.”

The following observation among the tombs of Baltimore has the unmistakeable perfume of the Chesapeake.—

“I was aroused from these visions by an incident bearing the undoubted stamp of reality. The gentleman with whom I was walking, was kind enough to point out to my attention a tomb, with an inscription upon it, which I very much regret that I had no pencil with me to copy. It was, however, to the memory of some one who had been an affectionate husband and a kind father, as almost all deceased persons have been; and a copy of verses, inscribed upon the tomb, attested the fact that he had gone to a better world. I forget whether the phrase ran that ‘the saint had found refuge in the bosom of his God,’ but it was something to that effect. The only peculiarity was, that the date of his death was left blank; and, on inquiring the reason, I was told that he was not dead at all, but hale and hearty, living and carrying on business in the town of Baltimore. He is, I believe, a Scotchman, and has hit upon the idea of having this magnificent tomb erected, with what he conceives to be a suitable description in verse of his own virtues and probable destiny hereafter, so that, when the breath is out of his body, there will be nothing to do but to pop him in, and to carve out the date of the event. It has been suggested, that this has been all arranged merely for the sake of an advertisement, for that persons on visiting the cemetery, and being shown the tomb, inquire, ‘Who is Mr. so and so?’ The answer, of course, is, ‘Oh, he is an extensive ship-builder or copper-founder (as the case may be) in such and such a street.’”

Apropos of the art of puffing, we are treated to a list of the ventures of the greatest master of the art in these times. Here is the sketch complete:—

“Barnum is not an ordinary showman. He is not one who will be handed down to posterity, only on the strength of the objects which he has exhibited, or the curiosities which he has brought to light. He stands alone. Adopting Mr. Emerson’s idea, I should say that Barnum is a representative man. He represents the enterprise and energy of his countrymen in the nineteenth century, as Washington represented their resistance to oppression in the century preceding. By ‘going-a-head’ to an extent hitherto unprecedented in his trade,—devoid of any absurd delicacy as to the means by which the ends are to be accomplished—he has endeared himself to the middle and lower ranks of his countrymen, and seems to stand forth proud and pre-eminent as their model of a speculator and a man. I firmly believe that there are few commercial people in the United States who would not look upon Barnum as a congenial, though a superior spirit; or at all events who do not feel a pride, albeit a secret one, in his exploits. The rise of this illustrious person, like that of some of his fellows, would seem to be veiled in obscurity. Whether he rose to fame on a fabulous griffin, or reached the wished-for goal on the back of an eight-legged horse, must remain matter for conjecture. His more recent exploits are well known. They are, Firstly.—The discovery of an extraordinary fish (if I remember aright). Secondly.—The production of a Quaker giant. Thirdly.—Of a giantess to match, who married the giant. Fourthly.—Of an old black woman, either a nurse or an attendant of some sort on General Washington, who related anecdotes of the patriot in infancy. Fifthly.—Of Tom Thumb. Sixthly.—Of Jenny Lind. Seventhly, Eighthly, and Ninthly.—Of a giantess and giant boy; some Chinese gentleman and ladies of high rank; a negro who has discovered a process of turning his skin from black to white by means of a herb, which process he is now undergoing. Independently of which, I have heard that Mr. Barnum has a third share of some ghosts, who are now showing off their ‘mysterious rappings’ to enthusiastic audiences.”

Most of these marvels—from Tom Thumb to the ‘rappites’—we have from time to time chronicled in our own pages: and, it is said, we shall soon have another “wonder of the world” to add to the collection, unless the rumoured victim should refuse “to march through



Coventry" in the rear of such a motley group.—Perhaps it may reconcile some of our American readers to the humours of this little volume, to show them how pleasantly it can also satirize things at home. Prepend—

"Nor do I think it unpleasant to catch one's first sight of Liverpool, which means in other words to stand on the shore; for, seen from a further distance, that town is merely a compact surface of fog. It is, above all things, pleasant to eat your breakfast at the hotel. At this house of entertainment, there may be a total absence of splendour; there may even be the presence of a considerable degree of dirt. A dark mist presses against the windows, and bottles up the view which you might otherwise obtain from them (no loss). Yellow prints of fox-hunters decorate the walls. Everything emits that inn-like and tavernous smell, peculiar to the caravanserais of this island, compounded of certain indefinable and musty particles, in which stale cigar-smoke always plays a more or less conspicuous part. Still, how delightful to be freed from the incessant rattle, from the splendid discomfort of an American hotel! \* \* It is pleasant, as you sit in the coffee-room, to glance your eye down the columns of the newspaper, and to extract what are the prominent topics of the day. The last English paper that you saw, could not possibly be less than three weeks—and would, in all probability, be a month—old. Since that time, what changes have taken place! Who is that Smith, who arrogates a whole side of the journal to himself? *He cut off the heads of his wife and twin children!* And yet, only three weeks ago, and this same Smith was living unknown and uncared for, a private individual like yourself. It was not then a matter of all-absorbing interest to countless thousands of his countrymen to know that Smith partook of tea for his breakfast, or wore a sky-blue cut-away. A deed perpetrated in a little back-kitchen, in two minutes, will give employment for whole weeks and months, to people hundreds of miles away; it will carry the newspapers through the dull part of the year; it will communicate an agreeable stimulus to all. Smith is a public benefactor, and ought to have a statue erected to him. So he will, you will see,—a wax one. \* \* Here again! Here is a memorial to a man who was hale and hearty when you were last in England. They are getting up this memorial to him on the plea that he was 'good.' Well—well—*de mortuis nil nisi bonum.* Nobody can complain that in Great Britain the charitable precept is not observed. Here are Bishops, alarmed at the Papal crisis, eating their own expressions, and the sentiment with which you have always associated their names—here are men appointed to high offices in Chancery, who, a few months ago, were at the common-law bar, and would probably have refused to give you their opinion on a question of equity—here are third editions of popular novels that you had never heard of—people passing through the Insolvent Court, whom you used to toady for their dinners—men and women being married together, among the advertisements, who, when you left, were both married to some one else—two more shop-fronts added to Moses and Son's establishment—more Dukes cured by Holloway's pills. So the world moves round, and only one thing remains the same. It is unnecessary to say that I allude to Smith-field."

As the traveller got deeper "into the bowels of the land" such pleasures increased. The author of 'Vanity Fair' has few more delicate touches of sardonic humour than the following.

"It was very pleasant to me, at a station somewhere near the end of our journey, and at which we waited about ten minutes, to watch a party walking up and down on the platform in front of the carriages. The party consisted of an old gentleman, two young ladies, and a young gentleman in plaid trousers and moustaches. The humble, reverential, and more than usually awkward manner of the porters, when they answered any questions asked them by any of the four, at once convinced me that they must be persons of distinction. The expressions 'my lord, and 'my lady,' which presently came wafted to my ears, let me in for the stupendous fact, that I breathed at that moment the same air with a British Peer. 'Perhaps they will get into this very carriage,' I

thought to myself; and my heart was almost in my mouth (if it had been quite there, I should have bit it in two in my emotion) at the mere idea of such happiness. No such thing. After hesitating a moment, they had the bad taste to prefer the next carriage, which was empty. I am sure the young ladies looked wistfully at the one where I was perceived with my face to the window—however, enough of this! The ceremony of getting that remarkable party into their places will not easily pass out of my mind. Two enormous retainers, whose grey overcoats were dotted over with shining buttons, like stars in the twilight sky, were employed, for some minutes, in dealing on to the seats great packs of cloaks, coats, furs, scarfs, rugs, shawls, and mackintoshes, out of one of which packs, I am pretty sure that I saw the tail of an Italian greyhound emerge, and I have a strong impression that all the railway officials saw it, as well; but let that pass. Upon these, followed a tolerable wheelbarrowful of gun-cases, cases of various kinds, hat-boxes, and tin-boxes, the use of which I do not know, unless they are made to contain the coronet. Last of all came the human beings themselves, who took longer to pack than all that preceded, a circumstance not so much to be wondered at, as how they managed to find room at all. And after the train had, I verily believe, been kept waiting for some minutes, for the purpose of bestowing the noble burden which it had received, off we steamed, and the last thing that I saw of the station was a party of bare heads bobbing and bowing in front of the carriage. Amongst others, I was delighted to recognize the head clerk of the station—who clearly had a bad cold—standing out in the damp, with his head bare. I am not malignant, but I hope that that cold is worse."

Here we must pause,—but not because the light and airy matter of the book is exhausted. We think the extracts already transferred to our columns will send not a few of our readers in search of this new companion of the voyage 'Across the Atlantic.'

*Lyrics of the Heart: with other Poems.* By Alaric A. Watts. With forty-one Engravings on Steel. Longman & Co.

THE name of Mr. Alaric Watts in common with a volume of poems carries the memory back, through many years, to a time when poetry had a more general acceptance and more earnest echoes than wait on her in the present day. The stormy realities of the times in which we have recently lived, succeeding to an age of utilitarian assertion and scientific marvel, have to a great extent silenced that sympathy for song which in ordinary times seems to be a natural portion of the universal mind. Great questions, affecting the destinies of large sections of the human race, have kept men's thoughts in a state of breathless attention which has left them no leisure for any occupation less important than the examination of the vast issues on which they were fixed:—and Science has so far outstripped the visions of the Muse in her most creative moods, that for a time the latter has lost that hold over the general affections and imagination which seems, nevertheless, to be a portion of her destined inheritance, under normal conditions, for all time.

One consequence of this state of things has been, that the ministers of song who remain have retired more within themselves than did their predecessors in the days when the worship of poetry was more diffused. Failing the command of the public ear, they have sung as it were to some secret audience supposed to have mysterious admission within the veil of the temple. Their rites have grown mystical and esoteric. As in the unhealthy days of other religions, their ministrations affect a dead language and obsolete forms. They stand before the people in a garb which seems as much that of conjurers as of prophets, in a day when the public care little for conjuring tricks. As if in resentment of

the defection of the multitude,—the multitude are warned off rather than wooed back. Poetry has grown to be a tradition rather than a pervading principle,—a faith more than a practice. The Muse hides in her own urn—or sings ambiguously out of deep waters,—who in the days to the memory of which this volume bears us back, might be found sitting on some sunny bank, playing with the natural thoughts which she found in the meanest flowers around, and uttering a simple and open air music which the universal heart stood still to hear.—There can be no doubt, those were pleasanter poetical times than that in which the lot of the present generation is cast. Poetry was a part of all men's thoughts,—and it was sweet to hear spirits singing in answer to them wherever we trod. Looking back from less musical days, it seems to us as if that were a holiday time, when the minstrels were out in the land.

In those days Mr. Watts was one of a class of bards who sang principally at the bidding of the affections,—and had a large audience to listen. "Confined," he says, "as for the most part my poems are, to appeals to the domestic affections, conveyed in language which addresses itself to the heart rather than to the head,—and asserting no claim to the more exalted attributes of purely imaginative poetry,—I seek to secure for them no appreciation which can be considered inconsistent with such very limited pretensions." Accepting this estimate as justly descriptive rather of Mr. Watts's practice than of his power,—the fact remains, as testifying to the practice itself, that the appreciation which he so sought was very largely accorded to him. For many years his name had a popularity the echoes of which have not yet died out. Premising that he has many times shown a power, if such had been his temper, to climb the heights that lay around him,—it is yet true that his taste led him commonly to confine his poetical excursions to the wayside, where the ordinary humanities met him face to face and were his theme. His verse has nothing in common with that resonant sea of song in which the diver must go down great depths to find a pearl—or come up without one, as the case may be. It flowed on like one of those natural streams that wander, discoursing a low sweet music, amid the flowers familiar to the common heart and eye—now and then in deeper and darker reaches reflecting the stars,—and by whose margin the people in their leisure moments love to stray.—

Deem it not strange I should prefer the string  
That best accords with gentle themes like these,  
And leave the realms of Fancy's wilder wing.  
To sing of home and homebred sympathies:  
Content with few and simple notes to please,  
And win a poet's meed from hearts like thine,  
All unambitious prouder wreaths to seize,  
The Muse's loftier vision I resign  
So that her twilight tears and sunset smiles be mine!

The youthful lover's hopes and fears to tell;  
Of childhood's budding bloom, and happy death;  
Of those high thoughts that bid the soft heart swell;  
When glowing Faith resigns her sainted breath:  
To catch the hues from Pity's dew-spent wreath,  
And bid them live a moment in my lay;  
To mourn, some old, umbrageous oak beneath,  
O'er joys that wither like the waning day,  
And wear their loveliest smiles even whilst they fade away!

Or, haply, murmuring of some peaceful cot,  
The home of pleasures pure, pursuits refined;  
Some quiet nook, some calm, sequestered spot,  
Radiant with triumphs of the heart and mind;  
Where Poesy and Painting sit enshrined;  
Where Art and Nature yield their treasures chaste,  
And charm their votaries with their spells combined;  
Where Genius' self, by Truth and Fancy graced,  
Doth not disdain to own the plastic hand of Taste.

Such are the simple songs I bring thee here,  
Songs that a few will prize, that all may feel;  
Records of bliss and woe, of hope and fear,  
Of lowly lives like tranquil streams that steal,  
And in their wanderings, dark or bright, reveal  
The shade or sunshine of their chequered way.

Of the particular class of poetry to which Mr. Watts has devoted his muse, he has en-



tered into some defence in his preface. The objection sometimes made to the personal character of such poems has, as he shows, been well and boldly met by Mr. Coleridge. We will quote from Coleridge himself, rather than from Mr. Watts. "To censure such things," the former says, "in a monody or sonnet is almost as absurd as to dislike a circle for being round. Why, then," he continues, "write sonnets or monodies? Because they give me pleasure, when, perhaps, nothing else could. True! it may be answered, but how is the public interested in your sorrows, or your description of them?—We are for ever attributing personal unities to imaginary aggregates. What is the public but a term for a number of scattered individuals? of whom, as many will be interested in these sorrows as have experienced the same, or similar."

—Holy be the lay  
Which, mourning, soothes the mourner on his way.

If I could judge of others by myself, I should not hesitate to affirm, that the most interesting passages in all writings are those in which the author develops his own feelings. The sweet voice of Cona never sounds so sweetly as when it speaks of itself; and I should almost suspect that man of an unkindly heart who could read the opening of the third book of the *Paradise Lost* without peculiar emotion. Without looking into the philosophy of the matter, there is little doubt of the fact, that the pensive tone of the personal records (of incident or sensation) chosen often as the themes of the lyre at the period when Mr. Watts principally wrote, has an exceeding charm for the young and imaginative; nor, where the sentiment is not morbid, or visibly constrained, is the philosophy of the matter far to seek.

The voices, as has been elsewhere observed, are many by which poetry speaks. The note of the "household bird" is as surely of the domain of music as the classic song of the nightingale; and he whose lyre interprets any one of the more gentle emotions of the spirit, or renders truly one of the minor morals of nature, is not less certainly, if he be less loftily, a poet than he who climbs the heaven of invention, and translates the fiery language of the passions, or whose harp gives back the echoes of the tempest, and reveals the oracles of nature in her more majestic moods. From this argument, as from every other, we exclude, of course, those supreme examples on which the hand of mastery in the "divine art" is so conspicuously stamped as to place them, at once and visibly, above all other works, in all classes and kinds; but such poems and birds are the rare and consummate gift of centuries. "It is only once in many ages that a genius appears, whose words, like those on the *Written Mountain*, last for ever;" but minstrels whose instruments are tuned to utter "the low, sweet music of humanity," or catch and repeat some of the many pleasant tones by which the natural spirit speaks in his thousand haunts and hiding-places, are genii too. Balaam was as truly a prophet, and had a mission as certainly divine, when he took the road on his lowly ass, as he who travelled heavenward in the chariot of fire.

The success of such personal appeals as those to which we have alluded must, however, Mr. Watts justly observes, "be determined by the power of the poet to produce in the mind of his reader sensations corresponding to those which have given an impulse to his pen." Knowing by his acceptance of old that he has this gift, and believing that the sentiments to which he successfully addressed himself are of all times, Mr. Watts has thought it right to himself and others to reproduce the scattered body of his poetry in a more collected and permanent form.

It is not true, it cannot be,  
That the love of Song is o'er;  
Though the mightier masters of the Lyre  
May wake their harps no more.

Mourners! how deep so'er the griefs  
That weigh your spirit down;  
A hearth made desolate and dark  
By Fortune's angriest frown;  
The death of some long cherished friend,  
When friends, alas! are few;  
The wild estrangement of a heart  
You once believed so true:

Though Sorrows "in battalions" come,  
With which 'tis hard to cope,  
And the sad soul, beleaguered round,  
Hath nothing left but Hope;  
What spell can lull the tempest's rage,  
Appease the spirit's wrong,  
Like the precepts of the Poet's page,  
The solace of his Song;

Philosophers! so keen of sight,  
Inquisitive, and, oh!  
So wise, men marvel how your heads  
Can carry all you know;  
Who dim each impulse of delight,  
By diving to its cause;  
And will not give us leave to feel,  
Save by your latest laws;

Still peer among the stars to find  
Some planet yet unknown;  
But leave that world the human heart,  
And its mystic chords alone!  
Rob not the Poet of the right  
He hath maintained so long;  
The realms of earth and sky be yours,  
But leave him those of Song!

Votaries of Science! whose exploits  
The world with wonder fill,  
Who faster than the wind can speed  
The mandates of your will;  
Cross not the Poet's woodland path,  
He never did you wrong;  
Harvests of wisdom still you reap,  
But leave to earth its Song!

But Mr. Watts has yet other claims on the time to which he now appeals,—that are also represented in the beautiful volume before us. His name is very familiar to those acquainted with the operations of the line engraver during the last quarter of a century. Mr. Watts was one of the first to lead the way—as he was one of the most persevering and successful—in the improvement of book illustration,—which before his day had but a spasmodic existence among us. Some of the best artists of a former age had, it is true, not thought it beneath them to bestow their pre-eminent powers in aid of ornamentation. Of these, Hogarth was one. To Stothard—whose graceful pencil adorned the *Novelists' Magazine*, and other publications—we owe some of the highest examples of the class, in some of the most beautiful evidences of his exquisite taste and feeling. Nor must the names of Smirke and Westall be overlooked in the matter. With the last, though too often marred by manner or convention, there were usually sentiment and propriety. All these contributed to improve a class which was previously in the hands of such artists as Hayman and his compeers—rendered by the Vanderghuets, the Grignons, and other foreigners. In another kind we had the Bartolozzis and the Ciprianis—equally well known to the book-plate collector. Up to the time of the splendidly illustrated work of Mr. Samuel Rogers, it had been the habit to secure the services of a single illustrator for a work. The junction of the powers of Stothard and Turner in the illustration of the poem of *Italy* was one of the earliest instances of departure from this monopoly. It is, however, to the enterprise and intelligence of Mr. Watts that is due principally the merit of having added the decoration of first-rate art to original poetry, by employing variety of powers in the production of both. The *Literary Souvenir* was the foremost in character of the "Annual" publications which presented the best talents of the line engraver on smaller dimensions than those on which it had ever before been exercised. Competitors, raised up rapidly by Mr. Watts's success, were soon abundantly in the field; but wanting his taste and judgment,—they threw on the public

productions which, in the attempt to force by cheaper volumes a more extensive sale, tended to degrade the class. The public lost by this: as well as the line-engraver,—who in these days of cheap mezzotints stands but little chance.—As it is now the fashion to underrate the class of books called "Annuals," a word may here be very appropriately said in their favour, though it is not the first time that we have done them this justice. Besides the claim already stated, they did good service of other kinds—which should not now be forgotten either by the author or by the public. On the painted wings of these humming-birds, the fame of the poet was wafted faster and farther than it could have been through the ordinary channels of publication, and the public will find in their pages a body of more beautiful poetry, of the fugitive class, than in any other original English publication. To their existence as a popular medium of communication between the poet and his audience, amid the difficulties of the time, we owe many a snatch of beautiful song that without them would have perished.

We have had so much to say on the subject of this volume and its author's claims, that we have left ourselves scarcely room to illustrate by a few examples the poetry of Mr. Watts. With the exception of "The Death of the First-born"—which has since passed into so many collections that it must be "familiar as household words" to the reader of the present day—few of his poems had a wider success than the following.—Those of our readers who are too young to have made its acquaintance will thank us for reprinting it here.

#### Kirkstall Abbey Revisited.

The echoes of its walls are eloquent;  
The stones have voices and the walls do live;  
It is the house of Memory! Maturin.

Long years have passed since last I strayed  
In boyhood, through thy roofless aisle,  
And watched the mists of eve o'ershadow  
Day's latest, love-hest smile.  
And saw the bright, broad moving, moon  
Sail up the sapphire skies of June.

The air around was breathing balm,  
The aspen scarcely seemed to sway,  
And as a sleeping infant calm,  
The river flowed away,  
Devious as error, deep as love,  
And blue and bright as heaven above!

Steeped in a flood of golden light,  
Type of that hour of deep repose,  
In wan, wild beauty on my sight,  
Thy time-worn tower arose,  
Brightening above the wreck of years,  
Like FAITH amid a world of fears.

I climbed its dark and dizzy stair,  
And gained its ivy-mantled brow;  
But broken—ruined—how may dare  
Ascend that pathway now?  
Life was an upward journey then—  
When shall my spirit mount again!

The steps in youth I loved to tread,  
Have sunk beneath the foot of Time!  
Like these the daring hopes that led  
Me, once, to heights sublime,  
Ambition's dazzling dreams are o'er,  
And I may scale those heights no more!

And years have fled, and now I stand  
Once more beside thy shattered fane,  
Nerveless alike in heart and hand,  
How changed by grief and pain,  
Since last I loitered here, and deemed  
Life was the fairy thing it seemed!

And gazing on thy crumbling walls,  
What visions meet my mental eye;  
For every stone of thine recalls  
Some trace of years gone by—  
Some cherished bliss, too frail to last,  
Some hope decayed or passion past!

Ay, thoughts came thronging on my mind  
Of sunny youth's delightful morn;  
When free from sorrow's dark control,  
By pining care unworn,  
Dreaming of Pains, and Fortune's smile,  
I lingered in the ruined aisle!

How many a wild and withering woe  
Hath seared my trusting heart since then;  
What clouds of blight, consuming slow,  
The springs that life sustain,  
Have o'er my world-voiced spirit past,  
Sweet Kirkstall, since I saw thee last!



How bright is every scene beheld  
In youth and hope's unclouded hours;  
How darkly, youth and hope dispelled,  
The loveliest prospect lours:  
Thou wert a splendid vision then;—  
When wilt thou seem so bright again!  
Yet still thy turrets drink the light  
Of summer evening's softest ray,  
And ivy garlands, green and bright,  
Still mantle thy decay;  
And calm and beautiful as of old,  
Thy wandering river glides in gold.

But life's gay morn of ecstasy,  
That made thee seem so passing fair,—  
The aspirations wild and high,  
The soul to nobly dare,—  
Oh, where are they, stern ruin, say?  
Thou dost but echo—where are they?  
Adieu!—Be still to other hearts!  
What thou wert long ago to mine!—  
And when the blissful dream departs,  
Do thou a beacon shine,  
To guide the mourner, through his tears,  
To the blest scenes of happier years!  
Farewell!—I ask no prouder boon,  
Than that my parting hours may be  
Bright as the evening skies of June;  
Thus, thus to fade like thee,  
With heavenly FAIR's soul-cheering ray,  
To glid with glory my decay!

Of Mr. Watts's domestic poetry we quote an example, in some of the verses from a poem

To a Sleeping Child.

My fair-haired boy! as thus I gaze  
Upon thy calm, untroubled sleep,  
I feel the hopes of other days,—  
The cherished hopes for words too deep,—  
Unfold within my heart again,  
Like flowers refreshed by summer rain!  
The brightness of thy dark blue eye  
Still peers its half-closed lids between,  
Like glimpses of an April sky  
Through clouds of snowy whiteness seen;  
And dimpling smiles are lingering now  
Round thy sweet mouth and sunny brow!  
The spirit of some gentle dream  
Hath kindled, sure, thy glowing cheek,  
And lent that half-shut eye the beam  
Which seems in furtive light to speak  
Of tameless glee, of antics wild,  
Of nods and becks, thy sinless child!  
October's winds are chill and drear,  
And howl our cottage home around,  
Whilst emblems of the waning year  
In ceaseless eddies straw the ground;  
I gaze upon the leafless tree,  
And deem it but a type of me;  
But when I turn from Nature's waste,  
From thoughts those saddening sights can bring  
And look on thee, I seem to taste  
The freshness of a second spring;  
And feelings, long repressed, arise,  
That whisper hopes of brighter skies.  
But bodings full of fear will throng,  
Unbidden, on my feverish brain;  
And thoughts of sickness, blight, and wrong,  
Come back upon my heart again;  
And, sitting by thy side, I grieve  
O'er dreams I cannot choose but weave.  
I turn me to the past, and mourn  
That what has been again may be;  
I weep, lest ills that I have borne  
Should be in store, my child, for thee;  
To warp thy truth, to cloud thy brow,  
And make thee all that I am now.  
The slave of anguish that has taught  
My harp the echo of my heart,  
Of hopes, with bright enchantment fraught,  
To stir my soul and then depart,  
Of gentle thoughts inspired to bless,  
All turned to fold bitterness;  
Of waning health, a wasted frame,  
Worn by the racking strife within;  
Of pride not even grief may tame,  
That weighs upon my heart like sin;  
Of glowing visions of delight  
Dimmed by their own excess of light;  
The dupe of every sordid fool,  
With just enough of sense to cheat  
A simple novice in the school  
Where souls grow learned in deceit;  
The victim of man's selfish schemes,  
For deeming him the thing he seems!  
But, lo! those merry eyes unclose,  
And dart their thousand meanings round,—  
Thy cheek with fresher crimson glows,  
Thy brow with sunnier light is crowned,  
As, bursting slumber's silken chain,  
Though bidd' past hopes revive again.  
Thus do thou, ever thus, when Care  
Flings her dark shadows o'er my way,  
And hopes, as perishing as fair,  
Like withered leaves have dropped away,  
Shed light upon my heart and brow,  
To rapture turn my tears as now!

One short specimen more must suffice.—

To a Child, blowing Bubbles.

Thrice happy Babe! what radiant dreams are thine,  
As thus thou bidd'st thine air-born bubbles soar;—  
Who would not Wisdom's choicest gifts resign  
To be, like thee, a careless child, once more.  
To share thy simple sports, and sinless glee;  
Thy breathless wonder, thy unfeigned delight,  
As, one by one, those sun-touched glories flee,  
In swift succession, from thy straining sight!  
To feel a power within himself to make,  
Like thee, a rainbow whoso'er he goes;  
To dream of sunshine, and like thee to 'wake  
To brighter visions, from his charmed repose.  
Who would not give his all of worldly lore,—  
The hard-earned fruits of many a toil and care,—  
Might he but thus the faded past restore,  
Thy guileless thoughts and blissful ignorance share.  
Yet Life hath bubbles too, that soothe a while  
The sterner dreams of man's maturer years;  
Love—Friendship—Fortune—Fame—by turns beguile,  
But melt, 'neath Truth's Ishuriel-touch, to tears.  
Thrice happy Child! a brighter lot is thine;  
(What new illusion e'er can match the first?)  
We mourn to see each cherished hope decline;  
Thy mirth is loudest when thy bubbles burst.

Amongst the graces which meet in this volume, it is an added grace that the muse of Mrs. Watts is here associated with that of her husband. Mrs. Watts's beautiful verses on Mr. Lane's statue of his dead child are known to our readers:—and we must content ourselves with two shorter specimens.

Sappho.

Though many an age hath passed away,  
Fair Sappho, since thy birth,  
Thy name, as a familiar sound,  
Still lingers on the earth.  
Whence is thy power to hold the mind,  
What spells to thee belong?  
Which is the stronger tie to bind,  
Thy sorrows, or thy song?  
Though Fame o'erflowed her charmed cup,  
And bade thee freely take,  
Thy thirst was of the lonely heart,  
No earthly waters slake.  
Thy history, 'twas no common lot;  
Thy woe how dearly won!  
The idol of a thousand hearts,  
That sighed in vain for one!  
Thus fared it in the days of old,  
And thus it fares to-day:  
Genius but gives to forward Fate  
A double bar to slay.

The Requiem of Youth.

Oh, whither does the spirit flee  
That makes existence seem  
A day-dream of reality,  
Reality a dream?  
We enter on the race of life,  
Like prodigals we live,  
To learn how much the world exacts  
For all it hath to give.  
The fine gold soon becometh dim,  
We prove its base alloy;  
And hearts enamoured once of bliss  
Ask peace instead of joy.  
Spectres dilate on every hand  
That seemed but tiny elves;  
We learn distrust of all, when most  
We should suspect ourselves.  
But why lament the common lot  
That all must share so soon;  
Since shadows lengthen with the day,  
That scarce exist at noon.

Among the exquisite illustrations which this volume contains, we must point first to those by that Prince of Illustrators, Stothard.—Let those of our readers who have the volume turn to his 'Nine Muses.' 'The Mirror of Diana' is an adaptation from Lord Ellesmere's Titian. 'The Garden of Boccaccio' and 'The Fête Champêtre' are two of those charming realizations of the romance of nature which it was, as it were, this painter's privilege to present. Of a homelier, but most pathetic kind is 'The Deserted Cottage.' 'Cupids blowing Bubbles' and 'Cupids gathering Flowers' have sentiment of a quality like the Shakspearean Sonnet. 'The Closing Scene' is one of the most touching exemplifications of a mastery that has marked this great artist, for dramatic conduct and true passion, as the English Raphael.

Breathing the true spirit of poetry are also the contributions of Howard; who in the early

part of his career manifested talents not to be impeached by his practice of a later day, when infirmity had paralyzed his power.—'Iris and her Train,' 'L'Allegre e la Pensierosa,' 'The Shower,' 'Guardian Angels,' 'Morning'—the last somewhat resembling in character his well-known 'Pleiades'—are all revelations of a mind full of fancy, and sensible to graceful form and action. There is a lovely head by Newton from a miniature supposed to be of Nell Gwynne. Among the landscape scenes, those by Roberts of 'A Greek Temple' and 'The Halt in the Desert' are of great attraction. In the same category may be placed Mr. F. Danby's 'Morning (Greece)'—a tiny print descriptive of great extent—and 'Fairies,' which suggests recollections of his picture of 'The Enchanted Island.'—The 'Sunset,' from Barrett, is magically translated by Miller. By the same engraver is the 'Sunset, from Richmond Hill,' from another of Mr. Barrett's golden glories. This is one of the most delicious little prints that has ever been seen on so small a scale. Nor is the 'Pastoral Scene,' judiciously inscribed to the memory of the deceased artist, a whit inferior in refinement and beauty. 'Mount Atna' by Bonington shows the crater in a novel point of view. Stanfield's 'Pfaff, on the Rhine' is just one of such scenes as we have known him to realize on extended dimensions in diorama,—bringing down thunders of applause when exhibited. There is a captivating little group, dancing gaily to the sound of a pastoral pipe, by Mr. Leslie. One of those excellent female studies to which we are accustomed from Mr. Boxall, 'The Deserted,' is also in the volume. 'The Grave of the First-born,' by M. Alaux, suggested by the inhabitants and costume of the Campagna, furnishes a picturesque theme.—A group of children embracing, by Etty, entitled 'Cupid and Psyche,'—Neapolitan Peasants, with the Bay in the distance, a favourite theme with Mr. Uwins,—a very pretty little poetic conceit, a cupid-like urchin seated in a boat about to carry mischief to the distant shore, by Haydon,—and many others that we have not space to particularize,—from designs and pictures by Westall, Hoffland, Colin, Deveria, Watteau, Bentley, Le Saint, &c.—admirably engraved by Willmore, Goodyear, J. Watt, Miller, W. Finden, Wallis, Freebairn, Staines, Engleheart, C. Rolls, Portbury, Greatbach, Sangster, Hill, Challis, Outrim, Lewis, Mitchell, Ensom, Lightfoot,—indeed, by all the most important names associated with the province of the engraved book-plate,—contribute to the charm of this volume.—We close the book with the conviction, that there has been no illustrated work of its class at all entitled to enter into comparison with it.

*History of Greek Literature.* By the Hon. Sir T. N. Talfourd, the Right Rev. C. J. Blomfield, D.D., and others. Griffin & Co.

WE have here the ninth volume of the new edition of the 'Encyclopædia Metropolitana,' which is now in progress of publication. The idea of thus republishing that excellent work in cabinet volumes, each containing a complete subject, deserves all encouragement. Among the contributors to the first edition of the Encyclopædia were men of great eminence in their several departments. Their articles were not meagre compilations hastily got up by raw recruits, but the matured results of deep investigation on the part of men who had won for themselves high standing. Those of Dr. Whately on 'Logic' and 'Rhetoric' have long ago been published separately, with additions,—and now rank among the best treatises on those subjects. There is a completeness about



all the articles here reprinted that renders them well worthy of being re-issued in a separate form. They are thus brought within the reach of readers who might shrink from the purchase of the whole Encyclopædia. In most cases they have been specially revised and enlarged by the authors for this issue. New materials on the different subjects have been sometimes supplied by fresh hands. The present volume comprises papers on early Greek poetry, the tragic, comic, and lyric poets of Greece, and the Greek historians and orators. Those by Mr. Justice Talfourd on the poets and poetry are particularly interesting. They are full of information expressed in the choicest language. Biographical details are interspersed with masterly criticisms and eloquent tributes of admiration. Classic elegance and gracefulness shine forth on every page. All the questions raised in connexion with Homer are treated very fully and ably. The tragedians also are faithfully sketched, the characteristics of each pointed out, and their remaining works briefly described. On Euripides we find these observations.—

"We have seen that a certain elevation above the common realities of life is essential to tragedy. In Sophocles and Æschylus this dignity is preserved, not merely by the circumstance of the selection of persons from among the list of heroes and gods, but by the stateliness of their thoughts, the religious solemnity of their actions, and an air of consecration breathed over them; but the ambition of Euripides seems to have taken a direction not only different from that of his predecessors, but incompatible with that peculiar style of excellence which they invented and finished. His efforts are directed less to the imagination than to the sensibilities and the understanding. He loves to triumph by involving us in metaphysical subtleties, or by dissolving us in tears. He scarcely ever labours to attain that which the other tragedians made their great object, a representation of serene beauty. They made the very sorrows and deaths of their heroes partake of something above humanity, which should excite awe rather than compassion: he delighted in rendering their distresses of the lowest and most physical complexion. They cast around their sufferers a solemnity in grief, which breaks the force of sympathy: he strove to tear away all the disguises of rank, and claimed our pity for his persons as the lowest of mortals. The pangs of their heroes had for their causes the immediate retributions of heaven: his persons were exposed to cold, beggary, and pitiful needs. While the former preserve a majesty in affliction, the latter court our sympathy in the eloquence of rags. The truth seems to be, that the mind of Euripides was more penetrating and refined than exalted. With great sweetness and elegance, he appears to have wanted a sense of high and austere virtue, and even of sustained heroic grandeur."

Among the additions of new matter in this volume are, articles by Mr. Pococke on the Ionic Logographers, Herodotus, Xenophon, and the Pastoral Poets, with a Greek Literary Chronology, from Bernhardt's 'Grundriss der Griechischen Litteratur.'—All classical quotations that occur are translated into English for the sake of the general reader.

#### NEW NOVELS.

*The Duchess; or, Woman's Love and Woman's Hate: a Romance.* 3 vols. Bentley. ★

In this romance Louise of Savoy and the Constable de Bourbon, Francis the First of France, the Duchess d'Estampes, and a host of minor actors (among whom we may name Cornelius Agrippa, the magician) are fairly paraded, making

A gorgeous masque of pageantry and fear such as rarely brightens the library of English fiction:—Mr. Harrison Ainsworth's 'Crichton,' and the elaborate tales by the author of 'Whitefriars' not being forgotten. In truth, so little does the book resemble the work either of a known hand or of an unknown writer, that we

cannot avoid propounding a question which both the abundance of historical, topographical and antiquarian detail and the style in which it is written justify:—Can it be a translation from some of the thousand lively and well-constructed French novels that belong to the Dumas school, if not to the Dumas atelier? Further, can it have been printed under its author's superintendence?—Is not the odd name *Tauannes* a misprint for *Tavannes*?—The above are mere hints—hardly suggestions. It is possible that mystification may have been part of the author's plans,—and we know how easily the world of wise men is mystified. A blue crape dress in a morning (or some such irregular piece of costume) was thought by some acute critics to define beyond question the sex of the author of 'Jane Eyre,' and a few cleverly-contrived inscriptions and Greek chapter-mottos stood between the world of would-be-wonderers and the conviction that 'Cecil' must be Mrs. Gore's handiwork.—Bearing all these traps and delusions in mind, we must still ask any one conversant with *feuilleton*-dialogue—whether the following is not marvellously clever if it be a piece of imitation and not of paraphrase? The scene will explain itself when we have told that the *Sieur de Chissey*, when on much such a service as *Sir John Ramorny* undertook, in 'The Fair Maid of Perth,' had been set upon, wounded, —and subsequently poisoned by the father of the damsel whose abduction was the adventure on foot.—

"At about a quarter before eight o'clock on the following morning, a cordelier was seen to steal cautiously down the lane which led to the back of the nunnery of St. Catherine, at a spot where the gardens which enclosed the residence of the holy sisterhood joined those of the park of the Tournelles. For some twenty or thirty yards, the park itself abutted on the lane from which it was separated by a high wall apparently of great age, for the ivy from the inside had overgrown the top, and now hung in wild festoons half way to the street below. In this wall was a small and arched gateway, the door itself being studded with heavy iron bolts, whose massive heads were scattered over it in fantastic scrolls. To this the monk applied a key which was produced from the breast of his gown, and entered the royal park. The grounds within were in the immediate neighbourhood of the Labyrinth of Dædalus, and after the fashion of the time were formed of broad walks running in straight lines, or intersecting each other at right angles, and separated by high and thick hedges of yew or holly. Along one of these which followed the line of the wall, the monk took his way till he came to a pavilion, as it was termed, or summer-house, which occupied the angle at the place where the stone barrier turned from the north to the west. When he reached the spot, he found it unoccupied. He seemed exhausted and breathless with fatigue, for he flung himself upon a bench, and throwing back his cowl, exposed the features of our friend Duprat. \* \* A light step was heard upon the gravel, and Anne d'Heilly, breathless, came rushing into the Pavilion. Her manner was excited.—'Ah!' says she, here I am at last. I thought I should never have got away. And you have come disguised, too, as a monk! Do you know,' she added, as her wild spirits returned, 'I am half afraid to trust myself with you.'—'And why?'—'Why do you ask? Have you not heard of the murder?'—'What murder?' said Duprat coldly. 'There are so many daily in this evil city of Paris, that I have no time to note them.'—'Yes,' said Anne Pislieu; 'but this is one of special import, and woe be to him whose hand has done it; for the King swears, if he find him, he will flay him alive.'—'The Demoiselle d'Heilly,' said Duprat, 'forgets that she has not as yet taken the trouble of informing me of what deed of blood she speaks.'—'Of the murder of the *Sieur de Chissey*,' said the girl impatiently. 'Have you not heard of it?'—'Lady,' said Duprat, 'you are the first person who has spoken to me of it. But whence your allusion?—how connect you it with me?'—'They say the deed was done by a corded friar.'—'Pshaw!' said the Chan-

cellor, 'there are five thousand such in Paris. But I presume,' he added, in a freezing tone, 'you have not summoned me here to discuss those charnel-house stories.'—'No,' said she, laughing, 'mine is a matter of love, not murder; though the saints defend us, they are now-a-days not unfrequently connected.'—'Come, come, to business,' said Duprat impatiently.—'You have a story.'—'Yes.'—'Tell it.'—Anne d'Heilly extended her left hand, and tapped the palm of it with the fingers of her right.—'What am I to receive,' said she. 'It prevents squabbling when one settles the price beforehand.'—The Chancellor made a wry face. 'I had hoped,' he replied, 'that you would have given me the information for nothing. You have already been overpaid.'—'No, no; each notice has its own price, and this is an important one.'—'What ask you, then?'—'I have got a carcanet of rubies, and Maitre Godefroi says.'—'The foul fiend take him, and every goldsmith on the Pont au Change!' said the impatient Chancellor.—'Is he impatient! and a churchman! My lord archbishop, I am ashamed that your grace should set so bad an example to an erring sister.'—'Erring sister, sure enough,' said Duprat, muttering to himself; 'but it's no use putting jesses upon the legs of this young merle-falcon: she must e'en soar as she lists.'—And he composed his features, and stood in an attitude of patient resignation.—'Ah! now that you look well-behaved,' said his ruthless tormentor, 'I will go on with my story. Maitre Godefroi.'—'Well,' said the Chancellor, with a groan of enforced patience.—'Maitre Godefroi says, that to make my carcanet of rubies look well, there should be a diamond in the centre of them. But you do not listen to me.'—'Oh, yes.'—'True; but you do not take the same interest in the story that I do.'—'Not exactly.'—'Yet you should.'—'Why?'—'Because you are to give me the diamond.'—'I!'—'Yes, you.'—'The Demoiselle d'Heilly has left me no more money to buy jewels with.'—'I do not intend you to buy it. The diamond I promised Maitre Godefroi is on your finger.'—'What, this jewel! It is of value.'"

We could give a score more specimens of like facture and feature had we leisure to hunt or our readers to follow a crotchet further.—But the above explains in full our inquisitiveness:—and we need but add that the romance, whether original or a paraphrase, contains scenes of crime, intrigue, chivalry, sorcery, gallant deeds and glowing words, vivid and various enough to recommend it to romance-readers of all countries and of all ages.

*Shadows and Sunshine: a Tale.* By the Author of 'Viola; or, 'Tis an Old Tale and often Told.' Longman & Co.

No one who read 'Viola' when it first appeared can have forgotten that tale—though many years, with all their surges of heavy, and their shallows of light, literature—their revolutions and their reactions—have passed since then. Had the authoress followed up her first essay by subsequent efforts, she must by this time have stood high among the sisterhood. Of this we are a second time assured by her 'Shadows and Sunshine.' The title is not new—neither is the plot,—but the "shadows" promised lie on the pages, and the plot cannot be unwound without a strong and sad interest being excited, akin to the concern and excitement with which in Mrs. Inchbald's novel we follow the misdemeanours of *Miss Milner* and the struggles of *Dorriforth*. Somehow or other, the wilfulness of what *Monkbarns* called "the womankind" has a wondrous charm, such as it is hard to give to the devotion of an *Amelia Osborne* or to the maternal tenderness of *Mrs. Pendennis*:—and, in spite of our disapproval of the freaks and caprices of this newest illustration of wilfulness in the person of *Gertrude Villiers*, we cannot but feel that on them the interest of this tale centres, and follow them through all their phases with a sort of feverish fear that to shadow, positive, hopeless, irremediable night must and will succeed—that



no "sunshine" can come of it. Whether such fears are fulfilled or otherwise we shall not here tell. Gertrude's foil, Leila, is very carefully sketched and sweetly portrayed: and Major Warburton, the Mentor, is as intolerably in the right as he was meant to be.—In short, here is a tale of superior order: written in an earnest and eloquent style. But let the authoress—who it is to be hoped will write again—beware of ejaculations and apostrophes. These devices have a certain appearance of theatrical magnificence which is unfavourable to the reader's entire surrender and sympathy.

*Chance and Choice; or, the Education of Circumstances.* Parker.

Though the two tales which form this volume cannot be commended as natural in incident, they are interesting in matter—and pleasant in manner. 'The Young Governess' is a young lady who, being hunted by a Gorgon of a stepmother, and cruelly oppressed by her own father at the said Gorgon's bidding, very neatly contrives to escape from her family in Paris, and to engage herself as English governess in a Russian family, whom she accompanies to Toplitz. The barbarically unclean and barbarically splendid Princess Drascovitz is a person whose reality we can attest from some few glimpses at beings of her class. Prince Ivan is of the *Lord Fellamar* species:—less especially Russian, and more universally rake. Betwixt them, the poor young governess would merely have exchanged frying-pan for fire in entering their service, had she not by good-fortune made acquaintance at Toplitz with a perfect Polish family—who, as soon as the hook becomes dangerously sharp, take her off it. As their inmate, however, she is exposed to new trials and strange vicissitudes:—through which we will not follow her.—In 'Claudine de Soligny,' which is a story of a proud girl whom also persecution is to amend—the wicked influence is, Papistry—the Paradise is to be found in a Waldensian family of poor relations, who heap coals of fire on her head by repaying her insolence with protection and sympathy—as soon as her conversion to Lutheranism makes help and shelter necessary to her.—In this second story, the local colour is more vivid than we usually find it:—but we cannot admit that the education of circumstances as propounded in either of these novels is such a schooling as falls to any save the heroines of romance.—The virtue of the tales lies in them as romantic narratives,—not as every-day lessons for every-day young ladies.

*Memoirs of the Queens of Spain, from the period of the Conquest of the Goths to the Accession of Her Present Majesty Isabella II.* Vol. II. By Anita George. Bentley.

THE whole of the volume before us is devoted to the biography of that illustrious woman, "Isabella the Catholic." A queen who was so closely connected with the great events of her time—who, indeed, exercised so important an influence in regard to them—could not but claim a large portion of notice in a work expressly designed to present the biographies of the Spanish Queens to the reader. It is unfortunate, however, for the present writer, that this portion of Spanish history should have been so ably and so completely gone over by an historian of such high standing as Mr. Prescott,—and we can easily believe the hesitation and anxiety which the writer modestly tells us she felt in entering on this part of her task. We think, however, she was wrong in offering "simply a biography of the sovereign, and an account of the principal events of her reign;" since these events did not merely pass in sequence before that illustrious

woman,—but of some of them she was the originator, and of all the main influence, if not the presiding genius. Thus, as the writer has on these questions exercised, as she tells us, an independent judgment, she might as well have gone more fully into them: more especially into that most interesting, as it was the noblest, episode of Isabella's life—her earnest patronage of Columbus, and her persisting determination to support him, although opposed by the mean avarice of her husband, and by the almost insuperable doubts of her ecclesiastical advisers.

Isabella the Catholic, it should ever be borne in mind, flourished at a very peculiar period of European history. It was just at the close of the fifteenth century, when the feudal system was falling in every land into decay, and the monarchical power—aided more or less, according to the political peculiarities of the nation, by the people—was advancing its claims. In Spain, as in other countries—probably even more so there—the power of the chief nobles was so great, that the regal power as employed to curb it was actually beneficial. Thus, we think, the stringent measures adopted by Isabella at the commencement of her reign were far from injurious to the country, although her prerogative was increased by these far beyond that exercised by the Gothic kings of Spain. But subsequent events proved yet more the importance of the power being in the hands of the high-minded queen, rather than committed to the keeping of some half dozen turbulent and ambitious nobles; for not only did civil war cease, but the numerous bands of robbers, who from the facilities afforded of passing from the lands of one noble to another had so fearfully increased, were put down,—and a degree of order and respect for law was established to which Spain had been long a stranger. There was much heroism in Isabella's character.—

"During her residence in Tordesillas, the Queen received tidings that the citizens of Segovia had risen against the Alcalde Cabrera, at that time absent from the town. Alarmed at the movements of the insurgents, who had taken possession of the outworks of the fortress, and besieged the tower inhabited by the Princess Isabel, her only daughter, and still defended tenaciously by some of Cabrera's adherents, the Queen mounted her horse, and, accompanied by several of her nobles and attendants, hastened to Segovia. As she approached the town, she was met by a deputation of its citizens, with two requests; the first that she would enter by one of the gates in their possession, and not by that of Saint Juan still held for Cabrera; the other, that she would leave behind her the Marchioness of Moya, and the Count of Benavente; the one as being the wife of Cabrera, and the other his friend and ally. They moreover warned her, that if these two conditions were not complied with, danger might accrue to herself, as the populace goaded to madness, would probably go so far as to forget the respect due to majesty. The spirited answer and conduct of Isabel is characteristic of her firm and persevering spirit: 'Tell the citizens and gentlemen of Segovia,' said she, 'that I am Queen of Castile, and Lady of this town, inherited from my father; and that, to enter my own domains, no conditions are to be dictated to me. I will enter the town by the gate that shall seem most meet unto me; and with me shall enter the Count of Benavente, and whosoever else it befitteth my service should accompany me. Bid those that sent ye submit, ere it be too late, and cease disturbing the peace of my town, lest they be made to suffer for it in their persons and property.' She then entered the town, and repaired to the alcazar, which she had no sooner entered, than the insurgents flocked thither, vociferously shouting, 'death to Cabrera;' and threatening to attack the fortress. The Cardinal, and other nobles of the Queen's suite, strongly urged that the gates should be kept closed against the blindly-furious populace; but the Queen, taking counsel only of her own undaunted spirit, bade them remain

in the apartment, while she herself, descending to the court-yard, ordered the gates to be thrown open, and the people admitted. At the unlooked-for invitation of 'Friends, the Queen bids all enter that desire it,' the court was soon thronged by the clamorous Segovians, to whom Isabel, in her usual calm tone and dignified attitude, addressed herself, demanding the cause of the tumult, and asking what were the grievances of which they complained; adding that whatsoever was for their interest was also for hers. The presence and demeanour of the Queen had an instantaneous effect in quelling the angry demonstrations of the citizens, and one in the name of the rest, respectfully replied that it was the wish of the townsmen that Cabrera should be deprived of the government of the fortress. The Queen immediately granted their request, bidding them, moreover, dismiss all the adherents of the obnoxious Alcalde, as she should place the alcazar under the care of one of her own household."

Subsequently, on her visit to Seville she "announced that she would devote one day in each week to hearing and redressing in person all grievances, thus reviving the almost obsolete custom of Spanish sovereigns. Accordingly, every Friday, the Queen took her seat in a chair of state covered with cloth of gold, and placed on a platform at the upper end of the large hall of the alcazar. On each side of the Queen were placed the members of her Privy Council, doctors of the law, prelates, and gentlemen; while in front sat the secretaries who received and read the petitions to her. Beyond these stood the Alcaides of the Court, the alguaciles and the maces. Every suit was in this way disposed of without any expense to the parties, or the long and tedious delays incidental to the ordinary forms of administering the laws, as those cases which required more mature examination were committed to some member of the Queen's Council, whose business it was to obtain the required information within three days. On all other days of the week except Friday and Sunday, the Queen's ministers gave audience."

"So perseveringly and actively were the Queen's intentions carried out," that not only were innumerable cases decided in a very short time, but thousands—so say contemporary chroniclers—fled from Seville, fearing lest they also should be brought to trial. Surely the vigorous government of Isabella was needed. We regret that Miss George should so repeatedly throw out insinuations as to the integrity of Isabella's motives, both in her war against the Moors and in the severe measures adopted by her against the Jews. Mr. Prescott, who certainly has had access to every document which could throw light on her character, expressly maintains "the unsuspected integrity of her motives." As to the war and conquest of Granada, we cannot see aught in it worse than in the many wars of succeeding times for a particular succession,—for a question of boundary,—or for that weightiest point with our great-grandfathers, "the balance of power." It seems, indeed, to be a natural law that wherever two races occupy the same country, they must either blend into one people, or the weaker be expelled—or perhaps exterminated. Nor is it fair to charge the cruelty of that last warfare against the Moors upon Isabella. Devastation and massacre always followed the steps of the Moorish troops; and if the cruel deeds of the Christians at the capture of Alhama be pointed to,—the sanguinary siege of Zahara, and the massacre of so many of the inhabitants by the Moors, should not be overlooked.

On the subject of the establishment of the Inquisition, the writer before us is strangely at fault. Forgetting, or unconscious, that this terrible tribunal was established by Dominic early in the thirteenth century,—that it was actually introduced into Arragon in 1242,—and that, to use the very words of Mr. Prescott, "though it had not been fully organized in Castile, still St. Ferdinand with his own royal hands had heaped faggots on the pile which was



to consume the heretic, and Isabella's father had hunted them down like wild beasts, on the mountains of Biscay,"—she states as an incontrovertible historical fact, that "in the course of this year (1477) the first step was taken for the establishment of the tribunal of the Inquisition."

The remarks which follow about bigotry and religious liberty, &c. are just as much to the point as would be a dissertation on the superiority of railroads over the cumbrous mode of travelling then adopted by the Spanish Court. It is this system of judging and sentencing past times and characters by the standard of the nineteenth century that more than aught else betrays the superficial thinker, and consequently the unsafe guide in historical questions. It is astonishing to us, how even writers that must know better will persist in charging the errors in judgment of past ages as actual crimes. For ourselves, who reap the benefit of full three centuries' free discussion of religious matters, a blind and fierce adherence to any peculiar doctrines is unpardonable. But how differently placed were our forefathers. Through many a century every church in Christendom resounded with the same service,—and the self-same book of formularies was placed upon each altar, from Southern Italy to the shores of the Baltic. Where were they, then, to learn that difference of opinion might subsist without wrong? What example had they to guide them to that result which, after three hundred years of bitter religious controversy, we have but imperfectly arrived at. It is, therefore, gross injustice to point out Isabella—even Torquemada himself,—because they supported the Inquisition, as "names deserving the execration of posterity." The writer of the life before us, indeed, takes a strange pleasure in depreciating Isabella,—while yet she is compelled to admit that in all private and feminine duties she would have been a pattern in any age. Thus—

"During the long and active wars in which she was engaged, it would scarcely seem possible that she could find leisure to devote to her children, yet such was the system which she observed in the distribution of her time, that she neglected none of her private duties, even while she paid the strictest attention to State affairs. The care that she bestowed on the education of her children was unremitting, and the plan she pursued in it admirable. Their naturally gentle and amiable dispositions were fostered, their intellects cultivated, and the latent germs of faults eradicated with diligent care." Her daughters were taught not only the solid branches of education so seldom acquired in that age by ladies, but all the elegant accomplishments then cultivated. In Latin, at that period much more used than at the present day, they were well versed. The particular pains bestowed by Isabel on the education of the son for whose head was intended a diadem composed of more gems than had ever adorned the brows of any one of his ancestors, are especially recorded by contemporary writers, in terms of high and deserved praise. That the Prince, while enjoying the benefits of private tuition, might not be deprived of the spur of emulation afforded by competition in public schools, the Queen caused ten youths, the sons of nobles, five of whom were of the same age as her son, and five somewhat older, to be brought up with him; and these constant companions partook of all the advantages which he enjoyed, sharing alike his studies and his pleasures. This happy idea, which emanated from Isabel alone, has been greatly admired. Not only the youths thus brought into direct and continual association with the Prince, but all other persons whose duties called them near him, even his pages, were selected with discriminating care by his mother; and so judicious did her choice prove, that nearly all his pages, as well as his youthful companions, were, in after life, distinguished by some superior excellence."

Nor was Isabella deficient in her patronage of learned men: while her support of Columbus—who is here only just alluded to—proves her

superiority to the prejudices even of the learned around her.

With an even greater disregard of historical truth, Miss George represents Ximenes as "one of the monstrosities; conceived and born of evil, which from time to time afflict the earth;"—and the reason of this opinion appears to be, merely because, like every one else in that age, he was bigotedly attached to the faith of his forefathers. It is strange to find a writer going over a period of late so fully explored, and pronouncing so harsh a verdict on the heroine of the narrative; but stranger still that she should accuse of "ignorance" the illustrious man who founded at such great cost the University of Alcalá:—and more, who first conceived the idea, although in the very infancy of printing, of sending forth to the world a *Polyglott Bible*. Yet, while every instance of persecution of the Moors is eagerly brought forward,—the generous efforts of fifteen years during which Ximenes sent messengers throughout Europe to purchase biblical manuscripts, and summoned type-founders from Germany to cast types in the foundries expressly built for them, are never even alluded to. That crowning act of his life, as the old man was accustomed to term it, the publication of the six folio volumes containing the 'Complutensian Polyglott,' is passed as completely over as though it had been a mere legend unworthy of a place in an historical work, instead of one of the most interesting events in the literary history, not of Spain only, but of Europe.

We have felt it our duty to be thus severe on the little work before us, because there is unfortunately just now a great deal of actual bigotry beneath the guise of uncommon liberality,—and because the system of writing party history is greatly encouraged by a large class who ought to know better. That intolerance is unjustifiable, and that the Inquisition was its most fearful engine, may be held as articles of enlightened faith, without our involving in sweeping denunciations of criminality many who, had they possessed our advantages, might have been examples even in liberality of opinion to us. Let us bear in mind that historical truth is a sacred thing; and that if we have not profited as we ought by the lessons which the past affords us, much of the reason may be traced to the garbled and distorted way in which the record of that past has been written. Surely, justice demands for the illustrious dead, when summoned to the bar of posterity, that "the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth" should be brought forward on their trial.

#### ALMANACS, &c. FOR 1851.

AMONG the crowd of yearly remembrancers lying on our table in this shape at Christmas time, we have learned to look to our old acquaintance *Punch* most trustfully for a store of pleasantries including the morals as well as the mirth which befit the season. Nor, as our columns testify, are we often disappointed in that trust. This year he comes to us in more than usual cheerfulness and spirit. Some of the pictorial illustrations are capital:—we would particularly notice the rampant jocularities of the arrival of Tom Heyday's "Few Friends," and the humour of "The Count who knows everything and everybody singing one of his own romances," as specimens of Mr. Leech's best manner. The "Crowded state of London Lodging-houses," the "Dining Room of 1851," and the "North-American Lodgers," are all rich contributions to the fun of the volume,—imaginary gleanings from the Great Event of the coming year. But the gem of all is, the cab let for lodgings, with the waterman asking the astonished old gentleman "Vot time he would like his hot water?" The notice on a neighbouring tree, "A very desirable family omnibus to be let, with immediate possession, rent moderate,"—fur-

nishes the necessary commentary on the waterman's question and on the lodger's comical expression of face.

The letter-press of the Almanack is certainly not below the level of former years. The long story of the Adventures of the Haycock Family during the year of foreign invasion of London does not readily admit of extract; but we will borrow a string of samples of the wit and wisdom scattered by *Punch*, from the minor articles of mirth. Here is a batch of Christmas conundrums.—

"Where are we most likely to find the sky blue? The nearer we get to the milky way."

"Why is a man who has just carried his carpet-bag on shore from a steam-boat like an owner of the soil? Because he is possessed of 'landed property.'"

"Why is a comet more like a dog than the Dog-star? Because the comet has got a tail, and the Dog-star hasn't."

"How can a man, who has no wings, be said to be 'winged' in an 'affair of honour'? Because, in going to fight a duel, he makes a goose of himself."

"Why do the Patent Laws tend to promote discovery? Because they tax invention."

"When has a scruple more weight than a dram? When conscience makes a testotaller refuse a thimblefull of brandy."

From the amusement that hides in a conundrum, let us pass to the meanings which may lurk in a set of definitions.—

"An Heir at Law.—A gentleman who inherits an estate which is thrown into Chancery."

"Table of Interest.—The Dinner-Table."

"Said State of Medicine.—The most honest medical man is generally so far a hypocrite that his profession is unaccompanied by practice."

"A Legal Conveyance.—The Police Van."

"Hint on Perspective.—The vanishing point is that in which a gentleman in difficulties beholds a sheriff's officer."

"Proposition for Scientific Police-Inspectors.—Given the number of a Policeman, 24 A, and the diameter of his beat 2 miles 1 furlong—to find his area."

"Consolation for a Pain in the Side.—A Stitch in time saves nine."

"To Mend Sherry.—Have a sherry-cobbler."

"Paradoxical Experiment.—The giver of a lecture on natural philosophy exhausting his receiver."

We extract now at random.—

"Ladies' College.—It is to be regretted that this valuable institution cannot offer Fellowships to ladies qualified to take the degree of Mistress of Hearts."

"Logic for Loose Fish.—Punctuality is the soul of business; therefore, punctuality is not material."

"Cheap Cure for all Diseases.—Like is to be treated with like, is the principle of homoeopathy. Of course, therefore, homoeopathic doctors expect only homoeopathic fees."

"Sanitary Conviviality.—Now, then, Gentlemen, suppose we have 'a drain,' as the Commissioners of Sewers said to the Court of Aldermen."

"A Hint from Hats.—It may be considered a sign of the times that the wide-awake is superseding the nap."

"Note for Aeronauts.—Take care that the companions of your aerial voyage are good-natured fellows, as the worst thing that can happen to people in a balloon is to fall out."

"Judicious Investment.—A certain enterprising capitalist bought the *Vestiges of Creation*, because he had heard that it contains some deep speculations."

We conclude with a couple of notes on March:—

"The blackbird now offers his note for our acceptance, and the thrush presents his bill. The ants come from their haunts, and the bee notifies his being, showing by his cheerful industry that the painfulness of labour is only a mere hum."

"The air will be cold and raw, forming part of the raw material contributed to the Great Exhibition of 1851. The Dog-Star will be visible at Barking, in Essex, and POLLEX going out without his CASTOR will get his head wet from the rain."

From these extracts it will be seen that the new "philosopher of Fleet Street" loses none of his freshness with age or over-work.

From gay to grave, from the pleasant to the useful. *Letts's Diary*, with its store of commercial information, is before us,—and again deserves the commendation which it has heretofore obtained at our hands. The only feature of interest which we find in *Raphael's Prophetic Almanac* is an announcement that the astrologer "has now made a considerable reduction in his terms for nativities and questions,"—an indication that imposture is losing some of its dupes. *The Protestant Dissenters' Almanac* and the *Financial Reformer's Almanac* and *Freeholder's Manual* address themselves to particular classes of readers; they each contain an immense amount of general intelligence, as well as the more special information which their readers seek.—*Cock's Musical Almanac* professes to give a rough history of the year as far as music is concerned; with notices of the births, deaths, and intervening events, in the career of eminent vocalists and composers. We trace much more of the information to our own columns than is properly acknowledged by



the compiler.—*Rendle's Price Current* contains a general descriptive catalogue of garden, agricultural, and flower seeds, with a full calendar of operations, and a garden almanac.—In Lancashire *The Manchester and Lancashire Almanac* is well known as a broad sheet full of local information, and well printed.—*Rees's Improved Diary and Almanac* is a cheap and convenient pocket companion for the man of business.—The name of *The Scottish Temperance League Register and Abstinence Almanac* sufficiently describes its character to relieve us from the necessity of doing so—and the plan of the *Fine Arts Almanac* is the same as last year. This new candidate for popular favour supplies a want,—and, therefore, will deserve to succeed.—The artist-directory at the end is a good feature,—and, so far as it goes, is a contribution towards the more efficient general organization of Art.—In *The Art-Union of London Almanac* the calendar is marked with the meetings of the various metropolitan Societies; and amongst other information relating to Art, there is a list of Exhibitions in London open to the public without payment.—*The Perfumed Almanac* is an almanac for a lady's toilet-table. It is a bag of musk, formed of blue silk edged with lace—and on the silk the calendar is printed, within an enriched border.

#### OUR LIBRARY TABLE.

*A Treatise on Salt: showing its Hurtful Effects on the Body and Mind of Man and on Animals; its tendency to cause Disease, especially Consumption, as taught by the ancient Egyptian Priests and Wise Men in accordance with the Author's Experience.* By Robert Howard, M.D.—Nothing like a good round novelty!—At first we thought this pamphlet a dull and prosaic joke,—it turns out on further acquaintance to be a very serious mania. Dr. Howard believes that he has made some wonderful discoveries:—including not only the causes of disease and of sin, the early condition of the world and the revolutions through which it has passed in the course of ages, but also “an account of the manner of the conflagration and resurrection of the world and the glorious conditions to be assumed by the new earthy world above.” Would it not have been more prudent to repose under the laurels gained by these discoveries? What need was there for such a genius to condescend to salt—even though the Egyptian priests and wise men had taught the doctrine of its destructiveness “in accordance with the author's experience”? As our readers will perceive, there is some confusion in the writer's title-page, either as regards the grammar or the chronology: but in the case of a man who is able, as he says, to describe the gardens of Paradise and the consummation of things—not to mention such a trifle as the uses, “past and future,” of the Pyramids—it would be rash to say which. They who can swallow the Doctor's first discoveries will have stomach enough, no doubt, to digest the second. To judge by the flavour of his style, we should suspect that the author had not troubled himself with much salt,—Attic, or other.

*Geometrical Solutions of the Quadrature of the Circle.* By Peter Fleming.—*New Elements of Geometry.* By Seba Smith.—Two American additions to the annual home crop of solutions of the quadrature of the circle. It is remarkable, as an evidence of the facility of disposition of public men in the United States, that the subscription list of the first of these works contains the names of two heads of colleges (one a mathematical professor), the Mechanics Institute, several Judges, and six or seven who write Honourable before their names. The delusion of supposing themselves to have discovered a new system of geometry, contradicting the most positive and certain results of the received science, is one to which gentlemen of Mr. Fleming's profession (perhaps from the tendency to a material idea of geometry incidental to their pursuits) appear to be peculiarly liable. We remember to have been present when one of the most eminent mathematicians of this country had to submit to the infliction of an argument by a very skilled and ingenious mechanical inventor, intended to demonstrate that besides the ordinary parabola, which is an open curve, there is another species to be obtained by cutting a cone, which, like the

ellipse, has the property of running into itself. Another, at one time leading member of the same profession, illuminated a railway committee of the House of Commons by the discovery that the curvature of a circle increased with its diameter.—Mr. Smith is even more peremptory with the mathematicians than his fellow-discoverer, who points to a geometrical construction, representing by a straight line the circumference of a circle without going through the labour of determining thereby the numerical ratio of the area or circumference to the diameter,—which would have raised the direct issue. Mr. Smith tells us in good round numbers that “the circumference of a circle whose diameter is 1 is 3.141694+; the approximate ratio obtained by geometers, and generally received as correct, being 3.141592+.” For the first hint of this great discovery he appears to have been indebted to “Mr. J. A. Parker, of New York,—a gentleman whose life has been mainly passed in mercantile and commercial pursuits.” We would suggest to Messrs. Parker, Smith and Fleming to have a solemn meeting in order to arrive at a definite conclusion amongst themselves of what the ratio of the circumference to the diameter shall be henceforth,—and when so agreed, with the aid of the Professors, Honourables and Judges who have lent Mr. Fleming the warranty of their names for the soundness of his opinion, to agitate for some public recognition of their new doctrine.

*On the General Principles of Analysis. Part I. The Analysis of Numerical Equations.* By J. R. Young.—This is the first of a series of tracts intended to treat “upon various points of interest in Analytical Mathematics.” The title of “Essays” on the general principles of analysis is, on the author's own showing of the contents of his very miscellaneous catalogue of subjects, to say the least, inapplicable,—and has a tendency to mislead, which, we doubt not, the author himself, when it is pointed out, will be the first to regret. In the tract before us, Dr. Young has suggested a useful simplification applicable in certain cases to the discovery of the imaginary roots in numerical equations; and illustrates his views by examples taken indiscriminately from the works of Fourier, Sturm, and other standard authors on the subject. Dr. Young—who was lately Professor of Mathematics in Belfast College—has well-founded claims on the favourable consideration of the mathematical world,—and we are glad to perceive the names of some of our most eminent mathematicians in the list of subscribers to his present work.

*An Introductory Treatise on Mensuration, in Theory and Practice.* By J. R. Young.—A work likely to be useful to those who wish to obtain an accurate and practical knowledge of the principles of mensuration. The plan of the book is well arranged; and the examples and tables are selected with considerable judgment.

*Photogenic Manipulation.* By Robert J. Birmingham.—This little manual is one of the most perfect that we have seen. It embraces all the processes of any value which have been introduced to public notice; and in describing the manipulatory details of each, the author has shown his familiarity with the subject, and a peculiar aptitude in rendering even difficult chemical processes intelligible to the uninitiated.

*From Advent to Advent; or, the Collects, Epistles, and Gospels of the Christian Year, familiarly explained by a Churchwoman to her Children.* By Mrs. Burbury. Revised by a Clergyman of the Church of England.—A work more exclusive than this in its peculiar formalisms, rather than doctrines, we hardly recollect to have met. Beyond the verge of the Tractarian party in the Church, it will find small favour, we apprehend.

*Letter to the Right Hon. Lord John Russell, on Communication with Ireland.*—The writer of this letter, Mr. Robert M'Calmont, proposes to unite the English and Irish coasts by means of what he calls a steam-bridge or sea-train;—but which is merely a steam-boat somewhat larger in dimensions than those now plying between Dublin and Holyhead. He proposes to leave the postal service on its present footing—and confines his projected improvements to the use of passengers. By his own showing the experiment would be costly:

—and the advantage of an hour's gain in the passage, once a day, not for intelligence, but for ordinary passers to and fro, would hardly appear to be worth the money.

*The Angels' Song: A Christmas Token.* By Charles B. Taylor, M.A.—Mr. Taylor always describes with grace and writes with elegance; but the limits within which his theological opinions compel him to confine his imagination are those within which critics not theological cannot move easily. A fiction in which every difficulty is levelled, and every wrong thing set right by one or two persons of wondrous perfection, whether as a work of Art or as a work of argument, is certain to provoke grave remonstrance from all persons who prove their reverence by questioning all human claims to infallibility.

**BOOKS FOR CHILDREN.**—*Hints for Happy Hours; or, Amusements for all Ages.*—This is not so much a book to be read through, as one to be consulted by those who do not know “what they must play at.” Viewed in this light, however, we think that it takes a flight above the average means and appliances and ingenuity of a Christmas party. We doubt not that *Les Montagnes Russes* are a most exciting pleasure; but not many English families have a Russian coachman who can build the requisite edifices in the court-yard—even were the average English Christmas snowed and iced “up to the mark.” Among the more attainable games, again, a readiness in guessing, rhyming, &c. &c. is often taken for granted, to cultivate which would demand considerable preliminary practice.—*Merry Tales for Little Folk, illustrated with more than two hundred pictures.* Edited by Madame de Chatelain,—is a jolly little volume, comfortable to hold in the hand, profusely illustrated, and closely packed with fairy legends and tales of wonder, new, old, and middle-aged: but has not Madame de Chatelain done her editing rather boldly? In giving the story of ‘The Three Bears,’ from Southey's ‘Doctor,’ she has, without mentioning the liberty taken, changed the human interlocutor, to the great detriment of the tale.—*Magic Words: a Tale for Christmas Time.* By Emilie Macaroni: with four illustrations by E. H. Wehnert, is aimed—and well aimed—at an elder class of readers. It is a poetical illustration of the goodness of a word spoken in season—and yet more, a special application of the Christmas motto, “Peace and good will.” It deserves a good place at the Christmas literary feast.—*Florence Murray: a Narrative of Facts.* By her Mother H. L. M.—is the story of a good little girl who died young.—The superbly illustrated and illuminated edition of that nursery classic, *The Peacock at Home.* By Mrs. Dorset—is a brilliant “luxury book” for the little folks, if there ever was such a thing.—*Treasury of Pleasure Books for Young and Old* is a collection of tales for children, with twenty-five capital illustrations by Edward Wehnert and Harrison Weir.—The same publishers, Messrs. Cundall & Addey, have reprinted for this holiday literature the old story of *Jack and the Giants*, with illustrations by Richard Doyle. Like much else that children are apt to take at the Christmas season, the story is not the most wholesome food for youth,—but Mr. Doyle's giants are grand fellows of their class. The wonder of Jack's exploits certainly grows as we look at them. The “Giant sitting on a huge Rock” is the very genius of gianthood.—*Pleasures of the Country*, from the same mint, offers a less highly-spiced lore to the young:—being a series of simple stories by Mrs. Harriet Myrtle, with eight clever illustrations by John Gilbert.—*Guess, if you can*, is a collection of original enigmas and charades in English verse, with fifty in French verse and prose, by “A Lady” and her friends, designed to exercise the awakened fancy of the Christmas time:—and *Ghost Stories and Tales of Mystery* makes appeal to that spirit of awed and solemn curiosity which, amid the gloom without, takes its place by the winter's fire.—To these, we may add a *Christmas Carol*, which comes from the Chiswick press; and summons the genial spirits that haunt the time in an arrangement of types and characters that looks almost as quaint as old Father Christmas himself.



## LIST OF NEW BOOKS.

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 Wink's Children's Magazine, Vol. XIII. 1850, 16mo. 2s. half bd.

## THE OLD WOMAN'S CAROL.

BY FRANCES BROWN.

"CHILDREN, it is the Christmas chimes:—  
 I have seen many Christmas times:—  
 And the aged worker laid  
 Beside her, on the dusty shelf,  
 The old worn tools that, like herself,  
 Had grown blunt in toil and trade,—  
 As she turned to the children of her speech.  
 They were two—and gray-haired women each,  
 Who worked by the lamp-light, staid and slow,—  
 But she kept the name from long ago.

"Many a Christmas I have seen,—  
 And the first lies far away;—  
 The snow was deep and the holly green  
 By our country cot that day.  
 They have built a workhouse on its site,  
 Yet the hearth in my memory still burns bright  
 Where my brothers sat with me;—  
 One that has since grown rich and cold,  
 Two that have died both poor and old,  
 And one lost far at sea.  
 The talk among our village men  
 Was of falling thrones and prisons then.  
 They said, our time would be blythe and brave,—  
 But that winter whitened my mother's grave.

There was one long-after Christmas day,—  
 How heavy the mist came down!—  
 When I and another knelt to pray  
 In a church of this great town.  
 Side by side, at book and pew,  
 Many a Sabbath it found us two.  
 But those days were almost done:—  
 They had rung the bells and read the prayers,  
 They had lighted up city streets and squares,  
 And said that peace was won  
 By sea and land for the world that year,—  
 Yet the work was scarce and bread was dear.  
 We were poor, but wise perchance:—and thus  
 Want, wisdom and gain, they parted us.

The years are hastening from me now,  
 And this world is full of change;

For the times have voices that come and go,  
 And they speak great things and strange;  
 Of truth to reign and right to be:—  
 What brings the promise to such as me,  
 On life's dim and downward track,  
 But wearier hands and scantier gains?  
 Yet ever the old home faith remains,  
 And the Christmas bells come back,—  
 For we know them yet, my nieces dear.  
 There is never a guest to help our cheer:—  
 They say, we are old, and poor, and lone,—  
 But we'll light a Yule fire of our own."

Edinburgh.

## ASCENT OF POPOCATEPETL.

IN our paper of the 3rd of August last, under the head 'Gossip,' the following paragraph appeared:—"According to Humboldt the volcanic mountain of Popocatepetl had never at the period of his visit to Mexico been ascended since the time of Cortez. We have been favoured with an extract of a letter from Mexico, dated June 10, 1850, which announces that the feat has now been accomplished. The names of the parties making the ascent have been communicated to us,—and it is possible that the public will hereafter hear more of the matter."—The letter itself which communicates the full particulars of this ascent has now been placed at our disposal; and we are tempted to bring the details at considerable length before our readers. From the necessity of curtailing the narrative by the suppression of some of these details which are merely personal, and of others which are not really significant,—we lose much of the picturesque that belongs to the subject. It will be seen that, whatever may have been the case at the time of Humboldt's visit, the mystery of the mountain is now effectually broken, independently of our travellers:—but they seem to have been the first who have been up, capable of reporting the phenomena of the enterprise in the interests of science. The party who undertook this adventure consisted, it would seem, of nine persons (who were afterwards joined by others):—though all did not reach the summit.—We will confine ourselves to the personal experiences of the party whose letter is before us.

We started by the Miraflores diligence, on Saturday morning, the 18th of May,—having sent on our *Moros* and horses the previous day. We arrived at Miraflores, a distance of twelve leagues from this, at 11 A.M.; and found a capital breakfast ready for us, given by M. Robertson, the administrator of the large spinning and weaving establishment there. After breakfast (about two o'clock) we mounted our horses, and went on to the Hacienda of Tamarin, which lies about a mile from Ameca-ameca,—a pretty town situated at the foot of Popocatepetl, in a fertile plain. The following morning at daylight we rose, and saw what to us was a most frightful sight:—not only did the snow on Popocatepetl reach a thousand feet and more lower than usual, but even the neighbouring low hills were completely white.

We started from Tamarin at 8 A.M., and were detained at Ameca until after noon, on one pretext and another. One was, the non-appearance of the guide. He came at last:—and we were delighted to get beyond the limits of habitation. We then began to ascend rapidly. Our road lay through magnificent pine forests. The scenery somewhat resembles that of the Real del Monte,—only that everything here is on a much grander scale. From the plain of Ameca it looked as if we had only to go up the face of the mountain until we came to the snow,—but the case was far otherwise. We had to descend deep barrancas, and climb the opposite sides continually. Towards the commencement of the ascent the foliage was very thick; consisting chiefly of the cedar and that handsome fir, the spruce. The underwood was, *arbutus*, *perla* (something like the English snowberry), and a thousand other small plants. As we ascended farther, we lost our cedar and fir friends,—and found ourselves in the middle of the most hardy pines.

After nearly six hours' climbing, we reached a miserable hut, situated at the bottom of a deep valley and well sheltered from the winds. It

consisted of merely a few pine-tree limbs,—the interstices stuffed with long grass. I presume, it was made by the cowherd during the season when the cattle are sent up for pasturage.—After taking a mouthful of bread and cheese, we began to look about us. The spot could not have been wilder. We were in a forest of pines, with a large hill rising to our left,—and behind, Popocatepetl. We were here within a quarter of an hour's walk from where the snow lay. The mountain was a fearful sight. It appeared to rise close to us,—a perpendicular mass of snow five thousand feet high! The sight rather cooled us:—but we were determined to go through with our task.—I have omitted to mention that shortly before the descent to the valley where the hut is, we passed over a hill covered with large pine trees, every one of which had been blasted by lightning. Some were still standing, and supporting others which leaned against them:—the greater part were on the ground,—of course, all pure charcoal. This spectacle made a considerable impression on us, as at the moment when we passed a smart hail shower came on.

The following morning, at daybreak, our head guide despatched an Indian to ascertain the depth of the snow at the foot of the mountain. He came back in an hour, saying it was up to the waist. The guide said, we must not think of making the attempt that day:—but we were resolved. We started on horseback at a quarter before seven. In less than a quarter of an hour after leaving the hut, we were treading on snow. This was something quite novel for the horses. Chico, my horse, got in a tremendous fright:—so, I dismounted, and sent him back with my *Moro*.—Our road lay up the mountain across a bed of black ashes, which we could see underneath when we displaced the snow with our footsteps. The snow was here about a foot deep:—as the ashes were frozen, we did not sink further. We made it a rule never to allow ourselves to get out of breath or tired,—stopping every sixty paces.—Soon, the climbing became dreadfully fatiguing. The snow reached everywhere half way up the thigh,—and in some places I got into it as high as the breast. Towards the summit, we found it impossible to take more than eight or nine steps at a time. The plan adopted by the guide and all the party was, to throw themselves at full length on the snow after the eighth or ninth step. I never did this, but merely leaned on the pole:—fearing that my limbs would get stiff. Although we went to work so slowly, the fatigue was immense. I shall never forget it. My lungs were in capital condition:—yet I felt a most intense fatigue, which it would be impossible for me to describe. It was accompanied by a sickening feeling of despair that we should never reach the top.—But, turning an angle of rock, we suddenly came in view of a little wooden hut which we knew had been built by the young man who is working the Sulphur Mine, as they call it, at the top of the mountain. This gave us immediate courage.

We reached the hut at half-past twelve o'clock:—having been five hours and three-quarters in the ascent from Hamacas. Deducting three-quarters of an hour which we had to wait on the road for some of the party who had lagged behind,—we accomplished the distance in five hours.

As we were all, excepting our guide, Englishmen, we gave proof of the soundness of our lungs by singing 'God save the Queen' inside the hut. We then took a sandwich and a little Cognac, which we found capital. I had taken up the flask as an experiment:—for we had been told by previous travellers that at that elevation it was impossible to drink spirits, as they tasted like molten lead. Smoking a cigar, they also told us, would lead to serious illness. All these assertions we had the opportunity of confuting. We were told, also, that respiration would be so difficult that we should not be able to take more than a dozen paces without stopping. This was the case as long as we were climbing:—but when we were at the summit, we found no difficulty in either walking or running on the level ground.

After the sandwiches had been despatched, we left the hut and went up to the crater:—a distance of some thirty or forty yards. The crater has



somewhat the form of an irregular parallelogram; of perhaps a league in circumference, and four or five hundred yards in width. It is a vast barranca,—the bottom of which is strewn with large stones and masses of rock, which have detached themselves from the sides and top edge. From the point where we first saw it, it is about a thousand feet deep,—and the side as perpendicular as walls. We were quite unprepared for so grand an object. In one part of the bottom we saw what appeared to be a small pond of sulphur,—which was boiling away at a great rate, and sending up a dense volume of smoke. This was fortunately carried to our lee by the wind,—otherwise we should have been half stifled. Most of the smoke deposits itself in the crater in the form of sulphur,—but a great body rises much higher. People who say that they have seen smoke issuing from the top have been hitherto treated with incredulity:—but there is now a good number of us ready to swear as to the activity of the volcano. The small pond of sulphur to which I have alluded appeared, from the height at which we were, to be about two feet square. It afterwards became enveloped in the smoke: and finally was again visible,—but much larger than before,—say six or seven feet square. While we were admiring this sight, we heard a noise like thunder; and saw on the opposite side of the crater some large rocks detach themselves from the edge, and roll, or rather fall, to the bottom. This took away any desire which we had previously entertained to go down. During our stay at the top (about four hours and a half), we heard the same noise eight or ten times.

After admiring the crater for some time, we went down to the hut. T. set up his barometer, and we took the observations:—we also boiled water with a spirit lamp. It boiled at 184° Fahr.:—the barometer stood at 16·015 in., and the thermometer at 2° centigrade. By both calculations, the elevation above the ocean is about seventeen thousand feet. We took observations the previous night at Hamacas:—the barometer showed 19·194 in., and the thermometer 11° centigrade. Water boiled at 192° Fahr. This elevation is a little more than twelve thousand feet. After standing about for some time in the hut (which was semi-roofless, and under the exposed part nearly a *vara* deep in snow), we felt the cold so much that we completely abandoned our first plan of passing the night there in order to see the sun rise the next morning. Our feet became like pieces of marble,—and yet the thermometer indicated 38° Fahr. or 6° above freezing! The sun was out at the time, and was melting the snow which lay at the top of the hut. Large icicles were hanging about,—and I fancy it must have been freezing in the shade. The fine nature of the air made the cold more piercing than the same degree of the thermometer would indicate at the level of the sea:—this we feel even in Mexico.

While we were looking out of the hut, wondering whether the rest of the party had gone back,—we saw a man coming along at a very steady pace, scarcely stopping to breathe, although encumbered with a heavy *sarape* and a pair of boots dangling to his waist. We none of us spoke at first from sheer amazement:—and began to believe suddenly in spirits. He was soon at the door,—when we gave him three cheers. He turned out to be Don Pablo Perez, the owner of the hut and the man in charge of the sulphur extraction. He told us that he had been in the habit of coming up and down for years, and was quite accustomed to the exercise. We found him a very intelligent good-humoured young fellow. He knew we had come up: and came to do the honours of the hut,—which he calls the Rancho del Espejo.

We followed Don Pablo some distance along the edge of the crater, to where it dips downwards at a pretty sharp angle; and soon came to his Malacate, or “whim,” by which he lets the workmen down into the crater and hauls up the sulphur. The rope is of raw hides, well fastened together; and is two hundred and fifty varas long (about 700 English feet):—so that our previous calculations of the depth were very correct,—as we were then nearly 300 feet lower. Don Pablo has generally six Indians down below. They come up only once

a week. For every arroba (25 lb.) of sulphur which they send up, he pays them one rial:—each man can earn from twelve rials to two dollars a day. This is handsome for an Indian:—but think what a life they lead! At night they sleep under some big rock, and feed on tortillas which they take down with them. Two had been killed within the previous three weeks by rocks falling on them while descending by the rope.

The sulphur, after being cleaned, sells in Mexico for two dollars a pound. The descent down to the Malacate is very steep. Don Pablo has made a kind of hand-rail, by laying a thick rope along the ground, fastened at both ends to large stones. In coming up I slipped, and should have gone *quien sabe* how far, had I not clutched the said rope like grim death. The ground being the inside edge of the crater is free from snow, and is formed of black ashes and lava, which form a most treacherous footing. We got some lumps of sulphur at the Malacate, to show to incredulous friends in Mexico. —Don Pablo told us he had sometimes kept a leg of mutton up there perfectly fresh for four months:—there seems no reason why it should not be kept four years, if necessary.

We had ascended the mountain by the east side facing Puebla,—which is the easiest road. The north side—which we now saw—was a beautiful sight. As far as the eye could reach, there was one immense tract of snow, covered with what appeared to be bushes white also with snow of the most fantastic forms. They were merely ice,—and crumbled away when touched. They were about a yard high, and assumed the most curious shapes imaginable. We could see nothing of the valley of Mexico:—as the view was shut out by the clouds which hung about the foot of the mountain. The Valley of Puebla lay at our feet in all its immensity, like a toy. Atlixco, Isucar, and other Tierra Caliente towns and villages, appeared to be close under us. It was altogether a fairy scene. Another striking sight was in the morning, when we were climbing up. We were just above the clouds, and they appeared below like a sea of white wool.

It was now five o'clock,—and we commenced the descent. It was very different work from the ascent. Instead of winding round the mountain, we went straight down the face of it, and at a pace which would have been very imprudent had not the snow been so deep. I came down in a succession of immense bounds,—throwing back all the weight of my body, and falling on my heels. When we got about two-thirds of the way down, we found the sun had been playing an active part; for what had been deep snow in the morning was then *deep ashes*. This kind of ground was very unpleasant, and cost me many a tumble. The pace we were going at was too violent to allow of our picking our steps. At the foot of the mountain we stopped to admire a very deep barranca,—as deep as the crater, at least,—the sides of which were all black lava and ashes, without the least signs of animal or vegetable life visible. This barranca, as we skirted it, gradually got shallower until at last we came to our crossing place. After this, we once more found ourselves in the pine forests, and came running along and bounding over the fallen trees, like so many panthers,—much to the astonishment of our servants, who were waiting at the Rancho (Hamacas), expecting to see us arrive half dead. We accomplished the descent in an hour and a quarter. We all changed our socks, boots, trousers, &c.,—and felt very much refreshed. Dinner was announced:—but even a delicate little turkey and some savoury tongue could not induce me to eat. My stomach was too weak,—and would have nothing to do with food. I got down a few bits of dry bread, drank immense quantities of claret, afterwards two cups of strong tea; and before going to bed we each took a cup of brandy-punch to celebrate our success. We tried to go to sleep,—but it would not do. Every one had visions of craters, valleys of Puebla, and fields of snow before his eyes. The wolves, moreover, got so outrageous, that T. got up and fired off both barrels of his carbine, to scare them away. Our guide, Don Antonio, too, did nothing but groan all night. After we returned from the top, he began to complain of his

eyes,—which, he said, were causing him great pain. T. suffered in the same way,—although his eyes were protected by a crape mask, as ours had been. Don Antonio had merely tied a pocket-handkerchief loosely in front of his face, like a veil; which was, of course, continually flapping up and down,—and about equivalent to no protection at all. The poor fellow got quite blind afterwards: but, as is usual in these cases, recovered his sight in two or three days. My eyes never suffered in the least,—at which I am surprised. The light thrown up by the snow was something frightful. Now and then, I lifted my mask, to see how our companions were getting on:—the effect on the eyes was very similar to that of looking into a furnace of molten iron. I never saw such a light:—and yet the sun did not appear until after we had reached the top.

At half-past six on the following morning we were on horseback, with all our baggage, mules, &c. ready. We rode straight on to Miraflores,—merely stopping for about an hour at the edge of a clear stream to breakfast. We started from Miraflores for Mexico, by the diligence:—where we created no little astonishment when we declared our success. We have heard no sneering or joking since. I would have died on the mountain rather than have failed.

#### LITERARY PIRACY.

To an article under this heading which appeared in our columns some weeks since [*ante*, p. 1280], containing a complaint from the author of ‘London in the Olden Time,’ we have been requested to publish the following reply.—

“London, Dec. 20, Religious Tract Society.

“A letter appeared in your journal of Nov. 30 charging the Religious Tract Society with ‘literary piracy,’ in issuing a work under the title of ‘London in the Olden Time.’ Permit me briefly to state, in reply, that the society’s work was written by a gentleman who some years since published a work entitled ‘Windsor in the Olden Time,’—and who very naturally in his new book adopted as a title a modification of his earlier production. He was at the time wholly unaware that it had been anticipated,—or it assuredly would not have been taken. Apart from any legal construction of the Copyright Act, the Society would have held itself bound by moral considerations.—Your correspondent’s work, it appears, was published twenty-five years since, and has been for a long period out of print. It is not inserted in the London Catalogue of Books from 1814 to 1849; it was, therefore, a probable circumstance that it would be unknown to writers and readers of the present day. It is admitted by your correspondent that not a line has been copied from the first work:—indeed, that the two books are dissimilar in plan and contents. I cannot therefore but regret that the grave charge of ‘literary piracy’ should have been made against a religious institution solely upon the *accidental* adoption of a title which had been formerly employed by another author.—I inclose for your own perusal our correspondence referred to in this communication.—I remain, &c.

“WM. JONES.”

The copy of the correspondence which accompanies this letter does not furnish an entirely satisfactory comment on the letter itself. If, as above said, when the modern author assumed his title he was not aware that he had been anticipated in it,—it is shown that both he and the Society were made aware of that fact before the publication of his book: and though the Society say they would have held themselves bound by moral, as well as by legal, considerations not knowingly to take the title of another,—yet in effect they *were not* so restrained after they had been made aware of the injury which they were about to inflict.—It would appear that the author of the recent volume had in the first instance contemplated a different title for his work:—and we cannot help observing that, if his suggestion of a return to that first intention, or of the substitution of one of several modifications which he proposed, had been adopted, the rights of all parties would have been saved, and the



Society would have had credit for a more generous interpretation of the rights of literary property.

#### FOREIGN CORRESPONDENCE.

Paris.

ARE private and confidential letters the property of the writer, or do they belong to the person to whom they are addressed;—and, in the event of the decease of both, are the heirs of the party who received them entitled, to publish them without the consent of the heirs of the writer? The question is one involving so many delicate points, and assuming aspects so different according to the individual case, under consideration at the time, that most people find a difficulty in settling it absolutely to the satisfaction of their consciences.

Legislators have decided the point variously in different countries:—generally in accordance with the received adage, that "possession is nine points of the law." Scrupulous minds, however, have still their doubts. The maxim savours too much of the old principle of ennobling Forces in preference to strengthening Right, to satisfy them. The mass of the public, on the other hand, are too much interested in the matter to be long troubled with scruples, and are not disposed to question too closely the legality of any publication which can gratify their curiosity or increase their literary treasures. Men who are willing to be severe respecters of the sanctity of private life where obscure individuals are concerned, view the matter differently when the same privacy conceals from their view more illustrious actors, whose doings behind the scenes of life they would willingly pry into. They toiled for Fame, it is argued,—and in return Fame has a right to claim the whole man. They have placed themselves on a pedestal, and Posterity has a right to walk round it and view them on all sides. History must not be defrauded,—and, like Science, she requires for her advancement to dissect after death the subjects which she has studied in life. A man who should publish the love letters found in his father's papers, and thereby compromise living grandmamas of the present day, would be accounted a contemptible mischief-maker; but if the ladies, instead of being mere good grandmamas, were also (which is perfectly compatible) women who had charmed the world by their talents, and whose letters might be read with pleasure even by indifferent ever-young Posterity,—then, the case is altered, and the unscrupulous revealer of secrets which had never been confided to him becomes suddenly metamorphosed into an editor entitled to the gratitude of the public.—There is too much profit, likewise, attendant on such revelations, for them not to be frequent. I should startle your readers if I were to mention the sums paid to various persons by the daughter of the most celebrated Frenchwoman of the beginning of this century for her mother's letters;—and perhaps yet more, if I were to add that her filial piety has been defrauded of its reward, and that some of the letters which she sought to recover at great sacrifice have after all been kept back.

But to return to my opening question. It has been—if not settled—at least answered by the decision given on the 20th of this month by the Cour d'Appel, in the case of Madame Louise Colet against the heirs of Madame Récamier. Your readers will remember that Madame Colet had commenced in the journal *La Presse* the publication of a collection of letters addressed by Benjamin Constant to Madame Récamier,—and claimed the right of so doing on the strength of a deed of gift from Madame Récamier herself, including an authorization to publish the letters after her death at any time that Madame Louise Colet might think fit. The object of Madame Récamier in giving these very tender letters to the public was, it is said, to acquit Benjamin Constant in the eyes of the world of the charge often made against him by those who knew him only superficially—of having more brains than heart, more wit than feeling. It has generally been thought strange that Madame Récamier, who was surrounded at the close of her life by men of literary habits, should have appointed Madame Colet, a comparative stranger, to so delicate a task. Perhaps it

may have been the very fact of its being a delicate task which induced her to select a woman's hand. Be that as it may, the heirs of Madame Récamier adduced, as you know, to prove that the donation and authorization had been obtained by undue means, several arguments, which I will not repeat for fear of getting into a quarrel with Madame Colet;—that lady having a somewhat summary mode of settling literary disputes.—You will, I am sure, forgive me for interrupting the thread of my report to tell you an anecdote illustrative of her vivacious susceptibility. M. Alphonse Karr, the well-known novelist, and one of the wittiest of French journalists, had written some years ago an article on Madame Louise Colet by which she considered herself insulted; and being debarred by her sex from the satisfaction of duelling, (which I am willing to suppose she would have preferred),—she took the law into her own hands, and awaiting the unfortunate critic at his door, stabbed him with one of those penny clasp-knives known to French school-boys under the name of *Eustache*. From that day forward, amid the collection of curious arms which decorates M. Alphonse Karr's study—all of which are labelled with the names of the donors, and the date of the gift—may be seen, amid Turkish daggers, Highland claymores, and Indian tomahawks, an *Eustache* in all its primitive simplicity. Beneath, is the following pithy inscription—*Donné par Madame Louise Colet*,—with the date, and, in smaller characters parenthetically inserted between the name and the date, these words (*dans le dos*). Surely, we may say of M. Karr, as Lafontaine did of his fox—

*Fit-il pas mieux que de se plaindre?*

The story may excuse, as you see, my timidity as to giving any personal opinion in Madame Colet's case.

It is but fair to add, that the Court of Appeal,—which we are bound to suppose inaccessible to fear, and ready to brave even an *Eustache* in the cause of justice,—has pronounced Madame Récamier's deed of gift to have been perfectly valid; but at the same time has forbidden the publication of the letters considering that Madame Récamier herself had no right to authorize it,—and while ordering the restitution of the manuscript copy of letters to the heirs of Madame Récamier, has decided that the right of publication rests with the family of Benjamin Constant. The reasons for the decision contained in the preamble of the judgment—or as they are called here (from the wording) *les considérants*—are curious enough;—the two following passages especially.

"Considering that a confidential letter is not the unconditional property of the person to whom it is addressed; that the secrets which it may contain are a deposit of which he has no right to dispose alone; that in confiding his thoughts to another by correspondence, the writer may exact as a condition of this proof of confidence that it shall not be extended beyond the circle of intimacy; that such a condition has, in fact, all the force of an actual covenant; that it is virtually implied in every missive or letter of a confidential nature; that if, contrary to the spirit of this tacit convention, the secrets of a letter were divulged, such an act would not only be a violation of the engagements naturally inherent in that kind of intercourse, but would tend to spread distrust in all private communications, and relax one of the bonds of human societies.

"Considering, moreover, that these principles are not to be waived because the author of a correspondence may have played a public part; that however extensive the rights of history may be over those who are amenable to her tribunal, her rights cannot trespass on the sanctuary of the inward tribunal of conscience (*le sanctuaire du for intérieur*); that in the private life of public men there may be feelings, affections, and outpourings of the heart which self-respect and regard for others have induced them to bury in mystery; that families in their interest have a right to watch over this inaccessible domain, and guard it against the encroachments of indiscreet publicity; that it is more especially when contemporary passions are not yet cooled down, that it is incumbent to hinder publications the result of which would be to disturb the memory of the dead, by bringing to light what

they desired should die with them, to excite polemical malignity, to wound third parties, and to impair our respect for venerated memories (*le culte des souvenirs*) and the domestic affections."

Had these principles always been strictly carried out, of how many literary treasures should we have been deprived! The letters of Walpole, Sévigné, and Chesterfield we might still possess;—but how many other valuable documents would have been piously buried in decorous oblivion! While admiring the respect for the sanctities of private life which the decision of the French tribunal evinces,—it is difficult when we bear in mind the splendid collection of private letters which France possesses, and which form one of her highest literary titles, not to rejoice that former generations viewed matters differently.

#### OUR WEEKLY GOSSIP.

A curious illustration of the injury inflicted from day to day on English literature by the tardy progress effected with respect to a Catalogue of the Books in the British Museum has just been made known, and has caused some wonderment. The Shakespeare Society has been engaged for some years past in printing a complete edition of the hitherto uncollected works of Thomas Heywood, the prose Shakespeare, as he has been not unhappily called, of our old English dramatists. To this edition we purpose directing attention at some length,—and the anecdote which we have to tell might find a place not inaptly in a notice of the work; but we are unwilling to withhold for even a time so good an illustration of the cause for which we have long contended as the incident to which we allude supplies. The last issue by the Society on account of its Heywood promise contained a reprint of one of the best of Heywood's works—*A Woman killed with Kindness*; and the editor in his introduction expresses his regret that he has been unable to obtain a copy of an earlier edition of the play "to found his text upon than the one professing to be the third." "It is remarkable," he observes, "that the only known ancient copies purport to be 'the third edition,' and are dated in 1617; it must, therefore, have been printed twice before that date, and we can ourselves bear witness to having many years ago seen a copy dated 1607 upon the shelves of an eminent book-antiquarist." "It strangely," he continues, "disappeared from sight before the sale came on; and we know that several persons besides ourselves were thus disappointed of a competition for the purchase of the interesting and, perhaps, unique curiosity." Thus far the editor in his Introduction—his readers sharing his surprise and his regret. But what will the reader think when he is told that a copy of this rare edition has been in the British Museum for years, and has been made known to the public only by the instalment of the Catalogue lately forced into the Reading-Room. Such is the story;—to which we may add, that the result of the discovery of a copy of the 1607 edition has been, that the Shakespeare Society will be obliged to pay for a series of cancels to its reprint;—the edition of 1607 affording a purer reading of the text, and being almost wholly exempt from the errors which crept into the careless reprint called the "third edition."—Surely the eyes of the Trustees will be opened by this story to the folly (we use a gentle term) of longer delaying the completion of the Catalogue of treasures which the people possess and demand to know.

A rumour of Sir John Franklin's safety which floated about town on Saturday last has no manner of official foundation. Nothing more is known than we have already communicated to our readers.—The *Amphitrite*, a small frigate, is to be sent immediately to Behring's Straits, to relieve the *Plover*;—the crew of which are in a condition that greatly needs relieving.

Some further additions have been made to the Pension List which will carry with them the public sympathy and approval. A pension of 100*l.* has been granted to Mr. Petrie, author of the well-known treatise on "The Round Towers of Ireland,"—and of other antiquarian works. The same amount of pension has been granted to Dr. Kitto, the author of a variety of works illustrative of



Biblical literature,—the materials of which have been collected and the works themselves produced under serious difficulties arising from physical infirmity.—To this paragraph we may add, that the annual allowance of 100*l.* to Mr. Lane, the eminent Orientalist, has, we are informed, been continued for a period of three years longer. Mr. Lane has been occupied for many years in preparing an Arabic and English Lexicon from abundant sources discovered by him in the libraries of Cairo,—and previously unknown, it is said, even by name, to European scholars.

Our evening contemporary, the *Globe*, states that the Delegates of the Oxford University Press have responded to the inquiries of the University Commissioners by a transfer of 60,000*l.* to the University chest.—The Society of All Souls' College, at the personal solicitation of the Archbishop of Canterbury, according to current report, has agreed to set a good example to the rest of the University, by offering to give full information on all points of interest connected with their statutes, revenues, charters, and so forth. That this example is needed at Oxford, we have only too good reason to believe: for unless we are misinformed, a tacit understanding has been entered into by some of the functionaries that they will resist inquiry to the utmost. That this policy, if persisted in, can by any chance serve the interests of the University we believe to be impossible. The inquiry instituted in the seventeenth century was altogether different in scope, origin, and intention from that now in question. Then, it was a jealous sovereign who was anxious to recover vacated powers;—now, it is a nation seeking for educational rights. Strange to say, the soreness is most exhibited, if not most acutely felt, by the students. They seem to regard their gloomy halls as strongholds of aristocratic exclusiveness,—and would repel the levelling spirit from their gates. We have already shown that, if the question were to be settled by reference to the College charters, it would be found that the munificent founders had the interests of "poor scholars" rather than those of rich ones in view when they endowed the colleges with their worldly wealth. That through long perversion and abuse these aids to education should be converted into obstacles—that instead of cheapening instruction vast endowments, revenues, and privileges granted by the State should actually increase its cost—is an anomaly of that kind which is found in the highest type only in England. The Oxford man can no longer hug himself in the idea of his superiority over the men of other universities. So far as the business of the real world is concerned, it may be doubted whether a youth educated in a tenth-rate private school is not better informed than the majority of those who leave Oxford with the usual academic honours. The college programme ignores modern life and the world in which we live. A man may obtain the highest distinction of his university without knowing a single word of French, German, Spanish, or Italian,—without having read a single author of the countries in which these languages are spoken,—in utter ignorance of their history, geography, arts, politics, and opinions, who is entirely unacquainted with the history of our own country,—with the master works of our arts,—with the stores of our glorious literature,—with the origin and progress of our national manufactures. A person may be senior wrangler of his college who has never read Magna Charta,—who knows no difference between a Roundhead and a Royalist,—who has never heard of the Bill of Rights,—of Shakspeare, Dante, Milton, Calderon, Corneille, Voltaire, Macchiavelli, Goethe, or Gibbon. He may confound Watt with Columbus, and fancy Spinoza the inventor of the spinning jenny,—he may believe California to lie on the coast of Coromandel, and confound the Holy Roman Empire with the French Republic,—yet carry away with him the best testimonials of his university! We may safely say that a man learned in all that Oxford has to teach,—and nothing more—would be rejected by any merchant or attorney in the City of London as too ignorant to be useful in conducting the real business of life. Is there any wonder that so many of the higher classes—thus prepared—should be lukewarm as to the

education of the masses? The reform is wanting at the fountain head.

There seems no limit to the munificence of Mr. Henry Beaufoy in favour of the City of London Schools. The Lord Mayor has received a communication from that gentleman, to the effect that another sum of money, amounting to upwards of 1,000*l.*, has been invested by him for the establishment of prizes in that institution.

Prof. Oersted has announced to Sir Roderick Murchison, that he has been elected a foreign member of the Royal Danish Academy of Sciences. M. Liebig of Germany, M. Élie de Beaumont of France, and M. Nilsson of Sweden received the like honour on the same occasion.

The Australian papers are beginning to ask the question—where is Dr. Leichhardt? The time has already elapsed, according to his own estimate, when he should have been heard of at the end of a successful journey. Three years have passed since he undertook his most recent task of exploring an unknown part of the great Australian continent—two years since he was heard of last [see *Athen.* 1109, p. 94]. He had then returned three hundred miles to the last station on the frontier for the purpose of describing the beauty and fertility of the country through which he and his companions had passed; saying in justification of the proceeding, that he feared he might never return from his great journey, and was anxious that the knowledge which he had already gained should not be lost. He departed again, in high spirits, into the pathless wilderness,—and has never since been heard of or seen by any one competent to report the intelligence.—The authorities of New South Wales should at once set the machinery of succour at work. The melancholy failure of Kennedy's Expedition in the York Peninsula ought to quicken official vigilance in behalf of the bold and enterprising Leichhardt. There are many ways in which they might discharge these obligations:—men should be sent on his trail,—the natives should be interrogated and rewards offered for accurate information,—parties should be despatched from Swan River,—and an agent, with provisions and succours, ought to be stationed at the now broken-up establishment at Port Essington, in case the traveller should bear up for that place, as it is suggested by the *Sydney Morning Herald* he may do.

In our notice, some weeks since, of Mr. Wallcott's *Hand-book for the Parish of St. James's, Westminster*, [ante, p. 1273], we pointed out the author's mistake in supposing that the bed in which King George the Third was born, in Norfolk House, in St. James's Square, is still preserved at Workop.—A correspondent informs us that the bed is, however, still in existence. It is preserved, he says, at Greystoke Castle, in Cumberland.

A correspondent asks us to inform him and the public, who has been the means of removing the tombstone, in Harrow Churchyard, which marked the spot where Byron was accustomed to look out on the delicious landscape stretching far away from that point of view. We know nothing ourselves of the fact of the removal,—and of course, therefore, nothing of the party answerable or the reasons moving him. But probably this mention of the circumstance may bring us some particulars from parties better informed, which may enable us to satisfy either the zeal or the curiosity of our correspondent.

We read in one of the French papers that the University of Heidelberg is about to confer the degree of Doctor of Theology on Mr. J. W. Pennington, a black, and Catholic priest at New York. Mr. Pennington, it is said, is the first negro who has ever received scholastic honours at a European university. He is reported to be the author of several works on theology.

The French papers mention the arrival at Havre of M. Alexandre Vattemare, the indefatigable promoter of international exchanges of works of Art, Science and Literature. M. Vattemare has spent four years in the United States; and expresses himself highly delighted with his reception, and at the enthusiasm with which his plans have been there adopted. The idea of a literary alliance of all nations, and the establishment of a universal republic of letters is

much in accordance with the spirit of the age. Our American brethren have come forward handsomely to aid M. Vattemare in his endeavours. In return for several valuable collections of French publications and documents, and a complete series of French medals from the fifteenth century to the present date, M. Vattemare brings home more than a hundred cases of books, plans, coins, &c. We are, moreover, told that the proprietors of the Franklin Institute insisted on offering him a free passage,—and that in order to satisfy the numerous competitors for the gratuitous honour of carrying his voluminous baggage across the Atlantic, he has been obliged to distribute it among several American vessels.—It is said that M. Vattemare's collection will be exhibited in a building which the city of Paris has placed at his disposal.

Among the new publications advertised in Paris, we notice a book entitled 'Love-letters' (*Lettres d'Amour*). The author, M. Julien Lemer, has had the curious idea of collecting in one volume the most celebrated love letters—the *chefs-d'œuvre* of tender correspondence—a style of composition in which France has always been pre-eminent. Héloïse, Ninon de l'Enclos, Mlle. de l'Espinasse, Rousseau, and Mirabeau, of course, hold their places; but what is more surprising is, that we are told that contemporary writers—Béranger, P. L. Courier, Jules Sandeau, and Arsène Houssaye will contribute to the work. The advertisement is so ambiguously worded as to induce the belief that the letters of these gentlemen were written in their individual capacities. We of course do not suppose this to be the case,—but the fact that many persons have believed it in Paris is curiously French.

The *Journal des Débats* reports that Norway has lost the most distinguished of her philologists in the person of M. Christian Lauritz Sverdrup—who has died in his seventy-ninth year. M. Sverdrup has occupied the chair of philology at the University of Christiania since the foundation of that establishment by Frederick the Sixth, King of Denmark, in 1808. He has left many works,—the most important of them in the Latin tongue.

The "National Public School Association," having shed its local character and completed its preliminary organization, has now made its more formal appeal to the country for that support which is essential to its success. The basis of the Association is reducible to a simple phrase—it is legal voluntarism. The field of action is secular teaching—its means are local rates, locally imposed. Against a national programme so based there lie—as we have said on former occasions—many and weighty objections as compared with a national system of education. We hold it to be of high importance in any system of public teaching that the instruction afforded be somewhat equal in point of quantity and quality for all districts. If the order and programme of the school be left to the Smiths and Joneses of town and village notoriety, there is at least ground to fear that the quality of education given might not always come up to a reasonable standard. We can hardly assume that the average of intelligence among the local magnates of provincial towns is higher than that of the London vestries,—yet within the last few months we have seen more than one metropolitan vestry violently oppose the establishment of Baths and Washhouses—others contend for the right to reopen the city grave-yards—while the most powerful corporation in the capital remains deaf to the pleading of humanity, and scoffs at the warning of science in favour of the Smithfield abomination. If these men were made judges of what it is necessary to teach the people we fear the system of instruction would be extremely meagre. He who has no objection to filth will have no great horror of ignorance,—and they who can gain a penny by the grave-yards of Drury Lane will not scruple to save one by leaving the poor to their present state of intellectual dearth. As our readers know, these misgivings do not occur to us now for the first time. They rise up at the threshold of the inquiry. We have referred to them more than once; and we bring them forward again, not only because the occasion courts it, but because we really believe that some means might be adopted to get rid of the uncertainty about the practical working of this



scheme, and of the weakness which this feeling of uncertainty brings with it. So far the plan has received little or no adhesion in London: and we believe the reason now suggested to be the chief cause of this apathy. The programme provides no sort of guarantee. When the Association may have achieved its purpose, the situation is hardly changed. Where education is most needed, it will not necessarily—nor even probably—follow. It requires a certain amount of culture to understand the value of culture. In the most poor and ignorant localities no suitable provisions would be made for schools and schoolmasters, and in many of the more flourishing an unwise spirit of economy might reduce the standard of instruction below the point of real usefulness. We regret that those difficulties lie in our way: but we cannot pretend to ignore them. Wisdom must apply itself to find a remedy for evils which exist in the nature of things. Would it not be possible to strengthen the association by grafting on it one or two principles more? The Society might equalize the instruction given, to some extent at least, by adopting a minimum: by making it a part of their project of law that certain things must be taught, comprising the more essential elements, and giving a discretionary power in regard to others. Why not also admit of State inspectors? Prisons are inspected by the State, though they are maintained by local rates and governed by local magistrates. This system works well and for the public good. We throw out these hints briefly,—but we think they are essential to its success.—We observe that the association, having the fear of Dr. Johnson still before their eyes, omit the descriptive word “secular” from their title. But why in the name of Lindley Murray, insert “public” after “national”? Do they think that by any chance “national schools” can be thought *private*? “National secular,” or “National Free School Association” might be used; but “national public” is tautological and absurd.

#### THE WINTER EXHIBITION.

**THE WINTER EXHIBITION OF WATER-COLOUR DRAWINGS AND SKETCHES IN OILS**, comprising works by the most eminent living Artists, is OPEN from Ten till Three, and from Six till Eight.—Admission, including Catalogue, 1s.—Season Ticket, 3s.  
130, Regent-street. J. L. GRUNDY, Manager.

**EXHIBITION OF MODERN BRITISH ART**.—This Exhibition is NOW OPEN, at the Gallery of the Old Water Colour Society, 5, Pall Mall East.—Daily, from Ten till Dusk.—Admission, 1s.—Season Tickets, Half-Guinea.  
SAMUEL STEPNEY, Sec.

#### CHRISTMAS HOLIDAYS.

**THE DIORAMA**, Regent's Park.—NOW EXHIBITING, Two highly interesting Pictures, representing MOUNT ETNA, in Sicily, during an Eruption; and the ROYAL CASTLE of STOLZENFELS on the Rhine, with various effects. Admission to both pictures, One Shilling.—Children under twelve years, half-price. Open from Ten till dusk.

**EGYPT, NUBIA, and ETHIOPIA**.—THE GREAT MOVING PANORAMA of the NILE displays the scenery of these interesting countries, and the manners and customs of their inhabitants, presenting to the spectator the River and the Desert, the Pyramids and the Sphinx, the grandest Ruins of Antiquity, and the most exciting objects that allure the traveller.—EGYPTIAN HALL, PICCADILLY.—Daily, at Three and Eight.—Admission reduced to 6d.; Pit, 1s.; Stalls, 2s.

**INDIA OVERLAND MAIL**.—GALLERY of ILLUSTRATION, 14, Regent-street, Waterloo-place.—MOVING DIORAMA of the OVERLAND MAIL to INDIA, exhibiting the following places, viz.—Cintra, Algiers, Malta, Alexandria, Cairo, Aden, Ceylon, Madras, and Calcutta—is NOW OPEN DAILY.—Mornings at Twelve, Afternoons at Three, and Evenings at Eight.—Admission, 1s.; Stalls, 2s. 6d.; Reserved Seats, 3s. Doors open half an hour before each representation.—The new Diorama of OUR NATIVE LAND; or ENGLAND AND THE SEASONS, will shortly be produced in addition to the above.

#### CHRISTMAS EXHIBITION.

An Exhibition of PAINTINGS, STATUES, BRONZES, PORCELAIN, &c. &c. contributed from Private Collections, will continue Open at the NORTH LONDON SCHOOL of DRAWING and MODELLING, Marylebone, High-street, Camden-town, until January the 4th, from 9 A.M. to 5 P.M.—Admission 6d.—Students admitted free.—The Rooms are lighted by Gas.

#### CHRISTMAS HOLIDAYS.

**ROYAL POLYTECHNIC INSTITUTION**.—THE CELEBRATED JUVENILE HARPISPS (the Lockwood Family) will perform Trios, under the direction of Mr. Frederick Chatterton, daily at Four o'clock.—LECTURE by Dr. Bachhofer on VOLTAIC ELECTRICITY, in which will be exhibited ALL-MAN'S PATENT ELECTRIC LIGHT, on Tuesday and Thursday Evenings at Nine.—LECTURE by J. H. Pepper, Esq., on FIRE AND ITS APPLICATIONS, illustrated with brilliant experiments.—NEW LECTURE by Mr. George Barker, entitled AN ENGLISH CHRISTMAS, illustrated by appropriate Ballads, every Evening (except Saturday) at Eight o'clock.—EXHIBITION of the OXYHYDROGEN MICROSCOPE.—ENTIRELY NEW SERIES of DISSOLVING VIEWS, illustrating some of the ROYAL RESIDENCES of EUROPE.—DIVING BELL, &c. &c.—Admission, 1s.; Schools, Half-price.—Open daily from Eleven till Five o'clock, and every Evening (EXCEPT SATURDAY) from Seven till Half-past Ten.

## SCIENTIFIC

### SOCIETIES.

**GEOLOGICAL**.—Dec. 18.—Sir C. Lyell, President, in the chair.—The following communications were read.—‘Report on a new Combustible Substance discovered in Russia.’—A combustible substance, named Pungernite by M. Bulgarine, has been found in the Silurian formation between Rana-Pungern and Gross-Pungern, on the road from Dorpat to Narva, in Esthonia, in the form of a yellowish brown laminated layer, speckled with white, very light, and about as hard as coal. It burns freely and brightly, giving off a great quantity of soot. According to M. Petzold, its constituents are—

Organic Matter	65.5
Silica	136
Oxide of Iron and Alumina	2.3
Carbonate of Lime	170
Carbonate of Magnesia	0.2
Water	1.2
	99.8

It yields much less carburetted hydrogen gas than coal does; the proportion being nearly 1 to 5. The amount of heat derivable from it is also less than that obtained from coal, but rather greater than that yielded by charcoal.

‘On the Epiolithic Rocks of the Venetian Alps,’ by Prof. T. A. Catullo.

‘On the Origin of the Mineral Springs of Vichy,’ by Sir R. I. Murchison.—The author shows that these far-famed alkaline waters, deriving their high temperature, carbonic acid gas, and saline ingredients from great depths, issue on a line of fracture parallel to the course of the adjacent river Allier, and in a direction from S.S.E. to N.N.W. Seeing that this direction is also coincident with the major axis of the neighbouring former eruptive rocks, of which he has recently treated, he considers that the fissure at Vichy was produced in one of the most ancient of the volcanic epochs in which Central France abounds, or towards the close of the accumulation of the tertiary lacustrine formation of that region. In proof of the high antiquity of the action of the mineral waters which deposited arragonite with tuffaceous limestone, Sir R. Murchison cites the example of the “Rocher des Celestins,” composed of finely laminated layers of those substances, which are now vertical; their edges or tops having sustained a large convent and being partially covered with old drift high above the Allier. It would therefore appear that after the deposition from these mineral waters had been in activity for some time and had accumulated mounds of travertine and arragonite, a fracture took place, which threw up the layers of the “Rocher des Celestins” into a vertical position, truncating them against others which are undulating and horizontal. As the spring of the Celestins which issues at the foot of these vertical masses is perfectly cold, and as no springs have been in action for ages on the summits of the hillocks of travertine on which the ancient bourg of Vichy stands, the author infers that these accumulations were formed long ago, when the thermal principle was more active than at the present day. The existing hot springs, which all lie to the north of the more ancient deposit of the Celestins and of the old town, are situated at lower levels, and are the remains only of more copious evolutions of a former period.

**ASTRONOMICAL**.—Dec. 8.—Rev. R. Sheepshanks, V.P. in the chair.—J. W. Jeans, Esq. and P. Legh, Esq. were elected Fellows. Communications were received relative to the new planets Egeria and Victoria. The former was discovered by Prof. Annibale de Gasparis on the evening of the 2nd of November of the present year, about 6 h. 50 m. p.m. whilst working at his zones near the ecliptic,—the precise object of which is to find new planets.—Mr. Hind writes:—“About 10 o'clock on the evening of September 13, I discovered a new planet in the constellation Pegasus. I was occupied at the time in a close comparison of a chart for Hour xxiii. with the heavens; re-examining the small stars inserted in previous years to insure their being placed in a right position on the map, and to ascertain if any change of

magnitude had taken place:—for it has always appeared to me very desirable that every variable star should be duly specified in forming a chart. Near one of the 10th magnitude, entered in 1848, I found another brighter object, which was at once suspected to be a planet, as it could hardly have escaped my previous sweeps over the vicinity.” In the course of an hour and thirty-four minutes, the difference of right ascension between the suspected planet and the star of the 10th magnitude, was found to have increased from 14<sup>h</sup> 45 to 17<sup>h</sup> 95, and an intermediate observation showed a proportionate rate of increase which could leave no doubt as to the planetary nature of the interesting stranger.

Communications were also made relative to Parthenope, Metis, Flora and Neptune:—which last was observed a third time and regarded as a fixed star of the 9th magnitude, by Dr. Lamont, at Munich, on the 7th of September 1846, having been previously observed by the same astronomer, on the 7th of the same month, as well as on the 1st of October 1845. Mr. Hind remarks:—“A notice of this additional observation is interesting as showing that an immediate reduction of the zones of the 7th and 11th of September could not have failed to point out the planet; and the discovery might have been effected prior to the 23rd of September, when it was recognized by Dr. Galle.”—A telescopic comet was discovered by Mr. Bond, at the Observatory of Cambridge, near Boston, U.S. on the 29th of August last, and independently by Mr. Brorsen, of Senftenburg, in Bavaria, by M. Mauvais, at Paris, and Mr. Robertson, at Markree, and by Dr. Clausen at the Observatory of Dorpat, on the 5th, 9th and 14th of September respectively. This comet was observed by American astronomers till the end of October; and although its discoverer, Mr. Bond, has detected six or seven others, this is the first which bears his name, as in all the other instances a prior discovery was recognized.”

**SOCIETY OF ANTIQUARIES**.—Dec. 10.—Sir R. H. Inglis, V.P. in the chair.—A Merovingian Triens was exhibited; but it presented no peculiar features,—and such objects have before been found in this country. They are remarkable as they serve to show that a commercial intercourse was carried on between England and the central parts of the Continent at a very early date. The Triens in question bore evidence of having been struck at Sion, in Switzerland; part of the name of the moneyer and the word *moneti* were stated to be visible on it. It is highly conducive to the purposes of the Society if, when objects of interest are discovered in the provinces, they are sent to London, that their value, in an archaeological point of view or otherwise, may be ascertained. All local associations for the exhumation and preservation of antiquities ought to bear this in mind,—and many important curiosities may thus be saved from destruction by the ignorant or careless.—Miss A. Gurney, of North Repe, Norfolk, addressed a paper to Sir H. Ellis, ‘On the reputed Destruction by the Sea of the City of Veneta, between the island of Rugen and Bornholm.’ A question has arisen, whether such a sea-port ever existed,—and if it existed, whether it does not exist still in one of the important places on the shores of the Baltic. On this point there has been much dispute among German antiquaries and topographers; and the author of this paper, after going over most of the authorities in succession, arrived at the conclusion that the encroachments of the ocean in that quarter had overwhelmed Veneta. She did not go so far, however, as to maintain that on every Easter-day it re-ascends and dances on the waters:—but such is the superstition of many of the inhabitants of Rugen and its neighbourhood. Thanks were voted to Miss Gurney for her communication; and it was followed by the reading of the copy of a will by Richard Brereton, the head of an ancient and distinguished family in Cheshire, dated 1557, with its accompanying inventory. It had been extracted by Mr. Pycroft from the testamentary records of Chester; and contained a long list of books, plate and furniture which Richard Brereton left to his heirs. The valuation of the books had



been made by an innkeeper, who had put against most of them the sum at which he rated them; and it was curious to see impressions of some of Caxton's and Pinson's rarest works put down at 6d. and 8d. which in our day would realize two or even three thousand times as much. Two copies of 'Piers Plowman'—probably Crowley's edition—were valued at 6d. The testator, among a considerable quantity of old household stuff and other effects, bequeathed his gold chain of 33lb. to his successor; but, as the chairman intimated, there must have been some mistake of transcription here, because a gold chain of any such weight has never before been heard of. An ornament of the kind of even 3lb., would be a very heavy one—and they were seldom of more than 1lb. weight.

LINNEAN.—Dec. 17.—R. Brown, Esq., in the chair.—Mr. Westwood called the attention of the Society to the existence of a wingless bird on Lord Howe's Island,—an island situate between New Holland and Norfolk Island. This spot had been accidentally visited by Capt. Poole of the East India Company's service; who considering it a favourable spot for colonization, had induced six Irishmen and their wives and families to settle on it. The place is now one of constant resort for the supply of water and provisions to the South Sea whalers. As no Government has owned it, this island is at present the property of Capt. Poole. It is of considerable extent, and has on it two high hills which can be seen at a distance of sixteen leagues at sea. On this island Capt. Poole had discovered the bird in question. It is about the size of a rail,—and is considered by the settlers as good eating. Mr. Westwood thought the announcement of the existence of this bird—which was not previously known to exist in those regions—would be received with interest in connexion with the discovery of the extinct wingless birds of New Zealand. No specimen has yet arrived in England,—but some are on their way.

The conclusion of Mr. Benjamin Clarke's memoir 'On the Positions of the Carpels in Exogenous Plants' was read. Mr. Clarke exhibited recent specimens of the plants to which he had referred in his paper.

Mr. Jones drew the attention of the Fellows to the *Acarus* which had been found in soft sugar. Several specimens of sugar were examined, all of which contained the animal in question. It is found in all kinds of moist sugar,—but in every instance in which it had been examined by Mr. Jones he had found it dead.

#### MEETINGS FOR THE ENSUING WEEK.

Mon. Institute of Actuaries, 7.  
Tues. Zoological, 8.—General Business.  
Wed. Medial, 8.—Meeting of Council.  
Fri. Archaeological Institute, 4.  
Sat. Botanical, 8.  
— Medical, 8.  
— Asiatic, 2.

#### COPYING ELECTRIC TELEGRAPHS.

WE have received from Mr. Bakewell the following letter in reference to a paragraph which appeared some weeks since in our columns [*ante*, p. 1306], on the subject of the copying electric telegraphs of Mr. Bain and of himself.—

"G, Haverstock Terrace, Hampstead, Dec. 23.

"My attention was directed at the end of last week to a paragraph in your widely-circulated journal respecting Mr. Bain's claim to be the inventor of the copying electric telegraph; and though you write as the advocate of his claim, I trust to your sense of justice for the insertion of a brief reply. Mr. Bain's chemical telegraph, at present at work in America, is not a copying telegraph; as you, in common with most readers of Mr. Bain's letter in the *Times*, might be led to suppose by the vague manner in which it is worded. The chemical telegraph only makes dots and strokes upon paper, in imitation of Prof. Morse's plan. Mr. Bain, in his letter, admits that he has not yet been able to produce copies, but he 'trusts the time is not far distant' when he shall be able to do so. Though there may be difference of opinion as to similarity of principle, since both employ electro-chemical agency, I venture to think that in all the essentials which constitute an invention the novelty of my telegraph cannot be denied. In the first

place, it copies writing and will not copy types; whilst the object of Mr. Bain's invention was to copy projecting surfaces only. In mechanical arrangement there is not a vestige of resemblance in the two instruments; and the fact, that my telegraph makes perfect copies at the rate of 200 letters per minute, whilst Mr. Bain, at the expiration of eight years, with every mechanical appliance at his command, has not been able to produce any successful results, shows that there must be something essentially different between his telegraph and mine. I am, &c.

"F. A. BAKEWELL."

As we merely stated our conviction that in principle these telegraphs are alike,—there seems no reason for our now saying more than that such conviction still holds. The counter averments on matters of fact can be settled only by an examination, in the United States, which we cannot be expected to make. We give Mr. Bakewell, however, the benefit of his own statement.

#### FINE ARTS

##### ILLUSTRATED BOOKS.

*Home Pictures: Sixteen Domestic Scenes of Childhood.* Drawn and Etched by Hablot Knight Browne.

*Christmas with the Poets; a Collection of Songs, Carols, and Descriptive Verses, relating to the Festival of Christmas, from the Anglo-Norman Period to the Present Time.* Embellished with Fifty tinted Illustrations by Birket Foster.

THESE two books are amongst the most beautiful that the season of illustrated books has this year produced.—In the first, the well-known 'Phiz' lets us into the secret of his sympathies in a series of very charming thoughts breathing of the sweets and conjuring up the spirits of home. Childhood in its first experiences and impressions Mr. Browne has here, according to his version, laid before us. He seems to contemplate only the bright side of these with any pleasure:—for in the collection there is only a single subject—under the quaint title of 'The Disjointed Nose'—which touches on those checks to human felicity that even childhood has to endure. Mr. Browne's mannerism is well known:—and as works of Art these etchings display it to the full extent. But they are carefully wrought,—and with more study in the composition than we might expect in works produced, as his usually are, "against time."—The book is a charming Christmas present, calculated to do good to the recipient.

'Christmas with the Poets' is a collection of passages, from the early time of our poetry downwards, from the poets who have made Christmas their theme. The illustrations are of great elegance and variety, and carry us back to the periods which they severally illustrate. Admirably drawn and composed,—they have been very successfully cut by Mr. Vizetelly; and the printing by tinted blocks produces a very novel and satisfactory result. The book is quaintly bound, and ornamented internally as well as externally with a profusion of gilding. The devices for the initial letters are refined and appropriate.

##### Winged Thoughts.

THIS is the third of a series of very elegant books which the Messrs. Longman have produced during the last three years. The two former volumes as our readers know, had for their subjects 'Flowers' and 'Fruit':—the 'Winged Thoughts' which make the theme of the present book are, Birds. Many of these are drawn with extraordinary spirit:—and the printing in colours is at times even gorgeous in its effect. The title illustrations,—printed in gold, from the designs, as usual, of Mr. Owen Jones,—are of extreme elegance. The poetical renderings, by M. A. Baron, are graceful, thoughtful, and appropriate:—and we think that an improvement is this year effected by the letter-press being no longer printed in gold,—which had in the former volumes to a certain extent the effect of killing the colours on the opposite page. The present volume is bound to correspond with the two first of the series,—with the variations of tooling prescribed by the

theme.—A more elegant book for the drawing-room table need not be desired.

*Illustrations to Alfred Tennyson's Poem 'The Princess.'* By Mrs. S. C. Lees.

THIS very gorgeous work is remarkable first for the exquisite beauty of the ornamental decorations at the head of and in part surrounding each plate. Flowers and fruits of appropriate application to the subject are mingled with and trained around devices of grotesque work supporting birds and figures,—all arranged with the most consummate taste, and carefully, richly and truthfully coloured. We do not remember to have seen anything more charming. We do not know if we are right in supposing these borders to be by some other hand than that to which are due the subjects that the former inclose. Nothing appears on the title-page to justify a separation of these two classes of illustration,—yet there is nothing in themselves which suggests the probability of their being by a single hand.—The subjects thus richly framed are outlines in the manner of Retzsch,—though on a larger scale. There are in them much sweet and graceful sentiment, and much energy in the more violent scenes,—together with a strong feeling for the harmonies of composition. But they are sadly lacking in a strict application to the text. The book must command attention as a most rich and elegant one:—but 'The Princess' remains to be illustrated.

*Animals.* From the Sketch Book of Harrison Weir.

THIS is a collection of drawings on wood of the domestic and other animals of Britain,—cut by various artists. The scale on which they have been produced is one to which wood engraving—often so destructive to works of refined purpose and execution—is quite equal,—and the consequence is, great success. The subjects have been drawn in Mr. Weir's accustomed, forcible, and determinate style; and in some—such as Plate 21, 'Sheep'—the result is very beautiful. One or two in the collection must be pointed out as exceptions. The one immediately preceding that selected for praise, we cannot help thinking, has suffered much in the cutting:—so inferior is it in all respects to the subjects in general.—They form altogether, however, a work of great merit and beauty.

##### NEW PUBLICATIONS.

##### Engravings of the Ipswich Museum.

WE have here before us a new series of ten portraits of persons eminent in literature and science, drawn from nature and on stone by T. H. Maguire. They combine the fidelity of the daguerotype process with what that process fails to supply,—the exercise of discrimination and taste in seizing habitual character and expression. In these particulars Mr. Maguire has shown much power. In turning over this series of prints, great variety of individual forms and expressions is encountered. Buckland, the geologist, Lindley, the botanist, the Marquis of Bristol, Sir John Boileau, Prof. Edward Forbes, Messrs. Darwin, Curtis, Bell, &c., offer striking individualities of physiognomical contour, of expression, and of habitual pose.—It is only by close observation of nature in a most extensive series of examples that the painter of portraits can train his eye to see the subtle or the special differences of character, in form, in expression, or in action.

O! but man,  
Dressed in a little brief authority,  
Plays such fantastic tricks before high heaven  
As make the angels weep.

THIS epigraph, from Shakspeare, serves for title to a clever sketch following in the tide of excitement that flows to drown the Papal Bull,—and which will probably have a long line of graphic successors. A smirking cardinal, with his oath in his hand, hides badly behind a mask too sacred to be named; and the two faces show side by side—one with its aspect of scoffing denial—the other of solemn rebuke. The rendering of the text is made somewhat literal by an angel with averted face and spurning attitude, in the distance.—The subject is one out of our limits:—but the treatment makes a good Art epigram.



**FINE-ART GOSSIP.**—The fine Church of St. Stephen's, Walbrook, after having fallen, as our readers know, into a state of lamentable degradation, has at length undergone complete repair. The principles on which its restoration has been conducted were explained to a vestry meeting of the parishioners by Mr. Rock—to whose exertions it is said to be mainly owing that the continued decay of this beautiful edifice has been prevented. "The committee," he says, "immediately on their appointment, proceeded to consider the principles which should guide them in the responsible task. Considering that the structure was justly deemed the most beautiful of its celebrated architect, Sir Christopher Wren, the first step taken by them was to visit most of the metropolitan churches erected by him, and notice many which had undergone considerable alterations from their original design. In most instances, however, no improvement was visible; at the same time the style of adornment strangely differed from the style of the great architect. The result of such examination led to the unanimous opinion of the committee to restore St. Stephen's to the state in which it was left by Sir Christopher Wren." This determination called for the restoration of the great eastern window, the disencumbering two of the eastern pilasters of the monuments which defaced them, and also the removal of one of the doors of the vestibule. Mr. Rock added, that in the course of the repairs it was deemed highly necessary to cover all the graves under the body of the church. Incredible as it might appear, they had found upwards of 4,000 coffins; and in many places they were piled up to the very pavement of the aisles. For the due preservation of the congregation, the committee had the whole of the graves and vaults arched over with brickwork, and upon that a thick layer of concrete,—thus rendering the escape of any noxious effluvia into the interior impossible.—The splendid painting of the Martyrdom of St. Stephen, by B. West, in 1779, which formerly occupied the recess over the altar, has, we should add, been removed to the northern transept.

In these "holiday times" when even a Chancellor of the Exchequer is said to relax a little from his habitual gravity of demeanour,—it will not be amiss to print a few statistics connected with the National Gallery, which we have had by us for some time waiting for the Christmas week, or some more appropriate occasion for producing them. The National Gallery, then, consists of 880 pictures, which we have divided tabularly thus:—

Purchases (including the 38 Angerstein).....	68
Presents (the Vernon Gallery excluded).....	68
Bequests.....	92
Vernon Gift.....	152
	380

or when the presents and bequests are united thus:—

Purchases.....	68
Presents and Bequests ..	312
	380

The purchases amount to 118,842l. 6s.:—the 38 Angerstein costing 57,000l. and the thirty additional purchases the remaining 61,842l. 6s. The number of purchases and the number of presents (omitting the Vernon gift and the 92 bequests) are, it will be seen, the same. Surely, then, we may safely infer that with a little more liberality on the part of the Government—and a better gallery to exhibit what we already have—the presents and bequests would continue to increase,—aye, and at a still greater ratio.

We read in one of the Belgian papers that the Common Council of Malines has appointed MM. Hunin and Tuerlinckx professors of painting and statuary to that town. The last-named is the sculptor of the well-known statue of Margaret of Austria, which adorns the *Grande Place* of Malines. Paragraphs like this, unimportant here in themselves, show us by contrast our home defects in what concerns the encouragement and standing of Art. The idea of a professor of sculpture to Manchester would, we have no doubt, seem highly ludicrous to readers in that locality. Yet, why not? Manchester has more wealth to lay out in intellectual luxuries—and more need of sculptural decoration in its dark streets,—than Malines. Law

has its place in the municipal organization of every town in England;—why not Art, as in other countries? The late Mr. Sturgeon was for some years a sort of unacknowledged professor of mechanical science to Manchester. There is no solid reason why each of our great and wealthy towns should not have its professors of art, science and literature attached to the corporation,—as the better class of towns on the Continent have already, to their great advantage.

An interesting sale of books is now taking place at St. Petersburg. The catalogue contains all the duplicate copies from the public imperial library, which have accumulated during the last fifty years. Some of them are of great money value, but not particularly rare or curious;—nearly the whole collection consisting of new works. We have no wish to see this example followed in our own country; though, as we have more than once pointed out, we think the duplicates in our own national library might be turned to better account than they now are.—It is characteristic of Russia that it should desire to export a portion of its literary treasures. That is not a soil on which we can hope, in the present state of things at least, to find the great planting the seeds of knowledge in the expectation of a popular harvest.

#### MUSIC AND THE DRAMA

MONS. and MADAME ROBIN'S SOIRÉES PARISIENNES et FANTASTIQUES, 232, PICCADILLY, opposite the Haymarket.—THIS EVENING, and on MONDAY the 26th inst., Mons. and Madame Robin will make their Debut and Second Appearance in London, and will continue to appear every following evening at Eight o'clock precisely.—Children under Ten years of age, Half-price.—Tickets may be secured at all the principal Libraries and Music sellers; and also at the Box-Office of the Theatre, which is open daily.

#### NEW PUBLICATIONS.

*Jullien's Album for 1851.*—This gallant folio, is illustrated by a pair of delicate full-length figures, printed in oils by Messrs. Baxter's process, called Mlle. Jenny Lind and Mlle. Jetty Treffz;—but the two ladies resemble each other in the two pictures almost as closely as if they were two sisters. There are, also, larger lithographic heads,—of a touching and languishing elegance. Among the musical contents of this annual, the best compositions appear to us to be the Duets by Mr. Macfarren and Mr. Henry Smart, and the songs by Messrs. Barnett and Lavenue. The best *Valse*, perhaps, is the 'Rose de Mai,' by Herr König;—but the varieties of the Strauss and Lanner patterns are exhausted. This being the dancing time, we may here, also, announce *L'Alize*, *Five Waltzes*, by Antonio Minasi;—and the *Bulleet Waltzes*, by that clever pianist, Mlle. Coulon.

Several glees by Mr. G. W. Martin are before us.—*Prize Glee: 'Is She not beautiful?—Haste, ye soft gales,-- Prize Glee: 'As a Garland once I made,--Madrigal: 'Busy, curious, thirsty Fly,--Oppressed with grief, oppressed with care,--Let not dull, sluggish Sleep.*—In spite of the seal which the word "Prize" may be thought to set on two of these compositions, we cannot admit that they rise to any very high excellence. It is not true that a few pleasing vocal harmonies, with a little contrivance in the inner parts of the work will suffice to make a good glee. Clearly-defined idea and pleasing melody are perhaps in music never more necessary than in that province where the decorations of accompaniment cannot enter;—and idea and melody are to be found in limited proportion in Mr. Martin's Part-songs.

We can do little more than offer a catalogue of the songs before us. The first pile is of German origin,—*L'Ange et L'Enfant*, by Charles Lütters, is a *scena* containing expressive passages and points. *Hope, hope, The Margaret of Faust, Last Song of a Young Girl*, are by M. Neuland,—*Art Thou thinking of Me,--The Evil Eye, a Ballad*, by Herr Oberthür,—*The Sea's Serenade to the Moon, When Hope is dead*, by Herr Mühlenthal. We may add to these, two Songs, for a baritone or a contralto, somewhat more ambitious in style and more flowing in melody, by Herr Bosen; also, Book XXII. of *Gems of German Song*, in which *Those Bright Black Eyes*, by Kucken, is perhaps the best.—Herr Esser's *Wanderlust* is noticed the last as the freshest and most spirited composition of the number.

Neither are we perilously tempted to linger by the few Italian vocal compositions before us,—*L'Addio, Duetto per Contralto e Mezzo-soprano*, by Ciro E. Pinuti,—is written with care, but the sweet breath of the South is wanting to its cantilena. *A la Rosa, a Canzonetta*, by Sir Francis C. Knowles, Bart. may be described as of the average red-book merit. In Signor Torrente's *Pregheira* from Metastasio's 'Gioas,' the dislocated and spasmodic grandeurs of Verdi are emulated. Signor Torrente's *L'Auretta Romana*, is better, because it is less ambitious. Signor Pergetti's *Il Maggio* may supply serviceable practice to a mezzo-soprano voice limited in compass.

Reserving one or two works of greater interest for the year to come, we may lastly name some of the newer English ballads.—*By the Lone Beach*, by Walter Maynard.—*Two Songs*, by H. B. Walmisley.—*The Nightingale*, by Mr. Macfarren—no ballad, by the way, but a clever *bravura* for an agile *contralto* voice.—*The Reaper and the Flowers*, and *Pennyson's Break, break*, by the amateur Lady who signs her music *Zeta*.—The Laureate's specified wild and impassioned words have been found tempting by other lady composers; and we have heard a striking and simple setting of them by Mrs. Sartoris, preferable to the one with which we close our reports on new publications for 1850.

#### PANTOMIMES.

WITH the increase of theatres, there is an increase of pantomimes; and such now are the exertions made to produce the best, that from Drury Lane down to the suburban Saloon there is scarcely one that has not special claims and attractions. Scenic decoration has become almost universal; and, at the meanest theatre the appointments of the stage will often be found on a costly scale. Legitimate and illegitimate are about equal in such a race,—and "one" and the same "touch" of Christmas "nature" has "made the whole kin." The reign of pantomime, however, is not universal at this season;—it shares with burlesque a divided dominion. A few years ago there were scarcely half-a-dozen dramatic burlesques in the language; and now every holiday brings forth several new ones. We welcome the Christmas performances on the score of ancient custom; and for the sake of their adaptability to startle and amuse the minds of the young—and of those who have been young—at a holiday time.

To begin with OLD DRURY:—it seems somewhat significant that this theatre opens with pantomime. As a temple devoted to such trivialities we must now regard this yet proud and stately edifice. Mr. Anderson's company seems to have been collected on such a principle. All hope of attracting in the legitimate appears to be laid aside; and, therefore, with the exception of two or three known names, the destinies of the regular drama are abandoned to untried persons, newly draughted from the provinces, and unheralded even by any reputation there acquired. It may be, nevertheless, that these parties have been chosen with judgment. Some of them made their appearance on Thursday, in 'The Winter's Tale,'—but it would be unfair to test them by their efforts on a boxing night. We will simply record on this occasion that Miss Vandenhoff played *Hermione*, and Mr. Anderson represented *Leontes*.

The pantomime is entitled 'Harlequin Humpty-Dumpty, or Robbin de Bobbin and the First Lord Mayor of London,'—and is founded on the story of a rebel in the days of Richard, who levied contributions, as an outlaw, on the citizens of London, and made pretensions to the daughter of a goldsmith, but was defeated in his machinations by her father's apprentice. The dialogue opens with the departure of the monarch to the Holy Land, and closes with his return. It is during his absence that all the mischief is done;—and his re-entry is celebrated by the goldsmith's apprentice literally cutting up the troubler of the City's peace. This portion of the plot has been provided by Mr. Fitzball,—the rest is the work of Mr. Nelson Lee. One of the great points is, as might have been expected, the Crystal Palace; and the whole is



put upon the stage at much evident expense and with considerable splendour.

They have a pantomime at the PRINCESS'S with a taking title, and a subject that raises pleasing literary recollections. It is none other than Lewis's 'Alonzo the Brave and the Fair Imogene.' The fairy agency introduced is simple, but effective. The two fairies *Fidelity* and *Infidelity* preside over the preliminary struggle; and at the end interfere to prevent the faithless Bride from being carried away by her lover's ghost, according to the contract recorded both in the ballad and in the drama:—

God grant that to punish my falsehood and pride,  
Your ghost at my wedding may sit by my side,  
To tax me with perjury, claim me as bride,  
And bear me away to the grave.

The scenery is throughout beautiful; and there are some dissolving effects introduced which are highly attractive. The *Columbine* is a young lady new to the stage, a Miss Le Clercq—Mr. Cormack is the *Harlequin*—Mr. Paulo is the *Pantaloone*—and greatest of all, Mr. Flexmore is the *Clown*. Thus efficiently supported, the piece promises to become one of the most popular of the season.

The pantomime at SADLER'S WELLS is good on several accounts. It is patriotic in its subject,—described in the title as 'Harlequin and the House that Jack built in 1851; or, the Genie of the Ring and Aladdin's Wonderful Lamp.' Here is another hint taken from the Crystal Palace and its Industrial Fête. *Jack of All-trades* is the hero, who resolves to build a house for this specific purpose, and makes the needful preparations in his enchanted workshop. He is interrupted by the entrance of *Invention*, who puts in a plea for the exhibition of the pantomime on the ground of priority in time; the Grand Festival not taking place till May, and the lesser one being appointed for Boxing-night.—The scenes are well painted; and the tricks numerous and effective.—Southern's tragedy of 'Isabella' preceded this piece;—to the heroine Miss Glyn gave entirely a new reading, the consideration of which must be deferred to a quieter season.

The SURREY indulges its audience in a burlesque pantomime founded on 'The Merry Wives of Windsor,'—the story and characters being exactly followed, after a perverted and extravagant fashion. Though placed on the stage with skill, we have such doubts of the taste and judgment shown in the selection of subject that we cannot bestow much approbation on the experiment.—It was preceded by the comedy of 'Lovers' Vows.'

At the MARLYBONE, the pantomime was unwisely preceded by the discarded drama of 'George Barnwell.'—The subject of the pantomime is eminently national, 'Harlequin Alfred the Great.' Hope and by a pardonable anachronism, Old Grimaldi, are introduced as agents in the story of the unfortunate monarch; who, by triumphing over despair, secures his place in the temple of Fame. The concluding tableau of the English Fleet is appropriate. Mr. Tom Mathews as *Clown* was remarkably efficient.

Mr. Nelson Lee is the great composer of pantomimes for town and country. At Brighton, at Bristol, and at Newcastle, the theatres are stocked by his ingenuity with the means of amusement. But it is at the CITY OF LONDON theatre that he boasts of having displayed the master-hand. The subject and structure of the pantomime are both curious. It is entitled 'Knife, Fork, and Spoon; or, Harlequin Breakfast, Dinner, Tea and Supper,'—and is divided into Plates and Courses, which to be properly understood must be seen.

At the VICTORIA, the theme of the pantomime is the 'Georgey Barnwell' himself;—at the QUEEN'S, we have the more agreeable 'Cinderella and the Glass Slipper.'—The PAVILION treats its customers with 'Sugar and Spice, and all things nice';—the STANDARD, with 'Buttercups and Daisies.'—At the GREEK SALOON, we have the same argument as at SADLER'S WELLS:—the pantomime 'being entitled "Harlequin and the Crystal Palace of 1851." It is got up with taste.

#### BURLESQUES.

In burlesques, the HAYMARKET takes the lead;—the Brothers Brough providing for the present

season a grand new one from the 'Arabian Nights,' entitled 'The Story of the Second Calendar; or, the Queen of Beauty who fought with the Genie.' The story is familiar to all. Suffice it, therefore, to say, that Miss P. Horton speaks and sings the part of the Queen of Beauty,—and Mr. J. Bland that of her father, the Emperor of India. These characters, with Mr. Selby as the Evil Genie and Mrs. Fitzwilliam for his 'maid of all work,' will be supposed to embody the very spirit of Christmas Extravaganza.

Mr. Planché's new fairy extravaganza at the LYCEUM is more elegant both in design and in execution,—and depends on Mr. Beverley's scenic and pictorial effects, in which the contriver has sought to outdo 'The Island of Jewels' itself. The title of this magnificent specimen of scenery and machinery, pun and parody, is 'King Charming; or, the Blue Bird of Paradise.' The whole strength of the company is engaged in its performance.

Mr. Tom Taylor, at the OLYMPIC, has been fortunate in his theme. Madame D'Aunoy's story of 'Prince Dorus,' with the long nose, has the advantage of an obvious moral. Ignorant of the defect, and not being made to feel that it stands in the way of a cherished object, the hero bears with patience the length of his prominent feature until, wanting to kiss the Sleeping Beauty, whom he has pursued through earth, air, and water, he finds that it prevents his lips from reaching hers. Thus made aware that his nose is too long,—by virtue of a fairy promise provided for the case, the inconvenient member dwindles to ordinary dimensions. Mr. Taylor is just the man to deal with such a subject. Even in his most burlesque dialogues there are a weight of thought and an intelligible purpose. The scenery of this piece is painted in the style of Watteau.

It remains only to state that at the ADELPHI, the burlesque is by Mr. Albert Smith,—and is entitled 'La Tarantula; or, the Spider King.'

#### MISCELLANEA

*Beneficial Effects of Tea.*—Tea is more and more becoming a necessary of life to all classes. Tea was denounced first as a poison and then as an extravagance. Cobbett was furious against it. An Edinburgh reviewer, in 1823, keeps no terms with its use by the poor:—"We venture to assert that when a labourer fancies himself refreshed with a mess of this stuff, sweetened by the coarsest black sugar, and with azure blue milk, it is only the warmth of the water that soothes him for the moment; unless, perhaps, the sweetness may be palatable also." It is dangerous even for great reviewers to "venture to assert." In a few years after comes Liebig with his chemical discoveries, and demonstrates that coffee and tea have become necessities of life to all nations, by the presence of one and the same substance in both vegetables, which has a peculiar effect upon the animal system; that they were both originally met with amongst nations whose diet is chiefly vegetable; and, by contributing to the formation of bile, their peculiar functions have become a substitute for animal food to a large class of the population whose consumption of meat is very limited, and to another large class who are unable to take regular exercise. Tea and coffee, then, are more especially essential to the poor. They supply a void which the pinched labourer cannot so readily fill up with weak and sour ale; they are substitutes for the country walk to the factory girl or the seamstress in a garret. They are ministers to temperance; they are home comforts. Mrs. Piozzi making tea for Dr. Johnson till four o'clock in the morning, and listening contentedly to his wondrous talk, is a pleasant anecdote of the first century of tea; the artisan's wife lingering over the last evening cup, while her husband reads his newspaper or his book, is something higher, which belongs to our own times.—*Dickens's Household Words.*

To CORRESPONDENTS.—F. H. M.—J. C.—An Amateur—T. L. P.—Nemo—R. S.—P. N.—Your Correspondent of many Years' Standing—received.

CHRONICLE OF LE BEL.—We repeat, that an essential service would be rendered to English historical literature if some one of the historical Societies would publish at least an abstract of this Chronicle. A correspondent who writes to assure us that this Chronicle is not an original work is entirely mistaken. The Chronicle of which we have spoken is a different one from that to which he refers.

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Applications for Prospectuses, Agencies, and Forms of Proposal are requested to be made to the Secretary.  
By order of the Board,  
THOMAS H. BAYLIS, Manager and Secretary.



# LONDON ASSURANCE CORPORATION.

Established by Royal Charter, in the reign of King George I. A.D. 1720, for LIFE, FIRE, and MARINE ASSURANCES.—Head Office, No. 7, Royal Exchange, and Branch Office, No. 10, Regent-street.

Actuary—PETER HARDY, Esq. F.R.S.

This Corporation has effected Assurances on Lives for a period of 130 years.

Fire Insurances effected at moderate rates upon every description of property.

Marine Insurances at the current premiums of the day.

JOHN LAURENCE, Secretary.

# SPECIAL NOTICE.—ANNUAL DIVISION OF PROFITS. CITY OF GLASGOW LIFE ASSURANCE COMPANY.

Established in 1838, and constituted by Act of Parliament. The next annual investigation of the affairs of this Company will take place on the 30th of January 1851; and Policies of the Participating class opened on or before that date will be entitled to the Bonus then to be declared.

By order of the Board.

HUGH BREMNER, Secretary.

Office in London, 120, Pall Mall.

# COUNTY FIRE OFFICE, 50, Regent-street,

and 2, Royal Exchange Buildings, London.

Established 1805.

It is respectfully notified to parties holding policies in this Office, the renewals of which fall due at Christmas, that the same should be paid on or before the 9th of January. The receipts are lying at the Offices in London, and in the hands of the several Agents.

The terms of the County Fire Office are highly advantageous to the Insured, and have secured to it a large share of public approbation. All claims are settled with promptitude and liberality. Particulars will be immediately furnished to parties applying personally, or by post, to either of the above Offices, or to any of the Agents, who are appointed in all the principal towns of the United Kingdom.

JOHN A. BEAUMONT, Managing Director.

# SCOTTISH EQUITABLE LIFE ASSURANCE SOCIETY.—Incorporated by Act of Parliament.

HEAD OFFICE—26, ST. ANDREW-SQUARE, EDINBURGH.

LONDON OFFICE—61 A, MOORGATE-STREET.

Physician.—JOSEPH LAURIE, Esq. M.D. Solicitor.—CHARLES LEVER, Esq.

12, Lower Berkeley-street, 1, Frederick's-place, Portman-square, Old Jewry.

The SCOTTISH EQUITABLE being a MUTUAL ASSURANCE SOCIETY, in which the WHOLE PROFITS are allocated amongst the Policy-holders every THREE YEARS, provides every advantage to the Assured which it is possible for any Life Assurance Institution to afford. Accordingly, Policies effected in the year 1832 have obtained a BONUS of about FORTY-THREE per Cent. on the SUM ASSURED; those effected in 1833, FORTY per Cent.; those in 1834, THIRTY-EIGHT per Cent.; and Policies of subsequent years in proportion.

The PROFITS or BONUSES may, in the option of the Assured, be applied thus:—

1st. They are ADDED TO THE SUM ASSURED.

2nd. They may be COMMUTED INTO A PRESENT PAYMENT.

3rd. They may be APPLIED IN REDUCTION OF THE FUTURE ANNUAL PREMIUMS.

The following is a View of the Progress of the Society down to 1st March, 1850.

	Amount Assured.	Annual Revenue.	Accumulated Fund.
At 1st March, 1832	£67,200	£2,032	£1,898
Do. 1833	824,275	30,205	71,191
Do. 1844	1,919,292	69,920	263,719
Do. 1850	3,366,354	120,978	572,817

Tables of Rates and Form of Proposal may be had (FREE) on application at the Society's Office, 61 A, Moorgate-street, City. Medical referees paid by the Society.

WILLIAM COOK, Agent.

# INVESTMENT combined with FAMILY PROVISION.—At present, when difficulty is felt by private individuals in obtaining a safe investment which shall yield an adequate rate of interest, the Directors of the SCOTTISH PROVIDENT INSTITUTION invite attention to the advantageous character (viewed as an investment) of LIFE ASSURANCE by way of single payment. The following is an illustration:—

For a sum of 500*l.*, paid by a person of 35, a policy of 1,277*l.* may be obtained, payable to his family or executors at his death, however soon that may happen, with—in this Society—additions from the profits on the very favourable principle of its constitution.

So long as he lives he has nearly as much command of the money paid as if he had deposited it in a bank. He can either surrender his policy, or he can at any time borrow, on the security of the policy alone, without any expense, and at a moderate rate of interest, a sum at first nearly equal to his payment, and increasing with the value of the policy. After 20 years, for example, he could so borrow about 700*l.*, continuing, he it observed, to rank in the division of profits according to the full amount of the policy.

At age 40, a policy for 1,000*l.*, sharing of course in the profits, may be thus secured for a payment of 424*l.* 7*l.* 6*d.*

Assurance of from 50*l.* to 5,000*l.* may be effected according to this system.

Tables of single payments at each age, and every information, will be forwarded free, on application at the Head Office in Edinburgh; or at the Office in London, 12, Moorgate-street.

GEORGE GRANT, Secretary.

# UNION ASSURANCE OFFICE,

(FIRE, LIFE, ANNUITIES.)

Cornhill and Baker-street, London; College-green, Dublin; and Esplanade, Hamburg.

Instituted A.D. 1714.

WILLIAM NOTTING, Esq. Chairman.

NICHOLAS CHARRINGTON, Esq. Deputy-Chairman.

Rates on LIFE INSURANCES for short terms are considerably reduced. Insurances may also be effected, without profits, at reduced premiums, as well as by payments of only two-thirds thereof.

The scale for middle and advanced ages is especially favourable to the public.

By the Septennial Bonus of 1848, additions have been made to profit policies (effected in Great Britain) averaging 65*l.* per cent. between the ages of 20 and 25; 87*l.* per cent. between the ages of 26 and 30; 122*l.* per cent. between the ages of 30 and 35; and 47*l.* per cent. between the ages of 35 and 40, on the respective amounts of premium paid in that period.

Policies effected at the present time will participate in the next Bonus.

THOMAS LEWIS, Secretary.

FIRE INSURANCES at the usual rates, and profits returned on policies taken out for seven years by prompt payment.

# PROMOTER LIFE ASSURANCE AND ANNUITY COMPANY, 9, Chatham-place, Blackfriars, London. Established in 1836. Subscribed Capital, 240,000*l.*

Directors.

The Right Hon. W. G. Hayter, Esq. Robert Palk, Esq.  
Charles Johnson, Esq. John Louis Prevost, Esq.  
John Thynne Kemble, Esq. Samuel Smith, Esq.  
J. G. Shaw Lefevre, Esq. F.R.S. Le Marchant Thomas, Esq.  
Trustees—John Deacon, Esq. John G. Shaw Lefevre, Esq. F.R.S., and Charles Johnston, Esq.

This Society effects Assurances in every variety of form, and on most advantageous terms, both on the bonus and non-bonus systems.

The Premiums, without Profits, are lower than those of most other offices, whilst those on the participation scale hold out the prospect of a handsome addition being made as heretofore, every Five Years, to the sum Assured.

Premiums may be paid Annually, Half-yearly, or Quarterly, or on the increasing or decreasing scales.

Officers in Active Service, Persons Afflicted, and those who are going out of Europe, are also Assured.

No Entrance Money is required, and claims speedily settled.

Tables of Rates, with further particulars may be had at the Office.

M. SAWARD, Secretary.

# UNIVERSAL LIFE ASSURANCE SOCIETY,

1, King William-street, London.

The principle of an annual valuation of assets and liabilities and a division of three-fourths of the profits among the assured, is admitted to offer great advantages.

The following table will show the result of the last division of profits, as declared on the 8th of May, 1850, to all persons who had on that day paid six annual premiums. This will be found a liberal reduction if the original premiums be compared with those of other offices adopting a similar plan of division of profits:—

Age of Policy when issued.	Date of Policy.	Sum Assured.	Original Premiums.	Reduced Annual Premium for the current Year.
20	On or before 8th May, 1845.	£1,000	£19 6 8	£11 2 4
30		1,000	24 8 4	14 0 9
40		1,000	31 10 0	18 3 3
50		1,000	42 15 0	24 11 7
60		1,000	66 11 8	38 5 8

DAVID JONES, Actuary.

# MEDICAL, INVALID, and GENERAL LIFE ASSURANCE SOCIETY: Offices, London, 25, Pall Mall; Dublin, 24, Nassau-street; Frankfurt, Grosse Eschenheimer Gasse; Hamburg, Neuer-wall; Stockholm, Lilla Nygatan.

Directors.

Edward Doubleday, Esq. F.L.S., R. Bentley Todd, M.D. F.R.S.,  
249, Great Surrey-street, 3, New-street, Spring-gardens.  
George Gun Hay, Esq., 127, Geo. Henry Vandevent, Esq., 37, Sloane-street, Upper Bedford-place, Russell-square.  
Benjamin Phillips, Esq. F.R.S., Alfred Waddilow, D.C.L., Doctors' Commons.  
Charles Richardson, Esq., 19, J. G. Whishaw, Esq. F.S.A.,  
Bruton-street, Berkeley-square, 64, Gower-street.  
Thomas Stevenson, Esq. F.S.A.,  
37, Upper Grosvenor-street.

At the ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING of this Society held on Thursday, the 28th day of November, 1850,

BENJAMIN PHILLIPS, Esq. F.R.S. in the Chair, The accounts for the ninth year of the Society's business ending the 30th of September, 1850, and the Report of the Auditors thereon, having been read and duly received, the following Report of the Directors was also read:—

REPORT.

"The Directors are happy to have it in their power to inform the Shareholders, that the financial year ending the 30th of September 1850, has furnished the most satisfactory results which they have yet had to lay before the Shareholders, whether as regards the amount of new business done, or the extent of losses incurred."

"During the year ending the 30th of September, 1850, there have been issued no fewer than 559 policies for assurances, amounting to 213,468*l.* 18*l.* 11*d.*, and yielding an annual revenue, on the new policies thus effected, of 9,163*l.* 13*l.* 7*d.*"

"This exceeds the amount of business transacted by this office in any former year, not only in the number of policies, and the sums assured by those policies, but also in the yearly premiums payable upon them."

"The following table shows the results of the business transacted in each year since the establishment of the Society:—

Year.	Number of New Policies issued in each Year.	Sums Assured by New Policies in each Year.	Annual Premiums payable on New Policies in each Year.
1842	130	£58,245 1 6	£1,832 13 7
1843	208	£77,590 16 11	4,902 18 4
1844	197	80,415 8 6	4,120 4 3
1845	255	103,014 11 0	5,563 17 0
1846	199	83,700 14 5	4,985 8 5
1847	313	113,542 4 8	4,937 3 4
1848	412	121,458 17 9	4,980 2 8
1849	475	201,712 15 6	7,436 0 6
1850	569	213,468 16 11	9,163 13 7
Total	2761	£,033,390 6 8	£47,422 1 6

"It is plain from this statement, that in the course of a very few years, the Society has acquired a very large amount of business, equalled by few of the Assurance Companies in the metropolis."

"The Directors wish to impress on the Shareholders the important fact that this rapid acquisition of business is not owing to any accidental cause, but has taken place uniformly throughout the whole field of the Society's operations, showing clearly the confidence reposed in the Society by the public."

"It is also most gratifying to be able to report that the losses by deaths during the past year have been less than in any previous year since 1844; from which it appears that, with the exception of the first three years of the Society, when the number of policies in force was not one-fourth of the present number, the mortality has been less than in any other."

"The Directors have only further to state, that the Members of the Board going out of office by rotation are Edward Doubleday, Esq., and Robert Bentley Todd, M.D.; and the Auditors also going out of office by rotation are James Parker Deane, D.C.L., and Marial Lawrence Welch, Esq., all of whom being eligible, offer themselves for re-election."

"The Directors and Auditors retiring from office having been duly re-elected without opposition, the usual votes of thanks were given."

Prospectuses, containing very full tables of rates, forms of proposal, and every other information, will be forwarded, postage free, on application to any of the Society's Agents, or to the Secretary, at the chief office, 25, Pall Mall.

F. G. P. NEISON, Actuary.

C. DOUGLAS SINGER, Sec.

INSTITUTED 1824.

# SCOTTISH UNION FIRE and LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY, No. 37, Cornhill, London.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that a DIVIDEND of 6*l.* per cent. on the Capital Stock of this Corporation will become PAYABLE on the 2nd of January next; and Proprietors resident in and near London can receive the same at the Office, 37, Cornhill, on that or any subsequent day, between the hours of Ten and Four o'clock. By order of the Board, F. G. SMITH, Secretary.

FIRE INSURANCES of every description are undertaken by the SCOTTISH UNION INSURANCE COMPANY, 37, Cornhill, London, on the most liberal terms and conditions.

Special risks reasonably rated.

Renewal receipts for insurances falling due at Christmas are now ready.

Printed particulars of the large bonus just declared in the Life Department may be had on application. 37, Cornhill, London. F. G. SMITH, Secretary.

# SCOTTISH WIDOWS' FUND LIFE ASSURANCE SOCIETY.

Parties who may be desirous of effecting Assurances with this Society are particularly requested to notice, that Proposals must be lodged on or before the 31st of December current, in order to secure the benefit of this year's entry.

Notice to Members.

The Report by Messrs. Brown, Melville, and Brand has now been issued, and any Member who may not have received a copy, can have one on application at the Society's Head Office.

JOHN MACKENZIE, Manager.

WM. LINDSAY, Secretary.

London Office, 4, Royal Exchange-buildings.

HUGH M'KEAN, Agent.

5, St. Andrew-square, Edinburgh, 16th Dec. 1850.

# THE PRINCIPLE OF MUTUAL ASSURANCE

is such that whatever portion of the annual premiums is not actually required for the risk of the assurance is appropriated for the benefit of the assured. There are no dividends payable to proprietors, and the assured are the only parties who are in any way interested in the funds of the Society. The following Table will exemplify the effect of additions made to policies with the SCOTTISH WIDOWS' FUND LIFE ASSURANCE SOCIETY.

TABLE OF BONUS ADDITIONS—POLICY FOR £1,000*l.*

Year of Entry.	Policy with vested Additions as at 1st January.	Amount payable, if Claim emerge after payment of the Premium for the Year.							
		1846.		1850.		1851.		1852.	
		£.	s. d.	£.	s. d.	£.	s. d.	£.	s. d.
1815		1809	8 7	1980	7 5	2026	11 2	2063	14 11
1820		1533	10 7	1686	17 8	1717	11 1	1748	4 6
1825		1336	1 2	1579	13 3	1608	7 8	1637	2 1
1830		1338	11 9	1472	8 11	1489	4 5	1525	19 10
1835		1231	4 0	1354	6 5	1378	18 11	1403	11 4
1840		1120	0 0	1232	0 0	1254	8 0	1276	16 0

The invested capital of the Scottish Widows' Fund now exceeds 2,204,000*l.*, arising from the accumulations of the premiums.

N.B. No Member is entitled to participate in the Profits of the Society until the Policy be of five years' standing.

The Books of the Society close for the current year on the 31st of December, and Policies effected before that time have the advantage of a full year's standing over those delayed beyond it.

Head Office, Edinburgh, 5, St. Andrew-square.

JOHN MACKENZIE, Manager.

London Office, 4, Royal Exchange-buildings.

HUGH M'KEAN, Agent.

# LONDON LIFE ASSOCIATION,

Instituted 1806.

OFFICE, 81, KING WILLIAM-STREET.

President—Sir Claudius Stephen Hunter, Bart.

Vice-President—Charles Franks, Esq.

THIS Society is essentially one of Mutual Assurance, in which the Premiums of its Members are reduced after seven years.

The rate of reduction of the Premiums of the present year was 68 per cent., leaving less than one-third of the original Premium to be paid.

The Society also undertakes other descriptions of Assurance, in which the Assured do not become Members; and having ceased to allow any money to Agents, the Society has been enabled to reduce the Premiums for this class of Assurances to the following very low rates:—

Age.	£. s. d.	Age.	£. s. d.	Age.	£. s. d.
20	1 13 7	35	2 7 6	50	4 1 3
25	1 17 0	40	2 5 5	55	1 1 0
30	2 1 5	45	3 1 6	60	6 5 10

The Court of Directors are authorized by the Deed of Settlement to advance money on the security of Policies in this Association.

EDWARD DOCKER, Sec.

# GLOBE INSURANCE,

Pall Mall and Cornhill, London.

Directors.

Edward Goldsmid, Esq. Chairman.

William Tite, Esq. F.R.S. Deputy-Chairman.

George Carr Glyn, Esq. M.P. Treasurer.

Henry Alexander, Esq.

John S. Brownrigg, Esq.

Thomas M. Coombs, Esq.

Boycie Conbe, Esq.

William Dent, Esq.

Jas. V. Freshfield, Esq. F.R.S.

Sir I. L. Goldsmid, Bart. F.R.S.

Robert Hawthorn, Esq.

John Hodgson, Esq.

Richard Lambert Jones, Esq.

Robert Locke, Esq.

Boyd Miller, Esq.

Sheffield Neave, Esq.

Fewell Newsum, Esq.

William Phillimore, Esq.

W. H. C. Plowden, Esq. M.P.

Robert Saunders, Esq.

Sir Walter Stirling, Bart.

Wm. Thompson, Esq. Ald. M.P.

Henry J. Wheeler, Esq.

Joseph Wilson, Esq.

Benjamin G. Windus, Esq.

Established 1803, for Fire and Life Insurance and Annuities, and the purchase of Reversions and Life Contingencies.

CAPITAL, ONE MILLION STERLING.

The whole paid up and invested, and entirely independent of the amount of premium received.

Insurances may be effected on Single Lives, on Joint Lives, and on the contingency of one life surviving another.

Insurances for short or limited periods may be effected at reduced rates, and with the least practicable delay.

Fire Policies due at Christmas must be paid on or before the 9th of January.

(By order of the Board.)

London, JOHN CHARLES DENHAM, Secretary



## UNITED KINGDOM LIFE ASSURANCE

COMPANY, established by Act of Parliament in 1834, 8, Waterloo-place, Pall Mall, London; 97, George-street, Edinburgh; 12, St. Vincent-place, Glasgow; 4, College-green, Dublin.

The Bonus added to Policies from March, 1884, to the 31st of December, 1887, is as follows:—

Sum Assured.	Time Assured.	Sum added to Policy in 1881.	Sum added to Policy in 1885.	Sum payable at Death.
£5,000	13 yrs. 10 mths.	£63 6 8	£78 10 0	£6,470 16 8
5,000	1 year	..	112 10 0	5,112 10 0
1,000	12 years	100 0 0	157 10 0	1,257 10 0
1,000	7 years	..	137 10 0	1,137 10 0
1,000	5 years	..	29 10 0	1,029 10 0
500	12 years	50 0 0	78 15 0	638 15 0
500	4 years	..	45 0 0	645 0 0
500	1 year	..	11 5 0	511 5 0

The Premiums, nevertheless, are on the most moderate scale, and only one-half need be paid for the first five years, when the insurance is for Life. Every information afforded on application to the Resident Director, 8, Waterloo-place, Pall Mall, London.

NATIONAL PROVIDENT INSTITUTION,  
48, Gracechurch-street, London, for MUTUAL ASSURANCE  
ON LIVES, ANNUITIES, &c. Incorporated under the Acts of Parliament relating to Friendly Societies.

**Directors.**  
Chairman—Samuel Hayhurst Lucas, Esq.  
Deputy-Chairman—Charles Lushington, Esq. M.P.  
John Bradbury, Esq.  
Thomas Castle, Esq.  
William Miller Christie, Esq.  
Edward Crowley, Esq.  
John Feltham, Esq.  
Charles Gilpin, Esq.

**Physicians.**  
J. T. Conquest, M.D. F.R.S. Thomas Hodgkin, M.D.  
The following statement shows the progress of the Institution from its commencement:—

Years ending	No. of Policies issued.	Annual Income.	Amount of Capital.
26th Nov. 1836	616	£8,021 12 2	£10,736 3 0
.. .. 1837	435	14,600 0 0	31,592 10 5
.. .. 1838	450	19,582 10 4	46,835 0 10
.. .. 1839	490	25,457 4 2	64,959 10 10
.. .. 1840	494	31,091 10 0	90,545 13 9
.. .. 1841	357	36,367 1 4	114,993 2 4
.. .. 1842	364	30,350 7 7	139,806 1 7
.. .. 1843	763	42,219 17 2	167,079 11 2
.. .. 1844	722	55,037 9 2	202,163 1 0
.. .. 1845	911	70,749 14 5	241,460 13 3
.. .. 1846	1095	88,840 8 0	296,075 12 4
.. .. 1847	1224	111,113 13 2	367,172 16 0
.. .. 1848	1343	130,222 7 4	440,028 15 0
.. .. 1849	1736	151,976 4 7	517,243 7 1
.. .. 1850	1549	172,300 16 9	624,869 14 7
Total number ..	12,495		

Members whose premiums become due on the 1st of January next are reminded that the same must be paid within thirty days. Copies of the Report presented to the Members at the Fifteenth Annual Meeting, held at the London Tavern, on the 16th instant, may be had on application at the Office.

## GUARDIAN FIRE AND LIFE ASSURANCE COMPANY, No. 11, Lombard-street, London.

**Directors.**  
John Martin, Esq. M.P. Chairman.  
Thomson Hankey, Jun. Esq. Deputy-Chairman.  
Henry Hulke Berens, Esq.  
John Dixon, Esq.  
Francis Hart Dyke, Esq.  
Sir Walter R. Farquhar, Bart.  
John Harvey, Esq.  
John G. Hubbard, Esq.  
George Johnston, Esq.  
John Labouchere, Esq.  
John Loch, Esq.

**Auditors.**  
A. W. Roberts, Esq.  
Lewis Lloyd, Jun. Esq.

**Attorney—Griffith Davies, Esq. F.R.S.**  
LIFE DEPARTMENT.—Under the provisions of an Act of Parliament, recently obtained, this Company now offers to future Insurers a *Low Rate of Premium* without participation in Profits, or a moderate scale of Premiums with *Four-fifths of the Profit* to be derived from all Assurances hereafter effected.

The Division of Profits which heretofore have been made Separately in the hands of the Company, the first of such Divisions to be declared in June, 1885, when all Participating Policies which shall have subsisted at least one year at Christmas, 1884, will be allowed to share in the Profits.

At the several past Divisions of Profits made by this Company, the Beneficiary Bonuses added to the Policies from *One-Half* the Profits amounted, on an average of the different ages, to about One per Cent. per Annum on the sums insured, and the total Bonuses added at the four Septennial Divisions exceeded 770,000*l.*

**FOREIGN RISKS.**—The Extra Premiums required for the East and West Indies, the British Colonies, and the northern parts of the United States of America, have been materially reduced.

**LOANS** granted on life policies to the extent of their values, provided such policies shall have effected a sufficient time to have attained in each case a value not under 1000*l.*

In the FIRE DEPARTMENT, a return of profit was declared, on the 5th of June, upon the premiums received on all policies which had been in force seven years at Christmas 1884, and the same is now in course of payment daily (Friday and Saturday excepted) between the hours of 10 and 3 o'clock at the Head Office, and also by the Agents in the country districts.

**NOTICE** is hereby given, that assurances which expire at Christmas must be renewed within fifteen days at this office, or with Mr. SAMS, No. 1, St. James's-street, corner of Pall Mall; or with the Company's Agents throughout the Kingdom, otherwise they become void.

**JOHN MORTLOCK'S CHINA AND GLASS BUSINESS** is carried on in Oxford-street only. The premises are very extensive, and contain an ample assortment of the best description of goods at reduced prices for cash; for instance, a Dinner Service for 12 may be purchased for four guineas.—250, Oxford-street, near Hyde Park.

**THE Rev. ISAAC HOWARD, of Hull,** will be happy to communicate free to any sufferer from INDIGESTION, an excellent Remedy, a knowledge of which he acquired while a Missionary in the East Indies.—Address, Rev. ISAAC HOWARD, Hull.

It is desirable that parties applying, especially those residing in remote or obscure districts, should inclose a properly directed stamped envelope for the answer; but it is not necessary that persons in indigent circumstances should send a stamp.

## SILVER PLATED CORNER DISHES AND COVERS.

A. B. SAVORY & SONS, Manufacturing Silversmiths, 14, Cornhill, London, opposite the Bank of England, respectfully invite attention to their extensive Stock of CORNER DISHES and COVERS, manufactured exclusively for their own sale, with silver mountings and shields for engraving. The quality denominated Heavy Plating is of the richest quality, and is highly recommended for durability. The Light Plating is similar in appearance to the best article, for which it is frequently sold.

Four Gadroon Pattern Dishes and Covers ..... £7 7 0 ..... £12 12 0  
Four St. James's ditto ditto ..... 10 0 0 ..... 13 10 0  
Four Threaded ditto ditto ..... 12 0 0 ..... 17 0 0  
Four Everted ditto ditto ..... 15 0 0 ..... 20 0 0  
Also Illustrated Price Current containing drawings of the above and other patterns, will be forwarded gratis, per post, on application.

## DECORATIVE PAPER-HANGING MANUFACTORY, and General Furnishing Establishment, Carpet and Floor-cloth Warehouse, 451, Oxford-street—E. T. ARCHER solicits an inspection of his superior PAPER-HANGINGS, (made by his patented inventions), fitted up on the walls of the very extensive range of show-rooms, in panels, &amp;c., in every style of artistic arrangement, and for every kind of room. In addition the rooms are furnished with superior furniture, marked in the most perfect manner, and at the lowest prices, and are open for reception. Bed-room and other Paper-hangings, 3d. per yard; French and all foreign Paper-hangings, of the first fabric; Brussels and Tapestry Carpets at 3s. to 3s. 6d. per yard; best warranted Floor-cloth, eight yards wide, cut to any dimensions, 2s. 3d., 2s. 6d., and 2s. 9d. per yard.

**PATENT POWER-LOOM BRUSSELS CARPETS.**—These Carpets, manufactured by BRIGT & CO., have now stood the test of time and wear; and in EXCELLENCE OF MATERIAL, DURABILITY, and variety of pattern, and in brilliancy and durability of colours, they fully warrant all that has been said in their favour. Notwithstanding this, parties interested in preventing the introduction of any new fabric are, as usual, unscrupulous enough to detract from the merits of inventions which offer solid advantages to the public.

BRIGT & CO.'S POWER-LOOM BRUSSELS CARPETS can be offered 20 per cent. lower than any other goods of equal quality; and we can assure the public that we have laid down upwards of TWENTY THOUSAND yards of them without a single complaint.

L. L. LOCK, KENT & CUMMING, CARPET MANUFACTURERS, No. 4, REGENT-STREET, opposite Howell & James's.

**CARPETS.—BRIGHT & CO.'S PATENT POWER-LOOM BRUSSELS CARPETS.**—These Goods are strongly recommended to the Trade and the Public on the following grounds:—They are woven by steam power, and are therefore more firmly-made than can be the case with hand-woven goods. They have the same good quality of worsted throughout, whereas in the common Brussels the dark colours are generally made of an inferior worsted. They are printed by a patent process and by patent machinery, and the colours are more durable, and will stand more severe tests than those of any other description of carpets. The present printing admits of an almost unlimited variety of shades or colours; the patterns are therefore more elaborate, and there is greater scope for design. They can be offered at a price about 20 per cent. below that of goods of equal quality made in the ordinary mode. In quality, in pattern, in variety of colours, and in the perfect printing of them, they are unequalled. They offer great advantages to the public.—Wholesale, 20, Skinner-street, Snowhill, London; 22, New Brown-street, Manchester.

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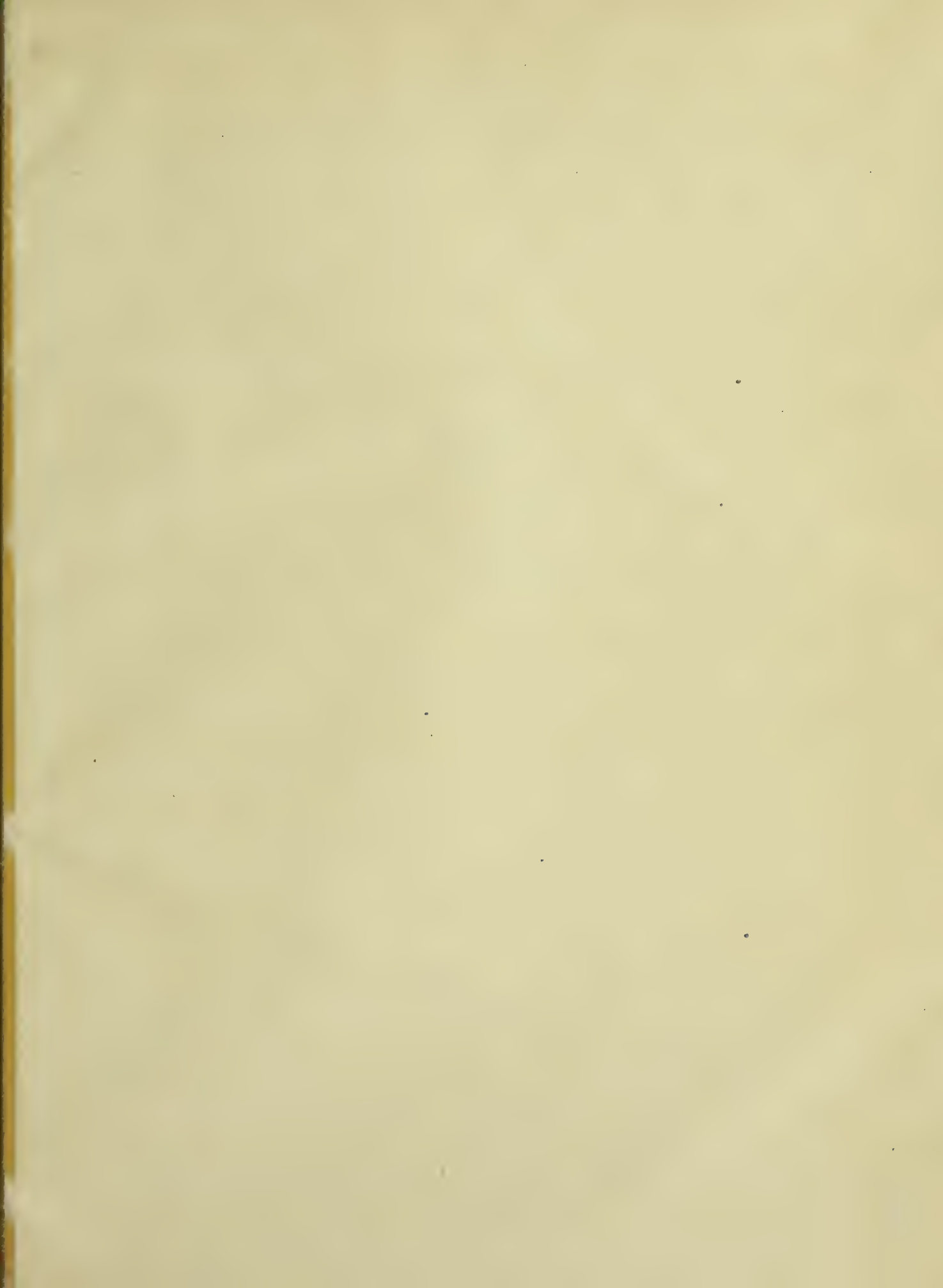
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